City ready to enforce trash container ordinance

Gladewater City Hall's ready to put some bite behind its rules for trash containers – there's still a grace period ahead, but the clock is ticking.

Mayor Scott Owens addressed the issue as local elected officials mulled their consent agenda during last week's regularly-scheduled city council meeting. He held up a bright warning tag, and there are plenty to go around. Residents might receive one if they put their trash containers out too soon before garbage collection or wheel their container in too late after Republic Services employees are finished with their pickups.

"We do have in-hand some orange stickers that will be going on the trash cans this week," Owens told the audience in the council chambers Oct. 19. "These are a warning, but that doesn't mean it needs to be ignored. There will be tickets issued if we need to get compliance with this."

Such tickets could be as much as \$500 for violators. Enforcement has been lax for some time, but as more and more people flaunt the restrictions and complaints pile up, city personnel will be making the rounds in weeks ahead.

"We want people to be putting the trash cans back up by 9 p.m. the day it's picked up," Owens noted. "And, not put them out five days early. Put them out the night before or early that morning."

Find details on the city's municipal regulations at tinyurl.com/glade-watercodes.

According to Owens, "It's about making the city better for our visitors and everybody who lives here."





Evergrace Derrick was the recipient of Friday night's ceremonial game ball as the Gladewater Bears honored the Weldon Bumblebees. She was escorted by her grandson Damian Derrick. The Weldon Bumblebees were the city's all Black high school football team before Gladewater ISD desegregated back in 1969. Weldon won 11 district championships and was runner-up to the state championship three times. Coach Walter Derrick, Evergrace's late husband, led the Bumblebees to their third and final state championship game appearance in 1968.

Photo by Jim Bardwell

Annual Fall Fest set for Saturday If 2023 is any indication, clas-

If 2023 is any indication, classics will likely always be the most popular Halloween costumes of all time. And that will be more than present at Saturday's Annual Emergency Services Fall Fest set for 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. 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.

As for costumes, cat costumes were the most searched nationwide in 2023, with 12 states googling them more than any other. Fairy costumes were a close second, racking up the most searches in 10 states.

Classic Halloween-themed costumes, including skeleton, vampire, zombie, and witch getups, topped the searches in 3 to 5 states each. Dinosaur costumes were similarly popular in 4 states.

Pop culture Halloween costumes, most of them movie and TV characters, were most searched in 20% of the country.

Ariel was the favorite in 2 states, likely due to the popularity of the live-action Little Mermaid remake.



Barbie was a massive box office success, with over a billion dollars in sales worldwide. The state that showed the most interest in Barbie costumes was West Virginia.

Elvis costumes were searched most in Mississippi, where Elvis

was born, and in Tennessee, where Graceland was built. With not one but two Elvis biopics released in 2023, the rock'n'roll star was an inevitable addition to the most

popular costumes of 2023. Swifties from Massachusetts and New Hampshire showed the most interest in dressing like their pop hero, Taylor Swift. Other 2023 TV and movie characters that made the list include Wednesday Addams and famous cartoon plumber Mario





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



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



Union Grove vs Hawkins 7:00 p.m. Friday at Uniom Grove

Slow down, stay focused when driving through oil and gas areas

Nearly one-quarter of Texas traffic deaths occur in energy production areas.

Driving on busy roads in our state's oil and gas production areas can be both challenging and dangerous. Energy exploration and production across Texas requires many large trucks and heavy tankers, and drivers should take extra care to safely share the road with these vehicles.

In 2022, more than 78,000 traffic crashes occurred in the state's five main energy sectors—the Permian Basin, Eagle Ford Shale, Barnett Shale, Anadarko Basin and the Haynesville/Bossier Shale-resulting in 1,072 fatalities last year. These traffic deaths accounted for nearly 25% of the state's total traffic fatalities last year. In 2022, there were 17,594 traffic crashes in the 15-county Haynesville/ Bossier Shale region (which includes Smith, Gregg & Angelina counties), resulting in 208 fatalities and 948 serious injuries.

Failure to control speed and driver inattention are ranked as the top two contributing factors in crashes in the five main energy regions.

With all of this in mind, TxDOT is launching its new statewide "Be Safe. Drive Smart" campaign this week and urging motorists to stay alert and drive at a safe speed in our state's oil and gas producing areas.

The Issue

• Oil and gas activity brings increased traffic and more large trucks sharing the road with passenger vehicles. Drivers should be aware that large trucks and tankers can limit visibility and provide less room to maneuver. Increased truck traffic also leads to more wear and tear on roads, posing challenges to drivers.

Statistics

- Texas' five main energy regions—the Permian Basin, Eagle Ford Shale, Barnett Shale, Anadar-ko Basin and the Haynesville/Bossier Shale—saw more than 78,000 traffic crashes, resulting in 1,072 fatalities in 2022. Despite a 3.8% decrease from the previous year, traffic deaths in these regions accounted for nearly one-quarter of the state's total traffic fatalities.
- Failure to control speed and driver inattention are ranked as the top two contributing factors in crashes in the five main energy regions.

gions. **Safety Tips**

TxDOT offers these important safety reminders for motorists:

- Follow posted speed limits and adjust your driving to match road conditions. In some situations, the only safe speed may be below the posted speed limit.
- Stay focused on driving and put your phone away: no talking or texting when behind the wheel.
- Give large trucks plenty of space. Be patient and pass only when it's safe and legal to do so.
- Maintain a safe following distance.
- Never drive under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Obey stop signs and traffic ignals.
- Always buckle up—drivers and passengers, day and night, every ride, every time.

TxDOT is also investing heavily to improve mobility and safety on roadways impacted by traffic in the state's five energy producing regions. Over the next 10 years, TxDOT is planning to invest a historic level of \$19.2 billion in rural areas through the 2024 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). This shows TxDOT's commitment to building and maintaining a safe and efficient transportation system in all parts of the state.



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.

Caring hearts ...

In the last couple of months we have walked downtown surrounded by teal ribbons placed by a husband who loved deeply, to remind us about the often silent symptom danger of ovarian cancer.

In the last few weeks we have Pinked Out at football games, supported events by Pink Heals to encourage cancer fighters and survivors, and walked a Caring Hearts 5K at Lake Gladewater to raise money to help cancer patients fund meds and transportation.

Some of us have attended meetings about the elevated cancer risk in East Texas. We have signed pledges with 'Because I Care' to be a bone marrow donor, given blood, agreed to participate in research, and lit candles to remember. We have bought t-shirts and worn them proudly.

We are nothing, if not caring and aware.

And, some of us have learned what many already know, that caring hearts are often broken hearts.

Where we are hit the hardest, when we are hit, is when someone we love fights that awful fight. Some of you have hit your knees to storm the gates of heaven. Some of you have fought to get records and information from less than helpful sources. Some of you have had to make decisions you weren't prepared to make. But most of you have done what needed to be done and done it with strength and love. And you have done it utterly, physically, emotionally and spiritually exhausted. But you did it and you kept putting one foot in front of the other. I celebrate your persistence and determination.

As a young daughter-in-law I went with my husband's Mom and Grandmother to Houston's M.D. Anderson Cancer Center for Granny's assessment and treatment as she fought for time. Limited, precious time. I remember using charm, prayer and begging to get her records for her Longview doctor without the authorization to do so while my Mom-in-heart took care of her much loved and very sick mother.

I remember the trip home and Granny's utter exhaustion. I know when she gave up. I remember.

I remember sitting with my Mam'maw in her bedroom while she was dying from metastasized breast cancer. I will never forget the question she asked me: "Why can't I die?" not, "Why can't I live?".

My mother fought for her mother's health as well, but Mam'maw was ready "to go home".

Early voting now underway

After she passed away my Pap'paw had a dream about

The Best of Suzanne Bardwel



Mam'maw. She was young. She had a large hat on, the sun was shining and birds were singing. She was sitting by a pond waving at him.

I don't think it was a dream.

I watched my fun-loving Aunt Gwen fight and win. She beat breast cancer and it didn't come close to beating her. But the effects of the treatment impacted her immune system to the point that she has to guard her health even after all these years. And she does, but she also spends mornings with my Mom drinking coffee and sharing life, and when she feels well, she goes about the business of living.

My precious, beautiful and faith-filled friend Cindy fought as long and as hard as she could. Then she embraced with joy her release and final destination despite leaving behind a cherished child and husband. She left a heroic legacy of how to leave this world.

We see awful, heartrending, precious, life-changing things when we walk these journeys with people we love. We learn not to give up. We learn not to give in. We learn that there is more to this life than we could possibly imagine before we dealt with its challenge and finiteness.

We learn that the more we love, the deeper the pain. And, if we have wisdom we know that the pain can sometimes simply be another expression of love.

I wouldn't take away a moment of what I have learned walking beside the people I love. The testimony of resilience, faith and strength that we see lived out in life's circumstances help us to grasp the deepest depths of love. And, it is love after all that makes life worth the living.

So, today I give thanks for the pain, the tears, the complete exhaustion. I give thanks for the privilege of loving deeply enough to walk with a breaking heart. For those of you walking this path, at this moment, I ask for a blessing of peace and strength for the journey and the knowledge that you are surrounded by caring hearts ready to share that journey of pain and love.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Voters will decide the fate of 14 proposed amendments, including measures to provide property tax relief and raise the homestead exemption to \$100,000.

A nonpartisan explanation of what each proposition entails has

Early voting is now underway for the Nov. 7 general election.

been produced by the Texas Legislative Council and can be found at this link: https://tinyurl.com/5n946d32.

There are also bond elections for school districts across the

There are also bond elections for school districts across the state, as well as municipal and school board elections, depending on where you live. Contact your county's election administrator or check the county's website to see what local elections are being held.

