

Gladewater Mirror

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50¢



Saying 'Thank You' on Memorial Day

By James Draper

"Today, we gather to remember and honor the sacrifices that many of our young men and women have made in service to this great nation by paying the ultimate prices with their lives so that we can continue to live and enjoy the freedom they've given us."

It's a remembrance that is near, dear and absolutely essential for United States Navy veteran Amy Clemens, whose family ties to the Armed Forces and whose journeys to battlefields and soldiers' grave sites have underscored the sanctity of their sacrifice. Guest speaker for Monday's Memorial Day Service at the Gladewater War Memorial, Clemens found a warm welcome from the veterans, families and others paying their respects May 29.

"What is the official purpose of Memorial Day?" pondered Danny

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Tristen Linwood's grandmother couldn't contain her excitement when her grandson graduated.



Bardwell's living legacy continues

By James Draper

Suzanne Bardwell's legacy endures – look no further than the thriving Japanese Maple freshly-planted downtown.

The crimson-leaved tree is not only a tangible example of Bardwell's dedication to beautifying her adopted community but also a tribute to her 'We can do this' mantra. It's one her colleagues from Gladewater's Beautification Board remembered fondly as they gathered to honor their late-chairperson alongside family and friends Friday afternoon.

"She was our leader and she was our driving force," said Todd Clifton, Austin Bank president and leader of the beautification committee. "When Suzanne was determined to do something, she was all in. It wasn't a little bit. She was gung-ho."

"Suzanne cared deeply about the appearance of our city, our

Continued on Page 10



The Gladewater Beautification Board honored former board president and community leader Suzanne Bardwell with a Japanese Maple tree planting and plaque Friday at the pocket park at Broadway and Pacific, next to the antique fire truck. Suzanne, who was killed in a car wreck on Jan. 7, 2022, was a strong advocate for beautifying Gladewater and keeping the city clean. Board members, along with chamber of commerce and city officials joined Jim, Josh and Jennifer Bardwell at the ceremony. Although Suzanne wasn't from Gladewater, she embraced the community and worked tirelessly to leave her adopted home a better place than she found it. Suzanne loved nature and the beautiful of the turning of the leaves in the Fall and the Japanese Maple's red leaves gave her that beauty year round. Photo by James Draper

Town Hall on streets set

By James Draper

The City of Gladewater is applying for federal funds for the development of a 'Safe Streets' strategy, and residents' roadway insights are integral in the process.

Locals will have the chance to offer their two cents and more during a public Town Hall meeting set for 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, at Gladewater City Hall.

Code Enforcement Officer Maria Tidwell is spearheading the community's application for Safe Streets & Roads for All (SS4A) monies from the U.S. Department of Transportation. An initial \$250,000 grant (including a 20 percent match from the city) would fund the development of an Action Plan.

That overview will cover everything from adding sidewalks to upgrading crosswalks, installing lighting, improving signage and more. Tidwell presented her working plan to city council members May 18, emphasizing the draft is meant to spark a conversation with residents.

Continued on Page 10



Forty-six seniors turned their tassels and tossed their caps at Union Grove's graduation on Friday, May 26. Photo by Kimber Smith



GRACIE STANFORD
UGHS VALEDICTORIAN



EMILY LYNCH
UGHS SALUTATORIAN



GRACIE WINN
UGHS HISTORIAN

Photos by Kim Hill



OPINION/COMMENTARY

Gratitude & survival...

He walked into the Gladewater Mirror a week ago ramrod straight, muscular and with open arms. He graduated around 1997 as one of the Roughnecks I taught at White Oak. We had a good relationship until I saved him from the wrath of the assistant principal. Then we were bonded for life.

His grin lit up the office, or maybe just me. I was thrilled to see Master Sgt. Byron Higginbotham.

After the bear hug, Byron wanted to know if I had set off any more fire alarms.

On the last week of his senior year, that hyped-up wild child was threatening to pull the fire alarm in the senior hall. A bluff of course. As the teacher on hall duty I put my hand over the alarm and issued laughing idle threats. After all the class bell was about to ring, it was the end of school, no need to get bent out of shape.

Only the fire alarm went off before the bell. It had to be the heat from my hand. The angry administrator furiously marched down the hall bellowing at Byron as I staunchly defended the now nervous young man, telling the administrator the absolute truth that it was my fault the alarm was triggered. I don't think that principal believed me but I refused to back down. Byron was too close to graduation and he didn't need any trouble before leaving for boot camp. And it WAS the truth.

Of course class started a hair late as we shepherded the kids back in the building who were more than happy to observe the false alarm with great enthusiasm.

All I know is that through the years, this brave young man who has seen many tours of duty, including combat, since he graduated from high school has risen through the ranks almost

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



as high as a noncommissioned officer can go. His potential, more importantly his character, was obvious to me.

That young man bears the memories and scars of courageous service.

I am grateful I know him.
I am grateful for his service.
I am grateful for his survival.

Because on this Memorial Day while I thought of him, he no

doubt was remembering his buddies who didn't make it.

As will my friends Gladewater Vietnam veterans Bud Mahaffey and Jim Jones.

As will every veteran who has served in combat, every wife,

husband, parent or child who has lost someone to war. The cost of service is something we can not repay.

It is something we should reflect upon with every freedom we exercise.

Patriotic platitudes are easy, service is hard. The cost is high and ongoing.

Thank you Byron, Bud, Jim and all the other veterans out there. To those of you who saw combat...bless your hearts,

your souls and your memories. And may those friends you lost rest in their sacrificial peace.

Texas House impeaches AG Paxton

The Texas House voted overwhelmingly to impeach Attorney General Ken Paxton Saturday, only the third time in the state's history that has occurred.

The Austin American-Statesman and numerous news outlets reported the chamber voted 121-23 to remove Paxton, 60, from office while he awaits a trial in the Senate during a special session yet to be called.

Last week a House investigations committee heard evidence from investigators and sent 20 articles of impeachment against Paxton. The evidence presented by investigators against Paxton included a 2015 state securities case, an ongoing federal probe into his connection with campaign donor Nate Paul, an Austin real estate developer, and an extramarital affair he tried to conceal from his wife, state Sen. Angela Paxton, R-Allen.

Adding to Paxton's legal woes, a \$3.3 million settlement with some of his former employees who were whistleblowers fell apart after the House refused to approve paying it with taxpayer money. The case remains pending.

Rep. Andrew Murr, R-Junction, chair of the investigations committee, in closing remarks Saturday urged House members to vote in favor of impeachment.

"The evidence is substantial. It is alarming, and it is unnerving," he said.

Paxton called the bipartisan vote — 61 Democrats and 60 Republicans voted for impeachment — "politically motivated."

"The ugly spectacle in the Texas House today confirmed the outrageous impeachment plot against me was never meant to be fair or just," Paxton said in a statement.

Bill ending vehicle inspections heads to Gov

Vehicles registered in Texas would no longer be required to pass safety inspections under a bill headed to Gov. Greg Abbott's desk, the Houston Chronicle reported. House Bill 3297, sponsored by state Rep. Cody Harris, R-Palestine, also creates a new annual \$7.50 inspection replacement fee that will be added to annual vehicle registration fees. Thus, owners won't save any money but will not have to take their vehicle to a licensed inspection station.

