



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | May 11, 2024

\$1.00



SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 122, No. 25, ISSN No. 0894-4954



When it rains...

...it pours!

PHOTO COURTESY OF CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

A car submerged in flood water on FM 1829 between FM 107 and State Highway 36. Courtesy of Coryell County Sheriff's Office.

Flooding leads to road closures, evacuations across the county

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Last weekend, extreme flooding caused by heavy rainfall and an overflowing Leon River affected several communities across Coryell County.

Resident Tim Gallaway said the flood water stopped only a few feet away from his home in Mound.

"I know the homes down below me, and on the

street over from me, some of them flooded," Gallaway said.

Before the flooding reached its peak on May 4 and May 5, Gallaway set out to help his neighbors save their property and animals, including moving three trailer loads of cattle.

"We moved cattle out of the river bottom the morning before it came in," Gallaway said. "We also moved some tractors and

some equipment - we still got some stuff parked up around my house."

With his house built on higher ground, Gallaway said his home was saved from the water, but the road in front of his house was submerged.

"They did have the barricades up above my house closer to the Mound, because the water was all the way out in front of my house," he said.

Gallaway has lived in Mound since 1981. He said the last time he witnessed this amount of flooding in the area was in 2007 and 1991.

"I've seen three of these floods and, so far, I haven't gotten any (water) in my house on any of them," he said.

Like Gallaway, many homeowners across the

PLEASE SEE **FLOOD** | A4

Coryell County declares emergency

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Following severe flooding that impacted several roads and properties over the weekend, Coryell County issued a declaration of local disaster on Sunday, May 5.

Parts of the county received as much as six inches of rain on Saturday evening, resulting in a historic rise in the Leon River. The high flood waters caused a devastating

impact to the county, according to a press release distributed by Coryell County Judge Roger Miller.

"We've been dealt a bit of a blow to our roads, infrastructure, personal properties, businesses, and agricultural and ranching operations," Miller said. "Our farmers and ranchers are dependent upon rainfall to make their operations viable and profitable. God just gave us a little

more than we were able to handle. But we are very fortunate that we haven't had any loss of life or serious injury at this point."

The declaration activates the Coryell County Emergency Management Plan. It went into effect on Saturday, May 4, at 9 p.m. and will continue for seven days unless extended by the Commissioners Court.

According to the United States Geologi-

cal Survey, the Leon River gauge height in Gatesville reached a peak of 33.78 feet at 10 a.m. on May 5. Miller said this is higher than the county's previous record on that date, which was 29.73 feet on May 5, 1990.

Throughout Sunday and Monday, dozens of roads and areas across the county were considered

PLEASE SEE **EMERGENCY** | A4

Teacher arrested for inappropriate relationship

BY ALEX MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

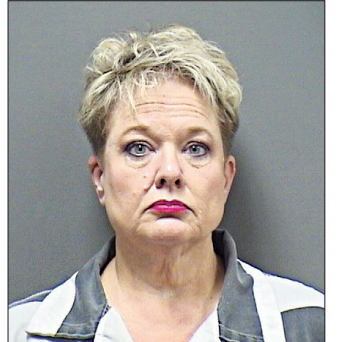
Gatesville Independent School District police arrested Christine Paige Cockrell, a Gatesville Junior High eighth grade earth science teacher, on Friday, May 3, on two charges regarding an inappropriate relationship with a 15-year-old high school student.

On Thursday, April 11, Gatesville ISD was notified that a student allegedly received inappropriate messages from 54-year-old Cockrell. According to two filed complaints, the student revealed during a doctor's appointment that Cockrell had sent him "sexually explicit" messages through Instagram.

The complaint said, "During this time, the conversation involved meeting up for sex, but they did not do so."

When questioned by school administrators, Cockrell admitted to messaging students on Instagram but could not "recall whether or not a photograph of her breasts had been sent in any of the chats."

The student and his mother told investigators that the messages occurred



COURTESY PHOTO

Christine Paige Cockrell

sometime between Oct. 8, 2023, and Oct. 11, 2023.

The student also told police that Cockrell began messaging him sexually through Instagram in the middle of his eighth-grade year, which was approximately in January 2023.

"During the conversation, Christine talked about many of her past sexual partners and things she enjoyed sexually," the complaint states. "Christine mentioned that she wanted to take a younger guy under her wing and teach him stuff, like 16 years old."

The complaint also states that Cockrell would ask questions about the student's genitalia.

According to a second PLEASE SEE **TEACHER** | A4

Shivaree turns 50

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Gatesville Shivaree. The first Shivaree, which took place on the courthouse square, was on Aug. 3, 1974.

The very first Shivaree was sponsored by the Greater Gatesville Chamber of Commerce, embellishing on the old fiddler's festival, which had been taking place mid-summer each year. The idea of having a Shivaree became a multifaceted event in hopes to incorporate and include the entire community on the downtown courthouse square, which would become the focal point of the festivities. At the time of its inception, the event was described as an "old-fashioned" Shivaree.

Why the term "Shivaree" was chosen is unknown. Traditionally, a Shivaree was a folk custom designed for the wedding night of a bride and groom and consisted of loud noises and merrymaking that would keep the newlyweds awake. Generally, everyone in the community would take part in the event.

In later years, the word took on a new meaning

and was described as a custom of good cheer in which the community would unite in a time of celebration. In 1974, chamber members decided to incorporate this term with the old fiddler's festival, which became a yearly tradition.

In addition to the 1974 fiddling festival, plans were made for a concert by the Kitchen Band, a square dance with Ray Stewart as the caller, followed by a street dance. Other activities that took place at the original event included a sidewalk sale and white elephant sale; an exhibit of antique cars, spurs, barbed wire, dolls, and old-time farm equipment; a quilting bee; and an auction of antiques, furniture, and top-rated merchandise with proceeds to benefit the Coryell Memorial Hospital's \$500,000 fund-raising campaign. At the time, Chamber of Commerce president David Barnard, was quoted as saying, "We're hoping to raise a lot of money (for the hospital)."

Other activities at the first Shivaree included such games as Mumblety-peg, washer pitching, horseshoe

PLEASE SEE **SHIVAREE** | A2



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Bro. Sam Crosby, Pastor

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Q: What's your first Shivarree memory?



Sherry Hopson

A: The first Shivarree I went to was in the early 1970's, and it was when Johnny Gimble was here. It was on the courthouse square, and we would sit on the courthouse wall and listen to the music.



Ray Ashby

A: The first Shivarree I remember going to was when I was probably 10 years old, and my grandfather took me, and I actually won a knife throwing rings. This one booth had knives, and I threw a ring over the knife and actually won it.



Brandon Belt

A: As a small child, maybe seven or eight, the Shivarree was held at Raby Park where the water park is now. Back then, they had Shivarree t-shirts, and I had one for every year for several years, and they all had a picture of that old building on them.



SHIVAREE

FROM PAGE A1

pitching tournaments, and a domino contest; a starving artist sale and unique craft sale; and a concessions alley featuring such treats as corn-on-the-cob, cold cider, popcorn balls, and watermelon.

In a 1974 edition of The Gatesville Messenger, the first Shivarree was advertised as being "a show sure to please, no matter what your fancy."

Since the first celebration, over the years the Shivarree has grown in an enormous way. Today, instead of a single day event, the Shivarree now encompasses three days.

This year, the Shivarree will have three days of ac-

tivities for the community to enjoy from Thursday, May 30, until Saturday, June 1. The Shivarree celebration will return to downtown Gatesville for one central hub of celebratory events, including a new event, the Shivarree Downtown Showdown Doubles Pickleball Tournament, which will be held in Raby Park.

Mason Matthews issued the following statement about this year's Shivarree: "It is an honor to serve as the President of the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce for the 50th Anniversary of the Gatesville Shivarree. It is a true testament of the Gatesville community to have supported the event

for the last 50 years and allowed its continuation. Growing up in Gatesville, I always remember as a kid riding the Shivarree trolleys up and down South 7th Street from the Courthouse Square down to Faunt Le Roy Park. This year's Shivarree will feature a local carnival, Color the Shivarree - Fun Run 5K Sponsored by Coryell Health that will start near Faunt Le Roy Park, Shivarree Downtown Showdown Doubles Pickleball Tournament partnered with the Gatesville Tennis Association and the Gatesville Pickleball Club at the Raby Park pickleball courts, 50th Anniversary Shivarree Car, Jeep, Truck, and

Motorcycle Show starting in Raby Park and overflow to go into Faunt Le Roy Park, petting zoo provided by Hal and Jo's Funny Farm, various food and knick-knack vendors, and a concert with Texas-Country music singer Carson Jeffrey. This year the event will come back to its roots and (will) be located in downtown Gatesville with the focal point of the event being the historic Coryell County Courthouse Square."

The Carnival will operate on Thursday, May 30, through Saturday, June 1 and will be located at the corner of 7th Street and Bridge Street (across from the Gatesville City Pool).

Thursday and Friday they will operate from 7-10 p.m. The cost will be \$25 per person, and children must be at least 36" tall to purchase a wristband. On Saturday, the carnival will open at 10 a.m. and only individual tickets will be offered.

The 50th Anniversary Shivarree Car, Jeep, Truck and Motorcycle Show will be located starting in Raby Park with overflow going into Faunt Le Roy. It will be on Saturday, June 1 and will start at 11 a.m.

The 5K Color the Shivarree Run will follow the path of the Donut Dash and start at the corner of the northwest corner of Raby Park on

Saturday, June 1, starting at 8 a.m.

The Shivarree Downtown Showdown Doubles Pickleball Tournament will last for two days: Saturday, June 1, and Sunday, June 2, at the courts in Raby Park

Entertainment for the Shivarree will feature Carson Jeffrey who will perform on the courthouse square on Saturday, June 1, at 7 p.m. "Doors" open at 6 p.m.

For more information about Shivarree events, please contact the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at 254-865-2617.

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Graduation is right around the corner ... let the future begin!

BY SAM HOUSTON

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

With May comes graduation. There are college graduations, high school graduations, and I even got an invitation to my granddaughter's kindergarten graduation. Amazingly, this year is the 50th anniversary of my high school graduation, so I have done a little reflecting on the whole graduation process.

I think each of us has a slightly different view of this celebrated May ritual. For many families, it is a big event where the whole family comes together to recognize the progress of one of its members. There is the ceremony itself, gifts,

parties, and the constant questioning of the graduate about their future. Some students believe they know exactly what they want to do with their lives and are anxious to get started. Others are less certain. It is a time where many young

people, whether it be for a job or for school, will be moving away from home for the first time.

Graduation ceremonies never mattered to me. I would not have gone through my high school graduation ceremony except my mother told me she would not ever forgive me if I didn't. Now, that is a pretty strong incentive to participate! I did go through college graduation to recognize the event with my fraternity brothers, but I never went to graduation when I received my post graduate degree. What mattered to me was the degree was a "ticket" to get into the "game of life." I wanted to progress and move forward. The ceremony never mattered, but at the same time, I understand why the ceremony is important to others.

Parents are equally anxious this time of year. There is concern about graduation celebrations and prayers

that the graduates will use good judgment during their celebratory evening to ensure safety and that no catastrophic accidents occur. The parents may not express it out loud, but they are also uncertain of their future as their family dynamic changes, seeing one of their offspring leaving the nest.

It is certainly a time of change, and, for the students, the world is their oyster! The possibilities are infinite, and that is both exciting and terrifying. What they have been preparing for the past 18 or so years has finally arrived. The time has come where they must start making the first true significant decisions in their lives. What type of work do they want to do? Where do they want to live? How do they see their future and what sacrifices do they want to make to accomplish their perceived goals? It is perhaps the first time they must truly man-

age their money or even borrow money in terms of a student loan. The time has come when they cannot rely on Mom and Dad so much. As they move out of their family home, they are compelled to do their own laundry, clean up after themselves, have control over their day, and make decisions that will truly affect their own destiny. Parents can only hope they have taught their children well, and they are ready for the challenge.

