## Single Copy $\$ 2 \underline{00}$

## THIS WEEK

 4 A freak storm hits a local family's vehicles Sunday 5 clar. 5 Clarendon College awards golden diplomas as part of 6 The Broncos fall to the Roscoe Plowboys. 8 And read about the facing Texas voters.All his and mpuch move as Tho Enterprise

## Local cities' sales

 tax revenue down Sales tax revenues in all three slipped when Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar delivered local sales tax allocations last week. Clarendon's August revenue dropped 4.16 percent to$\$ 36,301.59$. The city is now runsing 2.01 percent behind for the calendar year-to-date with sales tax revenues of $\$ 389,879.32$ Hedley was also down with revenues of $\$ 625.38$, reflecting a 10.76 percent drop compared to the same period one year ago. Hedley's remains in the positive for the year-to-date, up 11.63 percent at $\$ 9,615.02$.
Howardwick Howardwick was down slighty 0.61 percent with an allo-
cation of $\$ 1.920 .58$, the lakeside
 city is up 5.9 percent on the year-
to-date with sales tax revenues of to-date

## Mystery dinner to

 be held at Mulkey host its second mystery dinner on host tits second myytery dinner onSunday, September 24, as "Love Sunday, September en, as
on the Titanic" embarks on a memorable voyage.
The maiden voyage of the Titanic is underway. The captain and his crew have an evening There is even a wedding being There is even a wedding being planned on this maiden voyage.
However, shortly after you set sail, the captain is beginning to sali, the captain is beginning to
look nervous, and the crew is frantically taking drastic measures. Is there a problem or just a sinking feeling?

This is Mystery Dinner will be produced by Amarillo Escape
Tickets are $\$ 45$ per person and include a catered dimner. BYOB is permitted.

Seating is limited to 60 people, and advance tickets are required and can be purchased at MulkeyTheatre.com and in person at the Clarendon Visitor Center at Mulkey Theatre.

## Craft Celebrations

 to be held Sept. 30 The First Assembly of God Fall Edition on Saturday Sep Falmber 30, 2023, featuring crafts, upcycled items, food, fellowship, and fun. 10 a.m. to 2 pm . at the church at 301 S. Orpe Street.


Donley County Royalty
Clarendon and Hedley High Schools will celebrate their homecomings this week, and each school will crown their Queen. Clarendon will have a pregame ceremony this Friday at 6:30 p.m. featuring Homecoming candidates (top photo) Bayleigh Bruce, Morgan Johnfootball games. The Hedley candidates are (bottom photo) Madison Moore, Ashlee Holmes, Malorie Collins, and Flor Silvestre.

Courtesy photos,

## County

 approves burn banThe Donley County Commissioners Court enacted a burn Monday, September 11.
Monday, Septen with the rain earlier this
Even week, warm weather and high wind will quickly make conditions ripe for wiil quickly make conditions ripe for
wildfires thanks to growth of brush and grass earlier this summer. Under the commissioners' order no outdoor burning is allowe on a day of a forecasted Fire Weathe Watch or a Red Flag Warning issued from the National Weather Service in Amarillo.
Anyone engaging in outdoor burning must contact the Donley County Sheriff's office prior to ignition and give the dispatcher a burn location, a contact phone number, and approximate burn time. The persons engaging in outdoor burning needs to be present on the site of the burn until the burn is completed. Anyone engaging in any form of outdoor burning is asked to bu with extreme caution at all times. The burn ban will stay in effect for the next 90 days.

Also at Monday's county meet regular meeting schedule and the regular meeting schedule and the 2024 Trainings were approved for County Clerk Vicki Tunnell and County Attorney Landon Lambert Commissioners considere and approved donating the county's unclaimed capital property to the Saints' Roost Museum. The unclaimed funds are dispersed to the county from the state and this year amounted to $\$ 3,800$.

The county nominated Lon Adams, Jacob Fangman, and Johnny Floyd to serve another term on the Donley County Appraisal Distric Board. Elections by the local taxing entities will be held later.
County Judge John Howard reported the window repair project at the courthouse should be finished this month, weather permitting, and said work on the county barn Hedley is continuing

## State okays new funding rules for junior colleges

The Texas Higher Educa- tion Coordinating Board (THECB) approved emergency rules at a spe- Buckhaults said CC is receiv ial-called board meeting last week ing $\$ 3.01$ million under the new that will govern Texas' new funding formula thanks to its long history of system for Clarendon College and high student success rates.

other community colleges, effective September. 1.

