

SERVING CORYELL COUNTY SINCE 1881 | VOLUME 120, No. 112, ISSN No. 0894-4954

Veterans Day | 2021 **GRATEFUL FOR THEIR SERVICE**



Help us salute local veterans

Work on roads, bridges a constant commitment

County judge thanks crew for keeping up with task

BY JEFF OSBORNE

Senior Staff Writer

Maintaining Coryell County roads and bridges is work that never seems to end — and something that takes a significant amount of money.

That was the gist of the report Justin Latham, county road and bridge administrator, and foreman Justin Mannix recently gave the Coryell County Commissioners Court.

Mannix said that \$372,350.56 has been spent over the past budget year to make improvements and bring local bridges up to standards set by the Texas Department of Transportation.

County Judge Roger Miller told Latham and Mannix to think of the expansion work as part of a long range objective.

"Think of it in terms of a 30-year plan," he said. "I know you don't have a crystal ball ... look at the growth and different administrative tasks y'all anticipate and what kind of support might be necessary in the future."

The County judge thanked Latham and Mannix, not only for the work being done by the depart-

PLEASE SEE **ROADWORK** | A2

STRONG RUNNING



From the stormy beach of Normandy to the mountainous landscape of Afghanistan and many other places far and wide, America's military men and women have played a vital role in keeping our nation strong and free. The Gatesville Messenger is looking to honor those who have served our country in a special Veterans Day section that will appear in the Nov. 10 edition of the newspaper.

We are asking local residents - or people from outside the area who have ties to local veterans - to share their pictures with us so that we can include them in our Salute to Veterans. There is no cost to you for your veterans photos to appear in the Messenger. We are producing this section as a community service to honor those who have sacrificed so much to preserve the freedom and liberty we are blessed to enjoy today. You can email your veterans photos to us, or bring them by the Messenger office so that we can make a copy of them. Please include the veteran's name, military branch, rank and years of service along with the photograph. You should also include a way for us to contact you in case questions arise later.

Photos can be emailed to veterans@gatesvillemessenger.com, or brought to the newspaper office at 116 S. Sixth St., on the west side of the Coryell County Courthouse.

MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER Carlo Martinez is a running machine this fall. The district title was his seventh victory this fall. SEE STORY, A8

These ghost hunters confirm people 'aren't going nuts'

BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Dan LaFave teaches computer technology at Grape Creek High School near San Angelo, where he lives.

He moved to West Texas from

the valley where he investigated reports of ghosts. One was in the home of a deputy sheriff who worked nights.

"When his wife, home alone, washed all the dishes at night and put them in the cabinet, she'd walk toward her bedroom and would hear a racket. When she returned to the kitchen all the dishes that she had just put up would all be back out,."

PLEASE SEE GHOSTS | A2



HAUNTED HOTEL: When Dave LaFave and his wife, Connie, bought the Old Park Hotel in Ballinger they were told it is haunted by at least 30 spirits.

ALANA EDGIN, SAN ANGELO STANDARD-TIMES

QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER

Q: Where did the community of Bee House get its name?

A: The community's post office opened in 1884. Residents petitioned to have it named "Bee Hive" due to the abundance of bees in the area, but the U.S. Postal Service named it "Bee House" instead.









Gatesville opts to to join national opioid settlement

BY JEFF OSBORNE Senior Staff Writer

The national opioid crisis has made its impact on big cities and small communities alike, and Gatesville is no exception.

During a recent Gatesville City Council meeting, city leaders approved participating in the national opioids settlement.

A memorandum to the council noted that oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine and morphine are the most common opioids prescribed for pain relief.

While the drugs are effective in helping provide relief for acute and chronic pain, they can also be misused because they are highly addictive. This has resulted in multiple lawsuits against those manufacturing and distributing the drugs.

Settlement agreements have been reached by state and local governments with a trio of pharmaceutical distributors and a manufacturer.

"It's a major problem mostly in larger urban areas, but we also have an opioid problem here in Gates-

DOLING OUT THE CASH

Other allocations for area communities include:

- Coryell County, \$123,659
- Evant, \$2,068
- Oglesby, \$29
- Copperas Cove, \$133,492
- McGregor, \$9,155 Waco, \$512,007
- Temple, \$280,747
- Killeen, \$535,650
- Hamilton, \$3,581
- Lampasas, \$28,211 Bell County, \$650,748
- Belton, \$72,680
- McLennan County, \$529,641

ville," said City Manager William Parry III.

He and Police Chief Nathan Gohlke noted there have been recent drug busts involving opioids.

The settlements will consist of two distributions of money. One

will be a direct payment of \$26,994 to the city of Gatesville based on the community's size. There are no restrictions in how those funds are used. A second distribution is a regional allotment of \$9.45 million, with a portion of those funds going to Coryell County. A narcotics detective, once hired, will determine the best use of the funds available.

"The city attorney recommends we go ahead with this by January 2." Parry said. "The problem is not huge here but it is an issue that needs to be nipped in the bud.'

Dallas has had a far larger problem with opioids, Parry noted, and rather than participating in the settlement and is pursuing separate legal action.

Parry said in Gatesville's case, the best option is to take the settlement and for the narcotics detective, once he or she is hired, to recommend how to use the funds the city receives and whether to apply for additional grants.

Benefit to be held for Evant man

A benefit will be held on Saturday, Oct. 23, from noon until 11 p.m. to help defray medical costs for Chris Loecken.

The benefit will be held at the Acoustic Courtyard LLS and will feature live music by Matt Cearley and The Rowdy Few, Clayton Landua, CAJ, and Tyler Layne.

The event will have food trucks, a cornhole tournament, poker tournament, bake sale and a silent auction.

Chris and his wife Jessica own and operate Loecken Construction and their business has been the sole provider for their family. Chris

recently suffered health issues with long-term effects that has confined him to his home where he is now dependent on oxygen.

He needs constant care and is battling blood clots. Chris's medical bills have reached almost \$100,000 and continue to grow. The public is encouraged to attend this benefit to help Chris and his family.

The benefit will be held on the square in Evant located at 168 US Hwy 281.

Contact numbers are as follows: Silent Auction, 254-216-1058; Bake Sale, 254-248-5416; Venue, 254-471-3162; Cornhole, 254-216-0957.

'Girls in Leadership' panel set

A panel discussion titled "Girls in Leadership" will be held on Monday, Oct. 25, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Gatesville High School Auditorium.

Guest speakers will include Michele G. Hackney, EdD, dean, Scott & White School of Nursing, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor; Christie Bledsoe, EdD, Assistant Superintendent of Academics,

Priority Charter Schools; Marie Barrows, principal of Gatesville High School; and Veronica Vera Vasquez, EdD, director of academics and Administrative Services, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Texas, Austin.

All girls in grades 6 - 12 are invited to attend, and parents are welcome as well.



ALANA EDGIN, SAN ANGELO STANDARD-TIMES

EYES ON US: WHEN Dave LaFave and his wife, Connie, first moved to Ballinger, he said, "I just felt like we were being watched that eyes were on us." The've since turned their hotel into a paranormal destination.

