

Gladewater Mirror

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"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"



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50¢



Firefighters from multiple local agencies respond to the scene of a mobile home blaze off Swallow Road in an unincorporated area of Upshur County Wednesday, Feb. 25. The roster included more than a dozen units along with personnel from Judson, Pritchett, Gilmer, East Mountain and West Mountain alongside White Oak and Gladewater. Christus EMS was also on scene as first responders tended to the steaming wreckage.

White Oak library committee shifts novel to back wall after challenge

By James Draper

"The Perks of Being a Wallflower" will remain in the stacks at the White Oak School Community Library, but it will be 'relocated' following a challenge to its content.

The coming-of-age novel by Stephen Chbosky has seen the same, along with bans, nationwide since its publication in 1999. Sexual and LGBTQ+ themes along with drug and alcohol use are common complaints, and volunteers on White Oak ISD's 'Library Materials Challenge Committee' highlighted similar concerns.

Ultimately, the group of parents and two WOISD staff members voted 4-1 to move the book from Young Adult Fiction to Adult Fiction. That latter section is only available during the public hours of the library (3:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday) and only with a public library card, which must be endorsed by a parent or guardian for underage users.

The previous set of committee members (4 out of 5 spots change for each challenge) voted 4-1 Jan. 6 to remove a graphic novel series from the library, "Heartstoppers" (Vol. 1-5) by Alice



White Oak High School Principal Skyler Stagner presides over the Library Material Challenge Committee meeting yesterday concerning "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" by Stephen Chbosky.

Oseman. Those books, too, face regular challenges over LGBTQ+ and sexual themes.

WO High School Principal Skyler Stagner is tasked with vetting volunteers and appointing each challenge committee. It also falls to him to run the posted meetings.

With about 20 audience members in attendance for the 2 p.m. discussion Monday, Stagner opened with a review of the state and local policies that apply when the district receives an official challenge to library material.

He thanked the committee members and visitors for their participation: "It means something for you taking the time to be here."

As for "Wallflower," committee members were asked to gauge the book according to the district's current policies. Parent Brett Thompson said parts of the book fit the definition of 'harmful.'

"There were references throughout the book to sexual acts... Use of recreational drugs, alcohol... that I can see are harmful to school-age children who pick up the book," he said. "Not that they're not already hearing that kind of stuff, but we shouldn't be providing

avenues so they're reading about it."

Parent Tiffany Jahr noted the same concerns, spotlighting a scene in the book involving a rape.

"The book can be seen as harmful for some students, not necessarily all students," parent Melanie McMahon added. It has positive messages about counseling and recovery from trauma, she said, "but it normalized the drugs, alcohol and the sex..."

According to WOHS Junior/Senior English teacher Stacy Shellhorse, "I have 75 annotations on page numbers" flagged for mature content. The novel fits the "pervasively vulgar" definition, she said.

The profanity and sexual references are small parts of a larger story, according to Librarian Lori Davis, the consistent committee member, per policy.

"I do feel as though we are doing a disservice to teenagers by thinking the only thing they will remember are the quote-unquote vulgar or indecent parts of this book," she said. "I think it's a lot of things, but I think it's a dangerous step to take."

The library serves both

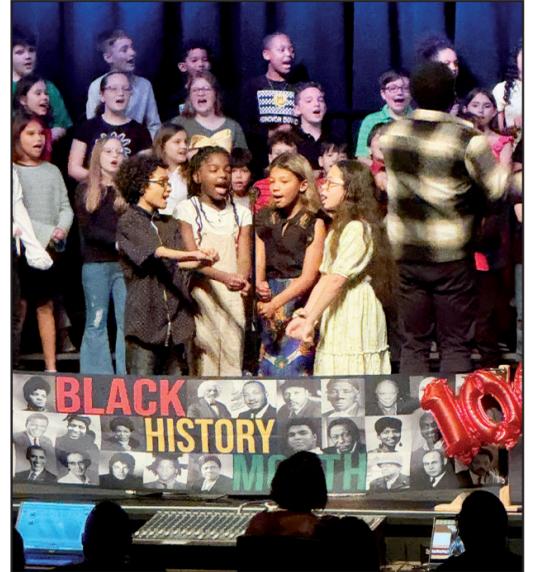
children and adults in the community. Parents can place restrictions on the books students read, whether on their school library card or the public card.

"I think that's important for parents and the public to realize," McMahon said, "that those safeguards and rules are in place."

White Oak alum Jonna Anderson made a brief, impassioned speech following the meeting, which did not include public comment.

"I'm glad you just moved the book and did not remove it," said the White Oak alumna, whose three daughters also graduated from the district. Students today are dealing with the same challenges and trauma in the story, Anderson emphasized: "Please, please do not deny this knowledge to our children, because I promise you it's helping."

In addition to "Heartstoppers" and "The Perks of Being a Wallflower," the school has also received a challenge to the book "Queerfully and Wonderfully Made: A Guide for LGBTQ+ Christian Teens." The date for consideration and committee appointments are to be determined.



Weldon Elementary School students sing as part of the Unity Choir Feb. 26 during the annual Black History Program.

Weldon '26 Black History Month program spotlights those Who make a difference

By James Draper

"Just be the difference."

Gladewater ISD Athletic Director & Head Coach Jermaine Lewis aims to be a coach for all kids, whether on the football field, basketball court or in the hallway.

To be the difference, he told the audience at Weldon Elementary School's Black History Program Feb. 26, is one of those things that doesn't regard color.

"Just be a good person," he encouraged the students, families and staffers in the audience last week. "I always try to do the right thing by my kids."

On his coaching staff are men Lewis once coached.

"I hope at some point I've made a difference in their life by something I said, something I did for them," he said. "My message today is to be the difference."

Scores of students made a difference on stage in the Unity Choir while key pupils delivered remarks built around the centennial theme, 'Because of Them, We Can.'

The annual program was organized by Weldon Behavioral Specialist Keshia Lewis, who delivered closing remarks alongside Principal Cassie Hogan.

"We honor those who marched so we could walk freely. We honor the brilliance of those who discovered and created opportunity when there were none," Keshia Lewis said. "We honor the strength of athletes who broke barriers and showed the world what excellence looks like."

This year marked a century since Carter G. Woodson's inaugural celebration of 'Negro History Week' which grew into



HARD-EARNED, WELL-DESERVED – Lois Reed's was the only truly surprised face in the Former Students Association Building Feb. 24 as the City of Gladewater awarded her Volunteer of the Year 2025-2026 in the municipality's Volunteer & Board Appreciation Banquet.

