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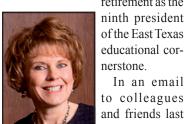
1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

KC's president Kays to retire

By James Draper

Kilgore College's Dr. Brenda Kays has announced her upcoming retirement as the



educational cornerstone. In an email to colleagues and friends last week, Kays not-

ed she'll contin-

ue to serve until February 28, 2026, before she wraps up her time in the college's central chair after more than a decade holding the reins.

"During that time, I remain as committed as ever to supporting you and ensuring a smooth transition," Kays wrote in a Sept. 10 shared by the college this week. "After that, I will cheer you on from a new vantage point, confident in the knowledge that Kilgore College is strong, vibrant, and ready for even greater things ahead!"

Before she was tapped in November 2015 to become KC president, Kays had already invested more than three decades in community college education. She reached Kilgore in January '16 after serving as president of North Carolina's from 2011.

"For more than forty years, I have dedicated my life and career to community college students, and that will continue well into the future. However, these last years here with you have been among the most rewarding and meaningful," Kays wrote. "From my very first day on campus, I knew this college was something special. What makes it extraordinary is not the buildings, projects, or even the record enrollments; though those are impressive accomplishments we can all be proud of.

"What truly matters are the people: the students who arrive on our campus full of hope and determination, the faculty who dedicate themselves to inspiring curiosity and developing skills, the staff who support every detail that makes our mission possible, and the colleagues who motivate each other with their ideas, energy, and unwavering commitment to student success."





Congratulations to White Oak, now Miss Gregg County 2025 - Kylie Caraway was crowned Sept. 11 at the Longview Fairgrounds, cheered on by her classmates and other supporters from White Oak High School and the community. This year's runner-up was **Presley** Johnson, cheered on by a raucous contingent from Sabine High School, once again taking home the Spirit

Moran maintains call for full release of Epstein files

GOP Congressman Nathaniel Moran is not doing new interviews on the Epstein matter and associated issues - he's sticking to his standing call for a full release of the files.

The ongoing scandal surrounding the long relationship between President Donald Trump and disgraced (now deceased) financier and felon Jeffrey Epstein continues to embroil the nation's capitol and other corners of the United States and globe. Epstein, a convicted sex offender and trafficker with potentially hundreds of alleged victims, had ties to powerful figures throughout the U.S. and around the world before his death by suicide in 2019.

On multiple occasions, Moran, a Republican and former Smith County judge, has called for transparency and accountability via a complete release of the so-called 'Epstein files' regardless of who sits in the Oval office.

Last week, Moran's office reiterated his consistent stance on the issue via an emailed statement to the Gladewater Mirror:

"Transparency is critical to restoring public trust and accountability at every level of government. That's the standard he held as Smith County Judge, and it's the same standard he expects at the federal level. Whether under a Democrat or Republican administration, the American people deserve the truth."

Rangers called to probe water embezzlement

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County District Attorney Billy Byrd announced Monday he has asked Texas Rangers to lead an investigation of an allegation by the Union Grove Water Supply Corporation board that an office employee embezzled more than \$100,000 in reportedly missing

In a news release, Byrd noted this is the third time in 12 years that a corporation employee has been accused of stealing from the entity. The prior two cases (involving two different people than the current suspect) were successfully prosecuted via plea bargains.

"Due to this being the third complaint involving the same water department since I have been in office, I have asked the Texas Rangers to lead the investigation so that everyone that may have been involved or assisted in any crime be brought to me for prosecution," Byrd wrote.

After sending the news release, Byrd told The Mirror nobody has been charged with a crime in the case. He also said he thought, but wasn't 100% sure, the unnamed employee under suspicion had been fired.

"At this time, I am asking anyone that is making payment to the Union Grove water department to not pay in cash," he added. "Additionally, I am encouraging all members on the Union Grove Water Supply to check any irregularities you may find between the amount you paid versus what was withdrawn from your account and contact our office with your name and information related to that discrepancy."

The news release said that in 2013, in the first of the three cases, the state recovered \$40,350 restitution to the corporation. In 2023, a different worker stole \$8,000, but restitution "has been and will fully be" made to the agency.

Byrd also told The Mirror he had explained to one board member "how unbelievable it was to me that this could happen a third time."



Ella Williams is crowned 2025 Gladewater High School Homecoming Union Grove High School crowned Natalie Woodard 2025 Homecoming Queen. Alayah Gordon was named Football Sweetheart with Aubrey Floyd Queen Friday night. The Lions went on to shut out Cushing 20-0. selected Football Beau. Band Sweetheart is Aleigha McGuyer and Beau was Hugo Martinez.



Photo by Chris Jones





Photos by Chris Jones



Special Award of the night went to interim Superintendent Brian Gray. The Union Grove school board presented him with "The Lion Legacy Award," for his dedication and service to UGISD.



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.

"...the nation we know."

Eyes are said to be mirrors to the soul. There are those among us whose humor shines in the twinkle of their eyes. Their eyes make us smile. And then there are the eyes that reveal the horror they have seen and the pain they have lived despite the smile on their lips.

As I watched the televised 9/11 memorial Saturday morning on the 20th anniversary of that moment that scarred our nation I thought about some of the truly heroic people I have known. My long list of heroes were from different generations, different parts of our nation, different races, faiths and socio-economic backgrounds. But

they all had one thing in common. They were ordinary people who responded in extraordinary circumstances with bravery, honor and strength.

I remember the eyes of a New York City firefighter who was in the Twin Towers on 9/11, 2001. His picture doesn't capture the depths of sadness in his deep brown eyes. It had just been a year and a half after 9/11 when our picture was taken. In that photo my eyes are clearly sparkling and his... aren't.

I remember the deep brown eyes of my Dad when he talked about friends he lost in

World War II. The sad eyes of the young firefighter and the sad eyes of my aging father had a great deal in common.

Former President George Bush had some very important things to say in his speech at the Flight 93 memorial service in Pennsylvania that honored everyday Americans on a commuter flight who made a choice to stop the terrorists who hijacked their plane with the intent of turning it into a weapon. Pres. Bush's eloquent words about the people on Flight 93, people just like you and me, were powerful:

"Twenty years ago, terrorists chose a random group of Americans, on a routine flight, to be collateral damage in a spectacular act of terror.





The 33 passengers and seven crew of Flight 93 could have been any group of citizens selected by fate. In a sense they stood for us all.

"The terrorists soon discovered that a random group of Americans is an exceptional group of people. Facing an impossible circumstance, they comforted their loved ones by phone, braced each other

an impossible circumstance, they comforted their loved ones by phone, braced each other for action, and defeated the designs of evil. "These Americans were brave, strong, and united in ways that shocked the

and united in ways that shocked the terrorists—but should not surprise any of us. This is the nation we know. And whenever we need hope and inspiration, we can look to the skies and remember."

Remember today that you too, are brave and strong. Remember that what you love most you will always fight to protect. Remember that we are united by much

more than what divides us. Remember that every single one of us has the potential for heroism. Let us live each day forward dedicating ourselves as ordinary people to extraordinary lives.

Seize this day everyday heroes, and make your corner of the world a better, brighter place to be. And as for your eyes? Let them shine with hope despite the challenges we face. We needed to be reminded that we are stronger than we think, braver than we know, and that we will always stand together when it is most needed. It is what Americans have always done.

It is who we are.

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Abbott limits THC products to those 21 and older

After two special sessions ended without lawmakers agreeing on how to regulate the state's THC market, Gov. Greg Abbott issued an executive order restricting the use of products infused with the psychoactive cannabis compound to adults age 21 and older, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The order goes into effect immediately and comes after Abbott vetoed an outright ban on THC products passed during the regular session.

"Absent the kinds of regulations that apply to other psychoactive substances that may safely be enjoyed by adults like alcohol and tobacco, minors have been allowed to purchase these products without any safeguards," Abbott said in his order. "The Legislature did not pass any legislation concerning consumable hemp products, not even a ban for minors, leaving in place the status quo."

