Upshur County indictments handed down

By Phillip Williams

The Upshur County Grand Jury recently returned 18 indictments, 11 of them sealed, and no-billed one case, said District Attorney Billy Byrd.

Defendants, charges and bond information in the open indictments, returned Oct. 5 in Gilmer, were as follows, Byrd's office reported last Thursday:

Johnathan William Charles Darden, 35, of Longview, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on Sept. 10, freed on \$35,000 bond

Eddy Dwane McCartney, 37, of Longview, theft of property (worth) less than \$2,500 with two or more previous convictions on July 19. He remained in county jail under \$10,000 bond.

Eric Shon Cathey, 44, of Gilmer, aggravated assault with deadly weapon last Nov. 26, released on \$45,000 bond

Jenna Lea Campos, a Big Sandy resident who turns 32 Saturday, assault police officer or judge on April 16, freed on \$45,000 bond. (The assault was on an Upshur County sheriff's deputy, Byrd said.)

Domonique LeJoyce Auston, 25, of Pittsburg, assault police officer or judge on May 27, released on \$50,000 bond. Byrd said that case also involved a sheriff's deputy.

Stormy Dawn Clark, 30, of New Summerfield, evading arrest/detention with vehicle on March 10, released on \$25,000 bond

Barak Ray Flinn, 20, of Gilmer, evading arrest/detention with vehicle on Aug. 1. He was freed on \$10,000 bond.

Nobody charged in the sealed

Continued on Page 3



City workers help locals toss their trash Saturday morning during Gladewater's Fall 2023 cleanup event. The next collection drive is set for the second Saturday in April.

Photos by James Draper



Gladewater's city-wide cleanup big success

Gladewater residents topped off around? 13 roll-away trash containers in just four hours Saturday morning.

"Getting the tonnage is a nearimpossible guess," according to City Hall's Al Harrison.

From mattresses to planters, furniture, clothing, appliances and plenty more in-between, locals turned up with truckloads of trash to pass on to city workers on East Commerce Street.

What was the oddest thing that ended up in the heap this time

"To me, there's nothing odd anymore," Harrison said. He's seen it all pass through on the way to the dump. "We've seen pretty much anything and everything thrown away. The next one will be the second Saturday in April. "That's when we'll have the tire recycling trailer."

Five citizen-volunteers helped out during the four-hour garbage drive along with 13 Gladewater Public Works employees.

Early voting begins Monday in state election

Early voting for the Nov. 7 elections on 14 proposed amendments to the state constitution opens Monday.

Early voting dates and hours for Upshur voters at the civic center are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Oct. 27, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 30-Nov.1, and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Nov. 2-3.

Gregg County early voters can cast their ballot at the Gregg County Courthouse, 101 E Methvin St, in Longview, and LISD Education Support Center at 1301 E. Young St., Pine Tree Community Center at 1701 Pine Tree Rd and Lakeport City Hall at 207 Milam St. in Longview.

Polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on election day, but not at the civic center. In Gladewater, voting is scheduled at St. James Baptist Church, 2800 W. Commerce on election day.

Under "countywide" voting, voters can cast election-day ballots at any polling place in the county whether they live in that precinct







Gladewater vs Jefferson 7:00 p.m. Friday at Gladewater



White Oak vs Atlanta 7:00 p.m. Friday at Atlanta



Union Grove vs Ore City 7:00 p.m. Thursday at Ore City

Gladewater, White Oak sales tax revenue growing

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar recently announced he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.1 billion in local sales tax allocations for October, 4.5 percent more than in October 2022. These allocations are based on sales made in August by businesses that report tax monthly.

Gladewater, which is riding a 22-month positive posting of local sales tax revenue, and White Oak both recorded numbers that exceeded the previous year. Gladewater's monthly numbers were up 3.49-percent and White Oak was up 12.31-percent. For the year, Gladewater was up 19.52-percent and White Oak was up 11.27-percent.

County	City Clarksville City	Rate \$	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change [‡]	Payment YTD [‡]	Prior Year Payment YTD \$74,141.46 \$51,062.16	% Change [‡] 30.41% 8.94%
Gregg		1.000%	\$9,958.68	\$8,207.96	21.32% 53.68%	\$96,688.92 \$55,628.69		
Gregg	Easton	1.000%	\$8,166.18	\$5,313.71				
Gregg			\$124,689.00 \$821,719.30	\$120,475.69 \$797,310.56	3.49% 3.06%	\$1,382,125.94 \$8,208,938.73	\$1,156,388.55 \$7,475,185.86	19.52% 9.81%
Gregg								
Gregg	Lakeport	1.500%	\$26,138.28	\$24,585.05	6.31%	\$285,340.77	\$246,428.35	15.79%
Gregg	Longview	1.500%	\$3,662,627.54	\$3,476,324.17	5.35%	\$38,853,780.24	\$36,258,278.47	7.15%
Gregg	Warren City	1.000%	\$1,399.17	\$1,187.10	17.86%	\$15,412.61	\$14,575.50	5.74%
Gregg	White Oak	1.500%	\$130,155.96	\$115,882.88	12.31%	\$1,375,326.84	\$1,235,919.31	11.27%
Upshur	Big Sandy	1.250%	\$23,921.32	\$23,578.04	1.45%	\$248,854.48	\$242,969.30	2.42%
Upshur	East Mountain	1.000%	\$3,417.75	\$3,650.99	-6.38%	\$45,277.93	\$34,802.35	30.10%
Upshur	shur Gilmer		\$209,113.12	\$237,272.51	-11.86%	\$2,264,894.71	\$2,147,381.47	5.47%
Upshur	Ore City 1.2		\$17,311.85	\$20,883.13	-17.10%	\$192,282.86	\$193,023.68	-0.38%
Upshur	Union Grove	1.000%	\$510.17	\$534.43	-4.53%	\$4,788.77	\$4,205.29	13.87%

Summer-collegiate team OK'd at WO ballpark

City council members have greenlit the formation of a summer-collegiate team tied to White Oak's ballpark.

The team name's to be determined as the organizers of East Texas Sports & Entertainment prepare to reach out to the community for ideas. That name, too, is temporary while they develop a localized 'Piney Woods' moniker, but they're hitting the gas to get things lined up well-ahead of a May 2024 debut.

"After touring the baseball fields, they liked what they saw, and now they want to see about coming in and leasing the field from the city," White Oak City Coordinator Jimmy Purcell told council members ahead of Scott Kirk's initial pitch for the developing team last week.

According to Kirk, the team will be part of the burgeoning Mid America League under president Matt Perry, running from late-May through mid-August. The current plan is a 68-game schedule, 34 at home, the other half on the road.

"Most of our markets are about this size. We're not a league that goes into bigger cities looking for huge crowds. We're very comfortable in places like this," Kirk told council members. Initially, the group was also eyeing Kilgore for the opportunity, but a variety of circumstances shifted the focus enjoyed by high school players and fans as well. to White Oak.

"To say that it met our expectations is an understatement. We couldn't believe how nice the field is, how nice the facility is."

Importantly, Purcell noted, none of the new team's activities will interfere with White Oak ISD baseball at all.

"Absolutely," Kirk reiterated. Schedules are unlikely to clash anyway, but "If they have a home playoff game, it's theirs, no questions asked.

"We're in charge of our own schedule, so we understand.

We're not running anybody out of there." Under the agreement unanimously-approved by council members Oct. 16, the group will lease the field for \$100 to \$200 per game (depending on the results of a utility study) for a period of five years. The term can be extended to 10 years with council approval.

The agreement also anticipates capital improvements of up to \$100,000 throughout the life of the lease, a mixture of temporary and permanent upgrades from extending netting for protecting the audience from line drives to adding and improving seating or other enhancements that could be

Continued on Page 7



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.

Keep the music playing...

For some reason Julie Andrews' "My Favorite Things" from "The Sound of Music" has been playing over and over in the personal soundstage of my music loving mind.

Her 'favorite things' joyfully hits all the right notes and seamlessly flows together to create moments of listener reflection on blessings. I wish I could sing just a little bit because one of my favorite things is music. But that's okay. I have Pandora on my computer and iPhone; a CD player at work with hundreds of CDs at my fingertips; and satellite radio in my car (a gift! I assure you that I am too cheap to pay for radio!).

On the two trips I made to New York City to speak at Columbia Scholastic Press Association's national conventions at Columbia University, high on my tourist list was to see Broadway musicals.

