

Gladewater Mirror



February 18-28
at the Courthouse

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Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020

Vol. 92, No. 8

1 Section, 12 pages

50¢

Compare the Upshur County Commissioner candidates

EDITOR'S NOTE: All candidates running for Upshur County Commissioner Pct. 1 and Pct. 3 were asked to participate in the following questions-and-answers so voters can compare the candidates side-by-side. Some candidates chose not to participate in this free forum.



SMITH



GRIMES



ASHLEY



ABERNATHY



BARDWELL

RICHARD SMITH Precinct 3

Q - Briefly tell us about your educational and/or business background and how that experience and expertise will help you in representing Upshur County on the Commissioner's Court.

A - I graduated Gilmer High School in 1984, and attended University of Texas at Tyler from 1989-1995, majoring in Business Marketing and Industrial Technology.

I have worked in the Heavy Equipment business for the last 24 years and spent 6 years as a manager for a major heavy equipment dealership. I oversaw

a budget yearly between 4.5-6 million dollars, and a staff of 8-12 employees. I have a full understanding how budgeting and forecasting revenues work. Part of my job was to oversee and approve all expenditures, I also worked with other departments to adjust and set their budgets each year. The experience from these companies, that I worked for, will prepare me to know how the county budget operates, with incoming revenues and expenditures. I can and will work diligently with the county departments to make sure the county is using taxpayer's money wisely and efficiently. The last 12 years I have been an account manager in the heavy equipment

business. The experience I will bring, can be an asset to the county road and bridge department. Making decisions for the right equipment with the correct financing, leasing or renting option is just another one of my many qualifications.

Being a part of several organizations and committees, has given me vast experience and knowledge to help this county thrive.

Q - The County faces an uncertain financial future with unfunded-state mandates and shrinking financial assistance from the state and federal governments in the form of grants, loans and aid which

could place a larger financial burden on the backs of local tax payers. How do you think the County can address the many immediate needs while not over-taxing local property owners?

A - Grants that can be utilized to help subsidize some of the departments in the county, and I want to fully use all resources the county has to help with the tax burden. It is my strong belief the county budget needs to be worked on through out the fiscal year, not just at budget time. It is an important part of county government and needs the utmost attention. We need an economic development plan for the whole

county to market Upshur County. An economic plan will attract businesses to this county. It is important to have a vision that includes an immediate impact plan, a 5 year plan, 10 year plan, and a 20 year plan. I feel working with the commissioners and creating a committee within their precincts is very important. The committee should include, community leaders, business leaders, financial officials, and school administrators from all of Upshur County.

Q - Roads - everyone drives them every day and most people have something negative to say about Upshur County Roads. How will you address the need

to improve the Upshur County road system?

A - If elected, I want to work with our road administrator on a regular basis to address the needs of our county roads. As I have been campaigning, I have come across some unsatisfied citizens with our road issues. My experience with account management and sales in the heavy equipment business, can be beneficial to the citizens of this county.

Q - Why should Upshur County residents cast their vote for you? What sets you apart from your opponents?

A - I am a Conservative Republican with the same true concerns about the future of our county. I do not believe that raising taxes is the answer. There are other means to raising revenue for this county. My vast experience in the business world, which includes working with State and Federal agencies, has given me added experience to

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Byrd challenging Shipp for mayor, Owens taking on Alexander

Local Gladewater City Council races and Gladewater ISD school board races are now set.

The May 2 election will feature Place 1 incumbent Mayor J.D. Shipp being challenged by local businessman Matt Byrd, who is married to city council woman Karla Byrd. Karla Byrd had considered running for mayor after one year on the council.

Incumbent Place 2 councilman Farrell Alexander, who is a local realtor and served as chief of police in Gladewater, is being challenged by former city councilman Scott Owens. Owens works for a Longview auto dealer and has interests in Gladewater businesses.

And incumbent Place 3 city council woman Brandy Flanagan is running unopposed for another two-year term.

Over at the Gladewater ISD school board race, all three incumbents - Jon Keller - Position 4, David Floyd - Position 5 and Jamie Robertson - Position 6, filed for re-election and have no challengers. Since there is no contested race, Texas law allows GISD to cancel the election.



SHIPP



BYRD



ALEXANDER



OWENS

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Spotlight on leadership

By Suzanne Bardwell

Prenztion Z. Tyeskie, 'Zac', says he has attended Gladewater Schools "all of my life". The proud 13-year Bear is involved in football, powerlifting and the Bear News Network. At Gladewater High School's Spotlight on GHS Zac was a Most Athletic nominee for good reason. Earning All State honorable mention honors as a defensive lineman, All East Texas honorable mention and All District first team, his contributions to the regional semi-final champion Bear football team, as well as his teammates' are recognized throughout the region.

"I consider one of my greatest achievements going to the fourth round of the playoffs in football," Zac said. "I will compete in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes All Star game in June."

Zac says that being a Bear has impacted his personal development to a great degree.

"It has made me into a respectable young man that will push through during tough times," he said. "It has helped me to stay positive and encouraged me to be a good teammate and a good leader."

But Zac doesn't stop there.

"The greatest strength of GHS and GISD are the student-teacher relationships," Zac said. "The staff and teachers work hard to help me be the best I can be. The coaches have helped me become an honest, respectable man."

The young leader's advice for his peers has depth and is ageless. "Every moment and all circumstances is an opportunity to learn,"

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Showing his athletic chops as a junior with only two seconds left in the second quarter, linebacker #72 Zac Tyeskie recovered a Raider fumble and raced 45 yards for a touchdown that brought the score to 19-0 before the half. The Bears went on to beat Winsboro in the 2018 district game. Photo By Suzanne Bardwell

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GISD approves \$280K cable improvement 40 percent grant to underwrite project

By Suzanne Bardwell
Gladewater ISD Trustees had a 2-hour session at last week's meeting with multiple reports and discussion. Trustees approved 6-0, with George Glenn absent, a network cabling infrastructure improvement from ETEX for the high school and primary school after a lengthy discussion.

The projects would provide the infrastructure to increase bandwidth and speed for the staff and students, as well as allow for possible security improvements in the future. With a total cost of over \$280,000 the district can use Title II funds from an eRate Grant to pay approximately 40 percent of the total and possibly more according to board president Jon Keller. He also noted that the most the district would have to pay for the project is \$167,687.

Supt. Sedric Clark announced his plans to hold a GISD Vision 2025 Town Hall meeting to engage the community in the future of the district. The first Town Hall is scheduled for Monday, March 23 at 6 p.m.

Clark also announced that the Upshur County SSA Community School is scheduled to move out of the former Gladewater Middle School (old high school) by Dec. 31, 2020. The Community School will be relocated to a vacated

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Local sales tax soars 47.08%

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Feb. 12 announced he would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$1.04 billion in local sales tax allocations for February, which was 9.4% more than the amount distributed for February 2019.

And Gladewater's local sales tax showed a 47.08-percent increase over the same period last year. Gladewater's sales tax went from \$102,687.28 in 2019 to \$151,040.45 for February of this year. For the year, Gladewater stands at 37.65-percent ahead of the previous year.

Neighboring White also posted double digit increases with a 17.36-percent increase - \$98,028.82 compared to \$115,051.18 in 2019. Gilmer posted a 16.92-percent increase - \$211,043.80 compared to \$180,494.33 last year.

The allocations are based on sales made in December by businesses that report tax monthly; October, November and December sales by quarterly filers; and 2019 sales by businesses that report tax annually. In his announcement, Hegar pointed out that Christmas shopping typically occurring in November was shifted into December due to the relatively late date of Thanksgiving (Nov. 28), helping make the February allocations substantially higher than in previous months.

City	Rate	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change	Payment YTD	Prior Year Payment YTD	% Change
GREGG COUNTY							
Clarksville City	1.000%	\$5,646.35	\$4,544.19	24.25%	\$9,593.88	\$8,101.68	18.41%
Easton	1.000%	\$4,461.37	\$1,874.10	138.05%	\$7,706.94	\$2,705.93	184.81%
Gladewater	1.500%	\$151,040.45	\$102,687.28	47.08%	\$240,638.36	\$174,815.41	37.65%
Kilgore	1.500%	\$861,656.54	\$980,061.17	-12.08%	\$1,480,842.80	\$1,742,764.43	-15.02%
Lakeport	1.500%	\$19,862.22	\$17,470.64	13.68%	\$33,646.26	\$30,803.40	9.22%
Longview	1.500%	\$3,771,503.49	\$3,562,214.14	5.87%	\$6,517,637.04	\$6,186,953.91	5.34%
Warren City	1.000%	\$1,837.05	\$1,498.95	22.55%	\$3,427.05	\$4,472.58	-23.37%
White Oak	1.500%	\$115,051.18	\$98,028.82	17.36%	\$184,333.31	\$183,361.45	0.53%
UPSHUR COUNTY							
Big Sandy	1.250%	\$23,612.51	\$24,424.35	-3.32%	\$36,258.52	\$40,013.04	-9.38%
East Mountain	1.000%	\$5,304.18	\$2,689.99	97.18%	\$8,550.53	\$4,677.35	82.80%
Gilmer	1.500%	\$211,043.80	\$180,494.33	16.92%	\$359,421.65	\$333,763.63	7.68%
Ore City	1.500%	\$19,652.26	\$17,138.63	14.66%	\$35,692.46	\$31,158.84	14.55%
Union Grove	1.000%	\$557.84	\$699.74	-20.27%	\$712.17	\$976.47	-27.06%

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Sweetness is needed more than ever...

It is good to be missed. Thank you dear readers who called, emailed or Facebook messaged to find out why I didn't have a column in last week's paper. I wish I had some story of exotic travel, or even an interesting reason, but the truth is there simply weren't enough hours in my days last week.

To my Gladewater, White Oak and Lindale readers who let me know I was missed I can't begin to tell you how much your inquiries and kind thoughts meant. But King, our new 'rescue' dog may be even more popular.

He received a lovely letter from Mr. Bobby Watson in Lindale and an invitation to have his picture made for the library. We are trying to find the time to do a little obedience training with the goal of eventually getting certified as a therapy dog. Then we look forward to trips to all three of our community libraries children's story time. King is already picking out books. BUT, I have told him he can not go until his manners improve a hair.

And speaking of hair, his is everywhere. If any of you pet lovers have a favorite vacuum that handles your long-haired family members shedding please let me know what it is because I am definitely in the market.

Now, down to the brass tacks of last week's Sweetheart Day. My sweetie came through with beautiful burnished orange roses, a matching silver cross and earrings, and a gold rose. A little "Beauty & the Beast" imagery there. I will let you determine which role best suits my sweetheart.

But King the Wonder Collie was the big winner on Sweetheart's Day. He got a very special Valentine from Faith Garlick. Faith is a beautiful little Sheltie from Lindale who wished the Kingster a happy heart day. She also pawed, "I saw your picture in the paper and you are a mighty handsome guy. Be mine! Love, Faith."

