

Friona ★ Star

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THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2017

EIGHT PAGES

\$1.00

First Responders Luncheon

Prairie Acres wants to say "Thank You" to all the local First Responders with an Appreciation Luncheon on Wednesday, July 26 at noon. All local first responders are invited to come out for lunch.

Friona Sports Camps

Squaw Basketball Camp will be held July 24-26 from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the FHS gym. Registration will be held Monday, July 24 at 8:45 a.m.

Squaw Volleyball Camp will be held July 26-28. Camp registration will be on Wednesday, July 26 at 1:15 p.m. with camp being held from 1:30-4:30 p.m. but will return to the 9-11:45 a.m. schedule for Thursday and Friday.

Both camps are open to 3rd through 8th graders. Cost per session is \$40 with discounts for school personnel, sisters or going to both camps. Campers will receive a camp t-shirt.

Sessions are conducted by the FHS coaching staff. Proceeds from the camps go to FHS Girls' Athletics. For more information, call (575) 749-2880.

The Friona Football Camp will be held at July 24-26 for 3rd through 8th grade boys. The cost is \$20. Please make checks out to Friona Football.

Sew Much Fun

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will host "Sew Much Fun" on Monday, July 31, 2017 at the Bovina XIT Recreation Center, 205 North Street in Bovina from 6-7:30 p.m. The cost for the event is \$10 and participants must RSVP by July 25 to (806) 251-5120.

Join this fun Youth Summer Sewing Workshop and learn how to make a clutch or a pillowcase. No prior experience necessary. Space is limited to 10 and you must call to reserve your spot.

Service projects needed

Service projects are needed for Friona Youth Dayz Saturday, August 5. If you need something done at your home—tree limbs removed, light bulbs replaced, something hauled to the roll-off, etc.—please contact Teena Hughs at 250-2377. There will be students willing to work, so please don't hesitate to call.



2017 Cheeseburger Festival

First Place Winners...



dana jameson photos

Cargill Meat Solutions created the No. 1 Cheeseburger at the 12th Annual Cheeseburger Festival. Members of the team are, l-r, Keeston Ford, Andrew Livingston, Schuyler Mullins, Micah Ford, Casey Balak, Clay Maynard, Preston Lawrence, Samantha Judd, Lalo Hermsilla, Thomas Long, and Julian Cereceres (squatting).

Second Place Winners...



"Big Red" Fisd Football Coaches took home 2nd place honors. Members of the team are, l-r, David Towner, Luis Puga, Tommy Deleon, Daniel Rosales, Nancy Rosales, Jake Ebeling, Jimmy Arias, Carrie Arias, and Adam Nix

People's Choice Winners...



Whiteface Ford "Patty Daddies" grabbed People's Choice honors. Representing the team were John Gallard and Jose Morales.

Cargill named 2017 #1 Cheeseburger team

The 12th Annual Cheeseburger Festival is now in the history books and bragging rights belong to Cargill for their first place win with a jalapeño popper dip cheeseburger, the Fisd Football coaches (and spouses) "Big Red" for their 2nd place grilled cheese topped cheeseburger, and Whiteface Ford "Patty Daddies" for their People's Choice old-fashioned cheeseburger. Cargill donated their \$1,000 prize to the Action for an Ambulance Fund.

Additional teams competing this year were Street Auto Group, Xcel Energy, First National Bank, Southwest Cheese "The Bolds", TB Square (Three Brothers Squared), and High Plains Farms.

Judges for the event were Lauren Heinrich from Congressman Jodey Arrington's Lubbock Office, Clovis City Commissioner Tom Martin, Amarillo Globe News writer Jon Mark Beilue and Veteran Cheeseburger Judge Scott Hayward.

Approximately 3,000 festivalgoers were not disappointed by the cheeseburger offerings.



dana jameson photo

Scarlet Benavides was one of approximately 3,000 cheeseburger lovers that enjoyed the 12th Annual Cheeseburger Festival on Saturday, July 15 at the Friona City Park. Scarlet is the daughter of Cyla and Jaime Benavides and granddaughter of Jaime and Lourdes Benavides.

Original creation cheeseburgers and new flavors were served up from 11:30 a.m. to

well past 2 p.m. Eager and hungry cheeseburger connoisseurs were still lining up well past 2

p.m. to get a taste.

DJ Jack Light kept the park jumping with a wide variety of music.

There were 30 vendors offering everything from face painting, homemade ice cream and cool water games. Kids and adults alike enjoyed the day filled with food, friends and fun.

The Friona Noon Lions did not disappoint with their World Famous fries to compliment the cheeseburgers.

The winner of Cow Patty Bingo was Austin Boyles who took home the \$400 prize. Del Rio Dairy donated the services of Buttercup, a Swiss cow, for the game. The funds raised from the sale of squares were donated to the Action for an Ambulance Fund.

The Friona Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture hosts the Cheeseburger Festival each year with the help of donations, volunteers and supporters. This year's donations, volunteers, and supporters were: Cargill Meat Solutions of Friona, Dairy Max, Lowe's Marketplace #3, Bruce Lee - ATM, KTQM, Leg-

acy Pump & Irrigation, Ben E. Keith, the Judges, Friona Star, Miller Paper, Southwest Cheese, W.T. Services, Inc., Chisum, Brent Loflin, Friona ISD Athletic Department, Texas Department of Agriculture, Hilmar Cheese, Parmer Medical Center, Bi-Wize, Affiliated Foods, Texas Beef Council, Atmos Energy, Republic Services, Parmer County Agri-Life Extension, Vet Industries, Hi-Pro Feeds, City of Friona, Texas Youth Association, KNNK, Xcel Energy, Del Rio Dairy, Interior Expressions, Kingdom Keys Network, Randy Geries, Susie Springs, Jayn Looper, Amarillo Globe News, Whiteface Ford, TB², High Plains Farms, Street Auto, First National Bank, all of the vendors, and KENW.

"Thank you for supporting Friona's 12th Annual Cheeseburger Festival and Cook-Off!" said Friona Chamber of Commerce Executive Vice President Chris Alexander and the entire board of directors.

Start making plans to attend, and possibly compete at the 13th Annual Cheeseburger Festival on July 21, 2018.

Community Calendar

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

July 18-22

Kidz Building Camp 5-9 p.m. at Friona Community Center

July 20

PMC Senior Health Fair 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Friona Senior Citizen's Building

July 21

Aging and Wellness Workshop at Heritage Estates 11 a.m.

July 22

Miss Friona Workshop at the Depot at 10 a.m. Brunch will be served.

July 24-26

Squaw Basketball Camp at FHS gym 9-11:45 a.m.
Friona Football Camp 9-11 a.m.

July 25-29

Youth Camp 2017 at Glorieta, NM

July 26

Prairie Acres First Responders Appreciation Luncheon at noon
Squaw Volleyball Camp at FHS Gym 1:30-4:30 p.m.

July 27-28

Squaw Volleyball Camp at FHS Gym 9-11:45 a.m.

July 28

Shelia Barton at Prairie Acres at 3 p.m.

