



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Maxwell goes down in history as four-time state champion



Betsy Spitzer (left) is pictured with her son, Luke Maxwell, at the state UIL competition.

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Jonesboro High School senior Luke Maxwell is the third person in history to accomplish such an achievement of being a four-time state champion in UIL number sense.

Along with taking home a gold medal for his individual performance, his number sense team, which included Pate Foote, DeMarcus Acoff, and Braden

Ashby, also went down in the history books by being the first UIL team at Jonesboro Independent School District to receive medals in their division.

The number sense competition is comprised of 80 difficult questions, which covers all high school mathematics courses and allows just 10 minutes to answer them. This includes no erasers, mark outs, calculators, or scratch paper.

"It feels great that I have accomplished such a feat, but I try not to let it get to me, I try to stay neutral," Maxwell said. "It also gives me some great reasons to thank those who have helped me."

Despite being diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome at the age of five, it has not stopped Maxwell from being the very best at what he does.

Maxwell's mother,

Betsy Spitzer, expressed that once he was diagnosed, everything else fell into place for him.

"I believe his diagnosis just helped everyone around him understand him better and helped us meet his needs at a young age," Spitzer said. "Luke needed a schedule, he needed to understand when change was coming,

PLEASE SEE **MAXWELL** | A2



Shivaree returns, starts Thursday

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Sharee will return to downtown Gatesville for its 50th anniversary on Thursday, May 30 through Saturday, June 1.

This year's Shivaree celebration will present three days of various activities, including:

- A local carnival
- Color the Shivaree – a Fun Run 5K
- A pickleball tournament
- The 50th Anniversary Shivaree Car, Jeep, Truck, and Motorcycle Show
- A petting zoo provided by Hal and Jo's Funny Farm
- Various food and knick-knack vendors
- Live music

The carnival will be located at the corner of 7th Street and Bridge Street (across from the Gatesville City Pool). The cost will be \$25 per person, and children must be at least 36" tall to purchase a wristband. On Thursday and Friday, it will operate from 7-10 p.m. On Saturday, the carnival will open at 10 a.m. and only individual tickets will be sold.

The 50th Anniversary Shivaree Car, Jeep, Truck, and

Motorcycle Show will start in Raby Park on Saturday, June 1 at 11 a.m.

The 5K Color the Shivaree Run will follow the path of the Donut Dash and start at the northwest corner of Raby Park on Saturday, June 1, starting at 8 a.m.

The Shivaree Downtown Showdown Doubles Pickleball Tournament will take place at the pickleball courts in Raby Park. The tournament will be split into three divisions:

- Open Division (experienced players): Saturday, June 1, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Competitive Division (balanced competition): Sunday, June 2, from 1 – 5 p.m.
- Recreation Division (age 55 and older): Sunday, June 2, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

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

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

State trooper from Evant receives Lifesaving Award

Staff Reports

A Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) trooper who graduated from Evant ISD was recently honored with a Lifesaving Award for his heroic actions.

Trooper Aaron Doyle graduated from Evant High School in 2009 and then went on to attend Tarleton State University in Stephenville. He now lives in Weatherford.

DPS presented the award to Doyle for his quick response to a life-threatening situation involving a car

crash that occurred in September.

On September 23, 2023, Doyle arrived at the scene of a crash where a vehicle had left the road and struck a pole, according to a DPS press release.

The driver was trapped in the vehicle and suffered a severe laceration to their left arm. Doyle immediately retrieved a tourniquet from his patrol unit and successfully applied it to stop the bleeding.

Fire department and EMS personnel arrived

shortly after and were able to focus on extricating the trapped driver, who required a blood transfusion at the scene. They were then transported to a local hospital.

The Texas Public Safety Commission (PSC), along with DPS Director Steven McCraw, recognized Doyle at the Public Safety Commission meeting at DPS headquarters in Austin. Doyle was one of seven Texans to receive the Lifesaving Award.



Texas DPS presents the Lifesaving Award to Trooper Aaron Doyle, who is originally from Coryell County.



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Q: What's your first Shivarree memory?



Rhonda Mohler

A: It was a really pretty environment down in the park, and the kids could play, and it was a really nice way to spend the day. I remember all the vendor booths. In later years, my husband and the boys would run in the Turkey Trot, and they always enjoyed doing that.



Rebel Brown

A: The first Shivarree I attended must have been sometime after I got home from my military service in Italy. I remember taking my mother and aunt to Raby Park for it. In more recent years, I do walk-bys and if I see something interesting, then I'll stop.



Lisa Robuck

A: The first Shivarree I remember was down at Raby Park - it was completely shaded, and I remember vendor's tables being set up and I just remember walking through the Shivarree and there was a cool breeze, and it was really nice. I remember my kids being little.



MAXWELL

FROM PAGE A1

and he needed some things to be a certain way."

"We never made excuses for him; he had expectations just like all other kiddos do," she said. "Thankfully, he has always risen to a good challenge and persevered through adversity."

When Maxwell was only in the fourth grade, his teacher Amanda Wolff mentioned to Spitzer that he was gifted in math.

His first memory of excelling in math began back in Mrs. Wolff's class when he won a math contest. "I won the contest and got a Capri Sun for it," Maxwell said. "That is probably when I realized I was good at math."

"It had rules that were concrete and could be used across the board, and Luke thrived in that learning discipline because of that," Spitzer said. "I do not think

I realized the degree to which he excelled until he began UIL number sense in Jonesboro as a fifth grader."

Maxwell said that in fifth grade he got placed in his first UIL competition.

"I won number sense and math by quite a margin, but I didn't do as well in calculator because I wasn't familiar with all of the buttons and how calculators worked back then."

Spitzer explained that since his score was so much higher than the other students, the contest administrators and graders asked to verify that Maxwell was a fifth-grade student and wanted to lay their eyes on him.

"Picture a chubby Dennis the menace, so cute," she said. "When his UIL sponsor was telling me that, it kind of resonated with me that he truly did have something special."

Over the years, he has trained intensely to be the

very best at number sense. His training consists of memorizing squares, cubes, roots, conversions, triangular numbers, and dozens of other types of concrete math numbers and formulas. It also includes taking hundreds of practice tests and using a 190-plus page manual full of math tricks and shortcuts until he mastered them all.

Spitzer's brother, Rich Spitzer, along with a UIL coach from Salado, Dennis Cabaniss, both guided Maxwell with various problems and skills through facetime during his time in UIL.

"These two fine math minds selflessly volunteered their time to help Luke excel to a new level," Betsy Spitzer said.

Maxwell expressed that to prepare for the state UIL competition, he had to partake in daily test taking, frequent facetime calls with his Uncle Dickie (Rich Spitzer) and his coach Dennis, as well as targeting

memorization of conversions, triangular numbers, and measurements such as rods and fathoms.

"I knew that after regionals and with my hard work, I should do well, but I try to not be overconfident in myself because I know there is always more than one possible outcome," he said. "I try to stay humble because I could either win or not win, and I want to be the same no matter what."

Spitzer said since Maxwell is not motivated by rewards and success like the rest of us, that helping him train for number sense has been a challenge at times. "But he has, in true Luke fashion, risen to the occasion and has worked very hard to maintain his streak," she said. "This has been something that has been incredible for me as his mom."

"I am just thankful to see Luke get to shine; he is really an unselfish and awkwardly humble kiddo," she said. "He knows he is good,

but he knows he should not boast or brag."

Spitzer expressed that when she tells someone about his success, he will tell her that she doesn't need to brag. "But I do need to celebrate his success and shout from the mountain tops about how happy I am to see him mark his spot in the history books," she said.

When Maxwell was only five, Spitzer was told about everything that he could not do. "When I look at my child and all he has accomplished, I am reminded that it is not what people say, but what God says about us that matters. God says my son is a champion," she said.

Maxwell said that UIL has been important to him throughout high school, because it gave him something to do outside of the usual classes and work of the school day. He explained that he got to travel, stay in hotels, eat meals from different places,

make new friends, and got to visit spots of interest such as the Bluebell Creamery in Brenham.

"UIL competitions have helped me become a part of something bigger than myself," he said.

After graduation, Maxwell plans to attend McLennan Community College (MCC) either online or in person but has not made the decision yet. He said that he is currently undecided on whether he is going to major in mathematics or in computer science.

"I have watched God use Luke's story to touch and inspire others, and to me, that is the greatest gift through all of this," she said. "Yes, I'm proud of his success, his work ethic, and his humility, but I am more proud that he will thank God for his talents and success. I thank God too; what a privilege it is to be Luke's mother and to be a part of his story."

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Nothing like Texas hospitality



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

Memorial Day is this weekend, and historically, the holiday marks the beginning of summer travel season. I recently learned that authorities estimate this summer will be the busiest travel season in history with a record number of flights and tourists.

I am sure there are lots of folks who spend months planning where to go on their summer vacation. Time off from work is a precious commodity, and when families take their well-deserved time off, they want to spend it in a meaningful way. Many people from around the county

and around the world have planned to travel to Texas this summer to see our "sights," experience our culture, and find out what Texans are all about. For those of us who live here, the influx of visitors can be exciting as well as a little overwhelming.

Why do people want to

travel to Texas? Without a doubt there are those who want to visit our national treasures — like the Alamo. They want to experience Texas history firsthand and up close. Folks travel for miles because visiting the Alamo is a bucket list item; something that most Americans want to be able to say they have experienced; something parents want their children to experience.

Other visitors want to hit our Texas beaches and enjoy the gulf waters. Still others want to visit the Fort Worth Stockyards or the San Antonio Riverwalk. Outdoor enthusiasts travel to Big Bend National Park or fish and ski on one of our many reservoirs. There is shopping in Dallas and Houston, the Kennedy Space Center, rodeos, community celebrations, and food and drink. There is a desire on the part of most of the world to have a taste of all of it.

Just the thought of so many people wanting to "know" Texas and "feel and

see" Texas should make all us Texans swell with pride. We clearly have something they do not have.

A portion of our citizens carry a small degree of disdain for visitors. They become fussy because they might experience more traffic on their streets than is usual, or the line at their favorite restaurant may be a little longer. I am told some residents fear the visitors will like Texas so much they will want to move here and make us grow more than some would like. Isn't that an interesting dilemma to have — citizens being concerned travelers will be so overwhelmed with the positives of Texas they will want to move here? I do not know for sure, but I am guessing not many people in Lincoln, Nebraska experience such a fear. I hope all of us good-natured, friendly Texans open our hearts to our visitors and appreciate the value they bring to our economy and to the mystique of Texas being a unique and special place.

I think my friend, Jimmy Jack, is a good example of what Texas hospitality is all about. Jimmy Jack never met a stranger. Just walking down the street with him is a lesson on how to interact with other human beings. He cannot pass a person without saying something engaging, even if it is just throwing a smile their way. It is like he wakes up with the single purpose of making sure everyone he meets has a good day. Jimmy Jack is the poster child for what a hospitable, friendly Texan looks like.

My favorite Jimmy Jack story is the time his family was getting ready to go to the movies. Everybody was getting ready to head out the door and get in the car when the phone rang. Jimmy Jack answered and spoke to the caller. His wife and children were all anxious to get to the theater and were tapping their feet on the floor and anxiously glancing at the clock on the wall, wanting Jimmy Jack to finish the call so they could

leave.

Finally, after perhaps 10 minutes, his family could hear Jimmy Jack say loudly, "Nice to talk to you. See you tomorrow night at 6. Looking forward to it" and then he hung up the phone. With his entire brood staring at him, his wife finally inquired who the heck Jimmy Jack had been talking to. Without hesitation Jimmy Jack responded, "It was a wrong number, but they are coming to supper at 6 tomorrow. Sure seemed like nice folks!"

I am not going to guarantee you the above-described event happened, but I do know that Texas storytelling is another reason why people love Texas!

Welcome to all you visitors! Take your time a-going, and hurry back!

Thought for the day: Travel makes one modest. It makes you see what a tiny space you fill in the world.

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

Water safety tips for Memorial Day weekend, summer

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

With the arrival of Memorial Day weekend and the summer season, Texans will soon head to various water destinations to escape the heat. Whether your plans include a visit to the lake or beach, floating the river, or lounging by the pool, taking extra precautions when near the water can help keep you and your loved ones safe.

BOATING SAFETY

With Gatesville being just a short drive away from several lakes, boating is a popular activity for holiday weekends and throughout the summer. According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), 175 boating accidents occurred in Texas waters in 2023, resulting in 28 fatalities.

Cody Jones, Texas Game Warden assistant commander for marine enforcement, said in a TPWD press release that he is confident those numbers can shrink with more awareness and safety training.

"While we're grateful the total number of boating accidents and fatalities decreased more than 17%, and injuries decreased more than 15% from 2022, we're not in the clear yet," Jones said. "Accidents on the wa-

ter can happen quickly and unexpectedly. It's important to stay aware of your surroundings and practice boating safety."

Jones shares a few boating safety tips:

- Wear a life jacket.
- Use an engine cut-off switch.
- Take a boater safety education course.

Last year, drowning accounted for more than 57% of deaths on the water and was the leading cause of death in recreational boating fatalities, TPWD shares. Of those, 75% of the victims were not wearing a life jacket.

"Wearing a personal flotation device or life jacket is one of the easiest things someone can do to protect themselves while on the water," Kimberly Sorenson, boating education manager of TPWD said in the release. "In the event that an accident does occur, it is unlikely someone will have time to find their life jacket and properly secure it, so it is best to wear one at all times when on the water."

Sorenson emphasizes the importance of not only wearing a life jacket, but also ensuring it fits both adults and children properly.

"Adult-sized life jackets are not appropriate for

children to wear, and you should never buy a life jacket for your child to 'grow into,'" Sorenson said.

Under the Water Safety Act, Texas law requires that a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket must be available and accessible to each occupant of a boat or paddle craft. Children under the age of 13 are required by law to wear their life jacket.

Engine cut-off switches are another important tool to prevent injuries and fatalities, according to TPWD. Most motorized boats are equipped with this device, typically attached by a lanyard.

Texas law requires that anyone operating a personal watercraft or motorboat less than 26 feet in length must have the engine cut-off device attached to themselves, their clothing, or their life jacket when operating at greater than idle speed. In the event the boat operator falls off the boat or moves from the helm, the engine automatically shuts off.

For more information about boating safety, laws, and requirements, visit <https://tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat/laws/>

To enroll in a boater education safety course via TPWD, visit <https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/boater-education/>

texas.gov/education/boater-education/

DROWNING PREVENTION

Even if your weekend or summer plans do not include boating, following a few safety measures around any body of water can help prevent a drowning incident.

While drowning can happen to anyone, children are at the greatest risk. It is the single leading cause of death for children ages 1-4 and the second leading cause of unintentional injury death for children up to age 14, according to the National Drowning Prevention Alliance's (NDPA) website.

