Single **\$1**00

THIS WEEK

- 2 A local reader expresses her pride for America's veterans.
- 4 Clarendon High School students protect their physics title again.
- County Donley members do well at the district round-up.
- 7 And the Broncos' streak ends in Wellington.

Early deadlines set for next Enterprise

THE CLARENDON ENTERPRISE has set early deadlines for next week's issue with the upcoming

Thanksgiving holiday.

All news, ads, classifieds, and photos need to be turned in by noon this Friday, November 17, to be included in next week's paper, which will be distributed

paper, wines.
on Tuesday.
The Enterprise will be closed November 22-24 for

Christian breakfast to be held Thursday

The United Christians Breakfast will be held this Thurs day, November 16, at 7 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
The Thanksgiving program

will be brought by Don Stone. Get up and enjoy a good breakfast and a great time of fellowship and thanks for the life we enjoy.

Local voters follow state election trend

Donley County voters went along with the rest of the state last week, agreeing to seven amend-ments to the State Constitution.

Turnout, in terms of percent-was about twice what it was for the state as a whole. Donley County saw 10.3 percent of voters, 225 people, take the time to do their civic duty. Statewide turnout was only 5.7 percent.

Propositions 5 and 7 were the narrowest victories both locally and statewide. Both had to do with the ability of different

Community church service is Sunday

The Donley County Minis rial Alliance will host its annual Community Thanksgiving Ser-vice this Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Arena of Life Church on Kearney

Community dinner to be held Nov. 23

The annual Clarendon Com-munity Thanksgiving dinner will be held on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23. The dinner is free and will be

served from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m in the Clarendon school cafeteria

Take-outs are available and deliveries will be made to the handicapped and shut-ins by calling in advance. Donations can be made at Pilgrim Bank or mailed to PO Box 45. For further details or to volunteer, please call 874-2007.



American Legion member Dick Bode salutes the flag during the Hedley ISD veterans service last week. Bode was the keynote speaker for veteran services at Clarendon College and Rowe Cemetery last week and spoke about his family's liberation by American forces during World War II in Europe. The family later moved to the United States from Holland and Bode served in the armed forces himself. Bode says he is an "American by choice" and says he gives speeches to help repay the debt his

City searching for new water board member

is looking for a new person to rep-resent its interests on the Greenbelt Water Authority Board follow-ing last week's council meeting November 9.

Gary Campbell who has held Clarendon's seat on that board for six years told the board he did not wish to be reappointed as his term expires.

"I've enjoyed it. I've had a good time, but right now I'm over-loaded," Campbell said. "I think it's

time for me to step down."

Campbell said he would continue to be available if the city ever needed him with questions about water treatment.

City Administrator David Dockery praised Campbell's contributions to the city and noted his work on the Greenbelt Board in development of water wells and the acquisition of groundwater rights.

Aldermen discussed the

fill Campbell's seat but took no action on the topic. The city council will not meet on its next regular date, November 23, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The Greenbelt position will be considered at

the following regular meeting on December 14.

In other city business, the council voted to cast all 450 of the city's votes on the appraisal board in favor of the candidacy of Alderman Jacob Fangman.

Aldermen also approved reappointing three members of the Clarendon Economic Development Corporation Board. Those members are Terri Floyd, Doug Kidd,

and Brandon Frausto.

In his administrator's report, Dockery said the city is looking at possible houses for demolition and specifically looking at properties than have been on the delinquent tax list for ten years or longer.

Byars, Holladay win Howardwick seats

The winds of change hit the tion, Riddle remains on the city City of Howardwick when voters went to the polls last Tuesday, November 7

Greta Byars was easily elected to the vacant mayor's seat 75-46, over Mayor Pro-tem Eric Riddle; and Doc Holladay beat Jada Murray for a vacant alderman's position.

City Hall said Tuesday that 121 people voted in last week's on. Despite losing the elec-

board as an alderman.

The election results has already caused a bit of a shake-up at City Hall. The city said Munici-pal Judge Heidi Phelps resigned her position effective last Friday, and Code Enforcement Officer Will

Jordan resigned effective Tuesday.

Mayor Byars first meeting with the board was happening Tuesday night as the Enterprise went to press this week.

Donley Courthouse to be featured in new book

house was recently photographed as part of new project to publish a pictorial book of all 254 Texas county courthouses.

Curtis Smith of Houston retired as a financial planner in 2000 and soon took up photography as hobby after taking

pictures on a trip to Europe. "I ended up taking a photography class at Rice University, and built up my quality of camera equipment," Smith said during a recent visit to Clarendon

and the Enterprise.

Smith said he saw a lawyer posting courthouse pictures online and wondered who all could say they had been to all of Texas' 254 counties. That was four years ago, and now he's shot nearly 200

The 1890 Donley County Court- of the buildings all

The project is taking a lot of time because, as Smith notes, "they aren't in a straight line."

Smith's October visit to the Panhandle with his wife Debbie finished off photofinished off photo-

graphing the courthouses in this part of the state, but he says it will probably be about two years before a book is completed

"There are a lot of courthouse books out there," Smith says, "but they

are outdated."

Smith, who is a close friend of Clarendon native Will Lowe, also has an eye for details and unique features that he says is lacking in the current books.

He has a few favorites among the ones he's shot so far, including Clarendon's courthouse.

"This is definitely the jewel of the Panhandle," he says, noting that other favorites are Ellis County, Presidio County, Grimes County, and the 1910 Harris County Courthouse surrounded by ancient oak trees.

When he's finished with Texas courthouses, Smith says his next project will be cars with a focus on details, lines,



Local case among those heard in Memphis last week

One Donley County case was among three heard by the District Court last Thursday, November 9, when it met in Memphis.

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

Allison Cearina Armstead pleaded guilty and was placed on deferred adjudication community supervision for a period of five years for the first degree felony offense of fraudulent use of identifying infor-

Armstead, 25 from Arlington, was arrested in Donley County by DPS Trooper Kelly Hill for the offense that took place on October 12, 2017. Armstead pleaded to an information filed by the State on November 9, 2017.

Pursuant to the plea agree ment, Armstead is required to pay a \$500 fine, \$488 in court costs, and successfully complete 400 hours of

community service.

If Armstead violates probation, she could face up to 99 years in the

Institutional Division of the TDCJ.

Edgar Eduardo Mendoza Diaz (a.k.a Julian Ulloa Mendoza) pleaded guilty and was placed on deferred adjudication community supervision for a period of two years for the third degree felony offense of money laundering.

Diaz. 23 from Modesto. Calif.. was arrested in Carson County by DPS Trooper Darrin Bridges for the offense that took place on October 26, 2017

Diaz pleaded to an information filed by the State on November 9,

Pursuant to the plea agreement. Diaz is required to pay \$276 in court costs, a \$500 fine, and successfully complete 200 hours of community

If Diaz violates probation, he could face up to ten years in the Institutional Division of the TDCJ.

Lisa Shay Salas pleaded guilty and was placed on deferred adjudication community supervision for a period of three years for the third degree felony offense of possession of a controlled substance.

Salas, 39 from Wellington, was arrested in Childress County by Chil-dress Police Officer Todd Gambol for the offense that took place on January 23, 2017. Salas pleaded to an information filed by the State on April 10, 2017.

Pursuant to the plea agreement Salas is required to pay \$354 in court costs, a \$3,000 fine, \$180 lab fee, and successfully complete 200 hours of community service. If Salas violates probation, she could face up to

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Let's start focusing on 'junk news'

Let's stop talking so much about "fake news." Not that we should ever cease identifying, talking about or countering misinformation, be it accidental error, the result of negligent work, or deliberately false to which we must now add propaganda tactics aimed at destabilizing our democracy.

We face all those types of misinformation today; amplified as they are by platforms that allow for instantaneous, worldwide communication.

But the term "fake news" no longer has any real aning as a national concern or a problem to be dealt with. The term has become far too politicized and much too imprecise, now serving as a catch-all for information anyone sees as divisive, disagreeable, biased or plain wrong. Instead, I prefer a term offered

by my Newseum Education colleagues: "junk news." Regardless of what we call it, less talk and more on on misinformation is where our focus ought to be. Media Literacy Week, taking place Nov. 6 through 10, is as good a time to start as any.

NewseumED, the Newseum's nonpartisan educa-

tion arm, offers information and tools to help students and all of us – navigate today's complex media landscape. Its collections of resources are all aimed at helping us understand how news is made and how we can take a more active and responsible role in the information cycle. That includes having the skills to evaluate information, filter out fake news, separate facts and opinions, recognize bias, detect propaganda, spot errors in the news and take charge of our role as media consumers and contributors.

As junk news continues to infiltrate the news feeds of millions of social media users, education and awareness have become the best line of defense against the spread of misinformation and disinforma-tion. Where journalists once served as the "gatekeepers" of society's daily information consumption, today anyone with Internet access can create and distribute content, and spread information by sharing it on social

For many, that's more comfortable and a better option: the power to choose and shape what we need to know, rather than having it fed to us by a select few. But with that power should come a greater sense of responsibility to draw our news from as many reliable, diverse sources as we can.

Failure to do that has created the now-infamous adition in which social media's omnipresent algorithms track our every keystroke to present us with news that we "like" – or in other words, news that plays to our existing opinions and biases.