July 29

Farwell Border Town Days

July 30

St. Ann's Annual Jamaica in Bovina

July 31

"Sew Much Fun" sewing workshop from 6-7:30 p.m. at Bovina XIT Recreation Center

August 4

Caregivers Coffee Break at First National Bank Community Room 9:30 a.m.
Friona Youth Dayz Pool & Pizza party at the Friona Swimming Pool at 6 p.m. At 8 p.m. music by Daniel Hutchins and speaker Shelby Hutson Mata.

August 5

Bovina Bull Town Days
Friona Youth Dayz service projects at Friona Middle School at 4 p.m. Hamburgers and fries at 7 p.m. Lifeless 2 Life concert at 8 p.m.

August 6

St. Teresa of Jesus Church Annual Jamaica in Friona
Friona Youth Dayz watermelon feed at 6 p.m. Music by Victory Family Worship Center followed by speaker Turok Tarango

Country Thoughts

dana jameson



Thursday, July 20, 2017

Moo-cow!

I had a "City Slickers" moment this past weekend. I love that movie but never dreamed I would actually get to drive cattle like Billy Crystal and his buddies.

The cattle drive was not a two-week affair filled with raging rivers and crazy trail bosses but it was a cattle drive.

We drove about 150 cows from one pasture to another pasture about a mile or so away on a dirt road. There were three of us. One driver in the front of cattle with a pickup loaded with hay and two of us at the back on four-wheelers.

When Crystal made the comment that they were following a big stink for the next 200 miles, he was not kidding. Between the dirt blowing and the cow smell, he was right.

I actually said "Moo cow" to get them moving because reasoning with them was not working.

As I followed up the rear, I got to thinking about how much cows are like people.

There are BIG cows and little cows. There are smart cows and

dumb cows. There are those that follow the leader and do not get outside the lines. Then there are those that have no idea which way to go but they do not want to follow the herd.

They have personalities too. There is the bossy bull that saunters along at his own pace eating the weeds and savoring every bite. He has no desire to hurry along to the next pasture and do not try to rush him.

Of course, the bull has his devoted cows that will attempt to saunter along. They are a bit more cautious and will move along when they hear the 4-wheeler and "Moo Cow!"

There are always the young bull calves that believe that the pasture opposite to the one they are going to is more appealing. That is when the race is on to keep them out of the neighbor's field and fences are a non-existent thing to them. In fact, they just run through them without looking back and making more work for us.

As I watched from the back, I noticed that the leaders of the herd were the ones that figured

out that the hay was really good and kept moving. They just nibbled their way from the old pasture to the new pasture without ever looking at the weeds and grass on either side of the road.

There were those that weaved drunkenly from one side of the road to the other tasting all the new weeds and grass that the fence had kept them from. It was just one big buffet for them. They actually looked like they were smiling as they savored the taste.

Some of the female calves decided they really did not like the fences and proceeded to jump in and out of the fences. I think they were trying to prove they could do anything they wanted and we were not going to stop them. (We did!)

About an hour later, we had the strays rounded up and in the new pasture. I think it would have gone quicker if they had not had such a green-horn following up the herd. That is just my thought.

The day continued with checking fences, filling water troughs and fixing the neighbors

fence. Believe me, that is a full time job.

On a normal day, I do not come anywhere near the workout I got on the ranch. I sit in front of a computer and take pictures but on Sunday I was a cowboy (well, sort of).

Although I did not just turn 40, like Crystal in the movie, and I did not go 200 miles behind a big, rolling stink, it was a moment in life that I will look back on and smile.

It was an experience that made me smile even when I was got frustrated with the strays. It

made me think how much of the time we all have a little bit of cow personality show up in our lives. We can be hard-headed, unmoving, turned around and following the leader without resistance. We can move from one thing to another thing without thought. Then we get a wild hair and go against the grain, making our own way.

If you ever get to step out of your normal, every day life...do it! It is worth it, if only to make you appreciate the life you have. Remember: "Your life is a do over. You've got a clean slate."



Governor Greg Abbott announces Texas Public Elementary School Reading Initiative

Governor Greg Abbott and Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath announced a comprehensive reading initiative – Texas Readers – to strengthen the reading skills of students across the state.

"While Texas has some of the best public schools in the country, there is still more we can do to provide our children with the best education possible," said Governor Abbott. "Texas Readers tackles the important issue of student literacy and will give parents, teachers, and students invaluable tools to make reading and literacy one of the highest education priorities. I

am proud that this initiative is providing students in our public elementary schools the best possible chance to succeed and to continue making Texas great for generations to come."

"Reading will always be the foundation that determines success in the classroom for every child at every grade level," said Commissioner Morath. "The Texas Readers initiative provides our teachers with needed educational supports to ensure our children will be equipped to read from the earliest grades through high school graduation and beyond."

Texas Readers is designed to

assist public elementary schools enhance their reading instruction by providing enriched teacher-development opportunities and additional innovative classroom tools. In addition, the initiative will include a public awareness campaign, called Raising Texas Readers, which will focus on ways to build our children's literacy and reading skills at home.

The Texas Readers initiative is composed of three major components – Parental and Public Awareness, High-Quality Professional Development Opportunities, and Innovative Classroom Tools. Each component will include the following resources:

Parental and Public Awareness

Raising Texas Readers – a new collaborative effort between TEA, PBS, the United Way, and Univision – will provide public service announcements and advertisements that will be broadcast in 11 media markets covering the state. In addition to the PSA campaign, Raising Texas Readers includes local family events, free online apps, a text messaging campaign and comprehensive website.

Earlier this year, TEA launched the new STAAR Report Card to drastically improve communication and transparency with educators and families

on how students are performing on the STAAR exam. TEA is currently working on additional literacy resources and helpful tips for working with children at home.

High-Quality Professional Development Opportunities

The updated Texas Literacy Academies will provide new systematic instruction through ready-to-use materials paired with a series of ongoing, year-round continuing education opportunities, such as a lesson study, micro-credentials, and live coaching, as well as focused instruction targeted toward special education students and English Language Learners.

Striving Readers – a brand new tool – will build directly upon the Texas Literacy Academy experiences and provide literacy coaches, professional development, strategic planning, sustainability support and the ability for districts to pilot programs and models that can be disseminated across the state.

Texas' second phase of the Reading Excellence Teams will continue to focus on improving educator practices in reading by providing teams of coaches around the state to support our teachers while enhancing the overall effectiveness for educators and students and maximizing

the efficiency of resources.

Innovative Classroom Tools

Teaching the TEKS will provide educators with a clear and concise break down of state's instructional expectations of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and will provide sample lessons, differentiation strategies and sample State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) test questions. Teaching the TEKS will also help educators and families understand the student expectation and what all children should know and be able to do at the end of each school year.

TEA is developing a set of free online instructional materials to assist elementary school English-Language Arts teachers with improving reading instruction, including intensive supports, technology, and adaptive programs.

A new collection of optional content mastery tools will provide school districts with optional, free classroom tools to regularly monitor students' reading comprehension and skills throughout the school year to assist teachers in their decision-making about future instruction and provide immediate feedback to students to steadily improve their classroom performance.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ACTION FOR AN AMBULANCE SAYS THANK YOU!

