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Special Edition next week

The FHS Class of 2021 will be featured next week in our Special Graduation Edition. This will include pictures, honors, and future plans.



Congratulations Seniors!

Comptroller distributes nearly \$1.1 billion in monthly sales tax revenue to local governments

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$1.06 billion in local sales tax allocations for May, 28.4 percent more than in May 2020 and 21.9 percent more than in May 2019.

These allocations are based on sales made in March by businesses that report tax monthly and sales made in January, February and March by quarterly filers.

The City of Friona will receive \$55,252.03 for the month of May. This payment is 19.54% higher than the \$46,217.47 payment received last May. The 2021 year-to-date total of \$234,967.19 is 17.23% higher than the \$200,424.26 received in 2020 during the same time frame.

Friona ISD will serve up good nutrition for local children this summer

Bringing healthy summer meals to Friona children ensures kids have a healthy vacation and return to school ready to learn

This summer, Friona ISD will connect children 18 and younger and enrolled students with disabilities up to 21 years old with healthy, no cost summer meals. The

Friona ISD is one of the nonprofit organizations partnering with TDA to serve meals across Texas. Families are encouraged to use these three tools to find a meal site anywhere in the state:

• Call 2-1-1 to speak to a live operator

New Mask Policy Announced



Superintendent Secretary Claudia Castillo administers the oath of office for incoming school board members Jason Rector, Antonio Rocha, and Dustin Thompson.

Friona ISD Superintendent Jimmy Burns announced that the Board of Trustees approved a new local mask policy that defines masks as optional only. The new policy started Monday night at the regular meeting of the school board and will be in effect until the end of the current school year. The 2021 Graduation Ceremony will be open to the public and there will be no COVID-19 restrictions at the event.

The Monday night regular meeting also included the induction of the three elected candidates to the board. Incumbents Antonio Rocha and Jason Rector, along with Dustin Thompson, were sworn in by Superintendent Secretary Claudia Castillo. Election of officers was held and Antonio Rocha will serve again as President. Current Secretary Jason Rector was elected as Vice President and Jamie Lewellen will now serve as Secretary. The 2021-2022 Board of Trustees now consists of Antonio Rocha, President; Jason Rector, Vice President; Jamie Lewellen, Secretary; Wade Schueler, Darrin Gilley, Jeri Lynn White, and Dustin Thompson.

tive Order prohibiting governmental entities in Texas including counties, cities, school districts, public health authorities, or government officials — from requiring or mandating mask wearing. It stated that public schools may continue to follow current mask-wearing guidelines through June 4. However, after June 4, no student, teacher, parent, or other staff member or visitor can be re-

quired to wear a mask while on campus.

"The Lone Star State continues to defeat COVID-19 through the use of widelyavailable vaccines, antibody therapeutic drugs, and safe practices utilized by Texans in our communities," said Governor Abbott. "Texans, not government, should decide their best health practices, which is why masks will not be mandated by public

school districts or government entities. We can continue to mitigate COVID-19 while defending Texans' liberty to choose whether or not they mask up."

Beginning May 21, local governments or officials that attempt to impose a mask mandate or impose a limitation inconsistent or conflicting with the Executive Order can be subject to a fine of up to \$1,000.



Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a U.S. Department of Agriculture nutrition program administered in the Lone Star State by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). For the children who rely on school meals during the academic year, these meals offer a source of good nutrition when school is out for the long summer vacation.

"Friona children need good nutrition year-round so they can learn, grow and succeed in life," said Ashley Smith, Director of Student Services. "With nearly 2 million food insecure children living in Texas, these healthy meals are vital to nourishing young Texans during the summer vacation" she continued.

Meals will be served:

Monday-Friday, June 1st -July 2nd Breakfast 8:00 am - 8:35 am Lunch 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

- Visit www.SummerFood. org for an interactive site locator map • Text FOODTX or COMIDA
- to 877-877

Organizations partner with TDA to serve meals in areas where more than 50 percent of children are eligible for free or reducedprice meals in the National School Lunch Program. Eligible sponsoring organizations include schools, faith-based groups, nonprofit summer camps, government agencies and other tax-exempt organizations. All meal sites must be sponsored by an organization that has a contract with TDA.

Summer meal sites help children succeed by providing the nourishment they need to return to school in the fall ready to thrive.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

On Tuesday, Governor Greg Abbott issued an Execu-

Board President Antonio Rocha presents former board member Andy Montana with a plaque and "thank you" for Andy's 12 years of service on the FISD **Board of Trustees.**

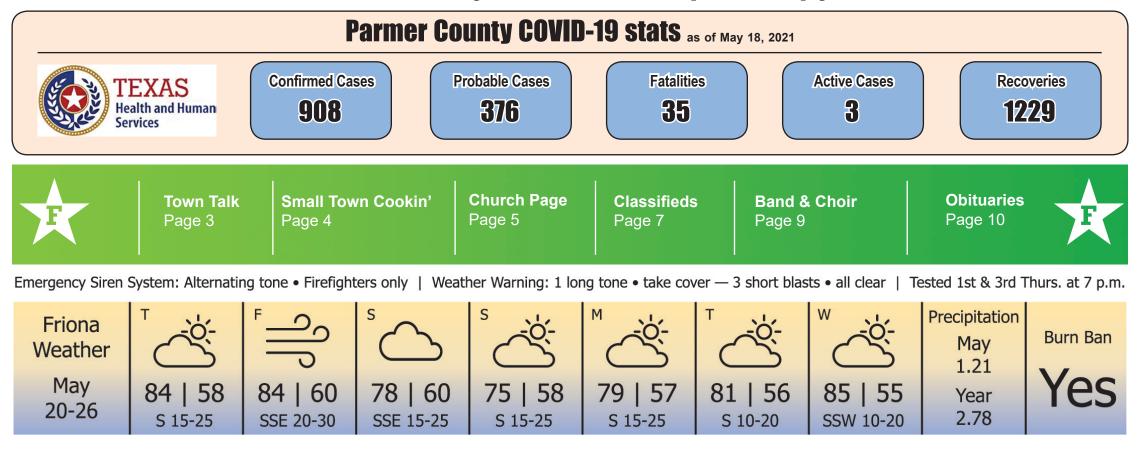


Part of the aftermath of Monday evening's storm was roof damage at the FFA ag farm east of Friona. See other photos on back page.

It's a start

The extreme drought that has gripped our area was dented in a small way this past week when a Friday evening rain shower brought much needed moisture to the city and surrounding areas. It was not a "drought buster" but it reminded everyone that rainfall is still possible for Parmer County. Measured rainfall in most places was 1" or less.

Monday evening's "non-rain" event did bring strong winds which included a large number of downdrafts. Some of the damage caused by the storm included; snapped power lines all over the county, roof damage at Tam-Anne on the Dimmitt road, roof damage at CHS Service Center southwest of Friona, back glass busted out of vehicles at Friona Wheat Growers on south main, overturned cattle truck east of Friona, roof damage at FFA ag farm east of Friona, and overturned sprinklers on numerous farms.





Community Calendar

Send Calendar information to: frionastar@wtrt.net call (806) 250-2211 or fax (806) 250-5127

May 21

• FHS Senior Parade at 7:00 p.m. on Main Street

May 24

• Senior Citizens meal at noon in the Senior Citizens Center

May 25

• Retirement Parade at 9:00 a.m. from

- Friona High School to Main Street
- Snack Pack for Kids at Friona United Methodist
- Church at 3 p.m. (volunteers welcome)

May 27

 Senior Citizens meal at noon in the Senior Citizens Center

May 28

• FHS Graduation Ceremony at 8:00 p.m.

Look up past issues of the Friona * Star on our website!

1.) Go to frionaonline.com 2.) Click on the "newspaper archives" link 3.) Search



Join our Bridal Registry Free of Charge! or call us at 250-8073

Rex & Darla Bracken celebrate graduations!!!

Morgan Paul Davidson, son of Julie and Stuart Davidson of Seminole, is a Spring 2021 Graduate of Texas State University. He graduated with B.A. Political Science & B.A. History. Morgan will continue his education at Texas Tech and will be working towards his PhD in Political Science with specialization in American Politics, International Relations and a minor in Public Policy.

Chanie Wingo, fiancée of Morgan Davidson, and future granddaughter of Rex and Darla Bracken also graduated from Texas State Magna Cum Laude with a BBA in Finance. Julie Davidson graduated

with High Distinction from the University of the Southwest with a Master's of Science in Education Educational Specialists. Julie is the daughter of Rex and Darla

Bracken of Friona.

