

# Gladewater Mirror

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## Mirror puts questions to candidates tonight

Locals have a chance to put their questions and concerns to city council candidates tonight.

Gladewater Mirror's Spring 2024 Candidates Forum begins at 6 p.m. this evening at Gladewater Chamber of Commerce. All four City Hall office-seekers were invited to participate March 8, so they've had about a month to ponder their platforms before making their cases tonight for residents' votes come Election Day May 4.

The Q&A moderated by Mirror Publisher Jim Bardwell is open to the public – readers and audience members are encouraged to submit questions in advance for inclusion among a slate of topics to be discussed.

Early voting runs April 22-30 before 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. polling Saturday, May 4.

The mayor's race includes incumbent council member Brandy Flanagan and contender Jim Valentine, who has stated he will be out of town during the forum.

With Flanagan seeking the mayor's seat, her Place 3 spot on the council is open and drew two contenders before February's filing deadline: outgoing Mayor Scott Owens and contender Stoney Stone.

Incumbent council member Michael Weber saw no challenges in his re-election bid to Place 2. Likewise, there were no contests for three trustee seats at Gladewater ISD this cycle – during their March 25 meeting, the GISD School Board unanimously approved canceling the district's election, and the three returning incumbents (Corina Arevalo, Place 5; Danielle Budro, Place 6; and Place 7 Board Vice President Jeff Cook) will officially begin new terms when they take a new oath office during the board's late May meeting.

Submit questions in advance to jbardwell@gladewatermirror.com, and find coverage in next week's edition of the Mirror. Also, watch newsstands later this month for another printed, side-by-side Q&A featuring submitted responses from all four council candidates.



Gladewater Chamber of Commerce President Farrell Alexander presented the 2023 Man of the Year award to Al Harrison and the 2023 Woman of the Year award to Sandra Ayers-Smith at last Thursday's 93rd Annual chamber banquet held at the Gladewater Former Students Building.

## Harrison, Ayers-Smith honored at annual chamber banquet

Gladewater Chamber of Commerce's 93rd banquet was crafted around the total eclipse, but a group of local stars took center stage as the business development organization recognized outstanding contributors and members.

"There's all kinds of history here that the rest of East Texas centers around," emcee Tony McCullough reminded the audience for the 'Once in a Lifetime' night at the Gladewater Former Students Building.

The event added a page to the local history books with its list of 2023 award winners including Man of the Year Al Harrison, building inspector for the City of Gladewater, alongside 2023 Woman of the Year in local restaurateur, entrepreneur and volunteer Sandra Ayers-Smith.

The 2023 Business of the Year award recognized Michael Gunn and his multiple local ventures while Educator of the Year highlighted Gladewater ISD's Amanda Carnet. Johnnay Hawley was named 2023 Youth of the Year along with another accolade for 2023 Yamboree Gladewater Duchess Madie Bedair.

Harold Wells went home with the 2023 Marilyn Godfrey Volunteer Award, and outgoing 2023-2024 Chamber President Farrell Alexander presented Bradley Awards to chamber standout Lois Reed and incoming President Jon Keller.

Find more about the night's activities inside today's issue through the Gladewater Mirror's Special Chamber of Commerce Special Edition featuring award winners, presenters, guests and advertisers.



## Library welcomes sky-watchers for solar celebration next week

Considering the movements of the Earth, Sun, and Moon, there's a minimum of two solar eclipses but no more than five happening around the world every year. A total solar eclipse is less common, happening only every 18 months or so, and it's rare that one happens right over your back yard.

There's no chance Brandy Winn's going to miss the celestial show April 8, and the Lee-Bardwell Public Library Director is eager to share the experience with other Gladewater residents and visitors of all ages.

"I'm enthusiastic about it," Winn says, counting down to the mid-Monday event overhead. "I'm not only a history nerd, but I'm a space-exploration / sci-fi person."

According to NASA's online Eclipse Explorer, the April 8 eclipse will get underway at 12:25 p.m. in Gladewater as the moon's transit takes it overhead between the Sun and this spot on Earth. The community will experience totality for approximately 33 seconds beginning at 1:44:51, per NASA. By 3:05 p.m. the whole show will be over for Gladewater.

Find NASA's 2024 Total Solar Eclipse resources via [tinyurl.com/eclipseexplorer](https://tinyurl.com/eclipseexplorer).

At the library, the day's celebration will kick-off between 11:30 a.m. and noon, and Winn has about 50 pairs of ISO 12312-2 certified shaded eclipse specs for safe viewing. Each donated pair is emblazoned with a firefighter motif.

That's key for Winn: "We're going to have a safety meeting before," she says, determined no one's going to damage their eyes on her watch.

Anyone is welcome to join the party at any time, and Winn intends to have some shoebox eclipse viewers to share.

"They don't have to stay here," Winn added. The specs will be available to everybody until they're gone. "They can get their glasses and go have fun down at the der-rick."

If they stay, though, "We're going to have a little crafts for kids. I'm also going to give a little history on the aspects of the eclipse," fact-focused: "We'll talk about Native Americans and people throughout history who saw ports of doom in the eclipse."

Winn's jazzed about the science and being able to experience such a rare event – according to NASA, the next total solar eclipse that will be visible from the contiguous United States won't happen until Aug. 23, 2044.

For Winn, and hundreds of thousands, potentially millions of others flocking toward the path of totality across the country, that means making the most of April 8, crossing fingers for clear skies and sending the imagination skyward.

"When I was a kid, and even now, I would be an astronaut. I think it's fascinating," says Winn, a longtime fan of the 1986 movie adventure, "Space Camp." For the local librarian, "The aspect of being able to go beyond our world is extremely exciting."

## Gladewater council reluctant to open Pandora's Container

By James Draper

The spectre of container homes on the shores of Lake Gladewater had council members itching for an on-the-fly adjustment of the city's code of ordinances last month.

Ultimately (and after some healthy disagreement on the dais) the group opted to hand-off the wording of the code update to city staff members for council consideration soonest, aiming to further limit a range of manufactured housing options inside the city limits.

In the meantime, the elected officials generally agreed the community's current permitting procedures can effectively pump the brakes on the purported property development.

The dialogue March 21 began with an East Lake Drive resident taking the podium to express a calm but pointed concern about plans for a neighboring plot of

land. The debate escalated from there.

"It has come to my attention that the intention of the company is to build a home out of storage containers on this lot," James St. John told the council. It would be a step backward, he said, after mobile homes that used to dot the shores (now banned there) have steadily been removed and replaced with high-end residences.

Gladewater regulations do explicitly prohibit mobile homes on the lake, council member Teddy Sorrells noted, but the relevant language is incomplete. The night's posted agenda gave the council leeway to update the necessary definitions, Sorrells contended, a relatively simple change if key points were included.

"It's down from my house. They've got front-end loaders out there right now," councilman Rocky-

Continued on Page 5

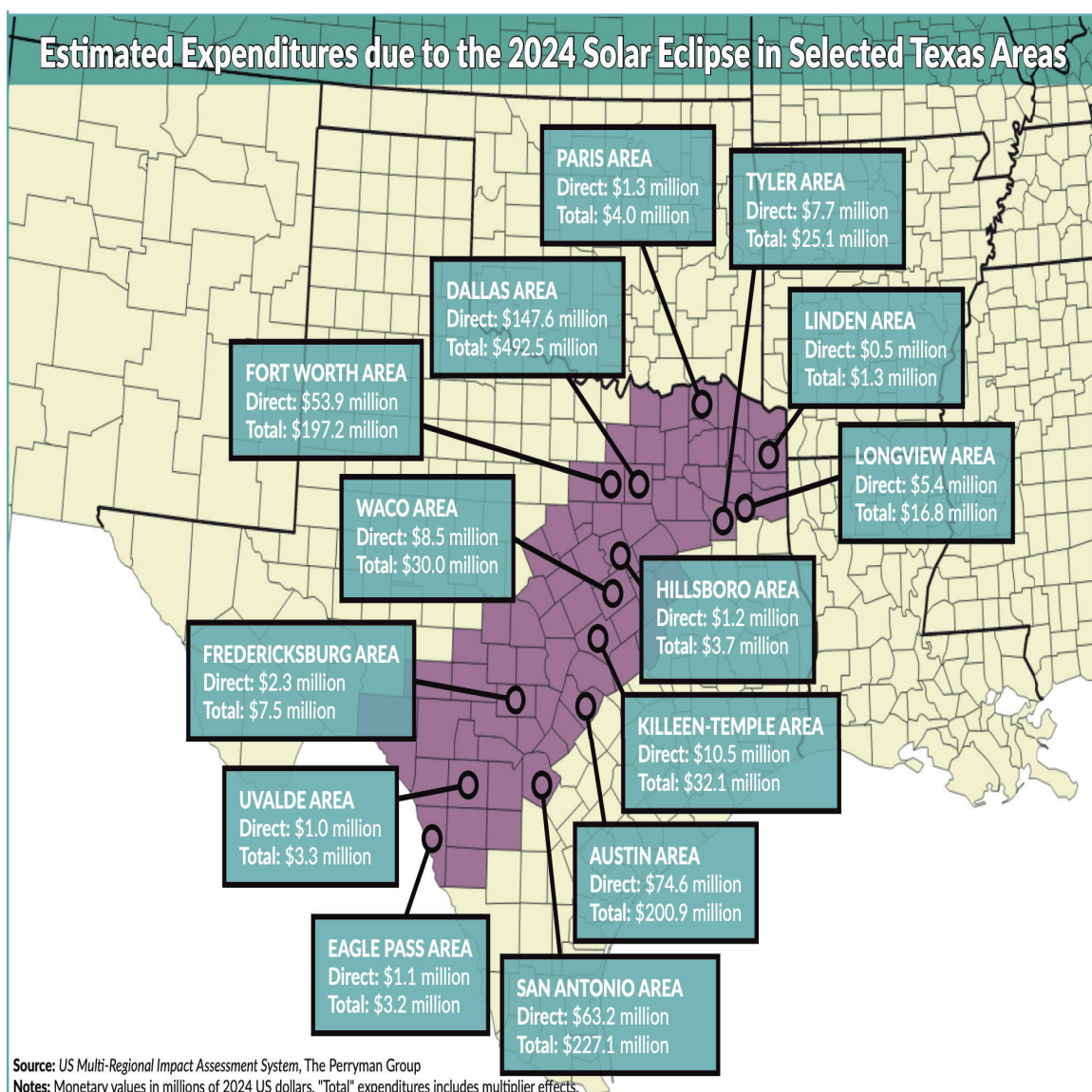
## Economics of Monday's 2024 Solar Eclipse

By Ray Perryman

On Monday, April 8, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada. The path of totality enters Texas around Eagle Pass and crosses the state to the northeast, exiting near the northeast corner. About 12 million Texans reside in the path of totality, which includes the major metropolitan areas along the I-35 corridor.

Because of the unique nature of the upcoming eclipse, more than one million people are expected to visit Texas to witness the phenomenon. From small towns to large population centers, the numbers of visitors are projected to be unusually large. These travelers will spend money locally for accommodations, meals, gasoline, and retail items. The result will be a substantial economic stimulus.

The Perryman Group estimated the potential economic benefits associated with the eclipse and found that Texas is likely to see an increase in direct expenditures by visitors of about \$427.7 million. When the downstream/multiplier effects through the economy are considered, expected economic impacts rise to almost \$1.4 billion. (Read more about the eclipse economics on Page 2)





# OPINION/COMMENTARY

## Gary Borders Capital Highlights



### Solar eclipse means big money to Texas

One economist is calling it “the most profitable 22 minutes in Texas history,” according to the Texas Standard. The total solar eclipse on Monday, April 8 is expected to draw up to a million visitors to the Lone Star State, especially in its narrow path of totality.

Texas cities located in that path include Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, San Antonio, Waco, Temple, Killeen, Llano, Fredericksburg, Kerrville, Uvalde, Del Rio and Texarkana. (That is not a complete list. Check online to see if your community is in the totality path.)

All of the state will experience at least a partial solar eclipse, the Houston Chronicle reported. For example, the sun will be about 94% eclipsed over Houston at its peak. The moon will start to block the sun around noon, with totality beginning near Del Rio on a path northeast across Texas.

Viewers are urged to wear eclipse glasses labeled with ISO 12312-2 standard or use a handheld solar filter to avoid eye damage. Given demand, those might be a challenge to find at this late date.

Meanwhile, let’s hope for a sunny day on April 8!

