



Friona Star

VOL. 91, NO. 40

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2017 TEN PAGES

\$1.00

Band Spaghetti dinner Oct. 27

The Friona High School band will host a spaghetti dinner Friday, October 27 from 5-7:30 p.m. before the Pink Out Game when the Chiefs will meet the Muleshoe Mules. For \$7 per person, diners will enjoy delicious spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, green beans, bread and dessert. The meal will be served at the FHS cafeteria. The band is raising money for their trip at the end of the school year.

“A Hurricane Christmas” concert

“A Hurricane Christmas,” sponsored by the Friona Union Congregational Church, will be held 2 p.m. December 3 at the Friona High School auditorium. The event will consist of the music of the season, and a free will offering will be received to benefit continuing hurricane Harvey Relief.

If you have a choir, a group, are a soloist, or would like to share your musical talent to accompany others, a gathering will be held at the Union Congregational Church, 1601 N. Euclid Ave., on Tuesday, October 17 at 7 p.m. This will be an opportunity to share what you would like to do, so that the show can be put together. For more information, please call Stephanie Williams at (806) 265-7683 or (806) 247-2233.

We are looking for a fun, entertaining program that celebrates the true meaning of Christmas, celebrating God’s gift by sharing our gifts with others

Tough Topic Talks! series

By Rhonda K Sanders, LMSW

This month is the annual community education event sponsored by Bluebonnet Home Health and Hospice and Friona Heritage Estates. It is planned for Tuesday, October 24 at 6 p.m. Topics such as addressing declining hygiene, safe driving, and alternate care considerations are often topics that are avoided due to the sensitivity of their nature.

No one wants to open this discussion for reasons such as: to avoid conflict, I don’t want Mother or Dad to think I am imposing, I don’t want to upset the appccart with other family members, I don’t want to say anything because I don’t have time to drive parents to appointments! Oh my, how life changes, and changes, and changes.

These changes can be challenging and difficult to face without some help. Please join us for a panel discussion on TOUGH TOPIC TALKS. Panel members will be present for a fun-filled meaningful way of covering such delicate subjects. The panel members this year come from occupational backgrounds that will be contributory to gaining excellent information to become better equipped to cover TOUGH TOPIC TALKS!

The place is Friona Heritage Estate Dining Room. Please join us and bring a friend or family member for a fun-filled evening. A light supper will be provided for your convenience. For more information, call Bluebonnet at (806) 247-0057.

Farm Bureau meeting Oct. 19

The Parmer County Farm Bureau Annual County Convention will be held Thursday, October 19, 2017 at the Friona High School Cafeteria at 6:30 p.m. Members are invited to attend the meal. Door prizes will be given.

FHS Speech/Drama Meat Sale

The FHS Speech and Drama department announced this week that they are once again conducting their meat sale. If you are interested in placing an order contact Katherine Thompson at the high school, (806) 250-3951. The sale ends Wednesday, October 11.

Mini Sessions with Santa Nov. 11

“Mini Sessions with Santa” will be held at Milk House Market Saturday, November 11 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jacy Weatherly will be the photographer for the event. Contact Jacy at (806) 433-9339 to book an appointment for the event.

Seliger to hold Town Hall here

State Senator Kel Seliger will hold a Town Hall meeting on Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 11 a.m. at The Old Depot at the Friona City Park, 700 Main Street. The community is invited to attend this informative meeting.

PINK OUT
Chieftain Field
Friday, October 27 at 7:30 p.m.
as the Chiefs take on the
Muleshoe Mules



dana jameson photo

Friona JV wide receiver Jose Grado took to the air as he made his way around the Dalhart JV Wolves on Thursday, Septembe28 at Chieftain Field. The Chiefs defeated the Wolves 28-7. The Chiefs are off this week but will next host the River Road JV Wildcats on Thursday, October 12 at 5 p.m. at Chieftain Field.



Despite rainy weather, the crowds lined up for Cargill burgers, Friona Noon Lions fries and camaraderie during the 2017 Parmer County Sheriff’s Night Out on Tuesday evening. Thanks to Weldon Kube for taking this photo from atop the Clovis Fire Department ladder truck.

2017 Parmer County Sheriff’s Night Out a HUGE success

The smell of burgers and fries wafted among the police cars, fire trucks and other first responder vehicles that were on display at the 2017 Parmer County Sheriff’s Night Out on Tuesday, October 3 in Farwell at the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center.

Sheriff Randy Geris welcomed everyone to the celebration of unity between the community and the first responders of Parmer County. Geris offered the prayer and a moment of silence before the Hereford High School ROTC presented the colors.

The Friona High School Choir performed the National Anthem while the Friona High School Band played.

Geris introduced the emcee for the evening, Laura Leal, owner of Leal’s Mexican Food restaurant.

Those attending the event were treated to delicious burgers prepared by Cargill and the World Famous French fries of the Friona Noon Lions.

Throughout the event, presentations were given by the Bovina, Farwell, Friona and Lazbuddie cheerleaders as well as the Lazbuddie Robotics team who are celebrating 20 years.

Drawings were held during the two-hour event for a dozen donated bicycles. Door prizes were also drawn.

Leal’s sponsored a salsa/hot sauce contest and crowned a new champion at the end of the event. Erin Barnett took home the top prize and \$200 as well as bragging rights. Second place and \$100 went to Olga Munoz. Third place and \$50 was awarded to Carmen Ramirez. All the contestants received gift certificates to Leal’s and a bag of Leal’s tortilla chips.

Many of the Parmer County organizations and businesses had booths and distributed free information and goodies for the children in attendance.

Wal-Mart was kept busy pro-

viding low-cost flu and pneumonia shots throughout the evening.

Law enforcement and first responding agencies in attendance were AeroCare, Bovina Police Department, Bovina EMS, Bovina Fire Department, Clovis Police Department, Clovis Fire Department, Clovis SWAT, Farwell Police Department, Farwell Fire Department, Farwell EMS, Friona Police Department, Friona Fire Department, Texico Police Department, Lazbuddie Fire Department, Parmer County Sheriff’s Office and New Mexico State Police.

The evening was capped off by an exquisite fireworks display presented by the Parmer County Sheriff’s Office.

The annual event is held to unite the everyone in the community and county and to promote camaraderie that promotes police-community partnerships. Plans are already underway for the 2018 Sheriff’s Night Out.



dana jameson photo

Fireworks highlighted the 2017 Sheriff’s Night Out Tuesday evening.



dana jameson photo

Erin Barnett, center, celebrated her win as the 2017 Salsa Contest sponsored by Leal’s Mexican Restaurant at the Parmer County Sheriff’s Night Out. Pictured with Barnett are Parmer County Sheriff Randy Geris and Leal’s owner and emcee Laura Leal.

Dominguez, McFarland win Week 5 of Star Football Contest

Week 5 of the Friona Star Football contest dawned like every other week. However this week six contestants tied for the top two spots by guessing 10 games correctly. Friona native Frank Dominguez won out by only missing the Los Angeles/Dallas game by nine points. Mack McFarland, of Crane, missed the total score by 17 points.

The two games that threw off the top six were the Rams/Cowboys and the Jaguars/Jets games. In both games the Rams and Jets

won by the slim margin of three points.

Also guessing 10 games correctly were Mike Field, who was two points behind McFarland, Claire Brown, Rolando Castanon and Dorothy Stowers.

Fifteen contestants correctly guessed nine games correctly with the pesky Rams/Cowboys and Jaguars/Jets games plaguing their picks as well. Thirteen contestants picked eight games correctly.