And our Riley Davidson will graduate from Friona High School this year as part of the Senior Class of 2021. He will be the 37th member of our family to do so.



Julie Davidson



Morgan Davidson



Sales Tax Holidays for Water-**Efficient and ENERGY STAR® Products Set for May 29-31**

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar is reminding families and businesses that they can save on the purchase of certain water- and energyefficient products during the state's Water-Efficient Products and ENERGY STAR® sales tax holidays.

The holidays, created by the Texas Legislature, both take place Saturday, May 29, through Monday, May 31. The Texas Comptroller's office estimates shoppers will save about \$13.4 million in state and local sales tax.

"Outdated water systems and inefficient appliances, along with triple-digit temperatures, can put a tremendous strain on our water supplies and power grids," Hegar said. "By taking advantage of these sales tax holidays, Texans can make upgrades that will help alleviate those pressures and lower their utility bills while saving money on state and local sales taxes."

This is the sixth year for the Water-Efficient Products Sales Tax Holiday. Products displaying a WaterSense® label or logo can be purchased tax free for personal or business use. These include showerheads, bathroom sink faucets and accessories, toilets, urinals and landscape irrigation controls.

The sales tax holiday also applies to lawn and garden products that help conserve water outdoors. Items qualifying for the exemption include soaker or drip-irrigation hoses; moisture controls for sprinkler or irrigation systems; mulch; and plants, trees and grasses. These items can be purchased tax free for residential use only.

There's no limit to the number of water-efficient or water-conserving products you can purchase tax free. For more information on the Water-Efficient Products Sales Tax Holiday, visit the Comptroller's website.

During the ENERGY STAR Sales Tax Holiday, certain energy-efficient products displaying the ENERGY STAR logo can be purchased tax free, including air conditioners priced at \$6,000 or less, refrigerators priced at \$2,000 or less, ceiling fans, fluorescent light bulbs, dishwashers, dehumidifiers and clothes washing machines.

Visit the Comptroller's website for more ENERGY STAR Sales Tax Holiday details.

SUMMER SNACK PAK 4 KIDS - FRIONA

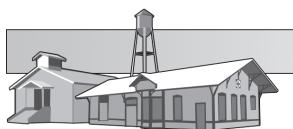
We will continue providing weekly Snack Pak 4 kids bags during the summer months. Snack Pak bags will be available for pickup on Fridays from 1:30pm-2:00pm at the First United Methodist Church (North Entrance on East 9th Street)

You/your child can pick up their bag every Friday at the church from June 11, 2021 until August 13, 2021.

DURANTE EL VERANOFRIONA

Continuaremos proporcionando bolsas para niños Snack Pak 4 semanas durante los meses de verano. Las bolsas de Snack Pak estarán disponibles para recoger los viernes de 1:30 pm a 2:00 pm en la Iglesia Metodista First United Methodist Church

Usted / su hijo pueden recoger sus bolsas todos los viernes en la iglesia desde el 11 de junio de 2021 hasta el 13 de agosto





Phone: 806-250-2211 • Fax: 806-250-5127 Email: frionastar@wtrt.net



"Retirement Parade" А will be held on Tuesday, May 25th for this year's retiring teachers. The event will start at 9:00 a.m. at the High School and will conclude with a trip down Main Street. Everyone is invited to join in on the fun!!!

$\star\star\star$

Mrs. Johnston (Allison) is retiring after 19 with Friona ISD. Her tenure has included band director, choir director, and counselor. That barely scratches the surface of what she has truly meant to the school and to her many students over the years. See choir and band photos on page 9.

$\star\star\star$

The rain came at just the right time for the Youth Fish Day last Sunday. Reeve Lake was stocked with fish right before the storm hit on Friday evening. The fish were definitely biting this year. I guess they were also tired of the Covid pandemic. It's hard to wear a mask underwater. See photos and results on page 11.

$\star\star\star$

Spread the word that the 2021 FHS Graduation ceremony is open to the public and that there will be no Covid-19 restrictions. You will be able to meet and mingle with the graduates and their families. The event is Friday, May 28th and starts at 8:00 p.m. at Chieftain Field. Congratulations Class of 2021!

On their facebook page, PMC is asking who would be interested in getting the vaccinations for their 12-15 year old children. Those vaccines are now approved and PMC is looking at being a provider for those. They would appreciate knowing how many people would like the vaccines for their eligible children. Please post a comment on their facebook page.

$\star\star\star$

The Friona Public Library Summer Reading Program will begin in June. Signup for the program is underway at the library.

$\star \star \star$

Don't forget, a fundraising raffle is underway to benefit Friona Girls Athletics. The prizes are 2 Sides of Beef. The winners can choose to have their 1/2Cow processed any way they choose. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The drawing will be held on Friday, June 25, 2021. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, contact Coach Thackston at 575-693-4464.

$\star \star \star$

Governor Abbott says, "Thanks, Texans!" The Governor tweeted last week that Texas reported 0 Covid related deaths - the only time that's happened since data was tracked in March of 2020. Texas also had the fewest Covid cases in over 13 months, the lowest 7-day

Covid positivity rate ever, and the lowest Covid hospitalizations in 11 months.

Over 20 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in the state of Texas. Over 50% of eligible Texans have been vaccinated with at least one dose. Vaccines are the most effective defense against the spread of COVID-19 and will always remain voluntary and never forced in Texas. The Governor stressed that it is up to all Texans to make sure that we defeat this virus.

$\star\star\star$

Construction is underway on Phase 2 of the new housing project at 6th and Ashland. The foundations have been poured and walls are starting to take shape. This is the second of three phases and should be completed this fall.

* * *

National Days May 20: Rescue Dog Day May 21: NASCAR Day May 22: Solitaire Day May 23: Lucky Penny Day May 24: Brother's Day May 26: Missing Children's Day May 26:

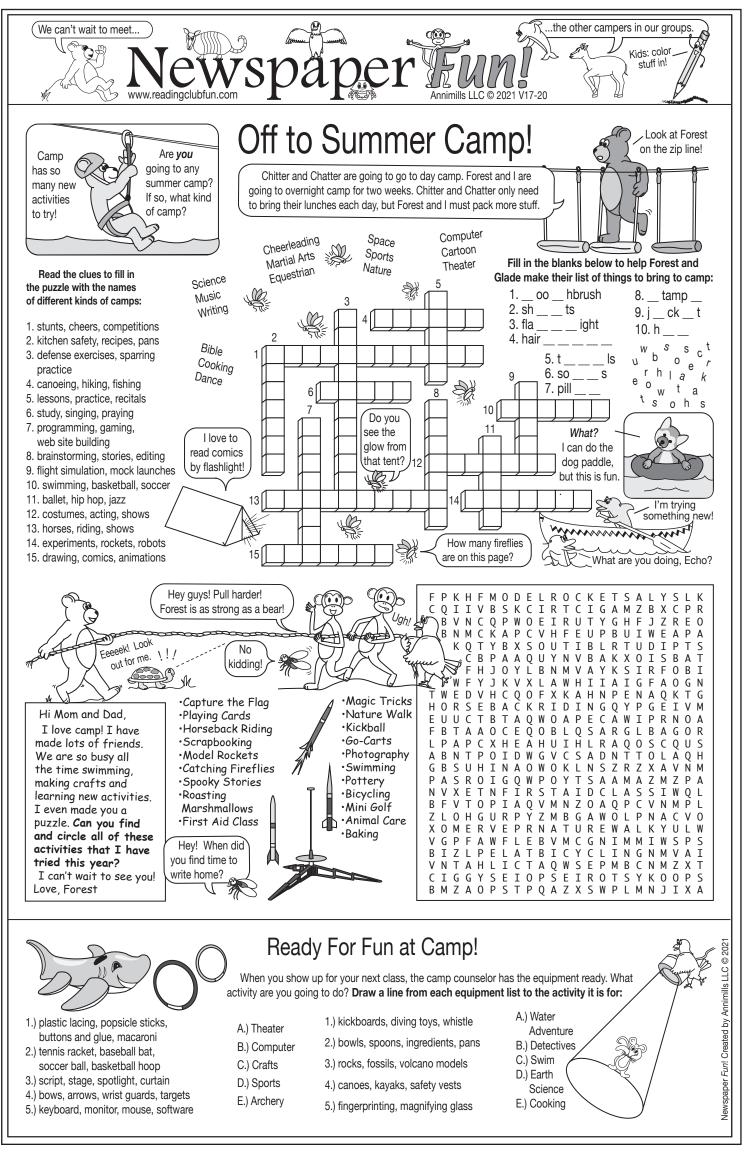
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FRIONA FLASHBACKS

