

Gladewater Mirror

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50¢

Round-Up's here, rockin' and rollin'

By James Draper

Rodeo's rough. The cowboys know it. The cowgirls know it. The horses and bulls know it, too.

For Don Gay, that's not a drawback. It's part of the draw. "It's the man-versus-beast synopsis," according to Gay, an eight-time PRCA World Champion bull rider and one of the sport's most familiar figures. "You can watch rodeo video if you want, but it's the cowboy matching his skills against the skills of these rodeo animal athletes, whether they're bovine or horses."

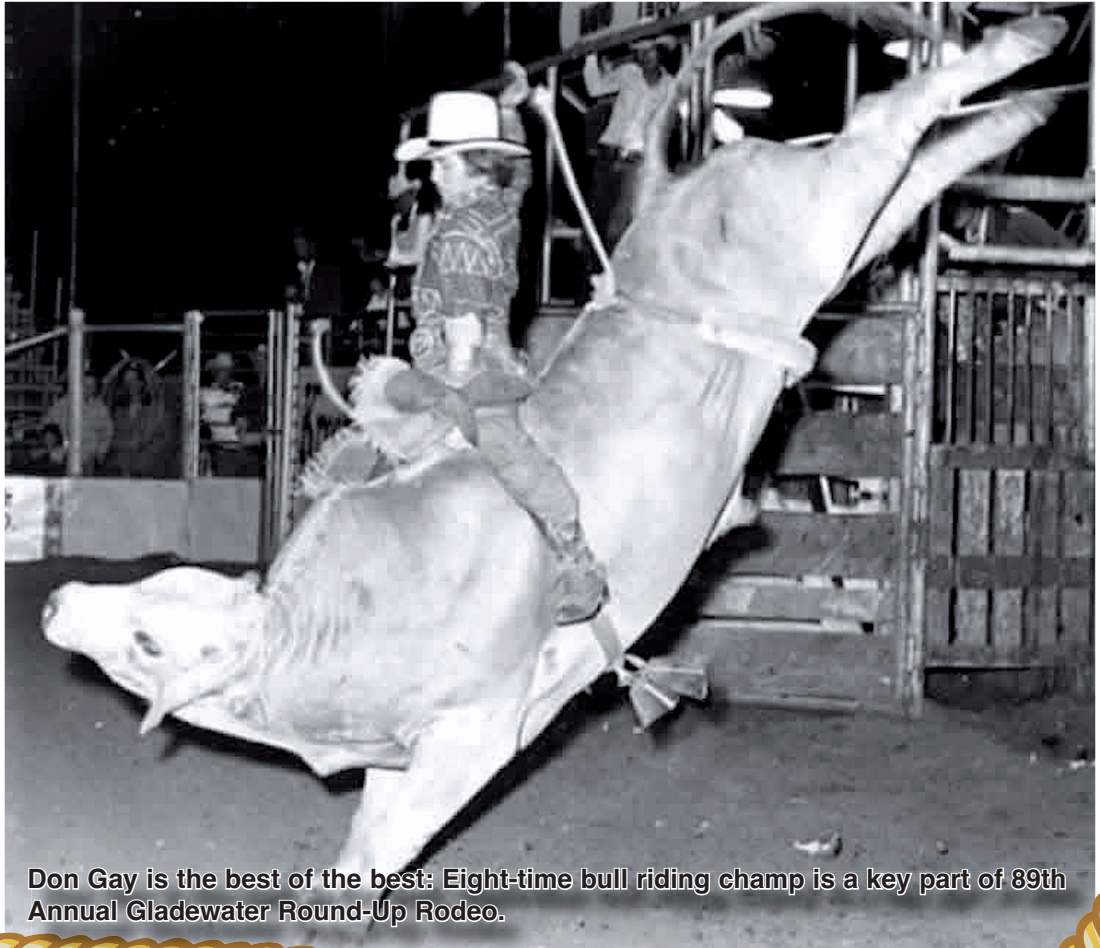
Enjoy the online clips, Gay says, but show up for the real thing at the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo Arena. The fun got started Tuesday with Slack 2026, and the action continues nightly through Saturday. Learn more at GladewaterRodeo.com

"There's nothing like being in person where you might get a little dirt kicked up into your lap, even up in the middle of the grandstands."

This week marks the 89th year for the Gladewater Round-Up, a stout stretch of tradition and hard work with everything that makes rodeo exciting – the color, the pageantry, the legacy.

"What I like best about it, this is the 89th year that volunteers in the town of Gladewater have put up a good

Continued on Page 8



Don Gay is the best of the best: Eight-time bull riding champ is a key part of 89th Annual Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo.



Game Warden: *Stay safe on the water this summer*

Todd Long worries about sounding like a broken record. If experience has taught the Texas Parks & Wildlife Game Warden anything, though, it's that folks of all ages need regular reminders when it comes to lake safety.

"Watch those kids closely, avoid alcohol, take swimming lessons, slow down, prepare for the crowds, watch the weather, have a float plan," he says, rattling off a quick list of the Dos and Don'ts of staying safe on the water. "I say it 10 times a day, every day, all year."

"Sadly, we're still having these mishaps, boat accidents and drownings. It's especially troubling when it's a younger person. It can be so easily avoided."

It starts with education.

"Boater education, first and foremost, depending on their age. It's state-mandated," Long adds, for more than three decades now. Get into a boater education class ASAP, even if it's not the first: "We see as many adults needing the class as we do kiddoes."

Whenever the outing and wherever the body of water: Slow



down.

"Just slow down. Use common sense," Long says. "A lot of these boaters are kiddoes. It might be their first time on a personal water craft or driving a boat."

Get educated, Long repeated, pointing all ages to Boat-Ed.

com to get an Official Texas Boating Certificate Online.

Lake Gladewater has its own set of boating regulations – many of the guidelines are common across the area and state, but some are unique to the local landmark.

There's a restriction of commercial activity, for example, limiting it what's officially designated by City of Gladewater.

Likewise, "No person shall operate a wakeboard boat, wake surfing boat, or otherwise employ a wake-enhancing device to create large wakes on waters within the corporate limits of the City where the City has posted that such operation is prohibited."

There are specific ski regulations, limiting it to sunup to sundown seven days a week and setting a counter-clockwise direction within a designated area: "The ski area on Lake Gladewater starts 200 feet from the water intake tower and extends north to Phillips Spring Point, outer limits of the ski area shall extend not less than 150 feet from the end of any dock, pier or boathouse."

