



Statewide COVID-19 Rental Relief Program is announced

On Tuesday, Governor Greg Abbott announced that the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) has launched the Texas Rent Relief Program — the first statewide rent and utility assistance program for qualifying households throughout Texas. This program has been created to administer the more than \$1 billion allocated to Texas through the latest federal COVID-19 stimulus bill. TDHCA will begin accepting applications for the program on Monday, February 15th, but Texans can visit TexasRentRelief.com starting today to learn more about qualifications, required documents, and the application process.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has placed a significant financial strain on many Texans, and the Texas Rent Relief Program will provide an incredible lifeline to households in need of assistance on their rent and utility payments,” said Governor Abbott. “I urge qualifying households to apply for this program once applications open on February 15th. The State of Texas will continue to provide the resources and support for those in need throughout the pandemic.”

“The pandemic has dealt a heavy blow to many Texas families. The Texas Rent Relief program is for those Texans who need help to pay rent and utility bills and I encourage those who need it to apply. These resources will provide support for Texas

families who need it while our economy continues to recover,” said Lt. Governor Dan Patrick.

“Texans have been resilient in responding to COVID-19, and this program can provide short-term assistance to families in need as they emerge from the financial aftershocks of the pandemic,” said Speaker Dade Phelan. “This program is a key component of our state’s pandemic recovery effort and will be essential to the rebound of our economy, workforce, and education system. I am thrilled that qualifying Texas families have an avenue for temporary relief on essential items like rent and utility payments when it truly counts the most.”

To qualify, households must be at or below 80% of the area median income as well as meet other criteria. Per federal guidelines, TDHCA will prioritize applications for households at or below 50% of the area median income level and households where one or more members are currently unemployed and have been for at least 90 days. Landlords are encouraged to apply on behalf of tenants, who must co-sign the application.

Beginning February 15th, applicants can submit their application by calling 1-833-9TX-RENT (1-833-989-7368) or submitting it online at TexasRentRelief.com. The call center will be open Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Mendez receives recertification

Friona City Secretary Rosa Mendez completed her required professional education for recertification as a Texas Registered Municipal Clerk on January 28, 2021. The graduation was held at a luncheon in conjunction with the Texas Municipal Clerks’ Election Law Seminar in Frisco, Texas.



“As an officer of the city, Rosa makes every professional and personal effort to keep up-to-date in legal and administrative duties. Achieving recertification confirms Rosa’s commitment to the City. I couldn’t be prouder to have Rosa as a member of our team,” says City Manager Lee Davila.

Certification and recertification are neither easy nor automatic. Original certification required successful completion of approximately 200 hours of individual home study on a four-course curriculum and

attendance at eight two-day professional development seminars. Recertification required 72 hours of classroom instruction and a selection of additional education options which may include: college-level courses, certificate from the CPM, or facilitated book discussions with independent comprehension assessments. Mendez has been with the City of Friona since December 12, 2011.



Esperanza Santiago (center) was crowned Miss Friona 2020 on Tuesday at the 64th Annual Miss Friona Scholarship Pageant held at Milk House Market. The event was broadcast via a live feed on the Friona Chamber of Commerce’s Facebook page. Chamber of Commerce President Cindy Moreno was the program emcee. Contestants pictured above are (l-r) Kambree Kimbrough, Emma Schueler, Esperanza Santiago, Anahi Gonzalez, and Rebecca Schlenker. See more event coverage on page 8. Photo by Eric Gonzalez

Lease agreement extension tabled again

The Parmer County Commissioners Court met in regular session on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 10 a.m. in the County Courtroom of the Parmer County Courthouse in Farwell, Texas. The meeting began with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Texas Flag.

There were no public comments. Minutes from the January 25th meeting were read and approved. Commissioners approved the payment of the accounts payables as presented by County Treasurer Sharon May. The Treasurer’s Report was also approved.

Commissioners discussed the Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1 office vacancy. No action was taken. Some of the moving parts of the discussion are consolidation, redrawing of precincts after the census numbers are released, Texas law and mandates, appointing an interim J.P., and/or waiting until the next election. Because of the vacancy, an audit of the J.P., Pct. 1 office is mandated by law

before any action can be taken.

For the time being, all Civil Cases are being referred to Judge Leuea, Precinct 2 at 806-251-1356, and Criminal Cases to Judge Haseloff, Precinct 3 at 806-481-9964.

The lease extension involving the county’s land in the Permanent School Fund was discussed again. The court is still at an impasse with the energy company on what the final details of the agreement will entail. No action was taken and the discussion was tabled until the next meeting. The current lease expires in November of 2021.

The annual Dam Inspection Report concerning the two county dams was presented. One of the dams is located west of Bovina and the second is located northeast of Lazbuddie. Both dams are on the Running Water Draw which is in the Upper Basin of the The Brazos River Authority. The basin runs through the center of Texas down to the Gulf of Mexico. The report was approved.

In other business, Commissioners approved bonds of Kenny White, Rose Longley, Sheriff Randy Gerles, and Jeff Actkinson. Approval was also granted for 2 requests to bury water and gas lines under county roads.

Sheriff Randy Gerles reported that he was currently housing 26 inmates in the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center. Six of those inmates are from Deaf Smith County. Sheriff Gerles also presented the Annual Racial Profiling Report. The report was approved by the court.

The next scheduled Commissioners Court meeting is Monday, February 22nd.

All meetings are open to the public. The Commissioner’s Court reserves the right to go into Executive Session at any time. The agenda may be found on the Parmer County website. Information in this article is only a summary. Any questions concerning specific actions should be directed to the Commissioners Court.

At a ceremony on February 3rd, FHS senior Malachi Torres signed a Letter of Intent to play football this fall at Eastern New Mexico University. Congratulations to Malachi and his parents, Jorge Torres & Crystal Surance. Go Greyhounds!!! See photos of the ceremony on the back page.



Parmer County COVID-19 stats as of February 9, 2021



Confirmed Cases 816	Probable Cases 332	Fatalities 34	Active Cases 19	Recoveries 1095
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	Town Talk Page 3	Church Page Page 5	Classifieds Page 7	Miss Friona Page 8	Obituaries Page 9	Valentines Pages 10 & 11
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Emergency Siren System: Alternating tone • Firefighters only | Weather Warning: 1 long tone • take cover — 3 short blasts • all clear | Tested 1st & 3rd Thurs. at 7 p.m.

Friona Weather February 11-17	T 52 17 SE 10-20	F 35 13 E 10-20	S 28 7 N 10-20	S 12 -5 ENE 15-25	M 18 4 NNW 5-10	T 45 21 WSW 10-20	W 44 19 NNE 10-15	Precipitation February 0.00 Year 0.33	Burn Ban Yes
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Community Calendar

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

February 12

- Deadline at 5 p.m. for candidates to file for May 1st election

February 14

- Valentine's Day

February 15

- President's Day
- Friona Noon Lions Club meeting at The Farmwife Kitchen
- Senior Citizens meal at noon in the Senior Citizens Center

February 16

- Snack Pak for Kids at Friona United Methodist Church at 3 p.m. (volunteers welcome)

February 17

- Ash Wednesday

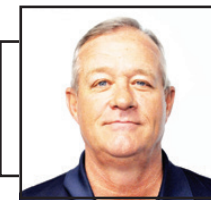
February 18

- Senior Citizens meal at noon in the Senior Citizens Center

Wash your hands
Stay 6 feet away
Wear your mask
Stay at home if sick

Ivy Cottage
Bridal Registry
Josh Barnett
&
Rachel Box
Ivy Cottage • 250-8073

Milk House Market
Wedding Registry
Josh Barnett & Rachel Box
Macey Thurman & Justin Brown
Hours:
Thursday 11-5
Friday 11-5
Saturday 10-3
Call:
602-739-0813
Farmhouse to Your House



Mayor's Minutes by Ricky White

The ongoing COVID Pandemic is drawing out its effects on local businesses and rural towns. However, following an Audit Report concluding the City is in good standing, Friona remains dedicated to improving the local town for the citizens and those passing through.

On January 19, 2021, Trejo's Roofing & Construction broke ground for the new Friends of the Friona Library Bookshop located conveniently behind the public library. After the project is completed, the new shop will be open to the street (Euclid) and connected to the library. In order to continue with other projects within the community, the City of Friona has applied for a Downtown Revitalization Grant for Main Street in hopes to see improvements to sidewalks, store fronts, and public lighting.

