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THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | Dec. 21, 2024

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He's the reason...

...for the season

DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Pictured is a scene from Mountain Baptist Church's drive-through live nativity, which is held annually in the parking lot of their church. This year's event was held on Sunday, Dec. 15.

Coryell Health: Whooping cough cases on the rise

Staff Reports

The number of pertussis, or whooping cough, cases in Texas has tripled since last year, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). Following local cases of whooping cough, Coryell Health shares the signs of the disease and offers

prevention tips in an online blog post.

While anyone can contract whooping cough, young children are particularly vulnerable to severe complications. Coryell Health officials urge families to ensure their children are up-to-date on vaccinations.

"Many families may have

missed vaccinations in recent years. We are encouraging them to come in and catch up on preventive care," said Lauren Shelton, Coryell Health's Chief Quality Officer and Infection Preventionist.

Dr. Diedra Wuenschel, Medical Clinic Director and Coryell County Health

Authority, explains that whooping cough is a highly contagious bacterial infection that often starts with symptoms like the common cold, but can escalate into severe coughing fits that may cause vomiting or difficulty breathing.

"It's important to note that newborns and infants

with whooping cough may not 'whoop,' and they may not cough. Newborns and infants with whooping cough will have difficulty breathing, and they may have apnea - pauses in breathing that are life threatening," Wuenschel said.

The DTaP vaccine,

included in the routine immunization schedule recommended by the CDC and DSHS, offers protection against whooping cough.

"With the holiday season approaching, staying up to date on vaccinations is essential for safe celebrations

PLEASE SEE **COUGH** | A5

Local clinic offers mental health services and resources for the community

BY KAYLEE DUSANG Staff Writer

Mental health has become a growing concern in the United States, especially within Texas.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in five U.S. adults experience a mental illness each year. In 2021, 43% of adults in Texas reported symptoms of anxiety or depression, and 26% of them were unable to receive needed treatment. In addition, The Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute reports that approximately two million children and youth in Texas aged six through 17 - about 35% - have a mental health need.

For most of those experiencing a mental illness in a rural area, it is often a challenge to find care and treatment. Central Counties Services is a local resource for those who are experiencing a mental illness or men-

tal health crisis. Formerly known as MHMR, Central Counties Services provides low to no-cost services for uninsured or underinsured adults and children in clinics across Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, and Milam counties.

The non-profit agency's Gatesville clinic is one of the locations that provides mental health services and resources for those living with major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, severe emotional crisis, among others. Adult offerings include assessment and referrals, counseling, employment and housing support, skills training, and medication management.

"We provide case work, which means they come in and we build treatment plans with clients," said Julia Smith, an adult case worker at the Gatesville clinic.

Smith explains the process of receiving care and treatment for a mental illness through a Central Counties Services clinic. The first appointment would consist of an intake interview with a licensed mental health professional who will inquire about symptoms and how those symptoms affect daily life, suicidal thoughts, and more.

"The most important thing is to be very honest," Smith said. "For a lot of people, it's hard to talk about those things, but the more honest that you are, the better understanding that we have."

After the intake assessment, the client is assigned to a case worker who will develop a treatment plan based on their diagnosis and individual needs.

"You would then build goals and objectives underneath those needs," Smith

said. "You see them at least once a month, and then if they want medication after the treatment plan is in place, then they can have medication services with the doctor."

Smith adds that treatment plans help people manage symptoms to cope with everyday life, including anxiety or depression that affects life at work, home, or in the community.

To make an appointment with the clinic, Smith said individuals can call or visit the clinic in person.

"If someone needs services, they could call and ask any questions - that's always available," Smith said.

The agency also provides a mobile crisis outreach team (MCOT) for those who are experiencing a psychiatric crisis. The team provides

PLEASE SEE **CLINIC** | A5



COURTESY PHOTO

From left to right, Julia Smith, Manager of Gatesville and Copperas Cove clinics, Elizabeth Norris, and Racheal Bridgewater are shown representing Central Counties Services at the Hidden Gem Harvest Festival in October.



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A stroll down Christmas memory lane



Gaddy McDonald

Gaddy McDonald's Christmas memory that he cherishes the most is the last Christmas he was able to spend with his wife, Joyce, before she passed away in 2022.

"Christmas always hits me hard, because our anniversary is Dec. 7, and her birthday is on Dec. 21," he said.

McDonald volunteers on a regular basis at the Coryell Museum & Historical Center and at the Gatesville Senior Center to help deliver meals for the Meals on Wheels recipients.



Rebel Brown

Rebel Brown's favorite Christmas memory was growing up and visiting his grandmother's house each holiday season. His family now spends Christmas with cousins since his grandmother's passing in 1975.

"We would have a basic Christmas, we would pass out gifts, eat, and enjoy our time together," Brown said.

Rebel is a local of Gatesville and has volunteered at the Gatesville Senior Center and Coryell Museum and Historical Center for many years.



Liz Shoaf

Liz Shoaf, who has worked for Gatesville ISD for 21 years, shared a favorite Christmas memory.

"One of my favorite Christmas memories took place in 1990. I was in 5th grade, and we had moved to the Chicago area for the year to help take care of my grandparents. There was a lot of snow, and we celebrated with my mom's huge family. It had been about five years since we'd had a Christmas with them, so it was very special and exciting."

There was a lot of snow, and we celebrated with my mom's huge family. It had been about five years since we'd had a Christmas with them, so it was very special and exciting."



Sandra Brown

Sandra Brown, who is the principal's secretary at Gatesville Primary School, and who has been employed by Gatesville ISD for 33 years, recently shared some favorite Christmas memories.

"Some of my favorite Christmas memories growing up are of myself and my five siblings looking through the Christmas edition of the Sears & Roebuck or the Montgomery Wards catalogs. We would search the catalogs, like we had won the lottery, selecting toys for Santa to bring. Other memories include going to my grandparents' pasture and cutting down the perfect cedar trees and later decorating them at our homes. Walking around the neighborhood singing Christmas carols was always fun, too. Many of my family traditions and memories have continued with my children and grandson. But my favorite memory and joy was, and still is today, the Christmas Eve program at our church. After the completion of the service, we still continue the tradition of handing out fruit bags to everyone."

Other memories include going to my grandparents' pasture and cutting down the perfect cedar trees and later decorating them at our homes. Walking around the neighborhood singing Christmas carols was always fun, too. Many of my family traditions and memories have continued with my children and grandson. But my favorite memory and joy was, and still is today, the Christmas Eve program at our church. After the completion of the service, we still continue the tradition of handing out fruit bags to everyone."



Kodie Mitchell

Kodie Mitchell's favorite Christmas memory was visiting the Christmas lights that were once set up around Faunt Le Roy Park. This year, she had a similar experience when attending the lighting ceremony for Christmas at the Ballpark.

"I actually went to the lighting ceremony at Christmas at the Ballpark, and that really brought me back to Faunt Le Roy when I was growing up as a kid. They used to have all the lights set up at Faunt Le Roy, and it just brought back a lot of good memories, so I'm glad that they have it at the ballpark now. I have an almost two-year-old, so it's nice to have something to take him to. Like I said, it really brought me back to when it used to be at the park when I was growing up."

Mitchell has worked with the City of Gatesville's Water Department since February 2023 and has lived in Gatesville her whole life.



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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you all!



BY SAM HOUSTON

Sam Houston is an award-winning columnist and newspaper executive. He is also an author, actor, playwright, and entertainment producer/promoter.

For many years, I taught an older adult Sunday school class with most of the students being my parents' age or even a little older.

Getting to know those folks has been one of the great pleasures of my life. I loved listening to them share their wisdom, their experiences, and their viewpoints about life.

One recurrent thought they shared with me was that as you get older, life "goes" even quicker. The first time I heard them make that assertion, I nodded in agreement and

thought I understood exactly what they were saying. Then ten more years passed, and I now REALLY understand what they were talking about. It seems like I was just about ready for Easter, and here we are experiencing Christmas. The summer whipped by like a thunderbolt from a west Texas spring storm, and I swear my wife just got the Christmas decorations put up when she had to get them back down again! Where did the year go?

On the other hand, with age, it is easy to make time stand still, reflecting on the Christmas decorations, which in so many ways seem like they happened just yesterday. Do you remember being at your grandparents' house sur-

rounded by cousins, aunts and uncles, eating tremendous food and having the time of your life playing cards and other games? Do you recall when you gave your first love a Christmas present and how meticulously you shopped for just the right thing/item to reflect your feelings.

I remember my first Christmas as a father and the joy I felt as my small child looked in amazement at the lights on the Christmas tree. I will always stop and reflect on the marriage of my grandparents on Christmas Day in 1920. They managed to share 72 more Christmas/anniversaries after that. If it were not for them, there would be no me, no family, no heritage to be proud of...just empti-

ness.

Then there was the first Christmas when I had moved from home and was away from family and friends for the holiday. I cooked up some Christmas Day chili, and though I will admit to a touch of loneliness, there was a degree of pride in being off by myself and making my place in the world. There was no way to know what the future would hold, but I knew I wanted to get there as quickly as I could.

This holiday season I cannot express in strong enough terms the need for all of us to stop and be thankful for our families, for our community, and for our great State of Texas. Stop and reflect on the many blessings we experi-

ence every day and how fortunate we are to live in our great country and experience all the goodness it has to offer.

I hope you have a Merry Christmas. May you feast on fine food and drink, experience the joy and happiness of friendship and family, and may you remember who is responsible for all the happiness you are experiencing. God bless you all and Merry Christmas!

Thought for the day: At Christmas, all roads lead home.

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

Office closures for Christmas and New Year's Day holidays

Staff Reports

In observance of the Christmas holiday and New Year's Day, many local businesses and governmental offices will be observing special hours.

Closings and special hours in the immediate area include:

GOVERNMENT

The City of Gatesville and the City of Evant will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 24 and on Wednesday, Dec. 25. The City of Oglesby will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and on Thursday, Dec. 26. All city offices will be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1 in observance of New Year's Day.

The Coryell County Courthouse will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 24, Wednesday, Dec. 25, and on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The Farm Service Agency will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and on

Wednesday, Jan. 1.

SCHOOLS

Gatesville ISD will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 19 and on Friday, Dec. 20 for Staff Development and Comp Days. The district will then be closed from Monday, Dec. 23 through Friday, Jan. 3 and on Monday, Jan. 6 for a Staff Development Day.

Jonesboro ISD will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 19 through Tuesday, Jan. 14.

Oglesby ISD will have an early release on Friday, Dec. 20 and will be closed from Monday, Dec. 23 through Friday, Jan. 10, and on Monday, Jan. 13 for a Staff Development Day.

Evant ISD will have an early release on Friday, Dec. 20 and will be closed from Monday, Dec. 23 through Friday, Jan. 3, and on Monday, Jan. 6 for a Staff Development Day.

The Boys & Girls Club

Gatesville Branch will be closed from Monday, Dec. 23 through Wednesday, Dec. 25.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Extraco Bank will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

Cadence Bank will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

Educators Credit Union will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The First National Bank of Gatesville, Evant, and Oglesby will close at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 24 and will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25. The FNB will also be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The First National Bank of Central Texas will close at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 24 and will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25. The FNB of Central Texas will

also be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

POST OFFICES

All local post offices will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

SENIOR CENTER

The Gatesville Senior & Multi-Service Center will be closed from Monday, Dec. 23 through Wednesday, Dec. 25. The center will also be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 31 and on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

MUSEUM

The Coryell County Museum & Historical Center will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and on Thursday, Dec. 26. The museum will also be closed on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

NEWSPAPER

The Gatesville Messenger will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25, and on Wednesday, Jan. 1.

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Valerie Wendeborn is pictured with her husband, Eric, and her children (back row from left to right), Conner, Coleman, Case, and Kensie.

Say hello to our neighbor, Valerie Wendeborn!

Valerie has worked at Gatesville High School as the PEIMS Secretary since 2022 and has been with the campus since 2017. She expressed that the best part of her job is the people she works with. "We have a great team," she said. She was born and raised in Gatesville and said that her favorite thing about her hometown is the kindness and welcoming feeling within the community.

Valerie reads *The Gatesville Messenger* and said, "I like that the *Messenger* includes all things big and small around our community."

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

A "Pickle" for Christmas

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

The tradition of the "Christmas Pickle" is one of the most unusual Christmas customs that exists to this day.

It was reported that in the 1880s Woolworth stores started selling glass ornaments that had been imported from Germany. Some of these ornaments were shaped to look like various fruits and vegetables - including pickles.

According to an old German tradition, the pickle was the last ornament to be hung on the Christmas tree, and the child that found the pickle first received an extra present. This tradition carries on to this day even in

Central Texas where many German immigrants settled prior to 1900.

There are several legends or myths surrounding the Christmas Pickle. One of which centers around a Civil War prisoner who was originally born in Germany. He was starving to death and begged a guard for one last pickle. The guard took pity on him and gave him a pickle, which supposedly gave the prisoner the mental and physical strength to continue on.

Despite the many stories about the origins of the pickle, some families to this day continue to practice this holiday tradition.



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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.

Silver Santas deliver Christmas cheer again this year

Staff Reports

With Christmas just right around the corner, Silver Santas - Coryell County made an appearance at two local nursing homes last week to spread Christmas cheer to the local elderly.

This year, the organization was able to deliver 210 gifts

for residents at Hillside Medical Lodge and The Meadows, along with the Meals on Wheels recipients with the Gatesville Senior Center.

Gatesville's local youth baseball team, the Prospects, attended the donation drive to help pass out gifts to the residents at both nursing homes.

Gifts given to the residents included items such as 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.



Members of the Prospects baseball team are pictured delivering Christmas gifts to residents at The Meadows as part of the local Silver Santas program. Many residents were grateful for the gifts and reciprocated with a hug of appreciation.

COURTESY PHOTO

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Frog giggin' and snake killin'



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

When I was growing up in Fort Worth, my buddies and I would go to the driving range in Forest Park and knock a few golf balls around.

Then we'd take a ride on the train that ran through the park or ride the revolving swings that sling riders out on a 45-degree angle. On the way home one night - for some reason - we pulled into the entrance to the Botanical Gardens. It had a series of pools leading up to the entrance gate. The pools were full of frogs. None of us had ever gone frog gigging before, and I don't remember what we used to catch the frogs, but we caught a bunch. We put them in the back of my pickup and went to the home of some unsuspect-

ing classmate and put the frogs in his front yard. It was the only time I've gone frog gigging, but I've interviewed a few since then and it sounds like a lot of fun. I love to eat frog legs. Jim Thompson, of Sulphur Springs, knows about water moccasins. "One night, we were out east of town at Bruce Matthews place, and he had two or three different pools where we could gig for frogs. We were at what we call the big pool. It was shallow for the most part and it was just covered

up with water moccasins. All of us were wearing tall rubber boots and we had 410s and 22s and spotlights. We made one loop around that big pool. Of course, when you do all that shooting and snake killing, it scares the other snakes. We did one orbit around that pond. Then we went to another location to give that place a chance to settle down. Then we came back and did one more loop, and that one night we killed 57 water moccasins. We didn't do much frog gigging that night because we were having so much fun and success at killing snakes. "There were cows all around, and I don't know if a water moccasin could kill a cow but they might could make a cow lame and swell up. Course the dairyman didn't want those snakes out there, so we turned it into something fun. We'd just go snake killin'." "We learned real quick that whenever you go to use a gig, you don't use the same gig for frogs that you use for water moccasins.

Once you spear a water moccasin, there's an odor that gets on that gig and if you go find a frog, and you get that gig down there close to that frog before you make that final plunge that frog smells the odor of that snake and will jump because it thinks there is a snake right on him. So, we had to have our snake gigs and we had to have our frog gigs, because never the twain could meet. "I have personally seen water moccasins and killed them that were five-feet-long. They're dark, either gray or black. Ugly as a mud fence in a rainstorm. A water moccasin will walk five miles to bite you. They're mean. If they bite you and you don't treat it, it could kill you. We ain't talkin' about a fun snake. It's not a snake that you can pick up and play with. There's only five or six, I don't know, venomous snakes in North America, and water moccasin is one of them. It's one of the mean ones."

SUDOKU

Puzzle answers from the Dec. 14, 2024 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

This recipe appeared in the "Methodist Best" cookbook in 2008. The Gatesville Messenger plans to run 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.

CHRISTMAS FRUIT DROPS

By Cindy Martin

- 1 1/2 c. sifted plain flour
- 1 egg
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 c. mixed candied fruit,

- finely chopped
- 1/2 c. butter
- 1/2 c. nuts, chopped
- 3/4 c. sugar

Stir together flour, baking soda, and salt. Cream together butter and sugar

until light and fluffy. Add egg and vanilla, beat well. Blend candied fruits and nuts with flour mixture; blend into creamed mixture. Drop by teaspoon full on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 for 10

minutes or until brown. Allow to cool on the cookie sheet for three minutes before removing to a wire rack to cool completely. Be careful, will burn easily.



COURTESY OF MOMSDINNER.NET

Holiday Fruitcake Cookies

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2004)
Coryell County commissioners considered renovating the old city maintenance shop into offices. Local citizens contributed 168,505 pounds of food for the Food for Families Drive. The Coryell Museum and Historical Center hosted a Christmas party to recognize the museum's volunteers.

The GHS band sponsored a catfish dinner and concert. Leon River advertised half off all Christmas ornaments. **30 YEARS AGO (1994)**
Santa Claus visited boys and girls at Evant's town square. The Coryell County Collector's Club donated a

selection of books to the Gatesville Public Library. The Gatesville Country Club wished everyone a "Merry Christmas." Suspect Michael Blacknell was indicted for attempted capital murder in connection with the assault of an 89-year-old Gatesville woman. Topsey Road Mercantile advertised a daily 25%-off

sale. **40 YEARS AGO (1984)**
Byron Weathersby was the winner of a shopping spree sponsored by HEB and Pepsi Cola. A live Nativity scene was held on the west side of the courthouse. Leaird's Department Store offered free gift wrapping on all items over \$7.50.

"Beverly Hills Cop" was showing at the Drive In's cinema. A public health clinic was planned at the MHMR building. **50 YEARS AGO (1974)**
Victor Harper, president of the Oglesby State Bank, announced his retirement. Evant students moved into a new school.

Scott's Furniture advertised a "1/2-price, 1/2-day sale." Town and Country Drive-In was showing the Western "My Name is Nobody." Xi Iota Epsilon reported that its "Memory Tree" was filling up with illuminated lights as its list of donors grew.

PEARL NEWS

Just one more gift to wrap...then maybe one more



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

Merry Christmas! Wishing you the joy of the season that lasts throughout the years to come!

“For unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and

His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6. Amen and Amen!

It seems that everyone in Pearl is busy preparing for Christmas week. Linda has been busy (as usual) preparing little gifts for the kids at church and other Christmas-type projects. I’ve also heard that many of the ladies are baking, wrapping, and cleaning for Christmas visitors. Others are dealing with health issues and need our many prayers! Actually, we ALL need prayer each and every day! Please don’t

forget your sweet friends in Pearl in yours. We thank the Lord for all of you who support the Pearl activities and love the Pearlites as their own. You have our prayers, too!