Continued on Page 5

Locals among four arrests by Upshur SIU deputies

By Phillip Williams

The Special Investigations Unit of the Upshur County Sheriff's Office arrested four persons--including two Gladewater residents--on various charges in May, Sheriff Larry Webb said Monday.

The unit also helped investigate a Camp County case which resulted in a state trooper arresting a woman on a drug-related charge in that county, the sheriff said.

Details of the cases were as follows, and all suspects were taken to the county jail in Gilmer except in the Camp County case, Webb said:

Alvin Woods II, 52, of Gladewater, was arrested on a charge of possession of controlled substance--1-4 grams of methamphetamine--May 12.

The unit was performing drug interdiction in the Gladewater area when it stopped a vehicle, driven by Wood, for expired registration. The drug was found in the vehicle.

Mary Hammonds, 67, of Gladewater, was arrested May 13 for possession of controlled substance--less than one gram of methamphetamine.

The unit stopped a vehicle, driven by Hammonds, on Pelican Road for expired registration and discovered suspected methamphetamine during its investigation.

Davita Renaye Taylor, 37, of Pittsburg, was arrested May 4 on a charge of possession of controlled substance--1-4 grams of methamphetamine.

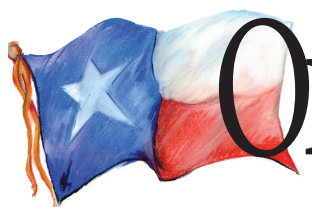
After stopping a vehicle on U.S. 271 north of Gilmer, the patrol division of the sheriff's office contacted the special unit to ask for drug-detecting dog Marco's assistance.

Marco gave a "positive response to the presence of some kind of illegal substance" in the vehicle, and the woman was arrested as a search turned up what was believed to be methamphetamine.

Carey Ray Hathcoat, 35, of Ore City, was arrested May 26 on two warrants: a Harrison County one charging him with felony evading arrest with a vehicle, and a U.S. marshal's warrant for a charge not listed in the SIU's report.

The unit was performing drug interdiction in the Diana area when it stopped the vehicle, driven by Hathcoat, for a moving violation. He gave a false name and date of birth, but investigation turned up the warrants.

In the Camp County case, the unit and Marco helped Texas Department of Public Safety troopers May 25 regarding a vehicle stopped just inside Pittsburg city limits. The driver, Kelly Ann Ryan, 62, of Pittsburg, was arrested on a Camp County charge of possession of controlled substance--less than one gram of suspected methamphetamine.



OPINION/COMMENTARY

The Cowboy Code ...

I love Cowboys. Sure I like the hats, boots and pearl snap shirts, but I love Cowboys for so much more than their unique sense of style. I adore Cowboy manners: the way they tip their hats and give up their seats to the ladies, and bring cold bottles of water in the heat when this particular lady needed one. I love the good guy cowboys out there for who they are and what they stand for.

In honor of all the cowboys who are in Gladewater AND the ones that will travel from all over the nation to compete in the Round-Up Rodeo this week I want to share the Center for Cowboy Ethics and Leadership's Code of Honor:

1. Live each day with courage.
2. Take pride in your work.
3. Always finish what you start.
4. Do what has to be done.
5. Be tough, but fair.
6. When you make a promise, keep it.
7. Ride for the Brand. (This has to do with your deepest convictions.)
8. Talk less and say more.
9. Remember that some things aren't for sale.
10. Know where to draw the line.

I bet that a bunch of us grew up being taught a similar code of honor by our parents and grandparents. My cowboy daddy would have added this to the top of the Code: "A man is only as good as his word." And Dad was known for his integrity and horsemanship.

Iconic silver screen cowboy John Wayne said that "A man's got to have a code, a creed to live by, no matter his job."

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



Maybe we need to stop and consider if we are doing a good enough job of instilling a Code of Ethics in younger generations. Sure we do in our own kids, but how do we reach the ones that have been left to grow up "free range"?

The best way is to live our Code, to treat others with respect, and share our hard won lessons and belief that there is a greater plan for the trail we travel together. I know that I am very grateful for the trail and the folks I travel it with.

And one more thing trail buddies, I better see all you folks at least one night at the rodeo supporting our hometown nationally ranked Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo.

There will be a bevy of cowgirl beauties and courageous cowboys who have traveled from all over the nation and beyond to try and conquer the clock and the competition and YOU can have a front row seat on all the action. A lot of these cowboy athletes live their code rodeo-to-rodeo across this nation. If you get a chance to visit with any of them like I did last year you will find that out. If you are lucky enough to have a cowboy in your life chances are you see the Cowboy Code lived out every single day. What a gift.

Another gift is this week's rodeo. I can't wait to see it or you there!

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



Screwworm detection prompts disaster declaration

Gov. Greg Abbott issued a statewide disaster declaration late last week after the New World screwworm was found in two calves in South Texas, according to The Dallas Morning News.

Two cases have been identified in newborn calves in Zavala County, about 5.6 miles apart. The U.S. Department of Agriculture said a strike team was on site and that restrictions were in place to prevent the movement of cattle.

"We have, in the past, prevented as well as eradicated this pest, and we can do it again," Abbott said.

The New World screwworm is a parasitic fly that lays eggs in open wounds, nearly always in cattle. In the past, sterile male flies have proven effective in eradicating screwworm infestations. The federal government is building a \$750 million facility to produce sterilized flies, but it won't be complete until November 2027.

In the meantime, the government is purchasing sterile flies from a facility in Panama and using federal funds to revamp another facility in Mexico. However, total fly production from those two plants accounts for only 40% of what is needed, The News reported.

State officials have stressed that the New World screwworm does not pose a food or disease risk to humans. A widespread infestation could further drive up beef prices, already elevated by a ban on importing Mexican cattle and a drop in domestic production.

Record power demand likely

A hot summer and exponential growth in power-hungry data centers could mean Texas uses more power than ever before, according to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas.

ERCOT, which operates most of the state's power grid, is forecasting demand will reach 92 gigawatts this summer, breaking the previous record of 85.5 gigawatts set during the 2023 summer heat wave, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Despite the anticipated demand, Pablo Vegas, ERCOT's chief executive officer, said there is a low risk of blackouts this summer.

"As we continue to see (power demand) growth coming on, that profile and picture obviously can evolve, and we expect it to evolve," Vegas said. "But what we have published at this point is still showing fairly adequate capacity and low likelihood of emergency conditions going into the June and July months."

ERCOT has the legal authority to order large power users, such as data centers and cryptocurrency miners, to reduce their power draw from the grid if necessary. According to ERCOT, the risk of rolling blackouts has dropped because nearly 11 gigawatts of new power capacity has been added since last summer. That's enough to supply more than 2.7 million households on the hottest summer days, Vegas said.

