



THE CLARENDON Enterprise

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The Texas Panhandle's First Newspaper.
Established 1878.

THE CLARENDON NEWS & THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

www.ClarendonLive.com

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THIS WEEK

- 2 One reader relates voting for a Republican for the first time.
- 3 Get ready to view the solar eclipse next Monday.
- 4 The Cub Reporter brags on the city's new ice cream parlor.
- 5 Clarendon ISD takes steps to fight against bullying with new app.

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

City sales revenue drops for August

Clarendon's sales tax revenues continued a roller coaster ride for 2017 last week when Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar made August allocations to city governments.

The city's allocation for this month was \$38,565.81, reflecting a 11.22 percent drop from the same period in 2016.

That brings Clarendon's calendar year-to-date sales tax collection to \$256,940.69, which is down 1.92 percent compared to a year ago.

The city's sales tax figure started 2017 with a 13 percent increase in January followed by months of ups and downs with July being up 11.9 percent.

Hedley's August sales tax revenue dropped 27.53 percent to \$636.61, bringing that city's year-to-date figure down 11.54 percent to \$4,410.19.

Howardwick was down 3.72 percent at \$834.61 for the month and down 12.23 percent on the year at \$7,092.80.

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

Statewide, Hegar sent \$779.2 million in local sales tax allocations for August, 1.3 percent more than in August 2016.

Fire destroys home south of Clarendon

A Saturday morning blaze destroyed a house south of Clarendon.

First Assistant Fire Chief Kelly Hill said the Clarendon Volunteer Fire Department was paged to the John Sumner house just outside the city limits on Hwy. 70 about 6:48 a.m. to find the fire fully involved. A passerby had smelled smoke and called authorities.

Hill said the cause of the fire is still under investigation but that it appears to have started in the northwest corner of the residence. The home was being remodeled and rewired for about a month or two, he said.

No one was home, and no one was injured at the time of the fire. The house itself was reported to be a total loss.

Fourteen volunteer firemen with eight trucks responded to the call. Also responding to the fire were the personnel with the Associated Ambulance Authority and the Donley County Sheriff's Office.

First World War is PPHM exhibit focus

A new exhibit at the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum in Canyon focuses on the 100th anniversary of the beginning of World War I. "The Great War and the Panhandle" was researched by Melissa A. Griswold, and she is available to speak to local groups about the topic. For more information or to schedule an appearance for your group, contact Griswold by email at melisg123@gmail.com.



Signaling change

Workers with American Lighting Signalization install new traffic lights at US 287 and Koogle Street (FM 2162) Tuesday afternoon as part of an upgrade to traffic lights in the Childress TxDOT District. New lights are also scheduled to be installed at Kearney Street and will feature pedestrian crossing lights.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO / MORGAN BEBOUT

Howardwick calls for special election

The Howardwick Board of Aldermen called for a special election to fill two vacant offices during their regular meeting last Tuesday, August 8.

The election will be held November 7 for the purpose of filling the unexpired terms of former mayor Mike Rowland and former alderman Sam Grider.

Rowland resigned and walked out of the city's July 11 meeting

after public comments reportedly got out of hand. Grider resigned from the Board of Aldermen three days later.

Citizens have until 5 p.m. on September 6 to sign up for the special election. Howardwick City Hall said Monday that no one has yet signed up for the mayor's position, which expires in May 2019.

Donald Holladay has signed up to run for Grider's term, which

expires in May 2018.

Holladay was the city's maintenance worker, but he also resigned the same day Grider did. Mayor Pro-tem Eric Riddle said last month that friction between Holladay and Code Enforcement Officer Will Jordan resulted in name calling at the July 11 meeting.

In other city business last week, Riddle thanked citizens

who volunteered to patch roads and announced a \$500 donation from resident Charlie Davis to go towards the roads. Riddle also thanked Jordan for volunteering his time to install the new door locks at City Hall.

The board approved motions to approve bids on lots in Howardwick as presented and authorized Foster & Lambert to conduct the city's annual audit.



New faces

Clarendon ISD welcomed new faculty and staff members during a breakfast at the school cafeteria last Wednesday. Shown here are (back) Clint Conkin, Athletic Director; Blake Nichols, Boys Basketball; John Stacy, Band Director; (front) Rene McArdle, Custodian; Danyell Quinlan, Teacher's Aide Elementary; Melanie Lusk, Diagnostician; Erica McAnear, Fourth Grade; Mandy Nichols, JH Math; and Lauren Stacy, Elementary Music.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO / ROGER ESTLACK

District court sentences local woman to state prison

A Clarendon woman was sentenced to prison last week when the District Court heard two Donley County cases among 31 pleas in Childress August 10.

District Attorney Luke Inman, assisted by Harley Caudle, prosecuted the cases for the State of Texas with the Honorable Judge Stuart Messer presiding.

Tammy Delaine White pleaded true to allegations listed in the State's Motion to Adjudicate and was sentenced to six years in the Institutional Division of TDCJ for the third degree felony offense of forgery against an elderly person.

White, 53 from Clarendon, originally pleaded to the charges from the November 14, 2012, offense in Donley County on June 3, 2013. The State filed the motion to adjudicate on June 7, 2017, alleging five violations of community super-

vision. White is also required to pay \$473 in court costs to Donley County.

Miguel Angel Padilla was placed on probation for a period of two years for the Class A misdemeanor offense of unlawful use of a criminal instrument. Padilla pleaded guilty and was placed on deferred adjudication for the offense.

Padilla, 26 from Houston, was arrested by Donley County Sheriff's Deputy Miranda Betts in Donley County for the offense that took place on November 10, 2016. Padilla pleaded to an information filed by the State on January 12, 2017.

Pursuant to the plea agreement, Padilla was required to pay an upfront fine of \$4,000 to Donley County, \$458 in court costs, \$180 drug lab restitution, and successfully complete 100 hours of community

service. If Padilla violates probation, he could face up to one year in the Donley County Jail.

The court also heard four Donley County cases last Tuesday, August 8, among 34 pleas in Panhandle.

Keaton Kenneth Maher was placed on probation for a period of three years for the third degree felony offense of possession of a controlled substance. Maher pleaded guilty and was placed on deferred adjudication for the offense.

Maher, 24 from Century, Fla., was arrested by DPS Trooper Justin Dillman in Donley County for the offense that took place on October 17, 2016. Maher pleaded to an information filed by the State on July 10, 2017.

Pursuant to the plea agreement, Maher was required to pay a fine of \$3,000 to Donley County, \$458 in

court costs, \$180 drug lab restitution, successfully complete 200 hours of community service, and a \$500 probation transfer fee. If Maher violates probation, he could face up to ten years in the Institutional Division of the TDCJ.

Eduardo Francisco Rocha was placed on probation for a period of two years for the Class A misdemeanor offense of unlawful use of a criminal instrument. Rocha pleaded to an information filed by the State on July 18, 2017 and was placed on deferred adjudication for the offense.

Rocha, 45 from Keller, Texas, was arrested in Donley County by DPS Trooper Lynn Mays for the offense that took place on November 3, 2016.

Pursuant to the plea agreement, Rocha was required to pay an upfront fine of \$4,000 to Donley County, \$458 in court costs, \$180 lab

City boosts downtown projects

Efforts to revitalize downtown Clarendon were ratified and supplemented last week when the City Council blessed action taken by the Clarendon Economic Development Corporation and also authorized borrowing \$350,000 for renovations to the Mulkey Theatre multi-purpose venue.

During their regular meeting August 10, city aldermen passed a resolution approving the CEDC's August 7 action to borrow \$650,000 on a 20-year term with the funds going to the city's water recreation project and the Mulkey multi-purpose facility. The note will be paid for by economic development sales tax revenues that are already being collected.

