

Gladewater Mirror

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50¢



NO OUTDOOR BURNING within the White Oak, Gladewater and East Mountain city limits, as well as all of Gregg, Upshur and Smith County until further notice.

"The burn ban goes into effect today."

Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons was ready for the question first thing Monday morning – between runaway temperatures and too many dry days, the only thing he was waiting for was official word from the Gregg County officials on blanket restrictions.

As of Monday's regular commissioners court session, the prohibitions are in place: following the elected officials' vote, a 90-day burn ban is in effect for the unincorporated areas of Gregg County. Violations of the ban are a class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

Gladewater Fire Department echoed the fire prevention measure throughout the city limits – including tamping down the city's ongoing burn of tree debris.

"Due primarily to weather conditions as well as burn bans, there will be no burning inside the city limits and no permits will be issued until further notice," Simmons announced.

Gregg County and Gladewater join a slew of other locales stepping up for the cease-fire: Nacogdoches County's ban went into effect July 25 for 90 days. Rusk County and Panola County followed suit July 27, Smith County enacted a ban Aug. 1 then both Upshur County and the City of Big Sandy instituted restrictions Aug. 4.

City of Gladewater public works employees and firefighters spent a good portion of last week carefully burning green debris from the June 16 storm, tending (and regularly hosing down) a burn pit on Commerce Avenue with permission from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Not anymore. "Due to Gregg County going under a burn ban, the city has paused the controlled burn efforts to clean up the storm debris," Simmons said. "All debris will be collected and stored until the ban is lifted, then we will continue all burn operations."

Tree debris collection will continue in the interim – City Hall recently brought in an outside contractor to take on the effort, freeing public works employees to focus on other immediate tasks.

"Asplundh is working on that and started today," city manager Charlie Smith reported Aug. 4. "I think it's going to turn into a little more than what they thought it would be. They'll probably work through this week then be back next week."



Sports is back!



White Oak water rates going up

By James Draper

After keeping water rates as low as possible as long as possible, the future has caught up with the City of White Oak.

Aging infrastructure is pitted against growing demand. Rising costs are vying with officials' desire to keep local rates low.

Add into the mix a couple of loans mandated by the state for roadwork that hasn't yet begun, and it becomes a frustrating brew for residents, city workers and council members alike. Many people gave voice to those frustrations during a second public meeting on water and sewer fees July 25.

Inevitably, the rates will rise in coming weeks. The question before council members is how much. For residents, it's how they'll pay for the difference.

"We're all White Oak, none of us want to go up," council member Thomas Cash insisted. "We all want our water bill to stay down."

There's no official decision yet, but a couple of options are in discussion. On one plan, a sample water bill from June would rise by a minimum of 37 percent; it's almost 60 percent on another. Even steeper increases are on the table after consulting water experts.

"Their numbers of what they suggest where we should be, I hate to say it, it is close to \$50 on the water rate," Purcell said later. The base rate is currently

'We have to do this or we go under.'

White Oak City Coordinator Jimmy Purcell

\$24.60, and another consultant says a minimum of \$45 is necessary to move forward.

Council members have tried to be thoughtful for residents, he added. For years, they've tried to avoid a 'boom' in utility bills all at once.

"Now we have to do it all at once. We're basically getting to where we should have been incrementally going up," council member Kevin Hood said Aug. 3. At the same time, the council has yet to decide if they'll just modify the base rate or update the city's tier system – they're unsure which plan is fairest for the most users. "I think it's going to be painful no matter what you do."

There's a lot of variables to be answered, either way, and the core concept is a hard one to swallow.

"We're a small town, we're very medium to low-income," Sean Butler told council members July 25. He can't afford to see his utilities bill increase to \$135 or \$140 a month: "There's a limit where we can't do it. We're not making enough to make the difference."

According to City Hall, with its current debts White
Continued on Page 3

Don't get trashed by can ordinance

By James Draper

Kay Williams is grateful for the trash containers Allied Waste provides to residents through its sanitation contract with the City of Gladewater.

That said, she doesn't want to see them all the time. Both Williams and her husband, Dirk, addressed Gladewater council members July 20. While her husband lamented the condition of Phillip Springs Road ("I know it's beating a dead horse – it's gotten pretty bad."), Kay Williams focused on the lax enforcement of the city's rules for trash containers.

Residents could incur a fine of up to \$500 if they run afoul of the relevant municipal code, but city leaders agree they haven't been putting any sting behind the regulation.

Without regular reminders, Williams said, more and more containers are left at the curb well beyond

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Gladewater woman arrested by deputies

By Phillip Williams

The Special Investigations Unit of the Upshur County Sheriff's Office arrested four suspects, including a Gladewater woman, on various charges in July, Sheriff Larry Webb announced Monday. All were apprehended following traffic stops and taken to the county jail in Gilmer, he said. Details, based on a report from sheriff's Lt. Gary Shirley, were as follows, said Webb:

Jackeline Kaluakini, 32, of Gladewater, was arrested July 6 on a felony charge of possession of controlled substance—more than four, but less than 400 grams of MDMA (commonly called Ecstasy). She was also charged with misdemeanor unlawful carrying of a weapon.

The unit was performing drug interdiction in the Ore City area when it stopped her at the intersection of Texas 155 and U.S. 259, resulting in seizure of 11.4 grams of Ecstasy pills and a firearm.

The firearm charge resulted because carrying a gun while committing an offense is illegal.

Darin S. Wooten, who was apprehended after exiting his vehicle and leading the unit on "a short foot

pursuit," was arrested July 12 on several felony warrants from surrounding counties and for misdemeanor evading arrest/detention.

The unit was doing drug interdiction in the Ore City area when it stopped Wooten, 44, of Ore City, at the intersection of Similax Road and 259. No drugs were found on him or in his vehicle, however.

Webb said he had no details on the charges from other counties.

Diane J. Martin, 52, of Gilmer, was arrested July 13 on a charge of possession of a controlled substance—less than one gram of methamphetamine.

While performing drug interdiction in the Gilmer area, the unit stopped Martin at the intersection of FM 1650 and Texas 154, east of city limits, and seized the drug.

A 32-year-old White Oak woman was arrested on a misdemeanor possession of marijuana charge July 18.

While doing drug interdiction in the Union Grove area, the SIU stopped her at the intersection of U.S. 271 and Silk Tree Road and seized less than two ounces of the drug.



As summer draws to a close and children start heading back to school, family life can get pretty hectic. It's important to remember – and share with your children – some key tips that will help keep them safe and healthy throughout the school year.

Transportation Safety Tips

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they take proper safety precautions. Here are some tips to make sure your child safely travels to school:

Walkers:

Review your family's walking safety rules and practice walking to school with your child.

- Walk on the sidewalk, if one is available; when on a street with no sidewalk, walk facing the traffic
- Before you cross the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and always cross streets at crosswalks or intersections

- Stay alert and avoid distracted walking

Bike Riders:

Teach your child the rules of the road and practice riding the bike route to school with your child.

- Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, and in a single file
- Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street

- Stay alert and avoid distracted riding

- Make sure your child always wears a properly fitted helmet and bright clothing

Bus Riders:

Teach your children school bus safety rules and practice with them.

- Go to the bus stop with your child to teach them the proper way to get on and off the bus

- Teach your children to stand 6 feet (or three giant steps) away from the curb

- If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, teach him or her to walk on the side of the road until they are 10 feet ahead of the bus; your child and the bus driver should always be able to see each other

- Get the facts on bus safety from Injury Facts

Driving Child to School:

Stay alert and avoid distracted driving.

- Obey school zone speed limits and follow your school's drop-off procedure

- Make eye contact with children who are crossing the street

- Never pass a bus loading or unloading children

- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them to safely enter and exit the bus

Teen Drivers:

Car crashes are the No. 1 cause of death for teens. Fortunately, there is something we can do.

- Teens crash because they are inexperienced; practice with new drivers every week, before and after they get their license

- Set a good example; drive the way you want your teen to drive

Backpacks:

Choose a backpack for your child carefully; it should have ergonomically designed features to enhance safety and comfort.

- Ask your children to use both straps when wearing their backpack to evenly distribute the weight on their shoulders

- Don't overstuff a backpack; it should weigh no more than 5% to 10% of your child's body weight



OPINION/COMMENTARY

“What will your verse be?”

Insatiably curious kids should be the goal of every parent and teacher. Those are the kids who grow up to solve problems in unique ways. Whether the kid is entering kindergarten, or their senior year, the rites of passage in public school are unique to American children and their development.

