

GCHS Weekly

GARDEN CITY
HIGH SCHOOL

November 17, 2025



Garden City celebrates veterans at annual program

by: Sydnee Gully

On Veterans Day, Garden City staff, students, and community members gathered in the Ruth Cook Auditorium to celebrate veterans that have served or are still serving our country.

The program was a lot of moving pieces and preparation, but it was well worth it in the end.

"I started with rewriting the program from last year," National Honor Society (NHS) sponsor Mrs. Niehues said. "Then, my mom came in and we had 3 practices with her on the piano and the kids singing."

Beyond this, the preparation has been going on for much longer. Students had been working to memorize songs in order to make the program the best it can be.

During the program, NHS officers ran the program. The rest of NHS seniors were escorts, passed out programs, and helped serve the meal. Additionally, Pre-K did a small portion at the beginning of the

program. Then, first graders recited a poem, and second grade recited a poem and sang three songs.

For the main part of the program, 3rd-5th grade sang and special music was sung by a talented group of 6th graders.

On top of that, there was also a video and decorations in the hallway.

"Mrs. Hauser and Coach Johnson's class played a key role this year helping with the video," Niehues said. "Mrs. Hauser was a really big part of it."

For the decorations, Niehues got help from 1st grade teacher Carrie Halfmann, second grader teacher Jennifer Wood, and Mrs. Ailene. Then, the PTO made a balloon arch to top it all off.

Overall, the program was a great way to recognize all our veterans do for us. The mix of students singing and the hard work put into making it happen truly displayed how much they mean to everybody.

Lady Kats Fall Just Short in Thriller Against Top-Ranked Hermleigh

by: Karly Baker

The varsity Lady Kats went toe-to-toe with powerhouse Hermleigh on Saturday afternoon, coming up just short in a heart-pounding 60-57 finish. Hermleigh, a top-ten team in the state and last year's regional finalist, was pushed to the edge by a determined and fearless Lady Kats squad.

From the opening tip, the game was a showcase of intensity throughout all four quarters. The Lady Kats matched Hermleigh's speed, pressure, and experience play for play, refusing to be intimidated by the Cardinals' state ranking.

In the final minutes, the Lady Kats hit several huge shots to keep the game within reach, electrifying the crowd and putting Hermleigh on upset alert. But despite the relentless effort and a last-second push to tie the game, Hermleigh managed to hold on by just three points.

While the scoreboard favored Hermleigh, the Lady Kats' performance proved they can compete with the best in Texas. Their toughness, teamwork, and late-game fight made this matchup a thriller.





Staff Spotlight

by: Emily Easterling

This week, Coach Johnson was chosen to be featured in our Staff Spotlight! He is currently the assistant girls basketball coach, teaches Tech Apps for grades 6th, 7th, and 10th, and Business English for seniors. This is his first year at G.C. and he loves the community and culture!

"The culture of the school is great. At my old school, we went to tournaments all the time here so I knew about Garden City, so I'd say culture was the number one thing," Johnson said.

Johnson expressed that his favorite thing about Garden City is that everybody is inclusive and rooting for each other.

"Everybody is pulling in the same direction; there's no little cliques, everyone wants everyone to be successful."

He stated that basketball is going pretty well so far and that everyone is picking up the material very quickly and successfully. Johnson said that his biggest challenge, however, was teaching a new subject.

"I've always been a history teacher, so having to teach Tech Apps means I'm learning right along with the kids."

Thank you Coach Johnson for your hard work so far this year! Be sure to thank him when you see him for his dedication to the school!

Football fights hard in playoff game

by: Sydnee Gully

The football team laid everything on the line last Friday in their game against the Whiteface Antelopes. The Bearkats came into the game as the underdogs, but quickly made a statement with their energy on the field.

To start the game off, sophomore Miles Colunga ran through Whiteface's defense for the first touchdown of the game. To top it off, senior Waylyn Davis made the kick to make the score 8-0.

Although the Antelopes fought back with a touchdown and stopped Garden City's offense, the Bearkats gained their momentum again. Senior Uziel Lopez intercepted a pass to give his team another chance on offense.

Junior Brody Walts took advantage of this opportunity, scoring a touchdown to make the score 8-14 in favor of the Bearkats.

Then, Colunga ran up the sideline for his second touchdown, and Davis made the kick to make the score gap even bigger at 8-22.

After an Antelope touchdown, the Bearkats had the ball. Walts found Colunga in the endzone for their last touchdown of the half.

However, the Antelopes dominated the last possessions to make the score 28-30 to start the second half.

Coming into the third quarter, senior Roberto Almazan caused Whiteface to fumble the ball, giving the bearkats possession again. However, they intercepted a pass to get the ball. Then, senior Andres Huerta fought back by intercepting their pass.

