



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 122, No. 52, ISSN No. 0894-4954



Jeffrey Clark selected as new Gatesville Police Chief

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

The search for Gatesville Police Department's next police chief has officially ended with the selection of Jeffrey Clark, a current deputy chief at the Temple Police Department.

Clark has served as deputy chief since 2016 and has spent his entire career in Temple. He has over 31 years of experience in law enforcement, with over 12 in a command-level position.

The new chief will replace former Police Chief Brad Hunt, who was appointed Gatesville City Manager in September. As city manager, Hunt made the selection along with the help of three review panels made up of local and regional leaders, police department officers, city staff, and civilians.

"I congratulate Mr. Clark for his selection and look forward to his joining our leadership team for the

City of Gatesville," Hunt said. "His qualifications, expertise, and skills will foster a service-oriented and successful atmosphere for the Gatesville Police Department."

Clark currently oversees Temple Police Department's Investigations Bureau, which includes several units, such as narcotics, crime scene investigators, property and evidence, special operations, among others. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from American Military University, is a Certified Public Manager graduate from Texas State University, and has attended several law enforcement leadership courses, including the FBI National Academy (Session #255).

During a community meet and greet at Gatesville City Hall on Nov. 7, Clark said one of his goals is to lead the Gatesville Police Department



COURTESY PHOTO

Jeffrey Clark, currently deputy chief of Temple Police Department's Investigations Bureau, is Gatesville's new Chief of Police.

through the Texas Police Chief's Association (TPCA) accreditation process, which he was also a

part of at the Temple Police Department. He is also PLEASE SEE **CHIEF** | A2

County approves contract to purchase new tax office in Copperas Cove

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Copperas Cove will soon receive a new Coryell County tax office and early voting center location.

During a special meeting on Nov. 1, the Coryell County Commissioners Court approved a contract price of \$500,000 for the purchase of a building that will house both the tax office and early voting center in Copperas Cove.

The tax office, currently located at the Cove Terrace Shopping Center, will move into the former PenFed Credit Union at 809 South Main Street. During the meeting, the commissioners also approved a payment of \$25,000 in earnest money to support the purchase of the property.

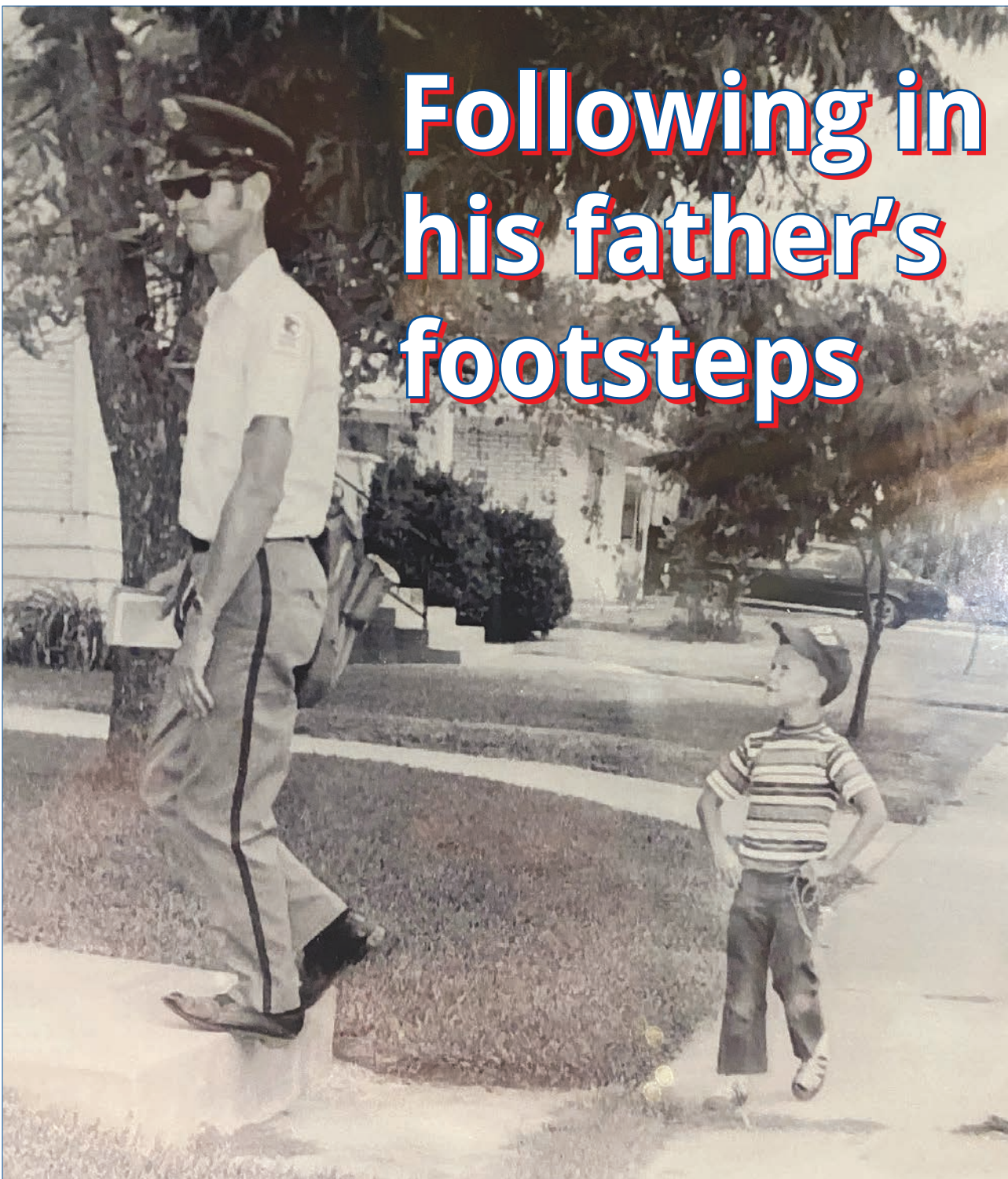
County Judge Roger Miller said during a regular commissioner's court meeting on Nov. 12 that the \$25,000 of earnest money toward

the building has been paid. The county budgeted a total of \$600,000 for the purchase of the building, which includes renovations of around \$100,000.

Coryell County Tax Assessor Collector Justin Carothers said in an email that the move comes after finding out the county is losing the lease on the current tax office and early voting center. The early voting center will close in December, and the tax office lease will expire in February, according to the Copperas Cove Leader-Press.

In September, the county officially relocated the tax office and early voting center in Gatesville to the former Extraco Bank building at 800 E. Main Street, Suite B.

Carothers said the move-in date for the new building in Copperas Cove will be in spring 2025.



Following in his father's footsteps

COURTESY PHOTO

In 1973, postman Charles Hollingsworth delivered the mail while his 6-year-old son, Mike, tagged along behind him. Little did young Mike realize that he would actually be following in his father's footsteps. See full story on page A2.

Annual Food For Families food drive returns Nov. 22

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Gatesville residents will once again have the opportunity to help those in need during the 35th annual Food for Families food drive, which will take place on Friday, Nov. 22, from 6 a.m.- 8 p.m. at the Gatesville Fire Station.

Every year, the one-day food drive collects non-perishable food products and helps stock the shelves of area food banks and pantries, such as the Gatesville Care Center. Local donations remain at the Care Center and benefit the people who live in Coryell County.

In 2023, Gatesville's Food for Families event raised a total of 661,624 pounds. For the last three years, Gatesville Care Center Co-Director Deral McWhorter said the community has raised a total of 2,118,947 pounds.

"Just for the fact that this event every year absolutely blows us away with seeing the excitement and generosity from the people," McWhorter said.

Non-perishable food items needed to serve Central Texas families include:

- Canned meats, such as tuna, chili, stew, and chicken
- Canned vegetables
- Cereals
- Peanut butter
- Dry beans
- Rice
- Pasta/sauces
- Flour
- Sugar
- Corn meal

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- Flour
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- Corn meal

Food items or donations by check can be dropped off at the Gatesville Care Center at 105 N 7th Street. The community can also donate online by visiting KWTX-Food for Families-Financial Support and select 'Gatesville Care Center' or pay via PayPal or Venmo using the QR codes below.

The community can make donations online or to the Care Center until Nov. 30.

With the increase in food prices, McWhorter shares in a submission to The Messenger that the demand for the food drive has never been greater. The numbers of new families coming in for help has grown to 170 plus this year.

Care Center Co-Director Debbie Blanchard emphasizes that the donations received each year are truly appreciated by local families it helps feed.

"We hear over and over again how appreciative they

PLEASE SEE **FOOD** | A2



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Mike Hollingsworth retires as Gatesville Postmaster

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Gatesville Postmaster, Mike Hollingsworth, recently retired after 31 years with the postal service. A few weeks ago, he was given a small retirement reception at the post office and, on Friday, Nov. 8, a larger reception was held at the Smith cabin near Flat to celebrate his long career.

The Hollingsworth family has been a part of the postal service for 60 years. Mike Hollingsworth remembers, "My uncle, Paul Hollingsworth, went to work at the Gatesville Post Office in 1964. My father, Charles Hollingsworth, went to work there in February of 1966. My Dad worked there until his retirement in 2000. I came to Gatesville in 1996 after going to work for the postal service in 1994. The first two years of my career were spent in the Waco plant as a clerk on the midnight shift."

"This will be the first time in 60 years that a Hollingsworth will not be working at the Gatesville Post Office," he said.

Mike's father, Charles

Hollingsworth, would later reflect on a photo that appeared in The Gatesville Messenger in 1973 of him delivering mail door to door in Gatesville while his then 6-year-old son, Mike, tagged along behind him. At that time, Mike said he wanted to be a baseball player, but later began following in his father's footsteps at the post office.

When asked if his father inspired him to become employed with the postal service, Mike replied, "Yes, I believe he did because I was around the postal service from the time I was born, but he never pressured me into it. I always looked at the job as a postal worker as a prestigious job."

First starting his postal career in Waco in 1994, he finally was transferred to Gatesville in 1996. Patience paid off and, in April of 2007, he was appointed postmaster of the Gatesville Post Office following his father's retirement as postmaster. Following his appointment, he said, "I feel very good about it. It's something I've been

wanting for a long time. It has been my goal since I've been with the post office."

He continued, "Most of the time, when a postmaster's job comes open, other postmasters put in for it." Hollingsworth patiently waited until the timing was right for him to take over the position. "Everybody has a goal of where they want to be, and this has been my dream ever since I entered management," he said.

Upon his retirement after 31 years, he said, "I tried to do my best taking care of customers and taking care of my employees and trying to keep the hometown feel of service to the community in a world that is changing every day. My hope is that if I changed one customer's life or one employee's life for the better, that would be my greatest accomplishment."

"One thing I would like to add is to say 'Thank You' to all the employees that have worked with me through the years and my mentors in the postal service. I would not have made it this



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Mike Hollingsworth and his wife, Shelli, display the service award he received from the Manager of Post Office Operations, James Biskner, in honor of his 31 years of service with the United States Postal Service.

far without you, and to my family - Shelli, Ben, Rady, and my late son, Christopher. A big thank you for

being by my side all these years and understanding the long hours and the six- and seven-day work weeks.

I definitely couldn't have made it without you," he said

CHIEF

FROM PAGE A1

passionate about enhancing community policing efforts.

"That is an area of law enforcement that I'm very passionate about. I was a

sergeant in our community policing unit back in the late 90s (and) early 2000s, and that passion just kind of grew through there," he said. "And so, I would really like to see a lot of enhanced efforts on that, and then really just doing my best to

mentor and coach the current employees there to be successful and hopefully be the leaders in the future."

Clark also worked alongside Hunt at the Temple Police Department.

"He and I worked on multiple projects together, and

we really work well together. I know that he really has a lot of compassion about whatever city he works for," he said. "I just think that it would be an extremely nice opportunity to work under his leadership. And, we work well together and do

what we can to make Gatesville a better place."

"Chief Clark's selection represents an exciting opportunity for the police department's continued professional development and service to our community," Hunt said. "Please

look for Chief Clark at upcoming community events, and he will formally begin his tenure on about December 12, 2024."

FOOD

FROM PAGE A1

are," Blanchard said. "We get a lot of people telling us thank you."

Due to the limited availability of food from the Central

Texas Food, donations from Food Families also helps the Care Center purchase additional food items from local grocery stores.

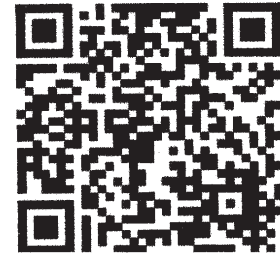
Gatesville's Food for Families started in 1990 when 6,317 pounds were donated.

As the largest one-day

food drive in Central Texas, the ongoing mission of Food For Families is to help feed people in need throughout the region. According to KWTX, Central Texans have generously donated food and money totaling more than \$1 million pounds each year. In

2023, more than 2.6 million pounds of food were collected.

Food For Families has donation sites set up across nine counties. It is sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America, HEB Grocery Company, and KWTX News 10.



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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

In contemplation of the nap



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

My three-year-old granddaughter has mixed feelings about the necessity and appropriateness of her afternoon nap.

On most ordinary days, she has been playing around the house, having fun on the swing set, or going with her grandmother to and from the store, she is a little hesitant about taking a nap. Seems like she fears she might miss out on something, or she wants to

spend her time exploring the world around her rather than laying down to rest. On the other hand, if she has been swimming or gone up and down the deck steps to the lake 50 times to feed "her ducks," she might be worn out and then simply eat her lunch, crawl into

bed, and crash, while our dog Jax lays on the pillow with her. When the little ones have burned up a lot of energy, they cannot fight off the need for sleep, and they simply surrender. Us old guys are a completely different story. We seldom pass up the opportunity to nap.

While at a party this past Saturday, I was sitting on the back porch of a dear friend, and three of us older men got into a discussion about naps. All of us have blown past the age of 60. Long gone are the days when we fought to stay awake or resist a chance to catch a few zzzz's.

I was commenting on how nice the yard, which surrounded the porch, looked, and one fella explained he had mowed the grass that very day and then started to weed eat. The weed eater

was being contrary, and he spent 20 minutes or more fighting the machine, trying to get it to run. He kept asking himself, "aren't you smarter than this weed eater, and can't you figure this out," but it was to no avail. With the high humidity in the air, he managed to work himself into a lather. He saw the porch swing nearby and proceeded to take advantage of the shade and its gentle rocking motion. He claimed that when he sat down it was merely to cool off, but a light breeze blew across his face and the swing rocked gently back and forth, and the next thing he knew he was gone...fast asleep napping.

When his wife walked by the swing, she announced loudly, "you know you fell asleep in that swing, don't ya?" His only response was, "Of course not, I am merely

resting my eyes." He then admitted how easy it was to nap on that swing but confided that if he were really intent on taking an afternoon nap, he would have gotten himself hooked up to his CPAC machine so he could do some "serious damage": meaning sleep for 45 minutes or more.

My other friend confided he also liked naps on his porch swing, but stated he had a standing appointment to nap each day at 2 p.m. No matter what he has going on, he simply stops and takes a nap. He even created a game, called "Nap Roulette." Each day, when he lays down for his nap, he writes down the exact time his head hits the pillow. When he wakes up, he immediately looks at the clock and does the math to determine how many minutes he has been asleep. When he

finally hits the exact same number of minutes that he has recorded from a previous nap, he has won! He did not tell me what the prize was for Nap Roulette, but I get the feeling the pleasure is in the participation not the actual result.

All I know is my two friends sure make naps sound good and something to look forward to when I join them in retirement. In the meantime, I will just keep working away. Oh, by the way, if you need to get ahold of me, I will be in a conference from 1-1:30 p.m. each day this week.

Thought for the day: My Mom told me to follow my dreams, so I took a nap! Until next time!
sam@hcnews.com

LETTER

Time to Shine!

I love Food for Families each year. I love to see the excitement this event creates in so many people in Gatesville and the surrounding area. While Food for Families is not the only "game" in town, it sure seems like it when so many businesses, clubs, organizations, churches, schools, prison units, schools, and individuals get involved and unite with the purpose of helping the needy. I get excited to see everyone else get excited.

I am competitive and I like to win. I like setting our own record in the number of pounds collected. I stagger to tell you that over the last three years, we have averaged giving 706,000-plus pounds from this area. What word would you use to describe this accomplishment? Phenomenal? Spectacular? Unbelievable? Wow? Awesome? Amazing? Mind-boggling? Staggering? Indescribable? Pick a word or choose all of them. How-

ever you boil it down, it is a sight to see and a very emotional day to experience.

