



THE CLARENDON Enterprise

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THE CLARENDON NEWS & THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

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THIS WEEK

- 2 Suzanne says rural Texans is not surprised.
- 4 A Howardwick resident shoots a hold in one at the country club.
- 5 Hedley school board votes on proposed tax rate.
- 6 And college students are offered safety tips by DPS.

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

Tax and budget hearings slated next few weeks

August brings annual public notices to the pages of your local newspaper as local governments prepare to set their budgets and tax rates for the coming fiscal year.

Previous notices in the ENTERPRISE included one for Clarendon College with a tax rate hearing on August 20 at 5:30 in the VIP Room of the Bairfield Activity Center followed immediately by a budget hearing at 5:45 p.m.

Donley County will hold a public hearing in the Commissioners' Court Room on its proposed tax rate and budget at on August 24 at 9 a.m. The county is also giving notice this week of the proposed increases in elected officials' salaries.

Clarendon CISD gave notice last week that it will hold a hearing on the school's proposed budget and tax rate on August 25 at 6 p.m. in the Administration & Technology Building.

Hedley CISD is advertising this week that its budget and tax hearing will be on August 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the superintendent's office.

The City of Clarendon also gives notice this week and says it will hold a budget hearing on September 3 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall and then hold a tax rate hearing on September 10 at 5 p.m. before that night's regular meeting.

There are other public notices in this week's Big E Classifieds regarding other communities in the Greenbelt region. Informed citizens will want to check those out and see what is happening in the region.

Public notices inform citizens about their governments and are important to holding elected officials accountable. Citizens are urged to read the ENTERPRISE each week to keep up with these important public notices.

Enterprise to be closed two days

The Clarendon Enterprise will be closed this Thursday and Friday, August 20 and 21, as the staff takes a little break for some family time.

The office will re-open Monday, August 24, with deadlines remaining noon on Monday for photos and news and 5 p.m. on Monday for all ads and classifieds.



City council turns down RV variance request

The Clarendon City Council shot down a variance request that would have allowed RVs in the R1 residential zone during the city's regular meeting August 13.

The request to allow recreational vehicle campers at 816 S. Johns Street was met with criticism from the council, which last month began the process of drafting an ordinance to govern RV parks in the city. The hand-drawn plan in front of aldermen last week showed three RVs to be placed on the property with a storm shelter nearby.

Aldermen said they did not want RV parks in residential areas and noted that the zoning rules cur-

rently do not allow that activity.

The aldermen were unanimous in their desire to not approve the request with the only contention being whether they should simply take no action on the request and let it die or to actual take a recorded vote against the request.

Several council members felt that an official vote would send a stronger message for this request and future requests. The council then voted unanimously to deny the request.

Interim City Administrator Floyd Hartman gave an updated on the proposed RV park ordinance, which he said was still being

reviewed by the city attorney. He said he hopes to have the draft ordinance ready for council to look at in September.

The RV issue is one the council identified earlier this summer as an area the city needs to address to be prepare for an influx of activity that neighboring towns have experienced due to construction on data center projects.

In addition to regulating RVs in the city, building codes and code enforcement have been other areas the council and Hartman have been working to improve.

Danny Barrett of Texas Communities Group addressed the board

about additional services TCG can provide to help the city improve code enforcement, specifically in terms of weeds and grass, debris, and junk vehicles. At the council's direction, TCG will have a proposal services focused on those areas at the September 10 meeting.

Hartman also led a discussion about reinstating building permits and building codes in the city, which were repealed about a decade ago. More information is being gathered about what the city can and should do and what should be left to the state. Aldermen say they want enforcement but do not want undue burdens on residents wanting to do

home improvements.

In other city business, the council designated Paula Lowrie as the person responsible for the city complying with Texas Tax Code; proposed a tax rate of \$0.579323 per \$100 valuation for the coming year; set tax and budget hearing dates next month; approved employee policy changes as corrected; and reappointed Cameron Word as the city's representative on the Greenbelt Water Authority Board. In his administrator's report, Hartman gave an update on the TECQ water quality violation and steps the city and Greenbelt are taking to address that issue.



Here's our sign!

Bob Weiss and Chelsye Geiger install new Clarendon welcome signs on the old Sam Hill BBQ windmill at US 287 and Koogle Street Tuesday morning. The new signs were purchased by the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce and made by Lone Wolf Graphix in Memphis.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO

CHS FFA seniors earn Lone Star degrees

Three Clarendon High School seniors were recognized this summer for their accomplishments in agricultural education by earning the Lone Star Degree, one of the highest honors available to Texas FFA members.

Ronan Howard, Zane Cruse and Parker Haynes each earned the degree through their accomplishments in agricultural education, FFA leadership and their Supervised Agricultural Experience programs.

The Lone Star Degree is awarded by the Texas FFA Association to third- and fourth-year members who meet requirements that include completing agricultural education coursework, maintaining a supervised agricultural experience, documenting their progress through the Agricultural Experience Tracker program, and demonstrat-

ing leadership.

The degree recognizes students who have gone beyond simply participating in FFA and have demonstrated hard work, responsibility, leadership, and real-world agricultural experience gained through their high school agriculture classes.

For Howard, FFA has become an important part of his life and has helped shape his interest in agriculture.

"FFA has truly built me into who I am," Howard said. "FFA has created a passion in me to advocate for agriculture and the organization, as well as to teach brotherhood and community."

Howard said receiving the Lone Star Degree was a rewarding recognition of the work he put into the program.

"Receiving my Lone Star was

an amazing reward for my time in the program and the work I put in through both time in the classroom and working under the AET program," he said.

Cruse said FFA provided opportunities and friendships she never expected when she joined the organization.

"FFA has given me so many wonderful opportunities that I could never imagine were possible," Cruse said. "I have made so many friends, and I am so grateful for everything that I have learned through FFA."

Cruse said earning the Lone Star Degree gave her an opportunity to demonstrate the results of her commitment to FFA.

"Receiving the Lone Star Degree gives me a chance to show all of the hard work I have put into

this organization and everything it has given me," she said.

Haynes credited FFA with giving him opportunities both inside and outside the classroom, including participation in contests and stock shows.

"FFA has afforded me many opportunities through contests, stock shows and working outside the classroom," Haynes said. "The Lone Star truly rewarded my hard work and dedication through FFA."

As seniors, Howard, Cruse and Haynes will enter their final year at Clarendon High School with the Lone Star Degree marking a significant milestone in their FFA careers. Their accomplishments reflect the practical agricultural experience, leadership skills, and commitment they have developed through Clarendon FFA.



Ronan Howard



Zane Cruse



Parker Hanes

Sales tax revenue surges for local cities

Sales tax revenues surged for Donley County municipalities when Texas Comptroller Don Huffines delivered August allocations last week.

The City of Clarendon saw its monthly revenue increase 16.57 percent compared to the same period in 2025 for an August total of \$60,128.03. The city is now running 3.93 percent ahead for the calendar year-to-date with sales tax revenues of \$383,438.93.