I’ve watched teachers enthusiastically welcome little ones to their first day of school. They ushered the babies into a new kind of learning environment. One I pray is a glitch and not to become typical. A great deal of learning is relational. It is more about the buy-in to the teacher than the methods used to convey information.

I taught two sections of psychology classes for seniors and the first day was one of the most important in our year. I walked into class and reminded them that ‘today was their last first day of school’. That was a gut punch for many kids. I then asked them to stand and to follow me without talking.

When I got them into the first hall I would turn and say something like: “Here we are in the Senior Hall on your last first day of school. This year will be what you make it. We are going to walk the halls of the high school and listen, really listen to the sounds and take in this moment that will never happen again.”

And then we did. We passed classes laughing, classes being reprimanded, classes deep into what their teachers were saying, classes with kids debating. And the kids heard, really heard the sounds of high school. When we got to the Freshman Hall we would stop and I would remind them what their first, first day of high school was like. The numbers of outfits tried on by the girls, the anxiety of dressing rooms, band halls and upperclassmen. We would stop at a few favorite teachers’ rooms and they would come out

and give a few words of wisdom. Often, by this time, a few tears were in evidence.

Next we would wend our way to the gym where a PE class would already be shooting baskets. There I told my seniors to listen to the sounds of the gym. I told them to take it in...the games, the pep rallies, the special moments because once they graduate that gym would never sound the same way again, nor would the football stadium. By now, the entire class was still. We passed trophy cases and memorials on the way back to our classroom. We looked at pictures of past classes and the realization that these current seniors too, would soon be alums would sink, deeply, in.

Often, on the way back to our room the entire class would be holding hands, some tearful, some quiet, some guys with arms over each other’s shoulders. They had bonded on that last first day of school in a way that would set a foundation to build their last new year on.

And then they got their assignment...to write their goals for their senior year. The goals would be read by no one but them. Once written they were sealed in an envelope with the student’s name and I kept them locked up until graduation when they were placed in the seniors’ graduation envelopes, still sealed ready for them to measure their year, their achievements, themselves by what they had written.

I like to think that their goals were more deliberate because of that first last day of class. I believe they often were because the kids told me so. Some of the kids would share their ability to reach a particular goal. Often those goals were deeply personal.

I envy our teachers in the trenches...even during this pandemic. The gift of teaching often brings much greater rewards to the teacher than the taught. This week I am remembering those last first days of those I taught, as well

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

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



as those of my own child.

Life is too short, too precarious and too unpredictable to not choose to live with deliberation, passion and a curiosity that surpasses any lesson taught. We should all continue to aspire to those goals throughout our lives. If we do, life will be richer, deeper and more meaningful.

I often reminded my students, with a little help from the old movie “Dead Poet’s Society” some form of the following: “Carpe Diem! (Seize the Day.) We each have a ‘powerful verse to contribute to the play’. The trick is to figure out what your verse will be.”

It’s not too late my friends. It’s never too late to contribute a verse. What will YOURS be?

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

What Recession??

While we’re not out of the woods, opinions about the likelihood of recession are shifting away from the doom and gloom which has been prevalent over the past year. I have always felt that the talk was overblown and that the US economy would prove to be resilient even in the face of the action the Federal Reserve has taken to slow inflation.

In dozens of speeches and articles, I have repeatedly put the odds of a downturn at 35% or less from the outset. Most analysts thought a downturn was virtually certain, with one prominent and respected group putting the odds at 100% (I couldn’t resist pointing out that there wasn’t a 100% chance of anything in our complex economic universe). Recently, month after month of job gains even as target interest rates reached 22-year highs

have led a growing number to become a bit more optimistic.

The Federal Reserve (Fed) has a dual mandate – to keep inflation low and employment high. Things were going pretty well until the pandemic. Between massive stimulus packages which increased demand and supply chain problems which made products hard to get, inflation became a major concern. In response, the Fed rapidly increased target interest rates and shrank its balance sheet to slow the economy and reduce inflationary pressures.

It’s a difficult challenge to try to manage the US economy. It’s a lot more like steering and braking a cruise ship than a sports car, and there are inevitably lags between actions and results. The urgency was justified; if people begin to assume that inflation will persist, it can become self-fulfilling and self-perpetuating as price increases become baked into contracts and wage negotiations.

Recently, a poll released by the National Association of Business Economists showed that 75% of its forecast panel no longer expect a recession in the coming year. In addition, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office has backed off from its recession projection. Many prognosticators from various financial institutions have also backed away from their expectations of decline. Even the staff of the Fed itself now anticipates a notable slowdown, but no recession.

The reason to be encouraged is that inflation is slowing markedly without major disruptions to the labor market. Unemployment remains low, though job openings are falling somewhat and fewer people are quitting their jobs (a sign that they are less sure that they will be able to go out and immediately get another, better position). It’s good news that some of the overheating in the labor market is calming.

It’s still relatively early in the battle against inflation, and there are clearly some risks to be dealt with (a topic for another day). Nonetheless, things are looking up. 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.

Child care centers closing across Texas

An unprecedented number of child care centers are expected to close across the state as pandemic relief funding ends, the Texas Standard reported.

A survey conducted by the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children of about 1,600 child care programs indicated 44% were likely to close their doors without additional funding. Federal pandemic relief funds ended for most centers in June.

The Texas Legislature declined to pass a \$2.3 billion House proposal for child care providers, with the intent that the money be used to raise the average wage of staff from \$12 per hour to at least \$15 per hour.

Since 2020, Texas child care providers have received more than \$4 billion in COVID-19 funding, according to the *Texas Tribune*. The money helped cover child care costs for more than 800,000 Texas children.

“This is going to be something that affects every community here in the state of Texas and will have a lasting effect on our economy as the supply of workers in all industries is shortened because of the lack of child care,” Cody Summerville, executive director of TAEYC, said.

No additional impeachment articles for Paxton
The deadline has passed

with no additional impeachment charges against suspended Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, who already faces 20 articles of impeachment in a trial set in the Senate for Sept. 5, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

House members in late May voted 121-23 to send the articles of impeachment to the Senate, accusing Paxton of bribery and misuse of office. Paxton was indicted in 2015 for securities fraud, with that trial now set for 2024.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who will preside over the impeachment trial, said it will likely last two to three weeks.

New law cracks down on street racing

Gov. Greg Abbott last week signed two laws cracking down on illegal street racing. House Bills 1442 and 2899 enhance penalties for those involved in such activities and provide law enforcement and prosecutors additional tools to address those crimes.

“Street takeover” events have been occurring in Austin, Fort Worth and other cities, where intersections are blocked by vehicles doing donuts in intersections while others film the event.

Abbott ceremonially signed the bill in Fort Worth, where a street takeover led to a pair of fatalities.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



“Street racing and street takeovers are not a victimless crime,” said Mayor Mattie Parker. “Right here in Fort Worth, we lost a wonderful young couple who had three children. These types of incidents are all too common across the country.”

Abbott announced the formation of a task force in February to combat street takeovers. The Texas Department of Public Safety, working with local law enforcement, has made more than 50 arrests and nearly 400 traffic citations related to illegal street racing across the state.

A&M reaches \$1 million settlement with professor

Texas A&M University reached a \$1 million settlement with a journalism professor whose botched hiring led to the resignation of the university’s president, The Dallas Morning News reported.

University officials released the results of an internal investigation last week that admitted “mistakes were made during the hiring process.”

Kathleen McElroy, a former editor for the New York Times and a journalism professor at the University of Texas at Austin, accepted a tenure-track position to

restart A&M’s journalism program. A public signing ceremony was followed with backlash, including from six A&M regents, because of her work to diversify newsrooms. The original offer eventually was reduced to a one-year contract with no protection from being summarily fired. McElroy decided to stay at UT-Austin while making public how the offer had changed.

“I hope the resolution of my matter will reinforce A&M’s allegiance to excellence in higher education and its commitment to academic freedom and journalism,” McElroy said. She is a Texas A&M graduate.

Texas leads nation in ‘family annihilation’

Cases of “family annihilation,” where one family member kills at least two close family members, occur every five days in the United States, according to a study originally made by the *IndyStar* and analyzed by the *Statesman*. That analysis indicated since 2020 such homicides have occurred in Texas 33 times — more than any other state. Firearms are used most frequently in family annihilations in the state, the study showed.

