

# Gladewater Mirror



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Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021

Vol. 93, No. 48

1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

## Bears' season ends in Sulphur Springs

By Beth McKamy

Mt. Vernon scored 20 points in the third quarter and the Bears couldn't overcome penalties and turnovers as the Tigers defeated Gladewater 40-14 in a Region playoff game in Sulphur Springs Gerald Prim Stadium Friday night. Despite putting up the first and last points of the game the Bears couldn't finish drives and take advantage of good field position when needed.

Gladewater got off to a fast start as the defense forced the Tigers to turn over the ball on downs on their opening possession of the game. A 15-yard chop block penalty put Mt. Vernon in a hole they couldn't climb out of and the Bear offense took over at midfield. Gladewater wasted no time covering the 50 yards in seven plays and scoring on a Kollin Lewis to DJ Allen pass of 16 yards. Kicker Jonathan Arreguin was perfect on the extra point and the Bears led 7-0 with 7:05 left in the first quarter.

It didn't take Gladewater long to get the ball back. Defensive end Eli Kates intercepted a tipped Tiger pass to give the Bears the ball inside the red zone at the Mt. Vernon 17 yard line. On first and goal from the 7-yard line the Tigers stripped the ball stopping the Bear threat. Mt. Vernon would then go on an 11 play, 78 yard drive and score on a two yard strike from QB Braden Bennett (11/18/253/2 TDs/Int) to wide receiver Cayden Coffman (5/88/TD). The extra point by Kicker Adrian Diaz was good to tie the score at 7-all with 2:15 left in the opening quarter.

Starting at their own 24 yard line Gladewater would go on an 11 play, 57 yard drive to get to the Tiger 19 yard line, but the drive stalled and Mt. Vernon would take over there. The Tigers would quickly work their way to the Bear 17 where the Gladewater defense would stiffen. On 4th and 12 the Tigers would try a 34 yard field goal but a fumbled snap would turn the ball back over to the Bears at the 25 yard line. Gladewater couldn't get anything going on offense forcing the Bears to punt. Allen would get off a 35 yarder and Mt. Vernon would start at their own 28 yard line. On their first play from scrimmage Bennett would hit running back Makenzie McGill on a quick out and McGill did the rest, getting one block and racing up the sidelines for 72 yards and the touchdown. The extra point was good and the Tigers took the lead for good 14-7 with 3:03 left in the second quarter.

Gladewater couldn't get anything going on their next drive and on fourth and four from the Bear 39 yard line Allen again went back to punt. Allen's kick would hit the back of a Bear teammate and bounce back to Allen who tried to pick up the yardage needed for the first down but Mt. Vernon would smother Allen at the Bear 18 yard line. The Tigers would get to the 15 but Bear defensive back Zach Polanco would sack the Tiger quarterback for a nine yard loss forcing Mt. Vernon to try a 40 yard field goal with seconds left in the first half. The kick was good and the Tigers ended the half leading 17-7.

A penalty on the second half kickoff gave the Bears bad starting position at their own 12 yard line. On the first play from scrimmage Mt. Vernon would once again come out of the pile with the ball. They would only need two plays to increase their lead. Quarterback Bennett would score on a three yard run. The snap on the extra point try was fumbled making the score 23-7 Tigers with 11:15 left in the third quarter. On the Bears' next possession runs by Allen (15/62), Za Campbell (6/15) and G'Braylon Polly (11/50) would get Gladewater to the Tiger 46 yard line. On fourth and one Allen would lose his footing and be stopped short of the first down marker. Mt. Vernon would need only three plays to cover the 46 yards scoring on a McGill run of nine yards. The PAT was good and the Tigers led 30-7 with 8:43 left in the third quarter.

Bear Kyrion Wilson would return the ensuing kickoff 11 yards to midfield where Gladewater took over. An Allen to Tyrone Maddox pass for nine yards and runs by Campbell and Allen would move the ball to the 35 yard line. Another 15 yard penalty on the Tigers took



Gladewater Bear QB DJ Allen dives for a first down in Friday's Regional Quarter-Final playoff loss against the Mt. Vernon Tigers in Sulphur Springs.

Photo By Chris Jones



In the pink, HoneyBears freshman Rebecca Blackmon, co-captain senior Ryleigh Hightower and sophomore Lt. Emma Langford perform a fan routine Friday night at the Sulphur Springs playoff game. The drill team performed the fan routine to "Sweet Caroline" played by the Bear Marching Band.

Photo By Suzanne Bardwell

Continued on Page 8



## TOY DRIVE

### Manna House needs your help

The Gladewater Mirror is holding a toy drive for toys from birth to 12 years old for the Manna House Santa's Toy Shop. When family food boxes are distributed on Dec. 8-9, parents may also select toys for each of their children.

Please drop off toys weekdays during business hours at the Gladewater Mirror, 211 N. Main Street, Gladewater. (The office is next to the Chamber of Commerce and directly across from the old Classic Stitch building.)