In Hedley, revenue jumped 17.87 percent for an August total of \$1,723.32, pushing the year-to-date figure up 11.74 percent to \$11,962.55.

Howardwick's August revenue was up 23.29 percent at \$2,519.18, but the lakeside city is lagging behind 4.95 percent for the calendar year at \$14,970.61.

Donley County Assistance District 1, collecting sales tax to assist with county law enforcement in Howardwick, was up 32.63 percent at \$1,977.02 this month and is up 4.74 percent for the year-to-date at \$10,727.31.

Donley County Assistance District 2, still in its first year of collecting sales tax for county law enforcement in the unincorporated areas of the county, received \$14,776.43 this month and now has a year-to-date total of \$61,287.44.

In neighboring cities, Memphis was up 25.63 percent this month for an August total of \$46,603.49, rising 16.89 percent on the year-to-date at \$309,329.54; Wellington was up 17.46 percent to \$45,775.07 this month, pushing ahead 3.39 percent for the year at \$284,625.25; and Claude was up 102.13 percent with an allocation of \$53,865.32, an increase of 125.18 percent for the year at \$391,060.06.

Armstrong County was up 4,820.38 percent with an August allocation of \$563,526.27, pushing its year-to-date figure up 2,455.26 percent at \$2,209,381.31.

Statewide, the comptroller delivered \$1.4 billion in sales tax allocations to local governments for August, 13.6 percent more than in August 2025.

These allocations are based on sales made in June by businesses that report tax monthly and on sales made in April, May and June by quarterly filers.

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Voucher data no surprise to rural Texas

I’ve spent two decades in and around the Texas Capitol, working with Republican officeholders who believed in school choice as part of a larger accountability system. That’s exactly why the first numbers on Texas’ billion-dollar voucher program should trouble conservatives, not just critics.

The newly appointed Texas Comptroller has released data showing who is using Texas Education Freedom Accounts (TEFA), also known to the rest of us as vouchers. The results won’t surprise those of us in rural Texas.

Well, well, well. You don’t say.

Participation is concentrated in urban areas where private schools exist, and many of the students slated to receive the money were already attending private school or being homeschooled. A program sold as an escape route for children trapped in failing public schools is functioning largely as a taxpayer subsidy for choices families had already made.

“No Texas child should be trapped in a failing school or forced to attend a school that is unable to provide the services they need,” Comptroller Don Huffines said.

That was the pitch. But approximately 70% of students who had joined the program or still had pending invitations were already attending private school or being homeschooled.

Senate Bill 2, passed in 2025, created the program, and lawmakers appropriated \$1 billion for its first year. The standard private-school award is \$10,474. More than 274,000 students applied, and approximately 101,600 had confirmed participation by August 13.

To be fair, supporters can point to several outcomes as wins. Four in five participants in the annual report came from households earning less than 200% of the federal poverty level – about \$66,000 for a family of four – and nearly one-fourth had a documented disability.

Lawmakers promised lower-income families and children with disabilities would go to the front of the line. In the first round, they did.

However, if the goal was to expand opportunity for these groups, the state could have implemented a targeted grant program focused specifically on lower-income students and students with disabilities. Instead, lawmakers created a universal program and used income and need primarily to determine who received the first available funding.

If we are being frank, household income alone does not tell us whether the program created a new educational opportunity. A lower-income student already attending private school is still a student whose family made that choice before Texas taxpayers started paying for it.

That is the real story behind the 70% figure. For much of the first-year program, the voucher did not provide an escape from a struggling public school. The family had already left, or the child had never enrolled.

The help may be meaningful. Private-school tuition can strain a household budget, and families making that sacrifice will welcome the relief. But helping pay for a decision a family has already made is not the same as providing a new choice.

The students who most closely match the “trapped in a failing school” pitch also appear more likely to have turned down the opportunity. Of the more than 20,700 who declined or returned an award by early August, 68% had previously attended public school.

The state has not said why. Some may have decided to remain in public school. Others may have encountered the barriers rural Texans warned about: no available private option, rejection by a private school, tuition above the award or a private school too far away.

Winning a voucher is not the same as securing a seat.

Then there is the rural divide.

In Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth or San Antonio, “school choice” can mean choosing among numerous private schools. In Hansford County and much of rural Texas, the first question is whether one exists within driving distance.

As of July 29, those four metropolitan education regions accounted for more than half of the first 85,344 confirmed participants. Amarillo had 844 and Lubbock had 998. In Northeast Texas, Kilgore had 3,464, while the more heavily rural Mount Pleasant region had just 653.

The state can correctly say all 20 education regions are represented. But a handful of rural participants on a map does not open a classroom seat or erase a 70-mile drive. A \$10,474 award cannot build a school where none exists.

The program also does nothing to reform the public schools educating more than 5 million Texas children. It does not address teacher shortages, declining enrollment, school closures or outcomes on struggling campuses. It offers some students a way out – where another school exists – without fixing the system most children remain in.

That is a program out of balance: Rural taxpayers help fund it even where usable choices do not exist.

We need to be talking more about vouchers on the campaign trail. Candidates who supported the program – and those who want to expand it – should be answering the hard questions: How many students moved from a public school into a new opportunity? How much of the billion dollars replaced private spending with taxpayer spending?

Because if we are being honest, for much of the first year, the school-choice program did not create a new choice. Instead, it subsidized choices some families had already made – and left Texas taxpayers paying for choices many of us still do not have.

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, including the Texas Rural Reporter. Subscribe at www.TexasRuralReporter.Substack.com



texas rural reporter

by suzanne bellsnyder

Elvis Presley’s early shows in Texas

Until 1955, before Elvis Presley got a sniff of stardom, he was on the brink of greatness. Months later, his name was “marquee’d” in capital letters nationwide. A 20 year-old credited with making rock-and-roll music a national phenomenon, he could not have known how short “brinks” sometimes can be.

About six months after crowding his calendar with smaller venues, he vaulted into stardom.

Leading the way were screaming teenage girls, and millions soon joined him in adoration during his 22 years at the top.

How about this for contrast? On July 4, 1955, he performed in Brownwood, Stephenville and DeLeon, TX, in a period of 12 hours. It’s a safe bet that tickets were bought with coins; many likely were comps. Some six months later, his “Heart-break Hotel” was the first of his 18 songs to crack a million in sales. For a total of 80 months, one of his songs was Billboard’s number one....

Elvis starred in 31 movies, with world-wide record sales topping one-half billion.

He died at age 42 in 1977, his death likely hastened by his use of illegal substances.

The initial chasm separating “Elvis lovers” and his critics shrank quickly, though some remain critical, feeling that his “gyrational performances” contributed to his demise. However, few world figures’ names remain so recognizable as Elvis’, who’ll have been gone a half-century in 2027. (One hardliner said his disdain for Jane Fonda was mighty close to Elvis’ critics. Capp, whose comic strip Little Abner,

ran for years, sometimes joked that he was “neutral” on Jane. “I’d send her a dozen roses tonight if I knew which jail she was in,” he told numerous audiences.)....

the idle american
by don newbury

Elvis’ first movie, Love me Tender, had a different name in the early going, but the song was so popular, they changed the movie name.

