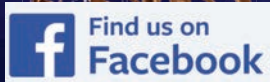


Gladewater Mirror

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"



Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022

Vol. 94, No. 37

1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

District judge charged with DWI following traffic accident

By Phillip Williams

115th District Judge Dean Fowler was arrested on a misdemeanor charge of driving while intoxicated after a "motor vehicle accident" on Texas 154 east of Gilmer Friday night, Upshur County Sheriff Larry Webb said.



FOWLER

Fowler, who presides in Upshur and Marion Counties and was formerly Upshur County

judge for 16 years, was arraigned by Upshur Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Lyle Potter and released on \$1,500 bond from county jail, Webb said in a press release Saturday.

"I'm not gonna comment" on the charge, Fowler said Monday, but added that he intended to continue doing his job as usual and that he had retained Longview attorney David Moore to represent him.

Fowler, a Gilmerite who is 60 and whose full name is Jerald Dean Fowler II, is in his first term as district judge. A Republican, he was elected to the post without opposition.

Webb said sheriff's deputies and Texas Department of Public Safety troopers responded to the accident at 10:01 p.m. He also said the DPS was the primary investigating agency and referred requests for further information to its Mount Pleasant office.

Upshur Dems defend elections admin Harle

By Phillip Williams

The Upshur County Democratic Party has sent a resolution to the county commissioners court defending County Election Administrator Lory Harle against what the party calls some citizens' inference that she "has not protected the integrity of elections, and specifically the 2020 Presidential election in Upshur County."

The resolution said "several citizens" recently made public information requests to Harle, "claiming that the voting equipment used for the 2020 Presidential election was connected to the Internet, that interference had taken place in the voting, and that there was a discrepancy" in the total number of votes cast as shown by the Texas secretary of state's office, compared to the number canvassed by the commissioners.

"The claim that voting itself was connected to the Internet is simply a false claim, which is easy to prove," the resolution says. The document says Texas law prohibits that, and that Harle "carefully implemented" that requirement.

It also commends here for purchasing a certain type of voting machines, adding the "Democratic Party of Upshur County publicly supports" Harle.

Republican President Donald Trump overwhelmingly carried Upshur County in his losing bid for re-election to Democrat Joe Biden in 2020.

Upshur Democratic Chairman Winifred Jackson, who released the statement Sunday, also announced county Democrats will hold their monthly meeting at 6 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6715, 1484 VFW Road just outside Gilmer.



Photos by Jim Bardwell

Bears roar back with 47-14 win

By Tyler Sutton

The best way to tell how good a team you have is to see how they bounce back from adversity and on Friday night at Panther stadium in Spring Hill, the Gladewater Bears did just that with a dominating 47-14 victory over the Panthers as the head coach Jonny Louvier returned to his former stomping ground and left with a huge win

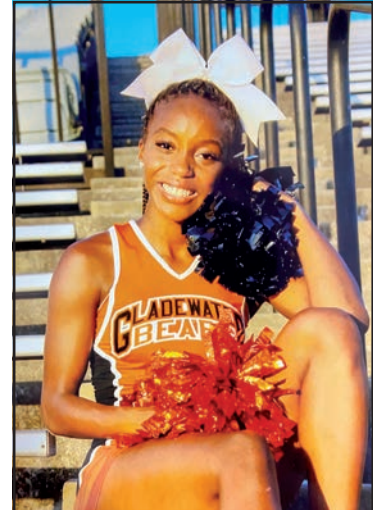
The scoring started quickly after Gladewater converted a 4th down play on their opening drive and running back Davaunte Powers hauled in a 15 yard catch from QB Kyron Wilson. That set up Powers for his big night as he ran untouched 40 yards one play later for a TD and an early 6-0 lead for the Bears. Gladewater's defense then stiffened up as after allowing a 4th down conversion from Spring Hill, the Panthers were stopped on 4th down and the Bears took over. It didn't take Gladewater long to cash in on the short field as Powers broke free for 30 yards then Wilson found Kolin Lewis for 26 yards that set up Powers for his 2nd TD run of the half, this time from 9 yards and the Bears 2 point try was good for a 14-0 Gladewater lead. The Bears defense then showed up again as Lewis picked off a pass from Spring Hill's Zane Mason and again gave Gladewater a short field which led to Powers third touchdown run of the half as he went in from 4 yards to give Gladewater a 20-0 lead. After

Spring Hill fumbled the ensuing kickoff and it was recovered by the Bears, Wilson finished off the short drive with a 1 yard TD run to give Gladewater a 26-0 halftime lead.

The second half began much like the first half did as the Bears quickly forced a Spring Hill three and out and just 2 plays later Wilson found Lewis for a deep bomb 41-yard pass and he broke free to the house for a 34-0 Gladewater lead. That was the only offense of the 3rd as both teams then combined for 3 turnovers as Spring Hill had two fumbles and Gladewater had an interception. The 4th quarter scoring began with Gladewater's Kwame Gordon punching it in from 1 yard out to give the Bears a commanding 41-0 lead. The Panthers finally got on the board late in the fourth with a pair of rushing touchdowns, a 1 yard TD run from Carsin Cooper and then a 47 yard burst from Mason to cap the scoring.

"It was special to come back here and get a win" said coach Louvier. "We came out hot and kept the momentum going the whole night ... happy for all the kids to finally taste a victory."