I can't adequately describe Food for Families and I cannot adequately thank everyone for their sacrifice in money, food, and work to make this happen. I just love to be a part of a community and surrounding area that opens up their heart every year to make sure the hungry are fed.

And, we are feeding a lot of people through everyone's generosity. We are currently serving approximately 400 families each month, with the whopping number of brand-new families served this year in excess of 170 families. We are able, through your generosity, to put about sixty food items in their box each month, a bag of toiletries each quarter, a Thanksgiving bag of food, and a Christmas bag of food that has about fourteen items and a turkey or ham.

I have always been impressed with the fact that what we gather in Food for

Families will take care of our hungry all year long without holding out our hand to ask for any donation. I am so appreciative of this general area of people who truly shine when it is time to shine.

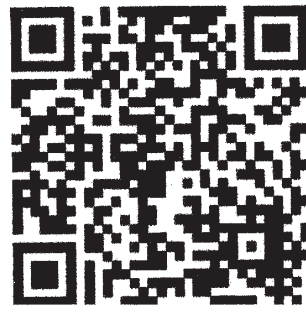
You might be interested in knowing that we are not able to get from the Food Bank in Austin the volume of food we formerly were able to secure. Thus, we spent last year \$172,000 for food at our local stores. Again, I am so thankful that we are able to make these purchases from your generous giving, so we can continue to feed those in need.

Food for Families will be held at the Gatesville Fire Station Friday, Nov. 22 from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. I am excited to see again our people do what they do best - take care of their fellow man.

You also may be interested in knowing you have the option to donate online by going to KWTX-Food for Families-Financial Support and selecting Gatesville Care Center. You can choose

to use PayPal or Venmo. Or, you can use the QR codes to donate.

With grateful hearts,
Deral McWhorter and
Debbie Blanchard
Care Center Co-Directors



PayPal



Venmo

Folks around town



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Morgan Woodson

Say hello to our neighbor, Morgan Woodson!

Say hello to our neighbor, Morgan Woodson!

Morgan is a tax clerk at the Coryell County Tax Office, which recently moved to a new location at 800 East Main Street, Suite B. She enjoys her job and said, "It is a great opportunity for a stable job and great pensions for later on in life." She has lived in Gatesville since she was born and expressed that she will likely still be here until she meets the good Lord. When reflecting on why she loves her hometown she said, "Businesses are so diverse, so you can find everything you need right here in our town!"

Morgan reads The Gatesville Messenger and said, "They are committed to the people they serve. I personally enjoy reading the 'Whatever Happened To' and Mound News!"

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

Closures in observance of Thanksgiving Day

Staff Reports

Business and governmental offices across Coryell County will join the rest of the nation in celebrating Thanksgiving on Thursday, Nov. 28.

In 1789, George Washington set aside a National Day of Thanks.

Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation calling for a federal Thanksgiving holiday in 1861, writing that the country's gifts from God "should be solemnly,

reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people."

Closings in the immediate area include:

GOVERNMENT

The City of Gatesville and The Coryell County Courthouse will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29. The City of Oglesby and the City of Evant will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28.

SCHOOLS

Gatesville Independent School District and Oglesby ISD will be closed from Monday, Nov. 25 to Friday, Nov. 29. Evant ISD will be closed from Monday, Nov. 25 to Friday, Nov. 29 and will be closed again on Monday, Dec. 2 for a staff/student holiday. Jonesboro ISD will be closed from Wednesday, Nov. 27 to Friday, Nov. 29.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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

and Oglesby will be closed on Nov. 28.

POST OFFICES

All local post offices will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28.

SENIOR CENTER

The Gatesville Multi-Service Center will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29.

NEWSPAPER

The Gatesville Messenger will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29.



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

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Who needs the baker when you've got the crazy water



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

The Baker Hotel in Mineral Wells is a twin to the Arlington in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The Baker has been the talk of the town, but a real treasure is in the shadow of the Baker.

It's the Crazy Water Hotel built before the Baker came into existence. The Crazy Water is called

the heartbeat of Mineral Wells. It was built in 1912, burned in 1925, and rebuilt in 1927.

"The Baker opened in 1929, says Cynthia Nelson, who manages the Crazy Water. "It was important to Mr. Baker that the Baker be twice as tall as the Crazy Water. So, we're at seven stories, and the Baker has 14. The Baker closed in 1972 and is being restored. It has been under construction for more than 50 years and it's due to reopen in 2029."

The Crazy Water has 62 rooms. Sixty of them have full kitchens. The Presidential Suite has over 1700 square feet. The building was closed as a hotel in 1960 and became a retirement facility until 2010 when it became vacant. In 2018, some local investors

brought it back to life and opened in 2022 as a full service hotel. Some of the first guests were the cast of "1883," which was being filmed near Mineral Wells.

"We have twelve apartments. They're all rented, and we do have a number of long-term stays."

The Crazy Water covers an entire city block and has a huge pavilion adjacent to the lobby that has upscale shops, a museum, and a water bar.

"The shops are really world class. They've done an amazing job. It's a perfect place to buy handbags and shoes. So, if you're looking for a Consuela bag or Louis Vuitton vintage bag, they have all the things

to delight the senses. The toy store is out of this world. It's like something you might find in New York City. It's really great. Then, of course, there's the salon, the coffee bar, the brewery, and the restaurant. We've got a lot going on here."

The top floor of the hotel has a ballroom and an outdoor patio.

"We have weddings up there both indoors and outdoors. It's the best place for photos. We've had coronations, head shots, birthday photos, and lots of folks just want to come up here and use the space for photos. You've got the open air and the Baker in the background."

The rooftop offers a good view of the Baker. Both the Baker and Crazy Water are under the same ownership and management.

Mineral Wells had its heyday when people went there, because there were claims for health benefits from drinking the water. It was before the Food and Drug Administration, and people could make claims that the water cured all sorts of ill. The term Crazy Water came about when a woman with mental problems drank the water and was said to have been cured.



COURTESY PHOTO

If you know someone who struggles with low vision or blindness, the meeting facilitated by Jolene Bean may be helpful.

Enjoying life with low vision, Nov. 20

Submitted by Becky Jones

Do you have a loved one or friend who struggles with low vision or blindness? Many surprising resources exist to make life better, but at times it is difficult to find out what is available. The Gatesville Public Library would like to remedy that.

Please join us for an empowering discussion on Enjoying Life with Low Vision - Tips, Tricks, and

Resources to Help You Live Well, on Wednesday, Nov. 20, from 2-4 p.m. at the Council Chambers. You can park behind the City Auditorium and enter through the large back door.

This meeting will be facilitated by Jolene Bean and will be packed with tips and resources for improving the quality of life to make it more rewarding. Jolene spent her busy career as a medical doctor,

but then lost her vision. After struggling through the transition from seeing to near blindness, Jolene decided to do something about it. She attended many training courses and became educated in resources available to those blind or with low vision, learned many tips and tricks to make her own life better, and developed a positive attitude that served her well when facing new challenges. Now,

her goal is to inspire and encourage others by sharing what she has learned.

If you or someone you know is interested in attending this uplifting workshop, please call the Gatesville Public Library at 254-865-5367 to reserve your place. Those blind or with low vision as well as all caregivers are urged to attend.

SUDOKU

Puzzle answers from the Nov. 9, 2024 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Gears & Grub car meet set for Nov. 24

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce is hosting its inaugural car meet, "Gears and Grub," on Sunday, Nov. 24, from 3-6 p.m. at the Chamber Depot.

This is a community event for seasoned car collectors to share, connect, and show off their prized vehicles.

There will be Chicago-style hotdogs for \$6 as well as Grease Monkey Nachoes for \$5. Drinks will cost \$2, and food trucks are to be determined at this time.

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce is located at 2307 Highway 36.

For further information, contact 254-865-2617.

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)
Estimated construction passed the \$9 million mark for the year in Gatesville. Chapter 74 of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) conducted a flag-raising ceremony at Slater Cemetery. An attempt to control the jail population by cutting back on the number of minor misdemeanor arrests met with opposition. Gatesville ISD third grader

Katy Floyd received a fiddle from an anonymous donor at the Pearl Bluegrass Music Festival. Evant ISD was set to host its 10th Annual "Salute to Veterans" concert. **30 YEARS AGO (1994)** Hill Road was renamed Blakely Road. Volunteers at the Hughes Unit prepared for the upcoming Annual Christmas Parade. Residents of Gatesville

turned out in large numbers to vote for the upcoming \$7.5 million bond election. Tranum Ford & Mercury advertised no car payments until January 1995. The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce and Agribusiness conducted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for The Movie Shop. **40 YEARS AGO (1984)** Temple Jewelers advertised a 75% off sale on 14K gold.

A rezoning request was approved by the city council to enable National Bank to erect a storage building on a lot immediately north of the bank's parking lot on 10th Street. Wal-Mart advertised a holiday portrait package for \$9.70. Dr. Jerry W. Sayre, of Gatesville, was recertified as a diplomat of the American Board of Family Practice.

The Turnersville volunteer Fire Department had its annual fundraising barbecue. **50 YEARS AGO (1974)** The Coryell County pecan harvest was expected to yield around four million pounds of nuts. Gatesville's school board adopted a tighter disciplinary policy throughout the entire system following thefts, burglaries, and vandalism at the schools.

The annual Christmas Pilgrimage of Homes was set to be held. Xi Iota Epsilon chapter of Beta Sigma Phi devised a Memorial Christmas Tree Lighting Program. Gatesville was officially designated a national bicentennial community by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration.

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PEARL NEWS

A big sale is coming to Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop



BY BETSY CLARK
Pearl News Correspondent

Big News! The Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop is preparing for a big sale on Dec. 7, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. It's the "Buy What You Want, Pay What You Want by the Box" sale.

Linda and Ronald have been working hard all week to gather items for the boxes, and it looks great. Along with the 6,000 gently used books, there are so many wonderful items available that you will have a hard time making up your mind

exactly what you need to buy and take home. In fact, with this sale, you really won't have to make purchase decisions. Just buy it all! Remember, all purchases go toward supporting the store's local charities. It's a win/win situation. Be sure

to mark this date on your calendar. Invite your friends and family to tag along. You don't want to deprive them of this big opportunity. You might be able to mark Christmas shopping as "done!"

For just \$5, you can set up a flea market style booth around the cabin at the bookstore on Dec. 7. The \$5 fee goes toward the Pearl Community Center operating expenses. The only things you cannot sell are food items. This is a great opportunity to sell your homemade crafts or other new and used items, especially since this is right before Christmas. For more information, call Linda Ray at 254-865-9282 or Kay Pruett at 254-865-5864.

Bands wanted. The next Pearl Bluegrass event will be held on Dec. 7. It's so easy to be able to bring your

band and play on the stage. Just put your band's name on the chalkboard outside the kitchen. That's it! That's all you do. Chris and Garrett will be glad to answer questions about playing on the stage, and you can find them somewhere in the Community Center building. The stage show starts at 1 p.m. If you're interested in jamming, bring your instrument and join any of the jams going on all day in and around the Community Center. Pearl is such a friendly place, and you will love that others who enjoy good music like you will welcome you with open arms. Put it on your calendar. Pearl, Dec. 7, be there. There's no place like Pearl!

The Bluegrass Kitchen will be open from 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. on Dec. 7. Along with listening to great bands,

jamming with other musicians, and shopping at the bookstore, you can grab delicious lunch and snack items as well. The cash only kitchen provides homemade meal and dessert fare for either "eat in" or "to go." Also, the kitchen welcomes volunteers to either help in the kitchen or donate homemade foods. All purchases go toward the expenses of operating the Pearl Community Center. Your family and friends will thank you for inviting them to eat with you. Come one, come all to the best little spot in Central Texas. Everyone is welcome!

Kay Pruett enjoyed a week-long visit from her granddaughter and precious little great-granddaughter from Colorado this past week. Be sure and drop by the bookstore on Dec. 7 to see pictures of her

cuties. I know there were many tears when they left, and even Pearl the dog was sad. Us grandmas know that feeling. However, we've also been known to sleep for a week afterward, hoping to see them again very soon.

This week's Bible verse comes from Philippians 4:6,7—Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your 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 betsyclarck47@yahoo.com

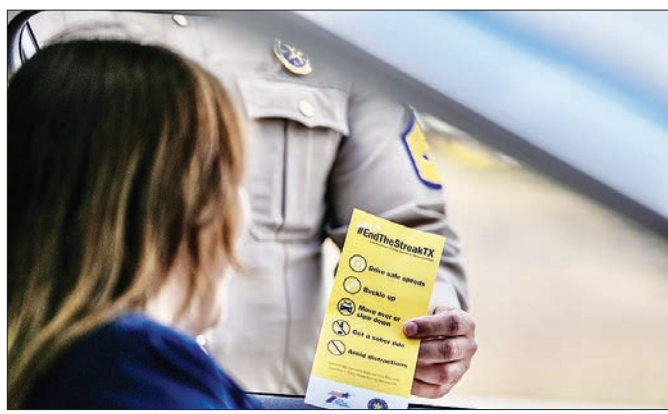


PHOTO COURTESY OF TXDOT

On Nov. 7, the DPS began handing out flyers with safety messages during traffic stops.

TxDOT partners with DPS to help end the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways

Press Release

Every day for the past 24 years someone has died on a Texas roadway. Every. Single. Day.

On the anniversary of the last deathless day on Nov. 7, 2000, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) are working together to share safe driving messages in hopes to finally end this deadly streak.

The two agencies are joining forces because ending fatal crashes will take all of us. TxDOT is working to engineer safety solutions and educate drivers on safe practices while DPS enforces the laws of the road. However, drivers are the most important partners, which is why DPS troopers will be handing out tip cards during traffic stops to encourage safe driving behaviors.

"After more than two decades, it's long past time to end the streak of daily deaths on our roadways, but it'll take all of us to get it done," TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams said. "Each life lost is a mother, father, brother, sister, or friend, and we need to work together to make sure everyone can get home safely."

Last year, 4,289 people were killed on Texas roads, and so far in 2024, Texas is averaging 10 roadway deaths per day.

Some of the top causes of crashes make up part of the cards that troopers will hand out for two weeks, which started on Nov. 7. The messages include:

- Drive safe speeds
- Buckle up
- Move over or slow down
- Get a sober ride
- Avoid distractions

Lives instantly altered
Since Nov. 7, 2000, more than 87,000 people have been killed on Texas roads.

One life lost was Aspen Blessing, a vibrant 18-year-old who was killed in March after her car was struck head-on by a drunk driver in Callahan County. Forever changed by one person's choice to drink and drive,

her family is left with a massive void.

"The hardest part is that Aspen did everything right," Jen Blessing, Aspen's mother said. "She was not speeding. She was wearing her seatbelt. She wasn't distracted. One man's bad choice cost Aspen, our family, and his family everything."

Blessing and her family are working with TxDOT to help prevent other families from suffering a similar tragedy.

Roadway safety improvements

TxDOT is committed to enhancing safety on roads throughout the state, investing \$17 billion in safety improvements through the state's 10-year plan. TxDOT also works tirelessly to develop safety innovations that can have significant impacts.

One improvement implemented this year in Fort Worth uses cameras to identify pedestrians on major roadways, targeting areas where people have been hit after trying to cross. It detects them early on, notifies law enforcement, and helps them respond before they step out on the road. This has led to a drop in pedestrian crashes on these highways since they were installed in January. It's just one example of the many innovative and engineering improvements TxDOT makes every year.

Deadly streak nearly ends

In January, Texas experienced one day with just one traffic fatality caused by a driver running a stop sign.

"A single life lost is too many, but this shows us that it can be done," TxDOT Deputy Executive Director Brandye Hendrickson said. "We've been close a few times in recent years. Safety is paramount when we design, build, and maintain roads, and it also must be the top priority when we're driving on them."

We can all do our part to #EndTheStreakTX of daily deaths.

Contact Media Relations at MediaRelations@txdot.gov or 512-463-8700.

AMENTS RECEIVE YARD OF THE MONTH HONORS



COURTESY PHOTO

Keep Gatesville Beautiful has selected the home of Charles and Debbie Ament at 208 River Place West as the November Yard of the Month. The Aments are both retired Gatesville Independent School District educators. They have lived at this address for 21 years, and over time have worked to create a beautiful yard, graced with lush green and myriad plants and beds. A large, colorful, metal turkey catches the eye in the foreground of the front porch, which is decorated artfully with a combination of metal art, including an orange, Texas longhorn skull, potted plants, and assorted pumpkins, combining to make a lovely and creative seasonal display. A prominent feature of the left front yard is a large brick-edged bed displaying a huge popcorn plant full of bright yellow blooms and surrounded by purple fountain grass and miniature oleander. Behind this bed stands a large Jane magnolia. On the right side of the home, a charming corner bed is planted with purple heart, potted plants, and vines that climb the brick behind a stone statue of a young girl.

