



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | Jan. 11, 2025

\$1.00



SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 122, No. 60, ISSN No. 0894-4954

New district court building near completion, ribbon cutting scheduled for Thursday

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

The new Coryell County annex building that will house the 440th District Court is scheduled to be completed this month. Also referred to as the

Leon Street Annex, the county and its contractor Butler-Cohen will host a ribbon cutting and open house for the new building at the site on Thursday, Jan. 16, from 3-6 p.m. The ceremony

is open to the public and will allow tours of two new courtrooms and the lobby.

At the most recent County Commissioners Court meeting on Dec. 23, Commissioner Ryan

Basham provided an update on the final stages of the building's construction.

Basham said the construction team completed the installation of the fire alarms, cameras, bathrooms, and

the majority of the landscaping and parking lot.

"Everything else is 98% complete," he said.

Final developments include the implementation of IT needs, such as com-

puter and internet access. Commissioner Scott Weddle said the county plans to fully occupy the building by early February.

PLEASE SEE COURT | A2



Christmas Critters Photo Contest Winner

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY KAFER

Millie is pictured in her winning photo from the Christmas Critters photo contest, sponsored by First Methodist Church.

Millie shines in photo contest

BY ALEX MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

In light of Christmas, The Gatesville Messenger hosted a Christmas Critters photo contest during the month of December to showcase local festive pets during the holiday season. The winner of the photo contest was Millie, a 15-year-old yorkie, who is also a rescue.

Millie's owner, Mary Kafer, expressed that it is so special that Millie got picked, because she is a special dog.

"She never gets to shine since she is shy," Kafer said.

"She is sweet and shy, and we got her from a shelter, so I think it is perfect."

Kafer explained that she wasn't looking for a pet at the time when she came across Millie, but once she noticed her at Fuzzy Friends Rescue in Waco, the rest was history.

"She was so traumatized that she had been returned for the second time because she was terrified of everybody and everything. She had been badly mistreated and was in a cage for the first few years of her life,"

she said. "So, I took her, and she just blossomed."

Kafer explained that Millie has come a long way from where she started and even cuddles with her and sits in her mother's lap.

"I take pictures of my dogs a lot; I don't have any grandkids or kids here, since my son doesn't live here," she said.

She also mentioned that Millie likes to dress up and wear clothes as well as having her hair brushed.

"They said that she never got any attention, and now

she just loves it," she said.

Kafer expressed that Millie, along with her other two dogs are her world.

"They are always happy to see me, and they love me no matter what, and they don't need anything except for me," she said. "I call them my entourage."

Since winning the photo contest, Kafer and Millie received \$100 from *The Gatesville Messenger* and a one-year subscription, as well as \$100 from the First Methodist Church, who sponsored the contest.

Concrete added to civic center for Youth Fair

BY ALEX MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

The Coryell County Youth Fair is an annual event that showcases the talents of local youth who participate in the livestock show, exhibits, photography, cooking, and more.

This year's Youth Fair began on Thursday, Jan. 2, and ended on Saturday, Jan. 11, with over 440 participants from various organizations across the county.

One of the key components of the Youth Fair is the livestock show, where youth participate in exhibiting animals such as cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, etc. Each year, the Coryell County Youth Fair partners with the City of Gatesville to host a fundraiser to assist with barn improvements leading up to the show.

President of the Coryell County Fair Board, Keith Smart, explained that this year it was decided to lay concrete to help with cer-

tain aspects of the show. Local contractors, Jose and Juego Uribe, were involved in the process of laying the concrete.

"They did a great job," Smart said.

"With the concrete we are able to put up a portable show arena and portable pens, which can be removed, so easy clean up can happen after the fair," he said. "Animal safety is always a concern, so it will cut down on dust and fungus issues."

He also mentioned that they wanted to lay the concrete to keep the dust to a minimum for the health of patrons and the animals.

"This also opens up more opportunities for events throughout the year to be hosted by the Gatesville Civic Center," he said.

For the actual show arena, the animals were shown on shavings. The exhibitors placed a specific type of shaving for bedding in the animals' pens to help keep them warm.

PRIZE HARE



COURTESY PHOTO

Heiler Martinez placed first with his rabbit.

Coryell Community Church

www.coryell.church

Growing in community while sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

Sunday Worship Times:
9:00am
10:30am

Wednesday ReConnect:
5:45pm



KAYLEE DUSANG | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The Leon Street Annex will house offices for the 440th District Court, justice-of-the-peace courts, constables for Precincts 3 and 4, and Texas Game Wardens.

COURT FROM PAGE A1

The county approved

the building design by Southwest Architects in September 2022. The plans included a 120-seat district courtroom, jury box, bailiff

space, courthouse holding cells, and a secure area where attorneys can meet with clients. The building will also

hold offices for justice-of-the-peace courts, constables for Precincts 3 and 4, and Texas Game Wardens. County Commissioners

approved the project for a guaranteed maximum price (GMP) of \$8 million in December 2023. The Coryell County Leon

Street Annex is located at 417 E. Leon Street in Gatesville.

Drive-thru Starbucks to open in Gatesville

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

A Starbucks is officially coming to Gatesville. The City of Gatesville announced on their Facebook page that a Starbucks drive-thru and coffee shop will be built off the State Highway 36 bypass near the Allsup's Convenience Store and Gas Station. The driveway will connect to the store's southwest entrance.

The city said construction for the business will begin in the next few days. The opening date for the coffee shop has not yet been determined.

"The announcement of the Starbucks location represents an early milestone in our efforts," City Manager Brad Hunt said in a statement. "We are proud that this company sees our city as a thriving and viable

retail location." Hunt said that he has worked with City Secretary Holly Owens to ensure the city attracts residential and commercial entities that improve the Gatesville quality of life while also meeting the goals outlined in the city's 2020 Comprehensive Plan. "Since I started my tenure as city manager, my guidance to city staff is that we

find ways to say 'yes' to development proposals, but only after carefully analyzing and addressing any attending zoning, wastewater, water, city services, and roadway needs," Hunt said.

As a recognized national retailer, Hunt adds that a Starbucks can serve as a springboard to the establishment of other types of businesses in town, including quick food services, sit-down restaurants, dry goods/hardware retailers, among others.

Several users reacted to the city's social media post about the announcement. While some viewed it as a great opportunity for the city's growth and development, some also expressed frustration that the city has not highlighted more local businesses.

In the post's comment section, one user even

noted concern that a larger corporation might affect the city's smaller businesses.

"It is important that our development efforts do not downplay our local small businesses, which are the heart of our town," Hunt said. "It has been rightly pointed out that we can do better in highlighting and publicizing them, so we will work to improve in this area."

Gatesville is home to two local coffee shops, The Caffeinated Baker and The Green Rooster. Coryell Health also opened a We Proudly Serve Starbucks café in the hospital lobby last month, which serves Starbucks beverages but exists independently of Starbucks Coffee Company.

"We have a great relationship with the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce, and

we applaud and support their efforts to highlight local businesses," Hunt said. "While we know that growth is coming to Gatesville whether we actively seek it or not, our goal is to generate smart growth that affords opportunities to businesses both large and small."

The city's growth has been a major topic in recent city council and planning meetings. Hunt said the city is currently working on keeping track of 11 other larger residential and commercial projects that are either pending, in progress, or have recently been completed.

"We have been working to coordinate our tracking of, and planning for, future development," Hunt said. "We have been busy, and we expect this to continue."

Big City Podiatry
Small Town Care

Coryell Health's Podiatric Team Treats:

- ARTHRITIS
- FRACTURES
- DEFORMITIES
- INJURIES

James Townson, Jr.,
DPM, D.ABFAS, FACFAS
Podiatrist, Rearfoot & Ankle Surgeon

CLINICS:

GATESVILLE | WACO | TEMPLE
MOODY | GOLDTHWAITE

ch Coryell HEALTH

(254) 865-2166
CoryellHealth.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF GATESVILLE FACEBOOK

A Starbucks will open by the southwest entrance of the Allsup's Gas Station on 3304 E. Main Street.

A better way to send your message

THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Advertise with us
254 • 865 • 5212

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Thoughts about personal growth



BY SAM HOUSTON

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

Maybe it is simply the beginning of a new year and the chance it provides to start anew, but it seems I have been doing a lot of reflecting lately regarding personal growth.

Now, that may seem silly to many of you; a man of my nearly 70 years of age sitting around contemplating his shortcomings and lack of knowledge about the world around him. Wouldn't time be better spent enjoying the fruits of my labors and reflecting on the past? Is there still time left in life to reflect and consider how to "grow?" Why trouble myself?

I have seen people reach a certain age and more or less

give up on learning or experiencing new things. They fail to take the personal challenges before them to become better people. Perhaps they have spent their lives working hard, getting their kids raised, and in the last trimester of life their interest seems to be better focused on retirement and leisure than on taking on new tasks. Are they just tired? Have the obligations of life worn them down to the point that the thought

of climbing another "hill" simply seems too daunting?

On New Years Day, I thought about some of the many areas where I have little or no expertise.

I can only speak one language. There are literally hundreds of languages around the world, and for some reason I have chosen to be fluent in only one. I can speak a little Spanish, meaning I can ask where the "bano" is, if I can have "uno more cerveza," and question a pretty senorita if she would like to dance, but I cannot carry on a complete conversation. With Spanish seemingly becoming the second language in the U.S., wouldn't it be wise to learn how to speak it? Wouldn't I feel good about myself mastering a second language and feeling comfortable when I am in Mexico if I could carry on a reasonable conversation with the locals?

I love music. Something about live music touches my soul and gives me a great deal of joy. I have had the pleasure of producing

some wonderful musical shows and working with terrific nationally-acclaimed entertainers, but I cannot play an instrument. I learned to play the horn a little when I was in grade school, but I became so enamored with sports that I left the idea of being in band by the wayside. While I loved the time spent playing ball, what I wouldn't give to now know how to play the piano, the guitar or the fiddle. Not saying I want to be so proficient that I can perform professionally, just capable enough that I could sit on my porch and play music for my own entertainment and pleasure. Shouldn't I learn how to play something before my hands have lost all dexterity and it is impossible for me to do so?

Though I am an educated man, I have never truly understood electricity. Every time I work with it, I get stuck, stung, or snagged! To begin with, I am colorblind, which is a real disadvantage in the world of electricity, but secondly, I simply

do not understand it. Yes, I know about volts, and amps, and appreciate the concept of "grounding," but it seems every time I get near an electrical problem, I am dead wrong in my assumptions as to what is wrong and how to fix it. Since most of the world is run by electricity, shouldn't I know more about how it works and functions than simply walking over and turning on the switch?

Most of my life has been lived right smack dab in the middle of the age of computerization. I had to learn to type, and then to have at least a rudimentary understanding of how a computer works, meaning how to send and receive emails, attach files, download and store materials, and utilize software. Though I use a computer every single day, I have never invested the time to become truly competent in its operation. I am pretty sure computers are only going to become more and more a part of our lives. If I am going to live in the computer age,

wouldn't it be beneficial to know as much about them as possible so the experience would be as positive as possible?

There are a lot of things for all of us to learn, to better understand, and to appreciate. Our lives all come to end, but how we live the days and years we have can either be spent wasting away and crying out in frustration in what we do not know, or it can be enriched by learning all that we can. The truth is, school is never over and there is always more homework to do, unless you want to finish the race and never really know and understand the course you have run. We should never stop learning, growing and evolving, for that is what makes living worthwhile.

Thought for the day: There are two educations; one teaches us how to make a living, and the other teaches us how to live.

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

Mission Gatesville changes food distribution schedule to Saturday

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Mission Gatesville is shifting the schedule of their food distribution program to Saturdays in January.

The organization will pass out bags of non-perishable food at no cost on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10 a.m. - noon at 301 N. Lutterloh. The local organization previously passed out food on the first and third Thursday of each month.

"For now, this is the new

schedule moving forward," Mission Gatesville Board Member, Scott Ayers, said in an email. "We've been distributing on Thursdays for two years, and while we see over 100 people come get food on those days, it's been difficult to get volunteers on a regular basis, since it's in the middle of a traditional workday."

Ayers adds that he hopes the change will encourage the same amount or more people to come out and get food while also allowing those who do not work on Saturdays to volunteer.

"Volunteers are needed to help carry food for people to their cars (as most of the people we see are elderly) as well as talking to them, praying with them, etc.," he said. "If someone would like to volunteer, they can show up at about 9:45 a.m. to help set up and stay as long as they can once we start passing out food at 10 a.m."

For those coming out to get food, Mission Gatesville recommends arriving at 10 a.m., since bags are first come first served. The organization does not require

any forms of identification or proof of residency. Bags are limited to one per adult.

The bags include non-perishable food along with fresh items such as bread and eggs if available.

Mission Gatesville was founded in early 2023 to further help those in need within the community. They are 100% volunteer-run and funded by donations.

To learn more about the organization, visit <https://missiongatesville.org/>

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

YVONNE WILLIAMS

Say hello to our neighbor, Yvonne Williams!

Yvonne is the founder of CandY Pet Palace, which has been in business for 18 years. She expressed that the unwavering support of the local community has been instrumental in the success of CandY Pet Palace, providing valuable job opportunities for many residents. "I am incredibly grateful to my dedicated staff, and my office manager, Bre Sherburne. Bre has excelled in her role, diligently upholding the policies and procedures I've established," she said. "All of CPP staff's hard work and commitment have been invaluable, allowing me to pursue other professional endeavors and expand my horizons." One of those horizons is being the Liaison for the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce, which she joined in late August of 2024.

"The chamber encouraged my initiative, allowing me to take ownership and implement my vision. I've also engaged with both younger and older generations of Coryell County residents, gathering insights into past community events in Gatesville - what thrived, what people enjoyed," she said. "These valuable perspectives are now informing my proposals to the City Council. She has lived in Gatesville for 28 years and said that her favorite thing about our town is watching everyone who is passionate about Gatesville collaborate on making the community a desirable place to live.

"I would love for any and all who own property around the courthouse to get in touch with me. I would like to revitalize the buildings and see revenue come in for the owners as well as the community," she said. "I also want to add that if anyone has any dreams for Gatesville events or activities for themselves to become an entrepreneur to reach out to me. I will do everything possible to help."

Yvonne reads *The Gatesville Messenger* and said that she enjoys reading the Folks Around Town each week to see who is showcased within the community.

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

How to prepare your home for winter storms

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

Winter storms in Texas often bring a multitude of troubles, from power outages and loss of heat to frozen and busted pipes.

Following the influx of freezing temperatures this week, experts in the field offer preventative tips to help minimize damage caused by winter storms to your home or property.

Tyler Powell, owner of Mid-Tex Plumbing in Gatesville, provides the following steps on how to protect your home as temperatures drop below freezing:

- Disconnect water hoses and wrap exterior faucets.
- Open cabinet doors on exterior walls where there is plumbing.
- Drip faucets to keep water flowing through the pipes.

Pipes begin to crack after the water begins to thaw following a freeze, according to previous reporting

by *The Messenger*.

