

Gladewater Mirror



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50¢

Floyd named GHS Principal

By Suzanne Bardwell

New Gladewater High School Principal Derrick Floyd has the education, the experience and the family heritage that has prepared him for his new position.

"Everyone who knows who my grandpa was and what he stood for without saying too many words," Floyd said. "His actions promoting Gladewater ISD and in his latter years the whole town of Gladewater spoke volumes. He is someone I hope to be in the same league as they say."



FLOYD

Floyd's grandfather, Walter Derrick, was a Weldon High School teacher and head football coach, GHS teacher and coach and Gladewater's first Black mayor. Floyd's grandmother EverGrace worked in the GISD Business Office and his wife Kamisha is currently Weldon Elementary assistant principal.

Floyd earned his Master in Educational Leadership, as well as his Bachelor's degree in Education from Stephen F. Austin University. He earned national Dean's List honors while doing so. He has served as Gladewater Middle

School assistant principal since 2017.

"I am pleased to appoint Mr. Floyd to this position," Supt. Sedic Clark said. "GMS and our district have benefitted from his employment. Mr. Floyd's love for kids, his character and energy will all be assets as he tackles this new assignment. I'm excited about the future of GHS under Derrick Floyd's leadership."

Prior to coming to GISD, Floyd was a chemistry and integrated physics teacher, as well as head track coach and first assistant football and basketball coach at Big Sandy ISD from 2006 until 2017. He had previously taught and coached at Trinity and Pittsburg high schools.

"While coaching at Big Sandy I felt I needed to do more for students," Floyd said. "An opportunity came by the way of a now good friend at Gladewater named Chris Langford. He saw my application and granted me an interview. While working at GMS the position opened up at the high school and I applied. So many people have wished me well and want me to have this opportunity."

Langford has been serving as GHS interim principal since the December retirement of longtime educator Cathy Bedair who had a 33 year career in public education. Floyd will assume the position on Feb. 1.

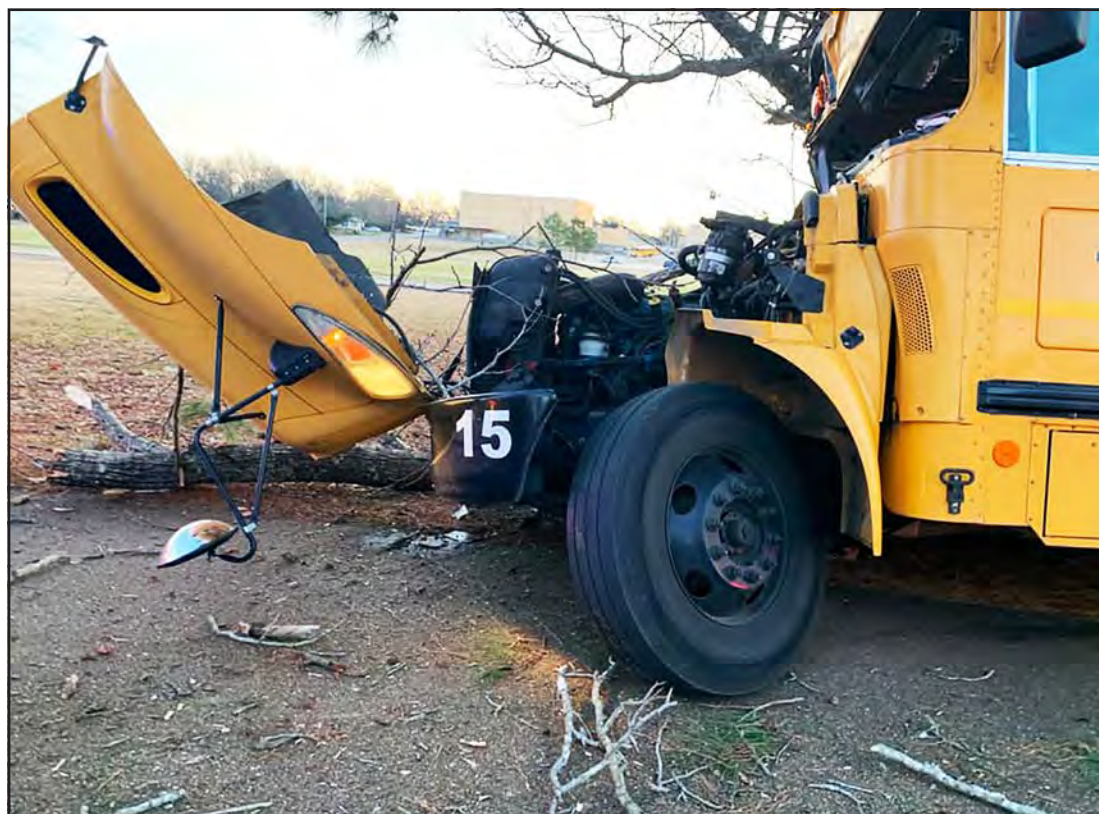
"My goals for the high school are to promote our students and help them get to where they want to go," Floyd said.

Several new programs for the high school are in the planning stages and Floyd looks forward to implementing more options and opportunities for students.

"Over the past years the daily duties and responsibilities that I have completed as GMS assistant principal will be the same," Floyd said. "There is more accountability at the high school and that will be a challenge, but as our motto says, 'We Can!'"

Floyd's mother Lanita Smith is a GHS alum and his stepfather Butch Smith is a former Bear coach. His father John Floyd also graduated from GHS and played football for the San Diego Chargers. His daughter Kamryn is a GHS sophomore and his son Aubry is a seventh grader at GMS. Bear spirit runs deep in his family and for Floyd personally.

"I am excited for this opportunity to lead Gladewater High School," Floyd said. "I want to thank everyone for the support so far. I am looking forward to helping the high school students achieve their dreams and goals. My educational philosophy is a simple one, 'kids first', and I can not wait to get to work."



Gladewater firefighters, as well as Gladewater police, Christus EMS and Gladewater ISD personnel rushed to the scene of a school bus accident Friday morning after the bus struck a tree on Coach Cooksey Road. Some students sustained minor injuries and were checked out by EMS personnel, while three other students were taken to a nearby hospital where they were treated and released. GISD Superintendent Sedic Clark said the cause of the accident remains under investigation. "We are very grateful for the outstanding job that our older kids did helping get all the students off the bus just as they were trained to do through the emergency door in the back. They immediately went into action," Clark said. "Our staff did an outstanding job as well caring for our students especially GMS Interim Principal Derrick Floyd, GPS Attendance Clerk Amanda Brown, Coach Scott Mann and Nurse Jones."



GFD Photos

Upshur wants vaccines for rural areas

By Phillip Williams

A bare quorum of the Upshur County Commissioners Court on Friday approved a resolution asking the Texas Department of State Health Services "allocate COVID-19 vaccine to rural counties" like Upshur "to be administered by local health authorities."