NRCS Texas accepting applications for Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

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 landowners through the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). While the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) accepts easement applications on a continuous basis, applications for the 2025 fiscal year ACEP funding consideration must be submitted

to NRCS by Dec. 6, 2024. Any applications that are received after Dec. 6, 2024, will be considered in future funding opportunities. Application package information may be found on the Texas NRCS Easement Program webpage. ACEP Agricultural Land Easements provide financial assistance to eligible partners for purchasing easements that protect the agricultural use and conservation values of eligible land. In the case of working farms, the program helps farmers and

ranchers keep their land in agriculture. The program also protects grazing uses and related conservation values by conserving valuable grasslands in Texas.

Eligible partners include Indian tribes, state and local governments, and non-governmental organizations that have farmland or grassland protection programs.

ACEP Wetlands Reserve Easements allow landowners to successfully restore, enhance, and protect wetlands, which have been previously degraded due to

agricultural uses. The restoration activities provide benefits such as reducing damage from flooding, recharging groundwater, and improving habitat for wildlife. Tribal landowners also have the option of enrolling land in 30-year contracts.

For more information about NRCS and its conservation programs, visit the Texas NRCS website at www.nrcs.usda.gov/Texas or by contacting your local USDA Service Center.

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OBITUARIES

Virginia McDonald

Jan. 12, 1942 - Nov. 6, 2024

On Jan. 12, 1942, Virginia McDonald was born to the parentage of the late Mr. Louis Dixon Sr. and Curtis Mae Coleman Dixon. She was the sister to three brothers and four sisters, of whom, four sisters, Bertha Carroll, Lucille Dixon, Elizabeth Fowler, and Adene James along with two brothers, Reverend Louis Dixon Jr. and Willie D. Dixon, have all preceded her in death. Her husband, Howard McDonald Sr. and son, Howard (Bub) McDonald Jr., also preceded her in death.



Virginia attended and graduated from G.W. Jackson High School in Corsicana. She then met and married Howard W. McDonald on Dec. 26, 1958. To that union they shared six children. Virginia and her family moved to Gatesville in 1961.

Virginia accepted Christ at an early age. Every Sunday morning her home was filled with the joyous sounds of her favorite gospel artists, including Shirley Ceasar, Rev. James Cleveland, the Mississippi Mass Choir, and Mahalia Jackson, to name a few. She and her family were pastored under the late Rev. H. Broaden, Rev. Debose, and the late Rev. Willie Clark.

Mrs. Virginia, as most called her in the tight-knit community of Gatesville, loved to hot press and curl hair for all her surrounding neighbors. On any given day you could hear that hot comb sizzling and the curlers burning. She was the best at what she loved to do.

Virginia was also employed at the Rotunda nursing home where she completed a nursing program through the

local hospital to become a licensed vocational nurse. She obtained her nursing license certification on Dec. 27, 1977. She later went on to work for and retire from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). While working at TDCJ, Virginia was recognized and honored for her work in the medical department as nurse of the year.

Virginia was a loving wife, mother, sister, and daughter. Anything she could do for her family; she did it. She cherished her time with all of her family. Virginia leaves to cherish in her memory and life her four daughters, Lovetta Knox (Jimmy); Marilyn McDonald; Laura Smart (Michael); Aretha Hawkins; one son, Homer McDonald; nineteen grandchildren; twenty-five great grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; one brother, Freddie Dixon (Mary); and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Memorials in honor of Virginia may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 781449 San Antonio, TX, 78278 or the Alzheimer's Texas Association, 7000 N. Mopac Expy #200, Austin, TX, 78731.

Cynthia Ann Botkin

Sept. 7, 1940 - Nov. 6, 2024

Cynthia Ann Botkin, age 84, of Gatesville, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 8, at Scott's Funeral Home with Pastor Carlos Webb officiating. Interment followed at Flint Creek Cemetery.

Cynthia Ann Lam was born Saturday, Sept. 7, 1940, to the late George Stanley and Mary Olivia (Ola) Lam in Gatesville. She grew up in Gatesville with her brothers and sisters. She attended Gatesville High School where she was named Homecoming Queen and graduated in 1958. She married the love of her life, Gary Botkin Sr., on July 17, 1959. Gary and Cynthia made their home in every town Gary traveled to for work, before settling down in La Porte and later in Gatesville. Cynthia loved her family more than anyone could imagine. Her favorite titles in life were "Mom" and "Grandma." She was the definition of a nurturer to all who crossed her path and even more so to her family. She loved babies and kids so much she made it her career by founding and operating Kids R Us Daycare in Gatesville, where she was known as the town Grandma. She retired from working and enjoyed many years of retirement, traveling with her husband and friends. She loved her Dallas Cowboys so very much and would never miss a game. Some of her most favorite times were Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Schlitterbahn trips, because she was with her family. She was most proud of her Gary, three



children, 10 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

Cynthia was preceded in death by her loving husband of 65 years, Gary Botkin Sr., her parents, George Stanley and Mary Olivia Lam; brother and sisters Virginia (Chug) Cosgrove, George Lam Jr, Marshall (Dixie) Lam, Mary Ruth Lam, Jack Lam, and Sue Applegate.

She is survived by daughter, Lisa Gay Patterson and husband, Mike; sons, Gary Landon Botkin Jr. and wife, Lori, and Blake Botkin and wife, Samantha; brother H.M. Lam and sister, Jeanette Baize; grandchildren, Shane Patterson and wife, Casey, Heather Botkin, Jennifer Lejune and husband, Aubrey, Heath Patterson, Landon Botkin and wife, Quenna, Ashley Botkin, Kimberlyn Ask and husband, Hans, Austin Botkin, Rex Owen, and Miranda Owen; great-grandchildren, Jaiden Hataway, Adalyn Collier, William Lejune, Emma Lejune, Archer Lejune, Avery Patterson, Scarlett Monroe, Breck Ask, Reese Botkin, Landon Blake, Chandler Ask, Hayes Patterson, and Banks Ask.

Dorothy Ann Wheeler Jenny

April 14, 1943 - Nov. 8, 2024

Ann Jenny, age 81, died after a very brief battle with cancer on Nov. 8, 2024, at her home in Gatesville. Ann grew up in Georgetown, but Gatesville has been her home since 2000.

She is survived by her husband, Dave; son, David "Tip" Jenny, Jr. (Tracy); daughter, Jessica Bernethy (Justin); and three grandchildren, Devyn and Julia Jenny, and Justin "JJ" Bernethy, Jr. Also surviving are siblings Sarah Wood, of PA, Paula Doerfler, of Georgetown, and Howard Wheeler, of Homestead Heritage at Elm Mott, and numerous nieces and nephews. The family wishes to express their appreciation to Bluebonnet Hospice for their services. They also thank Caralisa Ratliff for her dedication to Ann and Dave.

Services were held at Ramsey Funeral Home in Georgetown on Friday,



Nov. 15, at 2 p.m. with a reception following. The burial was at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Georgetown. Donations and memorials can be made to the church or charity of one's choice in Ann's memory.

Dolores Jean Scott

May 10, 1929 - Nov. 12, 2024

Dolores Scott, age 95, of Gatesville, passed away peacefully on the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024. Her family received visitors on Thursday, Nov. 14, at Scott's Funeral Home. A private graveside service with Dr. Eric Moffett officiating will be held at a later date in the family plot at Gatesville City Cemetery.

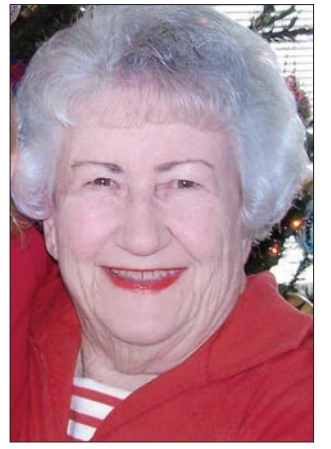
Dolores Jean Scott was born on May 10, 1929, in the small west Texas town of Wink. She was the only child of Floyd Edward Maxey and Dora Lee (Gentry) Maxey. After a brief time spent in Arkansas as an infant, Dolores moved with her mother to Hobbs, New Mexico when she was less than a year old. Dolores was raised in Hobbs where she attended grade school and graduated from Hobbs High School in 1947.

Her early day memories of Hobbs included wooden sidewalks, dirt streets, and people living in tents during the oil boom of the 1930s. As a child, Dolores loved to attend movies and, while attending high school, she worked as an usher in the old Reel Theater in Hobbs.

She began a career in banking about 1950 at the Lea County State Bank in Hobbs, where she was promoted to the position of Operations Officer. She was very involved with the bank operations during the 1950s and 1960s and was recognized as a very dependable and hard worker. Due to her shortness in height, she was referred to at the bank as "Shorty." She had to stand on a Coke box in order to reach the counter so that she could wait on bank customers.

She was married to Don B. Scott on Jan. 15, 1960, in Carlsbad, New Mexico. They made their home in Hobbs for the majority of their married life until her husband's retirement in 1989 when they moved to their family ranch near Gatesville.

Dolores joined First Baptist Church in Hobbs in 1936. Even after moving to Texas, she maintained her church membership at First Baptist Church in Hobbs. She was always an active member of the church and sang in the choir for a number of years. She was a frequent



participant in her Sunday school class and would often assist her teacher with Bible lessons. When needed, she also played the piano for her Sunday school department. She was also noted for helping those church members who were in need by cooking meals and cleaning their homes. In recent years, while living in Gatesville, she attended Trinity Baptist Church and Pecan Grove Baptist Church.

Dolores loved gospel music, reading the Bible, attending church, and spending time with her only grandchild, Alexander.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 51 years, Don Scott; her mother, Dora Gentry Pharis; her father, Floyd Maxey; her stepfather, Jack L. Pharis; her stepmother, Ona Matherly; and her brother, Loren Martin.

She is survived by her son, David L. Scott, and her grandson, Alexander Scott, both of Gatesville. Also surviving is her stepson, Steve Scott, of Peralta, New Mexico; brother, Larry Martin and wife, Barbara Jo, of Heber Springs, Arkansas; and by several nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to thank Hillside Medical Lodge and Amedysis Hospice for their care during her final days.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews at 303 East Wacker Drive, Suite 2300 Chicago, IL 60601-5224 or to St. Jude's Children's Hospital at ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place. Memphis, TN 38105.

Ciryle "Lynn" Gage

Aug. 20, 1945 - Oct. 13, 2024

Lynn was born in Henderson in 1945 to Priscilla and Gene Gage. He passed away at VCU Hospital in Virginia.

Lynn was preceded in death by his mother, Priscilla Walker Gage, in 1992; Father, Eugene "Gene" Edward Gage in 2007; and wife, Susan "Sue" E. Gage in 2020.

He is survived by his daughters, Heather E. Bovee and Amy M. Crawford and husband, Gerald, all of Gatesville; son, William E. Gage and wife, Nicole, of Virginia; daughter, Cori Haywood-Wade, of Virginia; sister, Sandy J. Rascoe and husband, James, of Quinland; sister, Teana Robinson and husband, Nub, of Mt. Enterprise; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Lynn served in the US



Navy for 33 years and was also with the Virginia Department of Transportation for seven years.

He enjoyed going to church, sharing Jesus, and gardening. He never met a stranger and loved helping others. He will be laid to rest in the Gage Cemetery in Rusk County.

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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.

The Gatesville Messenger deadline for obituaries is 10 a.m. Tuesday for the Saturday paper. Deadlines are subject to change during holidays.

RECIPE

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

CHICKEN CHEESE SOUP

BY GAYE SADLER

- 1/3 c. shredded carrot
- 1/2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 2 T. chopped onion
- 1/2 c. American cheese, shredded
- 2 T. oleo
- 1 10.5 oz. can of cream of chicken soup

Cook carrot and onion in butter till almost tender. Stir in soup. Gradually add 1 cup water and the Worcestershire, mixing until smooth. Heat to boiling; add cheese; stir until melted. Serves 2.



Chicken Cheese Soup

PHOTO COURTESY OF TASTE OF HOME

MOUND NEWS

Tippit, OISD tour Tarleton campus



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

On Monday, Jakson Tippit and several students from Oglesby ISD toured Tarleton for their dual enrollment with Tarleton.

Thursday, the Oglesby football team won against Evant, 64-0, in their final

district game. They are set to play Blanket on Friday in Hico for bi-district.

Central Texas Travel Club to meet Oct. 31

Submitted item

The Central Texas Travel Club met on Thursday, Oct. 31, at Johnny's Steaks and Barbeque in Salado.

They discussed upcoming trips, including San Antonio, Macchu Picchu, and Galapagos Island. Anyone interested in travel is invited to attend

the meetings held monthly at Johnny's Steaks and BBQ, located at 301 Thomas Arnold Road in Salado. For more information, contact them on their

Facebook page or at centraltexasravelclub@outlook.com

Righteous Roots, C4 to hold annual winter clothing drive

Staff Reports

Righteous Roots Crisis Resource Center and the Coryell Community Connections Collaborative (C4) is teaming up to host a winter coat and blanket drive for those in need in the community this holiday season.

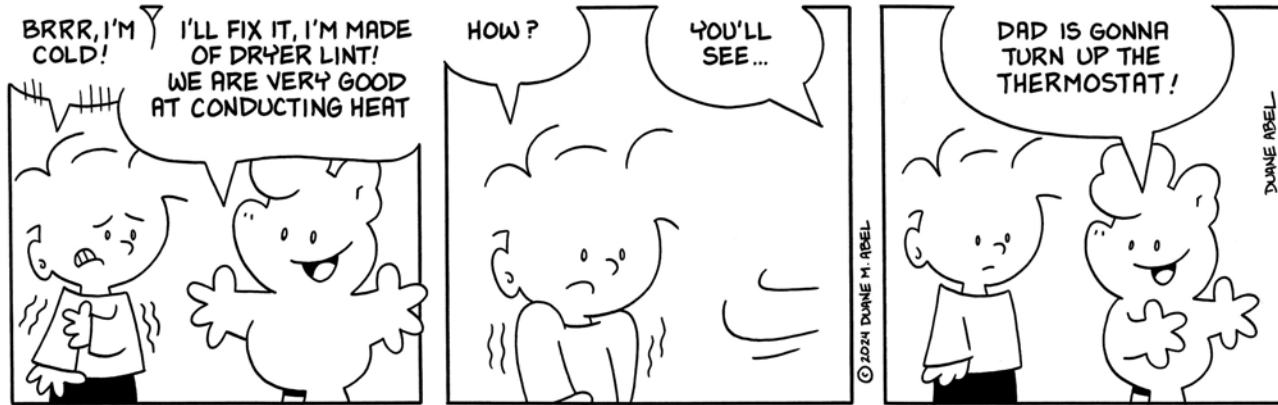
All donations are to be dropped off at Righteous Roots, located at 904 East Leon Street, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

There will be a free giveaway event at the facility on Dec. 19, from 1-5 p.m.

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



ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of Nov. 6 - Nov. 12. 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

- Nov. 6**
12:40 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 600 block of E. Leon Street.
1:48 p.m., an accident was reported in the 5100 block of S. State Highway 36.
7:53 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.
8:16 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 3300 block of S. State Highway 36.
- Nov. 7**
12:35 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of E. Leon Street.
2:13 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1800 block of E. Main Street.
2:40 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1900 block of E. Leon Street.
5:08 p.m., a theft was reported in the 400 block of E. Main Street.
- Nov. 8**
7:20 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.
8:42 a.m., an assault was reported in the 300 block of N. 8th Street.
12:12 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.
5:15 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of E. Main Street.
- Nov. 9**
6:43 a.m., an accident was reported in the 6000 block of E. Highway 84.
11:18 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2200 block of E. Main Street.
1:18 p.m., an unknown type of fire was reported in the 3300 block of E. Main

- Street.
7:11 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.
- Nov. 10**
12:31 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of Shady Lane.
10:48 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2500 block of Oak Drive.
1:43 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2500 block of Jackson Drive.
2:53 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.
- Nov. 11**
1:49 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.
2:46 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Park Lane.
6:54 p.m., a fight was reported in the 100 block of N. 27th Street.
7:40 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of White's Street.
- Nov. 12**
4:10 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of E. Main Street.
7:25 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1600 block of W. Main Street.
3:35 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.
8:53 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the

- 100 block of Carroll Drive.
- CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**
- Nov. 6**
8:09 a.m., a major accident was reported in the 7000 block of S. Highway 36.
9:07 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 300 block of Fowler Street.
9:42 a.m., shots fired were reported in the 4600 block of E. Highway 84.
8:52 p.m., suspicious persons were reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.
- Nov. 7**
7:50 a.m., identity theft was reported in the 200 block of Hamilton Drive.
8:34 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 1690 and Beehouse Road.
10:32 a.m., a scam was reported in the 900 block of Valley Drive.
11:43 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2500 block of County Road 137.
- Nov. 8**
6:39 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 1500 block of County Road 184.
12:55 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 3700 block of FM 929.
7:23 p.m., shots fired were reported in the 2700 block of Pine Circle.

