



# THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | July 20, 2024

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DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Workers for A\*R\*C\*Hitexture re-applying another coat of a rubber-based sealant to the horizontal and vertical seals of the northwest dome on the courthouse.

## Courthouse facelift continues

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

In March of this year, workers from A\*R\*C\*Hitexture Roof Coatings finished giv-

ing the northwest dome another coat of Omni-Clad, which is a polyurethane coating which provides seamless waterproofing. Concerned that the

color of the newly restored dome would match the remaining three domes, the Omni-Clad coating was described as "terra cotta" in

color and appears to be a perfect match.

After the dome and the surrounding base were

PLEASE SEE **COURTHOUSE** | A2

## Local school districts offer free meals to students next year

BY KAYLEE DUSANG  
Staff Writer

Gatesville ISD announced via Facebook on Monday that all elementary and primary students will eat free in the cafeteria for the 2024-2025 school year.

While the school district has served free meals to the primary school students for several years, Superintendent Barrett Pollard said the school received official approval from the Texas Department of Agriculture to serve free breakfast and lunches at the elementary campus. The school is able to provide free meals under Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas.

"This is not a grant. We applied and qualified to serve this program because of the number of students that are currently eligible for free meals at the elementary campus," Pollard said. "Depending on participation, this could cost the district approximately \$60,000 for the year at the elementary campus. The greater the participation, the less out of pocket expense for the district at the end of the year."

Under CEP, elementary students will not need to complete a lunch application this year, but their parents will need to complete a socio-economic form like at the primary campus, Pollard said.

The school district emphasizes the importance of participation in the program.

"Primary has been blessed to participate in CEP for several years due to student participation," Pollard said. "We are hoping for the same result at elementary. We would love to gradually incorporate all other campuses into this program."

Since charging is not allowed at a CEP campus, Pollard said students with funds in their account can use that money to purchase a la carte items. "However, they will not be able to charge those items once funds are depleted," he said "The dinner program does not fall under CEP. It is free for all students at all campuses."

Other area school districts will also provide free meals to their students, including Evant ISD and Oglesby ISD. Both school districts operate under CEP.

Evant Cafeteria Manager Lupe Hernandez said via email this is Evant ISD's fourth year participating in the program that provides free meals for students in Pre-K through 12th grade.

Oglesby Nutrition Director Melissa Wells confirmed that the school will once again offer free breakfast and lunches for Pre-K through 12th grade next year.

PLEASE SEE **MEALS** | A2

## Esparza surprised with 104th birthday celebration

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

Manuel Esparza, age 104, and a resident at Hillside Medical Lodge, was recently surprised with a birthday celebration where he spent the afternoon visiting with family members and friends. Cake and ice cream were served to residents who attended his party.

Esparza was born on July 11, 1920, in the Ames community in north central Coryell County. At his birth, Woodrow Wilson was president of the United States, and William Hobby was the governor of Texas.

He was the eldest of six children born to Epi Manuel Esparza and Maria (Mattie) Garcia Esparza. He went to school at Ames and worked on the farm. His father passed away in 1932 when he was 12 years old. Esparza continued to work

on the farm until he was drafted into the Army Air Corp in 1942.

While he was in military training in Florida, he met his future wife, Felda Sutton. They were married in 1943. His military service included time spent in New Guinea and the Philippines. Esparza served in the American Theater and the Asiatic-Pacific Theater and received a Bronze Star, Good Conduct medal, Victory Ribbon, and Service Strip. He was honorably discharged on Nov. 11, 1945, at Fort Sam Houston.

Following his time in the military, Esparza and his wife lived for three years in Florida and Missouri before moving back to Gatesville in 1948.

He attended a GI school in Gatesville where he learned carpentry. He worked as a

carpenter for James Dixon and later worked for Burl Watts. He also drove a gas truck for Conoco and delivered gas all over the county.

Esparza lost his wife, Felda, of fifty-six years, in December of 1999. The couple had one child.

On the event of his 100th birthday, his son, Stan Esparza, described his father as being a "Jack of all trades." He said that his father had never been on medications and that he always watched what he ate. He attributes some of his father's longevity to genetics since his father's mother lived to be 96, but mostly he attributes it to the fact that his father stayed busy all the time and just didn't want to sit down.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

At his recent birthday party, Manuel Esparza, age 104, holds a photo of him made when he was about 25 years of age.



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DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER  
A worker for Dirty Ducts in Waco installs new ducting in a third-floor office space in the courthouse.

## COURTHOUSE

FROM PAGE A1

repaired, the dome was coated with four coats of a neoprene base, which is black and known as Perma-Lastic Plus, a rubber-based sealant.

While repair work was being done on the dome and after the sealant was applied, rain began to fall in Gatesville. That was the best opportunity for the roofing company and county officials to examine the attic of the courthouse to make sure the sealant was doing the trick and water wasn't leaking in the building. The repair work was deemed to be a success and was guaranteed for 25 years.

Upon examination in recent months, it was determined that there were a few problems. According to Gregory Cole, owner of A\*R\*C\*Hitexture Roof Coatings, "The finish red terra cotta (which was applied last) did not stick on the horizontal and vertical seams of the dome." According to Cole, the neoprene base, which is black in color "hadn't

had enough time to cure and it shrinks, so when that happened, it shrunk and pulled away. When we did it, we coated it too soon. They didn't let it cure enough, and when they thought they did, they didn't.

Cole said, "We're going to slow down and get the job done. We're looking at a month. It may drag on a little longer than we want." Trying to avoid a boom to reach the dome, the crew has installed make-shift scaffolding around the dome.

Work is now underway on the northwest dome once again to apply more of the neoprene to the seams and to allow for a longer time for the coating to cure. County Commissioner of Pct. 3, Ryan Basham, said "They're going to be very careful about it - the seals and seams. It's under warranty. I'm sorry that it happened, and they have to come back to fix it, but I'm glad its under warranty, and its not going to be costing us."

Another project that was recently completed at the courthouse was the replacement of the duct-

ing in the ceiling on all floors of the courthouse. The building just wasn't cooling enough even after the replacement of the air conditioning units.

"They tried to clean the ducting and come to find out, the ducting is about 50 years old. A lot of the offices weren't very cool, and when they start to take the old ducting down, I went by to look at it, and it was pretty bad. They're doing the entire building. They said that they haven't made that type of ducting since the mid to late 1970s," Basham said. He added, "They also cleaned the air conditioning coils and put in new fans in addition to the duct work."

After getting some quotes, it was decided that Dirty Ducts in Waco would be chosen to replace the ducts on four different levels of the courthouse at a cost of \$32,000. The company provides duct cleaning for homes and businesses in the greater Waco, Temple, DFW, and Austin areas. The duct work at the courthouse was completed within a week.

## MEALS

FROM PAGE A1

Oglesby ISD announced their participation in the program via a media announcement last year.

"Schools qualifying to operate CEP serve breakfast and lunch to all children at no charge and eliminate the collection of meal applications for free, reduced-price, and paid student meals," the an-

nouncement states. "This approach reduces burdens for both families and school administrators and helps ensure that students receive nutritious meals."

# Wage increases, street repairs discussed in city's budget goal

BY KAYLEE DUSANG  
Staff Writer

The Gatesville City Council reviewed budget goals for the 2025 fiscal year during its July 9 meeting.

Interim City Manager Brad Hunt and Interim Deputy City Manager Mike Halsema presented a list of eight priority items as well as an overview of major needs and projects for the upcoming year. One of the top considerations included wage increases for city employees.

Hunt said they are proposing a minimum 5% cost of living adjustment for paid positions, with the possibility of a 7% increase for supervisor levels.

"A lot of this budget has to do with adequately compensating employees and getting them closer to what the market pay rates are for their positions," Hunt said. "We really want to retain the good talent that we have and be able to attract and recruit new talent across the entire city."

Some departments already received wage adjustments this fiscal year, such as the Gatesville Police Department and various positions at City Hall.

Hunt said they reviewed and compared the average salaries in surrounding cities, such as Copperas Cove and Clifton, to determine the pay adjustments.

"We know it's not a classification and compensation study. It is more like calling around to the places that someone living here might want to drive to and go work (at) if I don't pay them enough to want to stay," Hunt said.

However, Hunt and Halsema suggested the possibility of funding a classification and compensation study for certain positions this upcoming fiscal year. The study examines the responsibilities of each position to ensure its classification aligns with its pay.

"Everyone likes the compensation side, but the classification is really the key, because that's what allows you to stand behind any compensation," Halsema said.

The presentation also led to a lengthy discussion between staff and the council about possible funding to repair deteriorated city streets. While there are several Capital Improvement Projects that will take priority within the budget - like those involving water production - several council members emphasized the importance of addressing the issue.

"There are streets that are in terrible repair. Saunders, I think, is one that comes to mind," Councilmember Barbara

Burrow said. "There's really no plan on how to navigate that if the infrastructure underneath is to be replaced, if and when that happens."

"I also drive on a street that is not anywhere close to good, but anytime I drive over it I think, where are we going to find the money in the budget to fix all of these?" Councilmember Joe Patterson said.

Hunt agrees that there needs to be a more proactive assessment and repair program in place for city streets.

"I agree that driving around town we need to be assessing on a regular basis more than just complaint and responding, but being proactive to knowing that this block is really bad, and we need to get down here and actually replace either the worst section or the whole block if we have to," Hunt said.

The Street Department, which recently changed its name to Street Maintenance, plans to shift its focus from building or rebuilding streets to prioritizing maintenance and repairs, such as addressing drainage issues. Chad Newman, who is now the Public Works Director over both Street Maintenance and Water Distribution depart-

PLEASE SEE BUDGET | A4



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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

# A unique way to spend free time



**BY SAM HOUSTON**

Sam Houston is the publisher of the Hood County News. He is also an actor, author, playwright, performer and entertainment producer/promoter. sam@hcnews.com | 817-573-7066, ext. 260

**P**eople find a lot of ways to spend their free time. There are those who like to enjoy visual experiences like going to museums or art galleries.

Others prefer to participate in sporting activities like playing golf or perhaps fishing and hunting. Still, others enjoy going to the movies, or hiking, or even "collecting."

It seems the popularity of some of the ways we expend time runs in cycles. For instance, when I was a young boy, crocheting

was something that a great many women did to pass the time of day. I can still see both my grandmothers sitting in their respective rockers crocheting. It was something which would occupy their time but at the same time serve a useful purpose like creating a blanket for a new grandchild. It has been years

since I have seen someone crochet, but I was recently informed that crochet is making quite a comeback and has become quite a fad with the younger folks.

Another new craze is a game called "Pickleball," which has burst on to the activities scene and created a huge stir of excitement. Pickleball courts are being built everywhere, and folks by the tens of thousands have become passionate participants. It offers competition, exercise, and fun, which is something folks seem to seek.

I must admit I have a rather silly and unexplainable interest in spending spare time looking at real estate. When I was a young family man, I would occasionally go to real estate "open houses" to see all the new home designs and decorating ideas. I would examine the flooring, the use of space, how

the rooms were laid out, and soak up all the different ways a house could be designed. I was hoping to expand my knowledge in preparation for building a home for myself someday, but as it turns out that dream has never come to pass. Maybe I chose to spend my time that way for the simple joy of exploring something new.

Lately, I have taken to looking at real estate in other towns and even other states. I look at lakefront property, raw land, and occasionally the condominium market. This weekend, I had some free time and I caught myself looking at lakefront homes in the Ozarks and comparing the prices with lakefront property here in Texas. I checked out a variety of distant locations and found it fascinating to see what your money can buy in California, as opposed to what you can get for your

buck in Tulsa.

As I look, I sometimes fantasize about jumping up and making a move, though in my rational mind, I do not believe that will ever happen. It is not the actual move that I seek, it is the joy in my heart and the adrenaline that flows through my veins when I imagine living in new surroundings and experiencing what it might have to offer. What will winter be like in Michigan? How humid will it be in the Ozarks? How often will I lay out on the beach if I live in Sarasota? These are only a few of the unanswered questions in life.