From the Friona Star Archives

WHO SAYS MOTORCYCLES DON'T FLY???? The old lake bed south of Friona's Community Center has been the local hangout for the area's motorcycle buffs ever since the motorcycle has existed in Friona. Now with summertime nearing, the cycle enthusiasts have been greasing their bikes and getting ready for the action. Don Maynard, an upcoming senior at Friona High School, was captured in this photo as he flew through the air with the greatest of ease. (Friona Star, Sunday, May 9, 1976)



COURTHOUSE NOTES

Susie Spring, County Clerk

Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from May 6, 2021 to May 13, 2021

(5/5/21) Sandy Casas — Javier Casas — All of Lot 3 and the S 55 ft of L 2 of Blk 2 of the Ridgelea Subdiv to the City of Bovina in Parmer County

(5/7/21) Junior Leon Clark — Shain Alan Clark — See doc (5/10/21) Marcie Jan Dodge — MCJD Family Farm LLC — All of the N/2 of Sec 26 Township 5 S R 4 E Capitol Syndicate Subdiv in Parmer County 234.85 more or less

Senior Health & Fitness Day

(5/11/21) Reta Louise Martin, Michael Wayne Martin — Jimmy Jack Burns, Elizabeth Dalene Burns - Lot 8 Blk 2 Western Addition City of Friona in Parmer County

Thank You

8(2)2)8(2)2)8

Ouality of Life Bible Study Church would like to say Thank You and God Bless everyone who participated in the Church Yard Bash.

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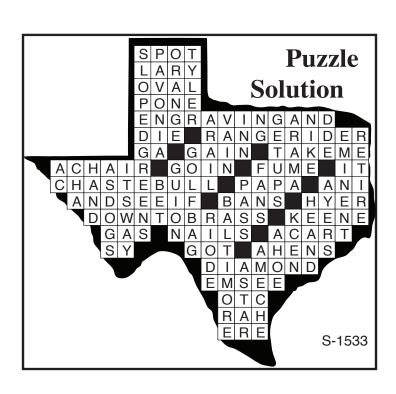
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Special thanks to Friona Star, Intheden Graphics, 4-Way Pump, Randy & Christy Gonzalez and sons, Sherry Baldwin, Danny Amador, and Zaybrie Goff of Friona. Little Caesars Pizza, Maggie Goff, and Brandon Soza (Brother B) of Hereford. Also, Leah Romero of Amarillo and Freedom Ranch of Light House Mission, Max & Delta Monarres and son of Clovis.

"Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Mast you are serving is CHRIST." Col. 3"23-24 (NLT)

REVENEYEVE



frionaonline.com

Friona Star | Page 4



National Egg Month

We still have seven chickens that have survived the pandemic and are laying at least a dozen eggs a week, so I am always on the lookout for good recipes with eggs. And since May is National Egg Month, I've included a few recipes that feature eggs as one of the main ingredients. Hope you enjoy these.

Sweet Potato Hash with Sausage and Eggs {Paleo & Whole30}

By: Michele Rosen www.paleorunningmomma.com

skillet at the very end). Heat a large skil-

Ingredients

- 3 Tbsp coconut oil divided, for cooking
- 2 small/med sweet potatoes chopped into small pieces about 1/2 inch
- 1 med onion chopped
- 1 small/med bell pepper red, orange, yellow, chopped
- 1/2 lb fresh bulk sausage, sugar free for Whole30
- 1/4-1/2 tsp paprika or smoked paprika Sea salt and black pepper
- Pinch red pepper flakes Optional, for the sausage
- 4 eggs

Thinly sliced scallions for garnish

Instructions

**Note - You will cook the sausage in the same pan with the onions and peppers and the potatoes separately, until the end. Preheat oven to 400 degrees (you will use it to bake the eggs into the

let, preferably cast iron, over medium heat and add 1 Tbsp of the coconut oil to melt. Once sizzling, crumble the sausage into the pan, and stir while cooking to evenly brown. Sprinkle with a pinch of red pepper flakes. When sausage is about 3/4 of the way done, add the onions and peppers and continue to cook and stir until the sausage is browned and the onions and peppers are soft and fragrant. Remove from heat and set aside until the potatoes are done. Meanwhile in a separate skillet over medium heat, add the remaining 2 Tbsp of coconut oil to melt. Add the chopped sweet potatoes and stir to coat. Sprinkle with smoked paprika, sea salt and pepper to taste. Cook and stir, uncovered, until the outside begins to brown, then cover the skillet (any cover that mostly fits will do!) and continue to cook to

soften the inside of the potatoes, uncovering to stir once in a while. Adjust the heat if necessary, to prevent burning, and add a bit more coconut oil if necessary. This step should take about 7 minutes total, give or take. Once the potatoes are softened and browned, transfer them to the sausage mixture and stir to combine. Create 4 indents where you will crack each egg - then carefully crack the eggs into the spaces (I like to create a bit of space for the eggs, so the yolks don't break, and the whites don't run all over!) Put the entire skillet in the 4000 F oven to bake the eggs to preference, about 10-15 minutes. Alternatively, you can cook the eggs by covering the skillet and cooking over medium-low heat until the eggs are done. I prefer the oven method to avoid burning the bottom of the hash, but either way should work! Serve hot and enjoy!



May 20 Kim Barnett Sherrie Baxter Larry Manuel Graham Edelmon Beverly Ingram Edda Preyer

May 21 Matthew Schueler Mark Zachary David Drake Jeremiah Norwood Aspen Fleming Mason Fleming Reed Kendrick Lonnie Woodruff

May 22

Scott Terry Mark Osborn Jerri Landrum Lance Venhaus Kalley (Preston) Howard Michael Bautista Marius Preyer Anthony Padilla **May 23** Susan Renner Chad Gayle Ryan Reynard Becky Stanberry

May 24 Grace Cooper Sherri Jubay-Couch

> May 25 Mike Mariscal Cheryl Procter Connie Tinner

May 26

DaLinda Black Tom Fuller John Gurley Haddie Haile Katherine Johnston Doug Kelly Janey Reeve Adriana Alvarez



To have your birthdays listed in the newspaper, email them to frionastar@wtrt.net or call @806.250.2211

Gas prices continue to rise

By GasBuddy

Texas gas prices have risen 6.4 cents in the past week, averaging \$2.76 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Gas prices in Texas are 16.5 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand \$1.21 per gallon higher than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas is priced at \$2.39 while the most expensive is \$3.99 per gallon. The national average price of gasoline has risen 6.4 cents in the last week, averaging \$3.03 per gallon. The national aver age is up 16.8 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.17 per gallon higher than a year ago. "The national average gas price surged last week thanks to big price jumps in Southeastern states due to the previously shut down Colonial Pipeline, but most areas outside that region saw smaller fluctuations," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "With the pipeline now back in service, I expect prices to come down in the hardest hit states, specifically the Carolinas, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida and Virginia. The drops should lead the national average to soon fall back under the \$3 per gallon mark, but motorists shouldn't get too excitedprices may start to head higher in a few weeks should Memorial Day gasoline demand be red hot. In addition, motorists in the affected areas should see outage numbers continue to decline this week, especially early in the week when gasoline demand tends to be lowest. I'm optimistic that there will be enough recovery by Memorial Day for motorists in these states to fill up without having to search for gasoline." GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data is accessible at http://FuelInsights.GasBuddy. com.

Ingredients 6 slices bacon 6 eggs salt, taste pepper, taste ¼ cup shredded cheddar cheese

chive, to taste SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: muffin tin https://tastey.co
Preparation
t the oven to 400°E (200°C) then

Bacon Egg Cups

Preheat the oven to 400°F (200°C). Place the slices of bacon in the muffin tin, wrapping in a circle. Bake the bacon for 10 minutes. Remove the bacon from the oven and pour

then sprinkle with salt, pepper, and cheddar cheese. Bake for another 10 minutes, or until the egg yolks reach your desired consistency. Run a knife around the edge of each cup to loosen and remove. Sprinkle with chives, if desired. Enjoy!

e hot and enjoy!

Tex-Mex Migas With Scrambled Eggs, Tortilla Chips, and Chilies Recipe www.seriouseats.com

out any excess grease, if desired.