House unveils limited school choice plan

The Republican chair of the Texas House public education committee has filed a bill that increases education funding with one-time bonuses for school employees as well as education savings accounts on a limited basis, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The Senate has already passed a voucher plan in this third session but the House has balked, with opposition coming from rural Republicans and most Democrats. State Rep. Brad Buckley, R-Salado, has said he would not call for a committee meeting unless Gov. Greg Abbott includes teacher pay raises and school financing as agenda items for this session. Abbott has maintained he wouldn't do so until the Legislature passed a voucher plan, or what he terms school choice.

"We continue to have productive conversations with House members," Abbott spokesman Andrew Mahaleris told The News. "The governor looks forward to reaching an agreement on school choice, at which point he will gladly expand the call."

Meanwhile, House Democrats last week released their own plan to revamp school funding, which would provide a \$15,000 bonus for Texas school employees, admittedly a long shot.

"We have this bill today because it is the opposite of a voucher scam," said Rep. Gene Wu, D-Houston. "We need the money that's in this bill because that is the future of Texas."

The bill would also increase per-student school funding by almost \$2,800. The likelihood of passage is slim in the GOP-dominated House.

Vaccine mandate ban passes Senate

A ban on COVID-19 vaccine mandates for employees of private businesses in Texas passed the Texas Senate Friday. The ban includes doctors' offices and other health facilities, though those facilities could still require unvaccinated employees to wear face masks.

The bill passed 19-12 along party lines, according to the Texas Standard. Supporters said the bill allows individuals to make their own health care decisions without jeopardizing their jobs.

"No one should be forced to make that awful decision between making a living for their family and their health or individual vaccine preference," sponsor Sen. Mayes Middleton, R-Galveston, told senators during a hearing.

A state law banning governmental entities from requiring the COVID-19 vaccine passed during the regular session and went into effect last month.

Well plugging program receives national recognition

After completing a complex project to remove surface casings on four wells plugged in the Neches River for more than four decades, the Texas Railroad Commission's well plugging program received accolades from the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission.

The casings had posed risks to boaters as the river's depth decreased due to recent droughts.

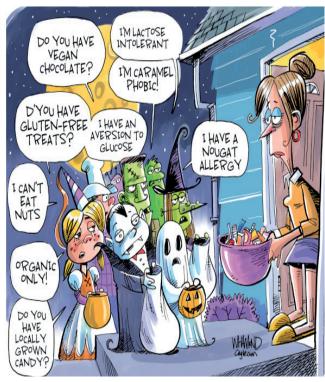
"The commission has been nationally recognized for our well plugging program and this award is yet another example of the reputation we have gained in our commitment to protecting Texans and the environment," said Wei Wang, executive director.

The RRC has received more than \$300 million from the federal government to plug, remediate and reclaim orphaned wells across the state. The money came from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, passed by Congress during the first year of the Biden administration

Summer heat wave slows state economy

Besides making outdoor living and work miserable, last summer's record heat wave possibly cost the state's economy \$24 billion, according to economists with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Their analysis found extreme heat reduced the state's gross domestic product by 1 percentage point, the Texas Tribune reported.

Extreme heat reduces agricultural production, slows down construction projects, and keeps people from going out to shop or dine, the analysis indicated. The sectors most affected by extreme heat were leisure, hospitality, and retail.



THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Wired ...

Many types of infrastructure, including electricity and telephones, started out as luxuries but quickly became essential as deployment spread. Just a few years ago, broadband internet access was viewed as a convenience. Mediocre speeds were sufficient for most tasks, and anything beyond that only came in handy to allow movies to stream with fewer glitches. That

time, however, has long passed.

The pandemic illustrated the importance of broadband, as schools and offices became largely remote, and adequate connectivity was often difficult. I chaired the infrastructure segment, one of the State COVID Task Forces, and broadband was far and away the biggest need identified by residents throughout Texas.

Even with things mostly returning to normal, the proportion of workers either

fully or partially remote has remained well above pre-pandemic levels, a situation that is unlikely to markedly change. The scope of online educational offerings and healthcare has also permanently increased. The pandemic accelerated trends already in place, and broadband access has become even more essential. The AI explosion and "Internet of Things" (where cars, appliances, and even light switches are connected) further increase demand. Business meetings of folks from around the country (or the world) routinely happen with no one boarding a plane.

Texas faces substantial challenges in ensuring broadband access due to the state's vast land area, including large expanses with few residents. Currently, about 2.8 million households affecting 7 million Texans have inadequate internet capabilities. Most of them are in smaller population centers and rural areas, where the economics of providing necessary infrastructure are not generally as attractive for private companies in comparison with more densely populated urban centers.

Additionally, more isolated areas often have even greater needs for access given a lack of proximity to higher education/ training opportunities and medical specialists. Farming and ranching are increasingly reliant on connectivity for everything from commodity price monitoring to the use of sensors. A lack of broadband is routinely a "deal-breaker" in location and expansion decisions, which can negatively affect growth and even sustainability in smaller metropolitan areas and rural regions.

Following the Task Force recommendation, Texas lawmakers in 2021 created the Broadband Development Office, a program which seeks to map broadband, promulgate a statewide plan, and distribute grant funding to deploy service across the state. During the recent session, the legislature passed a measure providing much-needed funding (assuming voters agree and pass Proposition 8). The \$1.5 billion fund would facilitate expansion of access to and adoption of broadband services and allow tapping federal matching funds, thus multiplying the benefits.

Households and businesses need broadband. It's a critical component of modern infrastructure that is essential to future economic development and prosperity. Texas needs to be fully connected.

Stay safe (and vote)!

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GOD'S WARNINGS- PAY ATTENTION!

It has been well said that "God's Word is like a highway sign. You don't have to pay any attention to it if you don't care what happens to you." There's a lot of truth to that statement. God doesn't make us pay attention to His warnings in Scripture, but He does let us know if we choose to ignore His Word, we will have serious consequences to face (Gal. 6: 7-8). No one can sin with impunity or treat God with contempt and expect to go unpunished. People who are self-willed and hostile toward God, will reap the consequences of their insubordination.

For example, take Gal. 5: 19-21: "Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in the past, that those who practice such things WILL NOT INHERIT THE KING-DOM OF GOD." Notice how plainly God's Word speaks to us about the consequences of these sins. God doesn't beat around the bush. He plainly tells us that people who practice these sins *Will not inherit the kingdom of God.*"

In another example God's Word plainly speaks about how one is saved from His sins. One must believe Christ to be the Son of God, repent of past sins, confess Jesus to be the Son of God, and be baptized in water (Jn. 8: 24; Acts 17: 30; Rom. 10: 9-10; Acts 8: 37; 1 Pet. 3: 21; Mk. 16: 16). All who turn up their nose and sneer at God's Word concerning how one is saved from sin will be CONDEMNED and remain LOST!

Of course, many people will just choose to ignore God's warnings just like many who ignore highway warning signs. The difference is that someone might ignore a highway warning sign and get by with it, but no one can keep ignoring God's Word without eventually suffering the consequences, and the consequences of ignoring God's Word are FOREVER! Think on these things.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

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WHITE OAK HONOR ROLLS - TERM 1

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HAMMONDS, HAILEY C. SENIOR HONOR ROLL KENDRICK, JUSTIN D. II SENIOR HONOR ROLL LANGLEY, KYNDAL R. SENIOR HONOR ROLL SENIOR HONOR ROLL OWENS, RYAN M. WILLIAMS, DE'ARIOUS R. SENIOR HONOR ROLL **JUNIOR** AARON, SIDNEY R. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL AGUILAR, EMILY E. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL ANDERSON, MEREDITH C. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL BAKER, BELLA K. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL BARNETT, MAKENNA G. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL BODOVSKY, LONDYN K. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL BREITENBERG, SCOTT R. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL BURCH, KELSEY E. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL CARMACK, HAIDYN B. CATES, KELTON K. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL COLEMAN, HAYDEN D. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL DIXON, ALEY M. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL DUMAS, SAMANTHA B. DUSEK, KATHERINE G. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL EDWARDS, KARSYN B. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL FOGLE, JAYDEN M. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL FOSTER-ROACH, ALEXANDRIAJUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL FRAZIER, LUCAS M. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL FULTON, ELY J. GARCIA CONDE, VALERIA JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL GONZALES, SABREENA P. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL GOOD, ALLICYN J. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL GOODMAN, AVERY E. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL GREENWOOD, BRADY G. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL GROSS, MAGGIE F. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL HAYS. MATTHEW C. HEAIRET, GRACE M. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL HEPLER, KALYN M. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL HERRERA, DANICA L. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL JOWELL, JACKSON R. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL KERNS. KEITON L. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL KNEIFL, BRENNAR K. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL KOHL, LEVI J. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL KUTCH. OLIVIA J. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL LAMPIN, JAKOB M. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL LARISON, BEAU L. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL

MCCLANAHAN, ADDISON L. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL MCCLOSKEY, BREANNA M. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL MILLIGAN, ADDISON L. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL MORRISETT, ROBERT K. JR JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL OLIVAN, KAREN N. PARKER, JAYCE L. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL POE, BRYSON K. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL PRATT, GRACE E. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL PRIEST, KYLER J. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL PRUITT, TESSA J. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL RASCO, IVY M. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL RICHESON. EMMA K. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL ROSS, GABRIEL W. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL SALTER. RAMZEY L. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL SHELLHORSE, BENJAMIN M.JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL SIMPSON, LAYNE E. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL SIMS. ALLISON N. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL SIZEMORE, TREVOR G. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL SMALE, CARLEE J. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL SORGEE, JACOB M. STEWART, LANEY S. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL STILL, ELIZZABETH A. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL SWEENEY, PAYTON D. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL TEVEBAUGH, ALEXANDER T.JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL THREADGILL, NADIA E. VAUGHN, DANICA J. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL WATSON, BAILEY L. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL WATSON, LUCAS S. WEST CARSON T JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL WHEAT, COLLIN B. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL YARBROUGH, ADDISON N. JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL FAUST. MCKENZIE E. JUNIORHONOR ROLL GRAHMANN, LANE S. JUNIORHONOR ROLL GRAMMER, CHRISTIAN J. JUNIORHONOR ROLL JOHNS, ELIANA G. JUNIORHONOR ROLL MCDANIEL. KAYLA R. JUNIORHONOR ROLL MEADOWS, GAVIN C. JUNIORHONOR ROLL PHILLIPS, BRANDON A. JUNIORHONOR ROLL SANCHEZ, DILLON T. JUNIORHONOR ROLL TUCKER, EMILY D. JUNIORHONOR ROLL TWOMEY, PRESLEE J. JUNIORHONOR ROLL

