

Gladewater Mirror



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Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021

Vol. 93, No. 2

1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

Drug arrests reported by Upshur SO

By Phillip Williams

The Special Investigations Unit of the Upshur County Sheriff's Office arrested three suspects on drug charges in November, Sheriff Larry Webb said last Thursday.

Based on a report from sheriff's Lt. Gary Shirley, Webb gave the following details of the arrests, while James Grunden, chief deputy of the county jail in Gilmer, provided the details on the suspects' bonds and releases from custody:

A Tyler woman was arrested Nov. 2 when the unit stopped a vehicle while investigating suspicious activity at the Lucky 7 game room on U.S. 271 in the West Mountain area.

Christy April Huey, 40, was charged with possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) when the unit seized 1.3 grams of the drug, which Webb characterized as a "little bit over a user amount."

Huey was freed Nov. 4 on a \$10,000 surety bond set by Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Lyle Potter.

Michael J. Mumphrey, 37, of Tennessee Colony and Ramona G. Lacy, 38, of Tyler, were arrested Nov. 10 on charges of delivery of a controlled substance--at least 4, but less than 200 grams of methamphetamine.

The unit was conducting a narcotics investigation at Lucky 7 when it stopped a vehicle, resulting in seizing 16 grams of the drug and the arrests. The sheriff's office's K-9 dog Marco assisted with the stop.

Mumphrey was released Nov. 29 on a \$50,000 attorney's bond set by Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace Rhonda Welch. Lacy was released Nov. 18 to Smith County authorities to face a charge of theft of property in that county.

Council to meet

The Gladewater City Council will meet Thursday in special session to consider the following:

- * A blanket permit for MLK Jr. Day Parade to be held on Monday, Jan. 18, 2021 at 10 a.m.
- * An agreement between the City of Gladewater and Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. for Water Treatment Plant Evaluation and Report.

The meeting starts at 6 p.m.

SNOW FUN 2021



Sunday night and Monday morning snowfall meant no school for Gladewater and Union Grove students and a great excuse for snowman building. But the wet snow - 3 inches in some areas - caused power outages on tree limbs to sag and touch power lines, resulting in tripped transformers and cold dark homes and malfunctioning traffic lights.

SWEPCO reported a total of 60,400 customers were without power at the height of the snowstorm, while Upshur

Rural Electric Coop reported about 1,100 customers were affected by outages.

Fortunately the snowfall didn't result in any major accidents and by late Monday afternoon most roadways were clear and dry.

Many folks shared their snow fun with the *Mirror* on its Facebook Page and we picked some of our favorites to share with our readers here.

Mother, three children killed in house fire

One adult and three children died in a fire at a home Monday on De Vonne Drive near U.S. 271 in the Starrville area.

"The information we have is that this is the mother of the three children that is inside the home," Smith County Fire Marshal Jay Brooks said.

Brooks said one man was also taken to the hospital by EMS. He said crews arrived and attempted to check and see if anyone else was inside the home, but the fire was to great and they had to back up.

Units from Winona, Chapel Hill, Lindale, Red Springs, Jackson Heights, and ESD responded to the scene.

The fire remains under investigation and the identities of the fire victims have not been released pending notification of next of kin.



More vaccine coming soon

More than 877,000 Texans have received a COVID-19 vaccine since they first began arriving in Texas nearly four weeks ago, and that number is expected to increase by at least 50,000 more per day, Gov. Greg Abbott said Monday.

"Never before in the history of this state has Texas vaccinated so many people so quickly," Abbott said during remarks at the Esports Stadium Arlington & Expo Center, a newly-designated "vaccination hub" that local health officials said can vaccinate thousands per day. "It's stunning to see what we've accomplished."

Abbott said Texas expects to see an additional 310,000 first doses per week for the rest of January and up to 500,000 second doses earmarked for those who have already received the injection in Texas. Continued increases are expected, Abbott said, depending on the federal government allotments.

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Bear FFA shines at Expo

The results of the Gregg County Youth Expo are in and the Gladewater FFA and Jr. FFA participants had a great showing.

Ag Mechanics results are: Breanna Newman-2nd place yard convenience/Reserve Yard Convenience Division/Reserve Overall of the show, also earning second place honors were Blake Holder and Jordan Kinsey in the wildlife/division/Reserve Wildlife Division, 3rd place wildlife division Lyndsey Robertson, 3rd place fire pit division Jasper Taylor and David Flowers, and 4th place Jaxxon Cook in the yard convenience division.

Ben Alvarez was the Overall Grand Champion in the heifer show, Champion Exotic Heifer 1st in class, Logan Bohanon won Overall Reserve Champion Heifer, Champion English heifer 1st in class.

In the swine show Nathan Keller won 1st in class and 5th overall and Kaitlyn Smith won 2nd in class and 4th overall.

Nathan Keller won Reserve Champion Exotic Heifer, 1st in class and senior Showmanship winner. And, Tristan Hogue won 1st in class.

Goat show results say Lyndsey Robertson with a 1st in class and 4th overall.

Sheep Show Results saw Lyndsey Roberts take the senior showmanship honors and a 2nd in class and 4th overall.

In Steer Show results Nathan Keller took 1st in class and 3rd overall.

Broiler Show results saw Braedon Castello in 3rd place, Landon Brown with a 4th place and Sr. Showmanship winner, 5th place Chevy Sisson and eighth place Jaxxon Cook.

Rabbit Show results are: Haylee Boyce in 13th place, Madisyn McGuire in 15th place and Matthew Want in 18th place.



These three outstanding GHS FFA showman had superior results in the Gregg County Youth Expo Saturday: Nathan Keller- 1st place in class, Reserve Breed Champion and in Heifer competition Ben Alvarez- 1st place in class, Grand Champion Breed, Reserve Champion Exotic, Tristan Hogue- 1st place in class, Reserve Breed Champion and Nathan Keller - 1st place in class, Grand Champion Breed.

Courtesy Photo



GHS FFA member Landon Brown won fourth place with his broilers and earned the senior showmanship honors. Courtesy Photo

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Suzanne Bardwell



EDITORIAL

We can do better... we must be better

We need a 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington' more than ever

Where is starry-eyed, man of character Jefferson Smith? We need him now.

Desperately.

