

# Gladewater Mirror

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## Gladewater Class of 2026 to walk across stage Friday night



Kevin Mireles

### 2026 GHS Valedictorian

The Gladewater High School graduating Class of 2026 will receive their diplomas Friday, May 29, at 8 p.m. in Jack V. Murphy Stadium.

The Class of 2026 will be led by Valedictorian Kevin Mireles, Salutatorian is Shayla Lara, and Historian is Karyme Gomez.

Valedictorian Kevin Mireles is going to Texas A&M University in College Station to major in Mechanical Engineering. Kevin wants to be an engineer in a big city and make his mark in this world.

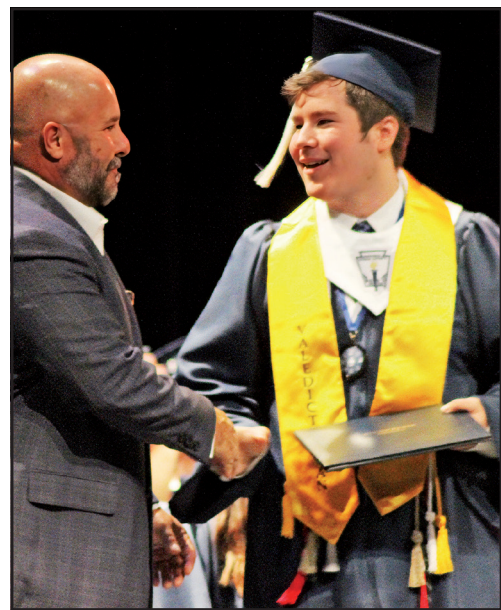
Salutatorian Shayla Lara plans to attend the University of Texas at San Antonio majoring in business studies. Ultimately, her goal is to secure a position as a financial analyst.

Historian Karyme Gomez plans to attend TJC to continue education earning an associates of Applied Sciences to be a Radiologic Technician. Her long range goals are to achieve a successful career, continue learning and growing as a person, and to make a positive impact on others through her work and accomplishments.



White Oak and Union Grove graduates celebrated last week as each school's grads walked across their respective stages to accept their diplomas. White Oak High School Valedictorian Samantha Crum and Union Grove High School's Valedictorian Parker William Haley led their fellow 2026 graduates to their next step in life. Congratulations to all!

Photos by James Draper and Mike Peery



Gladewater Police Chief Kyle Ready congratulates 2026 GPD Officer of the Year Nicole Cowan May 21.

Photos by James Draper

## GPD honors officer's rise, animal control's compassion

By James Draper

Gladewater Police Department recognized its Officer and Citizen of the Year May 21, spotlighting Ofc. Nicole Cowan alongside Animal Control Officer Shelly Godwin.

Both women were featured early in Gladewater City Council's monthly meeting Thursday evening by GPD Chief Kyle Ready as Lt. Mike Baggett introduced the two honorees.

According to Baggett, "Officer Cowan first joined the Gladewater Police Department in 2023, serving the community as a telecommunicator / dispatcher. In this vital role, she acted as the first line of contact for citizens in need, managing emergency communications with professionalism and composure."

Driven to serve the community in a new capacity, Baggett noted, Cowan attended Tyler Junior College Police Academy during her tenure with GPD. Upon graduation, she completed the local agency's Field Training Officer Program, took the oath of office as a licensed police officer and hit the streets.

"Officer Cowan has consistently demonstrated an exemplary work ethic," Baggett added. "She has proven herself to be a proactive officer who is always up for a challenge, eager to learn, and continuously willing to do whatever it takes to improve."

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Gladewater Animal Control Officer Shelly Godwin accepts Gladewater Police Department's 2026 Civilian of the Year Award from GPD Chief Kyle Ready May 21.

## Local man indicted on assault/family violence charge

By Phillip Williams

The Upshur County Grand Jury returned 28 indictments, eight of them sealed, May 14 in Gilmer, said District Attorney Barry Clark Wallace.

Seven of the 28 were for evading arrest/detention with vehicle, while six were for either possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) or possessing it with intent to deliver, Wallace's office said.

Defendants, charges, and bond information in the open indictments were as follows, Wallace's office announced:

Marquiza Trevon Graham, 22, of Gladewater, assault/family violence-occlusion with previous conviction Feb. 18. He remained in county jail under \$50,000 bond.

James Atchley Young, 49, of Gilmer, was charged in a single indictment with eight counts of sexual assault of a child, and one count of indecency with a child.

He is accused of committing the offenses Sept. 1, 2022, but Wallace's office shows he was arrested April 16 of this year. Although he posted \$200,000 bond, he remained in county jail May 14 on additional indictment warrants under \$1.35 million bond.

Maurice Moore, 35, of Gilmer, possession of controlled substance with intent to deliver (methamphetamine) last Nov. 18. He was freed on \$50,000 bond.

Cameron Wayne Jerden, 24, of Gilmer, was separately indicted on charges of possession of controlled substance (psilocybin) and possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine), both on March 1.

He remained jailed under bonds of \$25,000 on the psilocybin charge, \$10,000 on the methamphetamine charge.

Jeffery Raymond May, 44, of Jefferson, online solicitation of a minor last June 19. He was freed on \$60,000 bond.

Kamaren Kade Thomas, 23, of Texarkana, evading arrest/detention with vehicle last Oct. 5. He was released on \$5,000 bond.

Bruce Franklin Stevens, 51, of Gilmer, evading arrest/detention with vehicle last Oct. 21. He was freed on \$10,000 bond.

