



THE CLARENDON Enterprise

06.19.2025

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THE CLARENDON NEWS & THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

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THIS WEEK

2 Death offers a time of reflection, the editor writes.
4 A local veteran is honored by the Golden Needles ladies.
5 A 'No Kings' event was held in Clarendon last weekend.
8 And the American Legion marks Flag Day with a special ceremony.

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

TxDOT: Barricades going up this week

Traffic will be impacted this week as the Texas Department of Transportation begins the project to replace the US 287 bridge over Clarendon's drainage canal between Kearney and Gorst Streets.

Lane closures are expected to begin Wednesday with concrete barriers being placed on Thursday.

Demolition on the sidewalk and roadway along the northside of the Donley County State Bank will begin June 23, weather permitting.

The bridge demolition is now scheduled to start on June 30.

Workers were still evaluating and the sewer line this week, which runs under the drainage canal, to determine how to work around that obstacle during the construction.

Fish Fry to be held next Friday, June 27

St. Mary's Catholic Church will hold a Fish Fry on Friday, June 27, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 510 E. Montgomery.

Dine-in and carry-out options are available, and tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7 for kids. Call-in orders are welcome at 806-874-3910.

Proceeds benefit the Church Building Fund.

Pioneer Taylor to be honored June 21

Descendants of the late H.W. Taylor will gather in Citizens Cemetery this Saturday, June 21, at 10 a.m. to commemorate his life as a civic leader, businessman, and Texas Ranger.

Taylor served with the Rangers from 1870 to 1872 before becoming an early pioneer in Donley County and establishing H.W. Taylor & Sons Hardware which operated in Clarendon for many decades.

Saturday's service will include the pledges to the flags and a biography and more about his time with the Rangers. The public is invited to attend.

Celebration plans online and in print

Clarendon's 148th annual Saints' Roost Celebration will be July 3-5. The schedule is printed on page three of this week's paper and more information is available online at ClarendonLive.com



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City considering trash service proposals

The Clarendon City Council opened proposals for solid waste services during their regular meeting last Thursday, June 12, with two companies bidding to serve the city.

Proposals were received from Waste Connections (doing business as Waste Wranglers), which is the company that currently has the city's trash contract, and from Republic Services.

Representatives of the two firms addressed the council with Republic going first and noting that

Clarendon has a lot of trash containers for a city its size. The usual ratio is four residences for one Dumpster, and Clarendon has a two to one ratio currently.

Republic's proposal maintains the current ratio. They are one of the largest waste management companies in the nation with 14 cities in the Amarillo area. Representatives said they like to have a presence in the communities they serve, helping with local events and giving access to grants from their corporation.

Waste Connections representatives acknowledged there had been problems during their time in the city but thanked the council for working with them to try to solve those issues. They reminded the council they have been losing money under the current contract but said they wanted to continue to provide service to the city. Waste Connections said the city could save money by going with the four to one ratio of residences to Dumpsters, and that's what they based their proposal

on. Waste Connections (dba Waste Wranglers) is the third largest company in the industry, and representatives said they have modified trucks to fit local alleys and now have a seasoned driver who knows the routes.

The council also received information from City Administrator Brian Barboza with estimates of some of the costs to reestablish the city's own trash hauling service.

Aldermen took no action last week in order to go over the different proposals. They will hold a spe-

cial meeting on June 24 to discuss the issue further and possibly take action.

Among other city business, newly elected Alderman Tom Thompson was chosen by the council at the city's Mayor Pro-Tem; and the council approved a proposal for a self-service fuel tank at Smiley Johnson Municipal Airport, adopted a hazard mitigation plan, and approved a grant application for further sidewalk improvements downtown.



Helping hands

Clarendon High School and Junior High basketball boys helped serve the community on June 9 by unloading boxes from the truck for the food bank. Seen pictured from left to right: Teagan Chesser, TJ Smith, Aiden Burnam, Brance Bell, Braxton Gribble, Paxton English, Coach Isaac, Brentley Gaines, Kreed Robinson, & Rustin Wade.

COURTESY PHOTO

City sets new high point for tax revenue

The City of Clarendon set a new record last week when Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar distributed June allocations of sales tax revenues to local governments.

Clarendon brought in \$45,683.65 for the month setting a record for June revenues for the city. The month's revenue came in more than 16 percent above the same time in 2023 when the city received \$39,219. The allocation is also 26.38 percent above last year's June figure.

The city is now running 7.89 percent ahead for the calendar year-to-date total for sales tax revenues compared to 2024 with revenue of \$272,166.26.

Hedley was up this month by 3.93 percent at \$965.10 with a year-to-date total up 21.98 percent at \$6,917.99. Howardwick was up 16.89 percent for June at \$1,817.53 and 29.90 percent ahead of for the year-to-date at 11,929.01.

The Donley County Assistance District still in its first year of collections received \$1,497.26 this month and is now at \$7,732.48 for the year.

Statewide, Hegar sent \$1.2 billion in local sales tax allocations for June, 6.1 percent more than this time last year. June allocations are based on sales made in April by businesses that report tax monthly

Plans shaping up for CHS alumni reunion

Eighteen Clarendon High School alumni representing 11 different graduating classes met Monday evening to discuss plans for an all-school reunion during Homecoming this fall September 4-6.

Virginia Patten opened the meeting by telling saying the reunion this fall had been the idea of the late Tommy Hill, and she said the community would make it happen for Tommy.

Details are still being worked out, but organizers are looking at a three-day reunion that would start Thursday, Sept. 4, with a special movie at the Sandell Drive-In. Friday's activities would start with sloppy Joes for lunch at The Roost—the new event venue downtown in the former Cowboy Church building and visiting throughout the day. Alumni would support the Colt Parents' Mexican Pile-On that evening before watching the Broncos take on Sanford-Fritch for Homecoming. The Mulkey Theatre would also be open for those not wanting to go to the game.

The Roost would be back open, possibly for breakfast on Saturday morning. Lunch would be on your own at REFZ Sports Bar & Grill with desserts, coffee, and tea at The Roost afterward. Tours of the school, the courthouse, and other local attractions will be available Saturday afternoon.

Saturday night would feature a catered dinner by Dyers Barbecue at The Roost and a live band on the street in the 200 block of Kearney.

Each class is asked to designate one member to contact their classmates and gather RSVPs and barbecue ticket money (\$20 each) and turn all of that money and information in to Renee Mott at 806-681-2630 by August 22. Donations to offset other reunion expenses (not barbecue tickets) may be mailed to Virginia Patten at PO Box 388, Clarendon, TX 79226.

Classes represented Monday night were 1960, 1961, 1962, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1981, 1989, 2001, and 2014. A flyer with more information will be ready for distribution soon.



Employee of the Month

Linda Weatherton Moore (center) was named the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce Employee of the Month recently for the excellent customer service and great attitude she brings to her job at the Donley County Senior Citizens Center. To nominate someone for this recognition, go to ClarendonTX.com/employeeofthemoth.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO

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Death offers us a time of reflection

Death often comes as a shock and leads us to reflect on friendships, the fleeting nature of life, and, of course, our own mortality. So it was in the past week when our town lost a beloved leader with the passing of Tommy Hill and our family lost a dear – but sometimes eccentric – relative when Fred Gray found his eternal rest.

Tommy grew up in Clarendon and was known by almost everyone in town. He was friendly, hard-working, and had a huge heart for other people and especially for his family. He did his best to support every worthwhile endeavor in this town and always wanted our community to thrive. He'd buy a raffle ticket for just about anything, but he always wanted Brenda's name on it. "She's luckier than I am," he would say.

