

Deaf Culture Question of the Week – Feb. 22 - 25, 2011
Bill Newell, Principal Washington School for the Deaf

If you haven't completed the DCQW survey there is still time to do it. Click on the link to the survey on the bottom of this page. We appreciate your time in completing our short survey. We want to especially hear from our parents.

What county in the Texas Panhandle is named in honor of a deaf person?

- a. Clerc County
- b. Deaf Smith County
- c. Fowler County
- d. Matlin County

Scroll down for the answer.

Answer: "b" Deaf Smith County. Way up in the Texas Panhandle in a little town called Hereford which is the county seat of Deaf Smith County. The county was named in honor of Erastus Smith an American frontiersman noted for his part in the Texas Revolution and the army of the Republic of Texas. He fought at the

Grass Fight and the Battle of San Jacinto. After the war, Deaf Smith led a company of Texas Rangers.

Posthumous legacy

Plaque at the [Deaf Smith County Historical Museum](#) in [Hereford, Texas](#), highlights Smith's career: "A man more brave and honest never lived."

[Deaf Smith County, Texas](#) is named in his honor, and like the pronunciation of his nickname, is spoken as "Deef" with a long "e" vowel sound. This is a non-standard regional pronunciation of the word deaf.

Also, a brand of peanut butter known as Deaf Smith was manufactured by the [Arrowhead Mills](#) company, which was founded in 1960 by [Frank Ford](#), then from [Hereford](#), the seat of Deaf Smith County. [Excerpted from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deaf_Smith]

Please take a few minutes to complete the DCQW Survey:

DCQW has been published weekly during the school year since January 2008. We want to collect information about who reads DCQW, how you use it, which kinds of questions you like best, etc. We created a short survey to collect information. It is completely anonymous. Please take a few moments to complete our survey. Your feedback will be greatly appreciated.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/L7RQNVX>

Note: All previous issues of DCQW are archived at the Washington School for the Deaf website: www.wsd.wa.gov