

# Gladewater Mirror

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50¢



## Lake warden discussion underway

By James Draper

With council support, Interim City Manager Charlie Smith is determining who will take the wheel out at Lake Gladewater and get the ship righted in the days, weeks and months ahead.

"We've really come to the conclusion that we're needing somebody out there on a routine basis," Mayor Scott Owens said during the Gladewater City Council's June 15 meeting. "It may take some time to hire one."

After conferring with Smith as well as Police Chief Gordon Freeman, "We do have some officers available that we could call on to use," Owens said, particularly during the budget season and an application process for the post.

Councilman Teddy Sorrells moved to establish an official position of Lake Warden (under the city manager's supervision) to oversee safety and emergency management at Lake Gladewater. Councilwoman Brandy Flanagan second the motion.

For Sorrells, the council's June 1 joint meeting with the Lake Board and Gladewater Economic Development Corporation was a helpful conversation.

"From what I could tell, the overwhelming consensus in the room was that we needed to address safety considerations at the lake," he said. It's imperative to improve the atmosphere out there and have an authority on site, "Not only for patrol but also for safety, rules and regulations, vandalism..."

That's the purpose of the motion, he added, which puts the decision to Interim City Manager Charlie Smith to choose who becomes that authority.

"I have mentioned in the past about the fire chief," Sorrells added, "but that's not the issue. It's whatever the city manager decides is going to best suit that position. This motion makes that possible."

Continued on Page 3

## City gets clean audit report

The City of Gladewater's auditor recently gave council members kudos for their healthy fund balances and efficient bookkeeping.

Albert Garcia of Mays & Associates attended the council's June 15 gathering to lay out the basics of the audit for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

"We will be issuing an unmodified report," Garcia noted, "which is a clean report."

"You guys have a good balance sheet."

Walking the council through the key elements of the audit, Garcia noted the city's \$3.8 million fund balance in the General Fund. That's an increase of \$220,000 over the prior year.

"We like to see increases," he said.

Meanwhile, \$825,000 in debt service has been reduced to \$77,000.

"Not only being good stewards," Garcia added, "but also paying off some debt. We like to see that."

In the Water/Sewer Activity Fund, Garcia noted the city has a net position of \$7.2 million, a \$400,000 increase.

"Overall, the city has increased fund balances and is looking good."

The council unanimously accepted Mays & Associates' update, a 6-0 vote (with one member absent).

"We do look forward to a favorable report," Mayor Scott Owens said.



Gladewater's Happy 247th Birthday America event and fireworks show is set for 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday, July 3, at Lake Gladewater.

A Sky Dive Team will drop in at 6 p.m. followed by DJ Randy and games at 7 p.m.

As always, the Gladewater Chamber of Commerce event is co-hosted with the City of Gladewater and Austin Bank is once again sponsoring the Boat Parade at 8 p.m. and the 2023 fireworks finale at 9 p.m. is sponsored

## Storm Round-Up ...

By James Draper

After more than a week of storm clean up and all its challenges, Gladewater firefighters have been forced to shift their focus to the heat.

Earlier this week, GFD Chief Mike Simmons was eyeing a boiling forecast and crafting plans to spread the word – don't take chances outdoors in this weather as heat indices hit 105 to 110 degrees through the weekend.

"It's going to be extremely hot," he said.

It's old news at this point: the weather's been unforgiving lately.

Following the rough weather mid-month, Gladewater officials have

this year by Equipment Parade.

"We're supposed to have a really great end because we're celebrating 150 years," said Lois Reed, chamber manager and chairman of the board.

There will be some minor street closures during the event – Pinecrest Street and Woodbine Street will be on-way. There will be no parking on either street after barricades are put in place early in the day.

been working on crafting their local disaster declaration tied to June 15-16 while collecting supporting stats about the storm's aftermath.

"It was 18 homes damaged," Simmons noted Monday. He doubles as the city's Emergency Coordinator. "It ranged from severe damage to 'effective,' which means there was some kind of damage.

Locally, "No reported injuries or fatalities, which is awesome."

The only widely-reported death following the June 16 devastation was 35-year-old Appalachia Power Lineman Cory Foster who died June 19 in Marshall after reportedly overheating while he worked

Continued on Page 9

# OPINION/COMMENTARY

## Make it sparkle...

Remember the July 4ths of childhood? St. Augustine grass freshly mown and soft as a carpet on tiny bare feet scampering through a sprinkler while shrieking with glee. I thought it couldn't get any better but of course it did.

Daddy came in from the field and four generations filled the front yard of the ranch house that was sheltered by a grove of Post Oak trees whose canopies shaded the huge yard, the picnic table and the smoking barbecue pit.

Pap'paw would be cranking the old wooden ice cream bucket while the kids took turns either sitting on the towel covered top or 'helping' with the cranking. Mam'maw, of course, brought the cooked banana pudding. None of this instant Jello pudding business for her.

My stars, no!  
My cousins, little brother and I waited impatiently for twilight as the adults sat on the porch swing, or the green and white striped lawn chairs and lazily recalled memories from their own childhood and laughed. Their laughter was the background of my childhood.

At twilight, as soon as we saw the lightning bugs flashing it was time to bring out the sparklers. Daddy would light them for us and we would whirl away ignoring the tiny sparks that hit our arms. As we got older, bottle rockets and

## The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



Roman candles were just dangerous enough to get us in trouble, but not too much because our parents remembered their own childhood fireworks.

Hopefully our son recalls the July 4 fireworks of his youth. When our neighbors Belle and Mr. Marion would sit in their swing across the road and pray that Josh and his Dad's firework shenanigans wouldn't catch their roof on fire while clapping loudly for the little boy who had the same glee his Momma did when it came to July 4.

Frankly, a sprinkler and sparklers may be more fun than the grandest of fireworks displays. After all, when you add in homemade ice cream and love, it just doesn't get any better than that.

Happy Independence Day friends and neighbors! May your holiday sparkle with memories.

**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.



## Conservation urged as searing heat wave sweeps state

Texas' power grid reported record electricity use early last week. Both the Public Utility Commission of Texas and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas are urging residents and businesses to voluntarily reduce electricity use as temperatures soar above 100 degrees over much of the state. So far the grid, which administers 90% of the state's power load, has been able to keep up with demand.

Temperatures set record highs for June in several Texas cities: 111 degrees in Junction, 115 in Laredo, and 113 in Del Rio. The heat wave stretches from the Pecos River Valley in the west to the Rio Grande in the south to the Pineywoods in the east. State Climatologist John Nielsen-Gammon pointed to several factors, including near-record temperatures in the Gulf of Mexico, a high-pressure system trapping the heat over the state, and climate change.

"Texas is running about 2 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than it did during the 20th century," Nielsen-Gammon told the Texas Tribune. "So if you're close to a temperature record, that will put it over the edge."

ERCOT has implemented a voluntary curtailment program for so-called flexible customers — such as bitcoin mining facilities — to reduce power use during periods of high demand.

"These customers are large power users but have the flexibility and willingness to reduce their energy use quickly, if needed. By working with these large loads during peak demand periods, we will better serve all Texans while keeping the grid reliable and resilient," said Woody Rickerson of ERCOT.

### Storms spur declarations

Storm systems have caused widespread damage across the state and prompted Gov. Greg Abbott to issue disaster declarations for Ochiltree, Cass, Franklin, Harrison, Marion, Upshur, Wood, Camp, Gregg, Hopkins, Panola, Smith and Titus counties. The storms caused loss of life, severe damage to power lines and structures, and flash flooding.

A subsequent declaration came after a tornado hit Matador in West Texas and killed four people. That declaration covers Motley, Nolan, Fisher, Jones, Kent, and Stonewall counties. Just days earlier a tornado killed three and injured dozens in Perryton in the Texas Panhandle.

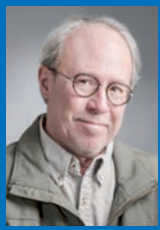
"What Texans in Perryton have gone through over the past couple of days have been nothing short of horrific," Abbott said. "At the same time, it's encouraging and inspiring to see the way the community has come together to rebuild."

### Hope rises for legislative impasse

An impasse over property tax relief appears to be near an end after the Senate unanimously passed a package that would cut both homeowners' property taxes and taxes on thousands of businesses by a record \$18 billion, the Austin American-Statesman reported. At the same time, House Speaker Dade Phelan appointed a select committee to provide "recommendations for long-term, sustainable" relief.

The first special session called by Abbott ends this week, making it likely a second session will follow. The Senate bill would raise the homestead exemption to \$100,000, with an additional \$40,000 exemption for homeowners 65 and older. The franchise tax on businesses would further exempt an estimated 67,000 small businesses.

## Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick have feuded over which version of the property tax bills should ultimately prevail, with Abbott backing a House plan passed on the first day of the special session.