### Prosecutors settle securities fraud case against Paxton

Nearly nine years after felony securities fraud charges were brought against state Attorney General Ken Paxton, prosecutors last week agreed to drop the charges if Paxton pays about \$271,000 in restitution, performs 100 hours of community service, and takes 15 hours of legal ethics courses, the Texas Tribune reported. The deal was struck just three weeks before Paxton was set to face trial.

Paxton did not have to enter a plea under the terms of the agreement. He is still under federal investigation for his relationship with since-indicted developer Nate Paul.

The settlement caps a topsy-turvy span of several months for Paxton, who was impeached in the House and acquitted in the Senate. Paxton successfully took on a number of those who voted to impeach him by backing their opponents in the GOP primary, and led Republican voters to oust three incumbent Court of Criminal Appeal justices who drew his ire with a previous ruling.

“The pundits, lobbyists and consultants have written his political obituary many times and yet they greatly underestimated General Paxton’s tenacity and grit,” Nick Maddux, a Paxton adviser and political consultant, said in an email.

### Appeals court again questions legality of immigration law

A panel of justices from the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals dealt another blow to a new law that seeks to give Texas a role in arresting and deporting migrants, The Dallas Morning News reported. The state had sought to enforce the law, Senate Bill 4, while the full court weighed its constitutionality.

Writing for the 2-1 majority, Chief Judge Priscilla Richman said the Texas law appeared to be “an end-run around” federal immigration law and provisions making immigration enforcement the responsibility of the federal government, not the state.

The ruling was the second time in a week that the 5th Circuit stopped the state from enforcing the new law.

“Allowing Texas to detain noncitizens without any input from the Federal Government about whether an arrest is warranted ... would allow the State to achieve its own immigration policy,” Richman wrote in a ruling joined by Judge Irma Carrillo Ramirez.

The state can ask all 17 judges on the 5th Circuit to review the panel’s ruling or appeal it to the U.S. Supreme Court, The News reported.

### Cows contract bird flu

Cows in the Texas Panhandle have tested positive for the bird flu, the Tribune reported. That follows historic wildfires that killed at least 7,000 livestock.

Strains of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, commonly known as the bird flu, were confirmed last week by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. USDA officials said there is no safety concern to the commercial milk supply, and that consumer health also is not at risk.

This is believed to be the first time that bird flu has been found in livestock, researchers say.

## Lessons & Perspectives ...

Not too long ago, someone remarked that what I was doing was a ‘calling’. I quickly told them that I was a ‘divinely called’ high school teacher, but a working newspaper Girl Friday? Maybe not so much.

The more I think about that I am not so sure. Yes, indeed I believe that I was called to teach. But in many ways I still am.

Lately I have been thinking about the lessons that the generations of students I taught hopefully still remember. I also sincerely hope, that through my writing, some of those lessons resonate with our much appreciated readers.

The most important lesson I taught every single year to every single class, and hopefully every single student, was that “if you have the ability to see, to hear, to think, to talk and to walk (or roll), you don’t have the right to be bored.” I often told my students that if I could wave a magic wand over them and give them one gift, just one, it would be a sense of wonder.

If we are able to maintain our sense of wonder, life remains fresh, new and joyous. So, if I could wave that magic wand over you, dear readers, I would give you the same gift. And, oh what a special gift that would be.

I also tried to teach my students to THINK. Not what to think, but HOW to think. I tried to teach them to ‘stand out from the herd’ and be independent thinkers. History clearly shows that when we allow others to think for us how easily manipulated we become.

Generally, I avoid sharing Facebook postings, but the one I am going to share with you today is thought-provoking. It is filled with lessons of truth we need to keep in mind to survive this crisis with our perspective, and maybe even a bit of our souls in tact.

### WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT ...

(Unknown Author)

I heard that we are all in the same boat, but it’s not like that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship

## The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



could be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa.

A moment of reflection, of re-connection, easy in flip flops, with a cocktail or coffee. For others, this is a desperate financial and family crisis.

For some, their work life has been stressful, sad and draining both physically and emotionally. It has shown them the difficulties and horrors of this pandemic. While others feel “it’s what you signed up for”.

For some that live alone they are facing endless loneliness. While for others it is peace, rest and time with their mother, father, sons and daughters.

Some were concerned about getting a certain candy for Easter while others were concerned if there would be enough bread, milk and eggs for the weekend.

During COVID some experienced the near death of the virus, some have already lost someone from it and some are not sure if their loved ones are going to make it. Others don’t believe this was a big deal. Some have faith in God and expect miracles. Others say the worst is yet to come.

So, friends, we are not in the same boat. We just went through a time when our perceptions and needs were completely different. Each of us emerged, in our own way, from the storm. It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. Not just looking, actually seeing.

We were all on different ships during these storms experiencing different journeys.

Just remember to be kind, always.

# THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

## Eclipse Economics ...

Get ready for a big show (where you literally see nothing) with a huge audience! On Monday, April 8, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada. The path of totality (where the sun is fully hidden) enters Texas around Eagle Pass and crosses to the northeast, exiting near the northeast corner. About 12 million Texans reside in the path of totality, which includes the major metropolitan areas along the I-35 corridor.



Although there was a total eclipse in August 2017, this one is much more impressive. In particular, the moon will be closer as it passes between the sun and earth, thus causing totality to be longer in duration and occur across a wider path. The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk for several minutes. In addition, the next total solar eclipse that will be visible

in the United States will not occur until August 2044.

Because of the unique nature of the upcoming eclipse, more than one million people are expected to visit Texas to witness the phenomenon. From small towns to large population centers, the numbers of visitors are projected to be unusually large. These travelers will spend money locally for accommodations, meals, gasoline, and retail items. The result will be a substantial economic stimulus.

We estimated the potential economic benefits associated with the eclipse and found that Texas is likely to see an increase in direct expenditures by visitors of about \$427.7 million. When the downstream/multiplier effects through the economy are considered, expected impacts rise to almost \$1.4 billion in spending, with a gain of \$749.5 million in gross product and \$453.6 million in personal income to Texas residents. Of these amounts, the total expenditures (including downstream/ multiplier effects) in the restaurant industry group are expected to be \$179.8 million, with \$280.6 million in retail and \$221.8 million in short-term rentals and hotels.

Benefits will be concentrated in the largest metropolitan areas within the path of totality due to availability of hotel rooms and other needed infrastructure. However, smaller areas are also likely to see notable benefits. (Effects on each county and population center along the route are included in the full brief available at [www.perrymangroup.com](http://www.perrymangroup.com).)

While the eclipse is a one-day event, many cities are hoping that the influx of visitors from across the nation and beyond will bring lasting benefits. Areas which rarely receive much in the way of national media coverage are likely to be featured, enhancing the prospects for future tourism and other developmental benefits. It will bring crowds and traffic, but it will also lead to substantial economic benefits. Prepare for the darkness! It won’t last long. Stay safe!

## Estimated Economic Impact of the 2024 Solar Eclipse on Business Activity in Texas

Region	Direct Expenditures	Total Expenditures*	Gross Product*	Personal Income*
State of Texas	\$427,680,000	\$1,397,677,662	\$749,521,038	\$453,636,796
Path of Totality	\$408,693,083	\$1,335,627,554	\$716,245,940	\$433,497,523
Remaining Counties	\$18,986,917	\$62,050,108	\$33,275,098	\$20,139,273

Source: US Multi-Regional Impact Assessment System, The Perryman Group

Notes: Monetary values in 2024 US dollars. Total Expenditures, Gross Product, and Personal Income include downstream multiplier effects. For more information, see methodology on page 4.

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## WATER, SIN, AND SALVATION

Before Christ ascended back to Heaven, He gave His apostles the Great Commission (Matt. 28: 18-20; Mk. 16: 14-16; Lk. 24: 44-49). The baptism commanded by Christ in His Great Commission, backed with all authority in Heaven and on earth is a burial (immersion) (Rom. 6: 3-5; Col. 2: 12) in WATER (Acts 8: 36-38), for the REMISSION OF SINS (Acts 2: 38), to WASH AWAY SINS (Acts 22: 16), and TO PUT ONE INTO CHRIST (Rom. 6: 3 and into His BODY (the church) (1 Cor. 12: 13) and to PUT ON CHRIST (Gal. 3: 27).

The people on the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2 were not saved BEFORE they were baptized (v. 38). Many people assert that “for the remission of sins” in Acts 2: 38 means “because their sins had already been forgiven.” For example, in an essay by Cooper Abrams, entitled: *Does the Bible Say Baptism is Necessary for Salvation?* commenting on Acts 2: 38 said: “It should be enlightening to note that Peter, who preached the message in which Acts 2: 38 is found, also preached about salvation later in Acts 3: 17-26 and Acts 4: 8-12 but never mentioned baptism. Why could he make such an error or overlook telling the people of the vital and necessary act of baptism IF it was essential for salvation? He did not mention it because it was not essential for salvation. As mentioned earlier, baptism is an important first act of a believer (following salvation) in identifying himself or herself with Jesus Christ and the Local church.”

Well, let’s see what Peter said. Acts chapter 2 shows that those people had NOT ALREADY BEEN SAVED, for “with many other words did he (Peter) testify and exhort, saying, save yourselves from this untoward (crooked) generation” (v. 40). This was said to the people on Pentecost AFTER they believed, but BEFORE they were baptized! Thus, if they were saved simply by BELIEVING, Peter’s further teaching them would not have been necessary!

Just for good measure, it was the same apostle Peter who said: “Baptism doth also NOW save us...” (1 Pet. 3: 21). Therefore, Peter did not overlook or make an error because baptism IS ESSENTIAL for salvation! Think on these things.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### County library hosts storytime

Two books will be read to small children Thursday (April 4) at both of the Upshur County Library's "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer, where children can come in their pajamas to celebrate the library's "Pajama Day."

The library is holding "Spirit Month" with every Thursday having "a different theme to dress up for" since Storytime readings are held on that day of the week, said Kari Dunn, the library's children's coordinator.

"Sophie Sleeps Over" by Marisabina Russo and "Llama Llama Red Pajama" by Anna Dewdney will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. gatherings, Dunn said.

A craft will follow each Storytime at the library, 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas 154).

While the events are free to the public, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call the library at (903) 843-5001 or visit its website at [www.youseemore.com/upshur](http://www.youseemore.com/upshur).

### GHS Class of '84 holding reunion

The Gladewater High School Class of 1984 will hold its 40th Class Reunion June 7-8, and organizers are inviting the GHS Classes of 1981 through 1987 to join them alongside the teachers and staffers who broadened their minds through the years.

Ticket for the banquet are \$20 per person including a meal or \$13 without, and the deadline to purchase tickets is Friday, May 3.

For more information, call Jana Wynn Ryan at 318-465-4149.

### Donors equip GISD students for eclipse

Yes, Gladewater ISD students, faculty and staff will be in-school on Monday – they will, however, be taking time district-wide to enjoy the total solar eclipse overhead.

According to GISD Superintendent Dr. Sedic Clark, as of March 25, there had been 300 pairs of eclipse viewing glasses donated to Gladewater Primary School along with a donation of 500 pairs for Weldon Elementary. More donations were inbound and on-hand for other campuses.

The plan's to pause the regular school day and learn through activities and observation of the event overhead. The eclipse begins at 12:25 p.m. in Gladewater with half-a-minute of totality beginning about 1:45 p.m.

"We're looking to make the eclipse day a great day of learning and an experience for all our campuses," Clark told trustees during their regular March board meeting.

### Gusher Days schedule of events announced

The East Texas Gusher Days, Gladewater Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Gladewater invite area communities to join the family fun at the 2024 East Texas Gusher Days. The main event will take place, Friday, April 19th, 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, April 20th, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. with the Annual Gusher Days Bass Tournament Saturday, April 27th.

Friday, April 19th and Saturday April 20th will feature a unique shopping and dining experience with local arts and crafts and food vendors, live music with street dancing, and plenty of activities for the en-

tire family to enjoy. Children's activities include inflatables, games and face painting.

Reel in the Excitement at Gladewater's Finest Fishing Tournament on Saturday, April 27th at Lake Gladewater! First prize is \$500 Cash, plus a bonus \$250 Gift Card from Skipper's Pier. If the state record is broken, the winner will receive an additional \$250 Skipper's Pier Gift Card.

"This is one of Gladewater's largest annual events," said Ricky Burcalow, East Texas Gusher Days President. "Every year, we look forward to hosting the East Texas Gusher Days, which raises much-needed scholarship funds."

