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OPINION/COMMENTARY

“...the nation we know.”

Eyes are said to be mirrors to the soul. There are those among us whose humor shines in the twinkle of their eyes. Their eyes make us smile. And then there are the eyes that reveal the horror they have seen and the pain they have lived despite the smile on their lips.

As I watched the televised 9/11 memorial Saturday morning on the 20th anniversary of that moment that scarred our nation I thought about some of the truly heroic people I have known. My long list of heroes were from different generations, different parts of our nation, different races, faiths and socio-economic backgrounds. But they all had one thing in common. They were ordinary people who responded in extraordinary circumstances with bravery, honor and strength.

I remember the eyes of a New York City firefighter who was in the Twin Towers on 9/11, 2001. His picture doesn’t capture the depths of sadness in his deep brown eyes. It had just been a year and a half after 9/11 when our picture was taken. In that photo my eyes are clearly sparkling and his... aren’t.

I remember the deep brown eyes of my Dad when he talked about friends he lost in World War II. The sad eyes of the young firefighter and the sad eyes of my aging father had a great deal in common.

Former President George Bush had some very important things to say in his speech at the Flight 93 memorial service in Pennsylvania that honored everyday Americans on a commuter flight who made a choice to stop the terrorists who hijacked their plane with the intent of turning it into a weapon. Pres. Bush’s eloquent words about the people on Flight 93, people just like you and me, were powerful:

“Twenty years ago, terrorists chose a random group of Americans, on a routine flight, to be collateral damage in a spectacular act of terror.



The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



The 33 passengers and seven crew of Flight 93 could have been any group of citizens selected by fate. In a sense they stood for us all.

“The terrorists soon discovered that a random group of Americans is an exceptional group of people. Facing an impossible circumstance, they comforted their loved ones by phone, braced each other for action, and defeated the designs of evil.

“These Americans were brave, strong, and united in ways that shocked the terrorists—but should not surprise any of us. This is the nation we know. And whenever we need hope and inspiration, we can look to the skies and remember.”

Remember today that you too, are brave and strong. Remember that what you love most you will always fight to protect. Remember that we are united by much more than what divides us. Remember that every single one of us has the potential for heroism. Let us live each day forward dedicating ourselves as ordinary people to extraordinary lives.

Seize this day everyday heroes, and make your corner of the world a better, brighter place to be. And as for your eyes? Let them shine with hope despite the challenges we face. We needed to be reminded that we are stronger than we think, braver than we know, and that we will always stand together when it is most needed. It is what Americans have always done.

It is who we are.

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.

GUEST COLUMN

Open government impacts our lives in big ways

By Kelley Shannon

If you wonder how open government laws affect you, think about these basics: The local taxes we pay. The roads we drive on. Even, sometimes, matters of life and death.

Access to information through public meetings and records helps us know about the decisions elected officials are making on our behalf. It allows us to ask questions, to speak out, to demand change.

After all, in our nation, government belongs to us.

This summer’s deadly Hill Country flooding underscores the need for openness and accountability to enhance public safety. Questions have arisen about transparency surrounding evacuation plans, warning systems and building in floodplains since the tragedy that killed at least 138 people. Questions continue about government’s responses to the catastrophe.

This subject will be explored at the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas state conference Sept. 26 in Austin, “We the People: Holding Government Accountable.” Other discussions will focus on transparency legislation at the state Capitol and effective use of the Texas Public Information Act. Members of the public are welcome to register to attend the conference.

Jan Crawford of CBS News, the chief legal correspondent who reports on the U.S. Supreme Court, is the keynote speaker. Attorney Bill Aleshire will receive the James Madison Award honoring his open government and First Amendment work.

“Without transparency, the government is a petri dish for corruption and a reason for people to doubt the legitimacy of their government,” Aleshire rightly notes.

Aleshire represented citizens who challenged the Hays County Commissioners Court over a \$439 million road bond election. The commissioners’ meeting item ordering the election did not mention the election was for road bonds, which roads were included or the amount of the proposed bonds. The Open Meetings Act lawsuit successfully contested the 2024 election, with a judge striking down the passage of the bonds.

Another Aleshire lawsuit blocked the city of Austin from placing controversial charter amendments on an election ballot because of Open Meetings Act violations.

In Corpus Christi, investigative reporting by KRIS-TV using government records disclosed the persistent problem of fatal wrong-way driver crashes on the Harbor Bridge and highlighted solutions to save lives.

Other dangerous situations have been exposed thanks to access to public information – toxic air pollution in southeast Texas, for example, and the locations of deadly COVID-19 outbreak clusters in nursing homes during the pandemic.

Public records about law enforcement responses to mass shootings such as the one at Robb Elementary in Uvalde or records related to someone dying in police custody are supposed to be obtainable under the Texas Public Information Act – not kept secret.

