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THE

GATESVILLE

MESSENGER

SATURDAY | April 12, 2025

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SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881



Local family grows following on social media



The family of Bar 7 Ranch has gained a loyal following on TikTok and other social media channels. From left to right is Erika, Kylee, Clancy and Cody Archie.

BY KAYLEE DUSANG
Contributing Writer

For the Archie family, social media has become a space where they can inspire others with content about agriculture, family, and faith. With 1.3 million followers on TikTok, Cody and Erika Archie, along with their children, Kylee and Clancy, offer a glimpse of their daily lives at Bar 7 Ranch, a Gatesville farm and business

that raises beef cattle and dorper sheep. As first-generation ranchers, they aim to educate their followers on agriculture as well as share everything they’ve learned about running a ranch. “If you have never been involved in agriculture a day in your life, we kind of try to explain it and make things easy for everybody to see and understand,” Cody said. Bar 7 Ranch has evolved throughout the years since

Cody and Erika first started running cattle on it in 2015. Last year, the Archies built a feedlot so they could sell local beef to consumers in Central Texas, a process they had an opportunity to share with their followers. “That was a dream of ours from along this whole journey of being first generation (ranchers) — was having a small feedlot and growing it,” Erika said. “We’ve shown the whole process of starting

small and just growing from early on.” Along with agriculture, the Archies enjoy sharing the behind-the-scenes lifestyle of a ranching family and offering a bit of comedic relief. “We have such a diverse audience,” Erika said. “People on our channel are there to watch ranching and to watch the automotive side of us building the square

PLEASE SEE **SOCIAL** | A2



Care Center Director Deral McWhorter is pictured with Coryell County Sheriff Scott Williams.

Care Center recognized by Sheriff’s Office

Staff Reports

On Thursday, April 3, the Coryell County Sheriff’s Office recognized the Gatesville Care Center and its director, Deral McWhorter, for their selfless actions. McWhorter was contacted about young individuals seeking to remove themselves from difficult circumstances, and without question, McWhorter stepped in to assist through the Care Center.

After learning of McWhorter and the Care Center’s contributions, on behalf of the Coryell County Sheriff’s Office, Sheriff Scott Williams presented McWhorter with a plaque to honor him for his commitment to the Coryell County community. The Gatesville Care Center is open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is located at 105 North 7th Street.

Tree City USA proclamation signed by city in honor of Arbor Day

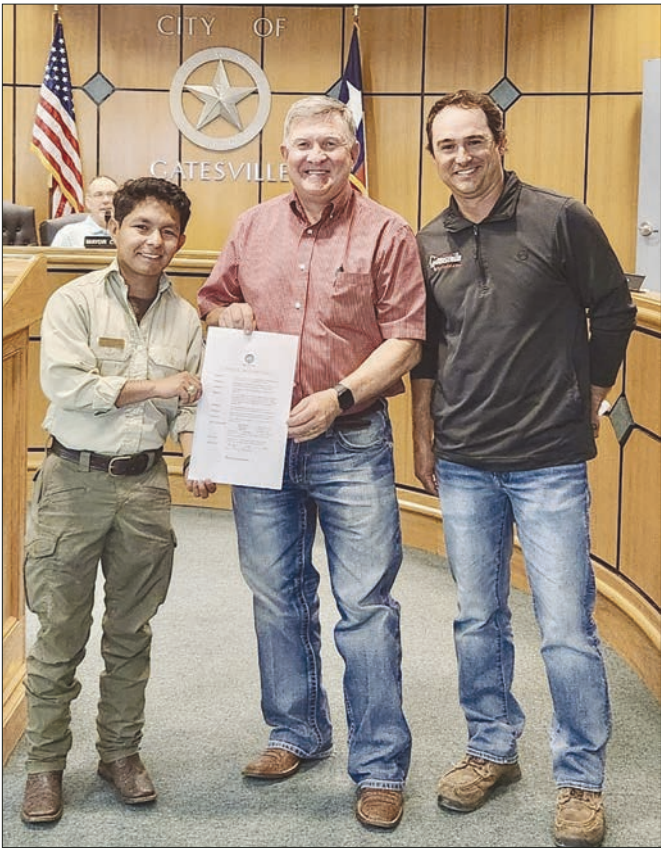
BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

In a city council meeting of the City of Gatesville, held Tuesday, April 8, council members signed a proclamation with Tree City USA, an Arbor Day Foundation program, in honor of Arbor Day, which is observed April 25. Arbor Day is celebrated throughout the nation and promotes the planting of trees.

According to the proclamation, trees can be the solution to combat climate change by reducing the erosion of topsoil by wind and water, cutting heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing habitat for wildlife. Trees are also a renewable resource, providing paper, wood for homes, fuel for fires, and countless other wood products.

The proclamation brings the city one step closer to obtaining grants from Tree City USA, which will help with the planting of trees and any additional maintenance, care, or watering needs of the trees. Parks and Recreation Director Seth Phillips said that the city plans to apply for a tree grant in the future. “We will be in the top number to get grants, so as long as you are showing that you are trying to do the

right things for your community, you are going to get the grant,” Phillips said. According to the proclamation, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community.



Pictured (left to right) is Hector Marines-Cho with the Texas A&M Forest Service, Mayor Gary Chumley, and Parks and Recreation Director Seth Phillips.

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‘Bonnets in Bloom’ deadline extended

Staff Reports

Each year over the past few years, The Gatesville Messenger has conducted a “Bonnets in Bloom” photo contest. This year’s contest sponsor is The First National Bank of Central Texas.

Unfortunately, whether it is because of the late cold fronts that have occurred or the lack of rain, the blue bonnets have not really popped up and bloomed until the last few days. In the past, the bluebonnets were out in full color as much as three to four weeks earlier.

With this being said, the lateness of the bloom has really messed up our contest entries. How can anyone submit photos of bluebonnets if there are no bluebonnets avail-

able to take a photograph? Consequently, we have decided to extend the contest and will announce the first week’s winners with next week’s paper. This will continue for a total of three weeks.

So, get out and take some photos of the bluebonnets in your area! They can be silly, serious, or include your kids, grandkids, or pets.

Go to gatesvillemessenger.com and submit your photos today. You could win a “Bonnets in Bloom” T-shirt, a free subscription to The Gatesville Messenger, and be in the running for the Grand Prize of \$100 and have your photo on the front page of the newspaper.

Everybody loves bluebonnets! Share yours today!



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADOBESTOCK.
The Gatesville Messenger has extended its deadline for the “Bonnets in Bloom” photo contest.

SOCIAL

FROM PAGE A1

bodies. People are there just for fun and to laugh at our funny marriage humor.”

The family shows how they run other projects, such as owning a local dry cleaning and laundry business and restoring old cars. Cody said one of their most popular videos documents him and his son rebuilding a 1984 Chevrolet pickup.

“We share our experiences, our ups and our downs,” Cody said. “We just want

people to see the real lifestyle behind what a lot of families in America are — having two to three different jobs going on and maybe a side hustle or two just to provide for your family and do the best you can with what’s going on around you.”

“We show the life of an entrepreneur, the life of a rancher, the life of a family,” Erika adds. “The genuine life of family behind ranching. We just kind of show it all.”

The Archie family also hopes to encourage others with their faith.

“We do a capsule sermon

every Sunday where we share a scripture and I explain it,” Cody said.

With Easter approaching, he said the family will post daily content about the life of Christ leading up to Easter Sunday.

“We want people to see and find the Lord through our content,” Cody said. “And beyond that, we want people to come and have fun.”

Although Cody and Erika have posted regularly on Instagram and Facebook since the mid-2010s, it was not until August 2021 that

they gained a massive following on TikTok.

Erika said it all started after a TikTok post of Cody quoting a Denzel Washington movie quote while checking the cows one morning went viral. Since then, the Archie family has gained more than 2.5 million followers across all their social media channels.

“I think most of our content started out with a lot of humor,” Erika said. “I think that’s how we grew our audience — just our family being funny. I mean we live on a ranch and our name is Bar 7

Ranch, and ranchers do other things besides just ranch all day. So we show the life of all the things that we do.”

Born and raised in the Gatesville area, Cody and Erika also enjoy remaining involved in their community. This includes serving as active members of Hay Valley Baptist Church and on the Coryell County Farm Bureau board of directors, where Cody is the current president of the board. Erika is also a club manager for Hay Valley 4-H.

“We just get up every day and go to work like every-

body else does. We just really feel like God has blessed us by giving us a platform to talk about agriculture, about our family, but most importantly about Him,” Cody said. “At the end of the day, that’s what we want people to see the most of — is God through our platforms.”

Readers can find Cody, Erika and their family by following @bar7ranch on social media or visiting bar7ranch.com.

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*announced on April 15

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Why don't we all try exercising a little 'freedom of listening?'



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

This past week was almost too much for me. The stock market has been taking it on the nose, there have been storms and hail tearing up roofs and automobiles, and even a few tornados in some parts of the country. With the temperature going from 90 to 33 in a span of a couple of days, and spring allergies starting to emerge, it is almost too much to take.

I had been working like a hound chasing an escapee from Huntsville, and I needed some peace and quiet, so I decided to jump in my car

and go and see my friend Waldo up in Marysville. I have written about my friend Waldo before. When I am down or stressed, he

always seems to bring the best to light and certainly knows how to communicate in such a way that every time I talk to him, I feel like I have learned something. He is a rare friend indeed. We decided the weather front that had moved through and dropped the temperature meant the fishing would not be any good. Instead of wetting a line, we decided to sit on his porch and whittle while we rocked in the chairs and consumed a generous amount of icy cold beverages. Waldo knew something was bothering me. He cut to the chase and said, "What the heck put a sandbur in your shorts?" I rocked back just slightly, sort of like I needed the momentum of the chair to get me into a rhythm to speak, and suddenly, the words poured out of me. "I am so dang tired of people running to social

media and posting the most vicious thing they can think of about someone else. They make allegations about elected officials, board members, or their neighbors, questioning their honesty and integrity without providing a scintilla of evidence to back up their allegations. Folks act like they have all the answers to the world's problems, and everybody else is stupid for not seeing the world exactly like they do. It is so frustrating and counterproductive." Waldo listened, then he rocked back, and it was his time to talk. As he whittled nice long shavings from the pine stick he was holding, he said, "Lots of folks like to exercise their rights to free speech when they might ought to think about exercising their right to the 'freedom of listening.' It seems to me that if folks would listen more and evaluate if what they hear makes sense and

is based on facts and logic, we might really begin to get somewhere. Instead, folks simply shut their ears and go on, thinking that whatever they were told or listened to, is the gospel." Waldo went on, "You know, what a man learns after he knows it all is when he is really getting somewhere." I looked at Waldo and calmly asked, "Waldo, do you ever think people will go back to speaking civilly to each other when they have political disagreements?" Waldo looked down and then he stared up in the sky like he was seeking an answer from the Almighty himself, and then exclaimed, "I am afraid folks will keep talking loudly and ignoring the other side, elevating their voice and not the quality of their argument. It keeps them from making their mind work overtime to find a true and reasonable solu-

tion. Some people are mentally lazy. They would rather live their lives believing they know it all and everyone else is a fool. Truth is, a man who doesn't want to listen, learn, and try to understand the world and the folks around him is destined for a life of frustration and disappointment. Ain't nobody has all the answers, and most don't even know all the questions." It had been a nice day, and as I drove home, the thoughts of Waldo kept ringing in my ears. Maybe we ought to make that "freedom of listening" thing into a constitutional amendment. Would anyone listen? Thought for the day: "When you talk, you are only repeating what you already know. When you listen, you might actually learn something." Until next time...I will keep ridin' the storm out!



Brush and tree limbs have been cleared, and a view of the creek can now be seen at the entrance to the lower portion of Faunt Le Roy Park. The new fence is shown which blocks access around the perimeter of the park to keep individuals safe from damage near the bank of the creek.



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Council provides FEMA process updates for Faunt Le Roy Park and library

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

In a Gatesville City Council meeting held Tuesday, April 8, updates on FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) processes for Faunt Le Roy Park and Gatesville Public Library rehabilitation projects were discussed, and on-site visits of both locations were conducted. Since September of 2024, when the council received their last update, the city has continued working with FEMA and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to obtain approvals for repairs regarding the weather-related damages to city facilities from April to June of 2024. The city is with its fourth grant contractor from Langford Community Management and continues to meet all deadlines and

requirements for its application for federal funds to recover losses. Although the city is on track, it will seek extensions due to the delays associated with project manager changes, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and on-line portal access. FEMA has conducted on-site inspections on three separate occasions from October of 2024 to March of this year. The visits included taking a deeper look into the 17 known loss areas from the spring 2024 weather events, which resulted in over 90 subsets of damages being identified. While working with FEMA, City Manager Brad Hunt, Deputy City Manager Mike Halsema, and city staff have worked with the council members to provide funding through budget adjustments as well as CLFRF (Coronavirus Local Fiscal

Recovery Funds) and ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds to implement rehabilitation projects for Faunt Le Roy Park and the Gatesville Public Library. Rehabilitation projects are listed below: **Faunt Le Roy Park** • Clean-up and electrical work along walking trail portion, was completed in July 2024. • In the lower portion of the park, fencing has been added, trees and limbs have been trimmed, and electrical work is nearly complete. • Estimated to reopen lower portion in next few days. **Gatesville Public Library** • The G2 construction project for mold remediation, roof repair, and building rehabilitation is complete. • The city is undertaking the final steps towards reopening which includes

testing, assessment, and completion of HVAC system by Muegge Air, the reconstruction of masonry work around the exterior HVAC units and assembling shelves and re-stocking books, landscaping, final punch list of minor interior items, reorganizing materials, and taking inventory of all cataloged materials. All rehabilitation projects are set to be completed by September of this year. During the on-site visit to Faunt Le Roy Park, Parks and Recreation Director Seth Phillips said that once the lower portion of the park becomes available to the public, there will be a walk-through entrance where locals will be able to enter the park but will need to stay on the inside of a secured fence which lines the inside perim-

PLEASE SEE FEMA | A6

Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

David Christian

Say hello to our neighbor, David Christian!

David Christian, store manager at Higginbotham Brothers, has been with the business since 1998. He said that the best part about his job is being able to help the community he lives in. He has lived in Gatesville for most of his life and said that his favorite thing about our town is seeing people come together to help those in need. David reads The Gatesville Messenger and says that he likes to keep up with local events, news, sports, and happenings in the community. "The Messenger is a good source for all of that," he said.

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

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Lucky’s wartime adventures



BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

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

John Lucky Luckadoo, of Dallas, 104 years old, was a member of a famous bomber group during World War II. “It was the Bloody 100th Bomb Group,” says Lucky.

“That group was the subject of Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg’s docu series entitled “Masters of the Air.” And it’s about my bomb group. And what a goof-off outfit it was. We were terribly young and didn’t have any idea what we were getting into when we went against the formidable Luftwaffe, the German Air Force.”

It was a time when war was raging in Europe. Hitler

had occupied all of continental Europe and was about to jump across the channel and invade England. The British were crying out for help. There were fears that if England fell, Hitler would then head for the United States. Lucky flew 25 bombing missions over Germany in 89 days.

“Those days, if you lasted more than eight missions, you were on borrowed time.”

At age 20, he was a pilot in a six-plane formation of B17s, the plane known as the Flying Fortress. The plane had a crew of ten. He says it was high altitude daytime bombing missions, which had never been done before and was an unproven strategy. But Commanders of the American bomber force insisted it was the best way to bring Hitler to his knees.

“We were flying at high altitudes, 25 to 29,000 feet. And that was one of the things that we had not counted on: the absolute bitter cold that we had to endure. It was 50 and 60 degrees below zero. We soon discovered that we didn’t have just one enemy; we had four, and they all began with the letter F.

“The first was fear. We were scared naturally at that tender age. We were citizen soldiers, and we were going against professionals. Second was the flak. The anti-aircraft firing at us from the ground was devastating, and we had no defense

against that. The third F was the fighters, and the fourth but not least was the freezing cold. “

Although he was never shot down, he was hit on every mission.

“The Germans were very adept at what they were doing. We were going against a very formidable enemy. They knew what they were doing. They would get out about three miles in front of us in a line abreast. They were flying ME 109s, FW 190s, and ME110 Rocket Ships. They would fly straight through our formation. There was only four seconds in that interval that their guns would bear on us, and our guns would bear on them. It seemed like four years, but it was only a brief time. They would just spray our formations, and it was kind of like playing chicken. You’d see those wings just lighting up with their machine guns and rockets.”