Sure, there was a time when readers would settle on a favorite TV network or, in an even earlier era, a favorite radio station for the nightly news. Newspaper readers in communities where there were multiple daily publications would subscribe to one over the others. Much of the non-local news, for good or bad, contained the same information - very often taken from wire services that prided themselves on their ability to "get it first, get it right – but above all, get it right, first." Those were the days when CBS News anchor Walter Cronkite was called the "most trusted man" in the nation, by virtue of that news media

In today's news world, where those long-standing print and broadcast news outlets are barely standing, and new media players have vet to show the depth or credibility it takes long to develop, we as cons must take less on "faith" and more on "fact."

For their part, news operations, think tanks, social media companies and others are working on ways to help consumers play a more responsible role in the daily news cycle. Verifying stories and tightening ethical standards are good starts, but significant obstacles lay in the path – namely, the declining revenue and resources of traditional press organizations, and the new web-based media economy that depends on eye-balls and clicks. In such an environment, thorough 'accountability" reporting - often dull but always necessary – has fallen by the wayside.

There are some signs that people are rethinking

a reliance on just one site, which is a good first step to improving our news diet. According to the Pew Research Center, about a quarter of all U.S. adults (26 percent) get their news from two or more social media sites, up from 15 percent in 2013 and 18 percent in 2016. But consumers shouldn't stop with just "more"

– our daily intake needs to consist of varied, credible sources. Otherwise, consumers trap themselves in a news bubble or echo chamber, in which they only se information that confirms and reinforces their opinions

instead of challenging them.

At a forum last week on First Amendment issues and fake news, I advanced a long-held theory of mine that eventually news consumers will demand information on which they can rely, and will over time migrate to those sources; that credibility will be the news currency of the 21st century.

But it's no longer the province of news providers alone to build that demand. Individual consumers must join in that effort by getting savvier about the news. In a twist on an old saying, "Let the buyer be aware."

Gene Policinski is chief operating officer of the Newseum Institute and of the Institute's First Amendment Center. He can be reached at gpolicinski@newseum.org, or follow him on Twitter at @genefac.

Baseball champions on parade

town red," but not Houston. There, they lean heavily toward another hue. In the bayou city, orange paint is in high demand. Since their Astros won the World Series, some humans – as well as a few animals – sport dyed orange hair. And, the city's nighttime glow seems

We were in H-Town on parade day, when the Astros waved from firetrucks to an estimated half-million fans jamming the streets to honor their heroes' first-ever world championship. We viewed it on our hotel TV, noting "all

things orange" as a common theme.

Except for the parade and an unusual convention in Galveston, we'd have motored down to the cruise port. However, Galveston - a city of some 50,000 – was engulfed by the nation's largest bike rally, and I don't mean Schwinn. The annual four-day event attracts some 250,000 motorcyclists; there was no room at any inn. Such were the rates that at choice hotels, the price of a night's sleep was equal to half of our fare for two on a five-night cruise. The former offered no free breakfasts. The cruise, however, featured 15 meals and on-board entertainment at no additional rge, not to mention a visit to beautiful Caribbean waters...

This is not to say there wasn't "entertainment in Galveston. The historic city is replete with many points of interest. Plus, folks into "people watching" could pretty much see what-ever, particularly if they were interested in the 'cycles, which abounded in all sizes and types. Some were painted in



american With six bikers to every Galveston

resident, it's little wonder that conversations occurred mostly indoors for 100 hours or so. 'Vroom-vrooms" echoed throughout the

city, and out to sea.

Galvestonians feel, in general, that the cyclists are a thoughtful, law-abiding and courteous group of conventioneers who are welcomed back each year. After we boarded Carnival's Valor, we wondered how the departing vessel's whistle could be heard above all the "vroom

Maybe it was orchestrated, but there seemed to be a mass silencing of the cycles as the ship's whistle signaled our departure..

Cruising, we've long believed, provides a respite; most "land-lubbing" concerns are left behind. We learned on this cruise, however, that one does well

to remember "what day it is."
For example, we forgot to "fall back" from daylight saving time. We filled out our "breakfast card" menu asking for 8:30 a.m. room service deliv-ery on Sunday.

At 9:20, my body ached for coffee, and I thought I'd caught Carnival in a

breakfast was an hour late, there was a arrived....

the "leisurely thing" to do. For Galves ton – already the nation's fourth-busiest cruise port – more than 1,000,000 visitors will board cruise ships in 2018. might consider Houston for lodging the night before boarding. Galveston is but one hour away by freeway, and parking/ done. This trip, Houston hotels seemed generally unaffected by the motorcy-clists' convention. We "Pricelined" the Houston North Hyatt-Regency, a won-derful four-star hotel, for \$49, a figure perhaps one-sixth of the tab at a comparable hostelry in Galveston

Walking the deck after dinner, my wife and I enjoyed the beautiful Novem-

low 70s, and there was a gentle breeze.

About 50 miles into the Gulf of
Mexico, we glanced back toward Houston. Brenda and I are pretty sure we saw an "orange glow" never before seen in the City of Champions....

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newbury.

ing, we've noted few miscues, and even those have been miniscule.) Just as I called room service to complain that our knock at the door. The knock meant, of course, that our ON TIME breakfast had

There is much to be said for arriv ing a day early at cruise ports. It's simply Folks who are interested in economizing

ber evening. The temperature was in the



Sweet potato royalty in Gilmer

I was to keynote the all service club luncheon to kickoff the activities surroundng Yamboree, one of the largest festivals in Texas. It attracts upwards of 100,000 people. One of our hosts gave us tickets to the coronation of Queen Yam. I really didn't know what to expect, since Gilmer has a population of around 5,000.

As usually happens in small towns, the event exceeded my expectations by about a thousand percent. It was true pomp and circumstance on a par with a royal wedding or coronation in England. The queen and her court were presented along with a series of Duchesses, the Noble Order of the Garter and the Bearer of the Royal Scepter. Court dancers pro-vided entertainment.

All princesses had a royal promenade around the packed auditorium and when it came time for Queen Madison Lee of the House of Dean to make her appearance, the crowd showed its appreciation with quiet respect. You could almost hear the smiles breaking across faces and heads nodding up and down.

gant evening. The queen's train was at least twenty feet long. Four train guards managed the folds of mate-

stories of texas

The con more than two hours and the entire event was repeated the following night to accommodate the people who wanted to

This is the 80th year for Yambo ree. It was started in 1935, the same year Johnny Mathis was born in Gilmer. It was canceled for two years during WWII. The reason for the celebration is of course the sweet potato, a major crop in 1935 when the state encouraged communities to stage some sort of event for the state's centennial in 1936 A huge carnival takes place downtown and there are numerous contests involving

the vegetable. Booths offer all kinds of merchandise and there is an antique auto show. The program listing all the events is a narrow booklet with 140 pages.

Modest stands offering sweet potatoes for sale line the streets leading downtown. Schools turn out the Thurs-day and Friday of Yamboree weekend ause kids are showing their animals

in the livestock barn.

When I was asked to speak at the all service club luncheon I had no idea it was the event where US presidents, Texas governors, heads of major indus tries and other prominent people have graced the podium. The crowd filled the high school gymnasium and the entire experience was a humbling one for me.

I did manage to interview some yam farmers, the president of the Yam-boree Brandon Garmon and of course, Queen Yam Madison Lee Dean. Joyce Raabe is in charge of judging the yam pie contest. She told me no spices are allowed in the preparation of the pies. "It must be just sweet potato.

Let's honor Veterans

There were more moist tears in my eyes as I attended three services honoring our Veterans. The services I attended were: Clarendon College, Rowe Cem-etery, and War Memorial on the Court-

Our Veterans have given their all to the United States of America and to us God bless America!

Judy Hodges,



Enterprise

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DEADLINES

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LETTERS

The Texas Panhandle's First Newspaper













Clarendon High School egg drop regional championship team is Holden Coxey, Ryan Ward, Daquawne Oliver, and Zack Keith.

CHS engineers win Egg Drop Competition

For the third straight year, the ing TAME (Texas Association of Franks, and Cody Lowry placed 2nd. Clarendon High School Physics Minorities in Engineering). This Coming in 3rd place was the team of program has produced the regional year's champions were Holden Dalton Benson, Preston Elam, Gavin champion in the 11th-12th grade Coxey, Ryan Ward, Daquawne division of the Don Harrington Dissoliter, and Zack Keith. covery Center's Annual Egg Drop

Projects are judged by a panel of professional engineers represent-

the lion's tale

The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting November 14, 2017, with Boss Lion Robert Riza in command.

We had 18 members and one

uest this week - Rit Christian, guest guest this week - Kara Constitution of the Boss Lion.

Lion Mike Norrell reported on the bush where the high the public school where the high school theatre group is traveling to Grapevine this week for a work-

shop, the physics team protected its egg title, and the Broncos are in the playoffs.

the county, and Lion Ashlee Estlack

reported on the college, where the basketball teams are winning and a Charlie Brown Christmas play is

Lion John Howard reported on

had both 2nd and 3rd place teams for the second year running. Eastin Goodpasture, Zack Caisson, Cole

ret, and Zack Ketth.

