



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

WEDNESDAY | Jan. 26, 2022

75¢

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Coryell Health focused of recruiting, retaining talent

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Recruiting new employees is the lifeblood of any medical facility, and in the midst of a pandemic, that need becomes even more urgent.

During a presentation at a recent Gatesville Lions Club meeting, Dr. Jeff Bates, chief medical officer for Coryell Health, talked about the importance of attracting staff members to the hospital and clinics in the community.

"Recruitment is important for all small-town hospitals and with COVID the implications for our

community are even greater," Bates said. "We are constantly working to bring in new staff."

Compounding the concern is a rash of resignations nationwide as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, what Coryell Health Chief Executive Officer David Byrom called "the great resignation."

Bates said there are jokes about doctors resigning via text message, but Coryell Health recently had to deal with a similar issue.

"Two weeks ago I was with one of our nurse managers who was surprised to get a text from a nurse who quit by text," he said. "It was

her first day and she went to lunch and sent a text that she wasn't coming back - it's not what she thought it would be."

Pointing to examples of successful recruiting, Bates mentioned Landon Belcher, who trained with doctors at Coryell Health as a student before joining the clinic full time in 2021.

"He's a rising star and will step up and take over for me one day in the future," Bates said. "He came here as a medical student and quickly realized this was a good



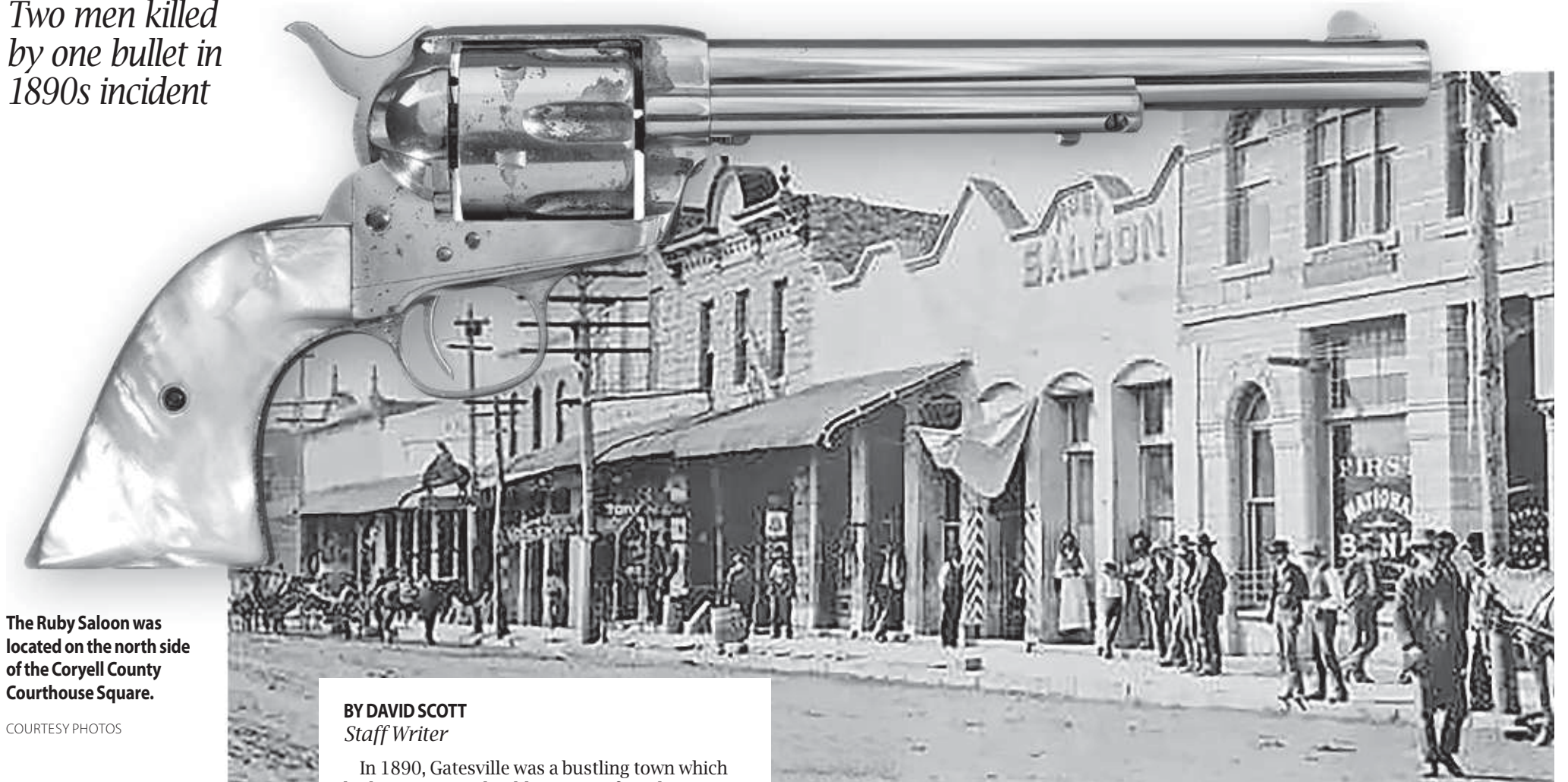
COURTESY PHOTO

Attracting and keeping medical professionals is a key focus for Coryell Health.

PLEASE SEE HEALTH | A2

SHOOTING AT THE RUBY SALOON

Two men killed by one bullet in 1890s incident



The Ruby Saloon was located on the north side of the Coryell County Courthouse Square.

COURTESY PHOTOS

BY DAVID SCOTT
Staff Writer

In 1890, Gatesville was a bustling town which had grown considerably since its founding in 1854. As the county seat, the courthouse square was continuously full of activities and people.

Merchants surrounding the courthouse square attracted local residents, farmers, cattle drivers and people who were moving westward. After doing their shopping, people would often congregate on the courthouse lawn and visit. One of the businesses located on the north side of the square was known as the Ruby Saloon.

The saloon would often attract cowboys and

PLEASE SEE SHOOTING A7

"After (Henry) Vogel served them, an argument arose and (Lee) Basham started over the bar after Vogel."

Uncle Bob Saunders, who wrote an account of the Ruby Saloon shooting

Gatesville Chamber Banquet set

The Gatesville Chamber of Commerce annual Membership Banquet is scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29, at the Texas Station Event Center.

There will be a reception followed by dinner and an awards ceremony where the Chamber's 2021 Citizen of the Year and 2021 Business Awards will be presented.

The meal will consist of pork tenderloin, pasta salad, green salad, garlic mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner salad, rolls, tea/water (chicken upon prior request, limited availability), and chocolate sheet cake.

