



## Vote March 3rd

**Joint General Primary Election  
Republican Party & Democratic Party**

**Election Day Polling Places  
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Precinct 101, 202, and 402**  
Senior Citizens Center  
1410 Washington  
Friona, Texas

**Precinct 201 and 303**  
EMS Building  
109 3rd Street  
Bovina, Texas

**Precinct 203**  
Rhea Community Center  
307 FM 2013  
Friona, Texas

**Precinct 301**  
Farwell Community Center  
209 9th Street  
Farwell, Texas

**Precinct 302**  
Oklahoma Lane Methodist Church  
645 FM 1731  
Farwell, Texas

**Precinct 401**  
Lazbuddie Methodist Church  
665 FM 1172  
Lazbuddie, Texas

**Early Voting  
February 27, 2020  
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
February 28, 2020  
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
Parmer County Courthouse  
401 3rd Street  
Farwell, Texas

## Local Election News

### City Council

The Friona City Council Election has been cancelled. Three positions were on the ballot and only the incumbents filed paperwork for the election. Mayor Ricky White will serve another term as mayor. Aldermen Brent Loflin and Greg Lewellen will serve on the City Council for another term.

### Parmer County Hospital District

The Parmer County Hospital District Election has been cancelled. Three positions were on the ballot and only the incumbents filed paperwork for the election. Board members Dale Schueler, Dennis Anthony, and Bret Whitten will serve another term.

### Friona Independent School District

The FISD Board of Trustees Elections has been cancelled. Two positions were on the ballot and only the incumbents filed paperwork for the election. Board members Jamie Lewellen and Wade Schueler will serve another term.



**Where's the beef?** "Herd" it through the grapevine that the Steer has bolted, actually "unbolted", from his home on the range in the park. A "steering" committee has been formed to steer the steer to the "body" shop for a little hoof-n-horn repair due to recent wind damage. The Star will steer clear of any needless speculation and will stick to the meat of the story...and that's no bull!!!

## 2020 All School Reunion set for September 19th



Ex Students & Teachers Committee: (l-r) Marca Lynn Herring, Sharon White, Kim Smiley, Elizabeth McLellan, City Manager Lee Davila. Seated: Mitchell Smiley and grandson River Dean (son of Clayton & Sara Smiley). Committee members not pictured include Pat Blackburn, Kitty Gallman, & Mary Joyce Barnett.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Planning is underway for the 2020 All School Reunion to be held on September 19, 2020 at the Friona Community Center. Every person in every class is responsible for spreading the word!!! All past & present students, teachers, employees, and administrators are invited to attend. Information will be available at [www.cityoffriona.com/2020allschoolreunion](http://www.cityoffriona.com/2020allschoolreunion). Also visit Friona Ex Students and Teachers on Facebook. Stay tuned, more details to follow.

## Governor Proclaims March 2nd To Be Texas Independence Day

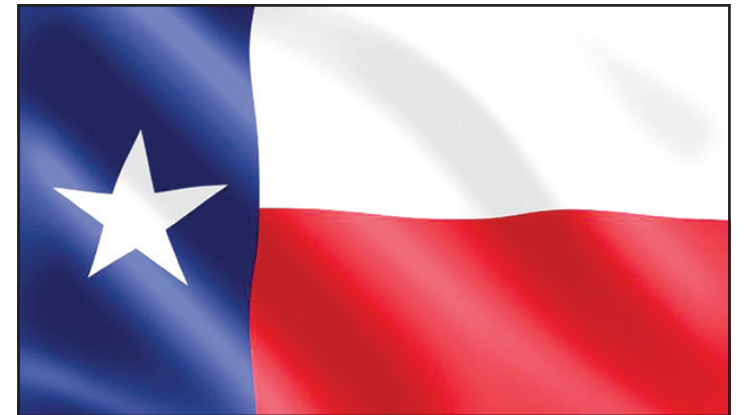
Through the pen and the sword, Texans fought for independence from a government in Mexico that denied its citizens freedom and justice. While delegates gathered at Washington-on-the-Brazos on March 2, 1836, to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence, brave defenders continued fighting, many making the ultimate sacrifice and securing independence at the Battle of San Jacinto.

As those delegates declared 184 years ago, when a government ceases to protect the lives, liberty, and property of the people from whom its power is derived, that government becomes an instrument of oppression and must be abolished. In rebellion to the

actions of Mexico, brave men and women gave rise to a free and sovereign republic.

In the fall of 1835 at Gonzales, Texans of all backgrounds banded together to fight for the cause of liberty. Throughout the revolution, many heroic Texans were lost, most notably at the Alamo and Presidio La Bahia in Goliad, but their sacrifices were not in vain and served as a rallying cry for the Texian forces under General Sam Houston. Texas forces defeated Santa Anna at the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, declaring victory and securing freedom for the Republic of Texas.

The vision of freedom set down by our founders in the Texas Declaration of In-



dependence lives on in the Texas spirit today. As we continue building a 21st century Texas, we must always remember how the sacrifices of past generations build the future for the next. At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about, reflect on,

and take pride in our state's unique origins and rich history.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim March 2, 2020 to be Texas Independence Day and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.



Let's get ready to rumbaaaaaaa! Fiesta Friona will samba into the Friona Community Center Tuesday evening March 10th as the Friona Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture hosts its 64th Annual Awards Banquet. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and the extravaganza will commence at 6:00 p.m. with emcees Ed & Tyleen Caffrey and the posting of the colors by Girl Scout Troop #5171.

Festivities will include a silent auction, live auction, and presentation of awards. A Homemade Salsa Competition will also be held during the evening with \$150 being awarded to the winner.

A steak dinner will be served by Friona Junior High students and Friona High School FCCLA students. The steaks are provided by Cargill and will be cooked by Xcel Energy employees. Dinner rolls will be provided by Amigo's of Hereford.

Little Miss Friona Ellie Jo Weatherly and Miss Friona Carly Drake will be in-

troducted and Carly will perform. Entertainment will also be provided by Ballet Folklorico San José de Hereford, Texas.

**Tickets for the Awards Banquet are \$25 each. Gold sponsorships can be purchased for \$500.00 and includes a reserved table for 8. Call the Friona Chamber office at 250-3491 for more information.**

The annual banquet funds all Chamber events throughout the year including the Cheeseburger Festival, Miss Friona Scholarship Pageant, and Christmas in the Park.

Last year's winners were: Larry Rector, Man of the Year; Sharon Rector, Woman of the Year; Fabiola Dominguez, Woman of the Year; Jennifer Baize, Employee of the Year; David Gonzales, Educator of the Year; Adriana Ortiz-Carrillo, Girl Student of the Year; Damian Rodriguez, Boy Student of the Year.

The Chamber of Commerce Board of

Directors includes President Kathy Rector, VP Erika Carrillo, Jimmy Burns, Lee Davila, Wesley Drake, Sergio Mendez, Cindy Moreno, Crystal Moroney, Larry Rector, Varla Wilcox, Yvette Williams, and Bobby Tyler. Chris Alexander is the Executive Vice President, and Heather Grimsley is the Administrative Assistant.