Clarendon High School also project of creating an egg-cradling both 2nd and 3rd place teams device to protect a raw egg from the second year running. Eastin breaking when dropped from twenty feet on to a hard floor.



were recognized with Gold Star Awards during the 60th annual Panhandle 4-H Gold Star Banquet at West Texas A&M University

Gold Star Awards Donley County 4-H members Chardy Craft and Brandalyn Ellis

planned for next month. Lion Howard was presented with a Centennial Pin for bringing in new members, Lion Brian Fuller received his official name button

and the club was recognized by Lions International for "member satisfaction.' Lion David Smith gave a pan-cake report. Attendance at the supper was down, but those who attended

were very complimentary of the The club voted to support the

annual museum Christmas Party. There being no further busi-ness, we were dismissed to spread Lionism and good cheer throughout our fair county

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TUESDAY - FRIDAY 6 A.M. - CLOSE SAT. 6:30 A.M. - CLOSE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

CLUES ACROSS

- "Be back later"
 A. Zhou dynasty state
 Mineral
- 7. Mineral
 8. __ and gagged
 10. One of Lebron's former sidekicks
 12. Ivory Coast village
 13. Caffeinated beverage
 14. Without armies

- 14. Without airnes
 16. Intention
 17. Sulfuric and citric are two
 19. Supplement with difficulty
 20. & & &
- 20. & & & 21. George and Weezie 25. Liquefied petroleum gas 26. Immortal act 27. Ancient Greek sophist

- 29. Aids digestion

- 48. Natives to New Mexico
- 49. Indigent 50. Illuminated
- Very fast airplane
 Devoid of cordiality

CLUES DOWN

- Worn by women "Naked Gun" actor Nielsen Processes fatty acids
- 5. Mortals
- 6. Not invited . Show__: entertainment . Darkens
- Pilgrimage
 Danish krone

- 14. Danish Mone
 15. Savior
 18. Midway between south and e
 19. Electroencephalograph
 20. Henry's wife Boleyn
 22. Hairstyle
 23. Frames per second

- 24. Sinclair novel 27. Basics 28. A person's life story 29. Luxury automaker 31. Ultrahigh frequency
- 32. Island and antelope are two

- 32. Island and antero 33. Taxi 34. Farm state 35. Fence part 36. Rwandan capital

- 30. Kwandan capital 37. Onomatopoeic t38. In a state of turbulence 39. Abba __, Israeli politician 40. Flowering plants 44. Inquire too closely 47. Sun up in New York

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SATURDAY-- ENCHILADAS



November 17 Broncos v Vega • 7 p.m. • Hereford

November 21

November 23

November 25 Small Business Saturday

November 26

Christmas Lighting Celebration • Santa Clause at 5:00 p.m. • Caroling and Lighting at 6:00 p.m.

November 30 - December 2

November 30 - December 2

December 2 & 3
Saints' Roost Museum Christmas
Party • Donley County Activity Center
• 6:30 p.m.

December 2 & 3

January 6 & 7



Menus

November 20 - 24

Donley County Senior Citizens Mon: Meatball submarine, homing in mix vegetables, cookie, iced

Italian mix vegetables, cookie, iced tea/2% milk. Tue: Steak fingers, roasted potatoes, spinach, whole wheat roll, slices pineapple, iced tea/2% milk. Wed: Soft beef tacos, pinto beans, tossed salad, applesauce, iced tea/2% milk. Thu: Holiday Fri: Holiday

Hedley Senior Citizens
Mon: Spaghetti w/meat sauce, brocili, garlic toast, Autumn Jello, iced
tea/2% milk.
Tue: Chicken fajitas, fajita vegetables, chuckwagon con, Spanish
roe, flour tortilas, fruit cocktali, iced
tea/2% milk.
Wedtear for the constead chicken, potato
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Tue: Chicken spata chicken, potato
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Clarendon ISD

Tue: Cheese omelet, toast, fruit, fruit Wed: No School Thu: No School Fri: No School

Mon: Frito pie, fresh veggje cup, charro beans, salsa, lettuce & tomato garnish, apple-pineapple delight, milk. Tue: Pizza, baby carrots, corn salad,

fresh grapes, cookie, milk. Wed: No School Thu: No School Fri: No School

Social Security payments up... slightly

Hi, gang! Social Security payments are increasing. It's the big-gest boost since 2012 but not nearly enough to keep up with rising costs.

I remember when Social Security was new, and it was pushed as a great and good thing. I believe it could have been just that, however when the Social Security reserves started getting big the Congress couldn't keep their grubby fat little hands off of it. Then they enrolled people who never worked or paid into it.

I know many retired people who don't want to go into any Gov-ernment handout program but would love to get back the money promised when they paid into Social Security. Now they exist in poverty or near poverty. Oh, I forgot! The Government is taking care of that. We will get an increase of \$27.38 a month.

"Social Security Payments to Increase 2 Percent Next Year" by Gary Strauss, AARP,

A 2 percent cost-of-living adjustment for Social Security recipients is coming in 2018, but it doesn't keep pace with rising costs. Social Security recipients will be getting a 2 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) in 2018, the biggest increase since 2012. But it won't be enough to keep pace with the rising costs affecting millions of older consumers who depend on the monthly benefit as their prime

source of retirement income.

The COLA, announced Friday
by the Social Security Administration, will boost the average benefi-ciary check by \$27.38 a month, or about \$329 a year.

The increase is the largest since a 3.6 percent hike in 2012. The adjustment was a minuscule 0.3 per-

in 2017, and there was no change 2016

A A R P
CEO Jo Ann
Jenkins said whittlin'

said ane 2018 COLA w." provide recipients some financial relief but not enough to offset the higher costs eroding older consum-ers' purchasing power. "For the tens of millions of families who depend on Social Security for all or most of their retirement income, this cost of living increase may not adequately cover expenses that rise faster than inflation including prescription drug, utility and housing costs," Jenkins

Indeed, while overall inflation remains relatively tame, those on fixed incomes and struggling to make ends meet are feeling an economic pinch. Average consumer electricity bills are up about 3.5 percent over 2016, and prescription drug prices are climbing at an even

faster clip.

The 2018 COLA could be crimped by higher Medicare Part B premiums. The standard premium is now about \$134 a month, but many participants pay about \$109 a month if they have the fee deducted from monthly benefit payments. A "hold harmless" provision in federal law prohibits Medicare from raising a person's Part B premiums if it reduces their Social Security benefits. For the past two years, most Medicare beneficiaries have been held harmless because, without a significant COLA, increasing their premiums would have resulted in

In 2018, the COLA will be large enough to allow for the increase in premiums. Medicare costs have grown very slowly in the past few years. The increase in premiums that some beneficiaries will see next year is an unfortunate side effect of not having a substantial Social Security COLA recently. Medicare Part B premium prices are expected to be announced next month. "For many beneficiaries, even this small adjustment will be wiped out by increases in Medicare premiums and other health care costs," said Nancy Altman, president of Social Security Works, a nonprofit advocacy group. "It's long past time for Congress to update the formula used to calculate the yearly COLAs so that it reflects the real expenses that seniors and Americans with disabilities face every day."

The Social Security Adminis-

tration also announced that the maximum amount of earnings subject to Social Security tax, now \$127,200, would climb to \$128,700 next year. This year, 42 million retirees are receiving Social Security payments averaging \$1,377 a month, or about \$16,524 a year. With the 2018 COLA, payments will average \$1,404 a month, or \$16,848 a year. In its 2017 annual report, Social Security trustees again warned that without changes, the Social Secu-rity trust fund would be depleted by 2034. Jenkins says AARP will keep pressing for solutions. "AARP continues our advocacy for bipartisan solutions to help ensure the long-term solvency of the program, as well as adequate benefits for recipients," Jenkins said.

Remember the contributions of veterans

The city election is over with newly elected Mayor Greta Byars and Alderman Doc Holladay taking their places on the board.

With many promises, expecta-tions are high from the citizens and the way to know how those promises are met is to attend the regular City Council meeting held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at City Hall, Congratulations, Greta and Doc. The community is hoping for unity, and that begins with the

Veterans Day was commemorated last week, November 11. As a kid I knew it as Armistice Day in remembrance of the signing of the Armistice ending WWI on the Monday in October but many people

at Compie-gne, France. gne, France. The time was the 11th hour. 11th day, 11th month, 1918.

'wick In 1954. picks by peggy cockerham Howardwick • 874-288 it was changed Day to honor

all that had served and are currently serving in the military. In the early 1970s, Congress began messing with our holidays, moving them to a Monday which gave many another three-day weekend. In 1971, Veterans Day was moved by law to the 4th

s continued to view November 11 as the true date and it was offi-cially moved back to November 11 This was a day of reflection for me and all my ancestors that have fought for our country beginning with the French and Indian War in 1756, American Revolution, War of 1812, Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korea, Viet-nam, Iraq and Afghanistan plus the Cold War

I proudly stand and salute the flag and always cry when the Star Spangled Banner is played/sang. I am a patriot. God bless all our service men and women and listen to the stories. Write them down because you won't remember small details when they are gone

New farm simulator game is very realistic

Last month for my 11th birth- and take care of day, I got a new game called Farming them. You earn

Farming Simulator is a computer game where you choose a diffiand animals. culty and then design your character and follow a tutorial to learn the have a chicken game. the cub

things like trees, potatoes, sugar beets, and grain. You can either sell but you have the grain or feed it to farm animals... collect all the but it takes money to buy the animals

You also game. coop wnen you

You can plant a few different start and you can reporter sell your eggs, b

Some of the challenges in the farming, too.

game are keeping your crop from withering before you can get it harvested and you also have to deal with the weather, such as hail that ruin your crops. Sometimes you can take out a loan but you have to be careful. because I bought too much equip-ment once and couldn't pay it back for a long time.