On that first trip I saw Hugh Jackman in "The Boy From Oz" which was based on the life of Peter Gabriel. Breathless with embarrassingly girlish excitement and the realization that I was watching Wolverine of "X-Men" fame sing, dance and wittily improvise with the audience still brings me delight.

Of course I waited hours in a blizzard at the stage door after the performance, and of course I got HUGH JACKMAN's autograph and picture. Yep, Hugh Jackman. Cue the fan and

Sabine teacher Susan Duncan was my sidekick for this trip and we also went to see "Chicago". What a disappointment. The actors were beautiful to look at with great voices but they didn't have that spark that elevates the common to the extraordinary.

How does that happen? My theory is that extraordinary is born in passion for what you are doing. Extraordinary is a pretty good thing to shoot for in life.

The next New York trip I took my then college-aged son (who is definitely pretty extraordinary). On the first night of our trip I gleefully surprised my son with tickets for "Spamalot" with Tim Curry (do NOT admit that you know him from "Rocky Horror Picture Show", we will keep that as our little secret). The play was in the last night in previews and our seats were in the last row. My charming only child complained continuously about the waste of time before the curtain rose.

Abbott ties voucher passage to teacher pay, school funding

Gov. Greg Abbott, just hours after the Senate initially approved a school voucher measure, said he would add teacher raises and increased public school funding to the ongoing special session agenda if the Texas Legislature passes his voucher plan, the Texas Tribune reported.

"I want to make sure we provide a carrot to make sure this legislation gets passed," Abbott said of vouchers. "Once [education savings accounts] are passed, I will put on the legislative agenda full funding for public education, including teacher pay raises for teachers across the state."

However, Democratic and rural Republican legislators remain opposed to vouchers, maintaining vouchers would drain funding for public schools, the Texas Standard reported.

"Every dollar that we spend on a voucher is going to be a dollar that is taken away from being able to invest in public education," Rep. Stan Lambert, R-Abilene, said.

State Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville, called Abbott's approach a "political threat." He said most constituents in his district would find it a hardship to send their children to private schools because of the distance and cost.

"Most of my constituents, even with an \$8,000 discount, the private school is probably so far away, they're going to have to travel 30 or 40 miles to get to a private school," Nichols said. "And they still won't be able to afford the balance of what's

The Senate bill initially approved would give families who opt for private schools \$8,000 of public money each year.

Patrick: No reason to return PAC money

Lt. Gov Dan Patrick says he has no intention of returning \$3 million in political contributions received from a political action committee whose leader met with an avowed Nazi sympathizer earlier this month, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Former state representative Jonathan Stickland, now head of the Defend Texas Liberty PAC, met with white supremacist Nick Fuentes for several hours, prompting a number of Republican lawmakers to donate money they received from the PAC to pro-Israel charities at the urging of House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont.

Patrick and Phelan have been feuding for months, especially over the impeachment and ultimate acquittal of Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. Patrick called on Phelan to resign after the speaker demanded he return the \$3 million.

The Best of Suzanne



You know those moments when you realize that you know a thing or two and you are wondering if your kid will figure that out before you clunk him upside the head with your too heavy purse?

He did. Figure it out. Fortunately. For both of us.

Before the first song was over Josh was glued to the stage. Soon we were rolling with laughter. You know, that absolutely unabashed belly laugh that leaves your sides aching and your lips turned up for hours?

When "Spamalot" was over Josh asked if we could go to plays every night we were in New York. Of course my purse wasn't well-padded enough for that wish, but I did dig up enough pixie dust for us to make it to "The Producers". And that was a riot.

No matter how old I get I will recall those precious moments with pleasure.

If you are of my generation you may find that you have far too many things that you are holding on to and that won't change at our house until my family's post-mortem garage sale.

But, I have realized that making memories is the absolute best gift. It doesn't have to be something as exotic as a big trip. It can be sitting on the porch and sharing stories with people you love.

For Jim and me, it might be a weekend motorcycle ride on the back roads as the leaves change. I remember one fall day last year when the leaves literally were blowing down around us by a breeze that was just cool enough. It was a moment filled with wonder at the beauty of creation and our place in it.

Crazy that we often say about unique moments like this, "it was like a scene out of a movie".

So friends, let's make more 'movie moments' that are real. Share your stories and really look around you so you don't miss the best parts of your journey. And, please don't forget to keep the music playing in your life.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



"I didn't think even Dade Phelan would stoop this low," Patrick said in a statement. "He has now absolutely hit rock bottom. His latest stunt is disgusting, despicable and disingenuous."

Phelan pushed back. "I didn't take \$3 million from a PAC that associates itself with Nazis and Nazi sympathizers. That's not my problem," he said.

Two Texas congressmen oppose bullet train

Two Texas congressmen are trying to stop funding for a bullet train from Houston to Dallas, the Houston Chronicle reported. U.S. Reps. Jake Ellzey and Michael McCaul, both Republicans, have asked the federal Department of Transportation to deny federal funding for the project, announced recently as a collaboration between Amtrak and Texas Central Railroad.

The proposed route of 240 miles would have a travel time of 90 minutes – less than half the time it takes to travel by car.

"At its core, this project is intended to take land from American citizens and put it under the control of a Japanese company, which is itself subsidized using money from U.S. taxpayers," the two congressmen wrote in part.

A number of Texas landowners have expressed concern about the route cutting through their farmland.

"Landowners deserve to have their land rights protected against the unrealistic and financially infeasible rail project proposed to be funded through these applications," McCaul and Ellzey said in their letter.

Only two Texas universities crack top 100

Only two Texas universities managed to crack the top 100 in the Wall Street Journal's annual ranking, the Houston Chronicle reported. Texas A&M was ranked 38th, while Rice University came in at 64th. The University of Texas came in at No. 118, according to the rankings.

"To generate the rankings, the Journal partnered with research groups College Pulse and Statista to analyze a mountain of data, measuring everything from expected student salaries and years needed to pay for attendance to the quality of the school's 'learning-related facilities' and on-campus diversity," the Chronicle reported.



THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Women working ...

The Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics for this year has been awarded to American Claudia Goldin of Harvard University for her work in explaining changes in women's earnings and participation in the labor market. Dr. Goldin examined more than 200 years of data (much of it gathered through painstaking sleuthing through obscure sources) to

> identify the causes of changes and the primary forces behind the lingering gender pay gap.

Each year, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awards the Prize (formally the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel) in recognition of ideas and research that increase our understanding of important issues in economics and related areas. Although most people

are not interested in the pure economics of such efforts, the discoveries often shape public policy or even the way we think about the world which, in turn, affects the daily lives of virtually everyone.

Dr. Goldin's analysis illuminates a complex subject. She explains how the proportion of women working decreased during the Industrial Revolution but then began to increase with the emergence of the services sector. Social norms were changing over time, and more women entered the workforce. She further found that, throughout much of history, women made critical career decisions at an early age that often modeled the behavior of prior generations, thus perpetuating limited labor force participation. Fortunately, that tendency has greatly diminished in recent times.

Education provides opportunities for a vast array of jobs, and attainment among women has been rising for decades. In fact, there are currently more women attending college than men, and they are seeking degrees/training across the spectrum of occupations.

Nevertheless, a gender pay gap still exists, and the question becomes "why?". Dr. Goldin's work again provides some useful guidance. She discovered that, until the birth of the first child, pay for women and men is essentially equal. However, there is a divergence with parenthood that is subsequently not recovered.

Gender pay gaps are a controversial topic, with extensive rhetoric and oversimplification obscuring the underlying reality. It is only through trying to understand existing patterns and reasons for them that we can identify and eliminate barriers. Women who make choices to back off at work to free up time for children or other priorities may often be making entirely rational choices that reflect desired lifestyle patterns. At the same time, if enhanced childcare options, greater flexibility in work hours and locations, or other factors can help women maintain their career trajectories, implementing such changes may make a material difference in an era of ongoing labor shortages.

Although she does not proffer solutions. Dr. Goldin's decades of focused scholarship increase our understanding of this vital issue. Congratulations! Stay safe!

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ANGER

Someone said: "An angry man is seldom reasonable, and a reasonable man is seldom angry." Well, that's true, isn't it? Although the Bible does not condemn all anger because there is such a thing as godly anger or righteous indignation—nevertheless, someone who is often angry is often unreasonable and often wrong. As I said, the Bible does not condemn all anger. For example, Eph. 4: 26 says: "Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your wrath." Now, if all anger under all circumstances was sinful, then the Bible's statement, "Be angry, and do not sin" would not make any sense as the angry person would already have committed sin when he became angry. But, as I said, there is such a thing as godly anger or righteous indignation. Our world could use some godly anger or righteous indignation. But the problem is the things we should be angry and indignant about, we aren't, and the things we should not be angry about, we are.

