

THE CLARENDON ★
Enterprise
12.25.2025

SANTA LETTERS
Inside This Week!



Merry Christmas





Lions help distribute food donations

The Clarendon Lions Club prepared 13 food boxes for families in Donley County last Tuesday, December 16. The club provided hams to go with canned and boxed goods gathered by Clarendon school students. The total of canned goods collected was more than 2,600, and Lion Chris Reuter oversaw the distribution of the surplus food, along with two beeves from an anonymous donor, to local food ministries and services. Pictured here are Lions Richard Green, Mary Green, Ted Shaller, Rita Gehman, Eric Gehman, Larry Capranica, Brian Barboza, helper Monroe Newhouse, Anndria Newhouse, Christina Brady, Chris Reuter, and Machiel Covey. Not pictured: Steve Hall and Roger Estlack

ENTERPRISE PHOTO

USDA sets Jan. 15 deadline for conservation programs

The US Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) established a national Jan. 15, 2026, batching deadline for the first funding round of key conservation programs.

This national batching date ensures producers have a clear, consistent timeline for participating in Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation

Stewardship Program (CSP), and Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). This includes NRCS’ new Regenerative Pilot Program, which provides targeted Farmer First assistance through EQIP and CSP.

“The NRCS team continues its commitment to Texas producers — advancing conservation, strengthening service delivery, and keeping

our promise to the men and women who feed and fuel our nation,” said NRCS Texas State Conservationist Kristy Oates.

NRCS programs are continuous sign-up programs, but due to the government shutdown, the agency is implementing an initial national batching period to ensure producers have access to funding and support.

All NRCS conservation programs remain continuous sign-up. Farmers and ranchers have until Jan. 15, 2026, to apply for the first batching period. National and State Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) will follow later in the year. PL-566 and Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) opportunities remain open for sponsors based on available funding.

Programs with a January 15, 2026, batching period deadline include: Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and New NRCS Regenerative Pilot Program (EQIP & CSP).

For information, visit nrcs.usda.gov or the local USDA center.

Pantex reaches milestone with production of W88 weapon

Officials with the Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/ NNSA) and the Pantex Plant, operated by PanTeXas Deterrence, LLC, (PXD), last week celebrated the successful completion of the Last Production Unit (LPU) of the W88 Alteration (Alt) 370 nuclear warhead in November 2025.

Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and Administrator of the NNSA Brandon Williams was in attendance for site tours, briefings, and served as keynote speaker for the LPU celebration event. Also in attendance were National Security Enterprise partners in achieving the milestone, representatives of the U.S. Navy, and Pantex local stakeholders.

“Reaching this LPU milestone required tremendous effort from all Pantex employees, along with the co-operation and collaboration from thousands of workers at Nuclear Security Enterprise sites across the country, and a close working relationship with the NNSA,” PXD President and General Manager Kelly Beierschmitt said. “The success of this program demands the highest standards of safety, security, and quality from all involved. I commend everyone involved for their contributions.”

“Delivering on the W88

LPU is a proud moment and successful enterprise-wide team effort,” said Pantex Field Office Manager Jason Armstrong. “This milestone also exemplifies NNSA’s commitment to provide the nation’s nuclear weapons stockpile to the Department of War in support of national and global security.”

This alteration of the W88 is part of NNSA’s multi-faceted strategy to ensure the United States nuclear deterrent continues to be safe, secure, and effective. The W88 is a submarine-launched ballistic missile nuclear warhead that entered the stockpile in late 1988.

The W88 Alt 370 program entered the development engineering phase in 2012 and production engineering began in early 2017. The W88 Alt 370 First Production Unit (FPU) was successfully completed in July 2021, ahead of schedule through outstanding teamwork from the Pantex Plant, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratory, Kansas City Nuclear Security Campus, and Y-12 National Security Complex.

The W88 Alt 370 program replaced certain aspects of the weapons system and refreshed the conventional high explosives within the weapon to enhance nuclear safety and support future life extension program options.



Top Photo: Stakeholders and PanTeXas Deterrence employees gathered last week to mark the completion of the W88 Alt 370 LPU weapon. Bottom Photo: Kelly Beierschmitt, President and General Manager, PanTeXas Deterrence (PXD), (left) visits with Brandon Williams, Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, and Jason Armstrong, Manager, National Nuclear Security Administration Pantex Field Office.

