



# THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

SATURDAY | September 25, 2021

75¢

SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 120, No. 118, ISSN No. 0894-4954



## OH, WHAT A DAY ...

*Gatesville had a heck of a weekend hosting Spurfest, fiddlers, motorheads*

BY DAVID SCOTT  
Staff Writer

It was the weekend to be in Gatesville. The town became the hub of excitement and entertainment last Saturday. People from all over the area came for Spurfest at the Coryell Museum. Automobile aficionados flocked to the courthouse square for the Cruzin' Cruzers car show. Fiddlers of all ages and stripes came to town to compete in the Old Time Fiddler's Contest at the City Auditorium. Downtown was full of out-of-town visitors who came to experience either one or all three events.

PLEASE SEE WEEKEND | A3



**SPURFEST DISPLAY:** Boots and spurs on display in the Coryell Museum.

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DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER  
**MOTORHEADS:** The show varied from antique cars to a few more modern vehicles.

WELL TRAVELED: Groups and individuals traveled from far and wide to attend the Old Time Fiddler's Contest last week.

COURTESY PHOTO BY CHERI SHEPHERD

## Grant money available for home repairs

BY KRISTEN MERIWETHER  
Staff Writer

Residents in rural portions of Coryell County, including Gatesville, are being encouraged to apply for Critical Home Repair grants offered by the Fort Hood Area Habitat for Humanity.

Repairs covered by the grants include home accessibility modification, like adding a wheelchair ramp or accessible shower and toilet, plumbing, electric, roofing, foundation repairs, weatherization and any other repairs that impact the livable conditions of the home.

"We've seen folks that were having to live with other friends and family that have finally gained the freedom to get back into their own home," Ken Cates, CEO of Fort Hood Area Habitat for Humanity, said by phone Aug. 13.

PLEASE SEE REPAIR | A4

## HORNETS DEFEND CROSS COUNTRY TURF



MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Carlo Martinez blazed to victory for the Hornets cross country team. DIVERSIONS, A10

## National Night Out returns Oct. 5

BY KRISTEN MERIWETHER  
Staff Writer

The Gatesville Police Department will hold National Night Out on Oct. 5 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Gatesville Sports Complex.

The free event will offer hotdogs, cold drinks, ice cream, shaved ice, cotton candy, face painting, inflatable play stations, and more. Law enforcement, soldiers from Fort Hood, local first responders, and other non-profit organizations will also be on hand with information and other items.

National Night Out is a police/community partnership designed to

PLEASE SEE OUT | A4

### QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER

Q: What is the exact size of Coryell County?

A: According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 1,057 square miles, of which 4.7 square miles are covered by water.

Send us your questions: editor@gatesvillemessenger.com

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**FLOORS OF HISTORY:** Visitors at the museum during Spurfest were exploring two floors of exhibits, which reflect the years gone by in Coryell County.

**CREAMY DELIGHT:** Museum volunteer, Beverly Billings, giving a demonstration on how to churn butter.

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**BEARDS TO BRAG ABOUT:** The winner of the "existing beards" category was Charlie Goble, center, who lives in Eddy. Goble has not shaved in eight years. Lee Boynton, left, of Gatesville and Christopher Como, also of Gatesville, pose with their trophies.



**THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER**

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**DEADLINES:**

Submit all news articles, classifieds and display advertising by 10am Friday for the Wednesday issue and 10am Wednesday for the Saturday issue.

Articles about events that have occurred 30 days prior to submission will not be accepted. However, they will be accepted as paid advertisements.

All articles and advertisements must meet our standards and

newspaper format as determined by management.

The Gatesville Messenger is not responsible for copy omission, typographical error or any unintentional error other than to publish a correction.

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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.

# WEEKEND

FROM PAGE A1

## SPURFEST FUN

The Coryell Museum found out it had approximately 350 visitors for Spurfest. Their guests had plenty to see and watch.

On-site demonstrations included butter-making and an old-time soda fountain. There was a doctor's office from the past and the old log jail built in 1854.

Of course, the museum is home to the world's largest collection of spurs, including spurs that once belonged to former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy and Mexican revolutionary General Francisco "Pancho" Villa.