He served for multiple terms on the Clarendon City Council, always looking out for the taxpayer and doing his best to make sure the city stayed fiscally conservative.

At times, some of his positions and votes were not popular and sometimes he drew fire from this column. The criticism was never meant to be personal, and as best as I could ever tell, he never took it personally. No matter how hard an editorial might be on him or the action he supported, he still came into the newspaper office to visit, still smiled, and still assured us that it was all going to be alright.

Unlike a lot of politicians these days, Tommy knew people could disagree but still be friends. He did his job as an alderman as best he could and did what he thought was right. I did my job covering the news on page one and giving my opinion on page two, and other people, including Tommy might disagree with that opinion. But we were still friends; he'd still shake your hand.

And what hard-working hands he had. Rough and callused, the hands of a carpenter, who spent a lifetime earning a living through manual labor. I'll always remember those hands, his smile, and his sense of humor. But most of all I'll remember his commitment to loving his family and his community.

Freddy Gray was a different character. He had his own sense of humor – sometimes witty, often raunchy, and usually inappropriate. If Fred did not offend you at some point, your turn just hadn't come up yet.

That's not to say that I didn't love the man. I most certainly did. It took a bit of time because I didn't know how to take him at first, but I soon came to value Fred as a deep thinker, a man that you could have a conversation with about almost anything from science to religion to politics to history. We sometimes clashed but often agreed or at least understood the other's point of view.

You never knew what was going to come out of Fred's mouth or what was going to come out of his pen as a columnist and journalist. As an editor, I just tried to keep him from going of the rails when he got wound up. I admired his passion though. He would take stances that weren't popular – opposing the PVC crosses in town and the Ten Commandments monument, for example – and he would also take strong positions on child abuse and other subjects of the day. He loved Donley County and its people. He firmly believed that this is the best place with the best people on earth.

Fred, for all his bluster and all his penchant for shocking people, could also be very thoughtful and insightful. During the darkest time in my career, he recognized how covering a gruesome case of child abuse had affected me, and he was one of the people closest to me who helped me through that. He was a friend when I needed one the most, and I always tried to be that friend for him after that.

"It was fun. Off to Claude for my death," Fred texted me a week before his passing. It was his way of telling me his end was near. I was blessed to get to spend time with Fred before the end came so we could both tell each other what we meant to each other, but we weren't saying anything we didn't already know.

Fred did not want to die, but he did not fear it. Several years ago, he had had a near-death experience. One night, he told me about it – the white light that we all have heard stories about. But what stood out in his memory were the intense feelings of calm and warmth and love and the realization that he was not afraid.

Fred and Tommy are in that place now – no fear, no pain, only love and joy. Let's live our lives to the fullest and remember that it will most definitely be alright.

Meanwhile...

The Donley County Democratic Party held a "No Kings" coffee and tea party last Saturday, June 14, as small part of a larger movement across the nation in opposition to some of President Trump's policies. There was no violence or drama at the local gathering. Just a group of people who disagree with the majority on some issues, and that's alright.

Some social media comments were not so friendly, and those opinions are okay as well. But somehow, somehow we have to get back to being civil. We're not going to get that from our government leaders, but We the People have to start respecting each other and listening to each other. United we stand; divided we fall.

State of the County - Decade of Progress

By John C. Howard, MD
Donley County Judge

As we approach our nation's birthday, I think it is appropriate that I report to you on the state of the county, and I am pleased to inform you that the condition of Donley County is very good. We asked for the blessing of the Almighty, and He has bestowed it with abundance. Over the past decade I have been involved with county government, a great deal of progress has been made. Change does not come rapidly in county government and some changes might be imperceptible. But a contrast between now and ten years ago reveals how much has been accomplished.

PERSONNEL - The heart of county government, and our most valuable resource, is the people who work for the county. In Donley County we have 35 full-time employees and elected officials. Salaries ten years ago were deplorable, and we made it a priority to improve them. A comparison of salaries then and now might be illustrative. Then a deputy made about \$30,000 per year; now, \$62,600 - \$67,800. Jailer dispatchers made about \$21,000, now \$47,000. Clerical personnel made about \$19,000, now \$33,000. Road hands made about \$23,000 per year then; now, about \$36,000. Retirement and health benefits have likewise increased. The annual cost of health insurance in 2015 was \$8700 per employee. Now it is over \$15,000. Improved salary and benefits allow us to attract and retain the best employees for the county.

INFRASTRUCTURE - The center of county government is our 130-year-old courthouse – the oldest functioning courthouse in the Panhandle and a destination for quite a few admiring visitors. A priority of the Commissioners Court has been the preservation of the appearance and functionality of this historically significant structure. The courthouse grounds are important in creating an impression and to that end we have planted fifty new trees to replace dead, decaying, and dangerous trees which were removed. They will enhance our courthouse grounds for generations to come. Sidewalks have been repaired, and additional parking has been created on the south side of the Annex. HVAC

has been updated and improved, and windows have been refurbished both inside and out. Care is taken to preserve the courthouse as our legacy for generations to come. And a \$3.1 million project will begin this year to address serious structural defects recently discovered which jeopardize the integrity of the entire south wall of the courthouse.

New county barns have been constructed in both Hedley and Clarendon to protect expensive road maintenance equipment. And a new office was built for the Justice of the Peace in Hedley to replace a facility which had become dilapidated. Many of you have noticed the interior of the Courthouse Annex and the changes that have been made make the facility more attractive and more functional.

Plans for the near future include exterior refurbishment of the county buildings next to City Hall across from the courthouse on Sully Street. And a county-wide plan for the installation of emergency generators has been funded under a grant from FEMA. Generators are to be placed at the Red Cross evacuation center (the Methodist Church in Clarendon), Howardwick City Hall, and the City of Howardwick VFD station, Hedley ISD, Clarendon ISD, the Donley County Senior Citizens Center, and the Donley County Activity Center. Generators at these critical facilities would preserve power to protect food storage and preparation necessary for responding to prolonged power outages. The grant application, submitted three years ago, was approved by FEMA last November. But the cost of generators has increased significantly, and we are working with FEMA and TDEM to secure additional funding for the project.

A site has been secured and prepared for future construction of a new Sheriff's Office with spaces for emergency management in the event the county faces a widespread disaster. Our 911 dispatch center is located in the jail, and this critical center, while functional, is the smallest of any in the 26 counties of the Panhandle. Any attempt to make improvements here in the future would necessarily expand into what is now the Sheriff's Office. And the Sheriff would then need new spaces. But to be clear,

any plans for new construction would be dependent on acquiring grant funding.

BUDGET AND TAX RATES - The past ten years have seen a significant increase in the cost of equipment necessary to perform the essential functions of county government. More than \$120,000 was spent to acquire new voting machines compliant with state requirements. New motor graders now cost more than \$400,000. New police vehicles cost over \$70,000. It is critical that we maintain equipment capable of responding in an emergency, whether for law enforcement or maintaining roads or constructing a fire break when wildfires threaten lives and property. Health insurance, which cost \$270,000 in 2015 now costs \$534,000. Along with the aforementioned increases in salaries and all other cost increases, our budget, which was \$2.3 million, is now \$4.3 million. And yet our tax rate is lower. Tax rates for the county in 2015 were about \$0.63 per \$100 valuation, and now they are about \$0.58. (By comparison, the tax rate in 1979 was \$1.25.) Today's tax rate is about a nickel lower than 10 years ago, and our budget has almost doubled! Then we paid last year's bills with next year's tax revenue, creating a hole in the budget from the beginning. We had no capital reserve. Now, we have reserves which earn the county interest income so that we can keep tax rates as low as possible.