GHOSTS FROM PAGE A1

He has worked in the paranormal field for the last 30 years — participating on hundreds of spook searches. He has written a number of books on the subject and has been in broadcast and print media telling about his experiences.

He and his wife Connie (who also hunts ghosts) formed a company in 2008 called Graveyard Shift Paranormal Investigations. After his mother died and left him some

money, he purchased the Old Park Hotel in Ballinger, a former brothel that is now a popular destination for people looking for paranormal experiences.

"When we bought the building, we were told that the place was haunted by as many as 30 spirits. When we moved to San Angelo I had never been to Ballinger before, but something about the town was really reaching out to me. The whole time we walked around in there for the first time I just felt like we were being watched, that eyes were on us. And all of a sudden, this old woman's voice filled the whole hallway around us and said hello. And she said it in a welcoming manner, almost like she was welcoming us to the building."

He and Connie give tours and groups can rent the entire 10-room hotel for \$300 a night. Dan had an experience the first night he slept in the hotel. "All of a sudden I feel like a woman's hand is caressing the top of my head. I felt for my wife next to me but she was fast asleep. I opened my eyes and there was a woman standing 14 inches from my face. She was pale white,

and she had an old black dress on. She was just looking at me. And I'm looking at her. When I got up nobody was there."

There are other spooky things at the Old Park Hotel. "You will hear what sounds like a cowboy walking along the hallway late at night. You can actually hear his spurs jangling. He even turns the door handles on occasion. People have heard that and opened the door but there's no one in the hallway.

"Something else weird happens a lot of times. We get what are called cold sensations. In the back of the

hotel there is no air conditioning at all. In the summer it gets a little warm. What's interesting is when you're standing there in a group with everybody sweating all of a sudden you feel a cold draft come from nowhere. You're just chilled to the bone. We're not making this stuff up. It's very real. A lot of history does seem to mix with the paranormal so anywhere you have historic places there seems to also be paranormal related events happening. Our job is to confirm that people aren't going nuts when they see or hear unusual things.'

ROADWORK FROM PAGE A1

ment, but also for the detailed information they provided.

"There are solid records of everything that has been done to improve and maintain roads and bridges throughout the county, and y'all are doing a great job," he said. Mannix noted that the depart-

ment recently completed work on County Road 321, which links Leon Junction to the Mound area. "That's been one of our bigger

projects," he said. Another priority is determining specifications for expanding the department's base of operations. "We're compiling different

building materials for more office space," Latham said. "we're looking at mobile buildings and adding onto the shop. We'll have several different scenarios we'll consider in the future with varying price ranges.

publish a correction

must meet our standards and



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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.

NEWS FROM PEARL A ticket to view the teeny bikini shrine could cost \$50

BY BETSY CLARK

ark your calendars. Next Pearl weekend, Nov. 5, Ronald Medart is gonna fire up the barbecue pit under the pavilion at The Pearl Community Center.

We'll cook dinner together, play music, and enjoy fellowship. Bring your own meats, and a side dish to share. Rachel and Larry Bates will provide paper products.

The grill will be ready at 6 p.m., and we'll keep it hot. Plan to stay, so bring your RV, or tent. Then, you will already be there for the Nov. 6 Pearl Bluegrass Event.

Rachel is placing an order for beautiful weather. It's gonna be fun, y'all.

The bluegrass show will be very special with The Family Sowell performing. How wonderful is that. If you would like to play on the stage, please contact Anji Pearl Day at 325-665-7996 to schedule your time. If you aren't a picker, you can be a grinner in the auditorium.

The free stage show usually begins about 1 p.m., and all are welcome. Don't forget to stop by the kitchen for delicious, reasonably-priced hamburgers, sandwiches, and pie.

The Pearl Cottage Bookstore will also be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Nov. 6. The cottage houses over 6,000 books, and you can find all sorts of other treasures, too. Most items are "buy what you want, pay what you want." It's the friendliest place in the county to shop. You'll leave there with treasures and new friends, too.

The Pearl Cemetery Association is still accepting donations to build a pavilion

to protect attendees from the often-harsh weather conditions during interments and services. You may send a donation or a donation in memory of a loved one to Pearl Cemetery Association, C/O Linda Ray, 1771 CR 152, Purmela, TX 76566. If you have any questions, you can contact Linda at 254-865-9282. Thank you in advance for your support.

We want to thank the guys of the Ray family for braving the elements to work on the grounds of the Pearl Cemetery last weekend. It looks wonderful, and you are greatly appreciated.

On a personal note, I have to brag on The Coryell Medical Clinic's staff. I had a little out-patient procedure last week, and everyone from the helpful person at the entrance to the ladies at the check-in port to the doctors and nurses that treated me were amazing. They were all so professional as well as very kind, caring, and attentive. I am



Betsy Clark

so grateful that we have this facility available to Gatesville and the surrounding communities. We are blessed by the best. Of course. I have an update on the status of the bikini shrine. Linda, Kay, and Corlisa are always looking for ways to earn dollars for the many local charities that the Pearl Cottage Bookstore and Resale Shop support. Therefore, one of their first thoughts about the shrine was to charge admission to view the aggravating attire.

A meeting of the minds occurred to determine an appropriate admission price. And of course, the fake news mongers related to the public that admission would be upwards of \$50/visitor. Well folks, do not believe that nonsense. I have it from the horses' mouths that admission will never cost over \$40/person, with a two-dollar discount for children under 2. That is much more reasonable, don't you think?

On a more serious note, Linda Ray had to send Judge Larry McDonald to Kay Pruett's house as Kay was engaging in disorderly conduct during the Yard Sale. (Poor Michelle, Phillip, and Pearl-the dog-could not

control her.) Judge McDonald, a valued customer of the bookstore along with his beautiful wife, determined that the behaviors were just Kay's normal conduct. Therefore, judge and Mrs. McDonald toodled back to the bookstore and told Miss Linda that everything is just fine at the Pruett home and to ignore any

future incidents. Ms. Ray replied, "we don't ever bother anybody or get into anyone else's business," to which she added with head bowed low," well, that's not true."

There's no place like Pearl!

The closing Bible verse for this week comes from Psalm 31:19—Oh, how abundant is Your goodness, which You have stored up for those who fear You and worked for those who take refuge in You, in the sight of the children of mankind! ESV To keep up with the lat-

est Pearl news online, you can go to the "Pearl Cottage Bookstore" Facebook page, the "Pearl Community Center" Facebook page, or the "Pearl Church of Christ" Facebook page. The Pearl Community Center also has a website: www.pearltxcommunitycenter.com. Or you can contact me at betsyclark47@yahoo.com for information or to submit any Pearl news that you might have.

GATESVILLE ISD Program helps at-risk students graduate

BY SCOTT HARPER

GISD Executive Director of Operations & Student Services

Doing what's best for kids continues at Gatesville ISD in the form of a new program designed to fill in gaps created by the pandemic, remote learning, and barriers to accessing traditional school.

With Intentional Navigation to Graduate Successfully (WINGS), qualifying students can recover credits and earn their high school diplomas to ensure more opportunities for future learning and wageearning potential.