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Basketball  
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Emergency Siren System: Alternating tone • Firefighters only | Weather Warning: 1 long tone • take cover — 3 short blasts • all clear | Tested 1st & 3rd Thurs. at 7 p.m.

Friona Weather Feb-Mar 27-4	T ☀️ 61   26 NNW 10-15	F ☀️ 63   33 N 5-10	S ☁️ 69   42 SW 15-25	S ☁️ 71   42 W 15-25	M ☁️ 63   37 WSW 15-25	T ☁️ 57   34 WNW 10-20	W ☀️ 59   28 WNW 10-20	Precipitation February 0.67 Year 1.24	Burn Ban: <b>No</b>
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# 2020 Census News

Last week, we spoke about the 2020 Census and why it is important to Friona. Counting every person living in the United States is a massive undertaking, and efforts begin years in advance. Here's a look at some of the key dates in 2020:

**2020**

- **March 12 - 20:** Households will begin receiving official Census Bureau mail with detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail.
- **March 30 - April 1:** The Census Bureau will count people who are experiencing homelessness over these three days. As part of this process, the Census Bureau counts people in shelters, at soup kitchens and mobile food vans, on the streets, and at non-sheltered, outdoor locations such as tent encampments.
- **April 1:** Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the



2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you should respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. When you respond to the census, you'll tell the Census Bureau where you live as of April 1, 2020.

- **April:** Census takers will begin visiting college students who live on campus, people living in senior centers, and others who live among large groups of people. Census takers also begin conducting quality check interviews to

help ensure an accurate count.

- **May - July:** Census takers will begin visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to help make sure everyone is counted.
- **December:** The Census Bureau will deliver apportionment counts to the President and Congress as required by law.

So **TAKE THE PLEDGE.** Inspire others. Tell everyone - your friends and family, your neighbors and co-workers - that you will complete the census, and tell them why it's important that they respond too.

Census results have an impact on planning and funding for health clinics and highways, public safety departments and disaster response, education programs such as Head Start and college tuition assistance, and so much more.

For more information on the Parmer County 2020 Complete Count Committee, please visit:

[www.cityoffriona.com/2020census](http://www.cityoffriona.com/2020census)

## Community Calendar

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

**February 20**

- Snack Pak 4 Kids at 4:30 p.m. at Friona United Methodist Church (volunteers needed)
- Parmer County Area AA meeting at the Friona Methodist Church (north entrance) at 7 p.m.

**February 24**

- Junior High Open House at 5:30 p.m.

**February 27**

- Snack Pak 4 Kids at 4:30 p.m. at Friona United Methodist Church (volunteers needed)
- Parmer County Area AA meeting at the Friona Methodist Church (north entrance) at 7 p.m.

**March 1**

- St. Teresa's Annual Mexican Dinner from 11:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

**March 2**

- Friona Noon Lions Club meeting at noon at The Farmwife Kitchen
- Parmer County Retired Teachers & School Personnel tour Parmer County Pioneer Heritage Museum at 2:00 p.m.

**March 5**

- Snack Pak 4 Kids at 4:30 p.m. at Friona United Methodist Church (volunteers needed)
- Parmer County Area AA meeting at the Friona Methodist Church (north entrance) at 7 p.m.

**March 9**

- Parkinson Support Group Meeting at 5:30 p.m. (MST) at Clovis Community College Rm. 101 Main Bldg. in Clovis, New Mexico

**March 10**

- Friona Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Awards Banquet 6:00 p.m. at Community Center

**March 12**

- Snack Pak 4 Kids at 4:30 p.m. at Friona United Methodist Church (volunteers needed)
- Parmer County Area AA meeting at the Friona Methodist Church (north entrance) at 7 p.m.

**March 16**

- Friona Noon Lions Club meeting at noon at The Farmwife Kitchen

**March 19**

- Snack Pak 4 Kids at 4:30 p.m. at Friona United Methodist Church (volunteers needed)
- Parmer County Area AA meeting at the Friona Methodist Church (north entrance) at 7 p.m.

## FRIONA STAR SUBSCRIPTIONS

IN PARMER COUNTY: \$30 PER YEAR

OUT OF PARMER COUNTY: \$40 PER YEAR

E-STAR (EMAILED): \$24 PER YEAR

Call 806-250-2211 for more information

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

1 about 16 miles north-west of Fort Worth

5 TXism: "he don't dance with the facts"

6 TX Trevor Brazile is a 25-time rodeo champ in this org.

7 coats with frozen water

8 TXism: "every \_\_\_ and then"

9 TX has several \_\_\_ bird farms

16 Oklahoma city

18 French cattle breed: Blonde d' \_\_\_

21 TXism: "close but \_\_\_ cigar"

22 big coffee makers

23 "La \_\_\_ del Rey" is a 25-time rodeo champ in this org.

24 TX Tech grad Lakas was president of this canal country this TX actress Linda was on TV's "Evening Shade"

34 TX John Hillerman was on "Magnum \_\_\_" (1980-88)

35 TXism: "strong as \_\_\_ breadth"

36 a hot brandin' iron will \_\_\_ the hide

37 faucet drips

39 TXism: "confused as \_\_\_"

43 TXism: "the \_\_\_ in the fire" (trouble)

44 an inner suburb of Fort Worth

45 TXism: "let ' \_\_\_ rip!"

46 TXism: " \_\_\_ donkey fly?" (no)

47 heal up

49 TXism: "he couldn't \_\_\_ upper lip"

52 King Ranch founder (init.)

53 a Love Field abbr.

54 a meaning of 49-across

55 medically insert in a body

58 Rangers will not have a rain \_\_\_ at new Field

59 \_\_\_-o'-shanter

60 "Fossil \_\_\_ Wildlife Center"

61 " \_\_\_ riot, one Ranger"

**DOWN**

1 home of Sul Ross State University

2 when colorless, it can be used as a diamond substitute

3 the "green \_\_\_" has been used in TX as ag pest control

4 historical periods

9 NFL coach: \_\_\_ "Bum" Phillips

10 TXism: "safe as a \_\_\_ up a tree"

11 TXism: " \_\_\_ some clods" (plow)

12 "Dallas Cowboys \_\_\_ of Honor"

13 being a Texan is a privilege in \_\_\_

14 21st TX governor: \_\_\_ Culberson

15 TXism: "feeling \_\_\_ oats" (frisky)

17 TXism: " \_\_\_ dog stink?" (yes)

19 you need plenty of 'em when eating barbecue

20 "tall ship" anchored in Galveston Bay

24 " \_\_\_" Ferguson

25 nat'l org. for docs

26 criticizes often

27 bear sound (2 wds.)