Texas outlawed THC vapes effective Sept. 1, but other products such as snacks, gummies and drinks are still legally available for anyone 21 and older. Since hemp products became legal in 2019, more than 8,000 retailers across the state are selling them.

Talarico launches U.S. Senate campaign

State Rep. James Talarico, D-Round Rock, announced last week that he is entering the Democratic primary next March for U.S. Senate. The San Antonio Express-News reported Talarico hopes a new face and approach will give Democrats a chance to garner their first statewide win in more than three decades.

Talarico faces Collin Allred, the former Dallas congressman who unsuccessfully challenged U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz in 2024, and former NASA astronaut Terry Verts in the Democratic primary. Others could enter that race as well.

Incumbent GOP Sen. John Cornyn is facing a stiff challenge on the Republican side from Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton.

"There's a moment here where I think people are ready for something very different," Talarico said. "It's been 10 years of Trumpian politics, politics as blood sport, politics as professional wrestling. And I think people are tired of it."

Troopers take in millions in overtime pay

State troopers dispatched to the border under Operation Lone Star are taking in millions of dollars in overtime pay, even as border crossings have dropped to record lows, the Houston Chronicle reported. Data obtained by Hearst Newspapers indicates that the Department of Public Safety is on track to spend about \$77 million on overtime this year, surpassing what it spent in 2023 when crossings peaked and thousands of migrants were arrested.

As of June, approximately 1 in 10 troopers were on track to double their annual salaries through overtime. Operation Lone Star now accounts for a third of DPS' total overtime spending. DPS officials say their focus is shifting from policing the Rio Grande to arresting drug smugglers and human traffickers across the state and assisting ICE in finding immigrants with outstanding warrants.

"It is true, you no longer see troopers simply stationed along the riverbanks — that is not where they are needed at this time," said Ericka Miller, a DPS spokeswoman. "Troopers, special agents, Texas Rangers and others are working at various locations — some many miles from the physical border — to apprehend criminals and criminal illegal immigrants and crack down on crime connected to the border including drug cases, human smuggling, human trafficking, weapons trafficking, stash houses and more."

Cost of owning a home in Texas on the rise

Despite lawmakers' efforts to dramatically reduce property taxes, the cost of owning a home in Texas grew in 2024, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The Texas Tribune reported other home ownership costs, such as insurance and utilities, have eaten into money saved on property taxes. The median Texas homeowner last year paid \$1,452 in monthly costs – up 2.7% from 2023. Texas homeowners' monthly costs last year were about 7% higher than in 2019, and the typical Texas homeowner with a mortgage spent 22.2% of their income on home costs.

Guest Commentary ...

Open government impacts our lives in big ways

By Kelley Shannon

If you wonder how open government laws affect you, think about these basics: The local taxes we pay. The roads we drive on. Even, sometimes, matters of life and death.

Access to information through public meetings and records helps us know about the decisions elected officials are mak-



ing on our behalf. It allows us to ask questions, to speak out, to demand change.

After all, in our nation, government belongs to us.

This summer's deadly Hill Country flooding underscores the need for openness and accountability to enhance public safety. Questions have arisen about transparency surrounding evacuation plans, warning systems and building

in floodplains since the tragedy that killed at least 138 people. Questions continue about government's responses to the catastrophe.

This subject will be explored at the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas state conference Sept. 26 in Austin, "We the People: Holding Government Accountable." Other discussions will focus on transparency legislation at the state Capitol and effective use of the Texas Public Information Act. Members of the public are welcome to register to attend the conference.

Jan Crawford of CBS News, the chief legal correspondent who reports on the U.S. Supreme Court, is the keynote speaker. Attorney Bill Aleshire will receive the James Madison Award honoring his open government and First Amendment work.

"Without transparency, the government is a petri dish for corruption and a reason for people to doubt the legitimacy of their government," Aleshire rightly notes.

Aleshire represented citizens who challenged the Hays

County Commissioners Court over a \$439 million road bond election. The commissioners' meeting item ordering the election did not mention the election was for road bonds, which roads were included or the amount of the proposed bonds. The Open Meetings Act lawsuit successfully contested the 2024 election, with a judge striking down the passage of the bonds.

Another Aleshire lawsuit blocked the city of Austin from placing controversial charter amendments on an election ballot because of Open Meetings Act violations.

In Corpus Christi, investigative reporting by KRIS-TV using government records disclosed the persistent problem of fatal wrong-way driver crashes on the Harbor Bridge and highlighted solutions to save lives.

Other dangerous situations have been exposed thanks to access to public information – toxic air pollution in southeast Texas, for example, and the locations of deadly COVID-19 outbreak clusters in nursing homes during the pandemic.

Public records about law enforcement responses to mass shootings such as the one at Robb Elementary in Uvalde or records related to someone dying in police custody are supposed to be obtainable under the Texas Public Information Act – not kept secret.

State lawmakers approved bipartisan legislation in 2023 by Rep. Joe Moody of El Paso specifying that when someone dies in law enforcement custody those records are to be public. Under a previous loophole, some police departments withheld records from citizens because the arrested person – the one who died – had not gone to trial. That was a misuse of the law.

Whether it's a police encounter, the spending of taxpayer money, public health policy or something else important in life, open government laws are at the heart of keeping us informed.

Public information is for everyone. It's how we, the people, stay in the know and work to improve our communities, our state and our nation.

Kelley Shannon is executive director of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, a nonprofit that works to ensure government transparency and protect First Amendment rights. For more information on the FOIFT state conference go to www.foift.org.



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THE SERIOUSNESS OF SIN # 3

People like to talk about all kinds of problems. But they don't like to talk about sin. But our greatest problem is SIN-not terrorism, global warming, not the economy, homelessness, or even the threat of nuclear destruction. So, while there are many serious issues facing our world today, gloom and doom forecasters have ignored and overlooked the obvious. Today's number one problem is SIN! Rather than talking about sin people just choose to rename it to try and take away its stigma. Today, what was once sin is now a disease, an alternate lifestyle, or a woman's right to choose! "I lied" has been replaced with "I misspoke." Stealing has become "misappropriating funds." Adultery is devalued to a "fling" or "affair." Homosexuality is now "gay." Immodesty is now called "risque" or "fad." Coarse jokes and cursing is just "off-color" or "colorful." Drunkenness is described as "a little too much to drink. "Fornication is reduced to "living together" or the more generic "in a relationship."

Dr. Karl Menninger, a well-known and respected Psychiatrist wrote a book entitled "WHATEVER BECAME OF SIN?" Dr. Menninger wrote: "The very word sin, which seems to have disappeared, was a proud word. It was once a strong word, an ominous and serious word. It described a central point in every civilized human being's life plan and lifestyle. But the word went away. It has almost disappeared-the word along with the notion. Why, asked Dr. Menninger: Doesn't anyone sin anymore? Doesn't anyone believe in sin?"

Sin is an obsolete word in many circles. Some look at the idea of sin as something straight out of the dark ages-a remnant of our unenlightened past. Menninger's question, whatever became of sin" is a valid question, especially in light of how so many have rejected the notion of sin and personal responsibility. But be assured that when the idea of sin has been dismissed there is also dismissed the accountability for one's actions.

We do not determine what is right and wrong. God has already determined that for us in His inspired Word, and sin is our greatest problem because it has eternal consequences, separation from God (*Isa. 59: 1-2; Rom. 6: 23*). To be separated from God because of our sin places one in a hopeless and helpless condition (*Eph. 2: 12*). We will talk about solving the problem of sin next week. Think on these things. Stay tuned

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

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Sports roundup

Bears slip, 'Necks and Lions win big

By Tyler Sutton

The Jack was indeed packed as the Gladewater Bears hosted the West Rusk Raiders on a beautiful night in East Texas at Jack V. Murphy stadium. And in a back and forth defensive ballgame, the Bears came up short falling 15-14.