Some 6,000 out of a collection of 18,000 are on display in the two floors of the museum.

But boot accessories aside, locals had fun with a beard growing contest, which Charlie Goble handily won. Goble's Rip Van Winkle gray facial hair hangs down to his calves. An impressive sigh at the least.

## MOTORHEADS GATHERED

Motorheads buzzed around downtown as 233 tricked-out vehicles lined streets around the courthouse for the Cruzin' Cruzers car show.

Cars ranged in size and in age — from Ford Model T's to Volkswagens, convertibles of all makes, Army vehicles, race cars, and many more.

Most of the vehicles had their hoods open for spectators could inspect the engines. Even with the heat, hundreds of people made several laps around the courthouse square to see the vehicles on display.

Regardless of age, there were cars for everyone. Some came for the nostalgia while others came out to gawk at the shiny hotrods painted in bright primary colors.

## FIDDLERS PLAYED

Down the street, inside the Gatesville City Auditorium, fiddlers from as far away as Colorado ambled up on the stage to see if they have the strings to be crowned champion in one of four categories. The contest was held by age groups 0-18, 19-40, 41-60 and 61+.

Ed Henson, who is in his 80's, drove from his home in North Texas to participate. This is something he's been doing for years.

Fiddles could be seen on every surface top in the hall. Youngsters were excited to show their stuff.

The Grand Champion of the competition went to accomplished fiddle player Carl Hopkins. At age 12, Hopkins played on the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville.

Oh, what a day it was indeed...



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**READY FOR INSPECTION:** Hoods of the unique cars were opened for judges to examine and inspect. More than 200 tricked-out automobiles were on display.



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**FIDDLER'S PARADISE:** Fiddles were to be found everywhere in the city auditorium in between sets.

## YOUNG WINNERS:

Pictured are some of the winners in the 11-18 year-old division.

COURTESY PHOTO BY CHERI SHEPHERD



## A PLACE FOR SPURS:

Only a small portion of the thousands of spurs that are now on display at the museum.

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## APT VENUE FOR JUDGMENT:

The vintage cars and hotrods were arrayed around the Coryell County courthouse.

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## RAFFLE WINNER:

Catherine Fulton displays the quilt that was raffled off during Spurfest. The winner was Bob Coward.

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# COUNTY WIDE

## 'Trunk or Treat' set for Oct. 28

Stanley GM and Stanley CDJ of Gatesville will host "Trunk or Treat" on Thursday, Oct. 28 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Stanley Chevrolet and Stanley Dodge parking lot at 210 Hwy. 36 Bypass in Gatesville.

Local and area businesses can join in decorating a vehicle, passing out candy and giving the community a safe trick-or-treating event.

The auto dealerships will provide the vehicles and trick or treat bags for the participants.

For more information, call Kia Huggins or Kandi Mills by Oct. 1, at 254-865-8941.

## GHS class of 2001 reunion

The Gatesville High School Class of 2001 will be celebrating its 20-year class reunion on Saturday, Oct. 9 starting at noon.

The gathering will be held at the Gatesville Country Club, 1308 Golf

## GHS class to celebrate 50-year reunion

The Gatesville High School Class of 1971 will be celebrating its 50-year reunion Saturday, Oct. 9, starting at 6 p.m. at the Gatesville Civic Center.

There is no charge for admission, although contributions are always appreciated. A class photo

to will be taken at 7 p.m. and the music will start at 8 p.m.

Due to COVID, health and safety is of paramount importance. The Gatesville Civic Center is a large venue with plenty of room to spread out and has in place mitigation protocols. Peace officers will be

on site for the duration of the event.

For more information, call Penny Massingill at 254-493-8357 or Wayne Durham at 832-655-4337. For Homecoming events, please visit Gatesville, Texas Class of 1971 50th Reunion on their Facebook page.

Lake. It is one of 36 public institutions of higher education in Texas.

## Gatesville students named to President's List

Three Gatesville students and nine Copperas Cove students were recently named to the Summer 2021 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University.