THE HUMBLE AND CONTRITE SPIRIT



Isaiah 66: 2 says: “*But on this one will I look; on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My Word.*” The same sentiment is echoed in the Psalms, where it says: “*The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit. A broken and contrite heart—these O God, You will not despise*” (Psa. 51: 17). The contrite spirit is the brokenhearted person who is crushed beneath the weight of his sin. The humble spirit is the person who bows before God, and with a warm and tender heart, acknowledges his sinfulness and total dependence on Him.

In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said His kingdom would be composed to those with this disposition. “*Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven*” and “*Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted*” (Matt. 5: 3-4). “*Poor in spirit*” points to what a man IS, not what he HAS! It describes one who recognizes he is spiritually bankrupt, and knows within himself there is nothing to justify him before God. Understanding his condition, he MOURNS over his sin, and his only plea is “*God be merciful to me a sinner*” (Lk. 18: 13). James 4: 7-10 is appropriate here. One must submit to God, which involves clean hands and a pure heart. “*Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart*” (Psa. 24: 3-4).

Only when we realize our own ignorance will we ask for God’s guidance. Only when we realize our own poverty in the things that really matter will we seek for the riches of God’s grace. Only when we realize our own spiritual weakness will we draw upon God’s strength. Only when we realize our own sin will we realize our need of a Savior, and of God’s forgiveness. So long as a person regards himself as independent of God he is on his way to ultimate collapse and defeat. Therefore, our prayer should be like that of David, who prayed: “*Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy loving kindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies. Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions... Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me*” (Psa. 51:1-3, 10).

The way to acceptance with God is through true humility and contriteness of spirit. This teaches us that the “*way up to God is first down.*” The road to genuine greatness is along the way to complete surrender. Those who turn to God in penitence and obedience, however great their sin, can be assured of full and complete pardon. What about you, my friend? Is your heart humble and contrite? Do you tremble at His Word? Think on these things.

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White Oak water rates going up

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Oak is short about \$800,000 per year on the \$3 million needed to run the water and sewer plant.

About 6,300 residents (as of 2020) utilize roughly 1 million gallons of treated water per day. After enjoying decades of historically low rates relative to their neighbors, the base water cost increased 64 percent between 2017 and 2022. This Fall, that may double – or more – making White Oak’s water more costly than Longview, Marshall, Kilgore and others.

“The main thing we want to give to our citizens,” City Coordinator Jimmy Purcell told a full audience July 25, “is the information on why we’re having to do what we need to do in order to keep the city running.”

Republic Services sets sanitation rates as the city’s contractor; council members set rates for water and sewer, albeit reluctantly.

“They don’t want to do anything that’s really severe on the rates,” Purcell said. “They’ve been thinking about doing this a little bit at a time.”

Coordinating with the state as well as the City of Longview – which owns the 1936-era pipeline for raw water between Big Sandy Creek and White Oak – Purcell says there’s work underway to mitigate at least some of the looming increase and find the most efficient solution.

“We’re doing it right now. Between now and next city council meeting we’re going to have all this information,” he said. With time to go over it, “between then and September, we pretty much need to decide where we’re going to be and when it’s going to take effect.

“Everything is being looked at, I promise you. We have to do this or we go under.”

On grants, White Oak is in its own no man’s land – with a median income of \$66,537, the community doesn’t qualify for as many grants as other similar-sized municipalities. White Oak is just slightly less than the state median of \$66,963 compared to \$56,993 for Kilgore and \$53,854 in Longview.

Grants would be handy when it comes to a developing 5-10 year plan that would see the city turn to the Sabine River as a water source three miles away instead of Big Sandy Creek. As of right now, though, it’s a \$10 million-plus prospect – and prices are rising.

Other aspects of that evolving plan include upgrading water meters and treatment plant software, replacing old equipment, rehabilitating storage tanks and replacing or adding another water.

Notably, the city officials said residents will not be individually charged for their new, more accurate ‘ultrasonic’ water meters. The equipment will be replaced in stages as current batteries fade.

All the upgrades, improvements and additions are on the drawing board, but the money’s not there. Instead, the city’s already indebted for its part of projects to widen George Richey Road and Highway 42.

The funds from those loans will pay for the relocation of the city’s water and sewer lines ahead of the state’s road constructions.

“There’s no help. There’s no assistance. We don’t have a choice,” Public Works Director Tracey Fears said. “We still have to move our water lines. They do own the right of way, so they dictate to us what we can and can’t do.

“We’re all at the mercy of TxDOT.”

The loans are drawing some interest, but the project price-tags are increasing amid inflation, and the set-aside doesn’t have the purchasing power it originally did.

“We’re dealing with the state,” Purcell said. “We didn’t have a choice to get these loans.”

The audience’s ire gradually shifted from the city to the state, but there was plenty of frustration to go around July 25.

“Y’all are getting plenty of money out of me, I can promise you that,” Jerry Childers said. “Why are we behind? I’ve had \$500 water bills. Every time the water goes up, they charge me extra for my sewer. Where’s all that money going?”

As water treatment costs go, in the past two years, the cost of the necessary chemicals has increased about 300 percent, Water Plant Manager Bo Huey said.

“It doesn’t matter what we say, y’all are going to do it anyway?” Childers asked.

“For the best interest of the city, we make the decision,” council member Dana Mizell said. “I listen to everything you say. It’s affecting me, too.”

The City of Overton was recently without water for days on end, council member Joe Stephens said. Past city leaders, fortunately, focused on sustaining White Oak’s infrastructure to avoid such problems.”

“It’s our goal to keep that going, to improve our infrastructure so we’re not like other cities in our area,” he said, “and it’s a tough decision.”

Will there be another increase in five years? Melany McDaniel asked. Sooner?

“It’s already going to be increasing,” Purcell answered. Resident James Guida thanked the city personnel for pressing on.

“They do a tremendous job with very little money,” he said. “This meeting has been eye-opening. I know what you go through.”

There were no decisions July 25. They’re still ahead, and as the discussion wrapped up, resident Michael Reinhart offered a succinct summary:

“Buckle up.”

City Hall flees the heat

The A/C units at City Hall are kaput, and half of the municipal workday is being relocated to Lee-Bardwell Public Library until further notice.

City of Gladewater employees have been sweating it out for weeks, but their cooled air is done for until a \$36,000 replacement by Goode Brothers is completed.

“It’s out. Completely. Nonexistent,” city manager Charlie Smith said. “We’ve got the little portables inside the building, and it’s something around 90 degrees.”

For the immediate future, City Hall’s operating hours on weekday mornings 7:30 a.m. to noon at 519 E. Broadway then, for Monday through Thursday afternoons, 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 312 W. Pacific Ave.

Per city officials, “We will only be able to take cash, money orders or checks, but we can assist you in making an online payment using a card; please bring your water bill.”

For more information, call 903-845-2196.

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.

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.

Museum hosting Dick Burnett exhibit

The Gladewater Museum is featuring a new exhibit honoring Dick Burnett and his semi-professional baseball team, the Gladewater Bears – this team became the Dallas Eagles. The Texas Rangers are honoring their origin that includes the Dallas Eagles and the Fort Worth Panthers. Admission is free. Visit the museum at 116 W. Pacific Ave. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday to learn the rest of the story.

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 at the *Mirror* at 903-845-2235.

Blood drives set

Carter BloodCare of Tyler plans a blood drive in Gladewater and Gilmer.

Participants will receive a Texas-themed beach towel.

The Gilmer Community Blood Drive is August 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday at 110 Buffalo on the north side of the downtown courthouse square.

For more information on it, contact Upshur County Extension Agent Julie York at 903-680-8128.

A drive at CHRISTUS Gladewater is scheduled from 9 a.m.-12 noon Monday, Aug. 21. For more information, contact 903-315-5193.

Another drive is scheduled at Tractor Supply on U.S. 271 in Gilmer from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 20. For more information on it, call 903-843-4444.

County library features storytime

Two books will be read to small children at both of the Upshur County Library’s two weekly “Storytime” sessions in Gilmer on Thursday, Aug. 10.

To be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. events are “Summer Is For Cousins” by Rajani LaRocca, along with “And Then Comes Summer” by Tom Brenner.

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

woman Kari Dunn.

While all the events are free to the public, 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.

GEDCO joining others to help schools

Gladewater Economic Development Corporation is part of a joint effort by local EDCs to “strengthen schools, enhance our communities and benefit the local workforce” and they’re hosting a broad discussions on the topic next month.

