

Gladewater Mirror

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Thursday, Feb. 22, 2024

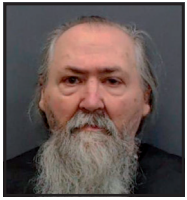
Vol. 96, No. 8

1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

White Oak man pleads guilty to murdering wife gets 30 years

A 64-year-old White Oak man pleaded guilty last week to killing his wife and he was sentenced to 30 years in prison.



James Alexander was charged with the murder of his wife Kimberly Alexander in

2023. Her body was discovered by her son July 10, 2023 at Kimberly Alexander's White Oak home. She had been shot twice.

James Alexander was arrested two days later at a Longview Hotel.

Kimberly Alexander's murder was the first homicide in the White Oak city limits in over a decade, according to police.

White Oak Police Department's case actually went back to July 8, days before Kimberly Alexander's body was found by her adult son in the family home. About 11:30 p.m. that Saturday night, officers were dispatched to the intersection of Hwy. 80 and 42 for a multi-vehicle collision.

"One of the drivers in that wreck was injured and ended up going to the hospital," Lt. Brannon Robertson reported at the time. "The officers investigating the collision located two handguns in and around that car," including a .45 caliber handgun and a .9 mm handgun.

That driver – Alexander, Sr. – was transported to Christus Trinity Mother Frances Hospital in Tyler.

"Fast forward a couple of days to Monday, the 10th. We get a call from a man who had just arrived at his home on Larkspur and found his mother deceased, in the bedroom, lying in blood," Robertson said, adding there were no signs of forced entry.

"When officers arrived, they realized she had what at the time appeared to be a gunshot wound to the head."

Justice of the Peace Tim Bryan pronounced the 61-year-old's death and ordered an autopsy. It ultimately revealed the victim had two gunshot wounds to the head.

"While the officers were still at the scene with the diseased person, one of the officers remembered the husband who lives at the house as well was one of the drivers in the wreck that happened Saturday. He knew the details of finding the guns in and around the car," Robertson said.

"We ended up getting a search warrant for the husband's clothing, who was at the hospital still. The investigator took custody of the clothes and later, while searching those clothes, found two empty shell casings. There were no empty shell casings found at the scene of the homicide.

"The shell casings found matched bullets that were found in the car from the wreck, and one of the guns that was found of the same caliber (.45) was missing two rounds of ammunition from its magazine."



Derek Zivney, assistant fire chief for Clarksville City / Warren City Volunteer Fire Department, tackles a brush fire in the 3600 block of White Oak Road west of Gladewater Monday afternoon. Gladewater fire crews, assisted by Clarksville/Warren City, responded to the lunch hour grass fire and worked to contain the flames that consumed a vehicle in addition to nearby debris. The origin of the fire is unknown, Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons said. Meanwhile, "We're reaching the point where we're probably going to have another burn ban, because we have low humidity and high wind." Photo by James Draper



Gladewater has two council seats up for grabs

Filing has closed for local elected offices in the Spring 2024 cycle, and the races are already wrapped up at Gladewater ISD, the City of White Oak and White Oak ISD – there are contests ahead for the City of Gladewater, however, with Election Day set May 4.

For the mayor's seat, there are two challengers including current Place 3 council member Brandy Flanagan and Jim Valentine. The opening Place 3 seat also has two contenders with incumbent Mayor Scott Owens and newcomer Stoney Stone vying for the post.

Meanwhile, incumbent council member Michael Weber drew no challengers by the end of filing at 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16, and secures another term in Place 2.

At Gladewater ISD, incumbent trustees Corina Arevalo (Place 5), Danielle Budro (Place 6) and Jeff Cook (Place 7) were the only candidates to file for their respective spots. Consequently, the district's election will be canceled in due course and the trustees sworn in for new terms.

Cook and Budro currently serve as the board's vice president and secretary, respectively.

At the City of White Oak, City Secretary & Finance Director Kristine Toon confirmed the community has no contested races: "I have only had Mayor Kyle Kutch, John Frazier (Place 4) and Kevin Hood (Place 5) turn in an application to be on the ballot."

So, the city will be canceling its May polling along with White Oak ISD.

"White Oak ISD will not be having an election because no one signed up for Place 6 and the incumbent, Donna Stagner, will return," according to Administrative Assistant Dana Mizell Friday afternoon. "In Place 7, Dr. (David) Ummel chose to not return, and the only one that signed up is Ricky Bodovsky, so he is automatically in."

Man gets life sentence in father's death

By Phillip Williams

A jury in Gilmer last Thursday sentenced Michael Timothy Caffey to life imprisonment after convicting him of the 2023 beating death of his father.

The 115th District Court jury in Upshur County took only 48 minutes to find Caffey guilty, and 15 minutes to assess the maximum length sentence.

Caffey, 46, of Gilmer, pleaded not guilty to killing his 66-year-old father, Timothy Caffey, with a claw hammer on the premises of their home in the Latch community.

The slaying on Airstrip Road is believed to have occurred last March 26,

although testimony was that the body was found the next day by roofers who had come to the home to work.

It was under a tarp in the front yard, but the prosecution, led by Upshur County District Attorney Billy Byrd, alleged that the victim was first beaten in the head in his own pickup before being dragged out onto the ground and beaten further. An autopsy showed the elder Caffey was struck in the head at least 19 times.

The prosecution, headed by Upshur County District Attorney Billy Byrd, called more than 15 witnesses, and testimony was that the father and son

had had a strained relationship over money. One witness testified that within days before the homicide, she saw the defendant lunge at his father when the elder Caffey was doing yard work at her residence.

Caffey had initially planned to testify, but informed trial Judge Dean Fowler he had decided not to. Defense attorney Matthew Patton, who called no witnesses, criticized the sheriff's office's investigation of the case, and implied that another man, who had supposedly once pulled a gun on the elder Caffey, might be responsible.



Sunny skies, easy temperatures and hungry fish were an easy draw an array of amateur anglers at Lake Gladewater Monday afternoon.

Photo by James Draper

Council adjusts cemetery fees for cremation

The City of Gladewater will now permit up to two burials in one cemetery plot if one, or both, are cremation remains.

Council members green light last week follows extensive research by City Clerk Judy Von Houten and Public Works Director Al Harrison, angling to make the best use of limited space while also reducing burial costs for individual spaces.

"This would allow up to two burials, a full burial and a cremation or two cremations. I think it would be a better use of our land for the city, for our cemetery," Von Houten told the council Feb. 15. "It makes it more convenient for people.

"I am proposing that y'all approve a 40 percent convenience fee for the second burial" of \$600 instead of an additional \$1500 for a second, separate burial. "That seems to be the going standard from funeral homes."

Consideration of the updated cemetery regulations was the main discussion item during the elected officials' regularly-scheduled February session.

In his opening comments Feb. 15, Mayor Scott Owens reminded the audience of the upcoming Gladewater Chamber Banquet, the 93rd annual event, set for March 28 in the Gladewater Former Students Association building.

City Manager Charlie Smith noted progress as Hendricks Street is under repair. "They're really doing a good job, keeping it open as much as possible," he said, also noting on Thursday, "We started doing some pothole repair on Shell

Camp today and several other streets around town. We've got a lot of that to do." Meanwhile, at the wastewater plant, city employee Just Davis has secured his Class B Wastewater license, "which is a really big achievement," after about seven months on the job. "He came in gung-ho... I was very proud of him for doing that."

Among the items on their consent agenda, the six council members in attendance unanimously-approved adding a voter-decision on pending charter amendments to the May 4 election along with a rate increase for Republic Services' solid waste disposal inside the city limits.

Notably, Owens said, the schedule of rates is adjusted according to the Consumer Price Index.

"It's time to do that adjustment per our contract. The residential rate will go up \$0.60 per month."

The council members also signed off on a municipal ban of TikTok on city-owned/issued devices, bringing Gladewater into alignment with still-new state regulations.