The Bears will finish this 3 game road trip this Friday with a trip to Malakoff. Kickoff is 7:30. Malakoff won their game Friday in double OT 29-27 over Salado.



Floyd to compete for Miss Gregg County title

The 2022 Gregg County Fair, sponsored by the Longview Jaycees, is underway and runs through Sept. 17 at the Longview Fairgrounds and Exhibit Building.

Carnival rides, great fair food and games await at this annual family fun event. Gate admission is \$6, free for children 3-years-old and younger, senior citizens, military with proper identification. Arm-bands \$35 Sept. 9-11 and 16-17, \$30 Sept. 12-15. For information go to www.greggcountyfair.com or call (903) 753-4478.

Gladewater's Kamryn Floyd, daughter of Derrick and Kamisha Floyd, is among the many Gregg County High School contestants competing for the title of Miss Gregg County. The pageant will be held Thursday night at the fairgrounds.

Floyd, who is an accomplished cheer, basketball and track athlete, plans to attend Southern Arkansas University and pursue a career in pediatric nursing.



Arts & Crafts Fest this weekend

Gladewater will host one of the largest September outdoor artistic events and festivals in East Texas this weekend (Sept. 17-18) on the Broadway School Grounds, located at 200 E Broadway Ave.

Since 1973, arts, woodcrafts, handcrafts, ceramics, dolls, needlework, jewelry, clothing, homemade goodies from local non-profit organization and much more have been on display and available to buy. Sponsored by the Gladewater Chamber of Commerce, the event runs from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday and features handcrafted items - only, and that's what makes it so special.

For more information go to: www.gladewaterartsandcrafts.com or call (903) 845-5501.

County-wide cleanup

If you live in Upshur County, the Upshur County government will hold a free "County-Wide Cleanup" for county residents to dump certain items at the county-owned rural pug mill Saturday, Oct. 8, announced Precinct 3 County Commissioner Michael Ashley.

The event is at 1426 Cottonwood Road in the Pritchett community, is set from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is only for households, not businesses, and only while dumpster space is available.

Residents are limited to one trip per truck or trailer combination, or two trips per car or sport utility vehicle. You must show a voter registration card or vehicle registration to prove residency in Upshur County.

Examples of what can be dumped include household trash and no-longer-useable items such as appliances, lawn furniture, tools, water hoses, lawn mowers, weed-eaters, furniture, feed buckets, bicycles, musical instruments, flower pots, swing sets and trampolines.



OPINION/COMMENTARY

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

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



...and then the phone rang

After a work jam-packed weekend complemented by family emergencies, I settled down Sunday evening to work on our newspapers and get depressed by the Cowboys in the Ram Wonderland bazillion dollar stadium. My goal was to get my work done so I could move on Monday to the next deadline. And then, the phone rang.

My cowboy cousin called to ask if I remembered what I had done three years ago that day. At that point, I wasn't sure what my name was. And then he reminded me...I spoke some special words at his Mom's graveside service. And I was broken in that moment missing my aunt Gwendol Marie Brown Steele. One of the best friends I have ever had. She was the keeper of encouragement and family stories. For all of us.

She was my Daddy's much loved baby sister. When she was a young teen Daddy taught her how to box and then would con his friends into sparring with her. She never failed to surprise them. Tall and lanky with black hair and big brown eyes, Aunt Gwen had a smile that was infectious. She never seemed her age. She was my role model.

She would come for coffee nearly every day after my uncle died. She would grab a cup and fold herself onto the porch swing with a leg athletically propped. On one of those mornings she gave into my keeping a brown clasp envelop with her funeral wishes. She also had words she wanted me to speak directly to those who loved her:

"Today, I ask that you come not to mourn, but to celebrate my life. I have gone to be with our Lord and all of our loved ones. My love will always live with each of you within your hearts."

And it has.

That is the amazing thing about healthy love that runs deep, it

abides. Aunt Gwen and I shared a favorite Bible verse, it is the one I want carved in stone above where I someday lie..."...the greatest of these is love".

And of course there has never been a more powerful truth. In essence, I Corinthians 13:13b explains the meaning of life...to love and be loved.

Once we get over the shock of losing someone we love dearly, we are able to embrace the gift of their love and the memories that we cherish. Celebrating life is something we should all strive for. I am grateful to my aunt for all she taught me, her generosity of spirit, her laughter in the middle of darkness and her admonishment, "we are tough people, we always get through the hard stuff. Just get up and keep going until you come out on the other side".

Now dear cousin Billy, I remember exactly where I was three years ago and what I said. What I remember most clearly though is the joy your Mom brought me throughout my life. What a gift we can be when we are generous, laugh freely and love deeply. I am reminded that it is time to celebrate life. It is always time to celebrate life, and love and laughter.



Gladewater Beautification committee members Michael Webber and Jamie Ballard joined Pastor Bailey Harris and other committee members as First Baptist Church grounds were recognized.



Poll: Most Texas teachers consider quitting

More than three-fourths of Texas teachers say they have seriously considered quitting the profession largely because of a perceived lack of respect and support, according to a new survey by the Charles Butt Foundation. Excessive workload and inadequate pay were other major reasons that teachers are considering leaving, The Dallas Morning News and other media outlets reported.

