

Gladewater Mirror

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1 Section, 8 pages

50¢

White Oak, Union Grove grads to walk across the stage



Samantha Crum
White Oak
2026 Valedictorian



Parker Haley
Union Grove
2026 Valedictorian

The White Oak High School Graduating Class of 2026 will cross the stage Saturday, May 23, at 10 a.m. at the Belcher Center in Longview. The Union Grove High School Class of 2026 will walk across the stage Friday, May 22 at the Union Grove Lion Center.

Gladewater High School will graduate May 29 at 8 p.m. in Jack V. Murphy Stadium.

White Oak Valedictorian Samantha Crum, a 13-year Roughneck, is graduating with a GPA of 4.5096. She is the daughter of Mark and Michelle Crum and has three siblings that graduated in the class of 2023. She has been a member of the National Honors Society for three years. She was a part of the Roughneck marching band as a two-time state marching silver medalist and a one-time state marching champion.

Kara Kennedy, a 13-year Roughneck, is graduating as the class of 2026 salutatorian with a GPA of 4.4942. She is the daughter of Valorie and Kevin Kennedy and has a brother, Kade, who graduated from White Oak in 2021.

Stephanie Wilson, daughter of Jeff and Catherine Wilson, is graduating as the Historian of the Class of 2026 with a GPA of 4.3161.

Union Grove Valedictorian Parker William Haley, with a grade point average of 101.24, has attended Union Grove since kindergarten. Parker is the son of Tommy and Carla Haley and brother of Payton Haley. Throughout his high school career, Parker has been involved in various leadership roles including class president and being a part of the National Honor Society.

Olivia Maggie Dabreu, is salutatorian with a graduating grade point average of 100.84, is the daughter of Michael and BreAnn Dabreu, and the sister of Kaleb and Emma Grace Dabreu.

August Waide Vestal, with a grade point average of 100.59 is the Historian of the Class of 2026. August is the daughter of BJ Vestal and Amanda Blackstone.



Back-to-back Gladewater Bear and Lady Bears Champions! Congratulations to Paytin Thompson, Jordynn Harris, Tyalice Williams and Peyton Hunter finished in a time of 47.58, about four-tenths of a second ahead of the second-place team, bringing home gold in the 400 meter relay at the UIL State Track & Field Meet! And congratulations to Kingston Sheffield who went back-to-back gold in the triple jump with a jump of 51.10.5, which Micha Timmons taking home the bronze in the long jump.

Photos by Chris Jones - See more photos on the Gladewater Mirror Facebook Page.



Apartment developers request six-space spot for RV owners

By James Draper

A downtown RV park is back in consideration Thursday evening.

The site of the former Boom Town RV Park is up for a Specific Use Permit to allow six RVs in the paved parking area behind 301 W. Commerce Ave. The proposal drew a letter of opposition from a nearby property owner, citing past problems on the same site along the 100 block of South Dean Street.

In addition to an update to the council dais (see separate

story in today's issue) the agenda for the Gladewater City Council's May 21 meeting includes consideration of a Parks & Recreation Board recommendation the community join the Keep Texas Beautiful organization.

There are also holdover items from prior meetings, such as consideration of a new hangar at Gladewater Municipal Airport and closed door evaluations of key city personnel including the city prosecutor, judge, secretary, treasurer and city manager.

Continued on Page 3

Local woman arrested on drug charges

By Phillip Williams

The Special Investigations Unit of the Upshur County Sheriff's Office arrested six suspects, including a Gladewater woman, on charges ranging from drug-related offenses to parole violation in April, Sheriff Larry Webb announced Monday. Details of the cases were as follows, and all arrested were confined to the county jail in Gilmer, the sheriff said:

Ashley Leach, 51, of Gladewater, was arrested April 20 on both a pre-existing warrant charging her with manufacture/delivery of controlled substance (methamphetamine), and an additional such charge which resulted in the April 20 arrest.

The unit searched for her, found her in an undisclosed location, and arrested her both on the warrant (alleging manufacture/delivery of four to 200 grams), and on the new charge stemming from 10 grams found in her possession during the arrest.

Earl Oneal III, 42, of Longview, was arrested April 14 on a charge of possession of controlled substance--1 to 4 grams of methamphetamine.

The SIU assisted the patrol division of Webb's office in reference to an open-area search after the division called for drug-detecting dog Marco, who "alerted" to "presence of the odor of narcotics in" a vehicle.

Methamphetamine and methamphetamine paraphernalia were found in the

vehicle, which Oneal was driving. The arrest occurred in a rural area not listed in the SIU's report to Webb.

Lana Benoit, 31, of Gilmer, was arrested April 22 on a charge of possession of controlled substance (1 to 4 grams of methamphetamine.)

Once again, the SIU was contacted to help the patrol division, and Marco made a "positive alert" on a vehicle in the Walmart parking lot in Gilmer. A search of it turned up the drug.

