

St. Teresa's Annual Turkey Dinner

St. Teresa's Catholic Church of Friona will host their annual Turkey Dinner on Sunday, October 6th from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the church hall. The meal will consist of turkey & dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, cranberry sauce, dinner rolls, dessert, and tea. Adult plates are \$15 each and children's plates (under 10 years old) are \$10 each. Take-out plates will be available at no additional charge.

Keep Friona Clean Roll-off box to open up for waste items

The City will open up the roll-off box this Saturday, October 5, from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Please come by to dump those items that don't belong in your dumpster and do your part to help Keep Friona Clean!



The roll-off box is located at East 8th and South Jackson Ave. It is a free service provided to Friona residents. Examples of items not allowed in dumpsters includes: steel and metal, mattresses and furniture, refrigerators/AC units,

paint cans (with or without liquids), electronics and appliances, drums/barrels, brick, wood and concrete, railroad ties. Items not accepted in the roll-off box are tires, oil and tree limbs. To dispose of these items, please contact the City office at 806-250-2761.

Game Warden Talks To Lions

Game Warden Sarah Wennersten was the guest speaker at the Friona Noon Lions Club meeting on Tuesday at the Clubhouse. Wennersten represents Region VI, District II of the Law Enforcement Division of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. She serves as Game Warden for Castro, Deaf Smith, and Parmar Counties. Currently, she is the only Game Warden in Texas that serves more than two counties.



Game Warden Sarah Wennersten and Lions Club Sweetheart Aubrey Schueler.

Wennersten has been in law enforcement for approximately five years and has been a game warden for the past three and a half years. Besides her game warden duties, she also enforces state laws (speeding

& DUI tickets), deploys with search & rescue teams during wildfires and hurricanes, deploys with SWAT teams, and

deploys with Border Patrol. Wennersten is also proficient in flying three types of drones. She said that game wardens are

like a Swiss Army knife in that they bring multiple skills to the table and must be adaptable to all situations.

State Sales Tax Revenue Totaled \$3.8B in September

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced on Tuesday that state sales tax revenue totaled nearly \$3.85 billion in September, 1.5 percent more than in September 2023. The majority of September sales tax revenue is based on sales made in August and remitted to the agency in September.

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in September 2024 was up 0.7 percent compared with the same period a year

ago, which is below the 2.5 percent annual Consumer Price Index increase reported for August and suggests that spending on taxable items is down from a year ago in real terms. Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 58 percent of all tax collections.

Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes: (1) motor vehicle sales and rental taxes — \$590 million, down 7 per-

cent from September 2023; (2) motor fuel taxes — \$333 million, up 1 percent from September 2023; (3) oil production tax — \$516 million, down 5 percent from September 2023; (4) natural gas production tax — \$199 million, down 5 percent from September 2023; (5) hotel occupancy tax — \$62 million, up 6 percent from September 2023; and (6) alcoholic beverage taxes — \$148 million, up 3 percent from September 2023.

Texas pumpkin yields and quality up despite hot summer

by Susan Himes

The 2024 growing season was good for Texas pumpkin producers, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert and pumpkin farmers. Yields and quality were up for most growers compared to last year.

Mark Carroll, AgriLife Extension agriculture and natural resources agent for Floyd County, said this year's pumpkin yields remained below average but were an improvement over last season when output was down 20%-40% on average due to drought.

"We were lucky to have good rains around planting but then part of July and most of August were extremely hot," Carroll said.

Retail prices for pumpkins typically fluctuate week to week leading up to Halloween, but Carroll said there should be plenty of pumpkins to purchase throughout their annual peak demand. If you want to support local growers, Carroll said to look for stickers identifying "Texas grown" pumpkins when purchasing at a market, nursery or pumpkin patch.

Producer perspective
Floydada, about 50 miles northeast of Lubbock, is known as the "pumpkin capital of Texas." Its annual pumpkin festival will be held Oct. 12.

Jacob Reddy, a grower and partner at Pumpkin Pyles in Floydada, said



The Texas pumpkin crop is up compared to last year despite the extreme heat in parts of July and August. (Michael Miller/Texas A&M AgriLife)

the drier months and extreme heat resulted in average- to slightly smaller-sized pumpkins, but that quantity and quality were excellent this year.

"Our bloom set was pretty good, and although more rain would

have been nice over the summer to reduce irrigation, our crop is better than last year," he said. "There are plenty of pumpkins of every size available, and we're also really happy with the shape and variety this year."

Reddy said there were no significant pest or disease pressure and it was a pretty smooth year for his operation. Texas pumpkin growers like Reddy send their product to Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, in addition to supplying Texas markets.

Texas continues to be a top producer of pumpkins

Data available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service shows Texas is consistently among the top six pumpkin producing states. In 2020, Texas led the nation in pumpkin crop value at \$25.9 million. Dry weather that year led to higher qual-

ity and lower yields, which contributed to higher pumpkin prices than in other states. In 2021, Texas produced 108 million pounds of pumpkin.

Illinois is consistently the country's top pumpkin producer, but most of its crop is for pie filling and other processed foods. Those pumpkins demand a lower price per pound than decorative jack-o'-lantern-style pumpkins and ornamental gourds.

While precise statistics for the past few years aren't available, Carroll said pumpkin acres and production in Texas is increasing and expanding to counties outside the traditional growing regions.

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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	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	Precipitation September 1.63 Year 13.52	Burn Ban No
October 3-9	90 52 SSW 10-20	86 55 SE 10-15	89 54 SW 10-15	84 49 NNE 10-20	83 53 S 10-15	87 54 SW 10-15	88 55 SW 10-15		

State Capital Highlights

By Gary Borders



Community Calendar

Send Calendar information to:
frionastar@wtrt.net or call (806) 250-5200

October 3

• Pulled Pork at Noon Meal @ Senior Center

October 6

• Turkey Dinner at St. Teresa's Catholic Church from 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

October 7

• Pile On at Noon Meal @ Senior Center

October 9

• Library Book Shop at 618 Euclid is open from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

October 10

• Hot Dogs at Noon Meal @ Senior Center

October 11

• FISD Early Release for students & staff

October 14

• Columbus Day federal holiday

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: Kevin Sparks, P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, Tx 78711. 512-463-0131. Amarillo office: Historic Federal Building, 620 S. Taylor St., Suite 203, Amarillo, TX, 79101.



Representative: John T. Smithee, Room CAPIW.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.



Phelan's GOP foes back one challenger

Texas House Republicans who want to oust Speaker Dade Phelan have coalesced behind a single opponent: state Rep. David Cook, R-Mansfield. A total of 48 representatives are backing the two-term representative, including four who dropped their own bids for speaker.

Phelan's opponents, including Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, claim he has given too much power to Democrats by naming some to lead legislative committees.

"This vote highlights the growing momentum for change within the Texas House, as members rally behind a shared vision of a decentralized leadership model that empowers all members," Cook said in a statement.

Phelan is seeking his third term as speaker after narrowly surviving a challenge for re-election to represent his district in the GOP primary, winning a runoff election.

"Not only are their actions disappointing and unacceptable, they are futile, as I proudly have the clear majority votes needed to be the Speaker today and will have the clear majority support needed to become Speaker again come January," Phelan said in a statement.