Because it often happens quickly and quietly, the NDPA recommends learning the Five Layers of Protection to prevent drowning:

• **Barriers and Alarms** – use fencing, pool safety covers, and alarm systems to help children and unauthorized adults from accessing water unsupervised.

• **Supervision** – ensure close, constant, and capable supervision by a designated adult or lifeguard is present anytime children are in or around water.

• **Water Competency** – every child and adult should know basic water safety skills to reduce the risk of drowning and aquatic-relat-

ed injuries.

• **Life Jackets** – to provide protection when you are not expecting to be in the water, especially around open water.

• **Emergency Preparation** – know basic CPR training,

water rescue skills, and have a phone available and ready to call 911.

To learn more about the National Drowning Prevention Alliance, visit ndpa.org.

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Neely Duckett (right) is pictured with her daughter, Lenni.

Say hello to our neighbor, Neely Duckett!

Neely is employed at the First National Bank and will celebrate her ten-year anniversary in December of this year. She expressed that the best part about her job is her customers. "They become like family to me," Duckett said. "I truly enjoy each relationship I have made through the bank." She is a proud Gatesville native and said that she doesn't ever plan on leaving her hometown. "My favorite thing about Gatesville is the small-town feel and how supportive our community is of one another," she said.

Neely reads The Gatesville Messenger and said, "I like how great of a job The Gatesville Messenger does at keeping us connected and informed of local news and events."

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



ADOBE STOCK

Remember to follow a few safety measures before hitting the water this summer.



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.

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

First Methodist awarded Yard of Month



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured left to right is Gary Kafer, Mary Kafer, and Pastor Stephen Schmidt standing with their yard of the month sign after receiving the award for First Methodist Church.

Staff Reports

Keep Gatesville Beautiful recently announced that the First Methodist Church won the Yard of the Month award for May.

Stephen Schmidt became the pastor in 2018 and mentioned that the landscaping was installed

back in 2012, and that the upkeep is a joint effort between the church volunteer members.

A combination of drip and spray irrigation is used on the church's landscape.

Two to three times a year, volunteers from the church congregation will get everything cleaned and

trimmed up. Locals Mary and Gary Kafer tend to the flower beds as well.

The landscape includes Crepe Myrtles, a Blad Cypress, Wax Myrtle bushes, Knockout Roses, Monkey Grass, Oleanders, Lantanas, Mealy Cup Sages, and African Irises.

The church has a long

history within the community, since the original building was founded around the same time as Gatesville, in 1854. The current church was built in 1971.

The First Methodist Church is located at 2600 East Main Street.

SUDOKU

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

Puzzle answers from the May 18, 2024 issue.

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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3	7	2		9	1	4		
1				8	4	7		

Puzzle by websudoku.com

United Women in Faith meeting held

Submitted by Shirleen Chandler

United Women in Faith met on May 14, 2024, in the Banquet Room of the First Methodist Church in Gatesville, at 5:30 p.m. Fifteen members were present. Hostesses were Jeanette Shepherd and Linda Lovelace.

President Patsy Smart called the meeting to order by leading in the Blessing. During refreshments, Linda Klontz led members in picking new prayer partners for the month. Following refreshment time, President Smart thanked the hostesses and read 'The Purpose.' Mary Beth Bogard read from the Daily Prayer Guide, including international birthdays. Marilyn Decker announced our local chapter birthdays. Velva Riddle read from the Response Magazine. Riddle presented the program, Session 3 from their book 'Living the Kingdom,' an exploration of the Lord's Prayer, from Matthew 6, verse 10. The words are,

"Your Kingdom Come, Your Will Be Done, on Earth as it is in Heaven." When we think of heaven, we imagine all things wonderful. But on earth, we have many disagreements and power struggles. How can we make earth more like heaven? She asked the group to imagine their "perfect day" listing all the things that would make it just right. Shirleen Chandler led the group in singing, "Be Still, My Soul" followed by a closing prayer, The Prayer of St. Francis.

President Smart called the business meeting to order. Among the business items Kathleen Blankemeyer presented sign-up sheets for their salad supper on August 13. Chandler gave an update of news from the Mid-Tex Global Methodists, including more information about the upcoming meeting of the Women's Ministry on Nov. 16 in Waco.

The meeting adjourned with the Benediction.

Click it or Ticket 2024 | TxDOT

Law enforcement to step up seat belt ticketing May 20 through June 2. Unbuckled Texans accounted for 1 in 4 of road fatalities in 2023.

News Release

Texas Department of Transportation

In the time it takes to read this sentence, Texans can click their seat belt and save themselves from an early grave — and save their loved ones from the sorrow of preventable loss.

While millions wear their seat belts every day as drivers or passengers, unbuckled drivers and passengers accounted for 1,183 — that's 28% — of the more than 4,200 lives lost on Texas roads last year, and nearly half of all fatalities where someone could have worn a seat belt.

The harsh reality is that life can be ripped away from our loved ones in the blink of an eye — espe-

cially if they're not wearing a seat belt.

"If only David had buckled up that day, he'd still be with us," said Doreen Palestrant, the mother of a 17-year-old Kerrville high school football player who lost his life in a November 2021 rollover crash that took his life. David, who was unbuckled in the back seat, died at the scene when the pickup he was riding in rolled several times.

"There's not a day that goes by that I don't think about my son," she said. "In my son's memory, I encourage all Texans to always wear their seat belt, whether for a short trip around the block or a longer trip across town."

TxDOT's annual Click It or Ticket campaign aims to

save lives by getting drivers and passengers to wear their seat belt 100% of the time.

"Buckling up is both the simplest and most effective safety decision that most of us make every day," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "No one ever expects to be in a crash, and that's why it's so important to always put your seat belt on every time you get in a vehicle. The one time you skip it could be the time you pay the price."

In addition to conducting educational outreach, the campaign partners with Texas law enforcement around the state to step up enforcement of seat belt and car seat laws from May 20 through June 2, including Memorial Day weekend.

Texas law requires everyone in a vehicle to buckle up or face fines and court costs up to \$200. Children younger than 8 years old must be in a child safety seat or booster seat unless they're taller than 4 feet 9 inches. If they aren't properly restrained, the driver faces fines up to \$250 plus court costs. TxDOT offers free safety seat inspections across the state.

TxDOT's Click It or Ticket campaign is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel to help end the streak of daily deaths. Nov. 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on Texas roadways.

CORYELL COUNTY COMMISSION

Jody & Robin Thomas
(254)223-2958

SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY STARTS AT NOON

May 22, 2024:

No. 1 Steers	
Under 300 lb.	350-450
300-400 lb.	335-435
400-500 lb.	290-335
500-600 lb.	265-325
600-700 lb.	250-305
700-800 lb.	230-260

No. 1 Heifers	
under 300 lb.	325-425
300-400 lb.	290-360
400-500 lb.	265-310
500-600 lb.	245-290
600-700 lb.	225-255
700-800 lb.	210-240

Slaughter Cows	
High Yielding	135-149
Low Yielding	120-130
Fats	120-135
Thin & Shelly	100-110

Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)	
Yield Grade 1&2	140-168

Cow & Calf Pairs	
Young Choice	2700-3300
Young Fair	2100-2700
Aged Pairs	Split & Weighed

Young Pregnancy Test Stocker	
Replacement Cow	1600-2850
Number of Head	981

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www.coryellcommission.com

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)

The City of Gatesville was awarded a grant to help purchase bulletproof vests for police officers.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans Major Robert M. White Camp 1250 dedicated a grave marker for James

Ervin Thompson, Jr., who was a scout for the Coryell County 2nd Frontier Indian Raiders.

Local veterans of World War II were set to be honored with a special tribute at Gatesville High School. Gatesville Masonic Lodge

197 received the Carter BloodCare Recognition Award for sponsoring local blood drives.

A fund-raiser was scheduled at the Ater Community Center to raise money for a new roof.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

Shawn Paul, of Jonesboro, won second place at the regional competition of the Hamilton Coryell Soil and Water Conservation District essay contest.

The William Elmo Powell VFW Post 8230 was set to have its annual Poppy Sale.

A free shot clinic for children was set to be held at the Texas Department of Human Services office. Sonic advertised a bacon

cheeseburger with fries and a drink for \$2.99.

Lane Susann Gartman, then age 4, competed in the Central Texas Baby Pageant in Waco where she received "Dimpled Darling," placed second in photogenic, and placed second in beauty.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

Lindsey Cummings, valedictorian of the Gatesville graduating class of 1984, spoke at commencement exercises.

Hal Day led in the call, while the band "Saddle Tramp" provided the music for square dancing during the Faunt Le Roy Fun-Fest.

Ronnie Sullins, senior vice president of Guaranty Bank and Trust Co. in Gatesville

received a Tarleton State University Outstanding Young Alumnus award.

Gatesville's Cub Pack 272 was recognized as one of two units cited for having the largest percentage of membership increases.

The Shandler Club on Pidcoke Road featured Ronnie Mack.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)

The Bookstore on Main Street advertised last minute graduation gift suggestions.

High school senior Barbara Lee was chosen by Gatesville Lions Club members as their candidate in their upcoming queen's contest.

Miller Motor Company advertised new Mavericks, Pintos, and Comets.

The Turnersville Cemetery Association prepared for its upcoming annual community homecoming at Turnersville.

The piano students of Mrs. John Derrick were set to present a recital in the Gatesville Elementary School auditorium.

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Prison ministry event set for June 1

Staff Reports

Prison Fellowship will host a community-wide prison ministry event at Coryell Community Church on Saturday, June 1, at 8:30 a.m.

The event will provide an opportunity to learn about the many avenues of prison ministry and to witness how God is restoring the lives of those impacted by incarceration.

Coffee and worship will

begin at 8:30 a.m. followed by the program at 9 a.m.

Coryell Community Church is located at 115 N Levita Road, Gatesville, TX 76528

Prison Fellowship is a national Christian organization that works to restore America's criminal justice system and those it affects. To learn more about Prison Fellowship, visit <https://www.prisonfellowship.org/>

Travel Club to meet May 30

Submitted item

The Central Texas Travel Club will meet on Thursday, May 30, at Johnny's Steaks and Barbeque in Salado. The gathering will start at 11 a.m. with the meeting starting at 11:30 a.m.

They will be discussing upcoming trips to Arkansas to ride a train, a trip

to Hawaii, and a Riverboat cruise in Eastern Europe, plus many others.

The meeting is open to anyone interested in travel. There are no fees or membership requirements. For more info, find us on Facebook or centraltexasravelclub@outlook.com.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SACRIFICED



**We cherish too, the Poppy red,
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies,
That blood of heroes never dies.**

- Moina Michael

Poppies growing in the garden at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

PEARL NEWS

Pearl Church of Christ VBS carries on tradition



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

The Pearl Church of Christ will hold its annual VBS May 27 through May 31, from 9 a.m. - noon each day. This event has taken place since 1991, and it continues to grow and to teach the love of Jesus each and every year.

The theme this year is "Jesus Loves You!" Be sure and mark your calendars, and please tell all your friends and family. Everyone is invited. The Pearl Church of Christ VBS is epic, and you don't want to miss it.

I just talked to Linda Ray, my partner in crime (our other partners are Kay and Corlisa, so you can imagine how much crime is actually committed)—we don't bother anybody or get in anybody's business, (well,

that's not true), and she reports that attendance at Pearl Church of Christ on May 19 was 38. They were able to give out one more scholarship. Scholarship Sunday continues for one more day next week. May's weather has been quite unusual, shall we say, which has caused many extensions to "Scholarship Sunday."

These are exciting times for the Pearl Bluegrass at the Pearl Community

Center. The new officers are working hard to ensure a fun day in Pearl during each Bluegrass event. The next Bluegrass Day will be June 1. You can contact Garrett Dickey, President of the Pearl Community Center Board, at 254-595-1095 to schedule stage time. Just leave a message, and he will get back to you. Don't forget that the Bluegrass Kitchen is open from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., and the prices are very reasonable for the delicious, homemade food. Please tell your contacts at nursing homes that van loads of residents are welcome at the Pearl Bluegrass event. Admission is free, and the kitchen serves wonderful food at reasonable prices. They would love to come to the stage show, which starts at 1 p.m. in the air-conditioned auditorium. Everyone is always welcome!

The Community Center is truly the hub of Pearl. It serves as a place for funeral lunches, reunions, and other community events. To rent the building or rent an RV space, contact Connie Long at 254-223-0621.

The Pearl Cottage Book-

store will be open from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on June 1. You will enjoy browsing the well over 6,000 books as well as various other items. Purchases are made by donation, and all proceeds go toward the bookstore's local charities. Future dates for Bookstore and Pearl Bluegrass days are June 1, July 6, Aug. 3, Sept. 14 (second Saturday due to longstanding booking for a reunion), Oct. 5, Nov. 2, and Dec. 7. Mark your calendars. Kay and Corlisa will

love seeing you, so stop by, visit, and enjoy a shopping adventure.

There will be a Pearl Cemetery Meeting on June 24 at 7 p.m. at the Pearl Community Center. All are invited to attend. The Pearl Community Center Board quarterly meeting will be held July 22, with the fourth quarterly meeting being held on Oct. 28, also at the Pearl Community Center. Both meetings of the Pearl Community Center Board will be at 6:30 p.m. All are

invited to attend as well.

This week's Bible verses come from I Corinthians 16:14—Let all you do be done in love, Galations 5:22—But the fruit of the Spirit is love, and Mark 12:31—You shall love your neighbor as yourself. NIV

Be sure and like the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page, and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop Facebook page. Please submit any Pearl news to betsyclark47@yahoo.com

"Bakeless" Bake Sale to benefit museum

Submitted item

The Coryell Museum and Historical Center will be hosting a Bakeless Bake Sale. Instead of baking pies, cookies or cakes, the

museum would appreciate it if the public would donate the price of a baked good to the museum as a fundraiser.

Donations can be sent to the Coryell Museum and

Historical Center, P.O. Box 24, Gatesville, TX 76528.

Coryell Museum is located at 718 E. Main Street in Gatesville. They can be reached by calling 254-865-5007.



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OBITUARIES

Janis Daschofsky Pekarski

Oct. 19, 1936 - May 14, 2024

Janis Daschofsky Pekarski, age 87, of Gatesville, passed away Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at her home.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, May 25, at Scott's Funeral Home with Jonathan Ford and Willis Moore officiating. The family will receive visitors one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Janis Louise Dyson Daschofsky Pekarski was born on Oct. 19, 1936, to the late Edwin B Dyson and Erna L. Koch Dyson in the Plainview community. She attended Plainview school in her early years and then started Gatesville school during her junior high years. As a high school sophomore, her family moved to the San Luis Valley in Southern Colorado. While in high school, she was the majorette, band drum major, and was voted both homecoming queen and prom queen.

Janis accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior during Vacation Bible School at the age of 12.