County Judge Todd Tefteller said he proposed the resolution as "basically just a plea for help" because targeting the vaccine toward highly-populated urban areas is not good for senior citizens here.

Whenever the vaccine units are distributed, he complained, seemingly "none of 'em come here" with the exception of 300-400 doses which were allotted to the Divine Grace Pharmacy in Diana community. County Emergency Management Coordinator Marc Nichols said that drug store used up its allotment in three days, and Precinct 2 Commissioner Dustin Nicholson said "We had a lot of citizens that stood out in the weather" to receive the vaccine.

County Extension Agent Julie York added that the vaccine had been distributed to residential facilities such as nursing homes in the county.

Tefteller, who said State Rep. Jay Dean (R-Longview) is "raising cane" about the lack of overall distribution here, contended the state is eyeing how to get a million doses in a million arms most quickly to develop "herd immunity." The judge indicated he thought this was why the vaccine was being sent to urban areas, saying the state is "worried they can't get vaccines into arms" in rural locales.

Tefteller, however, said allocating "to some of our outlets" was in the works. Nichols added that some outlets here (such as Divine Grace) have been approved to distribute the vaccine, which he said goes directly from the manufacturer to "approved vendors" such as a drug store or supermarket.

On Monday, the coordinator said there has been no word when more vaccine will be sent here.

The Northeast Texas Public Health District and the University of Texas Health Science Center were reportedly receiving 1,500 doses each this week.

Tefteller argued that the state could tell the UT Tyler facility to reserve 150 of its 1,500 doses for Upshur residents. "What they're doing (in distributing the vaccine) is this free-for-all" where "the senior citizens aren't the fastest runners (to obtain the vaccine)," Tefteller complained. "It's not fair."

Feb. 12 deadline for city council

Anyone wanting to apply to run for the Gladewater City Council has until 5 p.m. on Feb. 12 to pick up an application from City Clerk Judy Van Houten.

Seats available include Place 4, Place 5, Place 6 and Place 7.

Thus far, Place 4 councilman Nick Foster has decided to not seek re-election. Place 6 councilman Rocky Hawkins said he has filed to run for the seat he was appointed to, Place 7 councilman Kevin Clark said he plans to seek re-election.

Place 5 councilman Elijah "Sonny" Anderson, who also

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Miss Gladewater Rodeo entries are now open

Miss Gladewater Rodeo entries are now open!

For the first time in a little over thirty years, the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo is proud to announce that the rodeo queen contest will be brought back to life! The Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo will be seeking candidates each year to compete for the title of "Miss Gladewater Rodeo." After holding the title of Miss Gladewater Rodeo, the queen will be an ambassador for the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo, the sport of rodeo, and our western heritage. All entries are due on March 3, 2021 by 5 p.m..

Contact Ashley Smith at 903-841-2177 or Marla Moore at 903-918-9675 for more information. You can also email them at missgladewater@gmail.com.

The Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo has an abundance of history and tradition. The rodeo was founded in 1937 by local businessman, J.N. "Jack" Yates, a Sioux Indian from North Dakota who moved to Gladewater during the oil boom. Yates, a veteran of World War I, organized the first ever rodeo to be held in France as entertainment for the soldiers. According to historical documents, he sought to recreate the event in Gladewater.

Yates owned an operated J.N. "Jack" Yates Pipe and

Supply Company, and recruited citizens to donate either funds or supplies to construct a rodeo arena. The structure was originally built from lumber, but the rodeo was such a success that it was reconstructed out of steel two years later.

The Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo's recognition received a substantial boost in 1971 when Johnny Quintana scored 98 points in its bull riding competition -- a feat that held world-record status for three years.

Since its humble beginnings, the rodeo has become nationally known and ranks among the top rodeos in the state, as well as top ten percent in the nation. The arena has hosted some of the nation's most notable competitors, including Don Gay, an eight-time PRCA World Champion Bull Rider, and Trevor Brazile, who holds thirteen all-around cowboy titles and is a twenty-six time world champion between the events of tie-down roping, team roping and steer roping. Other notable cowboys and cowgirls that have competed in the rodeo are Jim Shoulders,

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A Day of Service

The MLK Day of Service inspires hundreds of thousands of Americans to come together to serve their community. Citizens in all 50 states deliver meals, refurbish schools and community centers, and collect food and clothing. Volunteers also recruit mentors, support jobseekers, build homes and provide other services for veterans and military families, and help citizens improve their financial literacy skills.

In Gladewater Monday citizens gathered with organizer Odette Alexander to participate in a downtown car parade and food drive to honor Dr. King's legacy. Residents gathered at the Garfield Hill Community Center on Eleanor St. where they dropped off non-perishable food items, which will be donated to the Manna House in Gladewater.


After a long struggle, legislation was signed in 1983 to mark the birthday of Dr. King as a federal holiday. Americans first observed the holiday in 1986. In 1994, Congress designated the holiday as a national day of service.



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OPINION/EDITORIAL

Chris Cobler
Capital Highlights



Observers welcome quiet opening to Legislature

The Texas Legislature opened quietly, which delighted everyone after the violence inside the U.S. Capitol the previous week.

At the Texas State Capitol, a variety of legislative agendas took center stage at the start of the 87th session, which will run 140 days. Gov. Greg Abbott's goals include ensuring Texans have access to high-quality healthcare, improving public safety, getting Texans back to work and promoting the state's economic recovery.

Many other state organizations announced their agendas, too:

- The Texas Farm Bureau outlined 11 priorities, starting with protecting property owners' rights under eminent domain law. Other legislative priorities include protecting landowners and agricultural producers' rights to surface water and groundwater; legalizing reasonable chemical controls for feral hogs and maintaining all current legal methods of controlling feral hogs; and supporting efforts to install broadband and cellular infrastructure in underserved rural communities.

- Raise Your Hand Texas is focused on making sure public dollars remain in public schools. Some of those policy recommendations include protecting all investments made in 2019's House Bill 3, including the funding for full-day pre-kindergarten; ensuring federal stimulus dollars are used to increase public education funding; continuing to invest in students with the goal of reaching the national average in per-student funding; and opposing any form of taxpayer subsidies to private schools and vendors, such as tax credit scholarships, education savings accounts, vouchers for students in special education and virtual vouchers.

- The Texas Alliance of Energy Producers will be working with lawmakers to avoid proposals to raise taxes, impose new or higher fees, or shift additional regulatory costs onto the industry or mineral interest holders. The alliance also plans to participate in the Coalition for Critical Infrastructure to put forward reasonable solutions to address landowners' concerns about eminent domain.

"This session will have some unique challenges due to COVID protocols and how the legislative process will be conducted," Farm Bureau President Russell Boening said. "It will be different, but what has not changed is the importance of making sure the voices of farm and ranch families are heard at the Capitol."

