



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | June 22, 2024

\$1.00



SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 122, No. 31, ISSN No. 0894-4954



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Coryell County residents examine detailed maps showing exactly where the pipeline would cross the county and what areas might be affected.

Proposed pipeline to cross through Coryell County

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

The Texas Station Event Center in Gatesville was recently the location where DeLa Express hosted an informative gathering for residents of Coryell County to learn about a proposed pipeline that could possibly be passing through the county and would impact area properties.

Chris Thiele, a senior vice-president of Moss Lake Logistics, said, "We're in the very early stages. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has a permit process that we have to go through, but they also have a process where we have to go out and collect information from the community, stake holders, and landowners, ahead of even submit-

ting the permit application, that's where we are right now. We're in the pre-filing application process."

Thiele said they would like to submit their application for the pipeline in February of next year. "That will probably take about a year or so to review and so we would

PLEASE SEE PIPELINE | A2

Killeen couple convicted of defrauding Army program

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

A Killeen couple was recently sentenced to prison in a federal court in Waco for operating a fraudulent rideshare company for soldiers at Fort Cavazos.

The U.S. Department of Justice said in a press release that Kevin Romulus Pelayo, 45, and his wife, Cristine Furio Fredericks, 40, defrauded the Army's Mass Transportation Benefit Program (MTBP) by illegally obtaining the personally identifiable information of more than 800 soldiers to sign them up for the program without their knowledge.

Pelayo and Fredericks co-owned and operated the rideshare company, Soldiers Vanpools LLC, according to court documents. Funded by the MTBP, the company claimed to shuttle military personnel to and from Fort Cavazos from Jan. 1, 2014, through June 10,

2020.

The couple submitted the names, social security numbers, and other identifying information of active-duty soldiers to the MTBP on a monthly basis from 2014 to 2020, falsely claiming that the soldiers were active participants in the rideshare program.

The MTBP provides funding to help soldiers or federal employees with transportation costs to and from work.

Pelayo and Fredericks purchased vans, SUVs, and other vehicles to convince the MTBP that they were operating a legitimate business as well as transporting the riders they claimed in their scheme.

The release states that the couple also spent the millions of dollars in funds they received from the illegitimate operation on real estate, personal vehicles,

PLEASE SEE COUPLE | A2

Disaster Recovery Center opens in Coryell County

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

FEMA opened a Disaster Recovery Center at Gatesville Junior High Monday, June 17, to provide one-on-one help to those affected by the severe storms that caused damage to several homes, businesses, and properties between April 26 and June 5.

Homeowners and renters in Coryell County can visit the center to meet face-to-face with representatives of FEMA and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to determine their eligibility for disaster assistance. Applicants may qualify for recovery needs such as basic home repairs, personal property losses, and other expenses related to storm damage.

"This is your one stop shop to talk to FEMA and see how we might be able to offer you some disaster assistance in the form of grant money that does not have to be repaid," FEMA Spokesperson Nikki Gaskins Campbell said.

The center at Gatesville

Junior High operates from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day until further notice. Residents do not need an appointment to visit the center.

"This is going to be open as long as we see foot traffic. Our goal is to try to reach out to as many people as possible and offer convenience to disaster survivors," Campbell said. "We don't have a hard date to close this location yet."

Campbell emphasizes that any assistance received from FEMA is only a piece of the puzzle in disaster recovery. Depending on the extent of the damage, FEMA may help cover some of the losses, but not enough to bring the property back to its pre-disaster condition.

"It's important to stress and manage expectations. Any assistance that a survivor receives is typically focused on short-term recovery," Campbell said. "Where we can't make you

PLEASE SEE DISASTER | A2

SUMMER LOVIN', HAD ME A BLAST



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

RehabLiving at the Meadows celebrated Father's Day 1950s-style with a live concert by the Troubadours, a car show, and root beer floats. See story and more photos on A12.



Trinity Baptist Church

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DISASTER

FROM PAGE A1

whole, we will refer you to other partners that are also critical or key in helping disaster survivors.”

While FEMA mainly focuses on assisting homeowners and renters with damage to their personal property, SBA can also help businesses of all sizes in disaster recovery.

Homeowners and renters can still qualify for disaster assistance regardless of insurance status.

“Your insurance may not cover everything. Whether you are uninsured or underinsured, please reach out to us because you could be leaving money on the table,” Campbell said.

FEMA encourages homeowners and renters to visit

a Disaster Recovery Center for a convenient, face-to-face option, but they can also apply for disaster assistance online or by phone through the following resources:

- Go online to [disasterassistance.gov/](https://www.fema.gov/disaster)
- Download the FEMA App for mobile devices: <https://www.fema.gov/about/news-multimedia/mobile-products>
- Call the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362 between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.

The deadline to apply for disaster assistance is July 16.

“Recovery is never a sprint; it is always a marathon,” Campbell said. “We will be here in the state of

Texas for quite some time, and we just encourage people while we’re here to reach out to us.”

With more than a dozen Disaster Recovery Centers and counting, residents can visit any center in Texas. To find a FEMA Disaster Recovery Center, visit [fema.gov/drc](https://www.fema.gov/drc)

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

Learn more about Texas disaster recovery at [fema.gov/disaster/4781](https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4781).

FEMA has also issued a press release on assistance for damaged wells and septic systems.

FEMA stated that Texans who lost access to water through a private well or damaged septic system as a result of the storms and flooding April 26 through June 5, may be eligible for FEMA assistance.

What Assistance Is Available?

For private wells and septic systems, FEMA may reimburse you for the cost of a professional licensed technician to visit your home and prepare an estimate detailing the necessary repairs or replacement of your disaster-damaged systems.

In addition to the technician’s estimate, FEMA may also pay for the actual repair or replacement cost

of your septic system or private well, which typically are not covered by homeowner’s insurance.

If you have applied for FEMA assistance and have not had a home inspection, call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. At the time of your inspection, let the FEMA inspector know you have a private well and/or septic system that may have been damaged by the storms and flooding.

If the damage is determined to have been caused by the disaster, you may be eligible for FEMA assistance.

If you have already had an inspection and damage to the well or septic system wasn’t reported, contact the

FEMA Helpline to learn how to amend your application.

Who May Be Eligible?

Homeowners and renters in Austin, Bell, Calhoun, Collin, Cooke, Coryell, Dallas, Denton, Eastland, Ellis, Falls, Guadalupe, Hardin, Harris, Henderson, Hockley, Jasper, Jones, Kaufman, Lamar, Leon, Liberty, Montague, Montgomery, Navarro, Newton, Polk, San Jacinto, Smith, Terrell, Trinity, Tyler, Van Zandt, Walker, and Waller counties with uninsured losses from the storms and flooding that occurred April 26 through June 5.



FEMA opened a Disaster Recovery Center in Coryell County June 17 to help those affected by recent storms.



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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COUPLE

FROM PAGE A1

and other property. They purchased a total of 43 vehicles, 129 luxury purses and jewelry items, and 12 real properties in Bell County and Coryell County.

The Killeen Daily Herald reported in 2021 that both Pelayo and Fredericks previously served in the Army. According to the article, Pelayo, who was a platoon sergeant at Fort Cavazos, used his access to the personnel records of soldiers under his command to sign

soldiers up for the transportation program. Fredericks had allegedly worked for Army human resources, the report says.

The couple originally pleaded guilty in June 2021, admitting they had provided false documentation regarding their rideshare company to fraudulently collect MTBP funds, per a news release distributed by the Department of Justice in 2021.

Pelayo was sentenced to

36 months in prison for one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and two counts of engaging in monetary transactions in criminally derived property. Fredericks was sentenced to five years of probation for two counts of engaging in monetary transactions in criminally derived property.

The IRS Criminal Investigation and the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division investigated the case.

PIPELINE

FROM PAGE A1

probably be looking at getting the permit in the first or second quarter of 2026. Then you would talk construction about mid 2026 and operation in 2028. We are very early in the process.”

Thiele said that so far, informative meetings have been held in eight towns and they’re going to fifteen towns and hope to have seventeen open houses.

The proposed pipeline would transport natural gas from the Permian Basin in west Texas across the state to Lake Charles, Louisiana. Thiele said the length of the main line would be around 690 miles and that the diameter of the pipe would be 42 inches.

DeLa Express plans to offer 2 billion cubic feet

per day of natural gas. In addition, the pipeline will feature five lateral pipelines and eight compressor stations, one of which is proposed to be located in Coryell County.

There has been some opposition to the pipeline by county landowners who have stated that it would destroy portions of their property, hurt land values, and sometimes impede access to and from their homes.

When asked about opposition, Thiele replied, “I would say about one group and one person that at a few of our meetings that I would call opposition. Otherwise, it’s been very productive, and we’ve had good conversations with members of these groups

and a lot of people have a lot of questions, so, it’s really the opportunity to have landowners who can look at detailed maps.”

Thiele was also asked about the possibility of eminent domain, and he replied, “That is a possibility, but of course we want to try to work with landowners and reach a fair agreement to allow us to access their land, to put the pipeline on their land. There will be financial offers made to the landowners and the eminent domain only comes in if we cannot reach an agreement, but we will try to avoid that if we can.”

Those interested in providing comments about the proposed project, call 832-924-5011, or email DeLaExpressProject@erm.com.

THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

TO SUBSCRIBE: Call 254-865-5212

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

White SUVs are a dime a dozen



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

My, oh my, how automobiles have changed since I got my first driver's license some 50-plus years ago.

I'm not sure young people today really understand or appreciate the role a vehicle played in society back then. Automobiles were special: they were designed for appearance and for power instead of fuel mileage. Each model was iconic in its own way. People connected to their car, and it helped to formulate their identity.

Nowadays, new car models roll out, and nobody

even knows it has happened. But, back in the day, the annual ritual of unleashing the new model cars was something people looked forward to. There was a great deal of curiosity about what the new models would look like and what exciting new features they would have. Many automobile dealerships would rent huge search lights and place them in front of their dealership to draw

attention, hoping to lure prospective buyers in for a glance. What the new cars would look like was kept a secret until the unveiling day, driving thousands insane with curiosity. Many people would not consider buying a new car in late summer for fear that one of the new cars introduced in the fall would be so spectacular they would want to change their mind as to which car to purchase. The new cars and what they looked like were a common topic of conversation around the water fountain at work, the dinner table, and a huge part of our society. They each had their own style and appearance and were distinctively different from other cars on the road.

Nowadays, cars look so much alike because emission standards, fuel consumption standards and safety standards have compelled engineers to use similar design styles. Back in the '60s and '70s

no one would confuse an Oldsmobile Cutlass with a Chevy Impala, nor a Dodge Charger with a Pontiac Tempest. They each had their own special look, design and appeal. Often the car manufacturers designed cars to project a certain image for the buyer and the image was magnified in their advertising. It was your chance to "see the USA in a Chevrolet." People loved it.

My favorite car as a young teenager was the Buick Riviera. The Riviera was a huge vehicle with a unique grill and tapered back side. It was powerful, had a spacious and luxurious interior, and had an aura of individuality. It was not quite as classy as a Cadillac or a Lincoln, but it was special — like something a movie star or a sports figure would drive. It was the epitome of coolness.

This past January, I found myself needing to purchase a car. I wanted something comfortable, efficient,

trustworthy and reliable. I settled on a white-colored SUV. Now, some six months later, I have been pleased with how the car drives, operates, and functions. It has gotten me to work without fail, has room for passengers, and there has not been a single mechanical problem. So, what is the problem? There is no pride in ownership: there is no joy or exhilaration in driving the car. It is simply utilitarian.

Recently, I went to the grocery store and when I completed my shopping and returned to the lot, I became confused. There were four other white SUVs parked around my car and I could not differentiate between those vehicles and determine which was mine. There was a Lexus, a Nissan, a Chevrolet and a Toyota, and in a quick glance they all looked the same. The outline was the same, they were all white, they all had a similar grill, and the rear of the cars were almost

identical. I finally figured out which one was mine, but I drove away knowing cars were no longer a way to express individual tastes and personalities. They were simply a way to get to work, the bank, and to drop the kids off at school. The images of an Oldsmobile Cutlass convertible, a Mercury Cougar, or a Plymouth Roadrunner were for days gone by, and for auto shows. The American public has gone from owning units of individual expression, to personal buses that provide transportation. Nowadays cars are better made and more reliable, but I miss the thrill of individual expression. Those were the good old days!

Thought for the day: Take care of your car in the garage, and it will take care of you on the road.

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

Closures announced for Fourth of July

Staff Reports

Businesses and governmental offices across Coryell County will join the rest of the nation on Thursday, July 4, in celebration of Independence Day.

Closures for the surrounding area include

GOVERNMENT

The City of Gatesville and the City of Evant will be closed on Thursday.

The City of Oglesby will be closed on Thursday, July 4, and on Friday, July 5. The Coryell County Courthouse and the Farm Service Agency will be closed on Thursday.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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

closed on Thursday.

POST OFFICES

All local post offices will be closed on Thursday.

LIBRARY

The Gatesville Public Library will be closed on Thursday.

SENIOR CENTER

The Gatesville Senior and Multi-Service Center will be closed on Thursday, July 4,

and will close at noon on Friday, July 5.