Sec. of State Nelson steps down

Texas Secretary of State Jane Nelson announced last week that she will resign effective July 17 from the position she has held since 2023, the Texas Standard reported.

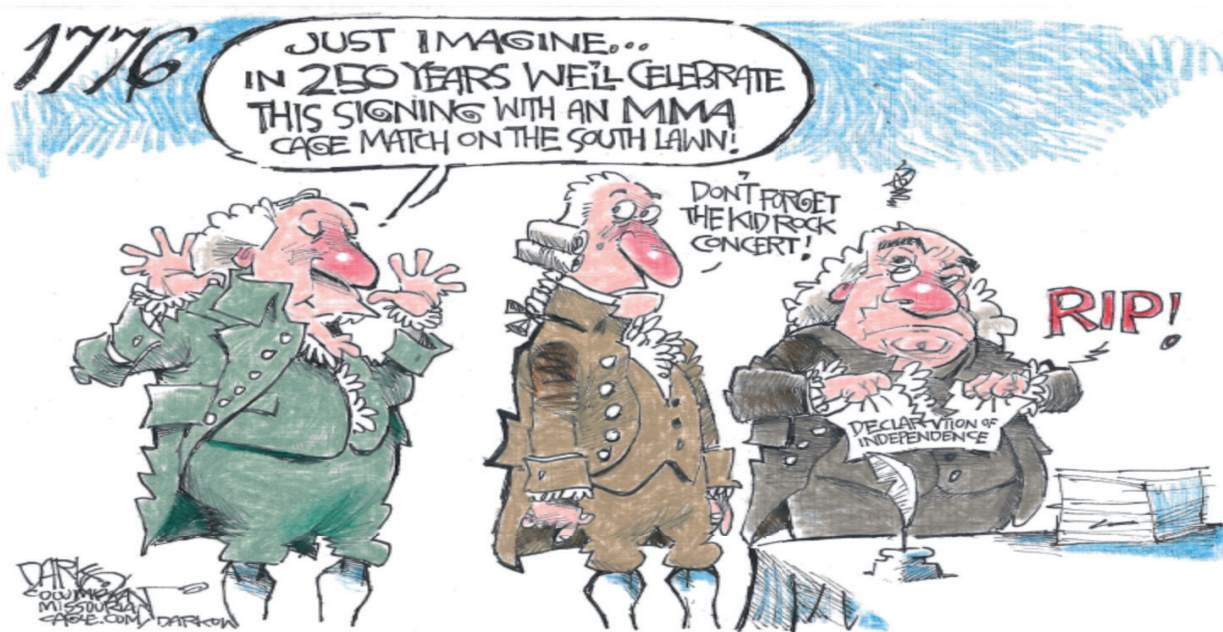
"It has been my goal to ensure that voting in Texas is secure, accessible and fair," Nelson said in a press release. "We have worked extensively to ensure accurate voter rolls and to educate voters about what they need to know to vote with confidence."

Texas Dream Act head to court

Thousands of non-citizen college students last year lost access to in-state tuition when a federal judge blocked the Texas Dream Act, passed 25 years earlier. Now, a coalition of immigration nonprofits, a student group and Austin Community College are fighting that ruling, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

They have asked the 5th U.S. Circuit of Appeals to overturn that order, issued last June.

The appellate court heard arguments last week that the Dream Act should be restored. The Texas Legislature passed it in 2001, guaranteeing in-state tuition for students who had lived in Texas for at least three years and graduated from a Texas high school. The measure was signed by then-Gov. Rick Perry.



Ay-Yi-Yi AI

It seems that everywhere you look these days, there's a new headline related to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its implications. Billions of dollars in data center construction are generating economic benefits in communities across the country, initial public offerings for major players are garnering headlines, and chipmaker Nvidia's market valuation is topping \$5 trillion. AI is having multifaceted and massive effects, and there's no end in sight.

A key question, however, is how common AI usage is in the business world. While many people love its amazing capabilities on a personal level, huge investments in technology only make economic sense if they are used in commercial settings and create sustainable value. The more AI can enhance productivity and efficiency, the more it will grow the economy while generating profits to those enabling its usage.

According to the US Census Bureau's Business Trends and Outlook Survey, overall AI usage by businesses has been trending between 17% and 20% over the past six months, and a slightly higher percentage of companies expect to use it soon. Larger firms (those with at least 250 employees) are far more likely to use AI (37%), and deployment is growing somewhat faster than in smaller companies. Some 32% of those with 100-249 workers indicated usage, with the frequency dropping to below 20% for smaller enterprises.

Use rates also vary by industry, with the highest being about 40% in Information and 34% in Finance and Insurance. By contrast, businesses in the Retail Trade sector reported current and expected usage of only about 14%.

A closer look at how the technology is being used reveals that the scope remains somewhat limited, with 57% of users integrating AI in three or fewer business functions. Most users (66%) rely on AI solely to augment tasks, especially involving

Dr. Ray Perryman

THE ECONOMIST



Sales and Marketing (52%), Strategy and Business Development (45%), and IT (41%). Writing, document analysis, and information searches are the leading Generative AI uses.

Although there have been high-profile layoffs where AI conversion had been blamed, these instances represent small proportions of the overall workforce. Some companies have also indicated that they may hire fewer entry-level workers, but in reality such strategies aren't sustainable over time without running out of employees with the appropriate experience profile. Every major technological development tends to bring some disruptions in its early stages, but ultimately the jobs added are inevitably far more than those lost. There is a need for folks to adapt their skills to embrace AI, much as we did with the computer, the internet, and myriad innovations throughout history. If the value proposition expands as anticipated, it will be an increasing part of our lives going forward. Hitch up and hold on!

Stay safe!

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (www.perryman-group.com), which has served the needs of more than 3,000 clients over the past four decades.

JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS

Someone once asked: "What is more embarrassing than jumping to a conclusion that isn't there?" In some matters jumping to unjustified conclusions is worse than embarrassing. It can be fatal! It can jeopardize one's salvation.

For example, look at one of the most common false conclusions many jump to concerning salvation. Because the Bible says we are saved by faith, many people jump to the conclusion that salvation is by faith "only." They conclude people are saved the moment they believe, and regardless of whether or not they obey other things God commands. However, the conclusion they jump to isn't really there.

First, the Bible plainly says we are not justified by faith only. "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only." (Jas. 2: 24). Obviously, when the Bible says we are not justified by faith only, anyone who jumps to the conclusion that we are justified by faith only, is jumping to a conclusion that isn't there. When the Bible teaches that we are saved by faith, it doesn't mean "faith only."