Donley County has profited from sound financial practices, prudent management of resources, and taking advantage of grant funding when available. We have benefitted from over \$6 million in grant funding and will likely continue to receive more in years to come. And the new Rural Ambulance grant will allow the county to apply for funding new ambulances for the Hospital District to keep your overall tax rates as low as possible.

We now have reasonable salaries, attractive and functional buildings, sound and reliable equipment and vehicles, and cash reserves on deposit earning interest. Our tax rates are lower, and our fiscal position is stable. I am pleased to report that the state of Donley County is very good, indeed.



Clarendon is the best place to be

Editor's Note: The following column is reprinted from the February 22, 2012, edition of the Enterprise.

Beginning with this edition of THE CLARENDON ENTERPRISE, I will be writing a weekly opinion column, assuming of course that I am able stay in everyone's (particularly Roger's) good graces. I am blessed with a plethora of opinions regarding our pesky politicians, stupid moral peccadilloes, corporate misconduct, and outrageous Wall Street behavior.

This column will address these issues, in addition to other concerns that I find to be morally and socially suspect. The title of this column is "The Quick, the Dead, and Fred."

The Fred part is me, Freddy Leonard Gray. Regarding the title of this column, the word "quick" means fast or smart, while the word "dead" means slow, or dumb. I usually fall somewhere between these two points. In some realms I am smart, in others I am dumber than a sack of roaches, and about as useful.

Back in the halcyon days of 1948, when Clarendon's streets were smooth

and well maintained, and the central business district was crackling with commerce, my mother, Frieda Putman Gray, gave birth to me at the Saints' Roost Museum. Of course, she had plenty of help from her mother (Terra Putman), a crack nursing staff, along with a few suggestions from Dr. Stewart – which she promptly disregarded, lest his professional ministrations unduly interrupt her labor pains.

Perhaps my father, Jack E. Gray, was proudly handing out cigars in the waiting area. More likely, he was asleep in the delivery waiting room, since I was born at 1:37 a.m. It is doubtful that few, if any, people rushed down to the hospital to smoke a celebratory stogie with Dad.

Now, my family is very supportive, so it is possible that Aunt Joan and Uncle Bob (Kidd), Aunt Yvonne and



the quick,
the dead,
and fred
by Freddy Gray

Uncle Raymond (King), Aunt Norma and Uncle Junior (Putman), and maybe Aunt Lillian and Uncle Earl (Easterling) all rushed down to participate in the festivities surrounding my entrance into the world. Realistically, Dad was probably alone if he was there at all. He could have stayed home with my older brother, Barry, tucked in his nice warm bed, dreaming exciting dreams about the future exploits of his second son.

When my family moved to Lubbock at the end of my fourth grade year, I knew that I would someday move back home to be with my family and my people. I love rural Texas, and I particularly love the people, the culture, and the wide-open spaces of Donley County. Even though more than half a century has passed, I am finally home and glad to be here, where I belong.

I hope that you all, our readers, find this column to be both enlightening and educational. Feel free to let me know how I am doing. I am excited about this endeavor, and fervently hope that everyone enjoys my modest contributions to the life and fabric to our community.

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

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

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DEADLINES

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

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LETTERS

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

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The Texas Panhandle's First Newspaper

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

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CLARENDON'S 148TH ANNUAL

SAINTS' ROOST CELEBRATION

COEA

RODEOS

Kids Events All Three Nights
Music & Dancing on the Slab Nightly
LIVE MUSIC FRIDAY: TANNER LANE MUSIC
LIVE MUSIC SATURDAY: SETH WARD & THE SILENCE

JULY 3: JUNIOR RODEO 7:30 pm • JULY 4 & 5: RANCH RODEO 7:30 pm

PARADES

HERRING BANK PARADE
JULY 5 @ 10 am
LIBERTY KIDS PARADE @ 9 am



DONLEY COUNTY 4-H

CRAFT FAIR

JULY 5 @ 9 am
COURTHOUSE

AL MORRAH SHRINERS'

BARBECUE

COURTHOUSE
JULY 5 AFTER PARADE

JULY

HENSONS'

TURTLE RACES

JULY 5 @ 1:30 pm • DOWNTOWN

3•4•5

HOSTED BY DOWNTOWN MINISTRY CENTER
DEPRESSION LUNCH JULY 3 @ 11 am
EVENT HELD AT THE LIONS HALL

 Clarendon
Stay all night! Stay a little longer!

CLARENDON LIONS CLUB

BAG BINGO

JULY 4 @ 11 AM

VISIT CLARENDONTX.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION AND EVENTS SCHEDULE.

★

¿Qué Pasa?

Community Calendar

June 20 & 21
Mulkey Theatre • How to Train Your Dragon • 7:30 p.m.

June 22
Mulkey Theatre • How to Train Your Dragon • 2:00 p.m.

July 4
Fourth of July Scramble • Clarendon Country Club • Call 806-874-2166

July 4
Lions Club Bingo
Lions Hall, 11 a.m. • ClarendonTX.com for details

July 3, 4, & 5
Saints' Roost Celebration
Craft Fair, Parades, BBQ, Turtle Race, Ranch Rodeo, Live Music, Dancing, and more.

July 12 & 13
Two-Person Scramble • Clarendon Country Club • 806-874-2166.

July 19
Howardwick Hoedown. 11 a.m. at McMorries Memorial Park featuring Food, craft and Vendor Booths, Music, Raffles, Cornhole and more!
• ClarendonTx.com for info.

August 2 & 3
Jack & Jill Scramble
Clarendon Country Club. Call 806-874-2166.

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Menus

June 23 - 27

Donley County Senior Citizens
Mon: Lasagna, Brussel sprouts, garden salad, garlic bread stick, chocolate pudding/whipped topping, iced tea/2% milk.
Tues: Sliced ham, buttered carrots, black eyed peas, whole wheat roll, peach crisp, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Chicken alfredo, broccoli & cauliflower, garden salad, garlic bread stick, lemon cake, iced tea/2% milk.
Thurs: Roast w/gravy, baked potatoes, spinach, whole wheat roll, banana pudding, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Pollock, Brussel sprouts, French fries, hushpuppies, iced tea/2% milk.

Hedley Senior Citizens
Mon: Smothered stake w/brown gravy, roasted garlic red potatoes, California blend vegetables, whole wheat roll, lemon cake, iced tea/2% milk.
Tues: Beef soft tacos, refried beans, Spanish rice, mixed green salad, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Chicken fried steak, country gravy, homemade mashed potatoes, green beans w/ bacon & onion, fruit cobbler, whole wheat biscuit, iced tea/2% milk.
Thurs: King ranch beef casserole, ranch style beans, garden salad, tortilla, black forest parfait, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Bacon cheeseburger, onion rings, mixed green salad, fruit, iced tea/2% milk.



The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting June 17, 2025, with Boss Lion Richard Green in command.

We had fourteen Lions present, two attending virtually, and two guests this week – Matthew and Monroe Newhouse, guest of Lion Anndria Newhouse.

Lion Anndria gave an update on Bag Bingo, the goal is 20 minimum bags and to be advertised online. It has also come to the attention of the Lions for this year to have participation in a best salsa contest, and the winner will receive a golden sombrero. Lion Anndria Newhouse also reminded everyone that the blood drive will be during the celebration.

