

The Donley County Leader

Historical News of the Pioneers of the "Green Belt" of the Panhandle of Texas

A supplement to The Clarendon Enterprise.

Volume 75 ***PIONEER EDITION*** CLARENDON, DONLEY COUNTY, TEXAS, JULY 3, 2025 ***A Common Paper For Common People***

Colonists Celebrate July 4th

The celebration of the Fourth of July, 1879, at Clarendon was successful beyond expectation, nearly one hundred persons, men, women and children enjoyed the day together. Last year the assemblage was small and very much inferior to the present.

H. B. Hawkins was chief of the management and wore his eagles. Mrs. Goodnight, Osborn, Kimbal, Hcffelbower and others managed the public feast and spread, probably, the best table ever set in the Pan Handle. Miss Dora Heffelbower with her Piano rendered invaluable aid, supported by the choir, Mr. and Mrs. Allen, Hawkins, Copeland, Sibert, Osborn, Reckerd and Koogle superintended the salute of 88 guns. The tables were spread in a large to finished house and the exercises held beneath a fine arbor or canopy engineered by Mr. Copeland in front of the school house.

The day was fair and all manifested an interest in the occasion and in the happiness of others. At nine o'clock the people gathered at the ringing of the bell. E. M. Lyness presided. The crowd sang heartily the old "America." Rev. Mr. Ames offered prayer, and read the "Declaration." Rev. Mr. Ames and Rev. Mr. Allan delivered addresses of more than ordinary interests. "Bugle Blast" and other appropriate music was well rendered.

After the dinner which was free, and of which all partook, followed a racy programme of toasts proposed by James T. Otey, Esq., of which the following is an outline:

1. "Our nation's birthday." The day we celebrate—Response by Rev. Mr. Ames.
2. "The President of the United States;" The representative of a free people:— Response by Rev. W. A. Allan.
3. "Texas." The state of our adoption,— Jas. H. Parks.
4. "The ladies of the frontier." An indispeusable aid to its civilization.— Mrs. N. D. Freeman.
5. "Progress." "Past, present, and future."— J. S. Rockwell.
6. "The friends we've left behind us." May they ever be green in our memories.— David Heffelbower
7. "Our mothers." Their honor guarantees the safety of our country.— J. W. Reckerd.
8. "The future of the Pan Handle of Texas."— Wm. Bonnvmann.
9. "The red man." His destiny.-Norman Holcome
10. "The children." Our country's future hope.— E. M. Lyness.

Probably no where in the state the 'Glorious Fourth' celebrated more of decorum and loyalty and less of whiskey and nonsense than at Clarendon.

The Clarendon News, August 2, 1879

Donley County Farm Bureau Plans Chicken Barbecue At Lelia Lake

The Donley County Farm Bureau has set August 13th, 1965, as the date for their annual Chicken Barbecue. The Barbecue will be held at the Lelia Lake Community Center with Flip Breedlove and his crew doing the barbecuing, announced Maurice Risley, Farm Bureau president.

All who plan to attend are asked to leave a half chicken for each member of your party at the Locker plant in either Hedley or Clarendon no later than noon Friday. The trimmings will be furnished.

Donley County Leader, August 5, 1965



Clarendon Silver Band Organized September 1902, the Clarendon Silver Band, shown here in 1903 on the steps of the Donley County Courthouse, had the finest set of instruments on the Denver road or in Northwest Texas - the famous Conn Wonder silver plated instruments - 19 pieces in all. W.B. Terrill was the director.

LEADER ARCHIVE PHOTO

Retired Persons Priority Realized With Building

The number one need of the retired and semi-retired citizens of Donley County will be met this Monday, March 31, when a three-day per week meeting place for them will open at the Clarendon Housing Authority community building, 103 E. Fourth St.

A central meeting place where they could enjoy fellowship and activities with those of similar age and interests, their peer group, was the top priority decided at the meeting called to assess the needs of the retired and elderly of the county on January 16.

The Clarendon Housing Authority, through the cooperation of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Estlack, has made the housing authority's facilities available for this purpose Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

"This is what this building is for," Mrs. Estlack said. She said she and her husband, director of the authority, were happy to cooperate in providing a meeting place for the retired and semi-retired persons of Donley County.

The building is roughly 22 by 32 feet, air conditioned and carpeted throughout and nicely furnished, including complete kitchen facilities. There will always be two hostesses on hand.

Hostesses at the opening day come-and-go get acquainted party will be Mrs. Verdie Harrington and Mrs. Melville Mills, who's husband represents Clarendon on the Aging Advisory Council of the Panhandle Regional Planning Council. Mills' work was instrumental in getting the meeting place for the retired and semi-retired of the county, coordinating the needs assessment session and drawing statewide notice in "The Voice of Texas Senior Citizen Association." a monthly publication.

