

Gladewater Mirror

Find us on Facebook

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"



Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023

Vol. 95, No. 37

1 Section, 10 pages

50¢



Haddassah Balcorta, daughter of Paul and Sakkinah Balcorta was crowned GHS' 2023 Homecoming Queen at Friday's ceremonies at Jack V. Murphy Stadium. Others honored were GHS Band Sweetheart and Beau Johnnay Hawley and Timothy Heashe, and GHS Football Sweetheart and Beau Brianna Willson and Tristan Collins.

Photo by Kim Hill

Water, tax increases officially on tap for White Oak residents

By James Draper

White Oak's tax rate and water charges will be increasing in coming weeks as city leaders strive to close the gap toward sustainable numbers after years of relatively low figures.

Council members have spent recent weeks and months discussing the city's budget as well as the property taxes and water revenues that support it. On Tuesday, they finished up some of those dialogues with a unanimous record vote to propose a tax rate of \$0.64241 per \$100 valuation for the coming fiscal year.

Working with City Hall's leadership and considering updated data from local tax personnel, the elected officials opted for the so-called 'voter-approval tax rate' Sept. 5, the highest rate the municipality may adopt without putting it to voters. It's a 2.2 percent increase on the current tax rate for FY '22-23 (\$0.62875) and will reap more revenue relative to this year after recent countywide increases in appraised values.

Those revenues total about \$2,647,000, according to White Oak City Coordinator Jimmy Purcell said.

"And if we went with that route, that's about \$23,000 short," he told the council.

Only a couple of residents attended the Sept. 5 Special Meeting, following on a handful the week before who exchanged brief comments with

the council during public hearings on the tax rate and budget (projected at about \$4.1 million in the latest iteration posted at cityofwhiteoak.com).

That meeting also saw the council members reach a consensus on the city's looming water rate increase. From their discussion, average water usage in White Oak (approximately 5,000 gallons per month) will cost about 82 percent more moving forward from this fall.

On Aug. 29, the elected officials and city workers agreed the base rate should be increased from \$24.60 to \$41.75. Customers will then be charged for usage per 1,000 gallons on an updated tier system with relative increases.

Currently, the adjusted water rates are scheduled to go into effect in October.

Following their end-of-August meeting, Purcell reached out to the city's attorney to clarify how funds from White Oak Economic Development Corporation can and cannot be used, particularly how they could be employed to offset city expenses. The council had discussed dipping into reserves to cover an anticipated shortfall and also debated asking WEDCO to assist in the purchase of a VeraBank property. Purcell suggested acquiring the 2,627 square-foot building on South White Oak Road to use as a community center.

"Our city is a Type B sales tax revenue," Purcell reminded the council

Sept. 5. "They can pretty much do a lot except for when it comes to putting money together for a loss to make up. They can do just about anything else," from buying land and buildings to paying for equipment, facilities, infrastructure, street repair, water repair, drainage, demolition...

"There's a lot there that WEDCO can help. With that being said, I feel that the area where we're short, by going through the budget and pulling out what has been budgeted for '23-24, WEDCO can make up the difference."

WEDCO was scheduled to meet Sept. 12, part of the city's overall itinerary for wrapping up financial plans for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, which begins Oct. 1. Requisite public hearings on the proposed tax rate are set for Sept. 19 before the council's final consideration.

"Either way, whatever our deficit is, WEDCO can pick it up," Mayor Kyle Kutch said. "No going into the reserves."

White Oak's reserves currently total \$2,431,564, about seven months of operating costs, according to City Secretary & Finance Director Kristine Toon.

Notably, the all-but-final budget includes a requisite 15 percent increase in health insurance premiums as well as a 3 percent raise for city personnel. Property insurance and worker's compensation costs have increased as well, Toon noted.

WEEK 4

FOOTBALL

IT'S GAME TIME!



Gladewater vs Malakoff
7:30 p.m. Friday at Gladewater



Union Grove vs Linden-Kildare
7:30 p.m. Thursday at Linden



White Oak vs Brook Hill
7:00 p.m. Friday at White Oak

Gladewater, White Oak post positive sales tax numbers

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced last week he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.1 billion in local sales tax allocations for September, 3.4 percent more than in September 2022.

These allocations are based on sales made in July by businesses that report tax monthly. Gladewater continues to ride the wave of positive sales tax revenue numbers - 11.73-percent above last year's numbers for the same reporting time. Gladewater is not had a negative month in almost two years.

White Oak also is posting strong numbers - 10.77-percent ahead of last year's sales tax revenue figures.

County	City	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
Gregg	Clarksville City	1.000%	\$8,412.00	\$5,388.09	56.12%	\$86,730.24	\$65,933.50	31.54%
Gregg	Easton	1.000%	\$6,625.95	\$5,670.98	16.83%	\$47,462.51	\$45,748.45	3.74%
Gregg	Gladewater	1.500%	\$123,212.99	\$110,270.12	11.73%	\$1,257,436.94	\$1,035,912.86	21.38%
Gregg	Kilgore	1.500%	\$725,603.79	\$758,983.34	-4.39%	\$7,387,219.43	\$6,677,875.30	10.62%
Gregg	Lakeport	1.500%	\$22,286.40	\$25,502.40	-12.61%	\$259,202.49	\$221,843.30	16.84%
Gregg	Longview	1.500%	\$3,524,854.82	\$3,379,609.06	4.29%	\$35,191,152.70	\$32,781,954.30	7.34%
Gregg	Warren City	1.000%	\$1,203.26	\$605.45	98.73%	\$14,013.44	\$13,388.40	4.66%
Gregg	White Oak	1.500%	\$133,988.97	\$120,954.39	10.77%	\$1,245,170.88	\$1,120,036.43	11.17%
Upshur	Big Sandy	1.250%	\$26,154.51	\$23,454.69	11.51%	\$224,933.16	\$219,391.26	2.52%
Upshur	East Mountain	1.000%	\$3,574.21	\$2,871.39	24.47%	\$41,860.18	\$31,151.36	34.37%
Upshur	Gilmer	1.500%	\$225,387.53	\$216,516.73	4.09%	\$2,055,781.59	\$1,910,108.96	7.62%
Upshur	Ore City	1.250%	\$40,479.33	\$18,798.62	115.33%	\$174,971.01	\$172,140.55	1.64%
Upshur	Union Grove	1.000%	\$508.71	\$387.65	31.22%	\$4,278.60	\$3,670.86	16.55%

Burn ban remains in place

Temperatures have been markedly cooler and recent rains have certainly been refreshing, but the area is still very much in the wildfire danger zone.

Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons' is as grateful as anyone for the milder weather of recent days, but he's especially thankful local residents have respected the county burn bans that have been in place since early August.

Fortunately, there have been no major incidents to speak of within Gladewater, though firefighters have responded to other flare-ups and are taking reports of smoke very seriously.

"We've had a few tiny things, and most of those are outside the city limits," Simmons said. "We've been holding our own and doing well."

Don't let the break in the high temperatures and a handful of rainy days create a false sense of security, he says.

"I know we've got some cooler weather coming, but I don't know when they'll lift the burn ban."

According to the Keech-Byrum Drought Index (KBDI) the area is sitting at 738 on the dryness reference scale, which has a max of 800. Even with recent precipitation, Simmons added, dryness is still increasing.

It will take significant moisture to make up for the current deficit and other positive developments to mitigate the fire risk overall.

"It doesn't have to do with just rainfall, but also temperatures, heating, fuel loads, winds and, also, precipitation," Simmons noted. "We typically go into the burn ban at 600. It's 738 with the arrow going up, so it's still drying out."

When the local KBDI drops below 600, officials will consider lifting the burn ban. Meanwhile, "We appreciate our citizens for adhering to the burn ban."



GLADEWATER Arts and Crafts
This coming weekend

The 50th Annual Gladewater & Crafts Festival will be held Sept. 16-17 on the GISD Administration Building grounds, located at 200 Broadway Ave. The two-day event will feature arts and crafts, homemade goods, jewelry, unique handmade works, food, toys and much more! for more information contact the Chamber of Commerce at info@gladewaterchamber.org or 903-845-5501.

OPINION/COMMENTARY

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.

Scars ...

A year and a half after the attack on the Twin Towers I was in New York City speaking at Columbia University at a national scholastic journalism convention. It seemed odd to teach year-book theme to hundreds of teenagers in a world that was different, in a city that was different, to a people who were different because we had been attacked on American soil by terrorists.

New Yorkers carried on but were subdued. Even a year and a half later rubble filled where the Twin Towers and other buildings once stood. The rubble was fenced in and the crowds were fenced out. There were heavily armed guards who protected the rubble because it wasn't just rubble.

It was quiet around the site. It was ugly and devastating and invoked heartbreak and anger. Now I understand that it is a beautiful memorial and historical site...much like the sunken battleship the USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor. Separated by 60 years the stories have much in common. Ordinary people rose to an extraordinary circumstance in one unexpected moment.

I had the privilege of meeting and visiting with several firefighters who had survived the fall of the Twin Towers. There were also a lot of rookies I met who had replaced the 343 lost in the darkness of that day.

You didn't have to ask who the veterans were. Even if they were the same age as the rookies their eyes were different. You could see 9/11 in them. I met an NYPD officer, Sgt. Richard Miranda, who helped evacuate over 3,000 frightened elementary children from the area. He took me to an off limits floor in a high rise next to the site and for about 45 minutes told me his story as we looked down into the ashes.

I listened. Really listened and saw the best of what we could be. But I also saw the scars. Scars borne by people who survived and scars on that city and her people.

Scars are interesting things. Some people are embarrassed or ashamed of their scars. Some hide them. Some ignore them and

Paxton trial completes first week

The first week of suspended Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's impeachment trial in the Senate ended with his former lead law enforcement officer testifying an Austin developer alleged to have bribed Paxton constructed a "conspiracy theory" that federal officials altered a search warrant for his property, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

David Maxwell, the former AG official, said real estate developer Nate Paul pushed Paxton to investigate federal law enforcement agencies probing his business. Paul has since been indicted for inflating his assets on loan applications. Paxton aides looked into Paul's allegations at Paxton's request but concluded they were meritless.

"My feeling was Nate Paul was a criminal and we should not be associating with Nate Paul," Maxwell testified.

Maxwell was ultimately fired by Paxton for insubordination after he resisted investigating Paul's allegations.

Paxton blames the impeachment on his political opponents. He appeared on the first day of the trial but has not been in the Senate chamber since then.

Appeals court: Buoys can stay for now

A federal appeals court last week stayed a federal district judge's ruling that the floating barrier installed by the state in the Rio Grande to stem illegal entry by migrants violated federal law and treaties.