The Gatesville students named to the list include Jimmi Anderson, Natasha Gribble and Justin Hoover. Copperas Cove students include Douglas Menard, Kolby Gill, Edward Streeto, Len Nunez, Wilhelmina Pellegrin, Elizabeth Paulus, Elizabeth Leggett, Robert Bigford and Marcus Harris.

Full-time students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.7 and above are named to the President's List.

Southern New Hampshire University is a private, nonprofit institution with an 89-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults.

Course Rd. It has a full bar and a menu full of delectable items for lunch and dinner.

Golfers who are not members, the green fees are \$40 and includes a cart. For tee time, call the club at 254-865-6917.

There will be corn hole, washers, and other outdoor activities to enjoy.

DJ Ray Ray will provide the music for the evening.

It costs \$10 per person to attend the adult-only event. Additional do-

nations are appreciated. Payment can be taken the night of the event.

All food and drinks must be purchased through the club and are Dutch.

## Ghagar graduates cum laude from Midwestern

Gatesville resident Katherine Elizabeth Ghagar received a Bach-

elor of Science in Nursing degree, cum laude, from Midwestern State University in August.

MSU awarded 237 undergraduate and graduate students. Ghagar was one of 21 students to graduate cum laude.

MSU, located in Wichita Falls, was established in 1922. The university has a 255-acre campus which is nestled among the city's residential area, and comprises 70 buildings, numerous playing fields, and an outdoor recreational facility near Sikes

## OUT

FROM PAGE A1

increase drug and crime prevention awareness. The event, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and GPD, aims to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while

bringing back a true sense of community.

"We want to encourage both neighbors, and families to join us for this event," Gatesville Police Chief Nathan Gohlke said in an email. "Our community has been through a lot during the last year, and our goal is to try and bring back a little normalcy."

With COVID continuing to impact area hospitals Chief Gohlke said they are encouraging safe practices at the event. Face masks will be on-hand and sanitizing stations will be placed throughout the park. Residents experiencing COVID symptoms are encouraged to remain home.

## REPAIR

FROM PAGE A1

Residents must fall between 30%-60% of the Area Median Income, must own the home and must occupy the home where the repairs are being made. The home owner must be present while the repairs are being made and friends and family are encouraged to help with the project.

The grants, which can be up to \$20,000, will cover repairs, not major renovations. HVAC work is eligible, but the grants do not cover adding an air conditioning unit if there wasn't one installed before.

To apply residents can go to

www.fhahfh.org/home-repair and download the home repair screening questionnaire.

"We will do all the hard work to decide which applicants gets what grants," Cates said.

Some repairs can be done by volunteers, such as repairing a fence or building a wheelchair ramp. But work that requires a license to complete, such as plumbing or electrical, is done by certified contractors.

As their fiscal year nears the end on Oct. 1, Cates said there is plenty of money available.

"I have a wait list in Killeen, Copperas Cove, Temple, Belton, Harker Heights because

there are so many applicants," Cates said. "But the folks in the rural communities are not applying."

Funding that goes unused at the end of the fiscal year goes back into the general fund at the federal or state level.

"If they don't use these funds, it goes back to somewhere else," Cates said. "We hate seeing this going to someone else's pet project fund instead of taking care of our community."

Residents can apply year round. The program is not designed for emergency repairs. Depending on material stock and contractor availability, repairs can be made in 10 to 50 days.



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# The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through law enforcement dispatchers during the period of September 3 - 7. While there were many calls, this is a partial list of more significant activity. Persons are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.

### CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

**September 18**  
9:24 a.m., a hit and run was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

9:27 a.m., an accident was reported in the 200 block of FM 215.  
5:29 p.m., a theft was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.  
6:29 p.m., a threat was re-


ported in the 200 block of S. 3rd Street.  
7:40 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1200 block of Golf Course Road.  
9:56 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1700 block of Waco Street.

block of CR 82.  
5:11 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 3100 block of S. State Hwy. 36.  
7:25 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1200 block of E. Main Street.

sons were reported in the 9500 block of FM 929.  
8:14 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 1100 block of Old Osage Road.  
8:50 a.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on CR 127.  
11:48 a.m., a minor accident was reported in the East bound land of Hwy. 9  
1:54 p.m., a stranded motorist was reported on Hwy. 190.  
8:21 p.m., mail tampering was reported in the 200 block of CR 329.

