



THE CLARENDON Enterprise

10.23.2025

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THE CLARENDON NEWS & THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

www.ClarendonLive.com

Single Copy **\$2⁰⁰**

THIS WEEK

- 2** Suzannne discusses the Texas Constitutional Amendment Election.
- 5** Hedley Owls win homecoming in a shut out.
- 6** Broncos take Shamrock into overtime.
- 8** Early detection encouraged for breast cancer awareness.

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

Health Fair to be held at BAC Oct. 23

The Donley County Health Fair will be held Thursday, October 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Clarendon College Bairfield Activity Center.

This year's health fair will include flu shots, blood screenings (fasting), blood pressure checks, STI screenings and treatment, and lots of health care resources from a variety of providers.

For more information, call the Extension at 806-874-2141.

Spookfest 25' to be downtown Nov. 1

Spookfest '25 will be a fun-filled evening of trunk-or-treating, games, food, and fun downtown on Saturday, November 1 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The Mulkey Theatre Trunk or Treat will start at 5 p.m. along with games and activities hosted by local organizations. Those interested in have a trunk or activity must call the Visitor Center at 806-874-2421 by Friday, October 24, at noon to reserve space.

Registration for the Chamber costume contest will be in front of the Visitor Center from 5:00 to 6:00. Robertson Funeral Directors will sponsor a free movie at the Mulkey, Casper the Friendly Ghost, at 7:00 p.m.

H'wick Trunk or Treat to be Oct. 31

Howardwick will host a Trunk or Treat on Halloween, October 31, at 7 p.m. in McMorries Memorial Park.

The public is invited to come and hand out candy. Citizens can also drop off candy at City Hall for the kids.

City Council okays repairs to library

The Clarendon City Council met in regular session October 9 at City Hall with a short agenda.

Aldermen considered and approved a proposal from Pearson Construction to repair the back wall of the Burton Memorial Library for about \$21,800.

The city considered nominations for the Donley Appraisal Board, and voted to nominate Alderman Chris Topliff to that position.

A motion was approved to purchase a new mosquito fog machine from Northern Tool at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.



CCISD names Teran as fulltime superintendent

Rick Teran was named as the fulltime superintendent by Clarendon CISD Trustees last Tuesday, October 14, during their regular meeting, dropping his "interim," title.

After a closed session lasting about 50 minutes, the board returned to open session and approved two motions – one putting the school's Superintendent Search on hold indefinitely, and the second to adjust

the interim superintendent's agreement, effectively making Teran the fulltime superintendent.

Teran told the ENTERPRISE his employment agreement is not the same as typical superintendent's contract, basically allowing him to leave the job if he wants and allowing the school board to resume the search or hire someone else if they wish.

Teran said when he took the interim position this past summer, it was only supposed to be a short-term position, but then the initial search did not produce a suitable candidate and he was asked to stay through December. Since then, the second search has only drawn two applicants, and Teran was liking working for the district and for the board.

The decision to come

out of retirement and move to Clarendon came after a lot of prayer, Teran said.

"It's a God thing," he said. "I'm excited to be here and look forward to giving back to the community."

Teran and his wife, Jill, are in a contract to purchase a house in Clarendon, and Mrs. Teran is planning to start a new women's bible study group in the community.

Teran has also taken on the role of head girls' basketball coach and may help with track next spring. He says he will be taking no extra pay for that work.

Teran has 42 years of experience in education and served as superintendent in Childress for eight years before retiring five years ago. He also has more than 22 years of experience as a coach.



Teran



COURTESY PHOTO

Owl Royalty

Josie Prieto and Madison Moore were named the Hedley High School Homecoming King and Queen during a pre-game ceremony last week at Memorial Field.

CCISD Trustees discuss drug testing

Clarendon CISD will explore mandatory drug testing of students in extracurricular activities following last week's meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Superintendent Rick Teran brought up the subject and asked trustees for their opinions on the idea. Each board member said they

had not thought about it before but were open to having a discussion.

Teran said Childress adopted a policy several years ago and also said he had been talking to other schools to see what they are doing.

The program described by Teran would require all students participating in extracurricular

activities to be drug tested at the beginning of the school year with random tests throughout the year afterwards. The estimated cost of the tests would be \$19 per student.

Teran told the ENTERPRISE that he doesn't believe there is a big drug problem here but said the policy would help kids stay off drugs.

"It just gives them another reason to say 'no' if there's a possibility that they might get drug tested," he said.

Teran recommended the board appoint a committee in January to study the idea with the goal of adopting a policy next May to take effect in August 2026.

UMC program focuses on drug use dangers

The full effects of illicit drugs and vaping were on display Monday night when UMC NEIDS Outreach presented a program at the Mulkey Theatre for parents and community members.

Charlie Nichols, MSN, RN, who is an emergency room nurse at UMC in Lubbock, talked about real world cases she has seen during a broad presentation of the dangers of drug use.

"The reality is that middle school and high school students are experimenting," Nichols said. "You think it's not here. It is."

Nichols focused on vaping habits and said students as young as elementary age are trying it because they see older siblings and parents do it, and she outlined several harmful effects of vaping on the body. She also said that some vapes can explode, leading to burns and other injuries.

She said high school kids some-

times sneak vapes into school in their underpants, and she asks them to consider the consequences of what happens if one explodes while they are doing that.

Nichols also explains to students in graphic detail what happens when they are brought to an emergency room overdosing or tripping on drugs – from cutting off their clothes to intubating them to restraining them and catheterizing them.

The program also focused on other illicit substances – many of which are packaged and designed to look like candy, and Nichols said predators are targeting kids and teens through social media and online games.