House Bill 8 (HB 8), passed by the Texas Legislature during its 88th mulav. Abbott said the new for session and signed into law by Gov- Texa.
ernor Greg Abbott in June, codified "The Texas of tomorrow the new, dynamic model that will depends on ensuring our students fund community colleges in Texas. have the workforce training and The model moves to an outcomes- preparation needed to succeed in based approach and rewards colleges dynamic, high-demand industries, for awarding degrees, certificates, said Gov. Abbott. "House Bill 8 is and other "credentials of value. a transformational step forward in Clarendon College President funding Texas community colleges Tex Buckhaults said the state's based on measurable outcomes community colleges cooperated 1 .apporting work-based learnbuilding the new funding model. All 50 college districts came Texans. I thank the Texas LegislaBuckhaults said "We're not compet- Coordinating Board for working ing against each other; we're work- to improve the community college ing together and student success system in the state of Texas and help is paramount. We want to get them See 'Funding' on page 6


Celebrating in style
first first graduating class from 1900 when CC's 125th anniversary was celebrated last Saturday nigh at the Bairfield Activity Center. Shown here are (standing) Ryen Slatten, Brooklynn Hugg, Josh Olivo, Delijiah Castillo, (seated) Raymond Sanchez, and Samantha Price. $\begin{gathered}\text { couritsy photo/ branol havens }\end{gathered}$

Saints' Roost Mcuseum Presents SHINDITERESTARS

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DINNER 6:30 m m DANCE $8.00_{\mathrm{m}}$ S25ADMISSION

US political parties are needed evil

What is interesting about studying political parties What is interesting about studying political parties
is that there are no founding documents that set rules for is that there are no founding documents hat set rules
how they behave or what their function should be.
For most political issues, I like to start with the For most political issues, like to start with the U.S
Constitution. While there are disagreements over interpretation, there is at least something written that we can about parties in the Constitution; America's founding document is completely silent on the subject. The best example of the founders lack of fore thought in the creation of parties According to the Constitution, "The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot for wo Persons... The President of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and
the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number

historically speaking of Votes shall be the President...In Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President."

In other words, whoever wins the Electoral College operated under this system, our current president would be Joe Biden and our vice president would be Donald Trump. Can you imagine how this would work today? Well, it did not work back then either. While there were no parties in the very beginning, by the third election in 1796 the Federalist candidate won the presidency, and the Democratic Republican candidate became vice president. It worked about as well as a Biden/Trump presidency would work today. And so, in 1804 , the 12 th
Amendment changed voting procedures to the current system. It's not that the founders could not envision political parties when they wrote the Constitution - th did. It's that they hoped the new nation could rise above them and overcome their differences.

Many of the founders were fans of the political philosopher Henry St John, 1st Viscount Bolingbroke. of a "Patriot King," a man who could stand above the political factions in Britain at the time and consider the people's needs first. The founders hoped to model the American president along this line - a man not swayed by factions (an early word for parties) but someone who was above and represented the people. They wanted leaders who put the welfare of the people and the nation above his own. The problem with parties, the Founders believed, is that they value the party above the nation.

I heard Democratic leaders in 2016 and Republican ones in 2020 say they hoped the economy would sour so they could take back the presidency in the next elec-
tion. Think about that. Actually hoping bad things would happen to the U.S. economy so their party could win the next election. This was the founders' fear of factions in a nutshell: they would rather see nation struggle under the other party's leadership than be successful. A party cares more ab
this.
John Adams once wrote, "There is nothing which I dread so much as a division of the republic into two great parties, each arranged under its leader, and concerthumble apprehension, is to be dreaded as the greatest political evil under our Constitution." James Madison in poifical evil under our Constitution. James Madison in
Federalists No. 10 wrote, "By a faction, I understand a Federalist number of citizens, whether amounting to a majority or a minority of the whole, who are united and actuated by a minority of the whole, who are united and actuated by
some common impulse of passion, or of interest, adverse some common impulse of passion, or of interest, adver
to the rights of other citizens, or to the permanent and aggregate interests of the community." While both these aggregate interests of the community. While both these
men would succumb to the intoxicating pull of parties, men would succumb to the intoxicating pull of parties,
the one who always stood above them and made it the subject of his final thoughts to the nation was George Washington.

