



THE CLARENDON Enterprise

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THE CLARENDON NEWS & THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

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THIS WEEK

2 West Texas A&M President recognizes the Enterprise for its COVID coverage.

4 The Donley County Social Hour marks its fifth episode with more news and views.

5 Murder hornets: the newest actors on the 2020 stage.

8 And Col. Goodnight is famous here but not in his home state.

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

No new COVID-19 cases since May 1

No new cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Donley County since May 1, and 80 people have now tested negative for the virus at the Clarendon Family Medical Center.

Donley County Judge John Howard, MD, says his clinic has conducted 100 tests local residents, and, as of Tuesday afternoon, all of those test results had been received. Twenty local tests have come back positive, and five other local residents have tested positive at facilities outside the county.

The Texas Department of State Health Services is reporting 26 confirmed cases in Donley County. Howard said he is trying to get that number corrected because one patient is being counted twice, having tested positive at the local clinic and then again in an Amarillo hospital.

Of the positive cases, 21 have been listed as "recovered." Howard says it's possible that as many as three of the remaining four positive cases may also be recovered, but those are not under the care of the local clinic.

Howard still urges everyone to continue to follow social distancing guidelines.

Appeals court spot back on GOP ballot

Republican voters in Donley and 45 other counties will get a "do over" this summer with a new election to be held for a position on the Seventh Court of Appeals.

A district judge has ordered the new election after it was discovered that Collingsworth and Cochran county Republican primary ballots did not include the Seventh Court of Appeals race between incumbent Larry Doss and challenger Steven Denny, who had won the March primary by 247 votes. Reports say more than 1,200 voters in those two counties were disenfranchised because the race wasn't printed on their ballots.

Denny appealed the district court's ruling, but it was upheld by a 3-0 decision in the Second Court of Appeals in Ft. Worth on April 30.

The new election is scheduled to take place on July 14, 2020, at the same time as state-wide run-off elections.

Doss was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott in November 2019 to serve as Justice on the Seventh Court of Appeals of Texas to replace Justice James Campbell, who retired last fall. Denny is an attorney in Amarillo.



School's out

Clarendon fourth grade teacher B.J. Owens hands Bruce Campbell his belongings as students finished up the 2019-2020 school year Tuesday morning, getting their personal things from school and turning in final assignments.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO / ROGER ESTLACK

City sales tax revenue tumbles for May

Clarendon's sales tax revenue plummeted when Texas Comptroller distributed May allocations to local government's last week.

The city's revenue fell 25.97 percent to \$41,893.01 compared to \$56,593.42 for the same period last year. Local officials point out, however, that the 2019 May allocation was unusually high, setting an all-time record for monthly sales tax revenue.

This month's allocation is just 5.44 percent lower than 2018's May allocation of \$44,303.94 and is higher than 2017's May allocation of \$37,304.42.

Clarendon's calendar year-to-date total is now down 5.82 percent at \$170,762.12.

Hedley's May allocation fell 41.92 percent to \$1,359.44, and that city's year-to-date figure is down 5.94 percent at \$4,492.94.

Howardwick was also down 1.84 percent for the month at \$1,197.96, but the lakeside city remains up 22.14 percent for the year at \$6,899.08.

Statewide, Hegar sent \$824.1 million in local sales tax allocations for May, 5 percent less than in May 2019. These allocations are based on sales made in March by businesses that report tax monthly, and sales made in January, February and

March by quarterly filers.

Widespread social distancing requirements were not in place across much of the state until late March, meaning the impact of those measures affected only a portion of allocations for this month.

The comptroller's office expects next month's allocations, based on April sales, will show steeper declines compared to a year ago.

Saints' Roost Celebration schedule in limbo

The schedule of the 143rd annual Saints' Roost Celebration is largely unknown at this time as the COVID-19 pandemic has cast a cloud of uncertainty on July Fourth and other summer activities.

The Clarendon Outdoor Entertainment Association two weeks ago opened its sign-up period for the junior rodeo and ranch rodeo for the celebration, which is supposed to take place July 2, 3, and 4 this year. At the May 5 meeting of the Clarendon Economic Development

Corporation, COEA officials said their events filled up in one night and that they have a waiting list of other teams wanting to participate.

Last Thursday, the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce board voted to proceed with plans for the annual Herring Bank Parade on July 4 with a theme of "Texas Strong: United We Stand."

Both the Chamber and COEA officials say they understand things could change between now and July, which could cause the cancellation

of these events, and it's not clear what social distancing requirements may be in place by that time. Rodeo and parade awards will be ordered with no date inscribed on them in case they have to be held over for next year.

County Agent Leonard Haynes said Tuesday that no decision has been made on the annual Craft Fair scheduled for July 4 on the courthouse lawn. Haynes said he wants to wait another week or until Gov. Greg Abbott releases more information

about changes to the pandemic response and social distancing requirements.

State officials are working to reopen the Texas economy, but many events planned for the coming months have already been canceled. Last week, the Clarendon Little League canceled its 2020 season and the Junior Rodeo Cowboys Association announced that it had also canceled its 2020 events, which would have included the JRCA annual rodeo in Clarendon in June.



County Agent Leonard Haynes addresses the Donley County Commissioners Court Monday about how his office can help local governments and businesses learn more about the CARES Act.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO / ROGER ESTLACK

Extension helping answer CARES questions

AgriLife Extension Agent Leonard Haynes told Donley County Commissioners Monday that his office can serve as a liaison for information as local governments and businesses try to take advantage of the CARES Act.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, approved by the federal government in March, provides a wide range of

relief measures, and Haynes said the state has tasked the AgriLife Extension Service to help implement those programs for local governments.

Speaking at the county's regular meeting, Haynes said he has sent information to city and school officials in the county and said he would be contacting the hospital district as well.

According to Gov. Greg Abbott, the CARES Act provides \$5.06 billion in funding available to local governments in Texas. The US Department of Treasury sent more than \$3.2 billion of those funds to six cities and 12 counties with a population greater than 500,000. The balance of \$1.85 billion will be available to other cities and counties throughout the state for reimburse-

ment of direct expenses incurred by cities and counties due to COVID-19.

"It looks like most of this will go to emergency management, such as our sheriff's office and EMS," Haynes said.

The extension agent said he had already been through a training on an overview of the CARES Act

See 'Extension' on page 8.

Hedley HS announces top grads

Hedley High School has announced Perla Carreon and Mica Delos Reyes are its top students for the Class of 2020.

Carreon is the Valedictorian and has a grade average of 96.67. She is the daughter of Elizabeth and Victor Carreon and has attended Hedley ISD for six years.