Billy Don Pirtle, 59, of Diana, evading arrest/detention with vehicle last Dec. 8. He was released on \$25,000 bond.

Brendan Slade Hanshaw, 24, of Gilmer, evading arrest/detention with vehicle on Feb. 19, 2025. He also was released on \$25,000 bond.

Brody Lee Rider, 17, of Gilmer, evading arrest/detention with vehicle last Dec. 30. He was freed on \$10,000 bond.

Sean Joseph Ecret, 38, of Gilmer, injury to a child on March 24. He remained jailed on a motion to revoke his probation on another charge.

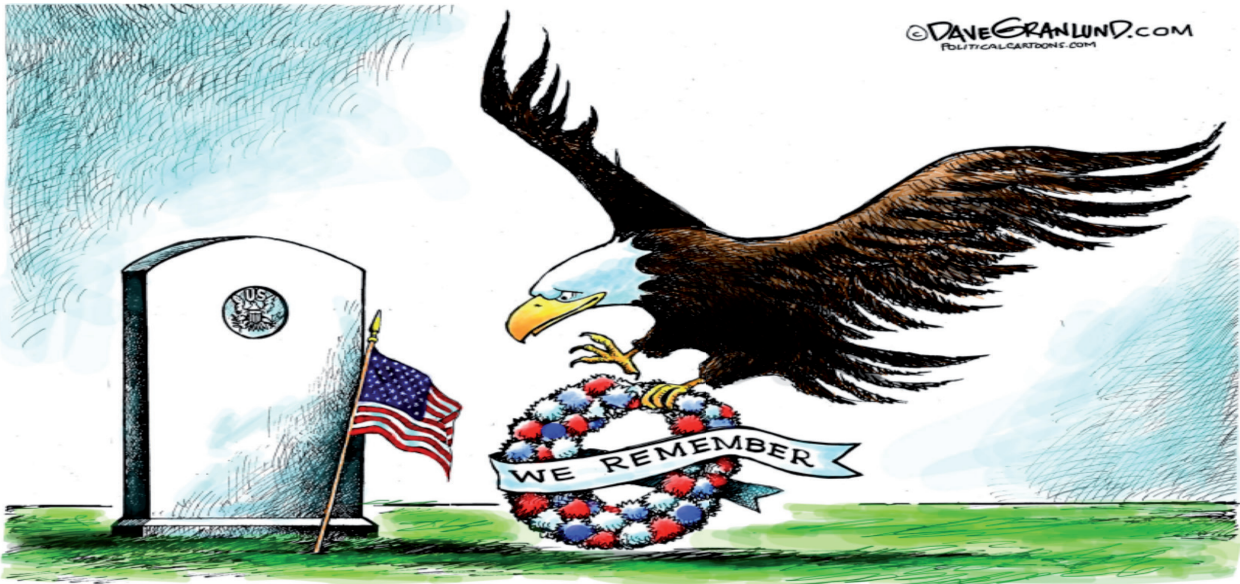
Ashley Nicole Leach, 51, of Big Sandy, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on April 19. She was released on \$250,000 bond.

Tiffany Jo Green, 38, of White Oak, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on March 2. She remained jailed under \$10,000 bond.

Continued on Page 3

# OPINION/COMMENTARY

**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



## State's wind projects at a standstill

Dozens of Texas wind projects have been halted because the Department of Defense has not approved the federal permits required for them to move forward, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Data from the American Clean Power Association indicate that the state has 54 wind projects stalled as part of a nationwide delay affecting 165 onshore wind projects.

President Donald Trump has long opposed wind power. Energy experts such as Environment Texas Executive Director Luke Metzger say the administration is using the regulations, such as ensuring a wind project would not affect military airspace, as an attack on renewable power.

"It's hard to see this as anything other than an effort to slow or stop wind power regardless of the consequences for consumers, the environment and grid reliability," Metzger said.

In a statement, a defense department official said DOD is still evaluating the projects.

The department's evaluation of wind turbines "is inherently complex and time-consuming because it involves balancing two critical, and sometimes competing, interests: developing energy sources while ensuring military operations and readiness are not degraded or impaired to the extent an unacceptable risk to national security is created," the official said.

## R&D plays vital role in economy

Texas is one of the top five states contributing to research and development, according to a recent report from the state comptroller's office.

The federal Bureau of Economic Analysis estimates R&D's contribution to gross domestic product, "after accounting for the resources used to produce goods and services, employment and compensation from 2012 to 2023."

The R&D value added by Texas businesses reached \$29.2 billion in 2023, a 131% increase from 2012. Further, R&D in the state supplied nearly 195,000 jobs and \$30.1 billion in wages, salaries and benefits in 2023.

Texas has 15 Tier 1 colleges and universities, the most in any state. In 2024, more than 11,800 patents were issued in Texas, the second highest in the country, after California.

"When investments are made in research, the returns multiply — strengthening our competitiveness, securing our future and improving the lives of all Texans," said Fernanda Leite, interim vice president for research at UT-Austin.

## 2026 of West Nile virus reported

The year's first case of West Nile virus has been reported in a Harris County resident, the Texas Department of State Health Services reported. The virus is transmitted through the bite of infected mosquitoes, though 80% of people infected with West Nile never experience symptoms.

"West Nile and other mosquito-borne illnesses are a fact of life in Texas in the warmer months, and all Texans should take precautions against mosquito bites to stay safe and healthy," said DSHS Commissioner Jennifer A. Shuford. She advised removing standing water from homes and yards, such as in buckets, old tires and other items.