MUSEUM

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

NEWSPAPER

The Gatesville Messenger will be closed on Thursday, July 4, and on Friday, July 5. The office will reopen on Monday, July 8.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF GATESVILLE

Walking track at Faunt Le Roy Park in Gatesville.

Faunt Le Roy walking trail could open in a few weeks, says interim city manager

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Interim City Manager Brad Hunt provided an update on the status of the reopening of Faunt Le Roy Park at a regular city council meeting on Tuesday, June 11.

Although residents might need to wait awhile longer to use the entire park, Hunt said during his city manager's report that the Gatesville Parks & Recreation department is in the process of clearing the walking trail for public use. He told the Messenger in an email that park crews "are hopeful" that the trail will open by July 9.

"They are cleaning up, they are mowing, cutting trees, and limbs, taking limbs out of the fence, (and) making sure all the electrics (are) good," Hunt said. "They're going to rework the crushed granite on the walking trail, and then we'll put a barricade leading down to the loop

right at that little narrow part where the creek or the river comes to. And then folks will be able to use the top half of Faunt Le Roy again in the next couple of weeks."

The city closed the park on May 5 after flood waters caused extensive damage to the park and the banks of the Leon River. Before the city reopens the rest of the property that includes the picnic tables, playground, and bathrooms, Faunt Le Roy will need to receive a professional assessment of the damage caused by flood events in the spring, and back in 2018.

Hunt said the recent flooding has caused even more erosion to the already damaged riverbank.

"There's another 100 feet of bank now missing on the right side of that loop as you walk in, right where the bathrooms are," he said. "There will not be able to be a road anymore on that

side of that bathroom on the right. It is eroded all the way to underneath that road bend."

The assessment will give the city an idea of how much it will cost to not only repair the damage, but also how they can make the park safer for recreational use and prevent future flooding.

"There's a lot of opportunities out there, but the first thing we have to do is stop losing the peninsula," Hunt said.

Currently, the city is reviewing proposals from two firms that are offering to provide the assessment. A decision to hire one of the firms will be presented to the city council at a future meeting.

Hunt adds that Parks & Recreation is also working to repair Brown Park, another area that experienced recent flooding.

"It rose up to the level where it flooded a couple

of houses - 32 feet I think (was) the depth and then, two weeks later, it was at 28 feet again, coming right back up almost again," Hunt said. "So, those banks have taken a lot, but we do have a plan so that Brown Park will be clean and safe to be in."

Hunt said the riverbank now comes within about 8 feet of the road, and the city will place temporary barricades to keep people from driving onto the affected areas. However, like Faunt Le Roy Park, Brown Park might also one day need a professional assessment of the damaged riverbank.

"That's a future consideration for another assessment - would be on Brown Park," Hunt said. "To have professionals' kind of tell us what it would take or what the situation is, but the road is still not affected."

Folks around town



AVERY MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

ALLY PENROD

Say hello to our neighbor, Ally Penrod!!

A senior at Gatesville High School, Ally Penrod takes time out of her summer to work as a lifeguard at the Gatesville City Pool. This is her second summer as a lifeguard and said, "The best part of my job is getting to engage and be a part of the community." She moved to Gatesville in July of 2015 and expressed that she enjoys the way everyone comes together as one and will support each other.

Ally reads The Gatesville Messenger and said, "What I like most, is the way The Gatesville Messenger brings light and attention to sports as well as students and adults who don't usually get recognition."

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



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

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

County seeks public input for Flood Management Plan

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Coryell County wants to hear from the public about how recent flooding has impacted their homes, families, and communities.

The county and Natural Resources Solutions (NRS), a consulting firm working with the county to create a Flood Management Plan, ask residents to complete a survey that will give them a better understanding on how to mitigate future flooding.

"It will help inform the steps the county will take to improve infrastructure to better handle future flood events," NRS President Steve Manning said.

The survey is comprised of questions that seek to understand the effects of flooding in the county, specifically flooding on roadways and low water crossings.

Participants can access the survey through the following link: <https://s.surveypal.com/xnr20c1x>

The survey takes approximately 5-10 minutes. Participation in the survey is voluntary, and responses are anonymous and confidential. It provides the option to enter an email for those who wish to receive additional communications about the planning process.

The deadline to participate in the survey is Saturday, July 20. Paper copies are also available at various venues, including county offices.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

Flooding on FM 116 and Pidcock on the weekend of May 4.

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)

The 2004 Coryell Relay for Life was expected to break the local all-time high for giving to the American Cancer Society.

The annual Plainview reunion was held at Bethel Heights Church.

The Drive-In was showing "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban."

Pearl High School class of 1943 met for lunch for their

55th year reunion.

Participants in the theatre camp at Gatesville High School were set to perform "The History of Tom Jones."

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

A new dormitory style unit was under construction at the Hilltop Unit.

Bible drillers from Trinity Baptist Church attended the annual state competition.

The Drive-In was showing

"The Flintstones."

Jeanne Jester returned from an expense paid Rural Electric Youth Tour trip to Washington D.C.

Several students from the Gatesville Martial Arts Academy placed in the Texas Tae Kwon Do Championship held earlier in June.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

Carol Ozmer and Joyce Talbott were awarded first

place honors in a statewide scrapbooking contest.

The Messenger Office Supply advertised Tasco 7x35 Binoculars for \$19.95 (regular retail was \$49.95).

Charles Williams, of the King Community, and his son, Curtis, began construction on "Sweet Home Enterprises," a custom cabinet shop.

The annual Coryell Church homecoming was

set to be held at the church.

First Baptist Church of Gatesville offered a summer day camp.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)

The Live Oak unit at the Gatesville State Schools for Boys was closed to strengthen security.

The Gatesville Police Force hired a third patrolman.

The Main Street Market

joined the Greater Gatesville Chamber of commerce.

The Town and Country III Drive-In and Cinema was showing "Alice in Wonderland" and "American Graffiti."

Gatesville High School's 1974-75 cheerleaders brought home ten ribbons from a cheerleader camp at Tarleton State University.

A walk to freedom

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

The road to recovery from addiction is a difficult and often painful process. Through a series of "freedom walks," Tina Graves hopes to encourage others that recovery is possible and that they are not alone.

"I have always had compassion, (and) my heart has always been open to help other people in recovery," Graves said. "I want people to know that God can do it."

Graves, a group leader at Righteous Roots, held the first walk on Saturday, June 8. She walked along Main Street passing out fliers for support groups and holding signs with encouraging messages for those recovering or seeking to recover from an addiction.

Having experienced her own journey in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, Graves strives to inspire others not to be ashamed of their story.

"I broke down and got emotional during the walk,

because when I saw how people were honking, people were stopping, or telling me how they got five years clean, I got really emotional because that's what it's all about," she said.

Although the walk only included Graves and another group leader from Righteous Roots, the community response encouraged Graves to plan more walks in the future. She hopes to host a freedom walk at least twice a month.

"It was amazing how many people would just stop and roll their windows down at the stop lights and wanted to tell their testimony right there at the light," Graves said.

Graves leads the women's Life Recovery Group at Righteous Roots on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. and at 6:30 p.m. She emphasizes the importance of finding support when one goes through the recovery process.

"It's crucial for people to know that other people

love them and that they feel loved," she said. "It's confidential, and the women bond in the group. We have a lot of women who have built friendships that have come into the group. It's just women empowering women, and we need more of that."

Righteous Roots also provides a men's Addiction Support Group that takes place on Tuesdays at 7 p.m., she adds.

"The importance of group is that we have people come in and they hear stories of hope and encouragement, and they hear that there is hope in recovery and that people do recover," she said. "It's a Christian-based program, so we put a lot of emphasis on the Lord."

For those interested in joining a future freedom walk or a support group at Righteous Roots, call the organization at 254-651-3600 or visit righteousroots.org. "Even if they do not have sobriety, they can



COURTESY PHOTO

Righteous Roots group leaders Bethany Arnold (left) and Tina Graves at the first recovery freedom walk on June 8.

walk - this is a freedom walk," Graves said. "You're walking for the freedom

that God gave you from the drugs and you're also walking for the freedom that He will give you."

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Gatesville Lions install new officers for 2024-25

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

The Gatesville Lions Club recently held their Annual Banquet on Wednesday, June 12, at Junction 36 Restaurant where new officers were installed by Lions Club District Governor Renee Lamson.

Outgoing President Jeremy Stills announced that Lion Dr. Eric Moffett had been named Lion of the Year and was also elected to the office of president of the club. In addition, others named for the 2024-25 year included Oliver Puhr, First Vice President; Shawnee Miller, Second Vice President and Secretary; Zack Miller, Treasurer; Greg Couture, Lion Tamer; Carroll Hamilton, Assistant Lion Tamer; Dr. Britt Clay, Tail Twister; Jeremy Stills, Assistant Tail Twister; Kathy Harte, Song Leader; Joyce Tal-

bott, Membership Director; Jeremy Stills, Past President; and Rhonda Mohler, Executive Secretary.

Lions Club Directors named for 2023-25 included James Marques, Greg Couture, and Dora Jean Dyson. Directors named for 2024-26 included Tom Creek, Charles Talbott, and Chris Hunt.

Lion Dora Jean Dyson presented to the group a list of long-time Lions that had been in the organization for over 20 years. That list included: Bob Brown, 46 years; Ronnie Sullins, 46 years; Dr. Bob Bates, 44 years; Allen Place, 43 years; Phillip Zeigler, 41 years; David Byrom, 40 years; Steve Norris, 40 years; Daren Moore, 35 years; Scott Johnson, 31 years; Rhonda Mohler, 32 years; Dora Jean Dyson, 30 years; John Clawson, 29 years; Britt Clay, 27

years; Richard Mackay, 25 years; Gary Chumley, 23 years; Chris Bergman, 21 years, and Grant Kinsey, 20 years.

Dyson also spoke about the club's charter date of April 19, 1935, and of the past presidents, the first being Floyd Zeigler in 1935.

Our motto, WE SERVE, is implemented by providing community programs such as free glasses for needy children, scholarships for Gatesville HS graduates, financial support for the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville, Special Olympics, The Big Sting, The Cody Stephens Foundation, and by encouraging Lions to take an active role in community projects such as the Gatesville Care Center, Senior Center, and the Boys & Girls Club.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sharon Platt is pictured after receiving the Yard of the Month award for June.

Platt's honored with Yard of the Month for June

Staff Reports

Keep Gatesville Beautiful has chosen the yard of Sharon and Jimmy Platt at 312 Hamilton Drive as the Yard of the Month for June.

The Platts moved to Gatesville around five years ago and work together to keep their yard in perfect

condition. Jimmy does the mowing, weed eating, and trimming, while Sharon plants and tends to the flower beds.

The couple has a large variety of trees and plants, which include a Chinese Pistache tree, a Red Bud tree, Common Persimmon, Crepe Myrtle, a Flowering

Desert Willow, a Spanish Dagger, and Youpon Holly bushes. Some of the plants and flowers are Salvia, Datura (Moon Flower), Blue Passionflower Vine, Lantanas, Mexican Petunia, Cannas, Coleus, a variety of sages, Wisteria Vine, and a Purple Hyacinth Bean Vine.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Dr. Eric Moffett, pictured left, receives the Lion of the Year award from outgoing Lions Club President, Jeremy Stills.

Mother Neff to host exploration walk June 29 & July 13

Staff Reports

Mother Neff State Park has announced that it will host a walk to explore the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) and natural history of the park on Saturday, June 29, and on Saturday, July 13.

The walk will begin at 9 a.m., so be sure to arrive early to check-in.

The check-in will be held by the bathrooms in the campground.

The walk will last for about one and a half hours and will be a one-mile round trip. Those attending the walk will visit the CCC cabin area, the Rock Tower, and other CCC sites along the way, while also experiencing the biology, geology, and human

impact in the park.

There is no cost to participate in the walk, but there will be a park entrance fee of two dollars per person. Twelve and under get in free.

Be sure to wear the appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather and terrain. Sunscreen, a hat, and insect repellent are recommended.

UWF Meeting held June 11

Submitted Item by
Shirleen Chandler

United Women in Faith met on June 11, in the Banquet Room of the First Methodist Church in Gatesville, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Seventeen members were present. The hostesses were Marilyn Decker and Diana Smith.

President Patsy Smart called the meeting to order by leading in the Blessing. Part of the refreshments, the baking of bread, went with the program, and members sang "Let Us Break Bread Together" before they ate. During refreshments, Linda Klontz led members in picking new prayer partners for the month. Following refreshments, President Smart thanked the hostesses and read The Purpose. Mary Beth

Bogard read from the Daily Prayer Guide and Velva Riddle read from the Response Magazine. Debbie Martin presented the program, Session 4 from our book, "Living the Kin-dom," an exploration of the Lord's Prayer from Matthew 6, verse 11. The words are, "Give us this day our daily bread." God does not want us to be anxious about what we shall eat or drink or what we shall wear. In John Chapter 6, verse 35, Jesus said, "I am the bread of life." Not only does he satisfy our bodily hunger, but also satisfies our souls. In the U.S., we are so blessed for all we have—so much more than so many in the world. Thanks be to God.

President Smart called the business meeting to order. President Smart read some thank you

notes. Most of the business was announcements. It was reported that Karen Schmidt is helping register for the Global Women's meeting on Nov. 16, in Waco. The funeral of Sonny Drosche, the man killed in the accident on Hwy 36 last Saturday, was announced as being on Thursday morning at the St. Paul Lutheran Church at The Grove. A meeting of those helping in Vacation Bible School was Wednesday at 6 p.m. Marilyn Decker led in having members sign several cards for the sick, and President Smart asked those who hadn't yet signed up for the August salad supper to do so.

