

Gladewater Mirror

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1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

Owens to be next mayor



ET Food Bank to offer produce distribution here

East Texas Food Bank to offer produce distributions monthly in Gladewater

The East Texas Food Bank (ETFB) will offer monthly fresh produce distributions in Upshur County on the third Tuesday of each month, from 10 a.m.-noon, beginning March 15, at the Gladewater Rodeo Grounds on Highway 80.

Meat will also be offered at this first distribution.

"Upshur County has a great need for food assistance as 20% of the residents are food insecure including 29% of children," said Dennis Cullinane, CEO of the East Texas Food Bank. "Studies show a direct link to good nutrition and health outcomes so the ability to offer more vegetables and fruits will greatly benefit the residents."

The East Texas Food Bank currently has three partner agencies that operate food pantries in Diana, Gilmer and Ore City, serving 1,500 households. There are also special programs to help seniors with a monthly box of food and children receive backpacks of food through their school. To find out more information about the different programs in Upshur County visit our website at EastTexasfoodbank.org and click on Find Food.

The drive-through distribution is open to anyone needing food and there are no ID requirements.

About the East Texas Food Bank

Established in 1988, the East Texas Food Bank is the largest hunger-relief nonprofit in East Texas covering 26 counties. ETFB provides over 25 million meals each year to 200 partner agencies and feeding programs. Our mission is to fight hunger and feed hope in East Texas. For more information, visit EastTexasfoodbank.org

Big Sandy teen killed in wreck

By Phillip Williams

One 17-year-old Big Sandy youth was killed and another seriously injured in a one-car crash on White Oak Road near Big Sandy last Thursday night, said the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Killed was Braidan Jace Smeltzer, said Upshur County Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace Wyone Manes, who said she pronounced him dead at the scene.

The other youth, whose identity was not released by the DPS, was airlifted to CHRISTUS Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler, said DPS spokeswoman Jean Dark. The Mirror has filed a public information request to obtain the name of the youth, who Dark identified as the driver.

Dark said preliminary investigation showed the westbound 1996 Pontiac Firebird "topped a hill and, for reasons unknown at this time, ran off the roadway to the right," entered the road's north side bar ditch, and then struck several trees.

Both men were wearing seat belts, she added.

The crash occurred at 9:37 p.m. about seven miles east of Big Sandy, Dark said. Trooper James Payne investigated, she said.

Funeral services for Meltzer were scheduled for Wednesday afternoon (Feb. 23) at the Big Sandy Civic Center under direction of Rader Funeral Home of Longview.

By Jim Bardwell

With the deadline for filing for a Gladewater city council seat having come and gone, only one race will be contested – that being Place 4.

Teddy Sorrells and Jacob Garland are vying for the unexpired term formerly held by Dennis Robertson.

In other races - veteran councilman Scott Owens will be the next Gladewater mayor after drawing no challengers for the Place 1 seat. Mayor JD Shipp chose not to run for a third term.

Also unopposed in the May 7 election is newcomer Michael Webber for the Place 2 seat and incumbent Brandy Flanagan for the Place 3 seat, who will be serving a third term on the council.

The lone contested race pits two first timers to the political arena, Sorrells - a preacher - against Garland - a firefighter.

According to Garland's facebook Page, he is Firefighter/EMT-B at Houston Fire Department and former Firefighter/EMT-B at Cy-Fair VFD and former Firefighter/EMT-B at Gladewater Fire Department. He is a former diver helper at UPS and a former hand at R B Oder Oil Field Constuction

He studied at Kilgore College and attended Gladewater High School.

According to Sorrell's Facebook Page, he is the pastor at Living Water Church in Gladewater and worked



SCOTT OWENS
Place 1 - unopposed

at Renewed Life Baptist Church in Gladewater.

Sorrells hold a BA in Christian Ministries from Dallas Baptist University and a Master of Theological Studies from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary. He also has a Master of Divinity in Church History from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, as well as a Doctor of Ministry from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary He graduated from White Oak High School in 1991 and served as a U.S. Army Combat Medic - from 1996-1999.

At GISD, Place 1 Trustee Ross Morgan, Place 2 Trustee Ricky Blackmon and Place 3 Trustee Garth Cockrell are running unopposed.



MICHAEL WEBBER
Place 2 - unopposed



TEDDY SORRELLS
Place 4



BRANDY FLANAGAN
Place 3 - unopposed



JACOB GARLAND
Place 4

GEDCO hires new exec. director

The Gladewater Economic Development Corporation has chosen Michelle Palmer as its new executive director.

The board met on Feb. 16 and after a lengthy search made their decision. The position has been open since August 2020 when the former executive director was dismissed.

"We wanted to wait until we found the right person for this position," said GEDCO president Jim Bardwell. "We wanted our next executive director to be someone who could work with all the community and who would be a cheerleader for Gladewater. We have many projects underway and we needed someone who can shepherd them to completion. I believe Michelle is that person."

Palmer is returning to the Gladewater area after living in Portland, Oregon. She has experience in business strategy, community development, marketing, database management, partnership development, project management and



Michelle Palmer will begin her new job as GEDCO executive director on Feb. 28.

budget oversight.

"I am thoroughly excited to reconnect to my roots and be a part of Gladewater again," Palmer said. "Returning to the city where I was

born has reignited my passion to see this community thrive. I come with fresh eyes to view obstacles and challenges as opportunities. Finding new perspectives and creative

solutions are strengths of mine that will help develop new growth in Gladewater. Connecting with others to direct our focus on goals we share and devising ways to work together is how I plan to support Gladewater in going to the next level.

"My track record demonstrates organizational growth driven by healthy relationships with consumers and the community. While nose to the grindstone work is a big contributor to the growth of the organizations I've learned it was my ability to relate to peoples needs, help them solve problems and connect them to their goals that grew our businesses.

"My philosophy is to listen with intent, see people as complex individuals, respond with empathy and build trust to pave new roads in business relationships without over promising. I am a people person, but not a people pleaser. Healthy boundaries support long term relationships professionally and personally."

'Teen Click It Or Ticket' aims to save lives

AUSTIN – The agony is merciless. The pain cuts deep. Deeper and more vicious than anyone can imagine when you lose a child. Unfortunately, hundreds of parents have had to endure this nightmare after losing their teens in car crashes in which they weren't wearing their seat belts.

With vehicle crashes continuing to be the leading cause of death for U.S. teenagers, TxDOT's "Teen Click IT or Ticket" campaign is urging teens to buckle up in every seat for every ride.

A seat belt offers the best protection in a crash, but sadly, seat belt use remains low among teen drivers and passengers. In 2020, 46% (138 of 300) of teen drivers killed in vehicle crashes were not wearing a seat belt.

"We want to remind teens to take responsibility not only for themselves but also for those who are riding in their vehicle. Everyone must buckle up," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "One simple click of a seat belt can save a life."

Throughout the month of February, the "Teen Click It or Ticket" campaign will be highly visible, seeking to reach Texas teens with its seat belt safety message. The outreach will include TV, digital advertising and social media. Additionally, an interactive element will be introduced as the campaign makes visits to 11 high school campuses across the state with its "Teen Click It or Ticket" vehicle.

Teens will also be educated on Texas law which requires drivers and all passengers to wear a seat belt. Unbuckled drivers and passengers — even those in the back seat — can face fines and fees of up to \$200.

"Teen Click It or Ticket" is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel, like wearing a seat belt, driving the speed limit, never texting and driving and never driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Nov. 7, 2000 was the last deathless day on Texas roadways. #EndTheStreakTX asks all Texans to commit to driving safely to help end the streak of daily deaths.





OPINION/COMMENTARY

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: Suzanne's weekly columns meant a lot to many people over the years and I have received many requests to rerun her columns. I miss them too. So today we start the "Best of Suzanne Bardwell." I hope you enjoy them.

We could use a few more statesmen like Sam today

One of the men in my life will be celebrating his 229th birthday March 2. I have been in a close relationship with him since 1978 when I wrote my Masters' thesis about him. He is my hero for several reasons, not the least of which was his ability to start over and in the effort change the course of history in the process.

