

# Gladewater Mirror

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Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023

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50¢

## City gets \$2,791,380 for water system improvements

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) today approved by resolution financial assistance in the amount \$2,791,380 to the City of Gladewater (Gregg and Upshur counties), consisting of \$850,000 in financing and \$1,941,380 in principal forgiveness, from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The City will use the assistance for the planning, design, and construction of a water system improvement project.

In addition to the loan forgiveness, the City could save approximately \$274,000 over the life of the loan by using the DWSRF.

With the assistance approved today, the City will replace deteriorating water mains, add looping throughout the distribution system, and construct treatment and electrical upgrades at the water treatment plant.

The TWDB is the state agency charged with collecting and disseminating water-related data, assisting with regional water and flood planning, and preparing the state water and flood plans. The TWDB administers cost-effective financial assistance programs for the construction of water supply, wastewater treatment, flood mitigation, and agricultural water conservation projects.

## Man sentenced in drunk driving case

By Phillip Williams

A judge in Gilmer last Thursday sentenced a man to prison terms when the defendant pleaded guilty to intoxication assault in connection with a traffic crash which injured relatives of Upshur County Commissioner Michael Ashley, and resulted in his grandchild being prematurely born.

Rodney Dean Seahorn, 48, of White Oak, was sentenced by 115th District Judge Dean Fowler on a plea bargain to three 8-year prison terms, two of them concurrent, announced Upshur County District Attorney Billy Byrd.

The April 5 crash injured Ashley's pregnant daughter, son-in-law, and resulted in the premature birth of the couple's daughter that day. All were hospitalized, but survived.

Ashley said at the time that Seahorn was also injured and hospitalized. The commissioner provided these added details:

His daughter, Laura Craft, turned 35 that day and was eight months pregnant when the vehicle she and her husband occupied collided with another vehicle "more or less head-on" at the intersection of Texas 300 and FM 1844 in East Mountain.

The baby, Alora Jane Craft, was born that day at Longview Regional Medical Center and was in the neonatal intensive care unit there.

Her mother, admitted to the same hospital, suffered a fractured foot, broken shoulder, and fractured femur, while her husband, 27-year-old Duncan Craft, was in Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport Academic Medical Center in Louisiana with two broken femurs.

The Crafts, who reside in Gilmer, had just left a birthday celebration at the home of the commissioner and his wife, Reggenia, and were en route to Longview for another celebration planned with her cousins and two brothers when the wreck occurred. They were in a Ford Explorer sport utility vehicle.

In a news release on the sentencing, Byrd said Seahorn left a residence in White Oak, traveled north toward Gilmer, and "entered the intersection illegally and in the wrong lane of traffic." Laura Craft (who, like her husband and child, was not identified by name in the news release) was seven and a half months pregnant, said Byrd.

## Santa makes many stops Saturday

### Jolly Ol' Elf visits Gladewater parade, Truman Smith children and East Mountain community

Call it the 'Magic of Christmas' – Santa Claus was everywhere Saturday in the Gladewater area.

Every child knows the Kris Kringle lives at the North Pole but entrusts his Spirit of Christmas to deputy Santas around the world. Several descended on East Texas this weekend.

First, a Jolly Old Elf rolled into East Mountain, joining the city's annual Christmas Parade, meandering through the town to arrive at city hall and greet the community's kiddoes.

By noon, another Claus had put on his leathers to gather with the two- and three-wheeled riders of Outlaws Longview Bar. There arose such a clatter as about 150 bikers thundered west on Hwy. 80 to arrive at the Truman W. Smith Children's Care Center in Gladewater.

"Isn't this awesome? I don't even wear makeup because I cry every year," said facility administrator Rhonda Rolan as the local elves unloaded a heaping pile of gifts for the hospital's young charges.

Started by the late Nell Higginbotham – the 'Mom' of Mom's Biker Bar – Outlaws inherited the effort about 11 years back.

"It's all about these kiddoes, it really is," said Lynn Kelly, owner/operator of Outlaws, the gathering point

Continued on Page 8



Gas escapes from a borehole at a Roden Lane construction site Dec. 6 after a utility crew punctured a four-inch lane in the residential neighborhood. Gladewater firefighters controlled the scene and issued shelter-in-place orders until CenterPoint Energy personnel could arrive and get the leak under control. Photo by James Draper



Veteran Manna House volunteer John Kindt packs a grocery box during the food charity's annual holiday food distribution Dec. 6-7 in the Christian Life Center at First United Methodist Church. In addition to a wide variety of food donations, volunteers provided toys to as many as 70 local families.

Photo by James Draper





# OPINION/COMMENTARY

## “...if only in my dreams”

I don't want things to change...but they do, and they have. Maybe that is why the Christmas carol “I'll Be Home For Christmas” brings a little bit of an ache to my heart along with tender smiles. Growing up, Christmas was magical and shiny, with Christmas Eve celebrated at my widowed grandmother's neat little home around a silver tinsel tree, with the bonus of a mesmerizing color wheel.

Of course, old St. Nick came on Christmas morning to our country home. My younger brother and I were not allowed to run like ban-shees into the living room until my Mom or Dad had brought our older brother Donnie, who had severe cerebral palsy, into the living room in front of the tree. Then it was Katy bar the door and a mad dash for the goodies left by Santa. After breakfast we went to my Mom's parents for more Christmas, and food that I dream about to this day. Why I didn't make it home to snag the tinsel tree or my other grandmother's plastic icicles when their households were broken up I still deeply regret.

My sweetheart and I participated in First Christian Church's Living Nativity as Mary and Joseph when we were young. The sacred Christmas Eve service with the “Hallelujah” chorus ringing in Christmas on the stroke of midnight was profoundly spiritual and joyous. As magical as those cherished Christmas memories were, the best was yet to be.

I can still remember our son's first Christmas and his big hazel eyes when he focused on our Christmas tree. I will never forget him patting my cheek with excitement. By year two he was a little whirlwind, still patting my cheeks and telling me he loved me. By age three Josh had asked Santa for a backhoe, and boy did Santa deliver. When his dad tried

## Legal challenges to amendments appear quashed

A half-dozen lawsuits challenging the 13 approved Texas constitutional amendments appear to be dead in the water, The Dallas Morning News reported. The secretary of state's office last week declared the propositions approved and now a part of the Texas Constitution, while Gov. Greg Abbott canvassed the election and certified the results. One proposition that would have raised the retirement age of judges was rejected by voters.

In addition, the Texas attorney general's office said the lawsuits had improper “citation and return of service.” The plaintiffs are unable to correction those citations because the election results have been certified.

The six nearly identical lawsuits claimed the state used uncertified polling machines that exposed the election to voter fraud, and the plaintiffs called for the courts to throw out the Nov. 7 results and hold a new election using paper ballots only, The News reported.

The suits threatened to delay voter-approved property tax cuts and a raise in retired teachers' pensions.

## Abbott enters primary battle fray, mum on fifth special session

The Texas Legislature's fourth special session ended last week with the House and Senate still at loggerheads over Abbott's push to allow the use of taxpayer money to pay for private school costs, commonly known as school vouchers. Last month, 21 House Republicans joined with Democrats to remove the voucher provision from a broad education bill that did not pass both chambers.

Abbott is sticking to his promise to endorse primary challengers to House Republicans who voted against the voucher plan, the Texas Tribune reported. With the holiday season underway, it appears unlikely there will be another special session this year, but Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick said he believed the best day to come back for another session “would be Feb. 5, 30 days before the election.”

The impasse means legislation to increase public school funding, provide teacher bonuses and hike funding for school safety measures also died on the vine.

