

Friona ★ Star

VOL. 88, NO. 26

FRIONA, TEXAS

THURSDAY, JULY 5, 2012

TEN PAGES

Going away party for Brenda Patterson at Friona Library Tues.

After 19 years at the Friona Public Library, Brenda Patterson has resigned to accept a position at Boys Ranch. The Friends of the Library will host an Aloha reception for Brenda Tuesday July 10 from 2-4 p.m. at the library. Everyone is invited to stop by for refreshments and wish Brenda all the best.



Brenda Patterson

Upcoming camps from AgriLife's Shana Fleming

Shana Fleming, County Extension Agent for Family & Consumer Science will offer a series of camps for local youth. The cost is \$10 and includes all three camps.

Sewing camp - July 5, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the County Extension office in Farwell.

Cooking camp (grilling) - July 6, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bailey County Extension office in Muleshoe.

Craft Camp - July 9 & 10 for grades 3rd - 5th 1:30 - 4 p.m. at the Friona Methodist Church.

Craft Camp - July 16 & 17 for grades 3rd - 5th, 1:30 - 4 p.m. at the Bailey County Extension office in Muleshoe (this is a repeat of the Friona craft camp).

For more information contact Shana Fleming at 806-481-3619.

June 17, 1938

Parmer County to fight grasshoppers

From the front page of the June 17, 1938 Friona Star:

According to Jason O. Gordon, Parmer county farm agent, who was in Friona Monday, a carload of poison from the government was received hereon Wednesday of last week and has been stored in the warehouse of the Friona Wheat Growers, Inc. for use in combating the grasshopper menace in Parmer County.

Mr. Gordon was accompanied by Mr. Easton, grasshopper expert from the State Department of Agriculture who was assisting him in getting into operation the machinery for fighting grasshoppers in this county.

Mr. Gordon stated that they would have the complete set-up ready for service by the middle of this week, and all farmers or others who wished to join in the fight against the grasshopper pest, could secure the poison for the purpose of applying at the Wheat Growers warehouse, where representatives of the county would wait upon them.

There is no charge made for the poison, as it is furnished by the government, but the bait or filler for the poison, together with the bags in which it is contained and the mixing, is furnished by the county, and a charge of thirty-five cents (.35c) per bag will be placed upon the furnished material, just enough to reimburse the county for the expense of preparing it.

Judges J.M.W. Alexander of Precinct No. 1 and O.M. Jennings, of Precinct No. 4 were in Friona on Tuesday preparing two machines for spreading the poison over the fields, these machines to be supplied by the county, one for the Lazbuddy precinct and the other for the Friona community, and the use of these spreaders will be free to all who wish to avail themselves of their service.

The machines may be drawn behind a car or truck and will do the work of spreading the poison more evenly and much more rapidly than it can be done by hand.

File your application for the poison and the use of the machines with the attendants of the Friona Wheat Growers warehouse here at Friona and do not forget the small charge of 35c per hundred pounds, which goes to pay for the bag and the labor of mixing the poison.

Persons who contemplate using this poison, should do so at the earliest opportunity, before the hoppers are old enough to begin their destructive migrations from one field to another. More explicit instructions for the application of the poison may be obtained from Mr. Gordon and Mr. Easton, or from the attendants at the warehouse where the material is obtained.



ron carr photo

These young ladies were proprietors of the Cousins Camp Lemonade Co. located at A-1 Service Center. They were in town visiting with grandparents Reta and Mike Martin. Left and right are Haylie and Hannah Storey, daughters of Heather Storey. They live in Destin, Florida. In the middle is Avery Dunn, daughter of Renee Dunn. She lives in Plano, Texas. The girls were also selling some homemade jewelry and some drawings.

Council action items for July 10 meeting

The Friona city council will meet in regular session Tuesday July 10, 2012 in council chambers at 619 Main St. All council meetings are open to the public.

After roll call, invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance, the council will open the agenda for public comments.

They will discuss and approve previous minutes and consider a resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the 2013/2014 community development block grant program.

Item 6 is discussion, consideration, and action on approval of an ordinance to issue the \$1 million certificate of obligation to be used for wastewater treatment plant improvements as required by state regulations.

Other items include discussion of June accounts payable, approval of the June financial statement, and approval of the third quarter financial statement beginning April 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

Agenda item 10 is consider and take action on appointment of Tracy Ellis to the Friona Public Library advisory board.

For Item 11, the council will go into executive session for the annual

evaluation of city manager Patricia Phipps including discussion of salary, benefits, discipline, termination, promotion, and/or reclassification authorized by Texas Government Code, Subchapter D, Section 551.074 personnel. This is a routine annual evaluation of the city manager's performance. Any members of the public present in the council chambers will be asked to leave during the executive session.

For agenda item 12 the council will reconvene in regular session and consider action, if any, on item 11 as discussed in executive session. At this time the public is allowed to re-enter the chambers.

The agenda items constitute a tentative agenda for the July 10 meeting and are subject to change. The final and official agenda is posted 72 hours prior to the meeting on the front window at city hall.

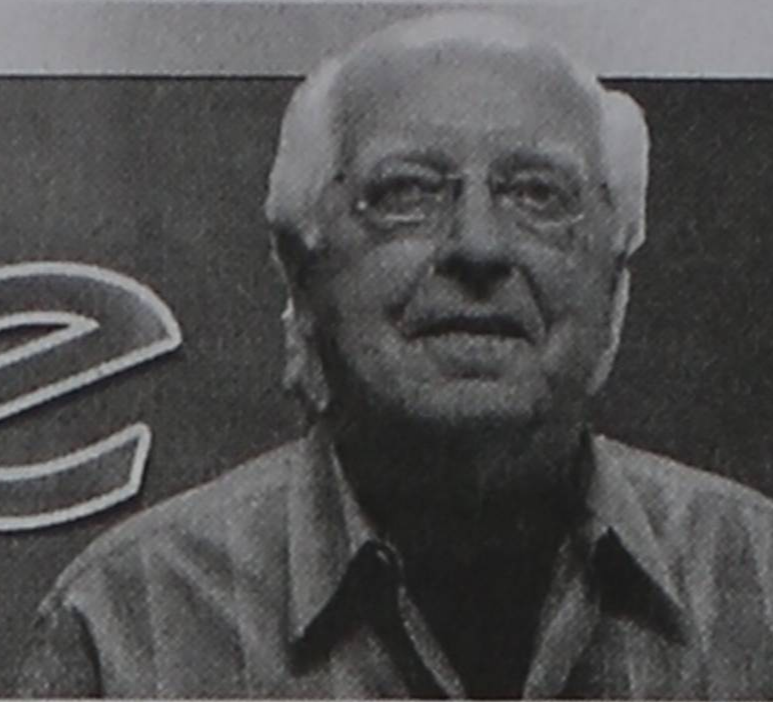


ron carr photo

Cargill Safety Days kicked off Monday at the plant. Employees signed up for raffles of home safety equipment and a grill and were treated to popcorn and sunscreen. The Safety Days continue this week, except Wednesday holiday, with the big day Friday when there will be food, music, games, and other safety booths. The raffle winners will also be named Friday.

Out Here

By Ron Carr



Obama administration moves forward

Nope, not going to do it. I'll not write a scalding diatribe about the Supreme Court and the Affordable Health Care Act. By now you should have heard enough about it to be tickled pink or totally ticked off. No matter which side you take, this government mandated program will become a total administrative disaster. It simply has too many moving parts. When you put the federal and state government, insurance companies, hospitals, doctors, and nurses in the same pot and stir, the outcome will not be palatable. It is amazing to me how different factions can have such different views and opinions about the same issue. Look at the examples in our letters to the editor this week. And those are only a fraction of the press releases we received expressing analysis and opinion. Our esteemed elected

leaders cannot agree on whether we will be subject to a tax or a penalty. The Democrats say it is a penalty although their lawyers argued before the Supreme Court that it is a tax. Chief Justice Roberts called it a tax. Nancy Pelosi says it is a penalty for not having health insurance. We shouldn't really care. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius has quickly announced a ton of money available to help states implement the health care law. She said in a press release, "When the law is fully implemented in 2014, the affordable insurance exchanges will provide people and small businesses with one-stop shops to find, compare, and purchase affordable, high quality health insurance." I have no evidence at this point to argue to the contrary. Maybe it will work to the benefit of everyone. I remain my usual skeptical self. She says this new funding

opportunity will give states the resources they need to establish affordable insurance exchanges and ensure Americans are no longer on their own when shopping for insurance. So we are going to go shopping with the State of Texas after they have cobbled together something called an insurance exchange? Maybe not. Texas has yet to reveal its intentions about insurance exchanges and accepting more federal money to expand Medicaid. Here is the heavy-handed part. If a state does not organize an insurance exchange, they will get a 'federally facilitated exchange'. There are so many ways to lose money in this deal it defies logic. If you were asked to invest in a business deal like this one, most prudent souls would have a good laugh. There are millions of Americans that cannot afford health insurance premiums. There is no extra

money in the family budget to pay for health insurance so they risk getting sick and avoid going to the doctor for routine visits. If, all of a sudden, those millions have some form of health insurance, the number of visits to doctors will increase, overloading the medical facilities. That is one theory of the opponents to Obamacare. They are planning to hire several thousand IRS agents to enforce this "not a tax" legislation. I predict that by 2014 the health care business will be in one huge chaotic mess, with average Americans bewildered about where to turn or what to do. I would like to hear from anyone whose health insurance premiums have decreased or if you have had something good happen thanks to Obamacare. Or if you expect a positive result from the Affordable Health Care Act. Anybody? I'll be waiting.