All East Texas Gusher Days proceeds fund scholarships for local High School students, supporting them in their higher education endeavors.

For more information, visit [Gusher-Days.com](http://Gusher-Days.com)



**Jaxxon Cook received his Eagle Scout Rank on March 28th, 2024 with East Texas Area Council members at Alpine Church of Christ in Longview Tx. Jaxxon is a Junior at Gladewater High School. He has been active with scouts starting in the first grade with Cub Scouts. He crossed over to Boy Scouts in the six grade and has remained an active member of Troop 198. He is a straight A student at GHS. He is a part of the Varsity Football team, Track team, Cross Country, National Honors Society and an active youth member at First Baptist Church of Gladewater. Jaxxon has an entrepreneurial spirit and has successfully ran his own small business for over a year! Jaxxon's Eagle Project consisted of Little Library stations located at Bumblebee Park, Everett Park and Garland P. Ferguson Park (Gladewater Lake). He is a proud big brother to Juddson and son of Jeff and Jamie Cook all of Gladewater.**

## Some questions answered, more remain for GISD as four-day week concept gets April 10 town hall

By James Draper

The possibility of a four-day school week for Gladewater ISD will remain undecided for weeks to come, and the district's trustees listened more than they spoke during a March 25 presentation on the idea.

While the school's elected officials ponder the latest information presented by members of the District Educational Improvement Committee, a public town hall meeting is set for 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, in the Gladewater Middle School Cafeteria.

That session is open to anyone in the community

who wants to learn more about the options or to ask questions, according to DEIC co-chairs Andy Reynolds and Opal Smith, especially with so many undecideds still in the ether.

The two GISD employees presented a portion of the DEI committee's research for trustee consideration last month – it's available for download online at [GladewaterMirror.com](http://GladewaterMirror.com).

The documentation includes a list of East Texas districts that have switched a four-day schedule along with findings from those schools, GISD survey results on the topic and breakdowns of survey data. There are also questions and comments submitted during the survey process plus three draft calendars – one for a 5-day 2024-2025 school year, one featuring a schedule with Mondays off and one that considers a schedule with no Friday instruction.

According to Reynolds, smaller districts have begun making the change, specifically to address their teacher shortages and to attract more candidates.

From the DEIC's findings, East Texas four-day schools report Pros on recruitment and retention of staff, increased staff morale, decreased discipline referrals, decreases in student and staff absences, increased professional development time and some financial savings.

According to the Cons, younger students have great-

er challenges with a short week along with shared staff concerns, a compressed timeline and no room for waste instruction time, challenges with food service availability for students and possible concerns with after-school activities.

"Probably the biggest area of 'pro' that we've heard from a lot of districts is recruitment of staff as well as staff retention," Reynolds said, "which is a big deal given the current state of education."

A four-day schedule also gives staffers a weekday to manage their own appointments and responsibilities without taking off, he noted, and it enables faculty to invest time in professional development without missing classes.

Both the DEIC representatives and the trustees expressed concerns about the care some students will lose when they're out of school one more day in a week.

"The love and nurturing they have on the fifth day is going to be absent to them," school board member Garth Cockerell said. "Something is tugging at me there about those kids being away from the school, away from people who care about them, who love them, who show them a different lifestyle and all. That keeps coming back to me. I really don't know how to get around that."

According to Smith, "We also discussed having an intervention day on that day

off. A lot of those students might be coming anyway," she said.

Logistically, there are still plenty of questions remaining, such as how extracurriculars will be impacted along with the students and staffers who participate in them.

With the issue in limbo until trustees make a final call, the actual structure of the school day is unset. Generally, the remaining four days will be longer by 40 minutes each, and there's a rough consensus school would start 20 minutes earlier than it does now and end 20 minutes later, affecting various processes (transportation, food service, etc.) relatively.

"I think there's a going to be a lot of issues whatever you do," Reynolds said.

Do or don't, he added, there will be positive and negative reactions and complications from staff.

"I think we need to be thinking ahead, too," board president Ross Morgan said. "Regardless of which decision we make, what if everybody goes to this? We're competing for teachers in a market where everybody can go to four-days. There are other things we need to be looking at in order to get ahead in that game."

Cockerell noted his appreciation for all the effort that's been put into research the options.

"We are willing," he said, "we just need information to make the best decision."



**Congratulations to both Gladewater High School bands for doing well at UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest last week. Gladewater Varsity Band took Straight Ones from all judges and Sweepstakes Band. Gladewater Non-Varsity Band took a 2 on stage and 1 in Sightreading.**

## 21 indictments handed down

By Phillip Williams

The Upshur County Grand Jury returned 21 indictments, eight of them sealed, and no-billed two cases March 20 in Gilmer, said District Attorney Billy Byrd. Ten of the indictments were on charges of possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine.)

Defendants, charges and bond information in the open indictments were as follows, Byrd's office reported:

Luke David Maguire, 27, of Gilmer, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on Jan. 21, 2023. He was released on \$10,000 bond.

Lyndon Nathaniel Maguire, 34, of Gilmer, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on Jan. 21, 2023. He posted \$10,000 bond, but remained in Upshur County Jail on charges from McLennan County.

Robin Lynn Gross, 61, of Gilmer, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on May 9, 2023. She was freed on \$5,000 bond.

Jason William Hayes, 54, of Big Sandy, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) last Aug. 28. He was released on \$10,000 bond.

Courtney Dominique Gray, a 36-year-old Carthage man, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) last Sept. 30. He also was freed on \$10,000 bond.

Jeffery Owen Henly, 60, of Kilgore, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on Jan. 2. He was released on \$25,000 bond.

Guillermo Castro-Barbosa, 36, of Longview, possession of controlled substance (cocaine) on Jan. 8. He was freed on \$10,000 bond.

Jennifer Carol Lawson, 42, of Hawkins, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) last Nov. 17. Although she posted \$25,000 bond, she remained in county jail on a motion to revoke probation she was serving.

Danielle Renee Lindeken, a Gilmerite who turned 21 on March 26, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on Jan. 21, 2023. She was released on \$10,000 bond.

Charles David Allen, 41, of Gilmer, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on Jan. 11. He remained jailed on \$25,000 bond.

Leonard Darion Smith, 32, of Longview, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on Jan. 11. He also remained jailed on \$25,000 bond.

Chance Lee Brown, 39, of Big Sandy, theft of property of the value of \$2,500 or more but less than \$30,000 on Feb. 22. He was being held in jail without bond on a motion to revoke his probation on another offense.

Torre Demond Wilson, 37, of Gilmer, assault/family violence--occlusion on Feb. 11. He was freed on \$25,000 bond.

Identity of anyone named in the sealed indictments wasn't revealed since no arrest had been made in those cases, said Byrd.

They included, his office said, one each for manslaughter, burglary of a habitation, interference with child custody, a single indictment on five counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child, delivery of controlled substance (methamphetamine), possession of controlled substance (heroin), possession of controlled substance with intent to deliver (cocaine), and evading arrest/detention with previous conviction.

No information was disclosed concerning the no-billed cases.

**APRIL 13th, 2024**  
**8AM-NOON**

*Spring*  
**Gladewater**  
**CITY-WIDE CLEAN UP DAY**

**GLADEWATER RESIDENTS** may deposit bulky, household garbage and items into dumpsters located along E. Commerce St, downtown Gladewater.

**Prohibited items include paint, shingles, batteries, chemicals, refrigeration items and commercial waste. These items will not be accepted.**

The City of Gladewater will provide curbside pick-up for any disabled and senior citizens, as available.  
To schedule this complimentary service please call:  
Gladewater Public Works - 903-845-2196  
no later than 12 noon on Friday, April 12th.

Your help is needed to keep our community clean. Volunteers will be meeting at the Ken Bennett Pavilion on E Pacific at 8 AM where they will be dispersed to help in parks and neighborhoods in Gladewater. Trash bags will be provided.



# Sports Roundup

By Tyler Sutton

As the calendar flips to April, the district races have heated up for the local baseball and softball teams.

Gladewater baseball opened up their week with the home portion of their two game district series with New Diana on Tuesday and fell 12-4.

Then on Thursday the Bears made the trip to out 6 New Diana for the second game of the series and fell in a pitchers duel 3-0. Luke Brown had a double and struck out six batters while walking three in 6 innings in the loss. Gladewater is now 9-8 on the season and 1-2 in district play.

The Bears will have another home and home district series this week as they host Daingerfield on Tuesday then travel to Daingerfield on Friday.

The Lady Bears softball team was also in action twice this week as they continued their district schedule as they hosted Sabine and fell to them 8-2.

Karlee Moses doubled, singled and drove in both runs for Gladewater and Alayah Gordon went the distance with four strikeouts and one walk.

Then on Thursday, the Lady Bears made the short trip to rival White Oak and were shutout by the LadyNecks 14-0. KK Pugliese struck out two and walked one on the mound for Gladewater.

The Lady Bears are now 5-12 on the campaign and 0-5 in district play.

Gladewater will now open the second half of district play on Tuesday as they host New Diana followed by hosting Hughes Springs on Friday.

Moving over to White Oak, the RoughNecks baseball team was in action this Easter week as they

faced Hughes Springs in a home and home district series where they won both games.

On Tuesday White Oak shut out the Mustangs 5-0. Colin Wheat and Jaxsen Ludlow combined for a two hit shutout. Wheat went 4 innings with six strikeouts and Ludlow finished it up with 2.2 innings with three strikeouts. Jordy Robinson drove in a run with a double and Davis Toliver added a run scoring single.

Then the series moved to Hughes Springs on Thursday and saw the RoughNecks pick up the win in a back and forth duel on a walk off walk in extra innings 9-8. Nolan Fritsche had 3 walks including the game winner.

Toliver singled twice and drove in three runs, Brady Greenwood had a double and a single. The RoughNecks now sit at 10-7 on the season and 3-0 in district play.

White Oak will be back in action on Tuesday when they open a home and home series with Sabine by hosting the Cardinals. Then make the return trip to Sabine on Friday.

The LadyNecks softball team also continued district play this week when they made the trip to Daingerfield on Tuesday and came away with a 6-2 victory.

Larkin Dainels had another amazing night on the mound with 20 strikeouts and just one walk in 7 full innings.

Addison McClanahan had a two run homerun. Madi Baker also drove in 2 runs with a double and Kinnadie Rayson also drove in two.

On Thursday White Oak hosted rival Gladewater and shutout the Lady Bears 14-0. Daniels tossed another no hitter with 10 strikeouts and just 1 walk

in the 5 inning game. McClanahan homered and drove in three runs and Jadyin Marshall added a triple, two singles and drove in four runs.

White Oak is now 20-7 on the season and 5-0 in district play. The LadyNecks will begin the second half of their district schedule on Tuesday when they host Sabine before traveling to New Diana on Friday.

The Union Grove Lions Baseball team continued to fight for position in the district race as they traveled to Leverette's Chapel and came away with a 11-1 victory.

The Lions followed that up with a marathon 11 inning victory on Thursday night over Carlisle 4-3. Jax Daniels, Jacob Griffin and Wrigley Roberts all had runs driven in for Union Grove. Judson George also had a 3 hit night.

The Lions are now 9-5 on the season and 5-4 in district play. They will host Union Hill on Tuesday before traveling to Beckville on Friday.

The Lady Lions softball team continued their district season as well as they knocked off New Summerfield on the road on Tuesday for their first district win of the season before falling in a slugfest to Ore City on Thursday 20-10.

Izzy Gregg homered, singled and drove in three runs in the loss. Khaki Parr also hit a homerun. Hailey Griffin, Gracelyn Head, Jaycie Mullins and Marris Wick all had hits for the Lady Lions.

Union Grove is now 3-15 on the season and 1-5 in district play.

Union Grove will be back on the diamond on Tuesday when they host Big Sandy before hitting the road on Friday to take on Overton.



## REGIONAL BOUND

Union Grove Boys placed 2nd with a score of 341 behind winner Ore City Boys with 338! Union Grove Girls placed 2nd with 446 behind winner Harleton with 427. Both Teams will advance to the Regional Tournament. Sydney Pritchett was the overall Invidual District Champion with a score of 98. Kayden Day was the overall District Champion with a score of 74. Jax Daniels placed 4th individually with 80.



