Single **\$1**00

THIS WEEK

2 Voters should return King and Seliger to the Legislature 3 A powder puff football

tournament at Clarendon High School is rescheduled. 5 Ailing trees come down on the Donley County on the Donley County Courthouse Square. 10 And area cotton producers

are facing a new challenge.

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

Traffic stop leads to marijuana seizure

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) seized 125 pounds of marijuana Sunday, October 8, after a Texas Highway Patrol Trooper stopped a vehicle in Donley County.

At approximately 5:20 p.m., a DPS Trooper stopped a 2017 At approximately 5:20 pm.
a DPS Trooper stopped a 2017
Chevrolet Impala, traveling east on US 287 near Clarendon, for a traffic violation. A DPS canine unit was called to the scene and alerted on the vehicle. The Trooper then discovered six large vacuum-sealed bags of maritiman. The lileal druse are worthing the control of the control juana. The illegal drugs are worth approximately \$758,000.

The driver - Thinh Nguyen, 29, of Orlando, Florida - was arrested and charged with felony possession of marijuana. Nguyen was transported and booked into the Donley County Jail.

The drugs allegedly were being transported from Las Vegas

H-wick candidate forums next week

Howardwick citizens have until Monday, October 16, to submit questions for the candi-dates in the upcoming special city election.

The candidates for mayor will answer citizens' questions at City Hall at 7 p.m. next Tuesday, October 17, and candidates for alderman will answer two nights later on October 19 at 7 p.m

To participate, citizens are asked to place their anonymous questions in the drop box in the mail room at City Hall before the deadline. The questions will be reviewed and selected by a mod-erator and will not be revealed to the candidates until the Q & A

Early voting in Howard-wick will run from October 23 to November 3. Election Day will be November 7.

Chamber social set for this Thursday

The Clarendon Chamber of Commerce will host its next Business After Hours networking social this Thursday, October 12, at the Mulkey Theatre.

Refreshments will be served from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Chamber members and prospective mem-bers are invited to come to learn more about recent developments with the Mulkey project and other business activities going on in the

Dusty and Nikki Green's
"Cinema City" documentary
about the Mulkey will also be
shown on the big screen.

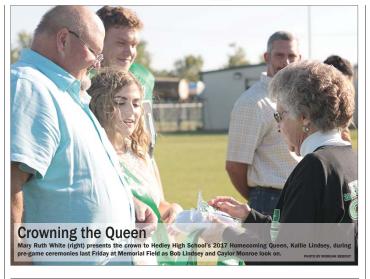
Junior art exhibits sought for festival

Organizers of the Clarendon Arts Festival are accepting entries for the Junior Art Exhibit.

for the Junior Art Exhibit.

The Festival will be held October 28 and 27, and junior art must be delivered to the Donley County Activity Center on the afternoons of October 22 and 23.

For contest rules and fees Chriss Cummins-Clifford at 806-



'Two' up for three

Local couple nominated for Emmvs

A Howardwick couple is riding high after picking up three Lone Star Emmy nominations for their self-produced television series, "Two for the Road.

the Road."

Dusty and Nikki Green got the news September 29 while filming an episode in the Big Bend area of Texas. They knew the regional Emmy nominations were going to Emmy nominations were going to be announced and were hopeful that they might be recognized, but spotty internet service in sparsely popu-lated area was keeping them on edge. Then the emails from the Lone Star Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences started hitting their phones.

We were just really blown away," Dusty said.
"Two for the Road" follows the

real-life adventures of the couple who made the decision in 2007 to quit their jobs, sell their possessions. and follow their dreams of a life of travel. The Greens themselves host, produce, edit and market the show. which is produced out of their home in Howardwick.

"It's an incredible honor," said Dusty. "To be recognized by acad-emy members in this way, to be nominated at all especially for our humbling and exciting surprise.

We're just thrilled."

The awards will be presented at the 15th Annual Lone Star Emmy

Awards ceremony November 11th at the JW Marriott Hill Country Resort and Spa in San Antonio.

Ten years ago, the Greens started a simple blog – an online journal – called "Two for the Road" when they gave up their careers in



Dusty and Nikki Green take a selfie while filming a future episode of their Lone Star Emmy nomi nated series "Two for the Road" in the Big Bend area.

Amarillo and started a grand adv ture of traveling the globe. What began as a whim evolved into a web video series then a regional PBS television show and is now going

Today, "Two for the Road" is Today, "Two for the Road" is available in 90 percent of Amer-ica through PBS stations and the addition of the Create network in August. Combined, the show is available in about 100 million

blog when we hit the road back in 2007, really just to keep friends and family up to date on where we were and what we were doing. We'd write posts for the blog and share photos and create short videos about our travels. And over the years the blog sort of evolved into this idea for a

The Greens took that idea and a few episodes they produced themselves "on spec" - to Panvision station in Amarillo, Texas, with the hopes of landing a spot on the station's schedule. Panhandle PBS agreed not only to air the show's locally, but to serve as the show's presenting station to help promote Two for the Road to PBS stations

ss the country.
"Panhandle PBS was the first station to air 'Two for the Road, said Kyle Arrant, Director of Stahouseholds, Dusty said.
"It's crazy," said Nikki. "We started the 'Two for the Road' travel tion Operations and one the show's original technical advisors. "It's been awesome to see 'Two for the Road' launch onto the national scene. We love working with Nikki

and Dusty and are really honored to be part of the history of the exciting series they continue to develop." "Panhandle PBS is proud to rannande PBS is proud to be partners with Dusty and Nikki Green," said Kevin Ball, CEO of Panhandle PBS. "Their chemis-try and adventurist personalities are exactly what public television media audiences want to experience. We are so proud to be part of the energy they create as they bring their experiences to all throughout

And bringing those experi-nces to viewers around the country is exactly what the Greens are now doing. Soon after its debut on Panhandle PBS, 'Two for the Road" was accepted for national distribution throughout the public television system by the National Educational Telecommunications Association (NETA), which is the country's second-largest distributor of independent public television programs. And in August 2017 the show was picked up by the Create TV channel, a national subchannel of PBS, which rocketed "Two for

the Road" onto the national stage. "'Two for the Road' has bee a welcome addition to Create TV's schedule since its premiere in August," said Chris Funkhouser, VP of Exchange Programming and See 'Emmys' on page 4.

Seliger announces bid for re-election

State Senator Kel Seliger (R-Amarillo) has announced that will seek re-election to the Texas enate (District 31) after a success-

ful session in the Texas Legislature. Senate District 31 spans 37 counties in the Permian Basin and Panhandle, including Donley County. It is one of the biggest and most conservative districts in Texas.

Since he was first elected. Senator Seliger has been recognized for his conservative principles, and his

dedication to education, small government, and local control.

ernment, and local control.