The city council also approved a resolution authorizing the city to borrow \$350,000 on a 20-year term secured by the Hotel Occupancy Tax, which is paid by lodgers staying in local hotels.

The combined actions of the city and CEDC will give community leaders \$1 million for the two downtown projects. Half the money would be used for the pool project, which combined with other donations and pledges will more than cover a \$500,000 challenge grant put up by an anonymous donor two years ago. That will give the city just under \$1.3 million for the project, which puts it in a good position to apply for funds from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department to bolster that effort even further.

The second half of the borrowed funds would put \$500,000 earmarked for the completion of the Mulkey Theatre project, which will serve not only as a movie theatre but also as a multi-use facility for live performances, public meetings, conferences, and other activities.

Also at last Thursday's city meeting, Jack Moreman and Dick Bode with the Donley County Soil & Water Conservation District addressed the board with concerns about the proposed location for the water recreation facility on city-owned land at Fourth and Kearney east of the Clarendon Post Office. Specifically, Moreman and Bode were concerned about possible flooding in that location.

City Administrator David Dockery presented information on engineering surveys and said that by the time flood water reaches the site of the proposed facility, the Post Office, the senior citizens building, and USDA's own offices will be flooded as well.

Bode and Moreman expressed their support for the pool project, but also stressed the importance of maintaining levees south of town, which protect downtown from major flooding.

Dockery also updated city aldermen on the status of the USDA-funded water system improvement project, which is waiting for rights of way to be signed off on by all parties before going out for bids.

See 'Court' on page 5.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

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LETTERS

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

The Texas Panhandle's First Newspaper

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

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Freedom best response to hate

By Gene Policinski, Inside the First Amendment

Let them march in Charlottesville. Let them speak.

Hate-propagating neo-Nazis and bottom-dwelling white supremacists — the dregs of our open society — have and should have First Amendment rights to speak and march in public.

We need to see them for what they are: a disappointing collection of the disaffected; some parading around in silly costumes, often ignorant of the real meaning and history of the symbols they display, carrying torches meant as much to intimidate as to illuminate.

We need to hear them for what they say: advocacy of discredited ideas involving racial purity and intolerance, couched in misrepresentations of U.S. history and the American experience.

We need to understand them for what they are: betrayers of what President Lincoln called "our better angels," of the principles of equality, justice and the rule of law — painfully worked out over time and sometimes imperfectly at the outset, through the self-correcting processes of speaking and writing freely, of assembling and petitioning peaceably for change.

Granted, it is tempting after events like those of last weekend to take another view. While there is only a small fraction of our fellow citizens who hold such repellent views on white supremacy and racial hatred, there is the very real danger that a few more, and then a few more than that, will be seduced by false pretensions and misleading presentations of patriotism, economic security and personal safety.

History tells us of the rise at various times in our nation of groups preaching hate and bigotry and violence, using their rights of speech, press and assembly to inflame rather than inform, incite rather than inspire, and indoctrinate rather than educate. Nativists, the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis and others at various times have used fear, prejudice and ignorance to flourish and gain public accommodation or support — sometimes for decades — before crawling back under the social rocks from whence they came.

It's tempting to believe that if only such domestic terrorists were silenced by government, their views would dissipate; that "out of sight" truly would mean "out of mind." But such censoring, suppressing and silencing is a betrayal of our core principles — along with being ineffective and often counterproductive. If it ever was possible, never mind desirable, to counter such anti-American sentiments by silencing its proponents, it is now a lost cause in the Age of the Internet and social media. A few provocative tweets or a viral video can reach a global audience that dwarfs anything possible in earlier human history.

But, the desire "to do something" when we witness demonstrations of hate and regressive ideologies can tempt us to take actions that ultimately erode our freedoms.

More than a decade ago, when the hatemongering Westboro Baptist Church group began appearing at the funerals of U.S. military personnel who died in combat, the tiny assembly gained far more visibility than it could have purchased otherwise through its well-publicized fights with municipal authorities seeking to shut down or shunt to remote locations its offensive messages about gays and others.

Defenders of free expression sometimes are the target of those who espouse what the late First Amendment advocate Nat Hentoff described as "Free Speech for Me, but not for Thee." The ACLU of Virginia is being vehemently attacked online for representing in court the white supremacist group that successfully challenged the Charlottesville government's initial decision to ban the group from gathering in a centrally-located city park, in favor of a more isolated park about a mile away. What other stand should the ACLU, which has been protecting the free speech rights of opposing groups for nearly a century, have taken?

The First Amendment protects us all from government actions based solely on our views or the content of our expression. There is no national authority on what's right or acceptable — no "national nanny" to rap knuckles over offensive, disgusting or repugnant views. U.S. District Judge Glen Conrad, in rejecting the government ban on the alt-right rally in Charlottesville, was not validating the views of those who gathered. Rather, Conrad was upholding the nation's commitment to free speech, and the view of the nation's founders that their descendants would, over time and when left to freely discuss and consider all options, arrive at the best solution for the greatest number of people.

Hate speech, racial prejudice and policies rooted in white supremacy beliefs were accepted in much of the nation for decades, until confronted by a modern civil rights movement that finally touched a nation's conscience — and altered its law books — by using all five of the First Amendment freedoms. And the right of free expression stood strong to counter public officials of that era who also cited "public safety" as justification to oppose or arrest those calling for racial justice.

Let's concede that this system is not neat and tidy, nor effective in all cases. It requires both great effort and great restraint on the part of police and elected officials charged with public safety.

In the wake of the tragedy in Charlottesville, we must remain committed to our core belief that we're better off — and ultimately, more secure — when we may freely discuss, debate and decide.

For those who repudiate hate groups and the ugly messages they work to spread, let's keep in mind another adage of the First Amendment community: "Sunlight is the best disinfectant."

Gene Policinski is chief operating officer of the Newseum Institute. He can be reached at gpolicinski@newseum.org.

Look up in the sky for grandpa!

If you were driving recently in picturesque Palo Duro Canyon, don't think the high elevation was getting to you, hallucination had begun, or that your eyes were in trick mode.

Pshaw, it really may have been a 103-year-old man zooming down the zipline. More specifically, it may have been Elvin Howell from the Carillon LifeCare Community in Lubbock.

The able-bodied centenarian wasn't alone. He was joined by 18 others who made the 90-minute bus trip to the canyon where a thrilling ride and picnic awaited. If you think "bucket lists" came into play, give yourself an "A."...

At one of their "what-shall-we-donext" sessions prior to the outing, they watched a movie promoting zip-lining at Palo Duro Canyon. The prospect of zooming down a cable rising as far as 230 feet from the canyon floor seemed appealing.

They're still talking about the experience, and Howell, a retired Tulia educator, is delighted to learn he's the oldest person ever to ride the zipline, which now is in its fifth year of operation. Perhaps least surprised are his two sons, three grandsons and six great-granddaughters, who have been advised that riding the Ruidoso, NM, zipline now is near the top of his new "bucket list."

The next oldest Carillon rider recounting the zip-lining adventure is Bernie Wilson, a 91-year-old widow from Snyder. Be careful not to dare her. One of her 17 grandchildren did so at a Six Flags Over Texas rollercoaster years ago, and she hopped aboard. Bernie also

has 14 great-grandchildren and four surviving sons. They've all learned it to be pointless to suggest restrictions....

Most of the zip-liners were in their 80s, with some in their 60s and 70s.

The youngest — a woman 59 — agreed to take the first ride.

She made it fine — twice. This provided the "green light" for other Carillon participants to get strapped in for the fast ride down....

Someone said that we are once an adult and twice a child. I'll go along with a child-like approach in later years.

Another sage said, "I want to be like green tomatoes. As long as we're green, we grow. It's when we think we're ripe that we start to get rotten."

If you visit the Carillon, expect to hear animated conversations about what residents want to do next, and more zip-lining may be included. If so, it'll be interesting to learn if residents in wheelchairs choose to go. They also are invited, since there are no age or physical restrictions unless weight exceeds 350 pounds....