Leading the field for the Grand Prize is

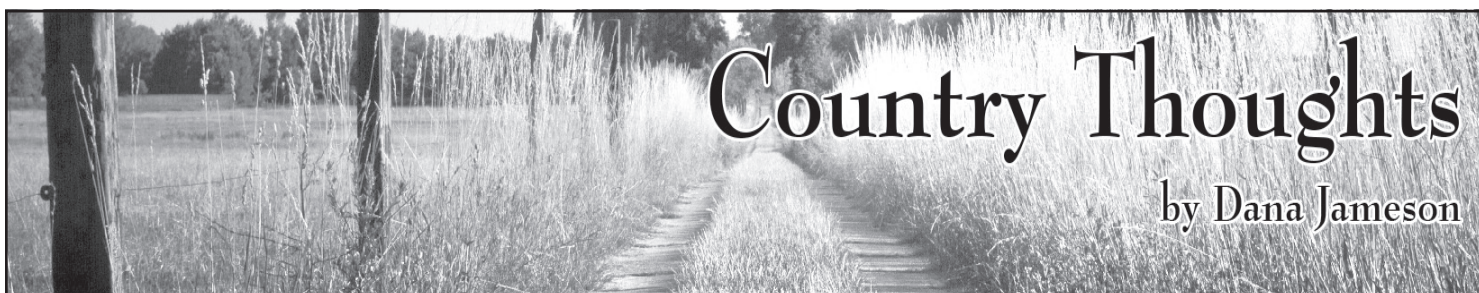
Mike Field, of Amarillo, with a score of 48 overall points. Jack Glover is running a close second place with 47 overall points.

BaiLee Brailiff and Jeremy Dearing are nipping at Field and Glover’s heels with an overall score of 46.

Good luck to all of the contestants.

Remember to enter the Friona Star Football Contest each week for the weekly prizes of \$35 for first and \$25 for second and a Grand Prize of \$100.

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



Country Thoughts

by Dana Jameson

October is:

- Roller Skating Month
- Emotional Wellness Month
- Vegetarian Awareness Month

October 5

- Friona Noon Lions Club meeting at noon at Headquarters
- OPEN DATE

October 6

- No School
- Caregivers Coffee Break at First National Bank Community Room 9:30 a.m.
- OPEN DATE

October 7

- FJHS 8A/FHS C Volleyball vs. Faith Triumphant at Portales 2/3

October 9

- COLUMBUS DAY
- FJHS 7A/7B/8A/8B Volleyball at Dimmitt 5 p.m.
- FHS/FJHS Cross Country at District at Lubbock Mae Simmons
- Teacher In-service- No School
- FISD Board of Trustees meeting at 5 p.m.
- Parmer Medical Center Hospital Board meeting

October 10

- Face Your Fears Day
- Parmer County Commissioners meeting at 10 a.m. in Farwell
- Friona Heritage Estates Game Day at 2 p.m. The community is invited to come play games with the residents
- FHS C/JV/V Volleyball at Shallowater 5/5/6:30
- Friona City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m.

October 11

- United Way meeting at Headquarters 7 a.m.
- FISD District Steering Committee meeting 4 p.m. at FISD Administration Building

October 12

- FHS JV/Freshman Football vs. River Road at home 5/6:30
- FJHS 7th/8th Football at River Road 5/6:30

October 13

- FHS Varsity Football at River Road 7:30 p.m.

October 14

- PMC free pre-natal classes 9-10 a.m.
- FHS C/JV/V Volleyball vs. Littlefield at home 11/11/12
- FHS C/JV Volleyball vs. Idalou at home 11/12
- FHS Band at Sundown Marching Festival

October 16

- NATIONAL BOSSES DAY
- FJHS 7A/7B/8A/8B Football at Littlefield 5 p.m.

October 17

- Mulligan Day
- Prairie Acres Open House 6-8 p.m.
- Friona Heritage Estates Game Day at 2 p.m. The community is invited.
- FHS C/JV/V Volleyball vs Dimmitt at home 5/5/6:30
- "A Hurricane Christmas" gathering of talent at 7 p.m. at the Friona Union Congregational Church 1601 N. Euclid

October 18

- Harrington Mobile Coach at PMC 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

October 19

- Friona Noon Lions Club meeting at noon at Headquarters
- FHS JV/Freshmen Football vs. Littlefield at home 5/6:30
- FJHS 7th/8th Football at Littlefield 5/6:30

October 20

- Aging and Wellness Workshop at Heritage Estates 11 a.m.
- FHS Varsity Football at Littlefield 7:30 p.m.

October 21

- FHS C/JV/V Volleyball vs. Shallowater at home 11/11/12
- FHS C/JV Volleyball vs Idalou at home 11/12

WHY???

Gun owners and anti-gun people are outraged this week after the horrific incident in Las Vegas. President Trump is being roasted because he will not jump on the bandwagon and take all the guns away from everyone in America.

Once again, it goes back to the belief that if we take away the guns then the carnage will stop.

However, it will not.

If people have evil and ill will in their hearts, they will find a way to inflict that evil on the closest person or persons.

I am an advocate for peace and finding something positive in my fellow man.

I have felt anger in my life. Moreover, that anger threatened to take over at times. The anger was like a red-hot poker prodding me to do something that was totally against my nature. I am thankful there were level-headed people around me that understood what I was going through and offered me their shoulders to cry on and their ears to bend as I got that anger and pain out of my system.

The investigation into 'why' this man thought this a prudent way to handle his anger will be ongoing. Unfortunately, we may never know exactly what prompted him to take his anger to the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay hotel and start shooting into the crowd below.

Do I have sympathy for him? Not really. He was a grown man that should have known right from wrong. At 64-years-old, he had reached a maturity that many of his victims will never achieve.

Life is hard but we need to take into account what our actions and words can do to those around us.

In the coming days, there will be every expert in the world on the television explaining what they think was wrong with him and why he did what he did. The experts will be a dime a dozen but none of them will know who or what was in his head as he opened fire on those innocent people. Only he knew.

The victims will be memorialized and flowers will be laid at the site of the shooting but the one thing that stands out to me is...those lives will not go on.

There will be holes in their families' hearts that all the memorials and flowers will never fill. The lives they should have had were lost to

a man that did not even have the guts to let his voice be heard to tell them 'why' they had to die on Sunday, October 1, 2017.

It all comes down to one word...WHY?

Hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, tornados, tsunamis, etc. are natural disasters and are, in many cases, unavoidable. We pray for those that have had to endure these natural disasters. We have had plenty lately.

However, when a person takes it upon himself or herself to inflict undue pain and suffering because of what is going on in their lives, this is wrong.

Could he have been stopped? I am sure we will hear from the experts and his friends of all the missed opportunities to get him help.

However, would it have helped if they nipped it in the bud?

If we had a time machine, could we go back and stop it before the shooting began? That is a fantasy that Hollywood creates.

For those victims that survived, they will endure so much pain that will fill their lives. They will have to relearn how to trust. They will never know why they were targeted. I know they will go on but there will always be the question...WHY?

Maybe we need to pray more for peace and spend less time on the negatives this life throws at us.

"We can never obtain peace in the outer world until we make peace with ourselves."