### AG's office tries to defy comptroller

The Texas attorney general's office attempted to continue paying impeached Attorney General Ken Paxton, who was suspended pending a Senate trial set for Sept. 5. The Dallas Morning News obtained communications between the attorney general's chief of staff and the Texas comptroller's office, regarding Paxton's paycheck for June.

"Simply put, it is unclear that the CPA (Comptroller of Public Accounts) has authority to withhold AG Paxton's salary under these circumstances," Lesley French, office chief of staff wrote in an email to the director of the comptroller's fiscal management division on Wednesday, The News reported.

Paxton is accused of bribery, obstruction of justice and abuse of office — allegations he has denied.

The comptroller's office has oversight over the state's expenditures, and officials there noted money is appropriated for only one attorney general. After Paxton's suspension, former Secretary of State John Scott was appointed the interim attorney general and is now leading the office.

The attorney general's position pays \$153,700 annually.

### Latinos now make up biggest share of state's population

In new population estimates released last week by the U.S. Census Bureau, Latinos now make up the largest share of the state's population and have since at least July 2022. The bureau reported Hispanic Texans made up 40.2% of the total, edging out non-Hispanic white Texans, who made up 39.8%, the Texas Tribune reported.

Hispanic Texans are expected to make up a majority of the state's population in the decades to come. Recent census estimates indicate 49.3% of the state's residents under 18 are Hispanic.

### ERCOT can't be sued, court rules

The Texas Supreme Court on Friday ruled that ERCOT, which operates the state's power grid, is a government entity and is immune to lawsuits resulting from Winter Storm Uri in February 2021. The 5-4 ruling reversed a previous judgment from a Dallas appeals court, The Dallas Morning News reported.

Chief Justice Nathan Hecht, writing for the majority, said it should be immune to suits because "it prevents the disruption of key governmental services, protects public funds, and respects separation of powers principles."

ERCOT is the nation's only power grid contained wholly within a single state.

## THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

### Stuff on Shelves ...

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the relatively smooth functioning of the supply chain was something most people rarely thought of and took for granted. In fact, few could even tell you what the phrase meant. The global health crisis, which shut down large segments of the economy for an extended period, severely disrupted the vast array of resources, firms, workers, technology, and transportation that forms the complex web of activity essential to the creation and distribution of products. The Russian invasion of Ukraine and various other events (including a fire in a massive South Korean chip plant) only made things worse.



As the saga unfolded, a domino effect ensued, with shortfalls in one aspect of the supply chain (such as production of semiconductors/chips) causing stoppages in others (manufacturing of cars, refrigerators, and other complex products). When production came back online, there was then overcrowding in the logistics system, including cargo ships and ports. We also faced labor issues, both due to shutdowns and ongoing shortages. Store shelves and stores were thus often sparsely filled, with various products completely unavailable. The snarls which developed have taken years to work through; knitting the web back together was not a simple task.

After some extraordinarily difficult times, the supply chain situation in the United States is now much improved. We've largely overcome the issues associated with COVID-19 and the other displacements, and statistics are indicating that the worst of the supply chain problems are behind us.

At this point, about 92% of all goods are regularly stocked in adequate quantities at grocery stores, pharmacies, and other outlets. Ports are also running at 100% capacity and have set cargo volume records in each of the past two years. Shipping costs are back to near pre-pandemic levels after spiking in 2021 as the world opened up and a flood of goods needed to get to market.

A healthier supply chain helps in the fight against inflation, taking some pressure off prices as goods become more readily available and supply and demand come into a more normal alignment. It also helps improve the efficiency and productivity of the economy as well as prospects for long-term growth.

The supply chain meltdown has proven to be a very tough challenge that took a lot of effort to overcome. More than three years since the onset of the pandemic, substantial and substantive progress is finally evident. There are still lingering concerns in some segments which may persist for a while, and a labor strike or similar shock could set back progress in this critical, yet fragile element of the global economy. Nonetheless, things are vastly better, which is a positive development on a grand scale.

Stay safe!

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## SAVING FAITH OBEYS GOD

Numbers 20 tells us the Israelites needed water in the wilderness. God told Moses to take his rod, or staff, and speak to a rock in front of the people, and water would flow out of it. But instead of doing just what God told him to do, verses 10 and 11 tell us Moses said to the people: "You rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock? Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his staff; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank." So far so good, but what is especially interesting about this Old Testament incident is what God said about Moses' disobedience and sin. Verse 12 says: "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them." Notice God didn't say "You didn't obey Me," but He said "Because you did not believe Me" you can't go into Canaan. God called Moses' disobedience UNBELIEF! See also (Ps. 106: 32-33).

That's an importance lesson to learn. We often think of faith (belief) in God and Jesus as merely being convinced of their existence. But real Bible faith, is the kind of belief in God that OBEYS God! Even if we believe Jesus is the Christ, if we DISREGARD and DISOBEY Him, we don't really have Bible FAITH in Him. Bible faith is OBEDIENT faith!

Promises in the Bible about salvation through faith in Jesus do not merely refer to mentally admitting Jesus is the Christ. They refer to the kind of belief or faith that OBEYS Jesus; faith that repents of sin, confesses Jesus, and submits to scriptural baptism. Thus, someone who believes in God's existence and the fact that Jesus is the Son of God, and Lord, but DISREGARDS His commands, doesn't have saving faith. Remember, Jesus asked: "Why do you call Me Lord, Lord, and not do the things which I say?" Recall also, there were those who "believed in Him" but "did not confess Him" (Jn. 12: 42). But I hasten to say that all who do believe in Him will be baptized because that is what Jesus commands (Mk. 16: 16). Think on these things.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Hefner to speak at town hall meeting

District 5 State Rep. Cole Hefner (R-Mt. Pleasant) will hold a public town hall meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday (June 29) at the Gilmer Civic Center.

Hefner, a former Upshur County Precinct 2 commissioner, is serving his fourth term in the legislature, having first been elected in 2016. His district did not include Upshur County, however, until he was last re-elected in 2022. He also represents Camp, Rains, Titus, and Wood counties, and part of Smith County.

The Gilmer Civic Center is on U.S. 271.

## 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.

## Area fireworks shows set for July 3

Gladewater and Gilmer's annual Independence Day fireworks are set for Monday night, July 3, at Lake Gladewater and the Yamboree Event Center.

Lake Gladewater event runs from 5-9:30 p.m., with the annual patriotic boat parade set for 8 p.m.. Admission is free.

The Gilmer air show is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. with the fireworks show following at 9:15, and admission is free. The center is at the end of Bob Glaze Drive, off U.S. 271 and next to Walmart.

Food vendors will be at both events.

## 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.

## County library hosts storytime

Two books will be read to small children at both of the Upshur County Library's



**Gladewater Rotary Club President Darren Richardson (right) welcomes Texas Shakespeare Festival company members (from left) Michael Pritchard, Patron Services Apprentice; Brazie Adamez, Director of Patron Services; and Tiara Staples, Patron Services Apprentice. The TSF representative gave Rotarians an overview of the upcoming season, which kicks off June 29 and continues through July 30 in Kilgore. Learn more at TexasShakespeare.com**

Photo by Darla Ferguson

two weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday (June 29.)

To be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. gatherings are "Summer Adventure for

Groot" by Brendan Deneen, and "The Bear Who Shared" by Catherine Rayner, said a library spokeswoman.

A craft will follow each Storytime at the library, 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas 154).

The events are free to the public, but children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call the library at (903) 843-5001 or visit its website at [www.youseemore.com/upshur](http://www.youseemore.com/upshur).

## Summer Shoe drive underway

The Darla's Angels charity outreach is kicking off a Christmas in July effort this weekend – the 2023 Summertime Shoe Drive is looking for locals who are ready to step up for students.

Throughout July, four businesses in Gladewater will be collecting donations of new pairs of shoes and socks for boys and girls in a variety of sizes. The four donation locations include Citizens Bank, the Gladewater Mirror, Penny's Food &

Fuel and City National Bank. Shoes sizes range from toddler through youth and adult. Socks will be greatly appreciated, says organizer Darla Ferguson.

For more information, contact Darla the Mirror at 903-845-2235.

## TxDOT plans local work projects

TxDOT is planning to conduct construction and maintenance work in the district during this week. Work schedules are subject to change due to weather conditions, equipment failure, or other unforeseen issues.

Please slow down and pay attention in work zones.

### US 80 - Gladewater

Limits: SH 300 east to Locker Plant Road in Gladewater

Contractor: East Texas Bridge/Cost: \$12.6 million Anticipated Completion Date: November 2023

This project consists of milling and inlaying main lanes of travel, as well as striping. There will be daytime lane closures. Motorists should expect delays.