In addition to vaping, the danger of Fentanyl overdose still remains very high with even a trace exposure sometimes leading to death.

Nichols encourages parents to get Narcan – a highly effective nasal



Clarendon High School teacher Elizabeth Zongker (left) and UMC NEIDS nurse Charlie Nichols discuss vaping dangers Monday night.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO

spray that save a person from an overdose of opioid-based drugs. She says every student should be carrying one if not for themselves but for a friend if they need it.

Nichols also said new drugs are on the horizon. Drugs like Xylazine and Nitazen are not opioid-based, and Narcan will not work on them.

Nichols sees vaping as a gateway drug to stronger and stronger substances, and she says kids need to be encouraged and supported to

stop.

"You have to make a choice to stop killing yourself," she tells them.

Nichols presented the same program to Hedley ISD students and Clarendon College students earlier Monday and was presenting the program to Clarendon CISD students on Tuesday.

She encourages everyone to follow the UMC NEIDS Facebook page to keep up with the drug dangers facing kids.

Early voting underway in state election

Texas voters began casting early ballots Monday to decide the fate of 17 proposed amendments to the state constitution.

The Donley County Clerk's Office reported 20 people had voted locally as of early Tuesday afternoon.

Early voting will continue through October 31 at the Donley County Courthouse Annex. Polling hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. this week through Friday and next week on Monday through Wednesday, October 27-29. Voters can take advantage of extended early voting hours from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on October 30 and 31.

Election Day will be Tuesday, November 4.

"Early voting is an opportunity to cast your ballot ahead of Election Day at a time and place that may be more convenient for you," said Secretary Nelson. "Whether you decide to vote early or wait until Election Day, now is a good time to make a plan."

During early voting, Texans can vote at any polling location in their county of registration. Statewide, eligible voters will weigh in on 17 proposed amendments to the state constitution.

An analysis of each proposed constitutional amendment is available to the public through the Texas Legislative Council at tlc.texas.gov/publications.

Texans can find information about how to vote in person and what to bring to the polls at VoteTexas.gov, the state's official online voting resource. Voters can also check their registration status through this website.

Under Texas law, voters who possess one of the seven acceptable forms of photo ID must present that ID at the polls when voting in person. The acceptable forms of photo ID are: Texas Driver License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS); Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS; Texas Handgun License issued by DPS; Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS; United States Military Identification Card containing the person's photograph; United States Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph; or United States Passport (book or card).

Voters who do not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of the seven approved forms of photo ID may fill out a Reasonable Impediment Declaration at the polls and present an alternative form of ID, such as a utility bill, bank statement, government check or a voter registration certificate.



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The power to amend in Texas

I’ve been reading historian Jill Lepore’s *We the People* as part of my study of the U.S. Constitution. The framers never believed their creation would be perfect or unchanging. They built a document that could be amended – changed, refined, and made better by the people it would govern. They saw the power to amend as the purest form of self-government.

That same principle runs deep in Texas. Our state constitution was written by people who had seen what happens when government drifts too far from ordinary citizens. They made it long and detailed on purpose so that no major policy could take effect without a vote of the people. Texas has more than 500 constitutional amendments already – and 17 more on the ballot this November.

Some call that messy. I call it proof that Texans have never trusted government to act alone. We’ve always wanted the people to be in the driver’s seat when it comes to the laws that govern our state.

To amend something means to fix it, renew it, or make it more productive. Anyone who’s worked on a farm or in a garden understands that. When the soil wears thin, you amend it so it can produce again. The framers – many of them farmers – understood that same truth about democracy. It only stays healthy when people are willing to work it.

When we vote on constitutional amendments, we’re deciding what’s working, what isn’t, and what needs attention. This is how Texans – not politicians – shape our state.

On November 4, you can have a say on 17 proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution. For rural Texans, several deserve special attention.

Proposition 1 would create permanent funds for the Texas State Technical College system – the schools that train welders, linemen, nurses, and mechanics. For small towns far from a university campus, this fund will allow investments in the young people in our communities. We need these trades in our small towns. They provide good-paying jobs for young people who want to build a future close to home – especially those who can’t afford to attend college or leave their families behind.

Proposition 4 would dedicate a portion of state sales-tax revenue to create the new Texas Water Fund – a dedicated funding source for one of the most important investments the state can make: our water. This amendment would direct \$1 billion per year for 20 years toward long-term water infrastructure that supports every community, from our largest cities to our smallest towns. It ensures that water remains a priority even as competing funding needs strain the state budget. Proposition 4 is the long-term solution Texas needs to make sure every community – rural and urban alike – has reliable water for generations to come.

Propositions 5, 8, and 9 also provide meaningful relief for rural Texans. Prop 5 exempts animal-feed inventory from property taxes, helping feed stores, co-ops, and farms stay viable. Prop 8 bans inheritance and gift taxes, allowing family land to pass to the next generation without being taxed twice. Prop 9 lets small businesses and farms deduct equipment value, easing costs on tractors and machinery.

Together, these measures strengthen rural economies and protect the people who keep Texas growing.

Lepore writes that when citizens stop amending and engaging, constitutions harden and power concentrates. The framers built the amendment process precisely to prevent that. They trusted future generations to correct and renew what they created.

That trust still defines Texas. Every time we vote on constitutional amendments, we’re taking ownership of the laws that shape our lives. It might seem insignificant, but it’s what keeps democracy local, personal, and alive. If we ignore that responsibility, the soil of self-government dries up. When we participate, we keep it fertile for the next crop of Texans who will inherit it.

That’s what Dirt Democracy means – the understanding that democracy, like the land, only stays healthy when people are willing to care for it. So be sure to research the amendments, show up, and decide for yourself.