## State halts efforts to take Fairfield Lake property

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has ceased its efforts to seize a 5,000-acre tract of private land that once included a state park and adjoins Fairfield Lake, The News reported. A private developer purchased the property from a utility company for about \$103 million last June and plans to close Fairfield Lake State Park were announced. The land for the park had been leased from Vistra Corp., the utility company for 50 years.

Todd Interests, the developer, plans to build luxury homes with a golf course, restaurants and shops, as well as access to a private air strip. Less than two weeks after the developer bought the property, the state voted to condemn the land using eminent domain.

A judge-appointed commission of three Freestone County residents put the fair market value of the property at \$418.3

## The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



to show him how to maneuver it our son's response was, “No! Josh do it his way.” And he has throughout his life, done it in ways that matter. But, I do so miss that sweet little boy, Birthday cakes for Jesus, innocent wonder, and, that soft, loving pat on my cheek.

On a recent trip to our family ranch I walked through the silent house of my childhood, sat on the couch and looked out the big picture windows by the fireplace. In that moment I closed my eyes and heard my Daddy call me his “Darlin' Daughter” and my son - his “little buddy”. I saw the big bulb Christmas lights of my childhood reflecting in my older brother's deep brown eyes. I heard my ever busy Mom in the kitchen, and my little brother's excitement over his Hot Wheels. I felt the hand of my sweetheart as we stood beside a manger with shepherds and wisemen. I saw the lights of trees across the years and across the miles. I felt the love I have always known...

...and then, I hummed the Christmas song of my heart...

“I'll be home for Christmas

You can plan on me...

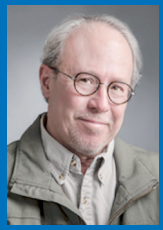
...Christmas Eve will find me

Where the love light gleams

I'll be home for Christmas

If only in my dreams”

## Gary Borders Capital Highlights



million – more than four times what the developer paid for it. Fairfield Lake is considered the largest privately owned lake in the state and possibly the nation, The News reported.

## State seeks public input on broadband internet plan

The Texas Broadband Development Office is soliciting input from the public on the proposed Texas Digital Opportunity Plan, which seeks to improve and expand broadband access across the state. Almost 7 million Texans lack access to high-speed internet, or nearly 25% of residents.

“Access to reliable, high-speed internet as a means of advancing education, training, employment opportunities, healthcare, and delivery of essential services is critical to the future of our state,” said Glenn Hegar, comptroller.

Through Jan. 5 of next year, Texans can give their opinions on the plan by visiting [broadbandfortexas.com/tdop](http://broadbandfortexas.com/tdop).

The newly created broadband office is partnering with chambers of commerce, the Texas Workforce Commission, industry associations and elected officials to highlight the importance of access to high-speed internet in today's digital world.

## Workers' comp costs drop in state

A report issued by the Texas Department of Insurance indicates that the cost of treating injured employees in the state's workers' compensation system dropped considerably from 2012 through 2022. Total health care costs dropped 30%, from \$1.15 billion in 2012 to \$812 million last year, while the total number of claims dropped 20% during the same period, from 319,000 to 256,000.

Hospital costs also dropped 20% in that decade, while the costs for professional services – such as physicians – was down 26%, from \$657 million to \$483 million.

The report used administrative data reported by insurance carriers for the 10-year period. The costs were not adjusted for inflation, which would have made the decrease in costs even greater.

## PUC approves new price protections during power emergencies

The Public Utility Commission has implemented a new Emergency Pricing Program that limits consumer exposure to high wholesale electricity prices during power emergencies, as occurred during Winter Storm Uri in February 2021.

“Implementing the Emergency Pricing Program provides another layer of financial protection for Texas consumers and will ensure their electricity bills remain affordable even when conditions are tight in the ERCOT system,” Thomas Gleeson, PUC executive director, said.

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



## THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

## Resilient ...

The US economy has demonstrated remarkable resilience over the past several years. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, historic inflation, supply chain snarls that have taken years to untangle, and conflicts around the globe, we've seen ongoing expansion. In fact, jobs have been added at a significant pace, and employment is now about 4.5 million higher than it was before the pandemic.

Although many analysts were calling for a major recession during 2023, it has not materialized. Our analysis consistently indicated that the worst downturn fears were overblown, but the degree of resilience in the economy has nonetheless been impressive. Looking ahead over the next 30 years, I think we'll continue to see an upward trend.

One factor influencing long-term growth is underlying demographic patterns. Population gains are likely to be much slower in the decades to come, with immigration accounting for most of the expansion. All of the baby boom generation will have reached retirement age by the end of this decade, and their children (the millennials) will begin to reach that milestone in the late 2040s. The expanding older population has substantial implications for healthcare and social services, with Medicare and Social Security also affected.

Another concern is that the US national debt has now reached well over \$33 trillion (and rising). Although the United States has carried debt since its inception (literally since 1789), the amount has escalated rapidly over the past few years. A large component of expenditures is not discretionary (such as Medicare, Social Security, and interest). It would be impossible to alter spending and revenue patterns sufficiently to “balance the budget” in the short term without creating massive dislocations which would endanger public safety and health on the spending side and sustainability on the taxation side. Even so, it is imperative that we address the fiscal situation and practice a measure of discipline going forward.

A third key element to long-term performance is innovation. From developing new technologies to commercializing research discoveries, the US has long led the pace. In fact, an ability to do “the next big thing” is the single biggest contributor to the relatively consistent expansion enjoyed since World War II. Going forward, it will be crucial to maintain an environment which supports and nurtures emerging technologies and industries.

Our latest long-term projections indicate that total US employment is likely to increase by nearly 79.1 million from 2022 to 2050, while real gross domestic product expands at a 2.70% annual pace. Inflation is expected to moderate, though variations are inevitable. Business cycles, headwinds, and all manner of unexpected events will no doubt characterize the coming decades, but resilience will prevail and the overall outlook for the US economy is decidedly positive.

Stay safe!

## DOES GOD CARE HOW WE WORSHIP?

Times they are changing, is certainly a true statement regarding worship. Among those claiming to be God's people many changes are being incorporated into the worship assemblies. Such things as contemporary church music, drama, women preaching and leading the worship, observing religious holidays, services dedicating babies and even pets, various ideas in observing the Lord's Supper, children's worship, preaching style, and worship environments are becoming common place.

God has spoken regarding acceptable worship, and where He has spoken, we must conform and give heed to what He has said. The New Testament begins and ends with worship. (Matt. 4: 10; Rev. 22: 9). Worshipping God is a serious matter which should not be taken lightly! It should be given our highest priority and should be a significant part of the Christian's life. Worship of God should always be “in spirit and in truth” for God seeks such, and cares how we worship Him. (Jn. 4:24). Matthew 15: 8-9 says: “This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth, and honors Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me. But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.” The language of this verse exposes the modern misconception that God accepts any kind of worship that is offered to Him.

But there are many today who think it does not matter how we worship God so long as we are sincere. In keeping with this mindset, if people want jazz, country, hip-hop, or another style of music in worship services, that is all right. If they want solos, quartets, or choirs, that is alright too. If they want mechanical instruments of music in the worship of the church, or even, a group that mimics instruments in the worship, they think that is okay also. If they desire a drama presentation instead of a sermon, they have it.

Worship should be God-centered and not man-centered! Worship is not entertainment! It is not designed to please people; it is designed to please God! Thus, worship is unacceptable when God is not the object, when we worship according to our own standards, when we fail to do what He has asked, or when the worship style takes precedence over that which God has authorized. Psalms 89: 7 says “God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about Him.” Think on these things.

**Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ**

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING



**On December 1st, four members of the Gladewater Middle School Band earned placement into the ATSSB Region 4 All-Region Band. From left to right is Jax Bradford - Percussion, Isaiah Thomas - Percussion, Riley Murry - Clarinet, and Titus Macklin - Trombone. They will perform a concert with students from other schools in the region at Gilmer High School on January 12.**

## Candidate meet/greet Monday in Gilmer

The Cherokee Rose Republican Women's Club will host a "candidate meet and greet" event Monday night in Gilmer for the public to meet and hear candidates in the March 5 GOP primary.

Set for 6:30 p.m. at the Credit Union of Texas community room on U.S. 271, it will feature free "heavy appetizers," coffee, tea and water, said club President Cynthia Ridgeway.

Depending on how many candidates attend, they will be given 3-5 minutes "to introduce themselves and their campaign," she said.

Candidates in contested races will speak first, while unopposed candidates will be allotted three minutes, said Ridgeway. In addition, candidates can bring campaign literature for distribution, "and are encouraged to provide their contact infor-

mation to those in attendance who wish to speak to them privately.

"All Republicans are invited to attend, and meet the people seeking to represent them in the state House, local public offices, and (as precinct chairmen on) the county Republican executive committee," Ridgeway added.

Further information is available by calling Ridgeway, who opposes incumbent Carl Byers in the primary for county Republican chairman, at 903-968-6822, 903-736-9615, or emailing her at [doublercamp@yahoo.com](mailto:doublercamp@yahoo.com).

## County library hosts storytime

Two books will be read to small children at both of the Upshur County Library's "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday (Dec. 14.)

"Fletcher and the Snow-

flake Christmas" by Julia Rawlinson, and "Toot and Puddle Let It Snow" by Holly Hobbie, will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. sessions, said library spokeswoman Kari Dunn.

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

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

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

## Jingle Jog set for December 22

Grab some sporty sleepwear this season – a Jammie Jingle Jog is racing toward downtown Gladewater next month. Set for 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, the kid-friendly event is centered on 109 N. Main Street, headquarters of a newly-minted open-air venue, The Labrador.

Organized by Gladewater Chamber of Commerce, participants of all ages are encouraged to "Wear your jammies and join in the fun" for a short sprint during the hour-long event. Hot chocolate and cookies will be waiting for runners at the finish line that night.

For more information, contact Lois Reed at the chamber at 903-845-5501.

## Forestry grant submission window now open

COLLEGE STATION, Texas – The submission window for the Texas A&M Forest Service Community Forestry Grant Program is now open and will close February 16, 2024.

The Community Forestry Grant Program is offering

more than \$16 million in competitive grant opportunities for community, civic and neighborhood groups to promote the management and enhancement of urban and community forest ecosystems and provide positive impacts throughout the state of Texas. Public and non-profit entities eligible for these grants include State and local government agencies, public education institutions, NGOs or non-profits, tribal entities and public utility districts.

The seven grant categories are Human Health Equity and Accessibility, Municipal Foresters, Geospatial Analysis 65, Climate Resiliency, Tree City USA, Tree Planting and Schoolyard Forests.

"We are able to offer an unprecedented amount of grants through the Community Forestry Grant Program this year," said Mac Martin, Texas A&M Forest Service Community Forestry Program Leader.

"The goal of this grant program is to provide resources that contribute to the holistic development of future generations and address key issues related to health, resilience and community well-being through sustainable forest management."

Another goal outlined in the foundation of the grant program is to increase tree coverage to 30% on Texas school campuses through schoolyard forests grants.

Register at: <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/71e5852c-a4df-4884-8116-27cc5495a2b0@2c2bb68df234-4baa-640-ed7b35d9620>

## ETCOG Funds Smart911 Emergency Mass Notification System for area

ETCOG is proud to announce that its Executive Committee approved the Smart911 mass notification system renewal as part of its public safety program for the 13th consecutive year. This system allows ETCOG to partner with East Texas' city and county emergency management coordinators to send messages, quickly notifying citizens about emergencies such as:

- Tornadoes and storm events
- Drinking water con-



**Congratulations to Kamila Turner and Ryan Hawley, who were presented with Lions Club Students of the Month for December by Judy VanHouten and Donna Seery.**

tamination

- Utility outages
- And much more!

ETCOG renewed its contract with Rave Mobile Safety to provide the Smart911 mass notification system services.

Rave Mobile Safety offers unlimited minutes/texting, unlimited system users, and a new weather warning service that instantly and automatically alerts recipients based on weather in the area, including type of weather, location, and severity.

"We are excited to continue our service with Rave Mobile Safety to offer Smart911 alerts," said ETCOG's Public Safety Director, Stephanie Heffner.

"The capacity to have unlimited minutes and users opens up the opportunity to partner with more jurisdictions in the region that may have not participated before. Also, we know many of our jurisdictions used to pay for weather warning services out of pocket, so we are happy to offer a cost-saving opportu-

nity with this vendor."

The system has been contracted for Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood counties. The new service agreement for FY 24 totaled \$80,000, which ETCOG will fund through a Homeland Security grant.

## Commissioners to meet Friday

Upshur County Commissioners Court will consider deciding Friday whether the county or school districts instead have the right to retain legal counsel to collect delinquent school taxes.

The court may act on proposed changes to interlocal agreements with the county's school districts at its public 10 a.m. meeting at the temporary county courthouse in downtown Gilmer.

Among several other issues, the court will also consider appointing members to the county's two emergency service districts' boards.



**The Union Grove Junior High One Act Play won its 11th consecutive district championships recently.**

## Filing deadline passes, leaves contested races

By Phillip Williams

Deadline for filing to run in the March 5 party primaries passed Monday night, leaving contested races for three Upshur County public offices and numerous party offices on the Republican ballot, and only one Democrat seeking a county office.

The GOP primary includes two candidates apiece seeking the nominations for sheriff, tax assessor-collector (a race in which one contestant withdrew Monday, but another filed), and Precinct 1 county commissioner.

That primary also includes contests for county Republican chairman, and several precinct chairmanships, which are seats on the county's GOP Executive Committee. All other Republicans seeking local public office or precinct chair seats, however, escaped opposition.

In the Democratic primary, former reserve sheriff's Deputy Brandon (Bear) Williams filed for sheriff, the only candidate for local office on that ballot besides two party officials seeking re-election, county Chairman Winifred Jackson and Precinct 2 Precinct Chairman Carlyn Short.

In the November general election, Williams will face winner of the Republican primary contest for sheriff between incumbent Larry Webb, seeking re-election to a third term, and former Gilmer Police Chief Mark Case.

In the GOP primary for tax assessor-collector, Samantha Caffey withdrew Monday as a challenger to incumbent Luana Howell, who is seeking re-election to a third term, but another candidate for the post, Andreaa Marshun (Precious) Smith, filed Monday.

Only other contested Republican race for local

public office pits Precinct 1 County Commissioner Gene Dolle, seeking re-election to a second term, against Lucrecia Davidson.

Escaping opposition were four GOP local public officials seeking re-election and James Casey, a candidate for retiring Precinct 3 Constable Ronnie Mitchell's post.

The incumbents are Precinct 3 County Commissioner Michael Ashley and three constables--Tim Barnett (precinct 1), Jason Weeks (precinct 2) and David Thompson (precinct 4.)

The contested races for party office include one between incumbent county GOP Chairman Carl Byers, being challenged for re-election to a second term by former Chairman Cynthia Ridgeway, and nine for precinct chair seats.

