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THE CLARENDON NEWS & THE DONLEY COUNTY LEADER

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SERIES 3, VOL. XVII, NO. 32

Established 1878.

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Single Copy Price: 75¢

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THIS WEEK

- 2 West Texas area newspapers praise the people of Clarendon.
- 3 The Donley County Hospital Board discusses the district's finances.
- 5 An unruly teenager gets called down by the local law.
- 6 And CHS athletes begin getting ready for fall.

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

Cowboy poetry recital slated for Amarillo

The monthly Cowboy Poetry Breakfast will be Saturday, August 12, at the Big Texan Steak Ranch at 8:00 a.m.

Bill Crenshaw from Canyon headlines that morning, with Charolyn Gouldy as Mistress of Ceremonies. Both have cowboy backgrounds from way back. Crenshaw was raised on the Matador, and many of his poems are about those experiences. Gouldy was raised on the JA and Hagy ranches.

Reservations are needed for groups over 10. Call President Ivan Cates 353-5617, or Coordinator Marianne Logan 374-4354.

Hedley students can register next week

Hedley ISD will hold registration for sixth through 12th graders and any new students on August 3 and 4 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

New students will need to bring all the information from their previous school, including birth certificates, Social Security cards, and shot records.

Tropical conservatory now open to public

According to Amarillo Botanical Garden director Jackie Wilson, studies show that when people walk into a beautiful garden, their blood pressure drops.

That being the case, the opening of the Mary E. Bivins Tropical Conservatory as well as the expansion of the Amarillo Botanical Gardens will be lowering a lot of blood pressure for area visitors.

The 6,000 square foot conservatory opened in June, after a two-year construction and installation schedule that saw much of the work completed by Amarillo Botanical Garden volunteers.

Admission for adults is \$4, for seniors over the age of 60 is \$3 and for children under 12 is \$2.

The gardens are located in the Harrington Regional Medical Center at 1400 Streit Drive, across the parking lot from the Don Harrington Discovery Center. For more information, call 806-352-6513.

Kane singing to help Opportunity Center

Wellington's hometown favorite, Peyton Kane, will be performing in concert July 29, at 7 p.m. in the Wellington High School Auditorium. The event will be a benefit for the Wellington Opportunity Center.

A fun sidelight to the concert will include a silent auction of decorated theme baskets donated by board members. Money from the auction will also benefit the Opportunity Center. Tickets are on sale by members of the Opportunity Center Board, and there will be limited seats available at the door.

Call 806-447-5436 for tickets.

Friedman outlines education plan

Texas' most unique candidate for governor was in Clarendon last Friday to address local residents and members of the press during the 76th Annual West Texas Press Association Summer Convention.

"I'm the only candidate without a humor bypass," Richard "Kinky" Friedman told the more than 100 people assembled in Clarendon College's Bairfield Activity Center as he criticized the 88 combined years of experience held by his opponents.

Friedman said the time has come for fundamental change in Austin where people on the far right and the far left have held politics captive, and he said the state's current leadership has exhibited "wussification of the worst kind."

"A funny thing happened to education in Texas under Gov. Perry,"

Friedman said. "We've dropped to 50th and Guam and Samoa are sneaking up on us."

The mystery author and musician said he would provide new funding for classroom education by shifting funding for athletic programs to the private sector like Georgia has and by legalizing casino gambling in Texas with local options.

"I just returned from a fact finding mission to Las Vegas, and everyone there was from Texas," he said.

He lauded Georgia for providing a system where every high school graduate with a B or better average goes to college for free, said Perry had taken Texans' eyes off the issue of education by focusing on gay marriage, and announced another goal which received much applause.

"Let's get rid of the TAKS test,"

Friedman said.

The flamboyant independent candidate pledged not to meet with any lobbyists if he is elected and sharply criticized the governor's handling of the border situation.

"Politicians that don't want to offend Hispanics offend Hispanics," he said. "Right now everybody is getting screwed except the Mexican government."

Friedman called the state's installation of Web cams on the border a joke and said he will work closely with neighboring governors to seal the border.

He said this fall's election should not be Democrats or Republicans but about what's best for Texas.

"If you value common sense and common honesty, you should vote for Kinky," Friedman said.