This Pearl News is a bit short today as I am also preparing for Christmas visitors and visiting throughout the next two weeks. Just when I think I’m finished with wrapping, there’s one more ... and then one more! Plus, I’ve completed two crochet projects, two huck weaving projects, and two cross stitch projects. And now I realize that they have

to be wrapped, too, (sigh.). I am not a great “wrapper,” but we do what we must to do the best we can. The fun part for me has been the creation of the finished products. I love retirement! I can craft to my heart’s content, and I try to pray for the recipient throughout the process. Yes, retirement is mighty fine. Aging is not always fun, but the perk of retirement surely makes it more than bearable. God is good, yes, He is!

This week’s Bible verse comes from Luke 1:30-33— But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you

have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a Son, and you are to call Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord will give him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; His kingdom will never end. NIV
Be sure and like the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page and the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop Facebook page! Please submit any Pearl news to betsyclark47@yahoo.com

New TxDOT safety initiative taps into the Lone Star spirit

Press Release

People in Texas take pride in who they are. From holding the door open for a stranger to lending a helping hand to a neighbor, being a Texan is a way of life. But too many times, drivers leave that Lone Star spirit behind when they get on the road, which can often result in preventable crashes.

To help instill that Texas spirit on the road, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is getting back to the basics by launching a new safety initiative called, “Drive like a Texan.”

This fresh perspective exemplifies the pride, camaraderie, and responsibility of being a Texan. By reminding drivers to practice those

values every day we can make Texas roads safer for everyone.

“We want a fresh, heartfelt approach to how we talk about road safety. It doesn’t matter how long you’ve lived here, or where you’re from. All that really matters is that you embrace those values that represent the best of Texas,” TxDOT Deputy Executive Director Brandye Hendrickson said. “The message is simple; take pride in how we treat each other on and off the road.”

Although the number of people who died in crashes went down in 2023 compared to 2022, an average of 12 people die on Texas roadways every day. It will take everyone’s help,

and “Drive like a Texan” introduces a new unifying message that can save lives when put into practice. It reminds Texans of who we are, how we treat each other, and the common values we share.

“Drive like a Texan” messages will appear across television, social media, websites, and billboards throughout Texas, starting this winter.

Whether it’s letting someone merge with a friendly wave, slowing down in busy areas, or simply practicing patience, this campaign encourages everyone to embody the true Texan spirit. “Drive like a Texan” - Be kind, courteous, and safe.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT)

“Drive like a Texan” encourages safe behavior while driving.

Turnersville Community Center to meet Jan. 6

Submitted Item

The Turnersville Community Center will host a meeting on Monday, Jan. 6, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting, which will deal with the election of the board of directors, will be held at the Turnersville Community Center, and the meeting is open to

the public.

The Turnersville Community Center serves residents of the rural community of Turnersville (originally known as Buchanan Springs).

The community center is located at 8115 FM 182 in Turnersville.

CLINIC

FROM PAGE A1

intervention, assessments, and referrals wherever the crisis is taking place within the community, including at home or at work.

Those experiencing a crisis can call the Crisis Hotline at 800-888-4036, which is available 24 hours/seven days a week and will connect callers with a professional.

Smith emphasizes the importance of not allowing the stigma behind mental illness keep someone from seeking treatment.

“There are people who come in and they seem to have it all together and they live a productive life, but they come in for talk services, just to have sessions with their caseworker and talk things out,” Smith said.

“It’s not just people who are just severely mentally ill coming in here,” Smith adds. “It’s people who are just trying to cope with the rising expenses of groceries and trying to handle and manage everyday stress, so that’s available.”

Services for children and adolescents

Mental health services for children and adolescents include family training and support, screening and assessment, referrals, skills training, counseling, and family mentoring.

Rachael Bridgewater, a children’s case worker with Central Counties Services, meets with children from ages 4 to 17 years at school districts in Oglesby, Gatesville, Evant, Jonesboro, Hamilton, and Hico.

After the students speak with a licensed healthcare professional and receive a diagnosis, Bridgewater said they also build a treatment plan like case workers do with adult clients. She said she tries to see students at least twice a month and reviews goals with them every 90 days.

“Once the treatment plan is in place, then I can see the kids at school during the school year, and then during the summer or on holidays they come to the office,” Bridgewater said. “Where my treatment plans differ a little from the adult side is in the fact that it’s called a ‘person-centered

recovery plan’ for kids, and we review it every 90 days (where for adults it’s every six months).”

Bridgewater also meets with children who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. She said the clinic offers children the same mental health crisis services as adults.

She adds that she makes connections with the counselors and teachers at the schools to ensure she can monitor how the students are doing in class outside of the in-person meetings.

“I think that’s the biggest part - is getting that communication, that connection, especially because a lot of parents don’t even know that we are here,” Bridgewater said.

Parents must call to schedule an intake appointment for their children and do not need a referral from the school district.

While the Gatesville clinic does not fully service intellectual and developmental disabilities, the clinic offers referrals to other locations within the agency’s network that provides those ser-

vices.

The non-profit determines fees for services on a sliding scale based on the individual’s ability to pay. As an agency funded by the Texas Department of State Health Services, services will not be denied to any eligible individual.

To be eligible for adult services, clients must be at least 18 years old and reside in Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, or Milam County and meet the agency’s financial criteria as an uninsured or underinsured resident, according to the Central Counties Services website. For children or adolescents, they must reside in either one of the five counties, be between the ages of 3 and 17 years, and have serious emotional/behavioral problems that interfere with their functioning at home, school, or in the community.

To learn more about Central Counties Services, visit <https://centralcountiesservices.org/>

To contact the Gatesville clinic, call 254-865-7162.

COUGH

FROM PAGE A1

and community protection,” Wuenschel said.

Early symptoms can last one to two weeks and usually include:

- Runny nose
- Low-grade fever (generally minimal throughout the course of the disease)
- A mild, occasional cough
- Apnea - a pause in breathing (in infants)

As the disease progresses, the traditional symptoms of pertussis appear and include:

- Paroxysms (fits) of many rapid coughs followed by a high-pitched “whoop”
- Vomiting
- Exhaustion (very tired) after coughing fits

How to prevent:

- Up-to-date DTAP immunization in children and TDAP in teens and adults
- Practice good hand

hygiene (washing with warm soapy water for at least 20 seconds).

- Wearing a mask while sick and around sick patients
- Sanitize waiting areas and exam rooms thoroughly.

Pertussis is a contagious disease only found in humans that spreads from person to person. People with pertussis usually spread the disease to another person through aerosolized droplets from coughing or sneezing.

Pertussis can also spread when others in close contact breathe in the pertussis bacteria. Many babies who get pertussis are infected by older siblings, parents, or caregivers who might not even know they have the disease.

Merry Christmas!

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THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

MOUND NEWS

Several Mound residents attended the Holiday Tour of Homes



BY BARBARA HOPSON
Mound News Correspondent

The City of Gatesville is hosting a month-long nostalgia Christmas Lights walk-through event with Christmas at the Ballpark Sports Complex in Gatesville.

Several people from Mound attended Gatesville's first Christmas Holidays Tour of Homes throughout December

to show the community Christmas lights and decorations throughout our town, (Friday and Saturday evenings).

Several people from Mound attended the Gatesville Winter Showcase Varsity Choir Concert at the Gatesville High School Auditorium Tuesday evening.

Several people from Mound attended the Gatesville 2024 Cowboy Christmas Parade and Holiday Extravaganza Market Saturday morning.

Several people from Mound attended the Christmas Cantata at the First United Methodist Church Sunday morning, and later that evening there was the Christmas Eve Candlelight service.

Those having birthdays this month were Joshua Tatum, Vivian Moore, Brad Barnard, Truett Pullen,

Jacklyn Pullen, Bailey Gohlke, Robert Poynter, Gail Weaver, Blayn Smith, Kelli McPherson, Jill Winkler, Aspen Watts, Cuili Brookshire, Katie Hopson, Sarah Turner, Helen Piller, Hollie Jones, Connie Montgomery, Debbie Tatum, Jacqueline Jones, Tammy Russell, Richard Bryant, Chris Gribble, Ashley Pruet, and K.T. Botkin.

Barbara's Notes: MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEARS, EVERYBODY and a happy fifth anniversary to David and Pam Hopson!

There will be no Mound News for the next two weeks. I will start back January 10, 2025.

OBITUARIES

Gwen Fleming

March 15, 1929 - Dec. 13, 2024

Funeral services for Gwendolyn Smith Fleming were held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville with Minister Deral McWhorter officiating. Interment followed at Pearl Cemetery.

Gwendolyn Smith Fleming was born March 15, 1929 to Albert Oscar Smith and Anna Murrah Smith in Pearl. She passed away on Dec. 13, 2024, at the age of 95.

She was the second of eight children - five boys and three girls. She was raised in Pearl and graduated from Pearl High School in 1946 where she was a cheerleader and captain of the girls' basketball team. When she thought of going home, it was always to Pearl and Gatesville. When she was out and about, she would point out someone and say they were from Gatesville, because you could always tell Gatesville people.

In 1946, she met and married Wayne Fleming, who was just back from serving in World War II. They made their home in different places in Coryell and Bell County until 1955 when they moved to Cameron. While in Cameron, Wayne worked for Alcoa, and they raised all five of their children. They were married for 58 years until he passed away in 2004.

The two most important parts of Gwen's life were her church and her family.



She was a member for many years of the Crockett Street Church of Christ in Cameron and, when she moved back to Gatesville, she attended Fort Gates Church of Christ and Cedar Ridge Church of Christ. She rarely missed a Sunday, and all her children were taught the importance of Christ and church.

Gwen was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers, Gervase Smith, Bryan Smith, Duayne Smith, and F.B. Smith; and sisters, Cynthia Neatherlin and Carolyn Brooks.

She is survived by her brother James, of Fort Worth, and her children, Linda Foster and husband, Robert, of Georgetown, Regina Young and husband, Marvin, of Cameron, Paula Lopez and husband, Leo, of Burleson, Don Fleming and wife, Laura, of Denton, and Debra Michalka and husband, Carroll, of Rogers. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

Cucumbers sold in 34 Texas stores recalled over salmonella concerns

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

This past November, Walmart recalled cucumber slices sold in 34 Texas stores over concerns that they might be contaminated with salmonella.

In a recall announcement posted by the Food and Drug Administration, it stated that the recalled MarketSide Fresh Cut Cucumber Slices were sold between Oct. 12 and Nov. 26, with date codes up to Dec. 1.

The cucumbers were sold in clear plastic containers with a universal product code or price look-up code of 62969.

The MarketSide Fresh Cut Cucumber Slices were sold by Arizona based SunFed Produce, who initiated the recall after the United

States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) notified SunFed that the cucumbers were associated with reported salmonella infections between the dates of Oct. 12 and Nov. 15.

According to the recall announcement, SunFed has also contacted each of its direct buyers to advise them of the recall.

"As soon as we learned of this issue, we immediately acted to protect consumers," Craig Slate, President at SunFed said in the recall announcement. "We require all of our growers to strictly comply with the FDA food safety requirements."

Walmart advised customers to toss out the cucumber slices or return them to the store from which they purchased them. No other products sold by SunFed

are implicated in the recall. Salmonella is made up of bacteria, which can infect a person after swallowing the bacteria. The CDC states that contaminated food is a main source of the illness. The CDC also estimated salmonella to cause about 1.35 million infections in the U.S. each year.

The recall announcement noted that healthy people who are infected with salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting, and abdominal pain.

Walmart stated in a recall announcement that consumers should take the following actions:

- Check to see if you have recalled MarketSide Fresh Cut Cucumber Slices.
- Anyone with the recalled product in their

possession should not consume, serve, use, sell, or distribute the recalled product. It is also encouraged to clean and sanitize surfaces that could have come into contact with the recalled product to reduce cross-contamination.

Recalled products should be thrown out or destroyed so they may not be consumed or returned to the point of purchase.

If you think you have consumed a recalled product and do not feel well, contact your healthcare provider.

Consumers who have purchased the recalled products may obtain additional information by contacting SunFed's recall hotline at 888-542-5849.



STOCK PHOTO

Walmart recently recalled cucumber slices from 34 Texas stores over concerns that they may have been contaminated with salmonella.

Daughters of the Republic of Texas to meet Jan. 2 in Waco

Submitted item

The Sterling C. Robertson Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas

will meet on Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025, at 1 p.m. The meeting will be at the Waco Chamber of Commerce

Building, located at 101 S. 3rd Street in downtown Waco.

Amy Trayweek of "Revi-

sion Photo Restoration" will be the speaker. She will share her experiences and the importance of pre-

serving photos for future generations.

This meeting is free and open to the public.

Prospective members are encouraged to attend.

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SENIOR CENTER HOSTS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Gatesville Senior Center hosted its annual Christmas party this week on Wednesday, Dec. 18 for the congregation, volunteers, and staff. The party began with its celebration of December birthdays, which was presented by Hillside Medical Lodge Supervisor of Public Relations Susie Meelbusch. The party included festivities such as Christmas music, a drawing, gift giveaways, and a meal prepared by Nutrition Supervisor Camilla Edge and her team at the Senior Center. The Senior Center is a local community hub that offers programs and services to help older adults stay active, independent, and healthy.

PHOTOS BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



Congregation members are pictured attending the annual party.



Ed and Eileen Stacy are pictured enjoying the Christmas party.



Nutrition Supervisor Camilla Edge is pictured with the giveaway prizes for the drawing that was held.



Hillside Medical Lodge's Supervisor of Public Relations Susie Meelbusch is pictured hugging congregation member, Dorothy Pruett, after presenting her with a gift card for her birthday.



Those present at the Gatesville Senior Center's Christmas party each received a new mug from Hillside Medical Lodge. The attendees are pictured holding their mugs in the air.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of Dec. 11 - Dec. 17. 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

Dec. 11
5:33 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.
4:36 p.m., an assault was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.
6:07 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1400 block of W. Center Street.
9:44 p.m., an assault was reported in the 2300 block of E. Main Street.

Dec. 12
5:42 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Surrey Lane.
7:34 a.m., a threat was reported in the 3300 block of Royal Drive.
4:01 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 200 block of N. 8th Street.
10:31 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 100 block of FM 116.

Dec. 13
7:27 a.m., a theft was reported in the 700 block of N. State Highway 36 Bypass.
9:05 a.m., a theft was reported in the 3300 block of E. Main Street.
3:29 p.m., wanted/stolen (person/property) was reported in the 200 block of N. 8th Street.
10:03 p.m., a threat was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

Dec. 14
7:53 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1900 block of N. State Highway 36 Bypass.
11:02 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1500 block of Bridge Street.
11:23 a.m., a threat was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.
12:58 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 100 block of Elm Lane.

Dec. 15
4:34 p.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 200 block of N. 14th Street.

5:08 p.m., an accident was reported in the 2600 block of Business Highway 36.
6:07 p.m. a disturbance was reported in the 11,600 block of FM 116.
6:13 p.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 2600 block of Mears Drive.

Dec. 16
9:04 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of FM 116.
5:05 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.
5:17 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.
5:22 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of E. Leon Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dec. 11

9 a.m., a theft was reported in the 400 block of River Road.
11:24 a.m., a scam was reported in the 1200 block of Marissa Drive.
4:34 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of Baird Street.
9 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 4500 block of County Road 107.

Dec. 12
10:46 a.m., a theft was reported in the 300 block of Barton Lane.
4:59 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.
8:29 p.m., an abandoned vehicle was reported in the 6400 block of FM 215.
10:36 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 400 block of Ranier Road.

Dec. 13
9:20 a.m., an animal com-

plaint was reported in the 800 block of Beechley Road.
9:26 a.m., harassment was reported in the 700 block of FM 116.
10:34 a.m., theft of a firearm was reported in the 3200 block of Old Fort Gates Rd.
12:20 p.m., burglary of a habitation was reported in the 2400 block of County Road 258.

Dec. 14
9:25 p.m., someone reported hitting a deer in the 2700 block of N. FM 116.
9:57 p.m., a fire call was reported in the 2900 block of FM 1241.

Dec. 15
12:51 a.m., shots fired were reported in the 1300 block of County Road 238.
3:24 p.m., a minor accident was reported on Highway 84.
6:16 p.m., a major accident was reported on I-14 and Clark Road.

Dec. 16
6:56 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2100 block of County Road 258.
8:46 a.m., a recovered stolen vehicle was reported in the 800 block of Industrial Ave.
10:49 a.m., a theft was

reported in the 200 block of County Road 330.
7:19 p.m., a minor accident was reported in the 4300 block of County Road 356.

Dec. 17
10:14 a.m., a scam was reported in the 3400 block of County Road 318.
2:40 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 11,600 block of FM 116.
2:47 p.m., a vehicle fire was reported on s. Highway 36 and FM 107.
11:39 p.m., suspicious activity was reported on S. Highway 36 Northbound.

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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401-500 lb.	310-341	401-500 lb.	280-339
501-600 lb.	285-335	501-600 lb.	250-277
601-700 lb.	250-279	600-700 lb.	225-247

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700-800 lb.	235-260	

No. 1 Heifers		
under 300 lb.	350-435	
300-400 lb.	325-415	
400-500 lb.	290-365	
500-600 lb.	265-310	
600-700 lb.	235-265	
700-800 lb.	210-240	

Slaughtering Cows	
High Yielding	115-127
Low Yielding	100-115
Fats	105-120
Thin & Shelly	75-95

Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)
Yield Grade 1&2 125-162

Cow & Calf Pairs

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Next Sale is Jan. 8.
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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 evenings: Choir at 5:30 p.m., Children & Youth Activities, Adult Bible Study at 6:15 p.m.

MOUNTAIN BAPTIST
 Rev. Kurt Fuessel, pastor; 6319 US-84, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m.,

Sunday worship 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Prayer meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday.

OSAGE BAPTIST
 Chris Thomas, pastor; 7505 FM 185, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

PEARL COUNTRY CHURCH
 2082 FM 1690, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m.

PECAN GROVE BAPTIST
 6545 FM 107, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

PIDCOKE BAPTIST
 Donald McConaughay, pastor; 11125 FM 116, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday service 11 a.m.

PLEASANT VALLEY BAPTIST
 Chris Post, Pastor; CR 301, Jonesboro; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

PRIMERO IGLESIA EMANUEL
 One mile north of Evant, Hwy. 281; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

PURMELA BAPTIST
 Pastor: Brenden Hough; 875 FM 932, Purmela, TX 76566; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

SWEET HOME BAPTIST
 511 N. 14th, Gatesville; Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.; Wednesday worship 7 p.m.

SPANISH BAPTIST
 Ezequiel Casas, pastor; 113 Veazy Dr., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6 p.m.

