



### Phase 1 underway



Public Works Director Salvador Garcia inspects work being done in Phase 1 of the new housing project at 6th and Ashland. The new triplex and quadplex residential properties are scheduled to be completed near the end of October.

### Parmer County COVID-19 stats

As of Wednesday, May 6, 2020

Tested at Parmer Medical Center

38



Negative Results from Parmer Medical Center

21

Positive Results from PMC

9

Pending Results from PMC

8

Parmer County Residents Positive Results From All Test Sites

16

### Governor Expands Business Openings In Texas

AUSTIN - On Tuesday, Governor Greg Abbott held a press conference and announced that he will be issuing an Executive Order to expand openings of certain businesses and activities. "Texas is in a position to continue opening parts of our economy because of the efforts and determination of the people of Texas," said Governor Abbott.

The Governor was joined for the press conference by Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Commissioner John Hellerstedt, MD, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) Chief Nim Kidd, Texas Health and Human Services (HHSC) Acting Executive Commissioner Phil Wilson, TEA Commissioner Mike Morath, and Adjutant General of Texas Maj. Gen. Tracey Norris.

Per the Governor's announcement, wedding venues and services required to conduct weddings may immediately open. Weddings held indoors other than at a church, congregation, or house of worship must limit occupancy to 25%. Wedding reception services may also resume, but facilities must limit their occupancy to 25% of the total listed occupancy. These occupancy limits do not apply to the outdoor areas of a wedding reception or to outdoor wedding receptions.

Continued on Page 4.



## Parmer Paws

A 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of cruelty to animals, the relief of suffering among animals, and the extension of humane education.

### When Dogs Fly

For many of the dogs rescued by Parmer Paws, the change from competing for food and avoiding predators or abusive humans to living with a foster family is a first step toward a permanent home. They move from danger to safety. The next step to a permanent home may occur quickly—one of the shelters that has adoption facilities could have a space; a new family may soon welcome the dog to their home. For some, however, that next step may be long in coming. The network of people seeking homes for these dogs must often search beyond county and state boundaries to find those homes. In that process of finding their homes, some dogs actually fly.



homes. They combine the flying to accumulate the hours they need to maintain their licenses with helping rescue groups save animals."

According to Walsh, the typical flight for one pilot is 250 miles. But some of the dogs' destinations are farther away, so her work involves making connections and coordinating many "moving parts" in the trip. Destinations have included St. Louis, Kansas, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and Oregon. A recent flight detailed on a Facebook page Walsh maintains for her work, Friends of Texas Panhandle Shelter Pets, <https://www.facebook.com/FTxPSP/>, in-

involved five dogs, six pilots, and destinations in New Mexico and Wisconsin.

Walsh said that groups like Parmer Paws not only make use of the service she provides, but they also complete the steps vital to preparing the dogs from Parmer Paws to fly.

For example, Parmer Paws volunteers must submit photos and videos of the candidate flyer dogs; they have to vaccinate for parvo and distemper, deworm, and have a vet vaccinate for rabies, provide prescription flea and tick medicine, and a heartworm test. A vet is also necessary to provide the health certificate that allows the animals to fly across state lines. For some, there



photos of Maisie, a flying dog, ready for her trip.



may be other tests required, and grooming is essential for each dog. All those necessary steps take time and effort on the part of volunteers. And after all that preparation, the volunteers also transport the dogs to the airport, usually in Hereford or Amarillo.

Why does Walsh spend hours at her part of this volunteer work? She said, "Every small job is important. Without volunteers, these animals would suffer." When asked if there

was something more she would like to share, she replied, "Spaying or neutering is a big part of responsible pet ownership, and that alone would solve a lot of the problem of abandoned or abused animals."

You can also help by joining Parmer Paws and volunteering. You could be a part of the process of helping a dog fly to a better life in a new home. See the forms page on the Friona Star Website <https://www.frionaonline.com/forms>

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Small Town Cookin' Page 9

COVID-19 news frionaonline.com

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 May 7-13	T  93   47 SW 20-30	F  65   38 NE 25-35	S  78   44 SSW 10-20	S  79   49 SSE 10-20	M  75   49 SSW 15-25	T  83   53 SSW 10-20	W  89   54 SSW 15-25	Precipitation May 0.00 Year 3.84	Burn Ban: <b>No</b>
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**'Disease triangle' indicates COVID-19 peak isn't the end**

*Lessons from the plant world offer insight into COVID-19 pandemic*

Written by Kay Ledbetter, 806-677-5608, skledbetter@ag.tamu.edu

Plants are no strangers to diseases and devastating outbreaks. Humans can learn a valuable lesson from them when it comes to the current COVID-19 pandemic, according to a Texas A&M professor.

While the urge is to return to our workplace and business once diagnosed COVID-19 cases peak, a Texas A&M AgriLife Research virologist and plant pathologist says one must only turn to the plant world to see how that would be a mistake.

"When we reach the peak, we are at best only halfway towards coming down from this mountain of disease," said Karen-Beth Scholthof, Ph.D., a professor in the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology at Texas A&M University.

Scholthof concurs with Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, that social distancing should continue until there are essentially no new cases, no deaths.

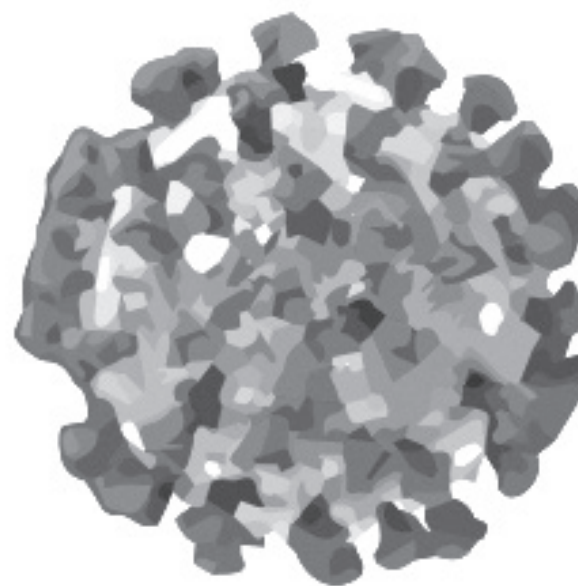
Her reasoning is based on a long-standing concept from plant pathology, which she says describes the spread of any disease, explains why environmental measures matter, and sheds light on the similarities between plant and human diseases.

"All biology is connected. Now is the time to learn from other areas of science and the environment," said Patrick J. Stover, vice chancellor of Texas A&M AgriLife, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and director of AgriLife Research. "We may need to take extra time now, which we know will be difficult in the short-term, but life-saving for many in the long-term."

"The novel coronavirus is certainly revealing our vulnerabilities, from the food supply system to our social environments to the quality of life. We must learn from this experience, including prioritizing the development of cutting-edge technologies to protect from and prevent against COVID-19 and its far-reaching effects on our lives before we restart the vicious cycle once again, especially the most vulnerable."

**The disease triangle**

Disease outbreaks depend on the "disease triangle," Scholthof said. This concept arose more than 60 years



ago when George McNew, a plant pathologist at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, diagrammed the fact that an epidemic arises from the interaction of three factors - a susceptible host, a virulent pathogen and a hospitable environment.

Scholthof said a simple form of McNew's disease triangle is helpful to explain the key role of environment in the success of pathogens such as SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

Genetically identical plants are a "monoculture" and are especially vulnerable to emerging pathogens and disease. Today, plant pathologists break these cycles of disease by modifying or controlling either the host, the pathogen or the environment.

"We may breed crops that are resistant to the disease, plant them in a different way or at different times or use chemical treatments to protect the plants from harmful fungi, viruses, bacteria and insects," Scholthof explained. "By changing the host with resistance genes, stopping the pathogen with chemicals, or altering the environment by planting earlier or later, for example, we can control an outbreak of a new disease or seasonal recurrence of a known pathogen."

In the case of COVID-19, people are the susceptible

hosts and SARS-COV-2, the virulent pathogen. The constant and close contact between people is the hospitable environment needed to keep this pandemic going strong. The novel coronavirus, having jumped from an animal host, has become extraordinarily successful at infecting humans.

"We do not have population-wide immunity to this virus," Scholthof said. "Again, from Dr. Fauci, we 'don't make the timeline, the virus makes the timeline.' Until drugs or vaccines are shown to control the virus and the disease, we can only do our part to disrupt an environment that is favorable to the novel coronavirus."

Taking a page out of plant pathology history

She used the Great Irish Potato Famine, a humanitarian crisis, to shed light on the close link between pathogens, the environment and society - including how an epidemic drives policy while unmasking social and economic injustice.

"These are issues that strike close to home since COVID-19 has become our daily reality," Scholthof said.

The Irish potato famine was precipitated by late blight disease of potato, which still occurs today. First-hand reports from Ireland described how the blight sprung up overnight with fields of lush green

plants suddenly destroyed, resulting in the near total collapse of the potato crop.