Texas independent candidate for governor Kinky Friedman (second from left) with local supporters Janice Knorpp, Jerry Courtney, and Landon Lambert during the West Texas Press Convention last week. Enterprise Photo / Kari Lindsey

Good time had in Clarendon

City impresses WTPA

Fun, laughter, and Texas hospitality were the hallmarks of the 76th annual West Texas Press Association's summer convention in Clarendon last week.

The world's largest regional press association gathered here Thursday, Friday, and Saturday with a registered attendance that surpassed last year's convention in San Angelo and boasted more attendees than any other regional press convention held in Texas this year.

"The convention was a terrific success," said local publisher and convention chairman Roger Estlack. "We had a big crowd. Everyone had a great time, and the community received an economic boost for the weekend."

The convention had more than 90 people registered, and some events drew more than 100 people. More than 30 attendees had never been to a WTPA convention before, and the Texas Panhandle convention site helped draw new members to the association, boosting its membership from 86 newspapers last year to an even 100 this year.

WTPA members were impressed with Clarendon and all it had to offer and repeatedly praised the community during the convention.

"The hospitality extended to convention participants and the pride Clarendon residents exhibited in your community was extraordinary," said WTPA Board Chairman Roy Robinson of Graham.

Activities began Thursday morning with the annual golf tournament at the Clarendon Country Club, which tournament sponsor Robert Burns of EMBARQ said had some of the nicest greens he has seen all year. Joe Thompson of the Hood County News won the tournament, and Doug Kidd, representing THE CLARENDON ENTERPRISE, came in fourth out of 13 players.

Registration began Thursday afternoon at the Bairfield Activity Center and was followed by a reception at the Best Western Red River Inn. That evening Judge Jack Hall gave the press a tour of the 1890 Donley County Courthouse and praised newspapers for the roles they play in their communities.

The Saints' Roost Band provided musical entertainment as attendees enjoyed the Chuckwagon cooking of Kevin Romines and the Honey-Do Spoiler wagon from Pampa. After the meal, James Doores donned the character of American legend Mark Twain in an address to those assembled. The evening was closed with a special WTPA Night at the Sandell Drive-In, where the feature presentation was "The Paper."



Members of the Saints' Roost Band - Wes Thomas, Jimmy Adams, and Bud White - entertain the members of the West Texas Press Association on the courthouse steps last Thursday (top picture), while Greg Blair of AEP Texas, Marshall Day of Gatesville, and Kevin Hamilton of Iowa Park listen (bottom picture).

The convention got down to business Friday at the Bairfield Activity Center with Tim Harrower, a newspaper page designer from Oregon, teaching WTPA papers how to liven up their pages. Texas gubernatorial candidate Kinky Friedman addressed the press prior to Friday's luncheon, and Jasper publisher Willis Webb helped member papers prepare for natural disasters during an early afternoon work session.

Convention attendees had the

afternoon free to explore Clarendon, and many of them descended on local merchants to set cash registers ringing.

Every Nook & Cranny owner Markeeta Howard said sales in her business were way above what it would be for a typical Friday afternoon.

"I would say that they brought in about \$800 extra for that day," Howard said. "It was huge for us."

The convention resumed at the

Bairfield Activity Center Friday evening with a reception and banquet that featured photographer Wyman Meinzer of Benjamin, who discussed his work capturing the beauty of landscapes and skyscapes in the Panhandle and South Plains.

Graham publisher Roy Robinson was honored that evening with the Harold Hudson Award for his distinguished years of service to the industry and the WTPA. Sandi

See 'WTPA' on page 8.

Jobless rate news mixed for May, June

AUSTIN - Donley County's unemployment rate was up in May and June after falling in April, according to information released by the Texas Workforce Commission.

Even though the jobless rate is higher, the workforce in Donley County has grown from 1,814 in April to 1,909 last month, and the number of people employed has grown from 1,737 to 1,809.

Seasonally non-adjusted data from TWC showed 1,734 employed out of a workforce of 1,816, putting the local unemployment rate at 4.5 percent, which is up from 4.2 percent in April.

The June data shows 1,809 people employed in Donley County with 100 people looking for work, bringing the unemployment rate up to 5.2 percent.

Seasonally adjusted nonagricultural employment in Texas increased by 30,000 jobs in June and 259,900 jobs over the last 12 months. Texas employers have added jobs for 34 of the last 35 months, for a total of 632,400 jobs since July 2003. The June seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 5.1 percent.

"The Texas labor market continues to grow at a steady pace and across many different industries," said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chair Diane Rath. "Currently at 2.7 percent, over-the-year job growth has been above 2.5 percent for the last 11 months."