Set for Wednesday, Sept. 6, in Kilgore College’s Devall Ballroom, the midday dialogue will consider ‘From the Schoolhouse to the State House – Alignment for the Future of Economic Development.’ The free event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. option and lunch is included. RSVPs are requested by Aug. 28 to tinyurl.com/Alignment-ForTheFuture. Working with Raise Your Hand Texas, GEDCO’s partners include Longview EDC, Kilgore, EDC, Marshall EDC and Henderson EDC.

Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center closing Aug. 28 for Renovations

ATHENS – The Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) in Athens will be closed to the public starting Aug. 28 for major renovations and updates.

The nearly 300,000 gallons of aquariums will be updated, new larger aquariums will be added, the dive theater and other existing indoor exhibits will be updated, and new exhibits will be developed. Enhancements to recreational fishing ponds like Lake Zebco are also included in the renovation project.

The closure will also enable staff to develop new educational programming and volunteer opportunities. The tentative date for completion and reopening

to the public is Spring 2025.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation (TPWF) has raised more than \$4.5 million in private donations to fund the massive project. Looking ahead to the next 25 years, these enhancements will ensure the next generation can learn about, appreciate and enjoy the amazing freshwater fisheries resources that Texas offers.

“TFFC is a special place that represents the amazing fisheries resources of Texas and the fisheries professionals that serve and manage them,” said Tom Lang, TFFC director. “We are grateful for this opportunity, afforded us by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation and so many amazing donors, to take TFFC to new heights for millions more visitors to enjoy.”

well-stocked fishing ponds provide an opportunity for visitors of all ages to wet a line, and thousands of new anglers have caught their first fish here.

TFFC was the first major public-private partnership between TPWF and the Texas Parks and Wildlife

Department (TPWD). The 106-acre site came to life in 1996 through the generosity of many organizations and individuals who supported the landmark project.

Gilmer turns 175

U.S. Rep. Nathaniel Moran (R-Tyler) will speak at the city of Gilmer’s 175th anniversary celebration Saturday, Aug. 19. After his 11:30 a.m. speech at the Historic Upshur Museum, the “come and go” celebration is set from 12 noon-5 p.m. in the downtown area.

Sponsored by the museum, it will feature a self-guided tour of historic buildings, and persons playing individuals who lived in the early 1800s and impacted the city.

KC graduation set for Thursday

Kilgore College will hold its summer graduation ceremony 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 10, awarding 201 graduates with 216 degrees and certificates. The graduation ceremony will be livestreamed on the KC YouTube page located at www.youtube.com/user/kilgorecollege1935.

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Foot traffic downtown is essential for local businesses. One way GEDCO contributes is through the Grow Gladewater Grant program aimed at helping entrepreneurs revitalize their properties.

GEDCO joins ongoing push to fuel downtown, tourism

PRESS RELEASE

Working to develop and expand Gladewater's economy for both citizens and businesses alike, Gladewater Economic Development Corporation keeps the community's downtown core close to heart – while the organization has a broad focus on injecting life into the local economy, one of its six primary goals targets downtown development and tourism.

"For Gladewater specifically, tourism is heavily tied to downtown," GEDCO Executive Director Michelle Palmer said. "To support downtown, you are invariably supporting tourism and supporting the economy of Gladewater."

A thriving downtown feeds into a positive cycle for the city-at-large, she added.

"Our community is run off of taxes. While tourism itself doesn't increase property taxes, it does increase exposure for people who often find Gladewater is a place they would like to live," Palmer said. Visitors who fall in love with the community may purchase property, hire contractors and relocate their wealth into this economy. Meanwhile, "Our city also runs off of sales tax. Whenever you have tourists, you have money being spent which then creates sales tax revenue."

GEDCO's efforts are broadly-focused but can have a real impact downtown.

For example, "We have the Grow Gladewater Grant that we are trying to get our local businesses and property owners to participate in to upgrade and upscale their facilities," Palmer said.

Launched this year, the grant/incentive program was crafted not just to help individual entrepreneurs with façade

improvements and similar projects, but also to help continue revitalizing the community as a whole. Find details at GladwaterEDC.com and download the program's 14-page PDF guide via tinyurl.com/growgladewater.

"GEDCO continues working with business owners and employees to help them familiarize themselves with all the resources that are available."

Just recently, Palmer added, she made a connection with a firm that specializes in historic renovations: "They are going to be a good contact to connect our downtown property owners with to get grant information to perform their renovations. They specifically deal with historical buildings. I met them through our prospect that purchased the old Gladewater Middle School as we took their team in there to start developing plans."

Gladewater no longer has an active Main Street Program but Gladewater Chamber of Commerce and Director Lois Reed spearheads tourism, and GEDCO supports and relies on the chamber's ongoing success.

"The Gladewater Chamber is GEDCO's primary partner for tourism," Palmer said. "GEDCO, before I came on board, decided it would best use its resources by utilizing the chamber for what it does best. That's one of their main functions as an entity. The chamber will go out to trade shows and do outward marketing, and GEDCO gets to be represented in those things. Throughout the year, with the events they put on GEDCO gets a piece of the marketing and gets to be included as a supporter without stretching our personnel resources."

Keeping dogs cool for the summer to prevent heatstrokes

Dr. Gabriela Rivas, a veterinary resident in emergency and critical care at the Texas A&M School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, says dogs can easily experience heatstrokes during warmer months because they do not have the same capacity to produce sweat like humans do.

Sweating is a natural and efficient way to decrease body temperature and cool the skin by using excess body heat to convert sweat into vapor; because dogs are covered in fur and do not have sweat glands on most of their body, sweat on the skin cannot evaporate into vapor to cool them.

As a result, if dogs are unable to cool down through other means, heat exhaustion can turn into a heatstroke, a condition that requires veterinary intervention and ongoing monitoring.

"Dogs rely heavily on panting and drooling to get rid of excess heat, and heatstrokes occur when these cooling methods become less effective, especially in hot and humid environments or if a pet is left in an area with poor ventilation, such as inside a vehicle," Rivas said. "There are also several factors such as obesity; breed conformation, or a dog's overall structure and appearance; and underlying diseases, such as seizures, advanced age, cardiovascular disease, and airway disease – that put them at risk of heatstrokes at any time of the year."

While cats can also experience heat-related issues due to ineffective sweating, they are at less risk because they are not outside as often and typically exert less energy compared to dogs, keeping them cooler. Yet cats that are impacted by heat exhaustion and heatstrokes exhibit similar signs as dogs and can be treated the same.

Dogs that experience heat exhaustion — a body temperature roughly between 103 and 106 degrees Fahrenheit — may pant heavily, avoid playing or exercising, and lie in the shade outside or on a cool surface inside such as tile or hardwood.

Yet signs of a heatstroke — a body temperature greater than 106 degrees Fahrenheit — are more extensive, including collapse or weakness; drooling; excessive panting; respiratory distress, meaning fluid fills the lungs instead of oxygen; disorientation; seizures; or a sudden onset of vomiting or diarrhea. These symptoms can worsen, according to Rivas, if they are not treated by a veterinarian.

"Heatstroke is a medical emergency because as the body temperature rises, different organ systems may become severely injured by the excess in heat," Rivas said. "Organ injury can lead to life-threatening complications such as shock, abnormal heart rhythms, clotting disorders, severe dehydration, systemic infection, or seizures. In some instances, a pet can experience multiple organ dysfunction or death."

Dogs experiencing a heat-

stroke will require immediate intensive care and most likely require active cooling, fluid therapy, anti-nausea medications, and electrolyte supplementation to treat symptoms and possible organ injury. Because of this, Rivas emphasizes how important it is that dog owners recognize when their pet is mildly overheated or on the verge of a heatstroke in order to take appropriate action sooner rather than later.

"When a dog overheats, owners can start cooling methods by moving their pet to a cool and shaded area, wetting them with lukewarm water and using a fan," Rivas said. "But if at any point an owner is concerned about heatstroke in their pet, they should seek veterinary care immediately. In the meantime, owners can use their car's air conditioning while they transport their pet to a veterinary clinic."

Owners should also be careful when cooling their dog, as some methods can worsen their symptoms.

"Ice water and water submersion should be avoided, as these methods can lead to extreme drops in body temperature, potentially trapping heat in areas that can damage organs further and make it harder for a dog to dissipate the heat," Rivas said.