Meeting adjourned with the Benediction.

Turnersville Baptist presents VBS

Staff Reports

Turnersville Baptist Church will hold its Vacation Bible School (VBS) on Saturday, June 29, from 9

a.m.-3 p.m.

This year's theme is "The Great Jungle Journey: An Epic Cruise from Genesis to Revelation." The VBS event is for ages four years

old to fifth grade.

A lunch and snacks will be provided for the youth. For further details, contact 254-421-3974.

AGRICULTURE DISASTER RELIEF

Public Meeting
Thursday, June 27, 2024
7-9 P.M.

At Gatesville Civic Center

Coryell County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) will be present to discuss a variety of programs to help farmers, ranchers, communities, and businesses that have been hard hit by natural disaster events.

Below you'll find available FSA programs:

- **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather or by attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government.**

- **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP) provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease (including cattle tick fever), adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, not covered by LFP and LIP.**

- **Emergency Loan Program provides loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters, or quarantine by animal quarantine laws or imposed by the Secretary under the Plant Protection Act.**

- **Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) helps farmers and ranchers repair damage to farmlands caused by natural disasters.**

- **Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) pays covered producers of covered noninsurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters (includes native grass for grazing). Eligible producers must have purchased NAP coverage for the current crop year.**

Visit [farmers.gov](https://www.farmers.gov) for additional USDA programs that can help agricultural producers recover.

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

There is magic in medicine



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

Dr. Hy Penn was a pediatrician in Houston thirty-six years ago and recently retired. He did magic tricks for his young patients.

"I had patients that would fake illness just to be able to come to the doctor to see

magic. After they got to the office, they would tell their mother, 'I'm feeling better,

now can I see some magic?' I would always oblige. I would do card tricks, make things disappear, appear, or change. I always had to have something new because I had some patients that would always ask for a new trick to see."

He's been doing magic tricks a long time. His grandmother encouraged his magic.

"She was living in New York when I was younger and would send me magic tricks in the mail. I would work on them, and by fifth grade, I was performing for my brother's friends. It became a lifelong hobby."

He saw kids in hospitals. "I'd walk into the room,

and they're not smiling and looking sad. They may have cancer with multiple IV's in them. When I'd leave, they'd be happy, laughing, and excited. It's rewarding to see that."

He's in several organizations having to do with magic. He says it's good to be a part of that fraternity - that's where he has learned some new tricks. Dr. Penn also put together a seminar for doctors to be presented in a course that he calls continuing medical education with magic.

"I teach them how to use magic tricks in their practice to make their patients comfortable so they would want to stay and not run

away."

He performs for non-profit groups and schools and doesn't get paid for it. He does it just for fun. Dr. Penn's parents were Holocaust survivors.

"They didn't talk much about it when we were young, but everybody knew my mother was a survivor because she had a number tattoo on her left forearm. She was in nine different death camps. People knew her story. She was not ashamed to talk about it when people asked about her number. She never hid it from anybody. As we got older, they started talking more and more and I think they finally realized that if

they don't talk about it, nobody's going to know their story and what happened during that terrible time in history. Even though they went through terrible times, they taught us it was important to not look back, to continually move forward and do the right thing in life."

Dr. Penn is a docent at the Houston Holocaust Museum.

"In the world today, it's important not to forget the past. That's how things repeat themselves if you don't remember what happened."



COURTESY PHOTO

Mr. and Mrs. Ethan Kirkelie

Hardcastle, Kirkelie vows exchanged in Gatesville

Submitted Item

Anna Jo Hardcastle, of Gatesville and Ethan Drew Allen Kirkelie, of Temple, exchanged wedding vows in a double ring ceremony on Saturday, April 27, at Windmill Hill Venue in Gatesville.

Officiating was Robert Camenisch, grandfather of the groom.

The bride is the daughter of Steve and Gwendy Hardcastle, of Gatesville, and the granddaughter of Gene and Gina Winkler, of Louisiana, and David and Barb Hardcastle, of Colorado.

The bridegroom is the son of Bob and Julia Kirkelie, of Temple, and the grandson of Robert and Kay Camenisch, of Tennessee.

Wedding music included the acoustic guitar played by Isaac Winkler and soloist Meredith Winkler - both cousins of the bride.

The outside ceremony featured an arbor decorated with white and purple florals.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a formal dress that was

heavily beaded featuring a square neckline and jeweled spaghetti straps. Three-dimensional iridescent flowers embossed the bodice and full skirt that swept into a 3-foot train. Her fingertip length veil was edged in matching iridescent jewels. She carried a bouquet of varying shades of purple roses that included a handkerchief her great-grandmother fashioned into a bonnet that she wore as a baby.

Ring bearers were Wilder Hardcastle and Kohen Hardcastle, nephews of the bride.

Flower girls were Andie Kate Hardcastle, of Temple, niece of the bride, and Julia Grace Massey, of Temple, niece of the groom.

Addy Hardcastle, of Gatesville, sister of the bride, served as Maid of Honor. Bridesmaids were Raina Hardcastle, of Gatesville, sister of the bride, Lyndsey Hardcastle, of Gatesville, sister of the bride, Ashley Hardcastle, of Temple, sister-in-law of the bride, Victoria Massey, of Temple, sister of the groom, Meredith Winkler,

of Beaumont, cousin of the bride, and Bailee Armstrong, of Gatesville, friend of the bride.

Serving as best man was Ethan Reynolds, of Houston, friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Riley Massey, of Temple, brother-in-law of the groom, Logan Jasso of Houston, friend of the groom, Jack Regh, of Houston, friend of the groom, Seth Hardcastle, of Temple, brother of the bride, and Asa Hardcastle, of Gatesville, brother of the bride.

Following the marriage ceremony, a reception followed at Windmill Hill, which included dinner and dancing.

The bride is a 2021 graduate of Chosen Heritage Homeschool and is employed as a manager for Freezing Point Creamery in Temple. The bridegroom is a 2019 graduate of Covenant Christian School and is employed in Digital Marketing.

The couple took a wedding trip to the Great Smokey Mountains in Tennessee and now reside in Temple.

The thrill of the grill: Top foods and techniques for summer grilling

BY MICKY SHEARON
Contributing Writer

Grilling in Texas is more than just a method of cooking; it's a way of life. In Coryell County, like much of Texas, the sizzle of meat on the grill, the smoky aroma filling the air, and the camaraderie of friends and family gathered around is a cherished ritual. But why is grilling so deeply embedded in our culture? Let's explore this beloved tradition, along with the top five things to grill and the best techniques to ensure your next BBQ is a hit.

THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF GRILLING IN TEXAS

Texas has a rich history of outdoor cooking that dates back to the early settlers and cattle drives. These pioneers had to cook their food over open flames, giving rise to what we now consider classic Texas BBQ. Over time, this practical necessity evolved into a cherished tradition.

Grilling brings people together. Whether it's a family gathering, a neighborhood block party, or a casual weekend with friends, the grill serves as the centerpiece of social interaction. It's not just about the food; it's about the experience, the memories created and the sense of community it fosters.

TOP FIVE THINGS TO GRILL

Steak

Why: Texas is synonymous with beef, and nothing beats a perfectly grilled steak. The char on the outside and the tender, juicy inside make it a favorite.

Tip: Use a high-quality cut like ribeye or T-bone

and season simply with salt, pepper, and a touch of garlic.

Brisket

Why: Slow cooked to perfection, brisket is a staple of Texas BBQ. It requires patience but rewards with rich, smoky flavors.

Tip: Cook low and slow and use a good rub to infuse the meat with flavor.

Chicken

Why: Versatile and easy to cook, chicken can be marinated, rubbed with spices or simply seasoned.

Tip: Marinate the chicken overnight for maximum flavor and grill over medium heat to avoid drying it out.

Sausages

Why: Sausages are a crowd-pleaser and cook relatively quickly. They come in various flavors, making them a versatile choice.

Tip: Prick the sausages with a fork to prevent them from bursting and cook over medium heat until nicely browned.

Vegetables

Why: Grilling isn't just for meat lovers. Vegetables like bell peppers, zucchini and corn take on a delicious smoky flavor.

Tip: Toss vegetables in olive oil and season with salt and pepper before grilling. Use a grill basket to prevent smaller pieces from falling through.

TOP FIVE GRILLING TECHNIQUES

Direct vs. indirect heat

Description: Use direct heat for quick-cooking foods like steaks and burgers and indirect heat for larger cuts like brisket or whole chickens.

Benefit: This technique helps in cooking food evenly and achieving the desired level of doneness without burning.

Preheat the grill

Description: Always preheat your grill for at least 15 minutes before cooking.

Benefit: A hot grill sears the meat, locking in juices and creating a delicious crust.

Oil the grill grates

Description: Use a paper towel soaked in oil to grease the grates before placing food on them.

Benefit: This prevents sticking and makes clean-up easier.

Use a meat thermometer

Description: Ensure your meat reaches the safe internal temperature by using a meat thermometer.

Benefit: This guarantees food safety and helps in achieving the perfect doneness.

Let the meat rest

Description: Allow meat to rest for a few minutes after taking it off the grill.

Benefit: Resting lets the juices redistribute throughout the meat, making it more flavorful and tender.

Grilling is more than just a way to cook food in Texas; it's a cherished tradition that brings people together. Whether you're a seasoned grill master or a beginner, knowing the best things to grill and the top techniques will elevate your BBQ game. So, fire up the grill, invite your friends and family, and enjoy the rich, smoky flavors that have become a part of our Texan heritage.



PHOTO COURTESY OF METROCREATIVECONNECTION

Nothing says summertime like a backyard barbecue.

MOUND NEWS

Elliott Lanham and Kennedie Hyde were married in Dominican Republic



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Elliott Lanham and Kennedie Hyde got married Saturday, June 15, at the Majestic Elegance Punta Cana resort in the Dominican Republic.

The couple will have a reception in Gatesville on June 29.

Kinsley McPherson attended the Texas 4-H Equine Ambassador short course in Lubbock. She will be serving in a state leadership role this year promoting the 4-H horse project and educating young people.

Ruby Pruett and Jacklyn Pullen, of Rock Wall, and Julia, Brooke, and Reese Dixon, of Liberty Hill, vis-

ited with Kenneth Dixon, Kari Belt, Sara Jo Poynter, and their families Thursday through Sunday.

Kay Branham visited Paxton Brack and Sue Jones Wednesday afternoon.

Mound Cowboy Church and White Mound Baptist Church held their VBS last week, Sunday through Thursday. There were 48 kids enrolled. They had a water slide for family night.

Meals on Wheels in need of volunteer drivers

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The Senior Center encompasses many different programs, one of which is Meals on Wheels.

The program is federally funded and is specifically designed for elderly folks who are homebound or who are unable to prepare a meal for themselves.

Volunteers are needed to deliver nutritious meals to seniors in the community, which allows them to remain living in their own homes. This typically involves meal delivery, a friendly visit, or a quick safety check.

Meals on Wheels is conducted five days a week, Monday through Friday, and takes around 30 minutes to an hour to complete, depending on the route taken. There are four different routes in Gatesville, and each

Wednesday a route to Hamilton is taken.

Anywhere from 10-14 clients are seen each day per route, and around 250-300 meals are prepared.

Senior Center Director Pam Rudolph said, "Volunteering for Meals on Wheels is very important because the purpose is to deliver meals to seniors who are shut in, cannot drive, or leave their home, as well as giving our clients a sense of purpose."

There is not a set schedule to volunteer, and drivers must provide their own vehicle.

For more information, contact Senior Center Director Pam Rudolph at 254-865-8234.

The Gatesville Senior Center is located at 208 North Lutterloh Ave. in Gatesville.

OBITUARIES

Marigrace Wheat Dyer

July 14, 2001 - June 10, 2024

Marigrace Wheat Dyer, age 22, of Mackinac Island, Michigan, passed from death into life on June 10, 2024. She is now in the arms of Jesus.

Born July 14, 2001, Marigrace spent her early years in California, later moving to Texas with her family and growing up in the tiny community of Pearl. Her home away from home was the family ranch in Junction, Texas, where she became a beloved member of the community. After high school, Marigrace attended World View Academy at the Abbey in Colorado, and later moved to Michigan, where she worked as a dray driver for the Mackinac Island Service Company. With her team of big draft horses, Marigrace delivered goods of all kinds from the docks to every corner of the island. On Mackinac Island, Marigrace found her place.

Marigrace was an intrepid young woman, known for her infectious smile, warm presence, and thirst for adventure. All who knew her loved her, and she will be missed terribly.

Marigrace is survived by her parents, Jody and Martina Dyer, of Kerrville,



Texas; her brother, Joel Dyer, wife, Mary, and their son, Grady, of Menifee, California; sister, Reagan Dyer, of Jackson, Wyoming; and grandmother, Marcie Stimmel, of Junction. Marigrace is also survived by aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends too numerous to count.

A memorial service for Marigrace was held June 20, 2024, at the First Presbyterian Church in Junction. A memorial service on Mackinac Island will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Marigrace's memory to: World View at the Abbey - website: worldviewbridgeyear.com - 2951 E. Hwy. 50, Cañon City, CO 81212.

