



THE CLARENDON Enterprise

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Established 1878.

THE CLARENDON NEWS & THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

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THIS WEEK

2 Dr. John Howard looks at what's next for Donley County.
3 A Clarendon College student gets an All American honor.
4 The Cub Reporter reflects on memories of his Nanny.
8 And Enterprise readers go on a big bear hunt during social distancing.

All this and much more as The Enterprise reports in this week's amazing edition!

Schools to remain closed until May 4

Gov. Greg Abbott announced Tuesday afternoon that he was ordering public schools to remain closed until May 4 as the state continues to battle COVID-19.

Clarendon and Hedley schools continue to work to deliver educational materials and meals to their students. Clarendon Superintendent Jarod Bellar reported that CCISD served a five-day total of 493 breakfasts and 700 lunches last week.

Appraisal District closes to public

The Donley County Appraisal District announced this week that it is closing its office to the public due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Taxpayers are urged to use the drop box at the office for payments or renditions.

Call 874-2744 for questions or information. The deadline for filing renditions is April 15 and the deadline for filing for exemptions is April 30.

Enterprise office closes to public

The Enterprise regrettably announces that its office will publicly be closed for the time being, but personnel will still assist readers and advertisers by phone at 874-2259 and email at news@clarendononline.com.

Deadlines for the paper remain unchanged, and customers can also take advantage of the drop box by the front door at the newspaper for payments or to submit news items.

CVFD will not offer public storm shelter

With tornado season approaching, Clarendon Fire Chief Jeremy Powell announced this week that the Clarendon Volunteer Fire Department will no longer provide the basement of the Fire Hall as a public storm shelter.

Powell said the basement of the former city hall building is not safely accessible by the general public and also is not accessible by people with disabilities. Powell encourages everyone to plan now for what they and their families would do in the event of a severe storm.

USDA offices now only open by phone

US Department of Agriculture Service Centers nationwide are continuing to conduct business but by phone only. Field work continues with appropriate social distancing as precautionary measures to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with USDA's Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are required to call to schedule a phone appointment.

For the most current updates on available services and Service Center status, visit farmers.gov/coronavirus.



Test confirms COVID-19 in Donley County

Donley County reported its first case of the COVID-19 virus Tuesday morning, March 31.

Judge John Howard, MD, said his medical office received notification of lab results late Monday night showing a positive test for the disease and pledged that he would be as transparent as possible with information to protect the community.

Howard's clinic Monday night notified the patient of the need to remain self-isolated and reported the test to the state health department.

On Tuesday, the judge urged citizens to help stop the disease from spreading.

"Now is our window of opportunity to mitigate the spread of this disease in our own community and keep it from becoming more deadly," Howard said. "Don't go out unless you have essential work to do."

As of Tuesday, the state was reporting almost 43,000 residents had been tested for the disease with 3,266 of those being positive. Forty-

one Texans had died from the disease.

Locally, Howard reported that a total of 13 people from Donley County had been tested for COVID-19 with one positive, three negative, and nine results pending.

"We ask that citizens of Donley County to continue to be diligent in their efforts to reduce contact with others as much as possible," Howard said. "Please follow the CDC recommendations for social distancing; eliminate non-essential activity outside your home even if you are well; avoid groups of people; practice good hand washing and sanitizing practices; and if you are feeling ill, please stay home and avoid others in your home as well."

Federal law restricted the release of specific patient information, and officials did not give any information about the patient regarding the person's gender, age, or place of residence other than inside Donley County.

"People just need to act like it is the person next door," Howard said. "Take those precautions."

Howard said the patient in question is believed to have contracted the virus from community spread (person to person contact contamination) and has not reported any significant travel.

On Monday the cities of Amarillo and Canyon issued orders calling for their residents to stay at home or "shelter in place" in response to COVID-19 cases in Potter and Randall counties.

Judge Howard did not issue a "shelter in place" order for Donley County, asking instead for residents to continue to follow guidelines already outlined for social distancing. He said he asked for and received voluntary compliance from beauty shops and barber shops to close their businesses after Tuesday for public health reasons.

Howard did encourage churches to continue to hold services only by

remote broadcasting, online methods, or otherwise in consistent with established guidelines. He also said that while the worship service at the drive-in theatre was probably a good thing, he encouraged people to only ride in cars with their housemates and not to travel with friends.

The judge said that he hopes citizens will take the situation necessarily and follow the guidelines voluntarily, but he also said that he could issue further executive orders in the future as necessary.

"This situation is very fluid and changes from day to day," Howard said.

For further information on the COVID-19 virus, you can visit the Center for Disease Control website at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nov/index.html>. For business' and individuals that are concerned: please look at the Interim US Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Persons with Potential COVID-19

COVID-19 Coronavirus

DONLEY COUNTY STATS

TESTS SUBMITTED

13

POSITIVE CASES

1

NEGATIVE CASES

3

PENDING CASES

9

DATA FROM THE DONLEY COUNTY JUDGE'S OFFICE AS OF MARCH 31, 2020

Exposures.

Howard added that people should contact their health care provider if they have symptoms consistent with the Coronavirus (fever, cough, shortness of breath) to determine if additional evaluation, treatment or testing is appropriate.

City enacts Phase 3 of COVID plan

The City of Clarendon enacted Phase 3 of its COVID-19 response plan Tuesday afternoon following notification that a positive case of the disease was confirmed in Donley County that morning.

City Administrator David Dockery said City Hall was closed to the public and would be operated for the time being with a skeleton staff, probably just him. Payments may be made at the dropbox at the front of the building, which will be checked daily. The Burton Memorial Library will also remain closed.

The city recycling center was also closed, but residents may still use recycling dumpsters and designated grass and leaf dumpsters around the city. All sanitation services will continue although pick up times may take longer, Dockery said.

City utility workers will be dispatched from City Hall but will be home with their city vehicles unless they are called out.

Work on the city's two main projects – the aquatics center and the USDA-funded water infrastructure project – will be suspended. Dockery said this decision was due to the fact that many of the workers on those projects are coming in from areas with high COVID-19 infection rates such as Dallas and Amarillo.

City officials were already concerned about how COVID-19 was going to affect the pool and USDA projects prior to the confirmed case this week. During last week's city meeting, Dockery told the council the aquatics center could face issues with getting lifeguards trained during social distancing and said the USDA project was suffering from further delays because the some of the contractors workers were not showing up due to fears about the coronavirus.

"Everything is happening very fast," Dockery said. "We are learning every day, and this is something we have never dealt with before."

City council meetings in the near future will be conducted in a teleconference method such as Skype. Officials are still working out the details of that out but said they would follow the guidance set by the state to comply with the Open Meetings Act.

Dockery and Mayor Sandy Skelton both said they are not considering a shelter in place order like the one issued in Amarillo at this time, but the city is staying in close contact with the county judge's office as things move forward.

"From a percentage standpoint, one case in Donley County is a higher percentage than 11 cases in Amarillo," Dockery said.



ENTERPRISE PHOTO / ROGER ESTLACK

Proper recognition

Howard Wick Interim Fire Chief Susie Langford (left) stands Tanis McMorries last Thursday, March 26, after the City of Howard Wick Volunteer Fire Department unveiled a new sign renaming that community's park as McMorries Memorial Park. The name honors fallen fireman James McMorries, Tanis' late husband, who sustained numerous injuries while battling a wildfire on I-40 on March 12, 2006, when the vehicle he was driving overturned, sending him and two other volunteer firemen to the hospital. He later died on April 9 of that year. Langford said the honor for McMorries was long past due.



COURTESY PHOTO / ERIC RIDDLE

Worship service at Sandell draws large crowd

Sunday's community worship service at the Sandell Drive-In was attended by a large crowd and plans are being prepared for an even better service this weekend.

Howard Wick Baptist Church pastor Jim Fox said 150 or more people attended the worship service.

"I had 100 bulletins and ran out," he said. "Every car had two to four people in it and some dogs came, too."

With most local churches having canceled services or relying on digital broadcasts, the community worship service at the Sandell allowed people a way to congregate while still staying in their personal vehicles.

A stage was set up in front of the drive-in's big screen, and audio was piped through the Sandell's FM broadcast system it typically uses for motion pictures.

