



# THE CLARENDON Enterprise

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THE CLARENDON NEWS & THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

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## THIS WEEK

- 2 Texans should defend free speech from a bad bill in the Legislature.
- 3 Donley County 4-H teams do well at the district contest.
- 6 The Broncos beat Wellington, 11-2.
- 8 And Clarendon city officials attend a quarterly TML meeting.

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

## Bond drops county suit

Constable Randy Bond's legal action against the Donley County Commissioners' Court ended abruptly last week.

Bond's attorney, Vincent E. Nowak, filed a Notice of Nonsuit on Friday bringing a close to the cause less than a month after it was filed, according to attorney Landon Lambert.

"Constable Bond's decision to dismiss his case was a wise one in light of the law," Lambert said. "The Donley County Commissioners Court, by and through its members, looks forward to attempting to work through these issues without the need for further litigation."

Lambert serves as the Donley County Attorney but was hired by the county in a personal capacity to represent the commissioners' court in this suit with another elected official.

Bond, who serves Precincts 3&4, was seeking a "reasonable salary" for his office. According to the original suit, Bond's predecessor earned "roughly \$22,000" but the latest budget puts that salary at "roughly \$2,000."

The position became vacant when former constable Doug Wright resigned in January 2021. Commissioners took no action to fill the vacancy, and Bond ran for the office and was elected in November 2022. He then took the oath of office in January to fill the remaining two years of Wright's term.

## Baseball sign-ups to be this week

The Clarendon Baseball Association will hold sign-ups for T-ball and coach pitch this Wednesday & Thursday, April 26 and April 27, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Bronco Gym.

T-ball players must be ages 5 (must be 5 by May 1) and 6 and coach pitch players must be ages 7 and 8.

## Future Kindergarten kids can visit school

Clarendon Elementary will be holding Future Kindergarten Visitation on Thursday, May 11th, from 10-11:30 a.m. Future students will visit the classroom and be served a free lunch. If you know of a child who will be 5 by September 1, 2023, please call the Elementary Office (806-310-7760) with their name, phone number, and mailing address.

## Christ's Kids taking donations for meals

The Christ's Kids Ministry is accepting donations to help fund its summer meal program, which provides lunches for local kids five days a week. Those interested in helping with this expense can call Ted Shaller at 806-277-0562.



## District Champions

The Clarendon Lady Broncos secured their first softball district championship trophy in 13 years after they defeated Sanford-Fritch last week. The Ladies have a bye in the first round of playoffs. When the playoff game is scheduled, that information will be posted on ClarendonLive.com and Facebook.com/TheEnterprise

COURTESY PHOTO / ADELITA ELAM

## Early voting underway in 3 elections

Early voting began April 24 and will continue through Tuesday, May 2, for the cities of Clarendon and Hedley and for Clarendon CISD.

CCISD voters will select two school board members from three candidates - Mike Word and Ginnie Siefkas and incumbent Chrise Tucek.

Clarendon will vote on reauthorizing the one-quarter cent sales tax for street maintenance, which raises about \$60,000 per year for streets but must be renewed periodically by voters. The ballot also includes the unopposed candidacies of Mayor Jacob Fangman and Aldermen Terri Floyd and Eulaine McIntosh.

Hedley has six candidates for three positions on the city council - incumbents Trisha Chambless, Alicia Hanes, and Jennifer Floyd and challengers Christine Coyle, Calvin Holland, and Tanya White Gibson

Polling for the City of Clarendon and CCISD is in the Donley County Courthouse Annex from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Hedley voters cast ballots at Hedley City Hall from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Election Day will be May 6.

## Preserving a Legacy Pratt continues tradition of service at local clinic

By Roger Estlack, Clarendon Enterprise

Dr. Dustin Pratt's passion for rural medicine and his entrepreneurial spirit led him to purchase the Clarendon Family Medical Center, and now six months into his ownership, he's working hard to continue the legacy of the clinic.

"Our first goal is to continue Dr. John Howard's services to the community in the best way we can and, of course, to make a profit," Pratt said. "But most of all we're here to serve."

Pratt didn't set out to own a rural clinic, but as an employee with the Childress Regional Medical Center, he was a liaison to the Childress County Hospital District Board when Dr. Howard approached them last year about possibly buying his clinic.

After 40 years of practicing medicine and 24 years operating the clinic here, Howard was looking for a retirement strategy that would ensure the continuation of the Clarendon Family Medical Center.

Ultimately, the Childress board decided that while owning the Clarendon clinic might be a good business move, it wasn't consistent with the purpose of that county's hospital district.

"It wasn't what they were called to do or their mission," Pratt said, "but it planted a seed, and eventually I reached out to Dr.

Howard. It was a great opportunity, and I understood the plea that Dr. Howard was making. It was the perfect storm that the good Lord put together."

Dustin Pratt is an Abilene native whose family settled there after his grandfather's service in World War II. He attended Abilene Christian University and then went to medical school at Texas Tech University. He spent a decade in Lubbock and did his residency there, but then a rural health rotation in Childress changed everything.

"I fell in love with it there," he said. "It met my lifestyle and my hobbies, and so Childress bought out my contract with Covenant [Hospital in Lubbock] in 2008. Fifteen years into my practice, I loved what I was doing, but I yearned for more."

It was that entrepreneurial nagging at him. Pratt has business interests outside of medicine, but he also had an interest in the business side of medicine. That wasn't an option in Childress. The opportunity Dr. Howard presented was the perfect fit. Moreover, Pratt said he rural medicine is not just a career; it's his ministry.

"Any job can be your ministry," Pratt said. "This feels like a calling to me."

Keeping the Clarendon clinic open and available to serve the



A team committed to rural health - Dr. Dustin Pratt stands with Devah Pittman and Kathryn Broussard at the Clarendon Family Medical Center.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO / ROGER ESTLACK

needs of Donley County and the surrounding area is the utmost concern.

"I understand the clinic's place, and I understand people's desire not to have to go to the city to see a doctor," Pratt said. "I get it. We're all West Texas people, and I'm a small-town guy."