Early voting begins Monday, Oct. 20. Before you head to the polls, take time to learn about all 17 amendments. Talk them over at the football game, the coffee shop, the feed store, or after church. Ask how they’ll affect your family, your land, your schools, and your town. Then go vote.

The Texas Constitution doesn’t belong to Austin. It belongs to us. And it only stays strong if we take the time to amend it when it needs tending.

That’s not politics. That’s Dirt Democracy.

Suzanne Bellsnyder is editor and publisher of the Hansford County Reporter-Statesman and Sherman County Gazette. A former Capitol staffer with decades of experience in Texas politics and policy, she now focuses on how state decisions shape rural life through her newspapers and the Texas Rural Reporter. You can subscribe to the newsletter at www.TexasRuralReporter.Substack.com.



texas rural reporter
by suzanne bellsnyder

Reader explains his personal politics

I am a Democrat.
I do not support Hamas.
I am not a member of Antifa.
I am not Marxist.
I am not a terrorist or a member of a terrorist organization.

I am not Woke.
I love America.
I live with the Gospel in my heart.
I am a follower of Jesus.

I am Christian.
I am honored to serve as the pastor of two churches. And if either one fires me for this statement, I would still love them very much.

I care about more than the churches I serve.

I care for First Baptist. I am not Baptist, but I have friends who go there, and it is good for them.

I care for Community Fellowship. I have friends who go there, and it is good for them.

I care for First Methodist. I am not Methodist, but I have friends who go there, and it is good for them.

I care for the Cowboy Church. I don’t attend there but I have friends who go there, and it is good for them.

I care for the Nazarene Church. I am not Nazarene, but I have friends who

go there, and it is good for them.
I care for the Assembly of God church. I do not attend there but I have friends who go there, and it is good for them.

I care for the Church of Christ. I share a common history with that church; however, I don’t go there but I do have friends who go there, and it is good for them.

I care for St. John’s Episcopal Church. I am not Episcopal, but I have friends who go there, and it is good for them.

I care for St. Mary’s Catholic Church. I am not Catholic, but I wish them well as they seek to build a new church and I have friends who go there.

I care about the churches here because our community needs healthy, vital churches that embrace the gospel and speak the truth.

I do not care about people who use the Bible as a club to prove they are right; I care that the Bible is used to build up and lift up.

I do not care about people who memorize Bible verses on a page; but I do care about people who let the Bible transform the way they live.

I do not care about who knows the

most about the Bible; I do care about people who live it out the most.

I do not care about people who think they know more about the Bible than others; I do care about people who let scripture change their hearts.

I care for my neighbors.

I care for my colleagues at the college and for the students I teach.

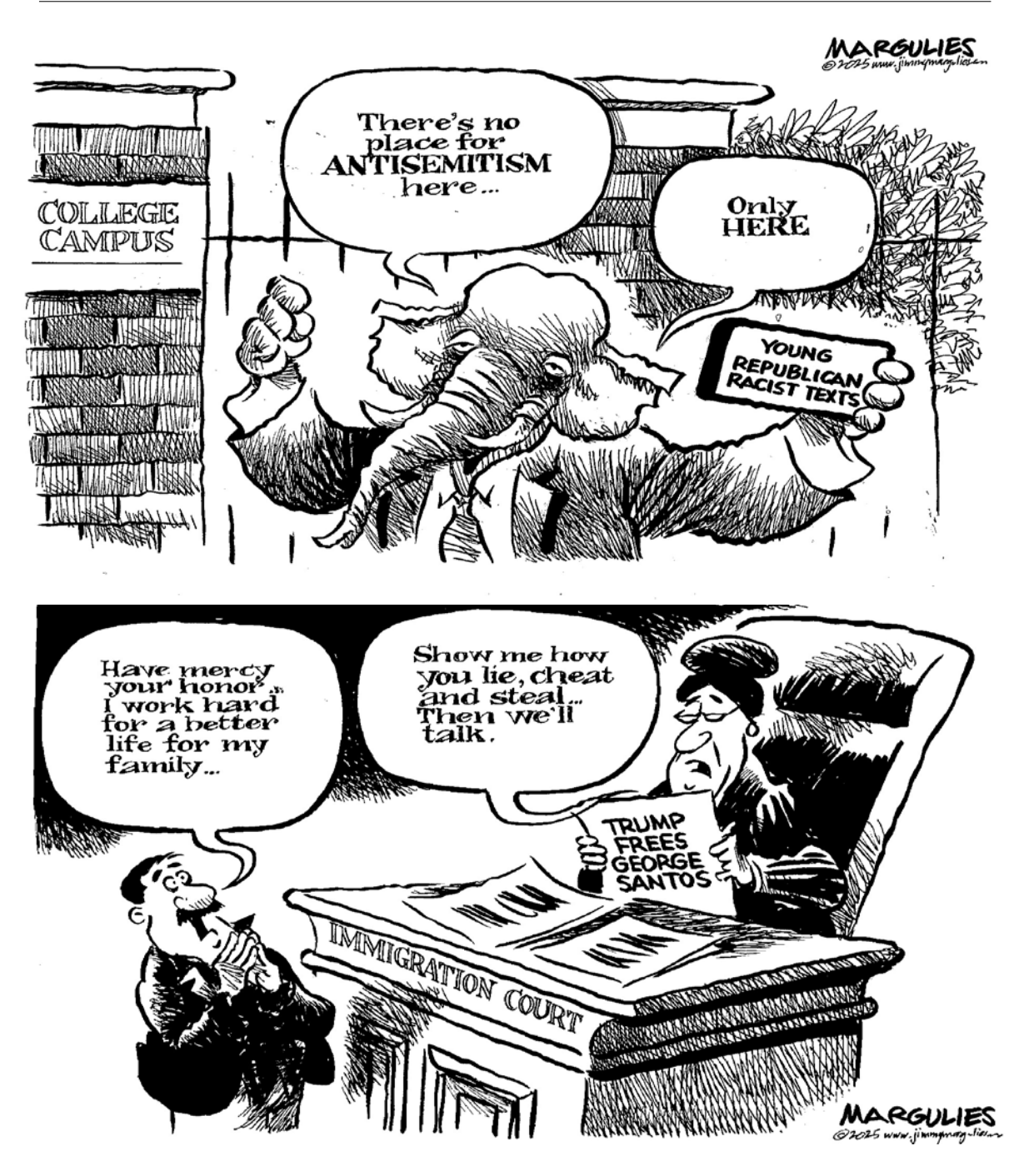
I think we should have as many personal freedoms as possible while keeping the safety of the common good.