On the edge of global war in 1939 Frank Capra made a film entitled "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington". In it a naive, deeply patriotic young American is appointed to fill the seat of a senator who has unexpectedly died. The good as gold Jefferson Smith heads to Washington, D.C. full of excitement and a desire to do a good job as a senator. And that is when he hits head on the power machine of party politics and big business ties. Because Smith won't be a party to the corruption and refuses to be bought, he wages a one-man senate filibuster to get the truth out.

See, here's the deal, and it's been a long time coming. We no longer treat truth as black and white, fact or lie. "Your truth is not my truth" is just a way of saying it doesn't matter what is true as long as I get what I want. Or, I like and agree with "this truth" so now it is "my truth". Can you see the problem?

The movie clearly shows the way that cynicism and influence peddling can affect, or infect, an entire system. At the end of the film, a worn out, heartbroken, filibustering Jefferson Smith says to the senator he admired who had chosen subverting his convictions in trade for power: "I guess this is just another lost cause...all you people don't know about lost causes. Senator Paine does. He said once they were the only causes worth fighting for and he fought for them once, for the only reason any man ever fights for them: Because of one plain simple rule: Love thy neighbor. And in this world today, full of hatred, a man who knows that one rule has a great trust."

That golden rule has nothing to do with being a Republican or a Democrat.

Last week the mother of three of my former students, was harassed while driving to the point that the driver almost ran her off the road. According to the victim, the truck driver slammed on the brakes when he got in front of her. The truck had a Trump sticker, the mother had a Biden sticker on her car. She believes that is the reason for the harassment. In her words she was "terrified and shaking".

Why is a grandmother, for that matter, anyone, being subjected to violence and danger because they supported a particular candidate? When did it become wrong and unAmerican to disagree on politics? Democracy is built on the compromise of the two-party system. If you know your world history, you are well aware of how dangerous one party systems are.

The radicalization of politics is something that happens in third world nations, right? Or in unstable African or middle eastern countries, right? Not in America...right?

It is time for all of us to work on becoming a little more like Jefferson Smith and help remind people to stick to the plain simple rules that this country was founded on. And, "a little more watching out for the other guy" as Jeff Smith would say.

More vaccine coming soon

Continued from Page 1

"This structure [of hubs] that we now have created can be expanded and will be expanded very swiftly across the state," Abbott said. "The only limitation that we now face is the limitation of supply. Supply the vaccination is not something that the state of Texas is in control of. The supply of the vaccination comes only from the federal government, and for them it comes largely from the manufacturing capabilities" of the companies making the vaccine.

Two vaccines, by Pfizer BioNTech and Moderna, have been approved for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and are being distributed nationally. A third company, Johnson & Johnson, could seek emergency approval of its vaccine from the FDA as early as February.

The number of doses that have been administered so far includes those given at hospitals and clinics and other providers, as well as

those given through a federal program to inoculate residents of long-term care facilities and nursing homes, Abbott said.

The data on the number of doses administered has a reporting lag of at least two days, Abbott said, but added that Texans will start to see a significant uptick in those numbers as this week's vaccinations are reported.

"You are going to see those numbers increase, as it turns out, somewhere between 50,000 and 75,000 per day," Abbott said.

Texas Health Commissioner John Hellerstedt said the rate and scale of the state's rollout has been "a really amazing operation" and said the creation of the hubs would ratchet up the rate of administration.

"Through the kind of vaccination operation we see here, we're very confident it's going to accelerate here even more," Hellerstedt said. "It is really the way forward."

The Texas Tribune

We should be a people in mourning. A people in reflection and prayer. At the heartbreaking top of the list is the desecration of the People's House, the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. Regardless of individual politics, far left, far right and all citizens in-between, there are some things which should never happen in the United States of America.

A Capitol Police Officer, Brian D. Sicknick died due to injuries sustained in his attempt to protect the People's House. He died protecting Our House, for us. This young man who went to work in a job his family says he loved dearly, did not go home to the family who dearly loved him. Officer Sicknick was a veteran, a fire team member and leader of the 108th Security Force Squadron, 108th Wing. He served in Operation Southern Watch and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Let's be clear, Officer Sicknick did not die in war, he gave his life protecting the People's House which was under attack by domestic terrorists. There is nothing that can justify his death or the vandalism of our possessions. One of the greatest tragedies of Officer Sicknick's death is that those who caused his death came roaring into the Capitol carrying American flags, a flag this young man served his entire adult life, a flag that will cover him in death.

So, how did this tragedy come to be? Anger. Vitriolic rhetoric. A lost presidential election and concerns about stolen elections in other states laid the groundwork for death and destruction. Regardless of what any of us believes about how elections occurred in those other states let's address one of Texans' most cherished beliefs, the protection of states' rights. If there is a problem in voting in a state, the authorities in those states are the ones who should be correcting it at the behest of their state's citizens. Would any of us, any of us, want someone from Michigan, Pennsylvania, Arizona telling us how to conduct our business in Texas? We think not.

In Georgia, the Republican Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger was pressured in a phone call from President Trump to change the reported results of the senatorial election that would determine control of the United States Senate. In an hour-long phone call that Raffensperger characterized as an attempt at intimidation, the Republican said under no circumstances that he would succumb to because of his polling findings and personal ethics. One of the charges according to the President was that "thousands of dead people voted".



The Georgia Republican officials have found TWO ballots 'cast by dead people' and they are investigating and planning to prosecute the people who cast those ballots. TWO...not thousands.

One of the most powerful and successful of propaganda tools is to repeat untruths long enough, loud enough and convincingly enough without wavering until those statements become perceived as true. All we have to do is turn our eyes to the 20th century to see that gambit played successfully to the destruction of nations and peoples.

We need to turn our eyes to past American statesmen and leaders at all levels as examples. They were often flawed characters, as we all are, but the dividing point is when a public official puts the nation and the safety of its people above their own interests. Let's be clear about this, words have consequences.

One of the consequences of words spoken last week to the thousands of protesters in Washington D.C. was the vandalism of Our House and the death of a police officer and veteran. That should break every American's heart regardless of politics.

We can do better. We must be better. We owe it to each other, our children and our grandchildren. And, we owe it to Officer Brian Sicknick.

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Looking ahead ...

After a rugged and seemingly endless 2020, we are beginning to see the light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel. We are not done yet, but with vaccination programs ongoing and the disease and effective treatments better understood, we



should be able to establish a new normal at some point in 2021. There are myriad challenges, but the path is beginning to emerge.