Throughout high school, Carreon has been involved in many extracurricular activities such as basketball for four years, One Act Play for three years, UIL for four years, and the National Honors Society for two years. She has completed 31 hours of dual credit courses. She was nominated for homecoming court her senior year and was crowned queen.

After high school, Carreon plans to attend Clarendon College to complete her basics. After that, she plans to transfer to West Texas A&M University to pursue her career in nursing or teaching.

The Salutatorian is Mica Delos Reyes with an average of 92.03. She is the daughter of Bhel and J.B. Alvey and moved from the Philippines, transferring to Hedley ISD during her sophomore year in 2017.

Throughout her high school career, Delos Reyes has received academic honors and was extremely involved in many extracurricular activities and clubs. She was involved with writing and was an editor of the Journalism Club and has been a member of the School Newspaper club. She was also a member of One-Act Play, Arbor Society, National Honor Society, Band, and other different clubs in the Philippines, such as Environmental Club, High School Theater Group, Art, Drama, Life Sciences, Economics, History, and Language Clubs. She has a great interest in arts.

In the Philippines, she was also one of the co-directors and the prop master in her school's plays, El Filibusterismo and Noli Me Tangere that both won first place. She also participated in UIL and other competitive organizations and has played volleyball and basketball. She was also heavily involved in volunteer works in the churches in the Philippines, where she met new people and made many cherished memories.

After high school, Mica is heading towards Clarendon College then West Texas A&M University to get a degree in Nursing, which she will eventually use to pursue a career in the medical field in neurosurgery.

Carreon and Delos Reyes will be recognized with the rest of the Hedley Class of 2020 during graduation exercises on May 23 at 8:30 p.m. at the Sandell Drive-In.

All of the Hedley and Clarendon seniors will be featured in our graduation edition published on May 21, 2020.



Carreon



Delos Reyes

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I’m ‘tooting’ their horns...

I’ve always been a sucker for the sappy, plot-easily-followed kind of “flick” that ends happily. Take Mr. Holland’s Opus – and others like it – where movie-goers had best take multiple hankies.

Richard Dreyfuss starred in this tear-jerker a full quarter-century ago. Opus is a great story to watch – or re-watch – while we’re marooned in our homes, sometimes with “virtually” nothing to do. The “main guy” is a beloved band director.

It underscores a theory I’ve had over a 40-year career in higher education. There’s no middle ground for band members’ views of their directors. They are loved or reviled, thanked or blamed, upheld or down-trodden. Most of them seem comfortable in extreme approaches to music, and most everything else....

In my judgment, Greg Berry, now nestled in the grandeur of Colorado mountains with Leta – his wife of 61 years – ranks number one on my list of unorthodox band directors. Leta richly deserves to spend life’s eventide in such resplendent repose, even if it is with an old guy whose eardrums have sustained the blasts of too many sour notes lofted in lousy band halls.

They both were my college classmates. Leta has been at his side during collegiate band posts at Howard Payne, Wayland and Samford Universities. (After Samford, he directed a renowned community band in Birmingham, where his daytime career switched to investments and the stock market for 17 years.)

They were beloved wherever they went, but their bubbling pot of grand memories began at Azle High School in the 1960s.. For his final AHS concert in 1968, he rented the Will Rogers Auditorium in Fort Worth. They slapped on bumper stickers and employed numerous other advertising methods to promote the event, which attracted 2,000 persons. “American Civil War Fantasy” and “Battle Hymn of the Republic” were featured, as was a student’s reading of the Gettysburg Address. The audience roared....

Unscripted after curtain calls was a presentation by band president Johnny Miller. Leta was called to Greg’s side. The AHS band’s gift – –said to be “just between the band and the Berrys” – was an all-expenses-paid vacation to Nassau. Rest-of-the-story must be shared. Members paid for the gift NOT with cash, but with S&H Green Stamps, gathered throughout the community and dumped at the redemption center.

It didn’t stop there. The junior high band collected \$150 for “spending money,” and beginner band families provided free babysitting for the couple’s four children. Greg had just gotten his pilot license, so they rented a rickety, fabric plane. Off they flew to Florida to board a big jet to Nassau.

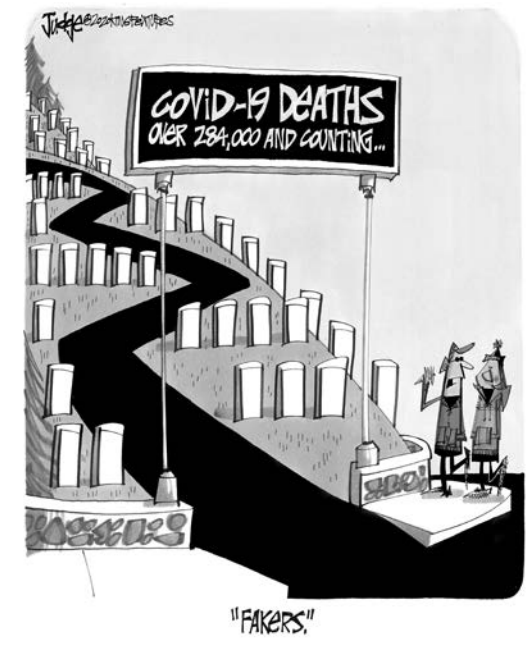
Apprehension set in as the tiny craft climbed to avoid Carswell AFB airspace. A radio message – instructing Greg to change frequencies – was voiced by the band booster president, an FAA employee, who said, “GOOD MORNING, GREG! GOOD MORNING, LETA!”....

Years later, during Greg’s Wayland tenure, I had just begun “presidenting” at Western Texas College in Snyder, a couple of hours’ drive from Plainview. When his band played at our Sunday night church service, I shrunk in a far-back pew, thinking Greg might not know of our WTC role. It was to no avail. Soon, reality set in. “Our next number is a favorite of your new president,” he said. Truly, it was – and remains – a favorite. Somehow, though, “The Orange Blossom Special” seemed a bit daring for a church service 40 years ago.

Another memorable director was the late Carl McCord, who – in his 70s – started the Early High School marching band in 1954. He was the most patient director ever. I played baritone horn, sometimes hitting the right notes. And, unlike the “Music Man message,” we didn’t have 76 trombones. With 30 or so members, almost all beginners, we NEVER were asked to lead big parades.

It is small comfort that we who muddled in the “bottom half” of the band made the “top half” possible....

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Opportunity overseas for one Texan

Bret Cali had to close his store and café in Bend because he was getting too many customers. Sound strange? Well, we are living in a strange time. It happened right after spring break when Bret was busy taking care of a big influx of tourists who had come for a few days’ rest at his place and at the Colorado Bend State Park just down the road. His neighbors in San Saba County asked him to shut down because they feared some of those visitors might be carrying the virus and bringing it in his store and café. Bret is still on the premises doing some updating, but his business is temporarily closed.