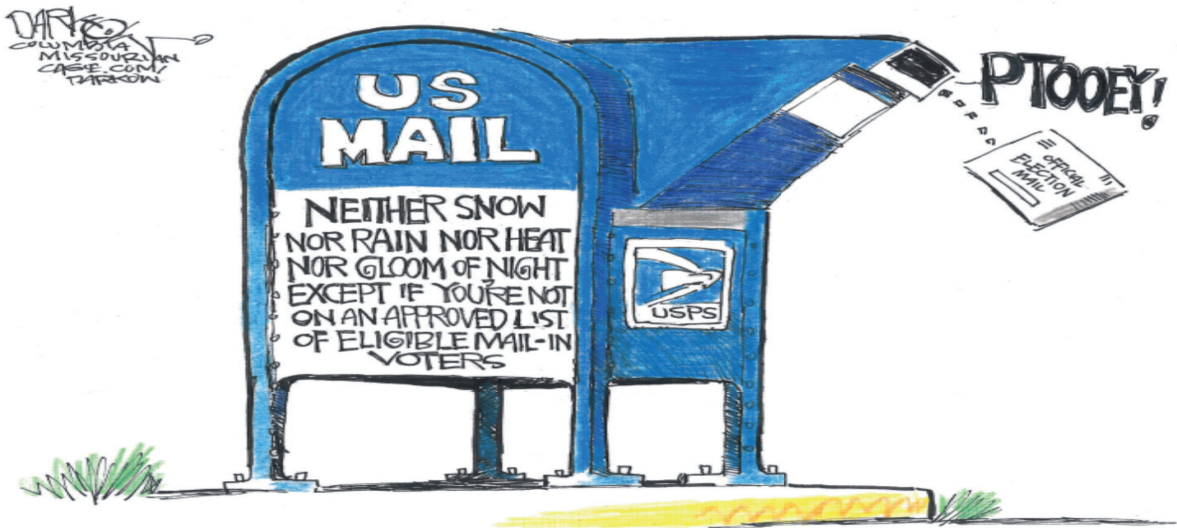
State lawmakers approved bipartisan legislation in 2023 by Rep. Joe Moody of El Paso specifying that when someone dies in law enforcement custody those records are to be public. Under a previous loophole, some police departments withheld records from citizens because the arrested person – the one who died – had not gone to trial. That was a misuse of the law.

Whether it’s a police encounter, the spending of taxpayer money, public health policy or something else important in life, open government laws are at the heart of keeping us informed.

Public information is for everyone. It’s how we, the people, stay in the know and work to improve our communities, our state and our nation.

Kelley Shannon is executive director of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, a nonprofit that works to ensure government transparency and protect First Amendment rights. For more information on the FOIFT state conference go to www.foift.org.

USPS MAILBOX REJECTS MAIL-IN BALLOT



The Short-Term Economic Forecast for Texas Metropolitan Areas

Texas and its metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) and metropolitan divisions (MDs) are projected to see notable economic expansion from 2025 to 2030 despite national and global uncertainties and significant headwinds. The pace will be uneven and likely backloaded to the later segments of the projection period, but gains are expected over the five-year horizon. Let’s review some highlights from our most recent forecasts.

The largest metros continue to drive activity, and most are expected to expand at a faster annual pace than that of the US and Texas. The seven most populated urban centers should see an increase of about 1.08 million over the five-year period (a slight decrease from last year’s forecasted increase due largely to intervening policy actions) representing about 78% of the state’s overall employment gain.

The Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown MSA is expected to continue to be a growth leader over the next five years, with a compound annual growth rate in wage and salary employment of 1.95%, which is well above the statewide rate of 1.78%. (Compound annual growth rates, CAGRs, reflect changes in the base from which growth is calculated and are the measure we typically use.) Impressive growth is projected for the Dallas-Plano-Irving economy, with employment expanding at a healthy 1.85% per annum. The Fort Worth-Arlington-Grapevine MD is also well positioned to outpace the state, with yearly job gains averaging 1.80% over the next five years.

The El Paso MSA is projected to add jobs at a notable

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



pace of 1.61% per year over the period. The Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land MSA is a major economic engine for the state and is expected to add more net new jobs than any other MSA (about 337,500), for a 1.83% pace. McAllen-Edinburg-Mission is expected to see an annual growth rate of 1.76%. Employment in the San Antonio-New Braunfels MSA is projected to grow at a 1.80% per year pace.

Population and economic growth in Texas are concentrated in larger MSAs, but the smaller metropolitan areas are also forecast to provide a significant portion (14.3%) of Texas’ overall employment gain through 2030. The smaller population centers are projected to add net new jobs by at least 1.34% per annum over the five-year period, though rates vary significantly, and several are forecast to add wage and salary employment at a faster pace than the state as a whole, including Midland (1.85%), Tyler (1.85%), Brownsville-Harlingen (1.84%), and Sherman-Denison (1.79%).

Global, national, and state conditions will affect the pace and the downside risks are notable at present, but over the five-year forecast horizon the trend is likely to be positive given underlying industrial patterns. Fluctuations will no doubt occur, but Texas metropolitan areas are well positioned to sustain future growth.

Stay safe!



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THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

The most famous depiction of Christ at the door of the heart is a painting by Holman Hunt, entitled “*The Light of the World*.” In the painting, Jesus stands before the door with a lamp in His hand. The door has been closed for so long that it is overgrown with ivy. Nevertheless, Jesus continues to knock patiently. The story is told that when Hunt finished the painting, he had a friend look at it. The friend studied the picture and then said: “*But the picture is not complete. You forgot to put a handle on the outside of the door.*” Mr. Hunt said: “*I painted it that way on purpose. You see, the door is the human heart, and the heart can only be opened from the inside.*”

In Revelation 3: 20, Jesus said: “*Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice, and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.*” (See also Jn. 14: 23). Here we see Jesus’ earnest desire to be invited into our hearts and lives. But Jesus will not force his way into our lives. He will not break down the door of anyone’s heart. He waits patiently outside the door knocking, trying to get our attention, and pleading for admittance, waiting for us to respond. But we must hear His voice and respond! He doesn’t impose His will on us. The decision to invite Him into our hearts is ours! Since He is the light of the world, He offers light to guide us (Jn. 8: 12). Thus, He “*desires all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth*” (1 Tim. 2: 4), and He is “*longsuffering toward us not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance*” (2 Pet. 3: 9).

To hear His voice and open the door of our heart is to give heed to His Word and accept His entrance into our heart by humble obedience. My friend, I plead with you, don’t leave Christ on the outside of your heart looking in. He is knocking; He is pleading; He is offering; but it is all to no avail if you will not hear His voice and open the door of your heart, and invite Him in. 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.

What's Happening?



