

Gladewater Mirror



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50¢

Shake up on GEDCO board; Byrd steps down from city council

By Suzanne Bardwell

The Gladewater City Council shook up the Gladewater Economic Development Corporation Thursday night by replacing three of five incumbent directors with new members.



KARLA BYRD

Board members John Ussery, Charla Nash and GEDCO board president Robert Green were not re-seated following a 4-2 vote that saw council members Karla Byrd and Kevin Clark vote to approve GEDCO's recommendation to retain the current board members.

With the motion's failure, councilman Nick Foster then made the motion to appoint Jim Bardwell, Laura Talley and Mark Carpenter to the board, with councilman Sonny Anderson seconding the motion. Councilwoman Brandy Flanagan voted for the motion, as did mayor JD Shipp, while Byrd and Clark cast no votes. Councilman Ferrell Alexander was absent from the meeting.



MATT BYRD

This was one of the few times in recent history the council chose to not go along with the GEDCO board's recommendation. According to Mayor Shipp the new board members began serving on the GEDCO board as soon as they were elected by the city council.

Following the council meeting, Byrd slid a resignation letter, which apparently was already prepared prior to the GEDCO vote, to mayor



Everyone at the council meeting wore masks as ordered by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott.

Photo by Jim Bardwell

pro-tem Sonny Anderson. After a brief discussion with Shipp and other council members, Byrd left the council chambers and posted a Facebook video from her vehicle telling her Facebook followers of her decision to step down after serving one year of her two year term.

Byrd's husband, Matt Byrd, also spoke on the Facebook video and told followers he was no longer seeking the mayor's position. He had filed to run against Shipp in the May city elections. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott pushed all municipal elections to November, at the same time as the General Elections. Byrd had until mid-August to remove his name from the upcoming ballot, but city officials said he formally filed paperwork last Friday to remove himself from the race.

With Matt Byrd out of the race, that leaves Mayor Shipp unopposed,

along with councilwoman Flanagan. Only councilman Alexander has an opponent, that being former councilman Scott Owens.

The Gladewater City Council will be accepting applications to fill Byrd's vacant Place 6 seat for the unexpired term ending May 2021.

Pursuant to the City Charter, the candidate must be 18 years of age or older, must be a qualified voter, a citizen of the United States and a resident citizen of this State for a period of 12 months. The candidate must have been a resident of the City of Gladewater for a period of 6 months and must continually reside within the City during his or her term of office.

Applications are available at www.cityofgladewater.com or by calling City Clerk Judy Van Houten at 903-845-2196 ext. 4.

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Local EDC offers help with utilities



Are you a small retail, restaurant or manufacturing business

within the Gladewater City Limits that employ 30 or fewer full-time employees, and whose operations have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic?

If so, the Gladewater Economic Development Corporation wants to help through its GEDCO Utility Support and Promotional Advertising Program.

GEDCO has committed \$25,000 to support COVID-19 impacted small businesses in Gladewater, with a maximum of \$500 in funding. These funds may be used for utility bills such as gas, water/sewer, electricity, internet, and phone services and for eligible promotional services and costs.

Please visit the "Current News" section at GladewaterEDC.com to learn more about eligibility criteria and procedures regarding the disbursement of funds and to fill out an application now through August 31.

Priority will be given to businesses that due to COVID-19 mitigation, have had to close, lay off employees, limit operations to take-out, curbside, or delivery, or that can show other direct, negative impacts which threaten the ability of the business to continue operations long-term.



With hopes that school begins on time this year, Gladewater football players have been running through their drills to prepare for the upcoming season. (Above) Zachery Polanco and Nick Lincoln execute plays while all masked up. (Below) Bear Coach Barry Lindsey instructs a player while exercising CDC rules. Photos by Chris Jones



GISD Trustees tackle school start prep

By Suzanne Bardwell

A lengthy opening discussion by GISD Trustees concerning the preparations for the start of school amid the unknowns of the COVID-19 pandemic also resulted in an overview of some of the protocols and planning in place by GISD administration.

"All we can do is use the information we have and make the best decisions we can," superintendent Sedrick Clark said. "We can't do as we have always done. We have to do what is best for everyone."

Clark, along with Chief Operating Officer Kim Chatman discussed safety precautions which include the purchase of hand sanitizing supplies for stations in every classroom and other areas. The board approved the \$33,180 purchase from Kirby Supply.

Due to limitations many families are experiencing during the pandemic the GISD dress code has been modified to allow a greater variety of clothing to be worn. The amended Student Dress Code was posted on the GISD website on Tuesday.

"We want to ease the burden of parents where we can," Supt. Clark said.

The site will also have instructional forms posted for parents to complete the mode of education they are choosing for their children (in school, virtual, etc.) which must be registered by 8 p.m. on Friday, July 31 as well as other important information concerning the unique school year.

"The safety and security of our students is our primary responsibility," Supt. Clark said. "We are going to make it as safe as it can possibly be. We are also applying for all the grants we qualify for to receive and underwrite the cost of safety equipment and supplies."

School board members approved several large purchases in preparation for the new school year. Four buses and a truck were budgeted for up to \$381,000. Two of the buses will be passenger buses and two will serve special needs passengers. The payment will come directly from the fund balance which currently has about \$7.7 million according to Chief Financial Officer Glenda Hickey. The amendment was approved unanimously. Supt. Clark said that for the first time in many years the district was fully staffed with bus drivers for the upcoming school year.

Trustees also approved \$104,000 for a bus security system which will be standard in all school buses, as well as approving \$45,600 for the installation of air conditioning on six buses currently in service. Technology was high on the list of actions with the purchase of 920 Chromebooks for student use. The Chromebooks can be

Continued on Page 4

Allen West unseats James Dickey to become Texas' new GOP chairman

From Staff and Texas Tribune Reports

Allen West, the firebrand former Florida congressman, has defeated Texas GOP Chairman James Dickey to lead the country's largest state Republican Party.

West claimed victory shortly before 3:30 a.m. Monday, while Dickey conceded about an hour later. The developments came during an early-morning round of voting among state Senate district caucuses at the party's virtual convention.

"I wish Lt. Col. West the very best in this role," Dickey, who had been running for a second full term, wrote on Facebook. "Thank you for the honor of serving as your Chair. Let's win in November."

West moved to Texas several years ago and became politically active here. His victory means an abrupt change in party leadership with less than four months until one of the most challenging elections that Texas Republicans are facing in a long time.