### Angel Tree adoptions open

The Gladewater Angel Tree program donation is now open until Dec. 3. Please contact Darla Ferguson or Katie Ellis if you are interested in sponsoring a child or family this season. Donations may be dropped off at Citizens Bank, CNB, Texas Bank and Trust or Austin Bank. Or volunteers will shop for donors if you prefer to make a financial donation by PayPal or dropped off at Citizens Bank at 678 N. Main St. Make checks payable to "Darla's Angels". For information call 903-841-3516.

### Marine's Toys for Tots

The annual Marine Toys for Tots toy drive is now accepting donations at McKaig Chevrolet, Edward Jones and Long Insurance until Dec. 15 during business hours. Thank you for your support of new TOYS for under privilege children.

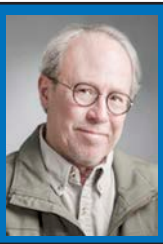


Gladewater's First United Methodist Church hosted its annual Community Thanksgiving Luncheon last week in its family life center across from the church. A coat closet was also available for families to look through and find the right size for kids to keep them warm this winter. Photos by Suzanne Bardwell



# OPINION/EDITORIAL

## Gary Borders Capital Highlights



### Samsung taps Taylor for new plant

Electronic giant Samsung announced last week that it will build a new semiconductor manufacturing facility in the Central Texas town of Taylor, about 40 miles northeast of Austin. The \$17 billion investment will be the largest foreign direct investment in Texas to date and brings the company's total investment in the state to \$35 billion.

Samsung already operates a facility in Austin, its lone U.S. manufacturing plant. The deal was helped along with a \$27 million Texas Enterprise Fund grant, according to Gov. Greg Abbott's office. In addition, city, county and school district officials put together incentive packages worth of hundreds of millions of dollars, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

The project will create more than 2,000 high-tech jobs, thousands of indirect jobs and at least 6,500 construction jobs. Construction is slated to begin early next year with a target completion date in the second half of 2024.

"Samsung Austin Semiconductor has been proud to call Texas home for more than 25 years," said Dr. Sang Sup Jeong, president of Samsung Austin Semiconductor. "We are excited about our growth and future opportunities in Central Texas and appreciate the support from all Central Texas leaders."

### Winter Storm Uri's impact on pine trees studied

The damage caused by Winter Storm Uri to the state's trees is still being assessed. While many hardwoods whose crowns turned brown after several days of bitter cold have recovered, pine trees in East Texas are now suffering from an invasion of beetles. The beetles attack both stressed and healthy pine trees, but can only successfully invade severely stressed pine trees, such as those recovering from Uri.

"Looking back at the past nine months, the fact that these beetles are now taking center stage in the decline and death of our pine trees is inevitable," said Allen Smith of the forest service. "Uri was a major stressor of trees, and the following extended droughty conditions throughout the pine regions of East Texas added additional stress."

Standing beetle-killed trees should be removed and burned or otherwise disposed of to stop the emergence of beetles. Smith said the best-case scenario for pine trees is for a wet winter in East Texas so that trees have ample soil moisture when they start growing again in the spring.

### State to get \$408 million for charging stations

Texas is slated to receive \$408 billion for electric car charging stations under the recently passed federal infrastructure plan and could apply for additional grants, according to The Dallas Morning News. The money comes under a Biden administration plan to shift half of passenger vehicle sales in the U.S. to electric vehicles by 2030.

## ...fill your cup with JOY

There is so much to be thankful for in this great big wonderful world. I am not naive. I am not untouched by tragedy, or injustice, or heartbreak, or loss. But I learned a very important truth on the long and winding road of my life and it goes like this: "it doesn't matter if my glass is half full or half empty—the point is, it is refillable."

Friday we celebrated Thanksgiving with our son Josh and our daughter-in-heart Jennifer. They had just returned from Nairobi, Kenya from a 'fire mission' trip. They, along with 18 other fire and medical experts from across the nation trained city firefighters, park rangers and wildland firefighters in tactics and medical response. They also brought them used equipment to help expand their meager resources.

Josh brought me to tears with his stories of the Kenyans' efforts to do so much with so little. His life-changing experience rested on the spirit and attitude of these dedicated people. Their cups must certainly seem less than half empty, but it sounds as if their hearts are full.

On Sunday, the first day of Advent I thought about what it takes to be truly joy-filled. Joy is not the same as happiness which depends on circumstances. Joy comes from a deep place within. As I began to count my endless blessings I embraced the fullness and comfort of my life. My home is spacious compared to the tiny one-room hut with a dirt floor that Josh visited. My home is cool in the summer and warm in the winter. I have an endless supply of food available. I have clean water to drink and hot water to bathe in daily. I have available, quality medical care. I truly know comfort. All those things alone should equate to happiness. Those are wonderful, blessed circumstances to live in...and rare for much of the world.