But even godly anger can turn into something sinful. It can give the devil a foothold in our life, if we aren't very careful. That's why the Bibe says: "Be angry, and do not sin." You see, just as "anger" is only one letter away from "danger" in spelling, so anger is often very close to sin in life—and a lot of anger is sinful from the very beginning. So, a wise man will be very careful with his temper. As another once said: "The more you grow up, the less you blow up!"

My friend, we must always guard against sinful anger. And even when anger is justified, we ought to be very careful that we do not let godly anger become something that isn't godly. Remember: God's message to us in Eph. 4: 26 is: "Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath." Think on these things.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

P. O. Box 454 - White Oak, Texas 75693- 903-736-1822-dennis.abernathv845@gmail.com.

Texas Production of Oil and Natural Gas again achieves new record highs

AUSTIN - Texas' production of oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids (NGLs) achieved new record highs for the month of September after achieving record highs just one month earlier in August, according to the Texas Oil & Gas Association's (TXOGA) monthly energy economic analysis prepared by TXOGA Chief Economist Dean Foreman, Ph.D. Further, as crude and NGL production has climbed, instate refiners have processed record amounts.

Specifically, TXOGA estimates that:

Texas' oil production in September 2023 was a record-high 5.9 million barrels per day (mb/d), surpassing the record previously set in August 2023;

Texas' natural gas marketed production in September 2023 also reached a new record high, with 34.6 billion cubic feet per day (bcf/d) of natural gas gross withdrawals, surpassing the record previously set in August 2023; and

Texas refineries in July processed a record 5.6 mb/d of crude oil and a record 3.1 mb/d of NGLs.



What a great week - Judy Van Houten and Lois Reed mailed the final payment for the upcoming Wreaths Across America event. Many thanks to everyone who made a donation so 400 veterans will have a wreath placed in their memory on December 16. If you would luke to volunteer, contact the Chamber at (903)845-5501.

Upshur County indictments handed down

Continued from Page 1

indictments was identified since no arrest had been made in those cases, said Byrd.

They included three for evading arrest/detention with vehicle, two for burglary of habitation and two for possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine.)

They also included one

each for aggravated assault against public servant, theft of property of the value of \$2,500 or more but less than \$30,000, possession of controlled substance (amphetamine) and possession of controlled substance (THC.)

The nature of the nobilled case wasn't disclosed.



Union Grove Superintendent Kelly Moore rolls up her sleeves and pitches in to help the shortstaffed cafeteria crew wash dishes Oct. 11.

Courtesy photo by Mallory Shelton

lips Heights; more com-

monly known as 501 Phillips

Discuss and consider

• Enter into executive

session to discuss the pos-

sible approval of the Glade-

water Center For Commu-

nity Education (GCCE)

Building located at 2109

W. Gay Avenue being given

to Gladewater ISD by the

Gladewater Economic De-

velopment (GEDCO) board.

the building to GISD free of

charge, since the school uses

it for classes the majority if

the time.

GEDCO wishes to give

installation of new water line

at 1303 S. Tyler Rd.

Upshur commissioners discuss tax collections **By Phillip Williams**

Elijah Parham and Katy King were recently named

Union Grove Students of the Month by the

Gladewater Rotary Club.

Upshur County Commissioners Court on Monday unanimously voted to keep its contractual right to retain legal counsel to collect delinquent taxes for the county's schools, thus essentially rejecting a proposal to let three school districts choose a different

law firm than the county now uses. Tyler attorney Patrick Woods appeared before the court with the superintendents of Harmony, Big Sandy and Union Grove ISDs to propose the change, but ran into opposition because it supposedly wasn't proposed by a July 1 deadline in the current contract. County Judge Todd Tefteller said the current agreement was made in 1991 between the county's school districts and the

late then-County Judge Everett Dean. Woods protested that the three school districts had recently hired his firm, and indicated that school business managers had tried to find a copy of the current agreement (showing the July 1 deadline), but that he didn't know he was supposed to notify the county by that date.

When he said he hadn't seen the agreement, one commissioner responded that everybody else could find it and "you're a lawyer." Precinct 3 Commissioner Michael Ashley was among court members saying the proposal should have been submitted by the July 1 deadline.

Tefteller said the question before the court was whether to waive that requirement. Woods also unsuccessfully proposed post-dating the contract, saying "I think the issue is one of timing."

Two representatives of Linebarger Attorneys at Law, a national law firm which now collects the delinquent taxes, also appeared before the court.

After the meeting, Harmony school board President Jed Whitaker, who didn't attend it, informed *The Mirror* his school had approved the change June 12 and submitted it to the county

County Tax Assessor-Collector Luana Howell told the court that making the proposed change would "create more work for my office," and thus more expense, because more attorneys would be involved in collecting delinquent taxes.

She said she would do what the court wanted, though, and Woods said his firm would help compensate for the additional burden on Howell's office.

Howell and a representative of the Linebarger firm, Staci Killingsworth, also said schools had the right to choose an attorney, but Killingsworth said they must follow a certain procedure.

In other business, the court approved an interlocal agreement with the city of Gladewater under which Howell's office will collect city property taxes for the portion of Gladewater lying in Upshur County. Under the contract, the county cannot charge the city more than the actual cost of assessing and collecting, as determined by the court. Tefteller termed that a "tiny sliver, required by Texas law."

Gladewater City council to meet Thursday at 6

Drive

The Gladewater City Council will meet Thursday, Oct. 19, at 6 p.m. at City Hall to discuss the following agenda items:

- Investment report for quarter ending September
- 30, 2023 • Engagement Letter from Mays & Associates for financial audit for FY 2022-2023
- Agreement Between the City of Gladewater and Gladewater Independent School District for the School Resource Officer Program -2023-2024 school
- Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Gladewater and the City of White Oak for Mechanical Maintenance of Vehicles and Equipment
- Administrative/Professional Services Agreement between the City of Gladewater and Traylor & Associates for Project No. DR 4586-0069
- Ordinance 0-23-12 -Amend One-Way and Limited One-Way Streets in §7.07.040(A) & (B) of the Gladewater Code of Ordinances
- Ordinance 0-23-13 -Amend Solid Waste Placement Time of Receptacles in §5.03.080(B) of the Gladewater Code of Ordinances
- Discuss and consider of Airport Board recommendation regarding ground space and hangar rental fees for Gladewater Municipal Airport
- Discuss and consider lien forgiveness in the amount of\$3,850.00 for Lot A Blk 6 (W 1/2 Lot 8) Phil-

OBITUARIES

BONNIE MASON FERGUSON

Bonnie Mason Ferguson, loving mother, and grandmother, passed away peacefully in Dallas on Oct. 9, 2023, at the age of 99.



Bonnie was born May 26, 1924, in Flatonia, TX to Muriel Taggert and Ernest Lowell Mason. She married Garland Perry Ferguson on Oct. 2, 1943, in Galveston. Bonnie began her teaching career in Bruceville-Eddy during WWII, and taught one year at San Marcus Baptist Academy. Garland and Bonnie moved to Union Grove in 1947, and to Gladewater in 1972. She taught many years in both

Gladewater and Union Grove before she retired in 1983. At her passing, Bonnie was the oldest living member of

the First Baptist Church of Gladewater. She taught a ladies Sunday school class and was a member of the choir for many years. She also served as President of WMU, was an active member of the Shirley Ditmore Bible Study Group, Delta Kappa Gamma, and Beta Sigma Phi.

Bonnie/Mother/Nanny enjoyed her crossword puzzles, word jumbles and a game of bingo! She was a life-long Texas Rangers fan, and the Rangers, Hallmark, and "Monk" provided many hours of entertainment for her.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her infant daughter, Barbara Elaine, her husband, Garland, and two sisters, Ernestine Mason Brewer and Carolyn Mason Deviney.

She is survived by her daughter & son-in-law, Bonnie & Morris Bryan of Dallas, and son & daughter-in-law, Bob & Elizabeth Ferguson of Rowlett. She was so proud of her 7 grandchildren and spouses: Stacey LaLumia and James, Becky Senderling and Adam, Keith Ferguson and Barie, Karen Coleman and Alan, Lindsey Hudman and John Paul, Stephanie Contreras, and Matthew Bryan. Her 20 great grandchildren and 10 great, great grandchildren will remember her fondly, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials for Bonnie may be sent to Texas Baptist Men, 5351 Catron, Dallas, Texas 75227, Rosedale Cemetery, Box 1547, Gladewater, TX 75647, Habitat for Humanity, or any Veteran Organization. Bonnie was fond of supporting numerous charities throughout the years.

