



THE CLARENDON Enterprise

02.12.2026

The Texas Panhandle's First Newspaper.
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THE CLARENDON NEWS & THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

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THIS WEEK

- 2 A reader says he's not happy with Rep. King.
- 4 Clarendon College names fall graduates and honor students.
- 5 CHS hosts the first power lifting meet of the season.
- 8 CC head coach marks a career milestone.

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

Candidate forum to be held on Monday

The Donley County Republican Party will host local candidates in a forum at the Bairfield Activity Center at Clarendon College on Monday, February 16, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The public is invited, and light refreshments will be served.

Candidate filing ends February 13

Candidates for local offices have until Friday to file for a place on the ballot.

Twenty-two positions are available on seven elected boards in Donley County for citizens interested in serving in local government.

The cities of Clarendon, Hedley, and Howardwick; the Clarendon and Hedley school districts; the Clarendon College District; and the Donley County Hospital District are all scheduled to have elections this May.

All local boards are elected at-large, but hospital board candidates must file for a specific place on the board. Candidate applications are available from the administrative offices of each entity.

Visit ClarendonLive.com for an updated list of who has already filed for offices.

Elections are scheduled to be held Saturday, May 2, 2026.

Youth baseball and softball sign-ups

Clarendon youth baseball and softball sign-ups will be held Tuesdays, February 12 and 19, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Bronco Gym.

Minor league will be for eight- to 10-year-olds, major league will be for 11- to 12-year-olds, and senior league will be for 13- to 18-year-olds.

Ages will be based on the child's age on May 1, the teams will be playing under Cal Ripkin and Babe Ruth league rules.

A fee of \$75 per kid will be due at sign-up.

Chamber banquet tickets now on sale

The Clarendon Chamber of Commerce has tickets available for its February 26 awards banquet.

Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased at the Visitor Center at Mulkey Theatre.



Teran resigns as CCISD superintendent

Clarendon CISD Superintendent Rick Teran confirmed last Friday that he is resigning his position because of what he calls an "innuendo" being spread in the community.

Teran was named the full-time school superintendent in October after being hired last summer in an interim capacity.

He later took over the position of head girls' basketball coach as well.

"I can't stand the innuendo by a community member regarding my conduct around the girls," Teran told the Enterprise. "It's not true, and there was always a female coach around at the time."

Teran said he didn't need the job in Clarendon as he was already retired when he came to serve the school in an interim capacity to assist with the school's search for a fulltime superintendent.

CCISD Board President Wayne Hardin said Teran placed himself on administrative leave

Friday, and Hardin watched Teran clean out his desk and turn in his keys.

Hardin said the school board could not take action on Teran's resignation at Monday's regular meeting because the agenda wasn't worded specifically enough.

"We'll have a called meet-

ing on Thursday and accept his resignation, which will be effective at the end of the month," Hardin said. "But he's already gone."

The board will meet February 12 at 7 p.m. to accept Teran's resignation and will also discuss the findings of an investigation in closed session.



Teran



Milestone

Kenidee Hayes (fifth from the left) is surrounded by teammates after she scored her 1,000th high school career point during the Lady Broncos' 70-6 win over Memphis Friday night. The girls are headed to the bi-district title game on Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Amarillo High School. Follow Facebook.com/TheEnterprise for updates.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO

Early primary voting begins Tuesday

Early voting by personal appearance in the Republican and Democratic primaries begins Tuesday, February 17, and continues through February 27 at the Donley County Courthouse Annex.

Polling hours will be from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. February 17-20. Polls will be open on February 21 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and

then on February 22 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

From February 23-27, the polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Primary Election Day will be March 3.

Republicans running contested races for office are - for treasurer: Zan Bullock, Joanea Horn, and Terri Luna; and for Commis-

sioner Precinct 4: incumbent Dan Sawyer and Shaun O'Keefe.

Unopposed on the Republican ticket are County Judge John Howard, County Clerk Vicky Tunnell, Precinct 1&2 Justice of the Peace Sarah Hatley, Precinct 3&4 Justice of the Peace Pat White, Precinct 2 Commissioner Daniel Ford, party chair Bill Word, and Sandy Childress for Precinct 1

chair.

Also appearing on the Republican ballot will be Word, seeking another term as county chair for the party, and Sandy Childress, who is running to be the party's Precinct 1 chair.

The only local candidate on the Democratic ticket will be Eulaine McIntosh running for party chair.



And the winner is...

Chuck Robertson, shown here with publisher Roger Estlack, was the winner of the Enterprise's 2026 Pigskin Predictions contest Monday, taking home more than \$1,000 in gift certificates and prizes.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO

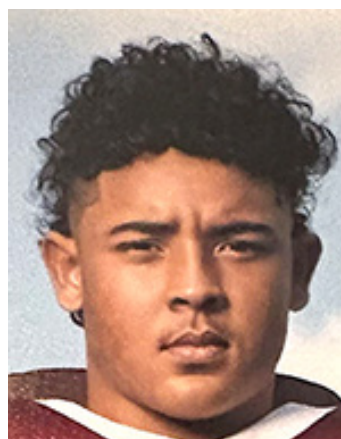
CHS alumnus dies in Armstrong wreck

A Clarendon High School graduate passed away following injuries he sustained in a two-vehicle accident in Armstrong County early Thursday morning, February 5.

Robert McGuire, age 23, of Claude was pronounced deceased on the scene.

According to the Department of Public Safety, McGuire was driving a 2004 Honda Accord and traveling west on FM 1151, while Jonathan Solis, age 27 of Hereford was eastbound in a 2024 GMC Sierra.

For an unknown reason, McGuire's vehicle left the roadway and entered the north ditch. It then reentered the roadway in a broadside skid, crossed the west-bound lane, and entered the east-bound lane in the path of the GMC



McGuire

pickup, resulting in a near head-on collision.

The crash remains under investigation.

A benefit dinner for the family will be February 21, at noon at the Donley County Activity Center.

JOHN



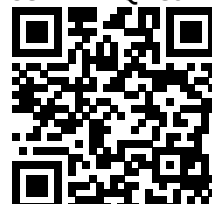
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FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

SCAN THE QR CODE



to learn more
about John Browning

Liberty and the cost of revolution

“The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants.”
This famous line, attributed to Thomas Jefferson, has returned to public discourse amid protests against ICE and Donald Trump.

