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'This should have never happened'

Former Secret Service agent speaks out on Trump's assassination attempt



COURTESY PHOTOS

Pictured left: During his 24-year career as a Secret Service agent, Texas resident Mark Lowery had the honor of serving as protector to President Ronald Reagan during his term in the 1980s. Pictured right: Mark Lowery is pictured walking with President George W. Bush during Lowery's time as a Secret Service agent.

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
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Editor's Note: This story was originally published in the Hood County News. It is being shared here due to the broad nature of the story and the fact that many in our community are interested in the events of July 13.

The nation is still reeling from former President Donald Trump's attempted assassination during a campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania Saturday, July 13.

THE SHOOTING

Although the incident is still being investigated, it was revealed that the shooter, 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks, opened fire at the former president using

an AR-style rifle. Trump — who was immediately surrounded and protected by Secret Service as he was rushed into a vehicle for safety — suffered an injury to his ear.

According to CNN, Crooks, who was killed by Secret Service agents following the shooting, fired on Trump while perched on a nearby rooftop outside the rally's security perimeter.

eter.

The shooting resulted in the death of one rally attendee and left two others critically injured; however, the two injured have since been reported as stable.

As investigation of the incident continues, the Secret Service faces significant scrutiny and demands for congressional investigations regarding its management of security at the rally, according to CNN.

There have also been rumors circulating that some Secret Service agents were involved in the assassination attempt, while others have suggested that the entire incident was staged, either by Trump or President Joe Biden.

TikTok, X, Facebook, and other social media platforms have also been flooded with dark humor in the aftermath of the shooting, with numerous memes surfacing to make fun of the situation and Trump himself.

A CALL FOR PATIENCE
While many details surrounding the incident remain unclear at this time, former Secret Service agent and Hood County resident

PLEASE SEE **AGENT** | A9

Gatesville mayor, council members share progress on city manager search

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Following Scott Albert's exit as Gatesville City Manager in May, the Gatesville City Council will decide the fate of the position at an upcoming meeting in August.

Gatesville Police Chief Brad Hunt has served as interim city manager since Albert's resignation. On Tuesday, Aug. 27, the council will vote on whether Hunt will continue his service as city manager or resume his role as police chief.

The city used a hiring firm, Strategic Government

Resources (SGR), to find a city manager after Bill Parry's retirement in 2023. While Mayor Gary Chumley has notified the firm that the city might need their services again this year, he said the city council does not plan to search for other candidates until after the vote on August 27.

"In the meantime, we had moved Chief Hunt into the city manager position, and he has done a fantastic job," Chumley said. "He has exhibited the leadership skills that we needed in there, and also the team building skills. Morale is higher now than it

has been for quite some time."

If the council chooses not to continue with Hunt's service, or if he declines the position, Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Meredith Rainer said they will work with SGR to search for potential candidates, a process that could take between three to six months.

Chumley and Rainer explain what the city is looking for in the next city manager and how they plan to maintain stability following back-to-back city

PLEASE SEE **MANAGER** | A2



COURTESY PHOTO

A candlelight vigil was held at the Coryell County Courthouse on Saturday, Aug. 3 to remember those who have lost their lives due to the extreme heat in Texas prisons. See story on page A2.



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Group gathers to honor lives lost in unairconditioned prisons

Amid an active lawsuit against TDCJ, advocacy groups and families of incarcerated Texans bring awareness to deadly heat in Texas prisons

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

As a formerly incarcerated individual and volunteer for the Lioness Justice Impacted Women's Alliance, Ashley Mooney was one of many who stood in solidarity amid the fight for air conditioning in Texas prisons.

The Lioness group, families of incarcerated individuals, and other advocacy organizations gathered at the Coryell County Courthouse on Saturday, Aug. 3 for a candlelight vigil to honor and remember those who have lost their lives due to scorching temperatures in prison units.

"I went to the vigil because, although I was in an air-conditioned unit, that's super rare," Mooney said. "And I have met mothers, fathers, cousins, and daughters that have had people who have been incarcerated

that have suffered from this. And it breaks my heart not just for the people who are in there, but for the families outside who can do nothing."

The vigil included speeches from formerly incarcerated members who were housed in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice units in Gatesville, as well as other support groups who helped sponsor the event.

"I fully expected it to be just a little mini rally with Lioness, and I saw family members there, people I've never met coming out supporting the cause as well and just remembering the people who lost their lives. It was an amazing feeling," Mooney said.

Texas Rep. Carl O. Sherman also spoke at the vigil and shared his concerns about the current condi-

tions within the Texas prison system.

"People are dying in our prisons, and you know that, but we've got to make sure we do not stop advocating for the women and men that are in our prisons that are dying," Sherman said.

The vigil comes in wake of a lawsuit filed against TDCJ in April, claiming that heat conditions within Texas prisons are a cruel and unusual punishment. Lioness and several other advocacy groups are asking the U.S. District Court in Austin to declare TDCJ's current heat-mitigation policy unconstitutional and require that prisons maintain a temperature between 65- and 85-degrees Fahrenheit inside its housing and occupied areas.

"Texas prisoners are being cooked to death," the complaint reads. "Last

summer alone, many people died and hundreds more suffered serious heat-related illnesses because of the sweltering temperatures in Texas's prisons."

According to a report by the Associated Press, Tuesday, July 30 began a multi-day hearing on the lawsuit. Inmate advocacy groups, including those from Lioness, took to the stand to describe the conditions within the prisons, saying that temperatures can reach above 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Marci Simmons, community outreach coordinator for Lioness, provided an update on the lawsuit during the vigil. Because lawsuits often last several years, she said the group's attorneys have asked the judge for a temporary order, or a preliminary injunction, that will allow current inmates

to receive relief from heat conditions within prison until the courts make a final decision on the case.

"The injunction is asking the judge to get relief now, because people are losing their lives this summer. It cannot wait years," Simmons said.

However, it is still unknown if or when the judge will grant the order, Simmons adds.

"When we're coming together collectively and sending out these prayers and energy into the world, I want to make sure that is heavy in our thought," Simmons said.

At the vigil, attendees also held a moment of silence for those who have suffered in Gatesville's past involving youth correctional facilities, including at the Gatesville State School for Boys. Its cemetery, located

on the outskirts of the TDCJ property, holds the remains of several young boys ranging from 10 to 20 years old.

"The City of Gatesville and its people are so much more than the youth injustice that was born here, and the injustices that happen in the prisons still located in Gatesville," Lioness member Jennifer Toon said at the vigil.

The Lioness Justice Impacted Women's Alliance aims to end the devaluation and mistreatment of incarcerated women and girls in the Texas criminal legal system.

"It feels like we're moving forward," Mooney said. "And I think every time we do something to bring awareness to this situation, we move just one step forward."

MANAGER

FROM PAGE A1

manager exits in 2023 and 2024.

In a town the size of Gatesville, they agree that community involvement is essential.

"We want someone who is a part of this community," Chumley said.

Rainer adds that they want a city manager who is not only involved but has a long-term vision for the city's growth.

"Also, someone who wants to be here, because I think that changes their mindset of the decisions that they make long-term," she said. "If they want to be here five to 10 years, what do they want to see Gatesville look like?"

While good leadership among city staff is key, Rainer said citizen engagement is another important part of the role.

"I think we need someone who is a people person and can communicate not just with the staff but with the citizens too," Rainer said. "And an open-door policy - if someone comes to speak to the city manager, it would be nice if he'd let them in openly and listen to their concerns."

Chumley praised Hunt for his work as interim city manager so far. He explains that the city council elected Hunt for the role due to his leadership skills and community involvement, especially after his planning for the total solar eclipse that took place in April.

"He did a great job of getting people organized and

everything as far as that goes," Chumley said. "He was a leader from the word 'go.' He could command, and you wanted to go do what he said and what you asked him to do."

Gatesville operates under a council-manager form of government, which means the city manager serves as the chief executive of various city departments and projects. They also work with the city council to establish policies and programs. The position oversees a city containing more than \$53 million in assets, 82 full-time government employees, and a current budget of approximately \$30 million.

What key issues will the next city manager face?

The next city manager will face several major projects in Gatesville - mostly

involving infrastructure improvement to accommodate the city's inevitable growth. Chumley and Rainer share some of the major issues that they believe the city will need to prioritize in the upcoming year.

"For growth, especially right now, I think we are really behind and need to invest in some of those things that you can't see," Rainer said.

Both Chumley and Rainer agree that water and sewer line improvements are a top priority.

"The absolute number one thing we are needing right now is some infrastructure improvement," Chumley said. "One is over on Leon Street by the iron bridge. The river has washed out and exposed a sewer line there."

Several water and sewer

projects are already in the works, including repairs at the Stillhouse Wastewater Treatment Plant and to a sewer line on State Highway 36.

"We are in the process of starting the line on (Highway) 36," Chumley said. "We've got subdivisions that are wanting to come in, but we can't service them because of lack of infrastructure."

Rainer adds that finding solutions to condemned structures and code enforcement are another priority for the city. In other words, abandoned homes deemed unsafe for occupancy as well as regulations to help clean up certain areas.

"Some of these houses, for the most part, some of the abandoned houses are just dilapidated and

unlivable - what do we do with those to more beautify Gatesville and make it more welcoming?" Rainer said.

Rainer said the council wanted to give Hunt through at least the end of August since he assumed the city manager role during budget season. Hunt has worked alongside Interim Deputy City Manager Mike Halsema and other city department leaders to build the budget for fiscal year 2025, which the council will adopt in September.

"I think Brad is doing a great job and he's a good communicator," Rainer said. "I think he communicates well with council, and so we'll see in August after the bulk of the budget gets done."

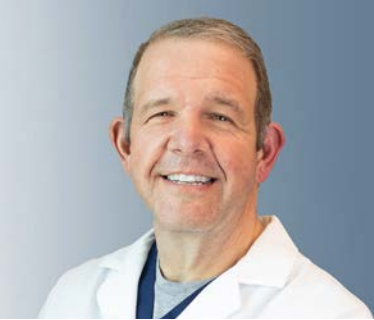
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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Newspapers have an important role in maintaining America's freedom



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

Newspapers have had an important role in our country since the very inception of our nation.

One of the biggest political issues in colonial America was free speech and the right of citizens to speak against a tyrannical government. At the very heart of free speech was the role of the newspaper. It provided information and news that helped form public opinion with the understanding that, in a democracy, the electorate needs to be adequately informed so it might make enlightened decisions. From our nation's infancy, newspapers provided the information that allowed the public to go to the polls, educated on the issues of the day.

When drafting the Constitution, our founding fathers felt so strongly about the free press their first action was to draft the First Amendment to ensure the press had certain freedoms and rights, which could not be impinged upon. In no small way, the freedoms recognized in the other constitutional amendments are dependent on the protections that exist in the First Amendment. Our founders

understood a voter without knowledge is simply a political token making decisions with the art of a blind chess player.

With those constitutional rights in place, our nation's newspapers helped our society as it formed opinions on the issues of the day. Whether it be the Monroe Doctrine, slavery, tariffs, women's rights, war, or economic growth, American newspapers reported on the issues throughout our history. In their constitutional role, they helped ensure that truth, justice, and fairness were consistently presented to the American voter. For many, reading the newspaper has been a way of life.

With the passage of time came radio, television, internet, and cell phones. Without question these technological advances have altered how people receive their news. No longer are people reviewing the daily results of the New York Stock Exchange by newsprint. They no longer grab the morning paper

to see the results of last night's baseball game, nor the late-night results of the local election. Some forms of communication are now "faster" than newspapers, but are they as accurate or as complete and as balanced?

The demise of the newspaper has been predicted again and again, and yet good community newspapers are still standing at their posts, providing the public with the information it needs to know.

Technology may have provided an alternative to print, but the local community newspaper still does and will always serve a vital role. There is no more credible source of local news than the community newspaper. There is no other source who will professionally communicate the goings on at the school board, the commissioners court, or the city council. The local paper is the watchdog that works to keep greed and political corruption from being cozy in the comfortable seats of power. It helps readership understand a bond issue, planning and zoning decisions, and other intricacies of government.

Of course, the community newspaper is also more than just governmental updates and news reports. It reveals what is happening in the community, what events are taking place and when they will occur. It contains pictures that document the flood or a tornado, as well as the pee-wee t-ball game. It reports on those who have passed, and those obituaries become a recorded part of history

that will never be erased. A community newspaper should not only reveal public issues to its readers but celebrate the events and accomplishments that are part of every community, giving people a sense of pride and ownership in where they live.

Newspapers are the canvas of your life presented to you each week without fail.

Tragically, some local newspapers in smaller and rural communities have closed because of rising costs and little to no advertising base to make their operation profitable. It is a sad and serious problem; so much so that there is pending legislation in Congress to support community newspapers through tax credits and business credits for advertisers who do business with their local newspaper. Legislators fear that without community newspapers there will be no one to report on local government, and rural America could become an informational desert — a situation which would have been abhorrent to the founding fathers.