West's campaign said Monday morning he would "immediately resume the responsibilities of the role and begin to implement his strategy to hold Texas."

Locally, many Upshur County and Gregg County delegates and alternates met at the Summit Club in Longview for a mini in-person convention and experienced low bandwidth internet connections leaving many unable to vote on key issues. Other delegates chose to stay home and follow the virtual convention online to avoid possible COVID-19 contamination. But while that helped with potential health issues, it didn't prevent software issues at the state level, leaving some delegates feeling disenfranchised. Senate District 1 delegates, which includes Gregg and Upshur counties, didn't finish voting until almost 3 a.m. Monday morning due to the virtual caucus setup, which left many caucus chairpersons scrambling for technical support from the state office.



Upshur GOP's Melvin Dodd makes a motion during the virtual Texas GOP convention held in Longview.

Photo by Jim Bardwell

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Ed Sterling
Capital
Highlights



Seeing around the bend...

It's easy to believe you are 'around the bend' in today's high stress, overloaded, social media driven world. We long to return to a simpler time. I am guilty of saying that myself, far too often. And, I know better. After all, I am a history girl. I taught American History at the high school and college level. But our collective family history should weigh in too.

My grandparents raised their children in the middle of a Great Depression. I interviewed my Dad and his mother for a Depression & World War II grad course. My 'Nanny' spoke of never wasting a thing, which included making her children's clothes from flour sacks. My Daddy and his little sister rode a horse to school. There was no air conditioning, no entertainment—except self-made, and chores past dark on the farm every night.

This farm family received no stimulus checks, no small business loans, no food assistance. They managed to make their land payments despite fighting through a decade long economic meltdown. "We never knew we had it bad, all we had ever known was hard work and how to get by," my grandmother said in the interview. "We had each other and that was enough."

And this was from a woman who buried two children in the middle of it all. A tragedy that was not uncommon during that time.

The depression era generation of kids grew up to fight a World War sacrificing their youth and innocence, going from the hayfield to the foreign field, and even eventually rebuilding the world. Their kids had to survive polio, smallpox, chicken pox, measles, mumps and rubella pandemics. And by the way, to fight those epidemics the GOVERNMENT required that we take vaccines for polio and smallpox as they were available. We didn't question whether we were becoming socialist or having our freedoms trampled. Our mommas lined us up when it was time to take the sugar cube with Dr. Salk's polio vaccine saturating it. We kids of that era nearly all have the scar from

Suzanne Bardwell



Department of Defense sends teams to assist hospitals in COVID crisis

AUSTIN — COVID-19 turned aggressive to the point last week that the Department of Defense activated U.S. Army and U.S. Navy medical task force teams and assigned them to Texas at Gov. Greg Abbott's request.

Teams were deployed to support Houston and San Antonio hospitals and medical facilities in hard-hit Rio Grande Valley. The Texas Division of Emergency Management was on the job, too, working with local officials to line up additional hospital capacity in Cameron and Hidalgo counties and to identify other sites to house patients who are recovering from COVID-19.

Some \$41 million in federal funds are being put toward assisting cities and counties in the COVID-19 response, Abbott said. Those funds will be used by local government for first responder overtime and hazard pay, equipment and supplies for teleworking technologies, social distancing and personal protective gear, county jail costs associated with medical needs of inmates and as reimbursement for holding inmates awaiting transfer to the state prison system.

Cumulative figures posted July 19 by the Texas Department of State Health Services showed some 325,030 people in Texas diagnosed with the deadly virus, and 3,958 confirmed deaths resulting from the disease.

TEA: Schools to open

Texas schools will open next month, but school systems will be allowed to limit access to on-campus instruction for the first four weeks of school, the Texas Education Agency announced July 17.

A school system may limit access to on-campus instruction for an additional four weeks with a board-approved waiver request to the TEA. Health and safety procedures will be in place to support student and teacher safety, Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath said.

All students, teachers, staff and visitors coming to campus must be screened before being allowed on campus. Masks will be required while in school buildings, with certain exceptions.

More information is available at tea.texas.gov.

On July 17, Gov. Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, House Speaker Dennis Bonnen, Senate Finance Committee Chair Jane Nelson, Vice Chair Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, and House Appropriations Committee Chair Giovanni Capriglione and Vice Chair Oscar Longoria announced the state would allocate \$200 million in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to the Texas Education Agency for the purchase of eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic for Texas students who lack connectivity.

Runoff results are in

Mary "MJ" Hegar of Round Rock won the Democratic Party runoff for U.S. Senate with 498,180 votes to 457,555 for state Sen. Royce West of Dallas, so Hegar will face incumbent Republican Sen. John Cornyn of San Antonio in the Nov. 3 general election.

In the only runoff for a state agency office, Texas Railroad Commission, Democrats chose Dallas lawyer Chrysta Castañeda over Robert Alonzo of Dallas, a former longtime member of the Texas House of Representatives. Castañeda received 575,460 votes to 353,399 for Alonzo. Complete election results are posted at sos.texas.gov.

It's hot, so be careful

With summer air temperatures reaching 100 degrees and higher, the Texas Department of Public Safety on July 14 reminded the public to take extra heat-related safety precautions.

Children, the sick, elders and pets should not be left alone in vehicles. Drivers should always check all passenger and cargo areas before walking away from their vehicle, the DPS said.

Jobless rate improves

Texas added 243,900 private sector positions in June, resulting in an unemployment rate of 8.6%, the Texas Workforce Commission reported July 17. The state's unemployment rate in May was 13.0%.

The Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded the lowest non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in June among Texas MSAs with 6%, followed by Abilene at 6.4% and College Station-Bryan at 6.5%.

The national unemployment rate stood at 11.1% in June.

Agency releases data

More information about oil and gas field cleanup programs are publicly available now, the Texas Railroad Commission announced July 15.

Data posted at rrc.texas.gov/data-visualization/ includes bar graphs, an interactive Texas map, a list of counties and other search options.

"These latest additions will help the public and energy industry operators easily see key aspects of the important work we do in protecting the safety of Texans and the environment," said Texas Railroad Commission Executive Director Wei Wang.



THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

COVID Slide

The debate surrounding reopening schools this fall seems to intensify daily. Students, parents, teachers, administrators, and government officials are struggling to weigh questions of safety against the realities of remote learning. It's a difficult issue with no easy or universal answers.