It is not usually spoken by elected leaders, who understandably avoid revolutionary language, but it has clearly reemerged among protesters, organizers, and online commentators. I have even seen posts from some of my more liberal friends, who once rejected guns outright, now talking about arming themselves out of a perceived necessity to protect against tyranny. At the same time, these same voices accuse conservatives of hypocrisy, defending Kyle Rittenhouse’s Second Amendment rights while condemning Alex Pretti’s.



historically speaking
by dr. james finck

We are bickering over human lives. Tribalism has become so entrenched that when someone is killed, we are immediately expected to take sides – to mourn or to excuse, to justify or to condemn.

When I teach my Civil War class, before we ever reach the battles, I show my students the clip of Sullivan Ballou’s letter from Ken Burns’ “The Civil War.” It is a deeply moving letter written by a man to his wife on the eve of his death. I want my students to understand that casualty numbers are not abstractions, they are people with families. I feel the same way about modern political violence. These are real deaths, real losses. But because we have become politicized, discussion seems unavoidable.

The Second Amendment states, “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” Our Founders’ intent in writing the Second Amendment was twofold, and those two purposes are represented by Rittenhouse and Pretti.

The first purpose was national defense. In a nation without a standing army, ordinary citizens were expected to form the militia in times of crisis. From this perspective, Rittenhouse’s actions in 2020 can be seen as constitutionally protected. During the protests in Kenosha, Wisconsin, he joined others who claimed they were protecting businesses from destruction by mobs. In that instance, he aligned himself with law enforcement and, ultimately, was acquitted of all charges.

Pretti’s situation is different, but it draws from the second purpose of the Second Amendment: resistance to tyranny. Pretti was killed by ICE agents last month in Minneapolis, Minnesota, while he was protesting the federal government’s actions.

Our Founders also believed that the citizenry must remain armed so that, if the government itself became tyrannical, the people would retain the ability to resist. If Pretti believed he was resisting tyranny, then – at least in theory – his actions could be framed within that constitutional logic. Yet there is a catch.

As a thought experiment, let’s assume for a moment that ICE agents and the federal government are acting tyrannically. If we overlay the present situation onto 1775, one could argue that ICE becomes the modern equivalent of the redcoats, and protesters become the modern minutemen. Under that framework, armed resistance could be seen as morally justified. But that raises a far more serious question: What does that actually mean in practice?

America is unique in that its founding document, the Declaration of Independence, is built on the principle that the people have the right to rebel against tyrannical government. It functions almost like a national self-destruct clause. Yet there is a catch that is often ignored: you only have the right to revolution if you win. Our Founders understood this clearly.

In the final sentence of the Declaration, they wrote: “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.” This was not poetic flourishment; it was literal reality. There is a reason the Founders waited more than a year after the first shots were fired before formally signing the Declaration. They knew that if they lost, their lives would be forfeit.

And speaking of those first shots, on April 18, 1775, when the minutemen we now romanticize stood up to the authority of King George III, they did so with loaded weapons, just as some now call for today. But they also understood the cost.

At Lexington and Concord, 49 American colonists were killed and 39 wounded on the very first day of fighting. Families mourned, lives were shattered, and communities were forever changed. Yet no one questioned why the soldiers shot them. They knew exactly what it meant to resist armed governmental authority.

If you show up to a gunfight with a gun, there are consequences. If you quote Jefferson, remember that his tree of liberty is refreshed with blood.

Both situations – Rittenhouse and Pretti – can be viewed through a Second Amendment lens. Both involved the right to bear arms, but the situations are not the same. I am not saying Pretti deserved to die, and I sincerely wish it had not happened. There must be an open investigation and accountability if fault is found.

While this may not apply directly to Pretti’s case, the broader principle remains: using a weapon to protect property from a mob and using a weapon to resist law enforcement are fundamentally different acts.

To my friends considering arming themselves, that is still your unquestionable constitutional right and no one should stop you. Yet rights are not exercised in a vacuum or free from law and consequences. Revolution may be in America’s DNA, but it comes with a brutal historical truth: it only works if you win. James Finck is a professor of American history at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. He can be reached at james.finck@swoknews.com.

Sometimes we hear too much

Our sense of hearing is to be treasured. The sound of ships nearing shores, buzzers sounding at the end of victories and fireworks signaling a new year are but three examples.

There are, however, pitfalls to be endured. Sometimes we “over hear” too much, and – sadly – take off like a world- champion jockey on the fastest of steeds, but still can’t hold a candle to my Uncle Mort, who utters fragments of what he thinks he hears at 200 words per minute, with gusts to 250....

A while back, he asked a grown granddaughter what she found interesting on the Internet.

“Mostly Facebook,” she answered. Later, in a domino game at the general store in the thicket, he told his buddies that he was thinking of getting a computer to “establish some cred” with the younger set. “Who knows, it might help me with communication,” he added. “I might even enjoy looking at ‘Face lift’!”....

Sometimes he concocts absurdities solely to gain attention, often successfully.

“I sure enjoyed lunch last Thanksgiving Day with Dallas Cowboys’ owner Jerry Jones,” he blathered. His buddies snapped to attention, none believing him. “No way,” they concluded, but their attention was now at his disposal.

“Yep, there we were, showing up at the very same time to order hot dogs at an AT&T Stadium concession stand. Great minds, I guess, both craving some grub before watching the Cowboys

play,” he claimed. “It was ‘Dutch Treat,’ of course.” He’d hoped the multi-billionaire might reimburse him for half of what he’d shelled out for “over-priced parking,” since his golf cart required just a half space....

Sometimes folks in Mort’s presence ask him to tell ‘em again about long-ago experiences while employed at a mental hospital. “My job was to help ‘em decide what folks ought to be admitted,” he lied.

Immediately he shared the account he knew they wanted to hear – for the umpteenth time.

“Well, I went out to this small town to check on a guy, and the only person handy was at the feed store, leaning back on a cane-bottomed chair, whittling away on a tree limb. Right away, he admitted knowing the feller, so I asked him if he thought the man ought to be in a mental institution.”....

Choosing his words carefully, the whittler sat up, pocketed his knife, cleared his throat and got a plug of “chawing tobacco” handy to use when his recitation ended.

“As long as he’s out, I don’t think they’ll lock him up,” he opined. Pausing for a few seconds, he added, “But if they ever lock him up, I doubt that they’d ever let him out.”

There are times such as this when



the idle american
by don newbury

even instant replay wouldn’t help....