"It is state-mandated that we pass a policy prohibiting TikTok," Von Houten confirmed.

Continued on Page 8

Gladewater voters left out of early voting local polling location

Why is it, for the second time in a row, Gladewater has no polling location during Early Voting?

The short answer: It's complicated.

For the state's Constitutional Amendment Election last November as well as for the upcoming Primary Election March 5, White Oak's the closest spot for Gladewater voters.

Including the Gregg County Courthouse, there are nine locations to cast ballots in the upcoming party primaries. Early voting begins Feb. 20 and runs through March 1, with the closest polling set in the new White Oak Community Center behind VeraBank, purchased by the city in late 2023.

Come Super Tuesday, there will be a score of vote centers in Gregg County including one nearby for Gladewater voters, set once again in First United Methodist Church on Quitman

Avenue.

From City Hall, "I would always prefer for us to have early voting and election day in the City of Gladewater," City Clerk Judy Van Houten said, "for Gregg County and Upshur County."

FUMC's been the standard location, and it's one of the core issues of the early voting conundrum for Gregg County Elections Administrator Jennifer Briggs – she and her staff are grateful when the facility's available as a polling spot, but as a privately-owned, multi-use building that's not always the case.

"Once again, it kind of just comes down to the best locations we can get to satisfy the biggest needs we have," said Briggs, charged with balancing the polling equation through a calculus of local access, personnel availability and budget constraints, all within parameters set by the state. "It's a pick-and-choose

thing. I have tried to space out and get locations open that are as balanced as I can.

Meanwhile, "Those locations during a primary are chosen by the primary chairs and agreed upon and contracted with me."

Gregg voters can cast their ballots at any location through countywide polling, and Briggs noted the primary's 20 Election Day spots exceed the standard 18. Likewise, nine locations is more than the usual five.

"We open a minimal number of locations when it's a run-off or smaller election."

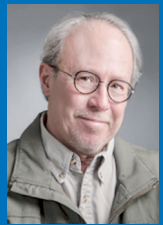
Elections office personnel have to coordinate the primary with the local party chairs, finalizing an agreement that works for all sides.

Continued on Page 4

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



Federal judge appears skeptical of new border law

A federal judge is expected to rule quickly on the constitutionality of a Texas law about to go into effect that institutes new state penalties for illegal border crossings. During a hearing last week, U.S. District Judge David Ezra said he had concerns that other states would follow Texas' lead in creating their own immigration laws – a power given exclusively to the federal government under the U.S. Constitution.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the U.S. Justice Department sued the state over the law set to go into effect next month. It would allow any law enforcement official in the state to arrest someone here illegally, with mandatory sentences of between six months and 20 years.

An attorney with the Texas attorney general's office argued the state's immigration law should be seen as necessary because of increased illegal immigration. Ezra questioned the ramifications of Texas setting a precedent for other states to reject federal authority and create their own immigration laws.

"I will try to get my decision out as quickly as I possibly can," he said, noting that however he rules, it will be appealed.

Paxton, Cornyn trade barbs over aid bill

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton escalated their feud last week, after Cornyn backed a \$95 billion aid package to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan, The Dallas Morning News reported. Paxton on social media blasted Cornyn, with the senator responding that the embattled attorney general should mind his own business – specifically his pending securities fraud trial.

"Unbelievable that @JohnCornyn would stay up all night to defend other countries borders, but not America," Paxton posted on X, formerly Twitter.

Cornyn quickly responded.

"Ken, your criminal defense lawyers are calling to suggest you spend less time pushing Russian propaganda and more time defending longstanding felony charges against you in Houston, as well as ongoing federal grand jury proceedings in San Antonio that will probably result in further criminal charges," he wrote on X.

Painfully slow rollout of broadband feared

Texas is due to receive \$3.3 billion in federal funds for expanding broadband internet, but internet providers in rural areas are worried the money won't be used efficiently to improve high-speed connections for the 7 million residents now lacking that resource.

The Texas Tribune reported a relatively new state office is trying to build a staff to oversee the work, noting earlier federal funding programs have seen limited success because many companies underestimated the costs to install broadband in sparsely populated areas.

"We want to make sure that there's a responsible allocation of these dollars," said Rusty Moore, COO of Big Bend Telephone Company in Alpine. "We've been very vocal about where the challenges are."

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act signed by President Joe Biden in 2021 provides \$42.5 billion nationwide for broadband access and aims to connect 2.5 million households in Texas. Texas received the largest portion of the funds and created the Broadband Development Office to manage disbursement of its share.

Democrats propose bill to connect Texas to national grids

Two Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives plan to introduce legislation that would require the Electric Reliability Council of Texas to connect to major electric grids outside of Texas, the Houston Chronicle reported. The measure, sponsored by Rep. Greg Casar, D-Texas, and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., said Texans would save money, avoid blackouts, and help fight the climate crisis since Texas leads the nation in clean energy production.

"Over 10 million Texans needlessly lost power, hundreds of people died, and there were these mass power outages that we all knew could have been avoided," Casar said in a news conference last week, referring to the February 2021 winter storm. Nearly all of Texas is served by the state's stand-alone grid system, except for parts of East Texas, El Paso and the upper Panhandle.

Glorious indeed ...

Isn't creation amazing?
I was at Mrs. Lee's Daffodil Garden Monday taking pictures of the thousands of daffodils (their website says millions). I didn't take the time to count so I will err on the side of journalistic integrity and underestimate.

At a few points I got out of my car and walked among the flowers to get better shots. There were, maybe millions, of big fat yellow daffodils. Standard color, size and height. Scattered about were a few Paper Whites and jonquils as well. But then my eye was caught by the one flower that was unlike any of the others.

Yes, it was yellow. Yes, its height was about the same as the other daffodils. BUT, it was different. It was a triple daffodil. A dilly of a daffy. An immediate reminder that if we have the "eyes to see" we may be amazed by what we find.

Most of us live lives of routine, by a schedule with our little noses to the grindstone and our little feet running that hamster wheel as fast as we can. And then, something causes us to look up ... or in this case down, to see the unusual, the different, the singular gift that turns our ordinary into extraordinary.

And for that gift I am so very grateful.

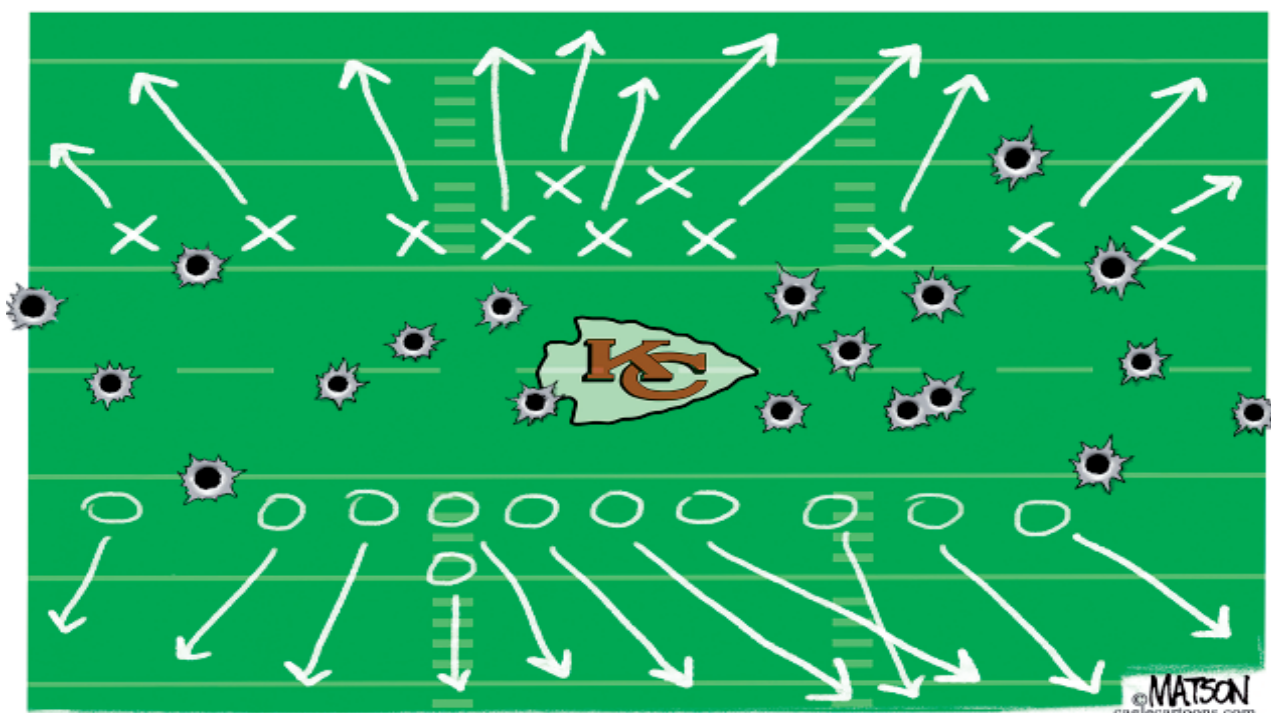
So dear readers, I challenge you to take the time to not only look, but to see. Expect to be surprised. Exercise your sense of wonder and share the gifts that surround you with others. You might even find yourselves delighted when your