Although disease outbreaks were also occurring in Europe and North America, the dependence of the Irish poor on the potato for most of their food calories was devastating. This plant disease outbreak led to the emigration of a million people from Ireland and another million deaths - a loss of 25% of the country's population.

"It was a single pathogen that provided a horrifying lesson for the need to scientifically manage, reduce and control disease," Scholthof said. "COVID-19 will recur if we do not continue to perturb the virus's favored environment until either a vaccine to strengthen the host or medications to destroy the virus are created."

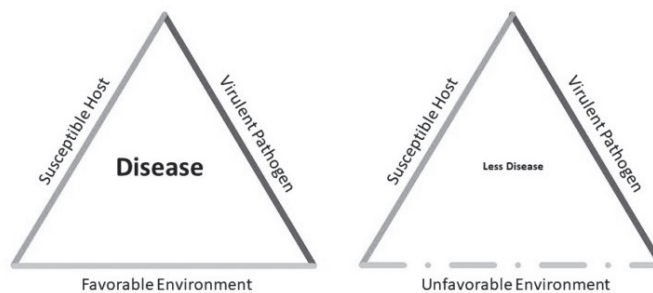
**Controlling the outbreak**

There may be a single peak of infection, waves of infection, or seasonal recurrence of COVID-19 in our communities, Scholthof said. Similarly, potato late blight disease that caused such destruction is ongoing today, but in a controlled environment.

"Ongoing COVID-19 infections would suggest that we have not been sufficiently vigilant with perturbing the virus's favored environment," she said. "Today, and for at least the near future, disrupting a favorable environment for the virus is the main element of controlling the spread of the disease, and the disruption must continue until either proven vaccines or medications are created."

Social distancing and good hygienic practices remain the best community options available to break the disease triangle, Scholthof said. Simple efforts such as handwashing disrupt the virus's membrane envelope, preventing it from initiating an infection. "With time, we, the host, may acquire 'herd immunity' as a form of protection from the virus," she said. "Or the amazing ongoing scientific work may identify safe and effective treatments or a vaccine."

"But we must remain vigilant in continuing with the recommended practices that create an unfavorable environment for the virus until that time occurs," Scholthof said. "We must not become complacent."



**Community Calendar**

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

**May 10**

- Mother's Day

**May 25**

- Memorial Day

**COVID-19 News**

**Coronavirus cases confirmed**

**Texas Panhandle: 1995 cases, 31 deaths**

Armstrong County: 2  
Briscoe County: 1  
Carson: 1  
Castro County: 15  
Childress: 1  
Collingsworth: 1  
Cottle: 2  
Dallam County: 11  
Deaf Smith County: 18  
Donley County: 25  
Gray County: 68  
Hansford County: 11  
Hartley County: 6  
Hemphill County: 1  
Hutchinson County: 19  
Lipscomb: 2  
Moore County: 434  
Ochiltree County: 25  
Oldham County: 3  
Parmer County: 16  
Potter County: 907  
Randall County: 310  
Roberts County: 2  
Sherman County: 19  
Swisher County: 10  
Wheeler County: 12

**Eastern New Mexico: 37 cases, 1 death**

Curry County: 20  
Quay County: 4  
Roosevelt County: 10  
Union: 3

**Oklahoma Panhandle: 261 cases, 3 death**

Beaver County: 8  
Cimarron: 1  
Texas County: 252

**Texas:**  
34,422, cases  
948 deaths

**United States:**  
1,234,951 cases  
72,023 deaths

**Worldwide:**  
3,655,959 cases  
256,934 deaths

**Wash your hands**

**Stay 6 foot away**

**Wear your mask**

**FRIONA STAR SUBSCRIPTIONS**

**IN PARMER COUNTY: \$30 PER YEAR**

**OUT OF PARMER COUNTY: \$40 PER YEAR**

**eSTAR (EMAILED): \$24 PER YEAR**

*Call 806-250-2211 for more information*

**ACROSS**

- TXism: "\_\_\_ ain't true, there ain't a cow in Texas"
- "up \_\_\_ good" (doing bad things)
- Dallas' "Energy Plaza" was once "\_\_\_ Tower"
- TXism: "the fat \_\_\_ the fire" (trouble)
- TX Cody Jinks sang "I'm \_\_\_ the Devil"
- Conway Twitty sang "We \_\_\_ But Now You Don't (1982)"
- Jason Garrett is now a NY \_\_\_ coach
- Quitaque newspaper: "Valley \_\_\_"
- TXism: "that gets my dander up"
- where naughty Stars go: \_\_\_ box
- old or sick person confined indoors
- TXism: "\_\_\_ es su casa" (friendly)
- TX Storm who was "My Little Margie"
- TXism: "want \_\_\_ bad I could spit"
- middle ear bones
- shingled areas on houses
- a toast: "\_\_\_ friends, near and far"
- TXism: "useless \_\_\_ a pig"
- TX Willie sang a version of "After \_\_\_ Gone"
- in Morris County on U.S. 67
- TXism: "hungry as a goat on \_\_\_ pasture"
- steal cattle
- \_\_\_ Fehrenbach was a noted TX historian
- golf ball holder (2 wds.)
- college admissions test
- TXism: "\_\_\_ double ringed" (married woman)
- TX-based 1985 film: The \_\_\_ to Bountiful"
- TXism: "table graze"
- Reagan's "Star Wars" (abbr.)
- TXism: "bat \_\_\_ eyelash" (blink)
- TXism: "if the saddle squeaks, \_\_\_"
- TXism: "a sight \_\_\_ eyes"
- Austin was arrested in Mexico in 1834 for "\_\_\_ insurrection" in Texas
- saloon item: spit \_\_\_
- TXism: "\_\_\_ as week-old soda pop"
- home buyers look for small ones (2 wds.)
- this Susan starred in TX-based 1992 film "Bed of Lies"
- Texas produces the most natural \_\_\_ in the U.S.
- Gov. Ann about W: "he was born with a silver foot \_\_\_"
- TXism: "split \_\_\_" (laugh hard)
- TX DeAndre Jordan NBA team
- TX ZZ Top, e.g.
- sheep sound
- Mavs' former point guard, Nash (init.)
- TX "Wildfire" singer, Murphy (init.)
- "\_\_\_ More Beef"
- Galveston wharves
- TXism: "never let '\_\_\_ you sweat"
- Warren of 1969 film "The Wild Bunch" with TX L.Q. Jones
- Dallas Stars leag.
- TX Don Henley sang "Hole \_\_\_ the World"
- first two vowels
- this Erik was in 1976 "Midway" with TX Dabney Coleman
- coarse metal file
- TXism: "you can write \_\_\_ ink" (positive)
- blood danger
- Hawaiian "howdy"
- TV remote button
- TXism: "don't give a hoot \_\_\_ a holler"
- TX Willie sang "All \_\_\_ Me" (1978)
- "Kung \_\_\_ Panda"
- type of welding
- dry, arid

**DOWN**

12 Texas produces the most natural \_\_\_ in the U.S.

13 Gov. Ann about W: "he was born with a silver foot \_\_\_"

14 TXism: "split \_\_\_" (laugh hard)

15 TX DeAndre Jordan NBA team

16 TX ZZ Top, e.g.

18 sheep sound

20 Mavs' former point guard, Nash (init.)

23 TX "Wildfire" singer, Murphy (init.)

24 "\_\_\_ More Beef"

25 blood danger

26 Hawaiian "howdy"

27 TV remote button

32 TXism: "don't give a hoot \_\_\_ a holler"

33 TX Willie sang "All \_\_\_ Me" (1978)

34 "Kung \_\_\_ Panda"

36 type of welding

37 dry, arid

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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solution on page 3

**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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### Friona Flashbacks

**WELCOME HOME MAIN....**City Manager Paula Wilson holds the scissors as city officials, Chamber of Commerce members and ambassadors gather this week for the official Main Street re-opening ribbon cutting. Ron Carr photo. (Friona Star, April 17, 1998)



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

The warning sirens around town went off "without warning" Wednesday morning just before 8 a.m. There were no warning signs that the warning sirens would start warning people without warning. Too bad the system does not have a snooze button.

★★★

Prairie Acres Administrator Casey Tiffany would like to thank everyone for their cooperation with the visitor restrictions, donating masks, bringing treats, and giving out sweet words of encouragement. She would like to remind family and friends that they can also use facetime and webcams to stay connected with their loved ones. You are invited to send flowers on Mother's Day if you wish to do so. The Resident of the Month is Jack Dennis. The Employee of the Month is Adriana Alvarez. She works in the Dietary department and has been with Prairie Acres since October 2019.

★★★

The Friona Cemetery Association announced that the annual clean-up day which was scheduled for Thursday, May 14th has been cancelled due to Covid-19 concerns. Any cleanup by individuals or small groups in the near future would be appreciated.