Crack 1 egg into each of the cups,

Ingredients

- 8 large eggs, beaten
- Kosher salt
- 2 plum tomatoes, diced
- Vegetable, canola, or peanut oil, for frying
- 16 corn tortillas, 8 cut into 1 1/2- by 3/4-inch strips (see note), 8 left whole and warmed in a dry hot skillet just before serving
- 1 medium Poblano pepper, stemmed, seeded, and finely chopped
- 2 serrano chilies or 1 jalapeño, stemmed and finely chopped
- 1 medium yellow onion, finely chopped Freshly ground black pepper Mexican hot sauce, for serving Refried beans and sliced avocado, for serving

Directions

In a large bowl, whisk eggs with 2 generous pinches of salt and set aside. In a medium bowl, toss tomato with a generous pinch of salt, then transfer tomatoes to a strainer and set over bowl to drain. In a medium saucepan, heat about 2 inches of oil to 350°F (180°C). Add tortilla strips and cook, agitating and flipping them constantly with a wire mesh spider, until bubbles slow to a trickle and chips are pale golden brown, about 2 minutes. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate, season with salt, and set aside (see note). Heat 3 tablespoons (45ml) oil in a large cast iron or nonstick skillet over medium heat until shimmering. Add Poblano, serrano or jalapeño, and onion and cook, stirring, until fully softened but not browned, about 5 minutes. Lower heat to medium-low, add eggs, and cook, stirring constantly, until curds are just starting to form throughout, about 3 minutes. Add 3/4 of the tortilla chips and continue to cook eggs until they are still soft but nearly cooked, about 5 minutes longer. Add tomato and remaining tortilla chips and cook until eggs are softly scrambled and just cooked through, about 2 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Transfer immediately to a bowl to halt cooking. Serve right away on top of warmed whole tortillas with hot sauce, refried beans, and avocado.

Special equipment: Whisk, large cast iron skillet or large nonstick skillet, instant-read thermometer, wire mesh spider

Notes: To save time, you can also make this recipe with store-bought tortilla chips instead of frying your own.





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Panhandle Parables The National Weather Service

By Jeff Procter, Minister, 6th Street Church of Christ

This time of year, there is the natural tendency to look to the skies. As much as we pray and need rain, there are those moments that give pause as we move through spring in the Texas Panhandle. The words that give us pause begin with an alarm beeping sound followed by, "The National Weather Service has issued a tornado watch until 11pm for the following counties." You listen and sure enough your county is part of the watch. This generally means conditions are favorable for the possibility of a storm that could produce a tornado. Certain precautions are taken knowing that storms like this even without a tornado can be damaging. So minor preparations are made when the beeping alarm sounds again. "The National

Weather Service has issued a Tornado Warning for the following counties....people in the path of this storm should take cover immediately." Yes, that means you. You are in the path of this storm, now preparation is past, and action is required immediately.

There are times in life that we do receive a notice, a "watch" if you will, there are things going on in life that indicate the possibility of trouble. It may or may not happen, but it is worth "watching" and preparing which for the believer begins with prayer and some time in His Word to seek counsel and wisdom for what might lav ahead. Then there are times in life the siren goes off and the storm is eminent, and action is required. It's not safe to stay in the spot you

are in or maybe it is, and you need only to be still. That all depends on the situation. Just like a storm, if in a storm shelter stay put, if in a trailer house leave immediately. Knowing the difference in life situations requires faith. We serve a God bigger than our storms, but we must be willing to go to Him in prayer, in study and learn to trust Him during what we face. Each of us will have storms in our lives, that is the nature of living in a fallen world. Yet how we prevail depends upon what or Who we place our faith. So, whether in the spring in the Texas panhandle or any day of the year. Look up beyond the skies to the One Who holds you ever so close in times of trouble. If you have read this far, go pick up your Bible and check out Psalm 46. God bless.



Our Family is Hiring! Right here in the Panhandle. Right here for you. 806-357-2443

Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

In Junior High I had this delusion that if I sucked in my gut enough and flexed my muscles really hard I looked like a body builder. In an instant I could be transformed, ready to compete in the world's strongest man contest. In reality though, sucking in my gut didn't transform my junior high self into a rock hard specimen of humanity, because I was still just a chunky junior high guy. Often times in life, we may wish we were something other and greater than what we are. This desire can propel one to affect change in their life, but this desire can also remind us of the reality that what we are is not enough to conquer all of life's afflictions, which is especially true in the face of death.

Death is the great equalizer, it is the enemy of every man, and there will be a day when you will face death, unless Jesus returns before then. That is what make Jesus different than vou and I. In John 11:25 Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life," and as you read through that chapter, you find that he didn't only speak those words, but he also backed them up as he said "Lazarus, come out," and a man dead for four day walked out of his own

tomb. Jesus called a dead man back to life because he is the resurrection and the life! Jesus didn't stop there, though, because three days after his gruesome, sacrificial, atoning death, he walked out of his own tomb, proving that he is the resurrection and the life.

Praise Jesus, that he is the resurrection and the life, because that means you can have hope and life in light of your impending death! For those who know Christ, there is abounding hope and joy in light of death and the trials of life, because Jesus, your Savior, your Lord, your Redeemer is also the Resurrection and the Life.

Leaving Friona

By Teena Hughs

If all goes as planned, by the time you read this, we will have completed our move to Barksdale, and the Armstrongs from Washington will be moving into our house!

Since "moving day" has gotten closer and closer, I have been thinking about when Feller, Will, Lauren, and I moved to Friona in August of 1993. I was determined that we would be in church the first Sunday we were here, and we were. Elizabeth McLellan was the first person I met.

After that Sunday, we were welcomed with open arms by people from several denominations. Most people knew we were Methodists, so they weren't trying to get us to attend their church; they were just being nice and friendly. I was overwhelmed, and I wanted to thank the people of Friona for being so good to us. That is the reason I got so involved with the community...trying to pay everyone back for their hospitality and trying to show my appreciation to everyone!

Jesus commands us in John 15:12 to, "Love each other as I have loved you.", and that is exactly what the good people of Friona did for us. I am a little envious of the Armstrongs, because I know what they are about to be met with, being loved by really good people. I already know many of the people I will be seeing at church and in the communities of Rocksprings, Barksdale, Camp Wood, and Uvalde, and they too will be loving to us, because they already are; but, there is just something about being a stranger in a community and being loved; it is a true example of Christ's love when you accept people without knowing anything about them.

I have been asked to continue to write this column for the "Friona Star", and I will do so. When Clint asked me, he said I would be writing from a different perspective; a Hill Country perspective rather than a Panhandle perspective. Maybe, if I ever learn how to do it, I will send pictures every once in a while!

I have lived in Friona longer than I have lived in any other place. God has changed me here more than in any other place I have lived. I appreciate all the changes He has made; and, I appreciate all the people He used to help make those changes. We have many near and dear friends here, and we will stay in touch.

If and when the Armstrongs leave Friona, I have no doubt they will be able to say that the good people of Friona loved them with the love of Jesus, and that He used them to change their lives in a Godly way. Until next week, take care!!!

Send your church news to the

Friona★*Star*

frionastar@wtrt.net

Bovina

"We Live by Faith, Not by Sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

Area Church Directory

Friona

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 15th & Cleveland • 806-250-3000 CHILDREN'S CHURCH • 3 yrs-6th grade www.calvaryfriona.org

> FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 6th & Summitt • 806-250-3933 Pastor Brett Hoyle Email-firstbc@wtrt.net Website-www.fbcfriona.com

FRIONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 8th & Pierce • 806-250-3045 Rev. Skip Hodges Email-frionoaum@wtrt.net Website-www.frionaumc.com

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH North end of Congregational Church 1601 Euclid

IGLESIA EVANGELICA NUEVA JERUSALEN 701 E. 11th • P.O. Box 655 • 806-346-9725 Pastor Benito Mejia benitomejia@live.com

> **QUALITY OF LIFE BIBLE** STUDY CHURCH 301 Grand Ave. • 806-240-0826 Pastors Mark & Mary Goff

SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 502 W. 6th • 806-250-2769 Jeff Procter, Minister

ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 401 West 17th St. • 806-250-2871 Pastor Gregory Bunyan

TEMPLO BAUTISTA DAMASCO 403 Woodland • 806-250-3472 Pastor William Tapias

TEMPLO DE ADORACION 620 Washington • 806-250-5929 Pastor Roy Dominguez

TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 10th & Euclid • 806-250-5236 Gerall Wyly

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 1601 Euclid • 806-250-3635

VICTORY FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER 9th & Washington • 806-250-2207 Pastor Robert Kerby Website-www.thevictory.tv

FRIONA PARA CRISTO LLAMADOS A CONOCERLE 1007 w. 11th • 806-247-2217 Pastor Aurelio & Cynthia Silva FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 308 3rd Street 806-251-1632 Pastor Frank Landry

CHURCH OF CHRIST 500 Ave. E 806-251-1334

Mike Prather, Minister

FIRST UNITED **METHODIST CHURCH** 205 4th Street 806-251-1124 Pastor Larry Mitchell



ST. ANN'S **CATHOLIC CHURCH** 401 3rd Street 806-251-1511 Pastor Gregory Bunyan

LA IGLESIA DE DIOS **DEL PRIMOGENITO** The Church of God of the Firstborn 102 2nd Street

IGLESIA BAUTISTA **HISPANA** 103 1st Street 806-251-5232 Pastor Rafael Marin



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Lions Club News

Anahi Gonzalez and Tammy Gammon were the guest speakers at the Noon Lions Club meeting on Monday at The Farmwife Kitchen. Anahi's mom, Erminia, was also an invited guest.