When Washington decided to step down after two erms, one of his fears was the nation's political divide. During his tenure there were already the beginnings of a them at bay.
Deciding not to run again, Washington's Farewell Address, though mostly penned by Hamilton, warned of the two major issues the first president feared: One was getting involved in foreign affairs and the other was par-
ties. Washington wrote, "I have already intimated to you ties. Washington wrote, Thave already intimated to you
the danger of parties in the State, with particular reference to the founding of them on geographical discriminations. Let me now take a more comprehensive view and warn you in the most solemn manner against the baneful effects of the spirit of party generally. This spirit, unfortunately, is inseparable from our nature, having its root in the strongest passions of the human mind. It exists under different shapes in all governments, more or less stifled, controlled, or repressed; but, in those of the popular form, it is seen in its greatest rankness and is truly their orst enemy
While all the founders saw parties as evil, they quickly became a necessary one as the two sides began their party meetings.

James Finck, Ph.D. is a professor of history at the University
of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. He can be reached at
HistoricallySpeaking1776@gmailcom.

## Did the Flag of 1824 fly over Alamo

Although some historians disagree
it is believed by many that the heroic defenders of the Alamo fought under a modified Mexican flag.
In the first conflicts In the first conflicts that eventuthe thousands of settlers in Texas the thousands of settlers in Texas
simply wanted just treatment and an end of cruel oppression by the Mexican government. This is not to say that But the earlier skirmishes were attempts But the eartier skirmishes were attempt
to obtain the just and fair treatment guaranteed by Mexico.

## The Mexican constitution of

 1824 essentially organized Mexico into a republic of self-governing states. Although Texas was denied that political recognition and was attached toCoahilla, the Texas settlers were to have the same rights as the Mexican settlers. In addition, Mexico encouraged immigration and settlement in its outer reaches with the idea that the newcomers would be integrated into the Mexican culture. Immigrants by the thousands flocked into Texas, but it soon became apparent to the Mexicans that the expected integration would

trol. Taking matters into his own hands, President Santa Anna stripped Texans of their political rights, and he became
more and more oppressive and ruthless in dealing with the Texians, as they in dealing with the Texians, as they
were then called. The guarantees of the were then called. The guarantees of the
constitution of 1824 were being almost completely ignored.
Although the majority of the gallant band of 158 Texans who defended
the Alamo against some 1,500 Mexican the Alamo against some 1,500 Mexican
soldiers were fighting with independence in mind, a few were still expressing themselves as Texians who merely wanted their promised rights.

As a symbol of their campaigns to
by some historians that the Texians in


## The month of August brings tears

Usual readers - both of you, and
a few relatives who sometimes read to see if I "got it right" - may remember that a month ago, I decided to put my "quill back in the goose" until Septem-
A few cool days in New Mexico beckoned, and off we drove to the Land of Enchantment, neither footloose nor
even close to fancy free even cl
out.
Brenda, my wife of 57 years joine me, along with Sailor, our beloved by our longtime friend - retired educaby our longtime friend - retired educa-
tor Delnor Poss. Delnor masqueraded tor Delior Poss. Deicil fasqueraded as a basketball official for colleges and universities throug.

A widower for more than a year, he welcomed us to his inviting threestory home that he largely constructed
himself over a couple of decades, starting with a modest A -frame structure. At age 88, he's still doggedly determined to "get it right," just as he did as a game official. Long-time golf coach and athletic director at Midland College, he can't abandon the work ethic he learned early in his hard-scrabble life. Now, he's a consultant at Eastern New Mexico's Ruidoso campus, down the mountain from his Alto, NM, home that features breathtaking balcony views in all directions.
We "yakked" for two nights, recalling specific hills and valleys of our lives. The short time there was golden, and then....

The second night, a phone call at an unseemly hour bore sad news. Gone from this life was a close friend of som
30 years. Caleb Pirtle, 82 , who wrote 30 years. Caleb Pirtle, 82 , who wrote
 my mind whirling
with brief with brief stories I might share a few days later at his memorial service. He
always wrote "just right." Compared always wrote "just right." Compared
to his writing, my words - written or to his writing, my words - written
spoken - didn't have a chance spoken - didn't have a chance.... a "used word salesman."

Then, another call was equally unwelcome. A friend from college years, Ray Hildebrand, also 82, had passed in Kansas City.

He was to music what Caleb was
journalism. Ray, too, was in a leagu by himself.

Though best known for writing and singing "Hey, Paula" - a \#1 song on secular charts in 1963 - he was a consummate composer of contemporary Christian songs. He was a forerunner of this genre, differing from most compos ers today who are given to repetition(s) Of the some 500 songs he composed, more than half have been published, many of which even old-timers sing, not knowing they sprang from his creative mind....