The percentage of teachers considering quitting has risen to 77% this year from 58% in 2020, when the foundation conducted the first survey on the subject.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, Texas has experienced a teacher shortage that prompted the Texas Education Agency to form a task force to address the issue. No official findings have been released.

The statewide survey included 1,291 public school teachers drawn randomly from TEA's 2020 roster of teachers. Among those teachers who seriously thought about leaving the profession, 68% updated their resumes, while about one-third applied for another job.

"This isn't just teachers not feeling satisfied," research associate Victoria Wang told The Morning News. "They're actively taking steps to leave the classroom."

The foundation is named for the CEO of H-E-B, the largest privately held employer in Texas. Its goal is "pursuing a more equitable and prosperous future for all Texans," according to its website.

Drought conditions ease in state

Welcome rains across the state have eased drought conditions, with 62.3% of the state in moderate to severe drought, affecting about a third of the state's population, according to drought.gov. That is down from the end of June, when drought conditions covered 86% of the state.

Most of East Texas and South Texas and the El Paso area are no longer experiencing drought. Severe drought remains prevalent around the San Antonio and Midland-Odessa areas and eastward to the Abilene region.

Voter registration deadline is Oct. 11

Eligible Texans who plan to vote in the Nov. 8 general election must be registered by Oct. 11, according to Texas Secretary of State John Scott. While voter registration in Texas is county based, Texans can make sure they're registered by visiting the secretary of state's Am I Registered portal: <https://tinyurl.com/4wcn4b9x>.

Early voting runs from Oct. 24 to Nov. 4. A hotly contested governor's race between incumbent Republican Greg Abbott and Democratic challenger Beto O'Rourke is at the top of the ballot. Other statewide races include lieutenant governor, attorney general, comptroller, land commissioner, agriculture commissioner, and railroad commissioner.

Other races are underway for seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, Texas Legislature and assorted local offices. Check with your local elections clerk for a full sample ballot.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Abbott: Electric grid safe this fall

The state's electric grid should have no problem handling power demand this fall, Gov. Greg Abbott said after meeting with members of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas and the Public Utility Commission. A joint meeting was held last week to discuss the issue, although typically there are few challenges to the grid during autumn and spring because of decreased demand.

The new forecast by ERCOT predicts plenty of power available in October and November, despite planned shutdowns by a number of Texas power plants for scheduled maintenance.

"The State of Texas continues to monitor the reliability of our electric grid, and I thank ERCOT and PUC for their hard work to implement bipartisan reforms we passed last year and for their proactive leadership to ensure our grid is stronger than ever before," Abbott said.

The grid faced unprecedented demand this summer with triple-digit temperatures across most of the state for weeks on end.

COVID-19 boosters shipping to state

The third booster vaccine for COVID-19 is shipping to health-care providers across the state this week, the Texas Department of State Health Services reported. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has allocated about 900,000 doses of the updated boosters to Texas. That figure includes 502,500 doses of the Pfizer vaccine and 192,800 doses of the Moderna vaccine available for order by health-care providers. Another 200,000 or so doses will be available through large retail pharmacies, such as H-E-B, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart.

The so-called "bivalent" vaccines differ from earlier versions in that they protect against both the original strain of COVID-19 and the Omicron variant that has been responsible for more than 99% of the COVID cases in Texas in the past month, according to DSHS.

People can get the updated booster if it has been at least two months since they received the original vaccine or one of the previously offered boosters.

COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations drop

The number of new COVID-19 cases reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University during the past week dropped to 49,326, down about 10% from the previous week, with 133 new deaths reported, also a decrease. DSHS reported 2,440 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations, just slightly lower than the previous week.

North & East Texas
Press Association



The Gladewater Mirror

News & Advertising Deadlines: Noon Monday

Office Hours

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Publisher/Editor: Jim Bardwell

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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

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

YOUNG PEOPLE, PLEASE DO NOT FORGET GOD

"Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth..." (Eccl. 12: 1). Young people need to enjoy their youth, but while doing so, should not forget to honor their Creator, because they will answer to God for how they enjoy it (Eccl. 11: 9). Wise youth will think about these matters, and will have the proper perspective about God and life and find the proper balance about enjoying youth and facing God in judgment.

Today, atheism and unbelief is claiming generations of young people at a startling rate. Studies show that many young people lose their faith after their freshman year of college. Impressionable 18 and 19-year-olds, are having their faith repeatedly challenged and tested by atheistic and agnostic professors and curriculum. One study said, "Only 6% of college professors said the Bible is the actual Word of God." Fifty-one percent described it as an "ancient book of fables, legends, history and moral precepts." Seventy-five percent believe religion does not belong in public schools. Thank God for those teachers and professors who honor God and believe His Word!

I fear for today's youth, where truth is on the decline; where a warped concept of tolerance is that everyone has a right to their "own truth," and no one has the right to challenge it; where the Bible is down-played and even ridiculed; and where God has been re-fashioned to fit man's expectations, and service his desires. Our youth today is witnessing the unimportance or trivialization of God, because we are failing to teach and train them according to God's Word, and morals among youth is certainly on the decline, and I ask you, who is to blame? (Eph. 4: 6).

When our youth are receiving higher learning in our colleges and universities, but such learning is independent of God, it is not real learning at all! George Washington once said: "The future of this nation depends on the Christian training of our youth," Charles W. Eliot correctly said: "Exclude religion from education and you have no foundation upon which to build moral character." Theodore Roosevelt said: "To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society."

