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50¢

WOISD superintendent takes indefinite leave

By James Draper

White Oak ISD Superintendent Dr. William Paul has taken leave from the district – trustees discussed the school's chief May 23 but took no action following an extended closed session and consultation with their attorney.



Dr. Paul

The following morning, WOISD School Board President Lance Noll emphasized the fact is "Dr. Paul has taken leave" and lamented the churning of the local rumor mill.

"There's multiple things I cannot talk about," Noll allowed, but he had liberty to quash gossip: "The rumor mill can ruin people's reputations. He's done nothing illegal. He's done nothing immoral, nothing like that. He's just taken leave for a while."

A May 21 message to Paul has not been answered. He has been with the school district more than a year after being named the lone finalist for the superintendent's post in a special session March 23, 2023.

On the advice of the district's attorney, trustees can confirm Paul's leave, Noll added May 24, but other details won't be immediately forthcoming, likely not until the board's regularly-scheduled meeting June 10.

"He's taken leave, and I hope he's enjoying his time off," Noll said. "We don't know when he'll be back. That's all we know... Everything else is coming straight from the rumor mill."

Currently, WOISD Assistant Supt. Jack Parker is acting in Paul's stead.

"He is overseeing the day-to-day running (of the district). He is the active superintendent," Noll confirmed. "He is not the interim because Dr. Paul is still employed with the school district."

For Parker, it's the end of the school year – students heading out for their break, graduation the morning of May 25 at LeTourneau's Belcher Center, teachers in and out.

He can't speak to other issues before the school's elected officials: "They're trying to do the school's business, and we're trying to adhere to the law, of course."

A special session agenda posted May 20 noted the trustees would be meeting May 23, predominantly behind closed doors – first with their attorney then to "Deliberate the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee; or to Hear a Complaint or Charge Against an Officer or Employee."

The group opened their meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, immediately entered executive session and returned to the open meeting at 7:41 p.m. Their final agenda item regarding "employment matters" of key professional personnel allowed for action but none was taken.

"We immediately adjourned," Noll said. "There were three different news crews there. They weren't happy that we couldn't tell them anything, but unfortunately that's just the way it is right now."

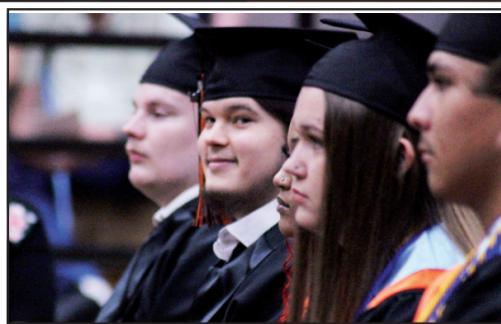
"More information should come out at the June 10 board meeting."

Noll reiterated his caution about the local rumor mill - "As the school board president, our number one concern is letting these kiddoes finish up their year," he concluded. "We're trying to minimize distraction and let these kiddoes get ready for a long summer and come back next year."



It's Official: Congratulations, Graduate!

The Gladewater High School Class of 2024 picked up their diplomas in the Bill Waters Gymnasium Friday evening after inclement weather pushed the district's commencement ceremonies indoors. To thunderous applause from a standing room-only crowd, the grads filed into the gym behind Valedictorian Madisyn Bedair and Salutatorian Hadassah Balcorta. The COVID Class recalled the ups-and-downs of their high school years before ending on the highest note possible, tossing their mortarboards high to celebrate the past and take their next steps forward. Photos by James Draper



White Oak High School Principal Skylar Stagner makes presentation of the Valedictorian and Salutatorian Awards to Gavin Sipes and Aubrey Saccoccio.



Passing of the Mace of Knowledge from English teacher Pam Lattin to Senior Class President Keller Lott. Photos by Mike Peery

City of Gladewater gets 'clean' audit

The City of Gladewater's 'clean' audit for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 included another hat tip for City Hall's \$4.6 million General Fund Balance.

"That's a good balance because that represents the entire year's worth of operating expenditures," said Albert Garcia of Mays & Associates. Walking the council through the firm's report during a special session Thursday evening, Garcia noted, "You guys have a good, healthy fund balance to incur some additional expenses, whether it be weather-related, COVID, that kind of stuff."

Likewise, there's a \$1 million fund balance for the community's debt service: "It's a good number there as well."

With the full council in attendance, the May 23 meeting's only other agenda item was a closed session and subsequent vote on a piece of property that will eventually be used to relocate a lift station near the intersection of Hwy. 271 and the loop.

After a full examination of the city's finances, Mays &

Associates had a key recommendation that is already being implemented.

"We realized," Garcia said, "the revenue from the sanitation activity is recorded in the General Fund," whereas other cities will typically create a dedicated Utility Fund for business-type expenses tied to water, sewer and trash.

"Whether you move the money over from the Utility Fund to the General Fund, that's y'all's choice, but the activity should be recorded in the Utility Fund. It is a business-type activity. It will also make your numbers look really good in that Utility Fund."

Moving forward, and with budget season looming, those activities will be recorded in the city's Fund 2.

Garcia also noted the Debt Service Fund took in about \$516,000 between interest and property taxes and paid out about \$300,000 for a net change from \$800,000 to \$1 million. Meanwhile, he reported a total net position of about \$7.8 million

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Stranded Sabine River revelers put swift water rescuers to first test



Gladewater Firefighters turned Swift Water Rescuers Tim Basham, Kevin Palmer and Felipe Gomez pose with a group of boaters pulled – sodden but uninjured – from the Sabine River before dawn May 24. Courtesy photo by GFD Chief Mike Simmons

Some local boaters' late night river run ultimately became the first real life test for Gladewater Swift Water Rescue crew in the wee hours Friday morning.

According to Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons, Gladewater Fire Station received a call about 3 a.m. May 24 reporting a boat on the Sabine River was stranded, engine flooded.

"There was no indication there was an emergency," he said, just a stalled boat, needing a tow. The call didn't come through 911 but, rather, through a spur of the moment phone tree. "We got our boat on the water, got to where we perceived the location to be and no one was there."

After a bit of doing, "Finally got some more coordinates and found them approximately five miles downstream from the boat ramp. They were actually in the water."

Freshly-trained, GFD's water rescue team soon learned the four boaters – adults ranging in age from 18 to mid-40s – had actually been in the water for an hour after their boat became submerged.

The boat contained just a cooler and camping gear, Simmons said, an early graduation adventure that had begun about 10:30 p.m. Thursday night.

"Apparently they do it quite often, but the river's a bit different because the water's up so high over the banks."

That's what began the trouble – apparently, when the group attempted to bank the boat, the steep grade caused the stern to dip under the water, and it soon went under.

"My guys were able to get them all gathered up, get them in our boat," he said. "The boat was floating by the time we got there. The safety mechanism of the bilge pump worked. Because the boat was floating they were able to tow it back to the dock."

"No injuries. No signs of criminal or illegal activity. It just looked like

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OPINION/COMMENTARY

Gary Borders Capital Highlights



Our Choice ...

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

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

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

Many who serve in combat bear a burden of silence. That silence can sometimes strangle their lives.