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

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

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DEADLINES

News articles and photos are due by Monday at noon. Advertising and Classifieds are also due by noon Monday. Deadlines may be altered for holidays or special issues.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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LETTERS

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

**

The Texas Panhandle's First Newspaper

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

**

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Community Calendar
December 26 & 27
Mulkey Theatre • Zootopia 2 • 7:30 p.m.

December 28
Mulkey Theatre • Zootopia 2 • 7:30 p.m.

December 29, 30, & 31
Broncos @ Caprock Tournament • TBA • Lubbock

December 29, 30, & 31
Lady Broncos @ Canyon Tournament • TBA • Canyon

January 10
Donley County Junior Livestock Show & Sale. Donley County Activity Center. Call for details, 806-874-2141.


Menus
Dec. 29 - Jan. 2
Donley County Senior Citizens
Mon: Beef stroganoff, black eyed peas, spinach, whole wheat roll, strawberry shortcake, iced tea/2% milk.
Tues: Roast, gravy, baked potatoes, spinach, whole wheat roll, banana pudding, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Pulled pork sandwich, hoagie roll, Frech fries, coleslaw, cantaloupe, iced tea/2% milk.
Thurs: Closed

Hedley Senior Citizens
Mon: Stuffed baked potato w/shredded beef, steamed 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: Closed
Fri: Bacon cheeseburger, whole wheat bun, potato wedges, fruit, cookies, iced tea/2% milk.



Getting' ready
Donley 4-H member Kinze Zongker works with her lamb in preparation for the upcoming Donley County Junior Livestock Show, which will be held Saturday, January 10, 2026.

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Tech veterinary school receives \$250k grant

Texas Tech University's School of Veterinary Medicine has received a \$250,000 grant from the US Department of Agriculture to develop its first food animal residency program, aimed at addressing a nationwide shortage of veterinarians serving rural and agricultural communities.

The grant, awarded through the USDA Veterinary Service Grant Program, will support advanced training and mentorship for early-career veterinarians, preparing them to become educators and leaders in food animal medicine.

Jennifer Koziol, an associate professor of food animal medicine and surgery, is leading the initiative for Texas Tech. She said the shortage of food animal veterinarians has significant implications for livestock health, food security and rural economies.

"The lack of veterinary coverage in rural regions has far-reaching consequences, from diminished livestock health and welfare to threats

against food security and community economic viability," Koziol said. "This project aligns with national goals of supporting rural prosperity and ensuring a safe, nutritious food supply."

The residency program is expected to launch in 2026.

Participants will receive advanced clinical and research training with the goal of preparing them for faculty roles at veterinary schools, addressing a growing shortage of qualified food animal educators nationwide.

He said residents will work toward diplomate status with the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, a credential recognizing advanced expertise in cattle medicine.

Graduates will bring specialized skills in antimicrobial stewardship, disease control and One Health leadership to their communities, helping strengthen livestock health and support the long-term sustainability of US agriculture.

Jackson celebrates Trump signing FY26 NDAA into law

Congressman Ronny Jackson (TX-13) last Thursday celebrated the Fiscal Year 2026 National Defense Authorization Act (FY26 NDAA) being signed into law by President Donald J. Trump.

Jackson led provisions to improve our nation's Special Operations Forces' acquisition process, speed up delivery of the MV-75 Future Long Range Assault Air-

craft, accelerate key infrastructure projects to modernize assembly and disassembly operations at Pantex, and advance AI applications to strengthen national security.

"President Trump signing the FY26 NDAA into law sends a clear message that America is serious about peace through strength and supporting our servicemembers," Jackson said.

Shonda Snack Shack

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Wed. Evening - Chicken Fried Steak

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4-H gathers donations
Donley 4-H members collected over 130 winter warmth items including hats, gloves, scarves and coats to donate to the Cross-ties clothing ministry recently. President Gracie Ellis and Vice President Kyler Bell delivered them to the center



Hedley falls to Lefors
Paeton Glover drives the ball for the Hedley Owls last week in their unfortunate loss to Lefors.