First Timothy 4: 12 says: "Let no one look down (despise or think little of your youthfulness), but be an example...in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity." Young people, you can silence criticism of you by your honorable conduct. Please don't forget God! 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

OBITUARY

JOYCE ANN WESTMORELAND WILLIAMS

The world became a little brighter on September 23rd, 1930, when Joyce Ann Westmoreland Williams was born to Hazel and Houston Alvin Westmoreland at Parkland Hospital in Dallas. She lived a life as the only child, high on a pedestal, until tragedy struck at the age of 9 and she lost her dad. Her mother, Hazel, became the "bread winner" in clerical work and it was suggested they move closer to family in Greenville, Texas. Time moved on and one day a tall, handsome Navy man,

Floyd Stamps, on shore-leave, visiting his family, caught the eye of Hazel and they united as a family. Floyd loved Joyce as his own and the smile was brought back to her face and the adventures of "life" began! They traveled cross-country from base to base until Floyd was called into active duty in 1944. The "girls" packed up the house and made their way to Gladewater, where Hazel had a sister living. It was here where Joyce began her love of flowers and honed her talent for arranging them. She worked with her aunt at "Flowers by Perk" on Broadway (the building is still there).

Her life changed one day when a girlfriend, from her church youth group, invited her to be the "plus one" on a blind double date. By the end of the date, the boys decided they needed to switch partners!! Joyce met the love of her life, J.O. Williams, on that blind date!! Both couples married and their unions lasted 60+ years!! Joyce was very happy to live in the shadow of J.O. and be the "keeper of the house". She was a God lover, Bible Scholar/Quoter, best Sunday School Teacher you could ever ask for. She was a great listener, never a critic, she led by example and if she ever met you— you left as friends. She was a true lady's lady! We loved her dearly and she will leave a void...

It was very fitting for her to make her final home-journey September 11, 2022. She visited the Twin Towers in the spring of 2001 and was very taken with the history being made on 9/11, as her father was a firefighter.

She is survived by her son, Michael and Daughter in Heart, Lynn Ann and Granddaughter, Ella Mae Williams. Grandson Dash and wife, Jennifer and Great Granddaughter, Dylan Williams. Son, Mason and Daughter in Heart, Cindy Williams. Granddaughter Betsy and husband, Christopher Thompson and Great Grandsons, Mason and Connor Thompson. Grandson, Mase Williams and Great Grandsons, Collin and Kaleb Williams. Family in Heart, Tasha and J.P. Phillips, Jazmone Hanson and Elizabeth Strickland. Her dear friend, the last of the "Trio", Mary Griffin.

We would like to give our heart-felt thanks to Carla Penuell for always making her look beautiful and to HeartsWay Hospice and their nurses for the tender care they administered. Heaven's Glory is just a little bit brighter...

Services will be held Thursday September 15, 2022, at 11 in the morning at Croley Funeral Home Chapel in Gladewater. Visitation will start just prior to the service at 10 in the morning. Interment to follow at "

"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the early and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not lie faint!" Isaiah 40:28-31

JAMES FRANKLIN HARPER

James Franklin Harper, 77, of Gladewater passed away in Tyler on September 9, 2022. He was born on February 24, 1945, in Big Sandy, the youngest child born to the late William Oscar Harmon Harper and Birdie Jewel (Eddins) Harper.

James grew up and attended school in Gladewater. He served his country in the US Air Force during the Vietnam War. Over the years, James owned and operated several different businesses. He worked as a Real Estate Broker, as well as an Insurance Agent. James was the Director of Gladewater Housing Authority for over ten years.

James served the Gladewater community he lived in, by serving on the Board and as an Officer for the Gladewater Lions Club, The American Legion, and the Gladewater Chamber of Commerce. He served for 24 years on the Starrville-Friendship Water Supply Corporation Board of Directors. James was also a proud member of the GMC Classics as well as becoming a 32-degree Mason with Gladewater Lodge #852.

James is survived by his beloved wife, Redonia (Hagood) Harper and his daughter, Kayla Redonia Harper. He is preceded in death by his parents, as well as his 12 older siblings.

In honoring James' wishes, cremation will take place with no services scheduled.



Gladewater Lions Club President Martin Pessink presenting a check and basket full of school supplies to Jamie Cook for the high school grab and go pantry that she operates to help students.

Form 50-876

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.739089 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of the City of Gladewater.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$ <u>0.739089</u>	per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$ <u>0.642679</u>	per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$ <u>0.739091</u>	per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2022 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City of Gladewater from the same properties in both the 2021 tax year and the 2022 tax year.

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that City of Gladewater may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that City of Gladewater is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2022 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 13, 2022 at 6:00pm at Gladewater City Hall, 519 E. Broadway, Gladewater, Texas 75647

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, City of Gladewater is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Gladewater City Council of City of Gladewater at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

Mayor Scott E. Owens, Mayor Pro-tem Elijah Anderson
FOR the proposal: Michael Webber, Teddy Sorrells, Rocky Hawkins, Kevin Clark

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: Brandy Flanagan

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

Form 50-876

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Gladewater last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Gladewater this year.