WARD, MACKENZIE R. JUNIORHONOR ROLL SOPHMORE BOLTSHAUSER, SHAWNA SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL BRANTLEY, GAVIN K. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL BRIDGES, ANDEE K. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL BRONDUM, MEGAN L. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL CALLENS, BRADEN D. SCHOLASTIC ROLL CALLENS, BRODY D. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL CARTER, SOPHIE G. COLLINS, JAALIYAH R. SCHOLASTIC ROLL CRUM, SAMANTHA C. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL SOPH CUTLER. LILLY A. SCHOLASTIC ROLL DARK. TAYLOR R. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL DE LA ROSA, ALEX J. JR SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL DESLATTE. OLIVIA M. FELDHAUSER, ZOEIGH M. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL FREEMAN, JADEN C. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL FRITSCHE, ADELINE G. SCHOLASTIC ROLL SOPH FULLERTON, RYLIE M. SCHOLASTIC ROLL GEARHART, LANDON C. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL GFF MORGAN F SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL SCHOLASTIC ROLL GLENN, KALEB D. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL GREENE, DAKOTA B. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL HOLT ISAIAH R JOHNSON, AUDRIANNA G. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL JOHNSON, JAIDAN E. SCHOLASTIC ROLL KENNEDY KARA R SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL LADWIG, LOGAN M. LANGEWISCH, LOGAN T. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL LATTIN. ELLIOTT L. SCHOLASTIC ROLL SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL LAWRENCE, JULIA M. SCHOLASTIC ROLL LUDLOW, JAXSEN P. SOPH MADDOX, CLAYTON W. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL MCFADDEN, OLIVIA C. SCHOLASTIC ROLL MCKINNEY, TYSON T. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL SCHOLASTIC ROLL MILLER, BRODY D. SOPH MORGAN, MICHAEL B. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL MORGAN, TAYLOR A. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL MORRIS AI FXIS R SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL MURPHY, BRIAN B. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL O'BRIEN, MARSHALL K. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL OWEN, JONAH P. SCHOLASTIC ROLL SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL PAUL, MAVERICK S. RAYSON, KINNADIE J. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL REJCEK. BAYLEE B. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL RHODES, MARLEE K. SCHOLASTIC ROLL RICHARDSON, BRADDOCK SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL RICHARDSON, SHAWN R. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL RIVERA, MAGDALENA A. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL ROOT, ALLIE N. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL ROSADO, LAURYN M. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL SAMFORD, JACKSON T. SCHOLASTIC ROLL SPURGER, ALYSSA L. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL STILL. AUBREY L. SCHOLASTIC ROLL SOPH SULLIVAN, THOMAS P. SCHOLASTIC ROLL TATUM, ALLY N. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL THOMAS, WILLIAM G. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL TOLES, LUCAS M. SCHOLASTIC ROLL TRIM, NINA G. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL VAUSE, JESSIE R. SCHOLASTIC ROLL SOPH WATSON, NATHAN A. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WESTON, BAYLA J. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WHITLEY, HOLLY D. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WHITTINGTON, GENTRY G. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WILLIAMS, PRESTON C. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WILSON, STEPHANIE J. SOPH SCHOLASTIC ROLL BARRON, CHEYENNE J. SOPH HONOR ROLL BZDIL, MADDUX T. SOPH HONOR ROLL DELEON, ADRIAN SOPH HONOR ROLL DEMOSS, LANDYN C. SOPH HONOR ROLL FLORES, KYLEIGH SOPH HONOR ROLL SOPH HONOR ROLL GARZA, ETHAN Z.

LANGLEY, ELVIS J. JR SOPH HONOR ROLL NEW, JAMES B. SOPH HONOR ROLL HONOR ROLL POUL, KENNY SOPH ROBERTS, JADON D. SOPH HONOR ROLL SHADOWEN-PICKARD, JAIDENSOPH HONOR ROLL SIPES. LEVI G. SOPH HONOR ROLL SOPH HONOR ROLL SMITH, CODY A. STEVENSON CHAMBERS, MICHAEL A. SOPH HONOR ROLL SOPH HONOR ROLL STONE, BRYLIE L. SOPH HONOR ROLL SUTTON, CAMPBELL M. VENABLE, CAMERON D. SOPH HONOR ROLL WALKER, DYLAN M. SOPH HONOR ROLL FRESHMAN AGUILAR, MELISSA A. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL

BAKER, LONDYN K. BAKER, MADISON H. BILLS, CARSON D. BUCKRELL, AMBREY B. BURCH, GAVIN L. BURKETT, CLAIRA G. CANNON, HAYZE D. CARAWAY, KYLIE R. CARR, ELIJAH G. CLOWER, KINZLEE M. EARLY, CLIFTON D. FARMER, JACIE A. FERGUSON, AUBRI G. FERGUSON, CAMI L. FISHER, SOPHIA E. FOGLE, CHLOE G. GEE, OWEN L. GILES, KENADEI S. GOOD, MALIA J. HARTMANN, LANDON C. HODGES, ROBERT C. HOLDER, TEAGAN L. LARISON, LILY C. LONG, RYANN MAYES, ISAIAH J. MCMAHON, MERRITT G. MILLER, AUBRI F. MORRIS, ADDISEN L. NEWMAN, CALEIGH B.

NIX, ABBY G.

ROBERTSON, ABBY L. ROLLAND, HANNAH J. SALTER, MALCOLM T. STARR, MADDOX L. STEELE, JACKSON L. STITH, PAXTYN G. STONE. MACILYNN A. THERIOT, ALEXANDER R. THOMPSON, PEYTON B. TUCKER, COOPER C. VAUSE, CAMERON J. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WATSON, CALEB J. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WATSON, JACOB L. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WILLEBY, KYLIE R. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WOOD, BRANTON M. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WOOLLEY, MACEY M. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL WRIGHT, GRACELYNN M. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL YANEZ, ISABELLA J. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL YOSTEN PEYTON A FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL YOUNG, ADDYSON E. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL ZIVNEY, ADELYN L. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL BRIDGES, COOPER D. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL BROOKS, KIMBER N. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL BUENO, LUKE A. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL COX. OLIVER Z. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL DE AZEVEDO, WYATT A. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL DEL PESCHIO, AVERIE L. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL DODD. JAYDEN L. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL DOLLISON, HARLIE C. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL DONALLY, ELLIANA G. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL FLLIOTT BRAYDEN'S FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL HOGG, WAYLON R. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL JOHNSON, MICHAEL C. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL MCCLAIN, TYSEN M. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL RECTOR, ANDREW T. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL RHODES. CARSON M. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL SCALIA, ELI C. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL VAIL, CAMERON D. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL

NIX, ANNA C.

OWEN, IAN S.

NOLL. AUSTYN L.

FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL SACCOCCIO, ADDISON K. FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL FRESH HONOR ROLL FUNDERBURK, PIERCE D. FRESH HONOR ROLL FRESH HONOR ROLL

FRESH HONOR ROLL

GILBREATH, CARTER R.

GREENWOOD, BRODY K.

HENDERSON, AALIYAH E.

HENDERSON, HANNAH L.

HENDERSON, XAVIER J.

HESTER, GUNNER L.

HOLT, JACOB E.

JESTER, CAL L.

HUGHES, OWEN D.

HIDALGO, CONNOR H.

JACKSON, DOMINICK M.

JARAMILLO, ROSALINDA

JENKINS, GABRIEL D.

JOHNSON, MAKYNZIE J.

JONES, KYNDAL H.

KEMP, BAILEY M.

KUNKEL. COLT R.

LATTIN, EVELYN A.

LEATH, BRYSON J.

LOPEZ, AUDREY R.

LUDLOW, TUCKER R.

MALONE, SAMUEL C.

MARTIN, LILLIAN C.

MALPICA RAMIREZ, CAMILA V.

LEAK, ANNA M.

LYKE, BLAKE D.

LASSEIGNE, LAYLA G.

LAWSON, HAYDEN R.

GUZMAN, ADRIENNE I.

HEARRON, NORY M.

HEIM. HOVAN H.

GILLASPY, JACK B.

GREEN, TARAN C.

2023-24 Middle School Honor Roll Term 1 Based on GPA and NO Failing Grades

WILLIAMS, BRYCE A.

OWEN, SAMUEL T.

OWENS, CAMMIE R.