I think this is really close to real farming and my Uncle Michael, who is a farmer, says it sounds just like

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Scenes from Veterans Day at Clarendon CISD













P.C. MESSER

Alvin Andrew "P.C." Messer was born in Temple in 1912 and lived most of his life at McKnight before moving to Clarendon in 1941.

He served Donley County faithfully as the county and dis-trict clerk for 32 years – diligently recording the births, deaths, and marriages along with court proceedings and other official business in Donley County – from

1955 until his retirement in 1987, just a few months before

eath. C. also served America in World War II in the Navy and lived in service to others through civic and church and lived in service to others through civic and church organizations, particularly the Clarendon Lions Club where he was a longtime member, past president and Lion Tamer at the time of his passing.

The Whistle-Stop and the community salute the memory of P.C. Messer for his service to Donley County and his service to his fellow man. Thank you, sir!

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

SWEPCO warns about utility scams

Company (SWEPCO) is proud to taceable form of payment. Stand with its fellow electric, water, and natural gas utilities and trade and often target those who are most

associations in support of Utilities United Against Scams (UUAS). UUAS is a consortium of more than 100 U.S. and Canadian utilities and will observe the second annual Utility Scam Awareness Day. Wednesday, November 15, as part of a week-long advocacy and aware-

ness campaign, November 13-17.

Many electric, water, and natural gas customers throughout the country are being targeted by impostor utility scams each day. Scam-mers typically use phone, in-person. and online tactics to target these customers. Scammers pose as electric, water, or natural gas company employees, and they threaten that customers' services will be disconnected or shut off if they fail to make an immediate payment – typically

vulnerable, including senior citizens and low-income communities. They also aim their scams at small busi-ness owners during busy customer service hours.

"Scammers are targeting local businesses, senior citizens and customers whose native language is not English," said Brett Mattison, SWEPCO's director of customer services and marketing. "We're sharing this information so customers can protect themselves from this fraudu-lent activity."

ctivity."
"SWEPCO employees will never demand immediate payment, insist a payment be made with a pre-paid credit card or ask a customer to meet us in a parking lot to make a payment," said Mattison.

The Junior Horse Quiz Team of Gracie Ellis, Grant Haynes, Bryce Williams, and Maloree Wann placed 1st at the Fall Roundup.

The Senior Beef Ouiz Team of Taylor Shaller, Caton Grahn, Ryan Ward, and Cutter Goodpasture placed 3rd and will also be advanc-ing to the State Roundup after competing at the Fall Roundup.

The Junior Horse Ouiz Team of Kinslee Hatley, Parker Haynes, and

Whitney Williams placed 2nd at the Fall Roundup

How Customers Can Protect

 Customers should never pur chase a prepaid card to avoid service disconnection or shutoff. Legitimate utility companies do not specify how customers should make a bill pay-ment and always offer a variety of ways to pay a bill, including accepting payments online, by phone, auto-

matic bank draft, mail, or in person.

• If someone threatens immedi ate disconnection or shutoff of service, customers should hang up the phone, delete the email, or shut the door. Companies never send a single notification one hour or less before disconnection.

Customers who suspect they have been victims of fraud, or who feel threatened by scammers, should contact local law enforce-ment authorities. The Federal Trade Commission's website is also a good source of information about how to protect personal information

Donley County 4-H competed at fall roundup

Donley County 4-H recently had 33 members compete in the District 1 4-H Fall Roundup held at West Texas A&M University vember 2-4.

The Food Challenge is a contest where team members are given a basket of surprise ingredients with a set amount of time to prepare a dish and give a presentation about the finished dish and its nutritional value to

a panel of judges.

Members competing in this contest were Junior Team A: Parker Haynes, Tandie Cummins, and Haiden Norman; Team B: Kenna-die Cummins, Kinslee Hatley, Zane Cruse, and Aubry Stidham; and the Intermediate Team: Laney Gates, Hailey Wilson, and Levi Gates. In the Food Show, contestants prepare a dish ahead of time and

present it to a panel of judges who conduct an interview asking questions about the preparation and nutritional value of the dish. Members competing in this contest were Tandie and Kennadie Cummins.

Lindy Craft and Shonda Cum mins are the leaders for the food

Quiz Bowl contests were a big event for Donley County where team members go head to head with another team in a "Jeopardy" style contest answering questions in Beef, Horse, or Swine categories working their way through the tournamen

The Senior Horse Quiz Team placed 3rd overall and will advance to State Roundup. Members on this team are Brandalyn Ellis, Darcie Hunsaker, Malerie Simpson, Tanner

Burch and Payton Havens.

The Intermediate Team of
Mycah Woodard, Brenna Ellis, and Jodee Pigg placed 1st; and the team of Laney Gates, Kasen Hatley, and Levi Gates placed 3rd.

The Junior Team of Maloree Wann, Gracie Ellis, Grant Haynes, and Bryce Williams placed 1st; and Kinslee Hatley, Whitney Williams, and Parker Haynes came in 2nd after meeting head to head in the cham-pionship round. The team of Lind-ley Hill, Evelyn Mills, and Haiden

Norman also did very well.

Shelly Hunsaker, Jenifer Pigg, and Julie Gates are the coaches for these teams.

The Senior Beef Quiz Team of Taylor Shaller, Caton Grahn, Ryan Ward, and Cutter Goodpasture placed 3rd and will also be advancing to State Roundup. The Interme-diate Team of Madison Smith, Emeri Robinson, Brock Hatley, and Calder Havens competed well, too

The Beef Quiz Teams are coached by Guy Ellis.

A lot of time is put in to pre paring for these contests and county agent Leonard Haynes appreciates all the effort put forth by the kids, volunteers, and parents.

Head Start taking new applications

Clarendon Head Start is taking now applications for new students. Children age 4 or who turn 4 on or before January 1, 2018, are eligible. Call 874-3855 to make an

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The Senior Horse Quiz Team of Brandalyn Ellis, Darcie Hunsaker, Payton Havens, Tanner Burch, and Malerie Simpson placed 3rd at

District and will advance to the State Roundup.

Lady Bronco JV win Consolation trophy in Tascosa Tournament

After taking a 43-50 loss to River Road in the first round of the Tascosa Junior Varsity Tournament, the Lady Bronco JV turned up the heat to take the Consolation Trophy over Nazareth. They played four good games of basketball with one

loss and three wins.

In their opening game with
River Road, the Lady Broncos
played well but had trouble handling the Lady Cats physical game. Matte Johnson pumped in 16 points to lead the ladies on the scoreboard and Ashlyn Newsome and Darcy Hunsaker each helped with seven. Missed free throws hurt them somewhat as they only converted 17 of 32.

Kira Weatherton finished with

four, MaKayla Brown and Raynee Newsome each helped with three, Jade Benson had two, and Aubrey Jaramillo put in one.

Things went better in the next game against Randall and the ladies won, 57-34. The ladies shot much better and were able to convert bonus

points throughout. Offensively, they had nine players add to their point total and everyone contributed to the total and everyone contributed to the win. Weatherton led all scorers with 16, Benson put in 14, and Johnson added 10. A. Newsome and Hunsaker each put in six, while MaKay Shelp helped with five. R. Newsom and Sophie Bilbrey had two each.

The Lady Broncos then took on Lubbock Coronado and defeated them 43-35. Once again the ladies were solid on both ends of the court despite trailing by three after the first quarter of play. They were able to take the lead in the second quarter and never look back. Johnson and Benson put in 13 while Hunsaker added 12. Shelp and Kailee Osburn each added two and Brown put in

The win over Coronado put them in the Consolation game with Nazareth. Hard work and determination paid off and the ladies earned the win at 50-32. The Lady Broncos led throughout the game and really



turned up the heat in the second half. Defensively, they were strong, especially in the third quarter, as they held the Swiftettes to only four points. They held the momentum in the second half to get the win.
Weatherton finished with 13, Johnson had 12, and Benson put in 10. A.
Newsome had eight, Hunsaker put in four, Brown had two, and Kaylin Hicks added one.

"After a rough game with River

Road with too many fouls, the girls really began to execute the offense coach Kasey Bell said. "They really played hard and worked well as a team. We got a lot of our points off the press and were able to convert their turnovers into points. I was pleased with the way they played so hard to win their last three games."

The ladies will travel to Lockney on Tuesday, November 21, and play at 4:00 p.m.



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Hedley Senior Night

The Class of 2018 had their annual Senior night on Friday, November 6. The seniors, along with their parents walked the field for the last time as HHS students

Farm and Ranch Symposium set for November 28

AMARILLO - The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will offer two sessions during this year's Panhandle Farm and Ranch Management Symposium at the Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show

The program is set for Nov. 28 the Grand Plaza of the Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S. Buchanan St. in Amarillo. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. for the morning session and 1:30 p.m. for the afternoon ses-

"This year we are running all day Tuesday and we're dividing the program in two," said Danny Nusser, program in two, said Damy Nusse, AgrilLife Extension regional pro-gram leader in Amarillo. "We know not every producer needs to or can stay for the entire program, so we want to make sure we are offering them what they may need in a timely format.

Six Texas Department of Agri culture continuing education credits, three in the morning – two integrated pest management and one laws and regulations, and three in the after-noon – two general and one drift minimization, will be offered. Morning program CEU certificates will be given at 12:30 p.m. and those for the afternoon program will be handed out at 4:30 p.m.

Nusser said while lunch will not be provided, producers are welcome to attend all day. There will be a one-time fee of \$10, whether they attend one session or both sessions

Agenda topics include: Aphid Focus on Wheat Sorghum, Dr. Ed Bynum, AgriLife Extension entomologist, Amarillo.