GUIN BROWNING FRANKUM

Guin Browning Frankum went to be with the Lord on October 10, 2023. She passed away peacefully at home with her family. Guin was born October 21, 1941 in Tyler. She



for 45 years as a nurse. She was a country girl at heart and she loved to watch sports. Guin loved the Lord and she praised him all day, every day. She was a fantastic mother who was very supportive of her children and grandchildren and they will all miss her terribly.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Grady and Claudia Smith; son, James Brad McPherson; and brother, Donald Ray

Browning. Guin is survived by her loving sons, Craig McPherson

and Brian McPherson; four granddaughters, Heather, Erin, Jordan, and Brook; three grandsons, James, Brad and Nathan; a host of great-grandchildren and extended family. Services for Ms. Frankum will be 10:00 a.m. Saturday,

October 21, 2023 at Mims Chapel Cemetery under the direction of Reeder-Davis Funeral Home in Hughes Springs. There will be a time of visitation from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. An online guestbook may be signed at www.reeder-davis.com.



The Gladewater Lions Club's October Students of the Month are Mason Thompson and Jayden



WHAT'S HAPPENING



Union Grove sophomore Thomas Navarro-Gonzalez will represent Texas in the national Junior Spanish Creed competition at the 96th National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis on Nov. 1. This is the first year of national competition for Junior Spanish Creed students. He won the inaugural Texas FFA Jr. **Spanish Creed Speaking** contest last December and subsequently became the first state champion.

Photo by Lillie Phillips

Fall/Winter jacket, coat drive underway

After collecting shoes for local students over the summer, the Darla's Angels outreach has partnered with Body of Believers Ministries for a Fall/Winter jacket and coat drive in Gladewate.

The effort is set for Oct. 15 through Nov. 17, seeking the cold weather items for children, from toddlers to teens. Donations can be dropped off at four locations including the Gladewater Mirror, Citizens Bank, City National Bank and Austin Bank.

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

Gladewater Fall Fest on tap Oct. 28

Get the costumes and can-

dy baskets ready: the community's annual Emergency Services Fall Fest is set for 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Broadway Elementary School Playground.

At just \$1 per person, organizers at Gladewater Fire Department are crafting a wide variety of events and activities for the spooky soiree, from games and contests to hot dogs and other snacks, of course, sweets and treats for the turnout.

"Bring the whole family and don't forget to dress up.'

Retired teachers to meet Oct. 26

The monthly Oil Patch TRTA Teacher meeting is set for 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 26, at First Methodist Church at 217 Quitman Ave. in Gladewater.

Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons will be group's special guest this month: "We're thrilled to have the fire chief as our guest speaker, sharing crucial insights on fire safety in honor of Fire Safety Month. Let's prioritize safety together!"

The group will also hear highlights from their Fall conference along with refreshments and door prizes: "Bring a friend for extra entries. See ya there!"

'Settin' on the Woodbine' on stage

A group of Gladewater High School students will bring the city's oil boom days back to life early next

The GHS Theater Department is poised to present "Settin' on the Woodbine," spotlighting Gladewater history as part of the community-wide celebration of the city's 150-year heritage.

The play includes original

During last week's White Oak Pep Rally, KYKX celebs Pigskin Bob and Harlen the Sports Guy gave out KYKX Awards of the Week.



Barrett Williams FFA Member of the Week



Caleb Maxted Male Athlete of the Week



Calee Carter Female Athlete of the Week



Fiona Rolland **Band Member of the Week**



Katie Hinch Drill Team Member of the Week



Kylie Dugger Cheerleader of the Week



Lindsey McClung Teacher of the Week



Morgan High



Coach of the Week

Savana Wade **Future Apache of the Week**

text by Jerry Kates, Molly Aberrombie, Brenda Kaster and Glen Goza. It's directed and edited by Jessica Smith with musical direction from Darren Richardson.

The production's Opening Night event Thursday, Nov. 2, includes a chicken spaghetti dinner for \$12 per person in the high school cafeteria.

Tickets will be sold at the door for the cash-only event. Regular tickets for perfor-

mances are \$5 per son - for

evening showtimes Nov. 2, 6, and 7, doors open at 1:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7 p.m. One matinee performance Sunday, Nov. 5, has doors opening at 1:30 p.m. before the 2 p.m. performance.

Holiday Open House coming Nov. 11

Halloween's still ahead, but Gladewater's event organizers are already planning for their wintry escapades: downtown's Holiday Open house (and the Jolly Old Elf's 2023 debut) is set for 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11.

The evening is co-hosted by Gladewater Chamber of Commerce, Gladewater Economic Development Corporation and the City of Gladewater in conjunction with downtown's retailers, restaurateurs and other stakeholders.

The event opens with the lighting of downtown's Christmas tree at 6 p.m. followed by a night of holiday shopping alongside an array of food trucks, hot chocolate and a children's play area.

The evening will, of

course, include a visit from Santa Claus, and parents are encouraged to bring kids for an early naughty-or-nice check-up.

For more information, contact Lois Reed at Gladewater Chamber of Commerce at 903-845-5501.

See more details next

Sunday Services



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Olde Tyme Baptist Church • 903-806-2411

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

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GMS Care Programs discussed

Maybe it's an extra fistbump in the hallway. Maybe it's a little side hug. On the surface, it's not a big deal, but behind-the-scenes it's an extra effort by Gladewater Middle School faculty to show students a little extra grace and empathy when it helps.

It's called 'Handle with Care' at GMS, one of two programs Gladewater ISD trustees explored Monday evening with Principal Becky Lanham and Counselor Kacy Rodgers.

"It doesn't cost us a thing, it doesn't take any time, it's just a little extra grace," Lanham said, taking quiet cues from parents to help their student get through a hard day a little easier. "Then we just move on."

Importantly, Rodgers said, it's not an original idea to GISD, but while she doesn't remember where she heard of it, the basic concept stuck with her:

"If your child is having a bad day or there's something going on in your family, let us know and we'll send an email to their teacher," whether it's a struggle with the death of a loved one or something simpler, like a morning argument over missing shoes. "Most of them are short things, some

are a little bit long-term. Sometimes we get no information at all except for a child's name. (Teachers) give them a little extra grace, a little extra comfort during that time."

Basic coordination among staffers ensures the student isn't being constantly asked 'What's wrong?' or if they're OK, Rodgers added, which helps avoid re-triggering the emotions they're dealing with.

"That way, the kid doesn't have to explain it eight different times, and the teachers are aware of it."

Most of the time, students are unaware they're getting a little more slack, Lanham said, a little more tenderness.

"The parent may stop in the parking lot and say, 'We're having a hard time today.' We'll make sure we lay eyes on that child at least once or twice throughout the day."

Likewise, the campus Care Closet is an extension of partnering with Gladewater Methodist Church and East Texas Food Bank for a backpack nutrition program.

A robust inventory of snacks, clothes, hygiene products and more mitigates minor emergencies and ensures students have a little assistance when it's needed.

"It's really cool that the

kids can come and get whatever they need during the day, during the week," Lanham said, in addition to their Friday afternoon backpack meals: "They don't have to feel self-conscious about that."

It's also helpful when there's a lunchtime spill, Rodgers added, a ready change of clothes so kids don't have to endure a stain through the rest of their day.

The community has rallied behind the idea, Lanham said. Packages arrive regularly, generously adding to the various necessities in the campus stores.

"We got cases of body wash and antiperspirant," she added. "It's awesome, the stuff that's coming in. Folks will supplement the backpack meals with granola bars, peanut butter crackers, things that are super-quick that kids can pick up.

"Whatever we get, we just kind of dispense it, and the kids go in there and shop."

Clothing donations come in all the time.

"If someone has a dress code violation, we're not taking a lot of time calling home, sitting in ISS. Go in that closet and find something and keep rolling," Lanham said. "Find something, put it on and get back to class. That's the goal here."

The GMS programs are reflective of what's going on throughout Gladewater ISD's campuses, according to Dr. Sedric Clark, GISD superintendent.