The guiding purpose behind what's best for kids is preparing students for their brighter future. The guiding purpose behind WINGS is to assist at-risk students to graduate from high school with a diploma.

Doing what's best for kids is more than a motto for Gatesville ISD. It is a daily challenge to lead, discover, design, motivate, support, reconcile, and bolster an educational plan and enlighten a pathway for students to earn their diploma.

The WINGS program helps meet that challenge for students who would otherwise drop out of school. The WINGS program requires daily attendance, continual progress in earning credits, full participation with the Gatesville ISD School-Community Guidance Center and visiting a college campus or talking with a military recruiter or mentor.

Through the WINGS program, Gatesville ISD can help students navigate barriers and non-traditional circumstances that disrupt traditional diploma attainment.

The WINGS program is staffed with certified teachers and administered by Mr. Clay-

ton Floyd. Mrs. Joyce Cole and Mrs. Christa Hitt comprise the Gatesville ISD School-**Community Guidance Center** along with Gatesville ISD staff and community partners.

The School-Community Guidance Center monitors the WINGS students' attendance, credits, and next steps toward their brighter future.

WINGS is not for everyone. WINGS is not designed for everyone. WINGS is designed to avert barriers like full-time work schedules, environmental arrangements, and family situations that generate a loss of credits.

Students must be enrolled in GISD and attend school regularly to be considered for WINGS. Students must meet with their guidance counselor and complete an application. Students must advocate for themselves and take responsibility for being behind in credits.

A WINGS committee reviews each application and a feasible timeline for completion. Each WINGS student works with the Gatesville ISD social worker and case manager. They devise a plan for each WINGS student under the School-Community Guidance Center Once WINGS students earn their credits, they graduate.

This allows room for other WINGS candidates to enter the program. Since this school year started on Aug. 12, three students earned their diploma through their commitment with the Gatesville ISD WINGS program.

Doing what's best for kids means all students. WINGS is enlightening the path for at-risk students who would normally drop out of school. Gatesville ISD is working hard so earning a high school diploma is not left to chance or circumstance but achieved by design.









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Submit a photo of your special veteran so they can be honored in our special Veteran's Day section on November 10

EMAIL THE PHOTO, VETERAN'S NAME, BRANCH, RANK, AND YEARS OF SERVICE TO

veterans@gatesvillemessenger.com



The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through law enforcement dispatchers. 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

Oct. 13

4:51 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 500 block of Leon Street.

5:29 a.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 1000 block of CR 127.

6:32 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 500 block of Fieldstone Drive. 2:18 p.m., a threat was

reported in the 600 block of Park Street.

2:45 p.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of Woodson Street.

11:18 p.m., harassment was reported in the 600 block of Park Street.

Oct. 14

11:23 a.m., harassment was reported in the 2200 block of Bridge Street.

12:49 p.m., an accident was reported in the 800 block of E. Main Street. 1:33 p.m., a welfare con-

cern was reported in the 800 block of S. 7th Street. 4:45 p.m., criminal mis-

chief was reported in the 2300 block of Business Hwy. 36.

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5:31 p.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 2800 block of Business Hwy. 36.

7:43 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1300 block of Westview Drive.

Oct. 15

7:41 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 200 block of Old Osage Road. 9:41 a.m., an assault was

reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.

12:27 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1400 block of Golf Course Road.

1:01 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1300 block of Mills Street.

2:06 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

7:52 p.m., an accident was reported in the 1600 block of W. Main Street.

Oct. 16

2:03 a.m., an accident was reported in the 1400 block of State School Road.

2:09 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 6200 block of N. State Hwy. 36.

5:44 p.m., harassment was reported in the 300 block of E. Main Street.

11:41 a.m., a structure fire was reported in the 1500 block of W. Main Street.

12:40 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 400 block of CR 250.

10:24 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 2200 block of Coryell City Road.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Oct. 13

2:46 a.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on E. Hwv. 84.

4:50 a.m., a fire call was reported in the 500 block of E. Leon Street.

5:31 a.m., a vehicle fire was reported in the 1000 block of CR 127

7:41 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 1000 block of Old Pidcoke Road.

2:51 p.m., a scam was reported in the 100 block of Woodson Street.

10:24 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 14000 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

Oct.14

6:06 a.m., a major accident was reported on FM 217. 7:38 a.m., a minor accident was reported on Lonesome Oak and FM 116.

10:00 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 2412.

12:02 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 2200 block of Bee Creek Loop.

1:05 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 932.

8:50 p.m., suspicious persons were reported in the 100 block of Herb Road.

Oct.15

6:52 a.m., an injured animal was reported on E. Hwy. 84 at McKenzie Lane. 11:39 a.m., identity theft was reported in the 800 block of Chapman Lane. 3:30 p.m., a livestock com-

plaint was reported near the Flat Post Office and FM 184.

3:34 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 3200 block of CR 137.

4:45 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported on CR 140.

7:38 p.m., shots being fired was reported in the 300 block of FM 107.

Oct. 16

7:26 a.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported in the 3100 block of CR 251.

10:13 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 11000 block of State Hwy. 36.

12:27 p.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 3400 block of S. State Hwy. 36.

2:23 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 4800 block of Harmon Road.

5:53 p.m., a scam was reported in the 1100 block of

Old Pidcoke Road.

8:31 p.m., a suspicious vehicle was reported on Hwy. 84 at CR 268.

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Under 300 lb.	165-190	
300-400 lb.	160-180	
400-500 lb.	145-170	
500-600 lb.	125-155	
600-700 lb.	115-135	
700-800 lb.	110-125	
No. 1 Heifers		
under 300 lb.	120-150	
300-400 lb.	120-145	
400-500 lb.	120-140	
500-600 lb.	115-135	
600-700 lb.	110-125	
700-800 lb.	105-120	
Slaughter Cows		
High Yielding	65-74	
	42-52	
Fats	58-65	
Thin & Shelly	15-30	
Packer Bulls (1250-2075 lb.)		
Yield Grade 1&2		
	00 00	
Cow & Calf Pairs		
Young Choice	1300-1550	
Young Fair	1100-1300	
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GHS Class of 1976 to have 45th reunion

Members of the GHS Class of 1976 will reunite on Saturday, Oct. 30, at 6 p.m. to celebrate their 45th class reunion. David Fincher will be hosting the reunion at 1501 Golf Course Road in Gatesville. He will be serving chili with all the toppings. It will be a BYOB, and water will be provided. Class members who plan on attending should text Kathy at 469-363-1319 by Oct. 22 or email her at Kathvmchasteen@ gmail.com.

Intermediate School to host fall festival

The Gatesville Intermediate School will host a Fall Festival on Thursday, Oct. 28, from 5 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

The festival will include glow disc golf, a haunted house, cornhole, cake and pie walks, bottle toss, sack races and a dunking booth. The festival will be open to the public and tickets will be \$1 each or a bracelet can be purchased for \$20 - cash only.

The purchase of a bracelet includes unlimited games, one glow bracelet, one tattoo and one candy from the concession.