The measure passed the Senate along party lines, 20-11, with the Republican majority arguing the annual inspections are a burden to residents without making Texas roads safer. State Sen. Nathan Johnson, D-Dallas, told his fellow senators that a recent study by the American Society of Civil Engineers found fewer highway fatality deaths in states with an inspection program.

"It found that states that have vehicle safety inspections have 5.5% fewer fatalities per year than states that don't have inspection programs. In Texas, that's 261 dead people every single year," Johnson said.

Texas is one of 15 states still requiring regular inspections; vehicle emission inspections will still be required in 17 metropolitan counties. If Abbott signs the bill, it will go into effect Sept. 1.

House OKs changes to university tenure

The House last week gave final approval to a bill changing tenure policies at the state's colleges and universities, the States-

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



man reported. The lower chamber's measure differs somewhat from the Senate version, which would completely ban public colleges and universities from grant tenure to faculty members beginning in 2024. The House version "provides a framework to the state's universities about what the Legislature expects regarding tenure, including how tenure is granted to faculty members, how tenured faculty are reviewed and when tenured faculty can be dismissed," the Statesman reported.

The bill now goes back to the Senate to try to work out differences in the two measures.

Budget writers strike \$321.3 billion deal

Budget writers for the Texas House and Senate have come to agreement on a \$321.3 billion two-year budget that includes \$12.3 billion for property tax cuts and provides considerable new funding for higher education, the energy grid, mental health and broadband, according to the Texas Tribune. The property tax reductions are dependent on passage of a constitutional amendment in November.

A \$15 billion supplemental spending proposal uses some of the state's record surplus to provide funding for a higher education endowment, enhanced retirement for public school teachers, border security, Medicaid costs and state debt reduction, according to the Tribune.

Both plans were expected to get floor votes in each chamber on Saturday.

Boaters urged to 'Clean, Drain and Dry'

Texans have begun heading to state lakes and waterways as Memorial Day weekend kicked off the summer boating season. Officials with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department urges boaters and paddlers to protect Texas lakes from invasive aquatic species. The best way to prevent the spread of many harmful aquatic invasive species is to clean, drain and dry your boats and equipment — every time. The biggest threat to Texas lakes is zebra mussels and giant salvinia, which continues to spread to new areas of Texas.

Other invasive species that can be spread include quagga mussels, crested floating heart, and water hyacinth. Giant salvinia is now found on 27 East Texas lakes and numerous creeks, marshes and rivers between Houston and Beaumont, according to TPWD. Zebra mussels are now found in 36 Texas lakes, and in rivers downstream of infested lakes, TPWD urges boaters to follow three simple steps to reduce the risk of spreading invasive species: Remove mud, plants and debris. Drain all water from the boat.

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

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Feeling the Pinch! ...

Since 2013, the Federal Reserve has conducted an annual Survey of Household Economics and Decisionmaking (SHED), which seeks to measure the economic wellbeing of US households. In October 2022, 11,000 adults across the country were asked a variety of questions about their financial situations. Let's examine some of the most telling results.



It probably comes as no surprise that perceived financial wellbeing declined in 2022. In fact, 35% of those surveyed indicated they were doing worse than a year prior. That's substantially higher than before, with 38% of White, 33% of Hispanic, 24% of Asian, and 22% of Black respondents saying their economic situation had declined.

With the significant price increases over the past couple of years (which were peaking when the survey was taken), budgets of most families have been hit hard, as reflected in a notable five percentage point drop from 78% to 73% of adults who said they were doing okay or living comfortably financially.

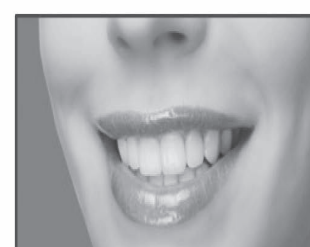
The proportion doing at least okay had been stable for several years at around 75% before spiking in 2021 during the heart of pandemic stimulus payments (78%). The 2022 reading, however, is the lowest since 2016. Education is an obvious factor, with 88% of those with at least a bachelor's degree doing okay compared to only 49% of adults without a high school diploma. On a different note, a larger group received (and asked for) raises and bonuses (a reflection of the tight labor market).

Rising prices were a concern of most respondents irrespective of income level. Some stated that, while they received pay increases, it wasn't sufficient to keep pace. The percentage of people who said they could cover a \$400 emergency with cash or an equivalent dropped to 63%, and 18% said they couldn't handle even a \$100 expense, indicating growing vulnerability.

People are taking myriad actions to cope with rising prices. Some are using smaller quantities of products or switching to cheaper alternatives, while others are delaying major purchases. More than half dipped into savings, and many reported carrying higher credit card balances. A full 28% skipped medical treatments due to cost, a decision that can have long-term consequences on multiple fronts.

High inflation has wreaked havoc on family finances. Although the rate of increase is slowing (wholesale costs are now rising at a 2.3% annual pace), prices of many goods and services remain elevated. The Federal Reserve's actions to deal with inflation are causing fallout in a variety of industries, but it's clear that the damage to American families from elevated prices has been very real. The challenge remains doing enough to manage price increases without excessive harm to the economy. Stay tuned — and stay safe!

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (www.perrymangroup.com), which has served the needs of over 3,000 clients over the past four decades.



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RIGHT IN THEIR OWN EYES

To avoid chaos people must be governed by some standard, pattern, or blueprint. Such is true in everyday life, and is no less true in religion. In the denominational world there is mass confusion. People believe, teach and practice every doctrine conceivable. When one asks for scriptural authority for these various and sundry practices, he is labeled as over-zealous, radical, and fanatical. So was Jesus, when He addressed the question of authority (*Matt. 21: 23*).

What we are seeing is, as Judges 21: 25 says: "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes." People decide what is right and wrong according to what they think and want, thus becoming their own standard. This anarchy of self-seeking, without restraint, is why such religious chaos reigns. In religion, are people at liberty to do as they please? You would think so by what you observe. People claim Jesus as King, and Lord of lords, but feel no obligation to respect His Word (*Lk. 6: 46*). But true freedom comes only by "abiding in" the Lord's Word (*Jn. 8: 31-32*). Therefore, our goal should be to do everything we teach and practice in the name of the Lord, or by His authority, and not ours!

Our standard, then, is God's Word and not our word! We don't have the right to choose a church, or religion, that suits our beliefs, but, rather, we must adjust our beliefs to fit the church, and religion, that is revealed in the Word of the Lord. This becomes all the more important when we realize that it will be the Word of the Lord that will be the standard of judgment, when we stand before Jesus on that last Great Day, when we will have to give account for our deeds (*Rom. 2: 6*). Think on these things.