Letters to the Editor

Crime Stoppers would like to thank the Friona Star and Staline Tribune and the public for their participation in our efforts. Thanks to another tip, we have one less felon on the streets of Parmer County and another Crime Stoppers reward of \$200 was paid out. Your help makes all the difference in our part of the world. Thank you.

Parmer/Bailey County Crime Stoppers



Congressman Randy Neugebauer (TX-19) released a statement applauding Cargill's announcement that it will build a new feed product production facility in Bovina, TX. The facility will be located near an existing Cargill Cattle Feeders (CCF) location. "I couldn't be more pleased about Cargill's decision to invest in Parmer County. This new facility will not only create job opportunities during construction, but it will also add 37 permanent jobs to the community."

"West Texas is the heart of cattle feeding country, and it is home to some of our nation's closest communities and hardest workers. I know that just as Parmer County will benefit from Cargill's investment, Cargill will benefit from closer ties to the Bovina community."

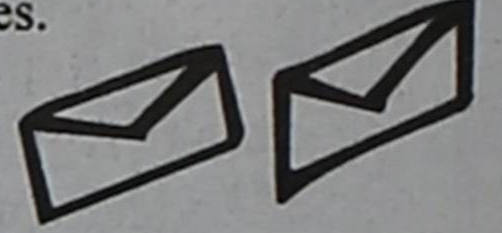
"This announcement is a great example of how the private sector can work with local communities to create jobs and grow our economy."

Congressman Randy Neugebauer



For those of us living in rural America, where we are more likely to be uninsured or underinsured than our urban neighbors, and where our local economies are even more dependent on small, mainstreet businesses as well as family farms and ranches, this ruling (Affordable Care Act) is a true victory. The reforms that have already been implemented, and the health coverage marketplaces that are soon to be established as a result of the Affordable Care Act offer a real hope of access to affordable health care for millions of rural Americans and a better future for our rural communities.

John Crabtree
Center for Rural Affairs



This ruling will be a stomach punch to the American economy. It is a shocking disappointment to freedom-loving Americans desperate to get our country back on track. Obamacare is bad for the economy, bad for health care, bad for freedom. Americans have made it clear their overwhelming opposition to its convoluted, burdensome, and overreaching mandates.

Freedom was frontally attacked by passage of this monstrosity - and the court utterly failed in its duty to uphold the Constitutional limits placed on Washington. Now that the Supreme Court has abandoned us, we citizens must take action at every level of government and demand real reform, done with respect for our Constitution and our liberty.

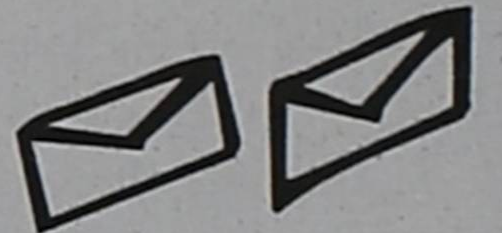
Texas Governor Rick Perry



I am very disappointed with the Supreme Court's decision to uphold the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. It is a bad law and bad policy. The mandate to purchase individual health insurance through a brand new tax is an attack on personal liberty. This law is a reminder of President Ronald Reagan's warning from a quarter century ago when he said, "Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: if it moves tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it."

In addition, the law will place an enormous burden on Texas taxpayers and place a huge constraint on our budget. The Supreme Court has left open the possibility that states could opt out of Medicaid expansion without losing money for the existing Medicaid program. Opting out to slow the projected growth of Medicaid is something the legislature may have to consider once we've had time to further assess this decision.

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs



cogitations & aphorisms of jodok

By Uncle John White • 1868 - 1965

From the June 17, 1938 Friona Star. Uncle John and some others were apparently concerned about traffic control on Main St. In those years, downtown was a busy place. Folks came in from the country to shop on Saturday. There was head-in parking on Main St. And harvest trucks seemed to be a concern. Here is Uncle John in June, 1938. He was 70-years-old at the time.

Our city fathers are talking a little about taking some steps toward regulating traffic in town, and especially on Main Street, lest there may be some direful occurrence some day as a result of too much careless driving and parking.

They do not wish to be considered impertinent or bossy about this matter, but some of the old sayings have it that "A stitch in time saves nine" and "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," so they have about decided to begin to take some precaution and enforce a few safety regulations before anyone is seriously injured, for if someone gets killed or seriously injured it will be like "locking the stable after the horse is stolen" to begin enforcing traffic ordinances then.

Before many weeks, if nothing happens to the wheat crop, our streets will be filled with heavy laden trucks coming in with threshed wheat for the elevators, and they will always be in a hurry to get unloaded and back for another load, and if our streets are full of double-parked cars and other trucks, there will be much more

danger of collision than if orderly parking and careful driving are maintained.

Our city fathers do not wish to be contentious about this matter, but they do feel that they should have the sincere support of our business people in trying to prevent loss and damage to both life and property by taking precautions to prevent unnecessary accidents, and it just occurs to me that these same business people should be more interested in this saving of life and property than in the possible loss of a few dimes in trade, because some selfish, or acreless, or contentious person insists on blocking traffic by wrong or careless parking and driving.

Some people will "cuss" you, gentle folks, for allowing such ordinances to be enforced and may threaten to go to some other town to trade. But they will be first to "cuss" you and "cuss" you hard, if they or their car or truck are hurt. And anyway, if they do go to some other town, they will have to obey traffic regulations, for I suspect Friona is about the only town in the country that allows people to drive and park in just any manner they please to, and this condition here is allowable simply because our officials do not wish to appear bossy or snooty about the matter, so let us all give them a helping hand in their honest efforts to prevent accidents and the consequent loss of life and property.

- ACROSS**
- 1 ag service that became FSA in '94
 - 5 TXism: "cough ___" (pay)
 - 6 back of the neck
 - 7 use a keyboard
 - 8 TXism: "at ___" (impulsive)
 - 18 ___ and reel
 - 19 TX is the best state
 - 20 Austin university
 - 21 TXism: "___ off the handle" (raged)
 - 22 TX A.J. Foyt, et al.
 - 24 biceps
 - 29 Gov. Bush s desired job in 2000 (abbr.)
 - 30 Pearsall is the seat of this county
 - 31 this Costner travels across TX in '85 film "Fandango" (init.)
 - 32 fruit producers in TX Hill Country (2 wds.)
 - 34 take the skin off a TX ruby red
 - 35 ___ Tse-tung
 - 36 Padre Island National
 - 37 "Wise Co. Antique Auto Swap ___"
 - 38 ex-Cowboy Kenneth aka "The Shark"
 - 39 TXism for "smart" (4 wds.)
 - 41 TXism: "___ on the back burner" (delay)
 - 42 Dr Pepper began at ___ Old Corner Drug Store in Waco

- 43 Abilene was named for a cattle town in this state
- 44 dir. to Tyler from Athens
- 45 Uvalde h.s. class
- 46 actress Greer who married TX oilman Fogelson in '49
- 47 George ___ built hospital near Rice Univ.
- 49 TX pianist Olga ___ off
- 50 most of TX is ___ smoking today

- DOWN**
- 1 TXism: "if it ___ ain't a cow in Texas!"
 - 2 TXism: "his axles ___" (active)
 - 3 prairie drinking glass: ___ hand
 - 4 word with limit or bump
 - 9 TXism: "that chaps my hidel!"
 - 10 Washington's "folding money"
 - 11 TX Perot is a south-___
 - 12 17th governor of TX: ___ Roberts

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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- 13 black-footed ___ is now extinct in TX
- 14 TXism: "skinny as ___"
- 15 in Hamilton Co. on hwy. 281
- 16 king topper in poker
- 17 ex-Spurs coach "Tark the Shark"
- 21 "___ ___ bird"
- 23 TX-born composer Joplin, et al.
- 24 first female gov.: "___" Ferguson
- 25 "___ and downs"
- 26 to emit forcefully
- 27 "___ to fame"
- 28 TX teacher offering
- 37 seat of Ward Co.
- 38 rock band ___ - Roses played at TX Willie s Farm Aid IV
- 40 TX oilman Jack Grimm searched for ___ Ark
- 41 "The North Texas Skeptics" doubt the ___ normal
- 43 Amarillo TV station
- 46 TXism: "___ was slow, but she was old" (hurry up)
- 48 TXism: "smoke ___" (find)

ON YOUR PAYROLL

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Town Talk II

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Friona's official weather guru John Gurley sent the June weather report. Friona received a total of 1.88" of rain during the month, with precipitation recorded on 7 different days. The most rainfall was 1.06" on June 13. The last four days of June the high temperature was over 100.

Friona firefighters responded to a house fire at the home of Tommy and Diane Tatum on FM 3140 Friday night at 9:45 p.m. It was said lightning caused the fire. There was major damage to the back and interior of the home. The Tatums were not at home at the time of the fire. Firemen were dispatched to the location again about 6:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

Cotton news. High Plains producers planted less cotton than they did in 2011, according to the June 29 USDA Planted Acreage Report. USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service reports that 4.15 million acres of High Plains land were planted to cotton this year, a 9.1 percent

decrease from 4.57 million acres planted in 2011. Larry Combest said the decrease likely can be attributed to price and multiple crop options, particularly in the north. As cotton prices dropped relative to corn, growers may have opted into planting more corn, or another crop.

Lee Gibson, after 22 days in an Amarillo hospital, has now moved to Parmer Medical Center in Friona for a few days. He continues to battle a respiratory problem.