Best Management Practices for

Corn Mycotoxins (Fumonisin/Aflatoxins), Dr. Jourdan Bell, AgriLife

toxins), Dr. Jourdan Bell, AgriLite Extension agronomist, Amarillo, Making the Right Decisions Related to Leasing Arrangements, Dr. Tiffany Dowell Lashmet, AgriL-ife Extension agricultural law spe-cialist, Amarillo.

For information, contact Nusser at 677-5600 or d-nusser@tamu.edu

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For all the loyalty and goodwill you've shown us, we offer our thanks along with our warm wishes for a joyous Thanksgiving holiday.

We will be closed Thursday, November 23, 2017, for Thanksgiving.



Skyrockets end **Broncos' streak**

Colts beat Wellington 52-8

By Sandy Anderberg

The Broncos went up against
Wellington, who is a top ten team in the state rankings, last Friday night carri and were defeated 0-49.

The Broncos finished District six

play in second place to the Skyrock-

Conkin.

The Broncos' rushing yards, which have been great all season, only amounted to 42 yards against Wellington. Daquawne Oliver, who has been unstoppable, carried the ball six times for only three yards on

The Clarendon Junior High Colts have had a great season (6-2) with only two losses for the year. They were able to cap off their season with a big 52-8 over Welling-

season with a big 32-8 over weiting-tion at home last Thursday.

Sylvester Ballard scored four rushing touchdowns and he con-verted two two-point bonuses.

Jordan Evans found the end zone once and had one two-point conver-

Koyt Tucek caught a pass from Josiah Howard for six, and Josh Dunn had one rushing TD. Rhett

Caison had two two-point conver-

racked up several yards for the year was stopped at 11 yards on seven

six times for 13 yards, and Ryan McCleskey had eight carries for 20

play in second place to the Skyrock-ets and will have a playoff game in Hereford Friday night at 7:00 p.m. against Vega.

Things just did not go well against Wellington last Friday night according to head coach Clint cos were unable to find the end zone

"Our defense played well,"
Conkin said. "We had several guys
with tackles. We just have to regroup

and get ready for the playoffs."

The Broncos finished their regular season at 9-1 and were 4-1 in District play.

Coach Blake Nichols noted that standouts on defense were Brock Hatley, Aiden Caudle, Cutter Good-

pasture, and Jodee Pigg.
"Overall, I felt like we had a
good season. Obviously our record
speaks to that, but more importantly

everyone improved greatly from the first day of the season," Nich-ols said. "It was fun to watch these guys develop as the season went

along. They worked hard all season and were very coachable, and that's really all you can ask of a group of bide."



Bronco Preston Elam protects the ball Friday night against Wel-



Sylvester Ballard runs the ball for a touchdown last Thursday against Wellington.

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Lady Broncos get the best of Follett

By Sandy Anderberg
The Lady Broncos put their first loss behind them and regrouped to defeat Follett, 40-19, on the road last week.

The ladies shot 82 percent from the bonus line as a team, and senior Carlee Johnson led the way with 15 points.

After a slow first quarter, the Lady Broncos turned up the heat on the Lady Panthers outscoring them,

"The Lady Broncos had a slow start after their two-hour bus ride to Follett," coach Korey Conkin said. "But they picked up the pace tre-mendously in the second quarter and never looked back."

Defensively, the Lady Broncos were solid as they only allowed six points the entire first half of play.

"Defense was the key as their full-court pressure put them on a 13 point run against the Lady Panthers," Conkin said. "They had a strong finish in the second half of play."

Also adding to the point total was Mattee Johnson with eight, San-drea Smith and Ashlynn Newsome four each, Emily Johnson put in three, and Jade Benson, Kira Weath-erton, and Hannah Hommel each finished with two.

"The girls were a bit unfo-cused at the beginning of the game," Conkin said. "We couldn't grab ahold of steals. When their defense picked up, their shots started falling I'm glad we could get us a 'W' or the road."

The Lady Broncos will travel to Lockney on Tuesday, November 21 Game time will be 6:30 p.m.

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10 NEWS

Seliger files for re-election to senate

State Sen. Kel Seliger (R-Amarillo) this week filed his papers with the Republican Party of Texas to seek re-election to Senate District 31. Senate District 31 spans 37 counties across the Panhandle, South Plains, and Permian Basin, including the cities of Amarillo, Midland, Odessa, and Big Spring. The district, larger than the State of Indiana, is one of the biggest and most conservative in Texas

"I was born and raised here and my family is from here," Kel said. "I'm honored and proud to fight for the small-town values of our com-

ication to education, small government, and local control.

He is 'A' Rated by the NRA, endorsed by Texas Alliance for Life, and has a 100% Pro-Life Rating from Texas Right to Life. He was named a "Fighter for Free Enterprise" four times by the Texas Association of Business for promoting a healthy Texas business climate. Seliger also received the Texas Conservative Coalition's Conservative Champion Award, Texas Wildlife Association's Conservation Hero Award, and the

Seliger consistently champions agriculture and energy issues, including a recent proposal to cap state revenue from energy taxes - so our industry, economy, and community can benefit more from what we produce.

As Chairman of the Senate Higher Education Committee and the longest serving member on the Senate Education Committee, Seliger is one of Texas's top education leaders. Notably, he authored the bill to provide the option of Individual

Since he was first elected, Conservative Roundtable of Texas's Graduation Committees for stu-Seliger has been recognized for his Effective Conservative Lawmaker conservative principles, and his ded-award. Graduation Committees for stu-dents who pass all of their courses, but fail to pass one or two of their state-mandated tests. In recognition of these efforts, he was named to the Texas Parent Teacher Association Legislative Honor Roll and received the Leader in Education Award from

Humanities Texas. Seliger also serves on the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Economic Development. He is a long-time member of the NRA and the Texas Farm Bureau. Seliger and his wife, Nancy, have two sons. Jonathan and Matthew.



King on campus

State Rep. Ken King (R-Canadian) visited Clarendon College last week, where he was a guest lecturer for a government class and then ate lunch with representatives of the Student Government Association.



Clarendon College honors students helped set a gravestone for a veteran recently with County Veterans Services Officer George Hall.

CC students volunteer with VFW

gram students recently helped Vet students part in to assist the widow in errans of Foreign Wars Post 7782 in saving her money for placement fees preparing and placing a veteran's and also their effort to honor one of headstone for PFC Billy G. Hill America's heroes.

Clarendon College honors pro- post appreciates the hard work the of Wellington, Morgan Reynolds of McLean, and Ethan Shipman of

Memphis.
CC honors students each volunteer 16 hours per semester with recently.

Sudents assisting with the projDonley County Veterans Service Officer George Hall says the McLean, Maria Perez Hernandez

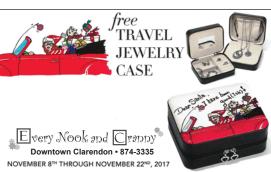
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dinator Charla Crump at 874-4823.



IRRIGATION, DOMESTIC, TEST HOLE

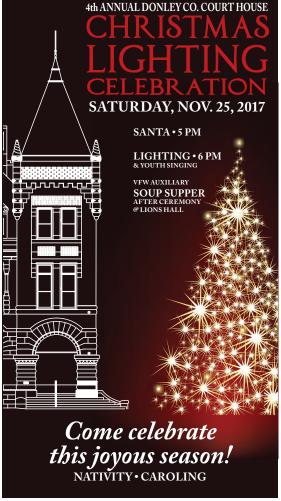
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ENTERPRISE COLORING CONTEST Details on page 14.

SHOP LOCAL - SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

Shop locally this holiday season

Season can benefit your community in various ways.

Shopping is a big part of the holiday season, when families and friends gather to reconnect and exchange gifts. While the popularity of shopping online has grown, such practices are not always eco-friendly or timely, as gifts bought online must be packaged and shipped, wasting valuable resources and time that lastminute shoppers may not have.

The benefits of shopping locally go beyond convenience and the chance to reduce your carbon footprint. The following are a few ways that shopping locally this holiday season can directly benefit your community and the people who call it home.

COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Local small businesses go a long way toward creating a neighborhood identity, and that identity can create a stronger sense of community among you and your neighbors. In addition, a unique community identity can make your town more attractive to outsiders, and that appeal can improve the value of local real estate while also attracting more people to local businesses in your neighborhood.

LOCAL ECONOMY

When men and women shop locally, they are putting money

back into their local communities. Local small businesses may be owned by your neighbors, and it can be comforting to know that your holiday shopping dollars are going to support a neighbor instead of a large corporation. Local businesses also employ your neighbors, so shopping local can strengthen the local economy by creating jobs that may not exist if you and members of your community fail to support local small businesses.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

The accessibility of customer service is another oft-overlooked benefit of shopping locally. When buying from national chains, especially during the holiday season



when such businesses may be overwhelmed with orders, making contact with customer service departments can be a trying exercise In addition, buying locally makes it more convenient for friends and family members who also live in your community to return their gifts.



SHOP LOCAL - STAY HEALTHY

Bust Up the Stress of the Holidays

any people find the holiday season can be stressful. Holiday hosts may bear the brunt of seasonal stress, but the season also may be challenging for those who have lost loved ones or do not have close families to celebrate with. When holiday hustle leads to frayed nerves, there are some things people can do to reduce their stress.