We are excited to see these improvements be available to our citizens as we can plan for the last bond payment to be paid off, leaving the city debt free by next February.

Volunteer Firemen responded to 6 emergency calls in January; (1st) House Fire, (18th) Vehicle Accident, (18th) Dumpster Fire, (24th) Grass Fire, (27th) Rescue Person Pinned Under Car, (27th) Vehicle Accident. Each emergency response was met with at least 6 firemen at all times



Jim Taylor (left) received a "Key to the City" from Mayor Ricky White in gratitude for his 32 years of service as Fire Chief for the City of Friona. Mayor White also read a proclamation honoring Jim for his many years of service to the community.

and a minimum of 2 trucks responding to the scenes. The department also concluded their 2021 elections as follows: Chief- Danny Campbell, Assistant Chief- Chance Lewellan, Captains- Terry Sharrock & Stephen Campbell, Lieutenants- Bryan Harris & Juan Samarron, Training Officer- Stephen Campbell, Reporter- Skyler Harris, Whistle Blower- Charles Cooper, Secretary/Treasurer- Randy McCasland, Mascot- All kids.

The Friona Police Department responded to 232 calls in January. There were 260 stops, 162 warnings, 98 citations, and 5 arrests. The arrests are as follows; 1 Possession of Marijuana, 1 Arrest on Warrants, 1 Assault on a Family Member, 2 DWI. The officers on the force drove 3,942 miles, patrolling the safety of Friona.

Emergency Medical Service, 34 total runs in January. There were 13 calls for 911 Transportations, 6 Transfers,

13 Non-Transported 911s, 2 No Patient Found/Disregard.

We are grateful for all emergency departments working hard to serve the community during these times.

Friona Public Library was open 19 days in January. There was a daily average of 20 patron visits and 254 electronic visits. With 257 items circulated and 49 new items added, the public library is working hard to provide for the local community.

Your Mayor



Work on the new Friends of the Public Library Bookshop is underway. Trejo's Roofing & Construction finished the concrete padding this past week.

ACROSS

- 1 Waco tech. sch.
- 5 sound repeat in Palo Duro Canyon
- 6 806 is panhandle code
- 7 TXism: "never look a ___ horse in the mouth"
- 8 TXism: "woke ___ bear" (trouble)
- 9 TXism: "changes his mind ___ as he does socks"
- 16 "is" south of the border
- 18 "TX Water Safari" on the San Marcos River (2 wds.)
- 21 "___ an old cowhand . . ."
- 22 TXism: "you're puttin' ___" (kidding)
- 23 TXism: "stuffed like a ballot ___"
- 24 TX ragtime Joplin, et al.
- 30 this TX submarine commander was "the Navy's Audie Murphy" (2 wds.)
- 34 TX "Merry Mex" Trevino golfer (init.)
- 35 TXism: "you're hanging your ___ my line" (interfering)
- 36 TX Wills built the Longhorn Ball ___
- 37 highest male voice
- 39 TXism: "plain as ___ an eye chart"
- 43 dry heat bath
- 44 TXism: "skinny ___"
- 45 ret. TX golfer, Elder (init.)
- 46 stats for an Astro hitter
- 47 Hawaiian "get-tar"
- 49 TXism: "he was around when the ___ was only sick" (old)
- 52 Jim ___ Creek
- 53 h.s. media dept.
- 54 Duncan family TX ranch (hyphenated)
- 55 this milk snake was first bred at San Antonio Zoo
- 58 TX singer Lyle
- 59 "___ the season to be jolly . . ."
- 60 "one," in Mexico
- 61 cowboys, but not cowgirls
- 12 TXism: "he'd pick a fight with a skunk"
- 13 church doctrines
- 14 TXism: "let '___ rip!"
- 15 TXism: "get hold of"
- 17 "yellows" south of the border
- 19 "neighbors" south of the border
- 20 many UNT students in film "Necessary Roughness"
- 24 dir. to San Angelo from Abilene
- 25 TXism: "fraidy ___"
- 26 fed. safety org.
- 27 TXism: "make hay while ___ shines"
- 28 TX Sly Stone's "I Want ___ You Higher"
- 29 TXism: "sawed logs"
- 31 "first" day of Canton trade event (abbr.)
- 32 female deer
- 33 TX Bob Phillips: "Twenty ___ the Backroads"
- 38 Little Joe Hernandez hit: "Las ___"
- 40 TXism: "kemosabe"
- 41 tall TX tale
- 42 TXism: "sharp as ___ catcus"
- 48 wicked
- 50 Jim Bowie's Alamo bed (2 wds.)
- 51 mild expletive
- 56 insect dorsal surface
- 57 TX Ely's transport as "Tarzan" (2 wds.)

DOWN

- 1 in Freestone County off highway 84
- 2 in TX revolution, soldiers were paid with land ___
- 3 TXism: "___ in the fire" (in trouble)
- 4 outer garment
- 9 car cooler (abbr.)
- 10 TXism: "poured out of the ___" (alike)
- 11 6-man football class

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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1519
solution on page 3

ON YOUR PAYROLL
U.S. Government
President: Joseph R. Biden, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20500. 202-456-1111, fax 202-456-2461, email comments@whitehouse.gov.
Senator: John Cornyn, 517 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-2934, fax 202-228-2856.
Senator: Ted Cruz B40B Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-5922.
Representative: Jodey Arrington, 2019 Longworth, House Office Building, 202-225-4005. Lubbock District Office, 1312 Texas Ave. #219, Lubbock, TX 79401. Abilene District Office, 500 Chestnut St. #819, Abilene, TX 79602
State
Governor: Greg Abbott, Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 12428, Austin, Tx 78711-2428, 512-463-2000.
Senator: Kel Seliger, P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, Tx 78711. 512-463-0131. Amarillo office; P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, 79105. 806-374-8994.
Representative: John T. Smithee, Room CAP1W.10, Capitol P.O. Box 2910, Austin, Tx 78768. 512-463-0702. fax 512-476-7016. Amarillo office; 320 So. Polk, 1st Floor, Lobby box 28, Amarillo 79101. 806-372-3327, fax 806-342-0327.

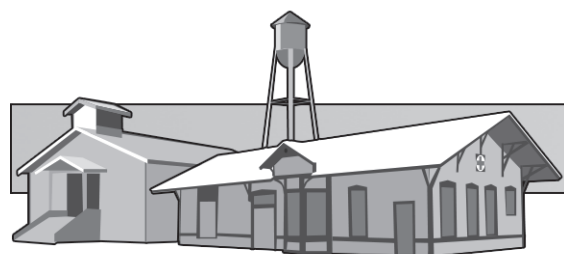
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STAFF:
Clint Mears • Executive Editor
Holly Campbell • Associate Editor
Nathan Parson • Production Editor/IT
Evelyn Romero • Accounting

COMMUNICATION:
806-250-2211-office
806-250-5127-fax
frionastar@wtrt.net-email
frionaonline.com-website

MEMBER
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



TOWN TALK

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

The COVID-19 VACCINE IS FREE!!! It is available to anyone 16 years old and older.

To request a place on the list for a vaccine, please call (806) 240-1562 or (806) 240-1761 (Para Espanol llame a este numero de telefono).

You will need to give your name, date of birth, and a phone number so workers can let you know when your vaccine is scheduled. If the line is busy, leave a voicemail message and someone will call you back to confirm your information and answer any questions you might have.

Because the vaccines are by appointment only, you will not have to stand in long lines. Thank you for your patience and thank you for supporting all the staff at PMC throughout this pandemic.

No school on Monday, February 15th in observance of Presidents Day. On the third Monday in February, the United States celebrates the federal holiday known as Presidents Day. The day takes place during the birth month of the country's two

most prominent presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. While the day once only honored President George Washington on his birthday, February 22nd, the day now never lands on a single president's birthday.

Candidate filing is open for positions on the Friona Independent School District Board of Trustees, Friona City Council, and Parmer County Hospital District Board of Directors. The filing period ends at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 12th. The general election will be held on Saturday, May 1st from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

A couple of spaces are still open for the "I Still Do" Valentine Date Night at First Baptist Church. Cost per couple is \$30 and the event is scheduled for Sunday, February 14th from 6-8 p.m. at the church. Call 806-250-3933 for tickets.

Happy 90th Birthday to Betty Renner! She recently moved to Temple, Texas and will celebrate her birthday

on March 8th. Please see announcement on page 6.