People are saved by faith when, their faith leads them to repent of their sins, confess Christ, and be scripturally baptized. Just as the Bible says we are saved by faith, it also says, in 1 Pet. 3: 21, "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us." It would be jumping to a conclusion that's not really there, if we decided we are saved by baptism "only" because the Bible says we are saved by baptism. By the same token, it is jumping to a false conclusion to decide we are saved by faith "only" because the Bible says we are saved by faith.

The truth is, we are saved by faith when we, by faith, do the things God commands of us to be saved. That includes baptism, as well as repentance and confession of Jesus. Have you been saved by faith? Think on these things.

Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

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GLADEWATER POLICE/FIRE ACTIVITY REPORT

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05/31/2026	21:55:24	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	PARKING VIOLATION	517 N FERRY STREET	06/04/2026	21:00:54	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	1515 SHELL CAMP ROAD	
Sent To Dispatch- 05/31/2026 21:57:21					Sent To Dispatch- 06/04/2026 21:02:07					
05/31/2026	22:28:22	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 W GAY/ BRIDGE	06/04/2026	23:28:07	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	LAKE GLADEWATER	
Sent To Dispatch- 05/31/2026 22:28:42					Sent To Dispatch- 06/04/2026 23:28:24	06/04/2026	23:28:31	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	HAZARD	2184 N MAIN STREET
05/31/2026	22:49:15	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	1409 E BROADWAY AVENUE	Sent To Dispatch- 06/04/2026 23:29:50	06/05/2026	01:22:42	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	RUNAWAY	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 511 S TYLER ROAD
Sent To Dispatch- 05/31/2026 22:50:14					Sent To Dispatch- 06/05/2026 01:23:37	06/05/2026	05:32:24	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1508 N DAISEY
05/31/2026	22:57:02	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	SEYMOURS	06/01/2026	06:51:33	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	2201 W GAY AVE GLADEWATER ISD ATHLETICS AND BAND	
Sent To Dispatch- 05/31/2026 22:57:45					Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 06:52:11	06/01/2026	07:07:01		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
05/31/2026	23:14:53	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	HAZARD	GODFREY	Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 07:08:57	06/01/2026	07:24:09	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ANIMAL COMPLAINT	HWY 271 N AND LOOP 485
Sent To Dispatch- 05/31/2026 23:15:27					06/01/2026	08:54:44	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	511 S TYLER ST	
06/01/2026	00:49:01	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	BROOKSHIRES	Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 08:54:56	06/01/2026	09:47:50		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 00:49:32					Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 09:48:34	06/01/2026	10:12:51		SUSPICIOUS PERSON	SUNBELT 101 S PINE ST
06/01/2026	04:55:45	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	618 W QUITMAN AVENUE	Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 10:16:58	06/01/2026	10:37:37	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	2200 W UPSHUR AVE TRUMAN SMITH
Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 05:29:54					Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 10:38:05					
06/01/2026	06:12:08	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	1409 E BROADWAY AVENUE	06/01/2026	11:02:34		AGENCY ASSIST	14 GREENWAY VILLAGE 207 W ELEANOR ST	
Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 06:13:06					Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 11:03:10	06/01/2026	11:06:21	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	1117A RICKS CIRCLE
06/01/2026	06:51:33	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	2201 W GAY AVE GLADEWATER ISD ATHLETICS AND BAND	Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 11:07:24	06/01/2026	11:38:10	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	ECONOMY INN 701 E BROADWAY AVE
Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 06:52:11					Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 11:39:49					
06/01/2026	07:07:01		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE	06/01/2026	12:42:27	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	1608 SHELLCAMP ROAD APT A	
Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 07:08:57					Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 12:44:52					
06/01/2026	07:24:09	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ANIMAL COMPLAINT	HWY 271 N AND LOOP 485						
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06/01/2026	08:54:44	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	511 S TYLER ST						
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06/01/2026	09:47:50		MISCELLANEOUS	204 E EDDY AVE						
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06/01/2026	10:12:51		SUSPICIOUS PERSON	SUNBELT 101 S PINE ST						
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06/01/2026	10:37:37	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	2200 W UPSHUR AVE TRUMAN SMITH						
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06/01/2026	11:02:34		AGENCY ASSIST	14 GREENWAY VILLAGE 207 W ELEANOR ST						
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06/01/2026	11:06:21	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	1117A RICKS CIRCLE						
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06/01/2026	11:38:10	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	AGENCY ASSIST	ECONOMY INN 701 E BROADWAY AVE						
Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 11:39:49										
06/01/2026	12:42:27	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	1608 SHELLCAMP ROAD APT A						
Sent To Dispatch- 06/01/2026 12:44:52										

GPD Arrest Report

Date	Arrestee Name	Arrest Address	Charges
5/31/2026			

60 juveniles busted at Upshur County party

By Phillip Williams

Officers from various law enforcement agencies on Sunday dispersed a rural party of more than 60 underage juveniles at which alcoholic beverages were found, said Upshur County Precinct 1 Constable Tim Barnett.

The incident, which Barnett announced on social media, occurred without authorization on private property which was not for public use off Wren Road, he said. That constituted trespassing, he added.

Authorities received information about the gathering, and social media showed “the event was being promoted to minors, and there were concerns that alcohol and illegal narcotics would be present,” Barnett wrote.

“Officers discovered alcoholic beverages and identified several juveniles who appeared to be intoxicated,” the constable added. “Vehicle operators were administered Standardized Field Sobriety Tests to determine their ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Citations were issued for minor in consumption of alcohol where applicable.

“The majority of attendees were cooperative with law enforcement,” Barnett wrote. “The gathering was dispersed after alcoholic beverages were disposed of, and attendees assisted with collecting trash from the area.”

Besides Barnett, officers from the Upshur County and Gregg County sheriff’s offices and state game wardens responded to the scene, he said.

Upshur County Precinct 1 Commissioner Gene Dolle, former constable of that precinct, said Monday authorities contacted a number of the minors’ parents.

“We appreciate the information shared on social media that helped bring this event to the attention of law enforcement,” Barnett wrote. “Early intervention helped prevent a situation that could have resulted in serious injury or tragedy due to poor decision-making and underage alcohol consumption.”

“Trespassing, public intoxication, destruction of property, and illegal drug use will not be tolerated in Upshur County,” he added. “Law enforcement agencies remain committed to protecting the safety of our community and its youth.”