28 scanty

29 TXism: "he couldn't ride \_\_\_ horse" (tenderfoot)

31 TXism: " \_\_\_ earned his spurs" (experienced)

32 TX Tommy Lee Jones 1984 film: "The River \_\_\_"

33 "I can't quite \_\_\_" (too short)

38 TXism: "faster than a prairie fire with \_\_\_ wind"

40 Yoko \_\_\_

41 church auditorium

42 fancy word for a principle inspiring devotion or courage

48 sudden attack

50 \_\_\_ fish (crawfish)

51 historic cattle town: Abilene, \_\_\_

56 Dallas-Fort Worth area: " \_\_\_plex"

57 \_\_\_ view, TX

solution on page 4

### 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](mailto:comments@whitehouse.gov).

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

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

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

**State**

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

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

**Representative:** John T. Smithee, Room CAP1W.10, Capitol P.O. Box 2910, Austin, Tx 78768. 512-463-0702. fax 512-476-7016. Amarillo office; 320 So. Polk, 1st Floor, Lobby box 28, Amarillo 79101. 806-372-3327, fax 806-342-0327.

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**MEMBER**

**TA**

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

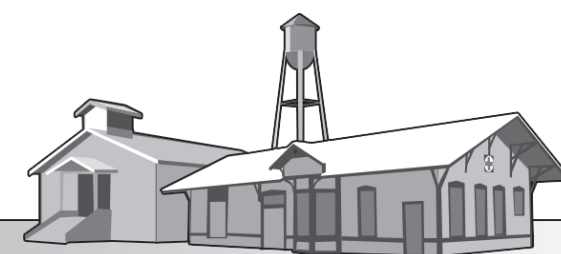
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\$40 out of County  
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[frionaonline.com](http://frionaonline.com)-website

### Friona Flashbacks

There was a lot of 'free dirt' in the Panhandle last Saturday afternoon and evening as 30-40 mph winds, gusting to 60 mph, pounded the area. Allan Haile was landscaping his State Farm office and offered this pile of dirt free before the storm hit. The wind blew about half of the dirt pile and the sign away. By mid-week folks had taken him up on the free offer and the dirt pile was gone. (Friona Star, March 28, 2013 - Ron Carr photo)



## TOWN TALK

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

Friona High School is hosting a Blood Drive on Thursday, February 27th from 11 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. in the Library and Hallway at the High School campus. Call 806-331-8833 or visit yourbloodinstitute.org to schedule an appointment. All donors get a "Be The Change" t-shirt and a Bowling Guest Pass good for one free game of bowling at Western Bowl in Amarillo.

A Homemade Salsa Competition will be a part of the Chamber Awards Banquet on March 10th. The deadline to enter is Friday, February 28th and only the first 16 entries will be taken. The rules are simple. You pick up your jar from the Chamber when you register. You make your salsa and put it into the jar. On a note card write the name of your salsa and the ingredients. Bring your salsa to the Chamber office on Monday, March 9th. Your salsa will be on display for tasting Tuesday, March 10th at the banquet. The winner will be announced that night at the banquet. The winner gets \$150 cash. Call 250-3491 or go by the Chamber office at 621 Main to enter.

BigIron Auctions is hosting the estate auctions for the late Don Oppliger, with more than 600 total items online and 130 items physically located near Amarillo, Texas. The Oppliger Estate items are being posted on BigIron's online auction platform where anyone from anywhere in the country can bid on quality items at competitive prices. The auctions will close on March 11, 2020. Visit the website at www.bigiron.com for more information.

REMINDER...The Parmer County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a \$1,200.00 college scholarship to a Parmer County high school senior planning to major in agriculture. Please call 806-481-3111 x3 for an application.

REMINDER...Parmer County Retired Teachers and School Personnel will meet at the Parmer County Pioneer Heritage Museum at 2:00 pm on Monday, March 2, 2020. The museum is located in the former Congregational Church building at 218 West 6th Street in Friona. Gladys Spring will conduct a tour of the museum. Guests are welcome.

REMINDER...St. Teresa's Catholic Church is hosting its Annual Mexican Dinner on Sunday, March 1st from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Donations are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 10 years of age. The meal will consist of enchiladas, tacos, rice, beans, chips & salsa, dessert, tea, and coffee. Take-out plates will be available. Please come and fellowship and enjoy a delicious meal.

Congratulations to the FHS Powerlifting teams. Both the girls and boys have performed well at the four meets this year. The Chiefs won the Seagraves Invitational last week. The boys team has two 1st place finishes and two 2nd place finishes. Juan Trejo, Dio Ponce, Jeremiah Diaz, and Roger Palacios each won first place in their respective weight divisions. See results on page 8. Next up, the girls regional meet is at Seagraves on March 7th and the boys regional meet is at Sundown on March 14th. Go Big Red!

Make sure to visit Connie Slagle's "Building Friona" Facebook site. You can view and post pictures of Friona's buildings past and present. You can also leave comments and/or provide more information regarding the photos and the history behind them.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reminds agricultural producers interested in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) 2020 general signup to enroll by February 28, 2020. This signup is available to farmers and private landowners who are either enrolling for the first time or re-enrolling for another 10- to 15-year term. Contact the Parmer County FSA Office at 1-806-481-3311.

- National Days**
- February 27 — Chili Day
  - February 28 — Floral Design Day
  - February 29 — Rare Disease Day
  - March 1 — Peanut Butter Lover's Day
  - March 2 — Dr. Seuss Day
  - March 3 — National Anthem Day
  - March 4 — Grammar Day

We're studying problems... ...and thinking about inventions. Kids: color stuff in! **Newspaper Fun!** www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2020 V16-8

### Inventors Change Our Lives!

Have you ever invented anything? Inventors notice a problem, then figure out a way to fix it. Sometimes inventors have a brand new idea and sometimes they combine other people's ideas with their own. Please excuse me now. It's time to practice my "Ollie."

**Read the clues to fill in the puzzle:**

- Thomas Edison developed over 1,000 inventions. He is most famous for the light bulb, but he also invented the \_\_\_\_\_, which has become popular again.
- A team of inventors working for the U.S. Department of Defense created the Global \_\_\_\_\_ System, a tool to find your way using satellites!
- Marie Curie was the first woman to receive the Nobel Prize. Her work helped us to understand \_\_\_\_\_ and the effects of X-rays. She has an element named after her - Curium.
- Louis Braille, blinded in an accident at three years old, created a system of \_\_\_\_\_ and writing by using raised dots that people could feel with their fingers.
- Orville and Wilbur Wright owned a bicycle shop. They experimented with flying machines. Their plane (trial flights at Kitty Hawk, N.C.) was the basis for the \_\_\_\_\_ we have today.
- Francis Robbins Upton helped to keep us safe from fire by inventing the smoke \_\_\_\_\_.
- Alec Jeffreys changed the court system when he invented DNA \_\_\_\_\_. With this invention, guilt or innocence were much easier to prove!
- Leonardo da Vinci, the artist who painted the Mona Lisa, was also talented at sculpting, engineering and inventing. He had ideas for a helicopter, a \_\_\_\_\_ and a diving suit.
- Martin Cooper improved on the invention of Alexander Graham Bell with the \_\_\_\_\_, widely used to communicate today.
- George Washington Carver was born into slavery, but he became a botanist who developed over 300 uses for \_\_\_\_\_ and many ideas for sweet potatoes and pecans.
- Ben Franklin was known for experimenting and inventing many things.
- (continued) He had trouble seeing so he designed a \_\_\_\_\_ for eyeglasses that helped him see near and far.
- Alexander Graham Bell, whose mother and wife were deaf, created the \_\_\_\_\_ and worked on other inventions that help people communicate.