"It was fantastic, and it's going to be better this week," Fox said. "Mr. [John] Morrow was excellent and provided a great facility."

Fox said Kentucky Fried Chicken buckets were available for worshippers to drop donation envelopes in with their churches' names written on them, and those funds will be distributed to the respective churches.

Worship will be held again this

Sunday, April 5, at 10 a.m., and Fox says he hopes to have first responders there to have a special prayer time for them.

First United Methodist pastor Buddy Payne will have the opening prayer, Fox will have a message on 2 Chronicles 7:14, Church of the Nazarene pastor Allen Posey will preach, and Community Fellowship pastor Larry Capranica will close the service.

Getting good information in virus crisis

By Gene Policinski

Let’s add one more list to the various check-offs from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), employers and others on how to deal with COVID-19: Tools and tips for getting good information about dealing with the virus from sources you trust.

In times of crisis, from natural disasters to 9/11 and more, a free press has consistently delivered the goods, saving lives and asking the necessary and often inevitable challenging questions of the public officials on whom we depend for safety and security.

Put aside for now the blather about “fake news” — so politicized as to have no real meaning any longer. Discount President Trump’s claim that it’s the news media that’s leading the world’s stock markets into “yo-yo Dow” days. And pay less attention to the cable TV punditry and focus on the news reports from reporters with sources who appear by name in print, online or on TV.

The virus and its threat to our health is real. The market is down — and up and down — regardless of what’s causing it. Look for facts. Don’t be too accepting of information from any source, particularly on social media. Blog posts, tweets and public forums provide valued means of sharing individual information and experiences, as well as provide real-time data of how well government services are performing.

In the first such major crisis in which social media tools were more widely available, during 2005’s Hurricane Katrina, the then-fledgling online efforts by the web alternative to New Orleans’ Times-Picayune newspaper provided essential information on what was happening “now.” Even police and Coast Guard rescuers said they had monitored NOLA.com, at times sending in teams to help those posting that they were in danger. NOLA.com later won a Pulitzer Prize for its efforts.

While some are upset that what they are hearing from the administration and what they are reading or viewing seem to differ, a free press response to that situation is: “So what’s new?” Nearly 100 years ago, President Herbert Hoover’s administration first responded to the 1929 stock market crash by calling it a market reset or passing adjustment — or at worst, part of a passing recession that would soon be over. Understandable perhaps as an effort to stave off worse news. But it’s Variety’s headline a day after “Black Tuesday” — the huge, one-day drop in the Dow — that let Americans know what really happened: “Wall Street Lays an Egg!”

From the Vietnam War — with its infamous “credibility gap” between what journalists saw in combat and what military leaders were saying, to what we now know about out-of-proportion government surveillance programs across decades of our nation’s history, it’s a free press that over time gives us the facts we need.

My colleague Barbara McCormack, who oversees the Freedom Forum’s Newseum Education initiative, has this advice on turning to a free press for information and avoiding disinformation: “Break out of your content bubble and make sure you’re engaging with diverse ideas. That includes ideas you disagree with. With a nearly infinite supply of information at our fingertips, it can be all too easy to start gravitating to sources that reinforce our beliefs and make us feel validated, but the less likely we are to spot propaganda that is trying to exploit our beliefs and biases.”

Her advice: Break out of your media rut. Try this: Create a list of five news sources to consult on a regular basis — not necessarily every day, but every week or so.

The CDC has its basic instructions on handwashing. Here’s something similar for getting good information you can use about COVID-19:

Identify two general news sources you already look at on a regular basis and usually agree with;

Find two general news sources you don’t usually agree with;

Find one source that covers news from a specific perspective, such as the views of a particular demographic, religious group or profession;

Read and listen to each of them.

McCormack’s advice: “It’s OK for your sources to display a bias in their coverage, but make sure that all five are real, fact-based news and opinion organizations. If you’re not sure, you can use a resource like the Freedom Forum’s Newstrition® or the website AllSides to evaluate your sources. Check them on a regular basis to help you see the world in all its complexity, not just from a single vantage point.”

The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Seattle Times, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Tampa Bay Times and others have removed paywalls for information about the virus crisis, or placed critical information outside their pay sites. USA TODAY, The Washington Post, The New York Times, CNN and the broadcast networks and many other major news outlets are offering COVID-19 newsletters and medical tips on a daily basis.

A part of responding to any crisis is having enough good information on which to make decisions — whether you are making those for yourself or others. And in such times, throughout our nation’s history, a free press — if we care to use it — has been there on our behalf to obtain and report the facts we need. For more information: <https://newseumed.org/fact-finder-guide>.

Gene Policinski is president and chief operating officer of the Freedom Forum Institute.

Corona virus update for Donley County

As I write this on March 27 many are wondering “what is next for us?”

I can tell you that cases are rising dramatically in the metropolitan areas of Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Austin. You may be inclined to think that they are far removed from us in West Texas. I would remind you how rapidly the disease has spread from China around the world. We are seeing more state confirmed cases, 23, in Lubbock. The number was 12 only two days ago. There was one death confirmed in Oldham County. Statewide there are 1,731 cases with 23 deaths and confirmed cases in 105 of 254 counties as of today and the numbers are all rising.

Tests have been submitted from patients in Donley County, and to date have been negative, but several tests are still pending. The wait time for results has been extended to ten days, so we have found another resource to get results in two days. With positive cases in the panhandle it may only be a matter of time until it arrives here. By the time we get a confirmed case in Donley County it will undoubtedly have been passed to others here. I can think of dozens who would not do well if they

contracted this disease. Some could die.

I am writing to say that now is our window of opportunity. The measures we take now can keep the disease from spreading. Most people will have a bad cold, but they could pass it to one who could die. Or they could pass it to those who fill critical functions in law enforcement, fire protection, and emergency medical providers. If they contract the disease, our ability to provide the necessary services to our community will be compromised. Our bench is not that deep. We need all hands to respond during this pandemic. We are all working to preserve our health and we need all of you to help us as you help yourselves and protect the most vulnerable among us.

I am so gratified that when I asked our restaurants to cease in house dining and move to takeout, they all voluntarily complied. (Later that day the Governor



guest commentary
by Judge John Howard, MD

made it mandatory – but our local businesses decided to do their part first.) I encourage everyone to continue to support our local businesses.

All the guidance you have undoubtedly heard should be rigorously followed and I will remind you here. Let us remind each other and support each other. Together we can prevail, but it takes everyone to do their part.

If you are sick, stay home, keep away from others, and wear a facemask. If your condition worsens, contact your doctor.

Practice social distancing – six feet from others – and do not gather in groups larger than 10 people.

Cover your cough or sneeze. Wash your hands frequently, 20 seconds, soap and water especially after blowing your nose or sneezing.

Use hand sanitizer, at least 70 percent alcohol.

Use a disinfectant to clean surfaces that are touched.

Editor’s Note: Judge Howard’s comments were written March 27 before the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in Donley County on March 30.



Uncle Mort and furrowed brows

It’s a challenge my 106-year-old Uncle Mort hasn’t faced – not ever – and the same is true for the rest of us.

The world teeters on a fulcrum of fear, much of it unknown. Enough is known, though, to shiver the strongest timbers and shake boots previously used for putting “get-along” in little “dogies” (pronounced “dough”-gees), along with kicking aside rattlesnakes, and other critters that think it’s their home and their range.

Mort has been hanging around the general store down in the thicket, giving directions to lost motorists, happily engaging in conversation. He also pondered stories, riddles and memories accumulated in a long life. He considered hopes for humankind that have “risen to the top” over previously longstanding political ranting, and numerous other topics that no longer seem nearly as important as before....

Still, he had to smile when some occasional visitors to the store made observations ranging from the reasonable to the absurd.

A minister, gassing up, mused about amended biblical instruction warranting more specificity when mentioned today. “Jesus said, ‘Get thee behind me, Satan.’ Today, we’d add, ‘by at least six feet.’”

Mort grinned, “That wouldn’t be rocket surgery, would it?”...

My uncle figures that most Americans are enduring “cabin fever,” and that this term deserves clarification. “Suddenly, the expression is expanded to include many other structures, including houses, tents, apartments, barns, duplexes, mansions, hovels, shacks and

double-wides,” he said.