The symptoms experienced by the unlucky 20% include fever, headache, nausea, muscle and joint aches, and fatigue. Though rare, West Nile virus can be fatal.

In the past five years, there have been 976 cases of West Nile in Texas, according to DSHS, with 106 deaths during that period.

## Franklin Mountains State Park grows by 1,000 acres

Franklin Mountains State Park, 15 minutes from El Paso, is now 1,054 acres larger to the east as the result of a new land acquisition, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department reported.

"I am excited about this acquisition," said Superintendent Cesar Mendez, "which extends the buffer zone all the way to Martin Luther King Boulevard, adding some lower elevation and flatter land to Franklin Mountains State Park and securing access points (trailheads)."

With 28,000 acres — or 43 square miles — the park is one of the largest urban wilderness parks in the world. It has more than 120 miles of trail and is a popular site with birders.



**The Best of Suzanne Bardwell**



Maybe I shouldn't have done that. It was the first time in 30 years he had really shared his memories. Some were so dark they took my breath and my curiosity away.

His wife wasn't there. But a year later when we got together for dinner she leaned into me and said that my questions and his willingness to answer opened the floodgates allowing for some healing.

I hope so. I dearly hope so.

I think it is pretty heroic to serve period. Anywhere. At anytime.

I once had a good looking senior at White Oak who was a bit of a 'lost boy'. He joined the Marines and became more than a man. His mom was convinced he was stationed on a ship in the Mediterranean and was safe. When he eventually came to see me in his dress uniform and I saw the three layers of combat ribbons and medals I knew that he hadn't been on any ship, at least not for very long. His eyes told the tale as well as the multitude of medals.

The world today seems to do a much better job of respecting our military personnel than when I was growing up. One of my dear friends who is a Vietnam vet told me of being spit upon and called a 'baby killer' when he came back home. He arrived in Vietnam in the middle of a fire fight. He was a kid. He was scared. He survived. He came home to jeers and disrespect. He spent the rest of his working life serving the children of a local school district. I am proud to call him my friend.

We live in a very dangerous world. We now have a professional military where individuals choose to serve. Some choose to die. For their buddies, for their beliefs, for people they have little in common with. Some don't get to choose at all.

We have a choice. We have the opportunity to choose how we serve the families of the fallen and those who have served. We must remember to do more than respect those who serve. We must ensure that our military personnel have the health care, resources and employment they need once their job of protecting American interests is ended.

We have an obligation to make sure this happens. It should be our privilege.

## Our choice...

I wonder if someone put a flag on my Daddy's grave in Corsicana on Memorial Day. I wonder how many parents, wives and children observed Memorial Day in a way I will never be able to comprehend. A day that is filled with more heartache than anything else.

My Dad came back from serving in World War II to build a life, raise a family and enlarge a ranch.

He came back.

Dad lived his life shaped by the experiences of war which he never shared except to cry when he remembered a lost friend or to tell a funny story.

Many who serve in combat bear a burden of silence.

That silence can sometimes strangle their lives.

Jim and I have a dear friend who was what was called a 'tunnel rat' during the Vietnam War. The North Vietnamese army built mazes of tunnels through which they moved soldiers, supplies and subversives. As our friend explained, "sometimes we had to clean them out."

Can you imagine going into a small dark hole prepared for hand-to-hand combat not knowing what you are going to encounter? In the dark. Alone.

One long night of a press reception we visited. He enjoyed a bottle of wine as we talked. I, always curious, always interested, asked questions about his war years.

## Remember their names...



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**THE IMPORTANCE OF HOPE**

Let's think for a few minutes about the importance of hope in one's life. Hope for the future is something tremendously important to everyone. No matter how bad things get, if we can hope for something better, at least we've got that to hold on to.

That's why someone said: "None are completely wretched but those who are without hope." Someone else said: "Take from a man his wealth, and you hinder him, take from him his purpose, and you slow him down. But take from man his hope, and you stop him. He can go on without wealth, and even without purpose, for a while. But he will not go on without hope!" Considering the importance of hope, another said: "There is no medicine like hope, no incentive so great, no tonic so powerful as expectation of something better tomorrow." I suppose everybody would agree with those statements about the importance of hope. We all realize how important hope is to our lives.

Now, consider how grim and sobering, what the Bible says about hell really is. You see, hell is a hopeless place! The Bible's description of hell leaves no room for second chances. Hell is not a place of "beginning again!" On the contrary, when Jesus spoke about hell, He described it as "everlasting punishment." Over the gateway to hell, a poet once pictured the words: "Abandon all hope ye who enter here!"

Dear friend, if you ignore Christ and His gospel, by refusing to believe Christ is the Son of God and refusing to repent of your sins, and confess Christ, and be baptized for the remission of your sins, (See Acts 8: 37; Acts 2: 38), if you are lost in hell, you will be absolutely, totally and permanently without hope, and that might be the most terrible curse of hell. I want to remind you that no sacrifice to escape hell is too great. But the good news is that no one has to go to hell. Obey God today, and serve him to the best of your ability, and enjoy the hope of eternal life with Him. As Proverbs truly says, "The hope of the godly result in happiness, but the expectations of the wicked are all in vain" (Prov. 10: 28). Think on these things.

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

# Local man indicted on assault/family violence charge

**Continued from Page 1**

Samantha Barnett Ferguson, 26, of Gilmer, possession of controlled substance (fentanyl) on March 3. She was released on \$10,000 bond.