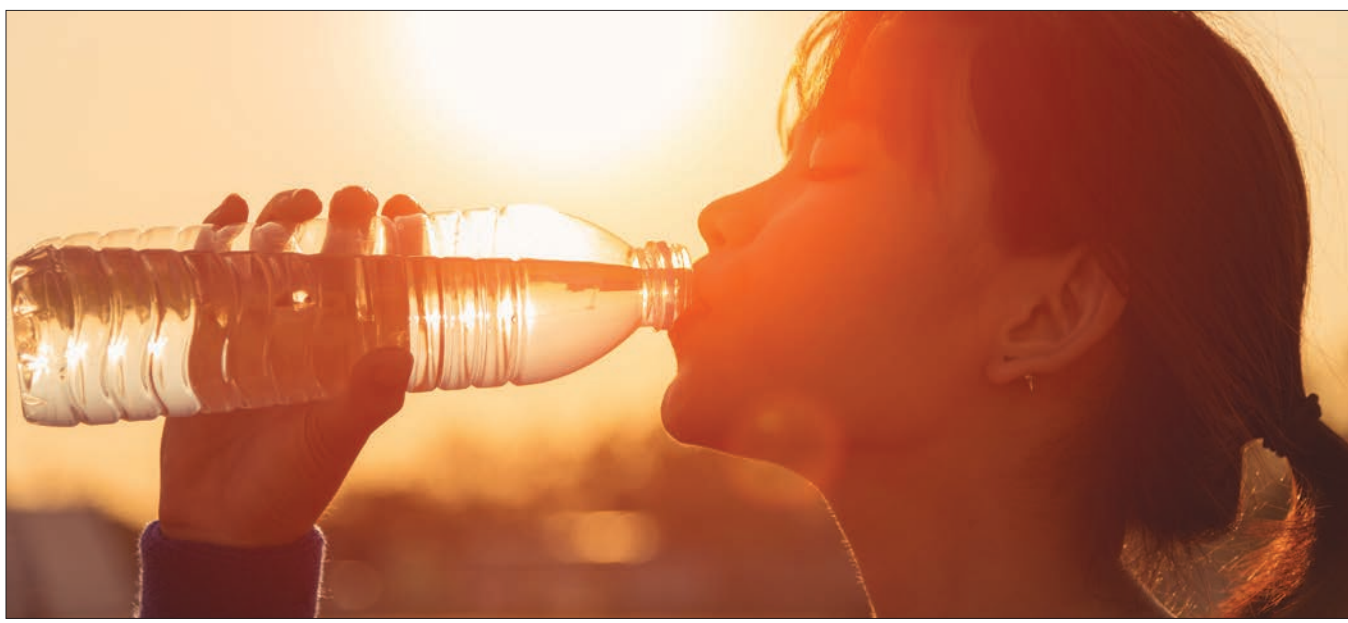
The other night my wife saw me looking at my tablet and asked me what I was reading about. At that moment I was reviewing real estate in Gulf Shores, Alabama, a place I have never been. I sort of chortled at her and said, "nothing, just

taking a quick trip in my mind." Maybe my exploration is time wasted, but the thrill of the hunt for a host of new experiences is something I hope never separates from me.

For some folks, there is always a longing to know what is on the other side of the hill and to wonder what other life possibilities a man might experience. I've learned that it does not take long in my search before I realize how much I like the journey I am already on, but I sure do like sitting back, letting my mind drift and enjoying the fantasy. The dream may be better than living the dream. I think it usually is.

Thought for the day: For those who dream, there is no such place as "far away."

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



ADOBE STOCK

Take precautions when spending time outdoors to avoid a heat injury.

## Stay safe amid extreme heat this summer

**BY KAYLEE DUSANG**  
Staff Writer

Although blistering temperatures in the summer do not come as a surprise to Texans, heat waves can also bring about serious health risks.

As the temperature begins to creep into the triple digits, it is important to take precautions when spending time outdoors to avoid heat exhaustion or stroke.

**Heat Stroke**  
According to Coryell Health, heat stroke is the most serious form of a heat-related illness and can be fatal if left untreated. Heat stroke occurs when the body can no longer control its temperature, usually after prolonged exposure to high temperatures in combination with dehydration.

Symptoms of heat stroke include:

- Body temperature above 103°F
- Red, hot, and dry skin with no sweating

- Rapid, strong pulse
- Throbbing headache
- Dizziness and nausea
- Confusion, disorientation, and fainting

While heat stroke can happen to anyone, individuals most at risk include those with underlying health issues, who are over 65 years old, who care for children under four years old, or who are overweight or diabetic.

If you or someone nearby begins to experience a heat stroke, seek immediate help by calling 911. Follow additional procedures to try to cool down until paramedics arrive, such as:

- Move into the shade or indoors.
- Remove excess clothing.
- Fan air over the patient while wetting their skin with water.
- Use cold water, ice packs, fans, or wet towels on the head and neck area to relieve symptoms.

**Heat Exhaustion**  
While heat exhaustion

does not usually require immediate medical attention, Coryell Health explains that it can quickly lead to heat stroke. According to The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), heat exhaustion is the body's response to an excessive loss of water and salt, mainly through sweating.

Symptoms of heat exhaustion include headache, nausea, dizziness, weakness, thirst, heavy sweating, and elevated body temperature.

To treat heat exhaustion, NIOSH recommends:

- Visit a clinic or emergency room for medical evaluation and treatment.
- Call 911 if medical care is unavailable.
- Leave the hot area and drink liquids.
- Remove unnecessary clothing, including shoes and socks.
- Cool down with cold compresses or wash the head, face, and neck with cold water.

- Take frequent sips of cool water.

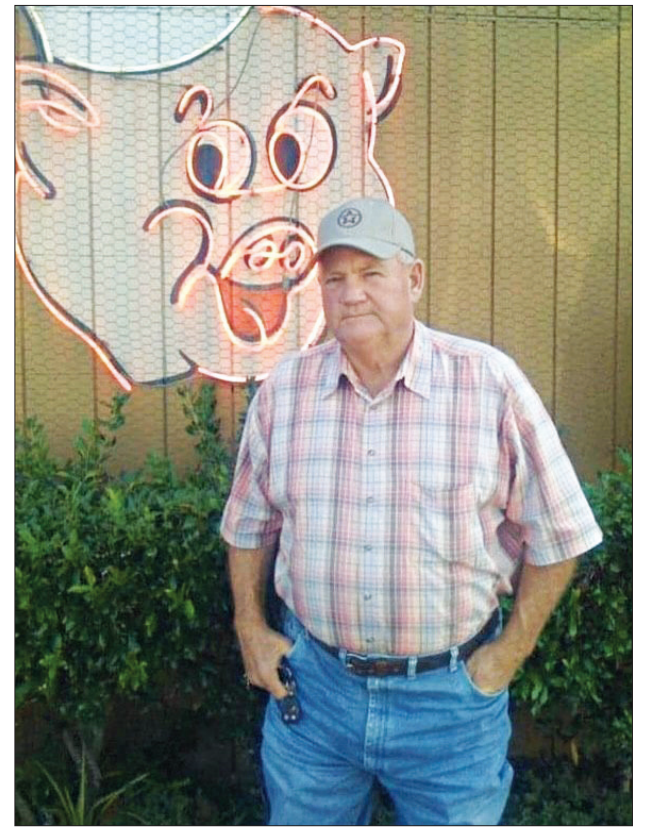
**Heat safety**

High temperatures can damage the brain and other vital organs, Coryell Health explains. Before spending time outdoors or in a hot environment, it's essential to know about personal health concerns and pay attention to how you feel in the heat.

To minimize the risk of a heat-related illness, Coryell Health recommends the following precautions:

- Avoid physical activity in hot conditions.
- If you plan on doing physical activity in the heat, ensure air conditioning is nearby or wait until cooler parts of the day to go outside.
- Don't overwork yourself.
- Drink plenty of water (even when you're not thirsty).
- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.

## Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

**Kyle Botkin**

### Say hello to our neighbor, Kyle Botkin!

Kyle Botkin is a retired civil architectural and welding inspector at Walker Partners, as well as a Vietnam veteran. "I enjoyed the company that I worked for and the people I worked with," he said. "I enjoyed completing projects, one of many was the Baylor Stadium in Waco." He was born and raised in Gatesville and enjoys the people and the small-town atmosphere.

Kyle expressed that his life advice would be to always remain honest and to be a good family man. "I love my children and grandchildren; honesty is required for success!"

Kyle reads The Gatesville Messenger and says that he is fond of reading about the local students, current political postings, and sports news.

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

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301-400 lb.	328-391	301-400 lb.	275-301
401-500 lb.	290-317	401-500 lb.	260-283
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Publisher  
**SAM HOUSTON**  
sam@hcnews.com

Director of Operations  
**JANICE VELASQUEZ**  
ad2@gatesvillemessenger.com

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TUMBLEWEED SMITH

# Downstairs at the Barfield



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

The Barfield Hotel in Amarillo has a speakeasy that dates back to the 1920s. It was known then as the Paramount Recreation Club.

To get to it, you follow the six-shooter and bullet trail to the basement and go to a cigarette machine. Pull the lever under the Paramount brand of cigarettes and the speakeasy opens.

"This is what it looked like," says Kelsey Pratt, hotel sales manager. "Every divot, every nook and cranny everything was intentionally kept and not repaired or restored. We wanted to keep the original

elements."

The Barfield is part of the Marriott Autograph collection.

"We don't have to be a cookie cutter Marriott hotel. We get to bring the West Texas individual Amarillo style here to this hotel. The décor and services we provide are all individualized specifically to the area."

The hotel has ten stories and one hundred and twelve rooms.

"It is Amarillo's first boutique luxury hotel, so this is the first hotel of its kind in Amarillo."

It's a favorite overnight stopping point for travelers exploring Route 66. The hotel hosts a lot of activities for local folks.

"We have had the opportunity to host a number of guests for social events, weddings, receptions, formal dinners, business meetings and retirement parties."

The Barfield was an office building until the nineteen seventies. It was vacant a long time but was restored and reopened as a hotel in 2021.

"Back in the 1920s, this was a building full of offices. You had dentist offices, you had lawyers, and you had a Penney's store downstairs. It was just a business building. It was the first skyscraper in Amarillo. People were rushing to claim their stake here in the building."

Melissa Dora Oliver Echols, a prominent businesswoman, owned the building.

"She was openly against drinking and pro prohibition with the people but realized the financial opportunities of having a place where people could have a drink and opened a speakeasy."

"The name Barfield actually comes from her children marrying into the Barfield family."

Kelsey grew up in Amarillo, moved away, then came back home.

"I went to New York City for eleven years and I worked in hotels and restaurants my entire life. I've been here since they began converting the Barfield into a hotel, and it is such a thrill to see what has happened and to see how much people appreciate it. It's not the biggest hotel in town and it's not the smallest, but it's the most unique."

## SUDOKU

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Puzzle answers from the July 13, 2024 issue.

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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		7	3		6			

Puzzle by websudoku.com

## MASONS INSTALL NEW OFFICERS



COURTESY PHOTO

On July 1, Gatesville Masonic Lodge 197 installed new officers for the 2024-2025 Masonic year. They are, front row, left to right, Dale Garrett, installing marshal; Greg Casey, treasurer; Eric Cummings, senior warden; Raymond Young, worshipful master; Jim Athearn, junior warden; Barry Kellerman, secretary; and Jim Woodul, installing officer. Top row, left to right, Larry Crouch, marshal; Larry McDonald, chaplain; Jim Bob Kleshick, senior steward; Tim Bell, junior steward; Bob Pennington, junior deacon; Allen Shurtleff, tiler.

## June applications for marriage licenses filed in Coryell County

### Staff Reports

Marriage license applications that were filed during the month of June at the Coryell County Clerk's office include:

Logan Flint Blanchard and Stephanie Marie Lombano

Blake Austin Boiles and Marley Paige Smart

Leon Alvin Boyd and Ashley Lynn Harris

Hunter Lane Eaton and Hailee Alexys Beckett

William Edward Fisher and Brandie Michelle Brown

Seth Hollis Fleming and Tysheba Alonica West

Jesse Raymond Flores and Cayla Pearl Combs

Dennis Dow Huang and Madelaine Zelena DeLeon

Dmitri Richard Hurt and Shelby Elaine Ury

David Alfred Lewis and Bertha Underwood Lewis

Andrew Pham Nguyen and Ivan Lee Hoffman

Christopher Allen Rodgers and Bridgette Ann Love

Richard Ellsworth Spencer, Jr. and Carol Christina Rivera Torres

Moses Isaiah Willett and Shurrie Arlene Swindall

Jeffery Lynn Williams and Jamie Leigh Dove

Zachary Dalton Zoeller and Kendall Ann Harshman

## BUDGET

FROM PAGE A2

ments, explains that the department does not currently have the employees or resources to completely rebuild streets, but they can provide temporary repairs to make them passable.

"I think we have to start being proactive and start looking at how to fix them now to get us by until we can afford or do a complete street like we've been doing in the past," Newman said.

Hunt and Newman suggested that the department continue to hire out con-

tractors for paving work to save on the city's resources, such as with the recent construction on Lovers Lane.

"That's a model that I would guide us to change - is you should not generally try to be building an entire block of the street," Hunt said. "It's repair streets and make them much more passable than current, address drainage, and immediate concerns and patches and holes."

