



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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Gatesville closer to hiring new Police Chief

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

The Gatesville Police Department is getting closer to finding its new Chief of Police following former Police Chief Brad Hunt's transition to Gatesville City Manager.

A total of 17 applicants applied for the position of Gatesville's Police Chief, Hunt said. On Oct. 9, a re-

view panel that consists of local elected officials and city staff helped narrow down the candidates to eight semi-finalists.

This week, the panel is deciding on the top five finalists for the role.

"I am working with my panels and staff to ensure we bring in a new chief who will continue on the

positive path I began," Hunt said. "All of our semi-finalist candidates are well-qualified for the position, and the final selection poses one of those 'good problems to have'; it will be a difficult choice between several great finalists."

Hunt shares what the city and police department

are looking for in a police chief. He said they are seeking a candidate who is community-focused, an innovative leader, and can foster a culture of integrity and trust.

"The ideal candidate will possess a broad background and experience in typical municipal police functions, as well as

experience in the planning and development of capital projects, including facilities," Hunt said. "He or she will be flexible, self-reliant, and courteous while solving complex problems and maintaining positive relations with the public, community stakeholders, and fellow law enforcement agencies."

After undergoing several recent changes in leadership, Interim Police Chief Georgiana Cleverley said that recruiting more dispatchers and officers will be a top priority for the new police chief.

"Maybe the new chief has a different way that we haven't tried yet of getting applicants," Cleverley said. "We're really short in dispatchers right now. We're short in officers, too, but we're really short in dispatchers. That's going to be something that the new chief will have to face right up at the beginning."

Another major initiative the new police chief will face is the building of a new department facility. Although the architect was chosen at a recent Gatesville City Council public meeting, the city will wait to finalize the plans for the new space until the new chief begins his role at the department, Cleverley explains.

"The architect has been chosen, and they're starting to work on designs, but that's something that the new chief is going to be very heavily involved in, rightfully so," Cleverley said. "I'm hoping that they will, of course, let the lieutenants and the sergeants have our say in that also."

The new police chief will also lead the agency in receiving accreditation under the Texas Police Chief's Association Best Practices Accreditation Program. The program is a process where police agencies in Texas prove their compliance with 170 Texas Law Enforcement Best Practices.

"As an unintended consequence of my appointment as city manager, the police department has gone through several changes in leadership over the past two years," Hunt said. "The newly appointed chief will have my full support in working with the police department staff to promote positive change

PLEASE SEE CHIEF | A2



Burn ban extended for 45 days

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Following a lack of rain this fall, the Coryell County Commissioners Court extended the burn ban for a period of 45 days during a regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 22.

The order began at sunset on Tuesday and will remain in effect unless extended by the commissioners' court, or if County Judge Roger Miller chooses to end the ban.

Miller said the county currently stands at 694 out of 800 on the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI), signaling the area's severe drought conditions. The drought index is used to determine forest fire potential.

The ban prohibits and restricts the "outdoor burning of all substances" due to public safety risks that could be heightened by outdoor burning.

The ban does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, which includes:

- Firefighter training
- Public utility, natural gas pipeline, or mining operations
- Planting or harvesting of agricultural crops
- Burns conducted by a prescribed burn manager and meet the standards of the Natural Resources Code
- Welding, grinding, and/or cutting metal if a spotter, serviceable fire extinguisher, and a minimum of 10 gallons of water are present
- Burning domestic waste in a barrel when using a screen with no larger than 3/8-inch holes

For more information on the burn ban, visit <https://www.coryellcounty.org/>

GATESVILLE SENIORS PASS THE TORCH



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Independent School District held a pep rally on Thursday, Oct. 18, at McKamie Stadium. This pep rally was special since Gatesville ISD added a new tradition for its seniors and kindergarten classes. In place of the usual pep rally game, the senior class of 2025 and the current kindergarten class were able to walk from different end zones where they met at the 50-yard line to greet each other and exchange letters of encouragement. This was considered as "passing the torch," since the kindergartners are just beginning their time at G ISD and the seniors are ending their journey to begin a new one. During the event, the cheerleaders, Dazzlers, and color guard each gave a performance to the crowd. There was also a speech given by head football coach Aaron Hunter.

Celebrating local women-owned businesses: The Parrot Imports

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

In light of October being National Women-Owned Business Month, it is important to remember that women-owned businesses are a vital part of the community. This month is an opportunity to recognize the achievements and challenges faced by women who

own and operate businesses, just like Carina Eufrazio, The Parrot Imports owner.

The Parrot Imports was originally established in 1995 by Carl and Vera Grubb. Following their passing, Eufrazio and her family had the honor of purchasing the store in 2017 from their daughter, Cynthia Grubb.

"My mother had been with the store since 2002, and I joined in 2007," Eufrazio said. "We both loved what we did, so when the opportunity to buy the store came up, we knew it was the right decision."

She expressed that their main goal when buying The Parrot Imports was simple - to continue doing what they

loved.

"We also knew the process would be smoother for us, especially without the language barrier when purchasing inventory," she said.

When Eufrazio and her mother first took over the store, significant investments were made while adding their own personal

touches to the space.

"My mother and I dedicated most of our time to the store, as hiring additional help wasn't really an option," she said. "My mother has always been my greatest inspiration. If I can become even half the woman she is, I will consider my life a success."

She explained that her

family helps as much as they can with the store, but her parents are the ones mainly doing the most behind the scenes.

The majority of the establishment's inventory is imported from Mexico. Eufrazio's parents personally take trailers down to source

PLEASE SEE WOMEN | A2



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KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Interim Police Chief Georgiana Cleverly chose not to apply permanently for the role as Gatesville Chief of Police.

CHIEF

FROM PAGE A1

and continue developing a team-building environment."

Although Cleverly currently serves as interim police chief, she said she decided not to apply for the position permanently, even though colleagues and other community members encouraged her to pursue the role.

"I was looking at my accomplishments in the military, getting my resume ready, and I came across a listing from a prior brigade commander of mine," Cleverly said. "He had put out leadership guidelines when he had taken over the brigade, and he passed them out to the senior leaders, and I still had a copy of it. Two of the things that he had listed as his guidelines said something along the lines of, 'be careful what you ask for - you might get it.'"

"I don't really want this

job. What if I get picked?" she adds. "And then a little bit further down it said, 'you can't make other people's choices, so don't let them make yours.'"

Cleverly notes that there would also be another vacancy in the department if she permanently became police chief. However, her main reason for not applying is that she enjoys her role as patrol commander, a position she will return to once the new chief is hired.

"The primary thing was I really didn't want the job," Cleverly said. "I'll be more than happy to assist whoever is selected and point them along the lines of this is what we've been doing, this is what's worked effectively in the past, and whatever direction that chief wants to go in, I'll be more than happy to help them move in that way."

To Cleverly's knowledge, none of the finalists for the role are from the Gatesville Police Department but instead from

outside agencies.

The city will hold a community meet and greet with the selected finalists on Nov. 7, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers. On Nov. 8, the finalists will individually meet with the police department staff and then sit for an interview with a panel of local and regional officials.

Following the interviews and reviewing the materials for each finalist, Hunt said he will make the final selection by the end of the day on Nov. 8.

Hunt will present the chosen candidate to the city council at a future public meeting. As of press time, the date has not yet been determined, but it will take place on either Nov. 12 or Nov. 14.

"I'm just eager to learn who the new chief is going to be," Cleverly said. "Eager to meet this new chief and to get the ball rolling and get things accomplished. I'm ready to move on."

WOMEN

FROM PAGE A1

out their products. Whenever the opportunity arises, the store will carry locally made items as well.

"I've always said that my parents pick out the inventory, and it's my job to sell it," she said. My brothers are involved as much as they can be, and my younger brother even helped build one of our larger trailers."

She expressed that her store stands out because it offers a large inventory of pottery, metal artwork, and custom furniture.

"This diversity allows us to meet our customers' needs effectively," she said. "Additionally, by cutting out the middleman, we're able to keep our prices affordable."

"I believe I came into this world to help people, and The Parrot Imports is a place where I can fulfill that purpose," she said.

"Whether its helping customers realize their vision or simply providing a space for them to sit and chat, I'm dedicated to making a difference. I'm especially passionate about transforming houses into beautiful homes."

Eufrazio has been involved in business management on and off since 2011 and said that she always tells anyone looking to start their own business that it's one of the most rewarding experiences you can have.

"Long days are common, but I know that in the end, all the hard work will



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The Parrot Imports owner, Carina Eufrazio

pay off," she said. "Along the way, I've made many friends, some of whom have even become real estate clients."

She mentioned that although she has never been much into social media, she knew that she had to adapt and learn that world to help with management and sales.

"Embracing online sales became a game changer for us, and by the time the pandemic hit in 2020, I had it figured out," she said.

"That knowledge helped us navigate through those challenging Covid days,

and is still a big part of our business to this day."

She believes that it is important to always support local women-owned businesses no matter the occasion.

"I make it a priority to support local businesses whenever I can. Although I get busy and can't always leave the store, seeing other local businesses succeed brings me joy," she said. "I've always believed there's enough pie for all of us to get a slice."

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Old memories come back to life



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

In the past, I have written a column or two telling you about my friend Jayne Austin. She is soon to be 94 years old, and we have been amazing friends for almost 20 years.

Jayne was born in Durant, Oklahoma but lived with her husband Marcus in Gainesville for the bulk of their married life. Marcus was a band instructor and later a school administrator, while Jayne taught music at the elementary school level. About two years ago, I moved Jayne to a care facility near my house so

she could be closer, and I could see her almost every day. It was hard for her to move from her longtime home, but with no living children, husband, or family located anywhere nearby, she realized it made a lot of sense for us to be in the same town, so I could see she was being taken care of properly and bring her the

things she needs. She has adjusted amazingly well to the move and has made several good friends at the facility where she is staying. She plays a lot of bingo and Yahtzee, and I enjoy stopping by after work and seeing how her day went and how she is faring. We have a special friendship, which I think can be a little confusing for some people. They don't understand how we can be so close when we are not from the same family. When asked the nature of our relationship, Jayne will commonly respond, "We are not related by blood, but we are related by love, and that is even better." I think that probably says it all. One day this week when I visited Jayne, I got a real surprise. I walked into her room, and she looked up, and before I could say anything, she spouted, "You

will never guess what happened today." Immediately, my mind went to 1,000 places and, frankly, most of them were negative places. My confusion grew, because Jayne seemed to be excited in a positive way. She continued, "One of the aides came to tell me today that a person who is now living on the second floor thinks I taught her in school." Evidently, the person in question is very shy, but somehow, she had heard the name Jayne Austin being talked about in the facility and she wondered if it could be the same Ms. Austin who taught her in school so many years ago. Jayne did not recognize the lady's last name because, of course, it was her married name, but arrangements were made, and the lady made the trek from the second floor to Jayne's room on the first

floor. Come to find out, more than 70 years ago, the woman had indeed been in one of Jayne's classes! Even though the aide said the now 82-year-old woman was exceedingly shy, she sat and talked to Jayne for more than two hours. They talked about some of the other children in the class and what had ever become of them as they grew up, while filling in the details of each other's lives. They laughed and listened, and for a few brief moments they were young again. They were a teacher and a student, and the respect and love were mutual. I am not sure when I have seen Jayne happier than she was that afternoon, and from the reports I got from

the aides at the facility, the same was true of the long-ago student. Who would have imagined the two would be reunited, so many years later, in a care facility 100 miles from where their paths had originally crossed? My lesson was you never know the impact you have on another person's life and how crossing paths might make an impression that lasts forever. Thank goodness for teachers, and God bless the students who respect and never forget them. Thought for the day: "Teachers affect eternity: no one can tell when their influence stops." — Henry Brooks Adams
Until next time...I will keep ridin' the storm out!



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Hollingsworth, pictured second from the left, visits with some of the postal workers at the Gatesville Post Office.

Hollingsworth retires after 31 years

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Mike Hollingsworth recently retired as postmaster at the Gatesville Post Office. He first started working with the postal service

in 1994 in Waco. "I worked two years in Waco in the plant on the midnight shift and finally got to transfer to Gatesville and I've been here since 1996," he said. In 2007, he became the

postmaster following his father's tenureship. Hollingsworth said that he doesn't really have any plans for his retirement. "We have two children in college, and we go back and forth where

they are at times." Asked if he'll miss the job, he replied, "I'll miss the employees, but the job, well, it's gotten harder over the years."

LETTER

With Deep Regret

It is with regret that I inform the citizens of Gatesville and the surrounding communities that there will no longer be meetings held for the Gatesville area Parkinson's support group. My health has made it difficult to hold meetings or call people to advise of meetings. I would like to thank Grace Bible Church for allowing us to hold the meetings there and The Gatesville Messenger for putting out notices announcing the meetings. I would also like to thank our special guests: Yvonne Rochelle PT Coryell Memorial, Central Texas Area

on Aging, Debra Coward Yoga instructor, Carol Jackson, and Scott & White Medtronic. Last, but certainly not least, I'd like to thank the participants and, of course, their caregivers: Mary K. and John Henry, Jeanie and Jess, Glenna, Bill and Nancy, Cecil, Beverly, Dolores, Carol, Steve and Quenby. Parkinson's stole two of our devoted members, Mike and Dale, and we will keep their caregivers, Joyce and Rhonda, always in our hearts and prayers. Thank you all for making my Parkinson's journey much better.

Love and respect,
Becky Adams

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Dr. Betsy Spitzer

Say hello to our neighbor, Besty Spitzer!

Dr. Betsy Spitzer is a local dentist and the owner of Gatesville Family Dental. She recently celebrated her 19th anniversary with her dental office on Oct. 5. "I love my job because I love people; I love getting to talk to them and be encouraged or offer encouragement," Spitzer said. "My goal is to help people have a positive experience with the dental office, because so many people really do have a fear of the dentist." She expressed that she has been blessed with a wonderful staff and is surrounded by amazing women. "It's not quiet and stuffy; it is full of laughter and smiles, and I love that we can bring a sense of comfort to folks through our personalities and not just our clinical abilities," she said. She moved to Gatesville a week before her oldest son was born, so when his birthday arrives, she also has an anniversary of moving here. "From the time I moved here, I was no doubt an outsider, but I cannot think of a single memory in 19 years of anyone ever treating me that way; everyone was very welcoming and kind, and it has stayed that way to this very day."

Spitzer expressed that a quote by Maya Angelou sticks with her each day, which reads, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." She said that she believes this to be very true. "While I have adopted this as a favorite quote in my adulthood, I think it has helped make aware of things from a different perspective and become a better employer, mother, friend, sister, daughter, and dentist," she said.

Betsy reads The Gatesville Messenger and expressed that she has always loved that the newspaper celebrates activities and people not just in Gatesville, but also in the surrounding communities. "The sense of inclusion for those little towns in our big paper, in my opinion, helps create a sense of camaraderie amongst communities in Coryell County that doesn't exist just anywhere," she said. "That's pretty special."

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



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TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Space rocks near Odessa



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

I asked Douglas Netherland at the Meteor Crater Museum, west of Odessa, to explain the difference between a meteor and a meteorite.

"A meteor is still in the sky and a meteorite has landed," he quickly answered.

A meteor streaked across the sky and landed near Odessa 63 thousand years ago and formed a crater.

"It wasn't discovered until the late 40s. It's essentially just a space rock. It's just a body formed in space."

Douglas is curator of the state-of-the-art museum at the crater.

"From what I understand, it's anywhere from Saturn to the asteroid belt is where this meteorite came from. It came from west to east when it fell. We don't know how fast it was coming in or how steep the angle was when it landed. There are five distinct craters, because

it exploded in the atmosphere and broke again when it hit the ground."

At the time the meteor fell, the Odessa area was submerged under 600 feet of water that acted as a buffer before the meteor hit the ground.

"So, our crater is not as deep as what it would have been due to the fact that a bunch of water rushed back in and brought all the sediment in to fill the crater quite rapidly. It's believed that it was initially about 115 feet deep."

Two of the five craters are on the museum complex. The other three are on private property. The museum has a large crater that's 450 feet wide and approximately 6 to 8 feet deep. The small crater is 20 feet wide and around 8 feet deep. The visitor center has samples of meteorites from all over the world, including some from the Odessa crater. The largest piece is the

size of a football.

"It's iron, nickel, copper, cobalt, and a few other trace materials, so it's a bunch of heavy metals."

The museum gets about 3,000 visitors a year.

"We have guests from all over the world that come and visit. Apparently, we have been in a few movies from overseas, because we have people that want to come see this place and the Rio Grande from watching westerns and things of that nature. This is a national natural landmark that belongs to the department of the interior and is maintained by Ector County.

For years, a marker on the highway was about the only indication that something significant was just off the interstate. Tom Rodman of Odessa was responsible for getting an historical marker and the grant that built the museum building that was completed in 2002.

SUDOKU

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Puzzle answers from the Oct. 19, 2024 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com



Texas Secretary of State shares security measures for upcoming election

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

As voters cast their ballots this week for the Nov. 5 election, Texas Secretary of State Jane Nelson shares how the state has prepared for a secure election.

"Texas leads the way when it comes to election security, and I want voters to know our state and county officials are ready for the November election," Nelson said. "Many security protocols are new, and others have been around for decades, but Texans deserve to know the ways we are working to secure their votes."

Texas has put several security measures in place leading up to the election, including:

- Publicly testing voting systems before the machines are used in the election
- Requiring background checks for all personnel that prepare or service voting system equipment
- Multi-factor authentication to access the statewide voter registration database
- Annual cybersecurity training for any individual with access to the statewide voter registration database, mandatory reporting of any cybersecurity breach, and mandatory security assessments for county election departments

During the election, no voting system is ever connected to the internet

at any point. Before and after use each day, all voting systems are sealed and locked with devices containing unique serial numbers.

Other requirements at the polls include:

- Video recording and live streaming of all areas containing voted ballots in counties with a population of 100,000 or more
 - Election workers at the polling place must confirm that there are zero votes cast at the opening of voting and at the end of voting - they must compare the number of ballots cast to the number of voters who have checked-in on the poll list.
- Poll watchers are also allowed to observe at any early voting and election day polling locations and at the central counting station where ballots are being counted.

After the election, the state requires a post-election audit in counties that use paper ballots. The Texas Secretary of State's Elections Division Audit Program reviews and examines election records and documents maintained by county election officials to ensure election law and security procedures have been followed.

To further protect against voter fraud, voters must show an ID at the polls. Voters using mail-in ballots must also provide an ID or the last four-digits of their social security

number.

When Texans register to vote, they must provide a driver's license or a social security number. Texas continually updates the statewide voter registration database, removing voters who are ineligible due to death, moving, felony conviction, or lack of U.S. citizenship.