Because of the tireless efforts of Executive Director, Chris Alexander, and the Chamber of Commerce Board members at both the July 4th Celebration and the Cheeseburger Festival, \$4,190 was added to the ACTION FOR AN AMBULANCE fund.

Thanks to the July 4th vendors and participants in the 5K run whose entry fees were given to the ambulance fund.

A special thank you goes to the Cargill team, which contributed its first place prize of \$1,000 to the fund.

Another special thank you goes to everyone who purchased Cow Patty Bingo squares and to Del Rio Dairy's Buttercup whose "deposit" decided the winner of the Cow Patty Bingo.

And a big thank you to those who voted for the People's Choice at the Cheeseburger Festival.

Most of all, we are grateful to the Friona Chamber of Commerce for the hard work and generosity given to help Friona get a new ambulance.

Kitty Gallman, Kathryn Gurley & Sharon White

ACROSS

- San Antonio picante sauce
- TXism: "brains in ____" (computer)
- TXism: "Is the ____ Catholic? (yes)
- TXism: "sharp as a ____ tooth"
- TXism: "____ some gravel" (fell)
- in 1835, the Austin community was known as Water ____
- TX Phyllis Davis was Beatrice in this TV crime drama series
- muscle pulls
- Mama Cass
- TX Guy Clark LP "____ Build"
- ready to drive the golf ball (2 wds.)
- this Hedy was in "Boom Town" with TX Chill Wills
- troops of ____ Thornton were ambushed in TX to start Mexican War
- TX Lefty Frizzell tune: "The Long Black ____"
- TXism: "wipe the slate clean"
- red vegetables
- TXism: "happy ____"
- TXism: "____ _ jaybird"

DOWN

- Houston eatery was first called: "____ House"
- Travis Tritt's "It's All ____ Change"
- ____ Cove, TX
- TX Strait's "All My ____ Live in Texas"
- enumerate
- TXism: "opossum ____" (armadillo)
- "bear" south of the border
- TXism: "hot as road ____ July"
- TX or IA town
- TXism: "____ booze" (jail)
- one-name actor in TX-filmed "Necessary Roughness"
- TXism: "bath day" (abbr.)
- once a Wichita Falls AM
- TXism: "____ a fish in water"
- dir. to Tyler from Dallas
- brandin' or shootin' TXism: "____ the unvarnished truth"
- "those" south of the border
- novelist Deighton
- TX Lynda of TV's "Mission Impossible" (init.)
- horse doc.
- Dallas' 150th birthday party had ____ cake
- "Eyes of TX" song began as prank by UT ____ Club
- TX Willie's 1985 concert in Illinois: Farm ____
- TXism: "nary a ____" (no one)
- TXism: "table grazed"
- singer Petty (init.)
- TX resident pro golfer Lanny (init.)
- founder of TX Belo company (init.)
- say Lamesa: "luh-____-suh"
- bdgs. for Mavs, Rockets & Spurs
- horse park near San Antonio
- TX Orbison (init.)
- Paxton's TX title
- "yes" south of the border
- newspaper income
- TXism: "hit the ____" (go to bed)
- TXism: "mad ____ hen"
- TXism: "a ____ ride the river with" ____ Cowboy"
- "buenas ____"
- TXism: "me casa ____ su casa"
- "Fightin' Irish"
- TXism: "mad as ____ snake"
- Alpine, TX is named for the ____ Alps
- snake catcher

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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solution on page 4

ON YOUR PAYROLL

U.S. Government

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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 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.

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The third in a series of Miss Friona Workshops will be held on Saturday, July 22 at 10 a.m. at the Depot in the City Park. Kathryn Rector's daughter, Kaci Blagrove, will be discussing pageant makeup and hair for presenting yourself on stage. Kaci has worked with Miss Texas and Texas Outstanding Teen candidates at the state pageant. The girls are asked to bring your shoes so you can practice walking.

The Miss Friona committee is asking for anyone that has prom dresses or formals just hanging in the closet to loan them for the pageant.

Brunch will be served. To RSVP or for more information contact Raquel at the Chamber office (806) 250-3491.

The Farwell Police Department is sponsoring a "License

to Carry" course on Saturday, August 12 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Farwell Community Center/Firing Range. Cost of the class is \$90. The course will cover open carry and concealed carry.

Participants must have a valid Texas Driver's license, a weapon no smaller than a 32 caliber and 50-100 rounds of ammunition.

If you are interested in attending this course, come by the Farwell Police Department to place your name and contact number on the list. For more information, call (806) 481-3600.

Friona Primary School registration for any new student will be July 31 and August 1. Parents are reminded that if your child was registered in April 2016 or your child is a

returning student there is no need to register again. Please bring the child's social security card, birth certificate, shot record, parent or guardian identification, proof of address and if registering for Pre-K last years W-2 or proof of income.

Anniversaries this week:
Happy 52nd Anniversary to Connie and Dee Willard!

Happy 40th Anniversary to Danny and Holly Campbell!
Happy 38th Anniversary to Joe and Anita Lafuente!

Happy 3rd Anniversary to Pete and Felicia Lafuente-Cortez!

Service projects are needed for the 2017 Friona Youth Dayz beginning on Saturday, August 5. If you need something done at your home—tree

limbs removed, light bulbs replaced, something hauled off to the roll-off box, etc.--please contact Teena Hughs at 250-2377. There will be students willing to work, so don't hesitate to call.

The King's Manor Founders Barbecue was last Saturday in Hereford. Larry Gatlin put on a great show featuring his music and comedy. The auction held before the concert was conducted by 15-year-old Brooklyn Golden of Plainview. She started at the age of 10 and has raised money all over the state of Texas. The auction brought in approximately \$22,000 to benefit King's Manor residents.

The Parmer County Sheriff's Office National Night Out 2016 is coming up Tuesday, October 3. The event will be held in Farwell at the Sheriff's Office from 6-8 p.m. and will draw in all the communities of Parmer County. If you are interested in participating, contact Tanya Hunn at the Sheriff's Office (806) 481-3303.

Two-a-day practices for FHS Volleyball start on Tuesday, August 1. FHS Football two-a-day practices will begin on Monday, August 7.

The Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday is set for August

11-13. Make plans to save money.

Speaking of school...Bovina will be losing Steve Arias and Hector Guevara. Steve will be leaving his position as principal to teach 7th grade History in Dimmitt. Guevara will be moving to San Angelo Lake View to be the new Campus Athletics Coordinator/Head Football Coach. Congratulations to Steve and Hector. You will be missed.

Rumor has it that the local funeral home will have new owners by winter. Dusty and Melodee Hansard are working on purchasing the business from owners Mike and Eva Mullins. Congratulations Dusty and Melodee.

Basketball and football camps start Monday, July 24 and Volleyball starts on Wednesday, July 26.

Prairie Acres will honor local First Responders on Wednesday, July 26 with an Appreciation Luncheon. All First Responders are invited.

There are many activities planned in surrounding communities. Farwell will be celebrating Border Town Days on Saturday, July 29. St. Ann's in Bovina will be holding their Annual Jamaica on Sunday,

July 30. Bovina celebrates Bull Town Days on Saturday, August 5. Back in Friona, St. Teresa's will hold their Annual Jamaica on Sunday, August 6. Two big weekends filled with fun and food. Sounds good to me!