· Hit the gym. The American Society for Exercise Physiologists savs exercise has been shown to increase one's sense of well-being. mood, self-esteem, and stress responsivity. Stress can rev up adrenaline, and exercise can help relieve any pent-up energy and frustration.

· Eat the right foods. Stay compound the problem. hydrated and eat plenty of fiber, fruits and vegetables. This can help · Get ample rest. Go to bed and stabilize blood sugar rise at the same time levels and decrease each day. Many adults cravings for comfort function best when foods. Do not turn they get between to caffeine, sugary seven and eight sweets and alcohol hours of sleep to reduce stress, per night, as such foods and and a beverages good may only night's rest can help in the fight against stress.

· Engage in activities you enjoy.

Make time for activities that you like to do, such as crafts, hobbies and listening to music. Take time away from holiday tasks to give yourself a break

· Skip the need to be perfect.

Christmas movies and holiday ideals portrayed in advertisements can put undue pressure on the average person. Ignore any perceived pressure to have a perfect holiday season, instead resolving to enjoy the time with family and friends.

Stress can impact the ability to enjoy oneself during the holidays. But stress can be overcome, even during this busy time of year.

> CLARENDON, TEXAS 806.874.1767 SHOWROOM HOURS THURSDAY - SATURDAY 10:00 - 6:00 OR BY APPOINTMENT Follow us on Facebook!



SHOP LOCAL - SUPPORT CHARITIES

Give the gift of charity

he charity watchdog organization Charity
Navigator says that total giving to charitable organizations equalled \$390.05 billion in 2016.
This was an increase of 2.7 percent in current dollars from 2015. In fact, giving has increased every year since 1976 with the exception of 1987, 2008 and 2009.

Historically, religious groups receive the largest share of charitable donations. However, education-based charities and human services charities also received a large percentage of donations in 2016, says Giving USA's 2017 Annual Report on Philanthropy.

Giving can be a year-round occurrence, but philanthropy tends to rise during the holiday season when people are feeling charitable. Some people even turn their charitable efforts into gifts for loved ones. The following are some gift ideas that can benefit the recipient, the person doing the giving and a third-party group as well.

REAL ESTATE

Donating real estate can be an option for the person who has a piece of property or a home they

no longer need. Rather than face taxes on the property once it's been sold, donating it to an organization or individual represents a charitable offering, and in some cases, may be eligible for a tax deduction equal to the fair market value of the real estate. Giving a plot of land or transferring a deed to a home to someone worthy

can make for a memorable, lifealtering gift.

EDUCATIONAL BEQUEST

A donation to a college can help pay the tuitions of future students. Some philanthropists like to fund particular renovations at their alma maters or fund scholarships for students looking to work in a particular industry.

CHARITABLE TRUST OR STOCKS

A charitable trust is a great way to transfer wealth to heirs or simply provide a stream of income over the years. Individuals can establish a period of time during which the assets are held in a trust and when those assets can be accessed.

A tax-efficient way to give is to contribute to long-term securities in a person's name. Recipients of such gifts can choose to cash in their stocks at a later date.

Charitable giving rises during the holiday season. Providing opportunities for friends and loved ones can make a wonderful gift. Find out which options are best for you by speaking with a financial advisor or tax professional.





SHOP LOCAL - ENJOY FRIENDSHIPS

Maximize entertaining space

eople who live in compact homes or apartments may find space is at a premium during regular times of the year. When the holidays arrive, decorations, trees and presents can make homes seem even more cluttered. This can make it especially challenging for holiday hosts who want to open up their homes for festive gatherings. Even if space is at a premium, all it takes is a little ingenuity to entertain successfully.

Put nonessential furniture and other decor away. It's impossible for would-be holiday hosts to move all of their belongings out of their homes to create entertaining space. But hosts can certainly cut down on clutter. Check out the flow of a room and then move pieces around as needed to open up floor space. Push tables or large pieces of furniture up against walls. Swap out armchairs for folding chairs. Stow knickknacks in bedrooms or in closets.

Put benches and ledges to use. Narrow Put benches and wide benches, such as those common to picnic tables, can seat three or four comfortably. Do not discount deep window ledges as potential seats, as these areas can be made more comfortable with pillows or cushions.

Collapse tables after meals. If a sit-down dinner is the goal, set up tables accordingly. Then break down the tables afterward to free up more space. Serve small desserts that can be easily transported from room to room.

Use islands and countertops. Tables can take up valuable space. When entertaining a lot of

guests, set up an all-purpose counter island and add barstools. This can be an area for food prep, eating and entertaining.

Create conversation areas. Encourage guests to spread out by setting up intimate spots in various rooms. This way guests won't feel the need to congregate in the same space. Bistro tables in a den, a few floor pillows in front of the fireplace and stools by a kitchen island will create conversation areas.

Expand outside, if possible. Rent a tent that can be warmed with a space heater. If your home has a closed-in porch or patio space, cover screens with insulating plastic to create a comfortable added room.

Skip a sit-down meal. Large tables take up a lot of space, so serve a buffet, tapas, or passed hors d'oeuvres so guests mix and mingle rather than sit down at one large table.

Q Use all available surfaces. O Invest in some sturdy serving trays that can be placed on television stands, upright speakers, ottomans, or even wooden crates. This will increase the amount of room you have to serve and store items.

Spread out refreshments. Avoid bottlenecks in common areas by putting food, beverages and other items in various locations. Fill up the kitchen sink with ice and make it an oversized beverage cooler.

Holiday entertaining requires some creativity when hosting in compact spaces.



SHOP LOCAL - CONTROL YOUR FINANCES

Set and Stick to a Holiday Budget

The chance to give gifts and spend time with loved ones makes the holiday season a special time of year. But for many people, the holiday season often leads to overspending.

A 2016 survey from the American Research Gr oup found that American shoppers anticipated spending an average of \$930 on gifts that holiday season. Data from T. Rowe Price confirms that parents are spending between \$400 and \$500 per child each year. In 2015, CPA Canada conducted a random phone survey of 1,004 adult Canadians and found the average adult planned to spend \$766 on holiday gifts.

Although these numbers can reflect an overwhelming sense of generosity, many times excessive spending is based on a desire to outdo gifting from the year prior sometimes at the risk of personal finances. Some people are taking drastic measures to make holidays over-the-top, with some delving into emergency savings while others withdraw prematurely from retirement

accounts. Budgeting for the holiday season can help shoppers keep their finances in check.

DETERMINE SPENDING PATTERNS

An examination of receipts and spending habits from previous holiday seasons can help individuals establish budgets for the current year. Make a list of all expenses - even the ones that extend beyond holiday giving. These may include expenses such as gym service fees, homeowner's insurance, traveling expenses, gift exchanges at work, and more. Extra costs can add up and should be factored into holiday budgets.

Try to recall if your spending last year felt comfortable or if you were paying off credit cards long after the holiday season had ended. If it's the latter, resolve to make adjustments.

SET A BUDGET THAT FITS

There is no such thing as a one-

size-fits-all budget. Figure out if there is extra money this season or if times are tight. This will help you plan accordingly and avoid overspending. Shifting priorities can help free up some cash. If children are interested in this year's hot (and likely expensive) gift, cut back on holiday travel or entertaining. Instead of buying gifts for coworkers, buy a drink during a night out.

USE THE HOLIDAYS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SELL

Collectibles, gently used toys, video games, action figures - all of these items may be collecting dust at your home, but they might be coveted by other shoppers. Rely on the season for spending to make some extra income that can be cashed in for your own holiday purchases.

TRACK SPENDING

Establish a separate account strictly for



holiday spending. This can include a credit card only used for gifts and entertaining or a savings account at a bank or credit union. You won't know what is going out of your account unless you keep careful tabs on it. Tracking spending is the biggest key to sticking with a budget.

Holiday budgeting can be challenging. But with some effort, it is possible to avoid debt and still enjoy a happy holiday season.

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SHOP LOCAL - MAKE IT EASY

Keep holiday hosting simple and easy

osting family and friends for the holidays is a tall task. According to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, during the Christmas/New Year holiday period, the number of long-distance trips (to and from a destination 50 miles or more away) increases by 23 percent compared to the rest of the year. While many of those traveling will stay in hotels, many more will enjoy the hospitality of loved ones.

Holiday hosting can make an already hectic time of year that much busier, as hosts must prepare their homes for guests in the midst of holiday shopping excursions, office Christmas parties and social engagements around the neighborhood and at kids' schools.

Holiday hosting does not have to run hosts ragged in the days leading up to guests' arrival. The following are a handful of ways to simplify holiday hosting.

Plan menus well in advance of guests' arrival. One of the more timeconsuming tasks associated with holiday hosting is cooking. Hosts who plan their holiday menus in advance can get started on prep work several weeks before guests arrive. Choose dishes that can be prepared in advance and then frozen, so dishes need only be defrosted and cooked once guests arrive.

Let guests pitch in. Some hosts may feel obligated to cater to all of their guests' needs during the holiday season. But many guests want to



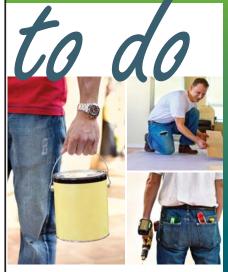
pitch in any way they can. If guests offer to do some holiday baking or take the family out for dinner during their visits, allow them to do so. This takes a little responsibility away from hosts while also allowing guests to show how much they appreciate the hospitality of their hosts.