Raise Your Hand Texas officials said lawmakers can keep their promises to education despite the tight budget outlook.

"Even during this difficult budget cycle, the state has options to continue investing in and fully funding public education. These options can give our schools the ability to provide the services our students need and to effectively implement targeted interventions for learning loss that occurred over the last year due to COVID-19," Raise Your Hand Texas wrote in a statement.

Jason Modglin, energy alliance president, encouraged lawmakers in search of revenue to consider whether all energy sources are paying as much as oil and gas producers.

"Renewable energy projects in the state do not pay a severance tax to the state like we must do," Modglin wrote in Shalemag.com. "Those arguing Texas and the U.S. should fully transition to renewable energy sources have offered no plan for how they will fund schools, roads and water infrastructure in the same way oil and gas severance taxes do. For example, electric vehicles are currently not required to pay for the use of roads like gasoline and diesel vehicles must."

Connecting rural Texas

Regular readers of "Capital Highlights" know of readers' high interest in improving the access to high-speed internet for rural Texans. Connected Nation Texas recently asked lawmakers to offer their thoughts on the need.

"Many of the counties I represent do not have a hospital or even a doctor, and broadband can help bridge the healthcare gap these rural residents face," said Sen. Charles Perry, a Republican representing West Texas' District 28.

Letter to the Editor

Reader enjoys hometown newspaper

Dear Editor,

I received this copy of the Gladewater mirror in my post office box today. Three columns stood out for me. Suzanne's column about the current political status and behavior was the first positive.

The editorial "we can do better... we must be better" was also exceptional. It is wonderful to see small town communication like this. The third column that I enjoyed was the game Warden field notice. It covered significant field issues with a lighthearted introductory system. I do enjoy reading my 1950s hometown newspapers!

Wondell "Dell" Mackey

"...you gotta laugh to keep from crying."

A lot of jokes have been made about 2020 and its aftermath. We have faced a pandemic which didn't just target our bodies, but also our jobs, businesses and pocketbooks. To top it off, we have had contentious elections, frightening violence from all directions, and a lot of worry about the unknown. That is a truckload of reality to grapple with daily.

But the fact that there are so many jokes about 2020 gives me hope for 2021, as optimistic as that may be. You know why? You gotta laugh to keep from crying. My worn out, rancher, cowboy daddy taught me that. Every year in agriculture is like playing the odds. Overflows, droughts, tornadoes, livestock pandemics, locusts of biblical proportions...you know, just another day on the ranch.

I learned to laugh at the knee of a master. So let's look back at some of our favorite 2020 slam dunk jokes that hit painfully close to home and pray (hard) for a better 2021.

"If 2020 was a person I'd sue him for pain and suffering."

"At the beginning of 2020 I made a New Year's resolution to lose 10 pounds...only 15 more to go!"

"Whose idea was it to sing 'Happy Birthday' while washing your hands? Now every time I go to the bathroom, my kids expect me to walk out with a cake."

"My husband purchased a world map and then gave me a dart and said, 'Throw this and wherever it lands, that's where I'm taking you when this pandemic ends.' Turns out, we're spending two weeks behind the fridge."

And for the pun lovers among us:

Suzanne Bardwell



"Ran out of toilet paper and started using lettuce leaves. Today was just the tip of the iceberg, tomorrow remains to be seen."

Rationalization is a national pastime, here is one of my personal favorites:

"My mom always told me I wouldn't accomplish anything by lying in bed all day. But look at me now, ma! I'm saving the world!"

And, here are a couple of personal faves that hit a little too close to home:

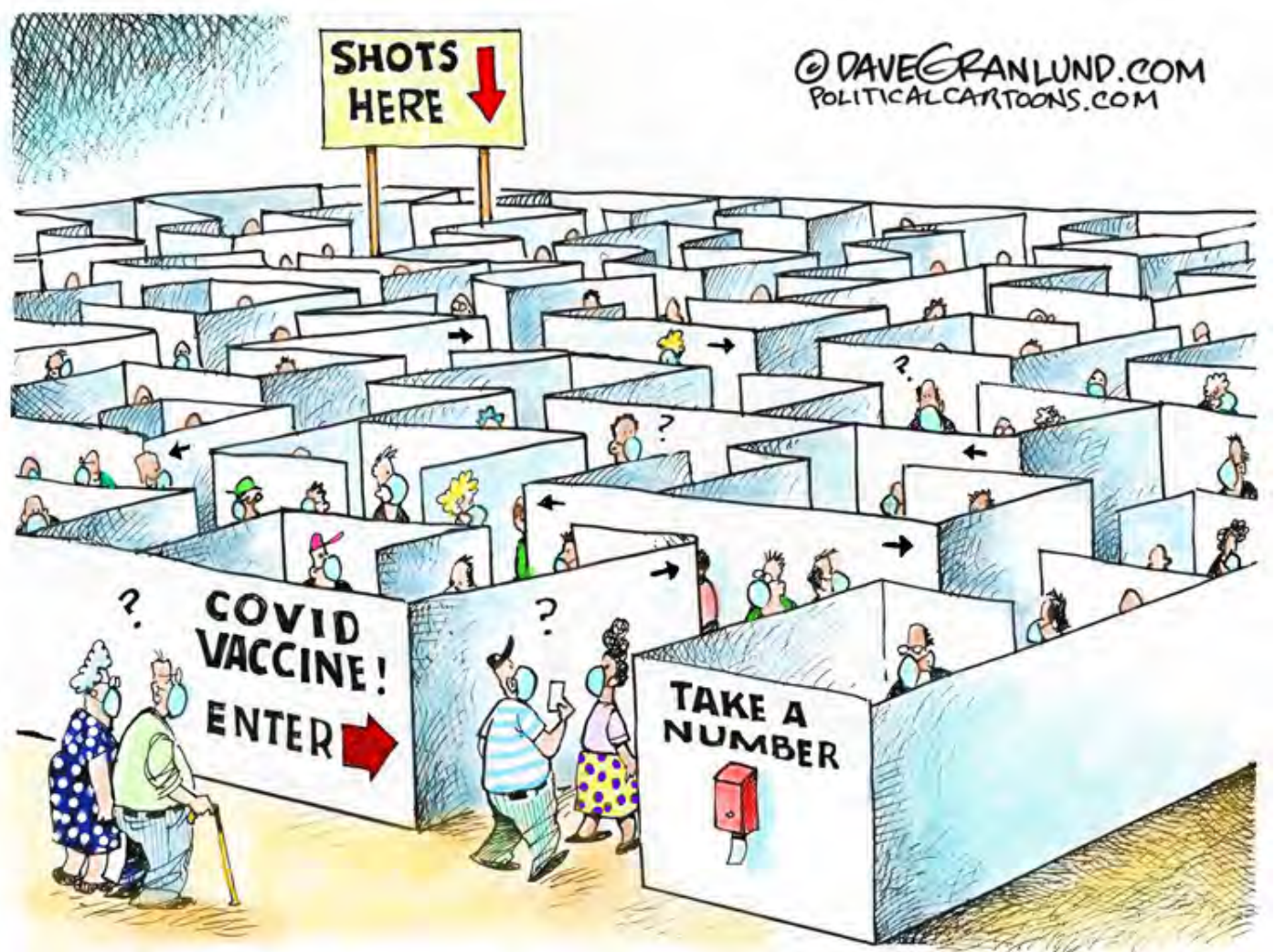
"If I keep stress-eating at this level, the buttons on my shirt will start socially distancing from each other." And

"After years of wanting to thoroughly clean my house but lacking the time, this week I discovered that wasn't the reason."

