

# Gladewater Mirror

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Thursday, Jan. 29, 2026

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50¢

## Power grid holds up during wintry blast

The electricity grid that covers most of Texas was holding up as of Sunday during the latest winter storm, although localized power outages were reported in Deep East Texas and far West Texas.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas dashboard indicated demand was running comfortably below available capacity. As of Sunday, more than 128,000 customers were without power, according to poweroutage.us, with the most being reported in Nacogdoches, Cherokee, and Rusk counties.

"Based on expected weather conditions, ERCOT anticipates there will be sufficient generation to meet demand," a spokesperson for the Electric Reliability Council of Texas said. "ERCOT will continue to deploy all available resources to manage the grid reliably and coordinate closely with the Public Utility Commission, generation providers, and transmission utilities."

Gov. Greg Abbott issued a disaster declaration just prior to the storm for 134 Texas counties to ensure adequate resources were available to Texans.

## Court rehearses immigration law challenge

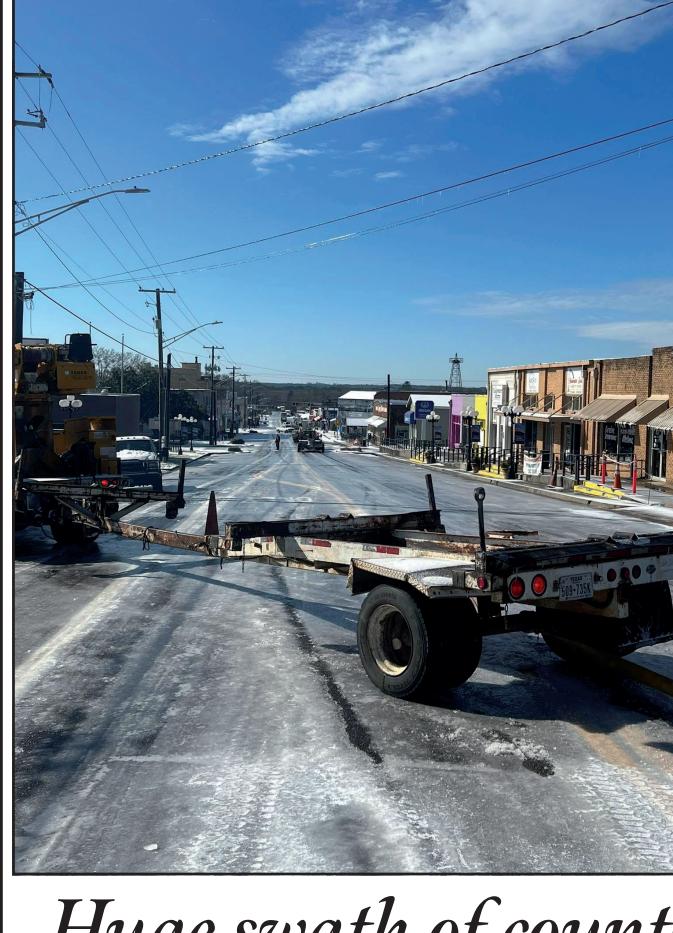
A 2023 law giving state police authority to arrest people suspected of crossing the border into Texas illegally is once again before the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, which blocked the law from taking effect in the initial legal challenge.

The court heard oral arguments last week, The Texas Tribune reported.

The Biden administration sued to block the law after its passage, arguing that policing immigration rests with the federal government alone.

A three-judge panel upheld an injunction blocking the law. Since then the state has appealed, asking for the case to be reheard by the entire 17-judge appeals court.

At the time the law passed in December 2023, the U.S. Border Patrol reported nearly 250,000 encounters with migrants along the border with Mexico. That number has plummeted in the past year, with just 4,264 migrant apprehensions reported in December.



## Huge swath of country thaws after winter storm

Winter Storm Fern left a lot of sleet, snow and ice behind, but the recent weather could have been worse as far as the City of Gladewater is concerned.

Per City Manager Charlie Smith's Monday update, "We haven't had any, knock on wood, issues with water or sewer that I am aware of," he said. "When things start thawing out really good we'll probably find out something, but right now we're faring pretty well."

"I think the police department's had the worst of it working wrecks and stuff. They were on 10 this morning within three hours."

Gladewater City Hall remained closed through Monday but was set to open with a delayed 10 a.m. start Tuesday along with Lee-Bardwell Public Library

and other facilities.

Both White Oak ISD and Union Grove canceled classes Monday and again Tuesday during the slow thaw, and Gladewater ISD followed suit Jan. 27.

All Republic Services collection routes were pushed back a day considering Monday's freeze. There's plenty of winter left (granted, Punxsutawney Phil won't weigh in until Groundhog Day Feb. 2) so Fern may have been a warm-up for more cold to come.

If another frigid forecast heads this way, Smith said. "Stay at home. That could probably solve a lot of those problems. A lot of people wanted to get out and look around, I guess... Not Charlie."

## SOME DAM GOOD NEWS

## Gladewater gets \$1.5 million earmarked to jump-start dam repairs

By James Draper

The deal's not sealed, but more than \$1.5 million in federal funding has been earmarked for the Lake Gladewater Dam.

Tied to Department of Homeland Security appropriations, the Community Project Funding for Gladewater's aging spillway and earthen embankment will be a significant jump-start for long-term repairs.

The necessary bills have cleared the House of Representatives, but there's a likely delay ahead. In particular, the shooting of civilian Alex Pretti by U.S. Border Patrol Agents in Minneapolis Saturday, Jan. 24, is a new hurdle for federal funding negotiations in D.C.

That's all going to play out in time. For now, officials here are celebrating a boon for Gladewater's coffers courtesy of coordination with area political leaders.

According to District 1 Rep. Nathaniel Moran, "Congress holds the power of the purse, and this year, we used it the way the Constitution intended," the congressman announced Jan. 22. "With final passage of all 12 FY26 appropriations bills, we secured \$17M+ for TX-01 while avoiding the waste and lack of oversight that come with continuing resolutions."

Within that sum is about \$1.56 million for the dam.

"This is regular order. Real oversight. Real results for East Texas."

The effort to secure the funding got rolling during the Texas Municipal League Conference in October 2024 when Gladewater officials connected with Steve Hofman of Lone Star Consulting Group.

Council members ultimately passed on an initial agreement with the consultant, Mayor Brandy Flanagan recalled, but Hofman opted to pursue community funds for Gladewater on his own time.

"He talked about doing it pro bono to prove he could get this funding for us," Flanagan said. "That's what he did."

In an eleventh hour push for federal assistance through the DHS-FEMA Subcommittee, local officials solicited support to make a case "for the critical rehabilitation and widening of the Lake Gladewater Dam, classified as a High Hazard Potential structure by TCEQ." Letters from Texas Senator Bryan Hughes and Gregg County Judge Bill Stoudt joined one from Flanagan along with engineers' reports on the state of the dam.

"We just got the word it was approved," Flanagan confirmed Sunday. "We originally submitted for \$2.8 million. We were granted \$1.5, and we're grateful for anything we get."