National Cheddar Day is Friday. Cheddar first rolled into being in the village of Cheddar in Somerset, England in the 12th century. While cheddar accounts for more than a third of all the cheese sold in the United States, it is a royal hit in the United Kingdom where it was created. In fact, more than half of the cheese sales in the UK go to cheddar.

Governor Abbott issued a statement after the U.S. Census Bureau ranked Texas the top exporting state for the 19th consecutive year. With \$279.3 billion in exports in 2020, Texas exports accounted for more than California and New York combined. The Lone Star State also led the nation in tech exports for the eighth year in a row. "Texas' exporting prowess is a testament to our business-friendly climate, strong trade partnerships, and most of all, the millions of hardworking Texans in communities across our state," said Governor Abbott. "The Lone Star State has fostered an environment that is creating more jobs, attracting new investments, and growing the Texas brand on the global stage—and we are just getting started. There is no brand more powerful than 'Made in Texas,' and we will continue to support the men and women who built that brand as we unleash the full might of the Texas economy."



National Days

- February 11 — Peppermint Patty Day
- February 12 — Plum Pudding Day
- February 13 — Cheddar Day
- February 14 — Valentine's Day
- February 15 — Presidents Day
- February 16 — Do a Grouch a Favor Day
- February 17 — Ash Wednesday



FRIONA FLASHBACKS

From the Friona Star Archives



Brenner Barnett (11) gets a hug from teammate Dominique Kellum and congratulations from Coach David Woods after sinking two free throws in the second overtime to give the Chiefs a 79-78 win over the Childress Bobcats. Holly Campbell photo. (Friona Star, Thursday, February 11, 2010)

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Reported by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office:
Randy Gerles, Sheriff

(2/2/21) Jesus Perez, 35, of Bovina was arrested by the Friona Police Department on a charge of Possession of Marijuana < 2 oz, pending County Court.

(2/2/21) Marisa Basquez, 30, of Post was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of DWLI with previous, pending County Court.

(2/3/21) Hayden Turner, 21, of Bovina was arrested by the Friona Police Department on a charge of Possession of Marijuana < 2 oz in Drug Free Zone, pending County Court.

(2/3/21) Jorge Mendiola, 32, of Friona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Theft of Cattle, pending Grand Jury.

(2/4/21) Manuel Padilla, 31, of Andrews was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a MTR (Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon), pending District Court.

(2/4/21) Rayla Solomon, 25, of Clovis, New Mexico was arrested by the Friona Police Department on charges of Possession of Dangerous Drug and Possession of Marijuana < 2 oz, pending County Court.

(2/6/21) Brael Randle, 27, of Amarillo was arrested by the Department of Public Safety on 4 Randall County Warrants, posted bail and released.

COURTHOUSE NOTES

Susie Spring, County Clerk

Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from January 28, 2020 to February 4, 2021

(1/28/21) Estate of David Michael Conner, Rosemary Hail Conner Independent Executrix — Rosemary Hail Conner — The S/80 Ac out of the SE/160 Ac of Sec 31 Township 2 N R 3 E of a Capitol Syndicate Subdiv and the NW/40 Ac out of the SE/160 Ac of Sec 31 Township 2 N R 3 E of a Capitol Syndicate Subdiv and the S/80 Ac out of the NE/160 Ac of Sec 31 Township 2 N R 3 E of a Capitol Syndicate Subdiv in Parmer County

(1/29/21) Linda Comer, Dovia A Sears Revocable Living Trust — Linda Comer — All of the Trust 1/3 undivided interest in and on the SE/4 and W/2 of Sec 41 Doud Keefer Subdiv in Parmer County

(2/1/21) Yesenia Rodriguez Velo — Mario Rodriguez, Elva Garcia — A tract of land out of NW portions of L 18, 19, and 20 Blk 3 Original Town of Bovina in Parmer County

(2/2/21) Justin B. Allen, Abbie A. Allen — Landon L. Duffield, Lacie Duffield — The tracts of land out of the NW Quarter of Sec 49 Blk Z WD and FW Johnson in Parmer County

(2/2/21) Franz Friesen, Maria Friesen — Yurban Aaron Salinas — Lots 20, 21, and 22 of Blk 35 Original Town of Farwell

(2/2/21) Tyler Rental LLC — MDL Family Investments LLC — All of L 4 and L 5 of Blk 52 of the Original Town of Friona in Parmer County

Puzzle Solution

S-1519

We're making Valentines for kids... ...in our class and for our families too.

Newspaper Fun!

Animills LLC © 2021 V17-5

Happy Valentine's Day!

O.K., O.K. so I'll be your pal.

I'll jump through hoops...er, hearts, if you'll be my Valentine!

"Read" the picture and letter clues to fill in my puzzle. Use the sounds of the pictures to help. What is my secret message to you?

M + _____

B + _____

M + _____

Hearty Puzzle!

- sweetheart
- central land area
- full of sorrow
- floor of fireplace
- deeply felt; sincere
- body's most important muscle; pumps blood
- has no feelings; cruel
- cheering
- strong; in good health
- a single pumping of the heart

The heart is the organ that pumps blood throughout the body. It is so important to our lives that we use the word "heart" to talk about feelings or warmth.

By 'snail mail', email or video chat — get your Valentine message to friends or family.

It'll bug us if you won't be our Valentine.

Have a big heart!

'Hearty' Fun Fact
Blue whales have the largest hearts of any living things on Earth. Some hearts could weigh up to 400 pounds!

Parties, poems, cards, flowers, candy and kind words are all part of this fun day. It is a day to share feelings of friendship or love. It is a day named for a person who was very kind to others.

Through Wind, Snow or Rain!
Mr. Turtle is the mail carrier in his neighborhood. He delivers the mail through all kinds of weather!

Fit the words below into the puzzle to see the name of the person this fun day was named after!

HEARTS PINK CANDY FLOWERS
RED CUPID PARTY LOVE POEM

Can you fill the blanks with letters that match the code? Then you will know what some cards say!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
•	□	△	×	○	▽	□	L	∩
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
⊙	⊗	□	×	△	⊙	□	×	×
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
?	○	!	☞	☞	○	∩		

A Sweetheart of a Flower!

This is a very popular flower. Its scent is used in soaps and perfumes. It comes in many colors: yellow, white, pink and red. Gardeners grow this flower and enter it into contests. It is a symbol of friendship and love.

Finish the dot-to-dot puzzle to see this flower. Next, unscramble the letters to spell its name.

O S R E



School News



Band students compete at Solo and Ensemble Contest

Friona Junior High and High School band students participated in the Solo and Ensemble Contest on Saturday, February 6th. All the Junior High students received a "1" rating, which is the best you can get.

High School band students also competed last Saturday. Danela Rodriguez, Caleb Geske, Romon Ortiz, Reagan Daniels, Jackie Reyes, and Audranna Trevino each received a "1" rating on their solos.

High School band students Romon Ortiz, Reagan Daniels, Jackie Reyes, and Audranna Trevino will participate in the state competition.



Junior High Band Students Back Row (l-r): Bryer Stanberry, Jameson Daniels, Israel Santiago, Maddox Ashlock **Front Row (l-r):** Nadia Snyder, Alexis Soto, Rosalia Silva, Nevaeh Galan, Karen Morales, Zaybrie Goff, Vanessa Penaran



High School Students (l-r): Carter Gilley, Caleb Geske, Ramon Ortiz, Amy Montana, Reagan Daniels, Jackie Reyes, Daniela Rodriguez, Lizett Garcia, Audrianna Trevino, Gabriella Castillo, Valeria Corralez

Check Your Mirrors

By Sue Jane Sullivan



Amanda Gorman, the National Youth Poet Laureate, recited her poem in Sunday's Super Bowl pre-game activities.

With these verses, she recognized three individuals who stood on the field prior to the coin toss: a veteran, a teacher, and a nurse.

At only 22, Amanda's ability to write and recite her thoughts about our country's captains on the front lines of war and stateside service, or in the trenches of a classroom or hospital room should speak for us all.

It is easy to give lip service in the form of gratitude to military, school personnel, and workers in the medical theater. However, during this pandemic many Americans have lived in a way that is counterproductive to the sacrifices these heroes have made.

Finding ways to do the right and just thing for our country, making sacrifices, and serving in our own way can be personal contributions that make a collective difference.

Do the hard work. Let's end this pandemic. Be a captain.