She is a looker for sure. King has had her picture handy and I am blushing as I tell you this, but he has drooled all over it. Obviously these two lovebirds will need chaperones when they eventually meet. Maybe a nice library event would be a good setting. First though, old Kingster has to learn how to be a gentleman. And, we are working on that.

Maybe we all ought to be working on our manners. In this strident, sometimes hateful, world of criticism where many people hide behind their computer and phone screens and post remarks they would never



King the Wonder Collie and Bardwell INK newshound has a new long distance romance in the works. Faith, the Lindale Sheltie, has sent her picture and a Valentine to the big boy and he seems to be enamored.

Photo By Suzanne Bardwell

say to someone's face, it is encouraging to know that there are so many kind, loving and humorous people in our corner of the world.

Thank you to our readers, neighbors and Valentine friends. You make our world a very special place to be. King agrees wholeheartedly and invites you to stop by our main office to say hello. Just remember, he is big, he is happy to see you, and he assumes you appreciate long blonde and white hair on your black pants.

And please remember dear readers, unlike unwanted dog hair, it is better to spread love, laughter and sweetness in our weary old world. Thank you for doing just that. We count you among our blessings and are so grateful to be a part of your lives.



Governor charges agency heads with developing workforce plan

AUSTIN — Requirements in House Bill 3, the sweeping school finance law passed by the Texas Legislature in 2019, require the state to plan for long-term workforce development.

On Feb. 13, Gov. Greg Abbott cited HB 3 in assigning the commissioners of three state agencies to identify strategies to meet the state's future workforce needs through his 2016 Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative. He instructed them to deliver a report to him by Sept. 1.

"The passage of House Bill 3 marked the most significant transformation of our education system in decades and an unwavering commitment to shaping the future of our workforce," Abbott said. "We must continue in our efforts to ensure Texans of all ages have access to high-quality education and workforce skills training that empowers them to achieve their full potential."

Abbott assigned Commissioners Mike Morath, Texas Education Agency; Harrison Keller, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; and Bryan Daniel, Texas Workforce Commission, to:

- Recommend strategies to ensure students are prepared for future growth at each stage in the educational pipeline;
- Ensure students who pursue higher education and workforce educational programs can complete those programs in a cost-efficient and timely manner;
- Analyze and make recommendations regarding strategies to streamline educational pathways, ensuring students can seamlessly transition into high-wage and high-demand careers;
- Improve the capacity within the state to produce credentials of value aligned with the needs of high-wage and high-demand occupations;
- Analyze and make recommendations to increase the supply of highly qualified and well-trained individuals entering the teaching profession across the state;
- Explore and recommend options for increasing economic activity in rural Texas, reducing regulatory burdens, and expanding educational partnerships between businesses, school districts and colleges; and
- Identify strategies to align agency operations, increase program efficiency, improve data analysis and capacity.

AG sues over travel ban

Texas is on a list of 11 states banned by a California law for state-funded travel. The law, Assembly Bill 1887, applies to states that since June 26, 2015, have enacted laws that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Feb. 10 filed an original action against the State of California in the U.S. Supreme Court, seeking to strike down the travel ban for states that uphold First Amendment protections for religious liberty.

What put Texas on California's list was HB 3859, a 2017 law allowing faith-based foster care and adoption agencies to decline placements they believe would violate their religious beliefs.

"Boycotting states based on nothing more than political disagreement breaks down the ability of states to serve as laboratories of democracy while still working together as one nation — the very thing our Constitution intended to prevent," Paxton said.

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Nonprofits: A Closer Look

In a recent column, I talked about the enormous economic benefits of Texas nonprofit entities. We estimate that when multiplier effects are considered, ongoing operations of Texas nonprofits



include \$110.0 billion in annual gross product and nearly 1.4 million jobs (about one-eighth of all private-sector jobs in the state).

In response to several requests, let's take a closer look at the types of organizations and their positive impacts.

Nonprofit entities have a wide variety of missions. Many provide health care, while others serve educational or social service needs and still others enhance our cultural opportunities in a variety of ways. By fulfilling their primary purposes, they also provide jobs and purchase needed input goods and services. As a result, they create substantial activity in communities across Texas.

When we looked at the categories of nonprofit organizations, we found that the largest by far in terms of economic impact is health care, with education also a major contributor. (We measured the economic benefits of nonprofits by type of entity including multiplier

effects; the full report includes results by local area and industry. It is available for free download at www.perrymangroup.com.)

Nonprofit hospitals lead to gains in business activity across Texas of \$43.5 billion in gross product per year and 526,800 jobs, not to mention the lifesaving and quality-of-life improving care these hospitals offer, which is obviously beyond price. Other types of nonprofit health care providers are also large contributors to the economy, including ambulatory care, with \$10.8 billion in annual gross product and 134,300 jobs, and nursing and residential care facilities with \$6.4 billion in annual gross product and over 77,700 jobs.

Educational institutions are another large group of nonprofit entities. Nonprofit elementary and secondary schools generate \$9.2 billion in annual gross product and 125,400 jobs. Colleges, universities, and professional schools contribute another \$6.8 billion in annual gross product and nearly 97,500 jobs.

Social assistance nonprofits generate an estimated \$10.5 billion in annual gross product and almost 147,000 jobs. There are a variety of other types of nonprofits such as religious organizations, research and management firms, philanthropic

organizations providing billions of dollars to myriad causes, and those related to the arts, entertainment, cultural, and recreational activity. These entities also support tens of thousands of jobs across the state and enrich our daily experience in countless ways.

Texas nonprofit entities improve lives, communities, and society and are crucial to the wellbeing of Texas families, businesses, communities, and the economy as a whole. They also

relieve some of the pressure on governmental entities that provide similar services, thus benefitting taxpayers. In short, nonprofits are vital to the economic and social fabric of Texas.

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (www.perrymangroup.com). He also serves as Institute Distinguished Professor of Economic Theory and Method at the International Institute for Advanced Studies.

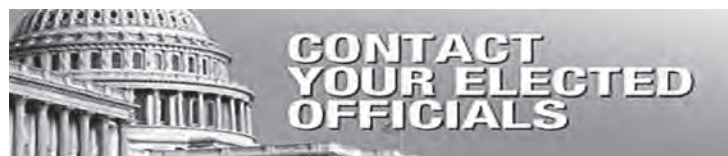
GISD approves \$280K cable improvement 40 percent grant to underwrite project

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Gilmer ISD building.

According to Clark the work on the central business and administrative offices complete with the technology offices to be completed this week. The boardroom, tax office and cafeteria are slated to be completed by the end of March with GISD's first board meeting in the new boardroom in April. Supt. Clark said that an Open House will be held as soon as renovation work is completed.

Trustees designation of stadium turf installation at the beginning of the school year came in with \$31,800 available at the end of the project which was applied to the Broadway Campus Central Administration renovation.

In other business the board hired Shana Schneider as a GHS math teacher and received resignations for GHS Ag teacher Dallas Walker, GHS chemistry/IPC teacher Althea Carling and GHS English teacher Emily Smith.



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The Gladewater Mirror

Periodicals Postage Paid
Gladewater, TX
USPS 575-140
ISSN Number 1045-5671

The Gladewater Mirror is published weekly by Bardwell Ink, LLC
211 N. Main Street
Gladewater, TX

POSTMASTER:
Send PS3579 to
The Gladewater Mirror
P.O. Box 1549
Gladewater, TX 75647

Subscriptions are \$35/year in Gregg, Smith & Upshur counties and payable in advance.

News & Advertising Deadlines: Noon Monday

Office Hours
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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THE REDEFINITION OF MARRIAGE

Time Magazine reported: "The Presbyterian Church made a historic decision to formally recognize gay marriage and allow same-sex couples to marry in its congregations. They voted to redefine their church constitution on marriage to include "a commitment between two people." One of their executive directors told the *New York Times*, "Finally, the church in its constitutional documents fully recognizes that the love of gays and lesbian couples is worth celebrating in the faith community."

I suppose, when a church is governed by their "Church Constitution," and the votes of "regional bodies," and "General Assembly," instead of the Bible, they can redefine marriage any way they please. But, I'm not interested in the Presbyterian Church's definition of marriage, but I do care how the Bible defines marriage (always between a man and a woman). (Matt. 19: 4-6). Thus, churches, in their constitutional documents, may recognize that "the love of gays and lesbian couples is worth celebrating in the faith community," but God's Word recognizes such as "sexual immorality" (Jude 7).

When man leaves the Word of God and "redefines marriage" according to the "doctrines and commandments of men" (Matt. 15: 8-9), what you get is a redefinition of the doctrine of God, and such is condemned in the Word of God. (Rev. 22: 8-9; Deut. 4: 2). Think on these things

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Houston, Gbawar 'students of month'

Rotary January students of the month were Gladewater High School seniors Christopher Houston and Tia Gbawar. Christopher Houston is not only a proud 4-year member of the Bear Marching Band, he also serves as drum major who earned a position as alternate in the All Region Band this year.

Christopher currently serves as president of the National Honor Society and was a nominee for Most Likely to Succeed, Most Studious and Mr. GHS in Spotlight on GHS. He also received this year's Math departmental award. He was named a Youth Pathfinder of the Year by the Red Rock Historic Association this past weekend.

As a junior, Chris was a member of the brass quartet that advanced to state competition in Solo & Ensemble. He was also a member of the Superintendent's Advisory Council, Vice President of Student Council and was a Texas Association of Future Educators state qualifier. The scholar-athlete was also a member of the tennis team, team captain and ranked second. He placed fourth in boys singles at the district tennis tournament. As a sophomore he placed fifth in boys doubles at the district tennis tournament. He was also named Sophomore Class

Favorite and was the varsity mascot. Chris was a freshman class favorite nominee in Spotlight on GHS, a member of the jazz band, tennis team, choir and played the king in the GHS Theater production of "Alice in Wonderland". After graduation Christopher plans to attend Baylor University majoring in pre-med with a minor in biology. He plans to become a cardio-thoracic surgeon. His mother is Crystilla Houston.

Tia Gbawar is the Vice President of the Class of 2020. In Spotlight on GHS she was named Most Beautiful and was a nominee for Most Popular and a Miss GHS nominee. Tia is also a HoneyBear Lieutenant. She has been a member of the Student Advisory Council and is currently working to achieve her certified nursing assistant credentials through Gladewater High School's CNA program. Tia is a proud four year member of the HoneyBears. As both a junior and sophomore she served as HoneyBear head social officer.

Tia was voted sophomore class favorite in Spotlight on GHS and as freshman class favorite. She is a member of the Texas Association of Future Educators and served as freshman class secretary. Also as



a freshman she was ranked first in Solo & Ensemble in choir. After high school she plans to attend Texas A&M University of Texarkana to pursue a career in nursing. Her parents are Tabatha Graham and Dennis Gbawar.

Historic marker to be unveiled at Dickson Colored Orphanage Ceremony

By Phillip Williams

U.S. Rep. Louie Gohmert and State Rep. Jay Dean are expected to attend the public unveiling of a state historical marker for the historic Dickson Colored Orphanage Ceremony in Gilmer Saturday morning.