Here is a short dirty lesson about the man known as The Raven.

As a fatherless youth he often crossed over and spent summers with the Cherokees. As a young man under the command of General Andy Jackson he distinguished himself in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend against the Creek Indians who were making hash of Jackson's troops.

Old Hickory was in a rage with his white hair standing on end as he whipped his white horse around yelling commands at his splintered troops. Sam, a young ensign who was being treated for an injury sprang onto his horse and charged the Creek inspiring an advance that saved the day and winning Jackson's admiration and affection.

Sam who was raised without a father looked to Jackson to fill that role. Jackson looked to Houston as the son he never had who was destined to shape America's future.

As governor of Tennessee Sam married a sweet young thing who apparently was in love with someone else. She abandoned the statehouse and Sam for her lover. Sam retreated to his Cherokee family and stayed drunk for some time. But eventually he emerged from his embarrassment and hangover to be called to the Capital by Jackson who was now President and Commander-in-Chief. Sam who met the President in his buckskins earned a turn of Jackson's back and tossed a bag of coins with the comment to return when he was dressed as a civilized man.

Shortly after their time together Sam made his way to the Mexican territory known as Texas and the wild young man grew into a visionary leader of historic legend. He also fell in love with a good woman who helped him be a better man.

Sam Houston was the kind of man who could stand up to ridicule, just and unjust criticism, the tragic loss of men he admired at battles like Gonzales and Goliad, and the kick in the gut that was the Alamo and its "13 Days of Glory".

Who do you think was blamed for the loss of those heroes?

Sam Houston led the rag-tag revolutionary army in what was derisively called the Runaway Scrape until he backed his army onto a bayou that he knew he could defend with his limited troops. And with the burning of a bridge by Deaf Smith he was ready to win a war and birth a nation.

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



Sam Houston served as president of the Republic of Texas and a senator and governor of Texas. As the Civil War approached he was the Unionist governor of a pro-secession state.

Houston begged legislators not to support secession and they brutally kicked him out of the governor's office. While they voted for secession he stood on the steps of the Capitol and begged Texans to vote against the bill. After it passed elderly ex-governor Sam Houston toured the state begging voters to vote against secession. He stood on the steps of many a courthouse, including the one in Gilmer speaking directly to the people who more often than not pelted the elderly hero of San Jacinto with rotten fruit. Yet he futilely rode from town to town in the effort to stem the tide.

Long ago I presented a paper on my hero at the East Texas Historical Association and used the book "The Great Designer" by historian Lorena B. Friend as my main source. When it was over, a tiny older woman approached me and drawled in a lovely Southern accent, "I used to say I was the last woman in Sam Houston's life. Suzanne, I now pass that title to you."

And so, as Miss Lorena's self-declared "last woman" I share with you the words of this very flawed man. The words that made him a hero for the ages.

"Some of you laugh to scorn the idea of bloodshed as the result of secession, but let me tell you what is coming... Your fathers and husbands, your sons and brothers, will be herded at the point of the bayonet... You may after the sacrifice of countless millions of treasure and hundreds of thousands of lives, as a bare possibility, win Southern independence... but I doubt it. I tell you that, while I believe with you in the doctrine of state rights, the North is determined to preserve the Union..."

If you go to war with the United States, you will never conquer her, as she has the money and the men. If she does not whip you by guns, powder and steel, she will starve you to death... I predict the civil war which is now at hand will be stubborn of long duration...

In the name of the constitution of Texas, which has been trampled upon, I refuse to take this oath. I love Texas too well to bring civil strife and bloodshed upon her."

Sam Houston was deposed from office on March 15, 1861 and died on July 26, 1863, with his wife Margaret by his side. His last words were "Texas! Texas! Margaret."

Sam Houston sacrificed everything he had ever won or deeply wanted for his convictions. Texas and our nation could use a few more statesmen like him today.

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.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Early voting ends Friday

Early voting for the March 1 primary ends Friday. Initial reports indicate turnout has been low, as is traditional in mid-term primary elections, with less than a fourth of registered voters going to the polls most years.

Voters will pick nominees for Texas' governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, land commissioner, agriculture commissioner, comptroller and railroad commissioner, as well as legislative and county races.

Texas Secretary of State John. B. Scott's office provides a website that allows voters to see who is on the ballots in all races at votetexas.gov. Texas law allows registered voters to participate in either party primary, but not both. In addition, a voter in the Republican primary cannot participate in any runoffs in Democratic races, and vice-versa. However, in the November general election, voters are free to choose candidates from both parties.

Wildfire activity increases west of I-35

Blustery winds and freeze-dried vegetation are increasing the number of wildfires reported west of Interstate 35 and into South Texas, according to the Texas A&M Forest Service.

"Wildfire activity has increased across the state and is driven by underlying drought and above-normal grass production from last year's growing season," said Wes Moorehead, Texas A&M Forest Service fire chief. "We have increased the number of personnel, equipment and aircraft in state to assist with response as we're concerned about large areas of the state."

Since Feb. 14, local and state firefighters have responded to 91 wildfires that burned 7,312 acres.

Nine out of 10 wildfires in the state are caused by humans, according to TFS, which has fully staffed task forces and fire-suppression equipment staged in Victoria, Kingsville, Childress, Amarillo, Lubbock, San Angelo, Burkburnett, Fredericksburg, Smithville, McGregor, San Angelo and Mineral Wells.

Number of imprisoned Texans stays steady

After a drop last year when some inmates were released due to COVID-19 concerns, the state's prison population has stayed steady, according to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. As of January, 118,733 adults were in Texas prisons, up about 1,000 from a year ago.

The state's total operating capacity is 129,681 beds, according to TDCJ.

More than \$112 million in cancer prevention grants

The Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas announced 74 new cancer research and prevention grants totaling more than \$112 million.

"The grants awarded today illustrate the broad spectrum of CPRIT's impact in the fight against cancer," said Wayne Roberts, CPRIT's chief executive officer. "From recruitment awards bringing topflight researchers to Texas, continued investment in cancer prevention and screening programs across the state and supporting cancer-fighting innovation in early-stage companies, Texas just took another major step forward in becoming a national leader in conquering cancer."

The projects approved include 65 academic research grant awards, seven prevention awards, and two product development research awards, which were granted to 16 institutions and companies across the state. The awards are designed to expand access to clinical trials, incubate innovative cancer research, support the state's emerging biotechnology industry, provide needed cancer screenings for underserved Texans and recruit outstanding cancer researchers to Texas, according to the news release.

UTSA, Baylor gain Tier One academic ranking

The University of Texas at San Antonio and Baylor University have earned the national research ranking of Carnegie Tier One, joining nine other Texas universities that have been recognized for academic excellence at doctoral universities with "very high research activity."

In addition, Prairie View A&M University, Sam Houston State University, Tarleton State University and The University of Texas at Tyler have earned Tier Two research rankings for "high research activity."

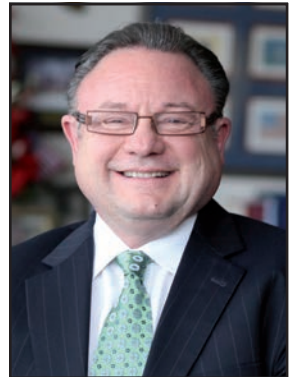
"The Lone Star State is truly brimming with promise," Gov. Greg Abbot said

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

On the Path

The US economy continues to recover from the pandemic. Even in the midst of challenges both domestically and internationally, our latest projections call for expansion over the next five years. Here's an overview of some key patterns influencing the outlook.



The decline of the Omicron surge offers hope that the future path of the virus will be more manageable. As restrictions are relaxed, restaurants, bars, and entertainment venues, as well as the travel and tourism industries are seeing increased activity and profitability. Air passengers and cargo volumes are up, and industry executives are expecting far better results this year than last. As long as future spikes in serious cases remain more muted, the pandemic's negative impact on the economy will diminish over time, although vestiges will remain for generations.