Had a visit last week with new Athletic Director and Head Coach Mike Prokop and new offensive coordinator Daniel Hutchins. Prokop comes here from Farwell and Hutchins from Eunice, New Mexico.

Hutchins is a native of Farwell. He and Chieftain basketball coach David Woods were schoolmates from K-12 grade in Farwell. Prokop coached the two when they played 7th grade football in Farwell. Hutchins coached 8 years in El Paso and two in Eunice.

Before his coaching career he was a Methodist pastor. Coach Prokop had a successful career at Texico, winning several state championships and took Farwell three games into the playoffs last year. They will be conducting several sports camps in July and are preparing for the August 6 official start date for football and volleyball practices.

Congratulations to Gene and Mildred Welch. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last week. Daniel and Virginia Hidalgo celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary.

Bonnie Pope and Loraine Anthony were winners of a Nook in the Bi-Wize Pharmacy contest on Facebook. A couple of weeks ago I won a BBQ set from a Bi-Wize Facebook contest. You can get in on the future fun by "liking" Bi-Wize on Facebook and follow along. While you are at it, if you are not a Friona Star Fan Page friend you can "like" us too. We are at about 650 friends. I think that is cool.

Happy birthday this week to Wal Mart. On July 2, 1962, the first Wal Mart store, called Wal Mart Discount City, opened in Rogers, Arkansas by Sam Walton and his brother James.

Took my mother to attend the Heritage Estates open house and dinner Thursday evening. Thanks to administrator Sue Rasser and the residents for a nice meal and friendly tour of the facility. Mother enjoyed visiting with several friends she had not seen in a while. Faith and Grace Cooper provided some nice piano entertainment. They are beautiful, well-mannered, friendly, talented young ladies, daughters of Kevin and Sharlet Cooper. Nice evening. Thanks Heritage estates for inviting us.

The Coffee Memorial Blood Center's Friona blood council met at Headquarters Restaurant last Thursday to plan the July 26 Friona blood drive. The theme in July is Boots and Badges where donors can 'vote' for either the firemen or police. We are tentatively planning for the Noon Lions members to provide hamburgers for those presenting to donate. Donors will get a Boots and Badges t-shirt. More info later.

July 21 the Cheeseburger Festival, July 25 Amarillo NewsChannel 10 visits, then July 26 the blood drive. That will be a busy week. Rest up.

I visited the Gerries family's

fireworks stands Saturday. No I didn't buy any fireworks, just stopped to say hello to Sheriff Gerries and Sarah. They are in their 16th fireworks year he said. Was easier when their four kids were here to help but they have all grown and gone. Randy said they are interested in selling the fireworks operation; buildings, inventory, and expertise. If you are interested contact Randy or Sarah Gerries.

According to the Water District's Cross Section newsletter, the winter water level measurement program said six counties in the 16 county district had average declines in water levels greater than -3.0 feet. They are Castro, Floyd, Hale, Lamb, Lynn, and Parmer counties. One well in Floyd County recorded the greatest decline at -25.35 feet. Seventeen wells in seven counties in the district had water level declines of -10 feet in 2010-2011.

IncrediWorld Amazement Park. That is the theme of the First Baptist Church Vacation Bible School scheduled for July 23-27 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. It is for children who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade. Go by the church office and register early. All children in the community are welcome.

The St. Teresa's Catholic Church annual jamaica will be held Sunday August 5 from 12:30 - 8 p.m. at the church grounds. There will be games, live music, and lots of

food and treats. The public is invited to attend.

Darla Bracken pays for a Star subscription for her daughter Julie Davidson who lives in Seminole. She sent a note with this month's renewal. "Julie really enjoys the Star. Once when two Stars stuck together in the mail she tracked down the other Seminole family receiving the Star and hand delivered it to them." Thanks Julie and Stuart Davidson for being loyal Star readers.

From the June 17, 1938 Friona Star's front page: Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hadley and daughter Miss Mirian, and sons Robert Lee and Phillip of Warren, Ohio, arrived here Monday for a few days visit in the home of Mayor and Mrs. R. W. Reeve, Mr. Hadley being Mrs. Reeve's brother. The family left Ohio on Friday of last week and were nearly four days enroute. Mr. and Mrs. Hadley accompanied Mayor and Mrs. Reeve on a trip to Clovis Wednesday. (So Friona folks were going to Clovis 70 years ago. Wonder what they did there without Red Lobster or Wal Mart?)

Hope you had a nice holiday Wednesday. We finished this week's Star in two days and took the 4th off too. Keep us in touch with local news of interest. We are just an email away. Hope you enjoy the articles from the early Friona Stars as much as we enjoy researching them. See you soon. Until then!



photo by carolyn stowers

The Coffee Memorial Blood Center's Friona blood council met Thursday June 28 at Headquarters Restaurant to plan for the July 26 Friona blood drive. The theme will be Boots and Badges, with donors voting for the police or firemen. Each donor will receive a Boots and Badges t-shirt. From left are Clint Mears, Janne Lawrence from Coffee Memorial Blood Center in Amarillo, Bessie Holt, Ron Carr, and John Gurley.

CHS has an opportunity for a full time **Terminal Operations Specialists** located in **Friona, TX**. This facility is a diverse operation and is involved in both grain handling and fertilizer. This position has the opportunity for growth.

Responsibilities:

- Loading / Unloading grain and fertilizer into rail cars.
- Operate heavy equipment.
- Monitor and maintain quality of inventory for all departments.
- Regular and periodic housecleaning processes and record keeping.
- Help maintain service records on all elevator equipment including legs, conveyors, grain cleaner, vehicles and all facility equipment.
- General work around the facility.
- Provide excellent customer service and assist customers when needed.
- Observe and enforce all company policies and procedures.
- Work a flexible schedule with extended hours to meet business needs
- Other duties as assigned by management.

Basic Qualifications:

- High School diploma or GED.
- Ability to lift 50 lbs, climb ladders, stairs and bins.
- Ability to operate loaders, conveyors, tractors, and trucks.
- Ability to work in dust and adverse weather conditions and temperatures.
- Ability to work flexible hours and extended hours to meet business needs

Preferred Qualifications:

- Farming background
- Grain handling experience
- Elevator experience

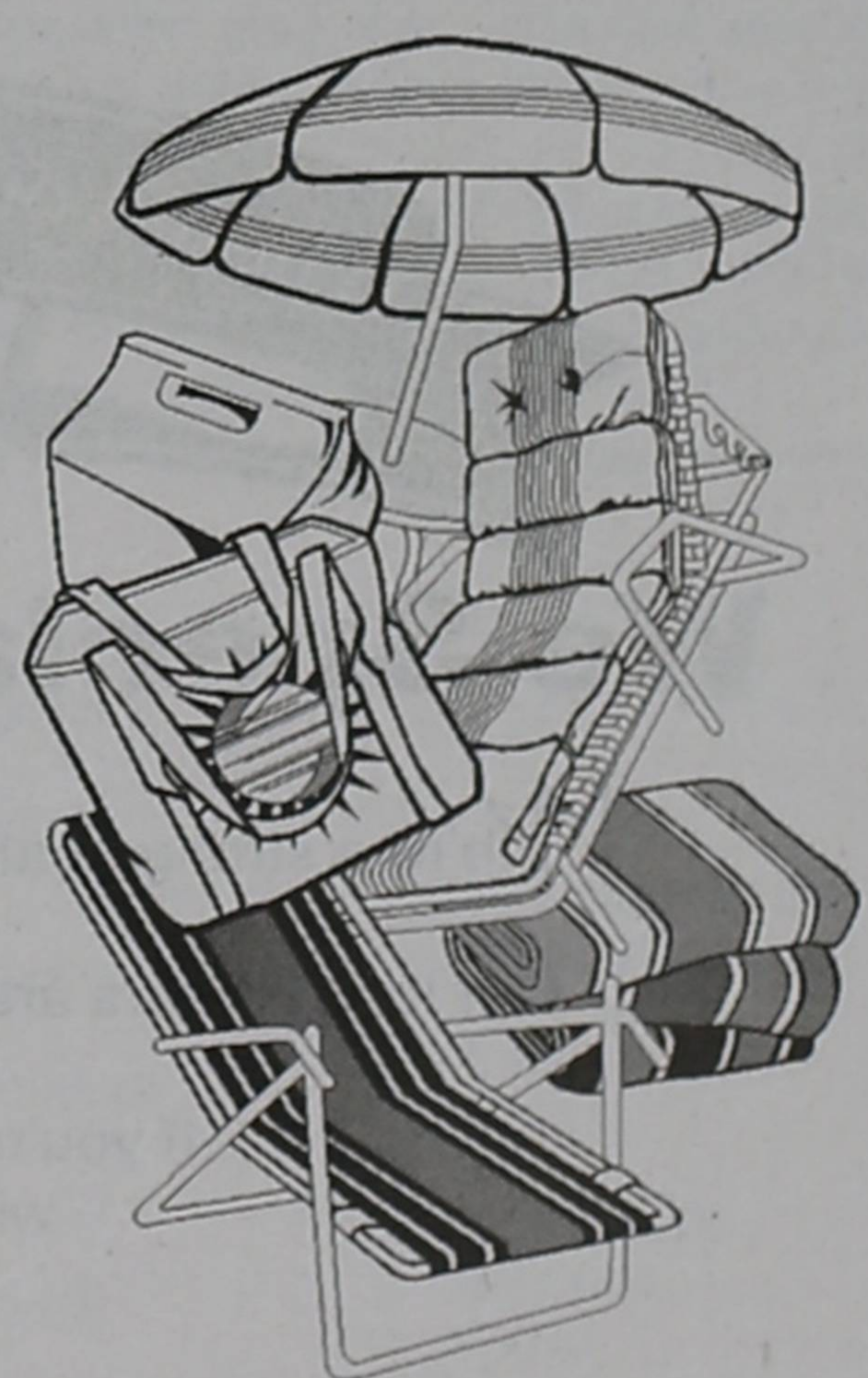
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OBITUARIES

Bertha Marie Brown

Bertha Marie Brown, 92, of Belton, Texas, passed away at a local nursing home on June 28, 2012. Services were held Monday, July 2, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. at Bellwood Memorial Park of Temple. Arrangements were by Harper-Talasek Funeral Home of Temple.