Erederick Williams, 39, of Gilmer, was arrested April 27 on a Gregg County warrant charging him with possession of an unspecified controlled substance.

The arrest occurred after the unit stopped a vehicle at the intersection of Texas 155 and Calvert Road.

Christopher Davis II, 34, of Gilmer, was arrested April 27 on a state blue warrant charging him with parole violation. He was charged with illegal possession of firearm by felon, which Webb said was probably the charge for which Davis had been imprisoned.

The unit was searching for the suspect when it found him.

Jimmy Charles Collins, 55, of Diana, was arrested April 29 on a charge of manufacture/delivery of controlled substance--four to 200 grams of methamphetamine.

The unit stopped a vehicle near the Lake Gilmer park on Armadillo Road, and found Collins possessed 26 grams of the drug.



Look inside the Mirror's 2026 Graduation Section for your favorite graduate.



OPINION/COMMENTARY



An open letter to our graduates

Wisdom is a beast.

It is often best acquired by making mistakes.

Now that you are stepping out into the world many of you will be on your own. Really on your own.

I want you to know that it is OKAY to make mistakes. You will survive.

Sometimes the people with the greatest number of mistakes become the greatest successes. Remember that.

And yes, I often acquired these pearls of wisdom by making my own mistakes.

I hope that each of you will find something to do with your lives that you love as much as I loved teaching. Passion is what drives joy, commitment and excellence. Passion is the cat nip of life.

I also hope that all of you are successful in all you do—personally as well as professionally. But you won't be. Not all the time. Sometimes it will be because life simply is not fair, sometimes it will be because of poor choices on your part.

BUT NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOUR ABILITY TO START OVER!

I am also convinced that we can learn a great deal more from our failures than our successes. So never allow yourselves to be defeated—IT IS A CHOICE that each of you will make and more than once.

Remember that if you can see, hear, walk, talk and think you do NOT have the right to be bored—EVER! I'm not kidding.

Also, never forget that HAPPINESS IS A CHOICE that is driven by attitude and effort not circumstances.

As you Arise, Go Forth & Conquer, it might be a good idea to wrap your mind around Murphy's Law:

1. Nothing is as easy as it looks.
2. Everything will take longer than you think it will.
3. If anything can go wrong, it will.

So here is what you need to deal with Murphy's Law:

Suzanne Bardwell's Top 10 College Tips* (Hardcore research proven, and I have the stats to do just that!)

10. Register early so that you get the classes & professors that you want. (If you are going to a mega-university go to the earliest orientation.) Bonus: if you end up with a crummy adviser connect with professors or grad students who can point you in the right direction.

9. Schedule classes so that similar classes are not back-to-back. Instead, aim for a schedule like this: MWF-English/Chemistry/Psychology; T-Th-Statistics/Speech. (Bonus tip: take at least 15 hours per semester, if you have to drop a class you will still have a minimum of 12 college hours to maintain full-time status. Also, watch out dropping a 4-hour class, must have 12 hours to be considered a full time student.)

8. Create a study schedule that actually accounts for all the time you are awake so that you clearly see how you are spending your time. Then use it wisely. Depending on your intellectual ability procrastination will cause either failure, physical illness or emotional breakdown-sometimes all three. (You guys have one or two truly challenging classes in high school, in the fall you will have 4-5 in one semester.)

7. USE SQ3R textbook reading method and make sure that you have done all assigned reading BEFORE going to class:

- ~Survey: read the chapter intro, headings, subheadings & summary (that's your map, you wouldn't drive to Disney World by just heading east! Know where you are supposed to end up and have a plan to get there by doing the following:
 - ~turn the first heading into a question
 - ~read to answer the question
 - ~recite the answer IN YOUR OWN WORDS (if you can do that you understand it)

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



Work harder than everyone else. It is most often not the gifted that are most successful but the hardest working.

Smile. A lot. You will be happier for it and so will all the people you come in contact with.

Laugh at your own mistakes. Sure, you can be embarrassed, and you will be, but if you can laugh at yourself nothing can really overwhelm you.

Be realistic, but optimistic. That will give rocket fuel to your ambitions.

Don't be territorial, share the praise and be the heart of every team you are on whether it is a sports team, a fundraising effort, or professionally at the top of your chosen field.

Finally, be kind and compassionate. Do not be gullible, but do be kind. Kindness is often the only gift we have to offer others day in and day out.

If I could wave my magic wand over each of you and give you fairy godmother graduation gifts I would give you:

- insatiable intellectual curiosity,
- perseverance in the face of adversity,
- a sense of wonder so that life remains fresh and new,
- AND the knowledge that you are a gift to this weary world with the potential of changing it for the better.

Now, go do just that!

May God bless

~when you get to the end of the reading assignment review, make sure you can still answer the questions.

Bonus: You paid for your textbooks, USE them. Even if you can get by without doing the reading you are cheating yourself intellectually and in the future.