Another current concern is inflation. As I've previously discussed, much of the problem is transitory. Consumers are looking to spend even as the supply chain remains snarled, and prices are escalating. We're also seeing more lasting inflationary pressures resulting from the massive deficit spending during the pandemic. The Federal Reserve has begun taking action to slow things down, and the question is whether it can be accomplished without excessive strain

on growth. I, for one, believe that it can.

Supply chain issues are proving to be difficult to work through. During the pandemic, inventories were depleted throughout the production chain due to work stoppages, logistics interruptions, and other issues. Strong consumer spending also has retailers replenishing stock. The result is an overload of goods to move around. Maritime freight prices have soared, ports are overloaded, and there aren't enough truck drivers to go around. It's like a huge global traffic jam that will take some time to untangle. The longer the process takes, the more it will dampen economic growth (but progress is happening).

Labor shortages in some industries and areas are causing further difficulties and pushing up wages (good for workers, but also inflationary). An escalation in Russia-Ukraine or other hotspots around the globe could increase uncertainty and dampen performance. Washington remains so gridlocked that it's difficult to get anything done.

I think we'll work through (or around) most of these problems over the next few years. As a result, we're projecting growth to be relatively strong (though starting from a still somewhat diminished base due to the pandemic). We're forecasting total gains of about 17.0 million net new jobs over the next five years, with real gross product increasing at a 3.41% annual pace through 2026. Much of this expansion is front loaded in the next couple of years.

The path will almost certainly be bumpy, but the trend for the US economy should be decidedly upward.

Stay safe!

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ACCEPTANCE OF THE GAY LIFESTYLE AND THE SLIPPERY SLOPE

How many times have you been told that homosexuals are "born that way?" "They are born that way" is a defense used to normalize homosexuality. Of course, such is without any proof whatsoever. But people bent on doing what they please are not really looking for proof, only acceptance. When arguments for aberrant and immoral conduct are presented and accepted, people don't always perceive, and are not ready, to accept the consequences of their arguments.

For example, "If they are born that way" is justification for homosexuality, why isn't pedophilia justified on the same grounds? In an article in the book: *The New Absolutes*, Dr. John Money, professor emeritus of Johns Hopkins University said that "ten-year-old boys ought to be allowed to develop erotic relationships with older men." P. 148. British publication: *The Guardian*, in an article entitled: "Pedophilia: Bringing Dark Desires To Light" said: "Experts disagree about what causes pedophilia, and even how much harm it causes." The article further states that: "Childhood sexual experiences, willingly engaged in with an adult result in no identifiable damage...the real need is a change in the attitude which assumes that all cases of pedophilia result in lasting damage." The article further says attitudes toward pedophilia have changed dramatically in the past three decades. In summation, the article says: "There is astonishingly, not even a full academic consensus on whether consensual pedophilic relations necessarily cause harm." Sounds like he is saying that in sexual ethics, familiarity breeds acceptance! In the above quoted article in *The Guardian*, Sarah Goode said: *We outlawed homosexuality, and we were wrong. Perhaps we're wrong about pedophilia.* Nothing seems to shame some people. In pursuit of "freedom" they have embraced license, now licentiousness, and are content with throwing off all restraints!

Under the guise of not denying someone's freedom, what aberrant behavior will become legal next? After all, we are told: "They are born that way!" Don't forget that slippery slope. 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

Lady Bears end season in Regional Round; earn District, Bi-district and Area titles

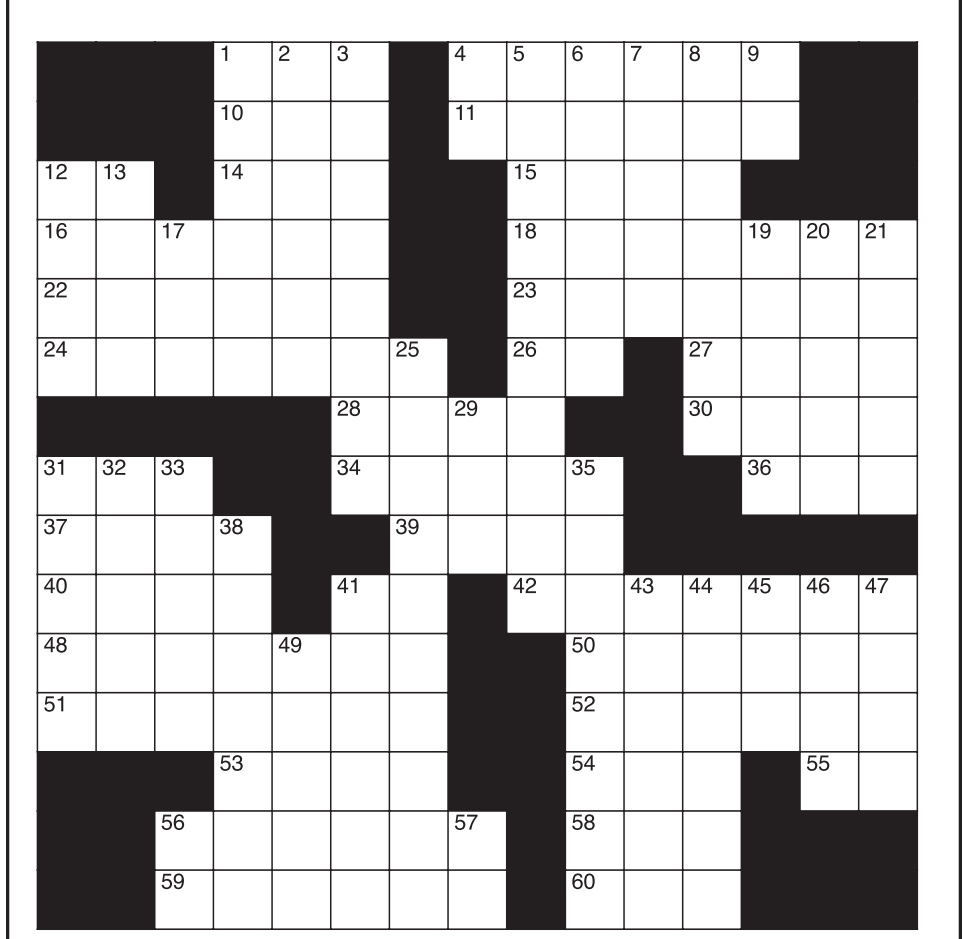
An impressive season for the Gladewater Lady Bears ended Monday night after only their fifth loss of the season. Gladewater racked up 28 wins over the course, advancing to the Class 3A Region II Quarterfinals. The Lady Bears fell to Mount Vernon 47-77 after a slow start put them in a hole early. The Lady Tigers pushed the score up to a 30 point advantage in the second period before Gladewater could shake off the jitters and keep pace. In the second half the Lady Bears showed they could run with the Lady Tigers, matching them 20 for 20 in the final period. Gladewater advanced to the Regional Quarterfinals by dispatching DeKalb 66-46 in the Area Championship.



The Gladewater Lady Bears clawed past the Lady Bears of DeKalb last week 66-46 to win in the Area round of the UIL State Basketball Playoffs. Gladewater advanced to the Regional Quarterfinals where they fell to Mount Vernon Monday night. Photo by Chris Jones



The Gladewater Bears took a 47-43 win over the Sabine Cardinals in their season finale before heading off into the playoffs. In other action, Union Grove closed out its regular season with a 66-54 win at Big Sandy. Gladewater, Sabine, and Union Grove all have advance to the playoffs. Photo by Chris Jones



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. One point east of due south
- 4. City in Maine
- 10. Inquire too closely
- 11. Make dirty
- 12. Small Greek island
- 14. Bitterly regret
- 15. Millisecond
- 16. ___ the ante
- 18. Without value
- 22. Eurasian ryegrass
- 23. Authentic
- 24. Having a mournful quality
- 26. Not out
- 27. Salvador ___, Spanish artist
- 28. Cargo (abbr.)
- 30. This (Spanish)
- 31. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 34. Slang for trucks with trailers
- 36. Helps you hear
- 37. Steer a boat
- 39. British School
- 40. Genus of olive
- 41. Computer term (abbr.)
- 42. Horse gear
- 48. Give off
- 50. A type of salt
- 51. Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- 52. One who watches birds
- 53. Sailboat
- 54. A major division of geological time
- 55. Sodium
- 56. American state
- 58. Soak in water
- 59. Thin decorative covering of fine wood
- 60. Affirmative

CLUES DOWN

- 1. One of the four seasons
- 2. Its sultan is famous
- 3. A lens for correcting defective vision in one eye
- 4. College degree
- 5. Soldiers need it
- 6. Japanese car manufacturer
- 7. A way to address
- 8. Obstruct
- 9. Atomic number 45
- 12. Ill-mannered
- 13. Opaque gem
- 17. Indicates before
- 19. Remove
- 20. Populous Argentine city
- 21. More cunning
- 25. Rich dessert
- 29. Payment (abbr.)
- 31. Footwear
- 32. Famed Alabama city
- 33. Sheep's cry
- 35. Arrogance
- 38. Clergical vestment
- 41. Serving no practical purpose
- 43. An evening party
- 44. Print errors
- 45. Not good
- 46. Egyptian Sun god
- 47. Industrial German city
- 49. Scottish island
- 56. Early multimedia
- 57. Atomic number 18

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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IT'S TIME FOR A "CHANGE"!