As I look back on my graduation 50 years ago, I cannot help but smile. Though I had plans to go to college and complete a post graduate degree, I had no idea what the future held for me. Leaving home was a culture shock, and experiencing life was both rewarding and punishing. I made mistakes along the way, and so will our current graduates. It is all part of the game of life. Nothing is set in stone, there is not

an answer to every question, there are only choices and consequences. We all learn as we go. At least we hope we do. I'm not sure on graduation day I could have ever predicted how my life has played out, but I am glad I got to experience the journey. It is full of joy and pain, and most of all learning. The learning of life never stops.

Congratulations, seniors! Go forward and live your lives to the fullest. Remember that no matter what your future, your education in the school of life continues. You have entered the next level, and now there are more steps to climb. Such is the joy of life.

Thought for the day: "What lies behind you and what lies in front of you, pales in comparison to what lies inside of you." -Ralph Waldo Emerson

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



COURTESY PHOTO

Flood waters covering SH 236 at Mother Neff State Park.

Flooding at Mother Neff

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Once again, Mother Neff State Park is experiencing massive flooding. According to Park Superintendent Melissa Chadwick, over the past week, the park had received over 8 inches of rain and due to the excessive flooding in the areas upstream along the Leon River and the lower regions of the park are now covered with flood water.

"The Leon River at Gatesville surpassed the historic crest that occurred in June of 2007 reaching

33.78 feet, according to the National Weather Service, Chadwick said.

In 2001, Texas Department of Transportation announced plans to replace the aging State Highway 236 bridge at Mother Neff State Park to alleviate some of the repeated flooding at the park due to log jams underneath the bridge.

It was reported in 2022 that, once the new bridge was in place, seasonal flooding events should not impact SH 236 as much as was experienced over the

last few years or cause the massive flooding in the original section of the first state park in Texas.

The old bridge, constructed in 1936, was recently replaced and expected to deter the flooding at the park and prevent log jams.

The new bridge increased the elevation levels of the road from both approaches, and it was assumed that park flooding and log jams under the bridge would decrease. During the most recent flooding

last week, the park, already located in a flood plain, is now under water once again.

Jake Smith, the public information officer for Texas Department of Transportation, said that, when the new bridge was constructed at Mother Neff State Park, it was "built to current hydraulic standards." He also said that flood waters covering SH 236 at the park had receded, and the road was now open again to the public.

CCGS to investigate scholastic records for genealogical clues

Submitted item

The Coryell County Genealogical Society will meet at 6 p.m., on Tuesday, May 14, at the Gatesville Public Library for a program entitled "Locating Ancestors Through Scholastic Records." Patti Huff Smith, a noted genealogical speaker, will present the program. Ms. Smith is a well-qualified speaker, being a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, National Genealogical Society, and

Texas Genealogical Society, among other prestigious organizations.

School records can provide valuable information for genealogists, and we are fortunate to have excellent Coryell County school records at the Gatesville Public Library and the Coryell County Clerk's Office.

The public is invited to join us for this informative program on a seldom used source of genealogical and historical research.

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Gary Chumley

Say hello to our neighbor, Gary Chumley!

Gary is a local banker at Cadence Bank and has been serving in his position for over 34 years. He is also currently the Mayor of Gatesville and expressed that he works with some of the greatest people in Gatesville. He has resided here for over 34 years as well and said that he enjoys the small hometown feel and the giving hearts of so many citizens.

Gary reads The Gatesville Messenger and said, "The Gatesville Messenger keeps me abreast of other activities around town that I'm not involved in and makes me feel blessed to be a part of such a great community."

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

Memorial Day closures set for May 27

Staff Reports

Memorial Day is a federal holiday that commemorates the men and women who have died while serving in the military for the United States of America.

Formally known as Decoration Day, it's a federal holiday observed yearly on the last Monday of May.

The history of Memorial Day dates back to the American Civil War. It started as an event to honor soldiers who had died during the war. It is said to be inspired by the way people in the southern

states honored the dead.

The original national celebration of Decoration Day took place on May 30, 1868.

Businesses and governmental offices across Coryell County will join the rest of the nation on Monday, May 27, in celebrating Memorial Day.

Closings in the immediate area include:

GOVERNMENT

The City of Gatesville, the City of Oglesby, the City of Evant, the Coryell County Courthouse, and the Farm Service Agency

will be closed on Monday.

SCHOOLS

All local schools will have finished the school year. The Boys and Girls Club will be closed.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Extraco Bank, Cadence Bank, Educator's Credit Union, and the First National Bank of Gatesville, Evant, and Oglesby will be closed on Monday.

POST OFFICES

All local post offices will be closed on Monday.

LIBRARY

The Gatesville Public

Library will be closed on Monday.

SENIOR CENTER

The Gatesville Senior and Multi-Service Center will be closed on Monday.

MUSEUM

The Coryell County Museum and Historical Center will be closed on Monday.

NEWSPAPER

The Gatesville Messenger will be closed on Monday in observance of Memorial Day and will re-open on Tuesday, May 28.



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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DEADLINES:

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

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

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

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

(ISSN-08944954) | P.O. Box 799, Gatesville, TX 76528 | 116 South 6th St., Gatesville, Texas 76528 | 254-865-5212
The Gatesville Messenger is published every Saturday by Messenger Publishing Co. Inc., Periodical class postage paid at Gatesville, TX 76528.

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

FLOOD

FROM PAGE A1

county experienced high flood waters creep toward their homes and properties. Coryell County Sheriff Scott Williams said he has lived within the Coryell County area for most of his life and recalls the flooding in 1991, 2007, and 2018 as comparable to the recent floods.

"I have been out since Sunday and have surveyed a large portion of the county," Williams said. "I have seen damage from debris and water in yards to complete devastation. This is a pretty sad situation, but nothing Coryell County cannot get past and recover from."

Williams said the southwest area of Coryell County seemed to be the most affected, but there are areas of damage across the county.

"Right now, we are in pretty good shape, but staying vigilant," Williams said. "The river is down right now, but there is a possibility of more water. We will continue to monitor conditions across the county."

Rescues and evacuations

Gatesville Fire Chief Billy Vaden said the fire department responded to approximately 17 calls for assistance during the peak of the floods. The department received their first call at around 11 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, and their last call at 3:16 p.m. on Sunday, May 5.

"I have seen that much water in Gatesville before, but never that much in such a short period of time," Vaden said.

Vaden adds that they had assistance from Fort Cavazos, a Texas Task Force crew with two boats, Texas Game Wardens, and several county fire departments. The Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) also sent a helicopter out to Pidcoke to assist in evacuations, but it was only used to conduct an aerial search of the area, Vaden said.

Spokesperson for the sheriff's office, Heather Ashley, said there were five known official swift water rescues that occurred on May 5.

According to the Gatesville Police Department, six homes were evacuated on East Leon Street in Gatesville.

No deaths were reported due to the flooding.

"As hectic as things were, the dispatchers, both the police department and sheriff's office, did a great job in keeping us on track," Vaden said. "All in all, everyone did their job, and we prevented no injuries and, more important, no loss of life."

Closures

On Sunday, the Coryell County Sheriff's Office announced that more than 40 roads were closed due to high flood waters or damage.

While most county and Farm-to-Market roads reopened earlier in the week, the county expects the Cow House Creek bridge on FM 116 to remain closed for repairs for the next one to two weeks.

The sheriff's office an-

nounced in a social media post on Wednesday that barricades on West Highway 84 at Cow House Creek were removed.

As of press time, Faunt Le Roy Park is still closed to the public.

With rain still forecast for next week, local first responders and law enforcement warn about the dangers of driving across water on roadways.

"One problem I saw was in the night - it was hard to see the water over the road, and that's why many people drove off too deep before they realized what was happening," Vaden said.

The sheriff's office reminds drivers not to cross any barricades by vehicle or on foot while crews work on damaged roads.

"Please give these workers a wide berth to work and maneuver their equipment," Williams said. "Every time a motorist attempts to drive into the area the workers have to stop and address the driver. This will slow down their work."

Flood Recovery

In the aftermath of major flood events, TDEM urges residents to report business and personal property damage to ISTAT found at <https://damage.tdem.texas.gov/> and to select "Spring Severe Weather and Flooding Event."

TDEM spokesperson Wes Rapaport said in an email that submitting this damage survey helps officials determine eligibility for various forms of disaster assistance.

"The information pro-



COURTESY OF CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FM 116 Pidcoke: Cow House Creek Bridge on FM 116 at Pidcoke suffered severe damage.

vided in the self-reported damage assessment surveys also aids officials in connecting impacted Texans with available resources to assist with the disaster recovery process," Rapaport said.

For city residents who need to drop off any brush or tree limbs that were damaged during the recent

flooding, City of Gatesville Secretary Wendy Cole said the brush drop-off site at the end of N. 19th Street will be open on Saturday, May 18, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The utility building will also be open this Saturday, May 11 and Saturday, May 18, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. to take any non-hazardous

bulk from residents. Cole said this service is only offered to City of Gatesville residents who will be required to provide a driver's license and a recent city water bill. The utility building is located at 106 S. 23rd Street.

Contractors are not allowed to drop off debris at either site, Cole adds.

TEACHER

FROM PAGE A1

filed complaint, Cockrell revealed to school administrators that a former student, who now lives in Ohio, propositioned her for sex.

After investigators contacted the former student, they learned that Cockrell messaged him through Instagram on his 17th birthday and told him that he was "cute." When the student told Cockrell that he was only in high school,

she responded with "no one has to know."

During the interview, investigators learned that Cockrell sent "a nude photograph of her breasts and a full nude photograph of herself" and requested a nude photograph of the student.

The complaint states, "A forensic search of Christine's phone revealed two photographs of the student's face, one on March

15, 2023, and the other on July 14, 2023."

A spokesperson for the Coryell County Sheriff's Office said Cockrell was bonded out of jail on Saturday, May 4, on two bonds set at \$10,000 for each count of Improper Relationship between Educator and Student.

Gatesville ISD said Cockrell has been placed on administrative leave so law enforcement officials

can fully investigate the allegation. She has since submitted her letter of resignation and is no longer permitted on Gatesville ISD property.

Gatesville ISD asks that if anyone has any information regarding inappropriate communication or similar conduct, contact the Gatesville ISD police department at 254-865-8281, extension 5840.

EMERGENCY

FROM PAGE A1

impassable or closed due to flooding. While many have reopened, FM 116 at Cow House Creek will remain closed for an undetermined time, according to the Coryell County Sheriff's Office.

The Coryell County Road and Bridge Department

worked to mark high water areas while also assessing the damage to roads, bridges, and low-water crossings on county roads, according to the release. The county has also been working with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to assess any damage to state

and federal highways and roads.

"Of particular concern is the closure of FM 116," Miller said. "I have consulted with TxDOT, and they have indicated that the road will remain closed for the next several days. When the waters recede,

they will make an assessment of the damage and a possible timeline to fix and re-open the road. Until we get an official word from TxDOT, everyone attempting to cross the Cow House Creek at Pidcoke should seek an alternate route."

SUDOKU

Puzzle answers from the May 4, 2024 issue.

6	5	8	4	9	1	3	7	2
4	7	9	6	3	2	1	8	5
3	1	2	5	8	7	9	6	4
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Puzzle by websudoku.com

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	1	5	6				7

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)
Gatesville High School teacher Lanelle Hopson was named the "Teacher of the Month" for April by the Gatesville Lions Club. Mary Kliewer and Blayn

Jackson were appointed as advisory directors of the National Bank. Clement James Gossett and Lauren Sullins were named valedictorian and salutatorian for the 2004

graduating class at Oglesby High School. Coryell Memorial Hospital officials announced plans for a \$1.5 million project to increase the size of the emergency room and for other improvements. Evant ISD's Board of Trustees formally accepted the resignation of Superintendent Brett Koch.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)
Bonnie Roberts and Linda Moten were elected as Gatesville ISD trustees. Gatesville Elementary 4th grade students learned about newspapers by writing, composing, and publishing their own.