Friona teachers will be back in school starting August 9 attending in-service and readying their classroom for the first day of school on Thursday, August 17.

Don't forget the "Sew Much Fun" sewing workshop on Monday, July 31 at the Bovina XIT Recreation Center from 6-7:30 p.m.

The next Caregivers Coffee Break is set for Friday, August 4 at First National Bank Community Room. The break starts with coffee and donuts at 9:30 a.m. followed by a meeting at 10 a.m. All caregivers are invited to take a break and stop by.

The first FHS Varsity Volleyball game will be Monday, August 7 with WT/Holy Cross in Amarillo at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

"When summer gathers up her robes of glory, And, like a dream, glides away." ~ Sarah Helen Whitman

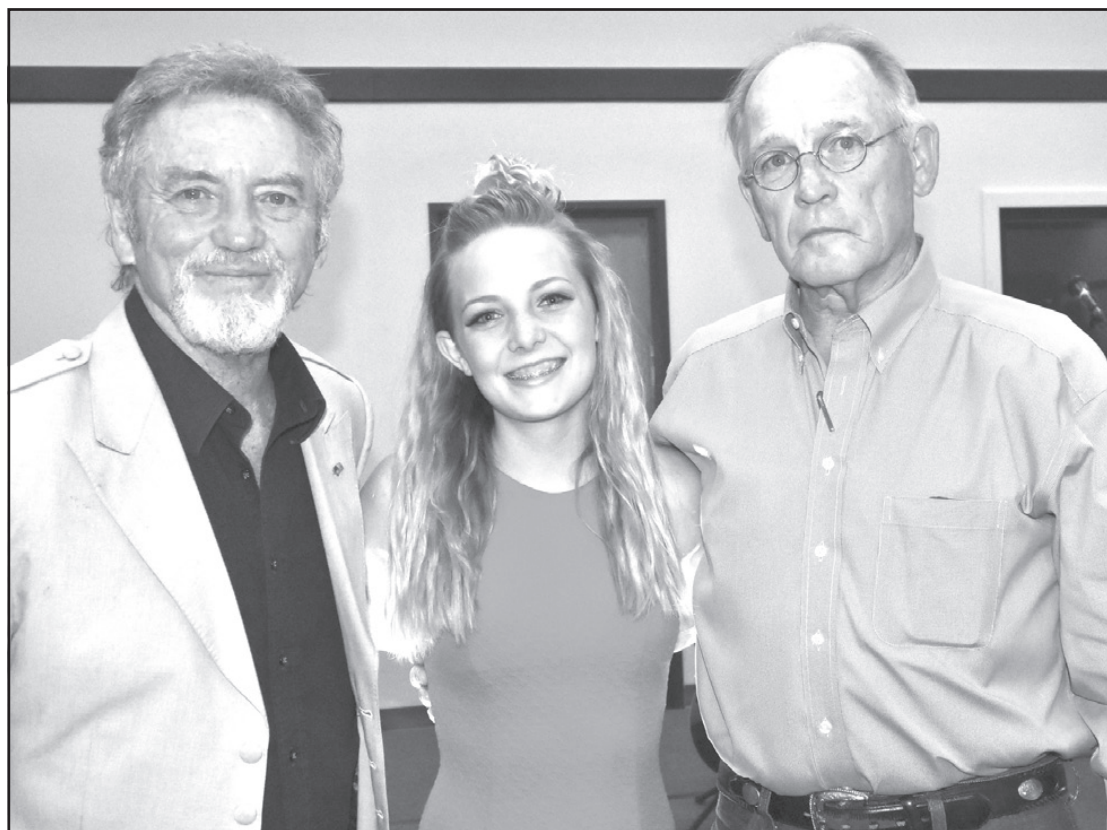


photo by Jim Steiert

The 39th Annual King's Manor Founders Day barbecue on Saturday, July 15 featured Larry Gatlin, left, 15-year old auctioneering sensation Brooklyn Golden, center, and event host Steve Hodges, right. The event raised money for the King's Manor Benevolence Fund with a live and silent auction.

Friona Flashbacks



News from the week of July 21, 1966

*Cecil Maddox of Whiteface has been employed as head boys basketball coach in Friona, replacing James Anglin, who has held the position the past two years.

Maddox was approved for employment at the regular July meeting of the Friona Independent School District's board of trustees.

*Janet Rushing becomes the eighth player from Friona High School and fourth in as

many years to play in the Annual Texas High School Girls Basketball all-star game. She will play for the "North" team against a group of hand-picked players from the south part of the state.

*Contrary to rumors you might have heard, Billy Graham Foods, Inc. has not "shut down" nor is it going to leave Friona.

*Members of the 1966 Friona Star and Hurst Department

Store Intermediate League are Gary Phipps, Jerry Mabry, Conrad Renner, Jodean Harrelson, Mike Martin, Donnie Meason, Rodney Murphy, Mickey Saiz, and Frankie Saiz. Coaches are Danny Kendrick and Ronald Smiley. Mitchell Smiley is the batboy.

*John R. Cook, principal of the Friona High School, Mrs. Fay Reeve, teacher at Friona Junior High School, and Miss Joy Morton, teacher at Friona High School, attended the third annual Living Textbook Conference July 10-13 at West Texas State University in Canyon.

*J.G. McFarland, Friona, recently purchased two Aberdeen-Angus bulls from W. P. McMinn and son, Summerfield.

Past issues of the Friona Star are archived at Texas Tech University www.swco.ttu.edu

The Stevens 5 Star Deal of the Week!

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Governor announces growing support for Property Tax Reform Legislation

Governor Greg Abbott announced that his call for meaningful property tax reform is generating growing support across Texas. Property tax reform is part of the Governor's 20-item agenda for the ongoing special legislative session.

"Texas now ranks among the top five states in the nation with the highest property tax rates on industrial property. Our excessive property taxes stand out when compared to our competitor states. Texas businesses and industries pay 62% of all state and local taxes — more than 40% above the national average, according to the Council on State Taxation (COST). This is a threat to job growth and economic sustainability. We must begin to turn this around. And Governor Abbott's call to revisit this issue in the special session is an important step in that direction." - Tony Bennett, President & CEO, Texas Association of Manufacturers

"The Texas Apartment Association (TAA) applauds Governor Greg Abbott's leadership to ensure the accountability, consistency and transparency of our property tax system. Property tax rates, appraisals and the dispute resolution process are all elements that impact the cost of housing in Texas. Because rental properties do not have valuation limits or homestead exemptions to deflect some of the impact of increasing property valuations and tax rates, these increasing costs have a direct impact upon rental rates and in turn effect housing affordability across the state of Texas. Our association looks forward to working with Governor Abbott, members of the Texas Legislature and other stakeholders during the upcoming special session to address these issues and help secure the long-term economic growth of our state." - Chris Newton, Executive Vice President, Texas Apartment Association