During her time in Colorado, she went to work one summer as a potato harvester and fell in love with a young farmer, Alan Daschofsky. In the summer of 1955, her family moved back to Texas, and her heart broke to leave the potato farmer behind. In the fall of 1955, she enrolled in Hillcrest Memorial Hospital School of Nursing. In December of 1955, Alan Daschofsky made that long drive from Colorado to Waco, and Janis crawled out the window of her dorm. They eloped and got married in the first town across the Texas-New Mexico border at the First Baptist Church in Clovis, New Mexico. They moved back to Texas in 1956 when they were expecting their first child. Over the next 6 years, God blessed them with three children: Loretta, Kathy, and Fred.

Janis devoted her life to her greatest passion - nursing and nursing education. Her love of education was infinite, first as a student and then as an educator. In 1958, she earned her LVN license through the Coryell Memorial Hospital School of Vocational Nursing. Then, over the next 30 years, she continued her education with an Associate degree of Science and Associate of General Education from Central Texas College. She further continued her education with a Bachelor of Science in Health Professions and a Master of Science in Health Professions from Southwest Texas State University.

Janis served in many capacities, including charge



nurse, Director of Nursing at Coryell Memorial Hospital, Director of Nursing at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Coryell Memorial Hospital Instructor for the LVN program, Instructor for Medication aide, CNA Instructor in Bell County, and Investigator-Nurse-Supervisor for the State of Texas working in Quality Control for Region I. She also served as a Hospice volunteer for over 18 years. In 2000, the Gatesville Exchange Club awarded her the honor of "Health Professional of the Year."

Alan passed away in 2005, which left an empty hole in her life. In 2011, that empty hole was filled with the second love of her life when "Papa Ron" walked in the door at Prima Pasta for their first date. She married Ron Pekarski in March of 2013, and they enjoyed a life of RV traveling and family until his death in August of 2019. Janis loved fiercely, and the joys of her life were her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; former husbands, Alan F. Daschofsky and Ronald Pekarski; and sister, Carolyn Dyson Heikes.

Janis is survived by her children, Loretta and husband, Danny Elledge, Kathy and husband, Ronny Perryman, Fred and wife, Lisa Daschofsky; Papa Ron's children, Linda and husband John Loper, of Hugo, Oklahoma, Jill and husband, Ted Elder, of Newnan, Georgia, Celeste Carroll, of Forney, Texas, brother, John Thomas (Tommy) and wife, Jackie Dyson, of Grand Junction Colorado; grandchildren, Abbey Daschofsky, Ainsley Daschofsky, Zack Daschofsky, Rebekah Campbell, Sherry Barrington, Liz Harris, Jessica Fasani, Jonathan Elledge, Gary Fenner, and Alex Fenner; and 15 great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank Whitney, Rachel, Chelsea, Willis, Erica, and Jennifer with Amedisys Hospice for all their love and support over the last several months.

Darrell Neuman

April 5, 1959 - May 17, 2024

Darrell Neuman, lifetime resident and farmer of Coryell City, passed away on Friday, May 17, 2024, after a brief stay at Baylor Scott and White Hospital in Temple.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Thursday, May 23, 2024, at St. John Lutheran Church with Pastor Christopher Richmann officiating. The family received visitors from 5-7 p.m. on Wednesday evening at Scott's Funeral Home.

Darrell Wayne Neuman was born on April 5, 1959, to the late Jerry and Norma Sandhoff Neuman in Clifton, Texas. He grew up in Coryell City and attended school in Gatesville, graduating from Gatesville High School in 1977. He dedicated his life to working on the family farm and raising cattle. His spare time involved trips to both Louisiana and Oklahoma and teaching his grand-



nephew about farming and ranching.

Darrell was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his sister, Diana Smith and husband, Jay; nieces, Christen Wright and Rachel Smith; and grand-nephew, D.W. Wright.

In lieu of flowers, Darrell's family requests that memorials be made to the St. John Lutheran Church Building Fund, 10801 FM 929, Gatesville, TX 76528.

Nelson Lee

Aug. 25, 1928 - May 14, 2024

Nelson Lee, age 95, passed away Tuesday, May 14, 2024, peacefully in his home, surrounded by family and friends.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Monday, May 20, at Scott's Funeral Home with Pastor David Booth officiating. Interment followed at Pearl Cemetery.

Johnnie Nelson Lee was born August 25, 1928, to the late Laura Newland Lee and Albert David Lee. He attended Bigham and Gatesville schools. He met the love of his life, Joanne Robinson, and they married June 17, 1950. Together, they moved to San Angelo, where he worked for the Goodyear Tire Company. They returned to Pearl in 1960 and made their forever home at the JNL Ranch. Nelson enjoyed working on the ranch and playing dominos. In his last year of life, he looked forward to when little Sterlin would come over to eat Oreo cookies and drink "wittle" Dr. Peppers.

Nelson was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Joanne; daughter, Lu Lee Crenshaw; and siblings, Ruth Pancake, Cathryn (Mert) Powell, Joanne (Doe) Lee, Laverne Wolfe, Walter Lee, and David Lee.

He is survived by his daughter, Dionitia Parrish and husband, Donald; son-in-law, Chuck Crenshaw; grandchildren, Kay Hunt and husband, Jared, Charles Crenshaw and wife, Christina, John Parrish and wife, Lisa, Gayla Hodges and husband, Matt;



great-grandchildren, Kelby Jones Shults and husband, Scott, Case Jones and wife, Kristen, Kagen Hunt, Mattie and Nolan Hodges, Kade and Katy Parrish; great-great grandchildren, Sterlin Grey Shults and Paxton Brack Jones; many beloved nieces and nephews; and great friends, Freda Cook, and Jimmy and Susan McPherren.

Pallbearers for Nelson's service were Jared Hunt, Case Jones, Scott Shults, John Parrish, Matt Hodges, and Charles Crenshaw.

Honorary Pallbearers were Gary Lee, Chuck Crenshaw, Donald Parrish, Vance Stephens, Jimmy McPherren, Albert Pancake, Joe Pancake, and Richard Penny.

The family would like to thank Nelson's caregivers for all the love and support in his final days.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Pearl Country Church, 5685 CR 139, Gatesville, Texas 76528, or to Bluebonnet Hospice Services, 307 Londonderry Waco, Texas 76712.

Jan Landua

Oct. 7, 1939 - May 19, 2024

Jan Landua, age 84, of Gatesville, passed away on Sunday, May 19, 2024, in Waco.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Friday, May 24, at Live Oak Baptist Church, with Rev. Jerry Raines and Rev. Matthew Hamilton officiating. Interment followed at Restland Cemetery.

Janeva Ann Landua was born on Oct. 7, 1939, to the late Noble and Talma Anderson Haile. She grew up in the Olin community of Hamilton County. She graduated from Fairy High School in 1957, where she was a cheerleader and basketball player and voted "Class Favorite" her senior year. After graduation, she went on to attend Carver Business College in 1958. She married Billy Earl Landua on Sept. 10, 1960.

She worked at Gulf States Telephone Company in Hamilton until moving to Gatesville in 1964. She answered all the calls for Hamilton County Electric Coop, while raising her family. She then went to work for Barnhill's Department Store and White Elephant Department Store. She later began a career with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice as Warden Lucille Plane's secretary, then for the Wyndham School District and Woodmen State Jail, retiring in 2000. Jan was an expert seamstress, making clothes for her family. Her favorite job was helping raise her five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She



was a member of Live Oak Baptist Church, where she was a children's Sunday School teacher for over 50 years.

She was preceded in death by her children, Waylan Landua and Ronnie Viss; sister, Billie Loree Haile; and brothers, Tom Haile, Jim Haile, John Haile, Bill Haile.

Jan is survived by her husband, Billy Landua; daughter, Cristie Pittman and husband, Kurt; daughter-in-law, Susan Landua; grandchildren, Laurri K. Shaw, Clayton Landua and wife, Stephanie, Ashley Landua and Natalie McCarey, Riley Miller, Linzi Riley and husband, Dustin, Colton Pittman, Emily Viss, and great grandchildren, Alexis, Kenzie, Case, Stella, Kaylor, Justus and Axton.

The family has designated that memorials be directed to the Jan Landua Childrens Ministry Fund, c/o Live Oak Baptist Church, 113 FM 107, Gatesville, TX 76528.

Oglesby Lions Club to host Memorial Day ceremony

Staff Reports

The Oglesby Lions Club will host a Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 27, to honor those that have made the ultimate sacrifice in selfless service to our country.

The ceremony will commence at approximately 9 a.m. and will be held at the Oglesby Community Center.

The keynote speaker will be Tiffany N. Harrison, SFC, United States Army, retired. There will be a last roll call in memory of Johnny Barnes, United States Navy, WWII.

There will be a dessert reception to follow the ceremony.

The Oglesby Community Center is located at 118 Main Street in Oglesby.

RECIPE

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



COURTESY PHOTO BY DVO.COM

Hobo Bread

HOB0 BREAD

BY EDITH STONE

1 ½ c. walnuts	2 c. sugar
- 2 c. raisins	4 c. flour
2 c. boiling water	4 level tsp. soda
2 tsp. cinnamon	½ tsp. salt
1 ¼ c. oil or 1 c. apple sauce and ¼ oil	

Put raisins, soda, and boiling water in bowl and stir. Cover and let set overnight or 12 hours. Add salt, sugar, flour, cinnamon and oil or apple sauce. Mix well. Grease and flour two loaf pans. Bake at 350 for one hour or until toothpick comes out clean. Let stand 5 minutes. Remove from pan and cool. Can be frozen. This bread is especially good for breakfast. Just heat, butter, and serve with coffee or fruit juice.

50th Annual

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COLOR RUN 5K run will start at the Northwest corner of Raby Park, June 1, starting at 8 a.m.



CONCERT Headliner Carson Jeffrey on the Courthouse Square, June 1st, "Doors" open at 6 PM, show starts at 7 PM, tickets \$20 or \$25 at door



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BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

When Curtis Nelson was in high school at Melvin he played guard on the football team.

"At that time, Melvin had the longest winning streak: 31 wins without a

loss," says Curtis. "For two years at home games, no one scored on Melvin. We

played Mason 77 to nothing, Eden 45 to nothing, Menard 40 to nothing, and they were a lot bigger schools. We just had the right boys and the right coaches, and things clicked."

At age 14, while in the eighth grade, he got a job as janitor at the bank in Melvin.

"By the ninth grade, I had a key to the bank and the combination to the vault. I did that for four years at a dollar a day."

When he graduated from high school he had no interest in college. He just wanted to be a banker. He

borrowed \$175 from the bank, bought a car, left town, and found a job at a bank in Houston.

"I was there three years. They were real good to me in Houston. They let me do everything in the bank by the time I was 21."

That same year, when he was 21, he went to Port Lavaca where a new bank was getting organized.

"I hired all the employees, bought all the equipment, and stayed at that bank until I was 43. I became president of that bank and was president for a good long while."

At age 43, a close friend

his same age had a heart attack. He didn't want that to happen to him, so he left the banking business.

"I had always been renting land, running cows. I started buying and selling land and putting in subdivisions. Over the years, I've had 38 farms and ranches and 16 subdivisions in Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado."

Curtis has three children and gave each one a ranch. "So, I'm working for them now."

While he was living in Lubbock and Santa Fe, he was on his way to Wimberley when he went through

Brady and saw a house he liked. It had a for sale sign in the yard. He called a realtor, and within an hour the house was his.

"I like it very well. I enjoy it. It covers a whole block. It has ornamental iron fences all around it, two guesthouses, and a large meal building. I was born in the hospital here in Brady. Now, after seeing the world and doing everything, I'm back within five blocks from where I was born. That's what you call getting back to your roots."

OBITUARIES

Robert Andrew Amparan

Jan. 4, 1952 - Apr. 5, 2024

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

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

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

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



Barron.

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

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

Richard Franks

May 2, 1938 - May 8, 2024

Richard Franks, age 86, of Hart, Texas, passed away on May 8, 2024, in Dimmitt. A Celebration of Life memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 25, at 10 a.m. in the Colonial Funeral Home Chapel in Dimmitt with Coby Gilbreath officiating. Arrangements and Cremation Services have been entrusted to the Colonial Funeral Home of Dimmitt.

Richard was born on May 2, 1938, in Bell County, to Dean and Julia (Ellis) Franks. He attended school in Gatesville and was a 1956 Gatesville High School graduate. He furthered his education at Texas Tech University, graduating in 1961 with his bachelor's degree, and then received a master's degree from Louisiana State University in 1963. Richard began his long-time career with Wilbur Ellis in Donna, Texas, which later moved him to Hart in 1963.

Richard was a member of the Hart Lions Club, First Baptist Church of Hart, and Hart Senior Citizens. Richard also served a term as Mayor of Hart.

Richard loved to rope and play tennis, which he learned to play in his 40s. He was a straightforward man who told it like it was, and enjoyed telling a good joke, especially an Aggie



joke.

Those left to cherish his memories are brother, Gerald Franks and his wife, Patsy, of Hart; sister, Judy Whitt and her husband, Jimmy, of Hamilton; two grandchildren, Brody Gilbert, of Pampa, and Sydney Westin, of Austin; two son-in-law's, Mark Gilbert, of Pampa, and Eddie Westin, of Lubbock; longtime companion Mary Lockhart; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dean and Julia Franks, wife, Carlyn Franks, and two daughters, Laurey Gilbert and Lesley Westin.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to West Texas Rehabilitation, 3001 S. Jackson, San Angelo, TX 76904, Ronald Mc Donald House of Amarillo, 1501 Steit Dr., Amarillo, TX 79106, or a charity of your choice.

JAMES FRANKLIN "J. F." CLAWSON, JR.

Aug. 31, 1923 - May 20, 2024

Judge James Franklin ("J.F." / "Jim") Clawson Jr., of Temple, 100, longtime State District Judge and civic leader, died Monday, May 20, 2024, at Cornerstone Gardens in Temple, Texas.

Clawson was born Aug. 31, 1923 in Coryell County, Texas, to James F. Clawson and Julia Josephine Doolittle Brazzil Clawson and lived in Temple most of his life.

He served his country during WWII and the Korean Conflict by enlisting in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a pilot and pilot instructor and being recalled as a member of the Judge Advocate General Corps. He was stationed at Upper Hayford, England while serving as a member of the Judge Advocate General Corps. He graduated Baylor University Law School in August 1948 and practiced general law in Houston before moving to Temple in 1959 to work for First National Bank as Trust Officer.

He served the people, communities, and the government of Texas for more than 50 years as an attorney, Bell County Judge, 169th District Court Judge, and as Judge of the 3rd Administrative Judicial District, as well as a Senior District Judge sitting by assignment in courts throughout Texas and predominantly in San Antonio.