After the war, Lucky built some of the first air-conditioned shopping malls.

SUDOKU

Puzzle answers from the April 5 2024 issue.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Lifeguards wanted at Gatesville City Pool

Staff Reports

The City of Gatesville has announced that applications are being accepted for lifeguard positions at the city pool.

Applicants must be 15 years or older before May 12 and are to complete a blended learning certification course along with a swim test.

The swim test will include two prerequisites:

Prerequisite 1: Complete a swim-tread-swim sequence without stopping to rest

- Jump into the water and totally submerge, resurface, then swim 150 yards using the front crawl, breaststroke, or a combination of both. (Swimming on the back or side is not permitted. Swim

goggles are allowed.)

- Maintain position at the surface of the water for two minutes by treading water using only the legs.
- Swim 50 yards using the front crawl, breaststroke or a combination of both.

Prerequisite 2: Complete a timed event within 1 minute 40 seconds

- Starting in the water, swim 20 yards. (The face may be in or out of the water. Swim goggles are not allowed.)
- Surface dive (feet-first or head-first) to a depth of seven to 10 feet to retrieve a 10-pound object.
- Return to the surface and swim 20 yards on the back to return to the starting point, holding the object at the surface with both hands and

keeping the face out or near the surface.

- Exit the water without using a ladder or steps.

If successful, applicants will be enrolled in the American Red Cross Lifeguarding - Blended Learning Class, which will be held from May 5 to 11.

Completing the certification course does not guarantee employment.

The deadline for applying is April 25. To apply, visit-gatesvilletx.com/parksrec and fill out an application as well as register for the free training class.

For further information, contact the City of Gatesville at 254-865-8951.

The Gatesville City Pool is located at 300 South 8th Street.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Despite the rain, over 30 volunteers, including city staff, showed up for cleanup day at Restland Cemetery.

Cleanup day at Restland not hampered by the rain

DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Originally postponed due to threats of rain, community members would not let a little rain keep them away from volunteering to help clean Restland Cemetery.

City Manager Brad Hunt said, “Our first attempt at Cemetery Clean Up Day proved to be a huge success. We had more volunteers than we could have possibly expected on the cool, rainy morning and we truly appreciated the help from our community.”

Hunt reported that over 30 volunteers were at Restland for the “Cemetery Clean Up.” City and county employees along with other organizations showed up to volunteer including:

Deputy City Manager

Mike Halsema; Parks and Recreation Director Seth Phillips; Public Works Director Chad Newman (and members of his youth baseball team, the Prospects); HR Manager Lori McLaughlin; Water Billing Clerk Joli Archie (the main coordinator for the event); Water Plant Supervisor Zeb Veazey (and family); Police Chief Jeff Clark (and family); City Manager Brad Hunt (and daughter); Police Sergeant Sid Post; Parks Maintenance Supervisor Levi Cole; Parks Maintenance Worker Roderick Griffin; GISD Primary School Principal Van Collins; about a dozen members of Keep Gatesville Beautiful; Water Billing Clerk- Kodie Mitchell; Street Maintenance- Steven Mitchell (and son); Nicole Clark- court clerk; and Mary Mitchell- Jr

Ambassadors.

According to Hunt, the volunteers picked up about three pickup truck loads of litter, which was mostly wind-blown artificial flowers and other debris, as well as several loads of loose limbs, across the cemetery.

Hunt said, “We righted several broken headstones and found one face down, which we flipped over. Overall, it was a productive effort by everyone.”

“We didn’t get to City Cemetery, so we are already planning our next event to take care of that one. It was a great morning, and just another example of Gatesville’s giving spirit, and how our city staff works as a team to do good in our community,” he said.

Pidcoke Baptist Church cleanup day, April 19

Staff Reports

Due to expected inclement weather, the April 5 cleanup day was postponed and rescheduled to Saturday, April 19.

The cleanup day will be held from 9 a.m. to noon, following a men’s prayer breakfast at 7:30 a.m.

Pidcoke Baptist Church said that if it rains on April

19, the cleanup day will still be held since the church needs to be cleaned for Easter services on Sunday, April 20.

For further details, contact Pidcoke Baptist Church by email at pidcokebaptist@gmail.com.

Pidcoke Baptist Church is located at 11125 FM 116 in Gatesville.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pidcoke Baptist Church’s sign reads, “Pray.”

Whatever happened to ...

20 YEARS AGO (2005)

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department named Mother Neff State Park the “Park of the Month.”

Businessman Bill Herridge was honored with the Seven Seal Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

Exiquio “Zeke” Garza transferred to Gatesville as a new assistant warden at the Hughes Unit.

Wind damaged the sign in front of the Coryell Museum & Historical Center.

Larry Robinson, of Millsap, was selected as the new principal for the Jonesboro School.

30 YEARS AGO (1995)

Powell Supply advertised an RCA washer & dryer pair for \$599.

The Gatesville City Council approved a new animal con-

trol ordinance that included the permitting of livestock animals and licensing of cats in the city.

The Inmate Help Club of the Gatesville Unit donated \$100 to the Chemical Free Graduation Party Fund.

Higginbotham’s advertised free Polaroid snapshots with the Easter Bunny and .25 cent hot dogs at their annual fun day.

“Tommy Boy” was showing at the Drive-In.

40 YEARS AGO (1985)

Tracy Barnes, of Austin, was selected as the new superintendent of the Gatesville Independent School District.

Directors of the Arnett Youth Center withdrew their application for a license from the Department of Human Resources.

Safeway offered a chance to win a new 1985 Ford F-150 pick-up.

The Future Homemakers of America put their prize-winning display on exhibition at the Gatesville Public Library.

K&L Mobile Homes at Fort Gates advertised new, repos, and used homes for “as little as 5% down.”

50 YEARS AGO (1975)

Gatesville High School junior Tamra Smith was chosen as Coryell County’s

pecan queen for 1975.

Davidson Beauty Supply advertised new scarves for \$2.65.

The Bluestem Ballroom had a free barbecue event for all adult club members.

Miller Motor Co. advertised the ’75 Ford Maverick as “the proven family compact.”

Evant High School’s pasture and range judging team placed second in an area contest at Tarleton State University.

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PEARL NEWS

Linda Ray is missed at the Pearl Cottage Bookstore



BY BETSY CLARK

Pearl News Correspondent

The community of Pearl extends their deepest sympathies to the family of Mrs. Pauline Conner, age 97, who passed to her heavenly home on April 1.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, April 8, at Scott's Funeral Home in Gatesville with interment

following at the Bee House Cemetery. Mrs. Conner leaves behind a wonderful legacy in the Pearl Community, in her family, and in her church family. One of the many things that she and her husband did was to put the cross on top of the mountain in Bee House, a cherished landmark and reminder of the work our Savior did on the cross at Easter and every day. Originally from England, Mrs. Conner came to Texas in 1946 when she married Boyce Conner, a WWII serviceman she met while he was stationed there. Mrs. Conner quickly acclimated as a Texan, a farmer's wife,

and mother. She will be greatly missed. The April 5, Bluegrass event and Pearl Cottage Bookstore Day was absolutely wonderful as reported by all who were able to brave the rain and attend. The Pearl Bluegrass was so happy to welcome back Anji Pearl Day to the stage, and we look forward to many more performances by this legendary bass player and vocalist. The bands that played on stage were outstanding, and the jamming was awesome! It was reported that the kitchen was packed with everyone enjoying all the cakes, pies, entrees, and other delicious food offered by the wonder-

ful ladies who cook for and operate the kitchen. The bookstore enjoyed visits from Anji Pearl, David Scott, and many new friends as well. Be sure and mark your calendars for May 3, so that you can make plans to attend next month's festivities. The Pearl Church of Christ and Pearl Cottage Bookstore are missing Linda Ray who is experiencing serious health difficulties and Corlisa did a bang-up job manning the bookstore without their "partner in crime" on April 5, and the church held it together pretty well on Sunday, April 6. However, everyone covets your prayers for Linda's quick recovery

so that she can get back to work. Linda knows where everything is, and we are lost without her. Get well, Linda! We need you! This week's Bible verse comes from I John 3:16— This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. NIV Be sure and like the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page, the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop Facebook page, and the Pearl Bluegrass Jam Facebook page. Please submit any Pearl news to betsysclark47@yahoo.com



Over 230 cyclists participated in last year's Fire Ant Tour.

COURTESY PHOTO

29th annual Fire Ant Tour set for June 14

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH

Staff Writer

The Gatesville Exchange Club will host its 29th annual Fire Ant Tour Saturday, June 14 at the Gatesville Civic Center, located at 301 Veteran's Memorial Loop. There was a total of 232 registrations with riders from all over Texas, including Dallas, Fort Worth, Longview, Houston, and San Antonio at last year's event. The routes this year are approximately 11 miles, 32 miles, 50 miles, and a

100K that will take place on paved county roads. Riders can choose the course that best fits their pace on the morning of the ride. All riders will be required to wear helmets and safety gear. E-bikes are welcomed and encouraged. SAG (Support and Gear) stations will be placed at 10 to 13-mile intervals along each route. Porta-potties will also be available at all SAG stations, along with SAG wagons driving on each route to aid riders when necessary. A SWAG bag will be given to each rider which will include a raffle ticket for a chance to win a prize at the

winner's table. The bag will also have a free pass to the local fitness center for riders to gain access to a hot shower. Early bird registration ended on March 28, and the cost is now \$50 to register. The cost will rise \$5 on May 9. Registration can be completed by visiting the Gatesville Fire Ant Tour Facebook page and clicking on the registration link. Register by May 23 to guarantee a free Fire Ant Tour T-shirt. Ride packets can be picked up at the Gatesville Civic Center Friday, June 13 from 4-7 p.m. Packet pick-up and onsite registration

can be done on the morning of the event June 14 from 6:15-7 a.m. Onsite registration does not guarantee a finisher medal or Fire Ant Tour T-shirt. The Fire Ant Tour will begin at 7:15 a.m., although riders can start at any time on their own up to 8 a.m. There will be no late starts after that time. All proceeds from the event are to benefit local scholarships for Gatesville High School seniors and various community service projects. For further information, contact montyvanhorn@vhmi.org.

Pauline Mildred Conner

Oct. 16, 1927 – April 1, 2025

Pauline Mildred Keeley Conner, age 97, of Bee House, passed away on April 1, 2025, in Gatesville. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 8, at Scott's Funeral Home. Interment followed at Bee House Cemetery. Pauline was born in Oulton, England on Oct. 16, 1927, to Clifford William Keeley and Mildred Chamberlain Keeley. She had a very happy childhood, but her father died when she was 11, and later World War II began to rage in England. Pauline had to carry a gas mask wherever she went and hid under a bed when the bombers flew over her house. At age 15, she got a job in the International Store taking the money and keeping the books. It was there she met the American serviceman, Burnard Boyce Conner, who became the love of her life. After the war ended, Boyce was sent back to Texas, and she was heartbroken. Boyce wrote and asked her to marry him in September 1945. He and his dad started building their house in Bee House. Almost a year later she was finally able to get a ticket on a freight ship from Liverpool, England to Mobile, Alabama. After 10 days on the ship, she was met by Boyce at the dock, and they went to a Methodist Church there and married on September 2, 1946. After a few days in Mobile, they rode the bus back to Texas. She was amazed at the merchandise that was available in the United States after all the rationing in England. After growing up in a town in England, Pauline had many adjustments to make to live and work on a farm, including learning to cook and eat Texas foods. Boyce and his relatives helped her to learn to cook and sew. As a farm wife, she heated water for laundry in a washpot and enjoyed having a large garden and tending her flower beds. They had three children: Bernadine, Ashley, and Paul. She was a loving mother and enjoyed attending their school and church activities and taking Paul to participate in rodeos. After Boyce's death in 1975, she, Paul, and Ashley worked the farm and ranch as long as they could with help from friends and rela-



tives. Pauline loved knitting, sewing, doing embroidery and needlepoint, and making Christmas ornaments. She shared many handmade gifts with her family and friends. Loving her family so dearly, she would do anything for them and greatly enjoyed spending time with them. She took care of Ashley for 59 years until her health deteriorated. Ashley preceded her in death in 2021. Pauline was baptized and confirmed in the Church of England. When she came to Texas, she joined the Bee House Methodist Church, and after it closed, she joined the Evant Methodist Church. Attending church was one of the great joys in her life. Pauline helped with many church activities such as Bible School and in the Evant community, she assisted in delivering Meals on Wheels. In 1968 she and Boyce erected the cross on Bee House Mountain for the community Easter sunrise service. Pauline is survived by her son Paul Conner and wife, Lori; daughter, Bernadine Mariott and husband, Rick; grandchildren, Susan Corley and husband, Clay, Douglas Doyle and wife, Melissa, and Candice Yancy and husband, Jeremy; great-grandchildren, Addison, Reese, and Harper Corley; Dyllan and Wyatt Doyle; Swayze, Liam, and Logan Yancy; and Addy Wilton; and her sister June Keeley Long who still resides in England. Memorials may be made to the Evant Methodist Church, P.O. Box 146, Evant 76525 or the Bee House Cemetery Association, c/o Sandra Lozano 2143 CR 155, Gatesville 76528. Her family would like to express their appreciation to Hillside Medical Lodge in Gatesville and Bluebonnet Hospice for the loving care they provided.

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First Methodist Church to host Tenebrae April 13

Staff Reports

The First Methodist Church of Gatesville's Chancel Choir, joined by singers from neighboring churches in the community, will present the cantata "Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness" Sunday, April 13, at 6 p.m.

Tenebrae, meaning darkness, commemorates the final hours of the Lord's life on earth as he suffered and died on the cross.

Throughout the service, candles will be extinguished, one by one, until there is total darkness. This is symbolic of the fading

loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus and of the diminishing light of the world as Christ departs from it.

The service will be presented by Hal Hopson of Dallas. Hopson, originally from Mound, completed undergraduate school at Baylor University and received a bachelor's degree in sacred music from Southern Baptist Seminary. He has published over 1,300 works, and his music can be heard during Sunday services in churches throughout the world.

There is no charge for the cantata, and everyone is invited to attend.



Hal Hopson

COURTESY PHOTO

First Methodist Church of Gatesville is located at 2600 East Main Street.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Coryell County Historical Commission recently visited the former State School for Boys. Pictured left to right, Sherry Lawrence, David Scott, Pamela Shannon, Tiffany Butler, Danny Corbett, Cathy Taylor, and Senior Warden Andrea Lozada.

CC Historical Commission visited former State School for Boys

DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Several months ago, the Coryell County Historical Commission decided to apply for a historical marker to be placed at the site of the Gatesville State School for Boys which was a juvenile corrections facility located on the outskirts of Gatesville comprising approximately 900 acres.

The Texas Legislature established the House of Correction and Reformatory in 1887. The facility, operated by the Texas Prison System, opened in January of 1889 with 68 boys who had previously been housed in correctional facilities with adult felons.

Gatesville, which served as the main juvenile detention facility for Texas since its opening, had a focus on labor rather than rehabilitation.

In 1940, the Gatesville State School housed 767

boys who were under the age of 17 when the state ordered them to attend the school. By 1950, the numbers were down to 406 boys, but by 1970 that number grew drastically and 1,830 boys were located at the facility which by then had seven sub-schools: Hackberry, Hilltop, Live Oak, Riverside, Sycamore, Terrace, and Valley.

It was later alleged that the operations of the state school included cruel and unusual practices that violated the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The State School for Boys was closed in 1979 and was later turned into a state prison facility.

Today, the Hilltop Unit still uses many of the buildings that were a part of the original House of Correction and Reformatory. A graveyard with sixteen graves contain-

ing the remains of children in the state school who died during their stay is located on the grounds of the Riverside Unit.

On Tuesday, April 8, members of the Coryell County Historical Commission were given a special tour of the buildings which were once used at the State School for Boys. The tour was given by Senior Warden Andrea Lozada. She gave a detailed tour of the older buildings at TDCJ that were originally a part of the State School for Boys noting what each building was used for and how they are utilized today as part of the prison system.

The Coryell County Historical Commission is currently in the research stage of gathering information and photographs of the boys reformatory in hopes of getting a historical marker in place sometime in the next few years.



PHOTO COURTESY THE GATESVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber Liaison Yvonne Williams (left) is pictured with Jessica Jonasson, owner of Spur Nutrition, who received the April Business of the Month award.

Spur Nutrition awarded Business of the Month

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce awarded Jessica Jonasson and her team at Spur Nutrition with a Business of the Month award for April.

