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Thursday, March 24, 2022

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Vol. 94, No. 12

Gladewat

1 Section, 8 pages

Clower, Langford stepping down at year's end

By Jim Bardwell

Gladewater ISD will be losing two members of its coaching and administration staffs at the end of this school year as GISD Athletic Director Scott Clower and Gladewater Middle School Principal and coach Chris Langford will be leaving.

Gladewater school board members were advised of Clower's retirement and Langford's resignation at Monday's school board meeting.

In other business, the school board approved a Certification of Unopposed Candidates and Order of Cancellation for the Gladewater ISD Board of Trustees Election of May 7, 2022, since none of the incumbents were opposed.

Langford presented the "Campus Spotlight" for Gladewater Middle School and reported mock testing scores were up with the 7th Graders performing at 70-percent, which Langford said was very good.

William Pearce was named the 2021-2022 PCAT Bus Driver of the Year and was recognized at the meeting for his dedication to his job and the kids who ride his bus.

The monthly financial report shows GISD was in good financial shape with \$13,673,049 in general operating revenue and \$11,102,996 in expenses thus far in the year. The school's debt service is at \$1,863,050 for revenue and \$\$1,742,837 in expenses, while current tax collections are standing at 82.44-percent - \$6,329,226 – and delinquent tax collections are at 17.06-percent - \$199,536.

GISD's total cash and invest



The Gladewater Bears Marching Band represented our hometown at Walt Disney World last week. Gladewater was the first of three bands to entertain the packed Main Street in the Magic Kingdom.

Photos by Chris Jones



City inks deal with Marucci Elite on ballpark

50¢

By Jim Bardwell

The Gladewater City Council approved a deal at Thursday's monthly meeting to give Marucci Elite a 10-year contract to manage the city's ball field.

The agreement was hammered out to safegaurd the Gladewater Union Grove Youth Baseball Association to ensure local ball clubs continue to get the use of the field, while Marucci Elite brings in tournament play and revenue.

Marucci Elite is run by Michael Holochuck and Jeff Casey. Holochuck is the head baseball coach at Jarvis Christian College and has been with Jarvis for 10 years.

Councilmembers Scott Owens, Rocky Hawkins and Kevin Clark helped negotiate the deal and said they were pleased with the contract and felt Marucci Elite was the best fit for the city.

Holochuck, who will be paying the city \$35,000 annually under the contract, said he has 15 youth teams and a total of 20+ teams overall including softball. He said tournaments create traffic, which allows improvements to be done to the fields/facility such as adding artifical turf to the fields in a few years.

In other business, the council held a public hearing on a request for dwelling size variance at 1395 Phillips Springs Road. The owner wanted to build a 1,000 square foot home, but the zoning calls for a minumum of 1,600 square feet. After much decision, the coucil denied the request, but offered to revisit it for 1,200 square feet like the a nearby tract.

The council also will:

ments stand at \$12,855,206.

The Board also approved the purchase and installation of a NEW 8-classroom modular building for Pre-K classrooms at Gladewater Primary in the amount of \$551,509.

The Board also approved the 2022-2023 School Year Calendar.

GHS Bears relax behind the scenes in a staging area for the bands at the Magic Kingdom. L-R Jonatan Arreguin, Maddison Teague, Kimberly Vite, Katie Sisk, Antonio Menjivar and Brian Van Houten out front.

Storms tear through Upshur County

By Phillip Williams

A tornado, possibly a F-2 tornado, ripped through parts of rural Upshur County late Monday, causing injuries, destroying numerous buildings, and triggering power outages, but no confirmed deaths as of late Tuesday morning.

The city of Gilmer, where the fire department's tornado siren sounded around 10:20 p.m., was struck by heavy rain, but apparently escaped harm despite the massive damage which occurred east of the city and near Ore City.

Sheriff's Chief Deputy David Hazel said Tuesday morning he had "not yet been advised of (any) life-threatening injury at this point," nor how many individuals were injured, but that he knew of someone who had suffered a fractured bone. National Weather Service meteorologists found new damage south of Gilmer consistent with EF-2 damage with top winds at 130 mph.

The storm, which struck the county around 10:20 p.m., damaged dozens of

buildings, including homes that were "utterly destroyed," Hazel said. "It was strong enough to knock over well-built houses," he added.

Numerous trees were also felled, leading to cleanup by firefighters and the Upshur County Road and Bridge Department. On Tuesday morning, emergency agencies were re-visiting areas they searched the night before to ensure they didn't overlook anyone who might be injured, Hazel said. Upshur County Sheriff's officials reported "initial indications are that tornadic winds sustained a path from southwest Upshur County, west of Highway 271 to Northeast, north of Ore City. Specific damage includes (from southwest to northeast) the areas from FM 2685 and Evergreen Road, to Hwy 271 south of Bluebird Rd, then across Hwy 300 to Hwy 154 south of Gilmer. The track continued to north of Ore City where the area of Upshur Landing at Lake of the Pines took significant damage." • The city recieved a clean premilinary financial audit for fiscal year 2021.

• The city also approved hiring the professional engineering services of Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., for \$98,750 to provide improvements to the water treatment plant.

• The city appointed Ricky Maddox to the Planning & Zoning Commission and Farrell Alexander to an alternate board member position.

• The city appointe Jamie Ballard to the Beautification Board to fill one vacancy.

• The city approved a Lake Board recommendation for installation of artificial fish habitats at Lake Gladewater. The habitats will be paid for by a \$183,000 grant through the Texas Parks and Wildlife.

• The council also nominated John Ussery to fill an unexpired term on the Upshur County Appraisal District Board of Directors.

East Texas firefighters lending a hand on state blazes



Smith County Emergency Services District 2 firefighters John Moore and Josh Bardwell.

State, local and federal first responders have been increasingly busy with recent response efforts. Over the past seven days, firefighters responded to 178 wildfires that burned 108,493 acres across the state.

Smith County Emergency Services District 2 firefighters Josh Bardwell and John Moore are one of many TIFMAS strike teams that are prepositioned west of I-35 for the anticipated wildfire danger due to extended drought and dry frontal passage.

Strike Team 126 has been on the Eastland Complex Eastland Complex in Eastland and Brown counties which has been actively burning across the state. The more than 54,000-acre wildfire prompted evacuations, road closures and damaged 147 structures. Eastland County Sheriff's Deputy Sergeant Barbara Fenley died in the line of duty while assisting with evacuations.