One key issue for 2021 is the millions who are unemployed. While employment has rebounded substantially from the bottom in April 2020, a full recovery to pre-pandemic levels will take a couple of years. As expected, the pace of recovery slowed through the fall following large early gains as businesses reopened in the summer. The recent surge in cases has further stymied the comeback.

US unemployment levels decreased to 6.7% in November from the high of 14.7% in April but remain well above the 3.6% rate where we started the year. About 10.7 million people are officially jobless, including 3.9 million without work for 27

weeks or more. About 6.7 million people were working part-time for economic reasons and would have preferred full-time jobs. Yet another 7.1 million wanted to work but were not officially in the workforce. Dealing with these dislocations will be a critical imperative in 2021.

One source of relief is the belated stimulus package. The \$900 billion pandemic relief bill was finally enacted after months of delay and weeks of debate. It includes an additional \$600 in payments to individuals, including children, and extends the enhanced unemployment benefit, though the amount is lowered to \$300 per week. The bill also reopens the Paycheck Protection Program for a second round of small business loans and offers support for schools, childcare, renters, and additional food benefits. In addition, the bill provides funds for vaccine doses and distribution and continued assistance for testing.

This infusion of resources will help keep the structure of the economy intact and disseminate much-needed relief for individuals and families. The initial CARES Act was designed to provide aid for only a few months, and as the initial timeline draws to a close, the new stimulus bill will help to bridge the gap

until vaccinations are widely completed. It is not sufficient, but it is necessary.

All signs point to robust future expansion in an economy which was basically sound before the health crisis began. As the pandemic recedes, growth potential increases.

While the recovery will no doubt be somewhat uneven and many changes lie ahead, 2021 is shaping up to be a year of transition and adjustment, but (hopefully) one that brings much needed and welcomed calm from the unprecedented storms of the recent past. Stay safe!!



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- Pct. 3 Commissioner Floyd Wingo** (903) 759-8962
- Pct. 4 Commissioner John Mathis** (903) 981-1117
- Gregg County Sheriff's Office** (903) 236-8400

IS THERE SUCH A THING AS RIGHT AND WRONG?

Pluralism, relativism, and a perverted tolerance are prevalent in our culture. More and more people do not believe in absolutes, and they advocate that there is nothing absolutely right or wrong. Like Pilate, many ask: "What is truth?" (Jn. 18: 38). But common sense tells us there is such a thing as right and wrong. For example, a student can argue from now own with his teacher, that two plus two equals five, but it will still be incorrect! It may seem beneficial or encouraging to the student's psyche and ego to believe that two plus two equals five, but the truth is, it is still wrong, and it will always be wrong!

If there is no right and wrong, and if there is no absolute truth, then obviously, for religion to advocate a standard of right and wrong would be ridiculous wouldn't it? It would follow that one religion is just as good as another one. As one put it: "Religious pluralism is the view that all religions are equally valid as ways to God. Just as there are many paths up Mt. Fuji, so there are many paths to God. Differences among the religions are superficial; they all lead to the same goal." But Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (Jn. 14: 6). Jesus, speaking of God's Word said: "Thy word is truth." (Jn. 17: 17). Psalms 119: 142 says "Your law is truth," and verse 151 says "all Your commandments are truth." Since Jesus is the embodiment of truth, The Word that emanates from Him is truth, and is right, because it is the extension of Him. Thus, the only way one can be free from sin is to know and obey (abide in) His Word. (Jn. 8: 31-32). Only then can one "discern both good and evil," and distinguish between right and wrong, (Heb. 5: 14). To say nothing is absolutely right or wrong makes God's Word, morality, the Lord's church, and Christianity irrelevant. Think on these things.

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The Gladewater Mirror

Periodicals Postage Paid
Gladewater, TX
USPS 575-140
ISSN Number 1045-5671

The Gladewater Mirror is published weekly by Bardwell Ink, LLC
211 N. Main Street
Gladewater, TX

POSTMASTER:
Send PS3579 to
The Gladewater Mirror
P.O. Box 1549
Gladewater, TX 75647

Subscriptions are \$35/year in Gregg, Smith & Upshur counties and payable in advance.

News & Advertising Deadlines: Noon Monday
Office Hours
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Telephone: 903-845-2235
Fax: 903-845-2237
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K'havia Reese takes a foul on his way up to the basket. Photo by Chris Jones



Carleigh Judd adds a basket for the Lady Lions who are currently 17-1 (4-0). Photo by Chris Jones

Lady Lions on winning streak

Sometimes a set-back sets you straight. Since suffering their only loss, the Lady Lions are averaging 60+ points a game while holding their opponents to half that. With a 69-29 pummeling of Beckville in their latest outing, Union Grove sits at 17-1 (4-0). Missing from the one scratch in an otherwise polished record, Macey Alston led the Lady Lions with 20 points. Her presence frees up the other top scorer for the Grove, Carleigh Judd who added 13. With the Lady Bearcats back on their heels, the Lady Lions spread the ball around as Gracie Winn dropped 11 and Macey Roberts had 9. Sisters Makena and Kyler Littlejohn combined for 11. Gracie Stanford had 3 and Bailey Clowers 2. Previously victimized by the latest Lady Lion rampage was Overton. Judd led the way with 21 as the Lady Mustangs could only muster 2 points in the first period to 23 for UG. Alston added 19 in the 61-26 win in Overton.

Bears beat 'Necks and Hughes Springs

Gladewater's Kollin Lewis finished with 22 points as the Bears topped White Oak 61-5 last week. Trailing 36-38 at the end of three, Gladewater grabbed the lead and pulled away for their third win in as many games, all under the guidance of assistant coach Quinton Thomas. Thomas temporarily has the reigns as he awaits the return of Curtis Armstrong. The Bears held off a late charge from Hughes Springs on Tuesday for a 60-55 win in Thomas' debut followed by 54-36 win over Daingerfield on Wednesday. Lewis had 41 total points in those games. DJ Allen scored 34 over the three games while Eli Kates had 20.