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**September 19**  
4:28 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 100 block of FM 116.  
5:14 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 500 block of Straws Mill Road.  
7:33 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 9500 block of FM 929.  
4:47 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100

**September 20**  
4:31 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Veazey Drive.  
8:41 a.m., an assault was reported in the 2100 block of Saunders Street.  
10:30 a.m., an accident was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.  
11:22 a.m., harassment was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.  
3:04 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 100 block of Valley Circle.  
5:13 p.m., an accident was reported in the 2500 block of E. Main Street.

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ity was reported in the 2700 block of Business Hwy. 36.  
9:25 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 1300 block of St. Louis Street.  
4:15 p.m., a theft was reported in the 200 block of N. 7th Street.  
8:08 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 100 block of Lark Street.  
8:19 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.  
8:35 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2000 block of E. Main Street

**September 20**  
9:22 a.m., animal neglect was reported on CR 339.  
11:53 a.m., trespassing was reported in the 11000 block of FM 929.  
1:56 p.m., burglary of a habitation was reported in the 3900 block of E. FM 217.  
5:12 p.m., identity theft was reported in the 800 block of Rustling Avenue.  
8:15 p.m., an abandoned vehicle was reported on S. Hwy. 36 and Smith Creek.  
9:32 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on CR 102 and CR 101.

**September 21**  
8:09 a.m., suspicious activ-

### CITATION BY PUBLICATION-FC 103.010 SAPCR

THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
**IN THE INTEREST OF EZEKIAL MORALES**

CAUSE NO. DC-21-51875

IN THE 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF CORYELL COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, Respondent, 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 AM 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."

The petition of **TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES**, Petitioner, was filed in the 52ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Coryell County, Texas on 01/05/2021 against **ESEQUIEL MORALES JR**, Respondent and entitled in the above entitled cause DC-21-51875, and entitled "In the interest of **EZEKIAL MORALES**, a child." The suit requests termination of the parent-child relationship.

The date of birth of the child/children who is/are the subject of the suit is/are:

**CHILD'S/CHILDREN'S NAME(S)**  
**EZEKIAL MORALES**

**PLACE OF BIRTH**  
TEMPLE, TX

**DATE OF BIRTH**  
07/21/2019

The Court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child's (children's) interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the Parent-child Relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's (children's) adoption."

**ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT AT GATESVILLE, CORYELL, COUNTY, TEXAS THIS 15th day of September, 2021.**

Attorney for Petitioner or Petitioner:  
**BRANDON BELT**  
210 S. 7TH STREET  
GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528

Clerk of the Court  
Becky Moore, District Clerk  
P.O. Box 4  
Gatesville, Texas 76528  
Coryell County, Texas

By: Ashley Lamb, Deputy  
00028787

### CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**September 18**  
3:21 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 100 block of Doras Lane.  
10:20 a.m., a stranded motorist was reported on S. Hwy. 36 S. of North Fort Hoot.  
1:21 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 3400 block of FM 1113.  
3:14 p.m., a minor accident was reported on FM 215 and CR 238.  
6:35 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on CR 303.  
7:36 p.m., a neighbor dispute was reported in the 100 block of Julia.

**September 19**  
7:37 a.m., suspicious per-

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**MOUND NEWS**

# Stephens boys go to Ohio for Taekwondo Nationals

BY BARBARA HOPSON

Mound lost one of its long-time residents, Mrs. Jacqueline Davidson Sims Holder, who died Thursday, September 16, in Waco. Graveside services were held Monday morning at Davidson Cemetery. Jacqueline was born and lived in the Mound Community. Mrs. Holder was the daughter of the late Jack and Christeen Bomar Davidson of Mound and was the wife of Joe Frank Holder of Waco. Ray and John Stephens of Fort Worth, friends of Olga Schmidt and her son, Volodomyr Ispiranow, stopped by for a visit Friday. Ray and John Stephens, son and grandson, John



Barbara Hopson

Paul and Jonathan Stephens went to Cincinnati, Ohio to compete in the Taekwondo Nationals. John Paul placed first in his division in sparring and fourth in Forms and Jonathan placed first in sparring.