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



mundane and routine day becomes a dilly of a day.

"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." Luke 12:27



SUPERBOWL PARADE ROUTE

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Soaring Shelter Spending ...

The substantial and rapid increase in the price of housing, whether rented or purchased, has significant implications for millions of households. Wages have been trending upward of late, but with increases in the cost of many items even as overall inflation moderates, many people continue to struggle. The spike in home and apartment prices, which represent the largest expenditure category for most families, is posing difficulties throughout the country. Let's take a brief look.



Between the beginning of the pandemic in early 2020 and the end of last year, the median price of existing US homes jumped from \$280,000 to more than \$380,000, with some notably higher movements at various points along the way. Simultaneously, the rising mortgage interest rates, which surfaced as the Federal Reserve began to tighten monetary policy, further contributed to affordability issues.

Another source of concern is apartments. When the COVID-19 pandemic began, rents had been rising slightly, but the pace of increase had been trending downward as new units steadily came online. Through the first year of the pandemic, national rental rates actually dropped modestly. By the spring of 2021, however, they began to surge. According to industry sources, the cost of rental housing increased by 15-20% on an annualized basis during the latter half of 2021 and early

2022. Although there has been some recent respite, median rent remains 20% above levels observed in 2020. Over half of US renters now spend 30% or more of their monthly income on housing and utilities, a threshold which points to financial distress.

While certainly not immune to spiraling housing costs, Texas has a significant cost advantage relative to much of the country. The median home price in the state according to recent estimates is \$336,400, which is significantly below the nationwide median and even further below those of many other states, such as California (\$793,600) and virtually all of the northeast. In fact, Texas ranks among the most affordable areas, even while exhibiting exceptional population and economic expansion. Recent information indicates average monthly apartment rental rates across the US of \$1,702, while the norm in Texas is \$1,451. California is \$2,531, and many states in the northeast are well over \$2,000.

Housing affordability is a critical issue as supply chain problems fostered by the pandemic limited supply and inflation and interest rates have escalated, but Texas remains in a strong competitive position. In fact, that's one reason the state is attracting in-migration from around the country, including among younger age groups and skilled workers (a topic for another day). As units catch up and mortgage rates moderate, we are beginning to experience some relief. For many households and individuals, it couldn't come too soon.

Stay safe!

MUST ONE BE A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH TO BE SAVED?

Many believe one can be saved and not be a member of the Lord's church. Actually, such faulty reasoning makes the church non-essential. Think with me.

Christ built His church (*Matt. 16: 18*). He purchased the church with His own blood (*Acts 20: 28*). He is the head of His church (*Eph. 5: 23; 1: 22-23*). Also, He is the Savior of His church (*Eph. 5: 23*). Further, reconciliation to God is in the church (*Eph. 2: 16*), which is His body (*Eph. 1: 22-23*). Therefore, every person who is reconciled to God is a part of the church. When one is baptized into Christ, he is baptized into the body, which is the church. (*1 Cor. 12: 13*). To be in Christ, then, is to be in His church. Before one is baptized into Christ, he is outside of Christ, and outside of the church, and outside of reconciliation to God. Can one be saved and not be in Christ? If one is not a member of Christ's church, which is His body (*Eph. 1: 22-23; Col. 1: 18*), he is not in Christ, since one enters the church and Christ in the same way, and at the same time. (*Rom. 6: 3-4; Gal. 3: 26-27; Acts 2: 38, 41, 47; 1 Cor. 12: 13*).

We understand that Christ, not the church, is the Savior; but the church is the saved! Man cannot save himself by himself, but he can accept the gift of salvation that is in Christ. Hence, he can, in his acceptance, allow God to save him, add Him to His church, and at the same time reconcile him unto Himself in one body. This wonderful gift of salvation is made possible "by the blood of Christ" or "through the cross." (*Eph. 2: 13, 16*).

You are invited to respond to the love, mercy, and grace of God, made possible by Christ's death on the cross. Are you willing to accept God's terms of salvation by believing, trusting, and obeying Him, and responding by being baptized "into Jesus Christ (*Rom. 6: 23*), where salvation is found (*2 Tim. 2: 10*). Think on these things.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

County library hosts storytime

Two books will be read to small children at both of the Upshur County Library's "Storytime" sessions Thursday (Feb. 22).

"Star In The Jar" by Sam Hay, and "How To Catch A Star" by Oliver Jeffers, will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. sessions, said Kari Dunn, children's coordinator for the library.

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

Although 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.

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 event, 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 by Walmart.

For more information, contact York at 903-680-8128.

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



Congratulations to February's Gladewater Lions Club's "Student of the Month" recipients for the middle school and the high school. These students were nominated by their teachers. They receive recognition as well as a Sonic gift card. GMS - Lily Childress and Samuel Corona and GHS - Tatiana Gunder and Connor Bernard.

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.

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

Big Sandy City Hall relocation delayed

The relocation of Big Sandy City Hall, originally scheduled this Saturday, has been indefinitely postponed after the move "hit some snags," City Administrator/City Secretary Laura Rex said Friday.

The forthcoming new location, a 104-year-old

brick building which is undergoing repairs, is at 119 E. Gilmer, less than three blocks from the current site on Texas 155.

Buyers of the current facility requested extending the date for moving, and new flooring for the forthcoming location hit delays, Rex said.

Although the current City Hall is a much more modern building, Mayor Linda Baggett said it has a "lot of wasted space."

The planned new site is also on the same street with the city's police, fire and public works departments, and the city-owned building "The Heritage Center," where city council meetings are conducted.

The planned new site, a 2,000 square-foot brick building, formerly housed such institutions as a bank and a Masonic Lodge.

The city purchased it for \$48,000 in 2019 and sold the current City Hall for \$141,000, said Rex. She said Monday she is uncertain what the new owners plan for it.



Conservation banquet slated for tonight

Upshur-Gregg Soil and Water Conservation District No. 417 will hold its 68th annual Conservation

Awards Banquet Thursday night (Feb. 22) at the Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative auditorium in Gilmer.

The 6 p.m. free event, open to the public, will be catered by Hill's Barbecue at

the auditorium on Texas 154 west. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. after dinner.

Individual awards to be presented include Braylon Session of Longview ISD, Conservation Teacher; Terry Wright of Gilmer, Conservation Farmer; Kate Komac of Gilmer ISD, Junior Essay Contest; and Jeremiah McGee of the Union Grove FFA, the Stewardship Speech Contest Award for his second-place finish in one such competition.