Texans have the right to challenge the eligibility of any registered voter in their county.

Illegal voting is considered a felony in Texas.

Voter fraud and election security has become more of a concern in recent years. According to the Texas Secretary of State's website, there is no evidence that any voting or the voting registration process has been compromised in past elections.

Early voting ends on Nov. 1. To learn more about the voting process, visit VoteTexas.gov.

Texas Secretary of State Jane Nelson announced that Texas has 18,623,931 registered voters ahead of the Nov. 5 election. The number is consistent with election-year interest and population growth. The 2024 number is currently five percent higher than the Nov. 2022 number of 17,672,143.

To see a county-by-county breakdown and historical results, visit the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.tx.us.

The Grove Sausage Fest set for Nov. 9

Submitted Item

The Grove Community Center will hold their annual Sausage Fest on Nov. 9, from 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. This year's event includes a bake sale and raffles.

The meal will consist of sausage, noodles, pinto beans, cole slaw, bread, all the trimmings, beverages, and dessert. Adult plates are \$15, and children ages 10 and under are \$10 each. All major credit

cards will be accepted for payment, and proceeds will go towards maintenance on the center. Grove Community Center is located at 5702 Texas Hwy. 236, Moody, TX 76557.

Homecoming event scheduled at Pecan Grove Baptist, Nov. 3

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

After five long months of repairs and renovations to the flooded church, the members of the historic Pecan Grove Baptist Church have returned to their church "home" for worship services.

A special homecoming celebration is planned on Sunday, Nov. 3, from 10:30

a.m.-12 p.m. at Pecan Grove Baptist Church. Special guest speaker will be Dr. Alan Lefever, director of the Texas Baptist Historical Collection and a Baylor professor. Special worship leader for the service will be Nathan Cook, of Waco.

It will be a special time of worship, celebration,

and recognition for those who helped to bring the church back from the flood. A catered lunch will be served following the service. The public is invited to attend.

Pecan Grove Baptist Church is located at 6545 FM 107, southeast of Gatesville.

Buffalo Stampede slated for Nov. 2

Submitted item

The annual Buffalo Stampede will take place on Saturday, Nov. 2, in Turnersville. The event will be a family-friendly community fundraiser with free admission.

There will be a BBQ lunch, vendors, kid activities, live auction and silent auction, bake sale, and a dance. From 10 a.m.-4 p.m. will be vendors, kid activities, and the bake

sale. From 11:30 a.m. until they're sold out will be the BBQ lunch for \$15 per plate. The lunch will include brisket, sausage, beans, potato salad, slaw, bread, fixings, dessert, and drink.

A live auction will start at 1 p.m. followed by a silent auction at 2 p.m.

From 7 - 11 p.m., there will be a dance with the band Texas Connection playing. Tickets will be \$20. The dance also will

include a food truck and will be BYOB.

Vendors who are interested in attending must register and pay \$20, plus \$10 for electricity for a 10X10 outdoor space. For more information, call 254-494-0010, visit their website at villecc.com, or email them at turnersvillestampede@gmail.com.

Turnersville Community Center is located at 8113 FM 182.

Levita VFD to hold BBQ fundraiser

Staff Reports

The Levita Volunteer Fire Department will host a BBQ fundraiser and gun raffle on Friday, Nov. 1 and on Saturday, Nov. 2.

The event will take place at 7 a.m. both days until everything is sold out and will be held at Ideal Self Storage, located at 1611

East Main St.

The gun raffle will have 100 tickets available for purchase at \$20 a ticket or three tickets for \$50 for a Henry Brass Lever Action .30-30. The drawing will be held on Saturday.

All participants in the raffle must be at least 18 years of age or older and must pass a background

check.

There also will be a raffle for a two-person hog hunt sponsored by Barnard Beef Cattle Company. Tickets will be sold at \$10 each or five tickets for \$40.

To purchase tickets for either raffle event, contact Jason Shepherd at 254-223-2126.

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)

The Gatesville I.S.D.'s Board of Trustees voted to donate a bus to the Boys and Girls Club.

Early voting was off to a brisk pace, with 2400 ballots cast in the first three days.

The Gatesville Lions Club served as host for the District 2X-3 meeting at the First United Methodist

Church.

The new Hillcrest Clinic hosted a Gatesville Chamber of Commerce "mixer."

National Bank held an event in their parking lot to celebrate their 115th birthday.

30 YEARS AGO (1994)

The Coryell County Sheriff's posse sponsored a Trail Ride across Fort Hood. The Coryell Activities

Complex held their annual fundraiser.

A Texas Historical Marker dedication ceremony was held at the Wood Cemetery.

The Gatesville Senior Center held their annual RSVP Recognition Day Luncheon for volunteers.

Guaranty Bank and Trust Company treated over 2200 people to an old-fashioned fish fry.

40 YEARS AGO (1984)

The Gatesville City Council voted to appoint Arthur M. Dorsey to fill the council seat vacated by Jack E. Smith.

Martha Ann Yows was the 22nd recipient of the Norris Graves Award.

Temple Jewelers was having a 75% off sale.

The Video Place advertised "Sixteen Candles" for

rent.

Wal-Mart advertised children's vinyl costumes for \$4.36.

50 YEARS AGO (1974)

Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. King sold the general store in Pearl.

Sandra Lee, of Purmela, was nominated for homecoming queen at East Texas State University in Commerce.

Sheriff's officers were investigating a series of thefts in the Ater area.

Montgomery Ward advertised console color TVs for \$478.

Rhodes Department Store advertised women's Wranglers for \$7.50.

Willie Taylor announces run for Gatesville City Council

Submitted Item

Willie Joe Taylor has authorized The Gatesville Messenger to announce his candidacy for the Ward 2, Place 6 City Council seat in the upcoming Nov. 5 city council election.

"My name is Willie Joe Taylor, and I am running for Ward 2, Place 6 seat on the Gatesville City Council."

Gatesville has been my home for the last 27 years, leading me to become owner and operator of B&W Services. I have served as a volunteer firefighter with the Gatesville Fire Department for 25 years. Before operating B&W Services, I worked for Gossett Wrecker Service and the City of Gatesville. I enjoy serving others and I am not afraid of putting in a good day's work. My wife, Kim, and I have vested interest in our community. It is my home as well as yours. The opportunity to serve my

neighbors and do what is best for our community would be an honor. I hope to continue the growth of Gatesville while retaining our small-town values. Our community is known for coming together in both the good and the tough situations that we have encountered. My wish is to continue these close bonds while we welcome newcomers into our community.

As our city continues to grow, I want to help nourish the growth with a sound plan. Some of the infrastructure issues I hope to address alongside the city council are the deteriorating water main system, the repairs to our city streets, and ways to upgrade the community's Internet delivery system. I believe we also need to focus efforts on marketing our community to companies and industries that will help us grow and enrich our tax base.



COURTESY PHOTO

Willie Joe Taylor

Thus, bringing valuable tax dollars without placing a greater burden on our citizens. I am a down-to-earth family man who will listen to all sides of the conversation. I will strive to make decisions for our community based on what will be best for us as a whole. I ask for your support in the upcoming city council election on Nov. 5, 2024. I welcome any and all questions or concerns."

Kalinda Westbrook announces her candidacy for city council

Submitted Item

Kalinda Westbrook has authorized The Gatesville Messenger to announce her candidacy for Gatesville City Council, Council Member Ward 2, Place 6, in the upcoming election.

I support Gatesville and wish to serve the city while promoting continued financial stability. My focus will be on public safety, public infrastructure, parks & recreation facilities, and the efforts to solidify downtown Gatesville's historic designation. I believe that strengthening these areas will provide a healthy environment for business growth, thereby keeping Gatesville a desirable place to live and raise a family.

My husband and I moved to Gatesville in 1982 and have resided at our current residence since 2002. We raised two sons and have been involved in the schools and city since then.

I began working in the accounting field in 1981 where most of my career was spent auditing for governmental programs and working in school district finance, retiring as a school district Business Manager in 2021. During that time, I also gained experience with the mechanics of audits, budgets, and grants, with an understanding of the intricacies of governmental accounting. I believe these experiences have given me a unique area of expertise I could bring to the Gates-



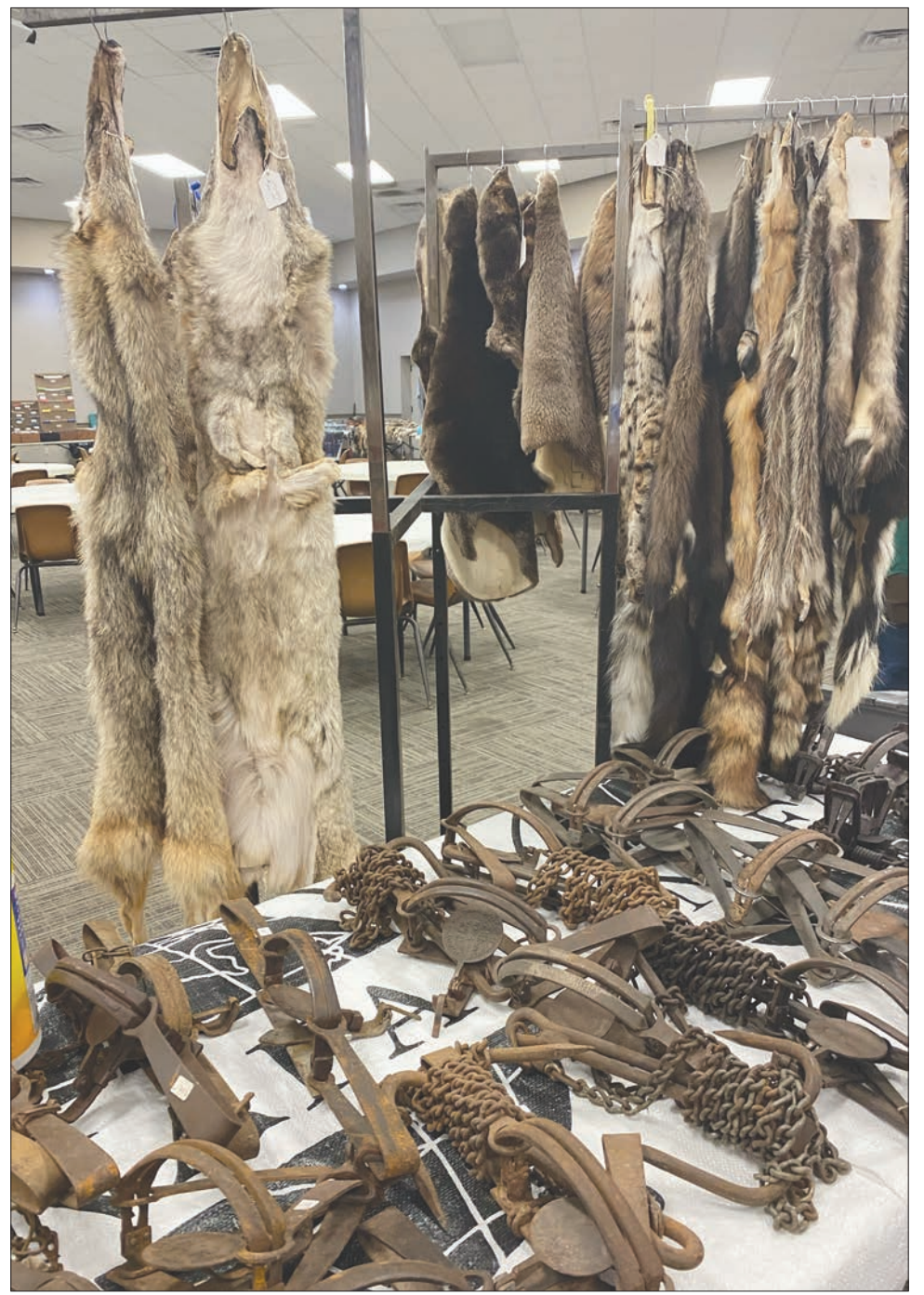
COURTESY PHOTO

Kalinda Westbrook

ville City Council.

Please follow me on Facebook for more details. Your vote and support would be greatly appreciated.

TRAPPERS AND FUR HUNTERS CONVENTION



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The Texas Trappers and Fur Hunters Association recently held their "Fall Rendezvous" in Gatesville at the Civic Center. It was a gathering of landowners, wildlife managers, trappers, and fur harvesters, and several vendors were present. Instructors demonstrated effective methods to minimize damage from feral hogs, coyotes, bobcats, beavers, and more.

KGB to host library cleanup on Nov. 2

Staff Reports

Keep Gatesville Beautiful has announced that a cleanup will be hosted on Saturday, Nov. 2, for the grounds of the Gatesville Public Library. The organization is

currently searching for volunteers to help with the cleanup, and the public is welcome to join anytime from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The main goal will be to pick up litter, pull weeds, help with flower bed beautification, and to aid

in landscaping. If you are unable to physically help, donations will also be accepted such as trash bags and gloves. For further information, visit www.keepgatesville-beautiful.com.

PEARL NEWS

Mark your calendars for the next Pearl Bluegrass event



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

The quarterly meeting of the Pearl Community Center Board will be held Oct. 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the dining room of the Community Center.

All are invited to attend. The next Pearl Bluegrass event and Pearl Cottage Bookstore Day will be Nov. 2. If you have a band and would like to play on the stage, just show up and put your name on the board in the hallway of the Community Center. The building opens at 7 a.m., and the stage show begins at 1 p.m. Admission is free. Jamming goes on all day. The Bluegrass Kitchen opens at 11 a.m., and the delicious food is priced very reasonably. Have I mentioned there's homemade pie? All food purchases support the Community Center so that it will be around for generations to come. The Pearl Cottage Bookstore opens at 9 a.m. It is the friendliest store in all of Texas, and there are over 6,000 gently used books, including tons of romance and westerns. Most purchases are "buy what you want, pay what you want," which translates as "by donation." All donations support the store's

local charities. Everyone is welcome!

The Pearl Church of Christ reported a wonderful day celebrating its 129th year with 69 in attendance. Giving the sermon was Dr. Charles Patterson who spoke about joy, and it was truly a joyful day indeed. Brent Kiel from South Africa was presented the plaque for "traveled the longest distance." Margie Cummings received the plaque for "longest attending member." Al Wilson earned the plaque for the "oldest attending." Jarrett Carswell's plaque was for "youngest attending." Dr. and Mrs. Patterson received the plaque for "married the longest," and Doug Atchley's plaque was for "arrived in the oldest car" - a 1951 Studebaker. The church wishes to thank everyone who helped prepare for this special day, for those who brought food, for J and M Barbeque for the catered lunch, and for those who helped clean up afterward. They are

especially thankful for all of those who came to worship and celebrate 129 years of faithful service in the Pearl Community. Everyone is always welcome at Pearl Church of Christ!

There will be a community lunch at the Pearl Community Center Nov. 10, celebrating Thanksgiving. Mexican food will be served. A church service with Jimmy McPherron will begin at 10:30 a.m., and lunch will follow. Everyone is invited to attend and bring their favorite Mexican food dish.

In case you haven't heard, I thought I'd let you know that I suffered a traumatic injury to the fingers on my right hand last week. Honestly, I was not going to tell anyone about this, but the injury impaired my shuffling skills when I was playing Skipbo with my oldest granddaughter. I handed the cards over to her and told her she needed to do all the shuffling as I could not bend my fingers to do so at that time. Of course, my concerned sweetheart asked me what happened. Being the honest Grammie that I am (and unable to think up another plausible story quickly enough), I admitted that I injured my fingers while ... crocheting. Yes, crocheting! There was a moment of total stunned silence followed by raucous laughter such as I've never heard from her sweet little face before. She somehow managed to choke out questions about the incident, and I patiently tried to explain how one injures her fingers while crocheting. (I won't go into the gory de-

tails, but it was brutal!) My 11-year-old then examined my fingers and found no signs of swelling or bruising. She then gave me the advice her father would have given her had she done the same thing — suck it up, buttercup. Somehow, my dearest friend, known to my grandchildren as Aunt (pronounced "ain't") Linda, found out about the incident. That would be Linda (no middle name but I may give her one) Ray from Pearl. My normally very compassionate bestie had the same reaction as my

little darling. Uproarious laughter was heard all the way from Pearl to deep East Texas, and I may have felt a small earthquake. Apparently, this is something I may never live down. Here it is a week later, and my son just walked in the door, saw that I was crocheting (fully recovered), and gasped, "Put that down! You might injure yourself!" Is there no balm in Gilead, or East Texas, or Pearl? Sigh...

This week's Bible verse comes from Philippians 4:6-7 — "Do not be anxious

about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." NIV

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



10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Shop Vendors
Kids Activities
Bake Sale

11:30 AM to Sold Out
\$15 BBQ Plate
Brisket and Sausage,
Beans, Potato Salad, Slaw,
Bread, Fixings, Dessert
and Drink

1:00 PM
Live Auction

2:00 PM
Silent Auction

Vendor Registration
\$20 10x10 outdoor space
+ \$10 for electricity
tvillecc.com
254-494-0010
turnersvillstampede@gmail.com



BUFFALO STAMPEDE

Saturday, November 2, 2024

FAMILY-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER
FREE ATTENDANCE

BBQ LUNCH
VENDORS
KIDS ACTIVITIES
LIVE AUCTION AND SILENT AUCTION
BAKE SALE

DANCE with a LIVE BAND
7:00 PM to 11:00 PM • \$20 per ticket



BYOB
No Glass

Food
Truck

OBITUARIES

Dorothy Firster

April 12, 1939 - Oct. 18, 2024

Dotti Firster, age 85, of Gatesville, passed away on Friday, Oct. 18, 2024.

Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 2, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church with Father Jay presiding.

Dorothy Duckworth Firster was born on April 12, 1939 to the late Ernest and Mary Doyle Duckworth in Columbus, Ohio. She grew up and attended school in Atlanta, Georgia, graduating from Sacred Heart Catholic High School in 1956. After graduation, she worked as a waitress and bartender at several different Atlanta area restaurants. Dotti enjoyed horseback riding and participated in rodeo barrel racing events during her younger years. She was also an avid reader, spending many hours in the library even in her adult years. She was a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

She was unique, a light, and touched many people, bringing joy to their lives. Her last years were spent



at the Meadows providing color, liveliness, love, and character to all those around her.

Dotti was preceded in death by her parents and two older brothers, Robert and Donald Duckworth.

She is survived by her brother, Thomas Duckworth and wife, Sharon; sister, Rosemary Mathis and husband, Alan; two sons, Larry Firster and Michael Firster; and three grandchildren, Samantha, Riley, and Colten.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the City of Gatesville Public Library, 111 N. 8th Street, Gatesville, TX 76528.

