

# Gladewater Mirror

"Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1928"



Thursday, June 6, 2024

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## Teen suspects facing felonies after GPD pursuit

Some Gladewater homeowners got an early morning wake-up call May 30 as a multiagency police pursuit raced down residential roadways, ultimately ending with two local teenagers in custody and facing felony charges.

"He was making laps, going up and down one street to another," Gladewater Police Chief Kyle Ready reported later that Thursday. "Woke the whole neighborhood up over there" as law enforcement from GPD, Gregg County, Upshur and DPS chased a stolen Kia Soul on Hwy. 80, U.S. 271, Gay Avenue, East Lake Drive and other routes shortly after 5 a.m.

"It looked like a parade going down the road."

The investigation's ongoing – allegedly, two white male juveniles, 16 and 14 years-old, nicked the CUV from a home in the 600 block of East Lake Drive at some point during the night and eventually encountered a unit from Upshur County Sheriff's Office after midnight.

The suspects (who won't be named due to their ages) escaped that initial pursuit, Ready confirmed, but local law enforcement coordinated their efforts and were on the lookout, "See if we could catch them going back through town."

From GPD's preliminary report, a Gregg County deputy initiated the second pursuit at 5:09 a.m. in the 800 block of North Main Street.

"They pursued the vehicle for probably 10 to maybe 15 minutes," Ready reported. The victim of the vehicle theft was one of many residents roused by the ruckus – he learned his car had been stolen when it raced past his house with multiple units hot on its tail.

"It was going through neighborhoods, went down highway 80, finally coming to rest over about the 2000 block of Gay Avenue," Ready said. "That's when the two occupants bailed out of the car and took off running."

"They were able to catch the driver of the vehicle pretty quickly. DPS actually launched their drone to see if we could flush out the other one," but he was found moments later anyway, hiding in the woods nearby.

Officers ran the plate on the vehicle and soon found the 61-year-old owner, visibly distraught after watching the chase from his front porch. Due to the man's labored breathing, GPD's officers contacted dispatch to request EMS, and the man was transported to Longview for treatment.

The teenage suspects were booked into Gregg County's Juvenile Detention Center and are facing initial charges of Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle and Evading with a Motor Vehicle, both of which are felonies.

"We are looking at them for some involvement in some other crimes that have been committed here recently in that area of town," Ready added. Video surveillance posted to a local Facebook page indicates a link: "They had their faces covered up, they were wearing hoodies, but I believe it's going to be the same ones. It's all in the same area where this car was stolen."



It's finally here! Rodeo Time in Gladewater! The 87th Annual Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo breaks out of the chutes June 5 - 8 at the Gladewater Rodeo Arena with many of the biggest rodeo stars in the PRCA and WPRA competing for top dollars and a trip to the National Finals.

All the high-flying action started Wednesday, June 5, with a full night of Xtreme Bulls, followed by three nights of PRCA rodeo excitement Thursday, June 6 - Saturday, June 8. Gates open nightly at 6 p.m.

Tickets for the 87th Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo can be purchased online at GladewaterRodeo.com, with general admission tickets \$18 for adults / \$10 for kids (12 and under). Reserved Seating is also available for purchase each night for \$25 per ticket (all ages). Box seats will also be available to the public. Each box is sold per night for the entire box at a rate of \$175 per box (boxes seat six people; individual seats are not available to purchase). Proceeds from the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo go to funding scholarships for area students.

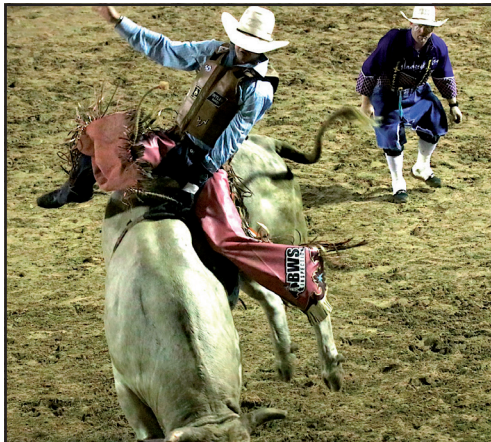
All active members of the military and first responders are eligible for special half-price tickets for Thursday night, June 8, available only at the Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo Ticket Office with a valid ID.

The Ticket Office on the rodeo grounds is located at 2502 W. Upshur Avenue in Gladewater and is directly in front of the rodeo arena. The ticket office will be open from 8:30 a.m. through the time of the rodeo.

The Gladewater Round-Up Rodeo's nightly Calf Scramble is free to kids in two age groups: 8 and under and ages 9 - 12. Two winners per age group will each win a \$50 cash prize. No pre-registration is required.

The 8th Annual Gladewater Handicapable Rodeo for children and people with special needs will take place Saturday, June 8, 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. at the Gladewater Rodeo Arena, located on US Highway 80. This free event features a variety of fun-filled activities, including horseback rides, barrel-bucking bull, face painting, and a petting zoo.

For those interested in supporting the Handicapable Rodeo, contact Paige Winters at (361) 815-5188.