Alan McCorkle of Buda, Eric and Brian McCorkle recently visited with their mother, Mrs. Elizabeth McCorkle.

Nancy Dixon and Barbara Hopson spent Tuesday night in Rockwall at the home of Kyle and Holly Pullen. While there, they attended the Providence Academy Grandparent's Day at McLendon and Chisholm in Rockwall for Ruby, Truett and Jacklyn Pullen.

Truett Pullen, of Rockwall, spent a few days in Gatesville with her grandparents, Kenneth and Nancy Dixon. While here, she visited with her other relatives.

Roy and Delecia Reynolds treated Ronilyn Rogers and

Alex Nipps to lunch Monday in Evant.

Bruce and Suzy Cox of Robinson, Ray and John Stephens, Elizabeth and Benjamin Phillips were Sunday lunch guests of Martha Lawhorn.

Martha Lawhorn visited Thursday afternoon in Gatesville with Mrs. Doris Hoff.

Samuel, Charles and Thomas Belt showed their steers in Abilene at the West Texas State Fair prospect show. They showed well and had a great time.

Ruby Pullen of Rockwall, niece of Barbara Hopson, competed in her first Texas Junior High School Rodeo Association rodeo this past

weekend. Ruby is in region four and competes in barrel racing and goat tying. Ruby had good runs but did not place.

Emma Blakley was home for the weekend visiting with her parents, Robert and Carolyn Blakley and grandparents, Bettie Blakley, Jerry and Brenda Helms.

Several people of Mound attended the 20th Annual Spurfest at the Museum at Coryell Museum and Historical Center in Gatesville. Saturday afternoon included the 34th Cruzin Cruzens, Old Time Fiddle Contest and the Coryell County Fish Fry at the Texas Station Event Center.

Those who had birthdays

in the month of September were Pat Fry, Chris McHargue, Mistie Madrid, Kathy Smith, Billie Wallace, Barbara Hopson, Teristin Byrd, Lyle Bomar, Billy Martin, Diane Stovall, Cindi McDonald, Connie Milner, Opal Smith, Amanda Fisher, LeAnn Webb, DeElva Edwards, Miles Dahl, Mitch Dahl, Amber Tippit, Lisa Barnard, Jaryn Poynter, Mason Jones, Judy Belt, David Wasserman, Randy Belt, Jackie Pate, Diane Heavin, Courtney Smith, Patrick Hopson, Margaret Hopson, Harrison Crum, Donna Smith, Caleb Magee and Lindsey Miller.

## OBITUARIES

### CHARLES ARTHUR ROBINSON

October 24, 1936 - September 21, 2021



Charles A. Robinson, age 84 of Georgetown, passed away on the morning of September 21, 2021 at his home.

Funeral services will be 2:00 PM Friday, September 24, 2021 at Scott's Funeral Home with Rev. Dr. Ann Hag-

mann officiating. Burial will follow at Flint Creek Cemetery. Visitation with the family will be one hour prior to the funeral service.

Charles was born on October 24, 1936 in Gatesville to the late Coyne P. Robinson and Rose Shows Robinson. He grew up and attended school in Gatesville. After graduation Charles joined the Army Reserves, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel before retiring. Charles earned a Masters Degree in Education and went on to teach in public schools for many years before he retired from teaching.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his wife, Joye Bell Cross Coon Robinson in April of 1999.

Charles is survived by his son, Paul Coon of Lubbock.

### LACY JAI MASON

Nov. 24, 1984 - Sept. 17, 2021



Lacy Jai Mason, age 36 of Gatesville, passed away on Friday September 17, 2021 in Gatesville surrounded by family and friends.

Graveside services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Friday, September 24, 2021 at Restland Cemetery. There is no

set time for visitation.

Lacy was born November 24, 1984 in Denison, Texas.