Bertha was born January 10, 1920 in Freestone County, Texas, to Riley M. Alewine and Arniel Samford. She finished high school in 1939 and married the love of her life, Ernest Brown in 1940. She worked as a hairdresser for Peacock Beauty for 8 years and for Loves Salon for 12 years before retiring in 1980. She was a great and loving grandmother, mother, and wife and was loved by all who knew her.



Bertha Marie Brown

Bertha was preceded in death by her husband Ernest on August 23, 2008; brothers, Charles Alewine, Emery Alewine, and Wilmer Alewine; sisters, Nola Scott, Oda Herring, and Jimmy Taylor.

She is survived by her loving children: two daughters, Vivian Cardwell of Belton and Kazel Cheek of Las Cruces, New Mexico; one son, Jerry Brown of Temple; two sisters, Juliette Bradley of Mexia, Texas, and Effie Robinson of Streetman, Texas; a sister-in-law, Hannah Lookingbill of Friona; two nephews, Ron Carr and Rick Carr of Friona; a niece, Gena Rogers of Rendon, Texas; 9 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and 8 great-great grandchildren.

The family would like to thank the staff of Stoney Brook Assisted Living of Belton and Odyssey Hospice for their loving care.

John William Hand

John William Hand, 85, passed away June 27, 2012 in Weatherford, Texas. Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, June 30, 2012, at Sixth Street Church of Christ in Friona, with ministers Leon Talley and Jeff Procter, assisted by Mark Dennis, officiating.

Burial followed at Friona Cemetery with arrangements provided by Blackwell-Mullins Funeral Home.



John William Hand

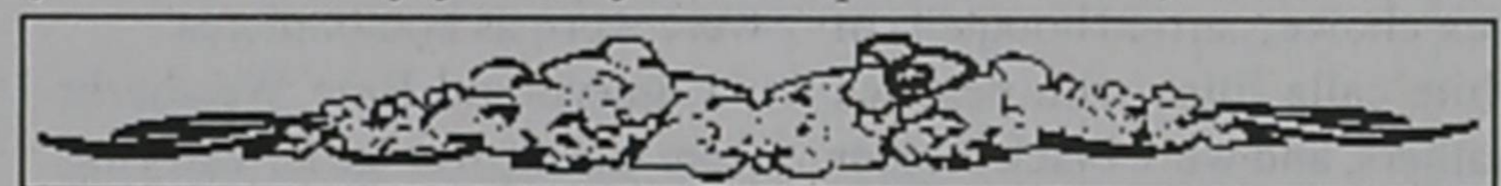
John William Hand was born just east of Friona in the Lakeview Community on April 3, 1927. He was raised by his mother, Lilly Pearl, after his father passed away when John was just eight months old. In 1942, at the ripe old age of fifteen, John became self-employed as an independent farmer in Friona where he raised and cultivated corn, feed, wheat, livestock, and poultry.

Just two years later, in 1944, John convinced Billie Jo Shirley, also from Friona, to become his bride and life partner. John and Billie Jo were married just barely a year when John was drafted into the United States Army on August 1, 1945. Within six weeks, he achieved his Rifle Marksman Certification and was assigned to Army Guard Forces in Ft. Ord, California where he loaded, aimed, and fired M-1 and light machine guns.

John and Billie Jo soon returned to farming and built their first and only homestead just 13 miles southeast of Friona in 1952 where they raised three children. In addition to farming and raising a family John enjoyed the horse races and their second home in Ruidoso, New Mexico. At one point John even purchased, bred, and raced horses professionally.

John and Billie Jo enjoyed an impressive 68 years together. He is survived by his three children: Gary Hand, Rex Hand, and Cari Dennis; 8 wonderful grandchildren, Tamara Outland, Boone Hand, Bowie Hand, Trista Stallings, Tania Raindl, Chase Hamilton, Josh Dennis, and Jeremy Dennis; and 7 great grandkids.

John was a devoted husband, inspiring father, trusted friend, and a born again Christian. He will be remembered and loved by his family, friends, and the hundreds of lives that he touched throughout his 85 years. He will enjoy eternity with his personal savior, Jesus Christ.



Thank You

We would like to say a big "Thank You" to all the people who have shown their love and support to our family during the sickness and death of our loved one, Kenneth McLellan. Whether you brought food, sent flowers or plants, gave memorials, sent cards, visited us, gave us hugs, or just prayed for our family during this time, we thank you so much. Special thanks to Dr. Alexander, Dr. Dickson, and Bluebonnet Hospice for all that you did for our family. We have always thought that Friona is the best place to live but now we know it is.

Elizabeth McLellan
Ronnie McLellan & Michael
Clifford, Pam, Raelye & Brady McLellan
Becky Mays
LaFawnda, Anthony & Brennon Kubacak

Happy 4th of July!

BRETT HOYLE, Pastor, First Baptist Church

I hope you had a great 4th of July celebration. I love celebrating Independence Day in our country because it means so much in regards to how you and I live. We have freedom to worship, freedom to work, freedom to live where we want, freedom to bear arms and so, so much more. This freedom is possible because many concerned citizens laid the foundation for our freedom over 200 years ago and many lived the rest of their lives to see such a system of government experienced in our nation.

This freedom is realized, through, as we align our laws, lives and liberties with what is stated in the Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights. When was the last time you read any of these documents? I'm ashamed to say I can't remember. Isn't that pitiful? I live in the freest and greatest country on earth, but can't remember the last time I read our founding documents. Chances are you are just like me, you enjoy the freedoms we have, but we are lazy when it comes to reading why and how.

That is so similar to many Christians today. For example, if you claim to be a child of God, when was the last time you read your Bible? God gives true, spiritual freedom through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ over 2,000 years ago, and this freedom is realized upon accepting him as Lord and Savior of your life and walking in His Word.

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments," (John 14:15). Keeping Jesus' commandments implies you know them, which comes about by reading or hearing. The question then becomes whether you read his Word, the Bible, and are under biblical preaching and teaching to guide you in His way. Today would be a great day to spend time in the Bible, and then if you get a chance, check out our country's founding documents as well.

Panhandle Parables

FREEDOM

BY JEFF PROCTER, Minister, Sixth St. Church of Christ

Freedom is a very powerful word. It is a word that rings true to almost everyone. As you ponder history, (not just our own), many of the things that pushed things forward was the pursuit of freedom. Some would risk all and leave their country of origin, to go to a new land, just to worship God the way they desired. Others would come to the same country as slaves and would find freedom at the end of a terribly devastating civil war. Freedom has taken its hits over the years and yet always finds a way to survive.

Our country is relatively young by empire standards and yet freedom is much a part of what we have become. Freedom lets us do many things as our hearts desire, but freedom does pay the bill for those pursuits. We can gather each week to worship, freely. We can get into our cars and go wherever, whenever we want, freely.

But, what never should be forgotten is that there is cost to our actions. Thus, with freedom comes responsibility. The continued freedom of our country depends upon it. We live in a time where common sense is considered nonsense and responsibility is somebody else's problem. Freedom will leave and goes only where it is desired.

Christians enjoy the ultimate in freedom. Freedom from condemnation eternally, and yes it came with a price, Jesus Christ. Now the choice is ours to be responsible for this most treasured gift from God. Remember every day, Christ died and freed us from the shackles of sin and death, then choose to live responsibly to His call.

We celebrate this week, freedom and independence as a nation. Enjoy the fireworks if you can, the hotdogs and watermelon, but never forget the privileges we enjoy came with a cost and an expected responsibility. Let freedom ring.

looking back

Methodists to build new church

From the front page of the June 17, 1938 Friona Star.

The local Methodist congregation is planning to finish the church basement that was started about nine years ago. Their Quarterly Conference, with the largest number present they have had this year, voted unanimously Tuesday night to authorize the finishing of the church basement just south of the present building. The conference then elected the following membership on the building committee: J.L. Shafer, B.T. Galloway, O.C. Jones, Mrs. J.E. Stover, and Mrs. Howard Ford.

Four men outside of the membership of the congregation have already offered to donate one hundred dollars apiece on the project, and of course many of the members are ready to make other subscriptions as soon as the committee is organized and begins its work. Some of these have already indicated very liberal amounts that they expect to pay.

The Woman's Missionary Society discussed the matter Tuesday afternoon and voted unanimously in favor of the building, pledging their hearty support. They decided to give all of the proceeds of their pie supper and political rally July 21 to the building fund and to make other plans for raising money on it.

The local Methodist church has a membership of 220. It spends an average of \$200.00 per month for religious work at home and abroad. This alone would rank it as one of the leading institutions of Friona. It was organized in 1914 and built the present building in 1924.