City recognizes volunteers

Gladewater Chamber of Commerce President Lois Reed is well-known to the community's various groups of volunteers – where they go, she goes.

From the council chamber to the food bank to picking up trash on the side of the road, there's Lois.

The City of Gladewater put the spotlight on the hands-on helper Feb. 24 during its first Volunteer & Board Appreciation Banquet. In addition to dinner and a presentation from guest speaker from Chad Patterson, City Hall recognized the locals who contribute time to everything from the Lake and Airport Boards to Lee-Bardwell Public Library, Gladewater Economic Development Corporation and more.

Each board chose a standout member from among their volunteers, and the city bestowed Volunteer of the Year 2025-2026 on Reed.



OPINION/COMMENTARY

Happy Birthday Sam ...

One of the men in my life will be celebrating his 223rd birthday March 2. I have been in a close relationship with him since 1978 when I wrote my Masters' thesis about him. He is my hero for several reasons, not the least of which was his ability to start over and in the effort change the course of history in the process.

Here is a short dirty lesson about the man known as The Raven.

As a fatherless youth he often crossed over and spent summers with the Cherokees. As a young man under the command of General Andy Jackson he distinguished himself in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend against the Creek Indians who were making hash of Jackson's troops.

Old Hickory was in a rage with his white hair standing on end as he whipped his white horse around yelling commands at his splintered troops. Sam, a young ensign who was being treated for an injury sprang onto his horse and charged the Creek inspiring an advance that saved the day and winning Jackson's admiration and affection.

Sam who was raised without a father looked to Jackson to fill that role. Jackson looked to Houston as the son he never had who was destined to shape America's future.

As governor of Tennessee Sam married a sweet young thing who apparently was in love with someone else. She abandoned the statehouse and Sam for her lover. Sam retreated to his Cherokee family and stayed drunk for some time. But eventually he emerged from his embarrassment and hangover to be called to the Capital by Jackson who was now President and Commander-in-Chief. Sam who met the President in his buckskins earned a turn of Jackson's back and tossed a bag of coins with the comment to return when he was dressed as a civilized man.

Shortly after their time together Sam made his way to the Mexican territory known as Texas and the wild young man grew into a visionary leader of historic legend. He also fell in love with a good woman who helped him be a better man.

Sam Houston was the kind of man who could stand up to ridicule, just and unjust criticism, the tragic loss of men he admired at battles like Gonzales and Goliad, and the kick in the gut that was the Alamo and its "13 Days of Glory".

Who do you think was blamed for the loss of those heroes?

Sam Houston led the rag-tag revolutionary army in what was derisively called the Runaway Scrape until he backed his army onto a bayou that he knew he could defend with his limited troops. And with the burning of a bridge by Deaf Smith he was ready to win a war and birth a nation.

Sam Houston served as president of the Republic of Texas and a senator and governor of Texas. As the Civil War approached he was the Unionist governor of a pro-secession state.

Houston begged legislators not to support secession and

they brutally kicked him out of the governor's office. While they voted for secession he stood on the steps of the Capitol and begged Texans to vote against the bill. After it passed elderly ex-governor Sam Houston toured the state begging voters to vote against secession. He stood on the steps of many a courthouse, including the one in Gilmer speaking directly to the people who more often than not pelted the elderly hero of San Jacinto with rotten fruit. Yet he futilely rode from town to town in the effort to stem the tide.



Long ago I presented a paper on my hero at the East Texas Historical Association and used the book "The Great Designer" by historian Lorena B. Friend as my main source. When it was over, a tiny older woman approached me and drawled in a lovely Southern accent, "I used to say I was the last woman in Sam Houston's life. Suzanne, I now pass that title to you."

And so, as Miss Lorena's self-declared "last woman" I share with you the words of this very flawed man. The words that made him a hero for the ages.

"Some of you laugh to scorn the idea of bloodshed as the result of secession, but let me tell you what is coming... Your fathers and husbands, your sons and brothers, will be herded at the point of the bayonet... You may after the sacrifice of countless millions of treasure and hundreds of thousands of lives, as a bare possibility, win Southern independence... but I doubt it. I tell you that, while I believe with you in the doctrine of state rights, the North is determined to preserve the Union..."

If you go to war with the United States, you will never conquer her, as she has the money and the men. If she does not whip you by guns, powder and steel, she will starve you to death... I predict the civil war which is now at hand will be stubborn of long duration...

In the name of the constitution of Texas, which has been trampled upon, I refuse to take this oath. I love Texas too well to bring civil strife and bloodshed upon her."

Sam Houston was deposed from office on March 15, 1861 and died on July 26, 1863, with his wife Margaret by his side. His last words were "Texas! Texas! Margaret."

Sam Houston sacrificed everything he had ever won or deeply wanted for his convictions. Texas and our nation could use a few more statesmen like him today.

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell

March 2, 2016



Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Texans urged to heed travel

Texans planning to travel to Mexico or currently visiting there are urged to closely follow warnings from the U.S. Department of State, which advises U.S. citizens to not travel to the states of Colima, Guerrero, Michoacan, Sinaloa and Tamaulipas. Travelers to other states in Mexico are urged to either reconsider or at least exercise increased caution. This comes after violence broke out in Jalisco following the death of a cartel leader in a gunfight with Mexican authorities.

Gov. Greg Abbott has directed the Texas Department of Public Safety to increase security along the border region.

"Mexican drug cartels pose a significant threat to public safety and national security," Abbott said. "By increasing proactive efforts to defend against cartel violence, Texas will continue to utilize every tool and strategy to protect our state and our nation. We will not cower to criminals who impose terror on our fellow Texans and Americans."

Texans in need of immediate assistance can call the U.S. Department of State (from outside the U.S.: 1-202-501-4444; from inside the U.S.: 1-888-407-4747) or the Texas Fusion Center (1-844-927-0521).

Patrick seeks to block Camp Mystic's reopening

Texas should not renew the license for Camp Mystic this summer until necessary changes are made to ensure more lives aren't lost in a flood, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick wrote in a letter to the state health commissioner, according to the Texas Standard.

"It would be naive to allow Camp Mystic to return to normal operations before all of the facts are known," Patrick wrote to Department of State Health Services Commissioner Jennifer Shuford. "Camp Mystic should have decided on their own to suspend operations this coming summer, but it appears they are planning for camp in 2026 and will likely be seeking your approval to operate with a renewed license."