"The coffee pot will always be on," Mrs. Mills said. "When people come into town to go to the post office or pay bills they are invited to drop in. When we get started, we will try to have a program."

The day will begin, Mrs. Mills suggested, with some of the early arrivals

W.H. Morrow Says Donley County Needs More Mules

Walter H. Morrow, residing on the old Barker place seven miles northwest of town recently received a registered jack purchased from a Comanche county stockman and breeder.

The animal is of an exceptionally fine type with plenty of size and will be used for breeding purposes this season. Mr. Morrow is of the opinion that a whole lot of fellows need some good mules and he is helping raise the standard by importing good breeding stock.

Donley County Leader April 29, 1930

making cookies to go with the coffee throughout the day. They are hoping to have card tables and chairs for games and recreation and a piano soon for sing alongs and musical recreation. Under discussion are plant and flower swapping meets and trips, such as picnics and fishing. Voluntary donations of transportation have been heartening. And a telephone visitation program will be worked out somehow, they said.

"We will try to listen to the people and have the programs the people want," Mills promised. He added that he has lived at Howardwick only three years and so doesn't know the will of the senior and retired citizens as well as some of the old timers. But he is thoroughly dedicated to starting the programs most desired by the retired residents of the county.

There are more elderly and widows in Clarendon, he pointed out, than one would expect. There are more than 100 widows listed in the telephone directory. Clarendon was said to have more elderly on a population ratio than any other place except Hedley, according to one knowledgeable with social security.

With the low population density of the county, it is readily understandable why isolation is a leading problem among the retired and semi-retired and therefore why a meeting place is

needed.

The center is starting from scratch with a bare pantry. Probably an old fashioned pounding or community shower is in order.

The hostesses solicit current magazines which may have already been read in order to have plenty of reading material on hand. The Kiwanas Club promised to help the center start with such things as dominoes, checkers, and cards.

"We aren't going to pester the merchants," Mrs Estlack said. "If anyone wants to make a donation to help us get started, we won't be making continual solicitations after this."

Boosters of the retired center said they foresaw no competition with other groups for the retired in Donley County, since they expect overlapping participation. Indeed, the need seems to be for more organizations and activities in which they all can participate together.

Three or four cars are available on a voluntary basis for those who need transportation- to come to the center or to the doctor or for grocery shopping. To arrange a ride or for further information, call the Senior Opportunity Service (SOS) at 874-2665.

The Clarendon Press March 27, 1975

Fire Sunday Destroys Mill, Barn

Clarendon Industries Lose Much In Biggest Blaze For Number Of Years.

One of the most destructive fires that has visited Clarendon in the past few years was discovered shortly after eleven o'clock last Sunday evening in the Will Lott Mule Barn in the eastern part of the business section of the city. The flames spread rapidly and were beyond control before the fire department could reach the scene of the blaze.

The fire spread to the planing mill which was directly across the alley from the barn and completely burned the eastern part of the structure and ruined all machinery and equipment of lumber for them.

In addition to this, the little business of Mr. Middleton, who was a dealer in second hand clothes and other goods was completely destroyed.

The laundry building was threatened but was not injured in any manner at all by the fire. Along the north side of the feed barn and sales lot, the sheds and fences were almost entirely destroyed, there remaining only a short stretch of sheds at the southern end of a long line

of buildings.

The loss of the planing mill will be a distinct loss to Clarendon since it has filled a place in the needs of the city for a number of years.

The mill that furnished a good part of the meal to the residents of the county in the past few years will also be missed, especially by those who brought their corn to mill and returned to their homes with the finished product.

The mill has almost become a fixture in the city and will be missed until it can be rebuilt. It is understood that the owners will rebuild in the very near future.

It has not been learned if the mule and feed barn will be rebuilt.

The loss of the planing mill was covered by insurance, but there was very little insurance on the barn and other equipment of Mr. Lott. The fire originate in the barn and the cause has not yet been determined.

Due to injury to the high line wires near the scene of the fire, the city was thrown out of lights for a time during the fire. Service had been replaced in a short time after the local plant of the light company had been started.

The Clarendon News, August 11, 1927

Donley County Museum Opens

The Donley County Museum was opened to visitors in ceremonies Sunday afternoon upstairs in City Hall with Mayor R.L. Gilkey cutting the ribbon to the museum with Judge R. E. Drennan and Will Chamberlain, director, standing by.

First to register were Briscoe County Judge and Mrs. M. G. Moreland of Silverton, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Allard, Briscoe County Historical chairman, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Garrison, Mr. and Mrs. Quinn Montague and Pauline Montague of Silverton. All are members of the Briscoe County Historical committee. They are also making plans for a museum at Silverton.

Those making important loans to the museum to date include: M. P. Gentry, picture of Al Gentry, first Sheriff of Donley County who served until he died, also five other pictures of old Clarendon.