Group awards to be presented include the Gilmer ISD FFA team, 2024 Wildlife Contest; and the top three finishers (in this order) in the 2023 Forestry Contest - New Diana FFA, Harmony FFA and Ore City FFA.

Those planning to attend the banquet are asked to RSVP by contacting Joyce Williams at the district office in Gilmer at 903-734-8732, extension 101.



Melissa Miller, District Executive for Scouts BSA, and Gladewater Rotarian Luke Kimbrough presented Todd Clifton with the the Rotary Cliff Dochterman Award at last week's Gladewater Rotary Club meeting.

GPD Activity Report

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CFSE	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
2/11/24	FIRE DEPT	20240807	7:36	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2885 FM 2885
	FIRE DEPT	20240808	8:32		322 MELBA MELBA
	ABANDONED 911	20240809	9:48	ALFRED FAMILY DENTISTRY	418 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240811	10:31	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	FIRE DEPT	20240812	11:28		PR 1301 PR 1301
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240813	13:11	2508 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS	
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240814	13:50	POST OFFICE	101 N DEAN DEAN ST
	ABANDONED 911	20240815	15:42	317 N AMES AMES ST	
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240816	16:50	1207 N CULVER CULVER ST	
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240817	19:05	GLADEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL	414 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240818	22:02	ANGEL FOOD MART	233 E HWY 80 HWY 80
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	THEFT	20240823	18:37	FAMILY DOLLAR	601 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240824	18:51	51 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE	
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	EMS	20240830	16:58		2630 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DRIVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240833	21:06	303 COOPER COOPER ST	
2/14/24	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20240834	0:33	FREDS	601 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
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	MISCELLANEOUS	20240836	3:09	ELEANOR ELEANOR ST	
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240837	3:23	MCEESE MCEESE	
	SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20240838	8:29		2402 WOODBINE WOODBINE
	THEFT	20240839	11:42		2150 PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS
	EMS	20240840	11:56	HUGMAN KENT CLINIC	307 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20240841	12:31	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20240842	12:42	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	10-50 MINOR	20240843	14:50		596 BRIAR COVE BRIAR COVE
	FIRE DEPT	20240844	15:19	812 COMMERCE COMMERCE	
	EMS	20240846	19:29	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2885 FM 2885
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240847	22:03		810 E PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20240848	23:14	PENNY'S FOOD & FUEL	807 S TYLER TYLER ST
2/15/24	ASSIST	20240849	0:10		1832 WHITE CEDAR WHITE CEDAR RD
	10-50 MINOR	20240850	2:01		407 N HOWARD HOWARD
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20240851	3:57	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20240852	4:04		
	EMS	20240853	10:39	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	THEFT	20240854	11:15	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20240855	12:14	GREENWAY VILLAGE	26 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240856	14:39		803 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20240857	15:31		901 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
	EMS	20240858	16:03		305 W WALTON WALTON ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240859	16:32		315 N TAYLOR TAYLOR ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240860	17:20		210 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS ST
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20240861	18:39		19 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20240862	20:19		1708 N MAIN MAIN ST
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20240863	21:00		410 PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240864	21:16		1105 N OLIVE OLIVE ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20240865	21:19		809 NORTH NORTH ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240866	21:29		520 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240867	21:55		N LEE LEE ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20240868	22:21		GORGE RICHY GORGE RICHY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240869	22:59		HWY 80 HWY 80
2/16/24	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20240870	0:38		904 E MARY E MARY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20240871	2:00	SKIPPERS PIER	103 N MAIN MAIN ST
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20240872	8:04		2816 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20240873	8:33		406 N LIVE OAK LIVE OAK ST
	THEFT	20240874	9:28	BOOM TOWN RV PARK	301 W COMMERCE COMMERCE ST

WHITE OAK POLICE

For the reporting period of February 12th through the 18th, 2024, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to, or initiated, 218 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were; Traffic Problems (collisions, traffic control, reckless drivers, etc.), Animal Complaints, Suspicious Activities, and Community Relations (burn permits, welfare checks, vacation home security checks, etc.).

Four traffic collisions were investigated which resulted in one injury and no continuing criminal investigations. No warrants, other than for traffic violations, were obtained.

One person was arrested by White Oak Police during this reporting period:

Johnny Paul Devance Jr., 51, of Gladewater for an outstanding White Oak warrant for No insurance, an outstanding Upshur County warrant for Theft < \$2500 w/ 2 or More Previous Convictions, and Fail to Identify w/ Fictitious Information as a Fugitive from Justice.

EMS	20240875	9:45	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2885 FM 2885	
EMS	20240876	10:41		520 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE	
EMS	20240877	12:53	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST	
MISCELLANEOUS	20240878	15:25	POST OFFICE	101 N DEAN DEAN ST	
MISCELLANEOUS	20240879	16:30		1006 PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE	
MISCELLANEOUS	20240880	16:41		1905 CHESTNUT CHESTNUT ST	
THEFT	20240881	17:20		210 EMPIRE EMPIRE ST	
FIRE DEPT	20240882	17:20	Z71 WRECKER	1825 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	
ANIMAL CONTROL	20240883	18:12		504 JEANETTE JEANETTE AVE	
FIRE DEPT	20240884	21:54	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST	
MISCELLANEOUS	20240885	22:50		421 W GAY GAY AVE	
ALARM/OTHER	20240886	23:23		314 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST	
2/17/24	MISSING PERSON	20240887	0:51		500 S LOOP 485 S LOOP 485
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20240888	1:15		210 DEAN DEAN ST	
ASSIST	20240889	7:57	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD	
EMS	20240890	8:32		2019 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE	
EMS	20240892	10:21	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR	
CRIM TRESPASS	20240893	10:58		301 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS	
ESCORT	20240894	12:29	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	300 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	
THEFT	20240895	13:15	ACE HARDWARE	1620 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	
ALARM/OTHER	20240896	13:44	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE	
EMS	20240897	14:19		3005 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE	
MISCELLANEOUS	20240898	15:02		1307 N OLIVE OLIVE ST	
FIRE DEPT	20240900	16:02	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR	
EMS	20240901	16:15	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR	
THEFT	20240902	16:17	WASH TUB LAUNDRY MAT	201 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE	
MISCELLANEOUS	20240903	19:04	BYRDS NEST	212 S MAIN MAIN	
EMS	20240904	20:00	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST	
EMS	20240906	23:23		520 W PACIFIC PACIFIC	
SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20240907	23:55		906 E MARY MARY	
2/18/24	ALARM/OTHER	20240908	2:31		700 W MELBA MELBA
ANIMAL CONTROL	20240909	7:55		2685 2685	
EMS	20240910	8:58		1607 N RODEO RODEO ST	
MISCELLANEOUS	20240911	9:27		1304 N EDWARDS EDWARDS ST	
EMS	20240912	11:27		1208 E MARY MARY ST	
ABANDONED 911	20240913	11:35		1300 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR	
MISCELLANEOUS	20240914	12:01		1201 MARY MARY ST	
EMS	20240915	12:15		217 PR 1300 PR 1300	
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20240916	12:21	GOODWILL INDUSTRIES	1640 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	
FOUND/LOST/RECOVERED	20240917	12:38		1210 OLIVE OLIVE	
THEFT	20240918	13:26	ACE HARDWARE	1620 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE	

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GENERAC

WOISD takes middle ground on chaplains in school

By James Draper

White Oak ISD's trustees are taking the middle path on state legislation codifying chaplains in schools.

During their Feb. 12 meeting, the school board followed WOISD Superintendent Dr. William Paul's recommendation to neither adopt a new policy nor change the school's existing guidelines, one of multiple options available following last year's passage of Senate Bill 763.

"After doing research," Paul told the trustees, "finding out what everybody around us is doing, my recommendation is that we adopt this resolution that basically recommends we don't really do anything."