James Alfred Perkins Jr., 54, of Mt. Pleasant, possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine) on Feb. 27. He remained jailed under \$10,000 bond.

Misti Shane Anderson, 50, of Big Sandy, possession of controlled substance (amphetamine) last Oct. 4. She was freed on

\$5,000 bond.

Dylan Ray Foutch, 33, of Gilmer, aggravated assault with deadly weapon on March 5. He remained jailed under \$75,000 bond.

Jeremiah Gabriel Sneed, 20, of Big Sandy, injury to elderly individual on April 19. He remained jailed under \$5,000 bond.

Jalynn Marie Thomas, 23, of Longview, evading arrest/detention with vehicle on Jan. 1. She also remained jailed under \$15,000 bond.

Identity of anyone charged in the sealed indictments wasn't released because no arrest had been made in those case, said Wallace.

They included two for injury to a child, and one each for possession of child pornography/ depiction of sexual assault of a child, sexual assault of a child, burglary of habitation, evading arrest/detention with vehicle, theft of property of \$2,500 or more with previous conviction, and possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine).

## GLADEWATER POLICE/FIRE ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	Time	Agency	Call Type	Address
05/17/2026	00:04:45	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	520 ANDERSON LANE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 00:05:50				
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 01:00:00				
05/17/2026	01:38:07	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	WELFARE CHECK	2502 W UPSHUR AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 01:43:23				
05/17/2026	02:03:18		DISORDERLY CONDUCT	0 GEORGE RICHEY
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 03:17:50				
05/17/2026	03:44:12	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	COLLEGE/BROADWAY
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 03:45:56				
05/17/2026	04:28:18	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	TRUMAN SMITH
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 04:29:43				
05/17/2026	05:25:42	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER/IMPIRE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 05:26:36				
05/17/2026	09:45:12		MISCELLANEOUS	2200 W UPSHUR AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 09:45:32				
05/17/2026	10:35:16	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	300 JORDAN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 10:35:36				
05/17/2026	12:20:12	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 11779 UNION GROVE ROAD
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 12:20:35				
05/17/2026	12:53:31	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	LAKE GLADEWATER
Sent To Dispatch- 05/17/2026 22:58:13				
05/18/2026	03:13:01	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	502 S MAIN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 03:15:18				
05/18/2026	05:13:25	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	BURGLARY	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 805 N TENNERY
Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 05:15:46				
05/18/2026	07:12:27		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 07:13:41				
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 08:21:38				
05/18/2026	08:24:57		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	401 N CENTER ST CROLEY FUNERAL HOME
Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 08:26:02				
05/18/2026	09:08:39		ANIMAL COMPLAINT	421 W GAY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 09:10:31				
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 09:25:12				
05/18/2026	10:06:18	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	601 W UPSHUR FAMILY DOLLAR
Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 10:06:52				
05/18/2026	12:30:32	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	LOOP 485 AND HWY 80
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05/18/2026	12:46:30	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	1100 NORTH STREET
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 13:09:01				
05/18/2026	13:16:03	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	ACCIDENT	HWY 80 IN FRONT OF STARBUCKS
Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 13:18:22				
05/18/2026	14:33:40	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	1010 RICHEY DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 14:35:24				
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 15:03:58				
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 18:37:56				
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05/18/2026	18:45:28	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	THEFT	2203 PINECREST
* Sent To Dispatch- 05/18/2026 18:47:17				
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/19/2026 09:28:30				
05/19/2026	09:50:56	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	9 MONTE CARLO
Sent To Dispatch- 05/19/2026 09:53:05				

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Sent To Dispatch- 05/19/2026 22:18:43				
05/19/2026	22:42:51	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	1528 VESTA AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 05/19/2026 22:43:45				
05/19/2026	23:52:33	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	BURGLARY	511 WOOD STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 05/19/2026 23:53:50				
05/20/2026	21:06:21	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	S MAIN/MLK
Sent To Dispatch- 05/20/2026 21:08:14				
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/20/2026 21:23:30				
05/20/2026	22:18:38	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	TENERY/GAY
Sent To Dispatch- 05/20/2026 22:18:55				
05/20/2026	22:45:15	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	S TYLER/CL
Sent To Dispatch- 05/20/2026 22:45:49				
05/20/2026	22:46:53	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	N MAIN/MELBA
Sent To Dispatch- 05/20/2026 22:47:38				
05/20/2026	23:11:06	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	365 E PACIFIC AVENUE
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Sent To Dispatch- 05/22/2026 00:18:49				
05/22/2026	00:55:32	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	206 S CULVER STREET
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05/22/2026	11:46:29	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	THEFT	700 MELBA AVE
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05/22/2026	12:05:05		MISCELLANEOUS	2810 RAMPY
Sent To Dispatch- 05/22/2026 12:09:22				
05/22/2026	12:16:48	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	MELBA AND TENERY

## GPD Arrest Report

Date	Arrestee Name	Arrest Address	Charges
5/18/2026	MILLER, YONDERIUS SHUNTRELL	904 BROADWAY GLADEWATER, TENNESSEE 75647	WARRANT- LOCAL
			WARRANT- LOCAL
			WARRANT- LOCAL
			WARRANT- OTHER AGENCY (MIS
5/21/2026	COOK, JAXXON SCOTT	407 MELBA AVENUE GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED
5/21/2026	TAYLOR, CAJAY MARJAY	400 MELBA AVENUE GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	PUBLIC INTOXICATION
5/23/2026	AREVALO, MELISSA LYNN	2811 BERNICE STREET GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	FAIL ID INTENT REFUSE GIVE AI INFO IAT
			COLLISION INVOLVING DAMAGE VEHICLE>= \$200

## WOPD Police Report

For the reporting period of May 18th through May 24th, 2026, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to or initiated 162 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were: Burglar Alarms, Advice Calls, Theft, Traffic Issues (motorist assists, traffic control, reckless drivers, etc.), and Community Relations (welfare checks, civil issues, violation home security checks, etc.).