Registered voters in Fort Gates decided to dissolve the city. Jeb Dixon and Jennifer Jund were selected as Gatesville High School's 1994 Mr. and Miss GHS. World War I veteran Leon River Waddill celebrated his 100th birthday at a party at Hillside Manor Nursing Home.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)
Penny A. Massingill, of Gatesville, director of quality assurance at Coryell Memorial Hospital, was included in Who's Who of American Women. Gatesville ISD Band Boosters held a carnival on 7th

Street. Gatesville high School drill team officers for 1984-1985 were Stephanie Gohlke, Phyllis Rucker, and Alice Mueller. The Gatesville Hornet baseball team closed out the season with two wins. Members of the Gatesville High School chapter of Future Homemakers of America and Home Economics Related Occupations attended a state meeting in San Antonio.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)
Gatesville lawyer Edwin Powell was named the new county attorney by Coryell county's commissioners'

court. Gatesville State Schools for Boys struggled with cutting down escapes. The Oglesby Lions Club made a \$500 contribution to the fund to build a new 44-bed county hospital in Gatesville. Kenneth Marshall was reappointed manager of the city swimming pool. The management and staff of the Rotunda Retirement and Convalescent Facility at 2525 Osage Road were set to host an open house and tour of the new 52-bed addition.

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A mother's love and a son's devotion

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

With Mother's Day being right around the corner, many people are getting ready to celebrate the special day with their mothers.

The national holiday was established to honor mothers around the world for all that they do for their children, but we sometimes forget to focus on what the children do for their mothers.

A local of Gatesville, David Scott, has been at his mother's side while she has been residing in a nursing home for some time now. Dolores, Scott's mother, has been a resident at Hillside Medical Lodge for the past six years, due to an incident where she fell.

Dolores was first placed in the physical therapy program, which she graduated from shortly after. Just a few days after bringing her home, Scott expressed that it was short-lived due to the early onset of dementia.

"I have missed very few days over the years," he said. "The one thing that prevented us from seeing her was COVID."

Scott explained that during COVID, along with his son, Alex, the two would have to make an appointment to visit with her through a glass window. He mentioned that his mother could not quite grasp why they couldn't come in to see her.

"She would always put her hand up on the glass, and I would put my hand up with hers, and it was almost like we were touching," he said. "At one point when we did that, I started crying, because it is hard to

have a loved one that you cannot physically be with."

Scott said that as soon as the nursing home began letting visitors back in the building, he started going to see his mother every single day. He visits his mother seven days a week to make sure she is doing well.

"When we were babies our mothers took care of us, so why should it be any different now," he said. "I mean, I'm not doing a lot of the caring for her, but I am there every day to see that she eats, has clean clothes, and is taken care of."

He mentioned that his son, Alex, has played a major part in going to visit with his grandmother. Throughout Alex's high school career, he would visit the nursing home every evening with his father.

"She has such a special bond with Alex, my son, and he does with her, too," he said. "He worries about her quite a bit, so on the few occasions when I can't go see her, he will drive back from college to be with her."

Most days when Scott visits his mother he will take her for a stroll around the building of the nursing home, make sure she is fed, make her bed, and will settle her down for the evening. He said that she has earphones that are connected to the television, so she can watch movies throughout the day while he is gone.

"The minute I walk in the room she lights up and says that she has been waiting on me all day, or that she has been looking for me all over the building," he said. He said that sometimes she will wait at the entrance for

him to arrive in the evenings.

"She is fairly content at the nursing home, but in the beginning, it was rough to leave her up there," he said. "Just like growing up, how she was so over-protective of me, I am now overprotective of her, so the roles have changed."

Scott expressed that you learn by example. "Mom would take me to a nursing home when I was little, and we would visit with the elderly people and take them cookies." He explained that the nursing home has never been a taboo place for him and that he enjoys talking with residents, but he learned that from watching his mom take care of those people.

"I think I have instilled a little bit of that in my son, Alex, because when he goes to the nursing home, he is not afraid to talk with people and help out," he said. "I told him that I do not know of any other 19-year-old that would help out with all of this, and Alex told me that he learned from the best, his father."

This Mother's Day the two plan to do something extra special for her since it will be her 95th birthday on May 10, which is just a few days before the holiday.

"It has always been kind of a double whammy for me, because I would have to get a birthday gift and then a day or two later, I had to get a Mother's Day gift," he said.

Scott expressed that in this stage of dementia, his mother doesn't really know that it is Mother's Day, although in the beginning of her stay she did.

When Scott was growing up, he said that normally he would take his mother out to eat and get her a corsage to wear for Mother's Day, but since she is at Hillside, he and Alex will take her dinner and flowers for Mother's Day and her birthday to celebrate.

"She was always my rock growing up; she made so many sacrifices and gave me nearly every advantage that I have ever had in my life," he said. "She taught me so much, and I owe her so much for giving me a good childhood, because she was there for me from the beginning."

"The strength and love of a mother is just unbelievable," he said. "She always went the extra mile for me, and I just want to protect her and be there for her like she was for me."



Dolores Scott pictured with her son, David.

COURTESY PHOTO



David Scott (left) is pictured with his mother, Dolores and his son, Alex.

COURTESY PHOTO



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Exchange Club honors community at banquet

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

The Gatesville Exchange Club presented several awards to exceptional community members at their annual Golden Deeds Banquet at First Methodist Church on Monday, May 6.

The awards include recognizing Gatesville High School students, a peace officer, firefighter, healthcare professional, educator, and other individuals who have made an impact in Gatesville and beyond.

"The Golden Deeds Banquet is an opportunity for the Gatesville Exchange Club to honor outstanding community volunteers and honor outstanding young people that have and will contribute to their communities in the future," Exchange Club Treasurer Joann Sugg said.

The awards were presented as follows:

Cash Rugely, a member of U.S. Representative John Carter's Office, presented the Proudly We Hail award to Janis Bell for her diligence in displaying the

American flag.

Exchange Club board member Lauren Morell followed the Proudly We Hail award with a presentation about the organization's initiative, In God We Trust, that aims to donate framed copies of the national motto to school districts in Texas. After the presentation, Morrell awarded Rugely with a framed poster for the office of John Carter.

Board member Denise Fueston presented the Healthcare Professional of the Year award to Coryell Health social worker Sheila Roedler.

Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt presented the Peace Officer of the Year award to Officer Jason Holt for his service in law enforcement.

Gatesville Fire Chief Billy Vaden presented the Firefighter of the Year award to volunteer firefighter Carlos Campos, who has served with the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department for seven years.

Gatesville High School principal, Liz Shoaf, and

athletic director, Rickey Phillips, presented the Educator of the Year award to head football coach Aaron Hunter.

Board member Barbara Considine announced community member Loretta Braucci as Senior Citizen of the Year.

Becky Coward, the 4-H extension agent for Coryell County, presented the Care Award to Amanda Huckabee for her many years of service at Gatesville ISD.

Sugg introduced eleven Gatesville High School seniors who were nominated by their teachers as students of the month throughout the year. The students are Barrett Boyd, Natalie Fast, Ellie Kelley, Bethany Penrod, Olivia Walker, Carsyn Madisett, Wyatt Dunbar, Cayleigh Coursey, Anna Phillips, Zoe Gribble, and Matti Mann.

Two students, Boyd and Coursey, received the Student of the Year scholarship along with the award.

Sugg also presented the A.C.E. (Accepting the Challenge of Excellence) awards

to Alanda Wimberly, Coral Bryant, and America Rodriguez. The purpose of the award is to recognize high school students who have overcome various obstacles yet are on track for graduation.

President Georg Clev-erly presented the Ex-

changeite of the Year award to Morrell for her service in leading various initiatives in the Exchange Club, including the In God We Trust posters and the creation of a gazebo that will serve as a memorial for a former Exchange Club member.

Cleverly presented the

final award, The Book of Golden Deeds, to Gatesville's HEB store for their support and service in the community. Store director Michael Wilie accepted the award on behalf of HEB.

See photos at www.gatesvillemessenger.com.

MOUND NEWS

Bride-to-be honored with shower



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News
Correspondent

Kennedie Hyde was honored with a bridal shower Saturday in Gatesville at the Dove Nest Estate. Kennedie is the bride elect of Elliott Lanham.

The hostesses were Amanda Wolff, Lindsey Pinner, Jill Winkler, Maggie Thayer, Tanya McCoy, Linda Lam, Betsy Spitzer, Codie Warren, Margaret Hopson, Tammie Auten, Kristi Dunn, Susie Hopson, and Rachel Hopson, who wasn't technically a hostess, but she was so helpful!

The Pecan Grove Baptist Church was flooded by high Coryell Creek Water in the early morning of May 5. Floors, pews, walls, piano, sound system, new chairs, tables, and a refrigerator were moved and ruined by 4 feet of moving water inside church. The propane tank broke loose,

floating. Firemen took care of escaping propane fumes. The metal tabernacle roof was all that was visible at one time. This church and congregation will overcome this catastrophe.

The Barnard family had their annual reunion Sunday at the Mound Cowboy Church. There were 55 in attendance.

Linda Kay Roger, of Wimberly, visited Sunday afternoon with Sue Jones.

Emma Blakley came home from College Station Thursday and spent the weekend. Emma will graduate from Texas A & M on Friday.

Reed, Katelyn, and Riley Griffith of Montgomery came and stayed with Jerry and Brenda Helms, and we all had dinner together.

Jerry and Brenda Helms and Carolyn and Emma Blakley went to Hamilton to watch Katelyn at a barrel race Saturday.

Codie Warren and Carolyn Blakley had lunch together Sunday in Gatesville.

Kinsley McPherson placed fourth with her horse presentation. Allie McPherson placed fifth with her beef presentation, and Thomas Belt and Lilly Kinsey placed third with their beef presentation. This was the district 4-H round up contest in West on Saturday.

Donna Schultz and John Stephens, of Bryan, were Friday, April 26, lunch guests of Mrs. Jean Rose.

John Stephens visited Sunday afternoon with Martha Lawhorn.

Several people from Mound attended the Junk and Disorderly and City-Wide Garage Sale in Gatesville Saturday at the Gatesville Civic Center.

Those who have birthdays this coming weekend are Kelly Dunnivan, Bryce Cole, and Gloria Shaffer.

Barbara's Notes: Happy Mother's Day!

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Greg Brooks is a disc golf guru



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

Greg Brooks, of Big Spring, says he got interested in throwing Frisbees when he was in college.

"We would just go out and try to impress the girls. They'd be out there sunbathing, and we'd thrown the discs pretty close to where they were sunbathing."

He says throwing a Frisbee evolved into trying to hit a tree or a telephone pole with a Frisbee. That then evolved into putting chain baskets on poles and trying to get the disc in the basket (pole hole), which brought about changes in the design of the disc. That was the beginning of disc golf. Greg is a devout participant.

"I used to be a fly fisherman but, when I found disc golf, I dropped fly fishing in a flash and haven't picked it up since. Disc golf is a low impact sport, and that's one of the best things about it. You can just get out in the park all day long. It's a great excuse to get out in a green area. Another

thing I love about it is it's a multi-generational sport. I taught my kids and got them interested, and now we go to tournaments in Montana, Utah, just all over. My younger son has been world champion three times. Those tournaments were in Miami, Florida, Nashville, Tennessee, and London, Ontario in Canada. We've traveled all over just to play disc golf."

He says a world-class disc golf course requires about thirty acres. He designed and developed three courses in Big Spring. Two have eighteen holes; the other has nine. The holes are from two hundred feet to seven hundred feet from the t-box. Some have a par three, some par five. Scoring is the same as in ball golf.

In addition to the courses in Big Spring Greg designed courses in Fort

Stockton, Lamesa, and Colorado City. He has staged nearly fifty tournaments.

"It's easier than ball golf. The learning curve is shorter and easier than in ball golf. Also, it's easier to get a disc in a basket. From thirty feet out, I can get it in the basket probably fifty percent of the time. I play three or four hours every other day, weather permitting. It's a good activity."

