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Thursday, May 25, 2023

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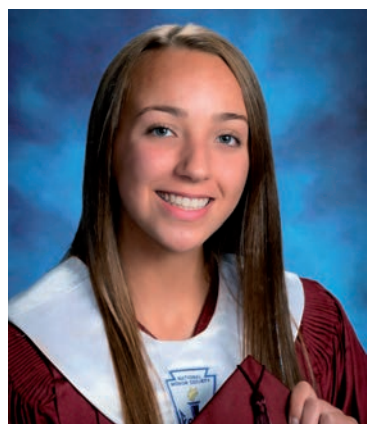


Photo by Mike Peery

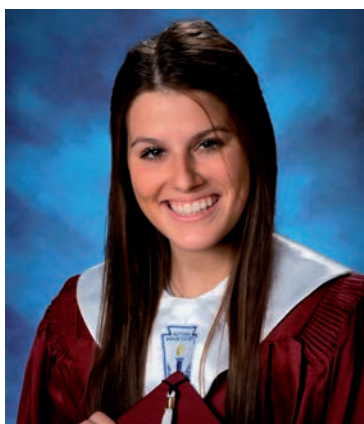
The Class of 2023 topped off the 87th White Oak High School Commencement exercise on Saturday, May 20, at Maude Cobb Convention Center with the traditional cap toss!



See all the 2023 Gladewater, White Oak and Union Grove graduates in this week's special graduation issue located inside. Best wishes to all our area Grads!



Emma Hill
WOHS Valedictorian



Alexandra Palmer
WOHS Salutatorian



Anna Iske
WOHS Historian



Matthew Smith
GHS Valedictorian



Sarah Walbridge
UGHS Valedictorian

The Gladewater High School graduating Class of 2023 will receive their diplomas Friday, May 26, at 8 p.m. in Jack V. Murphy Stadium.

150th fly-in celebration lands

By James Draper

The aviation bug sunk its teeth in quick Saturday morning.

"What would it take if I wanted to become a pilot?" Preston Grissett asked veteran airman Dana Sneed. "Or, at least, to be able to fly planes like this with you," he added, admiring the lines of the Kilgore flyer's meticulously-restored mid-century Stearman PT-27 two-seat biplane.

It's a question Sneed and his colleagues at Gladewater Municipal Airport love to hear, and he was eager to walk Grissett through the details Saturday morning during the Gladewater Airport Fly-In, part of the city's year-long 150th Anniversary Celebration.

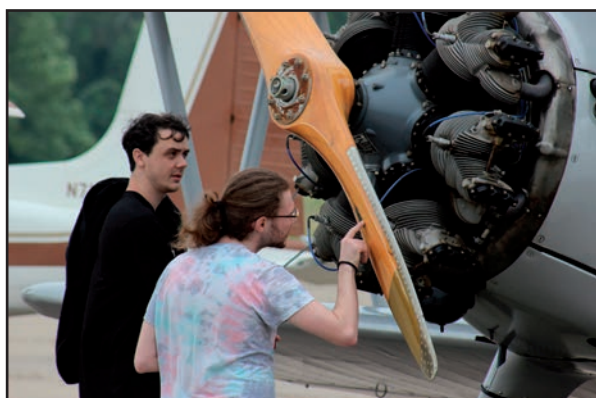
The May 20 event drew hundreds to the airfield for an almost-ideal extravaganza – the one thing beyond the local organizers' control, clouds and a lower than expected ceiling level forced the cancellation of free plane rides for the young attendees.

Mayor Scott Owens, along with council members Sonny Anderson and Rocky Hawkins, presented a proclamation describing aviation's importance to Gladewater and welcoming the crowd of aviation enthusiasts who turned out for the free event which also included free hot dogs and hamburgers, aircraft demonstrations, hot air balloons, a clown making balloon animals and a paper airplane making contest.

The city aims to make the fly-in an annual event, especially with so much excitement from visitors and dedication from flyers like Sneed with his prized Stearman.

"It's my Dad's old crop duster from way back when. Been in our family for a long time – our first one," he said. "When I inherited everything, I wanted to rebuild one of them. I went and picked out parts and pieces from each one of his planes so I would have a conglomeration. I've restored it all back to original military configuration."

See more photos inside



White Oak's Noah Pittman (left) and Preston Grissett inspect Dana Sneed's Stearman PT-27 two-seat biplane Saturday morning during the Gladewater Airport Fly-In.



Gracie Stanford
GHS Salutatorian



Emily Lynch
UGHS Salutatorian

The Union Grove High School Graduating Class of 2023 will walk across the stage on May 26, 2023 at 7 p.m. at Union Grove Lion Center.

Local Memorial Day event on tap for downtown

Memorial Day honors for local veterans are set for 11 a.m. To 1 p.m. Monday, May 29, at the Gladewater Veterans Memorial at 119 E. Pacific Ave. Hosted by the Gladewater Former Students' Association – which funded the construction of the memorial and dedicated the site in 2002 – the annual event is free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair.

Learn more about the association at GladewaterFormerStudents.com

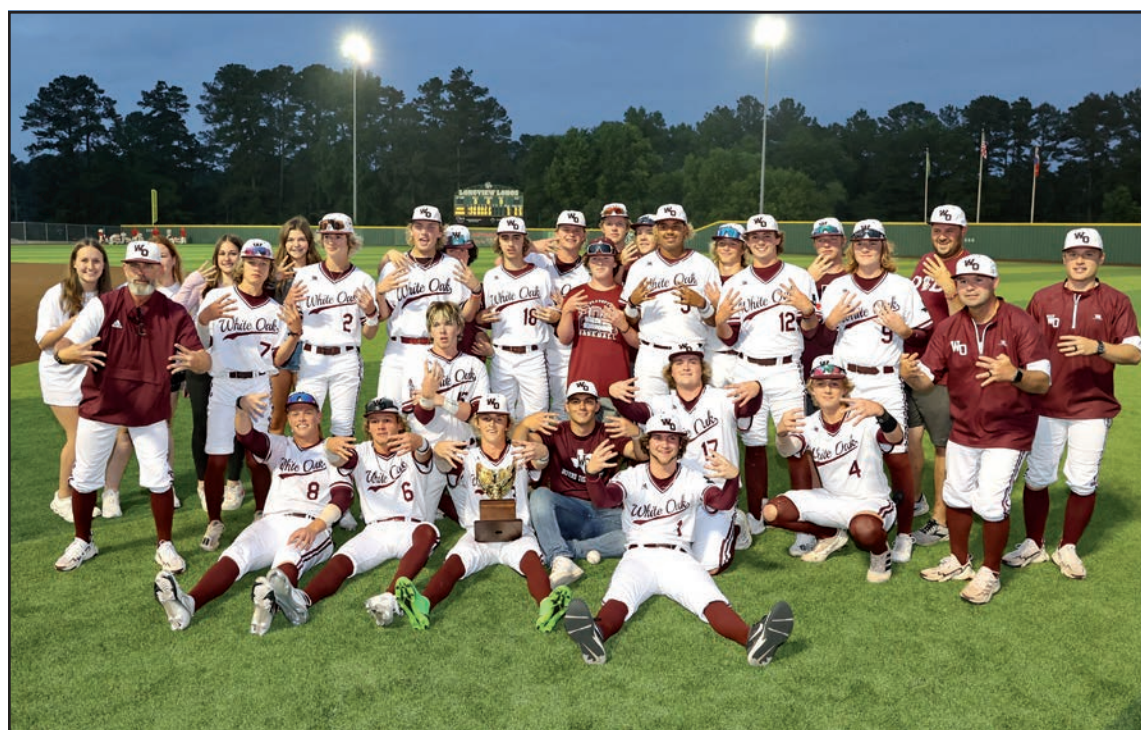
'Necks keeping state crown in sight

By Tyler Sutton

As the playoff run for White Oak baseball continues to go deeper, the Roughnecks began their series with the Harmony Eagles in the regional quarterfinal round.

The series opened up on Thursday night, May 18th at Marshall high school and Riley Patterson belted a two-run home run in the top of the first inning to give Harmony an early lead, but the Eagles had to put things away late-scoring four times in the top of the eighth to earn a 6-2 win over the White Oak Roughnecks in the opening game of the series to go up 1-0. Patterson had two hits on the night. Hayden Johnson, Ollie Trimble, Braxton Baker, Tucker Tittle and Brayden Phillips all added singles, and Trimble drove in two runs. Baker and Aiden Tranhold also contributed RBI for the Eagles. Tittle struck out six, walked two and gave up two earned runs in 6.2 innings. Boston Seahorn fanned three with no walks in a scoreless 1.1 innings of work. Drake Kneifl and Kash Y'barbo had two hits apiece in the loss for White Oak. Gavyn Jones homered, and Noah Carter added a single. Millwood drove in a run. Noah went 6.2 innings on the mound, striking out 11 with four walks and no earned runs allowed. Kelton Cates walked one and struck out one in 1.1 innings.