"Conservative policies brought
our region back to be Texas's top
economic engine," said Seliger.
"Texas led the nation out of the recession and has now led America to energy independence. Other states attack the energy industry, but Texans work together.

"Local control is extremely important. Folks closest to a prob-lem are usually the best at solv-

ing it," said Seliger. "I work for the working Texans of the Permian Basin and Panhandle to bring proven conservative results. It will be that way as long as I'm in the

Senator Seliger was named a Fighter for Free Enterprise four times by the Texas Association of Business for promoting a healthy Texas business climate. He is "A Rated" by the NRA and has con-sistently been endorsed by Texas

Alliance for Life. Seliger received the Texas Municipal League's Leg-islator of the Year Award, Texas Conservative Coalition's Conservative Champion Award, Texas Wildlife Association's Conservation Hero Award, and the Conservative

Hero Award, and the Conservative Roundtable of Texas's Effective Conservative Lawmaker award. Seliger keeps a watchful eye on key Panhandle and Permian Basin concerns. He consistently See 'Seliger' on page 3.

Cotton **Festival** begins **Friday**

A Donley County tradition con tinues this weekend as Hedley hosts the 66th annual Cotton Festival on Friday and Saturday, October 13 and

The Hedley Lioness Club will get things going Friday with a Chili & Stew Supper at 5 p.m. The club will also be selling chances on a quilt

Hedley's One Act Play will hos Bingo on Friday from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. in the Senior Citizens building. See their ad inside this week's Enterprise for more information on the great prizes they have lined up, including three trips to Red River, a

big screen TV, and more.

Also Friday night, a Hootenanny will be held at the Lions Den featuring Johnnie and C.W. Wood-

Saturday's events begin with the Hedley Fire Department's Pan-cake Breakfast from 6 to 9 a.m. The Rowe Cemetery Association will hold a bake sale at Moffitt Hardware, and a car show will start on Main

host a catered BBQ dinner, and the Senior Citizens will be serving ham

The Kiddie Parade will be held The Kiddie Parade will be income at 1:30 p.m., followed by the Community Parade at 2 o'clock. The Adamson-Lane Post of the American Legion will serve as the honor guard with Jim and Jean Taylor being the Parade Marshals.

Leading the parade entries will be Vietnam veteran Doug Smith of Panhandle with his handmade Texas Panhandle War Memorial Field of Honor. The mobile tribute features the a cross with the name, rank, branch of service, and home county of the 145 men from the Panhandle that were killed in Vietnam. Smith spent more than 60 hours to cut out the crosses as well as gathering and painting the information on them.

After the parade, the School

Reunion is at the school at 3:00 p.m

The festival will close out with entertainment and drawings at the Lions Den starting at 6 p.m., including a drawing for a bale of cotton ated by Donley County Gin and K. Huddleston Sales

King seeking fourth term in State House

State Representative Ken King (R-Canadian) announced Monday he will seek re-election to the Texas House of Representatives in House District 88, which covers Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Cochran, Donley, Gray, Hale, Hansford, Hemphill, Hockley, Lamb, Lip-scomb, Ochiltree, Roberts, Swisher, and Yoakum counties.

"I'm proud of what we accom-plished during the 85th Legisla-tive Session. Together, we provided much-needed funding to our public and higher education systems, we kept dangerous criminals off the street by banning sanctuary cities, we advanced our gun rights by slashing the license-to-carry fee, we banned partial birth abortions, and we reformed our broken CPS and mental health systems - all while passing a conservative, balanced budget with no tax increases," said

King.

"It's been an honor to serve my neighbors in District 88. I look for ward to representing the Panhandle and the South Plains in the Texas

See 'King' on page 3.

The following column is an editorial (i.e. an opinion, a point of ay contain ideas with which some readers may freely disagree.

Keep Seliger, King working in Legislature

Donley County's State Senator Kel Seliger and State Representative Ken King have announced their plans to run for re-election to their respective offices and for Texas' sake, we hope they win

There is probably no realistic chance for a Demo-crat to win the district represented by Seliger and King. The incumbents' biggest hurdles will likely be fending off challenges from

within their own parties.

King is being challenged by Perryton insurance sales-man Jason Huddleston, and Seliger is facing Midland attor-ney Mike Canon and Amarillo restaurateur Victor Leal in the primary.



According to published reports, Huddleston has said

King is among legislators who but govern as liberals." Canon previously ran against Seliger in 2014 and was narrowly defeated despite negative remarks that political action committees made about the senator on the Midland candidate's behalf. Leal wants to take a tough stance on property tax reform and says there is a "moral obligation" to provide public funds for private schools, and his biggest "policy" announcement so far is that he won't be airing any more NFL games in his Mexican food

God help Texas if people like Victor Leal unseat

men like King and Seliger.

Common sense – and even common decency

– were in short supply in Austin during the last legislative sessions as flame-breathing social-religious conservatives tried to take Texas' already conservative conservatives tried to take lexas arready conservative government and push it full tilt to the hard right. With Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick pushing an ultra-conservative agenda in the Senate and very little leadership from the governor, the only things keeping Texas focused on remaining a pro-business, pro-local control state were House Speaker Joe Straus and some sane individuals

riouse speaker ioe strains and some same individuals like King and Seliger. Seliger said it best during a recent town hall in Clarendon in describing the legislative session as one "where people came out of the closet and said they didn't really like local government." The senator wa referring to a slew of proposals that would curtail the authority of local cities, counties, and schools.

Republicans have for years held that decisions are best left to local authorities. But now, powerful ultra-conservatives no longer prescribe to that theory if local authorities enact policies that don't fit their strict world-view.

If your city chooses to ban plastic grocery bags or install red light camera, shouldn't that be up to your local citizens through your elected officials? The "local control" answer would be "yes." But today's big

government Republicans say "no."

Likewise, if your city or county need to raise taxes by five percent to fund let's say street improvements, emergency medical needs, or law enforcement, that also should be up to your local elected officials, but again people like Dan Patrick and busybodies like Sen. Paul Bettencourt say "no." Kel Seliger stood up for local control, and that is

going to haunt him in the upcoming election. Common sense West Texans need to rally round him because he is the guy who votes for his district instead of just voting for what the party bosses and the lobbyist tell

If Victor Leal is really worried about his property taxes, then he needs to run for county commissioner of city council... not the state senate. If he really thinks the state has a "moral obligation" to pay for his kids' private school, then he has no business running for an office that shapes the policy of public education...
which has been a cornerstone of Texas since the days
of the Republic.

And if Mr. Huddleston thinks Ken King is a lib-

eral, then we sure as heck don't want to see his idea of a conservative.

We may not agree with all the positions taken by

Mr. Seliger or Mr. King, and that's fine. But when the chips were down, they stood for the Panhandle and not the special interests. Let us hope that their constituents keep their wits about them as they go to the polls next

REPUBLICANS' VIETNAM



Needing to get out more often

generations - urges others to "get out

more often."