Texans to save \$49 million during holiday

AUSTIN - Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn has announced that Texas' annual opportunity to shop tax-free for clothes and shoes is coming up August 4-6. Strayhorn predicted Texas families will save \$49 million in sales taxes during the eighth annual Sales Tax Holiday.

During the Sales Tax Holiday, most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 are tax-free. Examples of items that can be purchased tax-free August 4-6 include kids' clothes, adults' clothes, shoes - including tennis shoes, socks and underwear. Items that cannot be purchased tax-free include handbags and wallets, jewelry, accessories, and athletic shoes, uniforms and safety gear. Backpacks and school supplies are not exempt from sales tax.

More information about the Sales Tax Holiday, including a list of tax-exempt items, can be found on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us.

Enterprise wins top award from WTPA

The title of the best small weekly newspaper in West Texas went to THE CLARENDON ENTERPRISE, following the results of the West Texas Press Association's 2005 Better Newspaper Contest.

The Sweepstakes Award was presented to the ENTERPRISE during the WTPA's 76th annual convention held here last Saturday. The local paper received three first place plaques and one second place certificate in Division D (weeklies with circulations of 1,800 and below).

The Clarendon paper received

first place in the General Excellence competition with judges from Texas Tech University's College of Mass Communications saying the "consistently good writing joined by clean, consistent layout make the ENTERPRISE a pleasure to read."

The paper also received first place in Feature Writing with judges calling Ashlee Estlack's article about Tristen Miller a "great story" with "great structure" and also praising Roger Estlack's story about L.L. Wallace.

The ENTERPRISE also received

first place honors in Photography for work by Cheryl Johnson and Roger Estlack, and second place honors were awarded to the ENTERPRISE for Editorials.

Accepting awards on behalf of the ENTERPRISE were Publisher Roger Estlack, Office Director Ashlee Estlack, and Copy Editor Helen Estlack.

Also attending this year's convention and representing the ENTERPRISE were Anndria Kidd; Russell, Scarlet, and Nathan Estlack; Doug and Nancy Kidd; Kari Lindsey; and Ruby Dell Estlack.

Hospital board discusses financial issues

The Donley County Hospital Board met in regular session in the Conference Room of the Medical Center Nursing Home on July 18.

Administrator Vicky Robertson reviewed the budgets and reported the nursing home's census at 53 residents. She also distributed a handout for the July 25 town hall meeting regarding district's finances. Board president Alan Fletcher expressed concern over some of the numbers and said he had contacted Gordon Maddox for clarifications but was still unsure of some figures' accuracy.

Holly Eads gave the indigent

care report and said two six-month reviews were completed with benefits being continued.

The board discussed the town hall meeting scheduled for July 25, and Fletcher recommended that he, Don Thornberry, and Mrs. Robertson serve as a panel to answer questions at the meeting. Robertson also informed the board of the possibility of a 24-bed assisted living facility being constructed locally.

In open floor discussion, Buddy Howard addressed the board concerning volunteer staffing on the ambulance authority. No action was taken.

CISD Trustees consider improving buildings

The Clarendon ISD Board of Trustees met in regular session July 17 in the Administration Building.

Architect Lynn Ramsey presented preliminary drawings to the board of possible future improvements. Two scenarios were presented for improvements to the old gym

and a transportation storage and mechanic shop.

Roof repairs and proposals were presented to the board. The bids were considerably higher than the estimates by the insurance adjuster, and no action was taken pending further information from the adjuster.

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weather report

Day	Date	High	Low	Prec.
Mon	17	103°	74°	-
Tues	18	109°	70°	-
Wed	19	107°	70°	-
Thur	20	105°	73°	-
Fri	21	106°	72°	-
Sat	22	106°	67°	-
Sun	23	96°	-	-

Total precipitation this month: 0.43"
Total precipitation to date: 5.92"
Total precipitation in July last year: 1.37"
Total YTD last year: 10.02"

weekend forecast

Friday, July 28
Isol'd PM T-storms
89°/67°

Saturday, July 29
Partly Cloudy
91°/66°

Sunday, July 30
Partly Cloudy
94°/67°

July has had 13 consecutive days of 100° or higher and a total of 16 days of 100° or higher. In 2005, we had 8 days 100° or higher and the hottest day in July was July 29 at 103°.

