

Gladewater Mirror



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Juneteenth, Bell youth center celebrated

By Suzanne Bardwell

Juneteenth was celebrated in Gladewater with a Saturday morning parade downtown and ending at the new Margaret and Robert Bell Adolescent Place Empowering Youth building. The new federal holiday has long been observed in Texas. At last June's "Unity in the Community" Prayer Vigil Mayor J.D. Shipp pledged that the City Council would recognize Juneteenth as a city holiday which the council unanimously approved at its July meeting. Originating in Galveston in 1865, the holiday has been celebrated annually on June 19 throughout Texas and in much of the nation in observance of the end of slavery.

Community activist Marilyn Bolden extended a warm welcome to the crowd of about 75 who filled the new youth center.

"We want to thank our country, our nation, for our first officially recognized Juneteenth celebration," Bolden said. "Today is a tribute to those who have gone before. We are reminded that we are our brother's keeper and that we stand on the shoulders of giants."

Community leader and noted musician Darren Richardson led the audience in inspirational singing including "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms," "I Woke Up in the Morning" and "Lift Every Voice and Sing".

Rev. Emmitt Pettigrew of New Hope Baptist Church led the crowd in prayer and praise for the blessings of life. At the close of the celebration he dedicated the facility by covering it in prayer.

Odetta Alexander read General Order No. 3 which was issued by U.S. Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger on June 19, 1865 which informed the people of Texas that all enslaved people were now free. Granger commanded the headquarters for the District of Texas.

Gladewater Mayor J.D. Shipp read a proclamation that included in its closing remarks the following:

"Whereas, African-Americans' purposeful celebrations reflect a rich and enduring culture, benevolence for life, and a true understanding of liberty. Now, therefore, I, J.D. Shipp, Mayor of the City of Gladewater, Texas, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2021 as a day to celebrate."

There was even more to celebrate with the opening of the new community youth center. Dr. Margo Bell who is the founder of the Margaret and Robert Bell Adolescent Center for Empowering Youth shared that the building was originally built as a laundromat by Gladewater's Winston Hill who played for the New York Jets. She said that she looks forward to the building's renewed impact on the community. A portion of the facility will host a barbershop and a beautician. Bell said that because of the love and support her parents gave her she wanted to provide a place of support for the city's youth.

Bell's mother Margaret is a retired school teacher. She taught math and French at GUSD for 35 years and coached tennis at Weldon High School. The center's introductory pamphlet notes: "She has fostered the development of many young people through her caring spirit and guidance. Her dedication to the development of youth has been carried forward by her daughter, Doctor Margo Bell, a retired pediatrician who specialized in adolescent health care. Robert L. Bell made a career in the Air Force and was killed in 1973. He did tours of duty in the Vietnam War and the Korean War. His motto: "Finish what you start and do it well"."

Bell has certainly done that and her career reflects her father's words to live by. She worked as the inpatient director of pediatrics of Cook County Hospital in Chicago. She was also the medical director of the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center. Prior to her medical career she taught high school English and was a tennis coach for two years. Bell's love for teenagers is obvious not only in her career and in her words but in the construction of the youth center's programs.

"We have the opportunity to give a kid a chance," Bell said. "Being there for kids is so important. There is often so much missing in their lives and it is important that we give back."

The center's programs will include health and nutrition, a reading/book club, sewing program, art projects, financial responsibility, gardening, music and a game day.

Operating hours for the summer are Monday through Friday 11



Former mayor, State Farm Insurance Agent and collector of artifacts Harold Wells gets an assist from Vabby Fortson and Erik Little with an original sign he donated to the Margaret and Robert Bell Adolescent Place Empowering Youth. The refurbished building was built by Winston Hill and housed a variety of businesses over the years.

Photos By Suzanne Bardwell



a.m. until 3 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. During the school year the hours are Monday through Thursday 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. The youth center is located at 212 MLK Jr. Drive.

Doctor Margo Bell shares her vision for the Margaret and Robert Bell Adolescent Place Empowering Youth Center. Dr. Bell created the center to meet the needs of Gladewater youth regardless of race or religion. The youth center boasts gaming tables, pool table, music and sewing lessons, health and nutrition and financial responsibility programs and more.



Visitor after visitor paid tribute to Margaret Bell at Saturday's dedication of the Margaret and Robert Bell youth center established by her daughter Dr. Margo Bell. Mrs. Bell taught at both Weldon High School and GUSD for 35 years.

"Kids are kids everywhere, they are all the same," Bell said. "All kids need something and it takes a village to meet those needs. The center is open to all kids of all races and religions. The programs are free and we want the kids to come and get involved."

Noted author Joe Lansdale shares history of local blues giant Henry Ragtime Thomas

By Joe Lansdale

Legends of wandering guitar players, mostly those who played the blues, or as thick as flies

on spilled molasses, but Henry Ragtime Texas Thomas is as singular as a three-legged duck wearing a beret—

color optional.

He played a few tunes that could be called blues, and certainly he is an influence on later blues performers, but his music was a mixture of rags, ditties, reels, and a style of music that is best described as the roots of jazz.

Born in Big Sandy, Texas, and often associated with Gladewater, Texas, Thomas, looking for a

way out of the cotton fields, an escape from burning hot days and fingers cut and scarred by cotton bolls, decided on music. He was an early wandering minstrel who included the names of the Texas towns on his itinerant path in some of his songs. A troubadour who traveled by foot and hitched rides on trains, where kindly conductors frequently let him travel in exchange for a performance for the passengers.

He made and taught himself the quills, which is similar to the Pan Pipes. A reed instrument that has an eerie sound reminiscent of the whistle of the wind through a stand of sugar cane on a blustery day, and a sound that can only be described as the personification of lonesome.

Thomas also taught himself the guitar, and his banjo stylings on guitar are more varied than much of the old-time blues that

was developing, which even at its best (and I'm a fan) can become as monotonous as a drive through the Texas panhandle. I say that with love.

Thomas's recordings influenced a wide variety of performers from Bob Dylan and Canned Heat, to Taj Mahal and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, both of which did versions of Thomas's "Fishing Blues."

Canned Heat's famous "Going up Country", with its pan pipe sounds, are a version of Thomas's song of a similar title, and even imitates his kind of forlorn vocal stylings.

My plan isn't merely to write about Thomas, but to capture the spirit of the times in which he played, primarily the twenties. He is thought by some to have died in the thirties, though there are unconfirmed "sightings" of Thomas in Dallas and Tyler,

Texas in the fifties, long after he had hung up his guitar and put away his quills.

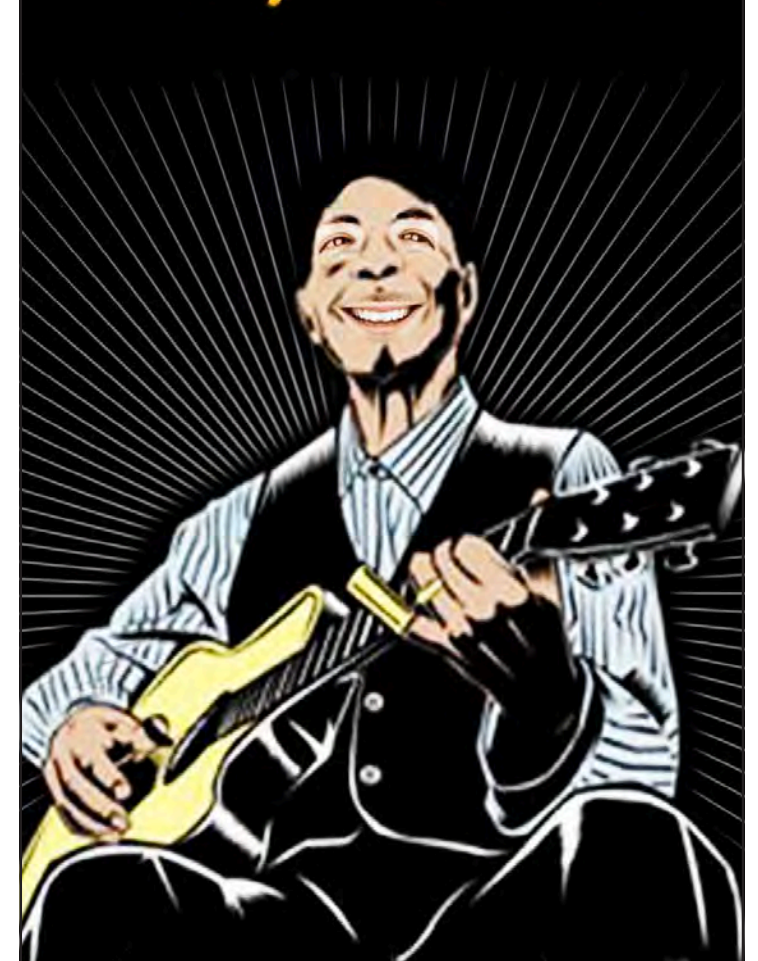
I want to examine the place where he was born, and follow some of his meandering path through Texas, show how it influenced him. I'd like to deal with both the truth and the legend.