Some of the eight-inch discs are for distance. Others are for mid-range or for putting. They cost between ten and twenty dollars. Disc golf players carry disc bags like ball golf players carry bags for clubs. Experienced disc golfers usually carry ten to twenty discs on the course.

"The world record for throwing a golf disc is just under twelve hundred feet, the length of four football fields. In a good day I can throw one three hundred feet."

Greg says throwing a golf disc is different from throwing a Frisbee. There is a professional disc golf association. The Frisbee developed from people throwing pie tins back and forth. A man named Frisbie had a pie company in Connecticut where college students called the disc Frisbee, a change from the original name (Pluto Platter).

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Landmark church experiences flood damage

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Pecan Grove Baptist Church, located in rural Coryell County and built in 1929, has experienced numerous floods over the years from the raging flood waters of nearby Coryell Creek, and this year is no exception. The 95-year-old structure was once again flooded during the evening hours of Saturday, May 5.

During the previous seven days, portions of Coryell County had received as much as five to six inches of rain, which saturated most of the Leon River, Cowhouse Creek, Coryell Creek, Hog Creek, and Greenbriar Creek watersheds.

The resulting rain caused a historic rise in the Leon River water levels, as well as in Coryell Creek, which flows next to the Pecan Grove Baptist Church, which often uses the usually tranquil creek for baptisms.

Pastor Jeff Huckleby, who has served the church for

nearly fifteen years, said that he received a phone call early Sunday morning from a church member who tried to drive out to the church to check on things. He was informed that FM 107 was closed off because the creek had come out of its banks and was across the road.

"Volunteer firemen at the scene informed us that the flood waters had come halfway up the sides of the church, and that the water was up to the bottom edge of the tabernacle roof," Huckleby said. About mid-morning, the Oglesby Fire Department called Huckleby to inform him that the flood waters had turned over the church's propane tank. It was leaking, and they had gone up to the church building to turn it off.

When Huckleby and his wife went back to the church about noon, the flood waters had begun to recede, and they were able to drive up to the building.

"It was quite a shock to see how much damage was done to the interior of the building. There is about an inch of silt mud on the floors. Everything that could float was tossed around and piled up - the pews, piano, hymnals, pulpit, tables, and chairs. Because the main church building was built in 1929, there are a lot of cracks and small gaps in the floor that allowed the flood waters to recede nearly as fast as they came in," he said.

Huckleby said he had talked to members who have attended the church all their life who said this is the highest the water has ever been. The last time the church flooded was in 2015.

As for the immediate future, Huckleby said, "We're not sure how long the restoration will take and when we can start using the building again, but we do have a large tabernacle we can use until then."



PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF HUCKEBY

Above photo: The church pulpit, which floated about the building, came to rest on its side along with several of the church hymnals.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAL DAVIDSON

Left photo: The roof of Pecan Grove Baptist can be seen on the right, and the roof of the tabernacle on the left - both of which were nearly totally submerged by the flood waters of Coryell Creek.



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Sundays – Sunday School
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6 p.m.

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(supper provided), Adult
Bible Study 6-7:00 p.m.

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Jeremy Sanders, Pastor;
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Sunday worship 11 am;
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875 FM 932, Purmela;
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nings: Choir at 5:30 p.m.,
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Sunday worship 11 a.m.

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10 a.m., Sunday service
11 a.m.

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Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11
a.m., Wednesday Prayer
Meeting 6 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

MOUND COWBOY CHURCH
Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday
worship 9 a.m., Sunday
school 9:30 a.m. Men's
breakfast every third
Saturday at 8 a.m. Inside:
3075 FM 931, outside:
2000 CR 321. Mailing
address: P.O. Box 103,
Mound, TX 76558.

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

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

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

FORT GATES CHURCH OF CHRIST
4605 St. Hwy. 36 S.,
Gatesville; Sunday

worship 10:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wednesdays 6 p.m.
407 SH-36, Ste. 4 & 5,
Gatesville.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

REFORMED GRACE BIBLE CHURCH
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.,
Sunday services 10:45
a.m.; 4012 US Hwy. 84,
Gatesville.

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WESLEYAN CORYELL VALLEY CHURCH
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Bible fellowship Sundays
10 a.m.; 4995 FM 929

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

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

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SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.

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Gatesville, TX
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Welcome to our Church

First Methodist Church

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

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ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

PEARL NEWS

The Pearl Cottage Book Store is home to over 6,000 books!



BY BETSY CLARK
Pearl News Correspondent

The Pearl Cottage Bookstore reports a great day this past first Saturday. They appreciate all their customers/friends and invite you to come back next month on June 1 for another awesome day in Pearl.

Remember, most purchases are by donation only with all proceeds going

toward local charities. It's the home of over 6,000 books! If you're a band

and would like to be part of the stage show at The Pearl Community Center on that day, you can contact the new president, Garrett Dickey, at 254-595-1095. Remember that the Pearl Community Center has a new president as well as vice-president, Chris Ray, and they would love to say howdy to you when you come for the first Saturday events. To reserve RV sites, you can continue to contact Connie at 254-223-0621 to make reservations. Everyone is welcome at both the Book Cottage and the Pearl Community Center Bluegrass event. (There's good food as well as pie in the Bluegrass Kitchen, which can be purchased with cash only. It's open from 11 a.m.-

4 p.m. on Bluegrass days.) Bring friends.

The Pearl Church of Christ had 27 people attend this past Scholarship Sunday. However, many of the folks couldn't get to Pearl because of the intense flooding situation, and only one recipient was able to attend. Therefore, Sunday, May 12, will be Scholarship Sunday, the Sequel. It's also Mother's Day! Bring your mother and/or a picture of your mother. Everyone is always welcome at Pearl Church of Christ. Services begin at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning.

The Pearl Church of Christ will hold its annual VBS May 27 through May 31, 9 a.m. to noon 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 Baptist Church will host the Pearl Mainstreet Festival on Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be food, a bounce house, a cake walk, and a silent auction to benefit the Backpack Buddies at Evant School. Everyone is welcome to attend. The event takes place rain or shine.

Pearl claims bragging rights on two of its own: Misti and Chris Ray! Misti has been named Teacher of the Year at Gatesville Intermediate, and Chris has been named Educated

Angel Secondary Teacher of the Year at Pathways in Killeen. Pearl is so proud of these two very special, very dear young people. They truly have the hearts of young people as their focus and concern. God bless and congratulations to both of them.

This week's Bible verse comes from Proverbs 31:31—Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate. NIV

Be sure and like the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page, and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop Facebook page. Please submit any Pearl news to betsyclarck47@yahoo.com

RECIPE



LAYERED TORTILLA AND BEEF CASSEROLE

BY MARCIA STRIEBER

- 12 corn tortillas, broken into bits
- 2 c. grated cheddar or jack cheese
- 1 lb. raw hamburger meat (lean is better)
- 1 c. stewed tomatoes, cut up
- 1 chopped onion
- 1 c. chopped green chilis (can substitute jalapenos)
- 1 c. Mexican chili beans
- 1 c. cream of chicken soup
- 1 (15-oz.) c. mild enchilada sauce (red)

Layer in 9X12 pan with tortillas on bottom, and raw meat broken into bit size bits on top of tortillas, then pour rest of ingredients over top and then top with cheese. Bake at 350 for 1 - 1 1/2 hours. This also freezes well before cooking.

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

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of May 1 - May 7. 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

May 1
4:49 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of S. 14th Street.
11:30 a.m., a wanted person/stolen property was reported in the 1400 block of St. Louis Street.
12:46 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.
4:35 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 100 block of Austin Street.

May 2
5:47 a.m., an accident was reported in the 2500 block of N. State Highway 36.
2:43 p.m., a wanted person/stolen property was reported in the 1400 block of St. Louis Street.
6:20 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.
11:46 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.

May 3
6:57 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1300 block of Waco Street.
8:24 a.m., a wanted person/stolen property was reported in the 900 block of County Road 266.
8:29 a.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 200 block of S. 3rd Street.
2:15 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

May 4
6:54 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3400 block of Imperial Drive.
5 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 400 block of Bridge Street.
5:02 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of College Avenue.

May 5
1:04 a.m., an accident was reported in the 4600 block of E. Highway 84.
2:20 a.m., a search and rescue was reported in the 7500 block of FM 2412.
10:19 a.m., a gas leak/fire was reported in the 6500 block of FM 107.
8:59 p.m., a threat was reported in the 100 block of Valley Circle.

May 6
7:16 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Laura Street.
10:34 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of N. 16th Street.
4:09 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2400 block of E. Main Street.
10:12 p.m., a threat was reported in the 800 block of Golf Course Road.

May 7
6:13 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1900 block of Waco Street.
6:18 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1500 block of Golf Course Road.
6:52 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.
8:15 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of N. 27th Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

May 1
7:31 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 7800 block of Harmon Road.
11:48 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 500 block of County Road 131.
2 p.m., fraud was reported in the 8100 block of FM 182.
8:24 p.m., an abandoned vehicle was reported on FM 116 and Cowhouse Creek.

May 2
6:11 a.m., a major accident was reported in the 11300 block of E. Highway 84.
7:24 a.m., water on roadway was reported on County Road 303.
9 a.m., a low water crossing was reported on Straws Mill Road.
10:22 a.m., a scam was reported in the 600 block of Old Pidcoke Road.

May 3
1:36 a.m., shots fired were reported in the 4300 block of FM 1113.
2:04 a.m., a low water crossing was reported on Winter Road.
8:46 a.m., a stolen boat was reported on County Road 174.
3:03 p.m., a threat was reported in the 500 block of King Country Road.

May 4
5:09 a.m., trees in the roadway were reported in the 500 block of County Road 385.
1:35 p.m., suspicious persons were reported on 5th

Street and Pidcoke Street.
5:04 p.m., a domestic dispute was reported in the 100 block of College Avenue.
10:20 p.m., water on roadway was reported in the 2000 block of County Road 245.

May 5
3:38 a.m., a vehicle in water was reported on FM 2412.
5:03 a.m., a vehicle in water was reported on FM 930 N. of Plum Creek.
7:25 a.m., a water rescue was reported in the 10500 block of FM 116.
12:28 p.m., a vehicle in water was reported on FM 1829.

May 6
6:59 a.m., suspicious persons were reported in the 100 block of Laura Street.
5:29 p.m., a theft was reported in the 900 block of Green Leaf Drive.
6:57 p.m., missing livestock was reported in the 3600 block of Mocassin Bend.
8:05 p.m., an abandoned vehicle was reported on FM 2412 near Plum Creek.

May 7
2:57 a.m., an abandoned vehicle was reported on County Road 137.
10:11 a.m., missing livestock was reported on County Road 160 and County Road 159.
3:18 p.m., found livestock was reported in the 9700 block of FM 116.
3:58 p.m., found livestock was reported in the Stillhouse Lake.

CORYELL COUNTY COMMISSION
Jody & Robin Thomas
(254)223-2958

SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY STARTS AT NOON
May 4, 2024:

No. 1 Steers	
Under 300 lb.	350-435
300-400 lb.	325-365
400-500 lb.	295-325
500-600 lb.	260-305
600-700 lb.	235-275
700-800 lb.	225-260
No. 1 Heifers	
under 300 lb.	325-410
300-400 lb.	285-325
400-500 lb.	255-305
500-600 lb.	240-275
600-700 lb.	215-245
700-800 lb.	200-235
Slaughter Cows	
High Yielding	130-146
Low Yielding	115-122
Fats	110-125
Thin & Shelly	90-105
Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)	
Yield Grade 1&2	140-165
Cow & Calf Pairs	
Young Choice	2800-3200
Young Fair	2200-2800
Aged Pairs	Split & Weighed
Young Pregnancy Test Stocker	
Replacement Cow	1600-2500
Number of Head	153

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FISH DAY!
IT'S TIME TO STOCK YOUR POND!

