



# TUESDAY

# Trivia at the Bar @ Grill

Join us every Tuesday at 7pm at the Bar & Grill for themed trivia hosted by Julian the Entertainer.

### WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

### Movies at the Pool

COMING SOON - Join us for a viewing of favorite classics at the pool each Wednesday.

### Karaoke at the Tower

Sing your heart out every Thursday at the Tower Whiskey Bar with Karaoke hosted by Julian the Entertainer.

### Live Music

Come rock out or two step the night away with live music every weekend in the Tower Whiskey Bar or poolside at the Tiki Stage.

#### Check out more details at @TWResort or TanglewoodResort.com

Aug/Sept 2022 To







# WATER BANG DUNNESS

### Featuring Hidden Hangar Winery

### LAVEOR DALY WEEKTD

Celebrate our 1 year anniversary Labor Day Weekend with events all weekend!

# 19-25 **SEPT**

### OCTOBERFEST Join us all week for live German

bands, beer tastings, German food & German relays/competitions!

### BEERS PAULSING DUNNER

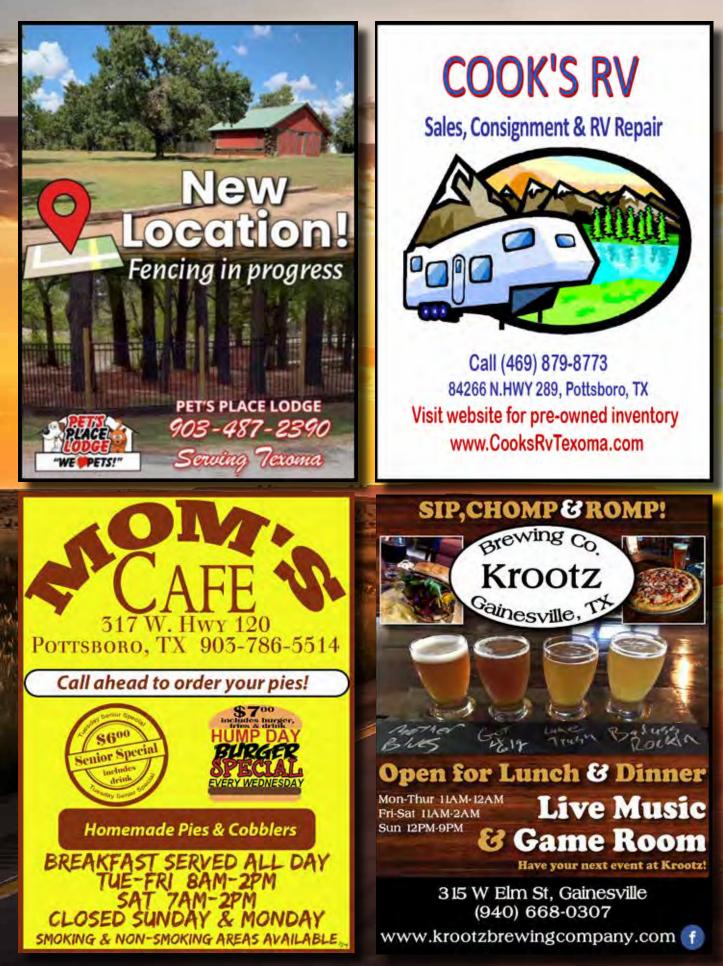
Oktoberfest Themed Featuring Say When Brewery

# 28 **SEPT**

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2-5 **SEPT** 

For more information or tickets, visit www.TanglewoodResort.com



Aug/Sept 2022



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# "It Feels Great To Call

#### on Texoma

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According to the NFL Players Association, the chances that any high school football player makes it to the NFL are about 0.2%. This percentage is based on the statistic that only about 215 out of 100,000 high school seniors who play football every year make it to the NFL. Only about 9,000 players of the original 100,000 make it to play at the college level. Pottsboro native, Justin Lawler has not only beat those odds but has earned a Super Bowl ring. Justin's athletic career began with the Pottsboro Youth Association playing all sports from football to basketball and baseball. Fans and teammates learned early that Justin was a fun young athlete to watch and compete with. Most that had the opportunity to watch him at a young age felt that he was destined to do great things. His refusal to quit attitude is reflected in the words of one of his youth sports coaches, Eddie Frye. "His motor never stopped."

As his playing career progressed to the high school level, Justin continued to excel. He was a five-sport competitor (football, basketball, baseball, power lifting, and track) in high school. As a Pottsboro senior, Justin's football accomplishments registered him 13 sacks, 28 tackles for a loss, 124 total tackles, two blocked punts, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery on the defensive side of the ball earning him First Team 2A All-State and All-State Defensive MVP honors. On the offensive side of the ball, he gathered 11 touchdown passes and 70 total points as the

> Cardinals team earned an undefeated regular season and a 11-1 overall record for the year. His long-time friend, teammate and high school quarterback Tanner Frye offered, "the fact that he caught double-digit touchdowns as a wide receiver and was the 2A defensive player of the year as a defensive lineman tells you everything you need to know about the type of athlete he is." Justin will humbly tell you he was surrounded by a great team and great coaches. Justin also stated, "My most memorable moment as a Pottsboro Cardinal was my senior year of football. We had a good football team, and we were also really close relationally."