VOTE ASHLEIGH DUNCAN JP3

I am your candidate for Upshur County Pct. 3. I have overcome many obstacles in pursuit of this office, in the beginning I was told NOT to run because I had no chance to win. I have overcome many things and remained strong and will to the end. I have stood alone in this fight and maintained the integrity needed to represent this county I live in. I never involved myself in mudslinging of the other races and stood firm on my beliefs in the changes that needed to be made.

I will promise the people that this will be my only job and I will work with the people to try to establish and/or work with programs needed to help the community. I will work with the current JPs in Upshur County and the Sheriff's Office. It is not who you know in the community, but what you are going to do to help the precinct citizen's as a whole. I will be there to magistrate in a timely manner. I promise to make you proud to call me your Justice of the Peace.

It has been an honor to serve you,
Ashleigh Duncan

ELECT ASHLEIGH DUNCAN

for Upshur County Justice of the Peace in Precinct 3

POL. AD. PAID FOR BY ASHLEIGH DUNCAN

Upshur County acts on nuisance enforcement

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County Commissioners Court on Tuesday of last week adopted part of

the Texas Health and Safety Code to give the county "the authority to take legal action to enforce laws against pub-

lic nuisance and abate" such nuisances.

County Judge Todd Tefteller said at the court's meet-

ing in Gilmer that the action would help constables enforce the law better, give the court civil abatement remedies, and allow Precinct 1 Commissioner Gene Dolle to seek a grant from the East Texas Council of Governments to help hire a county health officer.

The judge said the county would be able to tell property owners that if they don't clean up their junkyard, the county will.

Dolle said the court has received "so many complaints" about nuisances and dumping problems, and that some residents "just throw their garbage outside the house." He also pointed out that with no county health officer, nobody is doing health inspections of rural eateries.

In addition, Dolle said that when he was constable in his precinct and acting on a public nuisance, "I always had a formal complaint" from someone that such pests as snakes and rodents were coming onto their property from their neighbor's.

If property owners think they must go somewhere other than justice of the peace court when cited for a violation, they often move

faster to remedy it, he said.

Dolle said the county had to adopt the portion of the state health code for him to seek the grant, which would pay 75 percent of a health officer's salary the first year, 50% the second year and 25% the third.

In other business Tuesday, the court, after a closed session, voted to accept settlements from three defendants in litigation that multiple counties brought over opioid abuse and the costs it caused counties.

A Tyler attorney who met with the court in the closed session, Reid Martin, said in open session that the specific amounts of the proposed settlements were confidential until March 10 since 96 percent of the counties involved must approve their offers.

Tefteller did not participate in the closed session nor vote since he was an attorney in the litigation before becoming county judge.

Also Tuesday, the court approved early voting arrangements and election day polling places for the May 7 election on proposed state constitutional amendments, city and school races.

Early voting is set from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 25-29 and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. May 2-3.

The court also heard two representatives of Credit Union of Texas, Barry Smith and Eddie Army, propose placing an amphitheatre on the county-owned vacant lot on the downtown square's north side. The credit union would finance the structure, which Smith said could be used for concerts, movie nights and farmers' markets.

Some court members were favorable to the proposal, but no action was taken on it as it was on the agenda for discussion only.

Commissioners also approved accepting a \$50,000 donation from the credit union for a proposed gun range for law enforcement officers with the provision that the court give final approval to building it.

In other business, the court:

* Accepted bids on numerous items for the Road and Bridge Department, but tabled bids on gasoline and diesel.

* Approved the places and times for early voting, and designated election day polling places, for the May 7 election on proposed amendments to the state constitution.

* Approved a four-county agreement for an "adult sexual (crime) response team," which District Attorney Billy Byrd said establishes the same protocol for responding to sexual crimes with adult victims in the counties. He said law required it.

* Approved, and accepted for recording, County Auditor Connie Williams' internal audit report on County Clerk Terri Ross' office. Williams said the office is operating well except for two "minor issues."

* Accepted Peters Chevrolet's \$1,250 for the uniform budget of Sheriff Larry Webb's office.

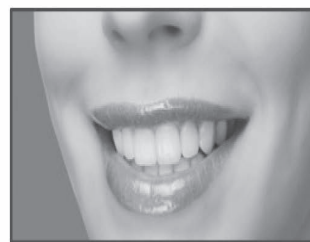
* Accepted Bettie Methodist Church's donation of tables for use in Webb's training room.



The Republican Party of Upshur County Executive Committee Announces 3 Endorsements in the March 1 Republican Primary County Chairman: Carl Byers Governor: Greg Abbott Attorney General: Louie Gohmert

We, the Republican Party of Upshur County Executive Committee, strongly encourage you to support and vote for these three battle-tested men.

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Gladewater Firefighters battled a one-story blaze at a vacant house on Rodeo Street on Feb. 16. The structure was fully involved when crews arrived and no injuries were reported. Gladewater was aided on the scene by Clarksville/Warren City VFD, Sabine VFD and Gilmer VFD.