Bret can roll with the tide. He has done it many times before. He is a man of many experiences in many places including Alaska where he worked for a company that fished for salmon. He has had a variety of jobs, from a hospital DJ playing tunes for patients to being a show producer and entertainer. He can also marry people. “I charge extra if I have to put on a button shirt,” says Bret, who has managed to avoid marriage for himself.

He lived in London a couple of

years. One day he saw an old beat-up truck with a sign on it advertising a landscape company. That gave him an idea. He and his roommate started doing some research. “We were in the wealthier part of London and we found this book on the English landscape and a poem by Alexander Pope so we made a flyer containing words from Pope’s poem:

‘Where you walk cool gills shall fan the glade and where you sit, trees shall crowd into a shade and everything shall flourish before your eyes.’ We listed all these vast landscaping projects that we could do, then got on our bikes and put these flyers in mailboxes. We didn’t have any postage money.

“One night we were sitting in a pub and this American lady called and said her husband was making a movie in London and they were renting a man-



stories of texas
by tumbleweed smith

sion from the owner who was in Greece. The owner said they could do whatever landscaping they wanted as long as he approved it. We went by the next day and talked to her. She wanted different levels and all sorts of stuff. I had mowed yards in junior high school and thought that qualified me to do involved landscape jobs. She asked us for a bid and said she would submit it to the owner. She told us that she was so honored to have both owners of the company take the time to stop by.

We told her we had another project in the neighborhood. Our bicycles were parked around the corner. So we went to the library and looked at architecture books and then called all sorts of landscape companies, found one that seemed reputable, took the price they offered, added much more to it and gave her the bid. The owner in Greece said that was fine. So while this company did all the work, I just rode my bike by there occasionally to see that everything was going ok. We called our company Arcadia Urban Woodlands.” Bret got a good job offer in the states and gave up his landscape business.



End just the beginning for seniors

By Karissa Niehoff, Executive Director of the National Federation of State High School Associations and Dr. Charles Breithaupt, Executive Director of the Texas University Interscholastic League.

In Texas, we value community. And right now, community looks a lot different than what we’re used to. No large weddings or birthday parties. No band or orchestra recitals or spring plays. No Little League or youth soccer. The Summer Olympics have been delayed for at least a year and professional sports are having to rethink their seasons, while we rethink our daily lives. The list of cancellations and postponements is nearly endless.

For now, it’s “see you online” as we make the sacrifice to stay home in order to slow the spread of COVID-19. While nothing is more important than the health of our communities, it doesn’t soften the feelings of disappointment, heartbreak and loss that come with the cancellation of the things we love.

If you’re a fan, family member or student supporting or participating in high school sports or interscholastic activities, the disappointment runs deep, and it strikes close to home. Months of expectation and intense training have been unproductive for hundreds of high school teams and students. The dream

of scoring a decisive victory over an archrival or competing for a state championship has either been put on hold or permanently surrendered.

It’s “wait ‘til next year” for freshmen, sophomores and juniors. But for most of the high school seniors who participate in a spring sport or activity, this is more than a lost season. It’s the end of an active sports, academic or music career.

The senior first baseman who picked up his first bat when he was five years old will never have the opportunity to swing at an 82 mile an hour fastball again. The actress who finally got a leading role in One Act Play will never set foot on a stage or perform with her castmates again. The young woman who was elected captain of her tennis team will never know how deep into the tournament her squad could have gone.

But here’s what will happen, and it’s significant. That same first baseman has learned that baseball is about far more than trying to hit a ball with a stick; it’s about a group of young men from vastly different backgrounds coming together as a team. The actress has discovered that if a person has enough determination and perseverance, accomplishments once thought impossi-

ble can be achieved. And the captain of the tennis team will take the leadership skills she’s learned as a student-athlete and apply them to everything she does for the rest of her life.

Their seasons – indeed, their athletic, academic and music careers – may be over, but the character those seniors have developed through their participation in education-based high school activities lives on. It will encourage, guide and positively influence communities here in Texas for the next generation and beyond.

To the class of 2020, thank you for the contribution you have made to your team, your school and your community. And most importantly, thank you for the shared sacrifice you are making right now to keep your communities safe and healthy. It will not soon be forgotten.

As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” To those UIL students who graduate this spring, you may have lost your senior season, but you are equipped with both intelligence and character to overcome this adversity and to guide you in all of your future endeavors. Best wishes for continued growth and success.

On, on Buffaloes!

Walter V. Wendler,
President
West Texas A&M University

WT president recognizes Enterprise

As we all find ourselves in a very challenging and situational season, I would like to recognize the entire team at The Clarendon Enterprise for the round the clock efforts conducted to keep our community informed.

Your essential service to the community is something that WT recognizes and values. Citizens rely on your service to know what is going on with our com-

munity, our state, and our nation. The dedication of every team member at The Clarendon Enterprise is appreciated.

Your efforts are making a difference not only in the WT Family Community but also in the entire local community as a whole and the Texas Panhandle. Thank you for the service that you and your team are providing.

If WT can be of assistance to The

Clarendon Enterprise, please feel free to reach out to me. Through the pandemic circumstances, we want to continue to be collaborative community partners in serving the locality of Canyon and beyond.

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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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DEADLINES

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The final packet

Hedley High School senior Perla Carreon picks up final work packets from school secretary Morgan Bebout last Thursday as students headed for the finish line of the school year.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO / ROGER ESTLACK

Online poultry program to focus on egg production

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will offer a four-day online small-flock poultry program for home egg production.

The program will be from noon to 1 p.m. May 18-21. It is free and participants can login at any time using the password: poultry.

The program will cover information necessary to start and manage a small-scale backyard egg production.

Speakers will include Craig Coufal, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension poultry specialist, College Station, and Martin Ficken, Ph.D., Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory poultry veterinarian, Gonzalez.

Topics and speakers are as follows: May 18 – Getting your flock started, Coufal; May 19 – Healthy management practices for your flock, Coufal and Ficken; May 20 – How to increase egg production, Coufal; and May 21 – Egg handling, food safety and egg sales, Coufal.

Coufal said their focus on producing eggs at-home is due to the increased popularity of backyard chicken flocks. Participants will be able to submit questions online for the speakers to answer.

“We just want everyone to have the best information possible so they can avoid challenges down the road,” he said. “Egg production is not complex, but there’s more likelihood of sustained success and avoiding possible pitfalls by having a good plan and starting off on the right track.”

