

Gladewater Mirror

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"



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50¢

Flu bug swarms through East Texas

Welcome to the hot zone: the flu's running rampant throughout East Texas, pushing this area to the top of a nationwide ranking of flu activity.

According to the Walgreens Flu Index, the chain's compilation of retail prescription data for antiviral medications used to treat influenza, Texas is No. 1 on its list of in-store flu traffic alongside another top spot for the Tyler-Longview Designated Market Area that includes Lufkin and Nacogdoches.

"The Flu Index is not intended to illustrate levels or severity of flu activity," Walgreens reported, "but rather, illustrate which populations are experiencing the highest incidence of flu."

The most recent ranking was released Friday, Jan. 27, less than a week before Gladewater ISD closed all campuses through the weekend due to widespread illness throughout the district.

GISD Superintendent Dr. Sedic Clark confirmed the school shutdown for Thursday and Friday (Feb. 1-2) as students, faculty and staff members were felled by the flu and other issues.

"We have been well below our normal attendance rate overall this week, today being the lowest day," Clark said Jan. 31. "At one of our schools, we're nearing 70 percent," with about a third of the student population taking sick days. "Our faculty is experiencing illness at a high rate, also."

In a social media post Jan. 31, GISD noted weekend plans for a "deep cleaning and sanitizing of all campuses and offices" ahead of re-opening Feb. 5. The district resumed normal operations Monday.

"The health and safety of students and employees is our top priority. Thank you for your understanding and partnership with us as we take the necessary steps to protect our school community."

Top 10 Designated Market Areas (DMAs) with Flu Activity (01/27/2024)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Tyler-Longview (Lufkin & Nac.) | 6. San Antonio |
| 2. Dallas-Ft. Worth | 7. Lafayette, La. |
| 3. Corpus Christi | 8. Little Rock-Pine Bluff, Ark. |
| 4. Waco-Temple-Bryan | 9. Columbus-Tupelo-West Point-Houston, Miss. |
| 5. Oklahoma City, Okla. | 10. Monroe, La.-El Dorado, Ark. |

Top 10 States/Territories with Flu Activity (01/27/2024)

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Texas | 6. Louisiana |
| 2. Oklahoma | 7. Montana |
| 3. Mississippi | 8. New Mexico |
| 4. Wyoming | 9. Alabama |
| 5. Arkansas | 10. North Carolina |

WOEDC dollars help expand, land companies in White Oak

By James Draper

White Oak Economic Development Corporation helped pave the way for a variety of projects last week, voting to put local tax dollars toward generating more.

All told, it's about \$350,000 between three grants and a no interest loan, City Coordinator Jimmy Purcell said, pending approval by council members Feb. 13.

A \$150,000 grant for White Oak Radiator is earmarked for an expansion in the area of Cherokee Trace and Superior. Owner John Mattingly intends to add two buildings, a machine shop and a manifold shop.

A second effort aims to draw an ex-pat operation back to town.

According to Purcell, WOEDCO approved a \$75,000 grant and a \$75,000 no interest loan for Sean Baker of (currently) Longview-based AntlerWorx Inc.

"He wants to move back to White Oak," Purcell said,

with the funds tagged for a building remodel here. "It's been a while since we did a no interest loan," and the paperwork's bound for an attorney review to ensure everything's in proper order.

The board's final allocation includes \$46,000 for White Oak Baseball Association for ballfield upgrades.

Notably, "This is not for the high school or the city, the big field," Purcell said, but for the smaller facilities nearby. He's eager to find more projects the EDC can support – as a Type B, there are fewer restrictions on the usage of funds compared to organizations like Gladewater Economic Development Corporation. "I've always got my ear to the ground to see who's talking about possibly moving into White Oak, and I reach out to try and get with people who may have been here."



A crew works on Hendrix Friday, one of numerous Public Works projects active across the city amid an array of water leak repairs and other tasks. Photo by James Draper

Public Works tackles water, water everywhere

The City of Gladewater's Public Works Department was all-hands-on-deck (and fingers and toes) to plug an array of leaks last week.

Final work on one of the worst trouble spots, though, was delayed Friday by fiat from Texas Department of Transportation – consequently, the long-term fix for a major 12-inch main break on Hwy. 271 at Gay Avenue has been put off 'til Feb. 14.

After enduring the recent freeze without a flood of problems, city crews were knee-deep in leaks mid-week. Anybody who could hold a wrench was out in the field

Wednesday and Thursday attending to multiple, simultaneous problems with the city's water infrastructure.

While some of the work was wrapped up by Friday, there's more to do, especially considering the core issues will take more time and funding to address beyond the leaks themselves.

"Seems like there's a heck of a lot of them right now," Gladewater City Manager Charlie Smith confirmed Jan. 31. "Everything's probably just bad infrastructure – old stuff."

"A lot of it seems to be rep-

etition: They'll go in, fix it, turn around and they've got a break down the line somewhere."

The main break near Gladewater Primary School on 271 topped the list of repairs as West and East Gay Avenue were shut down along the highway from the loop to Lafayette.

"We're probably going to replace everything under the highway so we don't have to go back there again," said Al Harrison, public works chief.

The city called in the cavalry to help find a fix that wouldn't

Continued on Page 7

Locals arrested in drug raid

By Phillip Williams

Three Gladewater area residents were among five suspects the Upshur County Sheriff's Office arrested when it raided a rural residential compound Friday in what the office termed "the culmination of an almost two-year investigation into drug distribution" there.

The raid, conducted just after daybreak in the 9000 block of Bob O Link Road east of Union Grove, resulted in arresting "the main target of the investigation," Cameron Scott Spears, 38, of Gladewater, said sheriff's Chief Deputy David Hazel.

Others arrested included Jimmy Wayne Skinner, 50, and Hailey Renee Shaddix, 33, both of Gladewater, Benjamin Heath Evans, 44 and homeless; and Amanda Lynn Gage, 40, of Hawkins, said Hazel.