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Sheriff's Report:

Unruly teenager gets attention of law enforcement

July 17, 2006
 6:42 a.m.- See complainant 1000 Blk. W. 7th St. Cinder block through windshield of pick-up.
 10:50 a.m.- At judge's office.
 12:04 p.m.- Check elderly pedestrian Hwy 287 & Carhart St.
 12:45 p.m.- En route to Northwest Texas Hospital
 1:39 p.m.- Out with elderly male pedestrian. Hwy 287 & Ayers Rd.
 5:03 p.m.- Transport subject to Hall County
 5:41 p.m.- To jail 1 male in custody. Donley County warrant for aggravated sexual assault.
 9:11 p.m.- Assist EMS Gorst & Front Sts. Unknown medical.
 10:37 p.m.- Assist EMS 900 Blk. W. 5th. Unknown medical.
 11:15 p.m.- Disturbance 700 Blk. W. 5th St. Loud music.
 11:53 p.m.- Out at 700 Blk. W. 2nd. Gas drive off.
July 18, 2006
 1:08 a.m.- Out at Kincaid Park. Disturbance. Greenbelt security also dispatched.

1:20 a.m.- Still out at Kincaid Park. Family dispute.
 4:08 a.m.- Disturbance 500 Blk. E. 4th. Dog barking 287 & S. Hawley.
 9:26 a.m.- Assist Armstrong County explosion at road construction sight. Fire Department and EMS also dispatched.
 4:27 p.m.- See caller 600 Blk. W. 2nd. Fraudulent checks.
 6:50 p.m.- See caller 600 Blk. S. Montgomery.
 10:40 p.m.- Dispatched to Sheriff's Office. Referring unruly teenager.
July 19, 2006
 1:42 a.m.- Out w/stranded motorist East of Clarendon on Hwy 287
 7:29 a.m.- Meet caller at dealership
 9:44 a.m.- Assist stranded motorist. West of Clarendon on Hwy 287
 10:03 a.m.- To courthouse 1 male in custody.
 11:12 a.m.- At residence at Browning & Faker Sts.
 12:04 p.m.- Assist CPS in Sheriff's Office lobby.
 2:16 p.m.- Out at business 200 Blk. W. 2nd. Fraudulent Checks.

4:15 p.m.- Check possible suspicious circumstances Hwy 287 & Koogle.
 4:19 p.m.- At Clerks office
 4:53 p.m.- Assist DPS Hwy 287 Mile Post 177.
 5:16 p.m.- Transport male subject and child to lodging Hwy. 287 and Koogle St.
 8:38 p.m.- See caller 600 Blk. W. 6th St.
 10:58 p.m.- See caller 600 Blk. W. 4th St. Unruly teenager.
 11:13 p.m.- Continuing call. 900 Blk. W. 4th St.
July 20, 2006
 8:00 a.m.- At courthouse. Grand Jury.
 5:28 p.m.- See caller 100 Blk. E. 3rd St.
 6:06 p.m.- Check possible stranded motorist. Hwy 287 12 miles West
 8:49 p.m.- Dispatch wrecker. Semi disabled 287 & Kearney St.
 10:00 p.m.- Disturbance Hwy. 70 N. Loud music.
July 21, 2006
 8:27 p.m.- Out with pedestrian Hwy. 70 N.

9:11 p.m.- See complainant. 200 Blk. S. Parks St.
 9:34 p.m.- See caller. Government apartments at N. Sully
 10:23 p.m.- Check report of suspicious activity in Howardwick.
 11:46 p.m.- See resident 400 Blk. W. 3rd St.
July 22, 2006
 1:02 a.m.- Assist DPS 287 milepost 178.
 3:14 a.m.- See caller 200 Blk. S. Parks St.
 5:30 a.m.- Loose livestock 287 at Ashtola
 10:05 a.m.- Out at 700 Blk. W. 2nd St.
 1:35 p.m.- Assist homeowner at 500 Blk. E. 4th.
 3:01 p.m.- Out at Fire Department. EMS also dispatched.
 7:54 p.m.- To jail with 1 male in custody.
 10:43 p.m.- Disturbance at Collinson & 6th Sts.
 11:22 p.m.- See complainant at 4000 Blk. Co. Rd. 13 N.
 Arrests- 4 Fire - 1 EMS- 9

Obituaries

Guill
 Hazel "Pat" Patterson Guill, 86, died July 17, 2006 in Dayton.
 Services were held at 10:00 a.m., Thursday July 20, 2006, at the New Life Assembly of God Church in McLean, with Pastor Z.A. Myers officiating. Burial was in Hillcrest Cemetery in McLean. Services were under the direction of Bailey-Ware Funeral Home in McLean.
 Mrs. Guill was born September 23, 1919, to George and Lela Mae Patterson. She married John Byrd Guill on August 22, 1951, in Clovis, NM. She was a beautician for many years.