"We'll identify what exactly we can use that funding towards. We're hoping that will pay for the engineering plans."

Moran laid eyes on the dam during a community tour with Gladewater Chamber of Commerce's Lois Reed. The congressman has also familiarized himself with its particular flaws and needs – his office is keeping track of local coverage in the *Gladewater Mirror*.

"That thing's 73 years-old. It was made to be a 50-year dam. Folks have been tracking the erosion for at least the last 15 years, and it needs some repair," he said Monday. "It's got some erosion, some cracks, some seepage."

Once the funds are finally approved and eventually disbursed, "We'll be able to do some things that are needed to temporarily get that dam to a place where a more long-term solution can be determined."

The new funding comes out of the portion of DHS appropriations for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The various bills need Senate approval

**Continued on Page 8**

## Voting sites established for Upshur voters

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County Commissioners Court recently approved voting locations for the March 3 Republican and Democratic primaries in the county.

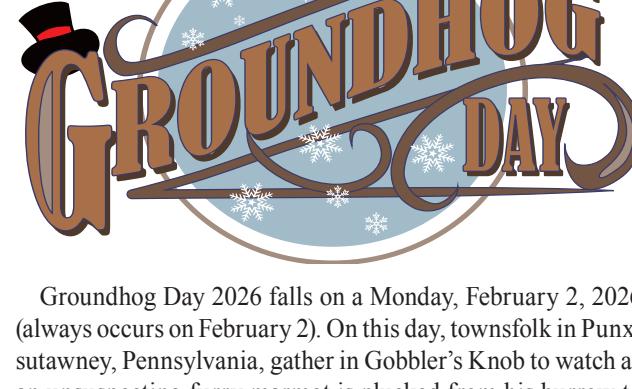
Early voting will all be held at the Gilmer Civic Center at 1218 U.S. 271 N. Feb. 17-27. Polls at 15 locations will be open election day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and County Judge Todd Teftell reminded that any Upshur citizen can vote at any of those sites under "countywide" voting (although not in precinct races which aren't in the precinct where they reside.)

Days and hours for early voting include 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 17-20, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 21, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 22 and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 23-27.

Election day voting locations include Indian Rock Baptist Church, East Mountain Community Center, Glenwood Water Supply Corporation, Ashland Masonic Lodge No. 1138, Redemption Worship Center (Assembly of God) in Gilmer, and Walnut Creek Baptist Church at Diana.

Others include Ore City Community Center, Frontier Cowboy Church, Big Sandy Civic Center, Pritchett Community Center, Saint James Baptist Church at 2800 W. Commerce in Gladewater, Enon Community Center, Oak Hill Baptist Church, Rosewood Baptist Church and the Upshur County Library in Gilmer.

The court accepted, for recording, the election day sites as chosen by the political parties, and set the early voting times and locations, at its Jan. 15 meeting in Gilmer.



Groundhog Day 2026 falls on a Monday, February 2, 2026 (always occurs on February 2). On this day, townsfolk in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, gather in Gobbler's Knob to watch as an unsuspecting furry marmot is plucked from his burrow to predict the weather for the rest of the winter.

People often get confused about what it means if the groundhog sees his shadow or not. Let's clear it up. According to folklore:

- If Phil does see his shadow (meaning the Sun is shining) on Groundhog Day, winter will not end early, and we'll have another 6 weeks of it.

- If Phil doesn't see his shadow (cloudy) we'll have an early spring.

The date of the celebration coincides with the medieval feast of Candlemas, and its pre-Christian predecessor, Imbolc, a day also rich in folklore. An old Scottish prophecy foretells that sunny weather on Candlemas means a long winter.

Groundhog Day 2026 festivities begin at 5 a.m. Central time on Monday, February 2. Watch it live at: <https://www.visitpa.com/events/annual/groundhog-day/>

## Manna House welcomes donations, starts spreading mission online

Gladewater's Manna House has now carved out a niche online. The local food pantry launched [MannaHouseofGladewater.org](http://MannaHouseofGladewater.org) earlier this month to help spread the word about the charity food operation's efforts, services and needs.

Headquartered at 517-A E. Broadway Ave. on the southwest corner of Gladewater City Hall, the outreach is open 9 a.m. to 11 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

"Manna House came into being over 40 years ago through the work of Jimmie Muckleroy and the local churches affiliated with the Gladewater Ministerial Alliance," according to the new website.

Decades later, the operation continues to provide free food and clothing to families inside the Gladewater City Limits, fueled by donations of food, funds, clothing and time from local churches, organizations and volunteers.

"Join us in fighting hunger and supporting families in need."

The charity's official off-hours drop-off location is American Canopies at 1701 N. Main St. in Gladewater. Contributions may also be left with Gladewater Mirror.

Manna House's guidelines (available online) are straightforward:

- Households are eligible to receive 1 food box a month.
- Clothing is available during our usual hours, when helpers

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# OPINION/COMMENTARY

## ...Larry King called me "Sugar"

Close encounters are a result of experiences 'alien' to our everyday lives. I can't claim to have had one with ET or harmonic chord playing aliens from outer space. But I have had my fair share with celebrities as a result of being Mrs. Jim Bardwell. I was reminded of one of my favorites a couple of days ago when iconic talk show host Larry King passed away from COVID complications.

It was 1990 and Walt Disney World's MGM Studio had closed to the public for premier celebrations of "Dick Tracy" starring Warren Beatty, Dustin Hoffman, Al Pacino and Madonna. And my talented hubby was on the press list, with his handy dandy sweetie sidekick in tow. Buffet lines were everywhere...so were hospitality 'watering holes' catering to the less disciplined among the thirsty press corps.

We had been gifted with dashing Dick Tracy fedoras. The streets of the MGM Studio theme park were filled with press, celebs, food and drink. As I went through the buffet line that looked like an upscale foodie dream, I realized I had forgotten my fork. I turned back to see Larry King behind me. "Mr. King, could you please pass me a fork?" And the legendary interviewer growled with a grin, "Sure, Sugar, here ya go."

After eating elbow to elbow with Mr. King, maybe near is more accurate, this starstruck country kid with camera in tow, was shown to a cordoned area for photographers when the premier parade began. At that time of my life, I was a high school journalism teacher, as well as hubby's designated photographer. So I definitely had stars in my eyes, BIG ones. I was in a photo pen with guys from the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun, Orlando Sentinel, New York Times and on and on. Me with my affordable camera, them with equipment costing thousands.

I can't remember who all the celebs were in the parade because Disney Pixie Power pulled as much as it could from the MGM stable

## The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



of stars. But one of the 'less notable' celebrities was Morey Amsterdam whose claim to fame came with the '60s TV hit "The Dick Van Dyke Show". Amsterdam was very elderly, and obviously very excited to be there waving excitedly at the crowd.

The very drunk Chicago photographer next to me began to shout "Morey, you're dead. You just don't know it. Go home." And that is when I lost my feeling of professional intimidation. I lost my reticence. I lost my temper and I laid into that drunk hotshot photographer as if I were HIS high school journalism teacher.

