

# Gladewater Mirror

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"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"



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1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

## Voters weigh in on school bond, P5 trustee

Early voting got underway Monday morning with one contested Gladewater ISD School Board race on the ballot alongside a Yes/No for the school's \$8.1 million bond issue.

Simply put, voter approval of Prop A enables GISD to issue 15-year bonds to fund a variety of capital projects (building and safety upgrades, school bus purchases and improvements, etc.) within the district's existing credit.

Consequently, "This can be done without increasing the current tax rate for homeowners, landowners or businesses," according to school officials.

Meanwhile, incumbent trustee Cori Arevalo faces a challenge from candidate Emily Anderson for Place 5 on the GISD School Board.

Early voting continues 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 23-24, and resumes at the same time Monday and Tuesday, April 27-28, before 12 hours of Election Day polling from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 2.

## New zoning for annexed land could spark new development

By James Draper

A dozen years after 200 acres were brought into the south end of Gladewater, the land's freshly zoned and poised for future 'Light Industrial' development.

Just in time, too: Major road projects from Texas Department of Transportation are already underway in the midst of the area and nearby. Development's also picking up at the municipal airport a stone's throw away.

Council members signed off on the zoning change during their regular meeting April 16, accepting recommendations from Gladewater Economic Development Corporation and the city's Planning & Zoning Commission.

As far as the city map is concerned, the area is unchanged since it was annexed via a 2014 ordinance.

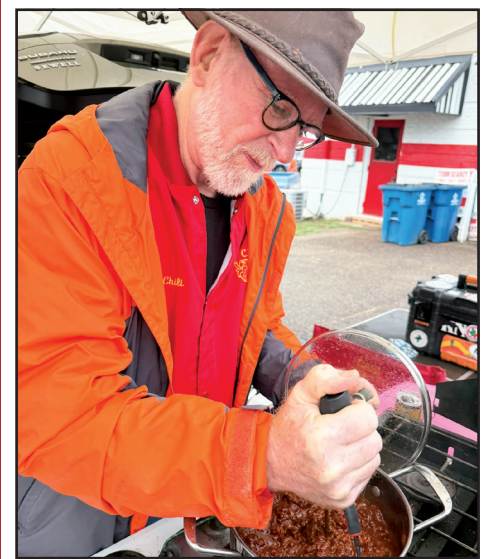
"That annexed portion of the land out there has been that way for quite some time," GEDCO's Anna Conlan confirmed. "The request is to have it zoned 'Light Industrial' so it will cover a lot of things."

Situated around Hwy. 135's

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It was 8-year-old Timothy McKelvey who embraced the Gusher Days sugar rush and cleaned his brownie bowl quickest Saturday, taking home first place from this year's competition.



A little rain's not gonna ruin the recipe when it comes to the Chili Appreciation Society International's annual chowdown at Gusher Days.

With plenty of cook teams braving the weather Saturday, this year's winner following blind tasting downtown April 18 is Gusher Days veteran David Trice of Hallsville with his "Dr. Dave's Voodoo Stew." Decked as usual in his Dr. Dave's duds, Trice also earned first place Showmanship for 2026.



The rain didn't help, but it didn't keep away the car, truck and motorcycle enthusiasts eager to show off the fruits of their labors, with the 'Most Unique' award spotlighted Gladewater Fire Department's Aaron Nugent and his 1924 Ford Fire Truck, a forthcoming fixture for GFD.

## 2026 Gusher Days Classic Car Show Winners

<b>BEST IN SHOW</b> Ross Morgan, Gladewater 1967 Ford Mustang	<b>BEST 80s &amp; UP</b> Josslyn Morgan, Gladewater 2016 Ford Shelby GT350	<b>BEST CORVETTE</b> Robert Hill, Gilmer 2016 Chevy Sting Ray
<b>BEST VINTAGE (1920-40)</b> Levi Jones, Hallsville Ark-La-Tex A's Car Club 1929 Model A Pickup	<b>BEST RAT ROD</b> Kevin Easter, Longview 1949 Ford F100	<b>BEST PAINT</b> Dewayne Pullen, Gladewater 1932 Ford Coupe Yellow with Red Flames
<b>BEST 50s, 60s, 70s</b> Michael Hancock, Longview 1965 Ford Shelby GT350	<b>BEST TRUCK</b> James Skinner, Longview Hazelwood Hot Rods 1970 Chevy El Camino	<b>MOST UNIQUE</b> Aaron Nugent, Gladewater 1924 Ford Fire Truck



Two travelers from Australia ended their American excursion at Gusher Days April 18. Carmel and Greg Newman of Brisbane joined Longview's Melanie and Greg Dulaney for one last romp in Gladewater before the Newmans head back to the other side of the world. "We go home on Tuesday" Carmel said, taking in the sights downtown and posing for a final shot with the Gladewater postcard.



Peyton Hunter (2nd from the right) out sprinted her teammates Paytin Thompson (right) and Jordynn Harris (far left) to the finish first in the 100 meter dash. Hunter was clocked at 12.48 for the gold medal while Thompson took 2nd (12.54), and Harris finished in 4th (12.73).



Tyson McKinney cleared 14' 6" to take 2nd place in the Pole Vault at the Area Track Meet for the White Oak Roughnecks. (See more inside.)

Photos by Mike Peery

## GISD School Board Candidate Q&A:

Cori Arevalo, incumbent

I grew up in Kilgore, but have deep roots in Gladewater through my father's side. My husband is a Gladewater graduate, and we've raised our three children in GISD over the past 20 years, and now have a grandchild attending Gladewater PreK. I've always been heavily involved in their education and the programs they participate in.

Professionally, I work in education at Region 7 Education Service Center, where I work daily with staff across 100+ districts in East Texas in all areas of education. I also hold a master's degree in marketing and was appointed to the board in 2023.

### From your perspective, what is the current 'State of the School' at Gladewater ISD?

Since hiring Superintendent Rae Ann Patty in 2024, we've seen real progress. We've strengthened leadership, increased communication, focused on academic growth, expanded programs, maintained a balanced budget, and supported teachers through training.

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Emily Anderson, challenger

My name is Emily Anderson, and I am eager to serve my community as a Trustee for the Gladewater ISD. My husband and I are both proud graduates of GISD and parents of future GISD graduate. Many members of our family share this Bear pride. I earned my degree from Stephen F. Austin in 1988 and have dedicated 18 years to education. I spent a couple of years substitute teaching one year teaching preK. Then finished my career as a special education and school social worker, district liaison, truancy official, and Child Find Coordinator.



### From your perspective, what is the current 'State of the School'?

The current 'state of our schools', from my perspective, is that, while on an upward trend, there is still significant room for improvement. This is made evident by student assessment scores and campus ratings. With an overall district performance rated "C" by Texas Education Agency.

While progress is being made, it remains essential to enhance com-

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# OPINION/COMMENTARY

## Lessons & Perspective...

Not too long ago, someone remarked that what I was doing was a calling'. I quickly told them that I was a 'divinely called' high school teacher, but a working newspaper Girl Friday? Maybe not so much. The more I think about that I am not so sure. Yes, indeed I believe that I was called to teach. But in many ways I still am.

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

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

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

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

Right now, in the middle of COVID-19 with stressed psyches and finances, many of us are praying we survive with families and businesses in tact. Generally, I avoid sharing Facebook postings, but the one I am going to share with you today is thought-provoking. It is filled with lessons of truth we need to keep in mind to survive this crisis with our perspective, and maybe even a bit of our souls in tact.

### WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT ... (Unknown Author)

I heard that we are all in the same boat, but it's not like that. We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat. Your ship could be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa.

For some, quarantine is optimal. A moment of reflection, of reconnection, easy in flip flops, with a cocktail or coffee. For others, this is a desperate financial and family crisis.

For some, their work life has been stressful, sad and draining both

## The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



physically and emotionally. It has shown them the difficulties and horrors of this pandemic. While others feel "it's what you signed up for".

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

With the weekly increase in unemployment some are bringing in more money to their households than they were working. Others are working more hours for less money due to pay cuts or loss in sales.

Some families of four just received \$3,400 from the stimulus while other families of four saw \$0.

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

Some want to go back to work because they don't qualify for unemployment and are running out of money. Others want to kill those who break the quarantine.

Some are home spending 2-3 hours a day helping their child with online schooling while others are spending 2-3 hours a day to educate their children on top of a 10-12 hour workday.

Some have experienced the near death of the virus, some have already lost someone from it and some are not sure if their loved ones are going to make it. Others don't believe this is a big deal.

Some have faith in God and expect miracles. Others say the worst is yet to come.

So, friends, we are not in the same boat. We are going through a time when our perceptions and needs are completely different.

Each of us will emerge, in our own way, from this storm. It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance. Not just looking, actually seeing.

We are all on different ships during this storm experiencing a very different journey. Be kind, always.

**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



### Talarico raises record \$27 million; Cornyn leads Paxton in fundraising

State Rep. James Talarico raised a record \$27 million in this first quarter of this year, the largest-ever sum for any Senate candidate in any state in the first quarter of an election year, The Texas Tribune reported.

"Winning in Texas will require unprecedented resources," said Seth Krasne, Talarico's campaign manager. "This grassroots fundraising haul puts our movement in a strong position to spread our message in some of the most expensive media markets in the country. But we can't take our foot off of the gas."

Talarico has raised more than \$40 million since entering the race last September from more than 540,000 individual contributors.

On the Republican side, where incumbent U.S. Sen. John Cornyn is heading to a May 26 runoff against Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, Cornyn outraised his opponent by fourfold, pulling in \$9 million in the first quarter. Paxton raised \$2.2 million.

"The Cornyn campaign continues performing at a high level, building off the over performance in the March 3rd primary to announcing a massive fundraising haul in the first quarter of 2026," Cornyn campaign manager Andy Hemming said.

### Judge orders Camp Mystic to preserve cabins where girls died

An Austin state district judge ordered Camp Mystic's owners not to alter, repair or demolish cabins that housed campers and counselors who died in last year's July 4 flood along the Guadalupe River, southwest of Kerrville. The flood killed 25 girls, two counselors and one of the owners of the camp.

The camp's owners are being sued by the parents of 8-year-old Cile Steward, the only victim whose body has not been recovered. Other parents of children who died in the floods also have lawsuits pending.

"This finding is supported by facts tending to show that defendants owed a duty of care to Cile Steward and other minor campers, which they breached by operating Camp Mystic in a high-risk zone without adequate flood protections," Judge Guerra Gamble wrote.

The injunction remains in place until the lawsuit is resolved or the court rules otherwise. The judge set a trial date of May 3, 2027.

### SNAP rule change forces recipients to read food labels

Changes in what can be purchased under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program are now in place in Texas, and consumers are spending more time examining the ingredients label, the Texas Standard reported.

SNAP benefits can no longer be used to buy candy or sweetened beverages, under Texas Senate Bill 379, passed last year. That includes drinks with more than five grams of added sugar or any amount of artificial sweetener.

The ban does not include baking sugar or sweet cereals, however. The guidelines do not provide an itemized list, so retailers must interpret them and apply them to the food items they sell.

"You use Google a lot to get the internet's interpretation. You look at the law and how it's written," said John Robertson of Austin's Fresh Plus grocery stores.

### Data centers grilled by legislators

Texas lawmakers grilled data center developers, energy companies and grid officials recently on the impact of the state's data center boom, the Houston Chronicle reported. Grid officials say they are proposing regulations that will ensure Texas can handle data centers without raising electricity costs for consumers or risking power blackouts.

Officials from various Texas energy companies said data centers could help upgrade the state's grid infrastructure.

"If we have an opportunity to have new customers coming to the state pay for that, we'll have done some really good work," said Brian Lloyd, with Dallas-based Oncor, the Texas utility with by far the most data centers seeking to connect to its system.

Thomas Gleeson, chair of the Public Utility Commission, told lawmakers his agency is working with the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the grid operator, on rules to encourage data centers to bring their own power generation to help prevent price spikes.

"I honestly don't think on the generation side you're going to

## Editorial

### Cheers to Gusher Days

Cloudy skies couldn't smudge Gladewater's shine this weekend, and Gusher Days powered through Saturday's occasional downpour and unseasonably cold weather thanks to a hardworking group of organizers and their small army of volunteers and vendors, chili cooks and classic car enthusiasts, carnival employees, entertainers and downtown entrepreneurs.

Cheers to Gladewater Chamber of Commerce's Lois Reed and her dedicated cohorts who, year after year, make this event happen regardless of rain, sleet, snow, heat or gloom of night. It seemed we got a little of everything between Friday and Saturday, yet they were all on-site from dawn to dusk (and, undoubtedly, beyond) making sure that locals and visitors alike could get the very best out of the experience and forget the forecast.

Kudos to everyone who came out and enjoyed a very special slice of life in East Texas. It was, as usual, a fun weekend, marked by the hustle and bustle of conversation in vendor's alley on Pacific Avenue as well as the cheerful click of domino tiles in the Gladewater Museum Annex to the Commerce Street and the roar of classic cars on East Commerce.

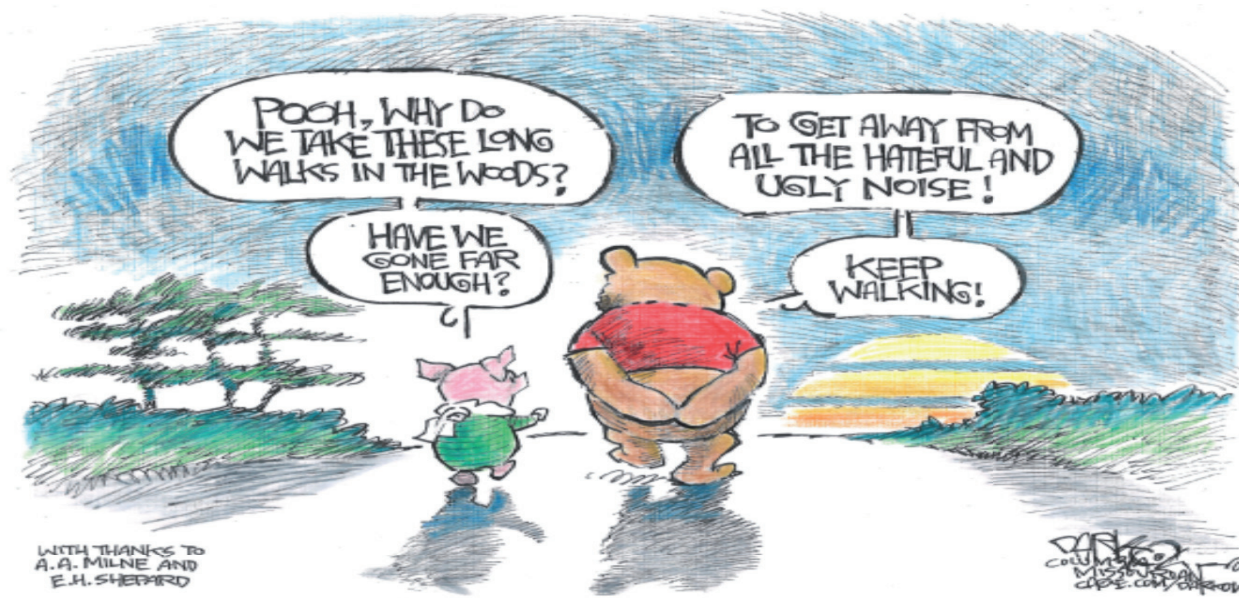
If you didn't make it, we don't begrudge you staying dry and cozy at home, but you did miss out. Gusher Days draws