"On behalf of the residential construction and development industry in Texas, the Texas Association of Builders (TAB) will continue to work with the Governor and Legislature to protect private property rights from overly burdensome governmental regulations, taxes and fees. Easing the load of skyrocketing property taxes, expediting the permitting process, and protecting property owners from

egregious regulation changes on existing property and onerous tree ordinances are issues TAB has regularly advanced over its 70 years of existence. TAB applauds Governor Abbott for his steadfast commitment to reducing onerous and costly regulations, taxes and fees on private individuals and businesses across the state. Though the residential construction industry maintains its status as an economic driver in Texas, regulatory decisions by state and local governments can and will have an impact on the cost and availability of housing." - Rick McGuire, President, Texas Association of Builders

"As both a Realtor and a City Council Member, I have seen skyrocketing property taxes force heartbroken families to sell their long-time homes and deflated buyers to continually postpone their dream of homeownership. My clients work hard to live within their means, and we should expect the same from our local politicians. It is imperative that the Legislature pass meaningful property tax reform that brings our tax code into the 21st century and restores true local control: accountability to the voters. Meaningful reform must include an updated rollback rate, asking the voters for approval to exceed that rate, and increased transparency in a currently convoluted process. I thank Governor Abbott for working to ensure that the low tax environment that has led to so much prosperity for the people of this state is not undermined by an affordability crisis brought on by local governments." - Ellen Troxclair, Austin City Council Member, District 8

"By adding property tax reform to the call this special session, the Governor has given lawmakers a chance to address the needs of our small business job creators in Texas. We're hopeful the legislature will answer the Governor's call for meaningful property tax reform." - Will Newton, Executive Director, NFIB/Texas

"Cities like Houston, Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio benefit from Texas' burdensome property tax code. While businesses, particularly commercial property owners, have watched their property valuations skyrocket over the past few years, municipalities are cashing in on the record high taxes being collected on Texas

properties. Members of the Texas Business Owners and Managers Association are thankful for Governor Abbott's commitment to provide relief to Texas' overburdened taxpayers by making this issue a priority in the special session." - Brett D. Williams, CPM, President, Texas BOMA

"Texans needs property tax reform that will give them meaningful new tools so they can better tackle their rising property tax bills. Lower rollback thresholds and better visibility in the local tax rate setting process are critical steps lawmakers can take this session. Voter empowerment is the ultimate local control." - Dale Craymer, President, Texas Taxpayers and Research Association

"As some of the biggest job creators in the state and nation, we know that Texas' heavy property tax burden is a major impediment to growth. We hope lawmakers use this special session to stem the overall growth of this tax burden in a way that makes Texas more competitive." - Todd Staples, President, Texas Oil and Gas Association

"The freedom to buy and own private property has been a cornerstone of the Texas identity for two centuries. We are excited to work alongside Governor Abbott to deliver meaningful property tax reforms that safeguard this right and stop Texans from being taxed out of their house and home." - Jerome Greener, State Director, Americans for Prosperity - TX

"Property Tax Reform must be done with expediency and purpose. Although we prefer property taxes to be abolished, a meaningful interim solution is to use the buyer's original price of the property as the assessed value that is taxable. So, come on all you conservative, principled lawmakers, 'Get 'er done!'" - Tracey Bradford, President, Texas Eagle Forum

"Texas families are being taxed out of their homes. Since 2000, property taxes have soared by more than 130 percent while traditional economic measures like population and inflation grew just 82 percent, according to the Foundation's research. Struggling homeowners and businesses urgently need strong, meaningful tax reform to fix this deeply broken system." - James Quintero, Director of TPPF's Center for Local Governance

~Psalm 42-43~ Battling the Blues

BRETT HOYLE, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Depression and despair are two themes that crop up occasionally in the scriptures, especially in the book of Psalms. Thankfully, though, one is not left without recourse, but in scripture the difficult realities of life are painted clearly, and one is given guidance, especially in battling the blues.

Three times in the short and connected Psalms 42 and 43, the psalmists says, "Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?" What a powerful assessment of one's condition! Maybe you are there currently, or you can look back at a time when circumstances, relationships or other trials caused your soul to be cast down and in turmoil. When you, or someone you know is at a low point, don't deny the reality and difficulty of it, but acknowledge it, just as scripture does. From there, though, don't simmer in the despair, but do what the psalmist does in calling his soul to "Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God." Each of the three times the psalmist declared his despair and turmoil mentioned above, then he followed with this powerful statement that battled the blues of his emotions and feelings, calling him to look to the Lord, who is our strength. It is not a sin to be tempted to be depressed, but it is a sin to surrender to hopelessness. Jesus Christ is the greatest hope and help through battling the blues! May you drink from His Word daily, and rely on His Spirit each moment as you allow Christ to strengthen your soul.

For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.
Psalm 1:6

Panhandle Parables Choppin' Cotton

By JEFF PROCTER, Minister, 6th Street Church of Christ

Long before the days of "Roundup Ready" cotton there was another weed eradication program that was much more labor intensive. It was called "choppin' cotton."

One of the first rules I learned in 5th or 6th grade about choppin' cotton was that you didn't actually chop the cotton just the weeds in the cotton. Important first rule.

The second rule was also very valuable: sharpen your hoe daily. Beyond that it was learn the difference between a young weed and cotton, chop the weed, and walk on down the row.

- I learned a lot hoeing cotton. Here is a short list of lessons.
1. Pay attention, it matters what the hoe hits.
 2. Keep walking and moving forward.
 3. Of course, sharpen your hoe.
 4. When you hit a little patch of weeds, get them all.
 5. Get you a quick drink each round.

So what are the spiritual lessons here? If we are talking spiritually, then the field equals your life. The nature of our fallible human existence means we will have weeds (sin) from time to time. Left unchecked the harvest becomes near impossible if the weeds take over. So how do I chop some cotton spiritually?

1. Pay attention, when dealing with sin it matters the impact that it has not only on you but those around you. Deal with the sin.
2. Keep moving forward in your walk with the Lord. You can't finish a field going backwards nor can you live your spiritual life moving away from God. Keep Going!
3. Sharpen your mind, feed on the Word of God, invest in others who do the same, you are much more effective when you have knowledge. Read the Bible!
4. When you struggle don't leave things undone, deal with it all, take every thought captive, leave it alone and it will grow and be harder to deal with later.
5. Rest and refresh. It is ok to set the sword down and crawl into the lap of God time and again. He needs you as a soldier, but also knows you as His child. Drink deeply from the well of life. This journey is not a sprint.

You got this, now go chop some cotton!

Thinking About Grace

By TEENA HUGHES

I watched the last 30 minutes of War Room Sunday night. Yes, it is a movie about the power of prayer, but it is also a movie about grace--forgiveness, repentance, second chances.

A couple of years ago, three Texas Tech football players were involved in a robbery. They were kicked off the team, "with no hopes of returning" to the program. One of the players, Dakota Allen, is returning to the team.

If you watched the Big XII Media Days, you know two of the main topics were Texas Tech's terrible defense and Coach Kliff Kingsbury's job being on the line. Some might believe Allen was allowed to come back because he was needed to help the defense, and in some way help save Kingsbury's job.