All Texas school districts

have until March 1 to take some degree of action on the law. In mid-November, Gladewater ISD trustees officially agreed to utilize chaplains as volunteers, aiming to formalize the district's current practices (with local pastors and ministers) in compliance with SB 763.

For White Oak ISD to implement last week's simple resolution, "We don't have to change a policy we have; we don't have to adopt a policy," Paul said. "That keeps our current practice in place."

According to the resolution, current practice is "allowing for the best personnel to meet the socio-emotional needs of the students of White Oak ISD" which includes (but isn't

limited to) school personnel who already have training and "Any organization which meets the community standard of White Oak and is able to provide mental health support in a time of need."

There's another key aspect of the White Oak's status quo for Paul:

"It allows the parents to have a voice in meeting the needs of their child."

Notably, Paul told the board last Fall when they first looked into the issue, anyone volunteering on any campus in any capacity is going to be subject to some kind of background check.

With all board members in attendance Feb. 12, the measure passed unanimously.

Gladewater voters left out of early voting local polling location

Continued from Page 1

Meanwhile, "There's also formulas I have to follow... The law states you cannot open more than double the amount of vote centers than what you have open in another commissioner precinct," Briggs lamented, and it's a challenge: "Quite often, with the size of Precinct 3. So, I have to balance all that out."

"You're not the only one who called and asked. I'm constantly having to field (requests). It's quite often in the south, Commissioner 4 area. I can't open all of those. I'd have to open everything."

Even without that state restriction, though, Briggs notes the Gregg Elections Office simply doesn't have the manpower to accommodate that many locations for the full length of early voting plus election day.

"Number one, I think my staff will die," she quipped. That said, if a reliable, public building were consistently available, Briggs and her staff would have more options to accommodate more local polling: "If we get somewhere in Gladewater that is open to us, that's owned by the city or county or something like that, that would allow us to use it anytime we need it..."

In the meantime, "I do hope people like the new White Oak polling location."

It'll likely be the same come November and the presidential election: the same nine early voting locations plus 18 voting centers on Election Day, including Gladewater FUMC. A

polling spot may be opened in Sabine if the school district there has a race on the ballot.

When transportation is an issue and Voting By Mail is an option for a voter, Briggs added, they should absolutely take advantage of the opportunity.

"If they're over 65 or they're disabled, they can select a mail ballot," she said. As far as leaving some polling locations out at times, "I wish I had better answers; I just have the answer, 'It is what it is.'"

March 5 Primary

Early Voting Locations

- Gregg County Courthouse, 101 E. Methvin St, Longview 75601
- Longview Community Center, 500 E Whaley St, Longview 75501
- Judson Community Center, 1129 FM 1844, Longview 75605
- Pine Tree Community Center, 1701 Pine Tree Rd, Longview 75604
- Greggton Community Center, 3211 W Marshall Ave, Longview 75604
- White Oak Community Center (new) 1103 S. White Oak Rd (Behind Vera Bank), White Oak 75693
- Meadowbrook Country Club, 1306 Houston St, Kilgore 75662
- Elderville Community Center, 10450 Hwy 349, Longview 75603
- Broughton Recreation Center, 801 5 MLK Jr Blvd, Longview 75602

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 Gladeview Baptist • 903-845-3842
 Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174
 Grace Baptist • 903-845-6440
 Greater New Hope Baptist
 Locust Grove Baptist • 903-845-5174
 Gladewater Bible • 903-845-4768
 New Hope Baptist • 903-845-3042
 St. James Baptist • 903-845-5028
 Union Grove Baptist • 903-845-4894
 Olde Tyme Baptist Church • 903-806-2411
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
 East Mountain Church of Christ • 903-285-1871
 North Loop Church of Christ • 903-845-2531
 North Main Church of Christ • 903-845-2816
 Rocky Church of Christ
- CATHOLIC**
 St. Theresa's Catholic Church • 903-845-2306
- CHARISMATIC**
 New Life Church • 903-845-8108
- LUTHERAN**
 Our Redeemer Lutheran • 903-758-2019
- CHURCH OF GOD**
 Elevate Worship Center • 903-374-2064
- NAZARENE**
 Church of the Nazarene • 903-845-4425
- METHODIST**
 First Methodist Church Gladewater • 903-845-2565
 McCrany's Chapel United Methodist
 New Mountain CME Church • 903-845-1175
 Starrville Methodist • 903-877-4040
 Union Temple CME Methodist • 903-845-1050
 White Oak United Methodist Church • 281-682-3397
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SPORTS

Area basketball roundup ...

By Tyler Sutton

The High School basketball seasons came to a end for all our local teams and softball season has now begun for all this past week.

The Gladewater Lady Bears began their run in the playoffs on Monday, February 12th at the UT Tyler Herrington Patriot center. The Lady Bears entered the playoffs fresh off a fourth straight district title and riding a 12 game winning streak.

But sadly they were frustrated all night by their opponent Troup and fell to the Lady Tigers 51-35. Calice Henderson finished with 11 points and Kyla Lincoln finished with 9. Gladewater finished their season 18-13 in coach Caleb Williams first season as coach.

The Gladewater Bears boy's basketball team wrapped up their season on Tuesday, February 13th falling to White Oak 40-29 on senior night. Gladewater finished the season at 3-26 and 1-9 in district play.

The White Oak Lady RoughNecks also began their playoff run on Monday, February 12th when they had the tough task of taking on one of the best girls basketball team in East Texas in the Tatum Lady Eagles in Ore City.

And it sadly got away from White Oak quickly as Tatum cruised to a 81-20 win. The LadyNecks finish the season at 10-21.

The White Oak boy's basketball team was able to claim the final playoff spot in the district with a 40-29 win over rival Gladewater. Scotty Breitenberg scored 16 points and came away with six steals. Kaleb Sorgee had seven points. Kanaan Moore, Gavin Sipes

and Tysen McClain all had five points for White Oak, and Campbell Sutton scored two. McClain also led with seven rebounds.

White Oak ended the regular season at 10-22 and 4-6 in district play. They will begin their playoff run on Monday, November 19th against Tatum.

The Union Grove Lady Lions basketball team was red hot as they began their run in the 2-A playoffs on Monday, February 12th as they took on the Overton Lady Mustangs and came away with a 50-36 victory to move on to the Area round. Ava Wightman and Jamie Webb guided Union Grove with 14 points each. Webb had 11 of her points in the fourth quarter. Wightman finished with a double-double, adding 10 rebounds and four steals.

Then on Friday, February 16th, Union Grove's season sadly came to a end when they fell to the Broadus Lady Bulldogs 40-17. Union Grove finishes their great season at 25-7 overall and a 10-2 district record.

The Union Grove Lions boy's basketball team did what they needed to do to secure a playoff spot with a 41-21 victory over Linden-Kildare on Tuesday, February 13th.

The Lions finish the regular season at 14-14 and 7-5 in district play. Good enough to secure the 3rd seed out of the district. Union Grove will open they playoffs on Monday, February 19th as they take on Overton. The game will be played at Pine Tree's Pirate gym in Longview.

Moving over to softball, White Oak and Union Grove were the only local team to begin its softball

season this week and it was a impressive start to the season for the RoughNecks.

White Oak began the season on Wednesday, January 14th with 10-0 win over Brownsboro. ETBU signee Larkin Daniels tossed a 1 hitter with 14 strikeouts while the offense was lead by Addison McCanahan who had two singles and drove in 3 runs.

White Oak then took part in the Carthage tournament over the weekend going 5-1 with wins over Pleasant Grove (11-0), Tatum (4-0), Kilgore (2-0), Elysian Fields (12-0) and Jacksonville (3-0) with their only loss coming to Ruston (4-3). The RoughNecks are off to a 6-1 start to the season and will be back in action this week on Tuesday, February 20th with a home game vs Kilgore then they will host the White Oak tournament which begins on Thursday, February 22nd.

The Union Grove Lady Lions also began their 2024 season on Tuesday, February 13th with a exciting 11-9 victory over the Sabine Lady Cardinals.