an incredible array of artisans and crafters. Organizers here line up excellent live entertainment – admission free – and there's plenty of food to savor and to sweeten a trip downtown. Meanwhile, throughout Gladewater's shopping district, store owners keep doing the work, embracing the Gusher Days throng and ensuring this small town remains a destination for people from throughout the area, across the state, coast to coast and around the world – literally, see Page One.

You can't control the weather, but you can keep on kickin' regardless of what the wind brings. It's what the roughnecks endured back on the rigs during the boom years. It's what Gladewater's Public Works employees keep delivering today, downtown at Gusher Days and throughout the community. It's what our shopkeepers and restaurateurs and service-providers here face year-round, keeping their doors open and their employees paid.

It's how America keeps plugging away, almost 250 years into this grand experiment. If the rest of us can keep our heads-up amidst the occasional downpour, channeling the good graces and yeoman's spirit of our Gusher Days committee members, things should be alright until the sun shines through.

Next year is Gusher Days 42 – we'll see you there.



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## DON'T BE A FOOL

Proverbs 20: 3 says, "It is to a man's honor to avoid strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel." I'm sure you could find a lot of people today who would disagree with that. They think the way a man proves he is a man is by not taking anything from anybody, by showing what a quick temper he has, by being ready to quarrel with anybody over anything at any time, which just shows how foolish and wrong they really are! You see, it really is true, as this proverb says, that "it is to a man's honor to avoid strife" and that the quarrelsome person really is a fool.

There are times when people must stand up for the truth even if it means controversy. But this proverb does not talk about standing up for the truth. It is about somebody merely being a hothead. It is talking about somebody with a quick temper who doesn't have a sense of self-control to avoid strife when strife should be avoided. It involves intentional avoidance of conflict. The man of "honor" will walk away from the strife and not participate in any way!

The "fool" will not walk away. He jumps into the argument, fueling even more strife. His inability to recognize the potential dangers of fueling the strife, or possibly his lack of concern about augmenting the conflict, is what makes him a fool. The term "quarrel" refers to the actions done by one who is "hostile, quick to dispute, and oppositional toward another." Thus, this proverb is about the demands that one be humble and submissive, not a rash hothead, who displays his refusal to submit to anyone!

Proverbs 12: 16 says, "A fool is quick-tempered, but a wise person stays calm when insulted." Proverbs 15: 18 says, "A hothead starts fights; a cool tempered person tries to stop them." Proverbs 19: 11 says, "People with good sense restrain their anger; they earn esteem by overlooking wrongs." Last, Proverbs 29: 11 says, "A fool gives full vent to anger, but a wise person quietly holds it back."

We should be at peace with others as much as we can honorably so do (Rom. 12: 17-18). If peace is broken let it be because of the wrong-doing of others or because of the right doing of ourselves. Regardless of how others behave, a Christian tries to be a good example. Elsewhere, Paul wrote that "we have honor-able, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men" (2 Cor. 8: 21). Think on these things.

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

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# GLADEWATER POLICE/FIRE ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	Time	Agency	Call Type	Address					
04/12/2026	00:00:52	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	135 / COUNTRY CLUB RD	Sent To Dispatch- 04/12/2026 00:03:46				
04/12/2026	00:29:17	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	W UPSHUR / N RODEO					
04/12/2026	02:45:28	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	HWY 80 / PRIMOSE	Sent To Dispatch- 04/12/2026 02:48:51				
04/12/2026	05:26:07	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER / AIRPORT					
04/12/2026	05:34:23	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER / 135					
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04/12/2026	05:45:39	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	807 S TYLER ROAD 100					
04/12/2026	05:55:53	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	807 S TYLER ROAD 100					
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04/13/2026	10:29:51	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	1641 WEST LAKE					
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04/05/2026	12:12:09	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 FM 1252					
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04/05/2026	17:32:21	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	801 N TENERY STREET					
04/05/2026	18:06:38	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 638 LOCKER PLANT					
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04/15/2026	18:30:58	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	14 GREENWAY VILLAGE					
04/15/2026	19:35:15	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	911 HANGUP	224 HULL AVENUE					
04/16/2026	05:56:13	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	1006 E BROADWAY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647					
04/16/2026	21:44:56	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	1009 E BROADWAY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647					
04/16/2026	03:04:30	GLADEWATER	AGENCY ASSIST	2347 W GEORGE RICHEY					
04/16/2026	12:17:28	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	PROWLER	QUITMAN					
04/16/2026	12:30:24		AGENCY ASSIST	1201 FM 2685 LEGEND OAKS					
04/16/2026	13:38:27		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	1400 N MAIN					
04/16/2026	13:46:58	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	606 W PACIFIC AVE APT 2					
04/16/2026	14:02:49	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	PUBLIC SERVICE	REGENCY INN 1009 E BROADWAY					
04/16/2026	15:09:16		AGENCY ASSIST	800 E BROADWAY AVE					
04/16/2026	15:15:51	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	THEFT	812 N MAIN ST CAR WASH					
04/16/2026	15:56:14		REPOSSESSION	1407 E VIOLA ST					
04/16/2026	16:02:56		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	8 GREENWAY VILLAGE					
04/16/2026	16:41:49	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	2660 WILLOW OAK RD					
04/16/2026	17:00:19	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	503 EAST LAKE DR					
04/16/2026	17:46:52	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	700 W UPSHUR AVE APT 104					
04/16/2026	18:08:37	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	HARASSMENT	411 PARADISE HILL					
04/16/2026	18:10:21		SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	1406 SPRUCE STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647					
04/16/2026	20:19:18	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	911 HANGUP	300 N TAYLOR STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647					
04/16/2026	20:39:03	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	W UPSHUR / EAST LAKE					
04/16/2026	21:56:35	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	ALARM	56 JULIA WOODS					
04/16/2026	22:28:13	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	THEFT	715 CANFIELD STREET GLADEWATER, TX 75647					
04/17/2026	00:28:12	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	LAKE GLADEWATER					
04/17/2026	07:15:44	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	SAUNDERS/COACH COOKSEY					
04/17/2026	10:48:57	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	101 S PINE STREET					
04/17/2026	11:47:33	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRESPASSING	701 E BROADWAY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647					
04/17/2026	12:43:42	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	GUSHER DAYS					
04/17/2026	16:22:30	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	100 W GAY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TX 75647					

## GPD Arrest Report

Date	Arrestee Name	Arrest Address	Charges
4/14/2026	WILKERSON, AUSTIN JOHN TWON	100 GREGG GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	WARRANT - LOCAL
4/15/2026	BIEKER, ROBERT JOHN	907 S TYLER ROAD GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	WARRANT - OTHER AGENCY (FELONY)
4/16/2026	WHITE, CRYSTAL DAWN	501 SPENCER STREET GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	ASSAULT CAUSES BODILY INJ
4/18/2026	JORDAN, CHRISTINE MARIE	601 N MAIN STREET GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	POSS CS PG 1/1-B <1G POSS CS PG 2 >= 1G < 4G
4/19/2026	CORBETT, DANIEL JOSEPH	800 S LOOP 485 GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	MINOR - PUBLIC INTOXICATION



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## WHITE OAK POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT

For the reporting period of April 13th through April 19th, 2026, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to or initiated 198 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were: Advice Calls, Disturbances, Suspicious Activity, Traffic Issues (motorist assists, traffic control, reckless drivers, etc.), and Community Relations (welfare checks, civil issues, vacation home security checks, etc.).