Then, it was an immediate hit, the movie title change probably the genius of Elvis’ longtime manager, the late Colonel Tom Parker. He “hitched his wagon” to Presley’s stardom, pocketing huge sums of money along the way....

My ancient Uncle Mort, whose home is deep in the East Texas thicket, clearly remembers his first “exposure to Elvis” in 1956.

That’s when they ballyhooed a makeshift theater some 20 miles from his spread. It was “sorta like” a twin screen, perhaps a full decade before legitimate two-screen theaters came along. This one had a temporary wall separating the crowd and the screens. A half-dollar paid for admission to either Lassie Come Home, already a classic, or Elvis’ first flick....

You can probably guess the rest. Mort had barely heard of Elvis at the time, and figured he couldn’t go wrong with Lassie.

However, he chose the wrong entrance, suddenly realizing he was



the idle american
by don newbury

watching “an entertainer going to the dogs” instead of a recognized dog hero like Lassie. Knowing that he’d be hearing music no matter which auditorium he chose, he figured he might as well stay seated for the Elvis movie.

Mort was fascinated by “You Ain’t Nothing but a Hound Dog.” Stunned by the star’s gyrations, Mort said, “When our hound dogs act like that, we give ‘em worm medicine.”....

Brenda and I were married 60 years ago, August 12, 1966. During our sixth year of

marriage, we learned that Elvis was coming to town in June, 1972. I figured to gain points by treating her to choice seating among the more than 14,000 fans at the then-new Fort Worth Convention Center.

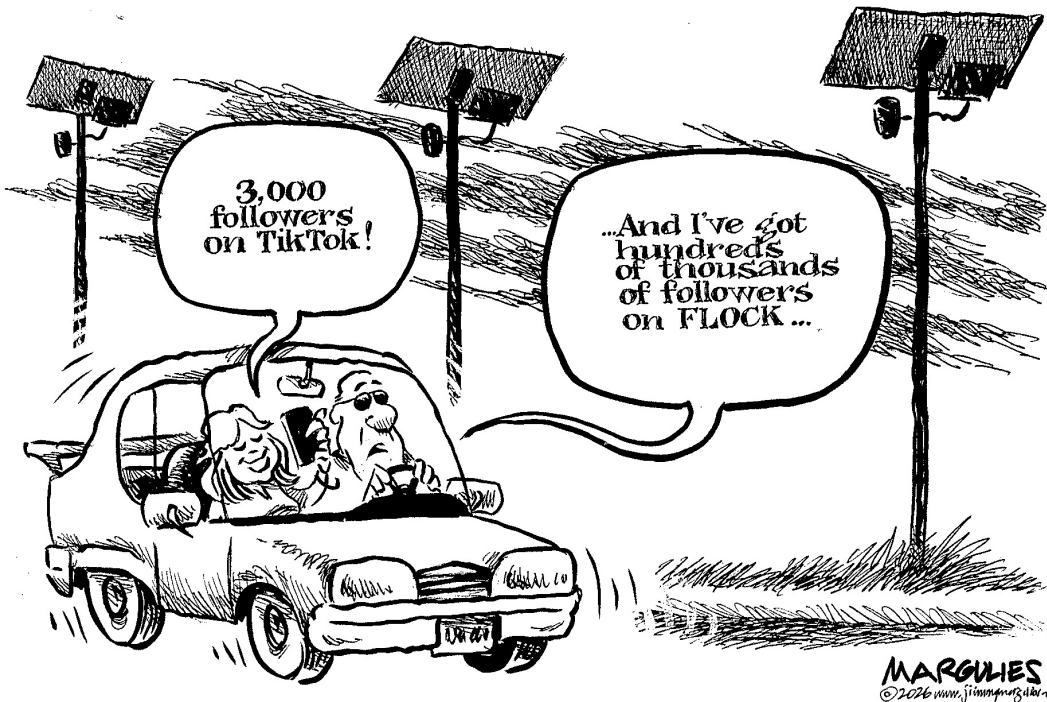
An Elvis fan since age 10, she was thrilled about seating so near the stage, miffed that some critics called him “Elvis, the Pelvis.”)

During the show, he wriggled close enough for Brenda to grab his neck scarf. She didn’t, but managed to catch several drops of his sweat on her arm. It was a magical evening for her....

I preferred his gospel songs. After all, he got his start hanging around the nationally-famous Blackwood Brothers gospel quartet.

It mattered not that I avoided catching any of his sweat droplets. Brenda didn’t bathe for a week....

Dr. Newbury, longtime chancellor of Howard Payne University, lives in the Metroplex. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Website: www.speakerdoc.com.



Top senators leaving office this term

I have said this many times before, but the number one question I am asked when I give talks is: Are we more divided now than ever before? My answer is always no. We fought a war in 1861 and have not gotten as bad as the 1960s. The problem now is, I think, we might have caught up to, and possibly surpassed, the 1960s.

While it is hard to measure divisiveness and political turmoil, I heard an intriguing statistic this week: There are more senators not running for reelection this year than in any other year in American history. While investigating the statistic, I found that it is not true, but this year does make the top five.

Even more interesting is the timing of those top five years and the reasons why many of the senators have chosen not to run.

In the upcoming midterm elections, there are 11 senators who have chosen not to run for reelection.

Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) and Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) are retiring after long and distinguished careers. Alan Armstrong (R-Okla.) was appointed to the Senate by Governor Kevin Stitt when Markwayne Mullin was appointed Secretary of Homeland Security and is ineligible to run. Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.) decided to run for governor of Alabama instead. All the others – Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.), Gary Peters (D-Mich.), Tina Smith (D-Minn.), Joni Ernst (R-Iowa), Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), Steve Daines (R-Mont.), and Cynthia Lummis (R-Wyo.) – while giving different reasons, all seem to boil down to frustration with politics and a desire to get out.

In and of itself, senators wanting to leave the Senate seems like a sane choice and should not necessarily demonstrate hostility toward the institution. But when you look at the years with the most departures, the dates are telling.

If we start with number five, it is 2024, with nine senators not running.

Number four is 2010, also with nine. Number three is 2012, with 10. Number two, as of right now, is our current election, with 11. Although that is number could go up depending on some state governor runoffs. And the election with the most senators not running for reelection is 1996, with 13.

In other words, the elections with the most senators deciding they were through have all happened in the past 16 years. I

should remind readers that before 1912, state legislatures chose senators rather than voters, so we are only looking at the past 114 years, but they are all still part of the modern era.

It could be the case that these years simply had older senators who decided to retire. Yet, if we examine the largest year, 1996, it tells a different story.

The large number of departures was not caused by one single event; instead, it reflected a combination of personal decisions, age, political conditions, and growing frustration with the nature of politics. Together, these factors created an environment in which many senators concluded that retirement was preferable to remaining in office.