And, you know what happened? All the press photos around me cheered. You know why? I stood up to a bully. They also had my back. I don't know where the shooter went but he stumbled away. When my hubby and I reconnected I could not wait to tell him my story. Of course it may have gotten a little shinier. After all it was the night Larry King called me "Sugar", Dustin Hoffman waved for my camera (my opinion here) and I stood up to a hot shot national press corps guy.

Jim Bardwell wasn't surprised at all. (I don't know what that says, but I think he was proud of me.)

So, Mr. King, thanks for the fork, and the memory. Chicago hot shot, I hope you learned to be kinder. And Sweetheart thanks for opening the world to your church camp, country girl sweetheart. As soon as it's safe, it is time for another adventure. Sugar can't wait.

**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.

## Gary Borders Capital Highlights



## Data centers strain water

A new report says the boom in data centers across Texas could consume nearly 3% of the state's water by 2030, the Houston Chronicle reported. The Houston Advanced Research Center found the data centers, used to power artificial intelligence, used 25 billion gallons of water in 2025. That amount could increase to 161 billion gallons annually by 2030.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas has already been warning that the data centers, which also require vast amounts of electricity, could potentially strain the state's power grid. ERCOT oversees most of the state's power grid.

"The data center surge presents a unique challenge that requires immediate attention," said HARC President John Hall. An estimated 575 data centers are already in place, concentrated in Dallas-Fort Worth, Austin, Houston and San Antonio.

Texas lawmakers last year passed a law setting up a \$20 billion water fund, with \$1 billion disbursed annually starting in 2027 for infrastructure, after an initial allocation of \$2.5 billion.

## Abbott endorses Miller's GOP challenger

Gov. Greg Abbott has endorsed the Republican primary challenger to Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller, the Austin American-Statesman reported. Abbott said he is backing challenger Nate Sheets because he is "committed to fighting for the best interests of Texas agriculture, upholding the rule of law, and restoring integrity."

Miller is seeking his fourth term to the office he has held since 2015. He has strong ties to President Donald Trump and was the first statewide elected official to endorse his candidacy in 2016. Sheets is a beekeeper and owns a honey company. To date, Trump has made no endorsement in this year's primary.

## Quorum-busting Dems fined

The Texas House Democrats who left the state last summer to delay a bid to redraw congressional maps each now face more than \$9,000 in fines, the Statesman reported. That includes \$7,000 in penalties for being absent and another \$2,354 to cover the costs the state spent trying to bring them back to the Capitol.

The members have until Feb. 9 to appeal. House Democratic Caucus leader Gene Wu, D-Houston, said members plan to protest to the House Administration Committee.

"Breaking quorum is a constitutional right, and we will use every tool available to challenge these fines," Wu said. More than 50 of the 62 House Democrats flew to Chicago to stop the attempt by GOP members to redraw the maps in order to give Republicans a likely additional five seats. The walkout lasted two weeks. Upon their return, the redistricting plan passed in the GOP-controlled Legislature and was signed into law. It triggered similar mid-decade redistricting attempts by both parties in other states.

## Orphaned oil and gas wells reach record high

The number of orphaned wells in Texas climbed above 11,000 by the end of last year, breaking a 20-year record, according to the Chronicle.

The Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates the state's oil and gas industry, reported about 2,000 new wells joined the list last year, bringing the total to 11,123. Orphaned wells are not actively maintained and have no operator on file at the commission. That means responsibility for cleaning and plugging them is on the state.

The price of oil fell roughly 20% last year, meaning more companies have gone bankrupt or out of business. The defunct operations sometimes leave unplugged wells behind.

"While there has been a recent increase in these populations due to various external factors such as operator bankruptcies and aging wells, we are in the process of taking significant actions to increase our well plugging efforts," said Bryce Dubee, a spokesman for the Railroad Commission.

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## Gone to Texas

Since at least the Panic of 1819 more than two centuries ago, "Gone to Texas" has been linked with those coming to make a fresh start (at that point, Texas was a part of Mexico). Some things never change!

Another set of data confirms what has long been occurring – Texas continues to attract new residents at a solid pace. The U-Haul Growth Index measures one-way customer transactions, and provides a unique look at migration from state to state. Rankings reflect net gains (or losses) based on rentals of trucks/trailers in one state which were dropped off in another. More than 2.5 million such transactions occurred in 2025.

Texas ranked number one in the Index for the seventh time in the past 10 years, with arriving customers comprising 50.7% of one-way traffic in or out of the state. The numbers were up 3% over 2024.

Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee round out the top five. These states have been atop the list for years now (though the order has varied), consistently experiencing in-migration. At the other end of the spectrum, the greatest out-migration was in California (for the sixth consecutive year), with Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Illinois also ranking in the bottom five.

The top three growth metropolitan areas are also in Texas (Dallas, Houston, and Austin). Several others were in the top 25, including Brownsville-McAllen (10), San Antonio (21), and College Station (23). For specific cities, McKinney ranked number six, with Seguin, New Braunfels, and Conroe in the top 20.

One reason for this trend is job opportunities. Although

## Dr. Ray Perryman THE ECONOMIST



growth has slowed recently, Texas has long been generating far more new positions than anywhere else, and the other top states have also seen notable gains.

A second factor is the cost of living. Texas and Florida are among the few states without a state income tax. Rankings of state tax burdens generally place Texas relatively well with regard to the overall tax structure (although there is always room for improvement), whereas the worst three are typically California, New Jersey, and New York. High taxes affect people across the income spectrum; in fact, recent headlines have described billionaires leaving California in advance of new levies.

Business-friendly environments and lower costs in terms of operating expenses are proving to be attractive. The data also reveals an ongoing shift toward southern states, with eight of the top ten locations.

Many factors go into any moving decision, and Texas is well-positioned for continued in-migration. That's great news for the potential of the economy in light of national workforce shortages, as long as the requisite infrastructure investments of all types (including education) occur in a timely manner.

Stay safe!

## GOD HAS A BIG ERASER

Someone once said, "God has a big eraser." Of course, that's a clever way of saying God will forgive our sins—and that is a wonderful promise in the Bible. Look to some of the ways the Word of God describes God's forgiveness.

In Isaiah 1: 18 God said: "Come now and let us reason together...though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as now; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." In Psalms 103: 12 the Scripture says, "As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us." In Jeremiah 31: 34 God said, "I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." These are just a few wonderful descriptions of God's willingness to forgive our sins. Scarlet made white as snow. Sins removed as far away as the east is from the west. Sins forgiven so completely that God says He will remember them no more. Yes, God does have a big eraser!

Remember, however, that although God stands ready to forgive us, God's forgiveness is not unconditional. There are choices we have to make and a part we have to play. We must believe and obey Jesus to be forgiven. If someone rejects Christ, the emphatic warning of the Scripture is that a person will not be forgiven!