Thomas D'Spain, a skull and mandible of a Griphippus from the 1901 J. W. Gidley horse quarry; 1 block of volcanic ash, 1 block of Diatomaceous earth, all from his ranch.

Mrs. Jerome D. Stocking—loaned to the museum in memory of the late Jerome D. Stocking— 1 mastadon Ramus, 3 mammoth teeth, 1 rhino ramus, 1 partial horse cannus bone, large picture of Dr. J. D. Stocking, the first doctor in the Panhandle who served six counties, coming here in 1885. He also founded the first Drug Store here.

Mrs. Finley donated wire from the Goodnight drift fence, first built in Donley County.

Mr. Chamberlain stated that as soon as space will permit, we will have an Art Display, Early Furniture, ranch tools and other departments as we grow with a dedicated curator in charge of each department.

We wish to thank everyone for your interest in the museum and your continued cooperation will be most appreciated, Mr. Chamberlain stated.

Donley County Leader, August 5, 1965

(Editor's Note: The Donley County Museum was governed by the Donley County Historical Association, which eventually became the Saints' Roost Museum Board. The Museum found its permanent home in the former Adair Hospital in 1984.)

Local Library Named For Gabie Burton

Donley County people who visited the City-County Library when Mrs. Gabie Betts Burton was librarian thought of it as "Mrs. Burton's Library." Because she spent much time and thought in selecting the books, she spoke of them always as "my books." It is her library now. "The Gabie Betts Burton Library," renamed in her memory.

Mrs. Burton asked for the privilege of serving as librarian when the Pathfinder Club started the library in December 1923.

On the 14th anniversary of its opening, December 1937, she wrote in her column "Library Notes" which appeared each week in the Leader: "If I were asked to name the institution of most value to all people of a community, leaving out the church and school, of course, I should answer a library. Nothing else contributes to the happiness and well being of as many individuals, both old and young, rich and poor. For books are no respecter of persons. They contribute their stored treasures of wisdom, of beauty, of inspiration, of wit and eloquence to all who are willing to delve into them."

Mrs. Burton was untiring in her efforts to share with others the pleasure and inspiration she received from books. She served as librarian until a few months before her death on March 12, 1948. The Pathfinder Club, of which she was a charter member, petitioned the city and the county commissioners to rename the library.

Donley County Leader, April 13, 1950

THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

Established 1929

J.C. ESTLACK • FOUNDER

A.D. ESTLACK & G.W. ESTLACK • PAST PUBLISHERS

MARGARET ESTLACK & RUBY DELL ESTLACK • PAST SOCIETY EDITORS

ROGER ALLEN ESTLACK • PUBLISHER & EDITOR

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ELAINA ESTLACK • PHOTOGRAPHER, WEB MASTER, & AD DESIGNER

ALLEN & HELEN ESTLACK • PAST CONTRIBUTORS

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HISTORY: The DONLEY COUNTY LEADER was founded on March 12, 1929, by J.C. Estlack and was published weekly by the Estlack Family until November 28, 1974. It was then purchased by THE CLARENDON PRESS, which continued the LEADER for a short time as a Sunday paper before suspending its publication just shy of its 46th anniversary in 1975. The LEADER volume number was carried on the PRESS' masthead thru 1976. The LEADER was revived on March 14, 1996, and merged with THE CLARENDON NEWS in the creation of THE CLARENDON ENTERPRISE. In July of that year, The LEADER's annual Pioneer Edition was launched to reflect on the pioneer news and history of Donley County.

The Declaration of Independence

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.—We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.—That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,—That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.—Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.—He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.—He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.—He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.—He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.—He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.—He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.—He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.—He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.—He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.—He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance.—He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.—He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.—He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:—For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:—For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:—For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:—For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:—For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:—For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences—For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:—For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:—For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.—He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.—He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.—He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.—He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.—He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions. In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Nor have We ever been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.—We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do.— And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

TEMPLE OF TRUTH

By the Apostle



The “bead” test in hard liquor was the old test. It is being revived again since soap is cheap. Soap in whiskey will make “some” head. Ask your favorite Bootlegger.

“Can a cow kick backward?” The question is being asked since it concerns some very talented brain trusters. Some fellows have had a cow leg walloped around the neck, jerked down and scrambled out from under only to see a cow's foot sticking in a milk bucket. As for kicking straight back like a mule, someone doing modern-day milking will have to testify. Cows are said to have changed along with a lot of other things.

Some years ago the houses in this town were numbered at a small cost to each home owner. But the streets were not designated by any signs of any kind. The writer has a faint recollection of living on a street named after an Irishman. Whether he won in a liquor drinking contest, or whipped the foreman of a railroad gang, the town plat fails to record. Numbering the houses and saying nothing about the names of the streets is quite a joke when you come to think about it.