— Dalai Lama XIV



School Menu~October 9-13

Monday

NO SCHOOL

Tuesday

Breakfast: Cereal, orange pineapple juice, banana, milk
Lunch: Hot dog, Doritos, corn, green beans, Mandarin oranges, milk

Wednesday

Breakfast: Cereal, Pop Tarts, grape juice, applesauce, milk
Lunch: Cheeseburger, broccoli, French oven potatoes, mixed fruit, milk

Thursday

Breakfast: Cereal, sausage pizza, orange juice, diced peaches, milk
Lunch: Spaghetti meatball, pasta, carrots, mixed California veggies, snowball salad, milk

Friday

Breakfast: Cereal, pig-in-a-blanket, fruit punch juice, apples, milk
Lunch: Cheese enchiladas, lettuce & tomato salad, pinto beans, fruit salad, milk

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,
You know you have a good hometown newspaper when you send in a picture of a small non-profit business, which unfortunately says it's closed, and it miraculously appears in the paper with an "Open" sign in the window.

Thanks to the Friona Star for covering so many community affairs, even providing free advertising for many non-profit groups such as the Cancer Coalition, and for publishing other news items such as obituaries that many newspapers charge for. Thanks for allowing us to see our kids and grandkids in the paper. With millions of pictures readily available through social media these days, it's still special to "make the Friona Star."

Connie Slagle
Friends of the Library Book Shoppe

ON YOUR PAYROLL

U.S. Government

President: Donald J. Trump, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20500. 202-456-1111, fax 202-456-2461, email comments@whitehouse.gov.

Senator: John Cornyn, 517 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-2934, fax 202-228-2856.

Senator: Ted Cruz B40B Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-5922.

Representative: Jodey Arrington, 2019 Longworth, House Office Building, 202-225-4005. Lubbock District Office, 1312 Texas Ave. #219, Lubbock, TX 79401. Abilene District Office, 500 Chestnut St. #819, Abilene, TX 79602

State

Governor: Greg Abbott, Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 12428, Austin, TX 78711-2428, 512-463-2000.

Senator: Kel Seliger, P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711. 512-463-0131. Amarillo office; P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, 79105. 806-374-8994.

Representative: John T. Smithee, Room 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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TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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ACROSS

1 TX-based casual restaurant (abbr.)

5 Plainview is the seat of this county on highway 199, NW of Fort Worth

7 TX STAAR ____ replaced TAKS

8 oil additive

9 nat'l doctors' grp.

12 TXism: "wipe the ____ clean"

17 TXism: "mad as ____ snake"

19 resident of western city: El ____

21 book/film by TX Audie Murphy: "To ____ Back"

22 TXism: "____ knuckler" (scary film)

23 northern suburb of Dallas

28 "L" of defunct LTV wagers at "Lone Star Park"

30 borrower

31 Odessa is the seat of this county

35 TX Larry McMurtry 1975 novel: "____ of Endearment"

36 TXism: "mad ____ rooster"

42 TXism: "put ____ shovel" (bury)

44 TXism: "he'd ____ with a fence post"

46 TX-born Burnett's TV debut: "The Garry ____"

48 minis are short ones

DOWN

1 TXism: "____ a different color" (odd)

2 a Burnet newspaper: "Citizen's ____"

3 TXism: "____ it out for you" (explain fully)

4 TXism: "got two left ____" (bad dancer)

9 TXism: "comfortable ____ old boot"

10 where Teddy recruited "Rough Riders" in San Antonio (3 wds.)

11 total up numbers

12 hot tub, e.g.

13 a resident in the TX prison system, e.g.

14 this Arthur beat Borg to win 1975 Dallas WCT finals

15 TXism: "put a pencil ____" (calculate)

16 once a popular cooking show: "Good ____"

18 this Muhammad took TX Foreman's title in 1974

20 dir. to Burnet from Uvalde

23 this Faye was TX Bonnie Parker in film (init.)

24 past working yrs.

25 sarcastic affirmative response (2 wds.)

26 Astros pitching coach, Brent full meals at McDonald's?

27 first two initials of Gov. Culberson

32 big TX co.

34 TX Buddy Holly hit: "Rave ____"

36 reverential respect

37 bro's sib

38 seat of Henderson County

39 "bend an elbow"

40 "Shrek," et al.

41 historic "____ House Hotel" in Granbury

43 TX drink: ____ Pepper

45 ex-Cowboy star RB, Emmitt (init.)

47 in a plastic bottle: "____ go"

48 Spurs, Astros, or Cowboys data

55 Dean Young was 2014 "____ Laureate of Texas"

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solution on page 4

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Town Talk

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Happy 64th Anniversary wishes go out to Dale and Laura Hart! Congratulations!

Prairie Acres announced this week that Frances Saiz is the Resident of the Month and Brenda Acosta is the Employee of the Month. Acosta is in the nursing department and has been with Prairie Acres since June 2014.

Resident and employee birthdays at Prairie Acres for the month of October are: Minnie Thomas (Oct. 9); Diana Cruz (Oct. 20); Carol McIntosh (Oct. 22); Dorothy Ingram (Oct. 25); Marie Perkins (Oct. 25); Brenda Acosta (Oct. 25); Maria Hernandez (Oct. 27); and Wesslie Hand (Oct. 31).

The renovations are complete at Prairie Acres and they will be holding an Open House on Tuesday, October 17 from 6-8 p.m. The community is invited to come and take a look at the new surroundings.

The community is invited to come out on Saturday, October 28 for Community Bingo at Prairie Acres. It starts at 3 p.m. and there will be lots of prizes and goodies.

Trick-or-Treaters are invited to come out to Prairie Acres on October 31 at 6 p.m.

If you enjoy spaghetti and football, stop by the FHS cafeteria before the PINK OUT game on October 27 from 5-7:30 p.m. The FHS band will

be dishing up yummy spaghetti to raise money for their trip at the end of the school year. It is just \$7 and after you eat you can enjoy the Chiefs hosting the Muleshoe Mules.

The Parmer County AgriLife Extension Service will have their annual Food Show on Monday, October 23 in Bovina.

Bovina third graders are selling tickets for the chance to win a pink afghan made and donated by Bovina Elementary teacher Tina Sides. The winner will be drawn at the Bovina Pink Out Football Game on Friday, October 27.

October is National Bullying Awareness Month. Adults should engage in positive behaviors to combat bullying. The behaviors include:

Talking to children about both being bullied and about being bullied.

Being a role model for kindness, caring and understanding.

Speaking with children about bullying and cyber-bullying to make sure they are not engaging in it.

Discussing how hurtful cyber-bullying is and emphasizing that what is online stays online forever.

Emphasizing that online misbehavior could affect your child's future.

Encouraging your children to tell you if they are bullied off or online.

Reassuring your child and making sure to remind school personnel that retaliation can-

not be condoned. Discussing internet safety with your children, and monitoring what they are doing online.

Informing schools if there is bullying, and joining with school to promote non-bullying.

Thank you to Deena Leaua for including these tips in her column Bovina Banter in the State Line Tribune.

The State Line Tribune reported that Weldon Kube, a member of the Farwell EMS service and the Clovis EMS service was recognized with an Exemplary Service Recognition Award for helping save the life of a person on September 1.

The award states that the patient was in cardiac arrest and Kube, along with Steve Garcia and Zador Campbell, performed resuscitative efforts over 30 minutes as the patient was taken to the Clovis hospital, then flown to Lubbock where he was treated and released. Way to go Weldon!

The Parmer County Sheriff's Office posted pictures of a too tall cement pump truck stuck beneath the underpass at FH145 and Hwy. 84 on September 20. The accident lifted the center of the bridge about 8 inches and bent the railroad tracks stopping train traffic while repairs were made. The driver was transported to the Clovis hospital.

