v.ClarendonLive.com

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#### THIS WEEK

2 "The Media" keeps the sun shining from City Hall to the White House.

4 Hedley's One Act Play team advances from the district competition. 8 And the Lady Bulldogs go

three for four on the road 12 CC meats team wins Livestock Show Houston competition.

All this and much more as The Enterpr. reports in this week's amazing edition.

#### Johnson named to 2A All-State team

Clarendon senior center and Bronco workhorse Marshal Johnson was awarded for his good play in the State Tournament by being named to the 2A All-State basketball team.

Johnson has been part of a very successful Bronco team and a force to be reckoned with all season. Johnson posted 29 total points and 13 rebounds in the two games

Bear Smith and Colt Wood were named to the Second All-State Team. Both Smith and Wood also played a big part in the success of the Bronco team. Smith finished with 21 total points and 16 rebounds in the two games. while Wood put in 24 points and five rebounds for the games.

#### Two injured by fire on JA last Thursday

Two Borger firefighters were injured last Thursday when a prescribed burn on the JA Ranch jumped its containment area.

Clarendon Fire Chief Jeremy Powell said the Clarendon Vol-unteer Fire Department was dispatched at 5:37 p.m. after the two men were injured by a fire tornado that carried flames across the containment lines.

Ten units and 22 men from

Clarendon responded to the call.
"The fire was contained by indirect attack," Powell said. "We backburned the fire into itself from secondary containment lines."

Powell said the fire was con-

tained in about five hours.

Media reports identified the injured firemen as Chief Bob Watson and Clay Lozier, both of Borger. They were airlifted to a Lubbock hospital with burns on their hands and faces.

#### Sales tax increases for city this month

Clarendon's sales tax rev-enue posted a gain when Comp-troller Glenn Hegar distributed allocations to local governments

last week.

After dropping slightly more than one percent last month, Clarendon posted a gain of 3.94 percent this month with an allo-cation of \$26,468.06. That brings he city's calendar year-to-date total to \$95,171.05, which is an increase of 4.39 percent over the same point in 2016.

Other local municipalities did not post growth. Hedley was down 2.41 percent at \$398.56 and now slips 13.96 for the year at \$1,867.01. Howardwick was off 36.44 percent for the month at \$811.59 and is down 43 percent for the year at \$2,167.91.

Statewide, Heger sent \$619.7 million in local sales tax alloca-tions for March, 5.8 percent more than in March 2016. These alloca tions are based on sales made in January by businesses that report tax monthly.

"The cities of Houston, San Antonio, Fort Worth and Austin saw noticeable increases in sales tax allocations," Hegar said. "The cities of McAllen and Sugar Land saw noticeable decreases.





larendon senior Colt Wood reads the inscription on his silver medal following the Broncos' loss to Muenster Saturday as Superintendent Mike Norrell places Bear Smith's medal around his neck. Wood led his team in scoring during Clarendon's first state championship appearance since 1970.



Clarendon senior Bryce Grahn (right) congratulates his freshman brother Caton after he scored the last point during the Broncos' sei final win over Thorndale Friday.



Clarendon seniors Colt Wood and Bryce Grahn watch as senior Marshal Johnson puts up two points during the semi-final victory over Thorndale last Friday in San Antonio's Alamodome. Johnson led the team Friday with 18 points and eight rebounds.

## **Broncos** take 2nd at state

03.16.2017

Established 1878.

By Sandy Anderberg

The Clarendon Broncos closed out a stellar season Saturday, finishing as the Class 2A Runners-Up at the State Tournament, defeating Thorndale in the semi-finals Friday before losing to Muenster in the championship game.

The squad, led by four outstanding eniors, was a team made up of very unselfish players who all year looked down the road to San Antonio. The state championship was in their sight the entire season and they, along with the coaching staff, played every game with intensity and determination.

It was Clarendon's first semi-final appearance since 2011, and the Broncos first time to play in the championship game since 1970.

In the post-championship game press conference Saturday, senior Bryce Grahn talked about the family relationship the team

talked about the family relationship the team had and the absence of friend and teammate Riley Shadle, who suffered a severe spinal cord injury during a 2015 football game.

"We were very, very blessed. We put in a lot of hard work and a lot of hours - nights and mornings - that people don't see," Grahn said. "We're thankful that our bodies are healthy and that Gold gaw, is an opport. are healthy and that God gave us an oppor-tunity to do this. We have a friend at home who isn't able to do this. Basketball is just a small piece of life. There's a lot more after this. We were all very blessed to be here and have the community behind us."

Coach Brandt Lockhart also said this

Bronco team was unique for its closeness

and having been together for many years.

"We've played 250 games probably since sixth grade," Lockhart said. "This is a great group of kids. It's a dream come true to get to come down here and play. All these guys brought us here."

The semi-final game in San Antonio's Alamodome on Friday, March 10, was exceptional in every way for the Broncos. Facing off against Thorndale, who was ranked 25th in the standings, the Broncos were on fire on both ends of the court.

Thorndale kept it close in the first quarter and even led by one early on. But the Broncos exploded in the second quarter and put the game out of reach for Thorndale. They led 39-16 at the half and never looked back and went on to win 59-35. They shot

See 'Broncos' on page 7.

## Cash donations being sought for wildfire damages

Wildfires that rayaged the eastern and northern Panhandle regions last week have spurred an outpouring of donations from around the state and nation to help ag producers in a time of crisis.

Danny Nusser, Texas A&M

AgriLife Extension Service regional program leader in Amarillo, said late last week that hay donations have been received to cover ranchers'

needs for the time being.
"We want to thank everyone

for the overwhelming support of hay and feed in the last 5 days," Nusser said. "We are now to a point at all of the supply points to focus our effort towards delivery of the donated feed and hay to producers in the coun-try. We feel like we will have ample supply of feed and hay to meet the ranchers needs for 2-3 weeks."

The greatest needs going for-

ward, Nusser said, are monetary donations to the accounts supporting ranchers needs in the future

Driven by high winds and dry Panhandle conditions, Panhandle wildfires burned almost 500,000 acres, killed four people and many head of livestock, and caused millions of dollars in property damage, including critical infrastructure like fences

Governor Greg Abbott declared a State of Disaster in Gray, Hemp-hill, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Roberts, and Wheeler counties, and the State of Texas has asked the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

for a Secretarial Disaster Designation to activate the USDA Farm Service Agency's Emergency Loan Program to help eligible farmers and ranchers rebuild and recover from losses sustained by the wildfires. "Last week's wildfires have had

a devastating impact on a significant portion of the Texas Panhandle," said Governor Abbott. "Texans have always been resilient in their thank the first responders who are working tirelessly to help all those affected, and we continue to ask that all Texans keep the Panhandle community and the families of the vic-tims of this disaster in their thoughts and prayers

For those interested in donata public service announcement important information is on page 10 of this week's ENTERPRI response to disasters and this time For general questions about relief will be no different. Cecilia and I efforts, call 806-677-5628.

## **Keep the sun** shining on our officials

government - from City Hall to the White House - is a comerstone of a free republic. It is appropriate then to reflect on the defenders of that right at this time as America observes Sunshine Week March 12-18. Some might say that the sunshine has been

eclipsed somewhat over the last couple of months by

the shadow of a larger than life personality that now leads this great nation. For those of us whose job it is to report on the goings on of government there are signs of trouble emanating from Washington.



Journalists are not unfa-miliar with people taking commentary exception to what they write. In fact, if you haven't taken some arrows in your time, you probably haven't done much as a reporter

Your editor has been called many things in the last 21 years. Some of them can't be repeated in a family publication. The funniest was this week when he was labeled a "Democrat." But perhaps the most

interesting came last month from the highest levels of the federal government... an enemy of the people. That moniker came from President Donald J. Trump who has repeatedly labeled the press as "the enemy of the people" and derides media outlets he disagrees with as "fake news."

There is, of course, an adversarial relationship

between the press and those in positions of authority. This is nothing new and it is not limited to the national stage. It happens on the local level, and your editor has at times been at odds with different local officials to the point of even being lectured or ridiculed in public meetings by county commissioners, city aldermen, and school board members. It's not fun, but you develop a thick skin and realize you're doing your job when a public official squeals for having been called out for his actions.