My friend and dear reader, have you really believed and obeyed Jesus' Gospel? The Gospel of Christ clearly teaches you to repent of your sins, confess your faith in Christ, and be scripturally baptized for the remission of your sins (*Acts 2: 38; Rom. 10: 9-10, Acts 8: 37*). God stands ready to forgive (erase) your past sins. Are you ready to let Him? Obey Him today.

**Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ**

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# GLADEWATER HONOR ROLLS - TERM 2

## Weldon Elementary

### 2nd Nine Weeks Honor Roll

#### 2nd Grade

#### 2nd Nine Weeks

#### "A" Honor Roll

Jose Adams Lara, Anessa Arellano, Gianni Carraway, Killian Fowler, Marlene Hobgood, Tristan Magliolo, Kayson Matlock, Maxton McDowell, Kathryn Meals, Amere Minter, Logan Myers, Gia Nguyen, Armani Sanchez, Syler Stinnett, Gracelyn Villalpando

#### 2nd Grade

#### "A-B" Honor Roll

Tinsley Allen, Criss Alvarado Aguilar, Ky'Sar Atkinson, Jaxson Baker, Osa Brady, Ezekiel Carrasquillo, Jayce Carter, Zoey Ceballos, Hailee Croley, Sebastian Dangel, Cole Ellis, Sadie Ellis, Robert Fagan, Mason Fiallos, Daniel Flores Gonzales, Everlee Garland, Oliver Herrera Monreal, Dakota Hess, Adaleigh Hooks, Heaven Horton, Daxton Ince, Izayah Jackson, Rylee Jones, Dade Keys, Gemma Lamborn, Axel Lopez, Nola McCarty, Malorie Mendez, Ashton Parker, Nelson Pineda Molina, Paisley Prewit, Jaxson Shoup, Easton Torres, Aaliyah Wilson, Kevin Wilson, Issac Yanez Jimenez

#### 3rd Grade

#### "A" Honor Roll

Ian Baxter, Rizzo Burks, Dylan Carrillo-Soto, Scarlett Churchill, Tristan Coil, Edward Diaz Hernandez, Cameron Dickinson, Ethan Easterling, Alizabeth Henson, Emmi Hogan, Emilee Kelly, Avery Lee, Halle Louvier, Nathan Otamendi, Hollie Pettiette, Orson Reynolds, Elle Searle, Bailyn Simmons, Adalynn Sipes, Joshua Smith, Cora Solley, Brantlee Woods

#### 3rd Grade

#### "A-B" Honor Roll

Cayson Akin, Skyler Allen, Hannah Bierer, Me'Leilani Brown, Mykiyah Carrington, Alexandra Cloud, Embla Corbitt, Kayla Criss, Britain Daniels, Riley Dorantes Garcia, Jayden Dudley, Levi Edney, Michael Garcia, Clayton Glaspie, A'Laysia Hawley, Jason Hunnicutt, Logan Hunter, Jacob Hutchings, Kaitlynn Johns, Mason Kitchings, Alisa Lacy, Ireland Lennon, Reese Leonard, Khalil Lewis, Khali Lincoln, Elijah Loutsenhizer, Ada Martinez, Remi McClelland, Paisleigh Montgomery, Alaina Moore, Logan Morgan, Brooklyn Parker, Emely Pineda Molina, Khloe Robertson, Mylah Roemelin, Kali Rogers, Andrea Scott, Judson Selman, Logan Solis, Juliet Stephenson, Dustin Tabor, Natalie Taylor, Devonte Wade, Bowen Watts, Madilyn Westbrook, Jessi Whitener

#### 4th Grade

#### "A" Honor Roll

Ava Aldredge, Victoria Dominguez, Alexis Ferrero, Cayden Fletcher, Kenneth Leerstang, Isaiah Menefee, Dylan Reynolds, Amara Tate, Rebeca Wright

#### 4th Grade

#### "A-B" Honor Roll

Kali Albert, Rey Barnett, Abigail Beaver, Lillian Bell, Natalie Brady, Rhenley Capps, Laykn Cates, Evelyn Chavarria, Aurora Coronado, Daryl Cravey, Ryan Crews, Dorlan Estrada Gomez, Lesley Flores, Harper Gladden, Chelsea Hale, Rylan Henderson, Charlee Jackson, Story Jenkins, Ellie Jones, Anastasia Lacy, Maleigha Lewis, Aubree Love, Ava Lumpkins, Camila Maya, Kelsen Mills, Addison Mims Mitchell, Kimberly Nunez Santibanez, Knox Reed, Annaleigha Rivera, Vivienne Robinson, Sarah Schlaefer, Nikolas Snow, Jason Taylor, Talon Teel, Eavalynn Valle

#### 5th Grade

#### "A" Honor Roll

Cayson Armstrong, Lillian Bamburg, Walker Barnhill, Paxton Bell, LilyAnn Budro, Juddson Cook, Bruxton Guest, Miguel Hernandez, Robert Louvier, Trinh Mach, Coltin McCellon, Katelyn Mireles, Karsyn Reese, Raquelita Roque, Brenden Townsend

#### 5th Grade

#### "A-B" Honor Roll

Weston Acton, Brylen Bailey, Emma Barrera, Kinsley Beadles, Adam Belcher, Brilynn Bell, Addison Bigler, Hunter Bohanon, Reagan Bradshaw, Christina Bray, Elizabeth Brown, Maria Calderon Cardenas, Ava Chavarria, Natalia Chavarria, Anthony Diaz Hernandez, Ashley Dorantes Garcia, London Fitch, Blakeley Gerhard, Kinsleigh Gordon, Jayda Griffith, Jackson Grimes, Sullivan Ingram, Aleighsia Jackson, Kynlei Jackson, Lilliana Luscomb, Aziyah Madden, Karlee Mahoney, Elizabeth McCoy, Elijah Mullican, Camila Mumphrey, Yazara Perez, Wyatt Richardson, Madalynn Rickey, Joshua Robinson, Memphis Robinson, Zander Shuler, Maddi



son Smith, Kennedy Smith, Journey Stephenson, Noah Strickland, Tavaris Thomas, Dominic Vaughn, Madilyn Villalpando, Levi Watson, Jacob Wexell, Maximo Williams

## GLADEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL

### 6th Grade

#### A Honor Roll

Landen Anderson, Abisai Avila Sandoval, Leland Bamburg, Jaden Bohanon, Lila Brown, LaShiya Burton, Elijah Childress, Carter Ellis, Grayson Fletcher, Saul Herrera, Kacen Jones, Milana McDowell, James Meals, Atticus Reynolds, Boston Robinson, Bayleigh Wady, Parker Webber, Brandon Wheeler.