Inventor Jim Heckman, after making a “survey” for a dignified organization employing a secretary and having five vice presidents, has come to the conclusion that horn honking gets service. From his celebrated laboratory this week comes a honking cane. With this cane, one may stand on the curb and get service brought to him. If he goes inside, he has to wait while horn honkers get the service at the car. The cane is expected to be a great help in getting all kinds of dry goods, groceries and what-not delivered at the curb simply by honking. The inventor is expecting a granite marker to be placed at the laboratory where the honking came first saw birth.

A German scientist has announced that “sawdust will be served on the table within a few years, meaning of course that the sawdust will be made to taste like something good and palatable. He's way behind on this breakfast cereal of goober hulls, sawdust, horse-hide glue that has been sold for years. Next time you open a fresh package, smell of it by sticking your beezee down in the package. Smell glue ? well, you can on a lot of it.

A. H. Baker says that a green back is the best thing to use in wiping spectacles because it leaves no ravelings or lint on the lens. This probably accounts for the many clouded Lens we all are using.

When you get to the point that the public pretends to worry about your physical or moral state, they just got around to thinking you have some lucky holdings in an oil field.

In the old days, a man took a woman by the arm because she was crippled, or the walking slippery. Now it is just because they are “nuts” about each other.

If you are not satisfied with your winter hat, Sister, pump up and down on it a few times, stick a rooster feather on one side and be surprised how many other women will envy you that new sky-piece.

In order to have lived a full life, one must have a long reach from the low notes to the high—sacred and profane.

A nice old lady asked her grand daughter to do her a special favor by never speaking two words in her presence. “One word is swell and the other is lousy,” said Granny. “Sure I'll cut 'em out, Granny, but what are the words?”

“Some people can stay longer in an hour than others can in a week.” At least that's what Blue Bug Bessie had to offer as comment on a few of her friends.

What in the Sam Hill!! Meaning of course not Sam Hill over on the Cap Rock, but Rev. Sam B. Hill of Beeville, pastor of the Presbyterian church, and whose sermons are sent to the pool hall each Sunday by way of a loud speaker system. And this at the request of the pool hall crowd who learned to enjoy the sermons of Rev. Hill coming over a San Antonio broadcast station the past summer while the Rev. Hill was supplying for his father in the Alamo town. This Is Just another of those queer quirks. Pool halls are said to be no asset to a town. In fact they are said to be almost as much of a nuisance as a domino parlor, if it is a parlor.

Some one sent this in: A big business man was cruising along at 60 miles per hour when there was an awful roar and a little baby car came alongside. The big business man snorted and put his foot down on the accelerator. He increased his speed 70, 76, 80 and 90—still the little fellow kept alongside. Suddenly the little fellow put his window down and shouted: “Hey, do you know anything about these cars?” The big fellow said: “Yes, I make them!” “Then,” said the little fellow, “can you tell me how to get out of second gear?”

Donley County Leader,
October 22, 1936
(Editor's Note: "The Temple of Truth" was written weekly as the thoughts and observations of Leader founder J.C. Estlack from 1929 through 1950.)

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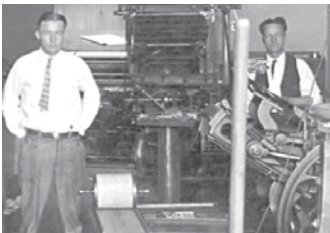
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THE CLARENDON ★

Enterprise

THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER & THE CLARENDON NEWS

Spreading the word since 1878.

Senior Citizens Day Saturday A Big Success

Mature Citizens of Clarendon Day was a big success. Near one hundred came to Lions Hall for the first meeting of fellowship and recreation Saturday, May 11. Tables of checkers, games, dominies, forty-two, and person to person visitation was entered into by all.

A hot meal was served to everyone after a good old fashion sing-song. After the meal provided by citizens of Clarendon in covered dish style, there was a brief business meeting to see if another meeting would be enjoyed.

All voiced the desire and a need of more great days of fellowship like the one enjoyed. The first 'Saturday in June was set as the next day. Meeting time will be from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lions Hail.

Mrs. N. L. Jones was given a beautiful vase of flowers as she was the oldest youth present, 98 years.

Remember June 7th, our next Mature Citizens Day. Everyone is invited for recreation and fellowship.

Donley County Leader, May 15, 1969

Free Measles Vaccine Available Here

The Donley County Health Officer, Dr. George W. Smith, has received a supply of free measles vaccine from the Texas State Department of Health, to be given to all children from age twelve months through Grades Four at some date next week.

This vaccine is for children who have not been previously vaccinated nor measles or have not had measles.

The Donley County School Board, Clarendon School Board, and the Hedley School Board are jointly sponsoring a measles survey. If you have any children in school, they will bring home a survey form this week for each child age twelve months through Grades Four.