West Rusk won the toss and deferred to the 2nd half so the Bears offense was on the field first and they took no time getting to work as they put up a 15 play drive that ended with a Achillies Hess finding Jakobe Crosby for a 8 yard TD pass and the ensuing two point try was successful and Gladewater took a 8-0 lead after one quarter.

The defense's then took over as there was no scoring from either side and Gladewater took a 8-0 lead into the half.

The Raiders got the ball to start the second half and quickly went down the field capped off when quarterback Judson Dotson found Kam Brown for a 20 yard touchdown catch and the two point try was successful and the game was tied at 8.

The Bears got the ball back and were driving but fumbled the ball away and the Raiders took advantage when on the first play of the 4th quarter, running back

Daylin Williams punched it in and West Rusk took a 15-8 lead. The Bears got the ball back and marched down the field and capped it off when Jeremiah Flanagan found paydirt from 7 yards out.

But the extra point was blocked and the Raiders kept a 15-14 lead. The Bears defense forced a West Rusk punt and got one last chance at their own 21 yard line with less then a minute left but a 4th down try was unsuccessful and West Rusk got the ball back and ran the clock out. "We had a chance tonight but too many mental mistakes cost us.

"We will get back to work this coming week and will be ready to go," said coach Jermaine Lewis.

The Bears fall to 2-1 and will wrap up their non district portion of their schedule when they host the Spring Hill Panthers. Kick off is at 7 PM.

'Necks pound 'Dogs

The White Oak Roughnecks were again on the road as they headed to Quitman to take on the Quitman Panthers.

Jaxsen Ludlow had a hand in seven touchdowns, Tysen McClain hauled in four touchdown passes and the White Oak Roughnecks improved to 3-0 on the season with a 63-13 win over the Quitman Bulldogs.

Ludlow completed 13 of 15 passes for 326 yards and five touchdowns and carried five times for 103 yards and a couple of scores for the Roughnecks.

McClain caught five passes for 202 yards and four touchdowns. Logan Ladwig had three catches for 95 yards and two scores. Tyson McKinney added three catches for 77 yards. Cal Jester had four grabs for 56 yards, and Ludlow caught two passes for 24 yards.

The Necks will wrap up their non district portion of their schedule with Queen City. Kickoff is at 7 PM.

Lions blank 'Kats

The Union Grove Lions had a wonderful homecoming as they shut out the Cushing Bearkats 20-0.

After a scoreless 1st quarter, the Lions got on the board first with a touchdown and led 7-0 at the half.

They would add touchdown's in the 3rd and 4th quarters. QB Bryce Porter was 11-16 for 107 and 3 touchdowns with 1 interception. On the ground, Kohl Sirmans had 35 yards on 9 carries and Porter lit it up with 112 yards on just 11 carries. Through the air, Wrigley Roberts had 4 catches for 23 yards and a TD and DJ Edwards had 2 catches for 24 yards and

The Lions improve their record to a perfect 3-0 and begin district play next when they travel to Waskom. Kick off is at 7 PM.



Brycen Porter handles pressure from Cushing's defense in Union Grove's homecoming game Sept. 12. The Lions defeated the Bearkats 20-0. Porter is currently first in the district in passing yards and second in rushing.

Photo by Olivia Dabreu



Logan Ladwig hauls in a 67-yard touchdown pass from Jaxsen Ludlow during the Roughnecks' 63-13 rout of the Quitman Bulldogs. Ludlow accounted for seven scores, throwing five touchdown passes and rushing for two more. Photo by Mike Peery

Volleyball roundup

By Tyler Sutton

Gladewater volleyball kicked off district play with a pair of home matches at Bill Waters Gym. Starting with the state ranked Tatum Lady Eagles and were swept in 3 games 25-15, 25-9, 25-14. Kamdyn Scott recorded 16 kills and four digs for Tatum, which also got 30 assists from Taydem Barker and 14 digs and six kills from Kaysen Foster. Blakely Burns added three digs, two aces and seven kills, Adriana Lomas three digs, Noa Cart four digs, Presley Wilcox three kills, Addyson Saunders two kills, Kumora Chatman five digs and three aces and Kyndal Greenwood seven digs and two aces. That was followed by a match with the Troup Lady Tigers where they were swept again 3-0 (25-12, 25-15, 25-15). The losses drop the Lady Bears to 11-15 and 0-2 in district and will next be on the road with matches at West Rusk and at Arp.

The White Oak Ladynecks volleyball team wrapped up their non district portion of their schedule with a match with the Bullard Lady Panthers and White Oak fell 3-0 (25-19, 25-17, 25-17). Andee Bridges finished with 11 kills, six receptions and four digs for White Oak. Londyn Baker added six kills and four digs, Addy Young four aces and 18 assists and Peyton Thompson nine receptions and eight digs. That was followed by the Ladynecks getting 19 kills from Andee Bridges and 35 assists from Addy Young on the way to a 25-7, 25-17, 25-23 sweep over Sabine. Bridges also recorded three digs and eight receptions. Young added four digs and two aces, Carrington Watson 11 kills, Londyn Baker seven kills and four digs, Peyton Thompson three aces, nine receptions and four digs and Taylor Morgan and Kyleigh Flores a combined five aces. The Ladynecks are now 14-12 and 1-0 in district play and will next be in action with matches on the road at Tatum and at Troup

The Union Grove Lady Lions volleyball team continued their non district schedule as they split a pair of home matches. Falling to New Diana 3-0 (25-23, 25-19, 25-10).

They followed that up with a 3-0 sweep of Union Hill (25-15, 25-10, 25-17). Union Grove now sits at 8-12 and will wrap up non district play with a road match at Jefferson followed by a home match with Elysian Fields. Before starting district play the following week.

The Gladewater Lady Bears wrapped up the non district portion of their schedule as they first headed to Hearts Bluff where they were swept 3-0 (25-11, 25-21, 25-19). They then made the trip to Overton to take part in the Overton Mustangs Tournament where they went 2-3. The Lady Bears are now 4-9 on the season and next will be in action when they open up district play with home matches with Tatum and Troup.

The White Oak Ladynecks continued their non district schedule as they hosted Gilmer and in a five set thriller, pulled out a 3-2 victory (25-20, 25-20, 24-26, 19-25, 15-12). They were scheduled to host Elysian Fields but do to a scheduling conflict, that game was cancelled. The Lady-Necks improve to 13-11 on the season and will wrap up their non district schedule when they host Bullard. Then head on the road to open district play at Sabine.

The Union Grove Lady Lions continued their non district portion of their schedule as they made the long trip to Waskom and came back with a hard fought 3-2 win (24-26, 25-14, 25-22, 23-25,15-11). That was followed by another road trip over to West Rusk where the Lady Lions fell 3-0 (25-21, 25-11, 25-16). Union Grove now sets at 7-11 and will next be in action as they continue with non district play as they host New Diana and Union Hill.