Tickets are available at the Chamber office visitor's center at the Cotton Belt Depot or can be purchased online through the Chamber's Facebook page.



Proceeds from the annual Membership Banquet are used to market Gatesville Chamber Member businesses and provide scholarships to high school students.

The Texas Station Event Center is located at 305 Old Fort Gates Road.

For more information about the banquet, call the Gatesville Chamber of Commerce at 254-865-2617 or visit www.gatesvilletx.info/.

Local school boards honored by county

The Gatesville, Evant, Jonesboro and Oglesby Independent School District school boards were recognized by Coryell County Judge Roger Miller and the Coryell County Commissioners Court with a proclamation in their honor during a recent commissioners court meeting.

January is School Board Recognition Month and school districts across the nation, state and region continue to face unprecedented challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Local board members include:

Gatesville ISD

Charles Ament, president; Charles Alderson, vice president; Cheyenne Kizer, secretary; Calvin Ford, Jimmie Ferguson,

Linda Maxwell and Mary Anne Leib.

Evant ISD

Sheila Williams, president; Vernon McCann, vice president; Elisha Weeks, secretary; Judd Wall, Lauren Goins and Melinda Acosta.

Jonesboro ISD

Keith Taylor, president; Joe Foote, vice president; Kevin Young, secretary; Bobby Buster, Donnie Robuck, Roger Hill and Josh Jenkins.

Oglesby ISD

Jennifer Thompson, president; Dustin LeBlanc, vice president; Mike Walter, secretary; Dan Markum, Anthony Ross, Rebecca Schultz and James Seymour.

QUESTION & ANSWER CORNER

Q: When does the Coryell County Commissioners Court meet?

A: It typically meets at 9 a.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Send us your questions:

editor@gatesvillemessenger.com

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Write: P.O. Box 799, Gatesville, TX 76528

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Gatesville native finds calling at Coryell Health

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR



Tony Podbielski

Being able to work as a certified family nurse practitioner in his hometown has proven to be a blessing for Tony Podbielski, who joined the staff of Coryell Health in 2021.

Podbielski is an example of successfully recruiting local talent to improve healthcare in the community, said Dr. Jeff Bates, the chief medical officer for Coryell Health.

"I was born and raised in Gatesville and received all my medical care from the clinic here - what was then Coryell Memorial Hospital," Podbielski said. "I am a 2005 Gatesville High School graduate, and then started out at Baylor."

He said attending Baylor University wasn't the right fit for him at the time, so he earned his associates degree in nursing from McLennan Community College.

After working as a nursing aide and certified nursing assistant supervisor and staff coordinator at a nursing home in Hewitt, Podbielski worked for Baylor Scott & White at Hillcrest in Waco and earned his bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University. He earned his master's degree from the University of Texas at Arlington.

"When I got my master's degree I

started fielding offers and prayed about (where to pursue a career) a lot," he said. After he received a call from Dr. Bates, he began to consider Coryell Health.

"It blew my mind how much we had to offer here," Podbielski said. "We have two medical robots, one of a type which Waco doesn't even have. Also, local people no longer have to go to Waco or Temple to see a specialist. We have them here. "The new model is to serve the community and keep the community here, and I was really blown away by that."

When he was deciding what kind of medical provider he wanted to be, Podbielski said the personal attention people receive at a place like Coryell Health made a positive impact on him.

"In bigger cities, you feel like a number," Podbielski said. "I really always hated that so I try to make it a point in my practice to listen

"Coryell Health does a really good job of making it a team approach. ... I want everyone to get the best healthcare they can right here and to not feel like a number"

Tony Podbielski

and give personal attention. In the larger communities, it's not that they aren't offering good care, it's just with so many people in and out, it can't help becoming (more impersonal)."

Podbielski said he sees medical care as a team effort between the patient and doctor.

"When I see a patient, they are going to be driving their health care," he said. "We work together but they are calling the plays based on their lifestyle and what they want."

"Coryell Health does a really

good job of making it a team approach, and it's all about community. I want everyone to get the best healthcare they can right here and to not feel like a number. I can see the progression of what healthcare here was, what it is now and the vision for where it's headed. People shouldn't feel like cattle being herded through when they get medical care, and we definitely work to give people the best personal care we can."

HEALTH

FROM PAGE A1

place. He's one of the youngest doctors in the community and is committed to this place."

It's important to find local students before they graduate from high school who are interested in pursuing a career in medicine and keeping them in the community, Bates said.

"We have started to develop a program for high school students who are interested. It's important to find them and recruit them to practice here," he said.

One of the concerns Bates has



Dr. Jeff Bates

is an increasing animosity he sees

"Our number one goal is to take care of the community."

David Byrom

toward medical professionals by some people.

"There is sometimes a contempt for doctors and physicians that concerns me," he said. "Some younger people may choose not to go into healthcare because of it. What does healthcare look like five years from now?"

"One of the memories I have is my grandfather wearing a coat and tie to visit the doctor. There was a great respect for doctors back then and I'm not sure that exists anymore. Everybody is an expert now.

I'm not sure a lot of young people want to be doctors and nurses."

COVID-19 has had a big impact on the world, and it has hit the medical community hard.

"Sometimes you see staff unable to come in, and (if they quarantine) they can't come back for five days," Bates said. "A lot of healthcare professionals are single parents, and if daycare is shut down (because of COVID), they can't come to work."

One of the biggest issues is that Coryell Health is often looking at the same candidates that other

medical providers are also actively recruiting.

"We are all competing for the same people," Bates said. "(COVID) is starting to collapse the system and nobody wants to step in and take over."

Byrom, the Coryell Health CEO, said Coryell Health is often running with 10 to 15% of its staff out "and this group is doing a tremendous job. The challenge is sustainability. It's been that way for three weeks. The blessing is that (with the Omicron variant) not as many people are getting real sick. But they do feel bad enough that they don't feel like coming into work."

"Our number one goal is to take care of the community."

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DEADLINES:

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

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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.

Coryell Retired School Personnel to meet

The first meeting of the year for Coryell Retired School Personnel (CRSP) will be on Thursday, Jan. 27, at Rancher's Steak House with a social at 9:30 a.m. and business meeting at 10 a.m.

This is the month when CRSP has its silent auction to raise money for their scholarships fund. Members are asked to bring lightly used items, crafts, baked goods, gift cards (or a check for a donation) so that members can have a fun time buying one another's "stuff." Scholarship committee members are asked to be there at 9 a.m. to help set up items. Other members should arrive about 9:30 a.m. to submit their items for the silent auction and to have a chance to look around and see if

they find items of interest for themselves.