Five traffic collisions were investigated during this reporting period; Two with reported injuries.

White Oak Officers made four arrests during this reporting period:

Dametre Jackson, 29, of Longview, for 1 Harrison County Warrant.

Brittany Martin, 32, of White Oak, for Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Violence.

Katherine Bagley, 55, of Longview, for Public Intoxication.

Justice Centers, 28, of Gladewater, for Driving While Intoxicated 2nd.

Four separate and unrelated cases were presented to the Gregg County District Attorney during this reporting period.

-Driving While Intoxicated x2  
-Burglary of a Vehicle  
-Terroristic Threat Causes Fear of Imminent SBI

## Sexual Assault Awareness Month 2026 Proclamation

Continued from Page 1

strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every citizen, to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual assault. It is time for all members of our community to take action, support survivors, and work together to create a safer environment for everyone.

Now therefore, the City of Gladewater joins advocates and communities across the nation in playing an active role to end sexual assault. Along with the United States Government and State of Texas, I do hereby proclaim the month of April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Gladewater, Texas.

### ACROSS

- 1 TXism: "got the morals \_\_\_ alley cat"
- 5 "F" of AFTRA
- 6 one Texas drought concern
- 7 Granbury is seat of this county
- 8 Pres. Trump withdrew the U.S. from the \_\_\_ Treaty in 2019
- 9 TXism: "changes his mind \_\_\_ as he does socks"
- 16 Grand Saline is the "\_\_\_ Capital of Texas"
- 18 in Cameron County at U.S. 77 & 83
- 21 TX Holly's "\_\_\_ Boy"
- 22 actress Patricia of Texas-based "Hud"
- 23 TXism: "don't give a hoot \_\_\_ holler"
- 24 TX Ginger Rogers real name: Virginia Katherine \_\_\_
- 30 TXism: "\_\_\_ the pack" (leader)
- 34 TX Charley Pride's "Then Who \_\_\_ I?"
- 35 TX Paula Prentiss old TV show: "He \_\_\_"
- 36 Mr. Webster
- 37 unpleasant sound
- 39 TXism: "got \_\_\_ as Texas" (kind)
- 43 TXism: "you've \_\_\_ play the hand you're dealt"
- 44 TXism: "\_\_\_ letting" (fight)
- 45 famed TCU coach: \_\_\_ "Dutch" Meyer

- 46 Pecos AM country radio station
- 47 in Jones County on highway 6
- 49 Arab nation residents
- 52 TX "Cactus Jack" Garner was VP for this president (init.)
- 53 Austin university (abbr.)
- 54 Santa Anna disguise at San Jacinto
- 55 Laguna Madre separates Padre Island from this \_\_\_
- 58 Diez \_\_\_ is celebrated here
- 59 Noah's boat
- 60 TX George Strait's "\_\_\_ Come to Expect It From You" (1990)
- 61 anti-drug agcy.

### DOWN

- 1 TXism: "shoots \_\_\_ mouth"
- 2 in Parmer County on U.S. 60
- 3 Russian airline
- 4 TX Kenny Rogers' "I Don't \_\_\_ You"
- 9 TX Wills: "\_\_\_ ha, take it away Leon"

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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P-1788

See Answers on this page.

Last Puzzle  
Solution

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# Sports roundup

By Tyler Sutton

The White Oak Ladynecks softball team wrapped up their regular season as they made the trip to Tatum to take on the Lady Eagles and in a game that was way more competitive than the final score, White Oak won it 21-6. White Oak jumped out to a 2-0 lead with two runs in the second inning and added three runs a piece in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> innings to make it a 8-0 lead. But Tatum used a 5 run bottom of the 5<sup>th</sup> to make it a 8-5 game. But White Oak blew it open with 3 in the 6<sup>th</sup> and a 10 run seventh inning. The Ladynecks finish the regular season at 29-3 and 11-1 in district play and will begin their playoff run with a best of three series against Malakoff with all three games ( Game 3 if needed ) in Bullard.

The White Oak Roughnecks baseball team played a pair of games with 1<sup>st</sup> place Tatum with the series beginning in Tatum where it was pitchers duel where the Roughnecks came up just short 3-2. In a game that had only 7 combined hits, the Roughnecks lead 2-1 after two innings. But the Eagles tied it up in the 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2-2 and took the lead for good in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Nic Soto and Tyson McKinney drove in the runs for White Oak. Carson Armstrong gave up 3 runs in 4 and 1/3 innings with 4 strikeouts. In the return game in White Oak, a six run 1<sup>st</sup> inning was the difference as Tatum cruised to a 6-3 victory. White Oak is now 13-11-1 and finish 6-6 in district play. They will wrap up their regular season with a non district game vs New Diana before starting their playoff run.

The Union Grove Lady Lions softball team wrapped up it's regular season with a pair of games with Ore City where in game one in Union Grove, the offense got going quick and cruised to a 16-6 victory. Ore City actually led 4-3 after one inning but it was all Lady Lions after that as they scored 4 runs in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5 runs in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3 runs in the 6<sup>th</sup>. Jodi Bishop drove in 3 runs and Delaney drove in 2 runs. In the return game in Ore City, a 8 run 4<sup>th</sup> inning was the difference as the Lady Lions rolled 13-2. Pharr drove in 3 runs with 2 hits, Carter drove in 2. Union Grove finishes their regular season at 14-10-1 and 11-3 in district play and will be the 2 seed out of district 19. They will learn their playoff opponent at a later date.

The Union Grove Lions baseball team all but saw their playoff hopes come to an end as they lost the opener of their home and home series with Ore City 3-2. The Rebels put up a pair of runs in the bottom of the 6<sup>th</sup> to win it. In the return game in Ore City, the Lions were able to bounce back and win it 4-2. Union Grove drops to 10-10-1 and 4-7 in district play. They will need to sweep their final 2 games vs Waskom and get some help to make the playoffs.



White Oak's Addison Saccoccio won the 300m hurdles in a time of 47.57 at the Area Track Meet.