Mayor Gary Chumley adds that roads that received recent damage from flooding might also be eligible for FEMA funding.

"Hopefully, we get money from that to refurbish or

redo these streets," Chumley said.

Other priority items for the budget included maximizing grant funding to improve city infrastructure and community resources. This includes planning for a new police station, repairing flood damage at Faunt Le Roy Park, and investigating grant opportunities for fuel tank replacements or improvements at the Gatesville Municipal Airport.

The report also presented a summary of current water and sewer capital projects, including improvements at the city's Stillhouse Wastewater Treatment Plant and sewer line improvements on

Highway 36.

With the introduction of Fiber internet and lower real estate costs compared to neighboring counties, Hunt adds that the city should also plan for growth opportunities in the next several years.

"I think we'll see a lot of growth. We're definitely going to want to be on top of managing that in the following years and have more of a structure that we follow and what goes where and why," he said.

**Other proposed budget goals for the fiscal year 2025 include:**

- Maintaining current lev-

els of service within a balanced budget and adopting an ad valorem tax rate to fund service-level requirements

- Improving security, safety, and visitor experiences at all City of Gatesville facilities. This includes the recent addition of surveillance cameras to city buildings such as the library and Civic Center

- Improving interoperability and the aligning of tasks and organizational structure across all departments

- Ensuring that city planning, permitting, and zoning functions align with potential growth opportuni-

ties - both short-term and long-term

- Executing the council-approved Capital Improvement Plan

- Review and update the 2020 City of Gatesville Comprehensive Plan, which provides elected officials with guidance for the future growth and development of the community

The city's current budget totals \$33,949,363 for the 2023-24 fiscal year, which was adopted in September of last year. The city council will vote on the final draft of the budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year at a future council meeting.

## Whatever happened to ...

### 20 YEARS AGO (2004)

Large numbers of buzzards were a nuisance, going after newborn calves.

A spur collection montage for the Coryell Museum and Historical Center was slowly taking shape.

Local members of emergency response teams received use of ropes training during rescue operation training.

Walmart Portrait Studio

offered a portrait package for \$3.88.

Jade Dickens, of Gatesville, captured the Super Heavyweight Open title at the statewide competition.

### 30 YEARS AGO (1994)

Coryell Memorial Hospital opened a new medical clinic at 104 S. Lutterloh.

"Schoolhouse for the Soldier," a training session for members of the National

Guard, was conducted at North Fort Hood.

James Baize attended his first Gatesville ISD board of trustees meeting.

The Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit "Seeds of Change" was soon to appear at the Coryell County Museum.

Sheriff Gerald Kitchens warned residents about scams in the area.

### 40 YEARS AGO (1984)

Congressman Phil Gramm, a candidate for the U.S. Senate addressed a crowd at the Gatesville Airport.

The first half of 1984 left the Gatesville area with a rainfall deficit of 8.10 inches.

The unemployment rate in Coryell and Bell counties declined to 4.5 percent.

A Walmart ad for pil-

lows asked, "Is your pillow pooped?"

Rainbow Carpet Dyeing and Cleaning Co. advertised \$20 for a carpet cleaning.

### 50 YEARS AGO (1974)

The Coryell Memorial Hospital \$500,000 campaign was just shy of its goal.

Clarence Lemmond was hired as Gatesville High School's new band director.

"Music Man" opened at Gatesville Junior High's auditorium.

Members of the Osage Baptist Church commemorated its 100th anniversary on the banks of Bluff Creek.

Richard Walker Thompson was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from North Texas State University.

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PEARL NEWS

# Pearl Community Center's quarterly meeting is July 22



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

The Pearl Community Center Board quarterly meeting will be held July 22, with the fourth quarterly meeting being held on Oct. 28, 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. The next Pearl Bluegrass and Pearl Cottage Bookstore Day is August 3. The officers of the Pearl Community Center Board are Garrett Dickey, President, Chris Ray, Vice-President, Rhonda Dickey, Treasurer, and Connie Long, Secretary. For information on renting the Community Center or RV spaces, contact Connie Long at 254-223-0621. For more information about the Pearl Cottage Bookstore, call Linda Ray at 254-865-9282 or Kay Pruett at 254-865-5864. Books about Pearl now available at the Pearl Cottage Bookstore are: The Gasway Cabin, \$12; The

1955 Pearl Dragon annual, \$10; The Pearl Cemetery Book, \$10; The Houses of Pearl, \$15; and The Pleasure and Profit Club, \$15. Of course, there are always over 6,000 used books available (in excellent condition) for "buy what you want, pay what you want." You can also find various and sundry other items available for purchase at that same price. All proceeds go toward local charities. In other news: You'll never guess what just turned up in Kay Pruett's yard. If you guessed an itchy bitsy, teeny weeny, turquoise greeny, stringy bikini, then you are exactly right. Now, is this a coincidence since Kay has been tending her yard in the sweltering July heat? Many do not think

so. If you recall, that edgy apparel had gone missing many months ago, and no one could explain its absence. Some have suspected that it "expired" during the spring floods. Others have wondered if it had been abducted. Still, more poor souls guessed that a certain party had it hidden away for such a time as this. Although no one has actually witnessed the wandering wardrobe on any persons of interest, one person of interest who shall remain anonymous is the most likely possessor of said awful attire due to an aggravating factor. After all, it is hot! And yard work must be done. You may draw your own conclusions, but I know for a fact how "attached" one certain person was to those darned duds. I also know that my name may now be "mud" or worse, if you know K. P. That's the way it is when your hometown is Pearl, and there's no place like it! This week's Bible verse comes Proverbs 17:22—A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. ESV 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 betsy-clark47@yahoo.com

# BINGO for ages 60 and up to be held July 26 at Hillside

Staff Reports

Hillside Medical Lodge will host a community bingo event on Friday, July 26, at 10 a.m., and it is free to play.

The bingo event is for individuals 60 years and older. There will be a \$100 jackpot, huge prizes, and refreshments.

For further details, contact Hillside Medical Lodge at 254-865-7575. Hillside Medical Lodge is located at 300 South Highway 36 Bypass.

# Gatesville Senior Center to host nutrition class Aug. 12

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Senior Center has partnered with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office to host a class on Monday, Aug. 12 to discuss healthy carbohydrates.

The class will begin at 10 a.m. and will feature a presentation to show how to incorporate carbohydrates into your diet. There will be two more classes held on Sept. 16 and on Oct. 21, both beginning at 10 a.m.

All classes are free and open to the public. For further details, contact 254-865-8234. The Senior Center is located at 208 North Luterloh.

# Gatesville Riding Club Rodeo to be held Aug. 1-3

Submitted item

This year will mark the 87th annual Gatesville Riding Club Rodeo, which will be held Aug. 1-3 at the rodeo arena located on Veteran's Memorial Drive. Gates will open at 6 p.m., and the rodeo will begin at 6 p.m. Mutton Busting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Thursday will be Military Appreciation Night, with discounted tickets, including \$12 adults, \$8 children ages 6-12 with military identification. Friday will be Back the Blue. Those attending are asked to wear blue to support law enforcement officers. On Saturday, the 1st Cavalry Horse Platoon will perform. In addition to the Mutton Busting, the rodeo

will include "Bubble Balls and Bulls" and Jr. Barrel Racing. Normal ticket prices will be \$15 adults, \$10 kids ages 6-12, and kids under the age of five will be free. Those wishing to participate in the rodeo should call 254-493-8954 on Sunday, July 28, between 7-9 p.m. for pre-entry. Follow the latest rodeo information on Facebook at Gatesville Riding Club.

## The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of July 10 - July 16. 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**

**July 10**  
11:54 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 400 block of S. 7th Street.  
2:48 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2300 block of E. Main Street.  
4:18 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Stoneridge Drive.  
11:11 p.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 2500 block of Powell Drive.

**July 11**  
1:17 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of S. State Highway 36 Bypass.  
7:23 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.  
12:28 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1300 block of Westview Drive.

**July 12**  
3:04 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2600 block of E. Main Street.

8:03 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 500 block of S. 5th Street.  
9:19 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Willow Lane.  
10:12 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1600 block of W. Main Street.

**July 13**  
2:41 a.m., wanted/stolen person/property was reported in the 100 block of Petsick Lane.  
10:31 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of N. 29th Street.  
11:42 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 400 block of Park Street.  
11:21 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.

**July 14**  
12:36 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 200 block of FM 116.  
12:59 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1900 block of E. Main Street.  
3:54 p.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 3600 block of County Road 158.  
6:49 p.m., suspicious

activity was reported in the 400 block of S. 14th Street.

**July 15**  
4:48 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of Veteran's Memorial Loop.  
9:40 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.  
1:17 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 200 block of Logan Lane.  
4:21 p.m., an accident was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

**July 16**  
12:22 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of Old Waco Road.  
2:15 p.m., a theft was reported in the 3300 block of Canyon Crossing Drive.  
6:16 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2400 block of Oak Drive.  
6:32 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1500 block of E. Main Street.

**CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**July 10**  
12:29 p.m., burglary of a habitation was reported in the 100 block of Julia Drive.  
6:25 p.m., an abandoned vehicle was reported in the 900 block of Bluestem Drive.  
7:18 p.m., a threat was reported in the 800 block of Wedgewood.  
7:56 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 4400 block of E. U.S. Highway 84.

**July 11**  
1:07 p.m., a threat was reported at Coryell County Courthouse.  
1:36 p.m., suspicious persons were reported in the 2800 block of Dogwood Drive.  
5:01 p.m., a scam was reported in the 100 block of Julia Drive.  
7:30 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 1800 block of Highway 36.

**July 12**  
1:14 a.m., a prowler was reported in the 1000 block

of Cedar Mountain Road.  
7:50 p.m., debris in roadway reported on E. Highway 84, west of FM 1996.  
11:11 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on FM 1113 East Bound near Topsey Exotic Ranch.  
11:32 p.m., a structure fire was reported in the 1500 block of Quail Creek Drive.

**July 13**  
3:51 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 700 block of Flint Rock.  
7:09 p.m., a noise complaint was reported on County Road 339.  
7:17 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in Mother Neff Park.  
9:28 p.m., an animal bite was reported in the 400 block of Gaylon Street.

**July 14**  
9:41 a.m., a grass fire was reported on Highway 84 and FM 930.  
11:10 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 1000 block of Spring Road.  
3:25 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of Harrell Drive.

8:26 p.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 2000 block of Violet Lane.

**July 15**  
7:59 a.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on McKelvain and Boone.  
3:54 p.m., a threat was reported in the 800 block of County Road 140.  
5:30 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 5600 block of W. Highway 84.  
7:30 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 2500 block of FM 2657.

**July 16**  
7:16 a.m., identity theft was reported in the 1500 block of Quail Meadows Road.  
4:32 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 300 block of Miller Road.  
4:56 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 12,000 block of S. Highway 36.  
6:19 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 8700 block of E. U.S. Highway 84.

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MOUND NEWS

# Emma Beth honored on birthday



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Little Miss Emma Beth Hopson was honored on her 2nd birthday Saturday evening at the home of her grandparents, David and Pam Hopson.

The celebration was given by her parents and brothers and sister, Paul, Rachel, Noah, and Benjamin Hopson.

Noah Truett and Benjamin Travis Hopson went with their grandmother, DeElva Grubb, to spend a few days in LaVernia, Texas at the home of Matt and Kaylee Edwards.

Miss Allie McPherson went with the Gatesville Coryell Community Church Youth Camp for a week at Latham Springs Camp and Retreat Center in Aquilla. The group returned home last Thursday.

Jennifer Mann took 26 kids and six sponsors from Mound Cowboy Church and White Mound Baptist Church to Kidz Kamp at Latham Springs

and Retreat Center in Aquilla for a few days. The group returned home Monday.

The Quebe sisters, Grace, Sophia, and Huda, of Dallas, will perform Sunday, July 21, at the White Mound Baptist Church at 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the entertainment. They are the cousins of Mrs. Martha Lawhorn, of Mound.

Doris Hoff, of Gatesville, visited during the week in Mound with Martha Lawhorn.

Mrs. Melba Stephens is staying for a while at the home of Ray and John Stephens.

Holly Jones of Gatesville, Jagger and Newman, Kelby, and Sterlin Shults visited Monday afternoon

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

Julia Kay Dixon will be a freshman at Liberty Hill High School for the 2024-25 school year.

Brooke Nicole Dixon will go into sixth grade at Liberty Hill Middle School for the 2024-25 school year.

Reese Kelly Dixon will go into third grade at Louine Noble Elementary School for the 2024-25 school year.

Ruby Caroline Pullen will be a freshman at Providence Academy High School in Rock Wall for the 2024-25 school year.