Lion John Howard gave an update on the county. The courthouse work will be discussed during Monday's commissioners meeting. The plan is to take five to six months for the project to complete. He also said the county is waiting to hear back from FEMA regarding the generator grant.

Lion Brian Barboza gave an update about the city. Sidewalk work in the 200 block of Kearney is going smooth with the contractors anticipating it to be completed before the fourth of July celebrations.

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



Preventive action

Hedley Fire Chief Beagle, Capt. Kingston, and Firefighters Walker, Monroe, and Wood spent part of their day Saturday conducting a controlled burn on a Hedley resident's property. The burn cleared a large area of brush, which helped reduce wildfire danger for the resident's home. Controlled burns are an effective way to reduce fuel loads and mitigate wildfires. Hedley VFD is available to conduct burns for residents within their response area, providing weather conditions and firefighter availability. For more information or to schedule a burn, contact the HVD at hedleyvfd@gmail.com.

COURTESY PHOTO



Honored service

Lloyd Virgil Risley was honored with a Veteran's Quilt recently by the members of the Golden Needles Quilt Club. Lloyd attended the University of Texas from 1957 to 1959. In 1961, he joined the Air Force and went to San Antonio for training. He qualified for special language school in Syracuse, New York, for Russian for nine months in the middle of the Cold War. He then returned to Texas for radio school. He was sent to Samsun, Turkey, Air Base, where he monitored Russian transmissions. He was in Turkey during the Cuban Missile Crisis. The US military was on high alert during this pivotal point in world history. In 1963, he returned from Turkey to Altus, Okla., and in September of 1961, he was honorably discharged.

COURTESY PHOTO

In-state tuition change may cost Texas

By Freda Ross, Texas News Service

Immigrant rights groups have said they are considering legal action to restore a Texas law allowing in-state tuition rates for undocumented college students.

The move comes after the Department of Justice sued Texas and within hours, state officials complied without a fight. According to the U.S. attorney general, federal law prohibits schools from providing benefits to undocumented students not provided to U.S. citizens.

Kelly Cobb, partner and business immigration attorney at the Jackson Walker Law Firm in Houston, said the law had been on the books since 2001.

"They get the same residence requirement as someone that was born here," Cobb pointed out. "I think it's more of a policy argument. These were children brought here and why should they be penalized and have to pay higher tuition?"

Texas was the first state to enact such a law to help young adults without legal status. Conservative legislators have tried to repeal the law for years. Cobb noted if an appeal is filed, a judge could allow the law to remain in effect through the appeals process.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton took partial credit for the legislation being overturned. The lawsuit was filed just days after the

end of the legislative session, where a bill to repeal the law stalled after passing out of a Senate committee. According to the American Immigration Council, the state will lose an estimated \$460 million a year in wages if the ban remains in effect.

"It's going to have a financial impact on the universities," Cobb explained. "Also, they're going to college so they are going to come out professionals with degrees, who should be earning more. So, they will make money; they will make jobs."

The move is part of the Trump administration's crackdown on illegal immigration. Currently, 24 states allow undocumented students to pay in-state tuition.

New laws reduce barriers for small businesses

Governor Greg Abbott on Tuesday delivered remarks and signed House Bill 346, House Bill 2464, House Bill 5195, House Concurrent Resolution 142, and Senate Bill 2206 into law to enhance Texas' business-friendly environment at the Fort Worth Economic Development Partnership luncheon.

Passed during the 89th Regular Legislative Session, these laws will accelerate the process for starting a business in Texas and cut unnecessary government regulations on small businesses.

"Most businesses in the state are actually small businesses," said Governor Abbott. "They employ about half of all employees around the entire state. We wanted to make sure that we passed laws that would improve the process of doing business in the state, and we took strategic steps to achieve just that. The laws being signed today reduce barriers for small businesses and prioritize ordinary Texans."

During his remarks, Governor Abbott highlighted the strength of Texas' booming economy and that Texas is the best place to start and own a business.

While speaking at the Fort Worth Economic Development Partnership luncheon, he also touted the role that Fort Worth plays in the Texas economy and in advancing America's leadership in military capacity and aerospace technology.

Additionally, the Governor discussed the slate of pro-business legislation passed this legislative session that codifies the business judgement rule, protects shareholders from frivolous lawsuits, and increases business personal property tax exemptions.

The laws signed by the Governor today build on the progress started under his Small Business Freedom Council, which he launched last year to review government efficiency for Texas businesses and provide recommendations to cut unnecessary government regulations.

The Governor was joined by Senators Kelly Hancock, Bryan Hughes, Royce West; Representatives Benjamin Bumgarner, Charlie Geren, Caroline Harris Davila, John McQueeney, Morgan Meyer, Katrina Pierson, Nate Schatzline, David Spiller, Tony Tinderholt; Mayor Mattie Parker; Fort Worth Economic

Development Partnership President and CEO Robert Allen; and other state and local officials and business leaders.

House Bill 346 (Harris Davila/King) allows the Secretary of State to offer expedited business filings so Texas small businesses can establish themselves quickly. This law will also make the new-veteran-owned business franchise tax exemption and business filing waiver permanent.

House Bill 2464 (Hefner/Middleton) prevents cities from imposing regulations on certain home-based businesses.

House Bill 5195 (Capriglione/Alvarado) requires state agencies to assess modernization of their internet website to make it easier to do business.

House Concurrent Resolution 142 (Geren/Hancock) designates Fort Worth as the aviation and defense capital of Texas.

Senate Bill 2206 (Bettencourt/Geren) increases the research and development franchise tax credit up to 11 percent for qualified research expenses and creates a refundable franchise tax credit.

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No Kings

The Donley County Democratic Party held a No Kings Day coffee and tea party on June 14, coinciding with larger events across the nation in opposition to policies of President Trump. About 30 people attended the local peaceful come and go event during the course of the afternoon.

COURTESY PHOTO

Obituaries
Gray

Freddy Leonard Gray passed away peacefully on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, in Claude at the age of 77.

Cremation will be under the care of Robertson Funeral Directors, and memorial services will be held at a later date.



Gray

Fred was born in Clarendon on March 27, 1948, in the Adair Hospital to Jack and Freida (Putman) Gray, and he grew up in Clarendon until the fourth grade when his family moved to Lubbock. He graduated from Monterey High School there and later earned a Bachelor's of Business Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Most of his career was spent in sales of one form or another. In early years, he worked in capital markets as an institutional fixed income investment salesman. In later years, he was a salesman of products and services for corporate leadership and business management functions.

Fred was a student of history and loved reading about and discussing the subject. He was a keen political observer and was not afraid to express his opinions. He also had a passion for what he called "The Beautiful Game" – soccer. In the early 1990s, Fred was the public relations director for the Salt Lake Sting, a short-lived professional soccer team based in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Following retirement and health issues, Fred returned home to Clarendon more than 20 years ago, in his words, "to die." Donley County was the place he loved the most, and it was his desire to spend whatever time he had left near family and friends.

However, realizing that he was not dying right away, Fred signed on as a columnist, reporter, and sports-writer for The Clarendon Enterprise in 2012. In 2013, his writing helped

the Enterprise win the first place and Best Editorial Page award from the West Texas Press Association, and his "The Quick, The Dead, & Fred" column won first place in Column Writing. He loved the purpose of the Fourth Estate, was a defender of the Press, and was proud of his time at the Enterprise. He reveled in reporting or opining about controversy and did not shy away from tough subjects.