The joy in my life comes from my faith and the love that I have known, and know. It comes from work that matters and friends in

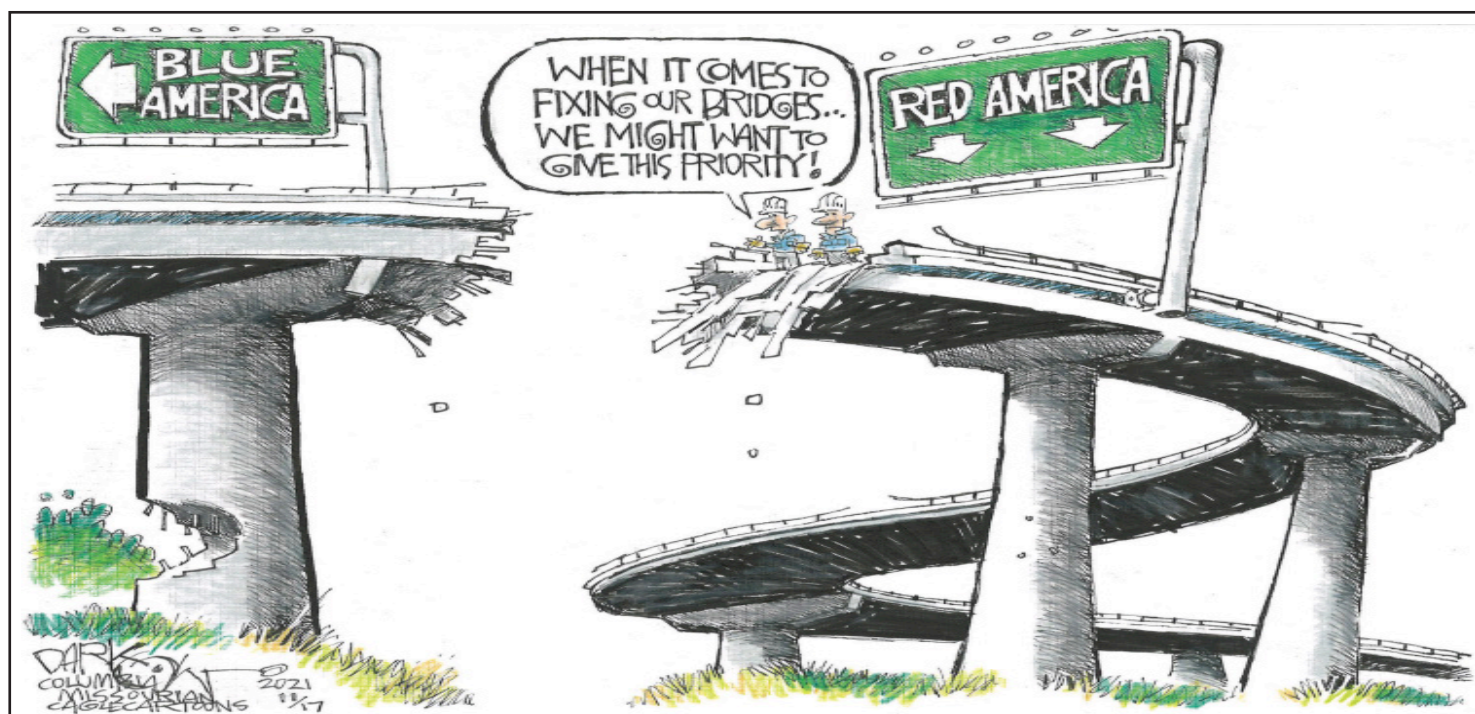
## Suzanne Bardwell



abundance. It comes from writing, music, reading, art, prayer, shared laughter and shared tears.

There is much more of my life behind me than in front of me. Yet there are those moments when Jimmy and I revisit our youth. As we watched Peter Jackson's 3-part documentary "Get Back" on the Beatles we kept grinning at each other as the much loved music of our childhood, teen years and young adulthood was celebrated. There was also a bit of an allegory that spoke to me. Paul McCartney, John Lennon, George Harrison and Ringo Starr were at the end of their partnership. They were exhausted, drained and on each other's nerves. Yet, when they began playing with each other the joy was evident. Joy in their Individual gifts and in the music they made together that would write itself on the hearts of generations.

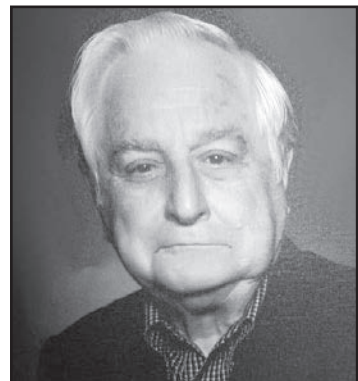
As I ended the first Sunday of Advent I realized that I want my joy to be as evident. Life is too short and we are too blessed not to throw back our heads in abandon and open our hearts to each other and share the joy of living. If your glass needs filling, please remember it is refillable and YOU are the one who has the power to fill it. It seems appropriate that we remember our blessings in the weeks ahead leading to Christmas and that we remember that indeed...our cup runneth over".



## OBITUARY

### ROY DAVID STURKIE

Roy David Sturkie was born on April 24, 1933, to Zechariah & Marie Spires Sturkie in Wagener, South Carolina. The youngest of nine children, he enlisted in the United States Air Force shortly after graduating from high school in 1950. While stationed in Waco, Texas,



he met his future wife, Catherine Joan Whisenhunt. They were married in 1955 at the First Baptist Church of Gladewater, TX. Roy received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX, and went on to have a long and successful career in the Aerospace Industry.