Jonasson established Spur Nutrition in June of 2021 after successfully owning and operating The Healthy Hub in Copperas Cove since 2017. Spur Nutrition serves a variety of energy boosting drinks including differ-

ent kinds of protein shakes and energy teas which are healthy options for when you are on the go.

Spur Nutrition is located at 103 S. 7th St. on the Coryell County Courthouse Square.

MOUND NEWS

Noah Truett Hopson receives first place medal



BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound News Correspondent

Mr. Noah Truett Hopson received his first-place medal for UIL Music Memory. His parents, brother, and sister, Paul, Rachel, Benjamin, and Emma Hopson are so very proud of all the hard work that he put into this event last Tuesday evening in Gatesville.

Kinsley McPherson and Aubree Long participated in the Aggie Fest Horse Judging Clinic last week, led by the Texas A & M Horse Judging Team.

Kinsley, Anna and Allie McPherson, Aubree and Olivia Long received first place with their 4H Educational Presentations at the Coryell County 4H Roundup contest. They will

advance to the district contest April 26, in West.

Jakson Tippit son, of Cody and Amber Tippit advanced to Area in track for the 200m and 4x200 relay. The meet will be held in Zephyr.

On Saturday, Jakson Tippit spent the day in Waco with family and friends, then attended Oglesby High School Prom at the Texas Ranger Museum.

Bobby and Nelda Carothers were in College Station on Friday, April 4, for their granddaughter, Camdyn's TAMU ring ceremony. Also, celebrated with Brooke Moger, a friend since kindergarten, who received her ring.

Kay Branham took Sue

Jones to Waco for lunch and shopping for her birthday on Monday.

Mrs. John Stephens and Mrs. Melba Stephens went out for lunch Thursday in Waco. Afterwards they went shopping.

Doug and Susan Quicksall of Oglesby and their daughter, Hillary Bates McClure of Austin, Mrs. Pat Johnson of Austin, Roy and Jan Johnson of Gatesville, and Mrs. Eric (Liz) McCorkle attended The Concert: A Tribute to "ABBA-MANIA" at Waco Hippodrome Theatre in Waco last week. Relatives and friends of Eric and Liz McCorkle enjoyed dinner Friday evening in Gatesville at the Feed Mill restaurant.

David and Pam Hopson and their family attended church services at Hay Valley Baptist Church and luncheon. After that, their grandchildren participated in the annual Pinewood Derby while there.

Those who have birthdays this week are Suzie D. Arnold, Kennedie Lanham, and Bruce Cox.

FEMA

FROM PAGE A3

eter of the park.

This will keep children off the riverbank and people from driving on the old walking trail, which will no longer be in use.

"All the lights will be working before we reopen," Phillips said. "Lighting will still work, and there is still going to be power to the pavilion and to the restrooms."

"There are so many opportunities that are still down here, and understand that the council made a decision

about a year and a half ago saying that we want Faunt Le Roy to remain open before the flood," Hunt said. "We are definitely operating on that path that this is going to be a viable park and everything we can do to keep it viable, we are going to do."



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Left: The lower portion of Faunt Le Roy Park is pictured. Middle: The Gatesville Public Library now has books displayed on its shelves and is working hard to reopen to the public. Right: Gatesville Public Library, Director Shea Harp (middle) is pictured discussing the updates within the library.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of April 3 – April 8. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, this is a partial list of more significant activity. People are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2 226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.

**CITY OF GATESVILLE
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

April 3
5:26 a.m., a missing person was reported in the 800 block of E. Leon Street.
9:59 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 2700 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
11:56 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 600 block of N. Lovers Lane.
11:21 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of CR 332.

April 4
9:55 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 3200 block of FM 929.
2:26 p.m., a threat was reported in the 200 block of N. 8th Street.
3:12 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2500 block of Bridge Street.
8:41 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100

block of Elm Street.

April 5
10:30 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 500 block of N. Lutterloh Avenue.
10:48 a.m., a civil matter was reported in the 100 block of N. 27th Street.
7:57 p.m., harassment was reported in the 3400 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
10:53 p.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Thelma Drive.

April 6
9:45 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 300 block of N. 9th Street.
10:33 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 200 block of CR 128.
1:49 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1900 block of E. Leon Street.
7:39 p.m., an assault was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

April 7
5:57 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1400 block of St. Louis Street.
11:12 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1400 block of State School Road.
6:06 p.m., harassment was reported in the 100 block of Chicktown Road.
7:12 p.m., a threat was reported in the 100 block of Surrey Lane.

April 8
1:43 p.m., a structure fire was reported in the 2400 block of E. Main Street.
4:16 p.m., an accident was reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.
9:30 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 800 block of Mountain Road.
11:31 p.m., a threat was reported in the 1700 block of San Jose Street.

**CORYELL COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

April 3
10:32 a.m., trespassing was reported in the 400 block of CR 321.
11:43 a.m., a threat was reported in the 2900 block of S. FM 116.
4:52 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 4500 block of CR 107.
11:26 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 100 block of CR 332.

April 4
3:09 a.m., shots being fired were reported in the 11000 block of S. Hwy. 36.
7:08 a.m., a minor accident was reported in the 13000 block of E. Hwy. 84.
1:39 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 200 block of Vista Road.
6:34 p.m., a theft was reported in the 4300 block of

FM 1113.

April 5
2:22 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 200 block of Vista Road.
5:19 p.m., suspicious people were reported in the 900 block of FM 184.
6:09 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 400 block of Rainer Road.
8:04 p.m., missing livestock were reported in the 9400 block of FM 182.

April 6
12:30 a.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 200 block of CR 354.
5:30 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 12000 block of W. Hwy. 84.
6:22 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 10000 block of FM 116.
8:19 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the Pidcoke area.

April 7
12:46 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 1000 block of Bluebonnet Drive.
4:47 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 200 block of CR 307.
6:25 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 1000 block of Bluebonnet Drive.
9:33 p.m., a fugitive from justice was reported in the 6400 block of FM 1783.

April 8
7:44 a.m., illegal dumping was reported in the 2200 block of FM 580.
8:10 a.m., identity theft was reported in the 700 block of CR 333.
11:55 a.m., bigamy was reported in the 300 block of Old Pidcoke Road.
1:40 p.m., a stolen vehicle was recovered in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.



Trinity Baptist Church will host “Passion 2025” on April 16, 17, 18, and 19.

Trinity Baptist Church presents Passion 2025

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

With Good Friday and Easter soon to be upon us, Trinity Baptist Church is gearing up to host its annual play, “Passion 2025” on April 16, 17, 18, and 19.

Trinity Baptist Church’s free event will give the community a chance to experience a live action story of Jesus’ life, with the trial, crucifixion, and the resurrection.

The church, cast, and crew began preparations early this year to prepare for their annual four-day event.

Last year around the time of the play, Pastor Sam Crosby mentioned that the play is important because it reminds people of the real reason for Easter.

Passion 2025 will feature live performances, live actors, live animals, live music, and a drama that tells the story of a historic event that changed everything.

A hands-on walk-through experience of Jerusalem will be available for community members before the play begins each evening at 6:30 p.m. Jerusalem will include a bak-

ery, a blacksmith, a petting zoo, and more.

The play will begin at 7:30 p.m. each evening and will be located in the same tent pavilion as the previous year.

“We are praying for people to know that God loves them enough to send his son to save their soul, because that is what it is about,” Crosby said.

Trinity Baptist Church is located at 1506 West Main Street in Gatesville.

For further information, contact Trinity Baptist Church at 254-865-8495.

Better Living with Low Vision, April 16

Staff Reports

A “Better Living with Low Vision” discussion group will be held on Wednesday, April 16, at the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce. The group will be held on the third Wednesday of each month from 12-3 p.m.

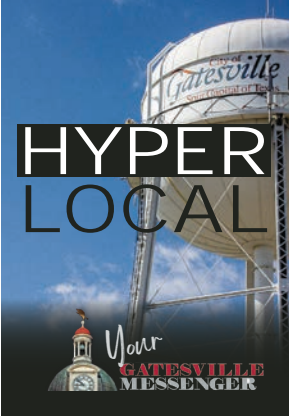
The discussion group aims to help individuals discover services that can help improve their daily life. Attendees will also learn how to use certain phone and computer applications that are designed for low vision.

Information for new attendees will be from 12-

12:45 p.m. and a guest speaker will be present from 12:45-3 p.m.

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

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



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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

 Michael Wingo, pastor;
1750 FM 215, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
& 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday
evening worship 6:30 p.m.

HAY VALLEY BAPTIST

 3110 Hay Valley Road;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 11 a.m.
AWANA children's ministry
Sundays 5-7 p.m. Bible
Study for men & women on
Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

JONESBORO BAPTIST

 Matt Dossey, pastor;
11420 N. State Hwy. S;
Sunday School 10 a.m.,
Sunday worship 10:50
a.m.

KING BAPTIST

 Charles W. McKamie,
pastor; 6730 FM 1783,
Gatesville; Sunday School
10 a.m., Sunday worship
11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

LIBERTY BAPTIST

 Royce T. Cockrell, DMin.,
Pastor; Corner of FM 107
& HWY 36, Gatesville;
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.,
Sunday Service 11 a.m. &
1 p.m., Family Bible Study
Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

LIVE OAK BAPTIST

 Pastor Matthew Hamilton;
113 FM 107, Gatesville;
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.,
Sunday worship 10:30
a.m., Wednesday even-
ings: 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.

**CATHOLIC
OUR LADY OF LOURDES**

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

**CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

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

**EVANT CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

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

**FORT GATES CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

 4605 St. Hwy. 36 S.,
Gatesville; Sunday
worship 10:30 a.m.

GATESVILLE CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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

LA IGLESIA DE CRISTO

 2413 E. Main, Gatesville;
clases y servicios en
Español, 10–11:30 a.m.,
Solamente en domingos.

**MIDWAY CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

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

**PEARL CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

 6790 FM 183; Sunday
worship 10:30 a.m.

**CHURCH OF
GOD**
**CORNERSTONE
CHURCH OF GOD**
Peter Anson, pastor,
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; Neely
Reynolds, 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**

 Lee Kelley, Pastor;
Sunday service 11 a.m.,
8205 FM 182, Turnersville;
254-340-0337.

**COVER2COVER
MINISTRIES**

 Pastor: Rev. Brandy
Spiker, Sunday service

 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.,
Wednesdays 6 p.m.
407 SH-36, Ste. 4 & 5,
Gatesville.

**GATESVILLE REVIVAL
CENTER**

 Wes Covey, Pastor;
Sunday school 10 a.m.,
Sunday services 11 a.m. &
6 p.m., Thursdays 7 p.m.;
2518 Bridge St.; 254-392-
9472.

**GRACE ASSEMBLY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

 Wray Nunn, pastor;
Sunday worship 10:30
a.m., Wednesday worship
6:30 p.m.; Gateway
Learning Center, 2315
Osage Rd., Gatesville.

**HARVESTING SOULS
INTERNATIONAL
CHURCH**

 Mike & Martha Johnson
pastors, 503 N. 11th St.,
Gatesville; 865-6222.
Sunday worship 11
a.m. Wednesday Bible
Study Ministries (Men,
Women, children) 6 p.m.

**"Overcomers" a TDC &
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recovery program meets
Tuesday 6 p.m.**
**JOHNNY WATKIN'S
MEN'S SUNDAY
SCHOOL CLASS**

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se reune La Iglesia de
Cristo, in the 2400 Block of
E. Main St., Gatesville.

**LEVITA BIBLE
FELLOWSHIP**

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

**MOTHER NEFF FAITH
TABERNACLE**

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

**PEARL COMMUNITY
FELLOWSHIP**

 6735 FM 183, Pearl; Sun-
day Services 9 a.m.

**THE HOUSE THAT GOD
BUILT**

 Bill Trotter, pastor; 3412
E. Main St., Gatesville;
Sunday service 11 a.m.,
Wednesday service 7 p.m.

**PENTECOSTAL
TABERNACLE OF
PRAISE**

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

**MOUNT CALVARY
CHURCH OF GOD IN
CHRIST**

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

**PRESBYTERIAN
THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

**REFORMED
GRACE BIBLE CHURCH**

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

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BIENVENIDOS
AL HOGAR DE DIOS**

 Domingos a partir de las
2:00 p.m. Te esperamos!
6226 E. Hwy. 84,
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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.

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| 002 | Auctions | 019 | Masonry & Stonework |
| 003 | Business/Commercial | 020 | Moving & Hauling |
| 004 | Business Opportunity | 021 | Painting |
| 005 | Cleaning Services | 022 | Plumbing |
| 006 | Construction/Contractors | 023 | Pressure Washing |
| 007 | Demolition | 024 | Real Estate For Rent |
| 008 | Electrician | 025 | Real Estate For Sale |
| 009 | Excavating | 026 | Repair Services |
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| 011 | Firewood | 028 | Sand, Gravel & Soil |
| 012 | For Sale | 029 | Small Business |
| 013 | Garage & Estate Sales | 030 | Storage |
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013 Garage & Estate Sales

DOLLAR SALE! The Boys & Girls Club
Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main.

Estate Sale: 212 Leisure Acres,
Gatesville, TX 77657, April 10 - 12.
Thurs., 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Fri. & Sat.,
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eclectic Sale! Vintage
tractor, saddle, tools, lawn equipment,
sports equipment, small windmill,
kayak, double dog stroller, outdoor
furniture, vintage Pyrex, Lenox China,
linens, nice furniture, & much more!
Come by Kay's!

Multi-family Garage Sale: 1700 Bridge
St., Friday, 9am-5pm & Saturday,
8am-3pm.

Yard Sale: 960 CR 245, Saturday,
April 12, 8:30a.m. Lots of clothing,
Christmas decor, misc.

014

Help Wanted

**NOW
HIRING**



- RN/LVN Charge Nurse – FT & PRN
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• CMA – FT & PRN All Shifts
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**** CNA Class: Starting
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025

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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 Home, 266 E. Live Oak St., Evant, TX on 1.166 ac. Lot, recently remodeled, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, out buildings. \$230,000
- 3 Br, 2 Ba home, 202 Liberty St., Gatesville, TX, laminate wood flooring, vaulted ceiling-living room, fireplace, large backyard, storage shed, 2-car garage. \$245,000
- 1.603 ac., 204 ft. of Hwy. 281 frontage & 300 ft. of frontage on Bell St. great location for a convenience store, strip center or any retail business. \$369,000
- 8.01 ac. Lot 54 in Buffalo Creek Ranch Subdivision, Langford Branch, rolling terrain, scattered tree cover, electric & Fiber Optic Internet. \$118,000
- 9.9 ac with 3 Br, 2 Ba rock home, 2580 CR 303, Hamilton, TX. Approx. 3,900 sq ft of living space. Totally Remodeled, stainless steel appliances, breakfast nook, lots of cabinet space. 2 living area with a fireplace in both, large walk-in closet in Master bedroom, large patio, 37' x 33' workshop good tree cover. \$695,000
- 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
- 10.01 ac. 1 Br, 1.5 Ba 1100sq. ft. barn-dominium, 5045 PR 42125, Evant, TX. Lot 70 Ph 4 Rio Escondido, 22ft x 12 ft shed with 20 ft awning, water well, rolling terrain, scatter tree cover. \$395,000
- 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
- 15 ac. East of Evant, Bear Branch Rd, great views, scattered tree cover, small pond, electricity across road, will need to drill water well for water. \$150,000
- 16.5 ac. Turnersville, open pasture, good views, paved CR 220, electricity across road, check w/ Coryell City Water on availability of water meter. \$206,500
- 18.1 ac. south of Evant, near Adamsville, Lampasas County, Hwy. 281 & CR 2830. water well, electricity, carport, rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$360,000
- 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
- 19.95 ac, Old Georgetown Rd., Gatesville, TX. Scattered tree cover, rolling terrain, electric on property. \$289,275
- 22.892 ac. 5448 CR 182, Jonesboro, water well, electric, 2 tanks, good tree cover, rolling terrain, near Ireland, TX. \$315,000
- 35.72 ac. FM 116, Gatesville, TX, 1 stock Tank, Electric on property, open pasture, great views close to town. \$464,360
- 38.14 ac FM 116, Gatesville, TX, open pasture, electric on property, approx. 25 ac farmland. Great views. \$495,820
- 48 ac. Harmon Rd, Copperas Cove, Perryman Creek, Rolling Terrain, Scattered tree cover. \$600,000
- 62.141 ac. 2 Br, 1 Ba home. 4463 CR 158, Evant, near Pearl, TX, home needs repairs & updating, custom-built cabinets in Master Bedroom & dining area. Multi County Water Supply, good rolling terrain, good tree cover and small season branch, small pond and utility building 13'6 in x 30'6. \$776,750
- 122.64 ac, Old Georgetown Rd., Gatesville, TX Cottonwood Creek, electric, windmill well, 30 ft x 60 ft barn, cattle pens, good tree cover, rolling terrain, great views. \$1,336,776
- 129.81 ac. Purnella, 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 to 40 ft limestone bluffs along the creek, good rolling terrain, good tree cover. \$6,200,000

Ad1

027

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032

Miscellaneous

CASH for Junk Cars, with or without
title. 254-721-6592

Public Notice

Q&A

**What makes newspapers
the best source for
public notice?**

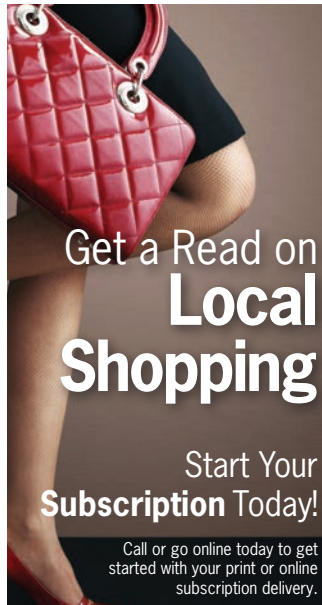
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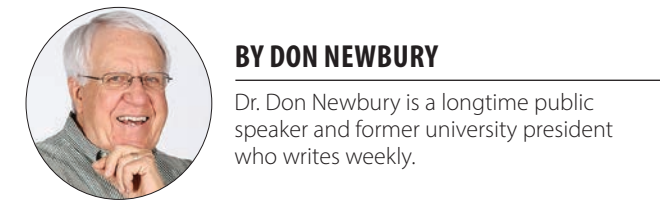


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THE IDLE AMERICAN

Roofers at the Ready...