I listened to Kingsbury's comments, and I believe Allen's is a story of grace. Yes, he made a terrible mistake, but apparently he has repented, been forgiven, and is now being given a second chance. Reports say he was a model student at the junior college he attended after being kicked out of Tech, and he has been a leader in the Tech locker room since his return. Only God truly knows what is in Allen's heart, but I hope he takes advantage of his mistake and the grace he has been shown to do good, and to help others avoid making the mistake he did.

I am spending this weekend with people I don't have much in common with. We don't live our lives anywhere nearly alike, and my thoughts on politics and spiritual issues don't line up with hardly anyone in this group. Usually, things like this don't bother me, but for some reason, this has bothered me. Before I went to sleep last night, God told me to show them grace.

Jesus is grace, and He has shown me grace more times than I know. I am praying I can say and do the things Jesus would have me say and do this weekend; I am praying that I will treat them like Jesus would treat them; and, I am praying that His grace makes a difference in their lives.

Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable --if anything is excellent or praiseworthy -- think about such things.
Philippians 4:8

DPS Urges Texans to Use Caution in Summer Heat

The Texas Department of Public Safety is warning Texas residents to be prepared for summertime temperatures, and to take precautions to stay safe as temperatures and heat indices hit 100 degrees and above in many parts of the state this time of year. Extreme temperatures increase the risk of heat-related injuries or deaths.

"Summertime heat is a fact of life in Texas, but the dangers from high temperatures are real and should not be taken lightly," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Heat-related deaths and injuries are often preventable if residents take the necessary steps to educate and protect themselves -- and their loved ones."

Warmer weather places children at greater risk of injury or death if left unattended in a vehicle. Every year children die from heat-related injuries after being left in a vehicle or by entering a vehicle unnoticed. A child should never be left unattended in a vehicle.

Temperatures inside a car can rise more than 20 degrees in only 10 minutes; and even with an outside temperature of 60 degrees, the temperature inside a car can reach 110 degrees, according to the

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Leaving windows partially rolled down does not help. Young children are particularly at risk since their bodies heat up faster than an adult.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), extreme heat events or heat waves are one of the leading causes of extreme weather-related deaths in the United States. Periods of severe heat and high humidity tax the body's ability to cool itself and can lead to heat exhaustion and heat stroke, which can be fatal.

DPS offers the following tips for staying safe and managing the heat:

Check on the elderly, sick or very young, especially if they don't have air conditioning.

Drink plenty of water and avoid caffeine and alcohol during prolonged outdoor exposure. Start consuming water before you head outdoors; you may not realize you're dehydrated until it's too late.

Pay attention to your body. Heat exhaustion and heat stroke can develop quickly. If you start feeling ill, immediately find a shaded or cooler area and

slowly drink fluids. Seek medical attention if necessary.

Monitor weather radios and newscasts for information on current conditions and weather alerts in your area.

Stay indoors as much as possible, and limit exposure to the sun. Consider indoor activities this summer at places like shopping malls, the library or other community facilities.

Light-colored, loose-fitting clothing and a hat are recommended during outdoor exposure.

If possible, avoid strenuous outdoor activity during the hottest part of the day.

Be extra careful when cooking outdoors, building campfires or driving off road to avoid igniting dry vegetation. Also, stay aware of burn bans in your area and always abide by restrictions on outside burning.

Don't forget pet safety. Animals are also susceptible to heat-related injury or death -- don't put your pets in these dangerous conditions.

For additional tips, visit <http://dps.texas.gov/dem/Preparedness/tips/hot-WeatherSafetyTips.htm>.

James Wright "Jim" Dixon

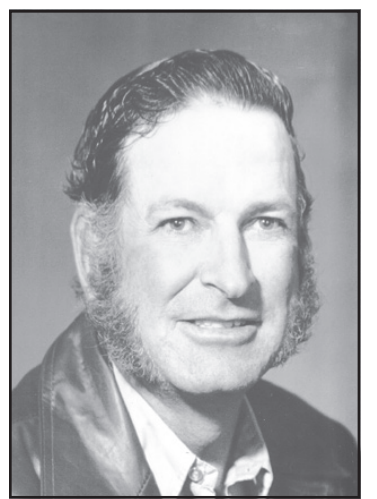
James Wright "Jim" Dixon, 81 of Friona, died Monday, July 17, 2017. Graveside services with Masonic Rites will be held 10:00 a.m. Thursday, July 20, 2017 at the Rhea Cemetery with Rev. Brett Hoyle, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Friona, officiating. Burial following by Blackwell-Mullins Funeral Home of Friona

Jim was born March 23, 1936 in Hereford, Texas to Clarence Wright and Mary McLean Dixon. He married Jane Latrell Collier June 1, 1958 in Friona. After graduating from Texas A&M University, he entered the United States Air Force as a commissioned officer. He served in Landshut, Germany as a radar intercept operator and was honorably discharged in 1961. He returned to Friona to farm and ranch.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and served as Worshipful Master, was a long time member of the First Baptist Church of Friona and founder of the Dixon Six Run held each year during the Maize Days Celebration.

He is preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Buck Dixon; and one sister, Rosella Landrum.

Survivors include his wife of Friona; two daughters, Melodi Jane Woosley and husband Tommy of Amarillo, and Milli Janell Watson and husband Doug of



Frederick, OK: two sons, Milton James Dixon and wife Karla of Lubbock, and Mendan Jack Dixon of Weatherford, Texas; nine grandchildren, Dallas Dixon, Mollijane Woosley, Sage Watson, Sasha Medchill, Tanner Woosley, Trapper Dixon, Summer Watson, Shelby Dixon and Sara Dixon; seven great-grandchildren, Saelin Gunn, Kyson Gray, Romy Beau Medchill, Kix Atticus Hollingworth, Poppie Ainsley Hollingworth, Riggs Gannon Dixon, and Rowan Landri Dixon.

Donations can be made to Cal Farley's (no longer called Boy's Ranch), P.O. Box 1890, Amarillo, Texas 79174-0001.

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 6 th & Summit • 806-250-3933 Pastor Brett Hoyle Email- frstbc@wtrt.net Website- www.fbcfriona.com	QUALITY OF LIFE BIBLE STUDY CHURCH 301 Grand Ave. • 806-240-0826 Pastors Mark & Mary Goff	UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Union Congregational Church 1601 Euclid • 806-250-3635 Rev. Joe Schulte	CHURCH OF CHRIST 500 Ave. E 806-251-1334 Mike Prather, Minister	CHURCH OF CHRIST 500 Ave. E 806-251-1334 Mike Prather, Minister	LA IGLESIA DE DIOS DEL PRIMOGENITO The Church of God of the Firstborn 102 2 nd Street
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Spray drift damage: What landowners need to know

By Kay Ledbetter

With summer crop production in full swing, pesticide spray drift can cause damage to neighboring property owners, but they aren't without recourse, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service specialist.

"Tis the season for application of pesticides to increase throughout Texas," said Tiffany Dowell Lashmet, agricultural law specialist in Amarillo. "It is important for landowners to understand the rules and to know what to do before applying pesticides or in the event they suffer damages due to spray drift."

"Farmers on both sides of the issue—those applying pesticides and those neighboring landowners—should take care to under-

stand the rules and responsibilities involved with pesticide application," Lashmet said. "In almost every instance, both farmers and neighbors have the same goal: avoiding drift issues and ensuring that everyone can harvest a good crop."