6TH GRADE APPLE, EMMA B. APPLEGATE, OLIVIA F. BAKER, SCARLET J. BASSETT, LILLIANNA D. BENTON, TUCKER L. BONNER, EMMALYN E. BOWDEN, MCKYNNA N. BRADLEY, BLAINE D. BRECHEEN, GERTIE G. BROOKS, BARRETT W. BROWN, AVERY H. BUCKRELL, LAINEY C. BURT. ZOEY G. BUSHA, MAYCIE R. CATON, KORLYN M. CLAYTOR, JAYLYNN M. COMBS. AUBREY G. COSPER, ANZLEE M. COX. CORA J. CUNNEEN, RIGGINS C. CUNNINGHAM, BRYLEIGH DE AZEVEDO, MASON G. DEBACKER, JACOB H. DELANEY, JETT A. DRENNAN, COOPER R. DURAN, APRIL B. AGUILAR, JAYDEN E. FERGUSON, RYDER K. ALBAN, ARIANNA L. FISHER, LILLIAN S. ALTMAN, ADDISON M. FOSHEE, HARPER R. FREEMAN, CARSON B. GABLE, COLSEN L. GARCIA, JACOB GEORGE. ISABELLA D. GLENN, KOHEN D. GOODE, AMAYA S. GORDON, KAH'MORYUN W. BROWN, KYLEE L. HALE, JAXON E. HALTOM, DRAKE C. HANDY, SWAYDE J. HANSBERGER, JAXON I. HARDIN, JAXON E. HARGIS, JEFFREY T. HEAIRET, HOPE R. HIDALGO, TALON D. HOGUE, MARSHALL C. HUGHES, ADDISYN R. JEFFERY, STEVEN J. JENKINS. AVA R. JESTER, CHARLES J JOHNSON, EVA L. JONES, RYLIE K. KUHN, CAMBREN L. LADWIG. JESSICA M. LEADAMAN, KATELIN A. MAYES, ZOE D. MCCOY, LILY A. MCGUFFEE, CHARLEMAGNE A. MCMAHON, MASON K. MOORE, BRYLEIGH R. MOORE, KORLEIGH B. MOORE, MARY E. MOORE, SAMUEL T. MULLER, EZRA J. MURPHY, JAYDAN C. NANO, VICTORIA R. NEWILL, MADDOX W. OWENS, JAKE D.

RECTOR, MARY M. RICHARDSON, ADELYNN T. RICHARDSON, PATTON D. RIDDLE, EMILY A. SAVAGE, RORY A. SCHROEDER, BRINNLEE S. PROCELL, MOLLY J. SHEBLI-SHADEED, DEENA E. REYNOLDS, JASPER T. SIMMONS, TYLER M. SOLIZ. IZAIAH CRUZE S. STOUT, MADELYNN G. STRAIT, NOAH T. THOMPSON, KYLE D. TOWNSEND, PAISLEY R. TRIM. MARLEY D. TUBBS, KOLBEE B. TURNER, GRACE A. TYNER, CONNER R. WATSON, JOSHUA C. WAYMIRE, KAYLA M. WHITE, TYSON D. WILLIAMS, NEVAEH L. WILSON, MICAH J. WOODWARD, KYNSLI A. WRIGHT, KINSLEY M. WRIGHT, LANE W.

7TH GRADE

FRESH SCHOLASTIC ROLL

BAKER, RYDER D. BARTON, LILY S. BEAMER, BROOKLIN E. BEAMER, LANDON A. BERWICK, MACKENZIE E. BLOW, KAITLYN S. BURKHALTER, EVELYNN M. WRIGHT, ADDILYN B. BUSSEY, ADA L. CARLISLE, EMMA L. CLAYTOR, KAILYNN M. CLINKSCALES, ABIGAIL A. CLINNARD, BROOKS G. COLEMAN, MASON J. CRUMPTON, KEAGAN J. DEMOSS. JAYCEE L. DESLATTE, SOPHIA C. DODSON, CADEN L. EASLEY, LYLA M. EVERETT. CAYDEN L. FAUST, MASON L. FERGUSON, JACE D. FRITSCHE, ELI G. GARCIA. JULIAN GAVIRIA, PERSEPHONE C. GOOD, SIMON L. GRANT, JOR DAN Z. HART. MADALYN G. HEIM, HALLIE H. HENRY, DESTINY K. HERRERA, GABRIEL W. HOLDER, WADE W. JAHR, KYNLEIGH B. LARISON, STONEY W. LAWSON, EMMITT D. I FADAMAN. JACK C. LEE, LILLYANN I. LEE, MICHAEL M. LIGHTFOOT, WILLIAM J.

PALMER, JAYDEN C. PAUL, MADDOX D. PENDLETON, BROOKE M. RICHARDSON, SHAY N. RIVERA, SARAH R. RIVERA, SUSANNA L. SALTER, BRODY J. SHAW, LEVI A. SHELTON, BRYNTON S. SHIELDS. PARKER D SIZEMORE, NOVAH J. SORRELLS, JACOB T. JR SPENCER, LUKE A. SPURGER, WESTIN D. STARNES, EMMA J. STEELE, GARRETT C STEWART, CAYSON C. STEWART, CHRISTIAN C. TAPIA, RYLEIGH E. THOMAS, RONALD E. III TOLBERT, JOHN H. TRAMEL, JACKSON C. TUCKER, KARSYN M. TURNER, ATHAN L. TUTTLE, MADILYN O. LIPSON ADILYN K VELDE, BRYNNA J. WALLACE, DALLIS W. WATSON, PIPER B. WHITE, EMMA G. WHITTON, EVIE D. WILLIAMS, CARSON S. WING. YUNA J.

MARTIN, MIA M. MEJIA. CRUZ A. MILLER, CHASSITY I. MODISETTE, KENNETH J. MORRIS, EMRY C. MORRIS, KYLAR S. YATES, KAELLON B. ZIVNEY, COLTON D. NAJERA, KINSEY C. OLLIS, NEELEY M. 8TH GRADE OLVERA, ISAAK A. PEARSON, ELIJAH K. AGUILAR, MELANIE A. PINSON, AUDREY K. ALBAN, MERIC M. ANDERSON, CALEB B. POUL, RAIN PROCELL, NOAH T. ANDERSON, KYNLEE N. RHODES, HUNTER A. BAKER, ALAINA M. BARNES, JONAH D. RODENBERG, ARYAN L. RUTLAND, MARLEE B. BARTLEY, ALAYNA J. SCURLOCK, LYLA R. BERWICK, CHASE A. SMITH, MAC S. BETTS, JACKSON D. SONNIER, DALLAS S. BLALOCK, ABIGAIL G. SPAKES, KIRRA N. BODOVSKY, SYDNEE B. STONE, KAYLEIGH M. BOLTON, TREVOR B. BRANTLEY, LANDON K. STRINGER, NATHAN J. TALLEY, JOHN C. BRUNO, ISSAC A. CARAWAY, MCKAYLA J. THOMPSON, ZOEY L. TINCHER, BEAU A. CARGIL, HUDSYN A. TRAUTNER, KASON R. CASTILLO, KARLIE R. CHESTNUT, JERZEY H. TRAUTNER, KINLEY D. TURNER, HARMONY D. CLARK, DOMINIC J. TUTTLE. JACKLYN G. COLLINS, BRANSON A. TUTTLE, WILLIAM J. COMBS, PARKER W. COTTRELL, TRISTAN D. VANBROCKLIN, ALEA G. DABNEY, GRAYSON D. VERCHER, BROOKLYN A. WATSON, CARRINGTON G. DANIELS, TARRYN S. WAYMIRE, DANA M. DIXON, ALEC L. FERGUSON, PRESLEY L. WEATHERS, HARRISON B. WELLS, AVERY G. FISHER, AUSTIN P. FISHER, EMMA P. WILDT. BROOKS A. FOBB, MAKAYLA G. WILSON, GRACE M. WISE, DANIEL A. FORD, DRAYTON S.



GOODMAN, AUSTIN T.

KISAMORE, MADISON T.

JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL

JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL

JUNIORSCHOLASTIC ROLL

LAWSON. ERIN D.

LOWRY, JAKE A.

LOBUE, ABIGAIL G.



SOPH HONOR ROLL

SOPH HONOR ROLL



LONG, MALIN

LYNCHARD, LAIA

MCCOY, KIANA M.

MEJIA. ELIAS E.

ORMS. BAILEE N.

OFFICE: 903-845-4066 Fax: 903-845-5854 CELL: 903-557-1330

EMAIL: JMCANOPY@AOL.COM



PANNELL. KINSLER I

PEPPER, ADDYSON E.

PRESCOTT, BRYNDEN G.

PRIEST, KEENAN M.

PEREZ, MIA M.

POUL. RAVEN







FRANCO, XOLLIE I.

GAY, MARIE A

MODISETTE, MADDIE'GRACE FRAZIER, MIRANDA L.



WOOD, CALLEIGH M.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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.

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 month.

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 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 performances 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

Upshur free 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.

White Oak Xmas parade is Dec. 4

Mark your calendars and stay on the 'Nice' list -White Oak's annual Christmas Parade is set for 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4.

As the event's planners get a jump-start on this year's organizing, they've announced lineup is set for 6:30 p.m. That evening on West Old Highway 80 before the parade begins on South White Oak Road and City Hall and heads toward its end at White Oak ISD.

Cookies and pictures with Santa will run from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. that night at City Hall before the parade.

"We encourage all interested groups and individuals to take part in the parade," the organizers announced.

For questions or more information, contact Maureen Carrigan at 903-759-3936.

Blood drive on tap

Carter Blood Care of Tyler will hold two blood drives in Gilmer in November, said



The East Division of Texas High School Bass Association fished Lake Fork on Saturday, October 14th. White Oak anglers Brayden Elliott and Gavin Burch finished 27th out of 162 teams. The team of Shawn Stevens and Mason Riley finished in 33rd place. Also competing for White Oak was the team of Trevor Sizemore and Jonah Owen. Our next tournament will be on Caddo Lake Saturday, November 11, 2023

Photo courtesy of Mike Gilbert

Carter spokeswoman Donna Russell. One will be near the Historic Upshur Museum on the downtown square during the Nov. 11 Gilmer Fall Festival. Hours are 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Lindsey Hitt

is coordinator for the drive. The other is scheduled from 7 a.m.-11 a.m. Nov. 13 at Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative on Texas 154.