BY DON NEWBURY

Dr. Don Newbury is a longtime public speaker and former university president who writes weekly.

They're as predictable as frantic taxpayers working until the hours are few on April 14 to meet income tax filing deadlines the following midnight. A nomadic bunch, they show up following hailstorms, cell phones in hand with promises to examine roofs. Yep, an unexpected call from an unknown number.

"We just happen to be in the neighborhood, and wonder if you'd like a free assessment," they say. Notice that they don't say *your* neighborhood; truth to tell, they may be in neighborhoods several time zones away, implying that they're about to ring your doorbell.

I'm just urging caution. TV ads blare of lawyers whose services are free if cases are not won, and government representatives who are "here to help us." Some gift-bearers turn out to be of Greek origin ...

Hailstones and dogs "woofing" bring roofs to mind, and a favorite story my Uncle Mort has repeated so many times that it has grown whiskers.

It's about a 1950s neighbor who tried fruitlessly to run his household, his hand clutching his pocketbook. He was said to be so frugal, he'd climb over gates to save the hinges.

Typically, he could put aside pleas from his wife and his children, but when they banded against him, he usually gave in, audibly groaning upon finally reaching for his wallet ...

Before television came along, there was the push to get a battery-powered radio. "We ain't doin' it," he'd fume. "It would just lead to something else."

He'd give it his best shot, but soon, the family was enjoying its very own radio.

Then, they came out with electrically-powered radios that had pull-out record players. Each time, the "head of the house" would trot out the same expression about purchases "leading to something else." ...

Mama and the kids, all on bended knees, later begged fervently to purchase a television set. "It could be a Christmas gift for all of us," they whined.

Days became weeks, and the old guy - in a weaker moment - agreed to visit the store to get a first-hand look at TV sets.

"We're not buying one, though," he assured. "It would just lead to something else." ...

The salesman, warning that Christmas shoppers were depleting their TV inventory, reinforced what appeared to be the winning team - Mama and the kids.

"I'm thinking about buying it, since it will be a gift for all of us," the prospective purchaser finally said, his resistance as depleted as the current stock of TV sets. "But I know it'll just lead to something else."

As they loaded the bulky 17-inch TV, the salesman added, "Of course, you'll

need a TV antenna." ... Startled, the reluctant buyer responded, "Need a what?"

Explaining that TV reception in fringe areas required tall antennas, the salesman recommended a 20-foot antenna for placement on the peak of the roof.

"I knew it, I just knew it," the old man whimpered. "Now we've got to get us a roof." ...

Finally, though, the TV brought considerable enjoyment, particularly when weather conditions were right for the reception of both pictures and sound. Often as not, only the sound came through, so at such times, it was no better than radio.

The late Bob Murphey, who spoke "perfect East Texas and fair English," was a world-class storyteller, often speaking to the same audiences repeatedly.

And they always urged him to tell about his neighbor buying his family's first TV set ...

Jerry Clower, late Mississippi comedian, was on par with Murphey in yarn-spinning. He, too, was asked to relate favorite tales, even if audience members knew them by heart. One concerned his first visit to a "kaffay." (Even then, most patrons called them "restaurants.")

While paying his tab, Jerry extracted a toothpick from a small glass container, carefully attending to both 'uppers and lowers" while the cashier dispensed his change.

Placing the toothpick back in the holder, Jerry said, "I'll bet you thought I was going to steal that toothpick, didn't you?" ...

TENEBRAE

A Service of Darkness

by Hal Hopson

April 13, 2025

6:00 p.m. | First Methodist Church of Gatesville

The First Methodist Church Chancel Choir, joined by singers from other churches in the community, will present the cantata, *TENEBRAE / A Service of Darkness*. Tenebrae means "darkness." The service commemorates the final hours of the Lord's life on earth as he suffered and died on the cross. Throughout the service, candles will be extinguished, one by one, until there is total darkness. This is symbolic of the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus and of the diminishing light of the world as Christ departs from it.

Tenebrae is a work by Hal Hopson. Hopson was born in 1933 in Mound, Texas, one of 13 children. He did his undergraduate work at Baylor and received his bachelor's in sacred music from Southern Baptist Seminary. He has published more than 1,300 works, including hymn and psalm arrangements and choral anthems. Hal Hopson's music can be heard on any given Sunday in churches throughout the world. Hal and his wife currently reside in Dallas, Texas.

His cantata, *GOD WITH US*, was one of the few compositions selected by a panel at the Kennedy Center, Washington, DC., to be placed in a capsule during the American Bicentennial in 1976.

There is no charge for admission to the cantata, and everyone is invited to attend.

HAL HOPSON

2600 E. MAIN STREET
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LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION — TRC 109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS:
IN THE MATTER OF MARRIAGE OF
LASHONDA RAE MURPHY
BRINKLEY SHEROD MURPHY
CAUSE NO: DC-22-53601

IN THE 440TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS
TO: BRINKLEY SHEROD MURPHY — GREETING

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock AM on the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable TRENT D FARRELL, 440TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Coryell County, at the Courthouse in said County in Gatesville, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 05/06/2022 in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: as is more shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gatesville, Texas, this 9th day of May, 2022.

Attorney for Plaintiff or Petitioner
LASHONDA MURPHY-PRO SE
276 HICKORY CIRCLE
COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS 76522
Clerk of the Court:
Becky Moore, District Clerk
P.O. Box 4
Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas
By: Lonna Gossett, Deputy

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS CORYELL COUNTY

The Coryell County Sheriff is soliciting proposals from experienced commissary service contractors to provide the Coryell County Jail with a full range of commissary services for inmates and an accounting system to process commissary transactions. Respondent shall supply and coordinate inmate trust accounting and Bag sales commissary services for the Coryell County Jail.

Proposals must be received in the Coryell County Auditor's Office on or before April 21, 2025 at 2:00pm. to be considered. Only sealed proposals will be accepted and may be hand delivered or mailed to: Coryell County Auditor's Office Attn: Matthew Wood Coryell County Main Street Annex 800 East Main Street Suite A Gatesville, Texas 76528. The County reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit qualifications and may award one or more contracts to one or more commissary service provider(s). Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit qualifications. Coryell County is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Full RFP available on County Website at coryellcounty.org.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Dorothy Symank were issued on March 28, 2025 in Cause No. 25-11163 pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, Texas, to Brooks Symank.

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

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

Dated the 28th day of March, 2025.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City Council of the City of Gatesville, in the Regular Meeting will hold a Public Hearing on April 8, 2025, to discuss the following ordinances:

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2025-08:
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GATESVILLE, TEXAS, AMENDING THE GATESVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING CHAPTER 3, "PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION"; PROVIDING DUTIES AND POWERS; MEETINGS AND QUORUM; RULES AND PROCEDURES; APPLICATIONS; AND AMENDMENTS; REPEALING SECTION 4 OF ORDINANCE 1995-17; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE.

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2025-10:
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GATESVILLE, TEXAS, AMENDING THE GATESVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REPEALING SECTION 5 OF ORDINANCE 1995-17, "BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT"; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE.

Complete texts of these ordinances are available for inspection, during regular business hours, at City Hall, 803 E. Main Street.

Holly Owens
City Secretary

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SCAN ME TO OPEN

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRATEFUL

POTATO CHIP CHICKEN

DeDe Powell

- 2-3 lbs. chicken pieces, skin removed
- 2 c. crushed potato chips
- 1 c. margarine, melted
- ¼ tsp. garlic salt

Mix crushed chips with garlic salt. Dip chicken in melted margarine and roll in potato chips. Place on baking sheet with rim. Pour the remaining margarine and chips over chicken. Bake at 350 for one hour. Serves 4 to 6.

MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT

Former GISD superintendent remembered...

DAVID SCOTT Staff Writer

From 1936 until 1945, Ercell W. Brooks served as the superintendent of Gatesville ISD. His photograph and some of his background information are featured in the school room display at the Coryell Museum and Historical Center.

Ercell Brooks came to the Gatesville school district in 1936 where he remained until his resignation in 1945 to become superintendent at the Sulphur Springs ISD. His tenureship in Gatesville lasted for eight years.

Brooks was born on Sept. 15, 1901, in Wilbarger County, Texas. He was a graduate of West Texas State College and Baylor University.

He served as superintendent in Gatesville and Sulphur Springs and eventually became deputy superintendent of the Waco District. Over the years, Brooks, his wife, and his children moved frequently as he continued to pursue his career in school administration. Their last move was in 1949 to San Angelo where he served as the director of finance for the San Angelo Independent School District and later as the assistant superintendent.

In December of 1989, Ercell Brooks passed away at his home in San Angelo at the age of 89. He was buried in the Fairmount Cemetery in San Angelo.

Older graduates of Gatesville High School may remember his work at Gatesville ISD.

Currently, the museum is closed during the installation of a new elevator, but when it reopens, visitors can visit the rich treasure trove of school memorabilia in the school room display along with all the other exhibits located in the building.

The museum is located at 718 E. Main Street and has the largest spur collection in the nation, if not the world. Admission to the museum is free. Yearly, Coryell Museum memberships are \$20 for singles, \$30 for families, and \$40 for businesses, which also 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



COURTESY PHOTO

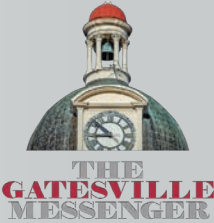
Ercell Brooks

through the museum with docents at many exhibits. Call the museum at 254-865-5007 to plan a visit.

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Good Friday Cross Walk set for April 18

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

Gatesville’s annual Good Friday Community Cross Walk, organized by Carlos Webb, will be held on April 18, to honor Good Friday and Easter.

The walk will begin at the First Methodist Church at 8:30 a.m. Participants of the event will walk three miles to Coryell Community Church, with many taking turns carrying a cross made of wood along the way.

The 10-foot-tall cross weighs approximately 100 pounds and is made up of 1x6 lumber.

During the walk, community members will pray for all surrounding schools and staff, the military, first responders (fire department, law enforcement, and EMS), the local judicial system and its leaders, state and federal leaders, and service organizations like Righteous Roots Crisis Resource Center, and the Hidden Gem Family Center.

If individuals are unable to walk, the community is also invited to attend the

worship rally following the walk as well. The rally will be held in the prayer garden at Coryell Community Church. Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Webb expressed that he is passionate about uniting churches and teaching people, young and old, to be a bold witness in their walk with Christ.

“The cross walk is important for several reasons,” Webb said. “It serves as a time of remembrance and celebration for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

The Bible verse related to the annual cross walk is

Luke 9:23, “Then He said to them, whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”

“Scripture (1 Corinthians 12:20) talks about one body with many parts, so this event serves as a symbol of unity by bringing our church bodies together to serve one God, regardless of denomination,” Webb said.

For further details, contact Carlos Webb at 254-223-2444.

The First Methodist Church is located at 2600 East Main Street and Coryell Community Church is located at 115 North Levita Road.



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Locals are pictured during last year’s cross walk carrying the cross to the prayer garden at Coryell Community Church.



ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Community members are pictured after the cross walk in the prayer garden of Coryell Community Church for a worship rally.

Summer Sounds in Faunt Le Roy Park, April 26

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce and the City of Gatesville have announced their collaboration to host a Summer Sounds event in the lower portion of Faunt Le Roy Park.

Summer Sounds is a free concert series that will feature local talent, happening

on the last Saturday of each month from April through September from 7-9 p.m., with the first concert being April 26.

While this is a volunteer opportunity to share Gatesville’s talents with the community, there will be a reward for one winner. At the end of the season, the public will vote for their fa-

vorite Summer Sounds act, and the winner will be showcased at the prestigious annual Chamber of Commerce banquet.

Summer Sounds is searching for food truck vendors for the event as well.

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

Anji Pearl returns to the stage at Pearl Bluegrass Jam

DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

After being away from the Pearl Bluegrass Jam for a few years, Anji Pearl Day recently made a triumphant return to the stage — a place she holds dear to her heart.

Anji Pearl, who now teaches music at Copperas Cove ISD, has always been a great supporter of Pearl Bluegrass and the Pearl community. She’s often been quoted as saying, “There’s just no place like Pearl.”

On her return, she said, “Returning to Pearl is like coming home, being sent home with pie from the

Bluegrass Kitchen, which is always the sweetest part of Pearl and worth every mile you drive.”

Returning to the stage with her well-known Bass Fiddle (covered with numerous stickers), she said, “Being flooded with all of the history, the life changing moments, remembering the laughter and the tears, I returned to be instantly engulfed with the joy from hearing the music once again.”

On stage, she joined fellow musician and friend, Brother Jon and the Rainbow Hearts, where she plucked on her Bass Fiddle with a wide smile.

In the past, Anji Pearl was no stranger at Pearl or at any other Bluegrass events. She and her husband, Charlie Day, have played their music all across central Texas and, in the past, she had her own music group known as Anji Pearl and the Polka Dots.

“I am so thankful efforts are being made to save the Pearl Bluegrass Jam. It’s precious and the children need a safe place to come and learn Bluegrass music from the ‘old guys,’” she said.

“Once again, I’m counting the days until the next Pearl. Prayers have been answered for me.”



GOOD FRIDAY
COMMUNITY CROSS WALK

BEGINS AT 8:30 A.M.
at First Methodist Church
2600 E. Main St., Gatesville, TX

WALK 3 MILES
to Coryell Community Church
115 N. Levita Rd., Gatesville, TX

WORSHIP RALLY TO FOLLOW
We will gather to fellowship in Worship and the Word!

Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross daily, and follow me."

- Luke 9:23

Questions? Contact Carlos Webb at 254-223-2444





DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Anji Pearl comes back “home” to Pearl.

Harvard Bound!

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Gatesville High School senior, Alex Johnson, will be taking the leap to an “Ivy League” university following his graduation from high school in May. Johnson, age 18, is the son of Crystal Whalen and Richard Whalen.

Johnson has accomplished many academic achievements while a student at Gatesville High School including being named as a National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalist, an All-Star cast member in the One-Act-Play competition, and designated with the National Rural and Small-Town Award as well.

In addition, he has served as the president of the student body and the senior class and was in the Senior Homecoming Court in 2024. He has also served as the drum major for the Fighting Hornet Band.

Academic wise, Johnson has been known to take the most rigorous courses available at Gatesville High School and has also participated in debate class, academic UIL, student council, the PALS program and, in 2023, he was a UIL Champion in Current Issues and Events.

Gatesville ISD has also

recognized Johnson during their “spotlight” awards for his academic achievements as well as his hard work.

Recently, Johnson received a letter of acceptance from the prestigious Harvard University. “I’ve wanted to go to Harvard for years, since I was a kid. My first distinct memory was while I was in fourth grade, sitting in the car one night looking up the acceptance rate at Harvard, what classes I should take in high school to boost my resume and what classes they offered,” he said.