Pratt will continue to live in Childress with his family. He and his wife, Eileen, were high school sweethearts, and she is a nurse for Childress Home Health. Together they have three children - Darren, 18; Dylan, 16; and Emarie, 4.

Pratt is still working on finding the balance between his Childress duties and his new role as the owner and medical supervisor of the clinic here. He's grateful for the local

staff and especially for physician's assistant Devah Pittman and nurse practitioner Kathryn Broussard.

"They are so good," he said, "and we want to continue to be competitive to keep them here. They are both happy here."

Pratt has also hired another nurse practitioner, Peter Jones, who has worked in Childress for about 20 years. Jones is working on Mondays in Clarendon and will continue to work evenings in Childress.

Pratt is also looking for technological improvements that will help improve not only the business operations of the clinic but also the care patients receive.

Adopting electronic medical records (EMR), for example, is improving communications with

doctors in cities, making billing more efficient, and opening extra Medicare options to seniors with more than one medical condition. It also speeds referrals, helps keep track of medicines and possible interactions and side effects, and improves placing prescriptions.

"Mike's Pharmacy is set up to receive it, and it takes the bad handwriting out of the equation," Pratt said.

Pratt looks forward to many years of serving the Clarendon community and being part of activities here.

"I've enjoyed my time here," Pratt said. "I have felt very welcome. It's a great community, and it's great to have community support."

## CC rodeo advances to NFR again

The Clarendon College Men's rodeo team emerged as the second-place team in the Southwest Region by a mere 36.67 points once the dust had settled this past weekend in Stephenville's Lone Star Arena after a hard-fought battle.

The top two teams as well as the top three individuals in each event in the final standings will advance on to the College National Finals Rodeo.

The Bulldogs were edged out by Western Texas College and followed by Tarleton State University and Texas Tech University in the third and fourth spots.

In the bareback riding, Sam Petersen won the event by winning first in the long round with an 83.5 ride and third in the short round with his 80-point ride. Weston Patterson placed fifth in the long round with 76 points but drew a rank one in the short round and failed to make the



The CC Men's Rodeo Team is headed to the College NFR.

eight second whistle while Boyce Kraut finished fifth in the average with his 70- and 54-point rides.

Petersen held on to his number one spot in the standings to earn the Southwest Region Bareback Champion title.

Dylan Hancock brought home the Southwest Region Saddle Bronc Champion title while Slade Keith finished the year in third place. Han-

cock won second in the long round with an 80-point ride and was third in both the short round and the average with his 79.5-point ride. Talon Elshere was fourth in the average with his 77 and 78.5 rides while Slade Keith finished fifth in the average with 77.5- and 75-point rides.

Cauy Masters also made it back to the short round with his 76 point

See 'Rodeo' on page 3.



## Statebound

Clarendon High School took 15 students to West Texas A&M University April 21 for UIL Academic Regional competition in ten events and three students advanced. Cate Word, Davin Mays, and Avery Halsey advanced finishing respectively first in Ready Writing, first in Feature Writing, and second in Copy Editing. The State Meet will be May 17-18 in Austin. Toby Leeper finished fourth in Science and is an alternate to State.



Protect free speech:

Don't mess with Texas' anti-SLAPP

By Will Creeley

When it comes to criticizing the powerful or politically connected, the First Amendment protects the little guy. No matter who you are or how much money you have in the bank, you have the right to speak your mind.

But these days, the government isn't the only Goliath, and direct censorship isn't the only way to silence dissent. Over time, the rich and powerful learned a new way to shut up their detractors: forcing them to fight off flimsy lawsuits.

These strategic lawsuits against public participation - SLAPPs, for short - threaten our national commitment to freedom of expression and an informed citizenry.

So in 2011, former Governor Rick Perry signed "anti-SLAPP" legislation, the Texas Citizen Participation Act, into law. It allows Texans named in lawsuits to secure quick dismissals from state courts if the claim against them is based on their exercise of First Amendment rights.

Put simply, the TCPA allows a speaker threatened by a bogus suit to ask the court for a quick reality check: Are the claims against me legitimate, or is the plaintiff just trying to shut me up?

Texas should be proud to be a national leader in protecting the rights of its residents to stand up and speak out. Other states nationwide have looked to the TCPA in passing their own anti-SLAPP laws.

The TCPA arms innocent Texans with the means to fight back by filing an anti-SLAPP motion before spending a fortune on legal fees in pre-trial filings and discovery.

But SB 896 would change that, denying defendants a stay when the court deems their anti-SLAPP motion untimely, frivolous, or subject to an exemption.

Deciding whether an anti-SLAPP motion is "frivolous" or exempted by statute is no cakewalk for judges. It involves close questions in an evolving area of the law.

Add it up, and there's a real chance a trial court's anti-SLAPP denial won't stand up after review.

So requiring a speaker to argue these questions on appeal while simultaneously proceeding with discovery in trial court means they're wasting time and racking up billable hours on two fronts.

This isn't an obscure legal threat. If passed, SB 896's amendment to the TCPA would have real-world consequences for everyday Texans across the political spectrum who dare to criticize the powerful or wealthy.

The First Amendment protects everyone's right to participate in public debates, not just those with money or power. The TCPA bulletproofs the exercise of that right against bad-faith litigation from would-be censors.

Will Creeley is the legal director of the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression.

Mexicans celebrate Cortina as hero

Mexican-born Juan Cortina grew up in the Nueces Strip at a time when the Strip was claimed by both Mexico and the United States. Because of its uncertain political status, this "no-man's land" between the Rio Grande and Nueces River attracted numerous entrepreneurs and scalawags who came to profit from the situation.

Cortina became somewhat of a gang leader, leading raids throughout the area and killing several Anglos in the process. In July 1859, Stillman hired Bob Shears as city marshal with a charge to go out and arrest Cortina and his gang. Prudently waiting for Cortina to come to him, Shears got his opportunity on July 13.

The posse refused to take action, so another posse was recruited under the

sheriff, a man named Brown, who was also a long-time friend of Cortina. Going with this new posse to Cortina's stronghold at Rancho Santa Rita, about seven miles out of Brownsville, Sheriff Brown had to confront Cortina alone as the posse refused to ride onto the property.