If you do not receive these forms this week, please call the office of the County School Superintendent, Maurice Risley in Clarendon or Kenneth Sams, the School Superintendent in Hedley.

Dr. Smith states that measles is a very serious disease. Almost 400 deaths occur each year in the United States from this disease. One out of every six children who have measles suffer some type of complication, such as mental retardation, pneumonia, blindness or deafness

Donley County Leader, May 15, 1969



Approximately 100 Mature Citizens enjoyed games and a luncheon, sponsored by local citizens, in the Lions Hall last Saturday. Top photos show the group enjoying the covered dish luncheon provided by local ladies. In the lower left photo, Mrs. Clara Gillham, general arrangements and publicity chairman, and youth who assisted as hosts for the occasion: Dianne Cornell, Candy Skelton, Suzanne Palmer, Debbie Lowry, and Donnie Mooring. In the lower right photo, Mrs. R.C. Bingham, Mrs. Jean Hester, and Mrs. N.L. Jones, who was honored as the oldest person present and was presented the bouquet of flowers on the table. Mrs. Jones is 98 years young.

PHOTOS BY SAYE'S LEADER ARCHIVE

Hedley Lions To Dedicate New Hall

The Hedley Lions Club will dedicate its new Lions Den this Thursday, March 27, 1975, at 7:30 p.m.

A number of special guests and visiting Lions are expected from area clubs to be on hand for the dedication banquet. Plans were made for 100 people to be present at the dedication banquet, including several visitors from Clarendon, Howard-wick and Memphis Lions Clubs and special guest Mrs. Jackie (Cotton John) Smith, a big promoter of the Cotton Festival held in October, from Amarillo.

The featured speaker will be District 2T-1 governor Charles Allen of Friona. The new Hedley Lions den is located in the middle of the block on the west side of Main Street just north of Security State Bank.

"The old den was adjacent to the bank," said Hedley Lions president Fred Stafford. "The band bought out the two buildings in the middle of the block and completely remodeled them from start to finish and traded them to us for the old Lions Den so they could expand the bank. We got two for one and this one fixed up in the swap." The other building traded to the Lions is being used for the Hedley Youth Center.

The program at the dedication banquet will feature the Singing Sweethearts from Hedley, directed by Sharon Stafford. Also included are Shonda Stafford, Don Springer, Ricky Springer, Lamos Springer, Sherrie Hill. Randy Woodard, Kim Woodard and John Duke.

The Clarendon Press, March 27, 1975

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is Both Agreeable and Effective.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has no superior for coughs, colds, and croup, and the fact that it is pleasant to take and contains nothing in any way injurious has made it a favorite with mothers. Mr. W.S. Pellam, a merchant of Kirksville, Iowa, says: "For more than 20 years, Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been my leading remedy for all throat troubles. It is especially successful in cases of croup. Children like it and my customers who have used it will not take any other." For sale by all druggists.

Banner-Stockman, March 8, 1907

Have a Safe & Happy
Independence Day!

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Happy Birthday,
Sweet Land of Liberty!

Wallace Monument Co.
"Makers of fine memorials."

Wishing all of our friends and neighbors here in the community a safe and happy July 4th! We hope your weekend is a blast, but please remember to celebrate responsibly and stay sober behind the wheel. We can wait.

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• Food
• Cold Drinks

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JULY 5

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Turtle Race

Sat., July 5, at 1:30 p.m.
in downtown Clarendon

Register Daily at Henson's. Age group 0 - 14...FREE
WIN PRIZES • Register turtles before 12:00 p.m. on July 5th

Adult Races ages 18 - 100 ...\$5.00
Win 1/2 cash pot & 1/2 to charity

Extra
Turtles?
We'll take 'em

WATER TURTLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RACE

HAPPY

4th of July

A Fine Feathered Nest
311 East 2nd Street • Clarendon, Texas

**Education is
the key to unlock
the golden door to
freedom.**

-George Washington Carver

*Have a Safe and Happy
Fourth of July!*

**Clarendon
COLLEGE**

Local Rocket Club Takes Flight Here

The Clarendon Rocket Club opened its 1958-59 testing year on Sunday, October 26. In the first test of the year, two rockets were fired. One small rocket and one large one was fired. The purpose of these tests was to try out new methods and collect data for future firings.

The first rocket, a small one, was fired about 3:30. There was a slight mishap in the firing of this when its firing mechanism was blown out. The second rocket, a large one, with a single engine was fired successfully and landed according to calculations.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cullen from KGNC were down to give the group complete coverage on the firings. This coverage has been the subject of several newscasts.

There was a small group of visitors from both in-town and out-of-town who enjoyed the afternoon of work and play.