Polls show near tie in Cruz-Allred race

The U.S. Senate race in Texas has tightened, with a poll last week showing Democratic challenger Colin Allred nearly within the margin of error in his race against incumbent Republican Ted Cruz, the Austin American-Statesman reported. A poll released by the Texas Hispanic Policy Foundation shows Cruz ahead of Allred 48% to 45%, nearly within the margin of error of 2.83%.

Cruz is seeking his third term in the Senate. He won his last race against challenger Beto O' Rourke by just 2.6 points.

The tightening race prompted the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee to announce last week that it is sending millions of advertising dollars to Texas to boost his campaign. The committee plants to put its money toward airing more Allred campaign ads. Committee chair Gary Peters said

the Democratic candidate needs more funding to get his message out.

"But it is his message," Peters said. "He knows Texas inside and out."

Texas Supreme Court rules on gun ban at state fair

The State Fair of Texas opened last week with its newly enacted ban on weapons intact after the Texas Supreme Court rejected a challenge by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton just 13 hours earlier. The Statesman reported the court ridiculed the state's legal arguments in a five-page opinion, with Justice Jimmy Blacklock writing that "the State's filings do not even attempt to answer" the question at the heart of the case.

Two lower courts also rejected Paxton's attempt to lift the ban, enacted after three fairgoers were injured in a shooting incident last year.

The state fair runs through Sunday, Oct. 20.

Party game company sues SpaceX for trespassing

Cards Against Humanity, makers of a humorous adult party game, is suing Elon Musk's SpaceX company for trespassing and damaging land the company purchased in Cameron County. The company purchased the land in 2017 to send a political message to then-President Donald Trump's campaign to not build a border wall.

KUT reported that the company raised money to purchase the land by soliciting \$15 donations from 150,000 people. It says the land has been kept in its pristine state, but SpaceX has dumped gravel, tractors, and space garbage on it.

A website maintained by the company announced it is seeking \$15 million in damages and displayed photos purportedly showing "before and after" images of its land. SpaceX did not respond for comment from Texas Public Radio.

Going lights out for migrating birds

Audubon Texas is asking residents to not leave the porch lights on this fall, during peak migration season for millions of birds. The Texas Standard reported the

2024 Lights Out, Texas, campaign is underway, and Texans are urged to turn off unnecessary lights to minimize light pollution. Migrating birds can become disoriented when traveling through densely populated areas.

Up to 1 billion birds are killed each year due to collisions with buildings. Peak migration runs through Oct. 29, with fall migration ending around Nov. 30. One of every four birds migrating through the U.S. passes through Texas, according to Audubon Texas.

Building owners, businesses, developers and homeowners can help protect migrating birds by turning off all nonessential lighting from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. each night. Lighting shields that direct light downward can reduce bird casualties. More information is available at tx.audubon.org.

Looking back on last summer's weather

The summer of 2024 is in the books, and Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board, says it ended up in the middle of the pack when compared to the last 25 summers - the 12th most miserable during that time period.

The amount of the state in drought declined to 28 percent from a high of 88 percent during the summer of 2022, Wentzel wrote. Last summer certainly was an improvement over the two previous, which were considered the second and third most miserable in the past quarter century. But they both pale in comparison to the summer of 2011, which had the worst drought conditions in Texas history, and wildfires swept the state.

Relatively plentiful rain made last summer seem more tolerable, but records indicate it was the fourth-hottest summer of the past 25 years.

Thank goodness for autumn.

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, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com

ACROSS

- Texas grid inventory: ___ watts
- TXism: "I'm all ___" (attentive)
- 9/11 perpetrators ___ terrorists
- TXism: "___ hill for a stepper"
- in the past
- prohibit
- TX Hunter's "Since ___ You Baby"
- appropriate TX Dan Blocker tree farm?
- TXism: "couldn't find hide ___ of it"
- spinning toy: whir ___
- TXism: "can't ___ old dog new tricks"
- TXism: "hen fruit"
- Castroville is "The Little ___ of Texas"
- TXism: "eatin' hay is ___ good for" (poor horse)
- in Henderson County on U.S. 175
- TX George Foreman victory (abbr.)
- easily ignited
- TX Willie's "On the ___ Again"
- TXism: "___ over but the shouting"
- Texas prisoners
- voided a marriage
- vision or graph beginning
- Juan de ___ named El Paso
- TXism: "two ___ in a pod" (alike)
- ID card, e.g. (abbr.)
- character Dobbs in Texas-based "Lonesome Dove"
- in Anderson: Fanthorp ___ Historical Site
- Texas-born Steve Martin album: "___ Crazy Guy"
- disease microbe
- "have a ___ it" (try)

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1707

solution on page 3

DOWN

- TXism: "gave ___ song and dance"
- TXism: "bend your ___" (talk)
- U.S. Rep. Kay from Fort Worth
- TXism: "loud ___ bare floor"
- Fort Worth's "___ Carter Museum"
- TXism: "___ of the box" (beginning)
- TXism: "cash ___ the barrel head"
- TX Tarzan Ely (init.)
- TXism: "my stomach is ___ a knot" (nervous)
- Texas perennial
- "with a nicknack pattywack, give the ___ bone"
- TXism: "big fish ___ pond" (important person)
- TXism: "when ___ fly" (never)
- weed whackers
- of long standing (hyphenated word)
- chills & fever
- "___dah!" (fanfare)
- Santa's helper
- TX Collin Raye's "___ Can Be"
- Mass music?
- TXism: "let bygones ___ bygones"
- Texas moonwalker, Bean
- TXism: "___ a hand" (help)
- ___ Braunfels, TX
- TX "Big Bopper's" Chantilly Lace had "___ in her walk"
- "Texas" is an outdoor ___ in Palo Duro Canyon
- money dispenser (abbr.)

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Production Editor/IT
Evelyn Romero
Accounting

Deadlines

News articles and photos are due by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Deadlines may be altered for holidays or special issues.

Advertising

Open Display rates and Classified Ads are \$5.00 per column inch. Thank You Notes are \$15 each. Wedding, anniversary, graduation and birth announcements are \$20 each. Obituaries are published at no charge. Deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

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A Poet's Homework

"True ease in writing comes from art, not chance,
As those move easiest who have learned to dance.
'Tis not enough not harshness gives offense,
The sound must seem an echo of sense."

Alexander Pope
1688 - 1794
An Essay of Criticism

I pitch my "I's" and "O's,"
The setting of my rhymes,
Sooner or later show,
The speed of quick or slow.

I read the rules of words,
Listen to country folks,
For them's the one's that knows.

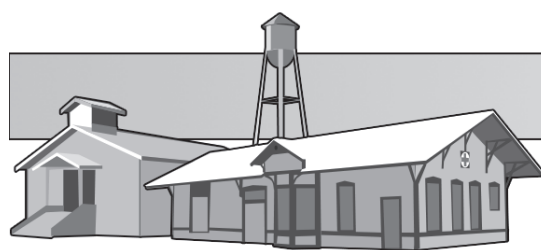
Can be highbrow . . . distinct,
But truth is what you think,
Did I just waste your time,
With this 'ole silly rhyme?

BWL

"The danger, however is not that I will be laughed at,
But that I shall miss the truth."