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FIRST BAPTIST SIXTH & SUMMITT 250-3933 PASTOR BRETT HOYLE WWW.FBCFRIONA.COM EMAIL: firstbc@wtrt.net	GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH NORTH END OF CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH PASTOR GARY JOHNSON 1601 EUCLID 575-693-6381	SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 502 WEST SIXTH JEFF PROCTER, MINISTER 250-2769	TEMPLO DE ADORACION 620 WASHINGTON 250-5929 PASTOR ROY DOMINGUEZ	CHURCH OF CHRIST 500 AVE. E MIKE PRATHER, MINISTER 251-1334
	TEMPLO BAUTISTA Pastor Antonio Rocha 403 WOODLAND 250-3472	TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 10TH & EUCLID RON SMILEY 250-3213 GERALL WYLY 295-6774	UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 1601 EUCLID REV. BUCK MALONE 250-3635	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 308 3RD STREET PASTOR BRIAN MULLINS 251-1632
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FFA Leadership Camp, Blount new FFA advisor

Friona FFA students Jacob Osborn, Blake Stowers, and Sawyer Osborn attended the FFA Leadership Camp at Clarendon College June 17-20.

Sawyer is currently serving as an Area 1 vice-president. He and the other five Area 1 officers conducted leadership training workshops for over 400 FFA members that attended the camp. Area 1 covers all of the Texas Panhandle and South Plains and includes 96 FFA Chapters. The camp is designed to establish leadership traits for members attending so they will bring leadership, desire, and excitement traits back to their local chapters.

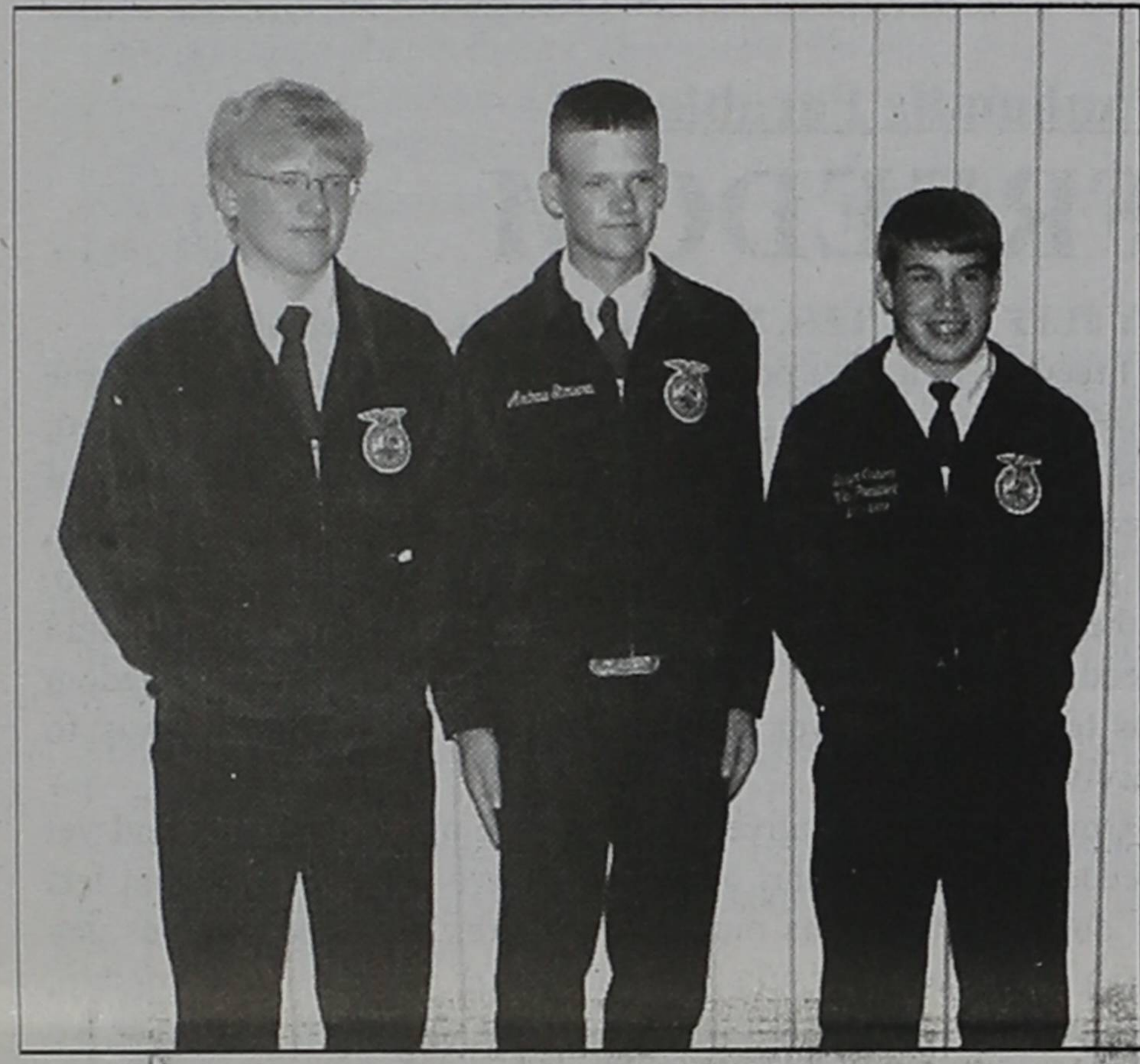
The incoming Area 1 State FFA Officer is Blake Vineyard from the Roosevelt FFA Chapter. He is one of 10 state officers running for State FFA President at the Texas FFA convention July 9-13 at Corpus Christi. Sawyer Osborn will have responsibilities of running the Area 1 FFA delegation at the state convention.

Tracy Blount is the new Agriculture Science teacher and FFA advisor at Friona High School. His wife Linda teaches 5th grade at Friona Elementary. They have two sons, Colter and Clayton. Colter lives at Hale Center and Clayton attends Texas A&M in College Station.

Mr. Blount has been an agriculture science teacher for 23 years at Anton and taught industrial arts at Friona high school last year. He has a BS degree in Animal Science from Texas A&M and a BS in Agriculture Education from Texas Tech.

He has served as a member of the State Texas FFA Scholarship Committee and as Area 1 representative to Texas FFA Foundation. He has also been area coordinator for the Ag teachers of Area 1. Blount says, "I take pride in knowing that I had a program at Anton that was successful in Leadership Contest, Judging Contests, Stock Shows, and a productive Ag mechanics program."

He said, "I am very kid oriented and I truly want every student to meet and go beyond their potential and succeed. The tools of the Ag Science program and the FFA helps make this possible. I am very excited for my time as Agriculture Science teacher at Friona and look forward to making a difference in the lives of Friona students."



courtesy photo

Friona FFA students attending the Area 1 FFA Leadership Camp at Clarendon College June 17-20, 2012, were, l-r, Jacob Osborn, Blake Stowers, and Sawyer Osborn.



NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that PARMER COUNTY SSA intends to destroy records of students who received special education services ending during the 2004-2005 school year. These records include only those located in the Parmer County SSA office located at 909 East 11th Street, Friona, Texas. Records herein described include students receiving special education services in the following school districts: Bovina ISD, Farwell ISD, Friona ISD and Lazbuddie ISD. Legal parent/guardian or adult student with disabilities may request copies of these records by contacting Sue Wells, Director of Special Education, at the PARMER COUNTY SSA office at 909 East 11th Street, Friona, Texas 79035, phone number (806) 250-3315 by July 6th, 2012. REMEMBER THAT THESE RECORDS MAY BE NEEDED FOR SOCIAL SECURITY PURPOSES.

AVISO

Se está avisando que PARMER COUNTY SSA tiene intención de destruir documentos de estudiantes que recibieron servicios de Educación Especial antes y durante el Año 2004-05. Los únicos documentos que van a ser destruidos son los que están en la oficina de PARMER COUNTY SSA localizada en el número 909, de la calle 11, en Friona, Texas. Documentos en esta oficina son de estudiantes que recibieron servicio de los siguientes distritos: Bovina ISD, Farwell ISD, Friona ISD and Lazbuddie ISD. Padres/guardianes legales o estudiantes adultos con incapacidades físicas/mentales pueden pedir copias de sus documentos. Pueden llamar o escribir a Sue Wells Directora de Educación Especial, en la oficina de PARMER COUNTY SSA, 909 E. 11th Street, Friona Texas 79035, Número de teléfono es (806) 250-3315, antes del 6 de Julio del 2012. RECUERDEN QUE ESTOS DOCUMENTOS PUEDEN SER NECESARIOS PARA EL SEGURO SOCIAL.



WEDDING



Looper & Allen



Mr. & Mrs. Steven Michael Allen 'nee Jodi Lea Looper

Jodi Lea Looper and Steven Michael Allen, both of Austin, Texas, exchanged wedding vows April 28, 2012. The lake-side ceremony was at The Reserve Marina on Lake Travis. The Reverend Archie Echols of Lubbock performed the double-ring ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Jayn Looper and granddaughter of Olive Massie, both of Friona, and the late C.B. Looper. The groom is the son of Janet Caylor of Austin, Texas.

As the bride was presented in marriage by her brother, Lance Looper, she wore an all white strapless modified A-lined dress with a soft sweetheart neckline, ruched bodice over an ornate skirt and train composed of rosettes. A black belt with white flowers was worn around the waist and in her hair was a black feathered hairpiece. The bride's special bouquet was made up of family and friends heirloom brooches in lime green and black colors.