2023 Top 10 Taxpayers for Gladewater ISD

COUNTY

Upshur Gregg & Upshur Gregg Gregg & Upshur

Smith
Gregg
Smith
Gregg
Gregg
Gregg

TAXPAYER Sabine Oil & Gas Corporation AEP Swepco Union Pacific Railroad

Union Pacific Railroad \$11,152,290
Basa Resources Inc. \$8,301,030
Faulconer Energy 2023 LP \$8,023,580
Transcanada Keystone Pipeline LP \$7,525,784
Breitburn Operating LP/Quantum Resources A1 LP \$6,649,930
Southern Transport LLC \$6,456,800
Suddenlink Communications \$5,581,180

Total Taxable Value \$103,556,654

"Before we can really teach the subject matter, our kids' basic needs have to be met," Clark said. "Whether that's food at school or just knowing that people care for them and want them to be taken care of, those needs have to be met.

"The adage says, the kids don't care what you know until they know that you care. That's applicable."

John Paul & Beverly Tallent

Personnel have recently received additional training on working with students

who live at the poverty level. "We're 77 percent eco-

TAXABLE VALUE

\$27,527,925

\$17,060,910

\$5,277,235

"We're 77 percent economically-disadvantaged," Clark noted. "Our training reiterated that education is a way up and out for these kids, but we have to meet basic needs first."



Brew to Revive Owner & Operator Stephanie Fowler officially cuts the ribbon at her coffee shop Monday morning, joined by representatives of Gladewater Chamber Of Commerce and other well-wishers at 821 N. Main St.

Photo by James Draper

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SELL IT IN THE OF SELL IT IN T



ORDINANCE 2024-01

ORDINANCE 2024-01 OF THE CITY OF WHITE OAK WAS PASSED IN THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 10, 2023 TO ADOPT THE TAX ROLL FOR TAX YEAR 2023-2024 FOR THE CITY OF WHITE OAK, TEXAS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. FOR A COPY OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE, PLEASE CONTACT KRISTINE TOON, CITY SECRETARY, CITY OF WHITE OAK, 906 S. WHITE OAK RD., WHITE OAK, TX 75693 OR CALL 903.759.3936



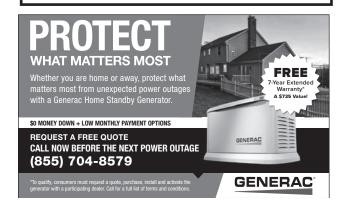
ORDINANCE 2024-02

ORDINANCE 2024-02 OF THE CITY OF WHITE OAK WAS PASSED IN THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 10, 2023 TO APPROVE ADJUSTMENTS AND AMENDMENTS TO FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 GENERAL FUND BUDGET; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. FOR A COPY OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE, PLEASE CONTACT KRISTINE TOON, CITY SECRETARY, CITY OF WHITE OAK, 906 S. WHITE OAK RD., WHITE OAK, TX 75693 OR CALL 903.759.3936 x17.



ORDINANCE 2024-03

ORDINANCE 2024-03 OF THE CITY OF WHITE OAK WAS PASSED IN THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 10, 2023 TO APPROVE ADJUSTMENTS AND AMENDMENTS TO FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 GENERAL FUND BUDGET; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. FOR A COPY OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE, PLEASE CONTACT KRISTINE TOON, CITY SECRETARY, CITY OF WHITE OAK, 906 S. WHITE OAK RD., WHITE OAK, TX 75693 OR CALL 903.759.3936 x17.





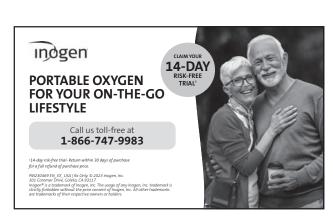
NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC HEARING

The White Oak Planning &Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 906 S. White Oak Rd. regarding a request from Juan Palouares, for a Special Use Provision (SUP) permit for a request to build a carport, to be located at LT 11 BLK 1 Moody, White Oak Tx, more commonly known as 1706 S Lake Harris, White Oak, Texas

A second public hearing will be held before the White Oak City Council on December 13, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

For more information contact Jimmy Purcell, City Coordinator at jpurcell@cityofwhiteoak.com







Oct. 15-21, 2023

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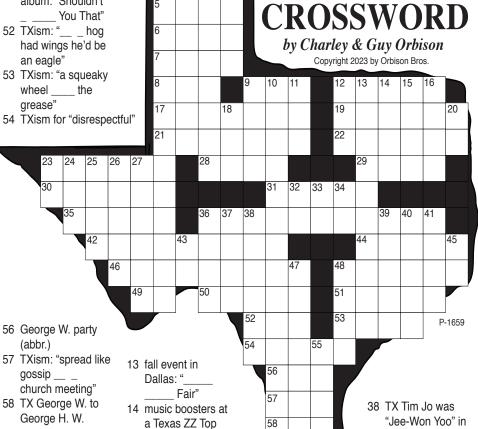
ACROSS

- 1 Troy Aikman net. 5 TXism: "I double dog _ _ ya"
- 6 small biting fly 7 sprint car org. at Abilene Speedway
- 8 TXism: "smart as a bunkhouse '
- 9 TXism: "happy as
- a ____ in mud" 12 TXism: "sharp as
- 17 Taylor County seat 19 TXism: "hair trigger
- (quick to anger) 21 old road in Nacogdoches: "
- del Norte" 22 increase the size 23 TXism: "
- driller" (dentist) 28 TV award given to TX Carol Burnett
- McCarthy (abbr.) 30 Texas Tech grad Lakas was president of this Central American

29 Dan Quinn to Mike

- country of beef 35 unarmed (2 wds.)
- 36 city dump: "_ eyes"? 42 song written in
- 1941: " heart of
- 44 on I-20, 23 miles west of 17-across
- 46 TXism: "a legend in his own mind"
- 48 1980 song "Raisin' Texas" 49 American
- multinational conglomerate

- 50 sheriff's huntin' party 51 Texas "Chicks" 3rd album: "Shouldn't
- You That" 52 TXism: "__ _ hog
- 53 TXism: "a squeaky wheel ____ the grease"
- 54 TXism for "disrespectful"



- **DOWN**
- 1 UT has the desk of this 3-name poet
- 2 a Texas city, county, and river (2 wds.)
- 3 Cowboy & Texan preparation
- 4 shrimp catchers 9 ship steering wheel
- 10 TX Pride's "My Eyes Can
- You" 11 one way to tell a
- horse to "giddy" up 12 TXism: "table grazeď
- a Texas ZZ Top concert 15 TXism: "tax
- wranglers" 16 Jayton is seat of this county
- 18 "Gone to Texas" came to mean "on the ___"
- 20 car path (abbr.) 23 "The Pelvis" (init.)
- 24 noted female south Texas rancher: Mary West
- 25 cattle auction indication (2 wds.) 26 PGA golfer Andrew
- who grew up in Dallas
- 27 shell of flightless Australian
- 32 TX George Strait 1991 hit: "__ I Know Me"

bird (2 wds.)

- 33 TXism: "it'll ___ nicely"
- 34 TXism: "let '__ rip' 36 TXism: " beans"
- (in the pod) 37 TXism: "pay _ never mind"
- "Jee-Won Yoo" in season 4 of " Us'
- 39 "Ripley's Believe It ___ " in Grand Prairie
- 40 fishin' apparatus: rods and
- 41 Oklahoma town 43 TX Ernest Tubb's
- __ Walking the Floor Over You" 45 TX Sam Rayburn's
- birth state (abbr.) 47 "you never amaze me"
- 48 crafty
- 55 language south of the border (abbr.)

See Answers On This Page

Free concert on tap at FBC

A free, outdoor community concert featuring entertainment by the artist Covie will take place this Saturday, October 21, as part of the celebration of Gladewater's 150th anniversary. In addition to the two-hour concert, food vendors including Chad's, Mana Mexi Food, and Wheeler's Homemade Ice Cream will be available to serve those who like to mix food with fun.

The live event is absolutely free, family-friendly, and totally outdoors in the area just east of First Baptist Church. The church is located on Highway 80 west of Main Street in Gladewater. Sponsored by First Baptist Church, the concert organizers hope to bring the people of Gladewater together for a fun evening as we celebrate Gladewater's 150th year.

"We're excited to bring an artist as talented as Covie to our community," said Pastor Bailey Harris. "We hope a free concert will bring family and friends together for an enjoyable evening of music, food, and fellowship."