Since extreme heat can be damaging to both a cat's or dog's health, Rivas emphasizes that prevention is key by providing plenty of access to drinking water and shade when outdoors; avoiding walks and strenuous exercise during hot and humid weather; and never leaving a pet unattended in a vehicle.

With several months of hot weather still ahead and temperatures even reaching into the triple digits in some areas, pet owners should ensure their furry friend is safe from potential heat-related illness so that they can be happy and cool for the summer.

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SPORTS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Over the past few weeks we have looked at how Gladewater and White Oak stack up this coming season. Now let's look at the teams who the Bears and Roughnecks will have to beat to claim that district crown.

By Tyler Sutton

ATLANTA RABBITS

The 2022 Atlanta Rabbits season was one of the biggest turn arounds in the state of Texas. After a winless 0-10 season in 2021, Atlanta bounced back to go 7-4 and 3-2 in district play getting them into the playoffs as the 3rd seed in the district. Falling in the 1st round to the Winnsboro Raiders. The Rabbits look to continue to improve in 2023 as Tyler Morton is back once again.

"I feel we can build on the huge momentum we had from 2022. It was such a great thing to see this team battle back from a very long and rough 2021 season to be able to get back into the playoffs last year. We have a lot of the leadership back from that team and I feel we can be even better," Morton said.

Key returning offensive players: Jalarion Andrews, Peyton Harrison, Sye Stroman, Braylyn Rowe, Marquavion Owens, Markeylin Batton, Decarvea Range, Asher Wells, Kanya Simmonds, Landon Johnson

Key returning players on defense: Harrison, Stroman, Rowe, Owens, Batton, Range, James Waldon, Kheaton Kinney, Wells, Johnson Dezarian Parker

Atlanta Rabbits 2023 schedule:

August 25th: @ Elysian Fields
September 1st: Redwater
September 8th: @ New Boston
September 15th: Liberty- Eylau
September 22nd: @ Brook Hill
September 29th: Bye
October 6th: Sabine (Homecoming, district opener)
October 13th: @ Jefferson
October 20th: White Oak
October 27th: Gladewater (senior night)
November 3rd: @ Tatum

TATUM EAGLES

Tatum's 2023 season was one that started out hot and ended cold as they lost 2 out of their last 3 games. But before that it was a good one as they finished the regular season 6-4 and a second place finish in district play at 4-1. Which got the Eagles back into the playoffs but they fell in the opening round to Mount Vernon 42-6. But head coach Whitney Keeling thinks the Eagles have what it takes to take that one last step and win a district title this season.

"We were so close to a district championship last year and I feel this team has what it takes to get passed that last hurdle and bring a district title back home to Tatum," he said.

Key returning offensive players: Jordan Chambers, Kenneton Harrison, Adam Tubbleville, Dameon Pippins, Brandon Howard, Chance Irby, Quincy Davis, Marcus Sparks

Key returning defensive players: Tatum, Harrison, Pippins, Howard, Irby, Davis, Corbin BonDurant, Sparks

Tatum 2023 schedule:

August 25th: @ Center
August 31st: Dangerfield
September 8th: @ Pittsburgh
September 15th: West Rusk (Homecoming)
September 22nd: @ Lumberton
September 29th: Bye
October 6th: @ Gladewater (district opener)
October 13th: @ White Oak
October 20th: Sabine
October 27th: @ Jefferson
November 3rd: Atlanta (senior night)

JEFFERSON BULLDOGS

The 2022 Jefferson football season was best turnaround in the district as the Bulldogs went from a 6th place finish in 2021 to a district championship in 2022 with a 8-3 finish and going undefeated in district play at 6-0. Which got them into the postseason as the top seed in the district. But they fell to the Mineola Yellowjackets 31-13.

But head coach Antwain Jimmerson knows the Bulldogs will be the hunted going into 2023. "As defending district champs, obviously we will be the team everyone wants to beat each week. But I feel we have what it takes to defend our crown and will be hard to beat again this season," said Jimmerson

Key returning offensive players: Jy'Kyrik Nard, Chris Love, Kamran Williams, Travis Harris Jr, Judsen Carter, Travis Gray Jr, Christian McCoy, Cornell Nunn, Daniel Smith, Tihmyus Taylor, Ameron Bruce, Josh Bittle, Stephon Johnson., Keshawn Whitaker

Key defensive players returning: Nard, Love, Williams, Harris Jr, Carter, Gray Jr, McCoy, Nunn, Smith, Taylor, Bruce, Keylan Burton, Bittle, Whitaker

Jefferson 2023 schedule:

August 25th: New Boston
September 1st: Timpson
September 8th: @ Dekalb
September 14th: @ Hughes Springs (KYKX Game of the Week)
September 22nd: Centerville (game in Rusk)
September 29th: Bye
October 6th: White Oak (homecoming)
October 13th: Atlanta
October 20th: @ Gladewater
October 27th: Tatum (senior night)
November 3rd: @ Sabine

SABINE CARDINALS

2022 was a rough year but a learning year for the Sabine Cardinals. A 2-8 season isn't something many want, but for a young team its all about learning and getting better. Head coach Cory Gilbert knows this year's team will be even more improved this season.

"We were a very young team last year and it showed at times. But I think with a year into the system, we will be way more improved and know what we got going into this season."

Key returning offensive players: Cason Patterson, Colt Sparks, Caleb Mckinney, Tristian Peterson, Clayne Simmons, Cade Silvertooth, Hudson McNatt, Tyler May, Luke Kirkindoll. Hudson Pepper, Steven Calico, Braylen Hawkins, Bryce Poduba

Key returning defensive player's: Patterson, McKinney, Peterson, Simmons, Silvertooth, May, Kirkindoll. Javarion Pereira, Garridon Edwards

Sabine 2023 schedule:

August 24th: Spring Hill
September 1st: @ West Rusk
September 8th: @ Waskom
September 15th: Mount Vernon
September 22nd: @ Pittsburgh
September 29th: Bye
October 6th: @ Atlanta (district opener)
October 13th: Gladewater (homecoming)
October 20th: @ Tatum
October 27th: @ White Oak
November 3rd: Jefferson (senior night)

"Coot's Corner" By Coot Putley

Rangers Report Card

The Texas Rangers are in first place in their division. Let's dig deeper into what they've accomplished so are and assign a grade for each starting pitcher, based on expectation and results. An A represents excellent, B is good, C is average, D means they're marginal and I is incomplete.

Nathan Eovaldi A+

Stepped up when Jacob deGrom was injured and became not only the Rangers' number one starter but one of the best in the game. He showed leadership skills from his first day with the team. Eovaldi grew up in Alvin, Texas, the same as a pretty good pitcher named Nolan Ryan. He has two complete games this year - one shutout - at a time when only four TEAMS have two complete games. There is some uncertainty at this time, as Eovaldi is currently on the injured list with forearm soreness. When (if) he returns, will he be as effective as he has been?

Dane Dunning A

One of the best surprises of 2023. At the start of the season, he was excellent in long relief. When he moved into the rotation he continued to shine. Dunning has tremendous upside and should be a key starter for the next several years.

Cody Bradford B

Stepped in recently as a spot starter and long reliever and has been effective. The Aledo, Texas native was an All American at Baylor University. He is currently at Round Rock but could be called up later in the year if needed.

Jon Gray B

It has been a roller coaster ride. Gray started slowly, then went through a brilliant stretch, pitching well in spite of low run support. Lately he has been a little erratic but can be dominant at times.

Martin Perez C

Has been inconsistent. Sometimes, especially at home, he looks like the 2022 All Star who had great command. At other times he struggles, gets behind in the count and gets hit hard. With recent additions to the staff, Perez has been shifted to the bullpen for the time being.

Andrew Heaney C

Remember the nursery rhyme about the girl with the curl? When she was good, she was very, very good. When she was bad, she was horrid. That describes Heaney's season so far.

Cole Reagan C

Did a pretty good job for the Rangers. His main contribution was being the main piece in the Aroldis Chapman trade. Hope he has a nice career with the Royals.

Spencer Howard D

Got lit up in a brief appearance. He never reached his potential with Texas, and has been sold to the Yankees.

Jack deGrom I

Was amazing when he was available. One of the best in baseball. Had surgery in June, out until sometime in 2024.

Max Scherzer I

Has had one start (a win) for the Rangers since he was acquired from the Mets in a big trade. A future Hall of Famer, he adds leadership and playoff experience at the top of the rotation. Scherzer replaces deGrom for this year and next as the ace.