Oh, they make more sedate trips, too, including visits to Fredericksburg, Caprock Canyons State Park and the



the idle american by don newbury



Longtime Democrat votes for Trump

January 27, 1929, there was another Democrat in Rosebud, Falls County, Texas. My father was a staunch Democrat, and my mother, of course, followed his lead.

To those who have forgotten and those who are too young to remember, there was no Republican Party in Texas then. I was either too young or I'm too old to remember when the Republican Party reared up and said, "I'm here." I can remember, though, when W. Lee O'Daniel and the Light Crust Doughboys were running for governor on the Republican ticket. I was around five years old. My dad and grandfather had a heated discussion over them.

The Democrats were acclaimed as the "working man's" party, and they really were. Being a middle class, blue collar family, of course, we were Democrats.

I can remember Sunday, December 7, 1941, listening to President Roosevelt, a Democrat, on the radio saying, "This day will live in infamy." As a 12-year-old, it hit my heart very hard and I began to cry. It scared me, and I could just see in my mind the ships sinking and people dying all over the place. I will

never forget that feeling. I remember I had a hard time going to sleep. I kept thinking about the future; could I go to the movies on Saturday and things like that. Time soon cured that, and other than food rationing and gas rationing, we began to get back to normal. Politics and war were the main things in the newspaper and on the radio.

School became more important as I was growing up. At 18 years old, I had thoughts of going further in education, joining the military, or going to work. I couldn't vote but I could be drafted. That brought politics into the picture and I wasn't pleased about that. I guess a lot of people weren't pleased because the politicians got the word and changed the voting age, so I stayed a Democrat.

At 20 years old, I got married, went to work climbing poles for a local power company, started a family, and was happy voting Democratic.

Then things started changing. They weren't the "working man's" party anymore. They were running on it but they weren't fulfilling what they were saying. I found myself trying decide who was the least of the two evils. I even voted for Obama.

Abilene Zoo.

They may one day visit Amarillo's Wonderland Amusement Park. When I hear about this attraction, I think about Six Flags Over Texas marketing officials' unintentional faux pas several decades ago. Unaware of any theme park named "Wonderland," they plastered billboards around the state "playing" on the Alice in Wonderland story.

The message: "After Alice visits Six Flags, she'll never want to go back to Wonderland." Clever, of course, but folks in the Amarillo area didn't "cotton" to the billboards at all. The high plains billboards came down in record time....

Be assured, though, that if the Carillon folks winds up visiting Wonderland, they'll take on the park's most challenging rides.

Should you hear shrieks of laughter, don't mistake them for a Jingle Bell promotion, even though the old-timers may be "laughing all the way," whether or not they are dashing through the snow. Laughter is high on their "bucket lists" daily.

I like the credo many senior adults have long since accepted. Count me in, too. One of these days, we're all going to die, but all of the days until then, we're going to live. And when our "bucket lists" bottom out, let's get larger buckets. Better yet, we might make a big push for "barrel lists."....

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. Facebook: Don Newbury; Twitter, @donnewbury.

Maurice Mayer

Solar eclipse to cross sky Aug. 21

The noon day sky will be significantly darker next Monday when a solar eclipse casts a shadow over a swath of the continental United States.

The moon will completely cover the sun in the path of totality, which extends from Oregon to South Carolina. Donley County and the Texas Panhandle will only see a partial eclipse of the sun, but that will reduce the mid-day sunlight about 81 percent.

The eclipse in this area will begin about 11:30 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m.

The National Weather Service (NWS) reminds everyone that looking directly at the Sun is unsafe even during a total or partial solar eclipse.

The only safe way to look directly at the uneclipsed or partially

eclipsed Sun is through special-purpose solar filters, such as eclipse glasses or hand-held solar viewers. Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the Sun.

NWS reports that to date four manufacturers have certified that their eclipse glasses and handheld solar viewers meet the ISO 12312-2 international standard for such products: Rainbow Symphony, American Paper Optics, Thousand Oaks Optical, and TSE 17.

Experts also say you should always inspect your solar filter before use; if scratched or damaged, discard it. Read and follow any instructions printed on or packaged with the filter. Always supervise children using solar filters.

Even with a solar filter, do not

look at the sun through a camera, a telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device while using your eclipse glasses or hand-held solar viewer—the concentrated solar rays will damage the filter and enter your eye(s), causing serious injury.

NWS says an alternative method for safe viewing of the partially eclipsed Sun is pinhole projection.

For example, cross the outstretched, slightly open fingers of one hand over the outstretched, slightly open fingers of the other. With your back to the Sun, look at your hands' shadow on the ground. The little spaces between your fingers will project a grid of small images on the ground, showing the Sun as a crescent during the partial phases of the eclipse.

the lion's tale *by scarlet estlack*

The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting August 15, 2017, with Boss Lion Pro Tem John Howard taking the reins.

We had 11 members and two guests this week. Nathan and Daniel Estlack were the guests of Lion Scarlet Estlack.

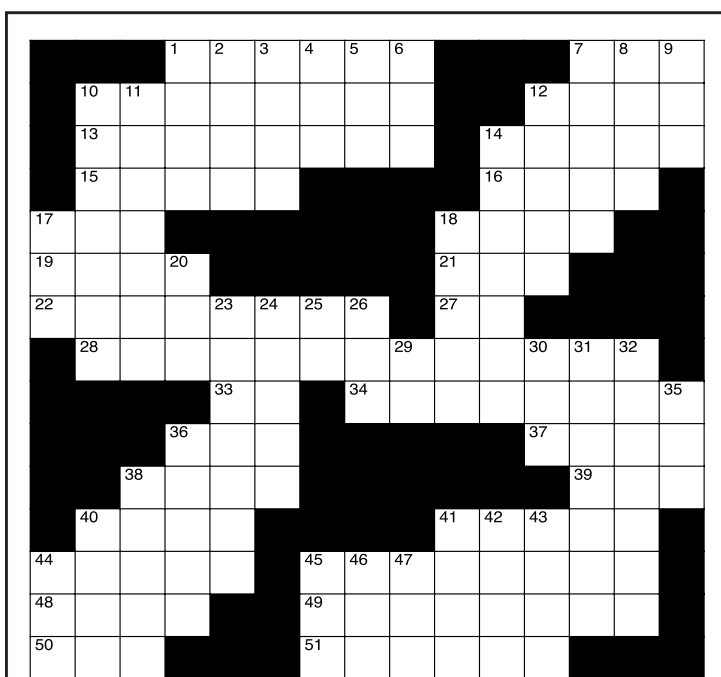
Lion Tex Buckhaults reported on the college where students will begin arriving on August 23. Registration begins the 28th with the 29th being the first day of class and the annual ice cream social.

Lion Mike Norrell reported on the public school, where classes start Thursday. The Broncos first scrimmage is Friday at Bovina. Lion Norrell also reported that the school district met standards during the last state tests.

Lion Landon Lambert reported that budget negotiations were well underway at the county.

The cook, Dee Dee Hommel, was applauded on an outstanding lunch of roast beef, mashed potatoes, and the trimmings.