Mrs. Guill was preceded in death by her husband, John Guill, five brothers, and two sisters.
 Survivors include her son, George Burrow and wife, Barbara of Huffman; grandson, David Burrow of Clarendon; two granddaughters, LaTonya Johnson and husband, S.J. of Clarendon, and Tawanna Hext; two brothers, Johnny Patterson and wife Mae of Hereford, and Billy Joe Patterson and wife Mary Nell of Wellington; six great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.
 The family requests that memorials be made to New Life Assembly of God Church, McLean, TX, 79057, and McLean EMS, P.O. Box 16, TX 79057.

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Physicals scheduled for CHS athletes

By Sandy Anderberg

Athletic Director Gary Jack has announced Saturday, August 5, as the day physicals will be given to Broncos and Lady Broncos.

The physicals will held at the Clarendon Family Medical Center by Dr. Howard beginning at 8:00 a.m. for boys and 9:00 a.m. for girls. All incoming 7th, 9th, and 11th graders and all new students must have a physical before practice begins. The cost of the physical is \$10, which will be donated back to the athletic program.

Coach Jack requests that you

wear athletic shorts to the physical and that all paper work is completed and brought to the physical with you.

For all Bronco football players, equipment will be issued to seniors through freshman Saturday, August 5, at 10:00 a.m. Practice will begin Monday, August 7, at 7:30 a.m. with the morning session ending at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Jack also requests that all athletes be on time and clean-shaven with a good, short haircut. It is required that all athletes be at all practices and team meetings. Girls cross-country

athletes grades 9-12 need to report to the Bronco Gym Monday, August 7, at 7:30 a.m. Coach Steve Myatt would like to encourage all girl athletes to participate in cross-country.

Both Jack and Myatt are very optimistic about the upcoming 2006-2007 season and are anxious to get things kicked off.

"We hope everyone is as excited about this season as we are," Jack said. "Our expectations are always high every year, so come out and get ready for a fun year. We are planning on being in the playoffs in every sport."

Facts about your appraisal district

Part II

(Editor's Note: This is part of an ongoing series from the Donley County Appraisal District about the district's operation and responsibilities.)

One of the appraisal district board's most critical decisions is the selection of a chief appraiser. As the district's chief administrative officer, the chief appraiser implements goals and objectives by board policy and is required to comply with the requirements of the Property Tax Code, the Comptroller rules, and other laws. Appointed by the board of directors, the chief appraiser serves at the pleasure of the board and is directly accountable to the board. All other appraisal personnel are employed by and accountable to the chief appraiser.

The primary statutory duty of the chief appraiser is to discover, list, review and appraise all taxable property in the appraisal district using generally accepted appraisal techniques. The chief appraiser may, with the approval of the board, contract with private appraisal firms for appraisal of specific types of property.

Other administrative duties of the chief appraiser include, but are not limited to, the following: Determining eligibility for exemptions and special appraisal; Creating appraisal records - appraisal cards, tax maps, property identification systems, sales ratio reports; Submitting complete appraisal records to the appraisal review board; Certifying the appraisal roll to the taxing units; Preparing the district's budget and submitting it to the board of directors and to the taxing units; and Employing professional, clerical and other personnel as provided by the district's budget.

By contract with all of the taxing units in the appraisal district, the chief appraiser also oversees the assessment and collection functions of the taxing units.

(More next week)

Shop at Home.

Support the merchants who support your town.

Eight under par wins nine-hole scramble

By Sandy Anderberg

Six teams participated in the weekly Friday night nine-hole scramble at the Clarendon Country Club. Carroll Duncan, Jeff Duncan, Mark Duncan, Jordan Shipp, and Jeremy Ship made up the winning team. The second team finished at seven under par.

Bob Kelly shot a net score of 65 to take the top spot in the weekly

men's game, and Mike Santos shot a 66 for second. Steve Nurek and Slick Johnston turned in a 68 to tie for third place.