205 W US Highway 80 White Oak

(903) 295-8883

Monday-Friday 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m.-noon

TEXAS

CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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automotiverestorationsystems.com

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- 27 poisonous 28 TXism: "numerous dead worm"
- 29 Texas-based fourpart series: "Lonesome Dove," first aired in 1989 30 TXism: "got
- knocked down _ ___ or two" (was humbled)
- 33 sea bird, smaller than a gull 34 Chris Pine's Texas "scream queen"

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- grandma (2 wds.) 35 TXism: "made my heart skip _ (strong emotional
- reaction) 37 aerial bombardment (2 wds.)
- 38 money or food given to the poor 40 uses a keyboard
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See Answers On Page 4A

GPD Activity Report

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MISCELLANEOUS 205438 8-15 205438 2256 FM 2885 FM 2885		MISCELLANEOUS	20254390	3:44	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
MISCELANEOUS 205438 8-16 2269 FM 2885		TERROR THREAT	20254391	6:31		321 S EDWARDS EDWARDS ST
FRE DEPT		MISCELLANEOUS	20254392	8:13		301 SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
EMS 205488 10:11 HUGMAN KENT CLINIC 30TW UPSPLITE UPSPLITE ANE EMS 205489 10:38 NINCO MACHINE 1011 E COMMERCE COMMERCE MISCELLANEOUS 205497 10:58 10:00 NOV CAY CAY EMS 205497 10:58 12:00 NINCO MACHINE 1011 E COMMERCE COMMERCE MISCELLANEOUS 205498 12:00 NINCO MACHINE 10:00 NOV CAY CAY EMS 205498 12:00 NINCO MACHINE 10:00 NINCO MACHINE		MISCELLANEOUS	20254393	8:16		2250 FM 2685 FM 2685
MISCELLANEOUS 2005485 10:38 WINCO MACHINE 001 E COMMERCE COMMERCE MISCELLANEOUS 2005485 10:39 10:39 MINCO MACHINE 10:30 WINCO		FIRE DEPT	20254394	9:04		2684 HENDRICKS HENDRICKS
EMS		EMS	20254395	10:11	HUGMAN KENT CLINIC	307 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
MISCELLANEOUS 205458 10:58 10:58 10:59 10:		FMS	20254396			1011 F COMMERCE COMMERCE
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MISCELANEOUS 2054402 15:59					ALICTIAL DANIE	
MISCELANEOUS 205440 18:30 10		1			AUSTIN BANK	
MISCELANEOUS 205440 18:39 18:39 18:30 18:3						
MISCELANEOUS 2054405 16:38 16:					VENTURA APARTMENT	
FRE DEPT 205440 16:49 FRE DEPT 205440 16:22 UNION GROVE SD 1220 UNION GROVE RD PG8 H47 UNIO		MISCELLANEOUS	20254404	16:30		1106 FOREST HILLS FOREST HILLS
FRE DEPT 2025440 19-22 INION GROVE SD 11220 UNION GROVE FD POB 1417 UNION GROV		MISCELLANEOUS	20254405	16:39		1618 W LAKE LAKE
MISCELANEOUS 205448 19-51 205400 21-10 2004100 205400 21-10 2004100 205400 21-10 2004100 205400 21-10 2004100 205400 21-10 2004100 205400 21-10 2004100 205400 21-10 2004100 205400 21-10 2004100 205400 21-10 2004100 205400 205400 21-10 205400 205400 205400 21-10 21-10 205400 21-10		FIRE DEPT	20254406	16:49		326 MELBA MELBA AVE
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THEFT		MISCELLANEOUS	20254408	19:51		2016 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE DR
MISCELLANEOUS 205441 22/0		MISCELLANEOUS	20254409	21:10	DOMINOS	1050 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
MISCELANEOUS 2054412 22-10 GAY AIR NEAR BRIDGE GAY AIR NEAR NEAR AIR NE NEAR AIR NE NEA		THEFT	20254410	21:41		403 SPENCER SPENCER
MISCELANEOUS 2054412 22-10 GAY AIR NEAR BRIDGE GAY AIR NEAR NEAR AIR NE NEAR AIR NE NEA		MISCELLANEOUS	20254411	22:07		
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EMS 2054424 13.25 EZB HWY 80 HWY 80 ASSIST 2054425 14.36 SZB HWY 80 HWY		ASSIST	20254422	10:16	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
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HIZE DISTURBANCE-OTHER 2005408 1.21 388 COOPER COOPER ST MISCELLINEOUS 2005408 2.20 303 SMAIN MAIN ST		MISCELLANEOUS	20254431			511 S TYLER TYLER ST
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	/11/25	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20254435	1:21		303 COOPER COOPER ST
		MISCELLANEOUS	20254436	2:30		303 S MAIN MAIN ST
IEMS 2025438 8:04 I4465 W COMMERCE COMMERCE AVE		EMS	20254438	8:04		4465 W COMMERCE COMMERCE AVE

	ANIMAL	CONTR	OL		- 1	20254423		13:22					1	061 FAIR	VIEW F	AIRVIE	w				
	EMS				- 1	20254424		13:25					5	238 HW	/ 80 HW	Y 80					
	ASSIST				- 1	20254425		14:35													
	EMS				- 1	20254426		15:24 H	IUGMAN K	ENT CLI	NIC		- 33	07 W UP	SHURU	JPSHU	R AVE	E			
	EMS				- 2	20254427		16:38					ŀ	WY 271	HWY 27	1					
	EMS							18:21					65	112 LEE L	EE ST						
	MISCEL	LANEOU	S			20254430	- 2	20:48 T	EXAS BAN	K AND T	RUST		-	623 E BF	OADW	AY BRO	ADW	/AY			
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	EMS				- 1	20254433	- :	23:40 S	SEYMORES WILCO 1298 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE						٦						
1/25	DISTUR	BANCE-	OTHER		2	20254435		1:21					173	03 COO	PER CO	OPER S	ST				
	MISCEL	LANEOU	IS		- 1	20254436		230					3	03 S MA	N MAIN	ST					
	EMS				- 1	20254438		8:04					4	465 W C	OMMER	CE CO	MME	RCEA	ΝE		٦
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	MISCELLANEOUS	20254439	9:51		
	BURGLARY/BUILDING	20254440	10:13	ECONOMY TOWING	302 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20254441	10:28		343 SHEPPARD SHEPPARD LN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254442	10:54		2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ALARMIOTHER	20254443	12:30		124 S LOOP 485 LOOP 485
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20254444	12:51	CAPITAL ONE	200 N MAIN MAIN ST
	ASSIST	20254445	14:58	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20254446	15:59	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254447	17:15		1107 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20254448	17:28	TEJAS	1414 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20254449	17:40		2100 E HAROLD HAROLD ST
	DISTURBANCE-RESIDENCE	20254450	18:38		502 AVALON AVALON
	10-50 MINOR	20254451	20:23	MCDONALDS	1100 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20254452	20:36		NORTH NORTH
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20254453	20:57	GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	EMS	20254454	22:52		4 GREENWAY VILLAGE GREENWAY VILLAGE
12/25	ANIMAL CONTROL	20254456	7:34		1005 SHEPARD SHEPARD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254457	8:53		511 W TYLER TYLER
	ALARMIOTHER	20254458	8:58		807 S TYLER TYLER
	FIRE DEPT	20254460	10:31	VENTURA APARTMENT	317 N MAIN MAIN
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254461		THE BAR	26237 COUNTRY CLUB COUNTRY CLUB RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254462		GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL	2201 W GAY GAY AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20254463	14:52		1305 N EDWARDS EDWARDS
	FIRE DEPT	20254464	15:15		WILLOWOAKWILLOWOAK
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20254466	17:27		1513 VESTA VESTA
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20254467	18:29		1513 VESTA VESTA
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254468		SABINE RIVER BOAT RAMP	1000 S RIVER RIVER RD
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20254469	19:38	O DITE THE COURT OF THE	502 AVALON AVALON
	FIRE DEPT	20254470	20:57		2107 BROADWAY BROADWAY E
/13/25	MISCELLANEOUS	20254471		WASH TUB LAUNDRY MAT	201 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254472		GOODWILL INDUSTRIES	1640 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254473	0:52	OCCUPATION OF THE PROPERTY OF	271 NBILAMBERTS 271 NBILAMBERTS
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254474	1:06	SONIC DRIVE IN	1103 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254475	3:15		21 JULIA WOOD JULIA WOOD
	ALARMIMALFUNCTION	20254477		ADP PROPERTIES	501 N AMES AMES ST
	FIRE DEPT	20254478	7:07	TO THE ETTE	326 MELBA AVE MELBA AVE
	EMS	20254479	10:14		25 GARDEN LANE GARDEN LANE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254481	11:00		204 E EDDY EDDY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254483	12:48		204 E EDDY EDDY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20254486	15:12	STEVENSONS WRECKER	210 S DEAN DEAN ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254487	15:17		307 S MAIN MAIN ST
	ALARMIOTHER	20254489	16:04		723 VIRGINIA VIRGINIA
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20254490		ABUNDANT LIFE TEMPLE	407 N MONEY MONEY ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20254492	20:43		1551 PHILLIP SPRINGS PHILLIP SPRINGS
	BURGLARY/HABITATION	20254493	21:22		205 MILL MILL
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254494	22:09		901 E SHEPPERD SHEPPERD
114/25	MISCELLANEOUS	20254495	3:38		OLD LONGVIEW HWY OLD LONGVIEW HWY
1120	ANIMAL CONTROL	20254496	5:40		527 NORTH NORTH ST
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20254498	9:41		530 NORTH NORTH ST
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20254500	10:31		601B TENERY TENERY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254502		ABUNDANT LIFE TEMPLE	407 N MONEY MONEY ST
			16:03		
	DISORDERLY CONDUCT MISCELLANEOUS	20254503	16:03	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST 1305 N EDWARDS EDWARDS ST
	MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS	20254506	17:08		1018 CHEVY CHASE CHEVY CHASE
				CLADEWATER DOLLCE DEDARTMENT	
	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	20254507		GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 STYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20254508	19:06	ROSEDALE CEMETERY	E ARMSTRONG ARMSTRONG RD

