

THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Man dies in Hwy 36 wreck involving commercial truck

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

A crash on State Highway 36 near Flat the evening of Thursday, July 25 left one person dead, according to a statement from the Texas Department of Public Safety. The incident occurred at approximately 6:08 p.m. on Highway 36 near CR-334, just east of Flat. According to DPS, a Hino L6, a medium-duty truck designed for commercial use, was traveling eastbound when it left its lane of travel and crashed into a tree. The reason for the crash is unknown. A DPS spokesperson said the driver of the truck, 51-year-old Mark McCartney, of Moody, was

pronounced dead at the scene. Next of kin have been notified. No other vehicles or passengers are mentioned in the DPS report. The investigation is active and ongoing. "When driving, it's important to pay attention to your lane position," DPS said in a statement. "Knowing where you are on the roadway can possibly prevent a crash." Coryell County Sheriff's Office deputies, the Flat Fire Department and EMS personnel also responded to the crash scene. The sheriff's office reported via social media the scene was cleared by 9 p.m. July 25.

City approves gazebo at Freedom Park

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

The City of Gatesville will soon receive a new addition to one of its parks. During a regular meeting on July 23, the Gatesville City Council approved the placement of a gazebo at Freedom Park that will honor the memory of a former community member. The structure will pay tribute to Ronnie Viss, a member of the organization who died in 2021 at 45 years old. The project

is being led by members of the Gatesville Exchange Club, who worked with the Parks and Recreation Department and Interim City Manager Brad Hunt to choose a location for the gazebo. The purpose of the gazebo is to not only honor Viss's contribution to his community, but also provide a scenic addition to one of Gatesville's parks. The plan is to place the gazebo in a shaded area

PLEASE SEE CITY | A2

Sweet Success

Local youth raise money with a lemonade stand



PHOTO COURTESY OF KORTNEY SHORT

Local youth Channing Pierce (left) and Laynie Ellison are pictured in front of The Feed Mill last Saturday selling lemonade. The duo sat in the heat for hours while offering fresh pink lemonade to the community for \$2 a cup. Pierce plans to use the funds raised to go toward purchasing an E-bike of her own, while Ellison volunteers her help with selling lemonade at the stand.

Evant Independent School District embraces four-day school week



ADOBE STOCK

Evant ISD is one of several school districts that operate on a four-day week.

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

As a parent and elementary school teacher at Evant Independent School District, Autumn Vann spends her Mondays preparing for the work week ahead or enjoying quality time with her family. After adopting the change in 2022, Evant ISD enters another year on a four-day week rather than a traditional Monday through Friday schedule. For Vann, the extra day off gives her the flexibility to schedule appointments, run errands, or rest without sacrificing time in the classroom. "With the five-day week, I always felt like I had to choose between getting stuff ready for school, relaxing, or spending time with family," Vann said. "As a result, relaxing and resting didn't happen often." In recent years, the move to a four-day school week

has risen among smaller, rural school districts that do not always have the funds to compete with larger districts that offer higher pay. This includes Evant ISD, which made the change as a way to recruit and retain teachers in their small community. "It's amazing how fast you can get used to the four-day week, as a teacher and as a parent," Vann said. "The four-day week allows more time to be spent with family or to schedule doctor's appointments without having to miss instruction." The school holds classes Tuesday through Friday with Monday as an "off" day, where teachers and students are encouraged to schedule appointments or plan other extracurricular activities, explains Superintendent Jennifer Ingram. The school also utilizes Mondays for other educational purposes, such as

once-a-month professional development meetings for teachers and tutoring sessions for students. "The benefit is that students can take care of personal business on Monday to improve attendance the remainder of the week," Ingram said. "In addition, the time for targeted tutorials and intervention is an excellent opportunity to get one-on-one or small group help when needed." Vann believes that the shorter week also allows students to pursue other interests outside of the classroom. "Even though the school day is a little longer, the thought of not having school on Monday makes most students excited," Vann said. "I think that students are also more relaxed when they come."

PLEASE SEE EISD | A2



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PHOTO COURTESY OF BLAYR BARNARD

The Barnard farm has served the community for more than 100 years.

Coryell County farm provides farm-to-table beef to school districts

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

A local farm is helping schools provide a more nutritious lunch option for their students — 100% beef from Central Texas cattle. Barnard Beef Cattle Company, a family-owned ranch located between Gatesville and Waco that has served the community for more than 100 years, will supply beef from its farm to McGregor, Lampasas, and Crawford Independent School Districts this upcoming school year. “We just feel like it’s really important to do this — to get really good nutrition into these kids’ hands,” said Blayr Barnard, owner of Barnard Beef Cattle Company. After Barnard read a 2012 report that went viral about

how a school lunch burger contained 26 ingredients, she knew she wanted to help provide a healthier, less processed option for schools when given the opportunity. Barnard said the food she will deliver to the schools will contain one simple ingredient — beef. “When you think about it, if a burger patty alone has 26 ingredients, and then you add cheese with several ingredients, and then you add a burger bun with several ingredients, that’s a lot of different ingredients for one item,” Barnard said. “If you can take 25 ingredients out of that, that’s pretty incredible. That gets you so much closer to a super healthy product.” “It tastes like real beef,”

she adds. “It doesn’t have the high salt content either, so it’s not just swimming in MSG or salt.” According to an NPR article from 2012, the 26-ingredient burger contains hard-to-pronounce ingredients such as thiamine mononitrate, disodium inosinate and pyridoxine hydrochloride. Since then, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and schools across the country have endeavored to improve nutrition standards for school meals. Through the Local Food for Schools grant by the Texas Department of Agriculture, Texas schools can apply to receive state funds and resources that connect them with local farmers and ranchers to bring more

local, minimally processed foods to school lunch tables. “McGregor ISD looked at the different local options to see what minimally processed foods were available in our area and decided that the healthiest choice that we could offer to our students was locally raised beef,” Lisa Mays, director of food services at McGregor ISD, said via email. “Purchasing the fresh, ground beef from Barnard Cattle Company will allow the district to serve beef that is all natural and contains no preservatives.” Because Barnard’s farm encompasses hundreds of acres that cross Coryell County and parts of McGregor, the students will

be served beef raised from cattle within or only a few miles from their school district. “We are so excited to partner with Barnard Cattle Company,” McGregor ISD Superintendent Travis Mutscher said. “This is an excellent example of local control with state funds, working with our community and providing a superior benefit to our students.” Barnard emphasizes that the school districts are the ones that led the partnership with the goal to provide healthier food options for their students. “This was not parents saying ‘we need this,’ and it was not students saying ‘we need this,’ it was employees saying ‘I want to provide a

better product to the kids that I care about,” Barnard said. While Barnard Beef Cattle Company will serve three local school districts this year, Barnard said they are open to supplying more schools in the future. “It would be a pretty neat thing to bring on more and be able to think of kids getting really nutritious products,” Barnard said. Although the farm has a decades-long legacy, Barnard first took over the family business in 2015. The company sells grain-finished and grass-fed beef, pork and chicken to consumers across the state of Texas.



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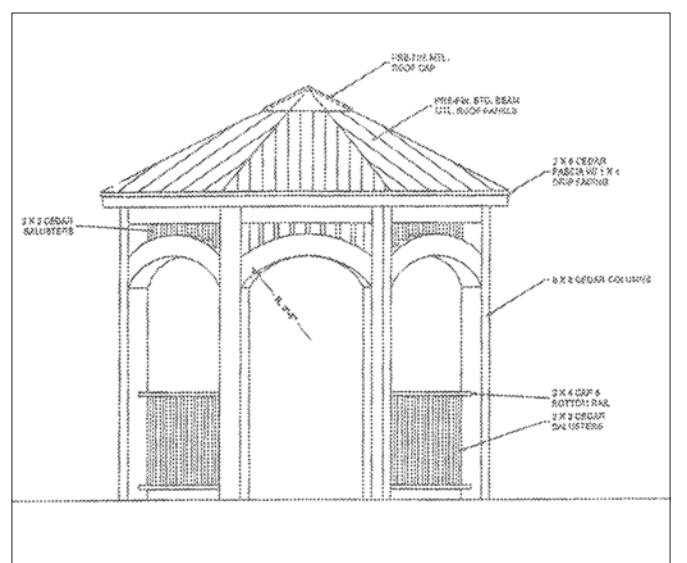
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CITY FROM PAGE A1

near a historic bridge truss at Freedom Park, which can also serve as a space for events or ceremonies that take place at the Gatesville Civic Center. “(This) affords a very good opportunity, I think, for the community as a community improvement project for photogenic purposes, graduation pictures, family pictures, and then, of course, we do host quite a few wedding receptions at the civic center as well,” Hunt said. Viss not only served in the Exchange Club, but also on the city council for eight years, including acting as Mayor Pro Tem during his tenure. He was also involved in several local organizations, including the Boys and Girls Club Advisory board and the Coryell County Child Welfare Board. Gatesville Parks Director Seth Phillips will work with the Exchange Club on the exact placement and design of the gazebo, which will be created from either wood



COURTESY PHOTO

The initial design of the gazebo that was presented to the city council in December.

or metal. The city will then vote to take over the maintenance of the structure once it is complete, Hunt added. The city council approved the building of the gazebo during a meeting in December. At the time, the cost of project materials was estimated to be around \$8,000. The funding will come from

donations via the Exchange Club. Now that a location has been approved, Exchange Club member Lauren Morrell said the organization will need to continue fund raising for the project before a completion date is set.

EISD FROM PAGE A1

This year, Evant will include five-day weeks during the months of August and April, and then transition back to four days for the remainder of the year, Ingram said. As of July 2024, at least 103 school districts in Texas have approved a four-day school week, according to KXAN. In 2015, Texas passed House Bill 2610 that said schools no longer required 180 days of instruction, but instead they must provide at least 75,600 minutes of instruction. This allowed school districts to make the shift to a four-day school week by lengthening the school day to make up for the day off. Along with retaining teachers, schools operating

on a four-day school week have voiced other advantages such as improving student attendance and savings on operational costs. However, the four-day week can also bring challenges, including longer school days and for parents who work Monday through Friday. Despite the longer days, Evant High School senior Isabel Gandy appreciates the extra day that she utilizes for sports practice or catching up on homework. “It’s pretty nice, because it gives us an extra day to catch up on work that we’re missing,” Gandy said. “The only main difference is that the school day is longer.” During the first year, Ingram said they offered daycare on Monday for parents who work, but discontinued the service after finding it was not fully utilized. “The first year, we offered daycare services on Mon-

days for parents, however, only one student was in (our) care,” Ingram said. “So, in December of that same year, we discontinued the service and there has not been a vocalized need since that time.” Since the four-day school week is still relatively new, research on its impact varies. One 2021 study by the RAND Corporation found that a shorter week might affect the growth of student achievement compared to the five day week in some cases. However, in the same study, school personnel, parents, and students reported that they believed students learned just as much or slightly more in the four-day week. “There are advantages and disadvantages to the four-day,” Ingram said. “For Evant ISD, we feel like at this point, the advantages outweigh the negatives.

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Living with our mistakes is a part of life



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

Humans are fallible, and in some ways our failings are what make us endearing. But in other ways our shortcomings are the source of personal irritation and frustration, so much so that it is sometimes hard to appreciate the lesson life is teaching us.

We recognize the good Lord who created us humans gave us a higher intellect than other creatures. With that intellect comes a level of responsibility, which the lower animals do not have. Wait a minute — that may not be entirely

fair for when the lower animals make a mistake in judgment, the price they pay is usually their life. For example, when a small fish exercises poor judgment and swims near the surface of the lake in clear sight of the bald eagle resting in a

neighboring treetop, the fish's poor judgment is violently confirmed when the eagle dives in and swoops the fish out of the water making it the "catch of the day." With our greater degree of brainpower, we humans can make a wider variety of mistakes than just swimming too close to the surface. Fortunately, most of the mistakes we make in a civilized society are not paid for by sacrificing our lives like the fish in my example, though occasionally we feel so remorseful about a mistake we might wish we could die.

Stop and think about the absent-minded, lackadaisical, silly mistakes you have made over the course of your life. The mistake that may come to mind for some could be marriage to a certain ex-spouse. Admittedly, in some instances a bad marriage can be a huge mistake. But I am referring to the everyday "dealing with life mistakes" - like pulling

your vehicle into oncoming traffic and not seeing the truck that hits your front quarter panel and spins you off into the ditch. Clearly, the oncoming truck was there, but for whatever reason, we simply did not see it; a mistake is made, and consequences result. If we are lucky, the mistake only costs us financially.

Then there is just plain, old absent-mindedness - like the time in graduate school when I thought my final exam was Wednesday. When I showed up to take the test, I learned that the exam had been administered the day before! I had gotten the date wrong! The stress and mortification I suffered until I could contact my instructor and beg her to allow me to take the test was excruciating. Fortunately, through the grace provided me by my forgiving professor, predicated on a promise I had not talked to anyone else who had taken the test

and learned what the questions were, I did not have to repeat a whole semester of school. Reminiscing about the situation still makes my heart shudder thinking about how bad the consequences might have been. After realizing I had made a mistake, the worst part was trying to reconcile why I had made the mistake in the first place. What caused me to write the date down incorrectly? Why had I been confused? Did somebody else screw up and tell me the wrong date?

Yes, when a mistake occurs, it is human to attempt to deflect blame on someone or something else. Is there a logical explanation, which will absolve the blame or the consequences of the mistake? While on a rare occasion there is a legitimate explanation and the mistake is someone else's fault, much more commonly the mistake is ours. The sooner we admit to the mistake and accept

our failings, the quicker we can deal with the consequences and get back on track. The tragedy is not the mistake; the tragedy is the failure to learn from the mistake, rather than taking steps so it does not happen again and growing. Without mistakes, how would we learn and get better? Sometimes, it is hard to accept learning a lesson is a good thing: Like the time we printed last week's date on this week's paper. After some shame, embarrassment and aggravation, a lesson was learned and will never be forgotten. I bet we all learned a lesson this week, whether we liked it or not. It was probably a lesson worth learning.