My friend, Colleen Mink, is in theater management, having served Premiere Cinemas for several years at the multiplex theater in our town.

A “do everything” employee – whose duties are many, probably spilling onto a second page in single-spaced type – thinks she’s seen and heard just about everything during her two decades in the field.

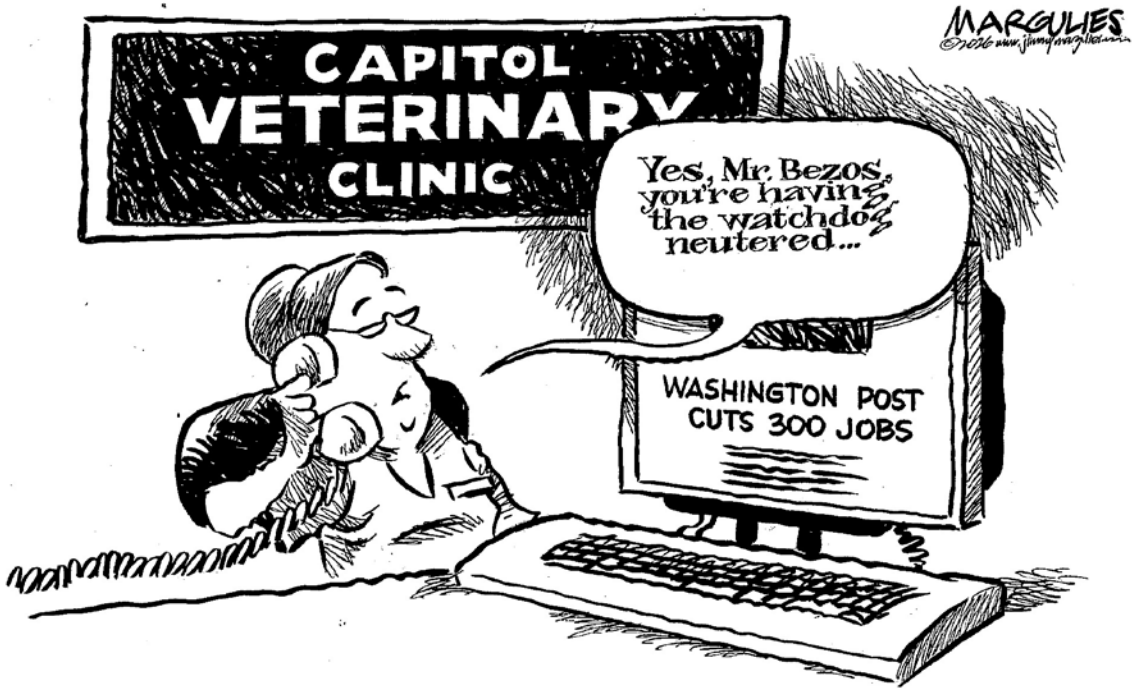
Recently, she added to her “you-won’t-believe-this” list....

It was a Monday, when senior adults are admitted for six bucks, early ‘till late. A petite lady, perhaps in her 80s, purchased a ticket, pointing out that this was her first visit to a “picture show” in this century. Then, she walked around the lobby, pausing in front of an electronic sign that has colorful business ads flipping every dozen seconds or so. Wendy’s ad promotes \$6, \$8 and \$10 hamburger specials. She waited a couple of more minutes to see it again.

Then, she approached Colleen saying, “I think I’ll have a \$6 Wendy’s burger, with no onions.”

Poor Colleen. It was hers to carefully explain to the patron that movie theaters rarely sell hamburgers. “Truth to tell, I’d like one, too,” she said under her breath. (Thankfully, she didn’t have to add that Premiere doesn’t sell chewing gum, either.)....

Dr. and Mrs. Newbury, married for almost 60 years, reside in the Metroplex. Speaking inquiries, newbury@speakerdoc.com, phone 817-692-5625.



It wasn't me who started everything

Don’t look at me ... Steve started it. Oh yes, it’s still us, the supreme court of coffee and anything ridiculous. And yes, we’re ensconced once again within the hallowed halls of the Mule Barn coffee shop. Just about like every morning. But today, Steve, our beloved ranch cowboy and fine-feathered farrier, broke into song to bring back memories of high remote camps, log-sitting around fires, and trips to town and whatever girls we might scare up.

From his end of the counter, Steve began, “Oh, you don’t know what lonesome is, ‘til you start herdin’ co-o-o-o-ws!” And there has to be at least five o’s in cows or it doesn’t count. Yep, that lack of attention to detail would automatically brand this as coming from someone on the radio, but with a long-drawn out cows most of us knew the source. Not Doc and Herb, as they didn’t share the same history of bunkhouse life

the rest of us shared some 40 years back.

The rest of were laughing so hard at the memories that we couldn’t swallow coffee. Windy spilled his all over the sugar packets.

“Okay,” said Doc, “I’ll ask. Where’s the song from?”
“Ain’t the song, Doc,” said Steve. “It’s the singer.”
“Three-Chord Cortez!”
“Let’s hear it for T.C.!”
“Bunkhouse at the pack station?”
“And the ranches ... in the winter.”
“But most memorably,” added Steve, “at houses in town. After dark. Houses that sheltered a female of eligi-



home country
by slim randles

ble age. Three-Chord was a firm believer in old-fashioned courtship. So he’d go over to a girl’s house after dark and sing. All together now.”

“You don’t know what lonesome is, ‘til you start herdin’ co-o-o-o-ws!”

It sounded better when the whole chorus sang along.

“And he’d practice it in the bunk-houses and horse back up in the back country and scaring gophers in the valley’s alfalfa fields.”

“Did it work?” asked Herb.
“Well,” said Steve, “sometimes the girl’s father would invite him in just so he wouldn’t wake the neighbors.”

“One thing mighta helped a bunch, though,” added Windy. “I really think he’d ‘ve done better if he knew the words to the rest of the song.”
Brought to you by Dogsled, A True Tale of the North, by Slim Randles. Available darn near everywhere.

Reader: Come meet John Browning

Years ago as Donley County Republican Chairman, I worked to help elect Ken King as our State Representative. Since then, Mr. King eliminated my positive feelings for his re-election. He voted against vouchers for non-public schools, competition will make teachers better. He voted with the Democrats many times.

This Friday the 13th of February, Mr. John Browning, who will hopefully be our new State Representative, will be available for discussion or questions with any voter at 12 Noon just outside the entry door to one of our favorite restaurants, REFZ. Mr. Browning is a rancher. He has handled the same issues that concern our voters. As a knowledgeable voter you can greet, and question Mr. Browning this Friday 12 Noon at REFZ.