GPD Arrest Report

DDFOT DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	OEV.	OFFERIOR	LOCATION ADDRESS1
						OFFENSE	
8/25	9/8/25	11:15	HARPER, DARRELL FITZGERALD JR	В	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1000 SHELL CAMP
	9/8/25	11:15	HARPER, DARRELL FITZGERALD JR	В	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1000 SHELL CAMP
	9/8/25	11:15	HARPER, DARRELL FITZGERALD JR	В	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1000 SHELL CAMP
	9/8/25	11:15	HARPER, DARRELL FITZGERALD JR	В	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1000 SHELL CAMP
	9/8/25	11:15	HARPER, DARRELL FITZGERALD JR	В	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1000 SHELL CAMP
	9/8/25	11:15	HARPER, DARRELL FITZGERALD JR	В	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1000 SHELL CAMP
•	9/8/25	11:15	HARPER, DARRELL FITZGERALD JR	В	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1000 SHELL CAMP
	9/8/25	11:15	HARPER, DARRELL FITZGERALD JR	В	М	FAILURE TO MAINTAIN FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	1000 SHELL CAMP
	9/8/25	11:15	HARPER, DARRELL FITZGERALD JR	В	М	DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID	1000 SHELL CAMP
10/25	9/10/25	20:46	MACKEY, JEFFERY VARNELL	W	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1623 E BROADWAY
11/25	9/11/25	17:46	BROWN, KENA RAE	W	F	DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED 2ND	300 W COMMERCE AVE
13/25	9/13/25	0:37	GREEN, MILTON LEE	В	М	WARRANT (LOCAL)	1640 E BROADWAY
	9/13/25	15:19	MCGINNIS, KENNETH WAYNE JR	W	М	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	N FERRY AND WEST GLADE
15/25	9/15/25	19:56	BROOKS, JACQUELYN LENORA	В	F	RESIST ARREST SEARCH OR TRANSPORT	1405 E BROADWAY AVE



Emergency responders from multiple departments work the scene of a three-vehicle collision at the intersection of Willow Oak and Hwy. 271 in Union Grove Sept. 10. At least one person was transported for emergency medical treatment, injured but conscious. Neighbors say incidents at the unsignalled crossing are common.

White Oak Police **Activity Report**

For the reporting period of September 8th through September 14th, 2025, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to, or initiated, 211 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were: Investigative Follow-ups, Suspicious Activity, Traffic Issues (motorist assists, traffic control, reckless drivers, etc.), and Community Relations (welfare checks, civil issues, vacation home security checks, etc.).

Three traffic collisions were investigated during this reporting period which resulted in three injuries and no criminal investigations.

White Oak Officers made five arrests during this reporting period:

Russell Kelly Brown Jr., 34, of White Oak on two outstanding White Oak warrants for Driving While License Invalid and Fail to Maintain Financial Responsibility,

Michael Hammett, 47, of Gladewater on three outstanding White Oak warrants for Expired Registration, Driving While License Invalid, and Fail to Maintain Financial Responsibility,

Blake Kelly Couch, 23, of Longview for Driving While Intoxicated,

Ayva Kaye Ivy, 18, of Longview for Possession of a Fictitious / Fake Driver's License, Minor in Possession of Alcohol, Minor in Possession of a Tobacco Product, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and

Reggie Dewayne King, 34, of White Oak for Assault -Family Violence - Causing Bodily Injury.

Two separate and unrelated cases were presented to the Gregg County District Attorney's for prosecution:

-Driving While Intoxicated

-Indecency w/ a Child - Sexual Contact



Last Puzzle

Sunday Services



See your helpful hardware folks at... Store hours:

Mon-Fri Sat 1:00-5:00

7:00-7:00 8:00-6:00

Bailey's **ACE** Gladewater, TX

903.845.5787

BAPTIST Calvary Baptist • 903-845-6297

Clarksville City Baptist • 903-845-3248 Cornerstone Church • 903-918-5539 East Mountain Baptist • 903-759-2820 Eastview Baptist Church • 903-984-8524 First Baptist Church • 903-845-2171 Friendship Baptist Church • 903-845-4603 Gladeview Baptist • 903-845-3842 Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174 Grace Baptist • 903-845-6440 Greater New Hope Baptist Locust Grove Baptist • 903-845-5174 Gladewater Bible • 903-845-4768 New Hope Baptist • 903-845-3042 St. James Baptist • 903-845-5028 Union Grove Baptist • 903-845-4894 Olde Tyme Baptist Church • 903-806-2411 **CHURCH OF CHRIST**

East Mountain Church of Christ * 903-285-1871 North Loop Church of Christ • 903-845-2531 North Main Church of Christ • 903-845-2816 Rocky Church of Christ **CATHOLIC**

St. Theresa's Catholic Church • 903-845-2306 CHARISMATIC

New Life Church • 903-845-8108 LUTHERAN

Our Redeemer Lutheran • 903-758-2019

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What's Happening

Third Town Hall event brings 3 community leaders to the table Oct. 2

City, school and business will all be in the spotlight Oct. 2 during Gladewater Mayor Brandy Flanagan's third Town Hall Meeting.

Featuring Gladewater ISD Superintendent Rae Ann Patty and Gladewater Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Anna Conlan alongside Flanagan and the team at Gladewater City Hall, the public panel discussion and talkback begins at 6 p.m. that Tuesday evening in the Gladewater High School Cafeteria. Other key participants include Gladewater City Council members, City Manager Charlie Smith and more municipal personnel.

According to the organizers, "This Town Hall will begin with brief presentations, followed by a panel discussion format that will allow citizens to ask questions directly."

Planned discussion items include:

- A six-month progress
- report for the city • Ongoing challenges and
- plans to address them • Progress and needs for
- Gladewater ISD • Recent GEDCO developments and plans for the
- future • How city, school and EDC are working on shared

"Your voice matters, and you are an integral part of Team Gladewater. The Mayor encourages everyone to be part of the conversation as we continue to move Gladewater forward."

City Hall hosts pet microchipping event on Sept. 20

Gladewater residents in Gregg County can get



Superintendent: Statewide Smartphone ban sparks healthy chatter for GISD students

By James Draper

Gladewater ISD will continue to focus on healthy academics and robust extracurriculars, Rae Ann Patty says, on giving the community's young people a foundation that will help raise them into adulthood.

Ten months into her post leading the local district, Patty visited Gladewater Chamber of Commerce's Fall Business Luncheon Sept. 15 for a 'State of the School' address.