Over the next few weeks, men flocked to Cortina by the hundreds. Mexicans, Anglo sympathizers, and adventurers in general joined his growing band, anxious to wreak vengeance on the oppressors of the defenseless Mexican families in the Strip.

The Americans in Brownsville frantically appealed to General Alejandro Carvajal and his Mexican forces across the Rio Grande, and they came to the rescue. Retreating to his Rancho Santa Rita, Cortina successfully fought off an attempt by Texas Rangers to subdue him.



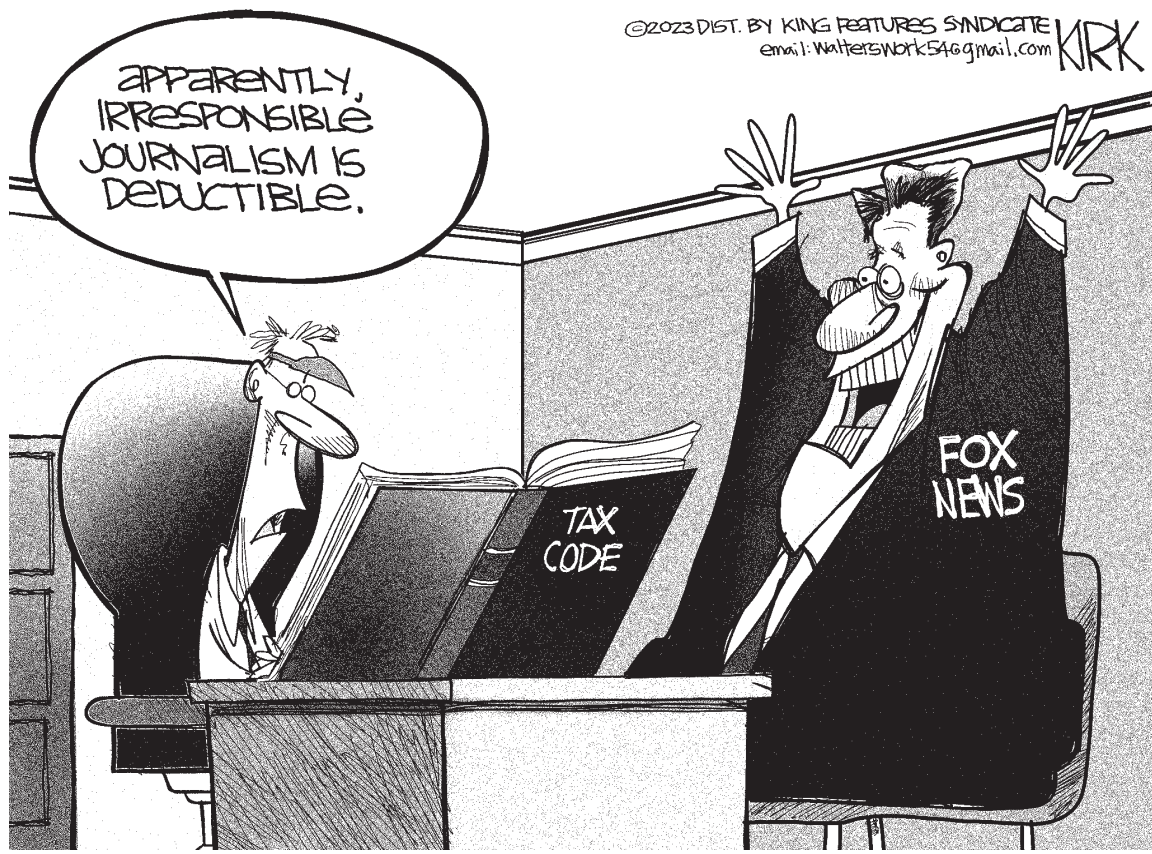
vignettes tales of the old west by george u. hubbard

several Texas towns, and the US Army ordered Brevet-Colonel Robert E. Lee to take command of all these forces. Before Lee could do so, however, his orders were changed and he was sent to Harper's Ferry, in what is now West Virginia, to take command in the John Brown affair.

In a battle with the combined US forces, Cortina and his men were again the victors. Then marching northward, Cortina captured Edinburg and then Rio Grande City on Christmas Eve, 1859. On the following day, Christmas Day, Cortina made the mistake of ordering a fiesta for his men.

Despite being overcome by the Anglos, Cortina remained a hero to the Mexicans throughout the ensuing years. He was elected mayor of Matamoros and then governor of the Mexican state of Tamaulipas.

George U. Hubbard is an author and a former resident of Clarendon.



Man takes up skydiving in his 90s

I'm sure Will Rogers was a friendly guy, even if the quote usually attributed to him has been taken out of context. During an interview, he mentioned prominent men he'd met, all of whom he liked.

His name is Eddie Janek. He is as beloved immensely, this bona fide hero in Galveston, his home for some 80 years. He's observing his 96th birthday come April 28.

I met him a dozen or so years ago, thanks to a mutual friend. Eddie is from a share-cropping family near West, and his upbringing redefines "hardscrabble."

He never met his father, and was reared by his mother and other relatives. He could easily have viewed his first naval vessel as a cruise ship, since he had his own bunk, first toothbrush and "indoor" plumbing.

gathered 100 ears of corn, shucked them, then fed the hogs. "Before he died, I thanked him for that lesson," Eddie said. He also remembers stuffing two chickens into a tow sack, selling them to a West grocer for 15 cents.

He learned life lessons well, always learning and always working. To many, he is "Mr. Galveston." To others, he is "Mr. Baseball," a testimony to his many years spent managing teenage baseball teams.

Smiling, he adds that his jumping partner is "shorter than he is," a claim he can't often make. (Previous jumps have been from 12,000, 14,000 and 16,000



the idle american by don newbury

feet, and if winds permit, this jump will be from 18,000 feet.)...

He has always recognized baseball talent when he sees it. In the early 60s, his team qualified for the state teenage baseball tournament.

Eddie selected a hard-throwing pitcher from Alvin, who had to cancel hours before the first game.