On June 6, 1944, Allied forces crossed the English Channel and landed on the beaches of Normandy, France in a massive offensive to liberate Western Europe from the occupation of Nazi Germany. With 176,000 troops arriving by landing craft and ships, as well as nearly 14,000 aircraft, the Allied forces were able to secure Northern France within three months despite a vicious effort by Nazi forces.

Thousands of American and Allied lives were lost but not in vain as this Invasion of German occupied France led to Victory and restored Liberty.

## Girl found safe after being swept away in drainage ditch

A 13-year-old Gladewater girl fell into a drainage ditch during Sunday's severe storm, prompting a rescue effort that, fortunately, turned out to be unnecessary.

According to a GPD release, emergency personnel were called out to Bumblebee Park in the 700 block of Coach Cooksey Rd. in the midst of Sunday evening's downpour.

"Upon arrival at the scene, officers initiated a search of the area and spoke with witnesses who confirmed seeing the female fall into the drainage ditch and being swept away. The officers noted the dangerous conditions, with fast-moving water and high water levels," Chief Kyle Ready reported, reaching out to Longview Fire Department's Swiftwater search and rescue/dive team.

From a throng of locals searching for children, officers discovered the alleged victim's mother, who reported her daughter was safe in their Greenway Village residence.

"All children were located safe and sound," Ready confirmed Monday.

According to the teen, she was observing the rushing water in the drainage ditch when she slipped and fell in.

The girl described "being swept down to the runoff box, experiencing submersion and resurfacing near an unfamiliar road, from where she eventually made her way back home," Ready reported. She was evaluated by medical personnel and transported to a Tyler hospital for treatment. "This incident serves as a testament to the dedication and professionalism of our local emergency responders and the critical role they play in ensuring the safety and well-being of our community."

## WOISD board's meeting yields no developments, details

The White Oak ISD School Board isn't ready yet to discuss or act on the status of the school's leadership.

With Superintendent Dr. William Paul on an indefinite personal leave since mid-May, trustees met for their second, special called meeting in as many weeks Monday evening. The district's elected officials spent almost two-and-a-half hours in executive session June 3 before wrapping up with no public action taken.

Notably, the meeting was Dr. David Ummel's last as a member of the board, and he made the motion to adjourn the session shortly before 8 p.m. Ricky Bodovsky will succeed Ummel in Place 7 after running uncontested in the Spring 2024 election.

On their agenda, the trustees were once again scheduled to consider 'Personnel Matters' including consultation with their attorney and deliberation of key administrative personnel. A vote was anticipated, but after entering their deliberated 'executive' (closed) session shortly after 5:30 p.m., the group remained sequestered until 7:57 p.m.

"We're not taking any action tonight," board president Lance Noll said following the adjournment. "We'll have more information, hopefully, June 10 at our regularly-scheduled board meeting."

WOISD Assistant Supt. Jack Parker is currently overseeing the day-to-day business of the school.

## Crime takes bite out of officer

Fortunately, it didn't break the skin.

One of Gladewater Police Department's 'frequent flyers' was arrested after allegedly shoplifting and creating a disturbance at Dollar General. Before the incident was wrapped up, however, 35-year-old suspect Angela Baird allegedly added Assault on a Public Servant to the list of allegations against her.

According to a GPD report, Officer Tyler Sorrells was dispatched to 904 E. Broadway Ave. in search of a woman who'd been following customers around the store then left without paying for items. He located the suspect under the awning of a funeral home next door.

Officer J. Arteaga investigated the theft while Sorrells made contact with Baird who allegedly declined to show ID and ignored instructions.

"She continued to try and walk away from me multiple times and would not listen to my commands," Sorrells reported. Attempting to cuff the suspect, "She resisted and tried to pull away from me," as the officer, recognizing her, confirmed through dispatch she had 12 active city warrants.

While Sorrells stowed Baird's belongings, she reportedly slipped a hand from the cuffs.

Continued on Page 10

# OPINION/COMMENTARY

**THE FIRST AMENDMENT:** Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of all the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

**Gary Borders**  
**Capital Highlights**



**Phelan wins re-election bid, seeks speaker post again**

House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont, narrowly won re-election in a hotly contested runoff race and has vowed to seek his third term as speaker, drawing threats from Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton to oppose any of his supporters in the 2024 primary.

"I've done it twice, Phelan told The Dallas Morning News. "I'll do it a third time." But Patrick was quick to threaten opposition to any representative supporting Phelan's bid.

"My message to Austin is clear: to those considering supporting Dade Phelan as speaker in 2025, ask your 15 colleagues who lost reelection how they feel about their decision now," Paxton said in a statement. "You will not return if you vote for Dade Phelan again."

Two former Phelan supporters already have announced they will run for speaker. Rep. Tom Oliverson, R-Cypress, announced his plans to do so before the runoff results were known. Rep. Shelby Slawson, R-Stephenville, announced her candidacy on Thursday. Phelan has drawn Paxton's ire since supporting impeaching the attorney general, who was ultimately acquitted by the Senate last September.

