

Gladewater Mirror



Find us on Facebook

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"

Wednesday, July 7, 2021

Vol. 93, No. 26

1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

36th ANNUAL EAST TEXAS GUSHER DAYS
July 9-10, 2021

LOOK INSIDE!

Special Supplement of the Gladewater Mirror & White Oak Independent - July 7 & 8, 2021

TEFFELER LAW
WILSON/DEATH | PERSONAL INJURY
903.843.3678

Rain-delayed fireworks show lights up the sky over lake

WINNERS OF THE JULY 3rd CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOAT PARADE, SPONSORED BY AUSTIN BANK, WERE:



FIRST PLACE - AARON AIKEN



SECOND PLACE - KERRY PRAZAK



THIRD PLACE - HEATHER TISON



Mother Nature was not cooperative on July 2. The annual boat parade finished just before the heavens opened up and washed out the fireworks show. So the fireworks were moved to Monday night and proved to be just as magnificent. Photo by Suzanne Bardwell

Gusher Days is back!

After canceling in 2020 and rescheduling from the third week of April - all due to the Pandemic and health concerns - East Texas Gusher Days is back and better than ever.

All the fun begins this Friday, June 9, in downtown Gladewater and runs through Saturday, June 10. Come check out Sunshine Midway's exciting rides and attractions Friday and Saturday, then cruise on over Saturday from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and check out the awesome line-up of award winning classic cars, trucks and motorcycles. Entry for this year's 2021 Crusin' Downtown Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show is just \$15 (cash only) per vehicle. Awards will be handed out for: People's Choice, Best Upholstery, Best Rat Rod, Judge's Choice, Best Pain Job, Kooolest Kustoms and Best of Show. There also will be a 50/50 Pot for all who wish to participate. For more information call the Chamber of Commerce at 903-845-5501. Entertainment will be provided by Dale Cummings "Mr. C" from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.. Sign-up for the Car Show starts at 9 a.m..

And don't miss out on all the arts and crafts vendors and tempt your taste buds at the various food vendors lining the downtown red brick streets. And don't forget about the annual Gladewater Lions Club Pancake Breakfast held on Saturday morning, July 10. Breakfast begins at 7 a.m. at the Oil Derrick Pavilion at East Commerce and US 271. The cost is just \$5 per person and the menu includes all-you-can-eat pancakes and syrup, sausage, orange juice and coffee.

And if chili is your thing come try your hand at cooking up a winning chili recipe in the CASA-sanctioned event on Saturday. Turn in will be at 1 p.m. and the entry fee is \$20. Sign up begins at 8 a.m. at the chili tent located at Center and Commerce street. Remember if you plan to compete - NO beans in the chili.

Carter BloodCare of Tyler will hold a mobile blood drive in downtown Gladewater during "Gusher Days" Friday-Saturday. The unit will be stationed from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily next to the public restrooms which are beside the railroad tracks on U.S. 271.

Council finds way to give raises without tax hike

By Jim Bardwell

After first considering a 3-cent tax hike to fund a 3-percent raise for all employees next year, the Gladewater City Council Thursday night managed to hammer out a new plan that would fund raises without jacking up the tax rate.

Two weeks ago Gladewater City Manager Ricky presented a \$9,574,125 preliminary budget to the council for fiscal budget 2021-22.

One way of funding the 2021-22 expenses, which called for the 3-percent raise for all employees would have required a 3-cent tax hike. And while the council was well aware that employees hadn't had a raise in three years and some employees had taken their talents to neighboring cities for more pay, they still didn't want to burden taxpayers any more.

Councilmember Scott Owens said he wouldn't vote for any tax increase and councilmember Brandy Flanagan had questioned the rate hike at the council's first workshop and asked for a second budget to be prepared - one that didn't have the rate hike and raises.

After several hours of discussion, Mayor JD Shipp proposed the city use some of its \$710,000 reserve funds to pay for many items on the city's "wish list" such as - \$45,000 four new computers for the police department and the rehab of the city jail, \$3,000 for an employee incentive program, \$70,000 for a sewer

jetter for public works, \$20,000 for much-needed air tanks for the fire department, and a \$7,775 phone system.

To fund the \$22,500 in pay raises, Shipp and other council members decided to revamp the city fire department - going from a 13-man fully staffed crew to a 10-man crew (a chief, three captains and six firefighters) with more volunteers recruited like Gilmer and White Oak does. The change could save the city over \$100,000 and will help provide other services to taxpayers, such as a much-needed animal control officer.

The city was forced to cut out the animal control officer position a few years back during a budget crunch. And while the elimination of the position did save money, the decision has never set well with residents who continue to have problems with stray animals in the city limits.

By staying at \$0.751568/\$100 valuation, Gladewater still has one of the highest tax rates in East Texas, but not as bad as it would have been with an additional 3-cents added. Gilmer sat at \$0.649195 in 2020, while White Oak was at \$0.60240 on each \$100 of assessed valuation. 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.



Whitney Simmons-Grubb placed eighth in the Olympic trials on Saturday as well as a personal best record of 67.82 meters. The former White Oak High School athlete was seeded 20th out of a field of 24 in the trials. Courtesy Photo

WO alum makes Olympic trial finals despite injury

By Suzanne Bardwell

The road to last week's Olympic trials in Oregon for White Oak 2013 alum Whitney Simmons-Grubb was paved with hard work, commitment and faith. The journey wasn't easy, nor is it finished. Simmons-Grubb has her sight set on the 2024 Olympic trials after finishing eighth against world class athletes and setting a 67.82 meter personal best record in the hammer throw.

"I was a top eight Olympic Trials finalist after coming into the meet seeded 20th out of 24 women," Simmons-Grubb said. "God was showing off. I had a

severely strained oblique. I had a mediocre season. I had to throw personal bests in order to survive the competition. I had God. I had peace."

White Oak Road played its part in the Simmons-Grubb Olympic journey as well. She was a standout athlete at White Oak High School setting the school record in discus. From there she attended the University of Texas at Tyler where she was the school record holder in the women's hammer, the American Southern Conference record holder, a 7-time All American and a 3-time National Champion.

She has held the Division III national record since 2017. So how does a 3A high school/ Division III collegiate athlete make the biggest show of all?

"After graduating from UTT in 2017 I was passionate about continuing my career as a post-collegiate thrower, with dreams of becoming a true professional and training to make the Olympic Team," Simmons-Grubb said. "To make a living and stay close to my coach, I got a coaching job at UTT. For two years, Simmons-Grubb worked with her college coach training around her work

Continued on Page 3



Mayor JD Shipp explains how raises can be given without a tax hike. Photo by Jim Bardwell

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Gas prices at highest level since 2014

As Texans hit the roads this summer with pandemic restrictions eased and vaccinations widespread, the national average price of gas is expected to top \$3 per gallon, though the average in Texas for regular is \$2.799, according to AAA. Drivers should expect prices to keep rising as demand rises, according to the Consumer Energy Alliance.

“With oil’s continued push higher, fueled by continued strong demand globally and production only slowly answering, gasoline prices have had no choice but following oil’s rise last week setting a new 2021 high,” said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. “...It appears the only way forward is for gas prices to continue to rise as Americans’ insatiable demand for gasoline continues to act as a catalyst. And with hurricane season soon coming into its prime, we have plenty more catalysts for a rise in price, and few that could restrain the situation. Motorists should prepare to dig deeper for the second half of the summer, unfortunately.”

TEA releases test results; widespread decrease in performance

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) results for spring 2021 show that outcomes for in-person learners were appreciably higher than those who attended classes online during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of students not meeting grade level increased from 2019 across all subject areas and grade levels, with the exception of English, according to the Texas Education Agency.

“Thankfully, from early on, Texas prioritized the availability of in-person instruction during this tremendously difficult year,” TEA Commissioner Mike Morath said. “When students come into Texas public schools, they are well-served by Texas educators — a fact that these scores confirm. But it is also painfully clear that the pandemic had a very negative impact on learning. I shudder to consider the long-term impact on children in states that restricted in-person instruction.”

School districts that had a higher percentage of students learning virtually had higher declines in STAAR results in all grades and subjects, TEA reported. For example, districts in which fewer than one-fourth of students were learning remotely saw a 9-percentage point drop in math performance from 2019 to 2021. In districts where more than three-fourths of students were learning remotely, the decline was 32 percentage points.

Higher ed gets \$94.6 million in emergency relief

Federal pandemic funding continues to trickle down to Texas colleges and universities, with the latest round bringing nearly \$100 million in emergency relief. Last year the state allocated \$175 million in federal funds to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to support higher education during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Investing in our higher education system is the single best way to bolster the workforce that Texas has become known for and accelerate our state’s economic recovery in the wake of COVID-19,” said House Speaker Dade Phelan.

About half the funding will go to expand capacity for high-demand and high-value educational opportunities, including work-based learning and apprenticeships. Other programs to be funded include financial aid; establishing a one-stop advising resource to help students connect with higher education opportunities; and expanding outreach to adult learners to meet workforce demands of state employers.