In March, as the COVID-19 pandemic emerged, Texas schools scrambled to switch to at-home learning, whether online or by other means. While some families were able to adapt pretty efficiently, others were less able to make the transition. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) collected information from

schools on the effectiveness of at-home learning, and the results are enlightening, though sobering.

Texas schools were required to report student engagement (completing assignments) and the ability of teachers to contact them. Nearly 620,000 students (11.3% of the total) had notable difficulties. Of those, 7.2% were reported as having basically no engagement and 1.8% had no contact. Only 88.7% of students were fully engaged in online/at-home learning, while another 2.3% were not engaged initially but ultimately began completing assignments.

Of the 600,000+ Texas students for whom online/at-home learning was not successful, about 82.8% were economically disadvantaged (meaning that they qualified for free or reduced-cost meals). About 62.4% of students not fully engaged were Hispanic, with

18.9% Black. These percentages are well in excess of those in the school-age population. District-level information is not yet available, but it is likely that these students are not proportionately distributed across the state.

Some school districts experienced difficulty connecting with students and keeping them engaged due to problems such as a lack of technology or internet access or the inability of parents to help with assignments. Disparities in achievement are likely to have increased due to disruptions to education and resulting academic backsliding, being termed by some as "COVID slide." Viewed through my economist's lens, these patterns translate into diminished opportunity, widening income inequality, and lost earnings and productivity that will span decades.

Hopefully, school districts will

be better prepared for the fall, but the sizable barriers that occurred in the spring have not simply disappeared over the summer. Moreover, even a fully engaged at-home student is not always receiving the equivalent of a classroom experience.

The TEA has released guidelines for safely returning students to classrooms and many local districts are exploring innovative options. Nevertheless, the debate over whether schools should open involves myriad factors with health and safety being paramount. Many students rely on schools not only for education, but also for meals, and, in some cases, physical activity, social interaction, and the support of teachers and counselors. There are no easy answers, but it is critical to remember that much is at stake in the quality of public education in Texas. Be safe!!

THE DIMENSIONS OF GOD'S LOVE # 6

The height of God's love is able to lift up the lowliest sinner from the depths of sin and make it possible for him to live eternally with God in heavenly mansions He has prepared for those who love Him (Jn. 14: 2-3). Such love is able to take that lowly sinner who cries out: "O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?" and transform him into that man who can say: "There is therefore no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus." (Rom. 7:24; 8: 1). Thus, every redeemed child of God, who enjoys heaven's splendor will be an eternal monument to "God's great love with which He loved us" (Eph. 2: 4). Truly, God's love reaches to the depths to carry us to the heights. That is why we sing: "Love divine, all love excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down! Jesus, Thou art all compassion; Pure, unbounded love Thou art. Love of Christ so freely given, Grace of God beyond degree, Mercy higher than the heavens, Deeper than the deepest sea." *Love Divine, Charles Wesley.*

We sing the song written by James Rowe: "Love lifted me! When nothing else could help, love lifted me." Jesus said: "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself" (Jn. 12: 42). The breadth, length, depth, and height of God's love find their significance in the cross of Jesus! The Latin word for cross is "cruz." We speak of "the cruz of the matter," meaning the center or the heart of the matter. The cross is the CENTER OF GOD'S LOVE. Think on these things. Conclusion of this study next week.

Dennis Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ

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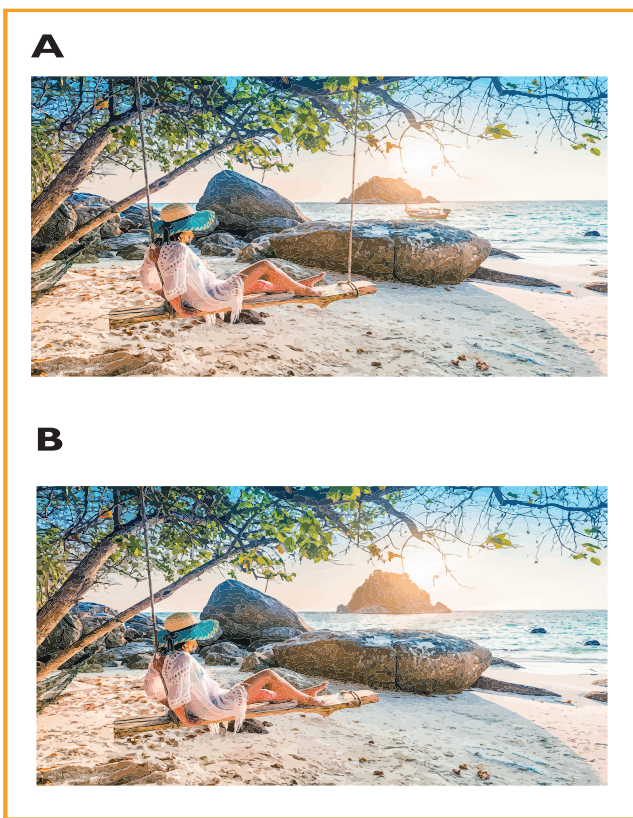
ANIMAL FACT:

THIS SEA CREATURE IS A LARGE MOLLUSK THAT RESIDES INSIDE A CONICAL SHELL.

ANSWER: CONCH

What's the Difference?

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



Answers: 1. Rope on swing missing 2. Boat missing 3. Extra rock in water 4. Distant island bigger

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

- 1810: CITIZENS OF BOGOTÁ DECLARE THEIR INDEPENDENCE FROM SPAIN.
- 1969: ASTRONAUT NEIL ARMSTRONG BECOMES THE FIRST MAN TO WALK ON THE MOON.
- 2015: THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA RESUME FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AFTER FIVE DECADES.

New Word

TIDE
alternate rising and falling of the sea

OBITUARIES

RUTH NEUNDORFER LAWRENCE

Ruth Neundorfer Lawrence passed away July 13th at the Glen Retirement Center in Shreveport. She was born to Colonel and Eddie Neundorfer October 12, 1930 at Fort Benning, Georgia. She finished Groesbeck, Texas High School in 1949 in the upper 10% of her class. She attended SMU where she was Tri Delta. Hollis L. Lawrence, Jr. of Carthage, married her in 1951 in Groesbeck. They had 50+ years of happiness and he was her best friend and love of her life. To this union three beautiful boys were born, Hollis Dee (Mary Lou) of Owasso, OK; Michael Lloyd (Michelle) of Shreveport and Edward Joseph (Jennife) of Denton TX.