# Council has flare-up over city-owned lake house

By James Draper

Gladewater council members had a brief flare-up during their June 15, divided over whether or not to separate the city's lake house from the lake store – and whether or not it was even an issue.

The back-and-forth included a disagreement over proper procedure on the dais, and led a later discussion about renovations at the city-owned house on Lake Gladewater.

Mayor Scott Owens kicked off discussion of the agenda item, contending both structures fall under the city manager's authority, especially while a search for a new Lake Warden gets underway.

"Housing may or may not be an issue with that," he said. "They're not tied together other than they're in the same park. I don't know the necessity of separating these two. That's, to me, a moot point."

Council member Teddy Sorrells moved to separate the use of the store from the nearby house.

"I wanna hold up there and go ahead and have a discussion," Owens replied.

From Sorrells, "Mr. Mayor, I'd like to go ahead and make a point of order."

Owens: "I did not call for a motion yet."

Sorrells noted discussion should technically follow a motion.

"We've never followed strict Robert's Rules of Order anyway," Owens answered, "so I'm going to have some discussion of it."

According to councilman Rocky Hawkins, he grew up on the lake and has been living there for 40 years, including 10 years sitting on the Lake Board. During that time, he said, the store and house were a package deal – free rent as an incentive for the person managing the store and, naturally, keeping an eye on lake affairs.

"To me, that worked for 45 years," Hawkins said. Granted, "We've made some bad choices on store managers. It did not work that well. They should have been reprimanded, had their license canceled early on..."

For Hawkins, retiree Dustin Minton wasn't given a fair shake when he offered a proposal for the lake store.

"I would like to say, that part is not true. He was 100 percent heard by this council in everything," council member Brandy Flanagan countered, insisting it's not the council's job to dictate how the store is run. "When someone leases a building for a business, it's not that landlord's job to dictate how they do it. That is their busi-

ness. Our job is to say, what are we going to do with these two buildings? And then, at that point, if we decide to keep one as the lake store we allow someone who wants to have a business in that lake store to put their proposal before us and we can make decisions that way.

"We're getting way too involved in the part of trying to tell people how they can do their business out here. And so, I am 100 percent In favor of the city taking back over ownership of the house and letting that store be a store and a business for someone."

The overall discussion remained a non-issue for Owens.

"My contention there is that we have ownership of the house, we have ownership of the store," he said. "I say this is a moot point (whether) we're going to separate them or join them, either way."

There's a set precedent regarding the house and store as a unit, Sorrells said, using the house as incentive related to the store.

"My position is, Mr. Mayor, this motion removes the precedent," Sorrells said, empowering City Manager Charlie Smith to negotiate the best deal for one or both buildings. "He is the chief executive officer of our city. We are not. It's not our purview. That's the city manager's purview."

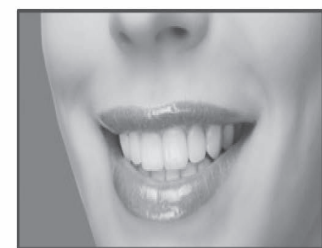
The issue has been under discussion numerous times, Mayor Pro Tem Sonny Anderson reminded the group. He agrees Minton never got a proper chance to execute his proposal, and Anderson sees no reason to change the status quo right now.

Ultimately, Sorrells motion failed 3-2 with council member Michael Weber abstaining and councilman Kevin Clark absent that evening.

In a subsequent discussion about renovating the lake house following the last tenant's sudden departure, the council members accepted Smith's recommendation to put off specific action (i.e. repairs) for, perhaps, two or three months until there's a plan in place for who will occupy the house.

There's no need invest funds and risk vandalism in the interim, Smith said.

"The last person who was in the lake house left it in deplorable condition," Owens said. "Less than deplorable



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## Lake warden discusssion

Continued from Page 1

That's why I think it's important that we go ahead and pass this motion, Mr. Mayor."

Council member Rocky Hawkins also pondered the most efficient method to move forward.

"Best I can understand, for our fire chief it's already in his job description to be over emergency management," Hawkins said. "That's already his job."

A Lake Warden will be focused on lake safety and emergency pertaining to the lake, Owens said.

The job description is whatever the city manager decides, council member Brandy Flanagan replied.

Running through various duties – lake and boating safety, monitoring the docks and lake front, addressing any emergencies that arise, monitoring the dam and taking measurements – Owens agreed those tasks do naturally fall under the fire chief's discretion.

Meanwhile, with a variety of illegal activities being reported at the lake, "We have an excellent police department," Hawkins said, suggesting increased patrols could curtail current illicit behavior. "There's a lot of stuff happening down the spillway – swimming and smoking dope and stuff. There's a lot of really young children swimming and swinging" and getting in dangerous situations.

"I really think some of that could be controlled really well with our police department."

It's important to separate the council from direct city governance, Flanagan said.

"All of that kind of stuff is under the management of our city manager," she added. "We should let Charlie do his job and do what he feels is best out there."

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## Lee-Bardwell Library to help with homeschoolers

Local learners will soon find a touch of home-school soon at Lee-Bardwell Public Library. Earlier this month, Library Director Brandy Wynn put out a call on social media asking for suggestions about what homeschool materials would be ideal to include on the library shelves. She hopes the effort will im-

prove the facility's ability to serve all students in the community, similar to the effort she puts in to provide relevant resources for public schoolers. "We want to help you out," Wynn posted in her outreach to homeschool parents. "Whether you need a place to meet to teach your children, want them to learn how to use the library (or) need to just get out of the regular routine, we want to make sure that you have the tools needed to be successful. "We also know that home school curriculum can be expensive. Please let us know what you are using/wish you could use, and we will do

our best to take up some of the slack for you." The response, Wynn said Friday, was more than she expected, not anticipating how many homeschool families live in the community. "We have a lot, more than I ever realized until I saw the response on Facebook and I had people emailing me with recommendations for some of the homeschool things that they like and want to use." A cousin homeschools six of Wynn's nieces and nephews, so she has a general idea of how expensive the effort can be for individual families. They often partner with other families and organizations for resource-

sharing. "If I can have some of that here for them, make them understand they're welcome here, I think it will go a long way to help them and help the community." Wynn recognizes some people disagree with homeschooling on principle. She supports those individuals' choice to educate their kids in public school and tailors her Summer Reading Program book list to include options provided by local public school campuses. Meanwhile, she also wants to support families who choose to homeschool their children and wants to collaborate in the same way she does with Gladewater ISD.

"A lot of our families from Gladewater go to the home-school groups in Longview," she added. Ideally, in the future they'll be able to find some of the materials they need here. "I should be ordering those books next month. I've got a list going. I'm trying to get some young adult fiction as well, but I may put that on hold until August and just go with homeschool materials this time around."



# Happy July 4th!

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- LUTHERAN**  
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- CHURCH OF GOD**  
Elevate Worship Center • 903-374-2064
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- METHODIST**  
First Methodist Church Gladewater • 903-845-2565  
McCrary's Chapel United Methodist  
New Mountain CME Church • 903-845-1175  
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**FACEBOOK - FBCGLADEWATER**  
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Morning Service 10:45

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Schedule of Services

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Sunday School 10 a.m.	Prayer and Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Morning Service 11 a.m.	903-845-6440
Evening Service 6 p.m.	

**Pastor Steven Zanjter**  
www.gbcgladewater.org

- Union Temple CME Methodist • 903-845-1050
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New Life Fellowship Church • 903-261-4227  
Gladewater Bible Church • 903-445-7234  
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- PENTECOSTAL**  
First United Pentecostal • 903-845-2922  
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Abundant Life Temple • 903-845-6043  
Southern Pentecostal Church (Starrville)
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# GPD Police Activity