Covie is an East Texas band founded by Covenant Olatunde. The group has managed to garner quite a following over the past three years, playing a mixture of soul, pop, reggae, and Christian music. Reviewers have stated that Covie has "a voice like velvet" and his music is "joyful, lovely, and true." One reviewer said "if you like Bill Withers or Jason Mraz, you'll love Covie!"

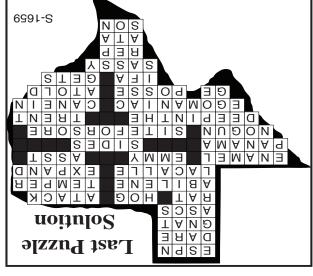
FBC Gladewater hopes that hundreds of people can join them for a fun evening this Saturday as we celebrate the City of Gladewater with a mix of Christian music and some bluesy pop melodies as well! Concert goers should get ready to sit back, relax, and enjoy live music outside on a beautiful Fall evening. Bring your lawn chairs and/ or blankets, share some good food, and enjoy an upbeat, musical celebration together.

The concert begins at 6 p.m. outside on the lawn at First Baptist Church, Gladewater. Food trucks and vendors will begin serving food and drink at 5:30 p.m. If you plan to enjoy some food, organizers have suggested that you bring cash because some vendors are not equipped to take credit cards.

Countywide dumping set for Oct. 28

The Upshur County government will host one of its two annual County-Wide Cleanups, where county residents can dump certain items free of charge, Saturday, Oct. 28.

It is set from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (while dumpster space is available) at the county pug mill site, 1426 Cottonwood Road in Pritchett community. The road intersects with FM 1404.



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10/8/23	MISCELLANEOUS ALARM/OTHER	20235627	0:31 2:50	DOMINOS	1050 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE 212 E MILLER MILLER ST
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	MISSING PERSON ABANDONED 911	20235676	14:06		408 W QUITMAN QUITMAN 377 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	EMS MISCELLANEOUS	20235677 20235678	14:47 15:14	DOLLAR GENERAL	328 MELBA MELBA 904 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS	20235679 20235680		OREILLYS AUTO PARTS	901 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE 36 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	10-50 MINOR	20235681	17:26	GLADEWATER RODEO	W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS ASSIST	20235682 20235684	18:14 19:45	VICTORY TEMPLE	415 W MARSHALL MARSHALL 1816 FM 2685 FM 2685
10/11/23	EXTRA PATROL SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20235685 20235686	22:41	ROSEDALE CEMETERY	906 E MARY MARY E ARMSTRONG ARMSTRONG RD
10/11/23	THEFT	20235687	9:08		1515 VESTA VESTA AVE
	EMS ABANDONED 911	20235688 20235689	10:28 13:39	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR 62 JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS ST
	THEFT MISCELLANEOUS	20235690 20235691	15:00 15:40	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD 1702 E LAKE DR E LAKE DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20235692	15:54	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS	20235693 20235694	15:56 17:19		1450 E LAKE DR E LAKE DR 707 HOLLY HOLLY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS ALARM/OTHER	20235695 20235696		GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	511 S TYLER TYLER RD 2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	20235697	20:22	ODADEWATER THOM SOFTOOL	1398 WILLOW OAK WILLOW OAK
	DISORDERLY CONDUCT 10-50 MINOR	20235698 20235699	20:47 20:50		1014 N LYNN LYNN ST S LOOP LOOP
	FIRE DEPT	20235700 20235701	21:01	LONE STAR TRANSMISSION	1006 E SHEPPHARD SHEPPHARD DR 2106 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20235702	22:16	WELDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	314 E SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
10/12/23	ALARM/OTHER EMS	20235703 20235704	23:51 3:58	AEP SCHOOL	700 MELBA MELBA ST 214 E COMMERCE COMMERCE
	ALARM/OTHER RECKLESS DRIVING	20235705 20235706	5:23 6:33	CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE	401 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE TRUMAN SMITH TRUMAN SMITH
	ASSIST	20235707	10:38		302 MAPLE MAPLE
	EMS FRAUDULENT USE OF ID INFO	20235709 20235710	13:43 13:48		100 W GAY GAY AVE 511 S TYLER TYLER ST
	ALARM/OTHER MISCELLANEOUS	20235711	14:52 15:07	CASH AMERICA PAWN 552	207 S MAIN MAIN ST 55 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
	CREDIT/DEBIT ABUSE	20235713	18:36		403 QUITMAN QUITMAN AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS	20235714 20235715	18:53 19:54		801 MAIN MAIN N 403 W COMMERCE COMMERCE AVE
<u> </u>	EMS ALARM/OTHER	20235716 20235717	20:34 20:51		1500 FM 2685 FM 2685 1102 NORTH NORTH ST
	EMS	20235718	21:04	REGENCY INN AND SUITE	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY
	MISCELLANEOUS ABANDONED 911	20235719 20235720	21:48 22:36		GAY GAY AVE 803 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
10/13/23	EMS ALARM/OTHER	20235721	0:09 7:15		511 S TYLER TYLER 723 VIRGINIA VIRGINIA ST
	ASSIST	20235723	8:23	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS ESCORT	20235724 20235725	10:12 10:16	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	1007 NORTH NORTH 300 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
\vdash	EMS ASSIST	20235726 20235727	10:47 11:07	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	1105 E MARY MARY 511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	CRIM MIS	20235728	16:02		216 OAK OAK DR
	EMS ASSIST	20235729 20235730	16:44 18:03		600 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE 801 COACH COOKSEY COACH COOKSEY
<u> </u>	MISCELLANEOUS EMS	20235731 20235732	20:20 20:20	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	1300 E MARY MARY AVE 2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20235733	21:30	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ABANDONED 911 MISCELLANEOUS	20235734 20235735	21:56 22:16	WILD WEST HAIR SALON	1300 E MARY MARY AVE 2001 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS	20235736 20235737		LAKE GLADEWATER TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR 2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
10/14/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20235738	0:20	SINDRENG CENTER	WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
	MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS	20235739 20235740	1:39 3:06	LAKE GLADEWATER	301 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST 1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
<u> </u>	ALARM/OTHER ALARM/OTHER	20235741 20235742		CAPSHAW DERIEUX,LLP DOC LAB ENTERPRISES	114 E COMMERCE COMMERCE DR 212 E MILLER MILLER AVE
	EMS	20235743	6:36	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ASSIST EMS	20235745 20235746	12:39 12:55	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	PELPHREY PELPHREY 2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
<u> </u>	FIRE DEPT DISORDERLY CONDUCT	20235747 20235748	13:02 14:13	DOMINOS	1001 NORTH NORTH ST 1050 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20235749	14:24		1102 HAMPTON HAMPTON ST
	EMS MISCELLANEOUS	20235750 20235751	14:50 16:19	BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	1508 N DAISEY DAISEY 1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	RECKLESS DRIVING 10-50 MINOR	20235752	16:52	DOLLAR GENERAL CHADS HOTWINGS FISH AND BURGERS	2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE 809 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20235754	18:13	BURGERS	321 E EDDY EDDY
10/15/23	MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS	20235755 20235756	21:09 0:24		GREENWAY GREENWAY AVE 1305 N EDWARD EDWARD ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20235757	1:33	TEXAS BANK AND TRUST	219 TEXAS TEXAS ST
	MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS	20235758 20235759	3:44	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	1623 E BROADWAY BROADWAY 2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
<u> </u>	ALARM/OTHER MISCELLANEOUS	20235760 20235761	5:41 5:59	BILL DICKASON CHEVROLET	1110 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE 401 MELBA MELBA ST
	EMS	20235762	7:50	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	FIRE DEPT	20235765	13:12	<u> </u>	ı

WOPD POLICE ACTIVITY

For the reporting period of October 9th through the 15th, 2023, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to, or initiated, 197 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were; Burglar Alarms, Traffic Issues (collisions, motorist assists, reckless drivers, etc.), Suspicious Activities, and Community Relations (burn permits, welfare checks, vacation home security checks, etc.).

Two traffic collisions were investigated which resulted in no injuries or continuing criminal investigations.

No arrests were made by White Oak Police during the reporting period.

Runners, walkers. well-wishers and supporters gather at the lake Saturday for Caring Hearts of Gladewater's 5k Run/ Walk co-sponsored by Gym 101. The first place 5K finisher Oct. 14 was Courtney Weaver followed by Victoria Flanagan and Marie Cerda. Co-organizer Shelia Faggans reports 28 people signed up for the event, which also netted seven blood donations and ensured six women receive mammogram screenings. "We made a total of \$830," Faggans said. "We're getting still getting donations."