### Inventions We Love!

Find and circle these words in the puzzle:

Match each clue about an inventor to the invention we love:

- Samuel Born invented a machine that inserted the sticks into \_\_\_\_\_
- Rose Totino invented a dough product for frozen \_\_\_\_\_
- Pedro Flores mass produced a toy on a string called a \_\_\_\_\_
- Robert Patch, at 6 years old, designed a toy \_\_\_\_\_
- Ralph Baer invented the first home video game console and \_\_\_\_\_
- George Ferris designed this giant fun ride called the Ferris \_\_\_\_\_
- Frank Epperson, who at age 11 found a fruit soda and stirring stick he left outside to be frozen, invented the \_\_\_\_\_
- Alan Ollie Gelfand developed the "Ollie," a leap into the air on a \_\_\_\_\_
- Ruth Wakefield put chocolate bits into her cookie dough, creating \_\_\_\_\_
- Curt Jones invented a snack by flash freezing beads of \_\_\_\_\_

A. yo-yo  
B. pizza  
C. wheel  
D. game  
E. truck  
F. chocolate chip cookies  
G. Popsicle  
H. lollipops  
I. ice cream  
J. skateboard

Who invented balloons? Who invented the Mylar \_\_\_\_\_ ones?  
A small "R" inside a circle shows that this item is a "registered" product. This mark protects the inventor.

### Six Steps to Invention

Wow! My jaw aches from trying to eat so much tough junk. I need a machine to chew everything into little pieces and drop them into a bowl for me. Maybe I could add a little milk...

Peak is dreaming and scheming, but isn't doing anything about his problem. Help Peak learn the steps to solving his problem. Read the six steps in the boxes and put them in the order Peak should follow to make an invention that would help him out. Two are done for you:

- Show and share your first model with others.
- Think of a way to fix the problem.
- Finish your invention and have fun using it!
- Create a model of your idea.
- Notice a problem.
- Listen to what others tell you. Make your invention better.

## BI-WIZE

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# ~OBITUARY~

## James Monroe Procter (Pop)

James Monroe Procter (Pop) passed from this life on February 22, 2020 at age 93. A memorial service will be held at the Sixth Street Church of Christ in Friona on Saturday, February 29, at 11:00 a.m. with Jeff Procter officiating.



He was born on December 14, 1926 to Lillie Mae and Ben Robert Procter. He grew up in the Lamesa, Texas area and graduated from high school in 1944. His parents signed for him to join the Navy on December 6, 1944 as he was not quite 18 years old. While on leave from Boot Camp, he came home to Lamesa and married Sue Peterson on February 20, 1945. After his discharge in April of 1946, he returned to Lamesa to farm. In 1952, the family moved to Friona, bought land north of town and farmed for many years. In addition to farming, he served many years as a Deacon for the Sixth Street Church of Christ in Friona.

In all his roles as a father, grandfather, great grandfather, and more recently great great grandfather, he was known for his humble spirit, friend to all, his refinishing of antique furniture, and his ability to create many wood projects, including wood toys, bird houses, and food carriers as requested by

his wife and daughters-in law. He was very generous with his talents in this area and will be remembered each time these wooden items are used. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lillie Mae and Ben Robert Procter in 1961. He is survived by his wife, Sue Procter of Friona, Ron Procter and wife, Libby, of Monahans, Texas, Dwayne Procter and wife, Cheryl, of Friona Texas, and Ted Procter and wife, Glenda, also of Friona, Texas. He is also survived by seven grandchildren, sixteen great grandchildren, and one great great grandchild, eighteen nieces and nephews, and many, many friends.



### Panhandle Parables

## He Showed Us!

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

I knew this day would come, but you are never quite ready when it does. Last week I shared with you all that my grandparents celebrated their 75th Wedding Anniversary on Thursday, February 20th. On Saturday morning two days later, Pop would join the great cloud of witnesses spoken of in Hebrews as he went to be with the Lord.

Pop was and still is a tremendous influence in our lives. He didn't give us deep philosophical explanations about things in this life. He showed us. Sometimes words, especially today, get watered down into meaningless noise. Pop did mean what he said and said what he meant, but most of the time the words were less, but the actions clear. He did things not because we were watching but because they were the right thing to do and we learned to do right things. He showed us many things over the years. He did not talk to us a lot about faith, but he faithfully planted each year trusting the Lord to do what only the Lord can do, and we learned to be faithful with much or little. He didn't

talk to us much about love, but nearly everyday the last 3 years he made sure he was ready at 4pm to go see his girl for an hour at Prairie Acres and we learned that love wasn't a feeling, but a way to live. He taught us to work with our hands and create something new out of something old, and we learned that treasure can be found anywhere if you are looking at it with the eyes of possibility. He would take us to pick a watermelon in the morning and stick it in the water trough and by afternoon we had cold watermelon that tasted great, and we learned that patience is better learned slowly. Yes, I could go on with this, but I think you see my point. Pop did not tell us many things. He showed us and in so doing taught us more in his actions than his words.

I want to encourage you to do the same. In the book of James, he would write, don't be hearers of the Word only, but do what it says (James 1:22). In the book of James there is much about doing, not just saying and wouldn't you know it? Our Pop was known by many of you as James.

### Communication is a Great Thing

By Teena Hughes

This morning I was reading Joshua 22:10,11: "But while they were still in Canaan, before they crossed the Jordan River, Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh built a very large altar near the Jordan River at a place called Geliloth. When the rest of Israel heard they had built the altar at Geliloth west of the Jordan River, in the land of Canaan, the whole assembly gathered at Shiloh and prepared to go to war against their brother tribes."

You may remember that the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh settled on the east side of the Jordan River; they chose not to live in the Promised Land. But, to be able to do this, they agreed to enter the Promised Land and fight with the other tribes of Israel to take over the Promised Land, to rid it of all evil and paganism. That had been accomplished, and Joshua was sending them home.

Now, because they built an altar, they were facing war. But wait, before attacking Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, "they sent a delegation led by Phinehas, son of Eleazar, the priest. They crossed the river TO TALK (my emphasis) with the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh."