She grew up and attended school in Colbert, Oklahoma. She graduated high school in Silo, Oklahoma. After graduation, she attended medical school for x-ray medical technician. Lacy loved being outdoors and enjoyed everything from fishing, hunting, spending time on the beach and especially her horses.

Lacy loved spending time at home with her two children, Riley, her son and her daughter, Chasity. They were her everything, she attended every game, wrestling match or choir concert of theirs.

Lacy lived life to the fullest and never held anything back. No matter what Lacy did she gave it her all. When she met her cowboy, Jeremy and moved out to the country, her dreams came true. She loved working on their

small little patch of land, where they would create a small piece of their own little heaven.

Lacy began her employment with Texas Department of Criminal Justice on September 1, 2016 as a Correctional Officer at the Crain Unit where she worked until September 9, 2020.

She returned to the agency in her current position of Inmate Records at the Hughes Unit on June 28, 2021. "Lacy Bennett was a committed T.D.C.J. employee who served the agency well during her employment at the Crain Unit and Hughes Unit," said T.D.C.J. Executive Director Bryan Collier. "Her loss will be felt greatly by so many and our thoughts and prayers go out to her family, friends and co-workers."

"She was a great person who always had a smile on her face," said Hughes Unit

Senior Warden Bruce Armstrong. "She had a wonderful personality that automatically attracted people to her."

She was preceded in death by her adopted parents, Louise and Wayne Mason; and sister, Leda Winchester.

She is survived by her cowboy, Jeremy Dossey; son, Riley Proctor; daughter, Chasity Proctor; biological parents, Patti McLearn and husband, Jerry; and Phillip Day and wife, Brenda and many, many other family members and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family has established a memorial account in the name of Lacy Mason Bennett at First National Bank of Gatesville, P.O. Box 659, Gatesville, TX 76528.

Scott's Funeral Home of Gatesville, in charge of arrangements.

# Business Directory

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CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

# Disaster declaration follows Hurricane Nicholas

BY GARY BORDERS

Seventeen Southeast Texas counties have been declared disaster areas after hurricane Nicholas came ashore, dumping more than a foot of rain and cutting off power to a half-million customers in Texas, according to poweroutage.us. That number had been reduced to about 4,200 as of Sunday.

Counties included in Gov. Greg Abbott's declaration are Aransas, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Galveston, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Matagorda, Montgomery, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Refugio, San Patricio, and Victoria.

The Texas Department of Insurance has a number of tips for those affected by the storm:

- Call your insurance company to report damage.
- Take pictures and video of the damage. Don't throw anything away until your insurance adjuster tells you.
- Make temporary repairs to

prevent more damage. Remove standing water. Cover broken windows and holes to keep rain out.

- Keep a list of the repairs and save receipts. Don't make permanent repairs before the insurance adjuster sees the damage.

For more information from TDI, go to the website, [www.tdi.texas.gov/consumer/storms/home-damaged-faq.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/consumer/storms/home-damaged-faq.html).

**HAITIANS FLOOD INTO DEL RIO**

Thousands of Haitian refugees fleeing political unrest and a severe earthquake have flooded into Del Rio on the Texas-Mexico border,

prompting the city's mayor to declare an emergency and close the bridge with more than 15,000 migrants crowded beneath it.

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz blamed the situation on President Joe Biden, reported the San Antonio Express-News.

Border agents are working to process those who crossed, while the Biden administration on Saturday accelerated flights to deport migrants back to Haiti. Abbott called it a "border crisis" and ordered Texas Department of Public Safety troopers and the Texas National Guard to maintain a presence around ports of entry in an attempt to deter additional entries.

**REDISTRICTING FOCUS OF THIRD SPECIAL SESSION**

The Texas Legislature convened Monday for its third special session with the focus on redrawing political boundaries for House and Senate districts, as well as for the state's congressional seats and for the State Board of Education.

Before the session began, proposed state senate districts by Republican leaders drew fire from the other side of the aisle, according to the Texas Tribune.

State Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston proposed a map that redraws two districts — hers and that of Angela Paxton, R-McKinney, to include comfortable majorities of voters who backed Donald Trump in 2020. Both districts saw voters narrowly favor Joe Biden in the 2020 election.