- 8:46 p.m., shots fired were reported on County Road 347 and County Road 321.
- Nov. 9**
11:43 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on Lutheran Church Road and Glass Road.
5:48 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of TX 236.
6:09 p.m., illegal burning was reported in the 1300 block of County Road 318.
8:44 p.m., shots fired were reported in the 700 block of Sierra Vista.
- Nov. 10**
2:51 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in

- the rock quarry off Alfred Drive.
4:41 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 100 block of WB Clarke Road.
11:46 p.m., an assault was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Jail.
- Nov. 11**
2:22 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of Lutheran Church.
12:30 p.m., a minor accident was reported at the Lutheran Church.
6:34 p.m., a reckless driver was reported WB on FM 185.
6:46 p.m. a recovered stolen vehicle was reported on East Range Road and

- Cow House.
- Nov. 12**
6:57 a.m., a minor accident was reported on Lutheran Church Road.
9:09 a.m., a road hazard was reported on Highway 190 South Bypass to I14.
12:41 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 800 block of Estate Circle.
3:57 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 1690 at Beehouse Creek.

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#1 Type Steers		#1 Type Heifers	
200-300 lb.	NO TEST	200-300 lb.	250-289
301-400 lb.	321-351	301-400 lb.	261-281
401-500 lb.	275-315	401-500 lb.	250-291
501-600 lb.	250-287	501-600 lb.	229-243
601-700 lb.	230-263	600-700 lb.	211-271

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November 13, 2024:

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300-400 lb.	335-440	
400-500 lb.	310-420	
500-600 lb.	250-310	
600-700 lb.	235-265	
700-800 lb.	210-235	
No. 1 Heifers		
under 300 lb.	300-375	
300-400 lb.	285-360	
400-500 lb.	260-310	
500-600 lb.	235-265	
600-700 lb.	215-240	
700-800 lb.	190-220	
Slaughter Cows		
High Yielding	115-126	
Low Yielding	100-115	
Fats	105-117	
Thin & Shelly	60-90	
Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)		
Yield Grade 1&2	130-167	
Cow & Calf Pairs		
Young Choice	2300-2800	
Young Fair	1900-2300	
Aged Pairs	Split & Weighed	
Young Pregnancy Test Stocker		
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Coryell County

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 AND FIND ME WHEN
 YOU SEEK ME WITH
 ALL YOUR HEART.**

HEART

JEREMIAH 29:13

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 SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM
 WEDNESDAY SERVICES 6:00 PM

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BAPTIST BETHEL HEIGHTS BAPTIST
 3835 CR 127, Gatesville;
 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
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 the south end of Gatesville
 High School near the
 field house and band hall.
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 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.

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 Domingos a partir de las
 2:00 p.m. Te esperamos!
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 Bible fellowship Sundays
 10 a.m.; 4995 FM 929

INTER-DENOMINATIONAL BOOTS-N-SADDLE COWBOY CHURCH
 Max Gunn, pastor; 254-
 216-1537; 10 miles west
 of Gatesville on HWY
 84; Sundays 10:30 a.m.;
 Wednesdays 7 p.m.;
 Youth Sunday Service
 9:45 a.m.
HIGHWAY 2 HEAVEN BIKER CHURCH
 Monty & Tammy VanHorn,
 pastors; 1608 W. Main
 St., Gatesville; Sunday
 Praise & Worship 11 am,
 Wednesday Bible Study
 Rally-6 p.m.; 254-865-
 4076.

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 SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.

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 Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, DMin., Pastor

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 Gatesville, TX
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WELCOME to our Church

First Methodist Church
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
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2600 E. Main, Gatesville, TX
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037
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Public Notices

Gatesville Independent School District is seeking E-Rate services for E-Rate Funding Year 2025:

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

All interested vendors please visit:

https://portal.usac.org/suite/Form 470 Application Number: 250003092
Please see RFP at:
https://erate.esc12.net/R12/

00031158

CORYELL COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE

Attention Coryell County Residents:

Beginning 11-14-2024 through 11-22-2024, (ending date could be extended, if work not completed) between the hours of 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, CR 100 will have several areas closed due to installation of Culverts. Please use alternate routes and expects delays.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.
TIM CLARY
254-248-4347

00031160

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CITY OF GATESVILLE

The City of Gatesville is soliciting proposals for Hot Mix Asphalt Type D HM&C & HCML.

Copies of the RFP are posted on the City Webpage www.CityofGatesvilleTX.com. Submit 3 copies of the completed Proposal Pricing Form to City of Gatesville Attn: Holly Owens, 803 E. Main Street Gatesville, TX 76528.

The Proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope bearing the title "SEALED PROPOSAL - RFP 2024-001 HotmixType D HM&C & HCML," along with Proposer's name, address, and contact information.

Proposals must be received by the City no later than 2:00 p.m. on December 2, 2024 to be considered.

The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals.

Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals.

00031161

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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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Gatesville plans to apply for the upcoming 2025-2026 Texas Community Development Fund from the Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

These services are being solicited to assist to the City/County in its application and administration of the TxCD-BG contract, if awarded, to support the following Sewer system Improvements in the City of Gatesville.

Accordingly, the City is seeking to contract with a qualified Professional Administrator or Service Provider (individual/firm) to prepare the application and/or administer the awarded contract.

Please submit your proposal of services and a statement of qualifications for the proposed services to the address below:

Holly Owens
City Secretary RE: 2025-2026 TxCDBG Grant Admin
803 E. Main St.
Gatesville, TX 76528

Proposals shall be received by the City/County no later than 3 p.m. on December 2nd.

The City/County reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards.

Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, and Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit proposals.

The City of Gatesville is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

00031162

No. 23-10807

IN THE ESTATE OF GARY PATRICK FRIEDEL, DECEASED

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Gary Patrick Friedel, Deceased, were issued on October 10, 2024, in Cause No. 23-10807, pending in the County Court of Coryell County, Texas, to: Stephanie Ann Friedel.

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

BAIRD, CREWS, SCHILLER, & WHITAKER, P.C.
c/o: STEPHEN T. BRISCHKE
Attorney at Law
15 North Main Street
Temple, Texas 76501

DATED the 7th day of November, 2024.

BAIRD, CREWS, SCHILLER, & WHITAKER, P.C.
Stephen T. Brischke
Attorney at Law
15 North Main Street
Temple, Texas 76501
Telephone: (254) 743-7311
Facsimile: (254) 774-9353
E-mail: stephenbrischke@bcswlaw.com

00031163

102
Real Estate

102
Real Estate

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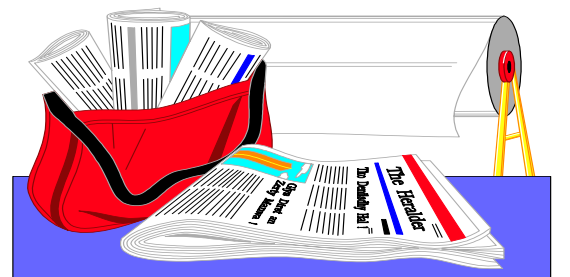
- 117 N. Rice St., Hamilton, TX, Rustic Lantern, over 7,000 sq ft, 2 stories w/2 staircases, kitchen area, old safe, great commercial property. \$399,000
- 520 N. Rice St., Hamilton, TX, Commercial building, over 7,200 sq ft of space, two large spaces on the first floor, commercial kitchen, second story has several rooms with four full baths. \$599,000
- 3 Br, 2 Ba home, 202 Liberty St., Gatesville, TX, laminate wood flooring, vaulted ceiling, fireplace, large backyard, storage shed, 2-car garage. \$275,000
- 1.603 ac., 204 ft. of Hwy, 281 frontage & 300 ft. of frontage on Bell St. Great location for a convenience store, strip center or any retail business. \$369,000
- 8.01 ac. Lot 54 in Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electric & Fiber Optic Internet. \$150,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 44 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. Dry Branch, good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision. Electric & fiber optic internet service. OWER FINANCING AVAILABLE. \$125,000
- 10.01 ac, Lot 39 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. Good tree cover, electric & Fiber Optic Internet service. \$123,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 63 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, season creek, good tree coverage, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, private roads. \$116,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 53 in Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electric & Fiber Optic Internet. \$167,000
- 10.182 ac. Lot 14 Ph 3 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, Langford Branch, good tree coverage, rolling terrain. Electric & Fiber Optic Internet. \$239,900
- 10.697 ac. Lot 9 Ph 4 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, seasonal branch, good tree coverage, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, private roads. \$122,500
- 10.85 ac. Lot 9 Ph 5, Flint Rock Court Evant, TX Rio Escondido Subdivision, good tree cover, electric & fiber optic internet, gated subdivision. \$119,000
- 15 ac. East of Evant, Bear Branch Rd, great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, electricity across road, will need to drill water well for water. \$150,000
- 16.5 ac. Turnersville, open pasture, good views, paved CR 220. Electricity across road, check w/ Coryell City Water on availability of water meter. \$206,500
- 18.1 ac. south of Evant, near Adamsville, Lampasas County, Hwy 281 & CR 2830. water well, electricity, carport, rolling terrain, good tree cover \$360,000
- 20 ac. Lot 23 Ph 1, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX, good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, electric available, Fiber Optic Internet. \$215,000
- 20.08 ac. Lots 10 & 11 Ph 5 Rio Escondido Subdivision. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, electric & Fiber Optic Internet Service. \$238,000
- 25.06 ac. Pottsville, TX Lot 31 Paloma Vista Subdivision. rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, great views. electricity available. \$225,000
- 47.332 ac. South of Ireland, TX, good tree cover, rolling terrain, good fencing on 3 sides, southside will need to be fenced. \$350,000
- 68.9 ac, 3/2.5 rock home, 101 Mac Dr., Gatesville, approx. 2900 ft Leon River frontage, ceramic tile floors, carpet in bedrooms, vaulted ceiling, rock fireplace, granite countertops, breakfast bar, garden tub, metal building 45'x24' barn, cattle pens, 1 tank, approx. 48 ac of coastal. \$1,249,500
- 129.81 ac. Purnela, TX, Coryell County, heavy tree cover, rolling terrain, one stock tank, Honey Creek, fenced on three sides, deeded access easement. \$975,000
- 210 ac. Carlton, Comanche County, Resley Creek frontage, water well, electric, cattle pens, 2 tanks, good tree cover, 48 ac. improved grass, good fences. \$1,450,000
- 620 ac. 3 Br, 2 Ba home, fireplace, ceramic tile floors, covered outdoor cooking patio, 38 ft X 25 ft. building, 2 lakes, one being approx. 10 acres and the other one just under 5 acres and 3 smaller stock tanks, approx. 8500 ft of Bee Creek running through the property with 20 ft to 40 ft limestone bluffs along the creek, good rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$6,200,000

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045
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060
Garage Sale

Christmas tree sale on the front porch! 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Sat., 11/16. The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. 00031151

DOLLAR SALE! Tues., 11/19 - Sat., 11/23. The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. 00031152

078
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CLASSIFIEDS

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Public Notices

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF CORYELL

Date and Time of Sale: The first Tuesday of the month, December 3, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

TAX SUIT NO. CTX-15-03214
COPPERAS COVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
VS.

UNKNOWN HEIRS TO THE ESTATE OF WILBUR G. ROSEBERRY AKA WILLE G. ROSEBERRY, ET AL.

Tract 1: Lot 19 of the Mountain View Subdivision, Coryell County, Texas, being that property more particularly described at Volume 228, Page 426, et seq., Deed Records of Coryell County, Texas. (Tax Account No. 122715)

DATE OF JUDGMENT: JANUARY 13, 2023
DATE OF LEVY: OCTOBER 29, 2024

TAX SUIT NO. CTX-16-03272
COPPERAS COVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
VS.

UNKNOWN HEIRS OF RICHARD J. HADDOCK, ET AL.

Tract 1: Lot 7, Block 3, of the Revision of Blocks 1, 2, 3, and 4 and Lots 1 and 26, Block 9 of the First Revision of Fairview Addition No.3 to the City of Copperas Cove, Coryell County, Texas, as more particularly described in the map or plat thereof recorded in Volume 1, Page 60, Plat Records of Coryell County, Texas. (Tax Account No. 119353)

DATE OF JUDGMENT: MARCH 25, 2022
DATE OF LEVY: OCTOBER 29, 2024

TAX SUIT NO. CTX-18-03530
COPPERAS COVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
VS.

HENRY BARR

Tract 1: 2.50 acres, more or less, being a part of Tract 25W, Kubitz Place Addition, an Addition to Coryell County, Texas being that property more particularly described in County Clerk's File No. 150402, Official Public Records of Coryell County, Texas (TAX ACCOUNT NO. 120885).

DATE OF JUDGMENT: AUGUST 23, 2024
DATE OF LEVY: OCTOBER 29, 2024

TAX SUIT NO. CTX-22-03743
COPPERAS COVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
VS.

UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ROBERT MOSS, ET AL.

Tract 1: Lot 8, Block 10, Hillside Addition to the City of Copperas Cove, Coryell County, Texas according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Volume 2, Page 33, Plat Records of Coryell County, Texas. (Tax Account No. 120330)

DATE OF JUDGMENT: AUGUST 23, 2024
DATE OF LEVY: OCTOBER 29, 2024

TAX SUIT NO. CTX-24-03908
COPPERAS COVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
VS.

AMANDA KAY RAINE

Tract 1: Lot 4, Block 3, Bluestem Estates, First Unit, Coryell County, Texas being that property more particularly described at Instrument No. 320487 of the Coryell County Public Records (Tax Account No. 117079)

Tract 2: Lot 4A, Block 3, Bluestem Estates, First Unit, Coryell County, Texas being that property more particularly described at Instrument No. 320487 of the Coryell County Public Records (Tax Account No. 117080)

DATE OF JUDGMENT: AUGUST 23, 2024
DATE OF LEVY: OCTOBER 29, 2024

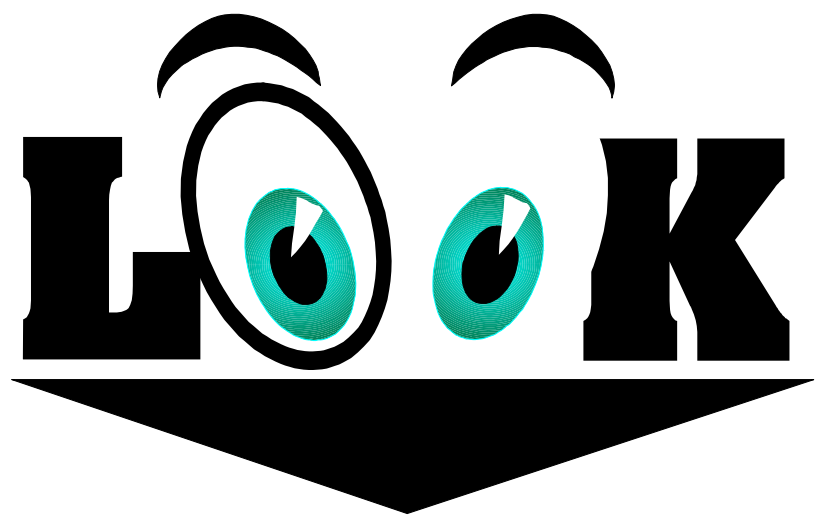
Listed in the caption above are delinquent tax suits in which Judgments of Foreclosure have been rendered and Orders of Sale have been issued. The listing for each suit sets out: (1) the Cause Number; (2) the Plaintiff Tax Unit; (3) the Defendants; (4) the date of the Judgment; (5) the date of Levy; and (6) the Property Description. Under the Order of Sale issued pursuant to each Judgment above listed, I did at the time specified for each suit levy upon each Property in such suit as described above as the property of the Defendants named or designated in such suit. On the sale date specified above, which is the first Tuesday of said month, I will offer and sell at public auction, for cash, each property described above, and all the right, title, interest and estate in and to each such property owned or claimed by the Defendants named in connection with each such property; PROVIDED, however, that no property shall be sold directly or indirectly to anyone other than a Tax Unit which is a party to that specific suit for less than the total amount of taxes, penalties, interest and costs due against that particular property or any adjudged value decreed, whichever is lower.