Hedley Community Development Corporation

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US 287 project moves into final phase of work

The Childress District has completed phase two of the US 287 bridge project in Clarendon. Beginning Jan. 6, 2026, a traffic switch will occur to transition the project into its third and final phase, weather permitting. Demolition work for the third phase is scheduled to start on January 7. Drivers are encouraged to stay alert, observe posted signs and use caution when traveling through the work zone. "We appreciate the public's patience as we work to improve safety and mobility along this important corridor," stated Louis McDow, Childress Area Engineer.

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CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
US 287 E • 874-3156 • REV. SETH SHIPMAN
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:30 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 7 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
300 S. CARHART • 874-2495
SUN. BIBLE CLASS 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:30 A.M.
SUN. 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE
209 S. HAWLEY • 874-2321 • PASTOR: ALLEN POSEY
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
• WED.: 7 P.M.

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
12148 FM 2162 • 874-0963
PASTOR: LARRY CAPRANICA
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED. COMMUNITY KIDZ 5:30 P.M.
WED. ADULT BIBLE STUDY: 6 P.M.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
120 E. THIRD ST. • PASTOR: DR. KEN MCINTOSH
SUNDAY SERVICE: 5 P.M.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
4TH ST. & HWY. 70 SOUTH • PASTOR: JASON HOUSTON
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:40 A.M.
WED. BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 P.M.

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

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

JESUS NAME APOSTOLIC CHURCH
720 E. MONTGOMERY • REV. 874-2078
REV. CALVIN BURROW
SUN. SERVICES: 3 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

RISE UP KINGDOM MINISTRIES:
501 S. MCCLELLAND • PASTOR: JOSY SHADLE
SUNDAY DISCIPLESHIP CLASS: 9:30 A.M.
SUN.: 10:00 A.M.

CHRIST'S KIDS OUTREACH MINISTRY:
416 S. KEARNEY • 874-2007
SUN. BREAKFAST 9:30 A.M. • SUN. PRAISE & WORSHIP 10 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:30 A.M. • WED.: 5 P.M.

KINGDOM HALL JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
12120 US 287 (JUST WEST OF CLARENDON) • 874-5020
PUBLIC MEETING & WATCHTOWER STUDY: SUN. 10 A.M.
BIBLE STUDY, CONGREGATIONAL THEOCRATIC MINISTRY
SCHOOL & SERVICE MEETING • TUES.: 7 P.M.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
301 S. PARKS ST. • 874-2511 • REV. JIM AVENI
SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE: 11 A.M.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
MONTGOMERY & MCCLELLAND
FR. BALA POLLISETTI
SUN. MASS 11 A.M.

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

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

THE GATHERING
623 W. FOURTH • PHYLLIS COCKERHAM
SUNDAY: 10 A.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

HEDLEY

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

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

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

HOWARDWICK

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
235 RICK HUSBAND BLVD. • 874-3326 • REV. JIM FOX
SUN. SCHOOL: 8:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:00 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 5 P.M. • WED.: 6 P.M.

MARTIN

MARTIN BAPTIST CHURCH
US 287 W
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

BRICE

BRICE DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE
PASTOR: LOUIS BENNETT
SUNDAY: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 6 P.M.

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For corrections or additions, call the Enterprise at:

874-2259

the lion's tale
by roger estlack

The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting December 16, 2025, with Boss Lion Brian Barboza in charge.

We had 13 members and two guests present. Monroe and Matthew Newhouse were the guests of Lion Anndria Newhouse.

Lion Newhouse reported the club had distributed more than 250 toys to every elementary student in the Clarendon and Hedley schools the previous week with the help of Santa himself. She expressed her appreciation for everyone who donated, helped, or supported our 2025 Toys for Joy program.

Lion Chris Reuter led the club in preparing 13 food baskets for local families, filling them with hams, canned goods, and a variety of non-perishable foods. Lion Reuter reported more than 2,600 cans were collected by Clarendon school kids, and two beef were donated by an anonymous donor.

The surplus food was divided between the Christ's Kids Ministry, the Bread of Life food pantry, and the Donley County Senior Citizens Center with the beef going to Christ's Kids and the food pantry.