Carolyn and Emma Blakeley spent a week in Port Aransas.

Elli, Jenson, and Molli Kinnear enjoyed having their cousins Jackson Kinnear, Samuel Shepherd, and Malachi Shepherd over the week. They enjoyed fun in the sun and cousin shenanigans.

Debbie Piller celebrated her birthday on July 13. She spent the afternoon with Mandi Fisher and Jennifer Miller. They had dinner in town with her family attending.

*Barbara's Notes:* HAPPY SWEET 16TH BIRTHDAY TO MISS ANNA GRACE MCPHERSON

# JULY YARD OF THE MONTH ANNOUNCED



COURTESY PHOTO

Keep Gatesville Beautiful chose the yard of Dennis and Diane Smith at 403 Riata Drive as their July Yard of the Month. This beautiful home and yard were the perfect pick for July with their American flag in the front yard, the patriotic door wreath, their gorgeous lawn, and numerous flowering plants and bushes. Dennis is a retired Army veteran. The Smiths moved to Gatesville 10 years ago and have been improving their landscape since. They work together to keep it looking attractive. Their landscape features Crepe Myrtles, Texas Mountain Laurel, Esperanza and Yaupon Holly bushes, Rosemary and Glossy Abelia bush. The flowers include Salvia, Gardenia, Rock Rose, Zinnias, Kolancho, Blackfoot Daisy, and Greys grey mist. The birdbath was made by their granddaughter from terra cotta flowerpots. Thank you to the Smiths for helping to keep Gatesville Beautiful!

# County, City apply for FEMA grants to repair roadways, parks

BY KAYLEE DUSANG  
Staff Writer

Coryell County and the City of Gatesville are both in the process of submitting applications for FEMA public assistance to help repair areas that were affected by severe storms and flooding that took place in May and June.

FEMA's Public Assistance Program provides supplemental grants to state, tribal, territorial, and local governments that can help cover the costs of debris removal, protective measures, and restoring public infrastructure following major disasters or emergencies, according to the FEMA website.

Local leaders will apply to FEMA for possible funds that will help cover the costs of various projects following the storms. The federal assistance is split 75/25, where FEMA will pay 75% of the overall cost, and the city and county match 25%.

**County**  
County Judge Roger Miller said the county's Road and Bridge Department has identified approximately 141 locations of county roads and/or low water crossings that will require repairs.

"Without having everything finalized, a preliminary estimate of (the) 141 locations is \$7.1 million," Miller said.

The Road and Bridge Department has already provided some emergency and temporary repairs to some of the roads and crossings, Miller explains. By submitting the projects to FEMA, the county might receive recovery reimbursements or funding to help return the damaged roads or crossings

to their original state.

"This is to repair the damage and put it back in the same condition that it was," Miller said.

Steve Manning with Natural Resources Solutions, a consultant for the county, said the county also plans to submit at least 30 low water crossing projects that might be eligible for around \$8.5 million in mitigation funding - along with the 141 locations for recovery repair. This includes adding new bridges to crossings or adding more protective measures to avoid future flood damage.

The 141 locations plus the 30 crossings will be submitted to FEMA as individual projects.

"We are going to continue to work on keeping our roads safe and in good condition, but I would anticipate that it's going to take anywhere from 18 to 24 months before we can address all of these locations," Miller said.

**City**  
Interim City Manager Brad Hunt said the city is looking at multiple areas that were affected by flooding to submit for FEMA funding, including Brown Park and Faunt Le Roy Park.

"We also lost a large portion of the riverbank at Brown Park," Hunt said. "We have completed the cleanup there and have installed more barricades to keep vehicles from driving too close to the unstable bank."

Faunt Le Roy Park and its repairs have been a top concern for residents. After the floods in early May, the entire park and walking trail went under 10-plus feet of flowing water, Hunt

explains. "When the waters receded, we walked down the peninsula and observed the south bank had lost another 50 to 100 feet to erosion, all the way to the roadway next to the bathrooms," he said.

While the walking trail reopened on July 9, the rest of the park will remain closed until it receives an engineer's assessment that outlines the extent of the damage, as well as a plan to barricade the unsafe areas near the banks.

In 2018, flooding eroded the riverbank on the northeast side of the peninsula, causing it to become unsafe for cars to drive on the roadway. After that flood event, the city received a \$1.3 million grant from FEMA in 2020 to repair Faunt Le Roy Park.

Hunt said the 2018 FEMA funds were allotted for several projects, the last of which was Faunt Le Roy Park.

"With the new damage this year, we will work to combine the old and new projects in order to move forward," Hunt said. "We will seek to first repair what we can and mitigate future damage to the riverbank, then we will focus on improving river access and the park in general."

"In summary, we recognize that Faunt Le Roy Park is an important part of Gatesville, and we believe it's worth not only restoring as best we can, but also improving," Hunt adds. "We appreciate everyone's patience as we work to open as much of the park as we can, as safely as we can, as soon as we can."

Hunt said the city will also document damages of streets at low water cross-

ings and bridges to submit to FEMA. This includes North Lovers Lane, where they are installing a gate at the low water crossing, and Shady Lane, where the small bridge is passable but needs repairs.

"We are still evaluating other streets as well, including East Leon by Brown Park," he said.

Hunt said the preliminary estimates for the projects will be turned in by August 6 to meet the deadline for federal and state assistance.

One month remains to apply for individual FEMA assistance.

FEMA's public assistance is separate from the individual assistance for homeowners and business owners. Coryell County residents who sustained losses from the storms and flooding between April 26 and June 5 can still apply for federal assistance for one more month. The deadline is Aug. 15, 2024.

According to FEMA, the agency has provided \$176.7

million to 76,562 Texas households. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved \$52.2 million in low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, private non-

profit organizations, and businesses.

For more information about Texas disaster recovery, visit [fema.gov/disaster/4781](http://fema.gov/disaster/4781)

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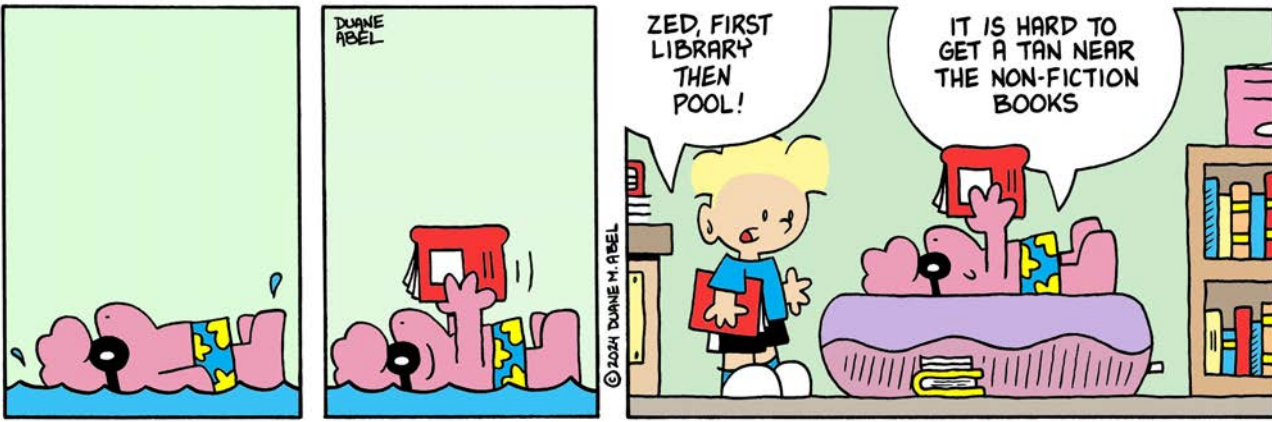
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**RECIPE**

This recipe appeared in the "Methodist Best" cookbook in 2008. The Gatesville Messenger is running a series of recipes from that cookbook. If 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

Chocolate Chip Peanut Butter Cookies

**CHOCOLATE CHIP PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES**

BY ASHTON RAMMINGER

- ½ c. crunchy peanut butter
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ¼ c. vegetable shortening
- 1 ¼ c. all-purpose flour
- ½ c. firmly packed brown sugar
- ½ tsp. baking soda
- ½ c. granulated sugar
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 1 egg
- 1 (6-oz.) pkg. chocolate morsels

Preheat oven to 375. Measure peanut butter, shortening, and brown sugar and place in mixing bowl. Add granulated sugar, egg, and vanilla. Beat until thoroughly combined. In a separate bowl, stir together flour, baking soda, and salt. Add to peanut butter mixture, mixing well. Stir in chocolate morsels. Using spoons or a scoop, drop batter two inches apart onto cookie sheet. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes. Remove cookies to a cooling rack. Makes 4 dozen cookies.

**United Women in Faith meeting held July 9 at First Methodist**

Submitted by Shirleen Chandler

United Women in Faith met on July 9, in the Banquet Room of the First Methodist Church in Gatesville, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Fifteen ladies were present, including one new member, Dena Ridenhour. Hostesses were Amber Featherston and Linda Klontz.

President Patsy Smart called the meeting to order by leading in the Blessing. During refreshments, Linda Klontz led the group 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. Shirleen Chandler presented the program, Session 5 from our book "Living the Kin-dom," an exploration of the Lord's Prayer from Matthew 6, verse 12. The words are, "And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

Jesus put a high priority on the need to forgive. In our dealings with others, we must remember that we can be forgiven as we are willing to forgive. From the beginning, when Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, humankind has had a sinful nature. In Genesis, God put man in charge of car-

ing for nature, as he filled the garden with plants and animals. But many have become abusers of nature, and those issues need to be addressed in our world today. Chandler led in singing, "In Christ There Is No East or West", a song of human kinship.

President Smart called the business meeting to order. Unfinished business included a report by Kathleen Blankemeyer of the upcoming Salad Supper on August 13, beginning at 6 p.m. She reported from the sign-up sheet and requested that salads be brought in by 5 p.m. Blankemeyer will be in charge of decorations, and the meeting will be held in the Family Life Center,

due to the large number of guests who will be invited. The women's singing group Leading Ladies will perform for the entertainment.

Announcements included one from Karen Schmidt that she would take reservations for the upcoming meeting of the Global Methodist Women in Waco until July 13. She is planning for carpooling on that day, Nov. 16. Another announcement concerned donations to the Methodist Children's Home in Waco; a special giving day is July 11.

Meeting adjourned with the Benediction.



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## HIGGINBOTHAM BROS AWARDED BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce has announced Higginbotham Brothers as its Business of the Month for July. Higginbotham Brothers has served local communities for over 140 years with its notable hardware department, lumber building, and materials, as well as its hunting and fishing supplies. To nominate a chamber member for the business of the month award, visit <https://www.gatesvillechamber.com/business-of-the-month>. Higginbotham Brothers employees are pictured with members of the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce.



COURTESY PHOTO

A kitten who was adopted at Charlie's Wags & Whiskers; event is pictured with a raffle basket.

## Charlie's Wags & Whiskers held re-grand opening

### Staff Reports

On Saturday, July 13, local adoption and rescue center Charlie's Wags and Whiskers held a re-grand opening event for its facility.

The event featured goodie bags and baked goods, a hair tinsel station, and sausage wraps made by Pam Miles and Barbara Hollingsworth Mims.

The pups enjoyed playing in swimming pools and

wore some of the props within the photo booth.

Charlie's Wags and Whiskers was able to adopt out two kittens and distributed 12 microchips to the community during their re-grand opening event.

Charlie's Wags and Whiskers is a 501C (3) non-profit organization and is open to all donations, such as dog and cat food, cat litter, and pet supplies.

## Righteous Roots to host softball tournament Aug. 10

### Staff Reports

Righteous Roots 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 feature 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 avail-

able 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.



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## Cafeteria worker recognized for 26 years of dedication

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

Oftentimes, teachers, counselors, security officers, and staff members are recognized for their hard work, but what about the folks who work behind the scenes in the cafeteria preparing hundreds of meals each day for our children?

One such dedicated employee is Loraine Holden Watson, who has worked in the cafeterias of Gatesville Independent School District for 26 years. "I first started out at the Gatesville High School and then went to the old Elementary and then went into management at the Primary and I did that for six years," Watson said. Her title today is Cafeteria Manager at Gatesville Intermediate.

Watson said that her day in the cafeteria begins early. "I clock in at 6 a.m., but a lot of times I get here earlier so I can make sure my equipment is up and running. We clock in at 6 a.m., and most days we're here until 4:15 p.m. and we do the dinner programs in the afternoons."

In speaking about the change in food requirements, she explained, "The requirements have changed, but not a lot. We can't use as much

salt, and we have to watch our saturated fats. Years ago, everything was actually home-made, like our rolls, and, now, it has changed. We used to make cobblers and make our home-made burgers at the high school every single day. We don't do that anymore. It's all pre-made," she said.