Lady Bears top Ladynecks, 56-50

When two unmarred district records clash, someone has to emerge on top. Hai'leigh Oliver put up 21 points along with 7 rebounds and 5 steals to assure it was the Lady Bears to come out unscathed with a 56-50 win over White Oak. The Lady 'Necks fall to 4-1 in a tie with Sabine for second place in 3A Region II District 15. Gladewater sits atop the district standings unblemished and with a win over both of their closest district challengers. While White Oak edged the Bears in rebounds, Gladewater proved adept at stealing the ball by a 3:1 margin. Ebony Pipkin grabbed 4 and also had 8 points, 2 rebounds. Discipline ultimately set the Lady Bears apart, turning the ball over just 10 times to White Oak's 23. The Lady 'Necks also nearly doubled Gladewater in personal fouls 23 to 12. Earlier in the week Gladewater knocked off Hughes Springs 48-36. Despite 8 rebounds from JaKiyah Bell and 6 from Oliver, the Lady Bears were again out-rebounded by an opponent only to make up for it in steals (25 to 7). Calice Henderson had the stickiest fingers with 7 steals followed by Bell with 6.



A Hughes Springs player can only watch as Gladewater Bear DJ Allen flies to the basket. Photo by Chris Jones

What's Happening

GISD Calendar

- 1/15, Friday
1st day Softball practice
- 1/16, Saturday
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday School
- 1/18, Monday
MLK Holiday
- 1/19, Tuesday
5/6:30 p.m. G BB@Sabine
5/7:15 p.m. B BB@Sabine
- 1/22, Friday
Band All Region Clinic Concert
5/6:30 p.m. G BB vs. Daingerfield-H
5/7:15 p.m. B BB vs. Daingerfield-H
- 1/26, Tuesday
5/6:30 p.m. G BB@New Diana
5/7:15 p.m. B BB@New Diana
- 1/27, Wednesday
Progress Reports
- 1/28, Thursday
V/JV Round Robin Tennis-H
- 1/29, Friday
5/6:30 p.m. G BB vs. Hughes

- Springs-H
5/7:15 p.m. B BB vs. Hughes
Springs-H

UGISD Calendar

- 1/14, Thursday
Girls Powerlifting@SH
4:30 p.m. JH B BB vs. Big Sandy-H
5 p.m. JH G BB@Big Sandy
- 1/15, Friday
5 p.m. V G BB@Carlisle
5 p.m. V B BB vs. Carlisle-H
(Teacher Appreciation)
- 1/18, Monday
School Holiday

Opry Special

The Gladewater Opry will host a Friday Night Special with the Rose City Quartet from Tyler this week. There will be no admission charge but a love offering will be taken. The performance begins at 7 p.m.

KC Dean's List

Gladewater students earning Kilgore College Dean's List

honors for the fall semester are Caleb Bates, Tyler Bly, Pauline Bryant, Tammy English, Ana Garcia, Christy Gipson, Colton Holman, Linda Hotchkiss-McElroy, Carrie Lewis, Cameron Morrow, Brittani Nickleberry, Denna Pillaro, Sara Ramsey and Braeden Simmons.

KC President's List

Gladewater students earning

Kilgore College President's List honors for the fall semester are Shannon Battee, Jordan Burnett-Sales, Taylor Case, Savannah Cash, Jennifer Christoff, Robert Christoff, Zoe Craven, Taylor Fielden, Ashley Garcia, Taylor Garlow, Katy Jones, Sarah Lunsford, Joshua Martinez, Catherine Pritchett, Austin Raymond, Karen Rivera, Chelsea Sheffield and Jasmin Webb.

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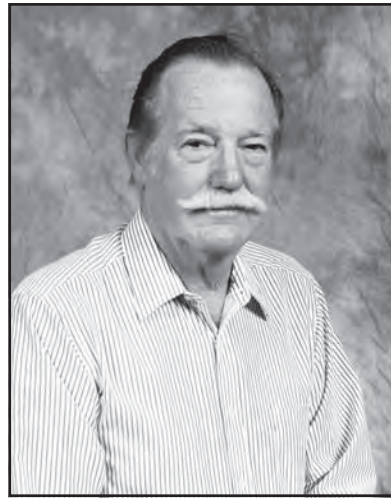
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OBITUARY

MELVIN LACY PARKERSON, SR.

Private family services will be held for Melvin Lacy Parkerson, Sr., 88, of Gladewater. A Celebration of Life will be scheduled for a later date. Mr. Parkerson passed away Friday, January 1, 2021, in Longview.



Mr. Parkerson was born November 15, 1932 in Edgewood, Texas to the late Jesse Parkerson and Ludie Stanley Parkerson. He was retired from Trans Co out of Chicago where he worked as a sheet metal worker. Mr. Parkerson served in the United States Army Airborne and achieved Jump Master. He was a member of the 11th Airborne Division. Mr. Parkerson was a longtime member of the Clarksville City Baptist Church where he served as a Deacon.

He mentored young men and women volunteering as a 4-H leader and the Boy Scouts for many years. Melvin enjoyed spending time with family and friends and was a member of the Wood County Riding Club. Melvin was a loving devoted husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and uncle who will be dearly missed by the loved ones he leaves behind.

Melvin is survived by three daughters Deborah Weston and husband Wayne, Valerie Hamlin and husband Mark and Karen Foster and husband Larry; two sons Melvin L. Parkerson, Jr. and wife Becky and Leonard R. Parkerson and wife Judy; honorary son Pete Fasanello and wife Tracy; one sister Roxie Black; 16 grandchildren; 23 great grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews as well as many other loving family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, loving wife of 63 years Antoinette "Toni" Smith Parkerson who passed away in 2018, his sister Flossie and his brother Raymond.

Online tributes and condolences can be made at www.croleyfh.net



GMS Interim Principal Derrick Floyd presented Amy Hardy with her certificate recognizing her as December Lion's Club Student of the Month. Courtesy Photo



December GMS Lion's Club Student of the Month is Cross Hawley. Courtesy Photo



Union Grove Junior High One Act Play students competed in a virtual district competition prior to Christmas break and took first place and the district crown. The play was directed by Sandy Spears. Courtesy Photo



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 Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174
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 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
 Joy Baptist • 903-790-4978

- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
 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**
 Living Stone Church • 903-845-8108

- NAZARENE**
 Church of the Nazarene • 903-845-4425

- METHODIST**
 First United Methodist Church • 903-845-2565
 McCrary's Chapel United Methodist

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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- New Mountain CME Church • 903-845-1175
 Starville Methodist • 903-877-4040
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- NON-DENOMINATIONAL**
 New Life Fellowship Church • 903-261-4227
 Gladewater Bible Church • 903-445-7234
 Grace Tabernacle • 903-309-8801

- PENTECOSTAL**
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Evening Service 6:30 p.m.	903-845-6440

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Texas A&M designates FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies facility for emergency federal use

BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION – FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies, and the Texas A&M University System Center for Innovation in Advanced Development & Manufacturing (CIADM) today announced that production has begun in Texas on two different COVID-19 vaccine candidates with support from the U.S. government to meet Operation Warp Speed goals.

FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies Texas, a subcontractor of the CIADM, recently completed its capacity expansion at its Flexible Biomanufacturing Facility in College Station, Texas, to accommodate large-scale production of the COVID-19 vaccine candidates. FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies will produce bulk drug substance of NVX-CoV2373, Novavax' vaccine candidate, which began phase 3 clinical testing in the U.S. and Mexico in December, 2020. NVX-CoV2373- is already being manufactured at commercial scale at the company's plant in Morrisville, North Carolina.

"After several months of intense preparation and hard work, we are ready to produce two vaccine candidates locally here in College Station," said Dr. Gerry Farrell, Chief Operating Officer, FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies, Texas. "We are pleased to bring our technical expertise and world-class facilities to support the mission of Operation Warp Speed in bringing a safe and effective vaccine to the world."

"The Texas A&M System is proud to be part of this unprecedented manufacturing effort," said John Sharp, Chancellor of The Texas A&M System. "Our partnership with FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies confirms the importance of the CIADM program for Texas, the nation and the world."

In July, the federal government reserved capacity at the College Station facility through the end of 2021 by tapping into an agreement with the CIADM. To enhance vaccine production, FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies accelerated its planned capacity expansion investments in the facility by several months. The facility is the largest scale-out cell culture manufacturing facility in the U.S. with a total of 14 2,000L cell culture trains.



Union Grove High School was awarded the Carter Blood Care Center Great Grant before the Christmas holiday break. Courtesy Photo

KC receives \$750K to provide free tuition for individuals who stopped out of higher education

Kilgore College is one of 40 colleges and universities in Texas selected to receive a grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to provide free tuition and fees for qualified individuals who stopped out of higher education, or workers who have been displaced in Texas.

The \$750,000 Texas Reskilling Grant provided to KC allows free training to qualified individuals who need to reskill to get back into the workforce, and provides support for students (who have previously stopped out of higher education) to complete a postsecondary credential.

"With so many employers in the East Texas area needing a skilled workforce to advance their mission, we are very excited to receive this grant and partner in this area's economic recovery," said Dr. Brenda Kays, KC president. "Individuals who meet the qualifications will have a tuition-free opportunity to obtain cutting-edge technology skills. These advanced skill sets have the potential to lead to exciting career opportunities that produce living-wage compensation."

The program is supported by part of the \$175 million allocation to the THECB from the Governor's Emergency Educational Relief (GEER) Fund.

For qualification information or to apply for the grant, visit www.kilgore.edu/THECB-grant.

Texas launches 'Opioid Misuse Prevention' website to fight addiction, overdoses

AUSTIN – Texas Health and Human Services is launching a new website featuring videos, the latest information and helpful resources to promote Texas Targeted Opioid Response (TTOR), which is a statewide public health effort to fight against opioid addiction and overdose.

The new website, TXopioidresponse.org, is available in English and Spanish and provides tips for safe opioid use, as well as information about the dangers of misusing prescription opioid medications.

"One in five Texans has experienced an opioid overdose or know someone who has," said Kasey Strey, TTOR Director at Texas Health

and Human Services Commission. "We are dedicated to preventing prescription opioid misuse, overdoses and opioid use disorder. With awareness of the risks and how to take medications safely, Texans can prevent opioid misuse and help put an end to the opioid crisis."

Every day, 128 people in the United States die after an overdose involving either prescription or illicit opioids, such as heroin, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Nationwide, nearly 80% of people who use heroin report misusing prescription opioids beforehand. Information is available at TXopioidresponse.org.

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Traveling safely with pets

Planning ahead with proper documentation, medicines and lodging arrangements are critical, a Texas A&M expert says.

Pet owners choosing to travel domestically while following the appropriate precautions during and after the COVID-19 pandemic may be apprehensive about leaving their animal companion at home. While carrying a pet cross-country may seem daunting, with proper planning, owners should be confident that they can get their furry friend where they need to go.

Dr. Christine Rutter, a clinical assistant professor at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, says that pet owners need to notify their airline, lodging, and veterinarian of their intention to travel with their pet as early as possible. Owners should also reach out to the appropriate authorities to ensure their pet has the proper documentation.

"Technically, any transport of an animal across state lines requires a USDA health certificate issued by a USDA certified veterinarian," Rutter said. It is best to check the specific requirements of your destination to ensure that you are in compliance with all relevant laws and regulations when you arrive.

When obtaining the proper documentation from your veterinarian, owners should ensure that their pet is up to date on all vaccinations, heartworm prevention, ectoparasite (such as fleas and ticks) prevention, has a registered microchip with current contact information, and has a legible tag on their collar or harness. Tags should include a pet's name, an emergency phone number, and any pertinent medical information.

"If your pet receives daily medications, be sure you have enough to last through your trip and ask your veterinarian if it would be worth having a paper copy of prescriptions in case medications get lost," Rutter said.

Owners of pets who rely on a medical device, such as a glucose monitor or pacemaker, should speak with their veterinarian about what resources are available near their destination. If your pet struggles with anxiety or motion sickness, ask your veterinarian how to best accommodate their needs during travel.

"Many of our pets don't live terribly exciting lives when it comes to travel, so the hustle and bustle of travel can come as a real shock," Rutter said. "Weeks before you travel, familiarize your pet with the crate or carrier that they will be traveling in. Hiding treats or feeding your pet in the carrier, providing a comfortable bed in the carrier, and going on short car drives in the carrier can help make the travel experience less scary."

Rutter also recommends keeping your pet in a travel crate or carrier when they are unattended in a new environment. This keeps your pet out of mischief and ensures that your pet is in a safe and familiar place.

Owners can also help foster a familiar environment for their pet by using the same litter their cat uses at home when traveling, and by feeding them a consistent diet. Avoiding the introduction of new food and treats while traveling may also reduce the risk of digestive incidents.