Gladewater’s Menchie Rice is crowned Mrs. Classic Universe USA Friday at Royal Albert’s Palace in New Jersey. Find more coverage in next week’s issue of the Mirror.

(COURTESY photo from MENCHIE RICE)

St. James to celebrate 150 years

St. James Baptist Church is celebrating its 150th anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 27 at 3 p.m. The community is invited to attend the 150 years of fellowship and faith. The church is located across the railroad tracks along US 80 west, just south of the Gladewater Rodeo Arena.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Courtesy of Gladewater Chamber of Commerce)

- Sept. 17 City Council Meeting (6 p.m.)
- Sept. 18 East Texas Food Bank Training (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)
- Sept. 18 Thrive & Connect Luncheon (11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.)
- Sept. 19–20 Arts & Crafts Festival (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
- Sept. 23 “See You at the Pole” (TBD)
- Sept. 25 GISD Bear Homecoming (7 p.m.)
- Oct. 2–3 42 Tournament at Rodeo Annex (TBD)
- Oct. 10 City-Wide Cleanup (8 a.m. to 12 p.m.)
- Oct. 24 Cancer Walk at Lake Gladewater (8 a.m.)
- Oct. 31 EMS Fall Fest Downtown (4:30 to 6:30 p.m.)

Annual 5K raises awareness with ‘26 event set Oct. 24 in ongoing cancer struggle

Is it the 14th annual event or the 15th? Sheila Faggans has lost track of how many 5Ks she’s orga-



Gladewater ISD Supt. Rae Ann Patty shares good news from the school during the chamber of commerce’s quarterly business luncheon Sept. 9. Across Gladewater ISD, Patty says, “We’re building young men and young women starting with the wee Bears all the way up. That takes discipline and it takes consistency.

nized in her ‘Walk for Cancer’ efforts. She’s just excited to host another and grateful for the help to make this year’s a success Oct. 24.

The event is sponsored by Gym 101 and Caring Hearts of Gladewater, with all proceeds benefiting Texas Oncology in Longview.

The team’s spreading the word and looking for participants to ‘Fight Cancer in All Colors’ that Saturday morning at Lake Gladewater.

Day-of registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at 1604 Lakeshore Dr. before the trek itself starts at 8:15. Registration costs \$20 per participant and includes a commemorative T-shirt.

New for 2026, the 5K Walk for Cancer will include a raffle for a chance to win a pink trash cart and other prizes. Tickets are \$1 per entry.

For more information, contact Faggans at 903-844-1326 or Earles at 903-413-4293.

Blood drives scheduled

Carter BloodCare of Tyler will hold three blood drives in Upshur County between Monday and Oct. 1, announced Carter field recruiter Donna A. Russell.

Monday’s is scheduled from 7 a.m.-10 a.m. in Gilmer at Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative, 1200 W. Tyler (which is also Texas 154).

Donors are urged to give in honor of Upshur Rural lineman Ty Jordan’s four-year-old daughter, Evie Mae, who has leukemia and needs donated blood as a “lifesaving resource,” Russell said in a news release.

Another drive is set from 2 p.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, at Walmart at 1923 N. Wood (which is also U.S. 271) in Gilmer.

For more information on either drive, email Russell at Drussell@carterbloodcare.org or call 903-574-4998.

The final drive is from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, at Big Sandy High School, 401 Wildcat Drive.

Treats on the Square in Gilmer

The Gilmer Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual “Treats on the Square” this year on the actual date of Halloween, Saturday, Oct. 31, announced Executive Director Gloria McLuckie.

The event, involving businesses handing out candy to children, is set from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Jefferson and Simpson streets on the downtown Upshur County Courthouse square.

Businesses wishing to participate should email the chamber the form which the chamber emailed to them, or bring the form

by the chamber office at 106 Buffalo, McLuckie said. For more information, call the chamber at 903-843-2413.

Storytime held Thursday in Gilmer

A book will be read to young children at both of the Upshur County Library’s weekly “Storytime” sessions in Gilmer on Thursday (Sept. 17).

“The Color Monster: A Story About Emotions” by Anna Llenas will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. events, which are for children up to age 11. This particular book is targeted at ages 2-5.

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

Each session also will feature a color monster-related craft. Amazon’s website suggests readers and hearers of “The Color Monster” “unpack feelings using color with this bestselling character who helps young readers identify emotions and feel more in control.”

The website summarizes the plot thusly: “One day, Color Monster wakes up feeling very confused. His emotions are all over the place; he feels angry, happy, calm, sad and scared all at once!

“To help him, a little girl shows him what each feeling means through color. As this adorable monster learns to sort and define his mixed-up emotions, he gains self-awareness and peace as a result. Everyone will enjoy sharing this concept book that taps into both socio-emotional growth and color concepts in a simple, friendly way.

“Perfect for reading to children who have strong emotions (and for) starting conversations about feelings.”

In other library news, “Play With a Purpose,” which the institution says concerns “play, learning , connections and community resources for families” with children ages 0-4, is scheduled at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23.

To participate in that, one must RSVP by calling Allred at 903-843-5001.