Taylor Allen, daughter of the groom, served as maid of honor. Brandy Redden, cousin of the bride, and Mary Frances Weatherly were matrons of honor. Kriste Haile, cousin of the bride, was bridesmaid, and Brent Beene served as the male bride attendant. The female attendants wore black dresses of their choice, carried bouquets of white calla lilies with peacock feathers, and wore black feather hairpieces.

The groom wore a gray tuxedo with a white shirt, tie and vest. Steven Allen, son of the groom, stood as best man. Grooms-men were Ken Criswell, Lance Looper, Roland Adams, Dave

Storer and Don King. All male attendants also wore gray tuxedos with white shirts and lime green vests, ties and socks. Peacock feathers with lime green accents were worn as boutonnières.

Camryn and Bree Weatherly were the flower girls, carrying a banner that said "Here Comes the Bride". They wore black and white dresses with lime green accents. Charlie Herring and Raine Redden, cousins of the bride were the ring bearers. They each carried signs saying, "We

have the Rings". They also wore gray tuxedos with lime green vests, ties, socks, and lime green Converse tennis shoes.

Reece Redden, cousin of the bride, served as the registry attendant.

The outdoor ceremony was held by the water's edge under an oak tree adorned with antique chandeliers. The chair aisles were decorated with lime green paper lanterns hung with black and white ribbon.

"God Gave Me You" by Blake

Shelton, was the song played during the Mothers' entrance. "Who I Am" by Wade Bowen, was played for the wedding party's entrance. "She's Like Texas" by Josh Abbott, was the surprise Bride's entrance for the groom. "Walk the Line" by Johnny Cash, was the Recessional.

The reception and dance was also held on-site in a covered open-air pavilion. The tables were decorated with glass vases filled with chickpeas and black and white ribbons with brooches. Other decorations were lime green and white paper lanterns hanging from the ceiling along with lime green umbrellas. White paper flowers were also around the ceiling. Different tables of hor d'oeuvres and a table with three flavors of cake balls were treated to all guests in attendance.

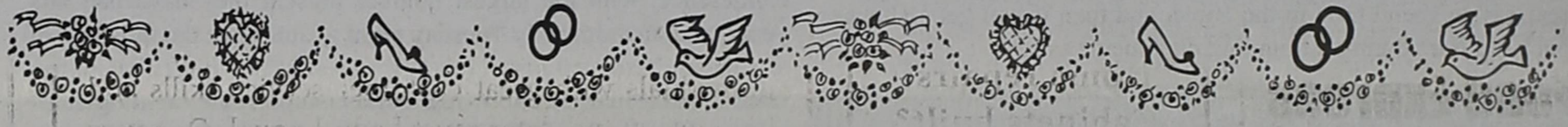
A bridal luncheon of crab quiche and chicken salad filo cups was hosted by the bride's aunts, Marca Herring of Friona, and Merylene Massie of Bar Harbor, Maine.

The bride is a 1995 Friona High School graduate and a 2000 graduate of Texas Tech University, where she received a Bachelor's degree. She is employed at Lakeway Marina on Lake Travis, where she is the manager.

The groom is a 1986 graduate of Westlake High School in Austin, Texas. He is the owner and operator of "Rivera Marina on Lake Travis."

The couple will honeymoon in Australia this fall and will reside on Lake Travis.

Jodi and Steve would like to thank all out-of-town guests who made the special effort to attend their special day.



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PUBLIC NOTICE
 Parmer County will be consolidating voting precincts for the upcoming Republican and Democratic Primary Runoffs to be conducted on July 31, 2012.

The voting precincts will be at the Friona State Bank in Friona, Bovina EMS Building in Bovina, Farwell Community Center in Farwell, and the Methodist Church in Lazbuddie.

Early voting will begin on July 23 and will end on July 27. Early voting will only be conducted in the Parmer County Clerk's Office at the Courthouse in Farwell during regular business hours. All of Parmer County registered voters may vote in the Runoff Election at any of the consolidated polling places.

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 PG 1:10 • 3:10 • 5:10 • 7:10 • 9:05

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 PG13 12:50 • 3:00 • 5:10 • 7:20 • 9:30

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 PG13 1:00 • 4:00 • 6:50 • 9:25

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3/2/2 Brick Country Home on 2.79 acres, fireplace, central heat & air, basement, sprinkler front & back, well, incinerator.....\$175,000

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3/2/2 Brick w/central heat & air, 2 fireplaces, 2 living areas, office, Class 4 Metal roof, fenced backyard with storage, close to Hospital.....\$149,500

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ron carr photo

Angie Tirado, left, secretary in the nursing department, and Cargill nurses Diana Hernandez and Beverly Martindale, tend to a booth at Cargill Safety Days this week. They were handing out free sunscreen to employees.



ron carr photo

These talented young ladies are Faith, left, and Grace Cooper, daughters of Kevin and Sharlet Cooper. They took turns providing piano entertainment at the Heritage Estates open house dinner last Thursday.



ron carr photo

World War II veterans Kenneth Neill, left, and Howard Johnson exchanged military stories during the Heritage Estates open house and dinner last Thursday. Both men served in the South Pacific during the war. Mr. Neill is a Heritage Estates resident. Mr. Johnson recently moved to Friona from Washington state. He is Karen Baker's dad.



ron carr photo

Residents, family, and friends gathered Thursday June 28 at Friona Heritage Estates assisted living facility for an open house and dinner. Heritage has a model room set up with furniture loaned by Bi-Wize. The residents also held a bake sale Friday at Lowe's to help pay for a new flagpole and flag installed in front of the building.

July Events

July 9-21: Summer Drama Workshop starts Monday for Elementary, Jr. High and High School. For information, contact Allison Johnston at 806-220-1610.

July 21: Cheeseburger Festival and Car Show at Friona City Park. For cook-off team or vendor and car show information, contact the Chamber of Commerce at 250-3491.

July 23-27: Early voting is available in Farwell for the runoff election.

July 25: News Channel 10 Summertime Tour at Friona City Park. Burgers by Cargill. Activities and entertainment. Come out for the five, six, and 10 p.m. Channel 10 News broadcasts.

July 26: Coffee Memorial Blood Center Blood Drive at Calvary Baptist Church. 12-7 p.m. Donors will receive a Boots and Badges t-shirt.

July 27: Retirement Reception at City Hall at 3 p.m. for Police Chief Tino Salinaz.

July 31: Primary runoff election. Vote at Friona State Bank.

Private pesticide applicator license Training set August 9 in Amarillo

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Potter County is offering private pesticide applicator license training on August 9 at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 6500 W. Amarillo Blvd., Amarillo.

The training session begins at 8:00 a.m., according to Brandon Boughen, AgriLife Extension agent for Potter County. The three and a half hour training will give participants the needed information to take the private applicator license test, which will be administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture. Cost of the training is \$60 and all materials will be provided.

Anyone in the Texas Panhandle may and are encouraged to participate if they need a private pesticide applicator license, Boughen said. The private pesticide applicator license is for agricultural producers and land owners who apply restricted-use pesticides to their own property.

RSVPs are requested by August 3, and can be made by contacting Boughen at 806-373-0713.

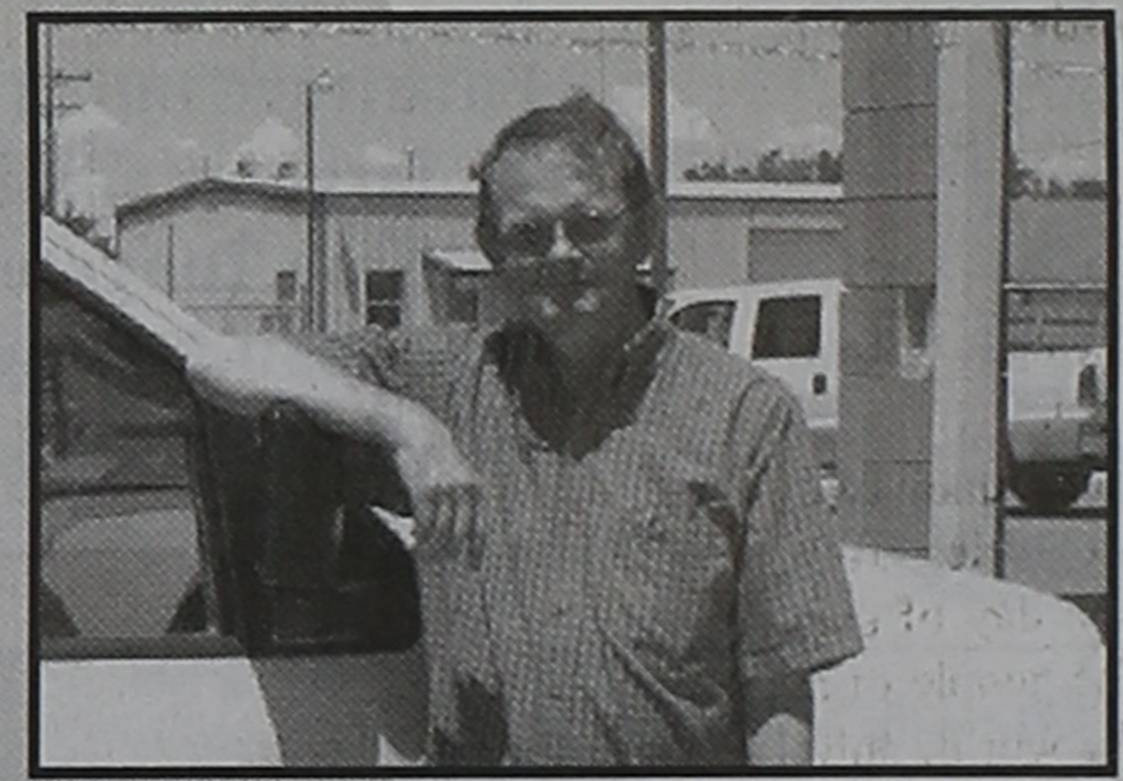


Lions Club News



courtesy photo

At the Friona Evening Lions Club meeting Thursday June 28, Dean Eichenauer introduced Amber Bonds, Director of Radiology and Specialty Clinics for Parmer Medical Center. Special clinics include OB/GYN, orthopedic, gastroenterologist, and cardiologist. PMC also offers ultra sound, MRIs, and screening for osteoporosis.