Delivery Will Be:

Wed., May 22 WACO
2:00pm-2:45pm at Brazos Feed & Supply

GATESVILLE
4:00pm-4:45pm at Coryell Feed & Supply

Thurs., May 23 COPPERAS COVE
7:30am-8:15am at D&D Feed Store

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MAY 11TH @ 5:30 PM.

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Please come out to support this fund raising event.

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CLASSIFIEDS

015 FARM & RANCH

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035 WANTED

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037 HELP WANTED

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037 HELP WANTED

045 SERVICES

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060 GARAGE SALE

KITCHENWARE will be featured Tues., 05/14 - Sat., 05/18. The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m.

Our first sale in over a year! Saturday, May 11/ 7a.m.-1 p.m. **RAIN OR SHINE - STAY OFF GRASS IF WET-USE DRIVEWAY!** 228 Reno Rd. Our legendary signs will be out! Tools, outdoor decor, lawn, bath, bedroom, kitchen, vintage, home decor, men's and women's clothes. 00030762

HUGE-MULTI-FAMILY-GARAGE SALE-RAIN OR SHINE! 720 S. LOVERS LANE-GATESVILLE. SATURDAY, MAY 11&SUNDAY MAY 12-7A.M.-6P.M./UNTIL SOLD OUT. MEN'S, WOMEN'S,&KID'S CLOTHES-ALLSIZES,FURNITURE, DISHES, HOME DECOR, TOYS,&MUCH MORE! 00030792

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099 PUBLIC NOTICES

GISD Surplus Auction Notice to Bidders: The Board of Trustees for Gatesville Independent School District will accept sealed bids on the sale of surplus school items until 2:00pm on May 15, 2024.

All bids received will be opened and read aloud at this time. Winning bids will be presented to the School Board for action on May 20, 2024. Persons with the winning bids will be notified the week of May 20, 2024.

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **GISD SURPLUS AUCTION 2024**. Your sealed envelope should contain the following information: Your name, address, phone number, the bid item number and the amount you wish to bid.

Bids may be dropped off in person or mailed to: GISD Administration Office 311 S. Lovers Lane Gatesville, Texas 76528

Mailed bids received after 2:00pm on May 15, 2024 will not be accepted.

Auction item information is available online @ www.gatesvilleisd.org Once on the GISD site:

1. Select the tab at the top of the page labeled DEPARTMENTS
2. Then Select the option for BIDS/PROPOSALS REQUESTS
3. Then Select the option for ACTIVE BID SOLICITATIONS
4. And then view the bid items under AUCTION 2024

Everything will be sold "AS IS, WHERE IS", with no guarantees of any kind. The person with the winning bid is responsible for moving purchased items on their own.

You can contact the GISD Maintenance Director Toby Williams by calling 254-216-3070 with questions or to view auction items in person.

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject any/all bids and to waive any formalities. 00030785

EVANT ISD - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Evant Independent School District is requesting proposals for the purchase of a new multi-passenger vehicle that sits 7-8 people.

Proposals must be addressed to ATTN: Dr. Jennifer Ingram, Superintendent, Evant ISD, P.O. Box 339, Evant, Texas 76525, and will be received at the above address until 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 17, 2024, at which time they will be opened and read aloud. Details as to Request for Proposals criteria are available at the District Administration Building, 339 Memory Lane, Evant, Texas 76525. 00030791

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Christine Butch Osborne were issued on May 1, 2024 in Cause No. 24-10983 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to Brenda Byrom. All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:

c/o Allen D. Place, Jr., Attorney at Law
109 S. 7th Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528
Dated the 1st day of May, 2024.

Allen D. Place, Jr., Attorney for Brenda Byrom
State Bar No.: 16058500

109 S. 7th Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528
Telephone: (254) 865-8475, Facsimile: (254) 865-5274, Email: allenplacejr@aol.com 00030789

NOTICE OF AUCTION: Notice is hereby given by Gatesville Storage of the sale of contents, by public auction, of the following units, pursuant to the assertion of a manager's possessory lien against them, in order to collect the amounts due on them.

TENANT	UNIT
Blanchard, Chad	D21
Ford, Glen	C07
Henderson, Jeremy	B32
Kelley, William	H13
Plunkett, Tiffany	D01
Pratt, Caleb	J16
Rhymes, Sandra	C10
Risley, Johanna R.	D02
Spivey, John	K01
Spivey, John	C06
Springer, Stormy	D04
Wimberly, Brandon	D07

The auction will be held at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, April 15, 2024, (weather permitting), at Gatesville Storage, 2215 E. Main St., Gatesville, Texas.

Terms: Cash

00030786

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Johnny C. Gomez, Deceased, were issued on April 10, 2024, in cause No. 24-10981, pending in the County Court of Coryell County, Texas, to Linda Key. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Estate of Johnny C. Gomez

c/o: Linda Key
108 E. Walker Ave., Oglesby, Texas 76561
DATED the 6th day of May, 2024.

THE ZIMMERMAN LAW FIRM, P.C.

By: Garret L. Beach, State Bar No.: 24101493
E-mail: gbeach@zlawhelp.com

3501 W. Waco Dr., Waco, Texas 76710
Telephone: (254) 633-3333, Facsimile: (254) 752-9680
Attorneys for Linda Key 00030793

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00030775

JOINT NOTICE OF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF CORVELL §

BY VIRTUE OF ORDERS OF SALE DATED issued pursuant to judgment decrees of the District Court of Coryell County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter numbered and styled causes, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said Court, I have on the 7th day of May, 2024, seized, levied upon, and will on the 4th day of June, 2024, at the Courthouse Steps, at 10:00 A.M. on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, as provided for by the TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE.

All of the following properties being located in Coryell County, Texas and each property being more particularly described on an instrument recorded in the Volume and Page reference (V ___/P ___) or document number of the Deed Records, Coryell County, Texas. The approximate property addresses reflected herein are the addresses on the tax records and may or may not be completely accurate.

PROP #	CAUSE #	STYLE	PROP DESCRIPTION, ADDRESS, ACCT #	MIN BID
1	CTX-14-03135	Coryell County v Tim Sullivan	Lot 5, Block 6, Town of Leon Junction (V468/P37, Deed Records) CR 347 Account #000000116464	\$17,612.25
2	CTX-20-03680	Coryell County v Richard B. Sherrick	Part of Lot 1, Block 65, Original Town Gatesville (Instrument #236384, OPR) 509 Saunders St Account #114079	\$15,430.77

This sale will be conducted to satisfy the judgment(s) for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interests due on the properties described herein, and for all costs of court and sale.

I do hereby verify that true and correct copies of the foregoing Joint Notice of Sale have been delivered by United States Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, and by regular mail, to each of the Defendants named in each of the numbered and styled causes.

DATED the 7th day of May, 2024, at Gatesville, Texas

Scott Williams
SCOTT WILLIAMS
Sheriff, Coryell County, Texas

You may contact the attorney for the taxing units at (254) 756-7755.

LOCALS "ROCK THE RUNWAY" AT FASHION SHOW

COURTESY PHOTOS BY BAYLEE SNODDY

The second annual Rock the Runway event was recently held on Saturday, May 4, at Texas Station Event Center. Rock the Runway presented a fashion show that featured all local boutiques' clothing, shoes, and accessories. The boutiques included the 1854 Mercantile, The Salty Seniorita, The Pink Pearl, Spaghetti Western, Lawson's General Store, L And M Clothing Co., GW & Co., and Tutu's House. The show also offered various shopping opportunities as well as door prizes, free giveaways, and food trucks.



Pictured from left to right in the front row is Lisa Barnard, Lori Maxwell-McLaughlin, McKenna McLaughlin Luensmann, Jacy Williams, Kenley Turner, and Varonika Lella. In the back row, from left to right, is Nikole Tatum, Susie Meelbusch, and Mendy Williams.



Model Laura Trejo is pictured on the runway showing off her yellow sundress.



Grace Rose is pictured walking the runway of the fashion show.



Susan Snoddy is pictured modeling at the Rock the Runway fashion show.



Riann Tippit striking a pose on the runway.



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Pictured from left to right are models Kiley Maxwell, Avie Ann Latham, Kinsley Taylor, Gracyn May, and Parker Arellano.



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CHRIS ALLMAN | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GHS baseball standouts include, pictured left to right: Brady James, Justin Muegge, Lawson Mooney, Gehrig Keeton, Justin Johnson, and Miles Tull.

Hornet brand of baseball leads to second straight bi-district title

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Technically, it took two days, two trips to Lago Vista, and 14 innings of baseball for Gatesville to sweep the Vikings and capture their second straight bi-district baseball title.

In reality, the series was over in the top of the first inning in game one - right about the time Bralen

Veazey's colossal home run cleared the big blue monster in right field.

Veazey's blast over the 20-foot wall gave Gatesville a quick 2-0 lead, and the Hornets never trailed and never looked back as they dominated the Vikings 7-3 and 8-0 to advance to the area round for the second straight year and fifth time since 1980.

Sophomore hurler Gehrig

Keeton got the win in game one going six innings and allowing just one run while striking out three. Veazey - a senior - won game two with five innings of two-hit shutout ball, while Clayton Gregory came in and closed out both games.

"Gehrig and Veazey set the tone for us on the mound. Gehrig had everything going and pitched a great game.

Veazey's off-speed stuff is so hard to hit he was able to be really effective, and Clayton Gregory has settled into that closer role and shut the door both games for us," Smith said.

The Hornets offense kept the bases crowded throughout the two-game series. They banged out 11 hits, drew 11 walks and four hit-by-pitches, reached on a fielder's choice four times, and reached on three errors, all while striking out just eight times.

It was textbook Gatesville baseball just the way Smith wanted it.

"We played the kind of baseball I like to play, and that's having our pitchers throw strikes, played some small ball, put pressure on the defense on the bases, and being great situational hitters," Smith said. "I told them pre-game that it would be the team that makes the least amount of mistakes and we were able to be that

team."

The Vikings finished third in District 24-4A, making the Hornets the favorite in the series. But at least one high school baseball authority had Lago Vista penciled in for a third-round matchup with 24-4A champion Burnet.

Smith was aware of the prediction and aware of the perception of his program and used it to the Hornets advantage.

"Our motto all year has been 'earn it,' and that applies to not only playoff wins and trophies but everyone's respect," Smith said. "I think a lot of people on the outside still kind of associate us as being a team that fights for the last playoff spot and gets put out in the first round or doesn't make the playoffs at all, and that's not the case anymore. We have a lot of kids who work extremely hard and not only have the expectations gone up, but our level of play has as well."

The differences between

the two programs were noticeable throughout the series.

Friday night's game two was scheduled to be played in Gatesville, but torrential rains made conditions unplayable at Ryan Powell Memorial Field, so the contest was moved back to Lago Vista's all-weather, artificial turf field with the blue monster in right field with "Vikings" plastered in 18-foot script.

The Vikings featured two college signees, were brash and talkative, and seemed intent on making routine plays flashy. Their confidence meant an aggressive base-running style that led to more mistakes than runs.

In contrast, Gatesville's defense made the difficult look routine and took advantage of every opportunity on the bases as Miles Tull, Lawson Mooney, Sean Aguilar, Justin Muegge, and Justin Johnson ran wild all series.

One series of plays from

PLEASE SEE HORNET | B2



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured is the Lady Hornets softball team.

Lady Hornets finish softball season

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The Fightin' Hornets finished 19-17 on the season.

Coach Andrea Holdbrook expressed that the ladies' finish against Burnet was hard-fought, with an 11-7 loss in game one, a 5-4 victory in game two, and an uphill battle that resulted in the conclusion of the season in a 17-4 loss for game three.

"This was our first winning season in several years, and the game two win against Burnet was our first playoff win in a series since I've been at Gatesville," Holdbrook said.

The team is led by eight juniors, which include Madisyn Birnel, Grace Carothers, Kallie Featherston, Kinlee Gardner, Raylee Glover, Madison Hester, Emilie Moore, and Anna Owens.