In many ways, Thomas is more enigmatic than the revered Robert Johnson, minus the deal with the devil. Like Johnson, Thomas came and went in the blink of an eye. In Chicago he recorded twenty-five songs, and those meager twenty-five songs still echo through modern music.

Thomas is unique musically, and he is uniquely Texan.

(Editor's Note: Joe Lansdale is a best-selling author from Gladewater. His works have been adapted for movies and television. His first job was at the Gladewater Mirror.)

Henry Thomas



OPINION/EDITORIAL

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Heat wave prompts conservation call

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas urged Texans to cut back on power usage last week when an unusually large number of power plants shut down for unexpected repairs as temperatures soared. ERCOT officials announced Friday that Texans could resume normal levels of electricity use, however.

ERCOT came under fire after widespread outages during the winter storm in mid-February, resulting in the CEO being forced out and much of the board replaced.

Saturday marked the official first day of summer.

Border wall construction plan unveiled

Gov. Gregg Abbott last week announced several key facets of his plan for the state to build a wall on its border with Mexico. Abbott and other state leaders signed a letter during a press conference, allowing the transfer of \$250 million to begin construction and to hire a program manager and contractors. The program manager will hire contractors and subcontractors needed to build the wall and will identify available state land, as well as private land whose owners are willing to volunteer space for the wall.

Meanwhile, Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced approximately 591,595 acres of state-owned land will receive emergency authorization to be used to build part of the wall. Texas and Mexico share 1,254 miles of common border, according to the Texas Department of Transportation.

The governor is also seeking donations for building a wall via www.borderwall.gov. State lawmakers allocated \$1 billion for border security in the recently passed budget, but Democratic officials have pointed out most of that money goes to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Abbott appoints Cobos to PUC

Abbott last week appointed Lori Cobos to the PUC. She fills a term scheduled to expire on Sept. 1, although she could be reappointed. Senate confirmation is not required since the Legislature is not in session. The PUC will have a full complement of commissioners for the first time since February.

"I am proud to appoint Lori Cobos to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, and I know that she will draw upon her wealth of experience and knowledge to faithfully serve the people of Texas," Abbott said.

Cobos has served in several senior-level posts at the PUC and ERCOT, including as chief executive and public counsel for the Office of Public Utility Counsel. As a commissioner, she will draw a salary of \$201,000 annually.

Forest service firefighters sent to aid other states

Texas A&M Forest Service has sent 25 firefighters, including two engine crews, to wildfires in Colorado, Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico and Florida.

"Texas state resources are supporting wildfire suppression efforts in multiple roles, including firefighters, engine support, prevention team members, aviation operations and support roles," TFS said in a press release. The release said TFS remains dedicated to protecting the state's natural resources from wildfire while assisting other states, a common practice.

Across Texas, the potential for wildfires remains low due to the copious amounts of rain this spring. For current conditions, visit the Texas Potential Outlook site: <https://tinyurl.com/3j84srd7>

Vaccine rate continues to slow

The number of Texans who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 has hit 11.4 million, about 39% of the state's population, according to Texas Department of State Health Services.

Across the United States, 45% of the population is fully vaccinated. Texas ranks in the lower tier of states in percentage of population that is fully vaccinated. However, the number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas dropped considerably from the previous week, with 8,414 reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, along with 186 deaths. Hospitalizations dropped slightly, with 1,564 lab confirmed COVID-19 patients in Texas hospitals, according to DSHS.

STAAR tests show drop in math results

Results from the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness, which measures students' knowledge of several subjects, shows a sharp drop in math scores, the Texas Standard reported last week. The new scores came after a school year unlike no other, with many students taking classes online at home because of the pandemic.

Only 42% of high school students who took the primary high school math test were considered to be "at grade level," down from 66% last year. This year's STAAR results don't include all students, since some did not return to school in-person to take the exam.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist.

He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

...just sayin'

In Santo, Texas on Sunday I encountered a loud, angry middle aged woman who was informing everyone in line at Dairy Queen how worthless 'Millennials' are. By the way, the guy cooking her burger was one. Hope she kept a close eye on how he cooked it while being paid minimum wage and loudly criticized.

From there she went on to 52ish-year old Matthew McConaughy whom she classified as a spoiled millennial from California. She railed loudly on that "if that Cali-fornia democrat runs for governor the whole state will be ruined" and furthermore" he needs to go back where he came from".

Let's work our way backwards. One, McConaughy was born in Uvalde and graduated from Longview High School. He is a 1993 University of Texas alum. He has never identified as a Democrat or Republican and has often criticized both the far left and radical right equally.

Next up? Those worthless 'millennials'...I pulled up at a truck stop somewhere in no man's land around Ranger on my way to Lubbock to visit my Mom. A young man was emptying all of the huge, overflowing, very nasty trash cans. He had a smile on his face while greeting every customer who passed him. He definitely fell within the age group under attack.

I must admit that I, too, have had a few complaints about the lack of work ethic on the part of some folks. But when I started calculating ages I found a wide range that fell into the 'lazy as a slug' group. In fact, I personally know someone in their early 50s who identifies as far right politically who tried to get their boss to lay them off during the pandemic because they could 'make more money' on unemployment than while working. 'Make more'? Give me a break!

People have a tendency to assume it is all the 'lefties' out there taking advantage of the system. But I don't know of anyone who sent back their 'stimulus' checks under President Trump or President

Suzanne Bardwell



Biden. Do you?

Do I personally think the additional unemployment benefits hampered hiring? Hands down I do. Why do the work when you can game and watch movies at home?

Although I never stopped working during the pandemic I appreciated the stimulus check. Did I feel guilty cashing it? Absolutely! Did I spend mine to stimulate the economy? Sure did! I bought a new refrigerator with one of those nifty ice and water dispensers in the door. I am loving it while feeling guilty. Yep, my financially conservative political soul is ashamed of dipping into the government trough. So, I guess that makes me a bit of a hypocrite. An honest one, but a political hypocrite nonetheless.

Back to Santo and the angry woman. Why is she so angry? Maybe, she was 'hangry', after all we were at a Dairy Queen. But dad gum, I had been listening to John Denver's "Sunshine on My Shoulders" on the radio and grinning ear-to-ear when I went in. When I left I had a headache, was aggravated and felt it was necessary to tell 'Hangry Woman' that McConaughy was from Texas through and through... and that he was not a millennial. Couldn't help it, it had to be done.

Aren't you tired of anger regardless of the cause? Maybe we need to pipe John Denver into homes, offices and schools to mellow people out. Life is short. We need more 'sunshine on our shoulders' and a lot more smiling, and maybe just maybe, a bit of grace. Also, if you are going to blast the public with your opinions, make sure you get your facts straight then you might just have a tad more credibility.

Just sayin'...

Record number of older vehicles on US roads ...



APOLOGIES TO HANNA-BARBERA

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THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Inflated Inflation Influence

Calm down! Recent inflation reports have caused alarm and, frankly, overreaction. The overall Consumer Price Index increased again in May, bringing the rate over the last 12 months to 5.0%. It was the largest 12-month increase since a 5.4% rise observed in August 2008, during the midst of the Great Recession. The index for all items less food and energy rose 3.8%, the largest annualized increase since June 1992.

There are two primary reasons (and several smaller ones) for the current situation. First, the 12-month timeframe puts us back to last spring, when things

were largely shut down. This massive pandemic disruption caused prices to drop for a variety of goods and services. In other words, the denominator is unusually low. For example, airline fares were up 10.2% in April and 7.0% in May. When few could safely fly a year ago, fares naturally dropped; as things reopen, they're rising. No surprise.

Similarly, energy costs are up sharply (28.5% over the year). When the world shut down last year, demand for fuels was basically nonexistent and prices plummeted, with oil prices even being briefly negative. Summer is unleashing people who have been isolated to drive and fly; thus, prices are escalating. As things open up, with policy providing both mounds of stimulus cash and cheap credit, spending is soaring.