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2023 GHS Scholarships

Scholarship	Amount	Recipient
Shipp's Marine	\$1,000.00	Christian Allen, Sydney Keller
Citizens Bank	\$2,000.00	Kylie Jalomo, Sydney Keller
GFSA	\$1,000.00	Lexi Betts, Sydney Keller
Jim & Terri Mills Family	\$1,000.00	Sarah Walbridge, Tyler Milstead
Excellence in Math	\$1,200.00	Matt Smith
Yamboree Association	\$1,000.00	Sydney Keller
Gladeater Garden Club	\$600.00	Austin Allen
Lions Club	\$500.00	Christian Allen, Kollin Lewis, Kylie, Jalomo, Jocelyn Taylor
Band Boosters	\$500.00	Matt Smith, Sarah Walbridge, Christian Allen
Military		Austin Allen, Braedon Costello, Brandon Wheeler
East TX Communities	\$1,000.00	Matt Smith (2 \$500.00)
Demetra Carter-Lewis	\$1,000.00	Princess Tyeskie
Masonic Lodge	\$1,000.00	Matthew Tant
Southern Arkansas	\$28,000.00	Kamryn Floyd
Invista Student	\$1,000.00	Breanna Newman, Matt Smith
ETEX Cooperative	\$1,000.00	Christian Allen, Sydney Keller, Tyler Milstead, Avery Mays
Gym Elite Studios	\$500.00	Princess Tyeskie
Let's Make It! Ben Lee	\$500.00	Christian Allen
GHS Female Athlete	\$1,500.00	Kamryn Floyd
GHS Male Athlete	\$1,500.00	Kollin Lewis
Area Ladies Association	\$600.00	Austin Allen, Gracie George, Kylie
Gusher Days	\$1,000.00	Kylie Jalomo
Tiffani Tant	\$250.00	Sarah Walbridge, Sydney Keller
Richard Fenton	\$500.00	Sydney Keller
City National Bank	\$2,000.00	Emily Deishler
Krissy Cordray	\$1,000.00	Chance Mendez
Carter Garrett	\$1,000.00	Christian Allen
ETPCU	\$2,000.00	Matt Smith
Rotary Club	\$1,000.00	Breanna Newman, Kylie Jalomo
Alice Gholston Memorial	\$500.00	Kamryn Floyd
GHS Theater	\$100.00	Christian Allen, Adrianna Bender, Keiley Steddum
GHS Honey Bears	\$250.00	Princess Tyskie
John Hood	Military	Austin Allen, Braedon Costello, Brandon Wheeler
John Hood	\$40,000.00	Celeste Harris, Sydney Keller, Matt Smith, Avery Mays, Sarah Walbridge, Christian Allen, Royce Clay, Noah Hambrick, Anastaia Goodman
	\$ 20,000.00	Lexi Betts, Emily Deishler, Kamryn Floyd, Gracie George, Kylie Jalomo, Jerri LaBelf
	\$ 4,000.00	Kollin Lewis, Debria Snoddy, Jocelyn Taylor, Princess Tyeskie, Chance Mendez, Breanna Newman, Rigo Castenada, Adrianna Rojas
Alpha Kappa Alpha	\$ 44,000.00	Kamryn Floyd
Zeta Phi Beta	\$ 1,000.00	Breanna Newman



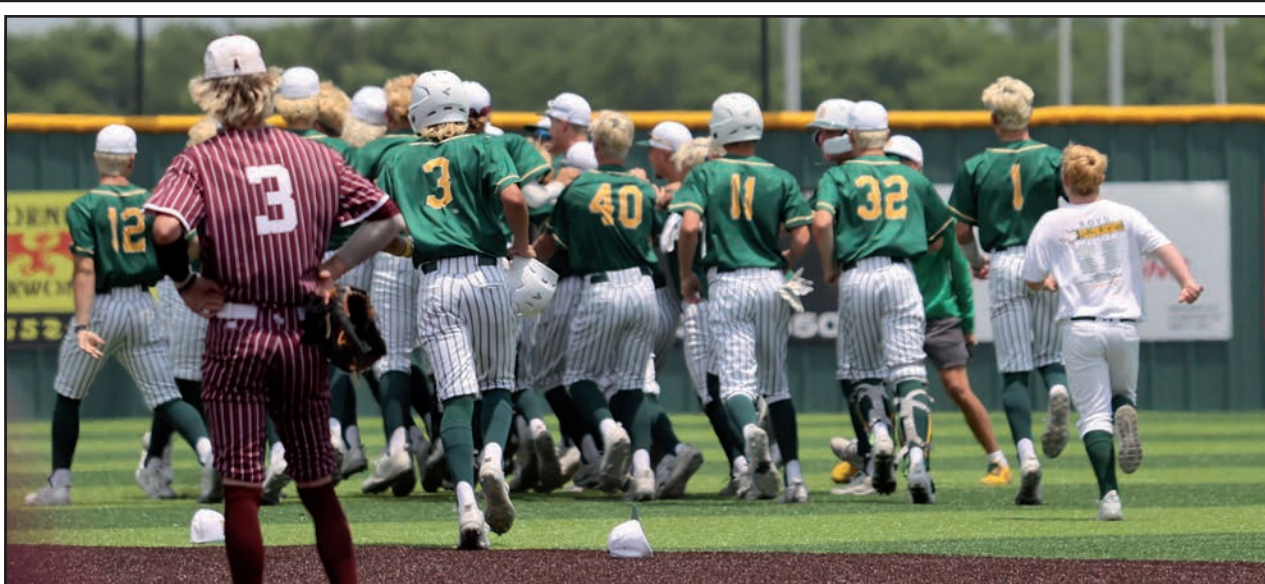


“Necks run for state falls short

By Tyler Sutton

The White Oak Roughnecks baseball team was one series win away from a trip to the state semifinals as they entered their series with the Boyd YellowJackets. But unfortunately that dream hit a road block as White Oak was swept in its best of three series 2-0.

The series began on Thursday, May 25th in North Forney and the Yellowjackets took advantage of 8 Roughnecks errors and cruised to a 7-1 victory. Boyd had only 3 hits in the game but took advantage of so many White Oak mistakes. The win improved Boyd to 35-4 on the season and White Oak dropped 28-7-2. Then on Friday ay , May 26th Boyd jumped out to an early 5-0 lead after 2 innings and added on the rest of the way in rout to a 10-0 win and a sweep of the regional semifinals and moved on to the 3-A state finals next week. The Roughnecks just could never get any offense going and saw their magical postseason run come to a close one round short of playing for a state championship. The Yellowjackets improved to 36-4 and move on to the state semifinals where they will play Gunter who also knocked out another east texas team in Tatum. The Roughnecks end their season at 28-8-2.



Roughneck Shortstop Drake Kneiff (3) watches as Boyd players storm the field after defeating the Roughnecks in the Regional Semi-finals. The Necks close out the year with a season record of 28-8-2. White Oak lost the first game to Boyd 7-1 and the second game 10-0.