Members are also asked to bring their volunteer hours for January. If they have not yet turned in their hours for 2021, they are requested to please bring those hours and turn them in to Debbie Grmela as soon as possible. Deadlines are soon.

CRSP members should keep in mind that they will be electing new officers next month, so members are asked to consider serving their fellow retirees. Yvonne Dutschmann and Sue Vernon will be heading up the effort to come up with a slate of nominees, so if anyone wants to become an officer, please notify one of the ladies soon.

The state Texas Retired

Teachers Association meeting is scheduled for April 11-13 in Dallas. If you are interested in being a local voting delegate, please contact the president, JoAnn Sugg.

Members may also pay their dues to treasurer, Anne Byrom, at this meeting. Dues are \$45 (this includes \$35 for state dues and \$10 for local dues). If any retirees (recent or not) have not yet joined CRSP, you are invited to join the group. There are many benefits. Contact JoAnn Sugg or Anne Byrom for more information or attend one of their meetings.

CORYELL MUSEUM

Ozzie and Harriett, and Zane Grey Theatre 1960

JANN DWORSKY

In the Coryell Museum's Accession Room, we came across a Coryell County News published in 1960. My efficiency level on sorting our boxes for scanning or digitation drops to zero and I just enjoy reading the paper as this is the most delicious part of digging through these old boxes. Just like Christmas every time.

The TV listing for March 1960 was as follows for that day: The Ozzie and Harriett Show, Betty Hutton, The Real McCoys and Zane Grey Theatre, Markham, My Friend Flicka, Johnny Ringo and I've Got a Secret. Evening began at 6 p.m. with Texas Times News and Weather, Doug Edwards-CBS, Bronco, Wyatt Earp, Coronado 9, Whirlybirds, Gary Moore, and at 10 p.m. Texas Final World News and lastly 11:30 p.m. the Texas TV theatre. After the news, this listing says Texas TV Theatre came on, but I never remember seeing it as I was a kid and had to go to bed!

First, Ozzie and Harriet co-hosted a radio program "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet" together before they were married in 1935. The radio network program "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet" was on from 1944 to 1954 and was also a situation comedy. They also appeared on the radio shows The Red Skelton Show and The Fred Allen Show.

When "The Ozzie and Harriet Show" moved to televi-

sion, it was also a big hit. Their two boys were played by other actors until their sons were 8 and 12 years old in their parents' fifth year on television.

Wyatt Earp aired from 1951 to 1960, much longer than I remembered. Hugh O'Brien played Wyatt and was seen as a sex symbol in those early years of TV. He was tall, muscular and good looking. (He was not my type, I waited until 1961 for Dr. Kildare.)

ten about Coryell County by our own residents. "Down Memory Lane" by Uncle Bob Saunders is compiled from his Gatesville Messenger articles from 1946-1978.

"Coryell County Scrapbook" by Mildred Mears published in 1963 is a delight to read. One of the newest, "The Rifleman" by Cotton Davidson and Wayland Corgill is in hardback and paperback.

Here is a message from Ervin Adams, president of Coryell Museum: "I wanted to

take a minute to talk about our digitization project at the museum. We have thousands of documents and photos that have been donated to the museum by members of the community that give us a glimpse into the past. These archives are often too fragile to display, and we do not have the space. For

over two years, we have been scanning our archives, with the hope that one day we will be able to put our collection online for genealogical and historical research.

"The Coryell Museum is a local museum, and as such belongs to the communities it serves. Our scanning project, as well as even keeping the doors open is made difficult due to the lack of volunteers. If you have time, please consider volunteering at the museum. You would be helping to preserve the past for future generations."



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600-700 lb.	115-140
700-800 lb.	110-130

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C.A.F.E. group to see 200-member choir

The Christian Adult Fellowship Event (CAFE) group will be travelling to Killeen to see the "North Central Singing Men of Texas" in concert on Thursday, Feb. 3. The singing group is a 200-member choir which is made up of choir directors.

The Gatesville group will leave from the First United Methodist Church parking lot at 4:15 p.m. and proceed to have dinner at Red Robin's in Killeen prior to attending the

concert.

The cost will be \$10 for transportation. The meal is not included in the cost. There will be no refunds after the deadline to purchase tickets which is Jan. 27. Money cannot be transferred to a future trip if you are unable to attend.

For more information about the concert, please contact Ruth Jones at 254-865-2112.

Oglesby Rattlesnake Roundup Feb. 26-27

The 2022 Oglesby Rattlesnake Roundup will take place on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 26-27, at the Oglesby Community Center. Snake demonstrations will be held on Saturday at 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m. and 4

p.m. Demonstrations will be held on Sunday at 12 p.m., 2 p.m., and 4 p.m. Jackie Bibby, "The Texas Snake Man," will be demonstrating with snakes and informing those attending what to do if they encounter a snake.

The Roundup will be fun for all ages with BBQ, music, carnival rides and arts and crafts. There will also be pony rides along with train and wagon rides.

Oglesby is located between McGregor and Gatesville just off Highway 84. All proceeds from the Roundup will benefit local programs supported by the Oglesby Lions Club.

Taste of Gatesville scheduled for Feb. 15

The Exchange Club of Gatesville will be hosting the 24th annual Taste of Gatesville and Chili Cook-Off on Tuesday, Feb. 15 at the Gatesville Civic Center from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m.

The purpose of the Exchange Club is to provide

local and area residents and vendors a place to market their best food products for the public to taste. The Chili Cook-Off is a competition between first responders in the area.

The Exchange Club hopes that this event will broaden markets while helping them provide over \$12,000 for community service projects and scholarships.

Participants are asked to bring signs so that tast-

ers will know who they are - business cards, flyers, coupons and menus are welcome, but no bags. Participants are asked to have samples for 300 or more.

For more information about the Taste of Gatesville and Chili Cook-Off, please contact Jo Ann Sugg at 254-493-7938 or Nate Busch at 254-702-3099.

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The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of January 20 - 22. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, 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.

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CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jan. 20
 4:16 a.m., a theft was reported in the 100 block of N. State Hwy. 36 Bypass.
 8:09 a.m., an accident was reported in the 1000 block of E. Leon Street.
 2:17 p.m., a structure fire was reported on CR 251 at FM 929.
 2:18 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 9700 block of FM 929.
 3:06 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 1400 block of E. Leon Street.
 3:57 p.m., suspicious activ-

ity was reported in the 100 block of Mulberry Avenue.
Jan. 21
 8:11 a.m., a gas leak was reported in the 300 block of S. State Hwy. 36.
 4:09 p.m., an accident was reported in the 1900 block of E. Leon Street.
 6:08 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1300 block of Mills Street.
 6:22 p.m., a brush/grass fire was reported in the 1300 block of CR 338.
 7:16 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1300 block of Main Street.
 11:32 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 1300 block of Mills Street.
Jan. 22
 1:10 a.m., a noise disturbance was reported in the 2000 block of Waco Street.
 9:36 a.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 1200 block of N. State Hwy 36 Bypass.
 11:22 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1400 block of E. Main Street.
 4:41 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 1300 block of Westview Drive.