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CFS#	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
6/18/23	EMS	20233451	0:03		301 W COMMERCE COMMERCE AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20233452	0:25		EDDY EDDY
	EMS	20233453	0:30		515 W GAY GAY AVE
	ASSIST	20233454	1:51		1829 W GAY GAY AVE
	SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20233456	2:50		410 PACIFIC PACIFIC W
	EMS	20233457	3:43		1207 N EDWARDS EDWARDS ST
	FIRE DEPT	20233458	4:16	MCCAULEY AND SON FUNERAL HOME	504 WILLOW WILLOW DR
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20233459	6:27		504 WILLOW WILLOW
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233460	8:23		201 MAPLE MAPLE
	ABANDONED 911	20233461	9:11		1109 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233462	9:42		1054 FAIRVIEW FAIRVIEW
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233463	10:26		401 SPENCER SPENCER ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233464	10:27		271 271
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233466	12:29		1804 MUSTANG MUSTANG
	EMS	20233469	14:19	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233470	15:03		397 W SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
	FIRE DEPT	20233471	15:54	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233472	16:24	WHITE OAK PD	103 S OLD HWY 80 OLD HWY 80
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233473	16:46		1208 N OLIVE OLIVE
	FIRE DEPT	20233474	17:22		309 W SHEPPARD SHEPPARD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233475	17:25		1120 OLIVER OLIVER ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233476	17:40		700 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20233484	20:30	DOLLAR GENERAL	2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20233485	21:37	J & J TRANSMISSION	302 US- 80 US- 80
6/19/23	ASSIST	20233487	0:40		801 S MAIN MAIN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233488	2:35		801 WOOD WOOD ST
	10-50 MINOR	20233489	4:07	BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20233490	7:46		2205 W HAMPTON HAMPTON
	ASSIST	20233491	10:41		111 JEANETTE JEANETTE AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20233492	13:02	SMART MART	227 S MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20233493	13:08	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ALARM/OTHER	20233494	13:21		111 N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20233495	14:59		602 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20233496	15:14	GOODWILL INDUSTRIES	1640 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233497	17:12		512 N LIVE OAK LIVE OAK ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233498	18:27	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233500	18:29		1901 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233501	18:37		809 NORTH NORTH ST
	CRIM MIS	20233502	18:44		902 MARY MARY ST
	EMS	20233503	19:17		2281 W GORGE RICHEY GORGE RICHEY RD
	ABANDONED 911	20233504	20:56		6 JULIA WOOD JULIA WOOD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233505	22:30	WASH TUB LAUNDRY MAT	201 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
6/20/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20233506	7:31		GAY GAY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233507	9:27		2817 BERNICE BERNICE ST
	EMS	20233508	9:30	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ABANDONED 911	20233509	10:29		103 W COMMERCE COMMERCE AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20233510	13:01	ECONOMY INN	701 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20233511	13:09		801 BRIARCOVE BRIARCOVE
	ASSIST	20233512	14:54		305 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ABANDONED 911	20233514	15:43		137 VILLAGE NORTH CIR VILLAGE NORTH CIR
	ASSIST	20233515	17:00		603 N TENERY TENERY
	10-50 MINOR	20233517	17:51	FAMILY DOLLAR	801 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233518	18:58		507 W MARSHALL MARSHALL
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233519	19:47	HOLLY DENTAL	1050 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20233520	20:02		584 FM 2207 FM 2207
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20233522	21:02		1507 N ALICE ALICE ST
	EMS	20233523	21:22		10790 UNION GROVE UNION GROVE RD
	ABANDONED 911	20233524	23:03	3D PLASTICS QUANTUM PLASTICS	1095 E COMMERCE COMMERCE ST

# High-speed chase lands man in jail

By Phillip Williams

A Longview man faces multiple charges after leading an Upshur County sheriff's deputy on a chase last week in which the man's auto struck five telephone poles and a Big Sandy fire plug, said sheriff's Chief Deputy David Hazel.

Ethon Marquist Polty, 18, was treated for minor injuries and released from a Tyler hospital after the late-night June 19 incident, said Hazel. The suspect was released from county jail in Gilmer on bonds totaling \$90,000 the next day, said James Grunden, the jail's chief deputy.

Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Lyle Potter set bonds of \$75,000 on a felony charge of evading police in a vehicle, \$10,000 bond on a misdemeanor charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon

and \$5,000 on a misdemeanor charge of possession of marijuana, officers said.

Hazel gave these details of the chase in a news release:

About 11 p.m., "an Upshur County patrol deputy located a blue Dodge Charger that had been involved in an earlier pursuit out of Pittsburg" into Gilmer.

The auto was southbound on south Highway 155 "at a high rate of speed near Gilmer" when Sheriff's Deputy Matt Sartor spotted it, and pursued it into Big Sandy. There, "the suspect lost control of the vehicle" at the intersection of 155 and U.S. 80, and it crashed into the poles and fire plug "before coming to rest."

**Our mission at GEDCO is to come alongside the citizens and businesses in Gladewater and help create the most desirable location for living and doing business in East Texas.**

**WE CAN:**

- Connect businesses with the right information, resources and programs
- Facilitate dialogue with appropriate entities to address business issues
- Act as a liaison, advocate and point of contact for Gladewater business issues
- Provide information regarding workforce training as well as local and state incentive programs
- Maintain a consistent and reliable channel of communication between Gladewater businesses, GEDCO and other community business partners

Michelle Palmer  
gedco@cityofgladewater.com  
903 932 8550

Gladewater Economic Development Corporation's introductory postcard featuring Executive Director Michelle Palmer aims to put a face with a name and context with the organization's mission.

# GEDCO makes connections

## PRESS RELEASE

As Gladewater Economic Development Corporation's staff and volunteers work to enhance the local economy, the second of six key goals is business retention and expansion.

It's part of building relationships with Gladewater businesses, says GEDCO Executive Director Michelle Palmer.

"Our strategy on this begins with meeting businesses and leaving an introductory postcard," she added.

That first contact is just a simple, initial outreach, familiarizing the business (whether new or long-operating) with GEDCO and the role it hopes to play alongside the company, expanding Gladewater's profile in East Texas and beyond to draw more commerce to the community.

"It shows what we can do as an organization," Palmer said. "It gives context to who we are."

In six key bullet points, the postcard notes what GEDCO hopes to accomplish for local companies (see inset).

"On the back of it, there are applications that you can utilize," Palmer said, "that we can connect you with."

GEDCO is in the midst of a re-branding effort, an ongoing process since the new exec came on board in 2022.

"Our goal in that rebrand is to put a face forward that says we are here to help everybody in some capacity. This postcard is just a connection point to help."

Seeing Palmer out and about in the community, whether at city functions or public events, helps businesses connect

### AT GEDCO, WE CAN:

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the dots with GEDCO's activities. Over time, it's easy to see the support role the corporation and its director play in the local economy.

"Making personal connections with all the businesses in Gladewater takes a lot of time. This is a process that will never end," Palmer said. "When we meet with businesses, a question that we invariably ask is, 'What are your hurdles to success?' When meeting somebody in person and having a sitdown conversation, face to face, that space enables them to be able to open up, talk about their business and give information that they may have just had on their mind and never actually verbalized before."

"That information then enables us to find ways to connect them with pathways to overcome those hurdles."

To connect with Palmer through GEDCO, call 903-983-8550 or email gedco@cityofgladewater.com

# GPD Police Activity

6/21/23	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20233525	3:34		12 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	ASSIST	20233526	7:25		2105 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
	ASSIST	20233527	9:45	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ASSIST	20233528	10:05	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ASSIST	20233529	10:24		N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20233531	12:09	CHRISTUS TRINITY CLINIC	1600 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20233532	14:19		602 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20233533	15:54		1820 S TYLER TYLER
	CRIM MIS	20233534	16:56	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	ASSIST	20233535	17:38	CEFCO 79	1109 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233536	17:58	EZ MART	400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20233538	19:41		947 HICKORY HICKORY
	BURGLARY/HABITATION	20233539	19:58		207 N FERRY FERRY ST
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20233540	21:08		705 CANFIELD CANFIELD
	ASSIST	20233541	22:25		216 OAK OAK
	EMS	20233542	23:55		210 HURLEY HURLEY
6/22/23	EMS	20233543	5:02		1207 CANNON CANNON
	ASSIST	20233544	7:08		1820 S TYLER TYLER ST
	ASSIST	20233545	7:09	DONUT BOX	607 N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20233546	8:45		593 BRIARWOOD BRIARWOOD
	ASSIST	20233547	9:11		305 COOPER COOPER
	ASSIST	20233548	9:07		1109 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	THEFT	20233549	12:02	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20233551	14:07	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	ABANDONED 911	20233552	14:24		801 WOOD WOOD ST
	ABANDONED 911	20233553	14:56		1107 VESTA VESTA AVE
	EMS	20233555	15:21		758 FM 1844 FM 1844
	10-50 MAJOR	20233556	15:27		80 80
	THEFT	20233557	15:52		805 N GARY GARY ST
	FIRE DEPT	20233558	17:09		947 HICKORY HICKORY RD
	BURGLARY/BUILDING	20233559	18:09		512 JEANETTE JEANETTE AVE
	CRIM MIS	20233561	20:53		1028 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233562	21:09		1829 GAY GAY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20233564	23:17		1107 N OLIVE OLIVE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20233565	23:24		NORTH NORTH ST
6/23/23	ABANDONED 911	20233566	2:33		810 E PACIFIC PACIFIC
	ALARM/OTHER	20233567	3:45		501 N AMES AMES
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20233568	7:59	HOMETOWN AUTOMOTIVE	606 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	CRIM MIS	20233569	8:03		1641 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20233570	8:26	CROLEY FUNERAL HOME	401 N CENTER CENTER ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20233571	9:53	GLADEWATER CITY HALL	519 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20233572	10:13		1401 N POINT PLEASANT N POINT PLEASANT
	ALARM/OTHER	20233573	11:50	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	ASSIST	20233574	12:29		216 OAK OAK
	EMS	20233575	13:18	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20233576	14:09		GORGE RICHY GORGE RICHY
	SEXUAL ASSAULT	20233577	14:18	GOOD SHEPHERD MEDICAL CENTER	700 E MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233578	14:46		703 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233579	15:26		131 N LEE LEE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233580	16:06		801 CANFIELD CANFIELD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233581	16:14		WILLOW OAK WILLOW OAK
	ABANDONED 911	20233582	16:28		515 MELBA MELBA ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233583	18:20		2600 HENDRICK HENDRICK ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233584	19:34		1201 SANDERS SANDERS ST
	EMS	20233585	19:40		300 MAPLE MAPLE AVE
	ALARM/HUMAN ERROR	20233586	19:56		1616 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR
	EMS	20233587	21:18		208 PINE WOOD PINE WOOD ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233588	22:03		321 E EDDY EDDY
	EMS	20233589	23:00		528 NORTH NORTH
	ABANDONED 911	20233590	23:39		593 BRIARWOOD BRIARWOOD ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20233591	23:50		HWY 271 HWY 271
6/24/23	EMS	20233592	0:51		1000 FOREST HILL FOREST HILL ST
	EMS	20233593	1:18		301 W COMMERCE COMMERCE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20233594	3:49	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	ASSIST	20233595	7:58		3031 GEORGE RICHEY GEORGE RICHEY
	ASSIST	20233596	8:19		HWY 271 TO TYLER HWY 271 TO TYLER
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233597	9:21		606 MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	EMS	20233598	9:22		508 N LIVE OAK LIVE OAK ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233599	11:25		2186 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ESCORT	20233600	11:27	CROLEY FUNERAL HOME	401 N CENTER CENTER ST
	ASSIST	20233602	12:12		411 W GAY GAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233603	12:29	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233604	12:47		2312 W GAY GAY AVE
	10-50 MINOR	20233605	12:53		AIRPORT AIRPORT
	ABANDONED 911	20233606	13:29		1113 N SHELL SHELL ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20233608	13:58		1005 WALNUT WALNUT ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20233609	14:06		519 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20233610	14:10	CVS PHARMACY	1402 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20233611	14:36		601 N GARY GARY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233612	14:53		711 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20233613	15:41	WINCO MACHINE	1011 E COMMERCE COMMERCE
	THEFT	20233614	16:48		38 JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20233615	17:		