I used to think that Richard Nixon was the most mean-spirited president of my lifetime. I was wrong. President Trump is Richard Nixon on steroids. I support the No Kings movement because I think our nation’s current Executive has too much power, is motivated by greed, and therefore lusts after more power.

I care about this country, and I know you do, too.

I am not woke.
I am not a terrorist.
I am not Marxist.
I am not antifa.
I do not support Hamas.
I am a Democrat.

The Rev. Ken McIntosh, PhD,
Clarendon



Intervention, coincidence, or luck

I’ve pondered – likely at times when I should have been engaged in thoughts of consequence – about goings-on that seem to “fit” into one of three categories: Divine intervention, coincidence or “blind hog luck.”

The older I get, the more I believe that in most instances, what we’ve often thought to be coincidences – or the referenced “blind porcine” variety – turned out to have been divinely appointed.

A few days ago, tools in hand, I was restoring a screw in the mortar at our front door. From it hangs a small sign for doorbell ringers who’d like to sell us something. The words “No Solicitors” cause some “peddlers” to pass on by. (Would that we could hang such a sign on the telephone to warn us that roofers “happen to be in the area” and inquiries if our home is for sale.)....

As I prepared to re-attach the sign, I noticed a jovial guy ringing doorbells in our cul-de-sac; there was obviously friendly banter during brief doorway conversations. As he approached our abode, I aimlessly asked a four-worded question: “What are you selling?”

He saw the sign, asking, “Do you really want to know? If you’re serious, I’m selling solar power.”

Over the past decade, I’ve had telephone solicitations from companies wanting to “set us up” with solar power, save us money, protect the environment and provide electricity when traditional delivery fails during overloads or damaged power lines. Usually, there was mention that systems would pay for

themselves over two or three decades. At my age of 88, I always felt like the guy who was sentenced to 300 years in prison. Hearing the plaintiff confess that he didn’t know if he could live that long, the judge answered, “Just do the best you can.”....

“Our program conversion is provided without charge, saves you money and both delivers and stores electricity,” C.J. Pilling assured as I invited him inside. Despite my haunting too-good-to-be-true fears, he had the right answer to every question.

I called a knowledgeable friend who offered “go-for-it” advice. Sure enough, everything promised has been done on time or sooner, and our new “flat rate” monthly bill is down by 20%. We have all new electrical stuff, with solar panels on the sunny side of the roof. And, there’s more! The first three months of solar power are free.

Turns out that our panels are harnessing more power than we need; it goes back on the grid. With batteries now fully charged, we can withstand black-outs for days at a time. How smug we felt – one week after our new electrical delivery system was operative – when there was a four-hour power failure affecting a thousand homes in our part of the city. We remained “electric-



the idle american
by don newbury

fied.”....

And, there’s more!
The company maintains warranties and pays insurance on the system. Customers need not own any equipment to get solar and battery benefits.

I’m not used to so many upsides, and my hard-to-convince brother – far better able to detect downsides without sliding into them – is going solar himself.

He lives in Dallas, also near electrical grids vital to the solar program. Sadly, grids are not available in all states, or in all parts of Texas....

There’s space to mention only a few advantages of solar energy, and I’m discovering more each week.

Further, I know that it’s awkward contacting someone whose job it is to reach you. Contact me if you want more information. This is kinda like bragging about gasoline mileage on an e-car, which, by the way, could be charged nightly at zero cost in my garage. But, I’m not currently fixated on buying a car that plugs in.

My contact info is shown below; if you are interested, I’ll hook you up with C. J. He’s much more informed, and will advise if his solar power program is available in your neighborhood. And, it’ll save him from ringing your doorbell....

Dr. Newbury, a speaker in the Metroplex, may be reached at 817-447-3872; email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Audio version at www.speakerdoc.com.

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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.

ENTERPRISE STAFF

Roger A. Estlack
Publisher & Editor

Ashlee Estlack
Contributing Editor

Tara Allred
Office Director

CORRESPONDENTS

Sandy Anderberg
Clarendon Sports

Benjamin Estlack
Columnist

Mandi Gay
Photographer

Elaina Estlack
Photographer

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone
806.874.2259

Fax
806.874.2423

E-Mail
news@clarendononline.com

Web Site
www.ClarendonLive.com

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DEADLINES

News articles and photos are due by Monday at noon. **Advertising and Classifieds** are due by five o’clock Monday afternoon. Deadlines may be altered for holidays or special issues.

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And, there’s more!

The company maintains warranties and pays insurance on the system. Customers need not own any equipment to get solar and battery benefits.

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★
¿Qué Pasa?
Community Calendar
October 24 & 25
Mulkey Theatre • The Black Phone
2 • 7:30 p.m.

October 26
Mulkey Theatre • The Black Phone 2
• 2:00 p.m.