"As the holidays approach, blood donations

tend to fall, though demand stays high," Russell said in a news release, urging potential donors to "stop the drop."

For more information, call Russell at 903-574-4998.

The Gladewater Area Ladies Association (GALA) endeavors to provide current and relevant educational programs to group members and the community. At the most recent meeting on Tuesday, October 17, Melanie Wright of HEPTA Coalition for Human Trafficking, was the guest speaker. She provided shocking statistics and shared many stories of young girls who have been trafficked and how their organization offers help for girls who have been rescued from this lifestyle of despair. They provide counseling and education and partner with law enforcement, victim services, and churches enabling wholeness and restoration. She stated that the border crises has magnified this problem, calling it a "disaster." Mrs. Wright and her husband also run Hannah House of East Texas, a pregnancy center for women who want to



carry their baby to full term, but need support. Babies are usually placed with adoptive families. Anyone interested in knowing more or having Mrs. Wright speak to a group, may contact her at heptacoalition@gmail.com. GALA welcomes area women to join us. They meet the third Tuesday of each month, alternating between noon and evening meetings. For more information, call the Chamber of Commerce at (903) 845-5501

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SPORTS

Jefferson rolls to 42-21 win over Bears

By Tyler Suttor

On a beautiful October night in East Texas, the Gladewater Bears honored the Weldon Bumblebees wearing their green uniforms in the 2nd annual Weldon game as they hosted the district leading Jefferson Bulldogs on Friday night at Jack V. Murphy stadium. While the Bears fought hard, they fell 42-21 in this district tilt.

The Bulldogs took no time getting on the board as after a Gladewater punt they took the ball right down the field on 1 play as running back Kamran Williams went untouched to the endzone for a 30 yard touchdown and a quick 7-0 Jefferson lead. Both teams then traded punts midway through the 1st quarter. The Bulldogs then struck again as Williams found the endzone again as he took it in for a 21 yard touchdown run to give Jefferson a 14-0 lead late in the 1st quarter.

The Bears then had disaster struck as Kyron Wilson's pass was intercepted to end the 1st quarter and it didn't take long for Jefferson as on the first play of the 2nd quarter, Jefferson quarterback Timyus Taylor found wide receiver Chris Love for a beautiful 38 yard touchdown pass and a 21-0 Bulldogs lead. But the Bears started their comeback as Hunter Brown lofted a perfect 74 yard touchdown pass finding Kyron Wilson to cut the Bulldog lead to 21-7. Both teams went quiet the rest of the quarter and it stayed a 21-7 Bulldogs lead at the half.

Gladewater shocked everyone with a onside kick to begin the 3rd quarter and successfully recovered it and it set them up with great field position and they took no time getting back into the game when Kyron Wilson took off for a 19 yard touchdown run to make it suddenly a 21-14 game with 9 minutes left in the 3rd quarter.

Jefferson would answer back as Williams found the endzone once again, this time from the 2 yard line to give the

Bears, Necks, Lions bands earn top scores

After earning top marks at regional trials, the Gladewater Mirror's three favorite bands were all state-bound this week, descending on Waco's Baylor University for the final task of their competition season in UIL's 2023 State Military Marching Band Championships.

All three groups were scheduled for mid-morning performances Tuesday and, depending on the results, another shot in finals contention later that day. Performances were to be live-streamed by KGAS – use the link tinyurl. com/2023UILbandlivestream.

For Gladewater ISD's 80 musicians, it's the first time in the school's history the band has reached state since it was founded in the mid-30s. The band is under the direction of Jeff Smith, Rhett Pilcher and Joshlyn Marsh with Drum Major Madisyn Bedair leading the teens on the field.

White Oak's Regiment of Roughnecks likewise heads into the competition after earning all 1s at regionals Oct. 17. Jacob Ramos directs the band.

It's the 34th consecutive year Union Grove's High School Band earned straight 1's at the UIL Marching Contest. The students' supporters gathered Monday morning to send-off the group, directed by Andy Thompson.

With Gladewater ISD covering transportation, lodging, meals, performance fees and other expenses, the Gladewater Band Boosters collected additional donations and assembled treat bags to make the trip even more memorable for the inaugural state contenders.

Atlanta Rabbits rock Roughnecks, 67-0

By Aidan Keller Lott

Traveling to Atlanta, the Roughnecks took on the Rabbits last Friday, Oct. 20, but remained winless in district following the 67-0 loss.

The Rabbits were led by junior quarterback Peyton Harrison who scored six total touchdowns, throwing for five and rushing for one. Along with Harrison, Atlanta had four other players scoring the remaining touchdowns: sophomore Jayden Riley (4) and juniors Jamarion Austin (2), Markeylin Batton (2) and Braylyn Rowe (1).

"I feel like we didn't have enough effort this week," sophomore Bryce Morgan said. "If we focus up and put forth effort, I know we can win the last two games and turn this season around."

While the Roughnecks struggled stopping the Rabbits, their offense encountered two huge injuries in their backfield as they lost sophomore quarterback Jaxsen Ludlow and senior running back Caleb Maxted.

"I felt bad for Caleb when he went down," senior running back Henry Lattin said. "But Coach Brown has definitely prepared me for situations like these, and hopefully I'll get another shot. I did my best last week and left it all on the field."

Like Maxted, Ludlow had his position filled by Bryce Morgan once he was sidelined, following a late hit on a scramble toward the end of the first quarter. At halftime, Ludlow was sent to the hospital with a severe concussion and neck cramps. Due to the injury, Ludlow is unlikely to play for the remainder of the season.

"At first I thought Jaxsen was just shooken up," junior Collin Wheat said. "I thought that he would just take a couple plays off then come back, but once I realized he wasn't getting up I started praying."

Despite the misfortune throughout the Roughnecks' season, the team still has a chance to clinch a playoff berth if they win their final two games.

"I think, as long as we stick with our game plans, the injuries won't necessarily impact the game," Wheat said. "Of course, it's not ideal to miss players, but our game plan doesn't change."

White Oak will host district-rival Sabine Cardinals for their senior night this Friday, Oct. 27.



Bulldogs a 28-14 lead midway through the 3rd quarter. But the Bears continued to fight back as Wilson snuck it in from the 1 yard line to make it a 28-21 Jefferson lead with 4 minutes left in the 3rd quarter. But the Bulldogs showed why they are the top dogs in the conference as they took over the game for good in the 4th quarter as they found the endzone twice.

Taylor took it in for a 1 yard touchdown run and then late in the 4th quarter, Jefferson put it away when fullback Christon Bowman ran it in for a 5 yard touchdown. "We had our chances late in the 3rd quarter to tie it up, but we just couldn't get it done. But I still take my hat off to this team. We fought hard all night. Have to come back next week and beat a good Atlanta team and keep ourselves in the playoff hunt "said coach Louvier.

The Bears fall to 1-7 on the season and 1-2 in district play. They will be on the road for one final time in the regular season next Friday when they travel to Atlanta.

Volleyball roundup ..

Moving to volleyball, the Gladewater Lady Bears went 1-1 on the week. Falling 3-0 to White Oak and defeating Daingerfield 3-1 on Senior night to pick up their second district win on the season . The Lady Bears are now 6-26 on the season and 2-6 in district play.

They will finish out their season on Tuesday, October $24^{\rm th}$ with a road game at New Diana. The White Oak LadyNecks wrapped up another district title as they went 2-0 this week with wins over Gladewater (3-0) and Sabine 3-0. White Oak has now won 11 games in a row improve to 26-14 on the season and 9-0 in district. They will host Daingerfield on senior night

"Coot's Corner" By Coot Putley

Brooks ...

When I played baseball, third base was my preferred position. I loved playing the "hot corner" and patterned my game after players like Ron Santo and the Boyer brothers. Even after I stopped playing, I continued to pick out third basemen as my favorites. There was Buddy Bell, George Brett, Chipper Jones, and my all-time favorite Ranger Adrian Beltre. But they all took a back seat to the greatest – Brooks Robinson. He played more games at third base than anyone in history and was known as the Human Vacuum Cleaner because he caught everything that came his way.

A few days ago, we learned that Brooks had passed away. His many admirers felt like we had lost a family member. My thoughts went back to April of 2000, when I received an invitation to attend a pre-season weekend at Enron Field's newly completed home of the Houston Astros. There would be an afternoon exhibition game between the Astros and the Texas Rangers, with a morning brunch before the game and a dinner party at the end of the day. The entire event looked like fun but what really caught my eye was the listed speaker for the brunch – Brooks Robinson! I could not miss an opportunity to meet my childhood hero. My wife and I made plans to attend, and I began to count down the days.

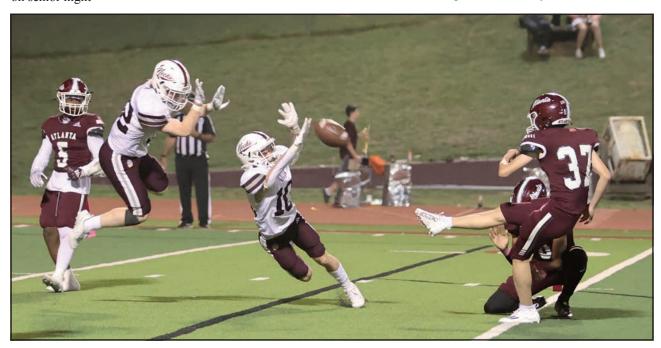
The brunch was held in a restaurant on the mezzanine level of the ballpark. After enjoying a delicious meal, we were ready to hear Brooks. He spoke for about twenty minutes, sharing amusing anecdotes and great stories from his career. It was terrific – then it got even better. When the program was over my wife and I walked on to the concourse to check out the field and take some pictures. After a couple of minutes, Brooks walked out and joined us. We stood together and shared our observations. He treated us like we were old friends enjoying a special time together. Sometimes when you meet someone you've admired it can be a disappointment. Maybe they're dismissive or even rude. That was not the case with Brooks Robinson. He made us feel that he enjoyed our meeting as much as we did.