The Friday night scrambles begin at 6:00 p.m., and the club is offering free green fees on Friday with the paid price of a cart. For more information on all of the happenings at the CCC you may call the Pro Shop at 874-2166.

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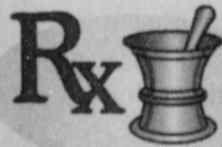


Drugs in the News

Sunburn, Skin Cancer, and Sunscreens

During the summer months, commercial sunscreen products are used the most. Topical sunscreens generally do a good job filtering out the sunburn-causing ultraviolet (UV) light. Heavy use of sunscreens has been shown to protect against some skin cancer types. UV light is composed of UVA and UVB light rays. Continuous and chronic exposure, without adequate protection to UV light from the sun, is considered the main cause for development of malignant melanoma (a skin cancer).

Recently, officials with an advisory group to the American Cancer Society indicated that most people who use sunscreens mistakenly think that they get the same level of protection from the sun that is printed on the sunscreen (the SPF or sun protection factor), when in fact they are usually getting much less, since they tend to spread the product too thinly and do not reapply it when it is washed off from swimming. That same report indicates that sunscreen products that provide the best protection against UVA rays contain zinc oxide, titanium dioxide, or avodenzone.



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Freedom of religion is so fundamentally important to the American way of life that the very first sentence of the Bill of Rights guarantees it explicitly. In 1776, that was a pretty radical concept. (Actually, in some parts of the world, it still is.)

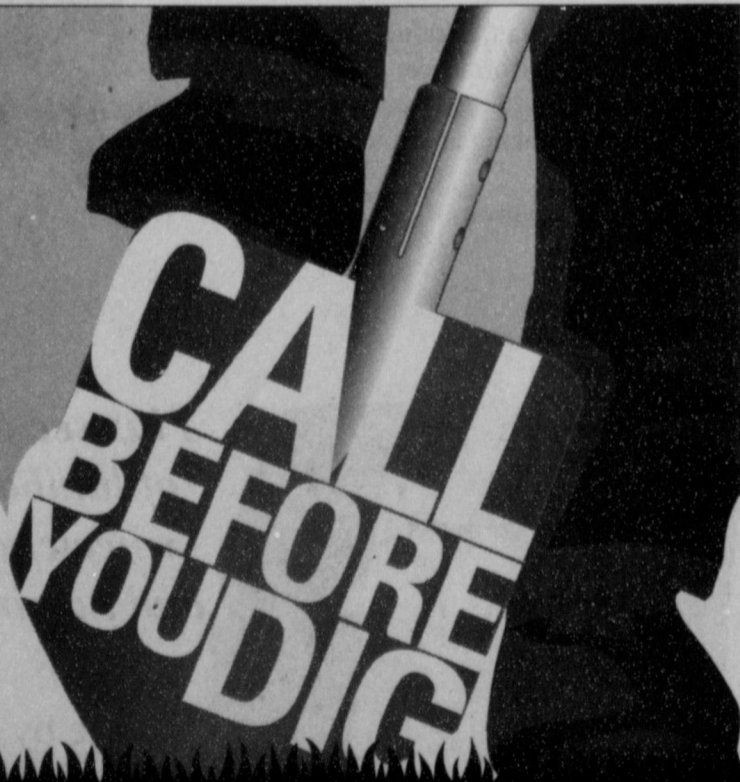
Some said that without state-sponsored religion we would become a Godless society with no moral fabric. Fortunately, quite the opposite has proven true. In America today we have more Christians than Italy, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom

combined. More Jews than Israel. More Muslims than the entire country of Jordan. And healthy communities of everyone from Buddhists to Zoroastrians. And, because we're free to find religion on our own terms (if we choose to at all), many of us are able to create a deeper, stronger and more personal relationship with our faith than would otherwise be possible.

So whether you worship in a church, temple, mosque or courtyard seats at the arena, take a moment to thank the deity of your choice for freedom.



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WTPA: Newspapers elect Estlack as president

Continued from page one.
 Baylis of *American Profile* was also recognized with the Dewane Kelly "Friend of the Newspaper" Award as someone who has worked to promote the well-being of the WTPA and its member newspapers.

Saturday morning began with a Publishers' Roundtable, during which a variety of issues facing the newspaper industry were discussed, including Web advertising, obituary policies, photography sales, and creating non-traditional revenue sources.