★★★

**Last Chance!!!** The City of Friona is on the lookout for the best-looking face mask. If you think your face mask is a winner, email a picture of yourself sporting it to cityinfo@frionatx.us. The winner of the contest will be announced on Friday, May 8th and receive \$100 worth of Friona bucks to be used at local restaurants.

★★★

#### National Days

- May 7 — Day of Prayer
- May 8 — Provider Appreciation Day
- May 9 — Train Day
- May 10 — Mother's Day
- May 11 — Foam Rolling Day
- May 12 — Fibromyalgia Awareness Day
- May 13 — Apple Pie Day

★★★

This week the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue sent letters to Governors across the nation and leadership of major meat processing companies to establish the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) clear expectations for the implementation of President Donald J. Trump's Executive Order signed last week. The President's Executive order directs plants to follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidance specific to the meat processing industry to keep these critical facilities open while maintaining worker safety.

"USDA expects state and local officials to work with these critical meat processing facilities to maintain operational status while protecting the health of their employees," Secretary Perdue said. "Meat processing facilities are critical infrastructure and are essential to the national security of our nation. Keeping these facilities operational is critical to the food supply chain and we expect our partners across the country to work with us on this issue."

### Puzzle Solution

S-1478

We're taking the time to plant... ...flower boxes or pots for our Moms. Kids: color stuff in!

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2020 V16-18

## Happy Mother's Day!

I love Mother's Day! I was wondering how this lovely holiday for moms began, so I went to the library to do research to find out. I searched web sites on the computer. I found beautiful books full of stories and pictures. To find out what I learned about Mother's Day read my clues below, then fill in the crossword puzzle.

mommy? Do You Know...? Sometimes we wear a white carnation to honor a mother who has died and a red or pink carnation for a mother who is still living.

### Things Moms Do For Us!

1. Match each chore with the word that makes sense.

2. Then find and circle the word in the puzzle.

Oh my gosh! If I listed all the things our moms do for us I'd have to list a **billlion bajillion** things. When we are tiny newborns our Moms feed us, comfort us, diaper us, rock us to sleep, burp us, walk us, sing to us and keep an eye on us all day long. Gee, how tiring must **that** be? Now we are older and go to school, but moms still do so much for us. Here is a list my friends and I put together.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the beds  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ for groceries  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ us to the dentist  
4. \_\_\_\_\_ to our fears  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ us to practices and lessons  
6. \_\_\_\_\_ our sports team  
7. \_\_\_\_\_ for the school sale  
8. \_\_\_\_\_ holes in our favorite clothes  
9. \_\_\_\_\_ us to feed the dog  
10. \_\_\_\_\_ supplies for school  
11. \_\_\_\_\_ money for a rainy day  
12. \_\_\_\_\_ our homework  
13. \_\_\_\_\_ for us at our games  
14. \_\_\_\_\_ us how to cook  
15. \_\_\_\_\_ our favorite T.V. show  
16. \_\_\_\_\_ vegetables or flowers  
17. \_\_\_\_\_ the floors  
18. \_\_\_\_\_ the windows  
19. \_\_\_\_\_ the bills  
20. \_\_\_\_\_ the laundry

A. bake  
B. buy  
C. drive  
D. take  
E. remind  
F. make  
G. listen  
H. shop  
I. coach  
J. mend  
K. watch  
L. mop  
M. save  
N. cheer  
O. check  
P. fold  
Q. plant  
R. pay  
S. teach  
T. wash

### A Precious Gift!

Moms give us many gifts: love, care, energy, money. They also give us a gift of something they can never get back for themselves. It is one of the most precious gifts they can ever give us: we watch it every day, we use it, it flies by, once we spend it, we can never get it back...

Color Key:  
P = Pink  
Y = Yellow

Mothers spend their \_\_\_\_\_ on us.

# BI-WIZE

Pharmacy and Furniture

## Bi-Wize is open!

However, to prevent the spread of coronavirus we are offering limited access to the store.

- Only the front part of the store is accessible
- Prescriptions are available for pickup at the front
- We can get your over the counter products for you
- Please, no more than 1 person in the store at a time
- Preferably, stay in your car and we'll bring your prescription out to you!
- If you are staying home, call us about delivery

You can even still purchase furniture, but the showroom is closed. All of our fine Ashley selections can be seen at [www.biwize.com](http://www.biwize.com)

Thank you for your trust in us. Rest assured, we are constantly monitoring the Covid-19 situation and taking prudent steps to guard your health and safety.

Furniture phone: 247-2210 • Pharmacy phone: 250-2270  
902 Main St. Friona, TX • Your hometown pharmacy

Store Hours:  
Mon-Fri: 9am - 6pm  
Saturday: 9am - 12pm  
Closed Sunday

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# Governor Expands Business Openings In Texas

Continued from Page 1

Beginning May 8, cosmetology salons, hair salons, barber shops, nail salons and shops, and other establishments where licensed cosmetologists or barbers practice their trade, may open, but all such salons, shops, and establishments must ensure at least six feet of social distancing between operating work stations. Tanning salons may also reopen under the same limitation. Also starting May 8, swimming pools may open subject to certain limitations, including on their occupancy or operating levels.

Beginning May 18, office buildings may open with the greater of five or less individuals or 25% of the total office workforce. These individuals must maintain appropriate social distancing. Gyms, exercise facilities, and exercise classes may also open on May 18, but must operate at 25% occupancy. Locker rooms and shower facilities will remain closed, but restrooms may open. Non-essential manufacturing services may also open on May 18 but facilities must limit their occupancy to 25%.

### Surge Response Teams

During the press conference, Chief Kidd and Commissioner Wilson provided details on the newly formed Surge Response Teams. Surge Response Teams will serve nursing homes, prisons, packing plants, and other facilities that experience flare ups of COVID-19 by providing person-



al protective equipment, testing supplies, onsite staffing, and assessment assistance. These teams will also work with local officials to establish health and social distancing standards to contain these flare ups.

### Guidelines for Class of 2020 Graduation Ceremonies

TEA Commissioner Morath also provided new guidance on class of 2020 graduation ceremonies for Texas school districts. The TEA is providing four different pathways for schools to celebrate their graduating seniors, and each district is at liberty to determine if any of these options best serve the needs and desires of their community:

- Completely virtual ceremonies that take place entirely online, with the use of videoconference or other technologies.

- Hybrid ceremonies, which consist of a compilation of videos of students being recognized in person as they celebrate graduation in small groups.

- Vehicle ceremonies, in which students and their families wait in their cars while other graduates are recognized one at time with their families alongside them.

- Outdoor in-person ceremonies, which are currently permitted for counties as follows:

- Between May 15 and May 31, an outdoor ceremony may take place in a rural county that has an attestation as described in the Governor's Report to Open Texas that remains in effect 7 days prior to the ceremony.
- An outdoor ceremony may take place in any Texas county on or after June 1.

## COURTHOUSE NOTES

Susie Spring, County Clerk

### Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from April 23, 2020 to April 30, 2020

(4/28/2020) Joe N. Bullock, Linda Bullock — Joe N. Bullock, Linda Bullock, Bullock Family Trust — All of L 7 and 8 Num 1 Gammon Subdivision of 2 acres out of the SW Quarter of Sec Num 71 B. H. Kelly Subdivision recorded in Vol 110 Page 191 in Parmer County L 1, 5, and 6 Daniel and Gammon Division B No. 1 located out of SW Quarter Sec 71 B.H. Kelly Subdivision in Parmer County

## SHERIFF'S REPORT

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

(5/3/2020) — Emilio Espinoza, 22, of Friona was arresting by the Friona Police Department on a charge of Terroristic Threat, pending County Court.

(5/3/20) — Cecil Cooper, 40, of Friona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Possession CS Pg 2 > 1 gram < 4 grams, pending Grand Jury.

## New Friona ISD Meal Schedule

FISD and Aramark will now be offering breakfast and lunch for any student 18 years and younger seven days a week. Meals will be distributed on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00 am to 12:45 pm in front of the Junior High Cafeteria.

# Falling gas prices streak snapped

By GasBuddy | May 4, 2020

For the first time in the last ten weeks, the national average price of gasoline has moved higher, rising 1.5 cents over the last week to \$1.75 per gallon today according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million individual price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country. The average price of diesel, meanwhile, fell 2.5 cents to \$2.43 per gallon.

"It's becoming a bit clearer

that those 99 cent per gallon gas prices from the COVID-19 pandemic are solidly behind us as gasoline demand rebounds across the country as cities and states slowly reopen. The lowest priced stations in the country will see some upward movement, but most areas will still see declines," said Patrick DeHaan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "While oil may continue to struggle, a disconnect between low oil prices

and rising gasoline prices has emerged at the hands of refineries that have slowed production over the past month to avoid flooding the market with unwanted gasoline. As demand stages a rebound, it remains to be seen how quickly refiners will raise production to meet the locations that have or will begin to re-open in the days and weeks ahead. For now, expect prices to see upward potential- but only in the lower priced states- as we

await a boost in gasoline production."