There are more shortages than “longages,” and folks are learning that the preferred spelling of “canceled” has just one “l.” Formerly seldom-used words now commonly include “canceled, postponed, extended, temporarily, suspended, and, the most spotted signs in supermarket aisles are ‘out of stock.’”

In most cases of daily life for the masses, the “old normal” seems preferable to what we often currently refer to as “the new normal.”...

One 18-year-old – using both bills and silver to buy a half-tank of gas – had hoped to work at a grocery store during spring break. He learned, though, that his services weren’t needed. “Full-timers have taken on self-stocking, spreading themselves even thinner,” he said.

The customer said, “As I drove to the thicket, I thought of sights and sounds I’d heard while working at the grocery store. And, last night, they returned in my dreams, including scenes of empty shelves that used to bulge with products. Frequent announcements called for ‘clean-up on aisle four.’”

Sadly, when there’s nothing there to spill, there’s nothing left to clean up, he lamented....

Mort mentioned that he was going to spend the rest of the day “frog-gig-

ging.” The young man wanted to know more about the sport, and asked if he could come along.

My uncle invited him, of course. They went down well-worn trails on the beautiful spring day. Trees were budding, and early bluebonnets cast bluish tints on hillsides awakening from winter. Birds sang, frogs croaked and fish splashed. A jet plane droned in the distance, but most sounds were from creatures unaware of viruses, and issues related thereto.

Mort said he then told campfire stories, and that they fried up a mess of frog legs for a light dinner. “Then, just before going to bed, I read a chapter from a Newbury book,” he said. “Soon, I fell into deep sleep – with little on my stomach and nothing on my mind.”...

Mort’s telling me of the “put down” didn’t faze me. It was simply “Mort being Mort.”

I yearned to visit him and get his take on these strange days. I’d tell him about lights spelling out “Wash Your Hands” covering an entire side of Dallas’ Omni Hotel, and how businesses, churches, organizations and individuals are “pitching in” to “flatten the curve.”

I would savor hearing birds in the thicket sing at spring’s awakening. My uncle and I would claim that day that the Lord had made to rejoice and be glad in...

Dr. Newbury is a former educator who writes weekly and is a longtime public speaker. Comments/speaking inquiries to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com Twitter: @donnewbury. Facebook: don newbury.

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This paper’s first duty is to print all the news that is fit to print, honestly and fairly to all, unbiased by any consideration even its own editorial opinion.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing, or reputation of any person, firm, or corporation which may occur in the columns of The Clarendon Enterprise will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the management.

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ADVERTISING

Open Display rates are \$5.50 per PASS column inch. Classified Ads are \$10 for the first 15 words and 15¢ per word for each additional word (Boxes or special typography are extra.). Thank You Notes are \$15 for the first 40 words and 15¢ per word for each additional word. Basic engagement, wedding, anniversary, and birth announcements are \$10 each. Expanded wedding announcements are \$20. A one-column announcement picture is \$5, and a two-column announcement picture is \$10. Pictures submitted for publication should be picked up within ten days after publication. Death notices are printed at no charge. Obituaries are published for \$45 or \$50 with a photo.

DEADLINES

News articles and photos are due by Monday at noon. Advertising and Classifieds are due by five o’clock Monday afternoon. Deadlines may be altered for holidays or special issues.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions are available for \$30 for zip codes inside Donley County, \$40 elsewhere in Texas, and \$45 out of state. POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to: The Clarendon Enterprise, PO Box 1110, Clarendon, TX 79226-1110. Digital Subscriptions are \$15 per year.

LETTERS

Letters to the editor are welcome. Views expressed in letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff of The Clarendon Enterprise. Submission of a letter does not guarantee publication. Letters may be edited for grammar, style, or length. All letters must be signed and must include an address and telephone number for verification. To improve your chances of publication, type and double space your letter, stick to one main topic, and keep it brief. No letters will be accepted from candidates for local political offices. Letters submitted to this newspaper become the property of The Enterprise and cannot be returned.



The Texas Panhandle’s First Newspaper

THE CLARENDON NEWS, established June 1, 1878 with which have merged: The Clarendon Traveler, February 1889; The Clarendon Journal, November 1891; The Banner-Stockman, October 1893; The Agitator, February 1899; The Clarendon Times, May 1908; The Donley County Leader, March 12, 1929; The Clarendon Press, May 18, 1972; and The Clarendon Enterprise, March 14, 1996.



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CISD Announces Sign Up Dates

Clarendon Head Start will be taking applications for the 2020-2021 school year on Tuesday, April 14 and Wednesday, April 15 from 12:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. both afternoons. You may make an appointment by calling the Elementary Office at 874-3855.

Children who will turn 4 years old on or prior to September 1, 2020 and meet qualifications will be considered for Head Start.

Head Start is a tuition free class for children who meet federal guidelines. Parents must fill out an application to see if they meet eligibility standards.

Please bring proof of income (income tax for 2019), immunization card, social security, birth certificate and public assistance you receive.

Pre-K registration will be during new student registration in August.



the lion's tale
by scarlet estlack

The Clarendon Lions Club meeting have been suspended during the social distancing requirements of the COVID-19 situations.

This week, Boss Lion Scarlet Estlack announced that the annual Chance Mark Jones Roar & Run 5K, scheduled for April 18, has been postponed. People who have registered for the race will be contacted about a refund of their entry fees soon, and the club will schedule a new date when it is safe to do so.



All American

Clarendon College sophomore Eliza Lazenby has been named as one of 15 All-Americans by the Junior College Livestock Judging Coaches Association. Coach Johnny Treichel said there are about 250 students who start out as freshmen each year across the US, and this award is based upon a combination of how they do at National Contest during the sophomore year and grade point average. This award was created in 2004 and during this time Clarendon College has had only seven students reach this accomplishment.

COURTESY PHOTO

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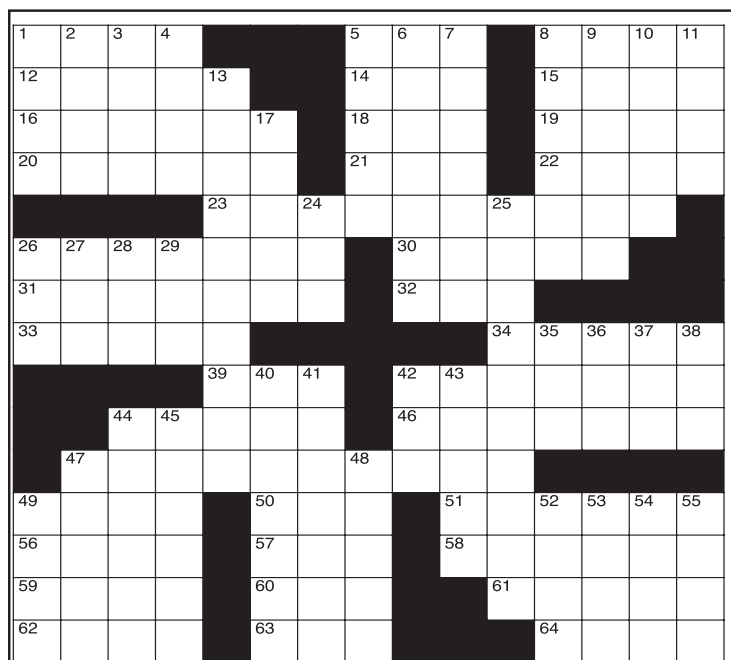
What if America didn't NOTICE?
Public notices help expose:
● fraud in government!
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Find out about these and much more in your local newspaper!
Participate in Democracy. Read your Public Notices.



Cookie sales

Girl Scout Troop 5118/5379 cookie season ended on March 1 and awards were given to all the girls. The troop reached their goal of 1,100 boxes sold and look forward to the events planned with the money raised. The troop includes: Emberlynn Reed, Haylin Bivens, Kassie Askew, and Adlee Martinez. Leaders include: Mary Green, Terry Askew, and Pamela Reed.