Thought for the day: Mistakes are like knives that either serve us or cut us, as we grab them by the blade or by the handle.

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



COURTESY PHOTO

1854 Mercantile prepares for Sales Tax Holiday.

Local boutique discusses pros of the Texas Sales Tax Holiday

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

With the recent arrival of the month of August, there will be various opportunities to save money in Texas, specifically if you're looking for back-to-school deals.

This year, from Friday, Aug. 9, to midnight on Sunday, Aug. 11, a sales tax holiday will be held, which is a period of time where many states remove sales tax on certain types of items.

The tax-free weekend will typically restrict eligible purchases by criteria such as product and price. The eligible items for Texas will include clothing, footwear, backpacks, and school

supplies with a maximum price of \$99.99.

Locally-owned boutique, the 1854 Mercantile, will be one of the many businesses that will be open during the sales tax holiday.

"We were open last year on tax-free weekend, and I think it was a good weekend for us," 1854 Mercantile Owner Nikole Tatum said. "I feel like people who may not typically shop with us come in on that weekend looking to combine really good sales with no sales tax."

She mentioned that they will have some "doorbuster" type sales, where items will be marked down significantly, as well as tax

free, so it's an even better deal for everyone.

The sales tax holiday comes with many pros for those who are involved with small businesses.

Tatum expressed that local retailers benefit from increased foot traffic and sales during tax-free weekends as consumers take advantage of the savings.

"This can help stimulate the local economy by keeping spending within the community," she said.

She also explained that it can increase consumer spending.

"When consumers save money on sales tax, they may feel more inclined to spend that extra money on

other goods or services," she said. "This increased spending can boost sales for businesses, particularly those selling back-to-school items or other eligible products during tax-free weekends."

It is important to remember that the sales tax exemption applies only to qualifying items you buy during the sales tax holiday. Items you buy in store or online before or after the sales tax holiday do not qualify for exemption, and there is no tax refund available.

For further details regarding the 2024 Sales Tax Holiday, visit comptroller.texas.gov.

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

WHITNEY WILLIAMS

Say hello to our neighbor, Whitney Williams!

Say hello to our neighbor, Whitney is the proud owner of Whitney's Barbershop and The Hangout, a local teen lounge, within Gatesville. She expressed that the best part about both of her jobs is that the people are wonderful. "I love getting to know people in the community," she said. She has been a local for almost two years now and said that she loves the small-town feel, the food, and the people.

Whitney reads The Gatesville Messenger and said, "I love how the Messenger is involved with the businesses in the community."

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

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DEADLINES:
Submit all news articles, classifieds and display advertising by 10am Tuesday for the Saturday issue. Articles about events that have occurred 30 days prior to submission will not be accepted. However, they will be accepted as paid advertisements. All articles and advertisements must meet our standards and newspaper format as determined by management. The Gatesville Messenger is not responsible for copy omission, typographical error or any unintentional error other than to publish a correction.

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

Cooking with Jo: Gatesville's own Julia Child

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Known for her way around the kitchen, JoAnn Sugg was recently invited to lead a culinary class hosted by the Gatesville Public Library. The class was sponsored by Walmart and H-E-B, who provided funding and gift bags for those participating in the class at the Gatesville Civic Center.

Preregistration for the class was required with a limited number of spaces available — 12 total. According to library employee Becky Jones, Sugg planned to show those signed up how to make different kinds of pasta and sauces, with demonstrations and tastings as the evening progressed.

Sugg demonstrated how to make different types of recipes using homemade pasta. "We're having bacon, garlic and butter sauce, Asian noodles, and fettuccine Alfredo. We're going to start with teaching the class members how to make the dough and do some hand-shaping." About making the dough, Sugg confesses, "I've been self-taught."

Sugg, who was the perfect choice to teach a cooking class, was first inspired to cook by her family members. "I've had wonderful cooks all my life — from my

mother and my grandmother to my mother-in-law, who was an excellent cook — she could take a batch of leftovers and make the best stew." Sugg said the first thing she was taught to cook was desserts. "We did desserts first. During World War II, we didn't have much sugar, and my father was a sugar-aholic."

She said growing up there were five kids in her family. "We had a new sweet every day at our house. It was cinnamon rolls, cream puffs, cookies or a cake, all homemade."

"I was a home economics teacher, so I've taught cooking since 1975." The first 10 years of teaching was at Evant ISD where she taught home economics 1, 2, 3 and 4. The classes were taught in separate categories. "You did housing, food nutrition, child development, consumer education — this all got more detailed each year," she said.

Sugg remarked, "When I moved to Gatesville in 1985, I taught a program called CVAE — Coordinated Vocational Academic Education. I had students who had sixth grade reading levels or lower and I had them all in class together. We had commercial sewing machines, and that's when the



JoAnn Sugg demonstrates how to make pasta dough to some of the class participants.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Walls Outlet was still here. So, I taught them commercial sewing, and we had the kitchen so that they could cook, and then they learned maid skills. So, basically, when they finished school, they could get a job. The kids loved it because they could be very successful."

After she retired in 2011, Sugg returned to GISD for

five additional years. Sugg, while working with the culinary arts students, was involved in the Hornet Café and Bakery, which first made its debut in 2009. Under her direction the students would offer lunch to the public each second Tuesday of the month.

In addition to teaching, Sugg became well-known

for her catering skills. "I've done that off and on for about 20 years and some while I was teaching," she said. In the past, she catered weddings and various events, but not anymore, she says. "I've got too much other volunteer work to do, and I don't want the stress. The older I get, the more stress I put on myself

for perfection. Like I told the students, you can't be perfect, but the food can be perfect."

The Cooking with Jo class was deemed a success and those attending enjoyed observing Suggs creating the various pasta recipes.

"When you love to eat, it's all about the food," she said.

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Sonora: the city with a cave



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

I've done a lot of interviews in Sonora, the county seat of Sutton County. I've done some historical reports on the city's first electricity, first water, and first icehouse.

Other topics include interviews with goat and sheep ranchers, cowboys, historians, rattlesnake hunters, artists, athletes, musicians, and some colorful characters. Still others are the courthouse designed by Oscar Ruffini, the Fling Ding, Wagon Theater, Outlaw Will Carver, and the Wild Game Dinner. I even recorded Philip Cooper's donkeys. I really got deep into Sonora's culture.

The city has wide streets and graceful shade trees

and downtown buildings that give you the feeling of the old west.

Residents make you feel welcome, and you get to experience real western hospitality. Sonora has abundant and productive ranch land that early settlers called Cattleman's Paradise. The rugged terrain is crisscrossed by the Llano and Devil's rivers.

There is delicate and unsurpassed beauty underground at Sonora Caverns. This National

Natural Landmark is a few miles west of Sonora. It's a world-class cave because of its stunning array of calcite crystal formations. The Caverns of Sonora is internationally recognized as one of the most beautiful show caves on the planet.

I always thought the word Sonora sounded like a song. The city is named for a servant from Sonora, Mexico. He worked for Charlie Adams, a merchant and rancher who settled on four sections of land and offered free lots to prospective citizens. The county was named for Confederate Colonel John S. Sutton, an Indian fighter.

This is the home of mohair and where the Texas Goat and Sheep Raisers Association was formed. The clear sky, enchanting vistas, and pleasing atmosphere were welcome sights to the Tonkawa, Apache, and Comanche, early residents of this land. They were not the first. Fossils around Sonora go back tens of thousands

of years to a prehistoric culture.

This is brush country, with mesquite, live oak, cedar and pecan trees. There was a problem getting a railroad in Sonora, so a man bought nearly one hundred miles of right of way, fenced it with holding pens, water wells and windmills so ranchers could drive their cattle to the railroad in San Angelo.

Wildlife in Sutton County is a big enterprise. Hunters go after deer, turkey, fox, quail, and dove. The pioneer heritage prevails today, and you can see it in the resident's determination, commitment, and passion. Sonora is a beautiful city with attractive neighborhoods. And with three people per square mile, there's plenty of breathing room. I've always felt special going to Sonora.

I'm making a speech in Sonora later this month. I'm looking forward to a return visit to this fascinating city.

SUDOKU

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Puzzle by websudoku.com

Puzzle answers from the July 27, 2024 issue.

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Puzzle by websudoku.com

Candlelight vigil brings awareness to prisons without air conditioning

Staff Reports

The Lioness Justice Impacted Women's Alliance will host a candlelight vigil on Saturday, Aug. 3 to honor and remember those who have lost their lives due to the extreme temperatures in Texas prisons.

The vigil will take place from 8-9 p.m. at the Coryell

County Courthouse.

The purpose of the candlelight vigil is to raise awareness about the lack of air conditioning in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) units and to stand in solidarity with those who are still suffering under the deadly conditions, according to the event flier.

Lioness Justice Impacted Women's Alliance encourages attendees to bring posters and pictures of loved ones who have been affected by the conditions. Battery-operated candles will be provided at the event.

Special guests will include Texas Rep. Carl O. Sherman, who will offer opening re-

marks and Unitarian Universalist Rev. Joanna Crawford, who will lead the event in an opening prayer.

The Lioness Justice Impacted Women's Alliance is a non-profit organization led by current and former incarcerated women in Texas. Its purpose is to end the incarceration and systematic

devaluing of the girls and women within the criminal legal system

The Coryell County Courthouse is located at 620 E. Main Street, Gatesville, Texas.

To learn more, visit <https://www.lionessjiwa.org/>



Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)

Spurfest featured a beard and mustache contest.

The Coryell County Crime Victims' office received a \$33,000 federal grant.

Hornet Car Wash had its grand opening.

Leon River was selling Doc Martens boots for \$29.95.

DISH Network became

available.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

Coryell County was under a burn ban.

The Gatesville City Council continued its annexation efforts of Fort Gates and approved a rezoning plan.

The Gatesville city pool was set to close for the year.

Grant's on Main Street

offered "great, big burgers, Mexican food, and Texas-style steaks."

Samuel "Duffie" Riddle, of Flat, retired from MATES in North Fort Hood.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

Gatesville physician Dr. James W. West left his local practice to join the staff at Baylor University's Student Health Center in Waco.

Laura White, Gatesville High School's vocational counselor, was elected president of the Vocational Counselors Division of the Texas Vocational Guidance Association in Austin.

Morgan Building Systems, Inc. advertised individual hot tubs for \$2,795.

The Bee Hive advertised cosmetics for 40% off. Allen Place, attorney at

law, computerized his office.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)

A grass fire epidemic plagued Gatesville's surrounding areas.

Drilling began on a new well that was expected to cure Gatesville's water problems.

Ricky Chambers, believed to be the youngest police-

man in Gatesville's history, began work as the third patrolman on Gatesville's police force.

"The Sting," starring Paul Newman and Robert Redford was showing at the Town & Country III.

Liberty Baptist held a series of revival services. The Crosby Brothers provided special music.

Commissioners vote in favor of Master Plan for courthouse

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

In previous months, the Coryell County Commissioners Court agreed to hire a firm to create a courthouse Master Plan to assist with future repairs and restoration of the 125-year-old structure.

After much deliberation, and after receiving bids from several firms, the commissioners met June 11 and a firm was chosen to create the plan. This will allow the county to apply for grants to restore the remaining three domes atop the building, which have suffered from considerable leaks and water damage within the structure.

In a previous comment, Coryell County Attorney Brandon Belt described the need for such a document.

“A Master Plan is required to apply for grant funds to work on the courthouse. The purpose of a Master Plan is to evaluate the current state of the courthouse and set priorities for rehabilitating and maintaining the building,” he said.

Three firms made bids to create the plan. The unanimous decision of the commissioners was to accept the proposal made by the Architexas firm to develop the plan. On July 23, the commissioners voted to accept the bid from Architexas at a cost of \$65,000.

Architexas provides a broad range of services encompassing architecture, planning and historic preservation. With every project, the firm follows a process that begins with research-

ing and understanding the context — the physical, historical and programmatic conditions — within which they will be working. Each project is seen as an opportunity to create a carefully crafted response to a unique set of circumstances and client aspirations.

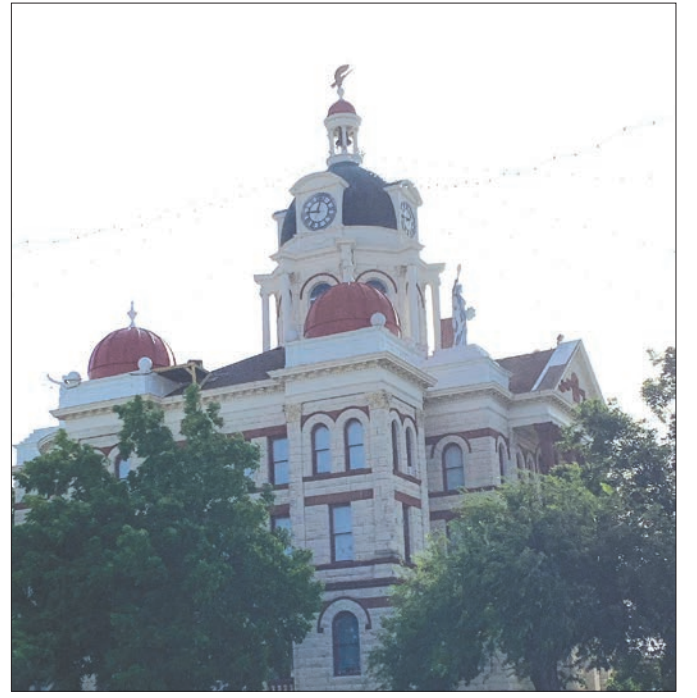
County Commissioner Ryan Basham said, “If we have a courthouse Master Plan, that will allow us to use grant-funded money and not the taxpayers’ money.”