You see, the Israelites THOUGHT they knew why their brother tribes built the altar: "The whole community of the LORD demands to know why you are betraying the God of Israel. How could you turn away from the LORD and build an altar in rebellion against Him?" They go on to further explain their reasons for being upset in verses 17 - 20.

In their defense, the tribes

of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh told the high officials that in deed, the LORD alone is God; if they built the altar in rebellion to God, their lives should not be spared; but, they built the altar for their descendants. "We have built this altar because we fear that in the future your descendants will say to ours, "What right do you have to worship the LORD, the God of Israel? The LORD has placed the Jordan River as a barrier between our people and your people. You have no claim to the LORD." And your descendants stop worshipping the LORD. That is why the altar was built...to let future Israelites know that just because a river stood between them, ALL of them had "the right to worship the LORD at His sanctuary with our burnt offerings, sacrifices, and peace offerings." War was averted.

Isn't it amazing what a little communication prevented? Rather than letting what the 9 1/2 tribes thought was happening and going to war over it, they sent a delegation to the 2 1/2 tribes to discuss it. As it turned out, they had made wrong assumptions.

We do the same thing, and oftentimes, we don't go talk to the people about what has us upset. We just choose to sit, stew, and make the problems worse than they are. Assumptions can be a bad thing sometimes. Taking the time and effort to go talk to someone takes courage, but in the end, it is amazing at all the good it does. Joshua 22 is good reading; I hope you will take the time to read it all and learn from it.

## Contend for the Faith against Adversaries

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Jude, the half-brother of Jesus compelled the church in the first century and us today "to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints," (1:3 ESV). The true believer can be a faithful contender because of the assurance we have in Christ Jesus for salvation, but a true contender for the faith must also be aware of adversaries to the faith.

In Jude, one can learn a great deal regarding how to spot someone who is an adversary to the faith. What is interesting about Jude is that he does not spend much time describing the false

teaching of those who were dividing the churches, but he focused mostly on their character and life. It is not that what they were teaching was his focus, but the fruit in their lives it produced. Verses 4, 8, 10 and 16 paint the picture of these people as sensual, blasphemers of what they don't understand, grumblers, malcontents, boasters and those who follow their own sinful desires. In other words, their lives did not depict a life transformed by the gospel, because their teaching was void of the power of the gospel truth to change lives through the Holy Spirit.

The point is that when one measures what a person, preacher, televangelist, Bible study teacher or any other person who seeks to influence others spiritually, know that a huge part of their fidelity to the faith is not simply in what they say, but also in how they live. In Jude's day, just as today, there were those who seeped into the churches, seemed spiritual, but the fruit of their life denied the gospel. Beware of such persons who trade in the truth and standards of God for the shifting winds of the world as you "contend for the faith once for all delivered to the saints," (v3).

**The family of the late Karon Zachary wish to express their appreciation to those who offered such kindness, support, and messages of sympathy and comfort during this difficult time. They would also like to express a special thanks to the staff and doctors at Parmer Medical Center. Through the excellent care and rehab they provided, we were able to enjoy an extra two years with our wife, mother, and friend.**

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# State Capital Highlights

By Ed Sterling



## Governor establishes clemency application for certain survivors

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on Feb. 20 established a clemency application specifically for survivors of human trafficking or domestic violence.

The application, crafted in coordination with the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles, includes a section that affords the applicant an opportunity to provide a statement to the board regarding their human trafficking or domestic violence victimization.

Human trafficking and domestic violence, according to the governor's office, often lead victims down a path of offenses that entraps them in a vicious cycle of abuse and associated crime. Abbott's announcement coincides with the launch of a new public awareness campaign informing survivors that they can submit an application for Board of Pardons and Paroles to review and consider recommending that the governor grant a full pardon for crimes committed while under the grips of a trafficker or an abusive partner. "Texas is committed to empowering the survivors of domestic abuse and human trafficking, and one of the surest signals of that goal is laying out a true path to redemption and restoration," Abbott said.

"The gubernatorial pardon plays an important role in this redemption process, because it offers a second chance to survivors with criminal convictions resulting from their abuse or exploitation. I am grateful for our ongoing partnership with the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles as we work together to develop a stronger justice system that promotes redemption, restoration and transformation," Abbott added.

In his recent announcement proclaiming January as Human Trafficking Prevention Month, Abbott applauded state lawmakers for passing legislation to provide survivors with "streamlined access to a clean criminal record and a fresh start."

## AG leads in support of act

Some 42 state attorneys general joined Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton in a Feb. 20 letter expressing support of the Bankruptcy Venue Reform Act of 2019.

If passed by Congress and signed into law by the president, the federal legislation would prevent forum shopping during bankruptcy litigation. Paxton said such a law would provide protection to consumers, workers, retirees, shareholders and small business vendors "who are currently harmed by the one-sided right for corporate debtors to choose whichever court they prefer."

Currently, Paxton said, individuals can only file bankruptcy in their district of residence. Corporations, on the other hand, have a wide choice of possible venues, which can be manipulated to their own advantage, he added.

## Update: Coronavirus

The Texas Department of State Health Services on Feb. 21 announced the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had confirmed three cases of novel coronavirus 2019 in people under federal quarantine at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

The first was a traveler who returned on a U.S. State Department-chartered flight from Wuhan City, China. The others returned on a State Department flight for passengers from the Diamond Princess cruise ship quarantined in Yokohama, Japan. The individuals are currently isolated and receiving appropriate care at medical facilities.

There were no other reported cases in Texas and officials said the risk of contracting the virus for all Texans remains low. The Department of State Health Services offers information on "COVID-19" for the public, health care professionals, health departments and labs at [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus).

In other news, the DSHS on Feb. 21 reported there have been 15 pediatric flu-related deaths reported this season in Texas.

The agency urged Texans who have not taken this season's influenza vaccine to get vaccinated without further delay. More information can be found online at [www.texasflu.org](https://www.texasflu.org).

## AG sues over explosion

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on Feb. 21 announced that Texas Attorney General Paxton had filed a lawsuit against TPC Group Inc. and TPC Group LLC for violations of the Texas Clean Air Act and the Texas Water Code pertaining to the Nov. 27, 2019 explosion at its Port Neches plant.

The lawsuit requests that the court grant injunctive relief, civil penalties, reasonable attorney fees, court costs and investigative costs to the state.

The lawsuit also includes claims that TPC Group caused numerous violations of TCEQ's air quality program from January 2018 through September 2019.

TCEQ Executive Director Toby Baker and House State Affairs Committee Chairman Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont, applauded Paxton for taking legal action. "Through this suit, the state can learn what caused the incident, how to prevent such occurrences in the future and adequately penalize all violations," Phelan said.

## Early voting to end soon

The Texas Secretary of State's Elections Division has posted answers to common questions relating to voting in the March 3 Super Tuesday party primary elections.

- The answers are:
- Any registered voter may vote early by personal appearance (in person);
  - Early voting by personal appearance began on Feb. 18 and will end on Feb. 28; and
  - Voters may vote at any early voting location in their county of registration.