Their parents were proud for the joy, love enjoyment and fun they brought to this family of five. Jeremy (Holly) of Panama City, FL; Clay (Ammie) of Dallas; Jonathan (Amber) of Hallsville, Callie of Austin and Christopher of Tampa, FL were her wonderful grandchildren. To her great delight four great-granddaughters and one great grandson greeted with love, Emma, Madison, Kylee, Myla and Logan.

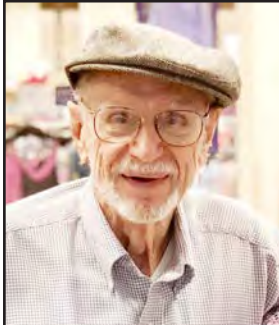
Ruth was a true daughter of The Republic of Texas and enjoyed being a member of the daughters of the Revolutionary War of 1812. With positions as secretary, bookkeeper, advertising and chaplain. Ruth bequest the Christian faith of her fathers, kindness, forgiveness and love to her beautiful family. A special gift of love to Michael and Michelle for their care and always being there. God Bless.

A graveside service is scheduled for 10 a.m., Thursday, July 16 at Faulkenberry Cemetery, Groesbeck, TX.
(Obituary written by Ruth Lawrence)



ANSEL JARRATT MAJOR

Ansel Jarratt Major, 87, of Tyler died July 15, 2020 in Tyler. He was born Nov. 8, 1932 in Port Arthur, the son of the late Grace Jarratt Major and Ansel Millard Major and was also preceded in death by a sister, Juanita Jones.



He graduated from Lee High School in Baytown and Lon Morris College in Jacksonville, where he met Sylvia Bigby of Marshall. They wed in 1953.

He received bachelors degrees from Centenary College in Shreveport and the Perkins School of Theology at SMU in Dallas.

He became a Methodist preacher and was assigned to circuits at Rusk, Hooks and Hughes Springs and then the church at Big Sandy. He became a campus minister at the former East Texas State in Commerce and then the University of North Texas in Denton. He spearheaded building a new student center.

He took a two-year sabbatical in 1970 and bought a Gulf service station. He returned to campus ministry at Texas Woman's University. He and Sylvia divorced in 1978.

He returned to church ministry in the Dallas area, and in 1983 married Linda Baird, formerly of Henderson.

He trained at the Pastoral Counseling Center in Dallas and joined the staff.

In 1992 he and Linda purchased property south of Jamestown to begin a ministry at Wildwood Sanctuary. He continued as a counselor in the area, with offices in Tyler and Mineola.

He was involved in the Walk to Emmaus in East Texas and taught the course of study for Methodist pastors in Jacksonville.

He is survived by his wife, Linda, of Carroll; son, Phillip and his wife Lesa of Mineola; daughters, Cindy Major of Tyler and Laura Triggs and husband Casey of Arlington, Va.; step-daughter Rhonda Baird of Dallas; step-son Jason Baird of Allen; grandsons, Sam Major of Mineola, Taylor Triggs of Arlington, Va. and Travis Triggs of Arlington, Va.; and step-grandson Preston Baird of Allen.

A memorial service is planned later. Caudle-Rutledge-Daugherty Funeral Home in Lindale is handling arrangements.

Donations are requested for the Samaritan Counseling Center of East Texas or the Alzheimer's Alliance of East Texas.

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Coast
- SPANISH:** Costa
- ITALIAN:** Costa
- FRENCH:** Côte
- GERMAN:** Küste

Did You Know?

FLIP-FLOPS ARE WORN ALL SUMMER LONG, ESPECIALLY WHEN WALKING ALONG THE COASTLINE. SIMILAR FOOTWEAR WAS ONCE WORN BY ANCIENT EGYPTIANS.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: LIGHTHOUSE

Texas Comptroller projects a fiscal 2021 ending shortfall of \$4.6 Billion in revised revenue estimate

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar today revised the Certification Revenue Estimate (CRE) and now projects a fiscal 2021 ending shortfall of \$4.58 billion. The shortfall, which Hegar attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic and recent volatility in oil prices, is a decrease from the \$2.89 billion positive year-end balance originally projected in the October 2019 CRE.

In a July 20 letter to state leadership, Hegar said the state will have \$110.19 billion in General Revenue-related (GR-R) funds available for general-purpose spending for the 2020-21 biennium, down from a projected \$121.76 billion in the October 2019 CRE.

The ending balance does not include the impact of instructions from state leadership directing most agencies to reduce their spending by 5 percent of 2020-21 GR-R appropriations. Any of these savings will reduce the projected shortfall. Similarly, the balance also does not assume any further financial assistance from the federal government as both the prospect and nature of such assistance remain uncertain.

"The economic contraction associated with COVID-19 has resulted in revenue collections this fiscal year that are much lower than our earlier CRE projections," Hegar said. "It's important to note that this revised estimate carries unprecedented uncertainty. We're assuming the state will effectively manage the outbreak and that infection rates won't overwhelm our health care system. This estimate also assumes that restrictions on businesses and individuals will be lifted before the end of this calendar year and that economic activity will strengthen but not return to pre-pandemic levels by the end of this biennium."

The pandemic hit tax revenues hard across the board, particularly hotel, motor vehicle sales, severance and mixed beverage taxes. The state's sales tax, its largest source of tax revenue, has held up better than some taxes, but still has fallen significantly. Fiscal 2020's sales tax revenues, buoyed by strong collections in the first half of the year, are expected to finish about 1 percent below fiscal 2019 totals, followed by a drop of more than 4 percent in fiscal 2021.

The Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF, or the state's "Rainy Day Fund") and the State Highway Fund (SHF) both receive funding

from oil and natural gas severance taxes. In fiscal 2021, the ESF and SHF each will receive \$1.1 billion in transfers from the General Revenue Fund for severance taxes collected in fiscal 2020. Severance tax collections in fiscal 2021 are expected to drop significantly from fiscal 2020, resulting in smaller fiscal 2022 transfers to the ESF and SHF of about \$620 million each.

After accounting for appropriations and investment and interest earnings, this estimate projects an ESF fiscal 2021 ending balance of \$8.79 billion.