Flooding last July 4 killed 25 campers, two counselors and the camp's executive director. Parents of some of the campers who died have sued Shuford and other DSHS officials, claiming the state failed to follow Texas law when licensing the camp without ensuring it had adequate evacuation plans. In the months following the flood, Camp Mystic has announced plans to reopen its Cypress Lake property, which it says is independent from the older Guadalupe River location where the girls died.

Wildfires popping up across state

Dry conditions and brisk winds are fueling a rise in wildfires across the state. The Texas A&M Forest Service reported that forecast rain could lessen the wildfire risk in early March.

As of Sunday, the service reported two active wildfires: one in Orange County, in Southeast Texas, and the other in Schleicher County, in Central Texas. Most of the wildfires reported last week and now contained were in East Texas. Burn bans are in place in 184 of the state's 254 counties.

Education board approves 4,200 curriculum corrections

The State Board of Education last week approved roughly 4,200 corrections and revisions to its elementary and secondary school curriculum, The Texas Tribune reported. The cost of making the corrections and changes has not been determined, but it will come at taxpayer expense, since the Texas Education Agency developed the materials using state funding. A TEA official said the agency planned to determine the costs now that the changes and corrections have been approved. The vote was delayed in January.

The state has been using the Bluebonnet Learning curriculum since November 2024. When unveiled, it attracted national attention for its references to the Bible and Christianity.

Approximately 1 in 4 school districts have indicated that they are using at least some portions of the reading curriculum, covering about 400,000 students. The materials come with a \$60 per-student incentive for districts.

TEA spokesperson Jake Kobersky said not all the changes to Bluebonnet are to fix errors.

"Some updates are simply improvements based on teacher feedback," Kobersky said. "Every change and/or edit made to the product must be submitted individually for SBOE approval, regardless of the nature of the change, hence the large number."

A Little Progress

The overall education level of Americans is rising according to new data from the US Census Bureau, and Texas has seen some encouraging gains. While the state still has some catching up to do, the situation has improved notably over the past decade.

The most recent information indicates that, across the nation, about 89.9% of adults aged 25 or older have graduated from high school, with 36.8% attaining a bachelor's degree or higher. In 2019, these percentages were 88.6% and 33.1%, respectively, compared to 86.9% and 30.1% in 2014. In other words, over the past decade, the United States has seen an increase of three percentage points in the proportion of the population finishing high school, while degree-holders grew by 6.7 percentage points.

Texas has been coming from behind, but the Lone Star State is making up ground. As of 2024, 86.7% of people in the state have at least a high school diploma, and 35.2% have a bachelor's degree or higher. In 2019, the percentages were 84.6% and 30.8%, and in 2014 they were 82.2% and 27.8%. The improvement over the decade was, thus, 4.5 percentage points in the proportion of high school graduates and 7.4 percentage points for those with bachelor's degrees. Much of this improvement stems from young professionals moving to the state in response to perceived economic opportunities.

On both a national and state level, females are more likely than males to finish high school and to obtain a degree; 38.3% of females 25+ have completed a bachelor's or higher, compared to 35.4% of males. People in younger age ranges are more likely

Dr. Ray Perryman THE ECONOMIST



to have higher educational attainment, and there is significant variation across racial/ethnic groups.

Historically, unemployment rates and lifetime income have been related to educational attainment. The most recent data indicate that the unemployment rate for people 25 or older without a high school diploma is 5.2%, compared to 4.5% for those who have finished high school and 2.9% for people with a bachelor's degree or higher. Median income also increases substantially with education level, from about \$32,500 for those who have not finished high school to \$40,700 with a high school diploma to \$70,500 with a bachelor's degree.

Clearly, there are many paths to financial success and rewarding work. For example, an associate's degree or effective technical training can open the door to many in-demand occupations such as skilled trades and health care professions. Moreover, the magnitude of the changes AI will bring to the workforce remains unclear and should be considered (a topic for another day). However, for the foreseeable future, improving education levels across Texas and the nation can enhance personal financial options and potential economic growth. Stay safe!

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THE CHURCH AND POLITICS

Today it is not uncommon for politicians to use churches and their buildings to promote their political ambitions. There are churches that even invite politicians to come and meet with their members and state their positions and answer questions from them. While candidates are always welcome to the worship services of the White Oak Church of Christ, they cannot use the church to promote their political ambitions. The White Oak Church of Christ does not endorse or promote any politicians; nor do we turn the pulpit over to politicians so they can promote themselves.

Our Bible studies are to study the Bible. Our worship services are to worship God. We refuse to prostitute the church by turning it into a servant for politicians, even politicians we may agree with!

The Bible teaches in Romans 13 and 1 Pet. 2, that God ordains government in society, and that government has an important work to do. However, the Bible also teaches that the work of churches is basically spiritual in its nature. That's why the White Oak church of Christ is not a sort of "country club" providing facilities and opportunities for the secular recreation and entertainment for its members. That's also why the White Oak church isn't politically partisan, or even non-partisan. Who our members endorse or vote for is up to them. You see, the White Oak church isn't political. There is a place for politics, but that place isn't in the Lord's church!

So, if you are a Democrat, or a Republican, or a member of some other political party, or politically independent, or not political at all, and are looking for a church that hasn't forgotten what a church is supposed to be, I hope you will get acquainted with the White Oak Church of Christ. Think on these things.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ
P. O. Box 454 - White Oak, Texas 75693- 903-736-1822-dennis.abernathy845@gmail.com.

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Reporting: James Draper
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What's Happening?

Fourth annual 'Trades' event fuels GW Museum, small businesses

The first day of Spring will bring the 4th annual Trades at the Museum vendor event back downtown.

Set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 21, it's a small business-friendly effort that also raises funds for Gladewater Museum.

"Shop from a variety of local vendors and enjoy a great day while giving back," per the organizers, Scrubby Love Gladewater. "Support local small businesses while helping preserve our town's history.

"All vendor fees go directly to support the museum, making this their only fundraising event of the year. Your participation helps keep this important piece of our community alive."

For more information or to sign up as a vendor, contact Scrubby Love at 903-917-4326 to reserve a spot.

Upshur Library events set

The Upshur County Library in Gilmer will hold several events for children and a meeting of its book club for adults this month.

"LEGO at the Library" is scheduled for ages 5 to 11 from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday. "STEM---Make and Take" is also for ages 5 to 11 from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 21.

In STEM, which stands for "Science, Technology, Engineering and Math," youngsters get to create and take home a project.

In other activity, "Teen Game Night" is scheduled from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 28.

The book club meets at 6 p.m. this Tuesday.

For more information on these upcoming events, contact the library at 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas 154) at 903-843-5001. The institution is closed each Sunday and Monday this month.