Most would agree that he was the best ever at his position. He was in 18 All-Star games and earned 16 Golden Gloves and he was the first player to be named as a League MVP, an All-Star game MVP, and a World Series MVP. Some might dispute that he was the best, but absolutely no one would dispute that he was one of the nicest people to ever play baseball.

As I read tributes from around the nation, it was obvious that our experience with him was not unique. Every quote described him as a true gentleman, using words like gracious, courteous, and thoughtful. Johnny Bench said that Brooks was the kindest man he had ever met. Baltimore has had many sports heroes. No-one was adored more in the city than Brooks Robinson, who played there for 23 years, and continued to love Baltimore for the rest of his life. It's appropriate that the Orioles won the American League East this year. You might even consider it a tribute to the man who defined the "Oriole Way." I like to imagine him smiling down and admiring his beloved team.

Sportswriter Gordon Beard summed it up nicely. "In New York, they named a candy bar after Reggie Jackson. Here in Baltimore, we named our children after Brooks Robinson." Now that's a nice legacy!

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



Roughneck Scotty Breitenberg (10), rushes in to block an extra point in White Oak's game with the Atlanta Rabbits. The Roughnecks were dominated by the Rabbits 67-0.

Photo by Mike Peery

Big Sandy Wildcats defeat Lions, 22-14



#2 Carter Cooper and #3 Jacob Griffin stop the Wildcat ball carrier at the 8

Photo by Kim Hill

By Kimberly Smith

Union Grove faced Big Sandy on the Wildcats' home turf Oct. 19. Both teams sought their first district win, but Big Sandy won the fight 22-14. The Wildcats, who are 2-7 overall, moved to 1-4 in district play.

Lions' quarterback Jace Roberts threw a 53-yard touchdown pass to Judson George and scored his fifteenth touchdown of the season rushing the ball himself. Luis Fernandez made the extra point after both.

Cason Cowan made seven tackles, Roberts and Carter Cooper each made six, and Jacob Griffin and Wrigley Roberts each made four. George grabbed an interception, and Cowan recovered a fumble.

The Lions will play their final home game of the season, senior night, on Friday, Oct. 27, against Hawkins, followed by their final regular season game at Beckville on Nov. 3.

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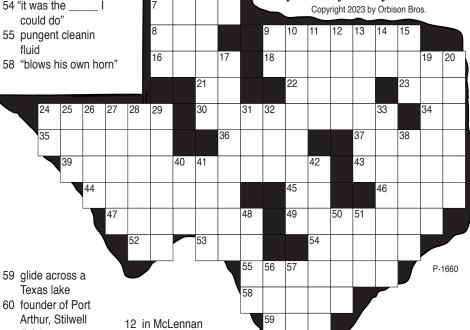
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See Answers On This Page

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Thomas Cash, Owner

BRENDA KAY SHIREY BENGE

OBITUARY

Brenda Kay Shirey Benge was born September 14, 1952, in Longview to Roy Carl Shirey and Odessa Marie Blackwell Shirey. She went home to be with the Lord on October 17, 2023, surrounded by her family.

> Brenda graduated from Gladewater High School. On September 20, 1984, she married Ron Benge in Magnolia, Arkansas. She worked as a Pharmacy Technician at Jobe Drug for almost 40 years before retiring from CVS after working 47 years as a Pharmacy Technician.

Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, Ron Benge; daughter, Shelly

Dawn Lockwood; granddaughter, Hannah Marie Johnson "Muskrat"; special granddaughter, Jada Kinsey; sisters, Patty Shirey and Karen Shirey; brothers, Billy Jack Shirey, David Shirey, Steve Shirey, and Tommy Shirey; stepbrother, Billy Ray Walls; and stepsisters, Carol Smith, Lisa Stockton, and Cheryl Hodges.

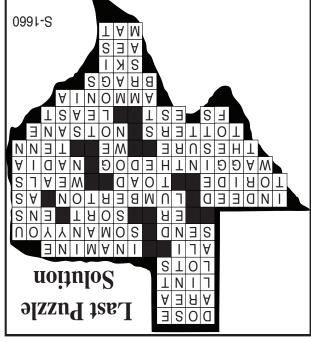
She is preceded in death by her parents.

Pallbearers are Todd Parish, Monty Montgomery, Hodge Holeman, Mark Case, Justin Shirey, and Corey Sims. Honorary pallbearers are Lawrence Bell, Scooter Bell, Mike Pilcher, and John Black.

The family would like to extend their appreciation to Traditions Hospice, Brother Wayne and Eva Norvell, Jessica, Dana, and Tiffany for their loving care of Brenda.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 am, Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at McWhorter Funeral Home with Brother Wayne Norvell officiating. Interment followed at Glade Creek Cemetery. Visitation was held 6:00 pm-8:00 pm, Monday, at McWhorter Funeral Home.

Please visit Brenda's online registration book at www. mcwhorterfh.com to leave a memory for the family.



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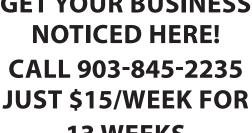


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	SUSPICIOUS PERSON SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20235829 20235830	3:16	SWAMP RAT TOWING	1829 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE N MAIN ST N MAIN ST
	MISCELLANEOUS ASSIST	20235831 20235832	6:09 7:31		300 MONEY ST MONEY ST 600 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	EMS EMS	20235833 20235834	8:03 10:57	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR 205 S MILL MILL ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20235835 20235836	11:08 11:55	AEP SCHOOL	700 MELBA MELBA ST E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	CRIM MIS EMS	20235837 20235838	12:39 14:15	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	1212 N EDWARDS EDWARDS ST 2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ASSIST MISCELLANEOUS	20235839 20235840	14:23 14:42	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD 600 N MAIN MAIN ST
	MISCELLANEOUS EMS	20235841 20235842	15:31 16:35		300 SUNSET SUNSET 402 PARADISE HILL PARADISE HILL RD
	MISCELLANEOUS EMS	20235843 20235844	18:10 19:08	BODACIOUS BBQ	407 N HOWARD HOWARD ST 1105 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ASSIST MISCELLANEOUS	20235846 20235847	0:46		402 PARADISE HILL PARADISE HILL RD 1450 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	ASSIST ASSIST	20235848	3:51 10:28		113 VILLAGE NORTH CIRCLE VILLAGE NORTH CIRCLE S TYLER TYLER ST
	FIRE DEPT ASSIST	20235850 20235851	10:35		SABINE SABINE 802 MELBA MELBA
	ASSIST	20235852	12:56	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	BURGLARY/HABITATION SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20235853	13:59 14:10		611 N MAIN MAIN ST DEAN DEAN
	MISCELLANEOUS EMS	20235855 20235856	15:29 16:14		100 W ELEANOR ELEANOR ST 2811 ELIJAH ELIJAH ST
	EMS ANIMAL CONTROL	20235857 20235858	16:50 17:07		510 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE 508 GODFREY GODFREY ST
	EMS MISCELLANEOUS	20235859 20235860	17:30 18:22		408 QUITMAN QUITMAN S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	FIRE DEPT MISCELLANEOUS	20235861 20235862	18:34 19:04	MCDONALDS	133 EMA OAKS EMA OAKS 1100 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	10-50 MAJOR UNAUTHORIZED USE MOTOR VEH	20235863 20235864	19:53 20:31	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME LAKE GLADEWATER	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685 1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE 10-50 MINOR	20235865 20235866	0:53 4:18	REGENCY INN AND SUITE	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY HIGHWAY 271 HIGHWAY 271
	MISCELLANEOUS ESCORT	20235868 20235869	10:17 10:21	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT CROLEY FUNERAL HOME	511 S TYLER TYLER RD 401 N CENTER CENTER ST
-	INCIDENT - NO REPORT EMS	20235870 20235871	10:27		1113 N LYNN ST N LYNN ST 21 GREENWAY VLG GREENWAY VLG
	ESCORT EMS	20235872	11:37	MCCAULEY AND SON FUNERAL HOME	504 WILLOW WILLOW DR 328 S TYLER TYLER ST
	FIRE DEPT	20235875	17:15	GI ADEWATER HIGH SOLICOL	PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD
	RECKLESS DRIVING EMS	20235876	19:11	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE 2723 COBY COBY ST
	ALARM/OTHER EMS	20235878 20235879	19:59	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	2201 W GAY GAY AVE 1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS EMS	20235880 20235881	20:13 20:27		100 W ELEANOR ELEANOR S 1808 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY
	ANIMAL CONTROL MISCELLANEOUS	20235882 20235883	22:11 22:29	CHURCH OF CHRIST	213 JEANETTE JEANETTE ST 202 E GAY GAY AVE
0/22/23	MISCELLANEOUS EMS	20235884 20235885	22:44 5:25		1006 E PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE 1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
10/22/23	SUSPICIOUS PERSON 10-50 MINOR	20235886 20235887	5:33	BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	HWY 80 HWY 80 1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS	20235888 20235889	10:49		GAY GAY AVE
				AJ S FAST STOP EXXON	1708 N MAIN MAIN ST 510 WOOD WOOD ST
	MISCELLANEOUS ALARM/OTHER	20235890 20235891	12:19	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE

WOPD POLICE ACTIVITY

For the reporting period of October 16th through the 22nd, 2023, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to, or initiated, 147 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were; Burglar Alarms, Traffic Issues (collisions, motorist assists, reckless drivers, etc.), Animal Complaints, 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.