## "Coot's Corner"

By Coot Putley

### Surprise Observation ...

These are not observations that are written to surprise you; they are observations sent from Surprise, Arizona, the Spring Training home of your Texas Rangers. The complex is used year round for practices and instruction for rookies and players not yet assigned to a minor league team, but from mid-February to the end of March the players are all gathered together.

The 2023 World Champions have a unique roster with two rookies who will be in this year's opening day lineup. Evan Carter only had 62 major league at bats last year, so he is still classified as a rookie along with super prospect Wyatt Langford. I will have more to say about them when I give you an opening day appraisal another day. Despite these two already being in Arlington, the system is still loaded with good young players. Several performed well enough in Surprise to give Ranger fans reason to be excited about their future.

The rookie who has gotten the most attention is Sebas-

tian Walcott, an 18-year-old from the Bahamas. He is already 6'4" and 190 pounds, but he is still filling out his frame. Some scouts predict that Walcott might move from shortstop to another position as he gets bigger. He combines speed and power and looks very comfortable on a major league field.

Another prospect who impressed me was Cam Cauley from Mont Belvieu, Texas. He is an excellent middle infielder who batted .368 in spring games. Ranger fans have been waiting for pitcher Jack Leiter to excel since he was drafted number one in 2021. The son of longtime major league pitcher Al Leiter, he has obvious talent but has struggled some with his control in the minors. He made some changes in mechanics late last year and looked very good in Surprise. He is close to pitching in Arlington, perhaps as soon as this year.

There were several other pitchers who impressed me. Marc Church might be on the opening day roster; if not, he will almost certainly appear

with the Rangers sometime this season. Another likely candidate to join the major league team this year is lefty, Antoine Kelly. Two lower level pitchers who appear to be a good bet to move up through the system are Emiliano Teodo and Jose Corniell.

Three position players who looked good were Blaine Crim, Dustin Harris and former Baylor Bear Davis Wendzel. On many teams their potential and spring performance might get them on the big league roster, but there is not currently room on the deep Texas roster. You never know what might give them an opportunity. They might get called up when an injury occurs or they might be a valuable trade piece.

After seeing these players perform in Surprise, there are good reasons to be optimistic. As they work their way toward a spot in Arlington, Ranger fans can expect pennant contenders for years to come.

That's one man's opinion – what's yours?

## Gladewater council reluctant to open Pandora's Container

Continued from Page 1

Hawkins confirmed, asking if a cease-and-desist order could halt further development for now.

"A lot of what makes it beautiful out there is the variety of homes," council member Kevin Clark said, agreeing an edit to existing the existing code to ban 'container-like dwelling places' and other 'pre-fab' structures would suffice. "Obviously, we've dealt with this before as a council. I thought we'd put it to bed, but apparently we have not.

"I think it would also be prudent that we address the initial problem that was brought to us and we serve notice to the developer that intends to build out there that we absolutely intend to stop them... Serve the notice now. Based on the two reports of people that live there, we're a day late and a dollar short."

Two East Texas cities have already banned container homes, according to City Clerk Judy Von Houten: "It's done in the definitions primarily."

The debate soon encompassed container homes, mobile homes, manufactured homes and, briefly, modular homes, which fall into another category altogether.

Building Inspector Al Harrison cautioned the council about word choice in any amendment to the

code. Legally, a 'mobile home' is just a 'manufactured home' built prior to 1972.

"We have the designation for manufactured homes, and we do have them prohibited in single-family (residential zoning)," he said. "So, you couldn't just use the word 'mobile homes,' you have to include 'manufactured homes' and extend from there to include container-style buildings."

Mayor Scott Owens was unwilling to advance the issue without taking time to draft a change and ponder on it.

"I want to the see the whole ordinance written out and make sure staff has time to review it and we have time to look it over before I vote to approve it," he said. "I don't want to rush through that."

Council member Brandy Flanagan was hesitant to put it off.

"The ordinance can easily be amended to fix this situation and go ahead and include in our city limits," she said.

"Literally, we are doing nothing," Sorrells insisted. "Why's it on the agenda?"

William Blackmon, a Live Oak resident, reminded the council a blanket ban on all mobile, manufactured and modular buildings inside the city limits would affect Gladewater ISD standalone buildings as well.

"My assumption is that it's

a dwelling," Sorrells replied. "We need to be clear what they looks like."

As it relates to building codes, Harrison said, every opening, every alteration, every inch of the home has to be touched by a structural engineer for full compliance.

"They won't pass anyways," Clark suggested. "There's no way a container can pass."

Importantly, Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons noted, the lake properties are owned by the city and leased to residents: "You can't build on it without approval."

Ultimately, Flanagan made a motion to direct city staff to update the ordinance for consideration at the council's next meeting. Reading from her handwritten notes, she suggested "that we take out the language of modular home, that we expand the definition to include mobile homes, manufactured homes, containers and similar such structures that apply to residential dwellings inside the city limits and around the lake except for mobile home parks."

Flanagan's motion was seconded by Sorrells and unanimously approved.

"This is what it's supposed to be," Owens told the audience after things quieted down. "We're supposed to argue about stuff up here. We're not supposed to agree about everything."

## Woman sentenced to 30 years

By Phillip Williams

A woman originally charged as a co-defendant in a 2018 capital murder case was sentenced to 30 years in prison last week after pleading guilty to a reduced charge of aggravated kidnapping related to the slaying, said Upshur County District Attorney Billy Byrd.

Lindsey Jo McFadden, 35, of Longview, was sentenced by 115th District Judge Dean Fowler on a plea bargain in Gilmer March 27, Byrd said.

McFadden's co-defendant, Carlton Lamar Grant, was convicted of the capital murder of Rachel Ann Rhoads in October and sentenced to life without parole. McFadden was the state's key witness against Grant, who is appealing his conviction, and testified she had been promised nothing in exchange for her testimony.

McFadden must serve at least half the 30-year term, but will receive credit on her sentence for the six years she has been in jail since her arrest, Byrd said.

McFadden testified Rhoads was giving her and Grant a ride in the Longview area of Gregg County on March 29, 2018 when Grant, in the back seat, began choking Rhoads with a wire, pulled her into the back seat, struck her twice, and put a zip tie around her neck.

According to McFadden, the body was eventually dumped in Upshur County near Diana (although the death is believed to have occurred in Gregg County). Evidence indicated that McFadden, Grant's onetime

girl friend, and he went in Rhoads' car to the Bedford area, where they were arrested April 5, 2018 on unrelated charges.

"The evidence really showed that Carlton Grant killed Rachel" and that McFadden wasn't involved in her initial kidnapping, but was in keeping her hostage, Byrd said Tuesday.

Without her testimony the victim was kidnapped, Grant might have only been convicted of plain murder rather than capital murder, which would have allowed him to possibly be paroled someday, Byrd said.

He said the fact she gave a statement to authorities in Bedford, and testified at Grant's trial, were factors in reducing the charge against her, but that she hadn't been promised anything at the time of that trial.

Byrd also said McFadden had bruises all over her and a black eye from Grant beating her while "she was being pumped full of methamphetamine" by him.

While McFadden is believed to have had the chance to seek help for Rhoads (whose body was reportedly put in the victim's trunk), the co-defendant apparently didn't call out of fear of Grant, the prosecutor added.

Rhoads' family agreed to the plea bargain, and during victim impact statements at sentencing, the woman's mother and brother told McFadden they had forgiven her, Byrd added. Longview attorney Jason Kassel represented her.

**Automotive Restoration Systems Inc.**  
 903-295-8883  
 automotiverestorationsystems.com

**205 W US Highway 80  
 White Oak  
 (903) 295-8883**  
 Monday-Friday  
 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 Saturday  
 8 a.m.-noon  
 Thomas Cash, Owner

### TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

1 Texas amateur radio operator (2 wds.)

5 TXism: "a sheep in wolfs clothes"

6 this Texas Speaker was a great center fielder in early 20th century

7 seat of Jackson County

8 TXism: "that \_\_\_ won't drill" (differ)

9 who TX Jeannie C. Riley "socked it to"

12 TX Tommy Lee Jones won one for "The Fugitive"

17 in Andrews County on U.S. 385

19 TXism: "couldn't fight his way out of \_\_\_ bag"

21 Zagreb is this country's capital

22 the \_\_\_ Bend Reservoir is near Hemphill

23 TX Vernon Dalhart tune: "Can't \_\_\_ Me Callin' Caroline?"

28 TX Orbison's "\_\_\_ Woman Blues"

29 car washing aids

30 \_\_\_ soil is hard to farm

31 how a Texan says "can't"?

35 historical "Texas Gazette" was published by this Cotten (init.)

36 eastern Houston suburb

42 TXism: "bellered \_\_\_ \_\_\_ bull"

44 TXism: "no flies \_\_\_ \_\_\_" (pretty)

46 TXism: "he's a frisky fiddler"

48 rich layer cake

49 TX George W. to George H.W.

50 close a person's eyes

51 TXism: "she's \_\_\_ best when her lips ain't moving"

52 TXism: "scarce \_\_\_ \_\_\_ wildcatter with a bank balance"

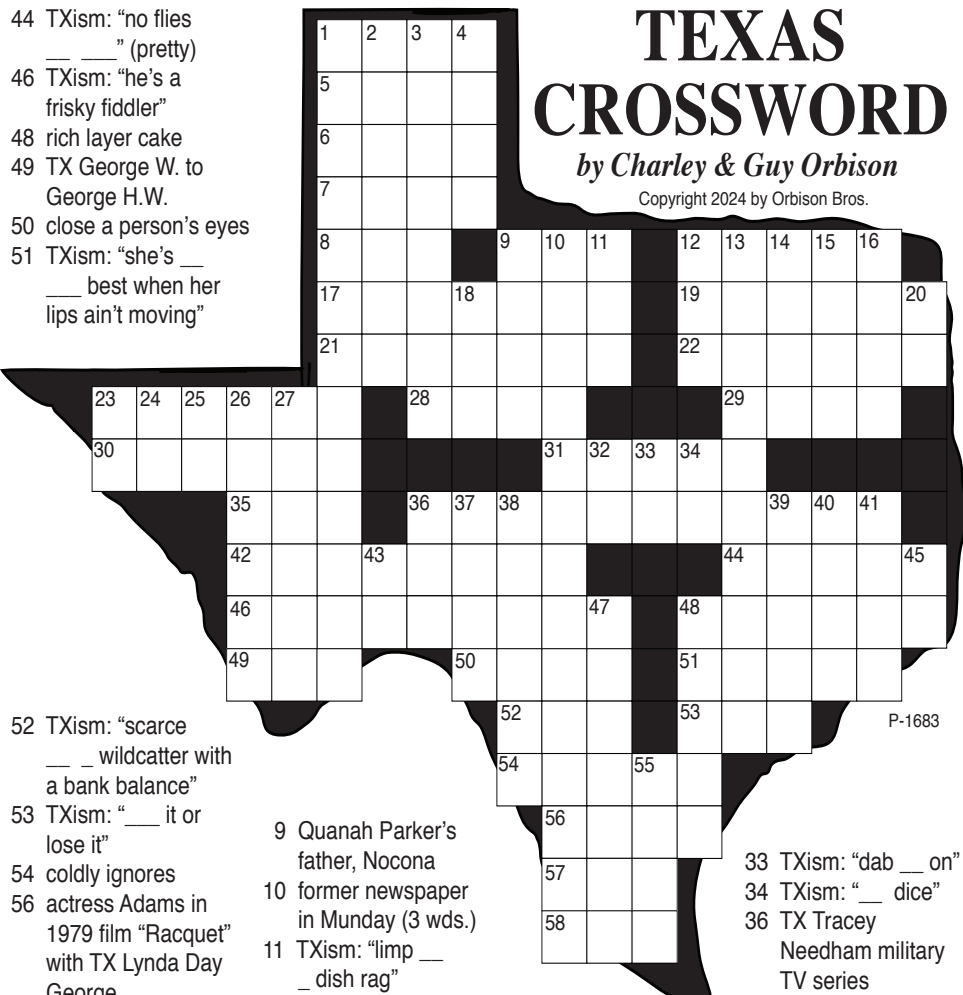
53 TXism: "\_\_\_ it or lose it"

54 coldly ignores

56 actress Adams in 1979 film "Racquet" with TX Lynda Day George

57 TXism: "head rug"

58 dejected



9 Quannah Parker's father, Nocona

10 former newspaper in Munday (3 wds.)