GW 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.

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

GW Chamber weaves America's birthday into plans for banquet

This year marks the United States Semiquincentennial – it made things quite a bit easier in picking the theme for the 95th annual Gladewater Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

"We're celebrating America's 250th, obviously," Lois Reed said on President's Day.

The event's set for 6:15 p.m. to 8 on Thursday, March 26, in the Former Students Building at 2509 W. Hendricks.

"I just had confirmation this afternoon that Judge Bill Stoudt's going to be our speaker," Reed said. "I think it'll be great.

"Gladewater has always played an important part in Gregg County. He thinks the same way. He is such a great proponent of all the communities in Gregg County."

Stoudt will provide an update on county goings-on after guests settle in with the evening's meal.

"I want the menu to be All-American food," Reed said, fancier than hot dogs and hamburgers, "but it will include apple pie and cherry pie. You can't get more American than that."

Tickets for the event are \$25 per person or \$150 for a table of six. For more information or to reserve a spot, call 903-845-5501.

Local entrepreneurs egg-cited to host annual hunt April 4

The community's annual egg hunt is taking shape for the first weekend in April.

Hosted this year by Gladewater Thrive & Connect, the free-for-all 2026 Gladewater Egg-Stravaganza is set for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at Lake Gladewater.

"We want to make sure this is for the community," James Reese told council members Feb. 19. Speaking for the Thrive & Connect networking group of entrepreneurs, "We want to bring the community out, make sure the families are having a great time.

"We want to make sure it's safe as well. If there's anything that anyone could do to help us, it would be great."

Admission is free for all comers, and there are three age-specific egg hunts planned. The first, at noon, is tailored for children 3-years-old and younger; ages 4-7 will hunt eggs at 12:45 p.m. followed by 8-years-and-older at 1:30 p.m.

"Bring your baskets, invite your friends and come make sweet memories with us at Gladewater Lake," the organizers

announced. "This is one event you won't want to miss."

For more information, email GladewaterThriveAndConnect@gmail.com.

Car, bike, truck show slated

A "Retro Car, Motorcycle and Truck Show" to raise funds for the Historic Upshur Museum is scheduled Saturday at the Gilmer Civic Center.

Registration for the event on U.S. 271 is from 7 a.m. to 10

a.m. The show itself is set from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., said the Gilmer Area Chamber of Commerce.

Features will include vendors, food trucks, awards, 50/50 tickets and event T-shirts. Coffee and doughnuts will be served while the supply lasts.

This is the first in a series of three such shows planned this year to benefit the museum, a 501(c)(3) charity. The others are set June 6 and Sept. 5.

For car show information, contact Ronnie at 903-253-3213.



The White Oak High School Bass Fishing Team brought home two top trophies from the Texas High School Bass Association event on Sam Rayburn last Saturday. Brayden Elliott weighed in a five fish limit of 27.43 lbs to win the tournament on the team side. There 132 teams in the tournament. His biggest fish was a 6.28 lbs to anchor the winning bag. This was Brayden's 2nd win of the season. The THSBA School Championship also went to White Oak High School for the most combined weight for the top 3 teams from each school.

Green light on recent years' audits primes GEDCO for more growth ahead

Gladewater Economic Development Corporation's books are square and squeaky clean – for local officials, it's a renewed reinvestment opportunity to put taxpayer dollars to work here.

During their regular meeting last month, city council members signed off on two "catch-up" audits for the EDC and gave a general thumbs-up to folding this year's into the city's own financial check-up.

"We hadn't done once since 2022," GEDCO Executive Director Anna Conlan told the elected officials. Hence, two at once, for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024. "This was fun because I wasn't here for either of those years, but we found enough information to get through it.

The highlights: "Obviously, we're in a good fiscal situation with reserves. We've been pretty conservative with that."

GEDCO closed FY23 with a bit more than \$1.6 million in its accounts, then \$2 million in 2024. Per Conlan, that's on a budget of approximately \$500,000.

"From a fiscally conservative projection that's a good thing," she said. "Everything is pretty straightforward in these. We didn't have major red flags but it did force a conversation about writing an investment policy which we don't currently have.

"What we will try to do is mirror yours and tweak that to Texas code of economic development for what we can and can't do." Investments have shown gains, she noted.

Importantly, "Taxpayer dollars can't be used in a way that there's a loss-opportunity."

With Fiscal Year 2025 now due, it'll be the third audit the past 12 months. Conlan proposed rolling the audit into the city's as a department of the municipality.

Overall, "This needed to be done," Blackmon said. "Doing this job thoroughly, kudos."

Per Mayor Brandy Flanagan, "We want the EDC to spend the money. We need to get the money into our businesses and get things moving."



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TRASH OFF DAYS

MARCH 19-21, 2026

THURSDAY & FRIDAY 8AM-3PM
SATURDAY 8AM-2PM

DUMPSTERS WILL BE LOCATED ON HWY 42 BEHIND THE WHITE OAK WATER TREATMENT PLANT

CURRENT WHITE OAK WATER BILL WILL BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN TRASH OFF DAYS.

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WHITE OAK POLICE

For the reporting period of February 23rd, 2026, through March 1st, 2026, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to or initiated 176 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were: Advice Calls, Burglar Alarms, Disturbances, Suspicious Activity, Loud Noise Complaints, Traffic Issues (motorist assists, traffic control, reckless drivers, etc.), and Community Relations (welfare checks, civil issues, vacation home security checks, etc.).

Two traffic collisions were investigated during this reporting period; no injuries were reported.

White Oak Officers made three arrests during this reporting period:

Jacob Taylor, 37, of White Oak, for Driving While Intoxicated with an Open Alcohol Container.

Jeana Patterson, 40, of Kilgore, for POSS CS PG 1 >=4G<200G and Theft of Property >=\$100<\$750.

Kyle Kinlaw, 41, of Kilgore, for POSS CS PG 1 >=4G<200G and Theft of Property >=\$100<\$750.

No cases were presented to the Gregg County District Attorney during this reporting period.

On-street parking problems spark council consideration

On-street parking's becoming an issue on certain stretches of Gladewater roads, and city council members will tackle the topic soon.

At the close of the group's Feb. 19 session, council member Milton Anderson asked the item be added to a future agenda.

In particular, Elm Street was on his mind: "I don't know if we need to discuss the entire city," Anderson said, but it's not isolated to any one spot. For example, "On Pinecrest, we already had a lady lose her mailbox allegedly because of on-street parking."