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



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Would | 28. Lethargic |
| 7. Pitching stat | 33. Integrated circuit |
| 10. Wounded | 34. Let your mind wander |
| 12. Guitarist Clapton | 36. Midway between north and northeast |
| 13. Penalizes | 37. Nomadic palace |
| 14. Female MMA fighter VanZant | 38. Posted |
| 15. Proverb | 39. Trouble |
| 16. Urban gym | 40. Wise |
| 17. Midway between northeast and east | 41. Make happy |
| 18. La __ Tar Pits | 44. Dog __ : worn or battered |
| 19. Go out to eat | 45. One who fixes |
| 21. Oral allergy syndrome | 48. Central European |
| 22. Where some are put | 49. Sleighs |
| 27. Spiral galaxy | 50. Exponential time hypothesis |
| | 51. Puts within |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Typically noncoding molecules (abbr.) | 25. Commercial |
| 2. Former Secretary of State | 26. Chap |
| 3. River in Belgium and France | 29. Farm state |
| 4. Unnilhexium | 30. Chief research officer |
| 5. "Fall Guy" actor Majors | 31. Poked holes in |
| 6. Tooth caregiver | 32. Chutes and __ |
| 7. Lucci character "Kane" | 35. What cows say |
| 8. Latvian capital | 36. A desert in southern Israel |
| 9. Pet detective Ventura | 38. Isaac's mother |
| 10. Sporting dog | 40. Sodium |
| 11. External genitals | 41. Absence of effort |
| 12. "The Secret Room" novelist | 42. A way to articulate |
| 14. Ancient wonder | 43. Greek god of war |
| 17. Electronic data processing | 44. Midway between east and southeast |
| 18. Autocratic | 45. Run batted in |
| 20. Defunct European organization | 46. The longest division of geological time |
| 23. Removed flesh | 47. Public broadcaster |
| 24. Indicating silence | |

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Community Calendar

August 18
Broncos v Bovina • scrimmage • 5:00 p.m. • Away

Owls v Chillicothe • TBA • Away

August 24
Hedley • Back to School

Owls v Miami • TBA • Away

August 25
Broncos v Electra

September 1
Broncos v Shamrock • 7:30 p.m. • Home

Owls v McLean • 7:30 p.m. • Home

September 4
Labor Day

September 8
Broncos v S-Earth • 7:30 p.m. • Away

Owls v Lefors • 7:30 p.m. • Home

September 11
Patriot Day

September 15
Broncos v Wheeler • 7:30 p.m. • Away

Owls v Harrold • 7:30 p.m. • Away

September 22
Broncos v Gruver • Homecoming • 7:30 p.m. • Home

Owls v Higgins • 7:30 p.m. • Away

September 23
Col. Charles Goodnight Chuckwagon Cookoff • Saints' Roost Museum

★
Menus

August 21 - August 25

Donley County Senior Citizens
Mon: Hot dog on a bun, potato wedges, coleslaw, chocolate cake, iced tea/2% milk.
Tue: Swedish meatballs, seasoned green beans, garlic toast, salad, fruit bowl, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: BBQ sliced brisket, ranch style beans, cornbread, carrot sticks, chocolate pudding, iced tea/2% milk.
Thu: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, California mix vegetables, whole wheat roll, lemon cake, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Taco pie w/salad topping, pinto beans, chuckwagon corn, tortilla, cookies, iced tea/2% milk.

Hedley Senior Citizens

Mon: Creamy mushroom steak, mashed potatoes, peas & carrots, whole wheat roll, margarine, iced tea/2% milk.
Tue: Herb roasted chicken, potato wedges, whole wheat roll, margarine, peas & carrots, 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 fried steak, mashed potatoes, country gravy, stewed okra, seasoned corn, pumpkin square, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Chicken tenders, baked potato w/sour cream, peas & carrots, strawberries w/whip cream, iced tea/2% milk.

Clarendon ISD

Breakfast
Mon: Pancakes, ham, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Tue: Sunrise sandwich, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Wed: French toast, sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Thu: Oatmeal, cinnamon toast, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Fri: Breakfast burrito, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Lunch
Mon: Steak fingers & gravy, mashed potatoes, carrot coins, roll, strawberries & bananas, fruit, milk.
Tue: French bread pizza, marinara sauce, garden salad, California blend, fruit, milk.
Wed: Texas chili, cornbread, celery sticks, orange smiles, fruit, milk.
Thu: Chicken quesadilla, Mexicali corn, refried beans, salsa, lettuce & tomato garnish, peaches, fruit, milk.
Fri: Popcorn chicken, roll, broccoli bites, oven fries, fruit, milk.

Hedley ISD

Breakfast
Wed: Breakfast pizza, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Thu: Waffles & sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Fri: Cinnamon roll & bacon, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Lunch
Wed: Pepperoni pizza, garden salad, vegetable medley, orange smiles, milk.
Thu: Soft beef tacos, Mexicali corn, salsa, baby carrots, cookie, peaches, milk.
Fri: Hamburger or cheeseburger, sweet potato fries, coleslaw, apple slices, milk.

Help our city officials control feral cat population

Hi, gang! the following is part of a KFDA story that we all should read. Clarendon had many feral cats for years. Now they are few and far between, thanks to our Animal Control Officer Jim Braddock. If you see a feral cat, call Animal Control at Clarendon City Hall 806-874-3438 and report it please. Some people still feed them, please don't, someone could be bitten and die. This could be a child or adult and that would be a tragedy. Also one FTC article on a costly low-cost trial offer and another scam article.

"Death of WT officer highlights danger of feral cats" by Shannon Smith, KFDA

A bite from a feral cat has led to the death of one WT police officer.

Two weeks ago a call came in to the University Police Department about a feral cat on campus that needed to be removed. Corporal Monty Platt responded to the call, not knowing what happened that day would end in tragedy. While attempting to capture the feral cat on campus, Platt was bitten hard enough that the cat's teeth went through his gloves and into his hand. Last week he started to feel sick, and was rushed to a hospital in Lubbock after having a severe allergic reaction to the antibiotics he was given to treat diseases the cat may have spread through the bite.

Tuesday evening his kidneys began to fail, his blood pressure dropped, and he passed away. Platt was with the department for 21 years and was a role model to everyone he worked with. This tragedy shows the danger of interacting with feral cats, especially since many people who do are not equipped to do so. "Cpl. Platt did everything he could, with wearing the gloves and things," said Hildebrand. "Unfortunately the cat was able to defeat those measures."

Feral cats are often fed and cared for because they seem harmless, but what happened to Platt is proof these animals are more dangerous than they look.

"A costly low-cost trial offer" by Rosario Méndez, FTC

You've probably seen online ads with offers to let you try a product or a service for a very low cost, or even for free. Sometimes they're tempting: I mean, who doesn't want whiter teeth for a dollar plus shipping? Until the great deal turns into a rip-off. That's what the FTC says happened in a case it announced today. The defendants sold tooth-whitening products under various names, and hired other companies to help them market the products. These affiliate marketers created online surveys, as well as ads for free or low-cost trials all to drive people to the product's website. What hap-

pens next is so complicated that we created an infographic to explain it.

In short, once people ended up on the product's website, they filled in their info, put in their credit card number, and clicked "Complete Checkout." When people clicked this button they not only got the free trial of the one product, but were actually agreeing to monthly shipments of the product at a cost of \$94.31 each month. Next, another screen came up and people were asked to click "Complete Checkout" again. But the second screen wasn't a confirmation screen for the trial of the product. Instead, by clicking this button people were actually agreeing to monthly shipments of a second product. So, what started as a \$1.03 (plus shipping) trial of one product wound up being an unexpected two products at a very unexpected \$94.31 each for a total monthly charge of \$188.96 plus shipping.

Trial offers can be tricky and there is often a catch. If you're tempted, do some research first, and read the terms and conditions of the offer very closely. Sometimes, however, marketers might simply try to



bob's whittlin' by bob watson

trick you and it can be hard to spot. Look again at the infographic... would you have known what charges were about to hit your credit card? If you use your credit card for a low-cost trial offer, be sure to check your credit card statement closely. If you see charges you didn't authorize, contact the company and your bank immediately. And then tell us about it.

"Grandpa spots scammers" by Seena Gressin, FTC

One of my favorite parts about working at the Federal Trade Commission is hearing stories of folks avoiding a scam. A recent story involves Lou, who picked up the phone and spotted the scam almost as soon as he heard the young man call him "Grandpa." The caller said he'd been arrested for drunk driving, needed money for bail, and wanted Lou to call a "lawyer" who would explain everything. (All while not telling "Mom.")