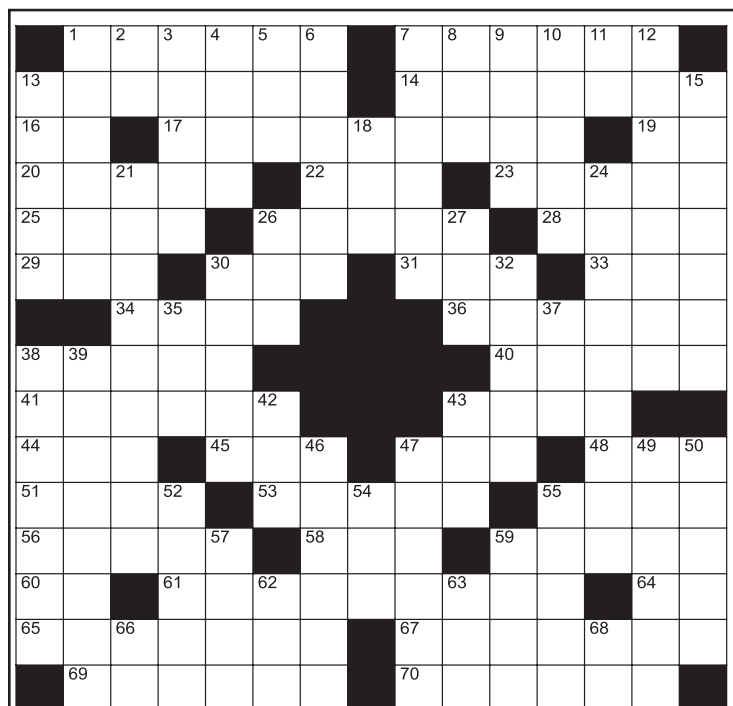
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Seed part
7. Productive
13. Popular cocktail
14. Sausages
16. Western state
17. Natural desires
19. Defunct British automaker
20. Early media tycoon
22. Move from one place to another
23. Letter of Semitic abjads
25. Female birds
26. Umbrella brand
28. Delinquent
29. Tax collector
30. Cooking tool
31. Female sibling
33. Flat-topped hat
34. Angolan currency
36. Boardwalk candy
38. European nation
40. Leaflike part of palm
41. Removed with solvent
43. Uttered words
44. Unfashionable person
45. Disappointed
47. Controversial device in soccer
48. 007's creator
51. Pain
53. UCLA mascot
55. Razorbill
56. Turkic people
58. Mimic
59. Crime involving fire
60. And, Latin
61. A saponaceous quality
64. Dorm employee
65. Estate lands
67. States
69. They slow you down
70. Gets up

CLUES DOWN

1. One or the other
2. Doc
3. Songs have them
4. Record of payment (abbr.)
5. Speak endlessly
6. American state
7. Digressions
8. Tell on
9. Brews
10. Belongs to the bottom layer
11. American cigarette brand
12. Legal voting age in US
13. Dish
15. Expelled air from the nose
18. Body art
21. Fierce, destructive act
24. Bear bright yellow flowers
26. Japanese delicacy
27. Get off your feet
30. Male organs in some invertebrates
32. __, so good
35. Cleverness
37. Protest yacht
38. Anesthetized
39. Mollified
42. Touch lightly
43. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
46. Some windows have them
47. National capital
49. Squirrels like them
50. Grandmothers
52. Painter's tool
54. News organization
55. __ and thesis: musical term
57. Famed activist Parks
59. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
62. A number or amount not specified
63. Body part
66. Of I
68. Old English

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Birding great activity during COVID-19

If you're looking for a new hobby while social distancing, or have always been curious about what that small-red-breasted-bird-with-a-short-orange-beak-and-brown-tail in your oak tree is, now may be the time to try your eye at birding.

Birding is a hobby that requires minimal equipment or monetary investment to get started. It is also a great activity for kids and a way to engage the entire family in a group activity.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's Birding with Extension program and Facebook page can help you start identifying your neighborhood's feathered residents.

"The goal of Birding with Extension is to connect people to the land through the experience of birding, thus fostering an interest in conservation of natural resources," said Maureen Frank, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension wildlife specialist, Uvalde. "Our programs include learning to bird for both youth and adults, backyard bird habitat management and birding experiences."

Frank and Emily Grant, AgriLife Extension agriculture and natural resources agent for Val Verde County, are holding weekly birding talks on the Birding with Extension Facebook page. Their existing video collection, Backyard Birding 101, can also be found there.

You can start to bird by dedicating 5-15 minutes a day. Go outside in your own backyard if possible, or simply look through a window.

"If you already have binoculars at home, that makes birding easier to do if you're stuck at home," explained Grant. "But even without binoculars, most Texans can easily spot several species in their own yard or around their neighborhood."

Frank said a field guide is a

great resource to start with. "I like to have a physical field guide in my hand, which you can order online or download to a tablet or smart phone."

A traditional field guide will often show and explain more variations amongst the same type of birds, as well as differences between males and females, than just looking at pictures, she said.

If you think in descriptive terms about birds, like if something has a thick bill with a squat body, that will help you use a guide to then narrow down what you saw, Frank explained.

Where, when and what the bird was doing may also be helpful in identifying it, said Frank.

"A bird's shape, size and color can all help you determine what you are looking at," Grant said. "If you can't snap a picture of the bird, try keeping a notebook handy and jot down descriptive terms that will aid you in trying to determine the type later on."

Frank encouraged new birders to take advantage of an array of available birding apps for smartphones, such as eBird, Merlin Bird ID and the Audubon Bird Guide.

"There are several free ones, and some can even help you search by using a photo of a bird you've taken," Frank said.

If you live in a more urban area or don't have access to the outdoors, Grant suggested websites with live bird camera feeds as an alternative.

A good way to train your eye to be an effective birder is to look at a picture of a bird and then try to describe it.

"This works especially well with children," Frank said. "Look up a bird online like the painted bunting and then ask your kids to describe it to you or draw it. Talk about what colors they see and where, how long

its legs are, how long its tail is, what shape its beak is."

Another fun family birding activity is to play the Bird Bingo game developed by Birding with Extension and Texas Master Naturalists.

"Whether you compete against each other or work as a team, this is a fun way to start birding and to make kids aware of some of the more common birds that are around us here in Texas," Grant said.

More birds will be attracted to your backyard if you provide an easy food source to them.

AgriLife Extension has an online video to help create a bird feeder from commonly recycled household items.

The Junior Master Gardeners program also has an easy online guide to create a pine cone and peanut butter bird feeder, although note that peanut butter and suet feeders should not be used during warm weather.

A birdhouse and birdbath are two additional items you can easily create at home to attract birds to an area.

Birding with Extension's marquee event, Birding the Border, was canceled this year due to COVID-19, but the scheduled keynote speakers will be offering their expertise in an online webinar April 16-17. Registration is \$10, and the money will benefit youth birding projects.