The Boss Lion reminded us the club will not meet December 23 or December 30, and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas and great New Year. Our next regular meeting will be January 6.

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



Laken Smith and Millie McAnear shoot for the Lady Broncos during their recent victory over Perryton, 61-24, in the Bronco Gym. The Lady Broncos will be in the Canyon Tournament December 29 and 31, and the Broncos will compete in the Caprock Tournament in Lubbock December 29 and 31.



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Lady Broncos @ Canyon Tournament

Dec. 29-31 • TBA @ CANYON

Broncos @ Caprock Tournament

Dec. 29-31 • TBA @ LUBBOCK

Lady Broncos v Wellington

Jan. 6 • 6:30 p.m. @ HOME

Broncos v Wellington

Jan. 6 • 8:00 p.m. @ Home

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MEETINGS

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

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

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

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

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

Big E Meeting Listings only \$8.50 per month. Call 874-2259 to have your club or organization meeting listed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saints' Roost Museum
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Tuesday - Saturday
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Call 874-2746.

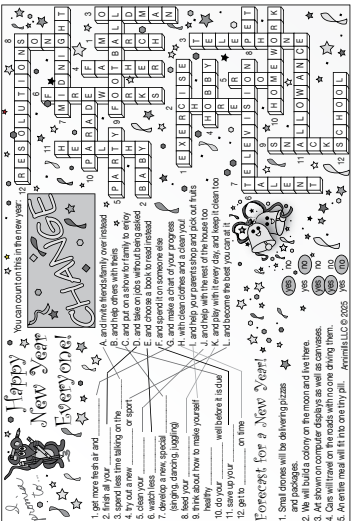
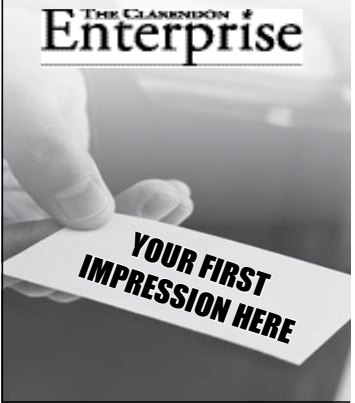
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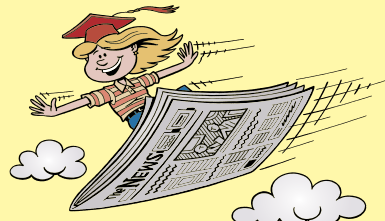
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Happy New Year, Everyone! Out With the Old Year, In With the New!

I *really* like the New Year celebration. It comes around and gives me a new chance *every* year to do a little better or start doing something in a new way. What do you know about the celebration of the new year? **Read these clues to help you fill in this New Year puzzle:**

- in Ancient Rome, the new year started in _____ because the month of January did not exist yet
- to represent the birth of a New Year we use a newborn _____ dressed in a top hat and a sash
- by the end of the year the child grows into a wrinkled _____
- _____ time is used to represent the passage of years; he usually carries an hourglass
- to celebrate the new year many people gather to eat, drink and dance at a _____; the biggest is in New York City in Times Square
- _____ light up the sky in celebration; they can be seen behind the Statue of Liberty, the Eiffel Tower and the Forbidden City in China
- the new year officially begins when the clock strikes _____
- everyone's favorite New Year's _____ is "Auld Lang Syne," which means 'old long since'
- after the parties of New Year's eve, many people relax by watching the big _____ game, "The Rose Bowl"
- after the game people line the streets to watch the "Rose _____," which takes place in California
- friends wish each other a happy, _____ New Year
- people use the start of a new year as a way to better themselves through New Year's _____

baby
Father
fireworks
healthy
March
party
midnight
old man
resolutions
football
parade

ALL THE BEST FROM ALL OF US AT THE HOLIDAYS

*May the gifts of peace, joy and hope be
yours during this special time of year.*

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We will close on Wednesday, December 24, at noon, and all day on Thursday, December 25, 2025.

Jacob Fangman, Michael C. Graham,

Samantha Hill, Kathy Goodwin

Jenci Hernandez, & Kaitlyn Davis