As a high school senior, he said, “I only applied to two other schools (other than Harvard), MIT and Cornell. I had over a dozen applications filled out and ready to submit if I was denied from Harvard. I failed to apply to UT where I would have been granted automatic acceptance. I was denied by MIT and waitlisted from Cornell, so if I had been denied from Harvard, my college choices would have been skimmed down. I was extremely lucky to be accepted to my dream school.”

Upon learning of his acceptance into Harvard, Johnson said he was “flabbergasted and shocked when I read the letter. I can’t even describe the feeling I felt. It was just

my mom and I when we opened the notices and we didn’t record either of them for the intimacy of the moment, but she almost immediately started crying and we hugged for what felt like forever.”

“Gatesville has clearly prepared me for college. My teachers have taught me challenging and engaging coursework, pushing me to explore further if too easy, and have been the voices of reason when I need it,” he said.

Johnson continued, “Every single teacher I’ve had the privilege of being taught by throughout my educational career has inspired and encouraged me. I did the math earlier and I have had 61 teachers in the last 14 years, and 55 of them were in Gatesville. That is an incomprehensible number and it kind of seems impossible to have that many people change my life, but it’s true. Not just my teachers either, but everyone at GISD and everyone in the community too.”

At the moment, Johnson is slated to concentrate on mathematics at Harvard and he also plans to concentrate on history, earning his sec-



COURTESY PHOTO

Alex Johnson...Harvard Bound!

Oglesby track claws their way to the finish line

BY TOM NORRELL
Contributing Writer

Oglesby High School and Junior High School girls and boys track teams competed in the District 26A track meet in Zephyr.

The high school boys team achieved district champion status and will advance to the area meet along with various Lady Tigers.

High School Boys Area Qualifiers

4x100 Meter Relay: Kyler Fossett, Kayson Campbell,

Aiden Oxford, and Alex Castillo

800 Meter Run: Camden Webb and Jayce Aaron

100 Meter Dash: Kyler Fossett and Aiden Oxford

110 Meter Hurdles: Alex Castillo

4x200 Meter Relay: Kegan Redford, Camden Webb, Jayce Aaron, and Jakson Tippet

400 Meter Dash: Kayson Campbell, Aiden Oxford, and Evan Williamson

300 Meter Hurdles: Alex Castillo and Holdyn Goff

200 Meter Dash: Kyler

Fossett, Kayson Campbell, and Jakson Tippet

3200/1600 Meter Run: David Mejia, Josue Rodriguez, and Couper Wulfschuhle

4x400 Meter Relay: Evan Williamson, Jayce Aaron, Holdyn Goff, and Callen Webb

High Jump: Kyler Fossett and Alex Castillo

Long Jump: Kyler Fossett and Evan Williamson

Triple Jump: Alex Castillo and Evan Williamson

Shot Put: Jaxon Markum

Pole Vault: Holdyn Goff

High School Girls Area

Qualifiers

100 Meter Hurdles: Caitlyn Battreal

400 Meter Dash: Zarah Wisehart

300 Meter Hurdles: Caitlyn Battreal

200 Meter Dash: Zarah Wisehart

3200 Meter Run: Allisson Uribe

1600 Meter Run: Maddison Smith

High Jump: Caitlyn Battreal

Pole Vault: Zarah Wisehart



COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby High School boys track team



COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville High School senior golfers Max Healer and Avery Streetman

GHS senior golfers are regional bound

Staff Reports

Gatesville High School senior golfers Max Healer and Avery Streetman are headed to the regional tournament this year after both athletes qualified as medalists in the final round of the District 23-4A tournament.

Streetman finished as the number two overall medalist in the girls’ division, qualifying her for regionals. This will be her fourth consecutive season to compete in the regional tournament.

Healer earned a repeat trip as well after placing fourth in the boys’ medalist race.

The 4A-Region III tournament will be held during the third week of April in Huntsville.



Coryell Community Church

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9:00am
10:30am

Wednesday ReConnect:
5:45pm

Hornets drop district contests, control playoff fate

BY CHRIS ALLMAN
Contributing Writer

Despite a pair of narrow district defeats, Gatesville baseball is still firmly in control of their playoff destiny with a share of the district title still a possibility. The Hornets are 2-3 in league play after falling 7-4 to Robinson and 6-4 to No. 3 China Spring April 8. They will rematch the Cougars

April 11 before playing their final two series against Connally and La Vega. Against Robinson, the Hornets led 4-0 before three errors led to their undoing in the sixth inning. The Rockets scored seven runs in the top of the sixth to take a 7-4 then held on for the win. Gehrig Keeton got the start for the Hornets and allowed three earned runs on five hits. He struck out five

and walked two before giving way to John Ibarra, who threw two innings and allowed no earned runs. The Hornets picked up five hits and put 11 men on base in the loss. Keeton, Ibarra, Miles Tull, Bradey James, and Collyn Coleman each had hits in the loss. Coleman ripped off three of Gatesville's eight hits against the Cougars. He picked up two singles then

doubled home a run in the seventh as the Hornets mounted a late charge. Tull had a pair of hits as did Logan Biggs. Tull also delivered on the hill as the left battled through six innings, scattering eight hits and allowing just two earned runs and striking out three. Gatesville trailed 1-0 heading into the bottom of the fourth but scored twice to

take the lead. Biggs delivered a bases loaded single that scored Justin Muegge to tie the game at 1-1 then Tull's line drive single scored Keeton for a 2-1 lead. China Spring came back with three runs in the fifth to take a 5-2 lead but another Tull RBI single in the bottom of the inning cut the deficit to 5-3. Coleman's double in the seventh scored Grady Keeton to make it a 6-4 game

but the Hornets would not get any closer. Gatesville will travel to China Spring April 11 for the rematch then start a series against La Vega April 11. A loss to the Cougars would likely pencil the Hornets in as the No. 2 seed in the 4A Division 1 playoffs and mean a first-round matchup with long-time rival Lampasas.



The Hornets are 2-3 in league play after falling 7-4 to Robinson and 6-4 to No. 3 China Spring April 8.

COURTESY PHOTO

Gatesville Riding Club to host banquet April 25

Staff Reports

The Gatesville Riding Club will host its annual awards banquet for 2025 Friday, April 25, at 6 p.m. Awards will be presented during the event, and dinner will be served as well. The meal will include hamburgers and hot dogs. Attendees are encouraged to bring a side or dessert. Contestants will eat for free, and eventgoers will eat for \$10. Payment must be made in advance through Venmo at "gatesvillerridingclub." For further information or to RSVP, call 254-493-8954. The event will be held at 103 Gateway Circle in Gatesville.

GHS to host donkey basketball, May 2

Staff Reports

Gatesville High School's Hornet Cheer Booster Club has partnered with Dairyland Donkey Ball to host a donkey basketball tournament on Friday, May 2, in the Sidney L. Pruitt Gymnasium. A time for the event will be released at a further date. Gatesville High School educator Justin Brumfield will be the emcee for the event. Senior Katie Hopson will sing the national anthem. There will be four teams including the Celebrity Team, Coaches/Staff, Friday Night Lights, and Athletes. **Celebrity Team** Joe Patterson with the First National Bank of Central Texas, Cody Graham with the Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville, Jeffrey Shonkwhiler with Coryell Community Church, Tobias Moore, Susie Meelbusch with Hillside Medical Lodge, Niki Foster with the Green Rooster, Becky Coward with

Coryell County 4-H, Tasha McGehee with The Caffeinated Baker, and Jennifer Considine with The Caffeinated Baker **Coaches/Staff** Si Sheets, Chase Cole, John Woods, Jennifer Doss, Janey Weber, Melanie Kunkel, and Areisy Chacon **Friday Night Lights** Dylan Watts, junior; Amos Phillips, junior; Greyson Eggeling, junior; Kaden Coffman, junior; Jack Erwin, senior; Memphis Wells, senior; Madison Shalchi, junior; and Paisley Wells, junior **Athletes** Brayden Mills, senior; Rex Owen, senior; Logan Morgan, senior; Kase Cox, senior; Avery Meelbusch, senior; Ally Penrod, senior; Addison Taylor, senior; Belle Barlett, junior; Taylor Sanderson, junior; and Charlee Ferris, sophomore *Further information for the event will be released at a later date.*

Jonesboro golf swings for success

Staff Reports The Jonesboro High School boys and girls golf teams competed in a district golf tournament on Monday, March 31. The girls team will advance to regionals along with Austin Massingill from the boys team. **Eagle stats** Braxton and Braydon Dossey, 106 and 131; Will Featherston, 135; Preston Seager, 119; Austin Massingill, 99 Team total: 455 **Lady Eagle stats** Sierra Chapman, 130; Peyton Williamson, 137; Samantha Iverson, 159; Lacy Weaver, 146 Team total: 572 The regional tournament will take place on Monday, April 14, and Tuesday, April 15, at ShadowGlen Golf Club in Manor. The boys and girls golf teams are led by coach Billy Massingill.



COURTESY OF JONESBORO ISD

Pictured (left to right) are James Wood, manager; Braydon Dossey, Austin Massingill, Lacy Weaver, Peyton Williamson, coach Billy Massingill, Sierra Chapman, Will Featherston, Samantha Iverson, Preston Seager, and Braxton Dossey.

HARVARD

FROM PAGE B1

ondary field in psychology. He will be attending Harvard in the Fall of this year with classes scheduled to begin

September 2. "To me, I was not accepted into Harvard, but Gatesville was. I was raised by this community, I was taught by this community and I'm extremely proud to be representing this community in

Cambridge for the next four years." Johnson has been invited to visit the Harvard campus April 27 and 28, but due to high cost and short notice, he is not able to afford it on his own.

In order to visit Harvard, Johnson has set up a GoFundMe account to help raise funds for the trip. It explains the circumstances and exactly what the \$2,000 would go toward. Johnson will be competing in the UIL

Regional Academic Contest two days prior to the events at Harvard. The first event at Harvard is Sunday, so traveling circumstances will be even stricter. Those wishing to help Johnson with travel expens-

es to visit Harvard can visit gofundme.com/f/help-a-gatesville-student-visit-harvard.



BY JOSH BURTON
Staff Writer

GATESVILLE BASEBALL

dropped two tough district games this week, losing 7-4 Friday against Robinson and 6-4 Tuesday against China Spring.

Robinson 7, Gatesville 4

Robinson rallied from the four-run deficit in the top of the sixth inning to defeat Gatesville and hand the Hornets a tough loss.

Gatesville was ahead 4-0 after three innings, thanks to a run scored on an error in the second inning and three runs scored on an error in the third. RBI (runs batted in) single and four runs scored on errors.

A Gatesville rally attempt in the seventh fell short after the Hornets got runners on second and third with two outs.

China Spring 6, Gatesville 4

China Spring took a 4-2 lead in the fifth inning and never relinquished it.

Gatesville was ahead 2-1 after four innings, thanks to an RBI single by L. Biggs that scored J. Muegge. That run tied the game, before M. Tull hit an RBI single, and G. Keeton scored giving Gatesville the lead.

After falling behind 5-2 in the sixth, Gatesville scored a run on an RBI single by W. Haferkamp that scored J. Feters.

Gatesville then cut the lead to 5-3 in the sixth on an RBI single by Tull. C. Coleman scored in the play.

The Hornets tried to rally in the seventh and scored a run on an RBI double by Coleman that scored J. Ibarra.

However, the game ended with a fly ball out.

The losses drop Gatesville to 2-3 in district and 13-9-1 overall.

Gatesville softball

Gatesville split two games this past week, losing at home to Robinson Friday 12-5 before bouncing back with a win Tuesday at home against China Spring 6-5.

Robinson 12, Gatesville 5

Despite scoring five runs in Friday's game against Robinson, it wasn't enough for the Lady Hornets, who lost the game, 12-5.

Kinlee Gardner had four RBIs after going 2-4. She also scored a run.

Gatesville cut the Robinson lead to 6-4 in the third inning, scoring runs on Gardner's grand slam home run.

Robinson answered in the next half inning with four runs to take the 10-4 lead.

The final Gatesville run was scored in the bottom of the fifth on an RBI single by Raylee Glover, which scored Leah Torres.

Robinson added a run in the sixth and a run in the seventh to win the game, 12-5.

Gatesville 6, China Spring 5

With the game tied 5-5 in the eighth inning, Torres stepped into the batter's box with two outs.

Brilee Ford had just singled to get a baserunner on. After Ford stole second base during Torres' at bat, Torres hit an RBI single, and Ford scored the game-winning run.

Just an inning prior, Gatesville had to rally to tie

the game and send it into extra innings. In the seventh, Torres scored a run on an RBI sacrifice ground ball out. Then, Amelia Langenstrass scored a run after Addy Shelton reached base on an error.

China Spring was ahead, 2-1, after two, 3-1 after three and 4-3 after six innings before taking a 5-3 lead going into the bottom of the seventh.

Madison Hester earned the win for Gatesville, giving up five runs on seven hits. She struck out 10 and walked three.

With the results this past week, Gatesville is 4-3 in district.

Gatesville track

Four Lady Hornets, seven Hornets and two Hornet relay teams qualified for the area track meet this past Wednesday at Jarrell.

Four girls — Addison Taylor in high jump, Marin Segraves in pole vault, Riley Higginbotham in the 3200m run and the 1600m run, and Charlee Ferris in the 800m run — all qualified.

Seven boys — both Holton Bolfing and Amos Phillips in the pole vault, West Allman and Bo Kelley in the high jump, both Cameron Thompson and Malachi Olvera in the 800m run, and Jack Armstrong in the 1600m run.

Both the 4x200m relay team — consisting of Daniel Gonzales, Jack Erwin, Dylan Watts, and Cy Burns — and the 4x400m relay team — consisting of Gonzales, Olvera, Erwin, and Thompson — qualified as well.

Evant girls track

Members of the Evant girls track team competed at district and qualified for the area meet.

State qualifying results are as follows:

The 4x200m relay team finished fourth with a time of 2:16.62.

Molly Waldrum finished third in the high jump, jumping 4 feet, 2 inches.

Bree Ramirez finished second in the discus, throwing 97 feet.

Bree Ramirez finished fourth in the shot put, throwing 26 feet, 4 inches.

Evant boys track

Members of the Evant boys track team competed at district and qualified for the area meet.

State qualifying results are as follows:

Cash Standford finished third in the discus, throwing 119 feet, 4 inches.

Jonesboro baseball

Jonesboro 6, Aquilla 5

Maddox Stroud hit an RBI single in the bottom of the seventh inning to win Friday's game against Aquilla, 6-5.

It was Stroud's third hit of the game and second RBI. He finished the game 3-4 with two RBIs and a run scored, including the game-winning RBI.

Layden Nichols scored the winning run from third base. In the previous at-bat, Luke Stephenson scored the tying run on an RBI sacrifice ground ball out by Evan Mansell.

The winning run was Jonesboro's first lead of the game.

Mansell started the game

and pitched 4.1 innings, giving up five runs on seven hits. He struck out nine and walked two.

Stephenson came into the game and pitched 2.2 innings, giving up no runs on one hit, while striking out seven and walking two.

Oglesby 18, Jonesboro 3

After giving up 10 runs in the first inning to Oglesby, Jonesboro was unable to rally back to get the win.

Oglesby also scored in the second and fourth innings to put the game away.

Jonesboro scored a run in the first inning on an RBI sacrifice ground ball out that scored Nicholls.

Jonesboro added two runs in the fourth inning. Stroud reached base on an error and Mansell scored. Later in the inning, Pate Foote hit an RBI single and Stroud scored.

Jonesboro softball

Jonesboro never trailed in Tuesday's 8-5 win against Bruceville-Eddy.

Jonesboro scored two runs in the first inning on an error that scored Kyleigh Walker and an RBI single by Lynlee Deats that scored Ally Thorman.

Jonesboro scored two runs in the second inning on an RBI sacrifice ground ball out that scored Adalyna Andrade and an error scoring Walker.

Jonesboro scored four runs in the third inning on a three-RBI triple where Deats, Kylee Gould, and Andrade each scored. Turner scored on an error during the play as well, giving Jonesboro the 8-0 lead.

Bruceville-Eddy tried to rally in the game, scoring two runs in the fifth and three runs in the seventh, before Jonesboro got the final out on a ground ball out to Deats.

Jonesboro boys track

Members of the Jonesboro boys track team competed at district and qualified for the area meet.

State qualifying results are as follows:

Will Featherston finished third in the 100m dash with a time of 11.93.