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

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

One long night of a press reception we visited. He enjoyed a bottle of wine as we talked. I, always curious, always interested, asked questions about his war years. Maybe I shouldn't have done that. It was the first time in 30 years he had really shared his memories. Some were so dark they took my breath and my curiosity away.

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

I hope so. I dearly hope so.

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

The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



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

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

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

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

We have an obligation to make sure this happens.

It should be our privilege.

Additional disaster assistance approved

Seven Texas counties have been approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for grants for emergency work and replacement of disaster-damaged public infrastructure, after severe weather and flooding struck much of Deep East Texas, Gov. Gregg Abbott's office reported. Counties eligible for FEMA's Public Assistance program include Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity and Walker.

An additional 21 Texas counties remain on review for possible inclusion under the aid program. In addition, a number of counties have been approved for individual assistance funding, for expenses such as temporary housing, emergency home repairs and help with medical, dental, and funeral expenses caused by the disaster. Those include Calhoun, Eastland, Guadalupe, Hardin, Harris, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, Walker and Waller counties.

Abbott also announced that the federal food program known as SNAP has approved allowing its recipients to apply for replacement benefits for food that was lost or destroyed in the recent storms. Any Texan in need can apply for benefits at YourTexasBenefits.com.

Families of Uvalde shooting victims sue DPS officers

Relatives of children killed and injured in the deadly school shooting in Uvalde in May 2023 are suing Texas Department of Public Safety officers who were among hundreds of law enforcement that waited well over an hour to confront the gunman at Robb Elementary. The Texas Tribune reported the legal action was taken against 92 DPS officers just days before the two-year anniversary of the shooting.

"Nearly 100 officers from the Texas Department of Public Safety have yet to face a shred of accountability for covering in fear while my daughter and nephew bled to death in their classroom," Veronica Luevanos, whose daughter Jailah and nephew Jayce were killed, said in a statement to The Tribune.

In addition, the city of Uvalde has agreed to pay those families \$2 million to avoid a lawsuit.

Ranchers push for balloon release ban

A Central Texas ranching family is pushing for a statewide ban on balloon releases after a string of balloons landed in a deer pen, spooking three young deer to thrash against the fence, The Dallas Morning News reported. The owners of 4 Generations Ranch in Crawford posted photographs of deer with cuts on their faces and bodies, and a now-deflated string of pink, blue, orange, and black balloons.

"Balloons don't go to heaven," David Meyer told The News on Wednesday. "What goes up must come down."

At least five states have banned or restricted balloon releases, but efforts to do so in Texas have fallen short.

\$17 million grant for rural hospitals

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission will award \$17 million in grants for rural hospitals over the next two years.

"I thank Governor Abbott and state lawmakers for this important funding," said Texas Health and Human Services Executive Commissioner Cecile Erwin Young. "Rural hospitals are a critical part of the healthcare system in Texas, and HHSC is proud to facilitate initiatives like this to support Texans and our rural communities."

The grant will provide qualifying hospitals \$100,000 to \$375,00 in grants over a two-year period. The money can be used to supplement operational expenses, repay debt, make facility repairs and buy or rent equipment.

Legalizing cannabis hits all-time high

Nearly three-fourths of Texas adults recently surveyed support either full legalization of decriminalization of cannabis, according to the San Antonio Express-News. The Texas Lyceum Association survey indicates the state's shift mirrors a similar national trend toward weed.

"Texas' evolving attitude speaks to a nationwide shift in favor of decriminalizing and legalizing cannabis," Ty Schepis, a Texas State University professor of clinical psychology with a specialization in substance use, said.

An analysis by the National Survey on Drug Use and Health showed that from 1979 through 2022, self-reported daily cannabis use surpassed daily alcohol consumption in the United States.



THE PEN IS MIGHTY GRATEFUL TO THE SWORD

THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

Who pays ...

In fiscal year 2023, the US government collected about \$4.7 trillion in total revenue, with roughly half (\$2.35 trillion) derived from the much-maligned personal income tax. We don't have a detailed breakout yet, but the [Tax Foundation](#) recently released an analysis of individual income return statistics from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for 2021. Given the attention that taxes always manage to muster in election season and our current fiscal excesses, it's worth a brief review.

The US income tax system is progressive, meaning that those with higher incomes pay more in both absolute and percentage terms. The bottom 50% of taxpayers (those making less than about \$46,600) paid an average of 3.3% of their incomes, while the top 1% paid 25.9%.

The top 1% of taxpayers had adjusted gross income of \$682,600 or more and paid an average of \$653,700 in income tax. The top 5% earned at least \$252,800 and paid an average of about \$187,500 in taxes, with the top 10% earning at least \$169,800 and paying almost \$108,300. The top 10% of income levels pay 75.8% of income taxes, with the top 50% paying 97.7%.

A common refrain during political season is that the top 1% of taxpayers don't pay a fair share. About 1.5 million returns comprised this echelon; they paid 45.8% of total income

taxes (more than \$1 trillion). The very highest earners (the top 0.1% which have at least \$3.8 million in income) paid \$542 billion, or 24.7% of the total collected.

The share paid by those with high adjusted gross incomes is large and rising. Moreover, refundable tax credits (which are distinct from refunds due to withholding exceeding the amount owed) result in millions of people actually receiving money from the IRS. Thus, while (1) some wealthy individuals are certainly able to exploit quirks in the system to reduce their liability and (2) payroll taxes and other revenue sources increase the overall share borne by those in lower brackets (particularly workers), the income tax generally achieves its objective of being a progressive source of federal revenue.

A key reason for accurately evaluating income taxes is to avoid mistakes as we seek to put the country on a path toward long-term financial sustainability amidst spiraling debt and deficits. Much of the often-heated rhetoric is simply not true, and, thus, not productive. From an economic perspective, taxes should be structured to maximize efficiency and cause the least disincentive to productive activity. They should also be equitable. We are approaching a time when the US must get its fiscal house in order with respect to both revenue and spending, and we would all be well-served to do so from a position of knowledge. Stay safe!

WHO ARE YOU LISTENING TO?

Billie Burke, the actress who played "Gilda the good witch" in the "Wizard of Oz" was traveling on a cruise ship, when she noticed a man at the next table suffering from a bad cold. She asked: "Are you uncomfortable?" The man nodded in the affirmative. "Well," she said, "I'll tell you what to do. Go back to your stateroom, drink lots of orange juice, cover yourself with all the blankets you can find, and just sweat it out." She then said: "I know what I'm talking about, I'm Billie Burke from Hollywood." The gentleman smiled and said: "Thank you," then added, "By the way, I'm Dr. Mayo from the Mayo Clinic."

Too often we listen to the wrong people, who speak very authoritatively, but lack the credentials, training, and experience, to really know what they are talking about. In religion this is a serious matter and has serious implications. Yet, how many look to celebrities, politicians, Popes, priests, preachers, and creeds or embrace cultural trends, or follow some religious fad? The wisdom of our age is not a reliable source religiously. Hebrews 1: 1 says God speaks to us today by His Son. Jesus Himself, affirmed that He has been given all authority in heaven and on earth "Matt. 28: 18).