The Clarendon Rocket Club wishes to thank all those who have assisted the Rocket Club, especially Mr. Bailey Estes, Mr. Bill Lewis Jr. and Mr. C. A. Pitts. Any person desiring to attend any future firings of the Rocket Club are asked to contact Clifford Beard, Frank LeCroy, or Monte Mann, or James Mahaffey for visiting permits as the club can only take a limited number of visitors.

The consultants to the Rocket Club are Mr. Cooper, chemistry; Mr. Weldon Day, mathematics; Mr. Harold Bier, Math and chemistry. The officers are Jerry Davis, President; David Pitts, Vice-Pres.; Jimmy Graham, Secretary; Jimmy Bain, Treasurer, and Clifford Beard, Publicity Director.

Donley County Leader, Oct. 30, 1958



1969 CHS FFA Members - Brad Adkins, Danny Hill, Ted Tyler, and Jay Lamberth - represented Clarendon High School in the State Dairy Products judging team at Texas A&M and brought back home the second place award.

PHOTO BY SAYE'S - LEADER ARCHIVE

Jericho News

By **Pauline Hermesmeyer**

The Citizenship Club met afternoon. The main topic of the program was "Citizenship in the home and in the school." Afterwards readings and songs were given by the pupils. The club is planning to have a pie or box supper at the end of the next six weeks.

Curg Hill had his tonsils removed Thursday in the Pampa hospital. Reports are that he is doing fine. We hope he will soon be able to be back in school.

Mr. Frank Hermesmeyer Jr. of Amarillo spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hermesmeyer Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Babcock were visitors in the Hermesmeyer Bros. home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Leek Goldston of Amarillo were on business in the Hermesmeyer home Friday.

Owing to the weather of the past week nearly everyone have their wheat planted.

People of Jericho were proud to know that the post

office has been remodeled and that their mail may be obtained all hours.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Owens were visiting In the Roy Brown home Sunday.

Dewey Lee Phillips was visiting in the Ed Schaffer home over the weekend.

Miss Mabel Mongole was visiting in the home of her father J.E. Mongole over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Louton of Sweetwater, Oklahoma were visiting in the L. H. Louton home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Foshee and family were visiting in the home of L. H. Louton Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. John Foshee are the proud parents of a big daughter born Sunday night.

Mr. O. W. Kavanaugh visited in the Martin community Sunday.

Dewey and H. C. Glarener of Pampa, Mr. and Mrs. Buel V. Glaze tier from Vega, Texas were visiting in the home of V. J. Glazener.

Mr. Kavanaugh was seen sporting a different vehicle this week. He is driving one of the

tractors for Mr. Paul Reeves.

There were 28 present for Sunday school. We are hoping a larger crowd will be present next Sunday.

Donley County Leader, October 22, 1936

**Ring The Enterprise
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To Place
Your Classifieds!**

Clarendon WELCOMES

All Pioneers and Visitors

As the oldest thriving town in the Panhandle, Clarendon has constantly been building upwards since 1878. Together we will continue to grow in the future and enjoy many July Fourth celebrations yet to come.

We extend a hospitable welcome to all guests of the City during the 148th annual Saints' Roost Celebration.



Clarendon
T E X A S

Celebrate Freedom

Take the day off and enjoy!

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From Our Family To Your Family:

Welcome to the Saints' Roost Celebration!

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

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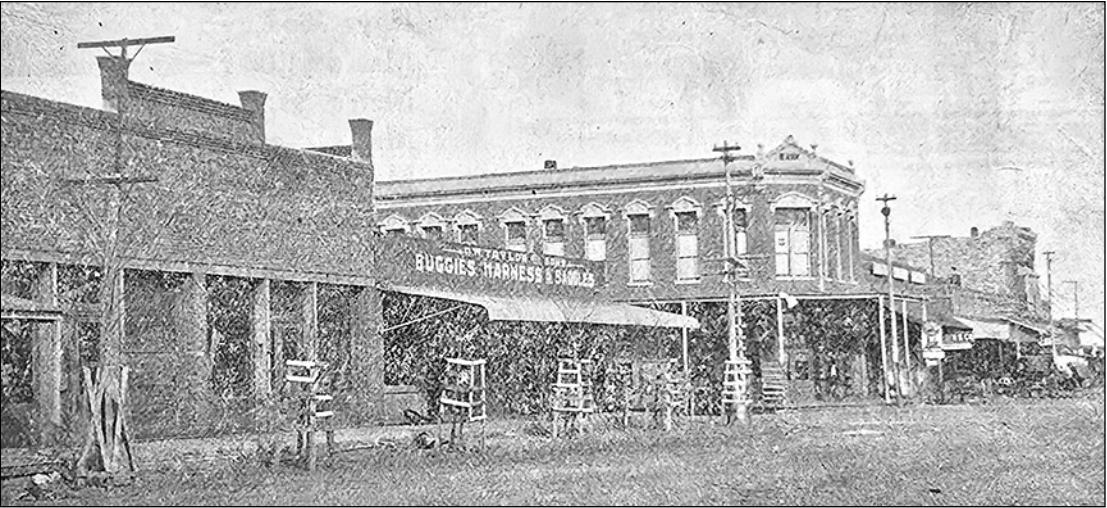
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As One Pioneer to Another