Newspapers will continue to evolve. Digital issues will have more and more growth as people wish to access the newspaper from their phone or laptop, and whether they are in the comfort of their home or on the road. Through it all, your community newspaper will be here, providing you with information you want and need to know in both digital and print forms.

Recent polling reported by the Texas Press Association shows a significant

number of people still want to receive their local news from the community paper. They place more trust in the advertisements in their local paper than they do in TV, radio, or social media ads and are significantly more likely to buy because of that trust. They value knowing what is going on in their neighborhoods and they like seeing pictures and reading stories about their friends and neighbors. They want a strong community newspaper to make a difference in their life in a positive way.

I am proud to be a part of the newspaper fraternity and believe we provide an essential service I hope never goes out of favor. I wish I could express to you the earnestness with which the professionals I work with go about their business and the important responsibility they willingly accept. We are not perfect but work diligently and proudly to keep you informed and to

do so factually, fairly, and objectively. In these days of extreme partisanship, some readers may disagree with my statement, and, of course, that is their right. I simply remind those critics that being objective is giving a voice to both sides and letting the readers decide which view is the best. It is not merely supporting a view because that is what many readers might like to read. Confirmation is not objectivity. Newspapers have a duty to be better than that, especially local community newspapers.

Thought for the day: "Were it left to me to decide if we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter." —Thomas Jefferson

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

City previews budget, tax rate for 2025

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Interim City Manager Brad Hunt presented the city's proposed budget and property tax rate for fiscal year 2025 at a regular Gatesville City Council meeting on Tuesday, July 23.

Set at \$28.5 million, the proposed budget would decrease spending by approximately \$1.7 million compared to 2024's budget, which is around \$30.2 million.

Hunt said the decrease is due to the reduced number of capital improvement projects for the upcoming year.

The proposal maintains the current property tax rate of .56000 cents, which is the same tax rate as last year. Hunt said this is the first time in several years that the proposed tax rate does not exceed the voter-approval tax rate for the upcoming fiscal year, which is set at .563779 cents.

If the city chooses to adopt a tax rate that exceeds the voter-approval tax rate, the city will need to hold an election on the next uniform election date,

according to the Texas Comptroller website.

"I think that is a big key to take to our citizens who expect that we are accountable for the money that we are spending, and we are not proposing to raise their taxes or their tax rate to be able to afford the service that they want," Hunt said.

Once approved by the city council, the budget for the 2025 fiscal year will begin on Oct. 1 and end on Sept. 30, 2025.

Hunt presented an overview of the differences in the total expenditures for the proposed budget compared to last year's budget.

The budget's two largest spending areas remain in the water and sewer department fund and the general fund, which include city departments such as the library and police department.

The total water and sewer fund decreased by a total of 11.83% from 2024. Hunt said the reduction is mainly related to ongoing capital projects.

"Capital projects extend through many years, but we are accounting for what

we are expected to pay for in this fiscal year out of the capital fund," he said.

Hunt adds that the water fund is also accounting for grants.

"We have a lot of grants working in water, and a lot of those matching 20 or 25% are coming through, so we don't have a lot of reserve at this point in the coming year baked into the budget for water and sewer," he said.

The total expenses for the general fund increased by 7.17% from last year. Most of the increases are in the budgets for the fire department, fleet services, and parks and recreation.

The capital improvement projects expected in 2025 range from general fund to water projects. Major projects include an \$8 million Stillhouse Wastewater Treatment Plant project that is financed by existing Texas Water Development Board funds. In addition, flood damage repairs and mitigation in Faunt Le Roy Park are also listed among general capital projects, where the city expects to utilize FEMA grant funds.

The total cost for city-

wide projects is expected to be \$12.1 million. Most of the funding sources are from grants, existing funds, or the general capital improvement fund.

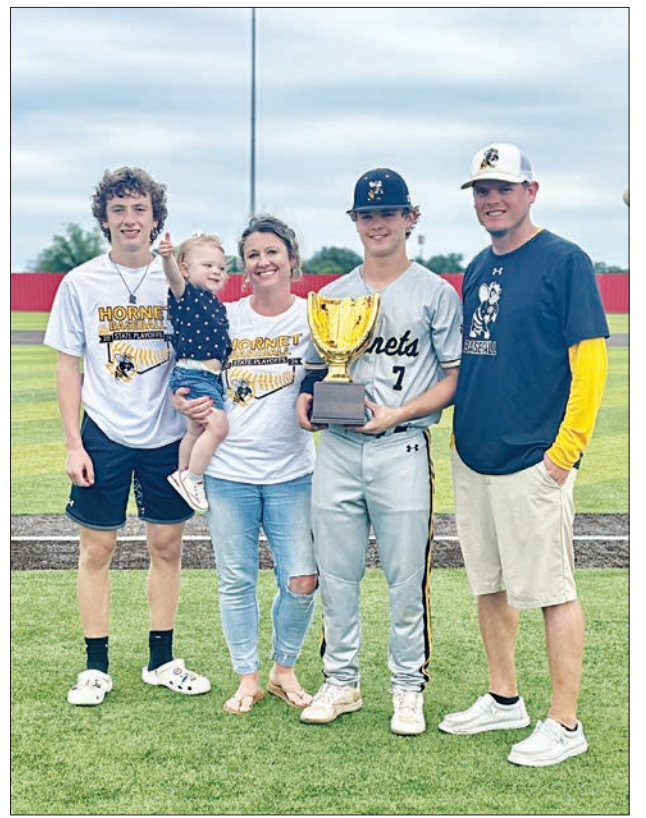
The budget was built around a variety of factors, such as wage increases for city employees, the increase in costs of materials, fuel, and services, infrastructure and improvement challenges, and anticipated growth opportunities in the next several years.

Hunt and Interim Deputy City Manager Mike Halsetma presented a list of budget goals at the previous city council meeting on July 9, which highlighted wage increases, maximizing grant funding to improve infrastructure and community resources, improving security and safety in city facilities, among others.

A public hearing on the budget will be held during a special city council meeting on Sept. 3 at 5:30 p.m.

The city council will vote on the budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year no later than Sept. 30.

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Graig Keeton (far right) is pictured with his family.

Say hello to our neighbor, Graig Keeton!

Graig has many titles, which include the Gatesville Junior High Boys Athletic Coordinator, the Assistant High School Football Coach, the Assistant High School Baseball Coach, and the Elementary P.E. Teacher.

"My favorite thing about my job is the opportunity I have to impact kids in a positive way," he said. "I love seeing all of our staff use their strengths and invest in our youth in Gatesville."

He has served at Gatesville ISD for over 20 years and has taught various classes, including junior high and high school history. He is an alumnus of Gatesville High School and has lived here all his life. "The sense of community, care, and support that we show to others here is very unique and special. We rally around people in need, celebrate with people in their joy, and have an overall great sense of pride in what we stand for," he said. "Our Christian values are a huge part of the heritage of this town as well."

Graig reads The Gatesville Messenger and expresses, "The Gatesville Messenger has always been a staple in this community. The support and coverage that you guys show to our youth and our school systems is amazing."

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



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

MOUND NEWS

Return from Italy



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Kinsley McPherson and Kinlee Gardner have returned home from a trip to Italy as 4H members from Coryell County representing the Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador program. They were chaperoned by Julie Gardner and Kelli Ann McPherson.

Emma Blakley worked the gates at the rodeo Thursday through Saturday.

Carolyn Blakley attended the Gatesville Rodeo Thursday and Saturday.

Ellen Ann Gummelt, Gaylene Smith, Sue Jones, Roy Dean, and Trisha Cole visited Sunday afternoon with Betty McFarlin.

Blayze Fisher was honored on his 14th birthday with a family dinner.

Several people from

Mound attended a funeral service for Mrs. Marcia Jerrene Cockrell at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville.

Several people from Mound attended the 87th Annual Gatesville Riding Club Rodeo Thursday through Saturday evening in Gatesville.

Those who have birthdays this weekend are Neil Fisher, Chris Miller, Emily Hanus, Marty Foster.



Clifton Jansky

COURTESY PHOTO

Jansky to perform at City Auditorium

Staff Reports

Country music singer Clifton Jansky will be appearing live on stage at the Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame Show on Friday, Aug. 16, at 7 p.m. at the Gatesville City Auditorium. Jansky was inducted into the Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame in 2012 and is returning to the stage in Gatesville once again.

For 22 years, Clifton Jansky entertained South Texas with his country music and became one of the most well-known performers in the area. He

had twelve country singles to his name, including "Amarillo by Morning," which was later recorded by George Strait. He has opened shows for Willie Nelson, Eddie Rabbitt, Gary Morris, Randy Travis and the Oak Ridge Boys.

On May 3, 1984, Clifton gave his heart and life to Jesus Christ and took a ride from "Amarillo by Morning" to "Amazing Grace." His life and music have never been the same. He has since become one of the top performers in Christian Country Music and has received many awards from the Christian

Country Music Association, including 2002 CCMA Male Vocalist of the Year, 2004 CCMA Entertainer of the Year, and 2005 CCMA Songwriter of the Year. He has had six Number One Christian Country songs nationwide.

Clifton left the dancehall circuit in July 1989 and dissolved his band. He is now a solo act, but his shows are just as entertaining as any band you will hear. He has been overseas 15 times with evangelist Sammy Tippit and has sung in three different languages in stadium crusades in

Romania and the former Soviet Union. He has also sung in prisons for 24 years. He continues to perform at churches, rodeos, restaurants, and anywhere else God opens the door. No matter where he performs, he shares how Jesus has changed his life and brought him from "Amarillo by Morning" to "Amazing Grace."

The public is invited to attend his free concert in Gatesville. The City Auditorium is located at 110 N. 8th Street.

AMERICAN PICKERS

'American Pickers' to film in Texas

Press Release

The American Pickers are excited to return to Texas! They plan to film episodes of The History Channel hit television series throughout Texas in Oct.

AMERICAN PICKERS is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking" on The History Channel. The hit show follows skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find historically significant or rare items, in addition to unforgettable characters and their collections.

As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, the Pickers are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, they want to meet characters with amazing stories and fun items. They hope to give historically significant objects a new lease on life while learning a thing or

two about America's past along the way. The Pickers have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they've never seen before. They are ready to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them.

The American Pickers TV show is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a unique item, story to tell, and is ready to sell... we would love to hear from you! Please note, the Pickers DO NOT pick stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums, or anything open to the public. If interested, please send us your name, phone number, location, and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cineflix.com or call (646) 493-2184 facebook: @GotAPick

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

A Houston doctor is sprucing up Turkey, Texas



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

When Mike Goldsby was growing up in Houston, he danced to the music of Bob Wills and became a big fan of the famous fiddler's music.

He got on with life, got an education, earned a PHD in Psychology and is now Director of Clinical Research at Family Psychiatry Clinic in The Woodlands. He stays busy but continues to have strong memories of dancing to that western swing music when he was in high school.

Eight years ago, when he was taking his son to enroll in West Texas

A&M University, he drove through Turkey where Bob Wills worked as a barber during the early years of his musical career. He discovered that Turkey was a bustling town after 1928 when the railroad came to town. The city got its name from the wild turkeys in the area. It was first called Turkey Roost.

The city has a big Bob Wills festival every year. Dr. Goldsby noticed a lot

of rundown buildings as he was driving through Turkey. One of them was an old Phillips 66 service station. His research indicated that it was the very first Phillips 66 service station built in Texas. He bought it and restored it. Then he bought the old Hams barbershop and restored it. He did the same thing for an old Ford dealership building and a dry goods store.

He fell in love with the people of Turkey, and the clear air of the Panhandle area, which is quite different from the air around Houston. Dr. Goldsby was so taken with the city of Turkey that he plans to retire there.

Mike is mechanically minded and has restored a bus like the one Bob Wills used for touring. He found out that Bob Wills' old house was in the middle of a pasture being used as a hay barn. He contacted the owner, a dentist in Amarillo and

asked if he could move it to town where Mike owned a corner lot. The dentist was fine with that.

All the buildings Dr. Goldsby has restored now have or will soon have historical markers. Mike did all the research on the buildings and now several small towns want him to help with their historical marker projects.

Dr. Goldsby says the old bus like the one Bob Wills had will be in the Bob Wills Day parade next year.

Mike has also found some old cars in Turkey that he's restoring. He spends as much time as he can there when he's not at his clinic, which treats about three hundred patients a day.

A tall monument at the edge of town honors the former barber, one of the founders of western swing. Bob Wills day is celebrated the last Saturday in April every year.

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)

Hillcrest Health System announced plans to open a new health care clinic in Gatesville.

The Mid-Tex Chapter of the American Red Cross continued to provide area residents services despite the resignation of the CEO and the entire board of directors.