Jordan Montgomery I

A trade deadline pickup from the Cardinals, Montgomery actually has better stats in 2023 than Scherzer. He is a solid starter who will be an in demand free agent at the end.

Owen White I

One of the top prospects in the Texas Rangers system. Looked good in a brief appearance in Arlington. Has a bright future ahead - or might be a key asset in a trade.

Jack Odorizzi I

Had surgery in April without throwing a single pitch for the Rangers.

Overall grade for the Texas Rangers starters B

This grade has shifted during the season. Starting pitching was outstanding in the first third of the year, then became inconsistent as injuries mounted. Since the All-Star break, the group has generally performed well again, and with the trade additions, Texas has depth in the rotation. When is the last time you could say that about the Rangers?

Next time we'll grade the Bullpen. That's just one man's opinion - what's yours?

Don't get trashed by ordinance

Continued from Page 1

the 9 p.m. collection day deadline to have them off the street. Consequently, many end up overfull well ahead Allied Waste's routes.

"It seems that as soon as they brought them to us, everybody thought, 'We don't have to put them up.' I don't know how y'all feel about it, but I like my little town. I would just like to see our city cleaned up," Williams said. "The downtown area is always groomed, but when you get out of the downtown area and come down our road, Phillip Springs, I'm embarrassed. You can go these backroads, and you see trash cans everywhere."

In one drive-by survey between trash days, Williams said she counted 11 neglected containers between the end of Gay Avenue and her driveway.

"Two of them were heaping full of trash," she said. "I just want us to clean up. It makes me sad. It's depressing to go down my road and see trash all the way down."

While it's Allied Waste that runs the collection route, it's the city that determines proper trash can protocol. The city's ordinance regulating the containers - 5.03.080 - was last amended in May 2021. Key pieces include:

- All refuse should be placed at curbside by 7:30 a.m. on the designated collection day.

- All Carts shall be removed from the curbside no later than 9:00 p.m. the day of collection."

Learn more at tinyurl.com/gladewatercodes.

"She was absolutely right that we need to address this and we do have an ordinance on the books about that," Mayor Scott Owens said. "We had already kind of addressed it, and it fell through the cracks."

Not anymore: "We're going to get some big, bright stickers made up, and Code Enforcement is going to go around the day after the trash route. We're going to place these stickers on the trash cans informing residents about the ordinance

and that they could be fined if they don't put the trash cans back up."

The next step is direct contact before, if necessary, an official warning.

"Then, if they don't comply, we're going to go out and do some fines to really get everybody's attention on it."

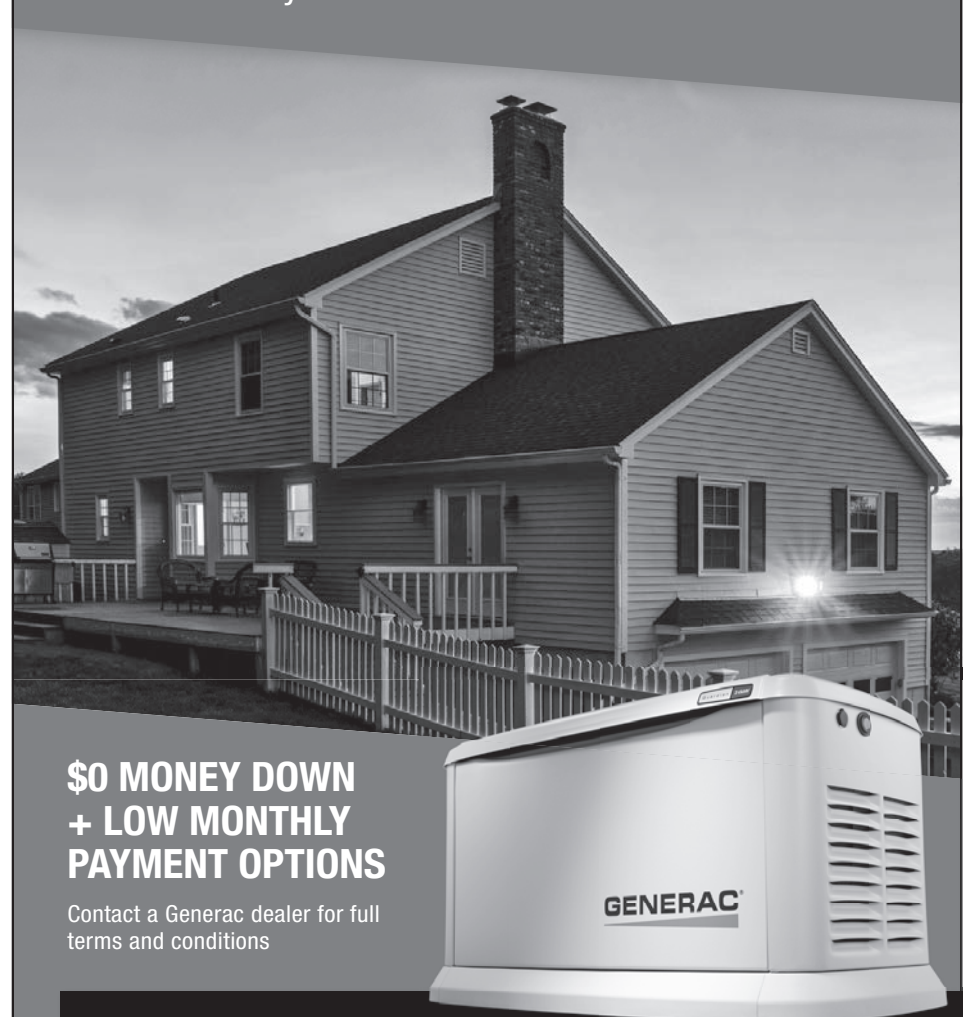
Education's the preferred solution for city manager Charlie Smith, too. Ideally, the city's code enforcement won't have to get involved beyond friendly reminders about the dos and don'ts of trash can placement.

"There is a city ordinance about it," he said, simply, "and there's a time frame of when it can go out and when it needs to be pulled back from the road."

Owens anticipates doing a spot-check every quarter. Beyond that, city employees will step in as-needed - within reason. "We can't have code enforcement out there every week doing this," he said. "After (fines) and word gets around, we'll get some compliance, hopefully."

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- 1 ___ Lavaca, TX
 - 5 "Hill Country State Natural ___"
 - 6 "The King and I" country
 - 7 bottom of a boot
 - 8 he went on a killing spree in Houston area, 1983 (2 wds.)
 - 17 "war on drugs" agcy.
 - 18 reductions
 - 21 TX Robert Benton directed this Streep in 1979 film "Kramer vs. Kramer" (init.)
 - 22 kinda like PTAs
 - 23 TXism: "got ___ my plate than I can say grace over" (overextended)
 - 24 "just ___" (as a precaution)
 - 29 what a "legal eagle" charges (2 wds.)
 - 30 TXism: "that's a ___ pill to swallow" (difficult to accept)
 - 31 TX Jim Reeves hit: "He'll Have to ___"
 - 32 TX Stormie Jones got first ___ - ___ transplant
 - 34 TX Larry Hagman's mom, Martin
 - 35 respectful response to a man: "Yes ___"
 - 36 a Texan, in a national sense
 - 37 this Estrada was in "Midway" with TX Dabney Coleman
 - 38 "___ a nice day"

- 39 TXism: "lower than a ___"
- 41 provide food at an event
- 42 TXism: "fits like ugly on an ___"
- 43 TXism: "worn to a frazzle"
- 44 oldest Polish town in the nation: Panna ____, TX

- 45 "yes" in Mexico
- 46 Texas river fish
- 47 TX Pride's "Is Anybody Goin' ___ Antone"
- 48 TXism: "let ___ be bygones" (make peace)
- 50 Texas site of Space X Starship: ___ Chica
- 51 TXism: "don't give a hoot ___ holler"
- 52 "___ of thieves"
- 53 "you ain't seen nothing ___"

- DOWN**
- 1 TXism: "___ ___ was up on jacks" (speeder)
 - 2 Palmeiro went from the Rangers to this team, twice