Police Activity Report

ARREST DATE	ARREST TIME	OFFENSE	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS
2/14/22	0:59	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			155 GREEN LEAF GREEN LEAF	155 GREEN LEAF GREEN LEAF
	1:42	MISCELLANEOUS			400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	3:39	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			2918 W UPSHUR UPSHUR	2918 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	6:21	ALARMOTHER			214 E BLAKE BLAKE	214 E BLAKE BLAKE
	12:38	ASSIST			1404 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR	1404 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR
	12:40	FRAUDULENT USE OF ID INFO			611 S TYLER TYLER RD	611 S TYLER TYLER RD
	14:17	EMS			401 W QUITMAN W QUITMAN	401 W QUITMAN W QUITMAN
	16:26	EMS			1201 FM 2685 FM 2685	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	17:02	EMS			804 S MAIN S MAIN	804 S MAIN S MAIN
	17:44	MISCELLANEOUS			602 W PACIFIC W PACIFIC	602 W PACIFIC W PACIFIC
	18:43	MISCELLANEOUS			1515 SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD	1515 SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD
	19:22	ASSIST			1005 E MARY E MARY	1005 E MARY E MARY
	19:37	EMS			251 LOCKER PLANT LOCKER PLANT RD	251 LOCKER PLANT LOCKER PLANT RD
	19:44	MISCELLANEOUS			301 EDDY EDDY	301 EDDY EDDY
2/19/22	12:04	FIRE DEPT			49 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE	49 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	9:10	CRIM MIS			1324 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	1324 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	10:09	TD-50 MAJOR			284 JUNIPER JUNIPER RD	284 JUNIPER JUNIPER RD
	12:04	FIRE DEPT			508 MELBA MELBA AVE	508 MELBA MELBA AVE
	15:35	ASSIST			1201 FM 2685 FM 2685	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	17:04	EMS			1524 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	1524 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	18:34	ASSIST			321 E EDDY EDDY ST	321 E EDDY EDDY ST
	19:29	MISCELLANEOUS			185 FR 3464 FR 3464	185 FR 3464 FR 3464
	20:38	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			103 N DEAN DEAN	103 N DEAN DEAN
	21:17	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			1942 PHILLIP SPRINGS PHILLIP SPRINGS RD	1942 PHILLIP SPRINGS PHILLIP SPRINGS RD
	23:04	SUSPICIOUS PERSON			1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
2/16/22	1:39	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE			1011 E COMMERCE COMMERCE	1011 E COMMERCE COMMERCE
	2:40	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE			192 N COTTON COTTON	192 N COTTON COTTON
	4:36	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			140 W UPSHUR UPSHUR	140 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	7:19	FIRE DEPT			2804 COUNTRY CLUB COUNTRY CLUB RD	2804 COUNTRY CLUB COUNTRY CLUB RD
	9:29	SCOOTER			301 W GAY GAY AVE	301 W GAY GAY AVE
	9:29	ASSIST			514 N FERRY N FERRY	514 N FERRY N FERRY
	9:38	ALARMOTHER			301 E UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	301 E UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	10:54	ASSIST			614 N FERRY N FERRY	614 N FERRY N FERRY
	12:52	ASSAULT CLASS A			200 W GAY GAY AVE	200 W GAY GAY AVE
	13:47	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE			MAPLE MAPLE ST	MAPLE MAPLE ST
	16:34	ABANDONED 911			138 TEXAS TEXAS ST	138 TEXAS TEXAS ST
	16:38	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			159 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST	159 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
	16:38	ASSIST			E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	16:53	MISCELLANEOUS			505 N FERRY FERRY	505 N FERRY FERRY
	17:10	RECKLESS DRIVING			185 N MAIN MAIN ST	185 N MAIN MAIN ST
	17:48	EMS			37 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE	37 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	18:57	FIRE DEPT			N MAIN MAIN ST	N MAIN MAIN ST
	19:03	FIRE DEPT			312 W GREGG GREGG AVE	312 W GREGG GREGG AVE
	22:05	SUSPICIOUS NOISE			1204 RODEN RODEN ST	1204 RODEN RODEN ST
	22:05	FIRE DEPT			111 N PAUL PAUL AVE	111 N PAUL PAUL AVE
2/17/22	3:10	ABANDONED 911			800 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485	800 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	3:38	ALARMOTHER			1204 RODEN RODEN ST	1204 RODEN RODEN ST
	7:01	FIRE DEPT			1515 BELGUMP BELGUMP	1515 BELGUMP BELGUMP
	7:32	EMS			419 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	419 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	7:59	ASSIST			211 E GAY E GAY	211 E GAY E GAY
	13:13	ALARMOTHER			1420 BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	1420 BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	14:21	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE			2 GREENWAY GREENWAY VLG	2 GREENWAY GREENWAY VLG
	16:13	EMS			1404 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR	1404 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR
	18:08	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			4013 LAMB DR E LAMB DR	4013 LAMB DR E LAMB DR
	20:01	SUSPICIOUS PERSON			N DEAN DEAN	N DEAN DEAN
	21:28	ASSIST			6102 WHITE OAK WHITE OAK RD	6102 WHITE OAK WHITE OAK RD
	21:48	EMS			131 N LEE LEE ST	131 N LEE LEE ST
	4:02	FIRE DEPT			2427 CR 374 CR 374	2427 CR 374 CR 374
	6:49	EMS			2197 FM 2685 FM 2685	2197 FM 2685 FM 2685
	7:00	FIRE DEPT			131 N LEE LEE ST	131 N LEE LEE ST
	7:00	EMS			201 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR	201 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR
	7:25	SUSPICIOUS PERSON			2002 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	2002 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	8:43	INCIDENT - NO REPORT			109 N LEE LEE ST	109 N LEE LEE ST
	8:43	EMS			1408 W BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	1408 W BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	13:02	ASSIST			1301 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR	1301 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR
	13:21	INCIDENT - NO REPORT			400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	14:11	ASSIST			301 RODEN RODEN LANE	301 RODEN RODEN LANE
	15:52	MISCELLANEOUS			N LOOP 485 LOOP 485	N LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	15:52	MISCELLANEOUS			103 N LEE LEE ST	103 N LEE LEE ST
	20:04	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			WOOD WOOD	WOOD WOOD
	20:04	EMS			NORTH NORTH ST	NORTH NORTH ST
	20:26	ASSIST			600 ELEANOR ELEANOR ST	600 ELEANOR ELEANOR ST
	20:34	MISCELLANEOUS			TENERY TENERY	TENERY TENERY
	20:38	MISCELLANEOUS			300 WALTON WALTON AVE	300 WALTON WALTON AVE
	20:52	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			2818 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR	2818 W UPSHUR W UPSHUR
	19:42	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			1908 N DABY N DABY	1908 N DABY N DABY
	20:04	RECKLESS DRIVING			101 E UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	101 E UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	20:21	ASSIST			1301 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	1301 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	22:37	ABANDONED 911			111 PAUL PAUL ST	111 PAUL PAUL ST
	22:48	MISCELLANEOUS			219 TEXAS TEXAS ST	219 TEXAS TEXAS ST
2/20/22	0:33	MISCELLANEOUS			HWY 80 HWY 80 E	HWY 80 HWY 80 E
	4:53	WARRANT			N LOOP 485 LOOP 485	N LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	6:29	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			42 JULIA WOOD JULIA WOOD ST	42 JULIA WOOD JULIA WOOD ST
	7:05	EMS			302 FM 42 FM 42	302 FM 42 FM 42
	7:25	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			401 VESTA VESTA AVE	401 VESTA VESTA AVE
	9:21	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			38 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE	38 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	10:51	EMS			1301 E SHEPHERD SHEPHERD DR	1301 E SHEPHERD SHEPHERD DR
	11:08	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	11:57	INCIDENT - NO REPORT			EDDY EDDY	EDDY EDDY
	12:36	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE			1975 S TYLER TYLER RD	1975 S TYLER TYLER RD
	12:36	SUSPICIOUS NOISE			3 JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS ST	3 JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS ST
	12:36	TD-50 MAJOR			HWY 266 HWY 266	HWY 266 HWY 266
	13:38	FIRE DEPT			512 HANCOCK HANCOCK ST	512 HANCOCK HANCOCK ST
	14:03	THEFT			318 N LEE LEE DR	318 N LEE LEE DR
	14:12	FIRE DEPT			1201 FM 2685 FM 2685	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	14:28	MISCELLANEOUS			410 W SUNSET SUNSET AVE	410 W SUNSET SUNSET AVE
	14:42	MISCELLANEOUS			GAY GAY	GAY GAY
	14:43	ASSIST			202 MABLE MABLE	202 MABLE MABLE
	16:46	MISCELLANEOUS			1006 S SHEPHERD SHEPHERD DR	1006 S SHEPHERD SHEPHERD DR
	16:55	FIRE DEPT			2000 W UPSHUR UPSHUR	2000 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	17:37	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			407 N LIVE OAK LIVE OAK ST	407 N LIVE OAK LIVE OAK ST
	21:46	DISTURBANCE-OTHER			111 FR 3415 FR 3415	111 FR 3415 FR 3415
2/21/22	0:18	INCIDENT - NO REPORT			JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS ST	JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS ST
	1:47	EMS			189 N COTTON COTTON ST	189 N COTTON COTTON ST
	4:14	ASSIST			103 N COTTON COTTON ST	103 N COTTON COTTON ST
	4:17	ASSIST			103 N COTTON COTTON ST	103 N COTTON COTTON ST
	4:25	FIRE DEPT			103 N LEE LEE ST	103 N LEE LEE ST

Police Arrest Report

ARREST DATE	ARREST TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS
2/18/22	2:18:22	WILLOUGHBY, BRANDON CODY	W	M	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	SHEPPARD/LEE
	2:18:22	WILLOUGHBY, BRANDON CODY	W	M	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	SHEPPARD/LEE
	2:18:22	WILLOUGHBY, BRANDON CODY	W	M	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	SHEPPARD/LEE
2/20/22	2/20/22	FORD, JAMON ASHTON	B	M	INTERFERE W/EMERGENCY TELEPHONE CALL	801 COACH COOKSEY ST



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Garden Club to meet

The Gladewater Garden Club will meet Monday, Feb. 28, at 1-2 p.m. at T.W. Lee Gardens of Gladewater, located at 21600 CR 3103, Gladewater.