Melvin Wright

April 6, 1942 - June 14, 2024

Melvin Wright, age 82, of Gatesville, passed away on Friday, June 14, 2024.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 29, 2024, at Gateway Baptist Church in Gatesville with Brother Michael Bragdon officiating.

Melvin was born on April 6, 1942, to the late Terry and Mary Harrington Wright in Eagle Lake, Texas. He grew up and attended school in Eagle Lake, graduating from Eagle Lake High School in 1960. He attended college obtaining his bachelor's degree in nursing and later continued his education obtaining his Family Nurse Practitioner license in 1979. He retired from UTMB in 2018.

Melvin met Gloria Nell McMinn in late 1975, and after a five-month courtship, they were married on March 27, 1976, in Palestine, Texas.

Those who knew Melvin, knew him as a man of faith. His passion and love



revolved around his wife, children, and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, John Wright; and brothers, Curtis Wright, Gary Wright, and Robert Wright.

Melvin is survived by his wife, Gloria; children, Kevin Wright, Shannon Frantz, Shelley Wright, and Lyle Wright; twelve grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; one brother; one sister; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Betty Lovell Landers

July 28, 1934 - June 10, 2024

Betty J. Lovell Landers, recently residing in New Braunfels near family, passed away on June 10, 2024. Graveside services will be held at Hamilton City Cemetery.

Betty was born on July 28, 1934, in Fort Worth to James Frank Lovell, Sr. and Ava Jones Lovell.

Mrs. Landers spent many years working for Texas Commerce Bank in Houston and Arlington Bank in Arlington.

Mrs. Landers was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Don Byron Landers; her parents; and



one brother, James F. Lovell, Jr.

She is survived by her nephew, Jerry M. Lovell, and niece, Jeannene Smith.

Roy Baggett

Feb. 28, 1936 - June 14, 2024

Roy Baggett, age 88, of Gatesville, passed away at his home on Friday, June 14, 2024.

Memorial services were held at 11 a.m. Friday, June 21, at Cedar Ridge Church of Christ in Gatesville, with Minister Deral McWhorter officiating.

Roy Elbert Baggett was born on Feb. 28, 1936, in Tampa, Florida to the late Julian Herman and Donna Ola Spahler Baggett. He graduated from Brandon High School in Tampa, Florida in 1954. He joined the United States Army in 1958, serving in Vietnam and Korea. He was honorably discharged and retired in 1981 with 23 years of service as a MSG. He then went to work as a civil service employee at Ft. Cavazos with the D.O.I.M. retiring as a supervisor, after 20 years of service in 2002. Roy enjoyed golfing, working in their yard and spending time with his family and friends. He was a member of the Cedar Ridge Church of Christ.



Roy is survived by his wife of 27 years, Margie Baggett; children, Steve Baggett and wife, Barbara, Gary Baggett and wife, Jayme, and Derek Brinkmann and wife, Molly; grandchildren, Steven Baggett, Sarah Baggett, Christian Rommer, Daniel Baggett and Matthew Brinkmann.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Cedar Ridge Church of Christ, 104 Cedar Ridge Road, Gatesville, TX 76528.

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

Obituaries can be submitted by email to editor@gatesvillemessenger.com. Obituaries are pre-paid and should come from a funeral home. Obituaries placed by next of kin must be verified with the facility handling the body or with a death certificate. You must provide the contact information for verification when submitting the obituary. The Gatesville Messenger deadline for obituaries is 10 a.m. Tuesday for the Saturday paper. Deadlines are subject to change during holidays.

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PEARL NEWS

Pearl Bluegrass event is a great opportunity to enjoy your day



BY BETSY CLARK
Pearl News Correspondent

Future dates for Bookstore and Pearl Bluegrass days are July 6, Aug. 3, Sep. 14 (second Saturday due to a 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 and visit and enjoy a shopping adventure. Also, the Pearl Bluegrass event is a great opportunity for nursing

homes, retirement homes, and assisted living residents to get out and enjoy a day of music and fun for free. There is no admission to sit in the auditorium to

listen to the various bands that come to play on the stage. The stage show begins at 1 p.m. and usually goes on until about 5 p.m. in the afternoon. Besides listening to the bands, visiting, and just being out in the country in Pearl is refreshing and delightful. Truly, there's no place like Pearl. Please let your activity directors in the various area senior settings know all about Pearl. They'll love you for it!

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.

The Pearl Church of Christ will hold its annual Revival on July 6 and 7, with an ice cream supper following the service on the 7th. The church service will begin at 7 p.m., with the ice cream fellowship immediately following. The Sunday morning church service begins at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend and to bring friends, family, and people you just met with you.

Every evening, I get a "Pearl Report" from my local contact, and I look forward to that report even more than my traditional bowl of vanilla ice cream

with the chocolate hard-shell topping—and that's saying a lot. This past week, though, all I've gotten is "all's quiet in Pearl." Since VBS is over and the June bluegrass and Bookstore has passed, there hasn't been anything to report. Fortunately, as you can see from the preceding paragraphs, things are about to heat up again. Well, that could also describe the dreaded summer weather. However, let's not let the summer heat keep attendance down during the Bluegrass and Bookstore events, the board meetings, or the Church of Christ annual Revival. You don't want to miss those happenings. You all must cooperate and attend, so that I actually have something to

write about. It makes me too sad to hear, "all's quiet in Pearl!" Remember, there's no place like Pearl, so be there or be square.

This week's Bible verse comes from Psalm 74:16,17—*The day and the night are Yours. You set the moon and sun in their places. It was You who set all the boundaries of the earth; You made both summer and winter. Psalm 103:1—Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name. RSV*

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

RIBBON CUTTING HELD FOR NEW BUSINESS, NAIL TALK



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce held a grand opening and ribbon cutting on Monday, June 17, for Nail Talk by Sarai P. Owner and founder Sarai Padgett established the nail salon in early June and provides many services to her customers such as manicures/nails, pedicures, and waxing options. Nail Talk by Sarai P is located at 409 SH-36, and can be reached by contacting 254-350-8996.

SUDOKU

Puzzle answers from the June 15, 2024 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

TxDOT spotlights impact, loss from drunk driving

An average of 89 Texans were killed every month in alcohol-related crashes in 2023

Press Release

AUSTIN – We all know that drunk driving is dan-

gerous, and yet people still choose to get behind the wheel impaired, causing on average 65 alcohol-related crashes every day last year on Texas roadways. Three Texans died daily in 2023 as a result — their lives extinguished at the hands

of those who never thought they would be responsible for a roadside tragedy.

Making the choice to drive drunk instead of finding a sober ride home can lead to serious consequences, including a lifetime of anguish. This is the pain-

ful reality for Charles and Shenica Trammell of San Antonio, who will never see their child again.

"We taught our son to serve others, not knowing that he would actually die while doing so," said Shenica Trammel. Her 20-year-

old son and Texas Wesleyan University football player Charles Jr. was killed while changing a friend's tire on the side of the road in Fort Worth.

"All because someone made the decision to get behind the wheel after drinking," she said.

Shenica and her husband, Charles, are among the faces seen and voices heard in an exhibit traveling across Texas to showcase first-person testimonial videos by survivors, offenders and those who've suffered the loss of a loved one to a drunk driver.

July and August are the calendar's two deadliest months for drunk-driving fatalities. Heading into these months, TxDOT's "Drive Sober. No Regrets" campaign is spotlighting these stories of grief and remorse to emphasize the importance of driving sober and the consequences of drinking and driving.

"Drunk driving can change lives forever," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "In the worst case, families lose loved ones or face devastating injuries. But even when there isn't a crash, the decision to drink and drive can ruin careers and relationships. That's why we want everyone to know how important

and easy it is to always plan ahead for a sober ride."

Beyond the possibility of taking a life – including your own – driving impaired and getting a DWI can result in time-consuming legal hassles and fines and fees up to \$17,000.

The "Drive Sober. No Regrets" campaign's "Faces of Drunk Driving" initiative overlaps with heightened law enforcement efforts to keep Texas roads safe during the Independence Day holiday. From June 21 through July 7, increased patrols aim to reduce the number of DUI-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities.

Even though the number of drunk driving deaths on Texas roadways in 2023 is down 15% from 2022, we must strive to continue that trend.

TxDOT's Drive Sober. No Regrets. 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

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CLOSED JULY 3RD. HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!
June 19, 2024:

No. 1 Steers	
Under 300 lb.	350-425
300-400 lb.	335-415
400-500 lb.	290-335
500-600 lb.	265-315
600-700 lb.	240-285
700-800 lb.	230-260
No. 1 Heifers	
under 300 lb.	300-410
300-400 lb.	285-375
400-500 lb.	265-310
500-600 lb.	245-285
600-700 lb.	225-255
700-800 lb.	210-245
Slaughter Cows	
High Yielding	140-152
Low Yielding	125-135
Fats	130-145
Thin & Shelly	100-115
Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)	
Yield Grade 1&2	140-178
Cow & Calf Pairs	
Young Choice	2700-3400
Young Fair	2100-2700
Aged Pairs	Split & Weighed
Young Pregnancy Test Stocker	
Replacement Cow	1600-2650
Number of Head	1000

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6-19-24 SALE	
Weigh Bulls	140-173
Weigh Cows	118-146
Cow Calf Pairs	NO TEST
Bred Cows	NO TEST
Replacement Bulls	NO TEST

#1 Type Steers	
200-300 lb.	NO TEST
301-400 lb.	350-392.50
401-500 lb.	290-357.50
501-600 lb.	250-290
601-700 lb.	245-262

#1 Type Heifers	
200-300 lb.	NO TEST
301-400 lb.	271-317.50
401-500 lb.	250-309
501-600 lb.	235-267
600-700 lb.	220-233

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MEMBER 2024

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Firm hired to create courthouse Master Plan

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

When the Coryell County Commissioners Court met on June 11, a firm was chosen to create the Master Plan for the courthouse. In a previous comment, Coryell County Attorney Brandon Belt described the need for such a document. "A Master Plan is required to apply for grant funds to work on the courthouse. The purpose of a Master Plan is to evaluate the current state of the courthouse and set priorities for rehabilitating and maintaining the building. A professional Preservation Architect is hired to assist in develop-

ing the plan to preserve and maintain the courthouse."

According to Belt, the Texas State Historical Commission states, "A good Master Plan includes a history of the building, historic photos and drawings, a thorough evaluation of existing conditions and a plan for the future, with an estimated budget for all the proposed work."

Danny Corbett, Chairman of the Coryell County Historical Association, said "Having a courthouse Master Plan is imperative should the county seek grant funds from the Texas Historical Commission, whether it be a full res-

toration grant or even an emergency grant for things such as a leaky roof. The plan will provide a road-map for maintenance and preservation of this historic resource in the future."

On May 28th, the Coryell County Commissioners Court selected the top 3 respondents, Architexas, O'Connell, and Komatsu for the courthouse Master Plan with interviews with each firm held on June 6th. The Coryell County Historical Commission was asked to be present at each of the interviews. At the Commissioner Court meeting held on June 11, a representative from the Coryell County

Historical Commission, Sherry Lawrence, addressed the court with her observations on each of the three firms.

Judge Roger Miller asked Lawrence to share her assessment of the proposed firms. "After three very good presentations in this important endeavor, I really don't think we could go wrong in the companies we were considering, but my opinion, and also that of Danny Corbett who is our historical commission chairman, feel like the Architexas company would probably be the best choice. I was impressed with the fact that they had worked

on two Dodson courthouses already and had successfully obtained an approved master plan with those courthouses." [Several courthouses in Texas were built by architect Wesley Dodson].

Lawrence continued, "The other thing I was impressed with was that they [Architexas] seemed, just off the top of their heads, to come up with some outside funding possibilities for our courthouse restoration and repairs - some federal grants, TxDOT, universities, philanthropists, and they seemed to have those names at hand, better than the other two. Their pre-

sentation brought a lot of important things to light."

Following Lawrence's comments, Judge Miller said, "I would echo Sherry's sentiments. I thought there were three very good interviews. From my own standpoint, Architexas would be my choice."

The county commissioners agreed and made a motion to select Architexas as the firm to develop the Master Plan for the courthouse. The commissioners unanimously voted to accept their bid and the motion was carried.

GREEN ROOSTER NAMED BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce has announced The Green Rooster Coffee Co. as the Business of the Month for June. Niki Foster (pictured with trophy) first established The Green Rooster in 2022 as a coffee truck. She is now undergoing the process of constructing her own building for the community. To nominate a chamber member for the business of the month award, visit <https://www.gatesvillechamber.com/business-of-the-month>.

RECIPE

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLRECIPES.COM

Butter Cake

BUTTER CAKE

BY CHRISTON HAYDON

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1/3 c. soft butter | 1 1/2 c. flour |
| 7/8 c. sugar | 1 1/4 tsp. baking soda |
| 1 egg | 1/2 tsp. salt |
| 3/4 tsp. vanilla | 5/8 c. milk |

Heat oven to 350. Grease and flour 2 layer pans 9x11 1/2. Cream butter, sugar, eggs, and vanilla until fluffy. Beat 5 minutes on high. Measure flour by dip-level pour method or sifting. Blend flour, baking powder and salt. Mix in alternately with milk. Use low speed. Pour into pans. Bake 30 to 40 minutes.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of June 12 - June 18. 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

June 12
12:16 p.m., wanted/stolen person/property reported in the 1200 block of Pleasant Street.
1:52 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.
2:30 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of Carroll Drive.
9:09 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2500 block of E. Main Street.

