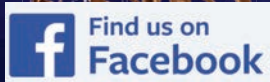


# Gladewater Mirror

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"



Thursday, Feb. 2, 2023

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50¢

## Domestic violence and sexual assault of kids discussed at meeting

By Phillip Williams

Yecenia Hernandez, crime victim coordinator for the Upshur County district attorney's office, detailed how she assists such victims in a presentation Monday night of last week to the Cherokee Rose Republican Women's Club in downtown Gladewater.

Upshur County Sheriff Larry Webb and Precinct 4 County Commissioner Jay W. Miller also addressed the gathering at the BlueByrd Room, the Upshur County-based club's new meeting place in Gregg County.

Hernandez, whose position is fully funded by an annual grant from the governor's office, explained that she works on protective orders, meets with crime victims, and sends them letters offering them a packet (and, if pertinent, compensation.)

She also helps prepare child and adult witnesses to testify and "I always try to treat people" like she already knows them, Hernandez said.

In addition, she noted she refers victims to a legal aid firm, an area women's center, and, in domestic violence cases, counseling, she said.

Hernandez said the five prosecutors in District Attorney Billy Byrd's office get information from her on cases, and that "I read every case." She reads them, she said, because any victim who might call her has "already talked to multiple people."

The two main crimes she deals with, Hernandez said, are "domestic violence and sexual assault of kids." The coordinator noted, however, she also handles property crimes such as burglary and vandalism if restitution is involved.

Adult sexual assault victims must be offered a protective order, which they can accept or reject, and such orders for them are starting to become very popular as "we don't have to wait for the conviction."

Such orders can even be made to apply for the assailant's lifetime, she noted.

Asked by a member of the audience if the domestic violence and sexual assault of children are "rampant" in the county, Hernandez replied, "Every year, it varies."

Earlier, she had noted she is in her eighth year as coordinator, a job Byrd assigned her after she originally applied to be a receptionist, and "I think I was put where I needed to be."

Hernandez also pointed out she has information on the county government's website (www.countyofupshur.com) about what services her office offers, including an application for a protective order.

The aforementioned packets, she said, contain a letter listing the services which Byrd's office offers victims, a form for a victim impact statement, and compensation.

An example of a case in which compensation could be made, she said, is that someone could apply for funeral expenses if a person is wrongfully killed.

Hernandez can be reached by calling the district attorney's office at (903) 843-5513 or emailing her at victim.services@countyofupshur.com.

Her office in the Upshur County Courthouse, and other courthouse offices, will soon temporarily move to the former Gilmer ISD administration building at 500 S. Trinity for the courthouse to undergo a major renovation.

During the question-and-answer part of Hernandez's presentation, Webb said the three main offenses in the county are family violence, narcotics, and thefts of property.

The sheriff said that he, Byrd, County Judge Todd Tefteller, 115th District Judge Dean Fowler and juries have "taken a zero tolerance to narcotics." Juries are giving maximum sentences in such cases, Webb said.

In response to an audience member asking what the public could do to prevent crime, Webb said persons can volunteer for such organizations as Court Appointed Special Advocates for abused or neglected children.

In brief remarks, Miller said "I hope we have a plan pretty soon" for moving courthouse offices and expressed hope the building will be vacated for only two years. He noted the process for obtaining the state grant for the project took almost 20 years.

Miller, who was re-elected to a second four-year term last November, also said he plans to work on improving county roads.



City National Bank held its official grand opening and Gladewater Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting at the new bank building located 895 E Broadway Ave. last Thursday. CNB Regional Bank President Jon Keller and Mandy Wood, Assistant Vice President, along with CNB bank staff and family and friends, helped celebrate the event. The building was constructed by HLH Construction. Photo by Jim Bardwell

## Lawmakers push \$15K teacher raises

A group of House Democrats is proposing a \$15,000 raise for the state's teachers and a 25% raise for other state employees by using some of the state's record budget surplus. State Rep. James Talarico, D-Austin, announced the bill last week and was joined by Democratic legislators and teachers, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

"This moment demands bold action, and that's what our state is

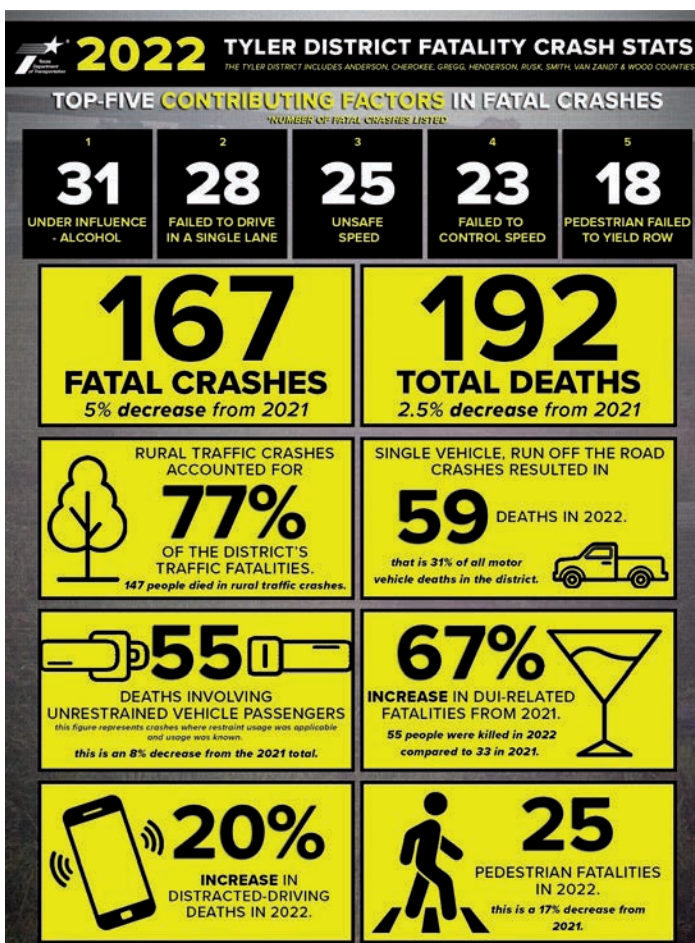
known for," Talarico said. "House Bill 1548 would be the biggest teacher pay raise in Texas history. In Texas, we go big or we go home. Let's go big on teacher pay."

While the proposal may not gain traction in the GOP-controlled House, it could spur debate as the state faces a growing exodus of public-school teachers.

The Dallas Morning News, which analyzed teacher salaries

across the state, reported that major suburban and urban districts pay educators the most, while rural school districts and charter schools pay the least.

The highest average teacher salary is in the Houston region at \$62,589, while the lowest average teacher salary was in the Abilene region, according to the Texas Education Agency. The state operates 20 educational regions.



## Fatal crash stats released

In 2022, factors such as "driving under the influence", "failure to drive in a single lane" and "unsafe speed" contributed to 167 fatal crashes and 192 total deaths in the Tyler District.

The TxDOT Tyler District, which includes Anderson, Cherokee, Gregg, Henderson, Rusk, Smith, Van Zandt & Wood Counties, released preliminary numbers revealing the top-five contributing factors of fatal crashes in 2022:

- Under the Influence of Alcohol - 31 fatal crashes
- Failed to Drive in a Single Lane - 28 fatal crashes
- Unsafe Speed - 25 fatal crashes
- Failed to Control Speed - 23 fatal crashes
- Pedestrian Failed to Yield ROW to Vehicle - 18 fatal crashes

The data in these reports represents the number of crashes that had at least one driver reported as having the indicated

Continued on Page 3

## Twenty years later, Texas A&M Forest Service employees, retirees recall Columbia recovery mission

By DARREN BENSON  
Texas A&M Forest Service

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Bill Oates was renovating his Nacogdoches home when he thought the rumbling he heard was coming from his daughter running around the house.

John Gill was working a week-end job on a logging crew in East Texas when his boss asked if he had seen anything falling from the sky.

Jake Donellan believed the boom he heard was a vehicle crash at an intersection near his Marshall home.

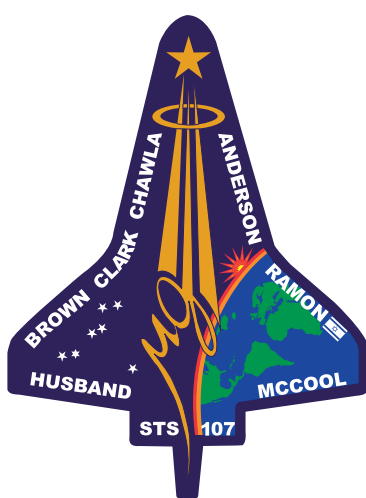
Marilynn Grossman was driving through College Station when she saw a streak cross the horizon, "like a shooting star, but out of place for that time of day."