This past spring Anahi, a junior at FHS, advanced to the state academic UIL contest in physics. She had the top score

at both the district and regional meets along the way. The "local state meet site" was at Texas Tech in Lubbock. Mrs. Gammon, high school science and math teacher, explained the complexity of the "virtual" regional meet with so many students in a "zoom" meet at the same time and the need to have back-up computers in

case of malfunctions.

While Anahi was working her way to the state contest in physics she was also running in three track relay teams, which all advanced to the regional meet. And if that were not enough, she is taking three AP courses in school this semester. Congratulations Anahi!!!



Lions Club guests Tammy Gammon, Anahi Gonzales, and Erminia Gonzalez

Tips from the "Walk Across Texas" Challenge

Keeping Your Family Physically Active

Many families find that participating in regular physical activity with their family is a great way to connect and build strong relationships. It is important to be a role model for your children. Help your kids participate in age-appropriate physical activities by setting aside time to do something together.

You can easily put action into your lifestyle by offering a variety of activities that move different muscles. Find balance between different types of physical activity (cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, strength and balance). Set a regular schedule for physical activity and make being active a part of daily life – even if it parking a little further from the store or taking the stairs instead of the elevator. Remember to keep it fun and practice

moderation (move enough to be active without overdoing it).

Adults need at least 30 minutes and children and teens need 60 minutes of physical activity most days of the week. We want to avoid being sedentary. Kids, teens and adults are sitting around a lot more than they used to since nearly every aspect of our life often revolves around a screen. Too much screen time and not enough physical activity lead to numerous health issues, both physical and mental. When we are physically active on a regular basis, our bodies benefit from stronger muscles and bones, we sleep better, lower our risks for some chronic illnesses and a generally have better outlook on life.

Sources: The Mayo Clinic, Kidshealth.org and Eatright.org



Thank You

Parmerton Rhea, LLC. Members,

Our goal to bring Wind Energy to Parmer County has been long and hard but we have accomplished our task. It fell very short of the Dream that we started with however, we have transmission access to the CREZ line and to the WECC and wind turbines are turning in our county. Our contracts have all expired and in lieu of the current economics for wind energy the board decided to disband the LLC for the reason that its usefulness is no longer

needed to bring us together to make our area marketable for wind farms to approach us for contracts. We appreciate all of the land owners help and cooperation through this tough process and hope that in the future that the wind farms will continue to grow and prosper if that is the landowners choice. The Parmerton Rhea, LLC. Disbanded on May 21st of 2021, 12 years after it was established. Thanks goes out to all of our board members for their time and energy.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON

PARMER COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BUDGET

The Parmer County Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2022 fiscal year.

The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Parmer County Appraisal District Office Boardroom, 305 3rd Street, Bovina, Texas

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget is \$678,856.00.

The total amount of increase over the current year's budget is \$49,397.00.

The number of employees compensated under the prosed budget will be 4.

The number of employees compensated under the current budget is 4.

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the Parmer County Appraisal District Board of Directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school district, and cities served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for the public inspection at the Parmer County Appraisal District Office.

> Parmer County Appraisal District 305 3rd Street Bovina, Texas 79009 (806)251-1405

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Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program

COVID-19 MENTAL HEALTH & INFORMATION HOTLINE

Call 877-320-0513 or Text 806-516-3205 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Monday – Friday

Our mental health professionals are standing by to help.

StarCare Specialty Health System is providing a COVID-19 **Mental Health** and Information Hotline



HELP WANTED

Friona Interbank has an opening for a full-time teller. To apply online, please go to interbank.com. Thank You.

FRIONA **B** InterBank FDC

****Sign-On Bonuses Offered**** Due to growth, Prairie Acres is seeking to fill multiple positions including CNA's (both shifts), nurses, dietary and housekeeping employees! We are pleased to offer great health, dental, vision and life insurances, paid time off and sign-on bonuses for those that qualify! Interested? Come by and see us at 201 East 15th St. today!

Help Wanted

Part-Time Help needed at Friona Senior Citizens Contact Susan Gonzales at806-626-8602 (cell phone) or Senior Citizens Center at 806-250-3645 or come by 1410 Washington on Mondays or Thursdays

HELP WANTED

Feed Truck Driver Competitive Pay and Benefits Package

> Apply in person at: Bovina Feeders, Inc. 1355 FM 145 Farwell, TX 79325



HELP WANTED CHS Agronomy — Friona

Job Description: CHS has an exciting opportunity in our Country Operations Division. We are looking for an Agronomy Truck Driver to deliver products such as feed, seed, fertilizer, anhydrous ammonia, and other commodities as needed. You must exhibit personal integrity, have an excellent driving record and be committed to safety and customer service.

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Competitive Hourly Rate Home EVERY Night Benefit eligible employees receive: Medical, Dental, Vision & Life Insurance + Long & Short-Term Disability Paid Holidays + Paid Time Off (Vacation & Sick Pay) Retirement Benefits - 401K with Company Match & Company Funded Pension Profit Sharing Please apply at Chsinc.com/careers

NOW HIRING

Friona ISD is looking for a full time custodian. Hours are 7 am -6 pm with a 2 hour lunch and a 30 minute break in the morning and afternoon. Interested applicants may call Friona ISD 806-250-2747 or Martha Moreno 806-346-2091.

Friona ISD está buscando una persona que ayude a limpiar la escuela a tiempo completo. El horario es de 7 am a 6 pm con un almuerzo de 2 horas y un descanso de 30 minutos por la mañana y por la tarde. Las personas interesadas pueden llamar a Friona ISD 806-250-2747 o Martha Moreno 806-346-2091.

BUSINESS





Eric Gonzalez • 806-433-1973



Letter to the Editor

I am the crazy guy who runs out on Highway 2013 a few days a week. I want to say a huge "Thank you" to all of the farmers, truck drivers, and other motorists that drive out that way. Almost everyone is very cautious and careful, and I really appreciate that. Sometimes I signal to the truckers to honk their horns. It is really helpful to be warned that a vehicle is coming up behind me. West Texas wind often makes it hard to hear car and trucks. A friendly beep is great, and your kind waves remind me how proud to be from this part of the world.

Blessings! Skip Hodges

Governor announces 20 Million COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in Texas

Governor Greg Abbott issued a statement last week after it was announced that over 20 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in the state of Texas:

"With over 20 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine administered to date and over 50% of eligible Texans vaccinated with at least one dose, the Lone Star State has achieved an incredible milestone in our fight against this virus," said Governor Abbott. "And with Texans aged 12-15 now eligible for the vaccine, there's even more we must do to get more shots in arms and keep our communities safe. Vaccines are the most effective defense against the spread of COVID-19, and I continue to urge all eligible Texans to get the vaccine. The COVID-19 vaccine will always remain voluntary and never forced in Texas, but it is up to all of us to ensure that we defeat this virus — which is why it is so important for Texans to seek out these safe and effective shots. Texans can visit covidvaccine.texas.gov to find a vaccine a provider near them."

Over 50% of eligible Texans 16 and older have received at least one dose.

History takes flight

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith

At 7:52 in the morning of May 20, 1927, Charles Lindbergh, lifted off in his monoplane, "The Spirit of St. Louis", from Roosevelt Airfield in Long Island, New York in a win-it or- die-trying" 3,610-mile transatlantic bet. At first, getting airborne was difficult—he had a heavy fuel load-but eventually, he did.