The five were apprehended at the site "on varying charges, including felony drug possession, weapons violations, parole violation, and even a cruelty to animal charge based on discoveries at the scene," Hazel wrote in a press release.

All remained in the county jail at Gilmer on Monday, the chief deputy

Continued on Page 3

City takes careful steps to get dam back in shape

The water-facing side of the Lake Gladewater Dam is looking brown and barren – that's actually a sign of progress.

According to Gladewater Fire Chief and Emergency Coordinator Mike Simmons, by extension the dam's supervisor, the dying grass is a sign of recent maintenance on the earthen construct.

"All the trees are pulled, all the vegetation's cut," he said, getting the dam closer by small degrees to a better state. Soon, vegetation below the average waterline will also be removed: "They have an amphibious vehicle so they can go out there and grab those weeds and pull them out by the roots."

With regular maintenance, such tasks won't be necessary in the future.

"Everything that's clear now should never come back because they're going to spray on a regular basis," every six months. "You'll always be able to see the rocks. It'll forever stay in this condition so long as we keep up with the maintenance."

Granted, there's still a significant silt build-up pushing into the water near the concrete spillway. The false peninsula's mainly held together by roots, and Simmons



is counting on natural erosion to wear it down before more targeted efforts to remove it.

"When we get the dam redone, that'll all be dredged out and removed."

One step at a time, he says.

"It doesn't seem like much, but to qualify for the grants you have to have maintenance records, inspection records, all the things that show we're taking care of

our dam."

To that end, he's been looking forward to this week's annual inspection report coming from Schaumburg & Polk, the city's longtime engineers. They'll also be delivering updated flood models detailing what structures (residences, commercial buildings, utilities, etc.) are downstream of the dam and at-risk in the event of a truly catastrophic failure.

"That all goes together in work-

ing with TCEQ on our updated dam Emergency Action Plan," another milestone toward soliciting state and federal funds to offset dam revitalization costs. "A lot of the grant is dictated by how many downstream structures are affected. It gives us a whole lot more data that helps us when applying."

Another big to-do on the dam task list is testing the lake's relief valve on the earthen mound's

southern slope.

There are no records to be found on the decades-old equipment, Simmons said, including when the relatively small metal device was last operated. It's necessary to test the valve to get a full picture of the dam's health, but that's a tricky prospect.

"It's cast iron, so we don't know if it's corroded. If we open it, we want to make sure it's going to close. We don't want to drain the lake," the primary water source for the City of Gladewater.

To that end, the city will be working with SPI to determine what's beyond the valve in order to develop a plan to plug it, if necessary.

"As far as I know, that's the original valve that was put in when the lake was built," Simmons said. "We don't know if there's a pipe down here. We don't know what the end discharge looks like. How it's assembled and how it's built, we don't know."

One step at a time. "We're going to take a probe and try to find if there's a pipe out there. Then we're going to start formulating a plan. I would hope in the next three or four months, we'll have a plan to start exercising this valve."

OPINION/COMMENTARY

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

Gary Borders
Capital Highlights



The hard places ...

From 2020

It is the hard places that either make us who we are or show others who we are. Recently I have had a few people reach out to me because of a particular column I wrote about the ‘hard places’ that spoke to them. That touches my heart, but it also reminds me that words matter. That got me to thinking about what words have been spoken to me that continue to shape the words I use, the words I write, and the life I try to live.

Perhaps the most powerful words spoken to me came from my mother. My older brother, by four years, was severely handicapped. He could say only a bare handful of words, maybe five or so. And even those disappeared eventually. He could not walk or talk, but he had the gift of sight and hearing. It was evident that Donnie was extremely intelligent. He followed everything with his deep, brown eyes. He laughed. He cried.

His misshapen body made some feel uncomfortable. Others tended to put our family on a pedestal because of the perceived burden of having such a handicapped child. I don’t remember how old I was, but I was young, forever questioning and wanting to know the ‘why’ of as much as possible. So, I asked my Mom one of the ‘hard’ questions...“Why did God make Donnie the way he was?”

“To teach us how to love” was my Mom’s response. And at my young age I took that answer to heart. I’m not sure why

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



TEA annual report just released

The Texas Education Agency’s annual report was released last week. It indicates per-student funding in the 2021-2022 school year averaged \$14,928 per student, up 42% since 2011. However, state funding has only risen slightly in the past decade, while local funding has increased substantially.

Texas public schools educate 5.518 million students while employing 371,778 teachers on 9,054 campuses, according to the report.

Compared to other states, Texas ranked 33rd in reading among fourth graders, and 41st among eighth grade readers, which were improvements over previous years. Texas public school students ranked 14th in math for fourth graders, down two slots, and 25th among eighth graders, up seven slots.

Border standoff continues in Eagle Pass

Despite a 5-4 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that U.S. Border Patrol agents can cut razor wire placed along the Texas-Mexico border to deter migrants from crossing the Rio Grande, Texas National Guard members and state troopers continue to lay down wire as a convoy of protestors from across the country heads to Eagle Pass. The Texas Tribune reported Gov. Greg Abbott has been joined by 25 Republican governors who support his claim the state has the right to supersede the federal government’s constitutionally mandated rights to control the nation’s border because of the migrant “invasion.”

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick also defended ignoring the high court ruling.

“We believe, constitutionally, we are right. We have a right to defend our citizens. We have a right to defend this country,” he said on Fox News.

Immigration rights groups say claims that immigrants are part of an invasion could lead to increased border vigilantism and violence.

Paxton’s whistleblower lawsuit continues

The legal saga of a whistleblower lawsuit filed against Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton will continue despite his efforts to have it thrown out, even though the Texas Supreme Court issued an emergency ruling to delay his testimony temporarily, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Travis County state District Court Judge Catherine Mauzy ruled that the case, brought by four former top aides to Paxton who allege wrongdoing on the part of the attorney general, can move forward despite Paxton saying he will not contest the suit and will comply with any settlement agreement issued by the court.