June 13
2:34 p.m., a structure fire was reported in the 400 block of County Road 320.
3:28 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2500 block of Mears Drive.
4:24 p.m., a theft was reported in the 300 block of S. State Highway 36 Bypass.
8:41 p.m., a threat was reported in the 700 block of E. Leon Street.

June 14
12:14 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 3400

block of Jewell.
2:50 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1600 block of E. Main Street.
6:34 a.m., harassment was reported in the 700 block of E. Leon Street.
9:44 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2400 block of S. Business Highway 36.

June 15
8:34 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of S. State Highway 36 Bypass.
10:48 a.m., harassment was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.
7:37 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2400 block of Oak Drive.
8:26 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 2500 block of Jackson Drive.

June 16
10:13 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1100 block of Baldrige Drive.
10:25 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.
10:29 a.m., an accident was reported in the 1600 block

of E. Main Street.
7:34 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 8000 block of FM 185.

June 17
1:35 a.m., an armed suspect was reported in the 3400 block of Imperial Drive.
1:17 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2500 block of Powell Drive.
10:04 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1300 block of N. State Highway 36 Bypass.
11:17 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Austin Street.

June 18
5:10 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 240 block of FM 116.
6:10 a.m., suspicious activity reported in the 1600 block of Golf Course Road.
10:33 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.
12:05 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 800 block of S. 7th Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

June 12
6:33 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 200 block of U.S. 190 Bypass.
8:24 a.m., welfare concern was reported on S. Highway 36 just past FM 1829.
9:37 a.m., a threat was reported in the 300 block of N. 18th Street.
11:45 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 3500 block of Moccasin Bend Road.

June 13
11:38 p.m., a scam was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.
2:44 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2200 block of Coryell City Road.
2:48 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 200 block of FM 1996.
6:06 p.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 100 block of Vista Circle.

June 14
12:17 a.m., shots fired reported in the 3400 block of

Jewell Drive.
9:48 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported at FM 932 and Purmela Church.
10:22 a.m., found livestock reported in the 1000 block of County Road 318.
1:23 p.m., harassment was reported in the 4900 block of County Road 107.

June 15
10:46 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 200 block of Old Fort Gates Road.
10:54 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 3100 block of Highway 36.
12:35 p.m., a minor accident was reported in the 3100 block of FM 215.
8:20 p.m., a welfare concern was reported at the Highway 84 first rest stop.

June 16
7:59 a.m., found property reported on Highway 84/Road Side Park.
3:10 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 2700 block of Bald Knob Road.
8:09 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on FM 116 NB

Near Hempel.
8:47 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 6400 block of FM 932.

June 17
10:03 a.m., fraud was reported in the 200 block of County Road 323.
12:36 p.m., criminal dumping was reported in the 500 block of Rock Creek Circle.
3:08 p.m., criminal trespass was reported on County Road 266 and County Road 274.
4:13 p.m., missing livestock was reported on County Road 248.

June 18
4:23 p.m., a scam was reported in the 700 block of Old Pidcocke Road.
7:08 p.m., a threat was reported in the Gatesville area.
6:20 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on S. Highway 36 before The Grove.
7:03 p.m., a theft was reported in the 170 block of Moon Road.

FREE

BLUEGRASS BALLAD

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SATURDAY, JUNE 29

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN WYLLIE ON BALLARD AVENUE
(100 South Ballard Ave., Wylie, TX)

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ARTS & CRAFTS
10 am - 9 pm
WylieTexas.gov

MUSIC
1 pm - 9 pm

CAR SHOW
4 - 9 pm
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Cattle producers don't want to miss this!

REGISTER TODAY!

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DEADLINE

Saturday Issue: 10 A.M. Tuesday

All Classified Ads Must Be Paid In Advance

Ads will not run until payment is received, unless credit has been established.

All forms of Debit and Credit Cards are accepted.

We are not responsible for errors when ads are taken over the phone. We ask all advertisers to read over their advertisement after the first run and let us know if corrections need to be made. Corrections can be made to advertisements after the first run if we are informed immediately by advertiser, so read carefully.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, The Gatesville Messenger does not guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 1-800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP. The FTC website is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

015 FARM & RANCH

Hay cutting and baling, 5x5 1/2 round bales, net wrapped. Larry Riddle 254-248-2205 00030845

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TREE WORKS Tree Service: tree trimming, removal & stump grinding. Free estimates. Call Lloyd, (254)223-3287. 00030816

R&M FENCING & DOZING: barbed wire, custom pipe, entryways, corrals, barns, fence row clearing, metal buildings, residential & game fencing, solar gate openers, dozer work. Free estimates. **Larry Riddle, 254-248-2205; Joyce McAdams, 254-248-4318.** 00030818

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Your ad should be here.....

060 GARAGE SALE

25 CENT SALE! Tues., 06/25 - Sat., 06/29. The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00030832

Garage Sale: 3410 Spyglass, @7 a.m., Sat., June 22nd! Featuring home decor & goods, adults/children's clothes & shoes, and toys! 00030866

Huge 4-Family Garage Sale! 17875 & 17932 State Hwy. 36, Moody. Thursday & Friday, June 20th & 21st, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Furniture, Tempur-pedic bed, house/kitchen wares, clothes, fishing gear, trampoline, toys, etc. 00030871

Shoaf/Martin Multi-Family Sale, clothing sizes infant to adult XL, home/kitchen furnishings and decor, furniture, tools, some building materials, toys @ 1604 Golf Course Rd., Friday and Saturday, June 21-22, 7am-2pm. 00030872

YARD SALE! Saturday, June 29th, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., 202 Ash Drive. Collectibles & miscellaneous! 00030873

LIVING ESTATE SALE

542 & 602 CR 245
June 21-23
Fri.-Sat. 8-3 • Sun. Noon-3
 Nice furniture
 Lots of tools/outdoor items
 Collectibles
 Coca Cola items
 Small farm equipment
 Lots of housewares & decor

070 LAND & LOTS

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

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



099 PUBLIC NOTICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

City of Oglesby Texas

The City of Oglesby Texas is soliciting planning and management service providers to assist the City of Oglesby, Texas with the development, adoption, and implementation of modern and resilient building codes and flood damage prevention ordinances for the Community Development Block Grant-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Resilient Communities Program (RCP) through the Texas General Land Office.

Accordingly, The City of Oglesby Texas your proposals in .pdf format via email/website to/at jthompson@oglesby-texas.com OR submit your proposal to the address below on a thumb drive OR submit two copies of your proposal of services to the following address: Attn: JENNIFER THOMPSON, (PO Box 185, Oglesby Texas/ 120 Main Street Oglesby, Texas 76561).

Proposals must be received by the The City of Oglesby, Texas no later than (12:00pm) on (07/01/24) to be considered.

The City of Oglesby reserves the right to negotiate with any and all proposers, as per Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

(The City of Oglesby) is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción estan disponibles por peticion.

00030875

Notice to Creditors of THE ESTATE OF MARY FRANCES HERRINGTON, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Mary Frances Herrington, Deceased were granted to the undersigned on May 20, 2024 by the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas.

All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same to Angela Helton c/o Benjamin Bonney, Esq. within the time prescribed by law. My address is 750 N. St. Paul Street, #700, Dallas, TX 75201; Independent Executor of the Estate of Mary Frances Herrington, Deceased; CAUSE NO. 24-10995.

00030876

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION-FC 103.010 SAPCR

THE STATE OF TEXAS
 IN THE INTEREST OF
 EVAN BLAKE JONES

CAUSE NO. CCL-23-54682
 IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW
 OF CORYELL COUNTY TEXAS

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

**If posted at the courthouse door the written answer shall be filed by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days following the 7th day of posting.

The petition of JANA MAE MATTHEW, Petitioner was filed in the COUNTY COURT AT LAW of Coryell County, Texas on the 05/03/2023 against CHRISTOPHER LEE JONES, Respondent and entitled in the above-entitled cause.

The date and birth of the child/children who is are the subject of the suit is/are:

CHILD'S/CHILDREN'S NAME(S)
 EVAN BLAKE JONES

PLACE OF BIRTH

DATE OF BIRTH
 05/09/2009

The Court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child's (children's) interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the Parent-child Relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conversator with authority to consent to the child's (children's) adoption."

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT AT GATESVILLE, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 7th day of May 2024.

Attorney for Petitioner or Petitioner:
 JANA MATTHEW
 203 CARROLL DR
 GATESVILLE, TX 76528 PRO SE

Clerk of the Court:
 Becky Moore, District Clerk
 P.O. Box 4
 Gatesville, Texas 76528
 Coryell County, Texas

By: Kiesha Gajdica, Deputy 00030798

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS CITY OF GATESVILLE

The City of Gatesville is soliciting proposals for pre-award and post-award grant management services. Services will include the preparation of a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) application(s) and the management of the grant and project(s) if funded by FEMA through the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). Please electronically submit your proposal in .pdf format via email to mhalsema@gatesvilletx.com. Proposals must be received by the City no later than 2:00 p.m. on July 1, 2024 to be considered. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals and may award one or more contracts to one or more service provider(s). Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals. The City of Gatesville is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. 00030867

The forever benefit on a land patent located in Coryell County, Texas is being perfected upon Coryell County, Texas. Anyone interested in examining or challenging this claim by 08.17.2024 do so here: <http://AmericanMeetingGroup.com/chase>

00030856

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Winery Permit by Curmudgeon's LLC d/b/a Curmudgeon's to be located at 504 Cedar Mountain Road, Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas 76528 The Managing Members of said company are Lloyd Hayslip and Caleb Hayslip.

00030858

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's On-Premise Permit by Blond Bison, to be located at 168 South Highway 281, Evant, Coryell County, Texas 76525. The Managers of said company are Leianne Oldman and Nancy Clary.

00030859

Application is being made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's Off-Premise Permit by Dolgencorp of Texas, Inc. d/b/a Dollar General Store #25713 located at 105 FM 116, Gatesville, Coryell County, TX 76528. Officers of said Corporation are Steven R. Deckard, CEO, Kelly M. Dilts, CFO, Neal E. Miller, VP Tax, and Emily C. Taylor, EVP/Secretary.

00030861

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, July 8, 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, July 15, 2024 at 11 A.M. Units to be sold: Melissa Scott, Justin Loera. Inventory: Household goods, clothing, tools, and misc. items.

00030874

Need to Place a Classified Ad?

Call 865-5212

116 S. 6th Street
 Gatesville, TX
 (on the square)



The 'bleeding courthouse' on the square

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

You may remember the old saying about a person having a "bee in their bonnet," but how about having bees in your attic? The Coryell County Courthouse has a very large attic - possibly the largest one in the county, and yes, it has been home to a beehive which is estimated to be 30 feet in circumference.

After doing a Google search for "courthouse bees," the same problem has been reported in several courthouses and government buildings across the United States. It is not an unusual occurrence, but perhaps the size of this particular beehive will rank

as one of the largest.

Tiffany Butler, who has worked in the building for four years, said that since she's been there, "we have had two active hives that I've known of. We had one outside on the north peak above the front porch that dripped honey on the courthouse steps and the larger one in the courthouse attic."

Butler remarked, "The bees are almost as historic as the building."

Concerning the massive hive in the attic, bee removal firms in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area as well as in Austin were contacted and all agreed that the only solution to removing

the hive would be to cut a hole through the wall. That could not be considered an option due to the fact that the structure cannot be altered since the courthouse has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1977 and is now protected by the Texas State Historical Commission. Therefore, there was no other way to remove the bees other than extermination.

Today, the decaying beehive continues to seep honey from the attic into the third-floor balcony of the 52nd courtroom. Butler stated that she has to clean honey out of the windowsills and remove dead bees

approximately every two weeks.