Mike Avila

Nov. 13, 1936 - Oct. 20, 2024

Mike Avila passed away peacefully at his home on Oct. 20, 2024. All family and friends are invited to a celebration of life at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the First Assembly of God Church in Moody. Lunch will be served in his honor following the service in the fellowship hall.

Mike was born Nov. 13, 1936 to Cruz and Elida Avila at The Grove. His father later moved the family to the Liberty Hill community just outside of Moody where he remained all his young life working for local farms and ranches.

He later went on to marry Dominga Casarez of Coolidge. They proceeded to start a family in Moody, later moving to Gatesville where they finished raising their children.

Later in life, Mike moved back to Moody making that his final home until his time of passing.

Mike was a kind and loving man, high-spirited, and full of adventure. He had a knack for making everyone laugh with his tall tales and jokes. We are forever grateful for the time and memories that



we have shared with him.

Survivors include his sons, Cruz Avila and wife, Kim, and Frank Avila; daughters, Rachel Bridges, Simona Smith, and Lucy Avila. His grandchildren include Chad Chisolm, Jimmy Cruz Rodriguez, Chasity Avila, Matthew Rodriguez, Randy Miller Brock, Terra Brock, Evan Bridges, Brittany Lewis, Belle King, and Coco Camille Bryant, along with numerous great-grandchildren.

He will be greatly missed.

"I sought the Lord and He heard me and delivered me from all my fears." Psalms 34:4

Lydia Yvonne Sims

Aug. 26, 1936 - Oct. 20, 2024

Lydia Yvonne Sims, of Gatesville, passed away Sunday, Oct. 20, 2024, at the age of 88. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 23, in the chapel of Scott's Funeral Home with Seth Flowers officiating. Interment followed in Restland Cemetery.

Yvonne was born Aug. 26, 1936, in Coryell County, the daughter of the late Joseph Alexander and Rhoda Emma (Pruitt) Tubbs. In 1953, she graduated from Gatesville High School. On Nov. 28, 1953, she married Milford Watt Sims in Gatesville. After 62 years of marriage, he preceded her in death, April 29, 2016. After their marriage they moved to Fort Stockton where they lived for forty-four years. After they retired, they returned home to Gatesville in 2004.

Much of her life was spent as a bookkeeper for several doctors in Fort Stockton. She was an excellent seamstress who enjoyed creating things for those she loved. She was also an avid gardener. Yvonne and Milford spent their time together playing golf and traveling. She was a loving and devoted



Mema to her three grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by five brothers and four sisters.

Survivors include a daughter, Susan Thomas and husband, Richard; three grandchildren, Shaylyn Burnham and husband, Jesse, Shelby Flowers and husband, Seth, and James George and wife, Sunny; eight great grandchildren, Sydney Burnham, Karter Burnham, Bayley Burnham, Tyler George, Taylor Flowers, Channing George, Vance Burnham, and Porter George.

For those desiring, the family has suggested Heart of Texas Hospice, for memorial contributions. Heart of Texas Hospice, 1604 S W S Young Drive, First Floor, Killeen, TX 76543.

Hemmeline Cemetery meeting set for Nov. 3

Submitted Item

The Hemmeline Cemetery Association will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, Nov. 3, at 2 p.m.

The meeting will be held at Bethel Heights Baptist Church, located on CR 127 down the road from the Hemmeline cemetery.

All interested people are encouraged to attend.

There were no scheduled workdays this year. A few volunteers have done what was needed to be done. The cemetery looks great.

Memorials or donations for upkeep of cemetery may be mailed to the Hemmeline Cemetery Association, in care of Sheila Necessary, 1050 FM 1783, Gatesville, TX 76528.

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

Obituaries can be submitted to *The Gatesville Messenger* online at www.gatesvillemessenger.com/obituaries. Advance payment is required.

Obituaries should come from the funeral home. Obituaries placed by next of kin must be verified with a death certificate or by the facility handling the body. You must provide the contact information for verification when submitting the obituary. Deadline for obituaries is 10 a.m. Tuesday for the Saturday paper. Deadlines are subject to change during holidays.

MOUND NEWS

Lots of birthdays!



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

James and Polly West, Christopher and Jennifer Eberlein and children attended Kate Moffatt's wedding in Washington, DC.

Kate married Micah Shelton at McLean Presbyterian Church last weekend at 4:30 p.m. on Oct. 14.

Jakson Tippit spent Saturday in Brownwood attending the Howard Payne Homecoming Preview. Jakson was hosted by the football program with lunch and attended the homecoming game.

David and Pam Hopson took their grandchildren, Noah and Benjamin Hopson, and Allie McPherson to the Fall Festival at Hay Valley Baptist Church on Sunday evening.

Sondra Rumpy, of Dallas, spent three days in Mound visiting with Martha Lawhorn and family. While here, Sondra and Martha

went shopping one day during the week.

Those who have birthdays this month are Elizabeth McCorkle, Torrey Boyd, Carol Jones, Amie Gown, Dylan Cobb, Olivia Long, Chrissy Franks, Kathryn Warren, Amanda Long, Allie McPherson, Chelsea Ayres, Daniel Wood, Sherry Hopson, Desiree Dixon, Richard Mitchell, Bailey Barnard, Grace Tennison, Lizzi Howell, Kathi Taylor, Macy Winters, Natasha Dahl, Brooke Dixon, Raymie Moore, Frank Hopson, Nathaniel Eberlein, Chase McGhee, Henry Brim, and Phillip Winters.

Happy Halloween to everyone!



The Gatesville Messenger declared as official city newspaper at meeting

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

During a regular city council meeting of the City of Gatesville on Tuesday, Oct. 22, it was declared to appoint The Gatesville Messenger as the official newspaper of Gatesville.

With the beginning of each fiscal year, the city council must designate a public newspaper to be the selected newspaper of the city.

The resolution states, "The City Council of the City of Gatesville hereby

designates The Gatesville Messenger, a public newspaper in and of the City of Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas, as the official newspaper of said city."

The City of Gatesville will continue using The Gatesville Messenger as a place to publish notices, ordinances, and other matters required by law.

This will be effective for the fiscal year of 2025 and will be re-evaluated at the end of next year.



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Diamond Duo performs at Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Diamond Duo, comprised of talented musicians Debbie White and Randy Ingram, recently took the stage at Gatesville's City Auditorium in a free concert sponsored by The Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame. Diamond Duo teamed up in 1993 to become a very successful and popular duo. It has been a blending of talents and entertainment that has been quite successful for them and has pleased their fans, followers, and audiences at each and every performance. Not only do they produce great harmony, but they also have a lively and energetic show. Diamond Duo currently holds the title of "Duo of the Year" not only by Coast-to-Coast Magazine, but

also by the Lone Star Music Association. They both hold independent awards such as "Vocalist of the Year," "Track show artist," and "Entertainer of the Year" dating back to 1996. Randy Ingram used to be in a rock and roll band in his younger years but now has a passion for country music. Born in McKinney, Randy now lives in Weatherford with his wife where he is now retired from Fire and Rescue. Debbie White was nominated five times as a Grammy contender over the years and has now received her first Josie Award nomination in 2024, has gone on to make many independent appearances in Branson, Mo, and sings often at the Music City Hayride in Nash-

ville. Debbie has appeared at many venues in the DFW areas for the last 20 years. Debbie has released two albums previously and has just written and released her first Gospel song called "Walkin' Tall with Jesus," which is currently being played on local radio stations and overseas. Debbie loves to sing gospel music, but her passion is country music. Born in Hope, AR, Debbie now lives in Ft. Worth where she continues to pursue her music career...simply for the love of it. She held the position of President for the State Lone Star Music Association, a music organization that held weekly events at Billy Bob's Texas in the Ft. Worth Stockyards to promote local talent.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Debbie White and Randy Ingram perform at the Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame stage show.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of Oct. 16 - 22. 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

Oct. 16
6:23 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of S. Lovers Lane.
8:44 a.m., an assault was reported in the 3100 block of S. State Highway 36.
9:50 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1600 block of E. Main Street.
12:35 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2000 block of St. Louis Street.
Oct. 17
1:09 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2300 block of E. Main Street.
1:24 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3400 block of Churchill Drive.
7:50 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1600 block of W. Main Street.
7:53 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 200 block of N. 8th Street.
Oct. 18
2:04 a.m., suspicious

activity was reported in the 1500 block of St Louis Street.
6:42 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of FM 116.
11:01 a.m., traumatic injuries were reported in the 2500 block of E. Main Street.
1:59 p.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Baird Street.
Oct. 19
11:28 a.m., an animal/livestock complaint was reported in the 2000 block of E. Leon Street.
5:23 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of S. 7th Street.
6:08 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of N. 19th Street.
8:10 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 600 block of Live Oak Street.
Oct. 20
1:41 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of Shady Lane.
8:33 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 100 block of Liberty Street.
9:28 a.m., criminal mis-

chief was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.
6:26 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 400 block of Park Street.
Oct. 21
11:57 a.m., harassment was reported in the 600 block of N. Lover's Lane.
6:54 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.
8:16 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of N. 7th Street.
11:40 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 500 block of Bridge Street.
Oct. 22
4:27 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 3400 block of Churchill Drive.
7:37 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.
6:30 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2600 block of Mears Drive.
11:44 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 500 block of Bridge Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Oct. 16
9:53 a.m., property reported found in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.
10:45 a.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 300 block of Rolling Hills Road.
3:58 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2600 block of Arrowhead Drive.
6:05 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 2412 and Plum Creek Bridge.
Oct. 17
12:10 p.m., a recovered stolen vehicle was reported in the 7200 block of General Bruce Drive.
5:50 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 400 block of County Road 133.
6:25 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of County Road 231.
10:42 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on FM 1996.
Oct. 18
2 p.m., a theft was re-

ported in the 100 block of Baird Street.
6:18 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2700 block of S. FM 116.
8:47 p.m., missing livestock was reported in the 800 block of Chitwood Road.
9:49 p.m., a reckless driver was reported on S. Highway 36 in Flat.
Oct. 19
9:31 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 100 block of Thompson Street.
12:28 p.m., a theft was reported in the 500 block of State School Road.
7:18 p.m., a minor accident was reported in the 1200 block of West Highway 84.
Oct. 20
6:08 a.m., a major accident was reported in the 2800 block of FM 116.
8:36 a.m., a fire call was reported in the 100 block of Liberty Street.
5:17 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on County Road 274.
10:20 p.m., a vehicle fire was reported on FM 116

and FM 1783.
Oct. 21
8 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 100 block of Julia Drive.
11:29 a.m., a threat was reported in the 1100 block of Cedar Ridge Road.
11:46 a.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of County Road 354.
12:03 p.m., shots fired were reported in the 1000 block of Twin Mountain Road.
Oct. 22
9:10 a.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 2800 block of Mulberry.
1:18 p.m., harassment was reported in the 10,500 block of FM 116.
3:50 p.m., an animal complaint was reported on County Road 150.
5:58 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 200 block of FM 107.

Marriage licenses filed in Coryell County during September

Staff Reports

Marriage licenses filed during September 2024 in the Coryell County Clerk's Office included:
Michael Joseph Abram Jr. and Jaszmine Marie Olivares
Jake Tyler Aspacher and Rebekah Florence Hynson
Jimmy Wayne Bailey and Tobi Amanda Shirley
Seth Hayden Barton and Kimberlyn Ann Schaaf
Justin Dean Calvin and Alyssa Dawn Zappone
Brent Arnold Crisp and Anisa Roann Eakin
Orval Lee Eastham and Desiree Starr Slater
Kane Anthony French and Mercedes Alisa Ingram
Ramon Alejandro Garcia Balderas and Jacquelyn Renee Canales
Andraque Sevon Jones and Robin Michelle Galiano
Chase Ray Melton and Christian Helena McInis
Jose Alberto Moran and Carmen Delgado Barreto
John Thomas Palmer and Shiloh Ann Campbell
Jonathan Luke Pierce and Tulilauman Rose Faleafa
Mark Logan Eugene Pritchard and Jennifer Lee Ryan
Tyler Lane Pruitt and Kristen Elizabeth Hutson
Christopher Jacob Rodriguez and Hailey Renae Dyer

Gregory James Silva and Kaylei Ann Marmolejo
Zerrick Maurice Triplett and Meloni Lisette Soto
Israel Jose Vidal-Chacon and Tiffany Lynn Armenta-

Aguilar
Zane Taylor Washburn and Sydney Marie Armas
Kurt Jay Whitehead and Natalie Moreno Medina

Coryell County

DEVOTIONAL PAGE



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HEART

JEREMIAH 29:13

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SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM
WEDNESDAY SERVICES 6:00 PM

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Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
BETHLEHEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
Elder Hugh Montgomery,
pastor; 4555 FM 1690,
Gatesville; Worship 4th
Sunday of each month at
10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
CALVARY BAPTIST
Steven L. Bogan, pastor;
Hwy. 84 & FM 116;
Sunday Bible study 10
a.m., Sunday worship 11
a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
CANAAN BAPTIST
Jim Keever, senior pastor;
177 Coryell City Road,
Crawford; Sunday School
9:30 a.m., Sunday worship
10:30 a.m., Wednesday
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

COLD SPRINGS BAPTIST
Bob Phillips, pastor;
Sundays - Sunday School
10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. &
5:30 p.m.
EASTWOOD BAPTIST
Lynn Parks, pastor; 2518
East Main, Gatesville;
Sundays - Sunday School
9:45 a.m., worship 10:50
a.m.
FIRST BAPTIST EVANT
Dane Barron, pastor; 200
Live Oak Street, Evant;
Sundays - Sunday School
9:45 a.m., worship 11
a.m., adult Bible study 6
p.m.; Wednesday services
- kids' & youth Bible study
6 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST FLAT
9775 TX-36, Gatesville;
Sunday School 9 a.m.;
Sunday Worship 10:15
a.m.; Wednesdays -
Prayer & Bible Study 7
p.m.; Youth Group & Kid
Knights 7 p.m.; Supper first
Wednesday of each month
at 6 p.m.; Men's Breakfast
second Saturday of each
month at 7:30 a.m.
FIRST BAPTIST GATESVILLE
912 E. Main St., Gatesville;
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.,
Sunday Worship 10:45
a.m., Wednesdays -
Children & Youth 5:30-7:00
p.m. (supper provided)
FIRST BAPTIST OGLESBY
Dr. Pat Korrell, Pastor;
120 College Ave.;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 am;
Wednesdays - supper at
5:40 p.m., Kids & Youth
Group 6 p.m., Prayer
meeting 6 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST PURMELA
875 FM 932, Purmela;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
GATEWAY BAPTIST
Michael Bragdon,
Pastor; 2819 S. Hwy. 36,
Gatesville; Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday worship
11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.;
Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
HARMONY BAPTIST
A.C. Painter, pastor;
1750 FM 215, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
& 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday
evening worship 6:30 p.m.
HAY VALLEY BAPTIST
3110 Hay Valley Road;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
AWANA children's ministry
Sundays 5-7 p.m. Bible
Study for men & women on
Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
JONESBORO BAPTIST
Matt Dossey, pastor;
11420 N. State Hwy. S;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 10:50
a.m.

KING BAPTIST
Charles W. McKamie,
pastor; 6730 FM 1783,
Gatesville; Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday worship
11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
LIBERTY BAPTIST
Royce T. Cockrell, DMin.,
Pastor; Corner of FM 107
& HWY 36, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.,
Sunday Service 11 a.m. &
1 p.m., Family Bible Study
Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.
LIVE OAK BAPTIST
Pastor Matthew Hamilton;
113 FM 107, Gatesville;
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.,
Sunday worship 10:30
a.m., Wednesday eve-
nings: Choir at 5:30 p.m.,
Children & Youth Activities,
Adult Bible Study at 6:15
p.m.
MOUNTAIN BAPTIST
Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor;
6319 US-84, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,

Sunday worship 11 a.m.
& 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7
p.m. Wednesday.
OSAGE BAPTIST
Chris Thomas, pastor;
7505 FM 185, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
PEARL COUNTRY CHURCH
2082 FM 1690, Gatesville;
Sunday worship 10 a.m.
PECAN GROVE BAPTIST
6545 FM 107, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
PIDCOKE BAPTIST
Donald McConaughay,
pastor; 11125 FM 116,
Gatesville; Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday service
11 a.m.
PLEASANT VALLEY BAPTIST
Chris Post, Pastor; CR
301, Jonesboro; Sunday
school 10 a.m., Sunday
worship 11 a.m.
PRIMERO IGLESIA EMANUEL
One mile north of Evant,
Hwy. 281; Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday worship
11 a.m.

PURMELA BAPTIST
Pastor: Brenden Hough;
875 FM 932, Purmela, TX
76566; Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday Worship
11 a.m.
SWEET HOME BAPTIST
511 N. 14th, Gatesville;
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.;
Wednesday worship 7
p.m.
SPANISH BAPTIST
Ezequiel Casas, pastor;
113 Veazy Dr., Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11
a.m., Wednesday Prayer
Meeting 6 p.m.
TRINITY BAPTIST
Bro. Sam Crosby, Pastor;
1506 W. Main, Gatesville;
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.,
Sunday worship 8:15 a.m.
and 11 a.m. Wednesday -
activities for adults, youth,
& children 6:30 p.m.; 254-
865-8495 or Pre-school:
254-248-0041.

TURNERSVILLE BAPTIST
Jon Crosby, Pastor;
8120 FM 182, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.,
Wednesday night Bible
study, 6 p.m.
WESTVIEW BAPTIST
Pastor: Malachi Houser;
1102 W. Main St.,
Gatesville; Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday worship
11 a.m.
WHITE HALL BAPTIST
Mike Barron, pastor;
2040 CR 238, Gatesville;
Sunday school 10 a.m.;
Sunday worship 11 a.m.;
254-679-3200.
WHITE MOUND BAPTIST
Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday
School 10 a.m., Sunday
worship 11 a.m.; 642 CR
320; mailing address:
P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX
76558.

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

CATHOLIC OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH
Rev. Jayaraju Polishetty;
1108 W. Main, Gatesville;
Sunday Mass 9:30
a.m. (English) & 12
p.m. (Spanish Mass),
Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m.
& Wednesday-Friday at
7 a.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST CEDAR RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST
Deral McWhorter,
minister; 104 Cedar
Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday
worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
EVANT CHURCH OF CHRIST
Will Vann, Preacher; 310
W. Brooks Dr., Evant;
Sunday Bible Study 9:30
a.m., Sunday worship
10:20 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.,
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m.
FORT GATES CHURCH OF CHRIST
4605 St. Hwy. 36 S.,
Gatesville; Sunday
worship 10:30 a.m.
GATESVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Justin Hall, minister;
2417 E. Main, Gatesville;
Sunday Bible class 9:30
a.m., Sunday service
10:30 a.m.; Wednesday
Bible classes 6:30 p.m.
LA IGLESIA DE CRISTO
2413 E. Main, Gatesville;
clases y servicios en
Español, 10-11:30 a.m.,
Solamente en domingos.
MIDWAY CHURCH OF CHRIST
1955 CR 3640, Copperas
Cove; Sundays - worship
9:30 a.m. Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Wednesdays
- Bible Study 5:30 p.m.;
Royce 512-734-5390 or
Steve 254-865-3559.
PEARL CHURCH OF CHRIST
6790 FM 183; Sunday
worship 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF GOD CORNERSTONE CHURCH OF GOD
338 State School Rd.,
Gatesville; Sunday
worship 11 a.m.