Most importantly, Rutter recommends that pet owners anticipate the needs of their furry friend and prepare for emergencies. This includes carrying waste bags, water, time-sensitive medications, and at least a small portion of your pet's food. Owners should also be aware of airport pet relief areas, as applicable.

Owners may wish to research where local emergency veterinary centers are along their route or near their destination. They may also wish to purchase pet insurance for their animal and should keep their policy on-hand when traveling. If possible, include insurance information on your pet's collar or harness tag.

Finally, Rutter reminds owners that their furry friend may behave differently when exposed to the stressors of travel. Be sure your pet wears a collar or harness with a tag at all times while traveling in case of escape attempts. Fearful pets may also bite, so give your pet ample time to acclimate to new environments before challenging them with meeting new people and other animals, and ensure that they are properly monitored.

Pet Talk is a service of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M University. Stories can be found on the Pet Talk website. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to editor@cvm.tamu.edu.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The City of Gladewater is seeking proposals for the operation of its Ball Park Sports Complex located at 1006 E. Pacific in Gladewater, Texas. Please visit our website at www.cityofgladewater.com for more information and full proposal preparation instructions. Proposals will be received until 12:00 p.m. on Friday, January 29, 2021 at Gladewater City Hall, 519 E. Broadway Avenue, Gladewater, Texas 75647.

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43rd Annual Cattleman Bull & Female Sale Jan. 23, 2021, 12:00 Noon, El Campo Livestock Auction, El Campo, TX. Expecting 100 Bulls. Also selling a group of select females. www.cattlemansale.com Adrian Knight Tx Lic #11102, 903-452-7591; Kelly Conley Tx Lic #9558, 903-850-3449.

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Registration underway for Google IT Support Professional Certificate classes beginning Jan. 20

Kilgore College will offer a series of five workforce development courses that lead to the Google IT Support Professional Certificate with scholarships available for students who qualify.

Courses will be offered at the KC-Longview campus on Wednesday nights from 6 to 9 p.m., beginning Jan. 20 and continuing through June 2. Each course lasts 3-4 weeks.

IT support is one of the fastest-growing fields in the United States. The IT Support Professional Certificate, developed by Google and hosted on the Coursera online learning platform, can help people prepare for entry-level jobs in IT support.

Courses are taught by an instructor three hours a week, supported by a dynamic mix of online video lectures, quizzes and hands-on labs.

Students are introduced to troubleshooting, customer service, networking, operating systems, system administration and security.

Upon completion of each course, learners earn course completion badges for display on their LinkedIn profiles.

Those who earn the certificate also receive a Google IT Support Professional Certificate badge, and can choose to share that information with top employers in the United States.

Tuition for each course is \$100 with scholarships available for qualifying students.

To register for courses, contact Jana Campbell at (903) 236-2021 or jcampbell@kilgore.edu.

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A/B Honor Roll

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WELDON ELEMENTARY
2nd Grade

"A" Honor Roll

Amelia Allen-Frank, Roberto Arreguin, Drew Brookshire, William Carney, J'Kayla Cash, Nathan Castro, Karsyn Cates, McKenzie Dorsey, Korbin Evans, Kar'Dae Ford, Tricia Gamble, Ceanna Gipson, Maverick Hamby, Makayla Johnston, Iyanla Keys, Kavin Lincoln, Colsen Manley, Justin Melot, Kinsley Nielson, Lily Rose, Sadie Shackelford, Chevelle Sisson, Aliyah Thomas, Landry Townsend, Reagan Walts, Emily Youngblood

"A-B" Honor Roll

Enrique Arevalo Rodriguez, Logan Ballou, Scheyler Bisner, Qui'Aubri Blaylock, Joshua Brooken, John Brown, Zahon Brown, InaSue Budro, Gisselle Ceballos, Nehemiah Cole, Talian Crenshaw, Remy, Crews, Garrett Davis, Litzy Delgado, Alejandro Diaz Hernandez, Wyatt Edlund, Alyssa Gutierrez, Nickolas Hunter, Zae'Chamerial Jackson, Truth Jones, Hunter Kegarise, Jace Ledbetter, Glenn Lucas, Keylin Mills, Angel Perez Alvarado, Gracelee Pickett, Isabella Polanco, Emma Porter, Dezlyn Pruitt, Isaias Sanchez-Landaverde, Jimena Valdez Galaviz, Brantley Wright, Laura Zihlman

3rd Grade

"A" Honor Roll

Brady Aldredge, Kolbi Alverson, Carter Bell, Peyton Bell, Killian Boyles, Kayden Campbell, Fernanda Coronado, Lydia Crane, McKaylie Ferrell, McKenzie Ferrell, Sophia Garner, Kindyl Harper, Emma Harroff, KeMoriya Madden, Bella Mason, Sophia McKinnon, Colt Moore, Hannah Nash, Cortland NyKamp, Ace Reed, Cullen Reynolds, J'Kayden Stevens, Cayden Templeton, Bradley Wilson

"A-B" Honor Roll

Carson Allen, Sidney Anderson, Walter Barron, Jamie Bell, Kiara Bennet, Cayden Cook, Zion Ector, Rylee Farley, Kassyde Godlock, Christopher Gomez, Trevor Gothard, Alonna Gregory, Lyla LeBlanc, Aniyah Lee, Aalayah Lilly, Brittany Martinez, Gabrielle McCowan, Robert Meals, Elizabeth Mendez, Jhonatan Mercado, Zoey Mize, Bentley Nielsen, Brayden O'Rourke, Kanyel Oliver, Aa'Marie Page, Emily Ramage, Blakelee Rhoades, Morgan Toerck, Carlie Tucker, Anette Varcasia, Cole Vaughn, Emma Vickers, Isaac Villalpando, Spencer Walbridge, Brileyl Watts, Gabriel Watts, Courtney White, Rayne Woods, Joseph Woodworth