Thirty-three and a half hours later, Lindbergh landed at Le Bourget Airfield, Paris; more than one hundred thousand people; droves of reporters, and correspondents, awaited the arrival of the first pilot—ever-to make a nonstop U.S. to Europe crossing. The news generated headlines around the world, about "Lucky Lindy" and "The Lone Eagle." In addition to the acclaim, Lindbergh earned a cash award for his feat, the equivalent of more than \$500,000 in today's currency.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends **Lindbergh** by A. Scott Berg.

Courtesy of History Matters, a feature of The Grateful American Book Prize: Showing our children that their past is prelude to their future.

State Capital Highlights

By Gary Borders



Deaths of unbuckled Texans spike

The number of traffic accidents decreased in 2020, but the number of Texans killed while not wearing a seat belt increased by 16%, according to the Texas Department of Transportation.

In 2020, 1,073 fatalities were attributed to not wearing seat belts, up from 926 fatalities in 2019. Buckling up reduces the risk of dying in a traffic accident by 45% for people in the front seat of passenger cars and 60% for people in pickups, according to TxDOT.

"This past year we have all been reminded of the simple acts we can take to protect our lives and those of our loved ones," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass.

"Wearing a seat belt is the most important step we can take to protect ourselves from serious injury or even death in a traffic crash. Instead of putting yourself and others in danger, remember: buckle up day and night, every rider, every ride."

Texas officers will step up enforcement of the state's seat belt and child car seat laws May 24 through June 6. Fines for not having everyone properly secured range up to \$250.

Over half of eligible Texans vaccinated

More than 20 million doses of CO-VID-19 vaccine have been administered in Texas as of last week, fully covering more than half of eligible Texans 12 and older. Gov Gregg Abbott hailed the effort.

"Vaccines are the most effective defense against the spread of COVID-19, and I continue to urge all eligible Texans to get the vaccine," Abbott said. "The COVID-19 vaccine will always remain voluntary and never forced in Texas, but it is up to all of us to ensure that we defeat this virus — which is why it is so important for Texans to seek out these safe and effective shots."

The Texas Department of State Health Services announced last week that the Pfizer vaccine is now authorized for anyone 12 years and older. Also last week, the federal Centers for Disease Control announced that fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing.

Local businesses still have the option of requiring employees and patrons to wear masks while inside their establishments.

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas last week dropped to 14,909, down 17% from the previous week and down 90% from the record high in mid-January, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. Hospitalization of labconfirmed COVID-19 patients in Texas stood at 2,199 last week, down slightly from the previous week.

Wholesale electricity plans to be banned

With time running out in the legislative session, which ends May 31, just one bill addressing the blackouts during February's winter storm has made it to the governor's desk thus far.

House Bill 16 bans residents or small businesses from signing up for the type of electricity plans that allow wholesale electricity prices to be passed to customers. Those plans resulted in huge electric bills for some customers after the power outage, in some cases more than \$15,000.

Griddy, the main company offering such service to about 29,000 Texas customers, has filed for bankruptcy and ceased operations.

Meanwhile, the interim CEO of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas testified before a Texas Senate committee that ERCOT overrode its protocols in deciding to set prices for wholesale electricity at the highest level, according to the San Antonio Express-News.

Brad Jones said that "market rules were not followed." The maximum price of \$9,000 per megawatt hour was held for 32 hours, far longer than normal intervals of 15 minutes or so. The move cost Texas utilities billions of dollars.

Brazos Electric Power Cooperative filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy after being billed \$1.8 billion by ERCOT. The cooperative's 16 members serve 68 counties from the Panhandle to Houston.

Bill to install AC in prisons passes

House

The Texas House on Friday voted to require the state prison system to install air conditioning in state-operated prisons and jails, according to The Dallas Morning News. The measure now heads to the Texas Senate.

If the measure passes and is signed into law, its implementation would be dependent on the state providing funding.

"This is the right thing to do. It's the humane thing to do," bill sponsor Terry Canales, D-Edinburg, said. "The reality is in Texas, we are cooking people in prison."

According to the Prison Policy Initiative website, only 30 of the state's 109 prisons have air conditioning in all inmate housing areas.

Nominees sought for Heroes for Children Award

Do you know an outstanding volunteer spending time in one of the state's more than 8,000 schools? The State Board of Education is seeking nominees for its annual Heroes for Children Award for each of the 15 SBOE districts in Texas.

Examples of the volunteer services provided by past recipients include mentoring students, providing meals and spearheading fundraisers. Award recipients are honored with a plaque at the September SBOE meeting. The nomination form can be found at this link: https://tinyurl.com/a22mw34f.

Correction

Last week's Capital Highlights column contained a mathematical error, stating that almost two-thirds of Texans of all ages had been vaccinated as of that time. The actual number of all Texans who have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine as of Sunday account for about 40% of residents. We regret the error.

Gary Borders is a veteran awardwinning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

Exceptional yields earn Friona cotton growers repeat spot in FiberMax[®] One Ton Club[™]





Well, here's the deal.

I have spent the past two days deep in interview mode with my 95-year-old uncle. Exhausted but excited. Consequently, I fell asleep on this Monday evening, woke up after midnight, and realized I had not written my column.

So, here is an abbreviated Check Your Mirrors with one suggestion: find a relative sometime sooner rather than later and listen. Listen to their memories, their stories, their perspective from when they were young. And, then write it down.

I spent time doing this with my parents before they died, but it has not prevented me from wishing I had done more. Questions still come up about those "things I wish I had asked." Uncle Clifton (McCleskey) is my maternal family's last surviving primary source to Fisher County family history. A natural storyteller, my mother's older brother has answered every question, shared both beautiful and painful recollections, and gone through photo albums with neverbefore-seen pictures of my mother and her family.

I'll be moving soon to Fisher County, with the intent of writing a book about my grandmother, Bessie Yantis McCleskey. It may take a year; it may take five. But after these few days with Uncle Clifton, I realize it will be time well spent regardless of the final product. Grandmother lived her novel—I just need to write it.

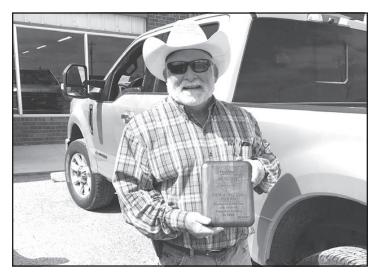
FRIONA STAR SUBSCRIPTIONS In Parmer County: \$30 per year Out of Parmer County: \$40 per year eStar (emailed): \$24 per year

Call 806-250-2211 for more information

Cris and Sylvia Ingram were recently recognized for achieving exceptional cotton yields as part of the FiberMax[®] One Ton Club[™] for the 2020 growing season. For 16 years, the FiberMax One Ton Club has recognized cotton growers who produce a minimum of 2,000 pounds of ginned cotton per acre on a minimum of 20 acres planted to FiberMax cotton seed. This is the Ingram's third year in the club.

"There is a unique quality of the One Ton Club member that makes this group of cotton growers so special: toughness," said Rachel Walters, Cottonseed Marketing Manager at BASF. "No matter what's happening in the world or on their farms, they take challenges head on and achieve impressive results. It's a characteristic we strive to emulate with our Fiber-Max cotton seed, too – the ability to achieve superior fiber quality and high yield potential even in the toughest conditions."

To view a complete list of winners and watch this year's FiberMax One Ton Club celebration video, visit FiberMax. com/OTC.



Cris Ingram is recognized for membership in the 2020 FiberMax One Ton Club.

This Memorial Day don't become a Memory

During the 2019 Memorial Day weekend in Texas, there were a total of 360 DUI-alcohol related traffic crashes, according to the Texas Department of Transportation (Tx-DOT). Those crashes killed 16 people and seriously injured another 34.

All of these were 100 percent preventable crashes. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is teaming up with TxDOT to spread the message about the dangers of drunk driving. Even one drink can be one too many.

As people head to the lake, beach, or host a BBQ, they may choose to drink alcohol or use impairing drugs. Texas law enforcement officers will be out in force looking for impaired drivers. For people that choose to not drive sober, their chance for being arrested for a DWI immensely increases.

"We understand people are looking for a reason to celebrate, and we want our community members to enjoy the Memorial Day weekend, but we also want to impress upon everyone the importance of safe driving," said AgriLife Extension Family and Community Health Agent Wendy Case, Parmer County "If you've been drinking, make the right choice to find a sober driver to get you, and your friends, home safely.

According to NHTSA, 10,142 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes in 2019. On average, more than 10,000 people were killed each year from 2015 to 2019—one person was killed in a drunk-driving crash every 52 minutes in 2019. This is why AgriLife Extension is working with NHTSA to remind drivers that drunk driving is not only illegal, but also a matter of life and death. Help AgriLife Extension and NHTSA spread the word this Memorial Day weekend: Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving.