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

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GPD POLICE ACTIVITY

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CFM#	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
7/29/23	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20234212	0:08	FOREST HILL FOREST HILL	FOREST HILL FOREST HILL
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234213	0:43	EZ MART	400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20234214	1:53	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20234215	2:12	101 EMPIRE EMPIRE	101 EMPIRE EMPIRE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20234216	2:29	TELES MEXICAN RESTAURANT	401 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20234217	7:19	1 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE	1 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	ALARM/OTHER	20234218	7:33	1032 COMMERCE COMMERCE E	1032 COMMERCE COMMERCE E
	ALARM/OTHER	20234219	8:04	PMM PRODUCTS	1032 E COMMERCE COMMERCE ST
	FIRE DEPT	20234220	8:26	GLADEVIEW BAPTIST	901 CULVER CULVER ST
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20234221	9:24	890 BRIARCOVE BRIARCOVE	890 BRIARCOVE BRIARCOVE
	EMS	20234222	9:41	4411 COMMERCE COMMERCE	4411 COMMERCE COMMERCE
	EMS	20234223	10:20	DOLLAR TREE	1107 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20234224	10:37	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	EMS	20234226	11:45	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20234227	12:17	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20234228	12:45	3412 W HWY 80 HWY 80	3412 W HWY 80 HWY 80
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234229	13:18	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20234230	14:00	GAY AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL	100 W GAY GAY AVE
	FOUND/LOST/RECOVERED	20234231	14:32	DOLLAR GENERAL	904 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234232	14:42	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	10-50 MINOR	20234234	15:51	BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20234235	17:20	601 WOOD WOOD ST	601 WOOD WOOD ST
	BURGLARY/BUILDING	20234236	17:46	908 S TYLER TYLER ST	908 S TYLER TYLER ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234238	18:41	WELDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	314 E SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
	EMS	20234239	18:52	500 E EDDY EDDY	500 E EDDY EDDY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234240	19:02	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20234241	19:43	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234242	19:50	QUITMAN QUITMAN	800 E GLADE GLADE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234243	20:23	800 E GLADE GLADE	800 E GLADE GLADE
	ALARM/OTHER	20234244	21:51	FAMILY DOLLAR	801 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
7/24/23	EMS	20234245	0:05	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20234246	1:08	199 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST	199 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
	EMS	20234247	1:41	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ALARM/OTHER	20234248	10:05	ZIPS LIQUOR STORE	301 E UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20234249	11:14	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ASSIST	20234250	12:08	216 OAK OAK DR	216 OAK OAK DR
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20234252	13:21	PENNY'S FOOD & FUEL	807 S TYLER TYLER ST
	SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20234253	14:02	912 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR	912 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
	EMS	20234254	14:27	213 MOHAGANY MOHAGANY	213 MOHAGANY MOHAGANY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234256	16:46		
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234258	18:22	416 PARADISE HILL PARADISE HILL	416 PARADISE HILL PARADISE HILL
	FIRE DEPT	20234260	19:53	2447 SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD	2447 SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20234261	22:23	523 NORTH NORTH ST	523 NORTH NORTH ST
	EMS	20234262	22:51	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234263	23:46	GREENWAY VILLAGE	GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
7/29/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20234264	1:05	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234265	2:03	LAUNDRY KING	803 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20234266	2:58	711 W PACIFIC PACIFIC	711 W PACIFIC PACIFIC
	EMS	20234267	6:55	200 W GAY GAY AVE	200 W GAY GAY AVE
	THEFT	20234269	8:40	2808 W GAY GAY AVE	2808 W GAY GAY AVE
	ASSIST	20234271	10:28	1406 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE	1406 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234272	11:02	400 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	400 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20234274	12:13	2814 WILLOW OAK WILLOW OAK	2814 WILLOW OAK WILLOW OAK
	EMS	20234275	12:29	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	ABANDONED VEHICLE	20234276	13:50	GREGG GREGG	GREGG GREGG
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20234278	14:59	912 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR	912 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
	EMS	20234279	15:51		
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234282	17:26	200 MELBA MELBA	200 MELBA MELBA
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20234285	20:04	CENTER CENTER	CENTER CENTER
	EMS	20234287	20:45	1110 PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD	1110 PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD
	EMS	20234288	20:59	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20234289	23:42	GLADEWATER KNIFE	121 S MAIN MAIN
7/26/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20234290	0:25	RBS LIQUOR	1601 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20234291	3:06	801 COACH COCKSEY COACH COCKSEY	801 COACH COCKSEY COACH COCKSEY
	EMS	20234292	4:16	511 S TYLER TYLER	511 S TYLER TYLER
	ALARM/OTHER	20234293	8:36	2322 W GAY GAY AVE	2322 W GAY GAY AVE
	FRAUDULENT USE OF ID INFO	20234294	10:22	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20234295	13:55	912 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE	912 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234296	16:33	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	10-50 MINOR	20234297	17:14	AJ S FAST STOP FOOD	1708 N MAIN MAIN ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20234298	17:31	BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234299	18:03	UPSHUR COUNTY SO	485 N TITUS TITUS ST
	MURDER	20234300	18:19	1637 SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD	1637 SHELL CAMP SHELL CAMP RD
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20234301	22:46	46 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE	46 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	ABANDONED 911	20234302	22:59	904 COTTON COTTON	904 COTTON COTTON
7/27/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20234303	0:59	303 N LEE LEE	303 N LEE LEE
	UNAUTHORIZED USE MOTOR VEH	20234304	2:30	DOLLAR GENERAL	1621 N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20234305	6:00	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20234306	10:04	522 MELBA MELBA	522 MELBA MELBA
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20234307	10:05	501 PARADISE HILL PARADISE HILL	501 PARADISE HILL PARADISE HILL
	10-50 MINOR	20234309	11:20	DOLLAR GENERAL	2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20234310	12:09	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	EMS	20234311	12:35	2404 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS	2404 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS
	EMS	20234312	13:33	407 N LIVE OAK LIVE OAK	407 N LIVE OAK LIVE OAK
	FIRE DEPT	20234313	13:46	1000 UPSHUR UPSHUR	1000 UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20234315	14:12	208 ELEANOR ELEANOR	208 ELEANOR ELEANOR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234316	16:55	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234317	17:28	LOOP 271 LOOP 271	LOOP 271 LOOP 271
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234318	18:01	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234319	19:03	2105 PINECREST PINECREST	2105 PINECREST PINECREST
	EMS	20234320	20:53	802 COACH COCKSEY COACH COCKSEY ST	802 COACH COCKSEY COACH COCKSEY ST
	FIRE DEPT	20234321	22:00	LOOP 485 LOOP 485	LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	EMS	20234322	22:50	900 NORTH NORTH ST	900 NORTH NORTH ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20234323	22:54	700 W MELBA MELBA AVE	700 W MELBA MELBA AVE
7/28/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20234324	3:17	GAY GAY	GAY GAY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234325	6:25	1785 PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD	1785 PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD
	EMS	20234326	7:29	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	THEFT	20234327	7:53	2106 SHELLCAMP SHELLCAMP	2106 SHELLCAMP SHELLCAMP
	EMS	20234328	12:43	1014 N LYNN LYNN ST	1014 N LYNN LYNN ST
	ESCORT	20234331	16:39	CROLEY FUNERAL HOME	401 N CENTER CENTER ST
	FIRE DEPT	20234332	16:29	2685 2685	2685 2685
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20234334	17:41	HWY 80 HWY 80	HWY 80 HWY 80
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234336	22:28	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234337	23:00	1879 N WILLOW OAK WILLOW OAK RD	1879 N WILLOW OAK WILLOW OAK RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234338	23:48	CEFCO 79	1109 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
7/29/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20234339	0:44	1508 N LYNN LYNN ST	1508 N LYNN LYNN ST
	THEFT	20234340	7:11	1202 NELWYN NELWYN	1202 NELWYN NELWYN
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20234341	7:30	S TYLER TYLER ST	S TYLER TYLER ST
	CRIM MIS	20234342	7:39	2108 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY	2108 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20234343	11:39	OLIVE OLIVE ST	OLIVE OLIVE ST
	EMS	20234344	13:01	1922 SHELL SHELL CIR	1922 SHELL SHELL CIR
	ALARM/OTHER	20234345	14:20	1304 N EDWARDS EDWARDS ST	1304 N EDWARDS EDWARDS ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20234346	15:49	111 S MAIN MAIN ST	111 S MAIN MAIN ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20234347	15:56	1402 W GAY GAY AVE	1402 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	20234348	16:01	1406 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE	1406 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
	ASSIST	20234349	17:03	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	10-50 MINOR	20234350	20:06	271 271	271 271
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20234351	20:23	716 CANFIELD CANFIELD ST	716 CANFIELD CANFIELD ST
	FIRE DEPT	20234352	21:03	SWAMP CITY RD SWAMP CITY RD	SWAMP CITY RD SWAMP CITY RD
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20234353	21:57	512 W JEANETTE JEANETTE AVE	512 W JEANETTE JEANETTE AVE
	EMS	20234354	22:30	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234355	23:48	507 W QUITMAN QUITMAN AVE	507 W QUITMAN QUITMAN AVE
7/30/23	ABANDONED 911	20234356	1:04	1300 MARY MARY ST	1300 MARY MARY ST
	FIRE DEPT	20234367	4:49	23278 US 271 US 271	23278 US 271 US 271
	EMS	20234368	7:11	488 W GAY GAY	488 W GAY GAY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234369	7:14	MCKEESE MCKEESE	1995 W LAKE LAKE DRIV
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234360	8:47	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20234361	10:13	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20234362	10:54	ECONOMY INN	701 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20234365	15:18	1000 NELWYN NELWYN AVE	1000 NELWYN NELWYN AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234366	16:04	VITAL EARTH RESOURCES	706 E BROADWAY BROADWAY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234367	16:49	1995 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR	1995 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234368	17:17	QUANTUM PLASTICS 3D PLASTICS	1095 E COMMERCE COMMERCE
	EMS	20234369	18:22	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20234370	20:09	140 PR3479 PR3479	140 PR3479 PR3479
	MISCELLANEOUS	20234371	21:14	510 WOOD WOOD ST	510 WOOD WOOD ST