A three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals temporarily halted U.S. District Judge David Ezra's order that the 1,000-foot barrier near Eagle Pass be removed by Sept. 15, pending an as-yet unscheduled hearing.

The U.S. Department of Justice filed the lawsuit, saying the buoys violated an 1899 federal law that forbids unauthorized construction in navigable waterways, The Dallas Morning News reported. Gov. Greg Abbott argued the river is too shallow to be navigable and that an "invasion" of migrants and drug smugglers made it necessary for the state to defend itself.

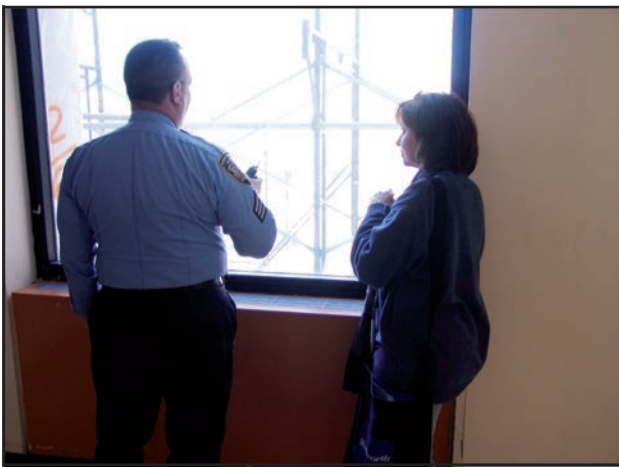
"Texas has clear constitutional authority to defend its territory against the invasion that Governor Abbott has declared," the state told the lower court last week. Ezra rejected that argument, saying by that reasoning the state could declare an invasion and wage war at will.

Mexican authorities have lodged formal diplomatic complaints, and critics of the buoys in the United States called them inhumane.

ERCOT calls for power conservation

For the first time this summer, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas last week declared an emergency, introducing the possibility of rolling blackouts to stabilize the state's power grid.

A sudden drop in power reserves last Wednesday night caused the system to lose more power than expected, prompting the first emergency alert since Winter Storm Uri



New York Police Sgt. Richard Miranda recounts his experiences on 9/11 to Suzanne Bardwell as they look down into the rubble of the Twin Towers from a nearby building.

forget they are even there. And some scars are worn proudly. Those scars produce strength and tell a story that needs to be remembered.

On this observance of 9/11, we need to remember to pray for all those who serve us, who put their lives on the line because of the job they were called to do. Many of their stories we will never know, but that doesn't make them any less true.



in February 2021, according to kut.org.

The emergency lasted about two hours, though the next day, for the 11th time, ERCOT asked Texans to conserve power as continued extreme heat pushed electric usage close to its capacity.

Texans have experienced the second-hottest summer on record, the Texas Tribune reported, with an average temperature of 85.3 degrees between June and the end of August. That average is just behind the record set in 2011, when blistering heat and dry conditions pushed the average temperature to 86.8 degrees, and wildfires swept the state.

The good news is that the heat wave is expected to finally break this week, with rain expected and temperatures dropping down well below the triple digits that much of the state has weathered since June.

Crypto miner gets \$31 million to cut energy use

The cryptocurrency mining company Riot, located in what was once an Alcoa power plant in Rockdale, was paid \$31 million in August to cut its energy use, according to the Houston Chronicle.

Cryptocurrency mining requires vast amounts of electricity to power computers, and the facility in Rockdale is North America's largest bitcoin mine.

"August was a landmark month for Riot in showcasing the benefits of our unique power strategy," Jason Les, CEO of Riot, said in a news release last week.

Les said the company raked in \$31.7 million in energy credits from ERCOT by cutting its power use by more than 95 percent during periods of peak demand. The state offers payouts to bitcoin mining companies during periods of peak demand but also expects them to use more power when supply exceeds demand.

Texas prisons on complete lockdown

An increase in drug-related violence at state prisons prompted the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to issue a statewide lockdown of all 100 prison facilities, the Texas Tribune reported. No visitors will be allowed until a system-wide search for illegal drugs and other contraband is completed.

"The safety of inmates, staff, and the public is our highest priority," said Cris Love, TDCJ's inspector general. "Illegal drugs within our facilities will not be tolerated. Individuals found smuggling contraband will be arrested and subject to prosecution."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

So I was sitting at the light at Main St., eastbound on Highway 80, at about 5:20 pm on Thursday, Sept. 7. Right lane. A landscaping truck with its trailer piled high with cut tree branches turned right from North Main onto westbound Highway 80. Apparently not everything on the trailer was well secured, because a large log, about 4 feet long and 8 inches in diameter, fell off the trailer, rolled a little, and landed in the middle of the intersection. I thought to myself, "Oh my goodness! Someone should move that log out of the road! But who? I can't do it - it's too big." Westbound traffic got the green, but the inner lane of vehicles (three or four of them) could not move because of the log. They had to wait till the right lane cleared, then drove around the log. Then northbound traffic got the green, and a left-turning car swerved around the log and turned into the little parking area of the realty business there. The driver got out of his car, made sure nothing was coming, then removed the log from the road. "Thank you" to the man in the green shirt for taking the initiative to do something that needed to be done!

Carol H. Blair

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Metro outlook ...

Although there are clearly challenges facing the global economy, the outlook for Texas remains largely favorable. Looking within the state, projected growth across all the entire spectrum of diverse metropolitan areas is also positive, though the pace of expansion varies notably. Let's take a quick look at some of our latest projections for the next five years.



In terms of the sheer numbers of net new jobs, about 79% of the state's total increase of over 1.3 million positions are expected to be created in Texas' seven major metropolitan areas, with almost half of them in the largest two alone: Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA—rising 318,400) and Dallas-Plano-Irving Metropolitan Division (MD—up about 311,300). Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown (+130,000), Fort Worth-Arlington-Grapevine (+112,000), and San Antonio-New Braunfels (+108,000) are also expected to add substantial new workers.

When we focus on the rate of growth, however, the picture is a bit different. We are projecting that Midland will see the largest percentage increase in employment over the next five years, with a gain of about 10.4%. Expansion through 2027 in the greater Dallas, greater Austin, Tyler, and Brownsville-Harlingen areas is also likely to top 10%. McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, Fort Worth-Arlington-Grapevine, Odessa, Sherman-Denison, and greater Houston are likely to outpace the overall state rate of expansion (9.5%), with several other metro areas forecast to have total employment gains over the five-year horizon of more than 9%. The lowest total job increase we are projecting for any Texas population center is just below 8%.

Turning to output (real gross product) gains over the next five years, the areas projected to see fastest pace are generally in or adjacent to oil and gas production areas. Midland tops the list, with an expected total five-year increase of nearly 29%. We are forecasting that each of the Texas metropolitan areas will expand output by at least 15% between 2022 and 2027.

As drivers and centers of Texas economic activity, the growth of the largest MSAs generate benefits that ripple through smaller communities and rural areas across the state. At the same time, in many smaller metros, economies are healthy and there have been notable locations and expansions, setting the stage for continued positive general patterns for the foreseeable future.

Business cycles are inevitable, and there are certainly notable headwinds at this time. Even so, Texas' population centers are well positioned for notable employment and output increases over the next five years. I threw a lot of numbers at you, but hopefully they leave you with the notion that the highly diverse Texas economy - which spans mountains, valleys, deserts, forests, tropics, beaches, and all manner of business activity - is poised for ongoing growth in the coming years. Stay safe!

THE DOCTRINE OF SALVATION BY FAITH ONLY

For the next few weeks, I want to discuss one of the most widespread doctrinal misconceptions among religious people today, that being the idea that people are saved simply by "accepting Jesus as their personal Savior." This idea is often called the "doctrine of salvation by faith only."

I will begin by showing you that the idea about being saved by "faith only" is an inaccurate and erroneous conception. We begin with James 2: 24, which says: "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only." As you consider James 2: 24 I believe you can clearly see how it contradicts the idea that people are saved or justified by "faith only." In fact, I think it is interesting that this is the only place where the phrase "faith only" appears, and instead of saying that we are "saved or justified by faith only" it says right the opposite. It tells us, we are not justified or saved by "faith only."

Dear friends, it is certainly true that people are saved or justified by faith. Romans 5: 1 plainly says: "Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." To justify a person is to pronounce him free from any guilt or blame. When one through faith puts sin out of his heart and life, and submits to the will of God, he is forgiven of his sins. He is then declared to be righteous. He is forgiven of his sins, he is justified, he is saved. Thus, faith in Christ means full acceptance of Christ as He is revealed to us and the faithful ordering of our lives according to His will. People greatly err who seek to prove that we are justified by faith "only," without obedience to the gospel. Therefore, the phrase "justified by faith," does not warrant the conclusion that we are saved or justified by faith "only."

So yes, dear friends, it's certainly true that people are "saved by faith" but the widespread idea that people "are saved by faith only" is not what the Bible teaches. In fact, as we have shown, the Bible teaches that salvation is "not by faith only"! Think on these things. Continued next week.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ
P. O. Box 454 - White Oak, Texas 75693- 903-736-1822-dennis.abernathy845@gmail.com.

North & East Texas Press Association

The Gladewater Mirror

Periodicals Postage Paid
Gladewater, TX
USPS 575-140
ISSN Number 1045-5671

The Gladewater Mirror is published weekly by Bardwell Ink, LLC
211 N. Main Street
Gladewater, TX

POSTMASTER: Send PS3579 to The Gladewater Mirror P.O. Box 1549 Gladewater, TX 75647

Subscriptions are \$36/year in Gregg, Smith & Upshur counties and payable in advance.

News & Advertising Deadlines: Noon Monday
Office Hours - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Telephone: 903-845-2235

Email: gladewatermirror@aol.com

Owners:
Jim & Suzanne Bardwell

Publisher/Editor: Jim Bardwell
Reporting: James Draper
Advertising: Darla Ferguson
Office Manager: Tiffany Harroff

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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 bok sale

The Lee-Bardwell Library with host a book sale - sponsored by the Friends of the Lee-Bardwell Library - in connection with the Gladewater Chamber of Commerec's Arts and Crafts Festival, Spet. 16-17. The books will be sold at the library - 312 W Pacific Ave. in Gladewater. Call 903-845-2640 for information.

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.

GHS Class '73 renuion Sept. 23

Come join us at the Gladewater High School All-School Reunion to honor Outstanding Alumni including Jack Jones (Class of 1964) and Dr. John Hood (Class of 1985). The All-School Reunion is set for 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, at the Gladewater Former Students Building. Online registration and payment of \$30 are available on the GSFA website at gladewater-formerstudents.com. Attendees may also mail a check to GFSA, P.O. Box 1425, Gladewater, TX 75647.