11 TXism: "limp \_\_\_ dish rag"

12 horse morsel

13 Texas-based Hagggar products, e.g. (2 wds.)

14 TXism: "\_\_\_boose" (jail)

15 TXism: "got knocked down \_\_\_ or two"

16 Cincinnati MLB team

18 "Petticoat Junction" actress, TX Meredith Mac \_\_\_

20 singer in 28-across (init.)

23 TXism: "dance with who brung \_\_\_"

24 "good \_\_\_ boy"

25 big Brahman ranch in south Texas

26 TX Don Henley's rock group

27 Snyder has an \_\_\_ buffalo statue

32 TXism: "he's \_\_\_ ornery old cuss"

33 TXism: "dab \_\_\_ on"

34 TXism: "\_\_\_ dice"

36 TX Tracey Needham military TV series

37 king toppers in poker

38 TXism: "\_\_\_ \_\_\_ a bug's ear"

39 TX Autry's "Back \_\_\_ Saddle Again"

40 TXism: "suits me to a fare-\_\_\_-well"

41 2024, e.g.

43 TXism: "let ' \_\_\_ rip!"

45 actor Ulrich (init.)

47 \_\_\_ Alta Taylor Johnson (Lady Bird)

48 in Milam County on U.S. 79/190

55 Dallas (2 wds.)

See Answers On This Page

## OBITUARY

### WALTER J. BARONAS JR

Walter J. Baronas Jr of Winona formerly of Dorchester, MA passed peacefully on March 24, 2024 surrounded by family.



He was a veteran of the US Navy serving on the USS Miller (DD-535). He was a long-term OTR truck driver and retired from Gladewater ISD.

He is survived by his children Gene Spiller (D'Ann), Marguerite Dembro (Ritchie), Maureen Corbett, Carole Anne Baronas, LaDonna Narons (Rusty), Walter J Baronas III "Sonny" (Julie), Anne Marie Brewer (Paul), Rhonda Hensley, Dorothea Nichols (Danny), R.J Baronas (Nikki), 17

grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and his 2 sisters Linda Andrus (NY) & Susan Overton (MA) along with numerous nieces & nephews.

He is predeceased in death by his parents Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Baronas SR, son David Baronas, grandson Joseph Madden, sister Regena & life partner Barbara McAdams.

Special thanks to John O'Brien & Danisha with Enhabit Hospice team.

## Spring clean up time set for April 13th

Roll up your sleeves and roll out your tires – Gladewater's annual citywide Spring 2024 clean-up is a month out.

Along with trash pickup, the April 13 event will once again include tire collection funded in part by a \$2,500 Solid Waste Reduction Grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality through East Texas Council of Governments.

Volunteers are appreciated and most definitely needed for the community cleanup, spearheaded by Gladewater City Hall and set for 8 a.m. to noon the second Saturday in April. "Just show up," says Al Harrison, Gladewater's Building Official and interim Public Works Director. "Sometimes some of the school groups or Scouts will do special project, or the Beautification Committee will get a group together to do something."

Advance sign-ups aren't necessary – volunteers should gather at the Ken Bennett Pavilion on East Pacific Avenue by 7:45 a.m. April 13 so they can be dispersed throughout the community's neighborhoods and parks.

"Bring your gloves and we will provide the garbage bags," City Hall announced.

As the pick-up's underway, grant funds cover the cost of trailers for the annual tire collection while the city covers its employees' labor. This year, there will be multiple, smaller trailers instead of a single, large collector for residents' old rubber, Harrison said.

"They can just bring 'em," he added. "It's mainly residential tires, not commercial. Either we'll have someone loading them up for them, or they can drop them off, and we'll take care of it."

The City of Gladewater will also be providing curbside Spring cleaning trash pick-up for disabled individuals and senior citizens who schedule collection in advance. Anyone interested and qualifying should call City Hall's Water Utility Billing Department at 903-845-2196 before 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 11.

Notably, the city cannot accept paint, shingles, batteries, refrigeration items, chemicals or commercial waste during the clean-up.

## Texas job Ggrowth surged in February

AUSTIN - The Texas labor market again achieved new record-high levels for jobs, Texans employed, and the civilian labor force following over-the-month increases in February. Texas' seasonally adjusted job count increased by 49,800 over the month of February to reach 14,103,700 jobs. This reflects job growth in 44 of the last 46 months and marks the largest total nonfarm monthly job gain since January 2023.

Texas' total nonfarm employment grew by 291,400 jobs from February 2023 to February 2024, amounting to a 2.1 percent annual growth rate and outpacing the U.S. growth rate by 0.3 percentage points. In addition, Texas led the nation in seasonally adjusted over-the-month and over-the-year increases in total nonfarm employment.

The Texas seasonally adjusted civilian labor force grew over the month by 25,800 people to reach 15,169,200 in February. This included the addition of 19,800 employed Texans over the month. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate registered at 3.9 percent for the ninth consecutive month while showing a drop from the February 2023 rate of 4.0 percent.

"The Texas workforce continues to show comprehensive growth, with jobs added across almost all major industries over the month," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "TWC continues our efforts to offer funding and support for both employers and job seekers."

Ten of the 11 major industries added jobs over the month in February. The most significant growth occurred in Professional and Business Services with 11,900 jobs added.

## Upshur buys new jury summoning software

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County Commissioners Court last Thursday approved purchasing and implementing software from Tyler Technologies aimed at improving the process of summoning potential jurors.

The Enterprise Jury Manager Software will cost \$45,065 for its original implementation, \$17,350 for annual maintenance, and \$9,520 for mailing post cards rather than letters while also checking addresses, County Auditor Connie Williams told the court.

Williams said input from District Attorney Billy Byrd, District Clerk Nicole Hernandez, and County Clerk Terri Ross showed the current jury managing software "did not adequately serve them."

The new web-based system, said Williams, is "awesome." It lets prospective jurors fill out questionnaires online if they wish, and allows "customized" questionnaires which can be filled out on cell phones, she noted.

The new software also maintains histories on jurors, and allows sending text messages to potential jurors when court has been canceled or delayed, Williams added.

Byrd told commissioners the new system would be good for prosecutors and defendants.

A court has been able to select only one jury when two were needed "because the computer (in the current system) has held us hostage," he said. He also said a customized questionnaire would be needed for a forthcoming capital murder case.

As for the address checks, Byrd said, "you'd be surprised"

how many of those summoned for jury duty no longer reside in Upshur County, and if one of them gets on a jury which convicts a defendant, that is "automatic error" (meaning an appeals court could reverse the conviction.)

He also said he currently doesn't receive questionnaires before speaking to jury panelists.

Hernandez, whose office summons prospective jurors for the 115th District Court, expressed agreement with Williams and Byrd and complained the current system is "difficult to work with."

As for the \$9,000 for sending post cards and address checking, she said the county was already spending that on the current setup, and that attorneys sometimes don't receive the filled-out questionnaires until after they finish verbally questioning potential jurors.

Responding to a question from Precinct 4 Commissioner Jay W. Miller, Byrd then said that if potential jurors don't fill out questionnaires online under the new process, they must do so upon arriving in court.

Ross echoed Williams' sentiment that the new system is "awesome."

In other business last week, the court heard a report from County Librarian Cynthia King on the state of the library in which she said it had received an award from the governor's office, and that it is "no longer on maintenance of effort" status, "which was like probation" for lack of local funding.

She said there is no reason the facility shouldn't receive its accreditation. It had been on the maintenance of effort status since 2013, she noted.

## Man killed during high-speed chase

By Phillip Williams

A man who was fleeing Gregg County Sheriff's Department vehicles in a high-speed chase was killed early Tuesday of last week in a three-vehicle crash at a south Upshur County intersection, said Gregg Chief Deputy Craig Harrington.

Mario Tywan Marton, 47, was pronounced dead at the scene of the intersection of Texas 300 and FM 726 in the East Mountain area, authorities said.

Harrington gave this account of events, some verbally and some on his office's official Facebook page:

On March 21, Gregg County sheriff's investigators, probing a domestic stalking, identified Marton as a suspect. They obtained an arrest warrant on him for burglary of habitation with the intent to commit other felony.

About 7 a.m. March 26, patrol division deputies observed someone they believed was Marton in a small Nissan auto, and made a traffic stop on a loop in Glade-water. "The suspect then fled at a high rate of speed into Upshur County on Hwy. 271" and two Gregg SO vehicles pursued.

Upshur sheriff's deputies attempted to deploy tire deflating devices (spikes), but were unsuccessful because Marton turned around upon spotting the officers. He continued east on 726, entered the intersection with 300, and "struck a Ford super-duty pickup" on the passenger side about 7:30 a.m., causing minor injuries to its passengers.

That truck was towing a trailer, which was struck by

another Ford pickup. (No other injuries were reported.) Harrington said none of the injured were taken to a hospital.

(The intersection involved has been the site of several fatal accidents before and after a red light which is now there was installed.)

Upshur County Sheriff Larry Webb told The Mirror the Texas Department of Public Safety was investigating the incident.

The newspaper also learned that Upshur County Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Lyle Potter pronounced the suspect dead at the scene, and that the body was taken to McWhorter Funeral Home outside Gilmer. Harrington's report didn't list where Marton resided.


A TV website quoted Gregg County Chief Deputy Craig Harrington as saying deputies were trying to serve a warrant on an unidentified person in the Gladewater area "when the suspect fled," triggering the pursuit.

The report quoted Harrington as saying the chase ended about 7:30 p.m. in the crash at the intersection of Texas 300 and FM 726 in the East Mountain area. That intersection has been the site of several fatal accidents both before and after a red light was erected.

The fleeing driver was pronounced dead at the scene, but no information on his/her identity was shown in the KLTV report.

The *Mirror* unsuccessfully tried twice to reach Harrington for comment, but received no callback by the newspaper's deadline.

S-1683



**Last Puzzle  
Solution**



Gladewater ISD Transportation Director Paul Allen presents the PCAT District Bus Driver of the Year Award to Darla Allen March 25 after she was selected for the honor by the district's insurance company, Property Casualty Alliance of Texas. "This bus driver, she wears many hats in the district," Paul Allen said. "She probably wears more than any of us. She still drives a bus, morning and afternoon."

Photo by James Draper

# TAP payout closer but still pending for teachers at Gladewater ISD

Gladewater ISD's inching closer to a belated payout to teachers through the TAP System, but there's still no set date for when the allocations of Department of Education funding will be dispersed.

Formerly the Teacher Advancement Program and now known just by its acronym, TAP is funded by a grant written by the National Institute of Excellence for Teaching and tied to a district's accountability scores.

NIET representatives have been on campus this week for a boots on the ground, annual TAP school review to see how GISD has implemented the program.

According to GISD Superintendent Dr. Sedric Clark, "The TAP system is an instructional program. As a part of it, teachers get payouts based on their evaluations of student achievement," he said. Fully-funded with grant dollars, payout to teachers has been pending for months: "They should have gotten it in September but haven't gotten it yet. That situation remains for us. As it's written in the grant, TAP payout is tied to school accountability scores. Because there's an injunction against the state to not release school accountability scores, we were held up."

With outside factors delaying the payout, Clark says

he'll never again put a specific date to the distribution of the funds. That said, there's now some light showing at the end of the tunnel.

"Hopefully, really, really soon it will happen," he added. "NEIT wrote the grant, and they've been in negotiation with the Department of Education who gave the grant."

They've reached a resolution now, and the payout for last year will happen," but no date's been announced.

"We're still in the process of getting it," Clark noted this week. "We haven't even given the letters out. Now we're just waiting on the payout information now."

As it stands right now, a subsequent payout 'should' happen in September 2024, but the timing there also remains to be seen. Notably, TAP is distinct from the Teacher Incentive Allotment, a Texas program.

As far as TIA is concerned, "For the first year, our designations were approved, and we have 16 teachers that will be receiving that this year for last year," Clark said. "They get that based on their designation. They get an amount for five years added to that check. It depends on the student makeup of your school, how many students are low socioeconomic at your school."

# White Oak targets \$300,000 grant to fund community 'roadmap'

By James Draper

"A bucket of money" has been set aside for Texas communities touched by hurricane rain events, and City of White Oak leaders hope a splash could cover the cost of a new comprehensive plan for the community.

According to GrantWorks' John McElfish, "There's a very unique opportunity available to a lot of cities and counties in my region," he told council members last month.

The state's General Land Office is administering recovery funds tied to rain events in 2015, 2016 and, significantly, from Hurricane Harvey in 2017, McElfish said.

"Most of our counties in our region were declared a disaster area because of the amounts of rain we received," usually unheard of this far north. "So, we want to take advantage of that."