"The teachers are just doing a fantastic job," she told the crowd. "I'm very, very proud

"We're going to continue pushing forward to see what we can gain academically and also push our extracurriculars.

From one attendee: How is GISD doing on the smartphone ban?

"Cell phones, we're doing great," Patty replied. "Everybody's talking now," leading to some loud lunches, but that's not a bad thing: "They're not texting each other. They're not playing on games. They're talking.

"We haven't had any issues with it. Our discipline has decreased. We've had to take up a few phones and have parents come get them," but that's contributing to fewer confiscations. What about enrollment?

"Our enrollment is growing, which is nice," Patty said, closing the 2024-2025 school year with 1,585 students and increasing to 1,611 currently. "I can't track it, but I'll tell you what I think it is: Everybody knows and loves Coach (Jermaine) Lewis, and we've had some athletes move in that want to play with him. In my experience as a superintendent, you have your best, highest enrollment, when your football does well.

With measured improvements to girls sports as well, "Coach Lewis and his team do such a good job. He's just involving everybody in the community, and really he's hitting in the hearts of kids."

The 52nd annual Gladewater Arts & Crafts Festival is coming up this weekend, chamber of commerce dynamo Lois Reed noted, and the City of Gladewater's next town hall meeting is Thursday, Oct. 2, followed on Friday, Oct. 3, by the Weldon Bumblebee Honor Game.

The next quarterly chamber luncheon will be Nov. 14.

their pets microchip'd for free later this month in a pop-up clinic hosted by the Longview Animal Care Adoption Center, Longview PAWS (Pets Are Worth Sav-

ing) and the City of Glade-

Proof of residency is required during the event, running 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, at Gladewater City Hall.

For more information, contact LACAC at (903) 297-7387 or reach out via email to animals@longviewtexas.gov.

OBITUARY

LINDA KAE MORRIS WELLS

Funeral services for Linda Kae Morris Wells, 81, of Gladewater, Texas, will be held at 11:00 am, Monday, September 22, 2025, in the Chapel of McWhorter Funeral Home with



Brother Bailey Harris officiating. Interment to follow at Gladewater Memorial Park. The family will receive friends at 10:00 am prior to the service.

Linda was born on June 26, 1944, in Lindale, Texas, to William J. Morris and Lona B. Jordan Morris, and passed from this life on September 13, 2025.

Linda married Harold Wells on August 31, 1962, at First Baptist Church in Lindale, Texas. She was a loving wife,

mother, homemaker, and friend.

Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, Harold Wells, Sr.; sons, Harold "Hal" Ray Wells, Jr. (Lisa), and Morris Wells, (Lori); sister, Beth Dubois, (John); grandchildren, Jordan Wells (Myah), Tim Fisher (Lynsie), and Brandon Endsley (Amanda); and great grandchildren, Anna Grace Fisher, Easton Endsley, and Grayson Endsley.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Lona Morris.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Roxy Room Project, P.O. Box 1089, Gladewater, Texas 75647, or First Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 1444, Gladewater, Texas 75647.

Please visit Linda's online registration book at www.mcwhorterfh.com to leave a memory for the family.

Organizers recruit Arts & Crafts Fest's event Sept. 20-21

Number one rule for the Gladewater Arts & Crafts Festival: Handcrafted items only.

Whether it's ceramics or salsa, clothing or crafts, dolls, decor, artwork or needlework, it must be homemade and handmade to pass muster as the annual event heads into its 52nd year later this month. It's another local tradition spearheaded Gladewater Chamber of Commerce's Lois Reed, and she welcomes all the help she can get.

Set each year on the third weekend in September, the 2025 event makes its bow Sept. 20-21. The festivities run 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. that Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Log on to gladewaterartsandcrafts.com to download a vendor application, including standard rules and regulations.

Storytime set

Two books will be read to small children at both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday (Sept. 18).

To be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. readings are "If You Find a Leaf" by Aimee Sicuro, and "A Very Big Fall" by Emmy Kastner. A "scrap paper leaf" 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.



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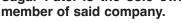
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit (P) by Shivansh Consulting LLC. doing business as Sam's Liquor, to be located at 1004 E Broadway Ave, Unit-B, Gladewater, Gregg County, Texas 75647.

Sagar Patel is the sole owner and managing member of said company.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Brief Explanatory Statements of Proposed Constitutional Amendments Special Election, November 4, 2025

Proposition Number 1 (SJR 59)

SJR 59 proposes a constitutional amendment to establish two special funds in the state treasury to provide a dedicated source of funding for capital projects and equipment purchases related to educational programs offered by the Texas State Technical College (TSTC) System. The proposed amendment requires the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to manage the funds, including managing any investment activities related to the funds and making the funds available for use by the TSTC System. The proposed amendment authorizes the TSTC System Board of Regents to use amounts distributed by the Comptroller to the available fund to acquire land, construct and equip buildings and other permanent improvements, make major repairs and rehabilitations of buildings or other permanent improvements, acquire capital equipment, acquire library books and materials, make payment of the principal and interest due on any bonds or notes used to finance permanent improvements, or for any other purpose authorized by law. Under the proposed amendment, the TSTC System could not use the appropriated funds to construct, equip, repair, or rehabilitate buildings or other permanent improvements that are to be used for intercollegiate athletics or auxiliary enterprises.

proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the permanent technical institution infrastructure fund and the available workforce education fund to support the capital needs of educational programs offered by the Texas State Technical College System."

Proposition Number 2 (SJR 18)

SJR 18 proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from imposing a tax on the realized or unrealized capital gains of an individual, family, estate, or trust. This prohibition would include a tax on the sale or transfer of a capital asset that is payable by an individual, family, estate, or trust selling or transferring the asset. The proposed amendment would not prohibit the imposition or change in the rate of an ad valorem tax on property; a sales tax on the sale of goods or services; or a use tax on the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of goods or

proposed amendment appear on the ballot as follows: "The

services.

constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of a tax on the realized or unrealized capital gains of an individual, family, estate, or trust."

Proposition Number 3 (SJR 5)

SJR 5 proposes a constitutional amendment to require the denial of bail pending trial for persons accused of certain criminal offenses. The proposed amendment would apply only to a person accused of committing one or more of the following offenses: murder; capital murder; aggravated assault if the person caused serious bodily injury to another, as defined by law, or the person used a firearm, club, knife, or explosive weapon, as those terms are defined by law, during the commission of the assault; aggravated kidnapping; aggravated aggravated robbery; sexual assault; indecency with a child; trafficking of persons; or continuous trafficking of persons. Under the proposed amendment, a person accused of one or more of these offenses must be denied bail pending trial if the attorney representing the state demonstrates by a preponderance of the evidence that the granting of bail is insufficient to reasonably prevent the person's willful nonappearance in court; or the attorney representing the state demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that the granting of bail is insufficient to reasonably ensure the safety of the community, law enforcement, and the victim of the alleged offense. A judge or magistrate who grants bail to a person accused of one or more of these offenses under the proposed amendment must set bail and impose conditions of release necessary only to reasonably prevent the person's willful nonappearance in court and ensure the safety of the community, law enforcement, and the victim of the alleged offense. The judge or magistrate must also prepare a written order that includes findings of fact and a statement explaining the justification for the grant of bail. The proposed amendment specifies that it may not be construed to limit any right a person has under other law to contest a denial of bail or to contest the amount of bail set by a judge or magistrate or to require any testimonial evidence before a judge or magistrate makes a bail decision with respect to a person to whom the amendment applies. A judge or magistrate who determines whether a preponderance of the evidence or clear and convincing evidence exists under the proposed amendment shall consider the likelihood of the person's willful nonappearance in court; the

nature and circumstances of the alleged

offense; the safety of the community,

law enforcement, and the victim of the alleged offense; and the criminal history of the person. A person is entitled to be represented by counsel at a hearing described by the proposed amendment.

proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment requiring the denial of bail under certain circumstances to persons accused of certain offenses punishable as a felony."