Vaccinations slowly increase in state

The number of Texans who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 reached 11,937 million this week, or about 41% of the state’s total population, according to Texas Health and Human Services. Hospitalizations in the past week of lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases rose slightly to 1,502. New cases in Texas increased to 10,493 compared to the previous week, with 193 deaths recorded, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

Putting manufacturing sector in perspective

A report from the state comptroller’s office notes that Texas’ manufacturing sector contributed \$241 billion to the state’s gross domestic product in 2019, about 13% of its total economic output. That is larger than the manufacturing output in both Russia and Mexico. Before the pandemic, manufacturing employed about 909,000 Texans. As of February 2021, seasonally adjusted total manufacturing jobs were below pre-pandemic levels by 53,000, or nearly 6%.

Many of the job losses were in industries tied to the oil and gas sector — fabricated metal products and machinery manufacturing. Those two industries accounted for nearly two-thirds of the manufacturing job losses since the pandemic began in March 2020.

Most funding ever for transit operations

The Texas Transportation Commission approved \$89 million last week for transit operations across the state, the most ever allocated at one time. About 60% of the funding comes from federal pandemic funds, with the rest provided by the state. The funding includes more than \$10 million from the feds to help transit agencies manage the impact of COVID-19. Nearly 20 million transit rides were recorded statewide, even during the pandemic.

...everything

The meaning of life is something I have never had to search for. It was always just ‘there’, sure as the black dirt beneath my feet. The rock solid truth is that the ultimate reason for being is simply to love and be loved. Harder to do for some than others. I was taught that love was a choice. Love is not a feeling, or not just a feeling, love has to be an action regardless of how you feel. That kind of love enables you to survive just about anything, do just about anything.

I learned early that life is not fair. It is never going to be fair and the sooner that fact of life is grasped the smoother the road you trod can be simply by not wasting your energy and emotion on what you have been denied, what has been taken from you, what you did that was credited to someone else, or cruelty that is undeserved and unearned. It just is. So the power one has is when you have done all you can do, “just stand”...until you find your way to step forward.

I know that we all can be very small-minded creatures. We often preach the Golden Rule and the importance of not judging others and then we spend most of our time breaking the former and doing the latter. What a waste of time. I have found that when people’s conception of what is right or wrong, or even their perception of God is rattled they have a tendency to attack, often viciously. If someone is indeed convinced they are right, why do they feel threatened? Why do they feel the need to angrily attack someone they disagree with? If you are right rest in your confidence. Also, why drive the other guy further from what you believe to be the truth with anger?

If you know you are right, why are you not at peace letting your light illuminate a better path. You can not be heard when you are screaming. Sometimes only actions can be ‘heard’. So, how do we

Suzanne Bardwell



find purpose and peace? Maybe it is time for a diet of the soul. One that requires a little less screen time, a lot less social media and a whopping helping of kindness.

My wise mother taught me that we make the life we live. We choose how we will respond to the anger, injustice, cruelty and harshness of life. We decide if it will make us bitter or better, and it is a choice. A choice that we make over and over again. A choice that makes our lives, and our corner of the world a much better place to be when we choose better.

Anger and grudges can be the acid that burns away our soul and damages those we love. Choosing forgiveness, choosing kindness and compassion even when it is undeserved is my idea of peace on earth. At least in this tiny corner of mine.

I am surrounded by people who make this corner better every single day by their hard work, their commitment, generosity and sheer goodness. The magic to their success is not that they walk on water but that they start anew when they fail...time after time. They don’t give up, or in, to the frailties of being human. They know the secret too. I bet that most of you dear readers know it as well. When we forget we just need someone to remind us that love is the greatest gift of all. If we have that gift we have everything.



THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Falling STAAR

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) recently released results of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) for spring 2021. (See <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/2021-staar-analysis-presentation.pdf> for a summary.)



The tests cover mathematics and reading for grades 3–8 as well as writing and science for some grades, 8th grade social studies, and high school end-of-course exams in Algebra I, English I, English II, Biology, and US History. The results indicate abysmal outcomes pretty much across the board when compared to 2019, as districts struggled to deal with disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The numbers of students not performing at grade level escalated for almost every subject area and grade, reversing generally improving trends in recent years. For mathematics, the percentage of students meeting standards was only 35%, down from 50% in 2019. Some grade levels were particularly hard hit, with only 25% of grade 7 and 30% of grade 3 students performing satisfactorily. Reading scores also dropped, though not as severely, with 43% of students at grade level (down from 47% in 2019).

Not surprisingly, the outcomes were generally lower in districts where remote learning was more prevalent. Imagine the challenges of trying to teach and learn third grade math (or any math) virtually. It’s tough. Districts with fewer than 25% in person most of the year saw the percentage of students not meeting grade level

in math worsen by 32 percentage points, compared to a nine-percentage-point drop in districts with 75% on site. Economically disadvantaged students were particularly negatively affected, as were Black and Hispanic students. Far too many basically missed the entire year. It is tragic, and the urgency of a powerful response is palpable.

As noted by the TEA, the results highlight the infrastructure needed to address lost learning opportunities and emphasize the important role of adequate resources. Some much-needed assistance was provided in recent legislation which permits eligible students to access high performing instructors and additional tutoring and school systems to accelerate learning through rigorous instructional materials, additional teacher support, and expanded learning

time. Unfortunately, however, the federal money designated to assist school districts from the various stimulus programs has been partially delayed and offset. Local districts need these funds now in order to be innovative in addressing the varying requirements across this diverse state.

Catching up will be extremely difficult but is essential to prosperity on both an individual and a societal level. Almost 80% of students who attend school in Texas will live in the state as adults. They are the workforce of the future in an increasingly technological world. Schools face a daunting task and need resources and support throughout this critical recovery phase and beyond. The importance of education cannot be overemphasized.

Stay safe!



The Gladewater Mirror

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

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

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

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

News & Advertising Deadlines: Noon Monday

Office Hours

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Telephone: 903-845-2235

Fax: 903-845-2237

Email: gladwatermirror@aol.com

Owners:

Jim & Suzanne Bardwell

Publisher/Editor: Jim Bardwell

Advertising: Suzanne Bardwell

Office Manager: Tiffany Harroff



HYPOCRISY

In A discussion of Christianity, it doesn’t take long for the subject of “hypocrisy” to come up. One skeptic wrote: “A Christian is a man who feels repentance on a Sunday for what he did on a Saturday and is going to do on Monday.” That is a sad description, but all too often true, I fear.

Sadly, there is a disparaging connection between the “clergy” and hypocrisy today. There is no shortage of abusive priests, and swindling ministers, that has consequently all but obliterated what little trust people have left in church leaders. It is a pitiful spectacle! But such “phoniness” among some religious leaders should not surprise us, since it is not a new phenomenon. Such conduct was rampant in Jesus’ day. He constantly confronted hypocrisy among the Jewish religious leaders. Seven times in one message He denounced those leaders with the strong rebuke: “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites.” (Matt. 23: 13-15, 23, 25, 27, 29). In verses 16-17 He said: “Woe to you, blind guides...You fools and blind men! That doesn’t sound like the “meek and mild Jesus,” as He is so often described today, does it?”

What was so upsetting to Jesus? He loathed their self-righteous piety because “they said things and did not do them.” (Matt. 23: 3), and when they did do something meaningful, they did “all their deeds to be noticed by men.” (v. 5). They publicly talked the talk, but didn’t privately walk the walk! They gave the appearance of being spiritually strong, but in reality, they were worldly and impotent! They sounded ever so righteous, but actually they were void of any spiritual substance! Yep! Hypocrites, the whole lot of them!

How careful we need to be, that we do not display varying degrees of hypocrisy in our lives with a “fake faith.” Remember, only Jesus lived a perfectly righteous life, full of integrity and free from any hypocrisy. That’s why He is our model. 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

WO alum makes Olympic trial finals despite injury

OBITUARIES

Continued from Page 1

day. "I sometimes worked 12 to 15 hour days, which included lifting as early as 5:30 a.m. and throwing much later in the afternoon while coaching a small group of athletes," she said.

Despite the effort the ambitious athlete realized that her skills were not improving.

"The work days were long, and my distances were short," she said. "By year two, I started realizing something needed to change. I either needed to quit or look at it as a hobby. If you know my heart those options were impossible."

With the huge obstacles before her, Simmons-Grubb had support from her husband, Jordan, whom she met in the UTT athletic program and married in May 2019. Besides marriage, other changes including her college coach and mentor moving to South Georgia faced the coach/athlete. He urged Simmons-Grubb to keep training, find a new coach and training group with similar goals.

"He told me I deserved that kind of life, a life that was dedicated to training full time in order to chase my dreams," she said. "I had lived in East Texas my entire life. The thought of moving away to pursue something that was purely for me and no one else, to leave the safety of home and family and career, this was the scariest decision of my life, and not one I took lightly."

She says that after months of prayer and indecision she committed to the move to Marietta, Georgia where she tried out with new coach, Mike Judge.

"The 10-hour drive back to East Texas at the end of the tryout was the longest drive of my life," Simmons-Grubb said. "I probably cried more during that drive than I had in my entire 24 years of life, because I knew in my gut that I was moving to Georgia."

In November 2019 she packed her car.

"I left my family, my dogs, my husband, my life, behind," Simmons-Grubb said. "I lived with my college coach and his wife while my husband looked for a new job in Georgia."

Simmons-Grubb said she was able to compete in the women's weight throw at the USA Nationals in February, 2020 where she finished ninth.

"Then the world stopped," she said "My husband eventually lost his job due to Covid-19. My training partners went home to train in better conditions in other states. I continued to train as best I could in parking lots and parks."