Moving on to game 2 on Friday night, May 19th where the series moved



White Oak defeated Harmony in the Regional Quarterfinals, winning the best 2 out of 3 games. After losing the first game 2-6 in 8 innings, the Necks rebounded with 5-1 and 5-3 wins, to move on to the next round of the playoffs. They will face the Boyd Yellowjackets Thursday at 2:30 pm, Friday at 12 pm, and Saturday at 4 pm (if necessary), at North Forney High School in Forney.

Continued on Page 8

Photo by Mike Peery



OPINION/COMMENTARY

Life 101 for graduates ...

When I was in college I ended up in a psychology class with a professor that was greatly feared and often intensely disliked. I didn't know that fact when I sat in that first class on the edge of my seat and focused with laser-like attention because it was one of my first UNIVERSITY classes. It was the big-time to little old country girl, me.

Dr. G. was drawn to me because I LISTENED. I wasn't the brightest kid in the room, the most analytical or most creative; BUT I was committed to learning. I took joy from intellectual growth and I didn't bellyache or look for a way out.

As a result, she invited me to work for her in a major, nationally funded research project. From there I ended up in the honors program, published twice and presented academic research papers to the Texas Academy of Sciences. I am listed on several of Dr. G's research papers as a contributor because I wasn't afraid to work hard or afraid of her. It turned out that besides being an internationally renowned researcher, and a 'heavy hitter' as a professor, she was lonely. She was simply drawn to the fact I cared.

NEVER underestimate the gifts of humanity that you possess. The ability to work hard, be encouraging, supportive, giving and KIND. I promise you the return will be greater than if you were a genius.

Dr. G. gave me a paperweight that has sat on my desk for 35 years and reminds me of the best life lessons I want to leave with you, the Class of 2015.

1. HARD WORK trumps brains (most of the time!)
2. KINDNESS AND WARMTH outweigh talent.
3. INTEGRITY is your calling card. If you say you are

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



going to do something DO IT. If you break something, make a mistake, lose something, TELL THE TRUTH. Excuses are for the lesser among us.

4. Be JOYFUL! It is like catnip to the world and 'much' of the world will be drawn to you.

5. Be HUMBLE! People won't want to shoot you down. They will be charmed by your successes and others will proclaim your greatness to the world.

6. Have INSATIABLE INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY! Don't stop learning until you are comatose or six feet under (and frankly, because I believe in 'Ever-after' I think we keep on learning.)

7. Have FUN at what you do and be at PEACE with WHO you are. Life is too short to be in angst about what others are thinking, or saying for that matter.

8. I hope that you encounter and embrace the Creator of the Universe. If you do, your life will have a foundation built on rock that will weather any storm.

9. Finally, BE YOUR BEST SELF...by the way, THAT is a lifelong process.

That's it graduates...the most important lessons I have learned in Life 101. There is only one thing left for you to do: ARISE, GO FORTH & CONQUER!

Draper rejoins Mirror staff

There's a new, old face in the office at 211 N. Main St. – former *Gladewater Mirror* page designer and reporter James Draper is back on the beat after his last stretch at the paper in Fall 2010.

Draper first joined the *Mirror* staff in Spring 2007, working as a page designer on local sheets in addition to the *Big Sandy & Hawkins Journal* and the *Overton Press*. He stayed in journalism through *Kilgore News Herald* from September 2010 to December 2019 before spending three-and-a-half-years at cue:creative, a Tyler marketing agency.

After rejoining the staff at Bardwell Ink May 15, Draper says it's good to be back in familiar territory, and he's ready to get back out and tell the community's story.

"Gotta say, I've missed it. The *Gladewater Mirror* was my first 'real' job after college, and I really feel at home in this town," he added. "After working in other places for almost 14 years, it's pretty amazing how quickly I feel comfortable back at the news desk here."

He immediately found familiar faces in *Mirror* Publisher Jim Bardwell and longtime Business Manager Tiffany Harroff as well as a new colleague in Advertising Manager Darla Ferguson.

"There's a real gap here," Draper said, returning to the paper almost a year-and-a-half after the death of Co-Owner and Editor Suzanne Bardwell. "It was crushing to lose Suzanne. She was always such a joy, someone who always showed me, and everyone else, incredible kindness and sincere love."

"What's encouraging is to look around the office here and see the impact she had over years. Decades. Not just on me, but obviously on this paper and this community and, really, this area. She crafted a legacy, one that persists, and I'll do my damndest to live up to journalism – and personal – standard she set for this paper and this company."

An East Texas native from Longview, Draper resides in Kilgore. It's good to be back in Gladewater, he said, but he still expects a bit of a learning curve.

"There's a lot that's familiar, but obviously there's a lot that's changed, for the better. Thursday was my first council meeting here in a long, long time, and there are new faces on the dais. But there are some I remember, too," he said. "There's a new superintendent since I left, and Dr. (Sedric) Clark was my first interview from the news desk last week. I look forward to working with him and all the latest leaders, stakeholders, and community members that contribute to the town and the paper."

According to Draper, he was trained in the Bettye Craddock School of Journalism – aka the Mass Communications Department at Kilgore College and the *KC Flare* – before heading on to the *NT Daily* at the University of North Texas and finishing his news education under the Bardwells and *KNH* Publisher Bill Woodall in Kilgore.

"That's a lot of good examples to follow, and I'll do my best to live up to the journalistic standards they set."

That said, there will still be times he swaps "its" and "it's." "Bear with me," Draper said. "Regardless, it's really good to be back."

"We are very happy to have James back with us," said Jim Bardwell. "James is a very talented reporter and feature writer and I know Suzanne would be very happy to see James back in the *Mirror* office. I am confident our readers will enjoy his writing and appreciate his passion for news and our community."

House lawmakers defy Abbott on vouchers

A key House education committee adjourned last week without voting on a school voucher bill that is Gov. Greg Abbott's top priority this session, the Houston Chronicle reported. Barring some unforeseen maneuver in the last week of the regular legislative session, the bill is effectively dead for now.

The Senate had approved a bill that would provide Texas families \$8,000 in taxpayer money to fund private or charter school tuition. The House narrowed the scope so that it would only apply to students with disabilities or those attending schools with a failing grade issued by the Texas Education Agency – an estimated 800,000 students. The Senate bill would make vouchers available to 5.5 million Texas students.

State Rep. Brad Buckley, R-Killeen, chair of the House Public Education Committee, said he doesn't plan to call a vote on the measure. Abbott has threatened to veto the House version or call a special session if the House does not approve the Senate version.

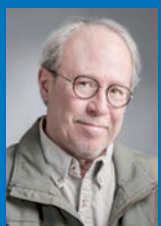
Opponents of the voucher system say it would take money away from public education.

"These voucher proposals have been brought before — in 1957. A tuition grant bill was passed through the House. It failed ultimately, but it was to allow kids to leave integrated schools and join white-only schools," state Rep. James Tarlico, D-Round Rock, said.

Bills on natural gas power plants advance

A Texas House committee voted Thursday to send to the House floor a Senate bill providing \$10 billion in taxpayer money for low-interest loans to build natural gas-powered electrical generating plants. The plan is still subject to change

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



in the waning days of the legislative session, however.

The *Dallas Morning News* reported the call for plant expansions stem from the near collapse of the power grid during the devastating winter storm in 2021. Hundreds of Texans died during that blackout.

State Rep. Todd Hunter, R-Corpus Christi, and chair of the House State Affairs Committee that is considering the bills, said the \$10 billion loan fund and other power generation measures remain "works in progress." The legislative session ends May 29.

House, Senate closer on tax relief plan

The Texas House and Senate appear to be nearing a deal that would deliver billions of dollars in property tax relief, the Austin American-Statesman reported. The proposal combines House Speaker Dade Phelan's preference for cutting appraisal caps by half with Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick's preference for increasing homestead exemptions.

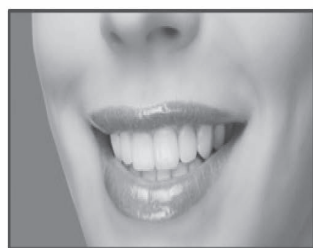
The Legislature was under a mandate from Abbott and Patrick to return nearly half of the state's \$33 billion budget surplus to taxpayers. The latest measure would lower the appraised value cap from 10% to 5% for all properties. The House version would also raise the state's homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000, with an added \$10,000 exemption for seniors and disabled homeowners. Patrick's original proposal was to raise the exemption to \$70,000.

Draft budget bars tax dollars for Paxton settlement

House and Senate budget negotiators plan to bar using state funds to pay the \$3.3 million whistleblower settlement negotiated by Attorney General Ken Paxton and his former aides, the Statesman reported.

The settlement was reached in February after four former employees of the AG's office sued Paxton, accusing him of bribery and abusing his office. Since that time the four aides were fired or have resigned. Paxton denied their allegations, but as part of the settlement apologized for calling them "rogue employees."

Paxton said when the settlement was reached that it would save taxpayer money in the long run by avoiding an expensive court battle. "I have chosen this path to save taxpayer dollars and ensure my third term as Attorney General is unburdened by unnecessary distractions," Paxton said in a statement at the time.