"When water freezes it creates pressure in a pipe that can lead to bursting if not properly protected," Powell said. "The bursting will cause leaks once the water begins to thaw creating the potential for water damage in your home."

If pipes freeze, the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) advises turning water off at the shutoff valve to prevent broken pipes from leaking after they thaw.

TDI also provides additional tips to protect your home during the winter:

- Get chimneys inspected and cleaned. Creosote buildup can start a fire.
- Inspect furnaces to ensure they're safe and will last the winter.
- Test carbon monoxide and smoke alarms. Alarms older than 10 years should be replaced.
- Seal leaks or cracks around bathroom and



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADOBE STOCK

Texans should prepare their homes in advance to avoid potential damage during a freeze.

kitchen pipes.

- Check attic insulation for areas that need repair.
- Stock up on bottled water, nonperishable food, and batteries in case the power goes out.

- Wrap outdoor and indoor pipes in unheated areas.
- If you leave your house before a freeze, turn off the water at the shutoff valve and leave the heat on.



A Hyde Media Group, LLC Company

Publisher
SAM HOUSTON
sam@hcnews.com

Director of Operations
JANICE VELASQUEZ
janice.velasquez@gatesvillemessenger.com

Copy Editor
JODI MANNING
jodi@gatesvillemessenger.com

Staff Writers
DAVID SCOTT
david@gatesvillemessenger.com

KAYLEE DUSANG
kaylee@gatesvillemessenger.com

ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
alex@gatesvillemessenger.com

gatesvillemessenger.com

USPS 214-840
116 South 6th St., Gatesville, Texas 76528
Phone: (254) 865-5212

THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER is published at 116 South 6th St., Gatesville, Texas 76528 weekly on Saturdays. Periodicals postage paid at Gatesville, Tx. 76528.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the 116 South 6th St., Gatesville, Texas 76528. Any erroneous reflection upon character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may occur in the GATESVILLE MESSENGER will be gladly corrected once brought to the attention of publisher or editor. The publisher is not responsible for copy omissions or typographical errors that may occur other than to correct them in the nearest issue after it is brought to his attention and in no case does the publisher hold himself liable for damages further than the amount received by him for actual space covering the error. THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER is an award-winning member of the Texas Press Association, North & East Texas Press, West Texas Press and National Newspaper Association.

RETAIL ADVERTISING

P.O. Box 799
116 South 6th Street,
Gatesville, Texas 76528

Marketing Consultant
KAITLYN SMITH
kaitlyn@gatesvillemessenger.com

Classifieds
classifieds@gatesvillemessenger.com

For more information:
(254) 865-5212

CLASSIFIEDS

Have a car to sell? Want to rent your house? Planning a garage sale?
Phone: (254) 865-5212

email: classifieds@gatesvillemessenger.com
CLASSIFIED DEADLINE: noon Tuesday

CIRCULATION

For delivery or billing questions, subscriptions and vacation stops, call (254) 865-5212.

email: circulation@gatesvillemessenger.com

Delivery in county:

1 Year	\$50	1 Year, digital	\$40
2 Years	\$95		

Delivery to remainder of Texas:

1 Year	\$70	1 Year, digital	\$50
		1 month, digital	\$14.95



Chief Operating Officer
SAM HOUSTON
sam@hcnews.com

President
KIM WARE
publisher@tricityreporter.com

Vice President Operations
DARREN CLARK
darren@hcnews.com

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.

FIRST DAY HIKE AT MOTHER NEFF STATE PARK



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAMELA SHANNON

Visitors started off the new year on New Year's Day by hiking and exploring the natural beauty of Mother Neff State Park. The duration of the hike was about five hours. Young and old alike enjoyed miles on the trails at Mother Neff. Visitors explored the park at their own pace and learned a little about the history of the park along the way. Interpretive stations were found throughout the park, which shared information about the park's history and natural resources. Once visitors completed their hike, many went back by the visitor's center to share their experience with the park rangers. The Leon River Dutch Oven Gang was on hand serving up black-eyed peas for good luck in the coming year.

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

A fishing trip to remember



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

You never know what's going to happen when you go fishing in Alaska. Some fishermen up there are set netters.

"They set their nets out," says Joe Bob Brewster who ranches around Crystal Falls just outside of Breckenridge. He calls his ranch NPR, No Problem Ranch. He had an oil field supply business in Alaska for 30 years. "In other words, they run the net out, like in the ocean. They run it out with a boat, and they have something anchored out there that they hook the net on, and they sit for two hours, ten hours, whatever. As the fish swim, they get hung

up in the net. Then they take the salmon out, throw them in the boat, take them to the shore and sell them." Joe Bob was never too busy with his business to go fishing. "My brother-in-law and I were out there fishing one time in the middle of nowhere along the Naknek River when this lady drove up with her daughter and asked us if we had a can opener. We told her that we had one and asked if we could help her."

"She had a can with her, handed it over, and asked if we could open it. She told us she had the remains of her husband in there, and that he had wanted to be cremated. He had been a set netter out here on the Naknek River and died during the winter. They couldn't dig a hole to bury him because it was frozen. The lady said 'I didn't know what to do with him, so I just canned him. Like we can fish. I figured since we preserved fish, we'd just preserve him.'" "So, we opened the can full of the woman's husband's ashes. She took it, and she and her daughter went down to the river, had some sort of little service, and, Ker plunk, you know, and poured out the ashes into the river. Then they came back, thanked us, and took off." "We went down to the river and saw a circle of gray ashes where they had poured out the remains of her husband. About that time, a guy came up

and was going to clean his fish. He was a set netter. He asked us what we were doing. "We told him we were just fishing and asked him not to clean his fish where those gray ashes were because the woman had just buried her husband. We told the man that the woman's husband had been a set netter. The man pondered a moment and said 'I wonder if I knew him. What's his name?' We told him his first name was George, but we didn't remember his last name." "So, this guy goes out there, looks into the river, and sees that gray circle. He came back up and said, 'one thing about it, I'll have to say that I don't recognize him.'" "The man then said, 'out of respect, I'll go down the river a little ways to clean my fish.'" Joe Bob says that is sure one fishing trip he'll remember for a long time.

SUDOKU

Puzzle answers from the Jan. 4, 2025 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

Safety tips for working outside in cold weather

Staff Reports

As winter weather and frigid temperatures are upon us, outdoor labor workers are continuing to answer the call and report to work. From snow, to ice, to wind, cold weather presents its own set of unique challenges while on the job. Outdoor work requires proper preparation, especially in severe winter weather conditions. Outdoor workers who are exposed to cold and windy conditions are at risk of cold stress. Below are some tips provided by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to help prepare for winter weather, as well as information about hazards that workers may

face during and after winter storms. **Dressing Properly** Dressing properly is extremely important to prevent cold stress. When cold environments or temperatures cannot be avoided, the following helps to protect workers from cold stress. - Wear at least three layers of loose-fitting clothing. Layering provides better insulation. - An inner layer of wool, silk, or synthetic (polypropylene) to keep moisture away from the body (Thermal wear, wool, silk, polypropylene, or inner layers of clothing that will hold more body heat than cotton.) - A middle layer of wool or synthetic to provide in-

sulation even when wet - An outer wind and rain protection layer that allows some ventilation to prevent overheating - Tight clothing reduces blood circulation. Warm blood needs to be circulated to the extremities. Insulated coat/jacket (water resistant if necessary) - Knit mask to cover face and mouth (if needed) - Hat that will cover your ears as well. A hat will help keep your whole-body warmer. Hats reduce the amount of body heat that escapes from your head. - Insulated gloves (water resistant if necessary), to protect the hands - Insulated and water-proof boots to protect the feet **Hypothermia**

Hypothermia occurs when the normal body temperature, 98.6-degree Fahrenheit, drops to less than 95 Fahrenheit. Exposure to cold temperatures causes the body to lose heat faster than it can be produced. Prolonged exposure to cold will eventually use up the body's stored energy. The result is hypothermia, or abnormally low body temperature. Hypothermia is most likely at very cold temperatures, but it can occur even at cool temperatures above 40 degrees Fahrenheit if a person becomes chilled from rain, sweat, or immersion in cold water. An important mild symptom of hypothermia is uncontrollable shivering. Although shivering indi-

cates that the body is losing heat, it also helps the body to rewarm itself. Moderate to severe symptoms of hypothermia are loss of coordination, confusion, slurred speech, heart rate/breathing slow, unconsciousness, and possibly death. Body temperature that is too low affects the brain, making the victim unable to think clearly or move well. This makes hypothermia particularly dangerous because a person may not know what is happening and won't be able to do anything about it. In the situation of hypothermia, providing the proper first aid is essential. Call 911 immediately in an emergency, move the worker to a warm and dry area, and remove any wet clothing and replace with

dry clothing. Wrap the entire body, including the head and neck, in layers of blankets; and with a vapor barrier (tarp or garbage bag). Do not cover their face. If medical help is more than 30 minutes away be sure to give warm, sweetened drinks if alert (no alcohol), to help increase the body temperature. Never try to give a drink to an unconscious person. Place warm bottles or hot packs in armpits, sides of chest, and groin. Call 911 for additional rewarming instructions. Basic Life Support is only needed when necessary. For further information, visit osha.com.

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2005) The widening of Highway 36 and the replacement of the FM 1783 bridge was set to begin. A horse show was set to kick off the 2005 Coryell County Youth Fair. Region 12 invited the public to review textbooks eligible to be adopted by school districts for the 2005-06 school year.

Don's Meat Market advertised "Fresh meats cut daily." Moe Bandy was set to perform at the Horseshoe Restaurant & Private Club. **30 YEARS AGO (1995)** A special sheep shearing and cutting clinic was held for 4-H and FFA members, who planned to exhibit animals in the Coryell County

Youth Fair. Gatesville ISD was sending out district report cards to parents, showing that their students scored well on the TAAS. Leaird's was having a white elephant sale. The Coryell County Museum was accepting quilts for its February Quilt Exhibit. Coryell County commissioners appointed Roger

Huckabee Constable of Precinct 3. **40 YEARS AGO (1985)** Snow and ice led to hazardous roads and conditions, including three house fires, in Coryell County. The Gatesville Public Library had resources available to assist the public in filling out federal income tax forms.

Photo Kwik offered color prints for two for a dollar. Lazy "T" advertised ceramic supplies. Gatesville's HEB Food Store was set to kick off their 80th anniversary celebration. **50 YEARS AGO (1975)** Dr. James M. West, Jr. began practicing in Gatesville, specializing in family

practice. Wyllis Ament was chosen by Gatesville's Volunteer Fire Department as their new president. Burglars raided Mrs. Lady Boney's Fee Pharmacy. Gatesville's police force got new uniforms. Bennett's Department Store advertised ladies' purses for \$4.48.

Remembering President Carter

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

The 39th president of the United States, Jimmy Carter, passed away on Dec. 29, 2024, at his home in Plains, Georgia at the age of 100. Carter served one term as president from 1977 to 1981.

Upon hearing of his death, I was reminded about meeting him many years ago.

Back in the mid 1980's when I was a journalism student at Baylor University, I belonged to a journalism organization called Sigma Delta Chi, which promoted students and professionals across the nation. The group would have national meetings once a year and, while I was a student, the national conference was held in Atlanta, Georgia.

While attending the conference, guided tours were given to various points of interest in and around At-

lanta - one of which being the Carter Center and the Carter Presidential Library. A group of Baylor students opted to visit the center, and I was one of them.

While we were touring the center, we heard voices behind us. We turned and saw President Carter and his secret service agents walking toward us. He walked up to us, shook our hands, and welcomed us to the Carter Center. He inquired how we were enjoying our visit to Atlanta - he was a very kind and gracious individual. Needless to say, that became the highlight of our trip - meeting a former president firsthand.

Several years later, I received an invitation to the Masonic Grand Lodge in Waco to hear a speech given by President Carter. On Feb. 22, 1993, Carter spoke to those in attendance about a book he had written called "Turning Point." The next day, President Carter held

a book signing event on the campus of Baylor University.

What I remember the most about this book signing was his genuine concern about the younger generation and their contributions to society and those in need. Upon meeting him and shaking his hand once again, I can still recall what he said to me, "Son, your contribution in life should always be helping those in need and to realize that there are people out there who need help, love, and support." I have never forgotten those words.

Carter's presidency may have only lasted for one term, but the work he did following his presidency will always be remembered.

Among the many honors he received was the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002, the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1999, the Fulbright Prize in 1994, and the United Nations Prize in



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID SCOTT

Meeting former president Jimmy Carter at Baylor University

the Field of Human Rights in 1998 - not forgetting his endless devotion and involvement with Habitat for Humanity.

I will always cherish the brief memories I have of this man who touched the hearts and souls of American citizens. Many of his

kind acts and deeds were not spoken of, but I feel he probably would have wanted it that way.

PEARL NEWS

Please keep the folks in Pearl in your prayers



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

The next quarterly meeting of the Pearl Community Center board is Jan. 27. All are invited to attend. It starts at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

There are still a number of people in the community who are dealing with serious health problems. Please keep these folks in your prayers. Just mention Pearl to the good Lord; He'll know who you are talking about.

The Pearl Church of Christ is beginning to make ready for the annual Valentine Auction, which takes place on Feb. 9, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. If you would like to donate auction items, please drop them off at the church. I will let you know when bidding can begin. All monies collected benefit the Scholarship Fund.

The next Pearl Bluegrass Day and Pearl Cottage Bookstore Day is Feb. 1. Mark your calendars! Everyone reports a great day was had by all who attended on Jan. 4. The bands, jamming, fellowship, shopping, and food were wonderful. Let's do a repeat on steroids in February!

We haven't visited the ladies at the Pleasure and Profit Club in a while, so let's check in on the Jan. 17, 1935, meeting: "The club met with Mrs. Robert Manning. The working period was spent making cup towels, piecing on a quilt, and doing some patching. The house was called to order, and the roll called. Twenty members and five visitors were present. The minutes were read and approved. One dollar and five cents was paid in for dues. The total in treasury is \$45.48. One dollar and fifty cents was paid out for flowers leaving a total of \$43.95. We discussed whether we would join council and decided we would vote on same at the next meeting. Mrs. C. L. Elam, Mrs. H. Nabors, and Mrs. T. H. Oney were appointed on a committee to see about the park. It was decided that we would

shower the Benard family. We adjourned to meet with Mrs. Jack McGuire Jan. 31. Refreshments of hot cocoa

and Devil's Food Cake were served to all present." Excerpt from "The Pleasure and Profit Club, Pearl, Texas" book as written in this 1935 post.

This week's Bible verse comes from I Peter 1:13—Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at His coming. 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

Gatesville Chamber to host annual banquet Jan. 18

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce will host its annual member banquet on Saturday, Jan. 18, from 6-8 p.m. at the Gatesville Civic Center.

This year's banquet will feature a Hollywood theme, which will provide an evening full of dinner, drinks, and entertainment.

The purpose of the banquet is to honor the service

and achievements of local businesses and individuals of the chamber.