### 6th Grade

#### A/B Honor Roll

Joaquin Arreguin, Leah Barnett, Natalie Bateman, Noah Bateman, Easton Baxter, Addison Borders, Carter Boyd, Connor Brady, Mallorie Bray, Ryder Burks, Remi Capps, Wesley Carroll, Tony Colen, Masyn Dandoy, Skylar Davis, Skylar Deason, Cameron Dickerson, Francesca Dominguez, Zackriah Duvall, Zack Fleetwood, Raegan Glarborg, Rickey Green, Brayden Greer, Jaycee Handy, Emmaleigh Harris, Delilah Hawley, Amiyah Jonbes, Arianna Kelley, Caylan Latham, Irelynn Lee, Daniel Leerstang, Brilee Lennon, Alex Mayeux, Jordan Moore, James Muldrow, Nataleigh Murchison, Kinleigh Niffenegger, Jayson Nino, Ronan Parsons, Joseangel Perez, Stefanie Perez, Laila Pierce, Jaylynn Pippins, Adelyn Ritter, Quayvon Robinson, Leighton Sides, Paisley Simmons, Izabelle Smith, Cesar Trejo, Sylas Tripp, Jaxson Walker, Justice Webster, Titan Williams.

### 7th Grade

#### A Honor Roll

John Brown, InaSue Budro, Chandler Cloud, Damien Cox, Alejandro Diaz, Amberae Duvall, Korbin Evans, Kinsley Nielsen, Victoria Parker, Carmen Pineda, Isabella Polanco, Jayden Rojas, Chevelle Sisson, Aliyah Thomas, Deion Thomas, Emily Youngblood-Smith.

### 7th Grade

#### A/B Honor Roll

Kira Anderson, Ayden Bauman, Caleb Bellanger, William Carney, Emily Cheatwood, Terrell Daniels, Garrett Davis, Victor Espinoza, Kar'Dae Ford, Maverick Hamby, Nickolas Hunter, John Jackson, Zae'Chamerial Jackson, Glenn Lucas, Ashly Rodriguez, Sadie Shackelford, Braxton Sinclair, Clayton Sisk, Rachel Small, Harrison Smith, Nathaniel Timmons, Landry Townsend, Devon Wade.

### 8th Grade

#### A Honor Roll

Brady Aldredge, Fernanda Coronado, Adaliyah Cuba, Kyndall Evans, Heath Hightower, Robert Meals, Elizabeth Morrison, Cullen Reynolds.

### 8th Grade

#### A/B Honor Roll

Kolbi Alverson, Walter Barron, Peyton Bell, Connor Brack, Brandon Burdine, Kayleigh Cannon, Lydia Crane, Kelsi Cushatt, Dexter Dickinson, Cera Dykes Miller, Rylee Farley, Kendon Gage, Aleeyah Gallardo, David Gamez, Drake Gilstrap, Trevor Gothard, Alonna Gregory, Kindyl Harper, Emma Harroff, Kaylynn Hawley, Makinley Henderson, Kanai Hicks, Kaia-Ann Hill, Michael Ingram, Brighton Ku, Ava LaForest, Aniyah Lee, June Macklin, Brittany Martinez, Mason Matthews, Ellanore Mayeux, Elizabeth Mendez, Brentlee Morris, Hannah Nash, Nevaeh Peters, Carter Peterson, Ace Reed, Kimeson Rodriguez, Hermione Rogers, Dagan Roque

more, Melina Samuels, Tailyn Shirley, Kha'Deja Spencer, Cayden Templeton, Aiden Vasquez, Spencer Walbridge, Garrett Watson, Briley Watts, Courtney White, Prince Williams, Logan Wright, Annajancy Xoi.

## GLADEWATER HIGH SCHOOL

### HONOR ROLL

#### 9th Grade

#### A Honor Roll

Tinsely Aldredge, Kylie Beall, Kara Bellanger, Nya Border, Daelyn Bradshaw, Hannah Brandt, Addison Chandarlis, Victoria Flanagan, Ma'Kenzie Floyd, Beatrice Nadasos, Peyton Noble, Brynlee Underwood, Lily Upchurch, Brooklyn Villalpando, Bentley Webber

#### 9th Grade

#### A/B Honor Roll

Brandon Alvarez Martinez, Moises Arteaga Cervantes, Faith Belcher, Colin Bird, Josiah Brown, Andria Castaneda, Everlie Costello, Landon Deason, Charles Eoff, Jordynn Harris, Diego Hernandez, Donovan Ingram, Kayden Jansen, Jermaine King, Cashtyn Lehman, Camiann Moore, Connor Morgan, Abigail Nino, Baylei Noble, Ayden Ortiz, Jayse Pennington, Ian Perez, Kaeyla Perez, Khloey Rendon, Ty Richey, Dexter Robinson, Daniel Rodgers, Raul Rodriguez, David Sholars, Delilah Sholars, Savannah Sides, Dodge Sisson, Nevaeh Stadfeld-Crowell, Connor Thompson, Jase Timmons, Ashlynn Tolbert, Santiago Trejo Uballe, Brody Vickery, Aaron Watson, Aaron Wilkins, Illiane Williams, Princess Za'Kiers Williams,

#### 10th Grade

#### A Honor Roll

Vivan Bray, Bailey Childress, Lily Childress, Noah Clay, Samuel Corona, McKensey Cuellar-Martinez, Emily Dickinson, Noah Jenkins, Anthony Juarez, Titus Macklin, Madden Ramirez, Jade Mireles, Ariel Robinson, Jayde Royle, Isaias Sierra, Chevy Sisson, Anna Thomas, Alexander Villalpando, Jayden Wright,

#### 10th Grade

#### A/B Honor Roll

Mariah Barksdale, Grace Belcher, Caleb Budro, Jose Calderon Cardenas, Elizabeth Chabria, Cloe Coursey, Shamore Franklin, Jax Glarborg, Malik Hatten, Ryan Hawley, Emily Head, Shyann Holestine, Isabelle Inocencio, Landen King, Rosalie Lugo, Alyra Martinez, Konnor Mason, Acxel Nino Monsivaiz, Kayden Renfroe, Lainey Reynolds, Bryan Sanchez, Lilia Sanchez, Gavin Selman, Ty Trout, Kamila Turner, Karen VerSteeg, Kaeden Willeby, Kaylee Wortham

#### 11th Grade

#### A Honor Roll

Coby Bellenger, Emmie Benson, Chance Fleetwood, Lesly Hernandez, Aryana Jones, Kailey Kistler, Mason Knoll, Olivia Miller, Barrett Owens, Paytin Thompson

#### 11th Grade

#### A/B Honor Roll

Caleb Balcorta, Dylan Botonis, Heaven-Leigh Cannon, Abigail Carney, Lia Castaneda, Alivia Duncan, Kylie Faye, Aiden Fossan, Zoe Fossan, Kymorah Gordon, Jamiya Hall, Angela Hampton, Landon Hogue, Nobellee Humphreys, Bryannah Jackson, Aiden Jansen, Jazmin Jimenez-Estrada, Damarion Johnson, Kera Kinsey, Khera Lincoln, Erik Little, Silver Little, Audryana Lorenzo, Hayden Mumphrey, Chase Porter, Katelyn Pugliese, Thalia Renfroe, Mackenzie Richardson, Gabriela Rojas, Anthony Sanchez, Ka'Vyron Sheppard, Bailey Shico, Matthew Smith, Carlee Townsend, Dorrie Warburton, Teagan Watkins-Brack, Couri Willeby, Kendal Yount