One traffic collision was investigated during this reporting period. No injuries were reported.

No arrests were made during this reporting period.

Three separate and unrelated cases were presented to the Gregg County District Attorney during this reporting period. Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Intoxicated with an Open Alcohol Container,

### TDEM Recognizes 2026 Hurricane Preparedness Week in Texas

AUSTIN - The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) this week is raising awareness about the dangers of hurricanes, and the precautions Texans can take as hurricane season approaches. Governor Greg Abbott has proclaimed May 25-30, 2026, as Hurricane Preparedness Week in Texas. "As hurricane season approaches our state, it is crucial for all Texans to be prepared for the potential devastation that these powerful storms can bring," said Governor Abbott.

"This Hurricane Preparedness Week, Texans are strongly encouraged to learn about appropriate safety measures to protect themselves and their loved ones from destructive hurricane forces. Together, we can ensure the safety of one another and be prepared for the dangers that could come to our shores."

In support of hurricane preparedness efforts in the state, TDEM held its annual hurricane exercise, which included partners from all levels of government. TDEM has also reviewed the appropriate emergency management planning documents to ensure they are updated to meet community needs in the event of a hurricane.

"Hurricane preparedness begins long before a storm reaches Texas shores," said Texas Emergency Management Chief Nim Kidd. "From the Gulf Coast to inland communities, we are strongest when we are ready for the next big storm. I urge all Texans to plan and prepare today so our communities are better positioned to protect life and property when a hurricane threatens our state." The 2026 Atlantic Hurricane Season runs June 1- November 30, 2026. Texans can visit the Texas Hurricane Center for information on proactive steps to take before, during, and after a hurricane.

Texans are also reminded to stay informed of weather outlooks, follow directions from local officials, make an emergency plan, review hurricane evacuation routes, build a kit containing emergency supplies, and consider reviewing flood risk and insurance coverage.

Texans can also visit [TexasReady.gov](http://TexasReady.gov) for additional hurricane safety tips. and [tdem.texas.gov/prepare](http://tdem.texas.gov/prepare) for preparedness information.

### 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.

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

1 TXism for "coffee"

5 TXism: "camps out in the \_\_\_ corner" (religious)

6 TX Nolan Ryan's rookie \_\_\_ is worth big bucks today

7 Amarillo AM & FM

8 TXism: "he's \_\_\_ horse flesh"

17 Jon \_\_\_ Jovi performed at TX Willie's "Farm Aid II"

18 firm determination

21 actress Taylor of Texas epic film "Giant" (init.)

22 TXism: "\_\_\_ sleeping dog lie"

23 sophisticated folks drink with \_\_\_ up"

24 "\_\_\_ is it?" (distance?)

29 TX Audie was the \_\_\_ decorated soldier of WW II

30 "three," south of the border

31 league for the Astros and the Rangers (abbr.)

32 longtime Six Flags ride: "\_\_\_ Cave" (1964-1991)

34 a clairvoyant

35 the host ain't providing beverages (abbr.)

36 sweetened?

37 TXism: "hog \_\_\_" (helpless)

38 TXism: "kids should be \_\_\_ and not heard"

39 TXism: "\_\_\_ up like a boarding-house pie"

40 Nocona Boots slogan: "\_\_\_ rodeo!"

41 looks after

42 TXism: "thick \_\_\_ dog's back"

44 songbird

45 pig's "casa"

46 Tex Ritter sang title song for "High \_\_\_"

47 under the Elm, e.g.

48 doubters

50 least difficult

51 TXism: "gonna turn over all the cow patties in Texas"

52 "to \_\_\_ is human"

53 road curve

**DOWN**

1 notorious bare-handed wolf hunter from Sherman area

2 TXism: "would gag \_\_\_" (disgusting)

3 seat of Wilbarger County

4 Texas retailer "Sears Roebuck \_\_\_"

9 code at Texas schools

10 James Dean's role in Texas film "Giant": \_\_\_ Rink

11 final flag over Texas (abbr.)

12 TXism: "it'll \_\_\_ in a pinch"

13 stared angrily this Joseph invented an ice cream soda in Denison

15 elevator man

16 \$5 bill, slangily

19 approved

20 women's stockings

22 TX Kristofferson sang Why Me \_\_\_

24 noted painter of Texas history: \_\_\_ McArdle

25 this Otto directed TX Tierney in "Laura" (init.)

26 Cherokee actor, Studi

27 Capt. A. \_\_\_ drilled Spindletop

28 late TX Patrick Swayze's birth month

29 TXism: "Sunday go to \_\_\_ clothes"

30 golf pegs

33 Plainview FM

34 TXism: "\_\_\_ spell"

35 late violin-playing comedian, Jack

37 birth state of Alamo hero, Davy Crockett

38 watermelon spitters

40 TXism: "never \_\_\_ gift horse in the mouth"

41 land or leaflet

43 TX Willie 1980 film: "Honeysuckle \_\_\_"

44 small, short-handled broom

47 male cattle that are raised for beef

49 Galveston sights

See Answers on this page.