The chamber will present five awards to chosen members, along with honorary certificates of appreciation. The categories awarded at the banquet are Business of the Year, People's Choice Award, Director of the Year, Ambassador of the Year, and Citizen of the Year.

Various members from

the chamber and the community will help to present each award.

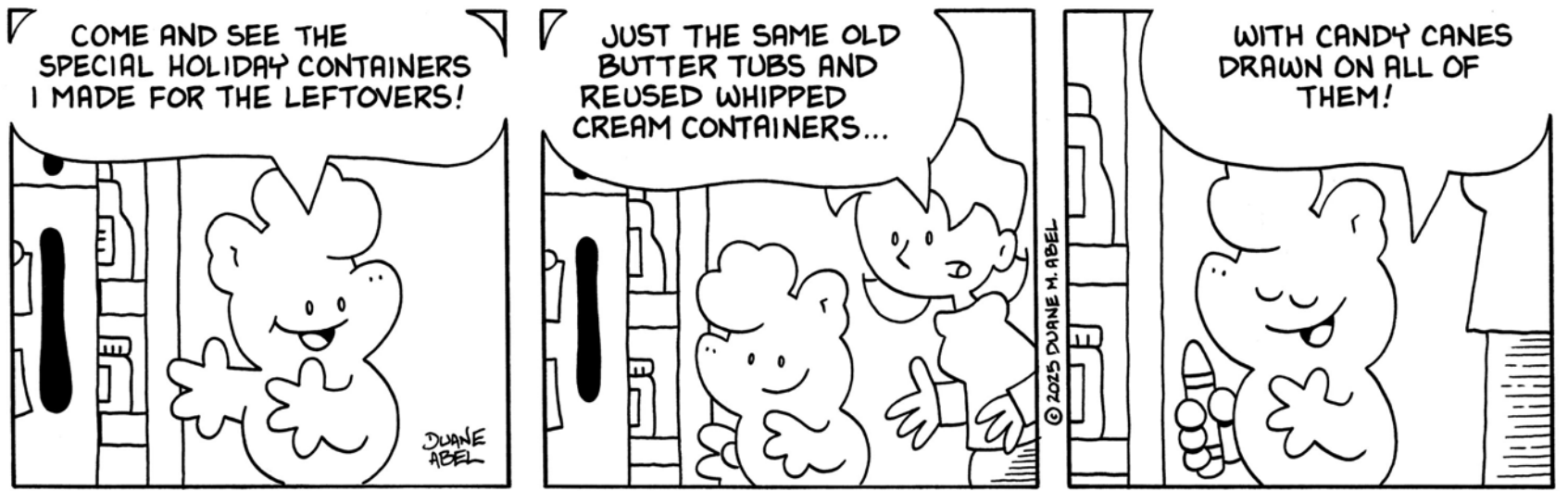
Tickets will cost \$25 per person, and the cost to reserve a table, seating up to eight people will cost \$175.

The last day to purchase tickets or to reserve a table will be Thursday, Jan. 16.

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

To vote for Citizen of the Year, People's Choice Award, or to purchase tickets to the banquet, visit www.gatesvillechamber.com/home.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

Serving All Of Central Texas Area

FERGUSON ROOFING

Locally Owned Company

Free Estimates
Call 254-466-5128

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

We invite you to join us for our annual

Gatesville Chamber of Commerce BANQUET

SAT 6PM | 18th | JAN

As a valued Gatesville Chamber of Commerce member, we invite you to be celebrated at our annual banquet. We will be presenting our annual awards. Join us for dinner, drinks, and fun! Admission will be \$25 per person. Please get in touch with the Chamber to reserve a table, seating 8 for \$175.

Thank you for supporting your local Chamber!

Gatesville Civic Center
301 Veterans Memorial Loop
Gatesville, TX 76528

OBITUARIES

George Ray Cobb, Jr.

April 16, 1956 - Jan. 5, 2025

George Ray Cobb, Jr. was born April 16, 1956, to George and Helen Cobb in Gatesville. Affectionately known as "Jerome," George graduated from Gatesville High School in 1974. In Gatesville, George worked at Rotunda Rest home, Andy's Restaurant, Hillside Nursing Home, Feed Mill, and most recently, at J&M's Hill Country Bar-B-Q. George was a lifelong, dedicated member of Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church. He served on the usher board and was known as the "Best Usher" in the community. He loved going to church and worshipping and wherever he went he was eager to serve as an usher. George also loved sports and was a dedicated Gatesville Hornets and Dallas Cowboys fan. His presence and contributions will be missed at all family gatherings, which he loved to attend. George left his earthly home to receive his heavenly wings on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, surrounded by family in Gatesville.

Services will be Saturday, Jan. 11, at Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church at noon with visitation one hour prior to the service starting at 11 a.m. Burial will be at Oak Grove Cemetery immedi-



ately following the service.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Helen Cobb; and sisters, Gloria Cobb, Brenda Cobb, Debra Hunt, and Pam Flowers.

He leaves to cherish his memories one brother, Stanley Cobb (Kathy), of Waco; four sisters, Antionette Teague (Kenneth), of McGregor, Annette Brown (Ronald) and Legatha Cobb, both of Gatesville, and Marla Mayberry, of Clute; and a host of cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Branford Dawson Funeral Home in Temple is in charge of professional services. You may visit his online guestbook and order flowers at: www.branforddawsonfuneralhome.com.

Terry Wayne Brown

Sept. 3, 1955 - Dec. 23, 2024

Terry Wayne Brown, age 69, of Temple, passed away peacefully on Monday, Dec. 23, 2024, at a Temple hospital surrounded by his family. Terry was born to Harold and Eva Brown, of Chilton, at Hillcrest Hospital in Waco, on Sept. 3, 1955.

A graveside memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025, at Murphree Cemetery located at 14446 Hwy 281 in Evant.

Terry married Frances Wilson, of Belton, on Dec. 19, 1975, at First United Methodist Church in Belton. Terry was the proud father to William Wilson Brown and Wesley Wilson Brown and most loving "Pops" to two grandchildren he cherished and adored.

Terry graduated from Evant High School in 1973 and went to work alongside his father and brothers in the family business, Harold Brown and Sons. Terry was an exceptional machine operator and stayed in the family business up until his passing.

Terry's life was enriched by deep love and companionship when he met and married Frances Brown, his beloved wife, who passed before him. The love they shared was a testament to what true partnership looks like, with a mutual passion for life's adventures, including joyful rides across the country on their motorcycle, fishing for endless hours, camping, and chasing around their grandchildren.

Hunting and fishing



were more than just hobbies; they were the backdrop for building lifelong relationships and cherished memories, especially fishing, which transformed into a fervent passion. Whether competing in tournament series or sharing a serene day at the lake with his family and grandchildren, Terry found solace and excitement on the water.

Terry is survived by his children, William and Brandee Brown, and granddaughter Sophia Brown, of Hutto; Wesley Brown and grandson Noah Brown, of Temple; brothers, Rex and Joe Brown, and sisters-in-law Kathy Brown and Sharlyn Brown, of Lampasas, as well as numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Terry is preceded in death by his parents and brother, Danny Brown.

The Brown family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the community that Terry held so dear, acknowledging the friendships and bonds that supported him throughout his life's journey.

Bill Loggins

Aug. 21, 1927 - Dec. 28, 2024

Bill Loggins, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and community leader, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024, at the age of 97.

Billy Gene Loggins was born on Aug. 21, 1927, in Corsicana, to the late Jack and Amelia Loggins. Bill grew up on his family's dairy farm. There, he cultivated the values of hard work, integrity, and kindness that would define his life. In 1944, at just 17 years old, Bill enlisted in the United States Navy with his parents' blessing to serve his country during World War II. He proudly served aboard the USS Sigourney, forging lifelong friendships and a deep sense of duty. After his military service, Bill pursued higher education, beginning at Southwestern University in Georgetown and later transferring to Baylor University. It was at Baylor that he met the love of his life, Ollie Mae Flake. The two married on March 5, 1948, beginning a remarkable 75-year journey together, grounded in faith, love, and devotion to family.

Bill's career in education was as impactful as it was extensive. He began teaching in Gilliland, and later moved with Ollie to Bremond, Dawson, and Malakoff, raising their four children - Sherry, Linda, Mary Anne, and Mike - along the way. In 1962, the family settled in Plano, where Bill distinguished himself as a football coach, science and chemistry teacher, and principal. His career culminated in his role as superintendent of Prosper ISD, where he served with dedication until his retirement in 1986.

After retirement, Bill and Ollie moved to Gatesville in 1992, where they embraced ranch life and became cherished members of the community. Bill poured his energy into countless organizations, including the First United Methodist Church, Gatesville ISD School Board, Lions Club, Coryell Hospital Volunteer, Meals on Wheels, Silver-Haired Legislature, and 65 years with the Masonic Lodge. He never missed a Hornet Football game or a Baylor Women's Basketball game. The NCAA Women's Basketball Finals coincided with their wedding anniversary and became a yearly dual celebration trip.

Bill's greatest joy, however, was his family. He



and Ollie created a foundation of love and togetherness, filling their lives with moments of joy and tradition. From the annual Christmas nativity plays, where Grandpa read the story, to Easter egg hunts in their expansive front yard, beach vacations, and fishing at the ranch, Bill's family always came first.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Ollie Mae Loggins; his parents; and a sister, Hazel.

Bill is survived by his daughters, Sherry Edwards, and husband, Malcolm, Linda Garvey and husband, Jamie, Mary Anne Leib and husband, Tom; son, Mike Loggins and wife, Laura Ferri; grandchildren, James Hammack and wife, Kendra, Lauren Grogman and husband, Ryan, Laura Landis and husband, Zack, Jason Garvey and wife, Julie, Bethany Hammack, Joel Edwards and wife, Rachel, Micah Alexander and husband, Adam, Carrie Garvey, Jeffrey Edwards, Katy Garvey and wife, Kim, Annie Loggins, Emily Wuenschel and husband, Matthew. Bill also leaves behind twelve great-grandchildren.

Funeral services celebrating Bill's extraordinary life were held at 3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 3, at Scott's Funeral Home, with Rev. Zack Landis officiating. Interment followed at Gatesville Masonic Cemetery, with Naval Military Honors and Masonic Rites, under the auspices of Gatesville Masonic Lodge #197 A.F. & A.M.

Bill Loggins will be remembered for his enduring faith, adoration of his family, his love of football and other sports, and his enjoyment of reading and learning. Bill's family wish to extend their sincere thanks to all the staff, nurses, and doctors who cared for him. They also thank the caregivers of Coryell Health Rehab Living and Bluebonnet Hospice.

Memorials may be sent to the Methodist Children's Home, 1111 Herring Dr., Waco, TX 76708.



COURTESY PHOTO

The National Alliance on Mental Illness reports one in six U.S. youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year.

January is recognized as National Mental Wellness month

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

January has been designated as National Mental Wellness Month, so that the public can become aware and recognize the importance of mental health.

Mental illness refers to behavioral, emotional, and psychological disorders ranging from mild to severe. Those who suffer from mild symptoms might not struggle to function socially, personally, or professionally.

Scott Knight with The Jason Foundation stated that "good mental health can positively affect a person's physical health. Being in a good mental state can keep you healthy and help prevent significant health conditions."

Knight also stated that "Mental health conditions can also make dealing with a chronic disease more difficult. The mortality rate from cancer and heart disease is higher among people with depression or other mental health conditions."

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) released the following information and statistics about mental illness:

One in 20 U.S. adults experience serious mental illness each year.

One in six U.S. youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year.

One in five U.S. adults experience mental illness each year.

Half of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14 and 75% by age 24.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among people aged 10-34.

Taking care of a person's mental health can help to control or combat some of the physical health problems directly linked to mental health conditions. Some of the most common mental health conditions are PTSD, depression, panic disorders, and eating disorders. People who suffer from these conditions can be at a higher risk of suicide than those who do not.

Despite the fact that millions of Americans are diagnosed with some form of mental illness, only a small portion receive proper treatment. Often, when a mental health disorder goes untreated, symptoms can worsen and interfere with all areas of life.

The Global Wellness Institute defines mental wellness as "an internal resource that helps us think, feel, connect, and function." The institute goes on to say that doing things that make you happy and feel good will increase your mental wellness, thus increasing your mental health.

Some activities that may improve mental wellness include physical activities, artistic activities, volunteering, enjoying time with friends and family, eating good food, and completing personal goals. Also, getting enough sleep, developing a positive attitude, and laughing can improve mental wellness.

Each January, Mental Wellness Month is dedicated to breaking the stigma often associated with mental illness and bringing awareness toward good mental wellbeing.

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

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

Obituaries should come from the funeral home. Obituaries placed by next of kin must be verified with a death certificate or by the facility handling the body. You must provide the contact information for verification when submitting the obituary.

The Gatesville Messenger deadline for obituaries is 10 a.m. Tuesday for the Saturday paper.

Deadlines are subject to change during holidays.

For more information, call David or Jodi at 254-865-5212.

NEED EXTRA CASH !!! ???

I BUY RVs & MOBILE HOMES

Travel Trailers • 5th Wheels
Goosenecks • Bumper Pulls

In Any Area!!! Any Condition!!!
Old/New !!! Dirty or Clean !!!

I PAY CASH 956-466-7001

No Title - No Problem - We Can Apply For One
ANR Enterprises

Be prepared before the next power outage.

It's not just a generator.
It's a power move.™

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 855-704-8579 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply.

GENERAC



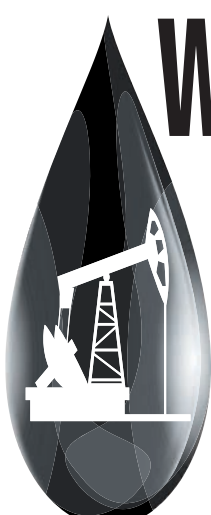
WE BUY OIL, GAS, & MINERAL RIGHTS

Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI)
Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation.

CALL TODAY: 806.620.1422

LOBO MINERALS, LLC

PO Box 1800 • Lubbock, TX 79408-1800
LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com



Senior Center's Rudolph and Edge honored with awards

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Senior Center Director Pam Rudolph and Nutrition Supervisor Camilla Edge attended an annual training event in Killeen last month with Hill Country Community Action Association (HCCAA).

Within HCCAA's nine-county service area, each case worker, supervisor, director, and cook were present at the event to train, refresh, and prepare for the new year.

Rudolph and Edge positively represented the Gatesville Senior Center during training after being named Employees of the Month for December 2024. The duo was honored by receiving certificates for their accomplishment.

They each dedicate their time to the Senior Center throughout the week to ensure it is operating smoothly and to make sure the congregation and Meals on Wheels recipients have exactly what they need. They truly are the backbone of the Senior Center.

The congregation of the Senior Center expressed that the awards were more than well-deserved.

Rudolph said that her and Edge receiving the award was a true testimony to all the hard work and time the pair had put into the center.