Plan a night out. Another way to make hosting friends and family for the holidays less taxing is to plan a night out for everyone. In lieu of cooking at home, dine out at an affordable, family-friendly restaurant before taking everyone to a local holiday light display or trade days. This gets everyone out of the house and allows hosts to showcase their hometown pride.

Rotate hosting duties. The holiday season is full of tradition, and some hosts may feel beholden to tradition and offer to host each year. But family traditions are about getting together, not about getting together in a particular place each year. Families who rotate hosting duties each year can ensure one member of the family does not feel overwhelmed time and again. And sharing hosting duties means someone new gets to avoid the hectic holiday traveling season each year.

THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GETTING THE JOB DONE AND A JOB WELL DONE.

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TO DONE and then some,

Come in and get our Holiday **Gift Guide**

Your guide to the best gift ideas

Paint Center

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SHOP LOCAL - SING ALONG

The origin of Rudolph

Aults and children alike are familiar with the tale of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." As the lyrics of the song illustrate:

Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer had a very shiny nose / And if you ever saw it, you would even say it glows.

Popularized by the song written by Johnny Marks and sung by Gene Autry, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer dates back to 1939. A copywriter named Robert L. May created the story of the misfit reindeer in 1939 when working for Montgomery Ward. The retail giant was producing marketing

holiday coloring books for children and wanted to come up with a clever character.

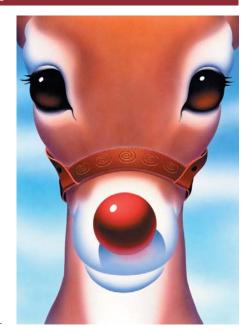
He was almost Reginald with a blue nose.

Although Rudolph is now beloved, May's original ideas included Rollo and Reginald. Also, Rudolph's famed red nose almost didn't come to be. Because a red nose at the time was viewed as a sign of alcoholism, Montgomery Ward was hesitant to be on board with the bulbous, red snoot. A blue nose was

considered, but later changed. In its first year of publication, Montgomery Ward had distributed 2.4 million copies of Rudolph's story.

The catchy tune came thereafter and a cartoon short in 1948. In 1964, the stopmotion animated television special further propelled Rudolph to celebrity, and became the most recognizable Rudolph adaption.

Today, Rudolph is known across the globe as the reindeer responsible for navigating Santa's sleigh through tricky weather on Christmas Eve. He continues to be loved by many young and old.







LOWE'S FAMILY CENTER

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SHOP LOCAL - KIDS IN NEED

Visit The Angel Tree

The economic circumstance of parents shouldn't keep children from experiencing the joy of having a gift to open on Christmas morning. Thanks to a local program, you can help make sure every kid has a Merry Christmas.

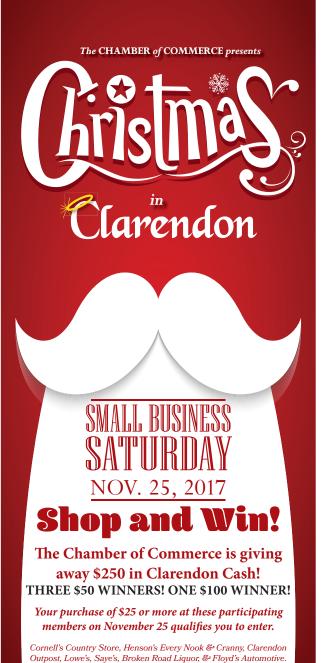
Angel Tree applications are currently available at the Burton Memorial Library in downtown Clarendon. Kids ages 12 and under, who might not otherwise have Christmas, are eligible for this program. The application period will close December 1, 2017.

Angels are on the tree now and available for adoption. Go by the Library and select an Angel that you can provide a gift to this Christmas. For more information, contact the Library at 874-3685.









SEE STORES FOR DETAILS.



SHOP LOCAL - MANAGE YOUR MONEY



Smart ways to pay for gifts

Intertaining, dinners, gifts, travel, and decorating may make for a festive time of year, but the holidays certainly can put a strain on personal finances. No one wants to experience a financial hangover come January. Therefore, making a plan for paying for holiday expenditures now can help the average person save and protect their finances.

Figuring out how to finance holiday purchases can be just as important as scoping out deals and cashing in coupons. Here's a look at some of the ways to pay for holiday gifts.

CREDIT CARDS

Many consumers feel that credit cards are the safest way to make purchases, whether in-store or online. With credit cards, shoppers are using a line of credit. Should fraudulent purchases be made or errors in accounting occur, shoppers aren't responsible - the credit card company is in charge of tracking down or absorbing the error.

Now that spending has increased after the last recession, credit card companies are again offering deals to lure in new customers. Rewards cards are quite popular. Such cards offer points, cash back or travel miles to customers who meet certain criteria. For those who can pay off balances and meet the requirements, these cards can

help save substantial amounts of money. Keep in mind that regular cards carry an interest rate of 15 percent on average, while retail store cards may be as high as 24 percent.

LAYAWAY

Layaway is a safe way to shop for the holidays. Layaway entitles consumers to buy an item by making installment payments. The frequency of payments depends on shoppers' ability to pay. Failure to pay will not affect a credit score or negatively impact credit standing in any way - the consumer may just lose their down payment or be forced to pay a layaway fee. Paying in installments helps lock in a special sale rate and can discourage impulse buying as well.

CASH AND PREPAID CARDS

Paying in cash can help shoppers avoid overspending on gifts. After setting aside a cash limit, once the money is spent, shopping is done. Paying in cash does carry some risk if the money is stolen or misplaced. Plus, as opposed to paying with credit, which can offer some purchase protection or built-in warranties, cash may have no protective benefits.

As an alternative to cash, consumers may want to purchase preloaded cash cards in various amounts. Like cash, when the value on the card is depleted, shopping is finished. SHOP LOCAL - BE READY

Being prepared for unexpected company

The latter part of the year is full to create a signature or seasonal of social engagements with family and friends. While many social occasions surrounding Christmas are anticipated for months in advance, unexpected pop-ins are also the norm this time of year. Rather than being caught off guard, individuals can take steps to prepare for unexpected guests.

Have food available. Even if guests pop in for a little while, it's nice to be able to offer them something to eat. Keep cheese and crackers, fresh fruit, pretzels, and other snacks on hand. Makeahead, crowd-friendly foods can be prepared and frozen. Keep cookies in air-tight tins and purchase a premade frozen pie to serve, if necessary. In a pinch, you can always order out.

Keep the bar stocked. Toasting to a happy holiday season is the norm during this time of year. Toasting requires hosts have some spirits on hand. Stock the bar with a few staples, such as red and white wine, vodka, rum, whiskey, and mixers. Also, you may just want

cocktail that can be served when guests arrive.

Cue the musical playlist. Put together a playlist of holiday music that will provide the ideal ambiance should guests arrive. Thanks to services like Spotify, Amazon Music and Pandora, holiday music that fills a home with the sweet sounds of the season is now always accessible.

Keep things neat. Set aside a closet or space that can serve as a catch-all where errant items can quickly be stored should guests arrive. Gather loose toys, books or stray papers in a basket and then stash the basket in the closet until guests depart. Routinely empty the dishwasher so dirty dishes left in the sink can be quickly loaded before guests arrive.

Create an aromatic atmosphere.

Scented candles that evoke the aromas of the season can refresh stale indoor air. Butter cookie, apple pie and cinnamon scented candles can make it seem like you just finished some holiday baking.





SHOP LOCAL - RELAX & ENJOY

Warm up with a classic toddy

ome the holiday season, hot toddies are ideal for entertaining, providing spirited fun and a means to chasing away the winter chill.

Hot toddies have been around for centuries. Usually a mix of a spirit - either whiskey, rum or brandy - hot water, honey and spices, some believe the word "toddy" comes from an Indian drink of the same name that is produced by fermenting the sap of palm trees. Other sources say the hot toddy was created by Dr. Robert Bentley Todd, an Irish physician who prescribed a drink made of brandy, white cinnamon, sugar syrup, and water. The drink was dubbed the "hot toddy."

Hot drinks embellished with

alcohol were long used for medicinal purposes. While alcoholic beverages are no longer used as medicine, hot toddies can still chase away a chill. "Grog" is another name given to hot alcoholic drinks, or any drink in which unmeasured amounts of spirits are mixed with other ingredients. Grog may also refer to a water-and-rum mixture that sea merchants once drank. The water kept the merchants hydrated, while the rum prevented the water from spoiling during voyages.

The classic hot toddy can be a versatile drink used to keep guests comfortable and cheerful. This warm libation is soothing and savory, mixing citrus, honey and spices, which each have their various health benefits.



Although hot toddy recipes vary, the following is the recipe for a classic hot toddy, as culled by recipes from Wine Enthusiast, Imbibe and PBS Food.

Classic Hot Toddy

- 1½ ounces bourbon, whiskey or another brown liquor
- 1 tablespoon honey
- ½ ounce fresh lemon juice
- 1 cup boiling water

Cinnamon stick

Lemon wedge

Cloves or star anise

Combine liquor, lemon juice, honey, and boiling water together in a mug or Irish coffee glass. Push cloves or star anise into the lemon wedge. Add the cinnamon stick and lemon wedge to the mug. Allow lemon and cinnamon stick to steep in the beverage for a few minutes. Stir and eniov.



SHOP LOCAL - SHOP SMALL

Support small business

In 2010, American Express founded Small Business Saturday to help businesses get more customers. The day encourages shopping at small, locally owned businesses on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

The first-ever Small Business Saturday was held on Nov. 27, 2010. It encouraged people across the country to support small, local businesses, and started a holiday shopping tradition.