With possession, Walts found a gap in their defense and ran the ball up the sideline for a touchdown to make the score 28-36.

To end the quarter, they scored. However, the Bearkats caused them to miss the kick to keep them behind.

Through the fourth quarter, the Bearkats played with a tremendous amount of heart and toughness, applying everything they learned through the season to their game. They didn't hesitate to make big plays. However, the Antelopes came out on top with a final score of 58-36.

The boys made unforgettable memories through the season, making relationships with each other that could last a lifetime. They learned discipline, toughness, and how to fight through adversity when they needed to the most. The season was full of laughter and lessons that the team can take with them for the rest of their lives.



Government opens back up after longest shutdown in history

by: Sydnee Gully

On Nov. 12, the government opened back up after the 44 day shutdown. The shutdown began on Oct. 1 due to Congress failing to pass a funding bill by the beginning of the fiscal year on Sept. 30.

Through the shutdown, millions of Americans were affected. Since it was a funding bill that was not passed, there was a lack of money to pay workers. Any non-essential federal employees were sent home without pay.

Now that it is opened back up, some things will go back to normal. Although some impacts will remain, more things will be opened. For example, museums will open back up, food assistance for those who need it will resume, and flight delays (caused by TSA workers not working due to lack of pay) will be alleviated.

Workers that were sent home without pay are expected to go back to work.

With the funding system being approved, life as we knew it will begin to go back to normal as time goes by.

In the Classroom:

AG

by: Sydnee Gully

In the AG shop, things have been coming together. Even more progress has been made on show projects for upcoming shows. Additionally, other smaller projects have been completed for community members. Students have also been working on a welding assignment that includes using different weld types and making different joints.

In the classroom, FFA members have been working hard to be focused and prepared for the quickly approaching Area II LDE competition. If students place in the top 2 places at this contest, they will advance to the state level.

Early practices, after school practices, and spending time working with teams have been a part of everyday life for all of these students in hopes of making them compete to the best of their abilities at area.

In the Classroom: Culinary

by: Holley Stiles

This week in ProStart, students cooked Hollandaise sauce, Eggs Benedict, Garlic Home Fries, and Butternut Squash Soup.

In Entrepreneurship, students finally made their long-awaited Pumpkin Whoopie Pies, along with Holiday Haystacks and a Garlic Parmesan Pretzel Mix.

In BBQ, students prepared Smoked Mac & Cheese, Sweet Potato Medallions, and Blackstone Pizza Roll-Ups.

Meanwhile, Intro to Culinary students made Mulabi Milk Custard, Dutch Apple Pancakes, Everything-but-the-Kitchen-Sink Snack Mix, and Banana Oat Pancakes.

On Friday, all classes welcomed guest instructor Jason Avelson from Zwilling. He's a Certified Executive Chef, Culinary Educator, and Culinary Administrator who works to connect high school and college-level culinary programs. Known for mentoring and supporting students and teachers, Avelson stopped by each class to share tips, answer questions, and help keep our culinary programs sharp and up to date.



Students of the Week

by: Claire Eggemeyer

Another week, another couple of Bearkats who are ready for the spotlight.

First up is senior Jasmine Nuñez, who is looking at attending South Plains College to pursue the radiology technician program. Her favorite subject is Art along with her favorite teacher, Mrs. Solano. When asked who her biggest role model is she said, "My mom, because she's put in a lot of work to get to where she's gotten to today."

Her biggest challenge this year has been her A&P class and her biggest accomplishment is her ACT score. If she could give one piece of advice to other high school students it would be, "Don't let small tests affect your week and your mindset towards everything else."

Next is sophomore Sterling Schwartz, who also wants to attend South Plains college so he can farm. His favorite subject is Ag along with his favorite teacher Mr. Hauser. When asked who his biggest role model is he said, "My dad, because I want to do what he does."

His biggest challenge this year has been waking up in the morning and his biggest goal is to place at every Ag Mechanics show. If he could give some advice to other students, it would be, "Don't fail."

Fall Food Drive - Donations Needed

by: Sydnee Gully

Students Council members are traveling to a soup kitchen in Midland as a service project. They started this tradition last year, and are keeping it alive.

Last year, several students spent a day going to the soup kitchen to help serve meals to those in need. This year, they are going to be doing the same thing. However, they're going to be helping out even more by bringing donations.

Student council sponsors asked for a list of items that the organization needs. Then, flyers have been hung up around the school for a week, and students have been encouraged to bring donations.

They will be accepting donations through Nov. 18. If you would like to bring donations, please drop them off in the rotunda by then. Anything helps!