I've made such suggestions many times in a spirit of good humor.

The older one gets, however, the more important it is to seriously consider such suggestions. They likely "fit." As long as folks can "get out," predictable results include both invigoration and restoration!...

We recently attended a high school homecoming football game; it triggered reminders of yesteryear. We "drank in" the spirit of players, coaches and fans. It was "whisper quiet" as a student voiced a prayer over the loudspeaker. Reverence continued as the bands played school songs, and at midfield, the host cheer-leaders presented "welcome gifts" to their visiting counterparts.

There was a spirit of grateful-ness for our nation. There was no reluctance on the sidelines by players and coaches to stand at rapt attention when the National Anthem was played. As the final notes faded into the night, fans applauded generously as the game

Every pre-game aspect seemed to be a throwback to the 1950s. There was, however, one notable difference. Homecoming mums, steadily becoming larger over the years, were huge. If the absolute size limit isn't reached soon, each mum will be carried - not worn - by two maybe three - co-eds. Ultimately, they may be on wheels....

I'm serious. Some of the mum: we saw were strapped on, big enough to serve as flotation devices. Some wear-

ers wobbled as they walked, barely able to hoist the giant corsage: that were constructed on a frame outlini the State of Texas. They

the idle american had blinking lights, for crying out loud.

Some seemed billboard size. State troopers could have hidden behind them, and if anyone needed to change clothes, some were plenty big enough to assure total preservation of modesty.

Mums aside, however, it was a good

evening. And in this setting, we could be reasonably sure the playing field was level. Too often – particularly in recent times – football fields are tilted greatly in both the collegiate and professiona ranks. Some recent revelations are sick-

The other day, I bought a new casual shirt from the 75% off sale rack. Imprinted thereon, however, was the brand name – Adidas. Hours later, I heard the sad news

that an Adidas employee has been arrested in connection with a repulsive scheme involving prospective college basketball players, coaches and the NBA. Now I understand why the shirt was on the sale rack, and why \$15 tennis

shoes often cost \$150.

Adidas' integrity is tainted; the same is true for colleges and universities whose coaches stray from the straight and narrow. It will take the Adidas

people many years to "dig out," just as it will for schools associated with tilting it will for school... the playing fields....

Playing by the rules used to matter Playing by the rules used to matter more. Now, fingers of blame can be rightly pointed toward authority figures. When cheating becomes common and lightly regarded—as it indeed has—we should start at the top. Reference is to governing boards. A friend of more than 50 years serves on such a board. For sev-eral years, the university's football team has made ranid and impressive properss. has made rapid and impressive progress. has made rapid and impressive progress Turns out, the uncovering of "cover-ups" greatly taints a decade of winning seasons. Interviewed by a national TV analyst, my friend said he and his col-leagues should have been more aware of the goings on. Admitting the board was riding the wave of awesome football wins, he added, "It's hard to argue with

I agree, but whatever is "awesome must be carefully monitored. In the meantime, among the options for my Adidas shirt is to find a bonfire where they're already burning shirts and school ners whose emblems are associated with the sadness of our time.

Thankfully, all news does not dis-hearten. The football squad from Fannin County High School in Georgia burst from the locker room on game nig all members carrying huge Americ

a ******
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DEADLINES

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LETTERS

The Texas Panhandle's First Newspaper

LABENDON NEWS, established June 1, 1878 tch have merged: The Clarendon Traveler 1889; The Clarendon Journal, Novembe he Banner-Stockman, October 1893; The Februsy 1989; The Clarendon Times 08: The Donley County Leader, March 12 he Clarendon Press, May 18, 1972; and The on Enterprise, March 14, 1996.















Homeland. Family. Patriot. Sacri-

Those are the words on four panels that now stand side-by-side in Cedar Park, Texas. Notably cut out from the black granite panels is the silhouette of a soldier standing tall in salute, representing the hole in the hearts of the family member paid the ultimate

fice. The Central Texas Gold Star Family Memorial Monument is the first of its kind in Texas. Dedicated on the eve of National Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day, celebrated annually on the last Sunday of September, this new monu ment's stated purpose is to "honor Gold Star Families, preserve the memory of the fallen, and stand as a stark reminder that Freedom is not free.

nat Freedom is not free."
We owe the idea behind this monument to the Hershel "Woody" Williams
Medal of Honor Gold Star Families
Foundation and their campaign to erect a
memorial to Gold Star Families in every
cined state. single state.

It may be Texas' first, but it won't be the last. Similar monuments to reco

and sacrifice of Gold Star Families are planned for Weatherford Bronte, and Dallas





members spans across our entire state from Fort Bliss to the Red River Army Depot, Naval Air Station Kingsville to Sheppard Air Force Base.

Texas is home to one of every ten U.S. service members, and behind each U.S. service members, and behind each of these service members is a mother, father, brother, sister, or other beloved relative who supports them. This web reaches everyone; Gold Star Mother of Private First Class Austin Staggs in Weatherford noted that in Texas, "you don't have to look far to see that some where, somehow you have a connection to the military.

All in all, nearly 25,000 Texas

Star Family Registry since World War II. The newly-erected Gold Star Family Memorial Monument in Cedar Park – and the others planned – will give them a place to reflect, pray, and gather with other mourning families for strength.

But the monuments are not just for those who have lost a loved one in their defense of freedom. "This park is a showing of what our kids gave for them," says Gold Star Mother of Private First Class Joe Christopher Robinson. Cedar Park's monument has already

united local Gold Star Families and members of the community to promote reflection and remembrance. A Memorial Day groundbreaking ceremony and Remembrance Walk – the first of a soon to-be annual tradition – drew a large

crowd this spring.

Keep an eye out for Gold Star

Family monuments in your area. We all
owe the families of fallen service members' our utmost support and honor. And
as Gold Star Mother of Staff Sergeant Jeffery Lee Hartley reminds her fellow Texans of the upcoming monument in Weatherford, "it's your park, too."

Reader: Donley County has best EMS in the area

I have often remarked that we are fortunate in Donley County to have the best EMS professionals in the Panhandle. My wife. Lori, is with me today only because of the dedication and skill of these highly trained professionals. I praise the Almighty and pray for His richest blessings on all of our friends and neighbors who do this critically impor-With my eternal gratitude

for all of you Dr. John Howard, Clarendon





Civics lesson

Clarendon City Administrator David Dockery stands with Cub Scout Den 3 after discussing com-munity leadership and his job duties last Wednesday. Shown here are Blake Ratcliff, Mason Allred, Henry Blvens, Daniel Estlack, Benjamin Estlack, Dockery, Koltyn Shields, Jaythan Green, and Den Chief Nathan Estlack.