"Drunk drivers are a continuing problem on our nation's roads, especially around Memorial Day weekend," said AgriLife Extension Family and Community Health Agent Wendy Case, Parmer County. "People need to know that they can go out for a night of fun and return home safely by ensuring they have a sober driver to take them home. Don't be the reason someone including yourself—doesn't get home.

If selected as the designated driver, make sure to keep that promise of safety to passengers. It can be a long day and even into the night, but people are counting on the designated driver, not to mention the other drivers, passengers, and pedestrians on the streets. Take the role of designated driver seriously—lives are depending on it.

Party with a Plan

Before ever heading out, it is vital to plan ahead. Be honest about consuming alcohol: Know whether if drinking alcohol is planned or not. Follow these ideas to ensure that all partygoers stay safe.

• Remember: It is never OK to drink and drive. Even if only one alcoholic beverage was consumed, designate a sober driver—or plan to use public transportation or a ride service to get home safely.

• Impaired driving IS an emergency. Call 911 to report a suspected impaired driver.

• Have a friend who has been drinking and is about to drive? Take their keys away and make arrangements to get them home safely, or allow for them to stay the night.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's Watch UR BAC program is a free, statewide program to promote alcohol awareness, the dangers of impaired driving, and friends watching out for friends.

Band & Choir Spring Concerts & Senior Recognition



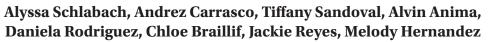
Jahaira Rios, Audrianna Trevino, Diego Escamilla



Audrianna Trevino, Ramon Ortiz, Reagan Daniels, Jackie Reyes, Daniela Rodriguez



Audrianna Trevino, Mrs. Johnston, Jahaira Rios, Diego Escamilla, Jackie Reyes





Alyssa Schlabach



Jackie Reyes





Daniela Rodriguez





Jackie Reyes



Tiffany Sandoval

Daniela Rodriguez

Melody Hernandez



Andrez Carrasco



Alvin Anima



Chloe Braillif



Chloe Braillif, Angel Carranza, Malachi Torres, Alex Guerra, Jackie Reyes, Josh Gonzalez





Mrs. Johnston is retiring after 19 years



CHOIR CHOIR

Parting directions

Mrs. Smiley / Accompanist

AgriLife Research's chief Texas apiary inspector discusses beekeeping, agriculture

By Briana Ford

The trajectory of Mary Reed's life changed after she took a college class on social insects and became fascinated by honeybees, their biology and their close ties with agriculture. This newfound fascination led her to take a beekeeping course where she delved deeper into the details of honeybees, hive management and beekeeping practices.

Years later, Reed serves as the chief Texas apiary inspector with Texas A&M AgriLife Research's Texas Apiary Inspection Service where she influences the landscape of Texas agriculture through her work.

Reed sat down to discuss her experience in the apiary industry and the unique role Texas plays to keep the industry buzzing.

What is the Texas Apiary Inspection Service?

The primary mission of my office is to conduct health inspections on beekeeping operations across the state. As one of the largest migratory beekeeping states with commercial operations entering Texas from across the country, these operations must be inspected for the presence of honeybee pests and diseases. Without a proper inspection, these diseases could quickly spread across the state and the nation, causing negative impacts on the apiary industry, and thus the agricultural industry, as a whole.

Housed on The Texas A&M University System Rellis Campus my office routinely performs our diagnostic services, mobilizes for inspections and holds educational opportunities for industry stakeholders.

What honeybee diseases do you look and test for?

On an inspection, we primarily keep an eye out for symptoms of foulbrood disease, both American and European strains. If we spot symptoms of either disease, we will conduct an infield test for an additional diagnosis. In a positive case of American foulbrood disease, we will quarantine the yard until the issue is resolved because it is a disease that can spread very quickly and is extremely damaging to beekeeping operations. At our office on the REL-LIS Campus, we also process samples for Varroa mites and Nosema spores. Varroa mites are parasites that attack and feed on honeybees and are considered to be the No. 1 problem in the apiary industry. Nosema is a gut microsporidian that can have a significant impact on the overall health of a colony if there is a high infection rate. We offer Varroa and Nosema diagnostic services to all beekeepers for free. A beekeeper should be aware of a plethora of other pest and disease concerns. Because our office has limited personnel, we narrowed our focus to inspection efforts for migratory operations, however, we cater to all Texas beekeepers. I encourage all beekeepers to



Mary Reed, Texas A&M AgriLife Research's chief apiary inspector. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Laura McKenzie)

ey production nationwide.

There are also several polli-

nation opportunities within

Texas that beekeepers seek

out. These local pollination

events result in a variety of

produce celebrated and en-

One of the greatest chal-

lenges beekeepers around

the country face today is a

loss of locations to keep bees,

as well as a lack of resources

beneficial for bees and other

pollinators. Texas is large

enough to not only provide

beekeepers a space to keep

bees, but an array of natural

resources to support healthy

If someone is interested in

beginning beekeeping, how

I emphasize the impor-

tance of educating yourself

before purchasing hives, so

you know what you're getting

into and how to best care for

the bees. If possible, it helps

to work with an experienced

mentor before getting bees

and during your first couple

of years. A mentor could

work with you on managing

the hives and answer ques-

tions and provide guidance

on how to be a successful

If you've already done your

beekeeper in your area.

can they get started?

hives.

joyed by Texans.

contact us if they have concerns about the health of their hives or have any questions about beekeeping and the apiary industry. We are happy to answer any questions and direct beekeepers to credible information and resources that they may need.

Why should Texans care about bees?

Bees are incredibly important to the health and diversity of Texas agriculture. Often, people think of honeybees and just think of one or two hives in somebody's backyard. But in reality, and specifically here in Texas, beekeeping is considered to be "big agriculture."

Many of the fruits and vegetables available to us in the grocery store are a result of bee pollination. Without pollinators, we would not have the diversity of food that we enjoy. In addition, bees provide this vital and efficient service for free. Without them, the pollination of crops would become cumbersome, resulting in a decrease in produce, which would likely cause accessibility and nutritional implications.

As an extension of these



Obituaries

Garrett "Garry" Viss

Garrett "Gary" Viss 64 of Bovina passed away May 11, 2021 in Curry County, New Mexico. Celebration of Life Services have been scheduled for 12:00 P.M. MDT Thursday, May 20, 2021 at Central Baptist Church in Clovis, N.M. with Michael Kirby, officiating. Burial following in the Bovina Cemetery Bovina, Texas by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona, Texas.

Gary was born August 25, 1956 in Pomona, California to Cornelius and Gertrude Charlotte Hannink Viss. He truly had a lifelong career of agriculture, especially the dairy cattle industry. He was a very strong man with a "walk it off" attitude, in large part because of his faith in God and his love of his earthy father and the traditions that he instilled in him.

Gary loved water and snow skiing, but anything done with family was fun in his eyes. He loved his Lord and was a member of Central Baptist Church

Augustina Lopez 76 of Frio-

na passed away May 17, 2021

in Amarillo. Viewing will be

held Thursday, may 20, 2021

in the Ron Smiley Memorial

Chapel of HANSARD FAM-

ILY with Celebration of Life

Services set for 11:00 A.M.

Friday, May 21, 2021 also in

the chapel with Rev. Brett

Hoyle, officiating. Burial fol-

lowing in the Muleshoe Me-

morial Park in Muleshoe by

HANSARD FAMILY Funeral

Augustina was born No-

vember 13, 1944 in Lockhart,

Texas to Nestor and Tomasita

Hernandez Yruegas. She lat-

er married Pilar Mario Lopez

She loved to be outdoors

working on her lawn and

Home of Friona.

Dec. 7, 1972.



in Clovis.

He is preceded in death by his parents, and 3 children-Jacob, Jennifer and Brian Viss.

Those to carry on his legacy include 3 sons-Derran Viss and wife Bronia of Wylie, Texas, Jarad Viss and wife Lauren of Newport News, Virginia, and Garrett Viss Jr. Of Hereford, 3 daughters-Angela Taylor and husband Chris of Tampa, Florida, Sarah Viss-Sayers and husband Cullan of Baytown, Texas, and Jessica Viss of Bovina, Texas, his love- Esther

Steelman, her sons-Luke Steelman and wife Evangelina, Levi Steelman, and Jake Steelman and wife Jade, all of Bovina, Texas, 4 brothers-Guy Viss and wife Cindy of Comanche, Texas, Daniel Viss and wife Susie of Stephenville, Texas, Randy Viss of Dublin, Texas, and David Viss and wife Mia of Wadell, Arizona, 4 sisters-Gail Danzeisen and husband Clayton of Laveen, Arizonia, Glenda Kerr and husband David of Buckeye, Arizonia, Janet Van Hofwegen and husband David of Tolleson, Arizona, and Karen Christopher and husband David of Lubbock, Texas, and 17 grandchildren.