It was area track time and all 3 local school's had many advance to the regionals in two weeks. Those included:

Gladewater girls:  
 Peyton Hunter- Long jump  
 100 meters: Peyton Hunter, Peytin Thompson, Jordynn Harris  
 200 meters: Paytin Thompson  
 4x100 relay: Peyton Hunter, Paytin Thompson, Jordynn Harris, Ty'alice Williams  
 4x200 relay: Peyton Hunter, Paytin Thompson, Jordynn Harris, Ty'alice Williams

Boys: Kingston Sheffield: 200 meters, triple jump, long jump and 4x100 relay  
 Micha Timmons: 300 meter hurdles, triple jump, long jump  
 Markiest Rutherford : Shot put  
 Caleb Budro: Pole vault  
 4x100 relay: Destin Sheridan, Sheffield, Cannon Jackson, Tray Watts

Union Grove:  
 Girls: 4x400 relay team  
 200 meters, triple jump and high jump: Shaynia Roland  
 4x200 relay team  
 Pole vault: Danica Vestal

Boys:  
 Long jump , high jump and 200 meters: Hudson Wightman  
 Triple jump: Wrigley Roberts  
 Pole vault: Wyatt Stanley  
 400 meters: Cayden Langley and Kody Nutt



Micah Timmons and Kingston Sheffield finished 1-2 in the long jump for Gladewater at the Area Track Meet. Timmons winning jump measured 22' 1.75" for the gold medal while Sheffield reached 21' 8" for the silver.

4x400 relay team

White Oak:  
 Boys:  
 100 meters: Logan Ladwig  
 400 meters: Jaxsen Ludlow  
 800 meters: Cooper Tucker and Anthony Soto  
 4x100 meter relay team  
 4x400 meter relay team  
 Pole Vault : Tyson McKinney

Girl's:  
 100 and 300 meter hurdles: Addison Saccoccio  
 4x100 meter relay team

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 First Baptist Church • 903-845-2171  
 Friendship Baptist Church • 903-845-4603  
 Gladeview Baptist • 903-845-3842  
 Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174  
 Grace Baptist • 903-845-6440  
 Greater New Hope Baptist  
 Locust Grove Baptist • 903-845-5174  
 Gladewater Bible • 903-845-4768  
 New Hope Baptist • 903-845-3042  
 St. James Baptist • 903-845-5028  
 Union Grove Baptist • 903-845-4894  
 Olde Tyme Baptist Church • 903-806-2411
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 East Mountain Church of Christ \* 903-285-1871  
 North Loop Church of Christ • 903-845-2531  
 North Main Church of Christ • 903-845-2816  
 Rocky Church of Christ
- CATHOLIC**  
 St. Theresa's Catholic Church • 903-845-2306
- CHARISMATIC**  
 New Life Church • 903-845-8108
- LUTHERAN**  
 Our Redeemer Lutheran • 903-758-2019
- CHURCH OF GOD**  
 Elevate Worship Center • 903-374-2064
- NAZARENE**  
 Church of the Nazarene • 903-845-4425
- METHODIST**  
 First Methodist Church Gladewater • 903-845-2565  
 McCrary's Chapel United Methodist  
 New Mountain CME Church • 903-845-1175  
 Starrville Methodist • 903-877-4040  
 Union Temple CME Methodist • 903-845-1050  
 White Oak United Methodist Church • 281-682-3397
- NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

- New Life Fellowship Church • 903-261-4227  
 Gladewater Bible Church • 903-445-7234  
 Grace Tabernacle Church • 903-309-8801
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 First Presbyterian • 903-845-2905  
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 Living Hope Fellowship • 903-261-2023  
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# New zoning for annexed land could spark new development

Continued from Page 1

intersection with Hwy. 271, the land has potential to become a hub for new projects.

"It is our closest link to I-20, so it's important we accept that's what it really is," Conlan added. "There won't be any changes for landowners unless they do want to sell the property."

Two affected property owners reached out to City Hall, per Gladewater City Secretary Judy Van Houten.

"Neither one of them voiced any major concerns," she said, nor offered any comments to pass on to council members. "They were all OK with it once we discussed it. It does not change anything on their taxes or anything."

According to Mayor Brandy Flanagan, "It's not going to hinder them if they want to sell their property."

Council member Milton Anderson's motion was unanimously approved 7-0.

Just down the road at Gladewater Municipal Airport, council members opted Thursday to table construction of a new hangar

(at G-10) pending official plans from the developer.

In other business, the group accepted Christopher Cummings request to combine two lake lots into one yearly lease.

It's largely a bookkeeping fix, Cummings told the elected officials, halving the number of bills he pays, but the not the value. He's already merged both properties with the Upshur County Appraisal District Board.

"We're all caught up but it sure would be more convenient to combine those into one bill so I don't fall behind," Cummings said.

In time, when the property changes hands it will sell as one lot. "It makes perfect sense," Smith agreed.

Cummings request was unanimously approved without additional stipulations.

## Cost for future water needs could reach \$174B

Texas will need to invest \$174 billion over the next 50 years to keep up with water demand, according to a draft 2027 state water plan approved last week, the Austin American-Statesman reported. That is more than twice the projected cost in the previous state water plan published in 2022.

The draft report, released by the Texas Water Development Board, says the increased costs are due to a number of factors: inflation in construction costs, more frequent droughts, and a decline in existing water supplies as the state's aquifers become

depleted. The state last year earmarked spending \$20 billion over the next two decades for water infrastructure and supply projects — an amount that falls far short of what will be needed, according to some experts.

"This figure validates concerns that \$1 billion a year is not going to be sufficient to meet the infrastructure needs to ensure our water supply," said Perry Fowler, executive director of the Texas Water Infrastructure Network, a construction trade coalition for water projects.



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## NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR PUBLICATION (AVISO DE ELECCIÓN PARA PUBLICACIÓN)

To the registered voters of Gladewater Independent School District (*A los votantes registrados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Gladewater*):

Notice is hereby given that the polling place at Gladewater City Hall Council Chambers, 519 East Broadway, Gladewater, Texas 75647 will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 2, 2026 for voting in a special election to consider the following (*Se da aviso de que el lugar de votación en el Gladewater City Office, 519 East Broadway, Gladewater, Texas 75647 estará abierto de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m. el 2 de Mayo, de 2026 para votar en una elección especial para considerar la siguiente*):

**PROPOSITION A:** THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE; the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$8,100,000 for school facilities and buses, and the levy of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds. (*PROPOSICIÓN A: ESTE ES UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO A LA PROPIEDAD; la emisión de bonos por un monto de \$8,100,000 para instalaciones y autobuses escolares, y la imposición de impuestos suficientes para pagar el capital y los intereses de los bonos.*)

Location, days, and hours for early voting by personal appearance (*Ubicación, días y horas de votación anticipada en persona*): Gladewater City Hall Council Chambers, 519 East Broadway, Gladewater, Texas 75647

April 20, 2026	(20 de Abril de 2026)	8:00am-5:00pm
April 22-24, 2026	(22-24 de Abril de 2026)	8:00am-5:00pm
April 27-28, 2026	(27-28 de Abril de 2026)	8:00am-5:00pm

Applications for voting by mail should be received no later than the close of business on April 20, 2026 (*Las solicitudes de votación por correo deben ser recibidas a más tardar al cierre de operaciones del April 20, 2026*). Applications should be sent to (*Se deben enviar las solicitudes a*): Jennifer Briggs; mailing address (*dirección postal*): P.O. Box 2827, Longview, Texas 75606; physical address (*dirección física*): 100 E. Methvin St., Suite 130, Longview, Texas 75601; phone (*teléfono*): (903)236-8458; fax (*fax*): (903)-309-2562; and email (*correo electrónico*): elections@greggcounty.texas.gov.