"When I say we are a team, I mean it. I would like to think that we set the standard in teamwork," she said. "Camilla and I are friends first; we are old coworkers at Hillside and

once again we're together. We don't always see eye to eye, but we work through it and get it done. Camilla is so high strung and I'm so reserved, but we make a great pair."

Edge also mentioned that she has worked with Rudolph before, and that they have always been friends.

"I had always wanted this job, and after Pam started as the director, I saw her in HEB and I told her I wanted the position," Edge said. "It wasn't long after that conversation that Pam called me. The rest is history."

A leadership award was also presented to Edge to publicly recognize and celebrate her leadership qualities.

Edge said that she was really surprised when she

received the award.

"I was asked to train a few Nutrition Managers and that's what I did," she said. "I thought I was just doing my job, but it turns out I made an impact."

Rudolph expressed her passion for working at the Senior Center and said that she loves Gatesville's senior population. She said that she is grateful to have the opportunity to bring events and education to them and to know that their social and emotional needs are being met while ensuring they are eating properly, and their health is good.

This year the Senior Center will host various educational programs designed to focus on Health Equity.



COURTESY PHOTO

Camilla Edge (left) and Pam Rudolph were each honored with certificates for being named Employees of the Month for December.

Library begins STARS program for new year

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Public Library will host its STARS program for young adults with disabilities over the age of 18 on Tuesday, Jan. 14, and Tuesday, Jan. 28.

The program is led by Karie Bartlett and will be held from 6-7:30 p.m.

When attending the STARS group, members are

given the chance to meet others and learn about life skills. With Bartlett having experience in teaching across several disciplines, it gives the members an advantage.

Since the group was established, members have been able to learn about the history of video games, play new video games together, learn about food

safety and make pizza, create different types of art pieces, pass out ornaments to local nursing homes during Christmas, and much more.

During the program, it is also encouraged for caretakers and parents to meet and interact.

Team Gatesville's Head Coach Heidi Clough said, "The STARS program truly

makes a difference by promoting inclusion, building friendships with peers, teaching new skills, and increasing self-esteem."

The temporary location of the Gatesville Public Library is located at the City Hall through the side entrance on 8th Street.

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

Gatesville Country Music Hall to host concert featuring Wren Stewart Tidwell

Submitted item

The Gatesville Country Music Hall of Fame is excited to announce a free concert at the Gatesville City Auditorium on Jan. 17. The event will take place from 7-9 p.m. at 110 N. 8th Street in Gatesville.

This special evening will feature guest performer Wren Stewart Tidwell. A familiar name in the country music scene, Wren is the daughter of legend-

ary musician Wren Stewart, who was honored in 1967 for his chart-topping song "It's Such a Pretty World Today," which not only reached #1 on the country music chart, but was also named the Academy of Country Music's Song of the Year.

Wren followed in her father's footsteps when, at the age of 13, she sang in public for the first time. She has continued singing throughout Texas, fronting

her own bands and now in her solo career.

Join us for an unforgettable night filled with live country music celebrating local talent and the legacy of country music. This event is open to all ages, and admission is free, making it the perfect outing for families and music lovers alike.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience the vibrant country music scene in Gatesville. Bring your

friends, family, and your dancing shoes for a night of great performances.

The Gatesville Country Music Hall is dedicated to promoting country music and local artists. Since its inception, it has served as a hub for music lovers and a platform for musicians to showcase their talents. It presents a free concert on the third Friday of every month at the Gatesville City Auditorium.



COURTESY PHOTO

Camilla Edge (left) is pictured while being presented with her certificate for the leadership award.

The DISPATCH

The following is a partial breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of Dec. Jan. 1 - Jan. 7. 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

Jan. 1
12:45 a.m., a prowler was reported in the 400 block of Thomas Street.

9:17 a.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 1200 block of East Main Street.

7:27 p.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Bluebonnet Street.

Jan. 2
8:12 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 700 block of N. State Highway 36 Bypass.

11:44 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of S. Lovers Lane.

5:20 p.m., an accident was reported in the 900 block of State Highway 236 at The Grove.

Jan. 3
12:19 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 500 block of Bridge Street.
1:02 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of

E. Leon Street.

Jan. 4
11:57 a.m., found property was reported in the 900 block of River Road.

12:49 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 200 block of FM 116.

6:38 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

Jan. 5
8:52 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1000 block of Pidcoke Street.

2:26 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Sandy Lane.

4:31 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

Jan. 6
10:28 a.m., wanted/stolen (person/property) was reported in the 1600 block of St. Louis Street.

7:37 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2000 block of E. Main Street.

7:40 p.m., harassment

was reported in the 2100 block of E. Main Street.
9 p.m., harassment was reported in the 300 block of E. Leon Street.

Jan. 7
2:38 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of N. State Highway 36.

2:06 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 800 block of S. 7th Street.

4:32 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1500 block of Saunders Street.

6:18 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jan. 1
12:49 a.m., suspicious persons were reported in the 400 block of Thomas Street.
12:57 p.m., a reckless driver was reported east bound on 190.

4:23 p.m., fireworks were reported in the 100 block of

Harrell Drive.

Jan. 2
12:41 p.m., mail tampering was reported in the 2800 block of N. FM 116.

1:23 p.m., a structure fire was reported in the 900 block of Star Lane.

2:44 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on Highway 36 and FM 217.

3:16 p.m., property damage was reported in the 900 block of County Road 118.

Jan. 3
12:16 a.m., an attempted break-in was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

8:34 a.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 5000 block of County Road 139.

9:18 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 12,200 block of W. Highway 84 at Cowhouse Creek.

11:53 a.m., a theft was reported in the 2700 block of S. FM 116.

Jan. 4
7:36 a.m., illegal dumping was reported on Big Valley

Road and Arrowhead Road.

12:19 p.m., a reckless driver was reported in the 4700 block of FM 215.

1:09 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported half a mile south of Baldknob Road on FM 116.

7:36 p.m., suspicious activity was reported on the Straws Mill Road dip.

Jan. 5
8:13 a.m., an assault was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.

8:18 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 100 block of FM 215.

10:29 a.m., a fire call was reported in the 10,000 block of N. Highway 36.

Jan. 6
2:19 a.m., a reckless driver was reported on Highway 190, passing Clarke Road.

7:58 a.m., a minor ac-

cident was reported in the 1800 block of Old Osage Road in Gatesville.

2:54 p.m., a recovered stolen vehicle was reported in the 1600 block of N. 18th Street.

4:26 p.m., a rabid animal was reported in the 700 block of College Street.

Jan. 7
5:06 a.m., an abandoned vehicle was reported on County Road 65 and 1783.

6:57 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 500 block of Old Fort Gates Road.

2 p.m., a theft was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.

4:41 p.m., harassment was reported in the 100 block of Knowles Road.

BASTROP DENTURE AND IMPLANT CENTER
NOW OFFERING "Standard Dental Implants" for \$995
Walk-ins Welcome
CHECK OUR WEBSITE
bastropdentureandimplant.com
For Information And Prices
FREE Consultation Call For Appointment
Gregory Kon D.D.S. • Orville Sadler, C.D.T.
301 Hwy. 71 West, Suite 102 • Bastrop, Texas 78602
Toll Free 1-866-584-6900 • Local 512-303-6900
Hours: M-F 7am - 3pm

We'll Buy Your Gold & Silver
Coins, Jewelry, Etc. for Cash!
GOLD & SILVER PRICES
GOLD (XAU/USD 1/6/25).....\$2636.80
SILVER (XAG/USD 1/6/25).....\$30.09
Christian Brothers
254-865-5937 / 512-810-1002
Serving the Gatesville & Goldthwaite areas
Mon.-Fri., 9-5 & Sat., 9-1 • 716 E. Leon St., Gatesville, TX

WACO CARDIOLOGY ASSOCIATES
Andrew Day, M.D., F.A.C.C.
will be seeing patients every month at the **Coryell Specialty Clinic**
If you feel that you may need a cardiovascular evaluation, please contact your primary care physician about referring you for an appointment with **Waco Cardiology Associates • (254) 399-5400. Caring for the hearts of Central Texas.**
www.WacoCardiology.com

Coryell County

DEVOTIONAL PAGE



THIS DEVOTIONAL DIRECTORY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THESE BUSINESSES.

TTC UTILITIES
305 Memorial Drive, Suite B
Gatesville, Texas 76528
Phone: 254-248-1151

Church & Family Go Together

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

HEART

JEREMIAH 29:13

JHL CONSTRUCTION

GATESVILLE, TEXAS
(254) 865-8489

Eastwood Baptist Church
"Sharing, caring & inspiring for Jesus"

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

2518 East Main Street • Gatesville, Texas 76528
254-865-2948 • www.ebcgatesville.org

Tim Beck's
Maytag Home Appliance Center
4829 E. US Hwy. 84, Gatesville • 254-865-5705

NAME BRAND SALES:
MAYTAG
Whirlpool • Amana • Kitchen Aid

ADVERTISE With us

Coryell Feed & Supply

Purina

213 Main Street • (254) 865-6315

Leaird's Furniture & Appliance
"A Central Texas Tradition Since 1898"

108 S. 6th St., Gatesville, TX | (254) 865-2615
www.leairdsfurniture.com

McDonald's

2302 Main Street
Gatesville, TX
(254) 865-8884

**ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE!
CALL 254-865-5212.**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP
COME AS YOU ARE!**

BAPTIST
BETHEL HEIGHTS BAPTIST
3835 CR 127, Gatesville; Sunday School 10 a.m. Sunday worship 11 a.m.
BETHEHEM 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
Royse 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
6795 FM 183, 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.

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.

Wednesdays 6 p.m. 407 SH-36, Ste. 4 & 5, Gatesville.
GATESVILLE REVIVAL CENTER
Wes Covey, Pastor; Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday services 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., Thursdays 7 p.m.; 2518 Bridge St.; 254-392-9472.
GRACE ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Wray Nunn, pastor; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday worship 6:30 p.m.; Gateway Learning Center, 2315 Osage Rd., Gatesville.
HARVESTING SOULS INTERNATIONAL CHURCH
Mike & Martha Johnson pastors, 503 N. 11th St., Gatesville; 865-6222. Sunday worship 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study Ministries (Men, Women, children) 6 p.m. "Overcomers" a TDC & state approved 12-step recovery program meets Tuesday 6 p.m.
JOHNNY WATKIN'S MEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS
Sundays, 8:30-9 a.m. aqui se reune La Iglesia de Cristo, in the 2400 Block of E. Main St., Gatesville.
LEVITA BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
Pat Cole, Pastor; 4460 FM 930, Levita; Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:45 a.m.; Tuesday OWLS Kid Group 6-8 p.m.
MOTHER NEFF FAITH TABERNACLE
William Bertelsen, Pastor; 1415 Texas Hwy. 236; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
PEARL COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP
6735 FM 183, Pearl; 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.

CHURCH OF GOD CORNERSTONE CHURCH OF GOD
338 State School Rd., Gatesville; Sunday worship 11 a.m.
LUTHERAN IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
David Reedy, International Interim Pastor; 922 Lutheran Church Rd., Copperas Cove; Sunday Bible Study 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
Rev. Christopher Richman, PhD; 10801 FM 929, Coryell City; Sunday worship 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
Rev. John Heckmann, pastor; Hwy. 36 & FM 1114, The Grove; Sunday School 9 a.m., Sunday worship 10:15 a.m.

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

MORMON CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
206 S. 26th St., Gatesville; Sacrament services Sundays 10 a.m., Sunday School 10 a.m.
NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN LIFE CHURCH
Frank Rosenstern, pastor; Hwy. 84 W.; Sunday services 10:30 a.m.; Thursday services, 7 p.m.
CORYELL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Eric Moffett, Pastor; 115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, 248-0849. Sunday worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services 6 p.m.; Adult Bible Study, Children's Ministry & C3 Student Ministry.
CORYELL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Doran Belknap III, Pastor; Sunday service 11 a.m., 8205 FM 182, Turnersville; 254-218-5901.
COVER2COVER MINISTRIES
Pastor: Rev. Brandy Spiker, Sunday service 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.,

PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE OF PRAISE
Rev. Jimmy Skiles, pastor; 202 E. Main, Gatesville; Sundays 10 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; 254-206-1826.
MOUNT CALVARY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
Rev. Lee O. Ford, pastor; 514 N. 13th St., Gatesville; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m., Wednesdays Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m., Wednesday service, 7:30 p.m.
PRESBYTERIAN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, pastor; 1110 E. Main, Gatesville; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m.
REFORMED GRACE BIBLE CHURCH
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday services 10:45 a.m.; 4012 US Hwy. 84, Gatesville.
SPANISH BIENVENIDOS AL HOGAR DE DIOS
Domingos a partir de las 2:00 p.m. Te esperamos! 6226 E. Hwy. 84, Gatesville.
WESLEYAN CORYELL VALLEY CHURCH
Worship Saturdays 5 p.m., Bible fellowship Sundays 10 a.m.; 4995 FM 929
INTER-DENOMINATIONAL BOOTS-N-SADDLE COWBOY CHURCH
Max Gunn, pastor; 254-216-1537; 10 miles west of Gatesville on HWY 84; Sundays 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m.; Youth Sunday Service 9:45 a.m.
HIGHWAY 2 HEAVEN BIKER CHURCH
Monty & Tammy VanHorn, pastors; 1608 W. Main St., Gatesville; Sunday Praise & Worship 11 am, Wednesday Bible Study Rally-6 p.m.; 254-865-4076.

**Conventional prescription filling
Immunizations • Health screenings
Medication Compounding**

Gatesville Drug Co.

Delivery Available
Drive Thru
Curbside Pick Up

254-865-2417
2513 S. State TX 36

First Baptist Church
— GATESVILLE, TEXAS —

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

912 E. Main St. | 254.865.2014
www.fbcgatesville.com

**Lawn & Garden • Tools • Paint
Plumbing • Electrical
Outdoor Living • Much More**

ACE Hardware

2820 S. State Hwy. 36
Gatesville, TX 76528
254-865-6900

Haynes Jewelry

Serving Gatesville Since 1971
Watch & Jewelry Repair
Circle E Candles

103 C. Hwy. 36 Bypass North
Gatesville, Texas 76528
254-865-6131

WholeHouse PEST MANAGEMENT

Professional expertise for all pest control needs in Central Texas!

FREE ESTIMATES: (254) 865-9926

GRIB'S CONSTRUCTION & SEPTIC TANK SERVICE

STATE CERTIFIED INSTALLER OF SEPTIC SYSTEMS

ASPHALT • DIRTWORK • GRAVEL ROADS & DRIVES • BACKHOE & MAINTAINER

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

NEW Advertising Opportunities

Call 254-865-5212

The Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, DMin., Pastor

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

ECO
A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians

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

Welcome to our Church

First Methodist Church

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

2600 E. Main, Gatesville, TX
(254) 865-2520 • www.fumcgatesville.org

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

What in the heck are those green things?

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Once numerous in Coryell County as well as the State of Texas, Bois-D'arc trees have now become rare - few and far between.