5K run on tap

Caring Hearts of Gladewater's latest 5K Run/Walk returns to Lake Gladewater Saturday, Oct. 14.

The annual event is being co-sponsored by Gym 101 and benefits Longview Cancer Center.

"During this event, the Christus Health Mammogram bus will be available for on-site screenings for local women who have either never had a mammogram or need one," organizers announced. "They are offering screening vouchers of \$99 per person to complete this process. "Your contribution towards these vouchers will help ensure that many in our community will be tested, which reduces the risk of death due to breast cancer."

Registration for the Run/Walk begins at 7 a.m. Oct. 14 and will wrap up at 7:45 a.m.

before the event's official 8 o'clock start.

It's \$10 to participate for children and \$20 for adults. Checks should be made out to Caring Hearts at P.O. Box 1404 in Gladewater, TX 75647.

The organizers are still seeking vendors for the event. For more information on Race/Walk details or to sign up as a vendor or donor, contact Shelia Faggins at 903-844-1326 or Teresa Gordon at 903-812-3269.

"We would be very grateful for any help you can provide."

County library hosts storytime Thursday

Both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday (Sept. 14) will feature a "pajama party" theme in which children are urged to wear pajamas and bring their stuffed animals.

Two books will be read at both the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. gatherings--"Duck and Penguin Do Not Like Sleepovers" by Julia Wolf, and "Ruby's Sleepover" by Kathryn White and Miriam Latimer.

Children are also encouraged to leave their stuffed animals overnight for a "stuffed animal sleepover," and pick them up the next day.

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.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.64241 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of the City of White Oak.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.64241 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.55268 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.64241 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for the City of White Oak from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that the City of White Oak may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that the City of White Oak is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2023 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 19, 2023 at 5 p.m. at White Oak City Hall, 906 S. White Oak Rd, White Oak, Tx 75693.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, the City of White Oak is not required to hold an election which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the City Council of the City of White Oak at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal: Kevin Hood, Dana Mizell, Joseph Stephens, John Frazier, Thomas Cash
 AGAINST the proposal:
 PRESENT not voting: Kyle Kutch
 ABSENT:

For assistance or detailed information about tax calculations, please contact:

Michelle Terry, Tax Assessor-Collector
 101 E. Methvin, Suite 215, Longview TX 75601
 903-237-2552
proptax@co.gregg.tx.us

GISD's Weldon Elementary School auditorium needs \$600,000 in repairs

Mid-June's raging weather caused significant damage to the roof of the auditorium at Weldon Elementary. Combined with a faulty thermostat that kept the building frigid in high humidity, mold has moved in.

It's sharing space with asbestos in the acoustic insulation, which means a pending \$600,000 refurbishment will mitigate multiple problems in one go.

The district's insurance will cover \$100,000 of that pricetag, according to Matt McIntosh, director of grounds and maintenance.

"Best we can determine is in June during the storm we had a portion of debris that got peeled back. We didn't inspect that because we don't have access to that roof," he said, "there's no ladder that can go up there.

"Then, we had a runaway thermostat. It dropped to 61 degrees in that building with all of that humidity."

Months later, mold buildup has to be scraped off the walls and other surfaces, carpets have to be cleaned and seats have to be refreshed

among other tasks.

"That's before we can actually start working," he said. "We need a whole new roof. It's just been patched... At this point we want to go in and get rid of all the asbestos in the building."

After the clean-up and asbestos mitigation, McIntosh recommends installing a 3-foot acoustical drop-ceiling, which costs about \$20,000 less than new acoustic spray, improves acoustics overall and should lead to other cost efficiencies down the road.

"It's probably going to be a three-month project once we get everybody on board," McIntosh noted. "We actually have the auditorium locked down now."

With a nod from the board, the project will come back before them soon as a fund balance request, likely a disaster declaration, in order to move forward with the repairs and mitigation.

Texas Water:

Present and Future Needs 2023

With Texas voters preparing to weigh in on a proposed constitutional amendment to help finance water projects, Comptroller Glenn Hegar today announced the publication of his agency's report, *Texas Water: Present and Future Needs 2023* (PDF), which echoes critical water issues highlighted in the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) latest plan.

"This summer's record-breaking heat has been absolutely brutal on all Texans and has clearly reinforced that our state must ensure we have adequate and reliable water supplies for the Texas economy to prosper and to guarantee economic opportunities for future generations,"

said Hegar, a member of the board of advisers for the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas, a financial assistance program for water projects designed to conserve existing water supplies and create additional water supplies.

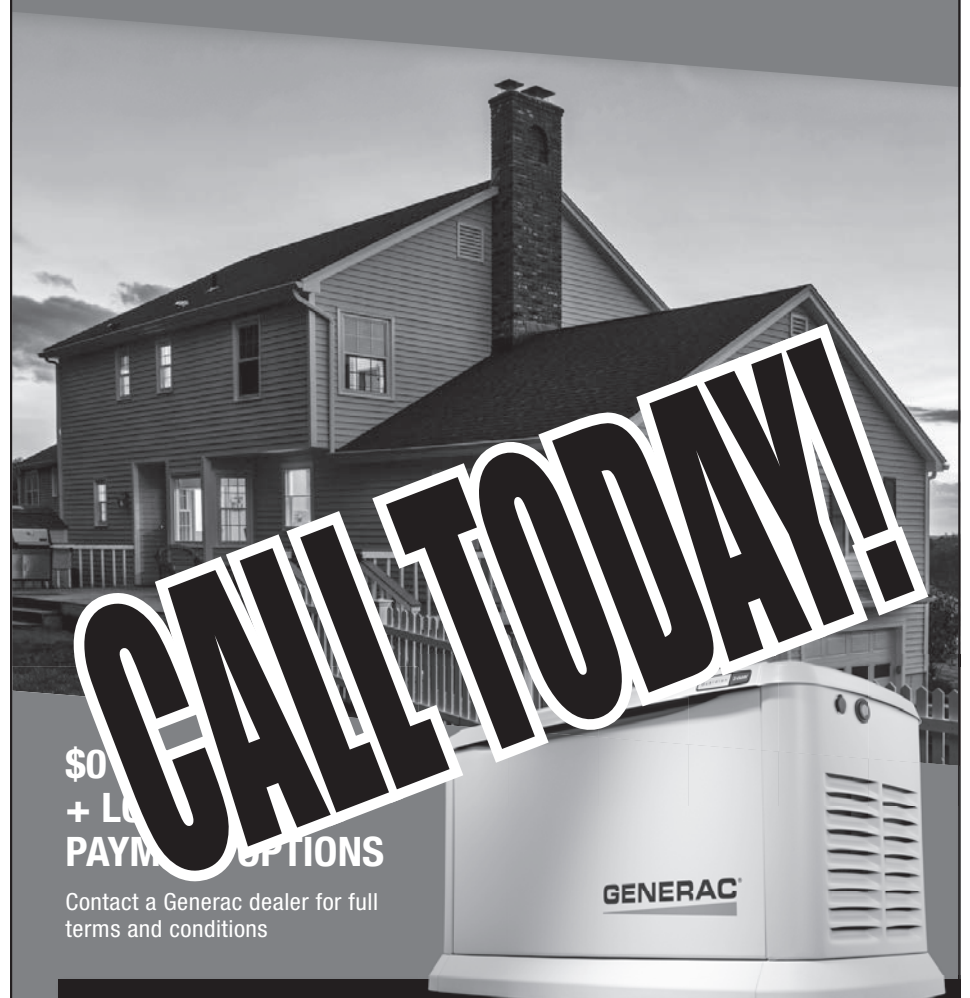
The 88th Legislature this year worked to support state and local stakeholders to ensure water needs are met. Senate Bill 28, the New Water Supply for Texas Fund, was passed to provide financial assistance to TWDB to fund water supply projects that create new water sources for the state, including desalination projects, produced water treatment projects, aquifer storage and recovery projects

and the development of infrastructure to transport water that is made available by the new water supply projects. This fund will only be established if Texas voters approve Proposition 6 on Nov. 7.

"Extreme weather patterns, aging infrastructure and Texas' daily net migration of 1,000 people necessitate increased attention to the state's water supply," Hegar said. "The Statewide Water Plan and this report set forth actionable strategies and projects that clearly demonstrate how Texas will withstand future droughts, and the New Water Supply for Texas Fund, if implemented, will help ensure a more secure water future for Texas."

PROTECT WHAT MATTERS MOST

Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator.



\$0 + Low Monthly Payments
 PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(903) 996-3189

FREE 7-year Extended Warranty* - A \$735 Value!

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

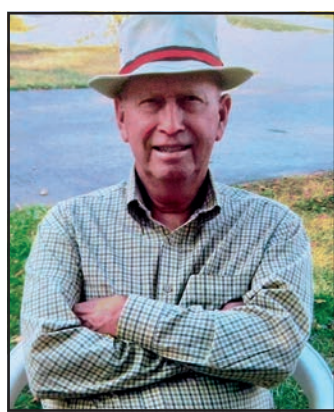


To Advertise Your Business
Call Us At 903-845-2235

OBITUARIES

BOBBY (BOB) SHARP

Bobby (Bob) Sharp, 90, of Midland, went to meet his Lord and Savior on September 3, 2023, at his home with his family by his side. Bobby was born in Gladewater to Lee Verner Sharp and Mildred Allene (Cary) Sharp on August 22, 1933.



Bob lost his father in a tragic car accident at a young age, and he assumed the role of "man of the house" for his mother and sister. This life-changing event was pivotal in shaping who he became and how he lived his life with integrity and determination. Bob was always proud of his family and growing up in the small town of Gladewater, where locks on your doors were

never used and friendships last a lifetime. No such words were ever truer as evidenced over this past month when lifelong friends have streamed by to visit with Bob after he suffered a massive stroke on July 29, 2023. Those friendships he formed in the small, sleepy town of Gladewater, and so many other friendships made over the course of his life, were expressed by numerous phone calls, get well cards and in person visits to encourage him, pray with him and for him and his family and to reminisce about a memorable golf game from years ago.