In years past, when the massive number of bees were still active, Butler said that you could feel the vibration of the bees. "You could put your hands on the windows and walls and feel the vibration from the bees who were swarming in the attic," she said

"No one has been stung in the balcony that I know of," she said. "Most of the bees congregate in the balcony area. In the past, when they were active, I would try to vacuum the bees and let them out of the vacuum cleaner outside. I didn't want to kill them intentionally but release them

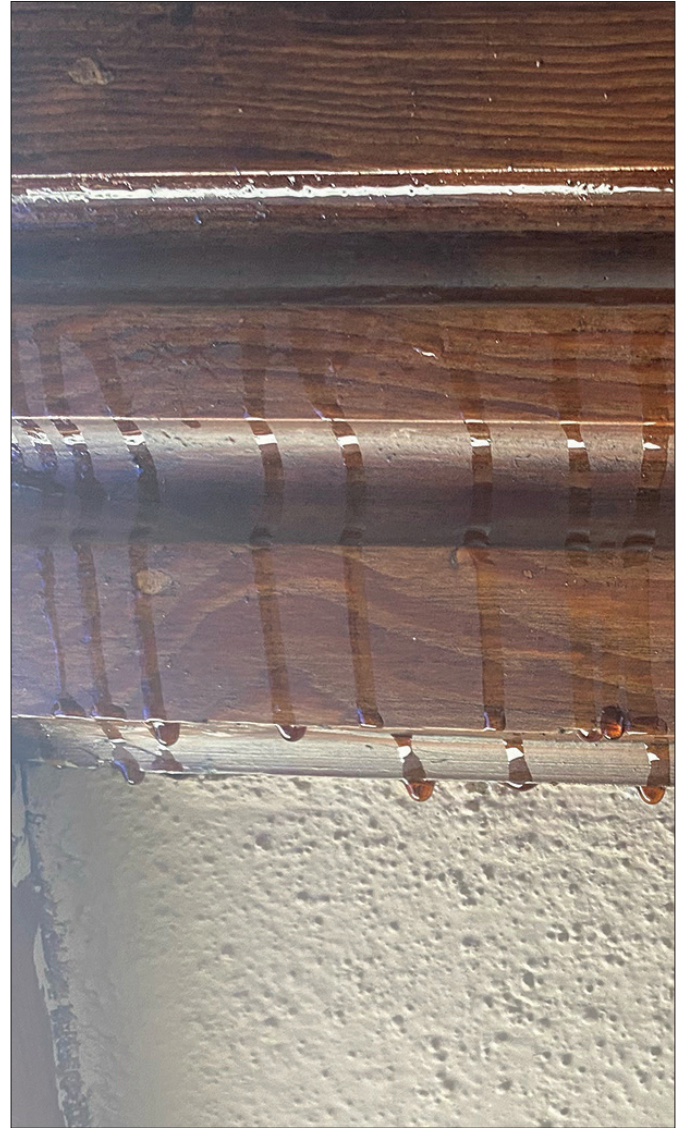
outside."

Butler often gives courthouse tours and relates the history of the building to visitors. Most of those taking the tour are interested in seeing the bullet holes in the District Courtroom where, in 1909, Verna Ware opened fire and killed a man who was on trial for her rape. That story has always drawn visitors to the building. Today, Butler reports that visitors are now drawn to the balcony area to see the honey.

"Recently, people have been referring to this as the 'Bleeding Courthouse' - it bleeds honey. I've had two tour groups at least who have said they heard

that the building is bleeding honey and wanted to see it. It's definitely been something that has caused more of an attraction to the building - just how many buildings today do you see that have honey seeping down the walls and into the courtroom?"

"The bees are gone, but the honey is still there. Unfortunately, this is something we're just going to have to deal with every year now and probably forever as the hive is renewed by new queens."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pictured left: Courthouse steward, Tiffany Butler, examines a pool of honey which is seeping down into the balcony area of the 52nd courtroom from a massive beehive located in the courthouse attic.

Pictured above: Honey continues to drip and seep down the walls in the courthouse balcony and must be removed every few weeks.

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THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Fathers were celebrated in full spring last week

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

RehabLiving at the Meadows recognized Father's Day by hosting a 50's themed Dad's Diner party, which included live music by the Troubadours. The

afternoon consisted of a car show where Mr. Fueston won the Residents Choice Award for Best in Show with his cherry red 1953 Chevy Bel Air. The party also consisted of root beer

floats, snacks, and a photo booth. Hillside Medical Lodge celebrated Father's Day by throwing a party with the theme "Take me out to the ballgame." The residents

enjoyed music, nachos, popcorn, cokes, Baby Ruth's, Cracker Jacks, and more. Activities Director Kami Williams brought her grandfather's vintage baseball glove, and Ad-

missions Director Carrie Jones brought her father's wooden baseball bat for a photo shoot. The Gatesville Senior Center also honored the fathers within their facility

for Father's Day this past week with live music played by Ray Veach and Mike Pruett and family. The congregation enjoyed a fish fry and their monthly birthday celebrations.

ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER AND COURTESY PHOTOS



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Martin rocks at GISD's Back to School Bash

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

In 2019, the United Methodist Church originated a project which would later become known as the Back to School Bash where they distributed small backpacks to Gatesville ISD students. This small event would be repeated and rapidly grew to become an annual event that adds more and more services with each year that follows.

In the beginning, GISD employee, Michelle Martin, was a mere volunteer but would later become the enthusiastic coordinator of the annual event. GISD Superintendent, Dr. Barrett Pollard, said "Michelle Martin started coordinating the annual Back to School Bash in 2020. At these events, students get free school supplies, backpacks, shoes, hygiene items, haircuts, health screenings, and hearing and vision tests. Last year, 420 students attended the event. I know the families are really appreciative of these services, and Michelle is a saint for coordinating these activities."

Martin reported, "We now give away over 400 backpacks, 300 pairs of new shoes, and there will be a free medical clinic, and over 50 different booths ranging from State Health and Human Services, WIC, health departments, local service organizations such as the Lions Club, Salvation Army, Gideons, and the Exchange Club, which provide information for families."

When asked how far in advance she starts planning for the annual event, Martin

replied, "The Bash is really a year-round event. I start raising money in September for the next year's event. The cost of the event is roughly \$30,000. Breaking it down, \$10,000 for the shoes, \$12,000 for school supplies, \$6,000 for backpacks, and \$2,000 - \$4,000 for socks - sometimes we get a special request for an item needed for a student."

Martin pointed out that all money is raised by grants or given by individuals, and that the school district covers the cost of the facility, office supplies, and storage for items.

When asked what will be new this year on July 27 at the Back to School Bash, Martin replied, "This year we will have a free Mobile Medical Clinic. Feed My Sheep from Temple will be here to offer both sick and well visits. They will also offer free athletic physicals for any student athletes."

Martin, who began working for Gatesville ISD in 2006, currently holds the title of School-Community Events Coordinator and Truancy Specialist.

When asked what the most rewarding part of her job is, Martin said, "Each part of my job brings me joy in different ways. With the Truancy portion, I enjoy meeting the entire family and learning the joys and struggles of each family and how we at GISD can work with them to help the entire family. On the Outreach side of my job, listening to families, finding out what is important to them, how we at school can partner

with parents."

An enjoyable portion of Martin's job is preparing for the Back to School Bash and trying to coordinate the event. "The main thing that I have learned about the Bash is how generous and kind our community is. If there is a need, all we have to do is ask, and somehow it is covered. I know that it has been said many times, but Gatesville is one large family, and we take care of our children."

This year, the Back to School Bash will be held on Saturday, July 27, at Gatesville Elementary School from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Martin wants to remind the public that you must pre-register for shoes by using the QR Code or by visiting the website. Students at the event must be accompanied by an adult.

Martin reflects on her opinion of Gatesville ISD by saying, "I would just like the readers to know that all of our staff and teachers love and care about the children of Gatesville. We consider them to be 'our kids.' We cry over them, we pray over them, we cheer them on, and we worry about them. Every teacher pours themselves into their classroom and kids, we spend lots of our own money on making a welcoming, homey place for the children to come. We love them for the year, watch them grow, then send them further down the road to adulthood. That's our job, our calling, and contribution."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Michelle Martin holds up a Back To School Bash flyer.

Former Coach Price visits Gatesville for JH dedication

Staff Reports

Former coach and educator John C. Price was honored with a dedication to the Gatesville Junior High old gymnasium on Friday, June 14.

From 1981 to 2002, Price firmly cemented himself in the history of Gatesville Independent School District by molding a generation of

young men and women. He taught sixth, seventh, and eighth grade history while also coaching football, basketball, and track.

As a health enthusiast, Price would regularly be seen jogging, even in his office, or giving advice on healthy foods to eat. He became a pillar of the junior high campus.

Price traveled to the campus from Arizona to attend the dedication and took time to reminisce with former students and staff members, as well as give a speech.

At the dedication, Calvin Ford, Brant Farley, Ben Wilson, and Winston Hall each shared stories of their time with Price at Gatesville ISD.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DONNA HALL

Former Gatesville ISD educator and coach John Price poses in front of a plaque after a dedication ceremony where the old junior high gymnasium was named after him.

McDonald, Mathews recognized as GISD "Hornet Legends"

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Two longtime Gatesville educators, Larry McDonald and Linda Mathews were honored as Hornet Legends by the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees for their dedication and service to local students. The awards were announced during the June 17 meeting of the GISD school board.

GISD Superintendent, Dr. Barret Pollard, had the following to say about the two Hornet Legends:

Larry McDonald grew up in Waco and survived the devastating 1953 F5 torna-

do, which killed 114 people. Larry graduated from Waco High School and married his high school sweetheart, Lou. From June 4, 1970 to May 5, 1972, he served his country in the military. From 1972 to 2000, Coach McDonald would put in 28 consecutive years of work for GISD. He and Lou had two children, Lisa and Jason, who would become proud Gatesville graduates. Early in his career at GISD, Larry taught Industrial Cooperative Training, a trades course at the high school. In 1987, he made the transition to

physical education in the elementary grades. In one of his many evaluations, Don Edwards noted that Larry is "always positive and gave a great deal of praise to his students. He has a very good rapport with his students." Bill Bradley stated, "Students enjoyed the class and the teacher. They worked hard to please you. Class was well-done, well-prepared, and well-presented." Larry also found time to be a justice of the peace and led many local weddings. For all of these

PLEASE SEE LEGENDS | B2

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LEGENDS

FROM PAGE B1

reasons, Coach McDonald is a Hornet Legend. The daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Oley Beard, Jr., Linda Beard Mathews completed her entire public-school education here in Gatesville and was a 1966 graduate of

GHS. During her high school days, she was a member of the band and drill team. She married another GISD grad, Rusty Mathews, and the couple had Kristi and Charlotte (both also graduated from GHS). After completing her

degree from UMHB, Linda began her 34-year teaching career in GISD. From 1979 to 1994, Mrs. Mathews was a 1st grade teacher. From 1994 to 1999, she taught 2nd grade. Finally, from 1999 to 2013, she was a

Title I reading intervention teacher. In a past evaluation, Don Edwards wrote, "She cares about her students and treats them with courtesy. Mrs. Mathews knows her subject area. She is very professional and maintains

open communication with students, peers, parents, and administration." Marsha Worthington once wrote, "She goes above and beyond in planning and working towards instruction. I appreciate all of your hard work and

dedication to your students." For all these reasons, Linda Mathews is a Hornet Legend.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
 Pictured left is Gatesville ISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard presenting Larry McDonald with a certificate of recognition in honor of being named a Hornet Legend. Pictured next to McDonald is his wife, Lou McDonald, daughter Lisa Truss and her husband, David Truss. Pictured above is Dr. Barrett Pollard presenting former GISD educator Linda Mathews with a certificate of recognition in honor of her being named a Hornet Legend. Mathews graduated from Gatesville High School in 1966.

SPORTS

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Jonesboro ★ Oglesby



Campers pictured at the annual Hornet Basketball Camp.

COURTESY PHOTO

Basketball camp held for future Hornets

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District recently hosted its annual basketball camp from Monday, June 10 to Wednesday, June 12 for aspiring Hornet athletes.

Students from first through ninth grade attended the camp where they learned new drills and techniques as well as obtaining more knowledge in basketball.

Campers from each grade got a chance to win an award at the basketball camp.

AWARDS INCLUDE

First and Second Grade Winners: Austin Carren, MVP; Charlie Campbell, Do Right; Max Smith, Hustle; Ledger Mooney, Best Dribbler; Grant Sullins, Best Shooter; Lucas Vasquez, Basketball Sharks and Minnows; and Charlie Campbell and Cole Howard, Buzzer Beater.
Third and Fourth Grade Winners: Jaxon Knox and Kolter Wright, MVP; Braxton Young

and Dean Stanley, Do Right; Judson Thornton and Dylan Collins, Hustle; Jaxon Knox, Layup; Jagger Newman, Free Throw; Dylan Collins, Hot Shot; Kolter Wright, Buzzer Beater; and Dylan Collins, Dribble Knockout and Knockout.

Fifth and Sixth Grade Winners: Dayvion Nealey and Eli Inman, MVP; Max Powell and Blake Winkler, Do Right; Elliot Campbell and Owen Collins, Hustle; Eli Inman, Layup, Hot Shot, and Dribble Knockout; and Owens Collins, Buzzer Beater and Knockout.

Seventh and Ninth Grade Winners: Grady Keeton and Jaxon Franks, MVP; Andrew Winkler and Preston Barron, Do Right; Braxton Brown, Brensyn Pope, and Cayden Buster, Hustle; Grady Keeton, Layup; Jaxon Franks and Brayden Warren, Free Throw; Grady Keeton and Kian D'Ingianni, Hot Shot; Grady Keeton, Buzzer Beater; and Preston Barron, Knockout.

Upcoming summer camps

Staff Reports

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

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

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

A concession stand will be available during prac-

tices.

2024 SUMMER CAMPS

Volleyball: Monday, July 8, to Wednesday, July 10, will be from 8:30 -11:30 a.m., and will be for first through ninth grade student-athletes. The cost will be \$40 per person.

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

Football: Monday, July 29, to Wednesday, July 31, will be from 7:30-10:30 a.m., and will be for sev-

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

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

HORNET SWARM SPEED STRENGTH AND CONDITION SESSIONS

SWARM camp for seventh and eighth grade athletes began on Wednesday, June 3, and will continue through Thursday, July 25. The sessions will

be from 8:15-9:15 a.m., and the cost is free for all athletes.