On Sunday, three new wildfire ignitions in Eastland County were absorbed into the Eastland Complex for management purposes. The complex, now 30% contained as a whole, consists of seven wildfires: Kidd Fire, Eastland County (42,333 acres, 40% contained); Blowing Basin Fire, Eastland County (est. 241 acres, 50% contained); Cedar Mountain Fire, Eastland County (est. 250 acres, 10% contained); Oak Mott Fire, Brown County (4,031 acres, 75% contained); Wheat Field Fire, Eastland County (7,268 acres, 55% contained); Mangum Fire, Eastland County (est. 11 acres, 85% contained); and Walling Fire, Eastland County (383 acres, 100% contained).





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.

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 here is the "Best of Suzanne Bardwell." I hope you enjoy them.

To boldly go... Do you have a handful of memories that you keep tucked away for those days when you need a break, a smile or a bit of inspiration? You know, those serendipitous unexpected gifts that pack a wallop of joy into some very brief moments?

On Friday, I called NASA Astronaut Story Musgrave who is the speaker for Thursday's Chamber of Commerce banquet. We had a fascinating conversation which was followed by three days of emails that often had little to do with the background for the story I was writing and everything to do with my insatiable curiosity and his phenomenal brilliance and generosity. He is probably the most intelligent person I have ever had the pleasure to speak with, and trust me I have been exposed to some fascinating people in my life.

I was starstruck at the job title astronaut, but he has been, and is, so much more. I hope that you are all planning on attending the Chamber Banquet so you can see for yourselves.

Hubby Jim and I fit right in the middle of the Baby Boom generation that saw the birth of the Space Race. Our heroes were the first astronauts and we avidly watched every televised launch. We were fans of space reality and SciFi, waiting each week for the next episode of "Star Trek" which our fathers didn't understand or like at all. Space exploration inspired us. It still does.

What space did for my generation was to give us hope. Think about it. When we were born the Cold War was heating up to boiling over. During the Cuban Missile Crisis we had bomb drills rather than fire drills. As a 5-year old first grader I was smart enough to know that ducking under my desk with a spelling book over my head wasn't going to save me from ICBMs (intercontinental ballistic missiles). And yes, we knew what those words meant because our families watched the news. That news was not about people's opinions and social media events gone viral. It was about what mattered that day and for the future.

When Neil Armstrong took that 'one small step for man and a giant leap for mankind' we took it with him. I still believe that investing in space exploration and research

THE ECONOMIST



will help write mankind a brighter future. All you have to do is open your microwave, use your Corning Ware or have certain medical tests to experience first hand what research for the space program brought us.

The mystique and infinite wonder of space has inspired us all our lives. We packed up our son when he was little and made several pilgrimages to NASA in Houston and twice to Cape Canaveral. Wonderful memories indeed.

I have met several astronauts including Sally Ride and Buzz Aldrin. But the all time best was when Jimmy took me with him on a press event where Alan Shepard, Scott Carpenter, Wally Schirra and Gordon Cooper, all of who were a part of the famed 'Original Seven' astronauts, were promoting NASA's programs. If you don't know who these giants of the space program are, fie! and shame on you! Check out the movie "The Right Stuff" or read the book.

I got to meet all four gentlemen and get their autographs which was goose bump inspiring. It still is. But what makes me laugh every time I think about it, is that Wally Schirra who was the only NASA astronaut to participate in the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo programs winked at me. Yep, one of my claims to fame is that an astronaut winked at me. And not just any astronaut, but one of the Originals.

Which brings me back to my conversations with Dr. Musgrave. He is one of the greats of the Space Shuttle program and he is coming to Gladewater. He also happens to be one of the acknowledged great minds of our time and he is going to help us celebrate the 84th year of our Chamber of Commerce. That is pretty phenomenal in of itself. That gives me a great deal of hope for our future.

Maybe it is time for Gladewater to "boldly go" into its future focused on what drove the space program, qualities like discipline, innovation and vision. That sounds pretty exciting to me. What about you? Are you ready to take a leap? It is time.

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

A Perfect Ten ...

Texas has won the "Governor's Cup" – for the tenth consecutive time! Site Selection magazine awards the Cup to the state with the most major corporate locations and expansions each year. To be counted, projects must involve a capital investment of at least \$1 million, 20 or more new jobs, or 20,000 square feet of new construction.



For 2021, Texas had an astounding 1,123 qualified projects (more than three per day), which is 342 above 2020 (and the most ever recorded). This total more than doubled secfacility in Sherman) and the third largest (the \$17 billion Samsung semiconductor plant in Taylor). Others include Nacero (industrial gas) and Covestro (chemicals). Switch (data processing) is among the largest in terms of square footage. The Texas Instruments project, Amazon.com (retail merchandise), and Maxter Healthcare (surgical supplies) are near the top for employment. It's quite a diverse group, illustrating the state's competitiveness across a broad spectrum.

There are multiple factors that engender an accomplishment of this magnitude, reflecting both natural endowments and enlightened decisions spanning generations. Texas has a young population, favorable location and climate, infrastructure to support global commerce, competitive costs, attractive incentive programs, regulatory efficiency, and the sheer inertia of ongoing success and the resulting clusters of activity. Several newer initiatives are further supporting expansion, one being the greater investment in basic and applied research at Texas universities. We have frequently analyzed the potential benefits of research universities (including the study underlying the legislation that increased funding). The impact that they have on the most innovative aspects of the economy is profound, from fostering discoveries and their commercialization to providing a stream of highly skilled graduates, Broadband deployment and support are also critical to continued economic growth (particularly following the pandemic), and recent efforts have been notable. Texas and its talented cadre of economic development professionals are doing many things well, and the proof is in the numbers. There is always room for improvement, such as reinstating Chapter 313 or a similar program, a key tool which will expire at yearend, and making the investments necessary for world-class public education and job training for a growing and diverse population. Texas must also avoid discriminatory social policies which hamper the ability to attract knowledge workers - and their employers. A decade of dominance is laudatory, but economic progress is inevitably forward-looking. Let's keep it up! Stay safe!

Gary Borders Capital Highlights

Sheriff's deputy dies in wildfires

An Eastland County sheriff's deputy died Thursday as wildfires swept through several small Texas communities west of Dallas, destroying at least 50 homes and charring more than 54,000 acres as of Sunday.