Space shuttle Columbia disintegrated over Texas as it re-entered the Earth's atmosphere on Feb. 1, 2003. The seven astronauts of

NASA's STS-107 were returning from a 16-day mission. There were no survivors.

The tragedy sparked a massive ground search in an effort to recover the astronauts' remains and shuttle debris that was scattered across heavily forested areas over multiple counties. Texas A&M Forest Service served as a lead state agency in the recovery mission, managing exhaustive ground searches throughout the East Texas debris field.

On Wednesday, the 20th anniversary of the Columbia disaster, Texas A&M Forest Service, along with NASA, the U.S. Forest Service and the city of Nacogdoches, will rededicate the seven trees planted in 2003 in memory of the shuttle crew members. The event, in the city's Banita Creek Park, will include the unveiling of an informational marker and the



dedication of two newly planted trees honoring Charles Krenek and Jules "Buzz" Mier Jr., who died in a helicopter crash during the search for shuttle debris.

Mier, a U.S. Army veteran, was a pilot under contract with the U.S. Forest Service. Krenek, a Texas

A&M Forest Service aviation specialist, was serving as a search manager. Krenek was well-liked, and over his 26-year career with the agency, earned a reputation for his commitment to serving others.

"He was truly a good man," said Oates, now Texas A&M Forest Service Associate Director. "His death hit me as hard as any other death that I've experienced because of the type of person he was. I think about him frequently."

Like a family ...

Texas A&M Forest Service employees and retired staff members who played a role in the 2003 search for Columbia and her crew describe the experience as meaningful. Many noted the spirit of cooperation, the bonds with other responders and the importance their training played in preparing them for the challenges of the task.

Oates worked in a planning role

from a command post in Lufkin during the search for Columbia's debris and said watching the community come together alongside multiple federal, state and local agencies was inspiring.

"I've never been involved with anything like that before," he said. "People worked really hard to help the nation and figure out how to start the healing process. It was very gratifying to be involved in something like that."

James Hull, who served as agency Director from 1996 to 2008, said the relationships among responders and NASA officials seemed natural.

"I've always looked at the Forest Service as a well-organized family. We respect each other and work well together," Hull said. "And we discovered the same thing with NASA. They have that same close-

Continued on Page 8

# OPINION/COMMENTARY

## ...the hard places

It is the hard places that either make us who we are or show others who we are. Recently I have had a few people reach out to me because of a particular column I wrote about the ‘hard places’ that spoke to them. That touches my heart, but it also reminds me that words matter. That got me to thinking about what words have been spoken to me that continue to shape the words I use, the words I write, and the life I try to live.

Perhaps the most powerful words spoken to me came from my mother. My older brother, by four years, was severely handicapped. He could say only a bare handful of words, maybe five or so. And even those disappeared eventually. He could not

walk or talk, but he had the gift of sight and hearing. It was evident that Donnie was extremely intelligent. He followed everything with his deep, brown eyes. He laughed. He cried.

His misshapen body made some feel uncomfortable. Others tended to put our family on a pedestal because of the perceived burden of having such a handicapped child. I don’t remember how old I was, but I was young, forever questioning and wanting to know the ‘why’ of as much as possible. So, I asked my Mom one of the ‘hard’ questions...“Why did God make Donnie the way he was?”

“To teach us how to love” was my Mom’s response. And at my young age I took that

## The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



answer to heart. I’m not sure why I have never really questioned that answer. Maybe because it turned out to be true. Donnie’s life shaped mine as surely as my parents’ response to his situation did. I watched them do the truly hard things with love and perseverance and faithfulness.

Eventually Donnie had to be institutionalized because of his fragility. And then I saw on a regular basis the families who were like ours. Some of them were broken by their journey. Some were elevated by it, and some were enslaved.

All I know is that I learned to love more deeply, to accept more freely, and to recognize the hidden gifts from the hard places of life for what they are, blessings. I know what I want carved into stone when I leave this earth, “...the greatest of these is love” I Corinthians 13:13b. I know that to be true because my Momma told me so. More importantly, she and Daddy showed me.

I hope you know these words to be true as well because I think they may just be the most important words ever written.

## THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

### Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!

The 2022 employment numbers have just been released, and Texas set the pace by a significant margin. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 42 states and was essentially unchanged in eight plus the District of Columbia according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Texas gained 650,100 net new jobs, while California rose



621,400 and Florida was up 440,000. The largest percentage increase also occurred in Texas (+5.0%), followed by Florida (+4.8%), and Oregon (+4.2%).

Looking at net job growth since February 2020 (the month before the pandemic), the United States has gained about 1.24 million jobs and Texas has gained around 740,000. In other words,

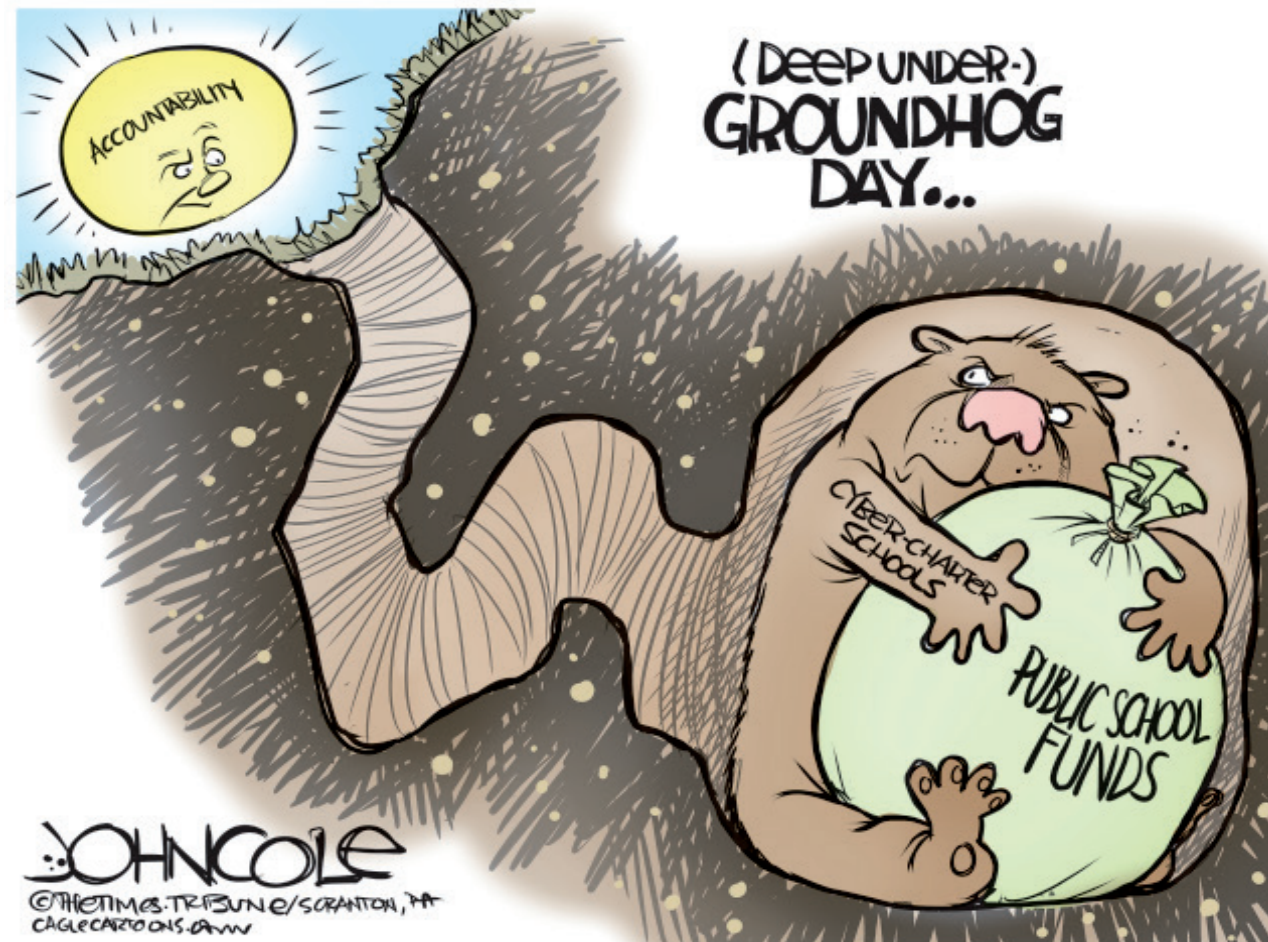
some 60% of the net employment increase in the entire country has been in Texas. I’ve seen a lot of numbers in my time, and that one is pretty remarkable!