**FEMA opens more disaster recovery centers**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has opened more disaster recovery centers in southeast Texas counties hit by recent storms and flooding, the Houston Chronicle reported. New centers opened in Hardin, Montgomery and Walker counties and are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Meanwhile, Gov. Greg Abbott added five more counties to the disaster declaration list: Dallas, Fannin, Hockley, Lynn, and Rockwall. That means more than 100 Texas counties are now under a disaster declaration after severe storms and flooding swept a considerable portion of the state in late April, with heavy rainfall, flash flooding, flooded rivers, large hail and hazardous wind gusts.

"I encourage every Texan who sustained damage to their home or business to report it using the Texas Division of Emergency Management's iSTAT damage survey," Abbott said. The link to the survey can be found at: [damage.tdem.texas.gov](http://damage.tdem.texas.gov).

**SBOE to approve rigorous course material**

Public comment is now open for new course materials proposed by the Texas Education Agency and under consideration by its governing body, the State Board of Education.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the state has developed academic content that will be offered free online for kindergarten through fifth grade reading and language arts, and for kindergarten through eighth grade math. SBOE must approve the materials for use in all public schools that wish to use them.

Education Commissioner Mike Morath said the intent is to provide free, state-developed and vetted course materials. He said teachers have said in TEA surveys that they spend many hours outside of school looking online for such material.

"In many cases, the materials that have been cobbled together by curriculum teams or grade level teams, while seemingly appropriate, have not given students exposure to the background knowledge they need," Morath said. "You want kids to be able to read independently, but you want them to be really stretched."

If approved by the board, districts will receive an additional \$40 per student to use board-approved books and \$20 to print state-owned content. Anyone interested in viewing the proposed materials and provide feedback by going to the board's website — [sboe.texas.gov](http://sboe.texas.gov) — and finding the "Instructional Materials Review and Approval" page.

The board could approve use of the materials in November.

**TPWD approves rules for mountain lions**

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission last week approved rules for hunting and trapping mountain lions in the state, banning canned hunts and setting a 36-hour limit for checking traps for live mountain lions, [kut.org](http://kut.org) reported.

Before the vote, there were no requirements for checking traps, and whatever was trapped could be left to die of exposure or dehydration.

"We don't need to facilitate negligence. We have a duty to manage wildlife. We have a duty to be ethical as hunters," Brandt Buchanan, a ranch manager and hunter, told commissioners.



**Cowboys are my heroes ...**

Yep, my heroes have always been cowboys... The best cowboy I ever knew raised me. Before ranch accidents and crippling arthritis he rode like the wind. He and a horse in motion were something to see.

When the Round Up Rodeo rolls around every year I get a little homesick for a way of life that is mostly just precious memories for me.

Later in life my Dad was more likely to rope cattle while riding the hood of a beat-up pickup truck driven by Mom than from a horse. I am still amazed he didn't get run over. I don't know if that speaks to his athleticism or Mom's driving skills.

I have also seen Dad try to separate two full grown, fighting bulls while his border collie bit the neck of one and shook until that Brangus beast moved away from Dad a few cracked ribs too late.

Daddy taught me to corral cattle on foot or by truck, vaccinate, brand and more. Don't ask about the 'more'.

Jim Bardwell can too, because my Daddy said that 'cowboying' came with marrying me. But that is an entirely different column.

When I was a kid the ranch across from ours had a private rodeo arena, the 4G-O and all I had to do was walk across FM 709 to get a taste of cowboy competition. Soon our fifth generation Working B Ranch and the old 4G-O may be claimed by eminent domain and Japanese High Speed Rail. I want to cry every time I think about it. But memories can not be taken, even by eminent domain. And those memories are nearly all good ones.

We will make a few memories of our own this week right here in Gladewater. When the Round Up Rodeo swings out of the chute Wednesday it will be a full course banquet of Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association world class competition.

We have a lot to love about Round Up. If you haven't attended in awhile, or ever, you are missing one of, if not the best, entertainment offered anywhere. From little kid Mutton Bustin' and calf scrambles down in the dirt to barrel racing, steer wrestling, bull and bronc riding to bull fighting this is a show you won't want to miss.

The sport of rodeo is one of the most dangerous in America. It requires a level of skill that no other sport does.

**The Best of Suzanne Bardwell**



Barrel racing and team calf roping are precision events. And check out the bull fighters, they may be dressed like clowns, but there is nothing funny about the fact that their very dangerous job is to make sure the cowboys get out of the arena in one piece while they distract 2-ton raging bulls.

Now those bull and bronc riders, those tough old boys are a different breed altogether. I always try to visit just a minute with the young cowboys while they get ready for their

events. They are wrapping ribs, knees and elbows. They usually limp, share tape and jokes. They are passionate about their sport, their way of life and supportive of each other despite their seriously competitive spirit.

What a parable for the rest of us. Passion, commitment, friendship and

encouragement. Sounds like a recipe for living life well. Something we should all strive to imitate and share with others.

