











Spoiler Alert: Fall Sports have arrived. We've met the Bears. We've met the Lions. The 2025-2026 Roughnecks are up next Aug. 22. It means it's almost time for the Gladewater Mirror's 2025 Fall Sports Section, and the annual edition will once again make its debut online at Gladewater Mirror.com and @ GladewaterMirror on Facebook. Last year, Gladewater Mirror Publisher Jim Bardwell opted to skip a hard-copy and go full-digital. Putting the spotlight on the online edition meant more eyes on local players and coaches while also getting more views for local advertisers. "An e-edition means all our teams are in full-color, and it makes the tab very shareable from the website and our social media," Bardwell said. "It's a great way for the community to join in the local fandom, and we even save some trees along the way." Find this year's Fall Sports section online Aug. 28 and be on the lookout for the Mirror's digital 'Letters to Santa' coming in December.

GISD tackles truancy before problems arise

By James Draper

Curtailing truancy checks two key boxes for school districts: Get students to class. Get them there on time.

"The more they're at school the more they're going to learn," Gladewater ISD Supt. Rae Ann Patty says.

Parents, take note: At all grades levels, students are marked 'Absent' if they're late to class by 20 minutes or more. For the entire school year, GISD will accept no more than three parent notes to excuse absences. After 10 unexcused absences, the district will file truancy.

Patty's goal is to help parents get a handle on their students' absences well before it gets to that point.

She took the reins at the district in late 2024, so this month marks her first back-to-school at GISD. It was important to get everyone on the same page with truancy right from 'Go.'

"Truancy is not something you can start in the middle of the year," she said, so an essential, initial step was to compare notes with Gregg County Justice of the Peace Precinct 3 Bruce Dalme and Gladewater Mayor Brandy Flanagan: "I wanted to make sure the changes I was making and the things we were discussing were going to be the same they needed as well."

Flanagan is grateful Patty is targeting truancy issues before they become problems for students and parents.

"Those are the kind of leaders that we want in this town," Flanagan said. She's invited the superintendent to participate in the next Mayor's Town Hall set for Oct. 7. "This is to continue to work together in all these aspects so we can continue to move things forward as quick as we possibly can.

"Let's get behind her and really support her."

Continued on Page 4

Senate panel advances bill swapping three test for STAAR

While the House is unable to meet with the Democrats out of state, the Senate is still in special session. A Senate panel has unanimously advanced a proposal to swap the end-ofyear standardized test, called STAAR, for the three shorter tests administered throughout the school year, according to the Texas Standard.

The STAAR test has been widely criticized by parents and teachers for putting enormous pressure on students. Teachers have complained about having to spend too much time preparing students to take the STAAR.

A companion bill has been filed in the House as well. An effort to pass a similar measure during the regular session failed.

The tests would be shorter than the current test, which can last three hours. The turnaround for the shorter tests would be much faster than it is for STAAR — just two business days.

River authority pledges \$1.5 million for flood protection

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority has pledged to spend at least \$1.5 million on flood protection and mitigation measures after a Houston Chronicle investigation revealed it had delayed upgrading its flood warning system, opting instead to keep at least \$3 million in reserve.

The announcement came at a legislative hearing in Kerrville, at which the UGRA has been roundly criticized for not acting earlier.

"It was recognized through studies that you paid for that there was a need for an early warning system," State Rep. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, told Bill Rector, president of the authority's board. "And yet you didn't do anything about it."

The UGRA's entire board was appointed by Abbott. It is one of the very few river authorities that has the power to levy taxes. That drew the attention of state Rep. Ken King, R-Canadian.

"So you're not accountable to the voters of Kerr County, even though you're taxing them?" asked King, who chairs the House committee on flood recovery. Rector acknowledged that was the case.

City	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Pmt. Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
GREGG CO.	0.500%	\$1,873,458.60	\$1,779,746.12	5.26%	\$14,044,144.19	\$13,587,309.13	3.36%
Clarksville City	1.000%	\$11,342.11	\$12,302.41	-7.80%	\$78,395.02	\$77,236.04	1.50%
Easton	1.000%	\$4,971.83	\$5,372.88	-7.46%	\$42,909.56	\$38,282.45	12.08%
Gladewater	1.500%	\$161,652.70	\$161,770.14	-0.07%	\$1,154,980.97	\$1,151,531.85	0.29%
Kilgore	1.500%	\$929,950.86	\$1,071,829.48	-13.23%	\$6,818,561.27	\$6,550,032.39	4.09%
Lakeport	1.500%	\$75,851.38	\$24,586.91	208.50%	\$257,967.33	\$192,757.88	33.82%
Longview	1.500%	\$4,188,939.90	\$4,005,787.36	4.57%	\$30,903,365.54	\$30,126,540.57	2.57%
Warren City	1.000%	\$2,443.25	\$2,376.04	2.82%	\$41,558.82	\$14,595.99	184.72%
White Oak	1.500%	\$192,919.66	\$137,228.10	40.58%	\$1,192,285.66	\$1,066,183.79	11.82%
UPSHUR CO.	0.500%	\$169,432.42	\$178,766.00	-5.22%	\$1,308,790.97	\$1,300,006.06	0.67%
Big Sandy	1.250%	\$22,716.49	\$28,610.79	-20.60%	\$218,774.59	\$202,547.82	8.01%
East Mountain	1.000%	\$7,682.81	\$6,267.67	22.57%	\$41,584.54	\$39,038.51	6.52%
Gilmer	1.500%	\$240,471.02	\$241,882.49	-0.58%	\$1,869,912.50	\$1,864,455.19	0.29%
Ore City	1.500%	\$22,366.01	\$17,465.87	28.05%	\$170,417.65	\$137,469.39	23.96%
Union Grove	1.000%	\$694.57	\$641.02	8.35%	\$7,050.18	\$5,806.35	21.42%

Gladewater's sales tax allocation holds the line amid budget talks

in its monthly sales tax allocation for August, and the community's still slightly ahead for the calendar year.

Meanwhile, White Oak's check for August 2025 saw a substantial improvement over the same period last year, an increase of more than 40 percent 12 months later.

The data and dollars arrive as local leaders in both communities (and beyond) are in the midst of crunching the numbers for their Fiscal Year 2026 financial plans. Notably, municipal planners here tend to budget sales tax revenues conservatively, bracing against unexpected dips and grateful for any excess that can be put toward unexpected expenses or underfunded projects.

Countywide, communities in Gregg averaged 5 percent more this month than in August '24 while cities in Upshur

Just \$117 shy of July 2024, Gladewater netted \$161,652.70 County saw a 5 percent downward trend.

August allocations from the Texas Comptroller's Office are based on sales in June by businesses that report tax monthly. The checks from the state also include sales made in April, May and June reported by quarterly filers.

Last week, acting Comptroller Kelly Hancock's office announced local sales tax allocations totaling \$1.3 billion are bound for cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts across Texas. All told, the statewide tally for August '25 is 5.2 more than a year ago.

By the numbers, sales from Gladewater's June and second quarter filers were just 0.07 percent behind the same period in 2024.