Proposition 7, an amendment to the Texas Constitution approved by Texas voters in 2015, requires the first \$2.5 billion in sales tax collections exceeding \$28

billion in any fiscal year to be deposited to the SHF. The SHF will receive \$2.5 billion from sales taxes collected in each year of the biennium, although the final transfer from fiscal 2021 collections will not occur until September 2021, the first month of fiscal 2022.

"In the coming months, some economic indicators will establish new records for rates of growth, but those records will be on the back of this year's unprecedented declines," Hegar said. "The rebound will leave many measures of economic health below pre-pandemic levels. Consumers and businesses must be confident the virus is controlled before economic output, employment and revenues return to pre-pandemic levels."

How to care for a dog with PTSD

Just as our pets often help their owners through difficult times, animals that have suffered from traumatic events may need extra support.

Dr. Lori Teller, an associate professor in the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, says that because dogs can suffer from psychological conditions like their human counterparts, owners can benefit from having an awareness of possible causes, diagnosis, and how canine post-traumatic stress disorder may be managed to give your furry friend the best life possible following periods of stress and trauma.

Roughly 5 to 17% of dogs are affected with canine PTSD, but because the condition has only been recognized in dogs within the past 10 years, Teller says there is still much to learn.

"We don't always know what may cause PTSD in dogs, but some potential causes are military or police work, being a bait or fighting dog, being raised in a puppy mill, severe abuse, living as a stray after being abandoned, trauma from a disaster (flood, fire, earthquake, tornado, explosion), or being attacked by other dogs or animals," Teller said.

"The symptoms of PTSD in dogs are similar to those in humans and include chronic anxiety; hypervigilance; avoidance of certain people, places, or situations; sleep disturbances; fear of being alone; decreased interest in a favorite activity; or aggression," Teller said.

Teller also says that these

symptoms may not be apparent at the time of adoption because as a survival mechanism, some dogs will mask their symptoms until they gradually adapt to their new home, depending on the animal's trigger.

Pet owners who suspect their furry friend may be suffering from this condition should ideally seek help from a veterinary behavioralist, who will develop an appropriate treatment plan. Pet owners seeking this care may wish to reference the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior's directory.

If access to a veterinary behavioralist is not possible, your primary veterinarian will still be able to help your dog get the care they need.

"The best ways to manage PTSD in dogs will be a combination of behavioral therapy and medication," Teller said. "Behavioral management might include desensitization therapy, in which a dog is exposed to low levels of stress, and then this level is gradually increased to build tolerance for that stimulus, playtime with a well-socialized dog, increased exercise, and mental stimulation. Medications prescribed could include anxiolytics, anti-depressants, or beta-blockers."

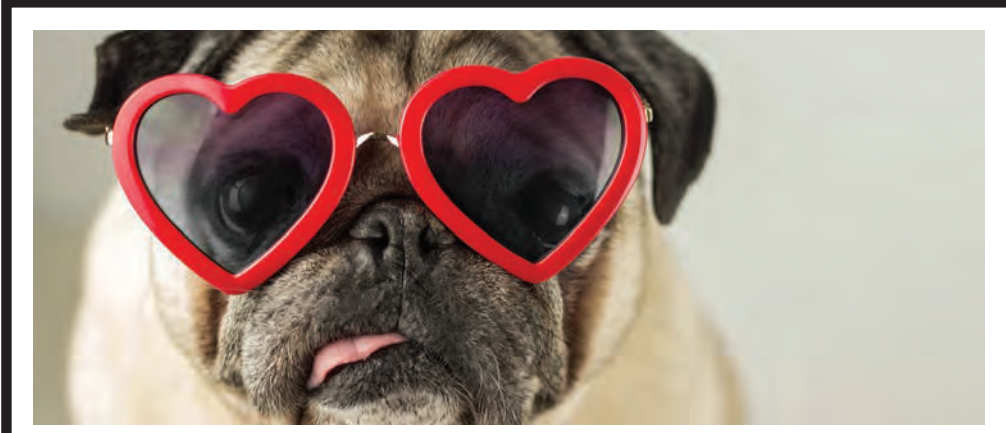
Teller adds that time and patience are vital to the management of canine PTSD. Owners will need to actively work with their dog on a daily basis and be in regular communication with their veterinary team.

Although adopting a dog with a history of trauma requires a caring and dedicated owner, the bond that is formed between rescued dog and

There are substantial risks to this forecast on both the upside and downside. If the spread of the virus slows or stops sooner than anticipated, if consumers and businesses return to pre-pandemic levels of economic activity more readily than assumed or if the federal government provides more aid, Texas may finish the 2020-21 biennium with more revenue than projected today. On the other hand, if COVID-19 case counts continue to increase or accelerate, if there is a substantial new wave of infections nationally or in Texas in the fall or winter or if consumers and businesses are slower to resume economic activity than assumed, revenue collected this biennium could fall short, perhaps far short, of this updated forecast.

pet-parent can be an unbreakable gift that is well worth the time and effort.

pet-parent can be an unbreakable gift that is well worth the time and effort.



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FBC Virtual VBS 'Under Construction'

Grab your hard hat and tool belt. First Baptist Church, Gladewater, is building something new this year: Virtual VBS. Sessions for "Concrete and Cranes" will be available from Aug. 3 - Aug. 7 on FBC's YouTube Channel (FBC Gladewater).

As kids explore a world of rivets and rebar, bulldozers and backhoes, they will learn what it means to build their lives on the firm foundation of Jesus. Everyone is invited to join the fun.

At-home supply kits will be provided for participating children ages 4 years through sixth grade. These kits will contain all of the craft supplies needed for each session. Supply kits will be available for easy

drive-thru pick-up at FBC's back parking lot from 4 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 30, and Sunday, Aug. 2. Go to fbcgadewater.org to register and reserve your supply kit.

If you have a question, you may contact FBC's office via email (fbcfbc@fbcgadewater.org)

or phone (903-845-2171.)

Author to speak to GOP

Conservative author and commentator Nick Adams, whose writing has won President Trump's praise, will be guest speaker for the July 27 quarterly meeting of the Republican Party of Upshur County's Executive Committee.

The meeting, open to the public and featuring a free full catered dinner, is set for 6:30 p.m. at Lantana Activity Center on Lantana Road just north of Gilmer.

The Australian-born Adams, who has spoken in the Gilmer area at least once before, is the author of such books as Green Card Warrior, Retaking America - Crushing Political Correctness, The American Boomerang, Class Diminished: Why College Isn't the Answer and Trump and Churchill - Defenders of Western Civilization.