When asked about the eating habits of the students, she said, "Of course, they like their chicken nuggets and things like that, but they want different varieties of food. They want things you think the kids wouldn't try to eat. Just out of the blue we tried Buffalo wings, and they absolutely loved it. They like different food. They love the baked chicken, which is similar to fried chicken, and we couldn't keep up with the demand."

Watson said that they still do pizzas on Fridays and the students really like that, but she admitted that sometimes the students do get burned out on certain foods. "They really don't care for sandwiches. We'll make grilled cheese sandwiches or do a sub sandwich, but they really want the hot food. They really love the nachos and the

orange chicken with rice," she said.

Aside from making sure they have enough staff to keep the kitchens going, Watson said, "I guess the biggest challenge is making sure the students get what they want, and that they are happy with what they are getting. I tell my staff all the time, if you're not going to eat it, don't serve it. If you don't like the way it looks, don't serve it, because it's like a restaurant: You want what you pay for and you want it to look good and sometimes that's a challenge."

Watson said that she enjoys her job and her co-workers. "We have a good staff, and we all enjoy doing what we do. I have a good crew at the Intermediate and I will fight for those girls. I have the best group of ladies ever."

GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard shared his thoughts, "Loraine Watson has been a loyal and dedicated employee for GISD for many years. Managing a cafeteria is a complex task, but Loraine does such a wonderful job you can rest assured that everything is running smoothly."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER  
Loraine Watson preparing one of the student's favorites, chicken nuggets, for GISD's Summer Feeding Program.

## Local scout honored with James M. Stewart award

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

Local scout Case Jones was recently honored with the prestigious James M. Stewart Good Citizenship award for his efforts in the Cub/Boy Scouts 272 pack.

Jones has been a scout for four years under the guidance of his mom Angela Jones Darragh, who is also

the scout leader.

He was presented with the award in late June by the president of the James M. Stewart Museum Foundation.

The award was first launched in 2003 and was established by the foundation with the consent and cooperation of the Boy Scouts

of America, Penn's Woods Council and the family of James M. Stewart.

The purpose of this award is to introduce Scouts to the life of a great American, James Stewart. The museum offers the award to a scout or scouter who has exemplified the characteristics necessary to live the life of a

good citizen.

To be presented this award, a scout must be an active member of a scout pack, organize a community service event, complete a presentation on the life of James Stewart at the event, complete a museum quiz, and write a 500-word essay on good citizenship and how it applies to your life as a scout.

Jones competed each task with honor as a scout and continued to do so leading into his community service project. The project included organizing a food drive with in the troop to provide items that the local organization, Mission Gatesville, needed at the time.

"They were asking for non-perishable food, egg cartons, plastic bags, and hygiene

items," Scout Leader Angela Jones Darragh said. "Case made 50 bags each containing a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, and a comb; the rest of the pack brought canned food and egg cartons."

Following the collection of donated items, Jones put together a presentation for the pack and the representatives of Mission Gatesville to explain the life of James Stewart and that good citizenship is important.

"As the mom of Case, it makes me extremely proud that he enjoys helping those less fortunate. The love and concern he has in his heart to our fellow man is something we could all learn from," Darragh said. "Being kind and selfless is something he exhibits every day and even wants to be a smoker jumper

when he grows up, so he can fight fires before they hurt humans or animals."

Darragh expressed that the scouts are a great organization that teaches kids about being a good citizen and a steward of nature.

"They learn skills that prepare them for adulthood, such as money management, serving the community, as well as skills like fishing and camping," she said. "Our scouts regularly clean up Raby Park, which teaches them to be proud of their community and be protectors of the one earth we were entrusted with."

For further details regarding the Cub/Boy Scouts 272, contact Scout Leader Angela Jones Darragh at 254-813-2418.



Case Jones pictured during his presentation to the scouts.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGELA JONES DARRAGH



The entire scout pack is pictured with the award and the goods that were donated.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANGELA JONES DARRAGH

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ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Whitney Williams is pictured at the check-in desk at The Hangout holding a membership card.



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The Hangout is a teen lounge that features a plethora of activities for local youth in the area.

# Williams provides teen lounge to Gatesville's youth

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

Gatesville resident Whitney Williams, a "Jill of all trades," recently established a facility called The Hangout, which is a teen lounge where local youth can socialize with one another while enjoying activities and games in a safe environment. Since moving to Gatesville two years ago, Williams has been expanding her presence within the community after first opening Whitney's Barbershop earlier this year. Her goal was to have The Hangout finished before school began, and that is what she did as her opening day was on Friday, July 19. Williams first came up with the idea for The Hangout about four months ago. "After seeing my son and his friends at the house constantly with nothing to do,

I decided there had to be something that kids could do that was fun and safe in Gatesville," she said. "My daily routine is to work then spend time with the kids, so I figured why not do that, but for all kids." She expressed that it has been a work in progress for three weeks to get the building completely renovated and refurbished. "I have put (in) very long hours to make this all possible," she said. "A lot of painting, designing, buying, and putting together furniture and games." The Hangout features pool tables, arcade games, music and entertainment, dancing, big screens, and a snack bar. "I feel like the kids in our community need an outlet to be themselves and have fun without judgment in a safe environment," she said. "I

want these kids to feel safe talking to us, because, sometimes, even my son needs to talk to someone other than his mom." During the beginning of the facility's establishment, it will only be open to 13-to-17-year-olds. At a later date, it will be announced when it is open to everyone. The Hangout will host five four-hour sessions each week to start with and each session will be a \$10 entry fee. All games inside are free, and there will be various snacks and beverages at the snack bar for sale at a reasonable price. On your child's first day at The Hangout, it is required to have an adult present to physically hand over the signed waiver and rules sheet. Once the facility has received both forms, your child will then receive a

membership card, which will be theirs to have indefinitely. "The membership card shows us that their waiver has been signed; they will still need to pay \$10 for each four-hour session," Williams said. Williams said that she would also love to host future community events. She plans to offer themed baking and cooking class parties, which will be open to all ages and genders. "I will also have a girl's night out in the near future, and each time I will change the theme or activity, so everyone can enjoy it and not get bored," she said. "We also plan on having an adult night once a month or bi-monthly; some guidelines will apply, and adults can bring their drink of choice." The facility is also available to host birthday parties

for all ages. Williams explained that she will have a one strike and you are out policy for everyone. "I feel it is the safest move," she explained. "I will have security every night no matter what event takes place." She expressed that she hoped that The Hangout will be something that leaves an impression on everyone - especially local youth. "This means so much to me personally, because I have struggled as a teen, and I do not want others to have to go through any of that," she said. "Mental illness is real; my daughter is turning 14 years old in Aug. and struggles severely to the point that she lives in a mental health treatment home and has on and off for five years."

She explained that she would like to bring speakers to the lounge to discuss important topics with our local youth. "I have had many people reach out to me about this." "I think, as a community, we could come together and help as many children as possible," she said. There are so many people struggling that nobody knows about until it is too late, so let's join together and fix that." The hours for The Hangout are Tuesday and Thursday from 5-9 p.m., Friday from 7-11 p.m., and Saturday from 2-6 p.m. and 7-11 p.m. The Hangout Teen Lounge is located at 201 North 7th Street and can be reached by email at thehangoutgatesville@gmail.com.

# Ethan Sandell Memorial Tennis Tournament held July 13

Submitted by GHS Tennis Coach Wendell Jones  
On July 13, Gatesville Tennis hosted the annual Ethan Sandell Memorial Open Tennis Tournament. There were representatives from Brownwood, Waco, China

Spring, Crawford, Whitney, Shoemaker, and many from Gatesville. Gatesville had entries from the following graduating classes: 2012, 2021, 2022, 2023 as well as two eighth grade girls playing doubles. The tournament was in the finals when rain

canceled further play. The results are as follows:  
**A Division Men's Singles**  
Brody Bonner and Slone Early (Gatesville), playing for first (rain canceled)  
Trine Baugh, third  
Elijah Cassens, consolation

**B Division Men's Singles**  
Nate DeOrnellas, first  
Kevin Hittle (Gatesville), second  
Tyson Crawford (Gatesville), third  
Caleb Korte, consolation  
**Women's Singles**  
Kasey Fitzer (Gatesville), first  
Katelyn Sanches (Gatesville), second  
Alana Bond, consolation  
**Men's Doubles**  
Alex Scott/Lucas Garcia (Gatesville) and Slone Early/

Ben Mabry (Gatesville), playing for first (rain canceled)  
Blake Hutchins/Aiden Oplotnik and Ty Warren/Carlo Martinez (Gatesville), playing for third (rain canceled)  
Chad Smith/Josh Smith (Gatesville) and Ranger Fields/Kevin Hittle (Gatesville), playing for consolation (rain canceled)  
**Women's Doubles**  
Jamie Dill/Raileigh Ondracek and Katelyn Sanchez/Holli Sanchez (Gatesville), playing for first (rain canceled)

celebrated  
Adie Green and Katie Moore, third  
Paislee Mosley and Avery Bone (8th grade Gatesville), consolation  
**Mixed Doubles**  
Alex Scott/Stormy Tatum (Gatesville) and Slone Early/Kasey Fitzer (Gatesville), playing for first (rain canceled)  
Nicole Aguilera and Chris Calmenero, third  
Yosgar Olvera and Alana Bond, consolation

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DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER  
**Top photo: In Men's Doubles, Shy Tatum returns a serve from Alex Scott.**  
**Left photo: Kasey Fitzer (left) placed first, and Katelyn Sanchez (right) placed second in Women's Singles.**

# TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

## TSU offensive coordinator Adam Austin named to Dave Campbell's Texas Football 40 Under 40 list

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State's offensive coordinator Adam Austin received special recognition this week, as Dave Campbell's Texas Football named him on its 40 Under 40 list.

"Dave Campbell's Texas Football is proud to honor the best young coaches across Texas with our fifth annual 40 Under 40, recognizing 40 of the rising stars in the coaching ranks," Dave Campbell's Texas Football detailed.

Austin is entering his fourth season with Tarleton State, and his first as the offensive coordinator. He spent the last three seasons as the quarterbacks coach and pass game coordinator for the Texans. Austin will continue to lead the quarterbacks in 2024.

Dave Campbell's Texas Football wrote that Austin "has a penchant for developing quarterbacks into all-conference and national award contenders."

Last season with Austin's guidance, the Texans averaged 33.3 points per game, the second best average in the United Athletic Conference, 13th most in all of FCS. They also averaged 430.5 yards per game (second in the UAC, 14th in the FCS) with 6.4 yards per play (most in the UAC, 11th in the FCS).

Over the past three seasons, Austin's quarterbacks have consistently put up elite performances. Victor Gabalis ranked first in yards per completion in the conference, as well as fourth in overall passing efficiency last season. His best game was in Tarleton's 59-17



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

romping of Stephen F. Austin, where he threw for 389 yards and four touchdowns on 15-of-19 passing. In Austin's first

two seasons at Tarleton, his quarterbacks produced seven 300-plus yard performances, including the most in the Western

Athletic Conference in 2022 with five. Also that season, the Texans finished third in the WAC with 24 passing touch-

downs, throwing for 2,883 yards across 11 games, averaging 262.1 passing yards per contest.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Money magazine has named Tarleton State University one of the "Best Colleges in America" for 2024.

## Money Magazine names Tarleton State among "Best Colleges in America"

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Money magazine has named Tarleton State University one of the "Best Colleges in America" for 2024.

Money's analysis showcases the country's top colleges and universities based on graduation rates, cost of attendance, financial aid and alumni salaries.

The magazine looked at more than 2,400 four-year public and private nonprofit colleges and universities in the U.S. Following the evaluation process, only 31% of institutions were honored. The three main categories

were quality of education, affordability and student outcomes.

"This recognition is a credit to the tremendous work of our faculty, staff and students," said Tarleton State President Dr. James Hurley. "We are proud to provide a university experience where access and opportunity come first. Our commitment to helping students grow academically, socially and professionally through a first-class education is unwavering."

The star ratings system is designed to help students build a list of standout schools that fit their budget.

Tarleton State received three stars.

Other Texas colleges and universities named on the list include Baylor University, Texas A&M University, Texas Christian University, Texas Tech University and the University of Texas at Austin.

Tarleton State students hail from 230-plus Texas counties, 48 states and 47 countries. Over 50% are the first in their family to attend college. As a result of the work of faculty, staff and students, the university is turbocharging the economy with a total annual impact of \$2 billion for the state.

## TSU names Dr. Keldon Bauer interim dean of Dr. Sam Pack College of Business

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Dr. Keldon Bauer has been named interim dean of Tarleton State University's Dr. Sam Pack College of Business, effective July 15.