There are several factors contributing to the state’s strong growth. One is the continuing pattern of people moving to Texas. Whether you look at Census data or other indicators such as the U-Haul Growth Index, it is obvious that people are leaving states such as California, New York, and Illinois and coming to Texas. Many of these individuals are highly skilled professionals who are helping to overcome the acute worker shortages and enabling future gains.

Another significant phenomenon is the ongoing momentum in activity in the oil and gas sector. There are about 100 more rigs running in Texas than a year ago and output is at record levels. Not only does that mean jobs in major production areas, but also in other industries and locations up and down the supply chain. Add to that the ongoing gains from the major corporate locations and expansions and record volumes of cargo at the ports in the state, and the stage is set for notable growth.

Even with these positive attributes, however, it would be difficult (likely impossible) to maintain a 5% growth rate as the recovery matures. In fact, the monthly pace has recently slowed considerably. We’ve already captured much of the bounce from reopening the economy and resuming travel and other activity. In addition, a potential national recession continues to be a concern, although I think there is a lot of overreaction and any downturn we might see will be relatively mild and brief. The layoffs in the tech sector will also ripple through Texas.

Even with these notable headwinds, the positives should far outweigh the negatives going forward. We are projecting healthy growth for the state economy over the next few years, and Texas will remain one of the leaders among all states. Having said that, job growth in the 2.0-2.5% range is more probable than sustaining the recent surge. Stay safe!



## Bills push for accountability after Uvalde shooting

The state senator whose district includes Uvalde has filed four bills related to the mass shooting at Robb Elementary last May. Sen. Roland Gutierrez, D-San Antonio, filed bills to “reduce gun violence, increase support for school shooting victims and survivors, and push for accountability for the flawed law enforcement response to the mass shooting,” the Statesman reported.

Several families of the Uvalde school shooting victims joined Gutierrez for the announcement last week.

One bill would create a school violence victims’ compensation fund. Another would eliminate qualified immunity protection for police officers. The law enforcement response to the shooting has been widely criticized.

Another bill would raise the minimum age to purchase military-style rifles.

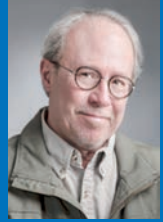
“When will it be enough bloodshed? Are you waiting for it to happen to you or your family before you stop to think about your gross negligence?” said Velma Lisa Duran, the older sister of Irma Garcia, one of the two teachers killed in Uvalde, the Statesman reported.

### Disaster declaration for Southeast Texas communities

Gov. Gregg Abbott last week issued a disaster declaration for Harris and Orange counties after at least one tornado touched down in Pasadena, Deer Park and neighboring Southeast Texas communities.

The Texas Division of Emergency Management has requested federal assistance in making preliminary damage

## Gary Borders Capital Highlights



assessments.

The Houston Chronicle reported no injuries despite the considerable damage in the area.

Abbott urged Texans with damage to their homes or businesses to complete a self-reporting damage survey at [damage.tdem.texas.gov](http://damage.tdem.texas.gov). Damage should also be reported separately to insurance agencies.

### Texas leads nation in job creation in 2022

A December employment release from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates Texas led the nation in job creation with 650,100 nonfarm jobs added last year – a 5% rate, the fastest in the nation. Coming in second with 621,400 new nonfarm jobs was California.

“Texas works when Texans work, and in this legislative session, we will continue expanding opportunity and ensuring Texas remains the best state to live, work, build a business, and raise a family,” Abbott said.

The state’s unemployment rate stood at 3.9% in December, slightly higher than the national average of 3.5%. Total

Texas employment reached a new high of 13.705 million at year’s end.

### Heat-related deaths reach two-decade high

Heat-related deaths in Texas reached a new high last year, according to a Texas Tribune analysis of state data since 1999. The state’s second-hottest summer and the worst drought since 2011 combined to increase risk of heat exhaustion and heatstroke.

At least 268 in the state were killed by heat, with a large portion of those being migrants who died after crossing the border, the Tribune reported.

The analysis showed six of the top 10 counties for heat deaths since 1999 are on or near the Texas-Mexico border, with Webb County having the highest number at 325. Migrant experts and local officials along the border say the number reported is almost certainly a “dramatic undercount.”

### Local parks grants total \$9.8 million

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved more than \$9.8 million in local parks grants last week “to help create and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities.” The grants are allocated to local governments on a 50/50 basis. Once a park is funded, it must remain in existence in perpetuity, be properly maintained and open to the public.

Grants went to 20 cities of varying sizes for nature trails, native gardens, playgrounds, splash pads, dog parks and sports fields.

A full list of grants can be found on the [tpwd.texas.gov](http://tpwd.texas.gov) website.

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## FREEDOM FROM RESTRAINT

The “politically-correct” crowd who embrace pluralism, atheism, agnosticism, and humanism, generally reject the God of the Bible, and the principles of morality contained therein. They define “liberty” as the right to believe in and practice whatever they choose. Freedom to them means “freedom from restraint!” They wish to be left free to indulge their fleshly appetites fully. Thus, we see the rise of free-love, co-ed dormitories, and living together in a sexual relationship without being married. Many insist on being unhampered in their engagement in illicit sexual activity, i. e. pre-marital, extra-marital, and homosexual sex.

This sexual anarchy has naturally resulted in cultural catastrophes and a trilogy of social terror. We are witnessing (1) widespread divorce for any reason, and the breakdown of the home and family; (2) legalized abortion; and (3) the legal sanction and growing social acceptance of homosexuality, same-sex marriage, and transgenderism as moral, and normal behavior. But God says such is neither normal or moral!

The widespread acceptance of these three factors undoubtedly shows that illicit sexual activity inevitably destroys marriage, and leads to the destruction of children-either by killing them in the womb, abusing them, or neglecting to rear them properly. Many of the ills of society, and the corruption of our culture, is traceable to this fundamental lack of sexual restraint. How badly we need the Bible’s advice: “flee fornication” (1 Cor. 6: 18), and “flee also youthful lusts” (2 Tim. 2: 22), and “Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled, but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.” (Heb. 13: 4). 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

# Police Activity Report

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CFS#	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
1/22/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20230362	9:30		527 MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230363	10:40		
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230364	11:04		55 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230365	11:35		212 CENTER CENTER ST
	EMS	20230366	11:49		1080 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20230367	12:10	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	FIRE DEPT	20230368	13:01		1508 N LYNN LYNN ST
	EMS	20230369	14:22		2804 OTHELIA OTHELIA
	FIRE DEPT	20230370	18:30		1022 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE
	FIRE DEPT	20230371	20:18		803 N GARY GARY
	10-50 MINOR	20230372	20:58		HWY 135 HWY 135
	EMS	20230373	23:20		701 W MELBA MELBA
1/23/23	FIRE DEPT	20230374	2:43		401 PHILLIPS PHILLIPS
	EMS	20230377	6:17	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ALARM/OTHER	20230378	7:14		271 HICKORY HICKORY N
	BURGLARY/HABITATION	20230379	8:01		315 MILLER MILLER
	CRIM MIS	20230381	11:13		2328 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE
	EMS	20230382	12:45	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ASSIST	20230383	13:51	GLADEWATER CITY HALL	519 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20230384	14:53		110 PRIVATE ROAD 1008 PRIVATE ROAD 1008
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20230385	15:47	MIKES MINI MART	1324 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ASSIST	20230387	17:13		688 PYEATT PYEATT DR
	EMS	20230388	20:24		208 E ELEANOR ELEANOR ST
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20230389	21:52		301 N LEE LEE ST
	ABANDONED 911	20230390	22:23		1405 CEDAR CEDAR
1/24/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20230392	0:12		
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230393	2:51		24 GARDEN GARDEN LN
	EMS	20230396	13:48	ANTIQUA CAPITAL RV PARK	500 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	ABANDONED 911	20230397	17:18		519 MELBA MELBA AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20230398	19:16		403 N RODEO RODEO ST
	EMS	20230400	20:03		1501 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR
	ALARM/OTHER	20230401	22:16		1313 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	EMS	20230402	23:17		665 HILTON SPRINGS HILTON SPRINGS RD
1/25/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20230403	0:46		SANDERS SANDERS RD
	ALARM/OTHER	20230405	3:19		700 W MELBA MELBA
	TERROR THREAT	20230406	12:34	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20230407	12:41	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230408	15:04		GLADEWATER AREA GLADEWATER AREA
	ASSIST	20230410	15:30		JC PARK RD JC PARK RD
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20230411	16:37		1107 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR
	FIRE DEPT	20230412	20:05		634 SWAMP CITY SWAMP CITY RD
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20230413	20:27	ANTIQUA CAPITAL RV PARK	500 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20230414	20:50	ANTIQUA CAPITAL RV PARK	500 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
1/26/23	ASSAULT CLASS A	20230417	6:55	WELDON HOMES	EDDY EDDY ST
	EMS	20230418	7:54	QUANTUM PLASTICS 3D PLASTICS	1095 E COMMERCE COMMERCE
	10-50 MINOR	20230419	7:56		W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	TERROR THREAT	20230420	8:38	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	ASSIST	20230421	9:42	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	CRIM TRESPASS	20230422	10:17		1320 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230423	13:01	DONNELLYS LIQUOR	1700 N MAIN MAIN ST
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20230424	13:38		515 W MARSHALL MARSHALL
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230425	14:09		520 NORTH NORTH ST
	ASSIST	20230426	14:27		300 ALLISON ALLISON
	CRIM TRESPASS	20230427	15:05		1320 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	THEFT	20230428	16:27	ZIPS LIQUOR STORE	301 E UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ASSIST	20230429	16:47		1050 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20230430	17:09	DOMINOS	1050 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20230431	18:11	JO WILLIAMS	419 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20230432	18:54		804 W QUITMAN QUITMAN
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20230433	19:05		HWY 80 HWY 80
	BURGLARY/HABITATION	20230434	19:25		103 VILLAGE NORTH VILLAGE NORTH CIR
	EMS	20230435	22:47		515 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20230436	23:15		807 S TYLER TYLER
	EMS	20230437	23:29	QUANTUM PLASTICS 3D PLASTICS	1095 E COMMERCE COMMERCE