Every bit as memorable when we cruise from Galveston are the short visits with Eddie. His memory amazes, his generosity abounds and his frequent smiles light up his face.

Little wonder that a few years back, Eddie and several other Galveston leaders were honored when the city opened a new baseball complex...

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, writes weekly and speaks to educational, church and business groups.

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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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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions are available for \$40 for zip codes inside Donley County, \$50 elsewhere in Texas, and \$55 out of state.

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.

The Texas Panhandle's First Newspaper

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4-H horse judges at the spring District 1 contest.

COURTESY PHOTO



4-H livestock judges at the spring District 1 contest.

COURTESY PHOTO



Emily McCurdy placed first in Public Speaking in the Intermediate Division and Teagan Chesser placed first in Public Speaking in the Junior Division

COURTESY PHOTO



Gracie Ellis placed first overall in the Senior division of horse judging.



Emma Howard placed first overall in the Intermediate division of horse judging.

## Donley County 4-H members compete at District 1

Donley County 4-H members showcased their talents at the spring District 1 contests last Friday with outstanding results.

In the senior division of horse judging, the team comprising Laney Gates, Brenna Ellis, Maloree Wann, and Bryce Williams secured the first position overall and qualified for the state-level contest.

They also clinched the first position in reasons.

Individually results were: Gracie Ellis 1st Overall, 2nd in Rea-

sons; Brenna Ellis 2nd Overall, 5th Reasons; Maloree Wann 3rd Overall, 4th Reasons; Laney Gates 6th Overall, 1st Reasons; Bryce Williams 7th Overall, 6th Reasons and MaryJo Dushay 10th Overall, 10th Reasons.

In the Intermediate Division, Makynna Williams finished 2nd Overall and 2nd in Reasons.

In the Junior Division, the team was first Overall and first in Reasons. Team members and their individual placings were Emma Howard 1st Overall and 1st Reasons; Teagan

Chesser 2nd Overall, 3rd Reasons and Kassie Askew 3rd Overall, 2nd Reasons.

In Livestock Judging in the Intermediate Division, the team was 6th Overall and 3rd in Reasons.

Team members and their individual placings were Parker Haynes 7th Overall, 13th Reasons; Hudson Howard 13th Overall, 16th Reasons and Ronan Howard 46th Overall, 14th Reasons.

In the Livestock Junior Division, the team was 11th Overall and

5th in Reasons. Team members and individual placings were Hunter Wann 28th Overall, 12th Reasons, Jensyn Lewis 32nd, Jace Conway 43rd and Ainslie Lewis 49th.

In Public Speaking, Teagan Chesser was 1st place in Junior Division; Emily McCurdy was 1st place the Intermediate Division; and Laney Gates participated in the Senior Division.

McCurdy was also 1st place in the Talent Showcase Musical/Instrumental Division.

## WT Launches National Fellowship for Rural Leaders

Scholars from around the country have been selected for the inaugural class of West Texas A&M University's Rural Community Leaders Fellowship.

The RCL Fellowship – a program of the educational leadership doctoral program of WT's Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences—is an opportunity to identify and recognize particularly talented and service-oriented rural leaders after their dedication and effectiveness has been proven in the field.

"We are so fortunate to learn from these proven leaders who bring a wealth of practical experience, real-world insights, and a deep understanding of the complexities of leadership," said Dr. Shanna Peoples, WT's Dr. John G. O'Brien Distinguished Chair in Education and co-creator, with Dr. Brad Johnson, of the RCL Fellowship. "Rural communities offer a rich tapestry of social, economic and cultural diversity that is essential for understanding the complexities of modern society. Research in rural communities can help to address longstanding inequalities and promote cross-sector solutions, making it a crucial area of study for researchers and policy-makers alike."

An appointment gives educators the opportunity to pass on their hard-won wisdom to the next gen-

eration of rural leaders through collaboration with doctoral students and other fellows. This professional partnership will deepen the understanding of the doctoral faculty regarding rural communities, said Johnson, a clinical professor of education.

"Our doctoral students will benefit from the powerful combination of wisdom from our Fellows and cutting-edge research. We believe that this innovative synthesis is the key to unlocking the full potential of the next generation of leaders for our rural communities," Johnson said. "The RCL Fellowship provides a means to pass the lessons learned in the field directly to the next generation of rural leaders."

During their one-year appointment, RCL fellows are connected with the WT educational leadership program in ways that further the effectiveness of future rural leaders through research, education and practice.

They participate in a summit in which they will respond to a national rural research agenda with six focal areas of health and wellness; partnerships and community relationships; spatial and educational equity; teacher and leader preparation, recruitment and retention; college and career pathways; and policy and funding.

The summit will gather and clarify these topics as they apply to

rural regions. This work will culminate in a report that will share the practical strategies, areas of research and implications for practice for implementing effective responses to the most critical needs.

The 2023 summit is set for April 25 and 26 in Harrington Academic Hall WTAMU Amarillo Center, 720 S. Tyler St.

Fellows receive an honorarium, travel expenses to the RCL Summit, recognition in published reports and the University website, and a certificate of acknowledgment.

The inaugural cohort of fellows was selected in March.

Nominees for the next class of fellows are being accepted now. Nominees should have 10 or more years in leadership positions, including five or more years in a single, rural community, and they should be nominated by another rural leader. Rural-serving superintendents and college/university presidents are always eligible, and rural hospital CEOs and heads of rural-focused nonprofit organizations may be included when the research topic might be enhanced by their inclusion.

The inaugural class of fellows include: Dr. Reginald T. Eggleston, superintendent of Geary County Schools Unified School District 475 in Junction City, Kansas; A d a n Estrada, superintendent of Cimarron

Municipal Schools in New Mexico; Dr. Jud Hicks, retired president of Frank Phillips College in Borger; Joy Hofmeister, retired Oklahoma state superintendent of public instruction; Dr. Bill Holda, executive search consultant for Association of Community College Trustees; Dr. Stacy Klippenstein, president of Mojave Community College in Kingman, Arizona; Dr. Tanya Larkin, Region 16 Education Service Center executive director; Dr. Linda Lujan, president emeritus of Lamar Community College in Lamar, Colorado; Dr. Scott R. Mickelsen, owner of New Heights Consulting in Lima, Montana; and Dr. John Skretta, Educational Service Unit 6 administrator in Milford, Nebraska.