While attending elementary and high school in Gladewater, Bob was introduced to the game of golf. He started young as a caddy and was on the golf course every waking

minute and it paid off in his later years. He was on the golf team for Gladewater High School and then went onto play at Kilgore College. After finishing at Kilgore College, he joined the United States Air Force. Bob's character always reflected his pride in our country, and he proudly served in the Korean conflict. While a portion of his service time was spent in Alaska, he had no complaints when his unit was transferred to Eglin Air Force Base in Ft. Walton, Florida and he was able to join the Air Force golf team. After completing four years of active duty, with another four of inactive, his good friend, Jack "Spot" Collins wrote him a letter to encourage him to attend Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, where Bob went onto receive his Business Degree in 1960. He also played on the golf team and earned many honors on the golf course. His first year on the team he never lost a match. Bob set a new collegiate scoring record of 66 at the Border Olympics in Laredo. He won Abilene City Championship several times and carded a record nine-hole score of 28 at Maxwell Golf Course. He also won the Texas Public Links in Abilene and was captain of the Hardin-Simmons golf team. Bob was inducted into the Hardin Simmons Sports Hall of Fame in 1994. Bob was so proud of his time at HSU and the friendships made during his collegiate career. Many of those friends were with him and praying for him until his last day. His persistence, talent, and experiences from Gladewater to Abilene lead him to his next adventure on the PGA Tour in 1962-1963. The PGA stories, opportunities and friendships along the way are plentiful, but he always got a kick out of telling his daughters about his experiences on and off the course. He first met Arnold Palmer when Bob shared with Mr. Palmer a "smashed" birthday cake he had received in the mail. Chi Chi Rodriguez, Tony Lema and others soon joined in the celebration. Bob's favorite PGA story was when Mr. Jack Tuthill, head of the PGA, called to ask him to fill in for Ken Venturi in a Pro-Am in Pensacola, Florida. When Bob showed up, his amateur partner was upset about the last-minute change and wouldn't shake hands. After a second-place finish in the tournament, the amateur player who owned a local tire store, offered to buy Bob a set of new tires for his car. Bob's passion for golf resulted in an estimated 50 amateur and collegiate tournament wins and 10 holes in ones. While he loved the game, he cherished the friendships made along the way even more. In 1963, Bob left the professional golf ranks and went to work in the oil business.

While living in Graham, Texas he met and married Betty

(Reynolds) Stone, his sweetheart. They moved to Arlington in 1966 where he worked for W-K-M and then later the Hunt Brothers. It was there they raised three daughters, Lisa Bownds of Midland, Nancy Johnson of Midland and Rebecca Arber of Fort Worth. Bob was thrilled when his daughters' found men that shared his faith, convictions, and integrity. He welcomed sons-in-law Wesley Bownds of Midland and David Arber of Ft. Worth to the family and no longer felt outnumbered at every family gathering. While he always hoped this would help him have more say in family conversations with his daughters, his hope never came to fruition. Over his 58 years of marriage, Bob and Betty not only treasured the blessings of their daughters, and sons-in-laws, but cherished the addition of 8 grandchildren to the family. Tyler Gifford of Lipan, Cole Gifford of Stephenville, Audrey Gifford of Granbury, Darrell Johnson of Midland, Abby Behrens of Breckenridge, Bobby Johnson of Midland, Kelsey Dunn of Dallas, and Britney Knickerbocker of Virginia. Although Bob never had a chance to meet the newest addition to the family, his great granddaughter, Letty Von Gifford of Lipan, he loved every picture and video he received.

Bob's career path in oil and gas sales has taken him on a roller coaster ride through several company buy-outs and mergers. However, one of his most significant career accomplishments occurred when in 2010 he began working at Tanklogix, a relatively new company just getting started in the Permian Basin. He was extremely proud of the success of the company during the past 13 years and enjoyed the new friendships he made there. The family is very grateful for all the help and support from the entire Tanklogix team.

Bob had a quick wit, and many "one-liners" from "You can't enjoy a steak until you eat a hot dog", to "Times change- values don't," to the "Hardest thing to learn is what we already know." He accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior at the age of 33 in Arlington, Texas at New York Avenue Baptist Church. In no way did he ever claim to be perfect. In fact, he would say he prayed each day "God help me this day to remember who I am. I am a sinner saved by GRACE!" As Bob struggled with his health this past month from the physical damage from his stroke, he never feared death. He always knew his final destination. We had open conversations about heaven, his Lord Jesus Christ and the assurance of salvation. We are grateful for the example he and Betty have set and lived out in their daily lives for 58 years together.

Bob will certainly be missed, but we rejoice he intentionally shared his love, faith, stories and experiences with so many. Funeral service was held at 3:00 p.m., Friday, September 8, 2023 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home Chapel. The family will hold a private graveside service at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests you prayerfully consider a donation that would make a difference in someone's life to either Hardin-Simmons University Golf Team, 2200 Hickory, Abilene, Texas 79698 or Reflection Ministries of Texas, P.O. Box 52371, Midland, Texas 79701 reflectionministriestx.org Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences may be made at www.npwelch.com.

Who cares about public notices?

YOU SHOULD

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Protect public notices in newspapers and protect your right to know.

America's Newspapers

America's Newspapers is a national association supporting journalism and healthy newspapers in our local communities. Find out more at www.newspapers.org or follow us on Twitter @newspapersorg or on Facebook @americasnewspapers

newspapers.org/public-notice

To Advertise Your Business

Call Us At 903-845-2235

Sunday Services

See your helpful hardware folks at... **Bailey's ACE**

Store hours:
 Mon-Fri 7:00-7:00
 Sat 8:00-6:00
 Sun 1:00-5:00

Gladewater, TX
903.845.5787

J.O. Williams

Since 1936
 300 Hwy. 80 East
 Gladewater
 903.845.2222

SONIC
 America's Drive-In

Hwy. 80
 Gladewater, TX
903.845.2559

We don't start cookin' til we hear from you!

- BAPTIST**
- Calvary Baptist • 903-845-6297
 - Clarksville City Baptist • 903-845-3248
 - Cornerstone Church • 903-918-5539
 - East Mountain Baptist • 903-759-2820
 - Eastview Baptist Church • 903-984-8524
 - First Baptist Church • 903-845-2171
 - Friendship Baptist Church • 903-845-4603
 - Gladeview Baptist • 903-845-3842
 - Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174
 - Grace Baptist • 903-845-6440
 - Greater New Hope Baptist
 - Locust Grove Baptist • 903-845-5174
 - Gladewater Bible • 903-845-4768
 - New Hope Baptist • 903-845-3042
 - St. James Baptist • 903-845-5028
 - Union Grove Baptist • 903-845-4894
 - Olde Tyme Baptist Church • 903-806-2411
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
- East Mountain Church of Christ • 903-285-1871
 - North Loop Church of Christ • 903-845-2531
 - North Main Church of Christ • 903-845-2816
 - Rocky Church of Christ
- CATHOLIC**
- St. Theresa's Catholic Church • 903-845-2306
- CHARISMATIC**
- New Life Church • 903-845-8108
- LUTHERAN**
- Our Redeemer Lutheran • 903-758-2019
- CHURCH OF GOD**
- Elevate Worship Center • 903-374-2064
- NAZARENE**
- Church of the Nazarene • 903-845-4425
- METHODIST**
- First Methodist Church Gladewater • 903-845-2565
 - McCrary's Chapel United Methodist
 - New Mountain CME Church • 903-845-1175

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 300 West Upshur (PO Box 1444), Gladewater, TX
903-845-2171
www.fbcdgladewater.org

FACEBOOK - FBCGLADEWATER

SUNDAY - 10:15 Morning Worship

Gladewater Mirror

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"

Find us on Facebook

Get your message out for just \$12/week

Call 903-845-2235

Grace Baptist Church

212 E. George Richey Rd., Gladewater

Schedule of Services

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

Pastor Steven Zanjter
www.gbcgladewater.org

- Starrville Methodist • 903-877-4040
 - Union Temple CME Methodist • 903-845-1050
- NON-DENOMINATIONAL**
- New Life Fellowship Church • 903-261-4227
 - Gladewater Bible Church • 903-445-7234
 - Grace Tabernacle Church • 903-309-8801
- PENTECOSTAL**
- First United Pentecostal • 903-845-2922
 - Northside Pentecostal
 - Abundant Life Temple • 903-845-6043
 - Southern Pentecostal Church (Starrville)
- PRESBYTERIAN**
- First Presbyterian • 903-845-2905
 - Full Gospel Fellowship
 - Gladewater Revival Church
 - Living Hope Fellowship • 903-261-2023
 - Love of God Church • 903-845-2623

Pray for our Nation

- Union Temple CME Church • 903-845-1050
- OTHER**
- Starrville Church of the Living God • 903-877-3220
 - Friendship Community Church
 - Full Faith Holiness • 903-845-8195

Croley

FUNERAL HOME

(903) 845-2155

croley_gwater_fh@yahoo.com

401 N. Center St. (off Main St., Hwy 271)
 Mail: P.O. Box 706 • Gladewater, TX 75647

St. James Missionary Baptist Church

Join us each Wednesday at 6:30 pm for ABF/SBF and 7:15 pm for Bible Study and each Sunday at 9 am.

2800 W. Commerce Street
 Gladewater, Texas 75647
903-845-5028

Read Local

Local company. Local journalists. Local stories.

GISD approves lower tax rate for 2023-2024

After taking all data into consideration (and recalculating after new state legislation this summer) Gladewater ISD trustees approved a 28.25 decrease to the district's tax rate Monday.

Following a requisite public hearing, a Fiscal Year 2023-2024 rate of \$1.002449 per \$100 valuation was unanimously-approved 4-0.

Now, the district is waiting, like so many others across Texas, for the state to make up for a loss in operating funds since the passage of Senate Bill 2 and its looming increase to the homestead exemption.

"The amount that we thought we were going to have, the State of Texas is saying they're going to make sure all school districts are going to be held harmless," GISD Chief Financial Officer Glenda Hickey explained Sept. 11. "They're going to give us state aid to compensate us for what we're not

getting in local dollars.

"I'll keep you abreast on that. What I've found over the years is that 'hold harmless' is not exactly dollar for dollar. We may get hurt a little bit."

Later, the school board heard an update on damages to the Weldon Elementary Auditorium and considered applicants to fill Place 5 on the dais.

Trustees approved a \$21 million balanced budget for the district June 26. As Gladewater ISD adopts its budget mid-summer, it does so using the preliminary values available at the time and follows up months later with official tax rate adoption based on certified values and current law.

"There's been some change in law since we last talked," Hickey said Monday.

The passage of Senate Bill 2 increased the state's homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000. Still awaiting

voter ratification in a constitutional amendment election in November, the legislation also decreased the maximum compression rate for Texas school districts.

"Basically, Senate Bill 2 was tax relief for homeowners and all property owners," Hickey said.

Locally, it reduces Gladewater ISD's values from preliminaries of \$781 million to certified values of \$695 million. It impacts the calculation of the district's Maintenance & Operations (M&O) tax rate as well, reducing it from \$0.8538 per \$100 valuation in the prior law to \$0.7575.