He was grateful to those individuals who helped him along the way, to his sergeant who advised him that he needed to learn to type and

to another superior who suggested that he study electronics while in the Air Force. Roy was part of the team which worked on developing the first global positioning systems (GPS) while at Magnavox Research.

Roy is survived by his wife of sixty-six years, Catherine Joan Sturkie, eight children; Alissa (Mike), David (Donna), Matt (Alex), Kim (Kyle), Paul, Tim (Jill), John (Edith), and Elizabeth, thirteen grandchildren: James and Katy Hearon, Sarabeth Hearon, Catherine and Christopher Callahan, David and Kristin Hearon, Jared Sanders, Mary Grace Hearon, Jon Tanner, Abby Tanner, Caroline Sturkie, Charlotte Sturkie, Cameron Sturkie, Josiah Sturkie and Susanna Sturkie, and one great granddaughter: Gracie Beth Hearon.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Highway 80 Rescue Mission in Roy's name.

## Guest Column:

### Why You Should Know What a Pharmacy Benefit Manager Does and How Your Costs at the Pharmacy Counter are Impacted by These "Middlemen"

By Debbie Garza, R.Ph.,  
Chief Executive Officer, Texas Pharmacy Association

It's somewhat gratifying that Congress and the White House are at least attempting to address the issue of drug costs. It's simply not right when rising out-of-pocket costs at the pharmacy counter are forcing some Texans to choose between buying food and purchasing lifesaving medications like insulin. In their deliberations, though, politicians are missing a key aspect of this problem – the role played by pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs). Any serious attempt to lower out-of-pocket costs for patients has to start by addressing the actions of these relatively obscure, but powerful, corporate middlemen.

Most people are probably unfamiliar with PBMs, or with their position in the drug supply chain, but these mysterious middlemen are increasing the cost of prescription drugs to boost their own profits. They play a dominant role in determining whether patients can access or afford certain prescriptions, yet they operate with little government oversight.

PBMs were originally created to process prescription claims and manage drug formularies, but their role has steadily grown. Now, they claim to negotiate savings and rebates with drug manufacturers purportedly on the behalf of patients. In reality, PBMs have consolidated their power, using their outsized market share to negotiate even larger discounts from drug manufacturers. Here's the problem – none of these negotiated savings are reaching consumers.

The Senate Finance Committee found that, "PBMs used their size and aggressive negotiating tactics, like the threat of excluding drugs from formularies, to extract more generous rebates, discounts and fees." While drug manufacturers offer rebates as high as 70 percent, these savings rarely, if ever, benefit patients. In fact, the PBM rebate game often results in higher out-of-pocket costs to patients. A recent

University of Southern California study found that every additional \$1 in rebates was associated with a \$1.17 increase at the pharmacy counter. It's not difficult to understand how this works. The higher a drug's list price, the larger the rebate to the PBM. Thus, the middlemen steer consumers to higher-priced medicines.

PBMs can also control where patients get their medications by requiring or incentivizing the patient to use the PBM's "preferred pharmacy network." Looking again at the top three PBMs: one operates the nation's largest chain drugstore, and all three own their own mail order pharmacies. PBMs have squeezed independent pharmacies out of business altogether, a further disservice to patients, especially in underserved or rural areas. The Rural Policy Research Institute reported that between 2003-2018, about one of every six independently owned rural pharmacies had to close their doors for good. The Drug Channels Institute also found that fewer than 20,000 independent pharmacies in rural and urban areas were still afloat in 2020, with that number declining for five straight years.

Moreover, the three largest PBMs are owned by or own health insurance companies, and control more than 76 percent of the U.S. prescription drug market. Insurers work with their own PBMs to decide which drugs will generate the biggest profits, and then try to steer patients to their affiliated pharmacies. See the problem?

Being a PBM is profitable, yet they don't seem to provide much constructive value to the healthcare system. PBMs do not research or develop new therapies. They don't diagnose or care for patients. Yet PBMs have a near monopoly on the drug supply chain and, ultimately, make it more difficult for patients to access or afford their medicines.

If President Biden and our leaders in Congress are sincere about using government to foster competition and transparency to help reduce patients' out-of-pocket costs, addressing PBMs would be the place to start.

### WHAT IS YOUR PRIORITY IN LIFE?

People have different priorities in life. The goal some have is simply to live as long as possible. Therefore, they are fixated on doing whatever will prolong their life. They are into exercising, taking a regiment of vitamins, eating a strict diet, etc. Others may live for pleasures. Their goal is "grabbing all the gusto" they can, and thus, their lives are filled with the cares and riches, and pleasures of this life. (Lk. 8: 14). Still other live for fame and prestige, while some live for material wealth and things. "But how do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul in the process? Is anything worth more than your soul?" (Matt. 16: 26).