## Sweet Potatoes

Over the years an ongoing debate has ensued in our house about sweet potatoes and yams. Jarrett likes to call them yams, but Hadley refutes this claim explaining how yams are only grown in Africa and that sweet potatoes and yams are not the same thing. Then Jarrett continues to call them yams, just to irritate his older brother.

Hadley is correct, of course. Yams and sweet potatoes are not the same thing. Yams are a totally different plant related to the lily. They are grown in Africa and other more tropical climates such as the Caribbean Islands. They are brown with a rough peel and flesh that is white or purple. The yam is starchier and lacks sweetness. Another notable difference is the rounded ends on a yam.

Sweet potatoes are from the morning glory family and can range in color from orange to purple to white.

In contrast to the yam, a sweet potato has an elongated and tapering point on both ends. Sweet potatoes, one of the oldest known vegetables, originating in Central America. There is some dispute about how they made their way to Europe. The traditional thought was that Christopher Columbus took them back after his travels to the new world. However, more recent DNA tests have shown that the sweet potato was in Polynesia some 400 years before the Europeans made it to South America. It is believed that the Polynesians traveled across the ocean to South America before the Spaniards. After making it to Europe, the sweet potato made its way through China and then Asia, Africa, and Latin America. It was later introduced to the Southeastern United States and grown

by Native Americans. Slaves in the Southern states survived on sweet potatoes as did many in the South after the Civil War.

Sweet potatoes are highly nutritious and can be prepared baked, fried, roasted, sautéed, or mashed. They can be used in both sweet and savory dishes. They have around 20 grams of carbs, but almost no fat and 3 grams of fiber. They are high in both Vitamin A and beta-carotene.

This information was found online at [www.npr.org/all-about-sweet-potatoes.com](https://www.npr.org/all-about-sweet-potatoes.com), and [www.thespruceeats.com](https://www.thespruceeats.com).

I know that it feels like I should save this article for Thanksgiving, but February is National Sweet Potato Month. You have just a few days left to celebrate by baking up something delicious with sweet potatoes.

## Honey Roasted Sweet Potatoes

<https://kristineskitchenblog.com/honey-roasted-sweet-potatoes>

### Ingredients

- 2 pounds sweet potatoes 3 medium or 2 large, peeled and cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons honey
- ¼ teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon coarse Kosher salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper

### Instructions

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Place the sweet potatoes on the baking sheet, using two baking sheets if needed to fit all of the sweet potatoes. In a small bowl, whisk together the olive oil, honey, cinnamon, salt and pepper. Pour over the sweet potatoes and toss to coat. Bake for 15 minutes, stir. Continue baking for 10-15 minutes more, until sweet potatoes are tender when pierced with a fork. They should start to turn golden and caramelize around the edges.

## Sweet Potato Hash

[www.thespruceeats.com](https://www.thespruceeats.com)

### Ingredients

- 8 ounces smoked sausage (cubed)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 large red bell pepper (coarsely chopped)
- 1 cup onions (chopped)
- 2 garlic cloves (minced)
- 1-pound sweet potatoes (peeled and cut 1/2-inch cubes)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 4 large eggs
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley or cilantro (chopped)
- Black pepper (to taste)

### Steps to Make It

Gather the ingredients. Heat a large skillet, preferably cast iron, over medium-high heat until hot. Add the sausage, cook 2 minutes or until just beginning to lightly brown. Add the onion and bell pepper and cook 5 minutes or until the onions are browned on edges, stirring occasionally. Reduce the heat to medium, stir in the garlic, potatoes, 1 tablespoon of the oil, and the salt. Cover and cook 10 minutes or until the potatoes are tender, stirring frequently. Reduce the heat to low, crack each of the eggs over the potato mixture, cover and cook 5 minutes or until the egg whites are just set. Sprinkle with the parsley and black pepper. Serve immediately and enjoy!

## Bacon Wrapped Sweet Potato Fries

[www.delish.com](https://www.delish.com)

### INGREDIENTS

- 3 large sweet potatoes, cut into thick fries
- 18 slices bacon
- 2 tsp. chili powder
- Freshly ground black pepper
- BBQ sauce, for serving
- Ranch, for serving

### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 400° and set a rack over a baking sheet (to catch the bacon grease). Wrap each fry with one slice bacon and season with chili powder and pepper. Bake until sweet potatoes are tender, and bacon is crispy, 33 to 35 minutes. Serve with BBQ sauce and/or ranch.

## Frona High School Varsity Track Schedule

- February 28 ..... Muleshoe
- March 6 ..... Vega
- March 12 ..... Friona
- March 27 ..... Bushland
- District**
- April 3 & 4 ..... Tulia
- Area**
- April 14 ..... Lubbock Cooper
- Regional**
- April 24 & 25 ..... Abilene
- State Meet**
- May 8 & 9 ..... Austin



## Frona Junior High Track Schedule

- February 27 ..... Muleshoe
- March 5 ..... Vega
- March 10 ..... Friona
- March 26 ..... Bushland
- District**
- March 31 ..... Dimmitt



**Six Steps to Invention**

1. Notice a problem.
2. Think of a way to fix the problem.
3. Create a model of your idea.
4. Show and share your first model with others.
5. Make your model better by listening to what others tell you.
6. Finish your invention and have fun using it!

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# Friena Junior High School

## All A Honor Roll • Fourth Six Weeks

### 6th Grade:

Abril Arzate	Francisco Gutierrez Silva	Rafael Rocha
Aubree Bunker	Avram Hernandez	Efren Rodriguez
Azriel Flores	Evelyn Hernandez	Aaron Rosales
Mario Garcia	Marco Leon	Merary Salinas
Kaylee Gomez	Mia Moreno	Omar Trejo

### 7th Grade:

Nevaeh Galan	Sophia Leon	Kitzy Welch
Yuliana Gallegos Saenz	Frida-Erandi Soto	

### 8th Grade:

Dieter Ally	Ellie Galaviz
Reagan Daniels	Reese Stowers

# Friena Junior High School

## A/B Honor Roll • Fourth Six Weeks

### 6th Grade:

Maddox Ashlock	Mayte Gonzalez	Israel Santiago
Aurora Bolanos Leocadio	Esmeralda Guevara Montes	D'Andre Shelby
Anaasha Carranza	Emily Ibarra	Lorenzo Silva
Ivette Carrillo Fraire	Brice Jeter	Kaysen Stanberry
Ashley Chico	Gael Lara	Vana Stanberry
Carlos Chiztic	Sol Lara Lopez	Reese Steelman
Thomas Cook	Carmelina Luis De La Cruz	Erik Trejo
Stephanie Cruz	Ella McFarland	Jonathan Trevino
Jameson Daniels	Karen Morales	Juan Vargas
Yaselene Faudoa	Meya Orozco	Jonathan Vasquez
Azriel Flores	Justin Reveles	Johadry Villicana-Rivera
Foster Gilley	Adaly Rubalcava	
Isaiah Gonzalez	Jesus San Miguel	