Basham said Alexis McKinney, a representative of Architexas, will conduct a workshop about the plan during the next county commissioner’s court meeting Aug. 13.

McKinney will discuss several courthouse is-

suess, including Task 1, the historical and architectural development; Task 2, the evaluation of existing conditions; Task 3, rehabilitation recommendations; Task 4, probable construction cost budgets; and Task 5, master plan reports to compilation.

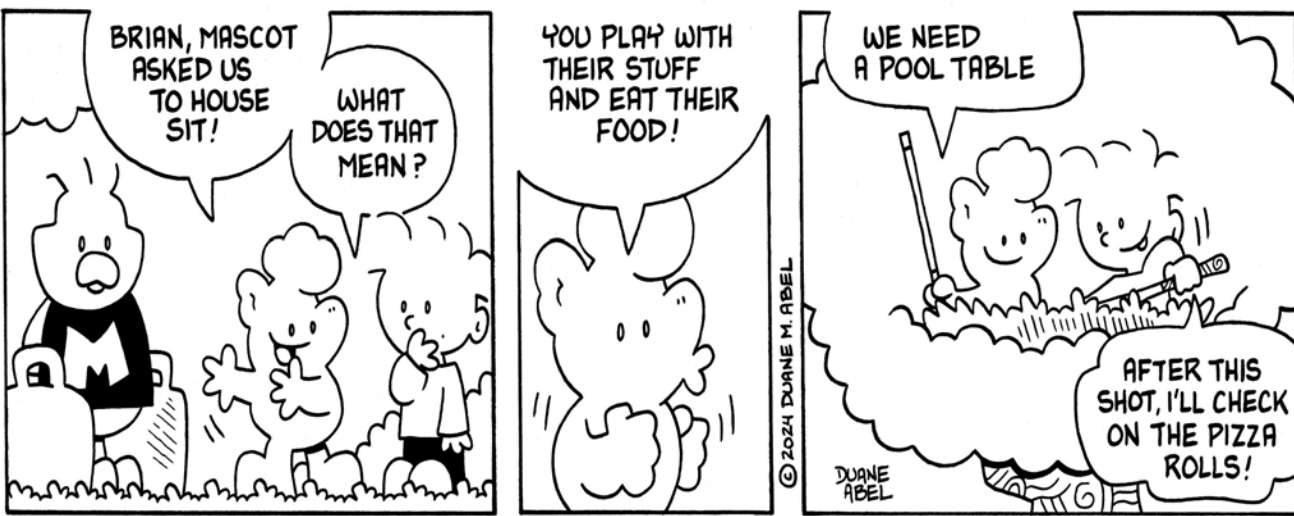
“At the end of the day, this courthouse Master Plan is important. We have some projects that need to be addressed and we don’t want to wait around until it gets too bad,” Basham said. He continued, “I want to get this moving because I don’t want to wait and let one of the domes get worse, and this will allow us to apply for helpful grants.”



JANICE VELASQUEZ | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Coryell County Courthouse

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

2024 Coryell Senior Expo on tap Aug. 22

Staff Reports

The 2024 Coryell Senior Expo will be at the Gatesville Civic Center Thursday, Aug. 22. The event will be from 8 a.m. to noon, and the vendor area will open at 9 a.m.

Admission will be free to the community.

This will be a chance for local seniors to get free screenings and information about cholesterol, blood pressure, diabetes, assisted living, independent living, long-term care, home health, hospice, aging and

fall prevention.

Hourly information sessions will include:

- Care Call Program at 8 a.m.
- Senior Exploitation at 9 a.m.
- Estate Planning at 10 a.m.

There will be door prizes as well.

For more information, contact 254-404-2501 or 254-248-6293.

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

PEARL NEWS

Today is the day! Come see us at the Pearl Bluegrass event



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

Today is the day for the Pearl Bluegrass Event and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore. The stage show for the bluegrass event begins at 1 p.m. but jamming goes on all day.

If you are a band and would like to play on the stage, all you have to do is to show up and put your name on the board in the Community Center hall-

way. If you have questions, you can see Chris Ray or Garrett Dickey, and they will be happy to help you. Don't forget that there is delicious homemade food

in the Bluegrass Kitchen at very reasonable prices! They are open from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. The next Bluegrass and Bookstore Day is Sept. 14 - as it is always the second Saturday in September due to a long-standing family reunion booking in the Community Center. The remaining days for this year are Oct. 5, Nov. 2, and Dec. 7. Be sure to attend all of these days if you possibly can. You will love being in Pearl!

The Pearl Church of Christ is busy preparing donations for the annual Atchley Labor Day Fish Fry and Silent Auction to be held Sept. 1. The items for bid will be out for viewing and bidding August 18-31. There are tons of wonderful things being processed already! All proceeds go to-

ward His Kids scholarships and camp. This year, Dr. Charles Patterson, formerly of Killeen, will be speaking during the Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 a.m. Dr. Patterson was the beloved, longtime superintendent of Killeen ISD prior to his retirement. He is originally from Hamilton and is currently living in Corsicana. Everyone is invited to attend and to bring a carload with you!

The Pearl Cottage Bookstore still has a number of Pearl books available: 1 Pleasure and Profit Club book - \$20; 12 Gazaway Cabin books - \$10 each; 1 The Boys from Pearl (the story of the Davis brothers when they were in WWII) - \$10; 1 each Pearl Annual, 1956, 1958 - \$20 each; 1 Jonesboro Junior High

Annual, 1999 - \$20; 1 each Evant Annual, 1959, 1962, 1977 - \$20 each; 1 Buddy and Tina Wright CD - \$20; 1 Dallas Cowboy Cheerleader doll - \$20; 1 Ronald McDonald doll - \$20. There are also over 300 new romance books in excellent condition at the bookstore.

For more information about these items, please call Kay Pruett at 254-865-5864 or Linda Ray at 254-865-9282, or you can go to the next Bookstore Day on Aug. 3. If you've been there before, you will absolutely love it! Most other purchases besides the items listed above are by donation only, and the proceeds go toward local charities.

Speaking of Linda Ray, she only called me 14 times yesterday with Pearl updates (and I greatly ap-

preciate every single call!) However, she promised not to call me one more time each and every time... and then the phone rang! There's no place like Pearl, and there's no one else like Linda Ray! Thank the good Lord for both of them!

This week's Bible verse comes Isaiah 55:7—Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and He will have mercy on them, and to our God, for He will freely pardon. NIV

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

Market Days

SATURDAY • 8AM-NOON
AUG. 3RD
Cotton Belt Depot Parking Lot
2307 S. Hwy. 36, Gatesville, TX

Vendors can sign up under the Market Days tab at www.gatesvillechamber.com or stop by the Chamber office M-F from 9AM-2PM.

Held the 2nd Saturday of each month, March-December.

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OBITUARIES

Dorina Appelman

Oct. 27, 1935 - July 22, 2024

Dorina Mabel Appelman, age 88, passed away on July 22, 2024. Memorial services will be held at a later date in Idaho.

Dorina was born in St. Louis, Missouri on Oct. 27, 1935, to the late Effie and Michael Tomchik. She married Frank Appelman in 1951. They were blessed with seven children: Frank Jr., Roxanne, Michelle, Shawn, Eric, Shannon, and Todd. The family moved to North Fork, Idaho with their four youngest children in 1973. The couple separated in 1977, but Dorina decided to stay in Idaho and spend the rest of her life in Salmon. Dorina loved the Lord and would spend many hours reading the Bible and praying. She loved to laugh and had many friends in Salmon and North Fork. She enjoyed the time with her loving family and friends.

Dorina was preceded in death by her daughter Michelle, her parents, and her sister, Buddy.



She is survived by her children, Frank Jr., Roxanne, Shawn (Kirk), Eric, Shannon (Greg), and Todd (Lis); her grandchildren, James, Alisha, Tia, Elise, RaeAnne, Alex, Jessica, Jake, Joshua, and Lucas; niece, Billy Jean, and many other family members and friends.

As Alzheimer's started to take her mind, she had to leave Salmon a few years ago and live with Todd and then a nursing home. She suffered terribly with Alzheimer's disease and is at peace now with her heavenly Father.

Tommy Dean Key

Aug. 19, 1959 — July 29, 2024

Tommy Dean Key, age 64, of Gatesville, passed away on Monday, July 29, 2024.

There are no services currently scheduled.

Tommy was born on Aug. 19, 1959 to Tommy Lee and Mary Holden Key in Gatesville, where he grew up and attended school. During his younger years, he worked in the construction business as a mason's helper. Tommy loved to play dominoes and regularly visited the Buckhorn Museum and Domino Parlor. He had a big heart and always helped those in need whenever he was able.

Tommy was preceded in death by his father, Tommy Lee Key. He is sur-



vived by his mother, Mary Gaskamp; brothers, Jimmy Key and wife, Diana, David Key and wife, Cindy, Michael Key, Roy Key, and Timmy Key; sisters, Kay Nabors and Tammy Monk; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Marcia Cockrell

Jan. 19, 1945 - July 28, 2024

Marcia Jerrene Buster Cockrell went to be with the Lord she loved so much on July 28, 2024. Visitation was held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville. The funeral followed at 10 a.m.

Marcia was born on Jan. 19, 1945, in Lampasas to JC and Gladys Buster. She graduated from Evant High School in 1963, and on June 15th of that year she married the love of her life, Sammy Cockrell, in Evant. She graduated from Beauty School in 1964 and, after working at various salons in Gatesville, she opened Shear Delight in 1981. In 1997, she "retired" and sold her salon to her dear friend and co-worker, Lin Mize. Marcia would go on to own and co-own several businesses before joining her daughter, Regina, in opening Veranda Bloom in Rogers in 2008. Marcia remained a vital part of the store operations until the end of her life.

Marcia was a longtime member of Mountain Baptist Church in Gatesville. She was a devout Christian, loving wife, mother, and adoring grandmother. She enjoyed studying God's word, sewing, cooking, gardening, decorating, and catching up with her many cherished friends. There were few things she enjoyed more than a good, long visit.



Marcia was preceded in death by her parents, JC and Gladys Buster; son, Callan Dee Cockrell and daughter, Laura Ann Cockrell; brothers, Thomas Buster, Johnnie Buster, Joe Buster, and Calvin Buster; sisters, Janet Dyer, Vera Ayers, Lillie Ayers and La Celia Logan.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 61 years, Sammy Cockrell; daughter, Regina Knox; son, Clint Cockrell and wife, Meredith; grandchildren, Tucker and Taylor Knox and Cole Thomas Cockrell; numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and a host of beloved friends.

The family would like to extend their deepest gratitude to the staff at Hillside Nursing Home in Gatesville and to Amedisys Hospice team in Temple, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to Mountain Baptist Church at 6319 US-84, Gatesville, Texas 76528.

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

Obituaries can be emailed to jodi@gatesvillmessenger.com or submitted online at www.gatesvillmessenger.com. Advance payment is required. Obituaries should come from the funeral home. Obituaries placed by next of kin must be verified with the facility handling the body or with a death certificate. The deadline for obituaries is 10 a.m. Tuesday for the Saturday paper. Deadlines are subject to change during holidays.

MOUND NEWS

It's back-to-school time



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Gracyn and Hudson May spent a few days with Cheryl Ford just having fun doing crafts and watching movies.

Jerry and Brenda Helms met Neil and Christy Helms in Hillsboro for dinner and went to College Station Saturday and met Reed, Riley, and Katelyn Griffith for lunch and did some shopping.

Gatesville Independent School District hosted the "Back To School Bash" on Saturday, July 27, for the 2024-25 school year.

Gatesville Elementary and Gatesville Junior High School are hosting their "Annual meet The Teachers" on Tuesday evening, Aug. 6, for the 2024-25 school year.

Those who are having birthdays this week are Blayze Fisher, Gaylene Smith, Santanna Bay, Neil Fisher, Chris Miller and Emily Hanus.

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE

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.

THE IDLE AMERICAN

Mort and His 'Sock-Assister' ...



BY DR. DON NEWBURY

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to speak and write. He is Texas' longest-running syndicated humorist whose column began in 2003. newbury@speakerdoc.com | 817-447-3872

Uncle Mort's contraptions and inventions usually are "far-fetched." Finally, he's come up with one that is "near-fetched."

And it may be of considerable help to those among us who daily dread what used to be a thoughtless and effortless routine: putting on socks.

Some of us have basically surrendered, choosing to go barefoot at home, remaining sockless unless attending church, funerals, or weddings.

This time, my ancient uncle has, uh, designed what he calls his "sock-assister," a device requiring only a child's jump rope, PVC

pipe, a saw and a drill. With minimal safety efforts, this project may be attempted at home ...

First off, simply hearing the word "sock-assister" sounds like sibling abuse. What next, "brother-bonking?"

Mort says his device helps men get their socks on, no matter the distance between hands and feet.

He claims that most men already have the items needed to make "sock-as-

sisters." This is particularly true if children leave jump ropes behind. Looks to me as if this is a "slam dunk" home project ...

Formerly, Mort would have mounted a campaign to sell these items for \$9.98 (plus postage and handling).

Here lately, though, he's been overcome with benevolence. "I guess I'm feeling like the Red Lobster seafood people who figure they may as well share the recipe for their larrupin' cheddar-flavored biscuits since customers are hard to come by," he said.

Yep, this is definitely "the new Mort." ...

Here's what Mort suggests: Find a piece of PVC pipe about a foot in length. Cut longitudinally in half. For most men, 4-inch PVC works fine; for wider feet, use 6-inch and beyond that, visit a plumber. Cut a child's jump rope in half, attaching bare ends and knotting inside holes drilled near end of PVC pipe. If it is a long way down to your

feet, splurge and use two jump ropes. (You can also use clothesline rope and whatever wooden scraps you like to fashion handles. And one can glue on felt strips if edges seem rough.)

Now, for the critical first-time use. While sitting down, pull a sock over the bare end of the PVC pipe. Insert foot, well into the sock, then pull the ropes, thus removing the gadget from the foot and leaving sock in place, perhaps already half on!