5:16 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of N. 9th Street.
 5:43 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1200 block of N. State Hwy. 36 Bypass.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jan. 20
 12:59 a.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 2900 block of Mimosa Drive.
 7:15 a.m., a theft was reported in the 1800 block of FM 2412.
 8:34 a.m., an animal complaint was reported in the 100 block of Wood Hollow Drive.
 2:21 p.m., a structure fire was reported in the 9700 block of FM 929.
 3:44 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 2300 block of CR 341.
 5:33 p.m., burglary of a habitation was reported in the 900 block of CR 148.
Jan. 21
 3:10 a.m., criminal trespass was reported in the 100 block of Mooney Avenue.
 6:10 a.m., a hit and run was

reported on FM 116 at Elijah Road.
 8:04 a.m., an animal complaint was reported on FM 116 near Pidcoke.
 1:39 p.m., a livestock complaint was reported in the 7900 block of FM 215.
 1:42 p.m., a major accident was reported on Hwy. 9 at Old Georgetown Road.
 3:52 p.m., a structure fire was reported on CR 318 and CR 319.
Jan. 22
 1:22 a.m., a stranded motorist was reported on FM 215 between CR 239 and CR 248.
 6:49 a.m., harassment was reported in the 7300 block of CR 142.
 10:26 a.m., debris in the roadway was reported on FM 107 and Alexander Road.
 10:59 a.m., an animal bite was reported in the 100 block of Sims Circle.
 2:37 p.m., a vehicle was reported stolen in the 200 block of Thackston Road.
 8:42 p.m., an out-of-control child was reported in the 200 block of Jack Butler Road.

Centex Crime Stoppers' crime of the week

Centex Crime Stoppers can use your help in solving a case of Criminal Mischief and Trespassing which occurred in the 300 block of Old Waco Road sometime between Jan. 15, 2022, at 10 p.m. and Jan. 16, 2022, at 9 a.m. Unknown person(s) entered a property through a locked gate without the effective consent of the property owner and on their way out dragged the gate and power locking arm down the road before discarding it in a nearby ditch.

According to the property owner, the cost to replace the gate and locking device was over \$3,000.

If you have any infor-

mation about any case or any local crime, call Centex Crime Stoppers 24 hours a day at 1-254-865-8477 (TIPS) or visit our website at www.Centexcrimestoppers.org or by downloading the "P3" mobile app available on both the Apple app store and Google Play Store. You never have to give your name, and if your information leads to an arrest, you may be eligible for a cash reward.

Crime Stoppers, citizens, police and the media working together can make our community a safer place to live. Together we can make a difference.



Whatever happened to...

20 YEARS AGO (2002)

Gatesville High School senior Megan Hester was competing in the American Legion Division Oratorical Contest after previously winning local and district levels. Dr. and Mrs. Willie Clarke of Gatesville renewed their wedding vows on their 35th wedding anniversary in a ceremony at Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church. Progress on a new public library was inching forward, and Gatesville city officials hoped to award bids on the project in May. Renovation of McKamie Stadium was expected to be completed in the summer and the Gatesville Independent School District spent approximately \$1 million in

capital improvements without raising taxes. McKenzie Hopson, daughter of Frank and Susie Hopson, was one of the winners of the Gatesville PTA Reflections Art Contest. A 1965 military 1-1/3 ton, 4x4 AMC Kaiser with a 500-gallon water tank was to be auctioned by the Flat Volunteer Fire Department as a fundraising event to send firefighters to an extrication school. **30 YEARS AGO (1992)** Long-time City of Gatesville employee Bobby Cotten announced his retirement as of January 31. Cotten had been assigned to duties at Faunt Le Roy Park and had worked for the City since June 1968. Gina Menzies, a past presi-

dent of the Gatesville Exchange Club, was the guest speaker at the club's weekly meeting. Grace Tension retired after serving for 20 years as secretary at the Gatesville High School. Jennifer Griffith, a seventh-grade student at Gatesville Junior High School, had been selected to the Texas Music Educators Association seventh and eighth grade all-region choir. Griffith was selected from among 600 students attending the TMEA Region 8 competition. The Coryell County Museum Foundation elected officers and directors for 1993. The board of directors elected Ray Simpson, president; Helen Swift, vice president; Billy Byrom, secretary; and

Wayne Gartman, treasurer. Army National Guard Pvt. 1st Class Drew F. Segraves graduated from a helicopter repairer course at Fort Eustis near Newport News, Virginia. He is the son of Jerry and Linda Segraves of Gatesville. **40 YEARS AGO (1982)** January's Home Economics Cooperative Education Student of the Month at Gatesville High was Anita Robles, a GHS junior and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfredo Robles. Shawn H. Hansson received an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering with the honor of cum laude at Texas A&M University. Family members honored Mrs. Waldine Martin on her 90th birthday with a dinner at Chateau Ville Restaurant.

Lisa Thompson had been selected as Special Acteen for the Coryell Baptist Association for 1982. She was a junior at Gatesville High School. Gatesville Parks Supt. W. B. Cummings found four concrete benches shattered at a park table in Faunt Le Roy Park. The damages were estimated by city officials at between \$300 and \$400. Jim Epps of Gatesville was to be honored on his 90th birthday with an open house at the home of his daughter Jo Nichols on Surrey Lane. **50 YEARS AGO (1972)** Patti Green, a senior member of the Gatesville High School band, had been selected as a trumpet player in Texas' all-state band for 1972. The Music Festival of Bre-

genz, Austria, announced the engagement of William (Bill) Blankenship, who was to be featured in Henry Purcell's opera, "The Fairy Queen." Blankenship was raised in Gatesville. Four registered Hereford bulls raised on the Hix Hereford Ranch near Coryell City were marketed internationally when owner O. N. Hix sold the animals to Rozelio Garza for use as breeding stock on Garza's giant ranch at Piedras Negras, Mexico. Susan Martin, head cheerleader at Gatesville High, had been chosen the team's official sweetheart for 1971. Rev. Walter Davidson of League City was to be the evangelist for a revival that was to be held at the Flat Baptist Church.