Wait, one more from my house:

"This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog, we laughed a lot."

So dear friends and neighbors let's remember to laugh. After all, laughing is, and will always be, the best form of therapy. When we share laughter we share ourselves and hope for tomorrow.



THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Strength Amidst Chaos

I first saw the US Capitol as a student about five decades ago. For the past 40+ years, it has been part of my professional life - testimony, hearings, meetings, meals, receptions, and crunching numbers.

Whenever I am there, I find a few moments to pause in the imposing rotunda, peruse the nearby statues, or perhaps climb to the top for a closer view of Constantino Brumidi's breathtaking "The Apotheosis of Washington." Even the hallways are majestic.

I marvel at the glistening white dome and recall Abraham Lincoln's words in 1862 to a

young chaplain dispatched by General Grant. He spoke of the criticism of finishing it as war raged and said "If people see the Capitol going on, it is a sign that we intend the Union to go on."

This edifice transcends a mere building. It is where the laws, both magnificent and ignominious, which govern this quarter-millennium grand experiment (quite young by historical standards) in merging democracy (via a republic) and capitalism into a great nation, are forged.

I always get chills when I enter the Capitol. It is never routine. Witnessing this hallowed ground desecrated and lives lost within its storied walls is a travesty.

When I consider these events as an economist, something truly amazing surfaces. As financial markets opened on January 6,

prior to the siege, they surged upward for unrelated reasons. They remained there throughout the day and those immediately beyond, and global markets generally followed suit.

Markets collapsed after 9/11, when the House initially rejected key legislation to quell the Great Recession, and as the severity of the coronavirus first became apparent. They often fluctuate dramatically in response to an offhand remark by the Federal Reserve Chairman or even a single company missing an earnings estimate by a few cents. Yet, on this most consequential day, they scarcely noticed.

This performance can only mean one thing. The financial markets, where trillions of dollars are exchanged daily seeking to dissect the tiniest bits of

information, never perceived that the US government was in jeopardy. If there had been a scintilla of doubt for a fraction of a nanosecond regarding the stability of the largest and most powerful economy on earth that supports the primary world reserve currency, there would have been a crash of epic proportions.

Markets are always forward-looking. The fact that they ignored this craven attack is compelling testament that the US has the strongest and most resilient political and economic institutions the world has seen. They will remain a source of economic leadership and technological advancement and the foundation of the global monetary system for the foreseeable future. They have often been tested, but never faltered. Lincoln was right.



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THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

There are many who ridicule the concept of salvation by the blood of Christ. For example, Robert Ingersoll had much to say in numerous tirades against Christianity, about what he ignorantly called "blood religion." He even referred to the Christian faith as a "slaughterhouse" religion. One of the favorite pastimes of today's intellectuals is that of ridiculing the idea of "blood atonement." For example, one of these modern voices tells us: "Your blood sacrifice theology is horrific. I could never believe in a God who would accomplish salvation through a cross!" But alas, still the Bible says: "Without shedding of blood there is no remission." (Heb. 9: 22). In fact, this is the focal point of the gospel story of redemption i. e. there is no remission of sins without the shedding of blood. This is the major theme of the epistle to the Hebrews, and the entire Bible. The crimson thread of blood runs throughout God's entire revelation to man. It is not our goodness that saves us; salvation is only achieved through the blood of Jesus Christ. Thus, we read in Matt. 26: 28: "This is my blood of the New Testament which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

"Not all the blood of beasts on Jewish altars slain,
Could give the guilty conscience peace, or wash away the stain.
But Christ the Heavenly Lamb; takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name, and richer blood than they."

People can ridicule "salvation by the blood of Christ," but the fact remains that people are "justified by His blood" (Rom. 5: 9, "released from their sins by His blood" (Rev. 1: 5), "Redeemed to God by His blood" (Rev. 5: 9), "sanctified by His blood" (Heb. 10: 29), and that "He gave His life a ransom for many" (Mk. 10: 45; 1 Jn. 3: 16). Think on these things.

Dennis Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ
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Gladewater Lady Bears Lexi Hart (8) made 3 goals in the Lady Bears 6-1 win over New Diana.



Gladewater Bear Fernando Coronado (4) tries to advance the ball against two defenders. Photo by Chris Jones

What's Happening

Sen. Hughes named to various 2021 Texas Senate Committees by Lt. Gov. Patrick

AUSTIN - Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick issued the following statement today upon announcing his Texas Senate committee appointments for the 87th Legislative Session. Lt. Gov. Patrick also appointed the Select Committee on Ports and the Special Committee on Redistricting:

"The Texas Senate is comprised of proven leaders with the expertise and experience that makes them more than prepared to take on the difficult challenges we face in this new legislative session. The committee appointments I am making today call on all senators – Republicans and Democrats, freshmen and senior members – to play an integral role in crafting public policy that will ensure our state remains strong and every Texan can prosper.

"No one works harder than the members of the Texas Senate. Their commitment to public service is unparalleled and I am proud to serve with them. They have been working throughout the interim and are hitting the ground running. I look forward to a productive legislative session."

Sem Bryan Hughes was appointed chairman of the Senate Committee on State Affairs and also will serve on the following committees - Senate Special Committee on Redistricting, Senate Committee on Nominations, Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Economic Development, Senate Committee on Jurisprudence, and Senate Committee on Education.

GISD Calendar

- 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
- 1/5, Friday**
V Tennis vs. Kilgore
- 1/9, Tuesday**
JV Tennis vs. Kilgore

Williams makes Dean's List

GHS alum Murphy Williams was named to the Dean's List of the University of Louisiana Monroe for the Fall semester. To earn the honor students must attain a minimum of a 3.5 grade point average and be enrolled in 12 hours or more.

NHTSA gives DMV recall grants to Texas

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration today announced that three States will receive a total of \$1.3 million to inform vehicle owners about open recalls. The States' motor vehicle departments will use the funds to provide recall information with vehicle registration and at other points of contact.

"The U.S. Department of Transportation is proud to work with these three States on this commonsense solution to help drivers find and repair unremediated vehicles on American roadways," said Acting U.S. Transportation Secretary Steven Bradbury.