As with every legal issue, it is always a good idea to try dealing with neighbor issues over a cup of coffee instead of in a courtroom, she said.

"Talking to your neighbor about these issues is a good place to start and can sometimes resolve problems without ever needing to get the legal process involved."

Ideally, she said, this type of conversation would occur before pesticides are ever applied. Dis-

cussing when and where application may occur, particularly near sensitive crops, can help avoid damage altogether. Making sure neighboring landowners know what crops may be growing nearby is also important.

For farmers preparing to apply pesticides, following the rules is key, Lashmet said.

"The label is the law, and it is critical that applicators strictly follow label requirements."

Additionally, applicators should be familiar with all Texas Department of Agriculture rules for spraying in their location, she said. Keeping accurate logs and records is extremely important for all applicators.

Unfortunately, sometimes drift

does occur, Lashmet said. In that event, the damage should be carefully documented.

This should include taking photographs or samples of damaged crops or foliage, documenting wind speed, direction, temperature, and getting statements from any witnesses who might have seen the application.

"The more documentation an injured farmer has, the better his chances of recovery will be," she said.

Lashmet said application of pesticides is governed by the Texas Department of Agriculture. In the event that someone is illegally applying the product—meaning an application in violation of the label requirements or TDA

rules—the TDA has the authority to levy a fine and/or impose restrictions against that person.

Upon receipt of a complaint, the TDA will send someone to investigate the alleged drift incident, conduct interviews, inspect records and collect evidence, she said. If TDA finds a violation has occurred, it may fine the violator and impose restrictions on his or her ability to continue applying pesticides.

"It is important to note any fines imposed by TDA are paid to the TDA, rather than serving as payment for damages to the neighboring landowner," Lashmet said.

She also noted that before calling TDA, it is important that the injured landowner insure his or her own records are complete and accurate, as TDA will likely inspect them during their investigation.

"Unfortunately, TDA's investigation and determination may take an extended period of time to complete, which can lead to frustration for the injured farmer,"

Lashmet said.

The injured landowner might want to consider a civil lawsuit against the applicator, she said. Unlike a TDA fine, a judgment in a lawsuit between the injured landowner and applicator will go to the landowner to compensate for damages.

"There are a number of potential claims that may be considered depending on the factual situation, including nuisance, trespass, negligence and others," Lashmet said. "In the event that a lawsuit is filed, having the documentation and evidence discussed will be extremely useful for the landowner."

Landowners should not wait to seek legal advice, as statutes of limitations apply to these claims and generally begin running at the time the damage occurs, she said.

"With consideration for other landowners, careful preparation and ensuring that rules are followed, farmers should have no problems with pesticide application to crops in Texas," Lashmet said.

Beekeeping workshops offered July 24-26

By Kay Ledbetter

Three days of beekeeping information will be offered July 24-26 at workshops hosted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Ochiltree County.

"With a growing number of people interested in becoming beekeepers at a small, hobby level, we wanted to offer this series of introductory beekeeping workshops," said Scott Strawn, AgriLife Extension agriculture and natural resources agent in Ochiltree County.

The workshops will be from 8:30 a.m. to noon each day at the Ochiltree County Expo Center, 402 Expo Drive, Perryton. The cost is \$10 per person to attend one, two or all three sessions. No preregistration is required.

Beekeeper researchers from the Texas Invasive Species Institute at Sam Houston State University will be the speakers. They have a grant to teach new

audiences about the benefits of bees to the environment and agriculture, and are encouraging residents to become beekeepers, Strawn said.

The agenda July 24 will cover Benefits of Bees in Our Environment, Benefits of Bees to Farmers, Roles of Different Bees in Hives, Bee Life Cycles, Bee Research and U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service Beekeeping Enhancement Programs.

July 25 topics will be Intro to Beekeeping, Hive Assembly and Identification, Bee Anatomy and Life Cycle, Where to Buy Bees and How to Place Them, Using Various Tools to Check Hives and Pest Management.

The final day will include a site visit, and discuss hive setup and splitting hives.

For more information, contact Strawn at 806-435-4501.



courtesy photo

The 1997 20-year reunion was a huge success! They had close to half of the class attend a portion of the reunion festivities. Pictured are: back row, l-r, Greg Lewellen, Jenny (Ahrhart) Eisenhauer, Lucy (Aronce) Hernandez, Monica (Davis) Garcia, Leander Davila, Terry (Galicia) Ceballos, LaCretia (Padilla) Carranza, Omar Garza, Cornelio Perez, Hugo Santiago, Wade Reeb, and Scott Terry; front row, l-r, Leslie Fangman, Heather (Martin) Storey, Sherri (Jubay) Couch, Candi (Baca) Geske, Jennifer (McDonald) Tenley, Sheila (Wiseman) Giddens, Amber (Martin) Drake, Claudia (Castillo) Serna, and Alma (Correa) Rivera; not pictured but also attending the reunion festivities were Rachel (Mejia) Ramirez, Misty Chesher, Shane Blackburn, Paulino Balli, and Blaire (Jones) Herring.

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New insurance laws will benefit Texas patients

Patients soon will have an easier time dealing with health insurance-related problems, thanks to new laws. Two bills backed by the Texas Medical Association (TMA) this legislative session — each of which passed and earned Gov. Greg Abbott's signature into law — should give patients some relief from the headaches of surprise medical bills and unwarranted changes to their prescribed medication. The issues — surprise bills and "step-therapy protocol" — are just two of the ways in which health insurers make life difficult for Texas patients and the physicians who care for them.

Under Senate Bill 507 by Sen. Kelly Hancock (R-North Richland Hills), more patients can seek mediation after they receive balance bills for health care they thought their insurance covers but does not. The law broadens the scenarios for which patients can seek mediation, giving them much-needed recourse while preserving a physician's right to be paid for his or her services. The other measure signed into law, Senate Bill 680 — also by Senator Hancock — gives physicians greater authority to judge whether prescribed medication is working, and more quickly override a health plan's efforts to change the medication.

Both measures, which take effect Sept. 1, are good examples of successful legislative changes to Texas' health insurance policy, according to Beaumont anesthesiologist Ray Callas, MD, a member of TMA's Board of Trustees. Dr. Callas gave medicine a high grade for its legislative work on insurance. "If you were going to score it [on] a zero-to-10 scoring system, I would give it probably an 8.5," said Dr. Callas, the immediate past chair of TMA's Council on Legislation. "I think we moved the needle forward in order to protect patients and to hold insurance companies accountable."

Expanded Mediation

SB 507 maintains the current \$500 threshold, meaning a patient can seek mediation to settle bills higher than \$500 after he or she has paid deductibles, copays, and out-of-pocket costs for treatment. This applies to care received at certain in-network facilities — namely, hospitals, birthing centers, ambulatory surgical centers, and freestanding emergency departments. The bill also expands mediation to all emergency care situations and requires health plans and practitioners who send a bill for out-of-network care to include a "conspicuous plain-language explanation of the mediation process."

