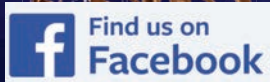


Gladewater Mirror

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"



Thursday, Jan. 27, 2022

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1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

Vote-by-mail rejections are testing voting law

By The Texas Tribune

With less than a month left to vote by mail in the March primary election, hundreds of applications for mail-in ballots are being rejected as both Texas voters and local election officials decipher new ID requirements enacted by Republican lawmakers.

Barely started down the path toward the first elections conducted under voting restrictions enacted last year by Republican lawmakers, Texas voters and local election officials have found themselves enveloped in a fog of errors, delays and miscommunications as they navigate new rules for casting votes by mail.

Only a small slice of the state's electorate is allowed to cast absentee ballots, and the trickle of requests for mail-in ballots that began in early January is now swelling into the usual pre-election flood.

But hundreds of applications are being rejected — in many cases because voters appear to not know the new rules. Local election workers themselves are still deciphering the procedures, and say they've been hampered by a paucity of help and information from the Texas secretary of state's office. Meanwhile, the state is scrambling to provide training under the crush of advising counties on implementing a multitude of election changes.

"We are bombarded," said Yvonne Ramon, the Hidalgo County elections administrator. "To try to review Senate Bill 1 alone was a monster, and it wasn't just on us. It was on the state. It was on every [election official] at every level."

Signed into law by Gov. Greg Abbott in September, the voting law known as Senate Bill 1 contained an array of new restrictions on the state's voting process and narrowed local control of elections.

Among its many provisions — and the earliest to be tested — are new rules for voting by mail. Absentee voters are now required to include a state identification number like a driver's license number or a partial Social Security number on their applications for a mail-in ballot. Those numbers must match information in a voter's record or their application will be rejected.

Regular mail-in voters must submit new applications each year, and when counties began accepting them this year, the rejection rates were staggering. Hundreds of applications were deficient, in some cases missing an ID number. In other cases, voters had listed a number that didn't appear to be on

Continued on Page 4



The Gladewater ISD School Board - Jamie Robertson-Board Secretary, David Floyd-Board Member, Jon Keller-Board President, Rickie Blackmon-Board Vice President, Jeff Cook- Board Member, Ross Morgan-Board Member, Garth Cockerell-Board Member, Sedric Clark-Superintendent

Celebrating School Board Recognition Month

Each January, we honor the community volunteers who serve on their local school boards. The 2022 School Board Recognition theme is Rising Above, which is especially apt right now, given that many school board members are facing unprecedented challenges in trying to navigate controversial topics in K-12 education.

In recognition of School Board Recognition Month, a proclamation was issued by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott. The proclamation cites school boards as a key part of Texas education. "They work with parents, education professionals, and community members to create successful learning environments for our students. Our school boards continue to be instrumental as they tackle new challenges for Texas public schools and serve the ever-evolving needs of our students," it reads.

(See the full proclamation on Page 5)

"School boards are essential to a strong public education system," Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Executive Director Dan Troxell said. "They provide the local governance and oversight that makes it possible for school districts to serve students, including establishing a strategic plan, adopting policies, approving a budget and selecting and evaluating a superintendent. It's fitting that we celebrate them in January as their leadership is key to the success of every school district in Texas."

With school boards in the news more than ever, School Board Recognition Month this January shouldn't just be business as usual.

"We think it's a perfect opportunity to recognize our



school board members for their hard work and commitment to improving outcomes for students across the state," Troxell said. "It's also the right time to remind everyone about the important role school boards have in the governance and oversight of public education."

"With all the headlines, it would be easy to get the wrong impression of what school boards actually do," Troxell said. "Here at TASB, we want to bring the focus back to the key work of our volunteer school board members, who are elected to help their districts establish a strategic plan, create budgets, adopt policies, and select and evaluate their superintendent."



Union Grove ISD School Board Members are: Jody Day - President (Place 7), Bennie Norris - Vice President (Place 5), Tim Turner - Secretary (Place 4), Justin Smith, Asst. Secretary (Place 2), Tim Bower (Place 6), Kelly Chambliss (Place 1) and Michael Potter (Place 3).

Man killed in wreck on FM 1844

By Phillip Williams

A 42-year-old man was killed Sunday morning when his pickup traveled off FM 1844 and struck a tree near Union Grove, a crash which went undiscovered by by-passers for some time, said Upshur County Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace Rhonda Welch.

James Glenn Engeman, whose driver's license listed a Pittsburg address, but who reportedly lived with friends on 1844 near the crash scene, was pronounced dead at the scene by Welch at 9:30 a.m., she said.

The westbound Chevrolet Avalanche probably ran off the roadway's right side before Engeman overcorrected, and his wheels caught the pavement, causing him to lose control of the pickup, the judge said. The pickup then went through a fence before striking the tree, leaving the vehicle mangled, she said.

With the wreckage off the roadway, many motorists passed by without spotting it until a passerby noticed it an estimated two miles from Union Grove, Welch said.

Engeman was not wearing a safety belt, but there was no indication alcohol was involved in the early-morning crash, she added.



Annual business breakfast on tap

A business breakfast will be held Feb. 2 at the Gladewater Chamber of Commerce building at 213 N. Main Street from 8-9 a.m.

City Judge Tim Bryan will be the guest speaker. The free event is sponsored by the chamber and the Gladewater Economic Development Corporation.

Attendees are asked to RSVP. Call 903-845-5501.

Pinewood derby slated

Gladewater's Cub Scouts Pack 196 will host its Pinewood Derby Feb. 26. It will be held at the Gladewater Former Students Building, located at 2509 Hendricks St.

Car check-in is from 9-11 a.m. and the race starts at noon. Anyone can enter a car to race during the outlaw race. For information contact Carla Bigler at 903-746-2661.