Beef cattle short course Aug. 3-5

The annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course set for Aug. 3-5 has extended the early

What's Happening?

registration deadline to July 15, so there's still time to register for the education-packed event featuring live demonstrations.

While the three-day event will be online this year due to COVID-19, the live demonstrations will continue, offering ranchers who need basic beef production information can see how things are done up close, said Jason Cleere, Ph.D., conference coordinator and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service beef cattle specialist in College Station.

Cost will be \$99 before July 15, then \$129 until the conference, and \$149 after the conference is over. Registration is open now, as well as the opportunity to join the mailing list for continual updates.

For more information, call 979-845-6931 or <https://beefcattleshortcourse.com/>.

June GFD report

Gladewater Fire Chief Cory Crowell reports 64 June responses by the GFD with five outside and

40 inside Gregg County city limits and nine outside and 10 inside Upshur County city limits. There were no responses in Smith County during June.

Firefighters responded to one fire, one brush/grass fire, one medical assist to EMS crew, one

car accident with no injuries and a no incident response outside city limits in Gregg County. Outside city limits in Upshur County there were two building fires, three medical assists, two motor vehicle accidents with injuries, one motor vehicle accident with no injuries and one public service call.

Inside Gregg County city limits responses included one mobile vehicle fire, one passenger vehicle fire, one trash fire, one EMS rescue

incident, 22 medical assists, two motor vehicle accidents with injuries, one gas leak, one public service, two dispatched en route, one no incident, one authorized controlled burn, one smoke scare, three false alarms, one unintentional alarm transmission and one special response incident.

Inside Upshur County City limits there were seven medical assists and two motor vehicle accidents with no injuries and one gas leak.

GISD Trustees tackle school start prep

Continued from Page 1

checked out if virtual learning becomes necessary due to shut down, or is an option chosen by parents for their student to learn virtually during a specific period of time. Software and cases will be included in the expense which totaled out at \$110,000. Of that amount \$75,400 was already budgeted from existing funds for technology improvements. Board members approved an additional

\$33,600 from fund balance to cover the expense not budgeted.

"We are prepared to go completely to virtual learning if we are required to by the state," Supt. Clark said.

The network technology update at Gladewater High School and Primary School which was budgeted in the last fiscal year is going to be completed in the new fiscal accounting period requiring the board to make a bookkeeping

amendment adjustment. The project has had 80% of the cost already paid according to Hickey and had 20% of cost left to cover in the amount of \$167,687 in the current fiscal budget.

In other business the board granted Supt. Sedric Clark the authority to settle litigation concerning a student. Trustees also accepted the resignation of GMS art/theatre teacher Wendy Greene.

No riots in Upshur County, sheriff says

By Phillip Williams
Upshur County Sheriff Larry Webb told a meeting of East Texans for Liberty near Gilmer on

Monday night last week that he could not "comprehend" the logic of officials who have prevented police from stopping rioting in large American cities recently, but "it ain't gonna happen" here.

"If you wanna tear up my courthouse, I got 224 beds (in the county jail) I'm fixing to fill up," Webb told the audience at Lantana Activity Center.

The riots stemmed from protests over an African-American man,

George Floyd, dying in May in Minneapolis after a white city police officer kneeled on Floyd's neck for several minutes. The officer was since fired and charged with murder.

Webb said he had seen one or two demonstrators in Upshur County in connection with the recent protests and unrest over relations between African-Americans and police elsewhere, but "we live in a great county" as "Y'all love your law enforcement."

Any law officer worth a "grain of salt" will criticize the officer in the Minnesota incident, "but was it racist? No, it was stupid," Webb argued, adding in his 30 years in law enforcement, he had never seen an officer react to

someone due to the person's race, although he had seen officers do some "dumb" things.

Asked by an audience member what citizens can do to help his deputies and others in law enforcement, Webb said, "Pat 'em on the back 'cause for the last month or so, we haven't done nothing but get hammered."

Also in his talk, which involved such subjects as why his office is not enforcing Gov. Greg Abbott's mask-wearing order, Webb said he had had District Attorney Billy Byrd attend a meeting with his officers about their "use of force policy." Webb said he told his deputies, "I don't want you to second-guess yourself. Why? Because I didn't want to go to one of their funerals."

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Gladewater Police Chief Gordon Freeman recently held a meeting with merchants in the Blue Byrd Room in downtown Gladewater in response to recent burglaries - businesses, vehicles and residential. Freeman shared many prevention tips with those in attendance and offered for his officers to inspect business' security such as cameras and locks. Prevention is the key to not falling victim to a burglar, Freeman said, while practicing social distancing and wearing a mask. Anyone needing information concerning security or to report suspicious activity should call the police department at (903) 845-2166.

Photo by Jim Bardwell

Ashley elected Precinct 3 commissioner

By Phillip Williams

Michael Ashley defeated Kent Abernathy in the race for Upshur County Precinct 3 commissioner, while David S. Thompson ousted Precinct 4 Constable Larry Sewell, in the local Republican runoff on Tuesday of last week.

In complete, unofficial totals, Ashley defeated Abernathy, who had led a 5-man field in the March 3 primary, 430 to 393. Thompson, who led a 3-candidate field in the primary, received more than 70 percent of the vote in defeating Sewell, who was seeking a second term, 475 to 197.

In the Democratic runoff, where only two statewide races appeared on the Upshur ballot, county voters went against the statewide trend in one race and

followed it in the other. Mary "MJ" Hegar won the nomination for United States senator over State Sen. Royce West, who carried the county, while Chrysta Castaneda defeated Roberto R. (Beto) Alonzo for the nomination for a seat on the Texas Railroad Commission.

In Upshur, West received 305 votes to Hegar's 215, while Castaneda drew 284 to Alonzo's 237 in complete, unofficial returns. Results of both parties' runoffs become official when the parties canvass their respective returns, said Upshur County Deputy Election Administrator Kami Whitworth.

Neither Ashley, running for retiring incumbent Frank Berka's seat, nor Thompson face a Democratic opponent in the Nov. 3 general election, so their nominations are expected to be tantamount to election. Hegar, however, is opposed by Republican John Cornyn, seeking re-election, while Castaneda faces GOP nominee James Wright.

The unofficial returns listed above include five ballots which arrived by mail the day after the election, but were counted under state law since four were postmarked by election day and one was from a member of the military, Whitworth said Monday. That altered some of the unofficial totals which Election

Administrator Lory Harle's office had released election night.