The three States that will receive the grant funding are California, Ohio and Texas. California registers over 36 million vehicles on an annual basis, Ohio registers more than 12 million vehicles, and Texas conducts 18 million safety inspections per year.

The recall notice the State motor vehicle departments will provide to consumers will include a brief description of the defect, the nature of the recall, and information on getting it fixed immediately at a manufacturer's authorized dealer. States were also encouraged to consider recall notification during driver's license renewal, emissions checks, or safety inspections.

In 2017, NHTSA signed a \$222,300 cooperative agreement with Maryland, launching a two-year pilot program to provide open recall information to consumers when they register a new vehicle or renew a registration. Over the course of the two-year pilot program, Maryland had nearly 4.3 million vehicle registrations renewed, with more than 1 million safety recalls identified. According to the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration, 47.8% of these recalls were at least two years old, reaching owners who may have been unaware of recalls on their vehicles.

In 2019, there were 966 safety recalls affecting more than 53 million vehicles and motor vehicle equipment in the United States. Despite recall notices and public warnings, NHTSA estimates that 25% of recalled vehicles still go unrepaired.

Vehicle recalls are serious and can pose a safety risk to drivers and their families. All vehicle recall repairs are free at the vehicle brand's dealership.

Feb. 12 deadline for city council

Continued from Page 1
serves as mayor pro-tem, has not filed for re-election yet

The requirements/qualifications to serve on the Gladewater City Council are:

No person shall be eligible as a candidate for the Council unless he or she shall be eighteen (18) years of age or older on commencement of the term to be elected, a qualified voter, a citizen

of the United States and a resident citizen of this State for a period of twelve (12) months prior to the date of the election.

The candidate for Mayor and Council must be a resident of the City, must have resided in the City for a period of six (6) months prior to the date of election, and must continuously reside within the City during his or her term of office.

Miss Gladewater Rodeo entries are now open

Continued from Page 1

Ty Murray, Lane Frost, Sage Kimzey, Deb Mohon, and many others. Rafter G Rodeo, which is owned by the Gay family, is the stock contractor for the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo.

The lucky winner will receive a saddle, crown, banner (sash), and belt buckle, while 1st runner up – will receive a belt buckle. There will also be prizes for a Horsemanship Award, Miss Personality and Miss Congeniality.

RULES:

1. Age Requirement: 17-24 as of January 1, 2021
2. Must be a resident/student in good standing of the Upshur, Gregg, Morris, Camp, Wood, Smith, Rusk, Harrison or Marion counties.
3. Never been married, or had a marriage annulled. The title holder is not permitted to become married during her reign. If the title holder gets married, she will forfeit her title to the 1st

runner-up. If the 1st runner-up declines, the contestant with the next highest score will have the opportunity, and so on.

4. Never had a child, not currently be pregnant, or become pregnant during reign. If the title holder becomes pregnant during her reign, she will forfeit her title to the 1st runner-up. If the 1st runner-up declines, the contestant with the next highest score will have the opportunity, and so on.

5. No drinking, smoking or use of drugs will be allowed.

6. Never been criminally charged.

7. Each contestant is responsible for herself, parents and helpers. Disrespectful behavior or disturbances of any kind will not be tolerated. The contestant will be disqualified for the above mentioned.

8. Each contestant must furnish a horse for herself during the horsemanship portion of the contest, along with any other appearance where a horse is necessary.

9. Current, negative coggins are required for all horses in the contest and other scheduled appearances where a horse is necessary.

10. Title winners are not permitted to hold consecutive Miss Gladewater Rodeo titles. However, winners are permitted to hold the same title more than once, as long as it is not consecutive. Contestants, who are not crowned, are encouraged to continue pursuing the title.

EXPECTATIONS:

1. Contestants and the title winner are expected to represent the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo in a positive, respectful manner.
2. Contestants and the title winner must keep in contact with the contest coordinator concerning scheduling, if there are any questions, and scheduled appearances.
3. Contestants are expected to be in their "western attire" throughout competition, rodeo performances, scheduled appearances, etc.

4. Contestants and title winners are expected to be on time for all appearances.

5. Title winners will be expected to sign a contract outlining their responsibilities and expectations for their year as an ambassador of the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo Association.

6. If the title holder chooses to run for Miss Rodeo Texas, they must run as "Miss Gladewater Rodeo."

RODEO QUEEN CONTEST DETAILS/JUDGING CRITERIA

- Total Points Possible: 330 (Dependent upon extra points from additional ad sales)
- Horsemanship / Horsemanship Interview: 100
 - Personal Interview: 100
 - Speech: 35
 - Impromptu Question: 20
 - Photogenics: 25
 - Ad Sales: 25
 - Written Test: 25
 - Extra Points from Additional Ad Sales: Dependent upon amount of ads sold.



NEWSPAPER ADS WORK.

7 out of **10** newspaper readers who read a **CIRCULAR** take action after seeing the ad.*

903-845-2318
Guadalupe's
101 E Pacific Ave, Gladewater
50% occupancy for Dining in
Curbside pickup available!

Advertise your TAKE OUT and DINE-IN service here! Call Suzanne at 903-845-2235 or 903-845-2235!

Law enforcement officers honored by Sheriff Webb

By Phillip Williams

At Thursday's meeting of the Upshur County Commissioners Court, Upshur County Sheriff Larry Webb honored four area law officers for heroism in connection with a series of Nov. 16 incidents which left one of the officers wounded by gunfire before a suspect was captured.

Webb presented a Purple Heart award to the wounded Upshur County deputy, Matt Sartor, and the Meritorious Service Award to Sartor, Upshur sheriff's Sgt. Josh Davis, Gilmer Police Department Sgt. Douglas Jackson, and Gregg County Sheriff's Deputy James Spencer.

Webb told the audience he was honoring them for risking their personal safety. Gregg County Sheriff Maxey Cerliano and Gilmer police Capt. Lana Davidson attended the ceremony since officers from their agencies were being honored.

Webb read a prepared statement detailing the Nov. 16 events, saying they began with an incoming call that a person "had fired numerous shots inside and outside" the CEFCO convenience store at the intersection of U.S. 271 and Texas 300 in Gilmer. The sheriff described ensuing events as follows:

After receiving a description of the individual and the person's vehicle, the vehicle was discovered driving south on Texas 300 toward Longview. Law enforcement initiated pursuit, during which the individual in the vehicle fired shots, and sight of the fleeing vehicle was lost.

A search began to re-locate the driver and vehicle, and as officers



Gregg County Sheriff Maxey Cerliano, Deputy James Spencer, Deputy Josh Davis, Sgt. Douglas Jackson, Deputy Matt Sartor, Sheriff Larry Webb, Capt. Lana Davidson were honored recently by Upshur County Sheriff Larry Webb.