City, school, primary elections coming up

Filing began Jan. 19 and runs through Feb. 18 for the city and school elections held Saturday, May 7.

Four seats on the Gladewater City Council are up for grabs.

Three of the seats currently belong to Mayor JD Shipp, Place 1, and council members Brandy Flanagan, Place 4, and Scott Owens, Place 3. A fourth seat is an unexpired term previously held by councilman Dennis Robertson, who resigned Dec. 31, 2021 due he and his wife moving to Longview. Rather than appoint someone to the vacancy, the council chose to let the voters choose who they wanted for the Place 5 seat.

A council member must live inside the city limits, according to the city's bi-laws.

As of presstime, Shipp, has not announced whether he will seek a third term as mayor. But Owens has filed for the mayor's seat. Owens is at the end of his first term on the council after being elected in 2020. Previously he served on the council for 10 years.

Shipp has served on the council for 12 years and is in his fourth year as mayor. He served eight years as a councilman. Flanagan, who has picked up a packet, has been on the council since 2018, serving two terms.

Candidate eligibility requirements and deadline to file include:

1. MUST be a United States Citizen.
2. MUST be at least 18 years of age or older on the commencement of the term filled at the election.
3. MUST be a registered voter of the City of Gladewater as of the filing deadline.
4. MUST have resided continuously in Texas for twelve (12) months and the City for 6 months immediately preceding filing deadline.
5. MUST NOT have been finally convicted of a felony (unless pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities).
6. MUST satisfy any other requirement prescribed by law for the office.

Filing begins Jan. 19 and the deadline to file a candidate application is Feb. 18, by 5 p.m. Candidate packets, including the application, are available in the Gladewater City Clerk's office the first week of January. For more information call 903-845-2196 Extension: 4.

Gladewater City Council members are elected at large, by position number, and serve two year terms, with no term limits. Positions 1, 2 and 3 are elected in even-numbered years, with the mayor designated as position number 1. Positions 4, 5, 6 & 7 are elected in odd-numbered years. By virtue of the City Charter, the Mayor and City Council members are compensated \$100 per year for their services.

Filing also continues for the Gladewater ISD's three expired

board terms The terms of three members of the seven-person school board expire this year including those of Place 1 Trustee Ross Morgan, Place 2 Trustee Ricky Blackmon and Place 3 Trustee Garth Cockerell.

Cockerell is the longest-serving trustee on the board. He was first elected in 1988 and has served 11 terms in office. Blackmon was first elected in 2007 and has served five terms. Morgan is completing his first term on the school board.

And as for the March 1st Primary elections, Texas Secretary of State John Scott reminds all eligible Texas voters to make sure they are registered to vote ahead of the January 31st voter registration deadline.

Voters registered by January 31st can also participate in Early Voting, which begins on February 14th and ends February 25th, 2022. In Texas, voters register with their respective county voter registrars, which are housed within Elections Administrator offices or Tax Assessor-Collector offices, depending on the county.

Secretary Scott encouraged all Texans who are eligible to get registered and get informed as they prepare to head to the polls next month:

"Registering to vote in Texas is easy and straightforward - so long as you are a qualified voter, you can send in a voter

Continued on Page 7



OPINION/COMMENTARY

THE FIRST AMENDMENT: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of all the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.



THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Where Have All the People Gone?

The Census Bureau recently released population estimates by state for the period from July 2020 to July 2021. The total US population scarcely changed, but there were seismic regional shifts. Let's take a quick tour.



The Northeast lost nearly 366,000 residents and the Midwest lost almost 94,000. The South increased by over 816,000, and the West gained 34,000. The perennial lure of the Sun Belt endures.

The Texas population grew far more than any other state, up over 310,000 for the year. Florida (211,000), Arizona (98,000), and North Carolina (94,000) also saw substantial rises, as did Georgia, South

Carolina, Utah, Tennessee, and Idaho (all up at least 50,000). Again, the South dominates.

The states with the largest shrinkage between 2020 and 2021 include New York (down over 319,000), California (-262,000), and Illinois (-114,000). Populations declined in 18 states, including Massachusetts, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania.

One obvious factor is that Texas ranks only behind Utah among states with the youngest populations (tied with Alaska) with an average household size well above the national average. The result is a higher natural rate of increase from patterns in births over deaths.

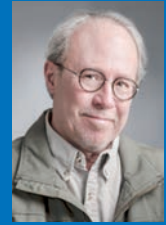
Reasons for the movements are many and varied, but there are some common themes. First, states gaining population typically have lower tax rates. The Tax Foundation estimates that the effective state and local tax rate in New York (the highest) is 14.1%, which translates to almost \$10,000 per person. Other population-losing states are also high, with California ranking 8th (\$7,529 per person) and Illinois 10th at \$6,450. Texas is 47th at 8.0% (just \$4,143 per person), Florida is 43rd, and Arizona is 45th. Tax burdens clearly affect household budgets and are particularly problematic with the pandemic still causing financial stress and inflation rising. There is, of course, a point at which taxes are insufficient to support adequate investments in infrastructure, education, health and safety and other public priorities essential to maintaining quality of life and prosperity over time. Texas faces long-term challenges in this regard.

Destination states also generally have higher economic growth rates and, hence, greater opportunities. Texas and Arizona are two of only four states which have fully recovered jobs lost during the pandemic. COVID incidence and policies have also played a role in some location decisions.

The cost of living is yet another consideration. Typical apartment rental rates and home purchase prices are lower in the growing states, and many of the most expensive markets are found in population-losing states. For example, in Los Angeles, average rent for a two-bedroom apartment is almost \$4,700, compared to \$2,544 in Dallas or just \$1,693 in Austin.

I expect these shifts to continue for the time being. Texas, here we come! Stay safe!