There is however, a higher goal, which needs to be our priority. After reviewing various approaches to life and actually living them out in his own life, Solomon said: "Here is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey His commands, for this is the duty of every person. God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad." (Eccl. 12: 13). Serving God ought to be our highest priority. The mundane pleasures of this world won't last. "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world the love of the Father is not in him. For the world offers only the lust for physical pleasure, the lust for everything we see, and pride in our possessions, is not of the Father but is of the world. And this world is passing away and the lust of it. But if you do the will of God, you will live forever." (1 Jn. 2: 15-17). Even a very long life will someday end. (Gen. 3: 19; Heb. 9: 27). Even the most noble humanitarian efforts can do only limited good. But a life spent serving God is what we were created for, and it is the only life that leads to everlasting life with God who made us. Dear reader, that is what I am pleading for. Make that your top priority! Think on these things.

### Dennis Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

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News & Advertising Deadlines: Noon Monday

Office Hours

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Publisher/Editor: Jim Bardwell

Advertising: Suzanne Bardwell

Office Manager: Tiffany Harroff



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.



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### Lady Bears 4-1 on the season

The Gladewater Lady Bears suffered their first loss of the season with a 49-63 decision against the Lady Tigers in Mount Pleasant. JaKiyah Bell led Gladewater with 19 points as well as 8 rebs, 2 asst, and a steal. Calice Henderson added 14 pts, 6 rebs, 2 assts. Alexis Boyd had a solid game with 10 pts, 14 rebs, 4 blks, and a steal.

The loss came one day after the Lady Bears edged Teague 59-53 at home. Bell and Henderson put up 13 pts each. MaKayla Police contributed 11 pts, 4 rebs, 3 stls, 2 assts. Kyla Lincoln had 8 pts, 3 rebs and Boyd 7 pts, 7 blks, 2 rebs, 2 stls. Gladewater stands at 4-1 and look to pad the W column when they travel to Beckville to close out November.

### Lady Lions beat Harmony 37-29

The Union Grove Lady Lions entered the Holiday break with a 37-29 win over Harmony. Macey Roberts led the Grove with 12 pts, followed by Gracie Stanford with 11. Other Lady Lions to score included Gracie Winn (6), Sumeet Mattu (5), and Kyler Littlejohn (3). Union Grove improves to 5-3. They will travel to McLeod Dec 2 to begin the McLeod Tournament against Redwater.

### Lady Cardinals beat Lady Eagles

Maddie Furrh scored 17 to help send the Sabine Lady Cards into the break with a 56-22 win over the Lady Eagles of Harmony. Ashlynn Davis added 12 while the Gresham sisters, Addy and Ally scored 11 and 7 points respectively. The win comes on the tail of a 40-24 win over Kilgore. Claudia Simmons dropped 11 pts on the Lady Bulldogs to lead Sabine. Furrh added 10 pts.



Union Grove Lady Lion Ava Wightman drives the ball against Harmony. Photo by Chris Jones

## SPORTS ROUNDUP



Lady Bear MaKayla Police had 11 pts, 4 rebs, 3 stls, 2 assts against Teague. Photo by Chris Jones

### Lady Bear All District honors

District 15-3A volleyball honors for Gladewater include: **First team**—Jakiyah Bell; **Second team**—Zandrea Tyeskie; **Honorable mention**—Sydney Keller, Kiyona Parker, Gracie George, Alise Sanders and Lexi Hart.

Academic All District honorees are: Lexi Hart, Alise Sanders, Jakiyah Bell, Gracie George, Sydney Keller, Alexis Boyd, Kamryn Floyd, Kyla Lincoln, Kiyona Parker, Zandrea Tyeskie, Savannah Warren, Brianna Wilson and Hadassah Balcorta.

### Lady Lions All District honors

#### 9-2A Football All District

- 1st Team WR - Harlee Kirbis
- 1st Team Utility - Cooper Vestal
- 2nd Team Offensive Line - Landon Ferguson
- 2nd Team Wide Receiver - Hunter Cannon
- 2nd Team Defensive Back - Colton Cowan
- 2nd Team Inside Linebacker - Blake Moore
- 2nd Team Defensive Line - Kayden Day
- 2nd Team Wide Receiver and Defensive back - Judson George
- 2nd Team Offensive Line and Defensive Line - Reed Cooper
- Honorable Mention Defensive Back - Sabetay Fernandez
- Honorable Mention Outside Linebacker - Adam Hanson
- Honorable Mention Inside Linebacker - Morgan Mayhan

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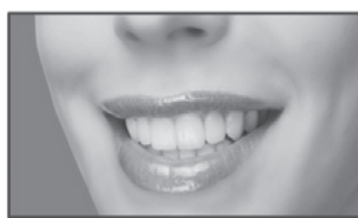
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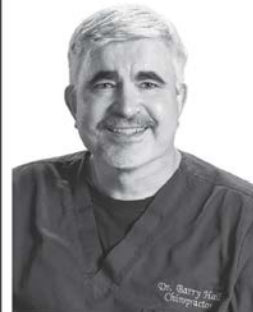
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PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA In Re the Matter of: CHRISTINA PEREZ Case#:FC2012-091120