Combining the M&O rate of 0.7575 per \$100 valuation with an Interest & Sinking rate of 0.244949 reaches the total tax rate of \$1.002449.

"Not a lot of wiggle room in here because the state kind of dictates how we get our maximum compression rate," Hickey said.

Ultimately, M&O tax revenues drop from \$6.35 million under prior law to \$4.9 million following passage of SB2.

At least the state has committed to make up the difference, Hickey added: "I should see our state funding probably by the middle of

the year."

Regarding the board's vacancy, there are seven trustee spots with one vacancy.

According to Dr. Sedric Clark, GISD superintendent, seven applications have been submitted for consideration.

The school board went

into closed session to review applications to-date but took no action when they reconvened to adjourn their special meeting.

Per Clark, "They will continue the process at Monday's regular board meeting," Sept. 18.

Engineers help city shore up dam's latest emergency plans

Contracted engineers are in the midst of an update to 'dam breach modeling' for Lake Gladewater.

Unanimously-approved by council members in mid-August, the project is part of an overall, ongoing effort to ensure the stability and safety of the dam that creates the community's sole water source.

"We're going through some required updating of our emergency action plan for the lake and the dam if it were to breach," Mayor Scott Owens said. "Nothing is imminent at all in that area, but we do need to do some work... to get up to date here with it to help us apply for some grant funding down the road."

"Are you guys just doing a study or are you going to be doing the work on it, too?" council member Rocky Hawkins asked engineer Andrew Wright of Schaumburg & Polk Inc. on Aug. 17.

"It's just creating computer models of what would happen if the dam were to breach," he said, "for the Emergency Action Plan."

That EAP has been through an extensive update by Gladewater Fire Chief and Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Simmons and his team.

The modeling is supposed to be updated every five years, city manager Charlie Smith noted.

"When was the last time?" he asked

Wright.

It's been 10 or 15 years since the city updated the necessities, Wright said.

"We need to get in that mode," Smith said.

What fund will cover the \$11,800 cost? council member Brandy Flanagan asked.

From the current Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget, Smith replied.

"It'll come out of some of the overage, and we'll have to do a budget amendment on that," Owens echoed.

According to Schaumburg & Polk's scope of work, Simmons update of the emergency plan requires revisions to flood inundation mapping as well as detailed flood analysis and modeling. Numerous homes, commercial buildings and essential utilities reside downstream of the dam, directly in the flood-path.

The scope of basic services for SPI includes:

- Identify, consult with and analyze requirements of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;
- Prepare a 2D unsteady flow hydraulic model;
- Perform a breach analysis of the dam structure;
- Prepare maps required for updates to the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) according to TCEQ rules and regulations including a vicinity map and an inundation map.

Texas ranks 2nd among the states with the highest credit card debt increases

The personal-finance website WalletHub today released its latest rankings of the States with the Largest & Smallest Credit Card Debt Increases in Q2, based on newly released data from the Federal Reserve.

Texas Stats:

Increase in Texas Debt: The average credit card debt in Texas increased by \$3,944,711,993 in Q2 2023.

Average Texas Household Debt: The average household in Texas owes \$9,216 in credit

card debt.

Texas Rank: Texas's credit card debt increase ranks as the 2nd highest in the nation.

National Stats:

Large Debt Increase. Consumers ended Q2 2023 with almost \$43 billion in additional credit card debt. That is the second-largest Q2 increase ever.

Year-Over-Year Deterioration. We added 16% more credit card debt in Q2 2023 than the same quarter last year.



SELL IT IN THE
Classifieds

903-845-2235 - Ads@Gladewatermirror.com



NEED EXTRA CASH !!! ???

I BUY RVs & MOBILE HOMES

Travel Trailers • 5th Wheels
Goosenecks • Bumper Pulls

In Any Area!!! Any Condition!!!
Old/New!!! Dirty or Clean!!!

I PAY CASH 956-466-7001
No Title – No Problem – We Can Apply For One
ANR Enterprises

BURN BAN

IN EFFECT

FINES UP TO \$500

TEXAS A&M

FOR SALE
Stratos Javelin 185.
2003 Mercury 150 XR6
motor.
Runs excellent. Good
interior
\$10,000
903-220-3219

**To Advertise
Your Business**
Call Us At
903-845-2235

WE BUY OIL, GAS, & MINERAL RIGHTS

Both non-producing and producing
including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI)
Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation.

CALL TODAY: **806.620.1422**

LOBO MINERALS, LLC
PO Box 1800 • Lubbock, TX 79408-1800
LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

TexSCAN

**TexSCAN Week of
Sept. 9 16, 2023**

ACREAGE

LAND FOR SALE. Hunting, recreational, retirement. Hill Country, Trans Pecos regions in South Texas. 30-year fixed rate, owner financing, 5% down. www.ranchenterprisesltd.com. 800-876-9720.

ADOPTION

California couple promises newborn loving home, secure future. Devoted grandparents, gentle pet, educational opportunities Generous living expenses paid. Contact Michael 1-323-250-3679 or attorney 1-310-663-3467.

ENERGY

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator. \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options. Request a FREE Quote. Call now before the next power outage: 1-855-704-8579.

LOG HOMES

Estate Sale Log Homes – Log Home kits selling for balance owed, free delivery. Model #101 Carolina, bal. \$17,000; Model #203 Georgia, bal. \$19,950; Model #305 Biloxi, bal. \$14,500; Model #403 Augusta, bal. \$16,500. View plans at www.americanloghomesandcabins.com, 704-368-4528.

Texas Press Statewide Classified Network
221 Participating Texas Newspapers • Regional Ads
Start At \$250 • Email ads@texaspress.com

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

ESTATE SALE

LOG HOMES

PAY ONLY THE BALANCE OWED!

JUST RELEASED: AMERICAN LOG HOMES is assisting estate & account settlement on houses

LOG HOME KITS
selling for **BALANCE OWED** with **FREE DELIVERY**

Model #101, Carolina, \$40,840	BALANCE OWED \$17,000
Model #203, Georgia, \$49,500	BALANCE OWED \$19,950
Model #305, Biloxi, \$36,825	BALANCE OWED \$14,500
Model #403, Augusta, \$42,450	BALANCE OWED \$16,500

NEW HOMES: Serious Inquiries only **Call: 704 368-4528**

- Never been manufactured
- **NO TIME LIMIT FOR DELIVERY**
- Comes with complete building blueprints and Construction Manual

* Windows, Doors and Roofing not included

Before Calling View House Plans at
www.americanloghomesandcabins.com

Small Shop & Equipment Auction Online Only

5757 FM 2879 Longview, TX 75605
Bidding Opens Friday, September 8th
Preview Sunday, September 17th 2-6pm
Bidding Closes Monday, September 18th @ 6pm

Register & Bid @ srsauction.com

SRS Auction Services has been commissioned by Rodney & Violet Gehrke to liquidate the contents of their small shop & equipment. Due to health reasons, they need to downsize.

SRS Auction Services TAL # 17652
903-632-5458 *903-439-9013 *903-219-7170

srsauction.com
srsauctions@yahoo.com

OIL & GAS RIGHTS

We buy oil, gas & mineral rights. Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI). Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation. Call today: 806-620-1422. Lobo Minerals, LLC, PO Box 1800, Lubbock, TX 79408-1800, LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com.

MEDICAL

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 866-747-9983.

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-901-0467 www.dental50plus.com/txpress #6258

PETS & LIVESTOCK

Use Happy Jack@ DD-33 on dogs & cats to kill fleas and deer ticks on contact. Biodegradable! At Tractor Supply@ (www.happyjackinc.com)

WANTED

Need Extra Cash – I Buy RVs & Mobile Homes –Travel Trailers, 5th Wheels, Goosenecks, Bumper Pulls. In Any Area, Any Condition – Old/New, Dirty or Clean! I PAY CASH. No Title – No Problem, we can apply for one. We go anywhere in Texas. ANR Enterprises, 956-466-7001.

Automotive Restoration Systems Inc.
 903-295-8883
 automotiverestorationsystems.com

205 W US Highway 80
 White Oak
 (903) 295-8883

Monday-Friday
 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Saturday
 8 a.m.-noon
 Thomas Cash, Owner

Texas game wardens see rise in fatalities, accidents during Labor Day weekend

AUSTIN—Texas Game Wardens patrolling water bodies across the state noticed an increase in water-related fatalities and boating accidents compared to last year's Labor Day holiday weekend.

The weekend typically marks the end of the unofficial boating season and coincides with the opening of dove season, making it a busy time for Texas Game Wardens.

"Game Wardens patrolled the state's waterways to ensure boating laws were observed, to confirm vessels had appropriate safety gear and, above all, to ensure that recreational boaters and anglers remained safe," said Cody Jones, assistant commander for marine enforcement for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Wardens patrolling September 2-4 reported five boating accidents, two boating-related fatalities and two open-water drownings. They also arrested five individuals for boating while intoxicated, one of whom had a child passenger aboard. In 2022, wardens responded to three boating accidents, no boating-related fatalities and one open-water drowning.

Lone Star Healthy Streams program set for Sept. 29 in Hallsville

A Lone Star Healthy Streams workshop will be held on Sept. 29 at Gold Hall, 101 Elm St., Hallsville. This is a multi-county event hosted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service offices in Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Panola, Rusk and Upshur counties.

A stream with trees lining its banks. The Sept. 29 Lone Star Healthy Streams workshop in Hallsville will cover improving water quality and protecting East Texas watersheds from contamination.

The Sept. 29 Lone Star Healthy Streams workshop in Hallsville will cover how to improve water quality and protect East Texas watersheds from contamination. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Ronald Billings)

The conference is offered as a joint effort by AgriLife Extension and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board.

ACROSS

- 1 dog tail movements
- 5 TXism: "tame as ___ dog"
- 6 TXism: "he's a little shy in the hat ___" (mentally ill)
- 7 ___ Campo, Texas
- 8 enjoyed chicken fried steak
- 9 ___ Falls, Texas
- 15 UT grad Marcia Gay Harden film: "___ the Wild" (2007)
- 16 braided hair
- 19 TV ratings company
- 21 an unusual animal raised in Texas
- 22 changes political districts
- 27 TX Jordan Spieth won the 2015 U.S. ___
- 28 assigned fault
- 29 Tritt hit: "___ Quarter (Call Someone Who Cares)"
- 30 Laredo is known as the "___ to Mexico"
- 32 Farm-to-Market passage (abbr.)
- 33 TXism: "he'll be ___ own funeral" (unreliable)
- 36 ___ Ward, Texas
- 37 TX-born Birmingham of TV series "Yellowstone"
- 38 related to heredity
- 39 Texas redbank currency, today

- 41 Gov. Ross (init.)
- 42 A&M's "Corps of ___"
- 45 once a Texas Oatmeal Festival race: ___-__-thon
- 46 Chris ___Doux performed and competed at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

- 47 mother of Texas actress Ginger
- 48 ___dale, Texas
- 49 Erik of film "Honeyboy" with TX Morgan Fairchild
- 52 Texas' Comanche Peak Nuclear ___ Plant
- 53 jar topper identification evid. in court
- 55 "S" curve on 32-across

DOWN

- 1 TX Miranda Lambert's "If I ___ a Cowboy"
- 2 he took the tile from TX George Foreman in 1974
- 3 newspaper in Pittsburg, TX
- 4 type of cave study in Sonora, e.g.