COURTESY PHOTO



CLUES ACROSS

1. Bond villain Mikkelsen
5. A team's best pitcher
8. French river
12. Mountain nymph (Greek)
14. City of Angels airport
15. Military force
16. Scrawny
18. Value
19. One billionth of a second (abbr.)
20. Highly seasoned sausage
21. Trouble
22. Prong
23. Showing varying colors
26. Cloaked
30. Renters sign one
31. Acquires
32. Type of language (abbr.)
33. Partner to pains
34. Third portion of the small intestine
39. Excessively theatrical actor
42. Infraction
44. Classical music for the stage
46. Slogged
47. One who terminates
49. Breakfast is an important one
50. Moved earth
51. Medical procedures
56. Genus of clams
57. Not well
58. Comparative figure of speech
59. Covered thinly with gold
60. Principle underlying the universe
61. A parent's sisters
62. Professional engineering group
63. Coniferous tree
64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

1. Female parents
2. Region
3. Transaction
4. Heroic tale
5. Of algae
6. Luminous intensity unit
7. Uncovers
8. French commune name
9. Poisonous gas
10. Pearl Jam's bassist
11. Horse groom in India
13. Destroyed
17. A way to alter
24. Promotional materials
25. American state
26. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
27. "Modern Family" network
28. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
29. Exercise system ___-bo
35. Type of bulb
36. Opposite of beginning
37. Utilize
38. Type of student
40. Deficiency of moisture
41. Areas of the eye
42. Select
43. Sheets of floating ice
44. Priests who act as mediums
45. Roof of the mouth
47. Unnatural
48. Illuminated
49. There are three famous ones
52. Large, fast Australian birds
53. "Dracula" heroine Harker
54. Substitutes (abbr.)
55. Tax

"Everything under one roof!" THE CLARENDON OUTPOST

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AD GOOD THRU: APRIL 8, 2020

Call 874-5201 & pick up OTC's.

Three ways to keep binge watching from ruining your sleep:

- 1) Get up regularly - sedentary behavior including sitting too long increases risk of insomnia. Stand up and watch, exercise, or do chores.
- 2) Block blue light which affects your body's production of melatonin. Set blue light filters on your electronics.
- 3) Resist the urge to binge-snack which can exacerbate heartburn which leads to insomnia and restless leg syndrome. Keep healthy snacks around.



With all the hand washing, you need a good lotion like Gloves in a Bottle - a shielding lotion that does not have to be reapplied every time.

PHARMACY
WELLNESS CENTER

New Retail Call-in Phone Order Program Details

1. Call 874-5201 ext 0
2. Give your Name
3. Give your return number in case we need to call back to ask a second choice for out of stock items.
4. Give an approximate time you plan to pick it up at the diner window.
5. We will hold your order for 2 hours past given pick-up time.
6. Or until 8 p.m. at latest then orders will be restocked.
7. On over the counter items. one of each per customer. EX: 1 bottle of Tylenol + 1 Always maxi-pads + 1 pack of paper towels, etc. is okay.
8. Currently no limit on snack items. (Go crazy but order 1 box Alka-Seltzer if your gonna make yourself sick.)

Food orders & Retail orders both be picked up at the diner window.

OUTPOST DINER



Call in & pick up fried chicken, chicken fried steak, and breakfast all day.
874-5203

★

¿Qué Pasa?

Community Calendar

April 5
Community Worship Service • Sandell Drive-In • 10 a.m.

★

Menus

April 6 - 10

Donley County Senior Citizens
Mon: Chicken & rice casserole, black-eyed peas, buttered carrots, wheat bread, fruit cocktail, iced tea/2% milk.
Tue: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables, banana pudding, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Mexican pile on, garden salad, apple cobbler, iced tea/2% milk.
Thu: Riblets, garlic mashed potatoes, pickled beets, bread, lemon pudding, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Closed

Hedley Senior Citizens
Mon: Chicken tenders/gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, turnip greens, wheat rolls, mandarin oranges, iced tea/2% milk.
Tue: Spaghetti w/meatballs, Italian vegetables, broccoli, garlic toast, Autumn jello, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Roast beef, baked potato w/sour cream, buttered carrots, roll, pudding, iced tea/2% milk.
Thu: Sloppy Joe on a bun, country potato salad, carrots & zucchini, creamy fruit square, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Closed

IG warns about new social security scam

The Inspector General of Social Security, Gail S. Ennis, is warning the public about fraudulent letters threatening suspension of Social Security benefits due to COVID-19 or coronavirus-related office closures. The Social Security Administration (SSA) will not suspend or discontinue benefits because their offices are closed.

The Social Security Office of the Inspector General has received reports that Social Security beneficiaries have received letters through the U.S. Mail stating their payments will be suspended or discontinued unless they call a phone number referenced in the letter. Scammers may then mislead beneficiaries into providing personal information or payment via retail gift cards, wire transfers, internet currency, or by mailing cash, to maintain regular benefit payments during this period of COVID-19 office closures.

As of Tuesday, March 17, 2020, local SSA offices are closed to the public due to COVID-19 concerns; however, Social Security employees continue to work. Social Security will not suspend or decrease Social Security benefit payments or Supplemental Security Income payments due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Any communication you receive that says SSA will do so is a scam, whether you receive it by letter, text, email, or phone call.

Social Security will never threaten you with benefit suspension, arrest, or other legal action unless you pay a fine or fee; promise a benefit increase or other assistance in exchange for payment; require payment by retail gift card, cash, wire transfer, internet currency, or prepaid debit card; demand secrecy from you in handling a Social Security-related problem; or send official letters or reports containing personally identifiable information via email.

If you receive a letter, text, call or email that you believe to be suspicious, about an alleged problem with your Social Security number, account, or payments, hang up or do not respond. We encourage you to report Social Security scams using our dedicated online form, at <https://oig.ssa.gov>. Please share this information with your friends and family, to help spread awareness about Social Security scams

Thankful for essential workers

As we non-essential workers and kids scramble to schedule computer time at home, stop a moment and ask, “What is happening?” In December, if any American had been asked what is an “essential worker,” what would we have answered?

We were planning Christmas parties, vacations, scrambling for the latest trend in decorations and lights, watching traffic for UPS or FedEx delivering packages from Amazon or Walmart, and had no concerns for “essential” workers.

We now know who really runs our country. President Trump and Governor Abbott can mandate but if the doctors and nurses, ambulance personnel, and medical staff become sick and unable to care for sick coming in, what happens? I am staying home and am so grateful to everyone keeping Lowe’s, Dollar General, the Outpost, Allsup’s, Gar-

ri-son’s, and others open. My heart filled with joy as I called Mike’s Pharmacy and the cheerful voice of Jackie answered.

W a t c h the traffic on Highway 287 and see all the trucks, headed somewhere with something someone needs.

For all those families at home, keep up the good work! I am thankful we have many jobs that can be performed at home. I am of the age to remember the consequence of a monumental depression. Monday morning at 11 the stock market is up, which is good news. Someday we will all look back on this time and remember the spring of scrambling



‘wick picks
by peggy cockerham
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Recalling good times with Nanny

On March 17, my great grandma passed away; and in honor of her, I wanted to write my column about her.

When I think of my Nanny, I remember all the times my family and I have gone to her house for Easter or just to visit her. She was always very loving, caring, and sweet.

I remember her being very wise, and my favorite part was when she lived in the Nursing Home she always knew the latest gossip. I’m glad that she is feeling much better in heaven than she was here.

I really think I’m going to miss my Nanny, and I hope to continue remembering all the good, fun, and loving moments I had with her.

2020 has been a long year so far with the COVID-19 outbreak and the quarantine. My family and I have enjoyed our social distancing so far. We’ve been trying to stay safe, but



the cub reporter
by benjamin estlack

AEP Foundation awards emergency funds

CHILDRESS – The American Electric Power Foundation has announced \$10,000 in emergency funding for two Donley County organizations and three other area nonprofits impacted by COVID-19 in the Southwestern Electric Power Co. (SWEPCO) service area.

Grant dollars will aid organizations in expanding Meals on Wheels programs, which provide home-delivered meals to homebound seniors.

The American Electric Power Foundation is funded by American Electric Power (NYSE: AEP) and its utility operating units, including SWEPCO.