Murray Unit Senior

Warden Nancy Botkin announced her retirement.

Sears was expected to begin construction at a future location on Main Street.

Coryell County district clerk Janice Gray became secretary of the County and District Clerks Association of Texas.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

Gatesville I.S.D. was

facing overcrowding as the school year was set to begin.

The summer volunteer program for high school students concluded successfully at Coryell Memorial Hospital.

Central Counties Center for MHMR Services in Gatesville was selected as one of several MHMR sites in the state to initiate a volunteer

case manager program.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

The unemployment rate in Coryell County was edging upward.

Allen Place was chosen to chair the county sesquicentennial committee.

Leaird's Department Store advertised Nike athletic shoes for \$34.39.

A new apartment build-

ing was going up on the south side of U.S. 84 on the eastern edge of town.

Gatesville Hornets began football drills.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)

The Coryell Memorial Hospital \$500,000 campaign surpassed its goal, raising \$521,979.41.

The new water well was "looking good."

Dr. Pat H. Roach returned to Gatesville and opened a dental office on Leon Street.

Twenty-five Waco State Home students presented the musical "Oliver" for students at the Gatesville State Schools for Boys.

Affiliated Freight advertised boys' Perma-Press, plaids, and checks flared leg slacks for \$3.98.

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PEARL NEWS

Pearl to raise money for "His Kids" at annual fish fry, auction



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

The annual Pearl Church of Christ Atchley Fish Fry and Silent Auction benefiting His Kids of Lampasas is Sept. 1.

The speaker will be Dr. Charles Patterson, former Superintendent of Killeen ISD and a Hamilton native. The event will begin at 10:30 a.m. After the church service, you can enjoy a free fish dinner with all the trimmings. The auction will begin shortly after lunch. Bidding is now open at the church, so go by and peruse the many, many items and place your bids on the accompanying bid sheets. Your generosity is greatly appreciated as all proceeds go toward scholarships and the summer Christian camp program for the kiddos. Be sure and let your Killeen friends know that Dr. Patterson will be in Pearl that day. Everyone is invited to attend. Visitors are always welcome at Pearl Church of

Christ.

The Pearl Bluegrass and Pearl Bookstore Day held on Aug. 3 was a joy-filled day. If you missed these events this month, plan to go on Sept. 14, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, and/or Dec. 7. Free jamming goes on all day, and the stage show begins at 1 p.m. Bands are welcome. If your band would like to play on the stage, just show up and write your band's name on the blackboard. There are several rooms in the Community Center in which to warm up. Garrett Dickey, President of the Pearl Community Center board and Chris Ray, Vice-President, will be glad to have you in Pearl. Be sure and visit the Bluegrass Kitchen, which opens at 11 a.m. Their delicious home-

cooked foods are cash only and very reasonably priced. There is no admission to attend the stage show or to participate in the jamming. This is an awesome place to bring your local nursing home residents for a music-filled outing. Be sure and go to the Pearl Cottage Bookstore, which opens at 9 a. m., a charity house where most items are purchased by donation. They call it "buy what you want, pay what you want." Corlisa and Kay would love to see you. All proceeds go toward local charities. Since there are over 6,000 books and various sundry other items, you will probably find a lot of things you just can't live without. Be there or be square!

The East Gatesville Cat Whisperer aka Mr. Ron McDonald (also a valuable part of Pearl-most of the time) now has two new kittens, though not by choice. His precious wife just could not live without the new family members. As I understand it, Ron is not a fan of the new acquisitions, but the two little kitties absolutely adore him. Who wouldn't? Apparently, one sleeps on his head and the other takes up residence wherever the mood strikes it... feet, tummy, etc. Our Cat Whisperer has named the felines "Linda" and "Marilyn," after the two women



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pictured left to right, Linda Ray, Corlisa Cunningham, and Kay Pruett, who are the backbone of the Pearl Cottage Bookstore, which houses well over 6,000 used books. Corlisa is seen holding the bookstore's mascot, Mimi.

who cause him the most trouble. According to TCW (The Cat Whisperer), Linda the cat "talks too much" and Marilyn the cat "wants too much." (Please don't tell those sweet ladies I told you that). Wouldn't it be nice if TCW had one more cat named Kay? TCW has other names for the two current kitties, but they cannot be printed here. I'll

let you know in a few weeks how the new McDonald family members are doing... and if they survive.... or if The Cat Whisperer survives. If I were a betting woman... This week's Bible verse comes from Hebrews 12:1b and 2a: "...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race

marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." 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

LETTER

Climate change

My name is Olivia Daniels, and I am 13 years old. I am working on my Communication Merit Badge for Scouting of America, Troop 272 here in Gatesville. I would like to add an article in the newspaper about my thoughts on climate change.

We have heard about climate change, but do we know what it really is? Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns.

HERE ARE CAUSES AND WHY:

- Using Transportation-most cars, trucks, ships, and planes run on fossil fuels. That makes transportation a major contributor of Greenhouse gases, especially carbon-dioxide emissions.
- Consuming too much power, how much you throw away all contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. So does the consumption of goods, such as clothing, electronics, and plastics.
- Powering buildings-globally residential and commercial buildings consume over half of all electricity. As they continue to draw on coal, oil, and natural gas for heating and cooling, they emit significant quantities of Greenhouse gas emissions.
- Generating electricity and heat by burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas causes a large chunk of global emissions. Most electricity is still produced from fossil fuels; only about a quarter comes from wind, solar, and other renewable sources.
- Manufacturing and industry produce emissions, mostly from burning fossil fuels, to produce energy for making things like cement, iron, steel, electronics, plastics, clothes, and other goods. Mining and other industrial processes also release gases.

Thank you for listening to my requests to try to make positive changes in our climate.

Olivia Daniels
Gatesville, Texas

jury when attempting to escape, and even death caused by the weather event itself, such as drowning in a flood.

- Increased Drought-Drought can lead to decreased water quantity and quality, increased incidence of illness or disease, increased mortality rates and adverse mental outcomes as livelihoods change.
- A Warming- Warmer Weather
- Rising Ocean- More ocean-related storms

THIS IS HOW WE CAN HELP BY:

- Saving Energy at Home-Turn lights off when not in use.
- Walk, Run, or take Public Transport- Reduce the pollution going into the air.
- Throw away less food-COMPOST, COMPOST, COMPOST!
- Reduce, reuse, repair, and recycle- Consider what you are throwing away.
- Plant native species-More oxygen

Thank you for listening to my requests to try to make positive changes in our climate.

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 carbohy-

drates 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 Lutterloh.

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.-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.

Volunteer drivers needed for Meals on Wheels

Staff Reports

Volunteers are needed to deliver nutritious meals to seniors in the community, which allows them to remain living in their own homes. Meals on Wheels is conducted five days a week, Monday through

Friday, and takes around 30 minutes to an hour to complete, depending on the route taken. There are four different routes in Gatesville, and each Wednesday a route to Hamilton is taken. Anywhere from 10 - 14 clients are seen each day per route, and around

250-300 meals are prepared. There is not a set schedule to volunteer, and drivers must provide their own vehicle. For more information, contact Senior Center Director Pam Rudolph at 254-865-8234. The Gatesville Senior

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

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200-300 lb.	380-400	200-300 lb.	NO TEST
301-400 lb.	370-400	301-400 lb.	280-318
401-500 lb.	290-325	401-500 lb.	260-285
501-600 lb.	250-275	501-600 lb.	230-247
601-700 lb.	223-245	600-700 lb.	210-236

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300-400 lb.	350-425	
400-500 lb.	265-315	
500-600 lb.	250-290	
600-700 lb.	235-265	
700-800 lb.	220-245	
No. 1 Heifers		
under 300 lb.	300-375	
300-400 lb.	285-340	
400-500 lb.	250-285	
500-600 lb.	230-275	
600-700 lb.	215-245	
700-800 lb.	200-230	
Slaughter Cows		
High Yielding	140-157	
Low Yielding	120-130	
Fats	125-135	
Thin & Shelly	100-120	
Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)		
Yield Grade 1&2	145-168	
Cow & Calf Pairs		
Young Choice	2700-3200	
Young Fair	2000-2700	
Aged Pairs	Split & Weighed	
Young Pregnancy Test Stocker		
Replacement Cow	1700-2350	
Number of Head	939	

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

People

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

VisitGatesvilleTX.com

Shopping Events Calendar Dining
Lodging See & Do

Food & Drink

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

Goods & Services / Organizations

- Best A/C-Heating Service
- Best Accounting Service
- Best Apartments
- Best Assisted Living Facility
- Best Auto Dealership
- Best Auto Repair Shop
- Best Bank
- Best Barber Shop
- Best Bed and Breakfast
- Best Boutique/Retail Store
- Best Car Wash/Detail
- Best Carpet Cleaning Service
- Best Civic Organization
- Best Computer Repair
- Best Convenience/Gas Store
- Best Day Care
- Best Dental Office
- Best Dry Cleaner
- Best Electrician
- Best Electric Provider
- Best Feed Store
- Best Fitness Facility
- Best Flooring Company
- Best Furniture Store
- Best Grocery Store
- Best Gun Dealer
- Best Hair Salon
- Best Hardware/Building Store
- Best Home Decor
- Best Home Health Agency
- Best Restaurant
- Best Retirement/Assistant Living
- Best Insurance Agency
- Best Jewelry Store
- Best Law Firm
- Best Lawn & Landscape Service
- Best Liquor Store
- Best Live Music Venue
- Best Manicure/Pedicure
- Best Mattress Store
- Best Meat Market
- Best Medical Clinic
- Best Music Lessons
- Best Non-Profit Organization
- Best Nursing Home
- Best Oil Change
- Best Pest Control
- Best Pet Grooming
- Best Pharmacy
- Best Physical Therapy
- Best Place of Worship
- Best Place to Buy Wine
- Best Plumbing Company
- Best Real Estate Agency
- Best Rehabilitation Center
- Best Resale Shop
- Best Roofing Company
- Best School Campus
- Best Spa
- Best Tanning Salon
- Best Tire Store
- Best Title Company
- Best Tractor/Lawn Equipment
- Best Veterinary Clinic
- Best Wedding/Event Venue

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Phone _____

Email _____

HURRY, ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00 P.M. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2024

GATESVILLE RV AWARDED BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce has announced Gatesville RV Service & Sales as its Business of the Month for August. Gatesville RV Service & Sales offers high-quality products at reasonable prices with a pleasant experience, whether you are buying or visiting with the service department. They have an extensive collection of RVs, towable vehicles, custom golf carts, Cricket golf carts, trailers, and a used RV selection. Gatesville RV Service & Sales associates are pictured with members of the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce. To nominate a chamber member for the business of the month award, visit <https://www.gatesvillechamber.com/business-of-the-month>.

OBITUARIES

Grady Cloyce Hill

June 11, 1943 - Aug. 1, 2024

Grady Cloyce Hill was born in Gatesville on June 11, 1943, the fifth child of six. He died peacefully at Providence Hospital in Waco on Aug. 1, 2024. Funeral services were held Tuesday, Aug. 6, at 2 p.m. at Scott's Funeral Home. Private interment followed at Jonesboro Cemetery.

Grady graduated from Jonesboro High School in 1961. Following graduation, he joined the National Guard where he was called to serve in the United States Army in Fort Polk, Louisiana during the Berlin Crisis.

There were only two times he wasn't self-employed. For a short while he worked for Howard Smart in road construction. Later, Grady and his two brothers, Neil and Bobby, created a food service that delivered eggs, meat, and other products in Gatesville, Copperas Cove, and Killeen. Grady enjoyed working with his brothers. It was in Killeen that Grady first met a customer named "Mary." Several years later she became his wife. Grady worked for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice first in Marlin, then in Gatesville where he retired.

Grady was preceded in death by his parents, C.E. ("Red") Hill and Dovie (Huggins) Hill; three siblings, Elwood Hill and wife, Jackie, Tommy Hill, Neil Hill, and brother-in-law, Clifford Johnson; son, Mark Vick; and granddaughter, Mindy Jenkins.

Grady is survived by his



wife of 34 years, Mary (McGlaflin) Hill; two siblings, Mary Lou Johnson, and Bobby Hill and wife, Peggy; two sisters-in-law, Joan Hill and Mable Hill; children, Laurie Goulart; John Vick and wife, Becky; and Matthew Vick and wife, Ashley; grandchildren, Joshua Jenkins and wife, Misty, Tristan Jenkins and wife, Lacey and Ethan Jenkins and wife, Tifanie, Brazos Vick, Hudson Vick, Brenan Vick, and Pierson Vick; and great-grandchildren, Jacob and Mason Jenkins; Ayden and Landon Jenkins, and Sterling, Stetson, and Julien Jenkins.