October 26
Golf Scramble. Clarendon Coun-
try Club • Call 806-874-2166

October 31
Howardwick Halloween
McMorries Park, 7:00 p.m. Truck
or Treating • Call 874-2222 for
details.

November 1
Spookfest '25. Downtown
Clarendon, • Costume Contest
• Games • Trunk or Treat @ 5
p.m. • FREE Mulkey movie @ 7
p.m.

November 7
Clarendon Lions Club Pancake
Supper • Clarendon School Caf-
eteria, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

November 8 & 9
Polar Bear Two-Person Scramble
• Clarendon Country Club

★
Menus
October 27 - 31
Donley County Senior Citizens
Mon: Sliced ham, buttered car-
rots, black eyed peas, whole
wheat roll, cherry/pineapple
crisp, iced tea/2% milk.
Tues: Chicken pot pie, peas &
carrots, garden salad, strawberry
shortcake, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Pot roast, potatoes, onions,
carrots, green beans, whole
wheat roll, plum cobbler, iced
tea/2% milk.
Thurs: Enchilada casserole,
garden salad, pinto beans,
Spanish rice, sopapilla cheese-
cake, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Beef stew, garden salad,
cornbread, peach crisp, iced
tea/2% milk

Hedley Senior Citizens
Mon: Stuffed baked potato w/
ham, broccoli, whole wheat roll,
pineapple cake, iced tea/2%
milk.
Tues: chicken pot pie, peas &
carrots, garden salad, strawberry
shortcake, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Chicken fried steak w/
country gravy, broccoli, mashed
potatoes, whole wheat roll, fruit
crisp, iced tea/2% milk.
Thurs: chicken spaghetti, broc-
coli, garden salad, garlic toast,
fruit cup/mandarin oranges,
iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Bacon cheeseburger on
whole wheat bun, potato
wedges, fruit, sugar cookie, iced
tea/2% milk

Clarendon CISD
Breakfast
Mon: Pancake, ham, fruit, fruit
juice, milk.
Tues: Breakfast burrito, hash
brown, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Wed: Breakfast sandwich, fruit,
fruit juice, milk.
Thu: Breakfast combo, fruit, fruit
juice, milk.
Fri: Donut holes, sausage, fruit,
fruit juice, milk.

Lunch
Mon: Texas basket, green beans,
corn, peaches, milk.
Tues: Walking taco, beans,
veggie cup, dessert, fruit, milk.
Wed: Pizza, broccoli, marinara,
applesauce, milk.
Thu: chicken spaghetti, bread-
stick, salad, yams, milk.
Fri: Boneless chicken wings,
chips, celery, carrots, sherbet,
milk.

Hedley ISD
Breakfast
Mon: Pancakes, bacon, straw-
berries, banana, fruit juice, milk.
Tues: Morning griddle sandwich,
mixed berries, fruit juice, milk.
Wed: Waffles, sausage, melon,
fruit juice, milk.
Thu: Stuffed bagel, cheese stick,
grapes, fruit juice, milk.
Fri: Donut holes, sausage,
orange, fruit juice, milk.

Lunch
Mon: Steak fingers, fries, gravy,
roll, green beans, peaches, milk.
Tues: Walking taco, beans, zesty
cucumbers, apple, churro, milk.
Wed: Lasagna, breadstick, broc-
coli, marinara, cinnamon apple-
sauce, milk.
Thu: Boneless wings, chips,
celery, carrots, mixed fruit, sher-
bet, milk.
Fri: BBQ drumstick, bis-
cuit, salad, tomatoes, apple,
milk.

Plan ahead with wildfire prevention, mitigation tips

With dry weather conditions increasing wildfire risk across many parts of the state, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is shar- ing prevention and mitigation tips to help Texans safeguard their property, operations and infrastructure.

The latest US Drought Monitor indicates that much of Texas is under drought intensity. In response, the agency’s Disaster Assessment and Recovery, DAR, unit is urging land- owners to act now to minimize fuel loads, protect critical structures and plan coordinated responses before fires ignite.

“Landowners need to take note of potential wildfire threats in their pastures and consider implementing prevention and mitigation practices that may limit damage that could be quite severe,” said Ryan Martin, DAR program specialist for the North Region.

Martin has several prevention and management techniques and

recommendations as dry conditions continue:

Grazing practices: Utilize live- stock to selectively reduce fuel loads by grazing areas with heavy grass or brush before fire season.

“Rotational grazing is another method where livestock are moved through pastures, reducing fuel loads and creating a patchy landscape to slow the spread of wildfire,” he said.

Fuel removal along fence lines: Fence lines often accumulate heavy growth of forage grasses and brush. Clearing fence lines will create a break and minimize tall, continuous fuels.

Firebreaks: Utilize natural or manmade firebreaks like roads, rivers, rocky outcrops or bare ground to create gaps in vegetation and slow the spread of wildfire, Martin said.

“Landowners can also plow or scrape an area to remove combusti- ble material,” he said.

Community fire adaptation

planning: Coordinate with neigh- bors, local fire departments and local prescribed burn associations to share resources and identify high-risk areas.

“Identify high-risk areas and prioritize those at the community level,” he said. “Establish evacua- tion routes, safety zones and lines of communication that can be shared during fire events.”

Water sources for firefighting: Ensure access to ponds, tanks, wells and hydrants that can be used by fire- fighting crews during an emergency.

“Coordination among neigh- bors and local fire professionals for a community-wide mitigation effort is key,” Martin said. “Regular pasture inspections and emergency plans help ensure readiness when wildfire conditions escalate.”

Texashelp.tamu.edu provides a list of wildfire educational resources to assist with monitoring and safe- guarding against threats.