Many today are like the Pharisees who confronted Jesus as He was teaching, and asked: "By what authority are you doing these things? And who gave you this authority?" Our post-modern culture also confronts Jesus, denies His authority, and rejects His teaching. For example, media mogul Ted Turner once questioned: "If you are only going to have 10 rules, I don't know if adultery should be one of them." In the same way people question Jesus' authority when His commands get in the way of their lifestyle, opinions, or priorities. You hear: "I know Jesus says,--- but we love each other;" "But times have changed;"--- "But I've got to have that promotion;"--- "but it's not popular today;"--- "But you're only young once;"--- "But I think God wants me to be happy;"--- "But others are doing things a lot worse;"--- "But that's not what my parents believed;"---etc.

Jesus said: "But why do you call Me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say" (Lk. 6: 46).

You see, He either has all authority or He doesn't have any. He's either Lord of all your life or none of your life. He's either the Son of God or an imposter and a fraud. As C. S. Lewis put it: "Jesus is either a liar, a lunatic, or else He is Lord!" The Father said about Jesus: "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, listen to Him" (Matt. 17: 5). Who are you listening to? Better listen to Jesus! Think on these things.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

ETCOG Executive Director Elected to the National Board

David Cleveland, Executive Director of the East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG), was recently elected to the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Board of Directors for the 2024-2026 term. David represents the Southwest Chapter on the 66-member Board.

The NADO Board of Directors oversees the association's budget and operations and develops policy on issues affecting Regional Development Organizations (RDOs). The organization was founded in 1967 to provide training, information, and representation for RDOs throughout the United States. Today, NADO member organizations serve local governments and the public within their regions through various programs focused on diversifying local economies, assisting businesses, creating jobs, and providing social services.

"I am excited to serve in this new role! The opportunity to work collaboratively with my colleagues across the country to bring new and innovative solutions to the challenges faced by our cities and counties is a privilege and an honor," said ETCOG Executive Director David Cleveland.

"We are honored to have David serve on NADO's Board of Directors. David brings a wealth of expertise, knowledge, and leadership on regional community and economic development issues to the national level," stated NADO Executive Director Joe McKinney. "Most importantly, David is focused on helping our nation's local communities pursue comprehensive regional strategies for remaining economically competitive in today's rapidly changing global environment."

County library hosts mini-golf

Rather than hold its two weekly "Storytime" sessions for small children this week, the Upshur County Library in Gilmer will host an indoors "mini-golf" activity Thursday (May 30) to kick off its summer reading program.

The game--primarily for those up to age 18, but also open to anyone-- is set from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and a food truck from the Credit Union of Texas will be present selling items, said library spokeswoman Hanna Hoosier.

Signing up for the reading program will be held at that time. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

The library at 702 W. Tyler (which is also Texas 154) has several other activities planned within a week after the mini-golf, and will resume its "Storytime" sessions Thursday, June 6.

"LEGOs at the Library" for ages 5-11 is scheduled from 11 a.m. to noon Saturday.

A children's movie and separate teen movie (for ages 12-18) will be shown at 2 p.m. Tuesday, with popcorn served at both.

Magician James Wand will perform for all ages at 2 p.m. Wednesday (June 5.)

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

Shake, rattle & Roll

A '50s and '60s show group is ready to getting things rockin' come August.

The national and international award-winning women of Shake Rattle & Roll will be performing at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, at the invitation of Gladewater Former Students' Association.

Tickets are \$25 per person for the concert in the GFSA Building at 2509 Hendricks St. All seats are General



Ken Barrow, a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War, peruses the names inscribed on the stones at the Gladewater Veterans' Memorial Plaza following Monday's Memorial Day observance hosted by the Gladewater Former Students' Association.
Photo by James Draper

'May we honor their memory'

Locals gather for annual Memorial Day tribute

By James Draper

"Each carries within us the memories of that time – the scorching heat, the endless sand, the thunder of artillery and the bonds forged in the crucible of combat."

There are countless stories of men and women serving their nation in war, Kevin Clark recalled Monday, Memorial Day. A Gunnery Sergeant in the United States Marines, his story was set in the blaze of Desert Storm.

"It was a time of uncertainty of fear, but also of unwavering resolve and steadfast dedication to a cause greater than ourselves," Clark told the service members and supporters who gathered May 27 at the Veterans' Memorial Plaza in downtown Gladewater. "For many of us, the memories of those we lost in that desert expanse are etched into our hearts forever. We remember their laughter, their

courage, their unwavering commitment to duty.

"We remember the moments shared in the midst of chaos – the quiet conversations beneath a starlit sky, the shared meals in makeshift chow halls, the embraces that spoke volumes in the absence of words."

Amidst the pain of loss, the Gladewater educator and councilman reminded the audience, there is also a profound sense of gratitude.

"Gratitude for the privilege of having known such remarkable individuals, gratitude for their selflessness and sacrifice and gratitude for the freedoms we hold dear, which they defended with every fiber of their being."

This week's annual 'Decoration Day' observance was once again hosted by the Gladewater Former Students Association,

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Admission, and the family-friendly show's free for children younger than 12.

Tickets are available for purchase at City National Bank and Austin Bank, as well as through Eventbrite.com. Doors will open at 1 p.m. that day with games and door prizes beginning at 1:30 p.m.

For more information, call 903-845-2631.

GHS Class of '84 holding reunion

The Gladewater High School Class of 1984 will hold its 40th Class Reunion June 7-8, and organizers are inviting the GHS Classes of 1981 through 1987 to join them alongside the teachers and staffers who broadened their minds through the years. For more information, call 318-465-4149.

Juneteenth's freedom celebration returns June 22

Each summer, Americans across the United States celebrate Juneteenth, commemorating the day – June 19, 1865 – when Gen. Gordon Granger reached Galveston Bay with 2,000 Union troops and decreed the emancipation of slaves.

The announcement arrived more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Another 150 years later and the date was ultimately commemorated as a federal holiday in the Juneteenth National Independence Act.

This year, June 19 falls on a Tuesday – the Gladewater MLK/Juneteenth Committee's annual celebration is scheduled for the following Saturday, June 22.

"Juneteenth is an opportunity for our local community and the community outside of Gladewater to not only celebrate freedom but also to come together in unity and celebrate each other and celebrate our community," said committee President Odette Alexander. "We're hoping to have a lot of participation."

The 'Freedom Day' event begins with the annual parade through downtown Gladewater with newly-installed Mayor Brandy Flanagan serving as Grand marshal. Parade participants will

gather at 9:30 a.m. in the 100 block of East Commerce Street before rolling out at 10 a.m. and turning South on Hwy. 271. Following Main Street, the caravan will turn along Coach Cooksey Street before coming to a stop at Bumblebee Park.

The park's festivities will get underway at approximately 10:45 a.m. – hopefully later, Alexander says, if a healthy influx of parade participants keeps it rolling longer.

"Everyone in the community is invited to come out," Alexander said. At the park, "We're going to be giving away free food, there's going to be music, a bounce house for the kids and hopefully some other activities for the kids."

There's no specific plan for vendors, she noted, but they're welcome to join the event by calling in advance.

"We are also planning to have some car clubs in our parade, and they are going to have a car show at picnic. If someone's interested in showing their cars, they can contact me for that as well."

To register a parade float, sign up as a car show participant or reserve a vendor spot, call 903-806-5443 or 903-237-9740.