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TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:
 Rattiff Ready-Mix, LP, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Air Quality Permit No. 48770, which would authorize continued operation of the Concrete Batch Plant located at 3306 S State Highway 36, Gatesville, Coryell County, Texas 76528. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

Grace Bible Church
 4012 E. US Hwy. 84, Gatesville
 (One mile east of the loop on the south side of Hwy. 84)
 254-248-0053
 Sunday School 9:30am
 Sunday Worship 10:45am
 gracebibletx.com

EVANT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT				EXHIBIT C-2
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE				
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS				
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021				
		10	98	Total
Data		General	Other	Governmental
Control		Fund	Funds	Funds
Codes				
REVENUES				
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 1,153,005	\$ 7,363	\$ 1,160,368
5800	State Program Revenues	2,222,611	40,162	2,262,773
5900	Federal Program Revenues	18,243	593,965	612,208
5020	Total Revenues	<u>3,393,859</u>	<u>641,490</u>	<u>4,035,349</u>
EXPENDITURES				
0011	Instruction	1,354,072	419,344	1,773,416
0012	Instructional Resources & Media Services	27,499	-	27,499
0013	Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	6,170	14,278	20,448
0023	School Leadership	140,438	-	140,438
0031	Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	141,765	7,827	149,592
0033	Health Services	7,306	-	7,306
0034	Student Transportation	144,322	8,939	153,261
0035	Food Services	-	174,354	174,354
0036	Extracurricular Activities	210,016	-	210,016
0041	General Administration	372,206	2,917	375,123
0051	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	369,213	41,218	410,431
0052	Security and Monitoring Services	5,855	-	5,855
0053	Data Processing Services	112,820	3,478	116,298
0093	Payments to Fiscal Agent	98,644	-	98,644
6030	Total Expenditures	<u>2,990,326</u>	<u>672,355</u>	<u>3,662,681</u>
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	<u>403,533</u>	<u>(30,865)</u>	<u>372,668</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
7915	Transfers In	-	32,064	32,064
8911	Transfers Out	(54,075)	-	(54,075)
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(54,075)</u>	<u>32,064</u>	<u>(22,011)</u>
1200	Net Change in Fund Balance	349,458	1,199	350,657
0100	Fund Balance - Beginning	353,334	1,374	354,708
3000	Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ 702,792</u>	<u>\$ 2,573</u>	<u>\$ 705,365</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NEWS FROM PEARL

Lots of Big News and Changes



BETSY CLARK

The Pearl Music Festival is ON for Feb. 5. The Pearl Community Center opens at 7 a.m., and the kitchen will be open from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The Stage Show usually begins around 1p.m. and goes on until the last band has played. Picking and grinning happens all day long in the many different rooms in the building as well as in the pavilion and on the grounds.

Also on Feb. 5, there will be a Junk in Your Trunk Day along with the Pearl Music Festival and Pearl Bookstore events. Vendors and JYTT participants can park on the north side of the Gasoway Cabin and the bookstore.

are available for those who wish to come and stay awhile. 30 Amps-\$20 per night; 50 Amps-\$25 per night.

If you wish to rent the Community Center building for events such as funeral lunches, reunions, homecomings, etc., please contact Connie Long at 254-223-0621 for cost and other details.

There is a new Facebook page for the Pearl Community Center with Jennifer Rushton as administrator. We are so thankful to Mrs. Rushton for taking this on.

The Pearl Flea Market will be April 23 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Vendors can set up outside of the Community Center. The kitchen will be open on the inside, and folks can donate food to be sold in the kitchen to benefit the Community Center.

The Community Center Board met on Jan. 17, 2021. Those attending were Ronald Medart, Connie Long, Linda Ray, Jennifer and David Rushton, Ruth Penny, Kay Pruett, Rhonda and Garrett Dickey, and Michelle Pruett and the family dog, Pearl, dropped by for a while, too.

The Pearl Church of Christ Valentine Auction benefiting local scholarships and scholarships for His Kids in Lampasas will be held on Sunday, Feb. 13 immediately after services.

This auction is an annual event held in memory of Richard Williams, the founder of His Kids. Everyone is invited, and all donations and bids are greatly appreciated.

The closing verse for this week comes from I Peter 1:13—Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at His coming.

To keep up with the latest Pearl news online, you can go to the "Pearl Cottage Bookstore" Facebook page, the "Pearl Church of Christ" Facebook page, or the Pearl Community Center, Texas Facebook page.

T-ville Community Center meeting Jan. 31

The Quarterly meeting for the Turnersville Community Center will be held Monday, Jan. 31, at 6 p.m., via Zoom.

Those interested in attending the Zoom meeting may contact the community center via email at TurnersvilleStampede@gmail.com to receive the link.

The community center is a family friendly gathering place for recreation, community, education and the arts. It is located at 8115 FM 182 in Turnersville.

For more information about the quarterly meeting, please contact the association's secretary, Dorothy Wagoner, at 254-494-0110.

OBITUARIES

PAULA JO RAINER

Sept. 25, 1956 - Jan. 19, 2022



Paula Jo Rainer, age 65, of Gatesville, passed away on the evening of Jan. 19, 2022.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2022, at Scott's Funeral Home with Bruce Cox officiating.

Paula Jo was born on Sept. 25, 1956, in Alameda, CA to

the late Tommie Bushong and Betty Pitts Bushong. Growing up, the family lived in Pecos and Irving, and eventually settled in the Turnersville community. She graduated from Gatesville High School in 1975.

In 2006, with the addition of her first grandson, Paula Jo took on a new name, Momma Jo. She was a devoted grandmother. They enjoyed learning to sew, eating ice cream, and laughing.

Paula Jo was always up for a good time. She and Joe Pat

loved to go dancing with their friends. She loved to gamble and would always tell you if the "casino gods" were good to her or not.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her mother-in-law, Irene Rainer, and her father-in-law, C.C. Rainer.

Paula Jo is survived by her husband of 45 years, Joe Pat Rainer; sons, Charles (Rance) Rainer and wife, Meredith, and Neeley Rainer; grandchildren, Ian, Colin, and Ollie; siblings Ken Bushong and wife, Patty, of Bastrop, Pam Caldwell and husband, Keith, of Gatesville, and Lloyd Bushong of Gatesville.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Boys and Girls Club, 2533 E. Main Street, Gatesville, TX 76528.

PATTI W. DAVIDSON

Dec. 7, 1952 - Jan. 20, 2022



Patti W. Davidson, age 69,

of Gatesville, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022, in Gatesville.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 24, 2022, at Scott's Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Don McConaughay officiating.