Deputy Sgt. Barbara Fenley died while going door to door warning people to flee, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

Sgt. Fenley ran off a smoke-covered road and was engulfed in the fire, the sheriff said.

Several wildfires merged to form what is now known as the Eastland Complex fire. The blaze started last Thursday afternoon and in less than three hours destroyed 86 houses in Carbon, a town of just 272 residents in Eastland County, about 120 miles west of Dallas.

Gov. Greg Abbott issued a disaster declaration for 11 counties in response to the wildfires.

"I commend the hard work and selfless acts of thousands of first responders and firefighters who are risking their own lives to protect our communities," Abbott said. "I also ask Texans to join me in praying for those who have been affected by these wildfires, including Eastland County Deputy Barbara Fenley, who was tragically killed while trying to save lives."

Two dozen teachers added to task force

The Texas Education Agency has added two dozen teachers to its recently formed Teacher Vacancy Task Force. TEA faced criticism when the original 28-member panel only contained two teachers, with high-level administrators making up the rest.

The task force was formed at the behest of Abbott in response to a growing shortage of teachers across the state. Its goal is to "better understand the significant staffing challenges facing Texas public schools and to make comprehensive recommendations to address these issues," according to TEA.

Josue Torres of Forney, an elementary school math teacher from Dallas ISD, will serve as chair of the task force.

"The reason I got into education is because I believe that a student's zip code shouldn't determine his or her fate," Torres said. "This task force has the ability to recommend the needed changes and innovative solutions necessary to ensure all Texas students have access to the high-quality educators they deserve."

Nominations sought for Heroes for Children

Thousands of Texas volunteer at the state's public schools, and the State Board of Education would like to recognize some of them with a Heroes for Children Award. Any Texas resident who contributes time, service or support to public schools and student can be nominated. School employees or elected officials are not eligible.

One recipient will be chosen for each of the 15 SBOE districts in the state. Award recipients will be recognized at the board's September meeting. The deadline for nominations is July 15. Additional information and access to the nomination form can be found at https://tea.texas.gov/Heroes for Children.aspx .

COVID-19 cases still dropping

ond place Ohio (with 507) and far outpaced the remainder of the top five of Illinois (480), California (301), and North Carolina (282).

Some of the Texas triumphs are truly massive. The state is the site of four of the top

10 projects in terms of capital investment, including the largest (the \$30 billion Texas Instruments semiconductor

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The number of new COVID-19 cases dropped once again to 18,744 in the past week, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, with 418 deaths recorded. Two months ago, largely as a result of the omicron variant, 440,341 cases were reported along with 2,311 deaths.

The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations also dropped to 1,605, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services, down 20% from the previous week.

DSHS reports 17.373 million Texans are fully vaccinated, which is 59.6% of the total population. In addition, 6.429 million of the state's residents have received a booster dose.

2021 second-deadliest year on Texas roads

Traffic fatalities in the state were up 15% last year, making 2021 the second-deadliest year on Texas roads with 4,480 people killed — the highest total since 1981, according to the Texas Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Laura Ryan pointed out that roadway safety is a shared responsibility between the public, engineers and law enforcement. In 2021, 1,522 people died because of speed-related causes, and 1,219 were killed because they were not wearing seat belts, Ryan said.

"Driver behavior is one of the causes but also one of the most important solutions," she said.

With increased focus on engineering, enforcement and on the critical role drivers play in road safety, Ryan and TxDOT leaders believe the state can end the streak of daily deaths.

Periodicals Postage Paid Gladewater, TX USPS 575-140 ISSN Number 1045-5671

The Gladewater Mirror is published weekly by Bardwell Ink, LLC 211 N. Main Street Gladewater, TX

POSTMASTER: Send PS3579 to The Gladewater Mirror P.O. Box 1549 Gladewater, TX 75647



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News & Advertising Deadlines: Noon Monday Office Hours 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Telephone: 903-845-2235 Fax: 903-845-2237 Email: gladewatermirror@aol.com

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Publisher/Editor: Jim Bardwell Advertising: Darla Ferguson **Office Manager:** Tiffany Harroff

Subscriptions are \$35/year in Gregg, Smith & Upshur counties and payable in advance.

Bardwell Ink

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LITTLE WORD "NOT"

Have you ever heard of the "Wicked Bible"? The "Wicked Bible" is what people called a printing of the Scriptures in 1631. You see, the printers left the little word "not" out of one of the Ten Commandments; the one that says: "Thou shalt not commit adultery." Of course, leaving that little word "not" out of that verse made it say something entirely different than God intended. So people called that misprinted edition of the Bible, "The Wicked Bible." Unfortunately, some people still leave "nots" out of the Bible, as well as adding "nots" to the Bible.

For example, many preachers leave the "not" out of the Bible's teaching regarding faith only. James 2: 24 says: "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only." But they leave that "not" out of their teaching, and instead teach the idea that salvation is by faith only, when James plainly says it is "not" by faith only!

Another example of changing the Scriptures with regard to "not" is 1 Peter 3: 21, which says: "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us." But there are those who do not believe that baptism is essential to salvation, who change the "t" to a "w" and make it read: "the like figure whereunto even baptism doth also not save us."

We don't need to fool around with the little word "not" because it completely changes the Bible's teaching. That includes the "not" in "Thou shalt not commit adultery," and the "not" in the Bible's teaching that justification is "not by faith only." Yes, we are saved by faith, but that doesn't mean we are saved by faith only. How do we know that? Because the Bible teaches salvation is "not" by faith only. We don't need to change the "now" to "not" in 1 Peter 3: 21 either. How do we know that? Because the Bible teaches that baptism doth also "now" save us! 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

OBITUARIES

SUETIE MARIE WOODS

Suetie Marie Woods died at Hospice of East Texas in Tyler on March 15 at the age of 93. Services were held Saturday, March 19 at 10am at Gladewater Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Croley Funeral Home.



ELVA MAE FINLEY

Elva Mae Finley, 84 of Gladewater, passed away peacefully after a lengthy illness on March 12, 2022. She left this earth to join Kenneth W. Finley, her husband of 66 years who passed away in 2011.



Elva was born in 1937 to John and Geneva Iwig in Alamogordo, New Mexico. It was there she met and married Kenneth Finley in 1955.