This may require a bit of practice. If help is needed, consult a grandchild ...

Let me emphasize the importance of practice. My first attempt was made during a recent speaking engagement in Borger, where members of the Panhandle Press Association met.

I couldn't quite remember how to use my "sock-assister," which I had assembled a few days earlier. As the noon hour approached, I was still "sockless," so I rationalized.

First of all, I had on long

pants, so that was one step toward propriety. Further, I was to be among friends, most of whom would dress "summer casual." After all, it was a luncheon, not a formal dinner.

And the event was held at Frank Phillips College, where I am sure students move around campus — whether blazing hot or blizzard conditions — in shorts and sandals. I took the easy way out; I wore sandals ...

Wouldn't you know it? Members of the heralded Borger Honor Guard, all men past age 80, were smartly dressed, sporting cowboy hats and boots as they posted the colors and led pledges. Now why didn't I think of boots? No one would have known if I had on socks or not.

Turns out one other guy also was shod with sockless sandals, and he even had on short britches. Granted, he didn't have a speaking part. Mike Hodges, president of



the Texas Press Association, "dressed down" from usual attire at his Austin office.

Finally, an aside to the guy who whispered that I'm "old and eccentric." I was eccentric several decades before I got my AARP card ...

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to speak and write. He is Texas' longest-running syndicated humorist whose column began in 2003. Contact: 817-447-3832. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Website: www.speakerdoc.com.

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Texas Drawn Hunt Program opens for the 2024-25 season applications

BY THE TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

AUSTIN — Hunters will have new opportunities and scenery this fall through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) drawn hunt permits program.

The program, which issues permits for drawn hunts on both public and private lands throughout Texas, is now accepting applications for a shot at nearly 9,400 permits in more than 60 high-quality hunt categories.

"The opportunities offered through our online Public Hunt Draw System

give hunters a tremendous variety to hunt and see Texas at an affordable cost" said Kelly Edmiston, TPWD public hunting coordinator. "Throughout the state, we have seen lack of access to land being a major barrier of entry for folks interested in hunting. The public hunt program gives everyone an opportunity to hunt without the costly investment."

Among the offerings available through the Texas Public Drawn Hunts system: hunts for white-tailed and mule deer, pronghorn, turkey, alligator and dove, plus

guided packages for exotic species and bighorn sheep. There were 292,000 applications last year.

Applicants for e-Postcard hunts and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Antlerless Deer Permits must have a current Annual Public Hunt Permit (APH) to apply. APH permits go on sale annually Aug. 15. Last year, the sale of 58,417 APH permits generated approximately \$2.7 million in revenue for wildlife conservation and public hunting opportunities.

The Drawn Hunts Catalog interactive map shows all

drawn hunt opportunities by category or by area. All applications, fee payments and permit issuance are handled electronically. To participate, applicants will need internet access, an email address and a credit or debit card. The customer ID number from the applicant's hunting or fishing license is the most effective way to access the system.

Application fees range from free to \$3 or \$10, depending on the hunt category. Adult hunters who are selected may need to pay a special permit fee of

\$80 for regular hunts and \$130 for extended hunts. Some categories, such as the youth-only hunts, require no application fees or permit fees. Permits are open to resident and non-resident hunters alike.

Application deadlines are the 1st and 15th of each month between Aug. 1 and Nov. 1. Aug. 1 is the deadline for all alligator hunt categories and private lands dove hunts. Aug. 15 is the deadline for archery deer, archery mule deer, pronghorn, private land pronghorn and javelina.

A full list of category deadlines can be found on the Drawn Hunts Deadlines webpage. Hunters can apply until 11:59 p.m. CST on the application deadline. Applicants can check their drawing status online at any time.

For more information or to start the application process, visit TPWD Drawn Hunts. For questions, contact hunt@tpwd.texas.gov or call 512-389-4505 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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

FIESTA BAKED TOMATOES

BY PAULA MELBERN WEEKS

- 6 lg. ripe tomatoes
- 5 slices of bacon, diced
- 2 c. fresh or frozen corn
- 1 yellow onion, diced
- ½ red bell pepper, diced
- ½ green bell pepper, diced

- ½ - 1 tsp. sugar
- salt & pepper
- ½ c. heavy cream
- ½ c. Parmesan cheese, grated
- 2 T. butter, cut into small pieces
- 1 T. flour

Cut stems out of each tomato and scoop out center. Sprinkle cavities with salt and turn upside down to drain. Fry bacon until almost crisp and drain. Add corn, onion, red, and green peppers to fat. Cook until lightly browned. Stir in sugar, flour, salt & pepper. Stir the cream into the corn mixture. Cook until thickened. Stir in bacon. Place tomatoes upright in the shallow baking dish. Fill each tomato with the corn mixture. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Dot with butter. Add a few tablespoons of water to the pan. Bake at 375 for 15-20 minutes until the tops brown and the tomato skins just start to wrinkle. Serves 6.

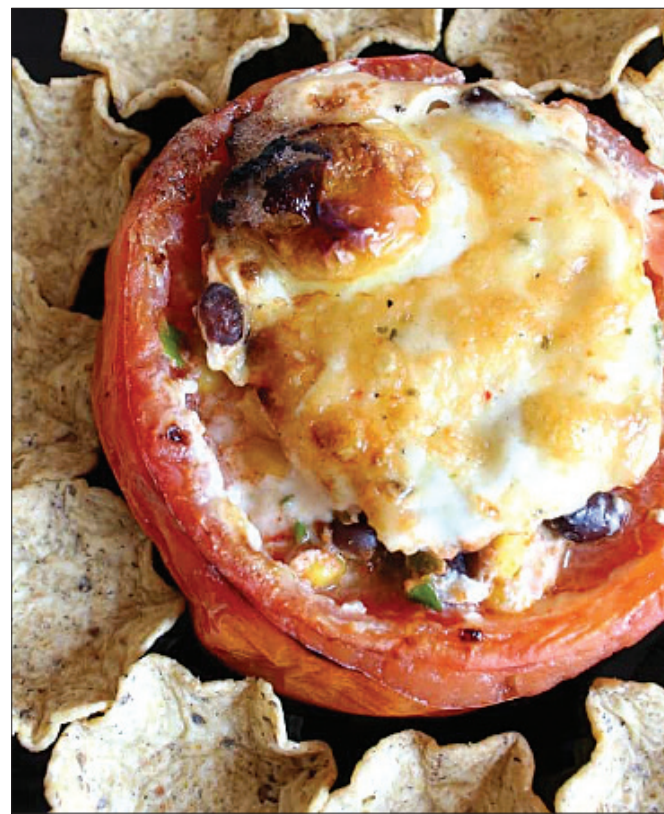


PHOTO COURTESY OF MOMSANDMUNCHKINS

Fiesta Baked Tomatoes

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of July 24 - July 30. 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 24
1:28 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.
5:29 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.
8:23 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 500 block of Mountain Road.
9:54 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

July 25
7:20 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of E. Main Street.
3:50 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of State School Road.
6:08 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2500 block of Bridge Street.
9:25 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1300 block of Westview Drive.

July 26
1:12 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3300 block of E. Main Street.
11:34 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.
2:25 p.m., harassment was reported in the 2600 block of Mears Drive.
3:56 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1300 block of Westview Drive.

July 27
2:04 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1100 block of W. Main Street.
4:30 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1200 block of Leon Street.
4:55 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Elm Street.

July 28
12:30 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the

900 block of Lovers Lane.
7:37 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2500 block of Mears Drive.
10:08 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of S. 22nd Street.

July 29
2:28 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 5000 block of County Road 3540.
4:15 p.m., harassment was reported in the 500 block Bridge Street.
5:34 p.m., harassment was reported in the 100 block of FM 116.
9:08 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2400 block E. Main Street.

July 30
8:12 a.m., a threat was reported in the 800 block of Old Georgetown Road.
11:39 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1600 block of Sun Valley Drive.

12:11 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2300 block of Business Highway 36.
1:34 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of N. 8th Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

July 24
7 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 800 block of Moccasin Bend Road.
1:36 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 100 block of Nelson Drive.
5:42 p.m., trespassing was reported on Melton Road off County Road 174.
8:25 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 500 block of Mountain Road.

July 25
8:53 a.m., found livestock

reported in the 1000 block of Blakely.
9:18 a.m., harassment was reported on County Road 56.
10:44 a.m., a grass fire was reported in the 700 block of E. FM 931.
9 p.m., a theft was reported in the 5200 block of FM 1829.

July 26
7 a.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on FM 116 and Pidcoke Road.
9:34 a.m., a theft was reported at FM 116 & Big Red Barn.
12:28 p.m., found property was reported in Evant on the square.
7:41 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 3100 block of County Road 344.

July 27
7:23 a.m., suspicious per-

sons were reported on FM 182 near County Road 213.
2:21 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 200 block of Harrell Drive.
6:27 p.m., a domestic dispute was reported in the 2900 block of S. FM 116.
9:27 p.m., shots fired were reported in the 500 block of County Road 317.

July 28
1:30 a.m., a prowler was reported in the 1000 block of Cedar Mountain Road.
12:16 p.m., a noise complaint was reported in the 100 block of College Avenue.
8:30 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 930.

July 29
2:59 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1200 block of FM 215.
6:57 p.m., an animal com-

plaint was reported in the 9800 block of Greenbriar Road.
7:15 p.m., missing livestock were reported on FM 930.

July 30
7:50 a.m., a threat was reported in the 10,700 block of FM 116.
11:52 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3400 block of County Road 318.
3:33 p.m., an explosion was reported on FM 1602.
11:27 p.m., suspicious activity was reported at the Leon River Bridge and Main Street.

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300-400 lb.	350-435
400-500 lb.	285-330
500-600 lb.	270-315
600-700 lb.	245-285
700-800 lb.	235-255
No. 1 Heifers	
under 300 lb.	300-375
300-400 lb.	285-340
400-500 lb.	265-310
500-600 lb.	245-285
600-700 lb.	225-260
700-800 lb.	210-235
Slaughter Cows	
High Yielding	140-157
Low Yielding	120-130
Fats	130-142
Thin & Shelly	100-120
Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)	
Yield Grade 1&2	145-178
Cow & Calf Pairs	
Young Choice	2850-3250
Young Fair	2200-2900
Aged Pairs	Split & Weighed
Young Pregnancy Test Stocker	
Replacement Cow	1700-2650
Number of Head	971

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Weigh Bulls	135-165	Bred Cows		NO TEST	
Weigh Cows	110-159	Replacement Bulls		NO TEST	
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CALVARY BAPTIST
Steven L. Bogan, pastor; Hwy. 84 & FM 116; Sunday Bible study 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
CANAAN BAPTIST
Jim Keever, senior pastor; 177 Coryell City Road, Crawford; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
COLD SPRINGS BAPTIST
Bob Phillips, pastor; Sundays - Sunday School 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
EASTWOOD BAPTIST
Lynn Parks, pastor; 2518 East Main, Gatesville; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 10:50 a.m.
FIRST BAPTIST EVANT
Dane Barron, pastor; 200 Live Oak Street, Evant; Sundays - Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m., adult Bible study 6 p.m.; Wednesday services - kids' & youth Bible study 6 p.m.
FIRST BAPTIST FLAT
9775 TX-36, Gatesville; Sunday School 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.; Wednesdays - Prayer & Bible Study 7 p.m.; Youth Group & Kid Knights 7 p.m.; Supper first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.; Men's Breakfast second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m.
FIRST BAPTIST GATESVILLE
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
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Chris Thomas, pastor; 7505 FM 185, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.
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2082 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m.
PECAN GROVE BAPTIST
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PIDCOKE BAPTIST
Donald McConaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m.
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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.

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Justin Hall, minister; 2417 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Bible class 9:30 a.m., Sunday service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible classes 6:30 p.m.
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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.
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David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd., Copperas Cove; Sunday Bible Study 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
Rev. Christopher Richman, PhD; 10801 FM 929, Coryell City; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
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Wray Nunn, pastor; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday worship 6:30 p.m.; Gateway Learning Center, 2315 Osage Rd., Gatesville.
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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.
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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.
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Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday services 10:45 a.m.; 4012 US Hwy. 84, Gatesville.
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Frank Rosenstern, pastor; Hwy. 84 W.; Sunday services 10:30 a.m.; Thursday services, 7 p.m.
CORYELL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Eric Moffett, Pastor; 115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, 248-0849. Sunday worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services 6 p.m.; Adult Bible Study, Children's Ministry & C3 Student Ministry.
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Doran Belknap III, Pastor; Sunday service 11 a.m., 8205 FM 182, Turnersville; 254-218-5901.
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CORYELL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Eric Moffett, Pastor; 115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, 248-0849. Sunday worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services 6 p.m.; Adult Bible Study, Children's Ministry & C3 Student Ministry.
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045 SERVICES



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060 GARAGE SALE

TAX-FREE WEEKEND Fri., 08/02 - Sat., 08/03! No sales tax on EVERYTHING in the store! The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00030945

Featuring **JEWELRY** Tues., 08/06 - Sat., 08/10! The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00030946

One-day Garage Sale: Saturday, Aug. 3, 7 a.m.-Noon, 13072 S. State Hwy. 36 in Gatesville. Furniture, kitchen, back-to-school, and outdoor items! 00030969

Big Yard Sale - Saturday, Aug. 3, 8 a.m.-? 3907 S. Hwy. 36 in Gatesville. Lots of good stuff! 00030970

045 SERVICES

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

JENNIFER NEWTON CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW P.O. BOX 237 GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528 ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE TED SMITH 660 W. FM 2410 HARKER HEIGHTS, TX 76548 TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS UNKNOWN ADDRESS UNKNOWN STATE THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF CORYELL TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF FRANK LONDON ELLIS, JR., DECEASED. CAUSE NO 24-11053, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. LONNIE D. ELLIS FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 25TH DAY OF JULY 2024, APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION & APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID FRANK LONDON ELLIS, JR., DECEASED. SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 15TH DAY OF AUGUST 2024, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS. ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE-MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 26TH DAY OF JULY 2024. JENNIFER NEWTON CORYELL COUNTY CLERK CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

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://AmericanMeetingGroup.com/chase>

00030856

Evant I.S.D. is currently accepting sealed bids for the tear down and replacement of the main entrance at the school, and the inclusion of an enclosed foyer off the existing front doors of the building. All services to complete the work will be provided by the contractor. Please contact Superintendent, Dr. Jennifer Ingram (254-471-5536 or jingram@evantisd.org) for an appointment before submitting a bid to review specifications. To submit a bid, please send it to Evant ISD at 339 Memory Lane, Evant, TX 76525 or hand-deliver it to the Evant ISD superintendent's office at 339 Memory Lane, Evant, TX. For additional information, you may contact Dr. Ingram at 254-471-5536. The deadline to turn in a bid is Noon on August 29, 2024. Proposals will be opened and reviewed at a special school board meeting at 339 Memory Lane, Evant, on August 29, 2024. The trustees of the school reserve the right to reject any and all proposals and to accept any proposals deemed most advantageous to Evant I.S.D., as well as negotiate with successful bidders as deemed advisable.