The program will be "To Enjoy The Daffodils Drive thru Garden," with Diane Richardson-Chairman, assisted by Judy Banner and Anne Hatfield, serving as hostesses.

Attendees are reminded to bring a plant or tool to exchange for the next meeting and bring a friend.

Storytime held Thursday

Two books will be read to small children at each of the Upshur County Library's two weekly "Storytime" sessions Thursday in Gilmer.

"Interrupting Chicken" by David Ezra Stein, and "Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?" by Jon Agee and others, will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. sessions, said the library's children's coordinator, Kari Dunn.

A craft will follow each Storytime, she added. The library is at 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas Hwy. 154.)

The events are free to the public, but children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, contact the library at (903) 843-5001 or visit its website at www.yousemore.com/upshur.

Free soil testing slated

The Upshur-Gregg Soil and Water Conservation District No. 417 is holding its annual free soil testing drive through March 15.

Participants in the drive, which began Feb. 8, can submit one soil sample to be tested at the district's expense. Further samples may be submitted for testing for \$15 each, payable by the participant.

The analysis involves "regular test only," the district said.

Drop-off and pick-up sites include the Upshur County office of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, located in the county Rock Building at 301 E. Butler in Gilmer. Phone number is 903-843-4019.

Other sites include the USDA Service Center (where the district is housed) at 1259 U.S. 271 south in Gilmer (903-734-8732). The other locale is the Gregg County extension office at 405 E. Marshall (U.S. 80) in Longview (903-236-8429).

KC Theatre will present

Ada & the Engine Feb. 24-27

Kilgore College Theatre will present "Ada & the Engine" by Lauren Gunderson 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 24-26, with a matinee performance 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27. General admission tickets are \$10 and \$7 for KC students with student ID.

Discounted ticket-pricing is available for groups of 10 or more.

The play is rated PG so parents are encouraged to attend with children younger than 13 years old. The box office will open one hour prior to each performance. Face coverings are encouraged. Purchase tickets online at www.kilgore.edu/ drama or by phone at (903) 983-8126.

For more information, email the KC Theatre Box Office at boxoffice@kilgore.edu.

The play is produced by special arrangement with Dramatist Play Services.

Gilmer sets health fair

"Bee Healthy" is theme for Saturday's 39th annual Upshur County Health Fair at the Gilmer Civic Center, an event which will provide medically-related services ranging from digital mammograms and free COVID vaccinations to flu shots.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the center on U.S. 271. Admission is free and the event is for all ages.

Dozens of vendors from physical and mental health-related institutions, ranging from pre-natal

services to hospice care, will also be present to provide information, said Julie York, a county extension agent. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is holding the event.

York said all services are free except the mammograms, being provided by UT Health East Texas' mobile unit. Medicare, Medicaid and all other commercial insurance will be accepted and filed, but she said those without insurance will be charged \$150, a portion of which will be covered by the fair's sponsors.

A doctor's order is not required for screening. To schedule a mammogram, call 903-531-8000 and press 5.

Carter BloodCare of Tyler will also hold a blood drive at a time when there is a "critical shortage" of blood, York noted. In addition, the state health department will partner with Aurora Concepts to provide flu and COVID immunizations, and the Gilmer Lions Club will provide vision tests.

Kid Safe Initiatives Passenger Safety of College Station will have an exhibit on passenger safety, distracted driving, and a virtual reality simulator in which participants wear goggles to simulate impaired driving, York said. That is funded by a grant from State Farm, she added.

A booth from the American Red Cross will accept applications for installing free smoke detectors, and provide information on disaster preparedness.

In addition, York encourages parents to bring their children to meet law enforcement and emergency medical personnel "who could be handling them in an emergency." The meeting "reduces their (children's) fears" if such situations arise, she said.

Law enforcement and Camp County EMS (which provides ambulance service to much of Upshur County) will have emergency vehicles at the fair, she noted.

Also at the event, county Veterans Service Officer Bobby Baker and multiple veterans' organizations will attend to discuss veterans' benefits and services. In addition, the county's 4-H Club organization will accept donations for books for young people, to be placed in a small free library box in the Diana area, York added.

The fair's six sponsors include CHRISTUS Health Plan/The Body, Health and Wellness, along with Kinetic Physical Therapy, Open Door Pregnancy Center, Focused Care, Wesley House Assisted Living/Wesley Oaks Memory Care and Women's Health Boutique.

For more information, contact York at JULIE.YORK@AG.TAMU.EDU or 903-680-8128, or email Amorette Burch at AMOR-ETTEBURCH@GMAIL.COM

Dinner theater on tap

Upshur County 4-H and the Upshur County Community Players will present a dinner theatre play, "Dastardly Doings at the County Fair," March 5 at the Yamboree Exhibit Building in Gilmer.

The event is set for 6 p.m. at the facility, a blue building located in the Yamboree park off U.S. 271. Upshur Countian Amy Patterson authored the comedy/mystery play, which will benefit the Upshur 4-H program and the community players.

The play is "intermixed throughout dinner," said County Extension Agent Julie York, whose office works with 4-H.

Early voting for March Primary ends this Friday

By Phillip Williams

In Upshur County, the only three contested races for county or party office are on the March 1 Republican ballot, and no Democrats are seeking county office.

District Clerk Karen Bunn, seeking re-election, faces Nicole Hernandez, while Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace Rhonda Welch, also seeking re-election, is opposed by Ashleigh Duncan.

County Republican Chairman De'Borah Deaz, also seeking re-election, faces Carl Byers. Democratic County Chairman Winifred Jackson escaped opposition for re-election.

All in-person early voting continues Thursday (Feb. 24) and Friday at County Election Administrator Lory Harle's second-floor office in the county courthouse in downtown Gilmer. Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Under the county's "countywide" voting system, a county voter can vote on election day at any of the 16 polling places in the county, but cannot cast a ballot in precinct races which are not in the precinct where the voter lives.

Election-day voting sites include the Glenwood Water Supply Corporation, East Mountain Community Center, Ashland Masonic Lodge No. 1138, Indian Rock Baptist Church, Walnut Creek Baptist Church, Assembly of God (in Gilmer), Ore City Community Center, Frontier Cowboy Church, Big Sandy School, Pritchett Community Center, Enon Community Center, Oak Hill Baptist Church, Simpsonville Volunteer Fire Department, Rosewood Baptist Church, St. James Baptist Church (in Gladewater) and the Upshur County Library in Gilmer.



Congratulations to Gladewater FFA's Benjamin Alvarez and Breanna Newman on placing in the Top 10 in their division for showmanship as well as receiving a scholarship check during the San Antonio Simbrah and Simmental Super Bowl.

Truman Smith among 11 award-winning healthcare centers located in Texas

SYKESVILLE, Md. — Nexion Health, Inc., a leading skilled nursing operator serving the Southern region of the United States, today announced that 21 of its rehabilitation and healthcare centers received Pinnacle Quality Insights' 2022 Customer Experience Awards™. The Truman W. Smith Children's Care Center in Gladewater received one of the awards.

Pinnacle Quality Insights helps companies like Nexion Health improve their residents' experience through customer and employee survey platforms. The Customer Experience Awards work to ensure that every resident receives exceptional care from providers. With a focus on long-term and post-acute care, Pinnacle Quality Insight conducts thousands of monthly surveys of residents and their family members to compile comprehensive reviews. Only those centers among PQI's 2,700 care providers in the 85th percentile or higher for a 12-month average receive the award.

"The secret to providing an excellent Customer Experience is to first provide an outstanding employee experience. I have seen first-hand how much Nexion's leadership values their employees. It should come as no surprise to see them receiving so many awards," said Chris Magleby, the chief executive officer for Pinnacle Quality Insight.