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OUR MIXED UP-TOPSY-TURVY SOCIETY

Our society can be described as running toward chaos. I am 77 years old, and today's society is not the culture I grew up in. We are seeing more and more what the apostle Paul describes as "perilous times" (2 Tim. 3: 1-5). Today's society is described in Isaiah 5. People were greedy, drinking had become a way of life, and enslaved to sin, they confused moral distinctions, to the extent that they could not discern between true and false values. They "called evil good, put darkness for light, and light for darkness, put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter" (v. 20). Today, drinking is equated with a good time, sexual immorality is considered the gratification of a natural and normal urge, and rebellion against authority is looked upon as normal and right. More and more people are self-deceived and trust in their own fallible wisdom, believing they are "wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight" (v. 21). Justice is perverted, and more often than not, the wicked go free, while the innocent are punished (v. 23). More and more people can be described as "Doing that which is right in their own eyes" (Judges 17: 6; 21: 25). Lawlessness and chaos reigns. We are seeing this, not only in government, but also in private lives and religion.

Why are we heading in the direction we are heading? I believe at the core of immorality is unbelief in God and His Word, and the belief that man is wise enough to "direct his own steps" (Jer. 10: 23). Modern philosophy, driven by rejection of God and His Word, only has the gratification of self as the standard to guide men. What we are witnessing is described for us in Rom. 1: 21, and it is not a pretty picture. People are becoming "futile (confused) in their thinking and their foolish hearts are darkened and professing to be wise, they are rather becoming fools." More and more we are becoming a society and culture where people's desires, ambitions, and personal satisfaction is taking precedence, and a coming judgment of God is seemingly forgotten by a vast majority of people. My plea is for people to wake up to righteousness, and come to their senses. Think on these things.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

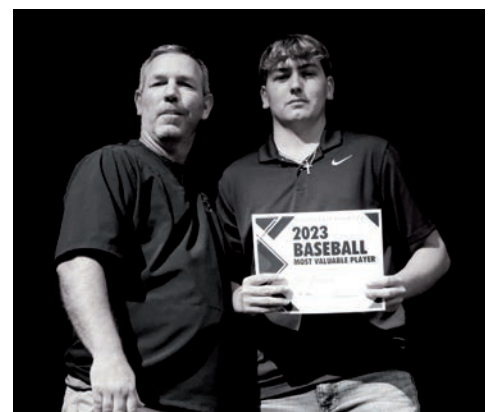
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COOPER VESTAL



BASEBALL DEFENSIVE MVP
JACOB GRIFFIN



BASEBALL MVP
JAX DANIELS



BASEBALL PUP AWARD - WRIGLEY
ROBERTS & KENDAL SARTAIN



BASEBALL OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF
THE YEAR - KAYDEN DAY



BASEBALL PITCHER OF THE YEAR
CARTER COOPER



BASEBALL MOST IMPROVED
LONDON FERGUSON



BASEBALL PROTECT THE PRIDE
RYLAN ROBERTS & JUDSON GEORGE



BASKETBALL VARSITY LADY LIONS -
MVP'S - AVA WIGHTMAN & GRACIE WINN



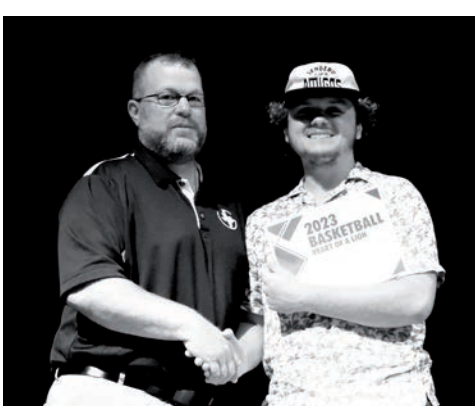
BASKETBALL VARSITY LADY LIONS -
6TH MAN AWARD - KYLER LITTLEJOHN



BASKETBALL VARSITY LADY LIONS -
DEFENSIVE MVP - TAYLOR CAMBELL



BASKETBALL VARSITY LADY LIONS -
OFFENSIVE MVP - GRACIE STANFORD



BASKETBALL VARSITY LIONS - HEART
OF A LIONS - COOPER VESTAL



BASKETBALL VARSITY LIONS -
OFFENSIVE MVP - COLTON COWAN



BASKETBALL VARSITY LADY LIONS
- MOST IMPROVED - SARAH PRINCE



GOLF MOST IMPROVED
SOPHIE PYLE



GOLF MVP
KAYDEN DAY



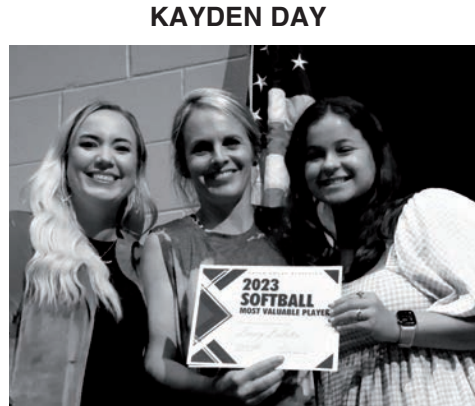
GOLF MVP
SYDNEY PRITCHETT



GOLF MOST IMPROVED
JAX DANIELS



SOFTBALL DEFENSIVE MVP
GRACIE WINN



SOFTBALL MVP
LAINEY LEDBETTER



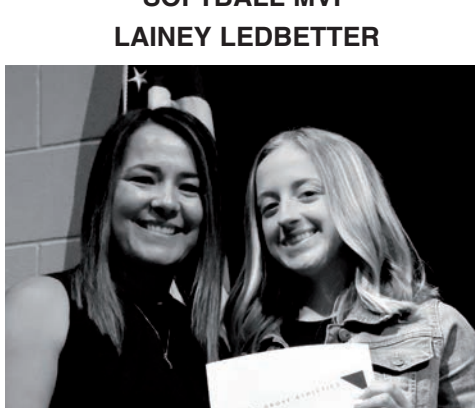
SOFTBALL NEWCOMER OF THE
YEAR - JAMIE WEBB



SOFTBALL OFFENSIVE
MVP - ALISON YOHN



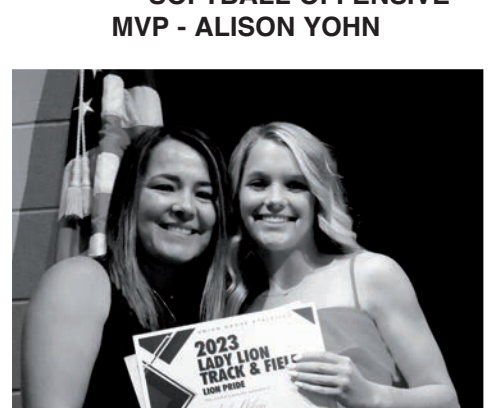
TRACK AND FIELD - MVP
GRACIE WINN



TRACK AND FIELD - MVP RUNNER -
GRACIE STANFORD



TRACK AND FIELD MVP FIELD
EVENT - ADDISON SMITH



TRACK AND FIELD - LION PRIDE
AWARD - RILEE AIKEN



POWERLIFTING TEAM REGIONAL QUALIFIERS
REED COOPER, JACOB GRIFFIN, ISAIAH O'NEAL AND LANE TURNER



POWERLIFTING LADY LIONS TEAM REGIONAL QUALIFIERS (L TO R)
JESSICA HOBBS, SAVANNA CLARK, DAYTONA VAUGHN, ADDISON
SMITH, LAINEY LEDBETTER

UGHS FFA Awards - 2023



PHOTO 1: TOP HAND BELT BUCKLE AWARDS: Front Row (L to R): Madeline McGee, Emily Bible, Kenia Velazquez. Back Row: (L to R) Jacob Hart, Josh Baker, Will Wilson, Katherine Potter, Sam Stanley and Jeremiah McGee



HONORARY CHAPTER MEMBER - MELESIA STEVENS WITH TEAM OFFICIERS KATHERINE POTTER, EMILY BIBLE, JEREMIAH McGEE, SAM STANLEY, KENIA VELAZQUEZ, MADELINE McGEE



HONORARY CHAPTER MEMBERS - BOBBY AND MICHELLE PAINTER (WITH KATHERINE POTTER, JEREMIAH McGEE AND WILL WILSON)



2022 GREENHAND SPANISH CREED STATE CHAMPION - THOMAS NAVARRO



DEKALB AGRICULTURAL AWARD JOSH BAKER, WITH JEREMIAH McGEE



2022-2023 CHAPER OFFICER TEAM



OUTSTANDING JR. MEMBER - RACHEL POTTER, WITH CHAPTER OFFICERS KAREN POTTER AND WILL WILSON



OUTSTANDING LIVESTOCK SHOWMAN JOSH BAKER



UGHS SENIOR FFA MEMBERS - Front Row (L to R) Emily Bible, Kenia Valasquez, Jessica Hobbs; Back Row (L to R): Brayden Pirtle, Reed Cooper, James Evans, Aiden Vanmeter, Aaron Amos, Angie Leva and Josh Baker.