The Court has reviewed the PETITION TO ENFORCE: REQUEST FOR WARRANT FOR PHYSICAL CUSTODY filed 8/11/21, Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED THAT Petitioner, CHRISTINA PEREZ, and Respondent, BRAJEA MALENKAMP/DALTON PEREZ and STEENA LIVERSAGE shall appear for the TELEPHONIC RESOLUTION MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE (RMC) on DECEMBER 13, 2021, at 4:45 p.m. for 15 minutes before:

The Honorable ADELE PONCE Maricopa County Superior Court Southeast Regional Court Center 222 East Javelina Avenue Mesa, Arizona 85210

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the parties are to appear by telephone 1-917-781-4590 Conference ID: 156 479 66# or Join Microsoft Team Meeting: http://tinyurl.com/jbazmc-drj19

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The Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Plan Update and the 2020-2024 Capital Fund Five Year Plan for the Housing Authority of the City of Gladewater, TX is available for review and comment at the Authority's management office located at 777 S. Tyler, Gladewater, TX during regular business hours Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, closed Noon to 12:30PM. A public meeting will be held at the Housing Authority of the City of Gladewater Texas, 777 S. Tyler St., Gladewater, TX at 12:00 PM on January 14, 2022 to review and approve proposed activities.

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Police Activity Report

Table with columns: CALL DATE, CALL DESC, CFS#, CALL TIME, BUSINESS NAME, ADDRESS. Contains a detailed log of police incidents from 11/21/21 to 11/27/21.

GPD Arrest Report

Table with columns: ARREST DATE, ARREST TIME, FULL NAME, RACE, SEX, OFFENSE. Shows an arrest on 11/25/21 by 1:53 for VILLANUEVA PEREZ, JESUS HUBERTO, W, M, NO DRIVERS LICENSE.

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The Gladewater Lions Club sponsored and selected the winning artwork for the 2021 Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest and presented Gladewater Middle School student, William Morgan a Certificate of Achievement, and a \$50 cash award for his artwork. His creation will now move to the Lions Club International District Peace Poster competition. Morgan's winning effort was recognized by GMS Principal Chris Langford, art teacher Laminda Miller and Gladewater Lion's Club President Latresa Powell. Courtesy Photo

### Oil Patch TRTA Christmas meeting

Oil Patch Texas Retired Teachers & School Personnel will meet Thursday, Dec. 2 at 1:30 p.m. at Gladewater First United Methodist Church's Jeter Hall. The program will be presented by the Gregg County Sheriff's Office discussing holiday safety tips. Bingo, door prizes, food and fellowship will all be a part of the fun. Remember, you get a door prize drawing ticket for attendance and for each new person members bring to the meeting. All public school retirees in the greater area are warmly encouraged to attend.



Lion's Club Gladewater Primary School Students of the Month are Juddson Cook and McKenzie Olbrey. Courtesy Photo

## Congressman Gohmert thows his hat into race for Texas AG

Republican U.S. Rep. Louie Gohmert announced this past week that he intends to seek the GOP nomination for Texas Attorney General, joining a growing field of candidates looking to unseat incumbent Ken Paxton.

Gohmert, who said several weeks ago he was considering the run for the AG post if he reached a goal of \$1 million for his campaign, made the announcement on an online campaign video on Monday, Nov. 22. The primary is March 1.

Gohmert, who has served in the U.S. House from District 1 since 2005, previously served as Texas' 7th District Judge and was appointed by Texas Gov. Rick Perry to fill a vacancy as Chief Justice on Texas' 12th Court of Appeals in 2002. That six-month term ended in 2003. In a related matter, Smith County Judge Nathaniel Moran issued

a statement on Monday, Nov. 15 that he might consider running for the District 1 U.S. House seat if Gohmert chose to enter the AG race. Part of Moran's statement reads as follows:

"With the recent announcement from Congressman Louie Gohmert about his desire to run for Texas Attorney General, and in anticipation of that occurring, we are exploring the possibility of pursuing that open seat in Congress.

We are beyond grateful for the strong, conservative leaders in Congressional District 1 who have encouraged us so far, and who will help guide our final decision moving forward."

Also, former Gohmert staff Republican Aditya Atholi has said he is planning to run for the District 1 seat.

The list of GOP challengers to Paxton includes Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush and former Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman.

State Rep. Matt Krause had expressed interest in the AG post, but on Monday (Nov. 22) he announced he would instead seek the Tarrant County District Attorney position.

Democrats lined up against Paxton include civil rights attorney Lee Merritt, former Galveston Mayor Joe Jaworski and Rochelle Garza, a former lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union.

Paxton's opponents cite his legal woes – which include a 6-year-old fraud indictment – as why he is unfit to continue as Attorney General. Paxton has pleaded not guilty.

## Man killed by falling tree

By Phillip Williams

A 34-year-old Gilmer area man was killed late Friday afternoon when a tree he and another man were attempting to cut down fell on him at his rural home in the Soules Chapel community area, said Upshur County Chief Sheriff's Deputy David Hazel.

Christopher David Hancock was pronounced dead at the scene at 5839 Flying Squirrel Road by Upshur County Precinct 3 Justice of the Peace Rhonda Welch, authorities said. The incident occurred shortly before 6 p.m., said Sheriff Larry Webb.