In 2011, from Washington, D.C., to Washington State, governors, mayors, senators, and even President Obama all voiced their support for Small Business Saturday. Small businesses owned the day in 2012 when American Express encouraged small business owners to take charge of the day, helping them promote their business through free, personalized ads, which appeared millions of times across the web.

In 2013, more than 1,450 neighborhoods celebrated Small Business Saturday, with individuals and local organizations pledging to support the day as Neighborhood Champions.

The nationally recognized movement to celebrate and shop small businesses was created as a counterpart to Black Friday and Cyber Monday. This year's event is slated for Saturday, November 25.



Sat., Dec. 2 • Donley Co. Activity Center 6:30 to 11:30 p.m.



Tickets at Every Nook & Cranny,
Donley County State Bank,
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LIVE BAND: Martin Band

Chance to win up to \$5,000

Christmas Spirit?

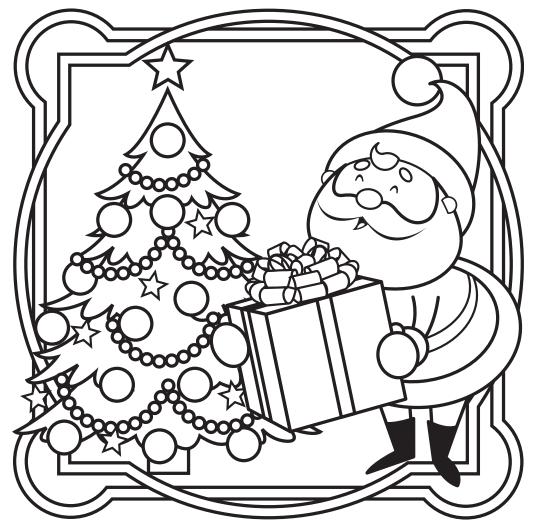
Shop Clarendon.

This holiday season, try something different. Forget the crowded malls and chain stores and the facelessness of the online world. Shop Clarendon instead. You'll find unique gifts in beautifully decorated shops and merchants who really want to help you find that perfect gift for that special someone.

By supporting small businesses in our county, you're doing your part to help build a stronger local economy and community. So keep your hard-earned dollars at home this holiday season, and shop locally for the best value!

Your local merchants and the Chamber of Commerce invite you to experience the difference shopping your home town makes this Christmas.





CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST ENTRY FORM

PARENT'S NAME:			
CHILD'S NAME:		AGE:	
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Our judges will select one winner. Ages 5-10 only. Win a \$50 cash prize! Mail colored panel with completed entry form to: Mail colored panel with to complete determine 17 (200)

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The Clarendon Enterprise, PO Box 1110, Clarendon, TX 79226.

Children may use crayons, markers, or colored pencils.

Parents are encouraged to assist with the entry form but not with coloring.

Children or relatives of newspaper employees are not eligible to win.

Decision of judges is final. Entries will not be returned and may be published.

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY DECEMBER 8, 2017.

SHOP LOCAL - ALL YEAR LONG

Shop Local Year Round

ure, Christmas is a great time to shower your loved ones with locally bought gifts. But what about the other major holidays throughout the year?

Extend your yuletide joy to Mother's Day, Father's Day, birthdays and anniversaries for maximum impact on your local community and business owners.

Your effort in doing so may make more of a difference than you realize. A recent collaborative study by the Small Business Administration, United States Department of Labor and other major organizations found that small businesses employ about 77 million Americans and account for 65 percent of all new jobs over the past 17 years.

So by spending your money locally, you are helping keep your friends and neighbors employed during the holiday season and beyond!

Here are some of the other notable findings from the study:

- Eighty-nine percent of consumers agree that independent businesses contribute positively to local economies.
- Residential neighborhoods served by a successful independent business district gained, on average, 50 percent more in home values than their citywide markets.
- Independent retailers

return more than three times as much money per dollar of sales than chain competitors. Independent restaurants return more than two times as much money per dollar of sales than national restaurant chains.

- If independent businesses regained their 1990 market shares, it would create 200,000 new small businesses, generate nearly \$300 billion in revenues and employ more than 1.6 million American workers
- If just half of the United States employed population spent \$50 each month at locally owned independent businesses, it would generate more than \$42.6 billion in revenue.
- For every square foot a local firm occupies, the local economy gains \$179, vs. \$105 for a chain store.



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Your Holiday Gift Headquarters Toys, Jewelry, Clothing, Housewares, and More!

SHOP LOCAL - HOME COOKING

A quick, delicious holiday dessert

↑he holiday season is synonymous with many things, including delicious foods. While Thanksgiving turkeys or Christmas geese will be found on many a table this holiday season, baked goods and desserts are what many people look forward to this time of year.

Holiday hosts with a lot on their plates might not have the time to prepare homemade baked goods for their guests. Thankfully, the following recipe for "Chocolate-Strawberry Pie" from Addie Gundry's "No-Bake Desserts" (St. Martin's Press) can be prepared in just 15 minutes, all without turning on the oven.



Chocolate-Strawberry Pie

- pint fresh strawberries, washed, trimmed 1 teaspoon vanilla extract and halved
- store-bought (or homemade) chocolate cookie pie crust
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/4 teaspoon minced crystallized ginger
- 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Pinch of kosher or sea salt

- large egg yolks
- 21/2 cups half-and-half
- ounces bittersweet or semisweet chocolate, chopped
- 1/2 tablespoon rum extract

Additional strawberries for garnish (optional)

- 1. Place the strawberry halves in a single layer in the bottom of the pie crust.
- 2. In a medium saucepan, whisk together the sugar, cornstarch, cocoa powder, ginger, nutmeg, and salt over medium heat.
- 3. Whisk in the egg yolks to create a thick paste. Gradually whisk in the half-and-half until the mixture thickens, about 5 minutes. Bring to a boil and cook for 1 minute. Remove from the heat.
- 4. Add the chocolate and whisk until combined. Add the rum and vanilla extracts. Cool the mixture for 4 minutes.
- 5. Pour the filling over the strawberries and up to the top of the crust. Chill the pie for 2 hours or until set.
- 6. Garnish with additional strawberries, if



SHOP LOCAL - STAY SANE

Clever Ways to Clear Out Unwanted Gifts

lenty of holiday gifts hit the mark in terms of usefulness and desirability. But not every gift-giver has a knack for finding the perfect gift.

According to an ING international survey, 81 million unwanted gifts were received in 2015. One in four people didn't want, use or appreciate the gifts they were given. Even though it's the thought that counts, keeping duplicates of gifts or items that are simply not needed is wasteful and can create clutter around the home.

Rather than filling the dark crevices of a seldom-used closet with unwanted sweaters that don't fit or books you never plan to read, consider these clever ways to clear out unwanted gifts.

- · Return or exchange: Courteous gift-givers often facilitate returns or exchanges by including gift receipts with the gifts they give. Without a receipt, chances are you cannot get a refund. But you may be able to exchange the gift for store credit at the price the item is currently showing. Something is better than nothing.
- · Swap: Invite friends or family members over for a post-holiday swap party. Encourage everyone to bring a gift they can't use. Make sure you don't offer up something that one of your invitees may have given you.
- · Sell: Find out the value of the item and then sell it

online or at a tag sale. What you find unnecessary may be a treasure to someone else.

- **Regift:** According to research by Menulog, a food-delivery service in Australia, 52 percent of people are expected to pass on an unwanted gift on to someone else. Toiletry products are often the first to go. If you choose to regift, try to find someone who will make good use of the item. Don't regift opened packages or used items. Also, be careful not to regift an item to the original gift-giver.
- Transform: Turn gifts into something else that can serve a purpose in your life. That itchy sweater may make beautiful doll clothing for a child's imaginative play sessions. Many items can be made to fit your style with a different finish, like a new stain color or coat of paint. Empty unwanted perfumes in decorative bottles and use them as decorative pieces around the house.

Unwanted gifts can be given new life by sharing them with others.











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SHOP LOCAL - QUICK SOLUTIONS

Last Minute Gift Ideas

arly bird shoppers may purchase and even wrap gifts before December, but eleventh-hour shoppers may need some help come the holiday season. For those last-minute folks, there still are plenty of ways to ensure your shopping list is checked off. The following gifts are quick to purchase and can still make for thoughtful presents.

Liquor or wine basket:

Prepackaged spirits often come with decorative glasses and other accoutrements for entertaining. What's more, they're convenient to purchase if you're on a time crunch.

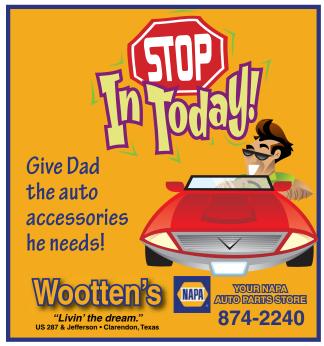
Gas station gift card: Drivers

The helpful place.

will appreciate a gift card to their favorite fueling station. Such cards suit anyone who has a car and frequently travels or commutes.

Food basket: A visit to the supermarket or a convenience center can yield many tasty finds that can be packaged together into a gift basket. Pair foods with a gift card to that retailer.

Premade gifts: Don't overlook your local pharmacy as a place to find convenient gifts. Look for unique items in the seasonal aisle, where you might be able to find stocking-stuffer toiletries or cosmetic gifts that suit several people on your shopping list.





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