We all need to thank the folks who make up the rodeo association who work all year long to bring a world class event to Gladewater, Texas. This dedicated team not only puts Gladewater on the national rodeo radar every year, their event brings nationally ranked cowboys and cowgirls, as well as thousands of dollars to Gladewater in visitor money. To top it all off, all the proceeds from the rodeo go to college scholarships for area students. Scholarships that give kids a hand up and puts them on the road to success. That is pretty dog gone impressive.

Yep, like I said, my heroes have always been cowboys and that is never going to change.

Well done Round Up Rodeo directors, wranglers and sponsors, you give a great gift to this community and continue a legacy that spans over eight decades.

Gladewater is a part of our national rodeo history and it is still making history. Come and share that history this week. You won't be sorry. I promise.

And cowboys - thanks for the memories. Past and present.






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## The Gladewater Mirror

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**RIGHT IN THEIR OWN EYES**

To avoid chaos people must be governed by some standard, pattern, or blueprint. Such is true in everyday life and is no less true in religion. In the denominational world there is mass confusion. People believe, teach and practice every doctrine conceivable. When one asks for scriptural authority for these various and sundry practices, he is labeled as over-zealous, radical, and fanatical. So was Jesus, when He addressed the question of authority (*Matt. 21: 23*).

What we are seeing is, as Judges 21: 25 says: "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes." Moses warned: "You shall not at all do as we are doing here today—every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes" (*Deut. 12: 8*). Still, too many are trying to right wrongs in all the wrong ways! They decide what is right and wrong according to what they think and want, thus becoming their own standard. This anarchy of self-seeking, without restraint, is why such religious chaos reigns. I ask you: in religion, are people at liberty to do as they please? You would think so by what you observe. People claim Jesus as King, and Lord of lords, but feel no obligation to respect His Word (*Lk. 6: 46*). But true freedom comes only by "abiding in" the Lord's Word (*Jn. 8: 31-32*). Therefore, our goal should be to do everything we teach and practice in the name of the Lord, or by His authority, and not ours! (*Col. 3: 17*).

Our standard, then, is God's Word and not our word! We don't have the right to choose a church, or religion, that suits our beliefs, but, rather, we must adjust our beliefs to fit the church, and religion, that is revealed in the Word of the Lord. This becomes even more important when we realize that it will be the Word of the Lord that will be the standard of judgment, when we stand before Jesus on that last Great Day, when we will have to give account for our deeds (*Rom. 2: 6*). Truth is in less demand every day it seems but be warned if truth (God's standard) continues in retreat—then tyranny and chaos will surely advance. Think on these things.

**Dennis C. Abernathy-White Oak Church of Christ**  
 P. O. Box 454 - White Oak, Texas 75693- 903-736-1822-dennis.abernathy845@gmail.com.



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NOTIFICATION  
OF  
PUBLIC HEARING

The White Oak Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 906 S. White Oak Rd. regarding a request from Eric Swanson for a SUP to contrast a wood/wire fence and gate to be located at AB 88 H Hathaway SUR TR 5 SEC 1, more commonly known as 1302 N. White Oak Rd., White Oak.

A second public hearing will be held before the White Oak City Council on July 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

For more information contact Jimmy Purcell, City Coordinator at [jpurcell@cityofwhiteoak.com](mailto:jpurcell@cityofwhiteoak.com)

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LEGAL NOTICE

**Tillman Infrastructure, LLC** is proposing to build a 200 foot Self Support Tower (210-ft w/ appurtenances) located at 22854 Hwy 271, Gladewater, TX. Structure coordinates are: (N 32° 29' 58.06" /W 95° 01' 05.14"). The tower is anticipated to have FAA Style E (dual medium intensity) lighting. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure Registration (ASR Form 854) file number is **A1284552**. Interested persons may review the application at [www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering the file number. The FCC requires interested parties to file requests for Environmental Review online. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review at [www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest) within 30 days of the date that notice of the project is published on the FCC's website.

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Inside S Loop 323 and off S. Broadway, turn west onto West Sixth Street. Travel 3 blocks. The Azalea District house is on the corner of S. Chilton and West Sixth St.

The following contents/ consignments need to be sold: two lovely din. tables/ chairs; large china cabinet; several sofas; occasional chairs; oval coffee table; sofa table; two great game tables; ornate upright piano; like-new Louis Vuitton purse; full length mink coat; mink stole; numerous mirrors; many rugs; custom window treatments; red leather chair & ottoman; modern king bed; other beds; armoires; antq. ship captain's desk; Asian figurines, art, plates, urns, lamps; rose bowls; decorative pillows; linens; bedding; wall tapestry; clocks; stained glass; crystal; silverplate selections; tan wicker nightstands, armoire, dresser; white French Provincial triple dresser, lingerie chest, and nightstand; fruitwood French Provincial bed, dresser, and chest; bar stools; mahogany chest; decorative panels; portable fireplace; copiers; off. supplies; desk; roll-top desk; file cabinets; 3 off. chairs; men & women's clothes; shoes, belts; vintg. wedding dress; marble top buffet; lots of framed art; luggage; dolls; toys; games; holiday selections; costumes; rooster; sm. appliances; dishes; ceiling mount pot rack; cookware; butcher block; wash. & dry; chest freezer; Nikon camera & lens; tripod; copiers; chandeliers; leather recliner; electronics; Audiofile speakers; RCA speakers; BBQ grill; Big Green Egg grill in custom cabinet; fold. chairs; tools; Igloos; weights; exercise equipment; wooden sled; patio furniture; yard art; artificial deer; camo clothes; gun safe; sooooo much more!