6. Use Listen/Think/Write in lecture classes. A lecturer can only talk at 100 words a minute. You (yes, you!) can think (on average) at 400 words a minute. (Bonus: Do NOT skip class. It ticks off most professors and frankly you have to be present to win!)

5. Read over lecture notes from previous class session immediately before going to class. This gives context and meaning to what you are hearing.

4. Read notes immediately after lecture class and add omissions before you forget.

3. Sit at front and focus on what is being said not how (or the cutie next to you).

2. Get study buddies (who know what is going on) and STUDY!

1. Get help AS SOON AS YOU KNOW YOU ARE IN TROUBLE. (ALWAYS turn in assignments. In college it is almost impossible to pass if you skip one assignment.)

REMEMBER: Ultimately YOU are the only teacher you ever truly have. You choose to learn or not.

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



Early voting in runoffs ends Friday

Early voting in both the Democratic and Republican runoff races ends Friday, May 22, with the election on Tuesday, May 26. On the GOP side, the statewide runoffs are:

U.S. Senate: John Cornyn and Ken Paxton

Texas attorney general: Mayes Middleton and Chip Roy

Texas Railroad Commission: Jim Wright and Bo French

Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Place 3: Alison Fox and Thomas Smith

The statewide Democratic runoffs are:

Lieutenant governor: Vikki Goodwin and Marcos Vélez

Attorney general: Nathan Johnson and Joe Jaworski

There are also runoff races for several House seats, the State Board of Education, and Texas Senate District 19, which runs along the U.S.-Mexico border. Voters who cast ballots in the March GOP primary can't vote in the Democratic runoff races, and vice versa. Registered voters who did not participate in the March primary can vote in either party's runoff election, but not both.

Texas oil industry at war with itself

The GOP runoff race for a seat on the Texas Railroad Commission is pitting oil industry leaders against each other. Many small-scale oil companies are supporting former Tarrant County Republican Party chair Bo French because of incumbent Jim Wright's efforts to lead reforms at the commission, the Houston Chronicle reported.

"I can't support Jim Wright, because Jim Wright makes rules that are silly for lots and lots and lots of operators," said Lance Thomas, manager of Albany-based Stasney Well Service. His company is suing the Railroad Commission over new rules about how oil operators manage onsite waste pits.

A political action committee associated with oil billionaire Tim Dunn, a conservative megadonor, has contributed at least \$350,000 to French's campaign. On the flip side, Chevron, Exxon Mobil, and other major oil companies have contributed to PACs backing Wright. French has drawn controversy for public comments he has made about Muslims and DEI.

Paxton steps up investigations as runoff nears

Attorney General Ken Paxton has steadily increased his lawsuits, investigations, and public threats around many of the conservative causes that energize Republicans, The Dallas Morning News reported. More than 100 news releases announcing such actions have been issued since early January.

Critics say he is using the attorney general's office for political gain rather than enforcement. Supporters say Paxton is pursuing the issues Texas conservatives elected him to champion.

"He's been suing the pants off people. I like that," said Laura Oakley, president of the Grapevine Republican Club.

The topics since the March primary included immigration, Islam, China, visa fraud, election maps, birthright citizenship and foreign influence, according to The News report. A spokesman for Paxton's campaign called the review of Paxton's investigations "garbage" and not "worth printing."

Lottery Commission, ex-director face criminal charges

Former Texas lottery director Gary Grief and the Texas Lottery Commission have been charged with misusing their positions in a 2023 Lotto Texas drawing worth \$95 million, the Austin American-Statesman reported. The criminal charges assert the agency helped international gamblers engineer a guaranteed win.

Agency officials helped professional bettors purchase nearly every possible six-number combination — more than 25 million tickets — assuring they would win the \$95 million jackpot, according to the charges. However, Grief's attorney issued a statement saying, in part, "When all facts are revealed in court, the public will see that Gary's leadership at the Lottery Commission generated millions of dollars for Texas schools and veterans and there was no crime."

Grief and the commission are charged with abuse of official capacity, a broadly worded offense alleging "intent to harm or defraud another" by misusing "government property, services, personnel or any other thing of value belonging to the government," the Statesman reported.

ACCEPTING CHRIST AS YOUR PERSONAL SAVIOR

In answer to the question: "What must a person do in order to be saved?" often the answer given is "One must accept Jesus as their personal Savior," without explaining what is involved in doing so. Often these same people teach that baptism is not essential to being saved, but it is only an outward sign of inward grace i. e. one is baptized to show they are already saved. Let's examine this in light of accepting Jesus as one's personal Savior before one is baptized.