Her college coach set up his own gym equipment in the athlete's garage.

"We adapted," Simmons-Grubb said. "We could not compete, but we could play catch-up with the rest of the world, and make improvements in my technique. Jordan got a new job in August from an amazing company led by a God-fearing man who was very supportive."

The support received from a variety of levels, including divine, was much needed according to Simmons-Grubb. In the USATF Gold Series, competition finally became available despite the pandemic.

"I have been very fortunate to find the means to travel," Simmons-Grubb said. "Some of that was due to money I was able to make by competing well enough, some came from my small, side online business on Etsy.com (Whit's End), but most came from the support of my husband and the way God took care of us financially to make this life of ours work."

Throughout the season, Simmons-Grubb said she had struggled with her performances.

"Here, I am a very tiny fish in a very large ocean of talent," she

said. "My training partners were highly ranked. They are all stronger than me. They went to big Division I schools and found great success, whereas I had not. I was still trying to find a way to play catch-up."

Simmons-Grubb says that she spiraled into self-doubt.

"I was mentally weak when I used to be strong and confident," she said. "I quickly became sick of myself. I spent my days being miserable and feeling sorry for myself. Sick of what was going on inside me and desperate for a change, I picked up a Bible study that my mom had given me years ago. All I can say is that it saved me. It was the 'Battlefield of the Mind' series by Joyce Meyer. My mindset shifted. I started to recognize the blessings in my life. I started praying for peace. I started to trust His plan for my life and believe that He could make a miracle happen. I started to have faith."

Simmons-Grubb says that the thing that changed the most was her overall goal, especially after her struggles with her injury. She began to pray that God would use her to lead others to Him.

"That would make the struggle worth it if I don't get the worldly success and that is what I prayed for going into the Olympic Trials," Simmons-Grubb said. "I wasn't trying to make the Olympic Team this year. That won't realistically be in the cards for me until 2024 or later. My training is just not developed enough and that's okay. I knew it would be a long journey."

She said that her goal was to make the top 12 out of the 24 women who competed.

"I knew I would have to throw a personal best in order to have a chance at top 12, which is a very difficult thing to accomplish on a big stage," Simmons-Grubb said. "That pressure, plus the fact that I could hardly train due to my oblique strain didn't leave much hope in my first appearance at the Olympic Trials."

Through a series of what Simmons-Grubb credits as divine intervention, she was able to compete despite the pain of her injury.

"I didn't have my coach with me, he was coaching my training partner in the shot put," she said. "So, it was just me and God at that hammer ring."

She said she took her first throw and it was a better start than she had had in a long time, then there was a foul throw and deep pain.

"I sat down and I prayed," she said. "God please help me. Please help me do this. If this is how I can further your kingdom, if this is how I can be an example, please help me on this last throw."

On her third throw she walked out of the ring and watched the video board waiting for the distance to pop up.

"67.32 meters. A personal best which ended up securing my spot in the top 12 on Day 2," Simmons-Grubb said. "When I saw the distance, I turned around and found my mom, Jordan and my Papabear grandad in the stands and shot my hands up in the air. I could not believe what just happened. I was completely overwhelmed by what God had just done for me, and I knew with my entire being it was Him because I physically should not have been able to perform that way. My faith has never been stronger. That will be the moment I tell people the rest of my life that God spoke to me."

But the Simmons-Grubb story doesn't stop there. She hit a second personal record in her next throw.

"I was sitting in eighth place and could not be passed by anyone else," she said. "God held my hand and walked into the ring with me. He enabled me to do something I had no business doing, and I will tell every soul I come in contact with who asks me about my competition from this day forward. He worked through me. He worked in me, He awoke my soul. This is the happiest I've ever been about an eighth place finish."



Whitney Simmons-Grubb, a 2013 White Oak High School graduate placed eighth in hammer throw in Saturday's Olympic trials in Oregon. Courtesy Photo

ALTON LEE MORRIS

Alton Morris 70 of Gladewater, January, 31, 1951 ~ June 27, 2021, went to be with his heavenly father.

A celebration of Alton's life will be held Saturday, July, 10, 2021 at the Morris residence at 614 Clearview St. in Gladewater starting at 2PM.

Alton was preceded by his parents, Frank and Velma Morris, a brother Thurman Morris, sisters Ruby Henderson and Dorothy Parson.

Alton's memory will be carried on by his loving wife Sandra Morris, sisters Betty Warlock and Virginia Shank, brothers; Lawrence Morris, Doyle Morris, and Don Morris, son Michael Morris, daughter Misty Messer, son in law Ken Messer, grandsons; Christopher Radford, Jonathon Radford, and Taylor McKinley, granddaughter, Makayla Baker and great grandson Koda Baker, and several nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

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



FUMC Craft Sale Saturday

The First United Methodist Church's Creative Christians Craft Sale will be Saturday July 10 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at 217 Quitman. A variety of handmade goods, wood craft, art, holiday decor, gift and food items will be available.

**601 S. White Oak Road
White Oak, TX 75693
www.pannelldds.com
Open: Mon.-Thurs., 8-5
903-297-0712**

John Keith Pannell, D.D.S.

Dentistry that will make you smile

- In office sedation
- New patients welcome
- Happy gas relaxation
- Senior citizen discount
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Interest Free Financing with Credit Approval
- Implant Dentistry
- Snapon Dentures
- Emergency care welcomed

GENERAC®

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
855-672-2446

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

Offer valid December 15, 2020 - March 1, 2021

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

PROTECT YOUR HOME 365 DAYS A YEAR

LeafFilter®

GUTTER PROTECTION

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

15% OFF + 10% OFF + 5% OFF

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*

SENIORS & MILITARY!

MADE IN THE USA

TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY!**

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!

Promo Code: 285

*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-855-680-0576

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only †The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. CSI# 1035795 DGPL #10783658-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 128344 License# 218294 WA UBI# 603 233 977 License# 2102212986 License# 2106212946 License# 2705132153A License# LEAFFNW822JZ License# WV050912 License# WC-29998-117 Nassau HIC License# H01067000 Registration# 176447 Registration# HIC.0649905 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 366920918 Registration# PC6475 Registration# IR731804 Registration# 13VH09953900 Registration# PA069383 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2705169445 License# 26200022 License# 262000403 License# 0086990 Registration# H-1114

FREEDOM FRIDAY SPONSORS

The Gladewater Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the following sponsors of the 2021 FREEDOM FRIDAY FIREWORKS. The event was rained out with Monday, July 5, being the make-up date for families and visitors to enjoy a wonderful fireworks display over Lake Gladewater. Many thanks to CHRIS DOWNING and members of DOWNING PLUS who provided the synchronized patriotic music as the fireworks exploded.

CITY OF GLADEWATER	STARS & STRIPES TICO (TECHNICAL INSTALLATION CO., LLC)	
BAILEY'S ACE HARDWARE	LIBERTY	O'REILLY GROUP
CROLEY FUNERAL HOME PAT & JOE DEROUEN ETEX COMMUNICATIONS GLADEWATER MIRROR	PATRIOT 	JOHN LINDER OPERATING SHIPPS MARINE SONIC DRIVE-IN UPSHUR RURAL ELECTRIC
BRENT & JANICE ABERNATHY JOHN & JOANNE BLACK CITIZEN'S BANK BROWN, COOK, & TAYLOR LARRY & SALLY CLEMENS GLADEWATER AREA LADIES' ASSOC. GUSHER DAYS ALFRED LACY NANCY LINDSEY	FIRECRACKER 	MAVTEX FABRICATION JOHN MCKENNON JAY & ELANE OSTEEEN LOIS REED TEXAS BANK & TRUST JOHN USSERY VITAL EARTH RESOURCES WILLIAMS TRACTOR SALES JACKIE & DIANE WOODS
ALFRED FAMILY DENISTRY ANTIQUE MALL BROOKSHIRES	SPARKLER 	JOJO INC. PACIFIC STREET CRAFTER'S MALL

BIG THANKS TO THE FOOD TRUCKS WHICH PARTICIPATED:

	JC CONES KONA ICE ROLLING SMOKES BBQ TACO TIME #1	
---	--	---

WINNERS OF THE BOAT PARADE SPONSORED BY AUSTIN BANK THIS YEAR ARE:

FIRST PLACE	AARON AIKEN
SECOND PLACE	KERRY PRAZAK
THIRD PLACE	HEATHER TISON

Antique Capital of East Texas!
Gladewater, Texas
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
WORKING TOGETHER FOR COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

215 N Main Street
Gladewater, TX
903-845-5501
www.gladewaterchamber.org

Upshur eyes possible broadband grant

By Phillip Williams
Upshur County Commissioners Court last Wednesday agreed to join Gilmer-based Etex Telephone Coop Inc. in seeking one or more grants "to expand broadband infrastructure and/or high-speed internet service to underserved areas of Upshur County."

The action would be "pursuant to the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration," the meeting agenda said. The court approved entering into a "letter of intent to partner" with Etex.

Before doing so, the court heard David Cleveland, executive director of the Kilgore-based East Texas Council of Governments, explain opportunities to seek such grants. He indicated such funding would be partly designed to help current rural businesses, and the locating of firms in rural areas.