This Saturday, the library will host “STEM--Make and Take”

Kistler, Fisher to compete for crown

Continued from Page 1

- 2000 - Destine Burks - Gladewater High School
- 1999 - Melissa Cloud - Gladewater High School
- 1998 - Racheal Beets - Kilgore High School
- 1997 - Lauren Gaunt - Longview High School
- 1996 - Kathryn Johnson - Pine Tree High School
- 1995 - Laura Merkly - Sabine High School
- 1994 - Jessica Swank - Pine Tree High School
- 1993 - Dawn Cambell - Spring Hill High School
- 1992 - Kathryn Felsenthal - Longview High School
- 1991 - Kristen Carter - Pine Tree High School
- 1990 - Merideth Dotson - Longview High School
- 1989 - Dena Trammel - Pine Tree High School
- 1988 - Laura Armstrong - Pine Tree High School
- 1987 - Eva Lee - Longview High School
- 1986 - Ginger Harris - Sabine High School
- 1985 - Lacy Holmes - Kilgore High School
- 1984 - Cindy Sloan - Spring Hill High School
- 1983 - To Be Announced - To Be Announced
- 1982 - Gwen Black - Spring Hill High School
- 1981 - Carol Green Spring Hill High School
- 1980 - Kelly Mills - Spring Hill High School
- 1979 - Andrea Druschke - Spring Hill High School

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Gladewater, Texas

SATURDAY
September 19
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SUNDAY
September 20
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

WELDON ALUMNI GAME

HONORING THE WELDON BUMBLEBEES
1921 - 1969

GLADEWATER BEARS VS WHIT OAK ROUGH NECKS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026

JACK V. MURPHY BEAR STADIUM | 6:30 PM PRE-GAME CELEBRATION | 7:00 PM GAME

BUMBLEBEE WEEKEND

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

AT WELDON ELEMENTARY

Bumblebee Reunion Luncheon

1:00 PM

Weldon Cafeteria

Meal Includes:

- Grilled Chicken
- Green Beans
- Mashed Potatoes
- Bread
- Dessert

\$75 INCLUDES MEAL AND T-SHIRT

Unveiling of the Historic Marker

2:00 PM

Weldon Elementary

Join us as we honor the legacy of the Weldon Bumblebees with the unveiling of the historic marker.

You are welcome to attend just the unveiling if you are unable to attend the lunch.

FOR TICKETS, CONTACT **DARREN RICHARDSON** | **903-374-1370**

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Sports roundup

Lions undefeated, Bears and Necks fall

By Tyler Sutton

The Gladewater Bears could never get any offense going and it was a all around struggle all night as they fell to the West Rusk Raiders 28-7.

The Bears defense got off to a hot start as they forced a West Rusk punt on their opening drive and were driving down the field, but QB Achilles Hess fumbled on a keeper and it was recovered by West Rusk. And the Raiders took no time taking advantage as scored and made it 7-0 West Rusk.

Neither team could do anything the rest of the quarter and it was 7-0 Raiders after one quarter. Early in the second quarter, the Raiders added to their lead with a touchdown to make it 14-0. The defense's then took over as neither team could do much to end the half and it was 14-0 Raiders at the break.

Gladewater quickly answered to start the 3rd quarter as Lucas Vasquez punched it in for a 5 yard TD run to cut the lead in half at 14-7.

But West Rusk quickly answered back with a quick touchdown to make it 21-7. The Bears then fumbled the ensuing kickoff and gave the ball right back to the Raiders. But the Bears Destin Sheridan intercepted West Rusk's QB Trig Pratt and got the ball right back to Gladewater at the end of the 3rd quarter.

But to begin the 4th, Hess was intercepted and the Raiders took advantage and scored to make it 28-7 and that was the game. The Bears had the ball one last time but turned it over on downs and the Raiders got the ball back and kneeled it out.

"Just a frustrating night all around. We have a lot to work on and improve but we will get it don," said Bear head coach Jermaine Lewis.

The Bears drop to 1-2 and will be back on the road next making the short trip to Spring Hill to take on the Panthers.



WOISD Superintendent Jack Parker presented a Roughneck football to Mike Barber - Class of 1972 - at the halftime of the game with Arp. Barber was All-State at White Oak, All-American at Louisiana Tech, and played 10 years in the NFL for the Houston Oilers, Los Angeles Rams, and Denver Broncos.

Photos by Mike Peery



Thursday night several former Roughneck football players met at Bodacious BBQ.



Kickoff is at 7 PM.

The White Oak Roughnecks football team took one on the chin as they fell hard to the Arp Tigers 46-7. Arp led 26-0 at the half and 40-7 after 3 quarters.

Roughnecks QB Mason

Wright had 12 carries for 111 yards and a touchdown. He was also 1-5 passing for 12 yards. RB Cameron Vail had 22 carries for 94 yards.

Cal Jester had 1 catch for 12 yards. The Roughnecks drop to 0-3 on the season and will next host Scurry-Roser. Kick

off is at 7 PM.

The Union Grove Lions continued their hot start to the season as they improved to 3-0 with a 30-6 Homecoming victory over the Elkhart Elks.

Noah Hart and Hudson Wightman both rushed for

more than 100 yards. Wightman carried 19 times for 101 yards and two touchdowns and also passed for 41 yards and a TD. Hart had 17 carries for 109 yards and a TD, and Tate Salter caught a 37-yard touchdown pass.

Daniel Fernandez had 14

tackles for the Lions. Andy Peck had seven tackles and three tackles for loss, and Kynan Birlew finished with 13 tackles. Peck also forced a fumble and recovered two fumbles. The Lions will finish non district play with a trip to Tenaha. Kickoff is at 7 PM.