Age was an important factor. Serving in the Senate can be grueling work, with frequent campaigning and long periods away from home.

By 1996, some senators who had already spent many years in office were approaching an age when retirement was an attractive option.

That seems to have been the case for Paul Simon (D-Ill.), Howell Heflin (D-Ala.), and Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.).

Yet political conditions also contributed to the unusually high number of open Senate seats. The early and mid-1990s were a period of significant political change in the United States. Republicans had gained substantial strength in Congress, particularly after the 1994 elections, when Republicans won control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate. The political environment became more partisan, and rather than entering another expensive and uncertain campaign, some incumbents chose retirement.

Another factor was the growing intensity of Senate campaigns. By the 1990s, congressional elections were becoming increasingly expensive and competitive. Candidates needed substantial financial resources, strong organizations, and the ability to withstand increasingly negative campaign tactics.



historically speaking
by dr. james finck

Incumbent senators who had already spent years raising money and campaigning could reasonably decide that another election was not worth the effort. The pressure of constant fundraising and campaigning added another incentive to not run.

Bill Bradley (D-N.J.) famously declared that “politics is broken.” He left office out of deep frustration with both political parties and the Senate’s inability to address structural economic and social problems. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), a centrist on national security policy, chose to step down because he felt the Senate’s political middle was rapidly shrinking, making bipartisan legislative work nearly impossible.

David Pryor (D-Ark.), a close ally of President Bill Clinton, decided to prioritize his family and personal health over another term. Bennett Johnston (D-La.) chose not to run due to general fatigue with the changing and increasingly hostile nature of Washington politics. James Exon (D-Neb.) expressed exhaustion with the relentless partisan warfare and vicious attack ads, arguing that the political environment had lost its civility.

William Cohen (R-Maine), a high-profile moderate centrist, dropped out unexpectedly amid immense frustration with federal budget stalemates and government shutdowns, which he blamed on rigid ideological extremes. Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kan.), a respected moderate voice, believed in informal term limits and voluntarily stepped down after three terms to return to private life.

Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.), known for his blunt wit, chose not to run after losing his leadership role as Senate Whip. He openly lamented that hatred and nastiness were corroding Washington.

Finally, Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.), a moderate Republican, frequently fought with his own party’s rising conservative wing, including over his opposition to a balanced budget amendment. He retired, stating that he would “miss the people but not the process.”

As I said, it is hard to judge how divided we have become compared with past generations. But if we use harsh partisanship in the Senate as a measure, it seems that things are only getting worse. 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. The article first appeared in The Southwest Ledger.

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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.

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LETTERS

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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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★

¿Qué Pasa?

Community Calendar

August 21 & 22

Mulkey Theatre • Insidious: Out of the Further • 7:30 p.m.

August 23

Mulkey Theatre • Insidious: Out of the Further • 2:00 p.m.

August 29 & 30

Men's & Women's Club Championship • Clarendon Country Club • Call 806-874-2166

September 7

Labor Day Scramble • Clarendon Country Club • Call 806-874-2166

September 19 & 20

One-Person Scramble • Clarendon Country Club • Call 806-874-2166.

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Menus

August 24 - 28

Donley County Senior Citizens

Mon: Chicken alfredo, broccoli & cauliflower, garden salad, garlic breadstick, lemon cake, iced tea/2% milk.

Tues: Roast, gravy, baked potatoes, spinach, whole wheat roll, banana pudding, iced tea/2% milk.

Wed: Lasagna, Brussel sprouts, garden salad, garlic breadstick, chocolate pudding w/ whipped topping, iced tea/2% milk.

Thurs: Sliced ham, ranch potatoes, green beans, coconut cake, iced tea/2% milk.

Fri: Pollock, Brussel sprouts, roast potatoes, hushpuppies, fruit cocktail, sugar cookie, iced tea/2% milk

Hedley Senior Citizens

Mon: Stroganoff, black-eyed peas, spinach, whole wheat, strawberry shortcake, iced tea/2% milk.

Tues: Pork loin, long grain rice, peas & carrots, whole wheat roll, pumpkin pie, iced tea/2% milk.

Wed: Steak fingers, red skin potatoes, black-eyed peas, whole wheat roll, chocolate cake, iced tea/2% milk.

Thurs: King ranch chicken, ranch style beans, garden salad, tortilla, black forest parfait, iced tea/2% milk.

Fri: Beef stew, garden salad, cornbread, fruit crisp, iced tea/2% milk

Clarendon CISD

Breakfast

Mon: Sausage kolache, yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Tues: cheese omelet, toast, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Wed: Biscuit, gravy, eggs, bacon, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Thurs: Breakfast sandwich, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Fri: Dutch waffle, sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Hedley ISD

Breakfast

Mon: Breakfast, pizza, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Tues: French toast, sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Wed: Cereal, toast, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Thurs: Pancake wrap, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Fri: Cinnamon roll, sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Hedley ISD

Breakfast

Mon: Pizza, salad, cookie, fruit, milk.

Tues: Nachos, beans, salsa, ice cream, fruit, milk.

Wed: Chicken nuggets, French fries, applesauce, fruit, milk.

Thu: BBQ on bun, French fries, beans, peaches, fruit, milk.

Fri: Corndog, carrots, chips, fruit, milk.



HOLE-y Moley!
Shawn Stover shot a hole-in-one Tuesday at the Clarendon Country Club. The amazing shot on Hole #11 went 225 yards and was witnessed by Eddie Chavira.

COURTESY PHOTO

Signs of the times in the ‘Wick

He Says – Is it “trash” or “garbage?”

She Says – Webster’s Dictionary (a handy little data center) defines trash as broken, discarded worthless things and garbage as worthless, unnecessary or offensive matter.

He Says – Well, trash or garbage – it’s a problem for many cities right now, and the reason for that, in my opinion, is people not following the rules! In Howardwick signage tells you that our bins are for household trash ONLY. Bag the trash and break down cardboard boxes; these are simple rules.

Recently some goofball put a truckload of limbs in the dumpster. ARRGGG! Clarendon offers two separate dump sites: one for household appliances and large items and another for tree limbs and yard stuff. Yes, there might be a fee for dumping – but, hey, this keeps us somewhat civilized.

She Says – Last week’s city council meeting in the ‘Wick was rolling along with Budget and tax rate info (the “no new revenue tax rate”), the final report on this year’s

Hoedown (a great success,) and repairs needed on the park playground equipment. Then came Item #10 on the agenda: “Council to discuss trash and signage. Take action.”

He Says - You could see the council members inhale and brace themselves for the discussion. Several options were discussed. Every council member expressed frustration with the fact that there IS signage stating the rules. More to follow on that issue. To quote Walter Sobchak, “Has the whole world gone crazy?! Am I the only one around here who cares about the rules?!” IYKYK. Anyway, did I dream it rained last Wednesday evening?

She Says - No, that wasn’t a dream; that was sweet summer rain.