STAR CHAPTER DEGREE - KATHERINE POTTER, WITH SAM STANLEY - TEAM OFFICER



STAR LONESTAR DEGREE - JEREMIAH McGEE, WITH SAM STANLEY

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GPD's Willeford honored at Giants of law Enforcement Banquet

One of Gladewater Police Department's longtime officers – and a key mentor – was honored as the community's Officer of the Year last week during the annual Giants of Law Enforcement Banquet. The Centurion Club of Longview hosts the annual banquet to spotlight the top law enforcement personnel in Gregg County, and this year they tapped GPD Officer Donald L. Willeford for top honors alongside a second nominee, Sgt. Jason W. Smith.

For GPD Chief Gordon Freeman, Willeford's willingness distinguishes him, "His willingness to do anything and work anywhere."

According to Willeford's biography, he began his law enforcement career in 1984 as a jail with Gregg County Sheriff's Office and obtained his peace officer license a year later. A master peace officer, he's served in many roles throughout his 36 years in law enforcement – jailer, patrol officer, supervisory, deputy constable and, since 2017, as one of Gladewater ISD's school resource officers.

Freeman praised Willeford's vast experience, knowledge and dedication to serving the Gladewater community, "an invaluable asset not only to Gladewater PD but also to the city of Gladewater as a whole."

Willeford is always supportive of other officers, Freeman added.

"He's got the experience, and he gives the young officers good advice. He's a good mentor."

According to GPD's biography for Smith, he began his career as a Lakeport Police Department patrol officer in 2009 and joined Gladewater in 2019 in the same role.



Gladewater Police Department's Donald L. Willeford (left) poses for a photo alongside Chief Gordon Freeman May 17 at the Giants of Law Enforcement Banquet at Maude Cobb Convention & Activity Center in Longview, where Willeford was honored as Gladewater's Officer of the Year.
Courtesy photo from Kim Willeford

"Officer Smith soon proved himself as a leader and in 2020 he was promoted to the rank of sergeant," not only supervising two patrol shifts but also field training newly hired officers. "Sergeant Smith is dedicated, loyal and always willing to help, whether it be covering a short shift on his days off or completing one of the many tasks that are asked of him."

"The City of Gladewater is fortunate to have officers like Sergeant Smith that care for its citizens and proudly do the job day after day."

GISD to provide breakfast, lunch

By James Draper

Gladewater ISD will provide both breakfast and lunch to all students in all grade levels for free for the next four years as part of the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

Often referred to as the Child Nutrition Reauthorization Bill, it provides federal funding for school meals and child nutrition programs, aimed at enabling low-income children to gain access to healthy food options.

Dr. Sedic Clark reported the CEP news to trustees Monday evening during their regular meeting on the third Monday of the month. The GISD board members signed off on the district's participation in the program following the GISD superintendent's report.

"Because of the percentage of free and reduced lunch students we already have," Clark noted later, "for the next four years all students will have free lunch and free breakfast. Every one of them get it."

According to the Texas Education Agency, CEP provides an alternative approach for operating school meal programs in low-income areas.

"Instead of collecting individual applications for free and reduced-price meals, CEP allows (local educational agencies) and schools meeting the eligibility requirements to use information from other means-tested programs," according to TEA.Texas.gov. "The level of participation in these programs determines the level of federal funding for the school meal programs."

"Eligible schools must pay the difference between the level of financial resources allowed by law and the total cost of operating the programs. CEP reduces the administrative burden for schools and allows them to offer free meals to all children."

GPD Police Activity

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CFSE	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
5/14/23	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20232854	0:19		801 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20232855	0:49		401 RIVERSIDE RIVERSIDE
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20232856	1:44	SEYMORS WILCO	1286 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232857	1:50		401 RIVERSIDE RIVERSIDE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20232858	2:06		900 S TYLER TYLER
	EMS	20232859	4:49	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20232860	5:20	CITIZENS BANK	678 N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20232861	5:30	204 MAPLE MAPLE	204 MAPLE MAPLE
	THEFT	20232862	9:03	307 N CENTER CENTER	307 N CENTER CENTER
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20232863	9:06	2827 W COBY COBY ST	2827 W COBY COBY ST
	THEFT	20232865	9:53	2807 GUY GUY AVE	2807 GUY GUY AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20232866	12:44	24068 CR 374 CR 374	24068 CR 374 CR 374
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232867	12:50	1105 OLIVE OLIVE N	1105 OLIVE OLIVE N
	ASSIST	20232868	12:55	216 OAK OAK DR	216 OAK OAK DR
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20232869	14:16	TAYLOR TAYLOR ST	TAYLOR TAYLOR ST
	EMS	20232870	14:21	2808 W UPSHUR UPSHUR	2808 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232871	14:54	505 N FERRY FERRY	505 N FERRY FERRY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232873	17:03	503 W CULVER CULVER	503 W CULVER CULVER
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20232874	17:54	271 271	271 271
	EMS	20232875	18:36	1605 N RODEO RODEO	1605 N RODEO RODEO
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232876	21:18	2802 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	2802 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20232877	21:47	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20232878	22:30	86 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES	86 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
5/15/23	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20232879	2:53	3011 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY	3011 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY
	EMS	20232880	7:00	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20232881	8:06	117 W GAY GAY AVE	117 W GAY GAY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20232882	9:24	ST JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH	106 S RODEO RODEO ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20232884	11:25	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	EMS	20232885	11:40	214 OAK OAK DR	214 OAK OAK DR
	THEFT	20232886	13:48	104 VIRGINIA VIRGINIA DR	104 VIRGINIA VIRGINIA DR
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20232888	16:43	200 W WALTON WALTON ST	200 W WALTON WALTON ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20232890	17:47	HWY 80 HWY 80	HWY 80 HWY 80
	ABANDONED 911	20232891	18:04	508 W GAY GAY AVE	508 W GAY GAY AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20232892	18:13	GLADEWATER MUSEUM	118 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232893	18:16	EZ MART	400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	FOUND/LOST/RECOVERED	20232894	19:14	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232895	19:30	132 N LEE LEE DR	132 N LEE LEE DR
	ALARM/OTHER	20232896	19:58	TIRE ROAD	807 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232897	20:10	W UPSHUR UPSHUR	W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232898	21:37	DOLLAR GENERAL	2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20232899	21:55	2213 PINECREST PINECREST DR	2213 PINECREST PINECREST DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232900	22:09	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	EMS	20232901	22:19	10980 FM 2685 FM 2685	10980 FM 2685 FM 2685
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20232902	22:31	GREENWAY VILLAGE	28 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
5/16/23	ALARM/OTHER	20232903	0:48	AEP SCHOOL	700 MELBA MELBA ST
	EMS	20232904	1:33	1106 E SHEPARD SHEPARD DR	1106 E SHEPARD SHEPARD DR
	EMS	20232905	1:50	701 N RODEO RODEO DR	701 N RODEO RODEO DR
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20232906	8:28	807 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	807 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	FRAUDULENT USE OF ID INFO	20232907	8:44	ABC AUTO PARTS	705 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20232908	9:54	10980 FM 2685 FM 2685	10980 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20232909	10:52	1010 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE	1010 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE
	ASSIST	20232910	11:18	2403 W GAY GAY AVE	2403 W GAY GAY AVE
	CRIM MIS	20232911	13:59	408 W QUITMAN QUITMAN AVE	408 W QUITMAN QUITMAN AVE
	EMS	20232912	14:59	2103 SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD	2103 SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD
	ASSIST	20232913	16:51	HWY 80 HWY 80	HWY 80 HWY 80
	EMS	20232914	16:58	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ASSIST	20232915	19:42	HWY 80 HWY 80	HWY 80 HWY 80
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20232916	19:50	LEARNING ACADEMY	1600 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20232917	20:07	606 N POST POST	606 N POST POST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232918	20:42	1102 W HAMPTON HAMPTON	1102 W HAMPTON HAMPTON
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232919	22:32	401 N CENTER CENTER ST	401 N CENTER CENTER ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20232920	22:46	1602 MUSTANG MUSTANG	1602 MUSTANG MUSTANG
5/17/23	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20232921	0:31	1817 FM 2685 FM 2685	1817 FM 2685 FM 2685
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20232922	0:49	2812 BERNICE BERNICE	2812 BERNICE BERNICE