TJ Turner, an attorney for the whistleblowers, said Paxton is attempting to avoid taking the stand.

“This is just the latest parlor trick in OAG’s quiver that they’ve deployed to avoid what the Attorney General fears most, and that’s testifying under oath,” Turner said, referring to the Office of the Attorney General.

Mauzy noted Paxton has been willing to concede the whistleblowers’ case but simultaneously maintain his innocence.

“Those seem to me to be contradictory positions,” she said.

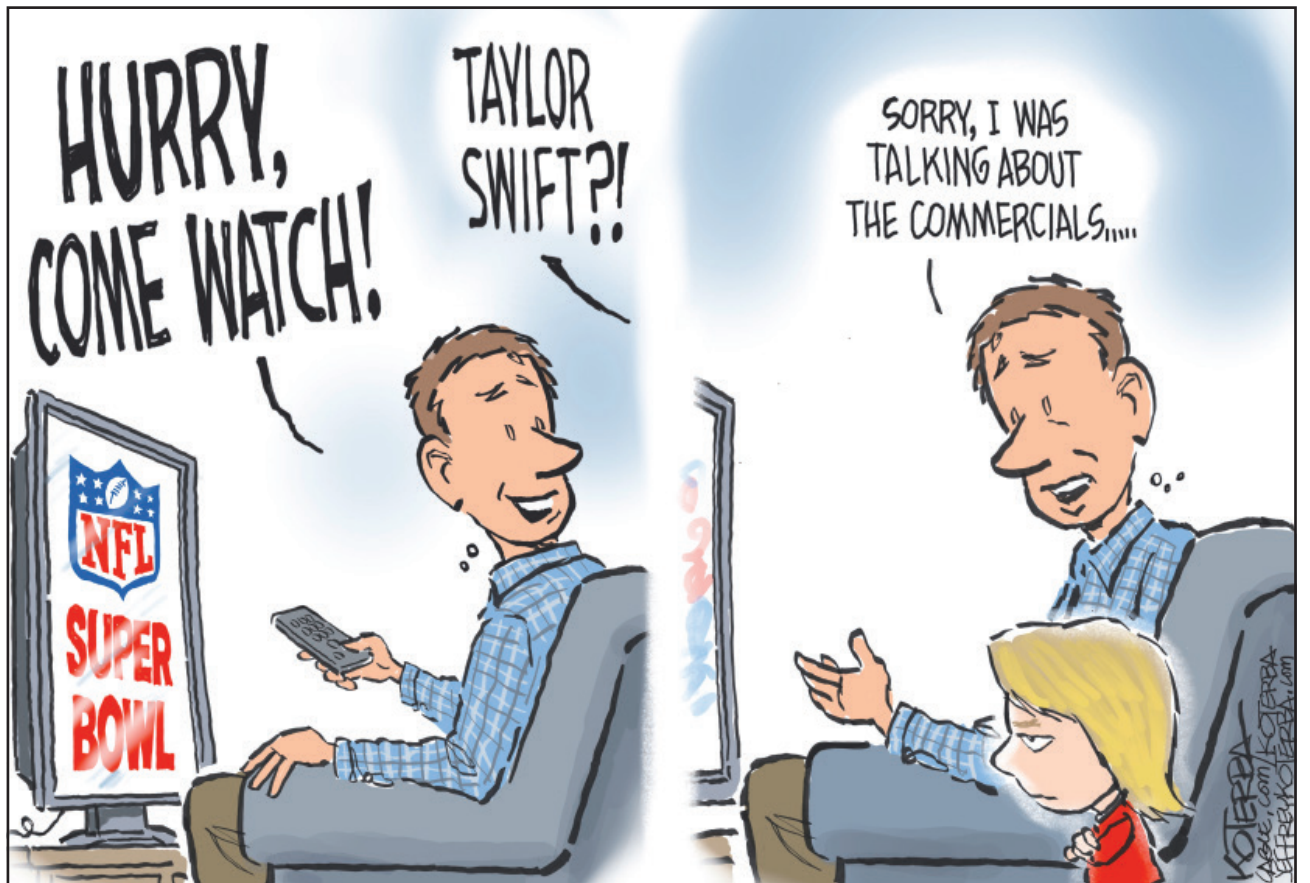
Criminals impersonate state in asset seizure attempts

Some taxpayers are receiving fraudulent letters warning the state will seize their assets and property for unpaid taxes unless payment is received with seven days, the state comptroller’s office said. The letters did not come from the Comptroller’s office, which said in a news release that criminals have been running these types of scams for years. The letters demand immediate payment and often provide a fake link for such payment.

“Be incredibly wary whenever you receive unexpected messages like these, as they can be a trap. The criminals’ threats are designed to get you to react by calling the criminals’ phone number or clicking on a fake link to solve the problem. The consequences can be catastrophic,” the news release said.

Victims can not only lose money but can become victims of identity theft or have malware installed on their computers simply by clicking on a scam link.

If you receive an unexpected message of this type, do not respond in any fashion. Instead, call the Comptroller’s Collection Team at 800-252-8880.



THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

An Unrefreshing Pause ...

A moratorium was recently issued on permits for new liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities. Although the reasons were purportedly related to climate change, the reality is that slowing the development of this market is actually deleterious for the environment, not to mention the global economy, human sustainability, and geopolitical stability.



The United States is the leading exporter of LNG, and the market has been expanding significantly in Europe and Asia. When Russia invaded Ukraine, the dangerous dependency of Europe on Russian natural gas became abundantly obvious. One of the projects affected by the permit pause is already committed to supply natural gas to Germany.

This order doesn’t affect projects already operational, under construction, or permitted. Its near-term effects are, thus, minimal (assuming it only persists through the election). By slowing the development of the market, however, the moratorium prolongs Russia’s power (and access to funds) at a time when tensions are high. It also increases the investment risk and uncertainty associated with future development of an essential resource.