Combining the eight allocations for 2025, the city has

Continued on Page 4

Local man's 99-year sentence upheld

By Phillip Williams

A state appellate court has upheld the conviction and 99-year prison term which an Upshur County jury assessed Jimmy Wayne Skinner of Gladewater on a charge of unlawful possession of a firearm by felon as a habitual offender.

District Attorney Billy Byrd announced last week the Sixth Court of Appeals in Texarkana upheld the Aug. 14, 2024 verdict and sentence rendered in 115th District Court in Gilmer. The appeals court ruled Aug. 1, Byrd said in a Aug. 5 news release.

The court, however, invalidated trial Judge Dean Fowler's sentencing Skinner, 51, to additional time for a parole revocation, which would have been served consecutively instead of concurrently with the 99-year sentence.

The appeals court did so on the grounds the revocation hadn't yet occurred.

While Skinner was wanted on a charge of parole violation, and the state asked that a sentence for that be added to the 99 years, the appeals court said Fowler "erred" in assessing it. The Sixth Court said the state conceded there was legally insufficient evidence the parole had actually been revoked.

The defendant was charged with possessing the weapon, a 20 gauge short barrel sawed-off shotgun, on Feb. 2, 2024, when the Upshur County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant, said Byrd.

The appeals court said Skinner's appellate attorney, Longview lawyer Natalie A. Anderson, appealed the sentencing on two grounds: that "the evidence was insufficient to establish that he knowingly possessed the firearm" and "the trial court erred in running the parole revocation consecutively" with the 99-year term.

While the court agreed with the second ground cited above, it nonetheless upheld the conviction and sentence on the firearm charge.

Byrd said soon after the trial that Skinner had been to prison four times. He was on parole of a 25-year sentence for felony driving while intoxicated when arrested in 2024.

A summation of the case, partly from Byrd and partly from the court's ruling, was as follows:

The sheriff's office had been investigating a man other than Skinner for sellling methamphetamine on his mother's property. Sheriff's Investigator Chris Lambert testified that several controlled buys by confidential informants were recorded there and Skinner appeared in at least one of the videos.

When the search warrant was executed at a site with multiple structures on rural Bob-O-Link Road, Byrd said, "Officers discovered throughout the living quarters methamphetamine, syringes, other drug paraphernalia, and loaded guns near the recliner where the defendant was sitting when the drug bust occurred," the prosecutor wrote.

As Skinner exited the living quarters, "he immediately shut the door behind him, he was non-compliant with orders to get on the ground, stated he 'ain't afraid to go to jail,' and attempted to block the door with his foot to prevent officers from entering,' Byrd added.

"With the trial court's records," Byrd quoted the appellate court's ruling as saying "There are sufficient affirmative links to establish that Skinner had possession of the shotgun. The testimony and the physical evidence support

Continued on Page 4



THE FIRST AMENDMENT: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of all the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

...when it matters most

As a high school teacher of 33 mostly fantastic years I have worked for many great principals. And when I say great, I don't mean good, I mean exceptional.

I retired from full-time teaching in 2013. My last great principal, Dan Noll, sent me a text Monday morning.

He knows where my heart is every year at this time. He knows that I miss teaching and smart-aleck teenagers, and opportunities to change the future for the better. His text reminds me that what I did with my life as a teacher continues to have value although I am no longer in the

And isn't that amazing? What a thoughtful gift. And there are many more of Mr. Noll's teachers still in the trenches who are receiving texts this week as well.

He has the gift of encouragement. He is still an educational leader despite now being retired himself.

Don't misunderstand me, I love working with my sweet- heart on our newspapers. I dearly love writing and

We truly enjoy promoting our schools, our civic organizations and our communities. And frankly, this job I now have can be a heck of a lot of fun.

I am also thrilled, THRILLED! not to have to be at school at 7 a.m. or grade 65, five page dual credit college history

The Best of



essays written by juniors in high school and be responsible for getting them ready for university writing. But I sure do miss taking a kid and helping them find their excellence, their potential and THEIR dreams.

I envy the teachers who will stand in the hall beside their doors this week and welcome their students. I envy the joy that the really good teachers will not only have, but share with their students every single day regardless of what is

happening in the teachers' lives outside their classrooms. My prayers are with all the teachers and students as their 'new year' begins.

I also give thanks for the great colleagues, administrators and students that I have had the gift of working with over the years.

So, for all the teachers, staff, students and administrators out there; may your new school year be full of growth, filled with laughter and success, and enough failure so that life lessons are learned for when it matters most.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Paxton sues to remove 13 absent Democrat House members

Attorney General Ken Paxton has asked the Texas Supreme Court to remove 13 of the more than 50 House Democrats who fled the state to break quorum and effectively halt the special session to prevent a mid-decade redistricting plan, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

"These cowards deliberately sabotaged the constitutional process and violated the oath they swore to uphold," Paxton said in a statement. "Their out-of-state rebellion cannot go unchecked, and the business of Texas must go on."

Gov. Greg Abbott took a similar action against state Rep. Gene Wu, D-Houston, who is chair of the House Democratic Caucus. Paxton is seeking to remove state Reps. Ron Reynolds; Vikki Goodwin; Gina Hinojosa; James Talarico; Lulu Flores; Mihaela Plesa; Suleman Lalani; Chris Turner; Ana-Maria Ramos; Jessica Gonzalez; John Bucy III; and Christina Morales.

Paxton said he targeted those members because they "made incriminating public statements regarding their refusal to return."

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn said the FBI has agreed to help locate the Democrats, who have appeared in Chicago, New York, and Boston, according to the San Antonio Express-

The FBI would only assist in finding the Democrats and would not apprehend them, Cornyn said. The members have held several press conferences and aren't exactly keeping their whereabouts a secret. They left the state via a chartered plane on Aug. 3.

Excluding immigrants from census could be costly for Texas

If President Donald Trump is successful in excluding undocumented immigrants from the next U.S. census, Texas could lose seats in Congress and billions of dollars in federal funding, the Chronicle reported.

The state has an estimated population of 2 million immigrants living in the country illegally.

"(We would lose) what the state has gained over the past two censuses, at least a couple of seats," said Jeronimo Cortina, a political scientist at the University of Houston. "And then where do they go? Maybe they go to, I don't know. North Dakota."

It is unclear whether Trump has the authority to implement the census changes. An effort in 2019 to add a question about $\,$ citizenship to the decennial census was rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court.

DPS announces creation of new Homeland Security Division

The Texas Department of Public Safety has announced the creation of a new Homeland Security Division, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The new office combines the existing Office of Homeland Security with the DPS Intelligence and Counterterrorism Division to oversee border security operations and statewide intelligence efforts. It will also be responsible for overseeing the protection of infrastructure and emergency preparedness.

"Our No. 1 priority is to protect Texans — especially against hostile foreign adversaries like China, Iran, and Russia" Abbott said. "Texas will always defend our state from hostile foreign nations and terrorists to create greater safety in our communities."

Texas lawmakers authorized creation of the new division during the last regular session.