GPD Police Arrest Report

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS1
5/14/23	5/14/23	5:26	MAZE, JOSHUA DAVID	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	700 N MAIN
	5/14/23	5:26	MAZE, JOSHUA DAVID	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	700 N MAIN
5/16/23	5/16/23	2:00	SALAZAR, ALEJANDRA MONSIVAS	W	F	ASSAULT: CAUSING BODILY INJURY (FAMILY VIOLENCE)	1106 E SHEPARD DR
5/17/23	5/17/23	10:28	ORTEGA, ROBERTO MORALES	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	600 N POST ST
	5/17/23	10:28	ORTEGA, ROBERTO MORALES	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	600 N POST ST
	5/17/23	10:28	ORTEGA, ROBERTO MORALES	W	M	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	600 N POST ST
	5/17/23	1:42	WEATHERSBY, TIFFANY ANN	W	F	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	1600 E BROADWAY AVE
	5/17/23	1:42	WEATHERSBY, TIFFANY ANN	W	F	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	1600 E BROADWAY AVE
5/18/23	5/18/23	16:48	WHITT, TAURA ROCHELLE	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	10001 UNION GROVE RD
	5/18/23	16:48	WHITT, TAURA ROCHELLE	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	10001 UNION GROVE RD
	5/18/23	16:48	WHITT, TAURA ROCHELLE	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	10001 UNION GROVE RD
	5/18/23	16:48	WHITT, TAURA ROCHELLE	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	10001 UNION GROVE RD
	5/18/23	16:48	WHITT, TAURA ROCHELLE	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	10001 UNION GROVE RD
	5/18/23	16:48	WHITT, TAURA ROCHELLE	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	10001 UNION GROVE RD
	5/18/23	16:48	WHITT, TAURA ROCHELLE	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	10001 UNION GROVE RD
	5/18/23	16:48	WHITT, TAURA ROCHELLE	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	10001 UNION GROVE RD
	5/18/23	16:48	WHITT, TAURA ROCHELLE	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	10001 UNION GROVE RD
	5/18/23	18:19	MORALES ORTEGA, ROBERTO	W	M	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	602 POST
5/21/23	5/21/23	0:23	AMOS, PATRICK MICHAEL	W	M	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	2200 W GAY AVE

WOPD Police Report

For the reporting period of May 15th through the 21st, 2023, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to, or initiated, 156 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were; Traffic Complaints, Animal Complaints, Investigative Follow-ups, Suspicious Activities, and Community Relations (burn permits, welfare checks, vacation home security checks, etc.).

Two traffic collisions were investigated resulting in no injuries and no continuing criminal investigations.

One arrest was made by White Oak Police during the reporting period: Mallory Jan Reese, 33, transient, on an outstanding Gregg County warrant for Possession of Between 1 and 4 grams of a Penalty Group 1 Controlled Substance.

GPD Police Activity

	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20232723	1:21	GOODWILL INDUSTRIES	1540 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20232724	7:32		1520 E SHEPPERD SHEPPERD
	EMS	20232725	9:18	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ALARM/OTHER	20232726	10:11	ZIPPS LIQUOR STORE	301 E UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ASSIST	20232727	10:18		602 N POST POST
	ASSIST	20232728	12:13		800 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ABANDONED 911	20232729	12:36		1709 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE
	EMS	20232730	12:40	ANTIQUUE CAPITAL RV PARK	500 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	10-50 MINOR	20232731	14:43	SONIC DRIVE IN	1103 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232732	15:42		805 N MAIN MAIN
	ABANDONED 911	20232734	21:08		805 N MAIN MAIN
5/18/23	UNAUTHORIZED USE MOTOR VEH	20232736	0:55		606 POST POST
	ABANDONED 911	20232737	6:38		2122 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE
	ASSIST	20232738	8:44		N MAIN MAIN ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20232739	9:58	ZIPPS LIQUOR STORE	301 E UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20232740	12:14		225 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20232741	13:37	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	SEXUAL ASSAULT	20232742	14:16	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	THEFT	20232743	14:26	CASH AMERICA PAWN 552	207 S MAIN MAIN ST
	HARASSMENT	20232744	15:12		18 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232745	16:34		
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232746	18:10		602 N POST POST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232747	19:40		MELBA MELBA
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232748	19:42	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232749	20:08		107 JEANNETTE JEANNETTE AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232750	20:29	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	THEFT	20232751	20:54	SKIPPERS PIER	103 N MAIN MAIN ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232752	21:12	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20232753	23:01		46 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
5/19/23	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20232754	0:58	CITIZENS BANK	678 N MAIN MAIN ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20232755	1:56	DOLLAR GENERAL	1621 N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20232756	2:18	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	EMS	20232757	4:15		529 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20232758	5:48		89 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
	EMS	20232759	9:24		521 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20232760	10:17		PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20232761	10:46	ABC AUTO PARTS	705 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20232762	10:50	GLADEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL	414 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	ASSIST	20232763	11:11	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	EMS	20232764	15:19		616 JEANNETTE JEANNETTE AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232766	16:54	RODEO GROUNDS	2502 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232767	17:38	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	EMS	20232770	19:15		800 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232771	19:31		PINECREST PINECREST
	SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20232772	19:51		47 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20232774	21:40		47 GREENWAY

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TEXAS CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

1 San Antonio hot sauce maker

5 TXism: "brains in ____" (computer)

6 TXism: "is the ____ Catholic?"

7 mama dog's litter

8 TXism: "____ some gravel" (fell)

9 cow talk

12 TX Ed Sedgwick directed ____ Pa Kettle films

17 exerts

19 TXism: "____ of his own shadow"

21 TX Guy Clark 1992 album: "____ Build"

22 seat of Upshur County

23 this herbicide was put on Austin's "Treaty Oak" in 1989

28 Adam & Eve son

29 small Eurasian deer

30 TX Charley Pride's "Then ____"

31 TXism: "wipe the slate clean"

35 "three," south of the border

36 TXism: "does a ____ the woods?" (yes)

42 TXism: "____ death" (pleased)

44 Delon of 1966 film "Texas Across the River"

46 in Austin: "____ Texas Book Festival"

48 tea dribbles

49 nevertheless



50 TXism: "a day late ____ dollar short"

51 big health insurance provider

52 TXism: "can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ____"

53 worry

54 TXism: "squeaks like a rusty ____" (noisy)

56 Abilene's Dyess ____ Force Base

57 "____ pig's eye"

58 TX sculptor Elisabet

DOWN

1 former popular Houston eatery: "____ House"

2 Travis Tritt tune: "It's All ____ Change"

3 ____ Cove, TX

4 TX George Strait hit: "All My ____ Live in Texas"

9 water vapor

10 TX Willie Nelson 1980 hit (4 wds.)

11 "bear," south of the border

12 periodical abbr.

13 TXism for "mean man" (3 wds.)

14 this Guthrie performed at TX Willie Nelson's Farm Aid III

15 Joan Crawford's Texas birth ____: Lucille Fay LeSueur

16 TXism: "gives up the ghost"

18 enjoyed dinner

20 ____ Pepper

23 German beetle?

24 Elvin, of UH and NBA fame (init.)

25 in Falls County on U.S. 77

26 equality in the NFL

27 Don of 1943 film "Heaven Can Wait" with TX Tierney

32 QB Staubach (init.)

40 1924 gubernatorial slogan for Ferguson: "Me for Ma, and ____ Got a Dern Thing Against Pa"

41 Foch of 1953 film "Sombbrero" with TX Cyd Charisse

43 ____ Porte, TX where Battle of San Jacinto was fought

45 Stormin' general for George H.W. (init.)

47 Stephens of Dallas Cowboy cheerleader films

48 TXism: "____ as a squirrel up a tree"

55 serving platter

See Answers On This Page

Game rooms raided by feds

By Phillip Williams

An investigation by the federal Department of Homeland Security into "federal financial crimes" resulted in several law enforcement agencies raiding four gaming rooms and two private residences in Upshur County on Wednesday morning last week, said Sheriff Larry Webb.

No arrests were made at the game rooms in Gilmer, and the Midway, Pritchett and Diana communities, nor at the rural homes, said Webb. He said he could not reveal where in the county the private residences were.

The game rooms, all owned by the same individuals, were shut down, he said.

In a press release from sheriff's Chief Deputy David Hazel, Webb's office announced it assisted the DHS' "Dallas investigations office and other law enforcement organizations in serving search warrants" related to the probe.

The alleged federal financial crimes "include illegal gambling, conspiracy and money laundering in Upshur County as well as other locations in East Texas," Hazel's statement read. "The operation is not limited to Upshur County, but several people and locations in Upshur County, including some game rooms, are targets of this investigation."

"The Department of Homeland Security will seek indictments on the co-conspirators of today's operation," Hazel added. "The sheriff's office has been working in partnership with DHS for the past year related to this investigation, which is an ongoing and fluid case."

"DHS is the primary investigative agency for this operation. Therefore further press statements will either be handled by them or be released in coordination with DHS."

Webb said Monday night the Texas Department of Public Safety and Longview Police Department joined in conducting the Upshur raids.

Webb's office furnished contact information for DHS Public Affairs Officer Dexter Henson, who apparently didn't return two calls made by The Mirror on Monday. An email addressed to DHS' media operation on Monday also apparently went unanswered as of late that night.

8391-S



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Lee-Bardwell Library crocheting

The Lee-Bardwell Library hosts "Cozy Crochet" every Saturday at 1 p.m.. Everyone is invited! Call 903-845-2640 for information.

Also on tap at the library is - May 11th: Storytime at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.; May 13: Mother's Day Event: Making flowers and cards for Mom @ 3 p.m.