It’s science: Why a pumpkin is actually a fruit

Every fall, pumpkins steal the spotlight with multiple purposes: as decorations, for soups and in pies. But here’s a fun fact backed by sci- ence: this seasonal favorite is actu- ally a fruit.

Joe Masabni, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service vegetable specialist and professor in the Texas A&M Department of Hor- ticultural Sciences, said pumpkins are scientifically classified as fruits because of how they grow. Anything that starts from a flower is classified botanically as a fruit.

People typically consider some- thing as either a fruit or a vegetable based on how they eat it rather than how it grows. “We see them as to whether we eat them as a dessert, salad or as part of a meal,” Masabni said. For example, consider cucum- bers or tomatoes. People typically don’t eat them as desserts, he said. They often eat cucumbers and to- matoes in salads or cooked meals, so

they may think of them as vegeta- bles, even though they’re fruits.

“The pumpkin is a tricky one, though,” he said, “because some people make soups or stews from pumpkins, which is a meal, while others make pies, which is a dessert. So that can lead to confusion.”

The difference between a fruit and a vegetable lies in whether the produce starts as a flower.

“All plants start from a seed,” Masabni said. “Let’s take the exam- ple of lettuce as a vegetable. It makes more and more leaves, and then you harvest them and eat those leaves. If you let it go even longer, it will even- tually make a flower stalk and make seeds that we harvest and store for next year’s crop.”

A pumpkin plant starts the same. However, its flowers eventu- ally turn into the fruit we eat – in this case, the pumpkin itself.

“A pumpkin starts as a small plant with a few leaves, and as the

leaves grow and more branches develop, flowers will start to bloom on the plant,” he said. “Those flow- ers then need to be pollinated by bees or other pollinators. Once a flower is pollinated, it develops into a fruit that we consume. So ultimately, fruit relies on pollination of the flower to become the thing we eat.”

Besides pumpkins, some other fruits that are typically confused with vegetables are: Cucumbers, Tomatoes, Eggplants, Corn, Zuc- chini, Okra, String beans, Squash, and Peppers.

So, does it matter? Maybe not at the dinner table, but it’s a fun fact to share at your next fall gathering.

“The fruit and vegetable debate is a fun one that hangs on the tech- nical, scientific view of these plants that we consume,” Masabni said. “At the end of the day, we want to inform people, but we also want them to enjoy these plants as gardeners and at the dinner table.”

the lion's tale
by roger estlack

The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting October 21, 2025, with Boss Lion Pro Tem Chanel Silva in charge.

We had nine members pres- ent and two attending virtually, Sweetheart Millie McAncar, and two guests this week – Ella Estlack, guest of Lion Roger Estlack, and Denise Bertrand, who presented our program.

Denise gave us three programs in one with a look at the Donley County Senior Citizens, the Court- house Lighting Committee, and the Small Town Christmas celebration.

The DCSC serves hot meals daily on weekdays with about 30 people in attendance. More than 100 home-delivered meals are prepared and delivered. Take-out is available. Those eating in person can enjoy the salad bar, soup bar, and dessert bar.

The Courthouse Lighting Com- mittee is a group of volunteers work- ing under the county that decorates the Courthouse Square every year, culminating with a lighting cere- mony and visit from Santa on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, which is November 29 this year. Santa arrives at 5 p.m. with the lighting happening about 6 p.m.

Small Town Christmas is orga- nized by a committee operating under the Chamber of Commerce with activities and entertainment planned around the courthouse light- ing. This year’s event will run from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. with vendors, food trucks, and lots of different activities being planned. Mark your calendars and watch for more information coming soon.

Upcoming club events include the annual Charter Banquet next Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. (no noon meet- ing next week) and the annual Pan- cake Supper on November 7.

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

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Colt Colton Madsen gets a tackle last week against Shamrock.

COURTESY PHOTO / AL ELAM

Colts drop Irish at home

By Sandy Anderberg

The Clarendon Junior High Colts played determined and strong coming off a loss last and as did a good job defeating Shamrock 32-20 in Bronco Stadium last Thursday night.

Quarterback TJ Smith played solid football and ran the offense with ease. He led the offense with 270 rushing yards and five touch- downs. The offensive line followed the plan by Coaches Semans and Kelley and opened holes for Smith to scamper through.

Defensively, as they have all year, the Colts were strong on the line and throughout the secondary. Kase Zongker has been flexing his muscles in his defensive tackle posi- tion all season. He worked his magic

against the Irish and finished the game with five tackles.

Colton Madsen had a great night in his defense end spot and got to the Shamrock quarterback twice for sacks. Madsen posted three tackles for losses and grabbed seven tackles in the win.

Semans and Kelley were more than pleased with the Colts’ play.

“Coach Kelley and I are extremely proud of the boys and their response to last week’s loss,” they said. “They played with heart, passion, and intensity all game. We look forward to winning more this season and continuing to watch the boys grow every day.”

The Colts are on the road to Wheeler, Thursday, October 23, to play the Colts at 5:00 p.m.

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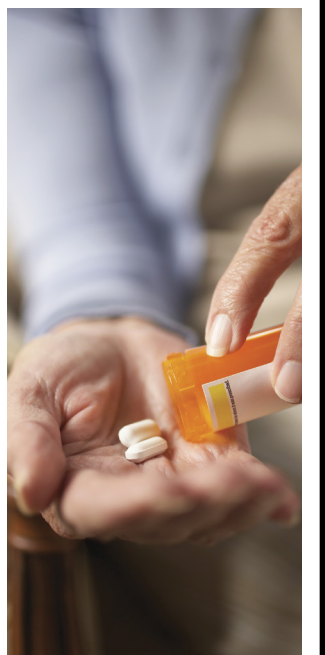
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Homecoming victory
The Owls celebrate their 46-0 win over the FFC Lions last week at home.