He Says – Mary and I sat on the deck, wine in hand, letting the breeze blow the wetness on us – enjoying every minute of it.

She Says – “I know it’s been

coming for some time.” Creedence Clearwater.

He Says – Well, that was a short and sweet respite. Now the weatherman is promising more triple digit days.

If you believe NOAA and the Old Farmers’ Almanac, we are going to see the other side of this coin this winter! Snow, ice and extremely cold temperatures will be our big complaints then.

She Says – So you are saying people need to get their cold weather gear ready while you and I start stacking firewood?

He Says – We buy our firewood in \$8.00 bundles! But what cooler weather really means is FOOT-BALL! Our Clarendon Broncos host their first home game on August 28 against the Vega Longhorns. Of course, it will still be a tad warm in the stadium, but that’s just the projected warmth from the Broncos who are on fire to start the season with a win!

She Says – And on September 13th YOUR Dallas Cowboys try to win without major injuries against the NY Giants. Go, Chiefs!



he says, she says
by richard & mary green

Ranching Summit to be held Sept. 2

LUBBOCK — Ranchers, technology developers and agricultural experts will gather Sept. 2 at the National Ranching Heritage Center for a daylong summit focused on practical technology applications in modern ranching.

The Ranching Technology Summit will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the National Ranching Heritage Center, 3121 Fourth St., on the Texas Tech University campus. The event is hosted by the National Ranching Heritage Center in conjunction with Texas Tech’s Davis College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources.

The summit will examine technologies designed to help ranchers manage land, livestock and daily operations, including virtual fencing, satellite-connected livestock monitoring, soil mapping and remote water management.

Sessions will focus on soil health, pasture management, water and infrastructure, individual animal and herd management, and supply chain optimization.

Technology developers will be paired with ranchers who can provide firsthand accounts of how the tools are being used on working ranches. University and industry experts will moderate discussions about the real-world performance and applications of the technologies.

Companies participating in the summit include EarthOptics, Grassroots Carbon, Enriched Ag, Cibo Labs, Ranchbot, Nofence, CERES TAG, AgriWebb, Halter, CattleMax, Datamars, Vence, Breedr, Zoetis and STgenetics.

The formal sessions will conclude at 4:30 p.m., followed by networking opportunities. The event is free, although attendees are encouraged to register in advance. A chuck wagon lunch will be provided.

The complete agenda and registration information are available through the Ranching Technology Summit website at bit.ly/4xSaXqW.



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TxDOT supports increased law enforcement

CHILDRESS – The end of summer should be a time of celebration, yet Labor Day continues to be a time when too many people choose to drive impaired.

The danger is real. Last year, 35 percent of all Texas crash fatalities were drug or alcohol-related. Over Labor Day Weekend 2025, that number climbed to 57 percent, with 26 people killed in less than four days.

To help prevent more families from facing that kind of loss, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is supporting increased law enforcement efforts statewide and taking its Drive Sober. No Regrets. campaign on the road. The message is simple: Drive like a Texan by being kind, courteous, and safe – and never driving impaired.

A devoted mother and officer, killed in the line of duty Jennifer Chavis, Harris County Precinct 7 deputy constable and military veteran, dedicated her life to keeping her community safe. Sadly, she was doing just that on April 2, 2022, when she was killed by an impaired driver.

Following several 911 calls reporting erratic driver behavior, Chavis was in position to pull over the driver when he slammed into her

patrol car, causing an explosion that engulfed it in flames. She did not survive, and the driver later admitted to drinking before the tragic crash.

“I still wait by the phone for my daughter’s call at night, letting me know she made it home safe,” said Tanya Childress, Chavis’ mother. “Her young son is now growing up without a mother. Her siblings must now go through life without their big sister and best friend. And all of this could have been avoided if the other driver had not made the thoughtless and selfish choice to drive while impaired.”

During Labor Day Weekend last year, a person was killed by an impaired driver every three hours.

“There is never a good reason to drive impaired. You always have options,” said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. “Texans look out for one another. If you are celebrating Labor Day, make the choice that protects your friends, your neighbors and every other person on the road: arrange your ride before you start.”

Alcohol isn’t the only risk. Cannabis, cold medicine, prescription drugs and any substance that affects judgment or motor function can make driving dangerous. Texans have better options: call a rideshare,

take public transit, designate a sober driver or stay where you are. The safest plan is the one made before impairment begins.

TxDOT is taking the following steps: A former beverage delivery truck now retrofitted to deliver sober driving messages will travel the state. Interactive activities on the mobile display will show why impaired driving is dangerous and why planning ahead is the Texan thing to do. TxDOT is also providing grant funding to law enforcement agencies across the state as they boost efforts to identify and arrest impaired drivers from Aug. 14 through Sept. 7.

This coincides with the national heightened enforcement period sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Drive Sober. No Regrets. is an important part of TxDOT’s Drive like a Texan: Kind. Courteous. Safe. initiative. Drive like a Texan is about embracing the pride, camaraderie and responsibility of being a Texan on the road. By making thoughtful choices, we can all help keep each other safe. Learn more at Drive-LikeATexan.com. service, integrity, and dedication to the people and resources of Texas.”



The Clarendon Lions Club held their regular Tuesday noon meeting on August 18, 2026, with Boss Lion Eric Gehman ringing the bell.

We had nine members and three guests this week. Our guests were Bob and Jowlene Weiss and Chelsea Teiger, the crew of JoBob’s Services.

The club discussed the annual Pancake Supper, which would have originally been held this year on November 6 in conjunction with the Broncos v. Memphis football game. The Cyclones cancelled their regular football season last year, leaving the Broncos with an open week November 6. After discussion, the club voted to move ahead with the original date but to transform it this year to Pancake Bingo! It will still be the traditionally delicious hotcakes everyone loves at the school cafeteria but with the opportunity to play bingo for fabulous prizes. Watch for more details coming soon!

Lion Byron May reported on the public school which has seen an enrollment increase of close to ten percent this fall. The faculty has adjusted to the growth, and school is off to a great start.

Upcoming activities include the Labor Day flag service and a blood drive to be held in September.

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

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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!
ANSWER:

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-52.