TEXAS CROSSWORD
 by Charley & Guy Orbison
 Copyright 2023 by Orbison Bros.

- 8 birds found at Bentsen Rio Grande State Park
- 9 Mitch Garver went to the Rangers from this northern AL team (2 wds.)
- 10 job from which Ken Paxton is now suspended
- 11 late Texas actor, Rip (init.)
- 12 hyped, promoted
- 13 this Cockrell was San Antonio mayor twice
- 14 this Jack was "Tex" in "Vera Cruz" film
- 15 TXism: "natural as a duck ___"
- 16 Amanda of film "2012" with TX Woody Harrelson

- 17 woman who retired from TWU, e.g.: professor ___
- 18 TXism: "skee ___ out of here" (flee)
- 20 pamperin' places
- 22 Ron, producer of "The Alamo" (init.)
- 23 skinny Gulf fish
- 24 car track in Lamar County: "Paris ___ Strip"
- 25 repeat a story

- 26 "___ of direction"
- 28 Austin's Congress Avenue Bridge is a hangout for these spider creations
- 31 first half of the bible (abbr.)
- 35 "he got the ___ cups"
- 37 "___ grip" (gain your self-control)
- 40 lamp containing a colored waxy goo
- 43 "go off the ___ end" (outburst)
- 44 Mexican novel: "___ Texas"
- 50 "___ a beat"
- 51 Jerry Jones' former state (abbr.)

See Answers On This Page

Last Puzzle Solution

SHOP LOCAL ... SHOP LOCAL ... SHOP LOCAL

SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

KING PLUMBING
 NEW CONSTRUCTION • REMODELS • SERVICE
RMP DENNIS KING
 903-539-1716
 M36233
 Gas Lines, Water Heaters & Roto Rooter
 All Major Credit Cards Accepted

Call Dr. Barry Hail, Chiropractor
 Don't Just Live With Neck Pain ... Headaches Shoulder & Lower Back Pain ...
 903-725-4357
 116 N. Mimosa, Gilmer (Rosewood, 7 miles west of Gilmer on Hwy 154)

HLH
 HUGMAN - LAMMERS - HAWKINS
 ARCHITECTURE. DESIGN. CONSTRUCTION.
 903-757-7202
 HLHDESIGNBUILD.COM

Edward Jones
 Partnering throughout the years to reach your financial goals.
 Dallas D Long, CFP®
 Financial Advisor
 1420 N Main St Suite 101
 Gladewater, TX 75647
 903-845-6680
 edwardjones.com

GET YOUR BUSINESS NOTICED HERE!
 CALL 903-845-2235
 JUST \$15/WEEK FOR 13 WEEKS

WE HELP WITH YOUR HOME PROJECTS
 Whether the project's big or small. One call, we'll take care of it all.
 We are a Home Improvement Network of high-quality local contractors, tradesmen and handymen.
EAST TEXAS HOME REPAIR
 EastTexasHomeRepair.com OR CALL 1-888-444-2011
 Senior & Veteran Discounts

SM Tree Service, Stump Grinding & Lawn Care
 No job is too small!!!
 Tree service, hauling off trees, stump grinding, brush blading, driveways, brush hogging, lawn care, weed eating and clean up
 903-402-9647

Bud's DISCOUNT TIRES
 Highway 80 East Gladewater
 845-5186
YOUR HOMETOWN TIRE STORE
 BUD MAHAFFEY
 Owner & Operator
 HOURS
 7:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.

Mamma's Designs
 Handcrafted Jewelry * Painted Gourds * Custom Pet Portraits *
 Artist: Dorothy Sweet
 1971 S. Tyler (US 271), Gladewater
 Follow us on Facebook - MammaDesigns
 Ph: 903-387-2831
 dasweat7@gmail.com

SHOP LOCAL ... SHOP LOCAL ... SHOP LOCAL ... SHOP LOCAL

GPD POLICE ACTIVITY

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS
9/3/23	9/3/23	0:58	DOMINGUEZ RAMERIZ, MARGARITO	W	M	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	400 PHILIP SPRINGS
9/6/23	9/6/23	5:08	CARVER, COURTNEY DENISE	W	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	400 W UPSHUR AVE
9/6/23	9/6/23	5:08	CARVER, COURTNEY DENISE	W	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	400 W UPSHUR AVE
9/7/23	9/7/23	9:02	TOWNSONER, KELLY DEANN	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	800 N MAIN

GPD POLICE ARRESTS

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS
9/3/23	9/3/23	0:58	DOMINGUEZ RAMERIZ, MARGARITO	W	M	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	400 PHILIP SPRINGS
9/6/23	9/6/23	5:08	CARVER, COURTNEY DENISE	W	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	400 W UPSHUR AVE
9/6/23	9/6/23	5:08	CARVER, COURTNEY DENISE	W	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	400 W UPSHUR AVE
9/7/23	9/7/23	9:02	TOWNSONER, KELLY DEANN	B	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	800 N MAIN



First Baptist Church Gladewater joined others in honoring local First Responders with breakfast, fellowship and worship.

WOPD POLICE ACTIVITY

For the reporting period of Sep 4th through the 10th, 2023, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to, or initiated, 185 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were; Motorist Assists, Burglar Alarms, Suspicious Activities, and Community Relations (burn permits, welfare checks, vacation home security checks, etc.). No traffic collisions were investigated. One arrest was made by White Oak Police during the reporting period: Jonathan Lee Lester, 34, of Gladewater for Driving While Intoxicated 2nd Offense.



Another spill of processed chicken cast-offs briefly trapped an 18-wheeler in the slick mess Friday morning and left city workers and first responders retching as they hurried to clean up the roadway hazard. Gladewater Public Works employees Firefighters were responding to the scene shortly after 11 a.m. Several gallons of the reeking liquid-and-solid waste sloshed out of an as-yet-unidentified hauler's load at the intersection of the loop and North Main. It appeared multiple vehicle drivers passed through the slick spillage and tracked it a couple of hundred yards down Hwy. 271. One 18-wheeler's tires lost traction in the slick, however; traffic had to be diverted around the rig, and it took an assist from Gladewater Public Works to finally get traction. With the first fowl driver long-gone, the city's workers hefted shovels and got the bulk of the debris into buckets before addressing the greasy remnant on the road. Representatives of nearby processing operations reportedly told local officials they had no vehicles in the area. It happens several times a year, Gladewater Police Chief Gordon Freeman confirmed. If a vehicle is tied to a spill, the driver would likely be cited for 'Failure to Secure Load,' listed as a misdemeanor with a fine of up to \$400 in Texas. "I'm really tired of this happening," local driver Wanda Threadgill said. "I have driven through this twice before and it's horrendous! "I don't know why the highway department, or whatever governing entity, doesn't require them to carry this toxic mess in closed containers. I would sign that petition."

Photo by James Draper

PERFECTION IS EFFORTLESS

Let's talk steaks. Steaks that are tender, juicy, and full of flavor. Perfectly aged, hand-trimmed, one-of-a-kind steaks that are GUARANTEED to be perfect, every single time. These aren't just steaks. These are Omaha Steaks.

Classic Cookout Collection

- 4 Butcher's Cut Filet Mignons (5 oz.)
- 4 Air-Chilled Boneless Chicken Breasts (5 oz.)
- 4 Omaha Steaks Burgers (4 oz.)
- 4 Gourmet Jumbo Franks (3 oz.)
- 4 Individual Scalloped Potatoes (3.8 oz.)
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
- 1 Omaha Steaks Seasoning (3 oz.)
- 8 **FREE** Omaha Steaks Burgers (4 oz.)

73818CCW separately \$274.93 **\$129.99**

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE

Limited Time: Get 8 FREE Burgers

Order Now! >>

OmahaSteaks.com/Classic5556 | 1.877.299.6956

Ask for your 8 FREE Burgers with offer 73818CCW

Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. Photo exemplary of product advertised. Limit 2, 8 free 4 oz. burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes 73818. Standard S&H added per address. Offer available while supplies last. Items may be substituted due to inventory limitations. Cannot be combined with other offers. Other restrictions may apply. All purchases acknowledge acceptance of Terms of Use: OmahaSteaks.com/terms-of-use-091. Expires 09/30/23. | Omaha Steaks, Inc.

SPORTS

Lions beat Cushing, 21-20

By Faith Woodall

The Union Grove Lions continue their winning streak, now 3-0 with their 21-20 win over Cushing on Sept. 7.

Jace Roberts rushed 97 yards for two touchdowns, and Judson George scored on an 82-yard run. Luis Fernandez scored the extra point after all three touchdowns.

Cason Cowan made six tackles for the Lions' defense. Roberts and George each added four, and Carter Cooper, Wrigley Roberts and Kayden Day each made three.

The Lions will travel to Linden-Kildare to battle for another win Thursday, Sept. 14.



#12 Kendal Sartain takes the ball up field to the Lions 45-yard line.
Photo by Kim Hill

Bears fall to Panthers at Homecoming

By Tyler Sutton

On a beautiful night that later turned stormy, the Gladewater Bears held the 2023 homecoming game at Jack V. Murphy stadium on Friday September 8th as they welcomed in the Spring Hill Panthers.

The Bears dominated offensively in the first half but Spring Hill flipped the script in the second half and pulled away late to knock off the Bears 35-21

The Panthers got the ball to begin the game and went for it on fourth down but were unsuccessful and gave Gladewater great field position and the Bears took no time taking advantage as only 2 plays later Carson Cooper blasted through the line for a 45 yard touchdown run and a quick 7-0 lead for Gladewater.

The Panthers though quickly counter punched as on the first play after getting the ball back, running back Trevor Allen went untouched 60 yards for a touchdown to tie the score at 7. After both teams traded punts, the Bears defense struck as two way star Carson Cooper intercepted Panther's quarterback Travis Allen's pass to give the ball back to his offense. Then Cooper continued to do it all as he had a long 23 yard run which was followed up by a 1 yard touchdown run to give Gladewater the lead back at 14-7. Both teams defense's dominated the second quarter as neither team could put any points on the board and the game stayed at 14-7 Gladewater at the half.