Tom Stauder,
Clarendon



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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.

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DEADLINES

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The Texas Panhandle’s First Newspaper

THE CLARENDON NEWS, established June 1, 1878 with which have merged: The Clarendon Traveler, February 1889; The Clarendon Journal, November 1891; The Banner-Stockman, October 1893; The Agitator, February 1899; The Clarendon Times, May 1908; The Donley County Leader, March 12, 1929; The Clarendon Press, May 18, 1972; and The Clarendon Enterprise, March 24, 1996.

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Obituaries

Smith

Lige Everett Smith, 77, of Clarendon passed away Wednesday, February 4, 2026, in Amarillo.

Memorial services will be 1:00 p.m. Saturday, February 14, 2026, in Robertson Funeral Directors Saints' Roost Chapel in Clarendon.

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

Lige Everett Smith was born in Wayne, Oklahoma in 1948 to Johnnie P. and Jean Smith. He was an only child but grew up with his beloved double cousins. He spent his childhood working alongside his parents in Oklahoma and California and later settled back in Wayne where he graduated high school. He was an excellent athlete, especially in baseball, basketball, and track. He joined the Marine Reserves after high school and served many years stateside.

He met Martha Willis while she was working with her mother at The Donut fishing barge on Lake Texhoma. They got married in 1972 and stayed married until her death in January 2026. They had three sons: Daniel Gene, Charles Ray Preston, and Jacob Dean. He was a strong protector and provider and loved the outdoors.

He was an exceptional hunter and fisherman and took great pride in having a large garden for many

years. He loved his dachshunds and gambling in the casinos. He loved going to Las Vegas with his son Charlie and the Oklahoma casinos with his friends Bill and Joe. He was a big fan of Jeopardy! and frequently lost to his son Danny. His son Jacob passed 32 years ago and he never was the same man again. He had a terrific sense of humor and loved his wife and sons above all else.

McGuire

Robert Blake "Squeaky" McGuire, III, 23, of Claude formerly of Clarendon passed away Thursday, February 5, 2026 in Armstrong County.

Family Directed Memorial Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Friday, February 13, 2026, in the Clarendon Church of Christ.

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

Squeaky Gaines was born April 10, 2002, in Amarillo to Angie Gaines and Robert McGuire Jr. He was raised by Angie Maria Gaines and Danny Eugene Gaines, whom he was proud to recognize as his father.

He earned his nickname from the squeaky sound he made as a baby. He loved sports, especially football, and remained loyal to the New England Patriots throughout his life.

A graduate of Clarendon High School's Class of 2021, Squeaky was known for his humor, clownish antics, and stubbornness in debate.

His closest friends included Antwan Bassett, Aaron Roys, Qua (Jaquavion Brown), Ethan Babcock, and many others.

Fishing was one of his favorite pastimes, though he never caught anything better than a perch. Greenbelt Lake claimed many of his lures over the years.

In 2024, he attended Clarendon College, where he earned his CDL license and proudly pursued his dream of truck driving.

He met his wife, Emilee Martin, while playing football for Clarendon against Plains, Texas. They began talking in the summer of 2020 and started dating during their senior year in 2021.

On January 16, 2023, he became a father to his daughter, Emersyn (ET), whom he loved chasing and playing with. His son, Danny, was born November 29, 2025, and he was proud to have a son, often tickling him.

Squeaky owned an American Bully named Zeus, a breed he had always dreamed of having, and was a member of the Church Alive Amarillo community.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents Ana Maria Collins and Gilbert Knox Collins Sr.; Billy Ruth Gaines and Hotshot; Robert Blake McGuire Sr. and Lamerylis McGuire; Robert Blake McGuire Jr.; his father, Danny Eugene Gaines; and his uncles Gilbert Knox Collins Jr., Gary Dean Collins, Gil Collins, and Richard Gaines.

He is survived by his mother, Angie Gaines; his wife, Emilee Martin; his children, Emersyn Rae and Danny Knox; his brother, Marquis McGuire; his sister, Kendall Frost; and his niece and nephews Dakota Frost, Julie Roberts, and Macien Donald.

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- dishonest businesses!
- unfair competitive practices!

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NATIONAL PARKS Day

Thursday, February 19
3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Burton Memorial Library
Clarendon, TX

Come enjoy refreshments while you take a tour of the U.S. National Parks. Junior Rangers will serve as your tour guides.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

Texas AgriLife Extension to offer CenterPoint training

Meetings to focus on new agricultural accounting software for financial recordkeeping and analysis

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will host a CenterPoint Accounting for Agriculture Training on March 3 in Lubbock and March 10 in Canyon.

The March 3 training will be at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Lubbock, 1102 E. Farm-to-Market Road 1294. In Canyon, the training will be at the new Texas A&M AgriLife High Plains Research and Extension Center, 3211 Russell Long Blvd.

The meeting at each location will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. The cost of the program is \$50. Those planning to attend in Lubbock should register online by March 1, and in Canyon, register online by March 8. Each class is limited to

15 individuals to allow hands-on instruction.

CenterPoint is an accounting software for agricultural businesses. This training helps farmers and ranchers improve their financial recordkeeping and analysis for better management decisions, said DeDe Jones, AgriLife Extension risk management program specialist in the Texas A&M Department of Agricultural Economics, Canyon.

The course will be taught by Jones and Will Keeling, AgriLife Extension risk management program specialist in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Lubbock, and Brenda Heymer, CPA and owner of Heymer Management Accounting Services, Amarillo.

For more information or questions, contact Jones at DeDe.Jones@ag.tamu.edu

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On Presidents' Day, we observe the birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Today, Presidents' Day is also an opportunity to honor all our former presidents of the United States for their service and contributions to our great country.

Each of these historic men has left an indelible impression on the character of our nation.

As our country continues to grow and navigate new challenges, we thank them for their leadership and their lessons, and celebrate their legacies.

We will be closed Monday, February 16, 2026

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¿Qué Pasa?

Community Calendar

February 13
Valentine Bingo • 6:00 p.m. • Clarendon Lions Hall • \$40 per ticket • For more information call 806-662-4689 or stop by the Clarendon Enterprise

February 13
Broncos v Panhandle • 6:00 p.m. • Away

February 13 & 14
Mulkey Theatre • Send Help • 7:30 p.m.