THERE WILL BE NO PUB-LIC VIEWING

You may send condolences to the family and sign the online guest book at: www.hansardfamily.com

Hansard Family **Funeral Home**

Augustina Lopez



spending time with family. She enjoyed cooking, dancing, and the color red.

Augustina is preceded in death by her parents, husband, and 1 brother -Antonio Yruegas.

Those to carry on her lega-

cy include 6 daughters-Josie Roque of Muleshoe, Elizabeth Gonzales, Rita Ramos, and Margarita Shelby, all of Friona, Kassandra Villarreal of Levelland and Janie Rodriguez of Harlingen, 1 son-Ruben Lopez of Sudan, 1 sister-Esperanza Nanez of Clovis, 4 brothers-Phillip Yruegas of Ft. Worth, Joe Yruegas of Austin, Bocillio Yruegas and Nestor Yruegas Jr. Of Alice, Texas, and 19 grandchildren.

You may send condolences to the family and sign the online guest book at:

www.hansardfamily.com



frionaonline.com

pollination services, bees support other industries as well. For example, animals and livestock have access to a diversity of forage, contributing nutritional benefits, while medicines and plant fibers are also a result of insect pollination.

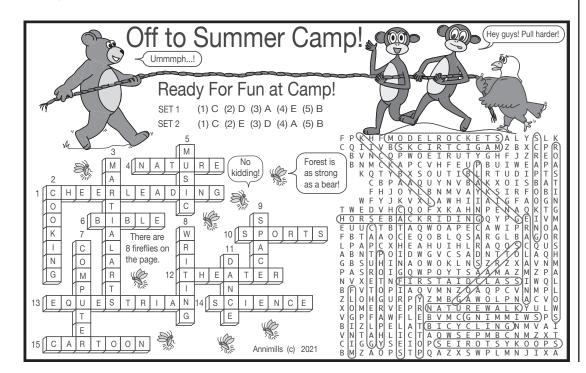
What is the unique migratory nature of the Texas apiary industry?

Texas is one of the largest migratory beekeeping states with approximately 180 commercial migratory beekeepers coming to Texas at least once a year. Many of these beekeepers move their hives to Texas in the spring after almond pollination in California to take advantage of the early warm weather and nectar and pollen flows. These early resources help beekeepers strengthen their hives, raise new bees and queens, make splits and make a honey crop.

Texas provides a variety of nectar resources that beekeepers utilize to produce the diverse types of Texas honey. As such, Texas is one of the leading states in hon-

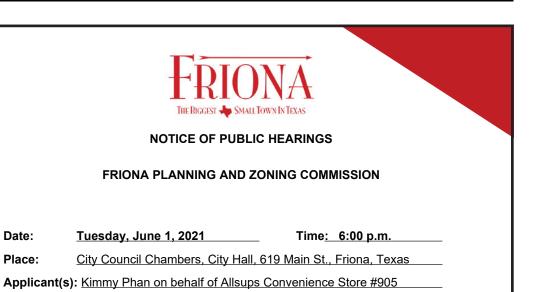
research and are looking for a more in-depth, structured environment, I'd also refer to the Texas Master Beekeeper program. This program is designed to challenge beekeepers in their knowledge of honeybees, beekeeping and factors that can affect a honeybee colony. This program encourages beekeepers to dive deeper into the biology of a honeybee colony and the behaviors a colony may exhibit. This allows a better understanding of how certain factors such as health, environmental and management practices are affecting the colony and what that means for the success of the colony. The program also aims to encourage beekeepers to share their knowledge and passion with others, thus generating ambassadors for the apiary industry.

Additional information on the apiary industry in Texas is available through local Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service offices across the state, the Texas Beekeepers Association and the Texas Apiary Inspection Service website.



official website of the **Friona** star

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The Friona Planning and Zoning Commission will consider in public hearing a request for the rezoning of half the City block of Subdivision 470, Lot 24, Block 12, plus one-half of all bounding streets, alleys, and public ways to change from <u>"B" District – Two-Family Dwelling District</u> to <u>"D" District – Local Retail District</u>.

A recommendation to approve, deny, or modify the requested rezoning will be sent to the City Council.

The Friona City Council will consider this proposed change in a public hearing on Monday, June 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 619 Main Street, Friona, Texas.

For further information, contact the Friona City Manager at (806) 250-2761

In the event of a lack of quorum to convene or continue either the Planning and Zoning or Council meeting described above, this matter will automatically be carried forward to the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting and succeeding meetings as necessary.

The City Council Chambers is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact Leander Davila, City Manager at (806) 250-2761 or Fax (806) 250-2893 for further information.

City of Friona • 623 Main Street • Friona, Texas 79035 • (806) 250-2761 • citymgr@frionatx.us

Youth Fish Day • May 16,2021 at Reeve Lake in Friona

Jeff Scott, executive director/president of Texas Junior Anglers, has been traveling to Hereford and Friona to stage youth fishing events for 27 years. He said, "We always enjoy coming to Friona and the kids seem to have a blast trying to catch fish." He continued, "This year the rain came at the right time and the kids caught a lot of big fish." Scott would like to thank Mayor Ricky White, City Manager Lee Davila, and Chamber Executive Vice President Chris Alexander for their help in staging and promoting the event. The next Youth Fish Day will be Sunday, September 12th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Reeve Lake.



Arian Moreno — 25 5/8" 1st Place (7-11) Grand Prize Winner



Yasmine Uresti — 25 4/8" **1st Place (12-16)**





Vanity Salas — 24 4/8" 1st Place (6 & under)





Courtney Salas — 25" 2nd Place (7-11)



Glendel helps Yasmine weigh the big one that did not get away



Layla Pena — 24 1/8" 2nd Place (6 & under)



Alonzo Macias — 24 5/8" 2nd Place (12-16)



Texas Junior Angler Crew: (l-r) Jeff Scott (Arlington), Sylvia Mendoza (Hereford), Glendel Jones (Friona), and Jason Smart (Arlington).

Storm Damage Photos



Tam Anne on Highway 86



Sprinkler west of Friona near Cargill

Dr. Felipe Juby

JoJo Osborn



Friona FFA ag farm east of Friona



CHS Service Center southwest of Friona

Josselyn Castillo named to ACU's Spring 2021 Dean's Honor Roll

Citizen of the Year

Employee of the Year



Wow!!! We are so excited and proud of our two healthcare heroes. All of us here at PMC are so thrilled for Dr. Jubay and JoJo Osborn. We all agree that the awards and recognition they received at the Friona Chamber Awards Banquet were well deserved. It is our honor to work along side both of them.



Josselyn Castillo of Friona was named to the Abilene Christian University Spring 2021 Dean's Honor Roll. Castillo is a senior majoring in Kinesiology.

Castillo was among nearly 1,200 students named to the Spring 2021 Dean's Honor Roll. To qualify, students must be registered for 12 or more credit hours and earn a GPA of 3.6 or higher.



Abilene Christian is the highest-ranking university in Texas in a 2021 U.S. News & World Report assessment of institutions highly regarded for their commitment to student success. Nationally, ACU achieved Top 10 status in three and Top 50 in another of eight high-impact categories among 1,500 universities evaluated for the annual "America's Best Colleges" edition. No other Texas university was named in the top 10 of any category. Learn more at acu.edu.



Proceeds benefit the Parmer County and Hereford Cancer Coalitions, which provide grants for local cancer patients



Sign up today! John Pitman Golf Club

806-363-7139

July 24-25, 2021 John Pitman Golf Club Hereford, Texas

Two-Person Scramble Entry Fee \$300 per team

Space limited to 80 teams

Saturday tee times: 8 am or 1:30 pm Sunday's round is flighted. Tee times same as Saturday.

✓ Free practice round Friday (cart not included)

✓ Saturday evening meal for player and one guest

✓ Player evaluation Saturday following meal

To sign up, contact: John Pitman Golf Club 806-363-7139

Pudge Kendrick Memorial Golf Tournament PO Box 788 Friona, Texas 79035