# Police Activity Report

1/27/23	10-50 MINOR	20230439	8:11		BROADWAY BROADWAY
	EMS	20230440	8:55	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20230441	10:28	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ASSIST	20230442	10:40		4700 E HWY 80 HWY 80
	ALARM/OTHER	20230443	11:08		1616 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE
	ASSIST	20230444	14:56	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20230445	15:05		2100 GAY GAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230446	16:18		117 EDWARDS EDWARDS ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230447	18:27		500 MELBA MELBA
	ABANDONED 911	20230449	18:35		HWY 271 HWY 271
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230451	19:09		S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20230452	19:18	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	ALARM/OTHER	20230453	22:47	DOLLAR GENERAL	2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
1/28/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20230454	3:20		
	EMS	20230455	7:38	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230456	8:37		2812 BERNICE BERNICE ST
	ESCORT	20230457	9:16	CROLEY FUNERAL HOME	401 N CENTER CENTER ST
	ABANDONED 911	20230458	11:04		701 CLAIR CLAIR ST
	ABANDONED 911	20230459	11:33		717 MAIN MAIN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230460	11:37		206 CULVER CULVER ST
	EMS	20230461	11:52		1103 N RODEO RODEO ST
	ABANDONED 911	20230462	12:06		3226 U S HWY 80 U S HWY 80
	EMS	20230463	12:50		2406 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS
	HARASSMENT	20230464	14:20		66 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20230465	14:56		519 W GAY GAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230466	15:20		2100 SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230467	15:25		1515 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR
	ABANDONED 911	20230468	18:43		1105 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR
	ABANDONED 911	20230470	19:42		1512 N MAIN MAIN
	ABANDONED 911	20230471	22:14	ALLSTATE COATINGS	100 N LEE LEE ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230472	23:03		219 GAY GAY
1/29/23	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20230473	0:56		800 TYLER TYLER
	10-50 MINOR	20230474	1:21		2810 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
	SEXUAL ASSAULT	20230475	1:24		
	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20230476	2:08		COACH COOKSIE COACH COOKSIE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230477	2:10		704 MCNEESE MCNEESE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20230478	2:52		400 MONEY MONEY
	EMS	20230479	5:25		1024 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE
	EMS	20230480	7:06		2788 WILLOW OAK RD WILLOW OAK RD
	EMS	20230481	7:54		616 B JEANETTE JEANETTE
	EMS	20230482	8:25	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ABANDONED 911	20230483	8:28		100 N LEE LEE ST
	EMS	20230484	11:03	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20230485	11:24		SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD
	EMS	20230487	12:40	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20230488	12:44		710 TENERY TENERY ST
	EMS	20230489	14:37	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
		20230490	14:41		GLADEWATER AREA GLADEWATER AREA

# GPD Police Arrest Report

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS
1/26/23	1/26/23	7:15	BEALL, RENALDO LOPEZ	B	M	ASSAULT, CAUSING BODILY INJURY (FAMILY VIOLENCE)	210 EDDY ST
	1/26/23	15:13	PIERCE, CALVIN LEE JR	W	M	CRIMINAL TRESPASS	1320 W UPSHUR

# WOPD Police Arrest Report

For the reporting period of January 23rd through the 29th, 2023, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to, or initiated, 166 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were; Burglary Alarms, Traffic Problems, Suspicious Activities, and Community Relations (burn permits, welfare checks, vacation home security checks, etc.). One traffic collision was investigated resulting in no injuries and no continuing criminal investigations. No arrests were made by White Oak Police during the reporting period.

## KC accepting applications through Feb. 17 for expiring board terms

Kilgore College will host three regular elections May 6 for expiring board terms. Applications to run for the KC Board of Trustees will be accepted until 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17 (excluding weekends). The regular election will include three expiring board terms: Voting Unit No. 1, Place 1, South Zone (currently held by Travis Martin) Voting Unit No. 2, Place 2, North Zone (currently held by Gina DeHoyos) Voting Unit No. 3, Place 3, Central Zone (currently held by Lon Ford) Forms for an application for a place on the ballot can be picked up at Suite 100 of the McLaurin Administration Building on the Kilgore campus. Office hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday; and 8 a.m. to noon on Fridays. To receive forms by mail, call (903) 983-8101. Applications are also available to download online by visiting [www.kilgore.edu/board](http://www.kilgore.edu/board).

# Fatal crash stats released

Continued from Page 1

contributing factor. Crashes can have none or multiple contributing factors. Therefore, the total number of crashes for these reports will not equal the total number of crashes in the Tyler District.

“Even though the total number of fatal crashes and total fatalities decreased in 2022, we still believe that one death is too many”, said TxDOT Tyler District Engineer Vernon Webb.

“We thoroughly evaluate each factor involved with every fatal crash occurring on our system”, Webb continued. “Driving under the influence of alcohol, failure to drive in a single lane and driving at unsafe speeds have consistently been primary factors contributing to these fatalities. It is imperative that we take notice and work together to reduce fatal crashes.”

## Tyler District Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Overview – Calendar Year 2022:

- Rural traffic crashes accounted for 77% of the district’s traffic fatalities. 147 people died in rural traffic crashes in 2022.
- There was a 67% increase in the number of DUI-related fatalities. There were 55 DUI-related fatalities in 2022 compared to 33 in 2021.
- Single-vehicle, run-off-the-road crashes resulted in 59 deaths in 2022. That is 31% of all motor vehicle deaths in the district.
- There were 55 deaths involving unrestrained vehicle passengers. This figure represents crashes where restraint usage was applicable, and usage was known.
- There were 25 pedestrian fatalities in 2022. This was a 17% decrease from 2021.



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Manna House needs your help

The local Manna House is always in need of food so they can help our neighbors. So please continue your weekly donations of bread, canned fruit, mac-n-cheese., and more to go with all the peanut butter they have been getting. So, when 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 at the *Gladewater Mirror* at 211 N. Main. Got questions, call (903) 845-3128.

## WOISD board seeks community involvement for superintendent process

The White Oak Independent School District (ISD) Board of Trustees has employed Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Executive Search Services to assist with the search for a new superintendent to replace Brian Gray who retired over the holidays.

See the survey at: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/2069797/Leadership-Survey-White-Oak-ISD-2023>

## Retired teachers set meeting

The next meeting of the Oil Patch Chapter of the Texas Retired Teachers Association will be Thursday, February 2 at 1:30 p.m., in Jeter Hall of the Gladewater Methodist Church. The program will be a "Show and Tell." Members are encouraged to bring an item that represents something they collect or make, travel souvenirs, or something that represents their interests or personality.

All retired school personnel are welcome and encouraged to attend.

## Decendents of slaves sought

Upshur County descendants of Lottie Christian, whose sons were reportedly brought as slaves to Gilmer in 1850, are being sought for a family reunion scheduled in Tyler.