00030934

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CITY OF GATESVILLE

The City of Gatesville is soliciting proposals for HVAC replacement services. Copies of the RFP are posted on the City Webpage www.CityofGatesvilleTX.com Submit 3 copies of the completed Proposal Pricing Form to City of Gatesville Attn: Wendy Cole, 803 E. Main Street, Gatesville, TX 76528. 4. The Proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope bearing the title "SEALED PROPOSAL - RFP FOR HVAC IMPROVEMENT SERVICES" along with Proposer's name, address, and contact information.

Proposals must be received by the City no later than 2:00 p.m. on August 19, 2024 to be considered. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals. Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

00030964

099 PUBLIC NOTICES

No. 24-11036 IN RE: THE ESTATE OF CURTIS ERNESTINE CHITWOOD HUCKABEE DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS JUDGMENT DECLARING HEIRSHIP The Court has reviewed the sworn Application to Declare Heirship of the Estate of Curtis Ernestine Chitwood Huckabee, Deceased ("Decedent"), wherein Mike Huckabee is both the applicant and Decedent's sole living heir. It appears to the Court, and the Court so finds, that all parties interested in the estate of Decedent have been made parties to the application, or have been duly and legally served with citation as required by law; that is Court has jurisdiction of the subject matter and all persons and parties; that the evidence presented and admitted fully and satisfactorily proves each and every issue presented to the Court; and that Decedent died in estate on April 15, 2005, and that the heirship of Decedent has been fully and satisfactorily proved, as well as the identity of the nature of Decedent's property as being separate or community and the interest and shares of each of the heirs therein; and that no administration is necessary. The Court finds that the names of the heirs Decedent and their respective shares and interests in the real and personal property of Decedent are as follows:

Name and Relationship to Decedent
Mike Huckabee, Son

Share of Separate Real Property
100%

Share of Separate Personal Property
100%

The Court finds that there exists no necessity for administration of the estate of Decedent, none is ordered, and upon payment of all costs of Court no further proceedings shall be had in this cause.

Signed this 29 day of July, 2024.
JUDGE PRESIDING APPROVED AS TO FORM:
James K. Zeigler
Attorney for Mike Huckabee State Bar No.: 24098654
620 E. Leon St.
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Telephone: (254) 865-7255
Fax: (254) 865-6925
James.Zeigler@coryellcounty.com 00030968

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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POSITION	Salary Increase
County Judge	\$7000.00
Commissioner Precinct 1	\$3000.00
Commissioner Precinct 2	\$3000.00
Commissioner Precinct 3	\$3000.00
Commissioner Precinct 4	\$3000.00
Justice of the Peace Pct 1	\$3000.00
Justice of the Peace Pct 2	\$3000.00
Justice of the Peace Pct 3	\$3000.00
Justice of the Peace Pct 4	\$3000.00
Constable Precinct 1	\$3000.00
Constable Precinct 2	\$3000.00
Constable Precinct 3	\$3000.00
Constable Precinct 4	\$3000.00
County Attorney	\$15,000.00
Tax Assessor/Collector	\$3000.00
District Clerk	\$3000.00
County Clerk	\$3000.00
County Treasurer	\$3000.00

00030974

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information regarding the amount of taxes that each entity that taxes your property will impose if the entity adopts its proposed tax rate. Your local property tax database will be updated regularly during August and September as local elected officials propose and adopt the property tax rates that will determine how much you can pay in property taxes.

Follow the instructions below to register to receive notifications regarding updates to the property tax database:

A property owner may register to receive email notifications regarding updates to the property tax database by following the instructions found on the truth in taxation homepage located at www.coryell.countytaxrates.com/tax.

You may request the same information from the assessor of each taxing unit for your property by requesting their contact information from your county's assessor at:

Coryell County Tax Office

Mr. Justin Carothers
P.O. Box 6
Gatesville, TX 76528
254-248-3152

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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- 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, Purnela, 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, Purnela, 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

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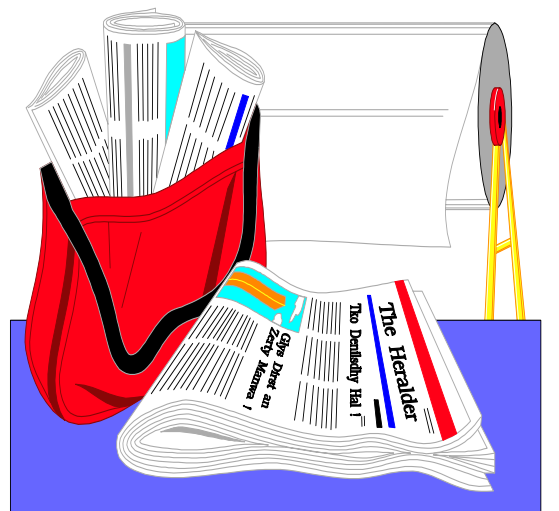
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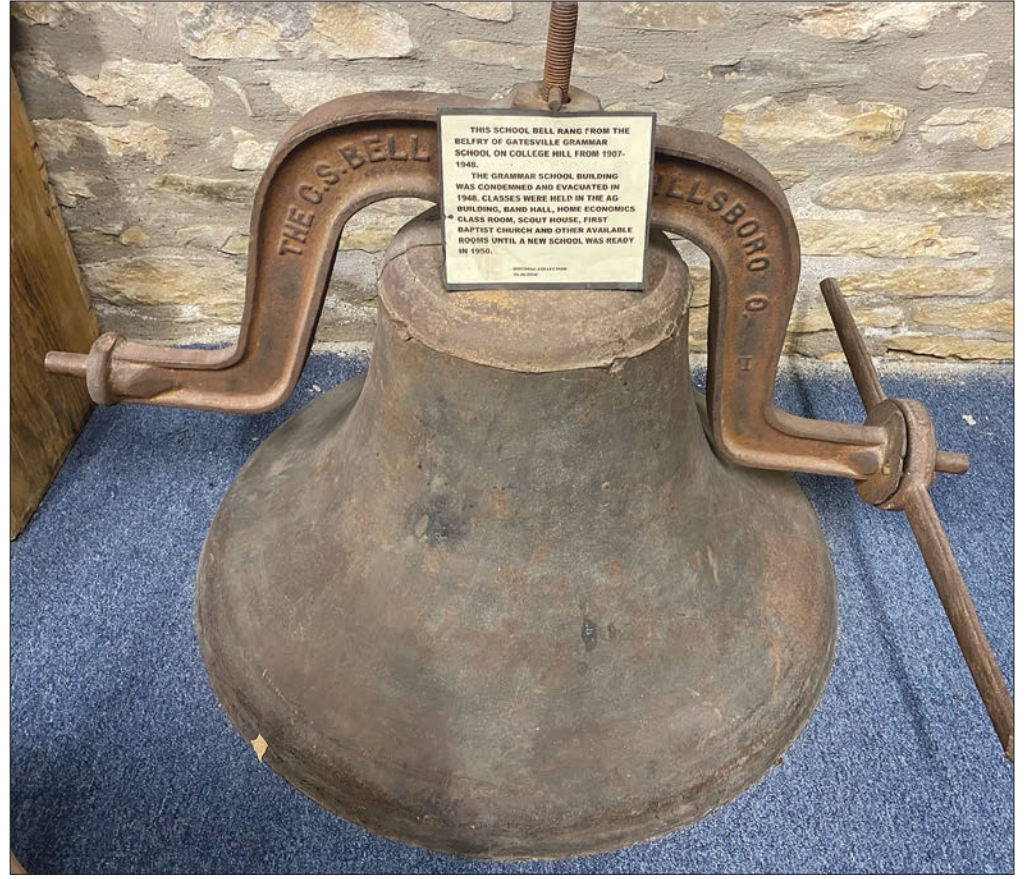
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COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured above: Gatesville Grammar School. The belfry is located on the right where the school bell was originally located.



Pictured right: School bell from Gatesville Grammar School that summoned students to class from 1907 until 1948.

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT

“Ringing in the new school year...”

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

In the old days, bells were used to summon students to class, time for recess, or to signal the end of the school day. Some schools would use a bell to announce class rotations between reading, writing, and arithmetic.

Following World War II, automated bells were put into use at many schools

along with public announcement systems. It was not until the 1960s that several school districts wired every classroom to a PA system so that the automated bell could signify the end of the school day. Today, cell phone alarms have replaced the traditional school bell. One narrative written about school bells, described the modern technology as “cells

versus bells.”

The Coryell Museum and Historical Center has a school room display, which depicts what classes looked like in the early days, along with dozens of early-day class portraits from schools all over the county. Near the front of the classroom sits a large, cast-iron bell. A sign on the bell reads: “This school bell rang from the

belfry of Gatesville Grammar School on College Hill from 1907 until 1948. The grammar school building was condemned and evacuated in 1948. Classes were held in the AG building, band hall, home economics classroom, Scout house, First Baptist Church, and other available rooms until a new school was ready in 1950.”

Visitors are welcome to drop by the museum located at 718 E. Main to view the massive spur collection. Coryell Museum and Historical Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, as is the gift shop. Yearly Coryell Museum memberships are \$20 for singles, \$30 for families, and \$40 for businesses and include free admission to the muse-

um, plus four newsletters. Of course, large and small donations are welcome at all times.

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



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Beyond medals: The core values of the summer Olympics



BY MICKY SHEARON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

One of the things I love most about the Olympic Games is that, for a few weeks every two years, we see athletes from all over the world — from all walks of life, all cultures, all races and ethnicities — come together in the spirit of athleticism and camaraderie to compete against one another in their respective events.

While these highly trained athletes are no doubt at the Olympic Games to compete, do their very best, and hopefully bring home a coveted Olympic medal, there is a clear connection among the athletes. Even in the midst of competition, they have mutual respect and admiration for one another. They support one another because they all know the dedication, commitment and hard work it takes for every athlete to get to the Olympic Games.

In a microcosm sort of way, the Olympic Games are a picture of what we all wish the world could be every single day. Indeed, the Olympics are not just a showcase of athletic prowess; they represent a philosophy of life that transcends sports, fostering a global community bound by shared ideals. The three fundamental values of Olympism — excellence, respect and friendship — form the bedrock of the Olympic Games, guiding its

mission to promote sport, culture, and education, all in the pursuit of a better world.

The essence of the Olympics is rooted in values that transcend the finish line and go beyond winning; it celebrates participation, perseverance and the unity of the human spirit.

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

Excellence in the Olympic context is about more than just winning medals. It's about pushing oneself to achieve the highest personal standards and striving to be the best version of oneself. This value encourages athletes to perform their best, inspiring others to pursue their own goals with determination and integrity. The motto of the Olympics, "Citius, Altius, Fortius" (Swifter, Higher, Stronger), encapsulates this spirit. It's a reminder that the journey toward greatness is just as important as the outcome.

DEMONSTRATING RESPECT

Respect is multifaceted



Chinese hurdler Liu Xiang being escorted off the track by fellow athletes after finishing the race despite an injury.

COURTESY PHOTO

and fundamental to the Olympic ethos. It encompasses respect for oneself, for others, for the rules of the game, and for the environment. Athletes demonstrate this by adhering to fair play, showing sportsmanship toward their competitors, and honoring the regulations of their sports. Respect also extends to cultural differences and environmental consciousness, highlighting the Olympics' role in promoting global harmony and sustainable practices.

CELEBRATING FRIENDSHIP

The Olympics uniquely bring people together from all corners of the globe, transcending national boundaries and fostering a spirit of camaraderie. Celebrating friendship means

setting aside rivalries and recognizing that we are all part of a larger human family. This value underscores the idea that there is more that unites us than divides us. The Olympic Games create a platform for athletes to build lifelong friendships, promoting peace and solidarity among nations.

THE EVOLUTION OF OLYMPISM

The original values of Olympism, as expressed in the Olympic Charter, aimed to encourage effort, preserve human dignity, and develop harmony. Over time, these principles have evolved to reflect modern aspirations. Today, Olympism is seen as a philosophy that blends sport with culture and education, advocating for a balanced

development of body, will, and mind. It's about finding joy in effort, learning from good examples, and respecting universal ethical principles.

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

At its core, the Olympic Movement aspires to build a peaceful and better world. This goal is pursued through the education of youth via sport, practiced without discrimination and in the spirit of mutual understanding, friendship, solidarity, and fair play. Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic Games, emphasized that the true essence of the Olympics lies in participation, not just victory. His belief that "the essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting

well" continues to inspire athletes and fans alike.