As sportswriter Blackie Sherrod once said of daily columnist George Dolan, before the Mexican flag (among other flags) with its green, white, and red vertical stripes. The eagle had been removed from the center white portion of the
flag, and the numeral " 1824 " had been flag, and the numerals " 1824 had been sewn in its place. The flag, which probably pre-dated the battle of the Alamo, was intended to remind the Mexicans
that what the Texians really wanted was hat what the Texians really wanted was a restoration of the of 1824 .

Did such a flag really fly at the Alamo? The only Texian flag to survive the battle was that of the New Orleans
Greys. Although some historians insist that the " 1824 flag" never existed at the Alamo, replicas of the flag are on display in the visitors' center at the Texas State Capitol grounds, at the San Antonio public library, and at Baylor University's student union building, along with explanatory plaques describing its use at the Alamo. The truth of the matter may never be known.
George U. Hubbard is an
resident of Clarendon.
Enterprise
$= \pm=$ va
5


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CONTACT INFORMATION
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DEADLINES


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LETTERS

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Due to an earlier commitment to speak at the Brownwood Kiwanis Club's 100 th anniversary dinner, I was unable to attend his Kansas City funeral the same day. Three hundred others did though. They "open-miked" through a memorial service of more than two
hours. Everyone loved Ray; many spoke...

We watched the streamed service, awash in tears interspersed with laughawash in tears inters
ter of bygone days.

One friend told of Ray's erratic driving habits, explaining that his speed was determined by the tempo of music was determined by the tempo ons his car radio.
from " He said that if "Old Man River" were playing, Ray might be driving 30 MPH on a freeway, backing up traffic
for miles. "Shake, Rattle and Roll," however, might mean he was pegging 95 MPH on a country road, passing all vehicles with abandon....
Rare talents both, they were model
Christians, and memories of them are
cherished.
The month of "column silence" is one of two such respites in two decades, both in August.
The other was in 2020. A few days into "vacation," Julie Choate, our oldest daughter, died suddenly at age 50 of a pulmonary embolism. Perhaps future column lapses won't be announced, or won't be in August....
Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, Dr. Newbury, longtime university president,
remains active as a columnist, author and emains active as a columnist, author and
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September 17 The Equalizer 3 - 2:00 p.m.
Mulkey Theater
September 15


## Storm damage

Vehicles at the home of Bill and Deanna Cornell were badly damaged late Sunday night when a freak storm tore their carport apart southeast of Clarendon. A third car not visible here because it remained under the wreckage. At least two of the vehicles were totaled by the damage. The stor which was accompanied by heavy rain, also damaged other structures and trees in the area.
 Saturdays peewee game.

Livestock conference set for September 14 The "GRAZE: All Things Livestock Conference" will be held Sept. 14 at the Ollie Liner Center in Plainby Texas A\&M AgriLife Extension by Texas A\&M AgriLife Extension Andy Hart and Mark Carroll, Andy Hat and Mark Carron, AgriLife Extension agriculture and
natural resources agents for Hale natural resources agents for Hale
and Floyd counties, respectively, said this conference is loaded with said this conference is loaded with
several top beef cattle experts who several top beef cattle experts who
will provide information related to will provide information related to
forage management and beef health. The conference will begin at 8 a.m. The cost of the conference is $\$ 45$ and includes breakfast, lunch $\$ 45$ and includes breakfast, lunch
catered by Leal's, and a conference cap. For registration information, call Audrey Gloyna at 806-2915267. Registration will be accepted at the event as well.

This year's signature sponsor is Browning Seed Inc. of Plainview. Hale County Farm Bureau is the breakfast sponsor and Plains Land
Bank is one of the lunch sponsors.
"The GRAZE conference will have a tremendous group of vendors offering new products with the most up-to-date information to help your operation in the future," Hart said.
"Vendors will provide "Vendors will provide door prizes to
be given away throughout the meet be given away throughout the meet-
ing", ing. will assist with small and large herd information that will bring value to livestock operations.

Topics and speakers will be: Value of Utilizing Calving Season
and Implants, Jason Smith, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist, Amarillo. Value of Grazing cialist, Amarillo. Value of Grazing
Cover Crops, Paul DeLaune, Ph.D., Texas A\&M AgriLife Research environmental soil scientist, Vernon. Sense Hub Feedlot, Bruce Voyles, Merck Animal Health. Vaccination Practices with Beef Calves, Juan Pinero, DVM, AgriLife Extension dairy specialist, Amarillo. Cow Pregnancy Check Ultrasound Demonstration, Tommy Perkins, Ph.D.,
West Texas A\&M University assoWest Texas A\&M University associate professor of animal science, Canyon.
Do not miss this high-quality beef cattle program," Hart said. "The speakers are high-caliber experts who will be happy to answer questions and assist you with any of your beef cattle needs."