As Justin's high school athletic career ended, he earned a scholarship to Southern Methodist University. This allowed his family and friends to attend his games on Saturday only 70 miles away and were they in for a treat. After redshirting, he played in all 12 games his freshman season. As a sophomore, he started every game for the Mustangs and gathered a team high 64 tackles, 9 for a loss. In his junior season, Justin continued to add to his pro prospect football resume starting the year as a preseason selection to Dave Campbell's 2016 and the Athlon Sports and Phil Steele All-American Conference Teams. He started all games for the second straight year and was named the first SMU defensive lineman to the All-American Conference team in 4 years. As a senior and team captain, he started all 13 games, registered 74 tackles, and was named to the All-American Conference first team defense. Justin graduated from SMU with a Bachelor of Science degree in sports management. Obviously, his accomplishments in football at SMU were stellar but during his time at SMU, Justin also accomplished what he will tell you is the is one of the greatest accomplishments in his lifetime. During his freshman year, Justin caught the eye of Pastor

Joe Martin, Jr., Senior Pastor at Trinity Dallas Church. As their association and friendship grew, Justin learned how God loved him and learned his love for his Creator. "Most people who come to Christ are content to be a believer, Justin decided to become a follower and disciple for Jesus.", Pastor Joe (Martin) reflected.

April 28, 2018, another dream came true. In the 7th round of the NFL draft, he received a phone call from Los Angeles Rams General Manager, Les Snead asking him if he would like to become a Los Angeles Ram. It was an emotional moment for he and his family. His tenure with the Rams started off with an appearance in Super Bowl LIII his rookie season. In the two years that followed with the Rams, Justin's constitution was tested due to injuries which resulted in multiple foot surgeries but his "never say quit" attitude prevailed. He was doing what he loved. In 2021, he was moved back and forth from the active roster to the practice squad, but Justin never let his drive for success diminish as a smile prevailed every time he put on the uniform. Justin was able to be one of the few NFL players in history to hoist the Lombardi Trophy following Super Bowl LVI. His accomplishments continued earlier this year. The Ed Block Courage Awards honors NFL players who

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# Pottsboro Home<sup>39</sup> by Phill Johnson

exemplify commitments to the principles of sportsmanship and courage. This award is unique in that the recipients are selected solely by a vote of their teammates. Justin was the 2022 recipient of this prestigious award representing the Los Angeles Rams. Earlier this year, Justin agreed to a contract with the Tennessee Titans to join their team. "Being a part of the Tennessee Titans is an absolute honor. Every day you walk into a building with any NFL logo on it you have to be grateful for the opportunity to continue to play football and strive to be the best you can be. I don't take that opportunity for granted." Although he will be wearing a different jersey, fans like you and me will anxiously await to see him on Sundays wearing a Titan's uniform.

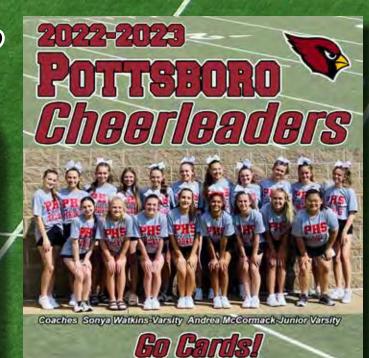
His youth sports and secondary school experience also introduced him to who would become his biggest fan and the love of his life, Denver. It was truly a love story of a football player and a cheerleader. Justin is not shy in telling you that Denver has been a driving force for his success and as many witnessed in a post-game interview after his comeback from surgeries revealed this 6'4", 265 pounder's emotions when he talked about how she has supported him and encouraged him.

"It feels great to call Pottsboro home, one of the main reasons we moved back to Pottsboro was because of the community itself. Denver and I feel like it just such a great spot to raise our kids." Justin is not only a great athlete, NFL player, great family member and friend to many, but he is also a dedicated husband, father, and Christian. Justin, Denver, Blakely, and Katy Lawler are proud to call Pottsboro home and all North Texas is fortunate they do.

This writer has had the priveledge of knowing Justin and Denver since their youth sports days. I am proud to call them my friends!



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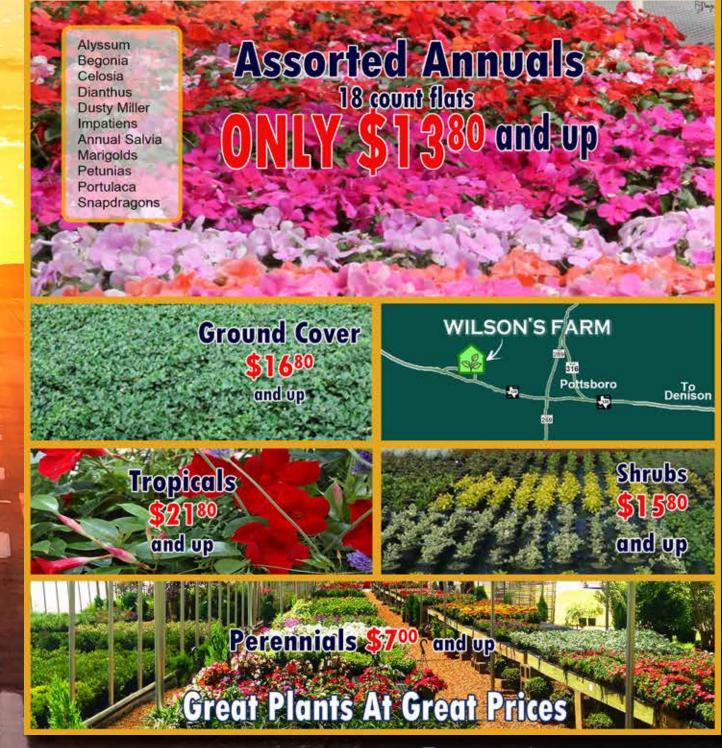


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