Ultimately, illness and disease caught up with Fred, and he entered into hospice care of his own choosing with the confident anticipation of a grand reunion and followed his path to eternal peace.

Fred was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Cindy.

He is survived by his children – Lance, Kyle, and Natalie; two brothers, Barry and Danny; five grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; a host of cousins; and several friends – particularly Elmonette Bivens, Roger Estlack, and Randy Bullard, his best friend for 60 years. Fred was also particularly grateful for the compassion, companionship, and care shown by cousins Kathy Holland and Ashlee Estlack.

Fred would not want his friends and family to be sad and would likely say the best way to honor his memory is to live your own life to the fullest and not take things too seriously.

Smith

Steven Wesley "Steve" Smith, 73, of Clarendon passed away on Sunday, June 15, 2025, in Memphis.

A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at Community Fellowship Church in Clarendon, with Rev. Larry Capranica and Jerry Koontz officiating.

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

Steve was born on November

24, 1951, in Clarendon to S.J. and Joan Shawhart Smith. He married the love of his life, Wanda Ann Longbine, on November 24, 1973, in Clarendon. A lifelong resident of the area, Steve spent his career as a Maintenance Supervisor for TX DOT, retiring in 2002. He was also well known for owning and operating Saints' Roost Steakout and Steve's Steakout for many years.

A gifted artist, Steve's true passion was painting. His creativity extended into every aspect of his life, from his artwork to the care he gave to his yard and garden. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and traveling to Ruidoso, New Mexico for horse races. More than anything, he cherished time spent with his grandchildren—watching them play sports, participate in stock shows, and grow up in the community he loved.

Steve was deeply dedicated to Clarendon and its people. He served for many years as a member of the Clarendon Volunteer Fire Department, Clarendon City Council, and as Mayor. He was also active in the Clarendon Outdoor Entertainment Association, Clarendon Masonic Lodge, and Little League. He was a faithful member of Community Fellowship Church in Clarendon. Steve will be remembered for his unwavering love for his family, his devotion to his community, and the joy and color he brought into the world through his art and his life.

He was preceded in death by his parents, S.J. Smith and Joan McAfee; his stepmother, Mildred Smith; his brother, Jerry Smith; and his brother-in-law, Kenneth Crump.

He is survived by his loving wife, Wanda Smith of Clarendon; his son, Wesley Smith and wife Amanda of Clarendon; his daughter, Gina Gaines of Fort Worth; a son-in-law, Alton Gaines of Clarendon; his sisters, Janey Salzman of La Plata, Colorado and Kim McAfee of Vernon; five grandchildren, Alton Gaines, Johnny Gaines, Taylor Gaines, Madison Smith, and Presley Smith; seven great-grandchildren; and several beloved nieces and nephews.

The family requests that memorial donations be made to Community Fellowship Church or the Clarendon Volunteer Fire Department.

Lights, buzz, action: June bugs are back in Texas

They appear at your porch light. They thud against windows. They dive-bomb you during evening walks. June bugs are out in full force in Texas.

These clumsy beetles may seem annoying, but they're mostly harmless. Wizzie Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service senior program specialist with the Texas A&M Department of Entomology, Austin, shares what Texans need to know about June bugs, including their environmental benefits and how to deal with them around your home.

What are June bugs? First, let's clear up the name. The nickname "June bug" refers to several species of scarab beetles. This nickname can be misleading, as June bugs typically emerge in late spring and stick around through the end of summer. The most common names in Texas are the May or June beetle, the green June beetle and, of course, the June bug.

What's their biggest draw? Light. Porch lights, uncovered windows or any bright nighttime glow will draw them in – often with a

crash landing.

"They're not great at flying," Brown said, explaining that June bugs rely solely on their hind wings, often resulting in awkward landings.

While "June bug" is one of the common terms people use to describe these flying beetles, it's technically incorrect!

According to the Entomological Society of America's common name guidelines, the proper common name is June beetle, a term that refers to several scarab beetles found across Texas.

Despite their large numbers, adult June beetles are mostly harmless to people.

And although their legs feel spiky, Brown said that's because of the tiny spines on their legs that help them grip – not hurt.

In terms of ecosystem roles, the adult beetles serve a purpose. They're a food source for birds, lizards, fish and other predators. Their larvae, commonly called white grubs, are decomposers that break down organic matter in soil. However, they can be considered pests if they damage lawns.

"Grubs can be beneficial in compost piles," Brown said, "but if they're eating turfgrass roots, they can become pests."

If you'd like to reduce June bug activity around your home: Turn off porch lights or use bug-safe bulbs until the end of summer, when June bugs begin to disappear. Check your turf before treating it. If you suspect damage from grubs, confirm they're the cause before applying any treatments. Use products formulated for turf, and only where needed, to avoid harming beneficial organisms and insects. Bottom line: Don't bug out. June bugs may not be the most graceful summer guests. However, they're more misunderstood than harmful. And they just might be playing a bigger role in your backyard than you think.

Brown recommends the iNaturalist app as a fun way for bug enthusiasts to track and identify insects. By using the app, you can contribute to citizen science projects and biodiversity research.

"It's a great tool for learning and helping researchers track biodiversity," she said.

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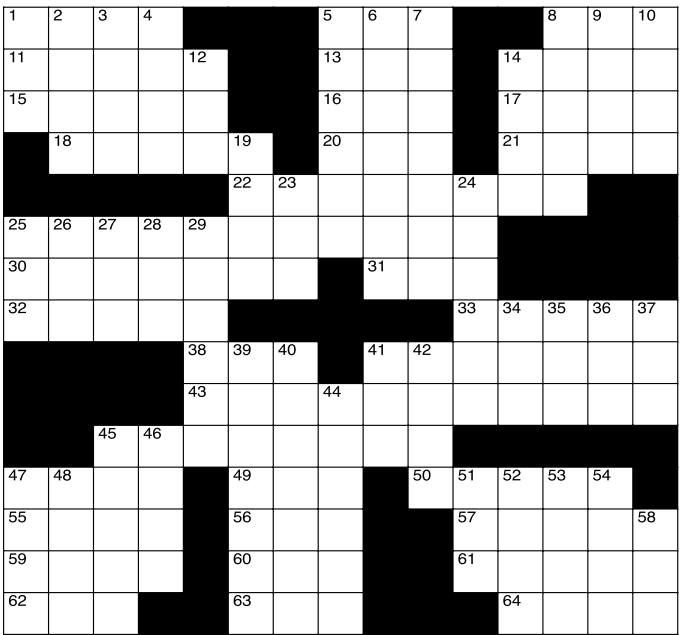
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Breeze through
- 5. Supervises interstate commerce
- 8. Unruly group
- 11. Backs away from
- 13. Expression of understanding
- 14. Have concern for
- 15. Monetary units
- 16. Congressman (abbr.)
- 17. Iranian city
- 18. Eating houses
- 20. 2,000 lbs.
- 21. Grandmother
- 22. They include North, South and Central
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Foes
- 31. Shuttered British entertainment magazine
- 32. One who unloads cages
- 33. Another term for sesame
- 38. Formally forbid
- 41. Make clear
- 43. Inaccessible
- 45. Get through
- 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 49. Decimeter
- 50. Type of sword
- 55. Actor Idris
- 56. Affirmative (slang)
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. One point north of northeast
- 60. Born of
- 61. Arabic name
- 62. Traditional Hong Kong street food: ___ pai dong
- 63. Termination point
- 64. Email function

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Sign language
- 2. In style
- 3. Helsinki neighborhood
- 4. Unable to hear
- 5. More rapid
- 6. An idea accepted as a demonstrable truth
- 7. In a cagey way
- 8. Kate and Rooney are two
- 9. Algerian port
- 10. Community in Ladakh
- 12. Midway between south and southeast
- 14. Town in Galilee
- 19. Satisfy
- 23. Italian impressionist painter
- 24. Brass instrument
- 25. Chest muscle (slang)
- 26. Transmits genetic information from DNA to the cytoplasm
- 27. Records electric currents generated by the brain
- 28. Woman (French)
- 29. Aircraft designed to carry lots of passengers
- 34. Baseball stat
- 35. Pointed end of a pen
- 36. Popular sports league
- 37. Body part
- 39. Unlikely to provoke dissent
- 40. Yellowish cotton cloth
- 41. Domesticated house pet
- 42. Untruths
- 44. Set out to attract
- 45. Spiritual leader
- 46. Abba ___, Israeli politician
- 47. Repair
- 48. Genus of flowering plants
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. River in central Europe
- 54. Harness
- 58. Father



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SUN. 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE
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• WED.: 7 P.M.