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (www.per-

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email:gborders@texaspress.com



Metro Musings

Although uncertainty has increased markedly since the last forecast, Texas and its metropolitan areas are projected to see notable growth through 2029. The rate of increase is again expected to outpace that of the US, and many of Texas' most populated areas will expand even faster than the state as a whole. Performance may be uneven and much of it backloaded into later years of the five-year horizon (and confidence intervals are wider than normal), but overall expansion is expected.

Most of the state's new jobs are likely to be added in the largest metro areas, with about 46% projected to occur in the greater Houston and Dallas areas alone. The greater Austin area is forecast to lead the way in the yearly employment growth rate (2.09%), while several smaller MSAs including Midland, Brownsville-Harlingen, and Tyler are also expected to add jobs at a substantial pace. Here's a look at other highlights from our most recent projections.

The Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown MSA has experienced some slowing of late but remains a growth leader with strong potential. The area is projected to add nearly 150,300 wage and salary jobs over the next five years, the highest expansion rate in the state. The diverse Dallas-Plano-Irving economy is also well positioned for future growth, with ongoing expansion in both traditional and emerging industries. Employment in the Metropolitan Division (MD) is projected to grow at a strong annual pace for a total gain of 322,400 wage and salary jobs through 2029.

The Fort Worth-Arlington-Grapevine area has been adding jobs at a healthy pace, a pattern which is expected to continue. Over the next five years 121,800 wage and salary jobs are projected to be added in the area. El Paso is forecast to experience notable job growth in a variety of industries,

THE ECONOMIST



with 34,700 net new positions anticipated. The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA is fore-

cast to add 355,900 net new wage and salary jobs over the next five years, representing a substantial growth rate. The McAllen-Edinburg-Mission economy is expected to continue to see broad-based hiring, with a five-year gain of 30,000 net new jobs despite some of the challenges confronting the border region. Our outlook for the San Antonio-New Braunfels area is optimistic, with a gain of about 123,700 net new wage and salary jobs expected.

Although buffeted by tariffs, immigration policy, volatile energy markets, and other headwinds, Texas is well positioned to be a growth leader for the foreseeable future. The largest population centers will drive expansion and job gains, though smaller metropolitan areas will also contribute significantly. Business cycles are inevitable and the current situation poses many near-term risks, but looking across the next five years, significant economic expansion is likely. Stay safe!

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ARE YOU READY FOR THE LORD'S RETURN?

As Jesus began His teaching regarding His second coming, He stated: "Therefore watch (be on the alert) for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. For this reason, you must also be ready; for in such an hour as you think not the Son of Man cometh" (Matt. 24: 42-44).

Since no one on earth can know when Jesus is coming again, the Lord admonishes us to watch, be ready and on the alert. He will come as a "thief in the night" (1 Thess. 5: 2). In verse 4 He said, "But you, brethren are not in darkness, so that this day should overtake you as a thief." Therefore, there will be no advance warning about His return. At a time, or at an hour, when it is least expected, He will come again!

We are taught by God's amazing saving grace to look "for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the Great God and our Savior Jesus Christ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works" (Tit.2: 13-14). In the meantime, while looking for our Lord's return we will be "denying or saying NO! to ungodliness and worldly lusts" and doing our best to "live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world" (Tit.2: 11-12).

> "Watch and pray, for the Lord is coming, Coming in the clouds someday. Wash your robes in the cleansing fountain Watch, oh, watch and pray.

He may come in the early morning, He may come at the close of day, Watch and pray, in His promise trusting Watch, oh, watch and pray.

When He comes, He'll reward the faithful, What a glorious day 'twill be. Joy awaits those who have made ready Watch, o, watch and pray.

My good friend, I implore you to think on these things.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

P. O. Box 454 - White Oak, Texas 75693- 903-736-1822-dennis.abernathy845@gmail.com.

Sports roundup

Bears, Lady Bears introduced to fans at 'Meet the Bears'

By Tyler Sutton

You know high school football is close at Gladewater High School when "Meet the Bears" time is here and it was and I had a front row seat to it as it along with media day was held inside Bill Waters gym as we got our first look at the Bears football team and Lady Bears Volleyball team. Here is some highlights from it.

"Like I have said all summer, I feel we are gonna have a good team this season," said coach Jermaine Lewis. "We have been grinding and getting better every day this summer and now that school is back and the team is back together fully, we are going to get even better.

"We have a scrimmage coming up against Troup here soon and another one the following week. So we will finally get to see what we look like against another team.

"I am fully confident we are going to come out the gate firing on all cylinders to start the season. I and the entire team are excited and confident that we are going to be a good team."

The Bears entire Varsity and JV team was introduced at Meet the Bears along with the coaching staff. The Bears will have a pair of scrimmages before the regular season begins. Thursday, August 14th they will travel to Troup. That will be followed by a home scrimmage on Thursday, August 21st when they host North Lamar

Moving over to Volleyball, new head coach Morgan Fite also was confident heading into her first season as Lady Bears coach.

"The season is here pretty much. We have our first game coming up here in a few days when we host Jacksonville.

"I have loved all the hard work we have put in all summer and also in the short time since school started. All the girls have came back in great shape and are raring to get on the court and play a real game. I have so much confidence in this team and how we are going to not only compete, but be a very good team," said coach Fite.

All of the varsity and junior varsity players were also introduced as part of Meet the Bears.

Volleyball season starts with a home game vs Jacksonville. Then the Lady Bears will travel to Nacogdoches to take part in the Central Heights tournament.



	2025 Varsit	y Eoothali	Cabadula					
DATE	OPPONENT	y FUULDAL LOCATION	TIME	NOTE				
Friday, August 15	Overton	Away	5:00 PM	Scrimmage				
Thursday, August 21	All-Saints	Away	5:00 PM	Scrimmage				
Friday, August 29	Como-Pickton	Home	7:00 PM	-				
Friday, September 5	Cumby	Away	7:00 PM	-				
Friday, September 12	Cushing	Home	7:00 PM	Homecoming				
Thursday, September 18	Waskom*	Away	7:00 PM	-				
Friday, September 26	Hawkins*	Home	7:00 PM	Tailgate				
Friday, October 3	Elysian Fields*	Away	7:00 PM	-				
Thursday, October 9	Ore City*	Away	7:00 PM	KYKX Game of the Week				
Friday, October 17				Open Week				
Thursday, October 23	Harleton*	Home	7:00 PM	Pink Out				
Friday, October 31	Beckville*	Away	7:00 PM	-				
Friday, November 7	Big Sandy*	Home 7:00 PM		Senior Night				
	2025 JV F	ootball S	chedule					
DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	NOTE				
Friday, August 15	Overton	Away	5:00 PM	Scrimmage				