The foreclosure sales under this notice will be held on the first Tuesday of said month, at the North Door of the Coryell County Courthouse of said County, at the time set out above, by and through PERDUE, BRANDON, FIELDER, COLLINS & MOTT, LLP, 3301 Northland Drive, Ste. 505, Austin, Texas 78731, Telephone (512) 302-0190 and Telecopier (512) 302-1802, my authorized representative. The sale of each property shall be subject to the rights of the Defendants named in connection with each particular property, and any successors in title, to redeem such specified property in the time and manner provided by law; and subject also to the rights of any defendants to have each particular property owned or claimed by such defendants divided and sold in less divisions than the whole as provided by law. The sale as to each property is to be made to satisfy the Judgment rendered against that particular property and the Defendants named in connection with that particular property. The proceeds of the Sale of each property are to be applied to the satisfaction of the Judgment against that particular property, and the remainder of the sale proceeds, if any, are to be applied as the law directs.

Dated at Gatesville, being the County Seat of Coryell County, Texas, on this the _____ day of _____, 2024.

SHERIFF OF CORYELL COUNTY

By: _____
Deputy



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Tips to simplify your Thanksgiving dinner menu

Thanksgiving is a much anticipated and beloved holiday. Celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November, Thanksgiving in each country offers families and friends an opportunity to gather and break bread together.

Food is indeed a focus of Thanksgiving in both Canada and the United States, and that can be a little overwhelming if not intimidating for those tasked with hosting the celebration. Guests might come to expect certain Thanksgiving staples, including turkey and mashed potatoes. Such expectations can make it easier to plan a Thanksgiving menu, and sticking to Turkey Day standard bearers is not the only way to simplify meal planning on this beloved holiday.

· Accept help, but keep it limited. It's customary for loved ones invited to Thanksgiving celebrations to offer to bring a dish to dinner, and that can alleviate some of the work hosts are tasked with managing. However, hosts can keep things simple by asking only a small handful of guests to prepare a side dish. Once the quota is filled, politely decline any additional offers to bring food. It can be hard to find space on the table if too many guests bring dishes from home, and that can lead to hurt feelings if certain sides are ignored or left on the kitchen counter due to a lack of real estate.

· Explain your desire to reduce food waste. Another way to simplify the meal is to avoid succumbing to the temptation to cook too much food. Guests may expect to go home with full bellies. Indeed, the Calorie Control Council notes that Americans consume between 3,000 and 4,500 calories during Thanksgiving celebrations. Such consumption is not only unhealthy for humans, but the planet as well. The U.S.-based nonprofit ReFED, which is devoted to stopping food waste, estimated that Americans would waste 312 million pounds of food on Thanksgiving 2023.

Hosts who want to avoid cooking excessive amounts of food, much of which may eventually end up in the trash can, can simplify meal prep by cooking less and explaining to guests that they aspire to reduce food waste this Thanksgiving.

· Keep table settings simple. Unless you're planning to post photos of the family meal on Instagram this Thanksgiving, you can skip the more elaborate formal table settings in favor of a simple setup you might use on most nights when dining at home. Polishing the fancy silver and folding cloth napkins in a way that would impress a seasoned maître d' is a time-consuming task that can complicate meal preparation. Keep it simple with less formal settings, which will allow guests to direct their focus

to the task at hand: eating a delicious, homecooked holiday meal.

· Purchase a premade

dessert. It might be tempting to try your hand at a homemade dessert, but it's far easier to purchase pies

and ice cream from a local farmer's market in the days leading up to Thanksgiving. This approach ensures

hosts have it a little easier once the main course has been served and consumed.

A GLANCE BACK IN TIME



COURTESY PHOTO

Waitresses pose in front of the Meeks Café circa 1950. According to a written history of the café, Leonard Meeks and his wife, Inga Christene (Bakke) Meeks, established the café in August of 1931 on the southeast corner of the courthouse square, where it served the community for over four decades. On March 12, 1974, following the death of his wife, Meeks locked the doors of the café for the last time and, after 43 years of service, "Meeks Café was no more."



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Bringing back Christmas cheer: Christmas at the Ballpark

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

To get the community in holiday spirits for the Christmas season, the City of Gatesville is planning to bring a nostalgic Christmas light walkthrough event back to life with Christmas at the Ballpark.

"We haven't had a Christmas light show in Gatesville since 2017," Parks and Recreation Director Seth Phillips said. "Faunt Le Roy Park flooded in 2018 damaging the road around the park, making it unpassable to vehicle traffic. The main goal of the event is to provide families with something to do in Gatesville during the holiday season."

Phillips mentioned that the idea for Christmas at the Ballpark was brought to light by Civic Center Manager Morgan Smart.

Smart expressed that the inspiration for the event came from her love of Christmas and driving around looking at Christmas lights.

"My fondest memories growing up are driving

around Faunt Le Roy Park every year with my family looking at the lights," she said. "I felt like this is something the community has really missed and something that needed to be brought back."

Christmas at the Ballpark will feature a plethora of Christmas lights, which will be placed around the Sports Complex and ballpark. Christmas light viewing will be available from Saturday, Nov. 30 to Tuesday, Dec. 31.

Santa's Workshop will also be open on Dec. 2, Dec. 14, and Dec. 21, from 6-9 p.m. Santa will be present at the ballpark to meet local youth along with various activities offered to event-goers. Activities will include face painting, a coloring station, bounce houses, and a Christmas ornament station. There will be a concession stand open with hot chocolate, coffee, and cookies to purchase.

The Gatesville ISD Jazz Band will perform on Dec. 2, and there will be a Texas Night Before Christmas

Story Walk put together by the library with further information to come. There will also be a Storytime with Santa event during Santa's Workshop on Dec. 21 as well as cookies with Santa. Admission is free to all events.

"We hope that families will be able to stay in Gatesville and enjoy time together walking around the ballpark viewing the light displays," Phillips said. "In the next few years, we aim to expand the light show and make it a tourism opportunity for our community."

The City of Gatesville has been actively setting up for the event since Nov. 4 with hopes of completion on Nov. 27.

The Grand Lighting Ceremony for Christmas at the Ballpark will be held on Dec. 2, at 5:30 p.m.

"My hope is that families are able to make memories together like I was able to do with my family at Faunt Le Roy and for this to be an event that keeps growing, getting better every year,"



COURTESY PHOTO

The City of Gatesville has a new sign on display in honor of Christmas at the Ballpark.

Smart said.

Phillips and Smart both wanted to thank City Manager Brad Hunt for supporting city staff and for allowing the new event to take place. They would also like to thank all Gatesville administration staff, the Public Works Department,

the Parks & Recreation Department, and City Librarian Shea Harp for working hard to make the event happen.

"We would also like to thank Ronnie Sullins with the First National Bank, Higginbotham's, Sam's Automotive & Tire, Kalyn

Siebert, and Walmart for their generous contributions," Smart said. "This would not be made possible without the help and support."



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pamela Bone, Intermediate School teacher, is pictured with the Grinch at last year's Christmas on Marshall St.

Christmas on Marshall St. set for Dec. 7

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District's Christmas on Marshall St. event will make its annual appearance on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the corner of Marshall Street and Hornet Way.

The event will feature food, crafts, jewelry, Santa, kids' activities, handcrafted items, gifts, and more. Christmas on Marshall

St. will host its inaugural weenie dog race at 11 a.m. If interested in participating, meet at the old tennis courts. The registration fee will be \$5 per dog. All dogs must be on a leash and be well-behaved. All proceeds from the races will benefit the Community Outreach Programs of Gatesville ISD.

There will also be a "Deck the Paws" dog

costume parade at noon. There is no entry fee, and it is open to all Christmas canines. There will be prizes awarded to first, second, and third place. Be sure to reserve your spot in the parade by emailing Michelle Martin at mmartin@gatesvilleisd.org.

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

Cookies & Cocoa with Santa Dec. 15

Staff Reports

The American Legion Post 42 will host a cookies and cocoa with Santa come and go event on Sunday, Dec. 15.

The event will be from 1-4 p.m. and will feature a plethora of cookies, snacks, and hot cocoa, for the community to enjoy. Santa will also be present for local youth to visit and discuss

what they want for Christmas this year.

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

For further information, contact 254-865-4134.

Chamber presents Holiday Tour of Homes

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce will present its first Christmas Holiday Tour of Homes throughout December to show the community the Christmas lights and decorations throughout our town.

The tours will take place on Fridays from 7-9 p.m. and Saturday's from 6-9 p.m. The dates include: Dec.

6, Dec. 7, Dec. 13, Dec. 20, and Dec. 21.

The tours will be conducted during a trolley ride, and the starting point will be released once Chamber Liaison Yvonne Williams has a complete list of each of the homes participating in the tour.

The tours will also make a special stop at the ballparks to view the Christmas lights set up for Christmas at the

Ballpark.

If you are interested in adding your home to the tours, be sure to complete a registration form by visiting gatesvillechamber.com. The deadline to sign-up is Thursday, Nov. 21. You will be notified if you are chosen.

For further information, contact the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at 254-865-2617.

Silver Santas collecting donations

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

With December approaching next month, Silver Santas is looking to spread Christmas cheer to the local elderly in need once again this year.

Last year, over 2,700 individual items were donated, as well as monetary donations to provide gifts for residents at Hillside Medical Lodge and The Meadows, along with the Meals on Wheels recipients with the

Gatesville Senior Center.

Items can be donated until Tuesday, Dec. 10. The items include socks, toiletries, back scratchers, large print puzzle books/playing cards, jigsaw puzzles, small notepads, coloring books, coffee/tea, packaged snacks, lotion, soft blankets, lip balm, hats, gloves, scarves, drawing/coloring supplies, magnifying glass, mugs, and small flashlights. Items must be unwrapped

and dropped off to one of the gift collection sites, which include the 1854 Mercantile, Hinds & Marcus, and the First National Bank of Central Texas.

Monetary donations are accepted as well and can be donated through Venmo at Christi-Mooney or Cashapp at christimooney76.

For further information, contact Christi Mooney at 254-223-3699 or Amy Best at 254-223-2277.

Boys & Girls Club to host Christmas plays

Staff Reports

The Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville has announced that it will host two plays in honor of Christmas and the holiday season on Saturday, Dec. 14 at the Gatesville City Auditorium.

The local youth of the Boys & Girls Club will present A Charlie Brown Christmas and The Nutcracker, which will include elegant dancing, music, and festive decorations.

A Charlie Brown Christ-

mas will begin at 5 p.m., and The Nutcracker will commence at 7 p.m.

The Gatesville City Auditorium is located at 110 North 8th Street.

For further information, contact 254-865-8347.

Cowboy Christmas Parade and Holiday Extravaganza to be held Dec. 14

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Christmas Parade with the theme of "Cowboy Christmas" on Saturday, Dec. 14.

The Christmas Parade will begin at 10 a.m., and the route will start at Business 36. Then it will proceed to Lovers Lane where the floats will line up on Hornet Way if there are no parked vehicles on Marshall Street or Lovers Lane.

To enter a float in the parade, it will cost \$10 for chamber members, \$10 for

non-profit organizations, and \$20 for non-members of the chamber. There is no cost for first responders, which includes volunteer fire departments, sheriff's office, police department, etc.

To register a float, visit <https://www.gatesvillechamber.com/2024-christmas-parade>. The deadline is Sunday, Dec. 8.

Following the parade this year, the chamber has partnered with the City of Gatesville to host a Holiday Extravaganza Market at the Gatesville Civic Center, located at 301 Veterans

Memorial Loop.

The Holiday Extravaganza Market will feature vendors for local shopping, family-focused activities, music, and pictures with Santa Claus in Santa's Workshop.

The event is currently full for inside vendor spots but is still searching for food trucks and parking lot vendors. To sign up with a food truck, the cost will be \$50, and parking lot spaces will cost \$30.

To sign up or for further information, contact the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at 254-865-2617.

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Clater, Smith heroics propel Hornets past Cadets

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Take a bow, Zavier Clater. You just etched your name into Gatesville football lore. Clater, a senior linebacker, blocked a Connally field goal attempt with eight seconds left to cap a 20-point fourth quarter comeback and give Gatesville a thrilling 35-34 win over the Cadets on Nov. 9.

Clater's block did more than just lock up a win. It secured a .500 regular season, a fifth straight playoff berth for the first time in program history, and provided a degree of relief from the sting of last-minute losses to the Cadets in 2021 and 2023.

In 2021, Gatesville rallied from 24 points down in the second half only to fall 47-45, thanks to a questionable call on a two-point conversion. In 2023, the Hornets led 29-28 with 38 seconds left before Kiefer Sibley scored a still-unbelievable 49-yard touchdown as time expired.

If a team were ever due for a win, it was these Hornets over these Cadets. Yet, the sting of recent losses was still on the mind of head

coach Aaron Hunter. "You go back to last year's game and you know that you don't have it until the clock strikes zero," Hunter said. That the Hornets were in position to win the game at all was surprising considering the Hornets trailed by twenty points twice in the game. They fell being 20-0 in the first half and were down 34-14 heading into the fourth quarter but tied the game at 34-34 when Rayshon Smith scored his fourth touchdown of the night with 1:18 to go in the game. Leo Leon's extra point gave the Hornets a 35-34 lead and set the stage for a wild finish.

Connally started the drive on their own 40-yard line after a fair catch and quickly drove down to the Gatesville 34-yard line. A penalty, short completion, and an incomplete pass put the Cadets into a 4th-and-9 at the Gatesville 33-yard line.

On the ensuing play, Cadets quarterback Jamarion Vincent was forced to scramble backwards into Gatesville territory before uncorking a 38-yard missile for a completion and a first down at the Gatesville 11-yard line.

Vincent clocked the ball on first down, and the Cadets brought out the field goal unit.

Thanks to losses earlier in the night from Lorena and China Spring, the Hornets were assured of a playoff spot as the No. 4 seed. A win over the Cadets would propel them into the third spot out of the district.

"First, I made sure with coaches that all the (Lorena and China Spring) scores were 100%," said Hunter. "Then I just called that time-out and called the defense over. You could tell they were feeling defeated, but I told them we were already in, so what did they have to lose? This kick doesn't matter, so just go block it."

That's exactly what they did. Clater and senior safety Logan Biggs blew past the Connally edge, took advantage of a slight bobble of the snap from the Cadets holder, and Clater was able to get his hands on the ball for the block.

"Zavier attacks the inside shoulder and Biggs attacks the outside shoulder, and neither of them are scared.



CHRIS ALLMAN | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GHS football standouts Zavier Clater, Durtch Nielsen, and Rayshon Smith.

They laid all out," said Hunter. "They are so good at that because they attack and they are not scared."

It was Clater's third blocked kick of the year and the second time this season that special teams have contributed to a Gatesville win. The Hornets took down China Spring during district thanks to two huge kickoff returns. The Cadets kicked two kickoffs out of bounds and provided Gatesville significantly better field position than a return would have.

Excellence on special teams is a point of pride for Hunter and special teams coach Austin Cole.

"That is what you have to do here. That is stuff that

allows you to be in games. It allows you to steal yards and steal field position and steal possessions," said Hunter. "It goes to show you how good our coaches are because at a lot of schools that falls through the cracks. They don't give it the same attention that they do offense and defense."

The Cadets jumped out to a 20-0 lead in the first half before the Hornets got on the board and cut the lead to 20-7 in the second quarter when Rayshon Smith scored his first touchdown of the night.

"The score right before the half was huge, and I knew defensively that we would figure it out. We were there but we just weren't making tack-

les. Once we got settled in we were fine," said Hunter.

Gatesville cut the lead to 20-14 in the third quarter, but the Cadets responded with 14 unanswered points to take a 34-14.

That's when the Hornets rallied.

They cut the lead to 34-20 on another Smith score then picked up a quick turnover when Grady Keeton intercepted a pass and returned it to the Cadet six-yard line. Two plays later, Gehrig Keeton found Dutch Nielsen in the back of the end zone to cut the lead to 34-27.

Nielsen has three catches in 2024 - two for touchdowns and one for a daz-

PLEASE SEE **HORNETS** | B2

GATESVILLE YOUTH TACKLE FOOTBALL TEAM HEADED TO SUPER BOWL



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLADYS WHITTENBURG

The Gatesville Tackle Football 10U Team will play in the Super Bowl championships following their win in the playoffs against Academy on Nov. 9. The Gatesville team will face McGregor on Nov. 16 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the McGregor High School football stadium. The cheer competition will start at 11 a.m. The 10U league is Gatesville's only Youth Tackle Football team advancing to the Super Bowl. The 6U flag, 8U, and 12U teams qualified for the playoffs.