First, to be saved one must be "in Christ" where salvation is (2 Tim. 2: 10). The question is: "how does one get into Christ?" The answer is: one is "baptized into Christ Jesus." (Rom. 6: 3; Gal. 3: 27). Second, Christ is the "Head" of the church. (Eph. 1: 22; 5: 23), which is His "body" (Col. 1: 18; 1 Cor. 12: 27). Third, Christ is the "Savior of the body," which we have learned is the church. The question is: "how does one get into the church?" First Corinthians 12: 13 says: "For by one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body (church)." Fourth, one enters into Christ and into the body, which is the church, the same way and at the same time, when he is baptized. It follows then, that if one is saved before he is baptized, he is saved "out of Christ," and "out of the church (body), because one is "baptized into both Christ and the church synonymously. Therefore, how can one accept Jesus as his personal Savior if he is not in the Christ's church of which He is the Savior? In order for Christ to be one's Savior, one must be in Christ and in His church, which Christ adds one to when he is saved, and one is saved when he is baptized. (Mk. 16: 16; 1 Pet. 3: 21; Acts 2: 37,38, 41, 47). One must accept Christ as his personal Savior, but the acceptance must be on Christ's terms. Think on these things.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

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Apartment developers request six-space spot for RV owners

Continued from Page 1

The RV park features in two items: a public hearing, first, followed by ‘Discuss & Consider’ (i.e. debate and vote on) the use of the paved parking area behind ‘The Lofts at Town Hall’ as a limited-space RV park.

The overall property (stretching from West Commerce Avenue to West Glade Street) is zoned ‘B1 - Real - Residential - Multi-Family - Apartments’ for ‘Lots 6 thru 16 NCB 57 Gladewater.’ Gregg County Appraisal District records list the property owner as 301 COMMERCE ST APARTMENTS LLC with Joel and John Duraso applying for the SUP.

According to City of Gladewater Codes, Specific Use Permits can be utilized to regulate three things: RV parks, mobile food truck parks and the operation of auction houses.

Per ordinance 15.11.480, “The City Council may, in the interest of the public welfare and to assure compliance with

this chapter, establish conditions of operation, location, arrangement, and construction of any use for which a permit is authorized. In authorizing the location of any of the uses listed as specific use permits, the City Council may impose such development standards and safeguards as the conditions and locations indicate important to the welfare and protection of adjacent property from excessive noise, vibration, dust, dirt, smoke, fumes, gas, odor, explosion, glare, offensive view, or other undesirable or hazardous conditions.”

In a letter dated April 21, White Oak resident Penny Gunn noted her opposition to the SUP request, which was recommended 5-2 by Planning & Zoning Commission members ahead of council consideration this week. In the past, “there were many problems and issues,” she wrote, ranging from the age and quality of the vehicles to cleanliness of the site, roaming animals and alleged illicit activities in the vicinity.

Per Gunn, the previous park “was a detriment to the safety, peace, cleanliness, and presentation of our notable and successful downtown area that brings a lot of visitors to our town,” suggesting a “short-time” RV park catering to downtown visitors may be a beneficial alternative.

On their consent agenda, items typically approved with one vote and no discussion, the council will consider a blanket permit for Skipper’s Pier’s Classic Truck, Motorcycle and Car Show set for June 13 at 103 N. Main St.

In addition to the ‘Executive Session’ personnel evaluations, carried over from last month’s meeting, the council is also scheduled for a closed door discussion of a Union Pacific property identified as ‘A-95, HOKIT, HR.’

No votes can be taken in closed session. Action, if any, on the evaluations or property will be taken after the council members reconvene into open session.