2025 JV Football Schedule									
DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME	NOTE					
Friday, August 15	Overton	Away	5:00 PM	Scrimmage					
Thursday, August 21	All-Saints	Away	5:00 PM	Scrimmage					
Thursday, August 28	Como-Pickton	Away	5:00 PM	-					
Thursday, September 4	Cumby?	Home	7:00 PM	=					
Thursday, September 11	Cushing	Away	7:00 PM	=					
Tuesday, September 16	Waskom*	Home	7:00 PM	-					
Thursday, September 25	Hawkins*	Away	7:00 PM	=					
Thursday, October 2	Elysian Fields*	Home	7:00 PM	-					
Tuesday, October 7	Ore City*	Home	7:00 PM	=					
Thursday, October 16				Open Week					
Tuesday, October 21	Harleton*	Away	7:00 PM						
Thursday, October 30	Beckville*	Home	7:00 PM	=					
Thursday, November 6	Big Sandy*	Away	7:00 PM	-					

2025 JH Football Schedule							
DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME (7th/8th)	NOTE			
Thursday, September 4	Cumby?	Home	5:00/6:00 PM	Scrimmage			
Thursday, September 11	Cushing	Away	5:00/6:00 PM	-			
Tuesday, September 16	Waskom*	Home	5:00/6:00 PM	=			
Thursday, September 25	Hawkins*	Away	5:00/6:00 PM	=			
Thursday, October 2	Elysian Fields*	Home	5:00/6:00 PM	=			
Tuesday, October 7	Ore City*	Home	5:00/6:00 PM	=			
Thursday, October 16				Open Week			
Tuesday, October 21	Harleton*	Away	5:00/6:00 PM	=			
Thursday, October 30	Beckville*	Home	5:00/6:00 PM	=			
Thursday, November 6	Big Sandy*	Away	5:00/6:00 PM	-			





★ Trustpilot

VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULES 2025-2026

LOCATION & TIME	SITE
Aug 15 / 6:30 PM	White Oak
VS New Diana White Oak White Oak, TX 	White Oak, TX
Aug 21 / 6:30 PM	West Rusk
AT West Rusk West Rusk New London, TX 	New London, TX
Aug 29 / 7:30 PM	Eustace
AT Eustace Eustace Eustace, TX 	Eustace, TX
Sep 05 / 7:00 PM	White Oak
VS Paul Pewitt White Oak White Oak, TX 	White Oak, TX
Sep 11 / 7:00 PM	Quitman
AT Quitman Quitman Quitman, TX 	Quitman, TX
Sep 19 / 7:00 PM	White Oak
VS Queen City White Oak White Oak, TX 	White Oak, TX
Sep 26 / 7:00 PM	White Oak
VS Atlanta White Oak White Oak, TX 	White Oak, TX
Oct 09 / 7:00 PM	Jefferson
AT Jefferson Jefferson Jefferson, TX 	Jefferson, TX
Oct 17 / 7:00 PM	White Oak
VS Sabine White Oak White Oak, TX 	White Oak, TX
Oct 24 / 7:00 PM	Liberty Eylau
AT Liberty Eylau Liberty Eylau Texarkana, TX 	Texarkana, TX
Oct 31 / 7:00 PM	White Oak
VS Tatum White Oak White Oak, TX	White Oak, TX
 Nov 07 / 7:00 PM	Gladewater
NOV U7 7 7:00 PM AT Gladewater Gladewater Gladewater, TX	Gladewater, TX





GPD Activity Report

ALL DATE	CALL DESC	CFS#	CALL TIME	BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
4/25	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20253698	1:34		912 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253700	3:30		208 ELEANOR ELEANOR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253701	3:25		
	ALARM/OTHER	20253702	5:15		2302 W LAKE LAKE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20253703	6:29	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	10-50 MAJOR	20253704	9:21		135 TEXAS TEXAS
	DEADLY CONDUCT	20253705	9:36		500 S LOOP 485 S LOOP 485
	ESCORT	20253706	10:05	CROLEY FUNERAL HOME	401 N CENTER CENTER ST
	EMS	20253707	10:40		109 GAY GAY W
	ABANDONED 911	20253708	12:07		1520 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
	THEFT	20253709	13:40	GOODWILL INDUSTRIES	1640 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20253710	15:36	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20253711	15:49	PENNYS FOOD & FUEL	807 S TYLER TYLER ST
	TERROR THREAT	20253712	16:41	SONIC DRIVE IN	1103 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20253713	18:17		208 E EDDY EDDY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253714	21:07		210 PINEWOOD PINEWOOD ST
	EMS	20253715	21:45		408 JEANETTE JEANETTE AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253716		LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
5/25	ABANDONED 911	20253718	0:58		1520 SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
-20	ALARM/OTHER	20253719		BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20253720	1:13	STOST WITH CHOOLIN	1506 FULTON FULTON
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20253721	1:13		HWY80 HWY80
	ALARM/OTHER	20253722	5:40	DOLLAD CENERAL	501 N AMES AMES ST
	ASSIST	20253723		DOLLAR GENERAL	2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ASSIST	20253724		GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20253725	11:40		606 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	ASSIST	20253727	14:36		905 E MARY MARY ST
	ASSIST	20253728		GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20253729	15:57		500 S TYLER TYLER ST
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20253730	16:48		LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20253731	17:43		2800 BERNICE BERNICE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20253734	20:34		3043 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE DR
	EMS	20253735	21:04		313 N LEE LEE DR
6/25	ASSIST	20253738	0:50		2684 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS ST
	EMS	20253739	1:11	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253740	2:16		1305 N EDWARDS EDWARDS ST
	EMS	20253741	4:36	LEGEND OAKS NURSING HOME	1201 FM 2685 FM 2685
	ASSIST	20253742	6:07		2684 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253743	6:51		W GAY W GAY
	EMS	20253744	8:43		133 BOWDEN BOWDEN RD
	MISSING PERSON	20253745	11:53		1103 N RODEO RODEO ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20253746	13:33		607 ROBINSON ROBINSON ST
	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	20253747		ANTIQUE CAPITAL RV PARK	500 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	FIRE DEPT	20253748	15:02		1095 PR 1999 PR 1999
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253749	15:39		13 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
			18:05		
	THEFT	20253751			314 SUNSET SUNSET AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20253752	18:44		3352 PR 9956 PR 9956
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253753	22:16		1278 PHILLIPS SPINGS PHILLIPS SPINGS
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20253754	23:25		303 COOPER COOPER
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20253755	23:49		300 COOPER COOPER
725	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20253756	0:58		601 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20253757	5:52		2302 W LAKE LAKE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253758	7:22		HWY 80 HWY 80
	EMS	20253759	7:27		415 S CENTER CENTER ST
	ALARM/OTHER	20253761	7:52		2302 WEST LAKE DRIVE WEST LAKE DRIVE
	EMS	20253763	13:51		208 E ELEANOR ELEANOR ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253764	15:16		115 N FERRY FERRY ST
	EMS	20253765	15:32		1900 VESTA VESTA DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253767	17:12		312 E EDDY EDDY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253768	18:04		HWY 80 HWY 80
	FIRE DEPT	20253769	18:33		23940 S HWY 271 HWY 271
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20253770		AJ S FAST STOP EXXON	1708 N MAIN MAIN ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20253771	21:11		W UPSHUR UPSHUR
					i company