Remember to save all of your aluminum cans for the "Cans for Seniors". The trailer is now located behind the FISD Administration Building at 909 E. 11th Street. The funds will be used for the All Night Party after graduation.

The United Way will meet Wednesday, October 11 at 7 a.m. at Headquarters to discuss this year's campaign.

The Friona Independent School Board will meet on Monday, October 9 starting at 5 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

The Parmer County Commissioners will meet Tuesday,

October 10 at 10 a.m. in the County Courtroom at the Parmer County Courthouse in Farwell. The public is welcome to attend these meetings.

The Friona City Council will meet Tuesday, October 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. All meetings are open to the public.

The FISD Steering Committee will meet at 4 p.m. Wednesday, October 11 at the FISD Administration Building.

The Caregiver's Coffee Break will be held Friday, October 7 at 9:30 a.m. at the First National Bank meeting room. Stop by for a donut & coffee and stay for a visit.

No school this Friday or the following Monday. The football teams will be taking a break as well. They all have Open Dates this week.

The FJHS and FHS Volleyball teams will be in action this Saturday. The 8A team will take on Faith Triumphant at 2 p.m. and FHS C team will take

the court at 3 p.m.

FHS and FJHS Cross Country teams will be competing in the District meet in Lubbock on Monday, October 9.

The 7A/7B/8A/8B Volleyball teams will be in Dimmitt on Monday, October 9. Games begin at 5 p.m.

The Varsity, JV and C-team Squaws will travel to Shallowater on Tuesday, October 10. Games will start at 5 p.m.

Don't forget Game Day at Friona Heritage Estates on Tuesday, October 10 at 2 p.m.

The FHS Band will be competing in the Sundown Marching Festival on Saturday, October 14. Good luck to the band!

Mark your calendar: Parmer County Farm Bureau will host their annual County Convention on Thursday, October 19 at the FHS Cafeteria at 6:30 p.m.

Victor Leal announced this week that he would no longer be showing NFL games on

their televisions this season.

"I believe there is a respect that comes when the anthem is playing, when the flag is flown, that we should all come together as Americans and honor that," Leal, owner of Amarillo and Muleshoe Leal's Mexican Restaurants said, "They have the right to protest, I have no problem with the First Amendment for a reason, freedom of speech is sacrosanct as well, it's one of our basic rights. So I defend that. I defend their right to protest, but I also have a right. I have a right to turn it off."

Senator Kel Seliger will be at the Friona City Park Depot on Thursday, October 19 at 11 a.m. for a Town Hall meeting. The community and county are invited to attend.

Make plans to attend the "Mini Sessions with Santa" on November 11 at Milk House Market.

"The biggest adventure you can take is to live the life of your dreams." ~ Oprah Winfrey



Courtesy photo

Thirteen FHS Chieftain Choir students competed in the TMEA Small School District Choir competition on Saturday, September 30 in Pampa. Six of the students were named to the All-District Choir. Those students are Brooklynne Johnston (Alto 2, 2nd chair), Lupe Macias (Tenor 2, 6th chair), Julian Cruz (Tenor 2, 8th chair), Franky Summerlin (Bass 2, 1st chair), Damian Rodriguez (Bass 2, 3rd chair), and Alex Licerio (Bass 2, 8th chair) have been named to the All-District Choir. Two students, Angel Carranza (Tenor 2) and Eduardo Guaderrama (Bass 1) were named first alternates. District Choir members will compete in November for spots in the All-Region Choir. The TMEA audition process is a multi-round audition process leading up to the Texas All-State Small School Choir, which performs in San Antonio at the annual TMEA Convention each February. Pictured are, back, l-r, Fabian Ledezma, Eduardo Guaderrama, Choir Instructor John Bonner, Damian Rodriguez, Franky Summerlin, Alex Licerio, David Prieto, Brooklynne Johnston, and Torya Chico; front, l-r, Julian Cruz, Angel Carranza, Lupe Macias, Jackie Reyes, and Alyssa Schlabach.



ACTION FOR AN AMBULANCE

Ambulance Trivia

Look for collection boxes that have been placed in businesses around town so provide a convenient way to make a donation to Action for an Ambulance.

Also, watch your mailbox for a card explaining the necessity for a new ambulance and other ways you can make your tax exempt donation to Action for an Ambulance.

Thank you, Friona, in advance for your generosity and your support!

Friona Flashbacks

News from the week of October 2, 1977

*Football Royalty... Friona Homecoming Queen Sylvia Malouf teamed up with other queen candidates for a little fun game of their own before the homecoming game against Hart Friday night. The other nominees were Rhonda Parsons, Cindy Smiley and Johnna Thorn. Syl-

via was crowned 1977 Homecoming Queen during pre-game ceremonies.

*Balmy, summerlike weather has graced the Friona area the past week, with high temperatures reaching the mid-90's on four consecutive days.

*Sausage time...St. Teresa's

Catholic Church will host its annual sausage dinner on Sunday from 11:30-2 p.m. Shown making the sausage were Sylvia Roth, Matilda Baca, Ramiro Caballero, Hortencia Bermea and Susie Perez.

*Reta Booe was the first place winner in the weekly Friona Star Football Contest.

*Merv Noah, administrator of Prairie Acres, this week told the Friona Star that the nursing situation at the local nursing home has reached the critical stage, due to the inability to secure sufficient qualified nursing personnel.



Library Corner

By Darla Bracken



Simple Things

"The Lord is good to me, and so I thank the Lord for giving me the things I need, the sun and the rain and the appleseed... the Lord is good to me," is from a simple prayer we used to sing in Girl Scouts when I was just a little girl. I have always had a fascination with Mr. Jonathan Chapman long before I knew his real name. Born in Massachusetts in 1774 before America became a country, he was a simple man who became larger than life in American folklore for sharing apple trees. Most of the stories about him are probably not true, but they are what make him appealing and interesting. The cooking pot on his head, his friendliness with forest creatures, working with the Indians, helping the pioneers moving west, sharing apples, seeds and trees as far away as Illinois and Ohio. All of this together make for a very interesting character whom we all know as Johnny Appleseed.

I became interested in dressing up as Johnny Appleseed a few years ago when a library colleague shared his love for portraying historical characters in costume. So, with books

from the library about Jonathan Chapman and finding a metal pot to fit my head (it was my grandmothers) and my mother helping make me a patchwork shirt, my version of Johnny Appleseed was born. Then, adding some vintage eyeglasses from Rex's grandmother and an old pocketknife from his grandpa plus a small leather purse from my little daughter to wear around my neck to carry pre-

cious seeds and voile, Johnny Appleseed.

With a few Jonathan Apples from my mother's tree for my pack and I am ready to share this well-known story. I have shared with all of my grandchildren in addition to many Story Time children over the years and have loved doing it. One of my many library blessings...

Lots of new books to share... come by and see us.