WT's fully online Ed.D. degree program was launched in 2018, preparing educational leaders for rural schools and those in higher education and educational organizations.

The Rural Community Leaders Fellowship is one way in which WT excels as a Regional Research University, the primary goal of the University's long-range plan, WT 125: From the Panhandle to the World.

That plan is fueled by the historic, \$125 million One West comprehensive fundraising campaign. To date, the five-year campaign — which publicly launched in September 2021 — has raised more than \$120 million.

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## SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

3		2	4	9	8			
	2				8			5
		8					9	
			5					7
					2	6		9
4					1			
1			5	7				
3	6	7		8				
8	4							

Level: Intermediate

**Here's How It Works:**  
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

1	9	7	2	3	7	6	1	
3	6	5	1	8	4	9	5	3
4	8	1	2	6	5	7	3	4
2	3	4	8	9	1	5	2	3
8	5	3	4	7	2	6	1	9
2	9	1	5	3	6	4	8	7
6	7	8	3	1	5	1	3	4
4	2	9	7	6	8	1	3	5
1	3	5	2	4	9	8	7	6

ANSWER:

## Rodeo:

Continued from page one.

ride but failed to make the eight seconds.

Weston Patterson also qualified for the short round in the steer wrestling, tying for third, fourth and fifth in the long round with a 4.5 second run while placing fifth in the short round and average with a 5.3 second run. Hadley Miller's hazing horse was voted as the Men's Horse of the Year.

Coach Bret Franks would like to thank the Clarendon College administration, faculty, and board as well as the community for their continued support.

"We would not have had the success we've had over the past several years without it," Franks said.

The College NFR will be June 11-17 in Casper, Wyo.



Southwest Region Bareback Champion Sam Peterson.



Southwest Region Saddle Bronco Champion Dylan Hancock with Slade Keith.

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## ¿Qué Pasa?

*Community Calendar*  
**April 28 & 29**  
 John Wick: Chapter 4 • 7:30 p.m. • Mulkey Theater  
**April 30**  
 John Wick: Chapter 4 • 2:00 p.m. • Mulkey Theater  
**April 28**  
 Broncos Maroon v White • 4:00 p.m. • Home  
**May 2**  
 Broncos v Kress • 4:30 p.m. • Away  
**May 18**  
 Donley County Senior Citizens Bingo Night • 5:30 p.m.

## Menus

**Donley County Senior Citizens**  
 Mon: Spaghetti/meatballs, garden salad, garlic toast, sliced peaches, iced tea/2% milk.  
 Tues: Chicken strips, gravy, macaroni & cheese, potato wedges, garden salad, whole wheat roll, sliced peaches, iced tea/2% milk.  
 Wed: Roast, gravy, baked potatoes, spinach, whole wheat roll, banana pudding, iced tea/2% milk.  
 Thurs: BBQ beef on a bun, buttered carrots, black eyed peas, whole wheat roll, iced tea/2% milk.  
 Fri: Sliced ham, buttered carrots, buttered carrots, black eyed peas, whole wheat roll, apple crisp, iced tea/2% milk.

**Hedley Senior Citizens**  
 Mon: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, buttered peas & carrots, chocolate chip cookies, iced tea/2% milk.  
 Tue: Baked parmesan fish, baked beans, buttered carrots, apple crumble, wheat roll, iced tea/2% milk.  
 Wed: Sweet & sour chicken, fried rice, broccoli, almond cookies, wheat roll, iced tea/2% milk.  
 Thurs: John Wayne Casserole, Chuckwagon, corn, Robert Redford dessert, apricots, iced tea/2% milk.  
 Fri: Pork Chile Verde, cilantro rice, Mexican squash, refried beans, pina colada cupcakes, flour tortilla, iced tea/2% milk.

**Clarendon CISD**  
 Breakfast  
 Mon: Sausage kolache, cheese stick, fruit juice, fruit, milk.  
 Tues: Breakfast sandwich, fruit juice, fruit, milk.  
 Wed: Waffle, fruit juice, fruit, milk.  
 Thu: Stuffed bagel, cheese stick, fruit juice, fruit, milk.  
 Fri: French toast, sausage, fruit juice, fruit, milk.

Lunch  
 Mon: Cheeseburger, beans, corn, fruit, milk.  
 Tues: Chicken n waffles, veggie cup, potatoes, fruit, milk.  
 Wed: Fish, mac & cheese, carrots, squash, grapes, fruit, milk.  
 Thu: Breaded mozzarella sticks, tomato cup, salad, fruit, milk.  
 Fri: Xtreme burrito, corn, cucumbers, cookie, fruit, milk.

**Hedley ISD**  
 Breakfast  
 Mon: Pancakes, bacon, fruit juice, fruit, milk.  
 Tues: Breakfast combo, fruit juice, fruit, milk.  
 Wed: Breakfast pizza, fruit juice, fruit, milk.  
 Thu: Oatmeal, cinnamon toast, fruit juice, fruit, milk.  
 Fri: Donut holes, sausage, fruit juice, fruit, milk.

Lunch  
 Mon: Country fried steak, roll, potatoes, okra, strawberries, gravy, fruit, milk.  
 Tues: Tex Mex stack, beans, carrots, salsa, hot cinnamon apples, sherbet, fruit, milk.  
 Wed: Pizza, garden salad, green beans, peaches, milk.  
 Thu: Popcorn chicken, corn, crunchy broccoli salad, apples, roll, cookies, milk.  
 Fri: Chili cheese hot dog, fries, tomato cup, snowball salad, milk.