Clawson was instrumental in creating programs that enriched the lives of his community, such as the Bell County D.W.I. Task Force, the Central Texas Council of Governments, the Central Texas Military Alliance, and many others. He was an active member in civic and service organizations in Temple and Bell County, including Optimist Club, Temple Chamber of Commerce (for which he served as President in 1965), board member of the Santa Fe Hospital, member of the Bell County Sheriff's Posse, and Master Mason of the Maples Masonic Lodge #791.

He and his brothers, Gayle Clawson and Ray Clawson, established Triple C Realty Corporation in 1968. J.F. also owned a small mortgage company, which he was still involved in until his death.

He was a longtime member of Christ Episcopal Church, serving as Junior and Senior Warden of the Vestry and helped to develop Kinsolving Canyon



Lodge for the betterment of the people of the Diocese of Texas.

He married Mary Louise Forester, of Del Rio, Texas on May 4, 1945. After her death in 2012, he married Mandi Clark on July 4, 2020.

Clawson was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Mary Louise Forester Clawson; his sisters, Glee Clawson Robertson and Grace Clawson Boccieri; and his brothers, Gayle Clawson, Jan Clawson, and Ray Clawson.

He is survived by his wife, Mandi; his daughters, Marylou Clawson Bowen, of Temple, and Cathy Clawson Young, of Albuquerque, NM; his son-in-law, Dan Bowen, of Belton; his sister, Nova Clawson Festervan, of San Marcos; sister-in-law, Dot Forester, of Ft. Worth; and grandchildren, Libby Bowen Herberster and husband, Aaron, of Leander, Mary Hannah Bowen, of Colorado, Sallie Rebecca Bowen, of Dallas, great-grandson Aidan Conner Plank, of Temple, Kristiane (Kris) Young, of Maryland, and Alexandra (Alix) Young, of San Antonio. He was "PawPaw" to his honorary grandchild and namesake, James Franklin King, of Richmond. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives in the Clawson and Forester extended families.

There was a visitation at Scanio Harper Funeral Home of Temple from 5 - 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 23rd. A memorial service will be held at a later time.

Memorials may be made to Christ Episcopal Church of Temple or the J.F. and Mary Clawson scholarship at Baylor School of Law.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to the nursing and care team and staff at Cornerstone Gardens in Temple, for their loving care of "The Judge!"

Donald Baize

Dec. 11, 1939 - May 14, 2024

Donald Baize, age 84, of Crawford, passed away on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, surrounded by his adoring family. Funeral services will be Saturday, May 18, at 11 a.m., in Grace Gardens Funeral Home in Waco. Visitation with the family will be one hour prior to the service.

Donald Edward Baize was born on Dec. 11, 1939, to the late Clebe and Katie "Leck" Baize and was raised in the Coryell City community. He graduated from Gatesville High School in 1957 and served in the U.S. National Guard from 1958 to 1967, beginning his basic training in Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Donald was united in marriage to Garlene McGregor Baize on June 27, 1959, in Moody, Texas. They settled in the Crawford community to raise their boys, Barry and Jeff Baize, and to begin a long and successful career in the farming, ranching, and seed business.

Donald was a member of St. Paul Lutheran church in Crawford from 1986 until his death. He was a notable contributor to his community in various civic roles, serving on the Crawford School Board from 1970 to 1981, and the Crawford Volunteer Ambulance service. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Crawford Community Center, serving on the board of the local COOP Farm and Ranch Supply, as well as serving the McLennan County Farm Service Agency.

Donald will be best remembered for his kind and generous heart, his willingness to strike up a warm conversation at any time, his genuine concern for all, and for being the absolute GOAT of making



peanut brittle.

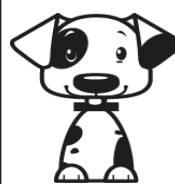
Donald was preceded in death by his parents and loving wife.

He is survived by his sons, Barry Baize and Jeff Baize (Molly); siblings, Burney Baize, Patty Clemmons, and John Baize (Joan); sisters-in-law, Gerda McGregor and Marsha Stanford (Bill); grandchildren, Chase Baize (Michelle), Gerik Baize (Santana), Paige Baize Soukup (Brandon) and Perri Baize; great-grandchildren, Jordan Baize, McKenzie Baize, Finley Baize, and Cameron Marshall; a host of nieces and nephews, and a long-time friend and companion, Johnnie Farmer.

Pallbearers will be Chase Baize, Gerik Baize, Terry Baize, Don Hothan, Brad Cox, and Martin Landeros. Honorary pallbearers include Rodney Talbert, Mike Plemmons, Keith Nelson, Dale Westerfeld, Lyndon Lynch, and Marvin Luedeker.

The family extends its deepest appreciation to the staff at Ridgecrest Retirement Center, Heartis Senior Care, and St. Anthony's Care Center for their love and devotion throughout the years.

Memorials may be made to the Crawford Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Service, P.O. Box 224, Crawford, TX 76638.

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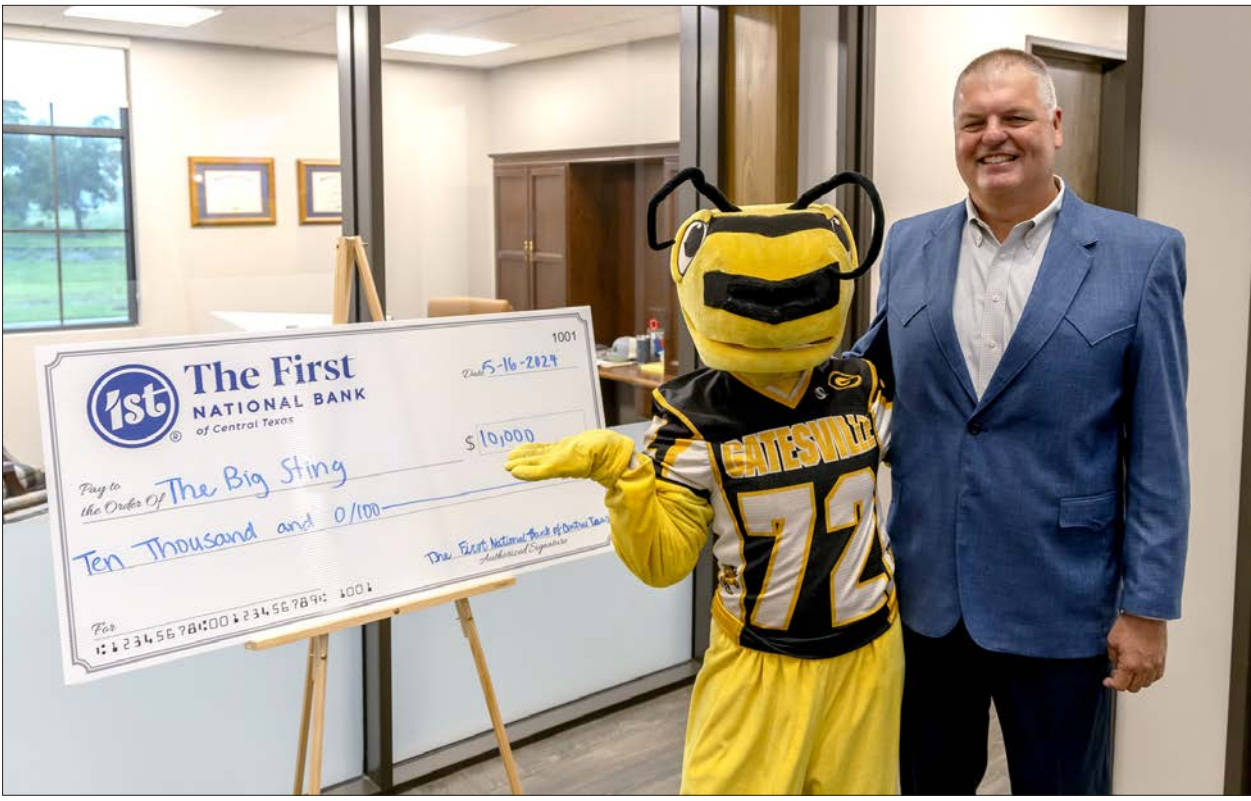
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1ST NATIONAL BANK GIVES AWAY \$50,000



COURTESY PHOTOS

The First National Bank of Central Texas (FNBCT) recently donated \$50,000 to five local non-profits within the community. Each organization received a donation of \$10,000. Those receiving the donations were Gatesville Boys and Girls Club, Righteous Roots, Coryell County 4-H, the Gatesville Senior Center, and The Big Sting. FNBCT opened their doors in early March, holding multiple meet-and-greets along with a ribbon cutting on May 16. FNBCT is located at 2908 East Main Street in Gatesville and can be reached by calling 254-216-6040. Gatesville Hornets' mascot Buzz is pictured on behalf of The Big Sting, along with Gatesville branch bank president Will Coward.

MOUND NEWS

Mound is hosting VBS



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Mound Cowboy Church and White Mound Baptist Church are having their annual VBS Sunday June 9-13.

The time each evening will be from 6-8:30 p.m. with dinner at 5:30. Parents' Night will be on the 13th. This year's theme is Barrier Rock Beach. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship.

Kinsley McPherson was honored on her 17th birthday with a trip to New Braunfels by her parents, Mark and Kelli McPherson. Those who attended were her family and friends.

David Hopson was honored on his 68th birthday Sunday with a dinner by his family. Those who attended were his children and grandchildren.

Congratulations to Miss Olivia Lois Long who graduated at Gatesville Primary

School from Kindergarten and will now enter the first grade at the new Gatesville Elementary School.

Those who had birthdays in this month were Beckham Sanders, Randy Cole, Miles Wallace, Amy Veazey, Lynda Brim, Tristan Hopson, Cindy Long, Brent Wolff, Kelly Dunnivan, Bryce Cole, Gloria Shaffer, Janet Ortega, Kinsley McPherson, Stormy Crum, Jamie Veazey, Holli Williams, Kim Dahl, David Hopson, Ronnie Gonzalez, Patti Pruett, Meredith Cox, Denise Kleshick, Suzy Cox, Kathy Cole and Caegan Michaels.

Barbara's Notes: Happy Memorial Day everyone!

Turnersville to host annual homecoming May 26

Submitted Item

The Turnersville 67th annual homecoming program will be held on Sunday, May 26, at the Turnersville Tabernacle. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. Be sure to arrive early for fellowship and to enjoy coffee and donuts.

The Homecoming Memorial Program will commence at 11 a.m., and the guest speaker will be Matt Dossey.

One of the most treasured traditions is to honor veterans who have proudly served our country. To instill patriotism, at the beginning of the service, the children will be asked to follow local veterans posting flags down an aisle which will lead to the Pledge of Allegiance. Children who are too young to walk will be carried by proud parents.

The Turnersville Cemetery was formed in the early 1900s. It is honored to be the resting place for veterans' graves. Around 275 veterans from at least six wars have been inventoried and decorated with the American flag during each Memorial Day weekend by members of the community.

The two oldest graves in the cemetery include Harrison Owens who served during the Texas Revolution and John Black, who served during the Civil War.

The program will be followed by the traditional meal, which will be served in the community center. Dinnerware, bread, drinks, and water will be provided. Those attending are encouraged to bring a favorite dish or two, and to stay after the program to enjoy the variety of foods while renewing friendships.

MEMORIAL DAY



A Time to Remember

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of May 15 - May 21. 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 15
3:07 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 900 block of Bridge Street.
12:12 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1400 block of E. Main Street.
3:03 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.
7:46 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2300 block of E. Main Street.
May 16
4:14 a.m., Suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of N. Levita Road.
9:20 a.m., harassment was reported in the 200 block of N. 18th Street.
11:54 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.
1:23 p.m., a threat was reported in the 200 block of N. 8th Street.
May 17
1:08 a.m., a theft was reported in the 3300 block of E. Main Street.

1:49 a.m., a theft was reported in the 4600 block of S. State Highway 36.
8:10 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.
2:32 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 1600 block of Saunders Street.
May 18
6:30 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 200 block of Leisure Acres Road.
11:48 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 1600 block of W. Main Street.
12:23 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 4800 block of S. State Highway 36.
11:31 p.m., a fight was reported in the 2400 block of Business Highway 36.
May 19
12:13 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Sun Valley Drive.
1:35 p.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of N. 16th Street.
2:23 p.m., a burglary was

reported in the 1800 block of Bridge Street.
9:48 p.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.
May 20
8:02 a.m., harassment was reported in the 600 block of Golf Course Road.
12:04 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 4000 block of S. State Highway 36.
1:58 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.
7:02 p.m., a theft was reported in the 300 block of Watts Lane.
May 21
11:06 a.m., harassment was reported in the 2100 block of Saunders Street.
12:10 p.m., a threat was reported in the 1600 block of Old Osage Road.
3:49 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2000 block of E. Leon Street.
4:10 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1900 block of Bridge Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
May 15
8:56 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2500 block of N. FM 116.
10:45 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 900 block of County Road 323.
5:30 p.m., suspicious persons were reported on Lutheran Church Road.
11:52 p.m., a vehicle fire was reported on I-14 by Clear Creek.
May 16
1:02 a.m., a snake was reported in the 100 block of Baird Street.
2:07 p.m., an assault was reported on CMH Memorial Drive.
4:20 p.m., water on roadway was reported on Cactus Lane and Wagon Wheel.
5:53 p.m., road blocked was reported in the 800 block of Straws Mill.
May 17
10:18 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 6500 block of W. Highway 84.
5:58 p.m., a neighbor

dispute was reported in the 300 block of County Road 347.
6:16 p.m., a flooding problem was reported in the 200 block of Fowler Street.
8:19 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on FM 215 at Coryell Creek.
May 18
6:35 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 200 block of Leisure Acres.
2:25 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 200 block of Fowler Street.
4:22 p.m., damaged property was reported in the 700 block of Lawson Lane.
6:01 p.m., suspicious persons were reported on S. Highway 36 at Flat.
May 19
2:26 a.m., suspicious activity was reported on W. County Road 268.
12:03 p.m., vandalism was reported in the 900 block of Lutheran Church Road.
2:36 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 400 block of Ranier Road.
6:51 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on

County Road 113.
May 20
8:40 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 900 block of County Road 118.
12:56 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on Slater Road.
8:20 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 200 block of Skyline Circle.
8:28 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on FM 929 and Cedar Mountain Road.
May 21
7:45 a.m., a major accident was reported in the 7000 block of S. Highway 36.
8:06 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 15,600 block of S. Highway 36.
10:13 a.m., illegal dumping was reported on County Road 341.
2:38 p.m., a threat was reported in the 16,700 block of S. Highway 36.

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BETHLEHEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
Elder Hugh Montgomery, pastor; 4555 FM 1690, Gatesville; Worship 4th Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

HAY VALLEY BAPTIST
3110 Hay Valley Road; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. AWANA children's ministry Sundays 5-7 p.m. Bible Study for men & women on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

MOUNTAIN BAPTIST
Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor;

6319 US-84, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday.

OSAGE BAPTIST
Chris Thomas, pastor; 7505 FM 185, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

PEARL COUNTRY CHURCH
2082 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m.