Fran Kirley, the chief executive officer and founder of Nexion Health, said: "Pinnacle Quality Insights' awards demonstrate how well Nexion Health has executed on our commitment to the delivery of quality healthcare services in a socially conscious manner. These 21 centers have successfully competed with others from around the nation. Residents and their families should find great confidence in the service they are receiving, especially given the challenges we faced in 2021."

Of the 21 Nexion Health facilities receiving recognition, 11 are in Texas, five are in Mississippi and another five are in Louisiana. Several of the Louisiana and Mississippi centers successfully managed their residents' needs, including facility evacuations, during Hurricane Ida in August 2021. In Texas, all of the award-winning recipient centers were affected by the February 2021 ice storm which closed the state for about a week. Nexion Health staff and medical affiliates effectively supported residents' care throughout the severe weather events.

"No amount of praise is sufficient for our staff, for seeing 2021 through to the end," said Meera Riner, the chief operating officer for Nexion Health. "These awards are just one more accolade for their heroic efforts through storms and the Covid-19 pandemic. We value these recognitions and will work hard to continue to earn them."



Once a Bear, always a Bear ... These former Gladewater Bear Baseball players participated Saturday in the annual Gladewater baseball alumni game.

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 Gladewater Bible Church • 903-445-7234
 Grace Tabernacle • 903-309-8801
- PENTECOSTAL**
 First United Pentecostal • 903-845-2922
 Northside Pentecostal
 Abundant Life Temple U.P.C. • 903-845-6043
 Southern Pentecostal Church (Starville) **PRESBYTERIAN**
 First Presbyterian • 903-845-2905
- OTHER**
 Starville Church of the Living God • 903-877-3205
 Friendship Community Church
 Full Faith Holiness • 903-845-8195

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Grace Baptist Church
 212 E. George Richey Rd., Gladewater
 Schedule of Services

Sunday	Wednesday
Sunday School 10 a.m.	Prayer and Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Morning Service 11 a.m.	
Evening Service 6:30 p.m.	

 903-845-6440
 Pastor Jim Withers
 www.gbcbgladewater.org

Pray for our Nation

 Full Gospel Fellowship
 Gladewater Revival Church
 Living Hope Fellowship • 903-261-2023
 Love of God Church • 903-845-2623
 Union Temple CME Church • 903-845-1050

Croley
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 croley_gwater_fh@yahoo.com
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 Mail: P.O. Box 706 • Gladewater, TX 75647

St. James Missionary Baptist Church
 Join us each Wednesday at 6:30 pm for ABF/SBF and 7:15 pm for Bible Study and each Sunday at 9 am.
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 Gladewater, Texas 75647
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White bass run expectations high in 2022

Anglers across the state look forward to hitting the water each spring for the annual white bass spawning run upstream from reservoirs into rivers and creeks. Whether it be fishing on the bank, motorized boat, or paddle craft, the white bass run can provide an exciting day on the water for new and seasoned anglers alike.

“The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has received reports that some anglers have started catching white bass since the beginning of February, but the main spawning run does not really get going until water temperatures and flows are just right,” said John Botros, TPWD’s Inland Fisheries River Access Coordinator. “Some good rains this spring would trigger abundant white bass spawning runs. Anglers should make plans to target this species in rivers and creeks upstream of many of our reservoirs from now until early May.”

White bass, also known as sand bass, are a popular freshwater species preferred by Texas anglers both for sport fishing and for the dinner table. While most riverside property is privately owned, public access to high-quality white bass runs can be found at many Texas State Parks, Texas Paddling Trails, leased River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) sites and highway and bridge crossings.

Here are a few locations to get started:

Colorado River: Above Lake Buchanan, bank anglers can fish for white bass without a fishing license at Colorado Bend State Park. The park offers a boat ramp and bank access.

San Gabriel River: Upstream of Granger Lake, anglers can find white bass fishing at a public access point called Dickerson’s Bottom, a.k.a. “The Steps” in the Granger Wildlife Management Area. This location can be found three-quarters of a mile east of SH 95 on County Road 347 in Williamson County.

Neches River: Above Lake Palestine, anglers can find public access at Chandler River Park. This RACA site – also supported by the East Texas Woods and Waters Foundation – offers nearly 6,000 feet of river frontage for bank fishing and includes a boat ramp and kayak launch.

Llano River: Access to the river is provided through the Kingsland Slab RV Camp with 750 feet of river frontage along the Llano River. This River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) site offers free public fishing access and is located at 7300 River Oaks Drive in Kingsland.

Sabine River: Above Toledo Bend Reservoir, anglers can find public access for white bass fishing at the Grand Bluff Boat Ramp, which offers 275 feet of river frontage and a single trailer boat ramp. This RACA site offers free

public fishing access.

Frio River: Above Choke Canyon Reservoir, public access points for white bass fishing can be found at county road and highway crossings, including the Highway 99 bridge crossing and boat ramp in McMullen County.

White bass action and public access points can also be found on the Guadalupe River above Canyon Lake; the San Gabriel River above Lake Georgetown; the Navasota River above Lake Limestone; the Colorado River above Lake Lyndon B. Johnson; Yegua Creek above Lake Somerville; the Colorado and Pedernales rivers above Lake Travis; the Bosque River above Lake Waco; and the Brazos River above Lake Whitney.

A variety of artificial lures will work for anglers targeting white bass including small jigs and crank baits. Night fishing using lights or around lighted docks can also be effective. White bass are excellent table-fare and anglers should pack a cooler if the fish are biting. The daily bag limit for white bass is 25 with a 10-inch minimum length limit. More information on fishing regulations can be found in the TPWD Outdoor Annual.

For more information about white bass identification, fishing patterns, life history, biology, and access to public sites visit the White Bass Fishing in Central Texas website.

SELL IT IN THE Classifieds
 903-845-2235 - Ads@Gladewatermirror.com

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5 Burial plots available in section A at Gladewater Memorial Park. Contact D. Hurley at 214-676-5414

PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a public hearing before the City of Gladewater Planning & Zoning Commission on March 10, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. to consider a request for dwelling size variance (sq. ft.) to Gladewater Code of Ordinance §15.11.120(C)(6)(a) Single Family Districts at ABS A175 GOODWIN, WILLIAM TRACT 55 19.85 ACRES, more commonly known as 1395 Phillips Springs Rd.

There will be a second public hearing held by the Gladewater City Council on March 17, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

All interested parties are invited to attend and participate in these public hearings. If you are unable to attend these meetings you may send written comments to Judy Van Houten, City Clerk, City of Gladewater, PO Box 1725, Gladewater, Texas 75647.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER - AGENT

Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 (“GCESD No. 2”) is requesting qualifications information (“RFQ”) for construction manager – agent services related to the construction of a new fire station on a site located at 4589 FM 1252 West, Kilgore, TX 75662 (the “Project”). Responding firms should be familiar with the requirements of Chapter 2269 of the Texas Government Code regarding the construction manager – agent project delivery method and all other requirements for contracting with a governmental entity. The complete RFQ is available upon request from Chief Richard Sisk at the email and address below. Responses to this RFQ should be submitted by one (1) electronic copy via email to Chief Richard Sisk at rsisk@greggcountyesd2.com and six (6) hard copies via first-class mail or hand-delivery to Chief Richard Sisk, Sabine Volunteer Fire Department Station Two, 4589 FM 1252 West, Kilgore, TX 75662. Please identify the electronic and hard-copy submission as “Construction Manager - Agent Response to RFQ”.

Responses to this RFQ, both electronic and hardcopy, may be submitted starting on Monday, March 7, 2022. The deadline for all responses to this RFQ, both electronic and hardcopy, is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2022. The Board of Commissioners will review the responses to this RFQ and select the most qualified firm for the Project. The Board of Commissioners will then attempt to reach a satisfactory agreement with the most qualified firm. If negotiations are unsuccessful, the Board of Commissioners will attempt to reach a satisfactory agreement with the next most qualified firm. This process will repeat until the Board of Commissioners reaches an agreement with a firm. Notwithstanding the above, the Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all responses to RFQ, to postpone selection of the most qualified firm, and expressly reserves the right to not award a contract related to this RFQ to any firm. Please direct all questions about this RFQ and project scope to Chief Richard Sisk in writing at rsisk@greggcountyesd2.com.