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Registration form shortage as deadline nears

Less than a week remains before the Jan. 31 deadline to register to vote in the March 1 primary. While Secretary of State John Scott publicly assured Texas voters that "every single eligible Texas voter will be able to register to vote if they have not done so already," the League of Women Voters on Friday threatened to sue his office if the nonpartisan group isn't provided with additional voter registration forms.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the league contends the state has decided to "sharply limit" the number of voter registration forms distributed to the league and other groups, claiming that is a violation of the National Voter Registration Act.

"It is crucial that the Secretary of State's office act swiftly to provide the necessary voter registration forms for the people of Texas. The deadline to register to vote for the upcoming primary election is quickly approaching, and Texas is one of 11 states without online voter registration," said Grace Chimene, president of the League of Women Voters of Texas.

Sam Taylor, assistant secretary of state for communications, told KUT.org that supply chain issues have made it harder and more expensive to get paper, which means the Secretary of State's office will be giving out fewer voter registration forms to groups ahead of elections this year.

"We are limited in what we can supply this year because of the paper shortage and the cost constraints due to the price of paper and the supply of paper," he said.

Texas is one of the few states that does not have online voter registration.

Leander man charged for threatening election officials

A Leander man is the first person to be charged by federal officials in a case brought by a task force formed to combat threats against election officials. Numerous media outlets reported that Chad Christopher Stark posted a message last January on Craigslist, saying it was time to kill a Georgia elections official. "Georgia Patriots it's time for us to take back our state from these Lawless treasonous traitors. It's time to invoke our Second Amendment right it's time to put a bullet in the treasonous Chinese [Official A]. Then we work our way down to [Official B] the local and federal corrupt judges," Stark wrote, according to the indictment.

The three officials allegedly threatened were not named.

The Texas Tribune reported Georgia officials were especially targeted by a flood of hostile messages after they refused to back then-President Donald Trump's claims of election fraud. Election officials across the country have faced criticism and personal attacks by Trump supporters claiming the election was stolen. No widespread instances of election fraud have come to light despite dozens of investigations.

State again reaches record job level

The Texas Workforce Commission reported last week that the seasonally adjusted state unemployment rate dropped to 5.0% in December, down 0.2 percentage points from the previous month. The state added 50,000 nonagricultural jobs last month — marking job gains in 19 of the last 20 months. The state set another record level of employment with more than 13 million jobs.

"Seeing a second consecutive month of record-setting employment, with more than 13 million jobs, highlights the underlying strength of the Texas economy," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "This economic strength creates an environment for Texas employers to continue to create jobs and provide opportunities for the workforce in the Lone Star State."

The state has added 694,000 jobs since December 2020.

COVID-19 cases set record high

Spurred by the omicron variant, the number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas in the past week climbed to a record 433,584, with 971 new deaths reported as well by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. Since the pandemic began in March 2020, the state has recorded 5.9 million cases and 78,055 deaths — equivalent to the entire population of Cedar Park.

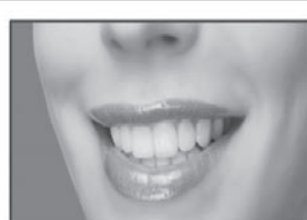
Hospitalizations in Texas of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients also continued to rise, up 36% from the previous week at 13,324, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. That figure is approaching the record high of 14,106 set in January 2021.

Congratulations! Terry McKnight



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hard, now you've
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PROCRASTINATION

Do you need a little TNT in your life? That's the clever way someone described the cure for procrastination; TNT stands for "Today, Not Tomorrow."

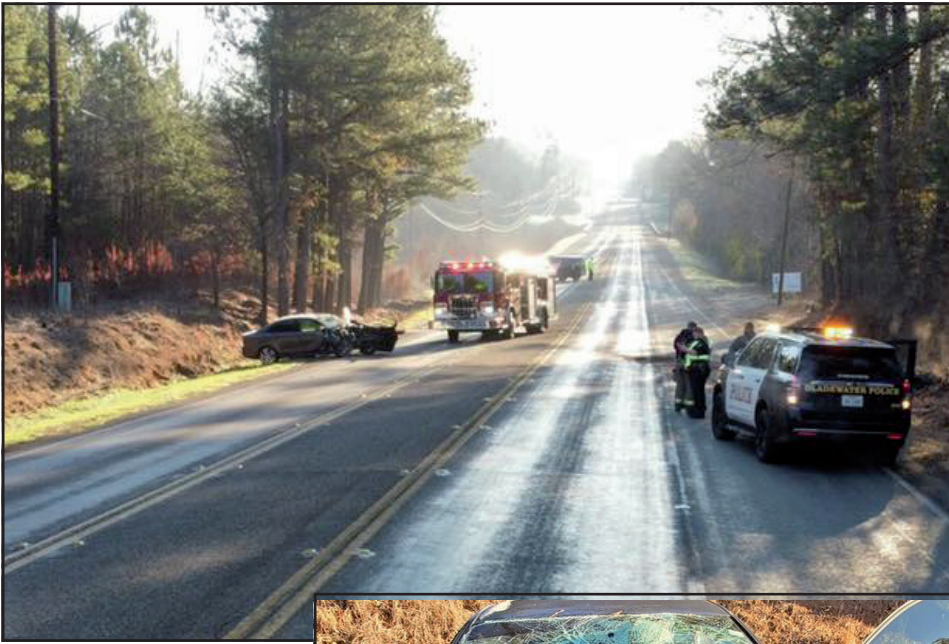
Procrastination is a problem many people have, but I'm most concerned about procrastination regarding obeying God. You see, the worst procrastination of all is putting off obeying God! Gloria Pitzer wrote: "Procrastination is my sin, for it brings me naught but sorrow. I know that I should stop it, in fact I will — tomorrow!"