The precinct races include Precinct 2 incumbent Jesse Loffer against De'Borah Deaz, Precinct 4 incumbent Deborah Hodge against William Bunhofer, Lindley (Todd) Quinn against David Hamblin for retiring Precinct 8 Chairman Charlie Pelezo's seat, and Precinct 10 incumbent Mary Anne Farrow against Gary Wilson.

They also include Precinct 11 incumbent Brenda Beal against Cindy Walls, Precinct 13 incumbent Stacy McMahan against Nela Anderson, Precinct 15 incumbent Lewis Miller against Jimmy Sanders, Precinct 17 incumbent Madison Barrett against Joe Dodd, and two candidates for the vacant precinct 20 chairmanship, Maria Marsalas and Jackie Lum.

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### ALMANAC

The gift that keeps you learning – the *Texas Almanac 2024-2025* is the premier reference for everything Texas. The entire book is revised with the latest information, including the 254 county maps and population estimates for every Texas town. <https://www.legacyoftexas.com/product/texas-almanac-2024-2025>.

### LOG HOMES

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

### BASEBALL

**BOB'S BASEBALL TOURS** – August 2-12, 2024. See MLB games in Cincinnati, Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Toronto, Boston & NY Yankees. Visit Baseball, Hockey, Basketball, Pro Football and Rock & Roll Halls of Fame, guided Tour of Manhattan. \$3,500/person based on double hotel occupancy. Quality motor coach, hotels & game tickets. Call/text 507-217-1326. Also offering Arizona/Grand Canyon Spring Training Tour & New York/New England Fall Foliage Tour in '24!

### MEDICAL

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### ENERGY

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### WATER DAMAGE

**WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION:** A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold in your home. If you have water damage to your home, call for a free estimate for complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-727-3027.

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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# GPD POLICE ACTIVITY

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CPS#	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
12/23/23	ABANDONED 911	20236648	2:40		147 VILLAGE NORTH CIR VILLAGE NORTH CIR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236649	8:02	AJ S FAST STOP EXXON	1708 N MAIN MAIN ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236650	12:22	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ABANDONED 911	20236651	15:12	NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH	413 RODEN RODEN LN
	FIRE DEPT	20236652	16:33		1300 E MARY MARY ST
	EMS	20236653	19:34		1106 N RODEO RODEO DR
12/4/23	ALARM/OTHER	20236655	0:55		565 BRIARCOVE LANE BRIARCOVE LANE
	ALARM/OTHER	20236656	6:22		501 N AMES AMES
	EMS	20236657	9:45		800 WOOD WOOD
	EMS	20236658	12:33		1201 VESTA VESTA AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236659	15:34	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236660	16:03	DOLLAR GENERAL	1621 N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20236661	19:09		RODEN RODEN LN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236662	21:44		500 MUSTANG MUSTANG RD
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20236663	23:53		906 MAPLE MAPLE
12/5/23	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20236664	8:25		W GAY GAY AVE
	ASSIST	20236665	11:22	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236666	11:21	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	20236667	12:16	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	EMS	20236668	13:58	CHRISTUS TRINITY CLINIC	1600 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20236669	15:26		1707 WEST LAKE DRIVE WEST LAKE DRIVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236671	16:38	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236672	17:05	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236673	17:08	SONIC DRIVE IN	1103 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236674	20:48	DOLLAR GENERAL	834 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236675	2:15		203 E GILMER GILMER ST
12/6/23	ANIMAL CONTROL	20236677	2:40		1301 N RODEO RODEO ST
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20236678	6:59		523 MELBA MELBA
	ASSIST	20236680	7:27	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20236681	7:36	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	10-50 MINOR	20236682	7:43	CEFCO 79	1199 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20236684	10:27	BILL DICKASON CHEVROLET	1110 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20236685	10:52		1212 N EDWARDS EDWARDS ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20236686	10:55	GAY AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL	100 W GAY GAY AVE
	ASSIST	20236687	11:09		1900 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20236688	11:14		904 E MARY MARY AVE
	ASSIST	20236689	12:42		301 S RODEN RODEN
	FIRE DEPT	20236690	15:36		220 S MAIN MAIN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236691	15:53	ELEANOR ELEANOR	1513 N DAVIS DAVIS
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236692	20:23		1513 N DAVIS DAVIS
	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	20236693	22:20	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
12/7/23	MISCELLANEOUS	20236694	0:14		442 SUSAN SUSAN RD
	ABANDONED 911	20236695	1:44		UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
	EMS	20236696	2:54	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	EMS	20236697	6:02	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ASSIST	20236698	10:52		100 N MAIN MAIN ST
	THEFT	20236699	13:55	AJ S FAST STOP EXXON	1708 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ABANDONED 911	20236700	15:38		NO ADDRESS NO ADDRESS
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236701	17:01		301 W COMMERCE COMMERCE ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236702	17:14	JO WILLIAMS	419 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20236703	17:18		801 COACH COOKSEY COACH COOKSEY DR
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20236704	17:22		301 RODEN RODEN LN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236705	18:11		113 GAY GAY AVE
	10-50 MAJOR	20236706	18:27		GORGE RICHY GORGE RICHY
	DWI	20236708	20:04		803 RODEN RODEN LN
12/8/23	ABANDONED VEHICLE	20236709	2:34		N MAIN N MAIN
	HARASSMENT	20236710	8:32	GREENWAY VILLAGE	49 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	ASSIST	20236711	10:18	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ASSIST	20236712	10:22		GREGG GREGG
	10-50 MINOR	20236714	12:52	SONIC DRIVE IN	1103 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	10-50 MINOR	20236715	14:40	CHRISTUS TRINITY CLINIC	1600 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	THEFT	20236716	15:24	FAMILY DOLLAR	601 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236717	15:54	POST OFFICE	101 N DEAN DEAN ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20236718	16:46		1508 FULTON FULTON ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20236719	17:51	TW LEE BUILDING	800 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20236720	17:54		15 GREENWAY GREENWAY VIL
	EMS	20236721	18:08		HWY 271 HWY 271
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236722	18:14		S HWY 271 HWY 271
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236723	18:22	ANTIQUA CAPITAL RV PARK	500 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20236724	18:30	AJ S FAST STOP EXXON	1708 N MAIN MAIN ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236725	18:38	ORELLY'S AUTO PARTS	901 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20236726	19:28	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20236727	20:46	GAY AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL	100 W GAY GAY AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20236728	23:11		501 N AMES AMES
12/9/23	WARRANT	20236730	9:42		214 W COMMERCE COMMERCE
	ALARM/OTHER	20236732	10:14	CHRISTUS TRINITY CLINIC	1600 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236733	12:21		HWY 80 HWY 80
	EMS	20236734	13:20	MIKES MINI MART	1324 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ESCORT	20236735	13:24	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236736	13:46		314 TAYLOR TAYLOR
	EMS	20236737	14:01	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236738	14:45		2104 PINECREST PINECREST
	EMS	20236739	15:05		620 E ELEANOR ELEANOR ST
	EMS	20236740	17:25		205 HURLEY HURLEY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236741	20:10		207 EMPIRE EMPIRE ST
	ABANDONED 911	20236742	21:15	AJ S FAST STOP EXXON	1708 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ASSAULT CLASS A	20236743	22:34	SUPER STOP EXXON	601 N MAIN MAIN ST
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20236744	23:30	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
12/10/23	THEFT	20236745	0:23		408 W GAY GAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236746	0:49		HWY 271 HWY 271
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20236747	2:15		1604 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236749	9:45		BROADWAY BROADWAY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236750	12:31		1005 E MARY MARY
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20236751	13:08		1110 N LYNN LYNN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20236753	15:56		609 PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE

# Bond set at \$5M on double capital murder suspect

By Phillip Williams

A state district judge last week set a \$5 million bond for Alvin Charles McKnight Jr., charged with capital murder in the Nov. 4 alleged shooting deaths of two Gilmer women.