Climate change must be addressed, but pausing LNG permits has the opposite effect. A key reason that the United States has reduced carbon emissions in a growing economy is the transition

from coal to natural gas. In fact, a study from the National Energy Technology Laboratory found that, even when production, liquefaction, transportation, and regassification are included, the end result of using LNG is lower emissions than for regional coal in Europe or Asia. Moreover, US gas burns cleaner than Russian gas.

Renewable energy, while critical, cannot provide sufficient reliable power 24/7 at present, and studies by the Department of Energy (and many others) clearly indicate that meeting future demand for energy is going to necessitate an all-of-the-above strategy for the foreseeable future. We certainly must ensure that oil and natural gas exploration, development, and deployment occur in a responsible manner. However, when the practical alternative is to burn coal or dirtier natural gas from Russia, American LNG is far preferable for the environment (and geopolitical stability).

In 2015, 190 countries in the United Nations adopted an initiative to dramatically reduce emissions and eliminate extreme poverty in the world by 2030. We are nowhere close to these objectives. Unless we want to consign billions of people to freezing cold and inhumane suffering, we must develop domestic natural gas resources and maintain access to markets around the world.

Slowing these projects just as momentum is surging is a short-sighted policy which will be counterproductive to addressing the climate crises, achieving greater global stability, and improving the human condition. Addressing these existential issues requires a vision that is measured in generations, not election cycles. This is NOT a pause that refreshes. Stay safe!




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ONE WAY OR MANY WAYS?

We live in the age of “pluralism” and “relativism.” Pluralism is the idea that there are many different ways and that each of those ways are of equal value. One defined it as: “The theory that there are more than one or more than two kinds of ultimate reality and/or truth; and that therefore more than one religion can be said to have the truth (way to God, salvation, etc.), even if their essential doctrines are mutually exclusive.” Relativism is the idea that right or wrong is relative, that it differs for each person or group. Thus, what is right for one might be wrong for another and that both positions are equally acceptable. Interpreted, such means there is no absolute truth!

It is obvious that the Bible is opposed to both pluralism and relativism. The Word of God teaches that there is objective truth (right and wrong), and that truth is not dependent upon what anyone might think about it, what situation one might be in, or what time frame one might live in. The Bible clearly teaches that insofar as salvation, and acceptably serving God is concerned, it is the only way, not simply one of many ways!

The Word of God, as revealed by Christ, will be the standard of judgment (Jn. 12: 48-50). Jesus said: “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh to the Father, but by Me.” (Jn. 14: 6). Jesus Word, which is truth (Jn. 17: 17), is synonymous with Him, and cannot be separated from Him, because He is truth! Thus, if we desire to be pleasing to God, we must follow the Truth as revealed by Jesus. He is THE way, not a way! Only by obeying the Truth, and then living according to Truth, will we be able to stand before God in judgment. (1 Pet. 1: 22; Tit. 2: 11-12). Think on these things.

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ETCOG is seeking nominations for Regional Service Awards

The East Texas Council of Governments is proud to honor exceptional individuals and organizations who have made a significant difference in the East Texas region. Our annual regional awards program recognizes and celebrates the outstanding achievements of those who have contributed to the betterment of East Texas.

It is seeking nominations from the public for our five annual awards, including:

- Regional 1st Responder of the Year
- Regional Citizen of the Year
- Regional Corporate Citizen of the Year
- Regional Statesmanship Award
- Regional Committee Service Award

Visit the ETCOG website at www.etcog.org/2023-regional-awards-nominations and nominate someone who significantly impacted the region in the calendar year 2023. Nominations will be accepted through the close of business on Friday, February 23.

The awards ceremony will be held on March 21, 2024, at the ETCOG Semi-Annual Board of Directors Meeting in Marion County. Let us come together to celebrate the achievements of these remarkable individuals and organizations!



Gladewater Rotary Club last week awarded its Union Grove Students of the Month for February including Kameron Townsend, Faith Woodall and Weldon Wilson.

WO water rates to be discussed Feb. 13

After wintry weather forced the postponement of White Oak's Water Rate Town Hall last week, the gathering will now follow city council members' next regular meeting Tuesday, Feb. 13.

The council will meet at 5 p.m. at the White Oak Community Building (1103 S. White Oak Rd.) with the town hall set for 5:30, featuring Phillip Givens of Superior Water Management of Texas and his recommendations for looming changes to the town's fees.

The consultant's water rate study handouts are available for download now at cityofwhiteoak.com and GladewaterMirror.com.

GHS Class of '84 holding reunion

The Gladewater High School Class of 1984 will hold its 40th Class Reunion June 7-8, and organizers are inviting the GHS Classes of 1981 through 1987 to join them alongside the teachers and staffers who broadened their minds through the years.

The two-day event kicks off with a Class of '84 gathering during the Gladewater Roundup Rodeo Friday, June 7 (individual tickets are available for purchase from the rodeo). Then, Saturday (June 8) will include a Class of '84 Meet and Greet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Kilgore ahead of a banquet for Classes '81-'87 from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Gladewater Former Students Association Building.

Ticket for the banquet are \$20 per person including a meal or \$13 without, and the deadline to purchase tickets is Friday, May 3. The classes' GHS teachers and staffers are invited to attend at no charge.

For more information, call Jana Wynn Ryan at 318-465-4149.

ELITE Pathfinder awards Feb. 17

Red Rock Historical Association's 2024 ELITE Pathfinder Celebration is set for 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at the RRHA Activity Center at 2629 S. Rodeo (Greggory Lane). ELITE is an acronym for Pathfinders' virtues including Erudite, Leadership, Inspiration, Triumph and Example, and each is an award category, with eight individuals set for honors later this month. Tickets for the event are \$25 per person, available now at redrockha.org, and benefit the association's ongoing fund-raiser for a new museum. For more information, email redrockha@gmail.com or call 903-734-5944.