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# Sports roundup

## Pineywoods Timberhogs open season

By Tyler Sutton

Mother nature won the night on Opening night for the Pineywoods Timberhogs opened up their 3<sup>rd</sup> season at Roughneck park in White Oak against one of the newest teams in the Mid American league in the Fort Scott Dragons.

The game got to the top of the 4<sup>th</sup> when the rains finally came and halted it till the next day with the Dragons leading 3-0. When the action picked back up, Fort Scott added on and lead 8-0 headed to the bottom of the 6<sup>th</sup> inning when shortstop Chandler Guilroy scored White Oak's loan run on a passed ball in a 10-1 loss. David Stich took the loss on the mound where he went 3 innings giving up 3 runs ( all unearned ) with seven strikeouts. 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman Cedric Ross had two of the Timberhogs 4 hits.

After a short break game two got underway ( A 7 inning game under league rules for double headers ) it was the Timberhogs jumping out to a early lead when 1<sup>st</sup> baseman Judge Boudreaux crushed a two run homer to make it 2-0 White Oak. But the Dragons answered with a 5 run top of the second to take a 5-2 lead. But the Timberhogs again fought back as Guilroy scored on a rbi ground out, 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman Logan Matthews smacked a 2 run rbi single to make it a 5-4 game and Boudreaux's sac fly tied it at 5 after two innings. Fort Scott went back in front 6-5 in the 4<sup>th</sup> but once again the timberhogs answered as Boudreaux crushed his second homer of the game which was followed up by right fielder Shemaar Stapleton going back to back to give White Oak a 7-6 lead. But a three run top of the 6<sup>th</sup> inning put the Dragons back in front 9-7. They would add another insurance run in the 7<sup>th</sup> on a passed ball to make it 10-7. The

Timberhogs had one last shot in the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup> as catcher Brance Farrell hit a bomb to center to make it 10-8 and a run scored on a bases loaded walk but White Oak couldnt get the tying run across and fell 10-9. Nick Rodriguez started for the Timberhogs and went 3 innings giving up 5 runs ( all earned ) with 6 walks and 3 strikeouts.

David Jimerson of Henderson took the loss in relief giving up 3 runs in 1 inning of relief. The Dragons improve to 2-0, Timberhogs drop to 0-2.

Game 3 began with another early start by the Dragons jumped out to a 2-0 lead after half a inning.

But the Timberhogs cut the lead in half in the bottom of the 2<sup>nd</sup> as Guilroy drove home a run on a rbi groundout. It was 6-1 Fort Scott heading into the bottom of the 6<sup>th</sup> inning when 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman Charles Tieucl drove in a run with a rbi groundout to make it 6-2. In the bottom of the 8<sup>th</sup> trailing 7-2, Farrell crushed a solo shot to make it 7-3 followed by a Guilroy rbi single to make it 7-4.

But that was as close as the Timberhogs fell 7-4. Caden Bugarke took the loss on the mound for White Oak going 3 innings giving up 3 earned runs with five walks and four strikeouts. The loss drops the Timberhogs to 0-3. The series wrapped up with one final game and a football game on the baseball diamond broke out as the Dragons finished off the four game sweep with a 24-14 win. Fort Scott lead 5-1 headed to the bottom of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning when the Timberhogs offense came alive. Tessei Jinno ripped a rbi single to make it a 5-2 game. Matthews then smacked a 3 run single to tie the game at 5. After Dragons retook a 6-5 lead, White Oak took the lead for the first time Aramis Cruz crushed a 2 run homer to make it 7-6 Timberhogs. Mallik Berren would follow that up with a rbi double to make it 8-6. But a long top of the sixth saw Fort Scott plate six runs to go back in front 13-8. And it was all Dragons after that as they played 11 runs over the last 2 innings. Reyil Escobedo took the loss for White Oak going 3 innings giving up four earned runs with 1 walk. The Timberhogs drop to 0-4 and will hit the road for the next 9 games starting with their first ever trip to Bryan to take on the Bryan Yard Dogs.