TRINITY BAPTIST
 Bro. Sam Crosby, Pastor; 1506 W. Main, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Wednesday - activities for adults, youth, & children 6:30 p.m.; 254-865-8495 or Pre-school: 254-248-0041.

TURNERSVILLE BAPTIST
 Jon Crosby, Pastor; 8120 FM 182, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.

WESTVIEW BAPTIST
 Pastor: Malachi Houser; 1102 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.

WHITE HALL BAPTIST
 Mike Barron, pastor; 2040 CR 238, Gatesville; Sunday school 10 a.m.; Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 254-679-3200.

WHITE MOUND BAPTIST
 Bruce Cox, pastor; Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.; 642 CR 320; mailing address: P.O. Box 103, Mound, TX 76558.

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

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST CEDAR RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Deral McWhorter, minister; 104 Cedar Ridge, Gatesville; Sunday worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.

EVANT CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Will Vann, Preacher; 310 W. Brooks Dr., Evant; Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday worship 10:20 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

FORT GATES CHURCH OF CHRIST
 4605 St. Hwy. 36 S., Gatesville; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.

GATESVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Justin Hall, minister; 2417 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday Bible class 9:30 a.m., Sunday service 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible classes 6:30 p.m.

LA IGLESIA DE CRISTO
 2413 E. Main, Gatesville; clases y servicios en Español, 10-11:30 a.m., Solamente en domingos.

MIDWAY CHURCH OF CHRIST
 1955 CR 3640, Copperas Cove; Sundays - worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays - Bible Study 5:30 p.m.; Royce 512-734-5390 or Steve 254-865-3559.

PEARL CHURCH OF CHRIST
 6790 FM 183; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.

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

LUTHERAN IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
 David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd., Copperas Cove; Sunday Bible Study 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
 Rev. Christopher Richman, PhD; 10801 FM 929, Coryell City; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
 Rev. John Heckmann, pastor; Hwy. 36 & FM 1114, The Grove; Sunday School 9 a.m., Sunday worship 10:15 a.m.

METHODIST BETHEL UNITED METHODIST
 2 miles north of Ireland on FM 932; 11 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays.

EVANT METHODIST
 235 US-281, Evant; Dennis Dutton, Pastor; Sunday worship 10 a.m.

FIRST METHODIST GATESVILLE
 2600 E. Main St.; Stephen Schmidt, pastor; Sunday worship 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. WEDNESDAY WORD (during school year): Meal at 5:30 p.m. \$3; youth, Children & Adult Bible Studies at 6 p.m. AA meets Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 6:30 p.m. 254-865-2520.

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 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.

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 Frank Rosenstern, pastor; Hwy. 84 W.; Sunday services 10:30 a.m.; Thursday services, 7 p.m.

CORYELL COMMUNITY CHURCH
 Eric Moffett, Pastor; 115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, 248-0849. Sunday worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services 6 p.m.; Adult Bible Study, Children's Ministry & C3 Student Ministry.

CORYELL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
 Doran Belknap III, Pastor; Sunday service 11 a.m., 8205 FM 182, Turnersville; 254-218-5901.

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 Pastor: Rev. Brandy Spiker, Sunday service 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.,

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 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
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LEVITA BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
 Pat Cole, Pastor; 4460 FM 930, Levita; Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.; Tuesday OWLS Kid Group 6-8 p.m.

MOTHER NEFF FAITH TABERNACLE
 William Bertelsen, Pastor; 1415 Texas Hwy. 236; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
 6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sunday Services 9 a.m.

THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT
 Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412 E. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday service 11 a.m., Wednesday service 7 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE OF PRAISE
 Rev. Jimmy Skiles, pastor; 202 E. Main, Gatesville; Sundays 10 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; 254-206-1826.

MOUNT CALVARY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
 Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor; 514 N. 13th St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesdays Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday service, 7:30 p.m.

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

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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 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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037
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060
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099
Public Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CITY OF GATESVILLE

The City of Gatesville is soliciting proposals for Water and Sewer Materials.

Copies of the RFP are posted on the City Webpage www.GatesvilleTX.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 2024-002 Annual Unit Price Contract for Water and Sewer Materials" 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 30, 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.

00031206

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

ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE DORI MISTIC 907 S. MAIN ST. COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522

TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS UNKNOWN ADDRESS UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF CORYELL

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MARJORIE ANN SMITH, DECEASED. CAUSE NO. 24-11099, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. JOSHLYN BROWN FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2024, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID MARJORIE ANN SMITH, DECEASED.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 30TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2024, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.

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

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2024.

JENNIFER NEWTON CORYELL COUNTY CLERK CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: K. TALLEY

00031207

099
Public Notices

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

ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE DORI MISTIC P.O. BOX 246 COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522

TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS UNKNOWN ADDRESS UNKNOWN STATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY COURT AT LAW

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MARK LEE LOCKE, DECEASED. CAUSE NO 24-11108, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. JEANNE MARIE LOCKE FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 16TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2024, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID MARK LEE LOCKE, DECEASED.

SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 30TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2024, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.

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

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

JENNIFER NEWTON CORYELL COUNTY CLERK CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

BY: K. TALLEY

00031214

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Gatesville will hold a Public Hearing to consider a zoning designation and preliminary plat for real property situated in the C Cazanoba Survey located in the City of Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas on Stillhouse Road.

Public Hearings at 110 N. 8th Street, Gatesville, TX 76528:
1. Planning and Zoning - January 6, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.
2. City Council - January 28, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, please contact the City Secretary, Holly Owens at 254-865-8951 or howens@gatesvilletx.com.

00031215

070
Land & Lots

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

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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102
Real Estate

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- 3 Br 2 Ba Austin Stone Home 378 Tom Sawyer St. Evant, renovated bathroom, large living room, all electric appliances in Kitchen, small storage shed, attached garage. \$188,000.
- 5.078 ac., 369 PR 305 Lane, Gatesville, TX, Lot No. 4 Greenbriar Ranch Estates, North Greenbriar Creek, scattered tree cover, rolling terrain. \$120,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 20 Ph 4 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, good tree cover, great views, electric & fiber optic internet service, gated subdivision. \$98,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 140 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, oaks, mesquites, & cedar. Electricity & Fiber Optic Internet. \$123,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 3 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. Rolling terrain, good tree cover, stock tank, seasonal creek. \$130,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 12 Ph 4, Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, stock tank, road on three sides, good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision. \$142,500
- 10.01 ac. Lot 41 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX., Good Tree cover, Rolling Terrain, Fiber Optic Internet. \$149,500
- 10.01 ac. Lot 49 Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision Evant, TX, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, stock tank, water well w/solar pump. \$175,000
- 14.75 ac. 2 Br 2 Ba home 3483 CR 138 Evant, TX, hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances, covered back porch, attached carport, RV carport, storage building, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, stock tank, water well. \$ 425,000
- 16.64 ac. Lot N 31 PR 2902 Hamilton TX, good tree cover, rolling terrain, fully fenced, electricity at the road. \$140,000
- 16.5 ac. Lot 42 Ph 4 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX. Good elevation, great views, good tree cover, Dry Branch, Electric & Fiber Optic Internet. \$189,000
- 20.02 ac. Lot 25 Ph 6 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, Dry Branch, good tree cover, rolling terrain, Electric & Fiber Optic Internet. Owner Financing Available. \$218,500
- 20.02 ac. Lot 38 Ph 2 Rio Escondido Subdivision Evant, TX, good tree coverage, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, private roads. \$260,000
- 30.528 ac. East of Evant, great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, electricity across the road, you will need to drill a water well. \$305,280.
- 41.0457 ac. Hamilton, CR 404, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, approx. 25 acres farmland, 2 tanks, & good fences. \$399,000
- 58.51 ac. 3/2 frame home. 6630 FM 183 Evant, TX, water well, several outbuildings, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, 2 tanks. \$459,303
- 70 ac. Ireland, TX, FM 932 and CR 186, Mustang Creek, good tree cover, rolling terrain. Electric & water meter from Multi-County Water. \$799,000
- 71.572 ac. Flat, TX CR 931. Rolling terrain & scattered tree cover, several outbuildings, rural water & electric, fenced, easements in place to preserve the agricultural & recreational resources of the land. \$590,469
- 89.89 ac. 3 Br 2 Ba home, 1723 FM 591 Dublin, TX, Comanche County, open floor plan, laminate wood floors, covered front & back porches, 2-car attached carport, 1 well, 2 stock tanks, metal building, 40 ft storage container, good tree cover, rolling terrain, 20 to 25 ac. of farmland. 22 KW Generac Home Generator. \$1,100,000
- 197.07 ac. 4 BR 2 Ba, 2021 Manufactured Home fully furnished. 1805 CR 180 Purnela, TX, Coryell County, 2 stock tanks, storage container, storage building, 1 water well, rolling terrain, good tree cover, paved road frontage. \$1,300,000
- 362.62 ac. 4 Br 2 Ba home south of Evant TX on FM 183. Open floor plan, center island, rock fireplace, vaulted ceiling, tile flooring throughout the home, three screened-in porches, attached 2 car garage, workshop. The water supply for the home comes from a spring that is known as Tan Yard Spring, property has two other springs, 2 stock tanks, head waters of North Bee House Creek run through the property, 1 barn, three pastures, good fencing, good tree cover with rolling terrain. \$2,973,484

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00031177

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Dossey & Herring make Jonesboro FFA proud

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Jonesboro High School's Future Farmers of America (FFA) program made its annual trip to the Bosque River District Talent Show at McGregor High School on Wednesday, Dec. 11, where junior Braxton Dossey and senior Clayton Herring placed first.

Twenty schools were present at the talent show with four talent teams entered to compete.

Jonesboro ISD Agriculture Teacher, TaLisa Ferguson, said that Jonesboro was by far the smallest school district in the competition.

"Many larger schools have anywhere from five to 19 voting delegates per school; our small size means we are allotted only one voting member," Ferguson said. "It makes it a bigger challenge, because these boys had to win over the delegates from other schools, and they did."

The duo performed, "Fool Hearted Memory," by George Strait. Dossey was the lead singer and played the guitar with Herring as the backup guitarist. They also performed an original song written by Dossey, which he named, "Broken Memories."

"We had five students travel with us to watch but

also had many family and community members present," she said. "It meant a lot to the boys that they had support."

Dossey has competed in the talent show each year since he was a freshman and advanced to the Area level his first year but did not advance to state. During his sophomore year, he placed second at district but did not advance to the Area level.

"We are hoping this year will be his big break," Ferguson said. "Braxton overcame a serious neck injury in the summer, and I know the entire community is proud watching him thrive after that. His faith in God seems so vibrant."

As for Herring, this was his first time competing at the talent show, although he and Dossey have spent a lot of time picking guitars together.

"Clayton is one the hardest working boys I know," she said. "His classmates joke that he always says, 'I'd rather be on a tractor.' He is also in my work program and has more work hours logged than any other Jonesboro student."

Ferguson mentioned that the duo mainly practiced

outside of school but started gearing up for the talent show by performing in her classroom about a month prior to competition.

"Their fellow FFA members and I truly enjoyed the classroom concerts," she said. "I've only had the privilege of knowing Braxton and Clayton for a semester. I'm proud of more than just their musical talent. Braxton and Clayton are both respectful and outstanding young men."

Ferguson mentioned that the talent show is important because it is a true confidence builder while also giving students the opportunity to network with other FFA members from their area.

Herring expressed that the biggest thing the talent show taught the duo was how to deal with their stage fright.

"Learning how to deal with the nervousness of standing in front of a crowd on stage will benefit my public speaking ability," Dossey said.

Ferguson expressed that she hopes that Dossey and Herring see what they are capable of in the future.

"Not only do they have the Area talent show to prepare for, but they will be gearing up for our spring Career De-

velopment Events; Braxton will compete in livestock judging, and Clayton will be in entomology," she said. "Hopefully, this taste of success encourages them to do their best in all their upcoming FFA events."

"Winning first place felt incredible and brought a sense of pride and validation for the hard work we put in," Herring said.

"It felt like our hard work was noticed by many people and further proves that Jonesboro ISD is the greatest school district in America," Dossey said.

The duo will perform a different song for their Area competition in May but are still undecided on the song choice.

"They want to make sure they choose songs that will get the crowd excited," Ferguson said.

"I have very high expectations," she said. "They are extremely talented young men. The top three teams at Area will receive a banner for their win, but only first place will advance to state. I truly believe they have the ability to win."



COURTESY PHOTO

Braxton Dossey and Clayton Herring are pictured on stage at the Bosque River District Talent Show at McGregor High School where they received first place for their performance.

GISD sends letter to parents about safe storage of firearms

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

In the wake of thousands of gun-related deaths across the United States in 2024 alone, Gatesville Independent School District distributed a letter to parents as a reminder about the safe storage of firearms.

The message stems from a Texas law, which is under Texas Education Code 37.222, that went into effect at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. Its purpose is to increase awareness about safe gun storage practices by distrib-

uting information to parents, explains Gatesville ISD Assistant Superintendent Dr. Yancey Sanderson.

"By working together, schools and parents can play a role in promoting a culture of safety," Sanderson said.

The letter provides parents with resources on how to safely store firearms and talk with their children about these safety measures. It states that restricting access to guns is critical in preventing suicide deaths, unintentional shoot-

ings, and other tragedies.

"Gun safety is a crucial concern for everyone," Sanderson said. "Providing educational resources can help reduce the risk of accidents and tragedies in communities across the state."

Teresa Johnson, a parent at Gatesville ISD, said she was not aware of the law but is glad it is in place.

"I was glad to receive the letter. It is a great reminder for those of us that are familiar with safe firearm storage to stay vigilant," Johnson said. "And to also

get the word out to those that don't necessarily know the risks of not using child-safe storage."

The letter notes that it is unlawful to store, transport, or abandon an unsecured firearm in a place where children have access to the firearm. Under Texas Penal Code 46.13, a person commits the offense of making a firearm accessible to a child if they fail to secure the firearm or leave the firearm in a place where they know or should know that the child could gain access to it.

"I believe it is important for everyone to know and to teach their children about gun/firearm safety even if you do not own a gun," Johnson said.

According to the letter, 4,613 Texans experienced gun-related deaths in 2021. The Texas Department of State Health Services reports that 55% of Texas firearms deaths in 2020 were suicides and that 59% of all suicides in Texas were by firearms. Suicide attempts involving firearms have a 90% fatality rate.

"I feel like our school district takes child safety very seriously," Johnson said. "Educating parents/guardians on types of safety is one of the best ways to help keep a child safe."

The Texas Department of Public Safety's Safe Gun Storage website provides further resources and information about responsible gun storage practices at home that can help reduce the risk of accidents: <https://safegun-storage.texas.gov/>

Texas DPS heightens enforcement this holiday season

Press Release

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is committed to keeping Texans safe this holiday season. The Texas Highway Patrol (THP) will conduct its annual Christmas and New Year's holiday traffic enforcement campaign beginning Dec. 20 and running through the rest of the year. Troopers will be out on the

roads looking for people who are speeding, not wearing their seat belts, driving while intoxicated, or committing other traffic violations.

"During the holidays, our roads are busier than ever, so safety must remain a top priority," said Colonel Freeman Martin. "I again want to remind Texans to be alert, put your phones down, and

make driving your sole focus when you're behind the wheel. If you see emergency vehicles stopped along the side of the road, move over or slow down—it's the law. If we all simply pay attention and follow the traffic laws, we can help ensure everyone makes it home safely for the holidays this year."

THP will increase enforcement as part of Operation

CARE (Crash Awareness and Reduction Effort), which runs nationwide from Dec. 20 - Jan. 1. During DPS' 2023 Christmas and New Year's enforcement efforts, there were more than 103,317 citations and warnings issued. This included over 28,578 speeding citations; 1,538 seat belt and child seat violations; 3,340 citations for driving without insurance;

and 145 felony and fugitive arrests.

DPS offers the following safety tips for the upcoming holiday season:

- Don't drink and drive. Make alternate plans if you are consuming alcohol.

- Eliminate distractions while driving, including the use of mobile devices. Texas law prohibits the use of portable wireless devices to read, write, or send an electronic message unless the vehicle is stopped. If you're using a navigation device or app, have a passenger operate it so you can keep your eyes on the road.

- Move Over or Slow Down for police, fire, EMS, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) vehicles and tow trucks stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated. Show the same courtesy to fellow drivers who are stopped on the side of the road. So far in 2024, there have been more than 12,204 Move Over, Slow Down violations.

- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle — it's the law.

- Slow down, especially in bad weather, heavy traffic, unfamiliar areas, or construction zones.

- Drive defensively, as holiday travel can present additional challenges.

- On multi-lane roads, use the left lane for passing only. Not only is it courteous driving and avoids impeding traffic, but Texas law also requires slower traffic to keep to the right and to use the left lane for passing only (when posted).

- Don't cut in front of large trucks and try not to brake quickly in front of them. They can't maneuver as easily as passenger vehicles and pickup trucks.

- If you can Steer It, Clear It: If you are involved in a non-injury crash and your vehicle can be moved, clear the traffic lanes to minimize traffic impact. Leaving vehicles in a traffic lane increases traffic congestion and leaves those involved with an increased risk of harm or a secondary wreck. On some highways, if you don't move your vehicle when it's safe to do so, it's against the law.

- Keep the Texas Roadside Assistance number stored in your phone. Dial 1-800-525-5555 for any type of assistance. The number can also be found on the back of a Texas Driver License.

- Check your vehicle to make sure it is properly maintained and always ensure your cargo is secure.

- Report road hazards or anything suspicious to the nearest law enforcement agency.

- Monitor weather and road conditions wherever you are traveling. For road conditions and closures in Texas, visit drivetexas.org

DPS would also like to remind Texans about the iWatchTexas program, a critical resource for reporting suspicious activity within the community to help prevent dangerous attacks. It's especially important to be vigilant as people gather for parades, festivals, and other community events. Tips can be reported via the iWatchTexas website, the free iWatch iOS or Android mobile app, or by calling 844-643-2251. All reports are confidential.

Remember, iWatchTexas is not for emergencies. If there is an emergency, call 911 immediately.

HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

A Holiday Extravaganza Market was held at the Gatesville Civic Center following the Christmas parade. The event included local vendors, activities for the entire family, music, and pictures with Santa Claus.

MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT

Those dusty old streets....

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

In the early days of Gatesville, long before the streets were paved, the roads throughout the city were comprised of ordinary dirt, mud, or sometimes gravel. This was primarily the case with the roads surrounding the courthouse square.

In those days, before automobiles, folks would arrive on the square using horses, buggies, and sometimes bicycles.

The dust generated by those means of transportation was often stifling for early day shoppers

and those visiting the courthouse.

Robert E. Lee Meeks used a horse-drawn water wagon to sprinkle Gatesville's gravelly Main Street and the streets surrounding the square to keep down the dust. Back in those days, paved streets were unheard of.

Meeks was in the street sprinkling business from about 1908 to 1920. It took 18 to 20 tank loads of water to make the sprinkling system run from his horse-drawn wagon.