Grady's greatest accomplishments were being a husband, father, and grandfather. He followed the Bible and lived by it daily. He will be missed by many.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of July 31 - Aug. 6. 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 31
9:35 a.m., a threat was reported in the 900 block of E. Leon Street.
10:53 a.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 1300 block of Westview Drive.
1:47 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 107 block of Old Pidcoke Road.
7:19 p.m., a theft was reported in the 3300 block of E. Main Street.

Aug. 1
12:15 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 2400 block of Business Highway 36.
10:11 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2400 block of S. Business Highway 36.
3:17 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.
8:22 p.m., a structure fire was reported in the 2100 block of Waco Street.

Aug. 2

7:25 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3000 block of FM 1783.
9:10 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of Osage Road.
9:50 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2400 block of E. Main Street.
7:05 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1400 block of Waco Street.

Aug. 3
10:07 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3300 block of S. State Highway 36.
10:24 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of Logan Lane.
10:46 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2000 block of E. Main Street.
8:24 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2600 block of Mears Drive.

Aug. 4
2:08 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1400 block of E. Leon Street.
9:21 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.

12:05 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1600 block of E. Main Street.
4:58 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1900 block of E. Main Street.

Aug. 5
12:14 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of N. 31st Street.
3:16 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.
3:33 p.m., a threat was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.
5:16 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.

Aug. 6
5:03 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2400 block of E. Main Street.
5:43 a.m., a burglary was reported in the 200 block of Creek Cliff.
6:16 p.m., a theft was reported in the 300 block of N. 14th Street.
7:05 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in

the 1200 block of E. Main Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

July 31
3:47 a.m., suspicious persons were reported on FM 2412, two miles past County Road 174.
10:04 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 1800 block of County Road 147.
10:06 a.m., a recovered stolen vehicle was reported in the 700 block of Highway 190 Bypass.
2:26 p.m., a grass fire was reported in the 2900 block of FM 1113.

Aug. 1
10:48 a.m., suspicious persons were reported on FM 107 and Coryell Creek.
6:42 p.m., suspicious activity was reported on Bald Knob Road.
8:14 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 1500 block of County Road 213.
10:36 p.m., a threat was reported in the 250 block of

E. Brooks Drive.

Aug. 2
11:27 a.m., abandoned vehicle reported on FM 116 and Highway 9.
5:22 p.m., fight in progress was reported in the 100 block of Beadle Road.
5:24 p.m., harassment was reported in the 100 block of Hollis Lane.
9:53 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Drive.

Aug. 3
1:05 p.m., suspicious persons were reported NB on N. Highway 36 Bypass.
2:25 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on S. Highway 36 WB.
3:51 p.m., suspicious persons were reported on FM 107 at Coryell Creek Bridge.

Aug. 4
9:44 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 3800 block of CR 356.
4:08 p.m., a stolen vehicle was reported in the 1200 block of Mountain Road.
10:15 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the

300 block of Thackston.

Aug. 5
7:59 a.m., a vehicle fire was reported on Highway 190 WB at Clark Road.
8:02 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 5500 block of FM 2412.
12:02 p.m., burglary of a building was reported in the 200 block of County Road 329.
9:35 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 3600 block of Moccasin Bend Road.

Aug. 6
7:01 a.m., a major accident was reported on N. FM 116 & Lonesome Oak Drive.
11:54 a.m., a minor accident was reported on N. Highway 36 and the Eagles Nest.
7:55 p.m., an alarm was reported in the 500 block of Barton Lane.
8:25 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 11,000 block of E. Highway 84.

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Coryell County

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HEART

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The Salvation Army: A community's lifeline

Submitted by Joyce Talbott

On a scorching Monday in early August, where temperatures soar past 100 degrees, Annette Cole finds herself busy at the Salvation Army office in Gatesville.

The local unit has partnered with The Senior Citizen Center, utilizing Camilla's room for their operations on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. -12 noon. The partnership provides a crucial service to the community, helping those in need without incurring rental costs, ensuring more funds are available for aid.

Annette Cole, a retired CPA who still works part-time in her field, volunteers her time every Monday, while Billy Byrom takes over on Wednesdays. These dedicated volunteers manage the distribution of assistance funds, adhering to strict protocols to maintain the integrity and fairness of the organization. As part of this process, applicants must present a photo ID and, typically, a utility bill. The Salvation Army provides aid in the form of vouchers, which can be redeemed at HEB, a partner in this effort, ensuring funds are electronically transferred to the rightful

recipients.

The assistance provided is generally limited to one emergency relief per year per applicant. This protocol ensures that the help is available for as many residents as possible. Pam Rudolph, the director of the Senior Center, also volunteers her time, helping set up appointments for those seeking assistance.

Annette's expertise in finance is vital in managing the monthly budget, which primarily depends on contributions collected during the Bell Ringer Season. Though there are some generous benefactors, the need for additional funding remains constant, especially as most requests pertain to utility bill payments. The elderly, living on fixed incomes, often find themselves struggling to make ends meet due to rising costs of essentials. The Salvation Army steps in to bridge these financial gaps, but when the need exceeds the resources available, applicants are referred to other local organizations, including churches like CCC and the Methodist Church Ministerial Alliance, which play a significant role in providing further support.

In addition to financial aid, Annette offers a listening ear and spiritual

support, often praying with those who are open to it. She also leads a financial literacy class, "Money Management 101, A Guide to Financial Basics," on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 2-3 p.m. at Righteous Roots, providing practical advice to help community members manage their finances better.

The community's interconnectedness is evident in the collaboration among various organizations. The Care Center, for instance, focuses on providing food, allowing the Salvation Army to allocate its resources to other needs. Bell Ringers, with their iconic Red Kettles, play a crucial role in raising funds, every penny of which stays within the community.

This summer the parent Texas Salvation Army funded camp fees for 16 youth to attend Camp Hoblitzelle in Midlothian. The local Salvation Army Unit partnered with the Boys and Girls Club, with Julie Hudson and Nimchie Alce facilitating the registration and transportation of the campers, but was not responsible for funding.

The Gatesville community exemplifies the phrase "It takes a village." Despite economic challenges, the community consistently



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured is Annette Cole (left) and Camilla Edge.

rallies to support its members. The local Salvation Army unit, in collaboration with other organizations, continues to be a beacon of hope and a testament to the power of community sup-

port and generosity.

Last year, the community rose to the challenge of filling Bell Ringer spots, which are now available. You can "Register to Ring" from Nov. 29 to Dec. 23, Monday

through Saturday, from 12-2 p.m., 2-4 p.m., and 4-6 p.m. Sign up at: <https://signup.com/go/XrtXriz>

AGENT

FROM PAGE A1

Mark Lowery urges the community to remain patient and understanding as the investigation unfolds.

"Don't judge the Secret Service until a competent, transparent, and timely investigation has been completed," he wrote, in a Letter to the Editor. "This is a complex and challenging responsibility. Until one has performed this duty, one cannot understand the depth of responsibility and level of detailed work it requires to be successful in each and every event. I have performed countless site advances, many much larger than this one in Butler, Pennsylvania. I have questions like many of you, but I also have a perspective many of you do not have. I ask that all of us refrain from critical judgment, spreading uncorroborated information and humorous memes."

Lowery — who served in the Secret Service for 24 years and retired as the Senior Executive Service Special Agent in Charge — shared that the Secret Service has a motto: "We don't make history. But we sit on the front row of history and observe it."

"It's a very demanding job and a very challenging job," Lowery told the Hood County News. "It's 24/7. You can't fail. We saw what happened on the 13th of July. It could have been much more tragic. I asked people to think, 'Would that have potentially changed the history of our nation in the world?' I think it would have."

The responsibility of the Secret Service, Lowery said, is to "keep our protectees alive," so they can freely make decisions to lead the country — and the world

— without fear of assassination.

HISTORY

One of America's oldest federal law enforcement agencies, the Secret Service was originally created in 1865 during the Civil War to stamp out rampant counterfeiting in order to stabilize America's young financial system, according to [secretservice.gov](https://www.secretservice.gov).

It wasn't until the assassination of President William McKinley in 1901 that the Secret Service was tasked with the full-time protection of the president of the United States.

Throughout the years, protective details of the Secret Service have grown and evolved, often in response to assassinations, close calls or other major security events, according to ABC News. In fact, Lowery said the Secret Service has had a "successful career" in preventing assassinations since presidential candidate Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's assassination in 1968.

"Our protection responsibilities and investigations have expanded throughout the years," Lowery said. "There was an attempted assassination on (politician) George Wallace in the early 70s, President (Gerald) Ford had two attempts on his life, President (Ronald) Reagan had an attempt on his life, and of course, the attempt on President Trump's life. We've had a very successful career, if I may, in preventing assassinations."

BEHIND THE SCENES

Lowery explained that new recruits in the Secret Service undergo a period of assessment in the field office to determine their suitability for high-stakes assignments, including the president's detail. He emphasized that agents are closely monitored during this time to ensure they are

trustworthy.

"There's a period of time when the agency is watching the agents to see who's really suitable to go to the president's detail. You got to fully know this person," he explained. "The Secret Service can't put somebody next to the president of the United States and have any concerns they're going to harm them, man or woman."

While there can be anywhere from 20 to 200 Secret Service agents assigned to protect the president at any given time, Lowery explained that the number varies based on the specific site and event. He also clarified that agents typically surround the president as part of their "working shift," noting that the number of agents in that shift is usually pretty set but can vary based on circumstances.

"It's a tremendously responsible job, and the history of the world hinges on the safety of our world leaders and for them to be able to work in a safe environment without worry of assassination," Lowery said. "If we can't provide that to them, it's going to impact their ability to serve the American people."

Reflecting on his own experience, Lowery noted that his understanding of protection deepened significantly after joining the White House detail. He said he thought he had a solid grasp of security protocols, but since learned there is a vast array of sophisticated tools and strategies in place to ensure safety at high-profile events.

"It's not until you actually go to the White House detail do you see the depth and the tools that are available, the sophistication of what protection's really like, and the complexities it takes to make a venue safe," he said.

He recounted a significant event during President Reagan's visit to an auditorium at Ohio State University, where approximately 12,000 people had gathered. As guests passed through the security screening, Lowery said he and his team were prepared for the president's arrival in about 20 minutes when they received an alarming call about a potential bomb threat in the building.

"I could make the decision to direct the motorcade and president to not come to the site, but ultimately my decision was to bring the president and the event went without incident," he explained. "But I also looked out and saw 12,000 souls, men, women and children that didn't come to that site that day and expect to be hurt, so that's the responsibility that I don't think people understand."

"Unfortunately, that agent (in Butler) will live the rest of their life knowing that someone lost their life at their site, and that's a huge responsibility. And that responsibility never goes away."

UNDER REVIEW

Lowery expressed his belief that the attempted assassination on Trump should never have occurred. He shared his confidence that a thorough advance was performed on the outdoor venue, despite challenges posed by factors like long-range visibility and high ground.

"Once the investigation has concluded, we will know from a survey report on what their plan was," he said. "There's assignment logs for each and every police officer and each and every agent. We will know who was supposed to do what, at that venue... Clearly, something broke down in the execution of that, but we the people

right now don't know what happened."

Lowery said the protective shift did a "marvelous job" during the incident, stating that they acted effectively to protect the former president. He noted that as soon as Trump realized he had been shot, he instinctively dropped down, prompting the agents to quickly surround him and form a human shield. Lowery acknowledged that some people questioned why the presidential candidate wasn't evacuated sooner but emphasized there was an active gunman at the scene. He said once the shooter was neutralized, the agents assessed the former president's condition, checking for any additional injuries and ensuring he was alert and able to communicate.

"They executed their plan precisely the way it was designed to play out," he said. "You don't want to move a protectee into another gunfight."

Lowery added there is a high likelihood that if the counter sniper team had not neutralized the shooter, he would've continued to shoot into the crowd, possibly injuring not only the Secret Service agents and Trump, but more citizens as well.

"It was a tremendous shot (by the counter sniper) — even though it was not a long-range shot — but it probably prevented the loss of life," he said. Lowery also voiced concern about the spread of conspiracy theories and unverified information on social media before the investigation into the attempted assassination has completed — labeling it dangerous and unhealthy for the community and the nation as a whole.

"I just ask people to please don't criticize Secret Service agents who were


working without having the facts," he said. "I was frustrated after watching the four-and-a-half hours of testimony (of the director) but I have complete confidence at some point we will know what was planned. Until that time, I'm deeply disturbed by the American people, friends of mine, and residents within this community who are spewing social media conspiracy theories and throwing out supposedly evidence that they found without knowing the facts — and that's dangerous. It's not healthy for them. It's not healthy for America."

Lowery emphasized that while the Secret Service can conduct extensive training at its Beltsville facility, including drills for "assaults on principles" with flashbangs and dummy rounds, nothing can fully prepare agents for real-life scenarios.