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- ACROSS**
- 1 chewy movie candy
  - 5 TXism: "get your ducks in \_\_\_"
  - 6 Austin has "Art-O-\_\_\_" annually
  - 7 Palestine AM radio
  - 8 TX Willie's is 90
  - 9 chicken fried steak & Bar-B-Q in Texas
  - 16 Rockport is "where the fun never \_\_\_"
  - 18 TXism for "mean man" (2 wds.)
  - 21 TX Kenny Rogers' "Love or Something Like \_\_\_" (1978)
  - 22 TX Buck Owens' "I've \_\_\_ Tiger By the Tail" (1964)
  - 23 a player for the Spurs or Cowboys
  - 24 "\_\_\_ Brothers Band" recorded "Down in Texas '71"
  - 30 directed by TX King Vidor: "\_\_\_ Passage" (1940)
  - 34 TXism: "news wrangler" (abbr.)
  - 35 select
  - 36 TXism for "old man"
  - 37 rub out writing
  - 39 TXism: "lit out for \_\_\_" (departed)
  - 43 TX Tanya's 1st hit: "\_\_\_ Dawn"
  - 44 U.S. Army post in San Antonio: "\_\_\_ Houston"
  - 45 Houston's Olajuwon initials, before "Hakeem"

- 46 Pecos AM radio
- 47 this Cesar made Astros 40-man roster in 2023
- 49 TXism: "\_\_\_ a skunk" (intoxicated)
- 52 seeing organ
- 53 TXism: "brains \_\_\_ box" (computer)
- 54 TXism: "dot \_\_\_ and cross the t's"
- 55 opposite of "anode"
- 58 Jewish snack food
- 59 Texas-based TGI Fridays has restaurants in \_\_\_ wan
- 60 TXism: "the tail \_\_\_ (last)"
- 61 oil "weights" standard

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
 by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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See Answers On This Page

## Couple voices concern over loss of lake view

By James Draper

The shore of Lake Gladewater is feeling a bit crowded for a couple on East Lake Drive, and they visited the Gladewater City Council this month to lament the loss of what was once a great view.

Dallas residents Curtis and Keta Woods have long maintained a home on the lake. Both took turns at the podium during the 'Citizens Comments' portion of the council's June 15 meeting, decrying the increasing size and heights of boathouses there.

Among a variety of new structures being developed at the lake, Curtis Woods said, the boathouses are a particular problem.

"These things are getting enormous," he said, estimating them in excess of 40-foot wide with 12-foot walls and an even higher roofline. "If you get two or three in a row, you're blocking the view of the lake, and that's the purpose of the lake lots: to see the lake, not a big house on the water.

"I wish y'all would look at that and take into consideration the people who are on the water. It's basically that now you're living in an interior lot and looking at the back of somebody's house."

Keta Woods echoed her husband's comments and added her concerns about increasing property values assessed by Upshur County.

Lots adjacent to her lake house, she said, have been priced at \$130,000.

"There is not a lot on Lake Gladewater, personally, that is worth that," Keta Woods added. There's no curb-and-gutter or other amenities one sees at similar locations, like Lake Palestine, that justify the value. "My main concern is not only these boat houses ... you are destroying that value. These boat houses are huge that are out there."

391-S

**Last Puzzle**  
 Solution

# SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

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# Service seeks public comment on conservation plan for Little Sandy National Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is seeking public comment on a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for Little Sandy National Wildlife Refuge located 80 miles east of Dallas in Wood County. The CCP would guide management on the 3,802 acre refuge for 15 years.

The proposed actions outlined in the CCP strive to meet the purpose of the refuge, which was established under a permanent, non-development conservation easement to preserve habitat for migratory waterfowl and perpetuate forest succession on one of the largest and last remaining old-growth bottomland hardwood forests in Texas.

Under the CCP, the Service would work with the conservation community to complete a Landscape Conservation Design and Land Protection Plan. A land protection planning process would provide opportunities for the Service to acquire surrounding properties that promote strategic habitat

## Crape Myrtle Festival, Fireworks & Parade in Waxahachie slated

The Crape Myrtle Capital of Texas will be in full-bloom and ready to celebrate Independence Day with the 25th Annual Crape Myrtle Festival, Concert Fireworks & Parade.

The patriotic celebration will begin on Monday, July 3, at 6 p.m. at the Waxahachie Sports Complex located at 151 Broadhead Rd. Madness Entertainment will entertain the crowd before the concert.

This year, guests will enjoy a concert by Seger System at 7:30 p.m. Following the concert will be the spectacular H-E-B and City of Waxahachie fireworks display at 9:15 p.m.

Spectators are encouraged to tune their radio to KBEC 1390/99.1 during the fireworks show for a special simulcast of patriotic music choreographed to the fireworks. Lawn chairs, blankets and coolers are allowed at the Waxahachie Sports Complex; however, personal fireworks are prohibited.

On Tuesday, July 4, the celebration will continue at 10 a.m. with the CNB of Texas hometown parade from Getzenderan Park down Main Street to Downtown Waxahachie.

All Veterans and active service personnel, including veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan War on Terror, are honored guests in the parade. Before the parade, veterans plus one guest are invited to the Dan McClinton Veterans' Memorial Breakfast, sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Waxahachie beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The Crape Myrtle Festival & Parade are FREE to the public. Other sponsors include InterBank; Carlisle Chevrolet, Buick, GMC; Baylor Scott & White Medical Center - Waxahachie.

For more information on the festival, or to register a Veteran for the parade and breakfast, call the Waxahachie Convention & Visitors Bureau at 469-309-4040 or visit [www.VisitWaxahachie.com](http://www.VisitWaxahachie.com).

## Think safety this July 4th

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Texas Highway Patrol (THP) will be initiating two traffic safety campaigns during the holiday weekend looking for people violating traffic laws over the the July 4th holiday period.

“Our nation’s freedom is something worth celebrating, and I encourage everyone to do it in a responsible way,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw. “This includes being mindful of our state’s traffic laws and being courteous of other drivers on the roads, so everyone can have a good holiday.”

Operation Holiday will target drivers who violate traffic laws, including those speeding, not wearing their seat belts or driving while intoxicated.

During the 2021 campaign, there were 55,776 citations and warnings issued. This includes 17,376 citations and warnings for speeding; 2,006 for people driving without seat belts or child safety seats; and 1,632 for people driving without insurance. In addition, there were 298 people arrested for driving while intoxicated, 280 felony arrests and 145 fugitive arrests.