Polling sites subject to change. (*Los lugares de votación están sujetos a cambios.*)

District's website (*sitio web del Distrito*): <https://www.gladewaterisd.com/>

Smith County's website (*sitio web del Condado*): <https://www.smith-county.com/>

Upshur County's website (*sitio web del Condado*): <https://www.countyofupshur.com/>

Gregg County's website (*sitio web del Condado*): <https://greggcounty.texas.gov/>

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### ADVERTISEMENT AND INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of White Oak will receive sealed bids for Water Treatment Plant Ground Storage Tanks Rehabilitation project. Bids will be received until 2:00 PM on Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at White Oak City Hall, 906 S White Oak Rd, White Oak, Texas 75693. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:00 PM on Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at White Oak City Hall, 906 S White Oak Rd, White Oak, Texas 75693. Bids received after 2:00 PM will be returned, unopened.

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are on file at Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., 320 S Broadway Ave, Suite 200, Tyler, TX 75702, and at White Oak City Hall, 906 S White Oak Rd, White Oak, Texas 75693.

PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS may be examined without charge at White Oak City Hall. Bid forms and plans may be examined or obtained at the office of Schaumburg & Polk, Inc., 320 S. Broadway Ave, Suite 200, Tyler, Texas 75702. One copy of each set of documents may be obtained from Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. Plans can also be found online at [www.civcastusa.com](http://www.civcastusa.com).

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

This project will include the rehabilitation of two welded steel ground storage tanks at the City of White Oak Water Treatment Plant, including one 1.0-MG tank and one 0.5-MG tank. Work includes but is not limited to the full removal and replacement of the interior and exterior coating systems, installation of a new roof vent and roof manway, and steel repairs to patch holes in the tank roof. Both tanks are leaking along the floor-to-wall weld seam; the Contractor shall identify areas of damaged steel and repair the welds and/or replace steel as necessary to restore watertightness.

The project is to be substantially complete within 60 calendar days from the notice to proceed, and shall be fully complete within 90 calendar days from the notice to proceed. Notice to proceed date is anticipated as May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Liquidated damages of \$300.00 per day shall be assessed for any days in which contract time is exceeded.

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

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

Publication Dates: April 23, 2026  
April 30, 2026

City of White Oak, Texas  
By: Jimmy Purcell  
Title: City Manager

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

### Public Meeting

The Ark-Tex Council of Governments (ATCOG) will conduct a public meeting at 9:00am on June 10, 2026, at the main office located at 4808 Elizabeth Street, Texarkana, Texas, to receive comments on the Annual Plan for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. The plan is available for review on the outside bulletin board at the main office or online at <https://atcog.org/housing>.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### JOINT NOTICE OF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS           §  
    §  
 COUNTY OF GREGG               §

BY VIRTUE OF ORDERS OF SALE DATED the 7 day of April, 2026, and issued pursuant to judgment decrees of the County Court At Law of Gregg County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter numbered and styled causes, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said Court, I have on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026, seized, levied upon, and will on the 5th day of May, 2026, at the at public auction on an online platform at [www.mvbataxsales.com](http://www.mvbataxsales.com), at 10:00AM on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, as provided for by the TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE.

All of the following properties being located in Gregg County, Texas and each property being more particularly described on an instrument recorded in the V and P reference (V\_\_\_/P\_\_\_) or document number of the Deed Records, Gregg County, Texas. The approximate property addresses reflected herein are the addresses on the tax records and may or may not be completely accurate.

**022305-CCL2**

**Gladewater Independent School District v Mo-Tex Investments, LLC et al**

**TRACT 1:** 5.20 Acres, more or less, out of the J.L. McCarty Survey, Abstract 269, Gregg County, Texas, Acct #000023084/23084  
**TRACT 2:** Lot 47 and 48A, Block 2, Saunders Addition, Gregg County, Texas (V 691, P 87 and V 691, P 89, Deed Records, Gregg County, Texas), Acct #000064585/64585

**022445-CCL2**

**Pine Tree Independent School District et al v Ableready, Inc et al**

**TRACT 1:** BEING 0.87500 WORKING INTEREST IN THE M. F. FISHER LEASE, RRC# 6E-07727, OPERATED BY ABLEREADY, INC, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS., Acct #000642042/001583846  
**TRACT 2:** RODDEN B E 60007476-000ZTH OPERATING, /EAST TEXASAB 177 /WM ROBINSON SUR0.0000.8750000000W WI 0.875, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS, Acct #001581002

**022524-CCL2**

**Pine Tree Independent School District v The Unknown Trustees of The Church of God in Christ et al**

**TRACT 1:** 0.50 Acre, more or less, being the South Half of Tract 8, George Ward Addition, out of the A. Fuggerson Survey, Abstract 75, Gregg County, Texas (V 672, P 346, Deed Records, Gregg County, Texas), Acct #000017139  
**TRACT 2:** 0.50 acre, more or less, out of the A. Fuggeson Survey, Abstract 75, Gregg County, Texas (V 574, P 384, Official Public Records, Gregg County, Texas), Acct #000017138

**022627-CCL2**

**Pine Tree Independent School District v Bertha Ventura**

**TRACT 1:** 0.172 Acre, more or less, out of the W. H. Castleberry Survey, Abstract 38, City of White Oak, Gregg County, Texas (Instrument #200118327, Official Records, Gregg County, Texas), Acct #000013528

**022705-CCL2**

**Pine Tree Independent School District v Terry Lacoy et al**

**TRACT 1:** Lot 26, Block 6000, Oaklawn Manor, The City of Longview, Gregg County, Texas (Document #202110696, Official Records, Gregg County, Texas), Acct #000058716

**022806-CCL2**

**Gladewater Independent School District v Ignacia Garcia Torres et al**

**TRACT 1:** Lots 7, 8, 9 & 10, Block 125, Wood Heights Addition, City of Gladewater, Gregg County, Texas (Instrument #202302627, Official Records, Gregg County, Texas), Acct #000072414

**022909-CCL2**

**Pine Tree Independent School District v David Wayne Meador et al**

**TRACT 1:** Lot 17, Oak Forest Addition, City of Longview, Gregg County, Texas (Instrument #202313922, Official Records, Gregg County, Texas), Acct #000057994

**023005-CCL2**

**Pine Tree Independent School District v Tae Hui Kim**

**TRACT 1:** Lot 3, Block 5, Key Bunt Addition, City of Longview, Gregg County, Texas (Document #200522719, Official Public Records, Gregg County, Texas), Acct #000049975

This sale will be conducted to satisfy the judgment(s) for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interests due on the properties described herein, and for all costs of court and sale.

I do hereby verify that true and correct copies of the foregoing Joint Notice of Sale have been delivered by United States Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, and by regular mail, to each of the Defendants named in each of the numbered and styled causes.

DATED the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026, at Longview, Texas

MAXEY CERLIANO  
 Sheriff, Gregg County, Texas

By: Shawn MCFadden  
 SHAWN MCFADDEN, Deputy Sheriff

You may contact the attorney for the taxing units at (903) 757-5757.

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## TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

# TexSCAN

**TexSCAN Week of  
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### AUCTIONS

**Coyote Hills Ranch** Production Sale — Sat., May 2 at 1 p.m., At the Ranch, Chattanooga, OK. Selling 77 lots, 30 Fall Pairs, 32 Spring Pairs, 15 Bulls, [www.LiveAuctions.tv](http://www.LiveAuctions.tv), call 580-704-6739 or view catalog online at [www.coyotehillsok.com](http://www.coyotehillsok.com).