CONCLUSION

As we watch the Summer Olympics in Paris over the next few weeks, let's remember the Games are more than a series of competitions. They are a celebration of the human spirit and a testament to our collective aspiration for excellence, respect, and friendship. Through these values, the Olympics continue to inspire individuals and unite nations, showcasing the best of what humanity can achieve together.



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Bell County Master Gardeners announce schedule for August

Submitted item

The Bell County Master Gardeners Association recently announced events scheduled in August. For those interested in gardening, the events are:

Aug 10

The Bell County Master Gardener Association and the Temple Public Library Garden Club presents a Special Event Seminar/Demonstration "Succulents" on Saturday, Aug 10 at 2 p.m. at the Temple Public Library, McLane Room, 100 W. Adams, Temple. Certified Master Gardener's Jan George, Carol Morisette and Annette Shubert will be discussing how to use succulents in your landscape to conserve water. You will even get a chance to plant a

succulent to take home.

Class Limit: 30
Register at bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com

Aug 15

The Bell County Master Gardener Association is hosting a free monthly seminar "Vegetable Gardening in Central Texas" on Thursday, Aug. 15, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, BCMGA Learning Center, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. Certified Master Gardener Dave Slaughter will discuss the challenges and opportunities of vegetable gardening in Central Texas, plus hold a conversation discussion about the difference of spring and fall vegetable gardening.

Class Limit: 50
Please register at bcmga-

speakers@gmail.com

Aug 16

The Bell County Master Gardener Association and the Troy Chamber of Commerce Lunch and Learn is hosting "Vegetable Gardening in Central Texas" on Friday, Aug. 16, from 12-1 p.m. at Troy Community Center, 201 E. Main St., Troy. Certified Master Gardener Dave Slaughter will discuss the challenges and opportunities of gardening in Central Texas plus hold a discussion about the differences between spring and fall vegetable gardening.

Class Limit: 50
Please register at hello@elevatetroy.org

Or call Gaby Warlick at 254-400-7345 to register.



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Evant ISD selects new principal for 2024-2025 school year

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

With 21 years' experience in education, Ricky Mourning has been selected as principal for the 2024 to 2025 school year at Evant Independent School District.

Mourning graduated from Godley High School and expressed that he feels a connection to Evant since it is a small rural high school, which is similar to where he is from.

He also mentioned he enjoyed the conversations with the Evant ISD interview committee during the evaluation process for principal.

When asked why he is excited to begin the upcoming school year, he said, "This is the first year I will not only be serving as an administrator for middle school and high school, but prekindergarten through fifth grade as well."

Mourning isn't just passionate about education; he is also in it to see his students succeed.

He said the most rewarding aspect of being a principal is getting to celebrate the success of all students, teachers and staff members of Evant ISD.

"We will celebrate success," he said.

The school district also recently established a new program called "Yondr," which Mourning supports and believes will enhance educational and discipline outcomes in students.

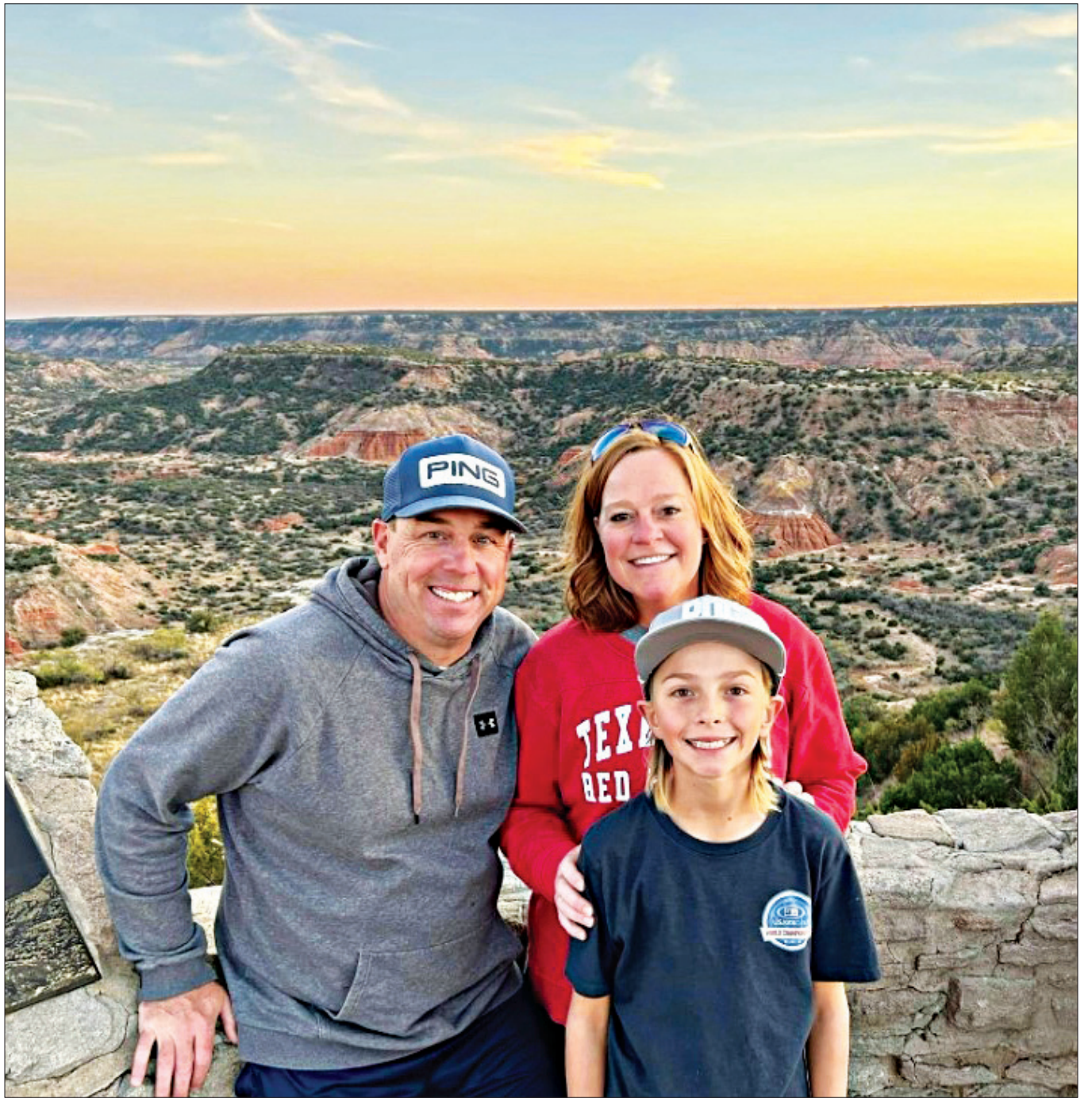
The program is designed to keep students' cellphone free during school hours by using a locking pouch device.

"We believe the policy will benefit the students academically and behaviorally," he said. "I personally believe we will see an improvement in academic performance, in student behavior and an improvement in student engagement."

His objective for the upcoming year is to improve the school district as a whole and to regain the students' focus on engagement in the classroom.

"My goal is to learn and serve," he said. "Learn all the students' names, learn about each of our faculty, staff, and administration as well as serve the Evant ISD community."

"Public education is the best career field that anyone can choose," he said. "I love building positive relationships with kiddos and seeing those kiddos succeed as lifelong learners."



Evant ISD Principal Ricky Mourning is pictured with his family.

COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

Charlie Sommerfeld (second from left) is shown being presented with a \$500 check.

Local adoption/rescue center receives Remarkable Award

Staff Reports

Adoption/rescue center Charlie's Wags and Whiskers' Owner Charlie Sommerfeld has recently been awarded with a Remarkable Award for turning her passion for animals into a rescue mission

with her facility.

Local news station KWTX recognized Sommerfeld and presented her with a \$500 check from Daniel Stark Law Firm for her efforts.

An online post reads, "Despite limited resources, Charlie's dedication has led

to 64 successful adoptions since September. Inspired by her grandmother, Charlie continues to make a difference with the support of her mom and community."

Local schools announce meet the teacher/principal events

Staff Reports

To prepare for the upcoming school year, students, and parents will attend Meet the Teacher and Meet the Principal events. During this time, students will be able to pick up their schedules, meet their teachers/principals, see their classroom, and tour their designated school.

GATESVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Gatesville Primary School, located at 308 Hornet Way, will hold two Meet the Teacher events. Pre-kindergarten and ECSE will be held on Monday, Aug. 5 from 5-6:30 p.m. Kindergarten will take place on Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 5-6:30 p.m.

GATESVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Gatesville Elementary School, located at 2537 East Main Street, will host its annual Meet the Teacher event on Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 5:30-7 p.m.

GATESVILLE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Gatesville Intermediate School, located at 311 Hornet Way, will host Meet the Teacher on Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 6-7 p.m. Schedules will be available for pick-up at Meet the Teacher.

Other pick-up times for schedules will be on Monday, Aug. 5 from 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m., and

on Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.

GATESVILLE JUNIOR HIGH

Gatesville Junior High, located at 307 South Lovers Lane, 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 pick-up times for schedules will be on Monday, Aug. 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 6, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and Wednesday, Aug. 7, 9 a.m.-noon.

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/C1LRABYWD41. Proof of residence will be required.

GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Gatesville High School, located at 205 South Lovers Lane, will host meet the teacher on Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 6-7:30 p.m. During this time, students will be able to tour the high school, find their classrooms, meet their teachers, and gather last minute school supply lists.

Other pick-up times for

schedules and student parking passes will be on Monday, Aug. 5 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and 6-7:30 p.m., and Wednesday, Aug. 7 from 9 a.m.-11:30 p.m.

EVANT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Evant Independent School District, located at 339 Memory Lane in Evant, will hold its annual meet the teacher event on Thursday, Aug. 8 from 5:30-7 p.m.

JONESBORO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jonesboro Independent School District, located at 14909 East State Highway 36 in Jonesboro, has announced that it will hold a meet the teacher event on Wednesday, Aug. 14 from 6-8 p.m.

OGLESBY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Oglesby Independent School District, located at 125 College Avenue in Oglesby, will host meet the teacher on Monday, Aug. 12 from 6-7 p.m.

There will be a watermelon festival held at the Oglesby Community Center immediately after meet the teacher to celebrate gearing back up for school on Wednesday, Aug. 14.



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GHS alumna hosts golf camp for local youth

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

As a Gatesville High School alumna herself, Kaylan Summers decided to give back to local youth by hosting a summer golf camp to teach various skills and techniques.

Summers graduated from Gatesville High School in 2019 after playing golf all four years of school. She was the MVP each year as well as being a four-time regional qualifier and a two-time state qualifier.

After graduating high school, she took a year off and then decided to play for one year at McLennan Community College after her break. Following graduation, she transferred to Texas Wesleyan and played for one more year.

Her journey with golf led her to host the camp, which she feels is important.

"My whole life revolved around this place," she said. "This sport and community raised me; I wouldn't trade this life for the world."

She believes that the camp was beneficial for the kids who don't have anyone they

know that is involved in golf.

"I wish our community did more for youth golf like they do for other sports, so, I took it upon myself to help get our youth involved," she said.

Summers' sister, Malorie Summers Paskett, and Avery Streetman and Fred Rhea were volunteers for the camp and helped with the 38 kids that attended.

"We also had a big donation of clubs and bags from a GHS alumni Hunter Gore who now works in the DFW area at Golf Roots," she said. "They kindly donated over 50 clubs and four bags."

Golf clubs were also donated by local members, trimmed down, and gripped by members and workers of the Gatesville Country Club.

"Ray Feight, our Gatesville Country Club pro, let us do this camp at no charge," she said. "Our golf course made no money off our camp, and he is a big advocate for youth as well. I want to give thanks for him doing that for our kids."

Within the three-day golf camp, attendees learned about areas on the course

like the green, hole, tee box, driving range. They also gained knowledge regarding which clubs they need to drive, chip, and putt with.

"We talked about etiquette as well as basic swinging techniques," she said.

Campers were also able to take part in a competitive drive, chip, and putt contest, and the winners were presented with awards during a ceremony to conclude the camp.

When referring to golf, Summers expressed that it is one of the only sports you can take with you for the rest of your life.

"It gives them the chance to learn and grow on their own," she said. "All it takes is a stick, club, rod, something to swing and an open area to start learning."

She mentioned that she plans to host many future events for local youth, which will be throughout the whole year.

"I'm working on some things and definitely learning as I go; I'm appreciative for all the cooperation in this process," she said.

"This sport has brought



COURTESY PHOTO

Campers at a recent summer golf camp.

me so many relationships and connections," she said. "I've seen some pretty parts

of the world being involved with this sport. I want to give every kid this opportunity to

learn and have these same opportunities as I did."

Gatesville High School cheer begins season with UCA camp

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The Gatesville High School cheer program recently attended the Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) camp in Galveston.

"We started at 5:45 a.m. on Monday morning and didn't stop until 11 a.m. on Thursday," Cheer Director Amber Colson said. "They pushed through all the challenges and really grew as a team with skills, teamwork, and leadership."

Both varsity and junior varsity teams received various awards for their hard work and determination to spread Hornet spirit throughout the camp.

The varsity team won the Small Varsity Spirit Championship, as well as being presented with ribbons for an evaluation sideline chant, an evaluation cheer, and an evaluation camp routine. They also received a spirit stick for three days of the camp and mascot Kari Dudik was awarded with a spirit stick each day of camp.

Captain Tiffany Kollman and Buzz the Hornet Kari Dudik were selected by the UCA for the "Pin it Forward Leadership Award." The award goes to cheerleaders and mascots who show exemplary leadership skills both on and off the mat.

Seven Lady Hornets were also announced as All-Americans, which include Katie Hopson, Madisan Heimbuck, Brilee Ford, Paisley Wells, Kynlee Mangum, Jahaziel Martinez, and Kari Dudik.

Dudik also achieved one of the highest awards a mascot can receive at the camp, which was the Mascot Leadership Award. She was chosen out of each of the mascots who were present at the camp due to her exceptional leadership skills.