February 15
Mulkey Theatre • Send Help • 2:00 p.m.

February 17
Broncos v Wheeler • 6:00 p.m. • Home

February 26
Chamber Annual Awards Banquet • 6:00 p.m. • Bairfield Activity Center. • Tickets \$30 • 806-874-2421

★

Menus

February 16 - 20

Donley County Senior Citizens
Mon: Chicken pot pie, peas & carrots, garden salad, strawberry shortcake, iced tea/2% milk.
Tues: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, whole wheat roll, cherry/pineapple crisp, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Pile-on, tortilla chips, pinto beans, Spanish rice, garden salad, sliced peaches w/whipped topping, iced tea/2% milk.
Thurs: Ham & pinto beans, sweet potatoes, cucumber & onions, cornbread, sliced pears, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Baked tilapia, baked potatoes, peas & carrots, hushpuppies, fruit cobbler, iced tea/2% milk

Hedley Senior Citizens
Mon: Pork chops, black eyed peas, turnip greens, cornbread, sliced peaches, iced tea/2% milk.
Tues: Goulash, mixed greens, cornbread, coconut cake, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Chicken fried steak w/ country gravy, broccoli, mashed potatoes, whole wheat roll, fruit crisp, iced tea/2% milk.
Thurs: Ham & pinto beans, sweet potatoes, marinated cucumbers & onions, salad, cornbread, sliced pears, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Chicken strips, gravy, potato wedges, garden salad, whole wheat roll, brownie, iced tea/2% milk

Clarendon CISD
Breakfast
Mon: Pancakes, bacon, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Tues: Breakfast sandwich, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Wed: Waffles, sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Thu: Stuffed bagel, cheese stick, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Fri: Donut, sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Lunch
Mon: Steak fingers, gravy, roll, green beans, corn, fruit, milk.
Tues: Walking taco, beans, veggie cup, dessert, fruit, milk.
Wed: Pizza pocket, broccoli, marinara sauce, fruit, milk.
Thu: Boneless chicken wings, chips, celery, sherbet, fruit, milk.
Fri: Drumstick, biscuits, salad, sweet potatoes, fruit, milk.

Hedley ISD
Breakfast
Mon: French toast, sausage, apple, fruit juice, milk.
Tues: Cinnamon roll, sausage, orange, fruit juice, milk.
Wed: Pancake wrap, yogurt, mixed fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Thu: Breakfast pizza, banana, fruit juice, milk.
Fri: No School

Lunch
Mon: French bread pizza, carrots, green beans, orange, cupcakes, milk.
Tues: Nachos Grande, beans, salsa, zesty cucumbers, apricots, ice cream, milk.
Wed: Pork rib, roll, broccoli, corn, orange, milk.
Thu: Corn dog, potato wedges, tomato cup, fruit cup, milk.
Fri: No School

Goodnight Historic Site offers free events

The Charles and Mary Ann Goodnight Ranch State Historic Site will offer several free spring break events March 10-14 in Goodnight.

Activities will include a Bison One Stop Shop on March 10, Make Your Own Pioneer Rag Rug on March 11, Frontier Remedies on March 12, Cattle Branding and Make Butter the Pioneer Way on March 13, and Cattle Branding and Rag Rug making on March 14.

Call 806-205-3154 for times and more information.

CC recognizes Fall graduates

Clarendon College has recognized students who successfully completed their degree and certificate requirements during the Fall 2025 semester.

Fall 2025 graduates earned associate degrees and certificates across a variety of academic and technical programs, marking an important milestone in their educational journeys.

These accomplishments reflect dedication, perseverance, and a commitment to academic and personal growth.

Clarendon College graduates represent a diverse group of stu-

dents, including traditional students, dual credit participants, adult learners, and those balancing coursework with work and family responsibilities.

Each graduate’s achievement reflects not only individual determination, but also the support of faculty, staff, family members, and the broader campus community.

“Graduation is a moment to celebrate both achievement and opportunity,” said college officials. “We are proud of our Fall 2025 graduates and look forward to seeing the positive impact they will make in their careers, communities, and continued

education.”

Clarendon College congratulates all Fall 2025 graduates and wishes them continued success as they take the next steps toward their future goals.

Graduating from Clarendon were Esteban Carreon, Ranger Jade Drenth, Jaythan Joseph Green, Kenzie Mae Harred, Kenzie Mae Harred, Colton G. Haywood, Berkeley Beth Moore, Kyler Rene Robinson, and Sandra Renee Smith.

Other Donley County students graduating were Brady Montgomery of Hedley and Madison Grace Broussard of Howardwick.

CC names students to honor rolls

Clarendon College has recognized students who earned placement on the Fall 2025 Dean’s and President’s Lists, honoring strong academic performance and dedication to academic success.

The Dean’s List recognizes students who completed 12 semester credit hours during the Fall 2025 semester and earned a semester grade point average between 3.6 and 3.99.

This achievement reflects a high level of academic commitment and consistent excellence in the classroom.

The President’s List honors students who demonstrated exceptional dedication to their studies by completing 12 or more semester credit hours and earning a perfect 4.0 grade point average for the semester. This distinction represents the highest level of academic achievement at Clarendon College.

Students named to the honors lists have demonstrated perseverance, discipline, and a strong work ethic while balancing the demands of college coursework. Their success is a testament to their determination as well as the support provided by

Clarendon College faculty and staff.

Clarendon students making the Dean’s List were Jonathan Brooks Blevins, Ayden Joseph Bordonaro, Jordan Deandre Herndon, and Dahlia Alise Neal.

Clarendon students making the President’s List were

Jaythan Joseph Green, Ranger Jade Drenth, Kenzie Mae Harred, Millie Marie McAnear, Colton G. Haywood, Warren T. Mays, Gracie Joe Shadle, Elaina JoLee Estlack, Elliot Belle Frausto, Kenidee Jade Hayes, Berkley Beth Moore, and Gracie R Ellis.

Graves receives invitation to the Dream All-American

In the spring semester of 2025, former Clarendon resident Jackson Graves received his second invitation to the Dream All-American Bowl where he was given the opportunity to play with seniors from across the United States.

Contestants for this bowl are either nominated by a college coach from a summer camp, or a scout from Dream All-American may also nominate a player based on performance noticed at a summer camp. The game took place on January 3rd, 2026, at the AT&T Stadium in Arlington. Jackson’s position was Tight End; he scored two touchdowns, and the final score was 35 to 7.