In his current role as associate dean in the Dr. Sam Pack College of Business and associate professor of finance, Bauer is responsible for undergraduate

students and curriculum in addition to his teaching responsibilities. He played an integral role in the successful application for accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and previously served as a department head.

"Dr. Bauer has filled multiple roles admirably during his time at the university," said Dr. Diane Stearns,

Tarleton State provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. "We are grateful for his contributions and appreciate his willingness to serve in this capacity."

Bauer earned a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Utah and holds an MBA in quantitative analysis from Utah's David Eccles School of Business. He received a

doctorate in finance with minors in economics and statistics from Texas Tech University.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve in this new role," said Bauer. "I look forward to working with our outstanding, student-centered faculty and industry partners to continue delivering world-class business education from the Dr. Sam Pack College of Business."

For more information on Tarleton State's Dr. Sam Pack College of Business, visit [www.tarleton.edu/cob/](http://www.tarleton.edu/cob/).



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY  
Dr. Keldon Bauer



## Tarleton State University Tennis ranked in top 10 among all Texas D1 programs

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State Tennis has quickly become an elite NCAA Division I program. According to the official ranking system used at the collegiate level, Tarleton State is in the top-10 in their region.

The Intercollegiate Tennis Association posted its ITA Collegiate Tennis Rankings for all regions recently, slotting Tarleton State No. 9 in the Texas Regional Rankings. There are 22 NCAA Division I programs in the state of Texas, and in just four years of being a D1 program, Tarleton is recognized as one of the top teams in the state.

Over the past three seasons, Tarleton has gone 52-15 (.776), 18-3 (.857) in conference matches, with top-two finishes in both the regular season standings and conference tournament in each of the last two years. Last season the Texans finished 17-4 and 6-1 in Western Athletic Conference play, advancing to the WAC Tournament championship match.

Under head coach Elianne Douglas-Miron, in four years at the D1 level, Tarleton has won the WAC Coach of the Year award, the WAC Player of the Year award, the WAC Freshman of the Year award, and 14 All-Conference honors (seven Singles All-WAC First Team, one Doubles All-

WAC First Team, five Singles All-WAC Second Team, one Doubles All-WAC Second Team). They've also earned 33 midseason monthly or weekly awards (two Singles Player of the Month, one Doubles Team of the Month, 15 Singles Player of the Week, and 15 Doubles Team of the Week).

ITA's Top-10 Regional Rankings are Texas A&M at No. 1, Texas at No. 2, Texas Tech at No. 3, Baylor at No. 4, SMU at No. 5, TCU at No. 6, Rice at No. 7, UTSA at No. 8, Tarleton State at No. 9, and Texas A&M- Corpus Christi at No. 10.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Two camps remain in July and early August for campers to learn and focus on technique, individual instruction, tennis scoring format, games and point play.

## Texan Tennis hosts summer camps at Tarleton Tennis Facility

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE - The new Tarleton Tennis Facility will play host to Texan Tennis Camps for the first time this summer.

Two camps remain in July and early August for campers to learn and focus on technique, individual instruction, tennis scoring format,

games and point play.

From July 29-31, there will be a camp for ages 13-18, with the final camp set for Aug. 1-2 for ages 5-12.

Tarleton Tennis Camps will be staffed with Tarleton State coaches alongside current and former members of the Tarleton State tennis team.

Essential camp details can be found below. For full in-

formation and to register, visit [www.tarletontennis-camps.com](http://www.tarletontennis-camps.com).

Tarleton Texan Tennis Camp July 29-31  
Ages: 13-18  
Time: 8:30 a.m. to noon  
Cost: \$150  
Tarleton Texan Tennis Camp Aug. 1-2  
Ages: 5-12  
Time: 8:30 a.m. to noon  
Cost: \$100

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**COLD SPRINGS BAPTIST**  
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**EASTWOOD BAPTIST**  
Lynn Parks, pastor; 2518 East Main, Gatesville; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 10:50 a.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST EVANT**  
Dane Barron, pastor; 200 Live Oak Street, Evant; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m., adult Bible study 6 p.m.; Wednesday services - kids' & youth Bible study 6 p.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST FLAT**  
9775 TX-36, Gatesville; Sunday School 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.; Wednesdays - Prayer & Bible Study 7 p.m.; Youth Group & Kid Knights 7 p.m.; Supper first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.; Men's Breakfast second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST GATESVILLE**  
912 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m., Wednesdays - Children & Youth 5:30-7:00 p.m. (supper provided)  
**FIRST BAPTIST OGLESBY**  
Jeremy Sanders, Pastor; 120 College Ave.; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 am; Wednesdays - supper at 5:40 p.m., Kids & Youth Group 6 p.m., Prayer meeting 6 p.m.  
**FIRST BAPTIST PURMELA**  
875 FM 932, Purmela; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**GATEWAY BAPTIST**  
Michael Bragdon, Pastor; 2819 S. Hwy. 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.; Wednesday Service 7 p.m.  
**HARMONY BAPTIST**  
A.C. Painter, pastor; 1750 FM 215, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday evening worship 6:30 p.m.  
**HAY VALLEY BAPTIST**  
3110 Hay Valley Road; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**AWANA children's ministry**  
Sundays 5-7 p.m. Bible Study for men & women on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.  
**JONESBORO BAPTIST**  
Matt Dossey, pastor; 11420 N. State Hwy. S; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 10:50 a.m.  
**KING BAPTIST**  
Charles W. McKamie, pastor; 6730 FM 1783, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
**LIBERTY BAPTIST**  
Royce T. Cockrell, DMin., Pastor; Corner of FM 107 & HWY 36, Gatesville; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Service 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., Family Bible Study Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.  
**LIVE OAK BAPTIST**  
Pastor Matthew Hamilton; 113 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday evenings: Choir at 5:30 p.m., Children & Youth Activities, Adult Bible Study at 6:15 p.m.  
**MOUNTAIN BAPTIST**  
Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor; 6319 US-84, Gatesville;

Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday.  
**OSAGE BAPTIST**  
Chris Thomas, pastor; 7505 FM 185, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**PEARL COUNTRY CHURCH**  
2082 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m.  
**PECAN GROVE BAPTIST**  
6545 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**PIDCOKE BAPTIST**  
Donald McConaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m.  
**PLEASANT VALLEY BAPTIST**  
Chris Post, Pastor; CR 301, Jonesboro; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**PRIMERO IGLESIA EMANUEL**  
One mile north of Evant, Hwy. 281; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**PURMELA BAPTIST**  
Pastor: Brenden Hough; 875 FM 932, Purmela, TX 76566; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship 11 a.m.  
**SWEET HOME BAPTIST**  
511 N. 14th, Gatesville; Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.; Wednesday worship 7 p.m.  
**SPANISH BAPTIST**  
Ezequiel Casas, pastor; 113 Veazy Dr., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6 p.m.  
**TRINITY BAPTIST**  
Bro. Sam Crosby, Pastor; 1506 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Wednesday - activities for adults, youth, & children 6:30 p.m.; 254-865-8495 or Pre-school: 254-248-0041.  
**TURNERSVILLE BAPTIST**  
Jon Crosby, Pastor; 8120 FM 182, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.  
**WESTVIEW BAPTIST**  
Pastor: Malachi Houser; 1102 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**WHITE HALL BAPTIST**  
Mike Barron, pastor; 2040 CR 238, Gatesville; Sunday school 10 a.m.; Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 254-679-3200.  
**WHITE MOUND BAPTIST**  
Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 642 CR 320; mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558.  
**MOUND COWBOY CHURCH**  
Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Men's breakfast every third Saturday at 8 a.m. Inside: 3075 FM 931, outside: 2000 CR 321. Mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558.

**CATHOLIC OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Rev. Jayaraju Polishetty; 1108 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m. (English) & 12 p.m. (Spanish Mass), Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. & Wednesday-Friday at 7 a.m.  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST CEDAR RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Deral McWhorter, minister; 104 Cedar Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
**EVANT CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Will Vann, Preacher; 310 W. Brooks Dr., Evant; Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:20 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.  
**FORT GATES CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
4605 St. Hwy. 36 S., Gatesville; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.

**GATESVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Justin Hall, minister; 2417 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Bible class 9:30 a.m., Sunday service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible classes 6:30 p.m.  
**LA IGLESIA DE CRISTO**  
2413 E. Main, Gatesville; clases y servicios en Español, 10-11:30 a.m., Solamente en domingos.  
**MIDWAY CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
1955 CR 3640, Copperas Cove; Sundays - worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays - Bible Study 5:30 p.m.; Royce 512-734-5390 or Steve 254-865-3559.  
**PEARL CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
6790 FM 183; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.  
**CHURCH OF GOD CORNERSTONE CHURCH OF GOD**  
338 State School Rd., Gatesville; Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**LUTHERAN IMMANUEL LUTHERAN**  
David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd., Copperas Cove; Sunday Bible Study 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.  
**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN**  
Rev. Christopher Richman, PhD; 10801 FM 929, Coryell City; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.  
**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN**  
Rev. John Heckmann, pastor; Hwy. 36 & FM 1114, The Grove; Sunday School 9 a.m., Sunday worship 10:15 a.m.

**METHODIST BETHEL UNITED METHODIST**  
2 miles north of Ireland on FM 932; 11 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays.  
**EVANT METHODIST**  
235 US-281, Evant; Dennis Dutton, Pastor; Sunday worship 10 a.m.  
**FIRST METHODIST GATESVILLE**  
2600 E. Main St.; Stephen Schmidt, pastor; Sunday worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY WORD (during school year): Meal at 5:30 p.m. \$3; youth, Children & Adult Bible Studies at 6 p.m. AA meets Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 6:30 p.m. 254-865-2520.  
**GATESVILLE UNITED METHODISTS**  
All are welcome. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at J&M BBQ. For more information, call 254-223-0665.  
**OGLESBY UNITED METHODIST**  
Kent Berry, pastor; 109 College St.; Sunday worship 9 a.m.  
**PIDCOKE METHODIST**  
Rev. Pete Harris; Hwy. 116 N., Pidcoke; Sunday worship service 10 a.m.; 254-677-6242.  
**MORMON CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
206 S. 26th St., Gatesville; Sacrament services Sundays 10 a.m., Sunday School 10 a.m.  
**NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN LIFE CHURCH**  
Frank Rosenstem, pastor; Hwy. 84 W.; Sunday services 10:30 a.m.; Thursday services, 7 p.m.  
**CORYELL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Eric Moffett, Pastor; 115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, 248-0849. Sunday worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services 6 p.m.; Adult Bible Study, Children's Ministry & C3 Student Ministry.  
**CORYELL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**  
Doran Belknap III, Pastor; Sunday service 11 a.m., 8205 FM 182, Turnersville; 254-218-5901.  
**COVER2COVER MINISTRIES**  
Pastor: Rev. Brandy Spiker; Sunday service 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.,

Wednesdays 6 p.m. 407 SH-36, Ste. 4 & 5, Gatesville.  
**GATESVILLE REVIVAL CENTER**  
Wes Covey, Pastor; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday services 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., Thursdays 7 p.m.; 2518 Bridge St.; 254-392-9472.  
**GRACE ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Wray Nunn, pastor; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday worship 6:30 p.m.; Gateway Learning Center, 2315 Osage Rd., Gatesville.  
**HARVESTING SOULS INTERNATIONAL CHURCH**  
Mike & Martha Johnson pastors, 503 N. 11th St., Gatesville; 865-6222. Sunday worship 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study Ministries (Men, Women, children) 6 p.m. "Overcomers" a TDC & state approved 12-step recovery program meets Tuesday 6 p.m.  
**JOHNNY WATKIN'S MEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**  
Sundays, 8:30-9 a.m. aqui se reune La Iglesia de Cristo, in the 2400 Block of E. Main St., Gatesville.  
**LEVITA BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**  
Pat Cole, Pastor; 4460 FM 930, Levita; Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.; Tuesday OWLS Kid Group 6-8 p.m.  
**MOTHER NEFF FAITH TABERNACLE**  
William Bertelsen, Pastor; 1415 Texas Hwy. 236; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.  
**PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP**  
6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sunday Services 9 a.m.  
**THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT**  
Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday service 11 a.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.

**PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE OF PRAISE**  
Rev. Jimmy Skiles, pastor; 202 E. Main, Gatesville; Sundays 10 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; 254-206-1826.  
**MOUNT CALVARY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor; 514 N. 13th St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesdays Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday service, 7:30 p.m.  
**PRESBYTERIAN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, pastor; 1110 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.  
**REFORMED GRACE BIBLE CHURCH**  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday services 10:45 a.m.; 4012 US Hwy. 84, Gatesville.  
**SPANISH BIENVENIDOS AL HOGAR DE DIOS**  
Domingos a partir de las 2:00 p.m. Te esperamos! 6226 E. Hwy. 84, Gatesville.  
**WESLEYAN CORYELL VALLEY CHURCH**  
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# GISD Back to School Bash is set for July 27

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.