One arrest was made by White Oak Police during the reporting period:

Alex Seth Downing, 30, of White Oak on two outstanding White Oak warrants for No Insurance and No Driver's License.

GPD POLICE ARRESTS

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS1
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
10/20/23	10/20/23	14:15	BRUNEY, MICHAEL EUGENE	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	200 W UPSHUR

Last day for Angel Tree signup in White Oak

Today's the last day to sign up for the White Oak Fire Department's annual Angel Tree. White Oak VFD will be on hand at the Lewis Reavis Fire Station No. 1 (301 S. White Oak Road) from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. to add names to the list.

Gifts and/or food pick-up is set for 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Dec. 16 at fire station No. 1. The VED requests children not attend the gift pick-up

VFD requests children not attend the gift pick-up.

Rules to participate in the White Oak VFD's Angel Tree Program are:

903-736-2284.

1. The child must live in the City of White Oak. A parent or guardian is required to show a current Driver's License as well as a utility bill and/or mortgage statement with a match-

ing address at the time of sign-up.

2. The age limit for children to participate and receive assistance is 15.

For more information, contact Cameron Kizzia at 903-277-9319 or Thomas Cash at



Divide & Conquer Downsizing Sale
Tidwell

Thurs., Oct. 26 ~ 7:00-5:30 Fri., Oct. 27 ~ 8:00-5:30 Sat., Oct. 28 ~ 8:00-2:00 6502 Ashmore Lane ~ Tyler, TX 75703

Outside SSW Loop 323, off Jacksonville Hwy, and north of FRESH, turn east Ashmore, across from Juicy's. The gates will be opened. Please be respectful of the neighbors' driveways, yards, and mailboxes. We look forward to seeing you! This garden home, listed by Julie Hood Taylor, has sold. Contents and consignments: extra nice large sectional; coordinating entry, end, and coffee tables; marble top dresser, chest, and nightstand; queen bed; barley twist fire fender; fireplace tools; lovely green glassware; many great Dept. 56 snow village selections; wreaths; other holiday items; costume jewelry; frames; lamps; lady's clothes, shoes, purses, scarves, boots; like-new washer & dryer; dishes; cake plates; Corning; small appliances; cookware; dinnerware; rugs; Asian selections; towels, sheets, quilts, tablecloths; framed art; wooden shoes; cake plates; caning jars; mirrors; toiletries; books; child's bunkbeds/desk unit; many dolls; doll clothes and furniture; girl's clothes, shoes, costumes, books, art supplies, toys; girl's bicycle; model cars; fishing rods; camo selections; golf bags; lanterns; roller blades; men's clothes, shoes, boots; drink chests; tire; welding masks; radio; copier; file cabinet; ladder; yard tools; sooooo much more!!

Pictures: EstateSales.Net or DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com



PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a public hearing before the City of Gladewater Planning & Zoning Commission on November 9, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. to consider a request for a front set-back variance to Gladewater Code of Ordinance §15.11.120(C)(1)(a) Single Family Districts at LOT 5, BLK 2 EVERETT WOODLAND, more commonly known as 209 Oak Dr.

There will be a second public hearing held by the Gladewater City Council on Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

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







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Last week White Oak/Gladewater Fire Academy (Kilgore College Fire Academy Dual Credit) began diving into familiarization of firefighter PPE. In this picture they can be seen learning the functions of the SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus).

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Little Miss Scout Speed had the honor of representing with Miss Gladewater Rodeo Meagan Hodge the 2023 Yamboree Queens parade.

Yamtime in Gilmer

By Phillip Williams

Author and speaker Tammy Whitehurst, a Lake Gladewater resident, cited the virtues of small-town denizens in a humor-filled address to the All-Service Club Luncheon at the 86th annual East Texas Yamboree in Gilmer last Thursday.

Describing the South as "one Lord-thanking, one-spoon spanking kind of people," the Daingerfield native said "we have pride in small-town living." She added, "We've gotta have unity in the community, and

you have it in Gilmer," where the luncheon was held at the Yamboree Event Center.

"Small town people--we judge, we stumble," White-hurst acknowledged, but "we cheer each other on" as well. "We don't fall back in failure. . .Small town people don't quit.

In addition, "Small town people stick together, whether life takes you on a rough ride or a smooth one," Whitehurst asserted. "What are we gonna do to make a difference?" the speaker then asked, proclaiming "there's an awful lot of power in one" person.

Also at the luncheon, winners of the Yamboree essay contest for Upshur County schoolchildren, who wrote on the topic "What the Yamboree Is to Someone Who Has Never Attended," read their respective writings. The winners were:

Grades 4-5--Max Carter,

Harmony ISD fourth grader.
Grades 6-8--Blaiklee
George, Union Grove ISD
seventh grader.

Grades 9-12--Peyton Hancock, Union Grove ISD ninth grader.



Madie Bedair represented the Gladewater Chamber of Commerce in the 2023 Yamboree Queens parade. Harold Wells provided his corvette for the parade ride.



Members of Gladewater's Beautification Advisory Board gather with representatives of Croley Funeral Home Oct. 4 to recognize the operation as Business of the Quarter.

Courtesy photo



This year's Union Grove High School's Yamboree Duchess was Katherine Potter.

City forgives 12-year-old lien

Aiming to strike a balance between covering the city's cost and reaping tax dollars in the future, council members last week forgave a 12-year-old demolition lien of \$3,850 on property at 501 Phillips Drive.

According to Gladewater Inspector Al Harrison, that's the cost incurred by the city after demolishing a home at the spot in 2011.

"Now we have someone interested in buying the property to build a new house there," he told council members. "it's the only vacant lot in that area, really."

Plans are for a 1,610 square-foot home valued at approximately \$130,000. Ready-to-build, the only hurdle remaining was the lien.

"It would take us about four years to recoup that money from ad valorem taxes," Mayor Scott Owens noted.

There's another perspective, too, for Gladewater City Manager Charlie Smith.

"We lost that already," he told the council, Owens concluded.

after a dozen years of no tax gains. "Another four years is not going to hurt."

Lien forgiveness is a normal thing for the city? council member Teddy Sorrells asked.

"It's always a case-by-case basis on it," Owens said. "You don't want to forgive it then have something that's not applicable to the neighborhood or is going to be detrimental to the value of other houses around it. At the same time, when we go in and demolish a house... it's kind of a Catch-22.

"We want somebody to buy that and build something there and get it back on the tax rolls, but there's always this little bit.

Ultimately, with ground-breaking imminent on the new home, council member Brandy Flanagan's motion, seconded by Sonny Anderson, was unanimously approved.

"We look forward to a new house there,"

GEDCO invests limited time, resources for greatest impact

PRESS RELEASE

Part of the reality of doing business in a small town is recognizing resources are finite and have to be used to the best effect.

Funds, time, personnel – they're not unlimited for Gladewater Economic Development Corporation and Executive Director Michelle Palmer. Part of her task is to allocate all the elements as efficiently as possible for the greatest return on investment over time.

It's a practical challenge she and her volunteer board of directors are working continuously to address.

"A lot of other EDCs have a team that they get to work with in-house," Palmer noted. "Longview, for example, has a president/CEO, a vice president, a business retention and expansion and workforce development director, director of business development, director of marketing and communications, a research analyst and an executive assistant."

Working in a community with a population in excess of 82,000 people, it's understandable. While Gladewater's significantly smaller at approximately 6,200, it still has to compete.

"While they'll have more contracts to do because they have more property at their disposal, I'm still expected to do all of the same

work, just on a smaller scale. Compared to their team of 7, I hold all of those jobs."

Outsourcing, through most local agencies, covers a lot of the organization's needs while keeping costs efficient – GEDCO uses contractors to have a social media manager at-hand along with a web developer, copywriter, accountant, auditor and a general consultant.

Covering those essentials enables Palmer to focus and invest her time in fulfilling the operation's primary mission – economic development. She puts her prime time into cultivating 'live' prospects and relies on the EDC's online presence and resources to ensure site selectors and developers can always get the data they need without delay.

Recently, the GEDCO board of directors approved the organization's five-year investment with Revize web developers to overhaul GladewaterEDC. com with important enhancements for a live directory of developable properties, including commercial real estate listings.

"Likewise, with our latest expansion of our social media channels, including Facebook and LinkedIn, we're making sure our electronic footprint is as broad as possible so, number one, we're reaching more prospects and, two, they're able

Michelle Palmer
Executive Director

GEDCO
Get (190) 903 4659
Office (190) 903 4659
Offic

With natural staff limitations, even the simple act of leaving business cards accessible after-hours helps ensure Gladewater Economic Development Corporation doesn't miss key connections with potential prospects.

to get in touch with us as ef-

fortlessly as possible."
Part of the overall task includes being physically present throughout the community at relevant events, activities, meetings, luncheons and more while also investing time in professional development through training and networking. Palmer carves out the hours and uses the time out of the office to simultaneously cultivate contacts that can become beneficial connec-

tions later.

"I was gone Tuesday through Friday a week ago to the Texas Economic Development Council's annual conference in Houston," Palmer said. "Fortunately, we have a collaborative relationship with Gladewater Chamber of Commerce, so even when I'm out of the office there's often someone here to welcome walk-ins."