"We have programs for beginners and birders of all abilities led by professional guides throughout the year," said Frank. "Even after just watching us on Facebook or attending the online seminar, beginners would be ready to join us in person in Del Rio for Birding the Border in 2021. Our guides are great at answering questions and giving those new to birding guidance out in the field."

The newest actor for 2020
Introducing Murder Hornets

You've probably heard of the "murder hornet," or Asian giant hornet, by now. It's the world's largest hornet. Native to Asia, it was sighted for the first time in Washington state and Canada in late 2019. Keeping these insects out of Texas is important because they are formidable predators of honey bees, which are crucial for crop pollination.

The main problem caused by this hornet, Vespa mandarinia, is that it uses honey bees as a principal food source. This level of predation could decimate Texas honey bee populations. If our bee populations decreased, crop yields would greatly suffer, as would honey production.

It's such a potentially big problem that Gov. Greg Abbott requested a task force be mobilized to prepare Texas against the Asian giant hornet's arrival. The team of Texas A&M AgriLife experts aims to help protect Texans, crops and honey.

Asian giant hornets are really big

The Asian giant hornet is native to many areas from Japan and South Korea to India and Pakistan. Up to 2 inches long, these insects are about a one-half inch larger than the cicada killer wasps common in Texas. A bee species that co-evolved with these hornets has a coordinated defense strategy. However, the European honey bees prevalent in Texas have no natural defense against this predator.

Like many other hornets and yellowjackets, Asian giant hornets tend to nest underground. And, like other similar species, Asian giant hornets are fiercely protective of their nests.

Their painful stings are no more toxic than those of other stinging insects, but they can cause fatal allergic reactions in people already sensitive to bee stings. A standard beekeeper's uniform does not protect against the hornets' stings.

"A colony of honey bees with 30,000 to 50,000 workers can be killed by 15 to 30 hornets in a matter of hours," said David Ragsdale, Ph.D., chief scientific officer and associate director of Texas A&M AgriLife Research, and professor in the Department of Entomology. "The hornets then occupy the hive and kill the developing larvae, using this protein-rich meal to feed their young."

How did the hornet get to the US?



How the pests ended up in Canada and Washington is not yet clear. Most hornets are workers, which cannot reproduce or start a new hive.

Experts believe that ship or airplane cargo may have inadvertently transported a fertilized female hornet. That's why a key part of the Texas response is securing state entry points for cargo transportation.

The strategy includes preparing Customs and Border Protection staff to detect the Asian giant hornet. The work will also involve increasing surveillance of incoming containers and evaluating opportunities for specialized detection. One possibility is that scent-trained dogs might be able to find these hornets hidden in cargo.

How can Asian giant hornet be controlled?

Pest control for Asian giant hornets relies on understanding their life cycle. The hornets' mating season is in the fall, the time period of greatest concern for the hornets' spread. After mating, the newly mated queens find places to overwinter while the rest of the nest dies out.

Hornet queens re-emerge in the spring to raise their young. Once the queen has reared a few dozen workers, she no longer leaves the nest. To control the insects at that point, each underground nest must be located and the queen killed.

The Washington State Department of Agriculture, WSDA, has created a systematic trapping program to determine whether any of the hornets overwintered in the region where they were found last fall. If WSDA confirms the hornets are overwintering, the department's next step will be to locate and eradicate all of these wasps' nests before mating season in late summer. Asian giant hornets not in Texas yet

Entomologists say that they have not seen Asian giant hornets in Texas. If you are curious about an insect on your property, you can send a photo of the insect to Texas A&M entomologists for identification. Or, you can also follow instructions to send an insect specimen to Texas A&M for identification.

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

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US 287 E • 874-3156 • REV. ROB SEALE
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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.
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COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
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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
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SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
420 S. JEFFERSON • 874-3667 • PASTOR BUDDY PAYNE
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• YOUTH PROGRAM: 6:00 P.M.

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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.

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ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
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FR. AROKIA 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
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SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 6 P.M.

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3RD SUNDAYS - DON MARTIN • 4TH SUNDAYS - DON
WATSON
SERVICES: 10:30 A.M.

MARTIN

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

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Texas pandemic ag losses could hit \$8B

The Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University has released a new report showing the economic impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on production agriculture in Texas.

Since the beginning of the pandemic many agricultural commodity prices have dropped 20% to 30%, according to the report. Many Texas producers have already experienced losses, and if prices do not recover soon for livestock and prior to row crop harvest, they could easily see losses in the range of \$6 billion to \$8 billion – down 27% to 36% overall.

“Our goal in producing the COVID-19 Economic Impact to Texas Agriculture report was to frame agricultural issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as provide insights and discussion on how various production agriculture commodities in Texas were affected,” said Joe Outlaw, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agricultural economist and co-director of the center.

Outlaw said Texas is an important agricultural state, ranking only behind California and Iowa in terms of cash receipts from the sales of agricultural commodities.

“In 2018, those agricultural receipts totaled about \$22 billion,” he said.

Some of the factors affecting agricultural production include supply chain issues, labor shortages and instability in agricultural commodities markets, as well as the general change in where people are now spending their food dollars due to COVID-19-related restrictions.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on the food production and supply and has also exposed many longtime vulnerabilities across the food and agriculture value chain,” said Patrick J. Stover, Ph.D., vice chancellor of Texas A&M AgriLife, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and director of Texas A&M AgriLife Research, College Station. “This has had a profound and far-reaching impact on those front-line farmers we depend on to meet our needs for food and nutrition.”

Shutting down schools and restaurants to dine-in customers has led to a dramatic shift in food purchasing and has affected agricultural supply chains for many food products, the report noted. Thus far, the effects have been particularly troublesome for producers of livestock, fruits and vegetables and dairy products, including milk. It also noted

many retail clothing outlets around the world have been closed as well, and that has dramatically decreased the demand for cotton, Texas’ largest cash crop.

The Texas agricultural commodities most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic thus far are weaned calves, stocker calves, feeder steers, sheep and goats, fruits and vegetables, and dairy products.

“These commodities are currently selling at substantially lower prices than prior to the pandemic,” Outlaw said. “Agricultural producers marketing products now are losing money, and if this pandemic persists, there may be even greater losses than what we have currently estimated.”

Row Crops

The report notes row crops such as corn, cotton, wheat, sorghum, rice and soybeans have been especially hard hit.

“Farmers are going into this crop year with crop insurance price elections that are lower than in the past two years,” Outlaw said. “This means farmers could lose 20% to 30% of their crops before getting any benefit from insurance.”

He said row crops in Texas are either planted and growing in most regions or are about to be planted in the northern part of the state.

“The only losses row crop farmers would currently be incurring are from the sale of 2019 crops from storage,” Outlaw said. “And while Texas producers typically do not store commodities this far into the marketing year, many continue to work through carryover stocks from the 2019 crop year.”