The troubling thing about Mr. Trump is the level

"The many of the negale"

and intensity of his rhetoric. "Enemy of the people" is phrase that students of history know has been used by some pretty bad company... people like the Nazis, Lenin, Stalin, and other dictators.

If the president doesn't like the press nosing around his business, calling the press "the enemy of the people" was probably not the wisest thing for him to do. Because now "the media" is going to be on him like stink on a cow party. That his appointees and even the president himself can't abstain from saying stupid things isn't helping the administration either.

Now our conservative friends will say that CNN THE NEW YORK TIMES, and MSNBC are clearly biased against Republicans and are not the equivalent of THE CLARENDON ENTERPRISE. And, they would say, that the president's comments are against those leftist news

But truly you need to understand one thing. the First Amendment does not discriminate based on political persuasion. Freedom of the press covers THE Washington Post, ABC News, and the newspaper you hold in your hands. And when a president starts labeling "the media" as "the enemy of the people," then rest assured all media will – or should – lock arms to defend one another. If you need an example of that, you need to look no further than FoxNews' Sheppard Smith defending a CNN reporter who was belittled by the incoming president earlier this year. CNN is not fake news. The New York TIMES is

not fake news. You may disagree with their editorial points of view, but these are organizations that generally uphold the highest standards of journalism.

The problem with our society today is that people

will believe anything they read on social media and take it for face value. They follow "news" sites that simply espouse a political viewpoint. The right and the left have their chosen sources, and many people don't take the time to read anything that doesn't fit their world view. That's fine. It's all covered by the First Amendment. But not taking a balanced approach to National and the state of the extreme polarization of this country.

You have a right to know what's going on with your government. That's what Sunshine Week is about.

The biggest defender of that right is not breitbart.com or World Net Daily. It is the traditional media – the often vilified "press" – that people love to hate. The big boys will hold the president's feet to the fire - and even help bring him down if necessary, while the ENTERPRISE and thousands of other hometown news-papers across this land will continue to shine the light on city councils, school boards, college boards, and county commissions.

Together we'll fight in state legislatures and in Congress to keep government practices open so that you can see what your elected representatives are doing and find out what they are up to... even when they don't want you to know.



### One Texan's reach for the stars

When folks strive greatly to take from life what matters most - learning along the way that it's mostly about giving - phrases like "giant strides" or standing tall" come into play. It seems "Texan to the core" to do so. Sometimes, though, along comes

someone who learns early on that noteworthy accomplishments also can accrue from taking smaller steps, reaching higher and working harder.

Such was a delightful man named Richard (Dick) Collins, a favorite by any measure. On graduation day in 1948, he and 23 classmates proudly accepted diplomas at Chillicothe High School. Under four feet tall, this oldest of five children endeared himself to his family, school and the community, a pattern that defined him throughout life. He loomed defined him throughou. large in giving back. \*\*\*\*\*

Having taken more in hardscrabble values from the Great Depression than it robbed of him, this 18-year-old visited Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, hoping to study journalism there.

He wasn't optimistic, since he had no folding money and little that jangled, but President Rupert Richardson bade him enroll, if he'd work in the kitchen. (It's worth noting that while many students were on the "freshman 15" weight-gain list, he added height instead At graduation four years later, he had gained about a foot in height.)

Kitchen duty was short-lived. Soon he was writing sports for the campus newspaper, followed by work alongside coaches, promoting H-SU sports across the land.

Never forgetting his roots, he made sure to return to family gathat H-SU throughout his life. Even at age 86 –



months before his death - he arose early, slapped a sandwich together and headed for Oklahoma City. He allowed himself just one stop so he could arrive by mid-afternoon for maximum time with family.

He led the laughter, requiring little coaxing to tell and-retell stories kin always wanted to hear. "If you didn't love Uncle Richard

after just five minutes, you just weren't paying attention," said nephew Bob Renn, whose wife Debbie is writing a book about their hero....

Stories abounded at Collins' Austin funeral recently and at his Chillicothe burial. Bill Allred, a favorite cousin, spoke of their African safari, Carlene Spicer, an H-SU colleague at whose home Collins and other campus visitors landed regularly, told about his once asking her to reach a book from a high shelf. Standing a millimeter over five feet, she said, "Dick, you're the first person who has EVER asked me to reach for something." He chuckled, "Well, that's one more than has asked me."

Collins loved life, serving as Sports Information Director at H-SU (and later, briefly at Howard Payne), as well as writing sports in Wichita Falls, Amarillo, Abilene, Pampa and Austin. He won awards both as a journal-

ist and a realtor. While in Austin, he struck up friendships with the late Dar-rell Royal and renowned golfer Ben Crenshaw. At the funeral, Crenshaw (Dick wrote about all sports, favoring rack and field, and covered several Olympics.)...

Around age 50, Collins entered the

surgeries, and a serious injury on an

H-SU basketball trip. He worked long hours, and spent big chunks of time watching two TV screens. (One was always on the golf channel, the other on whatever might be "in season.")

His "bucket list" never shortened Whenever he marked an item off, he added another. He and cousin Bill had planned another trip to Hawaii about now, but death intervened. Oh, and that root-remembering thing: The bulk of his estate goes to H-SU, where he knew there still are wide-eyed freshmen showing up short of folding money...

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.

mentioned enjoying numerous rounds of golf with Collins. "It was Dick," he said, "who first called me 'Gentle Ben'."

real estate world, making his mark there, too. He was employed until his death, greatly lengthening his list of friends

Modest to a fault and never yielding to use of the "why me?" line, he sur-vived much. He endured two open-heart

I RELYON BIASED ANONYMOUS SOURCES I MISS THE DAYS WHEN WE GOT OUR NEWS FROM THE COMED CHANNEL! I KEEP INFORMED BY READING TWEETS# THANKS TO AND FACEBOOK STAY UP TO SPEED ON EVENTS:// ILLEGAL, LEAKING AGENDA-DRIVEN MOLES IN GOVERNMENT!

### Repair Texas' Public Information Act

By Kelley Shannon Freedom of Information Foundation

We Texans are fortunate when it comes to access to government informa-

Correction. We were fortunate For more than 40 years, Texas' open records law was one of the nation's strongest. The Texas Public Information Act, originating during a time of scandal in the early 1970s, presumes all government records are available to citizens,

unless there's a specific exception pre-venting release of the document.

But our modern era of openness shifted dramatically with two state Supreme Court decisions in 2015 known as the Boeing ruling and the Greater Houston Partnership ruling. Both put many government financial records off

limits to citizens.

If the damage isn't repaired in this legislative session, Texas will be way back in the pack compared with other states' transparency laws. Details on the spending of many millions of dollars in taxpayer money will be secret.

Sadly, the message to citizens will be: "Don't bother asking. It's none of your business."

As we embark on Sunshine Week, March 12-18, let's commit to maintain-ing Texas' national standing as a leading right-to-know state. The free flow of accurate information has always been important. It's especially so in this time of misinformation and fake news.

The so-called Boeing ruling allows all sorts of contracts the government holds with private businesses to be sealed from public view. The government or the private entity simply must claim a record's release would lead to a competitive disadvantage - not a decisive disadvantage, buy any disadvantage.

Do you want to see your school district's bus or food service contracts so that you know whether your taxpayer money is being well spent? Good luck. Already, some of those basic documents have been ruled unobtainable. The same has happened to requestors seeking taxi and ride-sharing company filings with the government. Small business owners who want to view the winning contracts awarded by a local community college also have been thwarted.

In one of the most unbelievable examples, the city of McAllen refused to reveal how much taxpayer money it paid entertainer Enrique Iglesias to perform in a city holiday festival. The Attorney General's Office, citing the Boeing court ruling, agreed to the withholding. The state office has made hundreds of similar closed records decisions because of the

The Greater Houston Partnership decision prevents the public from view ing the financial books of non-profits that are supported by taxpayer money and act in a government agency fashion Often, economic development activities are farmed out to these types of non-profits, as they were to GHP. To prevent corruption and hold these agencies accountable, public oversight of how they spend money is necessary through the Texas Public Information Act.

Sen, Kirk Watson (D-Austin) and Rep. Giovanni Capriglione

(R-Southlake) are working together on the bipartisan issue of protecting the public's right to know and each have filed bills to reconstruct what the Texas Supreme Court dismantled.