ETCOG, which serves a 14-county area that includes Upshur, successfully sought a \$375,000 grant from the commerce department, but it

requires \$161,000 in matching funds from counties and cities, Cleveland said. While Upshur County doesn't have to pay its \$3,500 share (which could be paid over anywhere from one to three years) to participate in the program, he said he hoped the county wouldn't decline to pay.

Upshur officials would tell ETCOG which 3-5 projects it deems most important, and the council would then seek governmental funding, the director explained. "Help us help you," he urged.

Charlie Cano of Etex then told the court he was discussing a potential grant separate from what Cleveland discussed. Cano said his firm proposed "a public/private partnership" with the county, which he said was a requirement, and that Etex would pay 100% of the expense, meaning the county would pay nothing to try to obtain the grant.

"These grants are really looking for the most underserved communities," Cano said. "We need a partner to go with them."

In other business last week,

the court approved a 13-member "American Rescue Plan Grant Planning Committee" to advise the court on how to spend the \$1.8 million the county is receiving from the federal government.

County Judge Todd Tefteller, who referred to the funding as the "Joe Biden bailout," said it couldn't all be spent, as he had hoped, on road and bridge improvements. (County road conditions have been the subject of numerous complaints at recent court meetings and on social media.)

County Auditor Connie Williams noted that "road improvement is not allowable" under the grant, but that the county can use the funds for abating future storm water on roadways. Tefteller had said the monies could be used on culverts, ditches and standing water as it affects roads "due to climate change."

10 graphs
Tefteller said the committee members, who he recommended with commissioners' input, were designed to be from "a cross section of this community." They include himself, Trace Hudgins, Ron Cook, Jimmy Coulter, Alesia Jones, Eddie Turner, Curtis Hollis, Bart Austin, John Ussery, Mark Skinner, Ashley Moore, Yolanda Barron and Precinct 4 Commissioner Jay W. Miller.

The court also approved Tefteller's recommendation to have Williams' office administer the American Rescue Plan grant, rather than seeking proposals from consultant grant administrators. The judge said that was "way more economically feasible," and the court's vote included using the grant funds to pay personnel in the auditor's office for extra work they will perform.

Mrs. Linda LaMae Daniels to celebrate 100th birthday

A celebration in honor of Linda LaMae Daniels' 100th birthday will be held July 17 at Longview Christian Church at 2400 McCann Road in Longview from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Mrs. Daniels was born July 17, 1921 in York, Wisconsin and raised by foster parents in Carpio, North Dakota. She lived in Montana, Colorado, Kansas, Illinois, Washington State and California before becoming a Texan. She worked as a switchboard operator, electronic technician at Douglas Aircraft, office manager for Allstate Insurance and as a teacher's aide. Mrs. Daniels also was a church pianist. Her love of learning included developing skills in cake decorating, oil painting and flower arranging.

She married Raymond Norwood Daniels on Jan. 21, 1955 and raised six children. She now has 16 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Sunday Services

See your helpful hardware folks at... **Bailey's ACE**
Store hours:
Mon-Fri 7:00-7:00 Gladewater, TX
Sat 8:00-6:00 903.845.5787
Sun 1:00-5:00

J.O. Williams
Since 1936
300 Hwy. 80 East
Gladewater
903.845.2222

SONIC
America's Drive-In.
Hwy. 80
Gladewater, TX
903.845.2559
We don't start cookin' til we hear from you!

- BAPTIST**
Calvary Baptist • 903-845-6297
Clarksville City Baptist • 903-845-3248
Cornerstone Church • 903-918-5539
East Mountain Baptist • 903-759-2820
Eastview Baptist Church • 903-984-8524 First Baptist Church • 903-845-2171 Friendship Baptist Church • 903-845-4603 Gladewater Baptist • 903-845-3842 Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174 Grace Baptist • 903-845-6440 Greater New Hope Baptist Locust Grove Baptist • 903-845-5174 Gladewater Bible • 903-845-4768 New Hope Baptist • 903-845-3042 St. James Baptist • 903-845-5028 Union Grove Baptist • 903-845-4894 Joy Baptist • 903-790-4978
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
North Loop Church of Christ • 903-845-2531 North Main Church of Christ • 903-845-2816 Rocky Church of Christ
- CATHOLIC**
St. Theresa's Catholic Church • 903-845-2306
- CHARISMATIC**
New Life Church • 903-845-8108
- LUTHERAN**
Our Redeemer Lutheran • 903-758-2019
- CHURCH OF GOD**
Elevate Worship Center • 903-374-2064
- NAZARENE**
Church of the Nazarene • 903-845-4425
- METHODIST**
First United Methodist Church • 903-845-2565 McCrary's Chapel United Methodist

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
300 West Upshur (PO Box 1444), Gladewater, TX
903-845-2171
www.fbcgladewater.org
FACEBOOK - FBCGLADEWATER
SUNDAY - 10:15 Morning Worship

Get your message out for just \$12/week
Call
903-845-2235

- New Mountain CME Church • 903-845-1175
Starville Methodist • 903-877-4040
Union Temple CME Methodist • 903-845-1050
- NON-DENOMINATIONAL**
New Life Fellowship Church • 903-261-4227
Gladewater Bible Church • 903-445-7234
Grace Tabernacle • 903-309-8801
- PENTECOSTAL**
First United Pentecostal • 903-845-2922
Northside Pentecostal
Abundant Life Temple U.P.C. • 903-845-6043
Southern Pentecostal Church (Starville) PRESBYTERIAN
First Presbyterian • 903-845-2905
- OTHER**
Starville Church of the Living God • 903-877-3205
Friendship Community Church
Full Faith Holiness • 903-845-8195

Listen online at www.qx-fm.com
Unforgettable QX-FM!
The greatest music of the 40s, 50s, 60s & 70s as well as today's really cool musicians!
You'll hear Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, Nat Cole, Ray Charles, The Kingston Trio, Michael Buble, Bette Midler, Diana Krall, Buddy Holly, The Beatles, Bobby Darin, The Tijuana Brass, John Denver, Peter, Paul & Mary, and hundreds of other favorites.
(903) 643-7711
It's the music you grew up with!

Grace Baptist Church
212 E. George Richey Rd., Gladewater
Schedule of Services

Sunday	Wednesday
Sunday School 10 a.m.	Prayer and Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Morning Service 11 a.m.	
Evening Service 6:30 p.m.	903-845-6440

Pastor Jim Withers
www.gbcbgladewater.org



- Full Gospel Fellowship**
Gladewater Revival Church
Living Hope Fellowship • 903-261-2023
Love of God Church • 903-845-2623
Union Temple CME Church • 903-845-1050

Croley
FUNERAL HOME
(903) 845-2155
croley_gwater_fh@yahoo.com
401 N. Center St. (off Main St., Hwy 271)
Mail: P.O. Box 706 • Gladewater, TX 75647

St. James Missionary Baptist Church
Join us each Wednesday at 6:15 pm for ABF/SBF and 7:15 pm for Bible Study and each Sunday at 11 am.
2800 W. Commerce Street
Gladewater, Texas 75647
903-845-5028

Black Dog Designs and Builders
Commercial and Residential Construction, remodeling and repair. 35 years experience. Excellent Reputation and References. Contact: Black Dog Gallery/Designs
903-663-0936



The flower-bedecked patrol car used by Upshur County sheriff's investigator Marc Ryder, who died unexpectedly Thursday after getting off work that day, stands in the parking lot at the Upshur County Justice Center in Gilmer. Ryder, 46, collapsed at his home in the Diana area and was pronounced dead at CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview, said Sheriff Larry Webb's office. Flags at the justice center were lowered to half-staff in honor of Ryder, who had been with the sheriff's office since 2014 after stints with the Gregg County Sheriff's Department, Gilmer and Big Sandy police departments. (Courtesy photo supplied by Chief Deputy David Hazel).

Bears top 3A Fabulous 15 list

The Gladewater Bears, who won 29 games the past three seasons, have been selected for the top spot in the 3A poll for the preseason edition of the #bEASTTexas Fabulous 15.

Gladewater leads the small-school rankings with 12 first-place votes and 215 points. The Bears were 8-3 a season ago and return 16 starters, including four-star receiver DJ Allen, who announced a final four of USC, TCU, Arkansas and Baylor on Thursday.

3A/2A/TAPPS

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Gladewater (12) | 9. Daingerfield |
| 2. Malakoff (1) | 10. Timpson (1) |
| 3. Tatum | 11. Tenaha |
| 4. Waskom (1) | 12. Garrison |
| 5. Elysian Fields | 13. Winnsboro |
| 6. Mineola | 14. Paul Pewitt |
| 7. Mount Vernon | 15. Harmony |
| 8. West Rusk | |

KC-Longview hosting summer camps in carpentry, metal working, electricity, robotics

The Industrial Maintenance program at Kilgore College will host several summer camps in July and August with a variety of technical

WHAT'S HAPPENING

subjects.

Camps are set for carpentry, metal working, basic electricity/electronics and robotics. The camps are open to students entering 7th-12th grades and the cost of each camp is \$260. Each camp is one week long, held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at KC-Longview, located at 300 S. High Street.

Instructor of the camps is Kelly Kaemmerling, industrial maintenance instructor at KC. "We wanted to offer a variety of camps for students who are eager to explore their interests in these practical skills," Kaemmerling said. "These camps are very hands-on and will inspire students to want to learn more about skills that can - with more training - turn into great careers."