The dunking booth and painting tiles are not includ-

Grand reopening of Righteous Roots **Righteous Roots Crisis** Righteous Roots is a crisis Abuse, Marriage Strengthen-

Center will have a grand reopening on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be local vendors

and a food truck on hand for the event and the public is invited to attend.

and resource center that provides a variety of free classes that promote healing and/or restoration primarily from abuse of all types. Some of the classes offered include Nurturing Parents, Substance



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ing and Anger Management. Righteous Roots is located at 503 E. Main Street. They can be reached by calling 254-223-3770.



Robert L. Berry, 512-810-1002 Sale Every Wednesday 3199 Hwy. 6 P.O. Box 408 DBA Christian Brothers Ltd., An Ebay Store Bonded & Insured Clifton, TX 76634 Serving the Gatesville & Goldthwaite areas CLIFTON LIVESTOCA 716 E. Leon St., Gatesville, TX 76528 | Mon.-Fri., 9-5 & Sat., 9-1 Trace **COMMISSION** Wavne Carroll 254-675-8657 Barn 800-675-8657 Barn 254-652-1983 Cell wayne@cliftonlivestock.com 254-675-4363 Fax **Bible Church** 4012 E. US Hwy. 84, Gatesville FUELS MYATT (One mile east of the loop on the south side of Hwy. 84) 24 Hour Red Dyed Farm Diesel Unleaded & Clear Diesel 8-5, M-F Sunday School 9:30am 254-675-8107 Sunday Worship 10:45am **BULK DELIVERY AVAILABLE** MyattFuels.net 202 N. Ave B • ON THE TRACKS • Clifton, TX **Drive Thru Rabies**/ Serving All Of Central Texas Area **Vaccination Clinic** Saturday, October 23rd 8:30-11:30 a.m. South side of Bar N Clinic Vaccine Discounts Available FERGUSON "We Chip Pets" will offer **Discounted Microchips for \$10-12** ROOFING **Bar N Veterinary Clinic**, PC Locally Owned Company www.BarNVeterinaryClinic.com **Free Estimates** 4706 S. State Hwy. 36, Gatesville | (254) 865-8466 👔 Call 254-466-5128 COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

BOOK REVIEW 'Running High' may change your outlook on exercise



"Runner's High: How a Movement of Cannabis-Fueled Athletes is Changing the Science of Sports" by Josiah Hesse c.2021, Putnam \$28.00 / \$37.00 Canada 308 pages

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

The top of the mountain is well above your head.

You can't see it from the bottom, but you've been there a time or two. You're going up there again, in fact, on a trail that's filled with rocks and branches. streams and trees, and seems to go straight up. You'll run it, all of it, and as in the new book "Runner's High" by Josiah Hesse, you'll go high.

For most of his life, Josiah Hesse looked at exercise as something like punishment. He hated the very idea of competition, and any kind of physical effort reminded him of high school "locker rooms" and "homophobic meatheads who threatened

my safety."

These thoughts were drifting through his mind when, in 2015, he was waiting for the start of a marathon and noticed discarded edibles wrappers in a garbage can. He'd brought edibles along and had planned on "discreetly consuming" them; by the end of the race, he was joyful and "giddy" and had discovered something he believes is "underreported."

He thought he was alone in his enjoyment of running high, but Hesse found a surprise: many athletes - particularly distance runners, he says - use CBD, THC, and marijuana to enhance performance. It's quietly common in amateur sports and, he avers, though most organizations ban or discourage it, marijuana use is also wellknown in pro sports.

Science, he says, has proven in many ways that marijuana and its derivatives can actually help athletes. The human body contains cannabinoid receptors; it's wellknown that marijuana works to eliminate pain and induce relaxation, and it can decrease anxiety. Hesse noticed that "ripping a bong" before he ran made running more like "play"; if couch-potatoes could tap into that feeling, then maybe, Hesse posited, they wouldn't be sedentary.

So why isn't marijuana legal and easily available, then?

Says Hesse, "Enter Big Tobacco, Alcohol, and Pharma."

Getting any useful information out of "Runner's High" is very clearly, pure and simple, going to depend on your stance on the use of marijuana.

If you're steadfastly negative, you can stop here and page ahead.

Lean toward the positive, and author Josiah Hesse still won't make things easy for you. Readers, for example, will quickly notice that several iterations of the word "play" show up in this book really often, which is generally distracting and doesn't, until toward the end of it, leave much room for serious discussion on what he's found. While there is a good amount of science-and-businesslike dialogue here, the

antsy insistence on "play" overshadows it.

Others, particularly those who are specific in their usage, may find deep offense in labels like "stoner," "pothead runners" and "dirtbag." Casual use of user slang also changes the tone of this book, from investigative to impudent.

For athletes who want to make their daily run fun, or for "couch-monsters" who need impetus to get up and go, there's a lot of solid science to be had inside "Runner's High." If you aren't anywhere convinced, though, this book could be a mountain of controversy.

Whatever happened to....

20 YEARS AGO (2001)

Bee House Lodge 550 in Evant presented a Golden Trowel award to Dr. Bernard D. Flatt of Evant in recognition of his devoted service to the lodge and Masons.

Bethel Heights Baptist Church will dedicate a Texas Historical Marker Sunday afternoon as part of their 115th anniversary celebration.

Shanna Hurt, a junior at Jonesboro High School, was chosen as the 2001 homecoming queen. She was crowned during the homecoming activities at the school. She was escorted by Cody McFarlin.

Jason Vandiver and Lauren Sullins were the recipients of the Tiger Award for the first six weeks grading period at Oglesby School.

Four Gatesville High School speech students combined to win the sweepstakes trophy at the Hempstead Speech Competition. The students swept the first three places in three different contests. They were Ila Mae Avitia, Destyne Miller, Phillip Taylor and Megan Hester

Steel framework was being constructed for the new choir hall which was being built at the Gatesville High School.

30 YEARS AGO (1991)

Canaan Baptist Church was celebrating its 100th anniversary this week. The church is located east of Corvell City on FM 929. Pastor of the Baptist congregation was Rev. John Adams.

Descendants of Wyle P. Grubb gathered at the Grubb Cemetery near Ireland to dedicate the cemetery in his honor. County Judge John Hull was the keynote speaker

to the more than 135 attending the ceremony.

Marine Pvt Timothy R, Lord, a 1990 graduate of Jonesboro High School, completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina.

Scott Randall Meharg, son of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Meharg of Gatesville, enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. His basic training was to be at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

Micah and Marcie Goza were joining Rev. Donald Valenta of Oglesby Baptist Church along with youth director Richard Hooper, also of Oglesby, on a Revival Mission to Jurbise, Belgium.

Mrs. Kyle (True) Allen of Pidcoke was honored on her 83rd birthday, with a Texasstyle barbecue near Pidcoke. Mrs. Allen was a life-time resident of Coryell County. Most of her life was spent in Pidcoke where she had been a member of The Pidcoke

Methodist Church for over 50 years.

40 YEARS AGO (1981)

Theresa Shriver, 15-yearold daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shriver, had the thrill of being picked Stingette of the Week.