My friend, do you know you should become a Christian? Do you know the Word of God says in Rom. 10: 9-10 that you must believe and confess Jesus, and that Acts 2: 38 teaches you that you must also repent of your sins and be baptized for the remission of those sins? Do you know and understand all of that, but, for this reason or that, you just haven't done it yet? Do you intend to do it someday, but you just keep putting it off? Well, there are several problems with such spiritual procrastination, not the least of which, is the fact that you may die before you ever obey the Lord, and be lost forever!

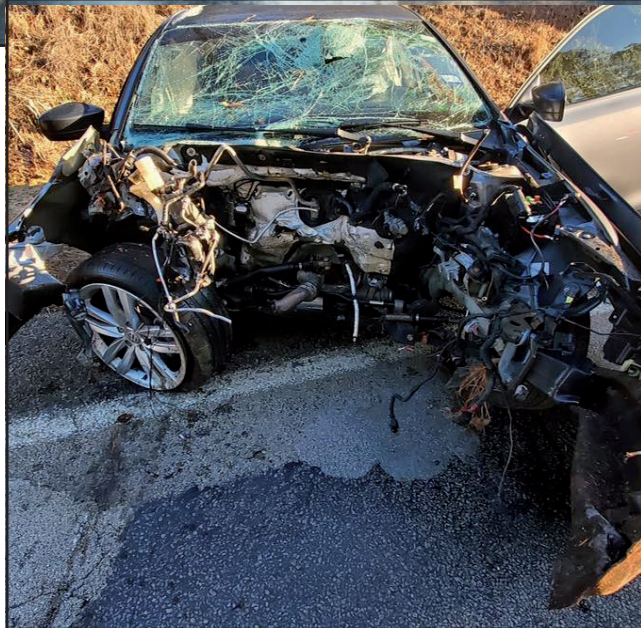
For example, in Acts 24: 25 the apostle Paul preached to a man named Felix about "righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, and the Bible says Felix was fearful at the prospect of meeting the Lord condemned. But, instead of obeying God and becoming a Christian, Felix told the apostle "Go away for now; when I have a convenient season (time) I will call for you." Unfortunately, as far as we know, that convenient time apparently never came for Felix! Procrastination is the thief of time, but more so, it is the thief of souls.

My friend, if you're not really a Christian, you need some TNT in your life. You need to make up your mind to obey God "Today, Not Tomorrow!" (1 Thess. 1: 7-10). Please think on these things.

Dennis Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ
P. O. Box 454-White Oak, TX 75693-903-845-6139-preachab@suddenlink.net



Gladewater Fire and Police were dispatched to the scene of a one-vehicle accident on US 80 early Sunday. Upon arrival officers located the driver who was unresponsive and started CPR. Christus EMS took over patient care and transported the patient to Good Shepherd. The driver's name and condition had not been released as of presstime.



OBITUARY

MARJORIE MARIE UPCHURCH BARROW

Marjorie Marie Upchurch Barrow (Margie) passed away January 24, 2022 surrounded by her sons and daughter-in-law.



Margie was born November 15, 1925 in Smackover, Arkansas to Bessie L. Brock and Joseph P. Upchurch. She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Charles A. Barrow, son Victor C. Barrow, granddaughter Kellee Hubert, sister Nellie M. Turner, infant brother Travers Grady Upchurch, brothers Jack and Arnold Collins, and sister Vera Collins Russell. Margie is survived by her son Kenneth D. Barrow, David M. Barrow and wife Kathy, as well as 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren. Margie was a lifelong Baptist.

Margie and Charles (Arkie) were married November 25, 1942 and enjoyed their 50th wedding anniversary before his death in

1992. Prior to her marriage, Margie attended Gladewater High School, where all three of her sons graduated. She was a homemaker until 1967 when she and Arkie founded B&S Tank Truck Company. Margie worked as a dispatcher and bookkeeper for B&S until their retirement in 1988. Arkie was active with his World War II army unit, and they traveled to the Philippines to celebrate the anniversary of the Luzon landing, in which he participated.

Traveling in their motorhome and enjoying their home and lake were frequent activities for the Barrows and their children and grandchildren. Margie's sister Nellie lived next door until her death in 2020. They were very close and enjoyed each other's company. Margie's last trip away from Gladewater was for last Thanksgiving at her grandson's ranch where she celebrated with her son, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Ken and David both express appreciation to Kathy Barrow for her unselfish devotion to Margie's needs during the past 5 years.

Funeral services will be held Saturday January 29 at 2 p.m. at Croley Funeral Home, Gladewater. Visitation will be at 1 p.m. preceding the service. Memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project.org or the Gladewater Former Students Association (gladewaterformerstudents.com)

McPherson takes over as police chief, director of public safety and risk management

Kilgore College is pleased to announce that William "Bill" McPherson has been named KC Police Chief and Director of Public Safety & Risk Management.

McPherson has a master's degree in communication and graduated from the FBI National Academy, Class 263.

"He has a wealth of experience and a deep level of knowledge in all areas of policing," said Dr. Staci Martin, VP of student services. "Kilgore College is fortunate to hire

someone who has this level of experience in law enforcement, including a long tenure in various supervisory roles."

McPherson served four years in the United States Air Force before earning a bachelor's degree in 1990 from The University of New Mexico and a master's degree in communication from Central Missouri University in 1993.

McPherson started in patrol at the Houston Police Department in 1993 where

he worked his way up to Commander by the time of his retirement from the HPD in 2020.

"I am a firm believer in community service," McPherson said. "Kilgore College Police Department can only achieve its goal of 'Protecting the Future of Texas' by working with the students, staff and surrounding communities to not only improve campus safety initiatives, but to also elevate the overall college campus experience."

Pedestrian/pickup fatality probed

By Phillip Williams

The Texas Department of Public Safety last week released details of a Jan. 14 pickup-pedestrian accident in which a 17-year-old Ore City area man was killed while trying to cross Texas 155 near that city.