To download registration and medical waiver forms, visit www.kilgore.edu/im-camps. Payments to attend camps are accepted at the main office at KC-Longview or by phone at (903) 753-2642. Students are asked to bring a sack lunch as lunch will not be provided. For more information or for any questions, contact Kelly Kaemmerling at (903) 236-2049 or kkaemmerling@kilgore.edu.

WEEK 1 - Carpentry:

Dates: July 12-16 (Monday-Friday) Cost: \$260
Location: KC-Longview Industrial Maintenance Classroom at KC-Longview (IMT 100)

Description: Students will learn basic carpentry skills, creating their own wood projects that they can take with them.

Skills: Shop safety, wood types, hand tools, power tools, blueprints, fasteners, measuring instruments, math, joinery and assembly

WEEK 2 - Metal Working:

Dates: July 19-23 (Mon-Fri) Cost: \$260
Location: KC-Longview Industrial Maintenance Classroom at KC-Longview (IMT 100)

Description: Students will learn basic metal working skills, making their own metal projects that they can take with them.

Skills: Shop safety, metal types, hand tools, power tools, math, blueprints, measuring instruments, assembly and fasteners

WEEK 3 - Basic Electricity/Electronics:

Dates: July 26-30 (Monday-Friday) Cost: \$260
Location: Hendrix Building at KC-Longview (LVHDX 305)

Description: Students will work with Arduino kits to build and test electrical circuits. Skills: Electrical safety, Ohm's law, electrical schematics, switches, resistors, lights and potentiometers

WEEK 4 - Robotics:

(Prerequisite: Basic Electricity/Electronics)
Dates: August 2-6 (Monday-Friday) Cost: \$260
Location: Hendrix Building at KC-Longview (LVHDX 305)
Description: Students will work with Arduino kits to learn programming and basic robotics, working on a collaborative project to build a robot.

Baylor names Bewley, Williams to Dean's List

Baylor University students Tyler Bewley and Collin Williams of Gladewater have both been named to the

Spring Dean's List. To achieve the distinctive honor students must earn a minimum grade point average of 3.70 while enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours. The duo are both pursuing majors within the Robbins College of Health & Human Services.

Skills: Electrical safety, DC motor, stepper motor, actuator control and wireless controls

Storytime in Gilmer

Two books will be read to small children at each of the Upshur County Library's two weekly "Storytime" sessions Thursday in Gilmer. "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak, and "Luck of the Loch Ness Monster" by Alice Weaver Flaherty, will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. sessions, said the library's children's coordinator, Kari Dunn. A craft will follow each Storytime, she added.

The events are free to the public, but children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, contact the library at (903) 843-5001 or visit its website at www.youseemore.com/upshur.

LONGVIEW TRADES DAYS

WE'RE BACK!

Longview Trade Days will resume its monthly event July 10-11 at the Longview Fairgrounds 1123 Jaycee Drive Longview

Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

For Booth Rental Call **903-753-4478**

FUTURE EVENTS WILL BE HELD
August 14-15
Gregg County Fair on September 10-18
October 9-10
November 13-14
December 11-12

SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight

KING PLUMBING

NEW CONSTRUCTION • REMODELS • SERVICE

RMP DENNIS KING
903-539-1716
M36233

Gas Lines, Water Heaters & Roto Rooter

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

Why Buy Local?

REASON #2

Economic Vitality!

Each dollar you spend at a local independent business returns 3 times more money to our local economy than one spent at a chain - a benefit we all can bank on.

Because Community Matters™

American Independent Business Alliance AMBAInet

Call Dr. Barry Hail, Chiropractor

Don't Just Live With Neck Pain ...

Headaches

Shoulder & Lower Back Pain ...

Affordable Cash Rates

903-725-4357

116 N. Mimosa, Gilmer (Rosewood, 7 miles west of Gilmer on Hwy 154)

Your money shouldn't stop working when you do.

Dallas D Long
Financial Advisor
1420 N Main St Suite 101
Gladewater, TX 75647
903-845-6680

Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
edwardjones.com

Bud's

DISCOUNT TIRES

Highway 80 East
Gladewater
845-5186

YOUR HOMETOWN TIRE STORE

BUD MAHAFFEY
Owner & Operator

HOURS
7:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.

Black Dog Designs and Builders

Commercial and Residential Construction, remodeling and repair. Over 40 years of experience. Excellent reputation and references.

Call 903-663-0936

SM Tree Service, Stump Grinding & Lawn Care

No job is too small!!!
Tree service, hauling off trees, stump grinding, box blading, driveways, brush hogging, lawn care, weed eating and clean up

903-402-9647

PICKERS

Self - Service Auto Parts

903-297-4300

Get your business noticed! Just \$15/week Call 903-845-2235

SELL IT IN THE Classifieds
 903-845-2235 - Ads@Gladewatermirror.com

Divide & Conquer Estate Sale for Leah Kae (Mrs. Bill) Shattuck
 Thurs., July 8 ~ 7:00-5:30 Fri., July 9 ~ 8:00-5:30
 Sat., July 10 ~ 8:00-2:00
1811 McDonald Road ~ Tyler, Texas 75701
Inside SSE Loop 323, turn east off Hwy 110 (Troup Hwy) onto Sterling, across from Green Acres BAPT. Church flags. Turn 1st left onto Preston & 1st right onto McDonald Rd; OR from Golden Road, turn west onto McDonald Rd.
This 2992 sq. ft. home is for sale by owner (903-530-7294); contents must go: din. table & chairs; china cabinet; sets of china; silverplate; 3 sofas; recliner; breakfast tables; occas. chairs; rustic buffets; mirrored furniture; anti secretary; framed art; rugs; lamps; 2 corner cabinets; trunks; cedar chests; many decorative items; anti clocks; dressers; nightstands; mirrors; wall decor; Desert Rose; Fiesta; Dallas Cowboy glasses; Mick Mouse glasses; books; bar stools; king bed; twin headboard; crosses; movies; CD's; TV; monitors; frames; floral arrangements; end tables; cost. jewelry; clothes; shoes; purses; curio cabinets; bird figurines; Precious Moments; Amri hand carved figures; stain glass; flatware; microwave; kitchen selections; cook-books; sm. appliances; casual tableware; decor. pillows; quilts; linens; vintg. sew. mach.; another sew. mach.; toys; games; model cars; fish. lures; framed maps; electronics; off. chairs & supplies; BBQ pit; shop vac; mower; plastic tubs; planters; patio bench; power saw; golf shirts; ball gloves; autographed sports items; sport books; soooooo much more!!!
 Pictures: [DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com](#)

OUT OF DATE RECORDS TO BE DESTROYED
 The Upshur County Shared Service Arrangement (UCSSA) which is comprised of the Big Sandy, Gilmer, Gladewater, Harmony, New Diana, Union Grove, and Union Hill Independent School Districts, proposes to destroy all out-of-date Special Education records contained in the eligibility folders of students who were dismissed from the program through July, 2014. Also included in this purging will be records of students who were tested and did not qualify for special education services as well as records of those who qualified but were not placed. These records are presently maintained in the UCSSA office located at 406 N Bledsoe Street, Gilmer, TX. 75644, and include referral information, educational, psychological, medical, admission review and dismissal committee minutes, individual educational plans, and classroom observation data. It is our responsibility to inform you that these records may be needed for social security benefits or other purposes and that it may be to your benefit to obtain them. Those who prefer that their records not be destroyed should send a written request to: Angie Hargett, Compliance Coordinator, Upshur County Shared Service Arrangement, 406 N Bledsoe, Gilmer, TX. 75644 before September 1, 2021. For additional information, call (903) 843-5575.

DONATE YOUR AUTO TO VETERANS SERVICES
UNWANTED cars, trucks or buses... if you don't want them WE DO!
 Call Don at: 509-263-2058

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK
TexSCAN

LEGAL ASSISTANCE
Paraquat - Parkinson's Disease. If you were exposed to the herbicide Paraquat and have been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, you may be entitled to compensation. Call 800-444-9112 for more information. Pulaski Kherkher, PLLC.

EMPLOYMENT
HOUSE MANAGER: Private ranch near Bastrop, Texas. Strong work ethic, good organization skills & flexibility required. Work schedule includes most weekends & some holidays. Responsibilities include supervision of house/kitchen, grounds & maintenance employees, managing house & grounds operations, purchasing food & operating supplies, menu & meal preparation, table service, clean up after meals, general house cleaning & doing "what it takes" to ensure the ranch house is always ready for family & guests. F/T: salary plus housing & benefits (med, dent, life, 401k, vac). Relocation considered. HS/equivalent education, current driver's license w/good driving record. Background check & drug testing required. Email resumes with work history including cooking & serving skills, salary requirements & references to HR@eprod.com with HOUSE MANAGER in the subject line.

ACREAGE
Hunting/investment/recreational property. We have some of the best in Texas! From the Hill Country (Edwards, Menard, Coke, Val Verde County, free ranging exotics) to South Texas (Kinney, Duval, Live Oak County, whitetail, hogs). Large or small acreage. 30-year fixed rate owner financing, only 5% down. Call toll-free or email for individual prices and terms, www.ranchenterprisesltd.com, 800-876-9720.

ANTIQUE
Indian Artifact Show & Old Coins. Abilene Convention Center, 1100 N. 6th St., Abilene, TX 79601. Show time: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat., July 10th. Call 979-218-3351.