**2025-26 FOOTBALL**

**REGIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR HONOREES**

**REGIONAL HEAD COACH OF THE YEAR**

**REGION 1**

1A -- Louis Kelley Jr., Boys Ranch HS

2A -- Jeff Smith, West Texas HS

3A -- Clay White, Idalou HS

4A -- Joe Sexton, Lubbock-Cooper Liberty HS

5A -- Eric Mims, Amarillo Palo Duro HS

**REGION 2**

6A -- Mark Smith, San Angelo Central HS

**REGION 3**

1A -- Josh Bragdon, Union Hill HS

3A -- Jordan Gill, Gunter HS

5A -- Marvin Sedberry Jr., Terrell HS

**REGION 4**

1A -- Dalton DeGraffenreid, Klondike HS

4A -- Bryan Hill, Greenwood HS

**REGION 5**

4A -- Hiawatha Hickman, West Orange Stark HS

6A -- Kyle Coats, College Park HS

**REGION 6**

2A -- Tony Barnes, San Augustine HS

3A -- Jermaine Lewis, Gladewater HS

4A -- Clint Fuller, Kilgore HS

**REGION 7**

3A -- Michael Enriquez, Karnes City HS

4A -- Michael Troutman, Sinton HS

5A -- Walter Patterson, McAllen Memorial HS

**REGION 8**

3A -- Tate DeMasco, Ingram HS

4A -- Ricky Beaty, Salado HS

**REGIONAL ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR**

**REGION 1**

2A -- Trever Couch, West Texas HS

4A -- Duane Tolver, Lubbock-Cooper Liberty HS

**REGION 2**

2A -- Robert Hinton, Seymour HS

4A -- August Dobraski, Stephenville HS

**REGION 3**

4A -- Jonathan Darby, Pleasant Grove HS

6A -- Kerry Sweeney, DeSoto HS

**REGION 5**

4A -- Justin Trahan, West Orange Stark HS

5A -- Ryan Montalvo, Victoria West HS

6A -- Josh Hooten, College Park HS

**REGION 6**

3A -- Jordan Blackmon, Troup HS

5A -- Blaine Crouse, Midlothian Heritage HS

6A -- Oscar Wilson, Longview HS

**REGION 7**

4A -- Candelario Rivera, Sinton HS

5A -- Daniel Infante, Sharyland HS

**REGION 8**

3A -- Victor Sierra, Marion HS

4A -- Nick Zajcek, Salado HS

6A -- Michael Buro, SA Johnson HS

2026 SCHEDULE						
MAY / JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
FTS		@BRY	@BRY	@BRY	@BMT	@BMT
24	25		27	28	29	30
@BMT		@MER	@MER	FTS	FTS	FTS
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
FTS		BRY	BRY	BRY	NAC	NAC
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
NAC		@FTS	@FTS	MER	MER	MER
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
MER		BMT	BMT	BMT	@MER	@MER
28	29	30				
@MER		@FTS				
July / August						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
@FTS	@FTS	@BMT	@BMT			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
@BMT	@NAC	@NAC	@NAC	BRY	BRY	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
BRY	@MER	@MER	@MER	NAC	NAC	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
NAC	BMT	BMT	BMT	FTS	FTS	
29	30			1	2	3
FTS	@NAC	@NAC	@NAC	PLAYOFFS	PLAYOFFS	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
PLAYOFFS	HOME	ROAD	OFF	PLAYOFFS		

## Organizers need more boats for latest special needs fishing event Saturday

Joey Walker's recruiting more captains and boats ahead of Saturday's third annual 'Catch A Special Thrill' outing (aka C.A.S.T. for Kids) on Lake Gladewater.

The event's geared for children and adults with special needs, and the volunteer organizers are making sure all their ducks are in a row before they launch early May 30.

"We've got one pontoon boat, we definitely could use another one if possible," Walker said Monday.

Open to all ages and tailored for the special needs community,

the aim is to ensure medically-fragile and special abilities children, teens and older individuals a great experience on the water courtesy of generous sponsors in the nationwide effort.

The outing runs 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and no-cost registration gets a shirt, hat, rod and reel, tackle, plaque, a medal and lunch for every participant. To volunteer a boat (or boater) contact Walker as soon as possible at 903-241-3882 or reach out to Patty Walker at 903-635-2899. Learn more about the event, register a participant or volunteer a boat by logging on to [castforkids.org/event/lakegladewater/](http://castforkids.org/event/lakegladewater/)

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**Pictures:** [DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com](http://DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com) or [EstateSales.Net](http://EstateSales.Net)  
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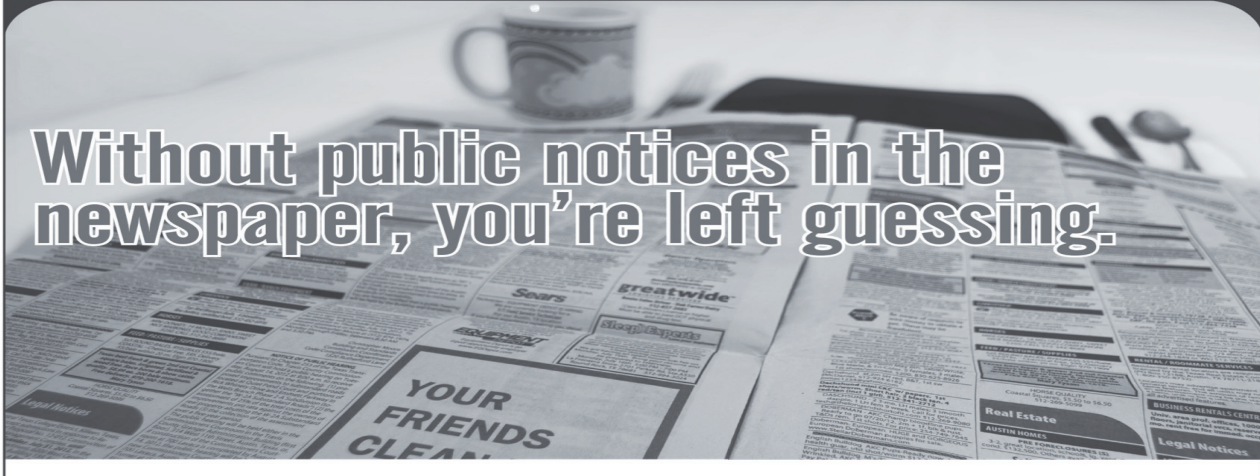
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RENEWAL**

**PERMIT NO. WQ0010433002**

**APPLICATION.** City of Gladewater, 519 East Broadway Avenue, Gladewater, Texas 75647, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0010433002 (EPA I.D. No. TX0022438) to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed an annual average flow of 1,400,000 gallons per day. The domestic wastewater treatment facility is located at 1205 South Roden Lane, in the city of Gladewater, in Gregg County, Texas 75647. The discharge route is from the plant site directly to Sabine River Above Toledo Bend Reservoir. TCEQ received this application on April 1, 2026. The permit application will be available for viewing and copying at Gladewater City Hall, front office, 519 East Broadway Avenue, Gladewater, in Gregg County, Texas prior to the date this notice is published in the newspaper. The application and associated notices are available electronically at the following webpage: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/pending-permits/tpdes-applications>.