Photo by Mike Peery

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GPD Police Activity

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CFS#	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
5/21/23	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20222803	0:03	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20222804	2:37	REGENCY INN AND SUITE	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY
	EMS	20222805	2:40		
	10-50 MAJOR	20222806	6:21		1437 TYLER TYLER S
	EMS	20222807	8:12		10980 FM 2685 FM 2685
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20222808	8:15	CROLEY FUNERAL HOME	401 N CENTER CENTER ST
	ABANDONED 911	20222809	8:24		311 W QUITMAN QUITMAN
	EMS	20222810	8:26	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	EMS	20222812	10:45		10700 UNION GROVE UNION GROVE RD
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20222813	11:38		520 RODEN RODEN LANE
	ALARM/OTHER	20222814	12:29	WELDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	314 E SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
	ABANDONED 911	20222815	12:47		2212 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR
	10-50 MINOR	20222816	13:55	ACE HARDWARE	1620 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20222818	16:31		529 W MARSHALL MARSHALL ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222820	17:08		RODEO RODEO DR
	EMS	20222821	17:40		148 PRIVATE ROAD 3478 PRIVATE ROAD 3478
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222822	18:25		
	ABANDONED 911	20222823	20:05		118 S CENTER CENTER ST
	ALARM/HUMAN ERROR	20222824	20:13		1030 BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20222825	21:42		529 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20222826	22:33		205 S MILL MILL
5/22/23	EMS	20222827	5:50		2385 SHELLCAMP SHELLCAMP RD
	EMS	20222828	6:55		2103 W GAY GAY AVE
	CRIM MIS	20222829	9:11	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20222830	10:13		W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	SEXUAL ASSAULT	20222831	10:45	GLADEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL	414 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	ASSIST	20222833	11:57		2203 OAKRIDGE OAKRIDGE
	ALARM/OTHER	20222834	12:13	WELDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	314 E SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222836	14:52	BOCACIOUS BBQ	1105 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20222837	15:07		328 S TYLER TYLER
	ABANDONED 911	20222838	17:48		100 E ALLISON ALLISON AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222839	19:03		519 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	ASSIST	20222840	19:34		MELBA MELBA
	EMS	20222841	21:07		66 E EDDY EDDY ST
	EMS	20222842	22:30	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20222843	23:23		1106 N RODEO RODEO
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222844	23:58		710 MAPLE MAPLE AVE
5/23/23	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20222845	8:05		S LOOP 485 S LOOP 485
	EMS	20222846	10:04	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	10-50 MINOR	20222847	11:22		1400 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
	ASSIST	20222848	12:25	EMPIRE EMPIRE	
	ASSIST	20222849	13:44	SUPER STOP EXXON	601 N MAIN MAIN ST
	10-50 MINOR	20222850	13:55		UPSHUR UPSHUR
	THEFT	20222851	15:05	DOLLAR GENERAL	904 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	THEFT	20222852	17:11	DOLLAR GENERAL	904 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20222853	18:09	REGENCY INN AND SUITE	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20222854	18:29		318 N LEE LEE
	EMS	20222855	18:36	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222856	18:49		1207 E MARY MARY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222857	20:27		HWY 80 HWY 80
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222858	21:18	TEXAS DIE CAST	600 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20222859	22:37	EVERETT PARK	601 N LEE LEE ST
	EMS	20222861	23:28		300 MAPLE MAPLE
5/24/23	ABANDONED 911	20222862	5/24/23		56 JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20222863	1:07		111 JEANETTE JEANETTE
	ABANDONED 911	20222864	2:14		500 UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ABANDONED 911	20222865	6:03		508 N FERRY FERRY
	FIRE DEPT	20222867	7:32		1300 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20222868	8:06		328 S TYLER TYLER ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20222869	10:30	TEXAS DIE CAST	600 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	EMS	20222870	10:51		529 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	10-50 MINOR	20222871	11:11		S TYLER TYLER ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20222872	11:23	GAY AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL	100 W GAY GAY AVE
	RUNAWAY	20222873	11:57		1014 N LYNN LYNN ST

GPD Police Arrest Report

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS1
5/21/23	5/21/23	0:20	AMOS, PATRICK MICHAEL	W	M	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	2200 W GAY AVE
5/24/23	5/24/23	7:35	LEWIS, DARRIUS MARKEITH	B	M	THEFT < \$100	800 E BROADWAY

WOPD Police Report

For the reporting period of May 22nd through the 28th, 2023, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to, or initiated, 199 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were; Traffic Complaints, Animal Complaints, Domestic Disturbances, thefts, Suspicious Activities, and Community Relations (burn permits, welfare checks, vacation home security checks, etc.).

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

Two arrests was made by White Oak Police during the reporting period:
 Wesley Lamond Childers, 30, of White Oak for Assault Family Violence - Restricting Breath or Circulation and
 Christina Lorene Daniels, 36, of Gladewater for Driving While Intoxicated.

Rules reviewed at Lake Gladewater

The unexplained appearance of new structures on leased lots at Lake Gladewater prompted confusion and, ultimately, a quick legal update to the guidelines regulating the city-owned properties.

"We had a little issue recently," Mayor Scott Owens summarized May 18, "and we consulted our attorney to clean these up a little bit for future.

"Basically, everything pretty well is the same. The main thing he added is that failure to comply with the rules will result in a fine assessed by the municipal court or cancellation of the lease."

City Manager Charlie Smith provided more details on the inciting incident following the council members' meeting May 18.

"There were some small buildings moved in at the lake," he explained. "The city owns the lake lots pretty much all around the lake. We had complaints from neighbors - didn't know what it was going to be," and the city followed up on the concerns.

"After the fact, the way that they were finished up, they were nice buildings," but it did reveal a gap in the regulations governing such things. "We realized at that point that some of the rules in the agreements with people that lease the lake lots, there needed to be some enforcement."

Ultimately, the city amended regulation 21 out of 22.

As updated, "Failure to comply with these rules will

result in a fine assessed by the Municipal Court, or cancellation of the lease. Lease cancellation may follow written notice and an opportunity to cure the violation for 30 days. If the violation is not cured within 30 days, the lease may be cancelled."

Find a copy of the amended 'Lake Gladewater Rules & Regulations' at GladewaterMirror.com.

Place 6 Councilman Rocky Hawkins' motion to

adopted the amended regs was approved unanimously.

In the end, "If somebody is going in to do something with one of those lake lots they're leasing with the city," Smith said, "it would be great for them to notify us and say, 'This is what we're planning on doing.' A lot of times, it's permitting and getting the permits to do what they want to do on the properties as far as buildings."