He charged each down-

town merchant 25 to 50 cents each week and would collect his salary every Monday. Hence, he received the nickname of "Monday Meeks."

The public is invited to drop by and see all the historic items that have been collected at the Coryell Museum. The building is full of interesting stories about the history of the county.

Visitors are welcome to drop by the museum located at 718 E. Main to view the massive spur collection. Coryell Museum and Historical

Center is open Wednesday through Saturday, as is the gift shop. Yearly, Coryell Museum memberships are \$20 for singles, \$30 for families, and \$40 for businesses, which includes free admission to the museum, plus four newsletters. Of course, large and small donations are welcome at all times.

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF CORYELL MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL CENTER

Pictured above is Robert Meeks with his family, Manson, Mary, Clare Lou, Raymond, and Sudie.



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HISTORICAL COMMISSION DRESSES UP COURTHOUSE WITH CHRISTMAS WREATHS



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



COURTESY PHOTO BY PAMELA SHANNON

Members of the Coryell County Historical Commission recently did a little outside decorating at the historic Coryell County Courthouse. Tiffany Butler (left) and Pamela Shannon placed holiday wreaths on each of the four lamp posts located on the courthouse lawn. The historical commission hoped to bring a little holiday cheer to those visiting the courthouse square.

Chamber spreads Christmas cheer with Holiday Tour of Homes

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Christmas Holiday Tour of Homes, spotlighting Christmas lights and decorations

throughout our town.

The tours take place on Friday from 7-9 p.m. and Saturday from 6-9 p.m. The tour dates will be Dec. 20 and Dec. 21.

The tours will be conducted on a trolley ride, starting at the First National Bank Gatesville Branch, located at 3411 E Main Street.

The tours will also make

a special stop at the Sports Complex to attend Christmas at the Ballpark.

The chamber plans to use two separate trolleys, and each trolley will be able to

accommodate up to 12-16 passengers.

Each tour is expected to last approximately one-and-a-half hours.

There will be no admis-

sion fee or tickets needed.

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



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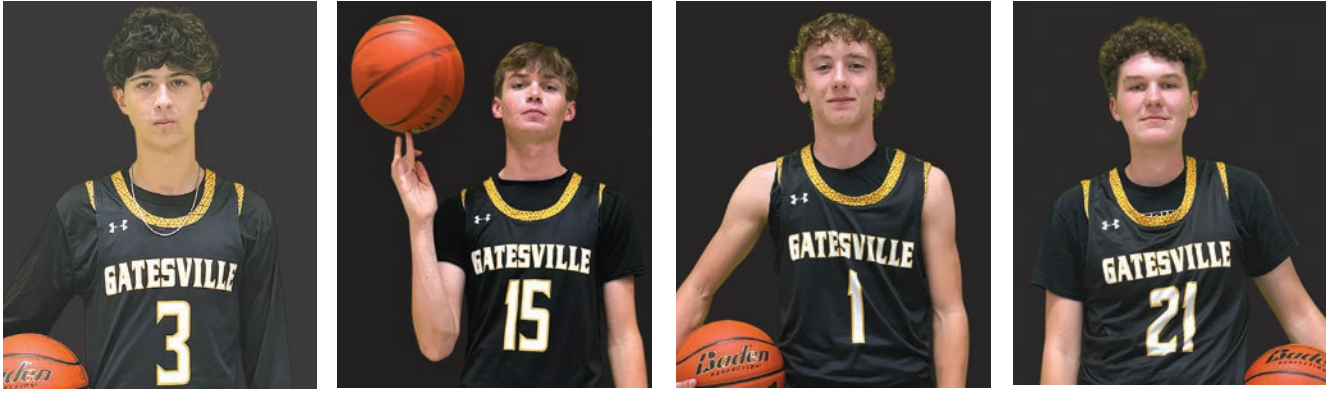
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CHRIS ALLMAN | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

GHS basketball standouts, pictured left to right, are Collyn Coleman, Kase Cox, Grady Keeton, and Rex Owen.

Elks team looking at Manville to help secure playoff spot

BY JOHN ENGLISH
Contributing Writer

As district competition approaches for the Evant boys basketball team, Tanner Manville is one of the players the Elks will rely upon to help compete for a playoff spot.

The senior guard is averaging 10 points, five rebounds, five assists and two steals per game, and Coach Matthew Weaver said Manville has emerged as a top player for the Elks.

"He started off slow, but recently has come on strong, being a leader and a go-to scorer for us," Weaver said. "He has also been good on defense, leading our team in steals, and is third in rebounds."

Weaver said one of Manville's biggest contributions to the team is the example he sets.

"Tanner brings much needed leadership to our young team," Weaver said. "He takes on the pressure of being the ball handler

and go-to scorer. He sets the tone for our team."

Manville, 18, said his feelings about the season so far are somewhat mixed.

"I'm not happy with the losses," Manville said. "I feel like we could have won games but lost from mistakes, some that I did as well. Besides that, I have been having fun playing basketball."

Manville, who also plays football, runs track, plays golf, and participates in FFA Range, said he sees his role on the Elks basketball team as largely motivational.

"I try to bring them experience and help them to get better," Manville said. "I'm not the type of guy that will try to make people happy. I'm not rude or anything, but I'm set on winning and my team getting better."

The Evant senior understands opportunities to play and win must not be ignored based on an expe-

PLEASE SEE **MANVILLE** | B2

Streaking Hornets roll to tournament title, avenge Lake Belton loss

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Brit Campbell's roster is finally whole, healthy, and heating up at just the right time.

After an uneven start to the season, Gatesville has reeled off five straight wins that included a tournament title and a bit of revenge for a previous loss to push their record to 10-6 with one game remaining before Christmas.

Since losing to state-ranked Krum in the Salado tournament, the Hornets have ripped off wins over Carter-Riverside, Alvarado,

Sunnyvale, Dalhart, and Lake Belton. They will host Waco High on Dec. 20 before a six-day break before heading to Brownwood to defend their Texas Holiday Bank title beginning on Dec. 26.

In Godley, the Hornets didn't just beat teams en route to the championship, they dismantled them.

Gatesville won their tournament games by an average of 32.2 points per game. They beat Carter-Riverside 77-23 to open the tourney, then blasted Alvarado 66-29 and routed Sunnyvale 66-43 to set up a championship

matchup with Dalhart - who they took down 49-34.

Leading the charge through all four games was senior Kase Cox who averaged more than 15 points and 7 rebounds per game en route to being named the tournament MVP.

Allman and Cox led the scoring in the win over Carter-Riverside with 14 and 13 points, respectively while Collyn Coleman, Rex Owen, and Logan Biggs turned in their best games of the season. Owen scored a season-high ten points while Biggs hit a pair of three-pointers

on his way to an eight-point game.

Coleman scored 11 points and dished out seven assists while also being a menace defensively. He had four steals, four deflections, and countless dives for loose balls.

Against Alvarado, Cox scored 21 points and grabbed six rebounds. He was 3-for-3 from beyond the arc in the win. Allman had 13, while Evan McCracken chipped in seven points and grabbed eight rebounds

PLEASE SEE **HORNETS** | B3

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

May your Christmas be rich with family love, warm with friendship, happy with life's goodness and blessed with the joys of the season.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Evant senior guard Tanner Manville (left) has emerged as one of the top offensive threats for the Elks boys basketball team this season.

MAVILLE

FROM PAGE B1

rience from last season when he was not able to play.

"I tore my ACL and Meniscus and missed all of my junior year," Manville said. "The hardest thing on the court is trying to be as good as I possibly can with my handicap. Off the court, I have to be careful not to mess up my leg even more."

In his free time, Manville likes to hang out with friends and said if there is anything about him people may not know from watching him on the court, it is his passion for the sport of rodeo.

"I don't actually rope or anything, but I love going to or watching them," Manville said. "One day I would

love to participate in a rodeo and see how good I can get at it."

His passion for the sport of round ball actually started in middle school.

"When I first played basketball back in seventh grade, I didn't know anything about it— not the NBA or anything," Manville said. "But when I first made a basket with a swish, I fell in love with the sport and wanted to be the best in the whole school. So, all summer I practiced; then my sophomore year came, and I was the best player in my whole school that year."

Weaver hopes Manville has a lot of swishes this coming year and continues to be a good role model.

"My goals for him are to be the leader on the court and help the young guys," Weaver said. "I want him to get better as the season goes on and be consistent, which sets the example for the young guys."

Manville's Favorites

- Favorite Athlete: Kyrie Irving
- Favorite Sports team: Dallas Mavericks
- Favorite Food: Steak
- Favorite Movie: Remember The Titans
- Favorite TV Show: SpongeBob
- Book Currently Reading or Last Book Read: To Kill a Mockingbird
- Favorite Musical Group or Performer: George Strait



HORNETS NEST

GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



RICKEY PHILLIPS

Athletic Director
Gatesville ISD
@RickeyPhillip12 on X

Winter sport notes
Girls Basketball: GHS head coach Whitney Holdbrook continues to battle cancer, but it hasn't stopped her in helping guide the Hornets to 11 wins (as of this writing), one win shy of last year's total with still some 15 games remaining on the schedule. Holdbrook's courage and determination is evident to those of us that have the luxury of seeing her each day. Meanwhile, the girls continue to make strides on the court and will play in the Troy Classic over the holiday break.

Boys Basketball: The Hornet varsity, now in full force, cruised through the field at last weekend's Godley Invitational. On their way to the tourney title, GHS put the hammer on every opponent, including a 14-point dismantling of Dalhart in the championship game. The Hornet JV Gold and Black teams were 2nd and 3rd respectively at the Hamilton tourney. Varsity will play in the Brownwood Invitational over Christmas break.

Soccer: When GHS hosts its annual tournament here the first week in January, head coach Scott Campbell will be shooting for his 251st career win. Campbell, who leads the girls and boys teams, has notched 154 victories here since taking over the reins in 2017-2018.

Wrestling: While they face higher-classification schools on most nights, GHS continues to get better in the

ring. Despite some losses, the mostly young Hornet wrestlers have shown consistent poise and discipline, and their never-quit attitude has been prevalent. They are competing in the prestigious Bryan ISD Doc Hess Invitational today (Saturday).

Notes and notes

...A trio of GHS ex-athletes are gearing up for spring seasons that are underway or will get started next month. Bralen Veazey will be playing baseball for Temple College, while Barrett Boyd and Lawson Mooney will be competing in track at the U.S. Air Force Academy and Dallas Baptist University respectively.

Hosted events

One of the things GHS Athletics tries to do each school year is host tournaments and meets at the high school and junior high level.

We do this for several reasons: Our kids/teams can play at home, our fans will not have to travel, some of our local businesses can generate some additional dollars by visiting schools and fans that might dine, buy gas, or shop locally.

Besides our regular sport schedule of games and matches, we have already hosted two volleyball tournaments, two cross country meets and a tennis tournament this fall. In the next few months, we will be hosting a varsity soccer tournament, one basketball tournament, two powerlifting meets

(regular and boys regional), tennis tournament, softball tournament, and three track meets (two regular and the high school district meet).

This is a lot of preparation and extra work for our coaches, athletic staff, GISD staff, and event helpers that make things run smoothly, but it's a nice convenience.

Upcoming key dates

- Jan. 3: Girls Basketball district opener
- Jan. 3-4: GHS Soccer hosts girls-boys tournament
- Jan. 10: Boys Basketball district opener
- Jan. 10: Softball 1st day of workouts
- Jan. 17: Baseball 1st day of workouts
- Jan. 17: Cheer at UIL state competition
- Jan. 21: Track 1st day of workouts
- Jan. 25: GHS Powerlifting meet
- Jan. 29: Wrestling at District 6-5A tournament

Future key dates

- May 8: GHS senior athlete signing
- May 12: GHS Athletics' Spring Shout-Out
- Sept. 26: GHS Homecoming
- Sept. 27: GHS Athletics' Hall of Fame Banquet

Upcoming schedule

- Thursday, Dec. 26
Boys Basketball: Varsity in the Brownwood tournament
- Friday, Dec. 27
Boys Basketball: Varsity in the Brownwood tournament
- Girls Basketball: Varsity in the Troy tournament
- Saturday, Dec. 28
Boys Basketball: Varsity in the Brownwood tournament
- Girls Basketball: Varsity in the Troy tournament

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Tiger varsity basketball takes on Covington Invitational Tournament

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

Oglesby High School's boys' varsity basketball team participated in the Covington Invitational Basketball Tournament, Dec. 12-14.

Game 1:

The Tigers beat the Mt. Calm Panthers, 62-42. This was their first game of year after an exit in the football semifinals.

Freshman Holdyn Goff, playing his first high school basketball game, made an impression by scoring 29 points. He also had four steals, two blocked shots, five rebounds, and one assist.

Senior Kyler Fossett had a great game with 17 points, four rebounds, four steals, and one blocked shot.

Senior Alex Castillo scored six points with four rebounds, two assists, and three steals.

Freshman Evan Williamson scored four points.

Freshman Camden Webb scored four points and had one steal.

Junior Jack Hendricks scored two points and had four rebounds.

Senior Hunter Ewing had five rebounds, one steal, and one blocked shot.

Sophomore Abram Shaw had one steal and one rebound.

Freshman Calen Webb,

sophomore Tucker Melton, and sophomore Javon Howard all saw playing time for the Tigers.

Game 2:

The Oglesby Tigers defeated the Penelope Wolverines, 53-29.

Holdyn Goff led all scorers, dropping 17 points with two assists and one steal.

Kyler Fossett scored nine points and had two rebounds and four steals.

Alex Castillo scored eight points and had two assists and three steals.

Camden Webb scored seven points and had one steal.

Jack Hendricks scored three points.

Hunter Ewing scored two points with five rebounds, one assist, and two steals.

Tucker Melton had one free throw and two steals.

Javon Howard, Calen Webb, and Abram Shaw all saw playing time.

Game 3:

The Oglesby Tigers dropped a game, 77-26, to the number 15th ranked, Irion County Hornets.

Holdyn Goff was the leading scorer with 11 points and six rebounds.

Kyler Fossett scored seven points and had one rebound.

Evan Williamson scored three points.

Javon Howard scored three points and had one steal.

Alex Castillo scored two points with four rebounds and one steal.

Abram Shaw had one rebound and one steal.

Game 4:

The Oglesby Tigers dropped the fourth and final game in the Covington Tournament, 51-19, to the Avalon Eagles.

The Tigers started out cold and remained that way throughout the game, scoring only three points for the entire second half.

Alex Castillo was the top scorer for the Tigers with 10 points, including two three-pointers and one rebound.

Holdyn Goff scored four points and had three rebounds, two steals, and one assist.

Calen Webb hit a three-pointer.

Kyler Fossett scored two points.

Evan Williamson had two rebounds and one steal.

Abram Shaw had two rebounds, 21 steals, and one assist.

Camden Webb had one steal.

Tucker Melton had one rebound.

Javon Howard had one rebound.

The Tigers are coached by Head Coach Larry Williamson and Assistant Coach Julian Helms.



COURTESY PHOTO

The G3 baseball team made an appearance to ring the bell for the Salvation Army at Walmart on Monday, Dec. 16. The team spread Christmas cheer by welcoming each person into the store and by making it known that the red kettle was open for donations.

SPORTS Roundup

BY JOHN ENGLISH
Contributing Writer

Gatesville Girls Win Two

The Lady Hornets basketball team went 2-3 in the Jarrell Tournament this past weekend, and coach Whitney Holdbrook said Gatesville had a chance in every contest.

"We went 2-3 at the Jarrell tournament," Holdbrook said. "We played some good teams, and we were competitive in every game."

Gatesville lost to Austin Savio by a score of 55-44 in the first game, but Emma Pollard finished the contest with 23 points.

The Lady Hornets lost their second game to Mason but rebounded in the third game against Austin Royals with a 54-46 victory.

Pollard led the team with 27 points, while Taylor Sanderson scored 12 points, and Amaya Gomez added eight points in the game.

The Lady Hornets then lost to the home team in a game where Pollard scored 22 points and Paige Sentillas had nine but came back and won their final game against Cameron by a score of 38-20.

Emma Pollard was selected for the All-tournament team in the Jarrell Tournament.

Oglesby Boys Basketball Team Splits at Covington

The Tigers went 2-2 at the Covington Tournament last weekend, and coach Larry Williamson said that, overall, he was pleased with his team's effort.

"I thought we performed well considering coming in with only two practices and no games," Williamson said. "We used this tournament to get in shape and evaluate some kids. I think, overall, it was a good weekend of competition for us to prepare for district."

Williamson said he had a couple of players play especially well in the tournament.

"Kyler Fossett and Holdyn Goff were stand-out performers," Williamson said.

Goff finished Friday's game with Penelope with 17 points, while Fossett had nine points and four steals.

Evant Boys Go 2-2 at Cherokee Tournament

The Elks basketball team had a solid showing at the Cherokee Tournament this past weekend,

finishing with a .500 record in the competition.

Coach Matthew Weaver said that he was encouraged by much of what he saw during the tournament.

"I thought the tournament went well for us," Weaver said. "I think we are playing our best ball right now."

Cooper Standford and Tanner Manville led the team in points and rebounds for Evant on the tourney.

Standford averaged 13 points and nine rebounds per game in the tournament, and Manville averaged 12 points and 11 rebounds per game for the Elks.

Manville was also named to the all-tournament team for Evant.

Oglesby Girls Have Good Showing at Covington Tourney

The Lady Tigers finished, 3-1 at the Covington Tournament this past weekend, and coach Dylan Segundo said his team's execution is improving.

"I saw some positive things in regard to things we've been emphasizing like taking care of the basketball and rebounding," Segundo said. "Definitely some things we need to continue to work on and get better at, but we are heading in the right direction."

Oglesby opened up district with Abbott last Tuesday, and while they came up a little short, Segundo said his team is battling each game.

"It wasn't the start that we wanted, but I like how the girls have responded this week as we look forward to continuing district play on Friday," Segundon said. "We're using everything as a learning experience as we focus on just trying to get better every day."

Segundo said he does believe his team is ready for district.

"As far as our non-district schedule, we played a handful of bigger schools that have tested us in ways that we need to be tested," Segundo said. "I believe the solid, non-district competition will only help us accomplish what we want to accomplish."

Evant Girls Defeat Waco Christian

The Evant girls basketball team got off to a good start last week, defeating Waco Christian by a score of 69-25 on Tuesday.

The Lady Elks competed in the Cherokee tournament last weekend where the team went, 1-3.

With the non-district portion of the season wrapped up, coach Benja Standford said it definitely served its purpose.

"The tournament games have helped to prepare us for district play," Standford said.

Lady Eagles Finish Third at Zephyr Tournament

The Jonesboro girls basketball team finished third at the Zephyr Tournament this past week, with close losses to Zephyr (37-35) and May (48-40), while beating Sidney by a score of 70-29.

Coach Chris Simon said that the Zephyr Tournament was good preparation for district competition.