Alejandro Fernandez finished fourth in the 800m run with a time of 2:24.31.

Alejandro Fernandez finished fourth in the 3200m run with a time of 13:24.06.

Eric Thorman finished first in the 110m hurdles with a time of 16.60. Camden Christel finished third with a time of 18.38.

The 4x100m relay team finished first with a time of 44.70.

The 4x200m relay team finished first with a time of 1:33.88.

The 4x400m relay team finished third with a time of 3:55.86.

Eric Thorman finished first in the high jump, jumping 6 feet, 1 inch.

Luke Stephenson finished second in the long jump, jumping 19 feet, 6.5 inches.

Layden Nichols finished first in the triple jump, jumping 41 feet, 1.5 inches.

Will Featherston and Eric Thorman each finished tied for first in the pole vault, jumping 11 feet, 6 inches. Pete Foote finished fourth, jumping 8 feet.

Seaborn Ashby finished first in the discus, throwing

PLEASE SEE **SPORTS** | B6



HORNETS NEST

GATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



RICKEY PHILLIPS

Athletic Director
Gatesville ISD
@RickeyPhillip12 on X

TRACK AREA MEET QUALIFIERS

GHS track had several athletes finish in the top 4 at last week's District 23-4A track meet, qualifying a total of four girls in five events and 11 boys in six events for the 23-4A/24-4A area meet.

For the girls, Riley Higginbotham won gold in the 3200 meters and took the silver medal in the 1600 meters. Marin Segraves also claimed gold in the pole vault. Addison Taylor advanced after a second-place finish in the high jump, while Charlee Ferris' fourth-place finish in the 800 secured her a spot.

For the boys, Holton Bolfing and Amos Phillips pocketed gold and silver, respectively, in the pole vault. West Allman was second in the high jump, and Bo Kelley finished fourth in the same event to advance. In running events, Cameron Thompson and Malachi Olvera were second and third in the 800 meters, while Jack Armstrong took fourth in the 1600 to gain a spot. In the relays, the team of Daniel Gonzales, Jack Erwin, Dylan Watts, and Cy Burns took third in the 4 x 400, while the foursome of Gonzales, Erwin, Dylan Watts, and Burns advanced with a fourth-place showing in the 4 x 200.

The area meet was held earlier this week, with the top four finishers in each event qualifying for the 4A-Region III meet to be held April 18-19 in Bullard.

MORE SPRING SPORTS

Baseball and softball teams headed into this week right smack-dab in the chase for playoff spots in District 23-4A. Both Hornet teams were in the 2nd-3rd spots ... four

teams advance to the post-season later this month. Like all other team sports, the playoff qualifiers enter the Div. I or Div. II brackets based upon the enrollment of each qualifying school.

Golf - GHS will have a pair of medalists competing at the 4A-Region III tournament in Huntsville next week. Avery Streetman, making her 4th-straight trip, plays in the girls' tourney Monday and Tuesday. Max Healer, who will be heading east for the third time in four seasons, plays in the boys' field Wednesday and Thursday. Should either shoot their way to a top 3 finish at regional, they would qualify for state. I've followed both of those kids at some of their tournaments the past few seasons ... they are both very talented, very game/course smart, and they are always thinking ahead of the pace. Avery and Max also share another common trait - they have put in countless hours of work to get where they are in a sport each obviously loves. Good luck to both of you redheads.

Tennis - As the 23-4A tourney approaches, GHS continues to shine in area big-school tournaments. At Copperas Cove last week, Kasey Fitzer and Jack Armstrong won the tourney championship in mixed doubles, while the duo of Madilyn Birnel and Katelyn Sanchez finished second in girls doubles. Ally Nichols, Allison Ochoa, and Tyson Crawford won consolation in their respective singles' divisions. GHS has stops at Bryan and Pflugerville before embarking upon the district tournament April 23-24.

Junior High - GJHS Tennis is hosting its tournament today (Saturday), while GJHS Soccer's next outing will be at La Vega on

Thursday.

NOTES AND DOTES

Really appreciate our coaches, athletic staff, GHS staff, community volunteers, and the GISD custodial, maintenance, and tech departments for their preparation and help in running of the District 23-4A track meet last week. It takes everyone.

Coryell Health Clinic will be offering free physicals for GISD student-athletes on Thursday, April 24. Reminder to parents: All incoming seventh, ninth and 11th-grade athletes (2025-26 school year) must have an updated physical before Aug. 14 (first day of school) or before the start of fall sports if they are participating in high school cross country, football, team tennis, and volleyball. Physical forms will be available at the clinic.

Reminder: GISD will be out Friday, April 18, and Monday, April 21, in observance of Easter/Good Friday.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Monday, April 14

Girls Golf: Avery Streetman plays in 4A-Region III tournament (Huntsville)

Tennis: GJHS at Groesbeck

Tuesday, April 15

Baseball: Varsity here vs. La Vega

Girls Golf: Avery Streetman plays in the 4A-Region III tournament (Huntsville)

Softball: JV-Varsity here vs. La Vega

Wednesday, April 16

Boys Golf: Max Healer plays in the 4A-Region III tournament (Huntsville)

Thursday, April 17

Baseball: Varsity at La Vega

Boys Golf: Max Healer plays in the 4A-Region III tournament (Huntsville)

Soccer: GJHS girls-boys at Robinson

Softball: JV-Varsity at La Vega

Friday, April 18

Track: GHS girls-boys qualifiers at 4A-Region III meet (Bullard)

Saturday, April 19

Track: GHS girls-boys qualifiers at 4A-Region III meet (Bullard)

Little Dazzlers Dance Camp set for May

Staff Reports

The Gatesville High School Dazzlers will host a Little Dazzlers Dance Camp from May 27-29, in the Sidney L. Pruitt Gymnasium from 1-3 p.m. each day. The camp is for incoming kindergarten through sixth grade students.

Camp attendees will learn various dances, along with tips and different techniques to improve dancing skills.

A dance showcase will be held on May 29, at 3 p.m. to show what the campers learned. The registration deadline is May 6, and will cost \$40, with a shirt included. Late registration will be accepted from May 7-27, and will cost \$50, but a shirt will not be included.

Registration can be done online through the Gatesville High School Store. For further information or questions, contact Kari Patterson by email at kpatterson@gatesvilleisd.org.

JISD announced pre-k and kindergarten roundup

Staff Reports

Jonesboro Independent School District has announced that its prekindergarten and kindergarten roundup for the 2025-2026 school year will become available at the end of April.

Students residing in the district will be

accepted from April 22 to June 1. Out-of-district students will be accepted from June 1 to June 25 and will be based on availability.

For further information, contact Jonesboro ISD at 254-463-2111 or visit their website at www.jonesboroisd.net.

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TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Shelby Schultz earns strikeout No. 100, Texans dominate Utah Tech

Tarleton State University

St. George, Utah — Friday, April 4 could have not been scripted any better as Shelby Schultz sat down her 100th batter of the season and didn't stop there as the Texans clinched their third-straight conference series win with a sweep of the doubleheader 3-0 and 10-3.

Shelby Schultz wasted no time hitting 100 strikeouts accomplishing the feat in just the second inning of her 19th appearance of her freshman campaign. She didn't stop there as she ended Game 1 with nine ks and then sat down another pair in relief in Game 2 of the three-game series with the Trailblazers.

TARLETON STATE 3 UTAH TECH 0

Game 1 of the series saw the Texans get off to another quick start as the Purple and White went up 1-0 early on in the first inning and never looked back the rest of the day.

In the top of the first, Tristyn Trull singled down the left field line, scoring the winning run in Hayden Fox to make it 1-0.

In the bottom half of the first, Shelby Schultz wasted no time getting No. 98 and 99. She sat down her first two batter faced before the third and final Trailblazer of the inning grounded out, leaving the Texans on the edge of their seat.

The Purple and White didn't have to wait long to celebrate as Shelby Schultz sat down batter No. 2 of the second inning for her 100th strikeout of the season. With

her 100th, she becomes the first freshman rock slinger to do so in their freshman campaign in Tarleton State's Division I era. She is also the first since 2017 in program history when Jordan Withrow accomplished the feat in 25 appearances and ended her freshman season with 103 total strikeouts in 26 appearances. Shelby Schultz hit the century mark in just 19 appearances, making her one of the fastest in program history to do so.

The third inning saw the teams both put up goose eggs before Shelby Schultz's identical mirror image twin Casey Schultz went yard to put the Texans up 3-0 in the top of the fourth. Casey Schultz hit her second homer of her collegiate career with Kiana Gibson on for her first multi-RBI long ball after a solo shot vs. Yale back on Feb. 21, 2025, when the Texans won 7-5.

After striking out three in the first two innings, Shelby Schultz went on to sit down another six Trailblazers, setting a new career high for strikeouts in a single game with nine total. Her nine strikeouts mark the ninth time this season she has struck out seven or more in an appearance.

For the Texans, it was all Shelby Schultz (W, 10-3) as she tossed her fourth complete game of her young collegiate career and first-ever complete-game shutout as she is the first Texan pitcher thus far this season to reach double-digit wins as she now has 10. In her seven innings of work, she allowed just two hits while she sat down nine and walked just a single Trailblazer. She faced

just three batters over the minimum.

For the Trailblazers, Sauren Garton (L, 6-9) also went the distance as she took her sixth loss of the season. Across her seven innings of work, she allowed all three runs (all earned) on five hits while she walked five and struck out four.

TARLETON STATE 10 UTAH TECH 3

Game 2 of the series was another low-scoring affair until the Texans busted out eight runs in the final two frames to secure win No. 22 of the season 10-3.

Hannah Blincoe earned the start in the second game of the day and pitched the meat of the game, picking up another win for her senior campaign.

The first three frames saw both teams combine for six hits and leave four runners on while neither was able to push any runs home.

In the top of the fourth, things quickly changed as Kalyn Hill stepped to the plate with Trull and Molly Cochran on. She wasted no time putting the Texans on the board shooting on back up the middle on a 0-1 count, scoring Tarleton State's first two runs of the game and giving the Purple and White a 2-0 lead in the fourth.

The Trailblazer scored their first of three runs of the game in the bottom of the fourth as Gabi Giroux singled up the middle, scoring Marisa Rubio to make it 2-1 Tarleton State.

With the Texans leading by just one entering the top of the sixth, things seemed to get a little tense as the Purple



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Shelby Schultz marks the first freshman to hit 100 strikeouts in Tarleton State's Division I era, first in program history since Jordan Withrow in 2017

and White looked to hang on to clinch the series win. Fast forward two innings, and runs were not an issue for the road team.

Jaelynn Duke got the scoring party started in the top of the sixth, doubling to left center, scoring Gibson and Riley McDaniel (pinch ran for Austin Germain) to make it 4-1. Duke then came around to score on a wild pitch after moving to third thanks to a single from Casey Schultz to make it 5-1. Fox then singled through the right side, scoring Casey Schultz, who stole second and moved just 60 feet away as the lead grew to five, putting the Purple and White up 6-1.

The bottom of the sixth saw Kinley Pappas double down the right field line, scoring Jorja Crider and Giroux to make it 6-3.

After the Trailblazers cut

the lead to three, the Texans decided that was too close for comfort and added another four runs in the top of the seventh. With Gibson and Germain on, Duke stepped into the box and went yard for her sixth of the season to make it 9-3. Her sixth homer puts her just one away from tying Hill for the most on the team with seven. Then, with bases loaded, Trull singled to her position (shortstop), scoring Casey Schultz to make it 10-3, the final.

For the Texans, Blincoe (W, 7-8) picked up her seventh win of the season as she went six innings. She allowed three runs (two earned) on eight hits, while she struck out four and walked a pair. Shelby Schultz then entered the circle for her second time of the day and wasted no time sending more Trailblazers back to their

dugout. She went just an inning but allowed no runs on no hits while she struck out two more to bring her total for the day to 11 as she now has 108 in the season. Shelby Schultz and Blincoe combined for 15 strikeouts on the day and have 178 of the pitching staff's 238 total k's.

For the Trailblazers, head coach Randy Simkins used a trio of arms in Lexie Wilson, Riley Price, and Cemryn Pickett. Wilson (L, 2-5) took her fifth loss of the season as she allowed five runs (all earned) on 10 hits across her five innings of work. She also walked one and struck out one. Price then took over and went 1.1 IP, allowing four runs (all earned) on four hits while she walked one. Pickett tossed the final 0.2 IP, giving up one run (earned) on one hit as she walked three and struck out one.

Texans sweep Bearkats to highlight trip down south at Islander Classic

Tarleton State University

Corpus Christi — The Texans started strong at the Islander Classic in Corpus Christi with a win and near redemption against a team that's had their number, then ran into two tough programs on the second day to finish their four-match event 1-3 on April 4 and 5.

Tarleton State (5-11) swept Sam Houston (1-15) 5-0 on Friday to start its weekend at Water's Edge Park, then nearly pulled off a victory against Texas A&M-Kingsville (18-10) in the third installment of the series this season, falling

3-2. On Saturday, the Texans lost both matches 5-0, the first against the host Texas A&M-Corpus Christi (16-9), the second against Stephen F. Austin (16-10).

Two of Tarleton's five pairs went 2-2 on the weekend, while the other three went 1-3.

On Court 1, Emma Halcomb and Allison Bryant split their matches with a 21-8 21-14 win against Sam Houston's Avery Fowler and Michaela Panekova, then defeated Texas A&M-Kingsville's Liana Huesca and Rylan Pollard 21-8 20-22

15-7. The Texan pair lost to Texas A&M-Corpus Christi's Madison Morrow and Tess Spaansen 12-21 15-21 and SFA's Katie Hansen and Tessa Rogers 19-21 21-15 5-15.

Halcomb and Bryant are now 8-8 on this season, all matches together and all on Court 1.

On Court 5, Christian Mitchell and Sofia Bendele split their four matches. They defeated Sam Houston in a medical forfeit to start, then defeated Texas A&M-Kingsville's Clara Presmanes-Garate and Elizabeth

Williams 21-16 21-15. They lost to the Islanders' Ruby Kayser and Veronique Magnan 8-21 16-21, then to the Ladyjacks' Meagan Ledbetter and Jennah Atchley 15-21 20-22.

Grayson Schirpik and Hayden Huber were paired up on Court 2 all weekend, beating the Bearkats' Kenedi Miller and Ella Folse 21-9 17-21 15-13. They lost in two sets their next two matches, then took SFA's No. 2 duo to the wire, falling 17-21 21-18 12-15 to Lizzie Denyer and Olivia Zeigler.

On Court 3, Amaya Brown

played with Bella Parayno, winning 26-24 21-10 against Sam Houston's Talan Dodson and Abby Clayton. The Texans lost in straight sets in the other three matches.

On Court 4, Camilla Chun and Charlize Ching beat Sam Houston's Payton Rink and Anna Merrell 18-8 21-7. The Texans then lost in three sets against the Javelinas' Emma Daughtery and Meghan Stiefer 21-15 19-21 5-15. The Texans lost both Saturday matches in straight sets.

Tarleton is now 1-0 against Sam Houston all-time, 0-2

against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, 0-2 against Stephen F. Austin, and 0-5 against Texas A&M-Kingsville. The Texans have played the Javelinas three times this year, losing 5-0 in the first match, 4-1 in the second match and 3-2 in the third.

Tarleton State will have one more regular season event featuring four matches before the Conference USA Beach Volleyball Championship. The Texans will face McNeese, Tulane, Florida Atlantic and Southeastern Louisiana on April 18-19 in New Orleans.

Texans track and field endure cold and rainy weather at Bill Schmidt Invite

Tarleton State University

Denton — Tarleton State Track and Field claimed an individual and relay title in a cold and rainy day at the Bill Schmidt Invite hosted by University of North Texas at the Soccer and Track and Field Stadium April 5.

The meet started on a two-hour track delay and three-hour delay for field events. The rain continued early in the day, with cold weather heading into the afternoon. The cold got the best of many athletes by the end of the meet with many teams pulling their runners in the final sprints, jumps and throws competitions.

Overall, the Texans captured an individual title in the 3000 steeplechase and a team relay title in the 4x100

on the women's side. The squad also added eight top three finishes and three new top 10 performance bests.

Freshman Kaitlyn Gale won her second 3000 Steeplechase in as many tries to start the season. Gale kicked off the meet taking home the individual title in 11:07.39.

The Texan women's 4x100 relay posted the second-best mark in school history while winning the event. Tarleton State's squad of Hanna Dudley, Victoria Cameron, Amandine Estival and Lauren Roy crossed in 45.21 seconds to claim the crown. The quartet beat TCU's squad by over a second.