Chorus of the Captains

by Amanda Gorman

Today we honor our three captains for their actions and impact in a time of uncertainty and need. They have taken the lead, exceeding all expectations and limitations, uplifting their communities and nation as leaders, healers, and educators.

James has felt the wounds of warfare, but this warrior still shares his home with at-risk kids. During COVID he's even lent a hand, live-streaming football for family and fans.

Trimaime is an educator who works non-stop providing his community with hot spots, laptops, and tech workshops, so his students

have all the tools they need to succeed in life and in school.

Susie is the ICU nurse manager at a Tampa hospital. Her chronicles prove that even in tragedy, hope is possible. She lost her grandmothers to the pandemic, and fights to save other lives in the ICU battle zone defining the front line heroes risking their lives for our own.

Let us walk with these warriors, charge on with these champions, and carry forth the call of our captains. We celebrate them by acting with courage and compassion, by doing what is right and just.

For while we honor them today, it is they who every day honor us.

Happy Birthday Friona Folks!

Feb. 11
Dale Widner
Kody Kimbrough
Halle Haile

Feb. 12
Aundrea Frye
Davy Howard
Sandy Houston
Lynette Jubay-Smith
Jeff Schueler

Feb. 13
Mike Schueler
Robin Peace
Donny Campbell

Feb. 14
Loraine Anthony
George Rushing
Wade Schueler
Wayne Schueler
K.C. Padilla

Feb. 15
Donna Schueler
Benjamin Anthony
Lee Allen Kube
Ashleigh Brewer
Braxton Irwin
Kate Lynn Madrigal
Jimmy Burns

Feb. 16
Melissa (Bass) Wright
Carol Boyd
Tiffanni Procter
Amy Kelly Schueler
Alli Hoehle

Feb. 17
Jill Hefner
Brent Riethmayer
Luke Reynard
Garrett Clark
Bill McCoy
Analia Carranza
Noah Ramirez
Kelly Hamilton
Lourdes Solis
Gabriela Perez
Eden Mills



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

Gas prices continue rise

By GasBuddy

Texas gas prices have risen 2.7 cents in the past week, averaging \$2.15 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Gas prices in Texas are 16.1 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 5.4 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas is priced at \$1.88 while the most expensive is \$2.79 per gallon. The national average price of gasoline has risen 3.7 cents in the last week, averaging \$2.45 per gallon. The national average is up 13.2 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 1.6 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

"Many factors continue to push oil prices higher, but at the foundation of the rise is the fact that the coronavirus situation continues to improve, pushing global oil demand higher as production continues to lag, pushing U.S. gas prices higher," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "Until OPEC intercedes and raises oil production in the months ahead, motorists should continue to expect rising gas prices, which for the first time some time stand at their highest in over a year, adding misery to the dire economic situation as millions remain jobless. The news won't likely improve in the months ahead, with continued increases in gas prices as OPEC maintains a tight balance between reduced demand and supply, keeping prices on the higher side."

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>.

Trevino named to Dean's List

Mariah Trevino was named to the Clarendon College Dean's List for Fall 2020 semester.

Clarendon College named 90 to the academic list which requires students to achieve a grade point average between 3.6 and 3.99 while completing at least 12 credit hours.

Mariah (#31) also plays on the Clarendon College Women's basketball team. She is a 2019 FHS graduate. Go Bulldogs!!!



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Family Authority

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

God's design for our world is built around levels of authority that maintain peace and order. God's authority is the ultimate authority, government authority is to peaceably protect and govern a nation, and one of the most overlooked and underestimated authorities is family authority. Families are stressed, stretched and undervalued tremendously in our nation as the emphasis is often put on our educational and societal systems at the detriment of the family. The family is God's creation, and is to be the key way that people grow into good citizens and godly believers.

In regards to family authority, Ephesians 6:1-4 pro-

claims that the main role of family authority deals with parents and children. Children are called to obey and honor their parents. Obedience deals with one's actions, while honoring deals with their attitude. When children are raised to obey parental authority in an honorable and respectful way, this sets them up to respond well to authority in other areas of their life such as government, work and church authority.

Further, scripture makes clear that children are to honor and obey their parents, and in v4 fathers are singled out in their vital role to lead out in raising their children in the Lord. Satan's

attack on the family in our nation has led to an epidemic of fatherless homes, caused by wicked and selfish men who abandon ship when the family hits troubled waters.

The structure of family authority is laid out clearly in God's word, but the reality of living it out is challenging for all parties involved. There is not a formula that produces picture perfect kids without fail, but there is something much better, a Savior who died for sinful parents and children, so we can have changed hearts able to cling to him through any and every trial we face. Clinging to Jesus means you follow his words and principles in all areas of family life.

Turning America Around

By Teena Hughs

I have heard a number of people say that it is up to Christians to turn America around. I have heard others say it is up to the church to turn America around.

My standard answer for, "How do we turn America around?" is to pray and speak truth according to God's Word.

I do believe these two things are absolutely necessary. We need to pray for our country; we need to be asking Jesus for guidance and wisdom in exactly how to turn America around; and, never before in my life have I felt the need for knowing the truth of God's Word. We have to be in the Word, reading it as much as we can every day. We cannot fight evil without God's Word.

I have to add something. I do not know if you have heard of Marjorie Taylor Greene. She is a newly-elected member to the US House of Representatives. She is outspoken, for my taste, about the right things. Apparently, years ago, she made remarks about 9-11

and the Sandy Hook shootings that some Democrats and Republicans didn't like, so they stripped her of House committee assignments.

Friends, there was only one Man who walked the Earth that was perfect, and He got on a cross and died for us so that we could be forgiven of our sins. I don't know what she said; I don't care what she said; 9-11 and Sandy Hook were plus or minus 20 years ago. How many of us haven't said or done something we regretted? Thankfully, Jesus is more forgiving than the people in the House who voted to strip her of her assignments.

Last night, Greene appeared on the Greg Kelly show on Newsmax, and I recorded his show so I could tell you exactly what she said.

Greene is a "big believer in Jesus." She talked about people of faith who are lukewarm. She said none of us are deserving of Jesus dying for us and, "that is why we should never be

lukewarm about our faith."

"If the church was doing the real work, there wouldn't be hungry people on the streets, there wouldn't be babies aborted in the womb, and then every foster child or orphan would have a home."

This is the important part of what Greene said about the church turning America around: "It's time for the church to wake up and not think that their job is to just go to church one hour a day, but it's actually to step up and BOLDLY DECLARE YOUR FAITH, SHARE THE GOSPEL, AND TRULY LIVE IT, AND BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS."

It is time to get bold, friends; be nice about it, but be bold. We have Jesus on our side. He is counting on us. If we aren't willing to be bold for Him, how can we expect Him to help us turn America around? Always remember Joshua 1:9, "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Texas Senate News

By Richard Lee

The state employee pension fund is on track to run out of money by 2061, according to testimony offered before the Senate Finance Committee Tuesday. The Employee Retirement System (ERS) of Texas currently has unfunded liabilities of \$14.7 billion, and agency director Porter Wilson told senators that without legislative action, the liability is projected to grow more than a billion dollars each biennial budget cycle.

Comptroller Glenn Hegar took time out of his own agency presentation on the Office of the Comptroller to highlight the impact of this liability, which he fears could put the state's perfect credit rating at risk. "The rating agencies are consistently and continually giving fair notice that these issues are weighing on Texas' rating," he said. Hegar encouraged senators to address this issue this year and set the fund on a path toward solvency, as lawmakers did with the much larger Teacher Retirement System (TRS) last session. "Are we going to solve it all in one swoop? No," he said. "But just as you did with TRS, it's on a six-year path. If we don't, I don't think Texas wants the

black eye of having a warning on our credit when in reality, look at all the good things we have going on in this economy."

In 2019, the Legislature took steps to address a \$47 billion unfunded liability in the teacher pension system and raised contribution rates from both the state and active employees, phasing increases in over six years.

Some senators took issue with the fund's return on investment. In addition to state and employer contribution, fund managers rely on investment income to pay for benefits, but they have not been meeting a seven percent investment target over the last three years. Georgetown Senator Charles Schwertner does not think that is acceptable. "If they were my financial advisor, I would've fired them," he said. Schwertner wanted to ensure that the fund's managing board understands that in the current, low-interest investment market, they need to re-evaluate investment strategies.