King: Continued from page one.

our conservative values and quality of life."

the powerful State Affairs and Cal-endars Committees in the Texas House, helping usher meaningful legislation to the Governor's desk. A former Canadian ISD School Board President and current Chairman of the House Public Education Sub-committee on Teacher Quality, King has risen to become one of Texas' member of the Rural Caucus, the top education leaders - working to properly fund our local schools, pro-

House as we continue to advance our conservative values and quality of life." take care of our current and retired teachers, and ensure our kids receive Rep. King plays a key role on the quality education they need. This session, King also voted to ensure Texas became the 11th state to for-mally call for a constitutional convention to rein in the power of the

Named a "2017 Effective Conservative" by the Conservative Roundtable of Texas, Ken is also a

and the Sportsman Caucus. Ken has also earned an 'A' rating from the National Rifle Association and the Texas State Rifle Association.

In the private sector, Ken oper-ates energy service businesses that have created hundreds of jobs for our local families

Ken and his wife, Robin, raised their two kids in Canadian, Texas, where they are active members of First United Methodist Church. Ken and Robin also co-founded KK-125. an Ovarian Cancer Research Foun-

Seliger: Continued from page one.

issues, including a recent bill to pro-hibit drones from flying over concentrated animal feeding operations,

and oil and gas facilities.

As Chairman of the Senate
Higher Education Committee and
the senior Republican member on
the Senate Education Committee, Seliger is one of Texas's top educa-

Powder Puff tourney moved to October 14

The Clarendon High School lent Council's Powder Puff Football Tournament originally sched-uled for last week has been moved to this Saturday, October 14, in Bronco Stadium.

The games will begin at 4:30

p.m. Admission will be \$2 for adults and \$1 for students. Proceeds of this year's tournament will benefit Chan-dace Ritchie to help her battle in fighting cancer.

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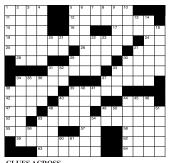
TUESDAY - FRIDAY 6 A.M. - CLOSE SAT. 6:30 A.M. - CLOSE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

champions agriculture and energy tion leaders. Notably, he authored the original legislation to eliminate the TAKS test and the bill to provide the option of Individual Graduation Committees for students who pass all of their courses, but fail to pass all of their state-mandated tests. As 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. Kel and his wife, Nancy, have two sons, Jona-than and Matthew.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Plural of ascus
 5. Repents
 11. British School
 12. Adhesive to catch birds
 15. Male children
 16. Oil company
 17. Intestinal
 19. Money slogan
 24. 2nd tone
 25. In actual truth
 26. Beleian-French River

- . In actual truth
 . Belgian-French River
 . Rural Free Delivery
 . Midway between S and SE
 . Texas armadillo
 . 2nd largest Hawaiian island
 . Pile up
 . Changes liquid to vapor

- The up
 Changes liquid to vapor
 Yemen capital

CLUES DOWN

- . Race of Norse gods . Large pebbles . Latin line dances

- . The inner sole of a shoe . A French abbot
- 6. Moves stealthily 7. An alternative

- 39th state Lotus sports car model River fill Of I
- Many noises
 Ghana monetary units
- Actor Hughley The Cowboy State

- Extinct flightless bird of N. Zealand
- 31. Express pleasure 32. Cellist Yo-Yo 33. Bronx cheer

- ned cut
- 38. V-shaped cut
 39. Painting on dry plaster
 42. Daminozide
 43. Papa's partner
 44. __-fi: fiction/movie ge
 47. Is the Soviet space station
 48. Latvian capital
 49. Come into view
 52. Blue Hen school

- 52. Blue Hen school
 53. Maine water company
 55. Picture & word puzzle
 57. Atomic #18
 58. Xiamen dialect
 59. Being overzealous
 62. One who did it (slang)
 63. Night breathing noises
 64. A minute amount (Scott)

- 34. A more firm substance 35. Essential oil obtained from flowers

- flowers
 37. Largest church in
 Christianity
 38. Capital of Wallonia
 39. Heroic tale
 40. Send forth
 41. The Golden State
 43. I/1000 of an inch
 44. Angel of the 1st order
 45. Ukrainian peninsula
 46. Disrearal

- 45. Ukramian peninsula
 46. Disregard
 48. Colophony
 49. Spanish be
 50. Military policeman
 51. Cleopatra's country
 53. Br. drinking establishm
 54. Removes moisture
- 56. Liberal Arts degree 60. Execute or perform 61. Atomic #77

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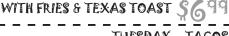
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ALL DAY

STEAK FINGER BASKET

TUESDAY -- TACOS SATURDAY -- ENCHILADA





October 13

October 14

October 20 Broncos v Crosbyton • 7 p.m. • Away

Owls v Wichita Christian • 7:30 p.m. • Home

October 27

ls • 7 p.m. • Home Owls v Groom • 7:30 p.m. • Home

October 28 Les Beaux Arts Club's Clarendon Arts Festival • 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Donley County Activity Center

October 29 Les Beaux Arts Club's Clarendon Arts Festival • 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Donley County Activity Center

October 31

November 3 Lions Club Pancake Supper • Clarendon School Cafeteria • 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Broncos v Memphis • 7 p.m. • Home

November 7

vember 10 noos v Wellington • 7 p.m. •



October 16 - 20

Donley County Senior Citizens mashed potatoes, Italian roll, banana pudding, iced

(2% milk.

Baked chicken, scalloped potas, green peas, whole wheat bread,
on cake, iced tea/2% milk.

Taco salad casserole, corn,
sed salad, cinnamon pears, iced

tea/2% milk. Thu: Roast beef, roast potatoes onion, peppers, green beans, wheat roll, peach cobbler, iced tea/2% milk. Fri: Enchilada casserole, pinto beans, sliced peaches, iced tea/2%

Mon: Chicken tender's w/gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, turnip greens, wheat roll, mandarin oranges, iced

wheat roll, mandarin oranges, iced tea/2% milk. Tue: Ham & pinto beans, combread, margarine, spinach, seasoned corn, orange pineapple cup, country apple crisp, iced tea/2% milk. Wed: Roast beef, baked potato w/ sour cream, buttered carrots, roll, chocolate pudding, iced tea/2% milk.

milk.
Thu: BBQ beef sandwich, tater tots, carrots & zucchini, Ambrosia, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Roast turnkey & bread dressing

tea/2% milk.
Fri: Roast turnkey & bread dressing seasoned broccoli, Waldorf salad cranberry square, iced tea/2% milk.

Breakfast Mon: Pancakes, sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk. Tue: Breakfast burrito, fruit, fruit

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

Thu: Spice muffins, yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Lunch Mon: Corn dog, tater tots, bak

beans, apple-pineapple delight, milk. Tue: Nachos Grande, refried beans, asla, lettuce, tomato garnish, cucumber slices, peaches, lime sherbet cub, milk.

potatoes, garden salad, biscuit, fruity gelatin, milk. Fri: Ham & cheese melt, broccoli salad, baby carrots, sliced fruit, brownie, milk.