Project Description: The project is the construction of a new Fire Station in Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2, including the possible incorporation of an existing building on the site. The following are preliminary requirements for the project, which are subject to change as the design process progresses: 3 drive thru bays, 2 back-in bays, 6 bunk rooms, a training area, meeting area, command staff offices, kitchen, dining, day room, various storage rooms for bunker gear and medical records, a dispatch communications center for two dispatchers that will include bunk room and facilities, and a rated storm shelter. The project is estimated to be 12,000 - 13,000 sq. ft.

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ACREAGE
Hunting/investment/recreational property. Starting at \$650/acre. Trans Pecos region. Also the Hill Country (Edwards, Menard, Coke, Val Verde Counties - free ranging exotics), South Texas (Duval County - whitetail, hogs). Large or small acreage. 30-year fixed rate owner financing, only 5% down. Call toll-free or email for individual prices and terms, www.ranchenterprisesltd.com, 800-876-9720.

ARROWHEADS
Indian Arrowheads Wanted – Point Type: Clovis, Yuma, Firstview & Eden. Must be old, authentic & unbroken. Absolute TOP DOLLAR paid – up to 5 figures for one point. I am a very serious high-end collector. Call 979-218-3351.

EMPLOYMENT
Jourdanton Police – Now Hiring Texas Peace Officers – \$2,500 sign-on incentive. TMRS Retirement, uniform allowance, certification pay, 13 paid holidays, zero cost health, insurance premium, FSA account, required equipment provided, competitive salary, dental/vision policy and more. For complete details contact: ekaiser@jourdantonpd.net.

EVENTS
Southeast Texas Boat, Sport & RV Show – March 4-5-6, Ford Park, Beaumont, Texas. THE Place to buy your new Boat or RV! See 50 Boat and RV Brands in 1 Location! SouthEastTexasBoatRVShow.com.

Golden Triangle Home & Garden Show – March 4-5-6, Ford Park, Beaumont, Texas. EVERYTHING FOR THE HOME! See a multitude of Home Improvement Professionals in 1 location! GoldenTriangleHomeAndGardenShow.com.

GENERATORS
GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 855-704-8579.

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Spotlight Winners 2022



Freshman Class Favorites
Preston Bohanon and Astrith Alvarez



Mr. & Miss GHS
Jade Thomas & Zach Polanco



Outstanding Students - Freshman
Jaxxon Cook and Erika Evey



Sophomore Class Favorites
Frank Sierra and Hadassah Balcorta



Outstanding Students - Sophomore Class
Calan Castles and Madisyn Bedair.



Junior Class Favorites
Fernando Coronado and Kylie Jalomo



Outstanding Students - Junior Class
Matt Smith Kamryn Floyd

Senior Top Ten %
Riley Crane, Avery Glarborg, Tanner Gothard, Michael Lewis, Adamaris Lopez, Antonio Menjivar, Gabriella Montelongo, Trinity Mooney, Katelynn Moses & Jade Thomas

Senior Who's Who
Ag - Ben Alvarez
Art - Marlon Davis
Band - Antonio Menjivar
BNN - Nikki Campbell
Business - Zavion Woods
Choir - Jane Gasperik
English - Mariana Vargas - not pictured
FCCLA - Adamaris Lopez
Graphic Design - Andrew Jones
Honeybears - Avery Glarborg
Library Aide - DJ Allen
Math - Tanner Gothard
Office Aide - Taya Grooms - not pictured
Ready Set Teach - Jillian Moon - not pictured
Science Adasyn Williams
Social Studies - Riley Crane
Spanish - Vanessa Delgado

Theater - Codie Martin
Varsity Cheer- Jade Thomas
Yearbook - Gicel Cerda
Diversified Career Prep - Maddison Teague

Most Talented
Alexis Hart & Za Campbell

Most Courteous
Daniela Gomez & Ben Alvarez

Most Studious
Jade Thomas & Michael Lewis

Most Athletic
Jakiyah Bell & DJ Allen

Most Popular
Kaila King & Zach Polanco

Most Beautiful/Handsome
Trinity Mooney & Ben Alvarez

Best Personality
Aniya Sanders & Chase Wise

Most Likely to Succeed
Jane Gaperik & Tanner Gothard

Freshmen
Class Favorites - Astrith Alvarez & Preston Bohanon
Outstanding Student - Erika Evey & Jaxxon Cook

Sophomores
Class Favorites - Hadassah Balcorta & Frank Sierra
Outstanding Student - Madisyn Bedair & Calan Castles

Sophomore Top Ten %
Hadassah Balcorta, Madisyn Bedair, Calan Castles, Blake Crane, Hailey Head, Timothy Heashe, Emma Langford, Katelyn Lewis, Kyle Martin, Katie Menjivar, Lily Smith, & Kaylin White

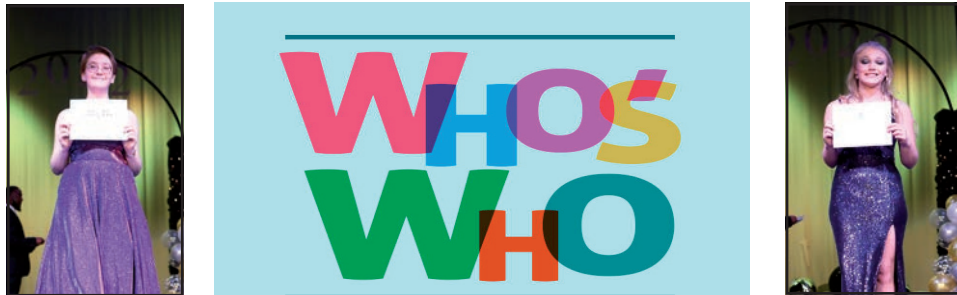
Juniors
Class Favorites
Kylie Jalomo & Fernando Coronado
Outstanding Student
Kamryn Floyd & Matt Smith

Junior Top Ten %
Austin Allen, Lexi Betts, Kamryn Floyd, Celeste Harris, Kylie Jalomo, Tyler Milstead, William Perry, Matthew Smith, Austin Verner, & Sarah Walbridge

See More GHS Spotlight Photos on the Gladewater Mirror Facebook Page



Agriculture Ben Alvarez **Art** Marlon Davis **Band** Antonio Menjivar **BNN** Nikki Campbell **Business** Ben Alvarez



Choir Jane Gasperik **Diversified Career** Maddison Teague



FCCLA Adamaris Lopez **Graphic Design** Andrew Jones **Honeybears** Avery Glarborg **Library Aide** DJ Allen **Math** Tanner Gothard



Science Adasyn Williams **Social Studies** Riley Crane **Theater** Codie Martin **Varsity Cheer** Jade Thomas **Yearbook** Gicel Cerda



RE-ELECT RHONDA WELCH UPSHUR COUNTY JP

Upshur County Justice of the Peace Pct. 3 Rhonda Welch, a Conservative Republican, is seeking re-election.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to have served the citizens of Upshur County for the past 15 years. The responsibilities have increased due to state mandates and State Supreme Court decisions."

"The clerks have done a tremendous job in making this office a pleasant experience for everyone that comes into the court."

My knowledge and common sense clearly makes me the right person for this position. Applying the law and working with defendants has made this a very effective office.

This past year and a half has been a trying time, but I have continued to strive to make the right decisions. I have continued to live, work, and shop in Upshur County most all my life.

Charles and I raised our family here, and I continue to be proud of my roots – being a 5th generation here!

Does character still count?

Total honesty, knowledge, compassion for others, and being a true witness for our Lord are the many values I bring to this office everyday. This is what the citizens of Upshur County expect and deserve from me.

I am so thankful for my many blessings, family, and friends. I am respectfully asking for your vote for the more qualified candidate for Justice of the Peace-Pct 3.

Once again, I humbly seek your support, please get to the polls and vote in this important Republican Primary.