Girls' basketball programs are gearing up for another exciting year

BY JOHN ENGLISH
Contributing Writer

With girls' basketball season getting underway, local programs are gearing up for what promises to be another exciting year on the hardwood.

Three area teams reached the post-season in 2023-24, and with a glut of returning talent, this season could be even better.

Oglesby was the runner-up in District 25 last season and reached the area round of the playoffs after defeating Avalon by a score of 33-16 in

bi-district. Coach Dylan Segundo said he is optimistic about Oglesby's chances in 2024-25.

"There is a lot of excitement among the girls and the community for what these girls can accomplish this season and, in the future," Segundo said. "Overall, we are a young team, which is going to bring growing pains, but the girls have the right attitude and mindset needed to grow and get better every single day."

The Lady Tigers finished 16-11 overall last season

with a 10-2 mark in district. Players to watch for in Oglesby include guards Presley Robinson and Zarah Wisheart.

Segundo said he believes that his team will compete for a playoff spot this season.

"Even though we are a young team, we have a lot of key players that got a lot of experience last season, which should help us be prepared and to be able to compete with everybody in our district," Segundo said. "Our goal every year is to win dis-

trict, and that is what we are going to be working toward every day."

Over at Jonesboro, the Lady Eagles finished 17-11 overall last season and took third place in district to qualify for the playoffs.

The Lady Eagles lost to Neches in the second round of the post-season and return three starters in Lynlee Deats, Ella Gustin, and Emily Turner.

Coach Chris Simon said he believes his team should have another strong season as well.

"We have many players returning and some incoming players that will make a big impact," Simon said. "We will be coming off a successful volleyball season where the majority of the girls played. This momentum will help us get going in basketball."

For Evant, the Lady Elks finished 17-9 last season and also placed third in district.

First-year coach Benja Stanford said with a move to a new district and returning talent, her team should be just fine in 2024-25.

"This year we are in Dis-

trict 26A," Stanford said. "I think this group of girls will not only be able to compete but make the playoffs. From what I've seen from these athletes, I have high hopes and am excited for the season."

The Lady Elks went 8-4 in district competition last year and return starters Luwi Rodriguez, Molly Waldrum, and Bree Ramirez.

At Gatesville, a 12-19 finish and 3-7 mark in district competition last season has

PLEASE SEE **GIRLS** | B2

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"Always Putting You First!"





Avery Streetman is pictured with her family and coach Guy Dean (back row).

ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Raylee Glover is shown signing her letter of intent to play softball for Weatherford College.

ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Kasey Fitzer is pictured with her family and coach Wendel Jones (back row).

ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GHS athletes sign letters of intent

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Gatesville High School Athletics held a National Letter of Intent signing ceremony on Wednesday, Nov. 13 to honor three members of the senior class of 2025 who have made commitments to play at the collegiate level.

The signees included Kasey Fitzer, tennis, Hardin-Simmons University; Raylee Glover, softball, Weatherford College; and Avery Streetman, golf, LeTourneau University.

The ceremony began with a speech from each of the athletes' coaches.

Coach Wendel Jones said about Fitzer, "She has been a great kid, is very focused, and she has been a great contributor to our tennis team."

Coach Andrea Holdbrook said about Glover, "I am really proud of the kid she has become, the player she has become in the last four years that I have had her. We could talk about her accomplishments and her stats that she contributed to the team, but I think it's more about the type of leader and young lady she is and the way she has been able to go from this goofy little kid to somebody that our kids look up to. I have a special place in my heart for Raylee."

Coach Guy Dean said about Streetman, "Golf is a true skill that is developed over time; it takes a special person to continue to try and fail and continue to push to get better. We live in a world where everybody wants instant success, but in golf there is no instant success, and Avery is one of those special people."

Once the speeches from the coaches concluded, Athletic Director Rickey Phillips asked each of the senior's questions about their time playing sports for Gatesville High School.

Fitzer mentioned that she began playing tennis in the second grade but had thoughts of quitting in junior high school, but she pushed herself to go back to the sport she loves.

"It is something that calmed me down and something that I can always go to," she said.

Glover said that she was four when she started playing t-ball and she is glad that she has stuck with it because she is thankful for where she is now.

Streetman began playing golf in 2020 and is thankful for her time while playing at Gatesville High School.

"It has brought me closer to so many people and has taught me many life lessons," she said.

Phillips then asked what

advice the athletes would give to those who have aspirations to play collegiately as well.

Streetman said, "Stick with it. It is something you are really going to value and put your time into, do not give up. Over and over again, it is prayer after prayer, because God has a plan. Golf is something that means a lot to me and I am not ready to give up just yet."

Glover said, "There will be times where it is going to be hard, but you have coaches who will be there for you."

Fitzer said, "There has been a lot of times where I have wanted to quit, and I did not think I had the heart or ability to do it, but you have coaches and parents who are there for you."

She expressed how her father, Adam Fitzer, has given her plenty of pep talks along the way as well as support from Coach Brit Campbell.

Phillips then ended the ceremony by having each senior express their gratitude to their family, coaches, and friends.

Fitzer said, "Thank you to my parents for all the time you put in; I know tennis is not an easy sport to pay for, but you guys are always there for me and watching me when I want you to. Coach Jones, thank

you for being our coach, you are amazing, and I have no words for you. Coach Campbell, thank you for cheering me up when I need you and I hope you will be there at regionals."

Glover said, "I just want to thank you guys for everything and being there for me through the bad games and the good games. Coach A, thank you for making me be a leader and telling me to adjust when I need it. Michelle, thank you for building my love for this sport. You made me who I am today, and I really appreciate it."

Streetman said, "I think the biggest gratitude I have to give is to my parents. They spent hours and hours watching me and putting money into this sport. I could never be more grateful for the best parents; thank you for tagging along. Thank you, Coach Dean, I don't think I could make it through without you. To my grandparents, I want to say another huge thank you for always blessing me with the greatest opportunities and making sure I am the best that I can be. Thank you, Josiah, for sticking with me through all of these lessons, I know it is not easy, but it has been one of the best years of my life."

GHS honors seniors with Academic All-State awards

Staff Reports

Excellence extends beyond the playing field and into the classroom for many Gatesville High School seniors. This has been proven since six student-athletes were honored with Academic All-State awards as the fall season comes to an end.

The Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA) recognizes high school seniors each year with the Academic All-State based upon their grade point aver-

age, class rank, and ACT/SAT scores.

Recipients of the award include

Girls Cross Country: Vania Martinez, second team

Boys Cross Country: Cameron Thompson, first team and Malachi Olvera, second team

Team Tennis: Ian Rainer, first team and Jahaziel Martinez, second team

Volleyball: Addison Taylor and Vania Martinez, second team



COURTESY PHOTO

Evant standout Luwi Rodriguez will try to help her team get back to the playoffs this season

GIRLS

FROM PAGE B1

the Lady Hornets wanting more in 2024-25.

Coach Whitney Holdbrook said she is impressed by what she has seen from her team so far.

"This early in the season we are showing great work ethic and team chemistry," Holdbrook said.

Gatesville returns four of its five starters from last

year's squad, including Paige Sentillas, Emma Pollard, Taylor Sanderson, and Riley Higginbotham.

Also, keep an eye on Callie Stovall.

"This year we are in a tough district," Holdbrook said. "But I believe we will be in the hunt for a playoff spot."

HORNETS

FROM PAGE B1

zling and crucial first down in the Hornets win over China Spring. The Hornets lost do-it-all star Amos Phillips in the second half, forcing a number of players into emergency duty in other offensive positions.

The Hornets stopped the next Cadet drive in just five plays and forced a punt to give the Hornets the ball at their own 10-yard line and trailing 34-27.

The ensuing 10-play, 90-yard drive featured nine rushes from Smith and Dylan Watt as well as a 26-yard completion from Gehrig Keeton to Jack Erwin. The drive was capped by Smith's 12-yard score and Leon's kick that proved to be the game-winner.

Not noted on the stat sheet will be the performance of the offensive line in the fourth quarter. The unit of Gabe Pollard, Joe Cox, Hunter Swindall, Jeret Burks, and Kaden Coffman paved the way for Smith to tally 240 yards on an astounding 46 carries in the game.

"That is a crazy stat to me that he touched the ball 46 times. Tackling that every single play takes its toll. In the fourth quarter, it was taking guys ten seconds to get off the ground," said Hunter, who also praised his offensive line for their late game efforts.

"We just changed up our blocking scheme. In our offense, it is about how many numbers we can get to the party. They play so hard and just wear you down. In the second half, they played with unbelievable effort," he said.

Aside from the pandemonium that erupted on the sidelines after Clater's block, Hunter noted that his team stayed very level from start to finish in the game.

"They are a weird team. They never get too high or too low. They are just consistent. There wasn't a big change from the first quarter to the fourth quarter," he said.

Phillips, Erwin, Nielsen, Brayden Saunders, and Grady Keeton all had catches in the game, while Greyson Egging led with six tackles on defense. Phillips, Biggs, and Logan Morgan each had five tackles. Clater, Kam Hendrix, and Brady Gist all had tackles for a loss, and Clark Allman picked up a fumble recovery and also broke up one pass from Vincent.

By virtue of the win and locking up the No. 3 seed, the Hornets will face former district rival Madisonville in the bi-district playoffs. The Mustangs were victorious in 2022 and 2023, but Hunter believes that after wrapping a brutal 12-4A schedule that his team is primed for the postseason.

"The China Spring win was so huge because you start believing. The Connally win was big because it showed we can win a close one. We haven't beat them since I have been back here," he said.

The Hornets and Mustangs face off on Nov. 15 in Rockdale with the winner set to face the winner of the West Columbia/Jasper matchup.

HORNETS NEST

GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



RICKEY PHILLIPS
Athletic Director
Gatesville ISD
@RickeyPhillip12 on X

Fall, winter sport notes

Girls Basketball: It's good to see Tamiah Miller look like her old self on the hardwood in the early part of the hoops campaign. The senior has had to overcome a knee injury suffered before last season. That process might have been slow, but Tamiah is already showing shades of her prowess on the court.

Boys Basketball: While awaiting the arrival of some teammates that were suited up for GHS Football, the Hornet cagers have been hard at it since early August. One thing this team will rely heavily upon will be a heavy senior class that could include Kase Cox, West Allman, Rex Owen, Carven Coppersmith, Roman Perez, Rayshon Smith, Evan McCracken, and Logan Biggs. That bunch has put in the time year-round the past few years and has solidly improved its skills.

Football: Senior RB Rayshon Smith, with the help up front from a determined and pesky offensive line, has reached a couple of career milestones this fall. That being said, he enjoyed one of the most productive nights of his career in the recent 35-34 thriller over Waco Conally, in which GHS erased a 20-point fourth quarter deficit. Behind the steady blocking of Jeret Burks, Kaden Coffman, Joe Cox,

Gabe Pollard, and Hunter Swindall, the hard-running Smith toted the rock 46 times, amassed 240 yards, and visited the end zone four times. For the season, Smith and ball carriers are averaging more than six yards per carry. That five-man o-line crew, many times outsized up front, has been huge in the Hornets' offensive firepower most of the season simply due to their tenacity, relentlessness, and never-quit attitude.

So far, so good

So far, it's been a good start to the 2024-2025 school year.

Team Tennis qualified for the playoffs for the seventh consecutive year.

Cross Country sent two athletes to state, marking the 13th straight year for GHS to have an individual or team make it to Round Rock.

Volleyball extended its lengthy postseason streak to 22 years in a row.

Football reached the playoffs for a school-record fifth-straight season.

The 430-plus GHS student-athletes had a 95% passing rate for the first nine-week academic period.

GHS had six student-athletes earn THSCA academic all-state honors in three fall sports.

GHS Band qualified for state for the third year in a row.

Excuse the slang, but

we ain't done either.

Notes and dotes

...A huge thank you to Deral and Debra McWhorter. For 25-plus years, Deral has been the voice of Hornet varsity football games on Friday nights, with his wife right beside him most nights in the spotter's chair. The McWhorters have also been fixtures at the score table for GHS girls and boys basketball for almost three decades, hardly missing any game nights during that time. We appreciate you so much.

Upcoming schedule

Monday, Nov. 18
Boys Basketball: GJHS here vs. Lorena
Girls Basketball: GJHS at Lorena
Boys Golf: Varsity at Manor Invitational
Tennis: GJHS vs. Belton MS

Tuesday, Nov. 19
Boys Basketball: GHS here vs. Killeen Chaparral
Girls Basketball: GHS here vs. West
Girls Golf: Varsity at Manor Invitational

Friday, Nov. 22
Boys Basketball: GHS at Mexia
Girls Basketball: GHS here vs. Buffalo

Monday, Nov. 25
Girls Basketball: GHS at Waco University

Tuesday, Nov. 26
Boys Basketball: GHS at Salado

Hornet Fight Never Dies!

Gatesville Hornet Athletics on Facebook, @FightinHornets on X, www.gatesvilleathletics.com



COURTESY PHOTO

The Oglesby Junior High Football Team defeated the Evant Elks, 45-7 and took home the title of District Champions this week.

OJH football defeats Elks & captures District Champs title

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby Junior High Tiger football team traveled to Evant on Thursday, Nov. 7, to play the Evant Elks. The Tigers came home with the district 14A championship trophy, defeating the Elks, 45-7. The Tigers end their season undefeated in district play.

Liam Standridge started off the scoring on the 16-yard touchdown run and added the point-after-touchdown (PAT). On the next series, Standridge carried the ball for 25 yards for his second touchdown of the night. Standard finished the

evening with 81 yards rushing, two touchdowns, and one PAT.

Brody Martinez had 94 total yards for the evening, including one 65-yard touchdown run.

Caiden Brinkley had 25 yards rushing and caught one 28-yard touchdown pass.

Judson Marquez scored one PAT.

Slayton Fisher scored on a 10-yard touchdown run.

Chayson Leverett scored a five-yard touchdown run and added a PAT.

Hunter Insal was 1/1 in passing and one 28-yard

touchdown pass.

Defensively for the Tigers

Liam Standridge had two tackles, one fumble recovery, and an interception for a touchdown.

Caiden Brinkley had seven tackles.

Hunter Insal had three tackles.

Brody Martinez had five tackles.

Ranger Jeffcoat had four tackles.

Judson Marquez had five tackles.

The Tigers completed their 2024 football season and will make the transition to basketball.

BAGGING A 10-POINT BUCK



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB MCGOUGH

Dan McGough is pictured on his father's land at Good Rock Ranch with his 10-point buck that he shot last week. McGough is from the Dallas area and his father, Bob, is a Gatesville native.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Oglesby Tigers varsity football team defeated the Evant Elks, 64-0, for the 14A District Championship title.

Varsity Tiger football team named 2024 district 14A Champs

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby Tigers varsity football team traveled to Evant for the district 14A showdown this week. The Tigers came away with a 64-0 victory and the 14A District Championship title. The Tigers were unscored on in district play.

Coach Jeb Dixon secured his fifth straight district championship since his arrival at Oglesby Independent School District, and many more to come.

Oglesby seniors Kyler Fossett, Hunter Ewing, Alex Castillo, Jakson Tippit, and Joseph Escamilia have all contributed to the success of Tiger football and played their final district football game on Thursday, Nov. 7. They will now move ahead to the playoffs, continuing their legacy for Tiger football.

Offensively for the Tigers, they started quickly and never let up scoring in just about every way possible during the contest. Kyler Fossett carried the ball three times for 60 yards rushing and scored two touchdowns.

Jakson Tippit had two carries for 38 yards rushing and scored one touchdown. Quarterback Alex Castillo was 2/2 in passing and scored two touchdowns. Castillo was perfect on the night in point-after-touchdowns (PAT's), while kicking 8/8 for 16 points. Jack Hendricks caught one pass for 52 yards and scored a touchdown. Freshman Holdyn Goff caught his first offensive touchdown of the year on an 18-yard pass from Alex Castillo.

Defensively for Tigers

Jack Hendricks had five

tackles, one pick, and six interceptions, breaking tackles all the way to the end zone for a touchdown.

Jakson Tippit had four tackles.

Holdyn Goff had four tackles.

Joseph Escamilia had four tackles and one forced fumble recovery in the end zone for a touchdown.

Kayson Campbell had three tackles.

Mason Marquez had three tackles.