Pension benefits are a major incentive for state employees, with 75 percent of state employees reporting that they were a major factor in choosing to work for and stay with

the state, according to Wilson. The median salary for a state employee currently sits at around \$36,000. "That's a pretty low wage if you're living in Austin, Texas for sure," said Lubbock Senator Charles Perry. He cautioned against resolving the unfunded liability in a way that hurts beneficiaries. "Our employees signed on with an expectation and I think it's only fair that we meet that expectation if it's conceivably possible," he said. "From here we don't see how we can get there, but I think this group of people can figure out a way to get there."

Committee Chair and Flower Mound Senator Jane Nelson said that despite the uncertainty surrounding economic issues this session, ERS reform will be a key issue for Senate budget writers. "The Employee Retirement System is a priority of this Legislature and of this committee," she said. "As we get more and more certainty, we will fill in the details." Houston Senator Joan Huffman, who led TRS reform efforts in 2019, will also be carrying ERS reform on behalf of the Senate this session.

Richard Lee is a staff writer for Texas Senate Media Services

Send your church news to the **Friona Star**
frionastar@wtrt.net

Happy Valentine's Day!

Echo's Secret Message to You!

BE M + MY

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M + MY HEART

OR BREAK MY HEART

A Sweetheart of a Flower!

The ROSE is a popular flower.

SAINT

Through Wind, Snow or Rain!

It'll bug us if you won't be our Valentine.

I have such a big heart!

Slow and steady I deliver cards and Valentines. Some have funny poems. Some have just a line.

RAIN OR SHINE
PLEASE BE MINE

Have a heart! Say that you'll be my Valentine.

The heart is the organ that pumps blood throughout the body. It is so important to our lives that we use the word "heart" to talk about feelings or warmth.

A Hearty Puzzle!

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

Friona

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Website-www.fbcfriona.com
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Rev. Skip Hodges
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Website-www.frionoaumc.com
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Pastor Robert Kerby
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★ Sports ★

Powerlifting Results

Demon Powerlifting Invitational - Dumas - 2/6/2021

Team Results: 1. Dumas: 51 points, 2. Perryton: 41 points, **3. Friona: 32 points**, 4. Tulia: 27 points, 5. Meadow: 12 points, 6. Panhandle 10 points 7. Sunray: 6 points, 8. Vega: 4 points

Wt.	Place	Athlete	BWT	Squat	Bench	Dead	Total
123	2	Ponce, Giovanni	121.1	315	205	320	840
123	4	Bautista, Michael	119.5	265	175	300	740
132	1	Bautista, Mario	131.9	330	240	340	910
132	4	Garcia, Gael	128.2	265	150	280	695
148	6	Garcia, Xuan	145.3	305	175	350	830
165	7	Salinas, Aaron	154.5	385	180	385	950
165	9	Rodriguez, Tony	163.3	345	185	350	880
165	11	Olmos, Isaac	152.2	280	170	280	730
181	6	Dimas, Mathew	178.6	370	205	385	960
181	9	Abarca, Gabe	178.5	300	140	265	705
198	8	Vielmann, Kenneth	184.8	320	180	360	860
220	5	Salazar, Sergio	209.4	360	170	325	855
242	1	Rodriguez, Aaron	231.9	485	240	390	1115
242	3	Abarca, Anthony	229.3	415	215	415	1045
242	5	Perez, Frank	236.2	385	200	380	965
275	2	Padilla, Jake	247.4	505	300	460	1265

Demon Powerlifting Invitational - Dumas - 2/6/2021

Team Results: 1. Perryton: 56 points, 2. Dumas: 51 points, 3. Tulia: 14 points, 4. Vega: 13 points, **5. Friona: 11 points**, 6. Sunray: 11 points, 7. Dalhart: 8 points, 8. Panhandle: 7 points

Wt.	Place	Athlete	BWT	Squat	Bench	Dead	Total
97	2	Ramos, Trinity	96.5	155	80	185	420
105	7	Espinoza, Amor	101.6	125	55	190	370
132	2	Licerio, Magdalena	131.5	225	135	255	615
132	6	Garcia, Janessa	131.2	180	90	200	470
198	5	Soltero, Ahtziri	197.4	300	105	255	660

Basketball Scoreboard

Varsity Girls

Record: 2-16
District: 0-12

Varsity Boys

Friona 44 Dimmitt 61
Rejino (15 pts) Rivera (11 pts)
Record: 1-15 District 0-12



Peppermint Patties

The Peppermint Pattie was invented in 1940 by Henry Kessler and produced in York, Pennsylvania by the York Cone Company. Its dark chocolate coating and soft peppermint center quickly became a public favorite. The Peppermint Pattie was known for its snap, and Kessler insisted that the candy break cleanly down the middle when it was broken. If the trademark snap was not present, the candy was not sold. The candy was first offered in just a few states but went national in 1975. For those of you that love the minty candy, February 11 is National Peppermint Patty Day.

HOMEMADE PEPPERMINT PATTIES

www.butterwithasideofbread.com

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup softened butter
- 1/3 cup light corn syrup
- 1-2 tsp peppermint extract*
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 2 cups dark dipping chocolate**
- chocolate jimmies if desired

Instructions

Combine butter, corn syrup, extract, and powdered sugar in a mixing bowl. Mix with an electric mixer for about 3 minutes, until ingredients are well combined and are holding together. Remove dough from bowl and break off about 2 teaspoon-sized sections. Roll into a ball and gently flatten with your hands. Put patties down on a pan lined with wax or parchment paper. Once all patties are made, place pan in the freezer for 10-15 minutes. Melt chocolate in microwave for 1 minute 20 seconds. Let sit for an additional minute in the microwave. Remove and gently stir. Remove peppermint patties from freezer. Use a fork or a handy Winton Dipping tool

like I did to dip each patty in the chocolate, flip to coat the other side, then tap to remove any excess. Transfer chocolate coated patties to wax paper to cool. Top with chocolate jimmies if you'd like. Store in an airtight container, refrigerate if preferred but it's not necessary. Yields 40 mints.

Notes: *Add 1 teaspoon peppermint extract, then mix until well combined. Taste dough. If you'd like them to be stronger, add an additional 1/2 to 1 teaspoon extract. You can also use 2 drops of peppermint essential oil instead or even 2 teaspoons mint extract for a more subtle mint flavor. Think Andes Mints as opposed to Starlight mints! Yum.

When making candy like this I really find that **dipping chocolate just works best. You can purchase Ghirardelli Melting Wafers at most grocery stores. I buy my melting chocolate in bulk on Amazon. If you really want to use chocolate chips instead, I suggest melting 1/2 a tablespoon of shortening or 2 tsp coconut oil in with the chocolate chips, to thin it out and make it easier to dip the candy.

Peppermint Patty Bars

www.strawberryblondiekitchen.com

Ingredients

- 1 (14.3oz package) Oreo Cookies
- 1/3 cup butter, melted
- 4 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 1/3 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon peppermint extract
- 12 oz semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 tablespoon coconut oil

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and line a 13 x 9" pan with aluminum foil, extending over the edges of the pan. Into a food processor, process cookies until fine crumbs. Slowly stream in melted butter. Press cookie mix-

ture into the bottom of the prepared pan and bake for 12 minutes. Allow to cool. Into the bowl of your stand mixer, place butter and 1 cup of powdered sugar. Mix to combine. Add another cup of powdered sugar, followed by milk. Mix to combine. Add 1 cup of powdered sugar and peppermint extract. Mix to combine. Add remaining powdered sugar and beat until smooth. Spread on top of the cookie mixture and place into freezer for 45 minutes. Add chocolate and coconut oil into a microwavable bowl and melt, in 30 second intervals, until melted. Pour over peppermint layer and smooth evenly. Cover and place into freezer until set. Cut into 24 bars and serve.



Volleyball club team medals again

By Casey Sharrock

The Tex-Mex 15u Southwest Volleyball Club team played in the AEV February FunFest on February 7th in Amarillo. After coming up short for the Gold Bracket in pool play, the team played 3 matches in the Silver Bracket going undefeated to claim the championship.

The team also participated in the TAV January Fun Tournament on January 23rd in Amarillo. They took first in the pool play and ended up winning the first match in the bracket play. The second match they played an 18u team. Tex-

Mex played two hard sets but finally succumbed to the older team.

For Tex-Mex only being in 3 tournaments and medaling in two of them, I would say they are highly successful. They work hard and leave everything on the court.

Team members are: Back Row (l-r) Coach Carrie Arias, Kinzee Crow, Reese Stowers, Jacee Burney, Kitzzy Welch, and Coach Casey Sharrock. Front Row (l-r) Erin Creasy, Arela Sacerio, and Reyna Arias.