Mon: Drumsticks, carrot coins, sea-soned corn, hot roll, fresh grapes,

led: Lasagna, Tuscan vegetables eggie cup, cheesy garlic toast ers, milk.

pears, mink.
Thu: Hamburger, vegetable garnish,
baby carrots, oven fries, orange

sinnes, milk.

Fri: Pulled pork slider, coleslaw, savory green beans, pineapple tid-bits, milk.

Emmys: 'Two for the Road' still growing moving into season two

Multicast Services for American Public Television. "The series' con-cept – a married couple embarking on worldwide adventures together - has resonated with Create view ers and is unique among our travel shows. We're pleased to have it as part of the channel's line-up and look

forward to seeing more seasons.
"It's been an unbeliev "It's been an unbelievable amount of work," Dusty said, "trav-eling, shooting and producing the show and getting it out there. But it's incredibly gratifying to know not only that the show is growing so quickly, but also the response from people - from the viewing public -has been absolutely amazing.

"So many people across the country are connecting with the show, with our stories, and with us as just regular people following a as just legular people
dream. Everyone's been so supportive, and we just keep getting amaz-ing feedback from folks in every part of the country.

Moving memorial

weather with rain, rain, rain amount-ing to four plus inches at our house on the hill.

is usually around the 19th of Octo-

is fast approaching, and this year Howardwick has two contested races – one is for mayor, and the second is alderman. Not everyone knows the

candidates and a question/answer session for both positions has been

planned This will not be a debate 3 n m

The November special election

Monday ushered in a cold Monday ushered in a cold front with one of those nice north voting citi-winds blowing 25-35 mph. It is like varies of Howold Man Winter is saying, "Hello, ardwick have remember me". Begin getting your thouse yard prepared, the first freeze nity to submit

We have had some crazy with rebuttal

And Nikki says being nomi-nated for three Emmy awards is nothing short of a dream come true. "We were really hopeful we'd

get a nomination of course, but being our very first season - realistibeing our very first season – realisti-cally, we honestly just didn't expect it," she said. "Especially when you think about all the amazing shows out there and all the super talented people behind them. So to get not just one, but three nominations, was beyond our wildest expectations."

The Greens say they are plan-ning to attend the awards ceremony in San Antonio in November, and are currently in the process of completing production on season two of "Two for the Road," which will pre-miere on public television stations nationwide in January, and on Create

TV in the following months. "Season one was kind of our training season," said Dusty. "We had eight episodes in season one, and we used them to really try to place."

Texas Panhandle War Memorial Field of Honor will lead the parade entries at the

Hedley Cotton Festival Saturday afternoon. The field features handmade crosses bearing the names of the 145 men from the Panhandle who gave their lives in Vietnam.

Howardwick special election fast approaching

wick

picks

anony mous questions and place them in the drop box in the mail room at City Hall.

The questions will be reviewed and

selected by a moderator, these ques-tions will not be revealed to the can-

The deadline for submitting questions is Monday, October 16, at

didates until the Q & A session.

by peggy cockerham Howardwick • 874-288

answers but a

you session. T h

citi-

find our groove and figure out how exactly to make the show work with just the two of us doing it all. But I think we've really found our groove now with season two. It'll be a full season of thirteen episodes, and it's incredible stuff. We can't wait to get it out there.

it out there."

In those upcoming thirteen episodes, Nikki says the Greens will highlight eight countries on four continents and include some of the world's most spectacular destinations. But it's not just the destinations themselves that continue to inspire them.

"If our travels have shown

"If our travels have shown us anything, it's that the world is as a beautiful, beautiful place full of really, really great people," Nikki said. "You see and hear so many negative things about the world these days, and we hope to show people through our travels and experiences

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C.C. Rich descendants hold reunion

A group of the family of Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Rich gathered together at the Clarendon Senior Citizens build-ing on Sunday, October 1, 2017, for the annual family reunion

There was much visiting, shar-reminiscing, and laughter. The l was out of this world. There was food galore. A special thanks goes to everyone there, even though the count in number was short com-

Those present were Roy Hinkle of Tahoka; Linda Whitt of Panhandle; Cecil Rich, Debbie Ford, Cecil Rick III, and Mary Alice Rich of Claude; Phel and Misty Barker, Trooper and Pam Barker from Stinnett; Robert, Starlet, Gabe, Shelby, Jarrett, and Elwin Taylor all of Canyon; Daniel Curry, Brandy Pace, Jacque Morin, Chase Bruce, Amanda Short, Leon Hinkle, Alan Rich, Shawn Barker, Charles and Mary Denton, Claudie

Hinkle, and Pat Butts all of Ama rillo; Mina Ivey, Naomi Tolbert, Flint Barker, Gene, Jacob and Caleb Curry, Justin Barker, Blade Barker, Candace Barker, Brandon, Shauna, & Kelton Herndon, Christie Carter, Ashlee, Ray, Kali, and Bailey curry, Jon Mark, Sara, and baby Yankee, Jason, Evette, and Noah Curry all from Clarendon

Mayoral candidates Eric Riddle

and Greta Byars will answer ques-tions Tuesday, October 17, at 7 p.m. at City Hall, and alderman candi-dates Jada Murry and Doc Holladay

dates Jada Murry and Doc Holladay will answer questions Thursday, October 19, at 7 p.m. at City Hall. The election will be November 7 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at City Hall. Early voting will be held at City Hall

beginning October 23 and ending November 3.

The early voting times will be

regular business hours 11-3 except

October 23 and October 30 City Hall will be open 7 am-7 pm those two days for early voting. Submit questions, come hear the answers, and remember to cast

One reminder – Be there nex year plus others as there are over 300 direct decedents of mom and dad.

Fun times playing games with out-of-town cousins

Last Sunday, me and my Ella, got to spend the night with my Aunt Anndy. My cousin Stephanie and her husband, James, were also going to spend the night there for a couple of days. We all had a big getether because Steph and James in Houston, and we don't get to

Uncle Michael didn't have to work,

so we all played games the rest of the day. We played Yahtzee three times, and we played other games, too.

see them that often.

That night, my aunt, my cousin,
Ella, Steph, and James all played reporter Wahoo. Then next morning we fin-ished the game and then played Yahtzee! Since it was windy, my



Monday morning before breakfast, the wind was really strong. The umbrella from the umbrella from the sandbox in the backyard blew down the drive-way. My aunt couldn't go get

it because she was with my baby cousin, so I put my shorts and shoes and ran and got it. It only took me a short time to get it because the wind was pushing me, but it took me a long time to get back to the house against the wind.



its regular Tuesday noon meeting October 10, 2017, with Boss Lion Robert Riza in charge. We had 12 members and no

sts this week.

Lion Brian Fuller reported on the college where classes are under way and baseball plays at home

Lion Rick Sheppard brought our program this week on the origins of why Friday the 13th is unlucky.

of why Friday the 15th is unlucky.