The ceremony is set for 10 a.m. The cemetery is located on south U.S. 271, across from Robroy Industries.

In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved to Bubba's Fat Burgers and BBQ, located beside the graveyard. The cafe will offer coffee to those attending the ceremony, whether it is indoors or outdoors.

Among others expected to attend Saturday's event are three candidates in the March 3 Democrat Party primary. They are Hank Gilbert, opposing Republican Gohmert for Gohmert's Congressional seat; Audrey Spanko, running for District 1 state senator against incumbent Republican Bryan Hughes; and Jurel White, running for Upshur County tax assessor-collector against Republican incumbent Luana Howell.

Also expected to attend are Dr. Richard Hackney of the Cherokee Historical Society, Upshur County Democrat Party



Chairman Winifred Jackson, and DeBorah Bankston, who is unopposed in the March 3 Republican primary for GOP county chairman.

Eddie Turner, who will be master of ceremonies, said the event is expected to last no more than an hour. Turner, a member of the Upshur County Historical Commission, joined W.T. Turner, Wilson Truman, Huey Mitchell and Gene Turner in preparing the paperwork to obtain the historical marker.

The commission, which has raised \$800 for improvements to the cemetery, hopes to raise the remaining \$3,700 needed for the work by Saturday.

The funds will go for fencing around the site, and road surface material in the right-of-way of 271. Fencing cost is \$3,000 and the road material will cost \$1,500,

said the commission.

A flyer from the commission says the orphanage, "rediscovered in 2014," was the sole orphanage for "colored children" in Texas from 1901-1943.

The commission and numerous volunteers provided research about the cemetery, while "clearing the site of debris, identifying marker stones and setting crosses at the unmarked grave indentations," the flyer says. In addition, it notes, the Upshur County Road and Bridge Department cleared the path to the site, and the historical marker has been installed.

Anyone wishing to donate may contact Turner at 903-801-0004, or make checks payable to the Upshur County Historical Commission, housed in the old post office at 119 Simpson Street on the downtown Gilmer square.



Homeplace RV Park was recognized by Clarksville City city manager Matt Maines and Mayor Joe Spears as the Business of the Quarter. The RV Park is built on land that is part of an original Mexican Land Grant that has been continuously owned by the Rogers family since 1835. The office, laundry, bathrooms and exercise room are located in the third homestead located on the property. Originally the land was used for farming and a sawmill until the early 1930s and the East Texas Oil Boom. Many wells were drilled on the property during that time. A few are still in operation. From the 1930s until early 1960, part of the land was leased to Cities Service Oil Company for their Oil Camp. Cities Service built 38 homes on the property to house their employees. That lease terminated in 1961 and the houses were moved off the property. The infrastructure was in place and that was the impetus of The Shady Acres Mobile Home Park now called Oakwood. With the growth of the RV industry the Homeplace RV Park was created. Courtesy Photo

LAST MINUTE TAX TIPS

Sales taxes

You have the option of deducting sales taxes or state income taxes off your federal income tax. In a state that doesn't have its own income tax, this can be a big money saver. Even if you paid state taxes, the sales tax break might be a better deal if you made a big purchase like an engagement ring or a car. You have to itemize to take the deduction rather than take the standard deduction. TurboTax helps to determine whether itemizing or taking the standard deduction is best for you based on your entries and, if you itemize, whether you should take the sales tax deduction or deduct state income taxes.

Insurance premiums

Medical expenses can blow any budget, and the IRS is sympathetic to the cost of insurance premiums—at least in some cases. Deductible medical expenses have to exceed 7.5% of your adjusted gross income (AGI) to be claimed as an itemized deduction for 2019. Beginning in 2020, the threshold increases to 10% of AGI. However, if you're self-employed and responsible for your own health insurance

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coverage, you might be able to deduct 100% of your premium cost. That gets taken off your adjusted gross income rather than as an itemized deduction.

Tax savings for teacher
It's the rare teacher who doesn't have to reach into her own pocket every now and then to purchase

items needed for the classroom. While it may sometimes seem like nobody appreciates that largesse, the IRS does. It allows qualified K-12 educators to deduct up to \$250 for materials. That gets subtracted from your income, so you can take advantage of it even if you don't itemize.



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Dennis and Donette King

JOIN US FOR

Storytime

Storytime at
Lee Public Library
resumes on
Thursdays @ 10:30 am



Like us on Facebook

Lee Public Library
312 W. Pacific Ave.
Gladewater, TX 75647



At their recent quarterly meeting which took place in the historic courtroom of the 1901 Harrison County Courthouse in Marshall, Texas, members of EasTexConnects display the 2020 "Get On Board, East Texas" sign to help promote the benefits of public transportation to the people of our region.

National "Get On Board" Day set for East Texas region

Members of the regional transportation committee, EasTexConnects, and the East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) announced that they will join with other public transportation systems nationwide to participate in National "Get On Board" Day on Thursday, April 16, 2020.

The announcement about this region-wide event called "Get On Board, East Texas" was shared at the transportation committee's quarterly meeting which took place recently at the 1901 Harrison County Courthouse in Marshall, Texas.

Sponsored by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), the 2020 National "Get On Board" Day is a day designed to encourage people to explore the public transportation options in

their communities and to learn more about the benefits that public transportation provides.

Christina Anderson, chairman of the EasTexConnects regional transportation committee, stated: "EasTexConnects, along with the committee's fiscal agent, East Texas Council of Governments, are excited to have the opportunity to work with counties, cities, transportation providers, social service agencies, and citizens throughout our 14-county northeast Texas region to help raise awareness about the economic, environmental, and quality of life benefits provided by public transportation and to reach the people who need this transportation."

Ms. Anderson added, "Access to reliable, affordable transportation can sometimes be a barrier in some people's lives. Public transportation can open up all kinds of possibilities for increased mobility. So, "Get On Board" Day is designed to help students, seniors, millennials, veterans, citizens with disabilities, and those who may need a ride to work or other destinations to learn about and try the effective transportation options that we, in East Texas, are fortunate to have in our large rural region."

Storytime held in Gilmer

GILMER--Two books will be read to small children at both of the Upshur County Library's weekly "Storytime" sessions Thursday.

"Bird Hugs" by Ged Adamson, and "Smash! Crash!" by Jon Scieszka, will be presented at the 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. sessions at the library, 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas Hwy. 154.)

A craft will follow Storytime, said Debbie White of the library's Children's Services division.

The events are free to the public, but children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, contact the library at (903) 843-5001 or visit its website at www.youseemore.com/upshur.

Early voting underway

By Phillip Williams

Early voting for the March 3 Upshur County Republican and Democrat party primaries opened Tuesday (Feb. 18) at county Elections Administrator Lory Harle's office on the second floor of the county courthouse in downtown Gilmer.

Times and dates for in-person early voting, all being held at her office, are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 18-21, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22; and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 24-28.

Each party's ballot contains offices ranging from the county level to President. Voters can only vote in one party's primary.

Deadline for the office to receive an application for a mailed ballot is Feb. 21, noted deputy Elections Administrator Kami Whitworth.

Those wanting to apply should call the office at 903-680-8506 or mail the request to it at 100 W. Tyler, Gilmer, Tx. 75644.

To vote by mail, a person must either be at least 65 years old, have a disability, or expect to be absent from the county during the entire early voting period and on election day, Whitworth pointed out.

Those voting in person must present a photo identification, and curbside voting will be available for the handicapped, she said. She added that Harle's office encourages citizens to vote early to avoid standing in line on election day.

The GOP ballot has four contested races for county office. They include county commissioner in precincts one and three, and constable in precincts three and four. There is also one contested race for a GOP precinct chairmanship.

The only Democrat seeking county office is Jurel White, running for tax assessor-collector. She will face Republican incumbent Luana Howell, who is unopposed in the GOP primary, in the November general election.

Anyone with questions about voting may contact Harle's office at 903-680-8506.

Upshur GOP precinct convention set for March 7

By Phillip Williams

The Republican Party of Upshur County will hold its precinct conventions March 7 and county convention March 21, both at Lantana Activity Center near Gilmer, announced GOP County Chairman Cynthia Ridgeway.

Those attending the precinct conventions will elect delegates and alternate delegates to the county convention. The center is at 80 Lantana Road just north of Gilmer.

The precinct conventions, which can also vote on proposed resolutions, will be held at staggered times throughout the day. Any registered voter in the county who either voted in the March 3 GOP primary or takes an "oath of affirmation" that he/she is a Republican can participate.

Anyone who votes in the March 3 Democrat primary, however, is ineligible to participate in the GOP conventions.

For more information, call Ridgeway at 903-968-6822 or 903-736-9615, or party Vice-Chairman John Melvin Dodd at 903-790-9598.

The students of Weldon Elementary invite you to attend our annual

Black History Month Program

Friday, February 21, 2020
8:30 a.m.

Weldon Elementary Auditorium
314 E. Saunders
Gladewater, TX 75647

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- Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174
- Grace Baptist • 903-845-6440
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- New Hope Baptist • 903-845-3042
- St. James Baptist • 903-845-5028
- Union Grove Baptist • 903-845-4894
- Joy Baptist • 903-790-4978

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- North Loop Church of Christ • 903-845-2531
- North Main Church of Christ • 903-845-2816
- Rocky Church of Christ

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- St. Theresa's Catholic Church • 903-845-2306

CHARISMATIC

- New Life Church • 903-845-8108

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

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LUTHERAN

- Our Redeemer Lutheran • 903-758-2019

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- Church of the Nazarene • 903-845-4425

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10:15 a.m. - Morning Worship

WEDNESDAY: 6-7:30 p.m.