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Microgram
- 4. Fixed charge
- 7. Each
- 8. Feeling of humiliation
- 10. Coat with sticky substance
- 12. Powerful “Severance” family
- 13. Japanese city
- 14. “Pulp Fiction” actress Thurman
- 16. Hat
- 17. Place where rockers work
- 19. Psyche
- 20. Snake-like fishes
- 21. Where people live
- 25. Body part
- 26. Old towel
- 27. One’s essential being
- 29. Japanese alcoholic beverage
- 30. Boxing’s GOAT
- 31. Wet muddy ground
- 32. Christian Laettner is one
- 39. A place to store lawn tools
- 41. Large tub for liquid
- 42. Old World lizard
- 43. One-time European member group
- 44. Healing student
- 45. Nuclear weapon
- 46. “Kiss of the Spider Woman” actress Sonia
- 48. Silk garment
- 49. About some Norse poems
- 50. Woman religious community member
- 51. Congressman (abbr.)
- 52. Two-year-old sheep

CLUES DOWN

- 1. An insane person
- 2. “Homeland” actress Danes
- 3. Buttock muscles
- 4. US federal agency
- 5. Birds of prey
- 6. Electronic communication
- 8. Ocean
- 9. Terminates
- 11. Low-pitched sound from a bell
- 14. Exclamation: yuck!
- 15. A place to attach a boat
- 18. Exclamation of surprise
- 19. Make a mistake
- 20. Border line
- 22. Have religious faith
- 23. Klutz
- 24. Large tree
- 27. House of ___ rulers
- 28. Red deer
- 29. Small coin (French)
- 31. Popular sandwich
- 32. 10-year period
- 33. Not good
- 34. Government lawyer
- 35. Egypt’s intelligence agency
- 36. Without an occupant or incumbent
- 37. Stain with one’s hands
- 38. Crippling
- 39. One point east of southeast
- 40. Large, united groups
- 44. ___ and cheese
- 47. Alcoholic beverage

Quilt Entries Needed for Hidetown Labor Day Festival

The Old Mobeetie Museum will be hosting the Hidetown Labor Day Festival and Reunion on Labor Day weekend, Saturday, September 5th through Monday, September 7th. Many activities are planned to entertain families over the course of the festival, including a quilt show, Kenneth Wyatt paintings for sale, musical entertainment, a fun run, a parade, kids games and events, craft booths, school reunion, mud volleyball, a corn hole tournament, a steak dinner, and a dance.

A Quilt Show will be held at the Old Mobeetie Museum Visitor’s Center from Saturday, September 5th, to Monday, September

7th. All quilt show entries are due at the museum on Monday, August 31st, between 1-5 p.m. and must be accompanied by a completed quilt show entry form.

All quilts must be labeled on the back with the name of the quilt owner and their phone number. A four-inch-wide sleeve for hanging the quilt must be made and attached to the top of the quilt back (so a pole can be inserted for hanging). Instructions for making a quilt sleeve are available online or when you obtain a quilt entry form. For more information, please contact Janie VanZandt at 806-845-2101 or 806-663-3402.

Abbott announces grants to expand free student resources

Gov. Greg Abbott has announced more than \$2 million in grants to nine Texas higher education institutions to support free, open educational resources for students in nursing and workforce training programs.

These grants are awarded through the Open Educational Resource (OER) Grant Program, which helps institutions to create and adopt openly licensed textbooks and other course materials that students can access through the OERTX digital library.

“Texas schools offer a competitive education for a variety of high-demand careers,” said Governor Abbott. “As we strengthen our workforce in nursing, cybersecurity, electrical technology, and business, it is critical that students have access to the resources they need to succeed in their chosen field. These grants

will expand access to free learning materials to make education more affordable for Texans.”

“As every college student knows, the cost of textbooks and supplies can put a dent in their bank account,” said Texas Higher Education Commissioner Wynn Rosser. “The OER grant program has reduced those costs for thousands of Texas students through the continual expansion of the OERTX online library of free textbooks and course materials.”

Since Governor Abbott and the 85th Texas Legislature established the OER grant program in 2018, it has assisted more than 33,000 Texas students, saving an estimated \$3.5 million in textbook costs.

Among the institutions receiving the 2026-28 awards was West Texas A&M University in Canyon, which received \$15,000.

HISD sets dates for budget, tax hearing

Hedley school trustees met July 17 to propose a tax rate for the coming fiscal year and set dates for budget and tax hearings.

After discussion, the board unanimously approved a motion propose a tax rate of \$0.6561 per \$100 valuation for the coming year.

The board also voted to set a tax rate and budget public hearing for August 27, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. A called board meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. following the public hearing to adopt the tax rate and budget

for fiscal year 2027.

In other school business, AgriLife Extension employees Leonard Haynes and Darla Franks were named as adjunct faculty for the district; and trustees approved giving Interim Superintendent Larry Jeffers contractual authority for the purpose of purchasing attendance credits and netting Chapter 48 funding.

In his Superintendent Report, Jeffers updated the board on enrollment, the school lunch program, and the budget outlook.

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CHURCH OF NAZARENE
209 S. HAWLEY • 874-2321 • PASTOR: ALLEN POSEY
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• 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.
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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.
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300 BUGBEE AVE. • 874-3833 • REV. LANCE WOOD
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:55 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • KID’S ACTIVITIES: WED. 6 P.M.
YOUTH STUDY: WED. 7 P.M.
COLLEGE MINISTRY: WED. 9 P.M.
CLARENDON METHODIST CHURCH
420 S. JEFFERSON • 874-3667 • BRO. RYAN QUIST
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. YOUTH: 6:00 P.M. • WED. BIBLE STUDY 6:30 P.M.
JESUS NAME APOSTOLIC CHURCH
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REV. CALVIN BURROW
SUN. SERVICES: 3 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.
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:
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SUN. BREAKFAST 9:30 A.M. • SUN. PRAISE & WORSHIP 10 A.M.
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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
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FR. BALA POLLISSETTI
SUN. MASS 11 A.M.
ST. STEPHENS BAPTIST CHURCH
300 N. JEFFERSON ST. • PASTOR: ROY WILLIAMS
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11:15 A.M.
WED.: 7 P.M. (WEATHER PERMITTING)
TRUE CHURCH OF GOD & CHRIST
301 N. JEFFERSON • ST. PASTOR: JEFF RILES
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11:15 A.M.
WED.: 7 P.M.
THE GATHERING
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 METHODIST CHURCH
300 N. MAIN ST. • PASTOR: STAN COSBY
SUN. SERVICE: 11:30 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: 11:15 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 5 P.M. • WED.: 6 P.M.
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DPS reminds college students to keep safety top of mind

AUSTIN – As college students begin returning to campus for the start of the fall semester, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) encourages students to make smart decisions and remain aware of their surroundings both on and off campus. Whether heading to class, attending football games or exploring a new city, a little preparation and vigilance can go a long way to ensure a safe school year.

“Starting college is an exciting time, but it also comes with new responsibilities and new environments,” said Texas Highway Patrol Chief Bryan Rippee. “Whether you’re walking across campus, driving to class or going out with friends, always stay aware of your surroundings, make responsible decisions and never get behind the wheel impaired. Your safety—and the safety of those around you—depends on the choices you make every day.”

Campus Safety Tips: Stay aware of your surroundings and avoid distractions, such as walking while looking at your phone or wearing headphones at high volume. Walk in well-lit, populated areas, especially at night, and travel with friends whenever possible.

Save campus police and local law enforcement phone numbers in your phone and familiarize yourself with emergency call boxes and campus safety resources. Lock your dorm room, apartment and vehicle, even if you’re only leaving for a few minutes. Trust your instincts. If a situation or person makes you feel uncomfortable, leave the area and report suspicious activity immediately.