He said while all row crops are affected, wheat and rice may fare somewhat better due to their being consumer staples.

Outlaw said risk management strategies, crop insurance and farm bill program provisions will play a key role in providing relief for depressed prices, but absent additional aid, the financial stress producers were already facing is likely to grow significantly.

“Row crop producers are now being asked to take on a lot of risk to grow crops that very well may lose them a lot of money,” Outlaw said.

For Texas row crop agriculture, the most immediate and visible impact is on commodity market prices, he said, but effects can reasonably be expected to ripple through the industry supply chain from production inputs to retail consumers.

Livestock

Many of the losses related to livestock are a result of shifting demand from food consumed away from home to food consumed at home. Processing plant closures also threaten to drive prices paid to producers even lower in the wake of reduced demand. At the same time, retail prices are increasing due to reduced supply.

“While a lot of losses have yet to materialize, for those producers marketing now, including dairy products, which are marketed daily, the pain is immediate,” Outlaw said.

Texas is the fifth-largest milk-producing state in the U.S., and the shift from restaurants to grocery store sales has hit the industry especially hard. A large share of milk products, including cheese and butter and other products, goes through food service outlets and with the loss of those outlets, milk processing quickly found themselves with more milk than they could sell as finished products.

On the livestock side, the report notes both futures and cash prices of stocker cattle, feeder cattle and calf prices have dropped dramatically as the societal impacts of COVID-19 took hold.

“Stocker cattle producers are facing significant price losses as calves purchased in the autumn, long before the COVID-19 pandemic, have been selling at much lower prices. The impacts of COVID-19 on individual ranches will depend on the production system but will eventually accrue to all cow-calf producers.”

The COVID-19 pandemic has created substantial economic losses across all livestock agriculture, Outlaw said. This impact will be felt over the course of the year as sales occur, production responds to financial losses and more long-term economic effects become apparent.

Similar to livestock, many of the losses in specialty crops—primarily composed of fruits and vegetables—are related to shifting demand.

“The specialty crop sector has been one of the hardest-hit sectors of agriculture due to the COVID-19 pandemic,” Outlaw said. “Most fruits and vegetables are consumed fresh and are highly perishable, and as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the closure of most restaurants and schools has caused a major reduction in demand.”

He noted while the reduction in demand in some areas has translated to higher demand at grocery stores, different packaging requirements,

changes in volume demanded, altered consumer purchasing habits and overall uncertainty are all having a negative effect on produce prices—mainly at the farmgate level.

If COVID-19 issues persist, Texas fruit and vegetable producers could be left without outlets for their highly perishable products and ultimately could lose over \$397 million.

Financial relief for farmers and ranchers

The report also notes the federal government has responded with a series of three stimulus or relief acts agricultural producers may benefit from – the most useful likely being the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act. Along with authorizing additional funding for the U.S. Department of Agriculture so it may provide direct assistance to agricultural producers, the CARES Act established the Payroll Protection Program.

A detailed description of all three legislative responses can be found in the “Initial COVID-19 Response for Agricultural Producers” publication recently issued by the Agricultural and Food Policy Center.

“While farmers and ranchers are grateful for the assistance the federal government is providing, many of their financial difficulties are immediate, and if not quickly addressed could have long-term negative effects on much of the state’s agricultural production,” Outlaw said.

How Texas A&M AgriLife is helping

Along with providing useful information on federal relief provisions from which agricultural producers may benefit, Texas A&M AgriLife has provided online trainings for its statewide network of agents and for government officials and others involved in disaster response.

Collaborating with Gov. Greg Abbott, AgriLife is working to help local officials understand, acquire and administer federal assistance available to help their communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly through the CARES Act.

Additionally, AgriLife Extension presented a webinar called “On the Line with AgriLife: Paycheck Protection Program and CARES Act Information for Agricultural Entities and Small Businesses” to inform and assist those wanting to know about federal relief for COVID-19.

be eligible if the producer can document the loss was due to a qualifying disaster.”

The AgriLife Today story “Disaster relief authorized for crop producers affected by extreme drought” has a more complete explanation of the WHIP+ program and the counties affected by extreme drought in 2018 and 2019.


“It’s somewhat ironic that relief funds tied to one crisis could be used by producers to help them get through a different one, but that’s the reality of it,” Fischer said. “By the nature of their work, farmers are used to uncertainty and must adjust and adapt to difficulties. We hope for some Texas farmers, this will provide a means for them to adjust and get some needed funds during another challenging time.”

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WHIP+ relief could help producers during pandemic

The Agricultural and Food Policy Center, or AFPC, at Texas A&M University is reminding producers they may find some relief from current economic pressures by taking advantage of a US Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency program designed to provide relief from 2018 and 2019 natural disaster losses.

“These days, many producers are under even more economic pressure than usual,” said Bart Fischer, Ph.D., co-director of the center. “They are looking for ways to make upcoming crops profitable in the midst of persistently low prices. At the same time, they are dealing with the financial ramifications of the COVID-19 crisis.”

USDA recently sent out a news release reminding producers they

might be able to find some financial relief for 2018 and 2019 losses through the Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program Plus, or WHIP+, program, which could help them get through their current economic crunch.

The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020, which provided an additional \$1.5 billion for the continuation of disaster assistance, added excessive moisture and D3 or worse drought as qualifying losses for WHIP+ assistance. It also expanded WHIP+ to include assistance for crop quality losses.

“WHIP+ assistance, while it applies to covering natural disaster-related losses from the last two years, could be very timely for those producers who qualify and are in need of some financial relief at this

time,” Fischer said.

Starting March 23, producers who suffered losses from drought or excessive moisture in either or both of those years could apply for WHIP+ assistance at their local Farm Service Agency office.

“Texas producers are eligible if any area of the county in which their loss occurred was rated D3 or higher on the US Drought Monitor during calendar years 2018 or 2019,” he said.

However, Fischer noted, there are a few caveats related to WHIP+.

“One is that livestock losses are not covered by WHIP+ since they are covered by other disaster recovery programs,” he said. “Another is that if losses happened in a county not designated through the program as a primary county, they may still

be eligible if the producer can document the loss was due to a qualifying disaster.”

The AgriLife Today story “Disaster relief authorized for crop producers affected by extreme drought” has a more complete explanation of the WHIP+ program and the counties affected by extreme drought in 2018 and 2019.

“It’s somewhat ironic that relief funds tied to one crisis could be used by producers to help them get through a different one, but that’s the reality of it,” Fischer said. “By the nature of their work, farmers are used to uncertainty and must adjust and adapt to difficulties. We hope for some Texas farmers, this will provide a means for them to adjust and get some needed funds during another challenging time.”