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GPD Police Activity

	FRAUDULENT USE OF ID INFO	20222874	12:09	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	WARRANT	20222875	13:37	REGENCY INN AND SUITE	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY
	CRIM TRESPASS	20222877	13:53		200 EMPIRE EMPIRE
	EMS	20222878	14:07		117 WOODLAND WOODLAND TRL
	EMS	20222879	16:01		208 E ELEANOR ELEANOR ST
	EMS	20222880	16:21	SCISSOR WIZARD	506 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222881	16:39	EVERETT PARK	601 N LEE LEE ST
	EMS	20222882	19:04		707 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	THEFT	20222883	19:18	DOLLAR GENERAL	904 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20222884	22:19	BUMBLE BEE PARK	637 COACH COOKSEY ST COACH COOKSEY ST
	SEXUAL ASSAULT	20222885	22:17		221 PINE RIDGE PINE RIDGE RD
5/25/23	EMS	20222886	1:38		707 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20222887	1:40	EZ MART	400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20222888	6:35	GAY AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL	100 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	20222889	8:19		328 S TYLER TYLER ST
	THEFT	20222890	11:02		206 HURLEY HURLEY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222891	11:38	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ASSIST	20222892	12:26		801 COACH COOKSEY COACH COOKSEY
	ASSIST	20222893	13:25	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222894	14:28	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	20222895	15:37	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20222896	16:02	AUSTIN BANK BRANCH	706 N MAIN MAIN ST
	10-50 MINOR	20222897	16:23		6709 STE HIGHWAY 300 STE HIGHWAY 300
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222898	18:46		1306 NELWYN NELWYN AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222899	20:37		316 MELBA MELBA AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20222900	21:00		307 MAPLE MAPLE AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20222901	23:32		1500 N LYNN LYNN
5/26/23	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20222902	0:02		2100 BROADWAY BROADWAY
	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20222903	0:38	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20222904	3:02		HOKIT HOKIT
	EMS	20222905	5:16		112 JUNIPER JUNIPER
	FIRE DEPT	20222906	7:45		2403 W GAY GAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222907	10:33	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222908	11:50		BROADWAY BROADWAY
	ABANDONED 911	20222909	12:03		2196 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20222910	12:22		134 ORUVATE RD 3464 ORUVATE RD 3464
	THEFT	20222911	14:04	ANTIQUUE CAPITAL RV PARK	500 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	RUNAWAY	20222912	14:18		621 ELEANOR ELEANOR ST
	10-50 MINOR	20222914	16:05	OREILLYS AUTO PARTS	901 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20222915	16:40		607 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20222916	17:00		1106 SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
	ABANDONED 911	20222917	17:08		605 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	EMS	20222918	17:17	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20222920	20:34	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20222921	20:45	DOLLAR GENERAL	1621 N MAIN MAIN ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20222922	21:11	SEYMORS WILCO	1286 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20222923	22:13		GEORGE RICHEY GEORGE RICHEY
	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20222924	23:11		57 JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS
5/27/23	ASSIST	20222925	1:13		11608 UNION GROVE UNION GROVE RD
	EMS	20222926	1:24	REGENCY INN AND SUITE	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY
	ALARM/OTHER	20222928	2:07		501 AMES AMES
	EMS	20222929	4:23		10880 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20222931	6:43		529 W MARSHALL MARSHALL ST
	ABANDONED 911	20222932	8:10		1324 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222933	9:21		2610 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS ST
	FIRE DEPT	20222934	9:37	ACE HARDWARE	1620 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20222935	9:46	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20222936	9:53		167 WINTER GREEN WINTER GREEN ST
	EMS	20222937	13:24		515 W GAY GAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222938	14:31		810 E PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20222939	15:06		600 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20222940	15:32	DONNELLYS LIQUOR	1700 N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20222941	15:52	RX MOTORSPORTS	800 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20222942	16:37		1010 KAY KAY DR
	MISSING PERSON	20222943	18:59	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	ABANDONED 911	20222944	19:08	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20222945	19:25		501 W QUITMAN QUITMAN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20222946	20:28		814 E PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	EMS	20222947	21:14		1014 N LYNN LYNN
	SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20222948	21:18		1014 N LYNN LYNN
	ALARM/OTHER	20222949	21:48	AEP SCHOOL	700 MELBA MELBA ST
	EMS	20222950	22:38		2403 W GAY GAY
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20222951			



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Last Puzzle Solution

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ACROSS

- 1 "happy as a _____"
- 5 flying saucers
- 6 "legal eagle" charges
- 7 New Braunfels "Americana" FM
- 8 surgical recovery area in a hosp.
- 9 TX Kenny Rogers early group: "The First _____"
- 16 TXism: "in this _____ of the woods"
- 18 TXism: "_____ the horse's mouth" (confirmed)
- 21 "_____ Aldrich helped TCU to be the national champ in football in 1938
- 22 Fort Davis football class (2 wds.)
- 23 TXism: "the bigger they _____, the harder they fall"
- 24 TX Farrah Fawcett, e.g. (2 wds.)
- 30 UT Southwestern Medical Center is a leader in the treatment of multiple _____
- 34 8th governor Clark of Texas, for short
- 35 TX Woody Harrelson 2004 film: "She _____"
- 36 country FM station in Abilene
- 37 TX singer songwriter, Griffith
- 39 "_____ Bend" is a curve in the Gulf Coast
- 43 famous writer Mark who owned land in Archer County
- 44 many Texas towns had a prisoner of _____ in World War II
- 45 birth st. of honorary Texan, John Wayne
- 46 man in 45-across was every _____ cowboy
- 47 like a proton but with no electric charge
- 49 fortunately
- 52 dir. from Weatherford to McGregor
- 53 former Oilers coach: TX _____ "Bum" Phillips
- 54 Amtrak tracks relating to the roof of the mouth
- 58 dishonest schemes
- 59 "one _____ time"
- 60 evergreen tree
- 61 TX Ross Perot 1st naval rank (abbr.)

DOWN

- 1 Dez Bryant hometown
- 2 TXism: "he'd argue with _____ post"
- 3 TXism for "store bought molars"
- 4 Sulphur Springs "oldies" AM
- 9 past Oilers WR, Givins (init.)
- 10 TXism: "dead as a _____"
- 11 TXism: "pay _____ never mind" (ignore)
- 12 cowboy bolos
- 13 TXism: "if the saddle squeaks, _____ paid for"
- 14 Texas-based 1943 film: "King _____ the Cowboys"
- 15 gun rights grp. in Edwards and Kinney Counties: "_____ Cavern State Park"
- 19 in Upshur County on U.S. 259 (2 wds.)
- 20 Hondo is seat of this county
- 24 former Ranger closer, Henke (init.)
- 25 large tub
- 26 meat & veggie dish cooked in a pot
- 27 state residents
- 28 TXism: "strong as _____ breath"
- 29 save from danger
- 31 "_____ Brown & His Band of Renown"
- 32 TXism: "could _____ through a crowbar" (hot chili)
- 33 fish-eating duck
- 38 hammer targets
- 40 TXism: "does a _____ have a climbing gear?" (yes)
- 41 17th governor, Roberts (init.)
- 42 TX Tommy Lee Jones film: "Eyes of _____"
- 48 TXism: "siestas"
- 50 TXism: "raining _____ and dogs"
- 51 Korean car
- 56 TXism: "hot as _____ griddle"
- 57 language of the Romans

See Answers On This Page

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Lee-Bardwell Library crocheting
Don't forget - the Lee-Bardwell Library hosts "Cozy Crochet" every Saturday at 1 p.m.. Everyone is invited! Call 903-845-2640 for information.

Commissioners to hold budget hearing
Upshur County Commissioners Court will hold a special session at 9 a.m. Thursday (June 1) to hear from department heads concerning the county budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

The public meeting, scheduled for one hour earlier than the court's normal meeting time, will be held on the Upshur County Courthouse's third floor in Gilmer. The court was also scheduled to meet in regular session Wednesday (May 31) to consider action on various matters ranging from the impending major renovation of the courthouse, to hearing a report from County Road Administrator Andy Jordan.

At that 10 a.m. meeting, the court was also scheduled to consider disbursing lease revenue, from land which Upshur County owns in West Texas, among the nine school districts lying wholly or partly in Upshur County. The court disburses the "county available" funds annually, with each school district's share based on the number of students the district has who are county residents.

No county library storytime this week
The weekly "Storytime" for small children at the Upshur County Library in

Gilmer will not be held Thursday (June 1) because a "kickoff party" for the library's Summer Reading Program will be held that day.

The party includes children playing mini-golf inside the building, said Kari Dunn, children's coordinator for the library.

The library is also offering a teen activity night once monthly, and a book club meeting one day monthly.

The events at the library at 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas 154) are free to the public.

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.



City National Bank, located at 895 E. Broadway Ave., was selected as "Business of the Quarter" by the Gladewater Beautification Board. The presentation was held last Thursday.

Photo by Jim Bardwell

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 Melissa 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,

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.

W. Mt. Cemetery adds three to board

The West Mountain Cemetery Association re-elected three members of its board of directors at its annual meeting Sunday afternoon.

Chosen for two-year terms without opposition were Roberta McCrary, Terry Kaster, and Don Morgan.