115th District Judge Dean Fowler set the bond in an arraignment proceeding which was closed to the media. He also appointed Dallas attorney Lalor Peale to represent McKnight, and Longview attorney Natalie Anderson (a former Upshur County assistant DA) to assist Peale.

Upshur County District Attorney Billy Byrd said Monday he wouldn't announce whether he will seek the death penalty until and unless McKnight is indicted, which Byrd said law requires occur within 90 days of the suspect's Nov. 15 arrest in San Bernardino, Calif.

Fowler told *The Mirror* shortly before the Dec. 6 arraignment he excluded

news organizations because McKnight did not yet have an attorney, and the judge said he wanted to "limit his exposure to the media" until he appointed a lawyer for McKnight.

"I expect that hearings in the future will be open to the media," Fowler added. McKnight, 41, of Gilmer, had been brought to Gilmer one day earlier from San Bernardino, Calif., where city police captured him 20 days earlier. He waived extradition.

Upshur County Sheriff Larry Webb, Chief Deputy David Hazel, Sheriff's Investigator Rob Bowen, and Texas Department of Public Safety personnel were with the suspect on a DPS plane which landed at Gregg County Airport after they left California.

McKnight was handcuffed the entire flight and "didn't give us any trouble," Hazel said on the day of the arraignment. The suspect had been

arrested without incident.

The chief deputy announced the bond amount in a press release shortly after Fowler arraigned McKnight, who was lodged in the Upshur County Jail.

The defendant is charged with killing sisters Mandy Ray, 35, and Dermetrica Dashaunda Waters, 37, both of Gilmer, at Ray's home on U.S. 271 south of Gilmer, said Webb's office. Hazel has said the slayings are considered an act of domestic violence.

McKnight lived with Waters until recently, and fathered a child by one of the sisters, authorities said.

At a joint Nov. 16 press conference with Webb, Byrd alluded to the Dec. 11 arrest of McKnight's sister, Laquesha Monique McKnight, on a charge of hindering apprehension or prosecution of her brother, and said authorities believe others helped him avoid arrest.

# GPD POLICE ARRESTS

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS
12/5/23	12/5/23	8:40	HONEYCUTT, JESSE CLIFTON	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	2100 W GAY AVE
	12/5/23	8:40	HONEYCUTT, JESSE CLIFTON	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	2100 W GAY AVE
	12/5/23	8:40	HONEYCUTT, JESSE CLIFTON	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	2100 W GAY AVE
	12/5/23	8:40	HONEYCUTT, JESSE CLIFTON	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	2100 W GAY AVE
	12/5/23	11:30	GORDON, KWAME A	B	M	WARRANT (OTHER AGENCY)	2201 W GAY AVE
	12/5/23	22:05	WAFER, AMIRA NAJYA	B	F	FAILURE TO MAINTAIN FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	400 W W. UPSHUR
	12/5/23	22:05	WAFER, AMIRA NAJYA	B	F	NO DRIVERS LICENSE	400 W W. UPSHUR

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 Pastor Steven Zanjter  
 www.gbcgladewater.org

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 Gladeview Baptist • 903-845-3842  
 Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174  
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 Locust Grove Baptist • 903-845-5174  
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 St. James Baptist • 903-845-5028  
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 North Loop Church of Christ • 903-845-2531  
 North Main Church of Christ • 903-845-2816  
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- Starrville Methodist • 903-877-4040  
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# SPORTS

## Gladewater, White Oak basketball roundup

By Tyler Sutton

The high school basketball season rolled on this week as both the Gladewater Bears and Lady Bears were in action for multiple games.

The Gladewater Bears started the week with a home game on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> when they hosted the Cumberland Academy Knights. In a back and forth close contest, the Bears fell 70-64. Gladewater jumped out to an early 20-9 lead after one quarter. But the Knights fought back in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter to cut the lead to 1 at the half at 24-23. Cumberland then had their first lead at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter at 39-38. The Knights then pulled away in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter to win it. The loss dropped the Bears to 0-7 on the season. Gladewater would then head to Mount Pleasant Chapel hill for a tournament where they went 0-3. Falling to Henrietta, host Mount Pleasant Chapel

hill (97-22) and to Dekalb (56-48). The Bears now sit at 0-10 on the season and will be back in action next Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> when they host the Tenaha Tigers.

The Gladewater Lady Bears were also on the court this past week. On Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> they traveled to Brownsboro to take on the Bearettes and fell 64-22. Following that, they were back in Brownsboro to begin play at the Great East Texas Shootout beginning play against the same Bearettes team and again falling to them, this time 57-20. Gladewater was led by the 10 points from Calice Henderson. Then on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> Gladewater played 2 more games in the Great East Texas Shootout. Falling in both. First to Corsicana (57-35) and then to Burnet (50-23). The Lady Bears now sit at 6-10 on the season. Gladewater will be in action only once this coming week. They will

host the Waskom Wildcats on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Moving over to White Oak, the Roughnecks hosted a home game on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> falling to the Tatum Eagles 94-27. Kanna Moore led the Roughnecks with 7 points. Then they traveled to Waskom to compete in a tournament and went 4-2 and finished 2<sup>nd</sup>. With wins over Waskom (63-23), Maud (60-32), Paul Pewitt (53-39) and Maud again (44-36) and losses to Avery (44-39) and Bowie (52-27). White Oak is now 6-8 on the season and will be back in action on Tuesday, Dec. 12 with a road game at Grace Community and then on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> with a home game vs Overton. The Lady Necks were also in action and knocked off East Texas Home Schools 53-39. White Oak is now 7-8 on the year and will next be in action on Tuesday, Dec. 12 with a home game vs Grace Community.



Union Grove Lady Lion Ava Wightman ties the ball up, causing a turnover. Photo by Kim Hill



The 7th Grade Roughnecks claimed the championship trophy in the White Oak Lions Club Tournament by soundly defeating the Tyler Heat 32-9.

Photos by Mike Peery



The Champions of the 8th Grade Boys Division in the White Oak Lions Club Tournament was the host team Roughnecks as they crushed the Union Grove Lions 44-16 in the championship game.



The 7th Grade Ladynecks were the champions of the White Oak Lions Club Tournament, triumphing over the Sabine Lady Cardinals in a thrilling championship showdown with a final score of 22-21. The 7th Grade coach is Joey Bohn.

## “Coot’s Corner”

By Coot Putley

### The Stove is Still Warm

This week we’ll continue our discussion of the Hot Stove Season. There is a lot still cooking – especially when it comes to pitching decisions. Unlike the stability that exists in position players there will be significant turnover on the Texas pitching staff. There are six free agents that were on the Ranger roster for the playoffs, and two others who were on the injured list. It’s possible none will be brought back.

Among starters, the biggest name available is Jordan Montgomery, who was consistent through the season and especially during the playoffs. Although Texas would love to have him back, it would be a high dollar amount they might not want to be committed to for a long-term contract. Old friend Martin Perez might be re-signed if he is willing to add depth as a middle reliever and spot starter, but he might go somewhere he could be in the rotation.

Expensive free agents from other teams like Blake Snell, Marcus Stroman or Yoshinobu Yamamoto are going to cost too much, but the Rangers might add someone from the next tier, like Michael Wacha or Seth Lugo.

No one would argue that there shouldn’t be a big makeover in the bullpen. After all, the team blew 33 saves out of 63 chances this past season. No team ever got into the playoffs with that poor of a save percentage – let alone won the World Series! Texas set a lot of great records, but they certainly don’t want to repeat that one. Among the team’s free agent relief pitchers, no-one stands out as a candidate to return.