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- New Life Fellowship Church • 903-261-4227
- Gladewater Bible Church • 903-445-7234
- Grace Tabernacle • 903-309-8801

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- First United Pentecostal • 903-845-2922
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- Abundant Life Temple U.P.C. • 903-845-6043
- Southern Pentecostal Church (Starville) PRESBYTERIAN
- First Presbyterian • 903-845-2905

OTHER

- Starville Church of the Living God • 903-877-3205
- Friendship Community Church
- Full Faith Holiness • 903-845-8195

Clarksville City Baptist Church

2213 Old Longview Hwy. Gladewater, Texas

	Sunday	Wednesday
Sunday School	9:45am	Bible Study 6:30pm
Morning Service	11am	
Evening Service	6pm	

Phone (903) 845-3248

Mail: PO BOX 568, WhiteOak, TX. 75693

Grace Baptist Church

212 E. George Richey Rd., Gladewater

Schedule of Services

Sunday	Prayer and Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
Sunday School	10 a.m.	
Morning Service	11 a.m.	
Evening Service	6:30 p.m.	903-845-6440

Wednesday
Pastor Jim Withers

First Christian Church Disciples of Christ

309 Cotton Street, Gladewater

Pastor - Dr. Ray Boulter

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY
Sunday School 9:45 a.m./Worship 10:50 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study/Fellowship Hall 6:30 p.m.

www.fccgladewater.org

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- Gladewater Revival Church
- Living Hope Fellowship • 903-261-2023
- Love of God Church • 903-845-2623
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City Council meeting set for Thursday

The Gladewater City Council will meet Thursday at 6 p.m at City hall for its monthly meeting and will discuss the following agenda items:

- Hotel/Motel report for October – December 2019
- Blanket Permit for the Art & Wine Stroll to be held on March 28 by the Gladewater Tourism & Downtown Association
- Texas Department of Public Safety Interlocal Cooperation Contract Failure to Appear (FTA) Program
- Hear the annual Gladewater Police Department Use of Force report
- Hear the annual Gladewater Police Department Racial Profiling Report
- Consider bids for Code Enforcement/Manna House HVAC replacement
- Consider accounts receivable collections
- Consider the Lake Board recommendation regarding revision to width of private boat docks per the Gladewater Code of Ordinances.
- Consider Planning & Zoning Commission recommendation regarding Canfield Square – replat and North Street - subdivision
- Consider an ordinance to close and abandon a 20' wide alley in NCB 6 lying in a southerly direction from Quitman Street to alley extending from N. Main Street to N. Center Street. This is so the bank building on Main Street can be sold.
- Consider a committee recommendation regarding Lake Store/Bait Shop RFP

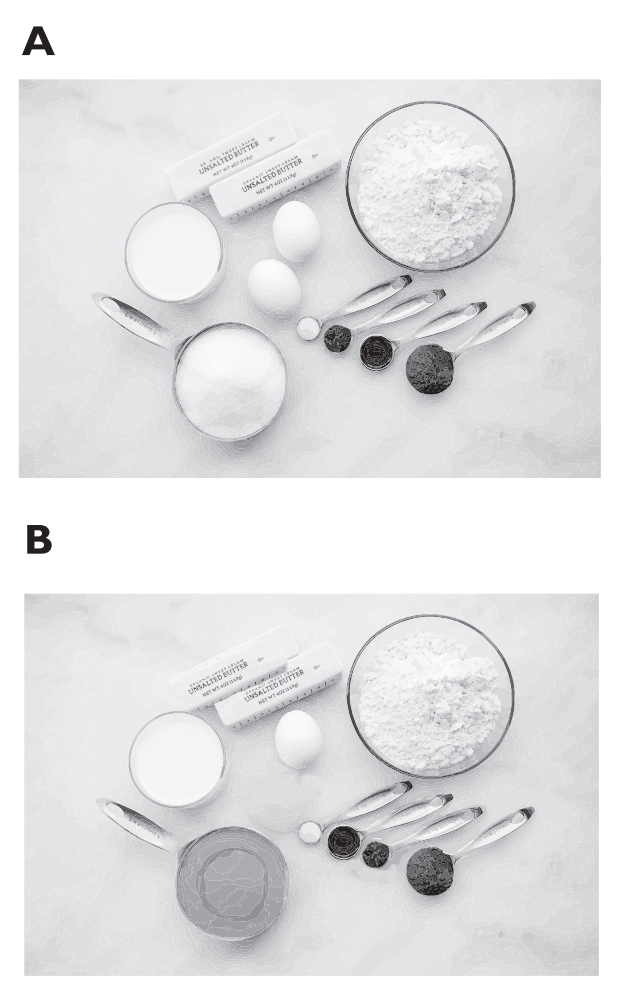


THIS METHOD OF COOKING INVOLVES DRY HEAT, USUALLY IN AN OVEN.

ANSWER: BAKING

What's the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. Extra stick of butter 2. Measuring spoon order changed 3. Missing egg 4. Sugar is brown sugar

THIS DAY IN...



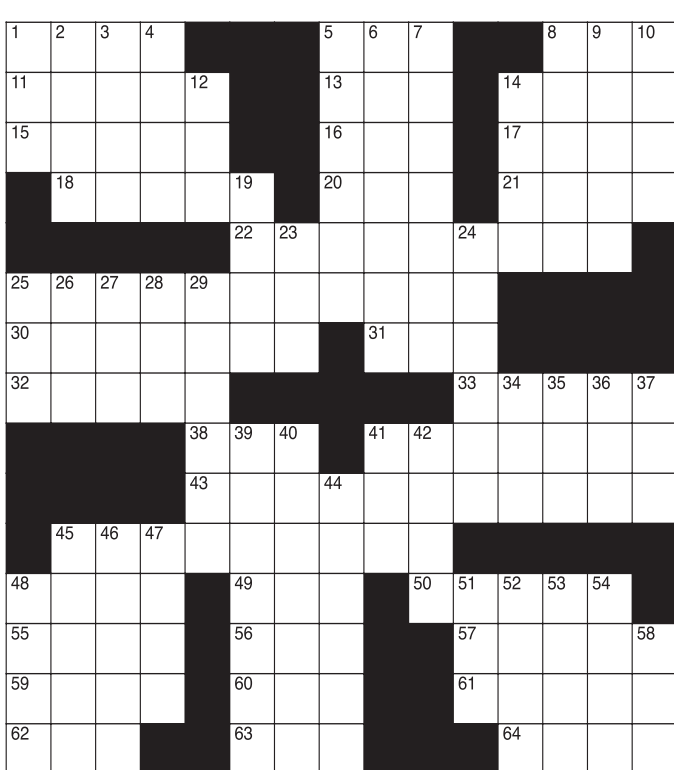
HISTORY

- 1784: JOHN WESLEY CHARTERS THE METHODIST CHURCH.
- 1953: JAMES WATSON AND FRANCIS CRICK DESCRIBE THE THEORY THAT TWO STRANDS OF DNA ARE COILED IN A DOUBLE HELIX.
- 1983: THE FINAL EPISODE OF "M*A*S*H" AIRS, MAKING IT THE MOST-WATCHED PROGRAM IN TELEVISION HISTORY.



FOLD

mix an ingredient gently with another ingredient



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Fall down | 33. French noble family |
| 5. American TV company (abbr.) | 38. Shock therapy |
| 8. Exclamation that denotes disgust | 41. Having characteristics of both sexes |
| 11. Gallantry | 43. Large suitcase |
| 13. Chinese word signifying "doctrine" | 45. One who identifies God with the universe |
| 14. Prefix meaning "beside" | 48. Swiss river |
| 15. Act of imitating | 49. Frequently |
| 16. Tall, rounded vase | 50. Wipe out |
| 17. Sixth month of Jewish civil calendar | 55. Invests in little enterprises |
| 18. Rural Iranian village | 56. Waste |
| 20. Time zone | 57. Resembles a large shrimp |
| 21. Military weapon (abbr.) | 59. Derogatory name for rural resident |
| 22. Gets rid of | 60. Menswear accessory |
| 25. Aggressive | 61. Tropical American tree |
| 30. Addressed one's appearance | 62. Pitching statistic |
| 31. Affirmative | 63. Camera type |
| 32. Denoting Indo-European languages | 64. Cardinal number that is the sum of five and one |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Surgical procedure of the heart (abbr.) | 28. Wreath |
| 2. Northern Scandinavia indigenous person | 29. Graduate with a degree |
| 3. Evergreen trees and shrubs | 34. What thespians do |
| 4. Meat from a domestic hog | 35. "Orange is the New Black" character |
| 5. State of insensibility | 36. Comedienne Gasteyer |
| 6. Herb | 37. Romanian monetary unit |
| 7. Annuity | 39. People treated as a group |
| 8. San Diego-based ballplayer | 40. Small European plant |
| 9. Members of a Semitic people | 41. First responder group |
| 10. Any physical damage | 42. A person's head |
| 12. Woolen rug | 44. Giggle |
| 14. Alsos Mission leader | 45. Bura- : Chadic language |
| 19. Aromatic plant used as culinary herb | 46. Snout moth genus |
| 23. Where you sleep | 47. Body part |
| 24. Ruled Russia | 48. Inspirational Wimbledon champ |
| 25. Indicates density of data (abbr.) | 51. Revolutions per minute |
| 26. Sea eagle | 52. American software developer |
| 27. Type of light bulb | 53. Ancient Greek city |
| | 54. Female sheep |
| | 58. "The Science Guy" |

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Cookie
SPANISH: Galleta
ITALIAN: Dolcetto
FRENCH: Biscuit
GERMAN: Kekes

Did you know?

BAKERIES TYPICALLY MAKE AND SELL SWEET CAKES, COOKIES, PASTRIES, AND OTHER DESSERTS, AS WELL AS BREADS.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CUPCAKE

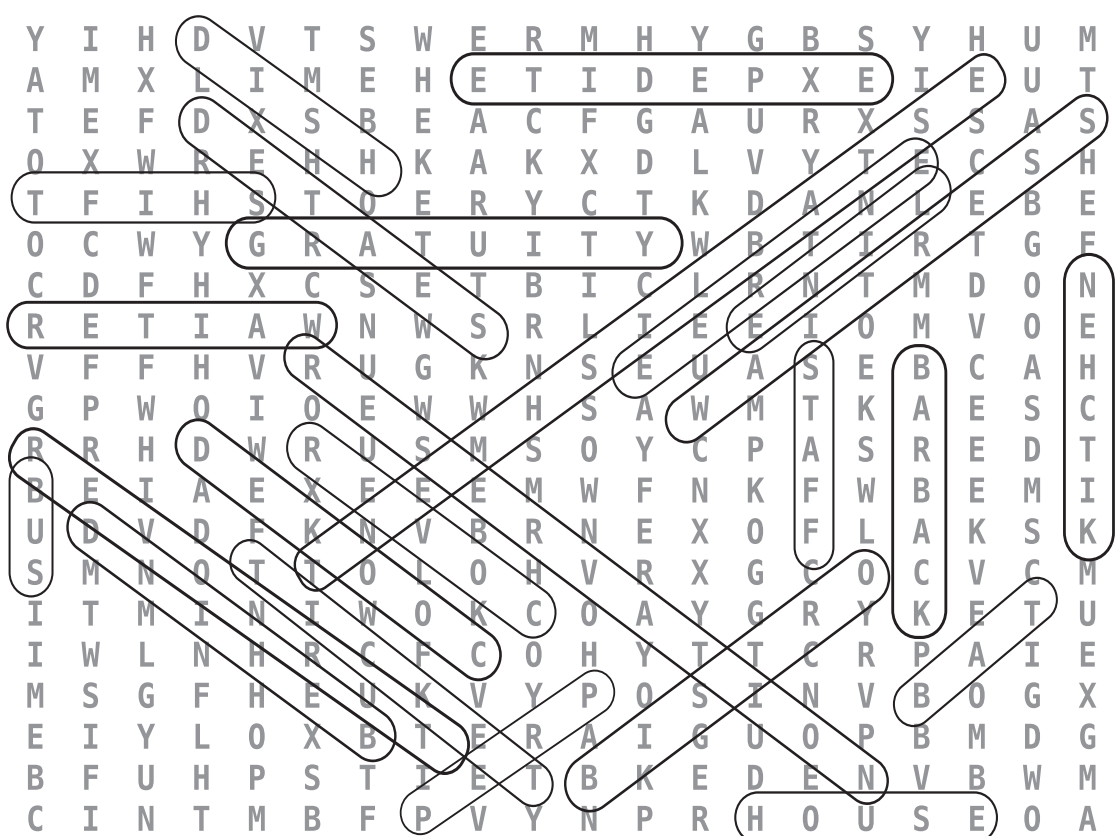
FOOD SERVICE WORD SEARCH

Y I H D V T S W E R M H Y G B S Y H U M
 A M X L I M E H E T I D E P X E I E U T
 T E F D X S B E A C F G A U R X S S A S
 O X W R E H H K A K X D L V Y T E C S H
 T F I H S T O E R Y C T K D A N L E B E
 O C W Y G R A T U I T Y W B T I R T G F
 C D F H X C S E T B I C L R N T M D O N
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 V F F H V R U G K N S E U A S E B C A H
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 R R H D W R U S M S O Y C P A S R E D T
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 B F U H P S T I E T B K E D E N V B W M
 C I N T M B F P V Y N P R H O U S E O A