About 30 attended the meeting under the pavilion at the historic cemetery on U.S. 271 between Gilmer and Gladewater.

Details were presented about three deceased men who have been honored by having "dedication bricks" with their names placed in the cemetery for their work

in maintaining it.

They were Frank Sobey, Coleman Starkey and Louis Wayne Clark. Clark's daughter, Leann Williams, is association secretary and serves on its board of directors.

Announcement was made that three other deceased men have been nominated to have dedication bricks placed in their honor next year. They are Ed Banning, Loyd Pyle and Billy Bud Shipp.

Also discussed was a proposal to use smaller-than-normal burial plots for those who choose cremation over embalming, and who will be interred in cremation vaults.

Morgan, who is association president as well as a director, presided at the meeting and introduced the other officers, who are all board members. Besides Williams, they included Vice-President David Galbraith, Treasurer McCrary and Lot Control Officer Kaster.

Others on the nine-member board are Larry Pyle, Danny Johnson, Bernard Haynes and Craig McCrary.

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) 845-3128.

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Sat., June 3 ~ 8:00 - 2:00

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Pictures: DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JEANETTE E. LEVINSKI, Deceased, were issued on May 1, 2023, in Cause No. 22PR00157, pending in the County Court of Upshur County, Texas, to: HENRY DONALD LEVINSKI. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: **H. CHUCK BAUMAN, Attorney at Law at 400 E Fifth St., Tyler, TX 75701.**

LEGAL NOTICE
Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a BQ Permit by Gladewater Petro Mart LLC DBA's AJ's Fast Stop address 1708 N. Main St. Gladewater TX 75647 in Gregg County by Mr. Sanjeev Khadka, President; Sangit KC Sapkota, Vice President; Indira Sapkota KC, Secretary; Sarin Maharjan, Treasurer; and Ratna Kishor KC, Director

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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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.

PUBLIC HEARING
There will be a public hearing before the City of Gladewater Planning & Zoning Commission on June 15, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. to consider:

1. Specific Use Permit request for Wine and Beer Retailer's Off-Premise Permit (BQ) at AB 7 T ALLEN SUR TR 16-01, more commonly known as 1708 N. Main St.
2. Specific Use Permit request for Wine and Beer Retailer's Off-Premise Permit (BQ) and Package Store Permit (P) at AB 56 M DILLARD TR 24, more commonly known as 807 S. Tyler St., Suite 101.

There will be a second public hearing held by the Gladewater City Council on June 15, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

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

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'Every day is Memorial Day

By Phillip Williams

United States Air Force Major General John M. Breazeale told the audience at Gilmer's annual Memorial Day ceremony Monday that "every day is Memorial Day" for "Gold Star" families--relatives of those who died in the service.

"We owe them a debt of gratitude," said Breazeale, a 1984 Gilmer High School graduate who has spent 35 years on active duty after graduating from the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado in 1988.

Breazeale spoke to an audience of several dozen persons on the Upshur County Courthouse's south lawn. Gilmer area groups of three national organizations for military veterans--the American Legion, Veterans

of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans--co-sponsored the event.

The general noted he had lost 10 fellow pilots in military aircraft accidents, "all great leaders of character," and that "too many of us" have such connections to those who died in the service.

Breazeale also recalled that he learned of the heroism of an Upshur Countian who died in the Vietnam conflict, Billy Machen, and "I also saw the impact his death had on my dad," the late Frank Breazeale.

John Breazeale, who plans to retire next year, is mobilization assistant to the commander at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia. He is a command pilot with more than 4,400 hours experience.

After his address, he escorted his mother, Annette Breazeale of Gilmer, to place a wreath at the veterans' monument on the lawn.

Three members of the Gilmer High School AFJROTC--William England, Daniel Gorostieta and Kameron Smallwood--raised the American flag to begin the event after master of ceremonies Larry Tefteller welcomed the audience.

"Let's remember Memorial Day every day of our lives," Tefteller said near the ceremony's conclusion.

Before Breazeale spoke, Mike Trull of the American Legion sang "The Star-Spangled Banner," led the Pledge of Allegiance and spoke the invocation. The ceremony ended with Brandon Dodd simulating the playing of "Taps," which was pre-recorded.



Gladewater City Clerk Judy Van Houten administers the Oath of Office to council members (from left) Elijah "Sonny" Anderson (Place 5), Teddy Sorrells (Place 4), Rocky Hawkins (Place 6) and Kevin Clark (Place 7) during the council's regular monthly session May 18. The meeting saw the council unanimously appoint Anderson as Mayor Pro Tem.

Anderson appointed mayor pro tem

By James Draper

With no changes on the city council dais following May's election, Gladewater officials quickly got to work for their regular session May 18.

The meeting began with City Clerk Judy Van Houten administering the Oath of office to the returning council members including Teddy Sorrells in Place 4, Elijah "Sonny" Anderson (Place 5), Rocky Hawkins (Place 6) and Kevin Clark (Place 7)

"Now that we have experience and no newbies up here, we expect lots of progress this year," Mayor Scott Owens said, kicking off the discussion of who the council would appoint as Mayor Pro Tem.

It was a brief matter with Hawkins' motion seconded by Clark and unanimously-approved by the council members (with Anderson abstaining).

Among a variety of topics discussed that evening (some already published in the May 25 issue of the Gladewater Mirror and others covered in today's edition), in his regular report City Manager Charlie Smith noted Texas Department of Transportation crews would be doing some resurfacing at the state's expense.

On Phillips Spring Road, he noted, the

culverts collapsed, requiring a three-day closure for repairs.

"That's going to be a pretty significant deal. We're going to go back in with one, large 60-inch culvert. I think that's going to make it a lot better once we get that done," Smith said. "That's going to be an expense we're not going to have to incur again."

On their consent agenda (items typically approved unanimously with no discussion) the council signed off on the minutes from their April 20 session as well as water line repair work on Gay Avenue at Glade Creek.

At Van Houten's request, the council tabled consideration of the city's Fiscal Year 2022 audit.

"They are still working on the audit," she noted. "They sent their apologies and asked for this to be pushed back until June."

The council's next regularly-scheduled meeting is set for June 15.

"We're working to make our city better," Smith said later. With street and water infrastructure repairs in particular, "It's just going to take some time to address all of the issues we have."

"But, we have a very positive council. We're just going to move forward."

Town Hall on streets set

Continued from Page 1

Their feedback will determine how the grant moves forward.

"I just put an Action Plan out there to present, but we may have to tweak it a bit based on what the community wants. It's for the constituents we serve," she added. Public engagement is stipulated in the grant application. "It's definitely part of the process. We have to engage our citizens because ultimately they are the ones who are going to be using the roads."

Tidwell hopes locals won't pass up their chance to speak directly on the project.

"We want what the citizens want. If they want change in their neighborhood, as far as the safety of our roads, they need to come to this meeting. They can see things differently than we do," she said. "Let's say we get sidewalks: some people might want sidewalks in different places."

"This is your opportunity to come and get involved, to have your voice heard on what we should with the funds we receive to improve

our streets and roads in Gladewater."

The grant program particularly highlights investment in underserved communities. According to the U.S. Census, two out of three of Gladewater's Census tracts are tagged as underserved.

The key thing for Tidwell is getting as much feedback as she can on the working plan and to gain any insights that will change it for the better.