Aroldis Chapman can still throw as fast as anyone – you just don’t know what zip code the ball might land in. If he signs elsewhere, the collective blood pressure level in Ranger nation will drop considerably. Some other team will sign Will Smith, just to see if his streak of three consecutive World Series wins can continue. Chris Stratton helped the team after his acquisition but faded at the end. Someone else can fill that role.

There are free agents from other teams that are available, most notably Josh Hader, who is regarded as one of the best closers in the game, but it is hard to see Texas spending the money it would take to sign him.

There are a handful of prospects in the minors, but none seem ready for the next step yet. This leaves trading as the most likely method to add to the pitching staff. There is still a nice inventory of position players in the system who could be used to exchange for another starter for depth or for additional bullpen arms.

All these questions will be challenging for General Manager Chris Young as he tries to put the puzzle together. He has demonstrated the ability to put together a championship roster. Can he do it again?

Keep the fires burning in the Hot Stove season a few more weeks then it won’t be long until Spring Training!

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



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### TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

1 TX Ann Sheridan 1949 film: "I \_\_\_ Male War Bride"

5 \_\_\_ gallon hat

6 pleased

7 TXism: "he \_\_\_ grip like a snappin' turtle"

8 "Fanthorp \_\_\_ State Historic Site"

9 doctors' assoc.

12 a kid who's not the seeker

17 TXism: "she has to \_\_\_ the same place twice to cast a shadow" (thin)

19 TXism: "she could talk the legs off \_\_\_ stove"

21 "Post \_\_\_" of East Texas

22 Jim De \_\_\_ was an Astro starting pitcher, 1985-91

23 TX Bobby Fuller's "I Fought \_\_\_"

28 "\_\_\_ up a little"

29 Texas-based "La Quinta \_\_\_ & Suites"

30 golf achievement: \_\_\_-one

31 gets dirt on jeans

35 Comanche Peak is a nuclear power \_\_\_

36 encourage or assists a criminal (3 wds.)

42 relating to the south polar region

44 Texas town or Nebraska city

46 whiners

48 TXism: "more than one way \_\_\_ a cat"

**DOWN**

1 TXism: "if he was a dog he wouldn't \_\_\_" (lazy)

2 in Cass County on highway 43

3 serpent that doesn't go on land (2 wds.)

4 TXism: "a day late \_\_\_ dollar short"

9 lemon/lime endings

10 TX Gary Morris tune "\_\_\_ Bedroom" (1991)

11 stinging Texas pest: fire \_\_\_

12 moon to Houston: "Eagle \_\_\_ landed"

13 TXism: "quaking \_\_\_" (scared)

14 Texas jewelry designer, Malouf

15 a pen name of Texas romance novelist Sandra Brown: \_\_\_ St. Clair

16 small Eurasian deer

18 org. for the Spurs, Rockets & Mavs

20 TX Nat who sang "Sweet Thang" (init.)

23 former Ranger closer, Henke (init.)

24 jump

25 TX \_\_\_ Mae sang "Cow-Cow Boogie"

26 tilts, like a tower in Pisa

27 Texas coach Phillips book: "He \_\_\_ Bum"

32 TX Buddy Holly hit: "Rave \_\_\_"

33 TX Charley Pride tune: "\_\_\_ Rather Love You"

34 \_\_\_ Salle County

36 TX George Strait band: "\_\_\_ in the Hole"

37 TXism: "\_\_\_ warm your gullet" (satisfy)

38 "it's not a hill I'm willing to \_\_\_"

39 TXism: "never let '\_\_\_ you sweat"

40 TXism: "\_\_\_ after" (resembles)

41 TXism: "\_\_\_ dig" (a party or dance)

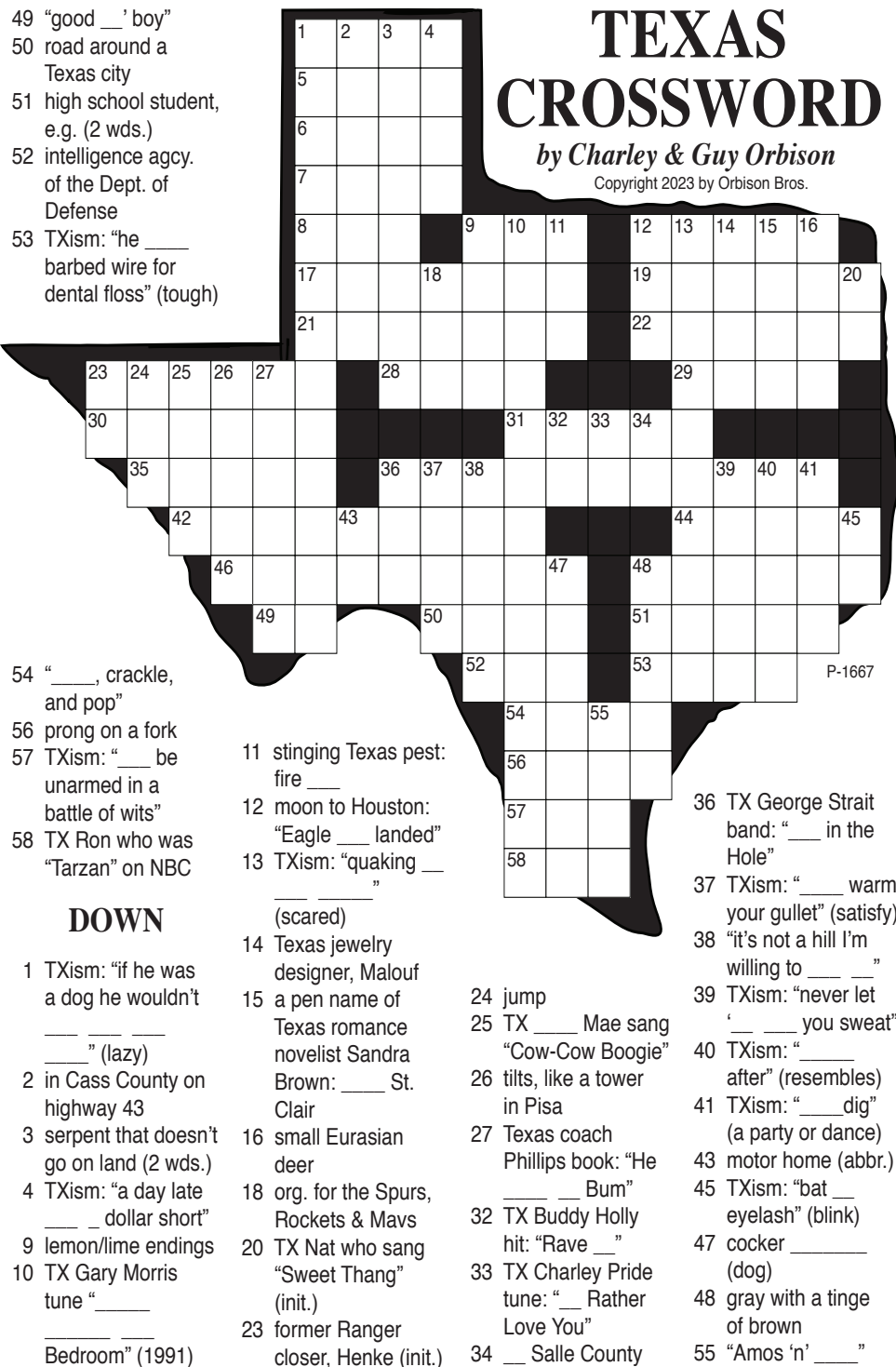
43 motor home (abbr.)