WORDS

- BAR-BACK
- BEHIND
- BISTRO
- BUS
- COOKED
- COVER
- DISH
- ENTREE
- ESTABLISHMENT
- EXPEDITE
- GRATUITY
- HOUSE
- KITCHEN
- LINE
- PREP
- RESERVATION
- SEATED
- SHIFT
- STAFF
- TAB
- TICKET
- TURNOVER
- WAITER
- WAITRESS

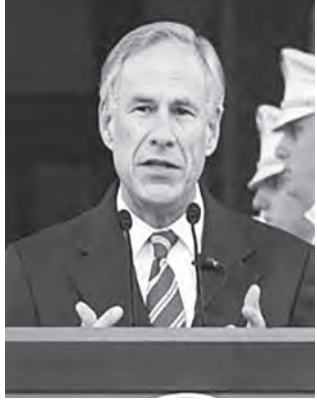
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.



PUZZLE SOLUTION



Gov. Abbott to speak at Lincoln Day Dinner



GILMER--Texas Gov. Greg Abbott is scheduled to be featured speaker at the Republican Party of Upshur County's fund-raising Lincoln Day Dinner here Feb. 28.

The event is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the Gilmer Civic Center and some 400 are expected to attend, said DeBorah Bankston, coordinator of the dinner. Call, message or email Bankston at (903) 812-1530 or bankstondecos@yahoo.com. Tickets are available at Eventbrite.com.

Oil Patch TRTA to meet Feb. 27

Oil Patch Texas Retired Teachers & School Employees will meet Thursday, Feb. 27 at 1:30 p.m. at Gladewater's First United Methodist Church's Jeter Hall. Scott Flanagan of Gym101 will present the program. All retired school employees are urged to participate in TRTA as it is the watchdog organization which protects retired school employees' insurance and pension benefits and maintains close relationships with legislators. State membership is \$35 a year and local dues are \$10.

UTT offers free SAT prep courses

The University of Texas at Tyler announced that it is offering free Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) preparatory courses to help East Texas high school students prepare for the March 14 exam. Partnering with Capstone Advising, UT Tyler will offer the course on its Tyler, Longview and Palestine campuses beginning Saturday, Feb. 15 through Saturday, March 7. Courses will be held at the following times and dates: Feb. 15 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday

Feb. 29 8 a.m. - Noon Saturday (Practice Test), March 7 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday. Space is limited to 30 students per campus, and food will be served during each session. To register or for more



information, visit uttyler.edu/community/test-prep-cour

Lee Library Storytime

Lee Public Library children's story time will be this Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Lee Public Library is located at 312 West Pacific Avenue.

Lions Camp registration open

The Texas Lion Camp Children's registration is now open. Those eligible for the variety of camps includes children with: physical disabilities (includes cancer and epilepsy) ages 7-16 May 31-July 4; Down Syndrome children ages 12-16 July 5-11, children with Type One diabetes ages 8-15, July 19-Aug. 1. Registration may be completed online at: <http://lionscamp.com/become-a-camper.html#Apply>. For more information go online to www.lionscamp.com.

Manna House food, cash donations needed

Manna House provided 90 family holiday Christmas boxes that served 169 adults and 119 children. There were also 42 guardians who were able to provide Christmas toys for 92 children ages 12 and under because of the Manna House Santa Toy Shop.

Manna House food donations may be dropped off 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the southwest corner of City Hall or at the Gladewater Mirror at 211 N. Main Street during business hours. Financial donations may be mailed to: Manna House, P.O. Box 808, Gladewater, 75647.

Glade GED/ESL classes

Kilgore College offers free GED and English as a Second Language classes at the Adult Education and Literacy Center in Gladewater. For

information call 903-236-2004.

UT Health East Texas offers free

Lunch & Learn about pain management

UT Health East Texas will offer a free Lunch and Learn seminar, titled Understanding Pain Management, on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at the UT Health Tyler Pavilion, 801 Clinic Drive.

Pain Management Physician Dr. Mark Hackbarth will discuss topics including understanding pain management, the key factors and treatment options for pain. Register online at UTHealthTylerHospital.com/pain or call 903-747-4749. Seating is limited and reservations are required by Feb. 21.

Garden Club to meet Feb. 24

The Gladewater Garden Club will meet Monday, Feb. 24 at 1 p.m. at the Gardens of Gladewater Clubhouse at 108 N. Lee Street. The program will be presented by Longview Lawn and Garden Center Master Gardener Danny Armstrong who will speak on garden water features. Hostesses for the meeting are Judy Banner, Diane Richardson and Linda Wells. All area interested gardeners are warmly invited to attend.

Antique Appraisal Fair Feb. 22

The Historic Upshur Museum in Gilmer will host its 17th annual Antique Appraisal Fair at the Yamboree Exhibit Building on Saturday, Feb. 22. The event is set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The building is located in the Yamboree Park off U.S. 271 and a short distance north of the Gilmer Civic Center. Cost per item appraised will be \$10, but three items will be appraised for \$20. The fair will also include a silent auction, displays, food, raffles and gift shop items. The museum is located on the northeast corner of the downtown Gilmer square in the old post office.

Upshur Democrats to meet Monday

The Upshur County Democrat Party will hold its regular monthly meeting Monday night.

The gathering is scheduled for 6 p.m. at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6715 on VFW Road near Gilmer, announced Upshur County Democrat Chairman Winifred Jackson. The county Democrat Party will hold its county convention and precinct conventions March 21 at Lantana Activity Center on Lantana Road near Gilmer, Jackson added.

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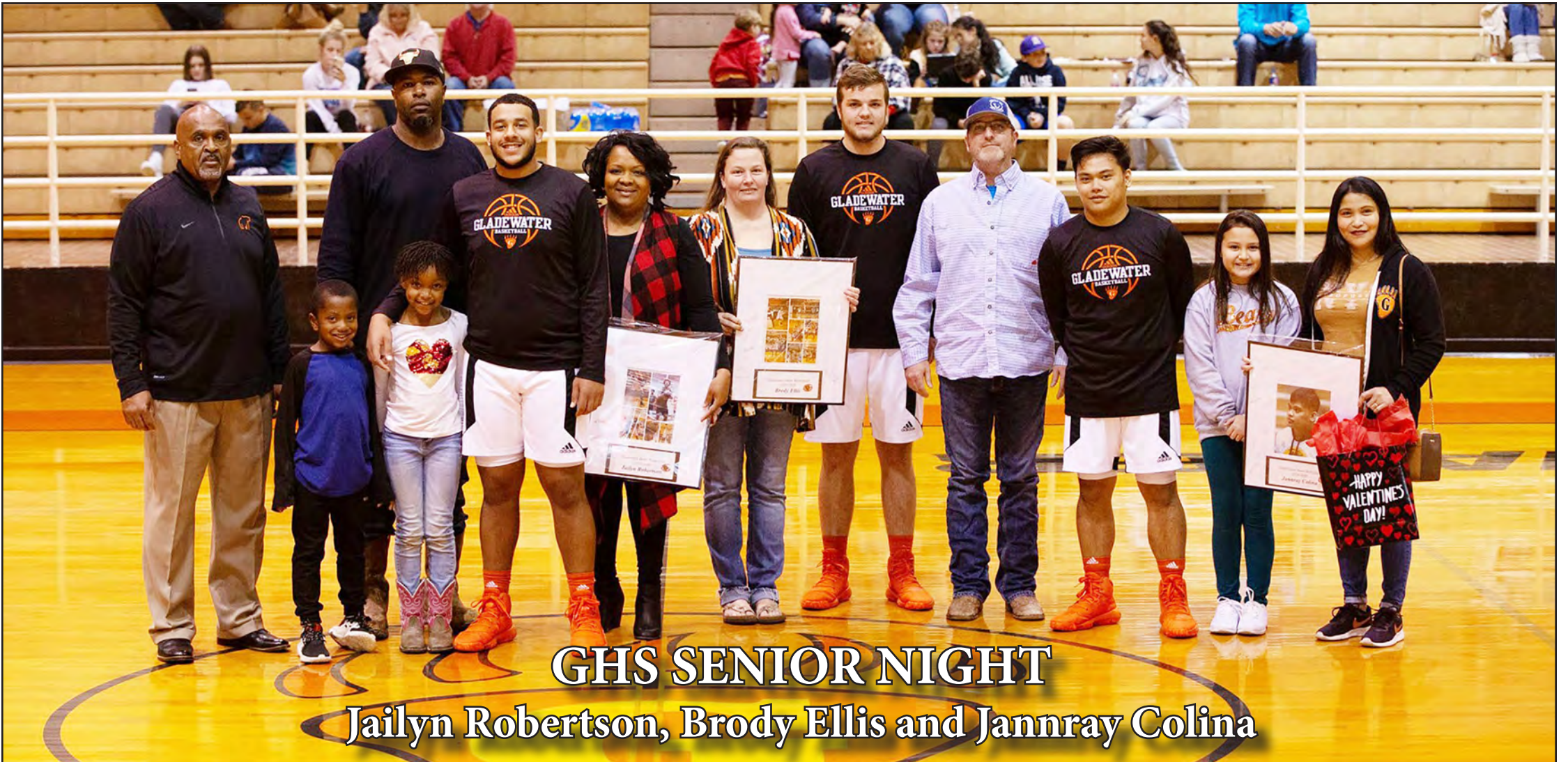
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GHS SENIOR NIGHT

Jailyn Robertson, Brody Ellis and Jannray Colina



Although they outscored the Daingerfield Lady Tigers in the fourth, the Gladewater Lady Bears impressive season came to an end at the buzzer, falling 77-60. The Lady Bears finished out district play at 8-6 and made the playoffs for the first time since 2005. Against Daingerfield Monday night the Lady Bears took an early lead when KJ Hooper sank a three answering Daingerfield's opening two. The hold on to the lead was short lived when Dangerfield tied things up at 9-9. The teams traded the lead back and forth but, relentless pressure from the Lady Tigers eventually put Gladewater back on their heels and playing catch-up and trailing by 14 after one. Daingerfield outscored Gladewater in the second as well and took a 48-23 lead into the half. The Lady Bears tighten things up in the third but still faced a 31 point deficit to begin the fourth. Ebony Pipkin who had 28 points on the night led a hard charge in the fourth trying to rally. Hai'leigh Oliver made up 15 of the final tally while also grabbing 8 off the boards. Senior Victoria Perry contributed 12 points plus 5 assists along with 10 rebounds. Senior KJ Hooper pulled down 4 rebounds and scored 3 while Bri Boyd had 2 points.