PECAN GROVE BAPTIST
6545 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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

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

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

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
Pat Cole, Pastor; 4460 FM 930, Levita; Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.; Tuesday OWLS Kid Group 6-8 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WESLEYAN CORYELL VALLEY CHURCH
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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Mental Health Awareness Month observed annually in May

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a national observance which was established in 1949 by Mental Health America to bring attention to the importance of mental well-being.

The awareness month aims to destigmatize mental illnesses and raises awareness on suicide while drawing attention to psychological disorders and communities it affects nationwide. Across the country, individuals and organizations step up to raise awareness and help address the challenges faced by people living with mental health conditions.

Melanie Webb, founder of Righteous Roots Crisis Resource Center said, "Mental Health Awareness Month helps people recognize the ways mental illness impacts their lives, educates people about available services, and highlights ways to advocate, even if they don't have a mental illness."

Despite recent strides in how our society approaches mental well-being, many Americans still do not have access to the high-quality, comprehensive treatment and the care they need.

According to the national-council.org and psychiatry.

org:

- 47.2 percent of United States adults with mental illness received treatment in 2021.

- One in 20 U.S. adults experience serious mental illness each year.

- One in six U.S. youth have a mental health condition, but only half receive treatment.

- Fifty percent of all mental illness begins by age 14, and 75% by the age of 24.

- Half of all chronic mental illness begins by age 14.

- One in 24 adults has a serious mental illness.

- One in 12 has a substance use disorder.

- Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death for all ages. It is more common than homicide.

- People with mental illnesses are no more likely to be violent than those without a mental health disorder. In fact, those with mental illness are 10 times more likely to be the victims of violent crime.

Webb expressed that when it comes to keeping a positive mindset, she always starts small.

"If you find yourself overwhelmed with the thought of getting out of bed, make a daily goal to do something," she said. Her examples include taking

a shower, taking out the trash, calling a friend, going for a walk, going to the gym, or simply opening the windows and doors to your home to let fresh air inside.

She mentioned that the annual awareness month also helps with reducing the stigma that is attached to mental illness and seeking treatment for it.

"Stigma and affordability are the leading causes for people not seeking treatment for mental illness," she said. "I believe that to break the stigma, we have to talk about it more so that people will realize they are not alone in their battle and that there is help."

Mental health is often stigmatized because of a lack of understanding about what mental health conditions are and what it's like to live with a mental health condition.

Healthline.com states, "Generally, the lack of understanding about mental health, as well as the harmful assumptions about people living with mental health conditions, is at the heart of the stigma. This can result in avoidance, rejection, infantilization, and other discriminations against people who are neurodivergent, or have a mental health condition."

The National Institute of Mental Health reported that in 2021, one in five adults live with a type of mental illness.

For those seeking treatment, all mental health conditions should be discussed with a doctor. Treatment options include, but are not limited to any combination of counseling, spiritual guidance, exercise, medication, or vitamins.

"I don't want anyone to struggle alone," she said. "Righteous Roots was founded in order to provide support to people during their most vulnerable moments, and we have been removing barriers by providing no cost services locally."

Righteous Roots offers support groups for men, women, and a wide array of classes that all tend to the well-being of individuals and families.

"Almost everything we do at Righteous Roots relates to positive mental health," she said.

The center provides self-enrichment classes such as anger management, parenting, money management, relationship strengthening, life skills, Domestic Violence 101, and ongoing Bible studies. It also offers a wide array of services



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Melanie Webb, founder of Righteous Roots Crisis Resource Center.

to victims of crime such as legal advocacy, crisis intervention, information and referral, as well as peer support.

and emotional well-being of those who need it most," she said.

"Everything we do at Righteous Roots is to support the physical, mental,

RIBBON CUTTING HELD AT HINDS FINE JEWELERS & GIFTS



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony to welcome Hinds Fine Jewelers to their new location. Hinds specializes in custom jewelry as well as cleaning and repairs. Hinds Fine Jewelers is located at 1603 East Main Street.

Memorial Day closures set for May 27 holiday

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 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.

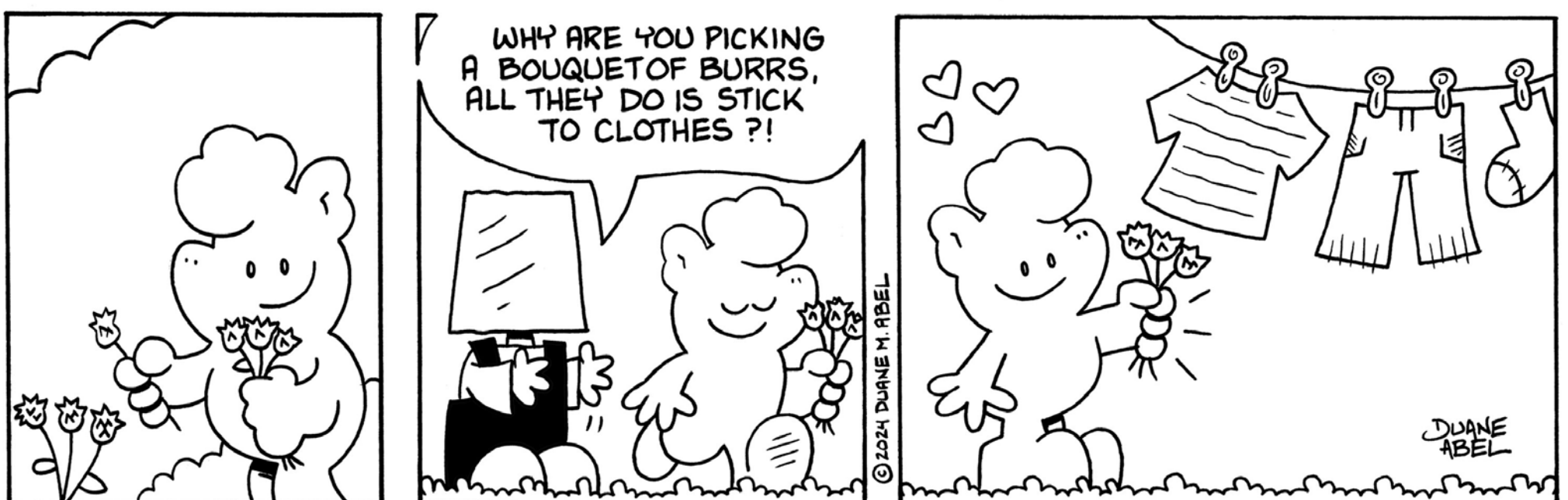
MUSEUM

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.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



CLASSIFIEDS

015 FARM & RANCH

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

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045 SERVICES

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096 AUCTIONS

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00030812

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Public Meeting

The Oglesby Housing Authority will hold a Public Meeting on June 27th, 2024, at 1:00 P.M., at Oglesby Housing Authority, to receive comments on the 2023-2027 Capital Fund 5-year Action Plan Budgets. All documents are on display and available for viewing at the office of the Housing Authority, located at 118 College Ave. (office), Monday through Wednesday between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

00030806

NOTICE OF CALL FOR BIDS LISTING BROKER FOR SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

The objective in issuing this Notice of Call for Bids is to solicit bids from qualified Brokers for the listing of certain designated real property owned by the County for sale, such property located in Coryell County, as fully described in the Notice of Call for Bids.

BID START DATE: May 14, 2024
BID CLOSING DATE: June 18, 2024

BID SELECTION: June 25, 2024, at Commissioners' Court Session

All qualified Brokers interested in providing bids for the listing for sale of real property detailed herein, should respond with a written proposal to the County. Final selection will be made in accordance with the policies and administrative directive of the County and other statutory provisions. Responses must be received by 11:00 a.m. on June 18, 2024, to Coryell County, Office of the County Attorney, 210 S. 7th St., Gatesville, TX 76528, after which time and date they will no longer be accepted. Late responses will be returned and will not be considered. Responses may be mailed or delivered in person. The complete bid documents are available on the Coryell County website at www.coryellcounty.org or in the Office of the County Attorney. Telephone number is (254) 865-3180.

Pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 263.008, titled Broker Agreements and Fees for the Sale of Real Property, the County can contract with a Broker licensed under Chapter 1101, Occupations Code to sell or lease a tract of real property that is owned by the county. The commissioners court of a county may pay a fee if a broker produces a ready, willing, and able buyer who is produced by any broker using the multiple-listing service and who submits the highest cash offer, without being required to conduct a public auction, or comply with other competitive bidding requirements, including those set out in Texas Local Government Code 263.001.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Valerie Jean McLaughlin, Deceased, were issued on 4-30-24, in Cause No. 24-10986, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Russell J. Stofferahn.

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.

c/o: Dori Ray Mystic Attorney at Law 907 S. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522

DATED the 14th day of May, 2024.

Dori Ray Mystic Attorney for Russell J. Stofferahn State Bar No.: 04091800 907 S. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Telephone: (254) 547-6000 Facsimile: (254) 547-4157 Email: doriraymistic@hotmail.com

0030809

096 AUCTIONS

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

No. 24-10961

IN THE ESTATE OF MARY FRANCES FLOYD, DECEASED

IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Frances Floyd, deceased, were issued on March 11, 2024, in Cause No. 24-10961, pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to James Michael Floyd.

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.

James Zeigler Attorney at Law 620 E. Leon St. Gatesville, TX 76528

DATED the 5th day of April, 2024.

James K. Zeigler Attorney for James Michael Floyd State Bar No.: 24098654 620 E. Leon St. Gatesville, Texas 76528 Telephone: (254) 865-7255 Fax: (254) 865-6925 James.Zeigler@coryellcounty.com

00030732

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Ideal Self Storage-Gatesville, located at 1611 E. Main St., Gatesville, TX 76528, is having an online auction. The property is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will be held at storageauctions.com beginning Monday, June 3, 2024 at 11 A.M. Seller reserves the right to withdraw any property from the sale upon payment in full. Bidding sale will end on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 11 A.M. Units to be sold: John Flores. Inventory: Household goods, clothing, tools, and misc. items.

00030801

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Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org

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ASSISTED/INDEPENDENT LIVING:
• CNA – FT & PRN Night Shift

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• Clinic Nurse Supervisor
• Clinic Nurse Manager

CULINARY:
• Patient Dining Associate
• Cook

DIALYSIS:
• RN Charge Nurse
• LVN – PT

EMPLOYEE HEALTH:
• Employee Health RN

EMS:
• Paramedic – FT & PRN

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT:
• RN – PRN, Night Shift
• PRN – All Shifts
HOUSEKEEPING:
• Housekeepers – FT
• Landscaper – FT or PT
ICU:
• RN – FT, All Shifts
LAB:
• MLT or MT – FT or PRN
• Point of Care Assistant – FT
MED/ SURG:
• Night Shift House Supervisor
• RN or LVN – FT, Night Shift
RADIOLOGY:
• CT/X-Ray Tech – PRN
TDH MRT & ARRT w/1 year experience in CT/X-Ray
SURGERY:
• Pre-Op/PACU RN
• Director of Surgical Services

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

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

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humanresources@coryellhealth.org

Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org

045 SERVICES

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060 GARAGE SALE

25 CENT SALE! Tues., 05/28 - Sat., 06/01. The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00030759

Garage Sale: Sat., May 25, 8 a.m.-? 205 CR 321 (Mound) Rain or Shine! Everything must go! 00030813

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102 REAL ESTATE

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JOINT NOTICE OF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF CORYELL §

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 #00000116464	\$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.

Memorial Day

Honoring All Who Served and

Remembering Those Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice



How to show your appreciation to members of the military

Civilians who join the military find their lives change forever upon entering the service. The armed forces shape a person, teaching discipline, humility, bravery, and many other life lessons. Joining the military often means making substantial personal sacrifices, as servicemen and women are typically called away from their families and the comforts of home.

Many grateful men and women want to show their appreciation to those who risk their lives to defend their country, but they may not always know how. The following are a number of ways you can show your appreciation to members of the military.

- **Thank a service member.** If you see a person in uniform, thank them for their service to the country. Use the person's title if you can identify rank, or simply use the respectful terms of "sir or madam." Though a simple gesture, a verbal token of gratitude can go a long way toward brightening a soldier's day.
- **Volunteer with a veteran's association.** Volunteering is another way to show veterans and active service members how much you appreciate the sacrifices they have made. Volunteer at a veteran's hospital or help to organize an event that's commemorating the efforts of local veterans and active service members.
- **Raise funds.** Fundraisers are another way to show military members how much you appreciate their service. Collect money for a military-based scholarship, asking a local high school or university to establish the scholarship in the name of a local veteran or active duty service member.

- **Provide a forum in which a serviceman or servicewoman can share his or her story.** Soldiers can offer unique insight on issues that affect civilians, and the community can benefit from servicemen and women who share their stories. When hosting a community event, ask a soldier to be a keynote speaker.
- **Send gifts to active military.** Make care packages or write cards and thank you notes to stationed troops. Organizations like the USO, Military-Missions.org or AnySoldier.com can ensure your packages make their way into the hands of soldiers.
- **Help an active duty service member's family.** Spouses of active duty military personnel often must handle all of the chores that come with managing a household on their own. To show how much you appreciate a service member's efforts, offer to lend a hand around his or her house. This can make life easier on a service man or woman's spouse, and your companionship may provide a world of good.
- **Publicly display your patriotism.** Active duty service members and veterans joined the military to defend our way of life, and you can show pride for your country and appreciation for their efforts by hanging a flag outside of your home.
- **Pick up the tab.** Surprise a person in uniform by paying for his or her meal at a restaurant. It's a simple gesture, but it shows how much you appreciate that service member's sacrifice.

Gestures that show military personnel how much you appreciate them need not be lavish. Any and all expressions of gratitude can make a world of difference.

Helping families of fallen and active service members

Memorial Day is the day when Americans remember and honor military personnel who lost their lives while serving their country. Though its unofficial designation as the start of summer makes Memorial Day weekend a time of celebration for many people, the families of fallen and active service members often find Memorial Day weekend has its fair share of heartache as well.

Families of fallen service members who lost their lives defending their country tend to find solace in ceremonies honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice. But there are other ways civilian men and women can honor both active and fallen service members in their communities.

- **Include families of fallen and active service members in your weekend activities.** Memorial Day weekend is a three-day weekend at the end of May, when the weather is warming up in much of the country. The weekend marks the return of backyard barbecues or pool parties, and such events are a great opportunity for civilians to invite the families of fallen service members over to share some fun in the sun. Memorial Day can be an especially difficult time for the loved ones of fallen service members, and even the few hours of relief that a barbecue, pool party or picnic can provide can make a welcome respite from an otherwise difficult weekend.
- **Make a charitable donation.** Numerous charities exist to support soldiers and their families. Such charities exist to support the families of fallen soldiers, injured soldiers or even those families struggling while a family

member is on active deployment. Men and women who want to help can do so by making a charitable donation. And such donations do not have to be financial. The Hero MilesSM program, for example, allows men and women to donate their frequent flyer miles to wounded, injured or ill service members or their families. This allows service members who meet certain criteria to be given a round-trip airline ticket from a medical center to their home or to attend an authorized event. In addition, service members can give a round-trip ticket to enable family members or close friends to visit them while they are receiving medical treatment. Since its inception, the program, which is administered by the nonprofit Fisher House Foundation, has provided more than 36,000 airline tickets worth more than \$55 million. To learn more, visit www.fisherhouse.org. Numerous other charities exist to help service members and their families in a variety of ways.