The late-arriving ballots increased Thompson's total by one, West's by four, and the two railroad commission candidates' totals by two each, Whitworth said. Since neither party's runoff had any provisional votes (ballots cast by someone whose eligibility to vote was uncertain), the figures listed above will remain unchanged, the deputy said Monday.

Total number of Upshur voters included 1,507 in the GOP runoff, 528 in the Democratic contest, Whitworth said. While any Democrat in the county could vote in their primary, only Republicans living in precinct 3 could vote in the commissioner's race and only GOP members residing in precinct 4 could vote in the constable race.

The runoffs were originally set May 26, but Gov. Greg Abbott postponed them to July 14 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Only Republican nominee for Upshur elective office facing a Democratic opponent in November is County Tax Assessor-Collector Luana Howell, seeking re-election against Jurel White. All current county elective officials are Republicans, and winners of the November election for county posts begin their terms Jan. 1.

Shake up on GEDCO board; Byrd steps down

Continued from Page 1

Applications will be accepted by Van Houten at 519 E. Broadway, or by mail at PO Box 1725, Gladewater, Texas 75647, until 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 28.

The Gladewater City Council will be conducting interviews on July 30 at a special called meeting to be held at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

In other business at the July monthly meeting, the council chose to: * Mayor Shipp proposed to make Juneteenth a City of Gladewater employee holiday and the council approved the request.

* The city council approved a variance, following a public hearing, for more signage at 301 E. Upshur Avenue, but denied a variance

request regarding connection to city's sewer system for James Tallent's property located at 1687 Phillips Springs Road

* The council will hear a second presentation by representatives for Enterprise Lease Program. The city is looking at possibly turning over is fleet of vehicles to Enterprise, which would rotate out older stock and monitor the city's vehicles. The Enterprise sales rep said the plan would save the city \$200,000 over 10 years.

* The council also will passed a resolution for nomination to the Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool and approved a 2020 FAST Grant application which will be used to purchase a \$500,000 fire truck for the city. The council also approved budget amendments for fiscal year 2019-2020.



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Night operations on the Buffalo Creek Wildfire
Courtesy Steven Carter, Texas A&M Forest Service

Protect home, family, first responders by preventing wildfires

By Caylee Reid

Significant wildfire activity has increased statewide, and accelerated drying has elevated the potential for new wildfire ignitions. New wildfires will become increasingly difficult to extinguish if current temperatures and drying conditions persist into August as forecasted, according to Texas A&M Forest Service experts.

"Vegetation is rapidly losing moisture due to consecutive days of extremely high temperatures," said Brad Smith, Texas A&M Forest Service predictive services department head. "Grass that was green five days ago has wilted and turned brown under the accelerated drying produced from the extreme heat. It will be quite difficult to replenish this lost moisture during the normally dry months of July and August."

Rich Gray, Texas A&M Forest Service chief regional fire coordinator, said state resources have been "extremely busy," responding to the uptick in wildfire activity across the state, and conditions continue to deteriorate at a rapid pace.

"Much of Texas is primed for wildfires right now," said Gray. "While it's important for individuals to take steps to prepare and protect their homes and families for a wildfire, I would also urge Texans to think about protecting our first responders, too—especially during the COVID-19 pandemic—and prevent a wildfire from ever starting."

Successfully preparing for a wildfire requires everyone to take personal responsibility for protecting themselves, their family and their property.

Creating defensible space around your home allows for low intensity, slow-burning conditions in the event of a wildfire.

* Within the first 5 feet of your home, use non-flammable landscaping materials. Within the first 30 feet of your home, water plants and trees and mulch regularly, and consider xeriscaping if you are affected by water restrictions.

* A healthy, well-maintained landscape is important to the survival of homes during a wildfire. Make sure plants are carefully spaced, low growing and free of resins, oils and waxes that burn easily.

* Remove dead vegetation from under the deck of your home and within 10 feet of the house.

* Prune trees 6-10 feet up from the ground.

If a wildfire is spotted, immediately contact local authorities. A quick response can help save lives and property.

Since July 1, Texas A&M Forest Service and local fire departments have responded to 155 wildfires that burned 27,889 acres across the state. Many of the recent wildfire starts have been attributed to humans and their activities—such as equipment use and debris burning—and are preventable.

"It is up to residents to take the first steps in protecting their families, homes and property, long before the fire even starts," said Kari Hines, Texas A&M Forest Service Firewise coordinator. "Local firefighters rely on us all to be prepared for wildfires and create a safe environment for them to operate in by creating defensible space around our homes."

GPD ARREST

ARREST DATE	ARREST DATE	TIME	FULL NAME	RACE	SEX	OFFENSE	LOCATION ADDRESS
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	7/15/20	22:15	MURPHY, CORY JOHN FRANCIS	W	M	POSSESS CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PG 1-11G	407 HOWARD ST
7/18/20	7/18/20	22:15	HILLS, RICKEY GERONE JR	W	M	WARRANT (LOCAL)	501 LAKESHORE
	7/18/20	22:15	HILLS, RICKEY GERONE JR	W	M	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	501 LAKESHORE
7/19/20	7/19/20	17:40	WILLIAMS, COURTNI LEE	W	F	DISORDERLY CONDUCT ABUSIVE LANGUAGE IN PUBLIC	1800 LAKESHORE

Upshur COVID-9 cases surge to 132

By Phillip Williams

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Upshur County had surged to 132 by Monday, including several in a Gladewater nursing home, but no deaths yet reported anywhere, said county Emergency Management Coordinator Marc Nichols.

Of the 132 victims, 66 recovered and 66 cases are active, he said. Nichols added that the overall total includes 14 in the Upshur County section of Gladewater, eight of which are recovered, and that he believed five residents of the nursing home were affected.

Well more than half the total 132 cases--92--occurred in unincorporated rural areas, and 47 of those are active, said Nichols.

Cities' overall totals, and the number still active in each, included Gilmer, 16 (7); Big Sandy 7 (3) and Ore City 3 (1), he said.

He reminded citizens to wear masks, observe social distancing, and wash their hands as precautions against spreading the virus.