Senate Bill 407 and House Bill 792 address the Boeing decision, while Senate Bill 408 and House Bill 793 address the Greater Houston Partnership

The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas and other open government advocates are pressing for additional transparency measures in the Legislature. One attempts to improve access to public records stored in private email accounts and on private electronic devices. Another seeks to resume access to dates of birth in certain public records including crime documents and elecinforms the public. House Bill 2670 and House Bill 2710, respectively, address these two big issues. Rep. Todd Hunter, R-Corpus Christi, authored the bills. Meanwhile, open government sup

porters are working to block bills that hinder citizen access to government information. Many secrecy bills are filed every legislative session.

The clock is ticking on the time we

have to preserve openness in Texas. The current Legislature meets until May 29. We should all urge state lawmakers to let the sunshine in as they do the people's

work.

Kelley Shannon is executive director of
the Freedom of Information Foundation
of Texas, a non-profit promoting open
government laws and the First Amendment
rights of free speech and press.

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#### **LETTERS**

LETTERS

Letters to the editor are welcome. Views expressed in letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff of the Clarendor of the Clarendor

#### The Texas Panhandle's First Newspaper

THE CLASSING WINS, stabilised June 1, 1878 with which have megat: The Clarendon Trevelst. Schouly 1895: The Clarendon Trevelst. Schouly 1895: The Clarendon 1879: The Banner-Stockman, Ottober 1893: The Banner-Stockman, Ottober 1893: The Banner-Stockman, Ottober 1893: The Stabilised School 1895: The Clarendon Times, May 1909: The Clarendon Times, May 1909: The Clarendon Times, May 1909: The Clarendon Fress, May 18, 1972: and The Clarendon Enterprise, March 14, 1996.













#### Free Legal Advice program coming to Clarendon

A pilot project has been a house from foreclosure, avoiding launched to help residents in rural eviction, or gaining custody of a Texas get free legal assistance thanks funding from the Texas Bar Foun-

The new project, called the Rural Clinics Pilot Project, is a joint effort coordinated by the Texas Legal Services Center, Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, and the Burton Memorial Library. Through the project, Clarendon residents will be able to get free face-to-face legal advice from a licensed attorney over video chat on the Internet.

The ability to get free and reli-

able legal advice can have long-lasting, positive effects on Texans and their families. Indeed, it can and their families. Indeed, it can the difference between saving dents should call 806-373-6808

child. Unfortunately, not all Texans are able to get legal advice, whether due to the cost of obtaining legal help or the lack of resources experienced by civil legal service provid-ers. In fact, there is only one legal aid lawyer for every 9,800 Texans who qualify for services. Those who live in rural Texas face additional hardship in finding legal advice or repre-

Eligible residents will be given advice on a variety of civil legal mat-ters such as divorce, custody, child support, eviction, foreclosure, and debt collection.

Extension 6500 to make an appointment for the free 30-minute video chat, which will be held on March 28, 2017, between 1 pm and 4 pm at the Burton Memorial Library.

On the appointment day, those who have preregistered should go to the library at the specified time, where a librarian will direct the person to a computer station and help start the video conference. When the video conference starts, the resident and the licensed attorney will have a face-to-face video chat about the person's legal issue. Scan-ners and printers will be available to assist with the advice session.

Appointments are limited, so interested residents should call soon to reserve their spot.

#### DPS urges drivers to practice safety during spring break

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is reminding Texans that Spring Break represents a break from school and work – but not safety. In expecta-tion of increased highway traffic, the department is urging drivers to obey all traffic laws and use extra caution when driving during the weeks of Spring Break.

DPS is calling on all drivers to do their part to keep Texas road-ways safe for travelers during the busy spring vacation season," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "By always driving sober, obeying traffic laws and keeping your attention on the road, Texans can decrease their chances of being involved in a life-threatening situation or crash."

In addition, DPS Troopers and

local law enforcement in the coastal

The United Christians

Thursday, March 16, 2017, at the Fellowship Hall in the First United Methodist Church.

After breakfast the program will be brought by Kay Linesay, talented musician and former missionary. Come out and enjoy breakfast

Breakfast is Feb. 16 The March United Christians Breakfast will be held at 7:00 a.m. areas of Texas will be enhancing enforcement efforts during Spring Break, watching for speeders, drunk drivers and seat-belt violators.

The Texas Department of Public Safety offers the following tips for safe travel during the Spring Break holiday:

 Slow down – especially in bad weather, construction areas, heavy traffic and unfamiliar areas.

- · Eliminate distractions while driving, including the usage of mobile devices.
- · Buckle up everyone in the
- vehicle it's the law.

   Don't drive fatigued, and allow plenty of time to reach your destination
- Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional chal-

· Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before your trip

· Slow down or move over for tow trucks, as well as police, fire, EMS and Texas Department of Transportation vehicles stopped on the side of the road with emergency

lights activated – it's the law.
Also, show the same courtesy to fellow drivers stopped along the

US citizens traveling abroad should always check the US Department of State website for the latest security information related to their travel destination. Those traveling out of the country can also register with the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program by visiting http://travel. state.gov/content/passports/english/ country.html.

### TOP-O-TEXAS

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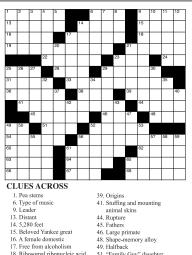
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and a program, plus a time of fellow ship. Will conclude by 8:00 so you can get about your daily activity.





**60**%



- 14. 5,280 feet 15. Beloved Yankee great
- 16. A female domestic 17. Free from alcoholism 18. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- 19. Entertains with song 21. Wooden shoe

- 21. Wooden shoe
  22. Female horses
  23. Group of males
  24. Sodium
  25. Revolutions per minute
  28. Neither
  29. Woody climbing plant
  31. Dismounted
  33. Orbits the earth
  36. Female parents
  38. Separates acids

#### CLUES DOWN

- Excessively theatrical actors
   Wings
   French river
   Internet device
   Where Tony Bennett
   left his heart ering shrub that bears

- Dictatorships
   Slavic person in Saxony
   Nobel laureate Shmuel

- 11. Nobel laureate Sumoc.
  12. Lasso
  14. Tones down
  17. Lunar period
  20. Leavened Indian bread
  21. Military elite
  23. One thousandth of an inch
  25. L.A. footballer
  26. Land plan
  27. A satellite of Saturn

60. Dean house
61. Skirts
62. Fertility god
63. Where a curve intersects itself
64. Red Sea port
65. Mozambique seaport
66. Leaver
67. The human foot

51, "Family Guy" daughter

52. Irish mountain chain 54. Paired

Drinks
 Death notice

- 29. "Cat Ballou" actor
  30. Obscure aspect of Sun God and
  a group of asteroids
  32. Indicates the fare
  34. \_\_ and feather
  35. Round Dutch chesse
  37. Beggat

- 37. Begat
  42. Helixing place
  42. Hir an of Alaska
  43. Belgian city
  47. Organ of hearing and balance
  49. Isolated Southeast Asian people
  50. "Power Rangers" villain
  52. Vellow-fever mosquitos
  53. Heavy cavalrys word
  55. Laundry detergent
  56. A way to wait
  57. Mother and wrife of Uranus
  58. Justly obtain
  59. Stony waste matter
  61. Helps you fin places
  65. Oil company

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May your troubles be less and your blessings be more and nothing but happiness come through your door.



March 17

Broncos v Kress • 4:30 p.m. • Away

Lady Broncos v Follett • 1 p.m. •

#### March 18

ver Road • 4 p.m. • Away

Lady Broncos v Claude • 4 p.m. •

#### March 24

oncos v Memphis • 4 p.m. • Home McClellan field

April 1 Clarendon College Invitational Judging

Whistle-Stop Trade Days

#### April 2 histle-Stop Trade Days

#### April 8

Lions Club's Chance Mark Jones 'Roar N Run' 5K

Whistle-Stop Trade Days

e-Stop Trade Days



#### March 20 - 24

Donley County Senior Citizens
Mon: Spaghetti/meat sauce, garlic
bread, tossed salad, green peas & carrots, cookies, iced tea/2% milk.
Tue: Roast beef sandwich, relish plate,
cucumber/tomato salad, fruit salad,

ced tea/2% milk Wed: Barbecue chicken, potato salad,

Wed: Barbecue chicken, potato salad, colesiaw, whole wheat roil, vanilla pudding, ized tea/2% milk.
Thu: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, whole wheat roil, strawberries w/whipped topping; loed tea/2% milk.
Fri: Cheeseburger on bun, baked sweet potatoes, fries, lettuce, tomato, onions, sugar cookle, iced tea/2% milk.