AUCTION
Corpus Christi Fleet Maintenance Auction. Sat., July 17, 10 a.m., 5352 Ayers St., Corpus Christi, TX. Bid live on-site or on-line. Viewing: Fri., July 16, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; sale day: 8-10 a.m. 10% B.P. Partial listing: backhoes, motorgrader, Cat D3C, steel whl rollers, cars, pickups, vans, dump trks, crane trks, trash trks, car lifts, mini excavators, tire machines, compressors, lathes, utility trks, Pintel hitch trs, SUVs, ATVs, ambulances, brush fire trks, fire engine, a-frames, bumper-pull trlrs & much more. www.siskauction.com, TXS#7425, John Sisk Auctioneers, Inc., 361-456-7771.

GENERATORS
GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-855-704-8579.

RETIREMENT
NEED HELP WITH YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN? If you have questions about your pension, 401(k) or profit sharing plan, call the South Central Pension Rights Project at (800) 443-2528 to get free legal advice. Funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging, SCPRP staff provides free legal assistance to anyone with a question about their retirement plan. CALL US TODAY 1-800-443-2528.

TRUCK DRIVERS
Be Your Own Boss. Choose Your Own Routes! Looking for CDL drivers to deliver new trucks all over the country, starting in Laredo, TX. Experience preferred. Must have DOT physical and be willing to keep logs. No DUIs in the last 10 years, clean MVR. Quality Drive-Away. Apply online at www.qualitydriveaway.com or call 574-642-2023.

WANTED
Need Extra Cash - I Buy RVs & Mobile Homes -Travel Trailers, 5th Wheels, Goosenecks, Bumper Pulls. In Any Area, Any Condition - Old/New, Dirty or Clean! I PAY CASH. No Title - No Problem, we can apply for one. ANR Enterprises, 956-466-7001.

FREON WANTED: We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-291-9169 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com.

Texas Press Statewide Classified Network
 221 Participating Texas Newspapers • Regional Ads
 Start At \$250 • Email ads@texaspress.com

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

SERVICES
 Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-680-0576

HEALTH CARE
MobileHelp, America's Premier Mobile Medical Alert System. Whether You're Home or Away. For Safety and Peace of Mind. No Long Term Contracts! Free Brochure! Call Today! 1-903-844-7669

SERVICES
GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-855-672-2446

ONE CALL ONE LOW PRICE
 Advertise Your Business or Event STATEWIDE
 Regional ads available
 Contact this newspaper for more information
903-845-2235

Need Cash? Sell it in the Mirror! Call us today @ 903-845-2235

Dean hails legislative session at Cherokee Rose GOP Women's meet

By Phillip Williams
 State Rep. Jay Dean told the Cherokee Rose Republican Women Club last week that the recent session of the 87th Texas Legislature, which enacted five laws regulating elections, was a "very conservative session" and "We're not getting the recognition we ought to be getting" for it.



DEAN

"I feel like we had the best session since we've been there," said Dean, (R-Longview), serving his third two-year term as District 7 representative for Upshur and Gregg counties.

Dean, who is seeking re-election, spoke to about 50 persons at the Lantana Activity Center outside Gilmer at a June 28 nighttime dinner honoring Republican election workers in the 2020 elections.

At club President Cynthia Ridgeway's request, Dean concentrated his approximately hour-long presentation on what has been billed as "election integrity" legislation. (Republican former President Donald Trump has stirred controversy by repeatedly and unsuccessfully asserting the 2020 Presidential election was stolen from him, and Ridgeway told Monday's meeting that the contest may go down as the most fraudulent election in American history).

Utilizing a Power Point presentation, Dean said the new state budget contains \$35.4 million for secure elections--\$34 million for counties to retrofit or buy secure voting machines, and \$1.4 million to properly train county election officials. (He also said he was "pretty sure" that included funding for Senate Bill 7, not yet approved.)

He noted that several Democrats in the state House of Representatives recently walked out on the last evening of the Legislature's regular session in order to prevent the chamber from having the quorum necessary to vote on SB 7. (Two-thirds of members must be present to constitute a quorum.) Gov. Greg Abbott has called a July 8 special session of the legislature to consider SB7, though, and Dean predicted "we will get this done (passed)".

He also said Democrats will attend that session to prevent not getting paid their legislative salaries. Arguing that "this walking out has really hurt 'em" and will continue to, Dean said it cost taxpayers "about an extra million dollars" since it resulted in calling the special session.

Dean's visual presentation showed features of Senate Bill 7, proposed by Sen. Bryan Hughes (R-Mineola), as follows:

- It would clarify current law by banning "drive-through" voting, although a voter who can't safely enter a polling place can "utilize curbside voting."
- It would also clarify current law by banning "drop boxes" for mail-in ballots. A mail-in ballot must be received in-person from the voter if not mailed.
- The presentation further showed five new provisions in the bill:
- Requiring all voter systems "have a verifiable paper trail."
- Prohibiting mailing unrequested mail ballot applications.
- Changing voting hours to 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

everywhere in the state.
 --Requiring testing be run before an election on voting systems.
 --Creating a new section in the Texas Election Code regarding "vote harvesting." It would define "benefit," "vote harvesting services," detailing the offense, and provide criminal and civil penalties.

Before citing SB 7, Dean discussed several already-approved new state election laws, including one he proposed, HB 3920, which clarifies the definition of a "disability" that entitles a voter to a mail-in ballot. The measure is intended to prevent fraudulent mail-in ballots for false disabilities, Dean has said.

The bill says that neither lacking transportation, certain illnesses, nor having to work on election day qualifies as a disability. What does is "a sickness or physical condition that prevents the voter from voting in person the election day without needing assistance or injuring the voter's health," or expecting to give birth within three weeks before or after election day.

Dean also said county election administrators who receive an application for a disability-related, mail-in ballot can decide what constitutes a disability, and "request information within reason" from the applicant.

The legislator also discussed four other election-related bills approved in the regular legislative session.

House Bill 2283 bans private donations to election administrators. Dean contended that in 2020, certain individuals, like Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook, attempted to influence administering elections with large private donations.

House Bill 1264 improves the process of removing dead persons from voter rolls. Dean said he once sent campaign literature to a man who was shown to have voted two years earlier, only to receive an angry phone call from the man's mother saying he had been dead for 10 years.

House Bill 1128, concerning poll watchers, clarifies who can lawfully be present at a polling place, early voting ballot board, and central counting stations. In a statement, Dean said it is aimed at preventing unauthorized "poll watchers."

House Bill 574 increases all election-related crimes, some of which were only misdemeanors, to felonies.

"We're not talking about suppressing voters," Dean told the audience. He referred to election fraud, saying minorities in Longview stated they were "tired of it" and that when he successfully ran for mayor of that city years ago, a man offered to deliver him 500 votes in exchange for a \$5,000 check.

"That (such dishonesty) happens all the time down there (in Longview)," Dean asserted. "They know what nursing homes to go to (to commit election fraud). . . That happens all over the country."

Concerning other topics, Dean said "Let's go back and talk about property taxes (in the special session)," which he termed "a big deal." He said removing the maintenance and operation portion of such taxes is "on the front burner."

Former Gregg County jailer sentenced

By Phillip Williams
 A visiting judge in Gilmer last week sentenced a former certified jailer to eight years in prison and fined him \$5,000 after he pleaded guilty to injury to a child, but contested the prosecution's recommendation he receive a prison term instead of probation, said Upshur County District Attorney Billy Byrd.

Matthew Patrick Reid, 34, of Amarillo, formerly of Gilmer, was sentenced by Judge Becky Simpson in 115th District Court June 29 after 115th District Judge Dean Fowler recused himself from the case. Fowler personally knew both Reid and the defendant's parents, Byrd said.

Reid, who was fired as a Gregg County jailer, was sentenced for an incident involving his then-18-month-old daughter, the district attorney indicated in a news release. Byrd gave this summary of the case:

On the day the offense occurred, the defendant was allowed a visitation with the child at his parents' home outside Gilmer. He told the girl's mother than when he changed the child's diaper, she "would not cooperate, so he spanked her two times.

"He told the mother through text messages he should not have done it, and sent a photograph that showed the result of the beating to her buttocks. However, when the mother came for her child, she saw that her daughter was bruised in her private area,

lower back and leg with not only bruising, but split skin. She immediately contacted the sheriff's office and took her daughter to the hospital."

Evidence produced in court showed that in 2012, Reid "broke his 3-day-old child's femur while changing her diaper. This was his second child from a previous relationship. This offense occurred in a neighboring county where the defendant was prosecuted for a misdemeanor, and placed on two years of probation."

Reid "was ordered to complete parenting classes, anger intervention classes and other classes," but "stated in court he 'did not take them seriously.'" Because the initial incident was prosecuted as a misdemeanor rather than felony, the prosecution could not use that case to "enhance" (lengthen) the sentence in the new case.

Byrd requested Simpson, a retired Gregg County Court-At-Law judge, impose the maximum term of 10 years. Simpson told Reid, who testified that he didn't mean to injure his child and deserved another chance, that she didn't find his testimony credible.

In the sentencing trial, Byrd called as witnesses the child's mother, and investigators who probed either Reid's first or second offense. Gilmer attorney Matthew Patton represented the defendant.