Jacob Thomas earned second place in the men's pole vault. Thomas was the only vaulter to clear the 4.75-me-

ter height on the first attempt. The Taft, Texas, native trailed only a single vaulter who entered the competition two heights later.

Sage Lancaster also earned second in the 1500 in the afternoon session of the meet. The senior polished off an impressive second lap to wrap up the second slot by almost 10 seconds. Lancaster crossed in 4:37.62, just a few seconds off her personal best and second-best mark in school history of 4:35.53.

Kassidy Kirkpatrick posted a third-place performance in the high jump. The sophomore from Granbury, Texas, cleared a pair of heights on her first attempt. Kirkpatrick's final clearance of 1.60 meters was cleared by a trio of athletes,

but Kirkpatrick was the only without a miss granting her third overall behind a pair of jumpers that entered the competition at a later height.

Nathan Franco crossed in third in the 110 hurdles in 14.41 seconds. Franco was the second-fastest collegian and the fastest D1 athlete in the race trailing only a professional and a UT-Tyler athlete.

Amelie Monzie posted a third-place performance in the long jump. Her best leap on the day of 5.72 meters came on her third attempt. With a wind of plus 2.8 meters per second, her jump was not wind-legal but would have ranked ninth in program history.

The freshman tandem of Kebede Kerlin and Toby Eaton finished 3-4 in the

men's 1500, separated by a few hundredths of a second. Kerlin crossed in 4:01.32 to earn third immediately followed by Eaton who turned in a 4:01.60 finish.

Cameron and Estival posted the best time in the 100-meter dash prelims. The duo each won their own heat with Camron crossing in 11.22 and Estival in 11.66. Cameron's 11.22 is in her second-best time in all conditions, with the win at 2.5 meters per second. Neither competed in the finals later in the day.

On the men's side of the 100-meter dash, Reid Vincent posted the second-best qualifying time overall and the fastest by a current collegian. Vincent's preliminary time of 10.46 seconds is a top 10 performance in

school history in all conditions, but the wind of 3.6 meters per second is above the allowed amount for the top performance list. Vincent did not compete in the finals.

Kellen Frickel notched a fourth-place performance in the 3000-meter steeplechase in the second event of the morning. Frickel posted the ninth best time in school history in his steeplechase debut. The sophomore clocked in at 10:01.59.

Mason Hill posted the ninth best personal record in program history in his collegiate debut in the hammer throw. The sophomore's best toss of 42.05 meters came on his third attempt.

The Texans will be back in action April 18-19 at Baylor University for the Michael Johnson Invitational.

Oglesby students receive 3rd 9-week awards

Staff Reports

Oglesby Independent School District recently held an award ceremony to present certificates to students for their accomplishments from the third nine-weeks of school.

Prekindergarten
Perfect Attendance: Kayne Key

Math: Kayne Key, Ford Seymour, Waylon Harris, and Axel Chastain

Reading: Kayne Key, Ford Seymour, Waylon Harris, Stormi Frillou, and Benjamin Balderas

Perseverance: Isabella Shuemaker

Honesty: Ford Seymour

Kindergarten
Perfect Attendance: Parker Hess, Na'Ryah Smith, and Remi Zito

Reading: Christopher Bass and Harley Russell

Perseverance: Kase Kortis

Honesty: Kolt Beard

First Grade
Perfect Attendance:

Ramsey Beard, Kinley Brinkley, Grayson Mainez, Adaline McGough, Finley Stanridge, Brantley West, and Alex Williamson

Math: Lucky Donaldson and Kenadie Mainez

Reading: Brantley West and Zariyah Smith

Perseverance: Noah Mata and Ramsey Beard

Honesty: Kyle Kenny and Jaxxon Hooker

Second Grade
Perfect Attendance: Jon Key, Madilynn Miller, and Brooks Seymour

Math: Noah Crell

Reading: Jon Key

Perseverance: Jenna Ewing

Honesty: Paisley Wisehart

Third Grade



COURTESY PHOTO

Students are pictured with their certificates of achievement.

Perfect Attendance: Luca Licea

A Honor Roll: Xander Goff, Fiona Hebner, Breelee Isaacks, Ranger Jeffcoat, Jaylynn Taylor, and Freddy Vandiver

A/B Honor Roll: Dixon Bond, Cole Cockrell, Brennen Hill, Chad Kasting, Kayden Kenny, Lucas Licea, Max Martinez, Saylor McGovern, Crystal Mejia, Brazos Regan, and Brody Smith

Perseverance: Freddy

Vandiver

Honesty: Ranger Jeffcoat

Fourth Grade
Perfect Attendance:

McKynzlynn Brand, Kynnidee Martin, Jaxon Melton, and Thomas Riley

A Honor Roll: Ariel Crell, Kinzlee Gray, Braxton Herry, Jaxon Melton, Ansley Riley, and Kimberly Uribe

A/B Honor Roll: McKynzlynn Brand, Lakota Browning, Seattle Donaldson, Caymbri Fisher,

Kynnidee Martin, Briley Martinez, Radlee Nichols, and Thomas Riley

Perseverance: McKynzlynn Brand

Honesty: Thomas Riley

Fifth Grade
Perfect Attendance:

Colton Anderson, Caden Henderson, Jayden Howard, Barrett Miller, Ethan Robles, Hudson Seymour, and Allie Thompson

A Honor Roll: Gypsie Browning, Bentley Goff,

Abram Gomez, Barrett Miller, Allie Thompson, and Judd Wulfkuhle

A/B Honor Roll: Colton Anderson, Dylan Chrisner, Caden Henderson, Jayden Howard, Ethan Robles, and Hudson Seymour

Perseverance: Colton Anderson

Honesty: Brayden Roedler

Junior High
Perfect Attendance:

Brinlee Benton, Adelynn Gomez, Hunter Insall, Tana

McKee, Vicky Mejia, Rancher Jeffcoat, Brynley Puryear, and Daycee Robles

A Honor Roll: Joe Hamilton, Savana Lanham, McKayla Regan, Abigail Insall, Hunter Insall, Scarlett Aaron, Brynley Puryear, and Alisyn Smith

A/B Honor Roll: Kristy Anderson, Slayton Fisher, Jasmine Gonzalez, Brook Hamilton, Judson Marquez, Jana Ortiz, Gracie Thompson, Fernando Uribe, Brinlee Benton, Perla Coca, Jacob De La Torre, Adelynn Gomez, Adilynn Margiotta, Vicky Mejia, Liam Standridge, Kayden Watson, McKynlee Bailey, Austin Jackson, Rancher Jeffcoat, Caiden Brinkley, and Malorie Renner

High School
Perfect Attendance:

Allisson Uribe and David Mejia

A Honor Roll: Holdyn Goff, Callen Webb, Camden Webb, Caitlyn Battreal, Sydney Felan, Autumn Meyers, Kelsey Ritchie, Presley Robinson, Braxton Ruiz, Allisson Uribe, Duda Martinez, Andrea Licea, Taetym Sanders, and Hunter Ewing

A/B Honor Roll: Akram Abdelwahab, Paydon Garrett, Evan Williamson, Makenzie Wright, Couper Wulfkuhle, Aiden Oxford, Zarah Wisehart, Hadley Glass, Gracee Isaacks, Jordan Smith, Kaylee Stanford, Alexah Battreal, Alex Castillo, Jayda Gonzalez, Marlee Henderson, Blissany Ramos, Jakson Tippit, and Jolynn Whiteley

Gatesville ISD to host summer sports camps

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District has released the dates for its summer sports camps that will be held from late May through the end of July.

The camps are open to all incoming first through ninth-grade students.

Girls sports camps

Basketball, May 27-29

Softball, June 2-4

Tennis, June 2-4

Volleyball, July 7-9

Wrestling, July 14-17

Soccer, spring/fall sessions are to-be-determined (first through 12th-grade athletes)

Boys sports camps

Football, May 27-29 (first

through sixth-grade athletes)

Baseball, June 2-4

Tennis, June 2-4

Basketball, June 9-11

Wrestling, July 14-17

Football, July 28-30 (seventh through ninth-grade athletes)

Soccer, spring/fall sessions are to-be-determined (first through 12th-grade athletes)

Registration for all Gatesville ISD sports camps can be completed by online registration, paper forms or on the first day of each camp.

Online registration can be done by visiting gatesvilleathletics.com. Paper forms have also been distributed to the Gatesville Primary,

Elementary, Intermediate, and Junior High School campuses. Forms can be turned into the front office of each campus or on the first day of each camp.

For further information, email Gatesville ISD Athletic Director Rickey Phillips at rgphilli@gatesvilleisd.org or contact Gatesville ISD Athletics at 254-865-8281, extension 251.

Further information will be provided at a later date, regarding the times and locations for each sports camp.

COURTESY PHOTO

An athlete is pictured before hitting a volleyball at last year's summer volleyball camp.



Sports Complex to host 2025 girls t-ball state tournament

BY ALEXANDRA MEELBUSCH
Staff Writer

A major milestone has been made by the City of Gatesville's Parks and Recreation Department after Director Seth Philips and

his team received a 2025 Texas Teen-Age State T-Ball Tournament award.

The award was received by the Parks and Recreation Department on February 27, and will allow Gatesville's Sports Complex to host the

Texas Teen-Age Girls T-Ball State Tournament this year.

Only 13 tournaments were awarded for each age division and applicants were required to show proof of having top-notch playing fields and facilities, adequate

field lighting, working scoreboards, a sufficient number of fields to support a tournament, enough hotels for teams and spectators to stay in, certified umpires, and staff who are willing to go over and beyond to make the state tournament a special event for the qualifying teams.

In a City of Gatesville council meeting, held on March 25, the Parks and Recreation Department was recognized for their achievement.

"This is a great thing that Seth worked on with his crew," City Manager Brad Hunt said during the meeting. "I know I say this a lot but one of our number one tourist attractions in this town is that ballfield. When a thousand people are in town for a tournament or a select league and that's happened 40 times a year, that is 40 thousand more visitors



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Closings in observance of Good Friday and Easter

Staff Reports

Businesses and governmental offices across Coryell County will join the rest of the nation on Friday, April 18 and on Monday, April 21. Jonesboro ISD and Evant ISD will be closed on Friday, April 18.

The Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville will be closed on Friday.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Extraco Bank will close at 12 p.m. on Friday, April 18.

SCHOOLS

Gatesville Independent School District and Oglesby ISD will be closed on Friday, April 18 and on Monday, April 21. Jonesboro ISD and Evant ISD will be closed on Friday, April 18.

The Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville will be closed on Friday.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Extraco Bank will close at 12 p.m. on Friday, April 18.



COURTESY OF CITY OF GATESVILLE

Gatesville's Sports Complex and ballpark will be the host of the 2025 Texas Teen-Age Girls T-Ball State Tournament.

JHS UIL students advance to regionals

Staff Reports

Jonesboro High School's UIL (University Interscholastic League) team recently competed in the

UIL 1A District 26 Academic Contest.

Three students will now advance to the regional competition.

Advancing to regionals

Leonella Rodriguez competed in copy editing and won first place.

Ryli Bryson competed in editorial and won third place.

Peyton Williamson competed in literary criticism and won second place.

Other results

Copy Editing: Jacoby Smith, fourth place; Hunter

Beaty, sixth place

Literary Criticism: Sierra Chapman, fourth place; Maddie Hengst, 10th place

As a team, Peyton Williamson, Sierra Chapman,

and Maddie Hengst competed in literacy criticism and won second place. The team received an alternate position but will not advance to regionals.



Jonesboro UIL students are pictured at the academic competition.

COURTESY PHOTO

SPORTS

FROM PAGE B3

at district and qualified for the area meet.

State qualifying results are as follows:

Campbell Gustin finished first in the 100m hurdles with a time of 18.31. Kylee Gould finished second with a time of 18.41.

Campbell Gustin finished first in the 300m hurdles with a time of 53.71. Landri McFarlin finished second with a time of 56.16. Adison Lopez finished fourth with a time of 58.77.

The 4x100m relay team finished first with a time of 54.55.

The 4x200m relay team finished first with a time of 1:53.50.

The 4x400m relay team finished first with a time of 4:26.87.

Lynlee Deats and Kodi Suggs finished tied for first in the high jump, jumping 4 feet, 6 inches.

Ally Thorman finished first in the long jump, jumping 14 feet, 8.25 inches. Lynlee Deats finished third, jumping 13 feet, 10 inches.

Campbell Gustin finished second in the triple jump, jumping 30 feet, 11.5 inches. Landri McFarlin finished fourth, jumping 29 feet, 10.5 inches.

Campbell Gustin finished first in the pole vault, jumping 6 feet, 6 inches. Laini Ingram and Destini Rangan finished tied for second, jumping 6 feet.

Oglesby baseball

Oglesby swept games this week, winning at home against Gholson 11-3 Friday and winning at Jonesboro

18-3 Tuesday.

Oglesby 11, Gholson 3 Jaxon Markum went 2-5 and had five RBIs to lead Oglesby in Friday's 11-3 win.

He hit a three-run home run in the first inning and hit a two-RBI single in the sixth inning to account for five of Oglesby's 11 runs.

Markum also picked up the win after pitching six innings, giving up three runs on five hits. He struck out 14 and walked two.

After Gholson took the early lead in the first inning, Markum's three-run home run gave Oglesby the lead for good.

Oglesby 18, Jonesboro 3 In Tuesday's game, Callen Webb had five RBIs, hit 2-4 and scored three runs in the 18-3 win at Jonesboro.

In the first inning, Webb reached base on an error and later scored, then hit a three-RBI triple. Holdyn Goff, Abram Shaw and Webb all scored on the play.

Oglesby scored one more run in the 10-run first inning and didn't trail in the game.

The Tigers added four runs in the second inning and four in the fourth inning, winning the game, 18-3.

Webb's other hit came in the second inning — an RBI single which scored Hunter Ewing.

Webb also pitched a complete game, giving up three runs on six hits. He struck out three.

Oglesby boys track

Members of the Oglesby boys track team competed at district and qualified for the area meet.

The boys team also won the district meet as a team.

State qualifying results are as follows:

Kyler Fossett finished first in the 100m dash with a time of 11.42. Aiden Oxford finished fourth with a time of 11.94.

Kyler Fossett finished first in the 200m dash with a time of 23.15. Kayson Campbell finished third with a time of 24.14. Jakson Tippit finished fourth with a time of 24.67.

Kayson Campbell finished first in the 400m dash with a time of 52.79. Aiden Oxford finished second with a time of 56.47. Evan Williamson finished third with a time of 57.14.

Camden Webb finished second in the 800m run with a time of 2:18.59. Jayce Aaron finished third with a time of 2:19.44.

David Mejia finished first in the 1600m run with a time of 5:27.79. Couper Wulfkuhle finished second with a time of 5:30.73. Josue Rodriguez finished third with a time of 5:38.33.

Couper Wulfkuhle finished first in the 3200m run with a time of 11:48. David Mejia finished second with a time of 11:56.72. Josue Rodriguez finished third with a time of 12:38.84.

Alex Castillo finished second in the 110m hurdles with a time of 17.51.

Holdyn Goff finished third in the 300m hurdles with a time of 46.96. Alex Castillo finished fourth with a time of 46.97.

The 4x100m relay team finished second with a time of 44.72.

The 4x200m relay team finished fourth with a time of 1:42.41.

The 4x400m relay team finished fourth with a time

of 3:59.42.

Kyler Fossett finished second in the high jump, jumping 6 feet. Alex Castillo finished fourth, jumping 5 feet, 6 inches.

Kyler Fossett finished first in the long jump, jumping 19 feet, 10 inches. Evan Williamson finished fourth, jumping 18 feet.

Evan Williamson finished third in the triple jump, jumping 38 feet, 7.75 inches. Alex Castillo finished fourth, jumping 38 feet, 6 inches.

Holdyn Goff finished third in the pole vault, jumping 10 feet.

Jaxon Markum finished third in the shot put, throwing 37 feet, 11.5 inches.

Oglesby girls track

Members of the Oglesby girls track team competed at district and qualified for the area meet.

State qualifying results are as follows:

Zarah Wisehart finished fourth in the 200m dash with a time of 31.13.

Maddison Smith finished third in the 1600m run with a time of 7:08.97.

Gracie Isaacks finished second in the 3200m run with a time of 14:59.79. Allisson Uribe finished third with a time of 16:56.87.

Caitlyn Battreal finished third in the 100m hurdles with a time of 19.69.

Caitlyn Battreal finished third in the 300m hurdles with a time of 56.97.