4th Grade

"A" Honor Roll

Tinsley Aldredge, Jax Bradford, Mesh Rosas, Brooklyn Villalpando

GISD HONOR ROLLS
2nd NINE WEEKS

"A-B" Honor Roll

Brandon Alvarez Martinez, Kinzeigh Bauman, Kylie Beall, Kara Bellanger, Colin Bird, Mitchell Bittick, Daelyn Bradshaw, Paxton Casson, Andria Castaneda, Icker Ceballos, Addison Chandarlis, Nathaniel Cook, Everlie Costello, Natalee Cowart, Isabella Dangel, Ma'Kenzie Floyd, William Hardy, Jordynn Harris, Diego Hernandez, Aydan Holmes, Ashen King, Baylee Klosterm, Kaydance Love, Samantha Luna, Alexander Meza, Jayden Miller, Connor Morgan, Beatrice Nasados, Abigail Nino, Keyra Nino, Evelin Patino, Kaeyla Perez, Josue Perez-Olvera, Cyzler Pruitt, Ellicia Reynolds, Ty Richey, David Sholars, Delilah Sholars, Dodge Sisson, Connor Thompson, Kensyn Turner, Brynlee Underwood, Brody Vickers, Britney Vite, Bentley Webber

5th Grade

"A" Honor Roll

Samuel Corona, Kenzi Love, Draven Rodriguez, Jakeilynn Rollins

5th Grade

"A-B" Honor Roll

Bailey Childress, Lily Childress, Madison Duncan, Jax Glarborg, Stoney Greathouse, Landen King, Cooper Manley, De'Ashton Mills, Madden Ramirez, Chevy Sisson, James Solley, Walter Thomas, Alexander Villalpando, Connor White

GLADEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL

6th Grade

A Honor Roll

Hydie Collins, Elshady Getachew, Kendal Yount.

A/B Honor Roll

Austin Bateman, Coby Bellanger, Dylan Botanis, Maliyah Boyce, Cheyenne Braulick, Abigail Carney, Aliyah Criss, Alivia Duncan, Adyson Evans, Kymorah Gordon, Daymun Guerrero, Reid Hass, Byron Hast, Bryce Lankford, Audryana Lorenzo, Dayla Luna, Lily Mahfood, Matthew McKinnon, Amarion Minter, Grace Mooney, Macey Moore, Brad Nino, Talon Robinson, Matthew Smith, Carlee Townsend, Victor Ward.

7th Grade

A Honor Roll

Anay Aguillon, Mason Biddle, Harper Bittick, Elizabeth Brown, Mason Budro, Elizabeth Dennis, Aubry Floyd, Karyme Gomez, Kevin Mireles, Edwin Nino, Azucena Perez, Madison Rector, Christian Rojas.

A/B Honor Roll

Saul Alvarez, Elijah Anthony, Eloy Barajas, Ma'khya Boone, Makenze Boyce, Luke Brown, Samantha Brown, Aaron Chavarria, Lucas Cherry, Brittany Clark, Aidan Clay, Jakobe Crosby, Jayleen Delapaz, Hayli Edwards, Pierce Garcia, Jacksyn Gleghorn, Alayah Gordon, Stormie Greeson, Rylan Hilton, Peyton Hunter, Emily Jackson, Lizzet Jaramillo, Aamyria Jones, Seth Josey, Katelin Kennimer, Grafton Morgan, Matthew Perales, Cian Ray, Esmeralda Rojas, Kyle Santos, D'Tarvious Spratling, Jakub Stotts, Ivan Thomas, Donovan Tolbert, John Watson, Ella Williams, Oscar Williams, Carson Wood, Brayson Woods.

8th Grade

A Honor Roll

Hallie Clinnard, Jaxxon Cook, Tristian Ferman, Nathan Fortenberry, Jessica Perez, Cameron White.

A/B Honor Roll

Astrih Alvarez, Mathias Bales, Zoe Bowling, Katrina Bush, Julian Canfield, Braden Carter, Janee Davis, Joshua Diaz Mucio, Erika Evey, Pamela Fagans, Jasmine Fisher, Charlene Frazier, Cynthia Gutierrez, Tanner Hammett, Landon Hawkins, Illyssa Hawley, Ava Langford, Lilyana Lorenzo, Jaxson Maricle, Lo-

gan McKnight, Karlee Moses, Gabriel Navarro, Isaias Neves Knight, Jaiela Nobles, Zoie Reddock, James Rester, Rachel Shepard, Nathan Smith, Noah Smith, Mason Thompson, Reagan Verner, Jamie Webb, Joseph Webber, Ryder Welch, Ashley Wilson, Brayden Wood, Taylor Wright.

GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL

2nd Nine weeks

9th Grade

A Honor Roll

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A/B Honor Roll

Katelyn Biddle, Alexis Bleckley, Haillie Bulmer, Israel Cerda, Tristan Collins, Blake Crane, Bayleigh Edwards, Jordan Fowler, Melodee Gomer, Christopher Hernandez, Abigail Hess, Allayah Jackson, Kyle Martin, Erik Omdahl, Karley Owens, Oraceleste Plunkett, Sixto Rojas, Cameron Taylor, Michael Torres, Sunni Wade, Layne Warburton, Savannah Warren, Phillip Wilson

10th Grade

A Honor Roll

Ryan Bailey, Lexi Betts, Emily Deishler, Aminah Gordon, Kylie Jalomo, Kollin Lewis, Tyler Milstead, Breanna Newman, Kiy'ona Parker, Eduardo Rojas, Matthew Smith, Sarah Walbridge, Jenna Watson, Alexandria White

A/B Honor Roll

Austin Allen, Lauren Alley, Alexis Boyd, Dakota Bozman, Ne'Adriya Bradley, Serenity Butler, Maria Cano, Rigo Castaneda, Osvaldo Chavarria, Jude Criss, Kamryn Floyd, Gracie George, Zaviare Jackson, Khristian Jolliff, Jozzlynn Maruffo-Fields, Avery Mays, Landon Mcknight, Chance Mendez, William Perry, Taylor Pickett, Clayton Plunkett, Jacob Shepard, Keiley Steddum, Haylee Stotts, Jocelyn Taylor, Austin Verner, Sara Weathersby

11th Grade

A Honor Roll

Christina Campbell, Kaitlynn Canaguier, Joshua Choate, Riley Crane, Hannah Edwards, Avery Glarborg, Daniela Gomez, Tanner Gothard, Teya Grooms, Andrew Jones, Brock Jones, Michael Lewis, Adamaris Lopez, Antonio Mejivar, Ta'mya Miles, Gabriella Montelongo, Trinity Mooney, Deepas Rasaily, Ximena Rojas, Jade Thomas, Jersey Turner, Shelby Weaver, Adasyn Williams