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SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED. COMMUNITY KIDZ 5:30 P.M.
WED. ADULT BIBLE STUDY: 6 P.M.

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WED. BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 P.M.

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

CLARENDON METHODIST CHURCH
420 S. JEFFERSON • 874-3667 • BRO. RYAN QUIST
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. YOUTH: 6:00 P.M. • WED. BIBLE STUDY 6:30 P.M.

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

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

CHRIST'S KIDS OUTREACH MINISTRY:
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SUN. BREAKFAST 9:30 A.M. • SUN. PRAISE & WORSHIP 10 A.M.
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PUBLIC MEETING & WATCHTOWER STUDY: SUN. 10 A.M.
BIBLE STUDY, CONGREGATIONAL THEOCRATIC MINISTRY
SCHOOL & SERVICE MEETING • TUES.: 7 P.M.

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ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
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FR. BALA POLLISSETTI
SUN. MASS 11 A.M.

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

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

THE GATHERING
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SUNDAY: 10 A.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

HEDLEY

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

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

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

HOWARDWICK

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SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

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Congressman Jackson bill protect ag animals from foreign disease

Congressman Ronny Jackson (TX-13) has reintroduced the Foreign Animal Disease Prevention, Surveillance and Rapid Response Act. This legislation makes critical investments in the foremost animal health programs at USDA that are critical to protecting America’s farmers’ and ranchers’ livestock operations from devastating foreign animal diseases and pests. Rep. Don Bacon (NE-02), Rep. Don Davis (NC-01), and Rep. Jim Costa (CA-21) are co-leading this legislation.

“As the representative of one of the largest animal agriculture districts in the country, I know how essential it is to ensure that the Department of Agriculture has the tools necessary to stay ahead of foreign animal disease outbreaks, not just react to them,” said Rep. Ronny Jackson. “With the threat of New World screwworm moving closer to our Southern Border and USDA being required to halt live animal imports from Mexico, proactive investment is critical to protect our agricultural producers, our rural economies, and our food supply.”

“We need to ensure that when epidemics like African Swine Fever make it to the U.S., they can be stopped in their tracks, and the Foreign Animal Disease Prevention, Surveillance, and Rapid Response Act will help with that,” said Rep. Don Bacon. “The Swine Fever has been detected in the Dominican Republic and Haiti, and could cost the U.S. Swine industry, which

Nebraska is a leader in, \$50 billion.” “Agriculture is the cornerstone of eastern North Carolina’s economy, and farmers and producers need access to all available tools to combat threats such as African swine fever and avian influenza,” said Rep. Don Davis. “By focusing on early detection, rapid response, and strong protection measures, we can ensure the resilience and vitality of our livestock industry.”

“Protecting livestock operations and having the tools to prevent animal disease outbreak is critical to keeping our food supply chain intact,” said Rep. Jim Costa. “This legislation will boost our nation’s efforts to prevent, detect and respond to animal disease outbreaks that threaten American agriculture and therefore our nation.”

Cosponsors include Representatives Don Davis (NC-01), Don Bacon (NE-02), Jim Costa (CA-21), Adam Gray (CA-13), David Rouzer (NC-07), Brad Finstad (MN-01), and Dan Newhouse (WA-04)

Comprehensive list of stakeholders supporting the measure include: American Sheep Industry Association; American Veterinary Medical Association; Livestock Marketing Association; National Association of State Departments of Agriculture; National Cattlemen’s Beef Association; National Milk Producers Federation; National Pork Producers Council; Texas Cattle Feeders Association; and Texas Farm Bureau.

Governor Abbott Signs Property Tax Relief Laws In Denton

Governor Greg Abbott signed House Bill 9, Senate Bill 4, and Senate Bill 23 into law to provide lasting property tax relief for Texans at a bill signing ceremony at Robson Ranch Clubhouse in Denton on Monday.

“When I became Governor, the homestead exemption was \$15,000,” said Governor Abbott. “With Senate Bill 4, the homestead exemption is now \$140,000, an almost 1,000 percent increase. Seniors’ homestead exemption now goes all the way up to \$200,000. This session, we also spent \$50 billion on property tax relief. This is truly unprecedented – no state in American history has devoted such a large percentage of their budget to tax relief.”

The Governor was joined by Congressman Brandon Gill; Speaker Dustin Burrows; Senators Paul Bettencourt, Brian Birdwell, Brandon Creighton, Brent Hagenbuch, Bob Hall, Adam Hinojosa, Tan Parker, Angela Paxton, Royce West; Representatives Keith Bell, Ben Bumgarner, Charlie Geren, Andy Hopper, Morgan Meyer, Candy Noble, Jared Paterson, Keresa Richardson, Carl Tepper; Mayor Gerard Hudspeth; Denton County Commissioner Dianne Edmondson; and other state and local officials and business lead-

ers. During his remarks to a crowd of over 125 supporters and business leaders, Governor Abbott highlighted that Texas has no income tax, no death tax, and no capital gains tax. After signing House Bill 9, Senate Bill 4, and Senate Bill 23 into law, Governor Abbott pointed out that the state government does not impose property taxes on Texans – only local governments do – and that these new laws would help buy down property tax bills.

The Governor also noted that he is not done yet and will continue to work to provide Texans with the property tax relief they deserve. Specifically, Governor Abbott discussed the need to further limit the ability of local governments to raise Texans’ property taxes.

House Bill 9 (Meyer/Bettencourt) increases the business personal property tax exemption from \$2,500 to \$125,000.

Senate Bill 4 (Bettencourt/Meyer) increases mandatory school district residence homestead exemption to \$140,000.

Senate Bill 23 (Bettencourt/Meyer) increases mandatory school district residence homestead exemption for over 65 and disabled individuals to \$200,000.

Donley County Senior Citizens News

Things continue to gear up at the Donley County Senior Citizens Center as the 50th Anniversary Celebration gets closer on August 18.

Volunteers are needed to sell 50/50 quilt raffle tickets at a booth on the Courthouse Square on July 5. Volunteers can also pick up the tickets and sell them on their own. Time is short and the celebration will be here before you know it.

Those interested are also invited to come join the cast of a comedy to be performed on August 16. Stop by the center for more details.