So far this year, the Gladewater MLK/Juneteenth Committee celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day – twice thanks to inclement weather in mid-January – and gathered local office-seekers and voters for a Meet the Candidate Forum in Red Rock Community Center April 12.

W. Mt. Cemetery Assoc. honors three

The West Mountain Cemetery Association honored three deceased men for service to the organization, and re-elected three members to its board of directors, at its annual luncheon/business meeting on Sunday of last week.

Memorial bricks had been laid for Billy Bud Shipp, Ed Banning and Loyd Pyle at the cemetery on U.S. 271 between Gilmer and Gladewater.

Re-elected by acclamation were directors Larry Pyle (Loyd Pyle's son), place one; Bernard Haynes, place two;

and David Galbraith, place three.

Galbraith, vice-president of the group, presided in the absence of president Don Morgan, who reportedly was attending a graduation.

Rock Springs Cemetery luncheon set Saturday

The annual Homecoming & Covered Dish Lunch at Rock Springs Cemetery is set for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, June 2.

The first school house in Gregg County was established at the spot in 1849 and still exists there today. The historic site is located at 1366 Old Hwy. 135 North in Gladewater. Learn more on the "Rock Springs Cemetery" page on Facebook.

City of Gladewater gets 'clean' audit

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in the water/sewer fund, "which is really good."

With the audit in-hand and budgeting ahead, council member Rocky Hawkins noted he'd like to see a raise for city employees in the financial plan for FY 2024-2025.

Last year, interim City Manager Charlie Smith said, "We bumped salaries up and then we did a 3 percent raise on top of that."

"We're competitive to a certain extent with some of the surrounding cities. We're getting better. Retention is a big deal because I don't like re-training new people."

Mayor Brandy Flanagan thanked Garcia for the comprehensive report before the elected officials unanimously accepted the audit.

"Council can only make decisions on the most accurate information that we're given. We appreciate when those things are coded correctly."

The group spent about 45 minutes in closed session before returning to unanimously approve the purchase of a 3.822 acre tract in the Martha Dillard Survey. The site is currently owned by Matt and Karla Byrd.

"We've got to move our lift station out of the TxDOT right-of-way at (the agency's) expense," Smith explained. The equipment is currently located on a 0.37-acre cutout from the property, adjacent to Hwy. 271. "The city will be reimbursed for the lift station we have to build," and, possibly but not likely, for a portion of the \$79,900 listed price of the acreage.

The cost of the lift station relocation is to be determined: "I don't know until we have a bid out, somewhere between \$500,000 and probably \$1 million."

Stranded Sabine River revelers put swift water rescuers to first test

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a fun ride on the river that quickly changed."

As a PSA, he added, boaters need to bear in mind a flooded river has a stronger current and other unexpected hazards. "It doesn't take much for things to go wrong."

That said, Simmons is pleased with the firefighters' response for the first time since receiving swift water rescue training and equipment.

"The guys did a great job," he said. "They were thrown a couple of curveballs because the scene changed very quickly. They managed it very well, and everybody got home safely."

The GFD chief said he's grateful for the local support that put the crew in place, ready to respond.

"The city council supported us in seeking after and building our water rescue team and training," he said. "The boat was donated by Shipp's Marine. The water rescue gear, life jackets, dry suits, helmets, throw bags, all that was donated by Sabine River Authority."

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE THAT ROUNDUP CLUB NP, HAS FILED APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF PRIVATE CLUB REGISTRATION PERMIT. SAID BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED AT 2502 W. UPSHUR AVENUE, GLADEWATER, UPSHUR COUNTY, TEXAS 75647.

ROUNDUP CLUB NP

JAMES N. MOORE-PRESIDENT/DIRECTOR
CHRIS THOMPSON-SECRETARY/DIRECTOR
CRAIG BASS- DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's Off-Premises Permit (BQ) by GPM Southeast, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, d.b.a. E-Z Mart #4327 located at 500 W. Upshur Avenue, Gladewater, TX 75647; Gregg County. Said LLC is member managed by GPM Investments, LLC. Officers of said LLC are Arie Kotler, CEO; Eyal Nuchamovitz, EVP; and Robert Giammatteo, CFO. Managers of the sole member of said LLC are Arie Kotler and Eyal Nuchamovitz.



**PUBLIC NOTICE
CLEAN-UP BIDS**

The City of Gladewater is accepting SEALED BIDS for mowing, weeding, and discarding of all trash and debris on the premises of the property located at LT 6 BLK 2 EVERETT HILAND, more commonly known as 106 W. Jeanette Ave.

Bidders may contact the Code Enforcement Department for details at 903-845-2011.

Bids should be submitted to: Al Harrison, Gladewater City Hall, 519 E. Broadway Ave., Gladewater, Texas 75647 on or before Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. At that time the bid will be awarded. Insurance or bond required.



PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a public hearing before the City of Gladewater Planning & Zoning Commission on June 13, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. to consider a Specific Use Permit request for a Wine & Malt Beverage Retailers Permit (BG) at AB 179 L J RIGSBY SUR TR 23-02 SEC 2, more commonly known as 809 E. Broadway Avenue.

There will be a second public hearing held by the Gladewater City Council on June 20, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

All interested parties are invited to attend and participate in these public hearings. If you are unable to attend these meetings you may send written comments to Judy Van Houten, City Clerk, City of Gladewater, PO Box 1725, Gladewater, Texas 75647.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 COUNTY OF GREGG §

TO: THE HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF THE ESTATE OF MARY MARIE MEDLIN AKA MARY MARIE REAGAN, WHOSE NAMES AND WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN; THE HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF THE ESTATE OF VELMA JIMMERSON, WHOSE NAMES AND WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN; THE HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF THE ESTATE OF BERTHAL BURGIN, WHOSE NAMES AND WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN.

You are each hereby notified that a hearing will be held at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say Monday, the 15th day of July, 2024 and at 101 E. Methvin Street, Longview, TX 75601, to assess the damages of the owner of the property being condemned.

The undersigned special commissioners appointed to assess the damages in the above proceedings, having met on this date to set a time and place for hearing the parties to said proceeding, find that the 15th day of July, 2024, is the earliest practicable date for hearing the parties; that the most convenient place in this County to hold the hearing is 101 Methvin Street, Longview, TX 75601 and that the hearing shall commence at 10 o'clock A.M.

Participants who are unable to attend in person may attend via a concurrent telephone or video conference.

Said telephone or video conference may be accessed by calling 346-248-7799 and entering access code 856 0988 9675, followed by the pound (#)symbol.

Said telephone or video conference may also be accessed on the internet using the information below:

- Meeting specific URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85609889675?pwd=QkpTaHkxWU9MS0h2L25XV05xdysvUT09>
- Meeting number: 856 0988 9675
- Meeting password: 849543

Notice is also given that this telephone or video conference may be recorded and/or transcribed.