Operation CARE (Crash Awareness Reduction Effort) focuses on reducing crashes and violations of the state’s Move Over, Slow Down law.

From Jan. 1 through June 7, 2022, there were 4,135 Move Over, Slow Down violations. The law requires all drivers to slow down when police, fire, EMS, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) vehicles and tow trucks are stopped on the side of the road with their emergency lights activated.

DPS offers the following safety tips for people driving during the Fourth of July holiday:

- Don’t drink and drive. Make alternate plans if you are consuming alcohol.

- Move Over or Slow Down for police, fire, EMS, TxDOT vehicles and tow trucks stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated.

- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle — it’s the law.

Slow down, especially in bad weather, heavy traffic, unfamiliar areas or construction zones.

- Eliminate distractions while driving, including the use of mobile devices. Texas law prohibits the use of portable wireless devices to read, write or send an electronic message unless the vehicle is stopped. If you’re using a navigation device or app, have a passenger operate it so you can keep your eyes on the road.

- Drive defensively, as holiday travel can present additional challenges.

- On multi-lane roads, use the left lane for passing only. Not only is it courteous driving and avoids impeding traffic, Texas law requires slower traffic to keep to the right and to use the left lane for passing only (when posted).

- Don’t cut in front of large trucks, and try not to brake quickly in front of them. They can’t maneuver as easily as passenger vehicles and pickup trucks.

- If you can Steer It, Clear It: If you are involved in a non-injury crash and your vehicle can be moved, clear the traffic lanes to minimize traffic impact. Leaving vehicles in a traffic lane increases traffic congestion and leaves those involved with an increased risk of harm or a secondary wreck. On some highways, if you don’t move your vehicle when it’s safe to do so, it’s against the law.

- Keep the Texas Roadside Assistance number stored in your phone. Dial 1-800-525-5555 for any type of assistance. The number can also be found on the back of a Texas Driver License.

- Check your vehicle to make sure it is properly maintained and always ensure your cargo is secure.

conservation.

Other proposed issues and actions include conducting complete plant and wildlife inventories, implementing adaptive strategies to monitor refuge resources, developing a fire management plan for prescribed burning, establishing a baseline dataset for water bodies on the refuge, and implementing invasive species detection, treatment, and monitoring.

Little Sandy NWR is situated within the flood plain and overflow bottoms of the Sabine River. The most important aspect of the refuge is its old-growth bottomland forest ecosystem that has not seen timber harvesting in over 100 years.

Bottomland hardwood forests are some of the most endangered and productive wetland ecosystems in the southeastern U.S. Over 90 percent of these forests in Texas have been converted to other uses, eliminating a tremendous amount of wildlife habitat in the eastern portion of the state.

The diverse pineywood and bottomland hardwood forest communities of Little Sandy NWR provide outstanding habitat for an abundance of wildlife, including waterfowl and other migratory birds moving between tropical wintering and U.S. nesting areas. Approximately 80 percent of breeding birds that frequent the refuge are dependent on the bottomland hardwoods for nesting.

Little Sandy NWR is one of 21 National Wildlife Refuges managed by the Service in Texas. Each refuge was established to serve a statutory purpose that targets the conservation of native species dependent on its lands and water, and all activities are reviewed for compatibility with this statutory purpose.

The Service strives to provide priority public uses on refuge lands when they are compatible; however, Little Sandy NWR remains in private ownership and is closed to the public in accordance with the conservation easement.

To view the CCP and Environmental Assessment (EA), visit our website here: <https://fws.gov/media/little-sandy-nwr-draft-comprehensive-conservation-plan>.

Comments may be submitted through July 27 by one of the following methods:

Electronically: email [R2\\_plancomments@fws.gov](mailto:R2_plancomments@fws.gov)

By hard copy: Submit by U.S. mail to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Attn: David Certain, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103.



## Fireworks frighten animals

Fireworks can be a source of fear for many animals but it doesn't have to be that way. Don't ignore the problem – follow our top tips to make fireworks celebrations less frightening for your pets.

### Keeping pets secure

Give your cat or dog somewhere to hide that they have access to at all times, e.g. under furniture or in a quiet corner.

Walk dogs during daylight hours. Keep dogs and cats indoors when fireworks are likely to be set off.

At nightfall close windows and curtains. Put on music to mask the sound of fireworks.

Make sure your pet can't escape if there's a sudden noise. Have them microchipped just in case.

Never punish your pets when they are scared as this will only make things worse in the long run.

It's fine to comfort your pet if it helps them relax, or leave them alone unless you think they will harm themselves.

#### Just for dogs

Close any windows and black out a 'doggy play area' so that your dog can't see the flashing lights.

Before fireworks begin, move your dog to the doggy play area with all their favourite toys.

#### Don't forget small animals

Ignore the fireworks yourself. Play with a toy to see if your dog wants to join in, but don't force them.

Ask your vet for advice about pheromone diffusers and being referred to a clinical animal behaviourist for help.

#### Just for cats

Make sure your cat has somewhere to hide if they want to. For example under some furniture, in a cardboard box or in a quiet corner. Don't try to tempt your cat out as this will cause them to become more stressed.

#### Remember your horses, ponies and donkeys

If your pets live outside, partly cover cages, pens and aviaries with blankets so that one area is well sound-proofed. Make sure that your pets are still able to look out. Provide lots of extra bedding so your pets have something to burrow in.

Check for any firework displays planned locally and, where possible, ask organisers to site fireworks well away from your horse – aimed in the opposite direction. It's sensible to keep your horse in a familiar environment, following their normal routine with their usual companions. If your horse is staying in their field, check the fencing is secure and there are no dangerous objects they could collide with if startled. If stabled, ensure hay nets are secure so your horse can't get caught up. You should stay with your horse if you know fireworks are going to be set off, but do be aware of your own safety – a startled horse can be dangerous.



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## Council approves GEDCO amended contract

Gladewater Economic Development Corporation is hard at work on a new prospect, still very much under wraps as Executive Director Michelle Palmer and other stakeholders work with the as-yet unidentified company.

'Project 227' was a closed session discussion topic at GEDCO's June 7 board meeting and appeared on Gladewater City Council members' agenda two weeks later.

Council member's entered 'Executive Session' at the end of their June 15 meeting, citing standard legal exceptions to the Texas Open Meetings Act including 551.072, deliberation regarding purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and 551.087, deliberation regarding economic development negotiations.

Returning to the council chambers after their brief closed door discussion that Thursday, the elected officials gave a unanimous green light

for GEDCO to move forward with negotiations on the project.

To date, all the parties involved have been understandably tight-loved about the private talks, enabling the economic development to move forward behind the scenes until public disclosure is warranted. Following the Gladewater Mirror for updates when they manifest.

In other GEDCO-related business June 15, the council gave their unanimous sign-off on a second amendment to the economic development corporation's ongoing Performance Agreement with PMM Products (Premix Marbletite on Commerce Street).

There was a small misinterpretation of classifying the company's expenses under the agreement, Palmer told council members; that said, while the company had an 8 percent deficit in one category, it exceeded anticipated expenditures by

seven times that amount in another.

"I recommended that we just kind of switch the amounts," Palmer noted, an easy compromise for both PMM and the GEDCO board. "We knew that they were going to have a phased project... They're going to more than make up for what they missed on the first round."

Mayor Scott Owens praised the company's early activity on-site and in other parts of Gladewater.

"Long-term, they look like great community citizens," he said.

With employees trained, production underway and more developments on the horizon, that's their aim, Palmer said.

"They came in and said they wanted to be really strong community partners, and they have already consistently shown that in multiple events and ways they've been supportive in the community."

Among a variety of other topics discussed June 15, on the council's Consent Agenda – items typically considered and voted on with no discussion – the group unanimously approved the minutes of their meetings on May 18 and June 1 along with an interlocal agreement for the East Texas Council of Governments to continue providing 9-1-1 service through Aug. 31, 2025.

The council members also approved the appointment of Michelle Price to fill a vacant alternate board position on the city's Planning & Zoning commission. Price is the daughter of Ann Clay, who recently resigned from the commission.

In another agenda item, Scott E. Palmer of PineWay Farm was successful in his request to lease ground space near Gladewater Municipal Airport. Palmer told council members he aims to continue last year's Farmers Market and needs the leased ground as an additional access point to his property for upcoming activities.

"That did pretty well last year – we're looking to expand it," Palmer said. "In the process, we're looking at how to situate it. We'd like to come in and have some parking for people coming through. Right now, we're only open Fridays and Saturdays this year, so y'all come out."

The city will treat the ground space lease as it does private hangars at the airport.

## Alcohol permits pass on split vote

A pair of alcohol-related public hearings drew support from Gladewater council members earlier this month, but there weren't unanimous 'Cheers' from the elected officials.