The other primary reason for the current inflation is the supply chain. With shuttering of manufacturing facilities and transportation interruptions during the pandemic and other logistical challenges (such as ships blocking canals), there are shortages in numerous items. For example, the semiconductor chips that run everything from cars to household appliances are in extremely short supply. Consequently, production of new automobiles has been curtailed. The index for used cars and trucks spiked 7.3% in May, accounting for about one-third of the aggregate increase. The difficulties in getting people back to work add to this conundrum.

In short, demand is surging and supply is lagging, both of which are residual effects of the global meltdown. If

sustained, the current inflation level would cause notable harm, eroding purchasing power and decreasing standards of living. That's unlikely to happen. The primary reasons for the pattern we're seeing are transitory. Demand will normalize and supply chain issues will be resolved. That's what markets do. In fact, the 10-year Treasury bond yield, a relatively reliable predictor of long-term inflation, is consistently hovering well below 2%.

The current situation certainly calls for vigilance, and the Federal Reserve is appropriately paying close attention. However, it's no reason to panic. The next few months will likely see big numbers, but things should then settle to more typical patterns. Relax. It's summer. Go to the beach. Stay safe!

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RELIGIOUS WEATHERVANES

A weathervane is an instrument used for showing the direction of the wind. They are often used as an architectural ornament on the highest point of a building.

Certain politicians make policy decisions purely on the basis of polls i. e. instead of operating on principle, they do whatever the polls say most people want. Some church leaders and preachers are like that. They preach and teach what people want to hear. Knowing that some Bible teaching is unpopular, they simply suppress it. Knowing that some folks want a compromising, populist religion, they provide it. The Bible likens this kind of preaching to scratching "itching ears" instead of "preaching the Word in season and out of season, reproving, rebuking, and exhorting with all long-suffering and doctrine." (2 Tim. 4: 2). But this happens because the people (hearers) "will not endure sound doctrine." Thus, they reject sound doctrine (truth) and substitute teaching to their own liking, and there will always be those who will accommodate and oblige such people.

Far too many teachers and preachers are like weathervanes, who swing in whatever direction the social and politically correct winds blow! Whatever one thinks of politicians who "vote the polls," preachers and churches should be held to a higher standard. Instead of rubber-stamping public opinion, and perverting one's message, by softening it, so as not to give offense, and lose popularity with his audience, one should just "preach the word!" Weathervanes look good as an ornament showing the direction of the wind, but describing preachers, they do not look good to God! (Gal. 1: 10). Think on these things.

Dennis Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ
P. O. Box 454-White Oak, TX 75693-903-845-6139-preachab@suddenlink.net

American Red Cross provides safety tips to celebrate summer

The American Red Cross wants everyone to enjoy summer and is offering safety tips to keep you and your family safe.

HEAT SAFETY

Excessive heat causes more deaths than all other weather events. Be sure to check on family, friends and neighbors who spend much of their time alone or who may be more affected by the heat. When possible, slow down and stay indoors. Following these simple heat safety tips to stay safe:

Hot cars can be deadly. Never leave children or pets in your vehicle. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids, even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid drinks with alcohol or caffeine.

When outdoors, avoid strenuous exercise during the hottest part of the day. Wear loose-fitting, lightweight and light-colored clothing and take frequent breaks indoors or in the shade.

If you do not have a working air conditioner, seek relief from the heat during the warmest part of the day in places such as libraries, theaters and malls.

Check on animals frequently to ensure that they are not suffering from heat. Make sure they have plenty of cool water and shade.

WATER SAFETY

Before going in, on or around the water, every family member should become "water smart." This starts with learning to be safe, making good choices, and learning to swim to at least achieve the skills of water competency. Everyone should be able to enter the water, get a breath, stay afloat, change position, swim a distance and then get out of the water safely. A variety of water safety courses and resources are available to help. To help keep your family safe, the Red Cross offers these tips:

Prevent unsupervised access to water. Fence pools and spas with adequate barriers and keep a constant eye for any water dangers such as portable splash pools/slides, buckets and bathtubs.

Adults should actively supervise children and stay within arm's reach of young children and new swimmers. Kids should follow the rules. Designate a "water watcher" to keep a close eye and constant attention on children and weaker swimmers in and around the water until the next water watcher takes over.

Always wear a properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket when on a boat and if in a situation beyond someone's skill level.

Swim as a pair near a lifeguard's chair — everyone, including experienced swimmers, should swim with a buddy even in areas supervised by lifeguards. Always maintain constant attention and actively supervise children even when lifeguards are present.

Download the Red Cross Swim app, sponsored by The ZAC Foundation, for safety tips, kid-friendly videos and activities, and take the free Water Safety for Parents and Caregivers online course.

GRILLING SAFETY

Grilling food is so popular that more than three-quarters of U.S. adults have used a grill — yet, grilling sparks more than 10,000 home fires on average each year. To avoid this, the Red Cross offers these grilling safety tips:

Always supervise a barbecue grill when in use. Don't add charcoal starter fluid when coals have already been ignited.

Never grill indoors — not in the house, camper, tent or any enclosed area.

Make sure everyone, including pets, stays away from the grill. Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, deck, tree branches or anything that could catch fire.

Use the long-handled tools especially made for cooking on the grill to help keep the chef safe.

About the American Red Cross:The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or cruzrojaamericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

OBITUARIES

JERRY MACK POOL

Mr. Jerry Mack Pool of Gilmer, passed away in Tyler on Tuesday, June 8, 2021. Jerry was born in Velasco, Texas on November 19, 1945 to the late Ira and Della Autrey Pool. He was the owner and operator for Rodeo Minit Mart in Gladewater for many years. He will be greatly missed by all the friends and family members he leaves behind.



Those left behind to cherish Jerry's memory are his wife, Judy Pool; sons, Travis Perry and wife, Michelle, Tony Perry and wife, Jade, Timothy Arron Perry and wife, Susannah, and Rodney Audas; daughter, Tami Andrews and husband, Craig; brother, Jack Pool and wife, Evelyn; sister, Carolyn Simmons and husband, Paul; 9 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Beth Ann Pool; brother, James Wayne Pool; and sister, Anita Pool Griffith.

Memorial service for Jerry will be held 10 a.m. Saturday, June 26, 2021, at Croley Funeral Home with Bro. Paul Simmons officiating.



New Monarch Butterfly Conservation license plate available for Texas drivers

AUSTIN — The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) will be launching the long-awaited Monarch Butterfly conservation license plate on June 21 that will raise money to help conserve monarch butterflies and other native Texas, non-game, at-risk species.

"The monarch butterfly is a species that is beautiful and iconic in that it is one of nature's great migration stories," said John Davis, TPWD's Wildlife Diversity Program Director. "This species migrates through Texas from Mexico in the spring making its way to the northern extremes of the U.S. and into Canada, then reverses that feat in the fall to overwinter in Mexico. This great migratory story is in jeopardy with the overwintering population experiencing steep declines in the last decade. By adding the monarch to our family of plates, we hope to increase support for this beautiful migration event and through our conservation efforts, brighten the future for this, and many other species."

The public was invited to vote for their favorite design for the new monarch butterfly license plate last September and the winning design is on the new plate. The design shows one large monarch butterfly and three smaller ones seemingly flying off the plate, as if starting their famous spring migration journey up north. The license plate design appeals to those who garden, enjoy wildlife watching or simply appreciate the beauty of monarch butterflies.

"To save the monarch butterfly and its unique long-distance migration, we must promote initiatives that support the species and its conservation," said Dr. Rebeca Quiñonez-Piñón, monarch outreach coordinator at the National Wildlife Federation. "At the National Wildlife Federation, we are proud to join the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in the fight to preserve the iconic monarch butterfly and bring awareness to the dangers it is currently facing."

The TPWD Conservation License Plate Program has raised around \$10 million in the last 21 years for wildlife and habitat conservation in Texas, according to program marketing lead, Janis Johnson.

GISD, UGISD benefit from Upshur's school land fund

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County Commissioners Court on Tuesday of last week approved County Treasurer Brandy Vick's proposal to divide \$300,000 in "county available" funds among the nine school districts lying partly or wholly in the county.

The funds, which come largely from lease revenue on Upshur County-owned land in Baylor and Throckmorton counties, are divided yearly among the districts based on the number of students each school has who reside in Upshur County. (At least some of the county's nine districts have students living in other counties).

Gladewater ISD, which lies partly in the county, received \$19,200 for 466 Upshur pupils, while Union Grove ISD was allotted \$27,510 for 667.817 students.

As usual, Gilmer ISD received the largest allotment, \$101,820 for 2,472 pupils. New Diana ISD was second with \$43,740 for 1062.120 students while Harmony ISD was third with \$38,580 for 937.