The State of Texas filed a *First Amended Petition for Condemnation* with the Judge of the County Court at Law No. 2 of Gregg County, Texas, on the 5th day of April, 2024, in Cause No. 2024-296-CCL2 which is styled The State of Texas v. The heirs and/or devisees of the Estate of Mary Marie Medlin aka Mary Marie Reagan, whose names and whereabouts are unknown, et al.. The Plaintiff is the State of Texas. The Defendants are: **THE HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF THE ESTATE OF MARY MARIE MEDLIN AKA MARY MARIE REAGAN, WHOSE NAMES AND WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN; THE HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF THE ESTATE OF VELMA JIMMERSON, WHOSE NAMES AND WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN; AND THE HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF THE ESTATE OF BERTHAL BURGIN, WHOSE NAMES AND WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN, and, if any of them be deceased, their respective heirs and legal representatives, if any; WILLIE ANN BAYER.**

The name and address of the attorney for Plaintiff is **Cassandra K. Kassis**, Assistant Attorney General, P.O. Box 12548, Austin, Texas 78711-2548.

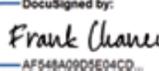
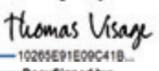
This suit is an eminent domain proceeding in which the State of Texas is condemning a tract of land located in Gregg County, Texas, containing 0.0012-acre (51 square feet) parcel of land situated in the Thompson Allen Survey, Abstract No. 7, located in Gregg County, Texas, and being out of and a part of a called 0.393 acre tract of land conveyed to Mary Marie Reagan, now known as Mary Marie Medlin, described in the Decree of Divorce executed August 19, 1985 between Albert Maurice Reagan and Mary Marie Reagan, recorded in Volume 1661, Page 233 of the Deed Records of Greg County, Texas, such property being fully described in Exhibit "A" of Plaintiff's *First Amended Petition for Condemnation* filed under the above-referenced cause number.

The interests of these Defendants are that they either own or claim an interest in said property, subject to unpaid accrued taxes.

You are further notified that you may appear at the hearing before the special commissioners and present evidence you desire on the issue of damages to be assessed against the State. If you do not appear at the hearing, the Special Commissioners may proceed to assess the damages of the owner of the property being condemned.

If this Notice is not served within ninety (90) days after its issuance, it shall be returned forthwith.

ISSUED this 9th day of April, 2024.

DocuSigned by:

 AF048A09D5E04CD...
 DocuSigned by:

 10205E91E09C41B...
 DocuSigned by:

 372C6DCE177D41A...
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Sports Roundup ...

New TimberHogs baseball team plays hometown opener tonight in White Oak

White Oak's Piney Woods TimberHogs are set for their Home Opener at 7:05 p.m. Thursday, May 30.

They'll be facing off against the Fort Smith Marshalls at Roughnecks Baseball Stadium.

It's the inaugural season for the local summer collegiate ballteam, newly-christened in February and part of the Mid-America League established this year.

"The name TimberHogs pays honor and tribute to the team's regional moniker, Piney Woods, and to the history of the lumber industry in the region," the team announced at timberhogs-baseball.com. "The mascot TimberHogs also references the fact that the region is home to an abundant population of wild boars."

Matt Perry is president of the new professional development baseball league.

"We are thrilled to have



a franchise in White Oak that represents the entire East Texas region," he said in a recent press release. "The East Texas region has produced some of the best baseball players in the State of Texas and we are excited to bring baseball back to East Texas after a long absence."

The franchise is helmed by veteran player David Upchurch, president and part

owner of the team.

"I am thrilled and humbled at the opportunity to bring premier development baseball back to the East Texas region."

The TimberHogs kicked off their season May 23 against the Abilene Flying Bison in the Panhandle.

Learn more and purchase tickets at timberhogsbaseball.com.



C.A.S.T. For Kids volunteers help a special needs participant come aboard. Gladewater's inaugural event is set for 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 1, at Lake Gladewater.

Special needs fishing bonanza set for June 1

C.A.S.T. for Kids is ready to net some new anglers June 1 at Lake Gladewater.

Tailored for children ages 6-18 with special needs, the 'Catch A Special Thrill' event aims to give the youngsters a quality outdoor recreational experience centered on fishing. Saturday's inaugural excursion runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., centered on the lake's boat ramp and pavilion at 1604 Lakeshore Drive.

"Our C.A.S.T. for Kids events include lots of fun and celebration," according to organizers. "You can expect 2-3 hours of fishing, a delicious lunch and an awards celebration where your child will receive a personalized plaque."

Notably, a parent or guardian must be pres-

ent with a participating child for the entirety of the event.

In addition to donors, volunteers are needed and appreciated, with opportunities available for registration, as an on-shore helper, a boat captain or co-captain. Learn more at castforkids.org/event/lakegladewater/

"If you are volunteering for this event you should expect about 6-7 hours of time at event, arriving before participants and staying after to help wrap things up. This is a day of fishing the children, families and volunteers will never forget!"

To sign-up in advance, contact Registration Coordinator Patti Walker at 903-625-2899. For more information, reach Event Coordinator Joey Walker at 903-241-3882.

"Coot's Corner"

By Coot Putley

More team names and mascots - NBA

New Orleans. Jazz. A proud musical heritage. The dictionary defines jazz as collective improvisation. New Orleans Jazz was a great name for an NBA franchise – especially when it featured Pete Maravich making music on the basketball court. Unfortunately, the team never decided on a permanent venue to play in and experienced financial difficulty, so they relocated to Salt Lake City, Utah. When you think of Salt Lake City you probably don't think about a thriving jazz music scene, but Utah decided to keep the Jazz nickname. They really should have changed it to something that made more sense. Maybe the Utah Slopes or Salt Flats? Or they could have referenced the official state nickname – the Beehive State and called the team the Utah Buzz. They could have invited Gladewater's Honey Bears

to perform at halftime on Opening Day!

The city of New Orleans wasn't forgotten. The Charlotte Hornets began playing in 1988. When that team suspended operations in 2002 (they had the lowest attendance in the league) the owner transferred the franchise and became the New Orleans Hornets and kept that name until 2013. In the meantime, Charlotte got another team and named it the Bobcats. Then in 2013 they decided they wanted to reclaim the Hornets moniker and the league approved it, so New Orleans changed their name to the Pelicans. The Hornets were back in their nest and the Pelicans reside by the gulf. The birds and bees are where they should be!

Another incongruous nickname is the Los Angeles Lakers. That was appropriate when the team was based in Minneapolis (Minnesota

is the land of 10,000 lakes) but in California they should be called the Redwoods or the Earthquakes. Or they could honor the Los Angeles culture and be named the Traffic Jams.

The genealogy of the current day Washington Wizards is also interesting. The franchise began in 1961 as the Chicago Packers, then played for a year as the Zephyrs. In 1963 the team moved to Baltimore and chose the name Baltimore Bullets. Ten years later they played in Landover, Maryland for a year as the Capital Bullets, then relocated again and became the Washington Bullets. In 1975, team owner Abe Pollin decided that name had bad connotations and changed the name to Washington Wizards. If he wanted to avoid negative association, he should have dropped the Washington name!

That's one man's opinion – what's yours?

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Large Absolute Auction Thurs., 10 a.m. June 6. Beautiful New Home Furnishings & Decor, Commercial Office Furniture & Decor. 1,000's of items, 100's of lots. All furnishings brand new. Items located at 4906 Topline, Dallas, TX. Inspection: Tues. June 4 & 5th 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and starting At 8 a.m. day of auction. Auction held at: Dakil Auctioneers, Inc., 200 NW 114th St., Okla. City, OK. See website for detailed listing & pictures, 405-751-6179 Bid live on-line at www.dakil.com.