Proposition Number 4 (HJR 7)

HJR 7 proposes a constitutional amendment to dedicate a portion of the revenue derived from state sales and use taxes to the Texas water fund and to provide for the allocation and use of that revenue. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to allocate and transfer funds to accounts administered by the Texas Water Development Board. The proposed amendment also allows the legislature to suspend allocations of funds to these accounts during a state of disaster declared under Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code.

amendment proposed appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to dedicate a portion of the revenue derived from state sales and use taxes to the Texas water fund and to provide for the allocation and use of that revenue."

Proposition Number 5 (HJR 99)

HJR 99 proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to exempt animal feed held by the owner for retail sale from ad valorem taxation. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to provide additional eligibility requirements for the exemption.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation tangible personal property consisting of animal feed held by the owner of the property for sale at retail."

Proposition Number 6 (HJR 4)

HJR 4 proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from enacting a law that imposes an occupation tax on a registered securities market operator or a tax on a securities transaction conducted by a registered

securities market operator. The proposed amendment would not prohibit the imposition of a general business tax measured by business activity, a tax on the production of minerals, a tax on insurance premiums, a sales and use tax on tangible personal property or services, or a fee based on the cost of processing or creating documents. The proposed amendment would also not prohibit a change in the rate of a tax in existence on January 1, 2026.

The proposed amendment appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment prohibiting the legislature from enacting a law imposing an occupation tax on certain entities that enter into transactions conveying securities or imposing a tax on certain securities transactions."

Proposition Number 7 (HJR 133)

HJR 133 proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to give surviving spouses of United States armed services veterans a property tax exemption on their residence homestead. The proposed amendment would exempt all or part of the property tax on the spouse's residence homestead if the veteran died from a condition or disease presumed under federal law to be service-related. The exemption would apply only to a surviving spouse who has not remarried since the veteran's death. proposed amendment appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a veteran who died as a result of a condition or disease that is presumed under federal law to have been service-connected."

Proposition Number 8 (HJR 2)

HJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from imposing a state tax on a deceased individual's estate because of the individual's death, including an estate, inheritance, or death tax. The proposed amendment would prohibit the legislature from imposing a state tax on the transfer of an estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or gift from an individual, family, estate, or trust, including generation-skipping transfers, if the tax was not in effect on January 1, 2025. The proposed amendment would also prohibit the legislature from

(CONTINUED)

Upshur commissioners vote 3-2 to raise taxes

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County Commissioners Court voted 3-2 Monday to raise county property taxes after two citizens protested the increase at a 50-minute public hearing on the issue.

The court, meeting in Gilmer, hiked the rate from the current 49.9 cents per \$100 valuation to 51.4 cents, a 1.5-cent increase. County Auditor Connie Williams said the average valuation of a homestead in the county is \$160,413, and that

taxes on that valuation would rise \$37.31.

Voting for the hike were County Judge Todd Tefteller, Precinct 1 Commissioner Gene Dolle, and Precinct 3 Commissioner Michael Ashley.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Dustin Nicholson and Precinct 4 Commissioner Jay W. Miller, who both expressed support at a prior meeting for keeping the current rate, voted against the increase.

What is new for Hunting Season 2025-26

AUSTIN — The 2025-26 hunting season has kicked off with a great start to dove season for hunters across the state. However, hunters should be aware of changes before entering the field.

Expanded Digital License Options

Starting this season, hunters have new options for digital licenses. For the first time, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) will offer fully digital license options for all recreational hunting, fishing and combo license and tag types, as explained in this new how-to video.

Changes for Non-Resident Hunters

Legislation passed this spring simplified license options for non-resident hunters from five license options to two. Non-resident hunters hoping to harvest any legal bird or game animal, including alligator, wild turkey, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, mule deer and white-tailed deer, will need to purchase a Non-resident General Hunting license. Non-resident hunters who plan on targeting exotic animals, small game birds (except wild turkey), non-game animals, furbearing animals, squirrel and javelina for five or less days will need to purchase a Non-resident Special 5-Day Small Game/Exotic Hunting license.

Regulation Changes

Some additional changes for this next hunting season include:

For wild turkeys in Hill County, IH35E now serves as the zone boundary line.

Lubbock County is now open to wild turkey hunting with North Zone regulations.

Increase in daily bag limit for northern pintails in all duck zones.

Season Date Changes

Hunters should be aware of several season date changes for the 2025-26 hunting seasons before their first hunt including: Expansion of archery mule deer seasons in both the Pan-

handle and Trans Pecos.

New quail hunting season dates.

Reduction in days to September teal season.

Mule deer season:

Archery Only Season:

Panhandle: Sept. 27 – Nov. 21 Trans-Pecos: Sept. 27 – Nov. 27

Brewster, Pecos and Terrell counties: Sept. 27 – Nov. 27

General Season: Panhandle: Nov. 22 – Dec. 7

Tran-Pecos: Nov. 28 – Dec. 14

Brewster, Pecos and Terrell Counties: Nov. 28 – Dec. 14

Quail season:

New statewide dates: Nov. 1, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026.

Migratory game bird season:

Teal:

Days reduced from previous year Statewide: Sept. 20 - 28

Nicholson and Miller are seeking re-election next year, while Tefteller isn't running for a third term. Miller has one opponent so far, former Commissioner Mike Spencer, while Dolle's and Ashley's seats aren't up for election until 2028.

Under state law, the tax hike isn't large enough to possibly

Under state law, the tax hike isn't large enough to possibly require an election for voter approval.

The court also Monday unanimously approved the county budget for 2025-26 after Williams said the general and insurance funds combined were nearly \$24 million. All county employees and elected officials will receive at least a \$1,800 pay raise.

In a separate vote from approving the tax rate itself, the court voted 3-2, with Nicholson and Miller dissenting, to ratify the tax increase reflected in the budget, which Williams said raises revenues by \$885,000 (5.16%). Nicholson said he favored increasing revenues, but not the tax hike.

The entire new 51.4-cent tax rate is for maintenance and operations.

At the hearing's outset, Williams said most of the increased revenues are coming from taxes on new property (Nicholson said later that figure was closer to \$600,000 than \$500,000). As for the pay raises, the auditor said Upshur County paid its workers the "second lowest of 26 counties of similar size."

She also disputed what she termed accusations that the county was reducing funding for the Road and Bridge Department, saying the budget had \$500,000 from county surplus funds for road work.

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PUBLIC NOTICE (CONTINUED)

Brief Explanatory Statements of Proposed Constitutional Amendments Special Election, November 4, 2025

(CONTINUED)

increasing the tax rate or expanding the applicability to new parties of a transfer tax that was in effect on January 1, 2025. The proposed amendment would not prohibit the imposition or change in the rate or applicability of a general business tax measured by business activity; a tax on the production of minerals; a tax on the issuance of title insurance; a tax in existence on January 1, 2016; a tax on the transfer of a motor vehicle by gift; or an ad valorem tax on property.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from imposing death taxes applicable to a decedent's property or the transfer of an estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or gift"

Proposition Number 9 (HJR 1)

HJR 1 proposes a constitutional amendment to change the amount of tangible personal property held or used for the production of income that the legislature could exempt from property taxes to \$125,000 rather than the minimum amount sufficient to recover the costs of property tax administration.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation a portion of the market value of tangible personal property a person owns that is held or used for the production of income."

Proposition Number 10 (SJR 84)

SJR 84 proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to create a temporary property tax exemption for the appraised value of an improvement to a person's residence homestead that is completely destroyed by a fire. The proposed amendment authorizes the legislature to prescribe the duration of the exemption and to establish additional eligibility requirements for the exemption.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for a temporary exemption from ad valorem taxation of the appraised value of an improvement to a residence homestead that is completely

destroyed by a fire."