“Self-discipline is doing what’s right instead of doing what you feel like doing. That’s the meaning of self-discipline.”
~ Eliud Kipchoge



Midland Soup Kitchen Ministry SHOPPING LIST YEAR ROUND

CANNED FOOD:

- Pinto, Ranch Style & Refried Beans
- Baked Beans
- Whole Kernel Corn (no creamed)
- Green Beans
- Carrots
- Sliced & Diced Potatoes
- Mixed Vegetables
- Canned Chicken & Tuna
- Ravioli
- Pork & Beans
- Green Enchilada Sauce
- Cream of Chicken
- Hominy
- Diced Tomatoes
- Canned Cheese
- Canned Peas
- Black Beans
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Black Eyed Peas
- Manwich Sauce
- Chili

DRY GOODS:

- All Pasta Shapes
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Instant Mashed Potato Flakes

SINGLE USE GOODS:

- Paper Towels
- Plastic Cutlery (all utensils)
- Styrofoam Cups (12oz)
- Insulated Paper Coffee Cups
- Plastic Bags (new or used)

SANITATION:

- Clorox Wipes
- OdoBan
- Fabuloso
- Clorox Gallons/Spray
- 55 Gallon Black Trash Bags
- Toilet Paper
- Hand Soap
- Latex Gloves (all sizes)

MONETARY DONATIONS

ONLINE midlandsoupkitchen.org/donate/
CHECK Midland Soup Kitchen Ministry
MAIL 1401 Orchard Lane, Midland Tx 79701



GCHS Student Council

DONATE NON-PERISHABLE FOOD & MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Thousands of individuals in nearby communities are struggling with hunger every day.

COLLECTING FOR:

Midland Soup Kitchen Ministry

- Free meals daily M-F
- Holiday meal and gifts for Christmas
- Vacation Bible School
- Resources for shelter and education
- No questions asked clothing table

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

GCHS Rotunda

MORE INFO:

Student Council will be volunteering at the Midland Soup Kitchen on 11/18, we will take the donations with us on that day.

*See attached list of supplies needed.

Where are you going Wednesday?

by: Sydnee Gully

This past Wednesday, students celebrated “Where Are You Going Wednesday” by wearing shirts and gear from their future colleges and career paths. The halls were filled with college logos and career-themed outfits as students proudly showed off their plans for life after high school. The spirit day encouraged excitement about the future and inspired younger students to start thinking ahead.



What does a
nosey pepper
do?

~ It gets jalapeño
business.

WEEKLY MENU

11/17 - 11/21

Monday

PANCAKE ON A STICK & YOGURT
OR CEREAL & TOAST

Corn Dog, Tater Tots
Baby Carrots, Ranch, Fruit,
& Oreo Cookies

Tuesday

SAUSAGE BISCUIT OR
CEREAL & TOAST

Pizza Sticks, Marinara Sauce,
Baby Carrots, Ranch, Garden
Salad, & Fruit

Wednesday

SAUSAGE KOLACHE & YOGURT
OR CEREAL & TOAST

Hot Pocket, Corn, Garden Salad,
Ranch, Fruit, & Chocolate
or Vanilla Pudding

Thursday

BREAKFAST PIZZA OR
CEREAL & TOAST

Turkey, Dressing, Gravy, Mashed
Potatoes, Green Beans, Garden
Salad, Ranch Fruit, Roll, &
Pumpkin Pie

Friday

DONUT & BACON OR
CEREAL & TOAST

Ham & Cheese Croissant,
Baby Carrots, Ranch,
Fruit, & Chips

Students shine at virtual UIL academic meet

by: Sydnee Gully

The UIL academic students kicked off this year's season with a virtual meet. After a few weeks, the results came in, and they were just what everybody was hoping for.

Across journalism and math events, students competed well, earning top spots in several contests.

In math events, the Number Sense wiped the competition, earning 1st place as a team. Senior Presley Jost finished in 1st place, Junior Ivy Braden earned 4th, and senior Karly Baker got 5th place. Right behind her was senior Tatum Braden in 6th place, freshman Zach Willson in 9th place, and freshman Kannon Flores in 19th place.

The Calculator team got 3rd place overall against incredibly tough competition. Ivy Braden finished in 2nd place, Presley Jost got 8th, and Tatum Braden earned 12th place.

Mathematics students had a good performance, finishing in 4th place as a team. Ivy Braden got 7th place, Presley Jost was in 11th, and Karly Baker also contributed to the team.

The Science team was made up of Zach Wilson, Presley Jost, and junior

Nick Howard. Zach finished in an impressive 9th place, and they got 8th overall as a team.

The computer science team of seniors Karson Lowery and Roberto Almazan, and sophomore Deagan Williams got 8th place as a team. Karson got 19th place against the fierce competition.

The Spelling team had a good contest and finished in 2nd as a team. Junior Sophia Sullivan led the team in 5th place. Behind her was senior Sadie Fuchs in 10th, senior Jasmine Nunez in 15th, and junior Kyleigh Roe in 17th place.

