Gate City Goosebumps

December 2025

Christmas Lights Turn On Themselves in Abandoned Neighborhood

I was driving through the old Brookhaven subdivision last night—the one that's been empty since the flood—when every house lit up at once. Not flickering. Not staggered. Every porch light, every tree, every plastic reindeer glowing like it was Christmas morning.

There's no power running to those houses. The city confirmed that months ago. I sat there for almost ten minutes before the lights shut off again, all at once. This morning, the street was dark and silent. No footprints. No tire tracks. Just a single strand of tinsel caught on a stop sign, gently moving even though there was no wind.

Carolers Sing Outside Houses With Recent Deaths

Over the past week, residents in three different neighborhoods reported hearing carolers late at night—always polite, always soft, always gone by the time doors are opened. Every house visited had one thing in common: someone inside had died within the last year.

One family recorded the singing through a doorbell cam. The audio cuts out halfway through "Silent Night," replaced by static and what sounds like someone quietly counting. The family says the singing stopped after they placed a candle in the window. No one knows why that worked.

Snow Falls Only on One House on Elm Street

While the rest of Gate City stayed snow-free last Thursday, one house on Elm Street was buried under several inches. Neighbors said it looked like a snow globe dropped over just that property.

The house belongs to a man who moved in last month and keeps to himself. I knocked. No answer. By morning, the snow was gone—except for handprints melted into the siding, as if someone had been holding onto the house from above.

Mall Santa Knows Things He Shouldn't

Several parents reached out after a visit to the Friendly Center Santa ended with tears—not from kids, but from adults. According to multiple accounts, Santa addressed parents by name without being told and mentioned events that hadn't happened yet.

One woman said Santa leaned close and whispered, *"You should call your sister tonight. Tomorrow will be too late."* She laughed it off at the time. Her sister was hospitalized early the next morning after a stroke. The Santa has since disappeared from the schedule, and the mall says they "never officially hired one."

Strangers Leave Coins Near Hanukkah Windows

Several Jewish households noticed small stacks of coins appearing overnight on windowsills near lit menorahs. No one saw anyone approach, and no footprints were found—even in fresh snow.

One resident told me her grandfather used to warn about "listeners who gather during the Festival of Lights." She laughed when she said it, but she hasn't touched the coins. Neither has anyone else. Every pile vanished on the eighth night, leaving faint scorch marks shaped like fingerprints.

Gate City Goosebumps

December 2025

OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM STATE & FEDERAL AUTHORITIES

In response to continued speculation surrounding the tragic events of Halloween night, state and federal agencies wish to reiterate that **there is no evidence of foul play, coordinated criminal activity, or unidentified threats to public safety** in Gate City.

The fatalities in question have been **thoroughly reviewed** by local law enforcement, wildlife specialists, and federal health authorities. The conclusion remains unchanged: the deaths were the result of **an unprecedented wildlife incident involving multiple animals exhibiting abnormal behavior**, consistent with advanced rabies and environmental stress factors.

Contrary to rumors circulating online and in fringe publications, **no forensic evidence has been withheld**, and **no records have been improperly sealed** beyond standard protections for victim privacy and ongoing administrative review. Claims of missing footage, classified autopsies, or intimidation of family members are **unfounded and irresponsible**.

Officials emphasize that:

- There is **no ongoing danger** to Gate City residents
- **No quarantine is in effect**
- **No federal task force remains active** in the area

Any perceived increase in government presence during the days following the incident was part of **routine inter-agency coordination** and has since concluded.

We urge the public to rely on **verified information from official channels** and to avoid speculation that may cause unnecessary fear or distress.

Gate City remains safe.

— **Joint Statement**
Gate City Department of Health & Human Services
Gate City Wildlife Resources Commission
Federal Emergency Response Coordination Office

Gate City Goosebumps

December 2025

One Month Later: The Night Gate City Went Quiet

It's been four weeks since Halloween night—four weeks since Gate City officially lost "approximately 2,000 parolees and their immediate families" in what authorities continue to describe as a *"highly unusual wildlife incident."* Four weeks since the phrase **"rabid bears"** entered our local vocabulary with a straight face.
And four weeks since everything about that explanation stopped making sense.
According to the original report, victims across multiple neighborhoods were attacked and killed within a span of just a few hours. The official narrative claims coordinated animal aggression, yet no surviving witnesses reported seeing bears. No credible tracks were documented. No hair, scat, claw marks, or DNA consistent with bears were recovered at any of the scenes.
I've spoken to three EMTs, two night-shift nurses, and a coroner's assistant who asked not to be named. All said the same thing in different words:"Those wounds weren't from animals."
Several bodies reportedly showed signs of extreme trauma inconsistent with known wildlife behavior. Others, according to leaked intake notes, showed *no defensive wounds at all*. A few were described as appearing "partially consumed" without corresponding tearing or blood spatter patterns.
Those records are now sealed.
Within 48 hours of the incident, the CDC arrived. Within 72, they left. The quarantine barriers went up, then came down. Neighborhoods were pressure-washed overnight. Surveillance footage from at least seven locations was declared "corrupted." Funeral arrangements were streamlined through a single federal contractor.
And then—nothing.
No follow-up press conferences. No independent review. No public inquest.
Families who attempted to speak out report being redirected, delayed, or quietly warned about "legal complications." One woman told me she received a visit reminding her of the conditions of her mortgage and her employer's federal contracts.
Coincidence, I'm sure.
Perhaps most troubling is what *didn't* happen afterward. No increase in animal control patrols. No wildlife sightings. No captured or euthanized bears. No DNA matches to known animal attacks anywhere in the state. Just silence.
Gate City residents have noticed other things too. Streetlights that flicker out at the same time every night. Unmarked vans idling where the attacks occurred. A sudden, sharp drop in parole supervision caseloads—with no explanation as to where those files went.
One source inside City Hall used a phrase that stuck with me:

"It wasn't an investigation. It was a cleanup."

Officials maintain there is no ongoing threat. That the incident was tragic, isolated, and resolved. But if that's true, why are records still sealed? Why are autopsy photos classified? Why were entire families included in a narrative meant to explain criminal victims?
And why, one month later, does Halloween night still feel unfinished?
Gate City has endured strange explanations before. But this one isn't strange enough. It's too tidy. Too rehearsed. Too careful.
If rabid bears did this, where are they?
And if they didn't…
what did?