The Founder of the Donley County Leader arrived at Tascosa in 1883. All of his life, except his school days, had been spent in the Panhandle and great Southwest. He believed in her history, the stability of her people as the most progressive and persevering in existence. Every member of the Leader staff is a product of the Southwest. We hope you appreciate our efforts to present to you, unbiased, the news each week.

THE LEADER STAFF

THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER



H.W. Taylor Hardware: Looking north on Kearney Street in 1902, H.W. Taylor’s business sign features Buggies, Harnesses & Saddles. The building was located where the old Bivens Pharmacy is today. The two-story First National Bank building is also prominent and was located where the REFZ Sports Bar & Grill parking lot is now.

LEADER ARCHIVE PHOTO

Panhandle Pays Tribute To H. W. Taylor

Services Are Held For Prominent Pioneer Rancher, Civic Leader and Banker.

Funeral services for Henry Webster Taylor, age 86, pioneer rancher, banker, merchant, and civic leader, who died at his home here October 17, were held at the First Methodist Church Monday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Rev. E. D. Landreth assisted by Rev. G. S. Harly, Rev. J. Perrv King, and Rev. Robert S. McKee were in charge.

Hundreds of citizens from over the Panhandle filed past the casket, which was banked high with floral offerings from church organizations, banks, business firms, civic organizations, post office employees, business firms, city schools, faculty of the schools, the city of Clarendon, and friends from Clarendon, Amarillo, Lubbock, Pampa, Greenville, Claude, Goodnight, Hedley, Memphis, McLean, Alanreed, Shamrock, and Groom, to pay their last respects to the man who had been their leader, friend and counselor.

All Clarendon business houses were closed from 2 until 5 p.m. in honor of Mr. Taylor



H.W. Taylor

and the funeral cortege from the church to the cemetery was one of the longest ever to be seen in Clarendon.

Death, which came to Mr. Taylor at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon from a heart attack following a three-day illness, marked the passing of one of West Texas' most colorful pioneers, a man whose rugged individuality had won for him the honor and respect of all who knew him.

Mr. Taylor was born in Hannibal, Mo., August 15, 1850, and after a residence there of 18 years, moved to Palo Pinto County in 1868. For a while he served as Texas Ranger in the

early 1870's.

On June 14, 1877, he was married to Miss Emily Lane, niece of Col. Charles Goodnight, at Black Springs, Texas, and in 1882 settled on the JA Ranch, where he was employed as assistant to the late Col. Charles Goodnight. For three years he was manager of the old Quarter Circle Heart Ranch, from 1887 to 1890. In 1890 he moved to Clarendon and entered the hardware business.

During the 31 years he was engaged in the hardware business he was very active in all civic affairs. He was serving as county commissioner at the time the present court house was built in 1890. He was a public school and college trustee for a number of years. In 1900 he was appointed president of the First National Bank and served in that capacity until 1916. He was chairman of the board until 1934.

He served as alderman, commissioner and mayor for the City of Clarendon, and was a member of the board of directors of the Adair Hospital. During his term as mayor he was awarded a certificate of merit by the American Legion as the city's most useful citizen.

Mr. Taylor had been in ill health for two years preceding his death. Flower bearers were the granddaughters and nieces of the deceased. Pallbearers were his sons, C. W. Taylor, June W. Taylor, W. W. Taylor, and F. W. Taylor, and his sons-in-law, William Patman and Phil Engel.

Besides the above, he is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Phil Engel and Mrs. William Patman, and 22 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

The Clarendon News, October 22, 1936



Hedley Holiday 1966: This was the scene on Main Street in Hedley during Cotton Festival of 1966. Freddy Alexander and Randy Shaw are standing in mid ground. PHOTO COURTESY LINDA ALEXANDER SANDERS



Our Heritage Lives On

Celebrating more than 135 years in the historic 1890 Donley County Courthouse, we join our fellow citizens in commemorating the Pioneer Spirit that brought civilization to the Texas Panhandle.

The Commissioners Court of Donley County along with our elected officials and employees welcomes visitors to the annual Saints' Roost Celebration.

Have a safe and happy Fourth.

Our offices will be closed
Friday, July 4





Harvest 1940 with Allis-Chalmers equipment on the Lon Rundell farm near Clarendon.