"checked an address on Snyder Road, they were ambushed from an unknown direction by a person shooting at them, hitting their patrol unit with several rounds." Officers "were able to relocate their positions while avoiding being shot and in an attempt to contain the violence being directed at them.

"As other law enforcement arrived on scene, a perimeter and checkpoint was established in the area of Green Hills Road and Snyder Road. After a period of time, a vehicle approached the checkpoint, at which time a gun battle erupted between the person in the vehicle and law enforcement at the checkpoint. During this gun battle, Deputy Sartor was wounded.

"It can be easily stated that during this incident (includes the shooting at the store, the ambush and the checkpoint), large volume rounds were fired by the suspect.

It is by the grace of God tht no was fatally injured."

Besides Gilmer police and the Gregg County Sheriff's Department, Webb thanked the

Ore City Police Department, Longview Police Department/SWAT team and Texas Rangers for providing assistance during the incident.



No outdoor burning. Last week's wind and lowering humidity levels, left outdoor burning a dangerous threat. The GFD was sent to three grass fires in and around Gladewater in one day.



This leak on Allison and another on Godfrey had public works hopping last week.



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A&M AgriLife Extension Service to host ET Turf and Landscape Conference

If you would like helpful answers and practical solutions for a successful and healthy lawn and landscape, plan on attending the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service online East Texas Turf and Landscape Conference Thursday, February 4, 2021. The program is \$25 and will be held online via Zoom. Registration and payment are online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/east-texas-turf-and-landscape-conference-tickets-135366991315>.

The event is geared toward professional turfgrass employees, pesticide applicators, landscape maintenance professionals, golf course personnel, sports field managers, Master Gardeners, and homeowners. Texas A&M specialists will focus on common concerns, including lawn diseases, insects, weeds, herbicides, and irrigation along with the management and identification of common tree diseases and insects in addition to their control. Five Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units (CEU's) will be available (pending TDA approval) for those with a TDA pesticide applicators license.

Registered participants will receive an email with the link to join the Zoom conference a few days prior to the event. For more information contact the Smith County Extension office at 903-590-2980.

The speakers and their topics include:

- * Dr. Chrissie Segars, Extension Turfgrass Specialist-IPM Strategies for Turf Insects and Diseases
- * Dr. Becky Bowling, Extension Specialist for Urban Water-Turf Weeds and Watering: Cultural Control, Indicator Weeds, Water-Driven Weed Ecology, Watering, and Herbicide Movement
- * Dr. Chrissie Segars-Managing Weeds in Turf with Herbicides
- * Daniel Duncum, Staff Forester, Texas A&M Forest Service-Common Tree Diseases and Treatment Options
- * Allen Smith, Regional Forest Healthy Coordinator, Texas A&M Forest Service-Tree Pests and Treatment Options



The Gladewater Chamber of Commerce welcomed another new member to the Chamber Family, Jan. 15, with a ribbon cutting at Vidalia's Designs, located at 1302 Broadway Ave. in the Brookshire's shopping center in Gladewater. They make custom shirts and hats embroidery. Stop by and welcome them to the chamber!

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GISD sells Quitman property

GISD Trustees approved the sale of the former site of the central administration offices at last week's regularly scheduled board meeting. The winning bid went to local business owner Kelton Wilson for \$35,000.

The terms of trustees Jamie Robertson Place 6 and George Glenn Position 7 will expire on May 1. Candidate filing opened Jan. 13 and runs through Feb. 12. The first day of early voting is April 19 and runs through April 27 with Election Day May 1.

Supt. Sedic Clark received a favorable annual evaluation with the board voting to extend his contract through 2024.

"We are very pleased with the direction of the district, Mr. Clark's vision and what he is implementing with his leadership team," school board president Jon Keller said. "He has met the challenges of the pandemic, and many other problems with our kids and their success always the top priority. This is the best evaluation we have given during my years on the board."

The board also adopted current provisions of House Bill 3 which will be posted on the GISD website.

Contracts for Kindergarten teacher Mayce Grubbs and GHS Physics teacher Leslie Smith were also approved.

Bowie County man charged with \$5 Million COVID-relief fraud

A 32-year-old Maud man has been charged with allegedly filing bank loan applications fraudulently seeking more than \$5 million dollars in forgivable loans guaranteed by the Small Business Administration (SBA) under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, announced U.S. Attorney Stephen J. Cox.

Samuel Yates was charged with two counts of wire fraud returned by a federal grand jury in Texarkana, Texas, on Jan. 14, 2021. Yates allegedly sought millions of dollars in forgivable loans guaranteed by the SBA from two different banks by claiming to have over 400 employees earning wages when, in fact, no employees worked for his purported business.



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Livestock issues top concerns at AFBF meeting

WACO—Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) delegates weighed in on livestock market issues, crop insurance and feral hogs, among other issues, during the business session of the American Farm Bureau Federation's (AFBF) virtual convention Thursday.

The Holcomb fire and the COVID-19 pandemic led to an increase in retail meat prices, while the price paid to ranchers fell significantly. It was a topic that led to much discussion among the delegates, which resulted in new policy to help provide stability in markets.

Delegates supported policy to increase negotiated sales in fed cattle markets and called for increased transparency in livestock pricing, as well as for an in-house study on the issue of price discovery in the cattle market and other livestock species. Delegates also approved a TFB resolution supporting legislation and regulation that incentivizes the development of livestock and poultry processing facilities.

"There were several livestock topics of interest, but there were some specific livestock marketing issues that were discussed at length by delegates. These issues include the percentage of negotiated trade, transparency and those types of things. They've been discussed in past business sessions, but it's clear these livestock marketing issues were of high interest to our folks this year," TFB President Russell Boening said.

New AFBF policies on crop insurance include improving hurricane protection coverage under the Risk Management Agency. The changes would provide protection against both hurricane-force winds and excessive precipitation, both of which Texas farmers and ranchers saw in 2020 with Hurricane Hanna.

Farmer and rancher delegates approved a TFB resolution supporting perimeter fencing, as it refers to feral hog control, as an eligible conservation practice and activity under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources and Conservation Service.

Delegates also updated dairy policy, calling for a re-examination of the 2018 Farm Bill's modification to the milk price formula and improving equity in USDA's Federal Milk Marketing Order revenue sharing pools. They also reaffirmed support for allowing dairy farmers the opportunity to cast an individual and confidential ballot during milk order referendums.

Revising the labor policy was passed by the delegates. New AFBF policy emphasizes the importance of reforming the H-2A program by expanding it to provide visa workers for both season and year-round employment.

TFB delegates gathered in Waco to participate in the virtual convention.

The policies adopted by the delegates will guide AFBF's work in 2021 on agricultural issues impacting farmers, ranchers, rural communities and consumers.

During the business session, Boening was re-elected to another two-year term on the AFBF Board of Directors from the Southern Region.

For the first time in AFBF history, delegates met and voted virtually due to COVID-19.