It was an eclectic variety of littleknown but fascinating trivia.

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





BRADDOCK

When there is a need for help, Car ol Braddock is one of Donley County's

ol Braddock is one of Donley County's most faithful volunteers. For several years, her smile and her friendliness have been a hallmark of a wide range of events. She served on the Chamber of Commerce board and was named the Volunteer of the Year for 2012 by the

Chamber. She also serves St. Mary's

Catholic Church and has spent many hours helping with the Bread of Life Ministry at the Methodist Church.

Bread of Life Ministry at the Methodist Church.
She devotes many hours to the efforts of the Auxiliary of
the local Veterans of Foreign Wars chapter in all their fundraising and community service efforts.
Carol is a shining example of the friendliness of Donley
County people, and she makes our community all the brighter
inst hy heinp she.

just by being here.

The Whistle-Stop and the community salute Carol Braddock for her countless hours of volunteer service to make Don-ley County a better place to live and work. Thank you, ma'am!

Don't miss Whistle-Stop Trade Days: Nov. 4 & 5



A lot off the top

Jeremy Hogan of Arbor Solutions prepares to bring down an ailing tree on the Donley County Courthouse lawn last Wednesday. Five trees that were determined to be in a dangerous condition were removed through a joint effort of the county and the Courthouse Lighting Committee. County officials say they plan to plant new trees to replace the ones that were removed.

TxDOT crews help clean up Houston area

Another Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) crew from the Childress District left last week heading to Houston to help with debris removal left by Hurricane

This 10-member crew is the fourth debris crew from Childress TxDOT that has deployed.

"TXDOT that has deployed.
"TXDOT is sending a fresh
crew every Sunday to Houston to
clear debris from city streets," said
TXDOT Director of Maintenance
Darwin Lankford. "Each crew
relieves the previous week's crew."

These weekly deployments

These weekly deployments November. "TxDOT has now removed

more than 2.4 million cubic feet, or 45 football fields, of debris left behind by Hurricane Harvey," Governor Greg Abbott tweeted recently.

More than 600 employees from all 25 TxDOT districts are involved in debris removal in areas impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Current equipment from the Childress District that is staged in Houston include six 10-yard dump trucks, two loaders, seven pickups, two Bobcats, and four haul trailers.

Adults: Prevent illness, get vaccinated

checked, and get that colonoscopy. One more thing, say Texas physi cians, is making sure all vacci

We typically think of babies and school kids needing vaccinations," said Lenore DePagter, DO, an internal medicine specialist from McAllen and member of the Texas Medical Association's (TMA's) Be Wise - Immunize Physician Advisory Panel. "But vaccines aren't just for kids. Over the years, as new vac-cines have been developed, recommended shots for adults have been added.

Adults may need as many as 10 vaccinations, according to the Cen-ters for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), depending on their jobs, lifestyles, health, and previous vac-cination history. All adults need two

 A yearly flu shot. The CDC savs nearly three hospitalized with flu-related illness are 65 or older, and most flu deaths are among elderly people. A variety of flu vaccines are now available: the traditional flu shot, a high-dose vac-

As people age, they know cine for people aged 65 and older, they should get an eye exam, have and an intradermal vaccine that their cholesterol and blood pressure uses a smaller needle injected into the skin instead of muscle. People should ask their doctor which is best

 A Td vaccination every 10 years to prevent tetanus and diphtheria. One time during adulthood, people should get Tdap vaccina-tion which also prevents pertussis (whooping cough) to protect babies they'll be around. Babies require a series of pertussis vaccinations, so they're not fully protected until close to 18 months of age. The adult's shot prevents him or her from passing potentially deadly whooping cough to the infant. (Whooping cough is usually milder for adults, so adults

might not even know they have it.)

Two other vaccinations are recommended for older adults:

· Pneumococcal, which prevents diseases including infections in the lungs and bloodstream. About 1 million Americans get pneumococ cal pneumonia each year according to the CDC, and about half of them end up in the hospital. Two different shots are recommended for anyone over age 65 and younger adults who have chronic health conditions.

· Zoster, which protects against

shingles, a painful rash caused by the same virus as chickenpox. Everyone over 60 years of age needs this onetime vaccination as risk increases with age

The shot can protect even those who have had shingles from another attack. "As we age, fighting off illness

becomes more difficult," said Dr. DePagter. "Vaccinations provide a boost to our immune systems to help prevent certain diseases, several of which can land someone in the hos-

pital — and even be deadly."

Whether a young adult or someone in the prime of their life, someone in the prime of their life, people need adult vaccinations rec-ommended by the CDC. Physicians suggest individuals check with their doctor to see if all vaccinations are up to date. The CDC has this quick adult vaccine quiz to find out patients should discuss with their

Most older adults have Medicare coverage, which pays for rec-ommended vaccinations. Other insurance companies should pay for vaccinations at no cost to the patient People who are uninsured might be eligible for vaccinations through the Texas Adult Safety Net program

Medicare's enrollment now open

Four things to know about Medicare's open enrollment

By Bob Moos/Southwest public airs officer for the U.S. Centers Medicare and Medicaid Services Now's the time for Texans with

Medicare to look over their health and drug coverage for 2018.

For most Texans, Medicare's annual open enrollment period runs from Oct. 15 until Dec. 7. Individu-

als affected by Hurricane Harvey, however, may contact Medicare at 1-800-633-4227 and request a spe-cial enrollment period lasting until Dec. 31.

Even if you've been satisfied with your health and drug plans, you may benefit from reviewing all your options. Some plans have adjusted their out-of-pocket costs and ben-efit packages for next year. Shop-ping around may save you money or improve your coverage.

Here are four things to know as ou sort through the Medicare health nd drug plans available for 2018.

1) Generally, health and drug

plan premiums will be stable next Texans in Medicare's original

fee-for-service program can choose from 24 drug plans with monthly from 24 drug plans with monthly premiums ranging from \$16.70 to \$197.10 – about the same premium range as last year. Nationally, the average premium for a basic drug plan will drop \$1.20 to \$33.50 per

Texans who prefer an alterna-tive to the traditional Medicare pro-gram may join a Medicare Advantage health plan sold by a private insurer.

Most plans include drug coverage. Thirty-three percent of Texans with Medicare now opt to get their health

benefits this way.

Many Advantage plans charge eparate premium on top of the Part B premium you'll pay for Medi-care's medical insurance. Nationally, the average monthly cost for that separate Medicare Advantage premium will be \$30 in 2018 -- \$1.91

less than this year.

Look beyond premiums, though. The only way to determine the true cost of your coverage is to consider other factors like deductibles, co-payments and coinsurance.