Where to Worship

See your helpful hardware folks at... Store hours: Mon-Fri 7:00-7:00 Sat 8:00-6:00 Sun 1:00-5:00 Bailey's ACE Gladewater, TX 903.845.5787

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Worship Guide

- BAPTIST: Calvary Baptist • 903-845-6297, Clarksville City Baptist • 903-845-3248, Cornerstone Church • 903-918-5539, East Mountain Baptist • 903-759-2820, Eastview Baptist Church • 903-984-8524, First Baptist Church • 903-845-2171, Friendship Baptist Church • 903-845-4603, Gladeview Baptist • 903-845-3842, Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174, Grace Baptist • 903-845-6440, Greater New Hope Baptist, Locust Grove Baptist • 903-845-5174, Gladewater Bible • 903-845-4768, New Hope Baptist • 903-845-3042, St. James Baptist • 903-845-5028, Union Grove Baptist • 903-845-4894, Olde Tyme Baptist Church • 903-806-2411
- CHURCH OF CHRIST: East Mountain Church of Christ • 903-285-1871, North Loop Church of Christ • 903-845-2531, North Main Church of Christ • 903-845-2816, Rocky Church of Christ
- CATHOLIC: St. Theresa's Catholic Church • 903-845-2306
- CHARISMATIC: New Life Church • 903-845-8108
- LUTHERAN: Our Redeemer Lutheran • 903-758-2019
- CHURCH OF GOD: Elevate Worship Center • 903-374-2064
- NAZARENE: Church of the Nazarene • 903-845-4425
- METHODIST: First Methodist Church Gladewater • 903-845-2565, McCrary's Chapel United Methodist, New Mountain CME Church • 903-845-1175, Starrville Methodist • 903-877-4040, Union Temple CME Methodist • 903-845-1050, White Oak United Methodist Church • 281-682-3397
- NON-DENOMINATIONAL

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 300 West Upshur (PO Box 1444), Gladewater, TX 903-845-2171 www.fbcgladewater.org FACEBOOK - FBCGLADEWATER SUNDAY - 10:15 Morning Worship

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- New Life Fellowship Church • 903-261-4227, Gladewater Bible Church • 903-445-7234, Grace Tabernacle Church • 903-309-8801
- PENTECOSTAL: First United Pentecostal • 903-845-2922, Northside Pentecostal, Abundant Life Temple • 903-845-6043, Southern Pentecostal Church (Starrville)
- PRESBYTERIAN: First Presbyterian • 903-845-2905, Full Gospel Fellowship, Gladewater Revival Church, Living Hope Fellowship • 903-261-2023, Love of God Church • 903-845-2623, Union Temple CME Church • 903-845-1050
- OTHER: Starrville Church of the Living God • 903-877-3220, Friendship Community Church, Full Faith Holiness • 903-845-8195

MANNA HOUSE "God's Store House" MannaHouseofGladewater.org 903-845-4066 Manna House of Gladewater P.O. Box 808 • Gladewater, Texas 75647

Off-Hours Drop-Offs: 1710 N. Main St. in Gladewater We need your support - monetary donations and/or food donations - for Manna House to help fill the food boxes that we distribute to our many families.

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ORDINANCE 2026-06 OF THE CITY OF WHITE OAK WAS PASSED IN THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2026, TO APPROVE A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF WHITE OAK FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2026 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2027, ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. FOR A COPY OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE, PLEASE CONTACT KRISTINE TOON, CITY SECRETARY, CITY OF WHITE OAK, 906 S. WHITE OAK RD., WHITE OAK, TX 75693 OR CALL 903.759.3936 x17.

ORDINANCE 2026-07 OF THE CITY OF WHITE OAK WAS PASSED IN THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2026, LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE USE AND SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF WHITE OAK, TEXAS FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR APPORTIONING EACH LEVY AND SPECIFIC PRUPOSES; PROVIDING WHEN TAXES SHALL BECOME DUE AND WHEN SAME SHALL BECOME DELINQUENT IF NOT PAID, ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. FOR A COPY OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE, PLEASE CONTACT KRISTINE TOON, CITY SECRETARY, CITY OF WHITE OAK, 906 S. WHITE OAK RD., WHITE OAK, TX 75693 OR CALL 903.759.3936 x17.

ORDINANCE 2026-08 OF THE CITY OF WHITE OAK WAS PASSED IN THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2026, TO APPROVE ADJUSTMENTS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 GENERAL FUND BUDGET; ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. FOR A COPY OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE, PLEASE CONTACT KRISTINE TOON, CITY SECRETARY, CITY OF WHITE OAK, 906 S. WHITE OAK RD., WHITE OAK, TX 75693 OR CALL 903.759.3936 x17.

ORDINANCE 2026-09 OF THE CITY OF WHITE OAK WAS PASSED IN THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2026, TO APPROVE ADJUSTMENTS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 UTILITY FUND BUDGET; ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. FOR A COPY OF THE COMPLETE ORDINANCE, PLEASE CONTACT KRISTINE TOON, CITY SECRETARY, CITY OF WHITE OAK, 906 S. WHITE OAK RD., WHITE OAK, TX 75693 OR CALL 903.759.3936 x17.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: The Unknown Heirs of Mable Elizabeth Burton

You and each of you are hereby cited, required and commanded to appear before the County Court at Law #2 of Gregg County, Texas, to be held in the County Court at Law #2 court room in the courthouse of said county in the city of Longview, Gregg County, Texas, such appearance to be at or before ten o'clock a.m. of the first Monday next after the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of service, exclusive of the day of such service, which day and date of service shall be the date of publication that this newspaper bears, and which appearance shall be at such time on such Monday, by filing written answer to the application hereinafter mentioned, contesting same, should they or any of them desire to do so, which application will, at such 10 o'clock hour and such place be acted on, said application having been filed by Glenda Sue Anderson in said court on the 24th day of August, 2026, and now pending there, in a proceeding on the probate docket of said court, styled In the Estate of Mable Elizabeth Burton the file number of which application and the docket number of which proceedings is 2020-0167-E, the nature of such application being for

First Amended Application to Determine Heirship

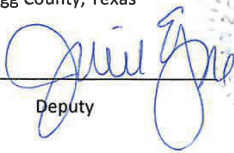
If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

Witness, Michelle Gilley, Clerk of the County Court at Law #2 of Gregg County.

Given under my hand and the seal of said court, at office in the City of Longview this the 26th day of August, 2026

MICHELLE GILLEY

Clerk of County Court at Law #2
Gregg County, Texas

By  Deputy



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Gladewater ISD is seeking Request for Sealed Proposals (RFP) for the purchase of chiller replacement (equipment only).