Other districts, their shares, and number of Upshur pupils included Ore City, \$33,450 for 812.110 students; Big Sandy, \$23,310 (566), Union Hill, \$11,700 (284) and Pittsburg, \$690 (17).

County Judge Todd Tefeller said the county government receives no revenue from the lease as it all goes to schools.

Rep. Dean to speak in Gilmer

By Phillip Williams

State Rep. Jay Dean (R-Longview) will be guest speaker when the Cherokee Rose Republican Women's Club hosts an "appreciation dinner" Monday night honoring GOP election judges and clerks who worked in the 2020 elections.

The free event, open to those who voted in last year's Republican primary and/or runoff elections, is set for 6 p.m. at Lantana Activity Center, 80 Lantana Road near Gilmer.

The Republican Party of Upshur County has been invited to co-sponsor the event and is expected to accept, said Cherokee Rose President Cynthia Ridgeway, immediate past county GOP chairman.

Dean "will present an update on election integrity legislation, and other highlights from this year's (state legislative) session," Ridgeway said in a news release. She added that "in town hall fashion," a question-and-answer session would be held.

The event is to recognize the GOP election workers "for outstanding service by faithfully fulfilling their oath to protect the integrity of the election during perhaps the most controversial election of our lifetime," Ridgeway wrote.

The dinner menu will include chicken spaghetti, Caesar salad, green beans, garlic bread or Texas toast, banana pudding, peach cobbler, cake, coffee, tea and water. For more information, call 903-968-6822.

Hannah House celebration set

By Phillip Williams

The Hannah House Maternity Home in Glenwood community invites the public to its "3rd Annual Faith, Family and Freedom Celebration" on Saturday night.

The event, which the home said will feature "food, fun, fellowship and fireworks under the stars" opens at 6 p.m. at 6253 Nightingale Road.

Admission is free, but attendees can purchase an optional \$5 box dinner of a hamburger or hot dog, chips and a beverage, said the home's director, Melanie Wright.

The home is also selling optional t-shirts for the event at 3 Girls Nutrition in Longview and at the celebration itself.

Hannah House bills itself as "a place of new beginnings for a young woman (age 18 or older) in an unplanned pregnancy. It is where hope and love come together as she seeks God's plan for her life."

The facility offers basic living expenses, counseling, medical care, religious guidance, classes and, for those who wish to adopt out their child, adoption services. For more information on Saturday's event, call 903-238-5351 or 903-238-7463.

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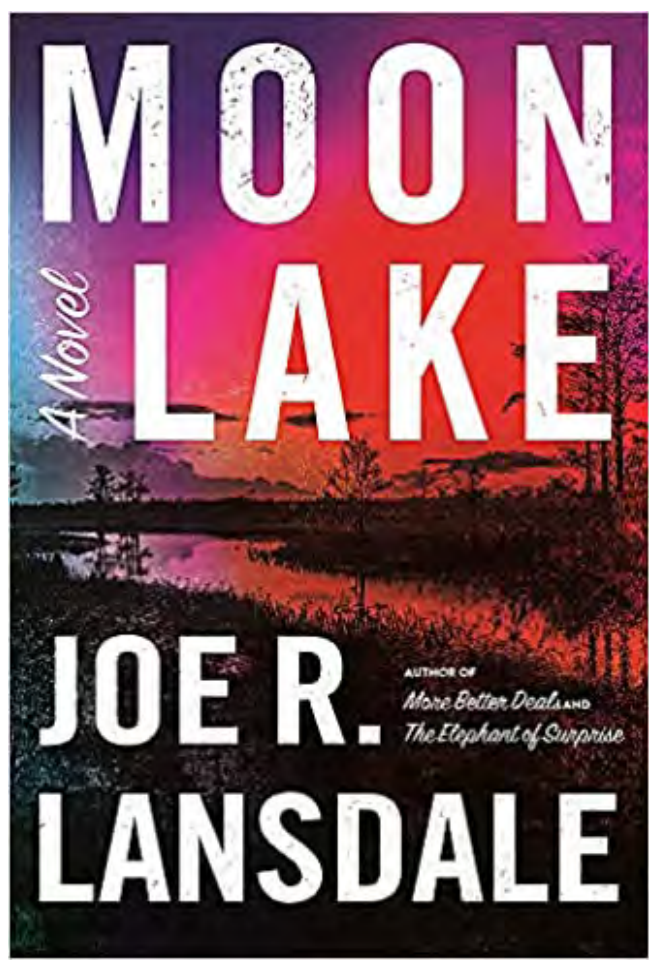
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Lansdale's newest work critically acclaimed

By Suzanne Bardwell

Joe Lansdale's latest book "Moon Lake" was released on Tuesday. Already a starred review, Booklist says Moon Lake is "a 'Gothic gumbo'...Lansdale has long been a master of blending realistic human drama with elements of horror, and he's at it again here."



Ronald Koltow in Publisher's Weekly calls "Moon Lake" a "thought-provoking crime novel with Texas dialect that is pitch perfect." And, as all Texans know, that is a difficult feat for writers to achieve. But, when the author was raised in East Texas it comes naturally.

The New York Times says "Moon Lake" is a "winning mixture of curiosity, hesitancy and gumption."

Lansdale describes "Moon Lake" as a mixture of gothic attitudes, Southern style with elements of history, crime, suspense and terror.

A native of Gladewater, Lansdale has written in varied genres including Western, horror, science fiction, mystery and suspense. He has also written comics, as well as "Batman: The Animated Series" and the screenplay for the animated "DC Showcase: Jonah Hex". With 46 novels under his belt and 30 short story collections. The prolific author's work has gained a global audience.

The "Hap and Leonard" series of 12 novels, four novellas and three short story collections is set in the fictional town of Laborde which seems to fit geographically this particular corner of East Texas. A highly acclaimed television series based on the characters ran for three seasons on the Sundance channel. Lansdale's first film adaptation was "Bubba Ho-Tep" which has become a cult classic movie.

The 10 Bram Stoker Awards under Lansdale's belt and a long list of genre specific awards attest to his wide-ranging writing ability and the critics' appreciation for his work. He has a World Fantasy Award, an Edgar Award, a Dashiell Hammett Award for Best Novel and one for Best Mystery Novel. His 1994 "Mucho Mojo" was named a New York Times Notable Book of the Year and in 2007 he received the World Horror Convention Grand Master Award.

The list of awards continues with the American Mystery Award, the Horror Critics Award, an International Crime Writer's Award, a Spur Award for Best Historical Novel, a Raymond Chandler Lifetime Achievement Award, an Editors' Choice for Adult Books for Young Adults by the American Library Association and the Grinzane Cavour Prize for Literature in Lansdale's bursting full and varied bag of awards.

Currently Lansdale and his wife Karen live in Nacogdoches where he is Stephen F. Austin University's Writer-in-Residence. The noted author was inducted into the Texas Literary Hall of Fame in 2012 and with the advent of "Moon Lake" it appears that many more awards are sure to follow.

Upshur Commissioners propose raises for officials, workers

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County Commissioners Court on Tuesday of last week approved legally-required newspaper advertising of a proposed \$1,200 across-the-board raise for all county employees and elected officials, and also instructed County Auditor Connie Williams to include \$680,000 for road and bridge materials in the proposed 2021-22 budget.

County Judge Todd Tefeller said the proposed raises were not final, so the publication did not necessarily mean the court would vote to approve them. Precinct 4 Commissioner Jay W. Miller and Precinct 2 Commissioner Dustin Nicholson said they would not accept raises, although they voted to publish the notice.

As for the road and bridge issue, Tefeller said, "I think we're gonna see improvement to roads. I think we already have."

The court recently heard numerous complaints from citizens at three meetings concerning county-maintained roads' conditions. "We have an infrastructure that is crumbling," Precinct 1 Commissioner Gene Dolle said at last week's meeting.

In the vote on the road/bridge funds, the court also instructed Williams to include \$111,000 for more constable vehicles, and \$10,000 for Court Appointed Special Advocates, a group which assists foster children.

Tefeller recently said the court is not considering raising its current tax rate of 61.5 cents per \$100 valuation, and when a reporter asked Williams how the potential pay raises would be financed without increasing taxes, she said the county had some new property which would provide additional tax revenue.

She also noted, however, that taxable valuations declined due to exemptions and drops in mineral rights.

The court also discussed increasing the county's share of employee pensions, but Williams said the county could not keep enough in its emergency fund if it raised both pension funding and salaries.

When Tefeller said the county might have to dip into its reserve funds to avoid a tax hike, Williams responded, "You don't want to dig into your piggy bank every year."