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ACROSS

1 Canyon High class

5 TXism: "sure _____"

6 person living in a certain historical age

7 Yo ___ Digo Creek

8 TXism: "that ___ won't hunt" (disagree)

9 in NE Dallas County

15 TX McMurtry's "Lonesome Dove" was a TV ___ series in 1989

16 TXism: "as welcome as a skunk ___"

19 across the Rio Grande from McAllen

21 "___ hear it" (disappointing)

22 tiled designs

27 TXism: "take a stab ___" (attempt)

28 cowboy mounts

29 TXism: "stands on his ___ feet"

30 TXism: "a ___ do you do"

32 ___ Hamlin created "Alley Oop" comic in Iraan, Texas

33 TX Nolan Ryan feats (hyph.)

36 cut with a saw

37 Texans like it iced

38 TXism: "he'd have ___ up to be a half-wit"

39 TXism for "animals"

41 "he would turn Casper the friendly grouch" (irritating)

44 a Gulf pirate: Louis-Michel

45 encouraging phrase on a golf green? (3 wds.)

46 TX Perot was salesman for this corp.

47 activity for males on Padre Island at spring break? (2 wds.)

50 this Peter was in "Silk Stockings" with TX Cyd Charisse

51 a brother of George W.

52 feminine suffix

53 San Jacinto general (init.)

DOWN

1 Santa ___ National Wildlife Refuge

2 birth month of TX-born Steve Martin (abbr.)

3 in Texas, 3rd DWI is ___ offense

4 TXism: "nervous as ___ pan"

8 expires

9 "Mr. Sam" Rayburn served in the United ___

10 Coleman High class

11 Texas country singer, Pride (init.)

12 TXism: "if he was a dog he wouldn't wag ___" (lazy)

13 TX Howard Hughes produced film "___ face" (1931)

14 TXism: "tie up the loose ___"

15 Field Scovell was "___ Bowl"

16 "a ___ apple"

17 "I dream of ___ night"

18 12-time Olympic host, Bob

20 this Redding and TX Janis were in film "Monterey Pop" (1968)

22 birth state of TX Belle Starr (abbr.)

23 you're on your ___

24 TXism: "___ - slinging drunk"

25 farm activity: throwing slop ___

26 "___ was in Dixie . . ."

28 TX golfer Byron book: "___ Played the Game"

31 Maureen O' ___ was in "McLintock" with TX Chill Wills

34 elephant tooth

35 former Cowboy "___ Tall" Jones

37 college semester

40 bath vats

42 this Carter was in "The Grass Harp" with TX Sissy

43 TXism: "___ on" (get drunk)

48 Dublin may have been named after the ___ city

49 CSA general, Lee (init.)

See Answers On This Page

Blood drives slated in area

Carter BloodCare of Tyler has scheduled three blood drives in Upshur County between next Thursday (May 30) and June 20.

The first is from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Walmart on U.S. 271 in Gilmer. For more information, call Carter spokeswoman Donna Russell at 903-574-4998.

The Big Sandy Lions Club will host a drive at Austin Bank on U.S. 80 in that city from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 8. For information, contact Rickey Caughron at 903-918--9393.

The Gilmer community blood drive, normally held on the downtown square, is set Thursday, June 20 at a new location, beside Dollar General Store, which faces on U.S. 271.

Times are 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For information, contact Julie York, an Upshur County extension agent, at 903-680-8128.

In a press release, Russell said donations of type O negative blood, which can be used to treat any patient, is critically needed.

Local patients may be awaiting life-saving transfusions, and the current shortage of type O negative could force postponing medical procedures, Russell added.

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 - Friendship Baptist Church • 903-845-4603
 - Gladeview Baptist • 903-845-3842
 - Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174
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 - Greater New Hope Baptist
 - Locust Grove Baptist • 903-845-5174
 - Gladewater Bible • 903-845-4768
 - New Hope Baptist • 903-845-3042
 - St. James Baptist • 903-845-5028
 - Union Grove Baptist • 903-845-4894
 - Olde Tyme Baptist Church • 903-806-2411
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- East Mountain Church of Christ * 903-285-1871
 - North Loop Church of Christ • 903-845-2531
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	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20242715	0:35	DOLLAR GENERAL	2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20242716	0:50	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ABANDONED 911	20242717	1:40		1520 E SHEPHERD SHEPHERD DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242718	10:02		132 N LEE LEE DR
	ALARM/OTHER	20242719	10:28	WELDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	314 E SAUNDERS SAUNDERS ST
	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20242720	11:24		802 COACH COOKSEY COACH COOKSEY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242721	11:27		S LOOP S LOOP
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20242722	12:11		COACH COOKSEY COACH COOKSEY
	10-50 MINOR	20242723	12:16		1515 FLORENCE FLORENCE
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20242724	12:41		300 N LEE LEE
	UNAUTHORIZED USE MOTOR VEH	20242725	12:43		515 W GAY GAY
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20242727	14:31		271 N 271 N
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242728	15:10		
	CREDIT/DEBT ABUSE	20242730	16:00	SUPER STOP EXXON	801 N MAIN MAIN ST
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20242732	16:32	SONIC DRIVE IN	1103 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242733	16:38	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	BURGLARY/CM	20242734	16:54		2201 W GAY GAY
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20242735	17:05		E PACIFIC E PACIFIC AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20242736	17:32	3D PLASTICS QUANTUM PLASTICS	1095 E COMMERCE COMMERCE ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242737	17:45	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	ABANDONED 911	20242739	18:13		200 CULVER CULVER
	ABANDONED 911	20242740	19:33		106 COTTON COTTON ST
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20242741	20:10	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20242742	20:35		903 E MARY MARY
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20242743	20:40	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242744	20:52		406 SPENCER SPENCER
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20242745	21:22		530 NORTH NORTH ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242748	22:33		530 NORTH NORTH ST
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20242749	23:29		HWY 80 HWY 80
	EMS	20242750	23:35		3035 GEORGE RICHEY GEORGE RICHEY RD
5/20/24	MISCELLANEOUS	20242752	2:45	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ASSIST	20242753	7:54		UPSHUR UPSHUR
	ASSIST	20242754	9:43		S TYLER TYLER ST
	ILLEGAL DUMPING	20242755	11:47		PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS
	ASSIST	20242756	11:58		802 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	ASSIST	20242757	11:59	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242758	12:50		2104 W PECAN PECAN ST
	EMS	20242759	14:23		711 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	EMS	20242760	14:37	PIZZA HUT	1210 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	FORGERY	20242761	14:51	DONNELLYS LIQUOR	1700 N MAIN MAIN ST
	FIRE DEPT	20242763	16:27		374 PINE RIDGE PINE RIDGE RD
	10-50 MAJOR	20242764	17:21		10789 FM 2885 FM 2885
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20242766	22:54		210 E EDDY EDDY
	EMS	20242767	23:44		610 CANFIELD CANFIELD ST
5/21/24	EMS	20242768	1:30		303 S COOPER COOPER ST
	ASSIST	20242770	10:26	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	ASSIST	20242771	14:39	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	CRIM MIS	20242772	15:19	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242774	18:07	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242775	18:26	CEFCO 79	1109 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242776	19:25		403 W QUITMAN QUITMAN AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242777	21:24		
	ALARM/MALFUNCTION	20242778	22:09	BROOKSHIRE GROCERY	1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ABANDONED VEHICLE	20242779	23:10	DOLLAR GENERAL	2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
5/22/24	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242780	1:10		1300 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242781	6:52		2107 E HAROLD HAROLD
	ALARM/OTHER	20242782	9:03		501 N AMES AMES ST
	ASSIST	20242783	9:10		1907 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
	EMS	20242784	9:46		171 MAHOGANY MAHOGANY RD
	BURGLARY/VEHICLE	20242785	10:01	LAY LOW AUTOMOTIVE	801 N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20242786	11:21	SENTINEL GARDENS	300 MONEY MONEY ST
	ASSIST	20242787	11:27		902 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
	ASSIST	20242788	12:36	TEXAS BANK AND TRUST	1823 E BROADWAY BROADWAY