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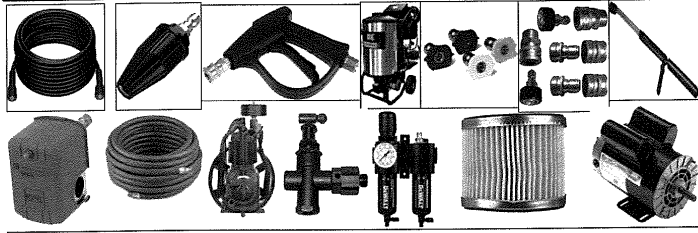
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Donley County Senior Citizens • Clarendon, Texas
A message from the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce.

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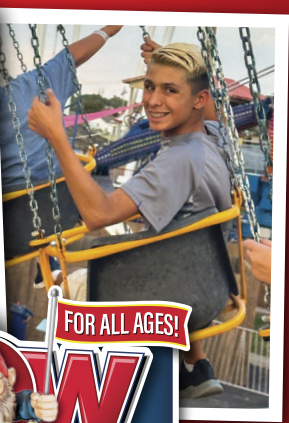
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SUDOKU

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

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

ANSWER:

JUNETEENTH

We will be closed
Monday,
June 19, 2025.



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MEETINGS



Clarendon Lodge #700 AF&M
Stated meeting: Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m. Refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Practice: Fourth Mondays, 7 p.m. Chris Wilson - W.M., Russell Estlack - Secretary, 2 B 1, ASK 1



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

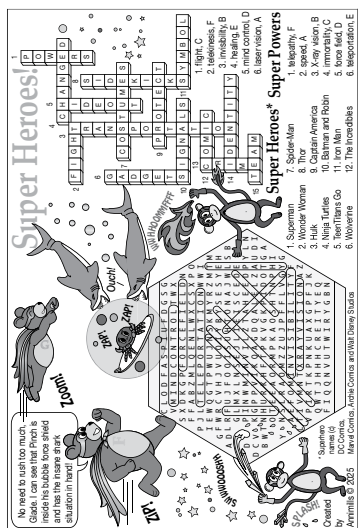
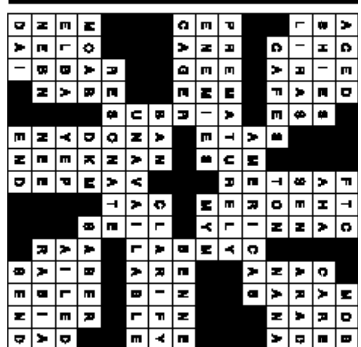


Clarendon Alcoholics Anonymous Group 806-661-1015, 806-671-9766, 806-205-1840, 24 hour hotline 877-421-4334. Mon. & Sat. 7 p.m. 416 S Kearney St.

Clarendon Chamber of Commerce Regular Board of Directors meeting third Tuesday each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Clarendon Visitor Center.

FACILITIES AVAILABLE - Family Reunions, Receptions, Business Meetings, Club Functions, and more. Clarendon Lions Hall, 111 W. Fourth. Call 874-2259 for rental information.

PUZZLE SOLUTION



PUBLIC NOTICE

CLARENDON CISD IS CURRENTLY accepting bids for the following vehicles: 2005 Ford F150 shortbed - 136208 miles, automatic transmission, rebuilt motor last year, 4.2 liter, minimum bid is \$1,000. 2003 Blue Bird Bus - 42 passenger, 7.3 International Turbo Diesel, Alice Transmission, 164,501 miles, minimum bid is \$500. Bid forms are available in the Clarendon CISD Administration office. Bids must be sealed and delivered in person at the Clarendon CISD Administration Office by 2:30 p.m. on July 2, 2025. They will be opened at 3:00 p.m. on July 2, 2025. If you have any questions, please contact Transportation Director Chad Hommel at 806-662-7632.

!!! NOTICE !!!
SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS - Held by Eastern Panhandle Shared Services Arrangement, Shamrock, Texas. Eastern Panhandle SSA is giving notice to destroy the Special Education records of students with disabilities (including speech) who graduated or were dismissed from Special Education between June 2017 and May 2018. These records involve students who attended the following schools: ALLISON ISD, CANADIAN ISD, CLARENDON CISD, FORT ELLIOTT CISD (Briscoe and Mobeetie), HEDLEY CISD, HIGGINS ISD, KELTON ISD, LAKEVIEW ISD, MCLEAN CISD, MIAMI ISD, SAMNORWOOD ISD, SHAMROCK ISD, WELLINGTON ISD, WHEELER ISD. Parents or students have the right to obtain these records rather than have them destroyed. These records may be needed to assist in obtaining Social Security benefits, exemptions for college tests or other purposes. These records will not be destroyed until July 15, 2025. If you wish to have these records, please contact: Lanna Reeves, Director, Eastern Panhandle Shared Services Arrangement, 517 South Wall, Shamrock, Texas 79079 (806)256-2592 ext. 5.

Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number of the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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HELP WANTED

THE CITY OF HEDLEY is now accepting applications for City Secretary. Application available at City Hall 109 Main Street. The City of Hedley is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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We're meeting today to start a club...

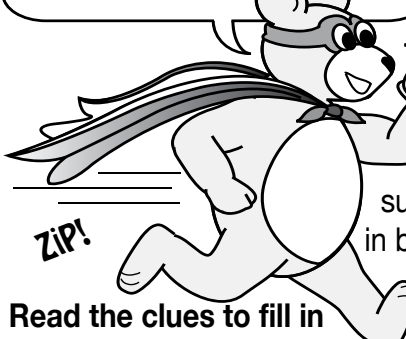


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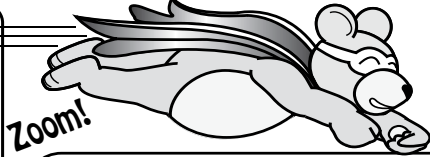
Annimills LLC © 2025 V24

No need to rush too much, Glade. I can see that Pinch is inside his bubble force shield and has the insane shark situation in hand!



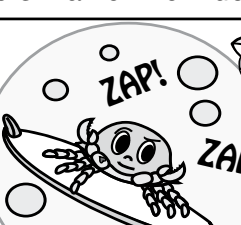
Read the clues to fill in the Super Hero puzzle:

- have super _____ like invisibility or super strength
- use powers to _____ for what's right!
- get to the scene of the crime using speedy _____
- have an amazing story explaining how they _____ from regular people into heroes
- have a secret _____ for laying low, storing their equipment
- use high-tech _____ to give them an edge
- dress in flashy _____ so people know who they are
- train _____ to help them take on the bad guys
- put themselves in harm's way to _____ people
- watch for _____ from the police or listen for a ringing hotline
- put a _____ on their chests so they are easy to spot
- may be found in graphic novels, _____ books or cartoons and movies
- fight _____
- use a secret _____ so no one knows who they are
- may work alone, but often are part of a _____

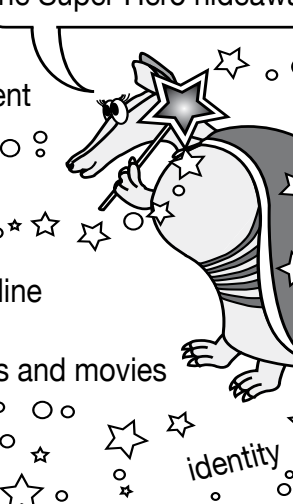


Super heroes are make-believe people who constantly help or protect others. Oh, and they have super powers that let them do it!