Dr. Callas said SB 507 protects patients from surprise billing and expands parts of the process that are successful. "Because mediation is working, we are happy to see the mediation process protected, as the initial informal [mediation] conference call is where 95 percent of disputes are resolved," Dr. Callas said. "We feel maintaining this process is in the best interest of the patient to have a timely resolution of an out-of-network balance bill."

Narrow or small insurance networks with too few physicians from which to choose pose problems for patients. Often confused by their health insurance coverage, patients sometimes seek care from a physician who is not in their plan's insurance network. When that happens, insurance pays a fraction of the patient's health care bill, and patients receive a bill for the unpaid balance. Mediation can help them resolve those financial circumstances.

Step-Therapy Override

The second insurance-revision law improves patient care, particularly for some patients such as cancer patients. The step-therapy override, authorized by SB 680, says a health plan's protocols are no reason to switch a patient

to another drug if a physician believes the initial medication is working. Currently, health plans institute step therapy to save costs; essentially mandating physicians first try prescribing a different, cheaper medication regardless of the doctor's clinical preference. Instead, the bill shortens how quickly a physician can override an insurer's step-therapy plan from the current 53 days to just three days, and it prevents patients from having to go through the step therapy process a second time if their coverage changes. Austin hematologist-oncologist Sylvia Jaramillo, MD, testified in support of SB 680 on TMA's behalf at a Texas Senate Business and Commerce Committee hearing in March. She told lawmakers step therapy "can increase risk and expose patients to potentially ineffective treatments. This can cause delay in access to appropriate care, which ultimately affects patient outcomes." Dr. Jaramillo also told the committee, "While sometimes step therapy sounds reasonable, it can be very dangerous."

Dr. Callas said both bills are a victory for patient safety and transparency. "If patients are happy with the legislation and what it does for them, then physicians will be in a better position to build a tighter bond with their patients, without fear of some insurance-related process taking over."

In the end, he said, physicians want to focus on where their attention should lie — providing the best care possible for patients. These bills help improve the health care system for patients and the doctors who treat them.

TMA is the largest state medical society in the nation, representing more than 50,000 physician and medical student members. It is located in Austin and has 110 component county medical societies around the state. TMA's key objective since 1853 is to improve the health of all Texans.



Kids Building Camp 2017



NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that PARMER COUNTY SSA intends to destroy records of students who received special education services ending during the 2009-2010 school year. These records include only those located in the Parmer County SSA office located at 618 Main Street, Friona, Texas. Records herein described include students receiving special education services in the following school districts: Bovina ISD, Farwell ISD, Friona ISD and Lazbuddie ISD. Legal parent/guardian or adult student with disabilities may request copies of these records by contacting Jo Ann Belcher, Director of Special Education, at the PARMER COUNTY SSA office at 618 Main Street, Friona, Texas 79035, phone number (806) 250-2740 by July 30, 2017. REMEMBER THAT THESE RECORDS MAY BE NEEDED FOR SOCIAL SECURITY PURPOSES.

AVISO

Se está avisando que PARMER COUNTY SSA tiene intención de destruir documentos de estudiantes que recibieron servicios de Educación Especial antes y durante el Año 2009-10. Los únicos documentos que van a ser destruidos son los que están en la oficina de PARMER COUNTY SSA localizada en la calle Main Número 618, en Friona, Texas. Documentos en esta oficina son de estudiantes que recibieron servicio en los siguientes distritos: Bovina ISD, Farwell ISD, Friona ISD and Lazbuddie ISD. Padres/guardianes legales o estudiantes adultos con incapacidades físicas/mentales pueden pedir copias de sus documentos. Pueden llamar o escribir a Jo Ann Belcher, Directora de Educación Especial, en la oficina de PARMER COUNTY SSA, 618 Main Street, Friona Texas 79035, Número de teléfono es (806) 250-2740, antes del 30 de Julio del 2017. RECUERDEN QUE ESTOS DOCUMENTOS PUEDEN SER NECESARIOS PARA EL SEGURO SOCIAL.

Xcel Energy has large impact across region

Electricity, and the company that provides it, delivers more than just cool comfort on hot summer days across the towns and cities of Xcel Energy's Texas and New Mexico service area.

Committed to doing more than just keeping the lights on, Xcel Energy focuses on spending locally and supporting neighbors with hundreds of skilled employees who give back to their home communities.

Recently compiled data show that Xcel Energy spent more than \$103 million in area towns and cities during 2016 as it continued a historic capital investment initiative that will position the regional power grid for years of growth and upgrades. That's money spent on anything from steel and concrete for new high-voltage power lines down to food, fuel and lodging for linemen and substation workers building new power facilities and working to restore power after storms.

Xcel Energy employs approximately 1,700 men and women in Texas and New Mexico to serve more than 370,000 customers. The company operates more than 22,000 miles of power lines, eight generating plants and 490 substations in the company's 52,000 square mile Texas-New Mexico service area. These valuable facilities benefit local cities, counties and school districts in the form of sales and property taxes. Total taxes paid by Xcel Energy, including franchise fees paid to area cities, amounted to more than \$29 million in 2016.

"Our roots in the southwest go back to 1904, and we grew up with the towns and cities in our service area," said David Hudson, president, Xcel Energy — New Mexico, Texas. "We live and work here, and the hours employees spend volunteering are just as valuable to Xcel Energy as the time they spend ensuring the company delivers safe, affordable and reliable electric service. We understand the responsibility we have to invest in our region and help it prosper."

Xcel Energy employees and retirees, with help from Xcel Energy Foundation matching dollars, supported their hometowns with more than \$1 million in donations to nonprofits in 2016, a figure that includes more than \$800,000 to area United


Way organizations. Employees also donated close to 2,000 volunteer hours assisting dozens of area nonprofits, and these hours were matched with Dollars for Doing gifts from the Xcel Energy Foundation.

As older workers move toward retirement in increasing numbers, Xcel Energy hopes to replenish its regional workforce with men and women who grew up in the area and wish to remain here to start families and advance their careers. The company recruits potential new employees not only from regional universities, but also from high schools. Beginning apprentice salaries for craft positions start at close to \$50,000 a year, before overtime, and all employees are encouraged to continue their educations by utilizing tuition reimbursement programs that cover up to 80 percent of degree program costs.

"If we can attract more home-grown talent, we know these young people will likely remain with us for many years," Hudson said. "This is not only good for us, but also for the towns where these employees live and work because our employees are very generous with their time and talents."

Looking ahead, Hudson expects the company's impact on the regional economy to grow larger as it lays plans for additional investment in the power lines and generating equipment that will drive the regional economy for years to come. In March, Xcel Energy announced plans for \$1.6 billion in new wind energy facilities that will add 1,230 megawatts of low-cost wind energy to the regional generation mix. The largest of the new wind farms, Sagamore Wind, will be built south of Portales, N.M., with another large project, Hale Wind, planned in Hale County northeast of Lubbock. Energy from these new company-owned facilities, when combined with the energy from a new wind contract signed with an outside developer, will generate savings of \$2.8 billion for regional electricity customers over 30 years.

More information about Xcel Energy's wind proposal and other investments in the regional power system can be found at www.xcelenergy.com/ourenergyfuturesw.



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