"I played along with it," said Lou, 87, who was curious to hear the scammer's pitch. But Lou also called his daughter, a consumer lawyer. She knew this scam — someone pretends to be a friend or family member in need of money for bail, a medical emergency, or other trouble. His grandson was fine.

The scammers used common tricks. They tested Lou to see how

much money they could get. They first claimed bail was \$7,000, but when Lou said he only had half that amount, the fake lawyer said he could get the bail reduced.

Usually, scammers ask you to wire the money or get a prepaid card and give them the numbers on the card. If you do, your money will be gone. They tried to keep Lou from talking to anyone. They even told Lou he could be arrested and fined if he told anyone about their conversation. Why? Scammers don't want you talking to anyone else. They want you to act fast, without thinking too carefully.

The scammers used information Lou gave them to make their story seem more real. For example, the fake grandson told Lou the accident occurred "in the city." When Lou named the District of Columbia, the fake grandson said, "Yes. In D.C."

Scammers also get information from social networking sites, or by hacking a loved one's email account. If you get a call like this, get off the phone and check it out. Call your loved one using a phone number you know is theirs, or call another family member. Then, tell a friend your story. By talking about this scam, you can help someone else avoid it. And please, tell us too.

Stay safe out there!

Watch for the solar eclipse on August 21

Oh, my goodness! I wish everyone who has suffered through the hot, dry, August of the Texas Panhandle could see us now. We have had rain almost daily with 1.5 inches Sunday and Sunday night making the country side as green as a manicured lawn around someone's mansion.

Greenbelt Water tells me Kelly Creek was running Monday morning adding to Greenbelt Lake with the level just below the magic 52 feet when recreational boats and ski's will once again be allowed on the lake. I am sure the cotton farmers were happy to see the rain but just as happy to see the bright sunshine Monday morning.

Thank you, Lord, for smiling on our little piece of land.

One week from Monday, just before noon in Donley County, the solar eclipse will begin. This happens when the earth, moon, and sun line up with the moon obscuring the sun. We will not be in the direct path, that begins in Oregon and ends in South Carolina passing through parts of Idaho, Wyoming, Nebraska,

Kansas, Missouri, Tennessee and Kentucky, North Carolina and ending in South Carolina. Don't look at the sun directly, wear certified glasses only, the scammers are out so buy only from a reputable firm that is recommended by National Weather Service web site, which also has tips on safely photographing the eclipse. Here it will begin at 11:30 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. with about 80 percent obscuring in Donley County. You can make your own viewer using a cereal box, a sheet of white paper and aluminum foil. Maybe not as cool as glasses but probably much safer. Enjoy the eclipse; it is an event to remember.



wick picks by peggy cockerham Howardwick • 874-2886

We all scream for ice cream

Two weeks ago, an ice cream shop opened on main street called Stocking Ice Cream Parlor.

All of their ice cream is homemade. My favorite is the vanilla. I've also tried the chocolate chip, the Oreo, the Chips Ahoy, and the rainbow sherbet.

I really like having an ice cream store downtown because after school I'll be able to go get a snack. It's neat to have an ice cream parlor. It means we can have ice cream more often. They also serve milkshakes and homemade popsicles that are different flavors like Oreo, lime, chocolate chip, and more.

I'm really excited that Virginia Patten put in the ice cream store so that when I go to the newspaper office I can also get some ice cream. I hope everyone goes and tries the ice cream parlor and samples all the ice creams they have there.



the cub reporter by benjamin estlack



Three under par wins scramble

The team of Daniel Burcham, Patrick Cocchia, Sherol Johnston, Suzie Lankford, and Carla Carter turned in a three under par to take the top spot in the Friday night nine-hole scramble. Thirteen golfers participated.

There will be a night scramble on Saturday, August 19, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Advancing

Lorelei Williamson continues to advance in Northern Texas Junior PGA Ewing Auto Tour after placing second in her age group at Midland last week. She now plays this week in Dallas.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO / MORGAN BEBOUT

WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER BE LOOKING AT THIS SUMMER?

A DWI turns summer into bummer. There's jail time, up to \$17,000 in fines, hours of community service, and very likely a suspended driver license. Before you head out for summer fun, line up a P.A.S.S.—that's a Person Appointed to Stay Sober. That way, you'll get a safe ride home and not get burned by a DWI.

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WHISTLE STOP LEGENDS
Whistle-Stop owners Jordan & Kimberly salute this week's legend...

BILLIE CHRISTAL

Born in 1911, W.R. "Billie" Christal was a lifelong resident of Clarendon, and he spent most of that life in service to others and to his community. He was elected Donley County Judge in 1970 and carried out the duties of that office with honor and integrity for 26 years. He also served on the boards of Lelia Lake ISD and Clarendon College, and was treasurer of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission for several years.



Billie was a deacon of First Baptist Church where he taught a men's Sunday school class. He was a Lion and a Mason and was honored by the Clarendon Masonic Lodge #700 with the Golden Trowel Award.

Following his passing in 2003, he was remembered as a man of honesty, integrity, and fairness who was always willing to help his fellow man. He was known as a gentleman first and foremost, and many ladies well remembered how he would always tip his hat to them when passing by. And many people always enjoyed the elaborate Christmas lights that adorned the Christal home.

The Whistle-Stop and the community salute the late Billie Christal for his life of service and devotion. Thank you, sir!

Don't miss Whistle-Stop Trade Days: Sep. 2 & 3

Come Join the Fun!
Wednesday Night Ministry Program
COMMUNITY KIDZ
Starts
August 30, 2017
@ 5:30 - 7:00 pm
PreK - 5th Grade
Register Now or on Wed., August 30 at 5 pm
Community Fellowship Church
for more info: (806)874-0963

Train up a child the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6





Season warm-up

Hedley football player Josh Fish wraps up TJ Leal in a drill during the Owls Two-A-Day practice on Monday. The Owls will scrimmage against Chillicothe this Friday, August 18.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO / KARI LINDSEY

CISD employs new app to stop bullying

Clarendon ISD has enrolled with STOPit, the leading technology platform for schools that deters and controls harmful or inappropriate conduct.

STOPit empowers students with an easy app to safely and anonymously report anything of concern to school officials – from cyberbullying to threats of violence or self-harm. STOPit empowers students to stand up for themselves and others while giving our schools the insight we need to keep students safe.

“I am excited about this program. I hope it allows our students to feel safe in reporting situations like bullying, including cyber-bullying, to help themselves or others,” stated Jenae Ashbrook, school counselor.

With STOPit, students can submit anonymous reports containing text, photos, or video. Administrators are then able to manage incidents in a backend management system called DOCUMENTit.

DOCUMENTit provides efficient and powerful investigative tools to our staff, including the ability to message with the reporter, which will allow us to address issues instantly.

STOPit does more than just help schools address incidents and mitigate risk. STOPit will also help us go beyond reacting to bullying and inappropriate behavior, and instead start deterring it.

As young people continue to engage more with technology every

day, we are taking a proactive step to empower our students to become Upstanders in our community in the way that they feel most comfortable. We believe our adoption of STOPit is an important step in our continued effort to provide a positive school climate and a safe learning environment for our students.

Our STOPit program launch is scheduled for August 2017.

STOPit is the leading technology company providing a comprehensive software platform that mitigates, deters and controls bullying, including cyberbullying, harassment and other harmful or inappropriate conduct. To learn more about STOPit, please visit www.stopsolutions.com.

Court:

Continued from page one.

year in the Donley County Jail.

Sahid Hiram Puentes was placed on probation for a period of two years for the Class A misdemeanor offense of unlawful use of a criminal instrument. Puentes pleaded to an information filed by the State on January 18, 2017 and was placed on deferred adjudication for the offense.