For more information about these or other agriculture programs contact Hart at 806-291-5270 or by email at amhart@ag.tamu.edu.

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Golden Diplomas
Clarendon College recognized several alumni with golden diplomas in recognition of their 50th anniversary of graduating from the college. Johnny Hill and Mary Wade Robinson were recoghis father, Oren Sain. The recognitions were part of the collegese's 125 th anniversary celebration Saturday evening at the Bairfield Activity Center.

L.the lion's tale by sarlete estlack

The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting at the Masonic Lodge on September 12, 2023, with Boss Lion Pro Ter Richard Green in charge We had 11 members in person, two members virtually, and
four guests this week four guste Michaude and Elizabeth Flanigan,
guests of Lion Chanel Silva: David guests of Lior Cuar Lion, David Montgomery, guest of Lion Lando
Lambert; and Bob Weiss, who pre sented our program.
sented our program.
As a board member of both the Saints' Roost Museum and the the Saints Roost Museum and the
Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Weiss Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Weiss
informed the club of events coming informed the club of events coming
to our community in the next few weeks. The annual Col. Charles Goodnight Chuckwagon Cookoff will be held at the museum on Saturday, September 23, but another event will also be held there the night before. The Shindig Under the Stars on September 22 will help raise money for the museum's new Wheels of History building. The project is expected to cost $\$ 250,000$ and the museum has raised $\$ 180,000$ so far. The Shindig will cost $\$ 25$ per person and will include music, dancing, hamburgers, shish kabobs, and wraps. Engraved bricks are also being sold to be laid near the new building. A regular-sized brick is
$\$ 100$, and an eight inch by eight inch brick is $\$ 175$.

Mr. Weiss also spoke about the second annual Hot Rods to Harleys Fun Run coming up on Saturday, and benefiting the Lions' Toys for Joy Drive and Christ's Kids Minis Joy Dhis year's run will start at the try. This year's run will start at the Lake McClellan, and then back to Clarendon. The event starts with breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and will end with awards at $1: 00 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. The cost is $\$ 25$ to register, and people can sign up at the Visitor Center or online at ClarendonTX.com/funrun.

Lion Roger Estlack reminded everyone about the upcoming "Love Mulkey Theatre on Sunday, September 24, and also about the "Boomtown musical comedy
the Mulkey on October 15.

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

## West Texas Ranch Rodeo to be held in Amarillo

presented by Oliver Saddle Shop of The West Texas Ranch Rodeo rodeo to for 2024 and beyond This WRCA Sanctioned event will be hosted by they make their living working cattle the Amarillo National Center at the to put steak on your plate. Each team Tri-State Fairgrounds. $\quad$ is certified by the Working Ranch 2024 will be the 3 rd year for the Cowboys Association and adheres West Texas Ranch Rodeo and will be to the rules of the World ChampionNational Center. Amarillo will now sented by Modelo and the Amarillo be the host of Spring, Summer and Convention and Visitors Bureau. Fall Major Leage Ranch Rodeos! Ranch kids up to 16 years of The Adult rodeo will be a two age create a team of five members go) WRCA Sanctioned rodeo featur- where their cumulative age is less ing 14 Ranch teams. Saturday morn- than 66. ing April 27th will see the Youth Each team is certified by the (single go) rodeo. king Ranch Cowboys AssociaAmarillo.

Each team will compete in each of their events twice. Once Friday night and then Saturday night with
performances starting at 7 pm . Points performances starting at 7 pm . Points
and times from each performance are combined to get placings.

More spectators can come as since the rodeo will be indoors. More teams can be invited to the Rodeo. More ancillary events can be added such as horse shoeing contest, horse tank golfing, calf fry, crafts competitions and more. Announcements will be made soon detailing all of the new additions.