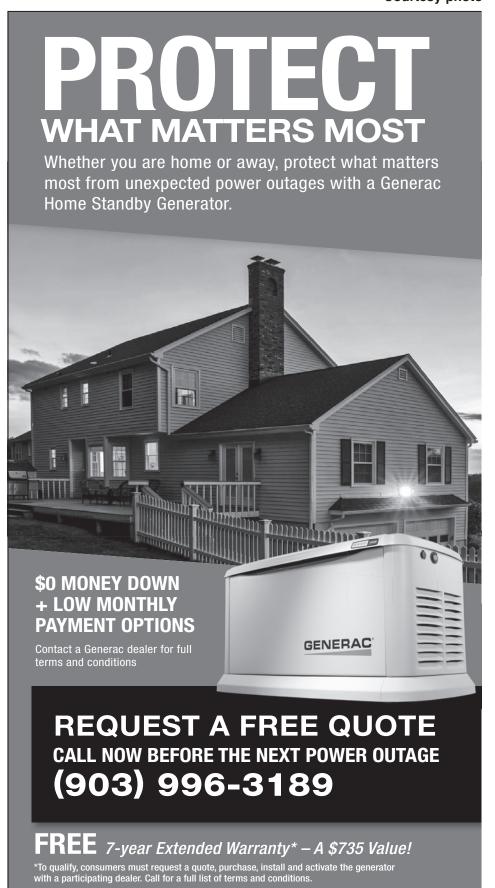
In economic development, there's no margin to miss an opportunity, Palmer

"I have my business cards on the outside of the door with all of the contact information at their fingertips," she said. "I want people – prospects and other interested contacts – to know I'm available even when I'm not physically here.

"Fortunately, we live in a day and time where we can keep in contact at a distance easily through any number of digital channels, and I actively monitor email, text and other sources to ensure that we don't miss an opportunity to help Gladewater expand.

expand.

"Some people think if you're not there from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. you're out gallivanting around," she adds with a laugh. "That's not the case. We ensure that the public's investment in this office, through tax dollars, is fruitful wherever we're conducting the day's business. Technology helps make that easy, but we still put in the effort to make it a reality."



GENERAC









Weldon alumni gather in the elementary school's library Oct. 20 for a Pre-Game Reception hosted by Weldon Principal Amanda Langford, her staff and other Gladewater ISD leaders. Dozens of Weldon grads turned out ahead of Friday's alumni presentation before the night's contest at Jack V Murphy Bear Stadium and the weekend's 2nd Annual Weldon Honor Game.













Communities in Schools having positive impact on White Oak High School students

By James Draper

A new partnership with Communities in Schools is already having a positive impact on White Oak High School students, making mental health counseling available when needed.

According to Dr. William Paul, WOISD Superintendent, the nonprofit organization gets annual grant funding from Texas Education Agency then reinvests it in schools. A district applies and, if accepted, covers half the cost of a CIS transplant's salary and benefits.

"It's a counselor, but they kind of have a focus that depends on what your campus needs are," Paul said.

It could be a standard assist, such as working to raise students' grades, or their work may be tailored for harder issues.

For example, "If you have students that have a variety of mental health concerns, they can help you with that."

Today, high school counselors' time is largely allocated to college preparation or career prep. Recently, counseling has focused more on ensuring student career courses are correctly-aligned and that accountability and testing are where they need to be

Two WOHS counselors were already seeing success in those spheres, but it does mean more traditional counseling diminished as staffers' hours focused on academic development.

"A lot of that at-risk side of counseling has kind of fallen by the wayside because we've had requirements by TEA piled on," Paul lamented. "This allows us to have a third pair of eyes in that situation to help our students in need.

"We're very fortunate to be able to get the program. It's been really good for us so far, so we're glad to have them."

Connect Anywhere, tly, counseling has ring student career-aligned and that

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Paddling possibilities along the Sabine River pondered

By James Draper

A countywide coalition aims to improve paddling possibilities along the Sabine River.

The Gregg County communities of Gladewater, Kilgore, Longview, Easton, Lakeport and White Oak are collaborating on a new (and improved) set of boat and kayak launches on the shared waterway, kick-started by a development grant from Sabine River Authority.

A draft plan for the project goes before the county commissioners court next month, and co-organizers for the project met in Longview last week to review the working proposal from MHS Planning & Design for the 'Sabine River Paddling Trail.'

"I think we've all recognized that the river is an underutilized asset for our region," says Kilgore City Manager Josh Selleck. "It's the reason that Kilgore, Longview and the county began this project, ultimately cooperating with all the cities along the river in Gregg County to improve access.

"I can't wait to see this project come to fruition."

According to City of Longview's Shawn Hara, Gregg County officials were quick to get behind the concept, spearheading coordination from all the communities involved.

"We got a grant from the Sabine River Authority to do a feasibility study," he added, "looking for options to improve access and implement a paddling trail. There's about 40 miles of river within Gregg County, from about Hwy. 271 in Gladewater going to Lakeport at Hwy. 149, but those are the only two public access points.

"The goal is to make some improvements at those two points and hopefully add some additional access points."

The still-developing idea picked up momentum in Spring 2023 then took off in June when SRA's grant enabled local officials to bring on board MHS, a Texas-based outdoor and water-based recreation developer with offices in Dallas and Tyler. Those funds essentially covered planning fees and a countywide assessment, according to

Hunter Rush, partner and project manager at the firm.

"Our objective was to study land ownership, usability of the river and where and how we could get more boat ramps or kayak launches to encourage more use."

In addition to enhancing and improving the two existing launches at opposite ends of the county in Gladewater and Lakeport, MHS is recommending three additional launches with two currently on the drawing board. One proposed site would be located at the City of Kilgore's water intake on the Sabine,

the second at FM2087. There are other opportunities, but they're still in development as the project progresses.

"We're encouraging the county as a whole and each individual municipality to work with local landowners for different partnership opportunities," Rush said. Importantly, "The cities are not going to come in and take anyone's land; there's no eminent domain or any of that talk."

The vast majority of potential access points are in unincorporated areas, situated outside the city limits of the communities involved, Selleck noted, "which is part of the reason we think it's never been completely developed."

According to Rush, each launch will cost approximately \$1.5 million. Granted, that's an early, rough number.

"It really will be sitespecific and amenity-based for their final cost," he said. Developments at each location will vary on a variety of factors. For example, "Some will have a boat ramp and a kayak launch; some will just have a kayak launch.

Meanwhile, "It's important to note there are different funding sources. I think the majority of the costs will hopefully come through Texas Parks & Wildlife and the municipalities."

Any local dollars spent will hopefully return to their home communities in the long-term, especially if the paddling trail is recognized, supported and promoted by the TPW, a key target.

"One of the objectives of this is to encourage economic growth through more people being present, people coming," Rush said. "I think there's opportunities for outfitters kayak renters and people leading guided trips.

Most likely, the spots will be developed by the public sector before entrepreneurs are enlisted for the future: "At this time, I don't think any of the cities have any desire to operate. It would all be from the private side."

MHS presented their draft plan to stakeholders and supporters last week at Longview's Maude Cobb Convention & Activity Center. White Oak City Coordinator Jimmy Purcell was looking forward to the meeting, eager to see development that could benefit his community in the long-run.

"I think it's a neat thing to get done," he said.

Local business owners are already getting behind the idea as well, said Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons, from kayak rental to concessions.

"I think it's going to be a really cool thing," he said, and GFD personnel are prepared to respond should the need arise following increased usage of the river.

The next key step is Gregg County Commissioners' consideration in November.

"As soon as that is adopted by them, the goal is to work with individual municipalities," Rush said, "specifically Gladewater and Lakeport as the first we're going to work with" to pursue funding, design and construction.

County Judge Bill Stoudt's pleased to see the combined effort moving forward.

"All the cities came together and united and agreed that's something that needed to be done," he said. "I think it's phenomenal; I'm excited about it."

Already, he added, Sabine River Authority has contributed in multiple ways, such as a separate grant to bolster water rescue equipment resources.

"It's a very positive thing for the community. I think it's going to promote a lot of tourism, spawn new business — I'm excited about it."



Kayakers paddle down the Sabine River, slated for a handful of new-and-improved launches through a multi-city effort spearheaded by Gregg County and developed by MHS Planning & Design, an outdoor and water-based recreation firm. Gladewater's public access ramp is one of only two open sites on Gregg County's stretch of 38-mile stretch of river right now, but still-developing plans call for at least two more publicly-accessible ramps in the near future on MHS' plans for the Sabine River Paddling Trail.





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Moratorium on burn permits in Gladewater

Just a couple of weeks since lifting a burn ban inside the city limits, Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons has placed a moratorium on burn permits following a spate of illegal fires.

Even when weather conditions allow limited, controlled burns inside Gladewater's incorporated borders, residents still must acquire an official burn permit for trash, debris and similar fires then stick to a simple set of safety guidelines such as having water on hand and not leaving a burn unattended.

"Right now, we have a lot of illegal burns going on," Simmons said. "I've got two cases I'm working with arrest warrants

"Due to the amount of illegal burning and nuisance complaint calls, I've put a moratorium on issuing burn permits – we're going to be rewriting the burn policy."

It doesn't mean residents have to let their large pile of green debris pile up.

"Keep in mind, with your water bill you can take one load of trash and debris to the dump per month."

Likewise, there's a semi-annual citywide clean-up free of charge – residents just filled 13 trash containers on City Hall's dime Oct. 14. The next sponsored cleanup will be in Spring 2024 (when a special trailer will be on-hand to cart

Upshur library hosting storytime Thursday

Two books will be read to small children, and a Halloween party is scheduled, at both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions Thursday (Oct. 26) in Gilmer.

To be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. readings are "The Crayons Trick or Treat" by Drew Daywalt and "Monster Needs a Costume" by Paul Czajak, said library spokeswoman Kari Dunn.

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.

Falltastic fest coming to Gilmer

A"Falltastic" Halloween festival, sponsored by the Gilmer Area Ministerial Fellowship and featuring numerous activities for children, is scheduled Tuesday at the Yamboree grounds' ag barn on U.S. 271 in Gilmer.

It is slated from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The alliance is a part of Upshur County Shares, which includes the Gilmer Food Pantry.

Although attendees are asked to bring a can of food as

admission, it isn't required.