Puentes, 31 from Houston, was arrested in Donley County by

DPS Trooper Kendall Styles for the offense that took place on November 1, 2016.

Pursuant to the plea agreement, Puentes was required to pay an upfront fine of \$4,000 to Donley County, \$458 in court costs, \$180 lab restitution, and complete 100 hours of community service. If Puentes violates probation, he could face up to one year in the Donley County Jail.

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Support the merchants who support your community.



The kiddos are back in school. That means everywhere you look, you'll see boys and girls walking and riding bikes to and from school. So make sure you look carefully for cyclists and pedestrians—every time you take the wheel.

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712 E. 2ND (HWY. 287)
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:30 A.M.
- ARENA OF LIFE COWBOY CHURCH**
214 S. KEARNEY • PASTORS: BUNK & AMY SKELTON
SUN. SERVICE: 10:30 A.M. • TUE. BIBLE STUDY: 7 P.M.
- CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**
US 287 E. • 874-3156 • REV. ROB SEALE
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 7 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
300 S. CARHART • 874-2495 • MINISTER: CHRIS MOORE
SUN. BIBLE CLASS 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:30 A.M.
SUN. 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.
- CHURCH OF NAZARENE**
209 S. HAWLEY • 874-2321 • PASTOR: ALLEN POSEY
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
• WED.: 7 P.M.
- COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**
12148 FM 2162 • 874-0963
PASTOR: LARRY CAPRANICA
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED. COMMUNITY KIDZ 5:30 P.M.
WED. ADULT BIBLE STUDY: 6 P.M.
- FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
120 E. THIRD ST. • PASTOR: DARRELL BURTON
SUNDAY SERVICE: 5 P.M.
- FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
4TH ST. & HWY. 70 SOUTH • PASTOR: MATTHEW STODHAM
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:40 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED. YOUTH: 6:15 P.M.
WED. BIBLE STUDY: 7 P.M.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**
300 BUGBEE AVE. • 874-3833 • REV. LANCE WOOD
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:55 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • KID'S ACTIVITIES: WED. 6 P.M.
YOUTH STUDY: WED. 7 P.M.
COLLEGE MINISTRY: WED. 9 P.M.
- FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
FOURTH & PARKS • LAY PASTOR: NANCY RUSS
FELLOWSHIP: 10:30 A.M.
SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
- FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
420 S. JEFFERSON • 874-3667 • PASTOR KIRK WATSON
SUN. SERVICE: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. SCHOOL: 11 A.M.
- JESUS NAME APOSTOLIC CHURCH**
720 E. MONTGOMERY • 205-1149 • REV. 874-2078
REV. CALVIN BURROW
SUN. SERVICES: 3 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.
- BODY OF CHRIST MINISTRIES:**
501 S. MCCLELLAND • PASTOR: R.W. ELLERBROOK
SATURDAY: 6 P.M. • SUNDAY DISCIPLESHIP CLASS: 9:30 A.M.
SUN.: 10:30 A.M. • SUN. LIFE GROUP: 4:30 P.M.
WED.: 6:30 P.M.
- CHRIST'S KIDS OUTREACH MINISTRY:**
416 S. KEARNEY • JANET & STEVE CARTER • 874-2007
SUN. BREAKFAST 9:30 A.M. • SUN. PRAISE & WORSHIP 10 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:30 A.M. • WED.: 5 P.M.
- ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
301 S. PARKS ST. • 874-2511 • REV. JIM AVENI
SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE: 11 A.M.
- ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**
MONTGOMERY & MCCLELLAND
FR. AROKIA RAJ SAMALA
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.

- HEDLEY**
CHURCH OF CHRIST
110 E. SECOND ST. • MINISTER: BRIGHT NEWHOUSE
SUN. BIBLE CLASS: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 7:30 P.M.
- FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
200 N. MAIN ST. • PASTOR: RUSTY EARLY
SUN. SERVICE: 9:00 A.M.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**
210 N. MAIN ST. • 856-5980 • PASTOR: BRUCE HOWARD
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN.: 11 A.M. & 6 P.M.
WED.: 7 P.M.
- HOWARDWICK**
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
235 RICK HUSBAND BLVD. • 874-3326 • REV. DAVE STOUT
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:45 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 6 P.M.
- OLD PATHS PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**
HEREFORD LANE AT HWY 70 • 673-1770
3RD SUNDAYS - DON MARTIN • 4TH SUNDAYS - DON WATSON
SERVICES: 10:30 A.M.
- MARTIN**
MARTIN BAPTIST CHURCH
US 287 W
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.
- BRICE**
BRICE DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE
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WED.: 6 P.M.

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Annual Randall County Ag Day and Crops Tour set Aug. 30

By Kay Ledbetter

CANYON – The 41st annual Randall County Ag Day and Crops Tour hosted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is set for Aug. 29 at the Kuhlman Extension Center, 200 North Brown Road, Canyon.

“We have a great program lined up that offers something for just about everyone interested in agriculture,” said Dr. J. D. Ragland, AgriLife Extension agriculture and natural resources agent in Randall County.

The morning portion will kick off with registration at 8:30 a.m., followed by the program at 9 a.m.

This event is free, with the registration fee covered by Happy State Bank. The following topics and speakers are on the morning agenda:

Wheat Varieties and Yield Results from the High Plains Region, Dr. Jourdan Bell, AgriLife Extension

agronomist, Amarillo.

Considerations for Purchasing and Managing Cows/Calves; and Does Future Outlook Have Profitability?, Dr. Ted McCollum, AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist, Amarillo.

Current and Future Commodity Outlook; Expected Pricing?; and Marketing Options, Dr. Steve Amosson, AgriLife Extension economist, Amarillo.

Commodity Group Updates; Panel Question and Answer Session – Texas Corn Growers, Angie Martin, grassroots director, Lubbock; Texas Sorghum, Dr. Brent Bean, director of agronomy-Sorghum Checkoff, Amarillo; Texas Wheat Producers, Steele Fischbacher, director of policy/marketing, Amarillo; Plains Cotton Growers, Cody Bessent, vice president of operations and legislative affairs, Lubbock; and High

Plains Underground Water District, Victoria Messer, governmental affairs director, Lubbock.

The noon luncheon will feature a team of AgriLife Extension agriculture and natural resources agents presenting “Recent Wildfires – The Lasting Impact on the Texas Panhandle.”

Following the keynote addresses will be the presentation of the Randall County Extension Top Hand, Outstanding Result Demonstrator and Outstanding Agribusiness awards.

The luncheon and awards presentation is sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank of Canyon.

At 1:30 p.m. all participants will have an opportunity to view and learn about the newest technology in agricultural equipment with displays and presentations from local and area dealers just south of the Kuhl-

man Extension Center. Then the tour bus, sponsored by the Palo Duro Soil and Water Conservation District of Canyon, will be loaded and make stops to include the following topics and presenters:

Lone Star Dairy Products Plant Tour, Travis Bland, plant controller in Canyon.

R.A.C.E. Dryland Cotton Variety Trial on Danny Hicks Farm, Bell.

The busses will return to the AgriLife Extension office around 5:30 p.m.

Three Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units – one drift minimization and two general – will be available for private pesticide applicators.

An RSVP is requested by Aug. 25 by calling 806-468-5543. For more information, contact Ragland at that number or email him at j-ragland@tamu.edu.

Lauren Shadle, LVN
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State tax credit to expand housing options

(AUSTIN) – Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (“TDHCA”) has announced awards through the 2017 Housing Tax Credit Program allocation that will help finance the development of rental properties offering reduced rents and increased housing options.

TDHCA will provide \$67 million in housing tax credits to private developers constructing or rehabilitating 69 properties across the state that will offer rents affordable to households earning up to 60 percent of the area median family income. The credits are expected to help finance the building of 50 high quality, new properties with a total of 4,009 units, and the rehabilitation of 19 properties offering 808 units to income-eligible households across the state.