## Quilt club works on Americana

By Tiny Alderson  
 The Golden Needles Quilting Club met Thursday, April 20, at the Donley County Senior Citizens Center.  
 Work was done on an Americana red, white and blue wall hanging made by Tiny Alderson. Those present were Louella Slater, Dortha Reynolds, Sharon Shaller, Janan Koontz, Frances Smith, Tiny Alderson and Gay Cole.  
 The next meeting will be held on May 20, when the ladies will begin work creating a Veteran's Honor Quilt to be presented to a Donley County Veteran during the Clarendon 4th of July Celebration.  
 If anyone would like to have a part in the preparation, please come join us at the Senior Center on May 20 at 9:00 a.m. Sewing is not necessary as there is other work that needs to be done!

## West Texas Exiles to play Wellington's Ritz

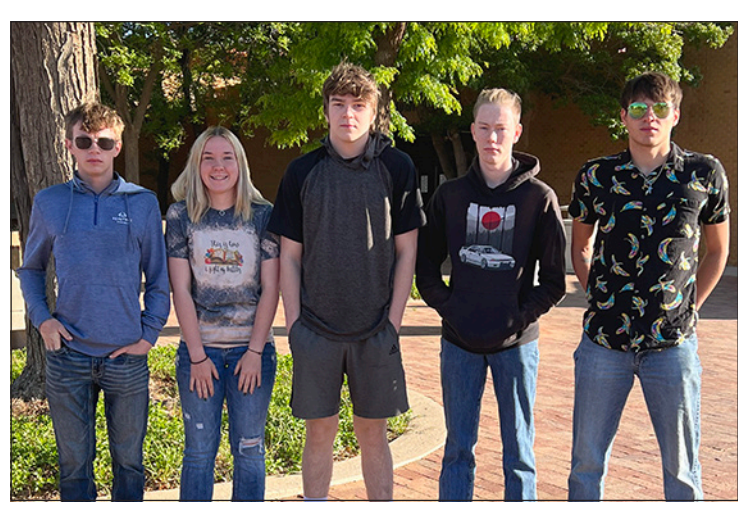
The West Texas Exiles will play the Ritz Theatre in Wellington at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 4, fusing the best of the Austin sound with the wide-open spaces of West Texas.  
 The five-piece band is made up of veteran musicians who migrated to Austin in recent years. They came together just as Texas music was emerging from the dark days of social distancing and closed venues and have quickly gained a following in Austin and beyond.  
 Driven by the vocals of El Paso native Marco Gutierrez and Amarillo's Daniel Davis, the Exiles are completed by the Lubbock-bred combination of drummer Trinidad Leal, bassist Eric Harrison and mandolinist/singer/songwriter Colin Gilmore.  
 The Exiles released their first EP, Volume I, in February and made their first appearance at South by Southwest in March. Their first single, "New Moon Foe," coincided with a tour through West Texas almost a year ago. The second single, "Hotel Tomorrow," was released this year and evokes the ghosts of southwestern Americana at its snakebit best. But it's the eponymous track "Exile" where the group's intentions are declared most strikingly. This band of outsiders aren't just waltzing across Texas, they are riding into the sunset in search of new horizons "while I still got my boots on my feet."  
 The May 4 show marks the Exiles' first appearance on the Ritz stage. The historic theater opened in 1929 as the first "talking" movie theater in Wellington and was restored and reopened in 2007. It is operated by the nonprofit Wellington Ritz Theatre Inc. board of directors. In addition to serving as a first-class performance venue, the Ritz screens first-run movies weekly.  
 Tickets for the West Texas Exiles show at the Ritz are on sale now at wellingtonritztheatre.com or by calling (806) 447-0090. The Ritz Theatre is located south of the courthouse square in Wellington at 902 East Ave.  
 More information on the West Texas Exiles can be found at west-texasexiles.com.

## CIDS Trustees accept resignation of Jacob Diaz

Clarendon CISD Trustees renewed several contracts and approved a new school safety project during its regular meeting on April 10.  
 The board met in closed session for 26 minutes before returning to vote on several personnel motions.  
 Trustees accepted the resignation of Jacob Diaz, and a motion was approved to offer professional support staff contracts to the following: Buffie Smith and Vernon Noble.  
 Professional elementary teacher contracts were offered to Julie Gates, Jennifer Martinez, Kilee Molloy, Paige Roberts, Kasey Bell, Courtney D'Costa, Anne Dushay, Jill Frausto, Medina Gribble, Kara Hill, Eurena Marcum, BJ Owens, Jennifer Robinson, Melanie Shelton, Jennifer Tubbs, Brandi Wann, Leslie White, Amber Williams, and Madison Younger. Wes Hatley abstained from voting on Jennifer Robinson.  
 Contracts for professional junior high teacher contracts were offered to Amanda Martindale, Charyssa Woodcook, Kalen Grahn, Carrie Linquist, Alex Snure, Carrie Moss, Brittany Monds, Rachel Houston, and Lisa Grahn.  
 Professional high school teacher contracts were offered to Christopher Burrell, Kimberly Harper, Timothy Leeper, Boston Hudson, Tracy Huseman, Korey Conkin, Brad Elam, Yancy Molloy, Christi Benson, Adelita Elam, Tina Lacey, Tammi Lewis, Terri Luna, Christopher Woodcook, Evie Wright, and Elizabeth Zongker.  
 No action was taken on J.W. Clark.  
 The board also approved the bid for safety film installation for campus windows and doors.  
 Trustees also voted to approve the Trust Deeds for Trust Property in the City of Howardwick as presented; to approve the purchase of a used pickup truck for the maintenance/grounds department; and to approve the additions/revisions/deletions of (LOCAL) policies EI, EIA, EIC, and EIE resulting from the TASB Policy Review Session with drafts prepared by TASB Policy Services.  
 Administrative reports were presented by Athletic Director Aaron Wampler, Elementary Principal Cynthia Bessent, CJH Principal Jenifer Pigg, CHS Principal John Moffett, Counselor Jenae Ashbrook, Federal Programs Coordinator Jen Bellar, and Superintendent Jarod Bellar.



Golden Needles Quilters working on the Americana quilt were Dortha Reynolds, Sharon Shaller, Janan Koontz, Frances Smith, Tiny Alderson, and Gay Cole.