Past issues of the Friona Star are archived at Texas Tech University

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2017 Friona Star Football Contest Week 5 Results

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 48-Mike Field | Teresa Shelby |
| 47-Jack Glover | 37-Raymond Diaz, Wm. Gromowsky, |
| 46-BaiLee Brailiff, Jeremy Dearing | Rosa Mendez, Ambrosio Rios, Jr. |
| 45-Clair Brown, Enrique Rodriguez | 36-Kathryn Tallant |
| 44-Sandra Berend, Jon Field, Phillip Johnson | 35-Joy Morton |
| 43-Raul Brailiff, Lance Field, Mack McFarland, Rusty McFarland | 34-James Phipps |
| 42-Frank Dominguez, Laura Field, Robert Rios, Christen Stowers | 33-Harley Merritt |
| 41-Scott Brown, Mal Manchee, Isabel Rios, Tyrone Shelby | 31-Mark Galan |
| 40-Greg Wellen, Linvell Rose, Rodney Shelby, Dorothy Stowers, Kayla Tallant | 30-Brett Field |
| 39-Quentin Shelby | 29-Blair Morris |
| 38-Jessica Dearing, Eddie Gauna, | 28-Mitchell Smiley |
| | 27-Yvette Garcia |
| | 26-Steve Horrell |
| | 25-Ronald Diaz |
| | 24-Elizabeth Field |
| | 23-Rolando Castanon |
| | 18-Nora Mendez |



Fleming submits winning design



Mason Fleming, center, a junior Computer Science major at Sul Ross State University, received a \$200 Amazon gift card for submitting the winning design in the Sul Ross State University 2017 Homecoming log competition, sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations. Fleming's creation was chosen by Sul Ross student and staff artists. Sul Ross President Dr. Bill Kibler, left, and Alumni Relations Director Aida Luevanos, right, made the presentation. Sul Ross Homecoming will be celebrated October 23-29.



Sheriff's Report

Reported by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office:

September 27, 2017

Marco Montiel, 26, of Clovis, NM, was arrested by the Sheriff's Office on a charge of possession of a controlled substance PG 1 less than one gram. The case is pending before the Grand Jury. Montiel was also charged with possession of marijuana less than two ounces. The case is pending County Court.

Lind Archuleta, 28, of Clovis, NM, was arrested by the Farwell Police Department on a charge of

possession of a controlled substance PG 1 more than four ounces. The case is pending before the Grand Jury. Archuleta was also charged with possession of marijuana less than two ounces, possession of a dangerous drug and unlawfully carrying a weapon. The case is pending in County Court. Archuleta was also charged with a Curry County warrant and is pending transport.

September 28, 2017

Matthew Marquez, 33, of Friona, was arrested by the Friona Police Department on a Brewster County warrant. Marquez is pending transport.



Courthouse Notes

Warranty deeds are reported by the County Clerk's Office from the week of September 21 through September 27, 2017:

James Heath Gammon and Sharleen Gammon—Jeremy Hobbs, SE/4 S9 T51/2S R5E.
The Bank of New York Mellon—Sea

Scrolls, LLC, All L8 NW 5' L7 B3 Ridgelea Bovina.

Aleene Gant—Olen D. Cole, L17-18 B14 OT Farwell.

Elisha Graham—Sawyer Lyn Osborn and Kelci Lynn Osborn, L6-7 B7 Lakeview Friona.

Stop the (electrical) Vampires!

(From the October 2017 issue of Texas Co-op Power magazine)

The little vampires who ring your doorbell on Halloween night aren't the only fiends you should be afraid of. Electricity vampires are all over your house, all year long.

Electrical vampires are appliances and electronics that continue

to draw electricity, even when they are turned off.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, vampires account for up to 5 percent of the energy use in your house.

Here is a list of the most likely vampires in your house:

- Computers, modems, routers, printers and other related equipment.
- Your flat-screen TV. The larger it is, the more energy it uses—on and off.
- Home theater equipment, including surround-sound devices.

- Your cable or satellite TV box.
- Anything with a digital time display, like your microwave oven or DVD player.

An electrical device is a vampire if it has a continuous display, like your digital clock; charges batteries, like your mobile phone charger; or has a remote control, like your TV.

The best way to stop these vampires is to unplug them when you're not using them. A power strip lets you flip one switch to stop a group of vampire electronics from using electricity.

Don't fall prey to fraud from thieves posing as co-op employees

(from October 2017 Texas Co-op Power magazine)

Scams preying on electric cooperative members appear to be on the rise again. In several states, electric co-ops and other utilities are joining together to warn the public about phone calls, emails and visits from scammers.

Mechanics of a Scam

Here's how a typical scam works: Someone impersonating an employee from an electric cooperative's billing/collections department contacts a co-op member and claims the co-op has not received payment for the member's bill. The caller threatens to shut off the customer's electricity if payment is not received immediately. The member panics and figures out a quick way to pay, whether through a prepaid card, a money transfer, or giving the caller their bank account or debit/credit card information.

Any members who fall for such a scam—which can happen to anyone—are still responsible for their electric bills, in addition to having lost the amount they "paid" (and possibly much more, if they provided banking numbers or other personal information that thieves could reuse).

A Flair for Fraud

Scammers are becoming craftier and more tech-savvy by making it appear that they're

calling from local area codes or telephone exchanges. Some members have reported that their co-op's name appeared on the caller ID, prompting them to take the call and believe the caller's identity claim. It's even been reported that some scammers have offered rebates for good payment history!

Co-ops around the country are seeing other types of fraud, too. In South Carolina, several co-op members reported a man wearing a co-op badge, claiming to be a solar provider working in partnership with the cooperative. The man, who drives a white, unmarked van, solicits members for appointments to discuss solar installations. This is how he gains entry to members' homes.

The co-op warned its members via social media that it has no such partnerships with any solar providers, nor would its employees ask to enter a member's home.

Where To Turn for Help

Public awareness and protection initiatives started by electric cooperatives and other utilities—such as the national coalition Utilities United Against Scams and Vermont's new Scam Busters campaign—are using social media, local news and bill inserts to educate and protect members and customers by ensuring that they know what

to do when thieves come knocking or calling.

During such a call, if co-op members are unsure about who is on the other end of the phone, they should neither make a payment nor give out any personal information. Instead, they should hang up on the caller, then call their electric cooperative and the police.

To avoid falling for scams, the Texas Attorney General's office advises member-customers to remember three tips:

- If someone calls claiming to represent your local electric cooperative and demands immediate payment or personal information, hang up the phone and call the member service number listed on your electric bill.
- Do not give in to high-pressure calls seeking personal information. Never provide Social Security numbers, credit card numbers or bank account information to anyone who requests it during an unsolicited phone call or in-home visit.
- Never allow anyone into your home to check electrical wiring, natural gas pipes or appliances unless you've scheduled an appointment or reported a utility problem. Anytime co-op employees arrive at your residence, request that they produce proper identification before transacting any business.

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Panhandle Parables

Walmart Wind

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

When our daughter was about three, we lived in East Texas. We moved out there just a few months past her first birthday. She was a smart kid then and still is very smart. The wind as we understand it here was virtually nonexistent there. So, at three, Elaina hadn't seen much in the way of wind.

One day we were coming out of Walmart in Longview and my guess is the wind was blistering by in 25 mph gusts. Elaina sitting in the basket, stood, stretched out her arms and said, "Be still wind, Be still." The authority with which she spoke, I half way expected the wind to die down. I said she was smart, she knew it worked for Jesus so... maybe. Well it kept a blowin' and now living back in the Panhandle she is a little more accustomed to its presence, yet there are times, even know that I marvel at her faith as she grows.

I share that little story to say this. My prayer is for us to "Be still!" There needs to be a little peace in our land. I am saddened by the events of recent times. Hurricanes, mass shooting, looting, chaos and noise from every side blaming the other side, protests that appear to have failed to resolve any social injustice, just another noise in the crowd. "Be Still!" "Peace, Be still."

Sadly, I realize all this plays into Satan's hand. Distraction decreases focus, lack of focus, moves us further from solution, less solutions creates more blame and more blame equals greater chaos and the cycle continues.