Engagement, Wedding, and Anniversary Forms available at www.ClarendonLive.com


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CLUES ACROSS


CLUES DOWN




Jones runs to a third-place finish in Bison Run
Seventh grader Karli Jones ran the two-mile cross-country course
in at time of $14: 34$ in Quitaque last in at time of $14: 34$ in Quitaque last
week at the Valley Invitational held week at the Valley Invitational
at Caprock Canyon State Park. Eighth grader Addy Havens ran a good race as well and finished in sixth place with a time of $15: 13$. The team fin
68 runners.
Elie Rodriguez finished 18th
with a time of $17: 57$ and Makynna with a time of 17:57 and Makynna
Williams was 30th at 20:02. Josie Murillo ran the course in a time of 20:10 for 31st, Brilyn Bruce was 46th with a $22: 17$, and Hadley Bebout was 54th at 23:28.
The Lady Colts will run in

## Funding:

meet the needs of our growing state." This action by the Coordinating Board finalizes the fiscal year 2024 ormula and the new funding model funding will be distributed in three funding will be distributed in three installments with 50 percent being Feb. 15 and the final 25 percent on
June 15. proval of these new emergency rules to implement House Bill 8 will transform how we fund community colleges, putting a primary focus on student outcomes," said Commissioner of Higher Education Harrison Keller. "This was the culmination of many months of research, planning, data analysis, outreach, communications, and collaboration following the signing of House Bill 8 by Governor Greg Abbott."
The legislation, sponsored and championed by Rep. Gary VanDeaver and Sen. Brandon Creighton, expands upon the report and yearlong efforts of the Texas Commission Community College Finance. "The Board is grateful to the committee members, community college leaders, and agency staff who helped get the new funding model to
full implementation within just a few full implementation within just a few
short months," said Chairman of the Coordinating Board Dr. Fred Farias. coordinating Board Dr. Fred Farias. work toward improving student outcredentials of value so more Texans credentials of value so more Texa
benefit from our rich economy."
enefit from our rich economy."
The passage of HB 8 , and
location of $\$ 684$ million in the
state budget, positions Texas as a national leader in tying funding for community colleges to measurable student-focused outcomes. These include: The number of credentials of value awarded, including badges, certificates, and degrees, that position graduates for well-paying jobs. Credentials of value awarded in high-demand fields where employers are looking for skilled employees. Successful student transfers
from community colleges to fouryear universities. Completion of which are offered to high school students and can set them on early path
ways to success.
WHAT A CHILD LEARNS
WHAT A CHILD LEARNS
ABOUT VIOLENGE
A CHILD LEARNS FOR LIFE.



## Subberiber

| SUDOKU |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Fun By TheNumbers |
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| 8 |  |  |  |  |  | 7 |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | Like puzzles? |
|  |  | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  | Then youlthove sudoku. This |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 | 2 | puzzle will have |
| 5 |  |  | 9 |  |  |  |  | 7 | the moment you |
|  |  | 6 | 1 |  |  |  | 8 |  | shareen your |
|  |  | 1 |  |  | 5 |  |  |  | your sudoku |
| 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 |  |  | 9 | 3 |  | 1 | 6 |  |

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a $9 \times 9$ grid, broken down into nine
$3 \times 3$ 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 column and box. You can ifigure out the order in which the numbers
appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. Th
more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

| 9 |  |  |  |  |  | 8 |  |  |
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## EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023 CONSTITUTIONALAMENDMENT ELECTION

## Proposition Number 1

(HJR 126)
HJR 126 proposes a constitutional amendment to protect a person's right to engage in generally accepted farm, ranch,
timber production, horticulture or wildlife timber production, horticulture, or wildife
management practices on real property that management practices on real property that
the person owns or leases. The proposed the person owns or leases. The proposed
amendment would not affect the authority amendment would not affect the authority
of the legislature to authorize the regulation of the legislature to authorize the regulation
of these practices by: (1) a state agency or political subdivision as necessary to protect the public health and safety from imminent danger; (2) a state agency to prevent a danger to
animal health or crop production; or (3) a state animal health or crop production; or (3) a state agency or political subdivision to preserve or
conserve the natural resources of the state conserve the natural resources of the state
under the Texas Constitution. Additionally, the proposed amendment would not affect the legislature's authority to authorize the use or acquisition of property for a public use, including the development of natura resources under the Texas Constitution.

The proposed amendment will appear on
the ballot as follows: "The constitutional the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment protecting the right to engage
in farming, ranching, timber production horticulture, and wildlife management."

## Proposition Number 2 <br> (SJR 64)

SJR 64 proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the governing body of a county or all or part of the appraised value of rea property used to operate a child-care facility. The proposed amendment would authorize the governing body to adopt the exemption as a percentage of the appraised value of the property, but that percentage could not be less than $50 \%$ of the appraised value of the property. The proposed amendment also would allow the legislature to define the term "child-care facility" and to establish additional eligibility requir
the property tax exemption.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing a local option county or municipality of all or part of the county or municipality of all or part of the
appraised value of real property used to appraised value of real prop
operate a child-care facility."