This was the sixth year of the Dream All-American bowl, and it’s partnered with IMG Academy and Recruit Nation. This year, there were 38 states represented in the bowl - four teams that included two underclassmen teams playing each other and two senior teams playing each other. All together, there were close to 180 total players.

The CEO and Founder, Shannon Riley, first created the platform, Dream Scouting Network, back in 2016, and in just a few years, it expanded regionally, then nation-



Jackson Graves

ally. Shannon Riley first got the idea because he wanted to help the kids in his home state of Delaware gain exposure and get recruited, which resulted in him naming it the “Dream” All-American Bowl.

Jackson, grandson of Ralph and Sharon Graves, is a senior at Wheeler High School. He is grateful and blessed to be sponsored in the Dream All-American Bowl by: Huddleston Sales Inc., Vest Ranch, RS Graves, Linda Calcote & Randy Garner, and Top of Texas Outfitters.



The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting February 10, 2026, with Boss Lion Brian Barboza in charge.

We had eight members present, two attending virtually, and one guest this week – Daniel Vareed, who presented our program.

Mr. Vareed works for Congressman Ronny Jackson and was in town Tuesday staffing a mobile office for the congressman at City Hall. He started as intern and is now a Deputy District Director for Rep. Jackson. He covers most of the Texas Panhandle, helping constituents with any troubles they may be having related to the federal government. Mr. Vareed also discussed the overall job of the congressional office staff and their desire to help citizens without regards to politics.

Lion Anndria Newhouse updated the club on the Valentine’s Bingo set for this Friday evening. Tickets are still available, and we’re looking forward to a fun time.

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

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Bronco Zak Roberts squats 475 pounds last Thursday in Clarendon against Memphis and Quanah.

COURTESY PHOTO / AL ELAM



Lady Bronco Makynna Williams dead lifts 185 pounds last week at the Bronco powerlifting meet against Memphis and Quanah.

COURTESY PHOTO / AL ELAM

Lady Colts play hard against Memphis

By Sandy Anderberg

The eighth-grade Lady Colts never gave up in their three-point win over the Lady Whirlwinds at home last week. Their hard-played fourth quarter paid off big to earn the 22-19 win.

Trailing by three at the break, the Lady Colts would not quit and did a great job of staying patient. They did a good job of sticking to the game plan and striking at just the right moment.

The third six minutes only produced one point for the Lady Colts, but their defense held the Lady Whirlwinds scoreless. That gave the ladies the confidence to stay aggressive on defense while executing their offense.

Journee Morris was strong and finished with 12 points that included two three-pointers. Kennadi Gaither zeroed in on a three-pointer at the top of the key to add to the point total in the fourth quarter, while Emma

Howard added three. Emma Christopher and Adleigh Moore added two each to round out the scoring.

The seventh-grade Lady Colts played with a lot of heart but fell to the Lady Whirlwinds at 9-51.

The Memphis team was strong on both ends of the court and used their quickness to get steals. They were able to capitalize on those turnovers and put points on the board.

Preslee English scored all of the Lady Colts' points in the game.

Colts play hard in Childress Tournament

By Sandy Anderberg

The Clarendon Colt eighth grade team did a great job at the Childress Tournament going up against bigger classed teams.

They were able to close out Vernon 41-35 with a great effort against a good team. The Colts used a second-quarter surge to gain the upper hand in the game. They were able to outscore their opponent in the final quarter of play to seal the win.

Darren Smith was unstoppable with 22 points, and Colton Henson added nine. Jaquan Weatheron put in four, and Colton Madsen and Kase Zongker added two each.

The Colts narrowly dropped the next game to Haskell at 24-27. Both teams played hard and the game went down to the wire.

Tyler Smith put in 14 points

while Zongker added four. D. Smith finished with three, and Madsen helped with two.

The Colts took on the host team in the next game and they defeated the Bobcats 42-22. The Colts held the momentum throughout and never faltered on either end of the court. The 20-point win was well earned as the Colts played hard offensively and on defense.

D. Smith put in 13 and T. Smith added 10. J. Weatheron finished with nine, and Henson ended with five. Madsen and Carey each added two, and Braxton Bruce had one.

The Colts played Memphis earlier in the week and both the seventh and eighth grade teams earned big wins over the Whirlwinds.

The seventh-grade team worked hard and were determined in

their 35-14 win. They were in control of the game and their opponent as they capitalized on missed shots and turnovers. Memphis struggled to get anything going against the Colts.

Bruce led with 12, and Jaron had nine. Henry Robertson put in seven, and Zayden Shadle added five. Chris Carey helped with two.

The eighth grade followed in the seventh grades tracks and earned a big 61-11 win. Everything went right for the Colts as they were able to execute their offense to perfection and stayed solid on the defensive end. Three Colts finished in double figures with T. Smith putting in 18 and Henson and Weatheron adding 13 and 11 respectively. D. Smith helped with seven, Zongker had six, Madsen finished with five and Teagan Chesser put in two.



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CLUES ACROSS

1. Breezed through

5. Consumer protection agency

8. Criminal syndicate

11. Moves back from

13. Satisfaction

14. Feel concern or interest

15. Monetary units

16. Congressman (abbr.)

17. Israeli city

18. Restaurants

20. 2,000 lbs.

21. Grandmother

22. North, South and Central

25. In an early way

30. Foes

31. Social networking platform

32. Early term for basketball player
33. Another name for sesame plant

38. Disallow

41. Provide greater detail

43. Inaccessible

45. Evoke emotions

47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea

49. Celtic punk rockers

50. A fencing sword

55. Actor Idris

56. Affirmative (slang)

57. Afflicted in mind or body

59. One point north of northeast

60. Born of

61. Social media hand gesture

62. Hong Kong food stall __ pai dong

63. Opposite of beginning

64. Email function

CLUES DOWN

1. Sign language

2. Fashionable

3. Borough in Helsinki

4. Inability to hear

5. More quickly

6. An idea accepted as a demonstrable truth

7. Shrewdly

8. Rooney and Kate are two

9. Mediterranean port

10. Benedictine monk

12. Midway between south and southeast

14. Town in Galilee

19. Satisfy

23. Mice genus

24. Brass instrument

25. Chest muscle (slang)

26. Transmits genetic information from DNA

27. Records electric currents generated by the brain
28. Woman (French)

29. Short route aircraft

34. Pitching statistic

35. Pointed end of a pen

36. Popular sports league

37. Body part

39. Inoffensive

40. Yellowish cotton cloth

41. Feline

42. Does not tell the truth

44. Seduced

45. Spiritual leader

46. Abba __, Israeli politician

47. Repair

48. Olive genus

51. Swiss river

52. Prejudice

53. C. European river

54. Keep under control

58. Father

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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 AVERI
SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE: 11 A.M.