Yet, in the midst of the storm there is One who has the power to calm the waves, still the wind and heal the land. But for that to happen, I must surrender to Him. I must quit judging people and situations without knowledge. I must trust Jesus and do His will, which has a lot to do with what is going on now in that we should be light. Light with a purpose, to guide others to know Jesus, not a light to blind people from the truth. Maybe if we could recognize God for who He is He would show us what He intended for us to be. Maybe...and the wind continues to blow.

OBITUARY

Esperanza Marquez

Esperanza Marquez, 76, of Friona, died Friday, September 29, 2017 in Friona. Celebration of Life services were held Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at Iglesia Evangelica Nueva Jerusalem in Friona with Pastor Benito Mejia, officiating. Burial followed in the Friona Cemetery by Blackwell-Mullins Funeral Home of Friona.

Esperanza was born December 14, 1940 in Mexico to Jesus Maria and Ignacia Rivera Marquez. She married Manuel Ricardo Dorame in Kansas. She loved to cook for others, tend to her flowers and was a member of the Iglesia Evangelica Nueva Jerusalem in Friona.

She is preceded in death by her parents; two sons, Sergio Acosta and Manuel Acosta; one sister, Dora Marquez; four brothers, Jesus Marquez, Leopoldo Marquez, Frederico Marquez and Raymundo Marquez.

Survivors include her husband Manuel of Friona; three daughters, Graciela Rey of Friona, Ofelia Anaya of Phoenix, AZ,



and Oralia Acosta of Mexico; one son, Raul Acosta of Garden City, Kansas; two sisters, Eva Marquez of Mexico and Francisca Marquez of Friona; two brothers, Rosario Marquez and Rafael Marquez both of Mexico; 15 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

You may sign the online register book at www.blackwellmullins.com.



**~Psalm 51~
Genuine Repentance**

BRETT HOYLE, Pastor, First Baptist Church

So you've blown it, your wrong decisions have finally caught up with you. You've been exposed, burdened by the full weight of your shame, consequences and embarrassment of your sin, and there seems to be no escape. Every gossipy whisper and piercing gaze that goes on as you enter a room grieves your heart, and a million times over you've wished you could go back and undo your mess. What do you do, how do you respond, and what is the solution to this mess?

When you sin and fail, Psalm 51 is the answer you need. The solution to sin is genuine repentance that confesses it to God and forsakes it moving ahead. Psalms 51 takes place in the aftermath of David's infamous sexual sin with Bathsheba, the murder of her husband, and the lie he used to try and cover it up. It seemed he had gotten away with all this, but his sin found him out, and he expressed genuine repentance before God.

Genuine repentance first acknowledges you are completely exposed before God (v1-6). Your sin is out in the open before Him, and He abhors your sin. Next, genuine repentance sees one's emptiness and vast need for God's cleansing (v7-12). Sin stains the soul, tarnishes your reputation and dirties the conscience, and only God can redeem you from your sin. The reality that God, in His grace and love, through Jesus Christ can cancel out the problem of your sin is humbling, and leads one to be excited to serve the Lord (v13-19). The sinful soul, who is redeemed from the power of his sin, is driven to live life for God and with God in a joyful, thankful way, and help others come to know the forgiveness God gives through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'
Revelation 21:4 NIV

God Bless America

By TEENA HUGHES

I love to visit Las Vegas. One of the greatest encounters I ever had with God happened at a church service at Mandalay Bay. One of my favorite memories is meeting a Jewish woman who found Jesus; now she is in Bible college somewhere.

When I woke up to the news of the horrific shooting Monday morning I, like most Americans, was greatly saddened. Some of the things I hold dear--people, country music, freedom, freedom to enjoy concerts in the open air under the stars--were violated and changed forever. Those people weren't doing anything but having a good time, and only God knows the number of lives that were forever changed that night.

I will never understand the evil a person possesses to make them do something like that. To carefully plan and execute something so horrific is beyond my comprehension.

Big and Rich, the act before Jason Aldean, honor the military, veterans, policemen, and first responders at their concerts. I hope you got to see everyone standing, shining their phone lights, and singing "God Bless America" at the top of their lungs. I wonder how sad God was listening to those innocent people sing "God Bless America" and knowing what was going to happen in about an hour. I wonder if the shooter could hear all of those 22,000 people singing "God Bless America" and what he was thinking.

God did bless America that night. So many more people could have been killed. Many military, police, and first responders enjoy country music and some were there, jumping into action and helping people in need. One young man went to the concert an agnostic and left believing in God.

We will never know all the stories of people helping others and acts of heroism. Tragedy brings out the best in America and Americans, and we have seen that so many times in the last few months. May we as a nation continue to seek God and turn to Him for our help, our guidance, our wisdom, and our knowledge, and may God Bless America!

Send your church news to the

Friona Star

frionastar@wtrt.net

Know that wisdom is such to your soul; if you find it, there will be a future, and your hope will not be cut off.
Proverbs 24:14



Band Brisket Dinner

Dana Jameson photos

Friona

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SPORTS

Legarreta takes 2nd place in Canyon

The Friena Junior High and Friena High School Cross Country teams competed in the Canyon Invitational Cross Country Meet Saturday, September 30, 2017.

The FHS Girls' team was among 118 runners in the 2-mile run. Jackie Legarreta placed 2nd with a time 12:15.32. Kylee Si-fuentes placed 30th with a time of 13:13.35. Emily Amaya placed 62nd with a time of 14:14.56. Verence Mendoza placed 88th with a time of 15:11.69. Sandra Gonzales placed 102nd with a time of 16:06.43 and Vivianna Rivera placed 103rd with a time of 16:08.14. Valerie Ramirez placed

114th with a time of 18:12.77. The team placed 10th out of 14 teams.

The FJHS Girls' team were among 197 runners that took on the 2-mile run. Esperanza Santiago placed 143rd with a time of 16:33.64 and Aneesa Amaya placed 178th with a time of 17:51.04.

The FJHS Boys' team were among 161 runners in the 2-mile race. Jared Rejino placed 25th with a time of 12:16.61. Tim Ally placed 27th with a time of 12:20.00. Isaias Olmos placed 39th with a time of 12:40.03. Moises Pina placed 48th with a time of 13:02.68. Al-berth Arguelles placed 64th with a

time of 13:24.21. Stef Ally placed 68th with a time of 13:28.49 and Eduardo Jimenez placed 142nd with a time of 16:21.70. The team placed 6th out of 15 teams.

The FHS Boys' team was among 58 runners in the 3-mile run. Adrian Legarreta placed 20th with a time of 18:22.39. Mario Hernandez placed 36th with a time of 19:43.38. Andy Romero placed 47th with a time of 20:55.33 and Uziel Carrasco placed 51st with a time of 21:40.02.

The teams will next compete in the district event held at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock on Monday, October 9.

Chiefs deflate Floydada Whirlwinds 35-22

The Friena Chieftains took on the Floydada Whirlwinds at Whirlwind Field Friday, September 22 and came away with another win with their 35-22 victory.

Jonathan Hernandez led the team with two touchdowns and three receptions for 114 yards. Marco Monreal, Sergio Flores and Julius Orozco each had touchdowns for the night. Monreal had 16 carries for 64 yards. Flores had 18 carries for 106 yards. Orozco had six carries for 52 yards. Rodrigo Munoz and Marco Maldonado had

two carries each.

Rocky Barrios had three receptions for 41 yards. Maldonado had two receptions for 41 yards. Angel Hernandez also had two receptions for 18 yards. Damar Sermeno, Orozco and Flores each had one reception for a total of 127 yards.