"I've been involved in shootings," he said. "And until you're there, the scream of the crowd, the sounds, the madness that's going on, you can't train that to the level of real life."

It may take a while before all of the facts behind Trump's assassination attempt are revealed — but until that time, Lowery urges community leaders and elected officials to take a stand and guide residents in refraining from posting their speculations on social media.

"I am confident the truth will be provided," his Letter to the Editor states. "I am expecting a competent and transparent investigation! From my experience, there are preliminary surveys, post assignment logs, CP Logs, and many witness interviews that will determine what went very wrong at this rally. This should have NEVER happened!"



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060
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Garage Sale: 24 FM 1996 Oglesby, Saturday, Aug. 10, @8 a.m. Dishes, collectors items, and much more! 00030980

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

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
In accordance with Chapter 152 SubChapter D, Section 152.905 of the Texas Local Government.

In accordance with Chapter 152 SubChapter D, Section 152.905 of the Texas Local Government Code, the District Judges of Coryell County hereby notify the public that a meeting is to be held Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 8:45 a.m. at the location of the 52nd District Court Room, on the second floor of the Coryell County Courthouse, 620 East Main Street, Gatesville, Texas. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of setting the annual compensation of the County Auditor, Assistant Auditors, Court Coordinators, and Court Reporters.

Trent D. Farrell
Local Administrative District Judge
52nd Judicial District
00030971

099
PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of George Neyland Roberts, Jr. were issued on August 2, 2024 in Cause No. 23-10907 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to Joshua Roberts.

All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:

c/o: Allen D Place, Jr.
Attorney at Law
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528

Dated the 6th day of August, 2024.

Allen D. Place, Jr.
Attorney for Joshua Roberts
State Bar No.: 16058500
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Telephone: (254) 865-8475
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274
Email: allenplacejr@aol.com

00030975
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Robert Tivis Treadway, Sr. were issued on August 2, 2024 in Cause No. 24-11034 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to Vicki Treadway.

All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows:

c/o Allen D. Place, Jr.
Attorney at Law
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528

Dated the 6th day of August, 2024.

Allen D. Place, Jr.
Attorney for Vicki Treadway
State Bar No.: 16058500
109 S. 7th Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Telephone: (254) 865-8475
Facsimile: (254) 865-5274
Email: allenplacejr@aol.com

00030976
Invitation for Bids

The Jonesboro ISD will receive bids for a FUEL VENDOR (Both Gas and Diesel) for the 2024-25 school year until August 24, 2024 at 12:00 PM at the Jonesboro ISD Superintendent Office located at 14909 S. HWY 36, Jonesboro, Texas 76538.

Bids will be opened and awarded at the JISD Board Meeting on August 26, 2024 at 7:00 PM located at 14909 S. HWY 36, Jonesboro, Texas 76538 in the JISD Library.

All questions should be directed to Matt Dossey, Jonesboro ISD Superintendent at 254-463-2111 or matt.dossey@jonesboroisd.net.

Jonesboro ISD does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, race or sex in the educational programs and activities which it operates.

00030977

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Bids will be opened and awarded at the JISD Board Meeting on August 26, 2024 at 7:00 PM located at 14909 S. HWY 36, Jonesboro, Texas 76538 in the JISD Library.

All questions should be directed to Matt Dossey, Jonesboro ISD Superintendent at 254-463-2111 or matt.dossey@jonesboroisd.net.

Jonesboro ISD does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, race or sex in the educational programs and activities which it operates.

00030978
The Housing Authority of Gatesville is accepting applications to fill a full-time position as Secretary/Clerk.

Application and Job Description can be picked up at the housing authority office located at 213 N. 14th Street, Gatesville, TX or email ghadud@embarqmail.com.

Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Office phone number is (254) 865-2970. Application cut-off date is 8/23/2024.

00030979

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- 3 Br, 2 Ba home 202 Liberty St., Gatesville, TX, laminate wood flooring, vaulted ceiling in living room, fireplace, large backyard, storage shed, 2-car garage. \$275,000
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- 5.01 ac., Lot 63 Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision Evant, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electricity at road, Fiber Optic Internet, \$155,000
- 8.01 Ac. Lot 54 in Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electricity at road. Fiber Optic Internet \$150,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 9 Phase 5, Flint Rock Court Evant, TX Rio Escondido Subdivision, good tree cover, great views, electricity at road, fiber optic internet service, gated subdivision, \$119,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 44 Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. Dry Branch, good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision. electricity at road, fiber optic internet service. OWER FINANCING AVAILABLE. \$125,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 39 Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. good tree cover, electricity at road, Fiber Optic Internet service. \$123,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 63 Phase 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. season creek runs through the middle, good tree coverage, rolling terrain, subdivision is gated with private roads. \$128,000
- 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
- 10.182 ac. Lot 14 Ph 3 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, Langford Branch, good tree coverage, rolling terrain. Electric & Fiber Optic Internet. \$239,900
- 10.697 ac. Lot 9 Phase 4 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, small seasonal stream through the property, good tree coverage, rolling terrain, subdivision is gated with private roads. \$122,500
- 15 ac. East of Evant on Bear Branch Rd, great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, electricity across road, will need to drill water well for water. \$150,000
- 16.5 ac. Turnersville, open pasture, good views, paved CR 220. electricity across road, check w/ Coryell City Water on availability of water meter \$206,500
- 18.1 ac. south of Evant, near Adamsville, Lampasas County, Hwy 281 & CR 2830. water well, electricity, carport, rolling terrain, good tree cover \$260,000
- 20 ac. Lot 23 Ph 1, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX, good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, electric available, Fiber Optic Internet \$215,000
- 24.98 ac. 350 Cold Road Evant, stock tank, small creek, two outbuilding, good tree cover, rolling terrain. Property is fenced, multi-county water, on-site septic, electricity on the property. \$350,000
- 25.06 ac. Pottsville, TX Lot 31 Paloma Vista Subdivision. rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, great views. electricity available, you will need to drill a water well for water, \$225,000
- 33.43 ac. near Coryell City, Coryell County, FM 929 & CR 260 frontage, rolling terrain, good views. \$275,000
- 39.378 ac. West of Gatesville, Hwy 36 frontage, scattered tree cover, rolling terrain. Good fences, water meter on property & electric available, Jonesboro ISD \$395,000
- 47.332 ac. South of Ireland, TX, good tree cover, rolling terrain, good fencing on 3 sides, southside will need to be fenced. \$350,000
- 68.9 ac. 3/2.5 rock home 101 Mac Dr. Gatesville, approx. 2900 ft Leon River frontage, ceramic tile floors, carpet in bedrooms, vaulted ceiling, rock fireplace, granite countertops, breakfast bar, garden tub, metal building 45'x24' barn, cattle pens, 1 tank, approx. 48 ac of coastal. \$1,249,500
- 129.81 ac. Purnela, TX, Coryell County, heavy tree cover, rolling terrain, one stock tank, Honey Creek, fenced on three sides, west boundary line will need to be fenced, deeded 40 ft. access easement. \$975,000
- 210 ac. Carlton, Comanche County, approx. 5000 ft Resley Creek frontage, small cabin, water well, electricity, cattle pens, 2 tanks one approx. 2.4 ac, good tree cover, 48 ac. improved grass, good exterior & interior fences. \$1,450,000
- 620 ac 3 Br 2 Ba home, fireplace, ceramic tile floors, covered outdoor cooking patio, 38 ft X 25 ft. building, 2 lakes, one being approx. 10 acres and the other one just under 5 acres and 3 smaller stock tanks, approx. 8500 ft of Bee Creek running through the property with 20 ft to 40 ft limestone bluffs along the creek, good rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$6,200,000

070
LAND & LOTS

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



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00030954

CASA welcomes new advocates to serve children in foster care

Staff Reports

Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA) of Bell and Coryell Counties swore in seven new advocates on Thursday, Aug. 1, according to a CASA media release.

CASA says the event marks a significant milestone for the organization as they continue to grow their team of volunteers who advocate for the best interests of children in foster care.

With this new class of volunteers, CASA has added a total of 25 new advocates in 2024. This pushes CASA's total roster of advocates to more than 150 - the highest number of volunteer advocates that Bell and Coryell Counties have ever had.

CASA Program Director Denise Hanley welcomed the group and stated how pleased she was that they were willing to step up and help CASA serve more children in the area. "These new volunteers will enjoy working with our CASA staff and making a huge difference for the children and families that are assigned to CASA," Hanley said in the press release. "We are committed to serving as

many children as possible in our two counties and these new advocates will give us the ability to assist more kids who need a CASA by their side."

The swearing-in ceremony was conducted by Judge Chris Cornish of the Centex Child Protection Court, who welcomed the new advocates into their role. Cornish emphasized the importance of their work and the positive impact they will have on the lives of the children they will serve.

The new advocates recently completed a comprehensive training program designed to prepare them for their critical role in supporting children through the court system. Their training included learning about the child welfare system, understanding the unique needs of children in foster care, and gaining the skills necessary to effectively advocate in court and in the community.

With the formal swearing-in, the advocates are now ready to be assigned to cases where they will work to ensure that each child that they represent has a voice in the court process, and that their best interests are considered in all deci-



New CASA Advocates from left to right: Amanda Hester, Philemon Brown, Terrinita Smith, Itaska Massie, Judge Chris Cornish, Alba Villalta, Arelis Laboy, and Brenda Calhoun.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CASA

sions.

The organization says that the addition of these new advocates will allow them to reach more children in need and provide the individualized support

that CASA is known for.

"CASA is proud of these new advocates for their commitment to making a difference in the lives of children," the release states. "Their willingness to volun-

teer their time and energy reflects a deep dedication to our mission of ensuring every child has a safe and permanent home."

For those interested in learning more about becom-

ing a CASA volunteer, visit www.casabellcoryell.org or call (254) 774-1881.



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MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT

Mother Neff's wheelchair returns to Coryell County



COURTESY PHOTO

Mother Neff seated in her wheelchair in her living quarters at the Governor's Mansion in Austin. The photo was made in 1921.

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

What has been referred to as the first state park in Texas, Mother Neff State

Park was created in 1921 when Isabella Eleanor Neff left six acres of land in her last will and testament to the State of Texas, referring to an area previously known

as the Neff Picnic Grounds. Her youngest child, Pat Morris Neff, who served as governor from 1921 to 1925, would increase the park's size and name it in honor of his mother.

At the age of 23, Isabella Eleanor Neff ventured to Texas with her newly wed husband Noah Neff in 1854 and settled in the southeastern portion of Coryell County, which would later become known as the Eagle Springs community. There she raised a large family despite the many hardships she faced on the frontier.

Following Pat Neff's election as governor, he moved his aged mother, who was wheelchair bound, to live with him and his family in the Governor's Mansion in Austin where she resided until her death in 1921 at the age of 91.

Following her death, for unknown reasons, Governor Neff kept his mother's wheelchair where she had spent the majority of her latter years. While he served as president of Baylor University in Waco, the wheelchair was stored and eventually ended up in a storage warehouse on

LaSalle Avenue.

In the 1990's, it was brought to Baylor's attention that the Coryell Museum and Historical Center in Gatesville had a small Neff exhibit to honor their native son. Under the supervision and approval of The Texas Collection at Baylor, the wheelchair and a small, marble-topped washstand belonging to Isabella Neff were donated to the Coryell Museum and are on display in the Neff Room.

Other items in the exhibit include the bonnet that Mother Neff wore to her son's inauguration as governor in 1921 as well as a China tea set she used while living in the Governor's Mansion.

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 museum, plus four newsletters. Of course, large and small



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pictured is the wheelchair used by "Mother Neff" while living in the Governor's Mansion in Austin. Next to the wheelchair is a washstand that also belonged to Isabella Neff, displayed at Coryell Museum.

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.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK SHOWS APPRECIATION TO CUSTOMERS




COURTESY PHOTO

First National Bank of Evant recently held a Customer Appreciation Fish Fry at the Gatesville Civic Center. Festivities included food, live entertainment, and fellowship. The First National Bank of Evant has served the community and surrounding area since 1912. In 2006, the Evant location expanded its bank and opened a second branch location in Gatesville, and in 2017 they purchased their third location in Oglesby.