Emmanuel Leblanc died when the pickup driven by Sonny W. Fisher, 25, of Gilmer, struck him about four miles west of Ore City at 6:17 p.m., said DPS spokeswoman Jean Dark.

Two unidentified children were passengers in Fisher's pickup, but the DPS accident report showed he and they escaped injury. It said Fisher was not wearing a safety belt, but the three-year-old boy and two-year-old girl were.

Preliminary investigation by DPS Trooper Brandon Love showed Leblanc was "wearing all black clothing" in "night conditions" when

he "failed to yield the right-of-way" to the eastbound 2012 Ford F-150, Dark said. Her news release was issued Jan. 19.

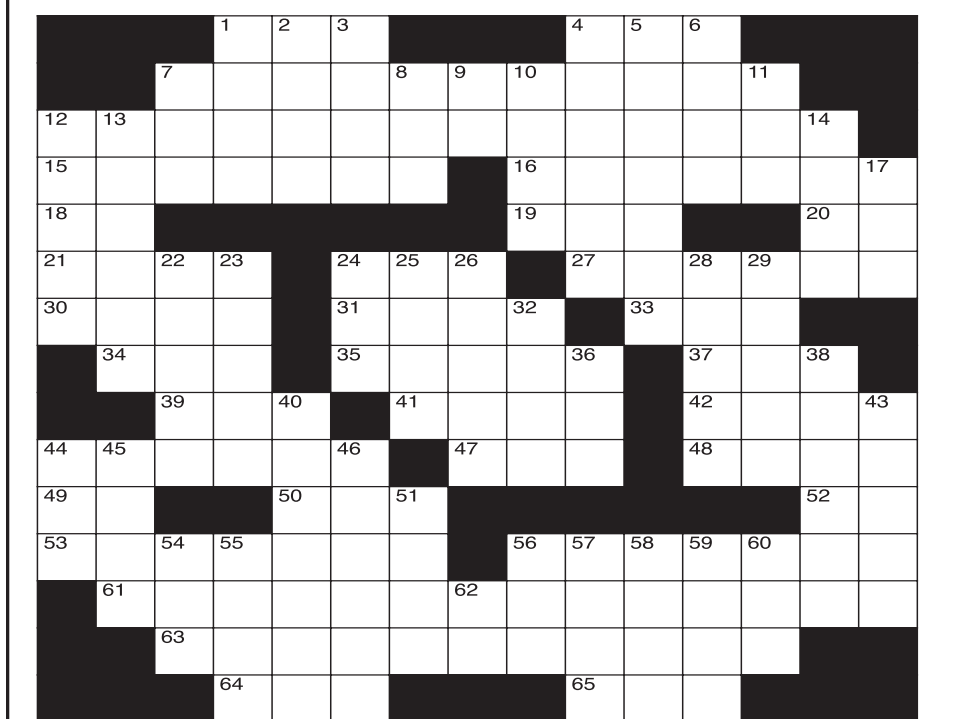
As reported in last week's Mirror, Upshur County Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace Lyle Potter, who pronounced Leblanc dead at the scene, said it occurred in front of the victim's residence, near the building which formerly housed Catfish Village.

Leblanc's co-workers at the nearby Jack-rabbit Grill stated he was heading home to get an inhaler, the judge said.

The victim, whose grandmother had died only two or three weeks earlier, was reportedly home-schooled, said Potter. A spokesperson for Reeder-Davis Funeral Home in Ore City said Monday that Leblanc's body was cremated and that no services were held.