Hazel quoted Hancock's uncle, David Morris of Haltom City, as saying he and others were trying to guide the tree with a cable, tied to the tree, down to a pickup truck when the "tree didn't fall where it was supposed to."

Hancock suffered multiple injuries from the tree, which a sheriff's deputy at the scene estimated was 40-50 feet tall, said Hazel. The chief deputy said he didn't know what kind of tree it was.

Welch, who informed The Mirror of the incident Friday night, said Saturday that the tree was among two or three which Hancock cut down because they were leaning dangerously toward his home.

"I think he thought it was gonna go another way, and he ran under it," Welch said, which Hazel confirmed. Authorities said there were witnesses to the accident.

This was the third time in less than two years that a falling tree killed someone in rural Upshur County. A man was driving his pickup on a county road when a tree fell on the vehicle last June, and another man was standing outside his home during a storm when he was fatally injured in April 2020.

## American Legion gets hefty donation

By Phillip Williams

Circle M Crawfish in Big Sandy recently donated checks totaling more than \$3,800 to American Legion R.E. (Peppy) Blount Post No. 320 in Gilmer to help local military veterans.

The firm contributed a \$1,226.11 portion of its Aug. 28 sales to remember American soldiers killed Aug. 26 in Afghanistan, said post Hubmaster/Historian Andy Gibson. Circle M then donated \$2,600 in proceeds from a Nov. 12 concert and raffle held on the restaurant's grounds, he said.

The restaurant's activities di-

rector, Lisa Werner, presented the first check to Legionnaire Jimmy Sanders and the second to post Commander Pat Taylor.

The concert, which opened with the singing of The Star-Spangled Banner by 11-year U.S. Army veteran Jenn Ford, featured country singer Jack Ingram, said Gibson.

The raffle involved a Spartan RZ-C 54-inch Zero Turn mower, donated by Spartan NTX, he added. At the post's Nov. 18 monthly meeting, Taylor presented Werner with a plaque thanking Circle M, and she presented him the \$2,600 check, Gibson said.

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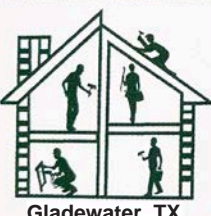


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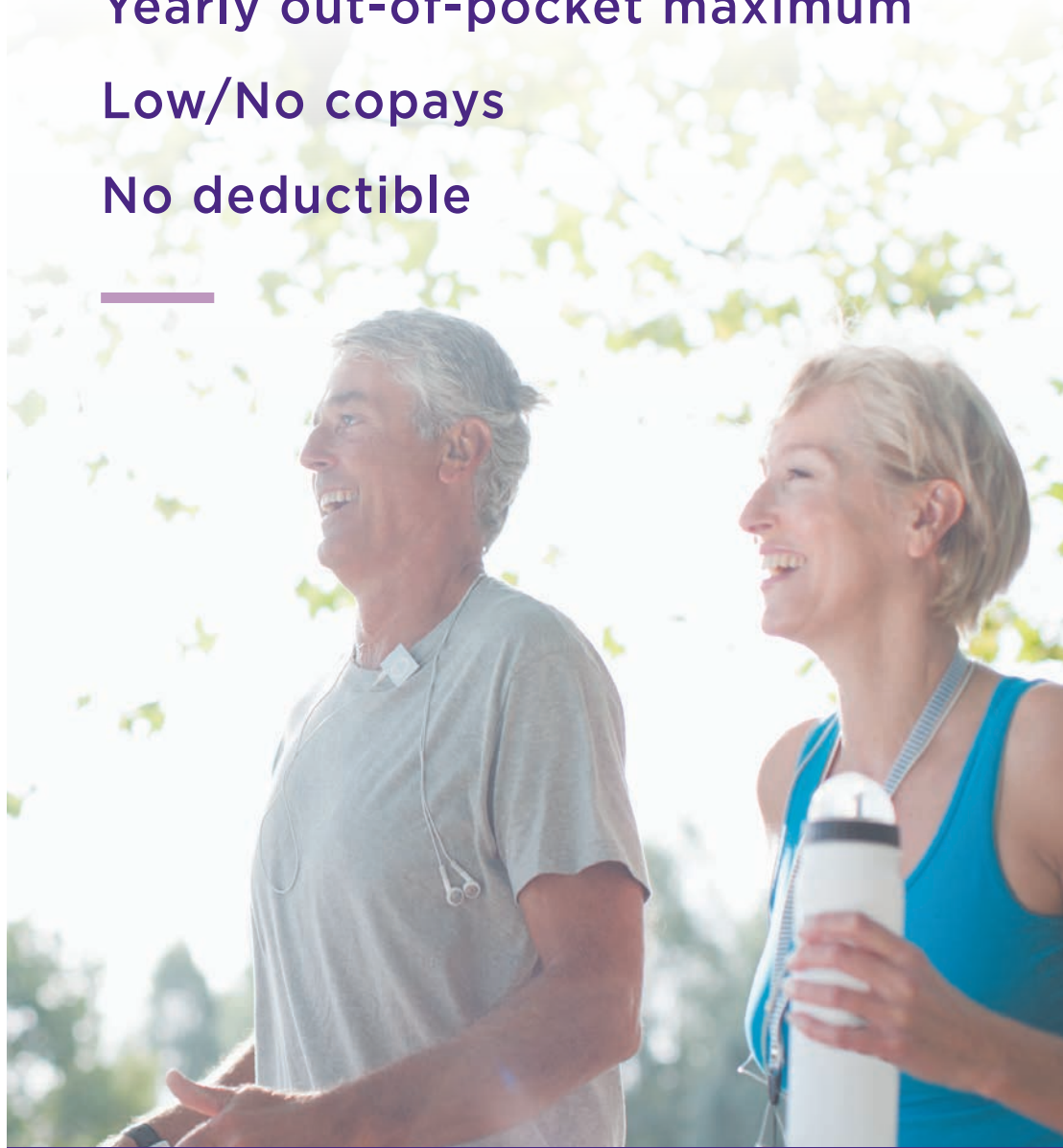
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Standout Bear QB DJ Allen turns receiver and makes a leaping TD catch in Friday's Regional Quarter-Final playoff loss against the Mt. Vernon Tigers.