Socrates
170 BC - 399 BC

Bwl
www.countryboyjustme.com



TOWN TALK

Phone: 806-250-5200
Email: frionastar@wtrt.net

In Your Prayers — As of now, Helene is the second-deadliest hurricane to strike the mainland U.S. since Hurricane Camille hit the Gulf Coast in August 1969. Only Hurricane Katrina in 2005 recorded more casualties. It is going to be a long recovery process.

Prayers are needed for those affected by the disaster and also those who are volunteering to help with the cleanup.

The 4-H Clover Bud program is for children in kindergarten through 2nd grade. It is designed to be educational and would include 4-H-related learning experiences. The office is located at 301 Highway 60 which is across the highway from Dollar General.

By the Numbers

City of Friona August 2024 Public Library
22 days open
357 e-visits
581 in-house visits
7 new patrons
351 items circulated
10 new items added
\$610.25 copy fees collected
\$102.50 fax fees collected
Book Shop open 5 days
\$85.00 in sales

Police Department
181 calls
3 arrests
55 citations
204 warnings
259 stops
3,660 miles driven
Municipal Court
\$9,417.47 total collected
EMS
28 transports (911)
4 Prairie Acres (911)
18 transfers
11 non-transports (911)
4 no patient/disregard
3 standby
68 total service calls
7 PMC call for transfers denied

Volunteer Fire Department
8/3 car wreck — 12 firefighters, 4 trucks
8/5 car wreck — 7 firefighters, 2 trucks
8/6 grass fire — 12 firefighters, 3 trucks
8/7 carbon monoxide alarm — 6 firefighters, 1 truck
8/10 rescue/recovery — 9 firefighters, 3 trucks
8/22 lift assist (EMS) — 3 firefighters, 2 trucks
8/27 car wreck — 13 firefighters, 5 trucks
8/28 false fire alarm — 3 firefighters, 0 trucks
8/31 lift assist (EMS) — 4 firefighters, 2 trucks

★★★
Band Boosters — The Friona Band Boosters are hosting a Pulled Pork Sandwich Dinner on Friday, October 4th at the concession stand at Chieftain Field. Serving begins at 5:00 p.m. and runs until sold out. Proceeds to benefit Chieftain Band activities. See more details on page 7.

★★★
Save The Date — The Friona Chieftain Marching Band will compete in the UIL Regional Marching Contest on Saturday, October 19th at Dick Bovins stadium in Amarillo. The band is scheduled to perform at approximately 4:15 p.m. that afternoon.

★★★
Take Stock — A Stock Show Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8th at 6:30 p.m. at the Extension office in Bovina.

★★★
4-H Meeting — An informational meeting regarding the 4-H Clover Bud program is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15th at 6 p.m. at the Extension Office in Bovina.

★★★
Prairie News — The Prairie Acres Resident for the Month of November is Cheryl Lawson. The Employee of the Month is Chad Spence. He works in the Nursing Department and has been on staff since January of 2024.

★★★
Texas Facts — In 1865, the last battle of the American Civil War took place at Palmito Ranch in Texas. Source: funworldfacts.com

★★★
National Days
October 3:
Techies Day
October 4:
Cinnamon Bun Day
October 5:
Do Something Nice Day
October 6:
Coaches Day
October 7:
LED Light Day
October 8:
Hero Day
October 9:
Stop Bullying Day
★★★

COURTHOUSE NOTES

Susie Spring, County Clerk

Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from September 19, 2024 to September 26, 2024

(9/19/24) Kemp Farms Inc., Larry Kemp, Connie Kemp — Larry Kemp, Connie Kemp — The West Half of Section 105, Block "H", Thomas Kelly Subdivision, Parmer County; More Tracts on Document

(9/19/24) Marcelo Pablo Andrain Jacome — FB Lariat Dairy LLC — A 1.74 Acre Out of Section 73, Block "H", Kelly Subdivision, Parmer County, Texas

(9/19/24) Joe Bob Mann, Carla Sue Mann, Joy Lynn Bauer — Diversified IRA LLC — All of Lot 7, Block 4, First Addition to West Loop Drive, An Addition to the Original Town of Friona, Parmer County, Texas

(9/20/24) Lareta Dell Barber, Jerry Barber, Jeanette Wenner — Clayton Cutter Glover, Jordan Brook Glover — 160.14 Acres of NE/4 of Section 2, Warren Subdivision, Number 1 League Number 584, Parmer County, Texas; The N/2 of Section 87, Block "Y", W.D. & F.W. Johnson Subdivision, Parmer County, Texas

(9/20/24) Clayton Cutter Glover, Jordon Brook Glover — Friesen Ag LLC — 640 Acres of Land, being Survey 8, T14S, R3E, Capitol Syndicate Subdivision, Parmer County, Texas

(9/23/24) Macario Bermea — Domingo Leon, Alma Delfina Trejo De Leon — The North 13.7 Feet of Lot 15, All of Lots 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 of Block 14, Original Town of Bovina, Texas

(9/23/24) Mary Ann Boggess, Mary Ann Boggess Living Trust — Linda Sue Rushing — All of the S 1/2 of Section 36, T2N, R2E, East of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision in Parmer County, Texas

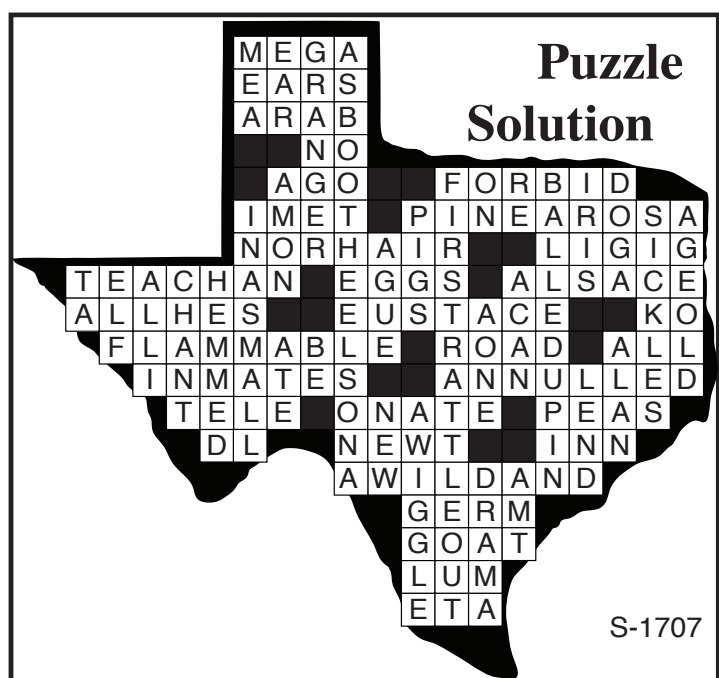
Mixed bag at gas pump

By GasBuddy

Average gasoline prices in Texas fell 5.1 cents last week, averaging \$2.68, according to GasBuddy's survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. The cheapest price in Texas was \$1.99 per gallon. The national average price rose 1.4 cents last week, averaging \$3.17 per gallon. The national average price of diesel fell 1.2 cents last week and stands at \$3.54 per gallon.

"Another week brings a mixed bag at the gas pump, with gas prices declining in slightly more than half of U.S. states while others have seen increases due to some refinery snags," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

GasBuddy data is compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.



Record Enrollment, Bold Vision Highlight State of the University Address

Texas Tech University President Lawrence Schovanec highlighted the university's accomplishments over the past year while laying out a bold vision for the future in his annual State of the University address on Wednesday (Sept. 25).