Crude oil prices have rallied significantly in the last week as OPEC's production cut took effect May 1 and as U.S. demand shows the first signs of a long road to recovery. A barrel of West Texas Intermediate crude oil stands at \$19.19 this morning, down 56 cents from Friday, but up some 43% from last Monday morning's \$13.43 price tag. Brent crude oil was also down slightly, some 47 cents per barrel to \$26.01, still a strong showing up 27% from last Monday morning's \$20.43 per barrel. U.S. oil production has also started to crack under the weight of low prices, further providing a floor to WTI prices in the coming days.

Data from the Energy Information Administration last week printed a gain of 9 million barrels in U.S. oil inventories, which now stand 10% above the five-year average for this time of year. Gasoline inventories, however, posted a surprising drop of nearly 4 million barrels, signaling that refinery run cuts have fulfilled their purpose of curbing a glut of gasoline. Gasoline inventories remain 10% higher than the five-year average, but the decline also gives gasoline prices strength moving forward, especially in light of Pay

with GasBuddy demand data that shows a continued lift in gasoline demand off lows from a couple of weeks ago. Distillate inventories posted a gain of some 5 million barrels and now stand 13% higher than a year ago. While all petroleum product inventories have seen lifts, with the exception of global crude oil, we aren't close to a glut of refined products, which supports prices from falling as low as oil.

Across the country, the ultra-low gas prices have rebounded strongly following wholesale gasoline prices that have rallied strongly as demand picks up steam. The most common gas price across the country stands at \$1.59 per gallon, up 10 cents from a week ago. The average cost at the priciest 10% of stations stands at \$2.64 per gallon, down 5 cents from a week ago, while the lowest 10% average \$1.27 per gallon, up 11 cents from a week ago. The median U.S. price is \$1.64 per gallon, down 1 cent in the last week and about 11 cents lower than the national average.

For a complete listing of all 50 state averages, please visit <https://www.gasbuddy.com/usa>. For cities and state data, visit <http://fuelinsights.gasbuddy.com>.

## Happy Birthday Friona Folks!

### May 7

Jordan Peace  
Misti Davis  
Stephanie Cabrera  
Clara Trowbridge  
Karen Baker  
Julia Alexander  
Ruby Moroney

### May 8

Randy Boeckman  
Susie Davis  
Jennifer (Lamb) Gonzales  
Emma Talley  
Jared Brown  
Maegan Davis  
Elizabeth Romero

### May 9

Greg O'Brian  
Linda Rushing  
Claira Garcia  
Mike Prather  
Tommy Alger  
Jeff Rainey

### May 10

Carolyn Reeve  
Sandra Randall  
John David Haile  
Justin Jeter  
Stan Ellis  
Patti Zachary  
Nancy Castaneda  
Brandi Brailiff  
J'Lond Jarecki  
Hillary Bermea  
Trevor Steiner  
Clayton Halford  
Joan King

### May 11

Camry Kendrick  
Jesus Mendoza  
Robert Jones  
Reese Fleming  
Butch Preston  
Renee Downey  
Rayce Gatlin

### May 12

Richard Turner  
Joel Cramer  
Becky Reeve  
Susie Spring  
Lynn Gowens  
Martin Godinez  
Kimberly Jones

### May 13

Trey Hurst  
Mike Madrigal  
David Hough  
Sharla Trimm  
Becky Burrell  
Lillie Baxter  
Vanessa Chavez



To have your birthdays listed in the newspaper, email them to [frionastar@wtrt.net](mailto:frionastar@wtrt.net) or call @806.250.2211

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frionastar@wtrt.net

## Regathering the Church

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Brothers and Sisters, May is already here and Lord willing, we will be able to begin regathering with our local churches for worship this month. Although the specific plans for every church will vary in countless ways, here are two important considerations as we approach this time.

First, the goal of the church is not a return to normal. If normal is our goal then it has become our idol and we miss what God is seeking to do in us and through us. Remember the Israelites' regular reminiscing about the good ole days back in Egyptian slavery as God led them to the promised land (Exodus 16:3; 17:3; Numbers 11:4-5; 14:2; 16:13; 20:3-5)? Their fears and idolatry led them into a 40 year detour, as an entire generation wasted away in the wilderness. God regards our bellyaching with no less admiration, therefore beware of idolizing those good ole 'normal' days. When churches begin to re-

gather for corporate worship there will be differences and adjustments from a couple months ago, but God remains the same, therefore, we rely on Him, not a sense of comfort derived from a cushion of normalcy.

Second, as church leaders think through regathering, we must be prayerful, purposeful and prudent. We must be prayerful, seeking the Lord's guidance to be clear, for His glory to be displayed and for people to be drawn to Christ. Pray diligently, passionately and regularly for God to move as we regather. We must be purposeful. What is the biblical purpose for worship and gathering as a church? The scripture gives us clear purpose that supersedes circumstances calling us to be a redeemed people gathering to worship God intentionally, discipling and being disciplined in the truth, and taking the gospel to the lost. Coronavirus has impacted the economy, school schedules, vacations and much

more, but it has not changed the purpose that Christ has given his church! Stay focused on His purpose and make the most of the time at hand. Finally, we must be prudent as we make plans to regather. Prudence is the ability to make wise, reasonable, practical and skillful decisions in light of present risks. Prudence derived from scriptural wisdom, the Holy Spirit, and wise counselors are essential as church leaders seek the Lord's clear guidance for their congregation's regathering. Prudent decisions will vary among congregations, but they must be birthed in prayer and flow from the purpose Christ has given His Church.

As churches seek to regather, please be in prayer for your church leaders to be prayerful, purposeful and prudent in their planning, and that believers not miss what God is doing in and through the church as a result of this crisis.

## Stand Amazed

By Teena Hughs

Psalm 8: 3,4: "When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers--the moon and the stars you have set in place--what are mortals that you should think of us?"

This was the Scripture for a devotional I read Saturday. On Sunday, I heard a sermon about God's amazing creation in the heavens, and about the One who created them. I am combining information I learned from both for this week's column, because both put in perspective just how much God really does love you, and how much He desires a relationship with you.

Some fun facts about God's creation in the heavens: "Astronomers tell us that our galaxy alone contains hundreds of billions of stars--and the Milky Way is just one of hundreds of millions of galaxies."

"Betelgeuse (the star forming the right shoulder of the constellation Orion) is so big that if you were to put it where our sun is, it would engulf the planets Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars."

And, if you look at Earth in its galaxy, Earth is the size of a pin's head, with 7-plus billion people.

Yet, with all the incomprehensible vastness and beauty of God's heavenly creation, isn't it simply amazing that He values each of us more highly than He does His "incredible handiwork"? That so amazes me every time I think about it!!! That God, the Creator of everything, things we can see and things we can't see or imagine; that is the God who values human beings, you and me, more than ANYTHING He has ever created!!!!

How does that make you feel, and how do you respond? Do we just think it is nice? Do we think this is 'above my pay grade,' and I can't comprehend it, so I don't know what to do? Are you in awe of who God is and how He does things?

Let me suggest that we first be still, worship God, and thank Him for being our Creator. We may not understand all that God does, but isn't that why we keep reading our Bible; isn't that why we keep seeking after Him in relationship; isn't that why we keep looking for where He is--so we can get to know Him better?

I hope you "stand amazed in the presence of Jesus" as you spend time with God, considering who He is, and trying to comprehend exactly how much He loves you!!!

## Panhandle Parables

# Motives of Chickens and Men

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

It would be hard to quantify or qualify the significance of mothers. Mothers are extraordinary gifts from God and have been a critical part to the survival of our species. It was mothers who alerted us to hot stoves, dangers of running with scissors or running with suckers in our mouths. It was mothers who not only warned us but was the first with compassion when we fell off our bikes, or swings or trees (we fall a lot). It was mothers who introduced us to learning and discovering the world around us starting with our colors and letters. It was mothers who treasured the little things we forgot and were reminded when we were older.

Mothers have impacted Presidents and peasants without favoritism. Mothers have loved us when we likely did not deserve it. Mothers have been examples for good and godliness and we have benefited from their time with God. Godly mothers have helped us cling to what is good and abhor what is evil. Godly mothers can hold firm to truth and offer grace at the same time.

In this crazy time of quarantine and the impacts it may or may not have on our Mom's special day let us be reminded of the blessing they are to our lives, let us show gratitude and honor them with lives lived well. Let us simply say

THANK YOU, MOM! For being a guiding presence in our lives. So, whether you are six feet away or miles, be sure to reach out and let them know they are loved.