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The Upshur County Shared Service Arrangement (UCSSA) which is comprised of the Big Sandy, Gilmer, Gladewater, Harmony, New Diana, Union Grove, and Union Hill Independent School Districts, proposes to destroy all out-of-date Special Education records contained in the eligibility folders of students who were dismissed from the program up through July, 2013. Also included in this purging will be records of students who were tested and did not qualify for special education services as well as records of those who qualified but were not placed. These records are presently maintained in the UCSSA office located at 406 N Bledsoe Street, Gilmer, TX. 75644, and include referral information, educational, psychological, medical, admission review and dismissal committee minutes, individual educational plans, and classroom observation data. It is our responsibility to inform you that these records may be needed for social security benefits or other purposes and that it may be to your benefit to obtain them. Those who prefer that their records not be destroyed should send a written request to:
Angie Hargett, Compliance Coordinator,
Upshur County Shared Service Arrangement,
406 N Bledsoe, Gilmer, TX. 75644
before August 10, 2020.
For additional information, call (903) 843-5575.

PUBLIC NOTICE VACANCY – CITY COUNCIL PLACE #6

The Gladewater City Council will be accepting applications to fill vacant Gladewater City Council Place #6 for an unexpired term ending May 2021.

Pursuant to the City Charter, the candidate must be 18 years of age or older, must be a qualified voter, a citizen of the United States and a resident citizen of this State for a period of 12 months. The candidate must have been a resident of the City of Gladewater for a period of 6 months and must continually reside within the City during his or her term of office.

Applications are available at www.cityofgladewater.com or by calling Judy Van Houten at 903-845-2196 ext. 4.

Applications will be accepted by Judy Van Houten, City Clerk, 519 E. Broadway, PO Box 1725, Gladewater, Texas 75647, until 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

The Gladewater City Council will be conducting interviews on July 30, 2020 at a special called meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. at 519 E. Broadway, Gladewater, Texas 75647.

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Well - it was a hot, but productive Thursday morning last week when Christian and Kathlene Allen took an old fire hose due to be destroyed from the Gladewater Fire Department and Chief Cory Crowell and gave the downtown pumpjack its finishing touches - adding a drive belt. Thanks to Christian and Kathlene for pitching in and completing a project that was started more than 2 years ago.



JPs to handle Upshur appeals of gaming room permits

By Phillip Williams
Upshur County Commissioners Court decided last week that appeals of the county's denial of gaming room permits will now be heard by a justice of the peace from outside the JP precinct where the game room is proposed.

The court on July 15 in Gilmer collectively named all four of the county's JPs as hearing officers - Wyone Manes of precinct one, Lyle Potter of precinct two, Rhonda Welch of precinct three and Anthony Betterton of precinct four. Commissioners did so, however, with the provision that County Judge Todd Tefeller would appoint which one would

hear a particular appeal. Sheriff's Deputy Shane Guthrie initially decides whether to grant or deny applications for such permits.

Commissioners named the JPs after accepting the resignation of the prior hearing officer, Don Gross, who conducted only one such hearing in his brief tenure. He upheld Guthrie's decision denying three permits for Harry Fox, who has appealed the case to 115th District Court. A hearing is set there for 9 a.m. Aug. 11, said one of Fox's attorneys, Dwight Brannon.

After accepting Gross' resignation, the court met in closed session to consider a replacement, or replacements, before returning to open session and approving the plan to appoint the JPs. Tefeller, who credited Precinct 2 Commissioner Dustin Nicholson for the idea, said the court had discussed the matter with three of the four judges, but been unable to talk to the other, who he did not identify.

"This (appeal) process is very rarely used," Tefeller added.

Escape to the Lake for a Hidden Gem



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Welcome to the Hidden Gem. Nestled among the Piney Woods of East Texas. This retreat overlooks open water of Gladewater Lake and offers fantastic views, sunrises, and sunsets. Family vacation, romantic timeout, girls' weekend, guys' hideout—retreat to open water. Renew, refresh & play at beautiful Lake Gladewater in a lovely, 2-story dream of a home-away-from-home - 4 Bedrooms/3Bath, sleeps 16! What happens at the lake is remembered FOREVER. Memories are here, just waiting to be made by YOU! Come on home to Lake Gladewater for a staycation you will never forget.

DINE-IN NOW AVAILABLE

STAY IN ORDER OUT

Takeout guide

Our local restaurants are here to serve you. Call ahead and have your food ready to go for pick up.

903-845-5885
West Pacific Pizza
224 West Pacific Ave, Gladewater
Tuesday - Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Dining room is closed.
Touchless curbside pickup and delivery only!

903-845-2318
Guadalupe's
101 E Pacific Ave, Gladewater
50% occupancy for Dining in
Curbside pickup available!

(903) 374-4700 Now Serving Beer & Wine
Booshay's
103 N Main St, Gladewater
Curbside Pickup or To-Go or Dine-In
Tues. - Thurs. 12 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.
We love our Community. If we have food, You'll have food.

903-295-0506
El Rincon
209 West US Hwy 80, White Oak
Open Monday - Saturday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Open for Dining
Curbside Pick Up

903-845-5999
Tele's
401 S Tyler St., Gladewater
Monday-Thursday 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday-Saturday 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
50% occupancy for Dining in
Curbside pickup available!

903-845-2311
Bodacious BBQ
1105 West Upshur Ave, Gladewater
Tuesday - Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Or until Sell Out
Take Out

Advertise your TAKE OUT and DINE-IN service here!
Call Suzanne at 903-240-1181 or 903-845-2235 or email her at Sales@Bardwellink.com

LET'S SUPPORT

Our Local **RESTAURANTS**



Good Health Needs Great Partners Like You

If you feel driven to serve seniors and are passionate about delivering exceptional patient care, we want you on our team. Partners in Primary Care is Shreveport-Bossier City's new partner in good health, delivering Senior-focused Primary Care at dedicated medical centers designed to meet the unique needs of patients 65 and older. Join our Care Team today and make a transformative impact on the lives of local seniors.

We Are Hiring Today

- Primary Care Physicians – Sign-on Bonus
- Advanced Practice Professionals
- Medical Assistants
- Registered Nurse Care Coaches
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers

3 centers opening in Louisiana!

- Bossier City – Winter 2020
- Shreveport – Early 2021
- Lafayette – Early 2021

Change the lives of Shreveport-Bossier City-area seniors! Learn more about us, view open positions and apply to join our team at patientfocusedcareers.com



Partners in Primary Care does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-877-320-2188 (TTY: 711). 注意: 如果您使用繁体中文, 您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-877-320-2188 (TTY: 711). GCHKU3WEN