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 1 TXism: “two peas in _ _”
- 5 TXism: “_ _ as a squirrel up a tree”
- 6 Hereford: “town without a tooth _ _”
- 7 TXism: “that gets my dander _ _”
- 8 TX Charley Pride’s “Then Who _ _ ?”
- 9 former Ranger slugger: Ruben Sierra _ _
- 15 TXism: “build the coop before you buy the chickens”
- 16 ex-Ranger Geno
- 18 TXism: “_ _ a lick of sense”
- 20 green stroke by TX Scottie Scheffler
- 21 where Astros bat the best slugger
- 26 Texas screenwriter of “Hook” (1991)
- 27 Dallas VideoFest gives out the annual “Ernie _ _ Award”
- 29 equip a factory again
- 30 in Anderson County on U.S. 287
- 32 shortened “howdy”
- 33 TXism: “_ _ _ _ bottom of a well”
- 36 _ _ Adams often selected winners of 27-across before her death
- 37 TXism: “it’ll take a faith healer to _ _ it”
- 38 Boerne cave “is too pretty _ _”

DOWN

- 1 TXism: “drunk _ _ skunk”
- 2 source of money for Texas politicians
- 3 former Department _ _ Services
- 4 “_ _ _ _ of Texas” (where the stars shine big & bright)
- 8 TXism: “best I ever wrapped _ _ around”
- 9 TXism for “learn” (5 wds.)
- 10 TXism: “chompin’ _ _ the bit”
- 11 this Roy married TX Dale (init.)
- 12 highest waterfall in Texas (2 wds.)
- 13 old slogan: “Foat Wuth, _ _ Yew”
- 14 “Lady Bird” Claudia _ _ Taylor Johnson
- 15 this artist wrote “It Doesn’t Matter Any-more” for TX Buddy Holly (2 wds.)
- 16 meat from a pig
- 17 TXism: “I’m _ _ _ _ to do it” (can’t wait)
- 19 this TX Storm was “My Little Margie” on TV (1952-55)
- 21 this Robb married Lynda Bird (init.)
- 22 Houston _ _ the Texas forces at San Jacinto
- 23 DFW arrival guess
- 24 pertaining to the heart’s main artery
- 25 Texas baseball glove endorsed by 47-across
- 27 Odessa AM station that went silent on 7/16/2014
- 28 Dallas JFK museum: “The _ _ Floor”
- 31 TXism: “wouldn’t know him from _ _”
- 34 San Antonio shoe
- 35 Gov. _ _ Campbell
- 37 to pretend
- 40 _ _ choo train
- 43 to color hair
- 44 “boot scootin”
- 50 TXism: “fits like ugly on _ _”
- 51 Joan Crawford was born in Texas as Lucille _ _ Sueur

See Answers on this page.

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Sports roundup

Bears and Lions make KYKX Game of Week 2026 sked

By Tyler Sutton

It was announced that both Gladewater and Union Grove football would be a part of the KYKX Game of the week games for the 2026 football season.

The Bears will take a part in it on Thursday, October 8th when they travel to Sabine to take on the Sabine Cardinals.

"It always a honor to be a part of one of the best weekly games like those with KYKX," said Bears head coach Jermaine Lewis. "It shows many believe we will be once again a top team in the district again this coming season. And we get to take on a rival in Sabine."

The Union Grove Lions will play their game the following week on Thursday October 15th when they travel to Ore City to take on the Rebels.

"Union Grove and Ore City have participated in the KYKX game of the week for a long time. I remember being a part of it back in 2014," said Lions head coach Kyle Adams. "We play Ore City the week of the Yamboree in Upshur county so that's a big deal. It should be a great week and a great game!"

The Pineywoods Timberhogs made their first trip to Meridian to take on the Meridian Blues and it was a successful debut with a 12-6 win.

The Blues jumped out to a 6-1 lead after the 4th inning but then it was all Hogs after that as they put up three run in the 5th inning, five runs in the seventh inning and three in the 9th inning. 3rd baseman Cedric Rose had a huge night

going 3-6 with a RBI. Catcher Brance Farrell had a pair of hits driving in two runs. Nick Rodriguez got the win in relief on the mound going 8 innings giving up 4 runs (3 earned) with a amazing 14 strikeouts.

Mother nature then took over as the Timberhogs were only able to play two more games the rest of the week. Falling 11-1 in a 7 inning run rule game in the second game against the Blues. The Timberhogs then returned home where they could only get one of their four scheduled games against the Fort Scott Dragoons played because of rain and field conditions. As they fell 9-1.

White Oak is now 4-9 on the season and will next continue this homestand with 3 games with the Bryan Yard Dogs and 3 games with the Nacogdoches Niners.

Game Warden: *Stay safe on the water this summer*

Continued from Page 1

Skiing or towing is unlawful outside the designated ski area, and in addition to the boat driver, there has to be at least one extra person on board if anyone being towed behind.

Some excerpts from the fishing rules: "No person shall fish within 200 feet of the City of Gladewater intake tower... Trotline shall not be set within designated ski or swim area of Lake Gladewater."

There are variety of local swimming regulations as well. **9.09.040 Swimming Regulations**

1. No person may swim in any public launch or docking area of Lake Gladewater. Swimming is limited to the marked swim area between dam and city dock.

2. It shall be unlawful for any person under the age of sixteen (16) to swim in Lake Gladewater without direct supervision of a parent or guardian.

3. Swimming within Lake Gladewater, even in areas marked as being available for public swimming, shall be at the risk of the swimmer.

4. It is unlawful for glass containers to be used at the designated swim area.

5. It shall be unlawful for any watercraft to enter the designated swim area, an area determined by the City Manager, or his/her designee.

6. It shall be unlawful for any person to fish in the designated swim area between the dam and city dock between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.

(From cityofgladewater.com/ordinances)

Long's very familiar with Gladewater's local regs, and he has plenty of addendums to tack on, just in case

For one, "Always have boat navigation lights displayed after official sunset/low visibility weather. This includes a white light visible 360 on kayaks (and) canoes that are on the water after sunset," he noted. "Been seeing this quite a bit on Gladewater Lake. They can be difficult to see out there



after dark, otherwise."

Always have the boat's killswitch attached to the operator of the vessel while it's under power, he noted, per state law.

"It prevents the motor from continuing should operator be ejected," he added. "Just happened a couple of weeks or so ago on Lake Pines where it took two or three hours to get the boat killed after it circled continuously while the occupants were able to stay afloat and away from the prop for a

long while until getting picked up. They were very lucky!"

And, simply, slow down, Long repeated.