Betty Renner is turning 90!

Betty Renner is celebrating her 90th Birthday on March 8th. Betty & R.J. lived in Friona until 2010. She has recently moved to Temple, Texas. Cards for Betty can be sent to Phyllis Murphree, 2409 Canyon Creek Drive, Temple, Texas 76502.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Parmer County Commissioners Court is currently accepting bids for the contract for the Lawn Maintenance Services, by an individual or business. Lawn Maintenance services which include mowing, cleanup of leaves and snow removal on sidewalks are required for the Parmer County Courthouse and Parmer County Law Enforcement Center. Bids may be brought or mailed to Trey Ellis, County Judge, at 401 Third Street, Room 104, P.O. Box 506, Farwell, Texas 79325, to be received no later than 9:00 a.m. Monday, February 22, 2021. Please include an original and four (4) copies in your bid packet. Bids will be considered Monday, February 22, 2021 during regular session of Commissioners Court.

The Parmer County Commissioners Court reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

By order of the Parmer County Commissioners Court, Trey Ellis, County Judge.

To be published the weeks of February 1, 2021 and February 8, 2021.

LEGAL NOTICE

Friona Independent School District, Friona, Texas is accepting bids for the following:

Friona ISD Primary Building Asbestos Abatement and Demolition

All bids must be submitted by 2:00 P.M local time, **Thursday February 25th 2021** and addressed to:

Jimmy Burns Friona ISD, Superintendent
909 E. 11th St.
Friona, Texas 79035

All bids must be mailed or delivered by hand in a sealed envelope by due date.

Plans and Specifications are available and may be acquired by contacting:

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21103 FM 179
Wolforth, TX 79382
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michael@g-aenvironmental.com

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at 2:00 P.M., local time, **Thursday February 18th, 2021**. All interested parties should meet at 802 Euclid Friona, Texas.

The Friona Independent School district reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and waive all formalities.

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Deadline: Tuesday @ 5 p.m.



HELP WANTED

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.

The City of Friona will accept applications for the Public Works Department:

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Full-Time, 40 hours a week
Salary: starting at \$10/hr.

Candidates will perform construction, repair, and maintenance work on water/sewer lines; operate light equipment and perform extensive manual labor. Candidates may have other duties assigned to them by the Public Works Director. The applicant chosen for this position shall be required to submit to a pre-employment drug test at the cost to the individual.

Job descriptions and application forms may be picked up at the Friona City Hall, 623 Main Street, Friona. If you would like an application emailed to you, please email cityinfo@frionatx.us. Applications will be accepted until job is filled.



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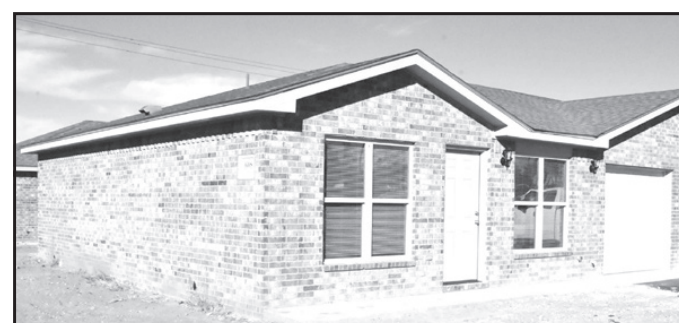
You CAN do it!

Don't throw away your empty aluminum cans. Please place any cans you have in the trailer located on the north side of the Friona Fire Department building on Main Street. Proceeds from the sale of the cans will go to the FHS Senior Class and help fund the graduation party.

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

- 1.) Go to frionaonline.com
- 2.) Click on the "newspaper archives" link
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Located at Friona Police Department Building
public.txdpsscheduler.com
By appointment only.

NOTICE

This is to give notice of intent to introduce in the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, a bill to be entitled an Act relating to the Brazos River Authority, following recommendations of the Sunset Advisory Commission; specifying grounds for the removal of a member of the board of directors. The costs for the publication of this notice were paid by the Sunset Advisory Commission.

Friona Star is on the Web at frionaonline.com

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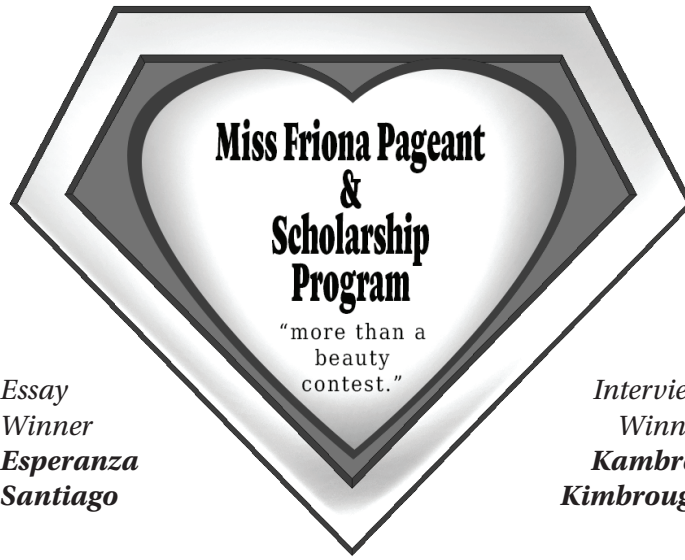
Anahi Gonzalez

2nd Runner Up - \$600 Scholarship



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64th Annual



Essay Winner
Esperanza Santiago

Interview Winner
Kambree Kimbrough

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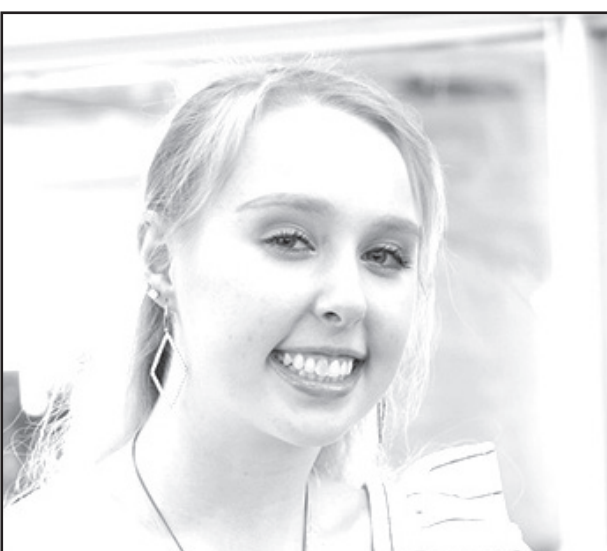
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Kambree Kimbrough

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Rebecca Schlenker

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Obituaries



Rita Richardson

August 31, 1948 ~ February 2, 2021

Rita Richardson, 72, of Amarillo passed away on Tuesday February 2, 2021 in Amarillo. Memorial Service was at 10:00 AM Friday February 5, 2021 at Cox-Rowley Funeral Home, 4180 Canyon Drive with Pastor Sheldon Devries officiating.



Rita was born on August 31, 1948 in Friona, Texas to Preach and Frances Collier. She worked in finance and accounting for 30 years spending most of her time at JCPenny and AIG. Rita and her husband Smiley enjoyed hot air balloons early on in their marriage and would frequent the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. They enjoyed it so much that they bought their own Balloon soon after their 15th anniversary and named her Faith. Rita was an avid reader and was very dedicated to her Bible Studies, participating over Zoom. She

became very technical savvy in the past few years with the help of her grandchildren. Rita enjoyed cross-stitch, and was a talented cook and a tidy person. She loved her Family and spending time with them any chance she got. Her family remembers specific things like how their mother enjoyed shopping, playing colors by numbers on her phone and playing solitaire. She will be

missed by all.

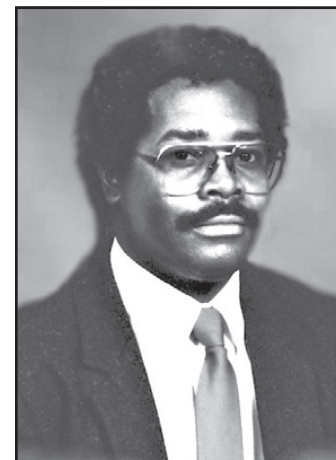
Rita was preceded in death by her parents; husband, James Smiley Richardson; one son, Robert Rule; two daughters, Wendy Rule and Sandra Rule; one brother, Darrell Collier.