### 7th Grade:

Lillianna Abarca	Celso Guevara	Abram Rocha
Antonio Avila Cortes	Veissy Lozoya	Damian Sanchez
Carolyn Borjas	Edwin Melero-Chairez	Rosalia Silva
Erik Estrada	Aylin Mendez	Alexis Soto
Odalys Faudoa Benavente	Karely Nunez Tarango	Nathan Tafoya
Mariana Gallegos Saenz	Maria Ordonez Alonzo	Makya Thackston
Dante Garcia Ahumada	Hevilat Perez	
Danny Gomez Alonzo	Audree Reyes	

### 8th Grade:

Jose Alvidrez	Jonathan Gonzalez	Santos Reyes Garcia
Michael Bautista	Genesis Hernandez	Aaron Rodriguez
Estefany Cecena Carrillo	Charles Herring	Dora Rodriguez
Kenya Chavez	Yvonne Legarreta	Jose Saucedo Dozal
Valeria Corrales	Alonso Macias Martinez	Ivory Shelby
Adynaih Dominguez	Jennyfer Munoz Loreda	Evan Snyder
Mercedes Espinoza	Duzy Ortiz	Isaac Tafoya
Yeslie Faudoa	Ramon Ortiz-Carrillo	
Diego Garcia Ahumada	Francisco Perez Castro	

# Powerlifting Results

## Seagraves Eagle Invitational - Seagraves, TX - 2/22/2020 - THSWPA Girls Friena Squaws - 9th Place

Wt.	Place	Athlete	BWT	Squat	Bench	Dead Lift	Total
132	5	Licerio, Magdalena	130.4	240	105	200	545
132	8	Garcia, Janessa	128	165	85	215	465
148	13	Ortiz, Alexa	148.4	155	85	195	435
181	2	Garcia, Juanita	181.4	285	135	310	730
198	5	Soltero, Ahtziri	195.4	265	95	200	560
220	4	Chico, Torya	214.4	265	115	285	665
220	8	Rojas, Katy	200.6	215	105	220	540

## Seagraves Eagle Invitational - Seagraves, TX - 2/22/2020 - THSPA Boys Friena Chieftains - 1st Place

Wt.	Place	Athlete	BWT	Squat	Bench	Dead Lift	Total
114	1	Trejo, Juan	114	430	215	385	1030
114	2	Flores, Nathan	114	315	145	335	795
132	1	Ponce, Dio	129	340	200	370	910
132	6	Bautista, Mario	130.4	290	200	315	805
148	1	Diaz, Jeremiah	146.2	490	250	405	1145
148	18	Garcia, Xuan	133	270	145	305	720
165	1	Palacios, Roger	165	435	235	420	1090
165	15	Abarca, Gabe	158.2	230	120	205	555
198	5	Rando, Jacob	193.6	360	225	370	955
198	6	Diaz, Anthony	195.2	245	135	265	645
220	12	Robledo, Elijah	213	380	185	300	865
220	14	Juarez, Eduardo	204.8	360	165	265	790
242	3	Padilla, Jake	235	465	275	465	1205





**We are here to help you with all your insurance needs**

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Jesus Mendoza, Homer Haile, Martin Lopez

# Friena School Calendar for March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 -HS Boys Golf @ Farwell -JV Baseball @ Hereford 4:00p.m.	3 -V Baseball vs. L. Roosevelt 5:00p.m.	4 -HS Girls Golf @ Farwell	5 -JH Track @ Vega -HS Tennis SPCHEA Tournament @ Levelland - HS Baseball tournament @ Tulia	6 -HS Track @Vega - HS Baseball tournament @ Tulia	7 - HS Baseball tournament @ Tulia -Powerlifting Girls Regional Meet @ Seagraves
8	9 -FISD Board Meeting 7:00p.m. -District OAP Rehearsal @ Bushland --HS Baseball vs. Ralls 5:00	10 -JH Track In Friena -Band Concert/Site Reading Contest @ Panhandle	11 -District OAP Performance @ Bushland -8 Grade Field Trip to Amarillo Career Day	12 -JH Cheer Tryouts @ 3:15 -HS Track In Friena - HS Tennis SPCHEA Tournament @ Levelland	13 -Pre-K Transportation Parade -HS Open House 8:00a.m. - HS Cheer Tryouts 8:30a.m. -JH Friday Night School -JV Baseball @ Lubbock Roosevelt 4:30	14 -Powerlifting Boys Regional Meet @ Sundown
15 -State CX Debate @ Austin	16 <b>SPRING BREAK</b> -State CX Debate @ Austin	17 <b>SPRING BREAK</b> -State CX Debate @ Austin	18 <b>SPRING BREAK</b>	19 <b>SPRING BREAK</b>	20 <b>SPRING BREAK</b> -Powerlifting Girls State Meet @ Waco	21 -HS Baseball @ Dalhart 1:00p.m.
22	23 -HS Golf District Round 1 @ Ross Rogers (Amarillo) -Catholic Church Senior Banquet	24 -District Academic Meet @ Canyon (WTAMU)	25 -Bi-District OAP @ Shallowater	26 -Bi-District OAP @ Shallowater -JH Track @ Bushland - HS Spring Pictures	27 -Mighty Writers Rally -HS Track @ Bushland -HS Tennis District Tournament @ Amarillo	28 -Choir Pre-UIL Clinic -HS Baseball @ River Road 12:00p.m. -Powerlifting Boys State Meet @ Abilene
29	30 -HS Golf District Round 2 @ Ross Rogers (Amarillo)	31 -Area OAP @ Seminole -JH District Track Meet @ Dimmitt -HS Baseball @ Bushland 4:30p.m.				





## 2019-20 Final Standings

District 1-3A Girls Basketball		
Team	District	Overall
Bushland	13-1	22-9
Spearman	11-3	23-12
Canadian	11-3	25-9
Muleshoe	9-5	20-11
Tulia	6-8	10-22
River Road	4-10	11-19
Dimmitt	1-13	5-26
Friona	1-13	6-22



District 1-3A Boys Basketball		
Team	District	Overall
Canadian	13-1	14-2
Bushland	12-2	18-9
Dimmitt	10-4	18-13
Spearman	8-6	18-13
Tulia	6-8	22-13
River Road	4-10	6-23
Muleshoe	3-11	9-20
Friona	0-14	3-22



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FOR



**MUSCLE MILK**  
14 OZ.  
**2\$6**  
FOR



**ALLSUP'S BREAD**  
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MIX OR MATCH  
**2\$1**  
FOR

### CHS Service Center is open for business



On Tuesday, CHS Service Center hosted a NexGen cotton seminar at its new facilities at 2180 CR 17 just southwest of Friona. Cotton growers from around the county, photo at right, learned about new and existing cotton varieties and were then treated to a meal of hamburgers and french fries courtesy of CHS. Photo at left (l-r) NexGen Sales Rep. Ricky Backus, CHS Service Center Sales Manager Jarod Allen, and NexGen Sales Rep. Michael Wied. Contact CHS Service Center at 806-251-1443 for all your fertilizer, seed, and chemical needs. Welcome to Friona!