Police Activity Report

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CF #	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
1/17/22	EMS	20220206	3:18		2200 WOODBINE WOODBINE
	BMS	20220206	6:42		131 N LEE LEE ST
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20220206	10:19	WIFE'S LIQUOR	1601 S TYLER TYLER RD
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20220206	15:03		513 W PACIFIC W PACIFIC
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220206	16:40		203 CAK BROOK CAK BROOK DR
	ABANDONED 911	20220206	20:58		215 N FERRY N FERRY
	FALSE 9-1-1	20220206	23:47		804 COACH COCKEY COACH COCKEY ST
1/18/22	SUICIDE ATTEMPT	20220207	1:37		8 TYLER TYLER
	THEFT	20220207	7:12		414 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	FIRE DEPT	20220207	10:30	GLADEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL	1400 N MAIN MAIN ST
	THEFT	20220207	12:20	AMERICAN REAL ESTATE	215 JEANETTE JEANETTE AVE
	BURGLARY/HABITATION	20220207	12:26		211 S TYLER TYLER RD
	THEFT	20220207	12:45	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	314 N LEE LEE ST
	BMS	20220207	13:40		255 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS
	ALARM/OTHER	20220207	14:20		301 BIRCHWOOD BIRCHWOOD DR
	BMS	20220207	14:43		32 GARDEN GARDEN LN
	BMS	20220207	15:20		103 W GAY GAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220207	15:23	GAY AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL	403 W MARSHALL MARSHALL ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220207	16:00		213 JEANETTE JEANETTE AVE
	BURGLARY/HABITATION	20220207	16:20		8 TYLER TYLER
	ABANDONED 911	20220207	19:08		800 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	RESCUE DRIVING	20220207	19:45	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDREN'S CENTER	200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20220207	20:11	SMART MART (FMR GULF'S FOOD MART)	227 S MAIN MAIN ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20220207	21:31	TEXAS DIE CAST	800 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	BMS	20220207	21:38		200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20220207	22:02		707 N MAIN MAIN ST
	BURGLARY/BUILDING	20220207	4:26	TEXAS TRADITIONS	807 E UPSHUR BROADWAY
	BURGLARY/HABITATION	20220207	6:58		213 JEANETTE JEANETTE AVE
	BURGLARY/BUILDING	20220207	8:57	SECACIOUS BBQ	1105 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20220207	9:52		407 N LIVE OAK LIVE OAK ST
	BMS	20220207	11:00		215 W MARSHALL W MARSHALL
	ASSIST	20220207	11:00		2035 SHERRICK SHERRICK
	BMS	20220207	11:32		205 HURLEY HURLEY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20220207	13:54		215 HURLEY HURLEY AVE
	ESCORT	20220207	14:10	CROLEY FUNERAL HOME	401 N CENTER CENTER ST
	TERROR THREAT	20220207	16:27		8 TYLER TYLER
	EMS	20220207	16:47		2816 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR
	10-80 MAJOR	20220208	17:56		N MAIN MAIN
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20220208	18:35	JULIAWOOD HOMES	415 JULIAWOOD JULIAWOOD
	BMS	20220208	19:21		505 VILLA ROSA WAY VILLA ROSA WAY
	BMS	20220208	21:47	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDREN'S CENTER	200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ALARM/OTHER	20220208	21:58	ACE HARDWARE	400 N BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220208	22:08		212 POST POST ST
	ASSAULT CLASS A	20220208	22:56		800 POST POST ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20220208	0:05		103 N DRAM DRAM
	ALARM/OTHER	20220208	0:19	ACE HARDWARE	400 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20220207	3:03		HVVY 80 HVVY 80
	10-80 MAJOR	20220208	10:50		3502 HWY 80 HWY 80 E
	BMS	20220208	11:56		301 W GUTTMAN W GUTTMAN
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20220211	13:18		1605 N FLORENCE N FLORENCE
	BMS	20220211	15:56		301 W GUTTMAN W GUTTMAN
	RESCUE DRIVING	20220214	15:56		221 221
	10-80 MINOR	20220216	16:54		N MAIN MAIN ST
	ABANDONED 911	20220216	17:12		46 JULIA WOOD JULIA WOOD ST
	BMS	20220217	18:03		432 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ALARM/HUMAN ERROR	20220218	18:10	WALKER PHARMACY	217 HURLEY HURLEY AVE
	BMS	20220219	18:18		50 GRESHAM GRESHAM W/ G/O
	BMS	20220219	18:25		1003 E MARY E MARY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220221	19:58		2186 N MAIN MAIN ST
1/21/22	ASSIST	20220226	11:56	ALLSTATE COATINGS	103 N LEE LEE ST
	BMS	20220226	11:58		1600 CROWNIE CROWNIE
	ESCORT	20220227	12:13		700 E EDDY E EDDY
	FIRE DEPT	20220228	12:27		E BROADWAY E BROADWAY
	FIRE DEPT	20220228	13:00	GAY AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL	100 W GAY GAY AVE
	THEFT	20220228	13:18	JULIAWOOD HOMES	46 JULIAWOOD JULIAWOODS
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220232	15:58	ECONOMY INN	701 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20220233	17:12		2208 CAK RIDGE CAK RIDGE DR
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20220233	17:12		401 HICKORY HICKORY
	BMS	20220233	18:40		2165 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR
	EMS	20220233	19:40		1105 N PROCEED PROCEED DR
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20220236	20:10		1300 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
1/23/22	ANIMAL CONTROL	20220246	9:56		600 WOOD ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220241	12:22		304 WALTON WALTON AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20220242	14:17		1201 W 30TH W 30TH
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220243	14:34		2000 WOODBINE WOODBINE
	ASSIST	20220244	15:54	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20220246	16:36		1654 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR
	FIRE DEPT	20220246	19:03		603 W MARSHALL W MARSHALL
	ACCIDENT INVOLVING PEDESTRIAN	20220246	19:41	DOLLAR GENERAL	804 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220247	20:24	ECONOMY INN	701 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	BMS	20220247	20:38		604 VIRGINIA VIRGINIA DR
	ASSIST	20220247	21:30	BENTNELL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20220248	22:25	LANE GLADEWATER	1602 LANESHIRE LANESHIRE DR
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20220248	23:30	LANE CAPITAL RV PARK	800 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
1/23/22	EMS	20220251	3:30		2403 GAY GAY AVE
	10-80 MAJOR	20220256	8:10	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDREN'S CENTER	200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ABANDONED 911	20220256	8:58	ALLSTATE COATINGS	103 N LEE LEE ST
	ESCORT	20220256	11:23	BODY OF BELIEVERS	2822 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20220261	11:26		900 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	ALARM/OTHER	20220261	13:29		N LEE LEE ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20220261	14:03	ASP SCHOOL	700 MELBA MELBA ST
	FIRE DEPT	20220264	14:54		276 PRIVATE ROAD 1004 PRIVATE ROAD 1004
	ALARM/HUMAN ERROR	20220266	16:18	WALKER PHARMACY	402 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	BMS	20220266	16:18		1804 VESTA VESTA AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20220267	16:29		215 S FERRY S FERRY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220271	17:17		N LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	FIRE DEPT	20220272	17:54	TELE'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT	401 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20220273	19:36		203 CAMPBELL CAMPBELL ST
	ASSIST	20220276	20:54		309 S LEE LEE ST
	FIRE DEPT	20220277	21:21		402 N LIVE OAK N LIVE OAK
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20220278	22:40		WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
1/24/22	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20220279	5:30		202 MARBLE MARBLE