"This season's group was different from any other group I have had in all my 15 years of coaching," Holdbrook said. She expressed that this group had no seniors on the roster, and a majority of them were returning from last year's team.

"We aren't breaking records yet or even winning district championships, but

each season we continue to improve in just about every statistical category."

End of season stats for the Lady Hornets include:

Raylee Glover, 36 GP, 117 PA, 104 AB, 0.413 AVG, 43 H, 6 HR, 40 R. Kinlee Gardner, 36 GP, 115 PA, 102 AB, 0.402 AVG, 41 H, 4 HR, 40 R. Journey Garrett, 35 GP, 99 PA, 86 AB, 0.384 AVG, 33 H, 1 HR, 26 R. Madison Hester, 15 GP, 51 PA, 46 AB, 0.37 AVG, 17 H, 13 R. Megan Mehaffey, 36 GP, 110 PA, 97 AB, 0.361 AVG, 35 H, 2 HR, 30 R. Madisyn Birnel, 35 GP, 80 PA, 68 AB, 0.324 AVG, 22 H, 1 HR, 20 R. Emma Raby, 34 GP, 91 PA, 74 AB, 0.311 AVG, 23 H, 1 HR, 20 R. Brilee Ford, 36 GP, 93 PA, 69 AB, 0.29 AVG, 20 H, 1 HR, 25 R. Grace Carothers, 36 GP, 96 PA, 76 AB, 0.25 AVG, 19 H, 22 R. Kallie Featherston, 29 GP, 69 PA, 58 AB, 0.241 AVG, 14 H, 4 HR, 9 R. Haley Wilson, 13 GP, 11 PA, 5 AB, 0.2 AVG, 1 H, 1 R. Anna Owens, 6 GP, 7 PA, 5 AB, 0.2 AVG, 1 H, 1 R. Ibet Carmona, 15 GP, 16 PA, 14 AB, 0.143 AVG, 2 H, 4 R. Rosa Castillo, 6 GP, 7 PA, 7 AB, 2 R. Emilie Moore, 15 GP, 5 PA, 14 R.

Holdbrook explained that, early on during the season,

a few of the ladies obtained injuries and illnesses that kept key players off the field for a significant portion of time, but it provided an opportunity for several players to try new positions and play in some big games.

"These players stepped up this season by assuming the role that seniors usually take, but they had their own way of navigating the leadership duties," Holdbrook said. "It's exciting to have them and the rest of the team returning in 2025."

"Our players are making a name for themselves in the softball world, earning college scholarships for their futures and putting in the work it takes to compete with State-Ranked opponents such as Crawford, Salado, and Franklin," Holdbrook said. "A top five finish this season in the Gold Bracket at the Franklin Tournament and a 5-1 finish in the Harker Heights Tournament against 5A and 6A opponents means that our kids can play with anyone, and they are prepared to fight hard in district."

"The future is bright for the Hornets," Holdbrook said.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Jonesboro Lady Eagles are pictured after winning their game this past week against Saint Jo. They will be advancing to the Class 1A Region II semifinals to face Blum.

Lady Eagles soar to semifinals

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

This past week on Thursday, May 2, the Jonesboro Lady Eagles went up against the Saint Jo Lady Panthers and came out on top with a big win of 39-9 in their Class A playoff game.

The ladies played a rigorous game with a total of 33 hits in 44 at-bats (AB), with 34 RBI (runs batted in), and 15 walks.

Adalynda Andrade had three runs, two hits, and

five AB; Emily Turner had six runs, four hits, and four AB; Kyleigh Walker had four runs, three hits, and three AB; Julie Henderson had five runs, four hits, and five AB; Ally Thorman had four runs, three hits, and six AB; Leighla Hernandez had three runs, two hits, and three AB; Madalyn Smith had one run, two hits, and three AB; Campell Gustin had four runs, four hits, and six AB; Kylee Gould had three runs, two hits, and two AB; Madi-

son Cohn had two hits and two AB; and Lynlee Deats had five runs, five hits, and five AB.

The Lady Eagles will now advance to the regional semifinals where they will face off against the Blum Lady Bobcats on Friday, May 10, in Stephenville.

For further details regarding the Lady Eagles, contact Jonesboro Independent School District at 254-463-2111.



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Local athletes compete at state track meets

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

BOYD & MARTINEZ COMPETE AT STATE TRACK MEET

The 2024 4A UIL State Championships for track were held on Thursday, May 2, at the Mike A. Myers Stadium in Austin.

Vania Martinez won seventh place in the 3200-meter run with a time of 11:31.52. This was her second trip to

state in three years.

Barrett Boyd won fifth place in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 15.17. She also won fifth place in pole vault with a height of 11-06.00.

This is Boyd's last year to compete in high school track since she will be graduating in May and will be attending the United States Air Force

Academy.

OGLESBY TIGERS CLAW THEIR WAY TO FINISH LINE

The 2024 1A UIL State track Championships were held on Thursday, May 2, at the Mike A. Myers Stadium in Austin.

Kyler Fossett won seventh place in the 100-meter dash with a time of 11.36. He also won fourth place in high

jump with a time of 6-00.00.

Kayson Campbell won ninth place in the 400-meter dash with a time of 53.20.

In the 4x100-meter relay race, the Oglesby Tigers won fifth place as a team with a time of 44.22.

For further details regarding the state track meet, contact Oglesby Independent School District at 254-456-

2271.

JONESBORO TRACK MAKES APPEARANCE AT STATE MEET

The 2024 1A UIL State Championship track meet was held on Thursday, May 2, at the Mike A. Myers Stadium in Austin.

Although the Jonesboro Eagles did not place at the state meet, the team worked tirelessly throughout the

meet to put forth their very best efforts.

Eric Thorman won eighth place in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 16.12.

Payton Brister won seventh place in shot put with a mark of 45-06.75.

In the 4x200 meter relay race, the Jonesboro Lady Eagles won ninth place as a team with a time of 1:54.63.



COURTESY PHOTOS BY GLADYS WHITENBURG

Athletes from local schools competed at the UIL state track meet on May 2. Pictured top, left to right: Gatesville's pole vaulter Barrett Boyd, Jonesboro's Lynlee Deats, running the 4x100, and Gatesville's Vania Martinez, making her back-to-back appearance at state. Oglesby's Kyler Faucett (center) is pictured racing at the state meet.

HORNET

FROM PAGE B1

game one and one play from game two provided examples of the two team's style of play.

In the top of the sixth inning of game one, the Hornets led 5-1 with Johnson on first base and Muegge on third base. Tull laid down a bunt, and Muegge made a mad dash for home where he was tagged out by the Lago Vista pitcher. As the pitcher took a moment to celebrate, point and trash-talk Muegge, Johnson alertly swiped third base.

Two plays later, he unleashed a wild pitch, allowing Johnson to score and push the lead to 6-1. Johnson offered a celebration of his own, and while the pitcher argued the call, Tull never stopped running from first and wound up on third. He later scored on an infield single from Mooney to make it 7-1.

Muegge, Tull, and Johnson combined for 20 plate appearances in the series and reached base 15 times.

"We spent a lot of time talking about not making mistakes on the basepaths, and I felt like we ran the bases really well. Miles, Muegge, and JJ were huge for us. They were able to find ways to get on nearly every time for us, and when they get on they create problems for defenses," said Smith. "I think it

was huge for them. I know they would like to be hitting a bunch of doubles but they know the value they add to our lineup when they get on base...those walks turn into double a lot of times within a couple pitches and they know that."

The final out of the series was also a microcosm of the series-at-large. Lago Vista's Connor Priddy hit a hard ground ball in the hole between third base and shortstop and, with an 8-0 lead, could have been a ball that Hornet shortstop John Ibarra let through for a base hit.

But the slick-fielding Ibarra quickly slid to his right, scooped the ball off the turf, set his feet and pumped once, then threw a strike to the waiting glove of Charlie Winkler to end the series.

"It's not flashy but it's effective and these guys are fully bought in and are worried more about team wins than flashy losses," said Smith. "We may not be loaded with D-1 or college commits, but our kids don't quit, and we are becoming a tough team to beat."

Veazey - already the program's single-season strike-out leader - struck out five Vikings in Game 2 to assume the program's all-time strike-out mark as well. His strike-out of Isaac Hodd in the top of the fifth inning gave him

257 career strikeouts and moved him past Craig Loerwald who had 256 strikeouts from 1992-94.

Muegge and Tull each hit .500 in the series, while Mooney hit .429, and Bradey James hit .375. Mooney was 3-4 in game one and scored two runs in game two.

"The bigger the game the better Lawson plays. He is just so good," said Smith. "Bradey had some really clutch two-out RBI hits that were a big difference maker."

With Lago Vista in their rear-view mirror, Gatesville now moves on to the area round against 22-4A champion Caldwell. Gatesville beat the Hornets 7-1 in a regular season game on March 18, but Caldwell is 10-4 since then with a district title under their belt.

"They pitched a different guy every inning and had a couple really good arms in there. They play great defense and are well coached. We are going to have to play our best to beat those guys," said Smith.

Games 1 and 2 were set to be played on Thursday, May 9 at Live Oak Park in Waco. Game 3, if necessary, would be played in Caldwell on May 10. Caldwell missed the post-season in 2023, while the Hornets defeated Giddings in the area round in 2023.

STATE SEND-OFF



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured are the athletes of Jonesboro High School who advanced to the UIL 1A State Championship track meet earlier this week. The students were sent away to the state meet with a community send-off, which had parents, students, teachers, and faculty gathered throughout the school to wish the team good luck. The athletes from left to right in the back row include Gracie Calhoun, Ally Thorman, Payton Brister, Eric Thorman, Emily Turner, and Campbell Gustin. In the front row, from left to right, are Laini Ingram and Lynlee Deats.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Texans take 4th, place 3 in top-10 at WAC Championship to conclude 2023-24 season

Tarleton State University

PAYSON, Ariz. - It was a memorable WAC Championship for Tarleton State Men's Golf to end the Texans' 2023-24 campaign April 26-28.

The Texans placed three in the top-10, including two in the top-five, plus finished fourth as a team in a highly competitive tournament and final day at Chaparral Pines in Payson, Arizona, Friday-Sunday.

The Texans led the other 10 WAC programs on the team leaderboard entering the final round Sunday. It came down to the wire between Tarleton State, Grand Canyon, California Baptist and UTRGV, all separated by four strokes when it was all said and done. The Lopes emerged victorious by a stroke (+12, 292-295-289) over CBU (+13, 300-288-289) and UTRGV (+13, 302-289-286). Tarleton was just behind them in fourth (+16, 295-291-294), six strokes ahead of fifth place Abilene Christian (+22, 301-292-293).

Tarleton's Cristobal Sepulveda and Carson Gallaher lived at the top of the leaderboard all week-

end, and they tied each other for fifth place in the 55-man field at +1. Sepulveda shot 72-71-74, and Gallaher turned in cards of 73-70-74.

Alvaro Huidobro finished tied-10th at +3 (74-74-71). Bladen Samaniego, in his final collegiate tournament, shot +13 (76-76-77) for tied-33rd. Max Bengtsson rounded out the group at +15 (77-79-75) for tied-39th.

"I'm gutted for the guys today but it will only make us stronger," head coach Chance Cain said. "It was a great learning experience for them to be in that final pairing on the last day with everything on the line. You know you're on the right track in sports when nerves kick in because it means you're close to the top and just need to close it out. We will for sure get there because of this and I'm proud of how the guys competed this week. We will be on Chaparral Pines again next year with four starters returning, so they will know what's in front of them. It was great to see Cris come back into form these last two tournaments to get some momentum back in his favor. Carson and Alvaro were

also in form this week and I'm excited to see what we can build off of starting next year."

In Tarleton's second season of their modern era, the Texans improved their positioning at the WAC Championship by six spots year-over-year, going from 10th last year among 13 teams to fourth this year among 11 teams.