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p.m. Practice: Fourth Mondays,
7 p.m. Roger Estlack - W.M., Grett
Betts - Secretary, 2 B 1, ASK 1



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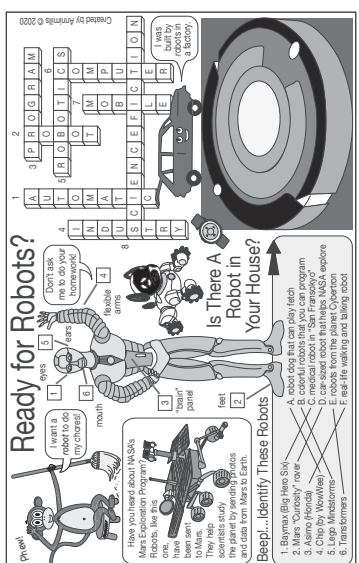
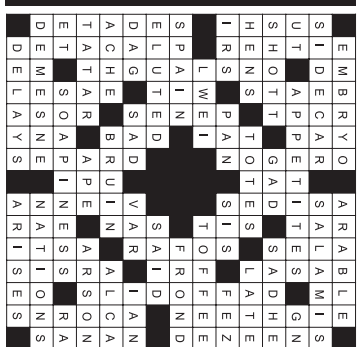


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a) Prior Performance and Reputation (especially among fellow educational institutions)
b) Warranties and Exchange Policies
c) The total long term cost to the College District to acquire the goods and services
d) Compliance with specifications
e) Billing and Shipping Accuracy
f) Delivery and Installation Schedules (Complete units must be shipped.)
g) Proposed purchase price and quality of vendor's proposed goods and services
h) The extent to which the goods and services meet the needs of the College
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k) The vendor's past relationship with the College District
Clarendon College reserves the right to negotiate with any/all proposers at any time, before or after submission of a proposal. Clarendon College reserves the right to reject any or all bids/proposals and to waive technicalities.
For questions regarding this request, contact Mark James, Director of Athletics, Clarendon College (806) 874-4833 or mark.james@clarendoncollege.edu
Proposals should address all of the questions/issues that have been shown in this request. Failure to adhere to these procedures or to obtain approval for deviations may result in an incomplete evaluation of your proposal.
Estimated date of award: June 23, 2020.

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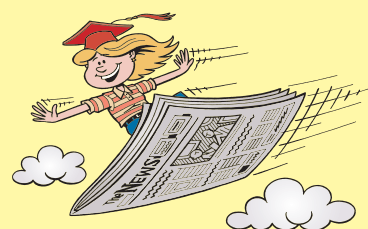
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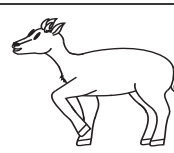


I'd like a robot that looks like me!

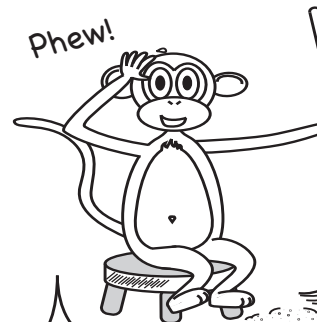


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I'd like a robot that bakes desserts!

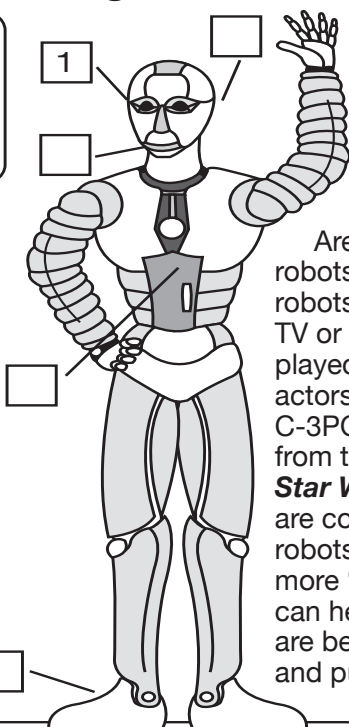


Phew!



I'm bored, and tired of doing the same chores over and over. I want a...Robot...so I can tell it what to do!

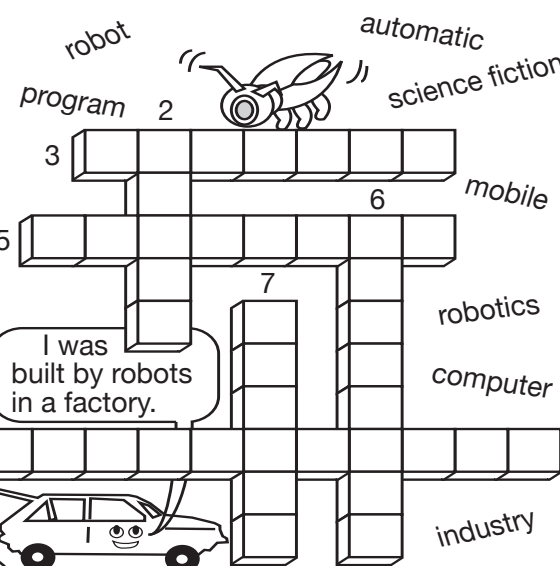
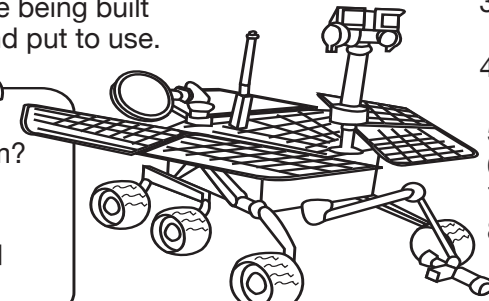
Ready for Robots?



Don't ask me to do your homework!

Are **you** ready for robots? A lot of the robots we see on TV or in movies are played by human actors. Remember C-3PO and R2-D2 from the movie **Star Wars**? Many are computer generated robots. But, more and more "real" robots – that can help humans directly – are being built and put to use.

Have you heard about NASA's Mars Exploration Program? Robots, like this one, are sent to Mars. They help scientists study the planet by sending photos and data from Mars to Earth.



Fill in this puzzle to show how much you know about robots:

1. working, moving or acting by itself
2. machine that automatically does a job
3. set of directions put into the computer to tell the robot what to do
4. business, work that produces things we use, such as cars and bicycles
5. field of work designing, building robots
6. the "brain" of the robot
7. able to move from place to place
8. fun stories that show how a real or imagined scientific thing such as a robot might change our way of life

Can You Figure it Out?

Check out my robot! Can you fill in the number where he has:

1. cameras for eyes
2. feet for moving from place to place
3. computer "brain" area; panel for repairs
4. bendable, flexible arms to reach and stretch
5. microphones for ears to pick up sound
6. a loudspeaker for "talking"

Goodnight largely forgotten in native Illinois

By Tom Emery

Of all the Western cattle barons, Charles Goodnight may be the greatest. A towering figure in the cattle drives of the nineteenth-century, he remains revered in Texas history, nearly a century after his death.