What is a Bois-D'arc tree? The tree itself is medium in size and can reach heights of 40 feet tall. The tree produces what has been described as a large, spherical green fruit ranging from four to five inches in diameter and resembles a green, wrinkled orange.

Having no use whatsoever, the large green fruit has several names including horse apples, hedge apples, Osage oranges, and simply Bois-D'arc.

The name "Bois-D'arc" originated from French words meaning "bow wood," which was a ref-

erence to the use by Native Americans who used the wood from the trees to make bows and war clubs, since the wood was heavy and extremely hard.

Legend has it that the earliest mention of the tree and "apples" in the English language was given by William Dunbar, a Scottish explorer, in a written account he made of his journey from St. Catherine's Landing on the Mississippi River in 1804.

Explorer Meriwether Lewis sent cuttings of the curious tree to President Thomas Jefferson in March of 1804.

Early American settlers used the Bois-D'arc trees as hedges to exclude free-range stock from their vegetable gardens and corn fields. The thorny tree was widely

used as barriers in the early days of the United States until the invention of barbed wire in 1874. Thus, becoming known as the hedge apple tree.

The Bois-D'arc tree was largely restricted to a small area in the United States known as the Red River drainage area of Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and the Blackland Prairie.

In addition to making bows for weapons, the Comanche tribe used a concoction made from the roots of the tree and would have used it topically as a wash to treat sore eyes.

Today, Bois-D'arc trees have diminished in population, but a few of the trees can still be found in Coryell County.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX SCOTT

A Bois-D'arc tree, located not far from Coryell Creek, produced a fairly good number of "horse apples" last month. The large, green, sticky "fruit" has very little if any purpose. Inset is a closer look, courtesy of Night Sky Ramblings.

Marriage licenses filed in Coryell County during December

Staff Reports

Marriage licenses filed during December 2024 in the Coryell County Clerk's Office included:

Samuel Edward Ball and Emma Louise Wicks

Clifton LD Brown and Daena Janeane Rowley

Eric Jon Carstensen and Shianne Taylor Burgess

Rene Garza, Jr. and Michele Renee Collins

James Quest Halbirt and Alexis Marie Hansen

Johnathen Michael Hardwick and Becky Mae Idlewine

Ethan Thomas Hightower and Siera Mackenzi Ramsey

Larry Justice Horval and Alexandra Marie Bass

Troy Emmitt Jackson and Kendall Jolane Wade

Austin Taylor Jessup and Tami Celeste Tran

Daniel Joseph Ligon and Abby Gail Evans

Daniel J. Luna and Cassandra Lei Rowe Kevin Omar Morales Correa and Charlotte Elizabeth Rowe

Jesse Albert Peltz and Teresa Montiel Brandon Alexander Pruitt and Ashley Nicole Thompson

Shawn D. Rue and Caroline Suzanne Paxton

Jesse William Shuck and Ali Ailafo Leo Alii Afalava

Stephen Lyle Virgil and Michelle Monica Suarez

Coryell County USDA Update

Submitted item

Coryell County is now eligible for 2024 Livestock Forage Program for grass grazing losses as of Dec. 17, 2024. Contact the office by the Jan. 30 deadline to sign up.

Jan. 15, deadline to report 2025 small grains is quickly approaching.

Please call 254-865-7012 ext. 2 to set up an appointment. Leave a voicemail if we are not available. You can also request an appointment by e-mailing arianna.cavitt@usda.gov.

Offices will be closed on Thursday, Jan. 9, in observance of National Day of Mourning for President James Earl Carter, Jr. We will resume normal business hours on Friday, Jan. 10.

Offices will also be closed on Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Inauguration Day. Offices will resume normal business hours on Tuesday, Jan. 21.

Disaster Assistance for 2024 Livestock Forage Losses

Producers in Coryell County are eligible to apply for 2024 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) benefits on small grain, native grasses, and improved grasses.

LFP provides compensation if you suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or fire on fed-

erally managed land.

County committees can only accept LFP applications after notification is received by the National Office of qualifying drought or if a federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normal permitted livestock on federally managed lands due to qualifying fire. You must complete CCC-853 and the required supporting documentation no later than Jan. 30, for 2024 losses.

For additional information about LFP, County including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact the Coryell USDA Service Center at 254-865-7012 ext. 2 or arianna.cavitt@usda.gov or visit fsa.usda.gov.

Update Your Records

FSA is cleaning up our producer record database and needs your help. Please report any changes of address, zip code, phone number, email address, or an incorrect name or business name on file to our office. You should also report changes in your farm operation, like the addition of a farm by lease or purchase. You should also report any changes to your operation in which you reorganize to form a Trust, LLC or other legal entity.

FSA and NRCS program participants are required to promptly report changes in their farming operation to the County Committee in writing and to update their Farm

Operating Plan on form CCC-902.

To update your records, contact your Coryell County USDA Service Center at 254-865-7012 ext. 2.

USDA Microloans Help Farmers Purchase Farmland and Improve Property

Farmers can use USDA farm ownership microloans to buy and improve property. These microloans are especially helpful to beginning or underserved farmers, U.S. veterans looking for a career in farming, and those who have small and mid-sized farming operations. Microloans have helped farmers and ranchers with operating costs, such as feed, fertilizer, tools, fencing, equipment, and living expenses since 2013.

Microloans can also help with farmland and building purchases and soil and water conservation improvements. FSA designed the expanded program to simplify the application process, expand eligibility requirements and expedite smaller real estate loans to help farmers strengthen their operations. Microloans provide up to \$50,000 to qualified producers and can be issued to the applicant directly from the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

To learn more about the FSA microloan program, contact your Erath County USDA Service Center at 254-965-3715 or visit fsa.usda.gov/microloans.

Coryell County resident murdered 160 years ago

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Buried in a lone grave on his ranch in northwestern Coryell County is a young man who was shot in the back and killed 160 years ago by a group of bandits.

According to the book, "Vignettes of Coryell County," the story of the Murrell murder continued to be a murder mystery, which, to this day, still haunts residents of Coryell County.

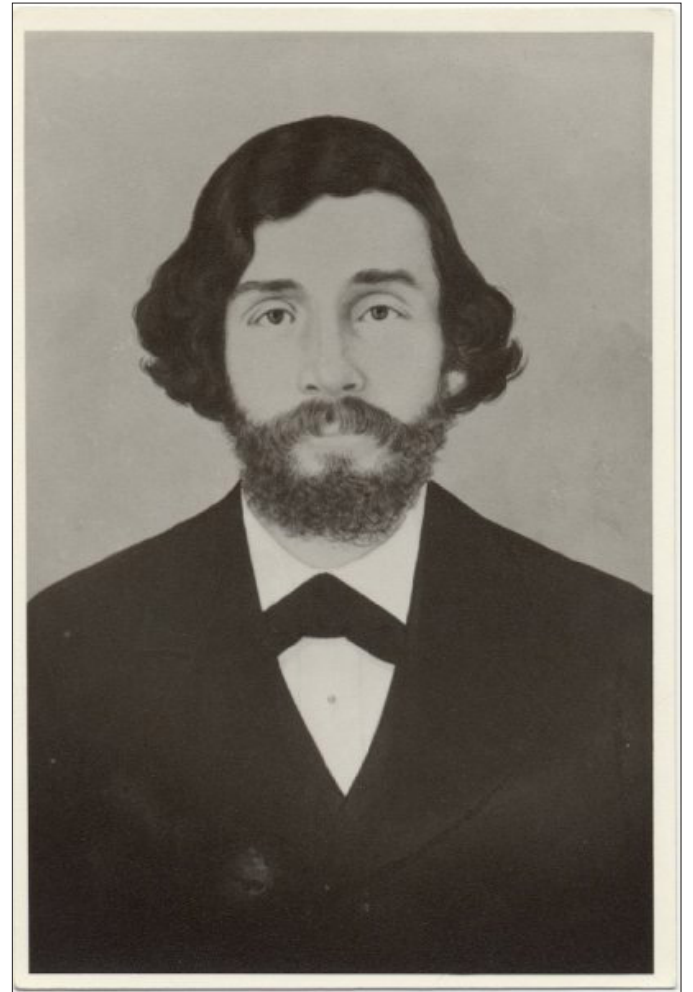
Lemuel Murrell came to Texas in 1846 and eventually settled in Coryell County about twelve miles northwest of Gatesville where he established a homestead and a trading post. The merchandise sold at his trading post was transported by wagons drawn by oxen from Houston. Cowboys often rode alongside the wagons of merchandise to protect the cargo from Indians.

Lemuel Murrell was known as a cattleman and was known to have large herds of cattle on his property. It also became known in Coryell County that he had a vast fortune of hidden gold.

According to the book, "Vignettes of Coryell County," on the evening before his death, Murrell left his house without taking his gun - something that he never did. This was in 1865 during what was known as the Reconstruction Period following the Civil War, and when the "carpetbaggers" were causing much disturbance."

It had been reported that two bands of outlaws, the Shelleys and the Quantrells were known to make Coryell County their hiding place.

Late on the evening of June 9, 1865, a group of masked men arrived at the Murrell home. The bandits demanded money and told Murrell that he would have to reveal the hiding



COURTESY PHOTO

Lemuel Murrell

place of his gold treasure. It was written that Murrell gave the bandits \$100 and told them that was all he had, but the bandits didn't believe him. As he turned to go into his house to get his gun, the bandits shot him in the back, which killed him instantly. He was 44 years of age.

After killing Murrell, the bandits threatened to kill his six-month-old daughter, Olga, by throwing her into the oven of a hot stove unless Mary Jane Murrell told them where her husband had hidden the gold. It was written that some of the Murrell's former slaves stood crying and begging her to give them the gold to save the baby. She finally

convinced the bandits that she knew nothing about where the gold was hidden, and they eventually left.

The murderers were never apprehended.

Following her husband's shooting, his widow would live until 1879 when she also died at the same age as her husband, 44. She was buried in the Ater Cemetery where many of her children and grandchildren were eventually buried.

The hidden "Murrell Treasure" was never discovered and has become a tale of lore in Coryell County. The location of the hiding place of the gold went to the grave with Lemuel Murrell 160 years ago.

Local • Honest • Community

Subscribe Today
254-865-5212

THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

ADOPT LOCAL
GATESVILLE ANIMAL SHELTER

Come meet your new best friend!

We have many loving dogs who need a family to love them back.

FOR INFO: 254-865-2226

JOHNSON VETERINARY SERVICES

Gerald D. Johnson, DVM
254-784-5151

LIVESTOCK & EQUINE
Mobile Veterinary Services

Shops • Garages • Houses • Agriculture • Commercial

405-595-0770

30'x40'x10'...\$20,400
30'x40'x12'...\$22,600
30'x50'x10'...\$24,600
30'x50'x12'...\$26,700

Gober Post
Frame Buildings

www.goberconstruction.com

CLASSIFIEDS

\$14.50

25 words or less, 1 issue
 Additional Words.....70¢ each
 Bold Type.....Add \$1.00
 Centered Type.....Add \$1.00
 Border.....Add \$1.00

Ph: (254) 865-5212 • Fax: (254) 865-2361
 classifieds@gatesvillemessenger.com
 116 S. 6th Street, Gatesville, Texas 76528

DEADLINE

Saturday Issue: 10 A.M. Tuesday

All Classified Ads Must Be Paid In Advance

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

We are not responsible for errors when ads are taken over the phone. We ask all advertisers to read over their advertisement after the first run and let us know if corrections need to be made. Corrections can be made to advertisements after the first run if we are informed immediately by advertiser, so read carefully.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, The Gatesville Messenger does not guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 1-800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP. The FTC website is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

Public Notices

Notice to Claimants by Publication

Notice is given pursuant to Texas Estates Code, Section 308.051, that on October 15, 2024 In Cause Number 23-10909, and styled "In Estate of David Dewitt Harding, Deceased," In the County Court At Law of Coryell County, Letters of Dependent Administration were issued To Robert Stem, as the Estate Administrator.

Any Person having a claim against that Estate must present that claim within the time Prescribed by law. Claims should be addressed in care of "Representative, Estate of David Dewitt Harding, Deceased," and may be presented at the Office of Robert Stem, 108 Bridge Street, Marlin, Texas 76661.

First Amended Notice to Claimants

This First Amended Notice is given pursuant to Texas Estates Code 308.051 that, on December 4, 2024, in the cause numbered 24-11095 and styled "Estate of David Alan Gross, Deceased," in the County Court of Coryell County, Texas, letters testamentary were issued to Samantha Renee Swieszcz as that estate's independent executrix. Any person having a claim against that estate must present that claim within the time prescribed by law. Claims should be addressed in care of "Representative, Estate of David Alan Gross, Deceased" and may be presented directly to her at 11023 Vivian Dr. NW, Huntsville, Alabama 35810 or to her resident agent c/o Vance Dunnam, Jr., 4125 W. Waco Dr., Waco, Texas 76710.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit (P) by 1210 MAIN STREET LLC dba GATESVILLE LIQUOR AND SMOKE, to be located at 1210 E. Main St., Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas 76528. Officers of said corporation are

SYED ZAMAN - Managing Member
 KARIM SHEIKH - Managing Member
 NABIL SUNESARA

015 Farm & Ranch



If veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, ask for Happy Jack® products to treat mane dandruff, yeast infections, & stable flies.

Coryell Feed & Supply
 254-865-6315
www.happyjackinc.com

037 Help Wanted

Johnson Roofing is currently hiring Experienced Commercial Roofers, Experienced Metal Framers Immediately. \$500 Hiring Bonus after 1st week of employment! Top Pay and Benefits! The company is also hiring for a Senior Commercial Roofer Estimator. Email resumé HR@JRoof.com 00031131

Help Wanted: Carpenter or helper for house framing, 254-865-3599

045 Services

TREE WORKS Tree Service: tree trimming, removal & stump grinding. Free estimates. Call Lloyd, (254)223-3287. 00031134

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

FERGUSON ROOFING: Locally owned company serving all Central Texas area. Commercial and Residential. Free Estimates! 254-466-5128 00031132

Dry Creek Trash Service Weekly Pickup and Roll-off container rentals Ofc. (254) 463-4988 Cell (254) 206-1512 drycreektrashservice.com 00031133

045 Services

Jason Paul Constuction: Painting, Decks, Roofs, Texture, Flooring, Windows, Sheetrock, Porches, Add Ons, Metal Buildings, Trash Haul Off and Dump Trailer Rental. 254-383-3305 00031139

CENTRAL TEXAS REMODELING AND HANDYMAN Tile, sheetrock, painting, decks, fences, flooring, windows, siding, roofing, texturing. Cecil Woodson, 254-216-3835. 00031137



Schuman's HEAT & AIR, Inc.
 Residential & Commercial Service • Installation Refrigeration
 Servicing All Brands
 Gatesville & Surrounding Areas
Darrel Schuman - Owner
254-499-0054
 TACLA27524C WWW.schumansair.com

060 Garage Sale

LUGGAGE! Tues., 01/14 - Sat., 01/18. The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main.