Debra Christian, a descendant, said Lottie was born a slave in 1810 and that her six sons were brought to Gilmer from Midway, Ala., by a slavemaster.

Debra Christian is the great-great-great granddaughter of one of the sons, whose first name was Butcher. The others, she said, were named Hall, Adam, Jeff, Teamer and Abe.

The reunion is scheduled at the Marriott courtyard on Broadway in Tyler, Debra Christian said.

Descendants may contact her for more information at 903-372-2652 or email her at [debrachristian5554@sbcglobal.net](mailto:debrachristian5554@sbcglobal.net).

## Hannah House banquet set

Tickets are on sale for the Hannah House maternity home's 5th annual "Cherish Celebration" banquet, scheduled Saturday, Feb. 25 at the Holiday Inn North in Longview.

Hannah House, located in the rural Glenwood community area of Upshur County, describes itself on its website as a "faith-based maternity home for young women who choose life" over abortion, including those who plan to have their child adopted.

The banquet will feature dinner, testimonies, silent and live auctions and live music. Musical headliner will be Jason Waldon and The Alibis. Doors open at 5 p.m. with dinner set for 6 p.m. and the program scheduled at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Hannah House at (903) 238-5351.



## 2023 GFSA Board of Directors

First Row (L-R): Cindy Moore Coker (CORRESPONDING SECRETARY), Cindy Tallent Rowe (RECORDING SECRETARY), Jennifer Hand-Jester, Blane Thomas Linder, Leslie Blount Willeford (VICE PRESIDENT), Mandy Williamson Wood. Second Row (L-R): Bryan Kelly, Jon Keller (TREASURER), Darren Richardson, Danny Sorrells (PRESIDENT), Ed Kendall, Dallas Long, (PARLIAMENTARIAN). Not Pictured (Associate Directors): Larry Clemens, Garth Cockerell, Cheryl Moore Copeland, Dale Lange, John Paul Tallent, Leon Watson, Patricia Watson, Shirley Elliott Willett



Gladewater Rotarian Dr. Sedric Clark and , Rotary President Darren Richardson welcomed last week's guest speaker GISD Maintenance Director Matt McIntosh. Photo by Darla Ferguson



Union Grove students Caden Handorf and Gracie Winn were January's Gladewater Rotary Students of the Month. Rotary President Darren Richardson introduced the students. Photo by Darla Ferguson

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- CATHOLIC**  
 St. Theresa's Catholic Church • 903-845-2306
- CHARISMATIC**  
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 gladeviewbaptistchurch@gmail.com

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Morning Service 11 a.m.			
Evening Service 6:30 p.m.			903-845-6440

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 Grace Tabernacle Church • 903-309-8801
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 First United Pentecostal • 903-845-2922  
 Northside Pentecostal  
 Abundant Life Temple • 903-845-6043  
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# SPORTS ROUNDUP

## Lady Bears grab back-to-back wins

By Tyler Sutton

As East Texas teams reached the middle part of the district portion of the season, both the Gladewater basketball teams were in action.

On Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> the Gladewater Lady Bears made the trip to New Diana to the Lady Eagles and walked away with a 59-41 win. Gladewater jumped out to an early 14-5 lead after the first quarter and never really looked back. The Lady Bears were lead by a huge game from Calice Henderson who had 25 points to go along with 7 rebounds and 6 steals. MaKayla Police chipped in with 17 points and 5 steals. Kiyona Parker also had a nice game for Gladewater with 6 points, 2 rebounds and 2 steals.

"I feel we are really hitting on all cylinders right now. We believe we can beat anyone we play," said head coach Jermaine Lewis.

The Lady Bears followed that victory up with another big win on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> knocking off the White Oak Lady Necks 49-30 to pull them into a tie atop the district standings at 6-1.

Gladewater built a 28-18 halftime lead and the Gladewater defensive effort held White Oak to just 12 second half points. The Lady Bears were lead by a double double from Calice Henderson who had 17 points and 12 rebounds. MaKayla Police had 12 points and 7 rebounds and Kiyona Parker had 7 points, 9 rebounds and 4 assists. Gladewater has now won 6 straight games and their record improves to 14-12 and 6-1 in district play.

Next up for the Lady Bears was a roadtrip on Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> to Dangerfield to begin the second half of district play.

On the other side of the coin, it was a rough week for the Gladewater boy's basketball team as they dropped both games played this week.

On Tuesday, the Bears made the short trip to New Diana to take on the Eagles and fell by a score of 43-31. In a game that was a struggle for both teams to get any offense going. The Bears were lead by 12 points and 4 rebounds from Kollin Lewis and 8 points from Tyrone Maddox.

Then on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> Gladewater hosted their rivals from down the road the White Oak Roughnecks and fell by a score of 57-38. White Oak star Zac Jacyno went off for 37 of the Roughnecks 57 points. The Bears were lead by 21 points from Kollin Lewis. Tristian Linwood also chipped in 9 points for Gladewater.

"Just a rough week for us. We got to get back to basics to be able to keep our chances of making the playoffs alive," said head coach Curtis Armstrong.

The two losses drop the Bears to 4-9 on the season and 1-4 in district play. Next up for the Bears was a trip to Dangerfield on Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> as they open the second half of district play.

## White Oak places at powerlift meet

By Clay Hodges

White Oak competed in the Sabine Bo Bates Powerlifting Meet this past Saturday and placed well in their standings. Here are the results:

### Girls Team

Kyndal Langley finished 4th in her weight class with a total lift of 590lbs

Lizzy Still finished 5th in her weight class with a total lift of 485lbs

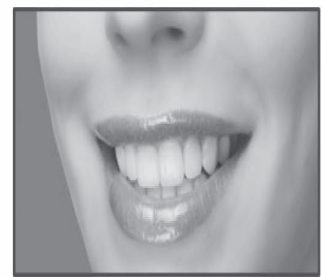
Others competing and improving on all totals were Aubrey Still, Grayce Horn, Alyssa Spurger, Alex Roach, Preslee Twomey, Erin Lawson, Bree Gonzales and Danica Vaughn

### Boys Team

Holden Hodges finished 2nd in the 181lb Weight Class with a total lift of 1,305lbs

Kirkland Cobb did not compete this week to go pole vault at McNeese Indoor HS meet, but is still currently ranked #1 in the Region in the 132lb Weight Class

Others competing and improving all totals were, Jacye Parker, Kaleb Morales, Gunner Daniels, Nick Johnson, Adam Caldwell, Jose Garcia, Dakota Greene, Collin Wheat and Jackson Thorp



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## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

1 TXism: "\_\_\_ pill to swallow"

5 Valley medicinal plant

6 TX Welchel of "Facts of Life"

7 Harris of 1985 Texas-based film "Alamo Bay"

8 network of "Austin City Limits"

9 this magazine has called Luby's "the best little hash house in Texas"

15 Brenham's \_\_\_ Bell ice cream

16 inlet just north of the Yellow Sea (2 wds.)

18 Texas pests (2 wds.)

20 Robert Lee is the seat of this county

21 TX Jerry "Count Jackson" \_\_\_ of "Boogie Kings"

26 Texas-based recipes blog: "\_\_\_ to Bake"

29 this Davis was 14th governor of Texas

30 window shelters

32 Andrews is named for this Texas Revolution hero (init.)

33 TXism: "loose \_\_\_"

36 TXism: "takes a big \_\_\_ to rope him" (obese)

37 Gov. Richards

38 Davy advice: "Be sure you're right, \_\_\_ ahead"

39 said of Rudolph's nose (2 wds.)

41 sleep in? (2 wds.)

44 in Red River County on U.S. 82

45 TXism: "he could strut sitting down" (big \_\_\_)

46 this Diane was "Lorena" in Texas-based series "Lonesome Dove"

47 cowboy's bath night (abbr.)

48 Jewish language

51 TXism: "give your \_\_\_ rest" (be quiet)

52 polite Texas address to a woman

53 \_\_\_ Mott, TX

54 Dallas univer.

**DOWN**

1 TX country singer, Ketchum

2 boxer Muhammad

3 in Falls County on U.S. 77

4 TXism: "he was around when the \_\_\_ sick" (old)

8 "Metro \_\_\_" (DFW)

9 Texas state stone: \_\_\_ wood

10 TXism: "got knocked down a peg \_\_\_ two"

11 this Texan was NBC "Tarzan" in 1966-68 (init.)