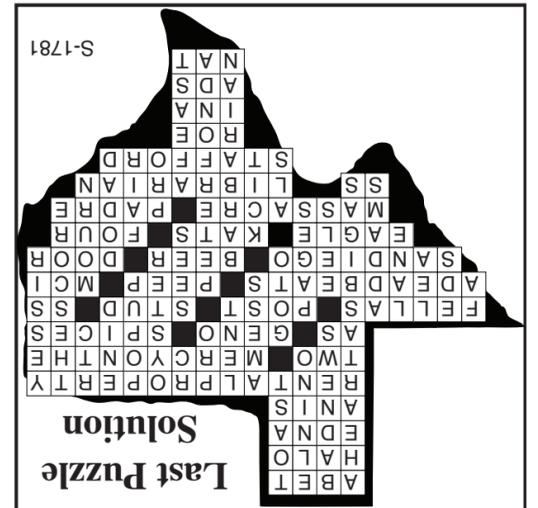
It's not a new issue, Mayor Brandy Flanagan agreed.

"I know there were several (streets) the city was already looking at."

On Rodeo, Anderson added, "There's been three cars parked there for well over a year."

Melba has issues as well, councilman William Blackmon noted.

"It's not a huge problem for the city," Anderson concluded, "but it is starting to crop up."



ACROSS

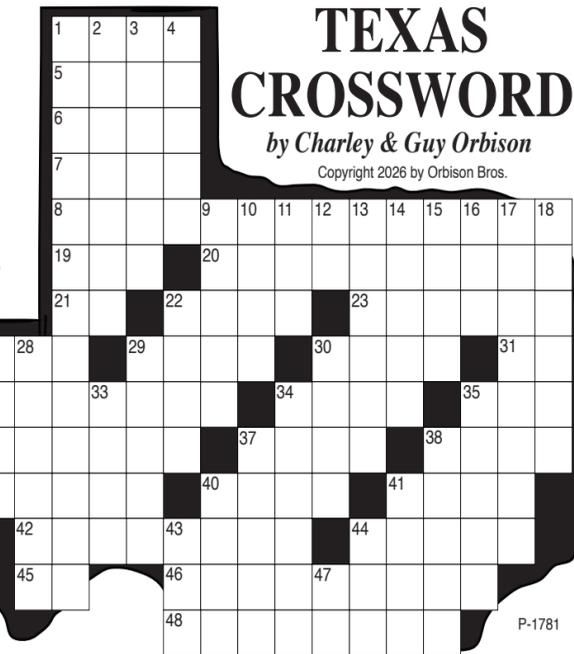
- 1 Lone Star Park wager (2 wds.)
- 5 TXism: "keeps his ___ polished" (goody-goody)
- 6 seat of Jackson County
- 7 Bentsen State Park groove-billed birds
- 8 real estate investment (2 wds.)
- 19 TXism: "got ___ left feet" (bad dancer)
- 20 Sam Houston's baptismal statement: "Lord have ___ fish"
- 21 TXism: "guilty ___ sin"
- 22 ex-Ranger catcher Petralli (1985-93)
- 23 good Texas chili requires a proper blend of ___
- 24 TXism for "fellows"
- 29 seat of Garza County
- 30 breeding horse
- 31 this Dallasite Stills sang with Crosby, Nash & Young (init.)
- 32 TXism: "short as ___ memory"
- 34 TXism: "I don't want to hear a ___ out of you"
- 35 some Texans used it for long distance
- 36 seat of Duval County (2 wds.)
- 37 TXism: "___ shed" (bar)

- 38 TXism: "your barn ___ is open" (unzipped fly)
- 39 UNT mascot
- 40 Sam Houston State mascots: Bear ___
- 41 1963 film: "___ for Texas" (written numeral)
- 42 1974 film: "The Texas Chainsaw ___"

- 44 South ___ Island
- 45 Astro position between 2nd and 3rd (abbr.)
- 46 book loaner
- 48 SW Houston suburb
- 49 TX Weddington won the case of ___ v. Wade
- 50 TXism: "brains ___ box" (computer)
- 51 classified messages
- 52 TX singer, Stuckey

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "got ___ Texas" (kind)
- 2 Houston-based 1977 sequel: "The ___ Bears . . ."
- 3 climatological event that brings rains to south Texas (2 wds.)



- 4 breakfast bread
- 9 TXism: "___ of" (great quantity)
- 10 how Texans say "loaned"
- 11 Oiler or Cowboy
- 12 ___ Cola
- 13 ___ Creek, TX
- 14 infield fly hit by an Astro (hyph.)
- 15 Oklahoma town
- 16 concealed carry law like in Texas, generally (abbr.)
- 17 this indicates who wins on Friday night (2 wds.)
- 18 polite affirmative response (2 wds.)
- 22 TXism: "Sunday ___ meetin' clothes"
- 24 ___ la la . . .

- 25 TX Perot's old co.
- 26 Houston's last wife, Margaret
- 27 Dallas has a HOV ___ for some cars
- 28 TX Carolyn Jones was Morticia on "The ___ Family"
- 29 book leaves
- 30 TXism: "___ like a bat without radar" (poor eyesight)
- 33 slipperly Gulf fish

- 34 this "Easy Rider" actor bought custom boots from TX bootmaker Charlie Dunn
- 35 grieve for the dead
- 37 TX Robert E. Howard created the character Conan the ___
- 38 TXism for "gadget" (hyph.)
- 40 Fox TV station in Amarillo
- 41 TXism: "turn about is ___ play"
- 43 Texans Dexter, Freeman Jr., and Neiman
- 44 ___ and con
- 47 "it's either ___ or a famine"