LUTHERAN IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
David Reedy, International
Interim Pastor; 922
Lutheran Church Rd.,
Copperas Cove; Sunday
Bible Study 9:15 a.m.;
Sunday worship 10:30
a.m.
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
Rev. Christopher Richman,
PhD; 10801 FM 929,
Coryell City; Sunday
worship 9 a.m., Sunday
School 10:15 a.m.
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
Rev. John Heckmann,
pastor; Hwy. 36 & FM
1114, The Grove; Sunday
School 9 a.m., Sunday
worship 10:15 a.m.

METHODIST BETHEL UNITED METHODIST
2 miles north of Ireland on
FM 932; 11 a.m. 2nd & 4th
Sundays.
EVANT METHODIST
235 US-281, Evant;
Dennis Dutton, Pastor;
Sunday worship 10 a.m.
FIRST METHODIST GATESVILLE
2600 E. Main St.; Stephen
Schmidt, pastor; Sunday
worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:30
a.m., Sunday School at
9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY
WORD (during school
year): Meal at 5:30 p.m.
\$3; youth, Children &
Adult Bible Studies at 6
p.m. AA meets Monday,
Wednesday & Friday at
6:30 p.m. 254-865-2520.
GATESVILLE UNITED METHODISTS
All are welcome. Meetings
every Sunday at 5 p.m. at
the south end of Gatesville
High School near the
field house and band hall.
Watch for signs. For more
information, call 254-223-
0665.
OGLESBY UNITED METHODIST
Kent Berry, pastor; 109
College St.; Sunday
worship 9 a.m.
PIDCOKE METHODIST
Rev. Pete Harris; Hwy.
116 N., Pidcoke; Sunday
worship service 10 a.m.;
254-677-6242.

MORMON CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
206 S. 26th St., Gatesville;
Sacrament services
Sundays 10 a.m., Sunday
School 10 a.m.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN LIFE CHURCH
Frank Rosenstern, pastor;
Hwy. 84 W.; Sunday
services 10:30 a.m.;
Thursday services, 7 p.m.
CORYELL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Eric Moffett, Pastor; 115
N. Levita Rd., Gatesville,
248-0849. Sunday worship
9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday services 6
p.m.; Adult Bible Study,
Children's Ministry & C3
Student Ministry.
CORYELL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Doran Belknap III, Pastor;
Sunday service 11 a.m.,
8205 FM 182, Turnersville;
254-218-5901.
COVER2COVER MINISTRIES
Pastor: Rev. Brandy
Spiker, Sunday service
10 a.m. & 6 p.m.,

Wednesdays 6 p.m.
407 SH-36, Ste. 4 & 5,
Gatesville.
GATESVILLE REVIVAL CENTER
Wes Covey, Pastor;
Sunday school 10 a.m.,
Sunday services 11 a.m. &
6 p.m., Thursdays 7 p.m.;
2518 Bridge St.; 254-392-
9472.
GRACE ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Wray Nunn, pastor;
Sunday worship 10:30
a.m., Wednesday worship
6:30 p.m.; Gateway
Learning Center, 2315
Osage Rd., Gatesville.
HARVESTING SOULS INTERNATIONAL CHURCH
Mike & Martha Johnson
pastors, 503 N. 11th St.,
Gatesville; 865-6222.
Sunday worship 11
a.m. Wednesday Bible
Study Ministries (Men,
Women, children) 6 p.m.
"Overcomers" a TDC &
state approved 12-step
recovery program meets
Tuesday 6 p.m.
JOHNNY WATKIN'S MEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
Sundays, 8:30-9 a.m. aqui
se reune La Iglesia de
Cristo, in the 2400 Block of
E. Main St., Gatesville.

LEVITA BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
Pat Cole, Pastor; 4460 FM
930, Levita; Sunday Bible
Study 9:45 a.m.; Sunday
worship 10:45 a.m.;
Tuesday OWLS Kid Group
6-8 p.m.
MOTHER NEFF FAITH TABERNACLE
William Bertelsen,
Pastor; 1415 Texas Hwy.
236; Sunday worship
10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.;
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m.
PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sun-
day Services 9 a.m.
THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT
Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412
E. Main St., Gatesville;
Sunday service 11 a.m.,
Wednesday service 7 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE OF PRAISE
Rev. Jimmy Skiles,
pastor; 202 E. Main,
Gatesville; Sundays 10
a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.;
254-206-1826.
MOUNT CALVARY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor;
514 N. 13th St., Gatesville;
Sunday School 9:45
a.m., Sunday worship 11
a.m., Wednesdays Bible
Study 6:30-7:30 p.m.,
Wednesday service, 7:30
p.m.

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

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

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

WESLEYAN CORYELL VALLEY CHURCH
Worship Saturdays 5 p.m.,
Bible fellowship Sundays
10 a.m.; 4995 FM 929

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Immunizations • Health screenings
Medication Compounding**

Gatesville Drug Co.

Delivery Available
Drive Thru
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2513 S. State TX 36

First Baptist Church
— GATESVILLE, TEXAS —

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.

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www.fbcgatesville.com

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Gatesville, Texas 76528
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Professional expertise for all pest control
needs in Central Texas!

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SEPTIC SYSTEMS

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DRIVES • BACKHOE & MAINTAINER

OWNER: GARY GRIBBLE
254-865-1236 254-248-4171

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Call 254-865-5212

The Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, DMin., Pastor

1110 E. Main Street
Gatesville, TX
254-865-5328
WWW.TPCGATESVILLE.ORG

ECO
A Covenant Order of
Evangelical Presbyterians

1110 E. Main Street
Gatesville, TX
254-865-5328
WWW.TPCGATESVILLE.ORG

Welcome to our Church

First Methodist Church

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
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 classifieds@gatesvillemessenger.com
 116 S. 6th Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528

DEADLINE

Saturday Issue: 10 A.M. Tuesday

All Classified Ads Must Be Paid In Advance

Ads will not run until payment is received, unless credit has been established.
 All forms of Debit and Credit Cards are accepted.

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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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015 Farm & Ranch

Backhoe, Dozer, Maintainer, Dump Truck: brush clearing, roads, driveways, waterlines, pits, demolition, fence row clearing, culverts. Small jobs ok. Ben Roberts, 254-248-4707 or 254-865-5754. 00031067

037 Help Wanted

Johnson Roofing is currently hiring Experienced Commercial Roofers, Experienced Metal Framers Immediately. \$500 Hiring Bonus after 1st week of employment! Top Pay and Benefits! The company is also hiring for a Senior Commercial Roofer Estimator. Email resumé HR@JRoof.com 00031063



JOHNSON ROOFING
 PURSUING EXCELLENCE SINCE 1941

- Exp'd Roofing Foreman/ Superintendent
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- Call (254) 662-5571
- Apply @ JRoof.com

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- RN – FT & PRN: all shifts for Charge Nurse and Nursing
- LVN – FT & PRN: all shifts for Charge Nurse and Nursing
- Physical Therapist Assistant – FT & PRN
- Transportation Assistant – PRN
- COTA – FT
- CNA/NA – FT All Shifts
- CMA – FT Day Shift


****Full time sign on bonus may be available with one year commitment for specific area's lvns, cmas, cnas**

BENEFITS OFFERED:
 Competitive compensation • Paid Vacation • Sick time accrual • Matching 457B investments
 Tuition Reimbursement • Health, Dental, Life and Supplemental Insurances. EOE.

APPLY IN PERSON OR DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FROM WEBSITE:
 110 Chicktown Rd. off: (254) 404-2500
 Gatesville, TX 76528 fax: (254) 248-6288
 humanresources@coryellhealth.org

Job summaries at
www.CoryellHealth.org

NOW HIRING



MED/ SURG:

• RN or LVN – Day & Night shifts available

ASSISTED/INDEPENDENT LIVING:

- CNA – FT & PRN
- MEDICAL CLINIC:**
- LVN
- CMA
- MEDICAL CLINIC MILLS CO.:**
- LVN FT
- CCMA FT
- MEDICAL CLINIC MCGREGOR:**
- Registration Clerk FT
- LVN FT
- MEDICAL CLINIC COPPERAS COVE:**
- LVN FT
- CCMA FT
- MEDICAL CLINIC WACO:**
- CCMA FT
- LVN FT
- CULINARY:**
- Patient Dining Associate
- DIALYSIS:**
- Charge Nurse RN
- EMS:**
- Paramedic – FT & PRN

• EMT – PRN
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT:

- RN – FT & PRN, all shifts
- HOME HEALTH:**
- RN – FT
- Primary Care Attendant
- ICU:**
- RN – PRN, all shifts
- LAB:**
- Point of Care Assistant – FT
- MLT Part Time or PRN
- MAINTENANCE:**
- Landscaper – FT or PT
- RADIOLOGY:**
- CT/X-Ray Tech – PRN; TDH MRT & ARRT W/1 yr. exp. in CT/X-Ray
- SURGERY:**
- Nurse Liaison/Surgery Scheduler
- Certified Scrub Tech FT
- General Surgery Circulating RN
- Certified Central Sterilization Technician PRN

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

BENEFITS OFFERED:

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

APPLY IN PERSON OR DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FROM WEBSITE:
 1507 W. Main St. off: (254) 248-6386
 Gatesville, TX 76528 fax: (254) 248-6288
 humanresources@coryellhealth.org

Job summaries at
www.CoryellHealth.org

045 Services

NOLTE'S CONSTRUCTION



Roads • Tanks • Driveways, Septic Systems • Land Clearing Building Pads • Trenching

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CELL 254-216-2938

CORNERSTONE EXCAVATION, LLC: Building Pads, Driveways, Land Clearing, Pond Construction/Repairs, Dirt/Gravel Hauling. FREE ESTIMATES! Micah Parrish, owner: 254-258-3943/mp82.010@gmail.com. "Behold, I am laying Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." 1 Peter 2:6 00031037

TREE WORKS Tree Service: tree trimming, removal & stump grinding. Free estimates. Call Lloyd, (254)223-3287. 00031066

045 Services

FERGUSON ROOFING
 Locally owned company serving all Central Texas area. Commercial and Residential. Free Estimates! 254-466-5128 00031064

R&M FENCING & DOZING: barbed wire, custom pipe, entryways, corrals, barns, fence row clearing, metal buildings, residential & game fencing, solar gate openers, dozer work. Free estimates. Larry Riddle, 254-248-2205; Joyce McAdams, 254-248-4318. 00031068

Dry Creek Trash Service
 Weekly Pickup and Roll-off container rentals
 Ofc. (254) 463-4988
 Cell (254) 206-1512
drycreektrashservice.com
 00031065

Jason Paul Constuction: Painting, Decks, Roofs, Texture, Flooring, Windows, Sheetrock, Porches, Add Ons, Metal Buildings, Trash Haul Off and Dump Trailer Rental. 254-383-3305 00031071



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 Tile, sheetrock, painting, decks, fences, flooring, windows, siding, roofing, texturing. Cecil Woodson, 254-216-3835. 00031069

060 Garage Sale

25 CENT SALE! Tues., 10/29 - Sat., 11/02! The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. 00031058

Lampasas Courtyard Square Garage Sale
 Sat. November 2, 2024 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Downtown Lampasas - Booths \$35
 Call 512-556-5434
 00031083

Estate Sale of Creston & Pat Brazzil: 703 North Lovers Lane. Friday, 10/25, 4:30-6:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10/26, 9 a.m.-2p.m.; Sunday, 10/27, 1-3 p.m. 00031111

Yard Sale! Saturday, 10/26 - 102 Buddy Drive Gatesville, TX, @7:30 a.m. 00031112

060 Garage Sale

GRAVES FLORIST
 COMPLETE LIQUIDATION SALE

OCT. 31-NOV. 2
9AM-4PM
719 E. MAIN ST.

All inventory, displays and floral supplies including shelving, Teleflora vases, ribbon, balloons, stuffed animals, wreaths, ornaments, home decor, candles, jewelry, mums, mum supplies, wedding supplies and decor, and so much more.

BY HARBARGAIN ESTATE SALES

072 Houses for Sale

Home for Sale: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, new electrical, roof&exterior paint. Plumbing&floors refinished or new within last 10 years. 203 N. 10th St. \$129,000. 254-248-7390 00031102

074 Houses for Rent

3BR/2BA, 2 car garage, recently updated, large fenced backyard, \$1750/mo., \$1750 deposit. No pets. 1 year lease. Rental references, background and credit checks required. 254-248-5760 00031110

099 Public Notices

JENNIFER NEWTON
 CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW
 P.O. BOX 237
 GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528

ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE
 ALLEN D. PLACE, JR.
 109 S. 7TH ST.
 GATESVILLE, TX 76528

TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS
 UNKNOWN ADDRESS
 UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF CORYELL

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF LINDA TUCKER BELL, DECEASED. CAUSE NO. 24-11004, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2024, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID LINDA TUCKER BELL, DECEASED.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 28TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2024, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.

060 Garage Sale

ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE-MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2024.

JENNIFER NEWTON
 CORYELL COUNTY CLERK
 CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: K. TALLEY
 00031108

099 Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS:
US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LB-RANCH SERIES V TRUST
 -VS-
JOHN D. HOLMES, DECEASED; ELRA HOLMES, DECEASED; ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS AND ALL UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS

Cause No.: DC-24-56073
 IN THE
52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JOHN D. HOLMES
 9740 FM 929
 GATESVILLE, TX 76528

Defendant- GREETING

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock AM on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Coryell County, at the Courthouse in said County in Gatesville, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 08/08/2024 in the above-entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: APPLICATION SEEKING COURT ORDER UNDER RULE 736 ALLOWING THE FORECLOSURE OF A LIEN UNDER TEX. CONST. ART. XVI SECTION 50(A)(6). as in more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gatesville, Texas, this 9th day of October 2024.

Attorney for Plaintiff or Petitioner
 RICHARD E. ANDERSON
 4920 WESTPORT DRIVE
 THE COLONY TX 75056

Clerk of the Court:
 Becky Moore, District Clerk
 P.O. Box 4
 Gatesville, Texas 76528
 Coryell County, Texas
 By: Kiesha Gajdica, Deputy 00031101

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS:
US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR LB-RANCH SERIES V TRUST
 -VS-
JOHN D HOLMES, DECEASED; ELRA HOLMES, DECEASED; ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS AND ALL UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS

Cause No: DC-24-56073
 IN THE
52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ELRA HOLMES
 9740 FM 929
 GATESVILLE, TX 76528

Defendant - GREETING
 NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org."

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Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gatesville, Texas, this 9th day of October 2024.

Attorney for Plaintiff or Petitioner, RICHARD E. ANDERSON,
 4920 WESTPORT DRIVE
 THE COLONY TX 75056

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

By: Kiesha Gajdica, Deputy
 00031100

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099
Public Notices

JENNIFER NEWTON
CLERK OF THE COUNTY
COURT AT LAW
P.O. BOX 237
GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528

ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE
MARY WILEY
100 W. CENTRAL TX EXPWY,
STE 302
HARKER HEIGHTS, TX 76548

TO: OTHER LIVING RELATIVES
UNKNOWN ADDRESS
UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE GUARDIANSHIP OF LETTEBRAHAN SMITH. CAUSE NO. 24-419, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS.

RODNEY E. SMITH FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 15TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2024, APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF PERMANENT GUARDIAN OF THE PERSON AND CONFIRMATION OF ADMINISTRATOR OF THE COMMUNITY ESTATE.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 28TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2024, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS. ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID GUARDIANSHIP ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE-MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2024.

JENNIFER NEWTON
CORYELL COUNTY CLERK
CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: K. TALLEY

00031106

099
Public Notices

The Coryell Central Appraisal District (Coryell CAD) is accepting proposals for group health benefits for the employees of the Coryell CAD. Sealed proposals will be opened and read aloud at 9:05 a.m. Monday November 11th, 2024 at the Coryell CAD office located at 705 East Main Street, Gatesville, TX 76528. Contact Mitch Fast, Chief Appraiser, at (254) 865-6593 for further information.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Ideal Self Storage-Gatesville, located at 425 SH-36 Bypass N, Gatesville TX 76528, is having an online auction. The property is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will be held at storageauctions.com beginning Friday, November 15, 2024 at 11 A.M. Seller reserves the right to withdraw any property from the sale upon payment in full. Bidding sale will end on Friday, November 22, 2024 at 11 A.M. units to be sold: JoAnna Takacs, Meghan Ranaghan, Chris Bowers, Ray Ward, Janet Prueitt, Daniel Prado. Inventory: Household goods, clothing, tools, misc.