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

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

JHS softball earns selection to 2024 Super Centex team

Staff Reports

This past week, the Lady Eagles softball team of Jonesboro High School received confirmation that six athletes, including coach Amanda Lecroy, were selected to the 2024 Super Centex Softball Team.

The 2024 Super Centex

Softball Team includes Coach of the Year Amanda LeCroy, Emily Turner, first team; Ally Thorman, second team; Julie Henderson, second team; Adalyna Andrade, honorable mention; Lynlee Deats, honorable mention; and Campbell Gustin, honorable mention.

See Gatesville Youth Tackle Football registration information on page B4

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton State men claim national crown at CNFR, women reserve champions

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — The Tarleton State University men's team claimed the program's 38th and 39th national championships at the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR) in Casper, Wyoming, jumping up from third place at the start of Saturday's last go-round.

The men, paced by individual saddle bronc riding champion Gus Gaillard, amassed 895 points to top runner-up and National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Southwest Region rival Clarendon College.

"Anytime a group of guys work as hard as these guys did, it's great to see them rewarded," said Tarleton State rodeo head coach Mark Eakin.

"We felt pretty good going into the finals. Things had to fall just right, but we were in a good position. We had eight of our 10 team members, men and women, who were in a position to challenge for a national title."

Gaillard scored an impressive 83.5 to tie for first in the championship finals and win the average with a four-head total of 319, featuring 78.5 scores in all three preliminary rounds.

"I felt like I rode pretty consistently all week," he said. "I went at each ride the same way but I got a little better horse in the finals and I was able to take advantage



Pictured is the Tarleton State University Mens' and Women's rodeo team at the CNFR.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

of that."

Gaillard edged Tarleton State teammate Ira Dickinson, who tied for first in the finals with his own 83.5, earning reserve champion status with a composite 317.5.

Bareback rider Roedy Farrell took top honors in the championship finals

with his 81.5 and wound up fourth in Casper with a 313 total. Landris White cemented a fifth-place CNFR finish in the finals with his personal CNFR best 4.5 in steer wrestling.

The team of Gaillard, Dickinson, Farrell, White, saddle bronc rider Bailey Small and bull rider Mason

Spain combined to claim Tarleton State's second national crown in the last three years.

Gaillard was not surprised at the final team results. "Not surprised at all," he said. "That's what we all came for. Obviously, we all wanted to win individual titles, but the team title came

first for all of us. Anything we did individually benefited the team, so we all went out there and did all we could. Didn't leave anything on the table."

Tarleton State's women, barrel racers Jordan Driver and Hadley Tidwell, along with goat tyers Rayme Jones and Tori Brower, trailed

only the University of West Alabama on the final leaderboard.

Driver's 14.15 Saturday put her in third position in the average with a combined 56.53, including a 13.84 to win the third go. Tidwell's 57.33 total included a 14.26 Saturday and was good for seventh on the night and ninth overall.

Jones' 10th-place 8.5 in the goat tying finals gave her a fourth-place 27.2 in the average and featured a 6.1 first-place time in the second go-round. "Our ladies had an outstanding showing at the CNFR," said Tarleton State women's coach Brittany Stewart. "Goat tying and barrel racing are arguably two of the most competitive events. To see them support each other the way this team does makes college rodeo an amazing thing to be a part of."

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



TSU men's rodeo team brings home the National Championship.



Saddle Bronc Rider Collegiate National Champion buckle.



Jackie Jensen participating in the ride-up goat tying event at the CNFR.

Lil' Elks Early Learning Center honored with Torch Award

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Since its establishment in 2018, the Lil' Elks Early Learning Center has been a major source for childcare services in Evant and in surrounding communities. Recently, the learning center was recognized for its efforts and contributions in the childcare field by being honored with a Torch Award.

The Torch Award is given by Workforce Solutions of Central Texas to honor excellence in multiple categories, showcasing the contributions of individuals and businesses in Central Texas. To be awarded with such an honor, one would have to show academic excellence and progress

toward self-sufficiency, as well as modeling a professional work ethic, and that is what Lil' Elks Early Learning Center Director Sandra Doyle did.

Doyle was the recipient of the award and is entering her seventh year as the director this upcoming school year.

"My mentor Rachael Meeks-Ennis of the Texas Rising Star Program informed me that Lil' Elks Early Learning Center had been nominated, and a few weeks later we were chosen," Doyle said. "I am forever thankful for Rachael Meek-Ennis and another mentor Paula Barnes for believing in us and all the support they have given Lil'

Elks Early Learning Center."

Lil' Elks Early Learning Center received the Torch Award in late October 2023. The award ceremony was held at the Killeen Civic and Conference Center at the Torch Awards.

"I felt very honored when Lil' Elks was nominated; when I was told we would be receiving the Torch Award, I got teary eyed," Doyle said. "I feel like all the amazing work we have done to improve our Center is being recognized and appreciated."

Doyle shows her unwavering dedication to Lil' Elks Early Learning Center and is also proud to announce that the childcare center earned a four-star level rat-

ing in the Texas Rising Star Program in August 2023. This is the highest level a center can obtain.

"A small school with a childcare center is amazing and a blessing to our community," she said.

Doyle has been in the education field for as long as she can remember. She first began as a teacher's aide 10 years ago at Evant Independent School District and has now worked her way up to being the childcare director.

"I graduated from Evant in 1980, and it's a great feeling to be able to work at the school that did so much for me," she said.

Doyle expressed that the best part about her job is

being able to watch the children develop new skills and seeing the cutest smiles when they accomplish what they set out to do.

"When one of my former kiddos says to me, do you remember when we did a certain game or activity at your house or school, that makes my day," she said.

Doyle starts each day by welcoming the children in the morning and helping them to prepare for the day. She takes on many responsibilities such as ensuring child records are up to date, scheduling staff training, as well as helping in both the infant-toddler room and in the three-to-four-year-old room.

"There is always some-

thing to be done and I love every minute of it," she said. "I have an amazing group of ladies consisting of Neli, Jaymie, Elois, and Phyllis, that keep the children engaged in various activities throughout the day."

"I have always loved children and helping them grow and learn; my job is a fun one and most days it doesn't feel like a job, and it's something special that makes me happy," she said.

"I feel like I made an impact in their lives, and it makes it all worth it," she said. "The hugs and 'Hi Mrs. Sandra,' melts my heart."



COURTESY PHOTO

Lil' Elks Early Learning Center's Sandra Doyle is pictured after receiving a Torch Award from Workforce Solutions of Central Texas.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sandra Doyle is pictured (far right) with staff members (left to right) Jaymie Breckenridge, Neli Torres, and Elois Campbell.

Registration day for youth tackle football and cheer is June 22

Staff Reports

Gatesville Youth Sports (GYS) will hold a registration day on Saturday, June 22, at 6:30 p.m., in McKamie Stadium for all kids ages 12-and-under interested in playing on the summer league. Kids

ages 6-and-under can register for flag football, and cheerleading is available for ages four through 12.

Items needed at registration will include a head shot, a report card, or proof of grade, and a birth certificate.

The cost for tackle football is \$150 per player, and includes a helmet, shoulder pads, and a game uniform. The cost for cheerleading is \$180 and includes a uniform. The fee to play flag football is \$80 per player.

All kids need to be registered by the end of the day on Saturday, June 22, to allow time to order uniforms. Practices are to begin in July.

If you prefer to register online, visit www.gatesville-tacklefb.org.

The age groups for youth tackle football will include 8U, 10U, and 12U.

Since GYS started their own league for youth tackle football last year, nine other teams have joined, for a total of ten teams, which include

McGregor, Salado, Rosebud-Lott, Academy, Moody, Jarrell, Chilton, Troy, and Hewitt. Games will be played away and at home.

For additional information, contact Kent Ford at 254-338-4534.

GHS cheer to hold bake sale for Buzz costume June 22

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The Gatesville High School cheer program will hold a bake sale on Saturday, June 22, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Salty Senorita in hopes to raise funds for

their newest addition to the cheer team, the BUZZ uniform.

The new BUZZ uniform will be a custom, one-of-a-kind costume to match the logo of the school.

The cheer program's fundraising goal is \$15,000, and they have made it to the point where they only need \$3,000 left to purchase the new mascot costume.

The costume is purchased through tiered sponsorship, which includes different options for those wanting to donate to the program.

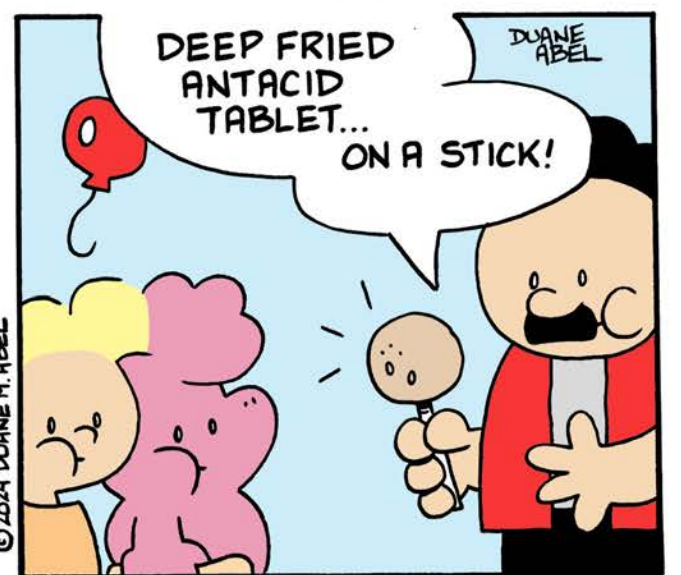
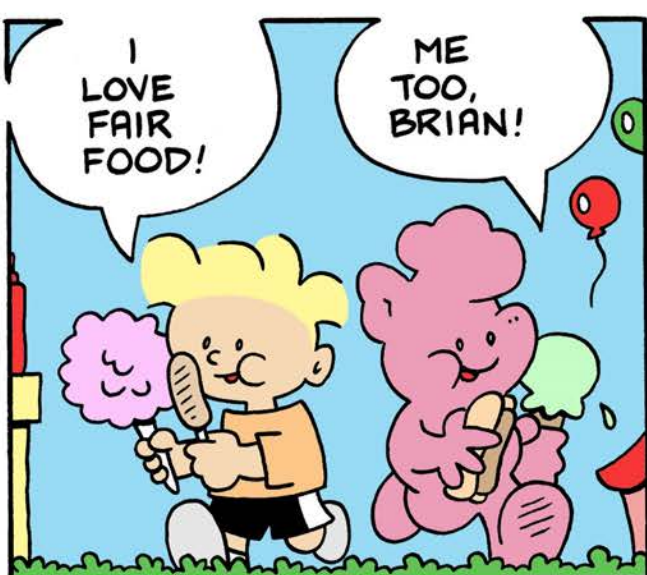
The tiered sponsorship options are:

Platinum Sponsor, \$2,500
Gold Sponsor, \$1,000
Silver Sponsor, \$500
Bronze Sponsor, \$250
The deadline to sponsor will be on Sunday, June 30. All sponsorship donations

are tax-deductible and are payable to Gatesville ISD for "Buzz the Hornet Sponsorship."

For further details, contact Amber Colson at acolson@gatesvilleisd.org.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



Youth golf camp slated for July 22-24

Staff Reports

A youth golf camp will be held in July for all incoming first through ninth graders. The camp will be held at the Gatesville Golf Course from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. from Monday, July 22 to Wednesday, July 24.

The camp will be hosted by Gatesville Golf Course Pro Ray Feight and Gatesville High School Alumni and Collegiate Golfer Kaylan Summers.

During the first day of camp on Monday, there will be an introduction to the game, covering club types, grip techniques, and swing fundamentals. On Tuesday, the group will work on refining skills and preparing kids for a drive, chip, and putt contest. It will conclude with oncourse practicing. On Wednesday, there will be a competitive drive,

chip, and putt contest for each age division, and will be open for parents to attend.

There will be an award ceremony to conclude the camp on Wednesday, July 24 at 11 a.m. and will be located under the pavilion at the golf course.

A limited number of golf clubs will be provided for those who need them. There will also be drinks and snacks available for purchase.

Be sure to bring sunscreen, a hat, a cooling towel, a water jug, and bug spray.

The registration fee will be \$40-per-child. The camp will only be taking the first 50 paid kids.

To register, contact Kaylan Summers at 254-654-1611.

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

GISD summer meal program continues

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 began 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. Breakfast 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



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville ISD continues to serve nutritious meals during the summer.

Department of Agriculture, Commissioner Sid Miller. To find a meal location near you, text "FOOD" to 304-304, or visit SummerFood.org.

Righteous Roots to host softball tournament

Staff Reports

Righteous Roots has recently announced that they will host a softball tournament on Saturday, Aug. 10, for the community. This will be the first of a few upcoming fundraisers that Righteous Roots will be hosting.

The tournament is designed for individuals 18 years or older. There will be a five-dollar gate fee to enter the ballpark, and it will cost \$20 per umpire and \$200 per team.

The tournament will fea-

ture a homerun derby for \$20, closest to the pin for \$20, and a homerun band for \$20. It will be five dollars per home run and for each out taken.

Vendor booths will be available as well for \$40 per booth. To sign up to be a vendor, contact 254-223-0608.

Registration is available now and will end on Thursday, Aug. 1. To register, contact Payton George at 254-223-0207.

For further details, contact Righteous Roots at 254-651-3600.