## Proposition Number 3

(HJR 132)
HJR 132 proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from imposing a tax based on the wealth or
net worth of an individual or family. The net worth of an individual or family. The
proposed amendment also would prohibit the proposed amendment also would prohibit the
legislature from imposing a tax based on the legislature from imposing a tax based on the
difference between the assets and liabilities of an individual or family.
The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual wealth or net worth tax,
including a tax on the difference between including a tax on the difference between
the assets and liabilities of an individual or family."

Proposition Number 4
(HJR 2-Second Special Session)
HJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment to modify certain provisions of the Texas
Constitution related to property taxes. The Constitution related to property taxes. The proposed amendment would authorize
the legislature to temporarily limit the the legislature to temporarily limit the
maximum appraised value of real property for property tax purposes in a tax year. The proposed amendment also would increase the mandatory homestead exemption for school district property taxation from $\$ 40,000$ to
$\$ 100,000$. The proposed amendment would $\$ 100,000$. The proposed amendment would require the legislature to provide for a reduction in the amount of the limitation on school district property taxes imposed on
the residence homestead of the elderly or disabled. Additionally, the amendment would exempt appropriations not dedicated by the Texas Constitution and used for property tax relief from being considered as appropriations relief from being considered as appropriations
when determining whether the rate of growth of appropriations in a biennium has exceeded of appropriations in a biennium has exceeded the constitutional tax spending limit. The
proposed amendment would further authorize proposed amendment would further authorize
the legislature to provide that members serving on an appraisal board in a county with a population of at least 75,000 serve terms no to exceed four years.
The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional establish a temporary limiton the maximum appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax
purposes; to increase the amount of the
exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads from $\$ 40,000$ to $\$ 100,000$; to adjust the amount of the limitation on to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes imposed or disabled to reflect increases in certain exemption amounts to exemption amounts, to except certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax
relief from the constitutional limitation relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and to authorize the legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the board of directors of certain appraisal
districts." districts."

Proposition Number 5
(HJR 3)
HJR 3 proposes a constitutional amendment to redesignate the national research university fund as the Texas University Fund (TUF), and to appropriate funds from the economic stabilization fund to the TUF. The proposed amendment would appropriate to the TUF an amount equal to the interest income, dividends, and investment earnings attributable to the economic stabilization fund for the preceding state fiscal year. The appropriation amount could not exceed $\$ 100$ million for the state fiscal year beginning September 1, 2023, or an amount adjusted for the increase in the general price index, not to exceed two percent, in subsequent state fiscal years. The proposed amendment also would prohibit any proposed amendment also would prohibit any
state university that is entitled to participate in dedicated funding provided by Article VII, Section 18 of the Texas Constitution from receiving money from the TUF
The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment relating to the Texas University Fund, which provides funding to certain institutions of higher education to achieve national prominence as major research universities and drive the state economy."

## Proposition Number 6

(SJR 75)
SJR 75 proposes a constitutional amendment to create the Texas water fund. The Texas water fund would be a special fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund, administered by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) or its successor to assist in financing water projects in the state. The proposed amendment would direct the Texas water fund administrator to use the fund only to transfer money to other TWDB funds or
accounts. The proposed amendment would accounts. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to appropriate money for deposit to the water fund to be available for permitted transfers. No further legislative appropriation would be required for the water fund administrator to transfer money from or restore money to the fund, including the transfer of money to or the restoration of money from certain designated TWDB funds and accounts. The water fund would consist of: (1) money transferred or deposited to the fund by general law; (2) other revenue that the legislature by statute dedicates for
deposit to the fund; (3) investment earnings deposit to the fund; (3) investment earnings
and interest earned on amounts credited to and interest earned on amounts credited to
the fund; (4) money from gifts, grants, and the fund; (4) money from gifts, grants, and donations to the fund; and (5) money returned
from any authorized transfer. The proposed from any authorized transfer. The proposed amendment would require the legislature,
by general law, to provide for the by general law, to provide for the manner
in which money from the Texas water fund in which money from the Texas water fund may be used. The proposed amendment also would require that at least $25 \%$ of the money initially appropriated to the Texas water fund be transferred to the New Water Supply for Texas Fund.
The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment creating the Texas water fund to assist in financing water projects in this
state." state."