“We are pleased to present these agencies with additional fund-

ing on behalf of the AEP Foundation as they provide vital services to our community during this extraordinary time of need,” said Tony Barley, SWEPCO Customer Service Account Representative in Childress. “We want to help ensure that the programs serving our community’s most vulnerable residents can continue and expand.”

Organizations receiving funding include: Donley County Senior Citizens, \$2,000 and the Hedley Senior Citizens, \$2,000, as well as \$2,000 each for the Collingsworth County Senior Citizen, Hall County Senior Citizens, and Shamrock Senior Citizens.

The AEP Foundation recently approved \$1.5 million in emergency

to find toilet paper and things we did to survive.

I want to personally thank everyone involved in the community church service held at the Sandell Drive-In on Sunday, March 29. Even though we stayed in our cars the human connection was there, and I left knowing better times are coming.

It sounds as though we may be under home restrictions for another month at least and that will mean no school except from home. Keep in touch with friends and family, continue to wash your hands, disinfect everything coming into your home, be nice to those essential workers, and tell them thank you.

Keep smiling, tell your loved ones you love them, and you are okay. God will get us through this. Remember those “essentials” in your prayers.

we have tried to make the best of the situation.

I decided to write about all the stuff we’ve been doing during the quarantine. I was given the opportunity to make a fire in my fire pit the last two nights, and we made S’mores and burgers.

I’ve worked on my paintings, which is very relaxing, and I’ve also worked on school from home. I think it is going well. It seems to be very easy.

In conclusion, it has been a crazy last couple of months, and I hope everyone is able to stay safe.

funds in response to COVID-19 to support basic human needs – such as food and shelter – across AEP’s service area.

The Foundation provides a permanent, ongoing resource for charitable initiatives involving higher dollar values and multi-year commitments in the communities served by AEP and initiatives outside of AEP’s 11-state service area. The Foundation, based in Columbus, Ohio, focuses on improving lives through education from early childhood through higher education in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and by meeting basic needs for emergency shelter, affordable housing and the elimination of hunger.

Stay physically active during COVID-19 pandemic

While COVID-19 presents challenges to maintaining an active lifestyle, physical activity can be done in and near the home, said Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts.

“Even a small amount of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity can help reduce blood pressure and anxiety symptoms,” said Michael Lopez, AgriLife Extension program specialist in family and community health, College Station.

“Given the health benefits of physical activity, we at AgriLife Extension continue to recommend being active as an important strategy for staying healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic,” Lopez said. “Based on available information, unless an individual is experiencing symptoms, there is no need to limit physical activity.

“Walking is one of the least expensive and easiest ways to be more active and reduce the risk of cancer, diabetes, heart disease and stroke,” Lopez said. “For adults, AgriLife Extension offers two programs that allow you to participate

in physical activity at any location in which you feel most comfortable, including in and around the home.”

He said both the agency’s Walk Across Texas! and Walk Though Texas History programs, available through the Howdy Health website, are free and may be started online at any time.

The programs use a team-based approach to connect walkers with family, friends and colleagues, but virtually, to allow for adequate social distancing.

Walk Across Texas! Adult: An eight-week program where teams track mileage to virtually walk across the state of Texas.

Walk Through Texas History: A four-week program in which teams track steps to reach designated goals along a virtual historical path in Texas and learn about Texas heroes and history.

A study published in BMC Public Health confirmed the effectiveness of the Walk Across Texas! program to increase and maintain physical activity over the set time period, even among inactive or low-

active participants.

“The programs are based on the number of steps or mileage people take. They can be implemented in any location that’s convenient,” Lopez said. “There are a number of equivalency activities you can do inside the home that can go toward the total count to reach your team’s goal.”

Additional resources to support participation, like recommended Step Counter and Mileage Tracking Apps, are available at <https://walkacrosstexas.org/resources>.

Janet Pollard, AgriLife Extension program coordinator – family and community health, College Station, said adults should be getting about 150 minutes of physical activity per week or roughly 30 minutes of exercise five times a week.

“Physical exercise has been associated with better immune functions and improved mental health,” Pollard said. “Walking is one of the outdoor activities that can be done easily, and people can keep an adequate social distance from one another.”

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M. Matthew Halsey, DVM

At this time, Clarendon Veterinary Hospital & Supply is remaining open for normal business hours. However, due to social distancing guidelines, we are offering delivery of animal health supplies and pet food to our clients' homes or vehicles. Furthermore, recent guidelines have been established allowing Dr. Halsey to offer care via telemedicine in some circumstances but will continue to see appointments until further notice.

We encourage the community to consider us and other local small businesses for your needs during these uncertain times in human history. Contact us at 806-874-3544 and let us know how we can meet your needs.

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City council extends disaster declaration

The Clarendon City Council approved extending the city’s disaster declaration for 60 days among other agenda items at its regular meeting last Thursday, March 26.

The declaration opens access to state and federal resources for the city and local businesses in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic that is negatively impacting the nation and the entire world.

The city originally declared an emergency disaster declaration on

March 19, but that order only lasted for seven days.

City Administrator David Dockery’s report to the council also reflected how COVID-19 is affecting other areas of city business. City utility income is suffering because students are not at the college and the public schools.

City officials also visited with Sheriff Butch Blackburn about the law enforcement contract between the city and the county, and autho-

rized the mayor to negotiate with the county judge.

A request by Cornell’s Country Store was approved to abandon 150 feet of Orpe Street from US 287 to the alleyway. That street will be divided between Cornell’s on the east and West Texas Gas on the west with the city maintaining a utility easement.

The council voted in favor of increasing the fee to impound animals after hours to \$100.

Obituaries

Carter

Peggy Ruth Carter, 91, of Pampa died Sunday, March 29, 2020 in Pampa.

Memorial services will be held after the Coronavirus crisis is resolved.

Cremation and Arrangements are under the direction Robertson Funeral Directors of Clarendon.

Peggy was born July 1, 1928, in Mobeetie to E.R. and Ruth Clark Ware. Peggy went to school at Mobeetie and later to Cosmetology School in Amarillo. Peggy married Carl Carter in Pampa in 1948. They were married 67 years when Carl passed away and Peggy went to live with her daughter Lynna Crockett in Shamrock.

Peggy took her job as a homemaker seriously. She made a home for Carl and her children wherever they lived and her family was her priority. She loved her friends and family with a passion and always stood ready to help them when she could. She ran the Clarendon College cafeteria for sixteen years in Clarendon, Texas and loved the many kids who came through the lines in the cafeteria.

Peggy was raised a farm girl and loved the land and the rural life. She had a wonderful sense of humor

and a positive outlook on life. She was resilient and taught by example how to deal with life’s ups and downs without letting life make you bitter and defeated. She will truly be missed.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Carl; daughter Diane; and son Wayne.

She is survived by her sisters, Kitty Nincehelsler of Ft. Smith, Arkansas, Virginia Holwick and husband Bob of McLean, Texas; her son, Steve Carter and wife Tammy of McLean, Texas; her daughter, Lynna Crockett and husband Bill of Shamrock, Texas; six grandchildren; and fifteen great-grandchildren.

Sign the online guestbook at www.robertsonfuneral.com

Price

June Price, 93, of Clarendon died Saturday, March 28, 2020 in Amarillo.

Graveside services were held on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 in Citizens Cemetery in Clarendon with Rev. Lance Wood, officiating.



Price

Sheriff’s Report

March 23, 2020

9:28 a.m.- EMS to call at Medical Drive

2:27 p.m.- Deputy out on call at 200 block Janney

5:35 p.m.- Deputy to call at College

8:50 p.m.- EMS to meet caller at Ambulance Barn

9:06 p.m.- EMS to call at 700 block Allen Street

March 24, 2020

10:02 a.m.- EMS to call at Medical Drive

11:42 a.m.- EMS to call at SB Rest Area on 287

3:37 p.m.- Deputy to call at Lowes

4:20 p.m.- Sheriff to call on Kearney Street

6:17 p.m.- Deputy to call at All-sups

6:45 p.m.- EMS and Deputy to call at 1000 block E. 2nd

7:26 p.m.- Deputy out on call at Browning and Goodnight

8:21 p.m.- Deputy to call at 8th and Johns

March 25, 2020

7:41 a.m.- EMS to call at 400 block Ten Bears

12:57 p.m.- EMS to call at Medical Drive

3:31 p.m.- EMS and FD to Mutual Aid request in Collingsworth Co.