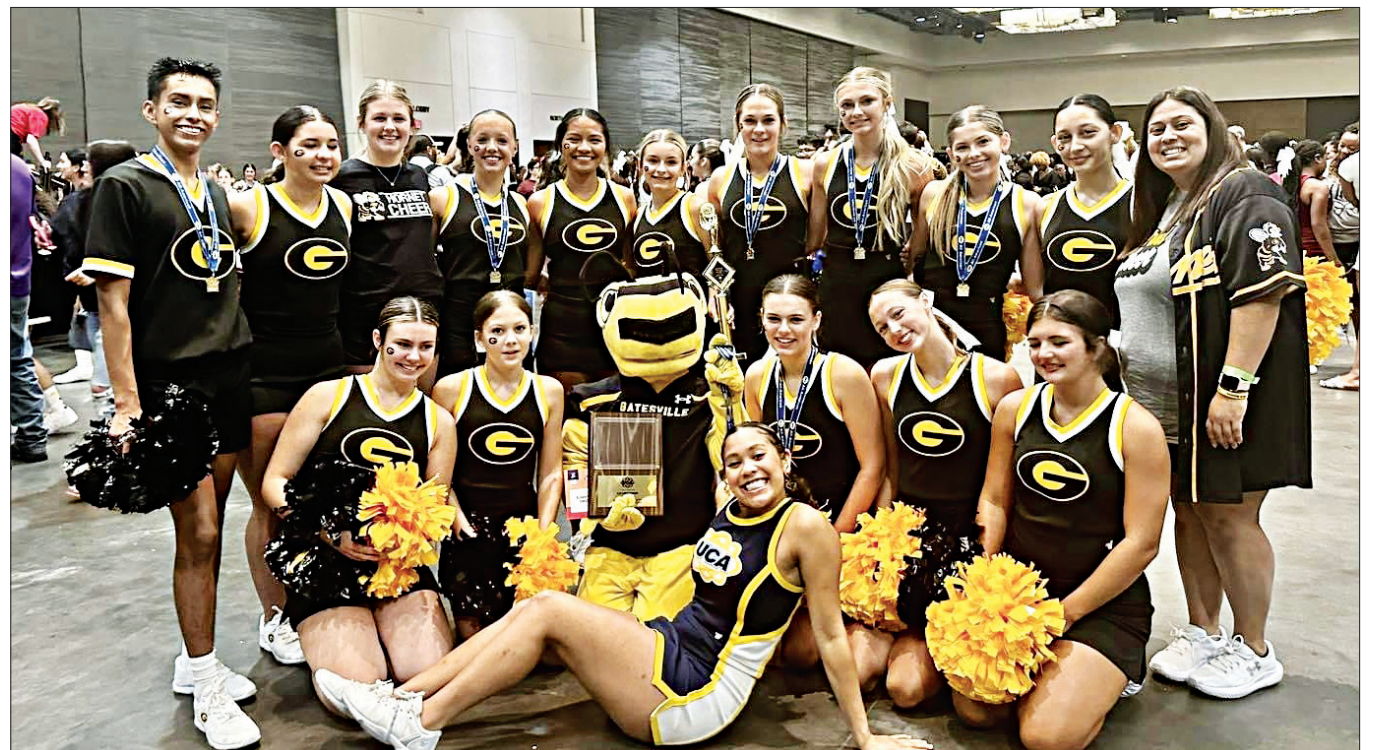
The junior varsity team was awarded fourth place in the Junior Varsity Spirit Championship.

The girls were also presented with ribbons for an evaluation sideline chant, an evaluation cheer, and an

evaluation camp routine. A spirit stick was given to the Lady Hornets each day of

the camp for expressing sincere spirit and enthusiasm. "This group worked so

hard this week and I am proud of what they accomplished," Colson said.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville High School Cheer team is pictured at UCA camp.

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Tarleton Football's Britten, Cooper named to FCS Preseason All-America Team by Stat Perform

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE – Tarleton State Football senior running back Kayvon Britten and senior wide receiver Darius Cooper were named to the 2024 FCS Preseason All-America Team by Stats Perform, the organization announced July 29.

Britten, the United Athletic Conference Preseason Offensive Player of the Year, was named as a preseason First Team All-America honoree. Cooper, a Second Team All-UAC player in 2023, was placed on the preseason Third Team All-America list.

Finishing on the UAC First Team All-Conference list in 2023, Britten was also tabbed to the FCS Football Central All-American Third Team and the Phil Steele FCS 2023 All-American Fourth Team last season. Scoring in 10 of Tarleton's 11 games, the Cincinnati, Ohio, native rushed for 1,150 yards on 183 carries (6.3 yards per carry) to go with 16 rushing touchdowns. In addition to averaging 104.6 rushing yards per contest, Britten came

up with 106 receiving yards and a touchdown on 11 catches.

Britten led the UAC in rushing touchdowns (third in the FCS) and total touchdowns (tied-fifth in FCS). He was second in the conference in total rushing yards (ninth in FCS) along with rushing yards per game (tied-11th FCS) and yards per rush (21st in FCS). His 1,150 yards were the sixth-most rushing yards in a single season in Texas Football history and his 16 touchdowns were the third-most in a single season in program history.

Despite missing four games due to injury, Cooper bounced back to earn UAC Second Team All-Conference honors. Cooper finished the 2023 campaign with 622 receiving yards off 28 receptions to go with five touchdowns. His 88.9 receiving yards per game led all Texan and UAC wide receivers, having the 11th-most in FCS football.

The St. Louis, Missouri, native had two multi-touchdown games that coincided with a pair of games with at least 100 receiving yards.

Entering his fifth season as a Texan, Cooper has collected over 2,000 career receiving yards, 15 touchdowns in addition to being a two-time All-Conference player.

Britten and Cooper, who were unanimous Preseason First-Team All-Conference selections by the UAC last

week, were two of nine players from the UAC represented on Stat Perform's FCS Preseason All-American list. Tarleton State had the second-most preseason All-Americans listed by Stat Perform among UAC schools.

The Texans, who are set

to compete in their first season as a full-fledged NCAA Division I program in 2024, open the season at Memorial Stadium Saturday, Aug. 24 at 2:30 p.m. against McNeese in front of a nationally televised audience on ESPN2.

Season tickets start at just

\$150 and are on sale now by visiting TarletonSports.com/Tickets or by visiting the Tarleton Ticket Office in person located on the west side entrance of Memorial Stadium. Single-game tickets will be available for purchase the week of each home game on Mondays.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Kayvon Britten and senior wide receiver Darius Cooper were named to the 2024 FCS Preseason All-America Team by Stats Perform, the organization announced July 29.

Former special agent receives TSU's first Criminal justice Ph.D.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Mark Brown received the first criminal justice Ph.D. awarded by TSU at summer commencement.

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University marked another milestone July 26 when Mark Brown crossed the stage at summer commencement to receive his doctorate in criminal justice, the first Ph.D. ever conferred by the university.

The School of Criminology, Criminal Justice and Public Administration welcomed its first Ph.D. cohort in the fall of 2019, and Brown is the first to graduate from it. His wife of 27 years, Kim, his mother and in-laws were at graduation to cheer for him, along with a large group of extended family, friends and former coworkers.

"I am honored and humbled," said Brown. "It was certainly not my intent to be the 'first,' I just simply wanted to complete in a reasonable timeframe."

In 2019 Brown was working full-time in law enforcement while completing his master's degree in criminal justice at Tarleton State when he heard that a doctoral program was in the works. The program's student focus and practitioner approach appealed to him.

"There are many programs that provide a purely academic approach, but Tarleton State is one of only two schools that provide a practitioner approach to the Ph.D.," he said. "This is crucial in near and future development of criminal justice policy."

Brown retired from federal law enforcement in 2021 after working as a special agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives with the United States Department of Justice.

"I worked the first part of my career in criminal investigations, and the latter two-thirds of my career were as a member of Special Response Team 3 as a tactical operator and medic. I retired as Commander of SRT 3," he said. While doing his graduate studies he worked as an interim police chief in the spring of 2022 and as a full-time faculty member at Dallas Baptist University from June 2022 until May 2023 when he started his dissertation.

"Obviously, full-time work makes any academic effort more challenging," Brown said. "I had to be disciplined in time management and unfortunately missed out

on some social and family events, but I tried to keep those missed opportunities to a minimum.

"I was fortunate to have a supporting wife and family and was able to retire and free up the time necessary to complete my dissertation. I was also very fortunate to have a very supportive dissertation committee — they never pressured me but were always available to provide support and guidance through my dissertation phase."

Alex del Carmen, associate dean of the College of Liberal and Fine Arts, chaired Brown's dissertation committee and served as his major professor.

"I cannot imagine a better individual to have been the recipient of the first Ph.D. awarded in Tarleton State's history," del Carmen said. "His practical experience as a federal agent with the ATF coupled with his academic formation will continue to make Tarleton proud."

Diane Stearns, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, said the awarding of Tarleton State's first Ph.D. highlights the uni-

versity's 125-year commitment to academic excellence and dedication to addressing critical community and workforce needs.

"Dr. Brown's academic achievements, in tandem with his vision and extensive practical experience, will continue to reflect positively on his time at our university as he advances his work."

Moving forward, Brown's post-graduation plans include teaching and providing consulting services to criminal justice agencies, he said.

"The criminal justice system is being reformed in the wake of multiple national incidents," he said. "While change is necessary, not all change is proving beneficial to the whole of society. It is my desire to assist agencies in assessment of policy, training and community interaction to ensure they are providing excellent public safety to their citizens."

To learn more about Tarleton State's criminal justice programs, including undergraduate and graduate degrees as well as certificate programs, visit <https://www.tarleton.edu/criminaljustice/>.

Tarleton State cuts ribbon for Research and Economic Development Building

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University's new Research and Economic Development Building officially opened with a ribbon cutting in July.

The university will share the state-of-the-art facility, located at U.S. Highway 281 and East Lingleville Road, with Texas A&M AgriLife Research and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Sponsored research and regional partnerships are two areas set to benefit from the new innovation ecosystem.

"Our economy is driven through research and innovation," said Tarleton State President James Hurley. "The cutting-edge research

between our university and Texas A&M AgriLife moving forward will help to meet challenges in Texas and beyond. As our university celebrates 125 years starting this fall, we are committed to building a better future for all."

In 2022-23, Tarleton State celebrated its largest-ever increase in total and restricted research expenditures and the highest jump in Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) rankings. Expenditures for fiscal 2022 totaled \$20 million, and Tarleton's HERD status moved up to 289. The next HERD Survey is scheduled to be released in November.

"Today marks a major step in bringing increased research funding

to Stephenville," said Texas A&M System Chancellor John Sharp. "We are proud of the work being done by Tarleton State and Texas A&M AgriLife to benefit the region. Their close collaboration here is just another example of the benefits that come with being a part of The Texas A&M University System."

Last year Tarleton State received a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration enabling the university to operate as an EDA University Center — the only one in North Central Texas and one of just 73 nationwide. In addition to \$650,000 in EDA funding, regional partners are matching the grant in-kind for a total

\$1.3 million over five years.

The space, which offers 10,000 square feet, will also house Tarleton State's Institute for Rural Economic Development and Research and the university's Small Business Development Center.

Working collaboratively, Tarleton State and Texas A&M AgriLife will conduct research and create programs that improve the lives of Texans.

"Buildings bring people together," said Jeffrey W. Savell, vice chancellor and dean for agriculture and life sciences for Texas A&M AgriLife. "As we work to set new standards for our communities, this new building will advance cutting-edge research and innovation,

sustainable production systems, resource development and economic strength. We look forward to what this building, and most importantly, the people in it, will accomplish."

The new Institute for Rural Economic Development and Research will merge discovery and innovation to grow industries and foster job opportunities. Tarleton State will work alongside other Texas A&M System institutions, regional universities, start-up companies, business incubators and chambers of commerce to help drive North Central Texas prosperity.

State Rep. DeWayne Burns (District 58) said the benefits will be significant. "The impact of this building to

Stephenville and the region will be immense. As a proud Tarleton State Texan, I am excited to see the innovative research that takes place moving forward."

"Strong partnerships through research and innovation are needed for economic resilience and prosperity," said Vice President for Tarleton State's Division of Research, Innovation and Economic Development Rupa Iyer. "This new building will pave the way for incredible achievements in the years to come. We look forward to continuing to work with AgriLife as we start this next chapter."

Mustard Design was the architect and The Christian Company the builder.

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Winners will be announced October 26th in the Best of Gatesville Special Section!

People

- | | |
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| Best Accountant | Best Hair Stylist |
| Best Attorney | Best Insurance Agent |
| Best Bank Teller (Include Bank Name) | Best Law Enforcement Officer |
| Best Barber | Best Massage Therapist |
| Best Builder/Developer | Best Mechanic |
| Best Car Salesperson | Best Optometrist/Ophthalmologist |
| Best Coach | Best Photographer |
| Best Chiropractor | Best Real Estate Agent |
| Best Dentist | Best Teacher/Educator |
| Best Doctor | Best Veterinarian |
| Best Financial Advisor | Best Waiter/Waitress |



Readers choice: The Best of Gatesville is a consumer promotion sponsored by the Gatesville Messenger. Ballots will be published until Aug. 24 for you the reader to cast your vote, telling us what you think are the "Best of" in Gatesville.

Contest Rules:

1. One entry per person. Entries must be on original newspaper ballots, no machine copies will be counted. Ballots must be at least 50% completed. Name, address and phone number must be filled in to be counted. Multiple ballots that appear to be from the same person will not be counted.
2. Final decisions on ballots, categories and winning entries will be made by the Gatesville Messenger.
3. All entries must be received by 5:00 p.m., Monday, Sept. 2, 2024. (A random drawing of entries will determine the \$50 winner.)