Pictures: [DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com](http://DivideAndConquerOfEastTexas.com)

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](tel:346-248-7799) and entering access code [856 0988 9675](tel: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=QkpTaHkxWU9MSOh2L25XV05xdysvUT09>

Meeting number:        [856 0988 9675](tel:856-0988-9675)

Meeting password:      [849543](tel: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:  
*Frank Chaney*  
AF048A09D5E04CD...

DocuSigned by:  
*Thomas Usage*  
10205E91E09C41B...

DocuSigned by:  
**Daryl R. Atkinson**  
372C8DCE177D41A...

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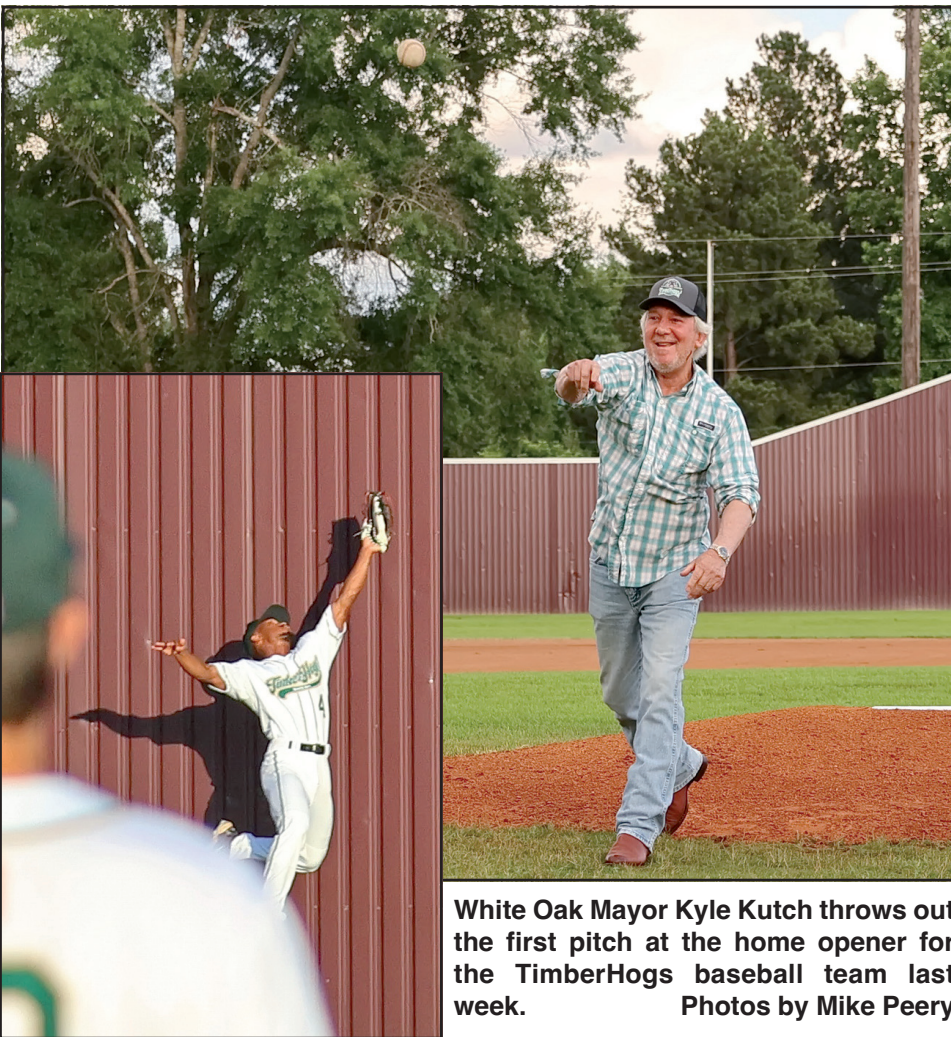
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**White Oak Mayor Kyle Kutch throws out the first pitch at the home opener for the TimberHogs baseball team last week.**  
Photos by Mike Peery

## “Coot’s Corner” By Coot Putley

### City of Champions

This is a good time to be a sports fan in Dallas. After winning the World Series, the Texas Rangers have earned the right to be called World Champions as they play this season. The Dallas Cowboys haven’t won a Super Bowl since 1996, but they still lead the world in publicity. The other local franchises are certainly representing the area well in hockey and basketball as both are in the Western Conference finals.