Elva was a Christian, a wonderful wife, a loving mother to four children, and a master home cook. She loved her family and dedicated her life to being at home with them. She was always busy; she cooked, sewed, loved gardening, music and

hosted many family events. Her love of family and the Lord was never doubted. She was tender hearted and loved to sit down and visit. She always had time for anyone who needed her, and she was so very loved by her family.

She will be sorely missed by her four children: Dianna East of Warrenton, Oregon; Kim Hamilton and her husband Mike of Huntsville; Darla Mitcham of Gladewater; and Kenneth Finley, Jr. and his wife Jeanie of Gladewater. Elva has (5) grandchildren, (2) step grandchildren, (14) great grandchildren and (2) great-great grandchildren.

Graveside services are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Saturday March 19th at Sunset Memorial Cemetery in Gilmer.

VIVION EUGENE MITCHAM

Vivion Eugene Mitcham, 93, of Gladewater passed away on March 14, 2022. Vivion Eugene "Mitch" Mitcham was born on April 22, 1928 to Vivion and Blanche Mitcham in Sharp, Texas.

After Vivion graduated from Sharp High School in 1945,



he went on to join the Merchant Marines and later the Army. Vivion was blessed with 3 sons; Ronald Eugene Mitcham, Randy Mitcham, and Mark Preston Mitcham. In 1963, Vivion met Margaret Elaine Stewart in Arlington. Vivion and Margaret married in Dallas on November 22, 1963.

Professional history professions ranged from cotton farmer, marine, soldier, mechanic, painter,

surveyor, contractor, home builder, developer, restaurateur, boutique owner, rancher, ostrich farmer, golf course owner and operator, as well as gold miner, and was an entrepreneur in every sense of the word. Vivion accepted the Lord as his savior on Easter Sunday in 1969, at the age of 41, and went on to be one of the most Godly men that many have ever known. He served as a deacon at North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Arizona, First Baptist Church, Gladewater and chairman of deacons at Friendship Baptist Church, Gladewater for several decades. He often could be seen around town, sporting a fedora, singing a tune and telling others about how God had blessed him. As hard as he worked, he enjoyed his hobbies, which included, golfing at renowned courses all over the world, mowing meticulous lines in his yard, and traveling with his bride of 56 years. In all his travels all over the world, he never found a burger he liked better than the ones made by his old buddy, Ronnie Maxey at Juicy's. Vivion was preceded in death by his wife, Margaret Elaine Mitcham, father, Vivion Mitcham, mother, Blanche Mitcham, sister, Doris Andrews and brother-in-law, James (JC) Andrews, brothers, JW and Odell Mitcham. Vivion is survived by son, Mark Mitcham and wife Stacey of Gladewater, son, Ronald Mitcham of Kilgore and son Randy Mitcham of Irving, as well as 2 granddaughters, Kaylee Mitcham of Kilgore and Keatin "Kitty" Mitcham of Longview. Visitation was held Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at Croley Funeral Home, Gladewater. Graveside Services were held at Friendship Baptist Church, Gladewater on Thursday, March 17th. Honorary Pallbearers are Dub Floyd, Alfredo "Jack" Jacaman, Larry Melton, Levi Jacaman, Brenton Robinson and Billy Eason.

Upshur court oks bid on gasoline

By Phillip Williams

After delaying action on the matter for weeks, Upshur County Commissioners Court last week finally accepted the lowest bid submitted on gasoline and diesel fuel for the Road and Bridge Department.

The court voted 4-0, with one abstention, to accept the bid from its current provider, Indiana-based Petroleum Traders. It was about \$6,000 lower than the next lowest bid from Eagle Fuel and Oil.

County Road Administrator Andy Jordan had indicated in the past he preferred Eagle's bid due to concerns he had about Petroleum, and told the court Tuesday that certain factors would mean Eagle's bid "will come in cheaper" than its competitor. He told the court at its March 15 meeting in Gilmer, however, he was agreeable to accepting Petroleum's bid.

Petroleum received notice from the county that the court was considering taking another firm's bid, and County Judge Todd Tefteller said Petroleum replied by letter.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Dustin Nicholson abstained from the vote to avoid a conflict of interest due to the nature of his business. Tefteller and Commissioners Jay W. Miller, Gene Dolle and Mike Ashley approved awarding the bid.

In another matter, the court tabled letting Jordan's department buy and install an 8,000 gallon gas tank after he said he had not yet obtained two bids for that.

Commissioners also approved repairing and resurfacing portions of Buffalo Street that lie west of the Gilmer city limits.

In another matter, they approved letting the Credit Union of Texas hire and pay a commercial real estate appraiser to determine value of the vacant lot which the county owns on the north side of the courthouse square. It is beside the Roberts Building.

In other action, the court approved accepting donation of about 200 used railroad ties from Union Pacific Railroad to be used in constructing a rural shooting range for Sheriff Larry Webb's office.

Sheriff's Chief Deputy David Hazel told the court the ties would block bullets from straying at the planned range, to be located at the county's pug mill site on Cottonwood Road in Pritchett community.

The court also accepted Mike Fennell's resignation from the board of Upshur County Emergency Services District No. 1. Dolle said Fennell moved out of the county.

In addition, commissioners approved continuing to use Learn as the county library's internet provider after County Librarian Cynthia King said the firm would freeze its price for four years in exchange for a four-year renewal.

The court also approved a resolution to apply for a state grant for the county's "Family Violence Intervention Program Project."

In other business, commissioners:

--approved Gilmer Area Farmers Market's request to use the aforementioned vacant lot for certain dates in April through August.

--approved letting the Gilmer Area Chamber of Commerce use the courthouse lawn and vacant lot for an April 16 Easter egg hunt, the May 7 Cherokee Rose Festival and the May 21 "ARTWALK: Art on the Bricks" event. --approved LiveGilmer.com's request to use the lawn for the "Risk It for the Brisket" contest this Friday and Saturday (see separate story.)