Patti was born on Dec. 7, 1952, in Coryell County, to the late Earl Wayne (Fish) and Frances Moore Wilkinson. She grew up in the Harmon community and went to school in Gatesville, graduating from Gatesville High School in 1971.

She loved cooking, reading cookbooks and shopping. She was a member of Pidcoke Baptist Church.

Patti is survived by her husband, Joe Davidson; daughters, Melissa Clinard and husband, Raymond, Angie Clover and husband, Clint, Jolene Hays and husband, Keith; five grandchildren, Jordan Clover, Jared Clover, Randy Hays, Amber Hays, Byron Adams; and one great-grandson, Asher Blake Beerbower-Clover.

In lieu of flowers, the family has designated memorials be made to the Pidcoke Cemetery Assn., 105 River Ridge Dr., Gatesville, TX 76528.

Obituary policy - Obituaries must be submitted to The Gatesville Messenger by the funeral home handling the services.

If a funeral home is not involved, proof of death must be provided by a family member or crematorium.

For more information, con-

tact David Scott at 254-865-2352 or email editor@gatesvillemessenger.com

CLASSIFIEDS

037 Help Wanted

Advertisement for Coryell Health with contact information and job listings for various roles like Assisted/Independent Living, Medical Clinic, and Emergency Department.

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Advertisement for Coryell Health with contact information and job listings for various roles like Assisted/Independent Living, Medical Clinic, and Emergency Department.

099 Public Notices

Public Notice regarding a joint notice of sale by the State of Texas, County of Coryell.

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Advertisement for Coryell Health with contact information and job listings for various roles like RN Unit Manager and LVN FT & PRN.

Advertisement for a tax service, providing contact information for Ron Morgan, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Department, Coryell County, Texas.

Advertisement for a local business with the text 'Local • Honest • Community' and 'Subscribe Today! 254-865-5212'.

Year-round uses for the holiday tree

I grew up in a house where Jan. 1 was often the official day for taking down the Christmas tree.

But as the years went on, sometimes the tree would stay up a little longer ... or even a lot longer. In order to offer my support, here are some suggestions that might make that tree a little more timely, a few year-round possibilities for the holiday tree.

At some point, preferably before Feb. 14, it's time to remove the Christmas ornaments, but the tree can still stand tall.

Until the middle of February, your tree could feature a New Year's Day baby, bedecked with his 2022 ribbon, to add a different kind of holiday festivity. And it will keep the tree timely for a few more weeks.

In mid-February, it's time to add some hearts to the tree, and maybe a cupid or two.

March provides an opportunity to celebrate the Irish and all things green with a few lucky shamrocks.

April brings us to Easter, and what better way to showcase those incredibly decorated eggs

Jeff's Reflections & Lu's Views

By Jeff Osborne & Tallulah

Jeff Osborne is senior staff writer and editor for the Gatesville Messenger and Tallulah is his trusted border collie-Jack Russell terrier mix.



than by hanging a few on the tree? You could add a few of those perennial favorites, Peeps, in their neon array of colors and bunny or chick shapes.

May is a month when flowers are often prominent, so a few on the tree would really add a dash of color and festivity.

June is flag day, so an assortment of miniature American flags would

really live up the tree. And best of all, they can remain at the forefront throughout July, as we celebrate Independence Day the next month. Although a firecracker or sparkler might add pizzazz to the tree (or even a Roman candle or two), that's not something I, the fire department or the Consumer Product Safety Commission could recommend. Plus, fireworks are frowned upon inside most city limits these days.

August offers an opportunity to be a bit creative. It's the dog days of summer, so photos of favorite family canines could spruce up the tree. Those who prefer cats (or more exotic pets) can adjust their decorations accordingly.

September is the beginning of football season, and that's my family's favorite spectator sport. So let's hang a few miniature footballs on the tree and maybe place a helmet atop the tree. As for which team's helmet, that could change from week to week, and maybe add an element of

competition itself.

How about an October with a jack o' lantern themed tree, complete with a few mini pumpkins? And if those pumpkins aren't carved, well, they could linger another month and add to the autumn atmosphere.

Turkey decor, Indian corn and those aforementioned pumpkins are the perfect trimming for the November holiday tree. And maybe a Puritan-style hat and Indian headdress atop the tree.

That brings us back full circle, and the holiday tree is still standing strong.

On one hand, the holiday tree could save families the time and hassle of having to put up and take down the tree each year. On the other hand, it's that temporary status in the home that makes the tree special.

So readers, it's up to you. A year-round holiday tree in your home, or the traditional but fleeting Christmas tree?

If celebrating the Reason for the Season (Jesus' birth) is your aim, might I suggest a nativity scene in place of (or in addition

to) the traditional Christmas/holiday tree?

One word of advice. If you plan to go the year-round holiday tree route, an artificial one would probably work best.

Tallulah's take: That's interesting Daddy, and pretty funny! I have a few suggestions of my own.

How about bacon and doggy treats on that tree for a certain special someone? Or for those who have cats, catnip and kitty cat treats? Of course, you have to be careful there. I can imagine quite a few knocked over trees caused by excited pets enjoying those new additions.

You also have to be sure you allow your pets plenty of opportunities to go outside and "take care of business" whenever needed. Otherwise, you may find pets leaving some unwanted and unpleasant things under that tree.

Jeff Osborne and Tallulah can be reached at jeff@gatesvillemessenger.com.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The tombstone for Lee Basham, who was shot during an altercation at the Ruby Saloon.

SHOOTING

FROM PAGE A7

farmers would often attract cowboys and farmers who came to town for a good time and a few "refreshments."

On a Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 9, 1890, an incident would occur at the Ruby Saloon that would create sensational headlines across the United States - from St. Louis, Missouri to the state of Oregon and beyond. One headline read "Two at One Shot, A Texas Pistol Which Shot Like a Gatling Gun," while another headline read "Two Men Killed by One Shot in Texas."

Gatesville was placed on the map in an "old west" type of story following a deadly shooting.

Although accounts varied in the newspapers and in later versions of the story, the fact remains that two young men died at the Ruby Saloon as the result of one bullet from a Colt .45 six-shooter by the bar keeper.

The bar keeper, Henry Vogel, was 23 years of age at the time and was described as a nice, quiet young man. He was the only son of French immigrants, Paul and Elizabeth Vogel, who came to the United States in 1853. His father, who was known as a shoe and boot maker, established a business in Gatesville around 1882, which later became a thriving business on Main Street. Their son, Henry, found employment at the Ruby Saloon just a few blocks down from

his father's establishment.

On the day of the shooting, Lee Basham, who was 28 years old, accompanied by his nephew, John Wilkey who was 18, both Coryell County farmers, decided to visit the saloon where both men would soon meet their untimely deaths.