### Inspector General Announces National "Slam the Scam" Day

The Inspector General for the Social Security Administration, Gail S. Ennis, is designating Thursday, March 5, 2020 as National "Slam the Scam" Day, to raise public awareness of government imposter telephone scams across the United States.

These pervasive scams—in which callers pretend to be government employees to mislead victims into providing personal information or making payments—have become a scourge on the

American public. The Federal Trade Commission recently reported victims lost nearly \$153 million to government imposter scams in just fiscal year 2019. Social Security-related scams in particular have skyrocketed over the past year to become the #1 type of consumer fraud reported to the Federal Trade Commission and the Social Security Administration.

To combat these scams, the Social Security Administration and its OIG have under-

taken a public outreach campaign to educate the public so they will know how to identify these scam calls. We want the public to know SSA will never:

- Tell you that your Social Security number has been suspended, or offer to increase your benefits or resolve an identity theft issue for a fee.
- Call to threaten you with arrest or legal action if you do not immediately pay a debt, fine, or fee.
- Request immediate payment via gift cards, cash, wire transfers, or internet currency like Bitcoin.
- Demand secrecy from you in handling a Social Security-related problem, or tell you to make up a story to tell your friends, family, or store/bank employees.

The Social Security Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is engaging other Federal agencies and the private sector to promote a National "Slam the Scam Day" as a National Consumer Protection Week initiative. On March

5, we plan to participate in a USA.gov-hosted Twitter chat, and a Facebook Live event at Social Security. We want to warn all Americans to hang up on all government imposters, and ask them to spread the word to family and friends.

"Awareness is our best hope to thwart the scammers," said Inspector General Ennis. "Tell your friends and family about these scams and report them to us when you receive them, but most importantly, just hang up and ignore the calls."

We encourage the public to report Social Security scams online at <https://oig.ssa.gov>. IRS imposter scams can be reported to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, and other government imposter scams to the Federal Trade Commission.

Look for us on Facebook and Twitter for updates about National "Slam the Scam" Day events. Please visit <https://oig.ssa.gov/scam> for more information, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.



### TxDOT Project Making Improvements to US 60

Drives should anticipate various extended lane closures, delays

PARMER COUNTY — Motorists traveling US 60 next week should anticipate driving lane closures as the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) begins a project to completely rebuild more than seven miles of US 60 in Parmer County, from the New Mexico State Line to five miles west of Bovina. The \$25.5 million project will also make drainage, culverts and guardrail improvements, said Steve Perez, P.E., TxDOT's Littlefield Area engineer.

"The project will be making needed improvements and repairs to the pavement and is expected to enhance the overall safety of the roadway," Perez, said. "Contractor

Johnson Bros. Corporation, of Roanoke, TX, is scheduled to begin setting up the work zone next week. Work will begin on Monday, March 2, on the New Mexico end of the project limits."

Motorists should anticipate various extended main-lane closures and a change in the speed limit—reduced by 10 mph—through the active work zones, Perez noted. Drivers are advised to pay attention and slow down as they enter the work area for their safety and the safety of the workers.

Work will take place weather permitting. Construction is anticipated to wrap-up late 2021.

### We want the public to know SSA will never:

- Tell you that your Social Security number has been suspended, or offer to increase your benefits or resolve an identity theft issue for a fee.
- Call to threaten you with arrest or legal action if you do not immediately pay a debt, fine, or fee.
- Request immediate payment via gift cards, cash, wire transfers, or internet currency like Bitcoin.
- Demand secrecy from you in handling a Social Security-related problem, or tell you to make up a story to tell your friends, family, or store/bank employees.

## USS Texas returns home from deployment

By Chief Mass Communication Specialist Amanda Gray, COMSUBPAC

PEARL HARBOR - The Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Texas (SSN 775) returned home to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Feb. 24.

During their seven-month deployment, Texas completed a full spectrum of operations, including theater anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare, in support of the high-priority tasking in the Indo-Pacific and U.S. Central Command areas of operation.

"The crew worked and trained tirelessly, preparing to execute any mission in defense of our nation, and performed remarkably throughout our seven month Middle East deployment," said Cmdr. Mike Dolbec, commanding officer of Texas. "In my opinion, every Texas Sailor is a hero, whose patriotism is evident daily. These Sailors are the heart and soul of this mighty warship; they are responsible for Texas' many successes. I can say with a great deal of pride that these are the finest men and women that I have ever served with,

and it is a great honor and privilege to be their commanding officer."

On deployment, Texas visited Perth, Australia, where they engaged with dignitaries including the U.S. Ambassador to Australia, as well as other government officials and members of academia. Additionally, members of the crew volunteered at a community food bank and participated in receptions with Australian submarine counterparts to enhance understanding through shared maritime experience and interest.

"We visited HMAS Stirling, Australia, and while there, Texas Sailors conducted community outreach at the Rockingham food bank, assisting with sorting, inventorying and storing food supplies for those in need," said Master Chief Machinist's Mate (Auxiliary) Charles Cardell, from Pensacola, Florida.

During the deployment, 40 crew members earned their submarine warfare qualifica-

tions and 24 Sailors advanced to the next rank.

"My most memorable moment was seeing six of six eligible member in my division being advanced to the next higher pay grade. We have embodied a culture that expects us all to push ourselves, and one another, to perform at a higher level of work and responsibility. Like any finely tuned machine, our individual success is directly attributed to our teamwork and efficiency, and the results are evident," said Fire Control Technician 1st Class Quincy Miller, from Savannah, Georgia.

Commissioned Sept. 9, 2006, Texas is the fourth ship of the U.S. Navy to bear that name. Texas is a flexible, multi-mission platform designed to carry out the seven core competencies of the submarine force; anti-submarine warfare; anti-surface warfare; delivery of special operations forces; strike warfare; irregular warfare; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; and mine warfare.



200224-N-KB401-1304 JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM Jan. 26, 2018 -- Chief Culinary Specialist Joseph White, from Council Bluffs, Iowa, assigned to the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Texas (SSN 775), hugs his wife during Texas' homecoming. Texas performed a full spectrum of operations, including anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare, during the seven-month Indo-Pacific deployment. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Michael B. Zingaro/Released)

### Water Weekly

For the week of 02/24/20

#### Water conditions

Drought continues to contract in the northern half of the state but expand and intensify in the south. As of February 18, the total area of the state impacted by drought is down dramatically, but extreme drought is up one percentage point and now impacts 3 percent of the state.

#### Drought conditions

- ◆ 24% now
- ◆ 33% a week ago
- ◆ 32% three months ago
- ◆ 7% a year ago