After a quick 3 and out and punt by Gladewater to open the second half, the Panthers quickly tied the game up at 14 when running back Julius Hawkins found a seam and went 37 yards for a touchdown. The Bears went for it on 4th down on their next procession and failed to convert giving the Panthers great field position and they took advantage as quarterback Trevor Allen scored from 37 yards to give Spring Hill their first lead at 21-14 to open up the 4th quarter. But Gladewater countered again scoring quickly as Quarterback Kyron Wilson found tight end Brayson Woods for a 36 yard touchdown strike to tie the game at 21. But the Panthers began to take over after that as Hawkins again went untouched this time from 52 yards to give the Panthers a 28-21 lead. After a 4th down try was no good for the Bears, Spring Hill put the game away as Hawkins found the endzone for a third time on the night, this time from 3 yards to cap off the Panthers 35-21 victory.

"This is a tough one to lose, we had the momentum in the first half. But credit to Spring Hill as the came out in the third quarter and took control and we could never slow them down. We have yet to play a complete game yet. Once we do that, we will get this thing rolling," said coach Jonny Louvier.

The loss drops the Bears to 0-3 on the season. Next up will be a third straight home game on Friday, September 15th when they host the Malakoff Tigers. Spring Hill improves to 1-2 on the season



Gladewater's La'trell Henderson heads to the goalline in the Bears' Homecoming game against Spring Hill last Friday.

"Coot's Corner"

By Coot Putley

Baseball for fun ...

As a child in the 50's, I loved to play baseball. There were no tee-ball or coach pitch leagues – we just played for fun. Most of the "games" that we played were in my front yard. Three kids pretended to be two teams competing in the big leagues. Johnny and I were always the Yankees, and his older brother Tommie represented the White Sox. Usually, Mickey Mantle was the batter for our team in a critical situation, and Minnie Minoso was the hitter for our opponents. I don't know why Tommie always picked Minoso – I think he just liked to say his name but there was no doubt that Johnny and I wanted to be Mickey Mantle. In those days he was baseball personified. Power, speed, and charisma. He was also my dad's favorite player, so that was good enough for me.

Our bases were rocks or pieces of wood. We only needed a little space, a bat, and a ball or two. We used our own gloves if we had them or shared them if we didn't. You didn't need to wear a glove when you were batting! If we weren't staging a "game" we just played catch or "flies and skinnners".

Dad took me to get my first real baseball glove. We went to Tony's H&T Sporting Goods. Tony was a colorful character who called everyone "my cousin" or "banana nose". His merchandise was priced really high, but he was willing to negotiate. We settled on a Rawlings Don Demeter model that was "marked down" from \$49.95 to \$14.95 and it was beautiful!

We took it home and began the breaking in process. I rubbed a generous amount of oil into the glove and began throwing a ball into the pocket at least a hundred times a day. Then with the ball nestled firmly in the pocket I wrapped it tightly closed with rubber bands and put it under my mattress. This helped make the pocket permanent. That glove was so limber that I believed if a baseball came close, it would be sucked into the pocket like a Venus flytrap. Keeping it under my mattress helped me dream of making miraculous catches – like Mickey Mantle! It served me well for many years and it still has a place of honor in my home six decades later.

Kids today have a lot more opportunities to play baseball. Leagues beginning at an early age, specialized training, travel ball. I hope they are enjoying it as much as we did in simpler times. We played baseball for fun!

That's one man's opinion – what's yours?



Aaron Sharp, Caleb Maxted, and David Watson make the tackle on a Harleton running back for the Roughnecks in their game on Thursday night. The Necks lost to the Wildcats 34-0.

Photo by Mike Peery

Wildcats win over White Oak

Next up Brooke Hill

By Aidan Keller Lott

The Roughnecks played in the KYKX game of the week against the Harleton Wildcats where White Oak lost 34-0, falling to an 0-3 start.

Harleton's defense took over shortly after White Oak received the kickoff as sophomore quarterback Jaxsen Ludlow threw an interception on the third play of the game, and the Wildcat wasted no time picking up the first of their five touchdowns. However before the kickoff, Harlen "The Sports Guy" and Pigskin Bob awarded Roughneck senior Gavin Sipes with a \$1005 scholarship.

"This is my first year playing football since 7th grade, so I was shocked when I saw my name on that check," Sipes said. "I have to work to pay off my truck payment and save up for college, so receiving that scholarship will be a big help."

Although Sipes won the scholarship, he didn't play in the game. He's one of three injured Roughneck seniors along with Ryan Owens and De Williams. While Owens and Sipes both got hurt in scrimmages, Williams suffered a season ending injury

last week, leaving junior Kenny Poul to step into the starting-running back role.

"This week I stepped into a big role which came with a big responsibility," Poul said. "I felt great all week and was eager to get the best results possible. I think the work we've put in since the summer is starting to pay off and translate as we continue seeing great progress each week."

Along with Poul, sophomore Bryce Morgan was thrown into action once Ludlow went down in the fourth quarter, following a late hit.

"There's no doubt that playing quarterback is pretty nerve racking," Morgan said. "With that being said, I've played with these guys for a long time, so I know how a lot of them think and see the field. It sucks that Jaxsen is out because he's a great quarterback, but if we can focus this week, I think we can play well until he recovers."

Despite their rocky beginnings, the Roughnecks will have an opportunity to pick up their first win next Friday, September 15, facing Brooke Hill at home.



Roughneck blockers Gavin Meadows and Dakota Greene make an opening for QB Jaxsen Ludlow to run through.

Photo by Mike Peery

Photo by Kim Hill

Volleyball roundup

On the volleyball court, the Gladewater Lady Bears and White Oak LadyNecks were in action.

The Lady Bears went 0-2 on the week losing on the road on Tuesday, September 5th to Chapel Hill (3-0) and a home game on Friday, September 8th to Price Carlisle (3-1). The two losses drop the Lady Bears to 5-17 on the season. They will next just one game this week and that's a trip to Overton on Friday, September 15th.

White Oak had just one game this past week and that was on Tuesday, September 5th as they fell to the Hallsville Lady Bobcats (3-0).

The loss drops White Oak to 15-13 on the season. The LadyNecks will be in action twice this coming week.

They will be home on Friday, September 15th against Harmony.

Read Local

Local company.
Local journalists.
Local stories.



GIDDY UP & GIVE

GRANTS FOR TEACHERS FUNDRAISING EVENT

EDUCATION FOUNDATION GLADEWATER'S 4TH ANNUAL

FUNDRAISER

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 ★ 6:00 PM

PURCHASE TICKETS AT
WWW.EDUCATIONFOUNDATIONGLADEWATER.ORG

EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION

**Proposition Number 1
(HJR 126)**

HJR 126 proposes a constitutional amendment to protect a person's right to engage in generally accepted farm, ranch, timber production, horticulture, or wildlife management practices on real property that the person owns or leases. The proposed amendment would not affect the authority of the legislature to authorize the regulation of these practices by: (1) a state agency or political subdivision as necessary to protect the public health and safety from imminent danger; (2) a state agency to prevent a danger to animal health or crop production; or (3) a state agency or political subdivision to preserve or conserve the natural resources of the state under the Texas Constitution. Additionally, the proposed amendment would not affect the legislature's authority to authorize the use or acquisition of property for a public use, including the development of natural resources under the Texas Constitution.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment protecting the right to engage in farming, ranching, timber production, horticulture, and wildlife management."**

**Proposition Number 2
(SJR 64)**

SJR 64 proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the governing body of a county or municipality to exempt from property taxation all or part of the appraised value of real property used to operate a child-care facility. The proposed amendment would authorize the governing body to adopt the exemption as a percentage of the appraised value of the property, but that percentage could not be less than 50% of the appraised value of the property. The proposed amendment also would allow the legislature to define the term "child-care facility" and to establish additional eligibility requirements to receive the property tax exemption.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing a local option exemption from ad valorem taxation by a county or municipality of all or part of the appraised value of real property used to operate a child-care facility."**

**Proposition Number 3
(HJR 132)**

HJR 132 proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from imposing a tax based on the wealth or net worth of an individual or family. The proposed amendment also would prohibit the legislature from imposing a tax based on the difference between the assets and liabilities of an individual or family.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual wealth or net worth tax, including a tax on the difference between the assets and liabilities of an individual or family."**

**Proposition Number 4
(HJR 2- Second Special Session)**

HJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment to modify certain provisions of the Texas Constitution related to property taxes. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to temporarily limit the maximum appraised value of real property for property tax purposes in a tax year. The proposed amendment also would increase the mandatory homestead exemption for school district property taxation from \$40,000 to \$100,000. The proposed amendment would require the legislature to provide for a reduction in the amount of the limitation on school district property taxes imposed on the residence homestead of the elderly or disabled. Additionally, the amendment would exempt appropriations not dedicated by the Texas Constitution and used for property tax relief from being considered as appropriations when determining whether the rate of growth of appropriations in a biennium has exceeded the constitutional tax spending limit. The proposed amendment would further authorize the legislature to provide that members serving on an appraisal board in a county with a population of at least 75,000 serve terms not to exceed four years.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to establish a temporary limit on the maximum appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes; to increase the amount of the exemption**

from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads from \$40,000 to \$100,000; to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increases in certain exemption amounts; to except certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and to authorize the legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the board of directors of certain appraisal districts."