	RECKLESS DRIVING	20253773	21:42		HWY 271 HWY 271
8/8/25	MISCELLANEOUS	20253774	0:18		
	EMS	20253775	9:37	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20253776	10:12	CHRISTUS TRINITY CLINIC	1600 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20253777	10:39		516N FERRY FERRY ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20253778	11:09		1007 FOREST HILLS FOREST HILLS
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20253779	11:22		E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253780	12:04		104 PYEATTE PYEATTE DR
	INCIDENT - NO REPORT	20253783	11:40		W UPSHUR W UPSHUR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253784	13:24		HWY 135 HWY 135
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20253785	14:24		DEAN DEAN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253786	14:32		400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20253787	15:23		1006 KAY KAY
	EMS	20253788	15:52	GLADEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL	414 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	ASSIST	20253789	17:31	BILL DICKASON CHEVROLET	1110 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20253790	17:42	HEALTHY PAWS VETERINARY SERVICES	1830 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20253791	18:22		326 MELBA MELBA
	EMS	20253792	19:35		521 MELBA MELBA AVE
	EMS	20253793	20:07		1005 E MARY MARY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253794	20:56	BILL DICKASON CHEVROLET	1110 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20253796	23:33	SABINE RIVER BOAT RAMP	1000 S RIVER RIVER RD
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20253797	23:50		271 271
8/9/25	EMS	20253798	3:41		21 GARDEN GARDEN LN
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20253799	5:48		716 CANFIELD CANFIELD
	EMS	20253800	9:07		10644 UNION GROVE UNION GROVE
	ESCORT	20253801	11:12	NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH	413 RODEN RODEN LN
	ASSIST	20253802	11:21	BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20253803	12:11	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20253804	12:55		1306 E MARY MARY AVE
	TERROR THREAT	20253805	14:58	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	BURGLARY/VEHICLE	20253806	15:10		139 VILLAGE NORTH VILLAGE NORTH
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253807	18:22		311 TAYLOR TAYLOR
	FIRE DEPT	20253810	20:49		169 PR 3401 PR 3401
	MISCELLANEOUS	20253812	22:32	LAKE GLADEWATER	1602 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	ALARM/OTHER	20253813	22:39	DOLLAR GENERAL	1621 N MAIN MAIN ST
8/10/25	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20253814	0:38		2805 RAMPY RAMPY AVE
	TERROR THREAT	20253815	7:18		210 HURLEY HURLEY
	SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20253816	10:00		1205 CANNON CANNON
	EMS	20253817	10:40	BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20253818	11:04		FM 2685 2685
	ASSIST	20253819	12:35		1520 E SHEPPARD SHEPPARD DR
	ASSIST	20253820	13:09		805 COACH COOKSEY COACH COOKSEY
	EMS	20253821	13:10	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	THEFT	20253822	14:03		515 W MARSHALL MARSHALL AVE
	ASSIST	20253823	14:56		W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	CRIM TRESPASS	20253824	16:33		521 MELBA MELBA
	ASSIST	20253825	16:58		MELBA MELBA
	HARASSMENT	20253826	17:04		204 EDDY EDDY
	EMS	20253827	18:55		607 N POST POST ST
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20253830	22:33		8 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20253831	23:26		HWY 80 HWY 80
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20253832	23:39		8 GREENWAY GREENWAY

GPD Arrest Report

ARREST DATE		TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS1
8/6/25	8625	9:05	FERGUSON, CODY RAY	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1200 N RODEO
	86/25	9:05	FERGUSON, CODY RAY	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1200 N RODEO
	8625	9:05	FERGUSON, CODY RAY	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1200 N RODEO
	8625	9:05	FERGUSON, CODY RAY	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1200 N RODEO
	86/25	9:05	FERGUSON, CODY RAY	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1200 N RODEO
	8625	9:05	FERGUSON, CODY RAY	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1200 N RODEO
	8625	9:05	FERGUSON, CODY RAY	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1200 N RODEO
8/7/25	87/25	21:14	STANLEY, TRISTYN BLAKE	W	М	EVADING ARREST DETENTION WIVEHICLE	1500 S TYLER ST
	87725	21:14	DAUZAT, DAMIAN DANE	W	М	UNLAWFUL CARRYING WEAPON UNDER 21 YEARS OF A	1500 S TYLER ST
8/8/25	8825	12:13	DEBORDE, MICHAEL LLOYD-SHANE	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	2498 W UPSHUR AVE
	8825	12:13	DEBORDE, MICHAEL LLOYD-SHANE	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	2498 W UPSHUR AVE
	8825	12:13	DEBORDE, MICHAEL LLOYD-SHANE	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	2498 W UPSHUR AVE
8/9/25	8925	11:19	NOBLE, ASHLEY NICOLE	W	F	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1300 E EAST BROADWAY AVE

Local man's 99-year sentence upheld

Continued from Page 1

Skinner's proximity and access to both the contraband and the shotgun. Skinner's incriminating statement and actions provide links to the contraband and the shotgun."

Byrd and Assistant District Attorney Greg Geddie prosecuted Skinner at trial, while Byrd and Assistant District Attorney Barry Wallace handled the reply to Skinner's appeal. Marshall attorney Craig Fletcher represented Skinner at trial.

Anderson was once an assistant district attorney to Byrd before entering private law practice. Justice Jeff Rambin authored the 3-member appellate court's ruling.

Gladewater's sales tax allocation holds the line amid budget talks

Continued from Page 1

netted \$1,154,980.97 in sales tax revenues, 0.29 percent more than this time last year.

White Oak's performing almost 12 percent ahead of the 2024 – this month's check from the comptroller totaled \$192,919.66, outpacing August 2024 by more than \$60,000 and bringing the year-to-date total to \$1,192,285.66.

Union Grove's sales tax check is relatively slim, but this month's \$694.57 allocation beat August 2024 by 8.35 percent – \$53.55 more year-to-year. Gilmer dipped less than 1 percent, but its annual year-to-date total \$(1,869,912.50) is 0.29 percent ahead of August '24.

GISD tackles truancy before problems arise

Continued from Page 1

It's a priority to help parents with any barriers preventing them from getting a student to school and on-time, Patty said, be it a moody vehicle or other factors. GISD personnel will be monitoring attendance closely to ensure parents are kept up-todate on attendance and have resources available to address it (i.e. the nearest bus route if that's all it takes). Notifications will be sent after three, six and 10 unexcused absences.

'We need to have communication with the parents," Patty said. As unexcused absences accrue, the district will rely on agreements with parents to get the child to school then advance to conferences: "Once we do all those things, we will turn it over to truancy. We all have to operate within the legal system."

When the truancy process reaches Dalmer, district personnel will do what they can to help parents comply with the judge's ruling.

For example, "If he offers community service to a parent we will work with the parent in the school system to get some of their community service hours," Patty said, whether it's pointing them toward band boosters, PTA or time as a bus monitor. The goal, though, is to address the challenges before trigger-

ing consequences. "Every school district has truancy issues," Patty said. "I wanted to be on top of it."