GLADEWATER POLICE/FIRE ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	Time	Agency	Call Type	Address
05/10/2026	00:26:12	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	LAKE GLADEWATER
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 00:26:09				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	00:45:09	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER / AIRPORT
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 00:45:24				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	01:03:17	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER / AIRPORT
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 01:03:36				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	06:33:10	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	1620 E BROADWAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 06:37:23				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	08:28:04	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	511 S TYLER ST
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 08:28:24				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	08:40:27	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	300 MONEY ST SENTINAL GARDENS
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 08:41:49				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	08:49:26	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	511 S TYLER ST
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 08:50:16				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	09:03:32		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 09:04:19				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	10:48:12		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 10:49:18				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	11:13:06	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	ECONOMY INN
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 11:14:32				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	11:24:43	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	703 N CULVER
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 11:26:21				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	13:37:31		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 13:38:42				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	14:27:21	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	1005 EAST SHEPPARD DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 14:27:56				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	17:01:49	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	MCDONALDS
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 17:02:04				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	17:18:12	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	504 W MARSHALL AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 17:19:30				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	17:17:40		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 17:23:26				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	17:29:57	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 17:30:09				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	17:44:56		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 17:45:48				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	19:28:51	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	2201 W GAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 19:31:41				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/10/2026	19:26:04	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	109 N PAUL STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 05/10/2026 19:31:48				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	00:21:47	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	LAKE GLADEWATER
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 00:22:11				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	05:02:43	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	39 GREENWAY VILLAGE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 05:06:02				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	09:37:50	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	511 S TYLER ROAD 1
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 09:38:30				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 10:40:38				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 12:28:54				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	13:22:12	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	RECKLESS DRIVER	W UPSHUR/MUSTANG
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 13:22:43				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 14:39:33				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	14:47:23		MISCELLANEOUS	2200 W UPSHUR AVENUE
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05/11/2026	20:57:27	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	113 PR 3447
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 20:59:02				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	21:16:01	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	WANTED PERSON	524 NORTH STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 21:16:01				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	21:53:57	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRESPASSING	1601 WEST LAKE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 22:04:54				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	22:10:38	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	190 N ALICE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 22:12:32				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	22:18:26	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	FM 2685/N RODEO
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 22:19:06				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/11/2026	23:01:11	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	MCDONALDS
Sent To Dispatch- 05/11/2026 23:02:07				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 07:09:05				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 07:23:10				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/12/2026	07:29:32	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	SAUNDERS
Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 07:29:53				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/12/2026	07:59:24		REPOSSESSION	218 E EDDY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 07:59:46				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
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05/12/2026	08:19:36	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	209 E GAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 08:20:19				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/12/2026	12:42:36	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	2014 ASHLEY
Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 12:43:00				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/12/2026	14:51:46	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	700 BLOCK OF N MAIN ST
Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 14:52:06				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/12/2026	16:14:51	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	220 S FERRY STREET
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 16:23:07				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/12/2026	19:48:41	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	1621 N MAIN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 20:06:23				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/12/2026	20:11:49	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	1141 S LAKE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 20:12:37				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/12/2026	23:12:02	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	BURGLARY	414 W GAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/12/2026 23:16:16				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	00:46:09	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	THEFT	621 GREEN
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 00:48:59				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	02:50:16	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	512 W PACIFIC AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 02:52:05				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	03:34:02	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	1006 E BROADWAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 03:35:11				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	08:48:37	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	TELES
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 08:48:41				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	09:22:16		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	1103 WEST LAKE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 09:23:13				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	09:33:40	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ESCORT	GREGG CO SHERIFF
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 09:34:38				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	09:50:14		AGENCY ASSIST	716 W CLAIR ST
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 09:51:27				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	10:13:05	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	ACCIDENT	DOLLAR GENERAL BY 2685 2870 W UPSHUR AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 10:14:06				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	11:17:47	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	FOLLOW UP	N OLIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 11:17:57				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	11:37:42	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	403 W QUITMAN AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 11:37:59				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	12:03:24		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	1014 WEST LAKE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 12:05:05				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	12:43:03	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ESCORT	NORTHPARK CHRISTUS
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 12:45:27				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	12:45:40		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	1006 EAST SHEPARD DRI
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 13:16:36				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/13/2026	13:25:06	GLADEWATER	SUSPICIOUS	201 W MAPLE AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/13/2026 20:25:30				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	07:51:21		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 07:52:15				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	08:59:51	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER AND EAST GLADE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 09:00:09				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	09:29:02	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	271 AND LOOP 485
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 09:29:16				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	09:58:47	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ANIMAL COMPLAINT	506 N POST ST
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 09:59:07				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	12:00:00		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 12:01:18				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	12:53:18	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER AND DEAN
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 12:53:37				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	13:05:30	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	TELES
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 13:05:34				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	13:43:44	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	CASH AMERICA
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 13:44:11				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	14:04:24	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	TELES
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 14:05:00				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	15:45:19	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	WEST GAY
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 15:45:28				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	17:11:16	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	1403 CEDAR DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 17:18:02				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	17:27:36		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 17:29:56				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	18:42:11	GLADEWATER	MISCELLANEOUS	LAKE GLADEWATER
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 18:48:41				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	19:43:51	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	HWY 271 S
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 19:44:24				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	22:04:10	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	W UPSHUR / E LAKE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 22:07:40				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/14/2026	22:11:25	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	PHILLIPS / W UPSHUR
Sent To Dispatch- 05/14/2026 22:12:03				GLADEWATER, TX 75647
05/15/2026	11:17:25	CWC - FIRE	MISCELLANEOUS	2414 W HAROLD STREET

WHITE OAK POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT

For the reporting period of May 11th through May 17th, 2026, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to or initiated 153 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were: Advice Calls, Disturbances, Burglar Alarms, Traffic Issues (motorist assists, traffic control, reckless drivers, etc.), and Community Relations (welfare checks, civil issues, vacation home security checks, etc.).

No traffic collisions were investigated during this reporting period.

White Oak Officers made three arrests during this reporting period:

Hayden Gonzalez Duran, 20, of Gladewater, for Driving While Intoxicated with an Open Alcohol Container and Minor in Possession of Tobacco Products x2.

Jose Mejia, 19, of White Oak, for Public Intoxication and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Logan Crespin, 29, of Gladewater, for Driving While Intoxicated.

City leaders note steady hum of progress at municipal airport

Gladewater Municipal Airport is now host to a jet aircraft. "It's actually phenomenal growth out at the airport," councilman Milton Anderson told his colleagues last month.