45 TXism: "bat \_\_\_ eyelash" (blink)

47 cocker \_\_\_ (dog)

48 gray with a tinge of brown

55 "Amos 'n' \_\_\_"



See Answers On This Page

## OBITUARY

**Dennis Eugene Medlin**  
Jan 5, 1954 - Dec 6, 2023

Funeral Services for Dennis Eugene Medlin, 69, of East Mountain, were held at 2 p.m., Saturday, December 9, 2023, in the Chapel of McWhorter Funeral Home with Brother David Fetner officiating. Interment followed at East Mountain Cemetery. The family received friends prior to the service.



Dennis was born January 5, 1954, to Douglas Wesley Medlin and Barbara Lajuan Davidson Medlin in Gladewater, Texas, and passed from this life on December 6, 2023.

Dennis married Elaine Gray on January 15, 1980, in East Mountain. He served as Chief of the East Mountain Fire Department for 35 years.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Elaine Medlin; son, B. J. Medlin (Sidney); brother, Douglas Medlin; and his grandchildren, Chance, Nita, Audrie, and Jasper.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and his daughter, Dennita Lajuan Medlin.

Pallbearers included Brandon Kirschke, Josh Bardwell, David Bain, Andy Killian, Brad Moore, Terry Conyers, Terry Carter, and Billy Joe Williams. And honorary pallbearer was Jimmy Nall.

Please visit Dennis's online registration book at [www.mcwhorterfh.com](http://www.mcwhorterfh.com) to leave a memory for the family.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

No. 2023-0282-E  
 IN THE GUARDIANSHIP OF § IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW  
 PRISALLA JANE MATTOX § NO. 2.  
 AN INCAPACITATED PERSON § GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS

**Published Notice to Creditors**

Notice is hereby given that letters of guardianship for the person and estate of PRISALLA JANE MATTOX, an incapacitated person, were issued on November 17, 2023, in Docket No.2023-0282-E, in the County Court at Law No. 2, Gregg County, Texas, to LANCE MATTOX. Guardian, as guardian of the person and estate

The residence of Guardian is in Gregg County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Prisalla Mattox c/o Lance Mattox, 217 Strait Lane, Longview, Texas 75604.

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

SIGNED on 7th day of December, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Courtney Anne Harris  
 State Bar No. 24060434  
 courtney@harrisandharristx.com  
 Matthew C. Harris  
 State Bar No. 24059904  
 mch@mattharrislaw.com  
 PO Box 4373  
 Longview, TX 75606  
 (903) 757-7500 (tel)  
 (903) 215-8467 (fax)  
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**Notice of Application for Fluid Injection Well Permit**

East Texas Salt Water Disposal Company, 209 Industrial Blvd., Kilgore, Texas 75662 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Woodbine, Suman Lease, Well Number 6. The proposed injection well is located 3 miles northeast of Gladewater, in the East Texas Field, in Upshur County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3604 to 3800 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO:

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ALMA LEE CHRISTIAN, OSCAR CHRISTIAN, JOSEPH L. CHRISTIAN, WILLIE MAY CHRISTIAN, LORENZO CHRISTIAN, LORENZO CHRISTIAN, JR., RUBY RUTH CHRISTIAN, GLASCOW CHRISTIAN, RUBEN CHRISTIAN, BILLY LEE CHRISTIAN, ODIE D. CHRISTIAN, PATRICIA ANN CHRISTIAN, YORK CHRISTIAN, JR., CHARLOTTE CHRISTIAN, DOLLIE B. CHRISTIAN, GWENDOLYN CHRISTIAN-ALLEN, MADELINE MASON, YOULANDA CHRISTIAN, WESLEY CHRISTIAN, JR., RODNEY CHRISTIAN, SR., and VINCENT CHRISTIAN

Defendant's Greeting:  
 "Plaintiffs' Original Petition was filed on October 10, 2023. You may employ an attorney. I you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m., on the Monday next following the expiration of forty-two days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org."

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 124th District Court of Gregg County Courthouse at 101 E. Methvin Suite 447, Longview, Texas 75601 by filing a written answer at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m., on the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the day of the issuance of this Citation, the same being 12/18/2023 then and there to answer the Plaintiff's Original Petition filed by Riley Branch, 10300 N. Central Expressway, Suite 480, Dallas, Texas 75231, in said Court, in this cause numbered 2023-1773-B on the docket of said Court and Styled:

CHARLES CHRISTIAN, JR., FLEANORL CHRISTIAN; EVIE KEELING AND NEDRA GATT-PIPKINS v. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ALMA LEE CHRISTIAN, OSCAR CHRISTIAN, JOSEPH L. CHRISTIAN, WILLIE MAY CHRISTIAN, LORENZO CHRISTIAN, LORENZO CHRISTIAN, JR., RUBY RUTH CHRISTIAN, GLASCOW CHRISTIAN, RUBEN CHRISTIAN, BILLY LEE CHRISTIAN, ODIE D. CHRISTIAN, PATRICIAANN CHRISTIAN, YORK CHRISTIAN, JR., CHARLOTTE CHRISTIAN, DOLLIE B. CHRISTIAN, GWENDOLYN CHRISTIAN-ALLEN, MADELINE MASON, YOULANDA CHRISTIAN, WESLEY CHRISTIAN, JR., RODNEY CHRISTIAN, SR., and VINCENT CHRISTIAN

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit:  
 An action to quiet title by adverse possession on real property covering any interest of ownership claimed by Defendants to the land described to-wit:

ALL THAT CERTAIN 8.333 ACRES OF LAND SITUATED IN THE g. w. Hooper Survey, Gregg County, Texas, and being a part of a called 59 acre tract of land conveyed to James M. Salter, Jr. and Paul B. Griffith by deed dated September 14, 1978 and recorded in Volume 1144, Page 597, Deed Records of Gregg County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a 5/8" iron rod with aluminum cap found in the North R.O.W. line of Farm to Market Road 2275 and White Oak Road bears South 73 deg. 22 min. 09 sec. West, 99.32 feet, said iron rod also lying and being North 00 deg. 20 min. 35 sec. West, 500.93 feet from the Southwest corner of said called 59 acre tract;

THENCE South 82 deg. 53 min. 06 sec. East, 319.20 feet with and along said North R.O.W. of said Farm to Market Road;

THENCE North 12 deg. 50 min. 41 sec. East, 1107.61 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set for the northeast corner of the tract described herein;

THENCE North 85 deg. 46 min. 18 sec. West, 331.84 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set in the East R.O.W. line of Jamerson Road; -

THENCE South 05 deg. 14 min. 07 sec. West, 93.02 feet with and along the East R.O.W. line of Jamerson Road to a 1/2" iron rod set at an angle point in the East R.O.W. line of Jamerson Road;

THENCE South 14 deg. 25 min. 05 sec. West, 388.85 feet with and along the East R.O.W. line of Jamerson Road to a 1/2" iron rod set at an angle point in the East R.O.W. line of Jamerson Road;

THENCE South 18 deg. 44 min. 13 sec. West, 189.58 feet with and long the East R.O.W. line of Jamerson Road to a 1/2" iron rod set at an angle point in the East R.O.W. line of Jamerson Road.

THENCE 11 deg. 00 min. 15 sec. West. 347.22 feet with and along the East R.O.W. line of Jamerson Road to a 1/2" iron rod set at a point in the East R.O.W. line of Jamerson Road;

THENCE South 00 deg. 20 min. 35 sec. East, 75.32 feet with and along the West boundary line of said called 59 acre tract to the POINT OF BEGINNING and containin 8.333 acres of land, more or less.