Proposition Number 11 (SJR 85)

SJR 85 proposes a constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to increase the amount of the exemption from property taxation by a school district of the market value of the residence homestead of a person who is 65 years of age or older or a person who is disabled from \$10,000 to \$60,000.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district of the market value of the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled."

Proposition Number 12 (SJR 27)

SJR 27 proposes a constitutional amendment to change the membership and procedures of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC). The proposed amendment would: (1) change the membership of the SCJC so that it is composed of six judges appointed by the Texas Supreme Court and seven citizens appointed by the Governor who are at least 35 years old, with both groups of appointees requiring the consent of the Texas Senate to be confirmed; (2) restrict the SCJC's power to issue a private reprimand (or impose a requirement that the person obtain additional training or education) to a person who has not previously been issued a private reprimand and in response to a complaint that does not allege criminal behavior; (3) require the SCJC to find that a person engaged in willful or persistent conduct that is clearly inconsistent with the proper performance of a judge's duties, or determine that there is other good cause, before issuing a public admonition or punishment; (4) expand the SCJC's power to order suspension without pay as punishment; (5) give the chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court the power to select the appellatecourt justices to serve on a tribunal to review the SCJC's recommendation for the removal or retirement of a person from office, without any requirement that each court of appeals designate one of its members for consideration by the chief justice; and (6) direct the Texas Supreme Court and Governor to appoint SCJC members to initial terms of two, four, and six years starting on January 1, 2026, with the succeeding terms to be six years, so that upon completion of the initial terms, the SCJC will be composed of members serving staggered six-year terms

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment regarding the membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct, the membership of the tribunal to review the commission's recommendations, and the authority of the commission, the tribunal, and the Texas Supreme Court to more effectively sanction judges and justices for judicial misconduct."

Proposition Number 13 (SJR 2)

SJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory homestead exemption from property taxation for general elementary and secondary public school purposes from \$100,000 to \$140,000 of the market value of the residence.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to increase the amount of the exemption of residence homesteads from ad valorem taxation by a school district from \$100,000 to \$140,000."

Proposition Number 14 (SJR 3)

SJR 3 proposes a constitutional amendment to require the legislature to establish a new state agency, the Dementia Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (DPRIT). The proposed amendment would create the Dementia Prevention and Research Fund to be administered by DPRIT. Under the proposed amendment, DPRIT would be responsible for awarding financial grants for research on and the prevention and treatment of dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and related disorders. The proposed amendment would also authorize the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to transfer \$3 billion from the state general revenue fund to the Dementia Prevention and Research Fund.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the establishment of the Dementia Prevention and Research Institute of Texas, establishing the Dementia Prevention and Research Fund to provide money for research on and

prevention and treatment of dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and related disorders in this state, and transferring to that fund \$3 billion from state general revenue."

Proposition Number 15 (SJR 34)

SJR 34 proposes a constitutional amendment to affirm that a parent has the responsibility to nurture and protect the parent's child and the corresponding fundamental right to exercise care, custody, and control of the parent's child, including the right to make decisions concerning the child's upbringing.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment affirming that parents are the primary decision makers for their children."

Proposition Number 16 (SJR 37)

SJR 37 proposes a constitutional amendment to provide that only United States citizens are allowed to vote in Texas elections.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment clarifying that a voter must be a United States citizen."

Proposition Number 17 (HJR 34)

HJR 34 proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to exempt from property taxation, in counties that border the United Mexican States, the portion of a real property's assessed value that arose from the installation or construction of border security infrastructure and related improvements. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to define "border security infrastructure" and prescribe additional eligibility requirements for the exemption.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the amount of the market value of real property located in a county that borders the United Mexican States that arises from the installation or construction on the property of border security infrastructure and related improvements."

Herbicide developer focuses on green operation

Gladewater Economic Development Corporation stakeholders got an up-close look at the fruits of their labors last week, following Jeff Simpson on a tour of his new Outdoor Management Services herbicide facility under construction at 120 S. Ferry Street.

"We've put a lot of brainpower into designing a plan from the get-go," Simpson said, ensuring run-off from the operation does not affect adjacent properties and nearby vegetation. "I don't want when it rains to kill this pecan tree that I really like that gives me shade," he quipped, serious about protecting the surrounding environment.

A performance agreement and investment from GEDCO helped fund the necessary equipment to capture and filter drainage at the site, among other costs.

"This is really cool stuff," Simpson said. "I'm really proud of this. It's really safe."

Part of the 'green' focus, cedar harvested from the site is



being recycled and utilized in the aesthetic of the new HQ. The herbicide itself is also wildlife safe.

"I think he's done a very good job," GEDCO Executive Director Anna Conlan said. "This is good for Gladewater... It's a good thing for us to have our stamp on."



Moran honors life, legacy of Charlie Kirk

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Texas Congressman Nathaniel Moran (1st District) delivered remarks on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives Sept. 11 to spotlight the life of Charlie Kirk as 'a tireless defender of liberty and a faithful servant of God.'

Kirk was killed Sept. 10 by an assassin's bullet during a public debate event on the campus of Utah Valley University, sparking a nationwide debate on the rise of political violence.

Moran exhorted the nation to follow Kirk's example of engaging in political dialogue, respectfully.

"Charlie was a faithful servant, not only to the cause of liberty, but more importantly to the Kingdom of God," Moran said. "His voice was strong in the public square, and he inspired his generation and so many more to embrace and defend the concepts of freedom and American exceptionalism through respectful political dialogue and engagement. He spoke often about his faith and his personal mission to direct people to Jesus Christ, our Savior, and our only hope through His truth."

Moran extended prayers for Charlie's wife, Erika, and their children, asking that the Lord bring them comfort and peace during this time of grief. He also spoke out against political violence, reminding Americans all are children of God and neighbors called to love one another before political differences.

"Charlie treated others with dignity and respect, even in the midst of tough debates," Moran added. "He did so from a heart of love, not one of hate. We should follow his example as we engage in our debates moving forward."













UNION GROVE LIONS WHITE OAK ROUGHNECKS

BIG SANDY WILDCATS

SABINE CARDINALS

TEACHER APPRECIATION EVENT 2025

FOR TEACHERS, AIDES, STAFF AND THEIR FAMILIES!

The 7th Annual Teacher Appreciation Event at Bill Dickason Chevrolet in Gladewater will be on Saturday, September 20, 2025 from 11am to 2 pm!!

Activities for this event:

- FOOD: hot dogs, chips, cookies, and cold bottled water for a warm day
- **CHARLIE'S SNO-BALLS**
- **BINGO** for teachers only
- **BOUNCE HOUSE**
- DUNKIN BOOTH
- KORNPOP, the clown
- CORN HOLE & other games for the kids (with prizes)
- DJ, Jud Hagan, singing, spinning records, and he's set up for Karaoke. Sing your favorite song and you could be a star!

Teachers - Bingo starts at 2pm on site and on Facebook Live! Bingo numbers will be pulled until all gifts have been won by our bingo winning teachers (FIRST to be verified IS the FIRST to pick)! Some of the prizes are a 70" TV, a 65" TV, a 58'TV, Fire Pits, a Slushy Maker, a Shark Matrix Vac & Mop, an Instant-up Gazebo, a weekend for 2 at a local winery, a variety of gift baskets, many gift cards/ certificates from local businesses, and coupons galore!!

Everyone please be sure to Thank our sponsor partners for all their donations that make this happen!



FALL 2025 CLEAN UP

Saturday, October 11th from 8am - Noon E. Commerce Street, Gladewater, Texas 75647

JOIN TO VOLUNTEER

Volunteers Needed! Help us make a difference at the City-Wide Clean Up. Your time and effort will go a long way in keeping our community clean and beautiful-come lend a hand!



efrigeration items, chemicals, & commercial waste.