“High quality affordable hous-

ing serves as a vital component to the state’s economic prosperity, accommodating an ever-expanding workforce and meeting the needs of households living on fixed incomes,” explained Tim Irvine, Executive Director of Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. “The tax credits allocated today give cities and communities long term solutions for sustainable and purposeful growth, providing a positive impact on local economies by retaining existing households and attracting new residents.

The Housing Tax Credit Program, authorized under the Internal Revenue Code, is the state’s primary means of directing private capital toward the development of affordable rental housing. Investors purchase credits allocated to developers which they may apply toward their

federal tax liability each year for ten years on a dollar-for-dollar basis in exchange for their investment in the property.

Developers use proceeds from the sale as financing for their property. The credits announced today are designed to cover approximately 70 percent of each property’s eligible development costs.

Since 1987, more than 238,000 affordable housing units have been built or preserved in Texas using the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program. It’s estimated that the new construction and rehabilitation of developments open in 2016, alone, led to the creation of more than 13,000 jobs statewide with compensation totaling \$455 million. The total economic impact generated for the state was approximately \$1 billion.

QuickBooks training set for August 30-31

AMARILLO – The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will offer Panhandle District QuickBooks Pro Short Courses Aug. 30-31 in Amarillo and Sept. 12-13 in Lubbock.

The two-day trainings will run from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day at the respective Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Centers, located at 6500 W. Amarillo Blvd. in Amarillo and 1102 E. Farm-to-Market Road 1294 north of Lubbock.

DeDe Jones, AgriLife Extension risk management specialist in Amarillo, said through the years, attendees have indicated they’ve seen thousands of dollars in benefit from what they learned.

“During times of low commodity prices, keeping accurate financial records is very important,” Jones said. “Learning QuickBooks will help producers accomplish this goal.”

QuickBooks Pro is a double-entry business accounting program often used by agricultural lenders and producers, Jones said. During the two-day course, participants will learn to enter transactions into the program and analyze costs and profits. No prior computer experience is necessary.

Registration is \$150 and includes computer use and teaching materials. Couples are encouraged to attend and will be charged only one registration fee if they share a computer.

Class size is limited to 15 people to provide a hands-on experience for all participants. Those planning to attend should RSVP by Aug. 24 for Amarillo and by Sept. 8 for the session in Lubbock. Payment is due upon arrival on the first day of the course.

The class will be taught by Jones and Will Keeling, AgriLife Extension risk management specialist in Lubbock.

For more information or to RSVP for either location, contact Jones or Kim Garcia at 806-677-5600.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

The Commissioners of Donley County will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 4 percent. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on **08/23/2017 09:00 AM** at **the Commissioners Courtroom**.

The second public hearing will be held on **09/06/2017 09:00 AM** at **the Commissioners Courtroom**.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

For: Judge John Howard, Daniel Ford, Mark White
Against: None
Present and not voting: None
Absent: Dan Sawyer, Andy Wheatly

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in last year was **\$33543**. Based on last years tax rate of **\$0.67311** per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was **\$225.78**.

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in this year is **\$34029**. If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of **\$0.684606** per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be **\$232.96**.

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of **\$.700567** per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be **\$238.40**.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

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CC Regents discuss 2018 budget

Clarendon College Regents met in called session August 10 for a tax hearing and to take their first look at the fiscal year 2018 budget.

Enterprise publisher Roger Estlack was the only member of the public present and commented that the college tax was money well spent.

CC President Robert Riza led a discussion on the proposed budget for the coming year, which began with Executive Vice President Tex Buckhaults giving an overview of grant revenue the college will be receiving in the coming year. The grants help with the cost of workforce education programs, such as the nursing, welding, and industrial maintenance programs.

Dr. Riza said state funding is expected to be up this biennium for Clarendon College, and the general budget is projected to have about \$9.1 million in total revenues.

Enrollment drives expenses in the general and education budget, Riza said. As programs bring more numbers, adjunct and full time faculty are required. The cosmetology center in Amarillo is now at almost 90 students, and Riza said he is budgeting for another full time nursing instructor but that is a difficult program to find instructors for.

Campus security is one line item that is up in the new budget due to plans to add new equipment. Security cameras and better staffing has led to diminished fines being

collected. Riza also reported that the college's property insurer, the Texas Association of School Boards, has raised the college's deductible and is basically no longer going to be covering roofs. The college is also anticipating a 12 percent hike in electric costs due to increased rates.

The college's auxiliary budget, which covers student activities and athletic programs, is built on revenue of having 260 students in the residence halls. However, the enrollment is already trending ahead of that figure, the president said.

CC Regents will hold another tax hearing during their regular meeting this Thursday, August 17. A budget hearing will be held next Thursday, August 24.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Clarendon Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:00 pm, August 28, 2017 in the Clarendon CISD Administration/Technology Building located at 416 South Allen Street Clarendon, TX. **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	\$ <u>1.17000</u> / \$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$ <u>0.00000</u> / \$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

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	<u>0.04</u> % increase	or	<u>0.00</u> % (decrease)
Debt service	<u>0.00</u> % increase	or	<u>0.00</u> % (decrease)
Total expenditures	<u>0.04</u> % increase	or	<u>0.00</u> % (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	\$ <u>477,995,068</u>	\$ <u>631,786,525</u>
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ <u>1,480,515</u>	\$ <u>234,316</u>
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ <u>149,112,119</u>	\$ <u>153,441,665</u>
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ <u>1,455,515</u>	\$ <u>234,316</u>

* "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	\$ <u>1.17000</u>	\$ <u>0.00000</u>	\$ <u>1.17000</u>	\$ <u>3,867</u>	\$ <u>7,785</u>
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ <u>1.25147</u>	\$ <u>0.00000</u>	\$ <u>1.25147</u>	\$ <u>4,030</u>	\$ <u>7,869</u>
Proposed Rate	\$ <u>1.17000</u>	\$ <u>0.00000</u>	\$ <u>1.17000</u>	\$ <u>3,919</u>	\$ <u>7,869</u>

* 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	\$ <u>64,410</u>	\$ <u>59,359</u>
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ <u>35,390</u>	\$ <u>36,861</u>
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ <u>1.17</u>	\$ <u>1.17</u>
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ <u>414.06</u>	\$ <u>431</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ <u>16.94</u>

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 Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.1700. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.1700.

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)	\$ <u>1,650,765</u>
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ <u>0</u>

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Hedley, ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:30 pm, August 28, 2017 in Superintendent/Board Office at 301 Jones Street Hedley, Texas. **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	\$ <u>1.04</u> / \$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$ <u>0.00</u> / \$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

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	<u>6.35</u> % increase	or	<u>0.00</u> % (decrease)
Debt service	<u>0.00</u> % increase	or	<u>0.00</u> % (decrease)
Total expenditures	<u>6.35</u> % increase	or	<u>0.00</u> % (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	\$ <u>214,730,190</u>	\$ <u>222,176,414</u>
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ <u>105,549</u>	\$ <u>223,180</u>
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ <u>59,046,309</u>	\$ <u>58,040,753</u>
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ <u>105,549</u>	\$ <u>223,180</u>

* "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* \$ 0.00

* 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	\$ <u>1.04000</u>	\$ <u>0.00000</u> *	\$ <u>1.04000</u>	\$ <u>5,141</u>	\$ <u>9,965</u>
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ <u>1.06003</u>	\$ <u>0.00000</u> *	\$ <u>1.06003</u>	\$ <u>5,628</u>	\$ <u>9,829</u>
Proposed Rate	\$ <u>1.04000</u>	\$ <u>0.00000</u> *	\$ <u>1.04000</u>	\$ <u>5,461</u>	\$ <u>9,829</u>

* 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	\$ <u>31,942</u>	\$ <u>33,060</u>
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ <u>12,745</u>	\$ <u>13,702</u>
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ <u>1.04</u>	\$ <u>1.04</u>
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ <u>132.55</u>	\$ <u>142.50</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ <u>9.95</u>

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 Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.0401. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.0401.