Medicare's website – www.medicare.gov/ind-a-plan – has the best

care gowfind-a-plan – has the best tool for helping you narrow your search for a new health or drug plan. 2) 2) Check the quality of a health or drug plan's service, too. To help you identify the best and worst Medicare plans in your area, www.medicare.gow/find-a-plan provides star ratings for each. The ratines range from five stars (excelratings range from five stars (excel lent) to one star (poor); three stars

Higher-rated plans deliver a higher level of care, such as manag-ing chronic conditions efficiently, ing chronic conditions efficiently, screening for and preventing ill-nesses, and making sure people get much-needed prescriptions. Higher-rated plans also provide better cus-tomer service, with fewer complaints

or long waits for care.

3) If you need help comparing health or drug plans, it's readily

There are four places to turn for

assistance: Visit www.medicare.gov/finda-plan to compare your current cov-erage with new health or drug plans If you want to make a change, the website will guide you to where to enroll in a ne

ll in a new plan. Call Medicare's help line at 1-800-633-4227 at any hour and talk with a customer service representative.

Consult vour "Medicare & You 2018" handbook, which you should have received in the mail in the last few weeks. The book may also be viewed at www.medicare.gov.

Get one-on-one benefits coun-seling through Texas' State Health Insurance Assistance Program. You may call 1-800-252-9240 for the

selors nearest you.
4) If you're on a tight budget, see whether you can get help paying for your prescriptions.

for your prescriptions.

If you're having difficulty affording medications, you may qualify for the government's "extra help" program. The amount of help depends on your income and resources. Generally, you'll pay no more than \$3.35 for each generic drug and \$8.35 for each brand-name drug in 2018

drug in 2018.

To qualify at present, your annual income can't be more than \$18,330 if you're single or \$24,600 if you're married. Also, your resources can't exceed \$13,820 if you're single

can texceed \$15,820 in you're married.
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Regional Bound



yler Harper was the Hedley Junior High Lone Star racing in the boys divi-ion of the Junior High Meet.





District Competition

HHS Cross Country members competed at the District meet in Shamrock on Monday, October 9. Advancing to the Regional meet are Collin Monroe and Jordan Upton. Pictured are Collin Monroe, Emma Lambert, Jayden Lambert, Jordan Upton, Caylor Monroe, Kasie Hinton, Cara Lambert, Jasmine McCleskey, and Madi Gay.



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Clarendon Junior High cross country athletes ran in Canyon, September 30. Aliyah Weatherton and Emeri Robinson (left) run two miles, Nathan Estlack (top) runs two miles, and Brandon Santos (bottom) runs a 5K

Skins game held at CCC

By Sandy Anderberg
The fall Six-Person Skins Game

The fall Six-Person Skins Game was held at the Clarendon Country Club Sunday, October 8, with 18 teams in attendance. There were no skins awarded in the tournament. Two teams tied for the low score for the day. The team of Scott Gaines and Jorey Knutson tied with a gross score of 54 for first place. The P.J. Lemons team tied with the Campano Suck team for third aloca. Cameron Speck team for third place with a 55

The team of Kent Neal was closest to the pin on number eight at 12'3 ¾", and the Lemons team was est to the hole on number 15 at

will be the Polar Bear November

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Drone use near animal farms now illegal

David Mimlitch was on his lunch break in 2011, flipping through the 606 aerial photos he had just taken with a drone outside Dallas, when he noticed something strange: a creek stained scarlet with blood.

"That's blood, Surely that can't be right, surely that can't be legal,"
Mimlitch remembers thinking.

It was pig blood. Authorities
quickly traced the waste back to

Columbia Meat Packing Company, then a Dallas-area slaughterhouse and meat packing facility. A grand jury indicted the company and two itives on 18 counts, which were later dropped, and Columbia shut-tered its slaughterhouse. It eventu-ally reopened as a stand-alone meat packing facility.

Mimlitch never set out to uncover the pig waste – he enjoys documenting the progress of large infrastructure projects in Dallas - and he doesn't count himself as much of an activist. But he and others worry that a new Texas law could restrict the ability of hobby-...., journalists and activists from using drones to make observations like the one Mimilitah 32.1 one Mimlitch did.

House Bill 1643, which went into effect Sept. 1, makes it a crime to operate a drone over "concentrated animal feeding operations," as well as telecommunication facili-ties and certain oil and gas facilities. It also bars Texas cities and towns from making their own rules regu-lating drone usage – a measure that has become controversial in its own

While the Columbia Packing facility may not classify as a "con-centrated feeding operation," Mim-litch said the law strikes him as an attempt to protect companies from

unfriendly eyes in the sky.

"Texas is trying to protect the
businesses from prying eyes, from
being vetted," he said.

But proponents of the law see it differently. To them, drones pose a threat to agriculture across the state. As the technology develops, some fear the unmanned aircraft could be used to nefarious ends, like poison ing livestock or knocking out power

State Rep. Drew Springer, State Rep. Drew Springer, R-Muenster, one of the authors of the legislation, said he was con-cerned about drones being used to infect cattle with foot-and-mouth

"That disease could be spread through drones very easily and that is a massive fear for the economy of Texas, for the food supply in Texas, and really all of the United States,"

While he couldn't point to an example of a specific threat or complaint about spreading diseases through drones, he said "that was the natural next step if you look at secu-rity risks that would be anticipated."

"There are people who dis-agree with eating domesticated animals and they will stop at nothing to make sure nobody else can do that," Springer said.

Opponents of the bill are skepti-

cal of the threat that drones pose to the facilities and argue that many of the activities it seeks to prevent – like poisoning the national food supply – are already considered crimes in Texas

"It would be an act of terrorit would be an act of terror-ism," Judith McGeary, the executive director of the Farm and Ranch Free-dom Alliance, said. "There'd be multiple felonies that could be brought, the idea that a class B misdemeanor for flying the drone is how you're going to stop that kind of action is

McGeary said she fears that the law targets academics and other researchers who want to shed light on practices in the agriculture industry. Still, though, she said she doesn't know of any academics using the technology to conduct that kind of research

Josh Cohn, the political director of EFF-Austin, a technology advo-cacy group, said that the new law prevents people from taking advantage of drones in the future.

"Instead of adapting to these new technologies like drones, Texas is restricting the people we want using them," he said. "We want to promote free speech and research. Drone enthusiasts are going to be penalized by this bill."

But Josh Winegarner, the director of government relations for the Texas Cattle Feeders Association, said that ranchers often cooperate
with outside researchers.

"We cooperate with universities, we've done a lot of stuff with

journalists," he said, adding that hiding the facilities from public

was "not an intent behind the bill."

Concerns about the bill extend beyond the bovine. The Texas Assoion of School Boards, the Texas Municipal League, and the City of Plano all sent letters to Gov. Greg Abbott asking him to veto the leg-islation. They each argued that the law's new rules limiting local control over drone usage would have detri-

"The bill's requirements would hinder school districts' ability to quickly respond to safety and privacy risks to our students and communi-ties," Jim de Garavilla, chairman of the Texas Association of School Boards' legislative committee, wrote to Abbott. "Schools cannot rely on existing federal and state laws to address all of the safety and privacy risks.