"Maybe there's a stop sign that's needed in a place we don't know. Maybe they'll say, 'I need a speed bump. The traffic down my road is extremely too fast; people are speeding.' Just different ideas, things I haven't thought up that the community can suggest."

Putting the funds to best use for the Action Plan can enhance how much the community can receive for implementation later.

"Let's say they want to see better lighting in their neighborhood -- I've had a woman come in multiple times to tell me she needs a street light,

that it's extremely dark on her street," Tidwell noted. "With these funds we can put street lights in. We can improve crosswalks, put down sidewalks. We can slow speed limits down."

"We can do anything that has to do with the safety of our streets."

For anyone who wants to put in the 'homework' before the June 13 Town Hall, Tidwell suggests logging on to the U.S. Department of Transportation's web portal and reading the particulars of the SS4A grant program -- what the monies can be used for, what constitutes an action plan, limitations and other information. Visit transportation.gov/grants/SS4A.

"We're applying for an Action & Demonstration Grant. We're going to, of course, hire a consultant to help us create our Action Plan," Tidwell added, but that consultant won't be starting from scratch or working in a vacuum. Their work will be based on the community's direction from the Town Hall.

GEDCO charts course for economic development using Strategic Plan goals

PRESS RELEASE

The drive of Gladewater Economic Development Corporation is straightforward, but it's never simple -- to achieve it, the organization follows a careful crafted Strategic Plan.

Our Mission: "To develop and expand the economy of Gladewater for its citizens and businesses."

Whenever a prospect or project reaches the staff and board of GEDCO, the first task is to weigh the proposal against the organization's mission statement. Many things pass muster; some don't. It all depends on whether this idea or that concept is going to practically fuel the community's economy and aid in its ongoing development.

To execute the mission, GEDCO's 2022-2023 Strategic Plan outlines

six goals that define the organization. Each goal incorporates a varying number of specific strategies and each strategy includes a timeframe for implementation as well as a Metric / Key Performance Indicator.

Each strategy also notes who is responsible for the overall strategic task. Most often, GEDCO's strategic tasks are assigned to GEDCO Executive Director Michelle Palmer or the Board of Directors. However, many efforts that benefit Gladewater's economic development are being performed by specialists or entities in other sectors -- the task is best-executed by professionals who already on the job in their respective organizations.

For example: training individuals for jobs with local businesses. That's not a key strength in GEDCO's wheelhouse.

OUR MISSION
To develop and expand the economy of Gladewater for its citizens and businesses.

Rather, the organization supports the efforts of trained, expert personnel at Kilgore College, Workforce Solutions East Texas and other agencies -- they do that job best. In some instances, GEDCO will rely on an outside contractor, such as a web developer, to be responsible for a key task or project.

Follow upcoming editions of the *Gladewater Mirror* for more information about the six key goals outlined in GEDCO's strategic plan, including:

GOAL #1
Buildings & Sites
To build a go-to inventory of properties.

GOAL #2
Business Retention & Expansion
To build relationships with Gladewater businesses.

GOAL #3
Workforce Development
To provide local businesses with well-trained employees.

GOAL #4
Downtown Development & Tourism
To make Downtown a center of employment and investment and to promote the ballpark and the lake.

GOAL #5
Marketing
To share the Gladewater story with internal and external messaging.

GOAL #6
Organizational Management
To develop internal best practices for the organization, board and staff.

Bardwell's living legacy continues

Continued from Page 1

community, our pride in our neighborhoods and our public places. She worked diligently on projects to enhance the aesthetics and natural beauty of Gladewater with an emphasis on litter control, code enforcement and community partnership. She even cared about the potholes."

The Gladewater Mirror's 'Pothole of the Week' was one of many of Bardwell's ongoing passions that persisted to her death.

"When she was determined to do something, she said 'We can do this.' And we did. She was a great encourager," Clifton said. He recited David Wright's poem 'Plant a Tree' in honor of the occasion and in Bardwell's memory. "The loss of Suzanne in January 2022 left a hole in our community, and it was a great loss for the Bardwell family."

Mirror Publisher Jim Bardwell; son, Josh; and daughter-in-law, Jennifer, gathered with the beautification volunteers to commemorate the tree Gladewater Enforcement Officer Al Harrison had planted alongside Gladewater Museum's antique fire truck display at the corner of East Broadway Avenue and East Pacific Avenue.

Harrison confessed he was perplexed in past conversations with Bardwell when she advocated for a Japanese Maple there.

"Aren't those a red tree?" Harrison asked, thinking it would clash with the fire truck and the neighboring greenery. "Time would go on, we'd go to another meeting, the subject would come up again. I was always kind of curious, why a red tree?"

"We never did anything. Suzanne passed, and I never really got to find out -- why a Japanese maple?"

Serendipitously, Josh Bardwell was able to answer that question and provide



Todd Clifton adjusts the plaque at a tree planted in honor of Suzanne Bardwell. Photo by James Draper

some surprise closure for all the beautification board members.

Wright's poem was such a favorite that Suzanne sent it to her son his first year of forestry school, Josh said with thanks to Clifton, and that specific tree always brought her joy. Granted, the non-native plant led to some lighthearted bickering between them.

It was a touch of enduring beauty for his mother, though.

"Fall, when the leaves change color, was one of her favorite things," he told

the group. "What she loved about the Japanese Maple was it looked like Fall year-round. That way, she could enjoy it more than one season."

It's a lingering note that resounded with Bardwell's loved ones.

"Suzanne was a force of nature," Jim Bardwell agreed.

And when she wanted something done...

"By golly, it got done," Clifton said. "I hope we have that kind of determination in wanting our city to be beautiful, because she did."

PLANT A TREE

by David H. Wright

*If when I am gone
Thou would'st honor me
Then plant a tree.
Some highway, bleak and bare,
Make green with leaves.
So radiant and fair
And full of leaves my monument will be,
So ever full of tuneful melody.
My monument will be
A sight most rare -
Trees planted everywhere.
A highway broad from city to the sea -
Plant this in memory of me.*



Lexi Betts
Gladewater Softball MVP



Kollin Lewis
Gladewater Boys Track MVP



Kamryn Floyd
Gladewater Girls Track MVP



MaKayla Police
Gladewater Girls Soccer MVP



Kollin Lewis
Gladewater Boys Track MVP



Jermaine Lewis
Gladewater Coach of the Year



Austin Verner
Gladewater Baseball MVP



Kollin Lewis
Gladewater Boys Basketball MVP



Zandrea Tyeskie
Gladewater Volleyball MVP



Sydney Keller
Gladewater Tennis MVP



Gameroom near Big Sandy robbed

By Phillip Williams

The Upshur County Sheriff's Office is seeking a man for questioning in connection with the armed robbery of a rural game room and its customers near Big Sandy on Tuesday of last week, said Sheriff Larry Webb.

Dewayne Stevenson, 39, of Big Sandy, is being sought after the daytime robbery of a firm which faces on FM 1002 at the intersection with Texas 155, said Webb. The sheriff said he didn't know the business's name, but that the bandit worked there, and that the sheriff's office shut it down after the incident for violating unspecified county regulations.

Nobody was hurt in the incident, which Webb added he believed was caught on video. When the sheriff was interviewed the day after the crime, he said he had not yet viewed video since it was being processed.