On September 9th, the university announced a record enrollment of 41,045 students, including about 12,500 students who are new to the university. This marks the first time in the university. This year's freshman class is 32% first-generation.

Not only is Texas Tech welcoming record numbers of students, it also is sending increased numbers of graduates into the workforce, ready to make a difference in the world. Texas Tech's four-year graduation rate has increased by 11% and its six-year graduation rate has gone up by 5% over the last five years. Last year, Texas Tech awarded more than 10,000 degrees and certificates to more than 9,800 students, an increase of more than 40% over the last decade.

"The makeup of our student body tells us we're responding to changing demographics by strategically reaching a broader range of students, including non-traditional learners and those who left college before completing a degree," Schovanec said. "We continue to place students first and provide an educational experience that ensures they have the skills to succeed in their chosen careers."



After a year of strategic enrollment planning, Schovanec discussed the university's transition to its strategic enrollment management initiative.

Texas Tech developed six key strategies that will help shape the future of its enrollment. These strategies focus on:

- Enhancing the university's digital marketing and recruitment efforts,
- Driving program innovation, including several new degrees that offer alternative pathways for students,
- Optimizing Texas Tech's financial aid and scholarship distribution,
- Increasing retention rates through targeted interventions,
- Establishing a dedicated online school with flexible learning options,
- Expanding financial literacy efforts for all students.

"These initiatives create a comprehensive approach to ensure

that Texas Tech remains an institution of choice for today's students," Schovanec said. "Once they arrive, our practices and programs will support their success as students and beyond."

Schovanec also said that, in a few weeks, Texas Tech will announce a comprehensive campaign that will build on recent fundraising successes to support scholarships, research initiatives and academic programs.

This year, Texas Tech awarded more than \$200 million in scholarships and grants, benefiting 76% of its students. However, Schovanec said that Texas Tech must be more competitive when it comes to scholarships to ensure the Red Raider experience can be scaled to match the needs of its student body, increase academic opportunities and improve student success.

Schovanec expects the university's growing research enterprise, highlighted by records in research grants and expenditures, will help Texas Tech to achieve status as a preeminent national research university with the goal of reaching the benchmarks shared by institutions in the Association of American Universities, more commonly known as AAU.

"AAU criteria serve a purpose for assessing our progress and establishing ever higher aspirations," Schovanec said. "But scholarly excellence and societal impact are the most important measures of our success."

Small Town Cookin' *By Jeri Lynn White*

Pumpkin

It is that time of year – pumpkin season. I really like pumpkin pie, but I found some recipes using pumpkin that are above and beyond your simple pumpkin pie. Hope you enjoy.

Spiced Chocolate Pumpkin Cake with Pumpkin Glaze
www.bonappetit.com

Ingredients

MAKES ONE 8X8", 9" -DIAMETER, OR 9X5" CAKE

Unsalted butter or nonstick vegetable oil spray (for pan)
2 large eggs
¾ cup (packed; 150 g) light brown sugar
1 cup (230 g) plus 1 Tbsp. unsweetened pumpkin purée, divided
½ cup extra-virgin olive oil
½ cup plus 1 Tbsp. (or more) whole milk, divided
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1¼ tsp. ground cinnamon, divided
½ tsp. Diamond Crystal or ¼ tsp.

Morton kosher salt, plus more
2 pinches of cayenne pepper, divided (optional)
½ cup (45 g) unsweetened Dutch-process cocoa powder
1 cup (125 g) all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. baking soda
½ cup (85 g) bittersweet or semisweet chopped chocolate or chocolate chips
1 cup (110 g) powdered sugar
Pinch of ground cloves

Instructions

Place a rack in middle of oven; preheat to 350°. Butter or lightly spray an 8x8" baking pan, 9"-diameter cake pan, or 9x5" loaf pan with unsalted butter or nonstick vegetable oil spray. Line pan with parchment paper, leaving overhang on all sides if using square pan or long side if using loaf pan. Use a parchment paper round on the bottom if using cake pan. Whisk 2 large eggs and ¾ cup (packed; 150 g) light brown sugar in a large bowl until pale and foamy, about 1 minute. Add 1 cup (230 g) unsweetened pumpkin purée, ½ cup extra-virgin olive oil, ½ cup whole milk, 1 tsp. vanilla extract, 1 tsp. ground cinnamon, ½ tsp. Diamond Crystal or ¼ tsp. Morton kosher salt, and a pinch of cayenne pepper (if using). Whisk

vigorously until smooth and emulsified. Add ½ cup (45 g) unsweetened Dutch-process cocoa powder and whisk until smooth. Add 1 cup (125 g) all-purpose flour, 1 tsp. baking powder, and ½ tsp. baking soda and whisk again until incorporated. Using a rubber spatula, fold in ½ cup (85 g) bittersweet or semisweet chopped chocolate or chocolate chips. Pour batter into prepared pan; smooth surface with an offset spatula. Tap pan gently on the counter to release any air bubbles. Bake cake until puffed and a tester inserted into the center comes out clean, 45–55 minutes for square or round cake, 55–65 minutes for loaf cake. Transfer cake to a wire rack and let cool in pan 15 minutes. For square or loaf

cake, using parchment overhang, lift cake out of pan and onto rack. For round cake, run offset spatula around edges of cake and turn out. Remove parchment and let cool completely. To make the glaze, whisk 1 cup (110 g) powdered sugar, a pinch of ground cloves, a pinch of kosher salt, remaining 1 Tbsp. unsweetened pumpkin purée, remaining 1 Tbsp. whole milk, remaining ¼ tsp. ground cinnamon, and remaining pinch of cayenne pepper (if using) in a small bowl until smooth. Glaze should be pourable. If it's too thick, whisk in a few more drops of milk. Pour glaze over cooled cake and let sit 20 minutes to allow glaze to set before slicing. Do ahead: Cake can be made 3 days ahead. Store covered at room temperature.

Happy Birthday

Oct. 3
Marlene Mueller
Jackie Martin
Sarah Schueler
Brennen TeBeese
Bryson Montoya
Rhett Reyes
Troy Sharrock
Cheryl Lawson

Oct. 6
Kevin Cooper
Shain Clark
Micah Williams
Mandy (Geries) Rigler
Juan Degollado
Wyndol Grimsley

Oct. 7
Jameson Daniels
Whitney Neill
Shea (Woodard) Hall
Laura Brockman

Oct. 8
Guthrie Duff Tongate
Myrna (Cain) Marlott

Oct. 9
Nathan Parson
Brooklynn Johnston
Melodee Hansard
Betty Lamb
Maddie (Murphree) Flores
Jacob Bautista
Jeanine Powell

Oct. 4
John Schueler
Coy Jameson
Leslee Floyd
Homer Allan Haile
Debbie Lewellen
Brad Moyer
Elsa Galvan

Oct. 5
Clayton Smiley
Parker Hardgrove
Mario Bautista
Enrique Rodriguez
Joe Lafuente
Patricia Phipps
Parker Francis
Veronica Reyes
Veronica De La Rosa



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World War G

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Have you been fighting World War G? This war seems to never end, as the annual invaders continue cropping up and sneaking into unwanted areas. Their outbreaks and attacks are an affront against what's best, and can bring painful consequences. Not only do these invaders seek to blow up the good ground that is gained against them, but they often disguise themselves with cuteness, which is only a cover for allowing their devious devices to plot their harmful course. No matter how many times you may remove them from the battlefield, they seem to return like stink in a boys locker room, only to realign their assault each year. World War G is the war against goat heads, and I am a committed soldier to eliminate their presence from my yard, whether by spray or by hoe.