070 Land & Lots

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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

To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Recycle Your Stuff for Cash in the Classifieds.



Call or go online to browse, buy or sell.

The Gatesville Messenger
CLASSIFIEDS
www.gatesvillemessenger.com • 254-865-5212

NOW HIRING


- RN – FT & PRN; Night Shift
- LVN – FT & PRN Night Shift
- Physical Therapist Assistant – FT & PRN
- Transportation Assistant – PRN
- COTA – FT
- CNA/NA – FT All Shifts

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

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


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

Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org



Coryell HEALTH
 AT THE MEADOWS

NOW HIRING



MEDICAL CLINIC GATESVILLE:

- SCRIBE
- CCMA
- LVN

CULINARY:

- PATIENT DINING ASSOCIATE
- EMS:
- PARAMEDIC FT AND PRN
- EMT FT AND PRN

HOME HEALTH:

- RN – FT
- PRIMARY CARE ATTENDANT

LAB:

- POINT OF CARE ASSISTANT- FT

MED/ SURG:

- RN OR LVN – FT NIGHT SHIFTS

RADIOLOGY:

- CT/X-RAY TECH – PRN; TDH
- MRT & ARRT W/1 YR. EXP. IN CT/X-RAY

WELCOME:


- CNA FT

BENEFITS OFFERED:

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

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

Job summaries at www.CoryellHealth.org



Coryell HEALTH

099 Real Estate



Burks REAL ESTATE
 715 E. U.S. Hwy. 84, Evant, TX 76525
 "Committed to Excellence"

BROKER:
 Calvin Burks
 Bus. 254-471-5738
 Cell 254-865-3601

AGENTS:
 Lindy Burks 254-206-0643
 Johnny Burks 254-223-0833

To see all listings: www.burksrealestate.com

- 117 N. Rice St., Hamilton, TX. Rustic Lantern, over 7,000 sq ft, 2 stories w/2 staircases, kitchen area, old safe, great commercial property. \$399,000
- 520 N Rice St., Hamilton, TX. Commercial building, over 7,200 sq. ft. of space, two large spaces on the first floor, commercial kitchen, second story has several rooms with four full baths. \$599,000
- 3 Br, 2 Ba, 504 Fennimore St., Gatesville, TX. Large living area, nice size bedrooms, renovated master bathroom, 2 car garage, large backyard w/privacy fencing, near Raby Park. \$225,000
- 1.603 ac., 204 ft. of Hwy. 281 frontage & 300 ft. of frontage on Bell St. Great location for a convenience store, strip center or any retail business. \$369,000
- 8.01 ac. Lot 53 in Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electric & Fiber Optic Internet \$150,000
- 9.77 ac., 3-2 manufactured home, 20162 N. Hwy. 281, Lampasas, TX. 2 living areas, large kitchen, island, metal building 25 ft. X 40 ft, 24ft x 29 ft carpet, 20 ft x 40 ft. RV Shed, water well 210 ft. deep. \$389,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 63 Ph 6, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Season creek, good tree coverage, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, private roads. \$116,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 53 in Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Langford Branch. Rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electric & fiber optic internet. \$167,000
- 10.01 ac. Lot 44 Ph 6, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Dry Branch, good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision. Electric & fiber optic internet service. OWER FINANCING AVAILABLE. \$125,000
- 10.182 ac. Lot 14 Ph 3, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX, Langford Branch. Good tree coverage, rolling terrain. Electric & fiber optic internet. \$239,900
- 10.697 ac. Lot 9 Ph 4, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Seasonal branch, good tree coverage, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, private roads. \$122,500
- 10.85 ac. Lot 9 Ph 5, Flint Rock Court, Evant, TX, Rio Escondido Subdivision. Good tree cover, electric & fiber optic internet, gated subdivision. \$114,000
- 15 ac. East of Evant, Bear Branch Road. Great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, electricity across road. will need to drill water well for water. \$150,000
- 16.5 ac. Turnersville, open pasture, good views, paved CR 220. Electricity across road, check w/Coryell City Water on availability of water meter. \$206,500
- 18.1 ac. South of Evant, near Adamsville, Lampasas County, Hwy 281 & CR 2830. Water well, electricity, carport, rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$360,000
- 19.314 ac. 1,590 sq. house built in 2021, located at 7247 N Hwy. 36 Jonesboro. Open floor plan, stained concrete flooring, large island/breakfast bar, propane gas range, and covered back porch. \$475,000
- 20 ac. Lot 23 Ph 1, Rio Escondido Subdivision, Evant, TX. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, electric available, fiber optic internet. \$215,000
- 20.08 ac. Lots 10 & 11 Ph 5 Rio Escondido Subdivision. Good tree cover, rolling terrain, gated subdivision, electric & fiber optic internet service. \$238,000
- 37.364 ac. 7550 CR 142, Gatesville, TX near Pidcoke, TX. Water meter, approx. 1400 ft of Bee House Creek frontage, good tree cove, rolling terrain, paved county road \$560,460
- 129.81 ac. Purnela, TX, Coryell County, heavy tree cover, rolling terrain, one stock tank, Honey Creek, fenced on three sides, deeded access easement. \$975,000
- 620 ac. 3 Br 2 Ba home, fireplace, ceramic tile floors, covered outdoor cooking patio, 38 ft X 25 ft building. 2 lakes, one being approx. 10 acres and the other one just under 5 acres and 3 smaller stock tanks, approx. 8500 ft of Bee Creek running through the property with 20 ft to 40 ft limestone bluffs along the creek, good rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$6,200,000

Gatesville Exchange Club names students of the month

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Staff Writer

The Exchange Club of Gatesville recently recognized four Gatesville High School seniors at their weekly meeting on Thursday, Dec. 19.

From September through February, the organization selects students who are nominated by a teacher for their outstanding qualities. This recognition is not only based on academics, but also on character, school and community involvement, and leadership abilities.

The students of the month for November and December are Bri Allen, Jeret Burks, Caleb Mannix, and Cameron Thompson.

Students selected during the year will be recognized again at the Golden Deeds Banquet in the spring. The chosen students are candidates for scholarships that the organization gives at the end of the school year.

All four students were nominated by their Honors World History teacher, Bonnie Latham.

November recipients

Bri Allen participates in the high school's PALS program, the wrestling team, serves as treasurer of the student council, and as an officer for the Dazzler's dance team. She has worked at Studebakers Pizza since 2023 and is currently pursuing a certification as a certified nursing assistant (CNA).

"Bri is such a joy to have in class due to her infec-

tious personality," Latham said. "Not only is she confident beyond her years, but (she) is also funny and engaging in ways many other students her age are not."

Along with running for valedictorian of his graduating class, Jeret Burks has held multiple leadership roles and has participated in many competitions through Coryell County 4-H and FFA. He also played on the GHS football team, including being elected as captain for his senior year. Outside of academics, Burks runs his own lawn mowing business.

"In addition to being highly organized and intelligent, Jeret is simply a good person and respectable young man," Latham said. "Jeret is a shining example of today's youth, and his character is strong."

December recipients

Caleb Mannix has held several leadership roles and certifications in Coryell County 4-H and FFA, including serving as president of the Cattle Drive 4-H Club and receiving the 2023-2024 Gold Star Award for Gatesville FFA. Mannix also serves on the GHS student council and in the high school band. As a Coryell County 4-H Ambassador, he has hundreds of hours in community service and volunteer activities.

"Caleb works incredibly hard and always wants to put his best foot forward and is never afraid to ask a



Pictured left to right is Cameron Thompson, Caleb Mannix, Exchange Club Treasurer JoAnn Sugg, Bri Allen, Jeret Burks, and Exchange Club President Nathan Gohlke.

question or seek help when he knows he's at a disadvantage with the material," Latham said. "This showcases maturity and confidence at a young age and something I have always admired about him."

Cameron Thompson ran on the GHS Track team for all four years of high school

and on the Cross Country team from his sophomore to senior year, where he was a top five runner for the HFND Award. He also participates in the PALS program and received an outstanding student award for IPC and chemistry. Outside of school, he serves as a camp counselor for Harris

Creek Church and works as a cook at Studebakers Pizza.

"Cameron is very mature for his age and showcases this through leadership not only within school, but even simply in class around his friends," Latham said. "There have been several times I have seen Cameon

take the reins and redirect his friends and classmates who aren't as focused as they should be. The true testament to Cameron is that they not only listen but respect this guidance from him as a peer."

COURTESY PHOTO

Barrett Boyd completes first semester at USAFA

Staff Reports

Gatesville High School alumni Barrett Boyd recently completed her first semester at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) where she received the Superintendent's Pin.

The Superintendent's Pin is an honor and is only worn by cadets whose name appears on the Superintendent's list for obtaining the Commandant's Pin (top one out of three in military performance), the Dean's Pin (GPA of 3.0 or higher), and Athletic Director's Pin (physical education average of 3.0 or higher).

As a public university and a military service academy, USAFA drives advancement and innovation in air, space, and cyberspace among countless other fields.

USAFA instills cadets with pride and integrity



Barrett Boyd

while preparing them to serve their country and

succeed in 21st-century careers.

COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby ISD to host FAFSA night

Staff Reports

Oglesby Independent School District will host a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) night on Tuesday, Jan. 14, in the library at 5 p.m.

FAFSA is an application that students and families

must complete to apply for federal student aid, such as federal grants, work-study funds, and loans.

Completing and submitting the FAFSA form is free, and the FAFSA night will give students the

opportunity to access financial aid to help pay for their higher education.

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

Oglesby ISD is located at 125 College Avenue in Oglesby.

Daddy-daughter Valentine's dance to be held Feb. 8

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Independent School District Education Foundation will host a Valentine's daddy-daughter dance on Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Gatesville Civic Center.

There will be finger food, drinks, music, dancing, and an optional photo booth.

Dance times include: Pre-kindergarten and first grade, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Second through fourth grade, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Fifth and sixth grade, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

It will cost \$25 per male figure and daughter and \$10 for each additional person. Tickets can be purchased by visiting <https://gatesvilleisd.org>.

[revtrak.net/administration#/list](https://gatesvilleisd.org).

Tickets will also be sold at the door on the night of the event.

For further details, contact the Gatesville ISD Education Foundation by email at educationfoundation@gatesvilleisd.org.

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

GJH awards winners of 2024 Patriot's Pen Essay

Staff Reports

Annually, Gatesville Junior High School participates in the Patriot's Pen Essay contest, which is conducted nationwide and is sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

This year, three students placed with their essays and were presented with a check and a certificate at the VFW in Copperas Cove by Post Commander Ron Abrahamson. The students who placed included Rhylee Glover, first place; Morgan

Lowe, second place; and Ben Farmer, third place.

Since placing first, Glover's essay will now move on to the next level of competition.

The Patriot's Pen Essay contest gives junior high students the chance to express their opinion on a patriotic theme in written form by using their minds and knowledge while improving their writing skills to compete for awards and prizes.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rhylee Glover, first place winner



COURTESY PHOTO

Morgan Lowe is pictured while being awarded her certificate by Post Commander Ron Abrahamson.



COURTESY PHOTO

Ben Farmer is pictured while accepting their award from Post Commander Ron Abrahamson.



SPORTS Roundup

COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville wrestlers Elaina Knobloch and Brianna Allen medaled at the CenTex Tournament this past weekend.

BY JOHN ENGLISH
Contributing Writer

Oglesby Beats Evant in Nail Biter

The Lady Elks basketball team came up just short against Oglesby last Friday, losing by a score of 41-40 in a game that included 10 lead changes.

Evant led the game 22-20 at halftime, and after trailing 33-28, Oglesby went on an 11-point run to take the lead.

Oglesby coach Dylan Segundo said he was impressed with how his team hung in there.

"The girls played really hard and bought into the game plan, which I am very pleased with," Segundo said. "I thought we could have shot the ball better, but that's part of basketball. It was a big win for us, which hopefully can give us a boost for the rest of the season."

Segundo said he had a couple of standout performances in the game.

"Presley Robinson led us in scoring with 14," Segundo said. "Zarah (Whisehart) had seven steals to help big as well. I do want to give a big shout out to Kelsey Ritchie and Maddison Smith. We tasked them with a tough defensive assignment, and they handled it very well."

For Evant, Molly Waldrum led the Lady Elks in scoring with 14 points.

Evant finished with 37 rebounds as a team and Bree Ramirez led the Lady Elks with 11 rebounds. Luwi Rodriguez led the team with six assists, and Waldrum led the team with four blocks.

Ramirez (13 points), Rodriguez (7 points), Brinlea Bates (4 points), and Izzy Gandy (2 points) all contributed for Evant in the game.

Jonesboro on Hot Streak

The Lady Eagles basketball team defeated Aquilla by a score of 35-31 on Friday night to remain unbeaten in district play, and coach Chris Simon said he anticipated a tough contest.

"I knew going into the game last night that it would be intense and Aquilla would be ready to play,"

Simon said on Saturday. "We came out strong in the first quarter, had a horrible second quarter; regrouped at halftime, and finished with a win.

"It was a crazy game, tempers flared, back and forth. I felt we could have played better in some instances, but, sometimes, you have those type of games. It was an ugly win, but I'm proud of how my girls battled."

Simon said the victory was a team effort and that all five starters contributed in different ways with a little help from the bench.

Jonesboro improved to 4-0 in district with the win.

"I would say we are leaning on our defense to get us through the games," Simon said. "We have been playing better defense lately. Also playing as a team, not really one star player, we are all chipping in in many different ways. I'm proud of how the girls are playing, but we have to be ready for next week. Can't have a letdown against Evant, which is a rivalry game, or Cranfills Gap."

Gatesville Earns Two Medals at CenTex Tourney

The Gatesville wrestling program had two athletes medal at the CenTex Tournament this past weekend, and coach Robert Clater, Jr. said the competition is a good opportunity for his team to prepare for two important meets later in the season.

"The CenTex tournament is a two-day tournament that gives a look at how the regional and state tournaments will be ran," Clater said. "The Doc Hess and CenTex are tournaments I wrestled in High School also, and I enjoy taking my team to these."

Overall, Gatesville Girls placed 15th as a team out of 48 with a 12-15 record, and the boy's team placed 33rd overall out of 42 programs, with a 3-8 overall record

Elaina Knobloch, at 126 pounds, took fourth place overall and Brianna Allen, at 152 pounds, captured the third-place medal.

Hornets Win Big Against Brownwood

The Gatesville boys basketball team handled Brownwood last Friday, defeating the Lions by a score of 97-56.

"We played a very good game versus Brownwood," coach Brit Campbell said. "All eight guys played huge minutes for us. We guarded them well and had their best player frustrated largely in part to Collyn Coleman and Logan Biggs staying in and guarding him. We had four guys in double figures: Charlie Winkler, West Allman, Kase Cox, and Rex Owen, and every player scored for us. We played great in rhythm all game."

Charlie Winkler led the way for Gatesville with 36 points, while West Allman, Kase Cox and Evan McCracken all scored double digits in points.