#### **Hedley Senior Citizens**

Mon: BBQ beef sandwich, tator tots, carrots & zucchini, ambrosia, iced

tea/2% milk.
Tue: Herb roasted chicken, potato wedges, margarine, peas & carrots, strawberries w/whip topping, iced

strawberries w/whip topping, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Glazed meatloaf, red bliss potatoes, breadstick, mixed vegetables, country apple crisp, iced tea/2% milk.
Thu: Chicken tenders, baked potatoes w/sour cream, peas & carrots, straw-berries w/whip secons junct tea/2%

w/sour cream, peas & carrots, straw-berries w/whip cream., iced tea/2% milk. Fri: Turkey pot pie, whole wheat roll, margarine, seasoned corn, tosses saiad w/dressing, ambrosia, iced tea/2% milk.

#### Clarendon ISD

Breakfast Mon: Pancakes, sausage, fruit, fruit

juice, milk. Tue: Breakfast, fruit, fruit, fruit juice,

milk.
Wed: Scrambled eggs, sausage, bis-cuit, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Thu: Sausage kolache, yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Fri: Egg & cheese sandwich, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Lunch
Mon: Steak finger, gravy, roll, mashed
potatoes, carrot coins, fruit, milk.
Tue: Spaghetti, breadstick, salad, California blend, milk.

\*\*\*\*Chicken quesadilla, corn, beans,

fornia blend, milk.
Wed: Chicken quesadilla, corn, beans, salad, salsa, fruit, milk.
Thu: Texas chili, combread, broccoli bites, tomato cup, fruit, milk.
Fri: Popcorn chicken, roll, oven fries, cucumber dippers, fruit, milk.

#### **Hedley ISD**

Breakfast Mon: Sausage roll, yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk. Tue: Cheese omelet wrap, fruit, fruit

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

nilk. Thu: Waffles & sausage, fruit, fruit Fri: Cinnamon roll & bacon, fruit, fruit

Lunch
Mon: Country fried steak, gravy,
mashed potatoes, savory green
beans, strawberry cup, roll, milk.
Tue: Meat & cheese nachos, salsa,
refried beans, lettuce & tomato garnish, rosy applesauce, milk.
Wed: Pepperoni pizza, garden salad,
vegetable medley, orange smiles,
milk

milk.
Thu: Soft beef tacos, Mexicali corn salad, baby carrots, cookie, peaches milk.

i: Hamburger or cheeseburger, veet potato fries, coleslaw, apple

## Virtual child kidnapping imposter scam returns

warnings about the return of the "kidnapped child" scam, identity theft, and companies who claim to

make it in the USA.
"Scammers even impersonate kidnappers" by Alesha Hernandez,

Imposters will pretend to be anyone to get you to send them money. Recently, reports of the virtual child kidnapping imposter scam have resurfaced. The scam begins with a call from someone claiming to have kidnapped a child in your family. You may even hear sounds of a child in distress in the background. The scammer demands money Ine scammer demands money immediately, often wanting money sent through a wire transfer service or by prepaid card. The scammer may even insist that you keep the call a secret and not alert the police. These calls are fake and law enforcement organizations like the ERI are ment organizations, like the FBI, are aware of this type of scam. If you get a call like this, resist the urge to send money immediately, no matter how dramatic the story. These scammers are good at pressuring you to

send money before you have time to think. How do they know your information? Scammers will search the internet and social media sites to get personal information. It's natural to want to check on your child's safety, even if your head tells you the call is fake. That's OK. Contact your child or their school directly. Then you can report this fraud at ftc.gov/ complaint.

"Government imposters want to

"Government imposters want to get to know you," by Lisa Lake, FTC The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the FTC want you to know about a scam in which callers posing as federal employees are trying to get or verify personal information. This is a government imposter scam. Sometimes, the caller asks you to verify your name, and then just hangs up. Other times, he or she might ask for detailed information - like the last digits of your Social Security or bank account number. Imposters might say they need this information to help you or a family member. al reason is to steal from

tion to other

caller ID bob's might even read "HHS Tips" or "Federal "HHS whittlin

Government" when they call. The phone number could have the "202" Washington, DC area code, the head quarters for many federal agencies The phone number may even be for a real government agency. But don't be fooled: Scammers know how to rig their caller IDs to show now to rig their catter IDs to show false information. So how can you tell the caller is an imposter? The federal government typically will contact you by U.S. Mail first, not by phone or email. Federal agen-cies will not demand personal infor-mation like your Social Security. mation like your Social Security Number or bank account number over the phone. Also, just because the caller knows details about you, doesn't mean she is trustworthy. The caller typically asks you to

send money - often via wire transfer, by using a prepaid debit card, or maybe by sending you a fake check to cash. Federal agencies will not ask you to use any of these methods to send money for any reason. And what should you do? Hang up. Do what should you do? Hang up. Do not give out any personal or financial information. Contact the Department of Health and Human Services OIG at 1-800-HHS-TIPS (1-800-447-8477) or spoof@oig.hhs.gov File a complaint with the FTC at ftc.gov/complaint or 877-FTC-HELP.

"Made in USA' should mean

it," by Alesha Hernandez, FTC

As the result of a lawsuit and settlement with the Federal Trade Commission Block Division Inc. a Texas-based company, has promised to halt its misleading claims that its pulley blocks and equipment were "Made in the USA." Many parts of the company's products originated in other countries. In fact, the company's pulleys used steel plates produced overseas that were pre-stamped "Made in USA" before they were shipped into the United States Block Division sells metal pulleys

example, for farming and ranching, to provide handicap rigging, to lift boats, to operate overhead doors, or to move theatrical scenery. The com-pany was ordered to stop making any false claim that its products were "Made in the USA" and to ensure its advertisements, sales, distribu-tion and product labeling remain in compliance.
The FTC's long-standing

Enforcement Policy Statement on US Origin Claims helps businesses know when it's appropriate to use the "Made in USA" label. That, in turn, helps you trust the labels you see. A company that makes a "Made in the USA" product should be able to prove that all or virtually all of that product was made in the United States. Products processed or fin-ished in the USA that have materials from other countries shouldn't be labeled "Made in the USA" without further explanation.

Have a feeling that a product isn't "Made in USA" as labeled? File a complaint with the FTC.

Stay safe out there!

### **Keeping the lights on**

wick resident, Eric Riddle 92-year-old mother from Tulsa, Okla., to Clarendon last week. He drove her by



picks

the Mulkey and the courthouse and some of the older churches and then continued to the Saint's Roost Assisted Living Center. He asked her opinion of the town, and she replied, "Well, it looks kinda primitive. Do you have elec-

I began to wonder what is the reaction of the average person driving through our little town and do they also wonder if we have electricity. The number one complaint of overnight visitors at the hotel/motel is no restaurant open past 8 p.m. Yes, Sonic, DQ, Subway, and Pizza Hut may be open, but a sit-down restau-rant with steak on the menu is not. When I travel to Chicago, I

expect deep-dish pizza. Philadel-phia calls for Philly cheese steak, the Gulf coast fresh fish, and Texas a steak. Residents and long-term visitors complain of nothing to do at night. When the Mulkey has undergone its restoration, perhaps it will alleviate that need. The Chamber of Commerce works to make the city of Clarendon more welcoming. Everyone should step up and do their part to reassure visitors we do have elec-

tricity.

Please be careful with fire. As we have seen, the smallest spark can set off a grass fire that take lives, homes, and livestock. Pray for all the people who were affected by the fires and ask God's blessing over all.



#### Advancing

Hedley's OAP advances to Bi-District Competition Hedley's One Act Play, "Dark Road" written by Laura Lundgreen, will advance to Bi-District competition. Also advancing are Groom and White Deer. Hedley brought home several individual awards as well, including Kylie Wood and Ida Thomasen's All Star Cast Awards; Kallie Lindsey, Abagail Lopez and Caylor Monroe earning Honorable Mention All Star Cast; and Cody Cabler bringing home best sound technician over all.