Springer said that provision was intended to help companies experi-menting with drone delivery. Cities and towns will still be able to regulate drone usage in some scenarios, like special events.

like special events.
"We're trying to find that fine balance between public safety and still allowing commercial develop-ment of the technology," he said. "Those groups – whether it's Google or Amazon or anybody else that is looking at drone delivery systems - were worried about a patchwork quilt of regulations that would have prevented them from going forward with that technology."

Art Club holds October meeting Clarendon's Les Beaux Art Club held their regular meeting on

Gloria Gage,

on and welcomed into the club Final plans and schedules were discussed for the upcoming Les Beaux Art Show on October 28, being held at the Donley County Activity Center. Everyone was encouraged to attend and bring a friend. Lots of hard work has been poured into the preparation of this year's show and we are looking forward to a large attendance









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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO RECONCILE FUEL COSTS

Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) petitioned the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) on August 28, 2017 for authority to reconcile its eligible fuel expenses and revenues for the period from March 1, 2014 through February 28, 2017 (Reconciliation Period). This application, if granted, will affect all Texas retail customers.

During the Reconciliation Period, SWEPCO incurred a total of \$670,859,057 in eligible fuel, fuel-related expenses, and purchased-power costs to generate and purchase electric energy for its Texas retail customers, as well as expenses associated with environmental consumables and emission allowance costs allocated to its Texas retail customers. As of the end of the Reconciliation Period, SWEPCO calculates that it has over-recovered its Texas retail fuel, fuel related, and purchased-power costs by \$4,384,730, excluding interest. Including interest, SWEPCO's cumulative over-recovery balance is \$4,459,126 as of February 28, 2017.

Persons with questions or who want more information on this petition may contact SWEPCO at 428 Travis Street, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101, or call toll-free at (888) 216-3523 during normal business hours. A complete copy of this petition is available for inspection at the address listed above.

The Commission has assigned Docket No. 47553 to this proceeding. Persons who wish to formally participate in this proceeding, or who wish to express their comments concerning this petition, should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Customer Protection, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call (512) 936-7120 or toll-free at (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may call (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll-free) at (800) 735-2989. A request for intervention or for further information should refer to Docket No. 47553. The deadline for intervention in this proceeding is November 17, 2017.



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Extension experts: Wet weather affecting region's cotton crops

AMARILLO – Cotton fields in High Plains and Rolling Plains of Texas are experiencing browning or bronzing of the foliage, often accompanied by premature defolia-tion, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts are reporting, and the problem is affecting Donley County

roducers as well.
"We have several fields in the county suffering with these conditions," AgriLife Extension Agent Leonard Haynes said.

Dr. Jason Woodward, AgriLife Extension plant pathologist in Lub-bock, said he's had more phone calls from farmers in the last 10 days to two weeks on this issue than any

other before.

"We are seeing the issue primarily in the southern High Plains

- Lubbock and north into the Amarillo area and into the Vernon area," Woodward said. "Tve seen samples, and it is widespread and quite obvious.

ous."

He said the primary cause, alternaria leaf spot, is seen every year at low levels, but "the extremely wet conditions we've seen the last 10 days to two weeks is what has caused

the acceleration this year."

Even though the disease in fields looks bad, Woodward said, the weather is more of a factor than the disease.

"Cotton doesn't like wet and overcast conditions," he said. "It is more content with hot and sunny conditions."

The redeeming factor is the leaf spot didn't show up earlier in the year, Woodward said. Cotton harvest is rapidly approaching and this issue is occurring mostly in plants furthest along in a maturity standpoint, so the potential to greatly affect yields is limited this late in the year

"I feel like it is a late-season disease and the potential for yield loss is not as great as if the condi-tion had occurred earlier in August," he said.

Jourdan Bell, AgriLife Dr. Extension agronomist in Amarillo, said she believes the earlier matur-ing varieties are shutting down due cool conditions in the northern High Plains. Under cool, wet condi-tions, the plant is more susceptible to alternaria resulting in premature defoliation.

But she agreed with Woodward. extended cool, wet period is ch of the blame.

Another weather-related prob-

lem she noted was the shortage of

lem she noted was the shortage of remaining growing season.
"In the northern High Plains, we are potentially running out of time to mature the crop," Bell said. "So, again the weather will be a bigger factor than the leaf spot in ultimate



Leaves of cotton plants are seeing alternaria leaf spot damage after several weeks of wet, cool weather. TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE PHOTO

Dr. Emi Kimura, AgriLife Extension agronomist in Vernon, said she started to see more leaf diseases and cotton root rot after a 4-6 inch rain event at the end of September in the Rolling Plains. The affected area shows browning of leaves in circular patterns in the field, and the affected areas seem to be spreading as rain continues to fall

She said they are recommend-ing producers keep a good record of the problem areas within the fields so preventative measures can be utilized next year

in the Rolling Plains.

Dr. Tom Isakeit, plant patholo-gist, and Dr. Gaylon Morgan, state cotton specialist, both with AgriLife Extension in College Station, have been studying the problem in other parts of the state and determined sev-eral leaf spot diseases are associated with the affected foliage, but are sec-ondary to nutrient deficiencies

Different species of fungi have been found to cause these leaf spots, Isakeit said. With cotton, the fungi are probably hastening the defolia-, but they are not likely the main

factor in defoliation.

Disease development is associated with frequent rain, he said. This stress, combined with other factors, contributes to insufficient nutrient uptake to meet high boll demand, including potassium. While adequate soil potassium levels are generally present in most of the High Plains and Rolling Plains soils, a small root system caused by compaction can impact root uptake.

But the cooler, cloudy and wet weather are detrimental to healthy leaves and are also contributing to bronzing and yellowing of the leaves and premature defoliation, Morgan said.

On the positive side, he said, these potassium deficiency symp-toms usually only occur in the High Plains and Rolling Plains when the cotton vield potential is high. Potassium, phosphorus and nitrogen are mobile within plants and are trans-ported to the parts of the plant with the most demand.

In a crop with a heavy holl load. Morgan said these mobile nutrients will be translocated from the leaves to the developing bolls, causing various nutrient deficiencies in the leaves nd can lead to secondary pathogen infections.

Development of leaf spot dis-

eases very late in the season in conjunction with these nutrient deficiencies should have a minimal impact on cotton yield, he said. If the fungal epidemic occurred earlier in the season, it could have caused greater yield losses. At this point in the season, the need for more heat unit accumulation is the most yield limiting factor.

Planning for next year, Morgan said, the most important thing is to collect soil samples and get them analyzed to determine if adequate nutrients are available in the soil.

For more information, go to https://agrilife.org/texasrowcrops/ and https://cotton.tamu.edu.

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