Photo by Chris Jones



The Union Grove Lady Lions beat McLeod 62-41 Monday night to claim the Bi-District Champions. Now its on to the next round, tentatively set for Friday at Mt. Vernon at 6 p.m.

The Union Grove Lady Lions finished off the regular season in winning fashion - downing Tyler Christian Heritage 59-43 in a warm-up game prior to the start of the playoffs.

On Tuesday night the Lady Lions outscored the Indians in Carlisle 23-4 in the first period. Carleigh Judd scored a game high 17 points. Things never got better for Carlisle as Mac-ey Alston put in 15 points while Madelynn Lacaze and Makena Littlejohn split 28 down the middle in route to a 67-26 Lady Lions win.



Gladewater's Nick Lincoln (0) advances the ball around a West Rusk defender.

Photo by Chris Jones

ALL STATE FOOTBALL

(To see statewide list of honors go to Gladewater Mirror's Facebook page)

GLADEWATER BEARS

First Team	Honorable Mention
Defense	
Zach Villarreal-senior	Defense-Linemen
	Zac Tyeskie-senior
Second Team	
Offense	Secondary
Trent Bolt-senior	Nick Lincoln-junior
Third Team	Utility
Tight End	Robert Hodges-senior
Jailyn Robertson-senior	

Bears fall 62-56

West Rusk outscored Gladewater by 9 in the first period and by 6 in the second to take a 15 point cushion into halftime. The Bears would stop the bleeding in the third matching the Raiders point for point but, couldn't cut into the lead. In the fourth Gladewater began to rally.

The defense clamped down as the Bears went on a 7-0 run that brought their deficit down to single digits. The Raiders went 1:30 into the fourth before finding the basket. Seeing their lead dwindle, a frantic West Rusk began to foul, sending the Bears into the bonus with over seven minutes to play and into double bonus with over five minutes. Gladewater was assessed only two fouls in the second half.

Unfortunately, the Bears struggled at the free-throw line and were unable to take advantage, allowing the Raiders to escape with a 62-56 win. In their final game in Bill Waters Gymnasium, seniors Jailyn Robertson and Brody Ellis put up 10 and 2 points respectively. DJ Allen led all scoring with 18.

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Courthouse riots, Sam Houston, and economic development discussed

By Phillip Williams

Several candidates in the March 3 Republican primary's four contested races for Upshur County public office addressed various issues at a forum sponsored by East Texans for Liberty near Gilmer last week.

Speaking were two of the three candidates for Precinct 1 county commissioner, four of the five running for Precinct 3 commissioner, both candidates for Precinct 3 constable and two of the three running for Precinct 4 constable.

The candidates were given up to five minutes each, and no questions were allowed from the floor except to Sheriff Larry Webb, since he is unopposed for re-election and requested he be allowed to field them. Also addressing the gathering were incoming county GOP Chairman DeBorah Bankston, who is unopposed for the post in the primary; and Tammy Blair, a candidate for the State Republican Executive Committee, which will be elected by the state GOP convention.

Gene Dolle, current precinct one constable who is running for county commissioner in that precinct, said he favored getting industry into the county and "economic development." He also said the county must take care of its employees since they could earn higher pay in surrounding counties.

Dolle additionally said Upshur officials "need to be ready," predicting homelessness and the political protest group Antifa will come to the county (as they have elsewhere). "Don't think that we're immune to it," he warned, saying citizens "don't want to walk through human feces."

One of Dolle's opponents, Jim Bardwell, countered by telling the crowd that he didn't think Upshur County had experienced a riot on the courthouse square since 1860 when former Texas Governor Sam Houston spoke there urging Texans to not enter the Civil War. Bardwell said he didn't see a need to waste taxpayer money on riot gear.

"I want to have planning sessions" for five, 10, 15 and 20-year plans for the county, that "I personally am tired of being taxed," and he wants to save taxpayer dollars - and one way he would do so is by declining to go on the county's insurance plan, thus saving taxpayers \$31,000 over four years.

Since Upshur has 715 miles of county-maintained roads with ditches on both sides, and less than \$3 million budgeted for the Road and Bridge Department, Bardwell said the county should prioritize the repairs.

The other candidate in precinct one, James Noble, did not attend.

A candidate for precinct three commissioner, Robert Green, suggested having a workshop with elected officials and businesses to

form a board to set goals and strategies for economic development. To overcome raising taxes, he said, the county should increase its tax base by obtaining new businesses.

Tax abatements are "the main incentive that a county has," Green added, also suggesting the county "research the feasibility" of a public improvements district.

Kent Abernathy, another candidate in precinct one, called for long-term and short-term road plans and looking at voting places, saying it was inconvenient for some citizens to have to vote early at the Upshur County Courthouse in Gilmer (the lone early voting site for the primary).

Abernathy, who said he was in the auto business for 25 years, said he had turned around a Glade-water car dealership to the point that it competed with some Dallas dealers. Pledging to be a "full-time commissioner" with a listed phone number, he also said county employees "ought to have some say" in the information technology equipment they use.

Another precinct one candidate, Michael Ashley, said, "I want better roads and lower taxes." He also said that "we have to plan for growth because it's coming, whether we want it or not."

Pledging to "represent the interest" of taxpayers, Ashley added, "If I'm needed at the courthouse, I'll be available as a full-time commissioner."

Yet another candidate in that precinct, Richard Smith, said he planned "to keep our tax rates down" by making "sure every department has what they need, but not what they want."

He further said he wanted to see economic development, noting "we need industry in this county," improve roads and bridges, and proposed that commissioners court members chair committees to

work on economic growth in individual precincts. In addition, Smith suggested utilizing the East Texas Council of Governments and devising a marketing plan.

The other commissioner candidate in precinct three, Daphne Grimes, did not attend.

A candidate for precinct three constable, Ronnie Mitchell, acknowledged that his opponent, appointed incumbent Ryan Ludvigson, would be a "good constable," but that "I look forward to working with the next commissioners court" if elected back to his former post. He noted he is 69 years old and a lifelong county resident, and also warned that candidate signs which were illegally in the rights-of-way of some roads had been removed that day.

Ludvigson returned Mitchell's compliment, saying "If I was't running against him, I'd be voting for him." He said that since being appointed in December, he has served papers and warrants, helped other law enforcement agencies and done extra patrols to detect and suppress crime.

David Thompson, running for precinct four constable, cited his 27 years in law enforcement, all in Upshur or Gregg counties, and said a constable "should be out patrolling" as he wanted to be seen.

He also said he wanted to "serve all the warrants that I can."

The incumbent constable seeking re-election, Larry Sewell, said he had gone into law enforcement 30 years ago, working in Upshur County. He said constable is a part-time position with a budget which does not allow for much patrolling, but that he serves papers from his own personal pickup.

He also said some people mistakenly think his constable car "never moves" at his home.

The other candidate in the race, Phillip Hill, was not present.

3-year-old, two women killed in Gilmer wreck

By Phillip Williams

A 3-year-old girl died, and two women were injured, in a two-vehicle collision Friday afternoon on Texas 300 near Gilmer, said the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The victim, identified by Grubbs-Loyd Funeral Home in Gilmer as Shawna Scott of Gilmer, died later that day at Children's Medical Center in Dallas.

Her grandmother, Amelia Wright Scott, 62, of Gilmer, was taken in critical condition to Longview Regional Medical Center, while

the other driver, Mindi Marie Higar, 24, of Longview, was taken in serious condition to CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview, said DPS spokeswoman Jean Dark.

The child was a passenger in Scott's 2016 Honda CRV when, preliminary investigation showed, the driver "failed to yield the right of way from a private drive onto 300" and was struck by Higar's north-western bound 2005 Ford Focus, Dark said.

Troopers responded to the crash scene 0.3 miles southeast of Gilmer at 3:01 p.m., the spokeswoman added.



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The City of Gilmer is now accepting applications for positions in the Public Works Department. The successful candidate(s) must have a valid Texas driver's license, and be able to pass a pre-employment drug screen. The positions may require duties in the Water, Street, and/or Parks Department. Also, the candidate(s) will be expected to be available for 24-hour on-call, at certain times. Knowledge of power equipment and machinery helpful. The ability to obtain TCEQ certifications and Texas CDLs may also be considered. Bilingual as a plus. Applications may be obtained by contacting Maria G. Cisneros, City Secretary, at City Hall, 110 Buffalo, Gilmer, TX. Applications are also available at www.gilmer-tx.com. The City of Gilmer is an Equal Opportunity Employer. **Applications accepted until position(s) filled.**

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AUCTION

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EVENTS

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Southeast Texas Boat, Sport & RV Show. Feb. 28-29 & March 1, Ford Park, Beaumont, TX. The place to buy your new Boat or RV. See 31 boat brands and 50 RV brands in one location. SouthEastTexasBoatRVShow.com.

Golden Triangle Home and Garden Show. Feb. 28-29 & March 1, Ford Park, Beaumont, TX. Everything for the Home. See a multitude of home improvement professionals in one location. GoldenTriangleHomeAndGardenShow.com.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for Beer and Wine retailer's permit by GeauTx LLC dba Booshay's Central Station Cafe' to be located at 103 N. Main Street, Gregg County, Texas. Managers of said LLC are Brett Edmonds, Manager and Debra Edmonds, Manager.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code that Zipp's Liquor Inc d/b/a Donnelly Liquor has filed application for Beer Retail Dealers Off Premise License, Local Cartage Permit, Package Store Permit and Package Store Tasting Permit. Said business to be conducted at 1700 N Main Street, Gladewater (Gregg County), TX 75647 Zipp's Liquor Inc d/b/a Donnelly Liquor Naresh K Mittal - Pres/Dir; Mukesh Mittal - V-Pres/Dir; Manjeet Ghuman - V-Pres/Secy; Anuj Mittal - V-Pres.

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Notice is hereby given in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code that Zipp's Liquor Inc d/b/a Zipp's Liquor #25 has filed application for Beer Retail Dealers Off Premise License, Local Cartage Permit, Local Distributor's Permit, Package Store Permit and Package Store Tasting Permit. Said business to be conducted at 301 E Upshur Avenue, Gladewater (Gregg County), TX 75647 Zipp's Liquor Inc d/b/a Zipp's Liquor #25 Naresh K Mittal - Pres/Dir; Mukesh Mittal - V-Pres/Dir; Manjeet Ghuman - V-Pres/Secy; Anuj Mittal - V-Pres.

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Compare the Upshur County Commissioner candidates

Continued from Page 1
be qualified for Upshur County Commissioner.