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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Real Estate



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- 3 Br, 2 Ba Austin Stone Home, 378 Tom Sawyer St., Evant, renovated bathroom, large living room, all electric appliances in Kitchen, small storage shed, attached garage. \$188,000
- 5.078 ac., 369 PR 305 Lane, Gatesville, TX, Lot No. 4 Greenbriar Ranch Estates, North Greenbriar Creek, scattered tree cover, rolling terrain. \$120,000
- 10.01 ac., Lot 20 Ph 4 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX, good tree cover, great views, electric & fiber optic internet service, gated subdivision. \$109,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 140 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, oaks, mesquites, & cedar. electricity & Fiber Optic Internet. \$123,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 3 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, stock tank, seasonal creek. \$130,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 12 Ph 4, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX, stock tank, road on three sides, good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision. \$142,500
- 10.01 ac, Lot 41 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. Good Tree cover, Rolling Terrain, Fiber Optic Internet. \$149,500
- 10.01 ac. Lot 49 Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Evant, TX, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, stock tank, water well w/solar pump. \$175,000
- 14.75 ac 2 Br, 2 Ba home, 3483 CR 138, Evant, TX, hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances, covered back porch, attached carport, RV carport, storage building, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, stock tank, water well. \$ 425,000
- 16.64 ac. Lot N 31 PR 2902, Hamilton TX, good tree cover, rolling terrain, fully fenced, electricity at the road. \$140,000
- 16.5 ac. Lot 42 Ph 4 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Good elevation, great views, good tree cover, Dry Branch, Electric & Fiber Optic Internet. \$189,000
- 20.02 ac. Lot 25 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX, Dry Branch, good tree cover, rolling terrain. Electric & Fiber Optic Internet. Owner Financing Available. \$218,500
- 20.02 ac. Lot 38 Ph 2 Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX, good tree coverage, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, private roads. \$260,000
- 30.528 ac. East of Evant, great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, electricity across the road, you will need to drill a water well. \$305,280.
- 41.0457 ac. Hamilton, CR 404, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, approx. 25 acres farmland, 2 tanks, & good fences. \$399,000
- 58.51 ac. 3/2 frame home, 6630 FM 183 Evant, TX, water well, several outbuildings, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, 2 tanks. \$459,303
- 70 ac. Ireland, TX, FM 932 and CR 186, Mustang Creek, good tree cover, rolling terrain. Electric & water meter from Multi-County Water. \$875,000
- 71.572 ac. Flat, TX, CR 931. Rolling terrain & scattered tree cover, several outbuildings, rural water & electric, fenced, easements in place to preserve the agricultural & recreational resources of the land. \$590,469
- 89.89 Ac. 3 Br, 2 Ba home, 1723 FM 591 Dublin, TX, Comanche County, open floor plan, laminate wood floors, covered front & back porches, 2-car attached carport, 1 well, 2 stock tanks, metal building, 40 ft storage container, good tree cover, rolling terrain, 20 to 25 ac. of farmland. 22 KW Generac Home Generator. \$1,100,000
- 147.567 ac. CR 136, West of Gatesville, three pastures, one stock tank, good fencing, Electricity across the road, 1 water well with solar pump. \$1,032,969
- 197.07 ac. 4 BR, 2 Ba, 2021 Manufactured Home fully furnished. 1805 CR 180 Purnela, TX, Coryell County, 2 stock tanks, storage container, storage building, 1 water well, rolling terrain, good tree cover, paved road frontage. \$1,300,000 Ad2



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102
Real Estate

USDA CORYELL NEWS

FSA Encourages Farmers and Ranchers to Vote in County Committee Elections

Submitted item

The 2024 Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections will begin on Nov. 4, 2024, when ballots are mailed to eligible voters. The deadline to return ballots to local FSA offices, or to be postmarked, is Dec. 2, 2024.

County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs; conservation programs; incentive indemnity and disaster programs for some commodities; emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws.

TO BE AN ELIGIBLE VOTER, FARMERS AND RANCHERS MUST:

- Be of legal voting age or, if not of legal voting age, supervise and conduct the farming operation of an entire farm.
- Have an interest in a farm or ranch as either:
 - o An individual who meets one or more of the following:
 - Is eligible and capable to vote in one's own right
 - Is a partner of a general partnership
 - Is a member of a joint venture
 - Is an authorized representative of a legal entity
 - o Participate or cooperate in any FSA program that is provided by law. A cooperating producer is someone who has provided information about their farming or ranching operation(s) but may not have applied or received FSA program benefits.

Eligible voters in Local Administrative Area 3, which includes but is not limited to the areas of Fort Gates, Mound, Flat, Oglesby, Leon Junction, and Coryell City, who do not receive a ballot can obtain one from their local FSA county office. Customers can identify which LAA they or their farming operation is in by using our GIS locator tool available at fsa.usda.gov/elections.

Newly elected committee members will take office Jan. 1, 2025. The candidate in this year's election is: Kevin Huffman is nominated in LAA #3, Coryell County, to serve as a committee member for a 3-year term. Huffman resides in McGregor and has produced corn, wheat, cotton, hay, and cattle since 1991. He is an active member of McGregor Vo-Ag Booster Club and serves as President. He also served McLennan County Farm Bureau in a variety of roles from 1995-2023. He is currently the chairperson of the Coryell County FSA Committee.

More information on

county committees can be found at fsa.usda.gov/elections or at a local USDA Service Center.

Maps for Acreage Reporting Are Available

Maps are now available at the Coryell County FSA Office for acreage reporting purposes.

Please see the following acreage reporting deadlines for Coryell County:

- Dec. 15, 2024: Native & Improved Grass for NAP Participants
- Small Grains for NAP are due at least 15 days prior to grazing.
- Jan. 15, 2025: Small Grains (Wheat, Oats, Triticale, Barley) for grazing, grain, or forage

In order to maintain program eligibility and benefits, you must file timely acreage reports. Failure to file an acreage report by the crop acreage reporting deadline may cause ineligibility for future program benefits. FSA will not accept acreage reports provided more than a year after the acreage reporting deadline.

Producers are encouraged to file their acreage reports as soon as planting is completed. Call 254-865-7012 ext. 2 to set up an appointment to certify.

Beginners Guide to Crop Insurance

Don't know much about Federal crop insurance, but you want to learn more?

Crop insurance is a risk management strategy that farmers use to protect their livelihoods. By purchasing a policy through a crop insurance agent, farmers are financially protected if there are losses due to a covered cause of loss. It's not so different from car or homeowners' insurance.

Start your journey out right by reading RMA's Beginners Guide to Crop Insurance.

Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation Compliance

Landowners and operators are reminded that in order to receive payments from USDA, compliance with Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions are required. Farmers with HEL determined soils are reminded of tillage, crop residue, and rotation requirements as specified per their conservation plan.

Producers are to notify the USDA Farm Service Agency prior to breaking sod, clearing land (tree removal), and of any drainage projects (tiling, ditching, etc.) to ensure compliance.

Failure to update certification of compliance, with form AD-1026, triggering applicable HEL and/or wetland determinations, for any of these situations, can result in the loss of FSA farm program payments, FSA farm loans, NRCS program payments, and premium subsidy to Federal Crop Insurance administered by RMA.

CORYELL USDA NEWS

NRCS Texas announces 2025 sign-up Date for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Submitted item

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas announced fiscal year (FY) 2025 financial assistance opportunities for agricultural producers and landowners through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). While NRCS accepts conservation program applications year-round, producers and landowners should apply by Nov. 8, 2024, to be considered for FY 2025 funding.

Additionally, NRCS Texas will use the ACT NOW process for some EQIP funding pools. Through ACT NOW, NRCS can immediately approve and obligate a ranked application when an eligible application meets or exceeds a determined minimum ranking score.

EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers and forest landowners to address natural resource concerns. NRCS works one-on-one with producers to develop a conservation plan that outlines conservation practices and activities to help solve on-farm

resource issues. Producers implement practices and activities in their conservation plan that can lead to cleaner water and air, healthier soil, and better wildlife habitat, all while improving their agricultural operations.

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)-EQIP will offer core conservation practices that directly improve soil carbon, reduce nitrogen losses, or that reduce, capture, avoid, or sequester carbon dioxide, methane, or nitrous oxide emissions, associated with agricultural production.

EQIP-Conservation Incentive Contracts (CIC) expands resource benefits for Texas producers through incentive conservation practices such as wildlife management, cover crops, nutrient management, conservation crop rotations, and prescribed grazing. Additionally, EQIP-CIC allows producers to target priority resource concerns on their property by offering incentive payments for a five-year contract without needing to enroll the entire operation into the program. EQIP-CIC is designed to be a stepping-stone between EQIP and the Conservation Stewardship Program

(CSP) to help producers improve their level of conservation and earn benefits of longer-term conservation enhancements.

Landowners can also choose to apply for financial assistance to get help installing the conservation practices outlined in their voluntary conservation plan through any one of the programs mentioned above. Through Farm Bill programs, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to help producers and landowners make conservation improvements on their land that benefit natural resources, build resiliency, and contribute to the nation's broader effort to combat the impacts of climate change.

Applying for Assistance

Interested producers should submit applications to their local NRCS office by Nov. 8, 2024, to be considered for the 2025 ranking funding period. Visit the NRCS Texas Website for more details about EQIP or other technical and financial assistance available through NRCS conservation programs or contact your local USDA Service Center.

Historically Underserved Producer Benefits

Special provisions are also available for historically underserved producers. For EQIP, historically underserved producers are eligible for advance payments to help offset costs related to purchasing materials or contracting services up front. In addition, historically underserved producers can receive higher EQIP payment rates (up to 90% of average cost). NRCS sets aside EQIP, CSP, and ACEP funds for historically underserved producers.

Conservation Practices and Climate

NRCS conservation programs play a critical role in USDA's commitment to partnering with farmers, ranchers, forest landowners, and local communities to deliver climate solutions that strengthen agricultural operations and rural America. States may prioritize a variety of voluntary conservation practices through these NRCS programs, including those that support climate-smart agriculture and forestry (CSAF).



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October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Millions of people across the nation find themselves in a domestic violence situation. In October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month serves as a reminder to encourage survivors and raise awareness through education and resources that can help end the cycle of abuse.

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner through physical violence, threats, or emotional or financial abuse, according to the National Domestic Violence Hotline. Both the victim and perpetrator can be of any race, age, gender, sexuality, religion, education level, or economic status.

"The main thing for us and this campaign is to let victims know that they are not alone," said Brandy Rhoades, the Victims Assistance Coordinator for the Coryell County District

Attorney's Office. "Yes, it's going to be hard, but it's not impossible."

Statistics on RESPOND Inc. show that about 41% of women (four out of 10) and 26% of men (three out of 10) experience a form of sexual or physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner during their lifetime. One in three teens will also experience dating abuse before high school graduation.

Leaving is the most dangerous time in an abusive relationship, according to RESPOND. It takes an average of seven attempts for a survivor to leave an abuser and remain permanently separated.

"The biggest thing, seeing it on this side, is that they go back because the abuser has isolated them," Rhoades said. "(They) have taken all of their forms of identification, have isolated them to where they don't work or go out into the community."

While domestic violence

looks different in every relationship, the main feature is the perpetrator's attempt to establish power and control through different methods, according to the National Domestic Violence Hotline.

Common signs of abusive behavior include:

- Showing extreme jealousy
- Discouraging or preventing time spent with others
- Insulting, demeaning, or shaming the victim
- Preventing the victim from making their own decisions, including about work or school
- Controlling finances
- Pressure to perform sexual acts the victim is uncomfortable with
- Pressure to use drugs or alcohol
- Intimidating you through threatening looks or actions
- Insults or threats to harm or take away children



ADOBE STOCK

Four out of 10 women and three out of 10 men experience domestic violence during their lifetime.

or pets

- Intimidation using weapons like guns, knives, bats, or mace
- Destroying the victim's belongings or home

"They have lost all of their sense of hope, because the offender is taking it," Rhoades said.

While there are limited shelters in Coryell County for those who become displaced by an abusive situation, Rhoades said there are other area resources available for those seeking help. Local nonprofits such as Righteous Roots and Hidden Gem Family Center in Gatesville and Aware Central Texas in Bell County provide a variety of services and protection for those experiencing domestic violence or assault. If

a domestic violence case is referred to the district attorney's office, survivors can also receive relocation, financial, and childcare support.

Rhoades said the biggest way to help a friend or family member who is experiencing domestic violence is to become familiar with the resources available within the community, such as local nonprofit agencies.

"Reach out to those agencies and ask questions," Rhoades said. "What are the signs to look for? How can you help a family member? Educate yourself - education is key."

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, help is available through the following resources:

- Contact the Texas Advocacy Project by calling 800-374-HOPE (4673) or visit the texasadvocacyproject.org

- Call the National Domestic Violence hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or visit thehotline.org

- Aware Central Texas: Call the hotline at 254-813-0968 or visit awarecentraltexas.org

- Hidden Gem Family Center: Call 254-216-1813 or visit hiddengemfamilycenter.org

- Righteous Roots: Contact the crisis call line at 254-651-3600 or visit righteousroots.org

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IN THE HALLOWEEN SPIRIT



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Some people decorate their yards for Halloween, however it appears that it's becoming a trend to decorate vehicles as well. The spare tire on the back of this vehicle is topped with a spooky skeleton and a spider nested in its web – a very unique way to celebrate Halloween and to share it with other drivers.

Boozaar to be held Oct. 26

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Gatesville's 24th annual Boozaar will be held on Saturday, Oct. 26, from 6-8 p.m. at the Coryell County Courthouse Square.

The Boozaar is the community's annual Halloween festival on the square. For more than 20 years, the event has provided Gatesville with a safe and free, family-friendly Halloween experience.

There is no admission charge, and most treats and attractions are free. There will be vendors selling food and drinks if you choose to take advantage of some of the items that are available.

Treat stops are businesses located on the square or the Boozaar route that encompass several blocks around the downtown area. They hand out treats to kids as they make their

way around the route.

Treat stations will also be provided, which are businesses and organizations who are not located downtown but set up booths around the square to provide free candy, games, and activities for families. There is no charge to set up a treat station.

For more information, contact the Gatesville Public Library at 254-865-5367.

B&G Club haunted house Oct. 26

Staff Reports

The Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville hosted its annual haunted house event throughout the month of October to celebrate

Halloween. The last day the haunted house will be in operation will be on Saturday, Oct. 26, from 8-10 p.m.

It will cost \$5 per person to enter the haunted house,

and it is recommended for those ages six to 16 years old, although everyone is welcome.

The Boys & Girls Club is located at 2533 E. Main St.

Evant ISD Harvest Festival Nov. 2

Staff Reports

Evant Independent School District will host its annual harvest festival Saturday, Nov. 2, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

From 5:30-7:15 p.m., there will be games located in Evant High School's

new gymnasium as well as barbeque plates served as the meal.

From 5:30-7 p.m., voting will take place for the harvest festival duke and duchess as well as the king and queen. The winners will be announced at 7:30 p.m. in the old gymnasium

during a coronation.

There will also be a haunted house for the community, which will be from 8-10 p.m.

Evant ISD is located at 339 Memory Lane in Evant.

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

HARVEST FESTIVAL FUN



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pumpkin ring toss was a fan favorite at First Methodist Church's Harvest Festival.

First METHODIST CHURCH
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would like to thank everyone who helped make our annual Harvest Festival such a success!



Special thanks to the following for your generous donation to our Harvest Festival and Silent Auction.

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Gatesville Country Club
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Hitt Photography
Hunt's Fencing
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Junction on Route 36
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Hidden Gem Harvest Festival Oct. 26

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Hidden Gem Family Center will host its annual Harvest Festival Saturday, Oct. 26.

The festival will be held at the Gatesville Civic Center, located at 301 Veteran's Memorial Loop, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission will be free, and there will be tickets for activities available to purchase.

Activities will include a pet palooza/costume contest, adult bingo, a scavenger hunt, a bounce house, a nerf war, axe throwing, a talent show, concessions, a baked goods contest, and various vendor booths.

The pet palooza/costume contest will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will include an entrance fee of \$10. The categories will be Best Dressed, Most Talented, and Cutest Breed.

There will also be an adult bingo game for the community, which will begin at 10 a.m. There will be prizes for each winner.

Gatesville Has Talent will take place at 1 p.m. and is open to all ages. Contestants will be divided into age groups, which will be Kids, 0-12 years old; Teens, 13 to 19 years old; Adults, 20 and up.

There will be a \$25 entry fee for each act, and all

entries must be either individual or group acts. All entries should be family appropriate as well as the costume and clothing used in the act. Acts will be no longer than four minutes, and each individual/group will receive a wireless microphone, which can be handheld or on a stand.

Awards will be presented in each age division, although there will be one overall winner who will be invited to perform at the Boozaar that evening.

For more information, contact Jenny Featherston by cell phone at 254-216-3160.

Legion presents haunted house

Staff Reports

The American Legion Post 42 will continue their haunted house this weekend, Friday and Saturday from 6-9 p.m.

The facility will re-open on Halloween, Oct. 31, at 7 p.m. for an adult costume contest at the bar.

The event is free, but a \$5 donation is appreciated. Children under the age of

12 must be accompanied by an adult.

For further information, contact 254-216-1165.

The American Legion Post 42 is located at 214 Watts Lane.

Oglesby ISD Fall Festival Oct. 30

Staff Reports

Oglesby Independent School District will host its annual fall festival for the community and its students and faculty Wednesday, Oct. 30.

The festival will be from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and will include various games and activities along with different food options.

Oglesby ISD will release more details regarding the festival closer to the event.

For further information, contact Oglesby ISD at 254-456-2271.

We pray you have a happy holiday season!

Martinez, Higginbotham set to run the road to victory

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

As the highly anticipated state cross country meet approaches, all eyes are on Gatesville High School standout runners Vania Martinez and Riley Higginbotham, who have proven themselves as forces to be reckoned with on the course.

The pair placed seventh and 11th respectively at the UIL Class 4A regional meet in Huntsville this past week.

It will be Higginbotham's first trip to state, while Martinez will be attending her fourth consecutive year. Martinez will become Gatesville High School's first cross country runner to qualify for the state meet as an individual all four years of her athletic career.

When evaluating this past cross-country season, Head Cross Country Coach Phillip Martin said, "This season has been a great season of learning and adjusting and growth for both athletes, and I'm personally proud of the juggling and overcoming both athletes have been able to do to accomplish their goals up to this point."

"Vania has been able to maintain a high level of per-

formance throughout the year while also playing volleyball," he said. "This has added obvious hours to her training, but she has been able to manage both sports at a high level of play and performance."

Martinez expressed that she hopes to do the best that she can for her senior year at the state meet.

"I feel I competed well throughout the years, except for my sophomore year, but I do hope to improve this year and leave everything on the course," she said.

In preparation for the state meet, she plans to train and gain more mileage to build up her endurance.

"I just want to finish the season with however the Lord wants for me, I'm okay with whatever happens," she said. "I hope to do well, but if not, then that's okay, because I know I will give it everything I have to close this last cross-country season."

With this being Higginbotham's first time competing at state, she expressed that she is nervous to go up against so many talented girls but is also excited to get to take part in such an exciting event.

As of right now, she trains anywhere from one to two times a day to prepare for the meet.

"My goal is to run the best race I can and just give it my all while also having fun," she said. "I hope that making state this year will help me to understand what I need to do and how I need to train to make it again in the future. I also think that getting to experience something so new and exciting will help to inspire me for the next two years to come."

Phillips said that Higginbotham has grown so much as a runner and is emerging as a leader on the team for the younger girls as well. He also expressed that with Higginbotham only being a sophomore, she has shown leadership qualities beyond her years while responding well to adversity of her own.

"I can't say enough how proud I am of these two young ladies," he said. "My hope is that both girls will not only perform their best, but that they will (also) both be able to stand on the medal podium at the state meet."

"As a coach, we hope that the lessons learned throughout the season will transcend



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured from left to right is Head Cross Country Coach Phillip Martin, Riley Higginbotham, Vania Martinez, and Assistant Coach Cynthia Moore.

the sport, and these two ladies will become strong leaders and accomplish great things on and off the field of competition," he said.

The state cross country meet will be held at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock on

Friday, Nov. 1, and both runners will take the course at 9:30 a.m.