The Dallas Stars arrived in 1993, and have been a successful franchise over the years, with a Stanley Cup Championship in 1999. They have been strong this season, with the most wins and points in the Western

Division of the NHL and are the betting favorites to win it all and bring home another trophy. The Dallas Mavericks have travelled a different path to get to this point, as they were plagued by injuries and inconsistency for a major part of the year. In the latter third of the season, they put it together and played well. They entered the playoffs as the five seed and had to beat higher ranked teams to get to the Western Finals. The Mavs won their only NBA championship in 2011 and would love to earn another one this year. Although there have been numerous times where there have been two champions from the same city or metropolitan area

in the same year (usually in baseball and football), it has never happened in hockey and basketball. Could this be the year it happens? If this occurs on the heels of the Rangers’ championship it will be a joyous time in the Metroplex!

The two-time Super Bowl Champion Kansas City Chiefs were originally based in Dallas and were known as the Texans. That’s the closest football connection I can make right now. For the time being, you can spot the Cowboys’ players in the seats at Globe Life and the American Airlines Center, enjoying the games like the rest of us.

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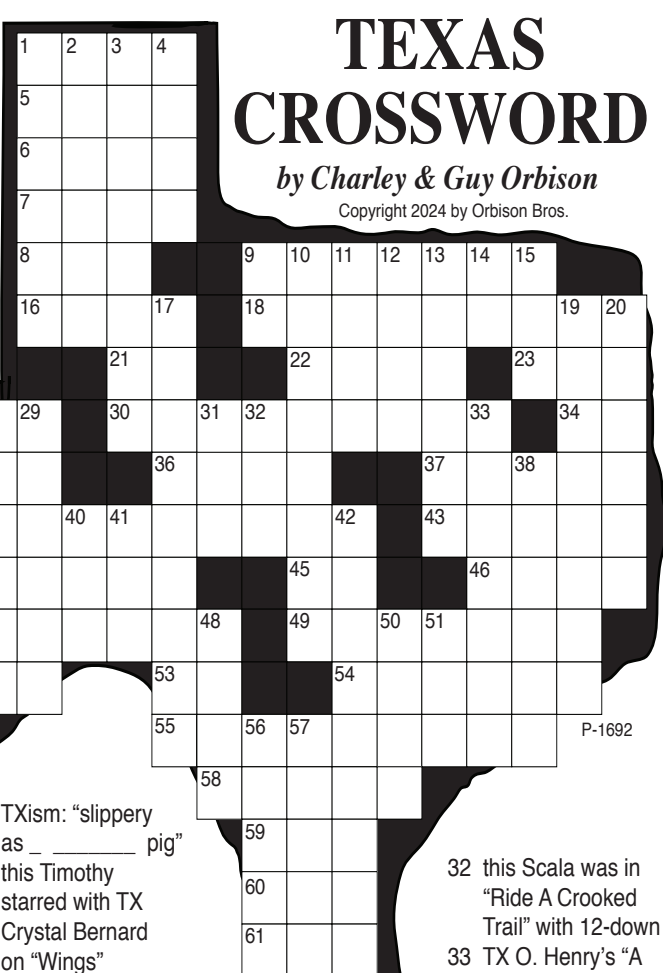
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- ACROSS**
- 1 TX Trini's "If \_\_\_ A Hammer"
  - 5 seat of Oldham County
  - 6 TX Percy Foreman defended James \_\_\_ Ray (MLK assassin)
  - 7 western writer Zane
  - 8 TXism: "fits like scales \_\_\_ fish"
  - 9 struts
  - 16 this Harper was in "Crimes of the Heart" with TX Sissy Spacek
  - 18 San Antonio Zoo has big collection of these animals
  - 21 Taylor of Texas-based epic film "Giant" (init.)
  - 22 \_\_\_ Sandberg said "Texas is valor and swagger"
  - 23 Trinity High class
  - 24 uncommissioned officer
  - 30 TXism: "\_\_\_ as hollering 'snake' at a quilting bee"
  - 34 Sally of "Back Roads" with TX Tommy Lee (init.)
  - 35 TX rancher Norris' "\_\_\_ of One"
  - 36 Don \_\_\_ Aury was first to claim Galveston
  - 37 this Michael was in TX Audie film "Arizona Raiders"
  - 39 Austin bridge mammals (3 wds.)

- 43 WWII atom bomber \_\_\_ Gay
- 44 this TX Jack was president of the MPA
- 45 TXism: "good \_\_\_ boy"
- 46 "\_\_\_ the night before Christmas . . ."
- 47 UT astronomers measure the distance between the \_\_\_ earth
- 49 chief counsel to "Red Scare" Sen. McCarthy (2 wds.)
- 52 Texas "Mr. Sam" (init.)
- 53 TXism: "hunkered down and rarin' to \_\_\_" (ready)
- 54 no longer gettin' milk from mama
- 55 ocean paintings
- 58 Philippine Island
- 59 amateur sports org. (abbr.)
- 60 Capone & Jolson
- 61 Texas-based "Steak and \_\_\_"

**DOWN**

- 1 TX Buck Owens tune: "\_\_\_ a Tiger by the Tail"
- 2 in Robertson County on U.S. 79