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### EVENTS

**Seguin—19th Annual Earth Day**, Sat., April 26, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Central Park, 201 S. Austin St., 100+ vendors, green info booths, children's activities, food trucks, music, entertainment, kid's zone, exhibitors row and more. Visit [Seguin.com](http://Seguin.com), 830-401-5000.

### MEDICAL

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### OIL & GAS

**We buy oil, gas & mineral rights.** Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI). Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation. Call today: 806-620-1422. Lobo Minerals, LLC, PO Box 1800, Lubbock, TX 79408-1800, [LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com](mailto:LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com).

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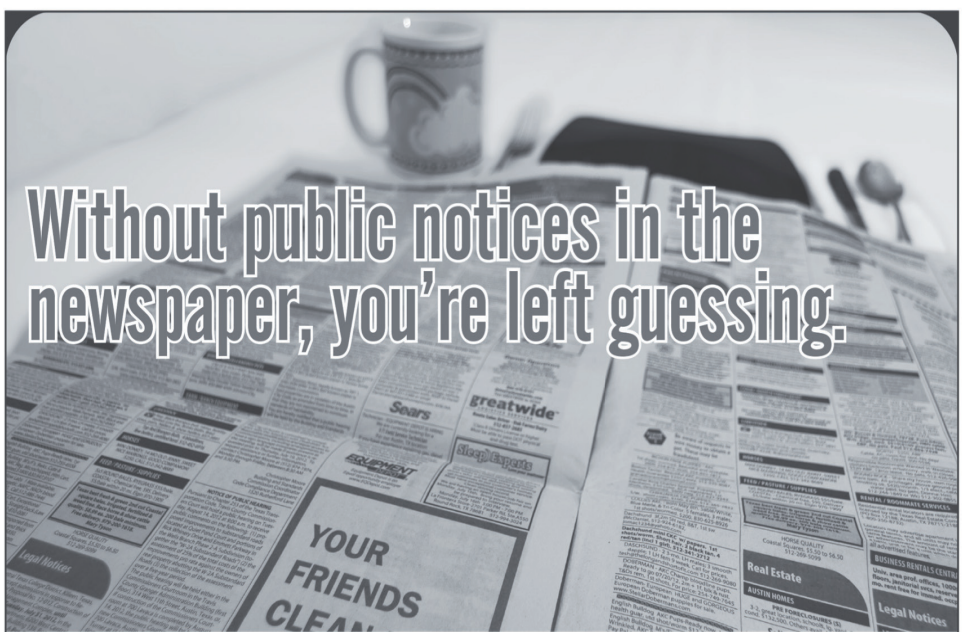
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It shouldn't be your responsibility to know how to look, where to look or when to look to be informed about public information. It is the government's responsibility to notify you, and public notices in your newspaper eliminates the guesswork.

If it is not in the newspaper, how will you know?

## The Gladewater Mirror

## PUBLIC NOTICE

CAUSE NO. 2026-0078-E

GUARDIANSHIP OF	§	IN THE COUNTY COURT
JAMES PHILLIP HURST	§	AT LAW NO. 2
AN INCAPACITATED PERSON	§	GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS

### Published Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that letters of guardianship for the person and estate of JAMES PHILLIP HURST, an incapacitated person, were issued on April 13, 2026, in Docket No. 2026-0078-E, pending in the County Court at Law No. 2, Gregg County, Texas, to SHARON KIMBERLEY HURST, 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 JAMES PHILLIP HURST, c/o SHARON KIMBERLEY HURST, 2210 Robbinwood Lane, Longview, Texas 75601.

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 April 13, 2026.

*Courtney Annett Harris*

Courtney Anne Harris  
 State Bar No. 24060434  
[courtney@harrisandharris.com](mailto:courtney@harrisandharris.com)  
 Matthew C. Harris  
 State Bar No. 24059904  
[mch@mathharrislaw.com](mailto:mch@mathharrislaw.com)

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# OBITUARY

## SHIRLEY ANNE SHERRELL KATES

Shirley Anne Sherrell Kates, beloved sister, wife, mother, and grandmother, left this world on April 14th. She was 91 years old. Shirley was born on February 27, 1935, in Tulsa, Oklahoma,



to Lawrence Clifford Sherrell, a horseman, and Mary Grace Fields, an artist and seamstress. She had two dear sisters, Sudie and Peggy. They grew up on a farm in Broken Arrow. Shirley loved her pony, Blackie. They did tricks together and she even let him come into the house sometimes.

In high school, Shirley met the love of her life, Jerry Kates. They played in the high school band together, and after high school, they played together in the University of Oklahoma band. Shirley and Jerry were joyfully married on January 20th 1957, in Broken Arrow. Their love, a dream kind of love, inspired everyone that knew them. Shirley and Jerry built a life together in Gladewater, Texas, with their children, Harry, Jack, Matt, and Sissy after the family bought the local newspaper. They were active members in the First Methodist Church and special community events like Gusher Days' Settin on the Woodbine. Shirley cherished her family and friends. She loved camping trips to Colorado, sipping coffee in the mountains early in the morning, evening barge rides on the lake, playing piano, singing, taking care of her plants and her dogs, and watching her grandkids and great-grandkids grow.

She is survived by her three children, Harry Kates, Matt, and Teresa Kates, Sissy Kates, all of Gladewater. Her grandchildren Tony Turner, Chris Webb (Elissa), Jacque Webb Smith, Bruce Kates (Amy), Joel Duraso (Rachel), Josie Duraso, and Jacob Duraso. Her great-grandchildren, Eli Kates (Kaila), Ella Kates, Jersey Turner, Caleb Turner, Tyler Smith, Mark Smith, Matthew Smith, Ellie Webb, Maggie Webb, Lilly Webb, Jameson Wyatt Duraso, Aryana Duraso, Heavenly Duraso, and Cypress Kates. And her two sisters, Sudie Cypert and Peggy Van Dyke.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jerry, her son, Jack, her infant child, her granddaughter, Rebecca, and her parents. Her children, grandchildren, and all who knew her will remember her as the world's most warm and loving woman. Her precious memory and light will be a blessing on our hearts forever.

Memorial services for Shirley Kates were held at 11:00 am, Monday, April 20, 2026, at First Methodist Church, Gladewater, with Rev. Wade Harmon officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of McWhorter Funeral Home.

Please visit Shirley's online registration book at [www.mcwhorterfh.com](http://www.mcwhorterfh.com) to leave a memory for the family.

### McWhorter FUNERAL HOME

1074 State Hwy 300 Gilmer, TX  
mcwhorterfh.com 903-734-7070

# What's Happening?

## Storytime at Upshur library

A book will be read to young children at both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday, April 23. "The Loud Librarian" by Jenna Beatrice will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. events.

"Music and movement" will follow each reading of the book, said Amy Allred, children's coordinator for the library.

## KC to present Masterworks Concert

The Kilgore College Department of Music will present its annual Masterworks Concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, in Van Cliburn Auditorium.

The performance will feature KC choirs and the KC Wind Symphony, highlighted by a presentation of A Silence Haunts Me by composer Jake Runestad. The concert is free and open to the public. To learn more about music programs at KC, visit [www.kilgore.edu/music](http://www.kilgore.edu/music).

## 2026 CHILI WINNERS

Proceeds from the annual Gusher Days Chili Cook-off benefit Truman W. Smith Children's Care Center.