Monreal completed 13 passes of 25 for 302 yards, two touchdowns and one interception.

Hernandez completed three punts for 84 yards. Flores completed two extra point attempts out of four.

Chiefs tame Dalhart Wolves 28-21

The Friena Chiefs made the long drive to Dalhart Friday, September 29 to meet the Wolves and by evenings end they had tamed them, 28-21.

Sergio Flores and Marco Monreal scored two touchdowns each for the Chiefs. Flores carried 28 times for 138 yards. Monreal had 22 carries for 57 yards. Julius Orozco had four carries for 29 yards and Marco Maldonado carried once for 35 yards.

Jonathan Hernandez had five receptions for 85 yards. Orozco had three receptions for 46 yards. Rocky Barrios, Maldona-

do and Damar Sermeno each had two receptions for 40 yards.

Monreal completed 14 of 22 passes for 171 yards. Hernandez punted four times for 108 yards. Flores completed four extra point attempts.

The Chiefs are now 5-0 for the season. This is the first time since the 1998 season that the Chiefs have gone undefeated at the beginning of the season.

The Chiefs are off this week but will be traveling to River Road to meet the Wildcats on Friday, October 13 at 7:30 p.m. for their first District game this season.

JV Chiefs squash Dalhart 28-7

The Friena Junior Varsity Chiefs hosted the Dalhart JV Wolves Thursday, September 28 at Chieftain Field and whipped the Wolves 28-7.

Jose Grado put the Chiefs on the scoreboard in the first quarter with a three yard run for a touchdown. Jeremiah Rando ran in the two-point conversion to put the Chiefs up 8-0.

Grado scored again in the second quarter with a one-

yard run.

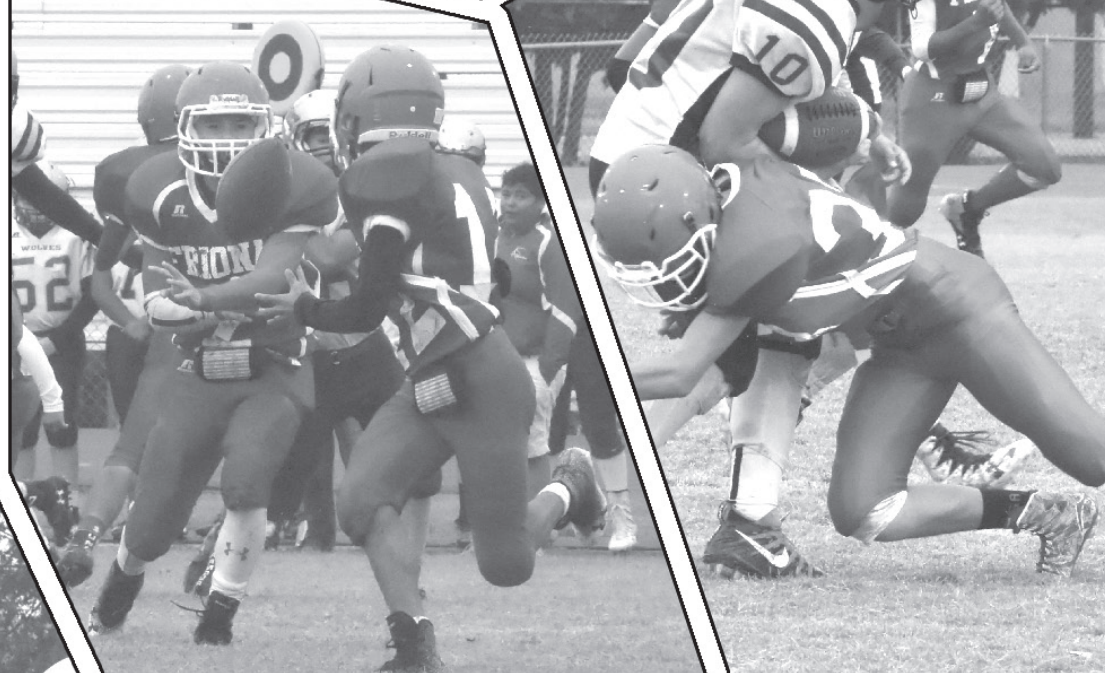
Eduardo Chavez ran in a touchdown in the fourth quarter with a three-yard run and a one-yard run, which he followed up with a two-point conversion to seal the win.

The JV Chiefs are off this week but will host the River Road Wildcats on Thursday, October 12 at Chieftain Field.



JV Chiefs vs. Dalhart

Dana Jameson photos



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PG 12:00 • 2:20 • 4:45 • 7:10 • 9:35

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PG13 12:00 • 2:25 • 4:45 • 7:15 • 9:35

American Assassin
R 12:30 • 4:00 • 7:05 • 9:40

It
R 12:10 • 3:40 • 6:45 • 9:45

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3/2 Brick Country Home w/2 acres, double carport, metal roof, converted garage, septic system, on pavement south of town



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AGRICULTURE

Critical situation in corn has producers looking for answers

By Kay Ledbetter

Corn farmers worried about fumonisin contamination in their fields need to immediately contact their crop insurance agent – that was the message from two emergency meetings held Wednesday, September 27 in the Texas High Plains.

The potential for fumonisin contamination in corn fields throughout the region prompted about 700 farmers, crop consultants, insurance agents and end-users to pack Dimmitt and Dumas meetings conducted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Corn Producers.

More than 50 percent of the corn grown in Texas comes from the High Plains region. The primary market for this corn is the cattle feeding industry, and according to the latest “The Impact of Agribusiness Texas High Plains,” it accounts for about \$635 million in annual sales in the region.

Fumonisin is a toxin produced by two species of *Fusarium* fungi, according to Dr. Tom Isakeit, AgriLife Extension plant pathologist, College Station. Fumonisin is a mycotoxin that can cause illnesses in livestock, especially horses, so there are regulatory limits to the amounts a load of corn can contain.

Isakeit explained that not all molds growing on ears produce mycotoxins. The *Fusarium* fungi that produce fumonisin can be visible as a dull white coloration of the kernels, but this appearance doesn't mean the toxin is present. The only way to determine that is with a chemical test of harvested grain.

And therein lies the concern producers expressed at the meetings. Who should test the corn? When? Where? How? Are all tests the same? And, why are farmers being discounted so heavily compared to previous years?

There are producer concerns with some elevator tests and the resulting discounts they are taking to the value of their corn, said Dr. Jourdan Bell, AgriLife Extension agronomist in Amarillo. Some farmers have even had loads rejected.

So far, only the early maturing corn has been harvested, and it is estimated more than 60 percent of the crop is still in the field, Bell said. The meetings were conducted to provide producers information about fumonisin and *Fusarium* identification in the field, as well as notify producers to act now while they have an opportunity to deal with

any potential issues in later-maturing corn.

“Producers need to evaluate their fields, and if they have a concern, contact their insurance agent,” Bell said. “The meetings also provided the opportunity to address testing concerns and discuss standardization in sampling and testing procedures.”

Bell said fumonisin is not new to this growing region, but the severity seen this year might be higher than usual.

Drought and high temperatures in July followed by a wet August are factors for the fumonisin contamination this year, Isakeit said. The late-maturing crop may not have experienced these stress factors at critical growth stages and may have a lesser degree of contamination.

The severity of fumonisin contamination can vary within a region, a field or even from kernel to kernel on an ear, he said. Even though there is widespread contamination in this area that doesn't mean that all fields are affected.