Addyson Carney banded out three hits and drove in a run, and Abbie Abercrombie had two hits and three RBI in the loss for Sabine. Amelia Miller, Renatta Galvan and Trinity Jones all chipped in with two hits, and Galvan, Jones, Kattlin Akers and Jada Kranzman drove in runs.

The Lady Lions are off to a 1-0 start and will be back on the field Tuesday, February 20th when they host Alba-Golden.

Then on Friday and Saturday, February 23rd-24th they will head to Atlanta to participate in the Atlanta tournament.



Lady Lions defense players #12 Jenna Scott and #3 Rachel Potter shutdown the Mustang offense player and steals the ball.

Photo by Kim Hill

“Coot’s Corner”

By Coot Putley

KC Masterpiece ...

I'm not talking about barbecue sauce; I'm talking about the Kansas City Chiefs and their performance in the Super Bowl. The term masterpiece is defined as a work of outstanding artistry or skill, and that describes what the Chiefs accomplished.

You're probably already familiar with the game's highlights, but I would like to share some additional observations. Reba McEntire did a nice job with the national anthem – she didn't try to jazz it up and lose the melody or forget the words. Texas native Post Malone sounded fine on his rendition of America the Beautiful. I just wish someone would have warned him not to shake those ink cartridges near his face. What a mess! And Andra Day's performance of Lift Every Voice was beautiful.

The halftime presentation was quite a show. It was a spectacle worthy of the location. Usher was a great headliner, with so many guest stars it seemed like an

awards show. There were old favorites and new talent with seamless choreography. The singing, dancing, and costumes lived up to the billing. Viva Las Vegas!

The commercials weren't bad. Nothing especially memorable; certainly, no classics like the Doritos time machine or sonogram ads. I enjoyed the NFL network commercials featuring “birds” migrating for the offseason. Ravens, Eagles, and Seahawks in full uniform flapping their arms (wings) and soaring through the air. And I would say that the Dunkin' Ad was one of Ben Affleck's best acting performances. Of course, the bar wasn't set very high.

San Francisco's Christian McCaffrey is a throwback, hardnosed football player. You could put a single bar facemask on him, and he would fit right in a game from the 50's. Brock Purdy looks like the new teacher who just chaperoned the junior high dance, but he did a good job. Despite be-

ing the last pick in the draft, he has become a solid NFL Quarterback, but he's no Patrick Mahomes. Neither is anyone else.

Patrick's buddy Travis Kelce was able to overcome the “distractions” and conspiracy theories and come up big, especially when the game was on the line. The Mahomes-Kelce connection is officially the most prolific combo of all time in the playoffs. Patrick is a leader. He elevates the play of his teammates and finds a way to win. The Chiefs are this generation's dynasty with three super Bowl wins in five years and a new goal of becoming the first team to do a three-peat.

I'm not saying Kansas City will “never, ever, ever” lose a Super Bowl but with a healthy Patrick Mahomes at Quarterback, they should never be the underdog again. I'm not a betting man, but I sure wouldn't bet against him!

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



The Lady Lions finished the 2023-2024 season last week in Gary. The ladies are Bi-District Champions and finished a successful season with a record of 25-7.

CARP DIEM

Fishermen invite special needs community to seize the catch June 1 at Lake Gladewater

An advocacy association of angling aficionados aims to make a splash at Lake Gladewater this summer, welcoming special needs guests to ‘Catch a Special Thrill.’

C.A.S.T. for Kids provides “a morning of fishing and celebration” for children with a range of special needs, and the group's launching a new venture in Gladewater June 1.

Last year, more than 7,000 children with special needs (and their families) took part in the fishing events across the country thanks to the nonprofit's efforts.

Welcoming donations, “We raise \$4,000 per event,” said event coordinator Joey Walker of the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation, just enough to cover the day's essentials for participants: “40 tackle boxes, 40 rod-and-reels, 40 plaques, 40 kids hats, 40 shirts, 40 volunteer hats.”

Landing a new event in Gladewater, “We'd like to do this every year to bring more kids out fishing.”

Pre-registration is required for the event and officially opens about three months prior, entirely free for families. In addition to tax-deductible contributions, to make the event happen the group needs volunteers for a variety of roles including fishing assistance, serving lunch, registration and more. To learn more about signing up a special needs participating or becoming a volunteer, contact Walker at 903-241-3882 or email lakegladewater@castforkids.org.

“It means so much to the kids,” Walker said. “You see them smile, happy to just to be in the boat.” He offered one memory of the top of his head, a shining moment of a youngster who caught a brim at the event, “tickled pink” to land a fish.

“It just means so much to the kids to be able to have the opportunity to do that.”


The age of the special needs guests isn't a huge issue, Walker said, happy to have participants whether they're 7, 37 or 57.

“I don't care how old your child is,” Walker said, “sign 'em up. I want these people to come out and enjoy a day at the lake.”

Other local events are head this year at Lake Fork (April 27) and Lake Tyler (TBD) along with a litany of other Cast for Kids excursions – the map at castforkids.org/find-an-event is brimming with options nationwide.

“We're trying to get more in. I think it'll do the community good to get these kids together.”

For more on the local initiative, log on to castforkids.org/event/lakegladewater/



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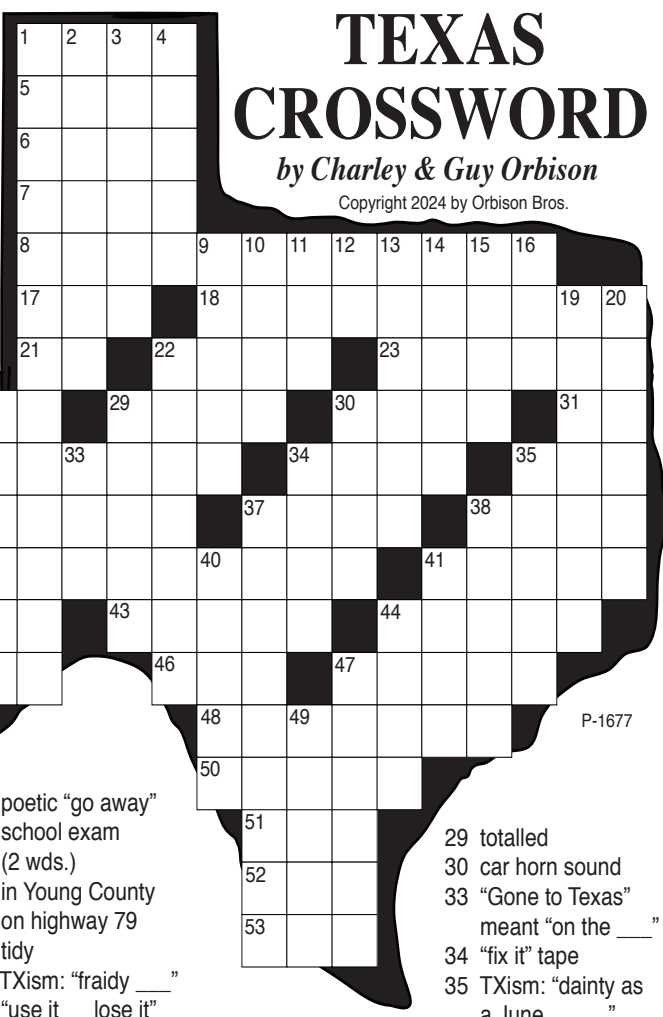
- 1 San ____ County
- 5 Palestine AM
- 6 ____ wood, Texas
- 7 Greek god of love
- 8 this Texas doctor was the first to implant an artificial heart (2 wds.)
- 17 respect and wonder
- 18 TXism: "book ____ horse smart" (wise)
- 21 this Darrin helped the Cowboys win 2 Super Bowls (init.)
- 22 TXism: "could shoot the eyes out of a ____" (good aim)
- 23 33rd Chief of Staff of the Army, Dennis Joe, who got training at Fort Bliss in Texas
- 24 petitioned God
- 29 when a tennis serve hits the net and then goes over (2 wds.)
- 30 football snap
- 31 TX Clint Black 1992 hit: " ____ Tell Ourselves"
- 32 TXism: "he can ____ and dance all night" (stamina)
- 34 physicians, for short
- 35 bikini top
- 36 interprets a situation incorrectly
- 37 TXism: "I can dance to that ____" (agree)