See Answers On This Page



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GLADEWATER POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	Time	Agency	Call Type	Address
02/23/2026	01:02:24	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	1324 W UPSHUR AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 01:03:42				
02/23/2026	01:50:19	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	JUVENILE COMPLAINT	1000 N ST
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 01:52:04				
02/23/2026	05:33:44	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	201 W UPSHUR AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 05:35:26				
02/23/2026	05:59:58	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	201 W UPSHUR
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 06:01:20				
02/23/2026	06:04:13	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	973 CARTER RD
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 06:05:14				
02/23/2026	07:37:18	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	314 E SAUNDERS STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 07:38:15				
02/23/2026	08:14:49	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	201 N TENERY STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 08:15:32				
02/23/2026	08:56:39	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	2235 WILLOW OAK GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 08:57:06				
02/23/2026	09:18:11		AGENCY ASSIST	2200 W UPSHUR AVENUE GLADEWATER, TN 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 09:19:36				
02/23/2026	09:40:39		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	507 1/2 MELBA AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 09:42:58				
02/23/2026	09:46:04		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 09:42:58				
02/23/2026	18:23:13		AGENCY ASSIST	18 GARDEN LANE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 18:28:58				
02/23/2026	19:02:55	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	2402 WOODBINE STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 19:09:40				
02/23/2026	20:39:38	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	LOOP 485 / E BROADWAY
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 20:47:46				
02/23/2026	20:48:37	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	574 PRIVATE RD 1311
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 20:51:03				
02/23/2026	21:29:32	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	13 GREENWAY VILLAGE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 21:34:03				
02/23/2026	22:26:14	CWC - FIRE	AGENCY ASSIST	1608 SHELL CAMP ROAD B GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 22:29:03				
02/23/2026	22:21:45	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	2201 W GAY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/23/2026 22:30:02				
02/24/2026	04:59:48	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	1100 SOUTH LAKE DR
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 05:04:58				
02/24/2026	06:35:53	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	105 N TENERY STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 06:40:07				
02/24/2026	07:24:58		AGENCY ASSIST	522 W MARSHALL STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 07:32:56				
02/24/2026	07:39:41	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	522 W MARSHALL AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 07:42:23				
02/24/2026	07:45:21	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	KAY AND WEST GAY
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 07:45:34				
02/24/2026	07:52:51	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	1900 W GAY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 07:53:12				
02/24/2026	08:04:50	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	MAIN/LAYFETTE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 08:04:50				
02/24/2026	08:56:08		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 08:57:06				
02/24/2026	09:05:13		AGENCY ASSIST	2200 W UPSHUR AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 09:07:29				
02/24/2026	09:55:41	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	WELFARE CHECK	1680 B SHELLCAMP RD GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 09:59:08				
02/24/2026	11:15:36		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	305 W OLIVER AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 11:16:37				
02/24/2026	12:11:12	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	43 JULIA WOODS STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 12:13:09				
02/24/2026	12:15:31	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	WALK IN
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 12:21:02				
02/24/2026	14:02:28		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 14:04:04				
02/24/2026	14:10:01	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ACCIDENT	LOOP 485 AND HWY 80
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 14:13:48				
02/24/2026	14:17:11		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 14:31:43				
02/24/2026	14:47:48	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	HWY 80 AND CHEROKEE TRACE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 14:48:31				
02/24/2026	14:48:43	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	WALK IN
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 14:50:51				
02/24/2026	15:35:33		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	307 N AMES STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 15:36:45				
02/24/2026	16:16:18		ALARM	1905 E BROADWAY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 16:21:01				
02/24/2026	16:21:47	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	220 W GAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 16:21:01				
02/24/2026	17:37:10	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	1420 N MAIN 104 GLADEWATER, TN 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 17:41:10				
02/24/2026	19:05:24	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	1708 N MAIN STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 19:13:05				
02/24/2026	19:14:52	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	1107 SANDERS STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 19:22:30				
02/24/2026	21:07:19	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	48 GREENWAY VILLAGE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 21:14:33				
02/24/2026	23:12:29		MISCELLANEOUS	GLADEWATER 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 23:31:08				
02/24/2026	23:42:29	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	HWY 80 / LOOP 485
Sent To Dispatch- 02/24/2026 23:43:13				
02/24/2026	23:37:32	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	LOUD NOISE	1511 SHELL CAMP ROAD 1
02/25/2026	12:11:07	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	LEE/HWY 80
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 12:11:18				
02/25/2026	13:06:13	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	1810 ARMSTRONG
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 13:06:35				
02/25/2026	13:02:47	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 13:07:51				
02/25/2026	13:37:18	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	8019 SWALLOW
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 13:37:38				
02/25/2026	13:55:44	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	200 BLOCK OF W GAY AVE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 13:56:21				
02/25/2026	15:07:09	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	COACH COOKSEYE SAUNDERS
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 15:07:22				
02/25/2026	16:52:03	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	36 GARDEN LN
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 16:52:20				
02/25/2026	17:38:25	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	1012 KAY
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 17:38:43				
02/25/2026	17:47:16	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	511 S TYLER ROAD 1 GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 17:47:40				
02/25/2026	18:56:43	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	PAIR/WHITEOAK RD
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 19:00:16				
02/25/2026	19:45:53	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	HULL
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 19:46:23				
02/25/2026	20:49:16	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	LOUD NOISE	303 MAPLE AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 20:54:14				
02/25/2026	22:17:46	CWC - FIRE	FIRE	GEORGE RICHY/SHELL CAMP
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 22:19:11				
02/25/2026	23:04:32	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	BROOKSHIRES
Sent To Dispatch- 02/25/2026 23:05:08				
02/26/2026	00:31:57	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	WELFARE CHECK	1207 N CULVER STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 00:57:08				
02/26/2026	01:46:32	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	E SHEPHERD/TRAILER PARK
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 01:47:09				
02/26/2026	02:20:59	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	WANTED PERSON	701 E BROADWAY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 02:25:18				
02/26/2026	07:10:41	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	900 IB COACH COOKSEY
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 07:11:16				
02/26/2026	07:17:05	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	900 COACH COOKSEY
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 07:17:37				
02/26/2026	07:20:54	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	CITIZENS BANK
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 07:21:06				
02/26/2026	07:32:37	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	900 COACH COOKSEY
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 09:56:48				
02/26/2026	10:38:50	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ANIMAL COMPLAINT	1602 MUSTANG DRIVE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 10:39:05				
02/26/2026	11:22:49	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ANIMAL COMPLAINT	WOODROW/MARSHALL
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 11:23:10				
02/26/2026	11:35:24	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	306 MABLE 513 E PACIFIC AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 11:36:09				
02/26/2026	12:27:44	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	309 N COTTON STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 12:28:06				
02/26/2026	13:00:40	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	FAMILY DOLLAR
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 13:01:05				
02/26/2026	13:09:46	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	9 MCKAIG CIRCLE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 13:10:13				
02/26/2026	13:35:09	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	3300 IB W UPSHUR
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 13:35:43				
02/26/2026	14:02:31	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	W UPSHUR/EAST LAKE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 14:02:52				
02/26/2026	14:40:23		REPOSSESSION	37 GARDEN
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 14:40:53				
02/26/2026	15:54:11	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	300 MONEY STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 15:54:58				
02/26/2026	16:04:57	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	1201 FM 2685
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 16:05:11				
02/26/2026	16:53:14	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ACCIDENT	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1400 BLOCK OF N MAIN ST
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 16:53:14				
02/26/2026	20:22:26	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	321 eddy
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 20:23:40				
02/26/2026	21:21:41	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	'SHELL CAMP/GEORGE RITCHY GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 21:22:20				
02/26/2026	21:37:37	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	CENTER/CROLEY
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 21:37:51				
02/26/2026	21:35:02	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	LOUD NOISE	303 MAPLE AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 02/26/2026 21:38:11				
02/27/2026	12:30:27		911 HANGUP	704 MELBA AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647
Sent To Dispatch- 02/27/2026 12:33:52				
02/27/2026	13:02:35	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	WELFARE CHECK	809 NORTH STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 02/27/2026 13:15:02				
02/27/2026	13:36:38	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	AIRPORT
Sent To Dispatch- 02/27/2026 13:39:22				
02/27/2026	22:23:07	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	EXTRA PATROL	100 BLK S MAIN
Sent To Dispatch- 02/27/2026 23:07:54				
02/27/2026	23:04:21	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	700 N MAIN STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647