Obviously, there are much more important issues than battling goat heads in your yard, but this summer, I have been keenly aware of how the battle against these prickly invaders is a reminder of the struggle Christians have against sin. Romans 6:12 says, "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions." Even in the life of someone who has been forgiven of their sins and saved by the blood of Jesus, sin

still wants to reign in your life. Romans 7 gives attention to this battle between the flesh and the spirit, and it is a battle that will not cease until the Lord returns or calls you home. Just like goat heads know no bounds, sin respects no area as off limits in your life. Just as goat heads creep in and wave false flags of compromise with their cute yellow flowers, disaster is just a couple weeks away as growth takes place. Just as goat heads will spread out and release their seeds to be carried into new territory, sin has a spreading effect in our lives when we allow it to go unresisted.

The point is this, I hate goat heads, because I don't like what they bring with them, and as a Christian, I pray for an even greater hatred of my sin, and temptations because of how they seek to wreck the good things of God, and how sin is an affront to God's holiness. May my prayer be similar to that of a Puritan brother of a previous generation, "Grant me never to lose sight of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding glory of Christ, the exceeding beauty of holiness, and the exceeding wonder of grace." (Arthur Bennett, ed *The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions* [Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1975], pp).

What Really Matters?

By Teena Hughs

Yesterday, my Community Bible Study friend Kristin Olman posted a "chart" by Ashley Morgan Jackson on facebook titled: In the end it won't matter...

In her list of things that won't matter in the end, she included: who didn't like you; what is left on your "to do" list; how educated you were; how great your stuff is; what your body looked like; how clean your house is; how many likes you got; how much money you made; how long anything took. I added: how big your house is; how many cars you have; how much land you own; what brand of clothes you wear; what sports you played; how many trophies or ribbons are in your closet.

None of these things have anything to do with where you will spend eternity, and while we are on earth, we spend way too much time thinking about them. We think they will make us better, more prestigious, more well thought of by others. There is only One whose opinion matters, and that is what Jesus Christ thinks.

On the other hand, this is what made Jackson's what will matter list: who you loved; how you prayed; how you shared the gospel; how you worshiped; how you surrendered; how you died to yourself; how you walked out God's Word; how you loved God. I added: how did you love; were you willing to share the gospel with everyone or just the ones you think might need it; did you completely surrender yourself, your sins, and your love to Jesus; did

you repent; did you ask forgiveness from people you hurt; did you love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength; did you love your neighbor as yourself?

I read a prayer on Monday that asked, when you pray, do you really pray; when you love, do you really love; when you worship, do you really worship; when you study, do you shut out the world and focus and concentrate only on the Word and what God is trying to tell you? In other words, do you really devote your time and yourself to God, or do you just do things like pray, serve, read the Word, love, worship because it is what you are supposed to do?

God wants "ALL" of us, and I believe that if God gives you the means, the time, the talent to do something for someone/something in His Kingdom, and you don't do what really matters to Him, we will one day find out exactly how much it does matter to Him when we meet Him face to face.

Our choice is to figure out what does matter and do it. We don't need to invest time or energy in the things that don't matter.

If you want a big house; if you want 10 cars in your driveway; if you want your bank account to have a minimum balance of a million dollars, that is fine, as long as these things don't become a priority over God or take away from God.

Now, and in the end, the only thing that matters is God!

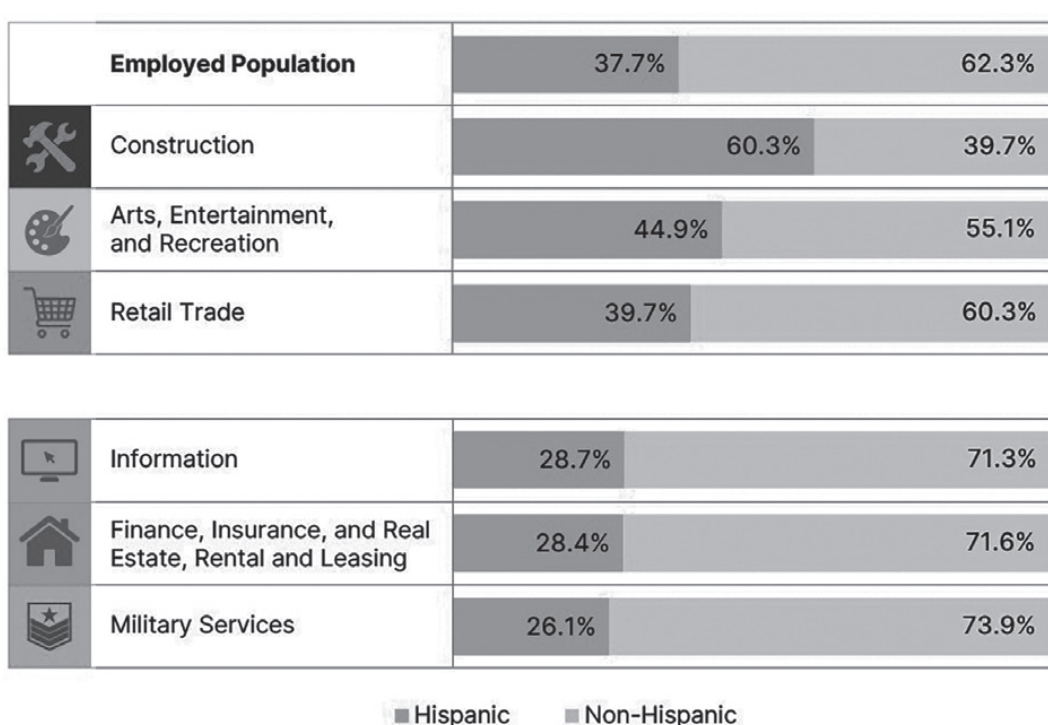
Hispanic Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month is annually observed from September 15th to October 15th in the United States for recognizing the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the nation's achieve-

ments, culture, and history.

The Hispanic population makes up a significant portion of the labor force across various industries in Texas, with the highest representation in Construction and nota-

ble presence in industries like Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, and Retail Trade. Overall, Hispanics account for more than a third of the employed population indicating their substantial contribution to the workforce.



Hispanic and Non-Hispanic Workforce in Selected Industries in Texas, 2022
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Public Use Microdata Sample 2022. Graph created by the Texas Demographic Center.