	2021	2022	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.751562	\$0.739089	-1.66%
Average homestead taxable value	\$121,939	\$136,303	11.77%
Tax on average homestead	\$916.44	\$1007.40	9.93%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$2,430,613	\$2,798,665	15.14%

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Manna House needs

The local Manna House provides free food to those needing assistance.

Sometimes Manna House needs help - such as canned fruit, jelly, peanut butter and mac-n-cheese. Also needed is cranberry sauce and cake mix for the upcoming holidays.

If you are grocery shopping, consider picking up a few extra items for Manna House, so they can keep helping others.

Drop off the non-perishable items at 519 E Broadway Ave. or the Gladewater Mirror at 211 N. Main. Got questions, call (903) 845-3128.

UT Health East Texas offers free virtual seminar on osteoporosis

UT Health East Texas is offering a free, virtual seminar at 6 p.m. Tuesday, September 27. The seminar will feature a presentation about osteoporosis given by Christina Tinkler, PA-C at UT Health East Texas Orthopedic Institute in Tyler.

The seminar is free, and you can register in advance at UTHealthEastTexas.com/seminars to receive an email with the direct link before the presentation starts. When you register, you will also have the opportunity to submit a question in advance through the message box. The presentation will premiere on our Facebook page, Facebook.com/UTHealthEastTexas.

Enroll in the Texas Tuition Promise Fund before Nov. 1

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar reminds families that enrollment in the Texas Tuition Promise Fund®, the state's prepaid college tuition plan, began Sept. 1 and runs through Feb. 28, 2023.

The Texas Tuition Promise Fund offers parents and loved ones the chance to prepay a child's future higher education at Texas public colleges and universities at today's prices, excluding medical and dental institutions. The \$25 application fee to enroll in the plan will be waived for September and October enrollments (must be postmarked by Oct. 31, 2022).

"With inflation putting stress on the family pocket-book, now is the perfect time to think about a Texas Tuition Promise Fund account, which gives families an additional tool to help plan for their children's future education," Hegar said. "Planning today is a good way to put your child on a path to a college education. And, we offer three different payment plans and three tuition types to fit your budget."

Participants in the plan purchase "tuition units" that can be used later toward undergraduate resident tuition and schoolwide required fees at Texas public colleges and universities, excluding medical and dental institutions. Prices are based on 2022-23 academic year costs for the state's public colleges and universities.

For more information about this prepaid college tuition plan, including Texas residency requirements, how the plan's Transfer Value can be used at medical and dental institutions, private and out-of-state colleges and universities, career schools and registered apprenticeship programs, go to TuitionPromise.org or call 800-445-GRAD (4723), option 5.

Memory course set

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office in Gilmer is planning a six-lesson course to help older adults "identify ways to improve memory."

The "Master of Memory" six-lesson series is scheduled from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21, and Thursday, Oct. 29, at the Gilmer Area Senior Center at 206 Silver Alley. For more information call at 903-680-8128 or email: Julie.york@ag.tamu.edu.

Storytime on tap

Two books will be read to small children at each of the Upshur County Library's two weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer Thursday, Sept. 15.

"Bella the Flutterby Butterfly" by Tiffany Berry, and "Moth and Butterfly Ta-Da!" by Dev Petty, will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. gatherings, said Kari Dunn, the library's children's coordinator.

While 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.yousee-more.com/upshur.

GW Garden Club

The Gladewater Garden Club, established 1949, meets the fourth Monday of each month at the Gardens of Gladewater Clubhouse, 108 N. Lee Street, at 1 p.m..

They have monthly programs by gardenign experts and refreshments. If you are interested in joinign contact a garden club member.

Drought relief

The United States Department of Agriculture is offering a drought relief program to qualified livestock owners and contract growers, announced Joyce Williams, district technician for the Gilmer-based Upshur-Gregg Soil and Water Conservation District No. 417. The USDA's Farm Service Agency is administering the program.

Williams said those interested should contact the local conservation district (903-734-8732), which will put them in touch with the FSA's Tyler office.

The "Livestock Forage Disaster Program" is, in part, for those with covered livestock, and who also produce grazed forage crop acreage (native and improved pasture land.) Relief is limited to \$125,000. For more information, visit farmers.gov.

Late fees waived

Southwestern Electric Power Co. announced last week new measures to help residential customers facing high bills due to increased demand and rising fuel costs.

All SWEPCO residential customers can get their late fees waived and take advantage of an extended payment plan that gives them up to 12 months to pay their bill in full. In some cases, deposits can also be waived.

Residential customers wishing to get late fees and deposits waived must call 1-888-216-3523 to speak with a SWEPCO representative who can also help set them up on an extended payment plan.



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Grants available to Texas landowners for prescribed burning

Prescribed fire can reduce intensities of future, unplanned wildfires

Texas A&M Forest Service is accepting applications for grants to help eligible Texas property owners with the cost of prescribed burning on their land.

Prescribed fire grant applications logo with QR code and application information.

The grants will reimburse landowners to offset the cost of having a prescribed burn conducted on their property by certified and insured prescribed burn managers. Last year, these grant programs provided more than \$322,000 to landowners for a total of 11,667 acres treated.

The deadline to apply is Sept. 30. Interested landowners can determine eligibility and find an application at tfsweb.tamu.edu/cppgrant.