Survivors include four daughters, Rhonda Hoelting (Randy) of Amarillo, Tonya Boroughs (Billy) of Springville, Utah, Dollie Young of Hattiesburg Mississippi and Peggy Lynn Jones (Ron) of Lubbock; two sons, James Richardson (Jami) of Hattiesburg, Mississippi and Duke Ashe (Sheila) of Tennessee; Grandchildren, Sarah Terbursh (Joshua), Sandra Hoelting, Brent Boroughs, Brandon Boroughs (Kaley), Donovan Young, Sierra Young, Kylee Hernandez, Christina McCravey, Jessica Hodge (John) and Justin Ashe; Great grandchildren, Averie, Luke, Levi and Mallory.

Rickey Gene Jackson

September 24, 1959 - February 4, 2021

Rickey Gene Jackson, 61 of Dimmitt, formerly of Friona passed away February 4, 2021 in Dimmitt. Viewing was held from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Sunday, February 7, 2021 in the Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel of HANSARD FAMILY with his Home Going Service 11:00 A.M. Monday, February 8, 2021 in the Friona Cemetery with Rev. James Jackson officiating. Burial following by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona.



West Texas State University.

Rickey was born September 24, 1959 in Clovis to Robert Lawrence and Dorothy Mae Coleman- Jackson. He graduated from Friona High School in 1977, and attended

Rickey was employed by A-1 Pump and Well Service, Maywood, and Cloth World. He was an employee for West Texas State University for 18 years, retiring in 2014

due to failing health. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and gardening in his spare time. Most of all, he was an avid Dallas Cowboy fan.

Rickey was preceded in death by his parents.

Those to mourn his passing include 2 sisters-Estella Faye Jackson and husband Johnny of Amarillo, and Vicky L. Jackson of Dallas, 1 brother-Robert L. Jackson of Amarillo, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



Evelyn Elaine Dandridge

Evelyn Elaine Dandridge of Fort Smith, Arkansas was called to Paradise by her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on January 19th, 2021.

Elaine was born in Plainview, Texas on October 28, 1958 to Ernest C. Dandridge and Evelyn F. McEnaney. Elaine graduated High School in Hereford, Texas in 1976 and studied History and Religion at Texas Tech University and Broadcasting at South Plains College.

Elaine was the eldest of

four children. Elaine was preceded in death by both parents, one brother, and two husbands - Bryan Snyder and Jeff Housour.

Elaine worked as a 911 dispatcher for both the Lubbock, Texas and Duncan, Oklahoma Police Departments where her confident and professional demeanor, humor, and simple presence proved to be an asset to both agencies.

Elaine was survived by her daughter Jennifer Snyder, Grandson Ian Snyder, Joshua Snyder and Rainbo DeLa-Cruz whom she loved as her own.

Elaine was a loving mother to Jennifer standing by her in life and continuing to do so in spirit, forever. The bond between a mother and daughter is strong but Elaine would go further and describe that love in her writings as "intense". Elaine left a positive and loving impact on everyone who knew her.



Elaine will always be remembered as a giver - beautiful and intelligent with a great sense of humor. Often described by others as genuine and rare, she was intelligent, fair, supportive, and loyal. Besides her love and presence those that mourn her will miss most her laugh and her singing.

Per Elaine's wishes, she was cremated, family and friends gathered to celebrate her life and will continue to remember her daily.



V. Carl White

1935-2021

Carl White passed in peace at his home on January 12, 2021 at the age of 85. Carl will be fondly remembered by his family and friends as a loving husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and devoted man of God.

Born and raised in the Midwest, Carl was a hard worker and a true cowboy at heart. He had a passion for life, travel and people; always with a helping hand and a sense of wit.

Carl is survived by his



wife, Lola Beth; sons Gary, Rick, and Les; and numer-

ous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

In lieu of a funeral, the family will be having a "Celebration of Life" gathering on Carl's birthday, February 28th from 1-5 pm at the home of his son; Les White, in Tucson. Please RSVP at 520-297-3670.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking. It is not easily angered, it keeps no account of wrongs. 1 Corinthians 13:4-5

State Capital Highlights

By Gary Borders



COVID-19 vaccine pace rises while statewide hospitalizations drop

The number of people in Texas hospitalized with COVID-19 has declined more than 28 percent in the past month, according to the Texas Department of Health Services. As of Feb. 7, Texas hospitals were treating 9,957 COVID-19 patients, down from nearly 14,000 a month ago. The number of new cases in the past week was 123,239 — a 22 percent drop from the record high of 158,922 the week of Jan. 10, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

At the same time new cases and hospitalizations were decreasing, the number of Texans getting their first dose of vaccine crossed the 2.3 million mark as of Sunday, according to TDHS. That's 700,000 more initial shots in a week. Those who are now fully vaccinated reached 733,287 as of Sunday.

The state received 401,750 first doses from the federal government this week, which are going out to 358 providers in 135 counties. That includes 85 hub providers, according to TDHS.

Not everyone is on board to receive the COVID-19 vaccine

About one-third of Texans polled in a recent statewide survey by the University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs say they are unlikely to get the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available. More than one out of five respondents were adamant they will not receive the vaccine.

Kirk P. Watson, founding dean of the Hobby School, said he hopes the survey will help public health officials address concerns of those unwilling to be vaccinated.

"More than 60% of people who are hesitant to be immunized had concerns about potential side effects and worried that the vaccine is too new," Watson said in a news release. "Understanding why people resist immunization is an important step in reaching herd immunity."

Most of those polled who say they are certain or likely to refuse vaccination asserted they don't trust the government or pharmaceutical companies to ensure the vaccine is safe. Health experts say that between 70% and 90% of the population must be vaccinated to achieve herd immunity, according to the press release.

On the flip side, more than 40% of Texans say they will get the vaccine when available, or they have already gotten at least one dose, while 18% said they would probably get it.

Abbott gets behind rural broadband expansion

Gov. Greg Abbott made expanded broadband service an emergency item during the current legislative session, saying it is necessary for providing telemedicine care to patients regardless of where they live, and for improving educational access.

"From medicine to education to business, broadband access is not a luxury — it is an essential tool that must be available for all Texans," Abbott said in his State of the State address last week.

As previously reported, a pair of lawmakers intend to file legislation aimed at expanding critical broadband services throughout the state. Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville, and Rep. Trent Ashby, R-Lufkin, are calling for creation of a statewide broadband plan no later than a year after enabling legislation is passed. Texas is one of only six states that does not have such a plan.

One Capital Highlights reader, a Houston resident who owns a second home on Lake Murvaul in Panola County, recently wrote to bemoan the lack of connectivity in rural East Texas: "It's a no-internet/no cell bars jungle over there. At Lake Murvaul, I have installed a cell phone booster on a 20-foot antenna so that my phone has enough signal strength to be a hot spot. Then I had to upgrade my "unlimited" plan, only to find out that after 30GB of being a passable hot spot, it meters down to a trickle that won't even let me view the latest Bernie Sanders meme." He added, "I have parked in the lot at the library just to download Kindle books and Prime Video. Primitive!"

State rep seeks to clarify deadline for TPIA requests

Rep. Giovanni Capriglione, R-Southlake, has filed an open government bill designed to more clearly explain "business days" for governmental entities responding to the Texas Public Information Act. According to Kelley Shannon, executive director of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, during the COVID-19 pandemic some governments refused to respond to TPIA requests if their physical offices were closed, even if the staff was working remotely. This legislation would give clearer guidelines for response days. It's House Bill 1416.

Emergency SNAP food benefits extended through February

Emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits have been extended through February, with \$300 million in benefits provided. The move came after the Texas Health and Human Services Commission received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which funds the program. Recipients will also continue to receive a 15% increase in their total benefits, at least until June.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning 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: gbborders@texaspress.com.

Friona Star

has an archive of past obituaries at frionaonline.com

FHS Senior Steak

Dinner

\$17.00 (all ages)

Jr. High Cafeteria (limited) and curbside pick-up

in west parking lot

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

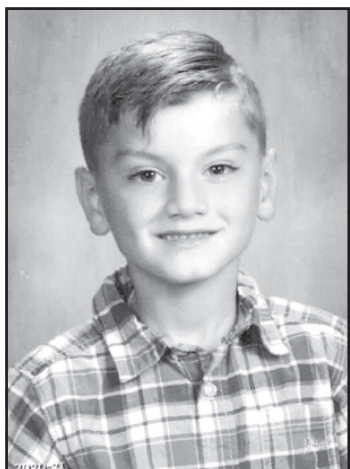
START 11:00AM-1:30PM

Get your tickets from a 2021 Senior

Proceeds to fund Alcohol/Drug Free Graduation Celebration Party



We love our Valentines!