'Caveman," a prehistoric comedy presenting a modern cast in some of the most unusual roles of their careers, opened at the Town and Country Drive-In Theatre.

Denise Diane Karl, a senior animal science major at Tarleton State University in Stephenville and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Karl of Gatesville, had been chosen sweetheart for the Block and Bridle Club at TSU for 1981-83.

The senior class had nominated three of its prettiest girls - Susan Lee, Marlon Gartman and Yolanda Lopez—for the ticket from

which the student body was choosing the 1981 Gatesville High School homecoming queen.

Newest members of Delta Kappa Gamma, sorority for women teachers, were Ronnie Smathers, teacher at TDC; Bennie Hannson and Dixie Duke, both teachers at Gatesville Junior High.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Thompson were honored on their 50th wedding anniversary. Mr. Thompson and the former Wilberine Alexander were married October 17, 1931, in The Grove. They lived in the Gatesville area until 1947.

50 YEARS AGO (1971)

Heavy rains to the northwest had sent the Leon River surging out of its banks at Jonesboro. The stream was at nearly full banks in Gatesville and rising. The week's rain measured only 2.59 inches.

Gatesville Country Club stockholders, at their annual meeting, saw Erle Powell reelected as the GCC president for 1971-72.

Check-outs at the Gatesville Public Library were averaging 134 a day according to Librarian Mrs. Jewel Whigham.

Three members of Oglesby High School's Future Homemakers chapter were winners at the Heart O' Texas Youth Fair in Waco. They were Jann Maxwell, Kathy Jayroe and Darlene Zacharias.

An edict was issued by M. B. Kindrick, general superintendent at the State Schools for Boys, that women employees at the schools may no longer wear pantsuits to work.

Mr. and Mrs. Erle Powell of Gatesville, along with Mr. and Mrs. Charley Powell of Belton, were leaving by jetliner from Dallas for a week's tour of Italy.

BIG CITY MEDICINE mall Town (

Gatesville Halloween Boozaar 2021 RING CO





Gatesville - Moody Temple - Waco CoryellHealth.org



Name: Grade:

Phone:

Entries must be received by Wednesday, October 27, 2021. Turn in entries at Gatesville Public Library, Gatesville Fitness Center or City Hall.

> Entries will be judged in the following categories: Pre-K Primary (K & 1st) Elementary (2nd & 3rd) Intermediate (4th - 6th)

1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Winners in each category will receive a medal and their pictures will be on display at the Boozaar!



015 **FARM & RANCH**

Use Skin Balm to relieve scratching and promote healing due to hot spots & allergies on dogs and cats without steroids. Coryell Feed & Supply. 254-865-6315. (www. fleabeacon.com) 00028836

Backhoe, Dozer, Maintainer, Dump Truck: brush clearing, roads, driveways, waterlines, pits, demolition, fence row clearing, culverts. Small jobs ok. Ben Roberts, 254-248-4707 or 254-865-5754. 00028817

HELP WANTED

037

Position available for RV Park Manager

We are seeking a reliable, outgoing, motivated, selfstarter to join our exciting Safari team. Applicants must be someone with organization and business skills that can provide excellent customer service and loves animals. Responsibilities include making reservations, checking in/out guests, coordinating timesheets for staff, marketing, day-to-day operations, tracking inventory, maintaining the high standards of cleanliness throughout the RV Park, providing assistance with renting and collecting payments on additional commercial and residential properties around the area. Proficient computer skills required. Weekend work required. Parttime and full-time positions are available.

Send resumes to: jtdrennan@ oakcrestmgmt.com 00028783

HELP WANTED

037

HIRING IMMEDIATELY!!!

-Team members with roofing sheet metal experience -Team members with roofing experience (i.e. BUR/ Shingle/Mod-bit/Single Ply) -Laborers

-Metal Framers

willing to learn! Must be able to work when required and work out of town when needed on rare occasions.

MUST BE ABLE TO PASS DRUG TEST AND PHYSI-CAL and BACKGROUND CHECK TO OBTAIN AC-CESS TO MILITARY BAS-ES

Valid Drivers license and clear driving record a plus! CONTACT **JOHNSON** ROOFING AT 254-662-5571 OR VIA EMAIL LFULLER@ JROOF.COM 00028804

All positions available at meat processing plant. Apply in person at Hamilton Quality Meats, 1205 S. Rice, Hamilton, TX. For more info., call 254-386-4646. 00028811

Coryell County Sheriff's Office is currently accepting applications for communications officers/dispatchers and jailers. High school diploma required. Must pass background check. Pick up and return application at the Coryell County Sheriff's Office. 00028820

In-home caregiver for elderly couple needed on weekends. 5+ years experience preferred. Retired RN/RNA/CNA wel-Competitive rate. come. Comfortable workplace. Call Laura at 713-628-0383.



037 **HELP WANTED**

Staff accountant needed for local accounting firm. Bachelor's degree in accounting required. CPA or CPA candidate preferred. Candidate should have experience preparing business and individual tax returns, bookkeeping and financial statement prepa-Must be open minded and ration. Working knowledge of Quickbooks and Excel required. Knowledge of Lacerte a plus. Advancement possible. Send resume to: Applicant, Box 721, Gatesville, TX 76528. 00028832

045 SERVICES



Mowing, landscaping, brush clearing, trash clean up/haul off, Ospho Prime & Painting for Pipe Fence. John Capella, 254-216-3684. Licensed & Insured. 00028609

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GARAGE SALE

DOLLAR SALE Tues, 10/19 - Sat, 10/23! The Boys & Girls Club Resale Shop, 1706 E. Main. Tuesday-Friday, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday, 9a.m.-3p.m. 00028802

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE: 604 Fieldstone Dr., Sat., Oct. 23, 7:30 -? Items include clothes, military items, household items, and some furniture. NO Early Birds.

LAND & LOTS

070

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

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

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



HOUSES FOR SALE

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION (Aviso de Elección Especial)

To the registered voters of the County of Coryell, Texas: (a los votantes registrados del Condado de Coryell, Texas) Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on November 2, 2021, for voting in a special election to adopt or reject the proposed Constitutional Amendments as submitted by the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, of the State of Texas, Gatesville ISD Trustee Election, City of Copperas Cove Council Election and Special Elections, City of Gatesville Tax Rate Election and the City of Oglesby Council Election.

(Por la presente se notifica que los lugares de votación que se enumeran a continuation estarán abiertos de 7:00 am a 7:00 pm, el 2 de noviembre de 2021, para votar en una elección especial para adoptar o rechazar las Enmiendas Constitucionales propuestas presentadas por la Legislatura 87, Sesión Regulae, del Estado de Texas, Elección del Fideicomisario del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Gatesville, Elección del Concejo y Elecciones Especiales de la Cuidad de Copperas Cove, Elección de la Tasa de Impuestos de la Ciudad de Gatesville y Elección del Concejo de la Ciudad de Oglesby).

This election will be held under the County wide polling place program. A voter may vote at any of the following vote centers. You do not have to vote in the precinct that you live in.