“Prescribed burning can be an important and effective tool for landowners to reduce wildfire risk, while enhancing wildlife habitat and promoting a healthier forest ecosystem,” said Wel-

don Dent, Texas A&M Forest Service fuels specialist.

Prescribed fire needs
Prescribed fire is a land management practice that eliminates brush, weeds, dried vegetation and downed trees. Prescribed fire also fosters seed and plant regeneration, reduces invasive plants and restores soil nutrients.

“This year’s extreme wildfire season is a good example of the importance of prescribed burning,” Dent said. “Prescribed fire in a controlled environment can reduce the intensity of an unplanned fire by reducing the fuel load on the ground.”

Texas A&M Forest Service offers grants to landowners to complete prescribed fires on private lands across the state, each with their own goals.

Grants available
The Community Protection Program Grant is available for property owners



Prescribed fire grant applications are now open to help reduce the intensities of future, unplanned wildfires.

Texas A&M Forest Service photo

within 10 miles of a national forest in East Texas. It is also available to property owners within 10 miles of the Caddo and Lyndon B Johnson national grasslands.

The State Fire Assistance for Mitigation Central and East Texas Grant is available to all counties in the eastern part of the state, from Goliad County in South Texas to Cooke County along the Red River.

The Neches River and Cypress Basin Watershed Restoration Program Grant is for prescribed burning

in priority East Texas watersheds.

The Texas Longleaf Conservation Assistance Program is available for East Texas landowners interested in enhancing longleaf pine ecosystems. This cooperative program is available in select counties throughout the year. For details on this program, visit <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/longleaf/>.

For residents in parts of the Panhandle, West Texas and South Texas, applications for the State Fire Assistance Mitigation Plains

Prescribed Fire Grant are available each June 15 through Aug. 15.

Texas A&M Forest Service does not conduct these prescribed burns. Grant recipients must select a certified and insured prescribed burn manager to be eligible for reimbursement.

For more information,

including eligibility requirements and an application, visit <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/cppgrant/>.

For information about other natural resource programs that offer financial assistance to Texas landowners, visit <https://texasforrestinfo.tamu.edu/funding-connector/>.



Texas A&M Forest Service has lowered the Wildland Fire Preparedness Level to Level 1 as the result of continued rainfall and a significant decrease in wildfire activity across the state.

Preparedness Levels in state are dictated by fuel and weather conditions, fire activity and fire suppression resource availability. Level 5 is the highest level of wildland fire activity and indicates heavy resource commitment to fires locally.

Lady Bears now 10-13 on season

By Tyler Sutton

The Gladewater Lady Bears had an up and down week this week in Volleyball action as they went 1-2 with a couple of losses at home to Chapel Hill.

They fell 3-0 on Tuesday to the Lady Bulldogs. Then fell in a back and forth matchup 2-1 on Wednesday. The Lady Bears were able to bounce back with a 3-0 win on Friday night vs the Shelbyville Dragons. Improving Gladewater’s record to 10-13 on the season. The Lady Bears will have 2 non district road games this week.

A Tuesday night matchup was set for Quitman and a Friday afternoon affair with Overton was on tap.

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The Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Plan Update and the 2021-2025 Capital Fund Five Year Plan for the Housing Authority of the City of Gladewater, TX is available for review and comment at the Authority’s management office located at 777 S. Tyler, Gladewater, TX during regular business hours Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, closed Noon to 12:30PM. A public meeting will be held at the Housing Authority of the City of Gladewater Texas, 777 S. Tyler St., Gladewater, TX at 12:00 PM on November 4, 2022 to review and approve proposed activities.

HUGE ESTATE AUCTION
ONSITE & ONLINE
Thursday, Sept. 22 • Starts @ 9:01 AM
34960 West 51st St S., Mannford, OK
For more info & pictures, visit chuppsauction.com

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AUCTION
Huge Estate Auction – Thur., Sept. 22, starts at 9:01 a.m., 34960 West 51st St. S., Mannford, OK. Tiny home, dump truck, backhoe, bulldozer, semi truck, heavy duty trucks, tractors, trackhoe, horse trailers, zero turn mowers, trailers, welders, air compressors, implements, cattle panels, oil field pipe & pump jacks, horse saddles & tack, arena lights and more. Live on site & online bidding on Lots 1-43 Start at 12:31 p.m. Estate of Rick Bartlett. For more info & pictures, visit chuppsauction.com.

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UG Lions fall to Bearkats, 16-7

By Kimber Smith

Union Grove battled Cushing on Friday in an away game that ended 16-7 in favor of the Bearkats.

Quarterback Cooper Vestal completed 11 of 13 pass attempts to advance the Lions 132 yards, including a 47-yard touchdown pass to Jacob Griffin. Luis Fernandez scored the extra point. Jaden Chavers, who sits fifth on the ETVarsity statistical leaderboard for rushing yards, added 63 yards to his season total, and Peyton Laake caught six passes for a total of 55 yards.

Carter Cooper earned eight tackles, Jace Roberts six, and Matthew Gipson five, and Judson George scored an interception for the Lions' defense.

The Grove will play Linden-Kildare at home Friday night at 7:30 p.m.