There will be a state send-off for both Lady Hornets before lunchtime on Thursday, Oct. 31. The plan will be to have a drum walk through-

out the campus. Further information will be posted online on the Gatesville Athletics page as the details are finalized.

Armstrong personifies "Big G Little Me" motto

BY JOHN ENGLISH
Contributing Writer

The motto for the Gatesville Boy's Cross country team is "Big G Little Me," the idea that the team always comes first.

Coach Phillip Martin said runner Jack Armstrong personifies this concept as well as anyone.

"As a coach, I've not only been pleased with Jack's performance this season, but also extremely pleased with his performance at the district meet," Martin said.

That performance included Armstrong leading his team to a district championship and finishing second overall individually at the district meet.

Martin said he was not at all surprised by Armstrong's effort at the district meet given the senior runner's work ethic and dedication.

"Jack comes to work every day with an intensity and leads by example," Martin said. "I've never heard Jack complain or question the difficulties of training. He is always willing to put in the time and extra if needed to be prepared."

Armstrong, 17, said he is pleased with what his team has been able to accomplish this season.

"I think it went great," Armstrong said. "I am so proud of my team for winning district. All my teammates gave great effort. If one of them would have fallen just one runner behind, we would not be district champs. All their training and commitment really paid off. So proud of the team."

"I would also like to thank all my coaches in



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville cross country runner Jack Armstrong

my other sports, especially Coach Martin. They have been flexible with my schedule and training."

The Hornets' distance runner, also a tennis and soccer player for GHS, said the beautiful game of soccer is actually what he loves most.

"Outside of school, I play in an outdoor soccer league and an indoor soccer league," Armstrong said. "Soccer is my passion. I have been playing year-round since I was 4."

Armstrong also counts welding as one of his favorite hobbies.

The Gatesville distance runner has been a regional qualifier each year of high school and does not mind putting in the work to prepare for meets.

"I love the long runs early in the morning with my team," Armstrong said. "We run as a group and it's a peaceful, enjoyable time that we all have a lot of fun doing."

Armstrong said he has also struggled in certain areas of his game.

"Definitely consistency," Armstrong said. "Also, battling through sore legs and injuries is tough. It's

a grind; you just hope you are healthy and at full strength when you have to be."

For the regional meet, the Gatesville senior has a couple of objectives.

"Our team has a lot of strong runners and usually, if one is not having a good run, another can pick them up," Armstrong said. "This will be my fourth trip to region in cross-country. We have come within a point of advancing to the state meet in the past. It's going to be a challenge to get out of region, but that is definitely the goal."

For Martin, there is also an individual expectation for Armstrong himself.

"This year our goal is for him to place in the top 10 and advance to the state meet," Martin said.

Armstrong's favorites
Favorite athlete: Rocky Balboa
Favorite sports team: Texas Aggies
Favorite food: Spaghetti
Favorite movie: Rocky IV
Favorite TV show: SpongeBob
Book currently reading: Boys in the Boat
Favorite musical group: Treaty Oak Revival

Hornets drop district contest to Lorena last Friday night



CHRIS ALLMAN | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville Hornet standouts include, pictured top row, left to right: Clark Allman and Gehrig Keeton; bottom row: Grady Keeton and Amos Phillips.

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Gehrig Keeton threw 232 yards for a season-high, and the Gatesville defense turned in a stingy second-half effort in a 21-19 loss to Lorena on Oct. 18.

Keeton completed 14 passes to seven different receivers on the night, including six to Amos Phillips and three to his brother Grady Keeton.

The Hornets offense started fast as Gehrig Keeton completed four passes for 79 yards. Phillips caught two passes on the drive for 18 yards, while Gehrig Keeton had one catch for

36 yards. Clark Allman had a 25-yard reception as well, but the Hornets came up empty on the drive.

Following a Lorena score, Gatesville got on the board through the air as the Keeton's connected on a 61-yard scoring strike. Grady Keeton took a quick out from Gehrig Keeton and sprinted 61 yards for a touchdown.

Grady Keeton, who started cornerback all season, had two catches on the season coming into the game but finished with three catches for 103 yards against the Leopards. "He's a player," head

coach Aaron Hunter said of his two-way freshman. "We knew against Lorena, athletically, we were similar on the perimeter, so we got the ball out there and did a good job. We threw the ball the best we have all year."

Gehrig Keeton has completed 55% of his passes in district and has thrown for five touchdowns against one interception in his last three games.

"The back end of the La Vega game he found a different confidence. He's getting better and playing with

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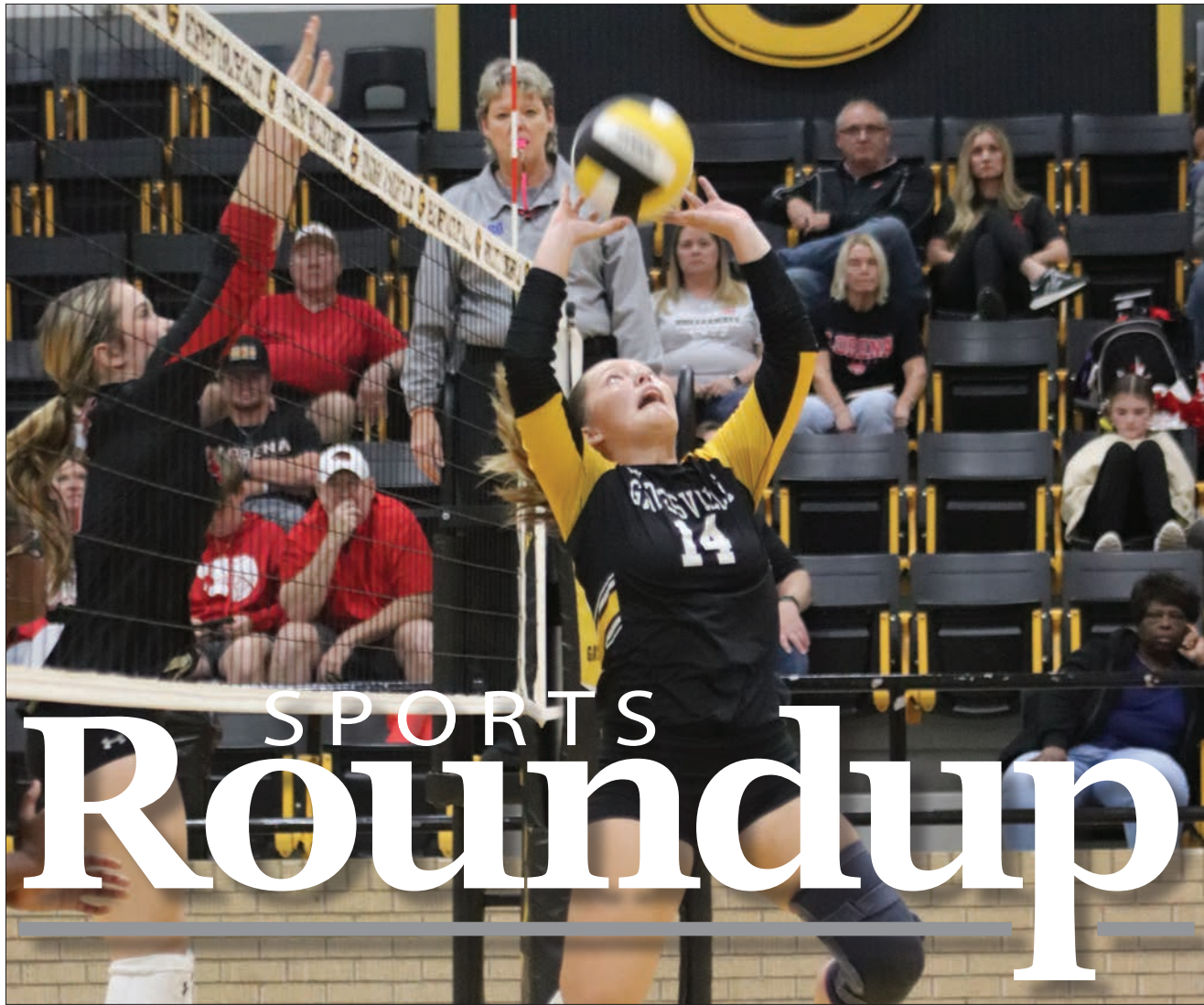
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SPORTS Roundup

AVERY MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville's Taylor Sanderson goes up for a big play against Lorena.

Another week of victories

BY JOHN ENGLISH
Contributing Writer

Oglesby wins by forfeit
The Oglesby football team improved to 6-2 in the regular season Friday night, but not in the way they expected.

Cranfills Gap was not able to field a team against the Tigers and had to forfeit a game that allowed Oglesby to improve to 2-0 in district competition.

"We actually didn't find out until we got there," Coach Jeb Dixon said.

The Tigers were riding a five-game winning streak heading into the game with Cranfills Gap, and Dixon said it was a difficult situation for both teams.

"It's frustrating, because they work all week, and Friday is a chance to show their skills," Dixon said.

The Tigers will host Priddy at 7 p.m., Oct. 25, and Dixon said he expects his team to have its work cut out.

"Priddy is a young program that will be well-coached," Dixon said. "Their kids will play hard."

Evant wins district opener
After two years of struggles, the Elks football team has won two games in three weeks, defeating Mullin by a score of 54-6 Friday night.

Coach Brandon Young said it was a special night for his team.

"I thought we played our best game thus far," Young said. "It seemed to come together on the right night, putting us at 1-0 in District. The guys had been wanting to wear their new, white uniforms since they finally came in. It was awesome to see the smiles on their

faces. We were focused and had a level of excitement that was needed."

Young said he could not have asked for much more from his team as a unit last week.

"There's always a stand-out or two," Young said. "But last night it was a total team effort that brought home the win."

Evant is scheduled to play Cranfills Gap Friday, and Young said his team will be ready to play.

"I believe Gap will be ready to go next week, so we've got to prepare as we always do," Young said.

Gatesville volleyball team beats Lorena

The Lady Hornets defeated Lorena by a score of 3-1 Friday night for its third straight district win.

Coach Janey Weber said her team prepared and competed well.

"Going into this game, you could tell our girls were ready to come out and compete," Weber said. "We knew Lorena was going to be a team that would make us work, and we were going to have to challenge every point. I thought the team performed really well as a whole. Everyone came together to do their job and take care of business."

The victory over Lorena not only put Gatesville in a tie for second place in district, but also clinched a post-season berth for the Lady Hornets.

It is the 22nd year in a row that Gatesville has qualified for the playoffs.

The Lady Hornets will play China Spring Oct. 25, followed by its season finale with La Vega Oct. 29, and

Weber said she is pleased with the level at which her team is competing as the regular season draws to a close.

"As district is getting close to the end, and playoffs are approaching, I think we are at a great spot in our game mentally and physically," Weber said. "I am so proud of the work these girls have put in, and we are ready to finish out district strong."

Oglesby gets big win

The Oglesby volleyball team defeated Lometa by a score of 3-0 Friday night to pick up its first district victory of the season.

Coach Amanda Martin said it was a good, solid effort from her team.

"The girls played very well on Friday and worked together as a team to get the job done," Martin said. "It was a great win for the Lady Tigers."

The final score was 25-6, 25-5, 25-7, and Martin said she had several strong performances in the game.

"Andrea Licea Perez went on a 13-serve roll in set one to take the score to 22-3," Martin said. "She also had 15 assists and four digs. It was a wonderful performance. Caitlyn Battreal had nine kills and was great on defense as well. She also had one solo block. She was incredibly consistent on offense as well and just kept hitting the ball."

"Autumn Meyers had five aces and five kills, and Zarah Wisehart went on a 13 point serve run without a miss in set one and ended the game with seven aces, four digs, and two kills. Presley Robinson also went on

a 13 point serve run in set three without a miss and ended the game with five serve receptions and three digs."

With the end of the regular season approaching, Martin said it will take a couple of things for her team to make the post-season.

"I believe we have to continue to stay focused on one point, one set, and one game at a time to make the playoffs," Martin said. "We've had a lot of discussions about keeping our eye on the prize, which is a good playoff run and staying focused on one game at a time."

Lady Elks win two last week

The Evant volleyball team defeated Lometa last Tuesday with a score of 25-11, 25-12, 25-9.

Standout performances in the game included the following:

Harley Weeks — 12 points, 8 aces, 3 digs, 13 assists, 2 kills

Hailey Neri — 1 point, 3 digs, 1 assist

Molly Waldrum — 3 points, 3 aces, 2 digs, 10 kills,

Bree Ramirez — 12 points, 7 aces, 5 digs, 2 assists, 3 kills

Luwi Rodriguez — 6 points, 1 ace, 9 digs, 3 kills

Izzy Gandy — 10 points, 4 aces, 1 dig, 1 kill

Daritz Escamilla — 7 points, 2 aces

The Lady Elks followed that up with a 3-0 victory over Jonesboro Friday to improve to 3-0 in district competition.



OJH football wins, 21-13, over Lions

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby Junior High Tigers defeated the Cransfill Gap Lions 21-13 on Thursday, Oct. 17, at home, which brings the Tigers record in district to 2-0.

The Tigers started off the scoring on a 45-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by Caiden Brinkley, and Brody Martinez added the point-after-touchdown (PAT), making the score 7-0, Oglesby. Brinkley also added the next touchdown on defense, picking up a fumble and racing 40 yards to the end zone for touchdown number two. Liam Standridge added a PAT, making the score 14-7, Oglesby. Hunter Insall hit Brody Martinez on a five-yard touchdown pass, and Martinez added the PAT making the final score Oglesby, 21 and Cransfill Gap, 13.

Offensively for the Tigers

Caiden Brinkley had one 45-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, as well as one scoop and scored a fumble return for a touchdown. This made Brinkley's total for the

night 85 yards total offense and two touchdowns.

Brody Martinez had one touchdown pass of five yards and two PATs with 58 total yards.

Hunter Insall was 1/1 in passing and scored one touchdown.

Liam Standridge had 43 yards rushing and scored one PAT.

Defensively for the Tigers
Caiden Brinkley had 11 tackles, one fumble scoop, and a score for a touchdown.

Rancher Jeffcoat had six tackles and one fumble recovery.

Liam Standridge had three tackles and one fumble recovery.

AJ Mafra had three tackles.

Brody Martinez had two tackles.

Hunter Insall had two tackles.

The Tiger Junior High football team traveled to Priddy to take on the Pirates this past Thursday, Oct. 25. Results will be featured in the Saturday, Nov. 2, edition of The Gatesville Messenger.

OHS JV football beats Covington Owls, 12-7

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby Junior Varsity (JV) Tigers hosted the Covington Owls JV on Thursday, Oct. 17. The Tigers fought hard to pull out a close 12-7 victory over the Owls.

Callen Webb continued to be the workhorse for the Tigers. Webb carried the ball 13 times for 116 yards rushing, had two touchdowns of 44 yards, and one yard. Camden Webb was 1/1 in passing for 20 yards. Javon Howard had one pass recep-

tion of 20 yards.

Defensively for the Tigers

Camden Webb had eight tackles, Blayze Fisher had six tackles and one fumble recovery. Kegan Redford had six tackles, Jayce Aaron had five tackles, Callen Webb had five tackles and one interception, Javon Howard had two tackles, Ranger Dalton had three tackles, Sam Ortiz had one tackle, Jacob Taylor had one tackle, and Gunner Riley had two tackles.

Tigers take 1-0 forfeit win over Cransfill Gap

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

The Cransfill Gap Lions forfeited at game time to the Tigers.

This gave the Tigers a 1-0 forfeit win over the Lions, and this now put the team at 2-0 in district play.

The Tigers hosted the Priddy Pirates on Friday, Oct. 25, at 7 p.m. The results of the game will be featured in the Saturday, Nov. 2 edition of The Gatesville Messenger.



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GATESVILLE CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS COMPETE AT REGIONALS



PHOTO COURTESY OF SARA OLVERA

Pictured are the Gatesville High School boys' and girls' cross-country teams at the 4A Region III meet this past week. The Lady Hornets finished 12th place overall in the 22-team meet, while the high school boys placed 13th in a 23-team field.



HORNETS NEST

GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



RICKEY PHILLIPS

Athletic Director
Gatesville ISD
@RickeyPhillip12 on X

FALL, WINTER SPORT UPDATES

Girls Basketball: It's going to be a lot of fun here this morning (Saturday), as GHS hosts its first Alumni Game. It will be nice to see some of the former ex-Hornette, ex-Lady Hornet, and ex-Hornet cagers (yes, they've been called all three over the decades) step back onto the court in a friendly scrimmage versus the Varsity. Tip-off is 9:30 a.m.

Cross Country: Vania Martinez and Riley Higginbotham qualified for the UIL 4A state meet earlier this week (see below for more details). GHS may have not finished atop the team standings, but each squad had runners produce personal-best times. Pretty impressive stat - GHS has now qualified a girl or boy runner for state competition in each of the last 12 years. That streak has been made possible by the likes

of Abate Hennessey, Rhett Gore, Jordan Brock, Katrina Thoms, Tasha Thoms, Carlo Martinez, Luis Macias, Bethany Penrod, and Justin Muegge.

Football: It was a busy weekend for the Hornets' Draven Henderson, Eason Johnson, Nicky Thomas, and Levi Webb. All four are members of the GHS varsity team...they played football on Friday night, then got up bright and early the next day as members of the GHS Band that received superior ratings at district contest and advanced to area competition (eleventh consecutive year). These young men, like so many other GHS student-athletes, are involved in a lot of activities.

Volleyball: Tuesday was Senior Night and the final home appearance for GHS seniors Vania Martinez, Tamiah Miller, Dana Myers, and Addison Taylor. GHS

head coach Janey Weber had nothing but praise for the foursome, praising their commitment to stay in the program since junior high, their daily work ethic, how some have overcome injuries to continue playing, and the relentless spark each provides in their various roles to help the team.

Wrestling: Coach Robert Clater, Jr. continues to build the numbers in the GHS Wrestling program, which last year had some 30-plus girls and boys taking part. That sport, added roughly six years ago, has had some success even though GHS competes in Class 5A. The Hornets have sent several wrestlers to the regional tournament the past three to four seasons and are likely going to have some repeat qualifiers come January. Clater took over for Andy Gomez, who guided the program during its infancy stages.

PERFECT 4-FOR-FOUR
GHS has had some pretty talented long-distance girl runners dating back to the program's inception in the mid-1970's.

Sharla Murry, Tammy Hale, Tammy Doyle early on (if I missed some of you

other early runners, please forgive me), then Jordan Brock, Katrina Thoms, and Tasha Thomas on a spree from 2014-2019.

Katrina Thoms advanced all four years during her career at GHS, twice with a team and twice as an individual.