Hanson, Walls named to ACU Dean's Honor Roll

Staff Reports

Leah Hanson, a senior Art major, and Jack Walls, a senior Biochemistry major, both from Gatesville, were recently named to Abilene Christian University's Spring 2024 Dean's Honor Roll. To earn Dean's

Honor Roll recognition, students must achieve a 3.6 or higher GPA while enrolled in at least 12 credit hours.

Abilene Christian University serves a diverse student population of about 6,000 with world-class teaching in a Christ-cen-

tered community. Founded in 1906, this national research university offers online and residential undergraduate and graduate programs. Students choose from 87 baccalaureate majors that include more than 171 areas of study, as well as 71 areas of study in

master's degree and specialist programs and four doctoral programs. ACU's mission is to educate students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world.

JISD to hold Pre-K and Kindergarten roundup

Staff Reports

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

classes.

The deadline for students who reside in the district was Saturday, June 1.

For students who reside out of the district, the

deadline to sign up began on Saturday, June 1, and will continue through Tuesday, June 25. It will be based on availability.

For further information, contact Jonesboro ISD at

254-463-2111, or by visiting www.jonesboroisd.net. Jonesboro ISD is located at 14909 E. State Highway 36 in Jonesboro.



Rainforest

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

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

Word Bank

- 1. macaws
- 2. amazon
- 3. wildlife
- 4. rainforest
- 5. ecosystem
- 6. habitat
- 7. indigenous
- 8. biodiversity
- 9. tropical
- 10. rainforests

World Rainforest Day, celebrated on June 22nd, is a fantastic opportunity for kids to embark on a virtual journey to the lush and vibrant world of rainforests. It's a day to explore the wonders of these incredible ecosystems, discover their diverse inhabitants, and understand the vital role they play in sustaining life on Earth.

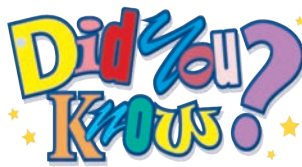
For children, World Rainforest Day can be a day of learning and appreciation. Parents and educators can engage kids with fun and educational activities, from reading rainforest-themed books to creating art projects that showcase the beauty of these unique environments.

Kids can also learn about the importance of rainforests in maintaining biodiversity, regulating the Earth's climate, and providing habitat for countless plant and animal species. Understanding the value of rainforests inspires a sense of responsibility for their conservation.

Virtual tours, documentaries, and interactive websites can transport kids into the heart of the rainforest, allowing them to witness its wonders from the comfort of their homes. Families can discuss the importance of sustainable practices and how everyone

can contribute to protecting these vital ecosystems.

World Rainforest Day is not just a celebration; it's a call to action. Kids can engage in small but impactful actions like reducing paper usage, supporting sustainable products, and spreading awareness about rainforest conservation. Through education and advocacy, children can become guardians of these precious ecosystems, ensuring they thrive for generations to come.



The amazon rain forest Spanning nine South American countries and 2.5 million square miles



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



COURTESY PHOTO

The 'Live It Up at the Library' class with the Gatesville Public Library is pictured at the Care Center after packing 24 boxes of food.

Local Care Center collaborates with library students

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Public Library's 'Live It Up at the Library' class recently made

a visit to the Care Center this past week to help with packing food boxes. The group of eight students that consisted

of 11-to-17-year-olds was able to pack over 24 boxes within the time they were at the Care Center. Future events for local

youth in the month of June include a rolling video game truck event on Tuesday, June 25, for the T-N-T group. The T-N-T group is

for ages 11 to 13. There will also be a teen night held for all children on Thursday, June 27, at 6 p.m., at the Gatesville Public Library.

The Gatesville Public Library is located at 111 North 8th Street.



Business Directory

 <p>Billy Latham Sales</p> <p>Office (254) 865-2190 Cell: (254) 216-1516 billy@wbsupplies.com</p> <p>1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass Gatesville, Texas 76528</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>R & M Fencing & Dozing</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">FREE ESTIMATES</p> <p>Fence Row Clearing Barbed Wire Custom Pipe Fencing Entryways & Corrals Barns & Metal Buildings Residential Fencing Game Fencing Dozer Work Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LARRY RIDDLE 254-248-2205</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JOYCE MCADAMS 254-248-4318</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">GOSSETT TRANSMISSION SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">P.O. Box 291 • 1900 Main St. Gatesville, TX 76528</p> <p>JIM GOSSETT RAY GOSSETT</p> <p style="text-align: right;">254-865-5791</p>
 <p>DOZER WORK LAND CLEARING ADD-ONS</p> <p>REMODELING METAL BUILDINGS WOOD FRAMING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TC BROOKSHIRE, OWNER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(254) 223-1817 (254) 216-9572</p>	 <p>Tyler Powell 254-223-3551</p> <p>Zach Hodges 254-383-6267</p> <p>120 Reno Rd. Gatesville, TX 76528</p> <p>midtexplumbing@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Brandon Latham Owner / President</p> <p>1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass Gatesville, Texas 76528</p> <p>mobile: 254-223-1723 Office: 254-865-2190</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">GRIBS CONSTRUCTION State Certified Installer of Septic Systems</p> <p>BACKHOE & DIRT WORK GRAVEL • ASPHALT ROADS • DRIVES</p> <p>Owner--Gary Gribble</p>  <p>2000 VIOLET LANE GATESVILLE, TX 76528</p> <p style="text-align: right;">254-248-4171</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FERGUSON ROOFING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Serving Central Texas</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Locally Owned Company COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Free Estimates.....254-466-5128</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">O & J SUPERIOR PLUMBING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CAMERA LOCATOR RPZ Backflow</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jeff Tesar Office: (254) 404-2242</p>
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SHSU release Honor Roll, Dean's List

Staff Reports

During the Spring 2024 semester, Madison Allen, Ciera Billingsley, and Kylie Cox were recently placed on the President's Honor Roll at Sam Houston State Uni-

versity in Huntsville. These students are undergraduates who have achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average in all work attempted while enrolled in not less than 12 semester hours.

The students placed on the Spring 2024 Dean's List at SHSU included Madison Schultz, Kaleigh Haywood, Kylie Cox, Ciera Billingsley, Charlee Barron, and Madison Allen. They are

undergraduates who have achieved a great point average of at least 3.5 out of a perfect 4.0 in all work attempted while enrolled in not less than 12 semester hours.

Named for Texas' greatest hero, Sam Houston State University honors its historical roots through academic excellence. For more than 140 years, SHSU has prepared students for

meaningful lives of achievement. Its motto, "The measure of a Life is its Service," resonates among its more than 21,000 students, eight colleges, and well beyond its Huntsville roots.

CORYELL MUSEUM

The history of telephones in Gatesville, part 2



BY JANN DWORSKY
Coryell Museum volunteer

My husband and I were talking about early telephones in Gatesville, and he remembered that the old telephone office used to be in the Bill Herridge Insurance building at 1004 Main Street, in Gatesville. I emailed Bill, and he confirmed that it had been the telephone office for many years, and he had a wealth of information about telephone service in Gatesville. I asked him if I could reprint this information.

Bill Herridge writes in an email from 1/22/13:

My office was indeed the location of the Gulf States Telephone Company when it was built in 1939. The previous location was the upstairs area above the Burt Building which the museum now owns. My mother-in-law, Inez Drake, was an operator when this building was built. When the phone company built the new of-

fice on Bridge St., they sold this building to Dr. Floyd, my wife's uncle. When the doctors combined their resources and built a new clinic by the new hospital in the mid 1970's, I bought the building from Dr. Floyd (Dr. William F. Floyd). So, my wife's family has been associated with this building since 1939.

War was raging in Europe in 1939. Since this building was to contain all the switching equipment for the Gatesville telephone grid, it was built to withstand a bombing attack. The walls are 18 inches thick, and the ceiling is 22 inches thick, all poured-in-place concrete. When we get a tornado warning, this is where my family and I shelter. The fancy old red Spanish tile roof could be blown completely off, and the building would still be intact.

There are three little narrow windows just to the left of the front door. At one time, there were three phone booths in the lobby, with little windows illuminating each phone booth. One of the original phone booths was incorporated into Dr. Floyd's current home. He let his four daughters use that as their personal phone. Many old-timers have told me over the years that early in the war, Sunday afternoons would find soldiers lined up all the way around

the block, waiting to get to those phone booths to call home. Those were the only three phone booths in Gatesville at that time. Because of that, the front door of this building was

never locked.

Since Gatesville has always had a volunteer fire department, the firemen were notified of an emergency by a large siren that was mounted on the roof

of this building. That siren was activated by a large switch, which I still have. It was mounted on the wall behind the operators. If someone called in to report a fire, the operator taking the call would leave her seat and walk over and hit that button. When the siren started to sound, volunteer firemen would call the phone office and ask the location of the fire (this was long before two-way radios were available for the firemen.) By that time, the operator taking the original call would have written the location of the fire on slips of paper and handed them to each of her co-workers. Pretty simple but it apparently worked.

When I worked for the Gatesville Messenger as a reporter back in 1975-1977, I wrote a feature story about the old "number please" phone system in Gatesville. I found a few former operators, including my mother-in-law, and I got some pretty interesting stories from them about strange calls for information they had received over the years. One I remember was from someone who called the phone office at 3 in the morning and asked the operator if she knew "What is the name of them people that live next door to them people what has the white Leghorn chickens?"

Gayle Crawford, a mu-

seum volunteer, recalls that she was a telephone operator in Emporia, Kansas in the 1950's. The kids would call her and ask, "Do you have Prince Albert in a can?" and then they would instruct her, "Well, let him out".

A local doctor's daughter remembers she would be talking on the telephone to her boyfriend, and the operator would break in and tell her to get off the line because her father had an important call.

A long time Gatesville switchboard operator recalled that customers would call and ask for football scores, a weather report, or what time the bus left for Waco.

Coryell Museum and Historical Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, as is our gift shop. Yearly Coryell Museum memberships are \$20 for singles, \$30 for families, and \$40 for businesses, and include free admission to the museum plus 4 newsletters. Of course, large and small donations are welcome at all times.

Coryell Museum offers area schools and tour groups a delightful, guided tour through the museum with docents at many exhibits. Call the museum at 254-865-5007 to plan a visit.



Fire safety tips for summertime in Texas

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Since summertime is upon us, extreme temperatures and heat are soon to come as well. With temperatures already beginning to rise, people will often gather outdoors, whether that be for vacations, boating, camping, or holidays.

Summer is a time when the risk of wildfires and house fires increase due to dry conditions and growth of outdoor activities.

According to the Texas A&M Forest Service, "Un-

fortunately, sometimes outdoor activities can spark a wildfire, and about 90 percent of wildfires in Texas are human caused, which means 90 percent of our wildfires could be prevented with some simple actions."

There are many ways to enjoy summer in Texas, but it is important to do so with the proper precautions.

The Texas A&M Forest Service has provided tips regarding summer safety in Texas.

Debris Burning: Check local burning restrictions and burn bans before lighting any outdoor burn piles; keep debris piles small and manageable; keep a water source, such as a hose or bucket nearby; clear vegetation and flammable material at least 10 feet away from your pile; avoid burning under overhead obstructions like trees, power lines, and structures; never leave your fire unattended; always fully extinguish your fire before leaving; and

choose alternatives to burning when feasible.

Campfire Safety: Check for any burn bans, local ordinances or campground restrictions before building your fire; always obey local burn bans and outdoor burning restrictions; keep your embers contained by using a fire ring or fire pit; check for overhanging branches, power lines, or other hazards that could catch fire; keep your campfire to a manageable size; keep a water source, such

as a hose or bucket, nearby; be mindful of kids and pets around campfires; and never leave your cooking or campfire unattended.

Grilling Safety: Never leave your grill unattended; ensure your grill is kept clean of excess grease to prevent flare-ups; place your grill in an open space away from tall or dry grass, shrubs, woodpiles, or other flammable materials; after you are finished grilling, allow time for the coals in your grill to completely

cool; never travel with a lit or smoldering grill in the back of a truck or trailer; residents should monitor weather conditions and avoid grilling with wood or charcoal on hot, dry, windy days.

By following the proper fire prevention procedures, you can help reduce the risk of fires and ensure a safer summer season for you and your family.

May 28 - July 26 **NO COST SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS**

- Gatesville Elementary:** Monday through Friday
Breakfast 8:00 to 8:30
Lunch 10:30 to 12:30
Sit down meals in the cafeteria
Adults – Breakfast \$3.10 & Lunch \$4.75
2537 E. Main St.
- Trinity Day Care Center:** Tuesday through Thursday
Breakfast 8:00 to 8:30
Lunch 11:00 to 11:30
1506 W. Main Street
- Gatesville City Pool:** Tuesday through Thursday
Lunch 12:30 to 1:00
300 S. 8th Street
- Gatesville High School:** Monday through Thursday
Breakfast 8:00 to 8:30
Lunch 10:30 to 12:15
Adults – Breakfast \$3.10 & Lunch \$4.75
High School Football Field Concession Stand

No cost for kids 18 and younger and enrolled students up to 21 with disabilities.
To find a meal location near you:
Text "FOOD" to 304-304 or visit SummerFood.org
The Summer Meal Programs are brought to you by the Texas Department of Agriculture, Commissioner Sid Miller. This product was funded by USDA. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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