Aiden Oxford had two tackles.

Alex Castillo had two tackles, one pick, and six interceptions for a touchdown.

Abram Shaw had two tackles.

The Tigers will play the Blanket Tigers in a Bi-District contest with the time and site to be determined.

Turkey Slam Pickleball Tournament to be held Nov. 24

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Pickleball Club will host a Turkey Slam Pickleball Tournament on Sunday, Nov. 24, in light of Thanksgiving approach.

The tournament will begin at 1 p.m. and will be held at the Gatesville Civic Center, located at 301 Veterans Memorial Loop. All ages and

skill levels are welcome to participate in the event.

This will be a doubles tournament, meaning you will need a partner to participate in the event. The format will be a round robin tournament, which means you must win two out of the three games, with the first two games rallying the score to 15 and the third game rallying the score to

11. The top two teams will be awarded.

Both players will need to register online and sign a liability and consent and release form.

For further information or to sign up for the event, visit https://www.teamside-line.com.

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SPORTS Roundup

BY JOHN ENGLISH
Contributing Writer

Jonesboro Wins District with Impressive Win Over May

The Eagles clinched a district title last Friday with a 60-30 victory over May.

Coach Eddie Gallegos said it was a nice way to end the regular season.

"I'm extremely proud of our kids," Gallegos said. "They went on the road as underdogs and controlled the tempo from the start. All three phases made some big plays and put us in position to succeed. It was a total team effort from up front to back-end kids on both sides."

Looking back on 2024, Gallegos said he is pleased with how the regular season unfolded.

"It's been a fun group to coach," Gallegos said. "They work hard, are coachable, and they enjoy being around each other. Our goal every season is to improve every week, and I feel we have done that."

Jonesboro opens the post-season with Baird, and Gallegos feels confident the Bears will come to play.

"They are not a team we are familiar with, but we know their coaching staff," Gallegos said. "They will be

well-coached and their kids will be ready to play."

Oglesby Wins District

The Oglesby football team defeated Evant by a score of 64-0 on Thursday night to win an undefeated district championship.

Coach Jeb Dixon said the victory over the Elks was very efficient.

"The kids did a really good job of executing against Evant," Dixon said. "We played a pretty clean game."

Jack Hendricks had a receiving touchdown and five tackles in the game for the Tigers.

Oglesby opens the post season with Blanket (8-1-1) and after an 8-2 finish on the regular season, he said his team will not take their bi-district opponent lightly.

"Blanket is a well-coached, fundamental football team," Dixon said.

Evant is Playoff Bound

The Elks lost their season finale to Oglesby in a game coach Brandon Young said he was certain going in his team would have its hands full.

"We knew this game would be a tough one," Dixon said. "In big games like this, everything needs

to go your way. You have to do all the little things right and play mistake-free football. We didn't do that to the best of our ability. We will learn and move on."

Young said he did have a standout performance in the game against the Tigers.

"I thought our back up running back, Christian Morales, came in and showed some toughness running the ball for us," Young said. "He is only a sophomore and shows great promise for the future."

Evant will open the playoffs with Zephyr, and Young said he expects a tough contest.

"Zephyr will be another great challenge for us," Young said. "We will need to play our best game if we want to move on. From here on out, it's about mental toughness. It's all the extra workouts you did over the summer to prepare for this moment. It's all the reps that you finished in the weight room, and it's about the sprints that you ran hard and didn't loaf on."

Season Comes to an End for Gatesville

The Gatesville volleyball team lost in the bi-district round to Burnet 3-2 last week, and coach Janey

Weber said the game had its ups and downs.

"It was an emotional night for our team, but the growth we have had this season has been so much fun to be a part of," Weber said. "I am so proud of our team and everything we have accomplished this season. Now, it is time to go put in the work during the off-season and come back even stronger."

Weber said her team has improved dramatically this season.

"The girls have grown not only in their physical ability, but mentally as well," Weber said. "I look forward to what next season brings."

Jonesboro Volleyball Wins Bi-District Game, Loses at Area

The Jonesboro volleyball team defeated Rochelle in the bi-district round of the playoffs last week but came up short against Bluff Dale in the area round game.

Coach Tori Smith said it was a tale of two games.

"Our game against Rochelle went as we expected it to," Smith said. "We played them earlier in the season in the Zephyr Tournament and won pretty easily so we knew what to

expect. I do feel we didn't have the same intensity as we did when we were playing Evant, but overall, we hit pretty well."

"Our game against Bluff Dale on the other hand did not go as expected. A couple mistakes back-to-back, put us behind, and the pressure started to get to the girls."

But, there was a major bright spot as well.

"The set we did win was 25-7, and they played phenomenal," Smith said. "They communicated well, and our back row coverage was great. It seemed like every single point was a perfect pass, set, and hit. Ally Thorman and Ella Gustin were on fire at the net, and Lynlee Deats wasn't letting a ball get past her, but we just couldn't pull off that win."

Looking at the season as a whole, Smith said she could not be more proud.

"We had a great season and progressively just got better and better each game," Smith said. "I am proud of their determination and hard work. To make the playoffs and go to second round with only having volleyball for the second year now is a great

achievement in itself. We lose three great seniors, but also have some JV players who got a lot of reps this season and are ready to make their mark."

Evant Moves On

The Lady Elks Varsity defeated Gustine for the area championship 25-21, 25-14, 25-23 after receiving a first-round bye.

Strong performances included the following:

Harley Weeks - two points, one ace, three digs, 18 assists, three kills

Hailey Neri - six points, three aces, 16 digs, one assist, one kill

Molly Waldrum - six points, three aces, eight digs, 10 kills

Bree Ramirez - 14 points, eight aces, six digs, six assists, four kills

Luwi Rodriguez - four points, aces, 14 digs, nine kills

Izzy Gandy - five points, one ace, 13 digs, one assist, six kills

Evant followed up that win with a victory over Lingleville in the regional quarterfinals and will open the regional tournament at 5 p.m. on Nov. 15.

Texas Game Wardens emphasize responsible, safe hunting practices

Press Release

AUSTIN – With the white-tailed deer general season open, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) game wardens want to remind everyone about some practical safety and regulatory tips to ensure that hunters across the state have an uneventful yet successful season.

Put Safety First

Basic firearm practices, like keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, waiting to load until situated in your hunting location, and keeping your finger off the trigger until ready to fire, can greatly contribute to preventing hunting accidents. Aim only at clear targets and be aware of what is in front of and behind the animal you're shooting at. This can also contribute to making a clean and ethical shot.

"Following the above safety principles taught in hunter's education should be a top priority for every hunter," said Carlos Maldonado III, Jim Hogg County Game Warden. "We want everyone to enjoy the time they're spending outdoors, but doing so safely should supersede the priority of a successful harvest."

Licensing and Hunter Education

In addition to having a valid hunting license, hunters who are 17-years old or older must have completed their hunter education certification, unless they have elected to participate in the one-time deferral or were born before Sept. 2, 1971. Hunters under 17 may hunt alone if they have completed their hunter education certification. If not, they and anyone using the deferral must be accompanied by a licensed adult who is hunter education certified or exempt.

In the field, you must have proof of a valid hunting license and hunter education.

"While game wardens can sometimes look up your license or hunter's education certification as a courtesy, having proof on hand saves time and trouble," said Alli

Hatten, Val Verde County Game Warden. "Depending on where I am, I may not always have service to look information up. Having a physical or digital copy as proof is fine, just make sure it's accessible."

Tag Your Deer Immediately

A common violation reported by Texas Game Wardens across the state involves hunters failing to tag their deer immediately, using the incorrect tag, or inaccurately filling out harvest logs. Hunters should carry all necessary tagging materials into the field to avoid a trip back to their truck or camp after a harvest and remain in compliance with tagging requirements.

"If you're hunting with a paper license, I recommend taking a ballpoint pen, so the ink doesn't smear, a pocketknife to cut the date out, and something to affix the tag to the deer with," said Timothy Walker, Angelina County Game Warden. "If you're using a digital license, make sure you have a charged phone, something to write your confirmation number on, and a way to affix it to the deer while in the field. This will help avoid potential violations or misunderstandings."

Antler Restrictions

Many counties across the state have antler restrictions in place. In these counties, hunters can shoot one buck with two branched antlers and an inside spread of 13 inches or greater and one buck with at least one unbranched antler. The distance from the tip of one ear to the tip of the other ear, when the ears are in the "alert" position and the buck is looking in your direction, may be used as a guide to help estimate the inside spread. If the inside spread extends past the ears, it is likely to be at least 13 inches.

"I always recommend using a good pair of binoculars to get a clear view of the animal before taking a shot, especially when shooting from a distance," said Walker. "If you think the deer's spread is close,

it's generally best to let him walk. Otherwise, you could be risking a violation. However, if you do accidentally shoot an undersized buck, it's better to self-report that rather than a game warden finding it on their own later."

Avoid Hunting Near Property Lines

Hunting too close to property boundaries or setting up blinds and feeders so that projectiles may travel across property lines can create safety risks. It may not always be clear where people or structures are on neighboring property, and hunters shouldn't depend on trees or other landscape features to stop a bullet. Additionally, trespass by projectile is a violation.

"Setting yourself up to avoid shooting across property lines is not only the neighborly thing to do, but is in the best interest of safety," said Tommy Johnson, Gillespie County Game Warden. "It reduces your risk of violating the trespass by projectile law and can reduce the percentage of wounded animals crossing fence lines. This is especially important as we are seeing the average size of properties being hunted decrease as land sells or is developed."

Retrieving an Animal

It is not uncommon for wounded deer to travel immediately after being shot, which can mean leaving the property you have permission to hunt. Going onto someone else's property without permission from the landowner is trespassing, even if it is to retrieve your deer. If the deer crosses multiple properties, permission is needed from each landowner before entering the property.

"Nine times out of 10, simply talking to the landowner(s) will resolve the issue, and you'll be able to retrieve your deer without conflict," said Johnson. "However, in the 10th instance, it's a common misconception that a game warden can go onto private property to retrieve a deer for you. We can try



PHOTO COURTESY OF TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE (TPWD)

Safety should be a top priority for every hunter during hunting season.

to help facilitate, but it's not a guarantee."

Public Land Hunting

There are multiple types of public land available for hunters. The managing authority for each property sets specific requirements, so be aware of those before going hunting.

To hunt on property owned or leased by TPWD, an Annual Public Hunting Permit is required in addition to standard licensing requirements.

Those hunting on TPWD property are required to wear at least 400 square inches of hunter orange material, including orange headwear and at least 144 square inches appearing on both chest and back during daylight hours. Even if hunter orange is not required to hunt other public property, or even private property where other hunters are present, it can be beneficial to wear as other seasons can run concurrent with the general season, and additional hunters can be in the woods. There may be exceptions to the hunter orange requirement on some properties during limited access periods or during seasons for certain species, so check property

specific regulations for details. If you are not certain if hunter orange is required or not, wear it!

Hunters should also be aware of other regulations surrounding baiting, hunting blinds, alcohol consumption and more.

Harvest Reporting, Check Stations and Carcass Disposal

In certain counties, white-tailed deer must be tagged and reported within 24 hours of harvest via the Texas Hunt & Fish app or online. For digital license holders, execution of a digital tag serves as completion of mandatory harvest reporting in applicable counties.

Hunters who harvest white-tail or mule deer within designated Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) areas must comply with mandatory testing requirements at a TPWD designated check station within 48 hours of harvest. Hunters who are within the voluntary testing areas are strongly encouraged to have their harvest tested so biologists can monitor the potential presence or spread of CWD.

Statewide carcass disposal requirements must also be followed to help reduce the risk of unintentional

transmission of CWD.

"It is possible for CWD zones to shift, and some have recently," said AJ Meyer, Game Warden for Moore and Sherman counties. "I've been receiving lots of calls from hunters who have been caught by surprise on this. Double-check your hunting location and make sure you're aware of the requirements. Know what's needed to help prevent the spread of CWD in Texas."

Enjoy Your Time Outside

"Hunting isn't just about harvesting a deer; it's about the legacy we leave behind," said Maldonado. "Spending time in the great outdoors, enjoying the beauty of what mother nature has provided for us, and introducing the next generation to the tradition of hunting are oftentimes the best part of the experience, so remember to take a kid hunting or fishing."

Many of the tips above focus on regulations and the issues wardens commonly come across in the field. All hunting regulations for this year's hunting seasons can be found in the Texas Outdoor Annual mobile app or at OutdoorAnnual.com.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton State sets new D1 road record

Tarleton State University

CARROLLTON, Ga. — Tarleton State Football rebounded from a rare loss with one of its most complete games of the season.

The No. 14 Texans (8-2, 5-1 UAC) set a new NCAA Division I program record for road wins, finishing their regular season 5-1 away from Stephenville, following their 38-21 win at West Georgia (3-7, 0-7 UAC) Saturday in Carrollton. Tarleton's eight overall wins match its D1 program record from last year, with two regular season games remaining this season.

Tarleton played a well-rounded game throughout the contest at University Stadium, with two passing touchdowns, two rushing touchdowns, one defensive touchdown, four takeaways, one sack, six tackles for loss, 6-for-6 on kicks and a 50-yard punt average. The Texans commanded the time of possession, holding the ball for 36:36 compared to UWG's 23:24. Tarleton was penalized just twice and outgained West Georgia 391-312.

This marked the tied-second-most points Tarleton has scored on the season, and the tied-most on the road. The Texans have also allowed just 13.8 points per game over their last four contests.

This win by Tarleton sets up one of the biggest games in program history next week. The No. 14 Texans will host rival No. 15 Abilene Christian at Memorial Stadium in Stephenville Saturday at 6 p.m. The winner of that game will lock up at least a share of the conference championship. Tarleton Athletics has set up a great

ticket offer for the game. For just \$25, fans can get a general admission ticket to the Abilene Christian game. If the Texans win, fans get a free ticket to the Central Arkansas game Nov. 23. No quantity limits apply. Or fans can use promo code "LEGENDS" at checkout for \$5 off any general admission ticket Nov. 16 vs. Abilene Christian. The offer can be found here: <https://tarleton-tickets.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=2297>

On Saturday, Tramaine Chism and Bam Smith gave Tarleton State a fast start with a scoop and score on the third play of the game. Chism forced Rajaez Mosley to fumble, and Smith picked it up at the UWG 18-yard line and housed it to put Tarleton ahead 7-0.

On the Wolves' next drive, Tarleton forced another takeaway via fumble, as line-backer Ty Rawls forced T.J. Lockley to cough it up, recovered by Donta Stuart.

On Tarleton's first offensive drive, the Texans drove 45 yards before turning it over on downs. West Georgia took advantage and used a Quincy Casey 7-yard touchdown pass to Dylan Gary to tie the game at 7-7 at the end of the first quarter.

In the second frame, Texan DB Omar Emmons earned his second interception of the season, giving Tarleton great field position at the UWG 32-yard line. Texan RB Kayvon Britten later cashed in a 4-yard touchdown rush to lift Tarleton up 14-7.

Britten again scored on Tarleton's next drive, a 12-play 84-yard march. He scored from a yard out for his 15th rushing touchdown of the season to make it 21-7 Tarleton State.

West Georgia didn't quit



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State Football's 2024 schedule has been altered, with four changes announced June 10 to the previously announced campaign.

though and responded with a 75-yard scoring drive. Wolves QB Davin Wydner found an open Lockley from 27 yards out for the touchdown to cut their deficit in half, 21-14. Texan DB Dabari Hawkins earned an interception at the end of the first half on a UWG Hail Mary attempt, and the teams went to the locker room with the Purple and White ahead 21-14.

To open the second half, Tarleton struck quickly, as Gabalis found a streaking Darius Cooper for a 42-yard touchdown to make it 28-14. That marked Cooper's sixth receiving score of the year.

The Wolves responded again with a 75-yard scoring drive, this time a Wydner 8-yard touchdown pass to Cedric Seabrough. Punts the

rest of the frame ended the third quarter with Tarleton ahead 28-21.

The Texans scored on their first drive in the fourth quarter, a Corbin Poston 42-yard field goal to make it a two-possession game, 31-21. The Texan defense then stood tall immediately, forcing a turnover on downs on the first set of downs, getting the offense the ball back at the West Georgia 34-yard line. Tarleton took advantage, with Gabalis lobbing a 17-yard touchdown to Cody Jackson to make it 38-21. That essentially iced the game, with Tarleton forcing two more three-and-outs to win by 17.