County	City	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
Gregg	Clarksville City	1.000%	\$5,388.09	\$6,837.13	-21.19%	\$65,933.50	\$65,217.98	1.09%
Gregg	Easton	1.000%	\$5,670.98	\$4,229.98	34.06%	\$45,748.45	\$39,885.65	14.69%
Gregg	Gladewater	1.500%	\$110,270.12	\$98,832.34	11.57%	\$1,035,912.86	\$918,549.04	12.77%
Gregg	Kilgore	1.500%	\$758,983.34	\$589,743.89	28.69%	\$6,677,875.30	\$5,464,857.62	22.19%
Gregg	Lakeport	1.500%	\$25,502.40	\$22,724.61	12.22%	\$221,843.30	\$195,361.29	13.55%
Gregg	Longview	1.500%	\$3,379,609.06	\$3,228,536.14	4.67%	\$32,781,954.30	\$28,488,219.84	15.07%
Gregg	Warren City	1.000%	\$605.45	\$1,260.67	-51.97%	\$13,388.40	\$12,565.69	6.54%
Gregg	White Oak	1.500%	\$120,954.39	\$93,825.75	28.91%	\$1,120,036.43	\$858,813.46	30.41%
Upshur	Big Sandy	1.250%	\$23,454.69	\$25,303.04	-7.30%	\$219,391.26	\$212,219.14	3.37%
Upshur	East Mountain	1.000%	\$2,871.39	\$2,672.81	7.42%	\$31,151.36	\$34,457.31	-9.59%
Upshur	Gilmer	1.500%	\$216,516.73	\$179,208.91	20.81%	\$1,910,108.96	\$1,718,161.88	11.17%
Upshur	Ore City	1.500%	\$18,798.62	\$19,912.43	-5.59%	\$172,140.55	\$170,691.08	0.84%
Upshur	Union Grove	1.000%	\$387.65	\$292.93	32.33%	\$3,670.86	\$3,507.75	4.64%

Local sales tax revenue continues to exceed 2021

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced today he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.04 billion in local sales tax allocations for September, 13.1 percent more than in September 2021.

These allocations are based on sales made in July by businesses that report tax

monthly.

Gladewater's sales tax revenue moved into its 14th straight month of exceeding last year's totals. For the reporting month, Gladewater posted an 11.57-percent increase - \$110,270.12 compared to 2021's \$98,832.34. For the year-to-date totals, Gladewater is 12.77-per-

cent ahead of last year - \$1,035,912.86 compared to \$918,549.04 in 2021.

Around the East Texas area, White Oak's most recent monthly sales tax revenue was 28.91-percent ahead of last year's at this time - \$120,954.39 compared to last year's \$93,825.75. For the year, White Oak is 30.41-percent ahead of 2021.

Gilmer's yearly total is 11.17-percent ahead of 2021 - \$1,910,108.96 compared to \$1,718,161.88, while Union Grove posted a 4.64-percent boost over last year and Warren City posted an increase of 6.54-percent.

See other area city's current sales tax revenue in the chart above.

"Revenues continue to outpace even our most recent forecast as All Funds tax collections closed the fiscal year \$841 million above the

projection in our Certification Revenue Estimate." Hegar said. "To put it into perspective, only five times since 1988 has the rate of growth in Texas' All Funds tax collections exceeded the prior fiscal year by double digits — and those increases ranged from 10 to 13 percent.

This year's rate of growth was almost double the previous high in that time. Over the last many months, economic growth and inflation have driven higher sales tax

collections as demand remains strong and businesses and consumers continue to pay elevated prices for goods."

The Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF) and State Highway Fund (SHF) both receive funding from oil and natural gas severance taxes. Within 90 days, the Comptroller's office will deposit \$3.64 billion in each of those funds, up from the \$1.46 billion deposited in each fund in November 2021.



In early August, Animal Control Officer C. Warren, along with SPCA of East Texas and Safe Haven Equine Rescue, checked on the welfare of several horses at a property in Gladewater that were believed to be in poor condition.

The owner of the reported horses agreed, after contact, to surrender the horses that were in poor condition.

Two horses were picked up and rescued by Richard Fincher of Safe Haven Equine Rescue & Retirement Home, Inc. The two horses were Cheyenne and her baby. Also, Kay Sorensen of CK Ranch drove from Ector TX to pick up 4 other horses that were from the same property. These horses were named Barbie, Texas, Sterling and Missy.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

This notice only applies to a taxing unit other than a special taxing unit or municipality with a population of less than 30,000, regardless of whether it is a special taxing unit.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.09570 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.08843 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.09570 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2022 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 from the same properties in both the 2021 tax year and the 2022 tax year.

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2022 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 20, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at 736 Wilkins Rd., Gladewater, Texas 75647.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Board of Commissioners of Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal: Greg Colquitt, Clyde Willoughby, Daniel Patterson, Jennifer Phillips, Mike Clements

AGAINST the proposal:

PRESENT and not voting:

ABSENT:

Visit [Texas.gov/Property Taxes](https://www.texas.gov/Property_Taxes) to find a link to your property tax database on which you can easily assess information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Gregg County Emergency Services No. 2 last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 this year:

	2021	2022	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.10000	\$0.09570	Decrease of \$0.00430 per \$100, or 4.3%
Average homestead taxable value	\$143,010	\$157,037	Increase of 9.81%
Tax on average homestead	\$143.01	\$150.28	Increase of \$7.27 or 5.08%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$462,050	\$508,215	Increase of \$46,165 or 9.99%

For assistance with tax calculation, please contact the tax assessor for Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 at (903) 237-2552 or Michelle.Terry@co.gregg.tx.us or visit <https://www.co.gregg.tx.us/tax-assessor-collector> for more information.