4:27 p.m.- EMS to call at 700 block W. 4th

5:16 p.m.- Deputy to call at 8th and Leroy

8:00 p.m.- EMS to call at 1400 block W. 8th

March 26, 2020

1:42 a.m.- Deputy to call on E. 5th

8:01 a.m.- EMS to call near School

9:51 a.m.- EMS to call at 700 block W. 4th

2:12 p.m.- Deputy to call at Rosenfield

4:13 p.m.- EMS to call on Medical Drive

5:29 p.m.- Deputy to call on Rosenfield

9:24 p.m.- Deputy to call at 400 block E. Burkhead

10:45 p.m.- EMS to call at S.

Carhart

March 27, 2020

2:21 p.m.- Deputy to call at 400 block E. Barcus

4:05 p.m.- Deputy to call EB 287 near Wallace Monument

4:28 p.m.- Deputy to call at 287 and 3257

7:32 p.m.- Deputy to call at County Road 13

9:07 p.m.- Deputy to call at 200 block Janny

10:39 p.m.- Deputy to call at County road 15

March 28, 2020

8:24 p.m.- Deputy to call on FM 2471

8:47 p.m.- One new inmate brought to jail

March 29, 2020

1:03 p.m.- Sheriff and Deputy to call on I-40 for Erratic Driver

6:05 p.m.- EMS to call at 300 block E. White

7:10 p.m.- Deputy t call at 400 block E. 5th

10:02 p.m.- EMS to call at 600 block W. 4th

WT develops antiviral protection for doors

CANYON – Biological warfare technology born at West Texas A&M University to protect soldiers from anthrax has been readapted and deployed across campus to protect door handles from viruses and bacteria.

Doors across West Texas A&M University soon will receive Copper Clean stickers over handles and push plates. The stickers – basically a highly engineered copper-alloy foil with an adhesive backing – are the newest product developed by Engineering Dean Emily Hunt and a group of ambitious graduate engineering students working to commercialize patents they have obtained for West Texas A&M University and The Texas A&M University System.

Along with standard infection

control practices, these stickers will help alleviate the microbial burden on these high-touch surfaces across campus.

“The stickers are made with a copper-alloy that has been proven to kill 99.9 of harmful pathogens, like MSRA, Staph. auerus and E. coli within two hours,” Hunt said. Soon, they will be tested against other pathogens, including COVID-19.

“Sometimes a complex problem requires a common sense solution,” said John Sharp, chancellor of the Texas A&M System. “Dr. Hunt and her team deserve a lot of credit for doing their part to address the biggest problem facing the world today.”

Copper Clean stickers are made at an EPA-approved, American manufacturer, Hunt said. The

first batch arrive just this week. West Texas A&M University will be the first customer, but Hunt said Buffalo Technology Group is already talking to school districts across the state who are interested.

“At a time when the whole world is more cognizant than they have ever been about the prevalence and danger of harmful microorganisms, my hope for these patches is that they are implemented in areas where large quantities of healthy, sick and immunocompromised individuals share high-touch surfaces,” Hunt said.

The stickers are for sale for \$24.50 at <https://coppercleanus.com/>. Proceeds from their sales will go back into funding more research.

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ARENA OF LIFE COWBOY CHURCH
214 S. KEARNEY • PASTORS: BUNK & AMY SKELTON
SUN. SERVICE: 10:30 A.M. • THURS. BIBLE STUDY: 7 P.M.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
US 287 E • 874-3156 • REV. ROB SEALE
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 7 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
300 S. CARHART • 874-2495 • MINISTER: CHRIS MOORE
SUN. BIBLE CLASS 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:30 A.M.
SUN. 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE
209 S. HAWLEY • 874-2321 • PASTOR: ALLEN POSEY
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
• WED.: 7 P.M.

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
12148 FM 2162 • 874-0963
PASTOR: LARRY CAPRANICA
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED. COMMUNITY KIDZ 5:30 P.M.
WED. ADULT BIBLE STUDY: 6 P.M.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
120 E. THIRD ST. • PASTOR: KEN MCINTOSH
SUNDAY SERVICE: 5 P.M.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
4TH ST. & HWY. 70 SOUTH • PASTOR: JOSHUA LOWRANCE
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:40 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • SUN. YOUTH: 5:00 P.M.
WED. BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 P.M.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
300 BUGBEE AVE. • 874-3833 • REV. LANCE WOOD
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:55 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • KID'S ACTIVITIES: WED. 6 P.M.
YOUTH STUDY: WED. 7 P.M.
COLLEGE MINISTRY: WED. 9 P.M.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FOURTH & PARKS • LAY PASTOR: NANCY RUSS
FELLOWSHIP: 10:30 A.M.
SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
420 S. JEFFERSON • 874-3667 • PASTOR BUDDY PAYNE
SUN. SERVICE: 11:00 A.M. • SUN. SCHOOL: 9:45 A.M.
• YOUTH PROGRAM: 6:00 P.M.

JESUS NAME APOSTOLIC CHURCH
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CALVIN BURROW
SUN. SERVICES: 3 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

BODY OF CHRIST MINISTRIES:
501 S. MCCLELLAND • PASTOR: R.W. ELLERBROOK
SATURDAY: 6 P.M. • SUNDAY DISCIPLESHIP CLASS: 9:30 A.M.
SUN.: 10:30 A.M. • SUN. LIFE GROUP: 4:30 P.M.
WED.: 6:30 P.M.

CHRIST'S KIDS OUTREACH MINISTRY:
416 S. KEARNEY • JANET CARTER • 874-2007 SUN.
BREAKFAST 9:30 A.M. • SUN. PRAISE & WORSHIP 10 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:30 A.M. • WED.: 5 P.M.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
301 S. PARKS ST. • 874-2511 • REV. JIM AVENI SECOND
SUNDAY SERVICE: 11 A.M.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
MONTGOMERY & MCCLELLAND
FR. ARKOKIA RAJ SAMALA
SUN. MASS 11 A.M.

ST. STEPHENS BAPTIST CHURCH
300 N. JEFFERSON ST. • PASTOR: ROY WILLIAMS
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11:15 A.M.
WED.: 7 P.M. (WEATHER PERMITTING)

TRUE CHURCH OF GOD & CHRIST
301 N. JEFFERSON • ST. PASTOR: JEFF RILES
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11:15 A.M.
WED.: 7 P.M.

HEDLEY

CHURCH OF CHRIST
110 E. SECOND ST. • MINISTER: STEWART MESSER
SUN. BIBLE CLASS: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 7:30 P.M.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 N. MAIN ST. • PASTOR: STAN CROSBY
SUN. SERVICE: 11:00 A.M.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
210 N. MAIN ST. • 856-5980 • PASTOR: BRUCE HOWARD
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN.: 11 A.M. & 6 P.M.
WED.: 7 P.M.

HOWARDWICK

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
235 RICK HUSBAND BLVD. • 874-3326 • REV. JIM FOX
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:45 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 6 P.M.

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US 287 W
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SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

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Expert discusses effects of COVID-19 on agriculture

The COVID-19 outbreak and subsequent actions taken to mitigate the pandemic have already had a significant effect on the world marketplace. Job and production losses and changes in purchasing habits have put a strain on the economy.

While there is no definitive answer as to how long the pandemic and subsequent shutdown of non-essential services will last, it is certain that it will have some effect on almost every aspect of daily life in the U.S. One of those areas is agriculture, from the food that is grown to commodities such as cotton.

Darren Hudson, the Comb-est Endowed Chair for Agricultural Competitiveness in the Texas Tech University Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics in the College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, said the agricultural industry should be able to handle a brief shutdown of normal life, but that the longer it lasts, the more prominent the effects will be.

The key, he said, is to avoid panic buying in order to not overwhelm the supply chain with out-of-control demand. A long-term shutdown will hurt some commodities, such as cotton, more because consumers will shy away from purchases that can be delayed on products such as clothing and home textiles.