12 wall protection behind stove or countertop

13 fancy word for "black"

14 "for Pete's \_\_\_"

15 uncompleted span: "\_\_\_ nowhere"

16 was a Palestine FM

17 one who desires

19 Boerne had the "Kid '\_\_\_ Fiber Fair"

21 TX A.J. Foyt won at \_\_\_ Mans in 1967

31 used car offer: "We tote the \_\_\_"

34 TXism: "\_\_\_-horse town" (small town)

35 TX Smith who won gold in vault with bamboo pole (init.)

37 TXism: "does \_\_\_ dog stink?" (yes)

40 female eggs

42 \_\_\_ "Bum" Phillips

43 instant stops for cars? (2 wds.)

49 this Taniguchi built the Oriental Garden in Austin's Zilker Park

50 Texans Houston or Rayburn

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
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The City of Gladewater is requesting proposals from qualified individuals or businesses to operate a Lake Store/Bait Shop at Lake Gladewater. The services provided will be in accordance with a Request for Proposal which is available at [www.cityofgladewater.com](http://www.cityofgladewater.com) or at Gladewater City Hall.

Submit sealed proposals to Judy Van Houten, City Clerk, City of Gladewater, 519 E. Broadway, P.O. Box 1725, Gladewater, Texas 75647 by 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2023.



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

In accordance with Chapters 501 and 505 of the Texas Local Government Code, notice is hereby published regarding the planned expenditure of Type B sales tax proceeds on an eligible project, as defined in Chapters 501 and 505 of the Texas Local Government Code.

The White Oak Economic Development Corporation and the White Oak City Council has approved the following projects:

a) A business expansion to Doodle Properties in a performance grant in the amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the purpose of finishing out suite #5 so that WOISD can use it as a print shop/class.

Funding shall occur after the expiration of 60 days from the date of newspaper publication of this Notice.

**Divide & Conquer Living Estate Sale for Elynor (Mrs. Charles) Bowker**  
**501 Timberwilde Dr ~ Tyler, TX 75703**  
Thurs., Feb. 2 ~ 7:00-5:30 | Fri., Feb. 3 ~ 8:00-5:30 | Sat., Feb. 4 ~ 8:00-2:00  
*Outside SSW Loop 323 and off Old Bullard Rd. (near Broadway Square Mall), turn west onto Timberwilde.*

This 2821 sq. ft. home, listed by Claire Holcomb of Next Door Neighbors, is for sale; lovely contents and consignments include: din. table/chairs; another din. table; brass & glass din. table; 4 sofas; china cab.; Mottahedeh "Tobacco Leaf" china; Lenox "Tuscany" china; Waterford stemware; Georges Briard glassware; "Pink Melody" china; Asian soapstone 4-panel room divider; sterling / silverplate selections; Herend napkin holders; cut glass serv. pcs. & vases; marble entry table/ mirror; other mirrors; several mink coats; Asian fish bowls/ planters; lg. Asian lamps; other lamps; Asian urns; rose bowls; marble top coffee tables; framed art (Wilton Fair estate); Bombay chest; fireplace screen; dresser/mirror; end tables; formal desk; framed art; books; Brass Lion hurricane lamp; drop leaf table; wicker chaise lounge; lg. rugs runners; floral arrangements; cranberry selections; framed cross stitch; sew. mach.; porcelain boxes; hand-painted china: misc. chairs; frames; SentrySafe; TV/clothes armoire; multi-shelf corner cab.; vanity bench; linens; many shoes, purses, & lovely clothes; lg. amts. of holiday selections; stain glass; kitch. items; sm. appliances; cost. jewelry; cedar chest; armchairs / ottomans; pump organ; piano; chest freezer; JawSaw; Graco car seat; trimmer; camouflage bag; sailfish; Hartman luggage; 800000 much more!

**Pictures: [DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com](http://DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com)**

**Notice of Application for Fluid Injection Well Permit**

East Texas Salt Water Disposal Company, 1209 Industrial Blvd., Kilgore, Texas 75662 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Woodbine, Suman Lease, Well Number 2. The proposed injection well is located 3.9 miles northeast of Gladewater, in the East Texas Field, in Upshur County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3654 to 3825 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

**Bid Request Gladewater ISD**

Gladewater ISD is accepting bids for a Truck with the following specs:

Truck specs for Gladewater ISD Ag Dept:  
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B&W turnover gooseneck hitch  
Crew cab 4 door  
Trailer brake controller  
Blue tooth with apple car play  
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Power door lock  
Power mirrors  
Cruise control

Bids will be accepted at the GISD Superintendent's office at 200 E. Broadway, Gladewater, TX 75647 until 3 pm on February 9, 2023.

Bids will be opened immediately following the bid closing at 3 pm, Thursday, February 9, 2023. The successful bidder will be notified by phone, so it is necessary to include a phone number with the bid

**Bid Request Gladewater ISD**

Gladewater ISD is accepting bids for a Trailer with the following specs:

Trailer specs for Gladewater ISD Ag Dept:  
Aluminum construction  
10 or 12 pen  
50/50 pens  
8 ft. wide  
6 ft. tack  
Worm flooring  
Rear ramps  
1 side ramp  
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Low vent gap with fold down doors  
Drop down windows  
Roof vents  
Insulated  
Load lights

Bids will be accepted at the GISD Superintendent's office at 200 E. Broadway, Gladewater, TX 75647 until 3 pm on February 9, 2023.

Bids will be opened immediately following the bid closing at 3 pm, Thursday, February 9, 2023. The successful bidder will be notified by phone, so it is necessary to include a phone number with the bid.

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES**

Gregg County Emergency Services District No. 2 ("ESD No. 2" or "ESD") is requesting qualifications information ("RFQ") for Design-Build services related to the construction of a new fire station on a site located at 4589 FM 1252 W, Kilgore, TX 75662. The complete RFQ is available upon request from Attorney Matthew Harris at [Matt@HarrisandHarrisTX.com](mailto:Matt@HarrisandHarrisTX.com) or (903) 757-7500. RFQs should be submitted by one (1) electronic copy via email to Attorney Matthew Harris at [Matt@HarrisandHarrisTX.com](mailto:Matt@HarrisandHarrisTX.com) and three (3) hard copies via first-class mail or hand-delivery to Harris and Harris, Attorneys at Law, 1100 Judson Rd., Suite 720, Longview, Texas 75601. Please identify the electronic and hard-copy submission as "Design-Build RFQ".

RFQs, both electronic and hard-copy, may be submitted starting Monday, February 13, 2023. The deadline for all RFQ's, both electronic and hard-copy, is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 20, 2023. RFQs will be opened any time after the deadline by a building committee consisting of two (2) ESD commissioners and the Fire Chief at 736 Wilkins Rd., Gladewater, Texas 75647. The building committee will review, score and evaluate the RFQs and may request additional information and schedule interviews with a short list of finalists. The building committee will then give its recommendation of the most qualified firm to the Board of Commissioners for ESD No. 2 at a public meeting. The Board of Commissioners may vote to take action on the recommendation if it is determined to be in the best interest of the ESD to engage in negotiations with the most qualified firm. The building committee and Board of Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all RFQs, to postpone selection of the most qualified firm, and expressly reserves the right to not award a contract related to this RFQ to any firm. To the extent of any conflict between this published notice and the complete RFQ, the complete RFQ will control. Please direct all questions about the RFQs and project scope to Matthew Harris in writing at [Matt@HarrisandHarrisTX.com](mailto:Matt@HarrisandHarrisTX.com).

Project Description: The desired project delivery method is Design-Build as described in chapter 2269, subchapter G., of the Texas Government Code. The project is for the construction of a new fire station in ESD No. 2 that would be financed in whole or in part, including the possible incorporation of an existing building on the site. The following are preliminary requirements for the project, which are subject to change as the design process progresses: The new fire station shall consist of 3 drive thru bays, 2 back in bays, 6 bunk rooms, a training area, meeting area, Command staff offices, kitchen, dining, day room, and various storage rooms for bunker gear and medical records. It will also include a Dispatch Communications Center for two dispatchers that will include a bunk room and facilities. The new facility will also include a rated storm shelter. The project is estimated to be between 11,000 - 12,000 SF.