"Seems like I'm often about doom and gloom in regards to water safety," he added, "but actually look forward to getting on the lake, particular my hometown lake of Gladewater and mixing it up at the holiday events, fishing, ski, playing with my kiddoes and enjoying family time.

"Let's get everyone home from the lake this summer!"

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Local artist offers free breakfast with 'Painting in the Park' for kids Friday

Iesha Fluellen wants to help local youngsters beat the weekday doldrums during summer vacation, and she's kicking off the effort in White Oak Friday morning.

'Painting in the Park' begins at 7 a.m. June 12 and continues through 11 a.m. at White Oak City Park, complete with donuts and juice from nearby Adan Donuts.

It's crafted as a paint-and-play activity at the pavilion near the splashpad, enabling families to come, enjoy some creativity, put some time in on the playground equipment and head home before the day's heat moves in.

And, it's free.

"This is the first of many I'm planning on doing this summer at surrounding towns," said Fluellen. Her work will be familiar to locals – she's the brush behind a variety of local murals, window paintings and other paint activities. A Gilmer native, "I remember summer vacations sometimes you're bored, there's not a lot to do until the weekend.

"As far as the middle of the week type of days, you don't have anything planned, you want to get outside and do something fun. I thought this would be a good way for kids to enjoy their summer vacation."

The kick-off event will center on artwork featuring the pop culture animated character Bluey. Each child will have an individual canvas with characters pre-drawn.

"I'll have one big example. They're going to be painting with me," Fluellen said. "I'll have their paint and everything ready," expenses covered by White Oak's Classic Collision.

As kids finish their artwork, they'll be able to run out some energy on the nearby playground while the painting dries, making space for more attendees.

And, of course, "They can take their picture home with them."

FFA students bring state accolades home to White Oak with more ahead

White Oak FFA's celebrating a string of State Champions this summer with nationals on the horizon.

Roughnecks Merritt McMahon and Jed Tuttle have secured the top titles in the state in Goat Production Proficiency and Agricultural Processing Proficiency, respectively. In addition to scholarship dollars and a state-level spotlight, they're taking their training to the next level in the weeks ahead.

McMahon is also a State Star Finalist for the Texas FFA Lone Star Production Award alongside fellow Top 4 Finalist Harlie Dollison for the Outstanding School-Based Enterprise Award.

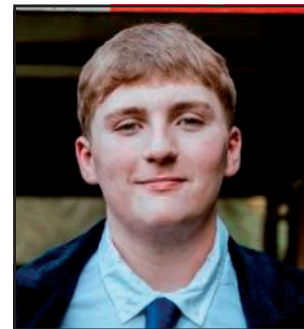
Meanwhile, White Oak's Clayton Maddox earned an Area Go Texas Houston Livestock Show \$20,000 scholarship – "Hard work, dedication, resilience and passion pays off," White Oak FFA praised.

Tuttle's title nets a \$1,000 scholarship, recognition at the Texas FFA State Convention and a berth at nationals.

"This prestigious award recognizes Jed's outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experience in unpaid placement agricultural processing," according to White Oak FFA. "Through years of dedication, skill development, and hard work, Jed has become highly proficient in processing a variety of protein sources for his family. His experience includes processing chicken, beef, deer, and other protein sources, helping provide food for his family while continually advancing his knowledge



Merritt McMahon



Clayton Maddox



Harlie Dollison



Jed Tuttle

and technical abilities.

"What makes this achievement even more impressive is the commitment and work ethic behind it. Jed has invested countless hours developing valuable agricultural processing skills and gaining hands-on experience that directly impacts his family's food supply and self-sufficiency."

McMahon's win as state champion in Goat Production Proficiency marks four years of dedication to her Supervised Agricultural Experience.

"Merritt has built an outstanding goat production enterprise focused on improving genetics and advancing her herd through both embryo transfer and live cover breeding programs. Her commitment to learning, innovation, and continuous improvement has allowed her to produce the next generation of competitive show goats while growing

and strengthening her own breeding operation."

Becoming a Top 4 State Finalist for Lone Star Production Award, McMahon will interview at the Texas FFA State Convention in July in competition for the state title.

"This prestigious honor recognizes the outstanding success, growth, and management of a student's Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). Merritt's achievement is the result of four years of dedication

to her diversified market animal enterprise and production goat herd," White Oak FFA noted. "Through countless hours of year-round animal care, genetic selection, breeding management, and market animal development, Merritt has continually expanded her knowledge and skills while building a highly successful agricultural enterprise."

Dollison will also interview at the state level in July.

"As the Greenhouse Manager and representative of our Plant Science Program of Study, Harlie serves on behalf of more than 100 students who help operate and grow our school-based enterprise. Through her leadership, dedication, and commitment to excellence, she has played an important role in the success of our greenhouse operations, plant sales, marketing efforts, and customer service experiences that provide valuable hands-on learning opportunities for student. This recognition highlights not only Harlie's outstanding leadership but also the collective efforts of the many students who contribute to the success of our school-based enterprise each year."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Gladewater ISD is seeking Request for Sealed Proposals (RFP) for the purchase of 2027 school buses.

RFP Number: 27-34-001

Proposals are available at the Gladewater ISD Business Office or online at www.gladewaterisd.com

Proposal Submission Deadline: June 26, 2026

Submission Location: Sealed proposals must be submitted in hard copy to Gladewater ISD Business Office

Attn: Candy Keller, CFO

200 East Broadway
 Gladewater, TX 75647

Queries about the project and RFP should be directed to Candy Keller, CFO kellerc@gladewaterisd.com or 903-845-6991 ext 621

Notice to Creditors

Administration of the Estate of Ann Aldredge Cummings of Gladewater, deceased October 19, 2025, was commenced by issuance of letters of independent administration on May 11, 2026 in Cause No. 2025-0417-E in County Court #2 of Gregg County, Texas.

All claims against this estate shall be presented within the time and in the manner prescribed by law to: Catherine Bateman, Attorney-at-Law, P.O. Box 6103, Tyler, TX 75711



Longtime Gladewater resident Jackie Carter poses for a portrait on her 100th birthday, June 2. "Keep movin'," Drake says. "Take it one day at a time."

Gladewater woman marks 100 years, stays in motion

By James Draper

"Keep movin' – don't sit down." It's a lesson Jackie Drake put to regular use back when she and her husband, Paul, ran Gladewater's Ben Franklin Retail Store. Granted, that was the better part of 50 years ago. "We had our business here for 12 years. I was on the floor running every day," says Drake, a newly-minted centenarian after celebrating her 100th birthday June 2. Way back when as now, there's always some good way to stay in motion. "For years I was dancing all the time."