The account of the shooting which appeared in a St. Louis newspaper stated that a quarrel occurred between Basham and the bar keeper resulting in Basham throwing a glass at Vogel.

Years later, local resident Uncle Bob Saunders would write a story about the shooting as told to him by a person who witnessed the incident. "Basham and Wilkey came into the saloon and he [Basham] ordered a drink. After Vogel served them, an argument arose, and Basham started over the bar after Vogel."

Saunders wrote that Vogel owned a pearl-handled .45 Colt six-shooter which at that time was known as the "great equalizer," being how it made little men the equal of big fellows. Henry Vogel had even named his gun "Ol' Betsy."

Vogel, knowing that Basham always carried a gun on his hip, got excited and grabbed Ol' Betsy and took a shot at Basham in self-defense, not noticing that Basham's nephew, John Wilkey, was trying to pull Basham away from the conflict.

A newspaper account reported that the bullet struck Basham just above his collar

bone near his throat, severed his spinal cord and went entirely through his body coming out just above his left hip, there upon entering the forehead of Wilkey, coming out the back of his head and then striking the wall behind them. Thus, a single bullet killed both men.

Vogel was arrested and charged with manslaughter and later released on a \$2,000 bond. Court records reflect that his bond was later reduced to \$1,500 and that he was backed by several notable citizens of Gatesville. Following a trial, Vogel was found not guilty, presumably from a plea of self-defense, and released on Feb. 13, 1891.

Upon his death, the innocent victim in the shooting, 18-year-old John Wilkey, was laid to rest in a corner lot of a family cemetery known as Arrowood Cemetery a few miles east of Gatesville. Lee Basham, who left behind a wife and a one-year-old son, was laid to rest at the King Cemetery located in the King Community.

As for the shooter, Henry Vogel, soon after being vindicated, he and his family sold the property that they owned in Gatesville and relocated to Corsicana. Vogel lived with his sister, Emma Redden and her family. He would later die as single person at the age of 40.

It can be assumed that Vogel never really recovered from the fact that he had killed two young men even though it was considered an act of self-defense.

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DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

The tombstone for John Wilkey, who was shot while trying to prevent a fight at the Ruby Saloon.

Tennis team tops Killeen in GHS tourney

BY TRISTON MCGEHEE
STAFF WRITER

Frigid temperatures did not sway Gatesville High School's Hornet tennis team from dominating the Killeen Kangaroos by an 11-2 margin Friday at the GHS Tennis Courts.

All eight courts were filled with athletes eager to win for their respective teams. But all eyes gazed upon the 2021 Class 4A girls state singles runner-up, senior Stormy Tatum, on the first court.

Tatum battled for her first victory over Killeen's Nikola Schrovaska.

Tatum and Schrovaska met before, with Schrovaska being the victor in the previous two matches leading up to Friday's contest.

The competition was fierce between the two Friday, but Tatum was dedicated, focused, and determined in defeating Schrovaska in three sets, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

"I was honed in and focused," Tatum said after that match. "I tried to focus on every single point and not think about the point before or think about the point that was about to come after. I was just very much in the present with my game style today."

GHS tennis head coach Wendell Jones was proud of his team's performance in their first tournament of the season.

"Everyone has stepped up and played very well," Jones said.

The Hornets showed their skills versus the Kangaroos.

Slone Early was one of them, defeating both his boys singles opponents with ease. Early swept his first opponent, Javier De La Cruz, 6-0, 6-0. In his second match, he defeated Sehen Camba 8-3.

Alex Scott and Carlo Martinez won their matches for Gatesville in boys doubles, 6-0, 6-3.



TRISTON MCGEHEE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

(Top) Slone Early receives the ball and prepares to return it in action against Killeen. (Below) Stormy Tatum defeated Nikola Schrovaska.



Jesse Strange and Milton Walters also won their boys doubles matches, 6-1, 6-0. Julie Sun and Ty Warren of GHS won their mixed doubles match (6-1, 6-0) but fell short in their second match (8-4). Callie Smith and Kacey Fitzer won both of their girls doubles matches. Smith and Fitzer won their matches 6-2, 7-6, and 8-2 in their second match. Preslea Edmond and Olivia Walker of GHS won their girls doubles matches, 6-0, 6-1. Bri Alexander and Dayne Zacha won in mixed doubles, 8-5. Gatesville's team will travel to Pflugerville on Jan. 28 for the Pflugerville ISD tennis tournament. The matches will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Pflugerville High School courts.

Hornets fall to Tigers in Glen Rose basketball contest

BY TRISTON MCGEHEE
STAFF WRITER

The Hornets fell to their District 6-4A boys basketball foe, the Glen Rose Tigers, 69-55 on Friday in Tiger Arena in Glen Rose.

The Hornets (12-15 overall, 1-2 in district) came into the game coming off a thriller victory over Stephenville on Tuesday, but came up short against the Tigers (17-5 overall, 1-1 in district). Jack Carroll led the Hornets in points with 15 versus Glen Rose. Carroll capitalized on five 2-pointers, a three-pointer, and sank both of his free throw attempts.

The Hornets trailed Glen Rose early, with the Tigers outscoring the Hornets 17-6 by the end of the first quarter. During the second quarter, the Hornets retaliated, making the score 12-11 over the Tigers. At intermission, the score was 28-18, Glen Rose.

During the third quarter, the game was competitive with Glen Rose edging out Gatesville, 20-16. The score heading into the final quarter was 48-34, Glen Rose.

Heading into the fourth quarter, the Hornets tried to get back into the game. Both teams finished strong in the fourth quarter, with each team scoring 21 points, bringing

the final score to 69-55, Glen Rose.

Tyler Shea finished the game with 14 points on the night. While his teammate Carter Williams finished the game with 10 points.

The Hornets traveled to Lampasas on Tuesday to take on the Badgers (19-10 overall, 2-0 in district). Results from this game will be in a future edition.

Lady Hornets fall to Lady Tigers, 84-28

The Gatesville Lady Hornets did not have the game they wanted on Friday, in their District 6-4A girls basketball contest against Glen Rose Lady Tigers (26-4 overall, 4-0 in

district) at Tiger Arena in Glen Rose.

The Lady Hornets (4-17 overall, 0-4 in district) struggled to slow 11th-ranked Glen Rose's scoring, and the Lady Tigers led the entire game.

Taylor Coward led the charge for the Lady Hornets on offense, scoring 14 points on the night. Charlie Sommerfeld, Kagen Hunt and Aliyah Trotter scored three points each in the contest.