From an agricultural standpoint, what are the major concerns with COVID-19 and its potential for a long-term disruption of normal society?

Our food supply chain is quite resilient. It is a complex web of interrelated industries that brings us food and fiber. But all systems have weaknesses we should understand. The first is labor, farm labor, labor in processing facilities, trucking, retailing, etc. When we face potential losses in terms of mass reductions

in labor availability due to illness, we can expect disruptions. Further, closing borders in response to this pandemic exacerbates this problem, although much of the labor force for agriculture is, so far, still allowed to cross the border.

Second, changes in food demand will strain the system. That is, more than half of all food consumed in the U.S. last year was consumed away from home. And while food supplies are ample, they are in the wrong channel, and shifting those supplies to the grocery channel will not happen overnight. Third, the commodity markets currently are a wreck. Current prices on futures exchanges are insufficient to cover the costs of production for farmers, making it hard to gain financing to plant crops. That lack of profitability can be overcome in the short run through government programs but will damage the long-term viability of farms if markets do not return to some sense of normalcy.

Given that businesses are shut down for the most part, how will COVID-19 affect the agricultural labor force?

In the short run, not much. Government programs that will most likely be enacted will protect non-farm labor to some extent, meaning there will be fewer options for that labor to shift to agricultural needs. But the bigger impacts will be if immigration is curtailed or sickness significantly shrinks the available labor pool. While agriculture is rural and may be more isolated from widespread infection, there are also fewer people so that any widespread illness could impact the labor pool.

Is the virus expected to significantly disrupt agricultural food supply (fruits and vegetables, rice, wheat, etc.)?

No, not really. There will be items, of course, especially those

imported, that may be impacted due to events in other countries. Some states, like California, for example, produce a good bit of fruits and vegetables, and if they see significant labor shortages it will impact those supplies. Again, the extent of the impacts depends on location and severity, immigration disruptions and duration of the virus' impacts.

Summarize how the issues in grocery stores is a demand problem, not a supply or supply chain problem, and how it needs to be handled.

The stock outages we have seen in grocery stores are because of acute demand. That is, everyone rushed stores for supplies in a short time period. Because this was happening all over, stores have struggled to restock because shipments have been limited by wholesalers to spread supplies as widely as possible. But we continue to rush stores for supplies, making it hard for them to catch up. This is not because we have limited supplies, but because demand exceeded supply at a particular point in time that was unanticipated. If consumers will slow down, relax and understand the supplies will be there, stores will catch up.

How long does this "shutdown" have to last before we do see severe agricultural effects, if at all?

A shutdown of significant duration (6-8 months) will strain agriculture, primarily from the labor point of view. Our farmers and the supply chain are good at what they do, but no one can sustain significant over-use without some breaks in the chains.

Much like we do not want to overwhelm our hospitals and medical staff so they can focus on saving lives and not triage, we do not want to overwhelm the food system for a long time. But I have full faith in our system to perform as needed and sustain us through this trying time.

In terms of non-food-related agriculture, such as cotton, what is going to be the effect of the virus. Will this affect planting season?

Right now, there appears to be no reason to expect this will significantly impact planting season, either for food or non-food products. But we need the markets to stabilize so planting can progress as needed and the available financing for moving forward is there. Again, the Federal Reserve has acted to shore up liquidity, and I expect banks will be able to push funding out there to get this done.

Are agricultural companies being affected by the downturn in the stock markets? If not, could they?

All companies are being impacted, but in terms of market capitalization. So, balance sheets look a lot worse today than they did, and it will make getting debt capital to operate more of a challenge. Agricultural companies have traditionally been more financially conservative, and those that have been will be in better position today. But we will see stress on some companies and industries.

If you know, how will the stimulus package approved by Congress potentially affect agriculture?

There are provisions being debated that will impact agriculture. On the demand side, cash transfers and unemployment insurance will help keep American households solvent and purchasing the food and supplies they need.

There also are provisions replenishing the funding for the Commodity Credit Corporation that administers direct income support programs like the recently used Market Facilitation Program (MFP) payments. Congress knows the importance of the food supply, so I expect bipartisan support for those support programs in the near term.

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Texas A&M experts offer COVID-19 cleaning, disinfection guidelines

Preventive measures in households are important to limit the survival of the virus

Cleaning and disinfecting are paramount to preventing COVID-19 contamination from spreading into and throughout one's household. Texas A&M AgriLife Research – Institute for Infectious Animal Diseases, IIAD, experts offer guidelines for keeping safe.

This information was compiled by Sarah Caffey, program manager; Jessica Cargill, assistant director; Heather Simmons, DVM, associate director; and Melissa Berquist, Ph.D., director, all in College Station. All the guidelines were gathered from the CDC Recommendations for Cleaning and Disinfection.

General guidelines for cleaning and disinfection in household settings

Cleaning: The process of removing dirt and germs from a surface or item. This process alone does not kill germs. Removing as many germs as possible lowers their risk of spreading.

Disinfecting: The process of using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. Does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces. Killing germs by disinfecting after cleaning lowers the risk of germs spreading. For households without suspected or confirmed illness

Practice the following preventive actions: Clean the most frequently touched surfaces and objects in your household daily (e.g., mobile phones, tables, countertops, faucets, switches, doorknobs, etc.) using water and a regular household cleanser.

Before applying a disinfectant, all dirty surfaces should first be cleaned using water and a regular household cleanser. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfecting products.

Recommendations for cleaning and disinfecting households with residents in self-isolation, either suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19

General Guidelines:

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects daily – especially those in common areas such as mobile phones, remotes, tables, chairs, doorknobs, switches, handles, desks, toilets and sinks.

If possible, designate a dedicated bedroom and bathroom for the ill person and only clean and disinfect those areas as needed to minimize contact.

Further minimize contact by providing a set of personal cleaning supplies including tissues, paper towels, cleaners and disinfectants for the ill person to use in their designated space, unless the ill person is a child unable to handle the supplies.

If the ill person is sharing a bathroom with others in the household, that space should be cleaned and disinfected each time after an ill person uses it.

How to clean and disinfect:
Surfaces - Wear disposable gloves. Discard gloves after each use. Clean hands immediately after removing gloves. Use a detergent or soap and water to clean prior to dis-

infection. For disinfection, diluted household bleach solutions, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, or most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.

Two options for creating your own bleach solution: Mix 5 tablespoons or 1/3 cup of bleach per gallon of water; or mix 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water.

For soft and porous surfaces such as carpet, drapes and rugs, first remove any visible dirt and then clean with products designated for use on these surfaces.

Laundry items - Wear disposable gloves when handling dirty laundry from a sick person and discard the gloves after use. If you do not have gloves to use, wash your hands immediately after handling dirty laundry. Do not shake dirty laundry – this could spread virus particles. Wash items using the warmest appropriate water setting and dry them completely. It is okay to wash dirty laundry from a sick person with items from other people.

US Chamber creates coronavirus loan guide to help

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The US Chamber of Commerce has created a guide to help small businesses, independent contractors, and gig economy workers prepare to file for a coronavirus relief loan under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

The US Chamber's Coronavirus Small Business Guide (available at uschamber.com/sbloans) outlines the steps small businesses should take now and prepare to access much-needed funds to help keep their workers on the payroll during this disruptive period. Further guides will be developed as the CARES Act becomes implemented.

"The US Chamber of Commerce is working with state and local chambers across the country to provide businesses with the information they need to stay afloat and keep people employed during the pandemic," said Suzanne Clark, President of the US Chamber of

Commerce. "This comprehensive guide ensures small business owners fully understand what aid is available to them and how to access those funds as quickly as possible. We remain committed to ensuring no family or business goes bankrupt due to financial hardships associated with the coronavirus."

Additionally, to help small businesses, the US Chamber of Commerce has compiled an interactive map to show the aid available to them on a state-by-state basis.

Last week, Congress passed the CARES Act which allocated \$350 billion to help small businesses keep workers employed amid the pandemic and economic downturn. Known as the Paycheck Protection Program, the initiative provides 100 percent federally guaranteed loans to small businesses that maintain their payroll during this emergency.

Furthermore, these loans may be forgiven if borrowers maintain

their payroll during the crisis.