Gabalis finished 20-of-28 for 242 yards and two touchdowns. Britten rushed for a pair of scores, see-

ing his streak of 100-yard rushing games end at seven, finishing with 74 yards on 26 carries. Braelon Bridges carried it 15 times for 55 yards. Cooper recorded his third 100-yard game over the past four contests with 117 yards and a touchdown on five catches. Jackson added a touchdown and 38 yards on four receptions.

Smith had a team-high six tackles to go with his scoop and score. Hawkins had two pass breakups and three tackles to go with his interception. Rawls had three tackles and a pass breakup to go with a forced fumble.

Saturday's game marked the first meeting between Tarleton State and West Georgia. This is the first year of NCAA Division I reclassification for West Georgia,

a brand new team in the United Athletic Conference. This was Tarleton's second ever game played in Georgia and the first in over 50 years (at Georgia Southwestern in 1983).

Tarleton has two regular season games remaining, both at home. The Texans will host Abilene Christian Saturday, Nov. 16, for their Legends Game, in which the winner will lock up at least a share of the conference championship. On Nov. 23, Tarleton will host Central Arkansas at 2 p.m. on Senior Day. That game could decide who receives the automatic bid to the FCS playoffs, depending on next week's results.

Tarleton State women's basketball defeats New Orleans in home opener

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE, Texas — Feeding off the energy from Comanche Elementary students in the crowd, Tarleton State women's basketball came out of its home opener at Wisdom Gym Tuesday victorious with a 57-48 win over New Orleans in its second Education Day game of the season.

Seniors Jakoriah Long and Ariona Rosborough led Tarleton State in scoring with 11 points each, with Long collecting a career-high nine boards. Senior forward Elise Turrubiates grabbed a career-high 11 rebounds to go with eight points while sophomore Faith Acker scored 10 points to go with seven rebounds off the bench. Acker also matched a career-high four blocks, her third career game with four blocks.

The Texans won their eighth straight home opener and remained undefeated in home openers in the Division I era. New Orleans' 48 points marked the third consecutive season the Texans allowed less than 50 opposing points in their first game of the season at Wisdom Gym.

New Orleans attacked first following the opening tip by going on a quick 6-0 scoring run, but the Texans came back with eight unanswered points to swing the advantage. Following a layup by the Privateers to tie the game, junior guard Karyn Sanford drained a 3-pointer to give Tarleton State the advantage. A free throw from Rosborough allowed the Texans to take a one-point lead through the first 10 minutes.

After New Orleans took the

lead with a layup three minutes into the second quarter, Long knocked down a 3-pointer and sparked a 9-0 Texan scoring run following her second straight bucket. The Texans took an 8-point lead after a Rosborough jumper, but New Orleans responded with a layup and hit a free throw to make it a 28-23 game going into the locker room.

Rosborough once again opened the Texans' scoring in the third period, with Tarleton State getting a scoring spark off the bench from Acker. The Winnsboro native nailed a basket while drawing a foul and converted inside the paint to stretch the Tarleton State lead 39-30. A third free throw by New Orleans following a Turrubiates layup made it a 7-point game heading into the fourth quarter.

Long's 3-pointer to open the fourth quarter allowed the Texans to go out in front by double-digits, using another 9-0 scoring run to move ahead 55-38. New Orleans, however, would not go away quietly and cut the Tarleton State lead down to 7 points with a minute-and-a-half to play.

Acker capped off the Texans' scoring with a jumper and Tarleton State blocked two of New Orleans' final three shots to secure its first win of the season.

Tarleton State plays its second home game of the season Saturday (today) at 1 p.m. against Northwestern State. Tickets start at just \$10 and can be bought online or by stopping by the Tarleton State Athletics Ticket Office. Fans with a purchased ticket to Tarleton State Football's

home game against Abilene Christian will receive free admission to the women's basketball game.

POSTGAME NOTES

Tarleton State won its eighth consecutive home opener with a 57-48 win against New Orleans at Wisdom Gym. The Texans remain undefeated in home openers in the Division I Era.

The Texans gave up just 48 points in its home opener, the third straight season they have allowed less than 50 points to the opposition in the opening game at Wisdom Gym. Tarleton State has given up just 54 points per game this season.

Senior guard Jakoriah Long scored 11 points to go with a career-high nine rebounds in Tuesday's win. She made her first appearance in the starting lineup this season.

Senior forward Elise Turrubiates grabbed a career-high 11 rebounds, including five offensive boards. It was her first game with at least 10 boards since Feb. 18, 2023 (at Sam Houston).

Sophomore center Faith Acker matched a career-high four blocks in Tuesday's game to go with a season-high 10 points and seven rebounds. She has blocked four shots in three different games during her Tarleton State career.

Tarleton State played its second Education Day game of the season (first one at home). The Texans, who lead the nation in Education Day games played this season with five, are 1-1 in Education Day games.

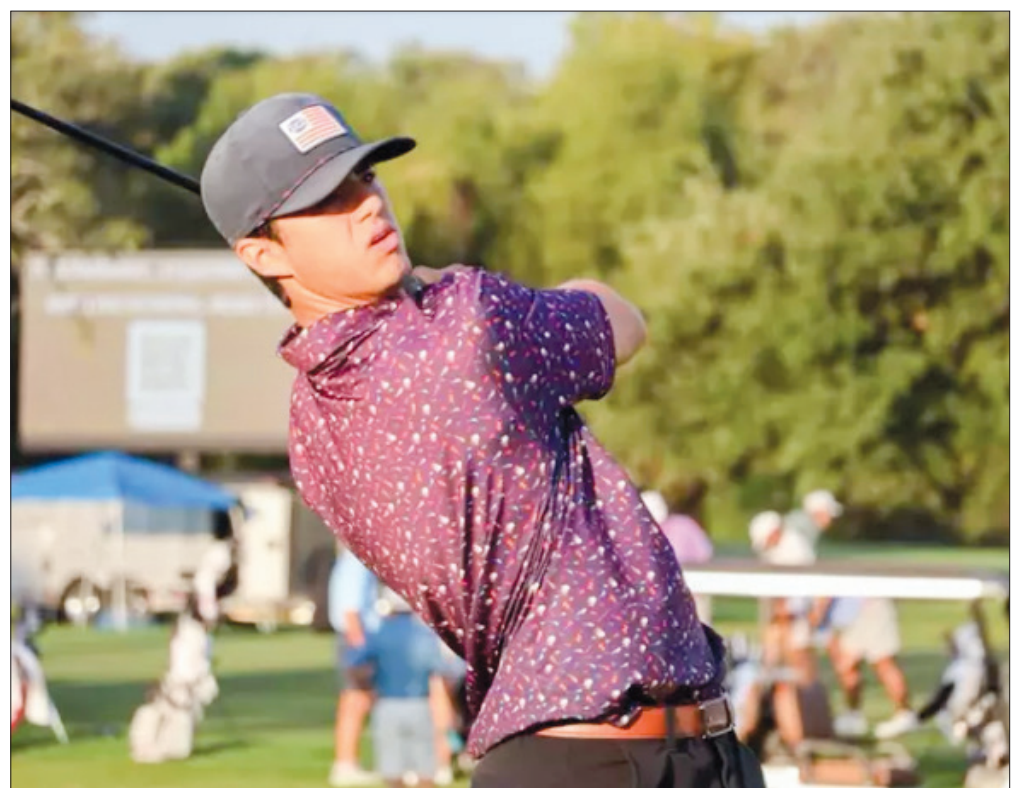


PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Playing four years on the varsity golf team at Lake Travis High School, Papacharalambous was instrumental in his team's success in 2024. The Cavaliers won the UIL 6A state championship in 2024, Lake Travis' first state title for boy's golf since reclassifying to 6A.

Tarleton State men's golf signs Austin native Nicholas Papacharalambous

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE, Texas — Tarleton State men's golf has signed Austin native and Lake Travis High School golfer Nicholas Papacharalambous ahead of the 2025-26 season, the Texans announced Wednesday.

"I'm excited to have Nick join our program next year! He's been coming along nicely this summer and continues to make great strides," head coach Chance Cain said. "He's the exact kind of player we are looking for with his energy and work ethic. I know this is just the

beginning for him."

Playing four years on the varsity golf team at Lake Travis High School, Papacharalambous was instrumental in his team's success in 2024. The Cavaliers won the UIL 6A state championship in 2024, Lake Travis' first state title for boy's golf since reclassifying to 6A.

Papacharalambous won the individual title in his team's local event, clinching the LT shootout with a 6-under-par performance. He shot 3-under-par in both 18-hole rounds to win the event by two strokes.

In addition to his indi-

vidual title with Lake Travis, Papacharalambous also collected four top 10 finishes over the summer. The Austin native finished in second individually at the STPGA Spring Break Classic. He also came in fourth place at the LJT Collegiate Preview.

Off the course, Papacharalambous is a member of the National Honor Society at Lake Travis High School and intends to major in business at Tarleton State.

Tarleton State Men's Golf starts the spring portion of its season Feb. 10-11 at the Bentwater Intercollegiate in Montgomery.

GISD Choir students perform with TMEA All-Region Choir

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District's High School and Junior High choirs were both able to attend and perform at the TMEA All-Region Choir and Central Texas Honor Choir on Saturday, Nov. 9 in

Marble Falls.

Choir students earned a seat through a rigorous audition process and spent Saturday preparing for their concerts with nearly 200 other choir students. Students were also able to work with a clinician before their performances.

High School Region Choir: Eli Alvarez, Lillie Mann, Memphis Wells, Paisley Wells, Charles McLeod, Callie Smith, Nevin Benning, Katie Hopson, and Devyn Ayala.

High School Honor Choir: Annalina Gonzalez, Karmelo Royal, Eli Tyson, Joey

Lonzetta, and Jadan Moore. Junior High School Participants: King Butler, Olivia Daniels, Shaelee Dubay, Aylin Correa, Aidan Doss, MaKayla Attaway, Emily Wolff, Yahitza Medrano, Fernanda Segura, and Tiziana Lee.



Gatesville Junior High All-Region Choir

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHERITH WELLS



Gatesville High School All-Region Choir

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHERITH WELLS

GJH to host College and Career Fair Dec. 5

Staff Reports

Gatesville Junior High School will host a College and Career Fair on Thursday, Dec. 5, from 8 a.m.- 3 p.m. The event is meant to give junior high students the opportunity to learn about possible education and career pathways that will impact their future.

Students will also be able to meet different groups and discuss future plans and how to make those plans a reality.

The fair offers:

- Talk to future potential students
- Talk to future poten-

tial employees
- Provide knowledge for certain career fields
- Provide insight into scholarships and financial aid

If you would like to be a vendor for the event to display your business and meet with students, fill out a registration form and send it to Denise Jones by email at djones@gatesvilleisd.org. The registration deadline is Monday, Dec. 2.

For more information, contact 254-865-8271. Gatesville Junior High School is located at 307 South Lovers Lane.

STPA scholarship now open through April 4

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 commu-

nications 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.

Public Notice

Q&A

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Tennison gives back through GISD's Grow Your Own Program

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

For over six years, the Grow Your Own Scholarship Program has been quite a success for Gatesville Independent School District and its students.

The Grow Your Own Scholarship Program is a partnership between Gatesville ISD and Central Texas College, Temple College, and Texas A&M University-Central Texas (TAMUCT). The partnership is meant to assist candidates by awarding scholarships to help cover educational costs along with upholding a five-year commitment to work for Gatesville ISD.

Since the program was established, there have been many former students who have taken the opportunity to teach and give back to their hometown, with one of those individuals being Kayleigh Tennison, high school math teacher.

The program was first launched during Tennison's senior year of high school in 2018. Before she knew about the program, she was in the process of exploring other options for a university, although, it had always been her plan to complete her degree and teaching certifications to possibly come back to teach in Gatesville.

"When the Grow Your Own Program was announced, it felt like confirmation that the Lord

wanted me to stay in Gatesville and teach here at Gatesville ISD," Tennison expressed.

To be accepted in the program, Tennison had to complete an application packet. The packet consisted of a resume (both educational and professional) with references, recommendation letters, a university degree plan, and an essay.

Upon turning in the packet, she was selected for an interview which was held in front of a panel including the Gatesville ISD superintendent and assistant superintendent at the time.

After being accepted into the program, she spent two years at Temple College while completing her basic courses and later transferred to Texas A&M University-Central Texas to finish her degree. She then graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from TAMUCT in the spring of 2022.

"The program was not only financially beneficial, but it also ensured that I would be employed once I graduated," she said. "I believe the Grow Your Own Program is a great program for anybody who has their heart set on teaching at GISD. It has been a great opportunity for me to help pay for my schooling and have a quality job once I graduated."

She is now currently in her third year of teaching

at the high school, while having taught Algebra 1, Geometry, and Calculus during her time at the campus so far.

"I enjoy building relationships with the kids and watching them really grow up their last four years in the district," she said. "I also enjoy challenging them to think critically and problem solve to help them be successful wherever their future may lead them."

Gatesville High School Principal Liz Shoaf expressed that The Grow Your Own Scholarship Program benefits the district and students because it allows valuable classroom and campus experience to translate into full teaching roles.

"Kayleigh is a math teacher that works hard to understand each student's strengths and weaknesses so she can create learning experiences catered to their needs," Shoaf said. "She has keen observation skills and data insight that helps her identify where students might struggle. Her positive classroom climate helps students feel valued and encourages them to accept challenges as opportunities to grow."

"Students are positively impacted when they are taught by someone that not only knows their individual needs and the school's culture, but also the pedagogical understanding and classroom management



COURTESY PHOTO

Kayleigh Tennison, Gatesville High School math teacher

strategies important to social and academic outcomes," she said. "We are a district that encourages professional development and career advancement, and a program like Grow Your Own puts these op-

portunities within reach."

Those eligible to apply for the scholarship-loan program would include Gatesville High School seniors, former Gatesville High School graduates, and current Gatesville ISD

employees, such as para-professionals.

To apply, contact the Gatesville ISD Administration Office at 254-865-7251.





National FAST FOOD Day
November 16, 2024



THERE ARE 200,859 FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS BUSINESSES IN THE US AS OF 2023



COLOR Time



National Fast Food Day, celebrated annually on November 16th, is a time to indulge in the convenience and culinary delights offered by fast food establishments. This occasion invites individuals to satisfy their cravings, enjoy their favorite guilty pleasures, and celebrate the diverse flavors of fast food cuisine.

Fast food has become a ubiquitous part of modern culture, offering quick and convenient options for meals on the go. Whether it's burgers and fries, tacos and burritos, or pizza and fried chicken, fast food menus offer something for every palate and preference.

Participating in National Fast Food Day provides an opportunity to enjoy a tasty meal while embracing the nostalgia, comfort, and convenience associated with fast food dining. Whether you're grabbing

a quick bite during a busy day or treating yourself to a special indulgence, the possibilities are endless.

Beyond the culinary experience, National Fast Food Day also celebrates the cultural significance of fast food in American society. From iconic chains with nationwide recognition to beloved local establishments, fast food restaurants have become ingrained in the fabric of communities across the country.

National Fast Food Day is also a time to recognize the innovation and creativity of fast food industry professionals who continually push the boundaries of flavor and convenience. Whether it's introducing new menu items, adapting to changing consumer preferences, or embracing trends in food technology, fast food establishments are constantly evolving to meet the needs and desires of their customers.

In addition to enjoying

delicious food, National Fast Food Day is an opportunity to share moments of joy and connection with friends, family, and loved ones. Whether you're gathering for a meal with coworkers, enjoying a late-night snack with friends, or treating your family to a dinner out, fast food dining offers a communal experience that brings people together.

As we celebrate National Fast Food Day on November 16th, let's embrace the pleasure of indulging in our favorite guilty pleasures and savoring the flavors of fast food cuisine. Whether you're a fan of classic comfort foods or adventurous culinary creations, there's no better time to satisfy your cravings and celebrate the joy of fast food dining. So, grab your favorite meal, share a smile with those around you, and enjoy the deliciousness of National Fast Food Day!



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

GISD HOLDS ANNUAL VETERANS DAY CEREMONY



PHOTOS BY AVERY STREETMAN

Since 1986, Gatesville ISD has held its annual Veterans Day appreciation ceremony to honor those who served in the military and who continue to serve their country. The color guard led the ceremony at McKamie Stadium.



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Major General William A. Ryan III, who currently serves as the Commanding General of First Army – Division West at Fort Cavazos, Texas, was the honored guest speaker at the ceremony.



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Gatesville High School students welcomed guests, acknowledged each branch of service, and shared a prayer of appreciation. Pictured is Ally Penrod, GHS Senior.



PHOTOS BY AVERY STREETMAN

Gatesville High School student Alex Johnson addressed guests at the annual Veterans Day ceremony.

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