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EXHIBIT C-2				
WHITE OAK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2022				
Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	60 Capital Projects Fund	98 Other Governmental Funds	98 Total Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES:</b>				
5700 Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 3,849,740	\$ 12,005	\$ 1,969,680	\$ 5,831,425
5800 State Program Revenues	11,550,720	--	563,124	12,113,844
5900 Federal Program Revenues	227,280	--	2,977,096	3,204,376
5020 Total Revenues	15,627,740	12,005	5,509,900	21,149,645
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>				
<b>Current:</b>				
0011 Instruction	7,639,943	--	1,588,120	9,228,063
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	226,881	--	300	227,181
0013 Curriculum and Staff Development	224,791	--	120,054	344,845
0021 Instructional Leadership	30,648	--	11,504	42,152
0023 School Leadership	1,058,991	--	59,089	1,118,080
0031 Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services	86,075	--	269,606	355,681
0033 Health Services	36,113	--	124,496	160,609
0034 Student Transportation	479,680	--	--	479,680
0035 Food Service	1,608	--	782,008	783,616
0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	1,059,359	--	182,958	1,242,317
0041 General Administration	715,033	--	24,923	739,956
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,670,221	--	--	1,670,221
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	105,461	--	3,430	108,891
0053 Data Processing Services	323,942	--	220,382	544,324
0061 Community Services	47,242	--	--	47,242
0071 Principal on Long-term Debt	676,820	--	919,663	1,596,483
0072 Interest on Long-term Debt	198,610	--	591,902	790,512
0073 Bond Issuance Costs and Fees	750	--	900	1,650
0081 Capital Outlay	1,806,817	635,922	25,747	2,468,486
0093 Payments to Shared Service Arrangements	417,999	--	171,250	589,249
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	64,652	--	--	64,652
6030 Total Expenditures	16,871,636	635,922	5,096,332	22,603,890
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)				
1100 Expenditures	(1,243,896)	(623,917)	413,568	(1,454,245)
<b>Other Financing Sources and (Uses):</b>				
7912 Sale of Real or Personal Property	24,240	--	--	24,240
7913 Issuance of Lease Purchase Assets	139,747	--	--	139,747
7915 Transfers In	85,172	--	510	85,682
8911 Transfers Out	(510)	(85,172)	--	(85,682)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses)	248,649	(85,172)	510	163,987
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	(995,247)	(709,089)	414,078	(1,290,258)
0100 Fund Balances - Beginning	5,485,265	2,275,519	1,099,041	8,859,825
3000 Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 4,490,018	\$ 1,566,430	\$ 1,513,119	\$ 7,569,567

# Community Expo Feb. 25

By Phillip Williams

The 40th annual Upshur County Community Expo, formerly known as the county health fair, is set Feb. 25 at the East Texas Yamboree Event Center in Gilmer.

The event, hosted by the Upshur County Health Coalition, will feature vendors who will “educate the public on living healthy lifestyles,” said Julie York, a county extension agent who oversees the coalition.

The expo, free to the public, is set from 9 a.m.-12 noon at the center at 181 Bob Glaze Drive (behind Walmart.) It will be “focusing on health and wellness for all ages,” York said Monday. For more information, contact Amorette Burch at (903) 227-1749.

**Oil Patch TRTA members learned of the many benefits provided by AMBA (Association Member Benefits Advisors) during their January monthly meeting. AMBA speakers were Bandria Johnson and Jacob Dunham. TRTA District 8 President Andi Kirby was a guest and visited with local members. Thanks to past president Renee Steele for assisting at the meeting.**

Photo by Lois Reed



## 27th Annual “Treasures of the Texas Coast” Children’s Art Contest underway

The 27th Annual Treasures of the Texas Coast Children’s Art Contest begins this week. All Texas

students, public, private, and homeschooled, in kindergarten through sixth grade are encouraged to send in their masterpieces. Artwork should be based on the theme “Treasures of the Texas Coast” and should depict why the Texas coast is important or special to the student.

This year’s grand prize winner will receive one 6-8-night Caribbean cruise for two.

All entries must be post-marked by Wednesday, March 1, 2023, and mailed to the Texas General Land Office at: Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Program: Children’s Art Contest 2023, P.O. Box 12873, Austin, Texas 78711-2873.

# Garden Club News

By Joyce Hugman

The Gladewater Garden Club met recently in the Clubhouse of the Gardens of Gladewater. President Michelle Askew called the meeting to order. Routine business was handled by the officers, Secretary Anne Hatfield, and Parliamentarian Phyllis Bethune. Hostesses providing delicious refreshments were Sara Elder and Terry Serry.

Program was “Time to Garden” presented by Cathy Page of the RBC Garden Center of Longview. She has recently purchased property on Highway 80 East for her business (in the location of the former Bell Pepper Cafe.) She delivered much useful information about things to do in the garden now. For example, now is the time to plant onions. She presented each member with a pot of Lavender as a gift and presented a door prize of a Staghorn fern, which was won by Joyce Hugman.

Those attending the meeting in addition to the above named were: Cassi Anderson, Jamie Ballard, Judy Banner, Joy Barnett, Maura Cuke, Dora Dickson, Jacqueline Findley, Beth Hodges, Nancy Holly, Marcy Johnson, Corrine Maddox, Judy McBride, Diane Richardson, Cynthia Scott, Maxine Stein, Diane Whatley, Tammy White and Linda Wells.

The next meeting will be on February 27 2023 at the Gardens of Gladewater at 1 p.m.. Presenting the program will be Shawn Crofferd and the subject of Bromeliad Plants. Members should remember to bring a plant or a tool for exchange and bring a friend.

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**The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas is accepting proposals for construction of 10 new homes in the Vega Land Subdivision**

**Deadline: Feb. 28, 2023 by 3 p.m.**

**Specifications: Purchasing@ktttribe.org or 830-773-2105**

All proposals and scope of work will need to include materials, equipment, and labor for 10 new wood frame homes. Proposals must be received in a sealed envelope labeled: CONSTRUCTION OF 10 NEW HOMES IN THE VEGA LAND SUBDIVISION. A performance and payment bond will be required for this project. All proposals should be sent/delivered to: PURCHASING DEPARTMENT, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, Government Building, 2212 Rosita Valley Rd., Eagle Pass, Texas 78852

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HANK Inc. is searching for moms and dads to be the heart and soul of our Community Foster Homes in Hondo and Devine, Texas.

HANK Inc. provides a nice furnished home and vehicle to care for up to 6 children at a time, and will help obtain your license to foster. Foster homes are desperately needed, and HANK Inc's goal is to create more homes in Medina County communities. Come enjoy the small town life, and help make a difference in these kiddos lives by giving them the love and attention they deserve. Medina County is a great place to live. *Great match for retired educators, empty nesters, or social workers looking for a change.*

Additional aide from the State to care for 6 kids starts at \$4,800+ monthly.

Contact Rachel at 512-791-9410 or learn more at [www.hankforkids.org](http://www.hankforkids.org)

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**Public Notice**  
TAPR

A public meeting to present the 2021-2022 Texas Academic Performance Report for Gladewater ISD will be held in the Board Room of the Administration office located at 200 E. Broadway. The meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 13, 2023 at 6 pm. If you have any questions please contact Dr. Sedric Clark at 903-845-6991.

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**TexSCAN Week of Jan. 29-Feb. 4, 2023**

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**The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas** is accepting proposals for construction of 10 new homes in the Vega Land Subdivision, Deadline: Feb. 28, 2023, by 3 p.m. Specifications: [Purchasing@ktttribe.org](mailto:Purchasing@ktttribe.org) or 830-773-2105.

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# Twenty years later, Texas A&M Forest Service employees, retirees recall Columbia recovery mission

Continued from Page 1

knit bond between their employees, and as it developed, it felt more like family helping family than a working relationship.”

Tom Boggus, who retired as Texas A&M Forest Service Director in 2021, was serving as Associate Director and Deputy State Forester in 2003. He also recalled the feeling of being connected to a larger family.

“One thing that struck me was the community of the astronauts, how close they are and the relationships that they have,” Boggus said. “It was a really strong, close-knit group of folks, and we got to be part of that. We got adopted into the NASA family.”

Some personality clashes could be expected amid the stress and chaos of such an emergency, Oates said.

“Firefighters, astronauts and engineers all have egos. But that all got put aside,” he said. “It just goes to the spirit of the American people, the ability to come together when needed.”

## Unsung heroes ...

During the initial stages of the response, representatives from dozens of state and federal agencies converged on the rural East Texas communities, but direction was lacking, Hull said.

“We didn’t go in there trying to claim leadership, but over a few days, federal agencies started realizing that there was but one group in all these massive amounts of people that seemed to have any ability in terms of leadership, organizing people, having the personnel who could do it, having a familiarity with the geography of the area and having relationships with the local people and community leaders,” Hull said. “We just sort of gravitated by mutual consent of everybody that we had what it took to lead something like this.”

At the time, the incident command system had not been standardized nationally, but through its management of wildfires and other emergency response situations, Texas A&M Forest Service was well-versed in its benefits, including structured organization and chain of command, defined communication channels and a planning process.