	BURGLARY/HABITATION	20242789	13:00		1003 CANFIELD CANFIELD
	EMS	20242791	14:52		9532 UNION GROVE UNION GROVE RD
	EMS	20242792	15:03		1102 E SHEPHERD SHEPHERD DR
	RECKLESS DRIVING	20242793	15:11		637 COACH COOKSEY ST COACH COOKSEY ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242794	15:18		101 N DEAN DEAN ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242795	15:40	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242796	15:55	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242797	17:08	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20242798	18:56		1406 EAST LAKE DRIVE EAST LAKE DRIVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20242799	19:08	DOC LAB ENTERPRISES	212 E MILLER MILLER AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20242800	19:11		PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242801	21:10		1511 PHILLIPS SPRINGS PHILLIPS SPRINGS RD
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242802	21:33		1203 NORTH NORTH ST
	EMS	20242803	21:59		205 E GAY GAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242804	23:08		HWY 80 HWY 80
5/23/24	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20242805	4:21	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	300 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20242806	7:25	ALLSTATE COATINGS	100 N LEE LEE ST
	BURGLARY/BUILDING	20242807	11:05	LADY LUCK TATTOO'S	719 N MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20242808	12:58	TRUMAN SMITH CHILDRENS CENTER	2200 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	FOUND/LOST/RECOVERED	20242809	14:14	GLADEWATER CITY HALL	519 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242811	17:07		
	ALARM/OTHER	20242812	17:40	HOLLY DENTAL	1050 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	INDECENCY WITH CHILD	20242813	18:26		
	FIRE DEPT	20242814	18:40		S OLD 135 OLD 135
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242815	20:38		2806 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20242816	21:41		
	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	20242817	21:45		1406 SPRUCE SPRUCE ST
	FIRE DEPT	20242818	23:09		64 JULIA WOODS JULIA WOODS
5/24/24	10-50 MINOR	20242819	2:49	PENNYS FOOD & FUEL	807 S TYLER TYLER ST
	FIRE DEPT	20242820	3:22	SABINE RIVER BOAT RAMP	S RD
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20242821	3:36		HW 80 HW 80
	ALARM/OTHER	20242822	10:01	ZIPP'S LIQUOR STORE	301 E UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	20242823	11:56		BERNICE BERNICE
	ASSIST	20242824	12:12		E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ASSIST	20242825	12:24	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242826	12:38		904 E MARY MARY ST
	EMS	20242827	13:01	DOLLAR GENERAL	2870 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	EMS	20242828	13:38		1306 WEST LAKE WEST LAKE
	EMS	20242829	14:13		595 BRIAR COVE BRIAR COVE
	ABANDONED 911	20242830	15:02		112 W PACIFIC PACIFIC AVE
	ABANDONED 911	20242831	15:31	LAKE GLADEWATER	1802 LAKESHORE LAKESHORE DR
	10-50 MINOR	20242834	19:57		HWY 80 HWY 80
	ALARM/OTHER	20242835	20:18		212 E MILLER MILLER
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242836	20:56		HENDRICKS HENDRICKS
	ALARM/OTHER	20242837	21:22		4233 S HWY 80 HWY 80
	SUSPICIOUS NOISE	20242838	21:37		1210 N OLIVE OLIVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242839	21:39		407 W COMMERCE COMMERCE
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242840	22:07	TICO	513 E PACIFIC PACIFIC ST
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242841	23:12		E BROADWAY BROADWAY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242842	23:30		807 TENERY TENERY ST
5/25/24	SIMPLE ASSAULT "C"	20242843	0:11		803 W UPSHUR UPSHUR
	EMS	20242844	0:39		2813 GUY GUY
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242845	1:59		810 E PACIFIC PACIFIC
	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	20242846	4:24	EZ MART	400 W UPSHUR UPSHUR AVE
	FIRE DEPT	20242847	7:18		JUNIPER JUNIPER RD
	WARRANT	20242848	8:26		LOCKER PLANT LOCKER PLANT RD
	FOUND/LOST/RECOVERED	20242850	10:21	GLADEWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT	511 S TYLER TYLER RD
	EMS	20242852	11:13		9989 PR 3352 PR 3352
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20242853	11:27	SEYMORES WILCO	1298 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242854	11:34		404 S MAIN MAIN ST
	EMS	20242855	11:38		501 E EDDY EDDY ST
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242856	12:00		271 AND MELBA 271 AND MELBA
	ANIMAL CONTROL	20242857	12:13		308 WALTON WALTON
	10-50 MINOR	20242858	13:19	CHRISTUS TRINITY CLINIC	1800 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	ALARM/OTHER	20242859	13:59	3D PLASTICS QUANTUM PLASTICS	1095 E COMMERCE COMMERCE ST
	EMS	20242860	14:42		802 EAST LAKE EAST LAKE
	CRIM TRESPASS	20242861	15:01	ACE HARDWARE	1620 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	EMS	20242862	15:34		504 NORTH NORTH ST
	THEFT	20242863	16:19	SEYMORES WILCO	1298 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20242864	17:07		132 N LEE LEE
	MISCELLANEOUS	20242865	19:33		421 W GAY GAY
	DISTURBANCE-OTHER	20242866	21:38	CHICKEN EXPRESS	1101 E BROADWAY BROADWAY AVE

WOPD Police Activity

For the reporting period of May 20th through the 26th, 2024, officers for the White Oak Police Department responded to, or initiated, 201 calls for service and assistance. Some of the most common calls were; Animal Complaints, Burglar Alarms, Traffic Issues (collisions, traffic control, reckless drivers, etc.), Suspicious Activities, and Community Relations (burn permits, welfare checks, vacation home security checks, etc.).

Five traffic collisions were investigated which resulted in one injury and one continuing criminal investigation for Hit & Run.

No one was arrested by White Oak Police during this reporting period.



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Newly-elected mayor Brandy Flanagan reads a proclamation at Monday's Memorial Day observance in downtown Gladewater.

'May we honor their memory'

Locals gather for annual Memorial Day tribute

Continued from Page 3

which spearheaded the development of the East Pacific Avenue memorial. President Danny Sorrells opened the ceremony followed by the National Anthem, the Pledge of Allegiance by Major Robert Green (Ret.) and an opening prayer by Rev. Dr. Ricky Moore.