Spring 2026 has already seen five new hangars approved for construction and a sixth is on the table Thursday evening during the council's regular session at Gladewater City Hall.

Among the items on the night's agenda, there's appointment council members as ex-officio members of local advisors boards, including the Airport Board, Board of Adjustments, Gladewater Economic Development Corporation's board, the still-new Parks & Recreation Board and the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Overall, the airport is "coming together quite nicely," Anderson said, with the new hangars bringing additional property tax revenue into local coffers.

"They pay taxes on those things just like a house. They don't get a tax break or anything like that," he said. "All of that is money coming back into the city. Maybe one of these guys will put a business in, and we'll see more tax revenue coming in."

Meanwhile, "We now have our very first jet aircraft that is home-based."

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 Uvalde cowgirl, married to Roy Rogers, Evans

5 "those" in Mexico

6 Gus Van _____ directed TX-born River Phoenix in "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues" (2 wds.)

7 this Korbud preceded Texas-trained Mary Lou Retton

8 TXism: "____ his hide" (spank)

9 TXism: "hard as putting ____ in a windstorm"

16 Cowboys have an ____-air stadium

18 TXism: "____ mummy's tomb"

21 Charley & Guy are ____-creators of the Texas Crossword

22 got clothes on

23 Gore ____ against George W. in 2000

24 pursues stealthily

30 U.S. Senator (1993-2013) from Texas, Hutchison (2 wds.)

34 TXism: "____ ch cha" (girl)

35 3-term governor, Price

36 this Grant starred with TX Hyer in "Houseboat"

37 this Ed starred with TX Zellweger in "The Bachelor"

39 TXism: "____ of water" (out of place)

43 coral formations

44 in Brooks County on U.S. 281

45 TXism: "close but ____ cigar"

46 TX Tanya's "Can ____ You Tonight"

47 kiss on a date (2 wds.)

49 entered the Army

52 TX Perot's first commissioned naval rank (abbr.)

53 TXism: "____ hill for a stepper" (doable)

54 treated icy streets

55 Jerry Jones will give a bonus ____ draft pick

58 murders

59 ____ Grande

60 hospital area for serious issues (abbr.)

61 "surfing the ____"

9 Texas' nation (abbr.)

10 Cajun word for paltry or trivial

11 TX Charley Pride's "____ Have To Offer You"

12 a Texas duck, e.g.

13 make beloved

14 2nd half of the Bible (abbr.)

15 TXism: "hot as road ____ in July"

17 a worthless person (hyph.)

19 TXism: "they're eating out of the ____ bag" (associated)

20 TXism: "content as ____ calf"

24 TX Sandy (init.)

25 this Smith was a popular Astro GM

26 tropical bird found at Bentsen State Park

27 Conway Twitty's "An Old Memory ____"

28 this Wynn was Digger Barnes on "Dallas"

29 "comfort" product of Texas-based Haggar Clothing

31 talk, talk, talk

32 sis's sib

33 celebrated in Texas "Diez ____" "Septiembre"

38 roosted

40 TXism: "I'd have to get better to ____"

41 "one," south of the border

42 TXism: "kissed me so hard she took a ____"

48 TXism: "____ a fancy to"

50 falls behind

51 "Fanthorp ____ State Historic Site"

56 TXism: "took everything but the ____ my lungs" (got robbed)

57 pecan pie portion

P-1792

See Answers on this page.

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Sports roundup

By Tyler Sutton

The White Oak Roughnecks baseball team headed to Canton to take on Bells in their third round playoff series where in game one, it was a back and forth battle but Bells won it in the bottom of the 7th on a walkoff rbi single to win it 6-5. Jaxsen Ludlow drove in a pair of runs with a RBI

single and double and Levi Sipes had a pair of solo home runs. With their backs against the wall, White kept their season alive in game two in Paris with a 4-3 win. Logan Langweisch pitched a gem giving up just 2 runs in 5 innings with 5 strikeouts. Nico Soto drove in a pair.

Sadly the Roughnecks saw their amazing season come to an end in game 3 as they fell 14-3.

White Oak finishes their season at 18-16-1 with a bi district and area championship.



The Union Grove Lady Lions softball team were one step away from a trip to the State finals in Austin but standing in their way was a very good Groveton Lady Indians team. In game one in Rusk, Groveton jumped out to a big lead early and held the Lady Lions offense in check as they cruised to a 8-1 victory.

Union Grove was held to just 2 hits. Jordyn Bishop drove in the only Lady Lions run. Game 2 was much of the same as Groveton scored 7 runs in the 1st inning in route to a 12-2 five inning run rule victory. Emma D'breu drove in a run and also pitched 3 innings of relief.

Lions finish their amazing season at 21-13-1 with a bi-district, area and regional semi-final title.



Gladewater softball had many named to the all district team. Caydence Martin was Utility Player of the Year, Kate-lynn Pugliese was named 2nd team catcher, Alayah Gordon 2nd team outfield, Bailey Childress 2nd team shortstop, Janiah Strickland 1st team outfield, Tinsley Aldridge newcomer of the year.