The court said the pay raises were needed for employee morale. Precinct 3 Commissioner Mike Ashley and Dolle said they supported the \$1,200 increase.

Tefeller said he wanted a \$1,500 hike, and that \$1,200 was the least he would support. "Somebody can go out in the private sector and make three times' more than they are paid as county workers, the judge said, adding "We gotta do something about salaries, roads and law enforcement." As for raising elected officials' pay, Dolle said "You want good people to run for office."

Also on Tuesday, the court approved distributing \$300,000 among the county's nine school districts (see separate story) and heard Hadden Starnes of LiveGilmer propose the county let his organization lease a vacant lot on the downtown square to build an amphitheatre for high school band concerts and possibly plays.

Tefeller told him to assemble a plan for the court to inspect, but Dolle and Nicholson praised the idea with Dolle saying it would bring business into town.

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How the surge in lumber prices is affecting landowners

By Stephen J. O'Shea/ Texas A&M Forest Service

COLLEGE STATION — Lockdowns from the pandemic have led to some unexpected economic consequences, one of which has been a surge in lumber prices. Sawmills shut down at the onset of the pandemic, while Americans across the country — forced to work from home — found the time and energy to remodel, renovate and, in many cases, relocate. The result has been a case study in forest economics. Demand for lumber went up, but supply went down: consequently, costs have skyrocketed over 300%.

In a simpler world, this would mean that everyday landowners who grow and harvest timber on their property have become the beneficiaries of an unexpected boon. But, as it turns out, timber prices (i.e. the price of felled trees sold to sawmills as logs) haven't changed at all.

"The struggles that landowners had in 2019 went into 2020, and are now going into 2021," said Jordan Herrin, an East Texas forester for Texas A&M Forest Service. "Really, life for your timber producer hasn't changed much. It's just been pretty steady."

While steady might seem like a blessing in the wake of a global pandemic, timber prices in Texas have been the same for almost two decades. And that's without taking into account inflation and other adjusted costs. Sawtimber prices plummeted in 2008 from the housing market crash, and they've flatlined nationally at about \$25 a ton ever since. In Texas, that price has crept up to an average of almost \$30 a ton — approximately the same price for timber in 2011, according to THIS report by Texas A&M Forest Service.

This divergence between the cost of timber and the cost of lumber is counter-intuitive, to say the least; but the reality is that both are part of incredibly complex, and surprisingly different, markets. Consumers set the price of lumber based on the demand for processed wood and single-family homes, while sawmills set the price of sawtimber based on what landowners are willing to get paid.

The problem for forest landowners is the abundance of ready-to-harvest timber. Mature trees being harvested in East Texas today are likely between 30 and 35 years old. Thirty-five years ago, the U.S. was in the middle of a government subsidized tree-planting initiative.

The Conservation Reserve Program was signed by President Reagan in 1985 to "re-establish valuable land cover, help improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and reduce loss of wildlife habitat," according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Working forests also sequester carbon, reduce the impact of flooding, provide mental and physical health benefits for human beings, and — once those trees are harvested — the land is reforested, so that new trees can come in and provide all those same benefits time and again.

Despite all these advantages, the surplus of harvestable trees is just one of many factors contributing to the flatline in timber prices, according to Rob Hughes, the Executive Director of the Texas Forestry Association.

"Landowners have been struggling to get their timber harvested for a while," said Hughes. "The mills are producing more wood than they have before, but it's still not to the capacity of how much timber is being grown in their areas."

A part of this divergence began with the housing crisis of 2008. Sawmills across the south had already been consolidating into fewer,

more efficient locations — but with the sudden pitfall in demand, the number of sawmills were practically cut in half. In 1997, Texas had a total of 168 active sawmills across the state. Today, Texas has about 50.

A simple solution to this disparity would be to increase production capacity at current sawmills, and to increase the number of sawmills across Texas and the south. However, the realization of that solution isn't so straightforward. Sawmills today are technical titans of industry that can take up to five years to build. One mill recently constructed in Lufkin, Texas, is estimated to have cost \$200 million.

"It takes a lot of 2x4s to pay back a \$200 million investment," said Hughes, referencing the mill in Lufkin. "If you're going to spend that much on a new sawmill, you'll want to know that the demand is going to last until you can start making money."

Texas sawmills are currently operational. However, many are struggling to operate at full capacity due to an unanticipated worldwide shortage in computer chips, OSB glue and other things like machinery maintenance parts. There has been a backlog of demand due to labor shortages, factory shutdowns due to COVID tracing and an overall lag in mill-to-market production.

The result is a buyer's market. Landowners are competing with each other not only to sell their timber for a reasonable price, but to have their timber harvested in the first place.

"A lot of what these mills consume is coming from TIMO (Timber Investment Management Organization) or REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) properties — basically, private investment groups," said Herrin. "Those really push out a lot of smaller landowners."

Investment and industrial properties control around 38% of working forestland in East Texas. But because they set a revenue target for the year, many of them will continue to harvest through lower timber prices in order to reach those targets. Since they have such large volumes of timber, smaller landowners are left merely to supplement what the industry giants put in.

"There are a lot of private landowners, especially on our western fringe and in Northeast Texas, that are struggling to find a market for their wood," said Hughes.

Landowners without a market for their wood, or landowners who don't want to accept the low payments for their timber, are left with very few options — and most of those aren't promising.

There is some hope, though. Sawmills across the south are expanding their capacity to match the rising demand, and there have been several announcements of new mills to be built. As these new mills become larger and more efficient, they might match the demand for lumber across the country — but it's going to take time.

Even then with these expansions, there still might not be enough production to correct the price of timber. The surplus of harvestable trees has existed for decades now, and demand isn't likely to climb high enough to match that surplus. Rob Hughes, however, is staying optimistic.

"I think there is a light at the end of the tunnel," said Hughes. "It's called 'Commercial Mass Timber.'"

Mass timber is the use of engineered wood products as the primary frame and structure for tall, commercial-style buildings. One category of mass timber, cross-laminated timber (CLT), is so promising that it is boasted to be as strong as steel, but lighter, more resistant to fire, easier to install, and carbon-neutral. Cement alone contributes up to 8% of total greenhouse gas emissions worldwide, according to think tank Chatham House. Steel production, meanwhile, requires the burning of coal.

Several buildings in Texas have recently been constructed out of mass timber, including the Soto in San Antonio, Hotel Magdalena in Austin, and a classroom building at San Jacinto College — which will be the largest mass timber instructional building in the nation. The largest mass timber building in the world, Mjøstårnet in Norway, is 18 stories tall and built entirely out of cross-laminated timber.

TxDOT's weekly work schedule released

TxDOT is planning to conduct the following construction and maintenance work in the district during the Week of June 21, 2021. Work schedules are subject to change due to weather conditions, equipment failure, or other unforeseen issues. Slow down and pay attention in work zones.

In Van Zandt County, the westbound I-20 Safety Rest Area will be closed nightly starting Monday, June 21 for guardrail upgrades. The closure will effective from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., nightly through Thursday, June 24. The westbound rest area will be open to travelers during the day but closed for night work.

US 259 Improvements (New Project)

- Limits: Loop 281 north to curbed median
- Contractor: Longview Road and Bridge
- Cost: \$1.09 million
- Anticipated Completion Date: July 2021

Night work starts Tuesday, June 22. Operations will be conducted from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday nights until completion. The project consists of constructing concrete curb and

gutter in key locations in the median, asphalt work, new signs, and striping.

FM 2206/Harrison Road

- Limits: From Loop 281 to Fisher Rd.
- Contractor: East Texas Bridge
- Cost: \$15.16 million
- Anticipated Completion Date: December 2021

Work includes extending culverts and constructing detours. Expect lane closures and delays. The project consists of widening the two-lane road to four lanes with a center turn lane. Work includes drainage structures, flexible base, curb and gutter, sidewalks, hot mix, and pavement markings.

FM 2206/Harrison Road

- Limits: Fisher Rd. to SH 42
- Contractor: East Texas Bridge
- Cost: \$14.15 million
- Anticipated Completion Date: May 2022



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TWO Divide & Conquer Sales – Same Dates
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Sale #1: Moving Sale for Mr. Bill Wylie
 6714 Hollytree Circle ~ Tyler, TX 75703

Outside S. Loop 323 and off S. Broadway, turn west onto Grande. At the light, turn left onto Hollytree Dr., right on Brandywine, and left onto Hollytree Circle.