According to the official results from Saturday's event:

### CHILI WINNERS

1. David Trice (Hallsville)
2. David Bell (Hallsville)
3. Larry Russell (Shreveport, LA)
4. Nevin Mulvin (Irving)
5. Wayland Smith (Lindale)
6. Jerry Hunt (Shreveport, LA)
7. John Daniels (Winona)
8. Richard Wallace (Jacksonville)
9. Judy Russell (Shreveport)
10. Pat Anderson (Royse City)

### SHOWMANSHIP WINNERS

1. Dr. Dave's Voodoo Stew (David Trice)
2. Yoboy Chili (Richard Wallace)
3. Hi-Octane (Jerry Hunt)

## Tax Holiday for Emergency Supplies, April 25-27

Texans can purchase certain items tax free during the state's Emergency Preparation Supplies Sales Tax Holiday, which begins at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, April 25, and ends at midnight on Monday, April 27.

"From hailstorms to hurricanes, Texans know the importance of being prepared when bad weather hits," according to acting Texas Comptroller Kelly Hancock. "This sales tax holiday provides a great opportunity to stock up on supplies and save a little money while you're at it."

The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts estimates shoppers will save about \$2.4 million in state and local sales taxes during the tax holiday, which was approved by the Texas Legislature in 2015.

There's no limit on the number of qualifying items you can purchase. These include:

- household batteries, fuel containers and flashlights priced



The White Oak Forestry Team made history as the 1st state champion forestry team for White Oak. These outstanding members include: Jed Tuttle, Owen Hughes, Brody Miller – 9th Overall Individual, and Clayton Maddox - state champion high point individual!!

less than \$75;

- hurricane shutters and emergency ladders priced less than \$300; and
- portable generators priced less than \$3,000.

For purchases made online, note that delivery, shipping, handling and transportation charges are part of the sales price. If the emergency preparation supply being purchased is taxable, the delivery charge is also taxable. Consider these charges when determining whether an item can be purchased tax free during the holiday.

For example, if you purchase a portable generator online for \$2,999 with a \$50 delivery charge, the total sales price is \$3,049. Because the total sales price of the portable generator is more than \$3,000, tax is due on the \$3,049 sales price.

A complete list of emergency preparation supplies that may be purchased tax free can be found on the Comptroller's website.

## Texas 42 WINNERS

The Texas 42 Association saw 33 teams compete in Gladewater's Gusher Days tournament Saturday.

Running concurrently with the 41st annual event downtown, the tournament was organized by Rusty Smith and volunteers and staged in the Gladewater Museum Annex.

This year's tournament winners include:

- 1st - Alan Clute & Anthony Williams
- 2nd - Kelly Kincl & Rob Hutchins
- 3rd - Reese White & Caleb White
- 4th - Julia Rangel & Roger McElroy
- 5th - William Lynch & Ben Duncan
- 6th - Jean Helmers & Ben Porter
- 7th - Kevin & Ann Haynes
- 8th - Gary Hopkins & Darrell Morgan

## Longest Beard WINNERS

Bragging rights go to Chris Williams for the Longest Beard at Gusher Days 2026. At 17.5 inches, Williams has been growing it since his retirement. "Thanks to all three participants," says Gusher Days' Lois Reed.

# GISD School Board Candidate Q&A:

Continued from Page 1

We're seeing amazing results, and the Texas Education Agency has taken notice. GISD is now being used as a model to help train other districts!

The Gladewater you see today is not the same as it was three years ago. We're growing in all areas, and while there is still work to do, we are committed to supporting our staff and preparing students for life after graduation.

### What distinguishes you from your opponent?

Experience matters, and this role has a significant learning curve. I've been actively serving on the board since 2023. Unlike my opponent, I work in education and have access to insight that helps me understand the complex challenges schools face and how districts are responding. The education system does not operate the same way it did just three years ago, and that experience has kept me informed, prepared, and ready to lead.

After 20 years of involvement in GISD, I know our staff, students, and community. If I'm reelected, there will be no delay in the progress we are making.

### How do you, personally, define a trustee's role in the school and community?

A trustee's role is governance. We're entrusted with information and expected to make the best decisions for the district. We don't run campuses or manage staff. There are three main responsibilities: hire and evaluate the superintendent, set policy, and adopt the budget. When a board steps outside that role, it will negatively impact a district. Through my work at Region 7, I've seen how that can damage employee culture and trust.

It's important to stay involved in the community. I've spent years building relationships with students, staff, and families while keeping my roles as a board member and parent separate.

### What challenge facing the school is at the forefront of your mind?

We want to continue improving academics by having the right teachers in place, supporting and retaining them, and making sure students feel prepared moving from one grade to the next and into life after graduation.

We're also facing increasing state mandates, often without additional funding. We've worked hard to stay financially responsible while protecting programs and supporting staff. That's why I support the bond. It allows us to address facility and program needs while continuing to invest in students and employees.

Another priority is staff benefits. We've increased contributions and understand how important that is for educators and families.

### Why should voters choose you?

I bring a combination that isn't common in this role. I have children and grandchildren in GISD, have been a long-time volunteer, currently serve on the board, and work in education. I work with multiple districts across East Texas and alongside experts in all areas of education, and I bring that back to GISD.

Since day one, I've taken this role seriously, gone beyond required training, and stayed engaged. I show up, do the work, and give it my all. If reelected, I'll continue building on the progress we've made and working for our students, staff, and community.

Continued from Page 1

munication and trust between the district and parents and community. When we foster partnerships with parents and ensure they feel informed and involved, student engagement increases, attendance improves, academic performance advances, and behavioral incidents decrease.

### What distinguishes you from your opponent?

My hands-on experience in education sets me apart from my opponent. Early in my career as a special education social worker, I was fortunate to work with a unique supervisor who would challenge me by assigning seemingly insurmountable tasks without instructions or limits. Through these experiences, I learned how to navigate the education system, build networks, ask important questions, listen to others, and value their input. I became adept at researching policies and regulations, leveraging available resources, uniting stakeholders for a common cause, and developing actionable plans that create meaningful change.

### How do you, personally, define a trustee's role in the school and community?

I view the role of a trustee as that of a guardian of public trust. Trustees provide valuable service to the district, teachers, staff, students, families, and community. It is essential for trustees to listen and represent the values and priorities of the community in board decisions. Trustees should be proactive in researching and staying current on laws, rules, and regulations affecting education. While trustees are accountable for the oversight and governance of the district, their ultimate focus should be on student outcomes, making sure that every board decision supports student success.

### What challenge facing the school is at the forefront of your mind?

As a member of GISD's DEIC and CIP committees, I have heard the demographic makeup of our schools identified as a challenge. I would love to see our district offer supports that empowers families to help their children succeed, this could only result in positive outcomes for everyone's future. Also, like most districts, finding ways to meet mandates and local needs within the current budget presents challenges. While teacher retention is related to funding, it is just as important to create a positive, supportive, and encouraging work environment for our educators.

### Why should voters choose you?

Electing me as your trustee is a vote for yourself, students, teachers, and the community. It's an opportunity to be heard and to make a meaningful difference. I have firsthand experience with the challenges faced by teachers, students, and families. I have collaborated with professionals and families alike to develop solutions and bridge gaps in education.

I am committed to asking the important questions, conducting the necessary research, and seeking responsible solutions. My goal is to see GISD become a desired destination for education.

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-Jeff Farmer.

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-Anthony,

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