Gladewater high school also had its annual spring sports banquet. Here are some of the winners.

Yalexian Martinez: CC MVP, Paytin Thompson Girl's basketball co-offensive MVP, Micha Timmons boy's basketball district offensive MVP, Nevaeh Sweetin girl's powerlifter of the year, Adam Warner JV MVP, Peyton Noble girl's soccer defensive player of the year. Susie Perez girl's soccer MVP, Emily Head girl's soccer offensive player of the year, Caleb Budro boy's soccer defensive player of the year, Mariano Perez boy's soccer MVP, Angel Esparza boy's soccer offensive player of the year, Landon King baseball offensive MVP.

See more photos from the sports awards banquet at the Gladewater Mirror Facebook Page.



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 Grace Tabernacle Church • 903-309-8801
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 Abundant Life Temple • 903-845-6043
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 Gladewater Revival Church
 Living Hope Fellowship • 903-261-2023
 Love of God Church • 903-845-2623
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Families gather for food, fellowship, fun and games at Bumblebee Park May 16 during the Gladewater Community Reunion hosted by the MLK / Juneteenth Committee.
Photo by James Draper

Early voting underway, Election Day set May 26 in primary runoff polls

Early voting began Monday in the 2026 May Primary Runoff, and those polls are open through Friday ahead of Election Day May 26.

Whether Gregg, Upshur or Smith County, voters in the Republican Primary Runoff will cast decisions in the following races:

- U.S. Senator: John Cornyn or Ken Paxton
- Attorney General – Mayes Middleton or Chip Roy
- Railroad Commissioner – Bo French or Jim Wright
- Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 3 – Alison Fox or Thomas Smith

Voters in the Democratic Party Runoff will see:

- U.S. Representative District 1 – Yolanda R. Prince or Dax Alexander (not on Upshur ballots)

- Lieutenant Governor – Marcos Isaias Velez or Vikki Goodwin
- Attorney General – Nathan Johnson or Joe Jaworski

With no Gregg County polling location for Gladewater – again – the closest spot for early voters is the White Oak Community Center Meeting Room at 1103 S. White Oak Road (behind Verabank) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through May 22 and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday.

Early voters in Upshur County cast their ballots at the Gilmer Civic Center (1218 US Hwy. 271 N.) and can cast Election Day ballots locally at St. James Baptist Church (2800 W. Commerce). Smith County voters should learn more at smith-county.com.

Council members launch new terms

Gladewater City Council will welcome a new face to the dais Thursday evening as André Clay takes the Oath of Office.

Uncontested in his election bid for the Place 2 seat this Spring, Clay succeeds outgoing council member Michael Webber, who will be recognized at the beginning of the elected officials' regularly-scheduled May meeting.

Gladewater Mayor Brandy Flanagan-Shipp and councilman Stoney Stone will also take a new Oath of Office for their second terms in Places 1 and 3, respectively.

The updated slate of seven council members will then elect a new Mayor Pro Tem. Sonnie Anderson currently holds the title to run meetings in the absence of the mayor.

GPD data shows substantial increase in traffic stops as key stats stay in check

Gladewater Police Department is making progress, Chief Kyle Ready says simply.

By the numbers, the agency saw a 60 percent increase in traffic stops last year compared to 2024. They've more than doubled since 2023.

"We've seen a substantial increase in proactive patrolling engagement," he told Gladewater City Council members last month, sharing the department's 'Use of Force' and 'Racial Profile Reports' submitted to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

Technology, Ready added, is ensuring his personnel aren't saddled with so much paperwork it holds them back from the streets.

"That's all got to do with the mobile CAD system we have," he said. The Computer Aided Dispatch was long-in-coming, but worth it: "They're able to stay out in the field more and be seen."

Notably, 2025 saw zero Use of Force reports resulting from traffic stops and there were zero Racial Profiling Complaints filed with the state.

"We can't get better than zero," councilman William Blackmon praised.

There were two UOF reports in 2024 and 2023, one in 2022.

Proud of the null result, "We triple checked that," Ready replied, with Lt. Freddy Fitzgerald pulling every case file to ensure the numbers were accurate.

"That's pretty good for having that many more

traffic stops," said Gladewater City Manager Charlie Smith, a former police chief, himself.

"Very proud of that," Ready said.

Out of 2,685 total stops, 45 percent were on a city street compared to 49 percent on a U.S. Highway.

In the vast majority of stops (94 percent) the driver's race/ethnicity was not known to the officer prior to the interaction.

The majority (64 percent) were male drivers and 65.5 percent were White. A little more than 21 percent of those stopped were Black, and 11.3 percent were Hispanic.

A 'moving traffic violation' was responsible for 72 percent of the stops (versus a 'vehicle traffic violation').