GHS Senior 1971 Raffle All School Reunion Fundraiser
Tickets on Sale at the GLADEWATER ROUND UP RODEO - June 9-12
 \$10 per ticket or 12 tickets for \$100
 1st Prize: Beretta A300 Outlander Semi-Auto Shotgun, 2nd Prize: \$250 Amazon Gift Card



Beretta A300 Outlander Semi-Auto Shotgun
 Model: J30TZ18 - 12 Gauge - 28" Barrel length - True Timber DRT - 3 Gun Weight - Righthand
 Call Freda at 903-738-4526 to purchase
 Drawing Sept. 25 - Need not be present to win

TARS meets to discuss CTE funding

By Suzanne Bardwell

The Texas Association of Rural Superintendents (TARS) met at White Oak's auditorium recently to discuss the impact of HB 1525 which was signed into law in the spring legislative session. Gray, who is the Region 7 TARS representative, hosted 18 superintendents or district Chief Financial Officers at the meeting.

TARS Executive Director Michael Lee also reviewed the impact of the 2021 spring legislative session's impact on public schools. The windfall for small to mid-size public schools is expected to be about \$220 million. The funding for the Region 7 Education Service Center area is estimated to be an additional \$14 million in CTE revenue. With the addition of CTE classes in area districts, Gray says that local funding can increase significantly.

"The additional weighted funding can have a significant impact as White Oak ISD continues to update CTE opportunities for our students," Gray said. "As an example, this year we are adding the Fire Academy class through a partnership with Kilgore College and the local fire department. Our kiddos will be able to take this course and then complete a hands on practicum during the summer and then take their state test to become certified firemen."

Gray said that WOISD is also streamlining its medical arts program so that students have an opportunity to experience clinical and other

real world experiences while gaining certifications in the medical field. Gray says that the district is working to make sure that these new CTE programs, along with current and future programs have a coherent sequence and a well established pathway for students.

TARS is a non-profit group with common interests that works on behalf of rural Texas schools and the common issues that these districts face on a yearly basis. The school districts represented at the regional meeting hosted by White Oak included: Union Grove, West Sabine, Waskom, Simms-Bowie, Kilgore, Overton, Mineola, Spring Hill and Big Sandy.

"The CTE funding issue was our challenge this legislative session and where we spent most of our efforts," Gray said.

The challenge appears to have been addressed to the benefit of many area school districts.

"I thought the TARS meeting was informative and provided great information concerning changes coming from this legislative session," UGISD Supt. Kelly Moore said. "As rural school leaders, our interests and concerns can be much different than other districts across the state. One of the positives coming from this session is the change to the funding formula for CTE courses coming out of HB 1525. Union Grove will see a substantial increase in funding in this area and allow us to better support these programs and our students."



East Texas Horticultural Field Day set for July 22

The East Texas Horticultural Field Day will feature more than 500 ornamental plant trial varieties for public viewing on July 22 at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Overton.

The East Texas Horticultural Field Day will be open to the public on July 22. The open-house event features hundreds of ornamental plants being trialed at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Overton. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Adam Russell)

This year's field day will allow in-person attendance from 8 a.m. to noon for a free, "open house-style" event, said Brent Pemberton, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Research ornamental horticulturist, Overton. COVID-19 protocols prevented attendance by the public last year.

"We're excited to open the event back up to the public," he said. "We missed the interaction with our fellow gardeners last year and the responses the plants get from people who show up for their first time or who have been making the field day an event they put on their calendar every year."

Pemberton started the field day in 1993 to showcase the ornamental trials for commercial seed companies, local nursery managers and gardening enthusiasts.

The field day will begin at the center's Bruce McMillan Jr. East Farm, 2 miles east of Overton on Texas Highway 135 N.

The ornamental trial garden is on County Road 133 just past the former Kilgore College Demonstration Farm.

There will be signs to guide visitors, Pemberton said.

Ornamentals on display

Cannas were a popular stop among more than 500 ornamental plant varieties at the last annual East Texas Horticultural Field Day open to the public in 2019. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Adam Russell)

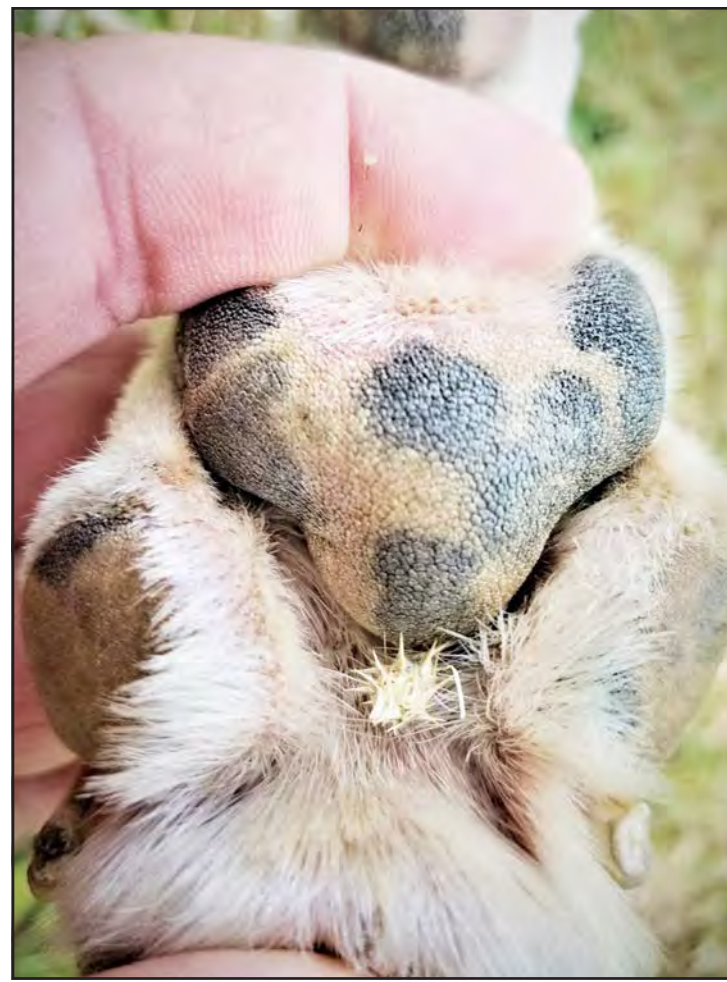
With around 500 ornamental selections growing under various trial conditions, Pemberton said gardeners and ornamental lovers should expect a wide array of petal and foliage colors and shapes that are available to the public or being tested for potential release.

Pemberton said petunias, vincas, zinnias, coleus, geraniums, salvias and new selections of New Guinea impatiens are all looking exceptional this year. A variety of the newest Texas Superstar plants – ornamental sweet potatoes, including new climbing varieties – are also on display.

Several new varieties of sunflowers and a growing slate of perennial plants including phlox, heuchera and coneflowers should also be of great interest to attendees, he said.

This year's field trials also mark the first-time participation in the All-America Selections program, which tests varieties in gardens across the nation.

"The event is later into the season than usual, but this will give attendees a good idea how well these plants perform in the heat and how they progress through the season," he said.



choke out sandburs.

Sandburs prefer nutrient-deficient soils, so homeowners should start the process by taking a soil sample and add recommended amendments to create proper pH levels for your soil and turfgrass types, then follow with nutrients like potassium, phosphorous and nitrogen.

"Sandburs thrive in poor soils, so you want to improve all nutrients in general with fertilizer," she said. "Only add phosphorous and potassium according to the soil test and nitrogen according to recommendations for your turfgrass type, use of the area, and management capabilities, because St. Augustine grass and Bermuda grass have different needs. Promoting healthy, dense turfgrass is the best defense against most pest weeds, including sandburs."

NEED HELP WITH YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN?

If you have questions about your pension, 401(k) or profit sharing plan, call the South Central Pension Rights Project at (800) 443-2528 to get free legal advice. Funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging, SCPRP staff provides free legal assistance to anyone with a question about their retirement plan.

CALL US TODAY 1.800.443.2528

DRIVEN TO BE THE BEST

Be Your Own Boss, Choose Your Own Routes!

Looking for CDL drivers to deliver new trucks all over the country, starting in Laredo, TX.

Experience preferred. Must have DOT physical and be willing to keep logs. No DUIs in last 10 years, clean MVR.

Quality Drive-Away

Apply Online at www.qualitydriveaway.com or call 574-642-2023

How to win the fight against stickers

Whether you call them stickers or sandburs, a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert can help you win the war against these prickly little pain dispensers.

Sandburs, also known as grassbur or sandspur, are an annual and/or perennial grass. The sharp, spiny burs are a seed pod that can latch on to passersby for distribution to other locations.

"Weed control is ultimately up to the end-user, but sandburs are one of those weeds that can be a painful reminder that our yards may need some attention," said Chrissie Segars, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension statewide turfgrass specialist, Dallas. "If you've ever been stuck by them or removed them from a child or pet, then you likely want some advice on how to get rid of them."

Segars said Texas' wide range of climates makes any specific directions to address sandburs difficult. In some parts of the state sandburs are a summer annual that dies back and returns from seed, while in warmer regions they live as perennials that can overwinter as plants. Therefore, control methods and timing differ based on where the plants are in their life cycle.