This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.

<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-94.944444,32.520555&level=18>

**ADDITIONAL NOTICE.** TCEQ's Executive Director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After technical review of the application is complete, the Executive Director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. **Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list and to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the deadline for submitting public comments.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING.** You may submit public comments or request a public meeting on this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING.** After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a

response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments, and the Executive Director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

**TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period and, the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.**

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.**

**TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

**MAILING LIST.** If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE.** For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid). Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION.** All public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep). Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Gladewater at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Charles Smith, City Manager, at 903-746-0600.

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## GPD honors officer's rise, animal control's compassion

Continued from Page 1

GPD's Civilian of the Year Award honors a non-commissioned staff member for his or her dedication, compassion and work ethic. Godwin exemplifies going above and beyond to serve the community, Baggett said.

Coming on board with the city in September 2025, "Officer Godwin brings a wealth of expertise and a lifetime of dedication to her role. She started her career in animal welfare in 1994 in Marshall, Texas. Her extensive background includes serving as a director in the field for 14 years," Baggett noted. "Since joining the Gladewater Police Department, Godwin has made an unforgettable impact on both the department and the community. Her unmatched love for animals is evident in her daily operations.

"Godwin consistently goes the extra mile to rehabilitate, protect, and advocate for every single animal she encounters. She frequently works outside standard hours to coordinate with rescue networks and secure loving foster homes, ensuring vulnerable animals receive a second chance at a safe life."



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# What's Happening?



A woman died Monday morning after her vehicle apparently ran off the road and flipped on Hwy. 80 west of Cherry Road in Big Sandy. The vehicle came to a rest in the treeline nearby and caught fire shortly after 11 a.m. May 25. First responders from numerous agencies rushed to the scene, extinguishing the blaze and working to extricate the victim. Few details were available at press time Monday as the Texas Department of Public Safety's investigation continues. Gladewater Fire Chief Tim Basham confirmed the vehicle had just one occupant. In addition to DPS and GFD, Big Sandy Volunteer Fire Department, Pleasant Grove VFD and Pritchett VFD worked the scene alongside Gladewater Police, deputies from Upshur County Sheriff's Office and Christus EMS.

Photo by James Draper

## 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.

## Upshur Commissioners to meet

Upshur County Commissioners Court meets twice in Gilmer this week, in special session Thursday (May 28) and its regular semi-monthly meeting Friday.

The court meets at 9 a.m. Thursday to hear department heads concerning the county's forthcoming 2026-27 fiscal year budget, and possibly take action on that matter.

Commissioners convene again at 10 a.m. Friday to consider approving the annual distribution of "county available" funds among the nine school districts lying partly or wholly in the county. Both meetings are open to the public at the temporary county courthouse, 150 E. Jefferson on the downtown square's northeast corner.

The revenue for the schools comes from leasing out Upshur County-owned land in two West Texas counties, Baylor and Throckmorton. Each school district gets a pro rata share, based on the number of students it has who are Upshur County residents, and County Treasurer Brandy Vick recommends the total amount of revenue to be distributed.

Among other items on Friday's agenda is possible action on the departmental requests heard at the prior day's meeting, hearing any updates on the ongoing renovation of the 89-year-old county courthouse, and hearing County Road and Bridge Administrator Phil Stegall give an update on county-maintained roads in each precinct. The court is also scheduled to meet in closed session on certain aspects of the courthouse project, and on a fuel contract involving the Road and Bridge Department. By state law, however, any votes on those issues must be taken in public session.



**CLEAN SWEEP** – Longview Public Library Director Jennifer Eldridge awards three Gladewater High School students the first, second and third place honors in Gregg County's America 250 Art Contest alongside GHS Visual Arts Instructor Renee Ebeling and Principal Derrick Floyd. Out of 99 students competing countywide, Mckinley Holcomb's piece earned first, Victoria Flanagan secured second and Caidence Ware finished third, netting accolades and prizes. The artwork will be on display July 4 at Maude Cobb Convention & Activity Center.



Gladewater City Council member and U.S. Marine Corps veteran Kevin Clark offers comments on Memorial Day during the May 25 service at the War Veterans Memorial downtown. Councilman Milton Anderson, a veteran U.S. Army Staff Sergeant, followed as guest speaker at Gladewater Former Students' Association's annual remembrance. With a healthy turnout on the sunny Monday morning, the ceremony included patriotic music, service anthems and the annual reading of veterans' names added to the Armed Forces monument before raising of the flag and the playing of "Taps."



New Place 2 Gladewater City Councilman André Clay takes his first Oath of Office from Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Tim Bryan alongside family members May 21 in the council chambers at Gladewater City Hall.



Gladewater Mayor Brandy Flanagan-Shipp's family members join her for a second Oath of Office ceremony May 21 in the council chambers.



Gladewater City Councilman (Place 3) Stoney Stone takes the Oath of Office from Prec. 2 JP Tim Bryan May 21, supported by his wife, Michelle, as he begins a second term on the council dais.



Outgoing Place 2 Gladewater City Council member Michael Webber officially bids farewell to his colleagues on the dais May 21.

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