**Proposition Number 5
(HJR 3)**

HJR 3 proposes a constitutional amendment to redesignate the national research university fund as the Texas University Fund (TUF), and to appropriate funds from the economic stabilization fund to the TUF. The proposed amendment would appropriate to the TUF an amount equal to the interest income, dividends, and investment earnings attributable to the economic stabilization fund for the preceding state fiscal year. The appropriation amount could not exceed \$100 million for the state fiscal year beginning September 1, 2023, or an amount adjusted for the increase in the general price index, not to exceed two percent, in subsequent state fiscal years. The proposed amendment also would prohibit any state university that is entitled to participate in dedicated funding provided by Article VII, Section 18 of the Texas Constitution from receiving money from the TUF.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment relating to the Texas University Fund, which provides funding to certain institutions of higher education to achieve national prominence as major research universities and drive the state economy."**

**Proposition Number 6
(SJR 75)**

SJR 75 proposes a constitutional amendment to create the Texas water fund. The Texas water fund would be a special fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund, administered by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) or its successor to assist in financing water projects in the state. The proposed amendment would direct the Texas water fund administrator to use the fund only to transfer money to other TWDB funds or accounts. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to appropriate money for deposit to the water fund to be available for permitted transfers. No further legislative appropriation would be required for the water fund administrator to transfer money from or restore money to the fund, including the transfer of money to or the restoration of money from certain designated TWDB funds and accounts. The water fund would consist of: (1) money transferred or deposited to the fund by general law; (2) other revenue that the legislature by statute dedicates for deposit to the fund; (3) investment earnings and interest earned on amounts credited to the fund; (4) money from gifts, grants, and donations to the fund; and (5) money returned from any authorized transfer. The proposed amendment would require the legislature, by general law, to provide for the manner in which money from the Texas water fund may be used. The proposed amendment also would require that at least 25% of the money initially appropriated to the Texas water fund be transferred to the New Water Supply for Texas Fund.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment creating the Texas water fund to assist in financing water projects in this state."**

**Proposition Number 7
(SJR 93)**

SJR 93 proposes a constitutional amendment to establish the Texas energy fund. The Texas energy fund would be a special fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund, administered by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) or its successor. Money in the Texas energy fund could be used, without further appropriation, only by PUC or its successor to provide loans and grants to finance or incentivize the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities necessary to ensure the reliability or adequacy of an electric power grid in the state. The proposed amendment

would require PUC to allocate money from the fund for loans and grants to eligible projects for electric generating facilities that serve as backup power sources and in each region of the state that is part of an electric power grid in proportion to that region's load share. The Texas energy fund would consist of: (1) money credited, appropriated, or transferred to the fund by or as authorized by the legislature; (2) revenue that the legislature dedicates for deposit to the fund; (3) the returns received from the investment of the money in the fund; and (4) gifts, grants, and donations contributed to the fund.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the Texas energy fund to support the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities."**

**Proposition Number 8
(HJR 125)**

HJR 125 proposes a constitutional amendment to create the broadband infrastructure fund. The broadband infrastructure fund would be a special fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund, administered by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (Comptroller). Money from the fund could be used, without further appropriation, only for the expansion of access to and adoption of broadband and telecommunications services. The broadband infrastructure fund would consist of: (1) money transferred or deposited to the fund by the Texas Constitution, general law, or the General Appropriations Act; (2) revenue that the legislature by general law dedicates for deposit to the fund; (3) investment earnings and interest earned on money in the fund; and (4) gifts, grants, and donations to the fund. The proposed amendment would authorize the Comptroller to transfer money from the broadband infrastructure fund to another fund as provided by general law, and the state agency that administers the fund to which any money is transferred could use the money without further appropriation only for the expansion of access to and adoption of broadband and telecommunications services. The broadband infrastructure fund would expire on September 1, 2035, unless extended by adoption of a joint resolution of the legislature. Immediately before the expiration of the fund, the Comptroller would be required to transfer any unexpended and unobligated balance remaining in the broadband infrastructure fund to the general revenue fund.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment creating the broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects."**

**Proposition Number 9
(HJR 2)**

HJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to eligible annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). The proposed amendment also would authorize the legislature to appropriate money from the general revenue fund to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to pay the cost-of-living adjustment.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the 88th Legislature to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to certain annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas."**

**Proposition Number 10
(SJR 87)**

SJR 87 proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to exempt from property taxation tangible personal property held by a medical or biomedical manufacturer as a finished good or used in the manufacturing or processing of medical or biomedical products.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation equipment or inventory held by a manufacturer of medical or biomedical products to protect the Texas healthcare network and strengthen our medical supply chain."**

**Proposition Number 11
(SJR 32)**

SJR 32 proposes a constitutional amendment to expand the authority of the

legislature with regard to conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County. The Texas Constitution permits conservation and reclamation districts in certain counties across the state to issue bonds to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities but does not currently provide this authority to El Paso County. The proposed amendment would add conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to those districts currently allowed, if authorized by general law, to issue bonds supported by property taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities. The proposed amendment would not limit the powers of the legislature or of a conservation and reclamation district with respect to parks and recreational facilities as those powers currently exist.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities."**

**Proposition Number 12
(HJR 134)**

HJR 134 proposes a constitutional amendment to abolish the office of County Treasurer in Galveston County. The amendment would authorize the Galveston County Commissioners Court to employ or contract with a qualified person or designate another county officer to perform any functions that would have been performed by the County Treasurer. The proposed amendment would take effect only if a majority of the voters of Galveston County voting on the proposition favor the amendment.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment providing for the abolition of the office of county treasurer in Galveston County."**

**Proposition Number 13
(HJR 107)**

HJR 107 proposes a constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory retirement age for state justices and judges. Currently, the Texas Constitution establishes that justices and judges of the appellate courts, district courts, and criminal district courts must retire on the expiration of the term during which they reach the age of 75 years or an earlier age, not less than 70 years, as the legislature may prescribe. The proposed amendment would change the mandatory retirement age for justices and judges of the appellate courts, district courts, and criminal district courts to 79 years or an earlier age, not less than 75 years, as the legislature may prescribe. The proposed amendment also would remove the provision stating that justices and judges may only serve until December 31 of their fourth year in office if they reach the age of 75 years in the first four years of a six-year term.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory age of retirement for state justices and judges."**

**Proposition Number 14
(SJR 74)**

SJR 74 proposes a constitutional amendment to establish the centennial parks conservation fund as a trust fund outside the state treasury. The fund could be used, in accordance with general law, only for the creation and improvement of state parks. The centennial parks conservation fund would consist of: (1) money appropriated, credited, or transferred to the fund by the legislature; (2) gifts, grants, and donations received by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) or its successor for a purpose for which money in the fund may be used; and (3) investment earnings and interest earned on amounts credited to the fund. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to appropriate money from the centennial parks conservation fund to TPWD or its successor for the creation and improvement of state parks.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the centennial parks conservation fund to be used for the creation and improvement of state parks."**



Brady Colby received the STUDENT ATHLETE OF THE WEEK from Longview Orthopedic. Pictured: Brett Colby, Brady Colby, Danielle Colby, Coach Carolee Musick and representative from Longview Orthopedic.

Photo by Kim Hill



A group of teens went out of their way to help other drivers in the midst of rough weather Friday, putting themselves in harm's way and helping another driver in need. East Mountain Police Department had some high praise for the five Union Grove students after storms toppled a tree onto the roadway Sept. 8. According to the department's kudos on social media, teenagers Jace Roberts, Judson George, Cade Sullivan, Ryder Shelton and Jaxson Daniels were heading home when they nearly collided with the fallen tree. "After they narrowly missed the tree, they stopped and got out to try and flag people down to warn them of the road hazard," the department reported. "Meaning they put themselves in harms way to help other avoid the tree. "Unfortunately a vehicle ended up colliding with the tree causing considerable damage to the car. These guys not only checked on her but stayed with her for about 30 minutes... As if that were not enough, they helped direct traffic until the East Mountain Fire Department arrived to assist with traffic control." After already going above and beyond their civic duty, the youths went even further, helping East Mountain Fire Department cut and clear the tree from the roadway. "I was blown away by their actions and truly believe the deserve recognition!" The PD wasn't the only one heaping praise on the teens. "This is no surprise to me or anyone who knows these young men," Bobby Chadwick said in a comment on the department's post. "They have shown that they are men of high character over and over throughout their high school careers." He was one of many to send praise to the quintet. "Great examples that they are demonstrating," Darren Nolte said. "I know their parents are proud as they should be."

Who cares about public notices?

YOU SHOULD

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Protect public notices in newspapers and protect **your** right to know.

America's Newspapers is a national association supporting journalism and healthy newspapers in our local communities. Find out more at www.newspapers.org or follow us on Twitter @newspapersorg or on Facebook @americasnewspapers

newspapers.org/public-notice

RIDES, GAMES & good times galore

Get your fill of the fun this Fall at the fair!

Event Calendar

DON'T MISS THE EMERSON FARMS PETTING ZOO AND PIG RACES EVERY NIGHT

- Sept. 8**
EXHIBITS AND CARNIVAL OPEN TO PUBLIC
\$35 ARMBAND BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE BLAZE 102.7 AND 106.9
KIM DONNETT BAND ON STAGE
- Sept. 9**
\$35 ARMBAND & FAMILY DAY BROUGHT TO YOU BY KYKX 105.7
DARBY WARREN BAND ON STAGE
- Sept. 10**
\$35 ARMBAND MEGA 99.3 FIESTA DAY ZONA "H," MARIACHI NUEVE & MANY MORE ON STAGE
- Sept. 11**
\$30 ARMBAND BROUGHT TO YOU BY CBS 19/KYTX
SENIOR CITIZENS FREE
ANTHONY BONNETTE AND LONE STAR STEEL ON STAGE
- Sept. 12**
\$30 ARMBAND BROUGHT TO YOU BY KOYE 95.7 107.8
TANNER WELBORN ON STAGE
- Sept. 13**
\$30 ARMBAND BROUGHT TO YOU BY KETX EAST TEXAS AND FOX51
THE HEAVY LETDOWNS ON STAGE
- Sept. 14**
\$30 ARMBANDS KISS 107.3 FM
MISS GREGG COUNTY PAGEANT ON STAGE
- Sept. 15**
\$35 ARMBANDS
JOSH DAVIS - ELVIS TRIBUTE ON STAGE
- Sept. 16**
\$35 ARMBAND KTYL/KNUE
DAY AT THE FAIR
DEL RIO BAND ON STAGE

74th Annual Gregg County Fair

Sept. 8th-16th

1123 Jaycee Drive, Longview
(903) 753-4478

www.greggcountyfair.com

Try Your Luck or Get a Rush!

Play it your way with games of chance, games of skill, arcade games and loads of super-cool prizes. Plus, hop the many exciting rides for adults and kids, including the crazy coaster and jumbo Ferris wheel.

Funnel Cakes, Ice Cream and Pizza, Oh My!

With more than 25 foodvenders offering everything from tasty finger foods to overstuffed burgers and oversized desserts, there's something amazing for every craving.

Admission
\$6

GATE ADMISSION
CHILDREN 3 & UNDER FREE

MISS GREGG COUNTY PAGEANT
SEPT. 14TH

COUPONS DAILY
ARMBANDS DAILY

SENIOR CITIZENS AND POLICE, FIRE, FIRST RESPONDERS & MILITARY ADMITTED FREE EACH DAY OF THE FAIR (with ID or Badge)

See you at the fair!

- FRIDAY, SEPT. 8 6:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.
- SATURDAY, SEPT. 9 4:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.
- SUNDAY, SEPT. 10 4:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
- MONDAY - WEDNESDAY, SEPT 11-13 6:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
- THURSDAY, SEPT. 14 6:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M.
- FRIDAY, SEPT. 15 6:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.
- SATURDAY, SEPT. 16 4:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.