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)	\$ <u>1,080,658</u>
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ <u>0</u>

Analysis: No, the Texas Legislature isn't lowering your property taxes

By Ross Ramsey, The Texas Tribune

Voters don't like property taxes. State lawmakers like voters and want them to be happy. But they are not going to lower your property taxes.

As they enter the second half of their 30-day special session, Texas legislators are trying to limit increases in a tax they do not control. They might accomplish that much, but they don't have the power to actually cut your property taxes. Only the local governments that set your property tax rates can do that.

This is a weird public policy problem, and a prickly political one. People complain because taxes are high. They complain at town hall meetings and in letters and calls to state officials, in volumes high enough to prompt official action, even from officials who aren't directly responsible for the taxes they're complaining about.

State lawmakers, eager to win over their angry taxpayers, can intervene in a couple of ways: by increasing what it spends on public education and thus lowering pressure on local school taxes or by trying to hobble cities and counties and other tax collectors with growth limits and reporting requirements and so on.

The second option is less satisfying to voters, but it's cheaper.

Over the past decade, the state's share of the cost of public education has dropped from about 45 percent, according to the Legislative Budget Board, to about 38 percent. Had legislators and budget writers kept the state's contribution at 45 percent, local school districts across Texas — and their property taxpayers — would have spent \$18.6 billion less over that decade than they actually did.

If state lawmakers had that much money in the till, they'd be able to say "our bad" and put a bandage on the boo-boo, spending more money per student and giving local property taxpayers a big, fat tax cut.

They don't have the money. The governor has asked them to study the school finance system, an exercise that could address property tax pressures, equity among school districts, adequacy of public education and a number of other gnarly policy issues connected to public education and how we pay for it.

In the meantime, legislators are considering that second, cheaper option mentioned above — restraining local government increases in property tax increases.

They failed in the regular session. The Senate wanted to require voter approval for any local tax increases (not including school districts) over a certain amount. The trigger rate was different in various proposals; special-session legislation approved by the Senate last week would require elections for tax hikes of 4 percent or more; a House committee change would put the trigger at 6 percent. (They've tried very hard to spin that as savings, even going to the extent of attaching an unusual "hypothetical fiscal impact" to the financial analysis of Senate Bill 1.)

A separate House bill scheduled for debate today has a lot in common with a proposal that stalled in the regular session. It doesn't mess with the rollback rates. Some people aren't even calling it a property tax bill, opting for "the transparency bill." The idea is to change property tax notices to make it clear to each taxpayer what each local government is proposing to do with

tax rates — the better to arm people to complain to city hall or the commissioner's court when they think tax hikes are too high.

None of those bills would lower taxes. Each theoretically arms voters to keep local taxing and spending under tighter control. And neither of them gets to the more effective, more expensive rebalancing of the school finance system.

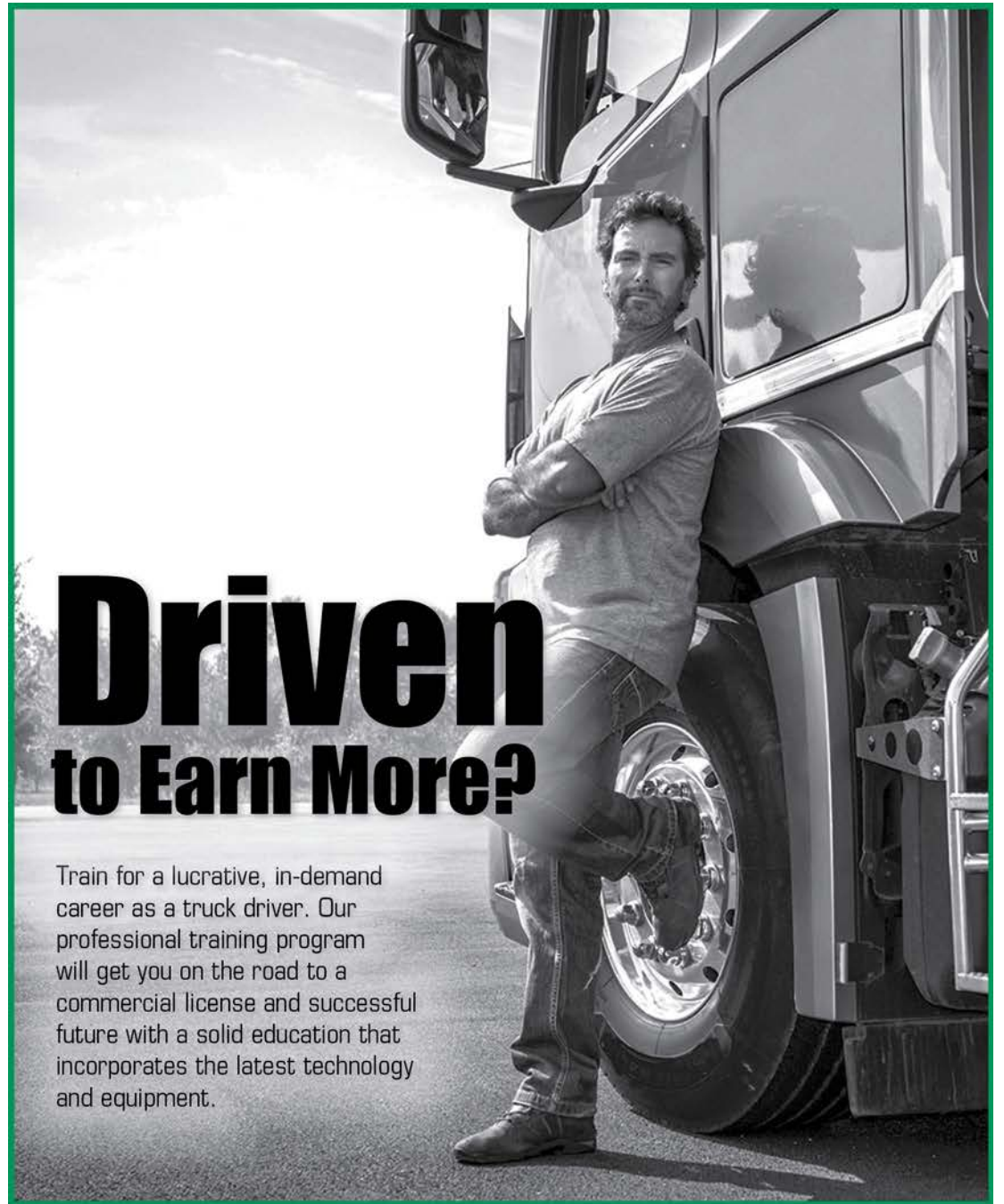
State officials, to take their side for a minute, have no easy way out of this box. The state already has the sixth-highest property tax burden in the country, according to the Tax Foundation. Texas has the 12th-highest sales tax. Other states can keep those taxes down, in part, because they also have personal income taxes.

Texas doesn't have one, and is pretty proud of it. One of the most emphatic answers — ever — to a question in a University of Texas/Texas Tribune Poll was on a state personal income tax. In 2011, when the state was in a very tight financial spot, the poll aimed to see what sources of revenue might be more or less acceptable to voters. Personal income taxes were deemed the fairest proposal of all; only 6 percent said they'd be willing to consider it.

Raising the state's sales tax was right behind income taxes in unpopularity in that six-year-old survey; only 12 percent thought that was a good idea.

Two years ago, Texas lawmakers began dismantling the business franchise tax that was the foundation of the state's last rebalancing of public school finance a decade ago.

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