Leader Archive Photo



HAPPY
AMERICA
INDEPENDENCE DAY
FOURTH OF JULY
SINCE 1776
SHELTON & SHELTON
Law Offices

Maybe A Gold Mine In Donley

Mine To Be Opened Four And A Half Miles South Of Alanreed

During the month of August 1927, prospectors having been working for the past year or two, discovered traces of gold on the F. R. McCracken land, located about four and one-half miles south of Alanreed, on Rock Creek.

Samples were taken and sent in for analysis and the report of bonded assayers was that the samples assayed from \$2.04 to \$8.20 a ton in gold. Mr. McCracken has executed a mining lease to the bed of Rock Creek and 300 feet on each side, and running entirely through his place.

The parties securing the lease have six months to begin operations, and time interesting capital and forming their organisation, and now announce that

Donley County Fossil Strata Yields Fine Specimen

Professor C. Stuart Johnston, head of the department of Archaeology and Paleontology of the West Texas State Teachers College, has recently had two articles accepted by the American Midland Naturalist which is published by Notre Dame University. Titles of his articles are ‘Tracks from the Pliocene of West Texas’ and ‘A Skull of Teleoceras fossiliger Cope from the Clarendon Beds of Donley County.’ The second paper has to do with the finest rhinoceros skull that has ever been discovered in the Panhandle. This skull is now exhibited in the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society Museum in Canyon.

Donley County Leader,
October 22, 1936

We Need More Cows, Sows, and Hens in Donley County

HAPPY
JULY
4th



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the necessary machinery for placer mining the gold has been ordered and will soon be on the ground and ready for operation.

From the numerous inquiries that come to the Chamber of Commerce asking for information on the gold discovery and oil developments, we are lead to believe that an influx of investors will soon be headed this way, and with the gold on one side and oil on the other, it seems that Alanreed is destined to become a very important Panhandle city in the course of a short time.

There has always been a feeling in local circles that oil would be found in large quantities near Alanreed and the

mother pool of Gray County opened up nearby. Gold was not thought of, however, and since it has been discovered almost at our door, it is possible that a gold rush of no small proportion may be the result of the discovery. — Alanreed Herald.

The Clarendon News,
December 1, 1927



“Oh Long May It Wave O’er the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave!” — Francis Scott Key

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FREEDOM
RING

Stand up and be proud this July Fourth to show your support for all those who have given their lives for the freedom we enjoy today.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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Hwy 287 West • Clarendon, Texas

GRAND OPENING

We’re excited to announce the Grand Opening of your new favorite laundromat in July!

Join us for a Fresh Start and a Cleaner Community!

We can’t wait to welcome you and make your laundry day a breeze.



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Wishing you all a peaceful and blessed Independence Day filled with freedom!

★ ★ **HAPPY** ★ ★

4Th of July

CITY OF HOWARDWICK OFFICIALS

JOHNNY FLOYD, MAYOR

ALDERMAN, MATT MOORE, JADA MURRAY, MARY GRADY, JOHNNY HUBBARD AND TERRY BARNES

CITY SECRETARY - SANDY LYNN

CITY OF HOWARDWICK VFD

EDDIE CHAVIRA - FIRE CHIEF

LORENDO SCHLINKER - ASSISTANT CHIEF

AND VOLUNTEERS





Notice to Whom It May Concern

Several weeks ago I put a short notice in the papers of the town calling the attention of water consumers to sprinkling hours. Some have observed these rules while others have not.

To those that have not observed these rules I wish to say politely but plainly that you

have no regard for the right. Furthermore, if your hydrant is found running out of sprinkling hours or you are found irrigating without a nozzle or spray on your hose, you will be cut off without further notice if you are guilty this is for you, regardless of who you are.

Very respectfully,
Clarendon Water,
Light & Power Co.
T.S. Kemp, Manager.
The Clarendon Chronicle,
August 25, 1909

*Have a Safe
& Glorious
Fourth!*

DONLEY COUNTY
SENIOR CITIZENS
115 E. Fourth Street



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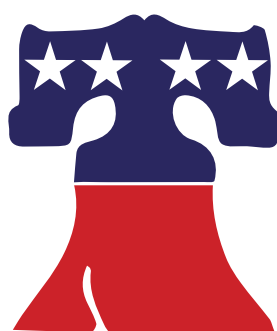


4TH OF JULY
INDEPENDENCE DAY
RED ☆ WHITE ☆ BLUE
LET FREEDOM RING
AMERICA
SWEET LAND OF LIBERTY

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& the pursuit
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*We're proud to serve the
citizens of Donley County,
and we wish everyone a
Happy Fourth of July!*



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SAINTS' ROOST CELEBRATION

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To all who fought for her, died for her, and protect her today, we thank you.



Happy Independence Day!

DC SB The Donley County State Bank

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We will be closed July 4, 2025.

NORPP

Insurance Agency