In Loving Memory of Marcia Cockrell

We would like to thank the doctors, nurses, and entire staff at Hillside Medical Lodge for their loving care of Marcia, and the Hospice nurses as well. They all were so kind and caring. We would like to thank Dr. Rodriguez and staff at MD Anderson for bringing her through four different cancers in a fourteen year period – they were great. We would like to thank Dr. Dirk, Dr. Hurley, Dr. Jill Clay, and Dr. Betsy and all their staffs for taking great care of Marcia over the past many years. We would like to thank Darren, Nathan, Charla, Jamie, James, Kietz, and all the staff at Scott's Funeral Home – they were so great, kind, and caring, and done an amazing job. We would like to thank Wylanta and Cindi for the wonderful service of hair, cosmetics, and beautiful flowers. We would like to thank our Mountain Baptist Church family for the tremendous meal they furnished for our family and friends. We would like to thank Pastors Dan Cockrell and Kurt Fuessel for their wonderful words spoken of Marcia at the beautiful service. We would like to thank her brother, Clyde, and wife, Robbie, all the nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, and her many great friends for all the prayers, flowers, cards, and all the tender words of love and comfort they spoke to us in our time of sorrow and grief. We would like to thank the Pall Bearers and Honorary Pall Bearers for their love and kindness and words of comfort. And lastly, we hope and pray that the technology experts and doctors gain knowledge and wisdom where no other family and friends will ever have to see their loved one suffer and fight through tremendous pain without knowing the cause of it. Our comfort is knowing that she is in Heaven with God, her babies, Mom and Dad, brothers and sisters, and many friends who passed on before her.

*With our love to all,
Sam, Regina, Clint & Meredith, Tucker, Taylor,
Cole Thomas, and the Cockrell Family.
God Bless You All!*



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*Hannah Head
Doctor of Occupational Therapy*

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Key takes on summer research program at OU

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

After graduating in 2022, Gatesville High School alumnus Scout Key knew that she wanted to explore opportunities outside of her hometown.

Key is currently an upcoming junior at the University of Texas at Austin, where she plans to graduate early. She is a mathematics major and expressed that she chose this path because math is something she enjoys, and it can be applied to different fields.

During her time at UT Austin, she was given the option to apply for a research program at the National Weather Center at Oklahoma University.

Out of all the students who applied for the program, Key was the only person from UT Austin to be selected for the prestigious program.

The research program is called the National Weather Center Research Experience for Undergraduates at Oklahoma University (NWC REU), which is sponsored by the National Science Foundation.

Key resided in Norman, OK, for 10 weeks from late May to early August to attend the program.

"It was important in order to expose myself to a line of work that I have been interested in for many years, and in the process, I was able to meet many wonderful people within the field of meteorology who gave me advice and perspective that I would not have been able to gain otherwise," she said.

The NWC REU program invited

various meteorologists from different career paths to talk to the students about their experiences and job descriptions. This included lead weather forecasters for the National Weather Service (NWS), data scientists for private companies, researchers from the labs and projects at OU, as well as the individual who was the main meteorologist that helped on the set of the new movie, "Twisters," which was released on July 19 of this year.

Key expressed that the meteorologist took cast members Glen Powell and Daisy Edgar Jones storm chasing to prepare for the movie.

Since being a researcher in the program, she was able to attend the early showing and movie premiere for "Twisters" at the Warren Theatre in Moore, OK. At the special early screening, a live Q&A session was held with the cast from the movie.

"It was amazing," she said.

"The Warren Theatre in Moore, by the way, had been hit by the infamous Moore EF5 tornado back in 2013."

She mentioned that during the showing at the movie premiere, the audience directly shouted out individuals' names who were in the movie that she had met at the NWC and within the actual movie itself. It was a special moment for her since many of the background characters and a few shots were either done within the NWC or had actual NWC meteorologists in the movie.

"A lot of the meteorology community showed up to the early screening, so watching a

movie with the specialists who have a passion for what is being depicted is something special that I am truly lucky to have been able to experience," she said.

During her time at the National Weather Center, she researched how broadcast meteorologists engage in what geographers call place-making in times of severe weather, and how the gender of the broadcast meteorologist affects the ways they place-make and how this affects the viewers at home.

"For the program, we had to present a 30-second, five-minute, and full conference length 12-minute talk over our research, as well as a full 10-page paper to send into a conference of choice, which we are required to attend," she said. "We also had typical responsibilities like showing up for 40 hours a week and writing deadlines for our papers."

Key believes that she gained invaluable insight into how the field of meteorology operates, as well as an experience of the research process that she will never forget.

"I had never conducted research prior to this, so having a team of mentors and program directors dedicated to our success to help me in this process was more than I could've ever asked for," she said. "It gave me a positive experience with the process, which will impact if I decide to do more research in my career moving forward."

She expressed that she also

PLEASE SEE KEY | B2



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Scout Key is shown standing next to the poster for the movie "Twister" at the National Weather Center in OK.

Chambers ready to begin 39th year of bus driving

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

With millions of children across the country going back to school in the next few days, bus drivers are entrusted with picking up and dropping off students to their prospective campuses.

According to transportation officials at Gatesville ISD, there are approximately 23 bus routes that service the five local campuses and approximately 20 drivers.

Among those drivers is veteran driver Charolett Chambers who has been driving school buses for about 38 years, but only 15 years for Gatesville ISD.

In addition to driving buses along with her husband Weldon, she began her bus driving career in Blanket, Texas as well as teaching.

Following her retirement, Chambers just couldn't slow down. Upon moving to central Texas, she began driving buses for Moody ISD where she had a bus route for seven years. Later, she began teaching a behavior class at Gatesville Intermediate School and, once again, began driving buses for the school district. "I first started driving Bus 7 and 9 together and now I'm on Bus 9, but half the kids I had on Bus 7 and half the kids on Bus 9 just joined together. I was on Bus 9 for a long time," she said.

Today, her route encompasses River Oaks Drive, Old Straws Mill Road, and Old Fort Gates Road. "I probably

cover about 20 miles," she said.

Chambers said that her day begins at 6:15 a.m. "We check in each morning and then do our pre-inspection of the bus and then between 6:15 and 6:30 we clock in and then go on our routes and return to the bus barn around 8 a.m. In the afternoon, we check in again at 3 p.m. and that's when I go over to Gatesville Intermediate to pick up the students. I usually get back to the bus barn about 5:15 each afternoon," she said.

She remarked, "I really have a good bus. All of my kids, I've had them so long, they know the rules and that's the main thing. When you're driving a bus, you set the rules - it's just like teaching. You set the rules, the kids know what to expect, they know what they can get by with and what they can't." She said that most of the children who have been riding her bus stay with her through the 12th grade, so she really gets to know them.

"The only ones I have trouble with every year is the kindergarten students because this is the first year they're riding the bus and they are not used to sitting in a vehicle without being strapped in, so they're all over the bus," she said.

She continued, "You've got to train them, to let them know, even though we don't have seat belts, they have to stay in their seats. It's the

first time they don't have their parents with them and the first time they don't have seat belts."

Chambers reflected that "Most of the kids are very good - they say good morning, goodbye, or see you later - they're very nice."

She said that her philosophy is, "It's how you treat the students. If you respect them, then they are going to respect you. It's just like teaching. If you want them to act a certain way, you let them know that these are the rules and be consistent with it."

Chambers explained that there are seating assignments on each bus. "In the first two weeks, bus drivers start assigning seats. Usually, every year they know where they sit on the bus. On our buses, the first seats are kindergarten, the next ones are elementary, then intermediate, then junior high and high school is in the back. The students know where their areas are located."

Asked if her job as a bus driver is rewarding, she said with a smile, "Oh, yes. You get to see how the kids change from year to year. Some of the little kids change and become respectable and nice kids. We really do have a lot of nice kids at this school. I love my job."

GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard had the following to say about Charolett Chambers: "Charolett



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Charolett Chambers behind the wheel of Bus 9 where she's been for the past 15 years in Gatesville.

and her husband, Weldon, have been tied to GISD for many years. Their children attended GISD schools, and they both worked for the district for many years. This shows the dedication and commitment Charolett and Weldon have for this community and our students. In

2021, Charolett missed 88 days of work battling COVID-19, which almost took her life. Miraculously, in January of 2022, Charolett returned to work as a GISD bus driver. This was another testament to her work ethic and loyalty to the students and families of Gatesville. She and Wel-

don are informal leaders in the transportation department, which is like a big family. I hope they both stay with GISD for many years to come."



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Gatesville ISD ready for 2024-25 school year

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Teachers, staff, principals, and students are braced and ready to start the new academic school year at Gatesville Independent School District.

Concerning the new academic year, GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard made the following comments, "I think the staff is very excited about the coming school year. We could really feel the support from the community at our benefits fair. The teachers have been working diligently in their classrooms to prepare for the students. We had an excellent turnout for "Meet the Teacher," and the students and parents seem excited about the coming year as well. Our athletes and band students have been

here practicing and they are eager to compete again."

Pollard reported that 29 classroom teachers have been hired for the new school year along with other professional positions as well as some para-professional positions. "We are fully staffed at the moment, and that is a huge blessing," he said.

"Right now, we have 2,725 students enrolled. That is around 50 more students than we ended with last year. It continues to grow by the day though," he reported.

When asked if there would be any noticeable changes on any of the campuses, Dr. Pollard replied, "There should not be any big changes at any of the five campuses. However, the elementary and in-



intermediate schools will both have new lead principals. Karrie Judd (elementary) and Angie Pearson (intermediate) will bring some new ideas, but there will be a lot of continuity also. We are excited to offer free meals at the elementary campus (as well as primary). That should be a

huge benefit to our families." School security will always be a major concern among parents, teachers, students, and staff. Dr. Pollard stated, "Each campus will have a full-time dedicated police officer as they did in years past. These officers are a big part of the school culture

and do a great job of keeping everyone safe. In addition, our Friends on Duty program continues to grow. These volunteers offer an extra set of eyes, check to make sure doors are locked, and report any suspicious activity they may see. All of the additional fencing and window tints have already been in place as well."

In regards to athletic policies and/or changes, he said, "Our athletic policies should all be very similar to last year. We continue to really monitor the heat as our athletes and band students' practice. We want to make sure they receive plenty of breaks, water, and shade so they stay healthy."

Dr. Pollard also shared that in the fairly near future, GISD will need to ask the

voters to consider a bond election to add on and upgrade the junior high. "That campus will turn 60 years old in 2026. We really need to get the 6th grade back to that campus. From a safety standpoint, we need a band hall and choir room there as well so students will no longer have to travel to the high school."

He continued, "In addition to the junior high, the field house is in terrible condition. The brick portion was built in the late 1950s. Finally, a press box on the opposite side of the stands in McKamie Stadium is really needed. Our home side faces the sun and it is one of the most complained about facility issues we have."

LOCAL SCHOOLS HOST 'POPSICLES WITH PRINCIPALS' WELCOME BACK EVENTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville Elementary School recently hosted a 'popsicles with principals' meet the principal event last week. Students enjoyed popsicles while getting to know their fellow classmates and principals in the gymnasium. Pictured from left to right is Ximena Martin; Jennifer Doss, assistant principal; Santi Martin, and Karrie Judd, principal.



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby Independent School District hosted a 'popsicles with principals' event last week. Oglesby ISD Principal Casey Melton (left) is pictured with Principal Keegan Webb (right) and a student at the event. Students were able to play on the playground with their classmates as well as meet their principals for the upcoming school year.

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KEY

FROM PAGE B1

gained more technical skills as well, while having attended many programming workshops for different languages such as Python and R, as well as workshops on gathering past research to build her projects off of and how to write papers in the proper format and style.

"The best part of being in this program was 100 percent the people I was able to meet," she said. "So many people, including the other students as well as my mentors and other professionals within the field, were so passionate about the weather and what they were doing within the field, and getting

to listen to them about what they were working on and their experiences within the field of meteorology was a joy."

She explained that her time in the program has made her begin to consider going to graduate school for meteorology, or something in a similar field.

"Before attending this program, grad school was something that seemed far out of reach for me, but after learning about stipends provided to students and the different types of research that are available to study, I believe I would enjoy doing research in the near future," she said.

She said that she has met a lot of individuals from non-traditional backgrounds who are either in graduate school

right now or have begun a career within meteorology as well.

"I suppose I had it in my head before that one could only be successful in this field if you take a very specific path, but that is definitely not the case," she said. "In fact, many of the students selected to be in the program with me were students within two-year community colleges, and I talked to a woman who was in this program last year who entered it right as she turned 30 with two kids."

"So, I guess this is to say that it's never too late to chase a dream or take an opportunity, and I believe this is becoming more and more the case as time goes on," she said.

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ALL EISD Students will receive FREE breakfast & lunch for the 2024-25 School Year!

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton State University senior Conner Prince wins silver at Olympics



Tarleton State University

CHATEAUX, France — Tarleton State University senior manufacturing and industrial management major Conner Prince took home silver for the USA in Olympic men's skeet shooting at the Chateaux Shooting Centre.

He becomes the first competitor in school history to earn a medal in an Olympic event, according to university archives.

Ahead of the final, Prince registered a 124 to equal the qualifying Olympic record, joining Italy's Tammaro Cassandro and Chinese Taipei's Meng Yuan Lee atop the leaderboard.

Also joining Prince in the finals was his teammate and coach, Vincent Hancock, who won gold in 2008, 2012 and 2020. Other finalists included Sweden's Stefan Nilsson and Peru's Nicolas Espinosa Pacheco.