GISD employee, Michelle Martin, reported that at this event students get free school supplies, backpacks, shoes, hygiene items, haircuts, health screenings, and hearing and vision tests. Last year, 420 students attended the event.

Martin reported, "We now give away over 400 back-

packs, 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."

Martin also stated that

the cost of this event is roughly \$30,000. Breaking it down, \$12,000 for the shoes, \$6,000 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 at the Back to School Bash, Martin replied, "This year we will have a free Mobil 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."

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.

## GISD to host Sports Nutrition 101 presentation July 29

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District has announced that they will host a Sports Nutrition 101 presentation with sports nutritionist Wendi Irlbeck, MS, RDN, LD, CISSN, on Monday, July 29, at 6 p.m.

The presentation is for all students and parents

who are interested in attending.

The meeting will be conducted from 6 p.m.-7 p.m. via a live Zoom meeting in the Gatesville High School auditorium. The presentation will last for 45 minutes, followed by a 15-minute question-and-answer session with Irlbeck.

Discussion topics include

- Protein, carbs, and calories 101
- Fueling, training, and games
- Navigating nutrition labels
- Sleep, hydration, and recovery
- Supplement use and safety

Weight gain and weight management

Grocery lists and fueling plan samples  
If you are unable to attend in person, you may also view the presentation that night on your own by using a tablet or cell phone. There will be a secure link sent out to those who are interested.

Gatesville ISD athletic trainer Tatianna Navarro will be sending out more details and additional information closer to the event.

For further questions, contact Gatesville High School at 254-865-8281  
Gatesville High School is located at 205 South Lovers Lane.

## GJH to hold meet the teacher

Staff Reports

Gatesville Junior High has announced that it will hold its annual Meet the Teacher event on Tuesday, Aug. 6, from 5-6:30 p.m.

All returning junior high students who attended Gatesville Independent School District during the 2023-2024 school year must be registered to receive their schedule at meet the teacher.

**Other schedule pick-up times include**

- Monday, Aug. 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 6, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Wednesday, Aug. 7, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Online registration for the new school year is now open as well. Be sure to use Parent Portal to access and complete the registration at [rmd.me/CILRABYWD4I](http://rmd.me/CILRABYWD4I). Proof of residence will be required.

For further details, contact Gatesville Junior High at 254-865-8271.

Gatesville Junior High is located at 307 South Lovers Lane.

## EISD to hold meet the teacher & principal event

Staff Reports

Evant Independent School District has recently announced that it will host a Meet the Principal event on Monday, July 22, with 2024-2025 principal Ricky Mourning.

The meeting will be held from 5-7 p.m. in the Evant ISD library.

Evant ISD will also hold a Meet the Teacher event on Thursday, Aug. 8, to gear back up for the school year. Meet the Teacher will be from 5:30-7 p.m.

For further details, contact Evant ISD at 254-471-5536.

Evant ISD is located at 339 Memory Lane in Evant.

## Evant ISD to hold cell free information meeting Aug. 6

Staff Reports

Evant Independent School District has announced that beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, the campus will be cell phone free.

The district will host a

cell free program information meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 6, to discuss its plans to introduce a cell free campus locking pouch program.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be held in the Evant ISD

gymnasium.

For further details, contact Evant ISD at 254-471-5536.

Evant ISD is located at 339 Memory Lane in Evant.

## Gatesville Elementary to host Meet the Teacher Aug. 6

Staff Reports

Gatesville Elementary School has recently announced that it will host a

Meet the Teacher event on Tuesday, Aug. 6.

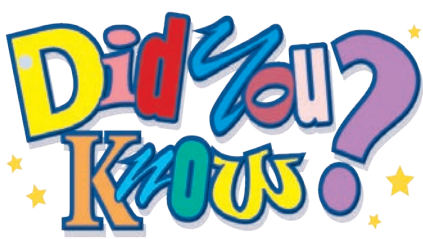
Meet the Teacher will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will continue through 7 p.m.

Students will be able to meet with their teachers and principals for the upcoming school year and will get the chance to see

their classroom before the first day of school.

For further details, contact Gatesville Elementary School at 254-865-7262.

Gatesville Elementary School is located at 2537 East Main Street.



**GRAVITY ON THE MOON IS ONLY ONE-SIXTH AS STRONG AS GRAVITY ON EARTH. IF YOU JUMPED ON THE MOON, YOU'D GO SIX TIMES HIGHER.**



**THIS DAY IN...**



**HISTORY**

- **1810:** CITIZENS OF BOGOTA DECLARE THEIR INDEPENDENCE FROM SPAIN.
- **1960:** SIRIMA BANDARANAIKE OF CEYLON BECOMES THE WORLD'S FIRST ELECTED FEMALE HEAD OF GOVERNMENT.
- **1969:** ASTRONAUT NEIL ARMSTRONG BECOMES THE FIRST MAN TO WALK ON THE MOON.

**N**ational Moon Day, observed on July 20th, commemorates the day humans first set foot on the moon during the Apollo 11 mission in 1969. For kids, National Moon Day is an opportunity to explore the wonders of space, learn about the historic moon landing, and appreciate the significance of lunar exploration.

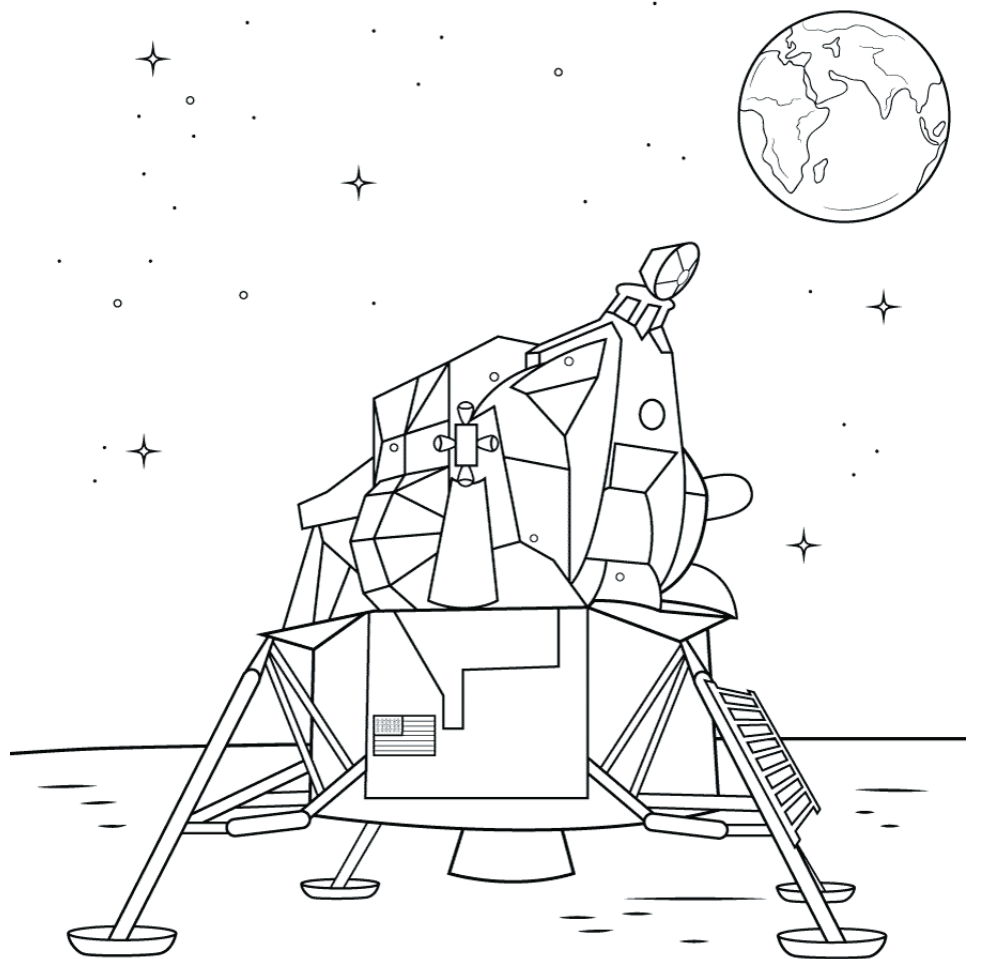
Families can engage in educational activities, such as watching documentaries about the Apollo 11 mission, reading books on space exploration, and exploring online resources that provide insights into

the moon and space travel. Parents and caregivers can share interesting facts about the moon, its phases, and the astronauts who took part in the historic moon landing. Kids may be inspired to create moon-themed art projects or even participate in stargazing activities to observe the moon in the night sky.

National Moon Day encourages families to reflect on the achievements of space exploration and inspire future generations to reach for the stars. Observing this day is a wonderful opportunity for kids to develop an interest in science, technology, en-

gineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields, fostering a curiosity about the universe beyond our planet.

So, on July 20th, let the imagination soar, and take a moment to appreciate the historic milestone of the moon landing. National Moon Day is a celebration of human achievement, curiosity, and the endless possibilities of exploring the cosmos.



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

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### DEADLINE

Saturday Issue: 10 A.M. Tuesday

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#### 015 FARM & RANCH

Hay Ranch Hand/Caretaker: Must be familiar with hay production & equipment. Near Valley Mills, TX. Call: 254-366-6100 or email: m.strain.4.uk@gmail.com.  
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If veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, ask for Happy Jack® to treat mane dandruff, yeast infections, & control fleas/ticks & mosquitoes.  
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#### 037 HELP WANTED

Johnson Roofing is currently hiring Experienced Commercial Roofers, Experienced Metal Framers Immediately. \$500 Hiring Bonus after 1st week of employment! Top Pay and Benefits! Email resume HR@JRoof.com  
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#### 045 SERVICES

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**TREE WORKS** Tree Service: tree trimming, removal & stump grinding. Free estimates. Call Lloyd, (254)223-3287.  
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**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.**  
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**254-432-1705**  
**CELL 254-216-2938**

#### 060 GARAGE SALE

**GARAGE SALE**  
**110 Stoneridge**  
 (by Gatesville Fitness Center)  
**Friday, July 26 • 7:00-12:00**  
**Saturday, July 27 • 7:00-???**  
 Antiques, Furniture, Books, Home Décor, Baby & Kids Clothes & Shoes, Women & Men's Clothes & Shoes, Lawn Equipment, Outdoor & Indoor Toys

**25 CENT SALE!** 07/23 - 07/27! The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m.  
 00030880

Church Yard Sale: Saturday, July 20, 8 a.m., 202 E. Main Street. Multi-family.  
 00030935

#### 060 GARAGE SALE

Moving Sale! 9715 South State Highway 36, across from Dollar General in Flat. @9a.m. both days, Sat., 7/13&7/20. China cabinets, chest of drawers, large wood table w/six chairs, exercise equipment.&two day beds!  
 254-223-2373  
 00030917

#### 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

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://AmericanMeeting-Group.com/chase>  
 00030856

#### REQUEST FOR BIDS CITY OF GATESVILLE

The City of Gatesville is soliciting proposals for backup fleet maintenance services. Please submit your proposal per the guidelines in the RFB to 803 E. Main St, Gatesville, TX 76528. Proposals must be received by the City no later than 2:00 p.m. on July 24, 2024 to be considered. Copies of the RFB are posted on the City Webpage [www.Cityof-GatesvilleTX.com](http://www.Cityof-GatesvilleTX.com). 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).  
 00030914

#### EVANT ISD - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Evant Independent School District is requesting proposals for the purchase of two 2023 or newer model Type C gasoline School Buses that seat 40-60 people. Proposals must be addressed to ATTN: Dr. Ingram, Superintendent, Evant ISD, P.O. Box 339, Evant, Texas 76525, and will be received at the above address until 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 16, 2024, at which time they will be opened and read aloud. Details as to Request for Proposals criteria are available at the District Administration Building, 339 Memory Lane, Evant, Texas 76525.  
 00030915