### **Following the Bronco team**

Texans behind the wheel: Driving distracted

of all drivers are

using their cell phone right now

crashes in 2012 involved driver

Texting takes a driver's eyes

driver distraction

like driving a football field with eyes closed

TALKTEXTCRASH

off the road for seconds

end, me and my family got to go to San Antonio for the boys' basketball tournament to see the Broncos in the state semi- reporter



we got to the day of the tournament. we had to drive there. And when we got there, we went to the Riverwalk that is right beside the mall. There are all these boats that you can ride around on so you can learn the history of the river, the buildings around it, and the great flood. After we ate at the Riverwalk we saw "The Tower of the Americas."

While we were at the mall we watched a movie on the Alamo. Then we went to the Alamo in real life, which is awesome!

The next day was the semi-finals, and it was Clarendon vs. Thorndale. We ended up winning 59 to 35.

Then on Saturday was the state finals and everyone was wondering who would win as state champions We didn't get first, but we still came in second place, which is really good.

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**CHUCK** ROBERTSON Chuck Robertson comes from

a family tradition of community service in Donley County, and he works hard to carry that mantle. He is a third generation funeral director with Robertson Funeral Directors, following in

runeral Directors, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. He conducted research that has allowed the local funeral home to get a state historical marker. He is respected among his peers at both the regional and state levels and last year was elected as an officer of the Texas Funeral Directors Association.

Chuck is an active member of the Clarendon Volunteer Chuck is an active member of the Clarendon Volunteer Fire Department and the Clarendon Lions Club and has previously been recognized as the Man of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the board of the Citizens Cemetery; and since 2013 he has served on the Clarendon ISD Board of Trustees. The Whistle-Stop and the community salute Chuck

Robertson for his service to local families and his service to the community. Thank you, Chuck!

Don't miss Whistle-Stop Trade Days: April 1 & 2

### Venom game to benefit wildfire victims

AMARILLO – With the fires Texas Panhandle fire relief efforts. 
"We are – and always have been – neighbors first and a busiextinguished or contained and as the communities in the Texas Panhandle begin the task of putting their lives back together following the devastat-ing fires, the Amarillo Venom have chosen to join the relief efforts by foregoing admission for this Sat-urday night's game against Dallas Marshals and, instead, seek dona-

Beginning Today, Monday March 13, free tickets – while they last - can be picked up at the Civic Center box office, by calling the Venom at 806.350.7277. The Venom will be taking donations at the game, 100 percent of which will go to the

ness second," said Venom owner Stephanie Tucker. "And right now, our friends, family and neighbors need our help. Growing up on a family farm and ranch, and still have the majority of my family in this line of work, makes this fire hit closer to home. The lives lost and the livelihoods in devastation make this a no-brainer. Our family, while living in Wheeler, had to evacuate our home and that was one of the scariest moments in my life. The Tucker family along with many of our friends and sponsors have come

together to make this night happen."

Thanks to our friends at Ama-rillo National Bank, Diversified Waste Management, Dobbs Pumps, McDonalds, Triangle Realty, and McDonalds, Iriangle Realty, and Western Equipment, along with media partners, KGNC for helping us make this night possible. The Amarillo Venom, members of the Champions Indoor Football

League, host the Dallas Marshals Saturday night, March 18, at the Amarillo Civic Center Complex Coliseum. Game time is 7:05 p.m. Gates open at 6:00pm. First 100 fans through the gate will receive a free t-shirt courtesy of Western Equip-

### Cornyn bill would enhance cybersecurity

WASHINGTON - US Senators John Cornyn (R-TX), Patrick Leahy (D-VT), and Ted Cruz (R-TX) introduced the National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act to authorize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to work with the National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium (NCPC) to help prepare for and respond to cybersecurity risks at the national, state, and local levels.

"With national security threats constantly evolving, we must take every precaution to ensure our communities are well-equipped to respond," said Sen. Cornyn. "This bill would bring all hands on deck, including UTSA and Texas A&M, to help train states and local govern-ments to guard against a potential cyberattack."

"Cybersecurity is an imperative for us all. From large corporations to small businesses and individual Vermonters, to government agencies, our digital security is increasingly at risk," said Sen. Leahy. "I have

WASHINGTON - US Con-

gressman Mac Thornberry (R-Clargressinal Mac Troinberry (R-Clarendon), Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, voted last week in support of the "Fiscal Year 2017 Defense Appropriations," H.R. 1301, which appropriates

nearly \$577.9 billion in funding for national defense. The bill passed by an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote

"By passing this bill with a strong bipartisan vote, Congress sent

an important message to the men

and women of the military as well

of 371 to 48.

long supported the National Cyber-security Preparedness Consortium to educate our communities to defend and recover from cyberattack. The bipartisan legislation we are intro-ducing today will help to ensure continued collaboration between cybersecurity expertise developed at our nation's finest educational insti-tutions and state and local governments. I am proud to support this bipartisan effort."

"The ever-increasing cyber threat, whether from state actors or rogue entities, requires continued vigilance to safeguard federal, state, and local infrastructure," said Sen. Cruz. "This bill will help ensure that state and local communities are able to receive training and preparation to strengthen their capabilities. I'm proud to work on legislation that is being spearheaded by Texas univer-sities and appreciate the assistance of my colleagues to help our local and state officials fight and respond to

cyberattacks."

The NCPC is comprised of

Thornberry votes in support of defense appropriations bill

around the world. It is an essential first step to repair and rebuild our military. But it is not enough. We

must follow it up with a supplemen-tal appropriations bill and a FY 2018 funding level that fulfills the first

responsibility of the federal govern-

ment, which is to defend the country," Thornberry said.

When combined with the

funding provided in the continuing

resolution supplemental enacted in December, defense funding for the

2017 fiscal year totals \$584 billion.

university- based training entities including The University of Texas at San Antonio, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, The University of Arkansas, The University of Memphis, and Norwich University.

Under this bill, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security would be authorized to work with the National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium to:

 Provide training to state and local first responders and officials, develop curriculums, and provide technical assistance;

 Conduct cross-sector cyber-security training and simulation exercises for state and local governments, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and private industry;

• Help states and communities

develop cybersecurity information sharing programs; and
• Help incorporate cybersecu

rity risk and incident prevention and response into existing state and local emergency plans and continuity of operations plans.

facilities and programs such as training missions at Sheppard Air Force

including the procurement of 19 new

Ospreys and 24 new AH-1Z/UH-1Y helicopters. Much of the work for those aircraft will be performed in

The bill also fully funds the 2.1 percent pay raise for service members authorized in Thornber-

ry's Defense Authorization Act that

Base in Wichita Falls. In addition, about \$2.9 billion total is authorized for Bell's V-22 Osprey and helicopter programs,

Amarillo

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# Drugs in the News

#### New Treatment for Intestinal Infection

A new medication was recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to fight intestinal infection caused by the bacteria Clostridium difficile. Zinplava (bezlotoxumab) is classified as a synthetic protein designed to neutralize the bacterial toxin and prevent damage to the lining of the large intestine. In two clinical trials, researchers found that the medication decreased the risk of recurrent infection by almost forty percent. The drug's main side effects include nausea and diarrhea.

Clostridium difficile contaminates surfaces and equipment in the hospital and is transferred to people through hand-tomouth contact. The infection usually occurs after a person has been on an antibiotic that destroys both the harmful and helpful bacteria living in the body. Clostridium difficile has the ability to overgrow in this environment and causes diarrhea and significant stomach pain.



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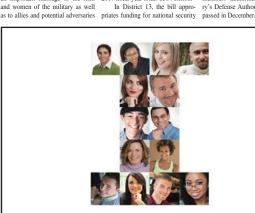
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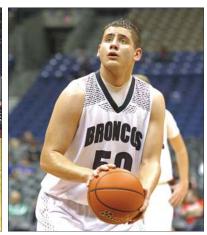
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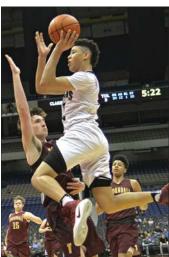
Enterprise





















### **Broncos:** Clarendon ends historic season

43 percent from the field, 50 percent from the three-point line, and 38 per-cent from the free throw line.