- **Organize events in your community.** Every community benefits from the efforts of active service members and the efforts of those service members who gave their lives in service of their country. Men and women who want to express their gratitude for such service can organize events to do just that. Speak to local merchants and encourage them to offer discounts to military members and their families throughout Memorial Day weekend. Or organize an ice cream social for the children of active or fallen service members. Such events can be uplifting for the families of service members while raising community awareness of the important role our soldiers play.

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Coryell Museum & Historical Center
Spur Capital of Texas
718 Main Street, Gatesville
(254) 865-5007

Jennifer Newton
Coryell County Clerk

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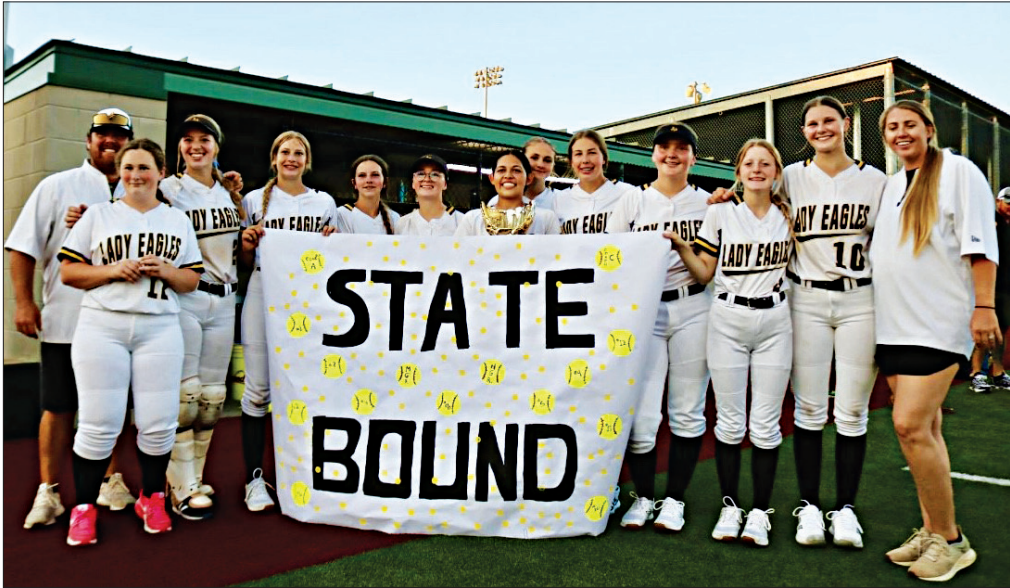


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Lady Eagles make history as Region 2 Champions



COURTESY PHOTO

The Lady Eagles softball team is pictured after capturing the title of region two champions.

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

This past Friday, on May 17, the Lady Eagles softball team went down in history as the first Jonesboro High School softball team to capture the title of Region 2 Champions and is now state bound.

The ladies played against the Dodd City Lady Hornets on Friday where they won 8-7 with a total of eight runs and 11 hits for the team.

The stats for the Lady Eagles includes Adalyna

Andrade, 4 AB, 1 R, 1 H; Emily Turner, 3 AB, 2 R, 3 H; Kyleigh Walker, 4 AB, 1 R, 2 H; Julie Henderson, 4 AB, 1 R, 1 H; Ally Thorman, 3 AB, 1 R; Leighla Hernandez, 4 AB; Campbell Gustin, 4 AB, 2 R, 2 H; Kylee Gould, 3 AB, 1 H; Lynlee Deats, 3 AB, 1 H.

The girls will travel to play in Austin on Tuesday, May 28 at the University of Texas Softball Complex. The opponent and times for the game are to be determined at the moment.

Tickets for the state game will be available for purchase on Monday, May 27 at 8 a.m. All tickets are to be purchased online and downloaded to a mobile device prior to arrival at the stadium, as no tickets will be sold upon arrival. An individual session will cost \$15 per person, and for an all-tournament pass it will cost \$100 per person.

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



GHS athletes head to Victory Bowl

Submitted by Rickey Phillips

Gatesville High School will be well-represented during the upcoming Heart of Texas FCA Victory Bowl All-Star Games.

GHS will be represented by seven athletes in four different sports, plus two head coaches.

The FCA Victory Bowl events are Central Texas All-Star games featuring graduated seniors from the 12-county areas covered by the Heart of Texas FCA chapter, which includes more than 100 high schools in every clas-

sification.

Victory Bowl week begins the Wednesday before the game and is filled with service projects, entertainment, practices, clinics, and much more leading up to the actual All-Star games.

Below are details on each game:

Girls Basketball - Taylor Coward

The game will be played at Fairfield High School on May 29 at 5 p.m.

Baseball - Bralen Veazey

The game will be played at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton

on May 31 at 6:30 p.m.

Football - Zach Bryant, Nathan Elliott, L.J. Hall, and Tookie Jones

The game will be played at Waco ISD Stadium on June 1 at 10 a.m.

GHS head coach Aaron Hunter will be the head coach and will be joined by members of his coaching staff.

Volleyball - Barrett Boyd

The game will be played at Waco University High School on June 1 at 3 p.m.

GHS head coach Janey Weber will be the head coach.

Hornets fall to Salado, bid farewell to stellar senior class



CHRIS ALLMAN | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville High School baseball team's season standouts include, pictured left to right: Bradey James, Bralen Veazey, Justin Johnson, and Lawson Mooney.

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Gatesville baseball season ended their season in a regional quarterfinals loss to district rival Salado on May 18 putting an end to another deep playoff run and capping the careers of a senior class that changed the trajectory of the Hornets program.

The 5-0 loss to the Eagles in game three of the series meant the end of the careers of Justin Johnson, Lawson Mooney, Braley Veazey, Caden Brister, Clayton Gregory, Riley Watson, and Sean Aguilar - a collective unit that helped the Hornets to 66 wins over the last four seasons.

Amongst those wins were eight playoff victories over the last two seasons as Gatesville captured bi-district and area titles in 2023 and 2024. Prior to defeating Marble Falls in the 2023 bi-district round, Gatesville had been winless in the post-season since 2010. After

taking down the Mustangs, the Hornets topped Giddings for the area crown but fell to eventual state champion China Spring in the regional quarterfinals.

Another trip to the regional quarterfinals - and perhaps beyond - was expected in 2023, and the Hornets delivered it the first two rounds. They blasted Lago Vista 7-3 and 8-0 to sweep the bi-district round then pushed past a series-opening loss to Caldwell to win the final two games and snag their second straight area title.

Gatesville and Salado tied for second in 23-4A in 2024 with identical 7-3 league records after splitting their games against each other. Eagles easily dispatched Georgetown Gateway and La Grange in the first two rounds to set up the regional quarterfinals series that everyone knew was coming.

Like most Gatesville playoff series, weather threw a wrench in the schedule as

it cancelled game one and forced a double-header on May 18.

Salado took game one of the series 3-2 on a game-winning sacrifice fly in the bottom of the seventh inning. The Eagles loaded the bases via an error and two singles, then got the winning run when Brody Cole's fly ball carried Miles Tull deep into centerfield and allowed the run to score.

Gatesville took an early lead in the top of the 4th inning. Bradey James tripled to right field off of Salado's Logan Flores, then scored when Gehrig Keeton singled to left field. James helped get another run home in the top of the fifth inning when his ground ball forced an error and allowed Mooney to score to make it 2-0.

But Salado came back with two of their own in the bottom of the fifth to tie the game 2-2 before ultimately winning it in the bottom of the seventh.

James started on the mound for Gatesville in the opener going six innings, allowing just four hits and two runs. Mooney, Veazey, Gregory, and Johnson also had hits in game one.

Down 0-1 in the series and facing elimination, the Hornets handed the ball to Veazey to save their season, and he more than delivered throwing a dominant no-hitter to help push Gatesville to a 1-0 win and a 1-1 tie in the series.

Veazey - Temple College signee - struck out 11 Salado hitters while walking two and hitting one batter. The only hard hit ball of the night was from the final hitter of the night, Jace Light, who hit a long fly ball to left centerfield that ultimately settled into the glove of Johnson to cap the brilliant performance.

The win was his 9th of the season, giving him 22 career wins over three seasons - the most in program history. He

finished his senior season with a 9-1 record, 100 strikeouts, and a 1.055 ERA. His career strikeout mark of 275 and career ERA of 1.94 are also program records.

"I'm really proud to see him pitch his last game and go out with that type of outing and to just put an exclamation point on how great of career he has had," said head coach Chase Smith. "I think he is the best pitcher Gatesville has ever had, and people will be talking about him for a long time. It was really cool to get to coach him and call pitches and to have his last game be a no-hitter. Just really proud of him."

Smith also said that the performance was "vintage" Veazey as he kept Salado hitters off balance.

"He has thrown a lot of breaking balls all year, and I think they started looking for them and had no chance when they were looking for slider, and then he would throw his fastball like he

was Friday," Smith said. "He located his fastball and was throwing hard. The ball was exploding out of his hand, and he was sharp."

The Hornets got Veazey the only run he needed in the top of the second inning. Aguilar was hit by a pitch with one out, then advanced to second on a passed ball. After Keeton walked, another passed ball moved Aguilar to third base, and he scored on a sacrifice bunt from Justin Muegge.

Johnson was 2-2 in game two, and Mooney, James, and Aguilar each had hits.

In game three, Keeton got the start and pitched four innings and allowed one earned run on two hits. He left the game trailing 3-0, but Salado added two more runs late in the contest.

Salado's Dylan Wigely was at his best in game three as well as he struck out 15 Hornets and did not walk a bat-

PLEASE SEE **HORNETS** | B2

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"Always Putting You First!"





The members of Team Gatesville are pictured at the 2024 Summer State Games.

COURTESY PHOTO

Team Gatesville competes in Summer State Games

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Athletes of Team Gatesville recently attended the Special Olympics 2024 Summer State Games in San Antonio this past week, where they won a plethora of medals for their achievements.

Caitlin Clough took home gold medals in the 25-meter wheelchair race and in the 25-meter assisted walk, as well as winning a gold medal in Fundamental Sports. Hope Lacefield won a bronze medal in the 50-meter walk. Tristen Tidrick earned a silver medal in the 50-meter walk and won fifth place in softball. Addison Van De Water claimed a gold medal in the 25-meter run.

While the athletes and parents had some down-time at the event, they enjoyed activities at Heroes Stadium and at Morgan's Wonderland, which is the world's first all-inclusive and accessible theme park, which was designed to accommodate to those with special needs.

Director of Team Gatesville Heidi Clough expressed that the athletes trained weekly throughout the spring, focusing on their specific events, and building their endurance and strength.

"We are grateful to Gatesville ISD for the generous use of the track for our practices," Clough said.

Clough expressed that she is incredibly proud of the team's performance, and that it was amazing to see them stand on the podium with their medals.

"The true blessing is see-

ing them overcome obstacles and setbacks and come out stronger on the other side," she said. "They've not only achieved great things, but they've grown as individuals and found a sense of accomplishment."

Clough extends her thanks to the athletes' parents, coaches, and the Special Olympics Texas staff and volunteers who have invested countless hours and endless energy into supporting the team.

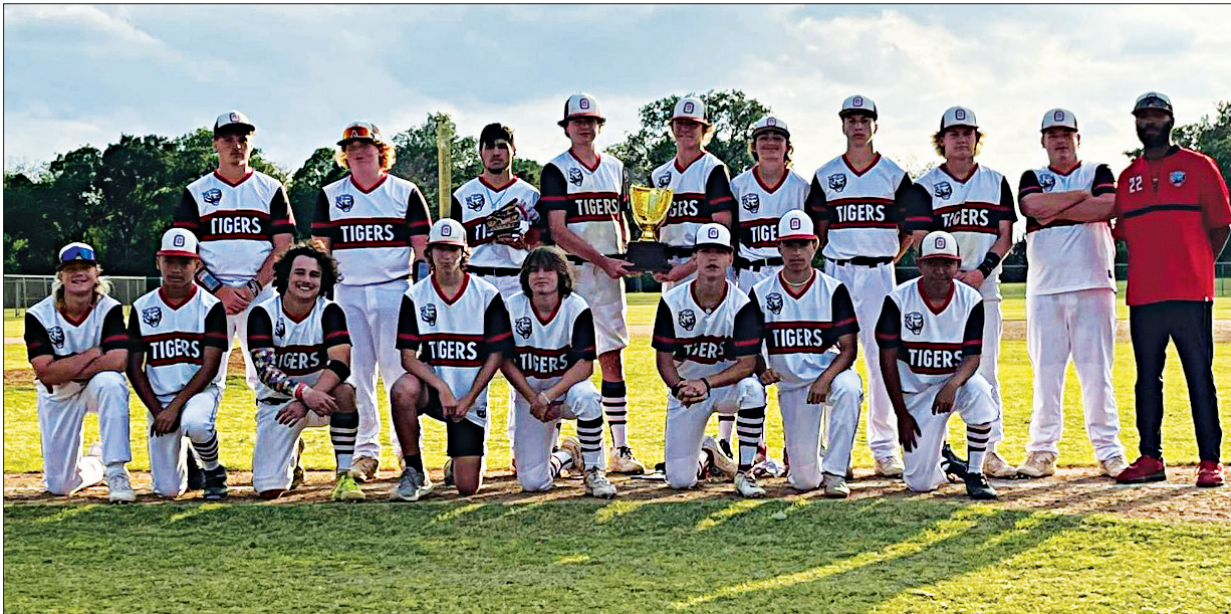
"We couldn't have done it without the unwavering support of our amazing community, including our generous donors who have made it possible for our athletes to participate in this incredible experience," Team Gatesville said in an online post.

Each contribution has helped the program provide opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities to develop their skills, build confidence, and make lifelong friendships through sports.

Special Olympics Texas is a year-round movement, holding more than 300 competitions annually at area, regional, and state levels. Event divisions are based on age, gender, and ability to give athletes an equal chance to win. Each participant receives a medal or ribbon following their events.

For further details, or to make a donation to Team Gatesville, email teamgatesville12@yahoo.com.