This 3004 sq. ft. house, listed by *Newberry Real Estate*, sold quickly. The following contents / consignments are available: fab. din. table; 8 antique English oak; Chippendale chairs; sq. breakfast table & 6 chairs, matching leather recliners; leather swivel chair; over-sized chair & ottoman; barley twist fire guard/screen; antq. barley twist armchair; antq. display cabinet; antq. secretary; several chandeliers; Welsh dresser; French china; English china; crystal; Sabino; Swarovski; Boehm bird plates; M.A. Hadley pottery; Spode china; Desert Rose pottery; grandfather clock; rustic cabinet; 2 king beds; dresser; nightstands; king sleigh bed; 3 twin beds; daybed; bedding; linens; quilts; pillows; framed bird art; lg entertainment unit; tea cart white wicker rocker; side table, & small shell; large rugs; side tables; marble coffee table & match; side table; lg coffee table; vintg. vanity dressers; mirrors; knock knock; framed art; books; lamps; Coming Ware; kitchen selections; men & women's; shoes; golf shoes; toys; wash. / dry.; ref.; Christmas items; Snow Village selections; movies; CD's; flatscreen TV's; electronics; monitors; off. chairs; off. supplies; Craftsman tool chest; gardening supplies; hand & yard tools; bicycle; treadmill; ladder; sooooo much more. Pictures: [DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com](#)

Sale #2: Divide & Conquer Downsizing Sale for Dr. Tom and Mary Ann Eckert
 1017 Wilmington, Tyler, TX 75701

This lovely 4000 sq. feet home, listed by *Newberry Real Estate*, sold quickly. The following contents consignments are available: din. table & chairs; china cabinet; sets of china; antq. barley twist settee; barley twist chair; framed A.C. Gentry art; framed botanicals; 3 sofas; long antq. bench; misc. chairs; coffee tables; cedar chest; bar stools; vintg. drum tables; fireplace tools & fire fenders; M.A. Hadley selections; antique Eastlake table; tea carts; sets of flatware; silverplate selections; pewter; full bed, chest, dresser, nightstands; king hdbd; bunk bed; roosters; rooster lamp; purses; scarves; brass selections; knick knacks; handmade braided rugs; Singer sew. mach.; sew. notions; quilt; twin bed; white wicker queen headboard, armoire, & nightstand; electronics; analytical balance by Christian Becker; bedding; decorative pillows; lamps; Hummel plates; cost. jewelry; holiday items; vintg. luggage; books; CD's; movies; vintg. medical cabinet; refrig.; wash. & dry.; vintage Fisher Price toys; marbles; dolls; games; snow sled; children's chairs; red wagon; hand & garden tools; NordicTrack; golf clubs; lawn mower; planters; work bench; sooooo much more!

Pictures: [DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com](#)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the ESTATE OF RICK DELWIN GILL, DECEASED, were issued on June 18, 2021, in Cause No. 2021-0167-E, pending in the County Court at Law 2, in and for Gregg County, Texas, to: WENDY JOHNSON GILL, Independent Administrator.

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

c/o: Courtney Anne Harris
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 4373
 Longview, TX 75606
 DATED the 18th day of June 2021.
 Courtney Anne Harris
 Attorney for Wendy Johnson Gill,
 Independent Administrator
 State Bar No.: 24060434
 PO Box 4373
 Longview, TX 75606
 Telephone: (903) 757-7500
 Facsimile: (903) 215-8467
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Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Dependent Administration for the ESTATE OF VAL-ENTINE JOSEPH GALLEGOS, DECEASED, were issued on June 17, 2021, in Cause No. 2021-0181-E, pending in the County Court at Law 2, in and for Gregg County, Texas, to: MICHELLE STROMAN, Dependent Administrator.

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

c/o: Matthew C. Harris
 Attorney at Law
 P.O. Box 4373
 Longview, TX 75606
 DATED the 18th day of June 2021.
 Matthew C. Harris
 State Bar No.: 24059904
 PO Box 4373
 Longview, TX 75606
 Telephone: (903) 757-7500
 Facsimile: (903) 215-8467
 E-mail: mch@mattharrislaw.com
 Attorney for Michelle Stroman,
 Dependent Administrator

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Police Activity Report

CALL DATE	CALL DESC	CFS#	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
6/14/21	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	202103354	0:32		308 W WALTON WALTON
	EMS	202103356	0:53		407 JOHNSON JOHNSON
	ALARMOTHER	202103356	6:53	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	202103357	7:37	RODEO GROUNDS	2502 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ASSIST	202103358	8:21	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	202103359	9:15	AJ'S FAST STOP EXXON	1708 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	202103360	9:43		1602 E MARY MARY
	ASSIST	202103361	9:57	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	202103362	10:51		516 NORTH NORTH
	THEFT	202103363	11:48		507 W MARSHALL MARSHALL
	FORGERY	202103365	12:11	BROOKSHIRE'S GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	202103366	12:32	GREENWAY VILLAGE	72 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	EMS	202103367	13:46		515 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	202103368	13:58	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ABANDONED VEHICLE	202103369	14:03		5 TYLER TYLER ST
	ALARMOTHER	202103370	15:04	CASH AMERICA PAWN #652	207 S MAIN MAIN ST
	THEFT	202103371	15:43		3077 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	202103372	19:38	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	FIRE DEPT	202103373	23:09		9278 LOCUS LOCUS
6/15/21	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	202103374	0:52	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	202103375	1:31	GARDENS OF GLADEWATER	108 N LEE LEE ST
	DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID	202103376	2:51		COTTON COTTON
	EMS	202103377	6:47		1 CEDAR BEND CEDAR BEND RD
	EMS	202103378	7:49	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ASSIST	202103379	8:23	NELSON PROPANE STORAGE	2115 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	THEFT	202103380	9:53		610 MLK MLK
	ASSIST	202103381	11:39		1508 N DAISY DAISY
	EMS	202103383	14:57		2216 PINECREST PINECREST
	ASSIST	202103384	15:05		411 W GAY GAY
	EMS	202103385	16:14	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	202103386	18:23		71 E EDDIE EDDIE
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	202103387	19:01		310 W GREGG GREGG
	10-50 MINOR	202103388	19:05	RES-MOR APARTMENTS	700 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	THEFT	202103389	20:24		503 MLK MLK
	FIRE DEPT	202103390	20:54		801 N GARY GARY
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103391	20:55		QUITMAN QUITMAN
	EMS	202103392	22:06	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDREN'S CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ALARMOTHER	202103393	23:12	SOLIDALE	300 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
6/16/21	ALARMOTHER	202103394	0:21	BROOKSHIRE'S GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ALARMOTHER	202103395	8:09	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103396	11:40		MELBA MELBA
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	202103397	11:49		520 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	202103398	13:16	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ABANDONED 911	202103399	15:23		70 E EDDY EDDY
	FIRE DEPT	202103400	16:13		10890 S HWY 271 HWY 271
	FIRE DEPT	202103401	19:08		313 EDDY EDDY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103402	19:56	MCDONALD'S	1100 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	202103403	20:05		2101 OLD LONGVIEW OLD LONGVIEW
	ASSIST	202103404	21:47		1202 NELWYN NELWYN AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103405	22:15	CHICKEN EXPRESS	1101 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103406	23:14		271 271
6/17/21	ALARMOTHER	202103407	1:06		1102 NORTH NORTH ST
	FIRE DEPT	202103408	2:51		210 HURLEY HURLEY AVE
	FIRE DEPT	202103409	3:53	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	RECKLESS DRIVING	202103410	3:55		HWY 80 HWY 80
	ALARMOTHER	202103411	6:39		723 VIRGINA VIRGINA
	ASSIST	202103412	7:10		RODEO RODEO
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103413	10:16	BOOSHAY'S	103 N MAIN MAIN ST
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103414	10:29	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	202103415	10:34		110 W SABINE SABINE
	EMS	202103416	11:22		606 S TYLER TYLER
	FORGERY	202103417	12:21	BROOKSHIRE'S GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	202103418	12:37		900 NORTH NORTH
	ASSIST	202103419	12:46		402 N LIVE OAK LIVE OAK
	ANIMAL CONTROL	202103420	13:59		700 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	202103421	15:00	DIXIE MOTEL	328 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	202103422	15:24		509 S MAIN MAIN ST
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	202103423	15:38		1102 FARVIEW FARVIEW
	EMS	202103424	16:08	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103425	17:12	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	202103426	17:28		1601 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	ABANDONED 911	202103427	17:35		
	ABANDONED 911	202103428	17:36		701 MELBA MELBA
	DEADLY CONDUCT	202103429	19:21	BUMBLE BEE PARK	637 COACH COCKSEY ST COACH COCKSEY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103430	19:29		208 OAK OAK
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103431	19:51		1306 N OLIVE OLIVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	202103432	21:42		515 N FERRY FERRY
	HARASSMENT	202103433	22:23	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	FIRE DEPT	202103434	22:48		900 NORTH NORTH ST
	INCIDENT W/REPORT	202103435	23:42		LOOP LOOP
6/18/21	ASSAULT CLASS A	202103436	5:18		106 N COTTON COTTON ST
	THEFT	202103437	11:32	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103438	11:35		710 TENERY TENERY
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103439	11:46	EVERETT PARK	901 N LEE LEE ST
	EMS	202103440	11:59		409 W GAY GAY AVE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	202103441	13:20		215 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	202103442	15:30	CITIZENS BANK	678 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ALARMOTHER	202103443	16:24	AEP SCHOOL	700 MELBA MELBA ST
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103444	17:15		33 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	ABANDONED 911	202103445	17:52		1300 E MARY MARY
	ANIMAL CONTROL	202103446	19:08		65 JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS
	ASSAULT CLASS A	202103447	20:40		700 MELBA MELBA ST
	ALARMOTHER	202103448	23:03	AEP SCHOOL	CANFIELD CANFIELD
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	202103449	23:53		
6/19/21	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	202103450	0:23		
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103451	2:33		518 N FERRY FERRY ST
	10-50 MINOR	202103452	7:57		PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS
	ESCORT	202103453	8:42	BODY OF BELIEVERS	2822 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	202103454	8:50	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	EMS	202103455	10:41	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	BURGLARY/BUILDING	202103456	10:46	OLD ICE HOUSE	434 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	202103457	10:58	LUCKY FINDZ	1401 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ANIMAL CONTROL	202103458	12:00		1101 SHEPHARD SHEPHARD
	FOUND/LOST/RECOVERED	202103460	13:22		GILMER GILMER
	ALARMOTHER	202103461	14:48	ABUNDANT LIFE ACADEMY	407 MONEY MONEY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103462	15:07		706 W CLAIR CLAIR ST
	ALARMOTHER	202103463	17:02	TIRE ROAD	807 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ABANDONED 911	202103464	20:17		
	ABANDONED 911	202103465	20:33		
	EMS	202103466	20:57		489 N MAIN MAIN ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	202103467	21:28		1303 E SHEPHERD SHEPHERD DR
	10-50 MAJOR	202103468	21:42	DONNELLY'S LIQUOR	1700 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ABANDONED 911	202103469	21:56		
	EMS	202103470	22:17		801 N GARY GARY
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103471	22:26		EDDY EDDY
	RECKLESS DAMAGE	202103472	23:29		271 271
6/20/21	EMS	202103473	12:23	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	ALARMOTHER	202103474	12:54	GARNER'S SERVICE CENTER	808 S TYLER TYLER
	EMS	202103475	14:55	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	202103476	15:03		105 N PAUL PAUL
	RECKLESS DRIVING	202103477	15:20		HWY 80 HWY 80
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103478	16:08		16665 CR 3110 CR 3110
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103479	16:30		902 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	EMS	202103480	18:32		512 N FERRY FERRY
	ABANDONING A CHILD	202103481	18:46		401 SPENCER SPENCER
	ALARMOTHER	202103482	20:08	GLADEWATER BIBLE CHURCH	115 MONEY MONEY
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	202103483	21:28		114 JEANETTE JEANETTE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	202103484	21:32		N SHELL SHELL RD
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	202103485	22:02		114 JEANETTE JEANETTE
	MISCELLANEOUS	202103486	22:33		W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
6/21/21	EMS	202103487	0:38	ANTIQUE CAPITAL RV PARK	500 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	FIRE DEPT	202103488	1:02	SUNBELT MANUFACTURING	100 S PINE PINE ST
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	202103489	5:59	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH	217 W QUITMAN QUITMAN AVE