Oglesby Boy's Defeat Elks

The Tigers basketball team beat Evant by a score of 64-34 last week, and coach Larry Williamson said he had a few players step up in the win.

"Kyler Fossett was the leading scorer with 28 points and eight rebounds," Williamson said. "Holdyn Goff had 12 points and 10 rebounds and Evan Williamson had 11 points and four steals."

"We are getting better, but since we had a successful football season we have played less than 10 games right now," Williamson said. "We are performing well and with more practices and games, I feel like we will start performing better."

Lady Hornets Lose to La Vega

The Gatesville girls basketball team lost a tough one to Waco La Vega last Friday by a score of 88-17.

Coach Whitney Holdbrook said that in spite of Gatesville's struggles, she did have a couple of bright spots in the game for the Lady Hornets.

"Emma Pollard battled in the post and Paige Sentillas played hard, providing some fire from the guards," Holdbrook said.

OHS volleyball receives Super Centex awards

Staff Reports

Three members of the Oglesby High School varsity volleyball team each received Super Centex Honorable Mention awards for their hard

work and dedication in 2024.

The Lady Tigers who were honored with the awards include Andrea Licea, junior, setter; Caitlyn Battreal, sophomore,

middle; and Zarah Whisehart, sophomore, middle.

Being honored with a Super Centex award shows an athlete's capability to work hard on the field and in the classroom.

Team Gatesville practice begins for basketball season

Staff Reports

The Team Gatesville Special Olympics organization has begun practicing this month for their basketball competition season, which is set to begin in March.

Practices will be held on Thursday's from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Gatesville Intermediate School gymnasium, located at 311 Hornet Way. Practices

began on Jan. 9, and will be held on Jan. 16, Jan. 23, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 13, Feb. 20, and Feb. 27.

The Area 12 individual skills competition will be held on March 8, in Waco.

Requirements to participate include all athletes to be eight years of age and older for competition with no upper age limit, an IDD or comparable delay, and a physical copy of a com-

pleted athlete registration form submitted.

Athlete registration forms may be printed from <https://www.sotx.org/become-an-athlete>, or they can be obtained from Head Coach and Head of Delegation, Heidi Clough, at the first practice.

For further details, contact teamgatesville12@yahoo.com.

GATESVILLE BOYS WRESTLING



MARY TREJO | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville ISD Athletic Director Rickey Phillips recently noted that while the Gatesville wrestling program faces 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. The group is led by Coach Clater Jr., who recently said he has high hopes for when they go to district. The photo was taken Dec. 11 at a tournament in Midway.

Tigers take down Elks, 64-34

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

The Oglesby Tigers hosted the Evant Elks in a district basketball contest on Friday, Jan. 3.

The Tigers wasted no time grabbing the lead and maintaining it throughout the night. With this win, the Tigers extended their district lead, 3-0.

The top scorer for the game was Kyler Fossett, scoring a season high of 28 points, with four

rebounds, one assist, and eight steals.

Holdyn Goff had a double/double with 12 points, as well as 10 rebounds, five steals, three assists, and one blocked shot.

Evan Williamson scored 11 points and had one assist and two steals.

Alex Castillo scored six points and had three rebounds, two assists, and one steal.

Jack Hendricks scored five points and had two rebounds and five steals.

Abram Shaw scored two points and had one assist and one steal.

Jordan Smith had three rebounds.

Tucker Melton had one rebound.

The Tigers traveled to Cranfills Gap on Tuesday, Jan. 7, to play the Lions at 6 p.m. in a district contest. Results from the game will be featured in the Saturday, Jan. 18 edition of *The Gatesville Messenger*.

GHS cheer and mascot tryouts to be held March 7

Staff Reports

The Gatesville High School cheerleading program will host cheer and mascot tryouts on Friday, March 7, at 5 p.m. The results will be posted online that same evening.

There will be a parent meeting at the high school

in the Sidney L. Pruitt Gymnasium on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 5:30 p.m.

The tryout clinic will be held from Monday, March 3, through Thursday, March 6, from 4-6 p.m. in the Sidney L. Pruitt Gymnasium.

To register for the try-

outs, login to your google classroom and use the code, "wawep4n."

For further information, contact Head Cheer Coach Amber Colson by email at acolson@gatesvilleisd.org.

Gatesville High School is located at 205 South Lovers Lane.



HORNETS NEST

GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Editors note: Rickey Phillips is the Athletic Director for Gatesville Independent School District. He was the volleyball head coach from 2001-2019, became interim athletic director in 2019, and assumed the athletic director's position full-time in spring 2020. He is a native of Gatesville and a 1980 graduate of Gatesville High School. His wife, Charlotte and their three daughters, Caitlin, Kelsey, and Janey are all educators as well. Rickey will be writing a weekly column reporting on Gatesville ISD sports.

**RICKEY PHILLIPS**

Athletic Director
Gatesville ISD
@RickeyPhillip12 on X

Winter sport notes

Girls Basketball: The Hornets are right in the thick of district play. GHS has already secured more W's this season than they have since the 2019-20 season and will be looking to scratch and claw their way to a playoff berth with some steady play during the final seven games of the regular season.

Boys Basketball: GHS has caught fire just as the start of District 23-4A play arrives. The Hornets, after a 5-6 start, had won 11 of their last 12 games heading into last night's league opener at China Spring. That stretch included tournament titles at Godley and Brownwood and a 96-point outing vs. Brownwood. Charlie Winkler had an unbelievable 36-point night against the Lions.

Soccer: GHS soccer teams had a good start to the 2024-25 season at last weekend's GHS tournament. The girls finished 3-0-1, while the boys were 2-1. Both teams showed great ability in working to set up shots-on-goal and were relentless in doing just that during the two-day stretch. Hornet teams will be busy with non-district play the next three weeks, then open district competition the first week of February.

Wrestling: It's getting closer and closer to crunch time for GHS Wrestling, which has just three out-

ings remaining prior to competing in the District 6-5A tournament on January 29. Brianna Allen and Ellie Knobloch each won medals at last weekend's huge 48-team Austin ISD Cen-Tex tournament.

Honors and recognitions

GHS has had several student-athletes receive additional honors and recognition in the past couple of weeks:

...Hornet hoopster West Allman was named Mr. Texas Basketball Player of the Week last week, and teammate Charlie Winkler was up for the same accolade this week.

...Girls' cager Taylor Sanderson earned all-tourney honors at the recent Troy Invitational.

...Volleyball middle blocker Emma Pollard was named to the Texas Sports Writers Association's Class 4A all-state 2nd team.

Notes and dotes

...GHS-ex Tasha Thoms, a former multi-sport athlete, will be joining the beach volleyball team at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor this spring. Thoms had spent the past two seasons playing at Missouri State University.

Upcoming key dates

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

Upcoming schedule

Monday, Jan. 13
Girls Soccer: Varsity Girls vs. Waco High.
Boys Soccer: JV Boys vs. Robinson.

Tuesday, Jan. 14
Girls Basketball: Varsity-JV vs. Robinson.
Boys Basketball: Varsity-JV Gold-JV Black vs. Robinson.

Wednesday, Jan. 15
Wrestling: Varsity dual match at Waco Midway (w/ Killeen Shoemaker).

Thursday, Jan. 16
Girls Basketball: 7th-8th A-B vs. Lorena.
Boys Basketball: 7th-8th A-B at Lorena.

Friday, Jan. 17
Baseball: First day of workouts.
Girls Basketball: Varsity-JV at Connally.
Boys Basketball: Varsity-JV Gold-JV Black at Connally.
Boys Soccer: Varsity-JV at Copperas Cove.

Saturday, Jan. 18
Girls Basketball: GJHS hosts 7th-8th A-B tournament.
Boys Basketball: 7th-8th A-B at Waco Live Oak.
Wrestling: Varsity girls-boys at Lake Belton tournament.

HORNET FIGHT NEVER DIES!

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



CHRIS ALLMAN | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Gatesville High School varsity basketball standouts include, pictured left to right, Charlie Winkler, Rex Owen, and Evan McCracken.

Winkler's career night leads rout of Brownwood

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

After his career performance against Brownwood, Charlie Winkler's uniform might need to be outfitted with a warning label.

Caution: Hot surface. Do not touch.

The junior sharpshooter torched the Lions for a career-high 36 points in Gatesville's 97-56 win on Jan. 3 as Gatesville continued its hot streak heading into district play.

Winkler, who leads the team in three-pointers made this season, scored in every way imaginable in leading the Hornets to their highest scoring output of the Brit Campbell era. He was 9-for-12 on two-point attempts, 4-for-5 from three-point range, and knocked down six of his eight free throw attempts.

The Hornets raced to a 23-11 first quarter lead then ran away from Lions in the second quarter to lead 56-26 at halftime.

Winkler scored 12 points in the first quarter and another dozen in the second quarter. He made his first eight field goal attempts and all four free throw attempts in the first half. His lone miss of the half came with 1:25 to go in the quarter.

In the third quarter, Winkler was a perfect 2-for-2 from the field and made a free throw for a five-point frame then added seven

more points in the fourth quarter.

Winkler's previous season-high had been 19 points against Jarrell - a game in which he drilled five three-pointers. The win over Brownwood was the fifth time this season that he has hit at least four three-pointers in a game. He also has six games with three three-pointers made.

West Allman scored 17 points in the win while Kase Cox (15 points and 13 rebounds) turned in his fifth double-double of the year. Rex Owen chipped in ten.

Evan McCracken also had a career night dishing out eight assists against just one turnover. The Hornets have won 11 of their last 12 games and McCracken is carrying an assist-to-turnover ratio of better than 2-to-1. He is also pulling down more than three rebounds per game.

Lost in the scoring barrage against Brownwood was the defensive effort of the Gatesville guards. Winkler, McCracken, Collyn Coleman, Grady Keeton and Logan Biggs combined for nine steals.

Cox and Biggs were assigned to guard Brownwood's top scorer Casey Friebe and held the junior gunner to just six points and forced him into seven turnovers. Biggs drew a pair of offensive fouls on Friebe - who had scored

40 points in a loss to La Grange just a week earlier.

The Hornets wrapped their non-district schedule with another rout - this time of a solid Troy team. The Hornets turned a 24-21 halftime lead into a 62-33 win thanks to another suffocating defensive effort.

Gatesville gave up just 12 points across the third and fourth quarters while forcing the Trojans into a 19% shooting half. Gatesville also won the rebounding battle 43-26.

Cox led all scorers with 16 points and Allman had 15 points and 14 rebounds. Owen scored ten points in the win and the senior forward is averaging six points and three rebounds per game in Gatesville's last 11 wins.

Winkler had nine in the win thanks to three three-pointers and Coleman and Biggs each had six points on two three-pointers each.

To say the Hornets are playing their best basketball of the season is an understatement. After losing to Krum on Dec. 7 to drop to 5-6 on the season, the Hornets now head into district play at 16-7. Their last 11 wins have come with an average margin of victory of 27 points.

The Hornets open district play on Jan. 10 at China Spring before hosting Robinson on Jan. 14.

BOOK REVIEW

Bookworm's Best of 2024



BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

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

Once the holidays are over, you may look around you at a floor full of spent wrapping paper and sad ribbons and wonder, "What's next?"

A whole new year, that's what, and a dozen great books worthy of reaching back to find. Here they are, in no certain order, the Bookworm's Best of 2024 ...

FICTION

If you're a fan of best-selling novels, you won't be surprised to see **"Extinction"** by Douglas Preston (\$29.99, Forge) on this list. It's the tale of a high-level vacation spot run by a big-money corporation and scientists determined to bring back certain kinds of long-extinct animals. Problem is, someone - or something - is hunting the

lodge's guests ...

For the mystery lover who likes a bit of mysticism and some true-life in their novels, **"Spirit Crossing"** by William Kent Krueger (\$28.99, Atria) is a great pick. When the body of a Native American teen girl is discovered, Cork O'Connor's son-in-law hopes the body solves a missing-persons case. Or cases, plural. This book is part of a series, but it can be read alone; just know that you'll want them all, once you've finished this.

Terror, tech, and trouble. What could go wrong, right? In **"William"** by Mason Coile (\$27.00, Putnam), a geeky scientist builds a robot who goes out of control and takes over. The scientist's pregnant wife seems

distant and cold, especially when she's near his laboratory. Could the robot be at fault? Mix horror, robotics, and a twisty ending and you'll be happy.

Inheritances always come with certain feelings, don't they? In **"Fallen Fruit"** by Shawntelle Madison (\$28.00, Amistad), one woman receives property that the locals tell her is a place of no good. Along with it, she inherits a no-good trait that befalls the offspring of one of her ancestors, an inheritance that she can prepare for, but that she cannot escape. And that makes a very good tale.

Based on a true-ish story, **"The Bullet Swallower"** by Elizabeth Gonzalez James (\$26.99, Simon & Schuster) is a tale of a book, a heritage and a curse. It's a western, so you can expect horses, gunslingers, bad guys, dusty trails, and to sit in one spot for an entire afternoon until you've finished it.

NONFICTION

Over the holidays, you learned a thing or two about your relatives and

their politics. **"Good Reasonable People"** by Keith Payne (\$29, Viking) is a book to reach for now. Here, Payne makes sense of the divide that plagues America, in a way that helps you understand both sides. Read it soon, before family barbecue season hits.

"Pets in the City" by Dr. Amy Attas (\$25, Putnam) is a memoir, but one that animal lovers will devour. Attas is a veterinarian in New York City, tending to the beloved pets of the rich and famous, but she also writes about the other half: dogs, cats and critters that she knew, loved, were owned by everyday New Yorkers, and that Attas cared for. If you have a pet, this is your book.

Now that the holidays are over, if you need a way to pay for all those gifts, you'll be happy to read **"Selling the Dream: The Billion-Dollar Industry Bankrupting Americans"** by Jane Marie (\$29, Atria). It's a deep, thorough, but personal look at mid-level marketing (MLM) schemes, the people who fall for them, the chances of suc-

cess (slim!), and how to avoid getting involved in them in the first place. The price of this book may save you thousands ...

"When Women Ran Fifth Avenue" by Julie Satow (\$32.50, Doubleday) is one of those books that'll satisfy a range of readers: history lovers will enjoy the narrative about the department stores of years past. Business-minded readers will like the stories of retail gone by. Women's history fans will like the individual tales of women executives in the last century. All in all, this book's a winner.

If you're a collector, you know how much you like talking about your accumulations and meeting like-minded people. In **"The Witch's Door"** by Ryan Matthew Cohn and Regina M. Rossi (\$30, Chronicle Prism), you'll read about one couple's odd collections: skulls, shrunken heads, stuff that might creep you out just a little bit. But wait: this book is also part memoir, part romance and fun. Anyone with a curious mind, a collection of oddities, or

membership to a museum will love this.

KIDS

Readers ages 8 to 12 will enjoy **"Telephone of the Tree"** by Alison McGhee (\$17.99, Rocky Pond / Penguin), a story of loss and hope that affects an entire neighborhood - but especially one young girl who misses her best friend. This is a beautiful book, somewhat of a tear-jerker, but for the right reader, it glows.