Caitlyn Battreal finished fourth in the high jump, jumping 4 feet, 2 inches.

Zarah Wisehart finished fourth in the pole vault, jumping 5 feet.

GHS Plant Sale deemed a great success



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Three generations of shoppers. Pictured left to right, Cheyenne Kizer, Tammy Barnett, and London Kizer.

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

Despite the downpour of rain last Saturday morning, plant-lovers from all over the community showed up at the Gatesville High School Greenhouse for their annual plant sale.

A wide variety of decorative plants and vegetable plants were available for purchase including Snake Plants, Aloe Vera, herbs, tomatoes, and Cuban Oregano.

The horticulture students are instructed by Santanna Bay, who is the head of

the Career and Technical Education team, which is focused on agriculture, horticulture, and science and plant research. Bay said, "We started growing these plants in September with different plants being in differed stages."

Bay, who instructs 23 students in her greenhouse operations class, said "We might have one big plant sale each year."

She continued, "The proceeds from the plant sales goes back into our program so that we can buy more seeds, and we can buy different varieties of plants."

COMPLEX

FROM PAGE B5

we have in town than we would have without those fields."

Phillips also agrees that youth sports tremendously impacts the community and its participants in a positive way.

"Youth sports teach valuable life skills like teamwork, discipline, endurance, and leadership while also

promoting physical health, social skills, and self-esteem," Phillips said. "The teams participating in the tournament will boost the local economy by staying in our hotels, eating at our restaurants, and shopping at the local stores."

During the city council meeting, Hunt also mentioned an increase in participation numbers for youth sports this year with 402 participants and 80 volunteer coaches in soccer and 690 participants and 238 volun-

teer coaches for baseball and softball.

"We did have an increase in coaches due to an increase in the number of teams we have this year compared to last year," Phillips said. "We had 635 participants in 2024 compared to 699 in 2025."

Although soccer season has ended, there are currently 11 scheduled select baseball and softball tournaments through July 20.

EASTER

FROM PAGE B5

18, and will be closed for the entire day on Saturday, April 19. The First National Bank of Gatesville, Evant, and Oglesby will close at 3 p.m. on Friday. Cadence Bank and Educator's Credit Union will remain open on Friday.

POST OFFICES

All local post offices will re-

main open.

LIBRARY

The Gatesville Public Library will be closed on Friday, April 18, through Sunday, April 20.

SENIOR CENTER

The Gatesville Senior and Multi-Service Center will be closed on Friday.

NEWSPAPER

The Gatesville Messenger will remain open on Friday.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC 109 & I 14
SELENE FINANCE, LP -VS- ROBERT DOUGLAS LIPSEY II; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF ELIZABETH LIPSEY, DECEASED
IN RE: 808 COLLEGE ST, GATESVILLE, TX 76528
Cause No: DC-24-56413 IN THE 440TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS
TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF ELIZABETH LIPSEY, DECEASED
Defendant - GREETING NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney, If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the

Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock AM on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable 440TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Coryell County, at the Courthouse in said County in Gatesville, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court on the 12/13/2024 in the above entitled cause.

"Plaintiff Selene Finance LP, its successors in interest or assigns, by and through its attorney of record Joseph M. Vacek of Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 5601 Executive Dr., Suite 400, Irving, Texas 75038, brought suit against Robert Douglas Lipsey II and the Unknown Heirs of Elizabeth Lipsey, deceased and any other person claiming any subordinate right, title and/or interest in 808 College St., Gatesville, TX 76528 ("Property"), and legally described as follows:
ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OF LAND OUT OF THE C. CAZANOBA SURVEY, IN THE TOWN OF GATESVILLE, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS, BEING A PART OF BLOCK NO. 103, AND A PART OF BLOCK NO. 112, ORIGINAL TOWN OF GATESVILLE, TEXAS, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
BEGINNING AT THE N E CORNER OF BLOCK OF LAND CONVEYED BY DAN E. GRAVES TO J. R. WHIGHAM SAID POINT BEING THE EAST END OF SOUTH ABUTMENT OF A CULVERT; THENCE S 19 DEG 40 MIN WEST 500 VRS TO THE CHANNEL. OF LEON RIVER; THENCE DOWN SAID RIVER ABOUT 140 FEET TO A POINT IN THE CHANNEL OF SAID RIVER, WHICH POINT IS THE S E CORNER OF A TRACT OF LAND DESCRIBED IN DEED FROM DAVE H. CULBERSON AND DAN R. QUESENBERRY AND WIFE, LUCY QUESENBERRY TO THE CONFEDERATE PARK AUDITORIUM COMPANY DATED APRIL 24. 1903, RECORDED IN VOLUME 29, PAGE 281, DEED RECORDS, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS; THENCE N 1 DEG E 234 VRS TO A STAKE IN THE LEFT SIDE OF A BRANCH; THENCE EAST 97.8 VRS TO A STAKE; THENCE N 256 VRS TO A STAKE IN SOUTH LINE OF A STREET; THENCE WEST 130 VRS TO PLACE OF BEGINNING.

SAVE AND EXCEPT A TRACT CONVEYED TO W. H. SCHLEY BY DEED RECORDED IN VOLUME 55, PAGE 624, SAID DEED RECORDS; AND BEING THE SAME AND IDENTICAL TRACT OF LAND CONVEYED BY O.W. OVERCASH, ET UX, TO B. M. WOLLARD BY DEED RECORDED IN VOLUME 103,

PAGE 503, DEED RECORDS CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS
SAVE AND EXCEPT A TRACT CONVEYED TO H. C. GALLAWAY BY DEED RECORDED IN VOLUME 124, PAGE 561 DEED RECORDS, CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS, A TRACT CONVEYED TO JULIUS G. HENDERSON BY DEED RECORDED IN VOLUME 133, APAGE 636, SAID DEED RECORDS AND A TRACT CONVEYED BY KNOX LOVEJOY ET UX BY DEED RECORDED IN VOLUME 162, PAGE 616, DEED RECORDS."

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Gatesville, Texas, this 20th day of March, 2025. Attorney for Plaintiff or Petitioner JOSEPH M. VACEK 5601 EXECUTIVE DRIVE SUITE 400 IRVING, TX 75038
Clerk of the Court: Becky Moore, District Clerk P.O. Box 4 Gatesville, Texas 76528 Coryell County, Texas
By: Ashley Lamb, Deputy

JENNIFER NEWTON CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT P. O. BOX 237 GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528
ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE NANCY PERRY EATON 439 E. CENTRAL TX EXPWY STE B HARKER HEIGHTS, TX 76548
TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS UNKNOWN ADDRESS UNKNOWN STATE
THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF KATHRYN LARAIN FORDAHL, DECEASED. CAUSE NO 25-11175, COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. MARIAH ALEXANDRA DAVILA FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 31ST DAY OF MARCH 2025, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID KATHRYN LARAIN FORDAHL, DECEASED.
SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 14TH DAY OF APRIL 2025, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.
ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE-MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 1ST DAY OF APRIL 2025.
JENNIFER NEWTON CORYELL COUNTY CLERK CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS
BY: K. TALLEY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Dixie Loretta Curry, Deceased, were issued on 03-26-2025, Cause No. 25-11141, pending in the County Court of Coryell County, Texas, to: Harry Willard Ness.
All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Harry Willard Ness 532 County Road 143 Gatesville, Texas 76528
Dated the 31st day of March, 2025.
Harry Willard Ness 532 County Road 143 Gatesville, Texas 76528 Telephone: (254) 865-3368 Email: dudley13@hotmail.com

JENNIFER NEWTON CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW P. O. BOX 237 GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528
ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE DORI MISTIC 907 S. MAIN ST. COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522
TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS UNKNOWN ADDRESS UNKNOWN STATE
THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JOHN WALTER FORREST, DECEASED. CAUSE NO 25-11126, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS.
WILLIAM CHARLES FORREST FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 7TH DAY OF APRIL 2025, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID JOHN WALTER FORREST, DECEASED.
SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 21ST DAY OF APRIL 2025, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.
ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE-MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 7TH DAY OF APRIL 2025.
JENNIFER NEWTON CORYELL COUNTY CLERK CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS
BY: K. TALLEY

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

JENNIFER NEWTON CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW P.O. BOX 237 GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528
ATTORNEY OR PERSON FILING CAUSE DORI MISTIC 907 S. MAIN ST COPPERAS COVE, TX 76522
TO: DECEDENT'S UNKNOWN HEIRS UNKNOWN ADDRESS UNKNOWN STATE
THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CORYELL
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF GLEN EVAN OLIVER, DECEASED. CAUSE NO 25-11155, COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS. SHERRI SEYMOUR FILED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS ON THE 3RD DAY OF APRIL 2025, APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP SAID GLEN EVAN OLIVER, DECEASED.
SAID APPLICATION SHALL BE HEARD AND ACTED ON BY SAID COURT ON OR AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY NEXT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF TEN DAYS FROM DATE OF POSTING THIS CITATION, THE SAME BEING THE 21ST DAY OF APRIL 2025, AT THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS.
ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE ARE HEREBY CITED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY AT THE SAME ABOVE-MENTIONED TIME AND PLACE BY FILING A WRITTEN ANSWER CONTESTING SUCH APPLICATION SHOULD THEY DESIRE TO DO SO.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW OF CORYELL COUNTY IN GATESVILLE, TEXAS THE 4TH DAY OF APRIL 2025.
JENNIFER NEWTON CORYELL COUNTY CLERK CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS
BY: K. TALLEY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DAVID SCOTT CURE, Deceased, were issued on April 1, 2025, in Cause No. 25-11164, pending in the County Court of Coryell County, Texas, to: JAMES O. CURE.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
JAMES O. CURE 2584 Blue Meadow Dr. Temple, Texas 76502
DATED the 4th day of April, 2025. /s/James O. Cure James O. Cure Attorney and Independent Executor State Bar No.: 05252800 2584 Blue Meadow Dr. Temple, TX 76502 Telephone: (254) 778-8934 Facsimile: (254)773-2477 Email: jocure@cureandfrancis.net

NOTICE OF UNIT AUCTION
Notice is hereby given by Gatesville Storage of the sale of contents, by public auction, of the following units, pursuant to the assertion of a manager's possessory lien against them, in order to collect the amounts due on them: UNIT TENANT; A09 Kennedy, Nikki; B02 Mayhugh, Jeffrey; B06 Serrano, Isabella; B26 Pierce, Crystal; F04 Rand, Mary
Due to rain on the 5th, the auction will be held at 9:00 am., Saturday, April 12, 2025 (weather permitting - no precipitation or below freezing temperatures), at Gatesville Storage, 2215 E. Main St., Gatesville, Texas. Terms: Cash



WE ACCEPT

- MEDICAID PENDING AVAILABILITY
- ALL INSURANCES
- SCOTT & WHITE CONTRACTED
- MEDICARE TRADITIONAL
- MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS



WE OFFER

- RESPITE CARE
- POST-HOSPITAL REHABILITATION
- LONG-TERM CARE

Contact Susie Meelbusch, Director of Public Relations or Shawna Runyan, Business Development: 254-865-7575

SMOKERS ACCEPTED



HILLSIDE
MEDICAL LODGE

300 S. HWY. 36 BYPASS
GATESVILLE, TX 76528
WWW.HILLSIDEML.COM



Guest Speaker
Fred Chavez

BRING A D
ENTER IN
RAFFLE

© txdemocrats.org

THERE WILL BE AN
EVENING MEETING WITH
FRED AGAIN AT
RANCHERS ON APR. 17TH
AT 6 P.M.

Coryell Co. Democratic Club Meeting with Fred Chavez

Thursday, Apr. 17th, 9 a.m., Ranchers Steakhouse

S P E A K
U P



4-H Range Science team competes in contest

Staff Reports

Coryell County 4-H range science project group members, parents, and volunteers provided leadership to host the sixth annual MJ Hanna Ranch Invitational Plant ID and Range Evaluation contests.

4-H range science members competed in the contest against surrounding counties in the area, including Milam, Callahan, Stephens, Kerr, and Crockett counties. The senior range evaluation team received first place, and Marcy Conley

earned a High Individual Scholarship in the range contest as well. The contest aims to teach 4-H members about the principles of rangeland management, range evaluation, and plant identification to further their knowledge in range science.



First place Senior Range Evaluation Team

COURTESY PHOTO

Oglesby students dominate in UIL competition

Staff Reports

Students from Oglesby Independent School District recently competed in the High School Academic UIL (University Interscholastic League) contest at Navarro College. According to Oglesby ISD, the event list and participation numbers have increased since last year, with more

students involved in UIL this year. **UIL Results** Calculators: Allison Uribe, fifth place; Marlee Henderson, 14th place; and Kelsey Ritchie, 25th place. Uribe, Henderson, and Ritchie also placed fifth as a team. Current Events: Collin Walker, seventh place Feature Writing: Makenzie

Wright, fourth place Math: Allie Contreras, 10th place News Writing: Jolynn Whiteley, sixth place Number Sense: Evan Williamson, 13th place Persuasive Speaking: Callen Webb, fourth place; Jace Seymour, fifth place Poetry Interpretation: Taetym Sanders, third place, advancing to regionals;

Andrea Licea, fifth place Social Studies: Landry Riley, sixth place; Jaxon Markum, seventh place; Collin Walker, eighth place; Jolynn Whiteley, 15th place. Riley, Markum, Walker, and Whiteley also placed third as a team.

Spelling: Sydney Felan, third place, advancing to regionals; Caitlyn Battreal, fifth place; Camden Webb, sixth place; Presley Robinson, sixth place; Allison Uribe, eighth place; Autumn Meyers, 18th place. Felan, Battreal, Webb, Robinson,

Uribe, and Meyers also placed second as a team. Speech: The team won fourth place overall. Journalism: The team won fifth place overall.

Gatesville ISD to support ‘Month of the Military Child’

Staff Reports

Gatesville Independent School District has approximately 430 students who are connected to the U.S. Military, with parents and guardians on active duty, in the Texas National Guard, Reserve Force, veterans, or parents who were killed in the line of duty. In honor of April being

recognized as Month of the Military Child, Gatesville ISD is hosting “Purple Up! Day,” on Tuesday, April 15. Each student will be asked to wear purple in support of military-connected students. Purple symbolizes all branches of the military, a combination of army green, air force blue, coast guard blue, marine red and navy blue.

Military-connected students often endure frequent moves, new schools, parental deployments, multiple friend groups and experiences, and distinct challenges. Knowing this, Gatesville ISD is making an effort to build awareness that military kids, just as their parents, serve too. For further details, contact Gatesville ISD at 254-865-7251.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of George Kenneth Moore, Deceased, were issued on 3-26-25, in Cause No. 25-11138, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Clifton Leroy Miller.

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

c/o: Dori Ray Mystic Attorney at Law 907 S. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522 DATED the 7th day of April, 2025.

Dori Ray Mystic Attorney for Clifton Leroy Miller State Bar No.: 04091800 907 S. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Telephone: (254) 547-6000 Email: doriraymistic@hotmail.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Marjorie Ann Smith, Deceased, were issued on March 26, 2025, in Cause No. 24-11099, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Coryell County, Texas, to: Joshlyn B. Brown.

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

c/o: Dori Ray Mystic Attorney at Law 907 S. Main St. Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Dated the 7th day of April, 2025.

Dori Ray Mystic Attorney for Joshlyn B. Brown State Bar No.: 04091800 907 S. Main St., Copperas Cove, TX 76522 Telephone: (254) 547-6000 Email: doriraymistic@hotmail.com

The Presbyterian Church of Gatesville

“ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians”

Palm Sunday

(Waving of the Palms)
11:00 AM, April 13, TPCG

Maundy Thursday

6:30 PM, April 17, TPCG

Good Friday

6:30 PM, April 18, TPCG

Easter Sunrise

7:00 AM, April 20, Prayer Garden/Three Cross Hill at CCC, Speaker: Rev. Moffett

Easter Worship

11:00 AM, April 20, TPCG

1110 E. Main, Gatesville, TX
254-865-5328 | 2007revddw@gmail.com
Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat, DMin., Pastor

JONESBORO PK AND K ROUND-UP

LET'S GO EAGLES

Register your PK or K student for JISD classes.
In district students accpeted April 22nd to June 1st.
Out of district students accepted June 1st until June 25th. (Based on Availability)

254-463-2111
www.jonesboroisd.net

PASSION 2025

Trinity Baptist Church

April 16, 17, 18, 19

Jerusalem opens:

6:30 PM

Play begins:

7:30 PM

1506 W. Main Street, Gatesville, TX 76528
Church phone: (254) 865-8495