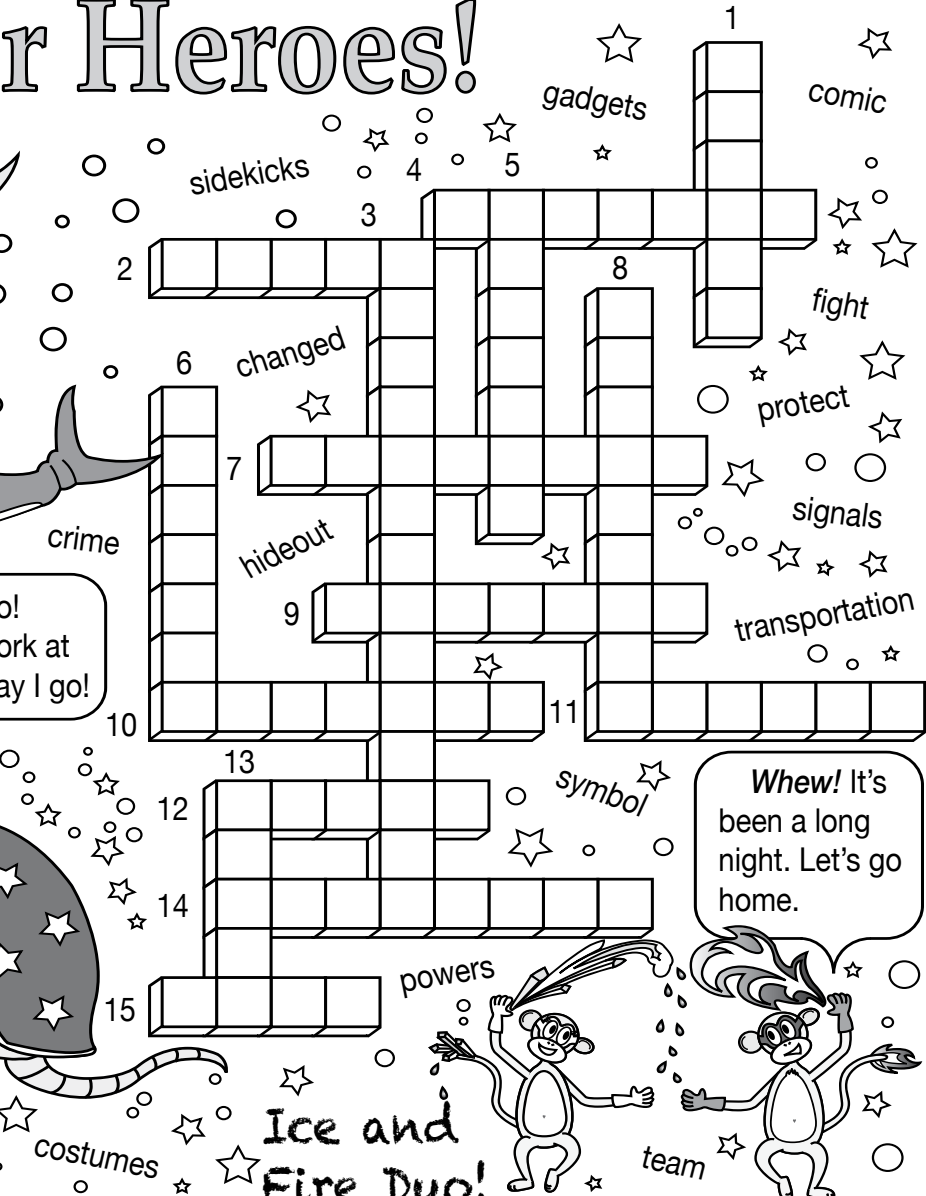
You can find superhero stories in books, comics, cartoons and movies.



Heigh Ho! Heigh Ho! Off to another day of work at the Super Hero hideaway I go!



Super Heroes!

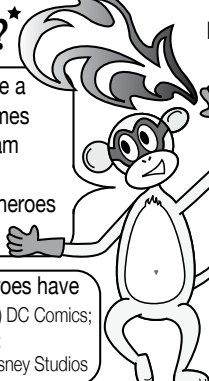


Who Are These Popular Super Heroes?*

- S _ p _ r _ m _ n
- W _ nd _ r W _ m _ n
- H _ lk
- N _ nj _ T _ rtl _ s
- T _ _ n T _ t _ ns Go
- W _ lv _ r _ n _

My super powers are a combination of fire, flames and heat. Obviously, I am fireproof too! Lots of other super heroes are heroes to me too!

*These popular super heroes have been created by: 1, 2, 5, 10 (c) DC Comics; 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 (c) Marvel Comics; 4 (c) Archie Comics; 12 (c) Walt Disney Studios



Fill in the blanks to spell the names of famous super heroes!

- Sp _ d _ r - M _ n
- Th _ r
- C _ pt _ _ n _ m _ r _ c _
- B _ tm _ n and R _ b _ n
- _ r _ n M _ n
- Th _ _ ncr _ d _ bl _ s



Solemn occasion
Members of the Adamson-Lane Post of the American Legion gathered in the Rowe Cemetery last Saturday, June 14, to observe Flag Day in a special way by holding a flag retirement service.

COURTESY PHOTO



Special delivery
It's not every day you see a carport catching a ride on a horse trailer, but that was the scene last week when Jim Owens, Roy Bertrand, and Jerry Koontz relocated a carport donated to the Donley County Senior Citizens Center by the Clarendon Housing Authority.

COURTESY PHOTO

DUI-alcohol accidents account for one quarter of fatalities

Marcus Nalepa and his 8-year-old daughter Kelsey were on the way to her softball practice in League City when their lives changed forever.

Just feet from Kelsey's elementary school, a drunk driver slammed into the family car at a stop light. Kelsey suffered brain injuries and died two days later.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is sharing Kelsey's story to remind Texans that every life on the road is a friend, a family member and a neighbor who deserves the same respect we would show them in person.

"It's not hard to make arrangements ahead of time," said Nicole Nalepa, Kelsey's mother. "There are so many other alternatives to help prevent a tragedy – like the one that happened to my family – from happening to yours."

TxDOT put a sign near the site where Kelsey died that reads, "Please don't drink and drive. In honor of Kelsey Nalepa who was killed in 2017." The family continues to plead with Texans not to drink and drive and hopes the sign can make a difference.

"If that sign saves one family, it is well worth it in my opinion," Marcus Nalepa said.

Despite the risk, some drivers still choose to drink. Most people know that drunk driving is dangerous, yet there were more than 1,000 deaths in Texas from DUI/alcohol-related crashes in 2024. That means three Texans were lost every day because a driver ignored the

risks.

"Making the choice to drive drunk instead of finding a sober ride home can and does lead to serious consequences," TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams said. "No one wants to live the rest of their life knowing they caused the death of another person on the road, and no one is impervious to the dangers of driving impaired."

TxDOT's Drive Sober. No Regrets. campaign and the traveling Faces of Drunk Driving video exhibit will showcase first-person testimonials from drunk-driving offenders and survivors. These emotional stories demonstrate the real, tangible consequences associated with drunk driving and remind Texans that every choice on the road can impact friends, families and neighbors. Increased law enforcement period

Timed with the official start of summer and the Fourth of July weekend, TxDOT's Drive Sober. No Regrets. campaign is aligned with an increased law enforcement effort to keep Texas roads safe. From June 26 through July 13, officers will be on a heightened lookout for drunk drivers to reduce DUI crashes, injuries and fatalities across the state.

Drive Sober. No Regrets. is an important part of TxDOT's Drive like a Texan: Kind. Courteous. Safe. initiative. Drive like a Texan is about embracing the pride, camaraderie and responsibility of being a Texan on the road. By making thoughtful choices, we can all help keep each other safe.

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