RFP Number 27-51-001

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

Proposal Submission Deadline:

October 2, 2026

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

Attn: Matt McIntosh

**200 East Broadway
Gladewater, TX 75647**

Queries about the project and RFP should be directed to Matt McIntosh, Director of Maintenance at mcintoshm@gladewaterisd.com or 903-845-2829



**TexSCAN Week of
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Kaddatz Farm & Heavy Equipment Auction 9/25/26. NO RESERVES. Alvin Kaddatz Lic TX6676 10% Buyers Premium KaddatzEquipment.com 254-582-3000.

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THE STATE OF TEXAS

To: James P. Booth, Or, If Deceased, His Unknown Heirs Greetings:

You are commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the plaintiff's petition at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this Citation, the same being Monday the 26th day of October 2026, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. before the Honorable 124th District Court of Gregg County, at the Court House in Longview, Texas. Said plaintiff's petition was filed on this the 9th day of September, 2026.

The file number of said suit being No. 2026-1432-B

The name of the parties in said suit are:
Herman Ray Plaintiff
and
James P. Booth, Or, If Deceased, His Unknown Heirs Defendant,

The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit:
Suit To Remove Cloud From Title

The name and address of the attorney for plaintiff, or the address of plaintiff is:

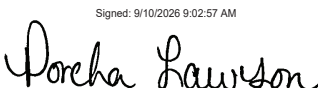
JEFFREY COTTEN
PO BOX 7792
TYLER TX 75711
903-533-9900

Issued this the 10th day of September, 2026

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Longview, Texas this the 10th day of September, 2026

Trey Hattaway, Clerk
124th District Court
P.O. Box 711 Longview, Tx 75606
Gregg County, Texas

Signed: 9/10/2026 9:02:57 AM

By  Deputy
Porcha Lawson



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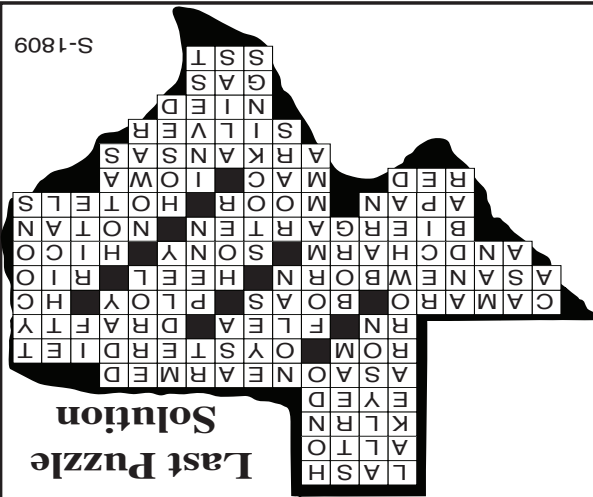
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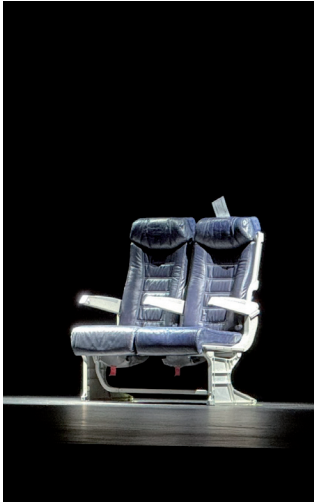
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Photos by James Draper

In a poignant memorial to the passengers aboard hijacked planes on 9/11, two symbolic seats sit in the spotlight of the stage of Dodson Auditorium at Kilgore College the morning of Sept. 11, the 25th anniversary of the world-changing event. An exhibit on the grounds of Kilgore College honors the named victims of 9/11.



Little leaguer’s legacy leads teams to town to help cancer patients

Continued from Page 1

every single day when he came out here.”

No one should have to face such a terrible disease, Holochuck added; the tournament’s participants are helping raise awareness and support for people in need throughout East Texas.

“That’s why we’re here. Baseball is such a small, small part of this,” he said, encouraging everyone to keep the children and families in mind and in prayer for Brock’s sake. “We look forward for this to continue to grow, to continue to be a staple event here in East Texas.

“Remember Brock and everything that he stood for and means to the baseball community.”

Learn more, find help and support the effort at brocksblessings.com

“I am very humbled and thankful for the progress that we’ve been able to make in helping more childhood cancer families,” Gumm said, welcoming questions and support via 903-241-2114. “I’m just grateful that so many people come together for this event every year and make it such the big turnout that it is.”

Sales tax revenues slow as cities build budgets

Continued from Page 1

Sarah Eckhardt on the ballot in November. Huffines received a temporary appointment from the Texas governor this summer, and he’s returning the favor by beating Greg Abbott’s property tax drum on a regular basis.

“The increased sales tax revenue being returned to local governments is an indicator that many local entities may have an opportunity to use these additional funds to help reduce property taxes,” Huffines said in a press release last week. “Lower property taxes are one of the most effective ways to make housing more affordable and ease the financial burden Texans face with gas, groceries, and other everyday costs.”

September’s allocations are based on sales made in July by businesses that report tax monthly.

Statewide, local governments recoup \$1.3 billion in the tax revenues this month, 7.6 percent more than was distributed in September 2025.

Gladewater’s check this month is \$149,449, about \$2,300 shy of the same sum a year back. It brings the city’s year-to-date total to \$1,376,846, about \$70,000 more than the YTD 12 months prior.

In White Oak, the September check is \$137,890, a decline of \$26,707 from the September 2025 allocation. So far this year, White Oak has collected \$1,269,089, almost 6.5 percent less than the same point a year ago.