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Food & Drink

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| Best Baked Goods | Best Chicken Fried Steak | Best Ice Cream | Best Shrimp |
| Best Bar | Best Chicken Wings | Best Margarita | Best Snow Cone |
| Best BBQ | Best Coffee | Best Mexican Food | Best Steak |
| Best Breakfast | Best Desserts | Best Pasta | Best Sweet Tea |
| Best Burger | Best Drinks | Best Pizza | Best Tacos |
| Best Catering | Best Donuts | Best Salad | |
| Best Catfish | Best Food Truck | Best Salsa | |

Goods & Services / Organizations

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| Best Assisted Living Facility | Best Feed Store | Best Live Music Venue | Best Rehabilitation Center |
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| Best Carpet Cleaning Service | Best Home Decor | Best Oil Change | Best Tractor/Lawn Equipment |
| Best Civic Organization | Best Home Health Agency | Best Pest Control | Best Veterinary Clinic |
| Best Computer Repair | Best Restaurant | Best Pet Grooming | Best Wedding/Event Venue |
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HURRY, ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00 P.M. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2024

OISD cheer to host pancake supper today, Aug. 3

Staff Reports

Oglesby High School cheerleaders will host a pancake supper on Saturday, Aug. 3, with hopes to raise funds for the cheer program.

The supper will be held at 5 p.m. at the Oglesby Community Center.

The cost per plate will be \$10 and will include three pancakes, two sausages, and scrambled eggs, as well as coffee and juice.

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

GHS volleyball to host alumni game Aug. 10

Staff Reports

Gatesville High School has announced that an alumni game for volleyball will be hosted on Saturday, Aug. 10.

The alumni game will begin at 11 a.m. in the Sydney L. Pruitt Gymnasium.

Participation in the game is open to all past

Gatesville High School volleyball players. The community is welcome to attend the game as well.

Following the event, ice cream floats will be served.

For further details, contact 254-865-8281.

Gatesville High School is located at 205 South Lovers Lane.

Flag football and volleyball registration now open for youth

Staff Reports

The City of Gatesville's Parks and Recreation department has announced that registration is now open for city league flag football and volleyball.

Flag football will have games every Monday and Tuesday from Oct. 7 through Nov. 16. The age divisions include five years old and kindergarten, first and second

grade, third and fourth grade, and fifth and sixth grade.

City league volleyball is open to third and fourth grade as well as fifth and sixth grade youth.

Registration is open for volunteer coaches and players through Thursday, Aug. 29.

To register for either league, visit www.team-sideline.com/GatesvilleTX.

GHS Theater to offer "Bootcamp" Aug. 17

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

The Gatesville High School Theater Department will be offering a crash course called "Theater Bootcamp on Saturday, Aug. 17, from 9

a.m. to 5 p.m. at the GHS Auditorium.

Students will be trained in onstage acting and improvisational skills, choreography, stage management and crew work, and lighting and sound board work.

All interested students from 9th to 12th grades are welcome to attend.

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



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GHS tennis players Jack Armstrong and Kasey Fitzer celebrate a win in mixed-doubles.

GHS tennis team fell to Robinson, 15-4

SUBMITTED BY GHS TENNIS COACH WENDELL JONES

The Gatesville tennis team fell to Robinson 15-4 during their first home match on July 25.

In singles, Jack Armstrong line #1 defeated

Isaac Chapa, 5-3, 5-3; Tyson Crawford line #5 beat John Curry, 4-1, 4-2; and Kasey Fitzer line #1 had a split set win against Kinley Slider line #1 4-5(4), 4-1, 10-1.

In doubles, the only Gatesville win was mixed doubles of Jack Armstrong and Kasey Fitzer who defeated Clark & Prisock, 6-3, 6-0.

According to Coach Jones, "The five freshmen starters for Gatesville got a lot of experience and improved tremendously."

LIL TIGERS CHEER CAMP HELD JULY 27 AT OISD

COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby ISD Cheer Coach Cassie Meyers recently put together a Lil Tigers cheer camp for local youth in the community. With a total of 27 girls who attended the camp, they were taught jumps and stunts, which included a thigh stand and a prep, three cheers and chants, as well as a dance. The Lil Tigers will perform a dance they learned at the camp during the homecoming community pep rally on Wednesday, Sept. 11.



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PHOTO COURTESY OF BECKY COWARD
4-H Ambassadors Mary Mitchell, Kylie Caraway, and Makaylie Willaims lead the 4-H Food Show session showing Clover Kids how to make healthy yogurt parfaits while Ambassador Lily Nielsen leads the group.

4-H hosted Clover Kid Camp July 26

Staff Reports

The Coryell County 4-H Ambassador Team hosted an afternoon day camp for kindergarten through third grade on July 26 at Hay Valley Baptist Church. The camp featured discussions and hands-on ac-

tivities about 4-H projects, such as food and nutrition, theater and performing arts, rabbits, consumer education, and even dog care and training. Campers were also taught that 4-H's goal is to enhance leadership, citizenship, and to gain knowledge of

life skills.

Parents returned at the end of the event to view a showcase put together by the students about what their youth have learned about 4-H throughout the camp.

BOOK REVIEW

The front seat is going to need a lot of work



BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Terri Schlichenmeyer writes book reviews for over 220 Newspapers and magazines around the U.S. and Canada.

Yeah, it's roomy but the seat belt is completely missing. Still, four on the floor, zero-to-25 in three seconds, it runs on cheap fuel, she's got a lot of kick, it's workable.

This is the ride you've wanted since you were 14 years old. As in the new book "The Horse" by Timothy C. Winegard, what'll you do with that one horsepower?

Imagine the bravery of the very first person who jumped on the back of a horse.

That person may've been "some kid" on a dare, which makes sense. After all, when you're standing near a thousand-pound animal with sharp hooves and a willingness to bite, it'd take youthful bravado to leap up and on — but someone did, roughly 5,500 years ago, somewhere near Russia.

Long before that, though, the animal that would evolve into the horse was tiny, a funny-looking creature with three toes. A few million years later, and it "would be easily recognized ... as a miniature horse" — the fossils over which early American paleontologists had a literal Bone War, so fascinated were they.

Equally "captivated," apparently, were people long before them who realized

horses were multi-use creatures in industry, field, farm, and trail. They ran on grass, which was freely found almost everywhere. Horse waste was voluminous and could be used on crops or as fuel or "home insulation." Horse milk is nourishing. And while it's abhorrent to most modern North Americans, in a pinch, a horse was a meal on four feet.

Most of all, the ubiquitous use of the horse in ancient history changed nearly every aspect of human culture. Very early "domestic horses hastened the ability to get the word out," says Winegard. Later, they offered "lightning transmission of ideas, materials, innovation, trade goods, human migrations and conquering armies."

And yet, after thousands of years of labor and friendship, with the invention of a single mechanical device, "the demand for horses dried up."

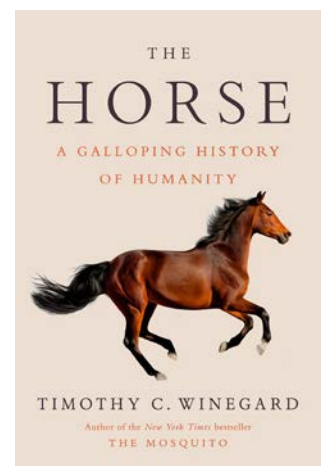
But obviously not completely: Winegard says the number of horses in the U.S. now, as compared to a century ago, has gone down by two-thirds. Still,

you likely don't have to go far to find a horse these days, and "The Horse" is equally easy to get.

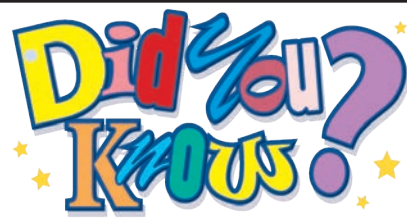
From Greece and Rome and early science to the modern attitudes, therapeutic uses, politics and pleasure of equines in general, Winegard speaks directly to the heart of horse lovers, even when the discussion isn't entirely pleasant.

Indeed, there are some hard truths about how humans treated horses over time, and they're accompanied by photos, so beware. Readers may also note an overabundance of ancient history, which is sometimes difficult to tackle. Stick with it, though; think of it like a trail ride, heavy with brush. The fun part's always just a hoofbeat away.

Horse lovers should absolutely find this book, but historians and lovers of culture will like it, too. For sure, "The Horse" is perfect for someone with a need for steed.



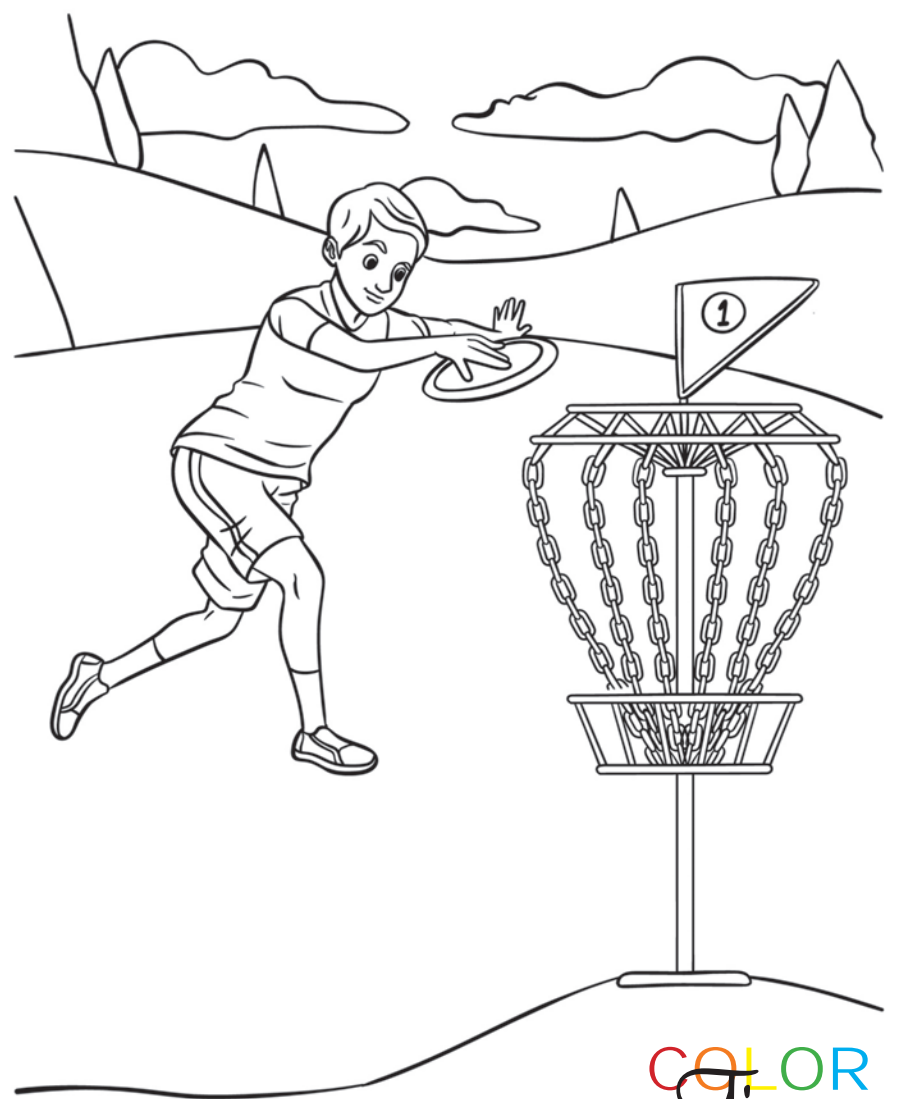
"The Horse: A Galloping History of Humanity" by Timothy C. Winegard, c.2024, Dutton, \$35, 519 pages



Disc golf is a flying disc sport in which players throw a disc at a target. It is played using rules similar to golf.



THE TWO MAIN AERODYNAMIC FORCES THAT ACT ON A FLYING DISC ARE DRAG AND LIFT. IN ESSENCE, FLYING DISCS BEHAVE MUCH LIKE AN AIRPLANE WING DOES.



COLOR Time

Hey kids! Get ready to mark your calendars because August 3rd is no ordinary day - it's National Disc Golf Day! If you're looking for a fun outdoor activity to enjoy with friends and family, then disc golf might just be the perfect game for you.

So, what exactly is disc golf? Well, think of it as a combination of frisbee and golf. Instead of hitting a ball with a club, players throw a special disc into a basket, trying to complete each hole in as few throws as possible. It's like a treasure hunt in the park!

One of the coolest things about disc golf is that you

can play it almost anywhere - from local parks to dedicated disc golf courses. And on National Disc Golf Day, people all across the country come together to celebrate this awesome sport.

If you're new to disc golf, don't worry! It's easy to learn, and you don't need any fancy equipment to get started. All you need is a disc and a sense of adventure. Plus, disc golf is a great way to get some exercise while having a ton of fun outdoors.

So, how can you celebrate National Disc Golf Day? Well, you could start by organizing a game with your friends at your local park.

Or, if you're feeling adventurous, why not explore a new disc golf course in your area?

No matter how you choose to celebrate, National Disc Golf Day is all about getting outside, being active, and having a blast with friends and family. So grab your discs, hit the course, and let's tee off on August 3rd for a day of disc golf fun!

Remember, the most important thing is to have fun and enjoy the great outdoors. Happy National Disc Golf Day, everyone!



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

GATESVILLE HORNETS ANNUAL FOOTBALL CAMP

ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Independent School District hosted their annual Hornets Football Camp July 29-31 for seventh through ninth graders. The camp offered opportunities to learn fundamentals and techniques, as well as Hornet schemes and terminology.



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BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The annual Back-to-School Bash recently took place at the Gatesville Elementary School where hundreds of backpacks, shoes, and school supplies were distributed to students and their parents. In addition to school supplies, haircuts, health screenings, physicals, and hearing and vision tests were offered to the students. There were 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 provided information for families.