#### 12th Grade

#### A Honor Roll

Neriah Barnes, Elizabeth Brown, Luke Brown, Samantha Brown, Jakobe Crosby, Ayden Diggs, Alayah Gordon, Aamyria Jones, Garrett Kegarise, Shayla Lara, Kevin Mireles, Eli Montanez, Mickal Renfroe, Christian Rojas, Micah Timmons, John Watson

#### 12th Grade

#### A/B Honor Roll

Saul Alvarez, Alexis Bauman-Cooper, Ma'Khya Boone, Aidan Clay, Carsin Cooper, Rilynn Duren, Jeremiah Flanagan, Aubry Floyd, Pierce Garcia, Karyme Gomez, Jayvon Green, Peyton Hunter, Caleb Johnson, Brody Kail, Brodie Keene, Aleigha McGuyer, Edwin Nino Eufacio, Kyera Orange, Matthew Perales, Azucena Perez, Madison Rector, Esmeralda Rojas, King Rodriguez, Daila Sanchez, Akeelah Stevens, Gavin Sumner, Madaxx Vasquez, Caidence Ware, Adam Warner, Ella Williams



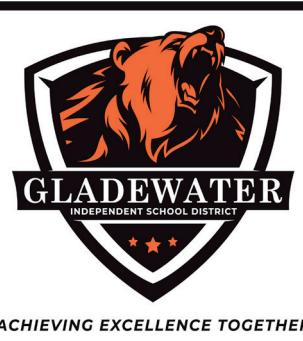
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- 1 Palo Duro repeat
- 5 Tex Ritter sang "High \_\_\_\_ title
- 6 Dolly Parton tune: "\_\_\_\_ Can Do"
- 7 TXism: "that'll \_\_\_\_ your butter!" (exciting)
- 8 Mexican prison mafia: "La \_\_\_\_"
- 9 TXism: "in the \_\_\_\_ of luxury"
- 12 resell Cowboy tickets for more
- 17 Stephens of Dallas Cowboy cheerleader films
- 19 Aloha State
- 21 TXism: "a \_\_\_\_ man" (good roper)
- 22 actress De Carlo of 1949 film "Calamity Jane and Sam Bass"
- 23 breathe a \_\_\_\_ relief"
- 28 "fender bender" result
- 29 Confederate general, Robert (2 wds.)
- 30 "Cattle Kings of Texas" photographer, Dian
- 31 TXism: "shook \_\_\_\_ with eternity" (died)
- 35 TX "Racehorse" Haynes (abbr.)
- 36 hurricane with 105 mph winds (2 wds.)
- 42 bank customer
- 44 Gulf sandbar
- 46 TX Tommy Lee Jones film: "Eyes of \_\_\_\_"

## DOWN

- 1 TXism: "would melt the \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ molars" (hot chili)
- 2 Texas birthplace of singer Ronnie Dunn
- 3 TXism: "\_\_\_\_ like a stuck pig"
- 4 TXism: "chew \_\_\_\_ awhile"
- 9 Trans-Pecos critter: mountain \_\_\_\_
- 1 TXism: "honky tonk shout: \_\_\_\_ drinks over here"
- 11 high school \_\_\_\_ rally
- 12 bashful
- 13 Natural Bridge Caverns is largest one in Texas (2 wds.)
- 14 military unauthorized absence (abbr.)
- 15 Dallas or Houston HOV passageway
- 16 East Texas tree
- 18 Dallas-based: "Steak and \_\_\_\_"
- 20 "that is" (abbr.)
- 23 Dallas univ. without the "U"
- 24 state where TX Holly died (abbr.)
- 25 pleased
- 26 Austin's Driskill is the oldest in Texas
- 27 spend more money than someone else
- 32 Ava of film 1952 "Lone Star" (init.)
- 33 TXism: "can a donkey fly?"
- 34 late Texas medico: Red Duke

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## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley &amp; Guy Orbison

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P-1776

See Answers On Page 5A

Flu season sends kids home sick—this new tech can identify bacteria from one cell

Flu season is heating up and so do bacterial infections that send kids home sick from school and parents to the doctor. Identifying the exact germ behind those infections can take days. New research suggests that may eventually change.

Scientists like Dr. Dmitry Kurovski, associate professor of Texas A&M University, Biochemistry and Biophysics, Biomedical Engineering department have shown that a single bacterial cell can be identified with 100% accuracy using nano-infrared spectroscopy and AI no culturing, dyes, or genetic sequencing required. In lab tests, the method correctly identified bacteria including E. coli, a common cause of school-related outbreaks.

The technique reads the molecular "fingerprint" of an individual bacterium and uses machine learning to classify it. While still experimental, the approach points toward a future where germs picked up at school could be identified much faster, helping doctors choose the right treatment and avoid unnecessary antibiotics.

## Stewart named Citizen of Year by Gilmer chamber

By Phillip Williams

For the second time in 14 years, longtime Gilmer insurance agent and Realtor Steve Stewart was named the Gilmer Area Chamber of Commerce's Outstanding Citizen of the Year for 2025 at the chamber's annual 2026 banquet last Thursday night.

Other award recipients at the Yamboree Event Center included Keith Tate, Educator of the Year; the late Mike Jenkins, Top Hand Award; Larry Tefteller, Unsung Hero; and Sylvia Hawkins, Humanitarian Award.

Stewart was cited for his volunteer work, 48-year membership in the Gilmer Rotary Club, and serving on numerous boards as a director.

The boards included those of Gilmer National Bank, the East Texas Yamboree Association, the Gilmer Housing Authority, the city Parks Advisory Board, the Historic Upshur Museum, and the chamber.

Stewart also served as Yamboree president in 1994 and one of he and his wife Elaine's daughters, Abby Stewart, served as the Yamboree's first female president after she was Queen Yam years earlier. The Stewarts' other daughter, Rachel Stewart, is a former Yamboree princess.

Upon being presented the award by its recipient for 2022, City Councilman Pete Herrmann, Stewart told the audience he saw a "lot of people who would be a lot more deserving than I" of the award.

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# Sports roundup

By Tyler Sutton

The Gladewater Bears basketball team continued their quest for a district championship as they hosted their cross town rival White Oak Roughnecks at Bill Waters gymnasium but the Roughnecks had other plans as they came away with a 46-43 victory handing Gladewater their first district loss of the season.

Andrew Rector and Tysen McClain both finished with 13 points and five rebounds for White Oak. Cal Jester added 12 points and seven rebounds, Campbell Sutton five points and eight rebounds and Mac Smith three points and five rebounds.

That was followed up by a trip down the road to Sabine where the Bears rebounded

with a 83-74 victory over the Cardinals. Landon King had a big game with 24 points and 7 rebounds. The Bears keep their spot atop the district with an overall record of 11-9 and 4-1. Next up is a trip to Arp to take on the Tigers.