- 38 TX Bob Wills sang "I'm a Ding Dong Daddy ____ Dumas" in 1937
- 39 TXism: "cut ____" (ease up)
- 41 dribbles
- 42 a Canadian "cent"
- 43 TXism: "you got to play the hand you're ____"

- 44 early Rio Grande: " ____ las Palmas"
- 45 Bible's 2nd pt.
- 46 ____ Ross State University in Alpine
- 47 "yankee behaviors never ____ to amaze me"
- 48 most wealthy
- 50 "that puts ____ in my coffin" (detrimental)
- 51 an explosive
- 52 some Texas subdivisions have this type of assn.
- 53 snakelike fish

DOWN

- 1 TXism: " ____ of here" (flee)
- 2 western part of this county has two radioactive waste disposal sites



TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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P-1677

- 3 poetic "go away"
- 4 school exam (2 wds.)
- 9 in Young County on highway 79
- 10 tidy
- 11 TXism: "fraidy ____"
- 12 "use it ____ lose it"
- 13 TXism: "covered like white ____"
- 14 vegetables related to the onion
- 15 actress Adams in "Racquet" with TX Lynda Day George
- 16 sweet tater
- 19 TXism: "he'd complain if they hung him with a ____" (particular)
- 20 TX Roy Orbison ballad: "In ____"
- 22 TX Roy Orbison wore dark ones
- 24 this Texan was TV's Clair Huxtable (init.)
- 25 Sea ____ State Park
- 26 "I take ____ view of that" (disapprove)
- 27 affirmatives
- 28 TXism: "plain as the ____ a mule"
- 29 totalled
- 30 car horn sound
- 33 "Gone to Texas" meant "on the ____"
- 34 "fix it" tape
- 35 TXism: "dainty as a June ____"
- 37 TXism: "he sits ____ saddle"
- 38 in Navarro County on highway 22
- 40 TX Tommy Lee 1978 film: "Eyes of ____ Mars"
- 41 "buenas ____" (good day)
- 44 rod and ____
- 47 exotic deer raised in Texas since 1932
- 49 TXism: "paddle your own ____" (do it yourself)

See Answers On This Page

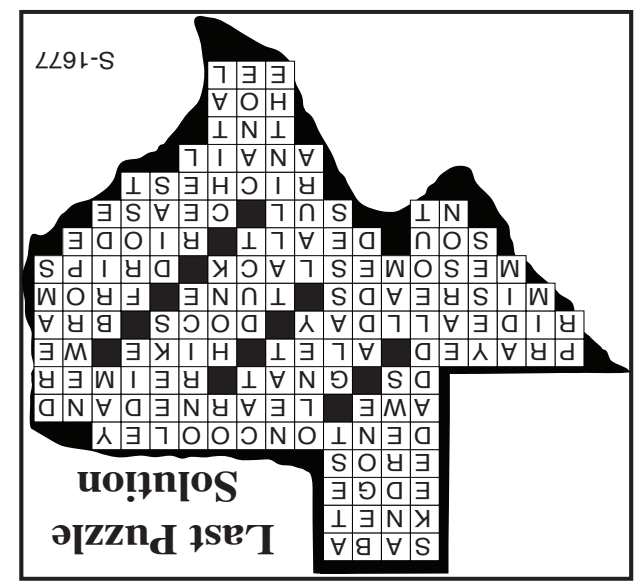


Gladewater Lions Club President Judy Applegate Van Houten recently presented an appreciation plaque to James Moody of Tyson Foods. Tyson Foods has gone above and beyond to assist the Lions Club with its annual Turkey Shoot.

WO Girls headed to Regional Meet

The following White Oak High School girls have qualified for the Regional Powerlifting Meet in Commerce on March 2:

- Lizzy Still - 114
- Avery Delpeschio - 114(alternate)
- Morgan Gee - 123
- Alyssa Spurger - 132
- Preslee Twomey - 132(alternate)
- Kyndal Langley - 148
- Alex Roach - 148(alternate)
- Danica Vaughn - 198



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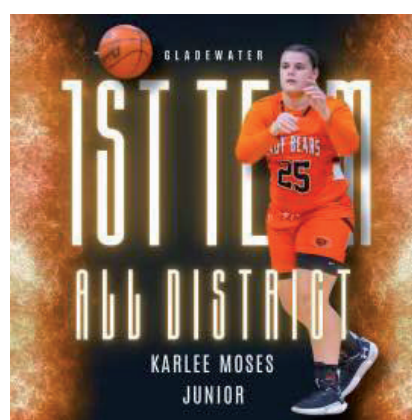
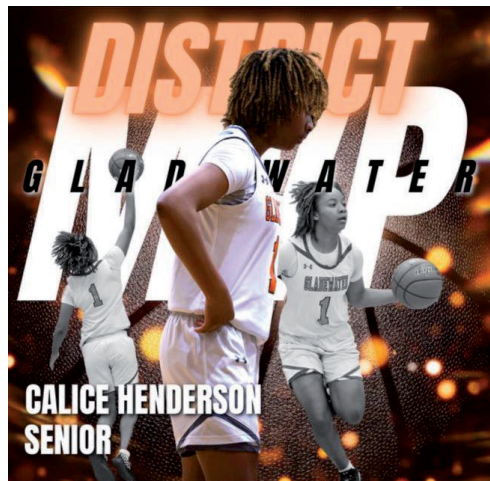
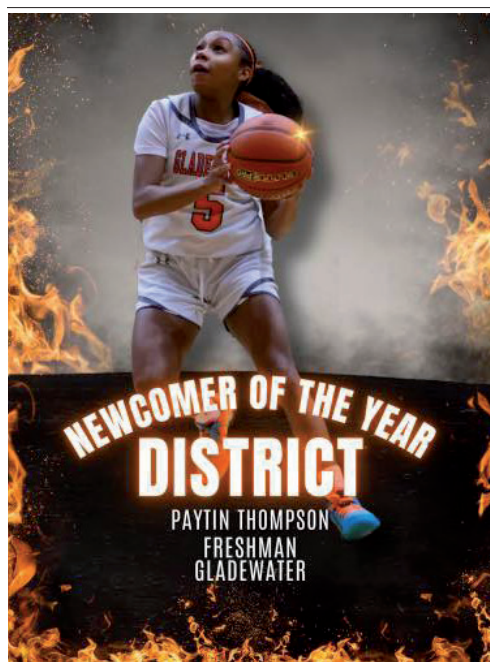
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Kenneth W. Davis, Deceased, were issued on February 12, 2024, in Cause No. 2023-0358-E, pending in the County Court in and for Gregg County, Texas, to: Donell Davis, Independent Administrator.

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

c/o: Courtney Anne Harris
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 4373
 Longview, TX 75606
 DATED the 13th day of February 2024.
 /s/ Courtney Anne Harris
 Courtney Anne Harris
 Attorney for Donell Davis
 Independent Administrator
 State Bar No.: 24060434
 PO Box 4373
 Longview, TX 75606
 Telephone: (903) 757-7500
 Facsimile: (903) 215-8467
 E-mail: courtney@harrisandharristx.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the ESTATE MARVA J. SHAVER, DECEASED, were issued on February 8, 2024, in Cause No. 2023-0413-E, pending in the County Court at Law 2, in and for Gregg County, Texas, to: Malisha Renee Waters, Independent Executor.