Texas Leadership Scholars program offers scholarships

The Texas Leadership Scholars program is seeking applicants for its Fall 2024 cohort. The application deadline for Texas seniors who are graduating this year is Feb. 15.

Students selected for the program will have tuition and fees fully covered for all four years of their experience provided they attend a participating institution and

continue to meet program requirements. They will also receive a stipend covering the average cost of room and board at their university.

In addition to financial assistance, students in the Texas Leadership Scholars program will benefit from a peer network, mentoring, and more. The program includes a scholar-specific living-learning community for the first two years of the program; peer, corporate, and alumni mentoring; and access to undergraduate research experiences.

To be eligible, students must demonstrate the following:

- Evidence of leadership and service in their community
- Scholastic record and ability
- Demonstrated financial need
- Graduation from an accredited Texas high school
- Acceptance to a participating four-year institution

Information on program eligibility, the application process, participating universities, and more can be found on the Texas Leadership Scholars website.

County library hosts storytime

Two books will be read to small children at both of the Upshur County Library's "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer Thursday, Feb. 8.

"Valensteins" by Ethan Long, and "A Crankenstein Valentine" by Samantha Berger, will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. sessions, said Kari Dunn, the library's children's coordinator. For more information, call the library at (903)

843-5001 or visit its website at www.youseemore.com/upshur.

County Expo Feb. 24

"Promoting Healthy Living with a Mardi Gras Twist" will be theme of the Feb. 24

Upshur County Expo in Gilmer, an event formerly called the Upshur County Health Fair. The expo, sponsored by Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, is set from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Yamboree Event Center, located on Bob Glaze Drive.

Forestry grant now open until Feb. 16

The submission window for the Texas A&M Forest Service Community Forestry Grant Program is now open and will close Feb. 16.

These grants will help communities promote the management and enhancement of urban and community forest ecosystems and provide positive impacts throughout the state of Texas.

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

They serve as a strong physical and mental health aid while also providing a practical introduction to the important role of forests and trees play within their local ecosystems. Learn more at <https://ow.ly/YiTR50Qhvyf>.