Sepulveda and Gallaher just set program records in individual placements at the conference tournament in the Texans' NCAA Division I era. Sepulveda concluded his season with his best two events of the year, going tied-eighth at the North Texas Intercollegiate before a tied-fifth mark at the WAC Championship. Gallaher's top-five finish was his best of the season, better than his pair of tied-ninth results at the Ram Masters Invitational and The Big Texan.

After starting +2 with seven pars and two bogeys in his front nine of Round 1, Sepulveda went -2 on the back with seven pars and two birdies to finish even-par through the first 18. He then opened his second round with three birdies over his



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

It was a memorable WAC Championship for Tarleton State Men's Golf to end the Texans' 2023-24 campaign April 26-28.

first four holes to power him to a -1 Round 2. In Round 3, a +4 three-hole stretch was the only reason Sepulveda didn't finish higher on the leaderboard, just a stroke back of fourth.

Gallaher had the opposite first round of Sepulveda. He birdied two of his first three holes to start -2 on the front nine, then had three bogeys on the back to finish the

opening round +1. Gallaher played a nearly spotless second round, starting -3 through 14 with three birdies and 11 pars, then posting just a single bogey the rest of the round. He had a back-and-forth Sunday that netted him tied-fifth.

As a group, Tarleton led the field in Par 5 scoring at -9, averaging a 4.82 gross score. The Texans had the

tied-second most birdies overall with 30.

Individually, Gallaher had the tied-most pars with 27, and was tied-third in Par 4 scoring at even-par. Huidobro had the tied-second most birdies with nine.

Seattle U's Kevin Li was the medalist at -6 (69-72-69), fending off GCU's Nicky Kling (-5, 70-72-69) by a stroke.

Tarleton State RELLIS Students Shine at NASA-TSGC Design Challenge



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State University engineering students have earned recognition in two consecutive semesters at the NASA-TSGC Showcase. Team members are, from left, Ugochukwu Etufugh, Christian Millard, Akash Musale, Griffin DaRosa, William Bradshaw, Jayce Thedford, NASA mentor Chatwin Lansdowne, and Dr. Nourouddin Sharifi, faculty adviser and principal investigator of the project.

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University engineering students from the RELLIS campus captured awards in four categories, including first place for Best Model/Display, at the recent NASA-Texas Space Grant Consortium (TSGC) Design Challenge in League City.

The event challenges undergraduate students to propose, design and fabricate a solution toward solving the space agency's research objectives. NASA sponsors the competition, and TSGC administers it.

Dr. Nourouddin Sharifi is the faculty adviser and principal investigator for the Tarleton State team, nicknamed the RELLIS Rovers.

"I am happy that I could enhance opportunities for students to engage meaningfully in the academic experience while providing sustainable support for their academic achievement, goals and professional development," he said. "Here is what I say to them: 'Work hard, awards will come to you.'"

The Tarleton State team was led by Sharifi and Dr. Alexander Herescu. Students included Christian Millard, Ugochukwu Etufugh, Griffin DaRosa, William Bradshaw, Akash Musale and Jayce Thedford. The group also finished second in Top Design Team and third in Oral Presentation and Top Peer Review.

Their goal was to develop a breakthrough user-friendly personal electric vehicle to revolutionize lunar exploration, taking into consideration the rugged terrain, abrasive dust and size, weight and power constraints.

Each team, guided by a NASA mentor, agrees to submit five deliverables to TSGC each semester.

TSGC hosts the two-day NASA showcase each semester for teams to present their research work in poster and oral form. The winners receive a scholarship award. For their spring semester recognition, each RELLIS Rover student member is eligible to receive a \$750 scholarship.

The RELLIS team was also honored for its efforts in the

fall 2023 showcase, being named runner-up for Best Model/Display, third place in the Best Poster category and fourth in the Best Design Team competition. For their efforts last fall, team members each received a \$500 scholarship.

The consortium is comprised of 65 Texas universities, industrial organizations, nonprofit organizations and government agencies working together to ensure the benefits of space research and technology are available to all Texans.

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Aaliyah Rifort-Delem was the second woman in program history to run a sub-55 second 400 meters.

Texans close regular season in Lubbock at Corky/Crofoot Shootout

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE - Tarleton State Track and Field concluded its regular season at the Corky/Crofoot Shootout hosted by Texas Tech starting on April 26-27 in Lubbock, Texas at the Fuller Track and Field.

The Texans reached the top ten 16 times, and three individuals moved up on the program top 10 list.

Women Aaliyah Rifort-Delem was the second woman in program history to run a sub-55 second 400 meters. She joins Taylor McFarland as one of two to accomplish the feat in program history. Her mark of 54.91 seconds ranks second in program history and led her to a ninth place finish.

Hannah Cade's best vault landed her in seventh place in the pole vault. She made her first three heights with her last successful attempt at 3.95 meters. She was unable to land the next height, 4.07 meters, which would have broken her program record of 4.00 meters.

Kassidy Kirkpatrick landed a top 10 performance in the high jump hitting her first two jumps on the first try to secure ninth place. She was one of nine to have

her highest successful jump of 1.62 meters, but she was the only individual to be perfect on her first two heights.

Rese Schoonover provided the highest finish on the first day on the women's squad earning sixth in the 400-meter hurdles, crossing in 1:01.84.

Taylor McFarland climbed the program top 10 list moving up to the fifth quickest personal best in the 200. Her 24.33-seconds performance earned 12th place.

The 4x400 relay team earned a podium finish taking third in the final women's event of the first day. The squad consisting of Rifort-Delem, Amandine Estival, Alessa King and McFarland crossed in 3:44.19.

In Day 2, Yanna Frank opened the morning with a sixth-place performance in the 5000, crossing in 19:04.29.

Men Jaxson Bray climbed to third all-time in program history with a vault of 4.92 meters in the pole vault. He missed all three of his attempts at 5.07 meters, which would have set the new school record.

Three Texans earned

top-10 finishes in the 200. Noah Newman led the trio with a fourth-place finish in 54.48. Bryson Crippen and Braylon Hoffman earned seventh and eighth with times of 55.38 and 55.57, respectively.

Kyler Larson finished seventh in the javelin with his best throw of 49.90 meters coming on his third attempt.

Ricky Tolentino landed in the top 10 on the second day with a ninth place finish in the 5000. He was the only Texan in the race finishing in 16:31.64.

Diego Flores earned a fourth-place finish in the 1500 crossing in 4:03.62.

Jaden Hall's best jump of 14.43 meters garnered him a seventh-place finish in the triple jump.

Ethan Bratton finish fifth in the Discus Throw B Section with a best throw of 49.21 meters.

Both the men's and women's squads will head to their final meet of the season at the WAC Outdoor Championships in Orem, UT. Both groups are poised to make runs at multiple podium finishes with nine athletes currently occupying a top three performance among all WAC individuals in their respective events.

EDUCATION

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Jonesboro ★ Oglesby



The Education Foundation is pictured donating \$507 with a check to Gatesville High School Spanish teacher Sara Olvera.

GHS class of 2024 graduation set for May 24

Staff Reports

Gatesville High School's class of 2024 is scheduled to walk the stage at graduation on Friday, May 24.

The graduation ceremony will be held at McKamie Stadium, and the gates will open at 6:30 p.m. Seats are not to be saved for guests

with tape, rope, string, etc. Graduation will commence at approximately 8 p.m.

Gatesville High School is located at 205 South Lovers Lane.

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

GJHS HONORS STAFF



Gatesville Junior High recently honored two of its faculty members, Ashley Gauden and Pam Humes, with awards. Gauden received the Teacher of the Year award, and Humes won the Employee of the Year award for their hard work and dedication to Gatesville Independent School District. Pictured are Pam Humes (left) and Ashley Gauden (right).

GISD receives donations from Education Foundation

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

All throughout this past week, the Gatesville Education Foundation has made its way to each campus within the Gatesville Independent School District to distribute various donations to its educators.

The donations are intended to be used for grant funding. The foundation received 47 applicants and was able to provide 27 teachers with \$27,000 total.

Each campus was provided with the following:

Gatesville Primary School
Tami Hoover was awarded \$800 and was also given \$2,000.

Candice Campbell was awarded \$555 to create a school resource closet.

Jana Richardson was awarded \$1,555 for iPads, cases, and headphones.

Arianna Contreras and Delilah Martin were awarded \$778 for sensory resources regarding language acquisition.

Gatesville Elementary School
Annie May was awarded \$2,455 for a mightier heart monitoring curriculum.

Ashley Swodeck was awarded \$800 for Homestead Heritage and was also given \$500 to create a classroom library.

Taylor Brown was awarded \$190 for additions to a classroom library.

Victoria Skiles was awarded \$500 to create a classroom library.

Kennedie Hyde was awarded \$500 to create a classroom library.

Morgan Keeton was awarded \$500 to create a classroom library.

Kay McCracken was awarded \$1,515 for weekly

readers.

Amanda Wolff was awarded \$800 for math manipulatives.

Gatesville Intermediate School

Krista Moreland was awarded \$1,300 for dissection lab supplies, as well as owl pellets and frogs.

Jennifer Campbell was awarded \$1,480 for a 3D printer and supplies.

Candi Garvin was awarded \$650 for library books in Spanish.

Angela Saldivar was awarded \$175 for a set of novels.

Emily Yarbrough was awarded \$970 for social studies magazines.

Gatesville Junior High

Wendy Bye was awarded \$200 for resin pour art.

Bill Bryant was awarded \$900 for science focused field trips.

Denise Jones was awarded \$1,000 for additions to a classroom library.

Sarah Wright was awarded \$300 for a weekly magazine.

Stacy Kyle-Rommel was awarded \$2,300 for Texas history resources.

Ericha Stephens was awarded \$600 for multi-modal headphones.

Gatesville High School
Kassandra Withrow was awarded \$2,500 to create a Stinger ink-printing service.

Charles Conley was awarded \$1,200 for materials regarding a year-long senior project.

Sara Olvera was awarded \$507 for a Flango online subscription.

For further details, contact the Gatesville Education Foundation by email at educationfoundation@gatesvilleisd.org.

Raising "dough" for BUZZ uniform

Staff Reports

The Gatesville High School cheerleading program has set out to obtain a new BUZZ mascot uniform for the upcoming season by partnering with Studabaker's Pizza.

The community has until

Saturday, May 18, to help the high school cheer team with raising funds for their new costume.

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

All donations that are

collected at Studabaker's will go directly to the cheer program to assist with funding for BUZZ.

Studabaker's Pizza is located at 2701 East Main Street. To make a direct donation, email at acolson@gatesvilleisd.org.

EVANT ISD STUDENTS SHINE AT UIL



Evant ISD students competed in the 1A Regional Academic UIL Meet in Plano on April 27th and performed very well. The group was directed by Mrs. Elizabeth Gandy, UIL coordinator and Mr. Austin Griffin, trip sponsor. The UIL regional third place science team are pictured with their trophy and medals. Back row, from left: Molly Waldrum, Izzy Gandy, Jacob Turner, Cam McGilvray. Front row from left: Luwi Rodriguez, Tanner Manville.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CASEY MELTON
Pictured from left to right is Collin Walker, Taetym Sanders, Allisson Uribe, Presley Robinson, and Marlee Henderson.

Oglesby students compete at district UIL event at Navarro College

Staff Reports

Five Oglesby High School students attended the district UIL meet hosted by Navarro College on Friday, April 5, and on Saturday, April 6.

Presley Robinson competed in spelling and tied for first place; after the tie breaker portion, she won

second place. She was also awarded ninth place in current events. She attended regionals at Blinn College on April 26.

Collin Walker won fifth place in current events and was an alternate for regionals.

Taetym Sanders placed sixth in ready writing and was an alternate for region-

als. Marlee Henderson won 11th place in calculator.

Allisson Uribe placed 13th in calculator and 14th in math.

The students competed against five other schools within their district, which included students ranging from freshman to seniors.