The Social Studies team was led by junior Keegan Landers in 11th place. Freshman Nathan Garcia was behind him in 13th, and senior Kaylee Garcia finished in 17th place. Overall, they were 3rd as a team.

Finally, Copy Editing students got 3rd place as a team. Senior Holley Stiles led in 6th place, and junior Sydnee Gully and sophomore Addi Goodwon tied for 10th place.

"For it being the first meet, I feel like we did really good," UIL coach Mrs.

Garcia said.

Garcia is the coach for all journalism and social studies students. In order for them to compete at the level they do, she has to push them to practice as often as possible.

"I leave prompts out for my writers," Garcia said. "Everybody is an experienced writer, so they do them on their own time. Then, I critique them and make suggestions."

For social studies students, there is plenty of material to cover, so they always have to stay busy.

"They have flashcards, I make quizlets for them, and they have a book they're supposed to be reading," Garcia said. "There's also different movies about the Cold War they can be watching."

Overall, students competed well at the first meet of the year. Although there's always room for improvements, there's plenty of time to make them before district.

"I'm proud of how everyone's working so hard and always willing to get prompts to do some writing or studying," Garcia said.

Lady Kats Storm Back to Take Down Eldorado

by: Karly Baker

This Tuesday night, the JV locked down on defense, holding their opponent to only 3 made baskets the whole game. With their season still young, they remain undefeated, going 2-0.

The varsity, in a game full of momentum swings and late-game drama, the Lady Kats clawed their way to a thrilling 37-31 victory over Eldorado on Tuesday night.

The Lady Kats jumped out to an 11-8 lead after the first quarter, but Eldorado answered with a strong second period, pushing ahead 17-23 by halftime. Despite the shift, the Lady Kats refused to back down. Their defense tightened in the third quarter, holding Eldorado to just two points and trimming the deficit to 23-25 heading into the final eight minutes.

The fourth quarter belonged entirely to the Lady Kats. With the crowd on its feet, they hit several clutch shots— with offensive rebound putbacks, drives to the paint, and a key three-pointer—swinging the momentum fully in their favor. Their offense came alive with 14 points in the final frame while the defense shut the door on Eldorado's attempts to respond.

Behind grit, late-game confidence, and some big-time buckets, the Lady Kats completed the comeback and secured a memorable 37-31 win.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Week of: 11/17 - 11/21

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
JH basketball vs. Bronte Quiz Bowl at Garden City	Progress reports go home STUCO goes to soup kitchen JV/VG basketball at Grape Creek	Elem / JH district UIL	JVBBb @Reagan Cnty Tourn JV/VGBb @Ozona Tourn Thanksgiving meal	JVBBb @Reagan Cnty Tourn JV/VGBb @Ozona Tourn KEY driver education (soph.) JV/VB Bb vs. Westbrook
SATURDAY	JVBBb @Reagan Cnty Tourn			JV/VGBb @Ozona Tourn
	Area FFA LDEs at Ira			

How to manage stressful thoughts

by: Sydnee Gully

With school, extracurriculars, and constant pressure being put on students, stressful thoughts constantly consume their minds. Meeting deadlines for assignments, meeting teacher expectations, and worrying about any small thing is a part of everyday life for most high school students. However, there is a way to manage all of this.

When you start noticing yourself stressing out about something, just breathe. If you're studying, taking a test, or just getting consumed by stressful thoughts, take a step back. Simply taking a break from the thing that is stressing you out and organizing your thoughts can be an easy solution.

Another way to handle this is by eliminating things that stress you out and you can control. For example, if you're stressed out about a test that you've already taken, worried about what grade you'll make, then you can't control that. However, if you're also stressed out because you have a test coming up, then that would be something that you can solve by studying.

In the end, stress is going to be a part of most people's lives. However, following some of these steps can help you manage it little by little until it's not a part of everyday life.



The Energy Bus: Rule #5

by: Sydnee Gully

So far, the rules of the energy bus have been proving to be successful again and again. More students through elementary and secondary students have been earning bus tickets for their good works.

After these students do great things, they need to be sure to follow rule #5 of the energy bus: Don't Waste Your Energy on Those Who Don't Get on Your Bus. After taking the time to follow the first 4 rules and build a positive life, this rule is incredibly important.

Some people might make fun of others for always finding the good in things. They'll say things like "they're way too optimistic" as an insult. It's important to remember that these people can't get under your skin.

If somebody has spent so long building a positive life, they need to be sure to not waste their energy on those who do the opposite of them.

Ultimately, rule #5 is super important so people don't get discouraged by others.



THANKSGIVING FOR THE TURKEYS

By: Nick Howard