But back where he was born, in Macoupin County, Ill., he is barely remembered.

“I know a little about him,” said Dan Hauter, the President of the Macoupin County Historical Society, “but not much. Our members know who Charlie Goodnight is, and we get some questions on him every so often. But we really don’t hear much about him.”

Indeed, few in Macoupin County have even heard of Goodnight, a stark contrast to his legendary status in Western history. In 1958, he was one of the original five inductees into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

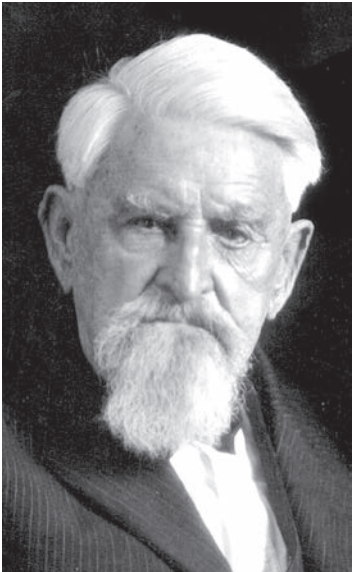
Goodnight was born south of Bunker Hill, Ill., near the Macoupin-Madison County line (45 miles northeast of St. Louis) on March 5, 1836 and was around five years old when his father, Charles Sr., died of pneumonia. The elder Goodnight is buried nearby, in an obscure rural cemetery.

“There’s an iron fence around that cemetery,” said Rick Davis, a history buff and amateur researcher who grew up a mile and a half from the site. “But no one pays much attention to it.”

Soon after, Goodnight’s mother, Charlotte, married a neighboring farmer named Hiram Daugherty, who moved the family to Texas in 1845. The 800-mile trip brought the family to Milam County, near Nashville-on-the-Brazos. For much of the trip, young Charles rode bareback on Blaze, a white-faced mare.

“The whole family left Macoupin County to go to Texas,” said Davis, now a news director for radio station WSMI in central Illinois. “There may have been some people in Montgomery County (adjacent to Macoupin) who were also named Goodnight. But there really wasn’t anyone left behind, which may have been part of the reason Goodnight has been so forgotten here.”

Charlotte left Hiram soon after arriving in Texas “with good reason,” as Charles later wrote, though the



Charles Goodnight

exact cause is unclear. She married again in 1853, to Rev. Adam Sheek.

Goodnight’s life in Texas remains the stuff of legend. He served as a scout for the Texas Rangers during the Civil War and became a cattleman afterward. By 1866, he had formed a partnership with Oliver Loving and drove big herds up a trail they laid out from Fort Belknap, Tex. to Fort Sumner in the New Mexico Territory. The route was later named the Goodnight-Loving Trail.

Loving died in an Indian attack in 1867. Both men were portrayed in the hit novel, and miniseries, Lonesome Dove.

Goodnight continued along the trail, driving 8,000 to 10,000 head per year for nine years, and later worked with John Chisum, whose name also in on another legendary cattle trail.

After a stint in Colorado, Goodnight came back to Texas in October 1876. The next year, he established an enormous ranch with J.A. Adair, a Scotch-Irish businessman, which eventually grew to over 1.3 million acres with 100,000 head.

Goodnight was on the cutting edge of technology, and explored artificial watering facilities, permanent ranges, and various forms of breed improvement. He is believed to be the first rancher in the Panhandle to build fences with barbed wire.

Most credit Goodnight with the introduction of Hereford bulls as well as the chuck wagon, a staple on the cattle drives in Western lore.

A somewhat eccentric character, Goodnight did not tolerate drink-

ing, gambling, fighting, or animal abuse on his cattle drives. The massive drives were usually led by his trusty steer, “Old Blue,” who often rode back to Texas in a private rail car.

Despite his earlier days of fighting American Indians, he later supported their causes. One biographer wrote that Goodnight “could cuss more eloquently than any man he had ever heard.”

Goodnight’s wife of nearly fifty-six years, Molly, died in 1926, and he remarried the next year to Corinne, a 26-year-old nurse and telegraph operator from Montana who had the same last name, Goodnight. The ceremony took place on his 91st birthday in 1927.

Described by one modern account as a “living frontier legend,” Goodnight was sought after by Western scholars in his last years. In July 1929, he finally joined a church, though he had helped establish several houses of worship in the Panhandle over the years.

He died of a heart attack at his winter home in Arizona on Dec. 12, 1929.

In the nine decades since his death, Goodnight remains a favorite subject of Western historians. Various streets and roads, as well as a town, have been named in his honor in the Texas Panhandle, where visitors can also take in the Charles Goodnight Memorial Trail and some of his restored home sites.

Back in Macoupin County, there are no markers to Goodnight, and most county history sources do not mention him. Davis is one of the handful in the area who has researched Goodnight’s early life, and is surprised that others haven’t.

“I think it’s just one of those things,” he remarked. “Goodnight went to Texas and became famous, but no one really picked up on it here.

“There have been a few people who have looked into him around here, but most people in Macoupin County don’t have any idea who he is,” continued Davis. “It’s a shame, because Charles Goodnight was a really fascinating guy.”

Tom Emery is a freelance writer and historical researcher from Carlinville, Ill. He may be reached at 217-710-8392 or ilcivilwar@yahoo.com.

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Extension: Haynes helping to answer CARES questions

Continued from page one.

and that now AgriLife was beginning to focus on the details of the act. Haynes was scheduled Monday to be trained on the parts of the act that would affect ag producers. He said the act is a something that won’t be understood overnight and that more trainings would be coming in the future.

“I want to you to feel comfortable, if you have questions, to contact me as a liaison,” Haynes told county officials. “We have a team at Texas A&M that will get us answers. I probably won’t know the answer, but our team will get answers within 72 hours.”

Haynes encouraged local officials to sign up for updates and online educational resources. He also said that in addition to help for local governments and ag producers, there are resources in the act that help small businesses as well.

For more information about the Extension service’s CARES Act resources, contact the extension office at 874-2141.

In other matters before the commissioners court Monday, the county approved purchasing a new motor grader for Precinct 3 at a cost of \$307,318 to be financed over five years; took no action on purchasing a new lawnmower for the courthouse lawn; approved 14 tax deeds for properties at Howardwick; extended for 90 days the disaster declaration related to the COVID-19 outbreak; tour the former Hall Bookkeeping office and discussed possible renovations to use the building for the adult probation office; and directed the county attorney to draft a policy for landowners who want to work on county roads.

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