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

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

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

THE GATHERING
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
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MEETINGS

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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.

AL MORRAH SHRINE CLUB Stated meeting: Third Mondays, 7:00 p.m. Refreshments at 6:30 p.m. President Charles "Butch" Blackburn, Recorder Terry Ashcraft.

CLARENDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Regular Board of Directors meeting third Tuesday each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Clarendon Visitor Center, 110 S. Kearney.

Meeting Listings: \$8.50/mo.
Call 806.874.2259 to have your regular club or organization meeting listed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLARENDON

FACILITIES AVAILABLE - Family Reunions, Receptions, Business Meetings, Club Functions, and more. Clarendon Lions Hall, 111 W. Fourth. Call 806-874-2259 for rental information.

Saints' Roost Museum
610 East Harrington, Clarendon
Tuesday - Saturday
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Open for appointments.
Call 806-874-2746.

THANK YOU

CLARENDON

WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE this opportunity to express our deepest thanks and sincerest gratitude for all the prayers, hugs, cards, flowers, memorials, and acts of kindness shown to our family in our time of sorrow. You have supported us with your love and shown us how much this community loved Chris and the impact he had on each one of you. May God bless you all. The Family of Chris Wilson

HELP WANTED

HEDLEY

THE CITY OF HEDLEY IS NOW ACCEPTING applications for a City Manager. Application available at City Hall 109 Main Street. The City of Hedley is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CLARENDON

HEDLEY SENIOR CITIZENS IS needing part-time help Monday thru Friday. NO PHONE CALLS. Please apply in person at 112 Main St. Hedley Texas.

CLARENDON ISD IS HIRING FOR a full-time Classroom Instructional Aide. Please visit www.clarendonisd.net for more details. Applications can be picked up from the CISD Administration Office or printed from the Clarendon ISD website (support staff application), and completed applications can be returned to the CISD Administration Office. Fingerprinting and the clearance of a nationwide criminal history check are required. If you have any questions, please call (806) 310-7220, Mon-Fri, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

CLARENDON ISD IS HIRING FOR a full-time Maintenance Director. Please visit www.clarendonisd.net for more details. Applications can be picked up from the CISD Administration Office or printed from the Clarendon ISD website

HELP WANTED

(support staff application), and completed applications can be returned to the CISD Administration Office. Fingerprinting and the clearance of a nationwide criminal history check are required. If you have any questions, please call 310-7220, Mon-Fri, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

WELLINGTON

FULL-TIME CLINIC RECEPTIONIST - Collingsworth General Hospital is seeking a friendly and energetic individual to join our staff. Applicant must have HS diploma/GED, possess basic computer knowledge, and have good communication skills. Applications may be completed online at www.collingsworthgeneral.net or contact Bryce Dillman, HR Director at 806-447-2521.

COLLINGSWORTH GENERAL HOSPITAL is now accepting applications for a Part-Time Medical Laboratory Technician or a Lab Medical Technologist. Please contact Bryce Dillman, HR Director, at 806-447-2521 or edillman@cghtx.com. Applications are available online at www.collingsworthgeneral.net.

COLLINGSWORTH GENERAL HOSPITAL in Wellington, Texas, is now accepting applications for a full-time RN. Benefits include: state rate + % experience, night/weekend differential, paid CEU, and health, dental, vision insurance and 401K. Contact Bryce Dillman, HR Director, at 806-447-2521 ext. 348 if you have any questions or complete an application online at www.collingsworthgeneral.net.

PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME DISPATCHER/JAILER positions open at Collingsworth County Sheriff's Office. Applicants must be 18 years or older and have a high school diploma or GED. PART-TIME pay is \$19.24/hour. FULL-TIME benefits include \$40,000 salary, health and life insurance, retirement, paid training and vacation days. Contact Jail Administrator Joyce Hamby for an application, 806-447-2588, or come by 810 Belton. (TFN)

FOR RENT

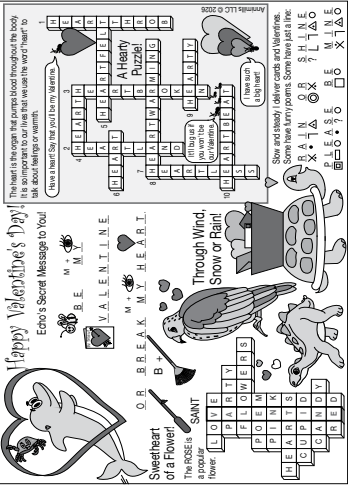
MEMPHIS

THE MEMPHIS HOUSING AUTHORITY has apartments for rent. One-, two- and three-bedroom units are available at this time. Interested persons should visit the Housing Authority office at 216 South 6th St. to pick up an application. For more information, call 806-205-6303, fax 806-205-6318 or email director@memphistxhousing.com.

LEGAL NOTICES

WELLINGTON

APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE WITH the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission by Rocket Liquor, LLC, for a Package Store Permit and Local Distributor Permit to be located at 901 Houston Street, Wellington, Texas, Collingsworth County. Officers of said LLC are Terry Hill, Owner, Janet Hill, Owner, and Lyndsi Bourland, Owner.



Place your ad today!

NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION

We're making Valentines for kids...

Newspaper Fun!

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...in our class and for our families too.

Kids: color stuff in!

O.K., O.K. so I'll be your pal.

I'll jump through hoops...er, hearts, if you'll be my Valentine!

"Read" the picture and letter clues to fill in my puzzle. Use the sounds of the pictures to help. What is my secret message to you?

Read the clues to fill in the crossword with "heartly" words:

Hearty Puzzle!

By 'snail mail', email or video chat - get your Valentine message to friends or family.

The heart is the organ that pumps blood throughout the body. It is so important to our lives that we use the word "heart" to talk about feelings or warmth.

Did you know that: Blue whales have the largest hearts of any living things on Earth. Some hearts could weigh up to 400 pounds!

'Hearty' Fun Fact

Have a big heart!

It'll bug us if you won't be our Valentine.