Kilgore Rotary hosting patriotic event

Rotarians in Kilgore are spreading the word about an upcoming patriotic event tied to Memorial Day Weekend - they'll be hosting retired U.S. Special Forces veteran Will Summers as keynote speaker May 27 for "Remembering the Horse Soldiers."

A little more than a month after the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001, Summers and his brothers-in-arms were among the first boots on the ground launching the invasion of Afghanistan. The Green Berets' efforts as part of the Northern Alliance were depicted in the blockbuster film "12 Strong" and the 2009 book "Horse Soldiers" that inspired the movie.

With activities beginning at 5 p.m. Saturday, Kilgore Rotary Club is pairing Summer's keynote address with Kilgore Cruise Night, drawing more of an audience for their Memorial Day spotlight. The event includes a raffle, free hot dogs and patriotic music by locals Josh and Leah Howington.

For updates, join the club's event page via tinyurl.com/KilgoreHorseSoldiers.

County library offers storytime

Two books will be read to small children at both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday (May 25).

"Panda Pants" by Jacqueline Davies, and "The Panda Problem" by Deborah Underwood, will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. gatherings, said Kari Dunn, the library's children's coordinator.

A craft will follow each session. The events at the library at 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas 154), west of downtown Gilmer, are free to the public. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult, however.

No Storytime will be held June 1 because the "kick-off party" for the library's Summer Reading Program, which includes children playing mini-golf inside the building, is set that day, Dunn announced.

For more information, call the library at (903) 843-5001.

Rodeo tickets on sale now

Dirt Road Tickets is the official ticketing company for the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo, which is June 7-10. If you purchase tickets through any other website/entity, you risk being scammed or paying way over the asking price of our tickets. Tickets are \$16.

How to purchase tickets:

1. Click this link: <https://dirtroadtickets.com/gladewater-round-up-rodeo.../>
2. Go to our website, Gladewaterrodeo.com.

Click the tickets link. This will take you to Dirt Road Tickets.

3. Purchase tickets at the box office on the dates of our rodeo.

Teen Game Night

The Upshur County Library in Gilmer is offering a monthly "Teen Game Night" for those ages 12-19, and a monthly "Book Club" meeting for adults at least age 18.

The events are free of charge at the library at 702 W. Tyler in Gilmer.

The teens' night, held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on a month's third Saturday, offers card, board and video games, and usually food like pizza. Those interested in attending should RSVP the library either on its Facebook page (Upshur County Library), or by email at upshurcountylibrary@yahoo.com, said library spokeswoman Molissa Edwards.

The book club meets the second Tuesday monthly from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. to discuss a book one of the approximately 30 members has recommended they all read.

Manna House needs donations

The local Manna House is always in need of food so they can help our neighbors. So please continue your weekly donations of jelly and cereal, along with bread, canned fruit. 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-

Trash pick-up times changing June 1

With summer rapidly approaching, Republic Services trash crews will soon be starting their sanitation routes earlier to avoid the worst of the day's heat.

Beginning June 1, "They're starting at 6 a.m. during the summer months due to heat and to keep their guys safe out there," Gladewater City Manager Charlie Smith reminded council members during their regular meeting May 18.

The city's chosen contractor to dispose of waste inside the city limits, according to Republic Services website, pick-ups are once a week, and residents can call 903-986-5324 to inquire about which daily route their home is on. Crews pick up no more than nine bags/cans on the first pick-up of the month and all bags/cans on the second pick-up.

"Residents are required to use an authorized Republic Services garbage container" and to place them at the curb before 6 a.m. on the day of pick-up during the summer

schedule (7:30 a.m. the rest of the year). No loose trash or bags will be picked up, only what is placed in approved containers. Additional services are available for individuals with disabilities.

Learn more at cityof-gladewater.com/sanitation.

Gen. Breazeale to speak at ceremony

United States Air Force three-star Major General John Breazeale will be speaker for Gilmer's annual Memorial Day ceremony on the Upshur County Courthouse south lawn Monday.

The public program, co-sponsored by the American Legion's R.E. (Peppy) Blount Post No. 320, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6715 and Disabled American Veterans Chapter 204, is scheduled for 9 a.m.

In case of rain, plans call for moving it to the Yamboree Exhibit Building in the Yamboree Park off U.S. 271 (not the newer Yamboree Event Center.)

Breazeale, a Gilmer High School graduate, is the son of Annette Breazeale of Gilmer and the late Frank Breazeale. His wife is the

former Karen Johns, who also grew up in Gilmer.

At the ceremony, Annette Breazeale is scheduled to place a wreath beside the granite veterans' memorial, donated by the late J.R. Penn in 1951. It lists the names of Upshur County veterans who died in several conflicts, including World War II, Korea and Vietnam. (The names of the Vietnamese veterans were added in the 1980s).

Larry Tefeller, a member of the VFW and DAV, will be master of ceremonies for Monday's gathering.

Local students on Dean's List

Local students were named to the Spring 2023 Dean's List in the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas.

- * Terry Miller of White Oak
- * Braedon Morton of Lindale
- * Katie Parker of Gilmer
- * Sydni Segroves of Lindale

To qualify for the Dean's List, the following local students achieved at least a 3.75 grade-point average for the semester.



TRACK AND FIELD BOYS GROUP PHOTO - REGIONAL QUALIFIERS - JACE ROBERTS, BRENDON FULLER, LANE TURNER, JACOB GRIFFIN, JOSH BAKER



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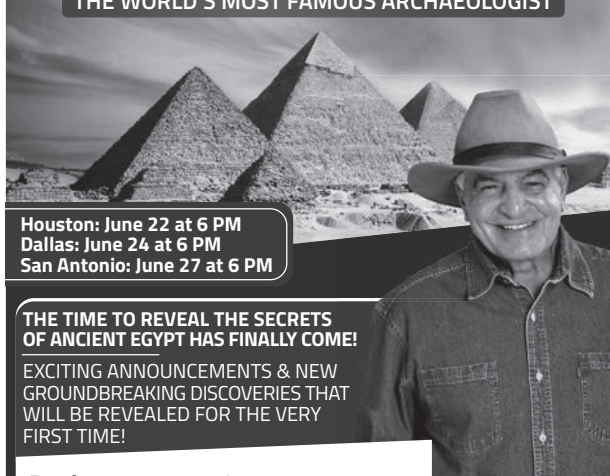
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Gladewater ISD
Legal Classified Notice
RFP 2324-03

Gladewater Independent School District is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to provide:

Lower level flooring upgrade (approx. 60,500 sf) located at Gladewater High School, 2201 W. Gay Ave.

Bid packets can be downloaded from the District's website at www.gladewaterisd.com. Proposal submission deadline is 3:00 p.m. June 7, 2023.

HELP WANTED

The *Gladewater Mirror* is seeking a talented, general assignment reporter — who can cover it all in Gladewater and White Oak and appreciates community journalism — for our small, but active newsroom. Send your resume to Jim Bardwell, publisher, at jbardwell@gladewatermirror.com.

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Discover Secrets of Ancient Egypt, An Evening with Dr. Zahi Hawass. The time to reveal the secrets of ancient Egypt has finally come! Exciting announcements & new groundbreaking discoveries will be revealed for the very first time! Houston: June 22.; Dallas, June 24; San Antonio: June 27. Register now at ZahiLectures.com.

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Private Non-Profit Schools Services

White Oak ISO will be hosting two opportunities for Private Non-Profit school officials to attend an initial Consultation Meeting to learn about programs and services available to the students and staff of private schools provided through federal grant funds.

Consultation Meetings will be held via ZOOM:

June 7, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. and repeated at 4:00 p.m.

The district plans to apply for federal grant funds under ESSA for the 2023-2024 school year for Title I Part A, Title 11, Part A, Title III, Part A, and Title IV Part A.

To obtain the link for the ZOOM Consultation Meetings, contact Glenda Hinsley at glenda@hinsleyassociates.com.

District Contact: Mitzi Neely
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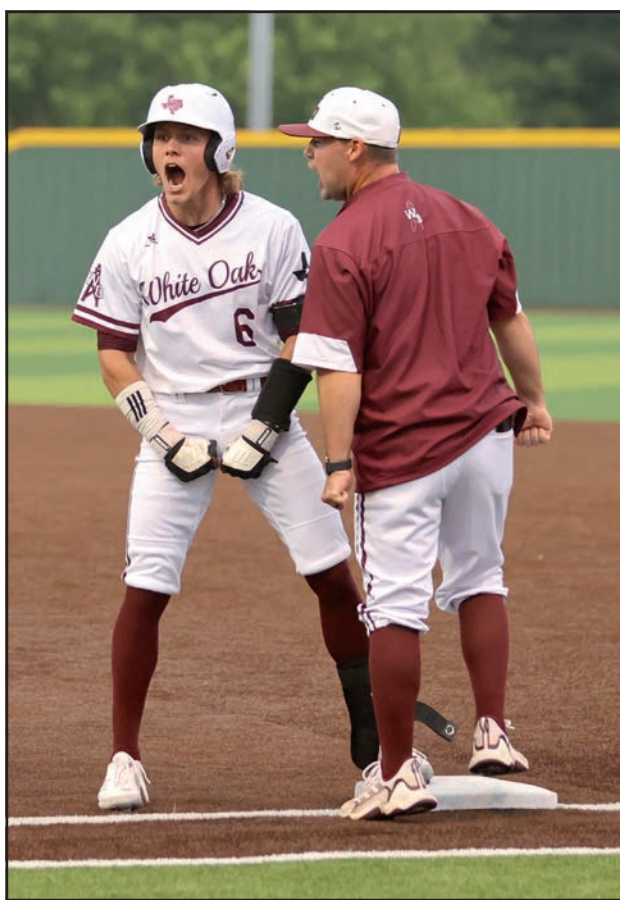
'Necks keeping state crown in sight

Continued from Page 1

to Whitehouse high school and Gavyn Jones homered for the second straight night, Landyn Grant went the distance on the mound for White Oak and the Roughnecks stayed alive in the series with a 5-1 win over the Eagles.