OGLESBY BASEBALL WINS VARIOUS ACCOLADES



The Oglesby High School baseball team recently won various all-district awards for their accomplishments throughout the season. The awards include Hunter Walter, District MVP; Jaxon Markum, Newcomer of the Year; Tucker Melton, first team pitcher; Jakson Tippit, first team catcher; Hunter Ewing, first team infield; Johnny Gomez, first team outfield; Dylan Hooker, first team outfield; Ian Phillips, second team infield; Jack Hendricks, second team outfield; Abram Shaw, second team infield; and Alex Castillo, second team outfield. Being honored with an all-district award shows an athlete's capability to work hard on the field and in the classroom.

COURTESY PHOTO

Tiger football honored with prestigious Gordon Wood Award

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The 2024 Texas High School Football Hall of Fame Ceremony was held on Saturday, May 18, in Waco.

During the ceremony, coach Jeb Dixon was presented with the 2023 Gordon Wood Award for the Tiger football team's efforts on the field this past season.

The award is given to one Texas high school football team each year and is selected in consultation with members of the Texas High School Football Hall of Fame. It is designed to be awarded to a team who achieves success on the field, displays good sportsmanship, has

community support, and has the ability to overcome challenges.

With this being the first time in the school's history that Oglesby has ever won the Gordon Wood Award, coaches Jeb Dixon and Julian Helms expressed that they are both extremely honored to receive such a title that recognizes their sportsmanship, toughness, and success.

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



COURTESY PHOTO

Tiger football coach Jeb Dixon

HORNETS

FROM PAGE B1

ter over seven innings.

Mooney was 3-3 with a pair of stolen bases in his final game in a Hornets uniform. He finishes his Gatesville career as the programs career leader in stolen bases and is second all-time in at-bats. His 117 at-bats in 2024 are the second-most in a season as were his 43 hits in 2024.

While Smith says he will spend time thinking about the baseball side of the loss, the bigger loss is always his senior classes.

Johnson was a three-year letterman who blossomed in 2024 hitting .305 and reaching base at a .400 clip while playing multiple positions and batting in a variety of spots in the lineup. Gregory hit .273 and found his groove as the Hornets closer late in the year. His extra-inning RBI single at Salado propelled the Hornets to a 2-1 win on April 16.

"You do think a little bit about the baseball side of

things. I think about the little mistakes and the missed opportunity to take game one, but I feel like those guys and us as coaches worked extremely hard and gave so much to have the success we did," said Smith. "You can't replace Lawson and Bralen. Those guys are two of the very best to ever play baseball here. Every year it is tough knowing those guys won't be coming back again and, for most of them, that will be the last baseball game they ever play, and that's tough knowing that. We talked about playing hard so we wouldn't have regrets, and I think those guys left it all out on the field."

While the losses loom huge, the cupboard is far from bare for the Hornets. James, Keeton, Muegge, and Miles Tull are all sophomores, and they will be joined by several other talented sophomores in 2025. Additionally, junior Logan

Biggs returns, and the infield will be anchored by another junior as slick-fielding John Ibarra will return for his fourth varsity season.

"Yea, the future is definitely bright. Getting to play so many playoff games the past two years has gotten our younger guys a lot of really good experience. Having John back, who is probably the most talented infielder I have ever coached, will help solidify our defense again next year," said Smith. "Bradey has two years now in the middle of our lineup and has really become a good pitcher for us along with Gehrig. Having those two guys back on the mound will make us tough to score a lot against, and our outfield is going to be really good again with Tull and Muegge playing really well for us all year long. There is going to be good baseball in Gatesville for a while."

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TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton State to Celebrate 125 Years of Excellence

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — This fall, Tarleton State University will launch its 125 Years of Excellence celebration to honor the esteemed history and cherished traditions of the institution.

Paying homage to the vision of founder John Tarleton, the celebration will commence Sept. 3 with a special ceremony. A formal indoor event featuring Texas A&M System, city, state and legislative speakers will initiate the festivities before moving to Alumni Island for a Birthday Bash. Additional details regarding the launch day happenings will be available at a later date. The celebration will kick off the official 125th anniversary of the university's inaugural week

of classes in 1899.

Throughout the year, events and activities will be branded and promoted as part of the celebration. Some highlights include Family Weekend Sept. 27-28 and Homecoming Week Oct. 6-12, with others to be announced in the coming months.

The celebration will align with the first year of NCAA Division I championship eligibility, as well as the 89th Legislative Session.

"For 125 years, the gates of our university have been open to opportunity for all," said Tarleton State President Dr. James Hurley. "We will leverage the foundation from our history to propel us forward as our Texans make a

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY®

125

YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

transformative impact on the region and state. We're excited to celebrate with our students, alumni, faculty and staff over the next academic year."

The celebration will honor Tarleton State's rich history and traditions, pay tribute to generations who have contributed to a legacy of student success, and build excitement for the future.

An official logo set has been approved for the 125th-anniversary celebration. The mark is primarily a purple and white number "125" with the Tarleton State logo placed at the core of the mark, symbolizing 125 years of pursuit for victory and honor, echoing the sentiment of Tarleton's revered color song, "All Hail the Proud Defenders of

the Purple and the White." These two colors stand as the essence of the mark with a delicate thread of lavender between, which underscores the unity of the hues, mirroring the unity found in every Tarleton State Texan.

"This is a historic milestone that displays Tarleton State's enduring spirit," said Vice President for University Strategy and Chief of Staff Dr. Credence Baker, chair of the 125th planning committee. "When Texans see the 125 Years of Excellence mark, they will experience a sense of pride while recognizing their involvement in something extraordinary."

For more information, visit <https://www.tarleton.edu/125years/>.

Tarleton State Baseball concludes regular season action with most runs in 2024 campaign

Tarleton State University

ARLINGTON - The Texans shut the door on UTA's hopes of a weekend sweep, with four four-run innings to hand the Mavericks their lone loss of the weekend on Senior Day, Saturday, May 18.

Tarleton State (27-28, 17-12 WAC) closed out regular season action against UT Arlington (22-33, 16-14 WAC) with a bang. The Texans closed out the day with a 19-9 final, the most runs the Purple and White have put up all season.

Jake Burcham got the start for Tarleton State with 2.0 innings on the mound, giving up two runs on two hits, no walks and one strikeout. Parrish Beagle (W, 3-1) saw 1.0 inning on the bump, giving up three runs on three hits, no walks and one strikeout.

Caden Noah went 1.0 inning to start off the afternoon for UTA, giving up no runs on no hits, no walks and one strikeout. Aaron Calhoun (L, 0-6) pitched 3.1 innings, giving up six runs on seven hits, one walk and one strikeout.

The Texan offense was hot, compiling 19 runs on 22 hits with Cris Enriquez's second home run of the series and seventh of the season. Mason Crews (2), Kooper Shook (1) and Austin Russell (1) each claimed doubles for the visitors while Ike Shirey and Russell tallied a stolen base each for the Purple and White. The regular season finale saw Tarleton State record a new season high in hits, runs and RBI (18).

UTA finished out the afternoon with nine runs on nine hits with one home run, three doubles and one stolen base.

The home team struck first with a pair of runs coming across in the bottom of the opening inning. The leadoff was hit by a pitch and the first out followed. The three-hole reached on an error from the Texans and a wild pitch saw the pair advance. A two RBI single to right tallied the first two for UTA.

Tarleton State was quick to get back in the fight, cutting the lead in half with a run in the top of the second. Enriquez was hit by a pitch and advanced on a balk. The first out was recorded, making room for Enriquez at third. As the second out was tallied, Enriquez scored to get to Texans on the board.

The Purple and White kept applying pressure with a four-run inning in the third. A leadoff walk saw Crews on base and Shirey singled on a bunt to add another to the base paths. Mason Hammonds singled to right field to load the bases and Trace Morrison came through with a single to send Crews across the plate. A double play followed but with a lone out keeping the Texans alive, Enriquez singled to score Morrison and Hammonds, putting the visitors in the lead. Smith reached on a fielding error, scoring Enriquez to bring the total to 5-2 for Tarleton State.

The Mavericks refused to back down, putting up four runs of their own in the bottom of the inning. A



Cris Enriquez sliding into third

PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

pair of hit-by-pitches and a walk loaded the bases for the home team. A three-RBI double tied the game and a flyout brought in the sixth run to put UTA back in the lead.

After a scoreless fourth inning across the board, the Texans tallied another couple of runs in the fifth. Hammonds singled as the leadoff. With one out recorded, Cole Mears walked and an RBI single from Enriquez tied things up again. Smith brought Mears home on a single to give the Purple and White the lead again at 7-6.

In the bottom of the sixth, the Mavericks put up three runs to retake the lead and score their final runs of the

afternoon. With two outs recorded, a double to left center kept the inning alive for the home team. A second double followed to bring in the tying run. A two-run home run tallied the final pair of runs for UTA, giving them a temporary lead at 9-7.

The Texans wasted no time and refused to let off the gas, scoring four runs in each of the next three innings.

In the top of the seventh with one out, Enriquez left the yard for the second time this weekend, making it a one-run game. Smith singled and Russell reached on an error then stole second to see a pair of Texans in scoring position. Shook singled to bring

Smith across, tying things up at 9-9. A sacrifice bunt from Crews made way for Russell to come home and Shirey followed with a single to score Shook for run 11, completely changing the momentum of the game.

The top of the eighth opened with a trio of singles from Morrison, Mears and Enriquez, tallying another run with no outs recorded. A pitching change followed, and the first out was secured for UTA with another run coming in. The second out followed and a single from Shook advanced Tyson Drake as the pinch runner for Enriquez. Crews doubled to bring in another couple of runs bringing the lead to

15-9 for the visitors.

Tarleton State didn't let up, scoring another four runs in the ninth to secure a healthy lead. With one out on the board, Morrison singled to get the Texans on base. The second out followed and Jordan Andrade stepped up to the plate in place of Drake. Andrade singled to add another runner on the path and Smith singled, scoring Morrison. Russell did more damage with a double that brought Andrade across and a final two RBI double from Shook brought in the final runs for the Purple and White for a 19-9 final.

Barbara Jean McKeage endowed nursing scholarship established at TSU



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

The estate of the late Barbara Jean McKeage, a longtime nurse, honored her legacy recently with the creation of an endowed scholarship at TSU to benefit students in the School of Nursing.

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — The estate of the late Barbara Jean McKeage, a longtime nurse, honored her legacy recently with the creation of an endowed scholarship at Tarleton State University to benefit students in the School of Nursing.

McKeage started her career as a secretary, with a dream was to one day be a nurse. She eventually worked her way through school and achieved her goal of becoming a registered nurse. Much of her career was spent in the intensive care unit, first in Troy, Missouri, and later in Stephenville.

She regularly volunteered to take holiday shifts at the hospital so other nurses with children could spend the holiday with their families. She enjoyed a long career and a calling she loved before retiring in 2007.

McKeage often talked about how difficult it was to go back to school to become an RN and how proud she was of that accomplishment.

Her final desire was to use some of what she and her husband Bob had been blessed with to make a difference for others who are called to the career of nursing.

McKeage's estate gifted Tarleton State with \$84,000

to create the scholarship fund which will benefit others for years to come.

"We are grateful for this generous gift from Barbara Jean McKeage's estate," said Dr. Ramona Parker, associate vice president and executive dean for the College of Health Sciences. "This gift allows the nursing school to provide scholarships for nursing students. Establishing this endowment speaks to Mrs. McKeage's desire to support others like her, who answered the call to become a nurse and be of service to others."

EDUCATION

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Local Schools and Military Units Honored at Annual Adopt-a-School Program

Fort Cavazos, TX

On May 14, 2024, the High Chaparral Youth Center was buzzing with excitement as Ms. Tina Smith, the School Liaison Officer for Child & Youth Services at Fort Cavazos, hosted the annual Adopt-a-School program awards ceremony. This event celebrated the program's partnerships with schools in Fort Cavazos, Killeen, Gatesville, and surrounding areas, where military units volunteer their time to support students through enriching activities.

The program, which highlights both new and established partnerships, aims to enhance student learning and enjoyment. This year, several awards were presented, including the prestigious Comeback Unit of the Year and Outstanding Unit Commander awards. Before the awards were given, Mr. Michael Hobbs, the principal of Bonham Middle School, shared his thoughts on the program, emphasizing its positive impact on student growth and the school's ability to provide

unique and meaningful experiences.

One of the evening's highlights was the recognition of CPT William Johnson, a unit organizer for Adopt-a-School from 1-395 BEB, whose unit proudly took home four awards, including third place in the Top Hours award. CPT Johnson expressed his unit's commitment to partnerships and relationships in the Gatesville community, highlighting the mutual support between the community and the soldiers stationed at North Fort Cavazos.

CPT Johnson emphasized the importance of the program in showing that the Armed Services are not just focused on winning wars.

"We are committed to our partnerships and relationships in the Gatesville community," he said. "We have a great group of soldiers that really believe in giving back."

CPT Johnson emphasized the importance of the program in building the youth for tomorrow. "It's important for the kids to see the Armed

Services in the community, showing that we're not just winning wars for America, but we're building the youth of tomorrow that may help support their country in the future in some way," he added.

He recommended that units looking to participate in the Adopt-a-School program ensure they have a great point of contact with the school and communicate with soldiers in their unit. "Being a bridge builder to the school and the unit is definitely the first start," he said. But also, on building the youth for tomorrow. He encouraged other units to participate, stressing the need for strong communication within units and with schools to ensure successful involvement.

In addition to 1-395 BEB, other units recognized at the event included 1-393 BSB, 62D ESB-E, 2-227 AVN REG, CRDAMC, 91st BEB, and 3d Combat Weather Squadron, all of whom received awards for their contributions to the Adopt-a-School program.



COURTESY PHOTO

Christopher Lamoureux (right) presenting CPT William Johnson (left) the Third Place in Top Hours award.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Oglesby High School Valedictorian, Mattingley Dixon.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Oglesby High School Salutatorian, Charolette Ritchie.

Oglesby HS announces valedictorian & salutatorian

Staff Reports

Oglesby High School has recently announced Mattingley Dixon as the Valedictorian and Charolette Ritchie as the Salutatorian for the class of 2024.

Dixon is a member of the BETA Club, the Tiger Cub Club, the student advisory, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). She is also involved in

volleyball, basketball, golf, and track. Her proudest moment is when she made school history in volleyball and basketball. After graduation, she will attend McLennan Community College in Waco where she will play golf.

Ritchie is a member of the BETA Club as well as being involved in basketball, volleyball, cross country, and golf. Her

favorite memory was when she was running home in front of her coach during cross country practice. She could not take the heat anymore, so she ran home until she reached the footsteps of her front porch. After graduation, she plans to attend Tarleton State University in Stephenville where she will major in psychology.

Gatesville ISD to begin Summer Feeding program

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District will provide meals at no cost again this summer for children ages 18 or younger and enrolled students who are up to 21 years of age with disabilities.

The program will begin serving meals on Tuesday, May 28 and will continue through Friday, July 26.