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Republic Services secures destination for recycling collection at City Hall

By James Draper

The raging fire that destroyed Rivers Recycling in Summer 2024 put a hard pause on area-wide recycling efforts – at long last, with new options shaping up, Republic Services is eager to resume its green initiatives in local communities.

That includes Gladewater, of course, where the East Texas waste disposal operation maintains an open-to-the-public recycling drop-off behind City Hall.

According to Republic Services Manager of Municipal Services Gene Keenon, increasing activity at the still-new Northeast Texas Regional MRF – Materials Recovery Facility – means there's finally a destination for local recyclables.

"July 16, the recycle center gave us the green light for the commercial cans and our drop-off roll-offs that are stationed at a few of the cities," Keenon confirmed.

The Rivers Recycling facility on FM1252 caught fire in mid-June of last year. Republic Services immediately notified its partner communities to encourage residents to keep up their recycling efforts and stay tuned for updates on a

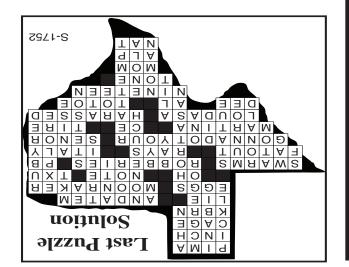
However, Rivers Recycling's initial plans to rebuild and reopen within six months were pushed back to eight months then a year as costs and complications arose. Eventually, those plans were scrapped entirely.

Meanwhile, the development of the 50,000-square foot NETX MRF put another option on the map at 2306 Hwy. 259 in Kilgore. Operations have been scaling up gradually, ensuring locals will be able to count on regular recycling once they get the 'Go' sign from the new facility.

"They're seeing how well they can keep up and process with that equipment," Keenon added.

There's no set ETA on when the MRF will be able to take on the volume of curbside recycling from area communities, but Gladewater residents can drop-off their set-asides right now.

Previously, "I helped City of Gladewater get a grant from East Texas Council of Governments to buy a recycle roll-off," Keenon recalled, and he's glad to see its contents headed for material recovery once again.





ACROSS

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18 TX Lois Chiles 007 film (1979)

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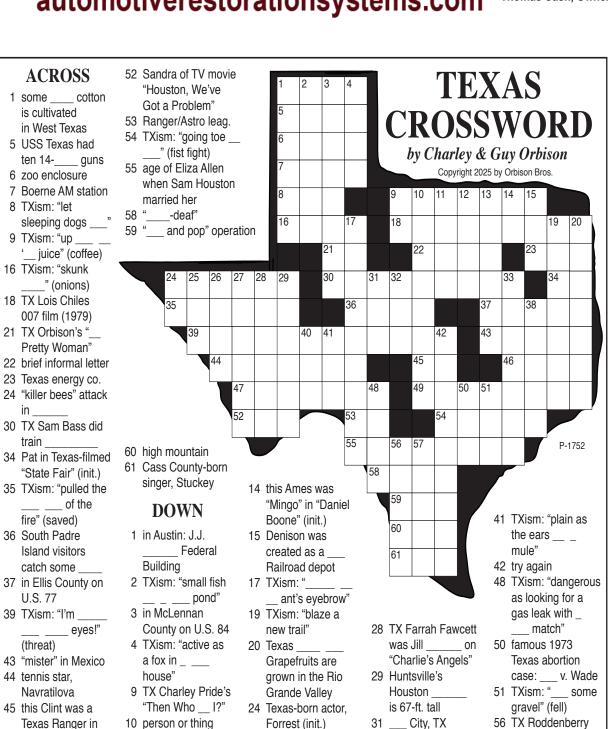
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See Answers On This Page

27 Texas voted for this

Reagan in 1984

25 TXism: "if he was

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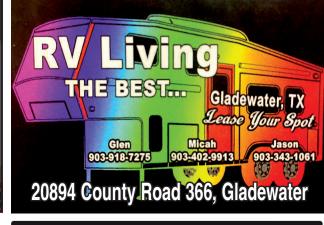


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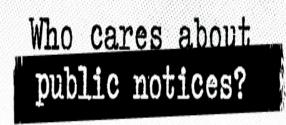






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— Margaret Sullivan, "Ghosting The News"





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ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of Gladewater will receive sealed bids for HWY 271 Lift Station Relocation. Bids will be received until 2 P.M. on September 10, 2025, at 519 E Broadway Ave. Gladewater, Texas 75647. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2 P.M. on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 519 E. Broadway Ave. Gladewater, Texas 75647. Bids received after 2 P.M. will be returned unopened.

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are on file at Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., 320 S Broadway Ave, Suite 200, Tyler, Texas 75702, and at City of Gladewater, Texas, 519 E. Broadway Ave. Gladewater, Texas 75647.

PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS may be examined without charge at City of Gladewater. Bid forms and plans may be examined or obtained at the office of Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., 320 S. Broadway Ave, Suite 200, Tyler, TX 75702. One copy of each set of documents may be obtained from Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., upon payment of \$100.00. No refunds will be made. Plans can also be found online at www.civcastusa.com.

A Bidder's Bond, Certified or Cashier's Check in an amount not less than (5%) of the total bid shall accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the contract, the bidder will promptly enter into contract with the <u>City of Gladewater</u>.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project includes the demolition of the existing Tyler Lift Station and construction of a new lift station of the same size and capacity outside of TxDOT ROW. Project also includes the removal or abandonment of the existing 6" gravity sewer lines and manholes that discharge into the lift station, as well as a small portion of the existing 4" force main. Approximately 1095 LF of new 6" gravity sewer main, 120 LF of new 4" force main, and 7 new manholes will be constructed within 10 feet of the new TxDOT ROW line.

The project is to be substantially complete within <u>One Hundred Eighty (180)</u> calendar days from the notice to proceed and shall be fully complete within <u>One Hundred Eighty (180)</u> calendar days from the notice to proceed. Notice to proceed date is anticipated as <u>10/27/2025</u>. Liquidated damages of \$300.00 per day shall be assessed for any days in which contract time is exceeded.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 2 P.M. on Wednesday, August 27, 2025, at the City Hall in Gladewater, 519 E. Broadway Ave., Gladewater, Texas 75647.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within ninety (90) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

The City of Gladewater reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Contact: Charlie Smith, City Manager Adv. Dates: July 31, 2025 August 7, 2025



ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of Gladewater will receive sealed bids for the Loop 485 Sewer Line Relocations. Bids will be received until 2PM on Thursday, September 11, 2025, at the City of Gladewater, 519 E. Broadway Ave. Gladewater, TX 75647. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2PM on Thursday, September 11, 2025, at the City of Gladewater, 519 E. Broadway Ave. Gladewater, TX 75647. Bids received after 2PM will be returned, unopened.

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

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A Bidder's Bond, Certified or Cashier's Check in an amount not less than (5%) of the total bid shall accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the contract, the bidder will promptly enter into contract with the City of Gladewater.