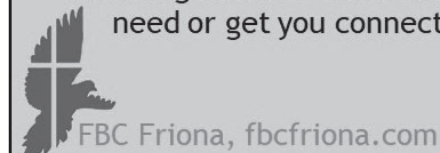
In an ideal world the above would speak to all mothers. Yet reality tells us otherwise, so for those of you who have been mothered by another let them know they are loved. Not every woman has had a child, but every child has been mothered by someone who loved them regardless of biology. Happy Mother's Day. May the Lord continue to bless and guide you as you take care of us in this little journey through life. God bless.



## Friona Community Helpline

806-250-3933

Senior Adults or people with serious medical conditions, if you need help picking up essential goods such as groceries or medicines, call the Friona Community Helpline. Volunteers with the Helpline can pickup your groceries, medicines or other essential goods and deliver them to your home. There is no cost for this service, we just want to help take care of our community during the coronavirus crisis. Further, if you need prayer, encouragement or other assistance we will do our best to help meet your need or get you connected to the right person or agency who can.



Psalm 46:1  
God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.



2020 Census Self-Response Rate Information - May 6, 2020	
National Response Rate .....	56.8%
Texas Self-Response Rate .....	51.5%
Parmer County Self-Response Rate .....	31.6%
Friona Self-Response Rate .....	47.1%
Bovina Self-Response Rate .....	5.0%
Farwell Self-Response Rate .....	15.7%

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

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Pastor Aurelio & Cynthia Silva

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Mike Prather, Minister

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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Pastor Larry Mitchell

**ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Pastor Gregory Bunyan

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The Church of God of the Firstborn  
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# Obituaries



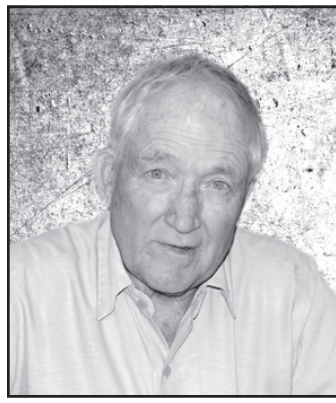
## Dale Earl Houlette

Dale Earl Houlette, 87, longtime Friona businessman passed away May 4, 2020 in Lubbock. Due to Covid-19 concerns, a private graveside service will be held at Friona Cemetery. The family regrets the need of this because of the great number of people whose lives he has touched and expresses their gratitude for the outpouring of love and support they have received. All arrangements by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona.

Dale was born in Friona, Texas on August 19th, 1932 to Ernest Earl Houlette and Bessie Sadie McLean Houlette.

Dale was a life-long resident of Friona, after his high school graduation he deferred his military service to attend West Texas State University where he received a B.S. in Ag Business. Upon graduation he served in the U.S. Army from 1955 to 1957 where he was stationed at a Nike-guided missile base in California.

After his discharge from the Army he returned to Friona where he saw a young lady he thought had the most beautiful smile in the world and he married Shirley "Jane" Phipps Houlette



on April 19th 1958. Their son Chris Dale was born January 10th, 1959 and they welcomed their baby girl Robin Gail May 14th, 1968.

In their early marriage Dale and Jane owned and operated a spudnut shop in Levelland, Texas and then Dale worked for a fertilizer company in Morton until they returned to Friona and bought a Mobil Oil wholesale company. They have operated Houlette Petroleum, Inc. since 1961. One of Dale's greatest joys was to be able to serve "his" farmers and his community through his business.

Dale was a humble and generous man and his greatest loves were his family, community, his beloved Friona Chieftains and Squaws, fishing, his fellow Lion's and sharing coffee in his office with generations of Friona farmers and merchants.

Dale was very proud of being a member of the Friona Noon Lions Club for 52 years. He joined on October 1, 1968. He was a Melvin Jones Fellowship recipient which is

an honor bestowed upon a member when the club donates \$1000.00 in his/her name to the Lions Club International organization.

Dale was preceded in death by both of his parents, his brothers Kenneth, Ted, Wayne, and Jerry Houlette and his sisters Pearl Houlette Hutchins and Betty Houlette Woodson.

He is survived by his wife and partner of 62 years Jane, his precious son Chris of Friona, his daughter Robin and husband Creech Richardson of Wichita Falls, Texas, and his nephew and a son of his heart Coy Jameson and wife Renee of Friona, Texas. There are not enough words to describe the love he had for his many nieces and nephews, both Phipps and Houlettes, nor the love he felt for his customers and community.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in his name to the Friona Noon Lions Club at Friona InterBank. All proceeds will help fund the Dale Houlette Fighting Chieftains/Squaws Scholarship Fund and the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville, Texas.

There will be no viewing, but you may send condolences to the family and sign the online greeting book at [www.hansardfamily.com](http://www.hansardfamily.com)



## Check Your Mirrors

By Sue Jane Sullivan



*An open letter to my daughter, who celebrated a birthday this week. I am just saving postage and a public outing by publishing it.*

Dear Emily,  
Do not worry. I am not writing to you for any of the following reasons:

1. to tell you that you were switched at birth
2. to embarrass you with stories about your toddler cussing phase
3. to give you advice about cleaning a cast iron skillet (which, by the way, is do not clean it)

No, my Boo, I am writing to apologize for your birthday timing.

The first error in judgment came in your planning. We decided to have you, our second-born, on what your father and I called the "five-year plan." This is most definitely not to be confused with the Soviet Union's Five-Year Plan instituted in 1928. I love my history and you are a RED head, but that is purely coincidental.

Your sister surprised us in 1982. While she was a welcome delight, we were a bit thrown off by the realization that parenting was upon us by accident. Yes, we were married, but the times were rocky—I was still leaving dishes in the sink, and your father would not stop with the bird dog re-population. Giving birth to Julie forced my hand at being more dutiful around the house; your dad's hunting dog habit re-

mained, but the photo ops with Julie were adorable.

Back to you.

Your due date was April 28, 1987. This was also your grandmother's birthday. We just knew you would be on time and would share many cake and ice cream memories with Nana. When you would not budge on that date, I turned my hopes to May 5. Again with the history, I know. Your grandmother taught Spanish, I taught Spanish, and I had visions of a baby that would be raised bi-lingually, celebrating birthdays with sombreros and margaritas.

On May 4, Julie and I drove to Snyder from Gail and spent the afternoon at your Mayes grandparents. I waddled with Julie around their big backyard, anticipating that you were indeed going to have a Lotería first birthday party with an Elhew pointer piñata. ¡Estaba muy emocionada!

At 8:30 that night, your dad and I called the doctor. We met at his office. He noted you were in place and ready to greet us with your first cry sometime the next morning. You cannot imagine how thrilled I was to be having a Cinco de Mayo baby.

We left the doctor's office at 9 p.m. Something not-so-funny happened between his office and the hospital entrance. This was not the methodical by-the-book delivery that we had with your sister. You rebelled. It was if

you were saying to me, "No más! I refuse to share my day with General Zaragoza and Benito Juárez. Margaritas, fine. But no Las Mañanitas!"

You won, Emily. At 10:12 p.m., just 108 minutes shy of the anniversary of Mexico's independence from those arrogant French, your first grito was heard.

\*\*\*\*\*

Since that wonderfully whacky Monday night, thirty-three celebrations in your honor have taken place. I want to remind you that YOU chose the Cinco de Mayo theme for your 30th birthday, complete with piñatas—and you and Nana did consume margaritas together, just as we planned years ago. It is YOU who now wear your grandmother's colorful Mexican dress on May 5 when you teach the significance of the day to your classes.

One more thing, Emily, about your birthday timing: I missed several May 4 celebrations due to UIL spring events. I just knew retirement in June 2019 was going to give us a chance to celebrate together finally, but then a not-in-the-least-bit funny thing happened in 2020.

I hope that this crazy pandemic era gives birth to something as beautiful as you were that night in 1987. In fact, across the world, we may see lots and lots and lots of cute babies nine months from now.

Con mucho amor, mija,  
Your mother

## State Sales Tax Revenue Totaled \$2.6 Billion in April

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.58 billion in April, 9.3 percent less than in April 2019, the steepest decline since January 2010.

The majority of April sales tax revenue is based on sales made in March and remitted to the agency in April. Widespread social distancing requirements were not in place across much of the state until late March, meaning the impact of those measures affected only a portion of sales tax remittances in April. Next month's remittances likely will show steeper declines compared to a year ago, as the effects of both the shuttering of businesses related to COVID-19 and plummeting oil prices were manifest throughout April.

"State sales tax collections declined as a result of efforts to stem the spread of COVID-19 through business closures, crowd limits and stay-at-home orders adopted in the state, as well as a precipitous drop in worldwide demand for oil," Hegar said. "The steepest declines in tax remittances were from businesses most quickly and dramatically affected by social

distancing: restaurants, performing arts venues, movie theaters, theme parks and fitness centers, as well as department stores and boutique retail shops. However, those losses were, to a degree, offset by increases from big-box retailers, grocery stores and online vendors. Remittances from oil- and gas-related sectors also fell significantly as oil and gas exploration and production companies slashed capital spending in response to the crash in oil price."

Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 57 percent of all tax collections. It can also be a lagging indicator of economic slowdowns. The recession associated with the financial crisis more than a decade ago began in December 2007 and lasted 18 months, but Texas did not see significant sales tax declines until early 2009. While the effect on sales taxes from the current economic contraction has been more immediate, the impact of rising unemployment and contracting economic activity in many parts of the state's economy, including oil and natural gas exploration and production, likely will act as a

drag on sales tax revenue for many months.

The effects of the March economic slowdown and falling oil prices were more evident in other sources of revenue in April 2020. Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes: (1) motor vehicle sales and rental taxes — \$164 million, down 45 percent from April 2019, the largest monthly drop on record in data going back to 1983; (2) motor fuel taxes — \$284 million, down 12 percent from April 2019, the steepest drop since 1991; (3) natural gas production tax — \$67 million, down 48 percent from April 2019; (4) oil production tax — \$191 million, down 45 percent from April 2019; (5) hotel occupancy tax — \$24 million, down 63 percent from April 2019, the deepest drop in data going back to 1990; and (6) alcoholic beverage taxes — \$57 million, down 55 percent from April 2019. Declines were driven by mixed beverage gross receipts and sales taxes, both of which were down more than 58 percent. Excise taxes on beer were up 16 percent from April 2019, while wine excise taxes were up 9 percent from April 2019.

# In Honor of Dale Houlette

## Friona Noon Lions Club 52 years of service



Dale receives recognition for Houlette Petroleum from Mayor Ricky White



He served...  
his country, customers, and community.

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The City of Friona, Texas ("City") and the Friona Economic Development Corporation ("FEDC") will receive Proposals for the designation of a Depository Institution for the period beginning July 10, 2020, and ending July 9, 2023. Such proposals, addressed to the office of the City Manager, City Hall, 623 Main Street, Friona, TX 79035, shall be received until 4:00 PM, Friday, May 29, 2020, at which time the same shall be publicly opened and examined. Such proposals may be presented to the Mayor and City Council at the scheduled meeting at 6:30 PM, Monday, June 8, 2020, for consideration and awarded to the successful bidder.

The City reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals, waive formalities and accept the bid deemed most advantageous to the City.

Proposals shall be made in accordance with the attached Special Conditions and Proposals and any deviations there from shall be clearly identified.

Copies of specification for proposals can be picked up at City Hall, 623 Main, Friona, Texas.

Leander Davila, City Manager



# STAR CLASSIFIEDS

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9:00 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.  
Located at Friona Police Department Building

## HELP WANTED

**Parmer County Sheriff's Office is taking applications for an Emergency 911 Dispatcher.**  
You may call (806) 481-3303 or send email to sheriff@parmercounty.net for more information or to obtain an application.

Seeking full-time employee. Must be computer literate. Pick up application at:  
**Malouf's Fabrics**  
503 W. 11th, Friona TX

## NOW HIRING

Friona ISD is looking for a substitute custodian that could possibly turn into full time. Hours are based on need each day. Interested applications may call Friona ISD 806-250-2747 or Martha Moreno 806-346-2091.

Friona ISD está buscando una persona de limpieza sustituto que posiblemente pueda convertirse en tiempo completo. Las horas se basan en la necesidad de cada día. Las personas interesadas pueden llamar a Friona ISD 806-250-2747 o Martha Moreno 806-346-2091.

**Friona Interbank is seeking individuals to fill a teller position. To apply online, please go to interbank.com. Thank You.**



## HELP WANTED

**Tractor Driver — Farm Worker Hub & Friona Area**  
**\$12 per hour**  
Call 806-922-4853

## HELP WANTED

**Looking for dependable and experienced farm help. Must have reliable transportation and proven work history. Please call 806-418-5603 or 806-418-5116.**

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frionaonline.com



## PROPERTY ASSOCIATES

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4/3/2 Brick in Western Addition w/cent. h&a, 2 living areas, screened patio, shop w/RV hook-up

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4/5/3 Brick w/cent. h&a, basement, fp, close to high school, \$25,000 cash allowance at closing ..... \$291,775

3/2/2 Brick w/cent. h&a, fireplace, all electric, new storage building, new patio cover, sprinkler f&b ..... \$145,000

3/2/2 Brick w/cent. h&a, fireplace, 2 living rooms, attic storage, fenced backyard, corner lot, close to H.S. Cont Pend

4/2/1 Siding w/central heat & air, new carpet, new granite counter tops, fenced backyard, corner lot ..... Cont Pend

## BOVINA

REDUCED: Commercial Building in Bovina: Brick w/cent. h&a, (7) offices, extra lot ..... \$62,000

## SOLD

3/2/2 Brick w/cent. h&a, fireplace, basement, patio, large fenced backyard, close to high school ..... SOLD

3/2/2 Brick w/central heat, 2 living areas, basement, sprinkler f&b, two fireplaces, large fenced backyard ..... SOLD

## 700 Ridgelea Drive, Bovina



SOLD

3/2/2 Brick w/cent. h&a, fireplace, 2 living areas, open floor plan, stone coated metal roof, large yard



Kevin Cooper  
806-240-5468



Karla Rector  
806-382-7465

## Sales Agents



Let us sell your property!



## You CAN do it!

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



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## EG Photography



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Happy Mother's Day!

Things Moms Do For Us!

- the beds
- for groceries
- us to the dentist
- to our fears
- us to practices and lessons
- our sports team
- for the school sale
- holes in our favorite clothes
- us to feed the dog
- supplies for school
- money for a rainy day
- our homework
- for us at our games
- us how to cook
- our favorite TV show
- the floors
- the windows
- the bills
- the laundry

- bake
- buy
- drive
- take
- remind
- make
- listen
- shop
- coach
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TIME

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Call 806-250-2211 or email frionastar@wtrt.net

## On, On Buffaloes!

By Walter V. Wendler, WTAMU President



Dear West Texas A&M University Community,

When we began the fall semester, none of us imagined that the academic year would end with us working and learning remotely to ensure the health and safety of the WT community because of a global pandemic.

COVID-19 has altered much of our daily lives, but it has not diminished our commitment to academic excellence or the stamina, strength, and courage of our Buffalo spirit. We have continued to serve our students, the community, and our neighbors through our efforts to continue our educational mission, make available the resources of the University to the wider community, and share the collective wisdom and experience of The Texas A&M University System to combat the spread and effect of the virus.

You may have seen the announcement that WT is the safest campus in Texas and among the top 10 safest campuses in America. We were among the first to make decisions to facilitate social distancing to keep our campus community safe. Rest assured that we will continue to keep your safety and that of our community at the forefront of all our decisions.

As of today, I want to share with you that we intend to

safely resume in-person teaching, learning, residential life, and athletic competition for the fall 2020 semester using a phased return approach, all under the leadership of the Board of Regents and Chancellor John Sharp. This decision is predicated on health officials advising us that it is possible to implement a return-to-campus process in a manner that protects the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

It is time for the Buffaloes to come home to the Panhandle to rejoin the herd. Please realize while we will be back on campus it will not be like this past fall. Social distancing and safety protocols will be in place as we return to our classrooms, labs, and residence halls. Our plans will also include recommendations regarding the use of protective masks, testing and contact-tracing, and other tools. We are developing ways to reduce the density of groups in our student facilities, large lecture-based classrooms, and our popular campus areas. These same plans extend to special events, including athletics.

We will need to be flexible in considering the special circumstances of various units on campus, recognizing that strategies for fall instruction will involve a blend of online and face-to-face classes for some

students. We will take every precaution to ensure the safety of all those associated with WT. There will be inconveniences, but they will be necessary for us to get back to our campus, colleagues, and friends in a safe and responsible way.

The Texas A&M System is providing guidelines to help us develop plans for a phased return to campus in the coming weeks for some staff and faculty. As previously announced all campus summer camps and events have been canceled. Summer Session I will be fully online, but if conditions permit, we may provide some face-to-face instruction in Summer II. The phased return to campus during the summer months will allow us the opportunity to test the protocols and policies that will guide the re-opening of campus in the fall. As we continue to work through this planning, we will provide additional communications with more details in a timely manner. Please continue to visit our COVID-19 webpage.

As I have said many times, West Texas A&M University is truly the heart and soul of the Texas Panhandle. Together, we will continue to work diligently to ensure our safe return to campus. Thank you, for your perseverance, prayers, and practice in developing new ways to teach, learn, and live.

## State Capital Highlights

By Ed Sterling



### Governor's order reopens many businesses on limited basis

AUSTIN — An executive order issued by Gov. Greg Abbott to reopen in-store retail shopping, dine-in restaurants, movie theaters, museums, libraries and more took effect May 1 and will continue through May 15.

As Texas, the rest of the United States and the world's nations seek to balance cries for increased commercial activity — and the jobs that result — while also containing the spread of the deadly influenza-like virus, COVID-19, Abbott's order allows most venues to operate at up to 25% of their total listed occupancy with certain other conditions applying.