Mayor Brandy Flanagan, flanked by members of the Gladewater City Council, read the 2024 Memorial Day Proclamation before remarks by council member Rocky Hawkins. In addition to the playing the anthem of each U.S. military branch and recognizing service members, GFSA's Leslie Willeford read the names of veterans newly-added to the memorial and "Taps" played as U.S. Marine (Ret.) Leon Watson raised the flag to its full height to close the ceremony.

"I always admired the men and women that served in the military. They have my deepest respect," Hawkins said, recalling a stirring trip to Washington D.C. "You couldn't hardly keep from being emotional, thinking about all the many sacrifices that were made to keep this nation free."

It's a sacred occasion to gather on Memorial Day, Clark said, one that makes his heart swell with both pride and sorrow.

"Pride for the valor and sacrifice of those we've lost and sorrow for the emptiness left behind in their absence," he said. "Today, we come together not only to remember but to honor.

"To honor the brave souls who paid the ultimate price in service to our nation, to



"As we gather here today, let us pause to remember, to reflect, and to recommit ourselves to the noble cause for which so many have laid down their lives," Gunnery Sgt. Kevin Clark, USMC Retired, tells service members and supporters gathered at Gladewater's Veterans' Memorial Plaza Monday. "May we honor their memory not only with our words but also with our deeds, and may we strive each day to be worthy of the extraordinary gift they have given us – the gift of freedom."

honor their families who carry the weight of their absence and to honor the unbreakable spirit of camaraderie that binds us as brothers and sisters in arms."

Pay tribute to the fallen, Clark added, and also remember the loved ones they left behind.

"Their sacrifice is immeasurable, their resilience awe-inspiring and their love unwavering," he said. Don't dwell only on the past, Clark added, but take the day as a call to action: "A call to honor the legacy of those

we've lost by living lives worthy of their sacrifice. Let us strive to be the best versions of ourselves, to stand up for justice, to defend the oppressed and to uphold the values for which they gave their lives.

"And let us never forget that the true measure of a nation's greatness lies not in the strength of its military or the expanse of its borders but in the depth of its compassion, the resilience of its spirit and the steadfastness of its commitment to freedom and justice for all."

End of the Year White Oak ISD Employee Service



5 year service awards - L-R Front Row: Matt Dyson, Paul Bucher, Shelby Skeen, Leslie Rasco, Nikki Baudat, Nicole Arnold Back Row: Amanda Wells, Kazia Wren, Lindsey McClung, Taylor Cloud, Kasie Koonce, Lacey Little



10 year service awards - L-R Front Row: Wendy Stewart, Candace Stafford, Amy Heim, Chasley Kelley Back Row: Coty Pratt, Sue Vasquez, Stacy Shellhorse, Amy Brondum, Shelby Broussard



15 year service awards - Lisa Pullen, Randy Whately, Tawana Allen



20 year service awards - Nina Peery and Laura Odom



25 year service awards - Becky McCurdy, Donna Gilliam, Gary Carpenter, Julie Bodovsky

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40 year service award Pam Cranford

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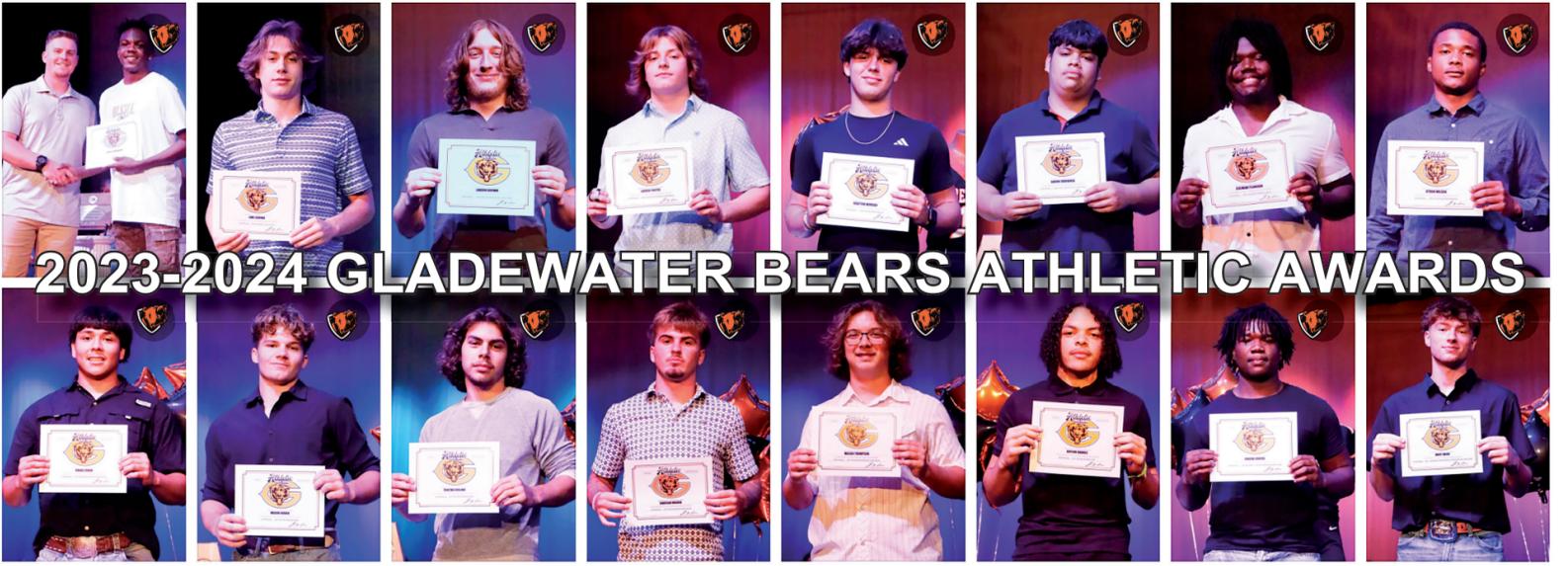
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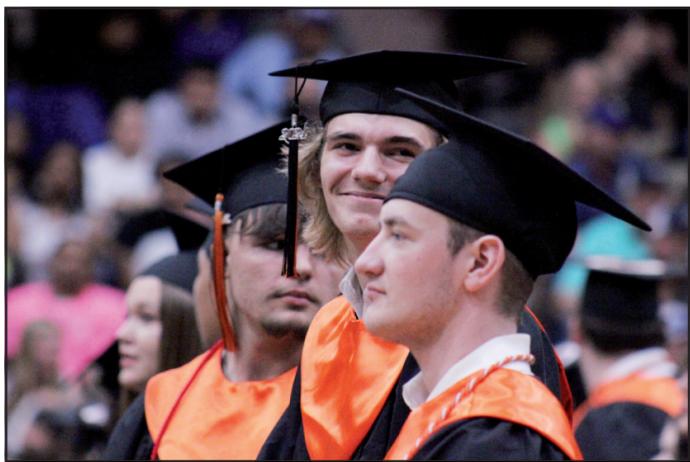


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Photos by Mike Peery and James Draper

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The Gladwater HS Class of 2024 takes their Senior Walk through Weldon Elementary School and Gladwater Middle School May 21.

Photos by James Draper



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