GPD Arrest Report

Arrest #	Date	Arrestee Name	Arrest Address	Charges
26-0021	2/27/2026	NIXON, WESLEY DOYLE	513 W GAY AVENUE	WARRANT- LOCAL

Sports roundup

By Tyler Sutton

The Union Grove Lions basketball team began their playoff run at TJC's Wagstaff gym as they took on Overton. And despite being close at the half, the Lions season came to an end 47-35. Union Grove led 12-9 after 1 quarter and 21-20 at the half. But the Mustangs jumped ahead 30-24 after 3 quarters. Hudson Wightman led Union Grove with 13

points. Ledbetter and Salter each had 9 points, and Salter had seven rebounds. Kody Nutt and Kohl Sirmans each added 2 points.

The Lions finish their season at 14-18.

The Gladewater Bears baseball team continued their good start to non district play as they traveled to Carthage to take part in the Carthage

tournament where they went 2-2 with wins over Jasper (6-4) and New Diana (7-4) with losses to Carthage (8-1) and Jasper (4-3).

The Bears are now 6-3 and will begin district play with a trip to West Rusk followed by heading to Canton for a tournament.

The Gladewater Lady Bears softball team wrapped

up their non district portion of their schedule as they hosted the East Texas Chargers and came away with a 8-7 victory. Bailey Childress doubled twice and drove in two runs. Tinsley Aldredge, Princess Williams and Lilia Sanchez all drove in runs for Gladewater. Aldredge struck out three and walked five in 1.1 innings, and Alayah Gordon earned the pitching win with two strikeouts, one

walk and no earned runs allowed in 3.2 innings. That was followed by an impressive 4-1 record at the Carthage tournament with wins over Wills Point (7-0), Word of God academy force (14-5), Big Sandy (9-5) and Chapel Hill (21-1) with a lone loss to Paul Pewitt (15-2).

Gladewater is now 7-13 and will next be in action when they open up district play with a home and home with West Rusk.

The White Oak Roughnecks baseball team continued their non district schedule as they headed to Grand Saline where they took part in a tournament where they went 3-1 with wins over Wills Point (8-0), Canton (5-2) and Athens (11-3) with a lone loss to host Grand Saline (1-0). In the loss to Grand Saline, Tyson McKinney doubled and Jaxsen Ludlow, Will Thomas and Braden Callens singled for the Roughnecks.

Logan Langewisch struck out six and walked six, giving up one earned run in five innings to shoulder the pitching loss. In the win over Wills Point, Carson Armstrong struck out eight, walked one and allowed no runs on two hits in five innings for the pitching win, and Will Thomas paced the offense with a double and four RBI. Luflos, Levi Sipes and Sam Malone also drove in runs for White Oak.

The Roughnecks are now 5-3-1 and will round out their non district schedule with a game at Beckville then head to Mount Pleasant for their final tournament of the season.

The White Oak Ladynecks softball team continued their red hot start to the season as they opened up district play on the road against Tatum and cruised to a 9-1 win.

Madi Baker doubled twice, singled and drove in a run, Addy Young added a double and three RBI. Neeley Ollis singled and drove in two runs for White Oak, and Emma Fisher added an RBI. Young struck out nine with no walks, giving up one earned run on four hits in seven innings for the pitching win. That was followed up by trip to Franklin for their final tournament where they went 5-1 with wins over Crawford (6-1), Moody (12-4), Como-Pickton (9-3), Navasota (11-2) and Grand Saline (3-2) with their lone loss being Navasota (7-0).

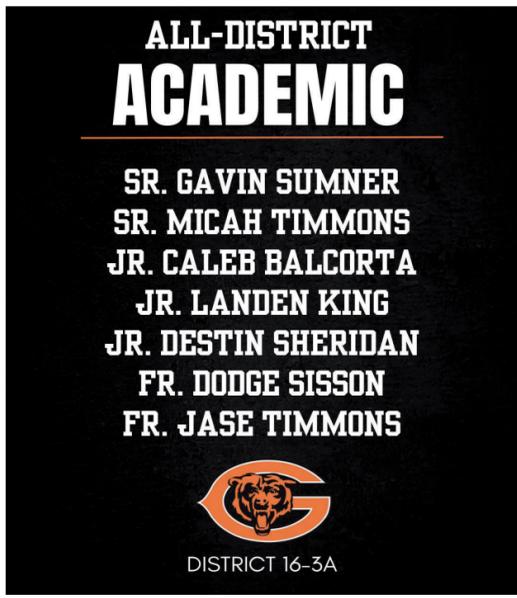
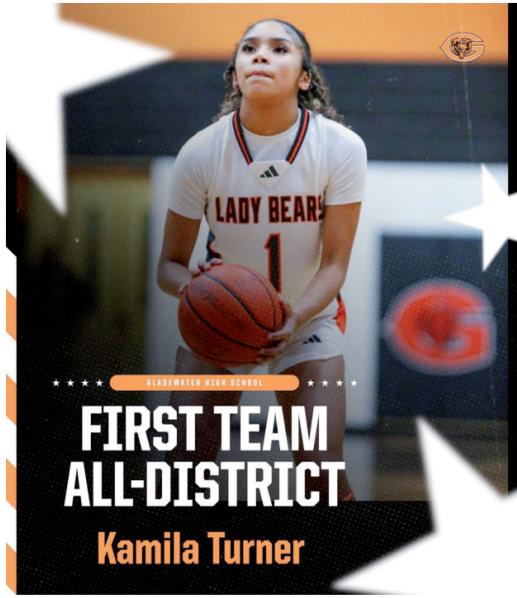
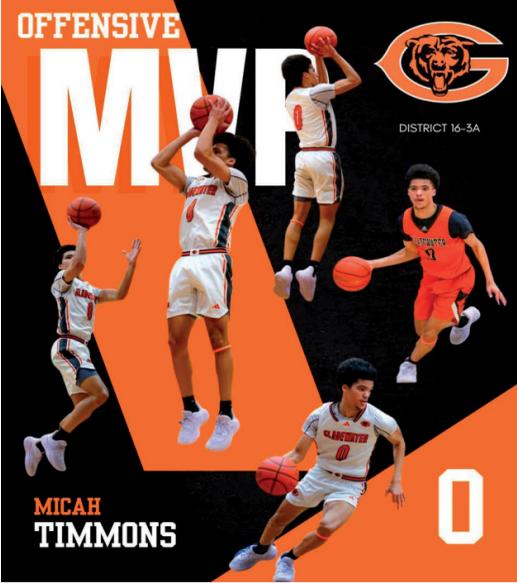
White Oak is now 18-2 and 1-0 in district play.