COURTESY PHOTO / MANDI GAY



Kutter O'Keefe runs the ball for the Owls last week against the FCC Lions.

COURTESY PHOTO / MANDI GAY



The Owls XC team ran last week in the Regional meet in Lubbock.

COURTESY PHOTO



Karli Jones of Lelia Lake captured first place at the Texas Christian Athletic Fellowship (TCAF) State Cross Country Meet on October 17, 2025, held at Boyd High School. Representing Grace Christian Academy, Jones finished the race with an impressive time of 14:16.52, securing the state title.

COURTESY PHOTO



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CLUES ACROSS
1. Martial arts in China
6. The butt of jokes
12. Nevertheless
16. Sportscaster Michaels
17. A firm believer
18. Atomic #18
19. One's bestie
20. Of I
21. Hamburger accessory
22. Thus
23. Partner to Pa
24. Scottish tax
26. Cuts away
28. Require
30. Government lawyer
31. Own (Scottish)
32. Body cavity
34. Brew
35. Young woman (French)
37. Platforms
39. Pair of points in mathematics
40. Attack suddenly
41. Aviators
43. Make perfect
44. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
45. Neither
47. The center of a city
48. Sacrifice hit in baseball
50. Singer Redding
52. Dragged forcibly
54. Puncture with a knife
56. Belonging to me
57. Expresses surprise
59. Haul
60. The Golden State
61. Biblical Sumerian city
62. Integrated circuit
63. Opposed to certain principles
66. Sodium
67. Qualities
70. Walk
71. It awaits us all

CLUES DOWN
1. Ate quickly
2. Peyton Manning's alma mater
3. Moves through water
4. Run away from
5. Utah resident
6. Natural objects
7. Children's game
8. Obligation to prove
9. Ancient Greek building for performances
10. Soldier
11. Decorated
12. Catches
13. Russell __, author
14. Speak indistinctly
15. Students get them
25. Japanese warrior
26. Dessert
27. Doleful
29. Most cushy
31. Moon crater
33. Small evergreen Arabian tree
36. Something fugitives are "on"
38. 007's creator
39. Paintings on hinged panels
41. Type of bomb
42. Japanese classical theater
43. U.S. gov't department
46. Flightless bird
47. One who cuts wood or stone
49. Buttock and thigh together
51. A way to gather
53. Body part
54. Argentinian city
55. Undergarments
58. Jai __, sport
60. Container for shipping
64. Type of screen
65. Get free of
68. Indicates position
69. Business department

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WED. ADULT BIBLE STUDY: 6 P.M.
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YOUTH STUDY: WED. 7 P.M.
COLLEGE MINISTRY: WED. 9 P.M.
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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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Estlack - Secretary, 2 B I, ASK 1



Clarendon Lions Club Regular
meeting each Tuesday at noon.
Brian Barboza, Boss Lion. Roger
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THE PANHANDLE REGIONAL PLANNING Com-
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its Board of Directors. The meeting is to be
held on Thursday, October 30th, 2025, at 5:05
p.m. at Pampa City Hall. All minority citizens
in Childress, Collingsworth, Donley, Grey, Hall,
and Wheeler Counties are invited to attend.
Information regarding this election may be
obtained from Executive Assistant Melissa
Whitaker at PRPC. She can be reached at
(806) 372-3381 or by e-mail mwhitaker@
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THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON Environmental
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indicates a compliance value in quarter three
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Trihalomethanes are a group of volatile
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You do not need to use an alternative water
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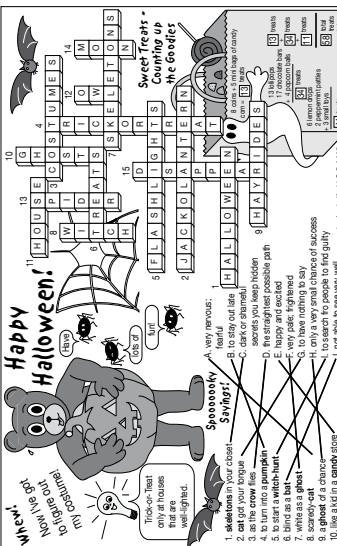
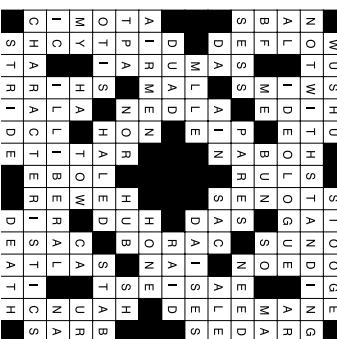
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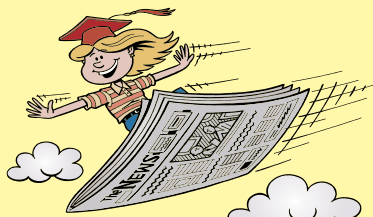
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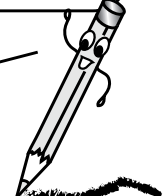
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...mix and watching spooky movies!

Kids: color
stuff in!



Whew!

Now I've got
to figure out
my costume!

Trick-or-Treat
only at houses
that are
well-lighted.



Happy Halloween!

I've just finished carving
my jack-o'-lantern. I'm
going to use a battery-
operated light in it.

It is the season of costume
making, witches and bats in flight,
spooky parties and favorite candy
treats. All of this fun, fun, fun fills
my mind, but I also know that it's
important to follow a few safety
rules while celebrating.

Have

lots of

fun whatever

your family

chooses to do! We're

making orange popcorn balls.