GPD Arrest Report

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS1
6/14/21	6/14/21	22:10	BATTEE, TRAVIS LAMAR	B	M	CHILD UNDER 17 NOT SECURED BY SAFETY BELT	106 N N COTTON
	6/14/21	22:10	BATTEE, TRAVIS LAMAR	B	M	FAILURE TO MAINTAIN FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	106 N N COTTON
	6/14/21	22:10	BATTEE, TRAVIS LAMAR	B	M	NO DRIVERS LICENSE	106 N N COTTON
6/16/21	6/16/21	23:40	PARKER, MIKKI-TON ELAINE	W	F	RAN RED LIGHT	100 LOOP 485
	6/16/21	23:40	PARKER, MIKKI-TON ELAINE	W	F	FAILURE TO APPEAR (CLASS C OFFENSE)	100 LOOP 485
	6/16/21	23:40	PARKER, MIKKI-TON ELAINE	W	F	EXPIRED LICENSE PLATES	100 LOOP 485
	6/16/21	23:40	PARKER, MIKKI-TON ELAINE	W	F	FAILURE TO MAINTAIN FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	100 LOOP 485
	6/16/21	23:40	PARKER, MIKKI-TON ELAINE	W	F	FAILURE TO APPEAR (CLASS C OFFENSE)	100 LOOP 485
	6/16/21	23:40	PARKER, MIKKI-TON ELAINE	W	F	EXPIRED LICENSE PLATES	100 LOOP 485
	6/16/21	23:40	PARKER, MIKKI-TON ELAINE	W	F	FAILURE TO MAINTAIN FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	100 LOOP 485
	6/16/21	23:40	PARKER, MIKKI-TON ELAINE	W	F	FAILURE TO APPEAR (CLASS C OFFENSE)	100 LOOP 485
	6/16/21	23:45	FOSTER, PATRICK OBRIAN	W	M	POSSESS CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PG 1>=1G <4G	100 SOUTH LOOP 485
6/17/21	6/17/21	23:40	ROWE, JEREMY LEE	W	M	UNLAWFUL CARRYING WEAPON	100 SOUTH LOOP485
	6/17/21	23:40	ROWE, JEREMY LEE	W	M	POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA <2OZ	100 SOUTH LOOP485
	6/17/21	23:40	ROWE, JEREMY LEE	W	M	POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUG	100 SOUTH LOOP485
6/18/21	6/18/21	12:12	SHAW, QUINTUS DEWAYNE	B	M		710 TENNERY
6/20/21	6/20/21	20:06	EDWARDS, SUZETTE DANIELL	B	F	ABANDON ENDANGER CHILD W/INTENT TO RETURN	401 SP



Three Gladewater High School Band musicians performed in the ATSSB All State Band Concert in Melissa last week. GISD Director of Bands Jeff Smith, euphonium musician Matt Smith, clarinetist Madisyn Bedair, trumpet musician Sarah Walbridge and GMS Band Director Rhet Pilcher captured the moment with a picture. According to Pilcher, this accomplishment is one of the most challenging to achieve for high school band students. Courtesy Photo

Locals among 45 students who graduates from KC Adult Education & Literacy program

Kilgore College's Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) program awarded 45 certificates to graduates at its annual commencement ceremony last week.

The ceremony was held at Dodson Auditorium on the Kilgore campus.

Valedictorian Sam Bielling,



GHS 2021 graduate and FFA member Jasper Taylor is a recipient of a \$500 Gregg County Youth Expo scholarship. Taylor plans to attend Kilgore College where he plans to pursue welding. Courtesy Photo

of Longview, gave the farewell address and salutatorian Mia Rose, of Longview, gave the welcome address.

KC's AEL program offers a full range of free services to help adults improve their lives including English as a Second Language (ESL), basic literacy skills, exam preparation, High School Equivalency (HSE), Integrated Education and Training, and Intensive College Readiness preparation.

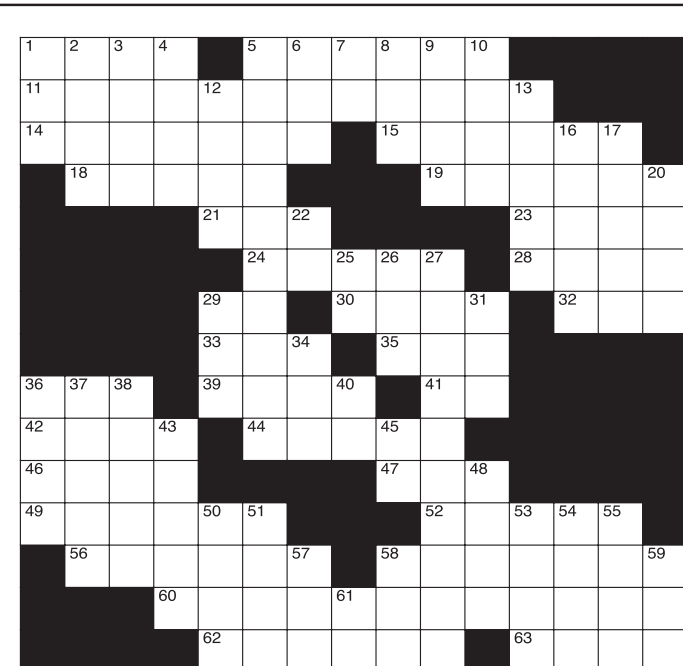
Day and evening classes are offered at 25 locations in Gregg, Upshur and Rusk counties. For more information visit www.kilgore.edu/ael.