(Esta elección se celebrará en el recientemente aprobado todo el Condado programa electoral. Cada elector podrá votar en cualquiera de los siguientes centros de votación. Usted no tiene que votar en el precinto electoral en el cual usted vive.)

November 2, 2021 7 am - 7 pm

Copperas Cove Civic Center - 1206 W Ave B, Copperas Cove

Holy Family Catholic Church - 1001 Georgetown Rd., **Copperas Cove**

Eastside Baptist Church - 1202 ML King Jr BLVD, Copperas Cove

Gatesville Civic Center - 303 Veterans Memorial Loop, Gatesville

Evant City Hall - 598 E Hwy 84, Evant

Flat Community Center - 159 CR 334, Flat

Oglesby Community Center - 118 Main St, Oglesby Turnersville Community Center - 8115 FM 182, Gatesville

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at:

(La votación adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de Lunes a Viernes en:)

801 E Leon St., Gatesville 508 B Cove Terrace Shopping Center, Copperas Cove

Between the hours of: (durante los horas de:)

October 18	8 am - 5 pm
October 19	7 am - 7 pm
October 20-22	8 am - 5 pm
October 25	8 am - 5 pm
Ostahan 26	7 7

EMS: **Paramedic or Licensed Paramedic - FT • **EMT - PRN or FT ICU: **RN - FT Days & Nights Laboratory: Medical Lab Tech - FT or PRN. Night Shift Material Management: Housekeeper - FT Med Surg: **RN - FT/PRN Days & Nights • LVN- FT/PRN Days & Nights • CNA - FT Days and Nights • LSW - Care Transition Coordinator - PRN Radiology: CT/X-Ray Staff Radiological Technologist - PRN • Cath Lab Tech - PRN Surgery: PACU**RN - FT • Cert Central Sterile Tech - PRN ****SIGN ON BONUS OFFERED:**

Coryell Health Hospital Nursing sign on bonus for RN's in these Departments: ICU & ED \$20,000, Med Surg \$15,000 and Surgery \$10,000 requires a 1 year agreement.

EMS sign on bonus of \$8000.00 for Paramedic and \$4000.00 for EMT

Benefits Offered:

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

Please go to: <u>www.CoryellHealth.org</u> for summary of posted jobs. If you have a great attitude, love helping people and want to be part of a quality team, apply in person or download an application from the web site. E-mail us: humanresources@coryellhealth.org

Coryell 110 Chicktown Rd. Gatesville, TX 76528

HEALTH REHABLIVING off: (254) 404-2500 fax: (254) 248-6288 THE MEADOWS

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RN Unit Manager - FT • RN or LVN Wound Care Treatment nurse - FT • RN or LVN Infection Control nurse - FT CMA/CNA: FT - Must be a Certified Medication Aide for Texas and must maintain a Certified Nurse Aide for Texas

CNA/NA: FT - Day & Night Shifts available

Screener: PRN- 12 hour Day & Night Shift

Benefits Offered: Competitive compensation - Paid Vacation - Sick time accrual - Matching 457B investments

Tuition Reimbursement • Health, Dental, Life and Supplemental Insurances EOE Please go to our website: **www.CoryellHealth.org** for summary of posted jobs.

If you have a great attitude, love helping people and want to be part of a quality team; apply in person or download an application from our web site: E-mail us: <u>humanresources@coryellhealth.org</u>

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The ideal candidate should possess these qualities:

• Available 15-20 hours per week, when needed

· Work early morning hours

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Pick up application at The Gatesville Messenger office, 116 S. 6th Street, Mon.-Thurs. 8-5 or Fri. 8-1

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CENTRAL TEXAS REMODELING AND HANDYMAN Tile, sheetrock, painting,

decks, fences, flooring, windows, siding, roofing, texturing. Cecil Woodson, 254-216-3835. 028855

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078 **APARTMENTS**

072

1BR/1BA: \$480/mo. 2BR/1BA: \$555-675/mo. 2BR/2BA: \$875/mo. ******** Bob Brown Apartments Office: 865-2602/248-1016 2504A E. Main St., 1-5pm

099 **PUBLIC NOTICES**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of PATRICK CADEMARTORI, Deceased, were issued on September 29, 2021, in Cause No. 21-10528, pending in the County Court at Law of Coryell County, /s/Roger Miller Texas, to: TONYA R. CA-DEMARTORI.

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.

TONYA R. CADEMARTO-

RI c/o: KAREN M. VILLAN-UEVA 2106 Bird Creek Drive Temple, Texas 76502

DATED the 7th day of October, 2021.

KAREN M. WILLANUEVA Attorney for TONYA R. CA-DEMARTORI State Bar No.: 24102608 2106 Bird Creek Drive Temple, Texas 76502 PH: (254) 771-1855 Fax: (254) 771-2082 Email: karen@templelawoffice.com 00028860

October 26 October 27-29 7 am - 7 pm 8 am - 5 pm

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por *correo deberan enviarse a:)*

Justin Carothers P.O. Box 6 201 S 7th St. Gatesville, TX 76528

Applications for a ballot by mail can be emailed to: (las solicitudes de votación pueden enviarse por correo electrónico a)

tac@coryelltax.com www.coryellcountytax.org

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on:

(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el)

October 22, 2021

Issued this the 12th day of October 2021. (Emitada este 12 dia de Octubre, 2021.)

Coryell County Judge 00028864

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GAYLE GRAY BOWERS, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Gayle Gray Bowers, Deceased, were issued on October 5, 2021, in Cause No. 21-10526, pending in the County Court of Coryell County, Texas, to:

GARLAND SCOTT BOWERS

Claims may be presented in care of the Independent Executor for the Estate addressed as follows: Estate of Gayle G. Bowers, Deceased c/o Pakis, Giotes, Page & Burleson Post Office Box 58 Waco, Texas 76703-0058 All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within

Dated the 6th day of October, 2021. Pakis, Giotes, Page & Burleson, P.C. Post Office Box 58 Waco, Texas 76703-0058 (254) 297-7300 (254) 297-7301 (FAX)

the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

By: C. Scott Omo Attorneys for the Executor

00028859

Oglesby to face Mount Calm in final district tuneup

BY MARK GOODSON *Staff Writer*

Oglesby opens District 14-1A, Div. II football play with a home game, Oct. 22 with Mount Calm.

The Tigers can clinch a playoff berth with a win in ei-

ther of its final two games. District 14-1A, Division II has three teams battling for two playoff spots. Dime Box is not competing this year because of COVID-19. Oglesby fell to St. Stephens

Episcopal at Oglesby Oct. 8 in its final tuneup for district, 70-22.

The Tigers loss was their second straight after reeling off five straight wins to start the season.

"We had several kids out with either injury or sickness," Oglesby Head Coach Jeb Dixon said. "We need to clean some stuff up but we are ready for the district. "

Oglesby's three scores in the St. Stephens game were a 7-yard pass from Brodie Fisher to Matthew Castillo, a 40-yard run by Johnny Gomez and a 79-yard kick return by Kyler Fossett. Blake Thompson had 144 yards total offense. The senior had 20 carries for 85 yards. Gomez finished with seven carries for 70 yards, including his 40-yard score. Fossett picked up 88 yards on eight carries.