#### 099 PUBLIC NOTICES

#### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS CITY OF GATESVILLE

The City of Gatesville is soliciting proposals from a State of Texas-registered **engineering firm** to assist with pre-award and post-award engineering services. Services will include FEMA Public Assistance (PA) application(s) to include the development of preliminary and final design plans, and necessary interim and final inspections as required by the City. Please electronically submit your qualifications in .pdf format via email to Mike Halsema, Interim Deputy City Manager at [mhalsema@gatesvilletx.com](mailto:mhalsema@gatesvilletx.com) OR submit your qualifications to the address below on a thumb drive OR submit 3 copies of your statement of qualifications for the proposed services to the following address: Attn: Mike Halsema, Interim City Manager, City of Gatesville, 803 E. Main Street, Gatesville, TX 76528. Qualifications must be received by the City no later than 4:30 p.m. July 29, 2024 to be considered. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit qualifications and may award one or more contracts to one or more engineering 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 qualifications. The City of Gatesville is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. 00030913

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Richard Carl Olson, Deceased, were issued on 6-12-24, in Cause No. 24-11012, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Carolann Olson.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

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

#### DATED the 10 day of July, 2024.

Dori Ray Mistic Attorney for Carolann Olson State Bar No.: 04091800 907 S. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Telephone: (254) 547-6000 Facsimile: (254) 547-4157 Email: [doriraymistic@hotmail.com](mailto:doriraymistic@hotmail.com) 00030926

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters testamentary for the Estate of Robert Jurgen Murphree, Deceased, were issued on 6-12-24, in Cause No. 24-11017, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Robert Scott Murphree.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

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

#### DATED the 10 day of July, 2024.

Dori Ray Mistic Attorney for Robert Scott Murphree State Bar No.: 04091800 907 S. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Telephone: (254) 547-6000 Facsimile: (254) 547-4157 Email: [doriraymistic@hotmail.com](mailto:doriraymistic@hotmail.com) 00030927

#### 099 PUBLIC NOTICES

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of William Clifford Black, Deceased, were issued on 6-12-24, in Cause No. 24-11009, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Ursula B. Black.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

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

#### DATED the 10 day of July, 2024.

Dori Ray Mistic Attorney for Ursula B. Black State Bar No.: 04091800 907 S. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Telephone: (254) 547-6000 Facsimile: (254) 547-4157 Email: [doriraymistic@hotmail.com](mailto:doriraymistic@hotmail.com) 00030928

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Gene M. Logan, Deceased, were issued on 6-12-24, in Cause No. 24-11006, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Troy John Logan.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

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

#### DATED the 10 day of July, 2024.

Dori Ray Mistic Attorney for Troy John Logan State Bar No.: 04091800 907 S. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Telephone: (254) 547-4157 Email: [doriraymistic@hotmail.com](mailto:doriraymistic@hotmail.com) 00030929

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Jack Lyman Nelson, Jr., Deceased, were issued on 6-12-24, in Cause No. 24-11002, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Rita Celeste Burgess.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

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

#### DATED the 10 day of July, 2024.

Dori Ray Mistic Attorney for Rita Celeste Burgess State Bar No. 04091800 907 S. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Telephone: (265) 547-6000 Facsimile: (254) 547-4157 Email: [doriraymistic@hotmail.com](mailto:doriraymistic@hotmail.com) 00030930



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 humanresources@coryellhealth.org

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 • Patient Dining Associate  
 • Cook  
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 • Paramedic – PRN  
 • EMT – PRN  
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102 REAL ESTATE

102 REAL ESTATE




**CORYELL COUNTY**  
EVANT & OGLESBY

## LAND USE PUBLIC MEETING

**EVANT**  
JULY 22, 2024  
6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.  
DROP IN/COME AND GO

**COMMUNITY CENTER**  
598 EAST HWY 84 EVANT, TX 76525

**OGLESBY**  
JULY 23, 2024  
6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.  
DROP IN/COME AND GO

**COMMUNITY CENTER**  
117 MAIN S. OGLESBY, TX 76561

SCAN HERE FOR LAND USE SURVEY

254.865.5911  
www.coryellcounty.org




**CORYELL COUNTY**  
GATESVILLE, TX

## LAND USE PUBLIC MEETING

**JOIN US!**  
JULY 24, 2024  
6:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.  
DROP IN/COME AND GO


**CORYELL COUNTY MAIN STREET ANNEX COMMISSIONERS' COURTROOM**  
801 E. LEON ST. GATESVILLE, TX 76528

SCAN HERE FOR LAND USE SURVEY

254.865.5911  
www.coryellcounty.org

APC Towers, LLC has constructed a 160-foot overall height monopole telecommunications structure located near County Road 234, Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas (N31° 36' 51.8", 97° 43' 22.6"). The proposed tower will not be lit. Any interested party may request further environmental review of the proposed action under the FCC's National Environmental Policy Act rules, 47 CFR 1.1307, by notifying the FCC of the specific reasons that the action may have significant impact on the quality of the human environment. This request must only raise environmental concerns and can be filed online using the FCC pleadings system at www.fcc.gov or mailed to FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554 within 30 days of the date that notice of this proposed action is published on the FCC's website. Refer to File No. A1287490 when submitting the request and to view the specific information about the proposed action. 23-002482 MCM.

00030932



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Cell 254-865-3601

**AGENTS:**  
Lindy Burks 254-206-0643  
Johnny Burks 254-223-0833

For complete listings: [www.burksrealestate.com](http://www.burksrealestate.com)

- 3/2 Austin Stone Home, 378 Tom Sawyer St., Evant. Renovated bathroom, dual vanities, walk-in shower, large living room, all electric appliances in Kitchen, .579-acre lot, small storage shed and attached garage. \$193,000
- 1.469 ac. Lampasas River Place Subdivision, Lampasas River frontage, good tree cover, electricity along property line, Kempner water along front. \$125,000
- 5.01 ac., Lot 62 Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Evant, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electricity at road, fiber optic internet. \$165,000
- 5.01 ac., Lot 64 Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Evant, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electricity at road, fiber optic internet. \$165,000
- 10.01 ac., Lot 53 in Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electricity at road, fiber optic internet. \$167,000
- 10.01 ac., Lot 20 Phase 4 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Good tree cover, great views, electricity at road, fiber optic internet service, gated subdivision. \$109,000
- 10.01 ac., Lot 140 Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, oaks, mesquites, cedar. Electricity, fiber optic internet. \$123,000
- 10.01 ac., Lot 3 Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, stock tank, seasonal creek along back of the property. \$130,000
- 10.01 ac., Lot 41 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, fiber optic internet. \$149,500
- 10.477 ac., 2Br 1Ba home, 6785 FM 1783 Gatesville, TX, open floor plan, recently remodeled, approx. 2400 sq. ft. living, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, 700 ft of Cow House Creek frontage. \$589,000
- 12.08 ac. Lot 23 Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision Evant, Langford Branch, great views, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electricity at road, fiber optic internet. You will need to drill a water well. \$275,000
- 16.64 ac. Lot N 31 PR 2902, Hamilton TX. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, fully fenced, electricity at the road. \$140,000
- 16.5 ac. Lot 42 Phase 4 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant. Good elevation & tree cover, great views, Dry Branch, electricity at road, fiber optic internet. \$225,000
- 20.02 ac. Lot 25 Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX, Dry Branch, good tree cover, rolling terrain. Electric & Fiber Optic Internet. OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE. \$218,500
- 22.2 ac., 4/2 Palm Harbor manufactured home, 812 Blakley Rd, open floor plan, large master BR, his & her closets, 2 living areas, 14'x35' sunroom, laminate floors, ceramic floors in kitchen, laundry & bathrooms, 8'x40' container w/leanto for a carport, outbuildings, water well, rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$639,500
- 24.437 ac. Tract 3, Purmela, TX, CR 182. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, paved country road, you will need to drill a well for water, no restrictions. \$216,000
- 30.528 ac. East of Evant, great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, electricity across the road, you will need to drill a water well. \$305,280.
- 38+/- ac. South of Pearl, TX, Coryell County, FM 183 frontage, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, nice views, great home site. \$372,400
- 41.0457 ac. Hamilton, CR 404, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, approx. 25 acres farmland, 2 tanks, & good fences. \$449,000
- 58.51 ac. 3/2 frame home, 6630 FM 183, Evant, TX, water well, several outbuildings, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, 2 tanks. \$459,303
- 71.572 ac. Flat, TX, CR 931. rolling terrain & scattered tree cover, several outbuildings, rural water & electric at barn, completely fenced, easements in place to preserve the agricultural & recreational resources of the land. \$590,469
- 147.567 ac. CR 136, West of Gatesville, property is divided into three pastures, one stock tank and good perimeter fencing and cross fencing. \$1,032,969
- 574.02 ac. Coryell & Hamilton County, Purmela, TX. 3/2 home, 3/2 mobile home, 50 ft X 100 ft metal building with 2/1 living quarters, & smaller barn. Paved road frontage, Multi-County Water meter & water well. 3 stock tanks and seasonal creek, good tree cover, rolling terrain and over 100 ft change of elevation. The ranch is cross fenced and has a set of pipe working pens in the middle of the ranch. \$3,932,037



Ad2



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## CEN-TEX CRIME STOPPERS

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ALL OF OUR RUNNERS AND VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED  
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## KIDS LEARN ABOUT FIRE SAFETY FOR LIBRARY STORY TIME



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Gatesville Fire Department recently visited the Gatesville Public Library for their weekly "story time" hour. After learning about fire safety from Gatesville firefighters, children and their parents stopped by the fire station for a tour and to explore the fire trucks. The library hosts "story time" for pre-K and elementary ages on Wednesdays at 11 a.m.

## 4-H ambassadors to host Clover Kids Day



COURTESY PHOTO

Becky Coward

Submitted by Becky Coward

Did you know that 4-H not only offers programs for youth in 3rd through 12th grades, but also has a Clover Kid age category? Students in kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades are known as "4-H Clover Kids."

If you have ever wanted to come explore 4-H opportunities for our youngest members, now is the time!

All youth entering kindergarten through 3rd grade are invited to come have fun while learning about 4-H on Friday, July 26, at Hay Valley Baptist Church. Youth should arrive at 2 p.m. and may be dropped off by parents.

As always, parents are welcome to stay and observe or they may return at 5 p.m. for a "show and tell" presentation by their youth about what opportunities 4-H has to offer.

Youth will be invited to explore projects offered in the Coryell County 4-H programs for Clover Kid aged students, as well as the meaning behind the 4-H emblem.

As 4-H promotes healthy lifestyles, community involvement, and servant leadership, young people will be exposed to how they can truly follow the 4-H motto and "make the best better."

Each age group will rotate through a series of stations led by the Coryell County 4-H Ambassador Team under the direction of the county extension agent.

They will experience what it's like to complete a 4-H project, hear from successful 4-H youth leaders, and explore potential areas of interest for themselves.

Some of the projects that will be explored include Photography, Rabbits, Sheep/Goats, Fashion & Design, Foods & Nutrition, Visual & Performance Arts, Public Speaking, and more.

To pre-register, please go to the Coryell County AgriLife website at <https://coryell.agrilife.org/>.

For more information, contact Becky Coward, 4-H Agent at the Coryell County AgriLife Extension Office at 254-865-2414.



COURTESY PHOTO

Hannah Gustin (middle with certificate) is pictured with her FFA classmates.

## Gustin earns Lonestar Degree at FFA State Convention

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH  
Staff Writer

Hannah Gustin of Jonesboro recently received her Lonestar Degree at the annual Texas FFA State Convention, which was held in Houston this past week.

The State Degree, called a Lonestar Degree in Texas, is the highest award the state level organization can bestow upon members. The National FFA Organization states that, of total membership, only three percent of members receive this award based on eligibility requirements.

With there being over

700,000 members nationally, this is a huge accomplishment for Gustin.

Gustin has been in FFA since her third-grade year at Jonesboro Independent School District.

"Getting my Lone Star degree meant a lot to me," she said. "I'm not able to compete in sports, so showing has always been important to me; Being recognized for all my years of hard work was really special."

To receive your Lone Star Degree, a lengthy application needs to be completed that is a running record of your FFA accomplishments

and projects. Once the application is finished, it must pass through the district, area, and then state levels to get approved.

This means that not just her family and school recognize the years of dedication to showing and FFA, but several committees do as well.

Gustin's mother, Kendra Byrom, who also happens to be the principal at Jonesboro ISD, expressed that since having both knees surgically repaired in the last two years, she has had to adjust the way she works with her lambs. "Many kids would have

given up, but not her," Byrom said. "She just works harder."

Gustin expressed that FFA is important to her because anyone can find a way to be involved and find an avenue to shine.

"You can work hard at showing animals, compete in competitions academically, or even sing in talent contests," she said. "People don't know just how many avenues of competition FFA offers and the doors for scholarships and after high school jobs it opens up; it's a wonderful community that supports all kids."

"It's really nice to see Hannah recognized for all of her years of hard work," Byrom said. "This degree is just one more way to show her that all that hard work has paid off."

FFA is a dynamic, student-led leadership development organization for students of agricultural education. The FFA organization makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

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