At the buzzer, three players

in double figures and Bear Smith finished with a double double putting in 17 points and grabbing 12 rebounds. Marshal Johnson led with 18 points and eight rebounds. while Chance Lockhart helped with 10 points. Colt Wood six, Damar-jae Cortez five, Bryce Grahn 2, and Caton Grahn one. Grahn added five rebounds, Wood and Lockhart each added four, Keandre Cortez had two, and D. Cortez grabbed one.

The Broncos went into the championship game very confident after their huge win. Muenster was ranked number one for most of the on but the Broncos were deter-

mined. However, cold shooting plagued the Broncos and they fell short at 45-73.

Muenster jumped out to the

early lead and led by 10 at the break. Despite struggling, the Broncos were still in the game. Colt Wood hit five three-pointers to help the Broncos stay close. The scoring in the second quarter was basically even and they were 80 percent from the three-point range. The Broncos were hoping for a momentum change in the second half, but they could not get anything rolling. Muenster's height got the best of the Broncos and hindered their shots

Despite the loss, the Broncos are an excellent team and they have had great successes this season. They were named District and Bi-District

champs, Area and Regional champs, and State Runner-Up. It has been a great year. And their fellow Bronco Riley Shadle has not been far from their minds. Several of the Broncos noted that Riley has been a big part of their success and they credited him during the game at state.

Coach Lockhart knew he had a winning team. He stated that his kids have worked hard in the gym during practice and off times as well. According to Lockhart, the Broncos were dedicated and they wanted to win. They finished at 31-3 on the year and those losses came during the Bridgeport Tournament and the

state championship game.
"It was a great year!" Lockhart said. "To be able to finish the year on the last day you can play... I have onship Saturday. The players were awesome all year long, and I am so proud of them."

Lockhart was also proud of the effort Alton Gaines gave during the

season.
"Coach Gaines did an outstanding job assisting with the varsity as always," he said. "The four seniors, Keandre Cortez, Chance Lockhart, Marshal Johnson, and Bryce Grahn did an outstanding job leading this team, and of course, Riley Shadle inspired us all. The whole team worked hard all season long. I am so

proud to be State Runner-up."

Scoring in the championship game: Wood 18, Johnson 11, Grahn five, Lockhart five, Smith four, and

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#### **Greer advances to the State meet**

Clarendon senior Seth Greer placed second overall in the Regional Power Lifting Meet last Saturday and earned a spot in the State Meet on March 25 in Abilene.

Greer had a lift total of 1475 pounds in the 275-weight class. He was in fourth place just 100 pounds behind when he got to deadlift, which was the last lift of the day. He lifted 580 pounds to overtake two other lifters that were ahead of him. When he successfully lifted 580 pounds, he put the pressure on the field. "Two of the three guys failed

to get their final lifts, which allowed Seth to secure second place a trip to State," coach Johnny Nino said. "He competed very well and having secured his trip, he attempted to break the regional record of 600 pounds by lifting 605 pounds. But he just couldn't quite lock it out. I was very proud how he kept his com-posure and competed on the deadlift. His lift of 580 pounds was his personal best by 30 pounds."

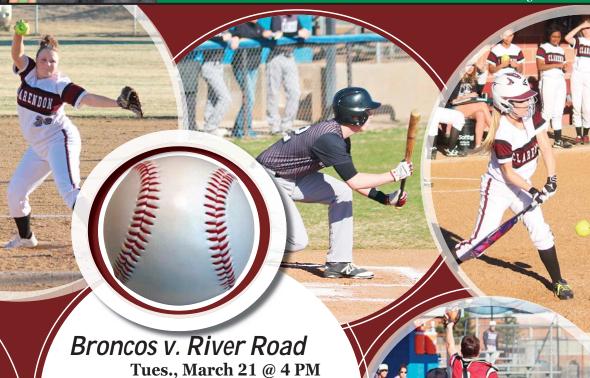


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### Lady Bulldogs go 3-1

The Clarendon College Lady Bulldogs softball team won three out of four games on the road late last week in Kansas.

Clarendon College watched the game slip away early and couldn't recover in a 10-2 loss to Seward Community College in Liberal on Friday. Although the Lady Bulldogs took an early lead in the first inning, SCC hit their way right back into the game taking the lead in the bottom of the first and keeping it.

Holguin took the loss for the

Bulldogs, allowing four runs, four hits, and walking zero. Loren Hoff-man also made an appearance on the mound during the contest helping Holguin get out of a bases loaded

Although Monica Lara's offen sive efforts did not prevail for the Bulldogs, she went 2 for 2 at the plate while Sierra Atchley and Jenna Perez each drove in one run during the game for the Bulldogs.

CC then defeated Seward 8-7 the second game Friday. Both offenses were strong at the plate as the Lady Bulldogs and Saints collected ten hits each.

Both the Lady Bulldogs and

Saints exchanged game leads throughout 6 full innings before Clarendon took the lead in the top of the seventh with a stand up triple by Kasmir Perez, a base hit single by Natalie DeLaRosa, an infield single by Esmeralda Holguin, and a walk given to both Heather Villarreal and

Emily Benitez.

Villarreal earned the win for

Clarendon College Softball as she tossed seven innings, allowing seven

runs, 11 hits, and striking out six.

DeLaRosa and Jenna Perez
each collected multiple hits for CC. DeLaRosa went 3-for-3 at the plate s she led the team with two runs

Clarendon College and Garden City Community College traded the lead back-and-forth on Saturday, but eventually Clarendon prevailed 12-7.

The Lady Bulldogs took the lead for good in the fourth inning scoring 6 runs. The inning got started

Hill, Glorianna Eddy, Kasmir Perez, Natalie DeLaRosa, and Danae Villarreal. Haley Rodriguez and Jenna Perez busted the game open with line drive doubles down the third base line scoring multiple runners. Clarendon collected 16 hits in the high-scoring affair. J.Perez, Rodri-guez, K.Perez, Hill, and Eddy each collected multiple hits in the game.

Heather Villarreal earned the win for CC as she tossed seven innings, surrendering seven runs, 14 hits, and striking out four. Akers took the loss for Garden City Community College as she went seven innings, giving up 12 runs, 16 hits, striking out four, and walking one.

The Lady Bulldogs then defeated Garden City 11-4 in the second game of the double header. Clarendon captured the lead in the first inning with a single by Kayla Hill and Glorianna Eddy, then a stand-up double by Kasmir Perez driving in the first run of the game, followed by another single by Natalie DeLaRosa, driving in the second

run of the inning.

CC then blew things open in the sixth inning with a four run rally.

Danae Villarreal was the offensive spark the Bulldogs needed to get things going with her solo, pinch-hit homerun. Jenna Perez, Kayla Hill, Glorianna Eddy, Kasmir Perez, and Natalie DeLaRosa all produced base hit singles during that inning. Haley Rodriguez was also credited a sac fly, RBI, scoring an additional insur-

ce run for the Lady Bulldogs.

Clarendon collected 18 hits verall, while J. Perez, K. Perez, Eddy, Rodriguez, DeLaRosa, and Hill each collected multiple hits. Esmeralda Holguin earned the

win for the Lady Bulldogs as she went seven innings, allowing four runs, four hits, and striking out four. Shepard took the loss for Garden City Community College as she caty Community College as she threw seven innings, allowing 11 runs, 18 hits, and striking out two. Lady Bulldog sports coverage is powered by Narrathe Science and GameChanger Media. Copyright 2017. All rights reserved.



Wyatt Papa skims past a Groom Tiger in the 100 at the Groom track meet.



Despite the bitter cold conditions, Paul Yanez completes the high jump at the Groom Track Meet.



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I spring upon the pests in

gardens to help clean them out!

b<sub>eating</sub>

painting

setting

Can you

circle 10

words that

begin with

"s?"

### **Bronco baseball shut out Claude**

andy Anderberg Clarendon's Kade Hunsaker did not allow the Mustangs even one run in their 17-0 win last week. Hunsa-ker only allowed one hit; and after posting 12 strikeouts, he threw a

strike out to end the game.

Clay Koetting went three for four in the game and drove in runs when he slammed a triple in the third inning. The Broncos scored early in the first inning when Payton Hicks

drove in one run with a double. The fourth inning was huge for the Broncos as they scored nine runs.

Andy Davis knocked down a

single, Josh Cobb earned a triple, Hunsaker hit a double, and Nathan Shadle was credited with a single.