GPD Activity Report

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CP#	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
12/24	MISCELLANEOUS	20240599	0:08	225 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST	225 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20240600	1:05	PHILLIPS PHILLIPS	PHILLIPS PHILLIPS
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20240601	1:08	802 MARTHA MARTHA DR	802 MARTHA MARTHA DR
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20240602	2:06	105 E GAY GAY	105 E GAY GAY
	EMS	20240603	3:14	1508 N DAREY DAREY	1508 N DAREY DAREY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240605	11:48	HEALTHY PAWS VETERINARY SERVICES	1830 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20240606	12:11	N MAIN MAIN	N MAIN MAIN
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20240607	14:38	LEE LEE ST	LEE LEE ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20240608	15:58	DOLLAR GENERAL	804 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20240609	22:18	202 S CULVER CULVER ST	202 S CULVER CULVER ST
12/24	EMS	20240570	3:42	314 W OLIVER OLIVER	314 W OLIVER OLIVER
	EMS	20240572	7:38	519 MELBA MELBA	519 MELBA MELBA
	ASSIST	20240573	7:58	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY	1009 E BROADWAY BROADWAY
	EMS	20240574	9:51	204 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE	204 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	EMS	20240575	9:54	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	FIRE DEPT	20240578	16:06	8212 LOCUST LOCUST RD	8212 LOCUST LOCUST RD
	BURGLARY/VEHICLE	20240580	16:28	POST OFFICE	101 N DEAN DEAN ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20240581	18:03	1020 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE ST	1020 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE ST
	EMS	20240583	18:12	803 N GARY GARY ST	803 N GARY GARY ST
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20240585	19:31	80 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES	80 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240586	20:18	80 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES	80 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
	EMS	20240587	21:09	303 COOPER COOPER ST	303 COOPER COOPER ST
	EMS	20240588	21:53	10890 S HWY 271 HWY 271	10890 S HWY 271 HWY 271
	ASSIST	20240589	23:30	355 PR 3554 PR 3554	355 PR 3554 PR 3554
12/24	ALARMOOTHER	20240590	3:27	ACE HARDWARE	1620 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	10-50 MAJOR	20240592	7:57	1800 WEST A VESTA AVE	1800 WEST A VESTA AVE
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20240593	8:18	300 ALLISON ALLISON	300 ALLISON ALLISON
	CRIM TRESPASS	20240594	8:45	MCDONALDS	1100 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20240595	8:49	302 MAPLE MAPLE	302 MAPLE MAPLE
	EMS	20240596	9:04	UNION GROVE ISD	11200 UNION GROVE RD P08 1447 UNION GROVE RD P08
	ASSIST	20240597	9:27	3378 HWY 80 HWY 80	3378 HWY 80 HWY 80
	ASSIST	20240598	10:45	2011 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY	2011 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY
	EMS	20240599	12:45	272 RED HEN RED HEN	272 RED HEN RED HEN
	EMS	20240600	15:18	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ABANDONED 911	20240602	16:08	1108 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR	1108 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
	EMS	20240603	16:48	305 COOPER COOPER ST	305 COOPER COOPER ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240604	16:54	AIRPORT AIRPORT	AIRPORT AIRPORT
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20240605	17:07	2101 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY	2101 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY
	10-50 MINOR	20240606	17:27	CHICKEN EXPRESS	1101 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	THEFT	20240607	17:59	507 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE	507 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240608	18:08	DOLLAR TREE	1107 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20240609	18:24	1302 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	1302 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20240610	19:07		
	EMS	20240611	19:34	5 MCCAGE MCCAGE CIR	5 MCCAGE MCCAGE CIR
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20240612	20:02	85 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES	85 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
1/31/24	MISCELLANEOUS	20240613	0:45	2011 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY	2011 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY
	EMS	20240614	6:51	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20240615	8:13	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 TYLER TYLER RD
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20240616	8:36	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 TYLER TYLER RD
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20240617	10:58	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	FIRE DEPT	20240618	12:12	4B FEED & SUPPLY	907 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ASSIST	20240619	12:56	TEXAS BANK AND TRUST	1100 E BROADWAY BROADWAY
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20240621	14:25	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20240622	15:51	GARDENS OF GLADEWATER	108 N LEE LEE ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20240623	16:51	BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB	200 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20240624	17:00	UPSHUR UPSHUR	UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240625	17:22	2411 W HAROLD HAROLD ST	2411 W HAROLD HAROLD ST
	EMS	20240628	18:00	111 S CULVER CULVER ST	111 S CULVER CULVER ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20240627	18:00	1020 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE	1020 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE
	EMS	20240628	18:14	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	300 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20240629	19:19	2411 W HAROLD HAROLD ST	2411 W HAROLD HAROLD ST
2/1/24	EMS	20240630	0:21	1842 PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD	1842 PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD
	EMS	20240632	7:51	200 MELBA MELBA	200 MELBA MELBA
	EMS	20240633	8:18	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20240634	14:21	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240635	16:18	200 LAFAYETTE LAFAYETTE BLVD	200 LAFAYETTE LAFAYETTE BLVD
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20240636	16:32	HWY 271 HWY 271	HWY 271 HWY 271
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240637	19:22	2207 E HAROLD HAROLD ST	2207 E HAROLD HAROLD ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240638	20:03	115 W GAY GAY ST	115 W GAY GAY ST
	THEFT	20240640	22:00	DOLLAR GENERAL	904 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240641	22:19	1814 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY	1814 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240642	22:40	504 N FERRY FERRY ST	504 N FERRY FERRY ST
2/2/24	EMS	20240643	1:01	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20240644	3:15	1629 CRONJE CRONJE ST	1629 CRONJE CRONJE ST
	EMS	20240645	6:18	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20240646	9:04	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2885 FM 2885
	ESCORT	20240647	11:48	CLARKSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH	2213 OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY
	EMS	20240648	12:34	519 MELBA MELBA AVE	519 MELBA MELBA AVE
	UNAUTHORIZED USE MOTOR VEH	20240649	14:13	504 PHILLIPS PHILLIPS DR	504 PHILLIPS PHILLIPS DR
	10-50 MINOR	20240650	16:41	303 MAPLE MAPLE AVE	303 MAPLE MAPLE AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240651	17:04	2807 ELUAH ELUAH ST	2807 ELUAH ELUAH ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240652	18:24	WALTER DERRICK WALTER DERRICK AVE	WALTER DERRICK WALTER DERRICK AVE
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20240653	20:22	A J S FAST STOP EXON	1708 N MAIN MAIN ST
	FIRE DEPT	20240655	22:19	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20240656	23:05	W HWY 80 HWY 80	W HWY 80 HWY 80
2/3/24	SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20240657	1:19	225 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST	225 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
	10-50 MINOR	20240658	2:22	1105 N RODEO RODEO	1105 N RODEO RODEO
	ASSIST	20240659	4:47	1505 ALICE ALICE	1505 ALICE ALICE
	SEXUAL ASSAULT	20240660	5:08	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240661	7:19	1505 ALICE ALICE	1505 ALICE ALICE
	ALARMOOTHER	20240662	8:06	DOLLAR GENERAL	904 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20240663	8:48	208 ELEANOR ELEANOR ST	208 ELEANOR ELEANOR ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20240664	9:14	OLD MIDDLE SCHOOL OLD MIDDLE SCHOOL	OLD MIDDLE SCHOOL OLD MIDDLE SCHOOL
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240665	9:18	410 W SUNSET SUNSET ST	410 W SUNSET SUNSET ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240666	9:20	904 E MARY MARY ST	904 E MARY MARY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240667	10:57		
	10-50 MINOR	20240668	13:05	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	300 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20240670	13:57	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20240671	16:02	MCDONALDS	1100 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20240672	16:06	80 FM WHITE OAK 80 FM WHITE OAK	80 FM WHITE OAK 80 FM WHITE OAK

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CP#	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20240674	17:24	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	300 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20240675	18:24	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240676	21:10	303 COOPER COOPER ST	303 COOPER COOPER ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240677	21:57	88 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES	88 WELDON HOMES WELDON HOMES
	ALARMOOTHER	20240678	23:09	1014 N LYNN LYNN ST	1014 N LYNN LYNN ST
	EMS	20240679	23:21	1007 N LYNN LYNN ST	1007 N LYNN LYNN ST
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20240680	23:25	14 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE	14 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
2/4/24	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20240681	0:42		802 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20240683	8:22	BOOM TOWN RV PARK	301 W COMMERCE COMMERCE ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240684	10:24	DOLLAR GENERAL	904 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ILLEGAL DUMPING	20240685	10:52	383 SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR	383 SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
	EMS	20240686	10:58	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2885 FM 2885
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20240687	11:01	1107 MARY MARY ST	1107 MARY MARY ST
	CRIM MIS	20240688	11:38	CHICKEN EXPRESS	1101 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20240689	11:46	1690 SCARLET OAK SCARLET OAK RD	1690 SCARLET OAK SCARLET OAK RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240690	11:52	2804 OTHELIA OTHELIA	



UNION GROVE VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM



UNION GROVE VARSITY CHEERLEADERS

TRADES DAYS THIS WEEKEND

Longview Trade Days will be held February 10-11 at the Longview Fairgrounds 1123 Jaycee Drive Longview

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Sunday
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Great night of celebration was held last week for all the Union Grove athletes that competed in fall sports this year!! See all those who won awards at the Gladewater Mirror Facebook Page.



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- OTHER**
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SPORTS



GHS Lady Bears capture the District Championship once again.

Area basketball roundup ...

By Tyler Sutton

The high school basketball season is coming down to crunch time towards the end of the regular season and the playoff push has begun.

The Gladewater Bears were in action twice this week. Beginning on Tuesday, January 30th with a loss to the Daingerfield Tigers.