"As far as I know the City of White Oak has never had a 'Comprehensive Infrastructure Plan.' It'll help you spend your money down the road on infrastructure."

According to McElfish, full-scale mapping of the entire city can encompass everything from the water and wastewater systems to roads, gas lines, drainage, population density and more - and all of the 'roadmap' costs, approximately \$300,000, can be funded through a GLO grant.

"The electronic mapping is very important because your public works people can use it. All the tools that are in the Comprehensive Infrastructure Plan will be good and useful for 10 years," he said. "The best thing about it is it will cost the city no money," beyond two legal notices in the newspaper seeking Requests for Proposals from grant administration companies like GrantWorks.

"We'd like to see you get the money whether you choose us to administrate it or not. We just build the grant," compensated from the grant funds at a flat rate for engineering and planning costs.

The Resilient Communities Program grant is non-com-

petitive, McElfish noted, and there's about \$100 million available until it's all gone. Focused on communities with populations less than 10,000, he's working with about 30 cities through the East Texas and Ark-La-Tex Councils of Government.

"Very few communities across the country are taking advantage of it because they don't understand it," he said, anticipating awards in 2025. "They could replenish it if enough cities and counties apply. The bipartisan infrastructure law is a lot of money. At \$300,000, they can do a lot of these."

Funds leftover after the CIP work is completed could be put to infrastructure needs, McElfish said.

"We're not eligible for lots of grants because of our median household income," White Oak council member Dana Mizell noted, glad for the opportunity to apply.

Ultimately, council member Joe Stephen's motion to approve the RFP notices (and eventually apply for the grant) was unanimously-approved.

"That sounds like a good deal," Mayor Kyle Kutch concluded. "An offer of free money."



Kyla Lincoln (left) and Calice Henderson sign letters of intent in a special ceremony at Gladewater High School Wednesday afternoon. Lincoln is heading to Southern Arkansas University while Henderson will continue her basketball career at Richland College in Dallas.

Photo by James Draper

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## **NOTICE OF CITY SPECIAL ELECTION**

To the registered voters of Gladewater, Texas: Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on May 4, 2024, for voting in a special election on the following charter amendments to the City of Gladewater Charter:

### **Amendment A:**

Should the Preamble of the Gladewater City Charter be amended to provide for gender neutral interpretation of the language?

Proposed language:

In this document any reference by noun or pronoun of either male or female gender is herein understood to be inclusive of both male and female.

### **Amendment B:**

Should Section 24 of the Gladewater City Charter, THE MAYOR AND THE MAYOR PRO TEMPORE, be amended to provide for meeting times in accordance with State Law?

Proposed language:

The City Council shall meet at the City Hall at the first meeting next following the regular City election, which will be scheduled in compliance with State Law, and thereof shall choose one of its members as Mayor Pro Tempore, for a term of one year. In the absence or inability of the Mayor, the Mayor Pro Tempore shall act in his/her place.

### **Amendment C:**

Should Section 33 of the Gladewater City Charter, RECALL OF MAYOR AND COUNCILMEN, be amended to divide the Section into subsections and to provide for forfeiture of office for excessive absences?

Proposed language:

- a) Any member or all members of the Council (including the Mayor) may be recalled and removed from office by the electors qualified to vote for a successor of such incumbent by the following procedure:
  - i. A petition signed by qualified voters entitled to vote for a successor to such member sought to be removed equal in number to 35% of the entire number of persons entitled to vote in said city demanding the recall of the Mayor or any Councilman, shall be filed with the City Clerk. Such petition shall contain a general statement of the ground for which removal is sought. The signatures to the petition need not all be appended to one paper, but each signer shall add his/her signature, his/her place of residence, giving the street and number. One of the signers to each paper shall make oath before an officer competent to administer oaths that each signature is that of the person whose name its purports to be. Within ten (10) days from the filing of such petition the City Clerk shall examine the same and from the list of qualified voters, ascertain whether or not the petition is signed by the requisite number of qualified voters, and if requested to do so, the council shall allow him/her extra help for the purpose. He/She shall attach to each petition a certificate showing the results of each examination. If by the City Clerk's certificate the petition is shown to be insufficient, it may be amended within ten (10) days from the date of such certificate by obtaining additional signatures. The City Clerk shall within ten (10) days after such amendment is filed, in case one is filed with him/her, make examination of the said amended petition and if his/her certificate shall show same to be insufficient, shall be returned to the person filing same and shall not be subject to amendment.
  - ii. the petition be found sufficient, the City Clerk shall submit the same to the Council without delay and the Council in the event the Mayor or Councilman named in said petition fails to resign, shall order and fix a date for holding the said election not less than forty (40) or more than fifty (50) days from the date of the City Clerk's certificate; provided that if an election is to be held within the City for any other purpose within sixty (60) days from the date of said certificate, then the said recall election shall be held on the same day. If the Mayor or Councilman in question resigned, no election shall be necessary and the vacancy shall be filled by the Council as in other cases of vacancies unless the number of vacancies shall require an election as in this charter otherwise provided.
- b) The Mayor or any Councilman shall forfeit his/her office if he/she fails to attend three consecutive regular Council meetings or six Council meetings in any calendar year without being excused by the Council.

### **Amendment D:**

Should Section 42 of the Gladewater City Charter, CITY JUDGE, be amended to provide for a two year term and to provide for a city prosecutor?

Proposed Language:

Section 42. CITY JUDGE/CITY PROSECUTOR

There shall be a magistrate of the Municipal Court known as the City Judge who shall be appointed by the Council to serve for a term of two years. He/she may be removed by the Council at any time for incompetency, misconduct, malfeasance, or disability. He/she shall receive such salary as may be fixed by the Council from time to time. The Mayor shall act in the place of the City Judge in the event of a vacancy until a City Judge is appointed by the Council. The Mayor, while acting as City Judge, shall receive no compensation. All costs and fines imposed by the Municipal Court or by any court in cases appealed from judgement of the Municipal Court shall be paid into the City Treasury for the use and benefit of the City.

There shall be a City Prosecutor representing City of Gladewater in Municipal Court of Gladewater. He/She may be removed by the Council at any time for incompetency, misconduct, malfeasance, or disability. He/She shall receive such salary as may be fixed by the Council from time to time.

### **Amendment E:**

Should Section 46 of the Gladewater City Charter, QUALIFICATIONS, be amended to permit the City Manager to live within 30 miles of the City Limits?

Proposed Language:

The City Manager shall be chosen by the Council, on the basis of his/

her executive and administrative qualifications with special reference to his/her actual experience in or his/her knowledge of accepted practice in respect to the duties of his/her office, as hereafter set forth. At the time of his/her appointment, he/she need not be a resident of the city or state but shall, within 6 months of his/her appointment, move his/her residence within 30-miles of the city.

### **Amendment F:**

Should Section 48 of the Gladewater City Charter, POWERS AND DUTIES OF CITY MANAGER, be amended to clarify that the City Manager has day-to-day supervision over the other officers of the City.

Proposed Language:

The City Manager shall be the chief executive officer and the head of the administrative branch of the city government. He/She shall be responsible to the Council for the proper administration of the affairs of the City under his/her supervision and to that end, he/she shall have power to:

- a) Appoint and remove all the heads of each department except the City Treasurer, City Attorney, City Judge, City Prosecutor, and City Clerk. Provided, however, that the City Manager shall have supervisory and disciplinary responsibility and powers over the City Treasurer, the City Attorney, the City Judge, the City Prosecutor, and the City Clerk.

### **Amendment G:**

Should Section 75 of the Gladewater City Charter, entitled PUBLICATION, be amended to comport with State Law?

Proposed Language:

Every ordinance passed by the Council prescribing penalties for the violation thereof may provide for punishment by fine not to exceed the maximum amount provided for in State Law. A full text of all penal ordinances may be published at least twice in the official newspaper of the City, or in lieu thereof, a descriptive caption or title stating in summary the purpose of the ordinance and the penalty for violation thereof, may be published. All other ordinances, except those ordinances specifically required by the provision of this Charter to be published are not required to be published in either the official newspaper of the city or in any other publication, and such ordinances shall become effective as the date stated therein, and in the event no particular date is stated said ordinance shall become effective from and after the passage and adoption by the Council.

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE: Gladewater City Hall, 519 East Broadway, Gladewater, Texas. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Gladewater City Hall, 519 East Broadway, Gladewater, Texas between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. beginning April 22, 2024 through April 30, 2024, and on Friday, April 26, 2024 from 7:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to Judy Van Houten, City of Gladewater, P.O. Box 1725, Gladewater, Texas 75647. Applications for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 23, 2024.

## **AVISO DE CIUDAD ELECCION ESPECIAL**

A los votantes registrados de Gladewater, Texas: aviso es, por la presente, dado que el lugar de votación que se enumeran a continuación estará abierto de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m., el 4 de mayo de 2024, para votar en una elección especial sobre las siguientes enmiendas a los estatutos. a los Estatutos de la Ciudad de Gladewater Elección especial sobre las siguientes propuestas para la Corporación de Desarrollo Económico de Gladewater:

### **Enmienda A:**

¿Debería modificarse el preámbulo de los estatutos de la ciudad de Gladewater poner a disposición una interpretación del lenguaje neutral en cuanto al género?

Texto propuesto:

En este documento, se entiende que cualquier referencia por sustantivo o pronombre de género masculino o femenino incluye tanto a hombre como a mujer.

### **Enmienda B:**

¿Debería modificarse la Sección 24 de los Estatutos de la Ciudad de Gladewater, EL ALCALDE Y EL ALCALDE PRO TEMPORE, para establecer horarios de reuniones de acuerdo con la ley estatal?

Texto propuesto:

El Concejo Municipal se reunirá en el Ayuntamiento en la primera reunión siguiente a la elección regular de la Ciudad, la cual se programará de conformidad con la Ley Estatal, y de la misma elegirá a uno de sus miembros como Alcalde Pro Tempore, por un período de un año. En ausencia o incapacidad del Alcalde, actuará en su lugar el Alcalde Pro Tempore.

### **Enmienda C:**

¿Debería enmendarse la Sección 33 de los Estatutos de la Ciudad de Gladewater, PROCEDIMIENTO PARA LA DEMOCIÓN DEL ALCALDE Y CONCEJALES, para dividir la Sección en subsecciones y prever la pérdida del puesto por ausencias excesivas?

Texto propuesto:

- a) Cualquier miembro o todos los miembros del Concejo Municipal (incluido el Alcalde) pueden ser destituidos y destituidos de su puesto por los electores calificados para votar por un sucesor de dicho titular mediante el siguiente procedimiento:
  - i. Se deberá presentar una petición firmada por votantes calificados con derecho de votar por un sucesor de dicho miembro que se desea destituir en un número igual al 35% del número total de personas con derecho a votar en dicha ciudad exigiendo la destitución del Alcalde o cualquier Concejal, deberá presentarse con la Secretaria de la Ciudad. Dicha petición deberá contener una exposición general del motivo por el cual se solicita la destitución. No es necesario que las firmas de la petición consten todas en un solo papel, pero cada firmante deberá agregar su firma, su lugar de residencia, indicando la calle y el número. Uno de los firmantes de cada documento prestará juramento ante un funcionario competente para administrar juramentos de que cada firma es la de la persona cuyo nombre pretende ser. Dentro de los diez (10) días siguientes a la presentación de dicha petición, el Secretario Municipal la examinará y, de la lista de votantes calificados, determinará si la petición está firmada o no por el número requerido de votantes calificados, y si así se solicita, el Concejo Municipal le permitirá ayuda adicional para tal fin. Adjuntará a cada petición un certificado que muestre los resultados de cada análisis. Si según el certificado del Secretario Municipal se demuestra que la petición es insuficiente, podrá modificarse dentro de los diez (10) días siguientes a la fecha de dicho certificado mediante la obtención de firmas adicionales. El Secretario Municipal deberá, dentro de los diez (10) días





posteriores a la presentación de dicha enmienda, en caso de que se le presente una, examinar dicha petición enmendada y, si su certificado demuestra que la misma es insuficiente, será devuelta a la persona que la presenta y no estará sujeta a modificación.