The Gladewater Lady Bears continued their climb in the district standings as they hosted the White Oak Ladynecks and came away with a hard fought 47-40 victory. Paytin Thompson had 23 points, 3 rebounds and 3 assists. Khera Lincoln added 13 points, five rebounds and two assists for Gladewater. Britney Vitehad five points and six rebounds, Kamila Turner two points and 12 rebounds and Beatrice

Nasados two points and five rebounds. That was followed by a trip to Sabine where the Lady Bears grinded out another hard fought victory 37-33 over the Lady Cardinals. Thompson tossed in 14 points, Kamila Turner added 12. Thompson added six rebounds, two assists and three steals and Turner nine rebounds and two steals. Khera Lincoln chipped in with four points, six rebounds and two assists. The wins improve the Lady Bears to 5-14 and 4-2 in district play. Next up is a trip to Arp to take on the Lady Tigers.

After their game with the Bears, the White Oak Roughnecks basketball team welcomed in the West Rusk

Raiders where they fell 68-45. Jeter had another good game with 13 points and 5 assists. The losses dropped White Oak to 12-15 and 1-3 in district play and will next be in action with a home game vs Troup then a trip to Tatum.

The Ladynecks followed up their game at Gladewater by hosting the West Rusk Lady Raiders where they fell 53-46. The losses drop White Oak to 10-19 and 0-6 in district play. They will next be in action with a home game vs Troup and then heading to Tatum.

The Union Grove Lions continued their climb up the district standing's as they headed to Linden-Kildare and came away with a hard fought 60-56

victory. That was followed up by hosting Ore City and easily defeating them 69-22. The Lions led 21-5 after 1 quarter, 38-14 at the half and 67-21 after 3 quarters. The wins improve Union Grove to 10-12 and 4-1 in district play. They will next be in action when they host McLeod.

The Union Grove Lady Lions continued their march towards a district championship as they traveled to Linden-Kildare where they picked up a 50-34 victory. They then headed home to host Ore City where they routed them 70-22. Shaniya Roland paced Union Grove with 20 points. Aubree Coulter added 10 points, Landri Sirmans nine, Jill Taylor

seven, Eliana Villamendez six, Emma Dabreu, Mallorie Cannon and Danica Vestal four each and Chloe Hector and Rachel Potter three apiece. The Lady Lions now sit at a remarkable 22-2 and 5-1 in district play. They will next be back on the court when they host McLeod. That was followed up by a trip down the road to Sabine where the Bears rebounded with a 83-74 victory over the Cardinals. Landon King had a big game with 24 points and 7 rebounds.

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# what's Happening?

## Library section to celebrate Texas, independent authors

Last year saw a major overhaul to the stacks at Lee-Bardwell Public Library as director Brandy Wynn and her staffers made room for a new specialty collection tied to the Lone Star State.

Now, the team is turning the spotlight on the new shelves, drawing as many of the contributing authors as possible for a 2-6 p.m. celebration Saturday, March 14, at 312 W. Pacific Ave.

"We will have 10-15 authors at the library who will be selling their books," Wynn announced this week, "and I'll be officially opening our Texas Local & Independent Authors section."

The local library seeded the collection from a \$7,800 grant awarded by the J. Frank Dobie Library Trust. The current goal is to grow the section to about 2,000 volumes.

During the Spring 2026 event, "We are going to honor J. Frank Dobie because it was that foundation that gave us the money to get so many independent authored books."

March 14 is also 'Pi(e) Day,' landing on 3/14 (fun fact, it's also Albert Einstein's birthday) so the library will be integrating a pie and coffee component to the meet the author shindig.

"There's almost 800 books I bought recently," Wynn said. "I'm also pulling the books we've already gotten from Texas authors."

The thrust of the project is two-fold.

"It's not only for us to be known to have the largest Texas local and independent author collection," Wynn added, "it's also to bring attention to the fact there are so many Texas local and independent authors out there who are extremely talented and who are worth the time for people to read beyond their normal Stephen King or James Patterson or Debbie Macomber."

Stay tuned for more details about participating authors and books.

"I'll have a list of authors," Wynn said, "hopefully by the end

of this week or next. I already have eight who have confirmed."

Follow the Gladewater Mirror and @LeePublicLibrary on Facebook for updates.

## County library storytime set

A book will be read to young children at both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday (Jan. 29).

"Pete The Cat's Train Trip" by James Dean will be read at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. events.

Each reading will be followed by the children singing "Down by the Station" and a train-related craft, said Amy Allred, children's coordinator for the library.

She said last week she is "incorporating some music and movement" into Storytime, which will be added to the reading of a book and a craft at each session.

The library is at 702 W. Tyler, which is also Texas 154. The events are free to the public with no advance registration required, but children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call the library at 903-843-5001.

## Inaugural GHS alumni soup showdown set for Feb. 10

Soup always tastes better in cold weather, so cross your fingers there'll be a chilly forecast next month as Gladewater High School alumni put their best recipes to the test.

Gladewater Former Students' Association's first Soup-er Stew Cookoff is set for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, at the GFSA building at 2509 Hendricks St.

"Teams from different GHS Alumni Classes will prepare their favorite soup or stew," organizers announced, "and we will vote to see who has the best."

In addition to the competition fare, GFSA will provided

cornbread, crackers, tea and water.

A fundraising event, tickets are \$10 per person. To reserve a seat, contact Bryan Kelly (903-780-1375 or bryan@dqtyler.com) or Peggy Whiteman (307-216-0517 or joe\_peggy@hotmail.com). GFSA board members and associates also have tickets to sell.

Five class-teams are signed up, the organizers announced, so there will be plenty of soup and stew available to enjoy.

## Vet benefits fair on tap Feb. 21

The Gilmer posts of three national organizations for military veterans will jointly host a Veterans Benefit Fair at the Gilmer Civic Center on Saturday, Feb. 21, announced local American Legion member Shirley Parnell.

The event, open free of charge to local veterans and their families, is set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 1218 U.S. Hwy. 271 N.

A flyer promoting it terms it as "a day dedicated to serving those who served."

It will feature "a variety of veterans' resources," free food from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and "giveaways throughout the day," the flyer said. Sponsors are American Legion R.E. (Peppy) Blount Post No. 320, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6715 and Disabled American Veterans Post No. 204.

## Payton Palmer to Dean's List for Fall 2025 Semester

BIRMINGHAM, AL - Samford University's Cumberland School of Law named Payton Palmer of White Oak to the Dean's List for the fall 2025 semester.

Cumberland School of Law recognizes excellence in academic achievement each semester by publishing a Dean's List. Included on the list are students whose end-of-semester GPA is 3.3 or higher.

## Students named to Dean's List at University of Maryland

ADELPHI, MD - More than 18,700 University of Maryland Global Campus students were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2025 term. To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 at UMGC.

Levi Pelham of Gladewater and Noah Starr of Gilmer

## Students named to Texas State University's Fall 2025 Dean's List

SAN MARCOS - Texas State University is proud to recognize academic excellence by naming high achieving students to the Fall 2025 Dean's List. This prestigious honor recognizes students who have achieved a term GPA between 3.5 and 3.99 while enrolled in 12 or more GPA hours at Texas State University. Earning the Dean's List is a testament to students' dedication to academic excellence.