The Broncos will take on San

Jacinto at home on March 16 at 1:00 p.m. and travel to Kress on Friday, March 17 and play at 1:00 p.m. in a



5

hanging

mowing

planting

Spring Cleaning!

sowing

10

13

waxing

Flowers spring up.

leaves spring open,

baby animals spring to life!

Tee hee!

watering

03 trimming



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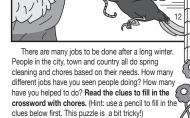
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**Allsups** 

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5.



			/	U
1.	 trees	6	laundry	1
2.	 weeds	7	up pools	1
3.	 flowers	8	fields	1
4.	 roofs	9	bushes	1

10.

lawns

15.

driveways



"Spring" Sayings! Lots of things spring to mind when we think of the word "spring." Match each "spring" phrase below to its meaning: 1 SI

Olling

e's no spring chicken.	A. growing
e ideas spring to mind.	B. not young anymore
e dogs spring to life	C. are thought of right
hen I feed them.	away
ffodils are springing up.	D. start moving
vill spring for a new basketball.	around

F. buy

E. surprise me with

9

### Texas counties rally against statewide court records portal

By Jim Malewitz, The Texas Tribune
Nathan Hecht, chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court, has noticed a curious trend in the state's legal system: Folks are increasingly representing themselves in legal dis-

putes, forgoing lawyers altogether.
"They really need legal help,
but they don't feel like they can
afford it," Hecht said.

afford it," Hecht said.

But ditching a lawyer doesn't make justice free. Obtaining legal records can be a big hurdle – time away from work, trips to a count house that may be far from home and copying fees that can run a dollar per page for documents that often run hundreds of rages.

page for documents that often run hundreds of pages. "We're talking about tens of thousands of people for whom get-ting a court record is probably impossible, at least practically," said Hecht, who has long sought to help poor Texans navigate the legal system.

That's just one reason he's excited about efforts to deliver court records from all 254 counties to Texans' fingertips through an online portal. Some urban counties – Dallas, Harris, Travis and Tarrant, for instance - individually put their records online. But scores of other ounties rely only on old-fashioned paper, necessitating trips to the courthouse and making statewide

research next to impossible.

Supreme Court Justice Nathan

Hecht gives the State of the Judiciary speech to a joint session of the Texas Legislature on Feb. 1, 2017. Bob Daemmrich for the Texas Tribune

The Texas Supreme Court, through its Office of Court Administration, has worked for years on a one-stop legal records shop. Called re:SearchTX, the project is coming out in phases, with plans to even-tually provide widespread public

The Office of Court Admin-

a contract with Tyler Technologies, a Plano-based company that already has integrated every Texas county into a filing system. allowing attorneys to electronically send documents to the clerks. Under that four-year \$72 million extension, Tyler would keep that system running through 2021 and eventually

open it to the public.

The public portal would be funded through fees that attorneys pay to use the system. It would function like PACER, a widely used fed-eral portal that charges subscribers small fees for access

"It's just crucial," Hecht said.
"It's important for transparency. The media and the public at large have very fundamental interest in the

public justice system."

But county and district clerks are fuming. They're pushing to kill the project in a wonky battle involving local control and privacy concerns, multimillion-dollar contracts and confusion about how the portal would ultimately work.

"Clerks have been doing this forever," Tarrant County District Clerk Tom Wilder said last week at rollicking meeting of the Judicial Committee on Information Technology, which advises the state Supreme Court, "It's a duplication of effort."

If the records get breached, he later told a reporter, "it's our ass."

At least 168 counties have

adopted resolutions opposing re:SearchTX. They've found friendly ears in a Legislature that often shrugs adonted off arguments for more local control on other issues, such as oil and gas drilling and penalizing polluters.

Rep. Travis Clardy, R-Nacoghas authored a bill that would kill the data project – or at least indefinitely pause it – by requiring approvals from every county before it moves forward

House Bill 1258 would "protect constitutional rights and duties

of the clerks," Clardy, a trial lawyer grasp how the system would operate, in his day job, said in an interview. He suggested re:SearchTX faced "a bunch of open-ended, unsolved, logistical technical problems.

Thirty-nine House members in both parties have signed onto his bill. The database "does not serve

the taxpayers of Texas," he told the House Committee on Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence, which left the bill pending Tuesday after a lengthy

But killing re:SearchTX would ultimately waste millions of dollars already committed to the project, its

planners say.

About 200 Texas judges can already see statewide records through re:SearchTX. The Supreme Court's tech advisory group is draw-ing up recommendations for broader access – first for licensed attorneys, and then the wider public. Current plans wouldn't fully open the system for months, if not more than a year, as developers work out any kinks.

If lawmakers pull the plug?
"We'd still have to pay [Tyler]
the same amount," said David Slayton, administrative director of the Office of Court Administration "We just wouldn't get the services for

that.

County clerks say they fear a variety of potential complications.
What if particularly sensitive documents, such as sealed information about kids or expunged criminal records, somehow end up online? Clerks also suggest they may need to buy expensive software to occasionally redact social security numbers or other private information in docu-

'If re:SearchTX is a great idea. counties should have the opportunity to opt-in," Parker County District Clerk Sharena Gilliland told lawmakers Tuesday

The project's backers say the clerks don't seem to completely

and administrators promise not to flip the public switch until after they fully address any privacy concerns. Lisa Hobbs, an Austin-based

pellate lawyer and former Texas preme Court general counsel, Supreme Court general counsel, told the judiciary committee that it was funny to hear worries that re:SearchTX was moving too fast considering that PACER's federa portal began in 1988, when subscrib could summon the data on terminals in libraries and office buildings.
"We are way far behind the ball
here," Hobbs said.

whether re:SearchTX would mean

more or less revenue for counties. Counties might make less money on copying fees, but they would divvy up all of the revenue from subscribers. The Supreme Court's advisory body has yet to recommend a price scheme, but one informal proposal would charge users 10 cents a page and up to \$6 per document. (PACER charges the same per page with a \$3 cap.)
The database would almost cer-

tainly threaten the bottom line of a firm called iDocket, which contracts with 149 Texas county and distric clerks in Texas, about two dozen of whom put all their documents online.

The firm sells that data, charg some subscribers hundreds o dollars per month, depending on the plan. Counties get a 20 percent cut, said Chris Moreno, an iDocket pro-grammer who testified in support of Clardy's bill Tuesday.

Moreno told the committee

that only her company knows how to meet the clerks' needs.

For his part, Hecht doesn't dis-pute that clerks have authority over public records, "but they're arguing for restrictions – keeping people from records," he said. "I'm hopeful that misinformation will be dis

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### The Discovery Center announces Spring Break events

AMARILLO - The Don Harrington Discovery Center (DHDC) will be hosting their annual Spring Break Spectacular featuring sev eral family events to help keep the kids learning and having fun during Spring Break 2017 through Friday,

The Discovery Center has planned family festivities all week science studies. "Spring Break is always a great time to visit the Dis-covery Center," says Dr. Aaron Pan, Executive Director at the Don Har-

rington Discovery Center.
"We will have great science activities, demonstrations, and exhibits here running the whole gamut of sciences from astronomy to zoology! We are also very excited to be partnering with several of our area

non-profit friends this year including Coffee Memorial Blood Center and Wildcat Bluff who will be here participating with us."

Each day guests will enjoy special science-themed activities in addition to the Space Theater full dome planetarium and exhibits, which include the three spring trav-eling exhibits, Little Builders, Brain Teasers2, and Strange Matter. The Spring Break Spectacular celebra-tions are scheduled as:

Thursday 3/16: Biology Day –

12:30-4:30 pm – Come and help out those in need by donating the gift of life with Coffee Memorial. Eligible donors will receive a free T-shirt and be entered into a drawing for 50" TV and a \$100 gift card to Texas Firehouse. Biology Day activities include testing your fears by dissect-

ing a cow eye and learning how to treat wounds in the 'DHDC Clinic'. Friday 3/17: Physics Day – 1:00-4:30 – Test your fears by let-ting a bowling ball swing by your face or lie on a bed of nails! You can also take a ride on DHDC's hover board and craft your own to take

is \$11 for adults, \$8 for children (ages 2-11), students and military, and free for children 2 and under. Members of the Discovery Center are admitted free.

For more information about Spring Break Spectacular at the Don Harrington Discovery Center, visit www.dhdc.org or call Mandi Ried, Director of Visitor Experience at (806) 355-9547 ext 108 or email mandi@dhdc.org.