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Area Church Directory

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Website-www.fbcfriona.com

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Mike Prather, Minister

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October Bible Verse

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:30-31 NIV

Ama al Señor tu Dios con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma, con toda tu mente y con todas tus fuerzas." El segundo es: "Ama a tu prójimo como a ti mismo." No hay otro mandamiento más importante que estos. Marcos 12:30-31 NVI



has an archive of past obituaries at frionaonline.com



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DPS Bolsters One Pill Kills Campaign During Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month

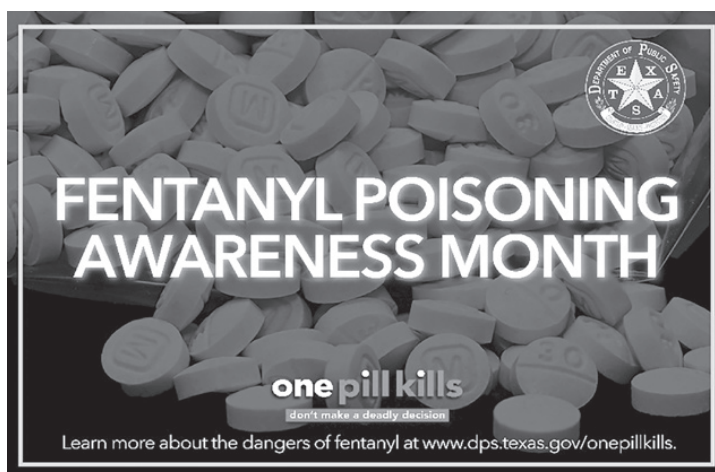
Beginning today, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is increasing its One Pill Kills public awareness efforts as part of Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month. Signed into law by Governor Greg Abbott last year, House Bill 3144 established the month of October as Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness Month—a statewide effort to bring awareness and education to the public about the dangers of fentanyl and the life-saving power of opioid poisoning reversal medication.

“Fentanyl is a clandestine killer, and it is now more important than ever that we talk to our families, children, friends and loved ones about just how prevalent it is in communities across Texas,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw. “This month, and really every month, we must do everything we can to get the word out about this

deadly drug in order to save lives.”

To help increase awareness throughout October, DPS will share a series of social media videos geared at educating Texans about the dangers of fentanyl and directing them to available resources through the One Pill Kills (OPK) campaign. Governor Abbott launched One Pill Kills in 2022, as a way to educate Texans on how to prevent, recognize and reverse fentanyl poisonings.

DPS also continues with its other OPK awareness efforts including updating public service announcements which air in the waiting areas of more than 180 driver license offices across the state, educational signage in more than 350 public facing DPS buildings statewide and a dedicated webpage housing resources and information about the campaign. You can visit www.dps.texas.gov/onepillkills to learn more.



DPS would also like to remind Texans about its Safety Education team which offers specialized programming to schools, churches, community groups and other organizations that would like to learn more about the statewide OPK campaign and the dangers of fentanyl. This presentation can be tailored for a variety of audiences and age groups and is available free of charge. To learn more, contact a Safety Education team member in your area using the drop-down menu, here.

More About Fentanyl
Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times stronger than heroin. Illicitly manufactured fentanyl has become widespread, often mixed with other drugs such as heroin, cocaine or counterfeit prescription pills. Since the launch of Operation Lone Star in 2021, DPS has seized more than half a billion lethal doses of fentanyl – that’s more than enough to kill every man, woman and child in America.

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Obituaries



Billy Ray Klapper

Billy Ray Klapper, legendary bit and spur maker, died on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at the age of 87, at his home in Pampa with his daughters by his side.



The family received friends from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at the Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Home. Celebration of Life services were held at 2:00 PM on Friday, September 13, 2024 at Briarwood Church with Pastor Ronnie Ferguson, retired pastor, and Johnny Trotter, Billy's close friend, officiating. Music was performed by Bunk Skelton and Glen Spillers.

Pallbearers were Cody Wilson, Dusty Wilson, Drake Wilson, Darrel Yeates, Hayden Dixon, and Robby Briscoe. Honorary pallbearers were Maddux Yeates, Daniel Yeates, Gunner Wilson, Harlyn Wilson, Johnny Trotter, Cotton Elliott, Rick Crow, and Terry Stever. Burial followed at Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors and Crematory.

Billy was born on April 19, 1937 in Lazare to Phillip and Minnie Gooding Klapper. He attended schools in Lazare and Quanah. After high school, Billy started working as a ranch hand at the Buckle L Ranch in Childress and later at the Y Ranch in Paducah. Billy spent a great deal of time with the famous bit and spur maker, Adolph Bayers, and in 1966 he made his first pair of spurs. The demand for Billy's spurs grew, and he started making gear full-time in 1968. He was well known in the ranching and cowboying industry and was one of the few bit and spur makers that still made one-piece spurs. Billy's bits and spurs are now col-

lected worldwide. He made 682 different spur patterns and 816 different bit patterns. His patterns have been used by bit and spur makers but have never been duplicated. Billy created his legacy and changed the cutting horse industry by listening to what the cowboys wanted and making functional bits for their horses.

Billy met Roberta Watson in Amarillo through mutual friends and the two were married on February 2, 1973. They were married until her passing on August 6, 2021. Billy and Roberta enjoyed participating in the Pony Express Races, watching horse races, and going to bit and spur shows all over the state. He also enjoyed hunting, especially elk, mule deer, and aoudad. Billy will be remembered as a good man, a friend to all, and most of all a true cowboy. He is going to be deeply missed by his family and friends. Billy put the "western" in western heritage for years and now he is a part of the heritage.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Roberta Klapper; his parents, Phillip and Minnie Klapper; and four siblings, Dorothy Goodson, Joe Klapper, Gene Klapper, and Johnnie Taylor.

Billy is survived by his two daughters, Deborah Yeates and husband David of Victoria and Elizabeth Wilson of Palestine; six grandchildren, Rebecca Yeates, Darrel Yeates and wife Lau-

ren, Mandy Wilson and husband James, Cody Ray Wilson and wife Christi, Dusty Wilson, and Drake Wilson and wife Brandy; nine great-grandchildren, Maddux Yeates, Daniel Yeates, Lacey Krawietz, Haylie Dixon, Hayden Dixon, Harlyn Ray Wilson, Gunner Wilson, Isabella Wilson, and Samantha Wilson; four stepchildren, Kathy Taylor and husband Charlie, Regina Dye, Glenda Briscoe, and Doug Watson; step-grandchildren, Autumn Sloan, Whitney Wagers, Dillon Dossey, Robby Briscoe, Lea Ann Joy, Terra Rhodes, Josalyn Penner, Shelton Watson, and Ricky Watson; and 23 step-great-grandchildren.

The Anvil by John Clifford

Last eve I passed beside a blacksmith's door, And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime; Then, lookin in, I saw upon the floor, Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.

"How many anvils have you had," said I, "To wear and batter all these hammers so?" "Just one" said he, and then, with twinkling eye, "The anvil wears the hammers out you know."

And so, thought I the anvil of God's Word, For ages sceptic blows have beat upon; Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard, The anvil is unharmed - the hammers gone!

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Isaiah 40:31

Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee, 38105 or the National Ranching Heritage Center, 3121 4th St, Lubbock, Texas, 79409.

Juan Macias Martinez

Juan Macias Martinez, 28 de Burien, Washington, anteriormente de Friena fallecio el 21 de septiembre de 2024 cerca de Seattle, Washington. La vista se llevara a cabo de 9:00 AM a 8:00PM con servicios de rosario a las 6:00 PM Viernes, 27 de septiembre 2024 en el Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel de la funeraria con la Misa de Servicios de Entierro Cristiano fijado para 11:00AM Sábado 28 de septiembre 2024 en la Iglesia Católica de Santa Teresa con el Padre José Gómez como celebrante. Entierro en el Cementerio de Friena por HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home de Friena.