GATESVILLE INTERMEDIATE'S RAY AND ZUEHLKE RECEIVE AWARDS



COURTESY PHOTOS

Gatesville Intermediate School educator Misti Ray and paraprofessional Stacy Zuehlke both won awards for their hard work and dedication to the students of Gatesville Independent School District. Ray is a sixth-grade teacher who won the Teacher of the Year award for 2024, and Zuehlke is a paraprofessional who won the Employee of the Year award for 2024. Gatesville Intermediate School made an online post that was dedicated to the two teachers which said, "They pour their hearts and energy into teaching, collaborating with fellow staff members, and take the time to learn and connect with their students." Pictured left is educator Misti Ray (center) surrounded by her students. Right photo: Stacy Zuehlke during a class activity.

Gatesville ISD to host 2024 summer sports camps

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District will host various sports camps throughout the summer, including basketball, baseball, tennis, football, softball, volleyball, wrestling, and soccer.

Each camp will be directed by a high school or junior high coach and will be assisted by high school varsity athletes.

There will be opportunities to learn fundamentals and techniques as well as Hornet schemes and terminology.

A concession stand will be available during practices.

tices.

2024 SUMMER CAMPS

Girls Basketball: Tuesday, May 28 to Thursday, May 30, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and will be for first through ninth grade. The cost will be \$40 per athlete.

Boys Basketball: Monday, June 10 to Wednesday, June 12. First through sixth grade will be from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., and seventh through ninth grade will be from 1-4 p.m. The cost will be \$40 per athlete.

Softball: Monday, June 3 to Wednesday, June 5. First

through fifth grade will be from 8-10 a.m., and sixth through ninth grade will be from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The cost will be \$40 per athlete.

Baseball: Tuesday, May 28 to Thursday, May 30. First and second grade will be from 8:30-10:30 a.m., third through fifth grade will be from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., and sixth through ninth grade will be from 1-3:30 p.m. The cost will be \$40 per athlete.

Volleyball: Monday, July 8 to Wednesday, July 10, will be from 8:30-11:30 a.m., and will be for first through

ninth grade. The cost will be \$40 per athlete.

Football: Monday, June 3 to Wednesday, June 5, will be from 7:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m., and will be for first through sixth grade. The cost will be \$40 per athlete. Another opportunity will be from Monday, July 29 to Wednesday, July 31, from 7:30-10:30 a.m., and will be for seventh through ninth grade. The cost will be \$40 per athlete.

Tennis: Monday, June 3 to Wednesday, June 5, from 8-10 a.m., and will be for first through ninth grade.

The cost will be \$40 per athlete.

Wrestling: Monday, July 15 to Friday, July 19, will be from 8:30-9:30 a.m., and will be for first through ninth grade. The cost will be \$40 per athlete.

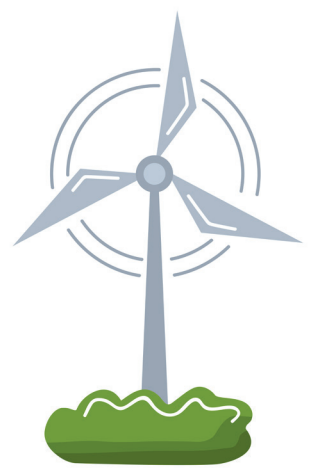
Soccer: The date is TBA (to be announced) as well as the cost. First through sixth grade will be in the spring and fall, and seventh through twelfth grade will be on Sunday afternoons during September and October.

Hornet SWARM speed strength and condition sessions

SWARM camp for seventh and eighth grade athletes will continue through Wednesday, June 3 to Thursday, July 25, and will be from 8:15-9:15 a.m. The cost is free for all athletes.

SWARM camp for ninth through twelfth grade athletes will continue through Wednesday, June 3 to Thursday, July 25, and will be from 7-8 a.m. The cost is free for all athletes.

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



Typical land-based wind turbines are about 250 feet tall and have an average capacity of 2.55 megawatts, each producing enough electricity for hundreds of homes.

National Windmill Day, celebrated on May 11th, is a day to honor the historical and modern significance of windmills. These iconic structures, powered by the wind, have played vital roles in grinding grains, pumping water, and generating electricity.

For kids, National Windmill Day is a chance to discover the fascinating world of wind energy. Teachers may

engage students with activities like building miniature windmills, providing hands-on experiences that blend fun and education. Visiting local windmills or wind farms offers children a firsthand look at the towering structures and their sustainable energy production.

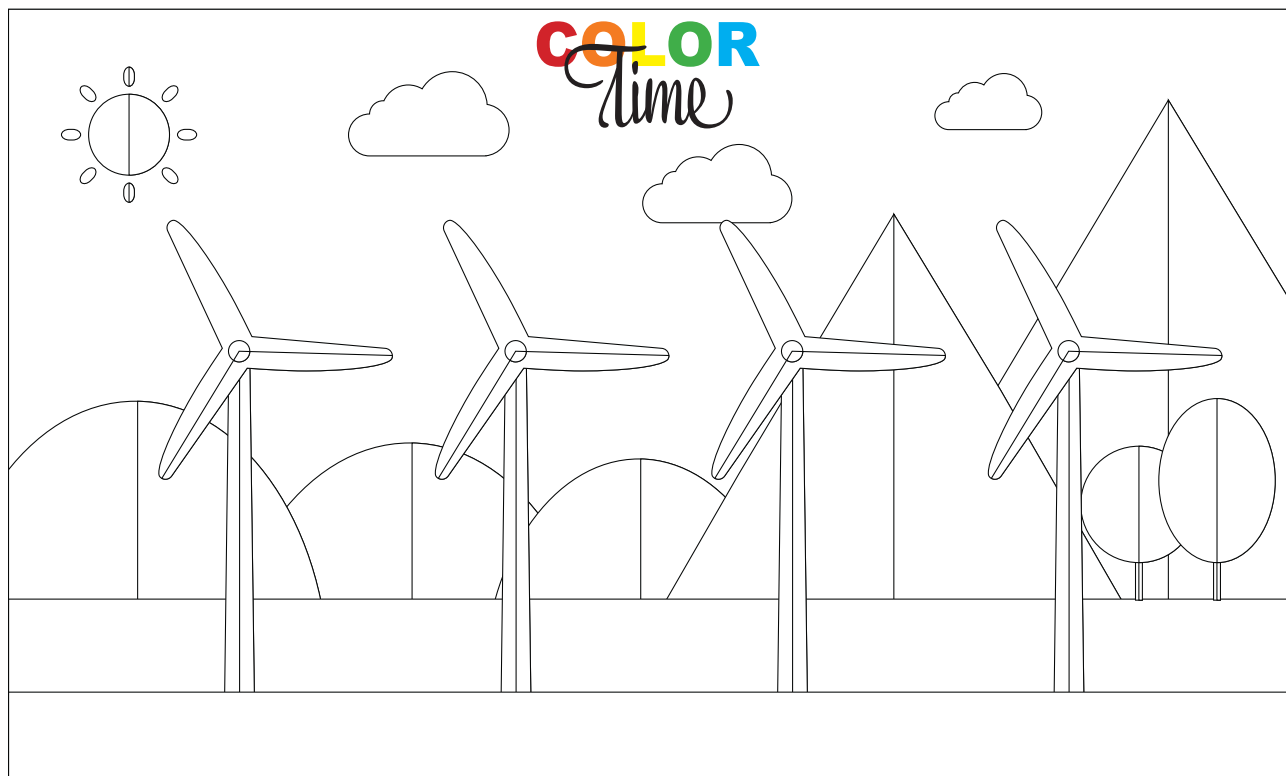
Families can celebrate by creating windmill-themed crafts, appreciating the beauty of these structures in the

landscape. Windmill-themed storybooks add a touch of imagination, exploring the history and cultural significance of windmills.

National Windmill Day encourages kids to appreciate the harmony between technology and nature. Whether traditional windmills in rural settings or modern turbines in wind farms, these structures symbolize a timeless connection between innovation and

the environment.

On May 11th, let's celebrate National Windmill Day, encouraging kids to explore the history, mechanics, and cultural importance of these majestic structures. It's a day for them to appreciate the power of the wind, the ingenuity of engineering, and the enduring charm of windmills across the ages.



WINDMILLS HAVE BEEN IN USE SINCE 2000 B.C.

They were first developed in Persia and China. Ancient mariners used wind power to sail to different lands, and farmers used it to pump water and for grinding grains.



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

GATESVILLE ELEMENTARY STUDENTS TAKE FIELD TRIP TO MUSEUM



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

This past week, second grade students at Gatesville Elementary School were able to take a field trip to the Coryell County Museum and Historical Center. Students are pictured in front of the museum's spur collection, which is one of the many displays they were able to learn about.

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GEAR UP PHYSICS



COURTESY PHOTO

The GEAR UP cohort class of 2024 of Gatesville High School recently made a visit to Texas A&M University. The students attended a physics show that was presented by Dr. Tatiana Erukhimova, a professor on the campus. Each student was able to participate in the demonstrations, which included experiments with solid and liquid oxygen, clouds, levitating trains, and floating toilet paper.

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ZED by Duane M. Abel



GHS art students “strut their stuff” on the fashion runway

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Gatesville High School art teacher, Claude Williams, recently had his students participate in a fashion show called ‘Project Runway - Art in Motion’ where the students integrated the seven elements of art into

garment design, choreography, and digital presentations.

“The students created the garments, and we selected models from outside the art class to model their clothing. The students also came up with their own

brand name for the clothing, which is CABO. CABO stands for C-onfident, A-rrogant, B-old, & O-riginal,” Williams said.

He reported that there was a total of eight models, four girls, and four boys. Williams said that each

student had five outfits to model.

Williams continued, “It is more than just a fashion show. Each class is also responsible for showcasing one of the seven elements of art. They have to be informative to the point

where the audience gathers a clear understanding of that element and how it pertains to art. It also must involve the collaboration of their entire class. These classes have come up with some very unique ways to present their element - this

is anything from dancing to videos. Having each class present an element is also my way of assessing their understanding of the elements of art.”



Student models displayed the clothing created in the GHS Art Class. Pictured left to right are Manuel Servin, Ranyah Garraway, and Vanessa Henson.

MARY TREJO | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



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HAT DAYS AT GATESVILLE SCHOOLS

EVERY MEELBUSCH AND MARY TREJO | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville I.S.D. recently hosted "Hat Days" at their school campuses, which allows students and staff to wear a hat to school in exchange for a \$1 donation. Over the years, the school campuses have raised funds for various non-profit organizations, as well as collecting money for community members in need.



Charles Belt, Caleb Blum, and Jared Ibarra



Mr. Jordan Moody and Mr. Brian Reeder



Nathaniel Brown and Hunter Swindall



Case Wendeborn, Parker Herring, Kaleb Howie, Colt Heath, Aiden Pankow, and Jayden Gregory



George Jeffers



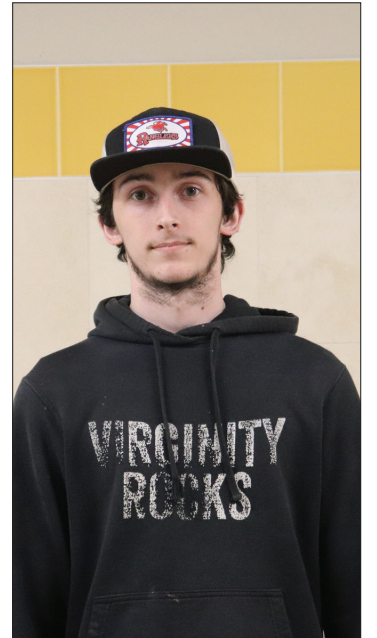
Mrs. Chelsi Duncan and Mrs. Lisa Truss



Cameron Baker, James Dickerson, and Devin Nashif



Tyson Crawford, Logan Turner, and Brayden Mills



Jacob Edward



Branson Hodges, Landyn Miller, Jovi Pickard, and Danelle Gutierrez



Jaden Holmquist and Sandra Quintero Saenz



Jadan Moore and Austin Tennison



Bandy Hartley, Jared Ibarra, and Jaun Cortez



Brody Brown and Scout Hall