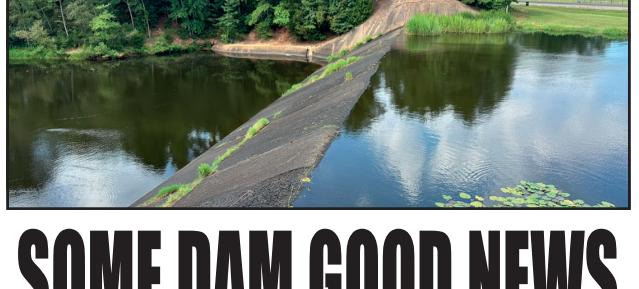
Jaylon Jeffery of White Oak, Integrated Studies

Audree Smith of Winona, Biology

## Chili event moved to Thursday

The Texas Extension Education Association's annual fund-raising chili luncheon, originally scheduled Wednesday, Jan. 28, has been postponed by one day due to the winter storm.

The event is scheduled for 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday at the Yamboree Exhibit Building in the Yamboree Park off U.S. 271 in Gilmer. Tickets are \$14 each in advance from TEEA members or at the door. A TEEA spokeswoman announced the one-day postponement Monday, saying that the closure of Gilmer High School that day would delay cooking the chili.



## SOME DAM GOOD NEWS

**Gladewater gets \$1.5 million earmarked to jump-start dam repairs**

Continued from Page 1

and the president's signature.

"The Minnesota shooting over the weekend is probably going to complicate and delay the passage of that DHS bill this week," Moran acknowledged Jan. 26. That said, "I think ultimately it will get passed. It's just a matter of probably a little bit of negotiation with some other things that are not going to be related to this."

Once the funds are officially appropriated, it'll still take some time to reach Gladewater's endpoint.

"The great thing is, this is what Congress, particularly in the rural areas, needs to work hard at. It would be impossible for a rural area to just get this money through general appropriations."

According to Gladewater City Manager Charlie Smith, local officials were set for a Wednesday morning meeting with financiers and engineers to get the planning phase underway.

"Hopefully, it'll get us started," he said. "Once we get the project and planning phase done, we'll be shovel-ready for the next grant we might get for that, which will be awesome."

It's exciting, Flanagan said, not just for problem-solving but for drawing more national assistance to the local community.

"Number one, Gladewater is getting federal funding that's not available to everyone," she said. "This is a great example of 'Team Gladewater.' Everybody came together and worked for it."

The work it funds is going to give the aging dam a lot more time and years, Moran added, a little breathing room for permanent solutions.

"It's like seal-coating a road. That buys you several more years until you can totally reconstruct a road. That's what this does," he said. "We're going to be able to shore up that dam to protect lives and property until the point we can find another 50-year or 75-year solution."

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Pictures: DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com or Estate-Sales.Net  
Next sale: Feb. 12-14



## PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Chapters 501 and 505 of the Texas Local Government Code, notice is hereby published regarding the planned expenditure of Type B sales tax proceeds on an eligible project, as defined in chapters 501 and 505 of the Texas Local Government Code. The White Oak Economic Development Corporation and the White Oak City Council have approved an incentive to grant \$19,352 to the White Oak Softball Association for the purchase of a batting cage.

The White Oak Economic Development Corporation and the White Oak City Council have approved an incentive to grant \$4,400 to SnoJoe's to purchase a 10X20 portable building, a double-sided sign, and WOEDCO will reimburse the City of White Oak for a sewer tap. The grant reimbursement will be made after receipts have been turned in.

The White Oak Economic Development Corporation and the White Oak City Council have approved an interest-free loan in the amount of \$100,000 to Mid South Manufacturing LLC to purchase equipment and an expansion to the facility. Funding for said project shall occur after the expiration of 60 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

A public meeting to discuss Senate Bill 546 (SB 546) as it pertains to School Bus Seat Belts for Texas Public Schools will be held in the Board-room of the Administration office located at 200 E. Broadway. The meeting is scheduled for Monday February 9th, 2026 at 6 pm. The meeting will be held in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Act. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

A public meeting to present the 2024-2025 Texas Academic Performance Report for Gladewater ISD will be held in the Board-Room of the Administration office located at 200 E. Broadway. The meeting is scheduled for Monday February 9th, 2026 at 6 pm. if you have question please contact Rae Ann Patty at 903-845-6991

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a WINE AND MALT BEVERAGE RETAILOR'S OFF PREMISE PERMIT (BQ) by PASHUPATI LUCKY LLC, dba: LUCKY MART to be located at 227 S. MAIN ST., GLADEWATER, TEXAS, 75647, GREGG COUNTY. Member of said LLC is BIJAYA KUMAR SHRESTHA, Managing member.

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## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO IMPLEMENT A NET INTERIM FUEL REFUND

On December 30, 2025, Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO or the Company) filed an Application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) to implement a net interim fuel refund of a net over-recovery of fuel costs billed under its factors through October 31, 2025. The docket number assigned to this proceeding is PUC Docket No. 59179. This filing was made under Tex. Admin. Code § 25.237(a)(3)(B). The filing affects only the fuel portion of the rates charged by SWEPCO for electricity in Texas and has no effect on SWEPCO's non-fuel base rates. This application, if granted, will affect all Texas retail customers who pay fixed fuel factors.

The total amount of the net over-recovery balance to be refunded through the proposed refund is \$42,027,369, exclusive of interest. The total amount, including interest up to the proposed refund period, is \$42,464,062.

SWEPCO proposes that customers receiving service pursuant to its As-Available Standby Service (AAS) and Large Lighting and Power Substation (LLP) tariffs should have their refund calculated based on historical usage, including interest.

SWEPCO proposes to apply these factors to the actual kWh usage of each customer for three months, during the February 2026 through April 2026 billing cycles.

The effect of the refund on customer bills will vary depending on the rate schedule under which they take service and, in some instances, will amount to a surcharge. Further, based on time periods of usage, some customers within a class may receive a surcharge while the class as a whole receives a net refund. SWEPCO estimates that under its proposed refund, a residential customer using 1,000 kWh a month would see a decrease of \$22.05, or 19.26% during each month of the refund period on his/her total electric bill if the proposed net interim fuel refund is approved.

SWEPCO's fuel expenses will be subject to final review by the Commission in the Company's next fuel reconciliation proceeding.

Persons with questions or who want more information on the proposed interim net fuel refund may contact SWEPCO at 428 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101, or call toll free at (888) 216-3523 during normal business hours. A complete copy of the filing is available for inspection at the address listed above.

Persons who wish to formally participate in this proceeding, or who wish to express their comments concerning this application should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Consumer Protection, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call (512) 936-7120, or toll free at (888) 782-8477. A request to intervene or for further information should reference Docket No. 59179. Hearing and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may call (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll free) at (800) 735-2989.

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