"If you sit down and quit, then that's it." Drake's a native of Solomon, Kansas, but Gladewater's been 'home' for decades. One of seven children born into a musical family, she taught dancing at the USO at age 17 (that would be 1943), married her husband in 1949 and spent six years in Paris while he was stationed in France.

Paul retired from the Air Force in October '63. The next year, the Drake's son, Steve, started high school while Jackie marked 1964 by joining the chancel choir at First Methodist Church Gladewater.

Later, she taught aerobics for the congregation and, much later (in 2026) Jackie was fêted there with a century celebration May 31.

She hasn't bought into the smartphone trend, but Jackie does hold her own in the 21st century with a flip phone. She passes her days with crochet and knitting and loves music, especially her old phonograph records and "the golden oldies."

She keeps movin' – albeit at a measured pace. "I'm not out chasin' around much at all," Jackie quips. "I worked all those years... When you're 100 years-old you stay at home where you're comfortable."

She's a big reader, too, and spent her actual birthday diving into a fresh copy of "The Trial of Lizzie Borden," her centennial treat from Steve.

"I love crossword puzzles. That helps keep your little brain cells going," Jackie says.

Hard times pass, she accepts, and life goes on. Try not to make too much trouble for yourself, Jackie adds.

"When I was young, everything was so different from what it is now," with the Great Depression, World War II, rationing and so much more that followed. She went to work for a shoe store right out of high school and well remembers the leather coupons customers had to exchange to get their shoes: "That was the law. It was interesting."

She loves to travel, but those days are passed now. If there's anything she's learned in a century, it's that times change – Jackie's content to cherish the past and welcome the new.

"I take it one day at a time."
"If you sit down and quit, then that's it."
 ... Jackie Drake

Miss Juneteenth rolls out in annual parade Saturday

Soon-to-be sixth grader Kinsleigh Gordon will proudly wear the Miss Juneteenth sash Saturday morning.

She's the first honoree for the local MLK/Juneteenth Committee, celebrating 20 years when their Gladewater Juneteenth Car Parade rolls out through downtown at 10 a.m. June 13. Cierra Mayes is the runner-up for inaugural title. The 2026 Juneteenth parade's Grand Marshals are Deborah Pike and Charles "Bobo" Gordon.

The Juneteenth federal holiday commemorates June 19, 1865, the day official word of 1863's Emancipation Proclamation finally reached Texas with news the people enslaved here had been freed.

The parade lineup begins at the corner of Commerce Street and Center Saturday morning, and the route will follow Commerce to Main Street to continue toward Bumblebee Park where this year's family picnic event will continue until 2 p.m. with free food, music, bounce activities and more.

"Come celebrate free, culture and community with us," according to the organizers. "This is a celebration for the entire community — come out, bring a friend, and let's celebrate together!"

According to organizers, Pike was instrumental in organizing Juneteenth celebrations here, "helping establish a tradition that has brought generations together in unity, remembrance, education and celebration for the past 20 years. Her dedication and commitment to preserving the history and meaning of Juneteenth have left a lasting impact on our community."

Gordon is a longtime Gladewater ISD bus driver, family man and community servant.

"Known for his kindness, dependability, and years of service to the children and families of Gladewater, Mr. Gordon has touched countless lives through his dedication and community spirit," organizers praised. "As we celebrate this historic 20th Anniversary milestone, we are honored to recognize both... for their leadership, service, and unwavering commitment to the Gladewater community."

For Miss Juneteenth, the Gladewater MLK/Juneteenth Committee recruited locals to vote with donations last month, once again directing proceeds toward scholarships for local students.

Committee members awarded two Gladewater High Schoolers last month, bestowing \$500 each on Aubry Floyd and Micah Timmons.

From the bio for Miss Juneteenth 2026, "Kinsleigh believes



Kinsleigh Gordon
Miss Juneteenth
2026



Deborah Pike
Juneteenth Parade
Grand Marshal



Charles Gordon
Juneteenth Parade
Grand Marshal



Cierra Mayes
Runner-Up, Miss
Juneteenth 2026

Juneteenth remains important today because it reminds people of the sacrifices made for freedom and equality while encouraging younger generations to continue building a future rooted in unity, opportunity, and respect for all people. She believes celebrating Juneteenth helps keep history alive and inspires communities to continue growing stronger together."

Down the road, Upshur County's Juneteenth Celebration runs 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Yamboree Event Center with tractor show, car show and a soul food contest alongside live music, vendors, bounce houses and more.

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— Margaret Sullivan, "Ghosting The News"

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The GLADEWATER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT will hold a public meeting at 6:00 pm, June 22, 2026 in 200 Broadway Gladewater Texas 75647 Board Room. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.755200/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.253336/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

Maintenance and operations	3.98 % increase
Debt Service	0.40 % increase
Total Expenditures	3.71 % increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value
(as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$1,484,831,897	\$1,480,661,663
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$15,489,696	\$114,317,765
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$771,875,291	\$534,987,401
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$13,882,406	\$27,065,910

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
 ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$1,768,343

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$0.755200	\$0.253336	\$1.008536	\$4,571	\$10,593
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$0.777970	\$0.236440	\$1.014410	\$5,366	\$10,333
Proposed Rate	\$0.755200	\$0.253336	\$1.008536	\$4,557	\$10,415

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$211,481	\$220,873
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$59,399	\$53,888
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.008536	\$1.008536
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$599.06	\$543.48
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		-\$55.58

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.012528. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.012528.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$7,531,917
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$4,393,312

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

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What's Happening?

Chamber plans red, white, blue blast with annual extravaganza July 3

Put a little more effort into the Fourth of July attire this year – Gladewater Chamber of Commerce wants to see as much of the red, white and blue as possible come July 3.

Nationwide, the #America250 effort has primed the pump for patriotic celebrations this Independence Day, and the annual fireworks show at Lake Gladewater will be no exception.

"It is the 250th, so we'll really be playing that up in our celebrations," according to Lois Reed, chamber president.

She's gathering gifts to award the best dressed man, woman, boy and girl who's on-hand for judging at 7 p.m. that Friday evening.

"Extra point if you're a historical figure," Reed added, "such as Uncle Sam, George Washington, Betsy Ross, Ben Franklin..."

The overall event kicks-off at 4 p.m. that afternoon – early arrivals will enjoy prime parking alongside food trucks, games, DJ'd music and other entertainment.

The annual skydiver drop-in with the Stars & Stripes is set for 6 p.m. and this year's boat parade will be center-stage on the water at 8 p.m. Fireworks are set for 9 p.m.