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GIDDY-UP & GIVE 2022

Education Foundation Gladewater's
3rd Annual Grants For Teachers Fundraiser
OCTOBER 1, 2022 • 6 PM

Dear Gladewater ISD Patron,

The Education Foundation Gladewater (EFG) is pleased to announce its 2022 Grants for Teachers Fundraiser Event, Giddy Up & Give 2022! We have scheduled this event for October 1 at Tempest Golf Club in Gladewater. It will once again be a fun night of fundraising with dinner, music, and a live and silent auction. Watch for more details on our website and Facebook page!

The EFG's mission is to support innovation and creativity in the classroom by funding educational grants submitted by faculty and staff of Gladewater ISD. The teachers of our district strive to add innovative and engaging curriculum to their classrooms, but budget constraints at times limit those possibilities. By supporting Giddy Up & Give 2022, you can provide a much needed contribution to make those innovative ideas a dream come true for our teachers.

There are several ways to support this effort. Would you sponsor a table? Purchase individual tickets to attend the event? Or, donate an auction item? Certainly, you are welcome to do all!

We hope that we can count on your help to make this year's Giddy Up & Give 2022 event a success!

Thank you for your consideration in partnering with the EFG as we work together to make Gladewater ISD a premier district in this region. We are more than happy to answer any questions you may have. Feel free to contact any of our EFG directors for additional information.

Sincerely,
Katie Ellis
Katie Ellis, Event Chair

P.S. We are pleased to announce that the Education Foundation Gladewater is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Your contributions are tax-deductible.



GIDDY-UP & GIVE 2022

Education Foundation Gladewater's
3rd Annual Grants For Teachers Fundraiser
OCTOBER 1, 2022 • 6 PM

— ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES —

- PHOTO BOOTH SPONSOR - \$500 (1 available)**
Includes recognition at Giddy-Up & Give with company name and logo in all printed and multimedia materials and signage by photo booth. **Sold**
- EVENT PROGRAM SPONSOR - \$250 (4 available)**
Includes recognition at Giddy-Up & Give with company name and logo in all printed and multimedia materials and on event program. **Sold**
- ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR (DARRIN MORRIS BAND) - \$2000 (1 available)**
Includes recognition at Giddy-Up & Give with company name and logo in all printed and multimedia materials and signage by the band.
- DINNER SPONSOR - \$500 (4 available)**
Includes recognition at Giddy-Up & Give with company name and logo in all printed and multimedia materials and signage by food buffet.
- BAR SPONSOR - \$500 (4 available)**
Includes recognition at Giddy-Up & Give with company name and logo in all printed and multimedia materials and signage at bar area.
- LIQUOR WAGON SPONSOR - \$200 (2 available)**
Includes recognition at Giddy-Up & Give with company name and logo in all printed and multimedia materials and signage on liquor wagon. **Sold**
- HEADS & TAILS SPONSOR - \$200 (3 available)**
Includes recognition at Giddy-Up & Give with company name and logo in all printed and multimedia materials and signage on Heads & Tails 65" Smart TV. **Sold**
- MYSTERY COOLER SPONSOR - \$200 (2 available)**
Includes recognition at Giddy-Up & Give with company name and logo in all printed and multimedia materials and signage on mystery cooler. **Sold**

For more sponsorship opportunities, just ask!

If you would like to give a monetary donation of any amount toward our event, you may make checks payable to EFG and mail to:
Education Foundation Gladewater, P.O. Box 1387, Gladewater, Texas 75647

We also accept donations by credit card online at:
www.educationfoundationgladewater.org/giving

For more information:
Katie Ellis | 903.738.5609 | GiddyUpAndGive@gmail.com

Thank you in advance for your sponsorship and donation!



RIDES, GAMES & good times galore

Get your fill of the fun this Fall at the fair!

Event Calendar

DON'T MISS THE EMERSON FARMS PETTING ZOO AND PIG RACES EVERY NIGHT

Sept. 9
EXHIBITS AND CARNIVAL OPEN TO PUBLIC
KIM DONNETT BAND ON T-MOBILE STAGE

Sept. 10
DARBY WARREN BAND ON T-MOBILE STAGE & SPENCER THE JUGGLER

Sept. 11
ARMBAND MEGA 99.3 FIESTA DAY MUSIC ON T MOBILE STAGE

Sept. 12
SENIOR CITIZENS FREE PROBABLE CAUSE ON T-MOBILE STAGE

Sept. 13
TANNER WELBORN ON T-MOBILE STAGE

Sept. 14
USUAL SUSPECTS BAND ON T-MOBILE STAGE

Sept. 15
MISS GREGG COUNTY PAGEANT

Sept. 16
JOSH DAVIS - ELVIS TRIBUTE ON STAGE

Sept. 17
4-7:30 KELLY MOORE MINISTRY BAND
DEL RIO BAND & SPENCER THE JUGGLER

Gregg County Fair

Sept. 9th-17th

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 10 4:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.
SUNDAY, SEPT. 11 4:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
MONDAY - THURSDAY, SEPT 12-15 6:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, SEPT. 16 6:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.
SATURDAY, SEPT. 17 4:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.




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