On the whole, Gregg County saw a net payment of \$1.93 million this month, 7 percent more than the same point last year. The county has marked a year-to-date increase of 6.32 percent compared to 2025.

Upshur County is also sitting on a surplus at 3.28 percent more than the January through September collections last year. This month’s total for the county was \$171,506, a 3.88 percent drop from September ‘25.

Gilmer’s most recent allocation declined 3.88 percent from the prior year, \$233,342 compared to \$245,153. The city’s riding the surplus line at a 0.23 percent YTD increase, comparatively.

WOPD Activity

For the reporting period of September 7th through September 13th, 2026, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to or initiated 187 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were: Advice Calls, Suspicious Activity, Juvenile Complaints, Traffic Issues (collisions, motorist assists, traffic control, reckless drivers, etc.), and Community Relations (welfare checks, civil issues, vacation home security checks, etc.).

Three traffic collisions were investigated during this reporting period. No injuries were reported.

Three arrests were made during this reporting period:

Abigail Windsor, 28, of Gilmer, for Driving While Intoxicated.

Jose Escobar Mazariegos, 26, of White Oak, for two White Oak city warrants.

Justin Thompson, 45, of White Oak, for Assault Causing Bodily Injury Family Violence, and Resisting Arrest, Search, or Transport.

One separate and unrelated case was presented to the Gregg County District Attorney during this reporting period:

-Sexual Assault

GLADEWATER POLICE/FIRE ACTIVITY

Date	Time	Agency	Call Type	Address
09/07/2026	00:17:37	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	1600 LAKESHORE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 00:17:51				
GLADEWATER, TX 75647				
09/07/2026	00:51:37	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	W GAY / PINECREST
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 00:54:24				
09/07/2026	01:21:38	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	2210 E HAROLD
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 01:22:24				
09/07/2026	01:32:58	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	W LAKE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 01:33:09				
09/07/2026	01:38:11	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	MISCELLANEOUS	W LAKE BOAT RAMP
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 01:39:22				
09/07/2026	01:45:21	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	1021 N MAIN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 01:46:12				
09/07/2026	01:48:59	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 E UPSHUR / CENTER
09/07/2026	07:23:40	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	DISTURBANCE	1 WOODLAND SPRINGS
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 07:24:48				
GLADEWATER, TX 75647				
09/07/2026	08:09:44	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	309 W GREGG AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 08:11:15				
GLADEWATER, TX 75647				
09/07/2026	08:47:56		EMS	19 JULIA WOODS STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 08:48:23				
09/07/2026	10:08:35		REPOSSESSION	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 2228 HENDRIXS STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 10:11:03				
09/07/2026	10:19:48		SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 605 BRIARWOOD STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 10:20:35				
09/07/2026	13:17:29	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 511 S TYLER ROAD
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 13:18:04				
09/07/2026	13:27:57	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	ASSIST	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 HWY 80 AND PR 3472
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 13:28:44				
09/07/2026	15:23:04		SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1505 N LYNN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 15:25:48				
09/07/2026	16:18:29		ANIMAL CONTROL	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 407 W SUNSET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 16:20:52				
09/07/2026	17:00:07		AB911	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1104 FOREST HILL ST
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 17:00:49				
09/07/2026	17:18:51		MISCELLANEOUS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 131 PRIVATE ROAD 3198
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 17:19:25				
09/07/2026	17:19:39	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	EMS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1201 FM 2865
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 17:20:09				
09/07/2026	18:59:40		SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 HWY 80 EAST
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 19:01:30				
09/07/2026	20:28:37	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE-EMS- LIFT ASSIST	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 210 W GAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 20:29:31				
09/07/2026	21:02:55	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 SONIC
09/07/2026	22:33:51	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 N HWY 80N CENTER
Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 22:34:55				
09/07/2026	23:33:56	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ASSAULT	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 511 S TYLER STREET

Sent To Dispatch- 09/07/2026 23:34:40	09/08/2026	00:58:26	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	TRAFFIC STOP	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 SEYMOURS
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 00:58:46	09/08/2026	02:28:48		EMS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 2104 W PECAN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 02:30:21	09/08/2026	02:45:31		MISCELLANEOUS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 204 E EDDY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 02:46:28	09/08/2026	08:26:52	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE- EMS- LIFT ASSIST	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 300 MONEY STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 08:27:37	09/08/2026	08:01:02	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE- GAS ODOR/LEAK	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 old kinglew bay and shell camp rd
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 08:02:58	09/08/2026	08:21:25		EMS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1007 N LYNN STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 08:23:09	09/08/2026	09:32:25		EMS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 2200 W UPSHUR AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 09:33:48	09/08/2026	10:17:40		ANIMAL CONTROL	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 SHELLCAMP AND ARMSTRONG
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 10:19:18	09/08/2026	10:56:12		ANIMAL CONTROL	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 202 WALTON STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 10:57:12	09/08/2026	11:11:18	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1050 E BROADWAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 11:12:07	09/08/2026	11:58:03	GLADEWATER FIRE DEPT.	FIRE- EMS- LIFT ASSIST	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 127 woodland trail
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 11:58:40	09/08/2026	12:48:39	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ALARM	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 2302 WEST LAKE DRIVE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 13:41:11	09/08/2026	14:18:02		AB911	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 710 N TENERY ST
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 14:20:25	09/08/2026	14:42:36		EMS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1501 SHELL CAMP ROAD
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 14:43:41	09/08/2026	14:49:33	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	HARASSMENT	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 903 E MARY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 14:49:54	09/08/2026	15:01:22		SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1402 E BROADWAY AVENUE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 15:04:37	09/08/2026	16:27:58	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ACCIDENT	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 NORTHEAST LOOP 485
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 16:30:00	09/08/2026	17:06:59	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	HARASSMENT	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 117 N FERRY STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/08/2026 17:10:27	09/08/2026	18:33:15		MISCELLANEOUS	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 SWEETGUM RD
Sent To Dispatch- 09/09/2026 08:15:59	09/09/2026	08:15:36	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	WELFARE CHECK	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 27 GARDEN LANE
Sent To Dispatch- 09/09/2026 09:38:23	09/09/2026	09:37:16	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	ANIMAL CONTROL	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 1305 MARY STREET
Sent To Dispatch- 09/09/2026 10:02:29	09/09/2026	10:02:29	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	SUSP NOISE-PERSON-VEHICLE	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 W GLADE'S MAIN
Sent To Dispatch- 09/09/2026 10:02:57	09/09/2026	13:05:02	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPT.	WELFARE CHECK	GLADEWATER, TX 75647 515 W GAY AVENUE