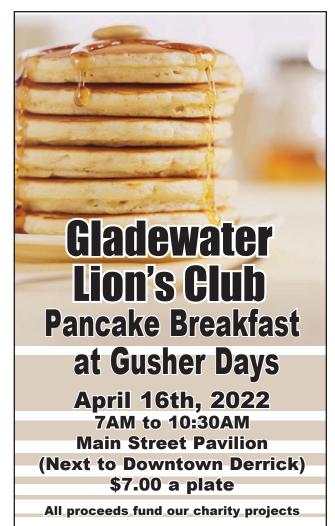
--accepted, for display in the courthouse, a county map donated by East Texans for Liberty. It shows the precinct boundaries for political parties' precinct chairmanships, county commissioners, and justices of the peace.

--voted 3-2, with Miller and Nicholson opposing, to use up to \$9,000 in federal grant funds for a new shed for the county maintenance department to store tools and equipment. Building maintenance supervisor Gene Crutsinger said the current shed was in "terrible" shape, but the two commissioners did not say why they opposed a new one.

--approved having a commercial real estate appraisal of the vacant lot, which Tefteller said the county may sell or lease. Credit Union of Texas will hire and pay the appraiser. --approved paying up to \$9,000 for attorney fees and costs of court related to court-initiated guardianships.

--approved spending up to \$11,000 for costs of holding the May 7 election on proposed amendments to the state constitution.

--recognized some members of the "Upshur County 4-H Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Champion 4-H Meat Judging Team." Kaitlyn Slover, a county extension agent, displayed the team's trophy.



Gladewater Former Students' Association Scholarship Fundraiser



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EASTER BINGO



Tuesday, April 12, 2022 First game starts at 7:00 pm (Doors will open at 6:00 pm)

Cost: \$10.00 each ticket (1 bingo card)

Day of event ticket sales start at 6:00 pm (Cash only – Tickets Non-Refundable) Extra cards can be purchased

Advanced Tickets will be sold March 25, April 1, and April 8 at the building. (2:00 – 6:00 pm)

15 games (12 prizes & 3 Cash)

★ DOOR PRIZE 🔺

There will also be a concession stand where snacks will be available for purchase

Location: Former Students' Building

2509 Hendricks Gladewater, TX 75647 903-845-2631

Gladewaterformerstudents.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Storytime held each Thursday

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

"Curious George" by H.A. Rey, and "Grumpy Monkey" by Suzanne Lang, 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, Dunn added.

The library is at 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas Hwy. 154.) Although the events are free to the public, 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. youseemore.com/upshur.

Upshur Dems elect delegates

The Upshur County Democratic Convention viewed a video address by the party's gubernatorial nominee, Beto O'Rourke, and elected delegates to the party's state convention Saturday morning.

Six delegates attended the meeting at the Solid Rock House of Praise in Gilmer. Some of those elected as state delegates did not attend the county convention, and some delegates to Saturday's gathering declined election as state delegates.

Elected as delegates to the state convension, set July 14-16 in Dallas, were Alma Wells, Mary Rabb, Carlyn Short, Jurel White and Cheryl Beal Jackson. Winifred Jackson and Ben Dickerson of Diana are automatically voting "ex-officio" delegates to the convention due to their positions, Jackson as county chairman and Dickerson as a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee

Delegates to the county convention included the chairman, Short, Rhonda Bigham, Debra K. Brinkley, Cheryl Jackson and Gilmer school board member Gloria King. Those who were not elected state delegates declined to be for various reasons, Winifred Jackson said Monday.

The convention also adopted a resolution opposing the proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir.

In his address, O'Rourke assailed his Republican opponent, Gov. Greg Abbott, for supporting restricting abortion, allowing the carrying of firearms without a background check, and the "attack on teachers and other educators.

"We're going to prosecute the case against Greg Abbott" because of rising electric bills, letting billionaires make money as people froze, and "trying to defund our public schools" by using vouchers to send students to private schools, O'Rourke said.

The nominee additionally charged Texas has "tried harder than any other" state to suppress voting.

O'Rourke said he wanted to focus the state on "great jobs, world class schools and expanding Medicaid." In addition, he said his campaign has 55,000 volunteers, and that the election of 17 black judges in Harris County is "a taste of what is to come."

The resolution on the potential reservoir said opposition to it is based on the nation being "made secure by the preservation of our precious natural resources." It adds that the project, proposed to be established "on the main stem of the Sulphur River in Red River, Titus and Franklin Counties, would flood 66,000 acres of heritage farmland, hardwood forest and wetlands.

"Over half of the land to be taken is bottomland hardwood forest or other forested wetlands and upland forest," the resolution continued, adding "at least 80 percent of the water produced by the proposed reservoir would be piped to the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex."

Jackson also announced the county's Democratic Party would hold a public meeting at 6 p.m. Monday (March 28) at the same location as Saturday's convention, 613 Cass.

The event is open to students who have just completed their sophomore to senior years of high school and are interested in gaining in-depth beef industry knowledge.

TSCRA Cattle Raisers Roundup will include tours at cattle operations and beef packing plants, as well as the opportunity to speak with industry leaders.

Hughes Abell, a rancher from Austin and the association's president, said this is the first event of its kind from Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association.

"We are incredibly excited for this opportunity to support the next generation of cattle raisers," Abell said. "This intensive experience will benefit participants no matter which segment of the beef industry they choose to enter."

Applications are due April 15, 2022.

For more information, or to apply, visit tscra.org/2022-tscracattle-raisers-roundup-july-25-29-2022.

Workforce Solutions to host Youth Opportunity Expo

Workforce Solutions East Texas is proud to partner with Region 7 Education Center to host its second Youth Expo, a job fair for teens age 16 and up who are looking for summer jobs, paid internships, or their next career!

This is a great opportunity to interact with employers interested in hiring the next generation of talent. It is also the perfect time for students to navigate the hiring experience and secure a job that will lead to a possible career.

This event will be held in person on April 7th at the Region 7 Education Service Center in Kilgore and virtually on April 8th. These events will be open for job seekers and employers across East Texas.

Ronald McDonald House Scholarship Program open

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater North Texas (RMHCNTX) announced the opening of applications for its Scholarship Program, which grants more than \$60,000 to 30 local high school seniors each year. Funded by North Texas Mc-Donald's owner/operators and donations from the community, the annual scholarships recognize students for their outstanding academic achievements and community involvement.

Applications are open online at rmhcntx.org/scholarships and must be submitted by April 1, 2022. All students can apply. To qualify for an RMHC Scholarship, students must:

* be a high school senior

* be younger than 21 years old

* be eligible to attend a two- or four- year college or university with a full course of study

* be a legal U.S. resident

* live in the geographic areas of the RMHC of Greater North Texas Chapter

* and submit a complete application and all required documentation by the deadline.