State Sen. Beverly Powell, D-Burleson, said the reconfigured map gives Republicans in her district an unfair advantage.

"The proposed State Senate map is a direct assault on the voting rights of minority citizens in Senate District 10 and, if adopted, it would be an act of intentional discrimination," she said in a statement.

Redistricting promises to be a fiercely fought battle, as it is every 10 years.

**UP TO \$5M FOR RURAL HOSPITALS**

Rural hospitals in Texas are set to receive up to \$5 million in federal funding to help underserved Texans, the Health and Human Services Commission announced last week.

"As we work to address health disparities throughout the state, this funding will help break down barriers to accessing care while connecting rural Texans with health care providers in creative ways and improving overall health outcomes within their communities," said Trey Wood of the HHSC.

The funding is coming from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Texas is one of four recipients of the grants, designed to "address health disparities, improve health outcomes, and meet the unique needs of Texans living in rural areas using telemedicine," according to HHSC.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist.

**RACE**

FROM PAGE A10

30th at 19:19.2.

The boys were second overall with 62 points. Stephenville was first with 43 points.

For the girls' team, freshman Vania Martinez clocked a 12:17.7 for first in the varsity girls. She finished well ahead of second-place Kat Helmer of Waco Live Oak Classical. Helmer ran a 12:38.2 in the 2-mile race for the girls.

Hornet sophomore Bethany Penrod took seventh in 13:00.5. Other Hornet finishers were:

- 23. Kyla Hinojosa, 14:10.9
- 24. Grace Penrod, 14:12.7
- 39. Valeria Jimenez, 15:13.9
- 57. Payton Armstrong, 16:23.2.

The Hornets girls' team was third overall with 86 points. Brownwood was first with 54 points and Stephenville second at 71.

**POSTER RAISES \$2,500 FOR HORNETS**



Gatesville ISD Head Football Coach, Luke Howard, accepts a check for \$2,500 from The Gatesville Messenger's Operations Manager, Janice Velasquez. This marks the sixteenth year The Gatesville Messenger has partnered with the GHS football program and local advertisers to create the Gatesville Hornets football poster. Within that time, the football program has received over \$54,500 in contributions from their joint efforts. To reserve a space on next year's poster, contact Bailey Dickie at 254-865-1243. Free copies of the poster are available at The Gatesville Messenger office.

**Sub-varsity football**

From Sept. 16 games

The Gatesville junior varsity pulled off a 28-28 tie with Hillsboro Thursday, Sept. 16.

The freshmen lost, 22-19, to the Eagles.

The sub-varsity teams travel to Lampasas next week.

In junior high action, Gatesville took on Waco La Vega, Sept. 16.

**7B VS. LA VEGA**

LA VEGA	6	0	0	0	6
GATESVILLE	0	0	0	6	6

LEADING RUSHERS: TRISTAN NORTON- 4 FOR 62, 1 TD  
LEADING TACKLERS: COLBY AARON- 4; BRAYDEN CORRELL- 4

**8A VS. LA VEGA**

LA VEGA	6	0	0	6	12
GATESVILLE	0	8	6	0	14

LEADING RUSHERS: GEHRIG KEETON- 9 FOR 42; AMOS PHILLIPS- 3 FOR 9, 2-POINT CONVERSION  
LEADING PASSER: KEETON- 9 FOR 11, 128 YARDS, 1 TD  
LEADING RECEIVER: PHILLIPS- 5 FOR 62; MILES TULL- 1 FOR 25, TD; COLT HEATH- 2 FOR 33  
LEADING TACKLERS: GEHRIG KEETON- 5; AMOS PHILLIPS- 5, 1 INT RETURNED 55 YARDS FOR A TD; MILES TULL- 4; DYLAN WATTS- 4; JOSHUA GUILLET- 2; CY BURNS- 4

**7A VS. LA VEGA**

LA VEGA	8	0	6	0	14
GATESVILLE	0	0	0	0	0

LEADING RUSHERS: WYATT BAKER- 9 FOR 35 , BRADY GIST- 8 FOR 40  
LEADING PASSER: BRADY GIST 2 COMPLETIONS FOR 35 YDS  
LEADING RECEIVER: HUNTER MARTIN 2 FOR 30 YDS  
LEADING TACKLERS: BRADY GIST 13, TREY HOWARD 6



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GATESVILLE CROSS COUNTRY

## Hornet cross country runners win on home turf



PHOTOS BY MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSANGER

**GOOD START:** Carlo Martinez, third from left, gets a good start to give the Hornets cross country team another victory at the Gatesville Bill Bradley Invitational Saturday.