Juan nació el 19 de mayo de 1996 en Calvillo, Aguascalientes México a Juan Macias De Lara y Rosa Marta Martinez Avila. Él estaba en el negocio de la construcción durante varios años. Le gustaba pescar, viajar, jugar futbol y hacer ejercicio en el gimnasio.

Los que lloran su muerte incluyen a sus padres, Juan Macias De Lara, y Rosa Maria Martinez Avila de Friena, 3 hermanos-Guadalupe Macias de Lubbock An-

gel Macias y Alonso Macias de Friena, 3 hermanas-Carmen Macias, Angeles Macias y Rosa Macias, todas de Friena, y 2 sobrinos Jorge Luis Grado y Eryx Arturo Beltran.

Puede enviar bendiciones a la familia y firmar el libro de visitas en línea en la página conmemorativa de Juan exclusivamente en: hansardfamily.com

Juan Macias Martinez, 28 of Burien, Washington, formerly of Friena passed away September 21, 2024 near Seattle, Washington. Viewing was held from 9:00 AM to 8:00PM with Rosary Services at 6:00 PM Friday, September 27, 2024 in the Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel of the funeral home with Mass of Christian Burial Services set for 11:00AM Saturday September 28,

2024 at St. Teresa's Catholic Church with Father Jose Gomez as Celebrant. Burial following in the Friena Cemetery by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friena.

Juan was born May 19, 1996 in Calvillo, Aguascalientes Mexico to Juan Macias De Lara and Rosa Marta Martinez Avila. He was in the construction business for several years. He loved to fish, travel, play football and work out in the gym.

Those to mourn his passing include his parents, Juan Macias De Lara, and Rosa Maria Martinez Avila of Friena, 3 brothers-Guadalupe Macias of Lubbock Angel Macias and Alonso Macias of Friena, 3 sisters-Carmen Macias, Angeles Macias and Rosa Macias, all of Friena, and 2 nephews Jorge Luis Grado and Eryx Arturo Beltran.

You may send blessings to the family and sign the online guest book on Juan's memorial page exclusively at: hansardfamily.com



Friena Star

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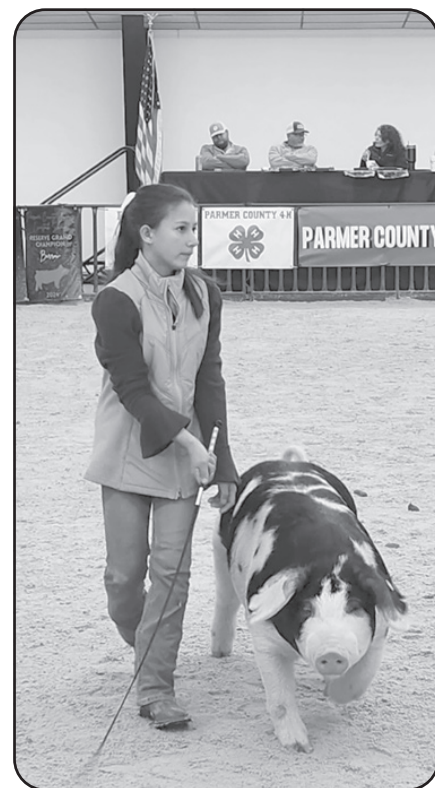
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Sports



Friona Cross Country Team



Friona Squaws Volleyball



Friona Chieftain Football

Friona 14 Abernathy 34

Scoring Summary

Qtr	Score
1	A - Rolando Martinez 24 yd run (Mavrick Shadden kick)
2	A - Martinez 7 yd run (Shadden kick)
2	A - Martinez 14 yd run (Shadden kick)
3	F - Justen Trevino 5 yd run (Mario Garcia kick)
3	A - Darion Duvall 34 yd pass from Jagger Wiley (Shadden kick)
4	F - Izaac Ortiz 45 yd run (Garcia kick)
4	A - Martinez 20 yd run (shadden kick)

Rushing Stats	Carries	Yards	TDs	Avg
2 Justen Trevino	14	69	1	4.9
5 Izaac Ortiz	22	191	1	8.7
17 Abram Rocha	4	13	-	3.3
22 Iram Gonzalez	16	63	-	3.9
Rushing Totals:	56	337	2	6.0

Receiving Stats	Receptions	Yards	TDs	Avg
8 Tony Diaz	1	26	-	26.0
Receiving Totals:	1	26	-	26.0

Passing Stats	Comp	Att	Yards	TDs	INTs
2 Justen Trevino	1	6	26	-	-

Kicking Stats	XP Att	XP Good	FG Att	FG Good
53 Garcia, Mario	2	2	1	0

Defensive Stats	UN	AST.	TOT	TFL	FR	FC	INT	SACK
10 Daniels, Jameson	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
12 Lara, Gael	4	3	7	-	-	-	1	-
14 Gonzalez, Xavier	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 Ramos, Gabriel	2	5	7	-	-	-	-	-
17 Rocha, Abram	4	7	11	-	-	-	-	-
20 Stanberry, Bryer	3	1	4	-	-	-	-	-
21 Gutierrez, Frank	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	-
22 Munoz, Edwin	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	-
24 Rocha, Rafael	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
28 Gonzalez, Jacob	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-
50 Quezada, Diego	1	3	4	1	-	-	-	-
53 Garcia, Mario	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
62 Flores, Ishmael	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
66 Escobar, Julio	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-

Yards allowed; Rushing 205, Passing 226, Total 431

Sports News

Varsity Football

The Chieftains were on the road Friday night in Abernathy and rolled up 336 yards on the ground but could only score two touchdowns and fell to the Antelopes by a final score of 34-14. Isaac Ortiz electrified the crowd with 191 rushing yards on just 22 carries for an average just under 9 yards per carry. Justen Trevino and Iram Gonzalez added 69 and 63 yards on the ground, respectively. Tony Diaz had the only pass reception which was good for 26 yards. Mario Garcia kicked both extra points.

On defense, Abram Rocha (11) was the leading tackler followed by Gabriel Ramos (7) and Gael Lara (7). Gael Lara also had an interception which gives him total of three so far this season. The Chiefs host Farwell this week in the final non-district game. Game time is 7:00 p.m. at Chieftain Field.

Junior Varsity Football

The JV Chiefs travel to Farwell on Thursday with the game starting at 7:30 p.m. after the 7th grade and 8th grade games.

Junior High Football

The 7th grade Braves beat Abernathy 36-22 last Thursday. Vicente Quintana recorded a five touchdown game with scoring runs of 49, 54, 13, 46, and 78 yards respectively. He also ran for two of the conversions and Jace Jarecki ran for the other conversion. Two conversion were unsuccessful. Quintana rushed for a total of 396 yards. On defense, Quintana, Jayven Rodriguez, and Owen Daniels recorded fumble recoveries.

The 8th grade Braves fell to Abernathy by a score of 44-14. Aaden Delgadillo scored on a 3 yard run and Darien Padilla ran for the conversion. Later, Padilla scored on a 7 yard run but the conversion failed. Eli Rosales led the team with 109 yards rushing. On defense, Joseph Hooley recovered a fumble.