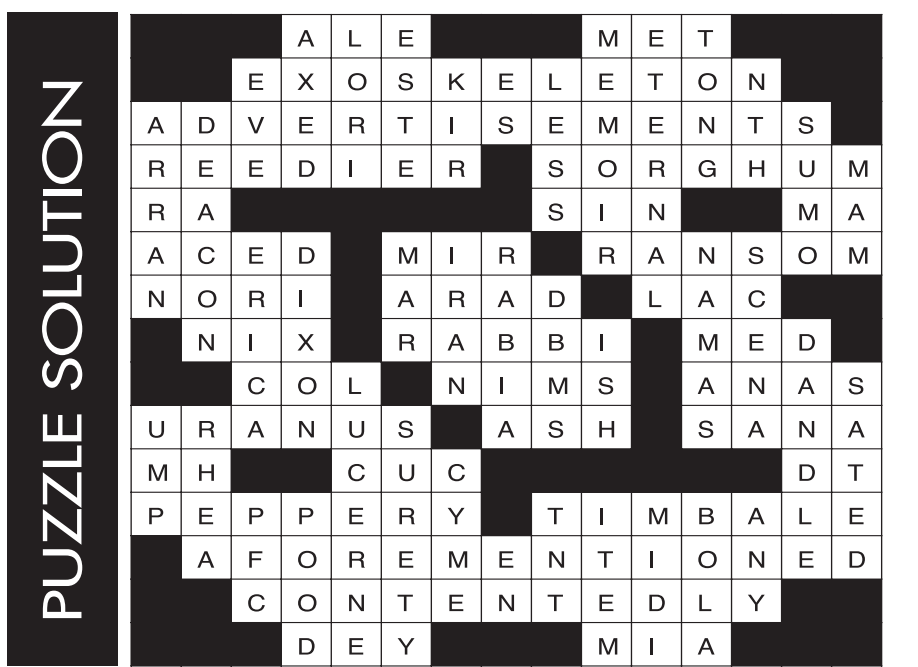


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Brew
- 4. NY ballplayer
- 7. Rigid external covering in some animals
- 12. Promotional materials
- 15. More high-pitched
- 16. Widely cultivated cereal
- 18. Dormitory employee
- 19. Bad act
- 20. One's mother
- 21. Scored perfectly
- 24. Space station
- 27. Exchange for money
- 30. Edible seaweed
- 31. Iranian city
- 33. Lakers' crosstown rivals
- 34. Nothing
- 35. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 37. ___ student, learns healing
- 39. Military official (abbr.)
- 41. Matchstick games
- 42. Gasteyer and De Armas are two
- 44. Distant planet
- 47. A type of residue
- 48. Punk art icon Jimmy De ___
- 49. Millihenny
- 50. Canadian media firm
- 52. Type of withdrawal
- 53. Spicy
- 56. Dish of minced meat or fish
- 61. Noted previously
- 63. Happily
- 64. "Partridge" actress Susan
- 65. Not present

CLUES DOWN

- 1. In a way, brought to an end
- 2. Scandalized actress Loughlin
- 3. This (Spanish)
- 4. Essay
- 5. Continuing indefinitely
- 6. Tool for lifting food
- 7. Partner to Adam
- 8. Dry white wine drink
- 9. Spanish be
- 10. Smaller quantity
- 11. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
- 12. (Scottish) island
- 13. Church officer
- 14. Large wrestler
- 17. Polite address for women
- 22. Famed Susan Lucci character "___ Kane"
- 23. Mason ___ Line
- 24. Disfigure
- 25. Asian nation
- 26. Rage (Span.)
- 28. Khoikhoi peoples
- 29. Opera solo
- 32. Database management system
- 36. Similar
- 38. Move up and down playfully
- 40. Alfalfa
- 43. Satisfied
- 44. Baseball official
- 45. Large, flightless bird of S. America
- 46. Money given in support
- 51. Flower cluster
- 54. Beginning military rank
- 55. Russian weight measurement
- 56. Explosive
- 57. An individual unit
- 58. Midskirt
- 59. Weapon featuring balls
- 60. Used of a number or amount not specified
- 62. Unit of measurement



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Vote-by-mail rejections are testing voting law

Continued from Page 1
file with the local elections office.

The secretary of state's office has been working to backfill its records to include both driver's license numbers and Social Security numbers for most voters, but various Texas counties — including some of the state's largest — did not know they were supposed to check the state's database along with their own when trying to validate an application.

Election officials across the state said they either weren't aware the driver's license numbers had been uploaded to the state database, known by election administrators as TEAM, or weren't aware that the new numbers would not sync with their local databases. To them, it appeared the

numbers were missing from a voter's record.

"There were several large counties that are offline that were not aware that they'd have to go beyond their internal systems, and I'm one of them," said Chris Davis, the Williamson County elections administrator. (Counties that use a local database are known as "offline counties.")

The discrepancy helped drive an initial 50% rejection rate of applications in Travis County, the "vast majority" of which officials attributed to the new rules, before offline counties learned the new driver's license numbers had not been pushed to their local databases. The rejection rate had dropped to 27% in figures Travis County Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir released Tuesday, though the total number of applications

the county received had more than doubled by then.

The rejection issues led to a public spat between DeBeauvoir, a Democrat, who criticized the state for not providing counties with comprehensive guidance, and the secretary of state's office, which zeroed in on the county's rejection of an "unusually large" share of applications in a press release calling on officials to correct "erroneous" rejections.

But the information gap over matching ID numbers went beyond Travis County. While "waiting to get clear instructions" from the state, Vona Hudson, the election administrator in rural Tom Green County, said she was running into ID issues with 40% to 50% of the applications coming in.

Hudson didn't get clarity

on the syncing problems until a last-minute webinar held by the secretary of state's office Tuesday morning to address "frequently asked questions" about the new ID requirements.

In a statement this week, the governor's office put the blame for issues with the new rules on county officials "erroneously interpreting the law" instead of asking the state for assistance.

"The bottom line is that counties should not be rejecting valid mail ballot applications," said Nan Tolson, a spokesperson for the governor. "The Secretary of State's office will continue to work with counties across the state to combat the misinformation being spread by county election officials and ensure that all valid mail ballot applications are processed."