The following are locations where breakfast and lunch will be served:

Gatesville Elementary School, located at 2537 East Main Street will provide meals Monday through Friday. Break-

fast will be served from 8 - 8:30 a.m., lunch will be served from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., and the sit-down meals will be served in the cafeteria. Adults will cost \$3.10 for breakfast and \$4.75 for lunch.

Trinity Day Care Center, located at 1506 West Main Street in Gatesville, will provide meals Tuesday through Thursday. Breakfast will be served from 8 - 8:30 a.m. and lunch will be from 11 - 11:30 a.m.

The Gatesville City Pool, located at 300 South 8th Street will provide meals Tuesday through Thursday. Lunch will be served from 12:30 - 1 p.m.

Gatesville High School will provide meals Monday through Thursday at the High School football field concession stand. Breakfast will be served from 8 - 8:30 a.m., and lunch will be served from 10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Adults will cost \$3.10 for breakfast and \$4.75 for lunch.

The Summer Meal programs are brought to the community by the Texas Department of Agriculture, Commissioner Sid Miller.

To find a meal location near you, text "FOOD" to 304-304 or visit SummerFood.org.

EVANT HIGH SCHOOL BACCALAUREATE



COURTESY PHOTO

Evant High School recently held its annual Baccalaureate ceremony for the class of 2024 on Sunday, May 19. Pastor Charles Reid, Jr. led the ceremony with a message to the seniors, and Evant Church of Christ provided each graduate with a personalized Bible. Pictured from left to right are Evant High School seniors Keoni Edwards, Aubrey Kelley, Kate McGilvray, Hunter White, Cason Ingram, Caystin Forrest, Christian Malone, and Kayleigh Vaughn.



MARY TREJO | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pictured from left to right are a few seniors who attended the Baccalaureate ceremony this past Sunday which includes Natalie Fast, Bethany Penrod, Barrett Boyd, Anna Phillips, and Coral De La Cruz.

Baccalaureate ceremony held for GHS graduating seniors

Staff Reports

This past week on Sunday, May 19, Gatesville High School held its annual Baccalaureate ceremony for the seniors in the class of 2024.

The seniors were honored during the ceremony with special music, prayer, scripture reading, and a sermon, while receiving a positive and uplifting message for their future.

The annual program is

put together and hosted by local pastors of the community.

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

Gatesville ISD Spotlights students and staff at meeting

COURTESY PHOTOS

During the May 20th meeting of the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees, students, staff, and the community were honored during the Spotlight portion of the meeting.

GHS STUDENT ATHLETES



GISD Athletic Director Rickey Phillips announced the names of Gatesville High School students who had been honored by the Texas High School Coaches Association. "These 13 senior student-athletes at Gatesville High School received Academic All-State recognition from the Texas High School Coaches Association for the 2023-2024 school year," Phillips said. These academic honors are based on student grade point average, class rank, and ACT-SAT test scores.

The GHS students receiving this honor include: Tommy Aaron, Riley Aaron, Sean Aguilar, Barrett Boyd, J.T. Coffman, Cayleigh Coursey, Justin Johnson, Lawson Mooney, Bethany Penrod, David Sims, Garrett Sullivan, Laura Trejo, and Olivia Walker.

MICHELLE MARTIN

Michelle Martin was also featured in the Staff Spotlight, and GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard listed a small portion of statistics about Martin's contributions to the school district during her years of service including the annual Back to School Bash, which started in 2020, where 420 students were served - since then, she has added dental services, health clinics, and the trips to the World Vision Resource Center. At these events, students get free school supplies, backpacks, shoes, hats, jackets, blankets, hygiene items, haircuts, health screenings, wellness checkups, dental exams, and dental cleanings with fluoride. The estimated value of all those items and services provided to students so far has reached \$162,871.

"For Many years, during the Christmas season, Michelle has recruited kids to come make gingerbread houses at the Methodist Church. Please help us thank Michelle Martin for all of her service to the community," Pollard said.



STUDENTS WHO RENDERED AID

Dr. Pollard spoke to the school board about students and staff who came to the aid of a substitute. "On Friday, one of our substitutes at the high school had a medical emergency. Specifically, the substitute had a seizure and collapsed to the floor. Obviously, this was a scary moment for everyone in the classroom. The class was well-behaved during the event, but four students and another staff member in particular jumped into action to render aid and get help. Paramedics arrived soon after, and the substitute is doing well now. Those students and staff who helped tremendously are (from left): Colton Byler, Greyson Egging, Clayton Gregory, Angel Almendariz, and staff member Nick Mora, along with GHS Principal Liz Shoaf. Please help us thank those wonderful students and staff."



KIM STRICTLAND

During the Staff Spotlight, a certificate of appreciation was presented to GISD employee, Kim Strickland, pictured center, for her hard work and loyalty to Gatesville ISD. GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard had the following to say about Strickland:

"Kim Strickland has been a loyal, dedicated, and hard-working employee for GISD for many years. She makes students and other staff members feel special, invited, and welcomed at Gatesville Primary. It is not unusual for Kim to give you a big hug when you need it most. Tamela Early, assistant principal at the Primary, had the following to say about Mrs. Strickland. "Kim is a great asset to the Primary campus because she is a phenomenal pre-k assistant. She and Mrs. Richardson make a great team. Kim lends a helping hand wherever she is needed and will never complain. Mrs. Strickland is the one on campus that will always put a smile on your face and greets you with a hug everyday. She loves all students unconditionally and works hard in the classroom to ensure her per-k students meet their goals. Primary is extremely lucky to have Kim. It is rare to come across people who are as dedicated and hardworking as she is. We truly appreciate all her efforts - both big and small."



LANGUAGE ASSESSMENT PROFICIENCY COMMITTEE

During the Community Spotlight, Dr. Pollard mentioned to the school board about the LPAC program.

"Our ESL students must have LPAC (Language Assessment Proficiency Committee) meetings each year. An LPAC must have a certified ESL teacher, an administrator, and a parent or guardian of an ESL learner in the district. The parent may not be employed by the district. These LPAC parents are very important because they enable us to have our mandatory meetings. The LPAC meetings occur very frequently for initial placement, monitoring, and determining accommodations for state testing. They have to learn about the rules schools must follow when supporting ESL students and sign an oath of confidentiality. They sacrifice a lot of time and represent our school district in a very positive fashion. For that, we are very grateful. These outstanding LPAC parent representatives are Lina Torres, Reshma Patel, Mayra Mata, Diana Olvera Garcia, and Alma Correa. Please help us thank these wonderful ladies."



ENLISTED IN MILITARY - BARRETT BOYD AND ANGEL ALMENDARIZ

Dr. Pollard also brought to the board's attention two graduates who will soon be serving their country. "The high school has been honoring students enlisting in the military as they complete the DD4 form. This form officially enlists you into the military. Two students who were not recognized at the recent high school awards ceremony are mentioned here. Barrett Boyd has pledged four years in the United States Air Force followed by another 5 years of active-duty service, while Angel Almendariz is joining the Marines. Please help us thank these two patriot soon-to-be GISD graduates!"



COURTESY PHOTOS

Left photo: Patti Farley (left) is pictured with her mother, Sandra Brown, employee of the year. Pictured right: left to right, family members Luke Jackson, Jodi Jackson, Ayden Jenkins, teacher of the year Lacey Jenkins, Tristan Jenkins, Landon Jenkins, Brenda Hoherz, and Richard Hoherz.

Justine Young named to Dean's List

Press Release

Columbia College recently announced its dean's list for the Spring 2024 Semester (January-April 2024). To be named to the dean's list, a student must have completed 12 credit hours in a 16-week period and achieved a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0-point scale.

Among those named to the dean's list is Justine Young, of Fort Cavazos, who attended Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri.

Founded in 1851 in Columbia, Missouri, Columbia College has been helping students advance their lives through higher education for more than 170 years. As a private, nonprofit institution, the college takes pride in its small classes, experienced faculty, and quality educational programs. With more than 20 locations across the country, about half of which are on military installations, students may enroll in day, evening, or online classes. Columbia College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and has more than 97,000 alumni worldwide.

For more information, visit ccis.edu.

Jenkins & Brown receive end-of-year awards

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Gatesville Primary School recently held its annual 2024 end of the year award ceremony this past week on Thursday, May 16.

Two staff members, Lacey Jenkins and Sandra Brown were honored with teacher and employee of the year.

Lacey Jenkins received

the Teacher of the Year award for her hard work and dedication to her students during the school year. She began her journey at the Primary in the Early Childhood Special Education department (ECSE), and now has been employed with the district for over four years and teaches kindergarten.

"Lacey has accomplished

so much over her short career; she is a very talented teacher who is loved by all her students and their families," principal Van Collins said. "She is an excellent asset to the kindergarten team and Gatesville Primary is lucky to have her."

Secretary Sandra Brown has been with the Primary for over 32 years and was

recently honored with the Employee of the Year award for her devotion to the school, staff, and students. She works in the front office each day, as the jack-of-all-trades handling various tasks such as scheduling and paperwork, helping with visitors and students, taking phone calls, and much more.

"Sandra has been the

heart and soul of this campus for years; she is loved and respected by everyone on our campus," Collins said. "Gatesville Primary couldn't ask for a better secretary."

Gatesville Primary School is located at 308 Hornet Way.

Lil Hornets Cheer Camp is scheduled for May 29-31

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District's cheer program has recently announced that its annual Lil

Hornets Cheer Camp will be held from Wednesday, May 29, to Friday, May 31.

The camp will take place in the new gym at Gatesville High School and will be

from 12-2 p.m. each day. All students from kindergarten through sixth grade who are interested in becoming a Hornet cheerleader are welcome to attend.

Early registration ended Friday, May 10, and included a T-shirt. Late registration is still available until Wednesday, May 29 and will cost \$55 per student; shirts

will not be included.

For further details or to register, contact Gatesville ISD cheer director Amber Colson by email at acolson@gatesvilleisd.org.

Gatesville High School is located at 205 South Lovers Lane.



National Children's Gardening Week, celebrated annually in late May, is a wonderful opportunity for kids to explore the joys of gardening and connect with nature. This special week encourages children to get their hands dirty, discover the magic of growing plants, and appreciate the wonders of the natural world.

For kids, National Children's Gardening Week is an invitation to embark on exciting gardening activities. Planting seeds, nur-

turing young plants, and watching them grow are not only fun but also provide valuable lessons about responsibility and the life cycle of plants.

Families can create a mini-garden at home, whether it's a small container garden on a balcony or a patch in the backyard. In schools, teachers may organize gardening projects, allowing students to actively participate in cultivating flowers, herbs, or vegetables.

Educational activities during this week can include lessons on plant care, identifying different types



of flowers, and understanding the role of insects in pollination. Parents and teachers can explain the environmental benefits of gardening, fostering a sense of responsibility for the planet.

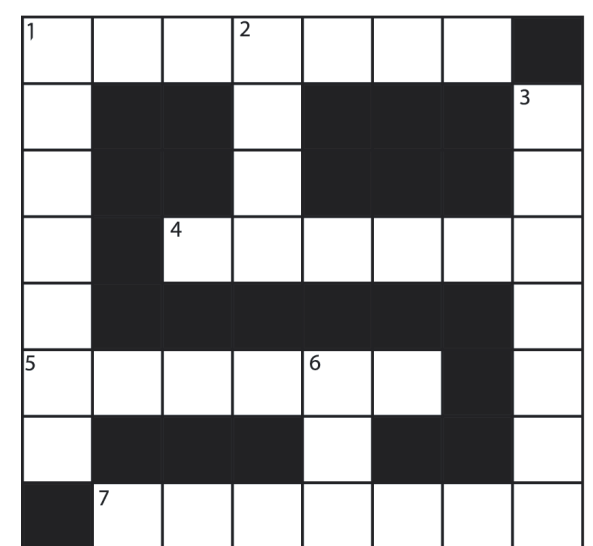
National Children's Gardening Week also offers opportunities for creativity. Kids can express themselves through garden-themed art projects, creating colorful plant markers, decorative pots, or even painting rocks to add a touch of whimsy to their outdoor space.

Engaging children in gardening not only pro-

motes physical activity and outdoor play but also instills an appreciation for the environment. Through hands-on experiences, kids develop a deeper connection with the natural world, learning about the importance of conservation and sustainable practices.

So, during National Children's Gardening Week, let the gardening adventures begin! Whether it's planting flowers, growing vegetables, or simply enjoying the beauty of outdoor spaces, this week encourages kids to cultivate a love for nature that can last a lifetime

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- Slope of land
- Petaled plant part
- Sweet liquid
- Soil fertilizer

DOWN

- Places to grow plants
- Knob for tuning
- Pick crops
- Short for ampere

Answers:
Across
1. Grading 4. Flower 5. Nectar 7. Compost
Down
1. Gardens 2. Dial 3. Harvest 6. Amp



GARDENING CAN BE A GOOD WORKOUT THAT BURNS CALORIES AND BUILDS MUSCLE.



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

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA RECEIVE AWARDS AT RECENT BANQUETS



COURTESY PHOTO

A banquet was held to honor the members of Jonesboro High School's Future Farmers of America (FFA) program on Tuesday, May 7. The banquet was held at the Jonesboro Community Center and was hosted by the officers of FFA. Awards were given to various students throughout the evening, as well as inducting new members into the program. Jonesboro FFA members pictured from left to right in the front row include Willow Holland, Hannah Gustin, and Trey Harbour. From left to right in the back row is Michella Martinez, Hunter Beaty, Braxton Dossey, and Memory Middlebrooks.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby Independent School District recently held its annual Future Farmer's of America (FFA) banquet on Friday, May 10. Awards were given to a plethora of students for their accomplishments throughout the school year in the program. Pictured are Oglesby Lions Club members, Willie Smith (left) and Ryan Basham (right), while presenting awards to students at the ceremony.

Gatesville's Jesse Friend named to SNHU President's List

Staff Reports

Jesse Friend, of Gatesville, was recently named to the Winter 2024 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU). The winter term runs from January

to May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.70 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is

achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Southern New Hampshire University is a private, nonprofit institution with a

91-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 225,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate

programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the

country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner.



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DIRECTORY DISPLAY RATES

3 Months: \$26/week

CEN-TEX CRIME STOPPERS HOLD ANNUAL DONUT DASH

KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Several members of the community strapped on their running shoes to participate in Cen-Tex Crime Stoppers' annual fundraiser, the Donut Dash 5K/10K. The chip-timed races started and finished at the Gatesville City Pool on Saturday, May 18. This year, the Donut Dash also offered an untimed Kids K race. All proceeds from the races benefit Cen-Tex Crime Stoppers, an organization that encourages the public to help local law enforcement agencies fight against crime by submitting tips about a case. Callers have the option to remain anonymous and are eligible to receive a cash reward if the information given leads to an arrest. For both the 5K and the 10K, Crime Stoppers presented awards to the top finishers in each age group.



COURTESY PHOTO



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