Brittan Bynum

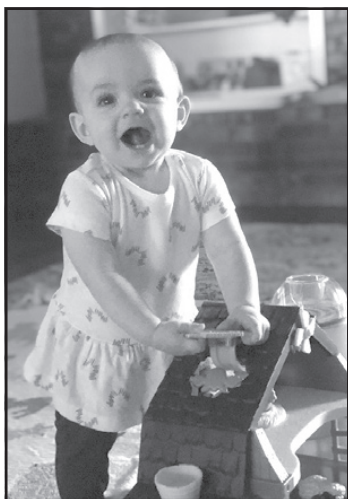


Cortlyn Bynum

Parents:
Tim & Charlotte Bynum
Grandparents:
Ted & Glenda Procter

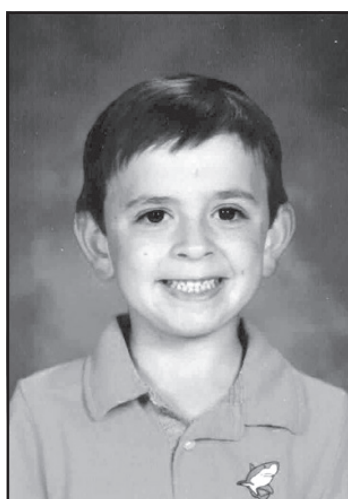


Cale Bynum



Brisby Procter

Parents:
Barry & Tiffani Procter
Grandparents:
Ted & Glenda Procter



Gus Procter



Rowyn & Rylee Bridges
Parents: David & Amy Bridges



Ethan & Jordan Geries
Parents: Ryan & Lindsey Geries



Auggie & Ronin King
Parents: Rhett & Andrea King



Nash & Noah Rigler
Parents: Nathan & Mandy Rigler

Grandchildren of Randy & Sarah Geries
Great Grandchildren of Donna Mears



Happy Valentine's Day

The Wilcox Grands
Mason, Mavrick, Easton, Slaton,
McCoy, Paxton, Peyton, Aubrey,
Palmer Parker, Marlee, and Mila



Happy Valentine's Day from Nana and Poppy-Dale and Donna Schueler
We love you all!



Tristan, Quay and Mason, Children of Monty and Tessa Schueler
Emma, Aubrey and Ivy, Children of Wade and Candice Schueler
Peyton, Kayl, Avery and Paxton, Children of Kevin and Ami Schueler
Great grandkids of Delton and Betty Lewellen and Raymond and Lorna Schueler

Bennett Michael Berend



Parents: Jason and Haley Berend
Grandparents: Roddy and Sandra Berend, Jonathan and Brenda Weiss
Great-grandparents: William and Catherine Fairweather, JoAnn Berend, JoAnn Yeager.

**Happy Valentines to Shelby and Sophie Lewellen
From Grammy and Grandpa**



Parents: Greg and Jamie Lewellen
Grandparents: Dennis and Connie Slagle
Donnie, Debbie, and Ibby Lewellen
Woody and Janci Wilson



**Kayleigh
Juarez,
Kyleigh
Juarez,
Kenzi
Fairweather,
Brinlee
Fairweather,
Kaden
Fairweather**



Grandparents:
Alan and Brenda
Fairweather
Great Grandparents:
Bill and Beverly
Danley, Rock
Port Mo.
and Bill and
Cathy Fairweather
Friona TX.

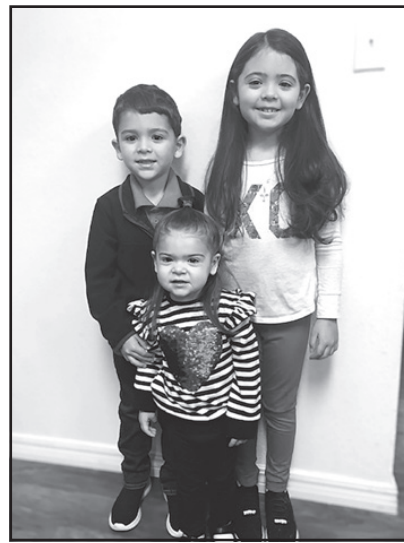
Happy Valentines



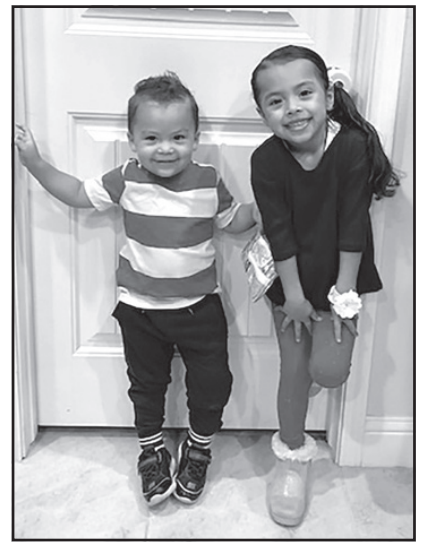
Jaxon, Ella Kate, Ava Grace
Grandchildren of: Karen Wright and the late
Jarrell Wright and Troy and Karene Bass
Great Grandchildren of: Dale & Laura Hart



"Our Little Blessings"



**Emmelia, Rhett and
Lucy Butler**
Parents:
Jarrett & Natasha Butler
Grandparents:
Joe & Anita Lafuente



**Ava and
Joseph Cortez**
Parents:
Pete & Felicia Cortez
Grandparents:
Joe & Anita Lafuente

**Happy Valentine's Day
to our Grandsons**



*Zach, Joshua & Noah,
sons of Jeff & Tonia Brown
Our Love to you from
Grama & Papaw (Gary
& Barbara Brown)*



**Happy Valentine's Day
to our Granddaughters**

*Jaden, Jaycee & Jolee,
daughters of Julie & Jon Pigg
Our Love to you from
Grama & Papaw, (Barbara
& Gary Brown)*



**Hadley, WTA&M senior, Adaline, NTU
freshman, Jarrett, FHS freshman**
Parents: Bill and Jeri Lynn White
Grandparents: Jerry & Janet LaFrance and Sharon White



**Happy Valentines to our
Joshua Lee Campbell**

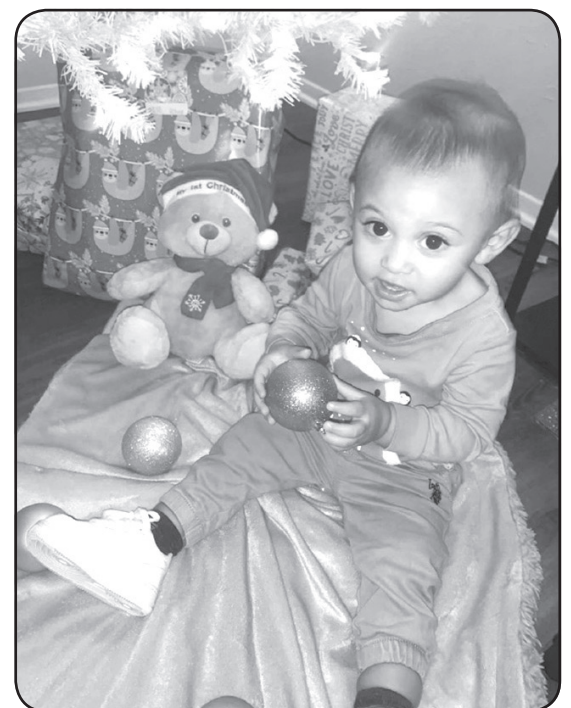


Parents: Stephen & Debra
Grandparents:
Danny & Holly Campbell
Kevin & Sharlet Cooper
Great Grandparents:
Dale & Laura Hart
Iwana Taylor



Morgon & Jaxson
Parents: Jordan & Jessica Peace
Grandparents: Roger & Robin Peace
Great Grandparents:
Wanda Peace, Donita Martin
Great Great Grandmother: Eva Atwood

**Jaylin Hart
"We Love You"**



Grandson of Jeremy and Marla Hart

Congratulations to Malachi Torres!!!



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