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

James Peace provides awesome air show for final library program

BY DARLA BRACKEN

Nearly 150 lucky citizens enjoyed an awesome program presented by local radio-controlled model aircraft enthusiast, James Peace. James is the owner of Friona Auto and Truck Repair. A 1970 graduate of Friona High School, he has also earned a private pilot's license, a bi-product of his lifelong love of flying and his longtime hobby.

The air show, "Get a Clue about Radio-Controlled Flight from James Peace" necessitated a trip to Bengier Air Park* east of Friona. Friona ISD provided transportation by bus for students. It was the maiden voyage for the second of two beautiful new travel buses for Friona ISD. Rick Jennings, owner/operator of Bengier Aero Spraying, also graciously agreed to allow use of the airfield for the event.

James, assisted by his friends and fellow enthusiasts Mike Stephens and Randy Terry, displayed several models including the Stick, a basic trainer model; the Spacewalker II, a home built replica of a 1930s aircraft; the Revolver, a gasoline powered model with a top speed of 65 mph; and a lightweight foam electric powered model. Flight demonstrations included taxiing on the apron, takeoff and landing from the airstrip, loops and spirals, flying upside down and at very high altitude, banking and turning



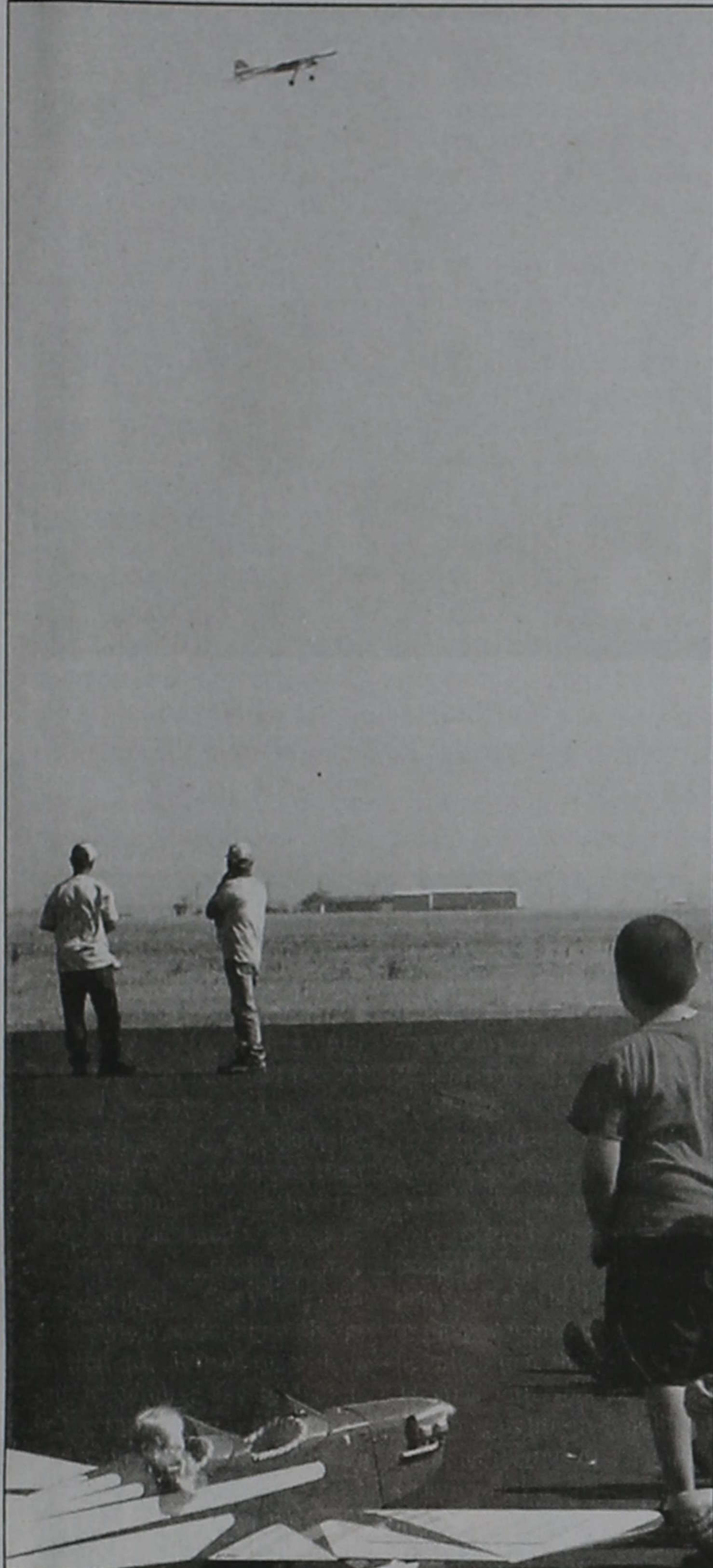
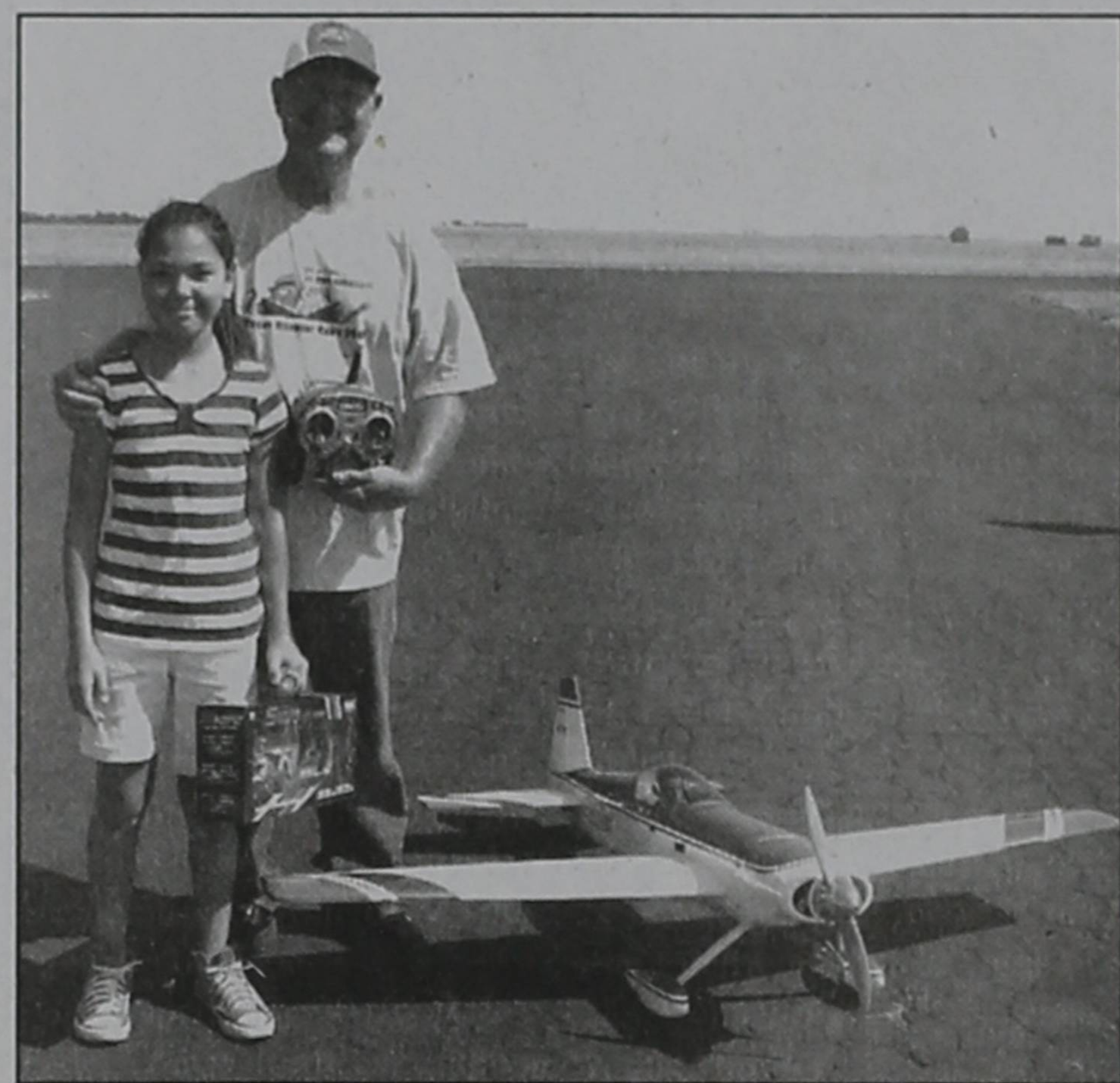
to the delight of the crowd.