Driving Safety Tips: Never drink and drive or ride with an impaired driver. Designate a sober driver, use a rideshare service or call a trusted friend. Always wear your seat belt and make sure every

passenger is buckled up. Obey speed limits and eliminate distractions behind the wheel. Remember, texting while driving is illegal in Texas. Be extra cautious around pedestrians, bicyclists and scooters near college campuses. Give yourself extra travel time during move-in weekends, football game days and other campus events when traffic is heavier than usual.

Personal Safety Tips: Keep your cell phone charged and share your location with trusted family members or friends when traveling alone. Let someone know where you’re going and when you expect to return if you’re going out at night. Be cautious when meeting people you’ve only interacted with online. If attending parties or social events, never leave your drink unattended or accept drinks from strangers.

DPS also reminds college students, parents, faculty and staff about valuable public safety resources available throughout the school year.

The iWatchTexas program is a critical resource for reporting suspicious activity in schools and communities to help prevent dangerous attacks. Everyone is urged to download the free iOS or Android iWatchTexas mobile app before the start of the school year. Tips can be reported via the website, the mobile app or by calling 844-643-2251. All reports are confidential. For information on how to use iWatchTexas, you can view this how-to video.

Remember, iWatchTexas is not for emergencies. If there is an emergency on a school campus or in a community, call 911. Also, the program can be used to report suspicious activity in areas in addition to schools.

The Texas School Safety Center is another useful tool for school security. It’s part of Texas State University and offers valuable resources

on school safety for parents and members of the school community. It’s designed to be a central location for research, training and technical information for all school districts, charter schools and community colleges in the state. The Texas School Safety Center has staff experienced in school safety and can provide technical assistance or training, conduct program evaluations or offer resources to schools. Classes are also available online for the community.

The Active Shooter Alert System is not school-specific but could be used in the event of a shooting at or near a school. The alert system is designed to notify people near an active shooter situation through cell phones, local broadcast media and Texas Department of Transportation Dynamic Message Signs (DMS). These alerts are used to encourage people to avoid the area or shelter-in-place, when a situation arises.

DPS will issue an Active Shooter Alert when an agency submits a request that meets the requirements. Those include an active shooter in the agency’s jurisdiction, determining that the alert would assist people near the active shooter’s location, verification of the active shooter situation through a preliminary investigation by the requesting agency and that the shooter’s last known location is identifiable.

Trained in media relations and public speaking, DPS Safety Education Service Lieutenants and Sergeants are charged with educating the public and serving as Public Information Officers to the media regarding public safety in Texas. Additionally, these officers regularly offer presentations to schools on drug use prevention, traffic safety, underage drinking, situational awareness and other education and awareness programs.

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Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget

The City of Clarendon (City) City Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2026-2027 fiscal year budget. The public hearing will be held in the City of Clarendon City Hall Building at 313 South Sully, Clarendon, Texas 79226 at 5:30 p.m. on September 3, 2026. The public is encouraged to review the City’s proposed budget on the City of Clarendon website at <https://cityofclarendontx.com> or view a paper copy of the budget in the City Secretary’s office.

THIS BUDGET WILL RAISE MORE TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES THAN LAST YEAR’S BUDGET BY \$14,406 WHICH IS A 3.51% INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR’S BUDGET. THE PROPERTY TAX REVENUE TO BE RAISED FROM NEW PROPERTY ADDED TO THE TAX ROLL THIS YEAR IS \$38.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide input through any means available and/or to attend the public hearing. The Clarendon City Council will vote to adopt the Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 at the end of the Public Hearing.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.579323 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City of Clarendon.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.579323 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.510617 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.579323 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$1.241380 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2026 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City of Clarendon from the same properties in both the 2025 tax year and the 2026 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that City of Clarendon may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for City of Clarendon exceeds the voter-approval rate for City of Clarendon.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for City of Clarendon, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for City of Clarendon.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that City of Clarendon is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2026 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 10, 2026, AT 5:00 pm AT City Hall.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate but not greater than the de minimis rate and does not exceed the rate that allows voters to petition for an election under Section 26.075, Tax Code. If City of Clarendon adopts the proposed tax rate, the City of Clarendon is not required to hold an election so that voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate and the qualified voters of the City of Clarendon may not petition the City of Clarendon to require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount= (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100

FOR the proposal:	Brittney Sanne Tom Thompson Pharabie Shadle	Ashlee Estlack Brent Knowles
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	Jacob Fangman	

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Clarendon last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Clarendon this year.

	2025	2026	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.560241	\$0.579323	increase of 0.019082 per \$100, or 3.41%
Average homestead taxable value	\$115,847	\$107,161	decrease of ~7.50%
Tax on average homestead	\$649.02	\$620.81	decrease of \$-28.21, or ~4.35%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$410,536	\$424,942	increase of \$14,406, or 3.51%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for City of Clarendon at 806-874-2744 or visit <https://cityofclarendontx.com/> for more information.

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 CASH, CREDIT CARDS, & VENMO ACCEPTED.

MEETINGS

CLARENDON



CLARENDON LODGE #700 AF&M Stated meeting: Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m. Refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Practice: Fourth Mondays, 7 p.m. Jim Owens - W.M., Russell Estlack - Secretary, 2 B 1, ASK 1



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.



CLARENDON LIONS CLUB Regular meeting each Tuesday at noon. Eric Gehman, 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.

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

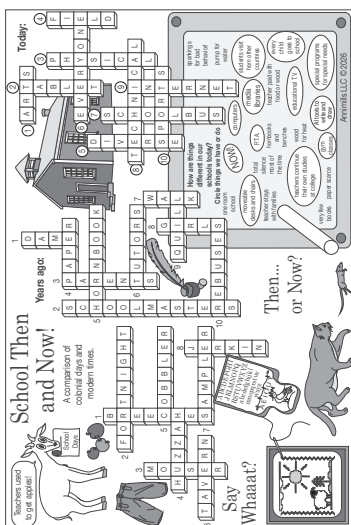
610 East Harrington, Clarendon

Tuesday - Saturday

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Open for appointments.

Call 806-874-2746.



PUBLIC NOTICE

WELLINGTON

PROPOSED BUDGET ON FILE: The Collingsworth County 2026-2027 Proposed Budget is on file in the County Clerk's Office for Public viewing.

SMALL TAXING UNIT NOTICE: The City of Wellington will hold a meeting at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2026, at City Hall, 802 10th St., to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2026. The proposed tax rate is \$0.303781 per \$100 of value. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the City of Wellington by 4%.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE: The City of Wellington will hold a public hearing at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2026, at City Hall, 802 10th St., to discuss and accept public comments on the proposed rate/fee changes to the City of Wellington Code of Ordinances including, but not limited to, the following: Water Rates, Sewer Rates, Solid Waste Collection, and Solid Waste Disposal. Please contact City Hall at 806-447-2544 if you have any questions or need additional information.

MEMPHIS ISD

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION (MOA)

Annual Public Notification of Nondiscrimination Memphis ISD offers career and technical education programs in Vocational Agriculture Family and Consumer Science, and Computer Technology. Admission to these programs is based on current admission standards. Admission to these programs is open to all students.