But beyond the confusion over how to match numbers, early figures released by some of the state's largest counties showed that a bigger problem was applications coming in with no ID numbers on them at all.

For example, Bexar County initially rejected 125 applications because voters provided a driver's license number that was not in their voter record, while 200 were rejected because the ID section was not filled out. Thirty applications were rejected because the voter submitted an outdated application form that didn't include the new ID field.

Of the 208 applications Harris County initially rejected based on the new rules, 137 were rejected because voters had not filled out the new ID requirements. As of Jan. 14, county officials said they had rejected another 172 applications that lacked ID numbers.

In its update Tuesday, Travis County said about half of the 509 applications it had rejected did not include any ID information.

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School boards are an integral fabric woven into the tapestry of the Texas education system. They work with parents, education professionals, and community members to create successful learning environments for our students. Our school boards continue to be instrumental as they tackle new challenges for Texas public schools and serve the ever-evolving needs of our students.

Texans know they can count on their school board members, along with other dedicated school administration officials, to create opportunities to discuss important issues, develop innovative solutions, and empower educators while remaining focused on their students' futures.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to recognize and honor the work and successes of our school board members who play an important role in the education of students across the state. By continuing to support our children's education, we will ensure a better and brighter future for the Lone Star State.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim January 2022 to be

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in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 8th day of November, 2021.

Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas

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Local man indicted on assault/family violence

By Phillip Williams

The Upshur County Grand Jury returned 15 indictments, eight of them sealed, while no-billing two cases and passing two others in Gilmer last Thursday, said District Attorney Billy Byrd.

Defendants, charges and bond information in the open indictments included the following, Byrd's office reported:

Clint Aaron Sorrells, 26, of Gladewater, assault/family violence--occlusion on Sept. 25, 2020. He remained in county jail at Gilmer under \$50,000 bond.

Jay Austin Wills, 51, of Heath, driving while intoxicated--subsequent offense last Sept. 10, \$1,500 bond

Kaylon Deon Earl, 26, of Longview, burglary of habitation Aug. 28, 2020, \$25,000

Jessica Edward Wayne Parker, 27, of Jefferson, burglary of habitation Aug. 20, 2020, \$25,000

Katelyn Renee Brown, 21, of Hallsville, burglary of habitation last May 2, \$25,000

Jacob Alexander Rodriguez, 17, of League City, assault on a police officer last Oct. 19. He remained in county jail under \$25,000 bond.

Johnathan Michael Brooks, 26, of Longview, unauthorized use of vehicle last Feb. 15. He also remained in county jail under

\$10,000 bond.

Identity of anyone charged in the sealed indictments was not released since no arrest had been made in those cases, said Byrd.

They included, said his office, a 3-count single indictment for indecency with a child, a 2-count single indictment for that same charge, and a single 2-count indictment for aggravated sexual assault of a child.

Others included two indictments for burglary of habitation, and one each for burglary of building, online solicitation of a minor under 14 years of age, and theft from person. Natures of the no-billed and passed cases were not disclosed.

City, school, primary elections coming up

Continued from Page 1

registration application to your county's voter registrar by January 31st and you'll be eligible to vote in the upcoming Primary Election," Secretary Scott said. "We want all eligible Texans to participate in all of this year's upcoming elections, including the Primary Elections in which voters will choose the candidates to appear on the November 2022 General Election ballot. Don't wait until the last minute - start the registration process today!"

To be eligible to vote in Texas, you must be:

- * A United States citizen;
- * A resident of the county where you submit the application;
- * At least 17 years and 10 months old on the date your voter registration application is submitted, and 18 years of age on Election Day.
- * Not finally convicted of a felony (you may be eligible to vote once you have completed your sentence, probation, and parole); and
- * Not declared by a court exercising probate jurisdic-

tion to be either totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.

Texas is an open primary state, which means that voters do not 'register' as members of a particular political party. Rather, eligible Texas voters can cast a ballot in either party's primary election - but not both. Primary Elections are run by the Republican and Democrat parties in each of Texas' 254 counties. Party chairs in each county are responsible for conducting voting on Election Day, while county election officials administer the Early Voting period.

Texans can check to verify their registration status ahead of the January 31st deadline by visiting the Texas Secretary of State's My Voter Portal.

Registering to vote for the first time? To register to vote in Texas, simply complete a voter registration application and return it to your county election office at least 30 days before the upcoming election date. To complete an application, you may:

Complete an application

using the Texas Secretary of State's online voter registration application module. Simply fill in the required information, print, sign and mail the completed application directly to your county election office;

Request a printed application. The Texas Secretary of State's office will mail a postage-paid voter registration application to the address provided; OR

Contact or visit your county's voter registrar to complete the voter registration process.

Register to vote when renewing your Driver License or State ID card

If you're not already registered to vote but have an existing Texas Driver License or state identification card, you can register to vote online when renewing, replacing or changing your contact information for either of these cards through the Texas DPS. Whether you've recently moved or changed your name, you can now update all your information on your voter registration record at Texas.gov.

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Longview - West:	2111 Gilmer Road	Longview, Texas	75604	(903) 295-3393
Longview - South:	1201A East Marshall Avenue	Longview, Texas	75601	(903) 234-0641
Tyler:	3640 Troup Highway	Tyler, Texas	75703	(903) 509-2316
Lindale:	904 S. Main, Suite A	Lindale, Texas	75771	(903) 200-4922
Kilgore:	1012 North Kilgore Street	Kilgore, Texas	75662	(903) 986-3630
Gladewater:	1400 East Broadway Avenue	Gladewater, Texas	75647	(903) 845-6477
Henderson:	627 US 79 N.	Henderson, Texas	75654	(903) 655-8226
Marshall:	1303 E Grand Avenue	Marshall, Texas	75670	(903) 935-1030

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