Vania Martinez is now a member of a very elite, and limited club. The talented, multi-sport senior finished 7th overall at Monday's UIL 4A-Region III meet to secure another state-meet berth, her fourth in a row as an individual.

She's had to battle a nagging injury the last two seasons, but she has never allowed that little issue to get her off course. If anything, it has made her more determined and more resilient to compete with some pain.

Congratulations, Vania. This is one heck of an accomplishment.

...And speaking of GHS cross country, head coach Phillip Martin had nothing but praise for all of the kids in his program while we were up early in the hotel lobby sipping on coffee Monday morning prior to the races.

He spoke about the

incredible commitment and work ethic of each kid, and their unwavering dedication for handling the 6 a.m. workouts throughout the season. As we both know, that long running is not for everyone, right Ronnie Herb?

NOTES AND DOTES
...We had a surprise guest at the recent GHS Athletics' Hall of Fame Banquet. Don Curry, a member of the Hornets' 1950-1951 boys' basketball team that advanced to state and one of two teams being inducted into the HOF, was joined by his wife, Gay, and made the trek from Austin to be here. I just can't put into words how appreciative we were for them being able to make it and how glad we were to honor them some 73 years later. They got a nice ovation from the crowd, and deservedly so.

...During his acceptance speech at the HOF Banquet, ex-coach Guy Dean remembered the interview process that took place in the mid-1980's. Dean, fresh out of college, was dressed in slacks, coat, and tie. He met Les Reaves, then the AD/HFC, at the field house...Reaves was wearing

khaki shorts and a Hawaiian shirt. Afterward, they went to meet with superintendent Charles Zeigler to seal the deal. Zeigler, who farmed on the side, was on a tractor in the middle of a crop field when they arrived. Dean said it was the easiest interview process imaginable.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Monday, Oct. 28
Golf: Varsity boys at Temple tournament
Tennis: JV at China Spring
Volleyball: 7th-8th A-B at La Vega

Tuesday, Oct. 29
Tennis: GJHS vs. South Belton
Volleyball: Varsity-JV-9th at La Vega

Thursday, Oct. 31
Football: JV Gold-JV Black at Robinson
Football: 7th-8th A-B vs. Robinson

Friday, Nov. 1
Football: Varsity vs. Robinson

Hornet Fight Never Dies!

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HORNETS

FROM PAGE B1

more confidence. There is nothing more that gets you ready to play than Friday night reps," said Hunter.

Lorena took a 15-7 lead into halftime but that was cut to 15-13 in the third after a 17-yard touchdown run from Rayshon Smith.

Lorena upped their lead to 21-13 with their only second half touchdown in the fourth quarter, but a botched snap and a tackle by Zaviar Clater thwarted the Leopards kick attempt on the PAT.

Phillips had an astounding 27 tackles in the game and added four pass break-ups. Clater and Dylan Watts had nine tackles apiece. Dutch Nielsen, Kaden Coffman,

Brayden Mills, and Kam Hendrix all had sacks. Watts and Hendrix each had tackles for a loss.

"Our d-line is playing well. Dutch, (Grayson) Egging, Coffman, and Draven Henderson do a really good job. We have had more sacks combined than my entire tenure here," said Hunter. "They are fast and explosive and our most athletic kids. You can't single block them, and they are making some plays in the backfield."

Keaton opened up the next drive with a 29-yard completion to Jack Erwin. He hit Phillips twice on the drive with the second being a 12-yard scoring pass in which Phillips dragged a pair of Leopard defenders from the five-yard line into the end zone. The two-point conver-

sion attempt failed providing the final 21-19 tally.

Despite an 0-2 district start the Hornets are still alive for a fifth straight playoff berth. Hunter said the Hornets coaching staff is managing disappointment while reminding their squad what is ahead as they prepare for 0-2 China Spring.

"There is (disappointment), and that's part of it. But there is a still a ton to play for," Hunter said. "Our kids play hard, and they show up. It's a grind, but we have a good plan for the week."

Following their trip to China Spring, the Hornets will return home to host Robinson on Nov. 1 and will finish the regular season at Connally on Nov. 8.



AVERY MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Dutch Nielsen goes in for a stop at Gatesville Football Military Night vs Lorena.

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Taylor Brown (left) and Sarah Blanchard (right) are pictured with their trophies and \$500 cash award.

COURTESY PHOTO

FNBCCT honors local educators at home football game

Staff Reports

The First National Bank of Central Texas recently honored two local teachers as Educators of the Week

for dedicating themselves to educating the youth each day at Gatesville Independent School District.

During the home varsity

football game on Friday, Oct. 18, elementary school teacher Taylor Brown and high school teacher Sarah Blanchard each received

\$500 cash as well as a trophy.

The First National Bank of Central Texas and Gatesville Independent School

District encourages the community to submit the names of local educators who have made a difference in your life, or in the lives

of others.

To make a nomination, visit the link www.fnbcct.bank/educator-of-the-week/.

STPA scholarship now open through April 4 for journalism students

Staff Reports

The South Texas Press Association has announced

that it will be giving two students, who are looking for careers in journalism, scholarships worth \$1,500.

There is a scholarship available for college students who are pursuing a journalism or communica-

tions degree, and the other is for high school students who are seeking a career in newspaper journalism.

All scholarship applications must be turned in by April 4, 2025.

To apply, visit www.southtexaspress.com/scholarships.

southtexaspress.com/scholarships.



On October 26th, individuals across the globe come together to make a positive impact in their communities as we celebrate Make a Difference Day. This special occasion serves as a reminder of the power we each hold to enact change and improve the lives of those around us.

Make a Difference Day encourages people of all ages and backgrounds to engage in acts of kindness, volunteerism, and commu-

nity service. Whether it's cleaning up local parks, organizing food drives, or lending a helping hand to those in need, there are countless ways to contribute and make a meaningful difference.

Participating in Make a Difference Day not only benefits others but also fosters a sense of connection, empathy, and unity within communities. By working together toward common goals, we can create positive change and

build stronger, more resilient communities for all.

As we celebrate Make a Difference Day on October 26th, let's reflect on the importance of kindness, compassion, and civic engagement. Whether you're volunteering with a local organization, supporting a cause you're passionate about, or simply spreading kindness in your everyday interactions, every action, no matter how small, has the power to make a difference.

Join the movement on October 26th by finding ways to give back and make a positive impact in your community. Whether it's through organized volunteer events or individual acts of kindness, let's come together to inspire change, uplift others, and make the world a better place for all. Together, we can truly make a difference and create a brighter future for generations to come.



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

4-H GROUP VISITS RESIDENTS AT LOCAL NURSING HOMES



COURTESY PHOTO

Coryell County 4-H's Plant Identification Team celebrated National 4-H Week by visiting local nursing homes – Hillside Medical Lodge (left) and RehabLiving at the Meadows (right) – and by passing out flower arrangements. The team cut Maximilian sunflowers, yellow Indian grass, big bluestem, and dotted gayfeather to assemble the bouquets. The team does this annually to spread kindness throughout National 4-H Week.

Dear Parents: Why the 4-H Program Provides the Perfect Opportunity for Your Child

BY BECKY COWARD
Contributing Writer

As parents, we are always looking for opportunities to help our children grow into responsible, confident, and capable individuals. If you're a parent looking for an organization that can offer your child the chance to thrive in citizenship, leadership, and scholarship, look no further than 4-H. This nationwide program has long been a launching pad for youth development, and now is the perfect time to get your child involved. What are some of the major benefits of 4-H membership?

Citizenship: Growing Community Leaders

4-H isn't just about raising animals or entering in the county fair. It's about building a sense of responsibility and service. Studies show that 4-H members are four times more likely to contribute to their communities than their peers. Through hands-on projects, volunteer work, and community engagement activities, your child can learn what it means to give back, building character that will serve them well for years to come. Whether it's through organizing local drives or participating in civic events, your child will be empowered to make a difference. Each of the fifteen clubs in Coryell County offer their members the opportunity to participate in monthly service projects. Additionally, the County Ambassador team averages three service projects per month, always looking for ways to help in our community.

Leadership: Today's Learn-

ers are Tomorrow's Leaders

4-H teaches young people how to lead. Whether through 4-H project groups, clubs, or larger community efforts, members take on leadership roles that sharpen their skills in decision-making, public speaking, and teamwork. Club meetings are held each month where youth are empowered to lead, learning how a business meeting is conducted, what roles officers play, and how a group can come together and make a difference in their clubs, community, country, and world! Your child can become a confident leader who learns the value of responsibility and collaboration. These are skills that will not only help them succeed academically, but will also give them a leg up when it comes time to step into important roles in high school, college, and beyond.

Scholarship: Opportunities for Academic Growth

One of the most overlooked aspects of 4-H is the countless academic scholarship opportunities available to its more active members. Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarships are academic scholarships awarded each year to applicants based on their academic record, 4-H experience, and financial need. Thanks to generous Texas 4-H Foundation donors, the foundation was able to award over \$2.7 million in scholarships to over 220 4-H members in 2024 alone. The Texas 4-H Scholarship program is the largest scholarship program in the country. From local scholarships

to national awards, 4-H gives kids the opportunity to be recognized for their achievements in project areas ranging from science and technology to agriculture and the arts. Participating in 4-H projects builds a strong foundation for future academic and career success, and these scholarship opportunities can help fund those future endeavors.

Healthier Lifestyle

Beyond leadership and service, research also shows that 4-Hers are twice as likely to make healthier choices compared to their peers. Whether it's through healthy living projects, hands-on cooking demonstrations, or physical fitness activities, your child will learn important life skills that promote well-being. Health and Safety Officers provide leadership in their club officer roles at each meeting. When a healthy lifestyle is implemented early in a child's life, it has a lasting impact.

With 4-H, your child is not just joining a club—they are joining a movement toward personal growth and community involvement that will benefit them for life.

Join Today!

The best part is that 4-H is open to any child from grades kindergarten through 12th. To get started, all you need to do is enroll online at <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

You may want to contact your local county 4-H agent or Extension Office to decide what clubs best fits your interests. You may also access the



PHOTO COURTESY OF BECKY COWARD

4-H Ambassadors making a difference on Highway 36.

2024-25 membership guide at <https://coryell.agrilife.org/>. But don't delay—the deadline for competing in this year's county fair is

Nov. 1, so sign up today to ensure your child can take full advantage of all the amazing opportunities 4-H has to offer.

Let 4-H be the organization that helps your child become a more responsible, caring, and active member of their community!

MANNIX DEMONSTRATES A RAINFALL SIMULATOR HE RECENTLY BUILT



COURTESY PHOTO

Caleb Mannix, a member of Coryell County 4-H, recently built his own rainfall simulator and used it to teach kids at the Copperas Cove Eco Harvest about how water runs off on various types of surfaces. Mannix also taught them how different types of plants help water infiltrate into the ground.

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TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY
STEPHENVILLE – Tarleton State Soccer clinched its first WAC Tournament berth with its seventh shutout of the season, a 1-0 victory over Southern Utah Sunday afternoon, Oct. 20, at the Tarleton Soccer Complex. The Texans (8-7-3) clinched a berth in the WAC Tournament for the first time in the program's three years of existence. The Thunderbirds (2-9-5) will play Utah Tech for a chance to reach the tournament next Saturday. The tournament begins Nov. 3 in Abilene.

Texan Volleyball notches first WAC victory against CBU

Tarleton State University

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — Tarleton State Volleyball earned its first conference win Thursday, Oct. 17 against California Baptist. The Texans notched their first win in Riverside and extended their win streak to two matches against the Lancers.

Tarleton (6-14 overall, 1-6 WAC) took down CBU (1-18 overall, 1-6 WAC) in five sets (20-25, 25-21, 25-19, 18-25, 15-11).

Tatum Busch absolutely shattered her previous career high of 13 kills with a match-high 23 Thursday. Busch led the team in kills, followed by the birthday girl, Allison Bryant, with 20. This marked Busch's first career match of 20-plus kills and the first time this season two Texans recorded 20-plus kills in the same match.

Bryant led the team in digs with 22, followed by Addison Goss with 17. This was

Bryant's second match of the season with 20-plus digs, and Goss' seventh match of the season in double figures. Goss also led the team with four service aces.

Busch posted a team-high .347 attack percentage, while Bryant followed with an efficient .306 percentage.

Megan Hodges successfully recorded her 10th double-double of the season, becoming the fastest Texan this year to do so. Yuna Ansquer also notched her fifth double-double this year. Ansquer led the team with 28 assists, followed by Hodges with 25. This is the sixth match this season where the duo has accumulated 20-plus assists each.

The Lancers came out hot during the opening set, taking an early 11-5 lead. The Texans battled back with a 6-0 run that included three consecutive aces from Ansquer to bring the Texans within one point, 18-19. However, CBU was able

to hold off Tarleton's rally, taking the opening stanza, 25-20.

The Purple and White was able to turn the tide in its favor during the second period, taking a commanding 11-6 run to open up the second. CBU rallied back to the 13-12 mark, however, Tarleton answered with a 7-2 run that included kills from Madison Frank, Busch and Bryant. The Texans notched the match at one win apiece with a second set victory, 25-21.

The third frame was a testing battle for both squads, who exchanged up to 10 points back-and-forth without either team managing a run. Tarleton State was finally able to pull away at the 18-18 mark, going on a 5-0 run sparked by an ace from Goss. The Texans took a 2-1 advantage of the match with a 25-19 set victory.

During the fourth stanza, Goss accumulated two consecutive aces to give the



Tarleton State Volleyball earned its first conference win Thursday, Oct. 17 against California Baptist.

Texans an early 7-5 lead. California Baptist rallied to tie the game at 11, and never let their foot off the gas from there, taking the fourth set, 25-18.

With the match tied in the fifth set, Tarleton was deter-

mined to receive its first conference win. The set began with a massive block from Emma Burke and Busch, followed by a CBU run to tie the set. Burke and Bryant registered back-to-back kills to put Tarleton ahead, 7-6.

With the final game sitting at 11-10 and no points coming easy for either team, the Texans were able to pull through with a 4-1 run, clinching the match with a 15-11 fifth set victory.



Tarleton State Cross Country closed the regular season with its fourth-straight appearance at the Arturo Barrios Invitational hosted by Texas A&M at the Watts Cross Country Course Friday, Oct. 18.

Texan Cross Country finishes regular season at Arturo Barrios Invitational

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE – Tarleton State Cross Country closed the regular season with its fourth-straight appearance at the Arturo Barrios Invitational hosted by Texas A&M at the Watts Cross Country Course Friday, Oct. 18.

Men

The men's squad finished in 14th place, ahead of five top-15 ranked south central region squads. Tarleton finished ahead of South Central Region ranked Houston (No. 7), Rice (No. 9), Lamar (No. 10), UT Arlington (No. 12) and Sam Houston (No. 14).

For the first time this season, Angel Contreras led the men's pack. Contreras crossed in 51st place, in 23:44.5. Angel Gomez was the next Texan to cross, notching 54th place in 23:46.2. Jace Poole finished in 79th place in 23:58.8, followed by Toby

Eaton in 88th place in 24:04.8. Kellen Frickel rounded out the scoring Texans crossing in 24:48.9.

Texas Tech took home the team title, posting 62 points and registering the top two overall finishers. Boise State and Texas A&M rounded out the podium with 98 and 153 points, respectively.

On the individual side, Texas Tech's Solomon Kipchoge and Ernest Cheruyiot clocked in at 22:01.4 and 22:20.4 respectively. Oklahoma City's Evert Silva rounded out the top three finishing five seconds behind.

Women

In a loaded competition, the women's squad competed against 12 of the South Central region top 15 ranked programs.

Sage Lancaster led the Texans crossing in 21:41.4 to earn 162nd place. Freshman

Kaitlyn Gale finished five seconds behind in 21:46.1 in 174th place. The top-scoring five was rounded out by Ella Smart (22:57.1), Georgina Balderas (23:22.1) and Kyla Zalit (24:06.1).

Gonzaga notched the team crown with 74 points. Boise State earned silver with 133 points and Georgia Tech earned bronze with 143 points.

Texas Tech's Juliet Cherubet won the individual crown finishing ahead more than 20 seconds of second place in 18:37.0. Oklahoma's Leah Jeruto and Arizona State's Judy Chepkoech rounded out the podium finishers.

Tarleton State will enjoy a two week break before lacing up at the WAC Cross Country Championships Nov. 1 in Orem, Utah. The race will be hosted by Utah Valley at Lakeside Park.

Tarleton Women's Golf secures 4th-straight top 10 finish

Tarleton State University

BOULDER CITY – After earning its second straight Texan Match Play championship, the Purple and White headed west for The Clash at Boulder Creek at the Boulder Creek Golf Course, finishing tied for eighth.

The Texans have been off to a record pace this year finishing in the top 10 throughout all four tournaments thus far including two top two finishes.

"Overall, the team played great golf from tee to green," said head coach Isabel Jimenez. "Unfortunately, we did not make as many putts as we would have liked, but we

leave Nevada with many positives and a few things to work on before we head to Mississippi this upcoming weekend."

Mathilde Brogens led the Texans after 54 Tuesday finishing in the to -20 at 17th. She locked in her top 20 finishes after turning in 11 birdies, seven in her final round. The senior finished -4 (212, 71-74-67).

"Brogens played a great round today and a great tournament overall," continued Jimenez. "I am happy she was able to make some putts today and leave with a good mindset heading into next week."

Lou Deltombe and Louise Depadt rounded out the top 30 with Deltombe tak-

ing 25th and Depadt coming in 30th. Deltombe shot -2 (214, 73-68-73) while fellow Texan and teammate Depadt finished -1 (215, 69-75-71).

Darianys Guzman and Rebeca Fernandez rounded things out for the team side of things placing 65th and 74th respectively. Guzman shot +8 (224, 76-72-76) while Fernandez finished +10 (226, 78-74-74).

Elle Fox competed as an individual and finished in 41st after turning in a score of +2 (218, 72-75-71).

The Texans will have a short turnaround as they will head to Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Oct. 28-29 for The Judson hosted by Southern Miss.

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Gatesville ISD offers “Stinger Stash” resource room



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Michelle Martin assists Transition Class student, Charles Belt, in shelving supplies that have been donated to the room.