The US Chamber of Commerce is committed to helping American businesses respond to the coronavirus so they can support their employees, customers, and communities. Our members and the state and local chambers, who are on the front lines of this pandemic, need us now more than ever to help them through this significant disruption.

We will continue working every day to help our country's people, businesses, and economy weather this storm and emerge stronger – just as we have at other challenging times in our nation's history. Visit uschamber.com/coronavirus for more information.

The US Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

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Clarendon Lodge #700 AF&M
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7:30 p.m. Refreshments at 6:30
p.m. Practice: Fourth Mondays,
7 p.m. Roger Estlack - W.M., Grett
Betts - Secretary. 2 B I, ASK 1



Donley County Memorial Post
7782 Veterans of Foreign Wars.
Meets first Tuesday at 7 p.m.
822-VETS.



Clarendon Lions Club Regular
meeting each Tuesday at noon.
Scarlet Estlack, Boss Lion. Roger
Estlack, Secretary

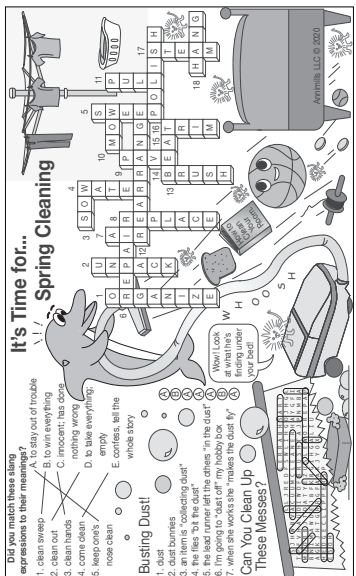
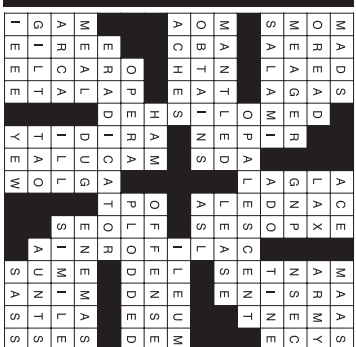


Clarendon Alcoholics Anonymous Group 806-676-9416,
806-661-1015, 24 hour hotline
806-329-3088. Mon., Thurs., &
Satur. 7 p.m. 416 S Kearney St.

Clarendon Chamber of Commerce Regular
meeting 1st Thursday each month at 6:00
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PUZZLE SOLUTION



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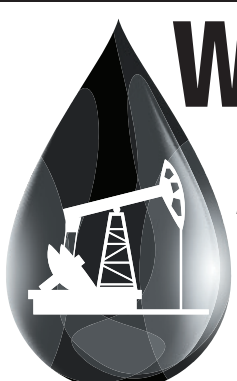
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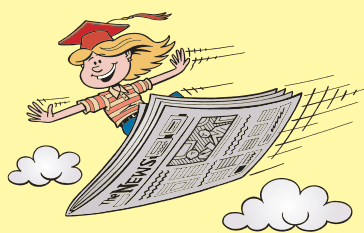
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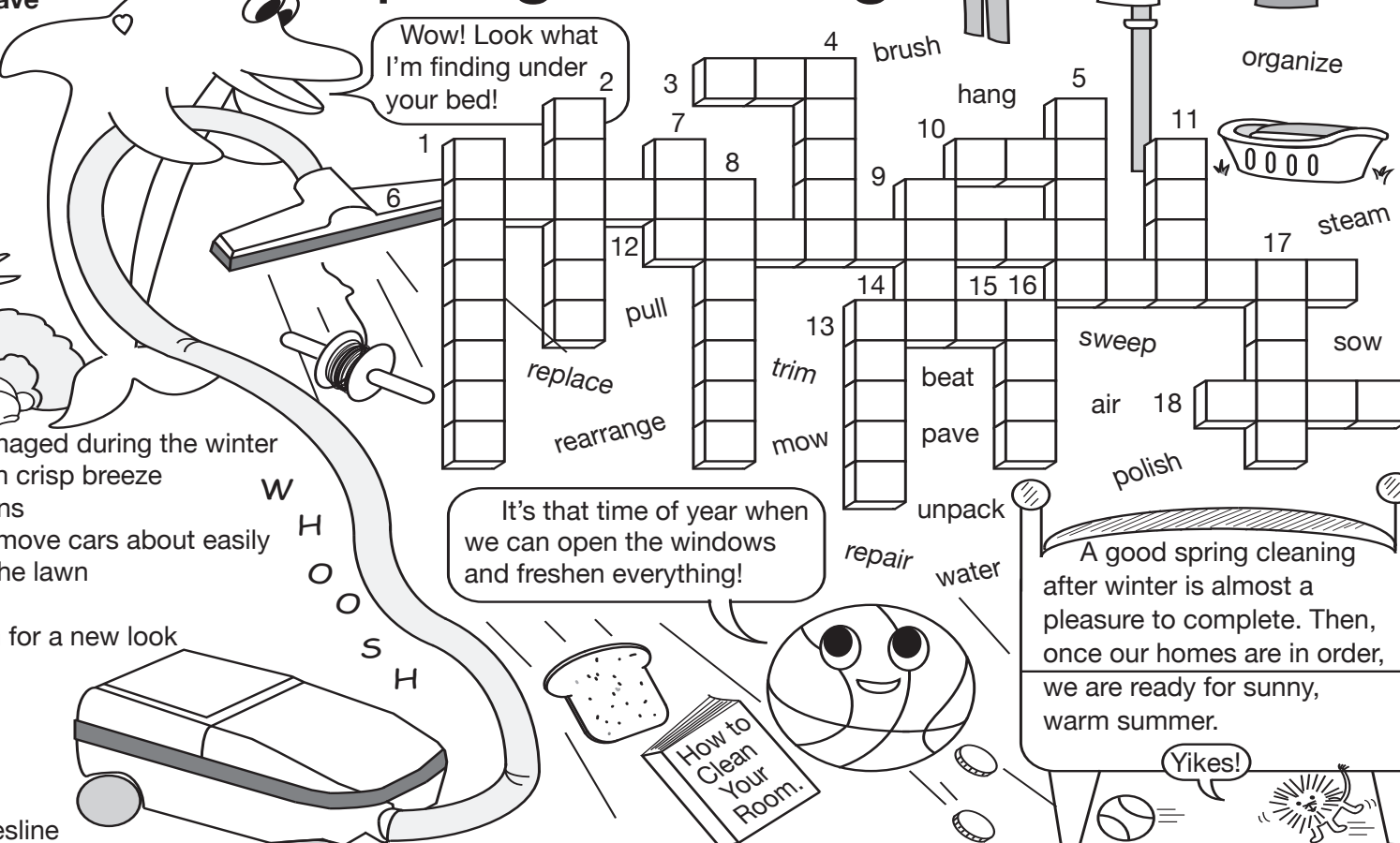
Kids: color
stuff in!



There are many jobs to be done after a long
winter. People in the city, town and country all
do spring cleaning and chores based on their
needs. **Read the clues to fill in the crossword
with chores. How many of these jobs have
you seen people doing? How many did
you help to do?** (Hint: use a pencil to
fill in the clues below first. This is tricky!)

- _____ messy closets
- _____ your warmer weather
clothes that have been in storage
- _____ seeds so you can
watch things grow
- _____ flowers to
give the house some color
- _____ sidewalks that
have gathered sand and dirt
- _____ fences that have been damaged during the winter
- _____ out your house with a fresh crisp breeze
- _____ storm windows with screens
- _____ driveways so that we can move cars about easily
- _____ the overgrown grass on the lawn
- _____ weeds from the garden
- _____ the furniture in your room for a new look
- _____ the dust out of rugs
- _____ soot from the chimney
- _____ the overgrown bushes
- wash and _____ the car
- _____ clean the dirty carpet
- _____ laundry to dry on a clothesline

It's Time for... Spring Cleaning



Let's go on a bear hunt!



The Clarendon Enterprise asked community members to place a teddy bear in the window of their home or office last week. Local children then went on a bear hunt around Clarendon with their families during this time of social distancing. More than 60 locations have been spotted.

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