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CC coach earns 250th career win

Clarendon College announced last week Athletic Director and Head Women's Basketball Coach Mark James has achieved a remarkable career milestone-his 250th career win.

The victory not only highlights his consistency and excellence as a coach but also underscores his profound impact on the student-athletes he mentors and the culture he has built within the program.

Coach James, now in his tenth season at Clarendon College, has long been recognized for his player-first approach, relentless work ethic, and commitment to developing well-rounded student-athletes. Under his leadership, the Lady Bulldogs have become known for their grit, disciplined style of play, and strong academic standing.

"This accomplishment is special, but it's really a reflection of the incredible young women I've had the privilege to coach," said Coach Mark James. "Every win represents their dedication, their trust in the process, and the pride they take in representing Clarendon College. I'm

grateful to our staff, our administration, and this community for believing in what we're building here."

Clarendon President Tex Buckhaults praised Coach James not only for his coaching success but also for the integrity and stability he brings to the program. "Coach James is the kind of leader every college hopes to have," they said. "He pushes his athletes to be the best version of themselves on and off the court. Reaching 250 wins is an extraordinary milestone and a testament to the culture of excellence he has created."

Players also expressed excitement about their coach's achievement. Sophomore post Zainab Olalekan shared, "Coach James believes in us even on days we don't believe in ourselves. He challenges us, supports us, and genuinely cares about our goals. Being part of his 250th win is something I'll always remember."

Throughout his career, Coach James has prioritized academic achievement, personal development, and community engagement alongside athletic success. Many of his



Mark James

former players have continued their basketball careers at four-year universities, while others credit him for shaping their leadership skills and personal growth.

As the Lady Bulldogs continue their season (7-0 conference) and (22-1 overall), the program is ranked number one in the NJCAA Region 5 Texas Top 1 O poll for February 3, 2026. The next home game is February 9, with tip-off at 5:45pm against Frank Phillips College.

Texas beef herd signals higher prices ahead

The latest U.S. Department of Agriculture cattle inventory report delivered another clear signal that the U.S. beef herd has yet to turn the corner, and Texas remains central to the story, said Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts.

Nationally, the number of beef cows dropped just over 1 percent, a sharper decline than many market analysts expected, said David Anderson, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension economist in the Texas A&M Department of Agricultural Economics.

In Texas, the nation's largest beef-producing state, cow numbers dipped by about 30,000 head, but producers held back 50,000 more heifers – an 8 percent increase in replacements that could signal the early stages of a slow rebuild, Anderson said.

He said strong calf prices and historically tight cattle supplies continue to shape producer decisions about growing their herds.

"That suggests we're bottoming out – holding a few more replacements for future growth," Anderson said. "But there's nothing here that suggests rapid growth."

A slower rebuild and tighter cattle supplies will continue to ripple from cow-calf operations to feedlots

and packers, all the way to grocery stores, Anderson said.

The rebuild process appears far more measured than past post-drought recoveries, said Jason Cleere, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist in the Texas A&M Department of Animal Science. Heifer retention ratios are trending upward across many regions of the state, yet high prices are causing some ranchers to weigh short-term returns against long-term herd growth.

Bred-heifer values reaching \$4,000-\$5,000 have created an incentive for producers to sell rather than hold on to calves, he said.

"There's pressure to just sell them and take advantage of the market and then worry about rebuilding next year," he said. "Many producers also remember the last rebuild – how fast it went and how fast prices plummeted afterward. They're just a touch more cautious this time around."

Texas' long-term cattle capacity has also been thinned by rapid urban expansion, land fragmentation, and the conversion of quality pasture into solar and other non-agricultural uses. Those losses, Cleere said, translate directly into fewer cows in the state-

wide and national herd. Cleere said emerging drought around the state could also influence cattle producer decisions related to their herds.

Anderson said the January inventory report is typically a strong indicator for how the year will shape up. Cattle physiology is already shaping the coming years. Most heifers are ready to breed by 15 months, and calves gestate for more than nine months. Calves reach finishing weight in 18-20 months.

Anderson and Cleere expect calf prices could go even higher in 2026 and 2027 due to tightened supplies. Last week, 500-600-pound steers were selling for \$450 per hundredweight on average in Texas, compared to \$326 per hundredweight at the same time last year.

Margins should remain strong for cow-calf producers, potentially even better than last year, supported by lower feed costs and sustained demand, Anderson said. But the year's outlook for Texas will hinge heavily on how the drought evolves.

"You don't see a lot of market reaction to the January report, but it's one that tends to place an anchor for where things are, and that has a longer-term effect on prices," Anderson said.

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WITH EVERY NEW OR RENEWED SUBSCRIPTION!

CONGRATULATIONS
to our local
Employee of the Month!

LILLY SHADLE
REFZ Sports Bar & Grill • Clarendon, Texas
A message from the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce.



VOTE

Republican Primary
March 3rd, 2026
Every Vote Counts!



Elect
ZAN BULLOCK

I'm honored to announce my candidacy for Donley County Treasurer. For the past eight years, I've had the privilege of serving Donley County. I currently divide my time between working as a clerk for the Justice of the Peace for Precincts 1 & 2 and serving as Deputy Treasurer, a role I've held for the last five years under our current elected County Treasurer.

These experiences have given me a strong appreciation for public service and a commitment to keeping our county running smoothly. I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving our community in this new capacity, and I respectfully ask for your support in the Republican Primary on March 3rd, 2026.

DONLEY COUNTY TREASURER

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY ZAN BULLOCK, PO BOX 1467, CLARENDON, TEXAS 79226

Clarendon Chamber of Commerce presents

Clarendon

THE HAPPIEST PLACE ON EARTH

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET



Join us at this Disney-themed event to honor the best of the best in our community.

Thursday, February 26
BAIRFIELD ACTIVITY CENTER
6:00 p.m. Hors D'oeuvres
7:00 p.m. Dinner & Awards

Tickets \$30 each | Call 806.874.2421

**CLARENDON LIONS CLUB PRESENTS**

Valentine Bingo

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13
6:00 PM
CLARENDON LIONS HALL

TICKETS - \$40 EACH
includes 20 bingo cards and chili supper

Reserve your spot now - Space is limited!

Prizes include Gift Cards & Gift Certificates!

FOR INFO OR TO BUY TICKETS CALL OR TEXT 806-662-4689 OR STOP BY THE CLARENDON ENTERPRISE.