If elected, I will be a strong leader. I will make decisions with the utmost integrity. I will strive to keep Upshur county a great place to live, not only today, but for generation in the future.

DAPHNE GRIMES Precinct 3

Q - Briefly tell us about your educational and/or business background and how that experience and expertise will help you in representing Upshur County on the Commissioner's Court.

A - As a practicing Certified Public Accountant with over 20 years serving Upshur County residents, I can assure the voters, that I will be "Financially

Responsible to them!" Not only has my CPA practice been an ongoing business in Upshur County since 1997, my husband and I have owned a Resale Shop in Gilmer as well as run a family cattle farm. My personal and business experiences cover every aspect that the voters experience in dealing with the government. The experience as serving on boards of various non-profits in Gilmer, has allowed me to meet a variety of people in the community that are doing what they can to support the people of Upshur County.

Q - The County faces an uncertain financial future with unfunded-state mandates and shrinking financial assistance from the state and federal governments in the form of grants, loans and aid which could place a larger financial burden on the backs of local

tax payers. How do you think the County can address the many immediate needs while not over-taxing local property owners?

A - The gloom and doom attitude of saying the county faces an uncertain financial future, is not the way I like to look at any financial situation. There will always be fluctuations in tax revenues, grants and aid. Some years will be better than others and what not; however, we need plan for those fluctuations. Ultimately, the bottom line is the county needs to pay its bills and pay its employees. The county needs to make sure they are getting all the sales revenue that is owed to it. Some candidates speak of bringing in new businesses to increase the property tax revenue which is a great idea in itself and that should be a long term goal; but in the

meantime we need to encourage our citizens to utilize the local businesses and not go into the next county over to purchase items that can be purchased here. We have businesses here that provide most of our needs. When you buy local, you help the local economy.

Q - Roads - everyone drives them every day and most people have something negative to say about Upshur County Roads. How will you address the need to improve the Upshur County road system?

A - Ask any citizen of a county in Texas and that is on the top of the list of complaints. I lived the City of Houston, and I can assure you that citizens of Harris County complain about the roads too. There is no way you are going to make everyone happy. The voters took the responsibility of the road system away from the commissioners. I have not studied the road system's budget, but I will definitely look into seeing if we can increase the funding for the road system.

Q - Why should Upshur County residents cast their vote for you? What sets you apart from your opponents?

A - This is the hardest of any of the questions to answer. I have never been one to "brag" about myself. So, I need to look at this not as bragging but as listing my assets. I am an organizer. I am a behind the scenes type of person. I will stand up for what is right. I look for hard facts. I will not make a promise I am not 100% sure I can keep. Once I set my sights on righting a wrong, I will not let up until it is complete. I believe the Employees of Upshur County deserve a "Living Wage!"

MIKE ASHLEY Precinct 3

Q - Briefly tell us about your educational and/or business background and how that experience and expertise will help you in representing Upshur County on the Commissioner's Court.

A - Graduated Union Grove 1976. Attended LeTourneau's welding program, accomplished numerous training and additional technical schools during my forty year career with Texas Utilities.

Strong business background with over thirty years managing JMJ Farms. I am committed to the task at hand with strong leadership skills, the ability to think critically and problem solve as demonstrated through my forty year career. I believe these fundamental skill sets have prepared me to effectively represent Upshur County.

Q - The County faces an uncertain financial future with unfunded-state mandates and shrinking financial assistance from the state and federal governments in the form of grants, loans and aid which could place a larger financial burden on the backs of local tax payers. How do you think the County can address the many immediate needs while not over-taxing local property owners?

A - The County should address these needs by ensuring that we are getting what we've paid for by looking into previous investments and making any cuts necessary to the budget at hand. We need to make for certain that we are getting the best deal when making financial decisions and try to attract new businesses that will bring revenue to the County.

Q - Roads - everyone drives them every day and most people have something negative to say about Upshur County Roads. How will you address the need to improve the Upshur County road system?

A - I will address the need to improve County road systems by ensuring heavy truck are taking the shortest routes off county roads onto state highways. Also, I will develop road plans where the biggest needs are met first.

Q - Why should Upshur County residents cast their vote for you? What sets you apart from your opponents?

A - As a full time commissioner, I plan to be proactive in my community and devote time into investing how money is being spent in order to develop better solutions. I will not be out-worked. I will be out and about, fully available and dedicated to my neighbors. I look forward to serving my precinct to create a better future for our community.

KENT ABERNATHY Precinct 3

Q - Briefly tell us about your educational and/or business background and how that experience and expertise will help you in representing Upshur County on the Commissioner's Court.

A - Graduated from Gladewater High in 1976. Attended Kilgore Jr. College and then to UT Tyler-received BS Degree in Technology-1984.

I started my work career at the age of 16 at Holiday Plates in Gladewater and then to Gregg Auto Parts in Gladewater where I worked for a man from Gilmer named Mike Poole. This was my first taste of the auto business. I had several other jobs from that time til 1988 when I joined Texas Eastman and was there til December 1997. During those years, in 1995, I was able to become a partner in McKaig Chevrolet Buick and worked every day there until April 2017. During those years, I was able to wear many hats and the last 10 as the Dealer Operator. Today-I am still consulting and have no day to day responsibilities that will leave me with all my time to devote to county business as it should.

The last 4 decades of Life and Business Experience has molded me into who I am today. During these years- I have met some of the most successful people in every field imaginable in life that I can lean on for information or advice when needed. In the forums-I have said that I have over 1700 contacts in my phone that I have built over the years and I am surely going to use some of them to help make Upshur County a County we ALL can be proud to say we Live! My Business Experiences include being involved with some of the same issues that face our county: Budgets, Maintaining Assets, Taxes, Tax Appraisals, IT Systems and Contracts, Group Health Insurance and Cost, Maintenance of Vehicles, and retaining Great Employees.

I feel that I am the only candidate with the Experience to handle the tough job ahead for OUR COUNTY to move forward-I WILL EARN YOUR VOTE!

Q - The County faces an uncertain financial future with

Continued on Page 11

Kent Abernathy's Pledge to the Voters of Precinct #3



My mission is to serve the citizens of Upshur County with integrity, honesty and transparency to provide the services expected through the use of the county's resources and to be held accountable to the fine citizens of Upshur County.

- Conservative
- Use my 40 years of business experience to serve the citizens of Upshur County.
- Commitment to be accessible and responsive to the needs of the citizens of Upshur County. My cell # is (903) 738-0865.
- Work to expand early voting locations.

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for
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I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am a lifelong resident of Upshur County, Pct. 3. I have four adult children, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. I graduated from Union Grove High School, Texas A&M Commerce with a B.S. in Education and an M.S. in Criminal Justice and the East Texas Police Academy, Kilgore. I served as a police officer in Gladewater for one year before moving to the Upshur County Juvenile Probation Dept. where I served until my retirement. While serving Upshur County I was named Administrator of the Year at the state level by the Texas Probation Association.

- ★ Will serve as a full-time Constable. I have no other job and I have state mandated bailiff training.
- ★ As a result of changes made by the Legislature, Justice of the Peace cases could double.
- ★ Constables are required to serve as Bailiffs for Justice Courts.
- ★ Will save taxpayers over \$40,000 over a 4-year term by not participating in county health insurance.
- ★ Mature Conservative Christian with the skills and knowledge to serve as you're constable.

Pol. Ad. Paid For By Ronnie Mitchell

Compare the Upshur County Commissioner candidates

Continued from Page 10 unfunded-state mandates and shrinking financial assistance from the state and federal governments in the form of grants, loans and aid which could place a larger financial burden on the backs of local tax payers. How do you think the County can address the many immediate needs while not over-taxing local property owners?

A - The keyword here in the question is Uncertain nobody is knowledgeable of what really is going to happen. If elected, my first action would be to contact some State and Federal Leaders and get all the info I could possibly get my hands on. The next step would be to address this with the court and come up with a plan (if not already done) to have an employee or even a professional grant writer help the County get us every Penny we can possible get in Aid, loans, and Grants that make Economical Sense for Upshur County . It is time for US(Upshur County) to start thinking outside the box. We have to have clear Communication with our citizens and Transparency on all decisions that are made that affect them! On the Topic of Economic Development and Transparency from myself- this is where I stand. I think we need Economic Development for our long term future here in Upshur County. You have to "Begin with the End in Mind" and there has been no Transparency of how that will be funded (probably tax increase as always is) and then given tax abatements to the companies awarded contracts. There has been no plan put forth by a candidate promoting Economic Development and how it's going to fix the County's tax problem to build us better roads. From an overall County view point- How will Gilmer, Gladewater, Big Sandy, Ore City , Pritchett, Latch, Shady Grove, East Mountain, West Mountain , and all other communities benefit from his plan.

Q - Roads – everyone drives them every day and most people have something negative to say about Upshur County Roads. How will you address the need to improve the Upshur County road system?

A - This is the hottest topic going and well should be since it is the largest budget item. Without the knowledge of what all is in the works now as far as the plan and worklist, I am going to address like we are at the start of one. My plan would be for Road and Bridge Engineer/ Commissioner make an Inventory list of all their roads and which ones are in need of work that needs to be done. Sit down in workshop and look over plan and determine which roads are safety issues, School Bus Routes, Minor repairs, Major repairs, etc.

Then, you come up with a plan to start attacking the problem of fixing the 700 plus miles of road. Come up with a 5 and 10 year plan for maintaining the roads throughout the County. Make sure there is a list of all roads that need repairing and all involved have the list. Keep the list updated with repairs done, changes, and adds to the list. Without jeopardizing safety- I think that the budget dollars ought to be allocated across the Precinct fairly.

Q - Why should Upshur County residents cast their vote for you? What sets you apart from your opponents?

A - I feel that I am the best qualified candidate due to the fact that I have a lot of experience in most of the same issues facing OUR county every day. When I started to consider to run over 2 years ago- I talked to friends and Business Owners in Gladewater, Big Sandy, Pritchett, and Gilmer, and they all told me we want this County to move forward. Why can't we be like other County's around us and have things they have. My answer to them- We

Can! The definition of insanity is to keep doing the same things over and over again and expect different results. It is time to do some things differently! I will be YOUR COMMISSIONER for Pct.3 and represent all of Upshur County. My vow to the Citizens of Upshur County is that I will serve you with Integrity, Honesty, and Transparency to provide you with the services expected through the use of County resources and be held Accountable to the fine citizens of Upshur County.

**JIM BARDWELL
Precinct 1**

Q - Briefly tell us about your educational and/or business background and how that experience and expertise will help you in representing Upshur County on the Commissioner's Court.

A - I graduated from Longview High School and attended Kilgore College and East Texas State University (now Texas A&M at Commerce). I have spent 45 years in the newspaper industry, running numerous newspapers and printing plants in East Texas for large newspaper chains and have been responsible for multi-million-dollar budgets, overseeing delivery fleets, scheduling weekly deliveries, ordering millions of dollars annually in printing plant supplies and equipment, while also managing a large number of employees at various locations. In addition to newspapers, I have worked in my family's residential and commercial construction business and even worked as a county employee at the Gregg County Pct. 1 Barn where I drove dump trucks, resurfaced oil roads in the summer heat and picked up trash along the roadway when I was 18.