"Not very much has changed from the way we started adapting in March to all of the pandemic impacts and challenges. We've done a lot of Zoom meetings, taken advantage of the technology to stay connected," Boening said. "No matter what you're doing, you've had to adapt. And I think Farm Bureau has adapted, and I think agriculture has also adapted to the challenges. Hopefully, as we go forward, we'll get back to what's closer to normal for all of us."

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Sam Rayburn logs first Toyota ShareLunker Legacy Class Bass Entry of 2021

The second weekend of the 2021 Toyota ShareLunker season produced the first Legacy Class largemouth bass at Sam Rayburn Reservoir. Angler Travis Moore reeled in the 13.44-pounder using

a Carolina rig during the Bass Champs tournament Saturday January 9.

"It was a great day on the water at Sam Rayburn," said Moore. "After about 15 or so casts and

few good bites, I finally hooked into my first 2021 bass and it was a giant 13.44 — pounder. We initially weighed her in the boat before taking her to the tournament weigh in where Chad

with Bass Champs put her on the scale to get the official number. My heart started beating fast and I was so excited I could have jumped up and down, but I kept my composure."

Once Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Inland Fisheries biologists were notified Saturday evening, they quickly got on the road to collect and transport "ShareLunker 586" to the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens, where biologists are providing her top-notch care. Biologists plan to attempt to spawn her to make bigger better bass to stock in and enhance fishing in Texas lakes.

"This was one of the best days of my life," added Moore. "I've caught a few 12 pounders and hand full of 10 pounders, but this one here is special for me for sure. As a bass fisherman, this is what we fish for every time we go out on the water."

Saturday's catch by Moore was the first Legacy Class largemouth on the lake since 2018. Stacy Spriggs caught SL576 that weighed in at 13.06 pounds with a length of 27 inches on the final day of the 2018 season.

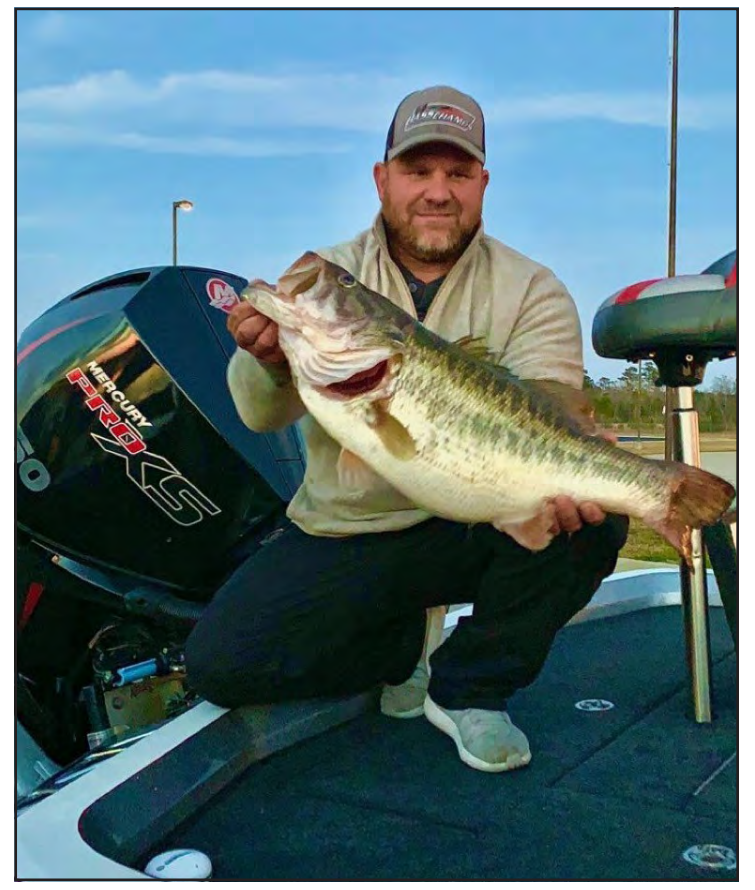
"We are excited to start off the new year on such a positive note with having a ShareLunker so early in the spawning season," said Toyota ShareLunker Program Coordinator Kyle Brookshear. "Great management work has been happening at Rayburn and we feel that it's primed to keep producing these world class size fish. This fish along with the others to be donated for spawning this season will continue to help create our ShareLunker broodstock and produce bigger better bass in Texas fisheries."

During the first three months of the season (Jan. 1 through March 31), anglers who reel in a 13+ pound bass can loan it to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for the ShareLunker selective breeding and stocking program. These anglers can call the ShareLunker hotline at (903) 681-0550 to report their catch 24/7 until April 1, 2021.

Anglers who catch and donate one of these 13+ lunkers earn Legacy Class status, receive a catch kit filled with merchandise, a 13lb+ Legacy decal for their vehicle or boat, VIP access to the Toyota ShareLunker Annual Awards event and a high-quality replica of their lunker fish. These anglers will also receive entries into two separate drawings; a Legacy Class Drawing and the year-end Grand Prize Drawing. Both drawings will award the winner a \$5,000 Bass Pro Shops shopping spree and an annual fishing license.

Anglers who enter data for any lunker they catch greater than 8 lbs. or 24 inches during the calendar year 2021 also receive a catch kit, a decal for their vehicle or boat and an entry into the year-end Grand Prize Drawing to win a \$5,000 Bass Pro Shops shopping spree and annual fishing license.

Anglers who enter data for any lunker they catch greater than 8 lbs. or 24 inches during the calendar year 2021 also receive a catch kit, a decal for their vehicle or boat and an entry into the year-end Grand Prize Drawing to win a \$5,000 Bass Pro Shops shopping spree and annual fishing license.



Travis Moore reeled in the 13.44-pounder using a Carolina rig during the Bass Champs tournament Saturday January 9 to be the first Toyota ShareLunker this season.

fishing license. ShareLunker entry classes include the Lunker Class (8lb+), Elite Class (10lb+), and Legend Class (13lb+).

Once a lunker is reeled in, anglers need to enter the catch data on the Toyota ShareLunker mobile app - available for free from the Apple App Store and Google Play - or on the Toyota ShareLunker online app at TexasShareLunker.com. In addition to providing basic catch information, anglers can also provide a DNA scale sample from their lunker bass to TPWD researchers for genetic analysis.

The Toyota ShareLunker Program is made possible in part by the generous sponsorship of Toyota. Toyota is a longtime supporter of Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, providing major funding for a wide variety of fisheries, state parks and wildlife projects.

Prize donors Bass Pro Shops, Lake Fork Taxidermy, American Fishing Tackle Co. and Stanley Jigs also provide additional support for this program. For updates on the Toyota ShareLunker Program, visit facebook.com/



CJ Oates from Lago Vista, TX entered the 2nd ShareLunker Legacy Class bass of 2021 last night, SL#587! The 13.02 pound Lunker hails from Lake Austin and is its first Legacy Class entry since 2014. This brings Lake Austins total to 21 bass over 13lbs!! Congratulations, CJ and thank you for your contribution to helping make bass fishing bigger and better in Texas!