For the teen who wants something absorbing, a little flippant and funny, **"How to Win Friends and Influence Fungi"** by Dr. Chris Balakrishnan and Matt Wasowski, illustrations by Kristen Orr (\$30.00, St. Martin's Press) is a great way to spend that bookstore gift certificate. It's a little bit trivia, a whole lot of fun science, and a good dose of smart-aleck. Perfect.

If you're looking for these books or something like them, or if you're starting your own Best Of list, check with your librarian or bookseller for help. They'll help you decide what's next.

Local • Honest • Community

Subscribe Today
254-865-5212



TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Texan Men's Basketball opens WAC play with statement win against UT Arlington



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State Men's Basketball started off 2025 with a statement, knocking off the projected WAC runners-up UT Arlington in Wisdom Gym Saturday, Jan. 4, 77-74.

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State Men's Basketball started off 2025 with a statement, knocking off the projected WAC runners-up UT Arlington in Wisdom Gym Saturday, Jan. 4, 77-74.

The Texans (6-10 overall, 1-0 WAC) have not lost to the Mavericks (7-8, 0-1) in the state of Texas since at least 1988.

"We did a lot of good things tonight," said head coach Billy Gillispie. "We wanted to make sure we attacked them in transition and we did that, and that's how we led early on. It was an awesome win. We made plays when we needed to and that's what you like to see."

Bubu Benjamin posted his sixth 20-plus point effort on the season with 21 points. The sophomore nailed three triples from deep at a 50% clip. He also shot 50% from the floor, 8-for-16. Benjamin also added a team-best two blocks and four assists.

Dantwan Grimes notched a career-high 18 points with 14 in the second half. Grimes shattered his previous high of 9 points during his time at Baylor. The junior transfer scored in double-digits for his first time as a Texan. He shot a perfect four-for-four from the charity stripe and buried a pair of triples in the waning minutes of the first half.

Chris Mpaka was the third Texan to score in double-figures posting 10 points and five boards. Jordan Mizell tallied a game-high five steals, including a final swipe to thwart the last second chance at the buzzer for the Mavs.

Tied at 60, the final seven minutes decided the contest. UT Arlington broke out on a 9-2 run to take a 69-62 lead with four minutes to play, seemingly dwindling the Texans' chances of victory. But Tarleton was not done yet. Grimes cut the deficit to four with his second triple of the night.

With 3:22 left, the Mavs

led 71-65, but that changed quickly. First, Benjamin knocked down his third three-pointer to cut the UTA advantage to three. On the very next Texan possession, Mpaka drove the lane drawing a foul while slamming it home to bring the Texans within one. He executed the three-point play by making his free throw to tie the game at 71 with 1:59 remaining.

With just over a minute to go after a UT Arlington turnover, Grimes drove into the paint and laid it in to put the Texans ahead for the first time since the 13:58 mark in the second half. After using a timeout to set up a play, the Mavericks were unsuccessful on their next possession and the Texans wound up with the board with a six second difference in the shot clock.

Grimes again drove into the lane and drew the foul with 12 ticks to go. He made a pair at the line to give the Texans a four-point lead. But the Mavericks weren't giv-

ing up easily, hitting a triple with 8 seconds left to trail by just a point. Grimes was fouled and made both of his shots with 3.6 seconds to go, Tarleton leading 77-74. UTA send the ball down the floor, but Mizell swiped it at half court to seal the WAC-opening victory for the Purple and White.

The Mavericks started the game off hot with an 8-0 run in the first two minutes of the contest. Tarleton responded with a 7-0 run to cut its deficit to one, 8-7. Mpaka started the scoring with a bully bucket down low, followed by an Izzy Miles triple as the shot clock expired. Grimes brought the crew within one on a layup of his own.

Tarleton battled back and forth before tying and taking the lead for the first time off an 8-0 run. Benjamin sparked the scoring effort with his first three-pointer of the night. The Texans tied it after Miles made a free throw and Mizell made a jumper to tie the game at 18.

Benjamin gave the Purple and White their first lead of the contest after a jumper with 8:28 to go in the first half.

UT Arlington answered with a bucket of its own to tie it for the final time in the first half at 22 with seven minutes remaining. Mizell gave the Texans the lead back with an and-one layup through traffic. He made the free throw to complete the three-point play and give the Texans the lead, 25-22.

The Purple and White carried the lead for the final six minutes of the half. Tarleton's lead never dropped below three, with the biggest lead of the half coming in the final seconds. Grimes stripped the Maverick point guard of the ball and finished it at the other end to put the Texans up six, 38-32 at the break.

Benjamin was responsible for five of the first six Texan second half points, to enlarge the Texan lead to nine, 44-35 just under three minutes into the second half. UT

Arlington sank three consecutive threes on their first three baskets of the half, followed by a jumper to cut its deficit to three.

Trailing 48-44, UT Arlington took back the lead for the first time in the second half. Darius Burford and Lance Ware combined for a 7-0 run in 1:41 of play to give the Mavericks a 51-48 advantage. The two teams swapped baskets back and forth, but the Mavericks held the lead until Grimes buried a triple in front of his bench to tie the game at 60 with seven minutes to play.

Grimes and Benjamin combined for 30 of the Texans 39 second half points.

Tarleton won the turnover battle for the seventh time this season resulting in their fourth victory. The Texans forced 24 turnovers while committing 14. The Texans shot 80.8% from the charity stripe, 21-for-26. The Purple and White shot 48.1% from the floor, 25-for-52.

Texan Excellence fund launched to support students

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — To celebrate Tarleton State's 125-year history of offering deserving students access to life-changing education, the university has announced the establishment of the Texan Excellence Fund.

Set to serve as Tarleton State's principal catalyst for annual scholarship and student-success support, the fund features an innovative membership model to incentivize participation and elevate impact on students.

Comprehensive stewardship will be a hallmark, as will full alignment and strategic collaboration between the university's advancement division and the Tarleton Alumni Association.

Tarleton Alumni Association members, cur-

rent and future, will receive full credit for their TAA membership contribution toward their TEF membership status with a new Texan Excellence Fund donation.

"The launch of the Texan Excellence Fund personifies our unwavering, 125-year commitment to student-centered excellence at Tarleton State University," said President Dr. James Hurley. "It is also reflective of our commitment to expanding engagement across our dynamic alumni base. As we increase our alumni giving rate, we expand the life-changing impact of philanthropy on our exceptional students."

Recently named one of the "Best Colleges in America" by Money magazine, Tarleton State is a recognized national leader in serving first-generation stu-

dents. The TEF will directly advance this mission, providing resources to eliminate economic obstacles known to compromise the student experience.

Tuition assistance is just one of several TEF designations. Housing, nutrition, wellness, support services, leadership and mentorship are all focal points as well.

"The cost of tuition is arguably the greatest barrier for many of our students," said Vice President for Institutional Advancement Tony Vidmar. "With first-generation students comprising the majority of our student population, our opportunity for impact extends beyond tuition though. The Texan Excellence Fund allows us to address needs and graduate our Texans equipped to excel in all facets of their lives."



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

To celebrate Tarleton State's 125-year history of offering deserving students access to life-changing education, the university has announced the establishment of the Texan Excellence Fund.

RECIPE

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

CHICKEN SHOESTRING POTATO SALAD

BY VICKI MELTON

- 2 c. diced chicken
- ½ c. mayonnaise with a little congealed broth
- ¼ T. prepared mustard
- 1 c. shredded carrots
- 1 c. diced celery
- 1 sm. can shoestring potatoes
- ½ c. toasted slivered almonds
- 1 T. grated onion

Mix all the above ingredients together except the carrots, almonds, and shoestring potatoes. Add the last three items and toss immediately before serving.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST

Chicken Shoestring Potato Salad

MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT

Civilian Conservation Corps in Coryell

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

During his presidency, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt did a great deal to develop a partial welfare state in the United States to create social and economic reform during the Great Depression.

In 1933, President Roosevelt proposed the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to promote conservation and public recreation.

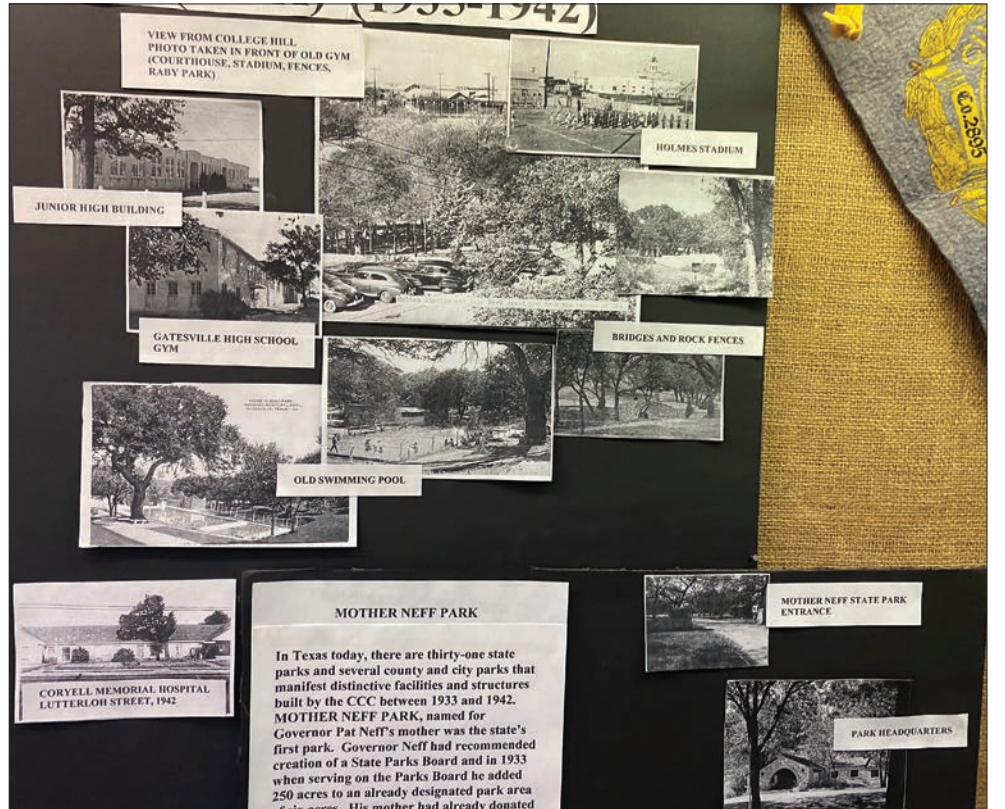
The CCC provided jobs and family income for young men from ages 17 to 25.

The Labor Department recruited from families registered with various welfare agencies. The War Department received men at central locations for recruitment and issued uniforms that were used during World War I. Men were housed and fed in remote 200-man companies.

In 1935, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) was created. The WPA provided work relief to as many as 3.2 million Americans a month between 1935 and 1942 at the cost of 11 billion dollars.

During those years, the CCC developed more than 800 state parks, built 46,854 bridges, 27,191 miles of fence, 8,065 wells and pump houses, 3,116 lookout towers, and 204 lodges and museums.

In addition, the CCC installed 5,000 miles of water supply lines, restored 3,980 historic structures, and surveyed and mapped



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

A portion of the Civilian Conservation Corps exhibit at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center which shows photos of the different structures built by the young men employed by the CCC.

millions of acres and thousands of lakes across the United States.

In Gatesville and Coryell County, the CCC built several structures and facilities including Holmes Stadium (where the city pool is now located), the Gatesville Junior High building, the Gatesville High School Gym, bridges and rock fences, the old swimming pool (now the splash park), Coryell Memorial Hospital, and most notable, the construction of the buildings at Mother

Neff State Park.

The public is encouraged to visit the CCC exhibit on display at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center to learn more about the Civilian Conservation Corps and the impact it had on Coryell County.

Visitors are welcome to drop by the museum located at 718 E. Main Street 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.



Business Directory

Billy Latham
Sales



WHITT
Building Supplies

Office (254) 865-2190
Cell: (254) 216-1516
billy@wbsupplies.com

1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass
Gatesville, Texas 76528

R & M Fencing & Dozing

FREE ESTIMATES

Fence Row Clearing
Barbed Wire
Custom Pipe Fencing
Entryways & Corrals
Barns & Metal Buildings
Residential Fencing
Game Fencing
Dozer Work Available

LARRY RIDDLE
254-248-2205

JOYCE MCADAMS
254-248-4318

Advertise.
Inspire. Sell.

Call The Gatesville Messenger to reserve this space, 254-865-5212.



5B DOZING & CONSTRUCTION
FARM & RANCH

DOZER WORK
LAND CLEARING
ADD-ONS

REMODELING
METAL BUILDINGS
WOOD FRAMING

TC BROOKSHIRE, OWNER

(254) 223-1817 / (254) 216-9572



MID-TEX
PLUMBING
Residential & Commercial

Master Lic. No. M-42617

midtexplumbing@gmail.com

Tyler Powell
254-223-3551

Zach Hodges
254-383-6267



WHITT
Building Supplies

Brandon Latham
Owner / President

1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass
Gatesville, Texas 76528

mobile: 254-223-1723
Office: 254-865-2190

GRIBS CONSTRUCTION
State Certified Installer of Septic Systems

BACKHOE & DIRT WORK
GRAVEL • ASPHALT
ROADS • DRIVES

Owner--Gary Gribble



2000 VIOLET LANE
GATESVILLE, TX 76528

254-248-4171

FERGUSON ROOFING

Serving Central Texas

Locally Owned Company

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

Free Estimates.....254-466-5128

For Rent

Call for details:
The Gatesville Messenger
254-865-5212




PROGRESSIVE
Shawn Camp Insurance, Inc.

Home • Auto • Motorcycle • Boat/Personal Watercraft

Call Amy or Shawn today for a price quote and insure your peace of mind.

2707 E. HWY. 190
COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522
SHAWNCAMPINSURANCE@HOTMAIL.COM

Tel 254-865-2002
Fax 254-547-5778



WHITT
Building Supplies

1411 N. Hwy. 36 Bypass
Gatesville, Texas 76528

254.865.2190 Office
254.444.9040 Cell
254.865.9137 Fax
chris.winkler@whittbuildingsupplies.com

CHRIS WINKLER
SALES



DIXON
ROOFING

FREE ESTIMATES
Insurance Claims Specialist
254.248.4053

Residential & Commercial
P.O. Box 67, Gatesville, TX

Jaydie Dixon
Owner

DIRECTORY DISPLAY RATES
3 Months: \$26/week

SENIOR RESIDENTS RING IN THE NEW YEAR

COURTESY PHOTO

Hillside Medical Lodge and RehabLiving at the Meadows residents celebrated the New Year with a New Year's Eve party accompanied by friends and family. Hillside Medical Lodge residents gave the community some advice for the new year with their message boards. Residents also participated in a balloon drop with money, had champagne, and listened to music by David Johnson Acoustic. Residents at the Meadows enjoyed music, snacks, drinks, and a photo booth as well.