"All together, I felt like this was a good tournament for us," Simon said. "We did get better as a team, learning to work together more. We do leave this tournament with certain things to work on, but I feel confident in my team moving forward to district play."

Ella Gustin and Ally Thorman were named to the All-Tournament team.

Gustin averaged 17 points a game and played great defense for us.

"Ella averaged 10 points a game and led the team in rebounds," Simon said. "Also, Unleye Deats chipped in averaging nine points a game and was the leader of our defense. Her work doesn't go unseen. She does many little things that help this squad out that aren't necessarily on the stat sheet."

Simon said with district about to get underway, he feels his team is competing well.

"I felt like we had a pretty good non-district schedule," Simon said.

"Definitely some games we lost that I felt we should have won but that happens sometimes. Altogether though, we come out of non-district with a winning record and ready to hit district. We do still have a Christmas tournament left in Rio Vista that I feel will be a good measuring stick for us to really see where we are moving forward. I'm excited about the rest of the season and can't wait to see what is to come from the Jonesboro Lady Eagles."

TURNER SIGNS TO CISCO COLLEGE



COURTESY PHOTO

Jonesboro High School senior, Emily Turner, signed a letter of commitment to play softball for Cisco College at the collegiate level during a National Letter of Intent signing ceremony. Turner's family, friends, and coaches were present at the ceremony to support her future. An online post made by Jonesboro Independent School District said, "This is an incredible achievement, and we couldn't be prouder of you, Emily. Your hard work, dedication, and passion for the game have truly paid off. We can't wait to see all the amazing things you'll accomplish at the next level." Turner is pictured with her mother and father.

Elk football receives All-District awards

Staff Reports

Evant High School's Elk football team recently received All-District awards for their efforts on and off the field.

The awards include:

Edgar Dominguez, second team running back and second team linebacker

Elijah Lovius, second team receiver

Cameron McGilvray, first team running back

Tanner Manville, first team spreadback, first team safety, and second team punter

Kolin Montoya, second team special teams

Austin Price, first team linebacker

Cooper Standford, first team utility defense and first team receiver

Cash Standford, first team center and first team defensive lineman

Dylan Price, honorable mention utility

Kase Keller, honorable mention offensive line

Oglesby JH girls' and boys' basketball

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby Junior High Lady Tigers hosted the Evant Lady Elks in a district contest on Monday, Dec. 16. The Lady Tigers came away with a 22-10 victory over the Lady Elks.

Scarlet Aaron was the leading scorer with eight points.

Malorie Renner scored four points.

Gracie Thompson scored three points.

Daycee Robles scored three points.

Payton Schu scored two points.

Ali Chrisner scored two points.

The Lady Tigers will take Christmas break and return to action, traveling to Cranfills Gap to take on the Lady Lions on Jan. 9, 2025, at 6 p.m.

The Oglesby Junior High Tigers hosted the Evant Elks in a district contest on Dec. 16. The Tigers defeated the Elks, 25-10.

Liam Standridge was a high point for the Tigers, scoring five points.

Hunter Insall scored four points.

Caiden Brinkley scored four points.

Brody Martinez scored four points.

AJ Mafra scored two points.

Rancher Jeffcoat scored two points.

Fernando Uribe scored two points.

Jacob De La Torre scored two points.

The Tigers will travel to Cranfills Gap after Christmas break to play the Lions on Jan. 9, 2025.

HORNETS

FROM PAGE B1

from the guard spot. Allman scored 18 in the win over Sunnyvale with Cox getting 14 and Winkler adding 12 points.

Against Dalhart, it was Grady Keeton's time to

shine. The freshman guard knifed through the big, physical Dalhart defense on his way to 14 points. He was a perfect 6-for-6 from the field and 2-for-2 from the foul line.

The Hornets use a metric called VPS to track player and team performance each game with a score of 1 being an average score. In the

championship game against Dalhart, Keeton's VPS was an 11.5.

The Godley tournament win was the sixth tournament title of the Campbell era. Gatesville won one tournament title during the 2021-22 season, two during the 2022-23 season, and two more last year.

On Dec. 17, they dropped

Lake Belton 52-50 to avenge a loss to the Broncos in the Salado Tournament. Gatesville is 5-1 against Lake Belton in the last two seasons.

The Hornets trailed 24-21 at the half but rallied to lead 39-38 entering the fourth quarter. They trailed 45-44 with 3:38 to play but five straight points from Allman made it 49-45 with 1:59 to

go.

The Broncos scored six unanswered points to take a 50-49 lead, but Allman buried his fourth three-pointer of the game with 17 seconds left to give Gatesville a 52-50 lead. On Lake Belton's final possession, Amos Phillips was able to get a piece of a game-winning, three-point attempt to secure the Hor-

nets 52-50 win.

Allman and Cox each finished with 14 points against the Broncos, while Winkler had 13 and picked up a crucial charging call in the closing minutes. Allman grabbed eight rebounds, while Cox picked up three steals.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton State Women's Basketball adds four players in Fall Signing Period

Tarleton State University

Stephenville — Tarleton State Women's Basketball and head coach Bill Brock have announced the signing of four student-athletes during the Fall Signing Period for the 2025-26 season.

The Texans added four guards with the signings of Nyah Buntun (Stockton, California), Kristian Hieskill (Cibolo), Jaylynn Perez-Richard (Houston) and Alexis Rynders (Glen Rose).

"In our recruiting for the class of 2025, we wanted to address our athleticism and size on the perimeter while recruiting from outstanding high school and AAU programs," Brock said. "I believe this class has fulfilled both of these requirements. Each player fits our Texan Culture as we continue to build a program at Tarleton that represents our school in a positive manner on and off the court."

Nyah Buntun — 5-4, point guard, Stockton, California, Saint Mary's High School.

Buntun will be the first Tarleton State Women's Basketball player from California in the Brock Era. The Stockton, California, native was ranked as the No. 2 point guard in California and ranked No. 6 overall in the state by Prep Girls Hoops.

Serving as a captain for Saint Mary's High School girls' basketball team, Buntun led her squad to a 26-6 last season. Earning Marin Catholic All-Tournament Team honors in 2023, Buntun was instrumental in the Rams' post-season run. Buntun helped Saint Mary's High School to four victories in the CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Playoffs last season, with the Rams knocking off the No. 1 seed Folsom High School in the championship to clinch the section title.

"Nyah is an explosive play-making guard that will make us tougher when we get her in purple," Brock said. "She is the type of point guard you want on both ends of the floor. She is a dominant

defender and a point guard who understands how to run the show. Coming from the historic Saint Mary's High School in Stockton, California, Nyah knows what it takes to win. We are excited to have her."

Kristian Hieskill — 5-10, guard, Cibolo, Texas (Byron P. Steele High School)

Hieskill is a team captain for Byron P. Steele High School who averages 19 points per game and five rebounds per game. The 5-foot-10-inch guard is an All-District player and earned Defensive Player of the Year honors.

As a multi-sport athlete, Hieskill also competes in the high jump on Byron P. Steele's track and field team. She also competed for SA Finest, an AAU program that has produced multiple collegiate All-Americans and WNBA draft picks.

"Kristian is a versatile guard who has had high level playing experience playing both inside and on the perimeter," Brock said. "Kris

is a proven winner whose toughness, physicality and ability to shoot the ball will help us tremendously. Kris comes from two well-coached programs: Byron Steele High School and the SA Finest AAU program. Through these programs, she has played against some of the best athletes in the country."

Jaylynn Perez-Richard — 5-11, guard, Houston, Texas (Pearland Dawson High School)

Ranked 11th in the class of 2025, Perez-Richard already has collected a number of honors during her high school career. In addition to earning First Team All-District honors, Perez-Richard garnered Newcomer of the Year and Offensive Player of the Year honors at Pearland Dawson High School.

Perez-Richard has also played in a pair of all-star games, including the Gatorade All-Star Game (PTB) and the Jr. All-Star Game. She has played AAU basket-

ball for the Texas Flames for the last three years and is a member of the A/B Honor Roll at Pearland Dawson High School.

"Jaylynn will add size and the ability to score the ball from all three levels on the floor," Brock said. "Jay is a hooper who loves to work at the game; and because of this she will help us grow our blue-collar culture. She is truly a young lady who has earned the right to be at this level through her consistent work ethic and the commitments she has made to the game of basketball."

Alexis Rynders — 5-11, guard, Glen Rose, Texas (Glen Rose High School)

Starring at nearby Glen Rose High School Rynders will reunite with former high school teammate and current Texan Grace Booth. Having 1,000 career points entering her senior season, Rynders currently holds the Glen Rose school record for 3-point percentage in a game, single season made 3-pointers, single season as-

sists and single season free throw percentage.

In addition to being a three-time TABC All-Region player, Rynders has also been named TGCA All-State three times in her high school career. Rynders has played a key role in Glen Rose winning district three times and clinching the regional title in 2023. She was named the 2023 Region 1 Tournament MVP and helped Glen Rose to a state semi-finals appearance shortly after.

"We are so excited to add Alexis to our Texan family," Brock said. "We have followed and recruited Alexis for quite some time during her stellar career at Glen Rose High School. She has great size for a guard and her exceptional ability to score the ball from the perimeter will make an immediate impact on our team. In addition to her talents on the court, she has tremendous character and is an excellent student. We can't wait to get her in purple."

NIH Grant awarded to Tarleton State for research on pain processing

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Dr. Amber Harris Bozer, head of the department of neuroscience at Tarleton State University, has been awarded a \$408,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health to study how the nervous system processes pain.

"Millions of Americans suffer from chronic pain, making it a prolific health



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Amber Harris Bozer, Head of the Department of Neuroscience at Tarleton State University, has been awarded a \$408,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

concern," said Bozer. "This study contributes to the body of literature that advances our understanding of how the nervous system works for pain."

The study will focus on the sensory and emotional components of pain present in individuals with chronic knee osteoarthritis to gain a better understanding of how this pain is processed. Bozer will conduct research alongside the co-principal investigator Dr. Anna Park at the University of Central Arkansas, and consultants, Dr. Angela Liegey-Dougall at The University of Texas at Arlington, Dr. Francesca Filbey at The University of Texas at Dallas, and Dr. Miranda Nash at Stephenville Medical and Surgical Clinic.

"What we are doing is profiling the brain activity during the different dimensions of pain, specifically what's going on in your brain when you're processing the sensory component of pain versus the emotional component of pain," explained Bozer. "We have this 256 electrode cap that we're going to put on people's heads to record brain activity from individuals who don't have chronic pain and compare these two

groups."

The grant will fund five graduate students who will learn how to use the complex machinery required for this research, gather data through testing, analyze the results and present the findings at various conferences.

"Research is what transformed my life and gave me a career path. For five students, their careers will be transformed and they will be even more competitive as they look for PhD programs in their field," said Bozer.

Bozer has submitted work for NIH grant consideration for the last five years and is excited to have finally accomplished her goal with a study that she is passionate about and believes will make a difference in students' lives, as well as those struggling with chronic pain.

She explained that this victory was a team effort and that she would not have been able to attain this grant without the support of her colleagues and the university, including NIH grant writing training from Dr. Diane Stearns, Tarleton State provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. She hopes to encourage others who are discouraged or



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

The study will focus on the sensory and emotional components of pain present in individuals with chronic knee osteoarthritis to gain a better understanding of how this pain is processed.

feel like they cannot achieve this goal to keep trying.

"Science is all about rejection. Grants get rejected, you get rejected from fellowships or jobs and you have a choice about how you face that rejection. You can give up, or you can take the feedback, learn from your rejection and do better."



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

From left, RELLIS Rovers team members Easton Duplichan, Akash Musale, Swaid Alrashed and Silas Hill, Faculty Advisor Dr. Nourouddin Sharifi, and Tim Urban, Director, TSGC and Research Associate, UT Institute for Geophysics.

RELLIS Rovers Engineering Team scores at NASA-TSGC Design Challenge

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Senior engineering students from Tarleton State University's RELLIS campus won awards in four categories at the recent NASA-Texas Space Grant Consortium Design Challenge in League City.

The capstone project team of Akash Musale, Easton Duplichan, Silas Hill and Swaid Alrashed scored in Top Design (third place), Best Poster and Model (fourth place), Best Oral Presentation (fourth place) and Top Peer Review (fourth place), competing against 19 other teams from various universities.

Nicknamed the RELLIS Rovers, the team is led by faculty advisor Dr. Nourouddin Sharifi, assistant professor in

the department of engineering technology. Their goal was to design an innovative, user-friendly personal electric vehicle for lunar exploration, addressing challenges like rugged terrain, abrasive lunar dust, and size, weight and power constraints.

"I'm proud to support students in meaningful academic experiences that drive their achievement and professional development," Sharifi said. "I always remind them, 'Work hard, and awards will follow.'"

The NASA-TSGC Design Challenge tasks undergraduate students with proposing, designing and fabricating innovative solutions aligned with NASA's research objectives. Sponsored by NASA and administered by TSGC, the

challenge provides a platform for academic and professional growth.

Each participating team collaborates with a NASA mentor and submits five deliverables to TSGC per semester. The two-day NASA showcase provides an opportunity to present research through posters and oral presentations. Scholarship awards are given to the winners, with each RELLIS Rover team member eligible for a \$600 scholarship.

The Texas Space Grant Consortium unites 65 universities, industrial organizations, nonprofits and government agencies, ensuring that the benefits of space research and technology reach Texans statewide.

GISD SPOTLIGHTS



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured left to right: GISD Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard, Christopher James, GISD Maintenance Supervisor Toby Williams, and Jeffery Alvarez.

Christopher James and Jeffery Alvarez honored in Staff Spotlight

Staff Reports

Gatesville ISD maintenance staff members Christopher James and Jeffery Alvarez we selected for this month's staff spotlight during the school's board meeting. Gatesville ISD Superintendent Barrett Pollard made the announcement and had the following to say about the two; Christopher James and Jeffery Alvarez have been two excellent additions to our maintenance staff.

On a personal note, both spent years in Wisconsin. Despite coming back from

colder climates, these two staff members have done an amazing job on our grounds during this past sweltering summer.

Working with a tight maintenance budget, Chris and Jeff used their landscaping skills to make some real nice improvements at a low cost.

First, you may have noticed how the trees in front of the Primary, Intermediate, and Junior High now have a decorative ring around their base. Next, they spent many hours edging sidewalks and

curbs to give the campuses a much more finished appearance.

Finally, you may have noticed the decorative sunflowers around the sign in front of the administration building. This was a creative way to spruce up some areas while still staying in budget.

Chris and Jeff are hardworking, have a great attitude, and have been wonderful additions to our GISD team. Please help us thank them!



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured left to right: Dr. Pollard, Cooper Jones, Jeret Burks, Brody Brown, Gabriel Pollard, Hunter Swindall, Tyler Richardson, Rayshon Smith, and Coach Hunter. Not present: Chase Glenn, Kaden Coffman, Josh Morris, Joe Cox, Nate Brown, Logan Turner, Nicky Thomas, and Trent Hickman.

Rayshon Smith and the offensive line honored in Student Spotlight

Staff Reports

At Monday night's Gatesville ISD School Board meeting, Rayshon Smith and the Gatesville Hornets football offensive line were honored during the student spotlight. Superintendent Dr. Barrett Pollard had the following to say:

Rayshon Smith went into his senior year with 2,795 yards, which already placed him as the 4th leading rusher in Gatesville history. He quickly moved into 3rd place and racked up an impressive 2,172 yards and 29 touchdowns this year. During most of the season, Rayshon was the leading rusher in all Central Texas, averaging 164.5 yards per game. In summary, Ray-

shon was the 3rd person in school history to rush for 1,000 yards for three seasons in a row; the 3rd all-time career rusher with 4,967 yards; the 3rd all-time leader in career rushing touchdowns with 57; and the 3rd all-time leader in career scoring with 366 points.

One other side note: in the last game of the regular season against Connally, Rayshon carried the ball a whopping 46 times. If you watch the sidelines during a game, you will notice Rayshon frequently giving a high-five to his linemen and getting water bottles for the defense.

A big part of these rushing accomplishments go to the offensive linemen. The

Hornets faced many talented defenses but were still able to put up impressive rushing numbers thanks to these big men. Offensive linemen typically do not receive a lot of notoriety, so we wanted to honor them for their huge contributions to the football team. Our offensive line did a fantastic job creating holes for the running back, attracting very few penalties, and demonstrating good sportsmanship. All these young men put in countless grueling hours during summer workouts, two-a-days, 6 a.m. morning workouts, after-school practice, and Saturday film.

Please help us honor them.

THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER PRESENTS



Christmas Critters

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Photo Contest

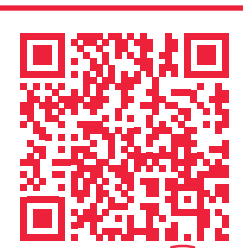
Submit your Christmas Critter at gatesvillemessenger.com or by scanning the QR code below. The sillier the better!

A winner will be picked from the photos submitted to receive \$100 from The Gatesville Messenger, a one-year subscription to the newspaper, and a gift from the sponsor worth \$100.

The winning photo will also be run on the front page of the Jan. 11 edition of The Gatesville Messenger and on our website with an article about the winning pet.

Contest is open Dec. 2 - Dec. 30

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SUBMISSIONS

OISD SPOTLIGHTS



COURTESY PHOTO

COURTESY PHOTO

Blissany Ramos is pictured with Principal Casey Melton.

Taetym Sanders is pictured with Principal Casey Melton.

Oglesby ISD honors Ramos, Sanders as Student Spotlights for December

Staff Reports

Oglesby Independent School District honored two hard-working and dedicated high school students in their December school board meeting this week as their secondary student spotlights this month.

Senior Blissany Ramos excels in her creative and artistic abilities and is successfully completing her dual enrollment classes this year through Tarleton Today.

An online post made by Oglesby ISD about Ramos said, "She is an amazing

artist and a successful student."

Taetym Sanders is a junior this year and stays busy with extracurricular activities and continues to complete her academics with an A-plus effort. She is also enrolled in Tarleton Today courses and strives

for her best in all that she does.

An online post made by Oglesby ISD about Sanders said, "She shows role model character both in and out of the classroom."

CCYF Horse Show practice to be held

Staff Reports

A horse show practice day will be held on Friday, Dec. 27 to prepare for the 2025 Coryell County Youth Fair (CCYF).

The practice will take place from 1-3 p.m., at the Gatesville Riding Club Arena near the Civic Center, which is located

at 301 Veteran's Memorial Loop.

Be sure to bring your horse to practice trail obstacles, work on showmanship, and practice horsemanship.

For further information, contact Coryell County 4-H by email at Becky.Coward@ag.tamu.edu.

Dairy Goat Clinic to be held Dec. 21

Staff Reports

In preparation for the 2025 Coryell County Youth Fair (CCYF), a dairy goat clinic will be held on Saturday, Dec. 21, at the Gatesville Civic Center.

The clinic will be hosted by CCYF dairy goat superintendents.

The clinic will be from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. and is

open to all 2025 CCYF dairy goat exhibitors.