Gun show on tap

American Legion R.E. (Peppy) Blount Post No. 320 will sponsor a gun show Saturday and Sunday at the Gilmer Civic Center.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. The center is at 1218 U.S. 271 North, next to Walmart.

Admission is \$7 for adults (\$5 for military veterans with verifying identification.) Admission is free for children ages 12 and younger, but a parent must accompany them.

Legionnaire Andy Gibson said that the post, comprised of military veterans, will use proceeds for its operating expenses, and helping "other veterans in need."

Vendors wishing to sell at the show, or anyone seeking further

The Second Annual "Risk It for the Brisket" barbecue cookoff contest, sponsored by LiveGilmer.com, is set Friday and Saturday in downtown Gilmer.

Some 40 teams from Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana had signed up as of last week to compete for cash prizes in the event, sanctioned by the Outlaw BBQ Association, said Live Gilmer spokeswoman Anna Conlan. Those interested in competing may contact her at 512-663-2308 to see if spots are still available.

Set up times are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, with head cooks' meeting set for 4:30 p.m. at Gilmer Brewing Co. and tray pickup scheduled at 5 p.m. Kid cook judging is set for 7 p.m. and jackpot judging for 8 p.m. Friday.

For more information, visit LiveGilmer.com, or email Conlan at anna@liveeasttexas.com.

Upshur GOP convention slated

The Republican Party of Upshur County will hold its county convention Saturday morning at the Lantana Activity Center near Gilmer.

The event, which county GOP secretary Carl Byers said will have limited space for the public to attend, is set for 10:30 a.m. at the site at 80 Lantana Road.

The convention will elect 22 delegates and 22 alternates to the state GOP convention, scheduled June 16-18 in Houston, said Byers, who will become county GOP chairman June 13 after defeating incumbent De'Borah Deaz in the party's March 1 primary. Deaz, who was not elected as a delegate to the county convention, will nonethelsss be temporary chairman of it, said Byers.

Upshur Republicans elected 76 delegates and one alternate for the county convention at their March 12 precinct conventions, the party secretary said.

A person need not attend Saturday's convention to be elected as a delegate to the state convention if they voted in the party's March 1 primary, or take an "oath of affirmation" that they are a Republican, said Byers. They also cannot have participated in another political party's event this year, he added.

Also at Saturday's gathering, the delegates will consider approving several resolutions for presentation to the state convention's resolutions committee, said Byers.

New report shows hunting accidents in Texas at record low

AUSTIN - Hunting-related accidents in Texas are at an all-time low since Hunter Education became mandatory in 1988, according to the 2021 Texas Hunting Accident Report released by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD).

Of more than 49,000 certifications in 2021, Texas experienced only one fatality and 11 accidents statewide, according to the report.

"In 2021, three quarters of the incidents were what we call 'swinging on game outside of a safe zone of fire," said Steve Hall, the Hunter Education Coordinator for TPWD. "This is the most common mishap in Texas besides careless handling in and around vehicles. The cardinal rule of hunting and shooting safety is keeping the muzzle of a firearm always pointed in a safe direction."

This marks a significant decrease since 1988, when more than 18,000 Texans received their Hunter Education certification but reported 12 fatalities and 70 accidents throughout the state. As more Texans have taken to the field and obtained their Hunter Education certification, these numbers have greatly improved. Even prior to Hunter Education becoming mandatory in 1988, TPWD has offered hunter education courses since 1972, certifying nearly 1.5 million students. Today, Hunter Education is required for every hunter in Texas (including out-of-state hunters) born on or after Sept. 2, 1971. The minimum age for certification is nine years of age and certification is good for life.

Camp takes students from pasture to plate

FORT WORTH - Summer camp just got beefed up. Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association announced it will host it's first TSCRA Cattle Raisers Roundup July 25-29.

information on it, should contact show manager Shirley Parnell at 903-440-1224.

Risk It for the Brisket coming





William Pearce was named the 2021-2022 PCAT Bus Driver of the Year and was recognized at the meeting for his dedication to his job and the kids who ride his bus.

Photo by Jim Bardwell

April 15 deadline for filing property tax renditions

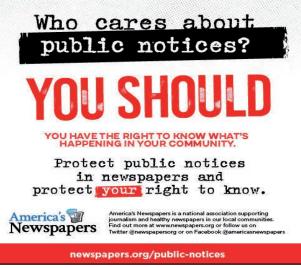
The Texas Comptroller's office reminds business owners that for many property types, April 15 is the deadline to file property tax renditions with their county appraisal districts. Different deadlines apply for certain regulated property.

A rendition is a list of the taxable inventory, furniture and fixtures, machinery, equipment and other property owned or managed as of Jan. 1 each year. The appraisal district may use the information to set property values.

A rendition allows property owners to record their opinion of their property's value and ensures that the appraisal district notifies property owners before changing a recorded value. Exempt property, such as church property and equipment used for farming, is not subject to rendition. Owners whose property was damaged by storm, flood or fire last year may file a special decreased value report, which indicates the property's condition on Jan. 1, 2022. Filing the decreased value report could lower those owners' final tax bills for 2022.

Rendition forms and decreased value report forms are available from county appraisal district offices statewide and can be downloaded at the Comptroller's property tax forms webpage.

For more information about property rendition, deadlines, deadline extensions, penalties and rendition forms, taxpayers may contact the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division at 800-252-9121 (press 2) or visit the division's website.



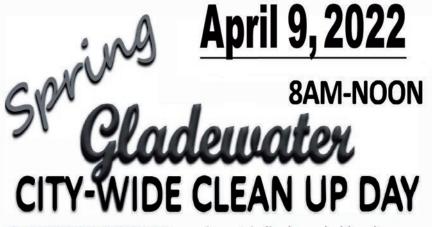
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Police Arrest Report

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS1
3/18/22	3/18/22	1:50	FIELDS, KODA LEE	W	М	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	500 W UPSHUR





GLADEWATER RESIDENTS may deposit bulky, household garbage and items into dumpsters located along E. Commerce St, downtown Gladewater.

Prohibited items include paint, shingles, batteries, chemicals, refrigeration items and commercial waste. These Items will not be accepted.