This project will include approximately, <u>90 LF of 24" pvc gravity sewer</u>, <u>734 LF of 12" pvc gravity sewer</u>, <u>1489 LF of 8" gravity sewer</u>, <u>9 manholes</u>, and other miscellaneous items of construction.

The project is to be substantially complete within $\underline{90}$ calendar days from the notice to proceed and shall be fully complete within $\underline{90}$ calendar days from the notice to proceed. Liquidated damages of \$300.00 per day shall be assessed for any days in which contract time is exceeded.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within ninety (90) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

The City of Gladewater reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Contact Name: Charlie Smith, City Manager Publication Dates: August 14, 2025 August 21, 2025



Rosedale Cemetery meeting set

The annual Rosedale Cemetery Association business meeting will be held in the Rosedale Cemetery Cottage, at the corner of Hwy. 80 East and Loop 485 in Gladewater on Sunday, August 24, at 1:30 p.m.

Storytime in Gilmer

small children at both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday (Aug. 14).

To be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. readings are "Strictly No Elephants" by Lisa Mantchev, and "Ellie in Concert" by Mike Wu.

A elephant-related craft will follow each session.

Although the activities are free, children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent. The library is at 702 W. Tyler, which is also Texas 154.

For more information, contact the library at 903-843-5001. Amy Allred is its children's director.

County judge seat draws two so far

A second candidate for Upshur County judge has announced he will run in the 2026 Republican primary election, while incumbent Todd Tefteller has announced he won't seek re-election.

Brandon Dodd. a home builder and funeral assistant, joined veteran Gilmer attorney Brandon Winn in the county judge's race.

Tefteller, also a Republican and longtime Gilmer attorney, ends his second 4-year term Dec. 31, 2026.

All current Upshur County elected officials are Repub-

David Crockett Day

until this November.

SAN ANTONIO - Come to the Alamo on Saturday, August 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the chance to celebrate the birthday of the legendary frontiersman and iconic Alamo Defender David Crockett!

The GOP and Democratic

party respective primary

elections are set March 3.

Any runoff elections, if

Primary candidates can't

formally file with county

GOP Chairman Carl Byers

nor county Democratic

Chairman Winifred Jackson

needed, are set May 26.

Crockett was born on August 17, 1786, in eastern Tennessee and died while defending the Alamo on

March 6, 1836. The Lion of the West has inspired countless history lovers from around the world to discover the rich history of the Texas Revolution and the Battle of the Alamo.

Visitors will have the unique opportunity to meet the man himself as our costumed Living Historian embodies David Crockett, presenting readings from the famous Tennessee Congressman's personal correspondence and writings. Enjoy the sounds of fiddle music, listen to descendants speak about Crockett's storied life, and witness his shooting prowess during a rifle and musket firing demonstration. Additionally, Crockett-related artifacts will be on display inside the Alamo Exhibit at the Ralston Family Collec-

Building inspector sees steady progress on vacant properties

By James Draper

It's been more than eight months since Gladewater City Council members adopted new regulations and restrictions on vacant buildings in town.

"Overall, in general, this seems to be working," Building Inspector Al Harrison told the elected officials last month.

White Oak Police **Activity Report**

For the reporting period of July 28th through August 3rd, 2025, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to or initiated 241 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were: Burglar Alarms, Suspicious Activity, Found Property, Vehicle Driving Complaints, Traffic Issues (motorist assists, traffic control, etc.), and Community Relations (welfare checks, civil issues, vacation home security checks, etc.).

Three traffic collisions were investigated during this reporting period. No injuries were reported.

The White Oak Police made three arrests during this reporting period:

Marticia Allen, 30, of Kilgore, for Driving While Intoxicated and Resisting Arrest, Search or transport.

Michael Baldwin, 38, of White Oak, for two Gregg County Warrants: Assault causing bodily injury- family violence, and Continuous violence against the family.

Matthew Hudman, 40, of Gladewater, for Driving while intoxicated 3rd or more and Possession of a dangerous drug.

Two separate and unrelated cases were presented to the Gregg County District Attorney for prosecution: One was Deadly Conduct, and one for Assault family violence, impede breath or circulation.

The Nov. 21 ordinance includes requirements to register vacant commercial buildings along with insuring the property, maintaining the site and more. (Find the rules via tinyurl. com/GladewaterVacantBuildings)

The city initially identified 50 vacant buildings and has added a couple more to the roster. Among those, Harrison said, 12 buildings have been registered (working on compliance), two were demolished and nine properties have been listed for sale.

"One has been bought," he added. "Eleven of those identified are actually operating businesses. They swear they're using it."

"Is that what their occupancy shows?" Mayor Brandy Flanagan asked.

In at least one instance, Harrison said, the building is being used as a warehouse for an operation's materials.

"Five have become new businesses. Three of them are renovating at this time," including the former Fred's store. "People's concept of what 'vacant' is," he added, "is totally different from ours. This was kind of difficult to convince some people.

"I have seven others that are either private residences or they were bought strictly for a private use," i.e. for a personal shop or storage. "Personal storage inside of a commercial building is not acceptable."

Some properties are receiving notices of violations and will be fined when appropriate according to the city's pro-

Particularly when it comes to problem properties, "I love that this is working," council member Kevin Clark said. "It was our first shot at it. If we need to strengthen it, that's what we need to do."

Flanagan aims to revisit the ongoing tally later this Fall and refine the ordinance depending on whether it proves to be too weak or too restrictive.

In the meantime, "It's music to my ears."



tions Center.

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- Use the sidewalk. If there isn't one, walk on the left side of the road facing
- Obey all traffic signs and signals
- Cross the street only at intersections and crosswalks and look left, right, left before crossing.
- Stop and yield for pedestrians Yield the right of way to

Obey the speed limit and pay

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TexSCAN Week of Aug. 10-16, 2025

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8 out of 10 Americans read print or digitally accessed newspaper content every month.



THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: The Unknown Heirs of Troy Slaton

You and each of you are hereby cited, required and commanded to appear before the County Court at Law #2 of Gregg County, Texas, to be held in the County Court at Law #2 court room in the courthouse of said county in the city of Longview, Gregg County, Texas, such appearance to be at or before ten o'clock a.m. of the first Monday next after the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of service, exclusive of the day of such service, which day and date of service shall be the date of publication that this newspaper bears, and which appearance shall be at such time on such Monday, by filing written answer to the application hereinafter mentioned, contesting same, should they or any of them desire to do so, which application will, at such 10 o'clock hour and such place be acted on, said application having been filed by Evas Slaton in said court on the 10th day of July, 2025, and now pending there, in a proceeding on the probate docket of said court, styled In the Estate of

Troy Slaton the file number of which application and the docket number of which proceedings is 2025-0218-E, the nature of such application being for

Application for Independent Administration

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Witness, Michelle Gilley, Clerk of the County Court at Law #2 of Gregg County.

Given under my hand and the seal of said court, at office in the City of Longview this the 10th day of July, 2025

> MICHELLE GILLEY Clerk of County Court at La Gregg County, Texas

Gladewater man's appeal denied for being too late

By Phillip Williams

A state appeals court last week dismissed a Gladewater man's appeal of his concurrent 40-year and 20-year prison sentences on drug-related charges, ruling he filed notice of the appeal a year too late for the court to have jurisdiction, The Mirror has learned.