Thompson was four for

nine passing.

Leading the defense were Castillo with nine tackles and Thompson and Gomez with eight each.

The Tigers open District 14-1A, Div. II against Mount Calm at Oglesby Oct. 22. Kickoff is 7:30 p.m.

OBITUARIES

CHASE CRAWFORD GARCIA Sept. 4, 2021



Chase Crawford Garcia departed from this world on Sept. 4 to go on his next big adventure at the age of 44. A memorial service will be held Saturday, Oct. 23 at 5 p.m. at Oasis Worship Center at 608 E Leon Street in Gatesville, Texas. Join his family and friends to commemorate him and share memories of his time with us.

Chase loved nothing more than speaking at his church, being in a barn or pasture full of horses, going on a skate session with friends and family, sitting around a fire singing songs, going to the gym, or staying in to cook a meal with his loved ones. You could put him in any environment, and he could make a friend of anyone. He always had some wisdom to share, and a story to tell. Chase was a motorcycle enthusiast, a skate rat, a horse whisperer, and most importantly he was a great friend to all and a loving father.

Survivors include sons, Tevan Garcia and Shaye Garcia; daughter, Jaqi Clemente and father, Sammy Garcia.

EAGLES FROM PAGE A8

missed all of two-a-days and five games."

It took Jonesboro just eight seconds to start the scoring in Friday's District 15-1A opener. Caleb Christel rambled 45 yards on the first play down the sideline in front of Evant's fans.

Christel and Jacob Cisneros had two rushing touchdowns each to lead the scoring parade. Others with rushing touchdowns were Ian Shoaf and Manny Torres.

Nat Hilliker scored on an

11-yard pass from Garrett Young. Hilliker also had two interceptions and one for a pick six.

The Eagles dominated the game in all three phases. Placekicker Manny Torres

helped with his kickoffs. "We wanted a good start

and it helped getting all those kickoffs into the end zone," Jonesboro coach Eddie Gallegos said. The Eagles (8-0, 1-0) racked up 200 yards rushing, 26 passing while hold-

ing down the Elks. Jonesboro built a 34-0 lead after one quarter.

Evant (4-4, 1-0) got its only score on a 40-yard

pass from Kenny Jones to Kason Ingram at the 8:28 mark of the second quarter. Evant was without its

workhorse Hunter White, who was banged up in last week's loss to Gordon. Evant's statistical lead-

ers were: Luis Arellano, 30 rushing; Jones, 50 passing; Ingram, 40 receiving; and Edgar Morales, 10 receiving. Morales led in tackles with five.

The Eagles passing leaders were: Christel one of three for 15 yards and Young with his one throw to Hilliker.

Christel finished with five carries for 96 yards. Cisne-

ros had two carries for 45 yards and Shoaf touched the ball twice for 36 yards. Torres had three carries for 20 yards.

Hilliker had two catches for 26 yards.

Defensive leaders were: Hilliker- 4 total tackles, 1 pass breakup, 2 interceptions; Christel- 4 tackles; Jaden Domel- 3 tackles, 1 pass breakup; Cisneros- 1 tackle; Zach Chapman- 6 tackles; Shoaf- 1 tackle, 1 pass break up; Young- 2 tackles; DeMarcus Acoff- 5 tackles, 1 forced fumble; and Jimmy Whatley- 2 tackles.



IN STRIDE: The Gatesville girls finished 13 points shy of advancing as a team, but will send Vania Martinez and sophomore Bethany Penrod to regional.



17:38.9. The District 6-4A cross country meet was a sweep for the Martinez family. Freshman Vania Martinez won the girls varsity 2-mile race in 11:49.6.

Penrod ran a 12:46.3 for third on the Gatesville home course. Other Gatesville girls finishers were: 22. Valeria Jimenez, 14:05.7; 24. Lacy Campos 4:07.9; 27. Kyla Hinojosa, 14:26.7; and 31. Grace Penrod, 14:48.2. Rounding out the boys varsity were: 9. Angel Armendariz, 18:44.5; 11. Jack Armstrong, 18:58.8; 14.Abraham Almendariz, 19:22.8; 17. Ian Rainer. 19:46.4; and Hector Silva,

21:02.1. The JV boys were led by Malachi Olvera with a 20:45.7 for second place overall. Morgan Clary was third for the JV in 21:03.5 followed by Jahaziel Martinez in seventh at 21:46.8 and Marty Wallace in 10th at 22:01.4. The JV girls had three finishers in Jaycee McKown in 19th at 16:26.4; Brooklyn Byrd in 26th at 17:40.4; and America Rodriguez in 27th at 17:41.9.

COLUMBUS LEE SWOPES JR.

Feb. 23, 1981 - Oct. 8, 2021



Criminal Justice where he worked at the Alfred Hughes Unit as a Correctional officer, Sergeant of Corrections and at the Hilltop Unit in administration.

Columbus was above all devoted to his family. He enjoyed outings with his children and wife and loved riding his motorcycle. He was a fierce protector of those that he loved, and he will be greatly missed.

Columbus is survived by his wife, Rebbeca (Kuhn) Swopes; son, Joziah Swopes; daughter, Gloria Swopes; parents, Columbus Swopes Sr. and Bessie (Graves) Swopes; siblings, Malika (Shaun) Stone, Cortez (Trenise) Swopes, and Tina Swopes; nieces and nephews, Trevante Swopes, Stormy Swopes, Cortez Swopes Jr., Gabby Swopes, De'Anthony Stone, Leila Stone and Bella Stone; father-in- law and mother-inlaw Gary and Marian Kuhn.

Columbus Lee Swopes Jr., age 40 of Gatesville, passed away in the early morning of Friday, Oct. 8 at Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center located in Houston, TX. A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, Oct. 21 at 3 PM at Scotts' Funeral Home in Gatesville, TX.

Columbus was born in Kansas City, MO to Columbus Swopes Sr. and Bessie (Graves) Swopes. He grew up in Mineral Springs, AR and attended Mineral Springs high school. At the age of 18 Columbus joined the ARMY as a tank mechanic and was stationed in Germany, Ft. Hood and was deployed to Iraq for one tour. After being honorably discharged from the ARMY he was employed by the Texas Department of He was preceded in death by Rebbeca's mother the late Gloria Kuhn.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers friends/family instead make contributions to an account which was established for his children. Those who wish to make electronic contributions can do so at Bank of America Account #488104800430 or via PayPal at joziahandgloriaswopes@gmail.com. for the Class 4A regional meet in Lubbock, Oct. 25.

Gatesville senior Luis Macias was second overall with a time of 17:15.6. Stephenville had three runners finish in the top five and came out with the team win by two points.

Stephenville senior Eduardo Juarez took third individually with a time of "It was a good race," said Vania, Carlo's sister. "It was a little muggy back there in the trees."

The girls finished 13 points shy of advancing as a team, but will send Vania Martinez and sophomore Bethany Penrod to regional.