The City of Gladewater will provide curbside pick-up for any disabled and senior citizens, as available. To schedule this complimentary service please call: Gladewater Public Works: 903-845-2586 no later than 12 noon on Friday, April 9th.

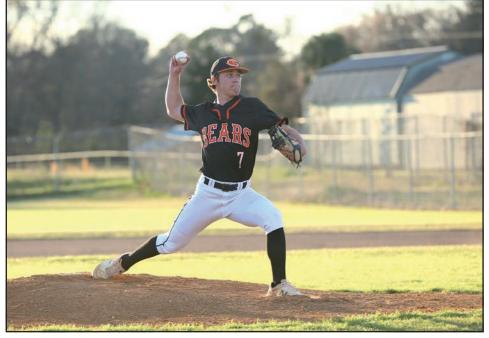
Your help is needed to keep our community clean. Volunteers will be meeting at the Ken Bennett Pavilion on E Pacific at 8 am where they will be dispersed to help in parks and neighborhoods in Gladewater. Trash bags will be provided.

The Gladewater Chamber of Commerce and GEDCO are sponsoring

ewater. Iexas

a free hotdog and hamburger lunch, at noon, for all volunteers.





Tanner Gothard struck out 10 batters in the win for Gladewater.



Zach Polanco went 2 for 3 at the plate for Gladewater as the bats came alive in the bottom of the second for Gladewater scoring 9 runs. The Bears kept the Tigers of Daingerfield at bay for a 12-2 win. Tanner Gothard got the win for the Bears striking out ten batters while allowing two runs off of six hits. Although the Bears managed just four more hits than the Tigers, the Bears

Photos by Chris Jones

↓ EAST TEXAS V FOOD BANK were more efficient running the bases stealing five. FREE GROCERY ITEMS AVAILABLE No eligibility requirements, paperwork or ID required. **Gladewater Rodeo Grounds** HWY 80, Gladewater **Distributions: 3rd Tuesday of each month** 10:00 am to Noon While supplies last Gladewater's Kelton Kates slides safely into third base. Sunday Services



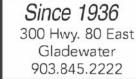
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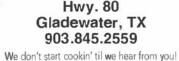
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America's Drive-In



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SUNDAY – 10:15 Morning Worship

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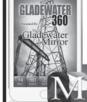
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St. James Missionary Baptist Church Join us each Wednesday at 6:30 pm for ABF/SBF and 7:15 pm for Bible Study and

> each Sunday at 9 am. 2800 W. Commerce Street Gladewater, Texas 75647 903-845-5028





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Morning Service Evening Service	11 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	903-845-6440			
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Game Warden Field Notes ...

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) law enforcement reports.

How do you Solve a Problem Like Maria?

A landowner called Texas Game Wardens when a group of quail hunters requested assistance rescuing a dog that had fallen into an abandoned grain silo-turned well. The dog, Maria, had chased a wounded bird through thick brush when she disappeared from her owner's sight. After searching, the owner found the dog trapped 50 feet below. Two Game Wardens arrived on the scene with hundreds of feet of rope, a wire dog kennel and the know-how to build a pulley hoist system. Wardens baited the kennel with recently harvested quail and slowly lowered it down to Maria. With some encouragement from her owner, the dog was coerced to enter the kennel. Wardens carefully lifted her out of the well and into the loving arms of her owner. Upon inspection, she appeared unharmed and fully alert, with all four limbs fully functional. Emergency responders, the dog owner, several fellow quail hunters and the landowners' family were amazed how situation that unfolded. The owner transported Maria home and scheduled her for a follow-up with a veterinarian for precautionary measures.

Fortune Favors the Bald (Tire)

A local sheriff's office reached out to Texas Game Wardens about a stolen vehicle from New Mexico heading into Texas. A warden located the vehicle under an irrigation pivot. After backup arrived, the subject attempted to evade officers by driving through fields. When the driver lost the tread on a tire, he stopped the vehicle and was met by the warden and a local deputy. The subject, who was a suspect in a New Mexico murder case, was taken into custody for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, evading in a motor vehicle and multiple other offenses. Cases and investigations for both states are pending.

Stuck in the Middle with You

Val Verde County Game Wardens received information about a fishing boat that ran aground on the Rio Grande River. The area recently accumulated excess silt from the Amistad Dam. Combined with decreasing water levels on the river, the exposed silt became sticky and acted as quicksand. The two boaters were unharmed but unable to vacate the vehicle without sinking into the mud. One of the wardens moved to an overlook point and located the boat. The wardens confirmed there was no way to reach them through waterways or on land. A call was placed for a helicopter with hoist capability. A municipal helicopter reached the individuals, and the rescue was completed successfully. The boaters did not require medical attention.

Mama Mia

A landowner notified Henderson County game wardens about someone who shot a deer on their property from the road. The landowner received word that the suspected shooter was bragging about the act on social media. A quick search of social media revealed the suspect's mother posted about grinding up deer meat for chili. The wardens contacted the mother. She said her son shot a deer on their property, and she was processing it. The wardens interviewed the suspected shooter and he quickly confessed to shooting the deer on the caller's property from the road. It was further determined that the mother believed the deer was shot on their property and was very upset when she learned the truth.

came across a deer laying in the middle road. Realizing it could be a safety hazard, the warden turned around to remove the buck. After exiting his vehicle, he noticed someone walking near the front gate of a residence in the dark. The warden thought it could be the landowner coming out to ask about the deer. Upon further observation, he realized the man was stumbling. The man said he hit the deer with his motorcycle which was heavily damaged and was now laying in the bar ditch up ahead. The motorcyclist did not know how long he had been in the ditch. Thankfully, he wore a helmet. The warden notified dispatch and requested an ambulance over a possible broken hand. EMS and a sheriff's deputy arrived on the scene. The warden called the man's wife, informed her of what happened and that he was in the care of EMS.

Here's Your Sign

A Texas Game Warden received a call from a landowner concerned about road hunters driving near his property, shining a light and shooting guns. The warden met up with a deputy sheriff who had just intercepted the vehicle with three male subjects. In the bed of the truck, the warden found multiple loaded weapons, two dead jackrabbits, two dead raccoons and a piece of deer backstrap. After a roadside investigation, it was determined that the three subjects had spent the night driving around on the public roads, shooting animals and stop signs. Two adults were arrested for hunting from a vehicle and one juvenile was released pending charges. A total of seven firearms and two varmint game calls were seized for evidence. Additional charges are pending.



PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: Estate of Lovie Davis Huffman, Estate of Louisa Doris Hatcher, Estate of Mable Rose Davis, Estate of Edward V. Toles, Estate of Jessie Albert Toles, Freddie Lee Toles, Jr., Estate of Neal Toles, Estate of George R. Toles, Jr., Estate of William James Anderson, Estate of Gussie Mae Anderson, Estate of Sanford J. Anderson, Clara Anderson, Estate of Katie Mae Gamble, Betty Sue Gamble, Paula Eugenia Salter, Estate of Roy Thompson, Deborah F. Thompson, Estate of Allen J. Thompson, Estate of James Edward Thompson, Estate of Clifford Thompson, Estate of Lucy Lee Mitchell Davis, Estate of William Ben Boyd

You and each of you are hereby cited, required and commanded to appear before the County Court at Law #1 of Gregg County, Texas, to be held in the County Court at Law #1 court room in the courthouse of said county in the city of Longview, Gregg County, Texas, such appearance to be at or before ten o'clock a.m., the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from the date of service, exclusive of the day of such service, which day and date of service shall be the date of publication that this newspaper bears, and which appearance shall be at such time on such Monday, by filing written answer to the application hereinafter mentioned, contesting same, should they or any of them desire to do so, which application will, at such 10 o'clock hour and such place be acted on, said application having been filed by Matthew Harris in said court on the 15th day of October, 2021, and now pending there, in a proceeding on the probate docket of said court, styled, "In the Estate of Catherine Caruthers, Deceased, the file number of which application and the docket number of which proceedings is 88000203P, the nature of such application being for

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: John M. Cherry, Chevelle Cherry, Estate of Peggy Grover, Dale Neilson, Caroline Hope Harris Robertson, Clifford Harris, Robert Eugene Harris, Betty Harris Ehle, Ronald Douglas Howard, Estate of William Nathan Manning Jr., James Calvin Manning, Alfred Manning, John Houston Manning, Arnold Emmanuel Manning, Mahalia LeAnne Cook, Michael Brian Cook, Estate of Mary Louise Manning, Frances Jeanette Manning Perry, Brenda Sue Manning, Estate of Willie Gerald Manning, Donna Manning Ratte Sanders, Daniel Stallions, Alfred Drayton Manning Jr., Mary Angela Manning, Christopher DeLynn Manning, Jeffrey Dewayne Manning, Mark Anthony Manning, James L. Manning, Mary Ruth Manning Hall, Estate of Flora Estelle Manning, Estate of Jerry R. Potts, Debbie E. Lucker Lovejoy, Melanie Hamner Halvorson, Steve Hamner, Scott Hamner, Laura Bryant Harris, William Charles Bryant Jr., Katherine Ann Bryant Hammock Hargraves, Katrina Bryant Dubose, Linda S. Dominguez, Kenneth Cecil Bailey, Robert Darell Bailey, Jeffrey Paul Bailey, Mary Ellen Gertner, Robert Franklin Lacey, Mark C. Blankenbeckler, Pam Blankenbeckler, Estate of Larry Alan Manning, Jo Ann Manning Barnes, Doris Manning Cox, Henry Taylor Ward, Gregory Oneal Ward, Joe Alfred Rodriguez, Steven Rodriguez, Estate of Robert Logan Bailey, James S. Bailey, Natalie Sisley,

Estate of Georgia Ellis, Harvey Peak

You and each of you are hereby cited, required and commanded to appear before the County Court at Law #2 of Gregg County, Texas, to be held in the County Court at Law #2 court room in the courthouse of said county in the city of Longview, Gregg County, Texas, such appearance to be at any time after the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from the date of service, exclusive of the day of such service, which day and date of service shall be the date of publication that this newspaper bears, and which appearance shall be at such time on such Monday, by filing written answer to the application hereinafter mentioned, contesting same, should they or any of them desire to do so, which application will, at such IO o'clock hour and such place be acted on, said application having been filed by Betty J. Davis in said court on the 1st day of July, 2021 , and now pending there, in a proceeding on the probate docket of said court, styled In the Estate of Virginia Regan Davis the file number of which application and the docket number of which proceedings is 2013-0272-P, the nature of such application being for Fourth Amended Application for Determination of Heirship. If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Help! I Need Somebody!

A Karnes County Game Warden patrolling a local highway



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APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Witness, Michelle Gilley, Clerk of the County Court at Law #1 of Gregg County.

Given under my hand and the seal of said court, at office in the City of Longview this the 15th day of March, 2022

> Michelle Gilley Clerk of County Court at Law #1 Gregg County, Tex



WORLD'S LARGEST GUN SHOW - April 2 & 3 - Tulsa, OK Fairgrounds. Saturday 8-6, Sunday 8-4. WANENMACHER'S TULSA ARMS SHOW. Free appraisals. Bring your guns! www.TulsaArmsShow.com.

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Witness, Michelle Gilley, Clerk of the County Court at Law #2 of Gregg County. Given under my hand and the seal of said court, at office in the City of Longview this the 11th day of March, 2022

> Michelle Gilley Clerk of County Court at Law #2 Gregg County, Texas

LEGAL NOTICE

Gladewater Independent School District will receive Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Design-Build Services. The project consists of an expansion of Gladewater Primary School Gymnasium located at 100 West Gay Ave. Gladewater, Texas 7564 7. The expansion will be approximately 3,375 Sf. The estimated budget for this project is 413,125.00. The estimated date for completion of this project is 8 months from commencement. This Request for Qualifications is issued in accordance with Chapter 2269, Subchapter G of the Texas Government Code. The RFQ provides the information necessary to prepare and submit qualifications for consideration and ranking by the owner and can be downloaded at the District's website at www.gladewaterjsd.com. Gladewater ISD may select the RFQ that offers the "best value" for the District based on the published selection criteria and weight of criteria. and on

its ranking evaluation. The deadline for submission is 3:00 P.M April 4, 2022

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AUCTION

Construction Equipment Auction – 170+ items sell no reserve, Thur., April 7, Ira, TX. All items are sold "as is." Aaron McKee TX Lic. #16401. Bid Now purplewave.com.







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