Let's go!

house

Trick-or-Treat

owl

flashlights

costumes

jack-o'-lantern

treats

spider

ghosts

witch

hayrides

skeletons

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HHSC encourages preventive care during Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is encouraging preventive care and screenings for women during Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October.

Women ages 40 to 74 should get a mammogram once every two years, according to the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force.

“An annual breast cancer screening is an important part of any self-care plan and takes only 10-15 minutes of your time,” said Marissa Acosta, HHSC associate commissioner of Family Clinical Services. “If nothing is found, it can provide peace of mind. If something is caught early, it can save your life or the life of someone you love.”

An estimated 21,000 women in Texas were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2024, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. That same year, more than

3,500 Texas women died from the disease.

Breast cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death for women in the state, outpaced only by lung cancer.

Routine breast cancer screenings are the best method to catch cancer early, when it’s easier to treat and survival rates are higher, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The HHSC Breast and Cervical Cancer Services program provides funding to clinics across the state for free breast cancer screening and diagnostic services, such as clinical breast examinations, mammograms and breast biopsies, to eligible women.

The program also provides funding for cervical cancer screenings and treatment for precancerous cervical conditions.

Last year, the program helped more than 29,000 women receive screenings and preventive services.

Uninsured and underinsured Texas women with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level may be eligible for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Services program.

In addition, local clinics help eligible women apply for the Medicaid for Breast and Cervical Cancer program to receive treatment through Medicaid benefits.

Breast cancer awareness observation dates in October include: Breast Reconstruction Awareness Day – Oct. 15 and National Mammography Day – Oct. 17.

To learn more about the women’s health programs and services that HHSC offers, including eligibility information, visit the Healthy Texas Women website or dial 2-1-1.

You're Invited to **Barbara Helms**

85th Birthday

Saturday, October 25, 2025
2:00pm - 4:00pm,
First Baptist Church, Clarendon, Tx.

A special day to honor a lifetime of love, wisdom, and memories. Save the date and be part of this joyous occasion.

Come & Go, with a card as your gift.



Obituaries

McCurdy

Kerry Elaine McCurdy, 54, of Clarendon passed away on Friday, October 17, 2025.

A family directed memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 25, 2025, at Community Fellowship Church with Rev. Larry Capranica officiating.

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

Kerry was born on December 24, 1970, in Cincinnati, Ohio, to Ed and Ellie Meyer. She grew up in Cincinnati and, after graduating high school, attended Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Missouri. It was there she met her husband of

33 years, Ron McCurdy. The couple married on July 11, 1992, in Cincinnati.

Over the years, Kerry and Ron made their home in Tennessee, New Mexico, and the DFW Metroplex before settling in Clarendon, Texas in 2017.

A devoted homemaker, Kerry found great joy in caring for her family, tending her garden, and raising chickens. She enjoyed spending time with her daughters and was always ready to lend a hand with their 4-H projects.

She was preceded in death by her father, Ed Meyer.

She is survived by her husband, Ron McCurdy; mother, Ellie Meyer; two daughters, Grace Byrd and Emily McCurdy; and three brothers, Greg, Jeff, and Jason Meyer.

Beef cattle to be highlighted at Amarillo Farm Show

Beef cattle producers from across the region are invited to attend the Beef Cattle Presentation & Roundtable Discussions during the 2025 Amarillo Farm Show on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the Grand Plaza of the Amarillo Civic Center in Amarillo.

This special program is designed to provide insight, inspiration, and industry perspective for beef producers. The event agenda will include a series of roundtable discussions led by a panel of respected industry leaders, focusing on current topics in the beef industry, and a message from keynote speaker

Dr. Temple Grandin. Attendees will gain practical takeaways and have opportunities to visit directly with experts and fellow producers.

Registration for the Beef Cattle Presentation & Roundtable Discussions is \$100, which includes a reception honoring Dr. Temple Grandin and a Choice Ribeye Dinner, followed by Dr. Grandin’s keynote presentation.

Producers are encouraged to register early to secure their spot. Contact Megan Eikner with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service – Potter County at (806) 373-0713 for more information.

Wear purple for domestic violence

Family Support Services of Amarillo (FSS) this week joined thousands across the nation in wearing purple for Wear Purple Day, a powerful moment during Domestic Violence Awareness Month to honor survivors and raise awareness about the impact of domestic violence in our community.

Purple represents courage, survival, honor, and hope – the heart of the movement to end domestic violence.

Staff, community partners, and supporters across Amarillo and the Panhandle wore purple today to show survivors that they are seen, believed, and never alone.

“This day is about visibility and compassion,” said Brandi Reed, CEO of Family Support Services. “When we wear purple, we are

saying that domestic violence has no home here. We are honoring the strength of survivors and reaffirming our commitment to creating a community built on safety and respect.”

Family Support Services has been serving the Texas Panhandle since 1908, offering safe shelter, counseling, advocacy, and prevention programs for individuals and families impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, and other forms of trauma.

“Domestic violence thrives in silence,” Reed added. “When our community stands together, we help break that silence and make room for healing and hope.”

For more information about services, volunteer opportunities, or how to get involved, visit www.fss-ama.org or call (806) 342-2503

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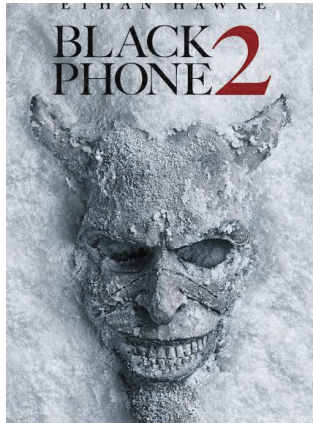
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