Certificate recipients by hometown include:

Big Sandy: Valenta Hagen and Kayla Cheyenne Ross

Gladewater: Dillon Burnett, Rosa Perez*, Stephen Sholars*, Ellaina Smith

* Membership in National Adult Education Honor Society



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Absence of difficulty
- 5. Preserve a dead body
- 11. Gratitude
- 14. The act of coming together again
- 15. More cushy
- 18. Visionaries
- 19. Fish-eating bird
- 21. Indicates near
- 23. NY Mets legend Tommie
- 24. Icelandic poems
- 28. Pop
- 29. Hammer is one
- 30. Senses of self-esteem
- 32. Trigraph
- 33. Not around
- 35. Electronic data processing
- 36. Driver's licenses and passports
- 39. Snake-like fishes
- 41. Military flyers
- 42. Raincoats
- 44. Type of community
- 46. Feature of worm's anatomy
- 47. In the center
- 49. Laid back
- 52. Jewelled headdress
- 56. In slow tempo
- 58. ___ Falls
- 60. Saying things again
- 62. Periods in history
- 63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Body part
- 2. Mimics
- 3. Expel or eject
- 4. Sea eagle
- 5. Subdivision of cenosespecies
- 6. Dialect of Chinese
- 7. Mr. T's character on "The A-Team"
- 8. Consumed
- 9. Chinese dynasty
- 10. NFL great Randy
- 12. Ireland
- 13. Palm trees
- 16. Fungal disease
- 17. Willis and Jerry are two
- 20. Affirmative!
- 22. Potato state
- 25. "The First State"
- 26. A way to develop
- 27. Associations
- 29. Woman (French)
- 31. Sunscreen rating
- 34. Brew
- 36. Mosque prayer leader
- 37. Indigo bush
- 38. Bum with a hot liquid
- 40. Jr.'s father
- 43. Scad genus
- 45. Morning
- 48. Length of a straight line (abbr.)
- 50. Double curve
- 51. Small thin bunch
- 53. Worn by exposure to the weather
- 54. Mars crater
- 55. Humanities
- 57. Of the ears
- 58. "To the ___ degree"
- 59. Residue
- 61. It keeps you cool

Proposed estate tax law changes hit farms hard

By Gary Joiner/ Texas Farm Bureau

The Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M ran the numbers. What it found was that two proposals in Congress to change current estate tax law would hit family farmers extremely hard.

The Sensible Taxation and Equity Promotion Act or STEP Act proposes to eliminate stepped-up basis upon death of the owner. The For the 99.5 Percent Act (99.5% Act) would decrease the estate tax exemption to \$3.5 million (\$7 million per couple), among other things.

The policy center maintains a database of 94 representative farms in 30 different states. Under current tax law, it says only two of the 94 representative farms would be impacted by an event triggering a generational transfer.

By contrast, under the STEP Act, 92 of the 94 representative farms would be impacted, with additional tax liabilities incurred averaging

\$726,104 per farm.

Under the 99.5% Act, 41 of the 92 representative farms would be impacted, with additional tax liabilities incurred averaging \$2.17 million per farm.

If both the STEP Act and the 99.5% Act were simultaneously implemented, the policy center says 92 of the 94 representative farms would be impacted, with additional tax liabilities incurred averaging \$1.43 million per farm across the 92 representative farms.

Members of Congress requested the study. The numbers don't lie. America's family farms and ranches can't afford these two estate tax proposals to become law.

Texas A&M Forest Service personnel mobilized to support out-of-state wildfire response

COLLEGE STATION —Twenty-five Texas A&M Forest Service overhead personnel and operational fire resources, including two engine crews, are currently deployed to wildfire incidents in Colorado, Arizona, Alaska, New Mexico and Florida.

With increased fire activity occurring in multiple geographic areas across the country, resources from around the nation mobilize to assist other states during times of need.

Texas state resources are supporting wildfire suppression efforts in multiple roles, including firefighter, engine support, prevention team members, aviation operations and support roles.

"We are glad to be in the position to assist other states," said Wes Moorehead, Texas A&M Forest Service Assistant Director. "Texas A&M Forest Service, however, remains dedicated to protecting Texas' citizens and natural resources from wildfire and all-hazard incidents, even as national activity increases. We will continue to monitor conditions and assess needs locally."

It's budget time ...

3% raises will cost taxpayers 3-cents tax hike

It's that time of year - time to crunch city budget numbers and squeeze as much as possible out of what tax dollars are available.

Last Thursday Gladewater City Manager Ricky Tow presented a preliminary budget to the council. The 2021-22 fiscal budget - \$9,574,125 - calls for a 3-percent raise for all employees and would require a 3-cent tax hike to fund the pay increase. For years, Gladewater has lost employees to neighboring cities because it pays less. The proposed budget's wish list from department heads also asks for the addition of an animal control officer - a position that was eliminated a few years ago during a budget crunch - and new computers for the police department and the rehab of the city jail.

But with a proposed tax rate of \$0.7865 which contains all the wish list requests - Gladewater would have one of the highest tax rates in East Texas. Gilmer was at \$0.649195 in 2020, while White Oak was at \$0.60240 on each \$100 of assessed valuation of all taxable property. Kilgore is at \$0.539000, Clarksville City is at \$0.647520 and Bullard is at \$0.595599. Only the City of Troup is higher at \$0.829434.

The council will tour city facilities this coming Saturday and then work on the budget.

In their business Thursday night, the council:

* Accepted the financial audit for fiscal year 2020, which was deemed a clean audit.

* Approved the acting-fire chief Gordon Freeman's request to seek grant funding for fire department air packs

* Approved abandoning 19.6' x 79.8' west extension of Allison Street Water Tower property.

Passed a resolution asking for the temporary closing of US 271 (Main Street) from US 80 to E. Glade Ave. for East Texas Gusher Days activities June 9-10.



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Pharr

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Development Services Director	D.O.Q. - \$ 87,500
Public Safety Communications Director	D.O.Q. - \$ 80,000
Public Works Director	D.O.Q. - \$115,000
Public Works Assistant Director	D.O.Q. - \$ 65,000
City Clerk	D.O.Q. - \$ 75,000
EMT-Paramedic	D.O.Q. - \$ 53,460 * ~
EMT-Advanced	D.O.Q. - \$ 44,960 * ~
PT EMT-Paramedic	\$19.00 ~
PT EMT-Advanced	\$17.00 ~

*Salaries based on guaranteed overtime worked. ~Uniforms

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PUZZLE SOLUTION

E	A	S	E	E	M	B	A	L	M												
A	P	P	R	E	C	I	A	T	I	O	N										
R	E	U	N	I	O	N		E	A	S	I	E	R								
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					E	P	I						A	G	E	E					
								E	D	D	A	S		S	O	D	A				
								M	C		E	G	O	S		T	S	H			
								M	I	A		E	D	P							
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						A	D	A	G	I	O		N	I	A	G	A	R	A		
										R	E	S	T	A	T	E	M	E	N	T	S
										E	P	O	C	H	S		D	A	S	H	



ANIMAL FACT!

WHICH MARINE ANIMALS ARE THE LARGEST IN THE OCEANS?

ANSWER: GIANT SQUID AND BLUE WHALE

What's the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. Birds in sky 2. Polka dots on girl's swimsuit 3. Missing items in background 4. Woman has straps on swimsuit

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1870:** THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS CREATED.
- **1911:** GEORGE V AND MARY OF TECK ARE CROWNED KING AND QUEEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.
- **1969:** THE CUYAHOGA RIVER CATCHES FIRE IN CLEVELAND, OHIO.



MARINE

found in or produced by the sea

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Ocean
- SPANISH:** Océano
- ITALIAN:** Oceano
- FRENCH:** Océan
- GERMAN:** Meer

Did You Know?

SMALL TUBE FEET ON THE UNDERSIDE OF SEA STARS HELP THEM TO MOVE ACROSS THE OCEAN FLOOR.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SEA TURTLE



Don't be surprised ... Be in the know!



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