Parking on the grass will once again be \$5 per vehicle.

For more information, contact Gladewater Chamber of Commerce at 903-845-5501.

County library hosts storytime

A book will be read to young children at both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions in Gilmer on Thursday, June 11.

"Firefly Home" by Jane Clarke will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. events, which are for children up to age 11.

"Music and movement" will follow each reading of the book, said Amy Allred, children's coordinator for the library. She said clapping and stretching to music "help with brain development."

OBITUARY

ANNA MINETTE SMITH

Anna Minette Smith passed away on June 1, 2026. A visitation will be held on June 7, 2026 starting at 1PM at the Church of God in Big Sandy, Texas with the service starting just after at 2PM. Services under the direction of Croley Funeral Home in Gladewater, Texas.

Each session also will feature a firefly-related craft.

A website describes the book's plot as follows: "There's no place like home, but poor Florence Firefly is lost, and there are so many bright lights shining in the night sky that she doesn't know which way to go. She'll need some help to find her way back home.

"In this clever interactive picture book, readers can participate in Florence's journey by encouraging her to fly faster, suggesting which direction to take, and making a wish."

The book is aimed at ages 2-5.

The library is at 702 W. Tyler, which is also Texas 154. Although the events are free to the public with no advance registration required, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

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

Fundraising fish fry set

The Big Brothers Giving Back organization, a volunteer group of men who mentor boys, will hold a fund-raising fish fry in Gilmer June 26-27.

The event is scheduled for 11 a.m.-3 p.m. both days at the organization's facility at 1002 Texas 154 West, near Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative.

For a \$15 donation, the menu includes one plate of farm-raised catfish, french fries, cole slaw, hush puppies and soda and/or water.

On-site dining and take-out orders are both available.

Kevin Finch, founder and president of the organization which has been honored for its work by the Gilmer Area Chamber of Commerce, said it mentors boys age 10 and older who are in "need of guidance," possibly lacking a father figure or good role model.

The men try to educate the youths about the value of good decisions and the consequences of bad ones, said Finch. He said the organization is for all races and has about 14 men and perhaps 32 boys.

Its forthcoming programs include hearing a representative of the Texas Department of Public Safety discuss distracted teenager driving, a representative of ETEX Telephone, and nurses making presentations on self-health care, said Finch.

The group also plans to tour businesses, to help the boys choose and prepare for careers, and to tour Texas State Technical Institute in Marshall, he said.

Finch said he is also seeking a dental hygienist to address the youngsters. For more information on the fish fry or the group, call him at 903-841-8414.



Don Gay, 8-time PRCA World Champion bull rider

Round-Up's here, rockin' and rollin'

Continued from Page 1

amount of money for cowboys that are trying to make a living," Gay said. "It's a lot of work to put on a rodeo. It takes a whole village and a whole town to stay behind it and make it work."

He's been on the road a lot in recent weeks, between events and camps, with Gladewater's Round-up on the horizon after a final stint at a riding school.

"I spent two days with them, got them on the right track," Gay said, "hopefully some prospective bull riders."

Everybody has to start somewhere.

For the professionals headed into Gladewater, it's work, competition and livelihood.

"This is how they make a living," Gay said. "This is not just a weekend thing," but one stop of a long circuit. Round-Up arrives as some contestants are preparing for the 'summer run,' a string of rodeos every day of the week across the United States and Canada. "This is really a worldwide sport, a worldwide competition. You can be anywhere."

Gladewater gets the full slate of top talent between Extreme Bulls on Wednesday night and three nights of competition following.

Ladies breakaway roping has drawn almost 80 entries for the three days of rodeo, Gay noted, a sign of the strength of one of the sport's ever-popular events.

While much of rodeo is the violence of man versus beast, "Some of it is just absolutely picturesque, like watching the women make a flawless barrel racing run, 40 miles an hour, making hairpin turns. It's even way better than a car race."

And, rough though rodeo may be, it takes care of its own. Keep the hooves hearty and hale.

"Without the animals, we're nothing," Gay said. "The livestock, they're pretty rough, too, but they get handled with TLC."

It takes a special breed, and they merit dedicated care.

"Every horse will buck a little bit. To carry a cowboy, to give him an opportunity to show his skills, that takes a special animal," Gay said. "We take special care and special pride in the livestock that comes from Raptor G."

"There's a lot that goes into it. Some of the livestock that will be in competition here has breeding and lineage back to the 1940s."

Same for Gladewater's Round-up. Competition, breeding, lineage – going all the way back 89 years.

"It's a lot of fun."

State sales tax revenue totaled \$4.5 billion in May

Acting Texas Comptroller Kelly Hancock today said state sales tax revenue totaled \$4.5 billion in May, 6.6 percent more than in May 2025. The majority of May sales tax revenue is based on sales made in April and remitted to the agency in May.

"State sales tax collections showed solid growth well above the rate of general price inflation last month, driven in large part by strong increases in certain sectors influenced by business spending," Hancock said. "Results from nearly all major economic sectors were positive."

Receipts from the sectors mainly affected by business spending were overall very robust compared with a year ago, with the manufacturing and construction sectors both exhibiting growth of more than 15 percent. Remittances from the wholesale trade sector came in nearly 6 percent more than their May 2025 total. Collections from the mining sector were down slightly.

Among the large sectors driven primarily by consumer spending, remittances from the largest sector, retail trade, were up more than 3 percent compared with last May, and remittances from the services sector increased by more than 8 percent. Within the retail trade sector, collections from electronic shopping outlets were up more than 13 percent and general merchandise stores remitted nearly 2 percent more than in May 2025.

Receipts from restaurants were up 4.3 percent from a year ago, above the rate of inflation for food away from home.

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in May 2026 was up 8.7 percent compared with the same period a year ago. Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 58 percent of all tax collections.

Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes:

- motor vehicle sales and rental taxes — \$599 million, down 13 percent from May 2025;
- motor fuel taxes — \$333 million, down 2 percent from May 2025;
- oil production tax — \$677 million, up 64 percent from May 2025;
- natural gas production tax — \$217 million, down 4 percent from May 2025;
- hotel occupancy tax — \$74 million, up 6 percent from May 2025; and
- alcoholic beverage taxes — \$156 million, up less than 1 percent from May 2025.

Fiscal 2026 franchise tax collections totaled \$6.5 billion year-to-date through May. Compared with collections through May 2025, year-to-date franchise tax collections were down 0.5 percent, lower than was projected in the Comptroller's 2026-27 Certification Revenue Estimate.



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