- ii. Si la petición se considera suficiente, el Secretario Municipal la presentará al Concejo Municipal sin demora y el Concejo Municipal, en caso de que el Alcalde o Concejales nombrado en dicha petición no renuncie, ordenará y fijará una fecha para la celebración de dicha elección no menos de cuarenta (40) o más de cincuenta (50) días a partir de la fecha del certificado del Secretario Municipal; siempre que si se va a llevar a cabo una elección dentro de la Ciudad para cualquier otro propósito dentro de los sesenta (60) días a partir de la fecha de dicho certificado, entonces dicha elección revocatoria se llevará a cabo el mismo día. Si el Alcalde o Concejales en cuestión renunció, no será necesaria ninguna elección y el puesto vacante será cubierta por el Concejo Municipal como en otros casos de vacantes, a menos que el número de vacantes requiera una elección según lo dispuesto en este estatuto.

- b) El Alcalde o cualquier Concejales perderá su puesto si no asiste a tres reuniones regulares consecutivas del Concejo Municipal o a seis reuniones del Concejo Municipal en cualquier año calendario sin ser eximido por el Concejo Municipal.

#### Enmienda D:

¿Debería enmendarse la Sección 42 de los Estatutos de la Ciudad de Gladewater, JUEZ DE LA CIUDAD, un término de dos años y proporcionar un fiscal de la ciudad?

Texto propuesto:

Sección 42. JUEZ DE LA CIUDAD/FISCAL DE LA CIUDAD

Habrán un magistrado del Tribunal Municipal conocido como Juez de la Ciudad que será designado por el Concejo Municipal para desempeñar su puesto por un período de dos años. El Concejo Municipal podrá destituirlo en cualquier momento por incompetencia, mala conducta, o discapacidad. Recibirá el salario que periódicamente fije el Concejo Municipal. El Alcalde actuará en lugar del Juez de la Ciudad en caso de una vacante hasta que el Concejo Municipal nombre un Juez de la Ciudad. El Alcalde, mientras actúe como Juez Municipal, no recibirá compensación alguna. Todos los costos y multas impuestas por el Tribunal Municipal o por cualquier tribunal en casos apelados de sentencia del Tribunal Municipal se pagarán al Tesoro de la Ciudad para uso y beneficio de la Ciudad.

Habrán un Fiscal Municipal que representará a la Ciudad de Gladewater en el Tribunal Municipal de Gladewater. El Concejo Municipal podrá destituirlo en cualquier momento por incompetencia, mala conducta, o discapacidad. Recibirá el salario que periódicamente fije el Concejo Municipal.

#### Enmienda E:

¿Debería modificarse la Sección 46 de los Estatutos de la Ciudad de Gladewater, CALIFICACIONES, para permitir que el Administrador de la Ciudad viva a menos de 30 millas de los límites de la Ciudad?

Texto propuesto:

El Administrador de la Ciudad será elegido por el Concejo Municipal, sobre la base de sus calificaciones ejecutivas y administrativas con especial referencia a su experiencia auténtica o su conocimiento de la práctica aceptada con respecto a los deberes de su puesto, como se establece a continuación. Al momento de su nombramiento, no necesita ser residente de la ciudad o estado pero deberá, dentro de los 6 meses posteriores a su nombramiento, trasladar su residencia a menos de las 30 millas de la ciudad.

#### Enmienda F:

¿Debería modificarse la Sección 48 de los Estatutos de la Ciudad de Gladewater, PODERES Y DEBERES DEL ADMINISTRADOR DE LA CIUDAD, para aclarar que el Administrador de la Ciudad tiene supervisión diaria sobre los demás funcionarios de la Ciudad?

Texto propuesto:

El Administrador de la Ciudad será el director ejecutivo y el jefe de la rama administrativa del gobierno de la ciudad. Será responsable ante el Concejo Municipal de la adecuada administración de los asuntos de la Ciudad bajo su supervisión y para tal fin tendrá facultades para:

- a) Nombrar y destituir a todos los jefes de cada departamento, excepto el Tesorero de la Ciudad, el Fiscal de la Ciudad, el Juez de la Ciudad, el Fiscal de la Ciudad y el Secretario de la Ciudad. Siempre que, sin embargo, el Administrador de la Ciudad tenga responsabilidad y poderes de supervisión y disciplina sobre el Tesorero de la Ciudad, el Abogado de la Ciudad, el Juez de la Ciudad, el Fiscal de la Ciudad y el Secretario de la Ciudad.

#### Enmienda G:

¿Debería modificarse la Sección 75 de los Estatutos de la Ciudad de Gladewater, titulada PUBLICACIÓN, para que se ajuste a la ley estatal?

Texto propuesto:

Toda ordenanza aprobada por el Concejo Municipal que ordena sanciones por su violación podrá estipular una sanción con multa que no exceda el monto máximo proporcionado por la ley estatal. Se podrá publicar un texto completo de todas las ordenanzas penales al menos dos veces en el periódico oficial de la Ciudad, o en su lugar, se podrá publicar un título o título descriptivo que indique en resumen el propósito de la ordenanza y la pena por su violación. Todas las demás ordenanzas, excepto aquellas ordenanzas específicamente requeridas por la disposición de este Estatuto para ser publicadas, no requieren ser publicadas ni en el periódico oficial de la ciudad ni en cualquier otra publicación, y dichas ordenanzas entrarán en vigor en la fecha indicada en el mismo, y en el caso de que no se indique una fecha particular, dicha ordenanza entrará en vigencia a partir de y después de la aprobación y adopción por el Concejo Municipal.

UBICACIÓN del lugar de votación: Gladewater City Hall, 519 East Broadway, Gladewater, Texas. Voto anticipado por comparecencia personal se realizarán cada día de la semana en Gladewater City Hall, 519 East Broadway, Gladewater, Texas entre las horas de 7:30 a.m. a 4:30 p.m. comenzando el 22 de abril de 2024 y el último el 30 de abril de 2024 y el 26 de abril 7:30 a.m. a 2:00 p.m. para el voto por correo se enviará por correo a Judy Van Houten, ciudad de Gladewater, P.O. Box 1725, Gladewater, Texas 75647. Las solicitudes de votación por correo deberán recibirse a más tardar el cierre del negocio el 23 de abril de 2024.



## Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The City of Gladewater will receive seal bids for ARPA - 2024 WTP Upgrades until 10:00 AM on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at Gladewater City Hall, 519 E Broadway Ave., Gladewater, TX 75647. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 10:00 AM on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at Gladewater City Hall, 519 E Broadway Ave., Gladewater, TX 75647.

The project involves the construction of a pre-engineered 35-ft x 50-ft metal building with concrete foundation. The building is to be equipped with one steel roll-up bay door, two pedestrian doors, electrical system, exhaust system, heaters, and plumbing for water and future connections. Other miscellaneous construction items include site grading, sodding, and driveway installation. The project includes turn-key construction in which the Contractor will provide design and construction of the foundation base, concrete foundation, and structural for storage building.

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are on file at SPI, 320 S. Broadway Ave, Suite 200, Tyler, TX 75702, and Gladewater City Hall, 519 E Broadway Ave, Gladewater, TX 75647.

Copies of the Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained for a non-refundable deposit of \$30 with Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. for each set of documents obtained. Plans can also be found online at [www.civcastusa.com](http://www.civcastusa.com).

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid [for those contracts that exceed \$100,000]. A certified check or bank draft payable to the City of Gladewater or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Department of Labor and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin. Adherence to the grant recipient's Section 3 Policy is required for contracts and subcontracts in excess of \$100,000.00.

The City of Gladewater reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by the City of Gladewater for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

City of Gladewater Scott E. Owens Mayor 3/28/24 & 4/4/24

All contractors/subcontractors whose System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration is not active or that are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

## SHOP LOCAL ... SHOP LOCAL



## PROPERTY FOR SALE

The City of Gladewater is accepting sealed bids on property located in Gladewater, Upshur County, Texas, and described as LOT 11, BLK 7 GLADEVIEW ADDN A177 (A8), more commonly known as 2810 Hendricks Street, Upshur County Appraisal District Property ID #15616.

**Minimum bid required –\$2,100.00.**

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly and plainly marked "Bid – LOT 11, BLK 7 GLADEVIEW ADDN A177 (A8)" and must be physically received and filed in the office of the City Clerk no later than 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 19, 2024, when they will be publicly opened and read. All bids received after the prescribed opening time, regardless of the mode of delivery, shall be returned unopened. The Gladewater City Council will formally award the bid on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

The City of Gladewater reserves the right to accept such bids as it shall deem most advantageous to the City and reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or portions thereof, and to waive all formalities.

No representations, written or oral, are made by the City of Gladewater. The property is being sold "as-is" with no warranties of any kind, including no warranty of title.

Terms of Sale and Bid Sheet may be obtained from and mailed or delivered to:

Judy Van Houten, City Clerk  
City of Gladewater  
519 E. Broadway  
Gladewater, Texas 75647

All inquiries should be directed to City Manager Charlie Smith at 903-845-2196.

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CITY OF WHITE OAK NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC HEARING The White Oak Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 906 S. White Oak Rd.

(Longview, TX) The Longview Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has scheduled a Policy Board meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in the Longview City Council Chambers located in the Jo Ann Metcalf Municipal Building, 300 W. Cotton Street, Longview, TX 75601

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CITY OF GLADEWATER NOTICE OF CITY GENERAL ELECTION To the registered voters of Gladewater, Texas: Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on May 4, 2024, for voting in a general election to elect four Council members.

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# GLADEWATER HONOR ROLLS - TERM 3

## Gladewater Primary 3rd Nine Weeks First Grade A Honor Roll

Leonardo Aguilar, Cayson Akin, Braydon Baker, Ian Baxter, Oliver Black, Dylan Carillo-Soto, Brylee Carroll, Blessyn Craig, Kayla Criss, Britain Daniels, Edward Diaz Hernandez, Cameron Dickinson, Jayden Dudley, Avery Gregory, A'Laysia Hawley, Alizabeth Henson, Emilee Kelly, Mason Kitchings, Celia Lancaster, Avery Lee, Ireland Lennon, Halle Louvier, Ada Martinez, Alaina Moore, Nathan Otamendi, Ianis Pantelica, Brooklynn Parker, Hollie Pettiette, Kinley Poland, Orson Reynolds, Elle Searle, Judson Selman, Bailyn Simmons, Adalynn Sipes, Joshua Smith, Cora Solley, Samuel Stafford, Madiyn Westbrook, Declan Whitehorn, Xaiden Williams, Brantlee Woods

## First Grade A/B Honor Roll

Xander Allen, Melodi Arias, Carter Brinkley, Kinley Brinkley, Mykiyah Carrington, Omar Castro, Arielle Chambliss, Serenity Chapman, Scarlett Churchill, Blake Creech, Sebastian Dangel, Isaiah Duvall, Paul Flores, Oliver Garza, Gunner Hasler, Logan Hunter, Kaitlynn Johns, Alisa Lacy, Reese Leonard, Khalil Lewis, Khali Lincoln, Logan Morgan, Kingston Murphy, Khloe Robertson, Mylah Roemelin, Liam Scheper, Addison Smith, Fiona Smith, Nevaeh Sparling, Jay Stanley, Dustin Tabor, James Taylor, Natalie Taylor, Avery Thomas, Price Thomas, Sawyer Tyner, Reid Tyson, Bowen Watts, Chance Webb,

## Weldon Elementary 2nd Grade "A" Honor Roll

Ava Aldredge, Natalie Brady, Laykn Cates, Stetson Charchio, Victoria Dominguez, Cayden Fletcher, Koleson Kegarise, Harleigh King, Anastasia Lacy, Payson Lee, Kenneth Leerstang, Trina Mach, Kenleigh Mathews, Camila Maya, Jesus McDaniel, Evelyn Meals, Kimberly Nunez Santibanez, Dylan Reynolds, Tamara Washington

## 2nd Grade "A-B" Honor Roll

Athena Allen, Genevieve Allen, Cassiel Baker, Rey Barnett, Abigail Beaver, Ian Bird, Rhenley Capps, Kynnedi Carter, Hunter Chapman, Evelyn Chavarria, Taylon Chumley, Lydia Cloud, Ellie Coker, Aurora Coronado, Daryl Cravey, Peighton Croley, Ethan Easterling, Harper Garland, Jamarcus Hall, Onna'Leia Haskins, Chris Hernandez, Blakelei Hilton, Nathan Hurlstone, Charlee Jackson, Story Jenkins, Bradyn Johnston, Ellie Jones, Lawrence Leerstang, Aubree Love, Ava Lumpkins, Sarah Meyerson, Kelsen Mills, Addison Mims Mitchell, Charleigh Owen, Camari Price, Annaleigha Rivera, Vivyenne Robinson, Sarah Schlaefer, Natalee Smith, Nikolas Snow, Talon Teel, Keiley Truitt, Rebeca Wright, Suri Zarate