Webb gave this account of the incident:

The robber knew a firearm was kept behind the counter and "he'd been there all day" working when, around 4:30 p.m., he walked up to the cash register and asked the cashier to hold the pistol.

When the cashier handed it over, the man "said he was gonna rob the place. They didn't take him seriously" at first, but he fired a shot into the ceiling.

The bandit took an unknown amount of the game room's money, which Webb said he believed came from the cash register, before robbing an undetermined number of individual customers of cell phones. The sheriff said he understood the patrons before fleeing out the front door on foot.

How long the robbery took will be determined when the video is seen.

Stevenson, who is black, about 6'3" and 250 pounds, already had an outstanding Upshur County

warrant for his arrest on a charge of felon in possession of firearm, said Webb. The sheriff described him as an "individual we would like to question."

"We're looking for him. We'll find him," said Webb. As of Memorial Day on Monday, sheriff's Chief Deputy David Hazel said he didn't believe an arrest had been made yet.

While investigating the robbery, authorities closed the game room for the alleged violations, Webb said. A large sign on the front of the building on the day after the incident announced the sheriff's office had closed it.

Webb said Big Sandy police and possibly the Texas Department of Public Safety responded to the crime scene. Unlike raids on four other game rooms in the county the prior week, the federal Department of Homeland Security wasn't involved in last week's investigation, and the Big Sandy area game room has different ownership from the other four, the sheriff said.

Those four were also shut down as a result of raids which involved a federal investigation of such activities as money laundering and illegal gambling, Webb's office has said.

Asked how long the Big Sandy area game room would be closed, Webb said the shutdown begins an appeal process with the owners.

Anyone with information on Stevenson's whereabouts is asked to contact the sheriff's office at (903) 843-2541 or Upshur County Crimestoppers at (903) 843-3131.

Crimestoppers spokeswoman Cynthia Clark said Monday the organization is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the robber's arrest.



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Saying 'Thank You' on Memorial Day

Continued from Page 1

Sorrells, president of the Gladewater Former Students' Association, which established the black stone monument on Pacific Avenue in 2002. "It is a day of reflection and remembrance of those who died while serving in the United States military.

"Let's remember to think of those who have sacrificed for our freedoms that we enjoy every day."

Association member Larry Clemens welcomed the military and civilian audience Monday.

While grateful for those who offer 'Happy Memorial Day' wishes, Clemens reminded the crowd, "This day should not be deemed happy, but as a day to remember and honor... Our community thanks you and welcomes you to this gathering as we pay tribute to and thank the brave men and women who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms."

Darren Richardson led the audience in the National Anthem this year while Maj. Robert Green (U.S. Army, ret.) led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Rev. Kelton Wilson offered an opening prayer.

Gladewater Mayor Scott Owens presented the city's Memorial Day Proclamation, joined by Councilwoman Brandy Flanagan in exhorting the community to "join voices with the rest of the United States in paying respect to honor fallen soldiers and the families they left behind."

The organizers honored all veterans in attendance Monday by inviting them to stand in turn during the playing of the service anthems for Coast Guard, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Army.

Another member of the Gladewater Former Students' Association, Leslie Willeford took the podium briefly to read the veterans' names that have been added to the downtown memorial in the past year.

Marine Corps veteran Leon Watson closed the ceremony with the traditional raising of the flag from half-staff to the playing of "Taps." The familiar notes are not a song, Clemens noted in her remarks, but a bugle call crafted from another signal in July 1862 and eventually used at a military funeral in 1911.

Detailing Memorial Day traditions, Clemens also highlighted the wearing of red poppies, which originated in 1915 following the poem "In Flanders Field" by Lt. Col. John McCrae.



"While the poppies grew among the graves, they are also a resilient flower," Clemens recalled. "The poppy is able to lie dormant for many years in the soil only to reappear in great numbers. This held significance for Lt. Col. McCrae as he wrote of the heroes who appeared in great numbers to come to the aid of others against oppression and tyranny during this Great War and would lie dormant until their call was heard again."

In her remarks, Clemens provided a short history of Memorial Day, initially called Decoration Day following the Civil War. After World War I, the remembrance evolved to



Photos by Jim Bardwell & James Draper



honor all Americans who died fighting in any war, and the National Holiday Act of 1971 designated Memorial Day observations on the last Monday in May.

An East Texas native, Clemens eventually joined the Navy, a common destination in her family, and spent 4 years in the service as an Aviation Electrician's Mate. She followed her time in the Armed Forces with a career in theater and education, often incorporating military tributes into performances.

"I've always felt that it was important for this generation of kids to know, understand and appreciate that the freedoms they enjoy were earned by others' sacrifice."

2023 Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo celebrates 86th season June 7-10

It's Rodeo Time in Gladewater!

The Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo rides into town June 7 - 10 at the Gladewater Rodeo Arena. All the high-flying action starts Wednesday, June 7, with a full night of XTreme Bulls, followed by three nights of PRCA rodeo excitement Thursday, June 8 - Saturday, June 10. Gates open nightly at 6 p.m.

Tickets for the 86th Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo are \$16 for adults / \$8 for kids (12 and under) and can be purchased online at GladewaterRodeo.com. Proceeds from the

Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo go to funding scholarships for area students.

Reserved Seating is available until 6 p.m. each night, and for the first time, box seats are available to the public. Each box seat is \$150 and is sold per night for the entire box (boxes seat six people; individual seats are not available to purchase).

Plus, all active members of the military and first responders are eligible for special half-price tickets for Thursday night, June 8, available only at the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo

Ticket Office with a valid ID.

The Ticket Office on the rodeo grounds is located just north of Highway 80 in Gladewater and will be open for ticket sales Monday, June 5, through Saturday, June 10, from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Registration forms for Kids Mutton Bustin' (5 - 7 years of age; under 50 pounds) are available online and must be submitted online to the Rodeo's website from May 29 at noon - June 5 at midnight. Participating children will receive one (1) free adult ticket for signing up. Mutton Bustin' starts at 7:45 p.m. nightly.

The Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo's nightly Calf Scramble is free to kids in two age groups: 8 and under and ages 9 - 12. Two winners per age group will each win a \$50 cash prize. No pre-registration is required.

86TH ANNUAL GLADEWATER ROUND-UP RODEO
JUNE 7-10, 2023
 8:15PM NIGHTLY
 7:45PM MUTTON BUSTIN'
 GLADEWATER RODEO GROUNDS
 Gladewater, TX

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GEDCO Gladewater Economic Development Corporation
 Wednesday June 7th

2023 Schedule

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7 – XTREME BULLS
 Sponsored by Cavender's Boot City

THURSDAY, JUNE 8
 Sponsored by Ragan & Massey

FRIDAY, JUNE 9
 Sponsored by Joyce Crane

SATURDAY, JUNE 10
 Texas Oncology

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GLADEWATER ROUND-UP HANDICAPABLE RODEO
 SATURDAY JUNE 10th
 9am-12noon
 THIS EVENT IS FOR ANY AND ALL SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN/YOUNG ADULTS & FAMILY

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

The 6th Annual Gladewater Handicapable Rodeo for children and people with special needs will take place Saturday, June 10, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Gladewater Rodeo Arena, located on US Highway 80. This free event features a variety of fun-filled activities, including horseback rides, barrel-bucking bull, face painting, and a petting zoo.

For those interested in supporting the Handicapable Rodeo, contact Paige Winters at (361) 815-5188.