Isakeit said there are several things including hybrid selection, planting conditions, crop management and harvest techniques that can impact the severity of fumonisin contamination. For more information, go to <http://bit.ly/2fUWeXv> and <http://bit.ly/2k6M9vd>.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency sent its national team led by branch chief Matt Mitchell, Kansas City, to attend the meetings. Mitchell said the priorities of corn producers who think they may have an insurable loss should be to “contact your insurance agent and file a notice of loss along with the cause of damage.”

This opens a claim file and an adjuster will be sent for a site visit to go through the loss procedures, explain to the producer how the claim will be handled depending upon the condition of the crop, as well as pull samples to send to an approved laboratory for quantitative testing, Mitchell said.

Any corn testing higher than 2 ppm, or parts per million, fumonisin can qualify the load for a quality loss adjustment, depending on the individual type of policy. Test results are recognized by the Risk Management Agency, RMA, as official when generated by a Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration or GIPSA-approved lab or by a lab participating in the Office of the Texas State Chem-

ist One Sample Strategy system.

Discussion points being shared by RMA can be found on the Texas Corn Producers website at <http://texascorn.org/>.

While elevators conduct a quick test that measures fumonisin levels above or below 30 ppm, there are only two certified testing facilities in the High Plains at this time – the Amarillo Grain Exchange and Plainview Grain Inspection.

Producers attending the meetings expressed a great concern about the ability of these facilities to process all the samples in a timely manner. By the end of these meetings, several elevator and laboratory attendees had entered discussions to become part of the recognized programs.

David Gibson, Texas Corn Producers executive director, Lubbock, said elevator operators who are seeing a problem in loads being delivered to their facilities are encouraged to get their growers to talk to their insurance agent if they haven't already done so.

“At the end of the day, these RMA folks will make the final decision if there is a disagreement between the producer, insurance company or elevator manager,” Gibson said. “If you have followed the right procedure and have it all documented, as a producer you should be OK.”

Gibson said anyone with more questions is welcome to contact him at 806-763-2676, 806-786-7265 or dgibson@texascorn.org. He said he has been through this before with aflatoxin issues and knows producers have many questions.

RMA officials clarified, after many producer questions about timing and lack of current lack of testing facilities, that once a sample is taken, the level of fumonisin in the sample will not change. So, while there is a four-day limit to get the sample to the official testing site, there is not a limit on the time for the actual testing.

Dr. Tim Herrman, with the Office of the Texas State Chemist, or OTSC, in College Station, said the contaminated grain is under the authority of the Texas Feed and Fertilizer Control Service.

He said they realize there is a challenge associated with the sampling and testing for fumonisin, but he expects numerous additional approved labs and designees to be operating by the end of next week using the OTSC One Sample Strategy or

as a GIPSA-approved lab.

Herrman said the OTSC implemented the One Sample Strategy program to measure and manage the risk using official equipment and methods and issue official results.

“Our goal is to protect animal and human health, but also protect the marketplace,” he said.

The One Sample Strategy, Herrman said, utilizes the concept of “test once, use multiple times.” The program provides legal certainty to the agriculture community while preserving market integrity through accurate sampling and testing.

He said the One Sample Strategy facilitates risk management by training grain elevator or other end-user employees to accurately measure the level of fumonisin in any incoming truckload of corn. Employees who pass a proficiency verification evaluation are qualified to analyze samples as designees of

his office.

“We can test, and test accurately, using official procedures accepted and used by multiple places multiple times including crop insurance,” Herrman said. “Let's do it right once and move forward.”

Once facilities are approved as One Sample Strategy participants, they will be listed on the website, results reported as official results by the Office of the Texas State Chemist, and they will be accepted as official for crop insurance according to the Risk Management Agency, Mitchell said.

Herrman said representatives of his office would be in the High Plains next week to qualify employees at facilities requesting participation. These samples will be accurate up to a total concentration of 100 ppm. For more information, go to One Sample Strategy.

Dr. Cat Barr, Texas Veterinary

Medical Diagnostic Laboratory veterinary toxicologist, College Station, said fumonisin is toxic because it changes the way cells communicate with each other in both animals and humans.

The acceptable level for cattle is 60 ppm because they are ruminant animals, but horses are much more susceptible and can receive no more than 5 ppm fed as 20 percent of their diet before it can cause cell death.

“The only way to handle fumonisin poisoning is to avoid it,” Barr said. “That means having any corn-based feed tested to verify its safety. I'm hoping our education efforts can help stop this before it gets into the feed stream. I believe we can do it.”

More information on the fumonisin guidance levels set by FDA and regulated by the OTSC can be found at <http://bit.ly/2k5WgQN>, along with the potential effects on various animal species.

Applications for TALL Program now accepted

By Blair Fannin

The Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership Program, also known as TALL, is now accepting applications for its new class beginning in July 2018.

TALL is a two-year leadership development program managed by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Applications for Class XVI are due March 15. The applications are available online at <http://tall.tamu.edu>.

“The agriculture industry constantly faces new and unique challenges, and there is a need for individuals who have leadership potential to serve in decision-making positions,” said Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, AgriLife Extension leadership program director. “TALL graduates provide a new pool of proven leaders who can provide the leadership, insight, knowledge and direction to ensure agriculture is viable in the future.”

The program features 455 hours of intensive training per person in seminars, speakers and domestic and international study trips over two years, Mazurkiewicz said.

“It's equivalent to the time spent obtaining a master's degree in agriculture,” he said.

The typical class size is about 24, and participation cost is \$3,000, he said.

“The mission of the program is to create a cadre of Texas leaders to ensure effective understanding and encourage positive action on key issues, theories, policy and economics that will advance the agricultural industry,” Mazurkiewicz said.

“The TALL program is the most comprehensive leadership development program of its kind,” said Wes Chandler, a TALL XIV alumni from Garrison. “This program presents

an opportunity for each graduate, from the farm laborer to the policymaker, to find common ground in order to reach a common goal.”

“TALL is an amazing educational experience,” said Grady Martin, a TALL XI alumni from Lubbock. “We had the opportunity to meet leaders in agriculture across Texas, the United States, Mexico, Russia and Poland. Location visits with the owners and operators provided operational appreciation and understanding not possible in a classroom environment. The TALL program exceeded my expectations exponentially.”

Participants include traditional crop producers, ranchers, bankers and attorneys, as well as those who work in lumber, food processing, agricultural corporations and horticultural industries, Mazurkiewicz said.

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(806) 250-3545

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PARMER COUNTY CANCER COALITION

Friona ★ Star

2017 Football Contest

1st Place: \$35
 2nd Place: \$25
 Grand Prize: \$100

CONTEST RULES

Tie Breaker: Pick the total score of both tie breaker games. The second tie-breaker game will be used in case two or more players are tied after the first tie-breaker game. Entries are due by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Three Ways to Enter:

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 Friona, TX 79035

-or-
 Bring Entry to:
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-or-
 Dorothy's Beauty Shop
 3rd St. in Bovina.

Mailed entries should be postmarked by 4 p.m. Friday.

Each correct game picked counts as one point. Player with the most total points at the end of the contest will win a Grand Prize of \$100.

Only one entry form per individual. Must be 10-years or over to enter. Newspaper employees and their immediate families are not eligible to enter.

For questions or more information call: 806-250-2211.

All entries must be on the official entry form.

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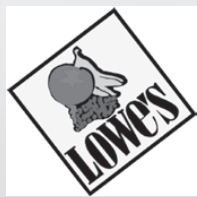
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