They will next be back in action next with their final non district game of the season at Jefferson.

The Union Grove baseball team continued their early portion of the non district schedule as they headed to Longview where they took on Christian Heritage and won 16-3. They then headed to Frankston for a tournament where they went 2-2 with wins over Cushing (9-6) and Chapel Hill (11-0) with losses to Elkhart (7-4) and Tyler All Saints (10-6).

The Lions are now 4-3-1 on the season and will next be in action when they travel to Linden-Kildare followed by hosting their own Union Grove tournament.

The Union Grove Lady Lions softball team continued battling through their non district schedule as they had a pair of home games. Starting with Frankston where they fell 9-6. That was followed by a 15-1 loss to Brook Hill. The losses drop Union Grove to 2-7 and will next be in action as they open district play with a home and home series with Waskom.



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Published Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that letters of guardianship for the person and estate of LANDON HILL, an incapacitated person, were issued on February 16, 2026, in Docket No. 2025-0184-E, pending in the County Court at Law #2 Gregg County, Texas, to RAY HILL, Guardian, as guardian of the person and estate.

The residence of Guardian is in Gregg County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Guardian of the person and estate of LANDON HILL, c/o RAY HILL, 125 CR 3447 COOKVILLE, TEXAS 75558.

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

SIGNED on MARCH 2, 2026.

Courtney Annett Harris

COURTNEY ANNE HARRIS
Attorney for Guardian
State Bar No.:24060434
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WHILE THEY LAST – Time is running out for the blooms in Mrs. Lee’s Daffodil Garden. The warm temperatures brought the flowers out beautifully, but they’re now fading in the heat.

(Courtesy photo by Doc Langley)



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OBITUARY

Ronald Walter Williams

September 10, 1937 - February 26, 2026



Ronald Walter Williams, born September 10, 1937, was a beloved husband, father, brother, and friend who passed away surrounded by the love of his family on 2-26-26. He was 88 years old.

Ronald was born in Palestine, Texas, to proud parents Mary and Herman Williams. The family later moved to GladeWater, Texas, where he developed a strong work ethic and a deep appreciation for farming and agricultural management. As a young man, he excelled in showing Hereford and Dairy cattle, played football and basketball, and was a yell leader and student council leader. Ronnie earned numerous awards during his formative years that reflected both his discipline and competitive spirit, which he carried into adulthood. In recognition of his lifelong accomplishments and character, he was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of GladeWater High School in 2012, an honor that was always special to him.

He graduated from GladeWater High School in 1956, attended Lon Morris College, in Jacksonville, Texas, and continued his education at Sam Houston State University, where he earned a master's degree in mathematics and physics.

His love of mathematics was evident from a young age. Following in the footsteps of both of his parents, he became a teacher and moved to Midland in the 1960s, where his twin brother was serving as an elementary school principal. Midland would become his home for more than 60 years, and the place he built his life, family, career, and legacy.

At the urging of his brother, Ronald was introduced to Ann Mackey, a Midland native with deep West Texas roots. Their first date was a round of golf at Hogan Park Golf Course—fitting for a man who would develop a lifelong love of the game. Ronald and Ann enjoyed years of couples' twilight golf and cherished the friendships formed on the course. A longtime member of Midland Country Club, he was especially proud of achieving five holes-in-one during his golfing years.

Ronald's mathematical talent evolved into a fascination with actuarial science. When he realized he could calculate actuarial tables in his head, he found his professional calling. He joined The Equitable, Life and Financial Services Company combining his analytical gifts with a deep

commitment to serving others. As his business grew, so did his entrepreneurial drive for independence. He founded Custom Benefit Services, a comprehensive Life and Health Insurance Fringe benefits brokerage that faithfully served friends, family, oil and gas clients, and Midland small businesses for decades. He served as President and CEO until the age of 84, a testament to his dedication, intellect, and tireless work ethic.

A proud American patriot, Ronald attended Boys State and served his country honorably in the United States Army, followed by eight years in the Army Reserves. He was steadfast in his love of country, always standing for the flag and holding firmly to his conservative principles.

Ronald was deeply committed to faith and community. Raised in the Methodist Church, he later became an active member of First Presbyterian Church in Midland, where he served as both Deacon and Elder. He was also involved in numerous civic organizations, including Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Optimist Club. He consistently sought ways to support others, encourage growth, and strengthen the Midland community.

Though proud of his East Texas roots and always eager to return for family gatherings and celebrations, Ronald developed an equally deep pride in West Texas—Midland in particular. He was a devoted family man who valued education, discipline, and perseverance. He often encouraged his daughter to strive for excellence, proudly noting that he had made only one "B" in college—famously in physical education.

Ronald loved people. He could begin a conversation with anyone, from any walk of life, and was genuinely interested in hearing their story. His sharp mind was matched by a quick wit and warm sense of humor.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Ann Mackey Williams of Midland; his daughter, Beth Ann Gustafson and her husband, Rick, of Houston; his sister, Martha Squibb of Dallas; and several nieces and a nephew. He was preceded in death by his parents and his twin brother.

Ronald's life was marked by intellect, integrity, faith, patriotism, service, and an unwavering love for family and community. His legacy will live on in all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to First Presbyterian Church of Midland, The Midland Memorial Foundation, Midland Animal Services or to a charity of your choice.

Memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, March 6, 2026 at First Presbyterian Church in Midland.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences may be made at www.np-welch.com.