**TEXAS CROSSWORD**

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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- 3 TXism: "slippery as \_\_\_ pig"
- 4 this Timothy starred with TX Crystal Bernard on "Wings"
- 9 "Father of Texas" (init.)
- 10 predecessor
- 11 Lone \_\_\_ State
- 12 TX Audie Murphy in WWII, e.g.
- 13 refer to indirectly
- 14 TX creek: \_\_\_ Lo Digo Creek
- 15 whirlpool tub
- 17 Aggie coach Gene (1965-71)
- 19 home of "Old Rip" the horned frog
- 20 TXism: "\_\_\_ a squirrel up a tree"
- 24 "doesn't apply" on a form (abbr.)
- 25 TXism: "living high \_\_\_ the hog"
- 26 ex-Cowboy offensive coach, Turner (1991-93)
- 27 flavored coffee additives
- 28 spotted wildcat endangered in Texas
- 29 "falling star"
- 31 TXism: "wore my fingers to the \_\_\_"
- 32 this Scala was in "Ride A Crooked Trail" with 12-down
- 33 TX O. Henry's "A Fog in \_\_\_"
- 38 "\_\_\_ gone and done it" (uh oh)
- 40 Gov. Richards
- 41 TXism: "call \_\_\_ day" (quit)
- 42 TXism: "write \_\_\_ he can't read fast"
- 48 TXism: "\_\_\_ a bull give milk?" (no)
- 50 many Texans prefer \_\_\_-round school
- 51 Astro headwear
- 56 Lufkin High class
- 57 TXism: "big fish in a \_\_\_ pond"

See Answers On This Page

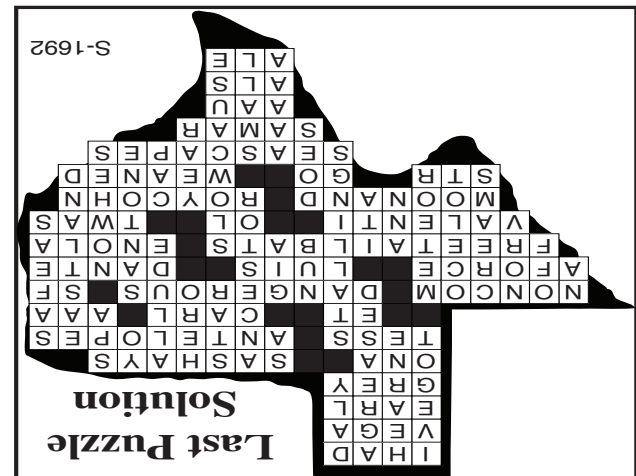
**TRADES DAYS THIS WEEKEND**

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  - First Baptist Church • 903-845-2171
  - Friendship Baptist Church • 903-845-4603
  - Gladeview Baptist • 903-845-3842
  - Gladewater Missionary Baptist • 903-845-5174
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  - Locust Grove Baptist • 903-845-5174
  - Gladewater Bible • 903-845-4768
  - New Hope Baptist • 903-845-3042
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- Church of the Nazarene • 903-845-4425
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  - Starrville Methodist • 903-877-4040
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- NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

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  - Northside Pentecostal
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  - Union Temple CME Church • 903-845-1050
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# WHITE OAK HONOR ROLLS - TERM 4

Table of student names and grades for the White Oak Honor Roll - Term 4. Columns include student name, grade (e.g., SENIOR, JUNIOR, FRESH), and roll status (e.g., SCHOLASTIC ROLL, HONOR ROLL).

## 2023-24 Middle School Honor Roll Term 4 Based on GPA and NO Failing Grades

Main table of student names and grades for the 2023-24 Middle School Honor Roll Term 4. Columns include student name, grade (e.g., 6TH GRADE, 7TH GRADE, 8TH GRADE), and roll status (e.g., SCHOLASTIC ROLL, HONOR ROLL).

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Todd Clifton and Dwight Day are the winners of the first ever Gladewater Rotary Pickleball Tournament held last week.

## Burning questions spark fresh reminder

The City of Gladewater does not issue burn permits.

It's a frequent inquiry at City Hall and Gladewater Fire Department, and local officials are angling to simplify the answer.

Whether conditions are wet or dry, the municipality reminds residents to adhere to the state guidelines published by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. They're available locally through [cityofgladewater.com/get-a-burn-permit/](http://cityofgladewater.com/get-a-burn-permit/)

The city's site currently links to both Gladewater's code of ordinances and TCEQ's 'Guide to Outdoor Burning & Information' before specifying fires allowed without a permit and rules that apply to all outdoor burning.

"It basically says follow the state rules," Gladewater Fire Chief Mike Simmons confirmed. "Normal burn stuff is allowed as far as camping fires and cooking fires and ceremonial fires," but there are prohibitions in place against burning trash and tree debris. "Follow state regulations and what's already on record."

Download TCEQ's pamphlet via [tinyurl.com/tceq-burningquestions](http://tinyurl.com/tceq-burningquestions).

The best strategy, Simmons added, is to check first to avoid a citation.

"If you have any concerns about what you're doing, contact the fire department and we can work with you to answer your questions."