## 3rd Grade "A" Honor Roll

Kinsley Beadles, Brilynn Bell, Karsyn Reese, Wyatt Richardson, Brenden Townsend, Micheal Williams

## 3rd Grade "A-B" Honor Roll

Hunter Allen, Cayson Armstrong, Brylen Bailey, Henry Ballou, Adam Belcher, Cassidy Bellew, Addison Bigler, Ava Blalock, Hunter Bohanon, Madden Boyd, Reagan Bradshaw, Maria Calderon Cardenas, Natalia Chavarria, Rayden Cumbie-Nash, Daleyza DeLeon, Anthony Diaz Hernandez, Aaron Fields, London Fitch, Katlin Godfrey, Kinsleigh Gordon, Hunter Hammer, Miguel Hernandez, Adalynn Hilton, Jaicee Hunnicutt, Aziyah Madden, Karlee Mahoney, Joan Martinez, Elizabeth McCoy, Teagan Medlin, Jayden Mireles, Elijah Mullican, Yahir Patino, Yazayra Perez, Ezra Pittman, Ulises Reyes, Zoe Richardson, Joshua Robinson, Memphis Robinson, Emerie Sapp, Zander Shuler, Maddison Smith, Noah Strickland, Xander Terry, Jordan Trevino, Levi Watson, Presley Watts, Maximo Williams, Ke'Morian Young

## 4th Grade "A" Honor Roll

Leland Bamburg, Easton Baxter, Makayla Causey, Elijah Childress, Carter Ellis, Milana McDowell, James Meals, Holly Perry, Atticus Reynolds, Devin Schill, Izabelle Smith, Parker Webber, Justice Webster

## 4th Grade "A-B" Honor Roll

Landen Anderson, Joaquin Arreguin, Abisai Avila Sandoval, Natalie Bateman, Noah Bateman, Columbianna Benninger, Jaden Bohanon, Addison Borders, Lila Brown, LaShiya Burton, Wesley Carroll, Skylar Davis, Liam Denney, Cameron Dickerson, Franchesca Dominguez, Beau Esselman, Grayson Fletcher, Maleah Floyd, Raegan Glarborg, Jo'Vaughn Good, Jase Halton, Emmaleigh Harris, Delilah Hawley, Jase Hightower, Kacen Jones, Caylan Latham, Daniel Leerstang, Brilee



Lennon, Zoey McAlister, Derrick Nash, Teller Nykamp, Logan Parks, Joseangel Perez, Stefanie Perez, Meryl Reazin, Susana Sanchez, Lucas Scheper, Paisley Simmons, Amelia Thomas, Cesar Trejo, Sylas Tripp, Bayleigh Wady, Jaxson Walker, Brandon Wheeler

## 5th Grade "A" Honor Roll

Nathaniel Belcher, Makenna Lee, Colsen Manley, Victoria Parker, Chevelle Sisson

## 5th Grade "A-B" Honor Roll

Roberto Arreguin, Caleb Bellanger, InaSue Budro, William Carney, Nathan Castro, Makenzy Causey, Gisselle Ceballos, John Chapman, Chandler Cloud, Damien Cox, Talan Crenshaw, Jayden Cuba, Brooklynn Dangel, Litz Delgado, Alejandro Diaz Hernandez, Korbin Evans, Kar'Dae Ford, Angel Gutierrez, Lyla Hammett, Nickolas Hunter, John Jackson, Riley Maness, Rucker Murry, Kinsley Nielsen, Isabella Polanco, Jayden Rojas, Isaias Sanchez-Landaverde, Sadie Shackelford, Aliyah Thomas, Bryson Thomas, Deion Thomas, Landry Townsend, Emily Vaughn, Devon Wade, Brantley Wright, Emily Youngblood-Smith

## GLADEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL

### 6th Grade A Honor Roll

Brady Aldredge, Dexter Dickinson, Jeremiah Duvall, Aleeyah Gallardo, Drake Gilstrap, Brighton Ku, Aniyah Lee, Colt Moore, Carter Peterson, Cullen Reynolds, Bellaluna Trejo Ruiz.

### 6th Grade A/B Honor Roll

Kolbi Alverson, Killian Boyles, Connor Brack, Fernanda Coronado, Lydia Crane, Adaliyah Cuba, Jayden Dandoy, Rylee Farley, Kendon Gage, Emma Harroff, Heath Hightower, Ava LaForest, Mariyah LeBlanc, June Macklin, Bella Mason, Mason Matthews, Elizabeth Mendez, Brentlee Morris, Hannah Nash, Ariyana Quezada, Emma Vickers, Isaac Villalpando, Spencer Walbridge, Gregory Watkins, Garrett Watson, Courtney White, Bradley Wilson, Annajancy Xol.

### 7th Grade A Honor Roll

Tinsley Aldredge, Kylie Beall, Daelyn Bradshaw, Ma'Kenzie Floyd, Kayden Jansen, Rylie Murry, Baylei Noble, Brooklyn Villalpando, Bentley Webber, Aaron Wilkins.

### 7th Grade A/B Honor Roll

Brandon Alvarez, Novaley Bassett, Kara Bellanger, Colin Bird, Nya Borders, Jax Bradford, Hannah Brandt, Andria Castaneda, Icker Ceballos, Addison Chandaris, Everlie Costello, Isabella Dangel, Ladon Deason, Victoria Flanagan, Makenzie Gatlin, Jordynn Harris, Sean Hill, Kamden Hines, Jordan Holmgren, Felicity Kail, Cashtyn Lehman, Ketraveian Lewis, Beatrice Nosados, Abigail Nino, Peyton Noble, Dylan Perez, Ian Perez, Kaeyla Perez, Kasandra Polley, Khloey Rendon, Ty Richey, Dodge Sisson, Nevaeh Stadtfeld, Yareli Suarez, Connor Thompson, Ashlynn Tolbert, Santiago Trejo, Brynlee Underwood, David Ventura, Brody Vickery, Jaxon Walther, Aerron Watson.

### 8th Grade A Honor Roll

Bailey Childress, Samuel Corona, Juliet Dalton, Emily Dickinson, Landen King, Aubrey Manley, Lainey Reynolds, Ariel Robinson, Draven Rodriguez, Alexander Villalpando.

### 8th Grade A/B Honor Roll

Mariah Barksdale, Vivian Bray, Eli Brisby, Caleb Budro, Jose Calderon, Lily Childress, Noah Clay, Damian Corea, McKensy Cuellar, Madison Cusatis, David Duvall, James Felts, Shamore Franklin, Jax Glarborg, Alayla Grooms, Malik Hatten, Ryan Hawley, Marco Hernandez, Shyann Holestine, Isabelle Inocencio, An-

thony Juarez, Titus Macklin, Cooper Manley, Ya'Lexan Martinez, Konnor Mason, Zachary McAlister, Jade Mireles, Theresa Neslony, Acxel Nino, Madden Ramirez, Jakeilynn Rollins, Jayde Royle, Lilia Sanchez, Gavin Selman, Chevy Sisson, James Solley, Gracie Stanley, Brayden Templeton, Anna Thomas, Dylan Thomas, Kamila Turner, Liliana Vasquez, Kaylee Wortham, Landon Wright.

## GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

### 9th Grade A Honor Roll

Lelia Allen, Coby Bellanger, Abigail Carney, Lia Castaneda, Shaylee Ellis, Adyson Evans, Kylie Faye, Zoe Fossan, Elshady Getachew, Kymorah Gordon, Reid Hass, Byron Hast, Nobellee Humphrey, Aiden Jansen, Damarion Johnson, Kailey Kistler, Mason Knoll, Khera Lincoln, Lillian McKnight, Olivia Miller, Eli Montanez, Grace Mooney, William Morgan, Barrett Owens, Nikhil Patel, Thalia Renfroe, Paytin Thompson, Teagan Watkins-Brack, Kendal Yount

### 9th Grade A/B Honor Roll

Ethan Alvarez, Emmie Lee Benson, Heaven-Leigh Cannon, Hydie Collins, Brian Craft, Jade Crawford, Aliyah Criss, Alivia Duncan, Jada-Kayleigh Handy, Brooklin Harness, Lesly Hernandez, Summer Hernandez, Landon Hogue, Bryannah Jackson, Audryana Lorenzo, Olivia Marshburn, Amarion Minter, Dion Patton, Mariano Perez Olvera, Selah Perry, Chase Porter, Talon Robinson, Gabriela Rojas, Anthony Sanchez, Kiara Shackelford, Ka'Vyron Sheppard, Matthew Smith, Janiah Strickland, Carlee Townsend, Addyson Vaughn, Caidence Ware

### 10th Grade A Honor Roll

Anay Aguillon, Elizabeth Brown, Samantha Brown, Elizabeth Dennis, Karyme Gomez, Callie Harris, Calex Hibler, Peyton Hunter, Garrett Kegarise, Shayla Lara, Miracle Manuel, Aleigha McGuyer, Kevin Mireles, Edwin Nino Eufrazio, Kyera Orange, Azucena Perez, Madison Rector, Christian Rojas, Neveah Sweeten, Addison

### 10th Grade A/B Honor Roll

Saul Alvarez, Ma'khyia Boone, Sean Brightwell, Luke Brown, Mason Budro, Lucas Cherry, Carsin Cooper, Emily Delgado, Aubry Floyd, Pierce Garcia, Alayah Gordon, Kyler Harju, Isabelle Hilgren, Brianna Johnson, Aamyria Jones, Jazlyn Jones, Tucker Macklin, Caydence Martin, Grafton Morgan, Adriana Olson, Cian Ray, Brady Rios, Esmeralda Rojas, Kingston Sheffield, Adam Warner, John Watson, Ella Williams, Carson Wood, Kieon Wright

### 11th Grade A Honor Roll

Astrith Alvarez, Zoe Bowling, Jaxxon Cook, Janee Davis, Joshua Diaz Mucio, Erika Evey, Ethan Evey, Jasmine Fisher, Nathan Fortenberry, Ulises Gama, Ciara Henderson, Jada Kinsey, Ava Langford, Karlee Moses, Jessica Perez, Luke Rogers, Gizelle Sergio, Rachel Shepard, Noah Smith, Gracie Sumner, Mason Thompson, Brianna Wheeler, Zoie Wohlscheid, Brayden Wood

### 11th Grade A/B Honor Roll

Nicholas Allen, Landon Brown, Emily Cole, Samorria Daniels, Pamela Fagans, Trentley Gamel, Tatiana Gunder, Cynthia Gutierrez, Tanner Hammett, Landon Hawkins, Illyssa Hawley, Journey Ishmon, Chyenne Logan, Lilyana Lozenzo, Gabriel Navarro, Corey Nelms, Chris Paredes, Zoie Reddock, Garrick Rogers, Nathaniel Thomas, Randi Vasquez, Joseph Webber, Samyra Williams

### 12th Grade A Honor Roll

Hadassah Balcorta, Madisyn Bedair, Alexis Bleckley, Israel Cerda, Dustin Christian, Destiney Craft, Blake Crane, Seth Cross, Samuel Edwards, Jaiden Eeds, Jordan Fowler, Xander Gonzales, Hailey Head, Timothy Heashe, Kylie Knox, Katelynn Lewis, Kyla Lincoln, Jimena Martinez, Camron Mckinney, Katie Menjivar, Erik Omdahl, Eddie Patino, Ra'mya Ransom, Ryan Silva, Lily Smith, Vanessa Trejo, Layne Warburton, Savannah Warren, Kaytin White, Brianna Willson, Phillip Wilson, Grayson Wynn

### 12th Grade A/B Honor Roll

Meredith Anderson, Kayla Dandoy, Eduardo Delgado-Camargo, Kalia Dement, Bayleigh Edwards, Jerrica Gilmore, Melodee Gomer, Kire Guerrero, Caiya Harris, Johnnay Hawley, Abigail Hess, Trenton Jackson, Emma Langford, Kyle Martin, Adam Miles, Chloe Mumphy, Irvin Nino Monsivaiz, G'brandon Polley, Christian Ramirez, Sixto Rojas, Joey Shico, Francisco Sierra, Mark Smith, Keilan Steddum, Cameron Taylor, Michael Torres, Kendall Williams, Princess Zakeigh Williams, Kyron Wilson, Jackson Wood



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