Then on Friday, February 2nd, the Bears made the short trip to Sabine to take on the Cardinals and ultimately fell 56-41. The two losses drop the Bears to 3-23 on the season and 1-5 in district play. They will be back in action on Tuesday with a home game vs Hughes Springs and then hit the road to New Diana on Friday, February 9th.

The Gladewater Lady Bears continued their quest for a third straight district title with a home game on Tuesday, January 30th with a 73-30 victory over the Daingerfield Lady Tigers. Calice Henderson filled the stat sheet with 21 points, six rebounds, five assists, seven steals and a block. Kyla Lincoln and Paytin Thompson both scored 20 for Gladewater.

Lincoln added three rebounds, four assists and two steals, and Thompson finished with four rebounds, six assists and 12 steals. Ava Langford chipped in with four assists and five steals, Karlee Moses four points

and 10 rebounds and Sarya Miles eight points and three steals.

Then on Friday, February 2nd the Lady Bears were able to achieve one of their goals for this season as they wrapped up their 3rd straight 3A region two district title with a grind it out win over the Sabine Lady Cardinals 53-42.

Payton Thompson led the way with 17 points, 7 rebounds and 3 assists. Kyla Lincoln had 12 points and 2 assists, Calice Henderson with 10 points, 6 rebounds and 4 assists and Karlee Moses with 8 points, 18 rebounds and 2 assists.

Gladewater will wrap up their regular season on Tuesday, February 6th as they host Hughes Springs. They will celebrate their seniors pregame during Senior night festivities.

The Lady Bears have now won 11 games in a row and set with a 17-12 record and 9-0 in district play.

Moving over to White Oak, both the RoughNecks and LadyNecks continue to make a push to make the playoffs. On Tuesday, January 30th, White Oak fell to Sabine 63-36. Then On Friday, February 2nd, the RoughNecks fell again 50-35 to New Diana. Tysen McClain had nine points and two steals in the loss for White Oak. Gavin Sipes added seven points and three

steals, Kanaan Moore six points and four rebounds, Scotty Breitenberg six points, Kaleb Sorgee five points and four rebounds and Jacob Sorgee two points.

The 2 losses leave White Oak at 8-20 on the season and 2-4 in district play. They will be on the road twice this week as they will travel to Daingerfield on Tuesday, February 6th then head to Hughes Springs on Friday, February 9th.

The White Oak LadyNecks fell to Sabine 46-29 on Tuesday, January 30th and then fell at home on Friday, February 2nd to New Diana 37-26. White Oak is now 9-19 on the season and 2-6 in district play. White Oak will wrap up their regular season on Tuesday, February 6th on the road at Daingerfield.

Both the Union Grove boys and girls teams were off this week. They will both wrap up their regular seasons this coming week and gear up for the playoffs.

The boys team will finish with two home games as they will host McLeod on Tuesday, February 8th and will host Harleton on Friday, February 9th for senior night. The state ranked Union Grove Lady Lions will also wrap up their regular season this week as they will host McLeod on Tuesday, February 6th. They will honor their seniors pregame on Senior Night.



Coach Candy Davis-Jackson instructs her Lady Bear 3rd/4th Grade Little Dribblers during a timeout in their game with Harmony in the White Oak Little Dribblers tournament held this past Saturday. From left-right: Trinh Mach, Presley Watts, Brille Lennon, Kynlei Jackson, Iayla Smith, Kendyl Bell, Coach Davis-Jackson. Photo by Mike Peery



White Oak Ladyneck Emma McClanahan sends the ball toward the goal in a contest with the 3rd/4th grade Hallsville team in the Little Dribblers tournament hosted by White Oak. Photo by Mike Peery

Clark wins first for UG powerlifters

By Kimber Smith

Union Grove's powerlifting teams kicked off their season medaling with the girls competed in Union Hill Jan. 25. Savanna Clark won first place in her class with a total of 650 pounds, Mayci Boland placed second with 595 pounds and Daytona Vaughn placed third with 610 pounds.

The boys lifted in their home weight room Jan. 29 against four other teams. Gary Dacus placed third in the 132 class with a total of 705 pounds, Kohl Sirmans placed fourth in the 148s with 715 pounds, and Carter Cooper placed third in the 165s with 780 pounds, followed by teammates Jacopo Bonino in fourth with 735 and Jacob Hart in sixth with 685. Ryan Hickerson placed second in the 181s with 855 pounds, Calab Day won the 220 class with 880 pounds, Tommy Branscom won the 275 class with 1050 pounds and Dalton Hawkins placed second in the 308s by lifting 980 pounds.

“Coot’s Corner”

By Coot Putley

Chief Concerns ...

As the world prepares for Super Bowl LVIII (or 58 for those of us who are Roman Numeral challenged) there are a lot of questions to be answered. Which quarterback will have the hot hand? Which defense will be able to control the line of scrimmage? Which coaching staff will have the winning game plan? What company will deliver the best commercials? And most importantly – will Taylor Swift be able to get back from her Tokyo concert appearance in time for the kickoff?

The Super Bowl is the game that generates interest like no game in any other sport. Passionate fans argue over the strengths and weaknesses of the participants. Casual fans pick their favorites. There are pre-game programs celebrating the greatest com-

mercials from the past – and eager anticipation of the new batch of ads. The recent trend has been toward social messages and politically correct communications, but most people really just want a good laugh.

And the food is really important. You must have the right amount and the perfect blend. This is what puts super in your bowl! Fans have to balance game watching with the analysis of commercials and careful consumption of food and beverage.

Every year there is an increased amount of gambling on the big game. You can place bets on everything from how long the national anthem lasts to the color of the celebratory Gatorade. Since this year's game is in Las Vegas, one can only imagine the number of wagers and the amount of

money that will be on the line. So, what about the actual game? Both teams have great organizations – strong ownership, capable general managers, and strong coaching staffs. It's a great model for franchise – are you watching Jerry Jones?