GPD POLICE ARRESTS

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS1
10/8/23	10/8/23	0:55	FITCH, TRACY LYNN	W	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1050 E. BROADWAY
	10/8/23	0:55	FITCH, TRACY LYNN	W	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1050 E. BROADWAY
	10/8/23	0:55	FITCH, TRACY LYNN	W	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1050 E. BROADWAY
	10/8/23	0:55	WILLIAMS, CHARLES OTIS	W	М	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	1050 E BROADWAY AVE
	10/8/23	0:55	WILLIAMS, CHARLES OTIS	W	М	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	1050 E BROADWAY AVE
10/9/23	10/9/23	1:08	BRIDGES, CHRISTOPHER DEE	W	М	EVADING ARREST DETENTION W/VEHICLE	1109 E BROADWAY AVE
10/15/23	10/15/23	2:55	RUIZ, ANDY	W	М	EVADING ARREST DETENTION W/VEHICLE	100 FISHER ROAD
	10/15/23	2:55	RUIZ, ANDY	W	М	UNSAFE SPEED (TOO FAST FOR CONDITIONS)	100 FISHER ROAD
	10/15/23	2:55	RUIZ, ANDY	W	М	DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE (DUI) - MINOR	100 FISHER ROAD

Man gets life sentence for murder

By Phillip Williams

Carlton Lamar Grant was automatically sentenced to life imprisonment without parole last Thursday when a 115th District Court jury in Gilmer took fewer than 25 minutes to convict him of the 2018 capital murder of a Longview woman.

Grant, 42, of the Dallas-Ft. Worth area, is one of two persons charged with the March 29, 2018, strangulation death of Rachel Ann Rhoads, 24, who is believed to have been slain in Gregg County before her body was dumped and burned in Upshur County near Diana.

Within minutes after the verdict, Grant signed a notice he will appeal his conviction, said his lead trial lawyer, Longview attorney Kevin Settle. A different attorney will be appointed to represent the defendant,

Settle said.

Key state testimony in the 4-day trial came from Grant's co-defendant, Lindsey Jo McFadden, who testified Oct 10 that Rhoads was giving her and Grant a ride in the Longview area when Grant, in the back seat, "come up behind Rachel with something in his hand and began to choke her."

With a wire around her neck, Grant pulled Rhoads into the back seat, leaving the car "uncontrollable," McFadden said. (The witness testified she was in the front passenger seat.) Rhoads was fighting and gasping for air, but Grant "hit her a couple of times and put her into the floorboard," also placing a zip tie around her neck, the witness added.

Eventually, according to testimony, license plates were removed from Rhoads'

auto and her body was placed in the trunk before the remains were dumped and burned in a field near the intersection of FM 726 and Texas 154. They were discovered April 1, 2018, which was Easter Sunday.

Grant and McFadden were arrested that April 5 in the Ft. Worth area, initially on charges unrelated to the slaying.

Upshur County District

Attorney Billy Byrd told the jury Grant wanted to steal Rhoads' car to go buy drugs.

Grant, who did not testify but gave a recorded interview to officers that was shown to the jury, told trial Judge Dean Fowler after the state rested its case that he had been unable to find his "alibi witness." Fowler, however, denied Settle's motion to delay the trial and the defense rested Thursday without calling a witness.

Grant was automatically sentenced to life without parole because Byrd, who led the prosecution team, didn't seek the death penalty. Under state law, those are the only two sentences for capital murder.

The crime was considered capital murder rather than just murder because Grant was accused of being in the act of kidnapping, or trying to kidnap, Rhoads when she was killed. Byrd said Monday he didn't seek the death penalty because the state had no evidence to support that allegation other than the testimony by Grant's co-defendant, and that she had not been promised anything in exchange for her testimony.

Her case is still pending, Byrd indicated.

Summer-collegiate team OK'd at WO ballpark

Continued from Page 1

"We would like the money we spend to go to the fans enhancement of the game," Kirk said. "We would work that out with the city."

The team will run concessions, and Monday's agreement included the city's approval of an application for a TABC license for beer-and-wine sales.

"We obviously would have security. We're family entertainment."

The league's owner launched their efforts in September, said team president David Upchurch, a Kilgore resident. The project's been in the works about five years, delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The first two teams in the league are based in Sherman and Abilene. White Oak makes three.

"This will be the first year of operations in '24," he said. The plan is to have six teams: "We won't start our league until we have at least five teams committed. The league's wanting to have a quality product so we can continue to operate every year. We have plans to have 10 in '25."

Many of the players will be college-eligible, Kirk noted, with non-college competitors in the mix as well.

"They could be from all over. They could be local players," he said, from collegeage into their mid-20s. "The one thing they have in common is they all one day want to play Major League baseball. That's the easiest piece of the puzzle. There's

no shortage of guys that want to play baseball.

Meanwhile, "Usually, and this is very much a staple of collegiate leagues and minor leagues also, is host families. The majority of them will be looking for a place to stay. For anybody that does it, it's a really neat experience."

And White Oak's facility is large enough for those players? council member Thomas Cash asked.

"It's small," Kirk allowed. "We've talked about maybe one of the improvements we'd make is making the fence taller."

The new organization would spearhead maintenance of the field, Kirk noted, possibly by funding labor by city workers.

Stadium naming rights is in the conversation as well, with the new group angling to split dividends 50/50 with the city.

The stadium had to be locked down first, Upchurch said.

The group is developing a Name the Contest to engage with the community.

"You can't really draw without a stadium," he added. "Everything will be based here. The clubhouse is better than most of the ones I was ever in. The stadium may need to be extended, maybe a little longer, bigger, at some point. If we could get to 2,000 seats, that would make a big difference at some point.

It's a wood-bat league, Upchurch noted, which makes a big difference in how the ball is hit and how far it travels.

"We plan, obviously, on being successful," he said. "We're looking at expansion in the Major League realm as well – they are looking to expand. There are plenty of opportunities for growth in those areas. We feel like this is the perfect place."

SPORTS

Bears clinch first win of season, beating Sabine

By Tyler Sutton

The Gladewater Bears season continued on Friday night as they made the short trip to Sabine to take on the rival Cardinals in a district tilt. And in an absolute thrilling back and forth contest, the Bears were able to taste sweet victory for the first time in 2023 as they knocked off the Cardinals 48-42 at James Bamburg stadium.

Gladewater struck quickly on their opening drive of the game as two big runs (30 yards by Carson Cooper and 15 by Bryson Woods) set up a a 3 yard touchdown run for quarterback Kyron Wilson and it gave the Bears a early 7-0 lead. After consecutive punts from both teams, Sabine got on the board late in the 1st quarter when the Cardinals went for it on 4th down and one play after picking it up, quarterback Colt Sparks went untouched 20 yards for a touchdown. The extra point was blocked and the Bears held a 7-6 lead after one quarter. The Cardinals defense opened up the 2nd quarter with a big play as Case Patterson intercepted Wilson's pass which set up the Cardinals offense in great field position. After a 44 yard pass from Sparks to Bryce Pobuda, Sabine took the lead when Sparks again took it in the endzone himself, this time from 15 yards out to give the Cardinals a 14-7 lead as the converted the 2 point try. Gladewater's offense then went back to work as Cooper took off for a blistering 49 yard touchdown run to tie the game at 14. The Bears would again get the ball back with a little over 4 minutes left in the half and find the endzone once again as Wilson scored for a second time in the half to give the Bears a 21-14 lead at the half.

Sabine would surprise the Bears to open up the 3rd quarter as the recovered a successful onside kick to begin the half. Just a few plays later, Patterson rumbled into the endzone for 7 yard touchdown run to tie the game at 21. Woods would line up out of the wildcat formation and break off a 58 yard run that set himself up for a 6 yard touchdown run to give the Bears the lead back at 27-21 as the extra point was blocked. But the back and forth continued as one the very first play after the kickoff, Sparks went untouched 62 yards for a touchdown and gave Sabine the lead back for the moment at 28-27. Aided by 2 penalties by the Sabine defense, the Bears quickly went down the field to reclaim the lead as Woods couldn't be contained again as he ran in a 15 yard touchdown and the 2 point try was good to give



Gladewater a 35-28 lead. The Bears looked to have put the game away in the 4th quarter when Wilson again scored to give Gladewater a 41-28 lead which was followed by the Bears defense forcing a Sabine fumble and then Woods capped of his wonderful night with a 46 yard touchdown run and the Bears had a commanding 48-28 lead midway through the 4th quarter. But the Cardinals would not go quietly as Caleb Mckinney cut the lead to 48-35. The Cardinals then once again recovered their own onside kick and Sparks then found Hudson Mcnatt for a 6 yard touchdown catch to cut the lead down to 48-42. But third time wasn't the charm as Gladewater was able to recover the next onside kick and pick up a few 1st downs to run out the clock and secure the victory.