Photo By Jim Bardwell

## Bears' season ends

Continued from Page 1

the ball inside the red zone at the 13 yard line, but Bear penalties pushed Gladewater back to the 35 yard line. Mt. Vernon got another break on the next play when a hard hit on a Bear receiver knocked the ball loose and the Tigers recovered at the 25 yard line. Another sack by the Bear defense and two incomplete passes set the Tigers up for their first punt of the game. Gladewater would take possession inside Tiger territory after the Diaz punt went only 15 yards. Once again the Bear offense stalled and on fourth and 10 from the Mt. Vernon 45 an incomplete pass turned the ball back over to the Tigers. Mt. Vernon needed only five plays to go the 46 yards to pay dirt scoring on a 2-yard run by McGill. The extra point was good increasing the Tiger lead to 37-7 with 1:28 left in the third quarter.

Gladewater would turn the ball over again, this time on an interception. After two penalties pushed the Bears back to their own 44 yard line, Allen on fourth and 22 went for the long ball but a Tiger defender picked off the pass at the Mt. Vernon 15 yard line. After running a hurry up offense all night the Tigers slowed their pace down to eat up clock going on a 66 yard drive in 11 plays. On fourth and four from the Bear 19 yard line Diaz would hit on his second field goal of the night, this time from 36 yards to give Mt Vernon their last points of the game with 7:17 left in the contest.

Gladewater would get their last points of the game and season going on a five play, 84 yard drive. QB Kyrion Wilson (2/3/47/TD) would hit wide receiver DJ Allen (3/63/2 TDs) on a 42 yard strike and the score. Arreguin's kick was perfect making the score 40-14 Tigers with 2:48 left in the game. Mt. Vernon would run out the clock and claim the victory moving on to the quarterfinal round against the undefeated West Trojans.

The Bears finish their season with a 9-3 record, an outright district championship and a Bi-District and Area crown. Congratulations to the Bears, their coaches, the Honey Bears and leaders, the cheerleaders and sponsors, the Bear Band and directors and the fans on their great season. A special shoutout to Bear seniors DJ Allen, Za Campbell, Levi Kegarise, Trevor Hollins, Eli Kates, Malachi Gordon, Zach Polanco, XZavier Woods, Ben Alvarez, Rajuan Johnson, Jonathan Arreguin, Logan Bohanon, Tyler Smith, Zavion Woods, Chris Perry, Jovan Bell, Chase Wise, Zach Shipp, Coaches Jonny Louvier, Scott Clower, Barry Lindsey, Phil Castles, Chris Langford, Brandon Jones, Jermaine Lewis, Tony Rivera, Quinton Thomas, Curtis Armstrong, Kevin Clark, Austin Blanco, Chase Manley, Joshua Walker, Jeff Hodges, Josh Yount and Athletic Trainer Jeff "Doc" Davis. We thank you for your hard work and dedication to Bear football. It was a great season. GO BEARS!



Standout Bear, quarterback/running back DJ Allen had two touchdowns on the night in the playoff loss against the Mt. Vernon Tigers in Sulphur Springs.

Photo By Suzanne Bardwell



### MH Christmas drive needs

With the holidays approaching Manna House community food ministry is in need of food donations especially canned cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes, pumpkin, instant potatoes and 2-lb. Bags of sugar as well as financial donations. Non-perishable food items may be dropped off Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Manna House in the southwest corner of City Hall from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. or at the Gladewater Mirror weekdays during business hours. Financial donations may be mailed to: Manna House, P.O. Box 808, Gladewater, 75647.

### Manna House Christmas Box sign up

Families may sign up to receive a Christmas food box beginning Monday, Nov. 1. The Christmas family food boxes will be distributed Dec. 8 & 9, a Wednesday and Thursday from the First United Methodist Church's family life center on Quitman Street. Santa's Toy Shop will also be open for parents to select a toy for each child in their family's up to 12 years old. There will also be a drawing for bicycles.