Academic team  
 Hedley High School academic competitors Iziak Weatherread, Savannah Trent, Cody Bond, Lane Hinton and Joshua Booth participated in the regional UIL competition last week.

## Ivy inducted to Phi Kappa Phi at ASU

Angelo State University's chapter of the Phi Kappa Phi (PKP) national honor society recently inducted its spring 2023 class of 47 new student members, including Minde Ivy formerly of Clarendon, TX, during a special initiation ceremony in the Houston Harte University Center.  
 PKP is the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for students in all academic disciplines. Invitations to join PKP are extended to juniors in the top 7.5% of their class, and to seniors and graduate students in the top 10 percent of their class.  
 Ivy is majoring in Professional School Counseling at Angelo State.

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## Broncos take down the Skyrockets, 11-2

By Sandy Anderberg

The Broncos are nearing the end of their regular season with only one game left against Kress on May 2, the Broncos will be looking to go deep in the playoffs.

The 11-1 win over Wellington was led by Tyler Harper on the mound. Harper went the five innings with only two hits, one run, and seven strike-outs. The Broncos went error-free in the game and collected seven hits in the win.

Clarendon took control early in the game and scored two runs off a Wellington error and posted three runs in the opening inning. They would add two more runs in the next two innings before the Skyrockets earned their only score of the game. A big fifth inning sealed the win for

the Broncos scoring four more runs. They flexed their muscles at the plate as Colton Caudle, Mason Sims, and Harrison Howard each had RBIs in the inning.

Overall, the Broncos had seven hits, and as many RBIs in the win. They accumulated six walks and had eight stolen bases with Harper grabbing three and Wilson Ward taking two. Ward was two for two at the plate and Howard, Harper, Levi Gates, Caudle and Sims all mustered one hit in the win.

The Broncos went up against district leader Nazareth later in the week and fell short at 2-3. Clarendon got on the scoreboard first in the opening inning when Naz made an error in the field.

They added another run before

moving into the next innings. Naz was able to strike in the third and fifth to tie the score at two all. The Broncos held on until the Swifts were able to claim another run in the final inning to get the win.

Howard was on the mound and took the loss for the Broncos. Howard did a good job and only allowed four hits, while striking out eight.

The team collected three errors in the game, but out hit the Swifts 6-4. They were able to post three stolen bases in the game.

The Broncos will play the Maroon vs White game at home on Friday, April 28, beginning at 4 p.m. They will travel to Kress May 2 to wrap up their regular season schedule.

## Lady Broncos end dry spell; claim District Championship

By Sandy Anderberg

The Lady Broncos have waited 13 years to accomplish what they knew they could do and that was win a District championship. With a seven-inning win over Sanford-Fritch, the Lady Broncos locked up the title 8-2.

Kennadie Cummins was on the mound and went the distance to get the win throwing 68 strikes in 101 pitches. She recorded six strike-outs, one walk, and only four hits.

The game was not without some uncertain moments beginning in the fourth inning after Baylee Gabel's single in the first inning a run on the board for Clarendon. Another run gave them the lead at two to zero in the top of the fourth before Fritch took their turn at the plate and scored two for the tie.

K. Cummins doubled in the

fifth inning on a 1-2 count that scored another run for the Lady Broncos to retake the lead. Fritch struggled to answer in the remaining three inning and could not stop the Lady Broncos in the seventh as they put four fresh runs on the board in the final inning.

The ladies racked up 11 hits with only three errors in the game in their 32 times at the plate.

K. Cummins posted two hits, three runs, and an RBI and Gracie Wilkins had one hit and two runs. Elyza Rodriguez had a good day at the plate with two hits and one RBI and Tandy Blacksher added an RBI. Tandie Cummins finished with two hits, one run, and two RBIs, while Hayden Elam took care of business with one hit and one run. Mya Edwards stole one base.

Earlier in the week, the Lady Broncos ripped Booker 10-0 with T.

Cummins on the mound for the five innings.

Cummins only allowed Booker two hits in the game and struck out nine batters throwing 42 strikes in 57 pitches.

K. Cummins was able to knock in a homerun in the fourth inning and several ladies had multiple hits in the game. T. Cummins had three hits, one RBI, and two runs, while Elam brought in three runs for the game. Elliot Frausto had one hit and one run in her two times at bat and Blacksher added two hits. The Lady Broncos busted the bases with 13 stolen bases. T. Cummins and Elam led the way with four stolen bases each.

Defensively, Gabel made 10 good plays in the field and the team did not make a single error in the game.

## Cottage food industry course set for May 3

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will hold the course "Cooking Up a Cottage Food Business" on May 3 in Lubbock.

The event will start at 8:30 a.m. with onsite registration and conclude around noon at the AgriLife Extension office in Lubbock County, 916 Main St., Suite 401.

The cost is \$20, payable by cash or check at the door, but participants must preregister at <https://tx.ag/May3CottageIndustry> or by calling the AgriLife Extension office in Lubbock County at 806-775-1740.

"We are offering this training to educate those interested in or those who currently have cottage food businesses and hope to clear up any confusion there might be about the cottage food law," said Cory Edwards, AgriLife Extension Better Living for Texans agent, Lubbock.

An owner of a cottage food business is required to have a food handlers card from a state accredited program.

Upon completion of the course, participants can earn a food handlers certification card for cottage food operations accredited by Texas Department of State Health Services that is valid for two years. One continuing education hour in cottage food law is also offered.

The course will help participants determine if their business falls under the cottage food category by covering the difference between market vendors, cottage food vendors, manufacturers and retail food vendors.

Participants will also: Gain knowledge of the current Texas Cottage Food Law; Understand the general industry rules; Learn the best practices for preparing food safely NS Participate in a Q&A session with Texas Department of State Health Services registered sanitarian Kassi Anthony, Lubbock.