"I feel so good for these kids. They have worked their butts off all season getting better and to finally put it all together and get a win just means so much. It was such a back and forth game. Sabine is a heck of a team "said coach Louvier.

The Bears improve to 1-6 on the season and 1-1 in district play. They will be back home on Friday, October 20th for the annual Weldon Bumblebee's game vs Jefferson

"Coot's Corner" By Coot Putley

Plays and Players ...

This week we'll remember more fun times from those Little League games in the early sixties. As I've stated previously, I don't even remember what teams won the championship in any of those years, much less the scores of any of the games, but there are some things that have stuck with me.

The first time I ever saw John he had his cap pulled so low that he had to tilt his head back at a 45 angle to see anything in front of him. To this day when I see him around town, I still picture him wearing that cap blocking his vision. And there was Jimmy, who was a good hitter but not too gifted in math. One night when I was the on-deck batter he called me over to the fence and asked me to figure his batting average. (It was .400!)

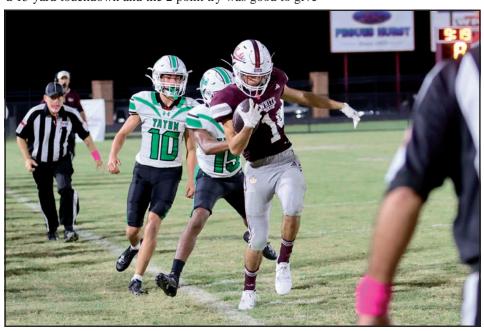
I remember the right fielder who didn't bother to field a ball that rolled past him because he was so distracted by the train passing by on the tracks that ran right behind the field. And we could never forget seeing the Red Sox pitcher throwing a wild pitch that hit the press box over the backstop. When his brother relieved him, guess where the next pitch went? Same spot! Aces wild. The batter was a little reluctant to stand up to the plate after that.

The most outstanding individual performance I witnessed was the night our pitcher struck out seventeen in a sixinning game. The other out was a weak grounder back to the pitcher. The rest of us could have been sitting in lawn chairs. After the game my dad joked that there was a scout in the stands who wanted to sign the kid who didn't strike out. On another occasion our third baseman caught a line drive with the bases loaded. He stepped on the base for the next out, then ran to tag the runner between second and third. An unassisted triple play! Brooks Robinson would have been proud.

My most memorable accomplishment made me a hero for a night. There was a sign on the fence in centerfield that said, "Hit it here – the team wins free milkshakes from the Dairy Queen". When I hit that sign, everyone cheered as though we had just won the World Series. After our game everyone piled in the back of two pickups and headed to DQ to claim our reward. I'll guarantee no team's victory champagne ever tasted as good as those milkshakes.

In six decades since then, I have enjoyed hundreds of baseball games at all levels. I've been blessed to see many great players and many terrific plays, but I can honestly say there were no better games than the ones played in my hometown Little League.

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



Roughneck Reciever Gavin Sipes tip toes down the sidelines attempting to stay in bounds after receiving a pass from QB Jaxsen Ludlow in the District contest with the Tatum Eagles. The Roughnecks fell victim to the Eagles 49-15.

Photo by Mike Peery

White Oak falls to 0-2 district record

By Aidan Keller Lott

Hoping to rebound from a Jefferson loss, the Roughnecks took on the traveling Tatum Eagles in their second district game but dropped the game, 49-15.

Senior Cole Watson led the Eagles to victory, rushing for two touchdowns and throwing two, both to junior Jacorie Bradley. Watson was joined in the endzone by juniors Jamarri Gibson (2) and Xavior Moore (1).

Roughneck quarterback, sophomore Jaxsen Ludlow also got in the endzone on the ground and connected with senior Gavin Sipes for 135 yards and 12 receptions, one of which was a touchdown.

"It felt pretty good to be back to where I left off at," Sipes said. "Trusting what the coaches had planned for me was the biggest factor in this weeks game for me. I know that I can make a much bigger impact on the game once I polish up some of the small details in my game."

Sipes missed all five preseason after suffering a hand injury, but he's wasted no time building chemistry with

"It felt really good having Gavin back because it feels like we're always on the same page," Ludlow said. "Our offense is getting better every

week, so as long as we can sive and dropping our pads to cut out the little mistakes, I believe we can turn this season around."

While the Roughnecks found their success through the air, Tatum scored five times rushing, and running back Jamarri Gibson ran for 133 yards as well as two of those touchdowns. However, White Oak did see some success stopping the run as junior Lucas Frazier led the team with seven tackles.

"I was very proud to lead the team in tackles, but I try not to get ahead of myself because one person can't change a whole game," Frazier said. "Our defense could use some work on being more aggres-

hit somebody."

Although White Oak hasn't had a great start to district, the team still controls their own destiny as a win in the last three district matchups will all but guarantee a playoff berth.

"We saw some glimpses of what we can look like when we all do our jobs as a team, so hopefully that can help us to start and flip this season around," Sipes said. "Anything can happen and I still believe that we can make the playoffs with our remaining schedule."

White Oak look to pick up their first win next week in Atlanta as they take on the

Volleyball roundup

In area volleyball action, the Gladewater Lady Bears and White Oak Lady Roughnecks were in action for multiple games this past week.

The Lady Bears went 0-2 with a home loss to Sabine (3-0) and a road loss to Hughes Springs (3-0). The losses drop the Lady Bears to 5-26 and 1-6 in district play.

Gladewater will be in action twice this week.

A Tuesday road game at White Oak and Friday night will be senior night as they host Daingerfield. White Oak was also in action for 2 games this week with a pair of victories to raise their win streak to 9 games.

The LadyNecks picked up wins over Hughes Springs (3-0) and New Diana (3-1). The 2 wins improves their record to 24-14 and 7-0 in district play.

White Oak will be back in action twice this week. A pair of home games on Tuesday vs Gladewater and senior night on Friday vs Sabine.



UG XCountry team wins, headed ro regionals

Photo and story by Faith Woodall

On Wednesday, October 11, Union Grove's cross country teams competed in their 21AA district meets at Hawkins, where the varsity Lady Lions earned their spots at the regional meet, as did two of the varsity boys. The runners will advance to the Region III 2A Kate Barr-Ross Park in Huntsville on Tuesday, Oct. 24.

The varsity girls placed first overall in a heat of 43 runners and will advance to region as a team. Ava Wightman led the Lady Lions by earning first place with a time of 13:25. Sophie Pyle came in second, Danica Vestal third, Rachel Potter seventh, Jenna Scott 14th, Averi Cook 19th and Keira Taylor 32nd. This is the Lady Lions' ninth consecutive district championship, and -according to coach J.B. Littlejohn - the girls "will be looking to qualify for the State XC Meet for the fourth consecutive year".

The varsity boys earned fifth place overall, competing with 37 total athletes. Isaiah O'Neal finished in sixth place with a time of 18:50, and David Shaver earned seventh, both securing their spot at the regional meet. Kenneth Flanagan placed 20th, Lane Turner 27th, Mateo Lara 34th and T.J. Fowler 35th.

The junior varsity girls' team won their division. Gracelyn Head finished in second place with a time of 15:38. Arianna Gibboney placed third, Hailey Griffin fifth, Jill Taylor seventh, Kadence Frey eighth and Miley Nono 11th. Josiah Sturkie placed third among the junior varsity boys.

The junior high girls placed third overall with Landry Harris finishing in first place, her time of 12:32 earning the title of District Champion out of 57 participants. Harris, who finished 30 seconds before the second place runner, won first place in all five meets this year. Her teammates Susanna Sturkie placed sixth, Natalie Delaney 16th, Bree Cox 19th, Jillian Russell 38th, Briana Bowling 41st and Morgan Morrow 47th.

The junior high boys placed third overall in a heat of 46 runners with Ryder Martindale leading the team by finishing in fifth place with a time of 13:02. Brady Pritchett finished ninth, Liam Mayhan 14th, Connor Stanford 19th, Connor Mead 25th, Konner Long 31st, Kynan Birlew 34th and Isaac O'Neal 40th.