Jones homered, doubled and drove in three runs for White Oak. Noah Carter, Drake Kneifl and Grant all added singles, with Grant driving in a run. Grant struck out seven, walked six and gave up one earned run on four hits. Hayden Johnson, Boston Seahorn, Tucker Tittle and Aiden Tranholt all singled in the loss for Harmony. Tranholt drove in a run. Seahorn struck out four, walked a couple and gave up two earned runs on four hits in five innings.

Finally these two played a winner take all game on Saturday, May 20 at Lobo stadium and in a back and forth game, the Roughnecks were able to rally late with 3 runs in the final two innings to defeat the Eagles 5-3 and win the series. White Oak jumped out to an early 1-0 lead with a run in the top of the 1st inning. But Harmony answered back with 2 runs of their own in the bottom of the 1st to take a 2-1 lead. The Eagles would tack on another run in the bottom of the 3rd inning to take a 3-1 advantage. But the White Oak bullpen kept the Roughnecks in the game with 3.1 scoreless innings and kept Harmony at bay to allow for the White Oak offense to get hot and complete the comeback. With the regional quarterfinal victory, the Roughnecks move on to the regional semifinals against the Boyd Yellowjackets Thursday at 2:30 pm, Friday at 12 pm, and Saturday at 4 pm (if necessary), at North Forney High School in Forney.



Noah Carter and Coach Paul Bucher react after Carter singles in Landyn Grant for the go ahead run in the top of 7th inning in game 3 of the White Oak - Harmony playoff series. The Roughnecks won 5-3 to capture the Quarterfinal Championship.

Photo by Mike Peery

THE WRITE STUFF:

White Oak Journalism students earn UIL State Championship

White Oak High School's Journalism program brought home another UIL Academic State Championship win this week alongside a slew of team and individual metals from Austin – including two students' first place finishes in News Writing and Prose Interpretation.

All told, White Oak ISD wrapped up the year's competitions with a 4th Overall Sweepstakes win, notching 88 total points accrued across multiple events. The Conference 3A school competes in District 15 in the academic contest.

Kate Dusek's 1st in News Writing and 2nd place state finish in Copy Editing collected points along with Chloe Bates' 4th in Feature Writing and Alli Sims' Editorial 5th place win to earn the Journalism championship, 10 points to second place finisher Sabine High School's 5.

Bailey Brondum also netted a State Champion title with her first place win in Prose Interpretation.

White Oak's Accounting competitors earned a 4th place finish overall from individual wins including 9th for Caden Tyner, 11th for Sydney Caraway and Cole Caraway in 15th.

It's a substantial win, according to UIL Coordinator Nikki Faircloth.

"That's just how tough 3A is. It spans more schools, so it's a bit tougher competition," she praised, extending similar kudos to the Journalism students: "They rock it. It's a usually thing to see White Oak Journalism win. It's their second year in a row as state champions."

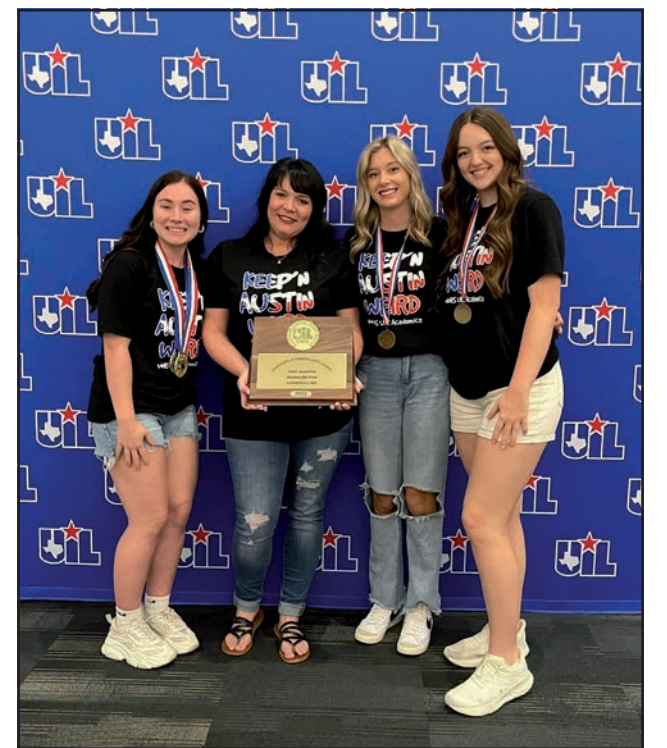
White Oak's Speech Team also netted a 6th place finish at the state level this week. Earlier in the year, Anna Iske and Kinley Bright netted a 5th place in CX Debate, and the school's One Act Play cast and crew reached state again, pulling a 7th place finish.

Other state level competitors for White Oak were Rilee Brittan (Poetry) and Kara Kennedy (alternate in Spelling). Avery Spencer accompanied the Austin delegation as part of the Prose & Poetry squad. The students were accompanied by coaches Karen West (Journalism), Pam Iattin (Speech/Debate), Lori Davis (Prose/Poetry) and Samantha Sims. Principal Jackson Parker also joined the UIL competitors, earning a not-too-surprising swim in a fountain for his troubles.

"He made a bet with the kids that if we had a state champion, he would jump in the fountain," Faircloth said. "Anything to get the kids motivated and ready to go, he does."

Overall, the high school's UIL Academics program includes about 60 students, working throughout the year to reach State.

"A student that's in one UIL event is probably putting in between 5 and 10 hours a week, but a lot of our kids are in more than one UIL event," Faircloth added. "We pride ourselves on our UIL competition."



The UIL Academic Journalism team from White Oak (from left: Kate Dusek, coach Karen West, Alli Sims and Chloe Bates) pose with their State Championship award in Austin, one of numerous awards the district's students brought home from the year's final competition.

Courtesy Photo



White Oak ISD's Jackson Parker leaps into a fountain, keeping up his end of the deal after the school's UIL Academic students earned State Champion accolades in Austin this week.

Courtesy Photo

GISD board taking applications for vacancy

One of Gladewater ISD's seven board spots remains open following the anticipated resignation of David Floyd – the Place 5 incumbent did not run for re-election in the most recent cycle, and no contenders stepped up

seeking the seat. Floyd officially wrapped up his service Monday evening toward the end of the board's monthly meeting. At the beginning of the session in the Gladewater Administration Office, two

other board members who re-upped for their spots took the oath once again before digging into the business of the night alongside the rest of the board.

Both Chris Thompson (Place 4) and Dani-

elle Boudro (Place 6) were appointed to the board in late-Spring 2022. Monday marked the beginning of their first regular three-year terms on the dais.

With Floyd's departure, the remaining six board members have a vacancy to consider.

There's no particular timeline get Place 5 filled, but the process is underway, says GISD's superintendent.

According to Dr. Sedric Clark, "The board will take applications, and they will notify the public through the paper when that happens."

The rest of the Board of Trustees includes President Ross Morgan (Place 1), Rickie Blackmon (Place 2), Garth Cockerell (Place 3) and Board Secretary Jeff Cook (Place 7). Following the group's regular election schedule of rotating 3-year terms, Cook's position will be on the ballot in May 2024 followed by Morgan, Blackmon and Cockerell's seats a year later.

Per the school's website, "Although board members are elected to numbered positions, trustees represent the District as a whole, not specific geographic areas."

Learn more about the board, qualifications to serve and find other relevant information at gladewaterisd.com/domain/35.

Among a variety of other issues considered May 15, the board members opted not to approve the school's District of Innovation plan as written, instead offering feedback and guidance on edits for the designation from the Texas Education Agency. Once those revisions are made, Clark said the document will be back for consideration at the group's next regular meeting, set for June 19.

Likewise, at that time the trustees will also consider the district's "Grow Your Own" plan, an attachment to the DOI.

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Council prioritizes streets for repairs

By James Draper

When it comes to city streets, there's typically too much to do and too little to make it happen.

It makes for a rocky road for Gladewater elected officials trying to plot the best path forward with a limited budget. Nevertheless, they tackled the tricky issue during their regular May 18 session, ultimately opting for road repairs on Hendrix as Phase I of a new push for easier travel.