For example, shopping malls may operate at up to 25% of their total listed occupancy. However, their food-court dining areas, play areas and interactive displays and settings must remain closed.

Abbott's order, in accordance with guidelines issued by White House and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, reminds Texans that schools remain closed to in-person classroom attendance by students through the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Meanwhile, teachers and staff are encouraged to continue to work re-

motely from home if possible but may return to campuses to conduct remote video instruction and perform administrative duties under strict terms required by the Texas Education Agency. Also, private schools and institutions of higher education are urged to establish similar terms to allow faculty and staff to return to campuses to conduct remote video instruction and perform administrative duties when it is not possible to do so from home.

Notably, the order does not prohibit people from accessing essential or reopened services or engaging in essential daily activities, such as going to the grocery store or gas station, providing or obtaining other essential or reopened services, visiting parks, hunting or fishing or engaging in physical activity like jogging, bicycling or other outdoor sports, "so long as the necessary precautions are maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and to minimize in-person contact with people who are not in the same household."

The complete executive order is available at gov.texas.gov.

Cumulative figures posted by the Texas Department of State Health Services at noon on May 3 showed that some 31,548 people in Texas had been diagnosed with COVID-19 and 867 deaths had been confirmed as resulting from the influenza-like virus.

### PBS, TEA launch initiative

The Texas Education Agency and PBS television stations on April 21 announced a joint initiative to air educational programming each week in each of Texas' 10 PBS viewing areas during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The programming commenced statewide on April 20 through the "At-Home Learning Initiative" that preempts regularly scheduled weekday programming with grade-level-appropriate programming divided into three age groups: Pre-K through 3rd grade, 5th through 8th grade, and high school.

"This joint initiative between TEA and PBS stands to benefit all students as they work each day to navigate uncharted waters and continue to do their best to learn and grow as students and individuals," said Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath.

### Revenue total decreases

Texas Comptroller Glenn

Hegar on May 1 announced state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.58 billion in April, an amount 9.3% less than the amount reported in April 2019, marking the steepest decline since January 2010.

The majority of April sales tax revenue is based on sales made in March and remitted to the state comptroller in April. Next month's remittances likely will show steeper declines compared to a year ago because of the shuttering of businesses related to COVID-19 and plummeting oil prices throughout April, Hegar added.

### Benefits may continue

The Texas Workforce Commission on April 30 issued new guidance to unemployment claimants concerning their eligibility for unemployment benefits should they choose not to return to work due to COVID-19.

The TWC said Texans can continue to receive unemployment benefits throughout the COVID-19 response if they choose not to return to work for certain reasons, including:

—At High Risk: People 65 years or older are at a higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19;

—Household member at high risk: People 65 years or older are at a higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19;

—Diagnosed with COVID: Individual has tested positive for COVID-19 by a source authorized by the State of Texas and is not recovered;

—Family member with COVID: Anybody in the household has tested positive for COVID-19 by a source authorized by the State of Texas and is not recovered and 14 days have not yet passed;

—Quarantined: Individual is currently in 14-day quarantine due to close contact exposure to COVID-19; and

—Child care: Child's school or daycare closed and no alternatives are available.

Any other situation will be subject to a case by case review by TWC based on individual circumstances.

### SNAP online is approved

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission on April 23 received federal approval to conduct a pilot program that would allow Texans to purchase groceries online using Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic. Officials said the statewide pilot program is expected to start by May 18.

## Court of appeals affirms judgment ordering new election

May 1, 2020, Amarillo, Texas: Seventh Court of Appeals Justice Larry Doss today announced that after close of business on April 30, an appellate court unanimously upheld the findings and order of a district judge who ordered a new election in the Republican primary for Justice, Seventh Court of

Appeals. The Seventh Court of Appeals is an intermediate appellate court that hears cases for a 46-county region of the Panhandle and South Plains of Texas.

Following the Super Tuesday elections on March 3, 2020, it was discovered that more than 1,200 citizens in two counties were unable

to vote in the Seventh Court of Appeals election because the race had been omitted from their ballots. After a district judge ordered a new election to take place, consistent with the Texas Election Code, Doss's opponent, Steven Denny, brought an appeal to urge the Court of Appeals to disregard the dis-

enfranchised voters. The appellate court's 3-0 decision (attached to this release) affirms the judgment on all grounds and upholds the citizens' right to vote, consistent with the U.S. Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas.

**The new election is scheduled to take place on July 14, 2020.**

In reacting to the news of the court's decision, Justice Doss said, "It has been an expensive and time-consuming legal fight, but every voter is important. I am pleased that every voter will now have an opportunity for their voice to be heard, and I look forward to the election in July."

Doss was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott in November 2019 to serve as Justice on the Seventh Court of Appeals of Texas to replace Justice James Campbell, who retired last fall. Doss has 20 years of appellate experience and is board-certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

## Xcel Energy to resume residential meter reading in Texas on May 4 with New Mexico following two weeks later

AMARILLO, Texas (April 30, 2020) – In-person meter reading, which had been temporarily on hold for residential customers since April 14 to address coronavirus concerns, will resume May 4 for Xcel Energy's Texas customers and May 18 for New Mexico customers.

To allow meter readers and field crews to do their critical work, and for everyone's safety, Xcel Energy is requesting that members of the public not approach them in the field. This helps maintain social distance to keep everyone healthy. Xcel Energy will notify customers that they will be reading residential meters in the area via outbound calls.

The company wants to assure everyone that the safety of its employees, customers and the public is always its top priority. All Xcel Energy employees are following the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Xcel Energy meter readers also will be wearing protective masks while working in the field.

The company is taking extra safety measures including enhanced cleaning protocols, requiring any employee who feels sick or has symptoms to stay home with pay, limiting the number of people riding in company vehicles to job

sites and maintaining social distance.

As communities and families face the challenges caused by the spread of COVID-19, Xcel Energy has announced it will not disconnect residential customers' electric service until further notice. The company is also working with customers to arrange payment plans if they are having difficulty paying their bills through this challenging time.

Customers can contact Xcel Energy by calling 1-800-895-4999 and using the automated phone system or speaking with a representative. Support is also available at [www.xcelenergy.com](http://www.xcelenergy.com) by logging onto My Account.

## Texas Dairy Queen Serving Cotton Candy Blizzard As Flavor Of The Month

As sure as the wildflowers are blossoming across our great state, Texas Dairy Queen (TDQ) is celebrating the arrival of warmer weather and the featured Blizzard® Flavor of the Month: Cotton Candy.

"Our Cotton Candy Blizzard is one of our most popular flavors," said Lou Romanus, CEO of the Texas Dairy Queen Operators' Council. "This Blizzard brings a smile to our fans' faces when they taste this sweet treat. We're happy to bring this flavor back, as well as offering our full menu of treats and eats."

The Cotton Candy Blizzard is a frozen melody of DQ soft serve and cotton candy sprinkles for a refreshing treat for the taste buds and will be available through August. The Cotton Candy Blizzard joins a lineup of limited time flavors such as the Oreo Cheesecake Blizzard; Frost-ed Animal Cookie Blizzard; Raspberry Fudge Bliss Blizzard; S'mores Blizzard; and the Rocky Road Trip Blizzard.

Texas Dairy Queen's continue to offer its menu via drive-thru windows, pick-up and take-out, as well as delivery and online ordering, where available.



### THE BUTCHER'S BUNDLE

4 (5 oz.) Butcher's Cut Filet Mignons  
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# Small Town Cookin'

By Jeri Lynn White

## Tacos

It only seems appropriate to feature tacos the week of Cinco de Mayo. Even though this holiday was on Tuesday, it is always a good day for tacos.

The history of the taco really begins with the tortilla. Mesoamerican cultures such as the Mayans and Aztecs developed what we know today as corn. They then processed the corn into meal and soon created a flat bread. The native name for this bread was tlaxcalli which the Spanish called it a tortilla.

Tacos as we know them are really less than one hundred years old. According to Jeffrey M. Pilcher, a professor of history at the University of Minnesota and a Mexican food enthusiast, the taco evolved in the Mexican silver mines in the 18th century. These tacos, taco de minero or miner's taco, were an easy way for the miners to carry and eat while working in the mines. But why the word taco? The word taco most likely referred to a piece of paper the miners used to wrap around the gun-

powder that was placed in holes to destroy the rock face and mine the silver. Women began to sell this working-class fair off of carts in Mexico City. Soon taquerias, taco shops, began to pop up to selling this new popular food.

Tacos made their way into the United States by way of migrant workers in California in the early 1900's. The first mention of a taco in a U.S. newspaper was in 1905. The first known English language taco recipe was found in a 1914 Californian cookbook. Once again women, known as Chili Queens, began selling tacos off carts. These carts introduced the taco to those outside of the migrant population.