The first hearing June 15 was a quick one for AJ's Fast Stop at 1708 N. Main. The off-premises beer-and-wine permit for such locations is not transferable, city inspector Al Harrison noted; as the business has sold to a new owner, it required a new specific use permit for ongoing alcohol retail sales.

With no comments on the prospect from either the council or the public, the six council members in attendance (out of seven) unanimously-approved councilman Rocky Hawkins' motion to grant the permit.

The second public hearing focused on Vice City in Suite 101 at 807 S. Tyler St. which currently sells vaping and smoking materials, accessories and other merchandise.

Owner Jeremy Montana's aim is to add daiquiris and similar options for customers. The neighboring Penny's Food & Fuel No. 13 has beer-and-wine sales.

"He named the store Vice City so he could introduce all vices to people that are legal," Harrison told council members.

According to Montana, "When we first started we were just going to do liquor, but the process is so long we just to do all of it," he said. The business is willing to put up a partition inside if it's necessary to shut down for Sundays. "We have a lot of customers really ready for the daiquiris to come in.

The permit request was approved by members of the city's Planning & Zoning Board, Harrison added.

There was no further public comment on the issue. Councilwoman Brandy Flanagan expressed her opposition to the measure prior to the council's vote.

"I personally am not going to vote for this," she said. "I don't have a problem with restaurants and for our gas stations to carry (alcohol), but I'm not for us having it all throughout the city."

Hawkins' motion, seconded by council member Michael Weber, passed 4-2 with Hawkins, Weber, Mayor Scott Owens and Mayor Pro Tem Sonny Anderson voting in favor while Flanagan and council member Teddy Sorrells opposed the motion.

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# Storm Round-Up ...

**Continued from Page 1**  
to restore power for East Texans.

"In my opinion, they're just as much a first responder as our firefighters," Simmons said, pointing to the family's GoFundMe page (available at [tinyurl.com/coryfoster](https://www.tinyurl.com/coryfoster)) for those wishing to make a donation.

From numbers provided by SWEPCO, as of 7:16 a.m. Friday, June 16, there were 238,000 customers in the utility's service area without power. That included 88,000 in Texas and 5,554 in and around Gladewater. Upshur Rural Electric Co-op reported similar catastrophic outages after winds topped 80 miles an hour in some areas.

SWEPCO's number fell to roughly 3,000 outages as of Wednesday, June 21, then 180 (including 51 in Clarksville City) by late afternoon Friday, June 23.

As of June 26, there were just three known outages in Gladewater that were still being addressed by SWEPCO, Simmons said, following a vast, multi-state response of 3,000-plus linemen.

"They had crews come in to work in our area from Indiana, Michigan, West Virginia, Ohio, all across Texas, and Kentucky."

As for how many trees were felled or damaged by the wind in the city limits, it's still too early to tell.

"I don't have any way to count that yet," Simmons said. "There's a lot of trees and debris down, and the city's waiting on a plan to dispose of it appropriately."

That includes essential coordination with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

"There's such large trees and stuff, we're going to have to burn the debris to

clean it up effectively," he added. "In order for us to get the burn permits we need from TCEQ, we need to be under a disaster declaration," beyond county and state measures.

The City of Gladewater will continue picking up curbside tree debris through Friday, June 30, for residents inside the city limits. Meanwhile, Assessment personnel are collecting what data they can, and citizens are encouraged to visit the Individual State of Texas Assessment Tool (iSTAT) to contribute voluntary damage surveys.

Per the iSTAT portal, "The objective of this survey is to help state and local emergency management officials across Texas identify and gain an understanding of damages that have occurred during recent natural disaster activity."

Find the online assessment via [tinyurl.com/istatonline](https://www.tinyurl.com/istatonline).

"Be sure to report your damage to this site," Simmons said. "That's all going in to help us in determining the declaration."

It was a storm and recovery unlike any in recent memory for Simmons. For one thing, most of the worst damage was contained to powerlines and trees. "There wasn't a lot of rain so we didn't get a huge flooding event."

It's also not the kind of situation that would draw a surge of outside contributions, he added.

"We didn't have much come in as far as donations go, and we didn't really have a need either. We did receive two pallets of water and a pallet of MREs from the state distribution center in Upshur County."

It was, however, a situation that saw a lot of people

stepping up to help others in other ways.

At city hall, officials announced there would be no water service disconnects in the aftermath of the storm and no disconnect fees would be levied. Water bills will be due in full on July 10.

Meanwhile, Lee-Bardwell Public Library opened its doors as much as possible for locals to escape the heat – and boredom, too.

"They got power back on, opened up and helped provide a cool place for people to come in a heat wave," Simmons said.

According to library director Brandy Winn, once the library was able to get power back June 17, 41 people found respite there. Another 35 followed on the 18th (before power failed again) then 87 turned out for a complimentary lunch June 19. The last busy day saw 66 visit June 20 to cool off with a water slide provided by the facility.

"There is that need to make sure that people are, basically, being taken care of," Winn said. "That's all I could think of, was that it was so hot, and I know there are a lot of people who are low-income. They can't leave. They can't go to somebody else's house. They can't go to a hotel or anything. They just can't. Why not open (the library) and let people come in and cool themselves off?"

Total recovery won't be complete for some time, but Simmons emphasized the number of public servants, utility workers and volunteers who are still pitching in.

"Police, fire, public works, city hall and even citizens all came together to help each other."



More than 40 volunteers from East Texas Food Bank turned out to help 674 Gladewater households June 20 in the midst of area-wide power outages. When storm winds raged through the area, felling trees and wrecking transmission lines, they left more than 100,000 East Texans without power and with refrigerators full of spoiling food. East Texas Food Bank staged a series of emergency food distributions across the area, including a Thursday morning operation at the Gladewater Rodeo Area. "We know there's a lot of need here in this community after the power outages that happened," Rebecca Berkley said in an on-site livestream last week. According to the food bank's director of communications and marketing, "A lot of severe weather has caused a lot of problems throughout East Texas, and this is the first of several (mobile pantries) we're going to be hosting this week. "Today people are going to be receiving a lot of different vegetables. We have onions, potatoes, watermelons, blueberries and also are going to be giving out emergency food boxes that have a lot of shelf stable foods in it." Photo by James Draper



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### NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2012, a certain Deed of Trust was executed by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for New Day Financial, LLC, as Trustor(s), in favor of Lawanda G. Wilks, as Trustee, and Scott R. Valby as Beneficiary, and was recorded on December 18, 2012, in Instrument Number 201222873 in the Office of the Recorder of Gregg County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Deed of Trust was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the Secretary) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and WHEREAS, the Deed of Trust is now owned by the Secretary, pursuant to an assignment dated August 17, 2016, and recorded on August 23, 2016, under 201613479, in the Official Public Records of Gregg County, Texas; and WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Deed of Trust in that payments were not made and remains wholly unpaid as of the date of this notice, and no payment has been made sufficient to restore the loan to currency; and

WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of **July 1, 2023** is **\$200,005.26**; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of this default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Deed of Trust to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR Part 27 subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, recorded on **May 27, 2021**, under **Document Number 202109516** notice is hereby given that, on **August 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. local time**, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("11Property"), will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder(s):  
SEE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A"

Commonly known as: 1108 Dennis Dr Longview, TX 75605

Permanent Parcel Number: 63108

The sale will be in the Front Door-Patio area as designated by the county commissioner's office 10 I E. Methvin, Longview, Texas 75601. The United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will bid an amount to be determined. There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser(s) will pay, at or before closing, his (their) pro-rata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale.

When making their bids, all bidders, except the Secretary, must submit a deposit totaling 10% of the purchase price in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Each oral bid need not be accompanied by a deposit. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of 10% of the purchase price must be presented before the bidding is closed. The deposit is nonrefundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the high bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder(s) will pay all conveyancing fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the date of closing and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidder(s) will be returned to them.

The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15 day increments for a fee paid in advance. The extension fee shall be paid in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). If the high bidder(s) close(s) the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due at closing.

If the high bidder(s) is/are unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidders' deposit may be forfeited, or the high bidder may be liable to the Secretary for any costs incurred as a result of such failure, and the Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD Field Office Representative, offer the Property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale, or all amounts due under the Deed of Trust agreement are tendered to the Foreclosure Commissioner, in the form of a certified or cashier's check payable to the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development HUD, before public auction of the property is completed.