The general membership meeting was also held Saturday morning, and a new slate of officers was elected for the WTPA. Eldorado's Randy Mankin was elected chairman of the board, and Clarendon's Roger Estlack was elected president of the association. Other officers include First Vice President Bob Brincefield of Brownwood, Second Vice President Cathy Collier of Fredericksburg, and Secretary/Treasurer Mary Dudley of Perryton.

New members of the board of directors include Robert Burns of EMBARQ, Mac McKinnon of Dublin, Melissa Perna of Ozona, and Don Richards of Hale Center. They join second year members Sandi Baylis of *American Profile*, Todd Griffith of Decatur, Kevin Hamilton of Iowa Park, and Brian Brisendine of Hereford.

Democratic candidate for US Senate Barbara Ann Radnofsky addressed the convention prior to the results of the Better Newspaper Contest being announced at Saturday's brunch. THE KERRVILLE DAILY TIMES, the WISE COUNTY MESSENGER, the FREDERICKSBURG STANDARD-RADIO POST, and THE CLARENDON ENTERPRISE were recognized as this year's sweepstakes winners.

The identity of the James Roberts As-Good-As-His-Word handshake personality was revealed as Clarendon's Ashlee Estlack, who presented a \$50 bill to Kim Griffith of Decatur for being the 50th person



Nathan Estlack gets a ride from his dad, Russell, in a Texas Press handbag Friday. J.L. Mankin / Eldorado Success

to shake her hand.

Newly elected First Vice President Bob Brincefield extended the invitation to the 2007 convention, which will be held in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

As the traditional convention Hotel Limpia and one night at the finale, Bob Dillard of Fort Davis drew the names of three grand prize winners. Sarah Mankin of Eldorado won the weekend in Fort Davis and Marfa—one night at the

Paisano Hotel, Scarlet Estlack of Clarendon won the weekend for four at Prude Ranch, and Nancy Kidd of Clarendon won the trip into the San Carlos Mountains in Mexico.



the lion's tale
by roger estlack

The Clarendon Lions Club held their regular Tuesday noon meeting July 25, 2006, with Boss Lion Jim Shelton in charge.

We had 13 members and one guest, Ashlee Estlack, guest of Lion Roger Estlack; and Lion Delbert Robertson gave the invocation.

Lion Don Smith said Misti Warren will meet with the club regarding catering next week.

Lion Mark White said the club's dove hunt is scheduled for the second weekend of September with more information to come soon.

We voted to write a letter of support for the effort to get a grant to build a new livestock show building.

Lion Judy Burlin reported that the chamber's Kid Fish will be held August 12, and Lion Roger Estlack gave a report on the West Texas Press Association's convention here last week.

There being no further business, we were adjourned.

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AS THE ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY that has been serving south and west Texas for over 90 years, AEP Texas knows a thing or two about energy conservation. While we no longer sell electricity or send out monthly electric bills, we recognize this is going to be a long, hot summer.

Since AEP Texas and its 1,700 employees are directly connected to the many communities we live in and serve, we'd like to share some information on how you can help manage your electric bills through active retail choice and where you can go for additional help if need be.

One of the best ways to lower higher electric bills is to shop around for a less expensive retail electric provider (REP). Finding different offers can be done quickly and efficiently.

- 1) Visit the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) electric choice website at www.powertochoose.org. If you don't have access to a computer, you can call the PUCT's Electric Choice hotline at 1-866-PWR-4-TEX (797-4839).
- 2) Use the information you receive to contact different REPs to collect more information on various services and offers. Also contact your current REP at the number listed on your electric bill for other offers that may be available. Ask about contract terms and prices and be sure to look at the REPs' Electricity Facts Labels to make a good comparison.

Need some help?

Customers having trouble paying their electric bills and wishing to avoid disconnection should discuss their concerns with their current retail electric provider. All REPs are required to offer deferred payment plans to eligible customers who express an inability to pay. REPs also offer balanced billing plans, which allow eligible customers to pay an average amount each month year-round.

Additionally, many community action agencies may be able to help with electric bills or energy efficiency programs. For more information, contact the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) at 1-800-525-0657, e-mail at info@tdhca.state.tx.us or visiting one of the following websites.

TDHCA Utility Bill Help and Other Assistance www.tdhca.state.tx.us/assist_energy.htm **TDHCA Home Repair Assistance and Weatherization** www.tdhca.state.tx.us/assist_repair.htm
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