Q - The County faces an uncertain financial future with unfunded-state mandates and shrinking financial assistance from the state and federal governments in the form of grants, loans and aid which could place a larger financial burden on the backs of local taxpayers. How do you think the County can address the many immediate needs while not over-taxing local property owners?

A - You can only cut budgets so much before you hit bone. We need to work to bring more economic growth to Upshur County. Our county is surrounded by prospering economic development groups, while we have none. We have the land, we have the workforce, we have the water and power. We just need the leadership to reach out for that brass ring. We need to seek government grants for every eligible department in the county, so we can keep services from declining and keep our good employees from taking their talents elsewhere. We need a 5-year, 10-year, 15-year and a 20-year plan so we chart a successful economic course.

Q - Roads – everyone drives them every day and most people have something negative to say about Upshur County Roads. How will you address the need to improve the Upshur County road system?

A - Everyone wants lower taxes and better roads.

The county's road and bridge budget makes up about 20% of the overall \$13.8 million budget - \$2.9 million, while about 100% of the complaints are about roads. There are 714 miles of county roads – give or take a few miles. There are ditches on both sides that need to be maintained – so that makes us responsible for 1,428 miles. That's like driving from here to El Paso and back.

We can fix the roads – I will stretch that road and bridge budget as far as it can be stretched and we will prioritize all road repairs, so every problem road gets addressed. I will also follow up on every road complaint in Precinct 1, because the residents

deserve to be involved in the process and given a timeline as to when their road will be repaired.

Q - Why should Upshur County residents cast their vote for you? What sets you apart from your opponents?

A - I've said this from the start - I'm not running for the county

health insurance and I plan to opt out of it once I take office. That will save the county about \$8,400 per year.

So, in my first four years as your commissioner that will save our taxpayers about \$33,600. If we save money there, that can open up unused funds for other needs – like fixing potholes or giving county employees much

needed raises. I don't intend to be a financial burden on the taxpayers.

I am not a career politician and I haven't lived off the taxpayer. I have created jobs, I have created budgets, I have helped businesses grow. I want to expand the county's free dump day from 2 times a year to at least 4 times a year. I also want to see us start

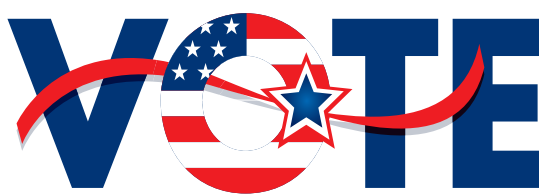
a monthly recycling problem in Pct. 1 and hopefully for the whole county.

We have been doing it in Gladewater for years and it costs the city nothing – that's right – nothing.

I believe I'm the person to get the job done – please vote for Jim Bardwell in the March 3 Republican Primary!

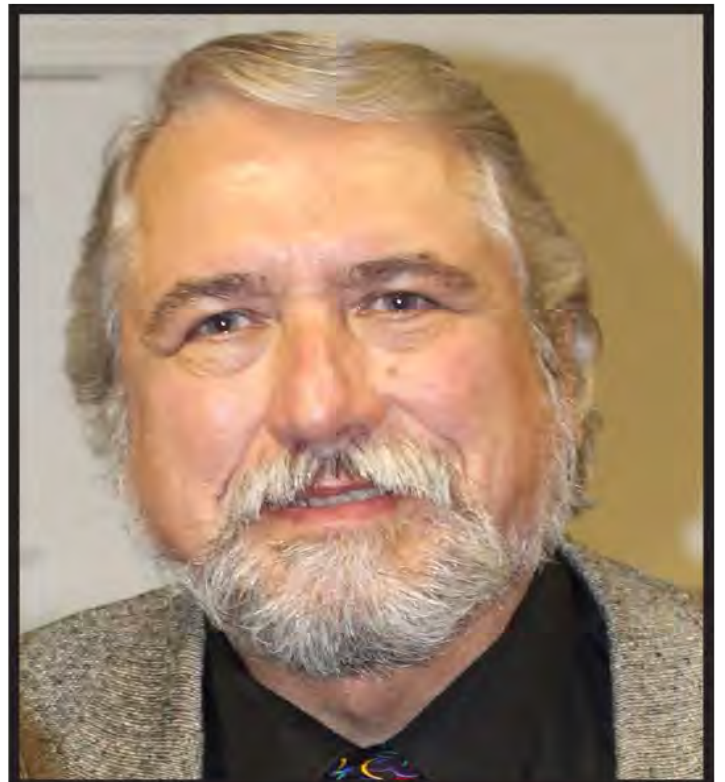
I humbly ask for your support in the Primary Election on March 3rd. When elected, I will be available fulltime to meet the needs of my neighbors. Keeping our part of Upshur County beautiful and in good shape is of significant value to me. Using our tax dollars wisely is important to me as well.

Your voice matters and I promise to represent you responsibly if I have the honor to serve as commissioner.



Pol. Ad. Pd. for by Michael Ashley, Candidate Precinct 3

Elect **Michael ASHLEY**
Republican Candidate for Upshur County Precinct 3 Commissioner



JIM BARDWELL
Republican for
Pct. 1 Commissioner

On Your Side!

- Successful businessman for 40+ years, **NOT** a career politician living off the taxpayer
- Have **CREATED** jobs for families for years
- Will save tax dollars on Day 1 by not taking county insurance - saving **THOUSANDS OF \$\$\$**
- Will bring **ECONOMIC GROWTH** to Upshur County by working with state officials in Austin
- Will be available to **YOU** 24/7
- Will fight **FOR** county employee wages
- Will bring recycling program to Pct. 1 and expand **FREE** dump day for all Upshur County
- A **PROVEN** leader who will work for **YOU!**

Check us out on



facebook.com/**ElectJimBardwellPct.1**

Every **VOTE COUNTS!**

Political Advertising Paid for by Jim Bardwell



HoneyBear Officers for 2020-21 named last week are Capt. Avery Glarborg, 1st Lt. Ryleigh Hightower, Lt. Katelynn Moses, Lt. Lindsey Starkey, Lt. Madelyn Timmons and Line Sgt. Jillian Moon. Courtesy Photo



FLOYD WINGO

for
Gregg County Commissioner, Pct 3

As the Gregg County Commissioner for Precinct 3, I will represent all citizens with integrity, ensure that tax \$ are at work in our communities, and provide responsible and reliable leadership.

From the various job roles/responsibilities that I have experienced through the years, I will bring a wealth of knowledge, provide sound decision making, and uphold a strong and consistent work ethic that the citizens of Gregg County deserve.

Elect

Floyd WINGO

For

Gregg County Commissioner
Precinct 3
"Driven to Serve"

2020 Republican Primary Election Cycle

Early Voting: February 18 – 28

Election Day: March 3

Gregg County will be using "Countywide" Polling Places for this election. Registered Voters in Gregg County may go to ANY Gregg County polling location that is open on Election Day. Please visit greggcountyvotes.com for a list of polling locations and to watch the new voting machine demonstration.

Political Ad Paid for by the Floyd Wingo Campaign Fund – Kelly McCorkle, Treasurer

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Spotlight on leadership

Continued from Page 1

he said. "We are given valuable lessons through the trials we go through."

Zac's family has played a huge role in who he is becoming as a young man as well.

"My family is Christian-based," Zac said. "We love each other wholeheartedly which has helped shape my values."

Zac says he is not ashamed of being a Christian.

"I walk by faith," he said. "I believe the Lord has a plan for me and it's my job to continue to walk with Him."

Zac says the Bible is the book that has impacted his life the most.

"It has taught me that all things work for good for those that believe in Him," he said. "Being forgiven is freely given to those that ask and believe."

He cites one of his favorite scriptures as 2 Corinthians 4:18, "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

"My grandpa, Otis Tyeskie, had the greatest impact on my life," Zac said. "He was a strong Christian man that helped raise me to become



GHS seniors Zac Tyeskie and Aaliea Johnson were nominees for Most Athletic at this year's Spotlight on GHS. Photo By Suzanne Bardwell

humble and be thankful for the gifts God gave me. He taught me to have self-control during tough times in life and to never give up."

Zac's personal dream of graduating high school is nearly fulfilled. He says that he would like to join the military to become a soldier in the Army or attend Kilgore College, get his CDL and work in West Texas.

"We are a blessed country," Zac said. "Being free gives us the right to choose our religion, our school we attend, what doctor we want to see and where we want to live. Americans can choose what job or career we have. Most

people don't have to worry about clean water and food to eat."

But bigger dreams are still a part of his personal vision for his own life as well as the future of others. Zac says that he doesn't think that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream has been fully achieved.

"Progress is still happening," Zac said. "We can not give up on the belief that everyone is created equal and the same under God's eyes. We must keep promoting peace with each other no matter what you look like, skin color or nationality."

Zac Tyeskie Fast Facts

If you had a motto you live by what would it be?

"Stay Humble!"

What are your three favorite things about Gladewater?

1. The friendships that I have developed through school, church and other activities.
2. Gladewater is a community of hardworking people that strives to make the best life possible for their families.
3. Gladewater takes pride in helping others in

times of need.

What do you consider your three most important values?

1. Honesty—empowers us to develop consistency in how we present the facts.
2. Determination—being positive through a difficult situation.
3. Respect—is important that you accept someone for who they are even when they don't agree.

Gaming room workshop Wednesday

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County Commissioners Court on Friday scheduled a workshop for Wednesday (Feb. 19) on the proposed regulation of gaming rooms.

County Judge Todd Tefeller noted the state legislature had approved letting counties regulate such operations, and that Upshur Sheriff Larry Webb was a "catalyst" for the new law. Tefeller noted, however, regulations (which could include such things as requiring the rooms be a certain distance from schools) cannot be "punitive."

The court will hold the workshop, but take no vote on the matter, at 10 a.m. on the third floor of the Upshur County Courthouse.

In other business last week, the court heard a report from Erin Wade of Gilmer Computer Tech on the recent ransomware attack on the county's computer system. She said "we're doing really, really well" on handling the situation, upgrading anti-virus software, and that "we didn't lose anything that was backed up" where it was supposed to be. No deeds were lost and the county paid no ransom, she added.

Tickets are going fast!



February 28, 2020

Republican Party of Upshur County
LINCOLN DAY DINNER

**FEATURING
GOV. GREG ABBOTT**

Doors open at 5:15 and Close at 6:00 pm

Gilmer Civic Center
1218 US 271
Gilmer, TX 75644

Come and enjoy a catered meal and a chance to meet your elected officials! Tickets \$40 per person. Children 10+ welcome!

Purchase tickets from :

- First National or Gilmer National Banks in Gilmer, TX
- Cynthia Ridgeway (903) 968-6822 or doublercampa@yahoo.com
- De'Borah Bankston (903) 812-1530 or bankstondecos@yahoo.com
- Tickets also available on Eventbrite

Political Ad paid for by the Republican Party of Upshur County, TX