**ALL OUTDOOR BURNING WITHIN THE INCORPORATED CITY LIMITS OF GLADEWATER IS PROHIBITED UNLESS PROVIDED FOR BY EXCEPTION AS LISTED BELOW:**

**THE FOLLOWING FIRES ARE ALLOWED WITHOUT A PERMIT**

- Recreational or ceremonial fires or fires used for the noncommercial preparation of food or specifically used for providing warmth in cold weather are allowed without a permit IF the fire is no larger than 2 feet by 3 feet.

**THE FOLLOWING RULES APPLY FOR ALL OUTDOOR BURNING**

- Burning shall not be commenced when surface wind speed is predicted to be less than six mph or greater than 15 mph during the burn period.
- Wind direction and other meteorological conditions shall be such that smoke and other pollutants will not cause adverse effects to any public road, landing strip, navigable water, or off-site structure containing sensitive receptor(s).
- If at any time the burning causes or may tend to cause smoke to blow onto or across a road or highway, it is the responsibility of the person initiating the burn to post flag persons on affected roads.
- The initiation of burning shall commence no earlier than one hour after sunrise. Burning shall be completed on the same day not later than one hour before sunset and shall be attended by a responsible party at all times during the active burn phase when the fire is progressing.
- Burning shall not be conducted during periods of actual or predicted persistent low-level atmospheric temperature inversions.
- Electrical insulation, treated lumber, plastics, non-wood construction/demolition materials, heavy oils, asphaltic materials, potentially explosive materials, chemical wastes, and items containing natural or synthetic rubber must not be burned.

**FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT BURNING INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS OF GLADEWATER PLEASE CONTACT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AT 903-845-2484.**

Reach GFD via 903-845-2484.

Notably, the City of Gladewater offers green debris pickup as well as a mulching service. Additional trash containers and large roll-offs are available from Republic Services for a nominal fee.

## Crime takes bite out of officer

Continued from Page 1

"Baird began climbing through the window in an attempt to get away. I then wrestled Baird to the ground and attempted to get hold of her hands," Sorrells noted, eventually using pepper spray multiple times. With help from a passerby, "I

was eventually able to grab her left arm that still had the handcuffs on.

"As I reached for her right arm, Baird then bit me on my right forearm. I was eventually able to get Baird on her stomach and reapply the handcuffs."

The bite did not cause

significant injury. Baird was transported to GPD for decontamination from the pepper spray then taken to Gregg County Jail.

In addition the assault charge and warrants, she faces Resisting Arrest, Search, or Transport plus Escape from Custody.

## Child's drowning ruled accidental

By Phillip Williams

Preliminary autopsy results show a 2-year-old Gilmer area boy found unconscious in his rural home's swimming pool last week died of "accidental drowning," but investigation of the case is continuing, Upshur County sheriff's Chief Deputy David Hazel said Monday.

While authorities "don't have any evidence of foul play" in the May 28 death of Landon Cade Coffey, the sheriff's office and Child Protective Services were still probing the case to determine whether it needed referral to District Attorney Billy Byrd's office, Hazel said.

In a press release last

week, Hazel said deputies responded about 5:25 p.m. to the 1200 block of Bear Road in the Bettie community vicinity after one of the child's parents found him unconscious in the backyard pool.

Deputies "found the child unresponsive and began attempting life-saving measures," but the youngster was pronounced dead at UT Health Pittsburg hospital after being taken there by ambulance, Hazel wrote.

The parent found Landon upon realizing "he was missing from inside the home," the press release added. Young Coffey was the son of Brandon Coffey and Heather Lewis, Hazel added Monday, but the chief deputy

said he didn't know which parent found the child.

The pool north of Gilmer was fenced, but there "may have been an issue with the gate," Hazel said. Investigators are attempting to determine how the child found his way into the pool, the chief deputy added.

Child Protective Services is typically notified about "the untimely death of a child," Hazel had written.

Camp County Justice of the Peace Richard Penn ordered the autopsy performed at the Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences at Dallas. Penn said Monday that although the Upshur sheriff's office had a preliminary report, he hadn't received a final autopsy report.

## Commissioners address procedures

By Phillip Williams

Upshur County Commissioners Court on Friday changed how the county will handle emergency expense situations.

The court voted to try to reach a quorum to meet to approve any emergency expense of more than \$5,000, and to let the county judge and county auditor decide the issue if a quorum can't be mustered.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Jay W. Miller said that up to now, the county judge (currently Todd Tefteller) has approved such expenditures, but that the Texas Association of Counties advised him that the judge and three of the court's other members can call an emergency meeting within one hour.

Miller said he didn't think just one person should be making such decisions. After

Tefteller said he was okay with whatever the court wanted to do, Miller said one emergency expense involved more than \$50,000, but gave no further details.

Miller proposed making the change in the decision process for expenses involving more than \$5,000.

County Auditor Connie Williams said, however, she needed guidance on what to do if the court couldn't muster a quorum and the situation was truly an emergency, such as one involving water.

Miller successfully suggested that in that case, only the judge and auditor's office be required to approve. Tefteller, meantime, noted he had already made provision for emergency situations to be handled when he is not in the county.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> - SATURDAY, JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>

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