Each team has a significant player from East Texas. The 49'ers have offensive lineman Trent Williams from Longview and the Chiefs have Whitehouse's Patrick Mahomes at quarterback. They are both regarded as the best at their positions. Which will prevail? I believe that Kansas City will find a way to win and repeat as champions.

So, for me, I'm looking forward to good food, funny commercials, and an entertaining game. Hail to the Chiefs!

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



Scotty Breitenberg lunges past a New Diana opponent and lofts the ball toward the basket in the last home game of the year for the Roughnecks. Breitenberg was fouled on the play. The Roughnecks lost to the Eagles 35-50. Photo by Mike Peery



Senior Elyse Paiz takes her shot over a New Diana defender during the Ladynecks final home game of the year. Photo by Mike Peery



White Oak Seniors Elyse Paiz and Graycen Sipes, along with their parents take part in Senior Night Activities before their game with New Diana. Photo by Mike Peery

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by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 first name of actor who played "Jake" in 1969 "Support Your Local Sheriff"

5 rainbow's end? (2 wds.)

6 silent actor

7 last name of actor in 1-across

8 Ted Cruz title (abbr.)

9 org. of Rockets, Spurs, and Mavericks

12 TXism: "skinny as _____"

17 those who mimic people scornfully

19 classified top _____

21 TXism: "____ a dog, he wouldn't wag his own tail" (lazy)

22 "it's _____ come true"

23 cloth

28 "the _____ of Texas are upon you"

29 crimsons

30 "take your time" (2 wds.)

31 this Dave was Cowboys QB coach (1989-90)

35 TXism: "mean as an old _____ cow"

36 not convinced (2 wds.)

42 in Texas, snow is often _____ after it falls

44 broad valleys

46 advanced stealthily (2 wds.)

48 in Ellis County on I-35

49 TXism: "let '____ rip!"

50 TX George Strait's band: "____ in the Hole"

51 before Amazon, Texans used mail _____ catalogs

52 TXism: "____ pilot" (preacher)

53 TX Vikki Carr latin pop album: "____ Hombres"

54 TXism: "____ of breathing room" (spacious)

56 Love Field or Hobby arriv. guess

57 TX JoBeth Williams TV movie: "____, Love and Cold Hard Cash"

58 "yes," south of the border"

9 Kerr County: "Kid '____ Fiber Festival"

10 equalizer in a fight (2 wds.)

11 biblical donkey

12 TXism: "confused _____ goat on astroturf"

13 Texas Tech athletic teams (2 wds.)

14 historic lawless area in Fort Worth: "Hell's Half _____"

15 infuriated

16 meadows

18 lock opener

20 first two initials of 24th governor, Campbell

23 noncitizen resident (abbr.)

24 FM station format that started in 1960s

25 bikini top

26 ladder features

27 TX Don Henley co-wrote "After the Thrill _____" with Glenn Frey

32 TXism: "____ two-steps to his own beat"

33 TXism: "that gets my dander ____"

34 Dan Patrick is _____ Gov. of Texas

36 pose a question

37 TCU BB coach, lba (1987-1994)

38 Texas Dr Peppers, e.g.

39 on Texas-Louisiana border: "____ Lake"

40 succulent plants

41 rich Texans once flew in _____ jets

43 this Ed was "Mingo" when TX Fess was "Daniel Boone" (init.)

45 TX Sissy's "Carrie" was based on this writer's novel (init.)

47 cacti used for a hallucinogenic drug

48 small Eurasian deer

55 airport transport

OBITUARY

RITA JEAN WOOD

Rita Jean Wood, age 69, former longtime Gladewater resident, passed away peacefully in her Longview home on January 27, 2024. Rita was born in Tyler, to Fred and Patsy Houston on June 2, 1954.



Rita had been a Gladewater resident since 1956 and graduated from Gladewater High School in 1973. Over many years, Rita enjoyed participating in the Special Olympics. From working the concession stands to participating in most sporting events; her favorites included walking and bowling with her husband

of thirty-nine years, Doug Wood, originally from Dallas. Dearly loved and a one-of-a-kind person, Rita will be greatly missed by many.

Rita was preceded in death by her parents, longtime Gladewater residents Fred and Patsy Houston.

Rita is survived by her husband Doug Wood of Longview, aunts; Darlene Gage and Rebe Kelly, nephew-in-law; Troy S. Wood, niece-in-law; Jennifer Wood-Stark, great niece-in-law; Liberty Faith Wiggins, special cousin, and "sister"; Noda Roberson, as well as numerous other family members.

Funeral services for Rita were held Friday, February 2, 2024, at Clarksville City Baptist Church; burial will follow at Gladewater Memorial Park.

ROBBIE JAY EVANS

Robbie Jay Evans, 82, of Gladewater passed away on February 1, 2024. Robbie was born on January 9, 1942 in Mansfield, LA. Robbie was a member of the North Loop Church Of Christ in Gladewater.



He proudly served in the National Guard. Robbie retired from Texas Utilities after 35 years. He loved horses, spending time outdoors, square dancing and traveling with his beloved wife, Joy.

Robbie is survived by his wife, Joy Evans; sons, Aaron Evans and James Dunn; daughter, Terrie Dunn; grandchildren, Esther Evans, Kyle Dunn and wife Jamie, Corey Dunn and wife Tish; great-grandchildren, Holli Dunn, Colton Dunn and Hunter Dunn; sister Brenda Hutto, as well as many other loving family and friends.

Robbie is preceded by his parents, Robert and Gladys Evans; brothers, Ovid Evans, Dale Evans, Sam Evans, Dennis Evans and Jimmy Evans; sisters, Margie Barrington, Nell Jernigan, Frankie Evans and Frances Evans.

There will be a visitation at the North Loop Church of Christ in Gladewater, TX on Thursday, February 8, 2024 from 6 to 8 in the evening. A funeral service will be held at North Loop Church of Christ on Friday, February 9, 2024 at 2 in the afternoon.

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