Door prizes included a small radio-controlled helicopter, a T-shirt, backpack,

poster and maze pens provided by the library. All programs have been sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Parents and grandparents who brought their children to the program received swim passes donated by the Friona City Pool. Thanks to everyone for helping to make our 2012 summer reading program a great success!

* Bengier Air Park was first known as Friona Air Field when it was established by Carl Maurer in the early 1940s. It was renamed "Ira Bengier Airfield" in honor of Captain Ira Baden Bengier, USAF who was killed in a flight training accident May 13, 1943 near El Paso, Texas. Bengier was a 1937 graduate of Friona High School. The airport became Bengier Air Park in 1946 when the airport was purchased by Elvie Jennings, Rick's father.



God Bless America I Timothy 2:1-7

Wednesday, July 4th, is the 236th anniversary of the birth of America! Our "Founding Fathers" were possessed by a firm belief that God was the overpowering influence in what they were doing.

For more than two-and-a-quarter centuries, July Fourth has been a day of celebration, not for the people of every nation in the world; only for citizens of the greatest-the United States of America! Over all these years, we have observed July 4th in a variety of ways.

I remember when we had July 4th at our barn or at our neighbor's barn or garage and it was usually a fish fry or chicken fry with homemade ice cream.

In larger cities there were patriotic speeches, they played patriotic music and prayers were offered on behalf of our nation. Recently Lee Greenwood's song "God Bless the USA" can no longer be sung in schools because God is used in the lyrics.

Well, things have changed. Much of that would be illegal nowadays. May 3rd would have been our National Day of Prayer. We observed the first Thursday of May as a National Day of Prayer for more than half-a-century, but the Federal Judge has declared it is unconstitutional. So, shall we pray aloud in public? Our young men and women are dying daily on battlefields abroad to protect our freedoms; one of which is the right to pray anywhere and everywhere. "God bless America..."

America has been the envy of every nation in the world. Millions of people on every continent would gladly forfeit everything they own and even risk their own lives to live in America and become an American citizen. America has been "the land of opportunity" for the whole world. The Statue of Liberty stands in the entrance of New York Harbor, beckoning to the world, "Give us your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free".

Some people do not feel it is Biblical to pray "God Bless

America". Some are unbelievers and are offended when believers pray in their presence at all. Some believers think that Christians should not be concerned with affairs of government. But there does not seem to be much meaning in worshipping a God, or professing to worship a God so powerful as to create the world, who would then cut himself loose from it and feel no responsibility at all in the management of its affairs.

The Bible preaches another God than in Acts 17:22-34. To the wise men of Athens He is preached as the Supreme Ruler of the universe. Yes, the Bible teaches us in such passages as our Bible to pray for our leaders.

America was founded on belief in God and the morals He teaches in His word. God has blessed America. He has been the over-riding influence in making America great! Historically our national leaders, our presidents, our national congressmen and women, and others have believed that.

Our first President, George Washington said, "It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God and to obey His will." John Adams, our second President, said, "Our Constitution was made for moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other people." Our third President, Thomas Jefferson, said, "God who gave us life gives us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are a gift of God?"

And did you know that until in the 1950's Sunday worship was held in the House wind of the United States Capitol Building? And did you know that Thomas Jefferson, actually argued for a secular state (not concerned with religion), and he worshiped in the United States Capitol Building on Sundays?

Unashamedly our forefathers believed that it is impossible to maintain a free, peaceable society without belief in God. But America is rapidly changing and

moving away from God! Life in America today is not what our founding fathers envisioned. America is on its way to becoming a secular state - a nation without God. Efforts to remove the references to Him in our "Pledge of Allegiance" and "In God We Trust" from our money, and to prevent prayers in the public schools and gatherings, and court ordered observance of them, the Ten Commandments in public places, and the furor over state recognition of religious holidays are all a sign of that.

One of the saddest incidents in all of the Bible is described in Judges Chapter 2. On the death of Joshua, who led the people of Israel in their successful conquest of the promised land, and all that meant to the children of Israel, Judges 2:10 says, "All that generation had gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the Lord nor the work which He had done for Israel".

Well, we need to read the next few verses to get the whole story. Judge 2:11-14, "Then the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served the Baals; and they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt, and they followed after other gods from among the gods of all the people who were around them, and they bowed down to them; and they provoked the Lord to anger. They forsook the Lord and served Baal and the Ashtoreths. And the anger of the Lord was hot against them. So He delivered them into the hands of plunderers who despoiled them; and He sold them into the hands of their enemies."

God loved the children of Israel. Oh, how He did love them! 1 Corinthians 10:1-2, He had blessed them with deliverance from the four hundred years of slavery in Egypt by their "baptism (miraculously) in the cloud and in the sea". He had preserved them as His people for forty years of wanderings in the desert and in Exodus 3:17,

He had delivered them safely into the "land that flowed with milk and honey". It was through them that He was to bring the Savior into the world.

Therefore, He had given them the law to preserve them as His chosen people for that very purpose. He had said to them, in Deuteronomy 6:5-9, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the door posts of your house and on your gates."

Apparently they had not done that. I mean, they had not lived by the statutes that God had given them; they had not taught God's word to their children. Therefore, "there arose another generation who did not know God, and practiced evil and even broke the first commandment: "You shall have no other god before Me."

It is a matter of historic record that preceding and contributing to the collapse of every fallen nation, there was the failure of its religion, or that nation's religion. Today it seems there is a generation of Americans who do not know God.

On April 27, 2010, 'USA Today' ran a front page news story by Cathy Lynn Grossman, with the headline, "Young adults less devoted to faith." It was a report of a survey of the "National Millennial Generation", the ages 18 to 29; 72% of them said that they are "really more spiritual than religious". The article said, "65% who call themselves Christians, many are mushy Christians or Christians in name only". Those are direct quotes.

Many are unsure that Jesus is the only path to heaven; half

of them said yes, and half of them said no. The pollster says, "We have dumbed down what it means to be a part of the church so much that it means almost nothing to the people who already say they are a part of the church." According to this poll, we would have to say without apology that American style Christianity has been dumbed down to the point of failure.

Well, as we have just seen, America was boldly and unashamedly founded by believers in God on the moral principles taught in the Old and the New Testaments of the Bible. The unbelievable sacrifice our founding fathers came to these shores with the intent of prayerfully carving out a nation whose citizens would enjoy the free exercise of their faith. And God did bless America so that it became so. But it is happening to us as it did to Israel in the long ago. We have now opted to be a Godless country.

1 John 1:5 says, "God is light and in Him is no darkness at all". When we put God out, out went the light so that we now live in the dark, darkness of evil. While we denounce, and in some instances even go to war to overthrow powerful rulers who kill hundreds and sometimes thousands of their very own innocent citizens; we kill off about a million of our own little unwanted, innocent, helpless, babies every year. Nearly every issue of the newspaper or news broadcast reports from one to any number of cases of abuse or killings of babies and young children.

Baseball is no longer our national pastime; it has been replaced by gambling, much of which is government sponsored. We socially accept the ugly sin of fornication and homosexuality from which we suffer widespread disease and illegitimacy. Alcoholism is a major health problem, which we do not talk about. All of which is a revolt against God and His way. So how can we stand tall and sing, "God Bless America" on our nation's birthday?

Well, God has said in 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." We are not saying that America is God's chosen people; no, that is not the message. But Romans 15:4 says those things that "were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we may through patience and comfort of the scriptures we might have hope".

God has blessed America greatly, as He has blessed Israel, and He will surely repent of any destruction He may have had in mind for us, if we will repent of our rebellious waywardness and turn again to Him and to live His way. Our turn back to God will not be by legislation, a court order, or even an executive order of the President of the United States. It must come from the hearts of the people like this congregation and other congregations. You and I, like others, make this nation what it is!

Wednesday, July 4th, let us pray a special prayer for America and her leaders. We need to pray as Paul taught, for all that are in authority and the people that we may live a quiet and peaceable life with all godliness and honesty. We all need to exercise our responsibility, our citizenship and be active in improving the conditions that will restore America to her greatness. And God will bless America.

If you're not a Christian and living the Lord's way, you ought to begin at once, today. I urge you to confess the Lord Jesus Christ, repent of your sins, and put the Lord on in baptism, and start living for Him; and if I may help you to do that, please call me, ok?

**Church of Christ
Lazbuddie
Harrol Redwine
806-965-2958**



courtesy photo

The Friona youth soccer league team sponsored by First National Bank – Friona Banking Center. Team members are (not in order) Alex Santiago, Julian Ramirez, Truman Hough, Johnny Carranza, Jesus Salas, Ariel Salas, Saul Rodriguez, Brenda Jaramillo, Adaline White. Coach is Beth Jack.



courtesy photo

The Friona youth soccer league team sponsored by Optima Dairy. Team members are (not in order) Alan Martinez, Jake Campbell, Tim Ally, Stef Ally, Brian Victoria, Mercedes Espinoza, Yahir Torres, Elian Rodriguez, Lucas Dickson. Coaches are Becky Dickson and Roberto Martinez.



gary cash photo

From the photo collection of Dr. Gary Cash. Here is a neat bird I don't see too many of. It is a Brown Thrasher. When I see them they are always running on the ground like a quail, almost always in the cactus where they live. Enjoy.



courtesy photo

The Friona youth soccer league team sponsored by Robertson Electric. Team members are (not in order) Adrian Carranza, Mario Carranza, Edwin Barraza, Bryan Jaramillo, Kade Rector, Colton Riethmayer, Kamryn Riethmayer, Martin Godinez, Carter Gilley. Coach is Michael Bautista.

3 on 3
Summer
Fun