In the finals, the Tarleton Texan hit 42 of his first 43 targets. He would go on to connect on 48 of 50 overall, tying Hancock for first and forcing additional shots to determine a winner. The final tally would be 58 for Hancock and 57 for Prince. Lee took home bronze.

Prior to the Olympics, Prince expressed that it hadn't fully hit him yet what was about to transpire.

"It's a dream come true," he said at the time. "But to be honest, it hasn't really set in that I'm going to the Olympics."

Now the Burleson native can say that not only did he make the USA team, but he earned a medal while representing his country.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Conner Prince becomes the first competitor in school history to earn a medal in an Olympic event, according to university archives.

National Cowgirl Hall of Fame to induct Tarleton State Alumna Hampton

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Former Tarleton State University rodeo standout J.J. Hampton has been selected for induction into the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame in Fort Worth.

Induction ceremonies are scheduled for Nov. 12 at Dickies Arena.

While it might be hard to believe after such a successful run in the sport, becoming a hall of fame rodeo star wasn't the initial plan.

After completing her bachelor's degree in criminal justice, Hampton, a 1993 graduate, held a career goal to become a lawyer.

"Right after graduation I sold my horse because I was planning on going to law school," she said. "That didn't work out, so I went into pro rodeo."

"God works in mysterious ways. If I'd gone to law school, I'd never have been an 18-time world champion."

Already featured in the Tarleton State Rodeo Hall of Fame, the Texas Rodeo Cowboys Hall of Fame, the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Cowboy Capital Walk of Fame, Hampton sees her latest honor as a unique one.

"This is the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame," she said. "There are people in there from all over the coun-

try. It's quite an honor. I don't really have the words to say how much this means to me."

"It's a legacy for my family, my kids and grandkids, something for all of us to cherish. It's pretty special to know that people are going to walk through the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame for years to come and I'll have my own little star there."

Born and raised in Stephenville, Hampton competed in her first rodeo at 4 years old. A roper for Tarleton State's rodeo team, she was inducted to the university's Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2014. Her pro rodeo career includes 18

Women's Professional Rodeo Association world championships and 25 national titles.

Hampton, still active in professional rodeo, owns J.J. Hampton Realty in Stephenville and produces the annual Johnny Wayne Hampton Memorial Roping in honor of her late father, benefiting a scholarship fund for Tarleton State students.

Set to be inducted with Hampton are Californian Beth Cross, Canadian Kaila Mussell and The Pack Horse Library Project, headquartered in Kentucky.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State University alumna J.J. Hampton will be inducted into the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame Nov. 12 at Dickies Arena in Fort Worth.

TSU Soccer adds Stephenville native Bayleigh Chaviers to 2024 coaching staff

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State women's soccer head coach Pete Cuadrado announced the addition of former professional and Division I women's soccer player Bayleigh Chaviers, who joins the Texans' staff ahead of the 2024-25 season.

Chaviers spent 10 seasons playing at or above the high school level including a pair of professional stops in Iceland and with the Chicago Red Stars of the NWSL.

"I am super excited to add Bayleigh to our coaching staff," Cuadrado said. "Her success playing at the collegiate and professional levels will help continue to push our program forward."

Chaviers enjoyed a four-year prep career at Stephenville High School, where she was a three-sport star. She helped the Honeybees to a pair of area and bidistrict championships as well as a district title. During her time, she was a two-time First Team All-District selection. She also



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Former professional and Division I women's soccer player Bayleigh Chaviers joins the Texans' staff ahead of the 2024-25 season.

won District MVP and was named Academic All-State following her senior season. As an underclassman she earned Offensive MVP as a sophomore and Honorable Mention All-District as a

freshman. She was also a four-year letterwinner in track and a three-year letterwinner in basketball. Chaviers made academics a priority, earning recognition on the Academic All-District

squads in each of her 11 letter-winning athletic seasons.

Following her outstanding prep career, she took her talents to Coral Gables to play in the ACC for Miami

University. During her three seasons as a Hurricane, she started all 50 games she played in. During her sophomore and junior campaigns, she started every game, one of three Hurricanes to ac-

complish the feat during that span. She totaled three goals and seven assists to accumulate 13 points. She had 37 shots, with 19 on goal. Chaviers logged 4,378 minutes during her collegiate career.

"I am very thankful for the opportunity to join the staff at Tarleton," said Chaviers. "It's been awesome to see NCAA Division I soccer come to Stephenville. I am really excited to get started!"

Chaviers signed to play professionally in Iceland for a pair of seasons following her collegiate playing days. She played for two seasons for Fjardab Höttur Leiknir (FHL). After a pair of seasons she chose to return to the United States. She spent time with the Chicago Red Stars of the NWSL in 2023 before she suffered a career-ending injury in the preseason.

Following her professional soccer career, she has returned home before joining the staff ahead of the 2024-25 academic year at Tarleton State. She currently lives in Stephenville.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The GATESVILLE ISD will hold a public meeting at 05:30 PM (CT) 08/27/2024 in Gatesville ISD Board Room, 311 S. Lovers Ln Gatesville, TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.6969 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.2000 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	<u>15.714804</u>	% increase	or	<u> </u>	% (decrease)
Debt service	<u>24.828901</u>	% increase	or	<u> </u>	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	<u>16.337147</u>	% increase	or	<u> </u>	% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ <u>1,770,855,919</u>	\$ <u>1,969,086,821</u>
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ <u>41,414,340</u>	\$ <u>42,314,403</u>
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ <u>1,210,634,028</u>	\$ <u>1,263,967,900</u>
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ <u>35,901,209</u>	\$ <u>37,621,598</u>

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
 ** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 17,500,000

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.6992	\$ 0.2000 *	\$ 0.8992	\$ 3,846	\$ 7,724
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.7617	\$ 0.1909 *	\$ 0.9526	\$ 4,121	\$ 7,415
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.6969	\$ 0.2000 *	\$ 0.8969	\$ 4,080	\$ 7,575

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 247,693	\$ 240,120
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 108,335	\$ 123,894
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 0.8992	\$ 0.8969
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 974	\$ 1,111
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 137

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.8969. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.8969.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 11,158,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,127,000

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

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 about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

GISD announced free and reduced meals for students

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District has recently announced that all campuses have once again established free and reduced meals for its students this school year.

Qualifying for free meals is beneficial beyond the lunchroom. If eligible, students may be able to get other benefits such as reduced SAT/ACT, free AP testing, a waiver for college application fees, scholarships, and grants.

Each Gatesville ISD campus will have forms avail-

able for pick-up in the front office to apply for the free and reduced meals.

The primary and elementary campus students will be Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) this year and do not need to fill out a form. CEP is a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas available through a USDA program.

For further details, contact Gatesville ISD at 254-865-7251.

Keeping our kids safe: Smart transportation tips for school

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Ensuring the safety of children during their commute to and from school is a crucial responsibility that falls on parents, schools, and communities.

With various transportation options available, including school buses, walking, biking, and car rides, it is essential to educate children about the potential risks and best practices for a safe journey.

By implementing the proper safety measures and guidelines, it can greatly reduce the likelihood of accidents and ensure the well-being of our young travelers.

RIDING A BIKE

For those who ride a bike to school, having safe habits is crucial. Similar to how a seatbelt protects a person in a car, a helmet protects your head on a bike. It is important to wear a helmet while biking, as head injuries are common in bicycle accidents.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Wearing a helmet can reduce the risk of head injury by 60% and brain injury by 58%. Additionally, make sure your bike is properly maintained with working brakes and lights for visibility."

Gatesville Independent School District Transportation Director Kristopher Raney expressed that adding reflectors or lights will greatly increase your visibility to traffic as well as wearing a reflective or bright-colored vest or clothing.

He said, "If riding a bike, be cautious at intersections and obey stop signs. If crossing a busy intersection with indicated crossing lights, utilize them."

SCHOOL BUS ETIQUETTE

School buses are one of the safest modes of transportation for kids. However, it is important that children know the proper way to act around them.

"I would advise students to be out at the bus stop at least five minutes early," Raney said. "Route times vary based on traffic, weather, late students; if getting picked up in the dark, a cell phone or flashlight would help the driver see you."

He explained to stay out of the roadway, especially as the bus is approaching the stop, and to never walk toward the bus until the bus has fully stopped. When you see red lights flashing, it is an indicator that the parking brake has been applied. If any students need to cross the street at the stop, always look to the driver for guidance.

"The driver can see traffic in all directions while the student's view may be obstructed by the bus," he said. "The driver will waive the student across when it is safe to do so."

While riding the bus there are many distractions

outside of the vehicle that capture the attention of the driver.

"The less distractions inside the bus the better and safer for everyone," he said. "Stay seated, facing forward, keep hands to ourselves, and keep the noise level down."

He expressed that most every rule in life has been put in place as a reaction to an occurrence, and that there are reasons Gatesville ISD has set rules and regulations.

"All of our school bus rules have one thing in mind, everyone's safety," he said. "If one person on the bus is causing a distraction, it puts everyone inside and even outside of the bus at risk. My school bus drivers carry a heavy weight of responsibility each time they transport students."

"Every day that we complete the task of transporting students safely is a great day," he said. "Keep in mind that driving a bus full of students can be stressful at times, but we do it because we truly care about our community, our future, and the safety of each student."

WALKING TO SCHOOL

Walking to school may seem simple, but kids often get distracted by the world around them.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, "Pedestrian deaths among children aged five to 14 have decreased over the years, but it is still essential to be cautious."

Always walk on the sidewalk, cross at designated crosswalks, and look both ways before crossing the street.

"The summer months are hot; stay hydrated, and bring extra water," Raney said. "If raining, keep in mind that driver's visibility is decreased so stay out of the roadway and always assume the vehicles cannot see you."

CARPPOOLING WITH FRIENDS

Carpooling has become a popular way for parents to help each other out. Always ensure that the driver is someone you trust.

Be sure to properly use safety tools like the seatbelt and other car maintenance features.

In 2019, the National Center for Safe Routes to School reported that only 20 percent of children walk or bike to school, compared to 50 percent in 1969. However, studies have shown that active transportation can improve children's physical health and academic performance.

In general, transportation safety for kids traveling to or heading home from school is crucial for their well-being and parents' peace of mind.

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 Gates-

ville 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 & volleyball registration now open

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.teamside-line.com/GatesvilleTX.

GISD Athletics' Passes, Football Season Tickets

Submitted by Rickey Phillips

Athletics' season passes: GISD Athletics offers season passes valid for all home athletic events except Varsity Football and any hosted playoff/postseason events. These season passes are now available.

The cost for the athletic season pass is \$50 for adults, \$30 for students and \$125 for a Family Pass (valid for immediate family members only). Children under the age of 5 will be admitted free to all GISD home athletic events.

For more information, see Dee Moffett at the GHS Henry Marris Field House or call 254-865-8281, ext. 251.

Honorary Hornet passes: GISD Athletics is again offering free Honorary Hornet season passes to all Hornet fans ages 60 and over. This pass allows cardholders free admission into any GISD sporting event, including varsity football games (general admission seating only).

The Honorary Hornet pass will also be accepted at away District 12-4A sub-varsity and junior high football games and all District 23-4A away games. Those "away"

schools will include China Spring, Connally, La Vega, Lorena, and Robinson.

Football season tickets: Season ticket sales have begun for GHS Varsity Football 2024 home games. This week's special option period, which ends Friday, is for 2023 season ticket holders only. The cost is \$50 per ticket for the five home football games during the upcoming season.

After this week's special renewal period ends, all remaining season tickets will go on sale to the general public from Aug. 12-16. Once the season ticket option periods have ended, any remaining reserved-seat tickets will be sold on a game-by-game basis. Cost will be \$10 for reserved-seat tickets.

The cost for single-game general admission tickets will be \$7 for adults and \$5 for students (ages 6 & above). Children under the age of 5 will be admitted free to all GISD home athletic events.

Information: To purchase passes or tickets, see Dee Moffett at the GHS Henry Marris Field House. You can also call 254-865-8281, ext. 251.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The _____ JONESBORO ISD _____ will hold a public meeting at 07:00 PM (CT) 08/26/2024 in _____ Jonesboro ISD Library, 14909 S. State Hwy 36 _____ Jonesboro, TX _____.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.755200 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.000000 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations 8 % increase or _____ % (decrease)
 Debt service _____ % increase or 100 % (decrease)
 Total expenditures 3 % increase or _____ % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 192,517,016	\$ 234,954,741
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 4,614,970	\$ 6,934,190
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 156,034,638	\$ 173,123,900
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 4,011,864	\$ 5,843,742

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
 ** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 0

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.778600	\$ 0.094600 *	\$ 0.873200	\$ 4,596	\$ 10,796
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.778600	\$ 0.094600 *	\$ 0.873200	\$ 4,485	\$ 10,349
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.755200	\$ 0.000000 *	\$ 0.755200	\$ 4,164	\$ 10,483

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 250,921	\$ 237,104
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 97,624	\$ 113,628
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 0.873200	\$ 0.755200
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 852	\$ 858
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 5

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.755200. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.755200.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 5,400,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 76,000

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit 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 about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

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THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Dual enrollment opportunities available with Oglesby ISD

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Oglesby Independent School District has an-

nounced that in the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, dual enrollment opportunities will be offered in

collaboration with Tarleton Today. The affordable program is for Texas high school stu-

dents who seek to challenge themselves and accelerate their college preparation. In previous years, Oglesby

ISD has offered dual credit through Central Texas College as well as Temple Bio Institute, which is a program within Temple College. This will be the district's first year to also offer dual enrollment while partnering with Tarleton State University to offer the Tarleton Today program.