**LESS AND EXCEPT**

That portion taken by the judgement recorded in Volume 1792, Page 639, Real Property Records, Gregg County, Texas.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

The officer executing this process shall promptly execute the same according to law, and make due return as the law directs.

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**Notice of Application for Fluid Injection Well Permit**

East Texas Salt Water Disposal Company, 1209 Industrial Blvd., Kilgore, Texas 75662 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Woodbine, Downing Lease, Well Number 3. The proposed injection well is located 3 miles northeast of Gladewater, in the East Texas Field, in Upshur County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3604 to 3834 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

**PROPERTY FOR SALE**

The City of Gladewater is accepting sealed bids on property located in Gladewater, Gregg County, Texas, and described as LTS 1 THRU 3 BLK 5 MALLOCK ADDN, Gregg Appraisal District Property ID # 53696.

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly and plainly marked "Bid - LTS 1 THRU 3 BLK 5 MALLOCK ADDN" and must be physically received and filed in the office of the City Clerk no later than 2:00 p.m. on Friday, January 5, 2024, when they will be publicly opened and read. All bids received after the prescribed opening time, regardless of the mode of delivery, shall be returned unopened. The Gladewater City Council will formally award the bid on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

The City of Gladewater reserves the right to accept such bids as it shall deem most advantageous to the City and reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or portions thereof, and to waive all formalities.

No representations, written or oral, are made by the City of Gladewater. The property is being sold "as-is" with no warranties of any kind, including no warranty of title.

Terms of Sale and Bid Sheet may be obtained from and mailed or delivered to:

Judy Van Houten, City Clerk  
 City of Gladewater  
 519 E. Broadway  
 Gladewater, Texas 75647

All inquiries should be directed to City Manager Charlie Smith at 903-845-2196.



Emergency responders tend to the victims of a crash between an SUV and a motorcycle Saturday afternoon in front of Truman W. Smith Children's Care Center on Hwy. 80. The Yukon's female driver and two child passengers were on their feet following the wreck; the biker and his 12-year-old grandson – both wearing helmets – suffered numerous broken bones and other injuries, according to family members, but both are alive and recovering.



## Fire chief to live at city's lake house

### Expected to help increase security and safety

By James Draper

Gladewater City Hall has finalized plans and is putting them into play to immediately address security and safety issues at Lake Gladewater.

Earlier this fall, Gladewater council members tasked interim City Manager Charlie Smith with finding a workable solution to get the lake's bait shop back up-and-running and to renovate the adjacent city-owned residence.

After kicking around several ideas, Smith said, the simple solution was to station someone on-site. That will be Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons, who's putting in sweat equity on the lake house ahead of moving into it in the near-future.

After fielding regular complaints about irresponsible and illicit activity at the lake – and picking up the pieces after the honor system fee box was broken into again – Smith's confident there will be an immediate positive impact from Simmons' presence: "He'll be the eyes and ears out there." It doesn't fully resolve the future for the bait shop and convenience store, but that ball's rolling, too.

"It'll be on a rental basis. We'll advertise that and see what we get," Smith said.

The recent break-in to the fee box brought things into sharp focus.

"It's just an honor system right now for people coming to the lake. That's the third time since I've been here," Smith said. Just having a person nearby consistently will hopefully deter that kind of activity, and having Simmons in residence helps the fire chief keep a closer eye on the Lake Gladewater Dam, too, as emergency management coordinator.

"He said he would be willing to go out there and take care of things," Smith said, "as far as security and keeping an eye on people coming and going."

The house's previous tenant left it in a poor state, and Simmons has been tending to repairs himself.

"He's been working on the house now for several days to get it ready," Smith added last week. "He'll be moving in once he gets it where he can live in it."

The city's covering the cost of paint, some flooring and other expenses.

"It's coming along," Simmons said. "The place was in pretty bad shape. With the work I've been able to do to treat the concrete and the walls and that sort of thing, the place is looking much better."

Smith said a rough budget of \$20,000 for the necessary overhaul.

"We had talked originally about something around \$20,000," Smith said. "I think it's going to come in quite a bit cheaper. I think all the plumbing features are in better shape than we thought, so we won't be out any cost" for those repairs.

Previously, the lake store and adjoining house were part of a package deal for a vendor. Smith's preference is for the store to be its own venture, and staffers are developing a Request for Proposal for would-be contractors.

"We'll probably run that in the paper in the next couple of weeks," Smith said, with some interested individuals already stepping up to make a play for a combined bait shop, convenience store and eatery. "I'd like to get something in for us to look at in January, for sure, and kind of go from there."

"There will be probably at least a couple of council members who will sit in on a review to go through the RFPs and see where we're going to be."

The city will carry the insurance on the residence while Simmons covers the costs of utilities. The house will be rent-free to counterbalance the additional duties on the fire chief's plate.

It's an ideal solution for Smith, glad the lake house and its associated tasks will be taken in hand by a current employee and department head.

"In the last year and a half since I've been here, our fire department has become more and more involved with the community than, what I've been told, it ever was before," Smith praised. "They help with all the functions that come up here in the city. They've helped with dock repair. They've got some other projects at the lake – in their downtime, they're going to be working on painting the pavilions, repairing fence and things of that nature."

"We've just got a lot of things going on, that's for sure."

## Local men hurt in Smith Co. fatal wreck

By Phillip Williams

Two Gladewater men received "non-incapacitating" injuries in a 3-vehicle crash which killed another man in rural Smith County on Dec. 4, said the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Cory D. Threadgill, 40, and his passenger Brandon D. Carpenter, 42, were taken to CHRISTUS Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler, said DPS spokesman Adam Albritton.

Killed was a passenger in a 2009 Isuzu truck, 20-year-old

Aldan R. Kelley of Chandler, said Albritton. Two other persons involved in the crash also suffered non-incapacitating injuries, he said.

The truck carrying Kelley, who wasn't wearing a seat belt, hit a pickup on Texas 31 east, west of County Road 246, and continued onward, said Albritton. Threadgill, driving a 2023 Toyota Tacoma, took evasive action to miss the Isuzu, went into a southern ditch, and struck a tree, the officer said.

The Isuzu went into the same ditch and also hit a tree, his report said.

## Santa makes many stops Saturday

Continued from Page 1

for the parade of chrome and leather. "We had a big turnout this year. "The weather was good for us and everybody was in the giving spirit."

After a visit to the White Oak Christmas Parade earlier in the week, Santa capped his Saturday in downtown Gladewater for the 'Joy to the Rails' Christmas parade celebrating the end of Gladewater's 150th anniversary.

Spearheaded by Gladewater Chamber of Commerce, the parade's standout entries this year chosen by visiting judges were Browne's Sport Center in first place, Circle M Crawfish in second with third place to Little Miss Gladewater Rodeo, Scout Speed.



Browne's Sport Center - First Place



Circle M Crawfish - Second Place



Little Miss Gladewater Rodeo - Third Place

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★ **December 16, 2023** ★

**National Wreaths Across America Day**

Everyone is invited to attend Gladewater's WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA ceremony on **Saturday, December 16 at 11A.M.**, at the Veterans Memorial on East Pacific. Immediately following this ceremony, volunteers will drive to either Historic Rosedale Cemetery located across from Brookshires on east Highway 80 or Gladewater Memorial Park Cemetery located west of downtown on Highway 80.

Instructions will be provided to volunteers who will be placing the wreaths.

Thanks to all the caring Americans who generously sponsored 400 live wreaths to honor these brave men and women who served America to protect the freedoms we enjoy daily.

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