## Proposition Number

(SJR 93)
SJR 93 proposes a constitutional amendment to establish the Texas energy fund. The Texas energy fund would be a special fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund, administered by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) or its successor. Money in the Texas energy fund could be used, without further appropriation, only by PUC or its successor to provide loans and grants to finance or incentivize the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities necessary to ensure the reliability or adequacy of an electric power grid in the state. The proposed amendment would require PUC to allocate
money from the fund for loans and grants to eligible projects for electric generating facilities that serve as backup power sources and in each region of the state that is part of an electric power grid in proportion to that region's load share. The Texas energy fund would consist of: (1) money credited, appropriated, or transferred to the fund by or as authorized by the legislature; (2) revenue that the legislature dedicates for deposit to he fund; (3) the returns received from the investment of the money in the fund; and (4) gifts, grants, and donations contributed to the fund.
The proposed amendment will appear on he ballot as follows: "The constitutional mendment providing for the creation of the Texas energy fund to support the onstruction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities."

## Proposition Number 8

(HJR 125)
HJR 125 proposes a constitutional amendment o create the broadband infrastructure fund. The broadband infrastructure fund would be a special fund in the state treasury outside
the general revenue fund, administered by the general revenue fund, administered by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (Comptroller). Money from the fund could be used, without further appropriation, only for the expansion of access to and adoption of broadband and telecommunications services. The broadband infrastructure fund would consist of: (1) money transferred or deposited to the fund by the Texas Constitution, general law, or the General Appropriations Act; (2) revenue that the legislature by general law dedicates fordeposit to the fund; (3) investment earnings and interest earned on money in the fund; and (4) gifts, grants, and donations to the fund. The proposed amendment would authorize the Comptroller to transfer money from the broadband infrastructure fund to another fund as provided by general law, and the state agency that administers the fund to which any money is transferred could use the money without further appropriation only for the expansion of access to and adoption of broadband and telecommunications services. The broadband infrastructure fund would expire on September 1, 2035, unless extended by adoption of a joint resolution of the legislature. Immediately before the expiration of the fund, the Comptroller would be required to transfer any unexpended and unobligated balance remaining in the broadband infrastructure fund to the general revenue fund.
The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment creating the broadband infrastructure fund to expand highspeed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects."

## Proposition Number

(HJR 2)
HJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment oo authorize the legislature to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to eligible annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). The proposed amendment also would authorize the legislature to appropriate money from the general revenue fund to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to pay the cost-of-living adjustment.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional egissment authorizing the 88th Legislature to provide a cost-of-living Teacher Retirement System of Texas,"

## Proposition Number 10

(SJR 87)
SJR 87 proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to exempt from property taxation tangible personal property held by a medical or biomedical manufacture as a finished good or used in the manufacturing or process
products.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation equipment or inventory held by a manufacturer of medical or biomedical products to protect the Texas healthcare network and strengthen our medical supply chain."

## Proposition Number 11

(SJR 32)
SJR 32 proposes a constitutional amendment
to expand the authority of the legislature with regard to conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County. The Texas Constitution permits conservation and reclamation districts in certain counties across the state to issue bonds to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities but does not currently provide this authority to El Paso County. The proposed amendment would add conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to those districts currently allowed, if authorized by general law, to issue bonds supported by property taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities. The proposed amendment would not limit the powers of the legislature or of a conservation and reclamation district with respect to parks and recreational facilities as those powers currently exist.
The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit conservation and reclamation districts in EI Paso County to issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities."

## Proposition Number 12

(HJR 134)
HJR 134 proposes a constitutional amendment to abolish the office of County Treasurer in Galveston County. The amendment would authorize the Galveston County Commissioners Court to employ or contract with a qualified person or designate another county officer to perform any functions that would have been performed by the County Treasurer. The proposed amendment would take effect only if a majority of the voters of Galveston County voting on the proposition Gaveston County vot

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the abolition of the office of county treasurer in Galveston County."

## Proposition Number 13

(HJR 107)
HJR 107 proposes a constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory retirement age for state justices and judges. Currently, the Texas Constitution establishes that justices and judges of the appellate courts, district courts, judges of the appellate courts, district courts,
and criminal district courts must retire on the expiration of the term during which they ne expiration of the term during which they reach the age of 75 years or an earlier age, not less than 70 years, as the legislature may prescribe. The proposed amendment would change the mandatory retirement age for
justices and judges of the appellate courts, justices and judges of the appellate courts,
district courts, and criminal district courts to district courts, and criminal district courts to
79 years or an earlier 79 years or an earlier age, not less than 75
years, as the legislature may prescribe. The years, as the legislature may prescribe. The proposed amendment also would remove the provision stating that justices and judges may only serve until December 31 of their fourth year in office if they reach the age of 75 years in the first four years of a six-year term.
The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory age of retirement for state justices and judges."

## Proposition Number 14

(SJR 74)

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