A/B Honor Roll

Savanna Arroyo Kinsey, Haylee Boyce, Makenna Boyles, Hailey Celley, Gicel Cerda, Cariesma Colbert, Marlon Davis, Emma Flores, Jane Gasperik, Alexis Hart, Ryleigh Hightower, Samya Lewis-Frierson, Haleigh Moran, Katelynn Moses, Dawson Nettles, Ebony Pipkin, Zachary Polanco, Jesica Reyes, John Reynolds, Lyndsey Robertson, Jada Ross, Alise Sanders, Holis Selman, Zachary Shipp, Katie Sisk, Maddison Teague, John Trevino, Zavion Woods

12th Grade

A Honor Roll

Janet Aguillon, Kaylee Alderson, Edith Alvarez, Riley Bewley, Megan Cooper, Garrett Glenn, Daylon Hernandez, Olivia Herndon, Tristan Holmes, Kierra Jackson, Deja Martin, Karen Peralta Camargo, Jennifer Rivera Hernandez, Sydney Spurlock, Aalatih Turner, Cinthia Vicente Contreras

A/B Honor Roll

Jazmine Arreguin, Trent Bolt, Morgan Dans, Alyssa George, Felipe Gomez, Christopher Green, Katlin Grice, Jason Harris, Cheyenne Herndon, Hunter Jones, Jordan Kinsey, Nickalus Lincoln, Azucena Lopez, Jordan Lumpkins, Kelsey Lumpkins, Ryan Martin, Mia Medina, Juan Menjivar, Lucas Miles, Gage Mitchell, Kelsy Omdahl, Desirae Peavy, Cristian Perez, Jala Roberson, Jaionna Sanders, Melody Sanders, Cassie Steel, Jasper Taylor, Madelyn Timmons



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Game Warden Field Notes

The following items are compiled from recent Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) law enforcement reports.

Penny Pinching

A Shelby County game warden followed up on an ongoing investigation of a local individual who had hunted without a valid hunting license when he shot

a buck in 2019. The subject confessed to not buying the license to save money for college. Case pending.

Mama's Got Your Back

Two Harris County game wardens followed up on a local poaching complaint and discovered a suspect who had

harvested a white-tailed doe had done so without landowner consent. The suspect confessed to poaching and when asked to collect the deer meat, was surprised to find his mom had hidden the illegal deer meat under the couch while the wardens visited with him outside the home. Multiple charges and

restitution pending.

Holy Crappie

An Upshur County game warden received an anonymous tip about a substantial amount of fish that had been cleaned and dumped at Lake O' the Pines near Ore City. The warden and his partner responded and inspected the property where the fish were dumped and discovered that two out of state fishermen were responsible. The two fishermen had been fishing every day for a week and were staying at a motel at the local marina. Further investigation revealed 273 crappie, 173 fish over the legal state possession limit, were taken, filleted and stored in ice chests and freezers on the property. More than 350 crappie filets were seized and donated to multiple families around the area. Multiple charges and restitution pending.



Investigating a tip about a large amount of fish that had been cleaned and dumped, Texas game wardens discovered two out-of-state anglers with 173 crappie over the legal possession limit.

Turtle-y Illegal

A warden was notified about a complaint regarding a local pet store in San Antonio that had a tortoise for sale. Upon inspection of the pet store, the warden seized a Texas Tortoise (a threatened species) that was "given" to the store. Further investigation revealed the store was also selling Mississippi Map Turtles and River Cooter Turtles without a non-game dealers license. The Texas tortoise was released back into the wild. Charges pending.

What's in the Bag?

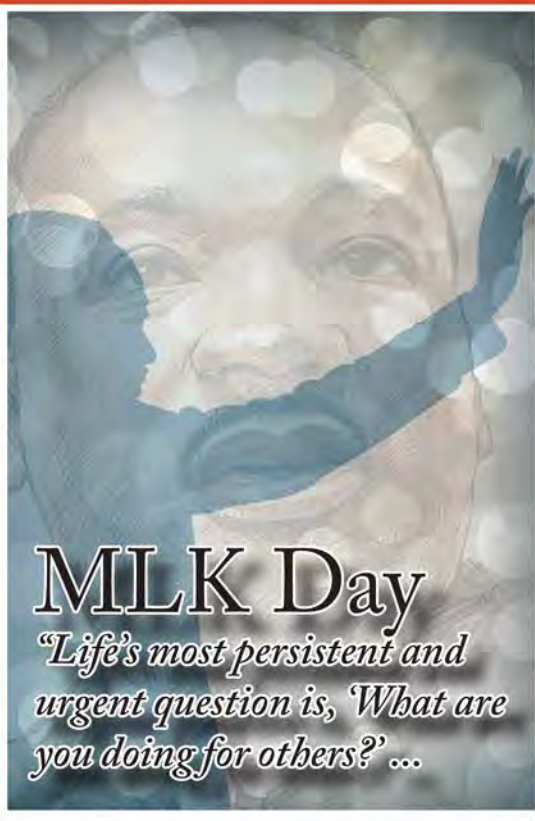
A Val Verde County game warden was patrolling the northern end of the county for white-tailed

deer hunting compliance when he contacted several subjects who were acting evasive when asked simple hunting related questions. Further questioning revealed the group had been trespassing and duck hunting without licenses or duck stamps in between their deer hunt. The breasted-out ducks were found neatly stored in a potato chip bag. Multiple cases and restitution pending.

See You Later, Alligator

Three game wardens from Johnson, Ellis and Harris Counties and a State Park Police Officer concluded a three-month investigation into an alligator poaching case. In mid-September, game wardens received a tip about an individual living in the Dallas-Fort Worth area who had poached an alligator somewhere on the Trinity River at night while

bow fishing. After an extensive search, the subject was identified and found to live in Waxahachie. Two of the wardens questioned the individual at his home and, after some time, he admitted to shooting the alligator. The man also told wardens that it happened on a stretch of the Trinity River near Centerville and his friend had been driving the boat and working the spotlight. Further investigation revealed that the friend shot the alligator with a pistol after it had been shot with the bow twice. The head of the alligator, which was buried on his parent's property, was recovered from the suspect. With information about the additional suspect, a warden and park police officer questioned the friend who also confessed to poaching the alligator.



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The charming home of Sharon Thompson at 2209 Woodbine is the January Yard of the Month. Its creatively multi-level evergreen shrubbery which wraps around the house adds interest and is a complement to its neighbors.

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