HORNETS FROM PAGE A8

on 16 carries and added a touchdown, while Brown led the Hornets with 26 yards on 10 carries. China Spring's Tre Hanford caught five passes for 74 yards and two touchdowns. Making receptions for the Hornets were Kyle Shafer, with four for 29 yards, Carson Brizendine with three for 25 yards, Parker Allmon with two for 14 yards and Trevor Smith with two for 11 yards.

Leading tacklers for Gatesville were Mason Mooney with 6.5 stops, Hayden Mooney with 4.5 tackles, Lawson Mooney and Thiele Alvarado with four tackles each, and Kason Herbelin and Ashtyn Cullen, each with three tackles. Lawton Mooney also had a sack.

China Spring's top tackler

was Jaylen Trotter with 7.5

tackles, including three for

Cayden Mata had a busy

night for GHS, punting the

ball six times of a total of

Although the Hornets

fell to 2-5 overall and 0-2 in

lost yardage.

174 yards.

district play, Gatesville has played the top two teams in district so far in Salado and China Spring. GHS can still earn a second straight playoff berth with a strong finish in the final three games.

This week, the Hornets travel to Robinson to face a Rocket squad that is 3-4 overall and 1-1 in district after a 50-43 win over Jarrell. Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m.

Now that we have slowed down and taken a breath, we would like to thank everybody that has supported Case through his healing! The benefit was a huge success and



we could not have done it without our friends, family, & awesome community. God is Good, We love y'all!

> – Case & Kristen Jones

TENNIS FROM PAGE A8

The Bulldogs are ranked No. 10 in the state.

The Hornets will take a short break before gearing up for the spring season. "We'll take a week off and that'll be it," Tatum said. In tough losses in boys' doubles Slone Early and Ty Warren bowed out, 6-2, 2-6, 8-10.

Alex Scott and Carlo Martinez lost, 2-6, 6-2, 8-10.





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Cougars claw Hornets to stay unbeaten

BY JEFF OSBORNE Senior Staff Writer

In a battle against the No. 5-ranked China Spring Cougars, the Gatesville Hornets struck first and scored last — it was just all the scores in between that lifted the Cougars to a 41-10 football win Friday night.

A fumble by the Cougars on their first play from scrimmage was recovered by Cooper Sutton, giving the Hornets a golden opportunity. But the China Spring defense rose to the challenge and forced Gatesville to settle for a 27-yard field goal by Luis Macias.

The Hornets were able to limit the potent China Spring offense to a single touchdown in the first quarter, but the Cougars erupted for 21 points in the second and added 13 in the third.

Gatesville got into the end zone with 24 seconds left in the game when Logan Edwards plunged into the end zone from 2 yards out and Macias added the extra point kick.

The Cougars rolled up 401 yards of offense to 142 for the Hornets, combining a quick strike offense with a stingy defense. Gatesville dominated time of possession, keeping the ball for 30:59 compared to 17:01 for China Spring.

Wesley Brown completed four of eight passes for the Hornets for 57 yards, while Logan Edwards completed seven of 10 passes for 25 yards.

China Spring's Major Bowden led all passers with four completions on five attempts for 75 yards.

The Cougars' leading rusher was Kyle Barton, who ran for 104 yards

PLEASE SEE HORNETS | A7



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

TRYING TO GET THROUGH: Gatesville's Logan Edwards looks to get past China Spring defenders Friday night.

Martinez family celebrates victories

GHS boys advance as runner-up, Girls advance pair

BY MARK GOODSON Staff Writer

Carlo Martinez said Thursday's 5K race for the District 6-4A cross country individual title left him wanting more.

"I really feel like I've got a lot left," said the junior Gatesville runner. "I didn't run my best, but I wasn't pushed. I was glad to see all the people come out and cheer. It makes you feel good when you know the people are here to encourage you to run."

Martinez is a running machine this fall. The district title was his seventh victory this fall.

He clocked in at 16:19.8 on the Gatesville running course to claim the gold medal, and help lead the Hornets team to a second-place fin-



PLEASE SEE MARTINEZ | A7 SIBLING EXCELLENCE: Gatesville's Carlo Martinez, right, and his sister, Vania celebrated wins at the District 6-4A cross country meet.



PHOTOS BY MARK GOODSON | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER GETTING YARDS: Jonesboro's Caleb Christel finds a gap to run through.

No. 4 Jonesboro blasts rival Evant

BY MARK GOODSON Staff Writer

Jonesboro lineman Layton Blanchard found his way into the end zone Friday night in Evant. It came on a one-yard dive with 8:01 left in the second quarter of the Eagles football battle with Evant. It was one of seven rushing touchdowns for the state's fourth-ranked six-man squad in a 70-8 blowout over its biggest rival.

The score was Blanchard's first of the season after coming back from a torn meniscus. He has played in three games and gives the Eagles another athlete to make a playoff run.

"We have to hold up the name," Blanchard said. "Jonesboro football means something ... I knew I had to come back for my senior year. I

PLEASE SEE EAGLES | A7

.ES | A7 MAKING A RUN: Evant's Luis Arellano gains a few yards on the Jonesboro defense.

TEAM TENNIS Hornets manage three victories over Burkburnett Bulldogs

BY MARK GOODSON Staff Writer

Gatesville High School ace Stormy Tatum said it's been fun

watching the tennis team improve. Tatum said she's proud of the

success the team has shown in its recent run.

"We've really had a lot of players show improvement," Tatum said.

Friday the Hornets ended their

team tennis season with a 10-3 loss to the Burkburnett Bulldogs in the Class 4A area playoffs at Mineral Wells.

The day started with the doubles teams getting off to good starts in early games, but it didn't last.

Tatum and Julee Sun won their doubles match over McKenna Ruiz-Paige Goodman, 6-0, 7-5.

The No. 3 team of Bri Alexander and Kasey Fitzer beat Emily Stouffer/Makely Berryman, 7-3. Stormy Tatum added to her win over Ruiz, 6-0, 6-2.

The Hornets were making their 4th-straight appearance in the team tennis postseason.

The spring season starts in January.

"We all started well then Burkburnett started playing better," Tatum said. "Them getting better and us dropping off a little bit wasn't a good combination."

PLEASE SEE **TENNIS** | A7

VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP Hornets hold off Brownwood

BY MARK GOODSON Staff Writer

The Gatesville volleyball team picked up a big road win Friday night with a 25-22, 25-17, 14-25, 18-25, 15-11 victory in District 6-4A action against Brownwood.

The victory avenged a tough loss to the Lions in Gatesville Sept. 28. The win gives Hornets a share of

second place in district. Stephenville leads the district and

is unblemished through six games. Gatesville (28-7 overall, 4-2 district)

will travel to Glen Rose on Oct. 22. The JV won 2-0 and the freshmen 0-2.

EVANT TOPPLES THREE WAY

Evant earned its second victory over Three Way in district volleyball Saturday at Evant.

The Elks were paced by senior Emiliegh Burton with 12 kills in the 25-6, 25-22, 25-13 victory. Caeleigh Burkham added eight kills.

Bree Ramirez had 21 assists. Burton and Burkham had five ser-

vice aces each. Burkham led the team in digs with 12 while Burton added 11 digs. Burton had two blocks and Hailey Waldrum added one.