Searches were conducted in 2.5 percent of cases. Contraband was discovered in 47 incidents – 35 cases were drugs, three were weapons, nine involved alcohol and eight were listed as 'other.'

Written warnings were issued 59 percent of the time (1,586 stops) compared to citations in 39.6 percent of cases. There were 17 incidents of written warnings and arrests; 17 were citation and arrest – 25 of those were due to outstanding warrants.

From the report, "Was physical force resulting in bodily injury used during the stop?"

No – there were zero reports and zero complaints of racial profiling.

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What's Happening?



Congratulations to Aleigha McGuyer and Gage Morgan being named Gladewater Rotary's Students of the Month.

Upshur County library activities

Unearth A Story is theme for the Upshur County Library's Summer Reading Program for children, which kicks off Friday, May 29, in Gilmer.

The event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the library, 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas 154).

The program is for "babies, kids and teens (through age 18)," says a flyer promoting the event.

Those signing up May 29 will receive a timed reading log. They can also get tickets to be entered in a raffle for a children's book, "How to Catch a Dinosaur" by Adam Wallace and Andy Elkerton.

The kickoff will also include mini-golf. The raffle winner will be announced that evening.

For more information, contact the library at 903-843-5001.

Gilmer Memorial Day event set

Vern Rennie, chief executive officer of Oceans Behavioral Hospital Longview, will be featured speaker for the city of Gilmer's annual Memorial Day ceremony Monday.

The event, co-sponsored by local branches of three national organizations for military veterans, is set from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Gilmer Civic Center on U.S. 271.

It is open to the public.

Thadd Barr, commander of Gilmer's American Legion post, said Rennie's hospital has a department which solely serves



Big congratulations to Gladewater's OAP cast and crew - recognized at last week's school board meeting. This talented group has advanced from District to Bi-District — an incredible accomplishment that reflects their hard work, dedication, and passion.

military veterans and their families' in-patient and outpatient mental health needs.

The hospital's website said it provides mental health treatment to the public for, among other illnesses, PTSD, bipolar disorder, and "experiencing acute behavioral or psychiatric symptoms" such as suicidal thoughts or "severe mood, anxiety or thought-related symptoms."

According to his biography, Rennie was a U.S. Army sergeant, combat veteran and Purple Heart recipient who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The biography says "Vern's commitment to health care was born from his own journey of recovery after being wounded in combat."

Sponsoring the ceremony are the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6715, American Legion R.E. (Peppy) Blount Post No. 320, and Disabled American Veterans chapter 204.

The Legion post's auxiliary, meantime, will be handing out Memorial Day "poppies" (pins) in remembrance of the war dead at Tractor Supply on U.S. 271 in Gilmer from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, said Legionnaire Shirley Parnell.

Anyone who wishes to donate for one can do so, and the proceeds will be used to help veterans, Barr said.

Rosedale Cemetery meeting set

The Rosedale Cemetery Association will have its annual business meeting at the Rosedale Cemetery Cottage, located at the corner of Hwy. 80 East and Loop 485 in Gladewater on Saturday, June 6 at 11 a.m.. For more information call 903-738-0631.

RAIN OR SHINE ... Gladewater

pauses for Memorial Day May 25

In November, Veterans Day recognizes all who serve in the military of the United States of America — next week, Memorial Day honors those in the Armed Forces who died in service of

their country and its people.

They made the ultimate sacrifice for their family, friends and neighbors, and we pause on the last Monday in May to remember them.

In this community, Gladewater Former Students' Association is spearheading the annual salute and celebration of the city's honored dead, set for 11 a.m. May 25 at the Gladewater War Veterans Memorial downtown at 119 E. Pacific Ave.

It's a rain or shine event, and with wet weather in the forecast, GFSA's Gary Cox has a back-up plan in place.

"It's supposed to be raining. If it's bad, we'll have it at the building," the event organizer said Monday, inviting all comers to 2509 Hendricks St. in case of lousy weather. An update will be posted ahead of time, and the contingency's set for the same 11 to noon timeframe. "We have to raise the flag by 12."

With GFSA Board Member Danny Sorrells serving as Master of Ceremonies, after his 'Welcome' the event will open with the National Anthem, led by Cox, and the Pledge of Allegiance and Opening Prayer from a local U.S. Army veteran, Maj. Robert Green. Gladewater Mayor Brandy Flanagan-Shipp will read the City of Gladewater's Memorial Day Proclamation with veteran and councilman Kevin Clark (a Gunnery Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps) following with comments on the holiday.

Monday's guest speaker will be council member Milton Anderson, who served as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army.

The annual service will include the playing of anthems for Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard before GFSA Board Member Peggy Whiteman reads the list of veterans' names added to the downtown Memorial Wall in 2026. Veteran Obie Starr (Staff Sgt., U.S. Army) will raise the flag, and the playing of "Taps" will conclude the service.

Per GFSA, "We honor the memory of service members and their families who have sacrificed to protect the freedom we enjoy."

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