“It’s a way of bringing together agencies and organizations to fulfill a single mission,” said Mark Stanford, who was the agency’s Chief of Fire Operations in 2003. “What we did, which started on the second day, was produce an incident action plan, and our role morphed into implementing the incident command system because the leadership there started to recognize what we could provide to help them accomplish their mission.”

Stanford said the idea to utilize wildland firefighting crews in the search came after the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Army National Guard got reassigned because of an increase in the national threat level coinciding with the start of the war in Iraq.

Stanford retired in 2022 as Associate Director for Forest Resource Protection and Fire Chief. He deferred credit for leading the agency’s response.

“I was just part of the team,” he said.

Instead, Stanford commended people working behind the scenes, doing whatever they could to help. He called them unsung heroes.

“Everyone involved had a passion for getting the job done,” he said. “It makes you feel really positive about Americans and Texans. If something happens, they’re going to be there to assist their neighbors, the state and country.”

Hull said everyone he talked to said the agency “far exceeded” expectations in its role to find and retrieve shuttle debris.

“We got the job done,” Boggus said. “It’s something that this agency should be proud of. It’s one of our milestones, one of those times in this agency’s history that you’re going to look back on and go, ‘Wow, that was something to be remembered.’”

## ‘It was an honor’...

Jake Donellan, Texas A&M Forest Service East Texas Operations Department Head, was a staff forester in 2003. He called his boss asking to be involved in the recovery effort as soon as he learned the shuttle had been lost.

“A staff forester normally wouldn’t have a role in emergency response,” he said. “But the nation had just experi-

enced 9/11, and I wanted to help.”

Donellan was assigned to search for debris from an operational base in Cherokee County, where he met Krenek.

“It was my first interaction with Charles,” he said. “I’d heard he was a character, and that proved to be true.”

Donellan said the loss of the space shuttle unified the country, with federal, state and local officials working alongside an army of volunteers searching rough terrain in uncomfortable weather.

“I think our agency and the people involved can take great pride in how much was accomplished,” he said. “It’s a testament to all the people who were walking shoulder-to-shoulder in some of the nastiest conditions.”

In all, the ground search and recovery lasted 100 days, covered 680,750 acres, and involved more than 25,000 people. More than 82,000 pieces of material were recovered — about 38 percent of the shuttle — allowing NASA teams to pinpoint the cause of the shuttle failure to a debris strike on the left wing during launch.

“It was our job,” Donellan said, “but it was also about bringing those heroes home and what that meant to those families. It was an honor.”

## Facing the challenge ...

By the beginning of March, 256 agency employees — about 70 percent of the staff at the time — had been mobilized as part of the effort at one time or another.

Hull called himself the head cheerleader for the agency and said he never had any doubts about the qualifications of his team.

“They had the training and experience, and I did what I could to make sure everybody knew they had whatever resources they needed,” Hull said. “We wanted everybody to know that their job was important.”

Hull’s biggest concern was the amount of time employees were away from home and their normal duties. “But they seemed to thrive on what they were doing,” he said. “There was never, ever a thought that I ever detected of being overwhelmed or that we might fail.”

## Unforgettable ...

John Gill, Texas A&M Forest Service Resource Specialist, said the shuttle’s hypersonic re-entry shook his Newton County home, with pictures falling off the walls. Gill was assigned to a team in Hemphill responsible for cataloging parts that were recovered.

“We had a team of NASA engineers there that tried to identify every piece brought in,” Gill said. “It amazed me how much they knew about every part of the shuttle. They could identify even charred pieces no bigger than your hand.”

Gill said he’s grateful that he had a role in the recovery mission. “I’ve been on many assignments in my career, but the Columbia disaster is one I’ll never forget,” he said.

Then-District Forester Chris Brown worked at a Nacogdoches site tagging and recording shuttle debris brought in by search teams. One of the community volunteers at the site was a retired NASA contractor.

“He had worked on the International Space Station,” Brown said, “and he could tell us what all the parts were. He said it was therapy for him to be able to help in some way.”

Brown, now a Texas A&M Forest Service Program Leader, later was assigned to a GIS team producing maps for the searchers.

“We would make the map and classify the vegetation types to determine the time needed to search each grid,” he said. “So the incident management teams could figure out how many people they would need to search a particular area and how long it would take.”

Brown said he was proud of the agency’s accomplishments in the search.

“It was a huge effort with everyone coming together,” he said. “It was neat to see the way the astronauts connected. They were a family, just like we are, and that’s something special.”

Rich Gray said the 100-day effort to recover the shuttle from the East Texas debris field was awe-inspiring.

“Just the sheer number of different organizations that were

mobilized, and everyone working together,” said Gray, who organized some of the initial searches before taking a role as a safety officer. “I think back on it with a lot of pride. It set the stage for establishing that this agency has the ability to function at that level, and more importantly, to be respected and trusted at that level.”

Gray, Texas A&M Forest Service Chief Regional Fire Coordinator, said the shuttle response also set the stage for a shift in technology.

“Some of the things that we take for granted today were the early technology that was being used then,” Gray said. “They mapped the debris field, down to the vegetation. It’s easily done now, but at the time, it was iconic. They looked at ways technology could help in the search and put it into practice.”

## Boots on the ground ...

Marilynn Grossman had been hired in early 2003 as communications director, a new position for the agency. She was set to start on Feb. 3, but got called in early.

Grossman, who didn’t have a list of media contacts when she started, was responsible for disseminating information for the agency. She said she got a quick lesson in the fundamentals of the incident command system being used to manage the search, and she was immediately impressed by the dedication of the search teams.

“I saw the talent within the agency,” she said. “A lot of people doubted that ‘those foresters’ were up to the task, but jumping right into this shuttle response taught me that we knew what we were doing. We were a lot more than trees.”

Grossman, who left the agency in 2008, said she’s never forgotten the dedication of the wildland firefighters involved in the search and their accomplishments of working through the tough conditions.

“I remember going to a firefighter camp and seeing a tent that had hundreds of pairs of boots they were trying to dry out,” she said. “They had to buy two or three pairs of boots per person just so they’d have dry boots every day.”

## Always prepared ...

Retiree Boo Walker, who returns to duty for Texas A&M Forest Service each fire season, was on an out-of-state training assignment in early February and didn’t participate in the Columbia search until later in the month.

On his first morning of being involved with the search effort as the head of the agency’s aviation operations, he was sent into a meeting at the Lufkin command post.

“There was a bunch of astronauts and a bunch of federal government people in coats and ties, and they asked me what my plan was,” he said.

His training, instincts and experience on incident management teams kicked in, and he began outlining a detailed plan to divide the region into sections, deploy air attack platforms and establish safety protocols.

“They were glad that we were there and wanted to hear what we had to say,” Walker said. “NASA had their best people out here to help us, and we sent our best people to help them.”

## Life-affirming mission ...

After the helicopter accident that killed Mier and Krenek, Walker said, everybody understood there was a funeral to attend, then the focus returned to getting back to work.

“We had a mission, and we needed to complete it,” he said. “That’s what Charles would have wanted us to do.”

Hull said Krenek was a top employee in every way.

“Charles was one of those who led by example,” said Hull, noting Krenek’s experience could have qualified him for a job in the command post. “But he led by doing, which is why he was in that helicopter.”

Several people involved in the agency’s response said their experience in the ground search, combined with the helicopter crash that killed a colleague, gave them a greater appreciation for life.

“Those astronauts probably never thought that they wouldn’t make it back home to see their families,” Gill said. “Live every day like it could be your last.”

Oates agreed: “It makes you realize what’s important.”

# Miss

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**~ENTRIES~**  
**NOW OPEN!!**  
**- Entries close March 4th**

**For entry information, find the “MISS GLADEWATER RODEO” page on Facebook, or Use the web link in the contact information below.**

**~IMPORTANT DATES~**  
**March 4th mandatory meeting**  
**May 21st Mandatory practice**  
**June 3rd Contest**  
**June 7-10 Rodeo**

**903.650.3018 | [missgladewater@gmail.com](mailto:missgladewater@gmail.com)**  
**[missgladewater.wixsite.com/missgladewaterrodeo](http://missgladewater.wixsite.com/missgladewaterrodeo)**

# Little Miss

## AGES 3-7

**\*NO HORSE NEEDED**  
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**COMPETITION CATEGORIES:**

~Personality interview (90 seconds)  
 ~HIGH SELLER  
 ~Photogenic

**PRIZES:**

Little Miss:  
 -Crown  
 -Sash  
 -Buckle  
 •Photogenic  
 •Participation trophies

**~ENTRIES~**  
**NOW OPEN!!**  
**- Entries close March 4th**

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