Exhibitors should bring their dairy goats for hands-on learning.

For further information, visit www.coryellyouthfair.com.

The Gatesville Civic Center is located at 301 Veteran's Memorial Loop.

STPA scholarships 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.



World Snowboarding Day
December 21, 2024



Color Time

Did You Know?

SNOWBOARDING WAS DEVELOPED IN THE UNITED STATES, INSPIRED BY SKATEBOARDING, SLEDDING, SURFING, AND SKIING. IT BECAME POPULAR AROUND THE WORLD, AND WAS INTRODUCED AS A WINTER OLYMPIC SPORT AT NAGANO IN 1998



SCIENCE FACT:

Snowboarding Physics



THE POTENTIAL ENERGY CONVERTED BY DESCENDING A HILL OR MOUNTAIN DOES NOT CONVERT ENTIRELY INTO KINETIC ENERGY. SOME OF THE ENERGY OF A SNOWBOARDER IS CONVERTED INTO HEAT AS THE BOARD CUTS THROUGH THE SNOW, CREATING FRICTION. SOME ENERGY IS ALSO LOST DUE TO THE DRAG OF THE SNOWBOARDER CUTTING THROUGH THE AIR.

Hey snowboarding enthusiasts! Get ready to hit the slopes and carve up some fresh powder because December 21st is World Snowboard Day—a day dedicated to celebrating the exhilarating sport of snowboarding!

For snowboarders around the world, there's nothing quite like the feeling of gliding down a snowy slope, catching air off a jump, or carving smooth turns through fluffy powder. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a beginner just starting out, World Snowboard Day is the perfect time to get out on the mountain and shred some snow!

But World Snowboard Day isn't just about hitting the slopes—it's also a time to celebrate the spirit of camaraderie and community that makes snowboarding so special. Whether you're riding with friends, cheering on fellow riders at a competition, or sharing tips and tricks with beginners, snowboarding is all about coming together and having fun.

On World Snowboard Day, snowboarders of all ages and abilities come together to celebrate their love for the sport. From organized events and competitions to casual meet-ups and shred sessions, there are endless ways to participate and get involved.

So, how can you celebrate World Snowboard Day? Well, you could start by heading to your favorite mountain resort and hitting the slopes with friends and family. Or, if you're not near a mountain, you could try snowboarding at a local snow park or even in your own backyard!

But no matter where you ride or how you celebrate, the most important thing is to have fun and enjoy the thrill of snowboarding. So grab your board, strap in, and get ready to shred some gnarly lines on World Snowboard Day!



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

GATESVILLE PRESENTS CHRISTMAS AT THE BALLPARK

To get the community in holiday spirits for the Christmas season, the City of Gatesville is hosting a month-long nostalgic Christmas light walkthrough event with Christmas at the Ballpark at the Sports Complex. Santa's Workshop will be open Dec. 21, from 6-9 p.m. Santa will be present at the ballpark to meet local youth, and various activities will be offered to event-goers. Activities include face painting, a coloring station, bounce houses, a Christmas ornament station, bubble machines, hot chocolate, snacks, and visits with Santa. Christmas light viewing is open to the public through Tuesday, Dec. 31.



COURTESY PHOTO

3MT Tournaments and Gatesville Parks and Recreation hosted a softball tournament toy drive on Saturday to benefit Mission Righteous Roots. Pictured are Seth Phillips (left) and Marte Bailey.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Local youth had the chance to take photos and visit with Santa Claus at Santa's Workshop.



COURTESY PHOTO

Trinity Baptist Church members were present at the event to play Christmas music for the community.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Christmas lights are displayed around the ballpark for eventgoers to enjoy.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

From our families to yours, wishing you the best moments of the season!

CORYELL COUNTY
2605 S. State Hwy. 36
Gatesville, TX
254.865.7246

Chris Schofield, Agency Manager
Denise Veach, Agent
Justin Stephens, Agent
Katy Hill, Agent
Dan Davidson, Agent



Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!



Oglesby (Not pictured: Lisa Gallaway)



Gatesville Evant



First National Bank

Gatesville ★ Evant ★ Oglesby

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2024 GATESVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CHRISTMAS PARADE

PHOTOS BY DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



PHOTO BY JACI VELASQUEZ | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER



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December 15th
6 PM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

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**December 24th
6 PM & 8 PM**

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*May Faith and Love
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This Christmas and Always*

At the dawn of a new Christmas season, may the light of the Holy Spirit fill your heart and soul with peace, harmony and contentment. Wherever you may travel, we wish you good health, great joy and many blessings.

With gratitude in our hearts, we wish you and your loved ones a blessed and beautiful Christmas.

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SATURDAY, December 21, 2024

C

INSIDE

Find out what our children are asking Santa Claus to bring for Christmas.
C2-C10

2024

**SEASON'S
GREETINGS**

from your friends at
THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER!

Dear Santa

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I whunta telescope and a lava lamp play set, world peace, and a new gameing system.
Love, Brantley E. West

Dear Santa,
Corgi HUG, Cat, Chwowo, Xraygun, Great Wolf Lodge, Chrapleh
Love, Fielding Gann

Dear Santa,
I want Barbie bream house.
Love, Jackson Kamorah

Dear Santa,
I want all 4 HOOKS, Toy cool, A bat.
Love, Lillyana

Dear Santa,
I would like a Paw Patrol Monster Trucks, Police Cruiser, Batman, Hot wheels truck, Robots, Remote Control Car, Bicycle, New cthos, Scooter, Spiderman motorcycles.
Love, Jaxxon Lee Hooker

Dear Santa,
I would like water balloons, fake snow balls, fake nails, skincare, a phone, a bounce house, color pens, stickers, squishmellow.
Love, Keagan Campbell

Dear Santa,
I want a game system, ball, beyblades, walke talkie, Tamagotchi, stitch, squishmallows, tablet, wolftoy, Robot, car, toy snake.
Love, Lannie

Dear Santa,
I want a cry baby doll and kinder eggs and a game x system and a Tamagotchi and a turkey plush and a mini football and a Axolotl plush and an owl toy and pretty ornaments and a cute little girl doll.
Love, Arianna Charette

Dear Santa,
I want some fake short nails with nail glue. My secent wish is that I want mine food set. My third wish is I want pack of makeup. My fourth wish is I get a makup bag. My fifth wish is I get a new chair for my desk that's pink or purple. I want a pack of summerfridays.
Love, Crystal

Dear Santa,
Pokemon cards, Pokemon toys.
Love, Lucas Licea

Dear Santa,
I want a Batch of cookies, and a Base Ball necklace with a Base Ball bat. also I want is a McDonalD gift card.
Love, Ranger

Dear Santa,
1. Cozy Sweater 2. bed side table 3. American girl doll 4. dangling earrings 5. Jack Skelingto earrings 6. Retriever stuffy. 7. Canvas 8. Painting set. 9. Elf on the shelf 10. Play-doh 11. sketch book 12. Colored pencils 13. Snake stuffy 14. Pig stuffy 15. Skort 16. Phone.
Love, Fiona Faye Hebner

Dear Santa,
These are the things I want for Christmas! The first thing I want is a PS5 or Xbox and I also want football and baseball stuff. And I also want new shoes.
Love, Freddy Vandiver

Dear Santa,
Wat I whant for Chrismis is a iPhon IG Pro Max an appel

vision pro max. and the sonic game and football Santa a youtub game and slime
Love, Brazos

Dear Santa,
My Name is Xander Goff and I want, Madden 25, Tablet, Basketball shoes For Christmas!
Love, Xander Goff

Dear Santa,
I would like a dollhouse with a slide and 2 barbies and a pool and a elevator and it is two story.
Love, Madison L.

Dear Santa,
I want a PS5 and robot mini table
Love, Bryson

Dear Santa,
I want a Histry of America Book, a red yeti lunch box, to see you in person, new controllers for my PS4, & a star wars lego at-et.
Love, Brooks Seymour

Dear Santa,
I want a Grother. I want a Pokmon cards. I want a pikachui. I want a phone. I want a brother namd Brooks Seymour.
Love, Anderson Hopkins

Dear Santa,
Mi Name Jenna. for Christmas I would like a horse stable. and a unicorn.
Love, Jenna

Dear Santa,
I want a priter that it gives me copys of paper and I want a iphone 15 pro. and I want a electric scooter that has a peddle a peddle like a car does.
Love, Madilynn

Dear Santa,
a Christmas set of Bardis. a Prime Capitile Shot. And a brite Christmas tree. a bardies dremhose a viode of you a gen a butterfly hose. a big stigg animle. and a big hart. all I want for Christmas is you! I don't care about prestins.
Love, Paisley

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want Pokemon cards. I also want a lot of guns and knives

and a lot of Gold chains and I want a head set I want robux I want a new Nintendo switch and a new dirtbike.
Love, Noah Crell

Dear Santa,
I want clay, stickers, stickerboock, noriat eiesubeth merch, diamons art, pearlers, pant, art set, pens, Nintendo swich, books, canvos.
Love, Maya Martinez

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a kitten, farret, corgi, Pokemon cards, magic mixes, PS5, cookies, video games and crystals.
Love, Jordan

Dear Santa,
Pkmon card, Toys, Books, Candy canes.
Love, Logan Licea

Dear Santa,
I have been a good little girl I want a barbie pop surprise a elsa micrphone with buttons 3 little live pets I want a dog little live pet and a yoga goat and a monkey taster tiny.
Love, Gracie Hess

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Merry Christmas

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Dear Santa,
Jack The Skeleton and Sally. Elf pets. Kitchen play set. Play Doh vet care. Snake. Sewing set cat and dog. DIY Dino Mask.
Love, Eloise May Hebner

Dear Santa,
I want a electric bike and new Nikes. Also Finger scooter with a ramp. I promise to be my BEST!
Love, Noah Mata

Dear Santa,
I would like a new tablet and a gaming chair, clothes, shoes. I would also like my elf to have a friend and a pet. I would also like my own supplies for the bathroom, such as deodorant, body wash, and conditioner. Ant to have a great time.
Love, B. Smith, Nick Name: Bean

Dear Santa,
I really want mini verse market mini food. I also want a dog and cat. I also really want colored pencils and notebook. I really really want a new coloring book. I also want more cute clothes, tour excerses, and Earrings. My own speaker. And last thing I want is to have a good Christmass.
Love, J. Taylor

Dear Santa,
I want the barbie doll suitcase, a barbie, a baby doll, egg with a crown. That's it.
Love, Jeanette Gibson

Dear Santa,
I would like a robot, a car, a TV, a jingle bell and Rudolph toy, a Santa toy, a soccer ball, football, and basketball.
Love, Xander Longoria

Dear Santa,
I want a barbie doll suitcase, a barbie, egg with a crown, also playdoh. and slime.
Love, Josie Gibson

Dear Santa,
I am thankful for family. Barbie dream house. Bluey kitchen. Nail set. Unicorn stuff. stuffed animal.
Love, Jemma Lynn

Dear Santa,
I want a remote control plane and set. I want a remote control car I want a remote control robot, I want a new TV, I accidentally broke mine. Thank you, and I love you.
Love, Jacob

Dear Santa,
Hi this is Tabitha jaNelson. How Are you And Mrs. Clause Doing? I Hope you

Both are well. This year I'm 5 years old And I've been A good girl. My Christmas wishes this year Are Boots, the full Gabby doll house playset, Arts And Crafts stuff. I Hope to see you Before Christmas. Thank you, Santa.
Love, Tabitha

Dear Santa,
I would like a dress, chocolate bar, a barbie car, and cookies.
Love, Lugo Ayllani

Dear Santa,
I want a peppa pig house with furniture. I want a tiny la la loopsy house. I also want a flutter by fairy. I've been a really good girl this year.
Love, Skylar

Dear Santa,
I would like 13,000 v-Bucks. I would also like a monitor, a desk, and a chair. A basketball goal. Thank you Santa!
Love, Pierson Scheiblich

Dear Santa,
Gulijator, Monkey, Trot, Lion, Chips, Candy.
Love, Donnovan Jackson-Smith

Dear Santa,
I really want a police outfit with a helmat. Also a spongebob toy please, what else me want is a nerf gun for me and sissy. One more thing me want is a spiderman bike. I think me was good this year!
Love, Xander Miguel Barajas

Dear Santa,
I would like a tablet, a sakeboard, Dinosaurs.
Love, Preston

Dear Santa,
My name is Kye and I love you Santa. I want a toy robot and a toy tractor balloon. My brother Klay would like an airplane. I will leave you cookies and milk. Oh, I forgot we both want a train.
Love, Kye Walters

Dear Santa,
I wish to have presents, tooth brush, IA moya spicy peppermint toothpaste.
Love, Waylon Allen Rodgers

Dear Santa,
FOR Christmas I WANT A TEDDY BEAR AND A GLOWMATE And new SHOES And new cup And A new DOLLY And that's all.
Love, Logan

Dear Santa,
This Christmas I would like barbies and squishmallows

and a kitchen toy.
Love, Ximena Lopez

Dear Santa,
I would really like a real horse and a new kitchen and new clothes and toys. Some Fake food and some other stuff.
Love, Isabella Urdell

Dear Santa,
I like you because you bring me presents. I want a remote control lizard. Please bring my brothers presents. Lane wants legos and Logan wants a drone.
Love, July F.

Dear Santa,
BarBie Monster truck playset. Flashlight, Mop playset, teddy Bear.
Love, Scarlett Mason

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want Beyblades and Pizza Playdough Scooter.
Love, Hunter Hutson

Dear Santa,
hotWel Set, a Christmas book, Toy santa, Wreath, Christmas blanket, gum bol mushih, foot bol, dinsor.
Love, Lincoln Weber

Dear Santa,
I want hot wheels and LEGO CITY Fire rescue Plane PLease.
Love, Austin

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a robodog, unicorn phone, a watch, and a TV. I have been good and bad this year. Please write me back. Love you and Mrs. Clause.
Love, Jonesy Newman

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy. I would like a robot like miko, Hot wheels city, magnet blocks and basket ball goal and basketball. I will be sure to leave you not chocolate and cookies.
Love, Elijah Mitchell, 2024

Dear Santa,
Thank you for my magic mixie and reindeer headband last year. This year I was nice and I hope I am on the nice list. I would like a pogo stick and an Our Generation doll with a bunny. Ryker wants a new baseball bat because he was hitting with his old one too much. I hope you like the cookies and milk. I hope your reindeer eat all their food outside we will leave in the yard.
Love, Raynlie Mighell

Dear Santa,
My name is Gracyn. I've been good this year. And I help my friends. earpods, nail Polish, a trampoline e anc do flips on. D the Elves and reindeer go to school? How is Rudolph doing?
Love, Gracyn May

Dear Santa,
I'm a boy, I'm 4 years old. I want a BIG BIG Robot. I really love Spiderman. He has blue and red. I really want Wild Robot toy. A Hot Wheels track too, My turtle Speedy wants turtle toys too. He likes turtle food. I been good. Santa, please answer the phone so I can say hi.
Love, Hudson May

Dear Santa,
I would like a Nintendo switch. I have been a good boy. Can I please Have a Kitchen For cooking?
Love, Boone

Dear Santa,
I would like makeup and lipstick.
Love, Ruby

Dear Santa,
I want a Lego SPaceship and Hot Wheels Please.
Love, Tyler

Dear Santa,
I would like Spiderman, & a robot, roket, and a tablet.
Love, Kye

Dear Santa,
I wont a baby doll and clothes-games- Playdoh. I have been a good Girl this year. my brother won't tracks and cars-games-football
Love, Addilynn Rhymes

Dear Santa,
I want a excavator, elfs, toy Santa, front loader, backpack toy and reindeer sleigh.
Love, Brigán Beaver

Dear Santa,
My name is Leonardo I am 3 years old. I have been a bit naughty this year. I hope you are doing well and thank you for the gifts last year but For this year I would like more toys to play with my baby brother in a few months thank you.
Love, Leonardo Rojas Rodriguez

Dear Santa,
Princess dolls. Peppa pig toys. Arts & crafts supplies. momma doll. Baby Alive doll. Prince doll. toy dragon. toy food.
Love, Emersyn Bunker



WE'RE ALL SMILES AT CHRISTMAS

We hope you have a merry and bright Christmas and a dazzling New Year.
Best wishes to you and yours!



Gatesville Family Dental
Dr. Betsy, Shelly, Jan, Cheyenne, Kacie, Codie, Shelley, Lauren, Yolanda, and Jenica

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Ho-Ho-Hope it's a Merry Christmas!



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A Season for Remembering



At a time when lost loved ones are especially missed, we wish all our friends and neighbors comfort and peace.



Thank you for placing your trust in us.



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2425 East Main Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
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Dear Santa,
My name is Evelyn Simpson. I wanted to thank you for all the gifts last year. This year I would like a bunch of squishmallows, and littlest petshops. Also, my birthday is December 28th, so can you please give me an extra gift of your choice? Big hugs and Merry Christmas.

Love, Evelyn Sanchez

Dear Santa,
Please furby, bracelet kit, puppt dog.

Love, Charleigh

Dear Santa,
I have been a really good boy this year! Please bring me a present. I really want a green bicycle, and also would like candy in my stocking! I'll be sure to leave you milk, cookies, & candy. P.S. Please bring my sisters presents too.

Love, Axel.

Dear Santa,
princesshouse. headphones. playdoh. makeup Set.

Love, Laikyn <3.

Dear Santa,
For christmas I would like Magnets, cars, toys

for my friends, minecraft legos, tractors, Paint, Santa Lollipop, hugs for my teacher, and 100 chickens. Thank you, Santa!

Love, Waylon D. Harris

Dear Santa,
Gold Barbie doll mermaid Tail Pink Monster Truck Butterfly Net catcher Thank You

Love, Stormi

Dear Santa,
my name is Benjamin and I am 5 years old. I would like a super big nerf gun, an army guy costume, a big iron man, and a chain Saw. Also a big BBQ pit. Me and my sister will leave you milk and cookies and Carrots for the reindeer.

Love, Benjamin Balderas

Dear Santa,
I have been good I would lika babydoll and a Barbie and Ken and their clothes I will leave Rudolph a Carret

Love, Ava Tatum

Dear Santa,
I want sLime For Christmas. I love you santa.

Love, Mayson B.

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I'd like, a bulldozer, watch, rocketship, motorcycle, Chase paw patrol, legos, magnetic tiles my own kitchen with everything in it, rocketship legos, my own hand mixer.

Love, Jude Martin

Dear santa,
Colton Buete Police car police truck brineddy

Love, Colton Buete

Dear Santa,
Purple present. purse. car. chair. Shirt. Drawing board. Pickle. Santa hat. Santa toy.

Love, Remi Weber

Dear Santa,
I have been a veryyy bad girl this year but my mama said I can still have some toys, I would like barbie girl, frozen doll, and lots of drawing books, and my cousin Daniel and my sister Lady some toys.