"It's important to understand the difference between dual enrollment and dual credit, as they're often mentioned together but have key differences," Oglesby ISD Counselor Megan Nichols said. "Dual credit and dual enrollment courses are similar in that both can result in high school students earning postsecondary credits. They are different in that dual credit courses are high school courses, and dual enrollment courses are post-secondary courses."

Nichols mentioned that dual enrollment has benefits for everyone. "Our students have the opportunity to earn college credit, while our teachers receive professional learning and development to deepen their classroom impact," she said.

Oglesby High School core classroom teachers will continue teaching their regular classes as well as taking on the new role of the dual en-

rollment courses. The classes will be taught on campus at Oglesby ISD.

The courses will offer Composition I, American Literature, College Algebra, and United States History classes.

Dual enrollment is designed to save students time and money; therefore, Oglesby ISD plans to be financially responsible for the courses of the 2024-2025 school year.

Currently, the campus already has 12 students who plan to take the course for the upcoming year.

In the past, students needed to meet certain TSI testing requirements to be eligible for dual credit courses. With Tarleton Today, any student interested in dual enrollment will be able to take the desired courses.

At the end of the course, the students will have the opportunity to accept or deny the college credit. Once the dual enrollment courses are complete, the students are considered "college ready," which allows them to earn their College, Career, and Military Readiness requirement for graduation.

For further details regarding dual enrollment, contact Oglesby ISD at 254-456-2271.

50-280 (Rev. 4-22/6)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The OGLESBY ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM 08/26/2024 in Oglesby ISD Board Room 125 College Ave, Oglesby, TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.75520 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.00000 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	% increase	or	<u>1.98</u> % (decrease)
Debt service	% increase	or	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	% increase	or	% (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 200,813,681	\$ 224,994,253
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 3,904,320	\$ 2,292,710
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 129,210,702	\$ 159,639,180
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 3,380,935	\$ 2,231,590

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 0

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.78970	\$ 0 *	\$ 0.78970	\$ 5,098	\$ 10,289
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.78982	\$ 0 *	\$ 0.78982	\$ 5,964	\$ 9,423
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.75520	\$ 0 *	\$ 0.75520	\$ 5,621	\$ 9,484

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 354,085	\$ 379,532
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 78,517	\$ 98,844
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 0.78970	\$ 0.75520
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 620.05	\$ 746.46
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 126.41

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.75520. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.75520.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,100,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 0

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

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 about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GHS Hornet, Jahaziel Martinez, serves to one of the opposing players from Belton New Tech Dragons.

Hornets slay the Belton New Tech Dragons

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

The Hornet tennis team played against the Belton New Tech Dragons on Thursday, Aug. 1 and slayed the Dragons with a score of 15-4. Standing out was the line 5 boys singles match of freshman Collin Rainer against Colton Fry. Rainer won in a split set long third set tie breaker 19-17. The line score was 2-4, 4-0, (19-17). Coach Wendell Jones reported that of special interest is that the Hornet girls won every match.

Boys Doubles:

J. Armstrong and J. Martinez vs. Moore and Finn, (7-5), (6-3) - Gatesville
R. Smith and I. Rainer vs. Borchers and Miranda, (6-2), (4-6), (9-11) - Belton New Tech

Girls Doubles:

K. Fitzer and K. Sanchez vs. Le and Stutes, (6-1), (6-2) - Gatesville
A. Nichols and A. Shaw vs. B. Moore and D. Harper, (6-1), (6-0) - Gatesville
A. Lea and A. Ochoa vs. Boettger and Franklin, (6-0), (6-0) - Gatesville

Girls Singles:

C. Rainer and A. Ivy vs. Kimball and Lopez, (6-4), (6-3) - Gatesville
M. Harney and M. Lynn vs. Long and Emeadi-Wilson, (8-7), (7-5) - Gatesville

Mixed Doubles:

T. Crawford and D. Clough vs. Fry and McKenzie, (6-3), (6-3) - Gatesville

Boys Singles:

Jack Armstrong vs. Chionso Ogwudu, (4-2), (4-1) - Belton New Tech
Jahaziel Martinez vs. Leland Moore, (4-1), (4-2), (8-10) - Belton New Tech
Rogan Smith vs. Alex Miranda, (4-1), (4-1) - Gatesville
Ian Rainer vs. Ethan Borchers, (4-2), (4-0) - Belton New Tech
Collin Rainer vs. Colton Fry, (2-4), (4-0), (19-17) - Gatesville

Tyson Crawford vs. Aiden Finn, (4-0), (4-0) - Gatesville
Matt Harney vs. Desmond Long, (3-6) - Belton New Tech
Matthew Lynn vs. Zaylen Kimball, (6-3) - Gatesville
Quentin Ivy vs. Sam Emeadi-Wilson, (6-2) - Gatesville

Girls Singles:

Kasey Fitzer vs. Tran Le, (4-2), (4-0) - Gatesville
Ally Nichols vs. Eliot Stutes, (4-0), (4-0) - Gatesville
Katelyn Sanchez vs. Bristol Moore, (4-0), (4-0) - Gatesville
Abigail Shaw vs. Devyn Harper, (4-2), (4-0) - Gatesville
Alison Ochoa vs. Samantha McKenzie, (4-0), (4-0) - Gatesville
Annabelle Lea vs. Hope Boettger, (4-1), (4-0) - Gatesville
Shyla Wright vs. Mary Franklin, (6-0) - Gatesville

SUDOKU

Puzzle answers from the Aug. 3, 2024 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

HONEY CARROTS

BY STELLA WIEGREFFE

- 1 pkg. baby carrots
- 2 T. brown sugar
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 T. honey
- 4 T. margarine
- 1 T. finely chopped parsley

Cook carrots for 15 minutes in a medium saucepan with salt and enough water to cover. Drain and remove carrots from pan. Melt margarine in the same pan, add brown sugar and honey, stirring until smooth. Put carrots back in pan, cook 5-10 minutes over low heat, turning frequently, until well glazed. Sprinkle with parsley before serving.

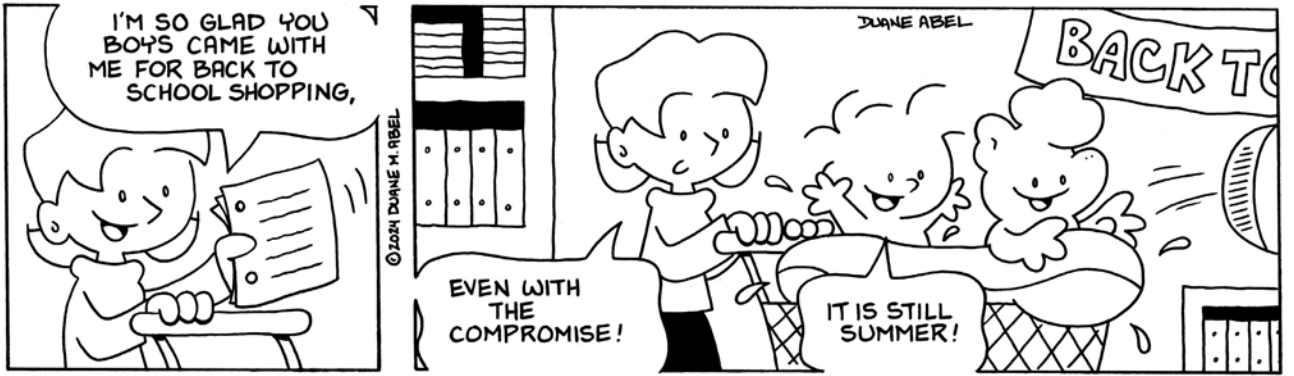
WINNER, WINNER...SONIC FOR DINNER!



COURTESY PHOTO

Elias Hernandez (right) won a \$25 Sonic gift card at the Back-to-School Bash held recently at Gatesville Elementary School. Elias was closest to guessing the number of water beads in the jar, which was sponsored by Community Life Counseling. He is pictured with Community Life Counseling's owner, Steve Hardcastle.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com



Hey kids! Get ready to strike up some fun because August 10th is National Bowling Day – a day dedicated to one of the coolest indoor sports around! If you're looking for a fun activity to enjoy with friends and family, then bowling might just be the perfect game for you. Bowling is a game where players roll a heavy ball down a long lane, aiming to knock down as many pins as possible. It's like a giant game of skittles, but with a twist! Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned pro, everyone can enjoy a day at the bowling alley. On National Bowling

Day, bowling alleys across the country celebrate by offering special deals and promotions. It's the perfect opportunity to gather your friends and family for a day of bowling fun! So, how can you celebrate National Bowling Day? Well, you could start by organizing a bowling outing with your friends. Get together at your local bowling alley, pick out some cool bowling shoes, and hit the lanes for a few games. You can challenge each other to see who can knock down the most pins or even try out some fun trick shots! If you're feeling competitive, why not join a bowling league and show off your

skills on the lanes? Bowling leagues are a great way to meet new friends, improve your game, and have a ton of fun in the process. No matter how you choose to celebrate, National Bowling Day is all about having a great time with friends and family. So grab your bowling shoes, pick up a ball, and let's hit the lanes on August 10th for a day of bowling fun! Remember, the most important thing is to have fun and enjoy the time spent with your loved ones. Happy National Bowling Day, everyone!

**WORD
PUZZLE
GAME**

Bowling

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

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

Word Bank

1. pin	2. turkey	3. lane	4. split
5. strike	6. frame	7. gutter	8. ball
9. spare	10. bowling	11. approach	

THE FIRST INDOOR BOWLING LANE WAS CONSTRUCTED IN NEW YORK CITY IN 1840. OUTDOOR LANES HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTED IN PARTS OF EUROPE PRIOR TO THIS.



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

ANNUAL GATESVILLE RIDING CLUB RODEO

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The 87th annual Gatesville Riding Club Rodeo recently took place Aug. 1-3. One of the favorite events for the children is Mutton Bustin', and lately, the adults are enjoying the "Bubble Balls and Bulls" challenge.



Thank you to everyone who helped sponsor the annual

Back-to-School Bash.

With your help, we were able to give away

347 pairs of shoes, 400 backpacks with school supplies, 75 haircuts, 46 sports physicals, 5 doctor's visits, and 45 hearing and vision screenings with 9 referrals.

• On Point Realty	• The Gatesville Messenger	• Walgreens
• Dixon Realty	• 4H and Texas A&M Agrilife	• Methodist Children's Home and Family Outreach
• Educators Credit Union	• Gatesville Public Library	• Rite Care
• Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas	• Crime Stoppers	• The Hop
• Waco Family Medicine	• Gatesville Fitness Center	• Methodist Church
• Feed My Sheep - Mobile Medical Clinic	• Gatesville Parks and Rec	• First Baptist Church
• A&M School of Medicine - Temple, Round Rock, College Station and Dallas	• Walmart	• Coryell Community Church
• First Blessing	• Gatesville Retired School Personnel	• Live Oak Baptist Church
• Starry Counseling	• Texas New Mexico Power	• Cadence Bank
• H.E.B.	• WIC	• First National Bank of Evant
• Gatesville Chamber of Commerce	• Texas Star Program	• GUSD Nursing Staff
• Gatesville Dental	• Texas Dept of Health State Services	• GUSD Cheerleaders and Buzz
• Gatesville Lions Club	• Texas Star - Texas Healthy Steps	• Costco
• Gatesville Salvation Army	• Gratitude Initiative	• Aware
• Gatesville Exchange Club	• Army Child and Youth Services	• 1-395 BEB, 120th Infantry Brigade, Fort Cavazos
• The Gideons	• Friends on Duty	• Kut and Kurl
• Ginther Renovations	• Community Life Counseling	• Bethany's Salon
	• Central County Services	• Chevi's Chop Shop
		• Two 2 Tangle
		• Vogue Beauty Shop
		• Two's Company
		• Mary Alice Wise

Special thanks to all of the Gatesville Community Volunteers.

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*Terms and conditions apply to waiving the service fee. For a full list of disclosures, visit extracobanks.com/easychecking

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