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### **Obituaries** Davidson

Carla

peacefully after a long battle with cancer March

Carla is survived by her children, Mike Scott Michelle

Sparks and husband Kenny, Mitchell Scott and wife Brooke all of Amarillo and Collin Davidson and wife Lisa of Indialand husband Gary and Connie Dan-iels and husband Rex of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Carla also leaves behind 9 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by

her parents, Betty and Carl Waag. Carla was born on April 30, 1941 to Betty and Carl Waag in Denver, Colorado. Carla lived in several places throughout her life but spent a majority of her years in Chey-enne, Wyoming where she worked as a legal secretary for Tom Long Law Firm for many years. Carla spent the last part of her life in Clarendon where she lived on Lake Greenbelt with her best friend and dog, Benii.

Carla was a strong, determined and loving individual who treasured

antic, Florida; sisters Patsv Shaw her family, Benji, Dallas Cowbovs, flowers and enjoying her time spent at the lake. She was an active and dedicated member of the Arena Cowboy Church.

A memorial service is sched-uled for March 21, 2017, at 2:00 pm at Arena Cowboy Church in Clarendon. Pastor Bunk will offici-ate the ceremony. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Carla's life.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Arena Cowboy Church in Clarendon, TX or the Amarillo SPCA.

The family would like to thank all of her hospice nurses, friends, caregivers and church members for their constant and unfailing love and support during her lifetime

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## **Reporting Child Abuse**

Apart from the anger, dread, and anxiety the reporter of abuse/neglect experiences, there is usually a lot of confusion about what to do or where to report the suspected abuse/neglect. There are a number of steps one can take that may make this unsavory experience a little less daunting.

#### TAKING THE FIRST STEP

Deciding whether or not to report suspected child abuse can be a difficult and confusing process, yet it is the important first step toward protecting a child who might be in danger. Professionals who work with children are required by law to report suspected neglect and

#### CALL 1-800-252-5400 TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE/NEGLECT.

#### WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I MAKE THE DECISION TO REPORT SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE?

Several events take place after the initial complaint is filed. First of all, depending on where you live, you might report suspected abuse and/or neglect to your local child protective agency. The person responding to the call may ask you several questions about what you are reporting. This is done to ensure that enough information is available for the investigative team to be able to make decisions concerning whether or not abuse/neglect has occurred. You might be asked to give names of the family and child, your reasons for suspecting abuse, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of other witnesses, your relationship to the alleged victim, any other previous suspicious injury to the child, or for your name address and telephone number.

#### WHO INVESTIGATES COMPLAINTS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

The state or county agency that provides protective services has the legal authority granted by law or charter which gives them an obligation to provide services when needed. This also grants them the right to explore, study and evaluate the facts. Child welfare workers then base their decision on whether on not to remove a child from the family on two issues: 1. What is the immediate danger or risk to the child? 2. What is the motivation, capacity and intent of the alleged perpetrator?

#### WHAT HAPPENS TO THE CHILD AND FAMILY?

With the enactment of Public Law 96-272, it is legally mandated that child welfare workers make all "reasonable efforts" to reunite the family whenever possible. If, after a thorough investigation, it is determined that the child is in need of substitute care, then the child is placed in temporary foster care until the immediate danger has passed and services can be provided for the child and family. Sometimes criminal child abuse charges have to be filed depending on the nature and severity of the abuse/neglect.

#### WILL I BE ABLE TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS TO THE CHILD?

Persons who have reported suspected child maltreatment should be allowed to know whether on not their suspicions were founded and what steps the investigation agency took to protect the child. However, there is a great deal of confusion over whether or not information from the child welfare cases should be shared. Legally, there is no impediment to providing general feedback to the child abuse/neglect reporter. The most difficult confidentially issue is to resolve concerns of the reporting individual's right to know versus the family's right to privacy. The child welfare agency may give feedback that indicates that the reporter was right in making a referral and the agency will be working with the family.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF I REPORT AND THE CASE IS UNSUBSTANTIATED?

All states have laws that protect the reporter of suspected abuse or neglect from legal liability as long as the report was made in "good faith" and not maliciously. If you are unsure of what the legal and societal definitions of abuse and neglect are in your community, contact your local child protective service office for information.

This information is provided to you by the Donley County Child Welfare Board. Visit www.preventchildabusetexas.org for more information.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF STATEMENT OF INTENT OF GREENLIGHT GAS COMPANY TO INCREASE GAS UTILITY RATES WITHIN ITS INCORPORATED SERVICE AREAS

On February 27, 2017, Greenlight Gas Company (the "Company"), filed a Statement of Intent to Increase Rates ("Statement of Intent") within its Incorporated Service Areas. The Statement of Intent increase Rates (Statement of Intent) within its incorporated service Areas. The Statement of Intent was filed with each regulatory authority having original jurisdiction over the gas utility rates charged by the Company to customers within its incorporated service areas. The proposed change in rates will affect all customers within the incorporated areas of the Cities of Clarendon, Crowell, Dodson, Estelline, Hedley, Lakeview, Memphis, Paducah, and Wellington. The Company proposed that the requested rate changes take effect on April 3, 2017. The proposed effective date is subject to suspension and extension by actions that may be taken by the regulatory authority.

The proposed rates and tariffs are expected to increase the Company's annual revenues by The proposed rates and taritis are expected to increase the Company's annual revenues by approximately \$139,955, or 4.63% percent including gas cost. Because the proposed changes in rates will increase the total aggregate revenues of the Company by more than two and one half percent, the proposed rate increase constitutes a "major change" in rates as Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code defines "major change". The impact of the rate change on individual customers will vary from the overall impact described in this notice based on customer

Customer Class	Existing Rate	Proposed Rate	%Change					
Residential								
Customer Charge	\$15.00	\$20.00	33%					
Usage Rate-Inc	\$0.8878	\$0.4908	-45%					
Usage Rate-Crowell	\$3.3078	\$2.9108	-12%					
Commercial								
Customer Charge	\$27.50	\$36.70	33%					
Usage Rate-Inc	\$0.8878	\$0.4908	-45%					
Usage Rate-Crowell	\$3.3078	\$2.9108	-12%					

In addition to new rates, the Company also seeks a prudence determination regarding capital investment made within the entirety of the incorporated Service Area through December 31, 2015. The Company also requests to add a Cost of Service Adjustment clause to its tariff whereby limited annual adjustments may be made to gas utility charges within the incorporated service area without the need to file a Statement of Intent pursuant to the Texas Utilities Code. The Company also proposes a surcharge tariff to recover the rate case expenses incurred in these proceedings as authorized by the regulatory authority. The final amount of rate case expenses is not known at this time

A complete copy of the Company's Statement of Intent is available for inspection in its office located A compete copy or ine Company's statement on intent is advantage for inspection in its office located at 116 S 6th St., Memphis, TX 79245. Persons with specific questions or desiring additional information about this filing may contact the Company at (806) 259-1444. Additionally, any affected person may file in writing comments or a protest concerning the proposed change in rates with the regulatory authority having original jurisdiction, your City Council, at any time within 30 days following the date on which the change would or has become effective, or May 3, 2017, whichever data is later. date is later

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### **CC** meats team wins Houston show

The Clarendon College Meats Judging Team had a stellar performance at the Houston Livestock Show over the weekend.

Show over the weekend.

The green team won the first place championship with a total of 3,663 points, and the white team placed fourth overall in the meats judging competition with 3,555 points.

The CC green team placed first in beef grading, third in lamb judging, second in pork judging and beef judging, first in overall beef, third in total placing, and third in reasons and questions. The CC white team was second in beef grading, fourth in lamb judging, fifth in pork judging, fourth in beef judging, third in overall beef, fifth in total placing, and fourth in reasons and questions.

Individual team members also scored well. Mario Alvarez was thigh Individual, Brett Dixon was third high individual, Abram Chaparro was fifth high, Austin Trent was seventh high, and Wilse Corliss tied for 10th.

Other members are Dylan Avant, Sherri Halsted, Catherine Luft, MacKenle Ebner, and Lynzee Jordan.



The Clarendon College Meats Judging Teams did exceptionally well at the Houston Livestock Show over the weekend with the Green Team winning first place and the White Team taking fourth place.

COURTESY PHOTO



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