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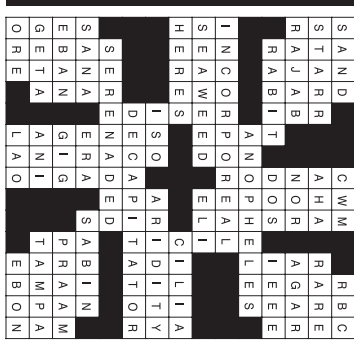
**Clarendon Lions Club** Regular meeting each Tuesday at noon. Landon Lambert, Boss Lion. Roger Estlack, Secretary

**Clarendon Alcoholics Anonymous Group** 806-661-1015, 806-671-9766, 806-205-1840, 24 hour hotline 877-421-4334. Mon. & Sat. 7 p.m. 416 S Kearney St.

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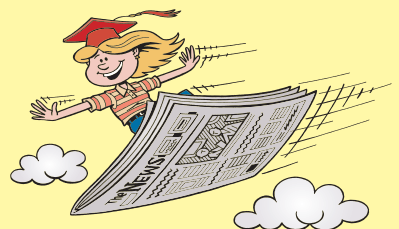
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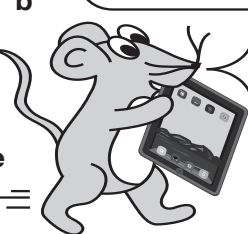
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- dream and **i \_ v \_ n \_**

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club      story      scene

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- love to talk about books
- draw or paint pictures
- hang cutouts from a hanger
- dress up as a character
- write another chapter
- make a popsicle stick puppet
- pretend to be story characters with a friend
- cut out a bookworm
- make up a song about a story

### You Can...

- set up a \_\_\_\_\_ on a table.
- start a new book \_\_\_\_\_.
- make \_\_\_\_\_ to hang.
- create a \_\_\_\_\_.
- act out a \_\_\_\_\_.
- publish your own \_\_\_\_\_.
- put on a mini \_\_\_\_\_.
- interview each other on a \_\_\_\_\_ show.
- make a \_\_\_\_\_.
- record it on \_\_\_\_\_.



**Clarendon attends TML meeting**

The City of Clarendon was represented at the Texas Municipal League Region II Quarterly Meeting Thursday evening, April 20. The Panhandle Regional Planning Commission Local Government Services staff joined local officials. Shown here are: PRPC staffer Paige Goodell, Mayor Jacob Fangman, City Secretary Machiel Covey, Alderman Eulaine McIntosh, PRPC staff Coinna Morris, Ally Hubbard, Alex Guerrero, and Jarian Fred.

COURTESY PHOTO



**Chamber Employee of the Month**

Pat Ritchie of Clarendon CISD was named as the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce Employee of the Month for April last Thursday. She receives \$25 in Chamber Cash. Shown here are Chamber Vice President Sharlene Bordonaro, Chamber Board Member Jeremy Jeffers, Pat Ritchie, and her coworkers. To nominate a local chamber member employee for the May award, visit [ClarendonTX.com/employeeofthemoth](http://ClarendonTX.com/employeeofthemoth).

ENTERPRISE PHOTO / ROGER ESTLACK



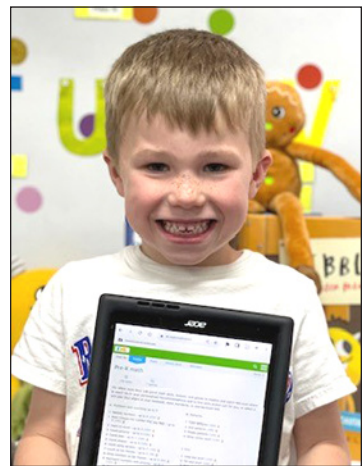
Clarendon Elementary students in Pre-K were recognized last week for making the perfect attendance list.

CISD PHOTO / LISA GRAHN



Clarendon Elementary students in Mrs. Gribbles class were recognized last week for making the honor roll and/or perfect attendance lists.

CISD PHOTOS / LISA GRAHN



Kylee Glover and Will Robertson were recognized for finishing all of their Pre-K IXL achievements.

CISD PHOTOS / LISA GRAHN



The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting April 25, 2023, with Boss Lion Pro Tem David Dockery in charge.

We had 14 members in person, Sweetheart Laney Gates, two members attending virtually, and one guest this week. Monroe Newhouse was the guest of Lion Anndria Newhouse.

Laney reported that there is just four weeks of school left. Baseball and softball teams are both district champs. Lion Scarlet Estlack reported it is three weeks until college graduation, and Lion John Howard reported the county and the cities of Clarendon and Howardwick are working on improved broadband access.

Lion Machiel Covey reported on downtown revitalization and upcoming interviews for city administrator. Lion Richard Green said the citywide garage sale in Howardwick will be May 20.

DG Roger Estlack reported on the District 2-T1 convention here last Saturday. Boss Lion Landon Lambert and Lion Anndria Newhouse received the Lions Leadership Medals, and Lion Heath Hodge of Canyon received the Presidential Medal. Lion David Dockery received the District Governor's Special Recognition; and Lions Henry Wyckoff and Gemma Mitchell of the Amarillo Downtown club received Presidential Achievement awards.

Two ramps were built during the convention in Clarendon. After discussion, the club agreed to form a ramp team with the Texas Ramp project. Lion Steve Coles, assisted by Lion Anndria Newhouse, will lead the new team. There is currently a need for 18 ramps in Clarendon and Howardwick.

Officer elections will be held next week.

There being no further business, we were adjourned to spread Lionism and good cheer throughout our fair county.

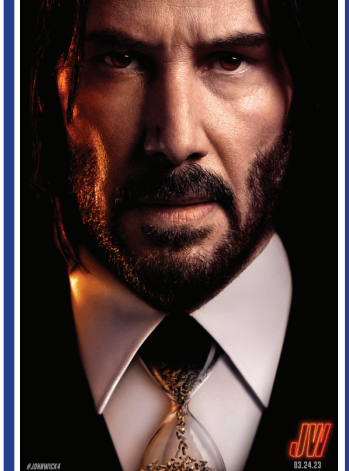
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**JOHN WICK: CHAPTER 4**  
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FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
APRIL 28 & 29 7:30 P.M.  
SUN., APRIL 30 2:00 P.M.

ADULT: \$7  
KIDS 3-12: \$5  
KIDS 2 & UNDER: FREE  
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**FOR**

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