The 7th and 8th Braves travel to Farwell this Thursday with games starting at 5:00 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

Varsity Volleyball

The Squaws fell to Dalhart 3-0 on Saturday and defeated River Road 3-1 on Tuesday to move to 23-7 for the season and 1-1 in district play. They host Clovis on Saturday with games at 11/12/1 and host Dimmitt on Tuesday with games at 5/6/7.

Junior High Volleyball

The Maidens host Dalhart on Monday, October 7th. All four teams (7AB and 8AB) will play beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Cross Country

The Junior High District Cross Country Meet is Saturday, October 5th in Littlefield. JH girls start at 9:00 a.m. and JH boys start at 9:30 a.m.

The High School District Cross Country Meet is Tuesday, October 8th at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock, Texas.

How to brew the perfect cup of coffee

by Laura Muntean

A perfect cup of coffee starts at the source — the coffee farms where it's grown.

Eric Brenner, Texas A&M AgriLife Center for Coffee Research and Education assistant director, Bryan-College Station, has some useful tips on how to brew a truly good cup of coffee and what purchasing good coffee really means for you and the farmers who grow the beans.

Pick the best coffee beans: Specialty coffee

Start with quality coffee. The best quality beans are labeled as "specialty coffee" and "100% Arabica beans." There are 10 cupping attributes, but a good starting point is to focus on these five: flavor, aroma, sweetness, body and acidity.

Specialty coffee is carefully graded and sorted before roasting, ensuring it has little to no defects like fungus, insect damage or irregularities that will affect the quality of the cup.

When buying coffee, it's best to choose specialty single-origin coffee. Look for labels that provide details like the altitude, the processing method — whether natural, honey or washed, the country and region of origin, and variety. Avoid dark, oily beans; they should be brown and almost dry to the touch.

Choose the right roast

Selecting the right roast level is crucial for highlighting the coffee's unique characteristics. Light and medium roasts preserve the nuanced flavors influenced by factors such as soil, location, environment, processing methods, varieties and ecosystems. These allow the distinct qualities of the coffee to shine through. In contrast, dark roasts often overshadow these characteristics, intro-

ducing more dominant burnt and ashy notes that can mask the coffee's original flavors.

Why grinding matters

Mastering the art of grinding coffee can greatly enhance your coffee experience, allowing you to tailor each cup to your taste preferences and brewing method.

For example, a coarse grind with larger, chunky particles is ideal for French press and cold brew, which involve longer brewing times.

A medium grind, like granulated sugar, suits standard drip coffee makers and some pour-over devices, ensuring a clean and well-extracted cup.

A fine grind, with a texture like table salt, is needed for espresso machines and Moka pots, as it allows the rapid extraction required for a rich, intense flavor.

An extra-fine grind, almost like flour, is used for Turkish coffee, which produces a strong, thick coffee traditionally served unfiltered.

Brewing methods

The "best" brewing method depends on personal preference. Each method creates a distinct flavor profile due to varying extraction rates. Each brewing technique extracts coffee soluble in unique ways, leading to a diverse range of flavors:

- **Pour-over:** Provides precise control over extraction, resulting in a clean, nuanced cup that highlights specific flavors of the coffee.
- **French press:** Extracts more oils and fine particles, producing a fuller-bodied and often more robust flavor.
- **Aeropress:** Offers flexibility to adjust brewing parameters, which can yield a range of flavors from a clean cup to a rich, espresso-like profile. Aeropress is a great option

to take on the road.

- **Drip coffee maker:** Typically extracts coffee at a moderate rate, producing a balanced flavor that might lack the depth or complexity found in other methods.

- **Espresso machine:** Extracts coffee quickly under high pressure, resulting in a concentrated, intense flavor.

- **Cold brew:** Employs a long extraction time to produce a smooth, less acidic coffee, making it ideal for iced beverages.

Good water is key

Brewing with high-quality water is essential to good coffee.

Tap water can be poor quality and contain total dissolved solids as well as chlorination that can hurt the flavor. On the other hand, distilled or reverse osmosis water can lack minerals that can enhance the flavor of your coffee.

Brenner suggests using filtered or bottled water and possibly adding coffee-specific minerals to distilled water to significantly improve your coffee's flavor.

And when heating your water, avoid exceeding the boiling point, as water that is too hot can over-extract the coffee, resulting in a bitter taste.

Brenner's coffee recipe

The right amount of coffee and water for brewing is all about the ratios. Just like in any cooking recipe, Brenner said coffee requires a recipe. Most consumers think of coffee in terms of scoops per cup, but a more precise approach uses coffee-to-water ratios measured by weight with a kitchen scale.

For every gram of coffee, use between 13-20 grams, or about a half ounce, of water. For example, with a 1:15 ratio, if you use 30 grams of coffee, you need 450 grams of water or 1 and a half ounces of water to about 16 ounces of water.

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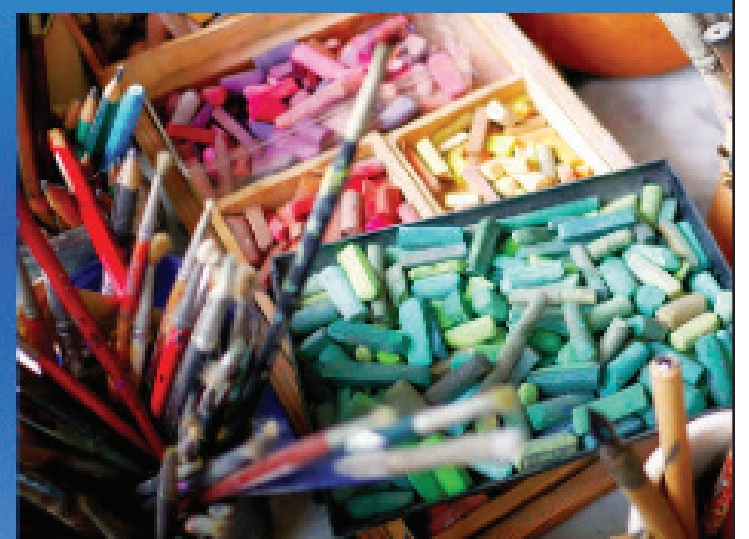
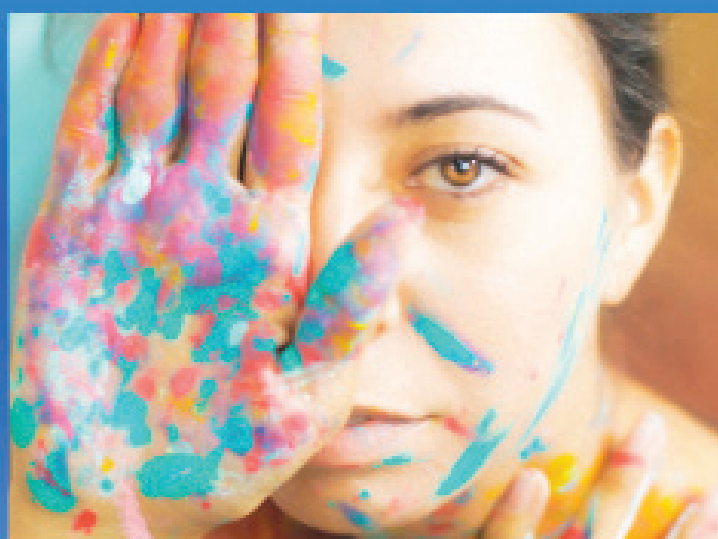


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