Love, Jocelyn B Dave

Dear Santa,
I have been a sweet boy other than when me and my big cousin fight. I want lots of light up toys.

Love, Daniel Lee Smith

Dear Santa,
My name is Mckynzlynn Brand I would like a pair of uggs, sol de je Janeiro 40 perfume, lululemon fannypack that's 10 bucks, a laptop, a rabbit stuffed animal that looks like my rabbit, a james avery bracelet that say God is

within her, a ring that has hearts on it a cross ring that has a cross and heart from james avery.

Love, Mckynzlynn Brand

Dear Santa,
Sorry I have been bad this year. I would like to have a robot toy, basketball. I will put out cookies and candies for you.

Love, Gabriel Bigham

Dear Santa,
I have bin kind of good this year. I wold like a wach and some pokimon cards. And a new hudy, pokemon stuff animal and a basketball hoop. That is all.

Love, Preston Farr

Dear Santa,
I have tried being good this year. I would like a dinosaur blankie and pillow also any other things dinosaur or paw patrol. Thank you for working on toys all year round. I put some cookies and candies out for you to enjoy.

Love, Asher Bingham

Dear Santa,
for Christmas i want a brinoes speech stuffed animal.

Love, Raven

Dear Santa,
I want a ps5.
Love, Kelol

Dear Santa,
I want a train for Christmas.

Love, Willo

Dear Santa,
for Christmas i want a new power wheel truck.

Love, Aubree

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a motorcycle

Love, Evelee

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a puppy.

Love, Liliana

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a big power truck shark fin.

Love, Alcee

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a barbie house and barbies.

Love, Lilliana

Dear Santa,
I want transformer.

Love, Sterlin

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a roping dummy.

Love, Quinlynn

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a barbie doll.

Love, Sydney

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a pokemon card.

Love, Xander

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a slime.

Love, Emeri

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want dos power wheel truck.

Love, Charlee

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I would like ps5 and a hoverboard.

Love, Wyatt

Dear Santa,
for Christmas i want a ps5.

Love, Jeffrey

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a barbie.

Love, Harper

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a ps5

Love, Lincoln

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a helicopter.

Love, Logan

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want Unicorn.

Love, Gemma

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want dry erase markers and board.

Love, Journee

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a chainsaw.

Love, Mason

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a ps5.

Love, Saylor

Dear Santa,
gumball machine with gumballs, toy teacher, barbie rv, toy camera, princess high heel shoes, glitter for my hair, rings, chocolate.

Love, Zoey Buster

Dear Santa,
I would like a puppy for Christmas, I would also like Minecraft toys and drawing things.

Love, Easton Barney

Dear Santa,
I want a barbie dream house and new barbies. I will leave you cookies and milk.

Love, Mya Ramirez

Dear Santa,
I want a new toy excavator, star wars toys, wolf stuffed animal, belts, and a black cowboy hat.

Love, Elijah Price

Dear Santa,
I want shoes with wheels they are called wheel skates.

Love, Cassidy jenkins

All Set...
for a beautiful season!
Happy Holidays to all our friends and patrons!
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At The Holidays



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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our customers, neighbors and friends for a great year. We couldn't do it without you! Here's to a great holiday season.

Tim Beck's Maytag Home Appliance Center
Bob Beck's Appliance Service



4829 E. US Hwy. 84, Gatesville – (254) 865-5705
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Dear Santa,
Can I please have loop lasso nano the original glow-in-the-dark string shooter toy, Hatchimals alive. Furreal daisy the yoga goat. Fingerlings adopt me dog. 2024 monster high dracula boo original. Cookeez nakeryfreezy cakez playset, pet alive smitten kittens, littlest pet shop playset, mini fridge.

Love, Madelyn

Dear Santa,
Can I please have target toy checklane, pixel petz corgi, fat brain flip kit, robot dog, 3D pen set, loop lasso, cookeez makery, make it mini, lego flyers, dandys plush, flying orb ball, spiderman, cute toy with movig eers dance, Thank you

Love, Taelynn Oglesbe

Dear Santa,
what I want for Christmas is a trampoline, a gigantic squishmellow, clothes, a bunny, I phone 14,, wifi everywhere and a ipad.

Love, Journee

Dear Santa,
I would like a Jumanji board game, new hat, wall shelve, trampoline, shoes.

Love, Kip Mcloy

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a daisy the yoga goat because I love animals. I also hope for a pets alive mama duck, maybe a surprise squishmellow. Bath bombs, a new picnic table. And lots of books about animals. You're the best guy ever and I love you.

Love, Sawyer

Dear Santa,
I want a real corgey and a iphone 15 and slime and stuffed bunny and clothes and also nike shoes and fun stuff and stanley cup.

Love, Eden Inman

Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas is a new ball games and puzzles, cup, a word puzzle, tablet, blanket, makeup, practice book, phone, book.

Love, Paisley

Dear Santa,
I want new clothes and a new bik also I want nail polish and a new crayons and a new toys. I also want new sheets a new phone for my brother, and I also want a new bed and a new tv I also want water paint.

Love, Mercedes

Dear Santa,
May I please have a king kong toy and a bitzee Disney toy and a lego exotic peacock and a Hasbro

transformer. Rise of the beast.

Love, Elijah

Dear Santa,
Mr beast the amazing movie, 2024 kid toys. Joyillion jumbo milix.

Love, Owen

Dear Santa,
Please get me a camera for Christmas fly nova hand oriented mini drones 2024 UFO, emotional support nugget, emotional support chickens, on sale clearance 2024 children intelligent remote lego exotic peacock, 2024 neen robot action figure.

Love, Claycee Lane

Dear Santa,
Can I please get a furreal yoga goat, and target toy, checkout and little live pet my really real puppy curly the cavooe usa toys, dinosaur pash track stem set toy bluy 3-in-one airplane play set, unicorn academy, rainbow.

Love, Elizabeth Bedell

Dear Santa,
Wall crawler gecko, rechargeable remote-control robot, fur real daisy the yoga goat, emotional support nuggets.

Love, Mandy Whisenhunt

Dear Santa,
I wunt a dert bike. Fly nova hand operated mini drones, 2024 UFO, zuru metal machines speed hedes playset, new 2024 hot wheels speed bump and Art cars let race new seater electric toy car kids toy, Christmas gift for kids boys girls.

Love, Brendan

Dear Santa,
2024 new titan action figure jointer moveable lego speed.

Love, Dawson

Dear Santa,
I wubt a phone and a puppy, flynova hand operated mini drones, 2024 ufo.

Love, Kayson Snyder

Dear Santa,
I want a snoman and sumtop on snow on sled.

Love, Harley

Dear Santa,
I would relley like some Christmas pjs please, may I please get roller ribbit pj, if you please could get me glitter girls 14th spa doll. Annia and GG spa chair playset, may I please get our generation Sydney lee with story book and outfit 18 inch ballet doll.

Love, Hayzlie Tanner

Dear Santa,
I wish you would bring presents, everything I love, I would like a doll house with little princesses and some candy for my house,

Love, Evie

Dear Santa,
I would like a remote-control Optimus prime and a toy crane truck, I would like more magnets because I ran out.

Love, SJ

Dear Santa,
I want a new gabbys doll house, two of them. I would like a toy baby doll and legos. I love you.

Love, Praisley

Dear Santa,
I am going to leave you cookies and make a present for you I want all the stuff that's boy stuff, but not baby boy stuff.

Love, Corbin

Dear Santa,
I want a ice magnet set, can you bring me and my sisters dolls with barbie house? I also want a princess doll, and I have been very good.

Love, Tayler

Dear Santa,
I want a skateboard and a sticky wizard with remote control I also want a snapping cake and a castle and phone.

Love, Rowan

Dear Santa,
I want new barbies a toy grill, toy cookies, a toy house for my food and princess shoes. New clothes and lots of shoes!

Love, Wrenley

Dear Santa,
I want hello kitty makeup- a hello kitty lunch box, hello kitty shirt and shoes, hello kitty bracelets and necklaces.

Love, Baylee

Dear Santa,
I want a remote-controlled excavator and a remote-control dump truck and a toy school house, I also want a tree house and some legos.

Love, Rhyker

Dear Santa,
I want peppa pig makeup, peppa pig bracelets and earrings, and peppa pig clothes. And bluey movie.

Love, Cadence

Dear Santa,
I want some baby doll stuff, some play makeup a new real stanley cup in a pink and blue. I want a new Santa shirt and a book with pictures!

Love, Aubrey

Dear Santa,
I'd like to get a girlfriend for lamb lamb and I want something for my baby sister like a rattle with cocomelon on it her name is Rory! I just want a surprise!

Love, Marti

Dear Santa,
I want a white flying robot, a big robot that I can get in and drive around... it turns into a Lamborghini! I also want a TIME MACHINE REALLY BAD AND A LASER TOY!

Love, Barrett

Dear Santa,
I want a golf simulator, I think that's all I want!

Love, Clancy

Dear Santa,
I want a gecko that crwas up the wall a big dinosaur that crawls with wheels, I want a game that bubba can play with, and that momma can take care of the baby also a big machine play-doh!

Love, Weston

Dear Santa,
I want a blippi robot, a grinch train, some hot wheels water race car and a birthday cake!

Love, Santana

Dear Santa,
I would like a big tractor and a big toy.

Love, Sterlin Shults

Dear Santa,
can I please have bitzee magicals digital, fat brain toys air, barbie, holiday dol, Hatchimals alive, pixel petz corgi, fingerlings dog, rainbow high winter, wicked movie Elphaba fashion doll, culimals, little live pets.

Love, Kinzlee

Dear Santa,
may I haf bandai Godzilla x kong hex bots wall crawler fly nova hand operated. Love Ashtonmay I please get a barbie 2024 holiday doll, shoes, clothes, barbie clothes, lego forrest, rainbow high winter wonderland Skyler doll. Mgas universe make it mini food dinner series barbie supermarket, barbie world game room set, mannequin with head with hair if you could get me that.

Love, Clara Blanchard

Dear Santa,
I would lie punirunes interactive and squishy digital pet may I pls get a ballet doll may I please get lol magic flyers.

Love, Lauren R

FBC Gatesville

First Baptist Church
~ Gatesville, Texas ~
912 E. Main St.
www.fbcgatesville.com

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



Glory to The Newborn King!

May you and your loved ones rejoice in the miracle of this Holy season and may this year hold new blessings and peace. Merry Christmas!

Gatesville
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
Love. Service. Example.

2600 E. Main St.
Gatesville, TX
254-865-2520
info@fmcgatesville.org





Dear Santa,
May I please get a bitzee magical digital animated pet, Hatchimals alive mystery hatch pufficorn, cookeez playset, mcas miniverse make it mini food diner, series 3 schleich axolotl discovery set.

Love, Kylee Jenkins

Dear Santa,
I want 2000,000 iphones I want mester bast in my basement, I want a baby goat and air force 1s from nike and mpore dog and 10000000000.000 goats and dogs.

Love, Gunner

Dear Santa,
I would like a blue raptor to go chormander legos and a bike.

Love, Adrian

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I would like to get a snow globe, a watch, a jump rope, and a lizard and a tree to plant, that's all.

Love, Charli Suggs

Dear Santa,
I have been a really good girl I would like a mini grams decorations, phone case, toys.

Love, Brynn Pratt

Dear Santa,
a roobix cube, camera, bunny, bracelet kit, water bottle.

Love, Loreleai

Dear Santa,
I want a big shark that is very fluffy and I want a rubr duck for my bath, and a toy computer and a rocking horse that I can sit on and I want a game station and I want new box of marker.

Love, Graceyne B

Dear Santa,
five more dinosaurs.

Love, John Maddox

Dear Santa,
this year I would like a Naruto doll, a makeup kit, a diamond painting a sticker book, learning workbooks, pretend food and monster high dolls. I love you Santa thank you for working so hard!

Love, Korra Brackett

Dear Santa,
I want a package to mail to my soldiers and I wat twenty-four military

soldiers. Twenty-four tanks of green.

Love, Stryke

Dear Santa,
I want a bunch of toys.

Love, Trayson

Dear Santa,
I wunt fon and a tablit and a plstashin for my brother.

Love, DJ

Dear Santa,
I really don't care if you give me presents but if you can give me one if im good I know you give every kid on earth one gift my list is Rainbow high dools, lol dolls, oh can you do one more thing on crimas pretty please get my mom some thing squeshy please for me thank you for everything.

Love, Isla

Dear Santa,
what I want this year is 7 mini brand and 7 bolet guns for my brother and I want to wish everybody in the hole wide world a merry christmas.

Love, Mallory

Dear Santa,
I want a readron dodge ball legos, clos for my readron cow girl clothing for me, and for my reador daddy doll, and a amarkan girl doll.

Love, Adesin Tosant

Dear Santa,
my name is Tori, I have been a really good girl this year since I have been good for Christmas I would like a bouncy house, a tent, pretend food, I can cook, I would also like a notebook and a barbie playset, and earrings with an earring box to keep them in.

Love, Tori Buster

Dear Santa,
I would like a swingset a water slide pj mask toy new shoes a wig – blue one, a dress.

Love, Kaisley Lee

Dear Santa,
I want a new makeup and a sewing machine, coloring books and markers.

Love, Remington Johnson

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want a big cow, a baby golf cart, books, a baby doll, colors and a coloring book and magnet

blocks.

Love, Adalyn

Dear Santa,
trucks, new boots, new horse.

Love, Carter Tripp

Dear Santa,
for Christmas I want coloring books of mickey mouse, spiderman, and dinosaurs.

Love, Barrett Bannister

Dear Santa,
please bring me a Christmas tree, my own pantry, I also want my own ladder and scooter please bring Hallie a bow and a necklace because she is my friend. Bring me my own food to put in my own pantry for my room I will leave you some milk & turkey. I will leave carrots for your reindeer.

Love, Kohen

Dear Santa,
I want a gymnastic bar and beam, a go cart, a smart watch, cowgirl boots and a show pig.

Love, Kaisley

Dear Santa,
I want a lamp, books, shoes, coloring books, hamper for clothes, blocks, a camera and a go cart.

Love, Bristol

Dear Santa,
please bring many toys I want a lego train, hot wheels monster trucks, a jet, cars, tractor.

Love, Gavin Tippit

Dear Santa,
I would like lots of monster trucks, a monster truck water bottle and a play phone.

Love, Seth Featherston

Dear Santa,
I want a police lego city and a doctor lego city I would also like a lightning McQueen movie, and a school bus city I love you santa, also a toy tractor with a farm.

Love, Eli

Dear Santa,
I would like a pink minnie mouse car, makeup like my mom, mickey mouse stuffed animal, a new baby and a baby crib, thank you and I love you. I am a good girl.

Love, Laney Barron

Dear Santa,
I've been a really good girl, I would like a barbie dream house, a rainbow squishy toy and a little puppy. Please bring baby storley a Mrs. Rachel doll and bring my mommy some makeup.

Love, Delanie Smalley

Dear Santa,
transformer action figure, hungry hippos, new shoes, pocket knife -camo, blaze from toy rescue botz, books, another horse, toy truck and trailer, camera.

Love, Benji

Dear Santa,
Earrings, baby doll, kitchen set, new shoes, backpack, camera.

Love, Emma Beth

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I am asking for a rolley doctor kit, toys for blake, new wooden kitchen, mario karts, paint and coloring books.

Love, Parker Magee

Dear Santa,
I want transformers legos and a new bike, I love all things transformers, I love you santa.

Love, Micah

Dear Santa,
I want a robot, lizard, ps5, games, and blue cup.

Love, Caden Smith

Dear Santa,
I would like a garbage truck, caterpillar, toy car.

Love, Ethan M.D.

Dear Santa,
my name is Bella and I live in Purmela, I have been good this year, for Christmas I would like a hover board and a new laptop, another thing I would like is a bike for my sister.

Love, Bella

Dear Santa,
my name is Jacob I am 7 years old and I live in Jonesboro this year I have been mostly nice, for Christmas I would like toys I have been a good boy, one thing that would be great to have is a remote car, another thing I would love is a bluey toy, bluey is cute.

Love, Jacob B

Dear Santa,
thank you for being so awesome santa!

Love, Trynity

Dear Santa,
my name is Leonidas. I am 7 years old I live in Lampasas, this year I have been very nice, I would like a new watch, lizard, sweater and kitten toys because I broke my watch, another thing I would love is a doghouse because its cold. Thank you for all you do and that you dp.

Love, Leonidas

Dear Santa,
My name is Marcela I am 8 years old. I would like hamster, bicis it is pure, one thing that would be great to have stor blincit for mom and dad, another I would love is nobook book and crayuns for my dayde sister, tench you santa.

Love, Marcela

Dear Santa,
My name is Pedro I live in evant, this year I have been good, I would like new glasses and shoes. I would also like lots of toys, thank you!

Love, Pedro

Dear Santa,
My name is Brooklynn I am 7 years old I live in Purmela this year I have been trying to be nice. For Christmas I would like my own puppy one thing that would be great to have is a jacket for my sister cause she needs cute jacket. Another thing I would love is a desk so I can store all my stuff in to thank you for everything.

Love, Brooklynn

Dear Santa,
my name is Kealeigh I am 7 years old I live in Evant TX. This year I have been mostly nice for Christmas. I would like a stitch phone, stict slime, and stitch plushies, I jut love stitch period.

Love, Kealeigh

Dear Santa,
My name is elizabeth I am 7 years old I live in Gatesville this year I have been nice for Christmas I would like Love because it makes me happy, one thing that would be great to have is a car to drive I also want fluffy tails. Thank you.

Love, Elizabeth,

Dear Santa,
My name is Abigail I live in Evant I am 7 years old, I have been good this year for Christmas I would like puppies, one thing that would be great to have is candy.

Love, Abigail

Dear Santa,
my name is Jose I am 7, I live in Gatesville. I have been nice for Christmas I would like a VR headset and a playstation and I can play with my friends.

Love, Jose

Dear Santa,
dirt bike VR headset.

Love, Freddy

Dear Santa,
I phone 15, marker, spider man plushi.

Love, Jimmie

Dear Santa,
my name is Barrett I am 7 years old I live in evant this year I have been mostly nice, I would like robux, a baby doll for my sister, and robux for my cousin.

Love, Barrett

Dear Santa,
My name is Aaron I am 7 this year I have been nice, I would like fishing and water gun.

Love, Aaron

Dear Santa,
I wont u beed no I wont a reemcr I wont videeyo game.

Love, Reese Ann Padgett

Dear Santa,
I bin good can you bring a bigam and I wat a book and a fon and makup.

Love, Lizbeth Isabella Silva

Dear Santa,
I have god good grades I wont a new r swich please and games and a kichin set and a phone and a keybord.

Love, Isaac Wayne

Dear Santa,
robx, and mic.

Love, Lucas Xavier

Dear Santa,
I wut a mrote cin role car. I wut a pupee I wut a big baree dawl, I wut a mrein grel dawl, I wut a rmote cin chrole spidre.

Love, Cooper Tidwell

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Merry Christmas from our family to yours!