The Lady Hornets traveled to Lampasas on Tuesday to take on the Lady Badgers (23-8 overall, 2-2 in district). Results from the game will be in the next edition.

Oglesby downs Gholson, Cranfills Gap in hoops games

BY TRISTON MCGEHEE
STAFF WRITER

Oglesby was hitting on all cylinders in its District 25-1A boys basketball matchup defeating Gholson, 76-20 Friday in the Oglesby High School Gym.

Gholson (1-12 overall, 1-4 in district) could not stop the fierce scoring action of Blake Thompson and Aiden Gomez. The duo led the team in scoring with Thompson scoring 22 points and Gomez scoring 18. The Tigers were efficient and controlled the game from beginning to end.

Oglesby (4-5 overall, 2-3 in district) had an explosive first quarter, outscoring the Wildcats 28-4 four early.

Thompson was clicking in the first quarter, sinking four two pointers, a three pointer, plus two free throws.

The Tigers stayed on the accelerator in the second quarter, outscoring the Wildcats 13-6. Oglesby held an overwhelming lead heading into intermission, 41-10.

The Tigers shot well in the third quarter, with Gomez scoring on four field goals. Thompson hit on a 3-pointer and a 2-pointer. The Tigers outscored the Wildcats 22-7 by the end of the third quarter, making the score 63-17 Oglesby.

In the fourth quarter, Oglesby continued its scoring dominance, scoring 13 points to finish the night strong, while Gholson only scored three points, concluding the 56-point victory.

The Tigers were scheduled to play Aquilla (11-6 overall, 4-1 in district) on Tuesday, and the results from that game will be in a future edition.

Lady Tigers defeat Lady Wildcats, 43-14. Oglesby High School's Lady Tigers were just as efficient as the boys in their game Friday, defeating the Lady Wildcats, 43-14 in the Oglesby High School Gym.

The Lady Tigers held the lead the entire game, outscoring the Lady Wildcats (4-3 overall, 2-3 in district) in every quarter. Matti Dixon excelled in scoring, leading the Lady Tiger's with 23 points. OHS coach Jeb Dixon credited the girls success rebounding in and playing well defensively.

The Lady Tigers held a 10-4 advantage over the Lady Wildcats early. Dixon was the only scorer in the quarter, making five 2-pointers to elevate her team early.

The second quarter brought an offensive explosion for the Lady Tigers. Dixon started right where she left off, shooting five more 2-pointers and a free-throw. The Lady Ti-

gers would end the second quarter, outscoring the Lady Wildcats 20-2, making the score 30-6 at intermission.

The third quarter was a bit slower, but the Lady Tigers still came out with a 7-2 advantage, concluding the third quarter with a 37-8 lead for Oglesby. The final quarter remained steady with both teams scoring six points each, producing the final 29-point margin.

The Aquilla Lady Cougars (14-11 overall, 7-1 district) were scheduled the Lady Tigers at the Oglesby High School Gym Tuesday. Results from that contest will be in a future edition.

Oglesby edges Cranfills Gap, 45-44

Oglesby High School's Tigers escaped Friday's District 25-1A boys basketball contest versus the Cranfills Gap Lions with a 45-44 victory at the Cranfills Gap High School Gym.

The first quarter brought a hard-fought matchup with both teams fighting to end the half in their favor. Oglesby would jump out to a one-point advantage heading into the second quarter, 14-13 Oglesby.

The second quarter, the Lions outscored the Tigers 11-6, making the score 24-20 at intermission.

In the third quarter, the game flipped mo-

mentum again, this time with Oglesby taking advantage outpacing Cranfills Gap 13-5 bringing the score to 33-29, Oglesby.

Cranfills Gap was not done fighting, erasing the deficit by one point.

Oglesby's Blake Thompson paced the team in scoring with 15 points, followed closely by teammate Hunter Walters with 14 points.

Lady Tigers fall, 36-44

Oglesby High School's Lady Tigers fell short against their District 25-1A foe, the Cranfills Gap Lady Lions, 36-44 Friday at the Cranfills Gap High School Gym.

Matti Dixon led the Lady Tigers in points, scoring 14 on the night. Lacie Luckie was right behind Dixon, scoring 11 points.

Cranfills Gap raced to a 13-4 lead by the end of the first quarter. In the second quarter, the Lady Tigers bounced back to outscore the Lady Lions 14-7, making the score tight, 27-26, with Cranfills Gap holding the narrow lead at intermission.

The Tigers kept the edge in the third quarter, outscoring the Lady Lions 15-12, concluding the quarter with a 39-26 advantage in favor of the Lady Lions.

The Lady Tigers then outscored the Lady Lions 10-5, but ultimately fell short by the eight-point margin.

Lady Elks beat Sidney, fall to Priddy in basketball action

BY TRISTON MCGEHEE
STAFF WRITER

Evant High School's Lady Elks played well in their District 18-1A girls basketball win over the Sidney Lady Eagles, 60-43, Jan. 21 at the Evant High School Gym.

The Lady Elks (8-9 overall, 4-4 in district) and Lady Eagles (3-8 overall, 0-4 in district) met earlier in district play, resulting in an overtime win for the Lady Elks.

This time, the Lady Elks outpaced

the Lady Eagles in every quarter. The team effort was essential in this game, with each of the Lady Elks making their mark on the scoreboard.

"I was very proud of the girls tonight; every one of them stepped up and played well." EHS girls head coach Chad Baker stated in an email.

Emiliegh Burton led the Lady Elks in scoring, followed by her teammate Molly Waldrum with 16. Bree Ramirez scored six points, while

Luwi Rodriguez and Caeleigh Burkham had five points each. Hailey Neri finished with four points, and Izzy Gandy had two.

According to Baker, the girls put in a great week of practice and proved that the team is a scoring threat.

"This win should give us good momentum going into a tough matchup against Gustine next week." Baker shared in the email.

Evant traveled to Gustine to play the Lady Tigers (12-13 overall, 5-3

in district). Results from that game will be in a future edition.

The Priddy Pirates overwhelmed their competition on Tuesday, defeating their District 18-1A girls basketball foe, the Evant Lady Elks 61-24, at the Priddy High School Gym.

The Lady Pirates (18-3 overall, 6-0 in district) came into the game undefeated in district play, and the game plan for the Lady Elks was to keep their offense at bay. The Lady Elks did not get the results they

wanted by the end of the matchup. Luwi Rodriguez led the Lady Elks in points, scoring 10, followed by Emiliegh Burton with eight and Hailey Neri with six.

"The one silver lining to this game was that more of our players were looking to get involved and try to attack the basket," EHS girls head coach Chad Baker stated in an email. "And that is what we are going to need to help us finish out the season."

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