BY MARK GOODSON  
Staff Writer

For the fourth straight meet, Carlo Martinez blazed to victory for the Hornets cross country team. This time, he led from the outset at the Gatesville Bill Bradley Invitational Saturday.

He clocked a personal best of 15:40 to finish ahead of the pack.

"It was a good race," Martinez said after polishing off another winning finish. "It felt good today to win especially here."

The junior led from start to finish. Teammate Luis Macias took second overall with a time of 16:27.6.

Macias had some anxious moments holding off a runner who mistakenly missed taking in the final loop of the 3-mile race.

"It was kind of crazy," Macias

said. "He kind of cut in the right at the end. (But) I was able to finish it off."

Officially, Stephenville's Raj Guatam took third at 16:27.6 behind Macias.

Gatesville's Jack Armstrong was 14th at 17:59.1 followed by Angel Armendariz in 22nd at 18:40.7, Abraham Armendariz in 28th in 19:16.9, and Braeden Shuemake in



PLEASE SEE RACE | A9 **GIRLS WINNER:** Vania Martinez won the varsity girls race.



**RUNNER-UP:** Luis Macias was second in the boys 3-mile race.

MAY 63, EVANT 6

## Evant no match for top state six-man team

BY MARK GOODSON  
Staff Writer

Edgar Morales scored on a one-yard touchdown run for the Evant, and it was the Tigers lone touchdown in their 63-6 football loss to the May Tigers Sept. 17 at home.

May, the No. 1 team in six-man Division I football in the state, improved to 4-0 on the season.

Evant took its first loss after reeling off three wins to open the season.

Evant travels to Penelope this week.

Hunter White had 34 yards rushing and led the team in tackles with seven.

Luis Arellano added 14 yards rushing and had five tackles on defense.

Arellano had five completions for 39 yards.

White had four receptions for 21 yards.



GATESVILLE TENNIS

## Non-district Belton match painful for netters

BY MARK GOODSON  
Staff Writer

The Hornets team tennis squad took on a strong Belton High School team on Friday, Sept. 17 on the road and managed just three wins among the 19 matches.

The Hornets ace Stormy Tatum had a hand in on two of the wins.

Tatum and Julee Sun won their doubles match over Macie Echols/Masyn Knight, 6-4, 6-3.

Tatum beat Echols in singles, too.

Ty Warren won his No.2 singles over Ethan Libby.

The team tennis squad stands 8-2 this fall and is 1-0 in District 7-4A play with a victory over Stephenville.

**GATESVILLE WINNER:** Alex Scott beat Eduardo Briseno, 6-0, 6-2, last week against Stephenville in team tennis.

MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSANGER

OGLESBY 70, KOPPERL 6

## Oglesby wins, improves to 4-0 mark for season

BY MARK GOODSON  
Staff Writer

Oglesby rolled to a 70-6 mercy-rule football victory over the Kopperl Eagles Friday at Oglesby.

The Tigers (4-0) will take on Eagle Christian this week at Oglesby.

Blake Thompson had a 46-yard touchdown run and 30-yard interception return for scores.

Seven Tigers scored in the game.

Hunter Walter, Alex Castillo, Cash Lee, Matthew Castillo, Ronaldo Gonzales and Kyler Fossett scored touchdowns.

Brodie Fisher kicked eight PATS for 16 points.

Leading tacklers were Fossett with six, Jakson Tippit five, Lee five and Matthew Castillo four.

Walter, Tippit, Fossett and Johnny Gomez had fumble recoveries.

The Tigers had 102 yards rushing and 79 passing.