(254)865-8954
2105 E. Main Street
Gatesville, TX 76528

For property listings visit us at tejasrealestate.com

Trinity Baptist Church

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
Dec. 24 at 5:00 p.m.

*For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given....*
— Isaiah 9:6 (NKJV)

And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.
— Matthew 1:21 (NKJV)

Pastor Sam Crosby
1506 W. Main St., Gatesville
254-865-8495



Dear Santa,
ps5, nrf gun, watr gun,
tlehuct.
Love, Hudson William Price

Dear Santa,
I wat a dob hous the a
blacit fur budea a 5 blacis,
Love, Harmony L

Dear Santa,
I wt flitndos! Hvr b.
Love, Connor Peterson

Dear Santa,
ps5, tnoswich.
Love, Everette Cole

Dear Santa,
ps5, elf, big brb.
Love, Eliala

Dear Santa,
I please want a baby
monkey, a house for my
monkey.
Love, Harlann Torres

Dear Santa,
I want a meta quest, a
knife and a big plushee also
a toy driving car.
Love, Brock

Dear Santa,
barbie, some makeup,
stuffy unicorn,
Love, Emere

Dear Santa,
I please want a car you
drive a dog and a girl,
Love, Mia Mrquez

Dear Santa,
I please want a car you
can drive a farm barbie with
a farm animal, thank you!
Love, Journey Martin

Dear Santa,
a puppy, and a barbie,
thankyou!
Love, Audrey W

Dear Santa,
I please want a red risen
car,
Love, Malachi

Dear Santa,
I please want some
makeup.
Love, Melany

Dear Santa,
Barbie hotel, a puppy,
Tball.
Love, Paysley

Dear Santa,
I want a dirt bike in blue
and a lion, thank you!
Love, Kyrryn

Dear Santa,
I want a baby doll, dresses,
barbie house and dolls, new
boots, princess shoes.
Love, Arabella

Dear Santa,
I been good please bring
me a waterslide.
Love, Paislynn

Dear Santa,
Nerf gun, dirt bike, robot.
Love, Grayson Roper

Dear Santa,
I wish please a hello kitty
house and another to cook
cookies and lots of love and
health.
Love, Romina

Dear Santa,
I would like fartinator,
books, giant flamingo, bean
bag, instant camera, bigger
tv.
Love, Everlee Jennings

Dear Santa,
I have been extra good
this year. I hope that you will
bring me some gifts I would
like, mini fridge, chicken, a
bluey house, a new baseball
glove, a new baseball bat,
a racecar track, new shirt, a
new minion toy and that's
all. Can you wake me up
when you get to my house
so I can ride your sleigh?
Love, Jeremiah Tatum

Dear Santa,
Hi, I would like a go-cart.
How are your elves doing?
Love, Colter

Dear Santa,
I want fake makeup set, a
big pony and unicorn that
can eat, talk and walk and
Anna doll and a doll. I love
you Santa!!!
Love, Lilah

Dear Santa,
I would like a new tractor,
I want a baby sister in
mammias belly her be so
happy.
Love, Haygen

Dear Santa,
I would like a deer gun.
You can bring my mom and
dad a present if you want.
Love, Kyler

Dear Santa,
Can you bring me some
doctor's toys and new
babies with new clothes?
Can you bring me barbies
and a barbie house?
Love, Reagan

Dear Santa,
I want a big front loader
because my mom ran over
the last one. I want a new
iPad for myself with a case.
Love, Benjamin

Dear Santa,
I would like a new bike
and a new wallet and cup
for my mom. I want new
snow gloves and a new
cowboy costume I also
want magnets.
Love, Jack

Dear Santa,
I want a minnie mouse toy
and socks for Kannon I need
some hello kitty panties and
a bunch of toys.
Love, Collyn

Dear Santa,
I want a bluey airplane, a
lego dreams lego set and a
lego dreams stuffed animal

pack, and a bike, please give
me the toys I like. I love you
santa, you the best!
Love, Ford Seymour

Dear Santa,
I would like a Bat bot, a
purple jeep power wheels,
a water table and a lot of
games for my family.
Love, Hudson Branch

Dear Santa,
A kitty, dirt bike, lion,
monster truck, spider man/
venom, soccer ball, Godzilla,
TV.
Love, Ezequiel Romero

Dear Santa,
I would like to ask for a big
ol' unicorn stuffed animal,
different kinds of slime, and
a cute dress with matching
head bands. Be safe going
around the world.
Love, Nora Stovall


Dear Santa,
I would like the mermaid
LOL color changing tail, I am
being good!
Love, Arizona

Dear Santa,
Minnie, bike, hello kitty,
house, chicken, gabby, cat,
crayons, gabby cave.
Love, Paisley Arner

Wishing you a
BLESSED CHRISTMAS

Mound Cowboy Church
3075 FM 931
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

For more info:
254-865-5908




Cheers

to you, our customers and friends,
for the very merriest holiday
season ever!

Hill Top Liquor

Henry Sun, Manager • (254) 865-7007
3305 S. Hwy. 36, Gatesville, TX

Wishing you a
Merry Christmas decorated
with every happiness!

Thank you for being a part
of our family. Friends,
neighbors and customers
like you give us so much
to celebrate!



CIRCLE E CANDLES

HAYNES JEWELRY
103-C Hwy. 36 Bypass, Gatesville | (254) 865-6131

Heartfelt Wishes for a
Merry Christmas!



We've loved every minute of serving
you this year.
Thanks for your kind support!

**Shawnee Miller,
CPA, PC**
3413 E. Main, Gatesville, TX
Phone 254-865-8966
Shawnee@centraltexas.cpa



Merry Christmas!
May the peace and hope of
Christ's birth be with you now
and in the days ahead.

**Valet Cleaners
&
Laundry**

2418 E. Main, Gatesville, TX
254-865-5213
M-F 7am-6pm
Laundromat: 7am-10pm Daily

Holiday Greetings
& MANY THANKS TO OUR CUSTOMERS,
DONORS, VOLUNTEERS & SUPPORTERS!

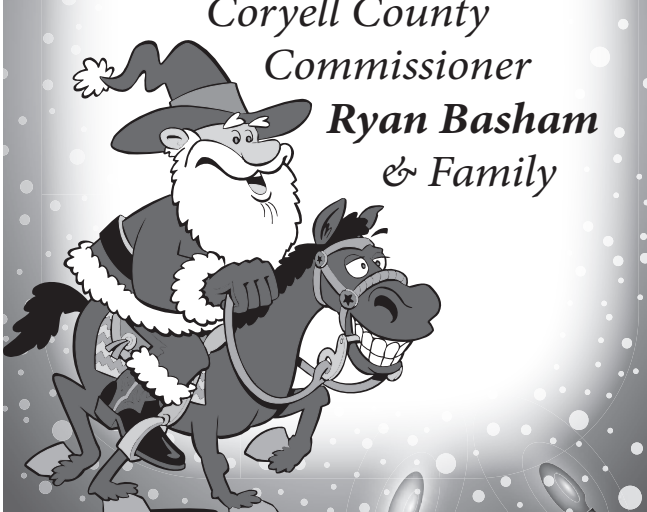
The RESALE SHOP
Benefiting the Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville



1706 East Main Street 254-248-1250

Merry
Christmas

from Precinct 3
Coryell County
Commissioner
Ryan Basham
& Family



Merry Christmas

**GATESVILLE INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

DOING WHAT'S BEST FOR KIDS!

311 S. Lovers Lane
254-865-7251

HAPPY PAWLIDAYS!

Candy Pet Palace
1412 W. Main, Gatesville
254-865-8400



Happiest Holidays




Preserving & Celebrating
Coryell County's Vibrant History

718 E. Main Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528
(254) 865-5007 • Wed.-Sat. 10 am - 4 pm

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!

Gatesville
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2307 Hwy. 36 South, Gatesville, TX 76528
254-865-2617



Dear Santa,
Can you please get me a toy crane. Can I please have like a big target that's shoots nerf gun giant bullets, hay baller that grabs hay and a skid steer and I just want like 5 juicy drop candy p.s ima be exrra good till Christmas.
Love, Hunter Halteman

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl this year I would like a doll, coffee cup, crayons and drawing paper, please do not forget my brothers Nash, Clay, and Dutton. I will leave you milk and cookies and carrots for your reindeer.
Love, Haddie Prado

Dear Santa,
I want a rocstar guitar and the stuff that makes it even louder, my sister wants jewelry, my dog wants more sweaters.
Love, Jaxon Brown

Dear Santa,
Toy soldiers, teddy bear, bicycle, race cars, coloring book, penguin toy, cowboy hat, candy.
Love, Keaton Arner

Dear Santa,
I want a motorcycle and water gun too.
Love, Jacob Pike

Dear Santa,
I would love a cake bakery

set from Walmart! I love that it smells like cake.
Love, Sophia Torres

Dear Santa,
I would like a unicorn for Christmas please! Thank You.
Love, Jaylee Calhoun

Dear Santa,
I would like some toy cars, a paw patrol house and a hot dog, i would also like a hotdog house.
Love, Gabriel Sylva

Dear Santa,
I really want a kitty and a giant bear with a heart in the middle for Christmas I also want another pink wand.
Love, Allura Frye

Dear Santa,
I want a really pretty crown and a tree house castle, I also want a my little pony toy for Christmas. Thank you!
Love, Avery O'Neil

Dear Santa,
I am 5 years old and it is my dream to have a mini bike, drone, socks, undies size 5, Thor, hulk, spiderman, Deadpool, wolverine. I would love A new hulk hoodie.
Love, Elijah Conger

Dear Santa,
Jumphouse, swing,

unicorn stuffie, robe, projector.
Love, Acelynn

Dear Santa,
I would like a barbie dream camper, van, hoverboard, horse set, makeup set, bicycle and a real horse I will name precious.
Love, Hazel

Dear Santa,
I've been a good girl I want an American girl doll.
Love, Gemma James

Dear Santa,
I really want a giant doll that I can dress up, don't forget my little sister too!
Love, Emma

Dear Santa,
I just want a doll and to be

with my family.
Love, Joselin

Dear Santa,
My wish is... electric scooter, club house.
Love, Bryson Hartley

Dear Santa,
I would like a teddy bear, princess bed, spiderman and monster truck.
Love, Brieann

Dear Santa,
I want new sunglasses and new hot wheels things and ummm a new hulk mug, more stuffys, a little fox. A new Christmas movie and a new fan for daddy.
Love, Asher

Dear Santa,
I want to have trouble with double fishing lure.
Love, Lawson

Dear Santa,
I want these things for Christmas please -carley the cavoodle puppy, bitzee digital toy, new bike, charms, jean shorts.
Love, Parker Blanchard

Dear Santa,
I want some clothes for my barbies, I want a bluey play house, thank you!
Love, Layla Thompson

Dear Santa,
I want makeup a bluey plane play-doh, the gabby bus, magnatiles, break the ice game, Crayola twistables, barbie and a American girl doll.
Love, Evie Collins

Dear Santa,
Unicorn blanket that's really soft, LOL dolls, earrings, a rainbow pen, rainbow house shoes, rainbow footie pjs.
Love, Heidi Smith

Dear Santa,
I want to come see you and see your house I have been a good girl this year, I would really want some new dresses and some fuzzy pajamas I also really want a kitten and another American girl doll.
Love, Raylie Ellison

Dear Santa,
I want a dirt bike, xbox, and a ps5, I also want a

phone.
Love, Koefer

Dear Santa,
I want a barbie car,
Love, Bella

Dear Santa,
I would like a teddy bear a pet bird, some candy, and flowers.
Love, Caliani Lugo

Dear Santa,
I want a kraken ship, a big giant...remember the imagineext, indominus rex that's what I want.
Love, Jonah Riley

Dear Santa,
I wot a pla-do set.
Love, Chelsea

Dear Santa,
I want the spiderman please.
Love, Jaeden

Dear Santa,
I want a sonic toy.
Love, Foster

Dear Santa,
I want hello kitty nesting figure, sleeping cinnamon roll. Makeup pallet.
Love, Lillian McClure

Dear Santa,
sonic toy and emerald race car track, ps5, new controller,
Love, Laszlo



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

CORYELL COUNTY COMMISSION COMPANY
Jody & Robin Thomas

Hwy. 36, Gatesville • (254)865-9121
CoryellCommission.com

NO SALE UNTIL JANUARY 8TH, 2024.

Health, Happiness & All the Best

A string of well wishes during this holiday season!

DUSTY BOYD
District Attorney

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

PRUITT'S
Convenience Store & Beer Barn

Food | Gas | Beer

1316 Hwy. 36 Bypass North, Gatesville
(254) 865-5602

Merry Christmas — Best Wishes

ROGER MILLER
Coryell County Judge

RANDI MCFARLIN
Coryell County Treasurer

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Comer Automotive
103 Park Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
(254) 865-7000

CALL (254) 856-5212 TO ADVERTISE TODAY!

Dear Citizens of Gatesville,

In this Christmas season, let us stop and reflect exactly what this season is for. Luke tells us, "For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Jesus came that you might have LIFE and have it MORE ABUNDANTLY. Remember that no matter what you face this holiday season, in a time of division, among this nation, among races, and among brethren, that "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." So, rise up, this day. Be the peacemaker that God called you to be, for we all need each other. You have been called for such a time as this. Look to your fellow man with love and compassion and look to the cross as your answer to every trouble, the reason for the season, and a hope for the future.

The House That God Built
3412 E. Main Street
Gatesville, Texas 76528
254-248-2043

Merry Christmas
from all of us at

JHL CONSTRUCTION

P.O. Box 58, Gatesville • (254) 865-8489



Dear Santa,
I would really like to have a sling shot, pop gun, race car track, and scooter, I love you santa.

Love, Kipton Kouns

Dear Santa,
I want a barbie dream house a doggie with a house a watch and a unicorn.

Love, Raelynn Junelyday

Dear Santa,
I want paw patrol, hats and cookies.

Love, Remi

Dear Santa,
Can I please have another puppy? A black and red one please! I also really want another baby sister.

Love, Samantha Giacobbi

Dear Santa,
For cheistmas I would like a unicorn toy, a puppy toy and a horse! Can I also have

a soft stuffed animal.
Love, Tessalyn Crowder

Dear Santa,
I would like a train that can go in water I would also like a dinosaur please!

Love, Austin Langehennig

Dear Santa,
I would like a teddy bear that is gold for Christmas please! I would also like a unicorn as well.

Love, Emeri Torres

Dear Santa,
I would really love a toy car, golf cart toy as well, please don't forget me!

Love, Jairex Hall

Dear Santa,
I would really like some spiderman gear, I really want a blanket that's spiderman, I would also like a teddy bear.

Love, Ray Garzoria

Dear Santa,
I want a bluey, bear, legos,

ball.
Love, Cruz

Dear Santa,
I would like a finger surfboard, pop up toy, BB gun.

Love, Kade

Dear Santa,
I want a teddi bear, snacks, marshall toy.

Love, Elena

Dear Santa,
I want a big truck and trailer. Yellow jacket and jeep.

Love, Jace

Dear Santa,
I would like a cellphone, baby doll, rainbow bear, daisy stuffed animal, kitchen, baby pumpkin toy.

Love, Ruby

Dear Santa,
I want a sqishmellow, bike, barbies, books.

Love, Aliviah

Dear Santa,
I would like santa toy, cat, hat, gingerbread man.

Love, Riley

Dear Santa,
I would like barbies, bike, barbie house, babydoll.

Love, Jenica

Dear Santa,
I have been very good can you bring me a monster truck and a train set.

Love, Kallen

Dear Santa,
I would like a Christmas heart I would also like for my sisters to have a good Christmas.

Love, Remi

Dear Santa,
I wont a scooter, painting kit, kids makeup.

Love, Layna

Dear Santa,
I would like my boots, I really want a kitten, I also need a belt. Can you bring

my sister a dog.
Love, Montana

Dear Santa,
Can you bring me a goat? And also, some popcorn for mom and dad to eat.

Love, Lennox

Dear Santa,
I would like a pet dino. Can you also bring me a snake to scare my mom and sister.

Love, Judd

Dear Santa,
A Teddy bear come to life when I whisper in his ear and doctor medical play set, some roller blades, a paw patrol boke and toy shopping cart.

Love, Susan Gibson

Dear Santa,
I want a hat just like you. I want you to know that I have done my best to be good I hope you give us all the best presents.

Love, Mira Jane Swords

Dear Santa,
I would like a barbie bike, pink shoes, hello kitty and fake food.

Love, Everly McCoy

Dear Santa,
Dirt bike, ps5, trampoline, new shoes.

Love, Jaxson Riley

Dear Santa,
I want a real magical unicorn with magic horns and wings, if you can't swing that ill take a kitty cat. Two dogs one name lassie the other tiger.

Love, Quinlyn Woodson

Dear Santa,
I want a dirt bike and Xbox, nerf gun, toys for my dog, and books.

Love, Kayson

Dear Santa,
Nerf guns, dirt bike, fighting robots.

Love, Liam R

"Foretold"
CCC's Christmas Production

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 22ND
9:00AM & 10:30AM**

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**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service**

**DECEMBER 24TH
AT 5:30PM**

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Christmas!**

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Dear Santa,
ps5, dreamhouse
Love, Margot

Dear Santa,
Bike, scooter, switch,
glove, race car, bracelet.
Love, Landon

Dear Santa,
I want a good boy dog.
Love, James

Dear Santa,
I would like a baby doll
that talks and a bracelet,
necklace and stuffed animal
cat, dresses, high heels, nail
polish, to meet Santa.
Love, Lyric Calhoun

Dear Santa,
American girl doll, video
camera, American girl
bunkbed, barbie

dreamhouse.
Love, Kendall Sullins

Dear Santa,
I would like a fire scooter,
cars, dogs.
Love, Sander

Dear Santa,
I have been good this
year! I would like a Darth
Vader robot, goo ji tzu hero
make your own, Mr. beast,
and football guys. Thank
you for my Legos last year.
Love, Graham Pruitt

Dear Santa,
I would like a barbie and a
Elsa lego set.
Love, Riley

Dear Santa,
I have been very sweet
this year! I want babies,

princess dresses, and
goldfish. Thank you, Santa!
Love, Wrenley Pruitt

Dear Santa,
I would love hot wheels
and lego money, please
give my friends legos too.
Love, Mason W

Dear Santa,
Beyblades, skateboard,
school desk.
Love, Briggs

Dear Santa,
Green hoverboard, green
yoyo, bat mobile.
Love, Jimmy Davidson

Dear Santa,
I've been pretty good. I
would like a phone, a new
charm for my necklace and
new boots.
Love, Kannon Derrick

Dear Santa,
I would like people to be
kind also want roller skates
and don't break the ice.
Love, Caileigh



**Wishing You a Merry
& Magical Christmas...**
May all of your hopes and wishes
come true!

We're so grateful to be a part of this community,
and we thank you all for making our year so
rewarding and enjoyable.

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Merry Christmas



*from Bobby, Melissa and
family at*



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