"High on the citizens' minds here is our streets," Mayor Scott Owens said, noting it's been about five years since any major street repairs due to financial restraints. "We've been through a big crunch; we're doing a lot better with our reserves and budgets. We did set aside \$200,000 this year - which will not go very far, as you will in a moment - but we also put into reserves \$300,000 last year, earmarked for street repair.

"With the constraint of our monies here, whichever one we pick, some people are going to be happy in their area, some people are going to be unhappy that we didn't pick them."

That \$500,000 creates an opportunity, albeit a limited one, to make some progress.

Jeremy Buechter of the city's engineering firm, Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., attended this month's council meeting to help interim City Manager Charlie Smith detail a handful of current "best options" for repairs within the budget constraints.

Whichever option council members chose, Owens noted, the best case schedule for work would begin with a Design Phase starting July 1, contract bid and award completed by August 1, project launch September 1, and estimated completion in December.

Five options were plotted for the council including work on Hurley Street, on Roden from Sanders to the Loop, on Roden from MLK to Sanders, on Rodeo from Hwy. 80 to Hendrix and, the first option and ultimate unanimous choice, Hendrix from Rodeo to Gay Avenue.

That project, valued at approximately \$806,000, will include new new asphalt and curb following replacement of both the sewer line and water line.

"All of the infrastructure under the street is so old, if you drive down that street, there's so many repair spots already," Smith said. It's an extensive project, one that will be covered in part by the earmarked \$500,000 and also from additional funding from the upcoming budget cycle. "We don't want to put a new street on it without repairing the water and sewer first."

Notably, there's additional \$3.1 million in funding available from the Water Development Board, but council members are reluctant to use those dollars that are already earmarked for large water infrastructure work.

The complex streets discussion prompted an extensive back-and-forth last week as council members acknowledged their challenge - it will take years for repairs to dig the city out of a tough spot.

"You have to start somewhere," Smith said, "and we'll just continue from there."



Gladewater Police Chief Gordon Freeman and staffers stand alongside representatives of the Texas Workforce Commission's We Hire Vets Employer Recognition Program Friday morning in Longview. GPD was the only police department among the agencies and companies recognized for hiring veterans as at least 10 percent of the total workforce. "Right now we're sitting at 42 percent," Freeman said. "We have Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps... Veterans do have an edge, just because of their service. The military trains them in a specific way, and it's been my opinion that with the veterans, you tell them to go and do something, they'll go and do something, even the young ones... We are honored to receive this recognition but are equally honored to be able to have a long-standing relationship with the many veterans we have had work with our department."

Courtesy photo

City seeking funds for safe streets and roads

By James Draper

Gladewater Code Enforcement Officer Maria Tidwell's pursuit of a Master's in City Administration is nearly complete, and it may lead to a federal windfall when it comes to the safety of the community's streets.

Tidwell's in the final months of her quest to meet the qualifications of a city manager, on schedule to graduate in August. Her Spring 2022 research paper focused on how to bring funds to Gladewater and, serendipitously, her final course is on grant writing.

At the Gladewater City Council's May 18, Tidwell presented a resolution for consideration that would authorize City Hall to apply for financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation for a Safe Streets & Roads for All (SS4A) Grant that would cover the development of an action plan for local streets.

Simply put: The federal government has set aside \$5 billion for road safety enhancements. If this first step is successful, they'll pay 80 percent of the Gladewater's cost to figure out how to spend some of those monies here.

"They're making it really easy for cities like Gladewater to apply," Tidwell said Monday. "What's crazy is we're one of the only cities in our area to apply."

"We have crumbling infrastructure. We need new sewer lines. We need new roads. We need the money."

Part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Tidwell proposes applying for \$250,000 in funding (with a 20 percent / \$50,000 match by Gladewater if awarded) for the installation of sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks, improve signage and other traffic and pedestrian traffic control devices aimed at making local roads safer for all travelers, especially students heading to and from school as well as downtown pedestrians.

"In East Texas, Smith County and Gregg County we are considered a high fatality rate area," Tidwell noted.

If awarded, Gladewater's matching amount can be in-kind, likely covered within the existing salaries and benefits of the city workers who contribute to the project.

"If we can get it all spent, we can go ahead and apply for an Implementation Grant," Tidwell added, funds that could potentially cover the bulk of project construction down the road. "They are definitely giving that money out."

"It's a research project that's becoming real life."

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Council members to serve as liaison on city boards

By James Draper

Gladewater City Council members recently shuffled their ex-officio seats on key public boards, ranging from the airport and lake boards to the council-appointed panels overseeing Planning & Zoning cases and Gladewater Economic Development Corporation.

"The purpose of this is so that we have better communication between the boards and the council," Gladewater Mayor Scott Owens reminded council members May 18. "I want you to be really active if you're on one of these boards, try to make the meetings and be the best liaison you can be."

The discussion took up a short portion of the council's business during their regular meeting:

- Council member Brandy Flanagan asked for an appointment to the Board of Adjustments
- Teddy Sorrells received a transfer to the Beautification Board
- Rocky Hawkins requested his appointment to Planning & Zoning, but "I'll keep going to the Lake Board, I enjoy it."
- Michael Webber landed a spot on the Airport Board
- Mayor Pro Tem Elijah Anderson will represent the council on the Lake Board
- Kevin Clark will be the city's liaison to GEDCO.

The group unanimously approved the appointments for the coming year.

BOARDS CALENDAR

Airport Board - Meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at Gladewater Municipal Airport

Beautification Board - Meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. at Gladewater City Hall (January, March, May, July, September, November)

Board of Adjustments - Meetings held on call on the second Thursday of the month at 1:15 p.m. at City Hall

GEDCO - Meets Wednesday (eight days prior to regular council meeting) of every month at 4 p.m. at the Gladewater Chamber of Commerce office

Lake Board - Meets on the first Monday of every other month at 6 p.m. at Gladewater City Hall (January, March, May, July, September, November)

Planning & Zoning Board - Meets as needed on the second Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at Gladewater City Hall

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'Click it or Ticket' campaign begins

AUSTIN – It has been nearly seven years since Eden Ganzerla lost control of her car while driving to work and crashed into a retaining wall, breaking nearly every bone in her body. Since then, she has endured thousands of hours of physical, occupational and speech therapy, the result of one fateful decision to not wear her seat belt.

Ganzerla now struggles with a traumatic brain injury, speaks with the aid of a computer, and is slowly learning how to walk and talk again.

"Before the crash, Eden was very outgoing and talkative, living life to the fullest with her animals and friends," said John Ganzerla, Eden's father. "Now, she lives with us in Dripping Springs and is dependent on her mother and me for even the simplest everyday tasks."

Unfortunately, choosing to not wear a seat belt is an all too common mistake in Texas. In 2022 there were 1,258 people killed who were not wearing their seat belt, a 2.5% increase from the year before.

"It's critical for everyone to take just a few seconds to buckle up, every ride, every time," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "Wearing a seat belt is one of the most important precautions motorists and their passengers can take to protect themselves in a crash. Whatever reason you may have for not buckling up, I promise it's not worth your life."

While more than 90% of Texans make the right choice to wear a seat belt, that still means 10% of Texans make the dangerous choice to stay unprotected on the road. TxDOT's goal is to get 100% of drivers and passengers to wear their seat belt 100% of the time.

From May 22 through June 4, including Memorial Day Weekend, law enforcement from around the state will be working overtime ticketing motorists who are not buckled up. State law requires that every person in a vehicle be secured by a seat belt whether riding in the front or back seat. Fines and court costs for failing to fasten seat belts can add up to \$250 or more.



During White Oak High School's traditional "Passing of the Mace of Knowledge" Chloe Bates received the mace from her mother Gay Noble.

Photos by Mike Peery



Emma Hill - Principal Jack Parker - Lexi Palmer - Valedictorian and Salutatorian Awards -11694



White Oak's Valedictorian Emma Hill addresses her fellow graduates and their families and friends at last week's graduation exercises held in Longview.

The Gladewater Airport Fly-In - part of the city's year-long 150th Anniversary Celebration - was a big success Saturday morning, even though clouds and a lower than expected ceiling level caused the free plane rides for kids to be canceled. Mayor Scott Owens, along with councilmen Sonny Anderson and Rocky Hawkins, presented a proclamation describing aviation's importance to Gladewater and welcoming the hundreds of people who turned out for the free event which also included free hot-dogs and hamburgers, a clown making balloon animals, and a paper airplane making contest. The city hopes to make this an annual event.

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WEDNESDAY JUNE 7th

GLADEWATER ROUND UP

HANDICAPABLE RODEO

SATURDAY JUNE 10th

9am-12noon

FREE Activities:

- Face painting
- Horse Back Riding
- Bounce houses
- Clown
- Snow Cones
- Petting Zoo
- Barrel Bucking Bull
- Stick Horse barrel racing

*Coloring Sheet Contest
*Free T-shirts for ALL contestants
*Cooling station and vendor booths available during event

Volunteer help for wheelchair and other needs for families attending

For more information contact:
(361)8155188 (Paige Winters)

HOT DOGS & Drinks provided