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Over the summer, Gatesville Independent School District created a “Resource Room,” or what it is now called the “Stinger Stash,” to benefit students and faculty and covers all five

campuses. GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard stated, “Having an entire classroom dedicated to storing school supplies has been a great resource. When a staff member needs something, they simply fill out a request form, and we have

high school students who will fill the order. It is a quick, convenient, and free process for teachers to get the supplies they need in a timely manner.” Michelle Martin, GISD School-Community Events Coordinator, said that most of the items in the Resource

Room have either been donated or she has written grants to purchase items for the campuses. The variety of items available for faculty and students is somewhat staggering: backpacks, umbrellas, binders, notebook paper, office chairs, glue sticks, dividers, bulletin boards, whiteboards, paint brushes, etc. “I’ve set up an online ordering system, and the teacher goes in there and puts their name and classroom and then lists what they need. It sends me an email; I look at it and make sure we have the requested items. I bring the request to the Resource Room, and then students from the Transition Class at the high school come in, fill the orders, and then we get the supplies over to the

classrooms,” Martin said. “Often, these are all items that often come out of the teacher’s own pockets, and the average teacher spends anywhere from \$700 to \$1,000 per year.” “Anything that’s on the school supply list that students receive at the beginning of the year, we’re going to have in the Resource Room,” she said. Martin continued, “If the community wants to donate school supplies, or gently used items, that would be appreciated.” She also mentioned that, as a school district, they are learning how to re-use and recycle certain items that can be utilized by another teacher or classroom. Martin said that the school district’s goal in the next three to five years is to

do away with the classroom supply lists that are handed out at the beginning of the year, and to have all the supplies that the teachers and students need come directly from the Resource Room. She said that, in the last month alone, teachers from each of the five campuses have utilized the room and their requests from September filled five pages. “Our vision is to continue to grow the supply room to help alleviate the cost of supplies on not only teachers but students. Michelle Martin and Pam Williams have done a wonderful job of growing this program,” Pollard said. Those wishing to donate school supplies can call 254-865-7251, Ext. 5855.

GVFD VISITS LET’S GROW LEARNING CENTER



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The students at Let’s Grow Learning Center were recently visited by members of the Gatesville Volunteer Fire Department. Firemen spoke to the children about firefighting, showed them a fire engine, and brought a special visitor with them – “Sparky.” The students loved visiting with Sparky, who posed with them in front of the fire engine.

MOTHER AND SON MOVIE NIGHT OCT. 19



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville Independent School District’s Education Foundation hosted a mother and son movie night at the Last Drive-In Picture Show on Saturday, Oct. 19, which featured a new movie called “The Wild Robot.” The event was for prekindergarten through sixth grade students, and those attending were able to enjoy mini golf before and after the movie. There was a photo booth available as well.



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SCHOOL SPOTLIGHTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured from left to right is Oglesby ISD Principal Casey Melton, AJ Mafra, and Superintendent Shane Webb.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured from left to right is Oglesby ISD Principal Casey Melton, Autumn Meyers, and Superintendent Shane Webb.

Oglesby ISD honors students at meeting

Staff Reports

This past week, the Oglesby Independent School District School Board held its monthly meeting where they recognized students AJ Mafra and Autumn Meyers as the student spotlights for October.

Junior high student AJ Mafra was chosen for being a role model to the younger

students along with upholding a high character.

An online post made about Mafra reads, "He works hard and is always encouraging others. AJ is selfless when it comes to his community and peers. Oglesby ISD was proud to honor AJ for his true Tiger spirit."

The high school student spotlight was Autumn Mey-

ers who was selected for being an outstanding student in and out of the classroom.

An online post made about Meyers reads, "Autumn has many talents and is dedicated, focused, and an exceptional role model for young students. She is a positive representation for Oglesby ISD and a genuine example of Tiger pride."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

From left to right, Dr. Barrett Pollard, Chris Morrall, James Strong, and Pam Williams.

GISD's October Staff Spotlight

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

During the Oct. 21 meeting of the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees, Chris Morrall and James Strong were honored during the Staff Spotlight presentation.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard described the two men as follows:

Chris Morrall and James Strong are paraprofessionals that work with our DAEP and WINGS students. Pam Williams made this nomination and had the following to say about these two outstanding workers. "Chris Morrall has a remarkable ability to build genuine relationships with these students and help them find success. He

works tirelessly to support them academically. Chris facilitates group sessions, teaches valuable character traits, and empowers students to make better choices. His efforts to ease students' transition back to their home campuses are invaluable. Chris stays in communication with students even after they return to their regular classes. His dedication and follow-through are a testament to his passion for helping our students be successful.

Likewise, James Strong has truly demonstrated his dedication to building meaningful relationships with our students. He works to ensure that each student has what they

need to be successful, both academically and personally. His commitment to maintaining our building in top-notch condition is also commendable. It provides our students with a nurturing and inviting environment to learn and grow. James also plays a crucial role in helping students transition back to their main campus. He works to instill important character traits in our students. He stays in communication with students going back to campus and checks in with them periodically. For all these reasons, we want to honor Chris Morrall and James Strong."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pictured left to right, Gatesville ISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard, Bryson Stevens, and Gatesville Junior High Principal Suzy Penrod.

GISD's October Student Spotlight

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

During the Oct. 21 meeting of the Gatesville Independent School District Board of Trustees, Bryson Stevens was honored during the Student Spotlight presentation.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard described Bryson Stevens by saying the following:

"Junior High Principal Suzy Penrod submitted tonight's student spotlight recognition. She had the following to say about

Bryson Stevens (son of our very own Tisa Stevens). 'Bryson stands out as one of the most impressive students at Gatesville Junior High. As a young entrepreneur, Bryson has successfully built his own Sno-Cone business, which frequently appears at school events. In addition to his Sno-Cone business venture, he is a dedicated student-athlete who consistently sets ambitious goals for himself and works tirelessly to achieve them. Bryson's

drive and commitment are evident in everything he does. He is a young man who knows what he wants and is willing to put in the hard work to achieve it. Beyond his achievements, Bryson is known for his kindness and willingness to help others, and he has an endless supply of fantastic hats to wear on every Friday Hat Day. We are incredibly proud of Bryson and all he has accomplished."

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FROM THE PUBLISHER



FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Thank you Gatesville!



BY SAM HOUSTON

Sam Houston is the publisher of the Hood County News. He is also an actor, author, playwright, performer and entertainment producer/promoter.

This Best of Gatesville 2024 section marks the official notification to the world of the winners of the Best of Gatesville contest. I believe the excitement of this year's event was even greater than it has been in the past. There is little reason to wonder why! "Best Of" is a community event people look forward to every year. Earning the right to display the Best of Gatesville logo at a place of business allows the entity to serve notice that it stands out and is a step above the competition.

I have been present when business owners learn they have won the Best of Gatesville and have seen tears come to their eyes or their voices raised in triumphant jubilation over the accomplishment. Smart business owners know and appreciate the value of the designation and are proud and sometimes overwhelmed to be recognized.

What makes "Best Of" so popular is the contest is a positive for

both businesses and consumers. It allows the average citizen — the man or woman who spends their hard-earned money on a variety of different goods and services — to express their heartfelt belief about which company best meets their needs. They cast a vote because a company provides great value, terrific customer service, and relates well to its customers.

Businesses know when a consumer is looking to buy, they shop with confidence when they see the "Best Of" award designation. Buyers know they are shopping with a time-tested, proven commodity, and they can feel comfortable in their transaction. When new people move to town, "Best Of" winners are a good road map of places to shop first.

Thank you to all the entries and to the thousands of voters who participated. Congratulations to all!

Sam Houston
Publisher, Hood County News



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Special shoutout to Monte for
being voted
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WINNERS

PEOPLE

- Best Accountant - Robin Thomas
- Best Attorney - Allen Place
- Best Bank Teller - Neely Duckett at First National Bank of Evant - Gatesville Branch
- Best Barber - Whitney Williams
- Best Builder / Developer- Kelly Adair
- Best Car Salesperson - Migel Mata
- Best Coach - Aaron Hunter
- Best Chiropractor - Dr. Aycock
- Best Dentist - Dr. Betsy Spitzer
- Best Doctor - Dr. Diedra Wuenschel, Family Medicine Physician
- Best Financial Advisor - Denise Veach
- Best Hair Stylist - Cindi Snively
- Best Insurance Agent - Brian Edwards
- Best Law Enforcement Officer - Georg Cleverley
- Best Massage Therapist - Brandi Bernquist
- Best Mechanic - Monte Comer
- Best Optometrist/ Ophthalmologist - Peter J. Bealka, M.D.
- Best Photographer - Heather Hitt

- Best Real Estate Agent - Lute Sullins
- Best Teacher/Educator - Kendra Pruitt
- Best Veterinarian - Britton Clay, DVM
- Best Waitress - Aeda Floyd

Proud to be voted Best Dealership in Gatesville

**Shout out to
Migel Mata**
voted
Best Car Salesperson

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Best Of GATESVILLE 2024

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Best Chicken Fried Steak | Best Salad | Best Sweet Tea | Best Restaurant

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WINNERS | FOOD & DRINK

- Best Appetizers** - The Feed Mill
- Best Baked Goods** - The Caffeinated Baker
- Best Bar** - Junction on Route 36
- Best BBQ** - Bare Bones BBQ
- Best Breakfast** - El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant
- Best Burger** - Carlus' Park Street Burgers
- Best Catering** - The Feed Mill
- Best Catfish** - Pruitt's
- Best Chicken** - The Feed Mill
- Best Chicken Fried Steak** - Rancher's Steakhouse & Grill
- Best Chicken Wings** - The Junction on Route 36
- Best Coffee** - The Green Rooster
- Best Desserts** - J&M Hill Country BBQ
- Best Drinks** - Sonic
- Best Donuts** - The Donut Hole
- Best Food Truck** - Nipa Truck
- Best Happy Hour** - La Hacienda Mexican Grill
- Best Ice Cream** - Studebakers Pizza
- Best Margarita** - New Rodeo Mexican Grill
- Best Mexican Food** - El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant
- Best Pasta** - Prima Pasta
- Best Pizza** - Studebakers Pizza & Ice Cream
- Best Salad** - Rancher's Steakhouse & Grill
- Best Salsa** - El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant
- Best Sandwich** - Studebakers Pizza & Ice Cream
- Best Shrimp** - Prima Pasta
- Best Snow Cone** - Bryson's Sno-Dizzle
- Best Steak** - Prima Pasta
- Best Sweet Tea** - Rancher's Steakhouse & Grill
- Best Tacos** - El Tapat

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2024

Pruitt's 
Lotto – Food – Gas



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Voted Best Bar & Best Chicken Wings

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our customers!"*



Junction on Route 36
Family Restaurant, Bar & Grill
1216 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass
Gatesville, TX 76528
254-865-0352



Voted Best Happy Hour



#3

2320 S. State Hwy. 36
Gatesville, TX 76528
254-404-2090

#1

2558 E. Main St.
Gatesville, TX 76528
254-865-5820

#2

1020 W. McGregor Dr.
McGregor, TX 76657
254-840-7001



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Monday-Friday

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Best Tacos**



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Mexican Restaurant
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Gatesville
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“Best Customer Service
Representative!”



First National Bank

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WINNERS | GOODS & SERVICES / ORGANIZATIONS

- Best A/C - Heating Service** - Schuman's Heat & Air, Inc.
- Best Accounting Service** - Haile & Thomas, P.C.
- Best Apartments** - Bob Brown Apartments
- Best Assisted Living Facility** - Coryell Health Assisted Living at the Oaks
- Best Auto Dealership** - Spur Chevrolet GMC
- Best Auto Repair Shop** - Comer Automotive
- Best Bank - First National Bank of Evant** - Gatesville Branch
- Best Barber Shop** - Whitney's Barbershop
- Best Bed and Breakfast** - Pennoli Bed & Breakfast
- Best Boutique/ Retail Store** - 1854 Mercantile
- Best Car Wash/ Detail** - Frank Williams
- Best Civic Organization** - The Exchange Club

Thank you for your votes!



Trinity Baptist Church

Sam Crosby, Pastor

Bible Study

9:45 a.m.

Worship

First service at 8:15 a.m.

Second service at 11:00 a.m.

Mission Statement

"For the glory of God, we exist to make fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ by every means possible."

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TEXAS PROUD

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- Chris Schofield**, Agency Manager
- Denise Veach**, Agent
- Justin Stephens**, Agent
- Katy Hill**, Agent
- Dan Davidson**, Agent
- Josh Smith**, Agent

Gatesville **Copperas Cove**
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WINNERS | GOODS & SERVICES / ORGANIZATIONS

- Best Computer Repair - Blazin' Technology
- Best Convenience/ Gas Store - Allsup's
- Best Day Care - Trinity Baptist Church
- Best Dental Office - Gatesville Family Dental
- Best Dry Cleaner - Valet Cleaners
- Best Electrician - Jeff Necessary
- Best Electric Provider - Heart of Texas Electric Cooperative
- Best Feed Store - Coryell Feed & Supply
- Best Fitness Facility - Gatesville Fitness Center
- Best Flooring Company - Hometown Floors
- Best Furniture store - Leaird's Furniture & Appliance
- Best Grocery Store - H-E-B
- Best Gun Dealer - Guns Unlimited

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- 30 + Group exercise class per week
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WINNERS | GOODS & SERVICES / ORGANIZATIONS

Best Hair Salon - Two's Company Hair Salon

Best Hardware/ Building Store - ACE Hardware

Best Home Décor - The Parrot Imports

Best Home Health Agency - Coryell Home Health

Best Insurance Agency - Texas Farm Bureau

Best Jewelry Store - Hinds Fine Jewelers

Best Law Firm - Place Law Office

Best Lawn & Landscape Service - Nolte's Construction

Best Liquor Store - Hill Top Liquor

Best Live Music Venue - Bare Bones BBQ

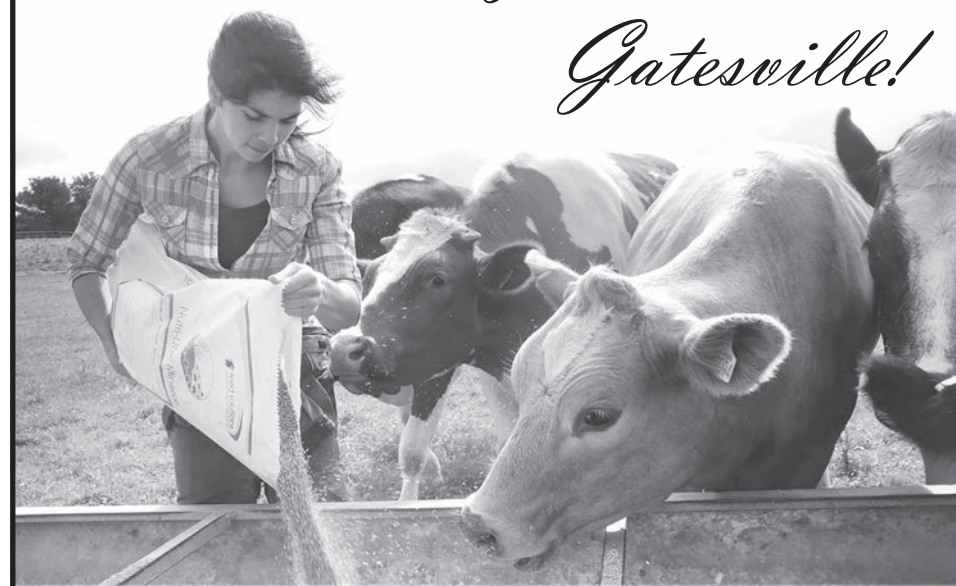
Best Manicure/ Pedicure - ND Nails

Best Mattress Store - Leaird's Furniture & Appliance

Best Meat Market - Leon River Premium Beef

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*Best Feed Store in
Gatesville!*



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- Prevention of Child Abuse**
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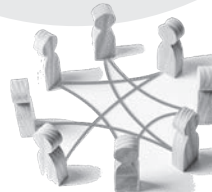
Meetings every Thursday at 7AM at Junction 36
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WINNERS | GOODS & SERVICES / ORGANIZATIONS

- Best Medical Clinic** - Coryell Health Medical Clinic
- Best Music Lessons** - Charles Ament
- Best Non-Profit Organization** - Righteous Roots
- Best Nursing Home** - Hillside Medical Lodge
- Best Oil Change** - Sam's Automotive & Tire
- Best Pest Control** - Whole House Pest Management
- Best Pet Grooming** - Candy Pet Palace
- Best Pharmacy** - Gatesville Drug Co.
- Best Physical Therapy** - Hillside Medical Lodge
- Best Place of Worship** - Trinity Baptist Church
- Best Place to Buy Wine** - Hill Top Liquor
- Best Plumbing Company** - 5 Star Plumbing
- Best Real Estate Agency** - Tejas Real Estate

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for voting us
Best in Gatesville!

- ✓ Best Dental Office
- ✓ Best Dentist (Dr. Betsy)



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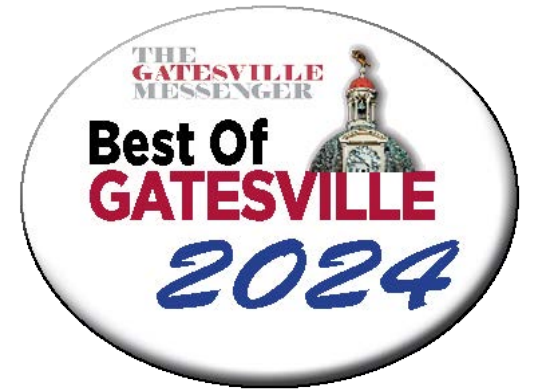


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(254) 206-6291

Lute Sullins, Owner/Broker
(254) 216-9599

Shelley Herring, Realtor®
(254) 865-3675

WINNERS | GOODS & SERVICES / ORGANIZATIONS

- Best Rehabilitation Center** - Coryell Health Rehab Living
- Best Resale Shop** - The Resale Shop benefiting the Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville
- Best Restaurant** - Rancher's Steakhouse & Grill
- Best Retirement / Assisted Living** - Coryell Health Independent Living at the Oaks
- Best Roofing Company** - Dixon Roofing
- Best School Campus** - Gatesville Elementary School
- Best Spa** - ND Nails
- Best Tanning Salon** - Island Sun Tanning
- Best Tire Store** - Sinyard Tire Shop
- Best Title Company** - Coryell County Land & Abstract Company
- Best Tractor / Lawn Equipment** - Hillside Outdoors
- Best Veterinary Clinic** - Bar N Veterinary Clinic
- Best Wedding / Event Venue** - Texas Station Event Center

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BEST RETIREMENT & ASSISTED LIVING

Coryell Health Independent Living at The Oaks



BEST DOCTOR

Dr. Diedra Wuenschel, Clinic Medical Director



BEST SHORT-TERM MEDICAL REHABILITATION

Coryell Health RehabLiving at The Meadows



BEST MEDICAL CLINIC

Coryell Health Medical Clinic- Gatesville



BEST HOME HEALTH

Coryell Health Home Health



BEST ASSISTED LIVING

Coryell Health Assisted Living at The Oaks

CONGRATULATIONS TEAM CORYELL HEALTH!