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

c/o: Courtney Anne Harris
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 4373
 Longview, TX 75606
 DATED the 13th day of February 2024.
 /s/ Courtney Anne Harris
 Courtney Anne Harris
 Attorney for Malisha Renee Waters,
 Independent Executor
 State Bar No.: 24060434
 PO Box 4373
 Longview, TX 75606
 Telephone: (903) 757-7500
 Facsimile: (903) 215-8467
 E-mail: courtney@harrisandharristx.com

CITY OF GLADEWATER
 Preserving the past
 While embracing the future

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gladewater City Council adopted the following ordinance February 15, 2024:

Ordinance #O-24-04 to amend §5.03.150 – Schedule of Rates – Solid Waste, of the Gladewater Code of Ordinances. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days following publication as required by law.

Copies of this ordinance may be obtained from Judy Van Houten, City Clerk, Gladewater City Hall, 519 E. Broadway, Gladewater, Texas.

CITY OF GLADEWATER
 PRIDE IN TRADITION

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Chapters 501 and 505 of the Texas Local Government Code, notice is hereby published regarding the planned expenditure of Type B sales tax proceeds on an eligible project, as defined in chapters 501 and 505 of the Texas Local Government Code.

The White Oak Economic Development Corporation and the White Oak City Council has approved a grant in the amount of \$46,000 to White Oak Baseball Association.

The White Oak Economic Development Corporation and the White Oak City Council has approved a grant in the amount of \$150,000 to White Oak Radiator Service, Inc.

The White Oak Economic Development Corporation and the White Oak City Council has approved a grant in the amount of \$75,000 and an interest free loan in the amount of \$75,000 to Antler Worx, Inc.

Funding for said project shall occur after the expiration of 60 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.

CITY OF GLADEWATER
 Preserving the past
 While embracing the future

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gladewater City Council adopted the following ordinance February 15, 2024;

Ordinance #O-24-03 to amend Cemetery §9.15 – Sale of Lots and Fees, of the Gladewater Code of Ordinances. This ordinance allows for a second burial (cremation) with an existing burial or up to two (2) cremation burials in a single plot. Furthermore, it establishes a convenience fee of 40% of the current lot sales price for a second burial in a single plot. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after publication as required by law.

Copies of this ordinance may be obtained from Judy Van Houten, City Clerk, Gladewater City Hall, 519 E. Broadway, Gladewater, Texas.

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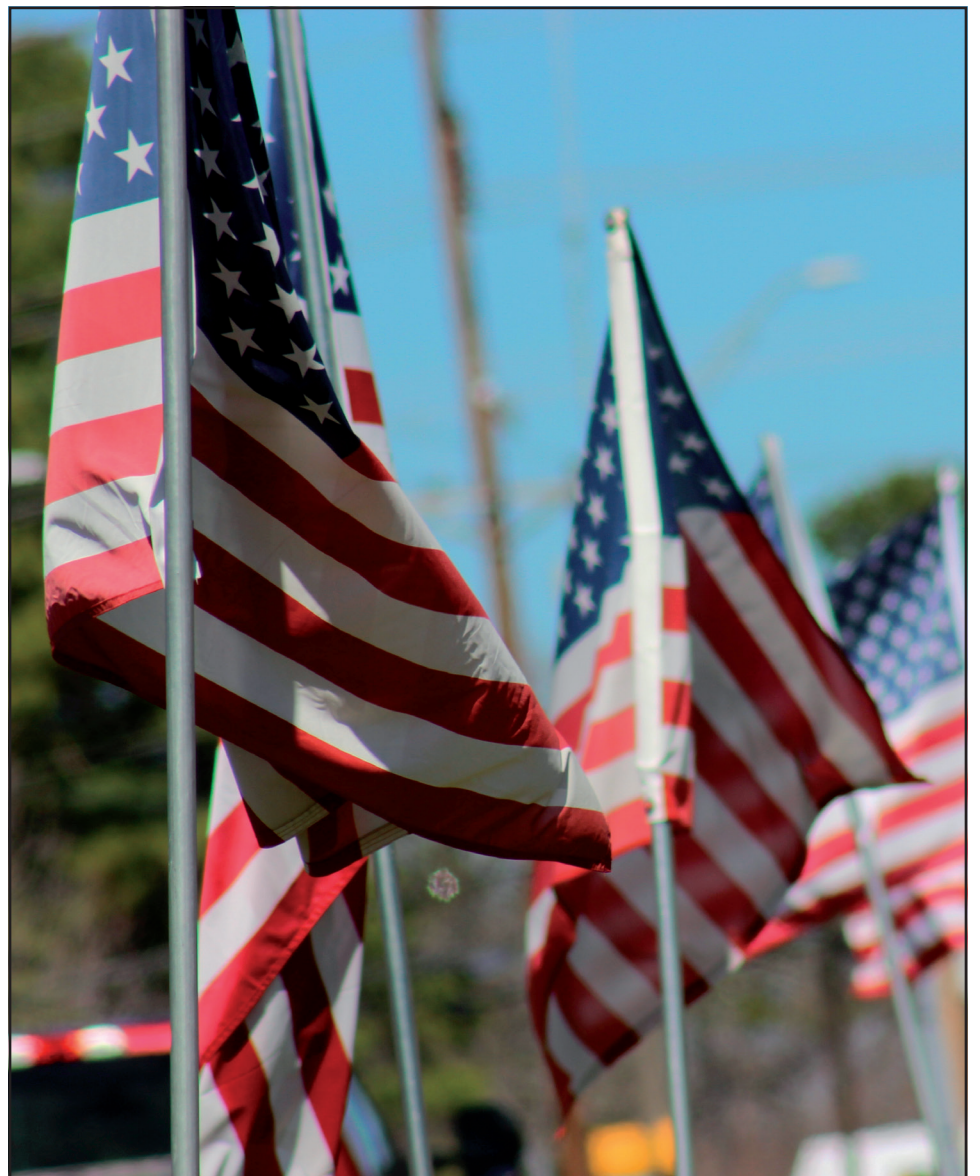
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A row of flags snap in the wind Monday afternoon along Hwy. 271 at Citizens Bank as the stars-and-stripes made an appearance for Presidents Day.

Photo by James Draper

Council adjusts cemetery fees for cremation burials

Continued from Page 1

Regarding the cemetery regulations, Thursday's action also updates a number of out-of-date items in the guidelines, but the council's dialogue focused primarily on the joint burial of cremated with full remains.

"The way things are going now, there's so many cremations," Smith said. "This is a benefit for our citizens, and there's some other benefits coming down the road in the near future for cremation-type burials."

Cremated remains must be sealed in a container similar to other burials, Von Hout added. It prevents, for example, the remnants of a cremated

individual's pacemaker from leeching into the soil. There's also a process specifying how cremated remains will be interred.

"When you purchase a plot there, it's deeded to you and you own it," Owens said, but there are rules such as notifying the city of the identity of who has been buried in the plot, with the owner's permission.

"Can someone buy a small plot for cremations urns?" council member Rocky Hawkins asked.

"That will be coming in the future," Von Houten replied. "This is the first step in the process here tonight. I'm working to bring that to you, hopefully in March."



Mark Case for Upshur County Sheriff

- US Veteran
- 50 year resident of Upshur County
- Master Peace Officer
- 33 years law enforcement experience

I began my Career in Law enforcement at the Gladewater Police Department where I worked from 1990 until 1996. In 1996 I began my tenure at the Gilmer Police department where I started as a patrol officer, moving up through the ranks until I was appointed as Chief of Police in July 2014, until my retirement in November 2022.

My experience will allow me to offer new ideas, and above all work WITH the community, FOR the community by listening to, and communicating with the citizens of Upshur County.

I look forward to building and maintaining strong and effective relationships with all law enforcement agencies across Upshur County to improve coordination and cooperation between all departments.

I will strive to build trusting relationships with the citizens of Upshur County by working WITH the community, FOR the community.

Words may inspire; however, actions create change.

Paid for by the Mark Case for sheriff campaign