In the case of a foreclosure involving a monetary default, the amount that must be paid if the Deed of Trust is to be reinstated prior to the scheduled sale is the entire amount of principal and interest which would be due if payments under the Deed of Trust had not been accelerated. In the case of a foreclosure involving a non-monetary default, the amount that must be paid if the Deed of Trust is to be reinstated prior to the scheduled sale is (i) all amounts due under the Deed of Trust agreement (excluding additional amounts which would have been due if Deed of Trust payments had been accelerated); (ii) all amounts of expenditures secured by the Deed of Trust; and (iii) all costs of foreclosure incurred for which payment from the proceeds of foreclosure is provided in 12 U.S.C. 3751, including advertising costs and postage expenses incurred in giving notice, mileage by the most reasonable road distance for posting notices and for the Foreclosure Commissioner's attendance at the sale, reasonable and customary costs incurred for title and lien record searches, the necessary out of pocket costs incurred by the Foreclosure Commissioner for recording documents, a commission for the Foreclosure Commissioner, and all other costs incurred in connection with the foreclosure prior to reinstatement.

Tender of payment by certified or cashier's check or application for cancellation of the foreclosure sale shall be submitted to the address of the Foreclosure Commissioner provided below.

Date: 6/08/2023

#### FORECLOSURE COMMISSIONER

Candace Sissac, Esq.

JAMES E. ALBERTELLI, P.A.

2201 W. Royal Lane, Suite 200

Irving, TX 75063

Phone: 469-804-8457 Fax: 469-804-8462

csissac@lalaw.net

#### ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A" LEGAL DESCRIPTION

ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT, TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND BEING LOT ELEVEN (11), BLOCK NINE HUNDRED NINETY (990), OF THE RICHMOND TERRACE UNIT NO. ONE (1), LOCATED IN THE ALEX JORDAN SURVEY, A-262, CITY OF LONGVIEW, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS. PLAT OF SAID ADDITION OR RECORD IN VOLUME 728, PAGE 385, DEED RECORDS, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS.

No. 2023-0019-E  
IN THE ESTATE OF § IN COUNTY COURT AT LAW  
§  
J. PRENTIS MCGEE, § NO. 2  
§  
DECEASED § GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of J. Prentis McGee, Deceased, were issued on June 6, 2023 in Cause No. 2023-0019-E, pending in the County Court at Law No. 2 of Gregg County, Texas, to David Prentis McGee and John Mark McGee.

The residences of the Independent Co-Executors are in Gilmer, Texas; the post office address is:

c/o: Griffith Law Firm, P.C.

Attorneys at Law

404 Titus Street

P.O. Box 864

Gilmer, Texas 75644

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 21st day of June, 2023.

GRIFFITH LAW FIRM, P.C.

404 Titus Street

P.O. Box 864

Gilmer, Texas 75644

Tel: (903) 843-5005

Fax: (903) 843-5392

Email: davidg@griffithlawfirm.com

By: David B Griffith

State Bar No. 08479800

Attorney for

Independent Co-Executors

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code that Manjeet Ghuman dba Gladewater Liquor has filed application for Package Store Permit. Said business to be conducted at 1703 N Main St, Gladewater (Gregg County), TX 75647 Manjeet Ghuman dba Gladewater Liquor Manjeet Ghuman - Individual.



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# Upshur commissioners extend declaration of local disaster

By Phillip Williams

Meeting in a rare emergency session, Upshur County Commissioners Court last Thursday approved extending County Judge Todd Tefteller's declaration of a local disaster resulting from the June 15-16 storm.

In extending the declaration, which activated the county's emergency plan, the court cited "widespread and severe damage and injury to property, infrastructure, county roads and rights of way, and bodily injury and harm suffered by numerous of our residents."

By law, Tefteller's June 16 declaration couldn't run longer than seven days without the court's approval. Commissioners extended it until their next regular meeting, set at 10

a.m. this Friday, when they are scheduled to consider extending it again.

The declaration lets county departments "provide any such mutual assistance to local government entities" affected by the storm, upon those entities' request.

Two of the court's five members - Precinct 1 Commissioner Gene Dolle and Precinct 2 Commissioner Dustin Nicholson - participated in Thursday's meeting by telephone. The other three - Tefteller, Precinct 4 Commissioner Jay W. Miller, and Precinct 3 Commissioner Michael Ashley attended in person.

On Friday, the court is scheduled to hear County Road Administrator Andy Jordan "concerning the storm cleanup and the cur-

rent progress," the meeting agenda says. It adds that commissioners may "take necessary action" related to that matter.

At last Thursday's meeting, Ashley noted a power outage at a county facility in Gilmer, saying that "We're trying to get the (Upshur County) Library going down there, but can't get a good number for SWEPCO," the power

company serving it. (Power has since been restored to the building.)

Mention was made after the meeting formally adjourned that the Gilmer Civic Center, East Mountain municipal building and Big Sandy City Hall were all open as cooling stations for those who had lost electric power.

## Stay Legal. Be Safe. Act Responsibly.

TNT® Fireworks (TNT), the nation's largest consumer fireworks distributor and best-selling brand, announced the launch of its new 2023 public safety campaign: Stay Legal. Be Safe. Act Responsibly.

For many, barbecues and backyard fireworks are a tradition, and when used responsibly and legally, provide safe family fun. To help consumers do so, TNT is providing three easy tips to ensure celebrations are legal, safe and responsible.

**• Stay Legal:** Local laws vary widely, from the type of product that is legal - to the times in which fireworks can be used. Know your local laws, and only use fireworks that are approved where you live. Local fire departments can provide information about what is legal in your community.

It's also very important to only purchase fireworks from a licensed retailer! Visit [TNTFireworks.com](http://TNTFireworks.com) for more information and locations near you.

**• Be Safe:** Be selective when choosing a location. Pick a dry, flat surface such as concrete, dirt, or pavement that is away from structures and vegetation, and is free of debris. Always read and follow the instructions and have a hose or water source ready.


**• Act Responsibly:** After the show, let your fireworks take a bath to cool down. Soak them in a metal bucket overnight and outside at a site that is away from structures before properly disposing. Have a sober adult handle your display and do not let children use fireworks. Be considerate of neighbors and pets. When the show is over, clean up the area so that it is free of debris.

"This year, we're placing special emphasis on keeping consumers legal and safe," said Carson Anderson, president of TNT Fireworks. "We're reminding consumers to know the law and only use fireworks that are legal in their community."

To keep everyone legal,

safe and responsible, TNT recommends the following safety tips:

- Never give fireworks to young children.
- Stay sober. Never use fireworks with alcohol or drug consumption.
- Have a working hose and/or bucket of water nearby in case of emergencies.
- Never carry a firework in your pocket or hold a lit firework in your hand.
- Never shoot fireworks from a metal or glass container.
- Keep spectators at a safe distance and never aim or throw fireworks at another person.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a firework - even when lighting.
- Light only one firework at a time.
- NEVER approach or try to re-ignite a firework that doesn't light the first time.
- Soak your used fireworks in a metal bucket overnight and outside away from anything flammable.



### ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of White Oak, Texas will receive bids for George Richey Road TxDOT Utility Relocations. Bids will be received until 10:00 AM on Thursday, July 6, 2023, at White Oak City Hall, 906 S. White Oak Road; White Oak, TX 75693. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 10:00 AM on Thursday, July 6, 2023, at White Oak City Hall, 906 S. White Oak Road, White Oak, TX 75693. Bids received after 10:00 AM will be returned, unopened.

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are on file at Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., 320 S Broadway Ave, Suite 200, Tyler, TX 75702, and at City of White Oak, 906 S. White Oak Road, White Oak, TX 75693.

PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS may be examined without charge at White Oak City Hall. Bid forms and plans may be examined or obtained at the office of Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., 320 S. Broadway Ave, Suite 200, Tyler, Texas 75702. One copy of each set of documents may be obtained from Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., upon payment of \$ 80.00. No refunds will be made. Plans can also be found online at [www.isqft.com](http://www.isqft.com) or [www.civcastusa.com](http://www.civcastusa.com).

A Bidder's Bond, Certified or Cashier's Check in an amount not less than (5%) of the total bid shall accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the contract, the bidder will promptly enter into contract with the City of White Oak, Texas.

This project will include approximately 7,540 LF of 18" AWWA C-905 DR 18 PC 235 Water Main, 7 EA 18" Butterfly Valves, 15 Fire Hydrants, 5,036 LF of 10" ASTM D2241 PR 160 SDR 26 PVC sewer line, 18 man-holes, and other miscellaneous items of construction.

The project is to be substantially complete within 150 calendar days from the notice to proceed and shall be fully complete within 180 calendar days from the notice to proceed. Liquidated damages of \$300.00 per day shall be assessed for any days in which contract time is exceeded.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within ninety (90) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

The City of White Oak reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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**AUCTION**

**Bankruptcy Sale** - Bid Deadline July 18. Entitled 49± AC Multifamily Development Site, potential for 595 units with retail, 1001 FM 969, Bastrop, TX. Potential for either 426 duplex units or 214 duplex units & 380-unit apt complex. Entitlements completed & partial infrastructure in place. Hilco Real Estate Sales, 855-755-2300.

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