It is the policy of Memphis ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Memphis ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator Victoria Davis, Federal & Special Programs Director/ Title IX Coordinator 1501 High St. Memphis, Texas 79245 806-259-5910 EXT. 1006 vdvavis@memphisisd.net

and/or the Section 504 Coordinator Nikki Robison at 515 S. 9th St. Memphis, Texas 79245 806-259-5930 EXT. 1309 nrobison@memphisisd.net

ADMINISTRATION (MOA) ANNUAL PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF NONDISCRIMINATION FORMULARIO DE MUESTRA

(Notificación Pública de No Discriminación en Programas de Educación Técnica y Vocacional) Memphis ISD ofrece programas de educación

PUBLIC NOTICE

técnica y profesional en agricultura, alimentos y recursos naturales, ciencia de la familia y del consumidor y tecnología informática. La admisión a estos programas se basa en los estándares de admisión actuales.

Es norma de Memphis ISD no discriminar en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales y brinda igualdad de acceso a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos juveniles designados por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda. Es norma de Memphis ISD no discriminar en sus procedimientos de empleo por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, la ley de Discriminación por Edad, de 1975, según enmienda; y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda. Memphis ISD tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos de quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX en (dirección), Coordinador Victoria Davis, Federal & Special Programs Director/Title IX Coordinator 1501 High St. Memphis, Texas 79245 806-259-5900 EXT. 1006 vdvavis@memphisisd.net. y/o el Coordinador de la Sección 504 en (dirección), Nikki Robison at 515 S. 9th St. Memphis, Texas 79245 806-259-5930 EXT. 1309 nrobison@memphisisd.net

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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@memphisthousing.com.

HELP WANTED

WELLINGTON

PRN-RN: Collingsworth General Hospital is accepting applications for a PRN- RN. Applicants with a positive disposition, organizational and socialization skills desired. Contact Isabella Rodriguez, HR Director, at 806-447-2521 Ext 348 if you have any questions, or complete an application online at www.collingsworthgeneral.net.

MLT/MT: Collingsworth General Hospital is accepting applications for a Part-Time Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) or Lab Medical Technologist (MT). Applicants with a positive disposition, organizational and socialization skills desired. Contact Isabella Rodriguez, HR Director, at 806-447-2521 Ext 348 if you have any questions, or complete an application online at www.collingsworthgeneral.net.

MAINTENANCE: Collingsworth General Hospital is accepting applications for a full-time Maintenance Worker. Applicants with a positive disposition, organizational and socialization skills desired. Benefits include: health, dental, vision insurance and 401K. Contact Isabella Rodriguez, HR Director, at 806-447-2521 Ext 348 if you have any questions, or complete an application online at www.collingsworthgeneral.net.



PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

CLASSIFIED AD RATES are \$15.00 for the first 20 words and 15¢ for each additional word. Special typefaces or boxes are extra.

THANK YOU NOTES are \$20.00 for the first 40 words and 15¢ for each additional word. **CLASSIFIED DEADLINES** are 5:00 p.m. each Monday, subject to change for special editions and holidays.

PREPAYMENT IS REQUIRED on all ads except for customers with established accounts. Visa, MasterCard, and Venmo accepted.

ERRORS: Check your ad on its first printing. Errors not corrected within ten days of the first printing are the responsibility of the advertiser.

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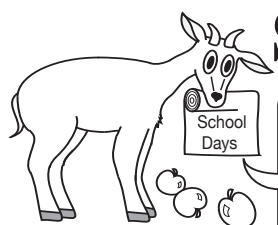
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...use pens to write and markers to color!

Kids: color stuff in!



School Then and Now!

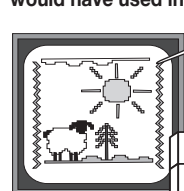
Long ago it was hard to get a good education. People had to work long days just to survive. Some taught their children at home or sent them to craftsmen to learn a skill. Then Americans realized that the country needed people who could lead and do many kinds of jobs. Laws were passed that required all children to go to school so they would have the chance for a good education.

Did you know that years ago:

- housewives taught children their alphabet, and about religion, in their kitchens for a small fee? These were called "_____ Schools."
- teachers in schoolhouses were almost always men and were called _____?
- _____ working hard just to survive had to teach their children at home?
- _____ was very expensive and scarce?
- students used a flat, wooden board with a handle called a _____? A paper with a lesson was placed on it.
- wealthy families hired _____ to teach in their homes?
- some students had to _____ many miles in all kinds of weather to get to school?
- _____ often stayed home to learn skills for running a household: sewing, cooking, the alphabet, etc?
- students were lucky to have charcoal or _____ pens to write with?
- one way to teach reading was by using pictures in stories, called _____?

Say Whaaat?

Words and phrases continuously change throughout the years. Read the clues below to fill in this crossword puzzle with the words that kids would have used in colonial times:



1. pants
2. two weeks
3. cat
4. hooray
5. shoemaker
6. inn, drinks, food
7. stitched pattern
8. sleeveless jacket

Then... or Now?

Schooling has changed throughout the years. Reading and arithmetic are still the basis for a good education! But, demands on teachers, ways to teach, and subjects taught are different. Computer classes anyone?

Draw a ring around 11 things we have or do...

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| one room school | spankings for bad behavior! | media libraries | computers |
| moveable desks and chairs | P.T.A. | wood for heat | pump for water |
| teacher stays with families | hornbooks and benches | total silence most of the time | students visit from other countries |
| teachers continue their own studies at college | All tools to write and draw | gym classes | every child goes to school |
| very few books | | educational T.V. | programs for kids with special needs |

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Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material — steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer — up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-565-2452.

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Welcome to Clarendon!
The Clarendon Chamber of Commerce installed new welcome signs at US 287 and Koogle on the old Sam Hill BBQ windmill this week, replacing the old welcome signs were faded and worn by weather.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Hedley Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. August 27, 2026 in Supintendent's Office, 301 Jones Street Hedley, Texas. 79237. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.65610 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)

School Debt Service Tax Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.0000 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtbtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	% increase	or	44.59	% (decrease)	
Debt service	0	% increase	or	0	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	% increase	or	44.59	% (decrease)	

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 269,944,144	\$ 332,429,990
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 174,755	\$ 1,143,504
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 104,942,003	\$ 96,631,696
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 174,755	\$ 1,143,504

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).

** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).

*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 0

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.65610	\$ 0.0000 *	\$ 0.65610	\$ 8,810	\$ 9,886
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.61621	\$ 0.0000 *	\$ 0.61621	\$ 9,700	\$ 9,524
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.62590	\$ 0.0000 *	\$ 0.62590	\$ 9,557	\$ 10,014

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 108,906	\$ 110,079.50
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 6,672.50	\$ 6,639
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 0.65610	\$ 0.65610
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 43.78	\$ 43.56
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (0.22)

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.65610. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.65610.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,383,627
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.