Lady Bears drill Lady Rebels, 81-15

Calice Henderson out scored the Lady Rebels as Gladewater claimed a 81-15 win over Ore City.

The Lady Bears were in top form in the first game after taking sole possession of the top spot in 15 3A. With 17, Henderson led in scoring while adding 6 rebounds, 5 steals.

MaKayla Police returned to the court and netted 15. Seniors Hai'leigh Oliver and Sydney Spurlock put up 14 apiece with Oliver grabbing 5 rebounds, 6 steals. JaKiayah Bell was limited to 4 points, but disrupted the Lady Rebels with 6 defensive

rebounds, 6 steals. Kiyona Parker led in steals with 7. Other point makers for Gladewater were Ebony Pipkin 8, Kamryn Floyd 4, Bri Boyd 3, Cariesma Colbert 2.

The Lady Bears took a breather on Friday. On Tuesday they will travel to Sabine for a district rematch. The Lady Cardinals are second in 15 3A after also getting a win over the Lady Rebels 47-18 and a 61-51 win over White Oak.

Gladewater 10-5 (6-0) is the only team to blemish the record for Sabine 16-1 (6-1).

Police Activity Report

Table with columns: CALL DATE, CALL DESC, CFS#, CALL TIME, BUSINESS NAME, ADDRESS. Contains multiple rows of police activity data.

Police Arrest Report

Table with columns: ARREST DATE, ARREST TIME, FULL NAME, RACE, SEX, OFFENSE, LOCATION ADDRESS. Contains 5 rows of arrest data.

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Gladewater's Kollin Lewis gets the ball over an Eagle for the score.

Photo by Chris Jones

Gladewater rolls over New Diana 77-25

The Gladewater Bears clamped down on New Diana garnering a 77-25 win.

The Gladewater defense kept the Eagles grounded throughout the game. New Diana didn't break double digits until there was less than 3 minutes to go before half as Gladewater took a 41-12 lead into the break. DJ Allen led the Bears on offense with 19 points with K'havia Reese (17) and Kollin Lewis (15) following close behind.

Other contributors for Gladewater were Tyrone Maddox 9, Nick Lincoln 7, Eli Kates 6, Micheal Lewis. The Bears were open on Friday and will host Sabine Tuesday.

Lady Lions crush Carlisle, 73-4

After suffering only their second loss of the season, the Union Grove Lady Lions bounced back in a big way, crushing Carlisle 73-4.

Macey Alston led with 23 after being held to just 3 a few days prior. Carleigh Judd put up 14 and Sumeet Mattu had 11. Every Lady Lion found the net. Bailey Clowers had 8, Macey Roberts 5, Gracie Stanford 3, Kyler Littlejohn 3, and Makena Littlejohn, Ava Whitman, and Gracie Winn each with 2. The preceding loss came in Hawkins where both 21 2A leaders came in at 4-0. The Lady Hawks came out on top 47-36.

Texas Girls Coaches Association State Basketball Poll

January 18, 2021
Class 2A

1. Muenster 20-0
2. San Saba 18-0
3. Yorktown 16-0
4. Douglass 17-0
5. Gruver 13-1
6. Centerville 17-1
7. Snook 14-2
8. Alba- Golden 13-1
9. Panhandle 12-2
10. Freer 7-0
11. **Union Grove 18-2**
12. Holland 15-3
13. Tom Bean 14-4
14. Weimar 12-2
15. Anson 16-2

Class 3A

1. Shallowater 14-0
2. Bishop 16-0
3. Winnsboro 18-2
4. Wall 16-1
5. Canadian 6-0
6. Brownfield 17-1
7. **Sabine 12-1**
8. Jim Ned 17-2
9. Rice 17-2
10. Fairfield 14-2
11. Columbus 14-2
12. Whitewright 15-2
13. Whitney 11-2
14. Ponder 19-3
15. Idalou 17-3



UGHS Girls' Powerlifting team placed first as a team at the Spring Hill Invitational last Thursday night. Individual class results include May Huffman 1st, Lainey Ledbetter 1st, Paige Parman 1st, Mireya Evans 1st, Sarah Clowers 1st, Addi Smith 2nd, Katy King 3rd, Keely Rust 3rd and Daytona Vaughn 4th. Courtesy Photo

Lions defend home court, beat Carlisle Indians 48-44

The Union Grove Lions defended their den, taking down Carlisle 48-44.

Union Grove bested the Indians in the second period 15-10 to take a 26-22 lead into the locker rooms. The second period was the only one in this hotly contested matchup with more than a one point difference.

The Lions, holding a 2 point margin with 9.4 seconds remaining were called on a penalty inbound the ball under the Indians' goal. This gave the ball to Carlisle with a chance to send things into overtime.

The Indians never got the shot off as Matthew Bower stole the ball as the Indians attempted to pass it to their top player and made it down the court for a lay-up at the buzzer.



Union Grove's Cooper Vestal receives heavy opposition on his way to the basket.

Photo by Chris Jones



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Wesley House Assisted Living

Assisted Living Services and Amenities

The Wesley House in Gilmer provides the following amenities and services to its assisted living residents and also serves the Longview area:

- Daily physical fitness, creative, social, learning and spiritual activities
- Three delicious, well-balanced meals served daily featuring a variety of menu choices with snacks available throughout the day
- Private dining room
- Trained staff available 24 hours a day
- Weekly housekeeping and daily trash removal
- Weekly personal laundry (except dry-cleaning)
- Full-service beauty shop
- Common seating areas and covered porches
- Local transportation for shopping trips and

- medical visits as needed
- Maintenance of building and grounds

- Residents & Staff have received our first round of Covid vaccination which is a big step towards a safe environment for our residents.
- Our next clinic is Jan.30th, residents who move in prior to that date can also receive their free vaccination.
- We are currently waiving our Community Fee so that money can be used for movers or other necessities.
- Residents can have designated visitors (caregivers) and they choose who those visitors are.

231 Quail Drive
Gilmer, Texas
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Wesley Oaks Memory Care

Alzheimer's & Memory Care Services and Amenities

The Wesley Oaks in Gilmer provides the following amenities and services to its residents:

- 24-hour staff
- Registered nurse (RN) on staff that visits the facility at least weekly or more often as

- needed
- Room decorated with familiar personal items and photographs
- Assistance with activities of daily living, including bathing, dressing, grooming, hygiene, medication management, and bathroom assistance
- Housekeeping, personal laundry, and linen service
- Three delicious, healthy meals daily
- Specially trained therapeutic recreation staff
- Central common areas and lounges
- Secure outdoor areas