GPD Activity

Date	Arrestee Name	Arrest Address	Charges
9/10/2026	ELLIS, ISAAH ANTIWON	1400 S TYLER ROAD GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	POSS MARJ < 20J
9/10/2026	HERNANDEZ, JOSE MANUEL	305 N AMES STREET GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	ASSAULT CAUSES BODILY INJURY FAMILY MEMBER - SIMPLE ASSAULT
9/10/2026	WILLIAMS, CURTIS EDWARD	100 TEXAS GLADEWATER, TENNESSEE 75647	MANDREL CS PG 1 >= 4G < 200G
9/13/2026	MOORE, ROCKEY LEE	1109 E BROADWAY AVENUE GLADEWATER, TEXAS 75647	CRIMINAL TRESPASS

CITY OF GLADEWATER

FALL 2026 CLEAN UP

Saturday, October 10th from 8am - Noon

E. Commerce Street, Gladewater

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THU OCT 1	FRI OCT 2	SAT OCT 3	SUN OCT 4
GW POLICE APPRECIATION All Day	CLASSIC BLUES FRIDAY @ 5pm	HIGH SCHOOL DAY All Day	COWBOYS VS TEXANS 12:00pm

GRAND OPENING OCTOBER 8-11			
THU OCT 8	FRI OCT 9	SAT OCT 10	SUN OCT 11
GW FIRE DEPT. APPRECIATION All Day	SOUTHERN BLUES FRIDAY @ 5pm	TEXAS VS. OU FOOTBALL 2:30pm	MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES All Day

Food • Friends • Music • Community
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Open 11am - 10pm
Follow Dine and Pines on Facebook for more details and event updates

OBITUARIES

TEDDY HANSARD

Teddy Hansard, 80, of Caldwell TX, passed away in a car accident on August 1, 2026, in Rockdale, TX. A memorial service will take place at Calvary Baptist Church in Caldwell on August 29, 2026, at 11:00 am.

Born on January 30, 1946, in Brady, TX to Lionel Keith Agar Clements Hansard and Mary Catherine Watson Hansard, he was a star athlete in high school, served with honor in the Army, and enjoyed a life-long career as a skilled carpenter. He retired from LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas after working in various roles in their maintenance department for over 20 years.

He was a devout follower of Jesus, and served his church and community faithfully and selflessly, whether it was by singing in the choir, teaching Sunday school, working with the children and youth ministries, leading Sunday services and calling bingo at the local nursing home, leading college student mission trips at LeTourneau, or just helping out friends, family and neighbors with building and repair projects.

Teddy is survived by his beloved wife Marion, his daughters Jean Stanford (Ronald) and Elisabeth Hansard (Micheal Singleton); his grandchildren Andrew Bonham, Michael Bonham, Mary Askey (Ben), and Chloe Turney (Collin); and great grandchildren Marcellus Askey and one Turney on the way, along with many other family members and friends who will all miss him very much.

Teddy was a joy and shone brightly the light of Jesus. His deep love of the Lord and his fellow man, his sense of humor and fun, and his wisdom were a gift to all who knew him.

Family and friends are invited to his graveside service at Hughes Springs Cemetery on September 19, 2026, at 10 am.

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Event Calendar

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Sept. 11
EXHIBITS AND CARNIVAL OPEN TO PUBLIC
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LEE MATHIS & THE BRUTALLY HANDSOME BAND ON STAGE
Sept. 12
\$35 ARMBAND & FAMILY DAY BROUGHT TO YOU BY KYKX 105.7
LION SONGS BAND ON STAGE
Sept. 13
\$35 ARMBAND MEGA 99.3 FIESTA DAY
"NERY SANCHEZ Y SU Banda Tarasco and LEALTAD
Stage sponsored by Telco Plus CU
Sept. 14
\$30 ARMBAND
SENIOR CITIZENS ADMITTED FREE
TOMMIE HELM BAND ON STAGE
Sept. 15
\$30 ARMBAND BROUGHT TO YOU BY KOYE 95.7 107.8
ANHEDONIA ON STAGE
Sept. 16
\$30 ARMBAND BROUGHT TO YOU BY KETX
EAST TEXAS AND FOX 51
JUDD HAGEN BAND ON STAGE
Sept. 17
\$30 ARMBANDS CBS 19
MISS GREGG COUNTY PAGEANT ON STAGE
Sept. 18
\$35 ARMBANDS
JOSH DAVIS - ELVIS TRIBUTE ON STAGE
Sept. 19
\$35 ARMBAND
SENIOR CITIZENS ADMITTED FREE
DEL RIO BAND ON STAGE

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ARMBANDS
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vendors

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SEPT. 17TH

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 12 4:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.
SUNDAY, SEPT. 13 4:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
MONDAY - WEDNESDAY, SEPT 14-16 6:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.
THURSDAY, SEPT. 17 6:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, SEPT. 18 6:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.
SATURDAY, SEPT. 19 4:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.