The Sixth Court of Appeals in Texarkana acted Aug. 6 on the appeal by Jabar O'Keith Miller, 50, who pleaded guilty in Gilmer on May 13, 2024, to delivery of methamphetamines and possession of methamphetamine.

Sentenced by 115th District Judge Dean Fowler on a plea bargain, Miller waived his right to appeal, Upshur County District Attorney Billy Byrd said soon after the sentencing.

Miller, who has been serving his sentence at a state facility in Beaumont, appealed anyway, doing so without going through an attorney. In a handwritten document, he contended that the state statute under which he was sentenced violated the United States Constitution's Fifth Amendment and Fourteenth Amendment, and violated state statutes.

The court responded that Miller didn't file notice of appeal until July 14, 2025, more than a year past the June 12, 2024 deadline.

Chief Justice Scott E. Stevens wrote that the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals has held "that, without a timely filed notice of appeal, we (the Sixth Court) cannot execute jurisdiction over an appeal."

Stevens added that on July 21, "We informed Miller of the apparent defect in our jurisdiction. . .and afforded him the opportunity to respond, and, if possible, cure such defect."

Miller responded, but "did not include a satisfactory explanation as to how we have jurisdiction over this appeal,"

The delivery charge stemmed from Miller bringing methamphetamine to a confidential informant Aug. 2, 2023, in the Union Grove area, an act caught on video, Byrd said last year.

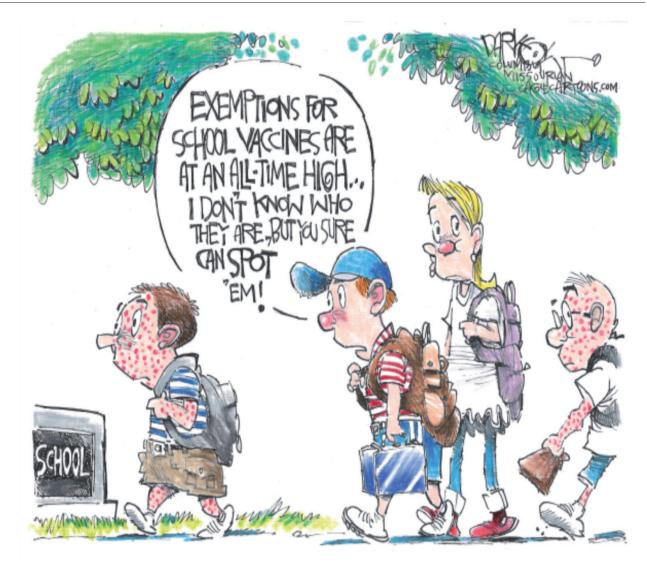
The possession offense resulted from a Sept. 6, 2023, traffic stop, said Byrd, who represented the state at sentencing.

In arguing the Sixth Court had jurisdiction to act, Miller said the total 60 years he was assessed was "over sentencing" and blamed "ineffective assistance of counsel," Marshall attorney Craig Fletcher.

Since Miller had already served prison time for a drug possession charge in Gregg County, Byrd said, the state filed a motion to "enhance" his sentence--that is, lengthen the possible range of punishment--in Upshur County.

Byrd and Assistant District Attorney Barry Clark Wallace successfully contested Miller's appeal.

The appeals court's ruling showed Miller was also assessed \$350 court costs. Since he "adequately indicated his inability to pay" costs of appealing his case, though, the court waived those.



White Oak calls \$1 million bond election for November

By James Draper

White Oak ISD trustees voted 7-0 this week to call a bond election Nov. 5, asking voters to approve \$1,075,000 - it covers an older bond without a tax rate increase.

"In 2015, we had a bond that was on the Maintenance & Operation side somehow," WOISD Supt. Jack Parker explained. Most bonds are on the Interest & Sinking side of a school's finances, and approval of the bond this fall will right the books: "It frees up that bond payment wrapped up the bond vote we've been making since 2015 on M&O and frees up money to go back into our programs."

The school board opened Monday with an hour-long budget workshop before their regular meeting. At that point, the trustees rearranged their agenda to enter an hour-long executive session, citing a personnel issue upon their return to the open meeting. No action was taken following the closed door discussion, and the group

and a handful of other items within 10 minutes.

The debt transfer was originally Proposition B on the bond. Prior to their unanimous vote Monday evening (with no discussion) trustees removed Prop A, proposed athletic facility upgrades.

"That was just a thought and something they could have done," Parker said. "We really wanted to make sure Prop B passes. That is the one we really have honed

in and focused on."

More information on the \$1,075,000 Prop B will be distributed in the coming months before voters head to the polls in early November.

"We do plan on having our financial team come in and have some Q&As and publicize things about what this will do for us," Parker said. "We can move this over to the I&S and pay that I&S rate to get this bond paid off on the correct side," emphasizing passage will not increase taxes: "That's very important in my opinion no one likes new taxes."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The White Oak ISD will hold a public meeting at 05:45, August 25, 2025 in 200 South White Oak Rd. White Oak TX, 75693. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$0.754200/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations) School Debt Service Tax \$0.431900/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness) Approved by Local Voters

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

> Maintenance and operations -2.22 % decrease Debt Service 0.16 % increase Total Expenditures -2.03 % decrease

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

Preceding Tax Year Current Tax Year \$713,935,448 \$754,592,355 \$8,243,460 \$11,139,650 \$381,877,851 \$364,838,389

\$9,011,948

Total taxable value*** of new property** \$6,913,794 *Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district

'New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code. *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$14,317,000

Bonded Indebtedness

*Outstanding principal.

Total appraised value* of all property Total appraised value* of new property**

Total taxable value*** of all property

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

Maintenance & **Local Revenue** State Revenue Interest & Sinking Fund* **Operations Total** Per Student Per Student Last Year's Rate \$0.788300 \$0.397800 \$1.186100 \$3,171 \$9,226 Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance \$0.730680 \$0.352680 \$1.083360 \$2,835 \$9,311 & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service \$0.754200 \$0.431900 \$1.186100 \$2.931 \$10,514 *The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

Last Year This Year Average Market Value of Residences \$263,697 \$279,204 Average Taxable Value of Residences \$89,204 \$82,523 Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value \$1.186100 \$1.186100 Taxes Due on Average Residence \$1,058.05 \$978.81 Increase (Decrease) in Taxes

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.251900. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.251900.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

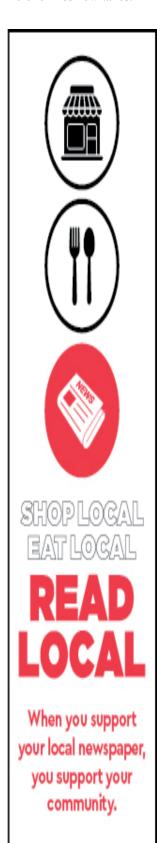
> Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) \$2,296,640 \$715,953

Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.





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