"In some parts of the state, folks might use preemergence herbicides that will have no effect on the overwintering plant," she said. "It might prevent the seeds from emerging, but it won't get rid of the old plant. There are no herbicide treatments that will be 100% effective every time, but they will reduce the plants and subsequent seeds."

Segars said there are ways to fight sandburs with herbicides that kill plants after they emerge or prevent plants from emerging from seeds. Timing is critical when applying pre- or post-emergent products. Sandbur seed can begin early germination at a soil temperature of 52 degrees and peak at 72 degrees, she said.

She recommends a split application of preemergence products with active ingredients Dithiopyr, Indaziflam, Oryzalin or Pendimethalin for sandburs because of their long germination period. Apply the product to prevent sandburs from emerging and follow with another application depending on label instructions, soil type and weather.

Unfortunately, most postemergence herbicides available to homeowners at big box stores are not labelled for sandbur, Segars said. There are three selective, post-emergence products that are labeled to address sandburs in turfgrass. Katana, Celsius WG and Image 70 DG are more professional-gear products but can be purchased online. The most homeowner friendly – Image Kills Nutsedge – is available online and in home and garden departments.

"It may be too late for preemergence applications in some parts of the state, but this cooler weather means it may not be too late to affect peak germination," she said. "The second application will catch those seeds that haven't started germinating yet."

Segars said it is important to always follow product labels.

Sandburs can also lead to painful encounters for pets, and removing them can be just as painful for the pet owner. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Adam Russell)

Herbicides are a tricky time- and money-consuming way to fight sandburs. But Segars said one thing all homeowners can and should do to fight sandburs is implement cultural practices, including fertilization, mowing, proper irrigation and cultivation to help turfgrass



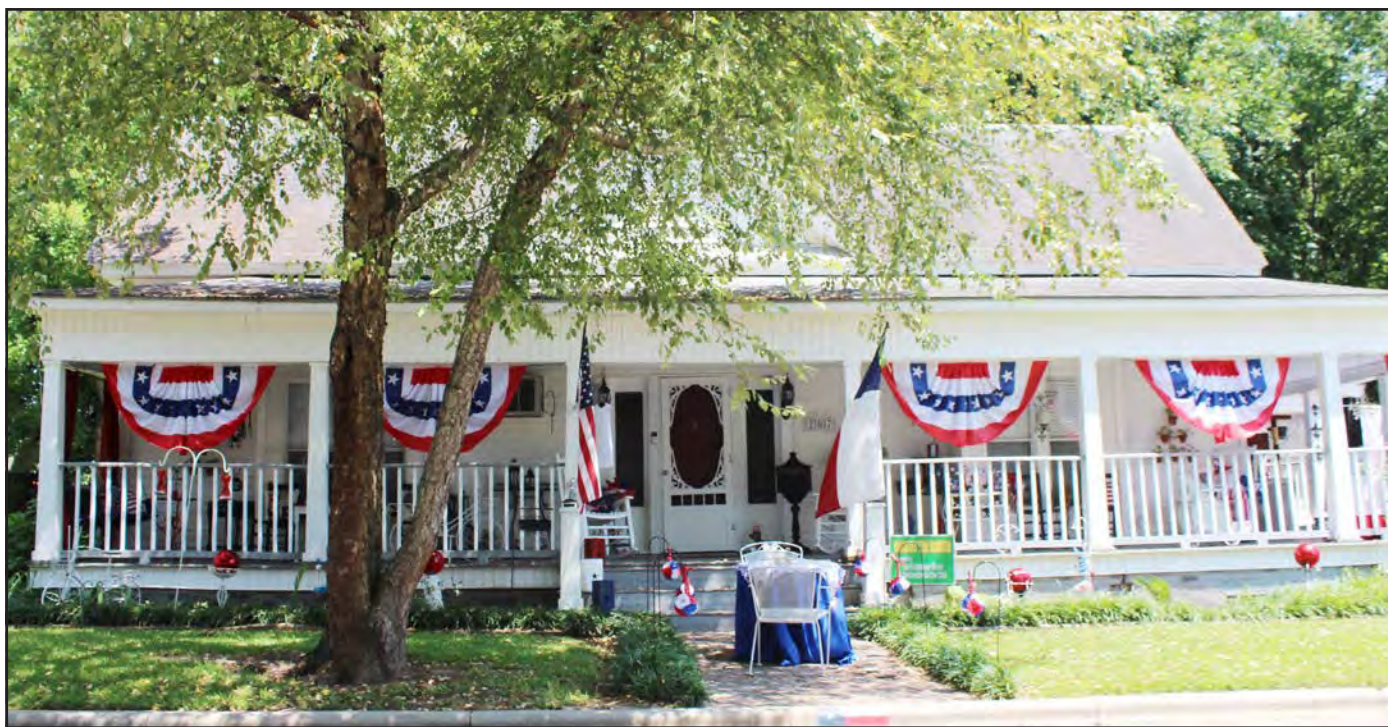
Don't be surprised ...
Be in the know!



\$35/year in Gregg, Upshur & Smith counties
\$40/year out-of-county
\$50/year out-of-state

CALL: 903-845-2235 FAX: 903-845-2237
EMAIL: gladwatermirror@aol.com

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____



The Johnston family home on south Center Street is the obvious choice for the July Yard of the Month with its patriotic additions to the well planned landscaping. Keep an eye on this charming Victorian because celebrating holidays with lawn decor is one of their much appreciated gifts to the community.

Photo By Suzanne Bardwell

Yard of the Month

Sponsored by

Superior Soils & Fertilizers



(903) 845-2163



Texas Shakespeare Festival founder Raymond Caldwell is embraced by TSF Associate Artistic Director Matthew Simpson as current TSF Artistic Director Meaghan Simpson looks on. A press conference was held Monday morning at Kilgore College to announce the establishment of the Raymond Caldwell Endowment Fund to assist in sustaining the festival for many years to come.

Photo By Suzanne Bardwell

TSF establishes Raymond Caldwell Endowment Fund

By Suzanne Bardwell

During the pandemic shut down Texas Shakespeare Festival (TSF) founder and artistic director, Raymond Caldwell, retired. On Monday the Texas Shakespeare Festival Foundation ensured that

quiet exit did not go unnoticed. A program was held to announce the establishment of the Raymond Caldwell Endowment Fund (RCEF) to support TSF.

“I spent more of my time here than anywhere else,” Caldwell said about the theater where the ceremony was held. “This is the home of my heart. There are so many things to thank you for, to thank Kilgore College, to thank my students, my family, my colleagues. They create who we are. We don’t do this life alone.”

One of Caldwell’s former students who has found professional success in television and film has been named as the honorary chairman of the endowment fund. Current TSF Artistic Director Meaghan Simpson read a statement from Hall.

“As a young actor, the opportunity to perform plays in a repertory company was invaluable to my development,” Hall said. “The environment created by Raymond Caldwell, the rest of the TSF family, and the wider community in Kilgore, was as warm and supportive as any I’ve encountered.”

According to Christina Anderson, chair of the RCEF committee and a TSF Foundation Director, the new endowment will help ensure the sustainability and growth of the Shakespeare Festival. TSF Board President Linda Craig emphasized the importance of fundraising on a variety of levels which helps ensure maintaining affordable ticket prices. She said that there are over \$200,000 in donations annually and that over 700 individuals and foundations gave during the COVID pandemic to ensure the survival of the festival.

Kilgore College President Dr. Brenda Kays highlighted Caldwell’s contributions, some of the accolades he received, and his ongoing impact through the festival including his work with Peking University in Beijing and serving as an international adjudicator for the Chinese Universities’ Shakespeare Festival held in Hong Kong.

TSF Artistic Director Meaghan Simpson pointed to the support of Kilgore College for the Shakespeare Festival and the TSF Foundation for the financial stability of the program. She pointed to Caldwell for the festival’s foundation in excellence.

“I try to fill the impossibly large shoes of Raymond Caldwell every day,” Simpson said. “TSF will have many directors but only ever have one founder. We have the honor of maintaining this legacy and supporting future growth. This is the next step, dreams cost money.”

President of the Kilgore Community Concert Association John Bolton said that at the closure of the KCCA after 70 years they found the perfect match in the new endowment fund. With the KCCA as a charter donor, Anderson said that the gift had great significance in supporting the arts which have impacted local audiences, participants and East Texas culture. Hall’s written statement underscored that impact.

“The Festival has been an enriching gift to both the countless theater artists it has employed and the many patrons who enjoy the fruits of their artistic labor,” Hall wrote. “It has a vital and singular place in my heart and in the broader landscape of the American regional theater community. I’d be there with you, but I’m working. As an actor! The arc of my professional life bends back toward TSF.”

The 2021 Shakespeare Festival began July 1 and runs through Aug. 1. Go online to texasshakespeare.com for information on plays, tickets and how to support the festival through volunteer and financial contributions.



903-845-5501

Check us out on facebook

GO TO: WWW.GUSHER-DAYS.COM FOR ENTRY FORMS AND INFORMATION



July 9th & 10th LIVE MUSIC DOWNTOWN GLADEWATER

CASI



- CRAFT, FOOD AND COMMERCIAL VENDORS
- CLASSIC CAR SHOW • CASI CHILI COOK-OFF
- CARNIVAL RIDES & MIDWAY GAMES
- BASS TOURNAMENT