GPD POLICE ARRESTS

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS
7/24/23	7/24/23	14:14	WILSON, MICHAEL RAY	B	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	912 DR SHEPPARD E
	7/24/23	14:14	WILSON, MICHAEL RAY	B	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	912 DR SHEPPARD E
	7/24/23	14:14	WILSON, MICHAEL RAY	B	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	912 DR SHEPPARD E
7/26/23	7/26/23	18:00	BOLTON, BARRY ALFONZO JR	B	M	POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE IN PENALTY	511 S S TYLER
	7/26/23	18:00	BOLTON, BARRY ALFONZO JR	B	M	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	511 S S TYLER
	7/26/23	22:57	NICHOLSON, STUART	W	M	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	45 MCKEESE ST
	7/26/23	1:04	TACKER, WHITTEN SMITH	W	M	UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF FIREARM BY FELON	1600 S TYLER
8/1/23	8/1/23	23:17	CORONADO ALVAREZ, FERNANDO	W	M	ASSAULT: IMPEDE BREATH/CIRCULATION (FAMILY VIOLEN)	1108 E MARY
	8/1/23	13:47	POLK, KERTERRY WAYNE	B	M	ASSAULT: CAUSING BODILY INJURY (FAMILY VIOLENCE)	716 CANFIELD
	8/1/23	13:47	POLK, KERTERRY WAYNE	B	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	716 CANFIELD
	8/1/23	13:47	POLK, KERTERRY WAYNE	B	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	716 CANFIELD
	8/1/23	13:47	POLK, KERTERRY WAYNE	B	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	716 CANFIELD
	8/1/23	13:47	POLK, KERTERRY WAYNE	B	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	716 CANFIELD
8/2/23	8/2/23	17:53	GREEN, ADRIN DWAYNE	B	M	INDECENCY WITH A CHLD BY SEXUAL CONTACT	511 S TYLER
8/6/23	8/6/23	4:01	BROWN, TED WILLIAM	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	2000 GAY AVE
	8/6/23	4:01	BROWN, TED WILLIAM	W			

Congressman Moran introduces the Strong Communities Act of 2023

Congressman Nathaniel Moran (TX-01) recently introduced the Strong Communities Act of 2023 alongside Congresswoman Deborah Ross.

“Communities are best served by those who know it well. My legislation, the Strong Communities Act of 2023 will allow funding from the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant program to be used for the purpose of recruiting locals and sponsoring law enforcement training programs that will encourage recruits to stay and serve in the communities they know and love,” Moran said. “Attracting and retaining law enforcement officers is a challenge for many communities, and this legislation takes us a step closer to ensuring that local law enforcement has the manpower needed to keep our communities safe and secure.”

Congresswoman Ross added, “As we continue to face shortages of law enforcement officials nationwide, we must offer incentives for our police departments to help them recruit talent from their own communities. When our law enforcement reflects the people they serve, officers are more effective in their work, and citizens have greater confidence

and faith in the officials sworn to protect them. I’m proud to work with Congressman Moran in introducing this bipartisan bill and remain committed to providing our nation’s brave police departments with the tools they need to succeed and keep us safe.”

According to Moran’s office, states and localities across the country are facing a recruitment problem when it comes to law enforcement. The Strong Communities Act will incentivize recruits to stay in the communities they live in. Through recruitment from within the community, these recruits will know the people they protect and serve.

The grants offered through this program will be used to attract recruits to attend critical law enforcement training programs on the condition that enrollees work for their local law enforcement agency following completion of the training. This program will allow local communities to have

trained, qualified law enforcement officers that are familiar with the specific needs of its community.

To be eligible for these grants, recruits must:
 Agree to work for a law enforcement agency – defined as an agency of state or local government authorized to prevent, detect, investigate, or prosecute violations of criminal law – in their community at least four of the eight years following their completion of a law enforcement training program.

The law enforcement agency where officers and recruits ultimately work must be located within seven miles of the residence of the recruit – or 20 miles for counties with fewer than 150,000 residents.

If an officer does not complete the four-year work requirement in the eight years following completion of their training program, the officer must repay the grant amount to the law enforcement agency.

White Oak council weighs in on 2024 budget

By James Draper

Key numbers are still pending for Fiscal Year 2024 for the City of White Oak, but council members weighed in on the bulk of the community’s financial plan during their first annual budget workshop Aug. 3.

Importantly, there’s no final decision yet on the looming increase to the city’s water rates, and it featured prominently in the discussion last week, a preview of the council’s Aug. 8 meeting.

Meanwhile, a final decision on the FY24 tax rate is weeks away – the first-draft budget was crafted around the ‘voter approval rate’ of 0.70446 per \$100 valuation. At a 13.6 percent increase on the current FY23 rate of 0.62, it’s the maximum

number that can be adopted without putting the decision on a citywide ballot.

Taking the recent area-wide spike in appraised values into account, at a rate of 0.55268 per \$100 the municipality would collect the same amount of year-to-year revenue.

The final decision falls to council members, White Oak City Coordinator Jimmy Purcell noted: “Once we get into it some more and start talking about it, they may say, ‘Let’s keep it where it’s at.’ That’s in the middle. Or they may say, ‘Let’s go with 0.55.’ That’s still up for them to discuss and decide on.”

It’s been a good year for sales tax, Purcell told council members as he walked them through the draft budget –

after projecting \$1 million in revenue for FY23, the city has collected approximately \$1.33 million to date with two months left to go in the fiscal year.

Tasked with assembling the budget document for the council, City Secretary & Finance Director Kristine Toon said there’s a frustrating lack of information on employee benefits – acknowledging nearby Gladewater’s costs have increased about 30 percent, there are no firm numbers for White Oak as the current insurers have yet to provide the promised data.

“We are now going out to others,” Toon told council members.

In another delay, the city is still waiting to receive two Ford Explorers ordered last

October for White Oak PD. Almost a year later, council members green-lit a third vehicle in the FY24 budget to take advantage of lower pricing now.

In another key expenditure, the group quizzed Public Works Director Tracey Fears about a drainage project targeting runoff from Mari Beth Lane to Lake Street.

Ultimately, the city officials agreed to fund the roadwork at \$15,000, the number recommended by the project contractor and backed up by the engineer. Elsewhere, “We’re probably do a couple of projects this year, small projects,” Fears said. “Next year we’re hoping to do anywhere from a mile to a mile-and-a-half of city streets inside neighborhoods.”

The council was scheduled to meet Tuesday, Aug. 8, after the Gladewater Mirror’s print deadline with water rates being the central agenda item.

As of Aug. 3, Toon said, “I need an idea of what the rates are going so I can give you a better idea of what the revenues are going to be in the water account.”

Purcell praised city employees for keeping tight rein on the expenditures tied to their roles.

“They keep doing it a lot more efficiently, a lot better, a lot easier,” he said. “Mine is to make sure they have what they need to keep doing their job.”

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