By 1920, Mexican food was beginning to become Americanized, especially the taco. Somewhere along this time, organs were replaced by ground meat or chicken, as well as the added toppings such as cheese, lettuce, and tomatoes. The crunchy shell was not the traditional Mexican style for tacos. But

in 1940 the deep-fried u-shaped shell was created and patented by Mexican restaurants. Glen Bell, founder of Taco Bell, popularized the crunchy taco shell, but he didn't invent it. He used it to streamline taco production in his fast food chain by using this premade corn shell that could be kept fresh for longer periods of time than fresh corn tortillas.

Americans love for Mexican food, especially tacos, only continues to grow. In recent years more authentic Mexican tacos such as tacos al pastor, tacos de barbacoa, and carnitas have begun to gain popularity.

For more information you can go online at [casablancomexican.com](http://casablancomexican.com), [smithsonianmag.com](http://smithsonianmag.com), [whatscookingamerica.net](http://whatscookingamerica.net), or [twistedtaco.com](http://twistedtaco.com).

I haven't used premade taco packets since I found this recipe for Homemade Taco seasoning. I make up several batches in individual Ziplock bags, so they are ready to go when I make tacos.

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



- 1.) Go to [frionaonline.com](http://frionaonline.com)
- 2.) Click on the "newspaper archives" link
- 3.) Search

# FSA News

## Ongoing Disaster Assistance Program Signup

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has started making payments through the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program - Plus (WHIP+) to agricultural producers who suffered eligible losses because of drought or excess moisture in 2018 and 2019. Signup for these causes of loss opened March 23, and producers who suffered losses from drought (in counties designated D3 or above), excess moisture, hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, typhoons, volcanic activity, snowstorms or wildfires can still apply for assistance through WHIP+.

To be eligible for WHIP+, producers must have suffered losses of certain crops, trees, bushes or vines in counties with a Presidential Emergency Disaster Declaration or a Secretarial Disaster Designation (primary counties only) for qualifying natural disaster events that occurred in calendar years 2018 or 2019. Also, losses located in a county not designated by the Secretary as a primary county may be eligible if a producer provides documentation showing that the loss was due to a qualifying natural disaster event.

For losses due to drought, a producer is eligible if any area of the county in which the loss occurred was rated D3, or extreme drought, or higher on the U.S. Drought Monitor during calendar years 2018 or 2019. Producers who suffered losses should contact their FSA county office.

In addition to the recently added eligible losses of drought and excess moisture, FSA will implement a WHIP+ provision for crop quality loss that resulted in price deductions or penalties when marketing crops damaged by eligible disaster events. To ensure an effective program for all impacted farmers, the Agency is currently gathering information on the extent of quality loss from producers and stakeholder organizations.

USDA Service Centers, including FSA county offices, are open for business by phone only, and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information on Service Centers can be found at [farmers.gov/coronavirus](http://farmers.gov/coronavirus), and more information on WHIP+ can be found at [farmers.gov/whip-plus](http://farmers.gov/whip-plus).

### Homemade Taco Seasoning Mix

- 2 tsp. chili powder
- 1 1/2 tsp. paprika
- 1 tsp. onion powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 3/4 tsp. garlic salt
- 1 dash red pepper

Mix all together. Makes the equivalent of one package of store-bought mix. Add to 1 lb. of browned hamburger meat with 2/3 c. water. If I double the recipe for 2 lb. of meat, I add 1 c. water.

\*While searching for taco recipes, I found that many recipes for taco meat calls for 1 cup of tomato sauce. I haven't done this with this recipe, but if you want, I think you could add the tomato sauce for a richer meat for your tacos.



### Grilled Salmon Tacos with Avocado Salsa

[www.cookingclassy.com](http://www.cookingclassy.com)

#### Salmon

- 1 1/2 lbs. boneless salmon, skinned and sliced into 3 equal portions
- 1 Tbsp olive oil, plus more for grill
- 1 Tbsp fresh lime juice
- 1 tsp ancho chili powder
- 3/4 tsp ground cumin
- 3/4 tsp onion powder
- 1/2 tsp paprika
- 1/2 tsp ground coriander
- 1/2 tsp salt, then more to taste
- 1/2 tsp freshly ground black pepper

#### Avocado Salsa

- 2 medium avocados (ripe but semi-firm), peeled, cored and diced
- 1/3 cup small diced red onion, run under cool water to remove harsh bite and drain
- 3 Tbsp chopped cilantro
- 1 jalapeno, seeded and minced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 Tbsp fresh lime juice
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- For serving
- 8 6-inch corn tortillas, warmed
- 2 cups thinly sliced red or green cabbage
- 1/2 cup crumbled Cotija cheese

#### Instructions

##### For the salmon:

Preheat a gas grill over medium-high heat. In a mixing bowl whisk together olive oil, lime juice, ancho chili powder, cumin, onion powder, paprika, coriander, salt and freshly ground black pepper. Evenly rub mixture over both sides of salmon (I placed the first one on the plate then began to stack the rest over it, so the rub didn't all just end up left behind on the plate). Brush grill lightly with oil, place salmon on grill and cook, rotating once halfway through cooking, until cooked through, about 3 minutes per side. Meanwhile, prepare avocado salsa.

##### For the avocado salsa:

In a mixing bowl gently toss together diced avocado, red onion, cilantro, jalapeno, garlic, lime juice, and olive oil while seasoning with salt and pepper to taste.

##### To assemble tacos:

Break salmon into small portions and layer over center of tacos, add cabbage, avocado salsa and Cotija cheese. Serve warm.

# National Teacher Appreciation Week May 4-8, 2020

The Friona Independent School District Board of Trustees and the Administration staff salute our dedicated teachers and para-professionals.

Thanks for your dedicated service to our students, our school, and our community!!!

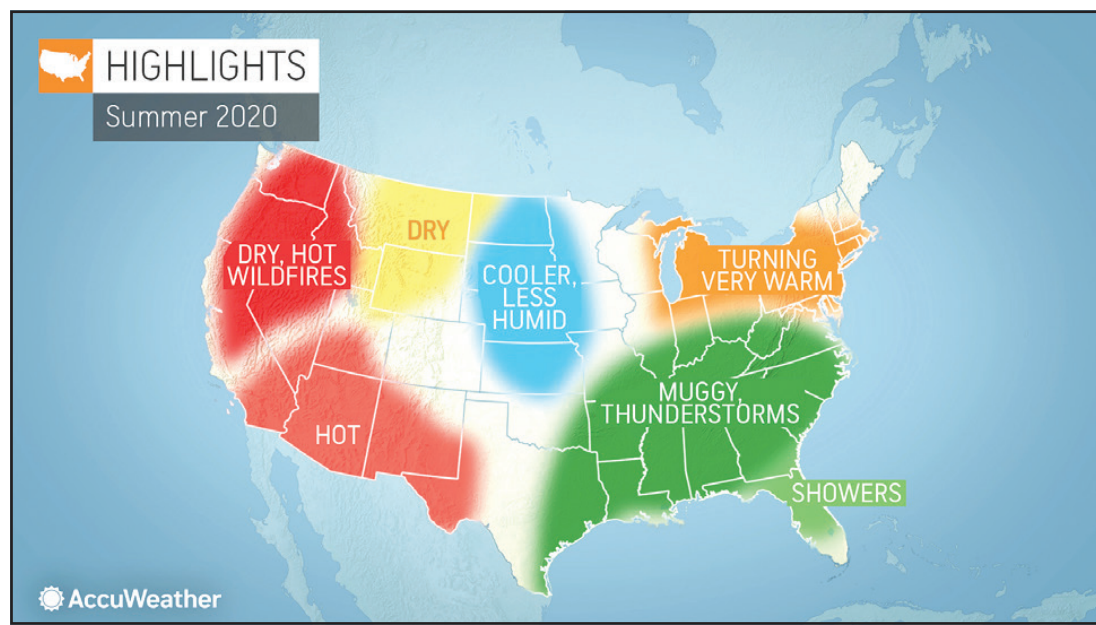
*“Teach the children so it will not be necessary to teach the adults.” -Abraham Lincoln*

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**Texas will have mixed bag of weather this summer**

AccuWeather Global Weather Center, April 29, 2020

Summer in the United States is going to look different in many ways this year given how the coronavirus pandemic has upended life. For many Americans, it's still unclear if sports will be played and whether large gatherings will be held. Vacation plans remain up in the air for millions. What's not up in the air is that no matter what Americans end up spending time doing this summer, there will be weather to contend with.

AccuWeather's long-range forecast team, led by veteran meteorologist Paul Pastelok, has provided an early look at what weather trends can be expected all around the nation this summer. With the official start to summer a little less than two months away, Pastelok and his team examine where severe weather will remain a threat as summer kicks off, look at places where scorching summer tempera-

tures could build, bringing the possibility for a heat wave, and assess which areas are at risk of drought and wildfire threats as the season progresses. Plus, the forecasters analyze where and when the first tropical weather threat might emerge.

**Central and southern Plains**

Parts of the central and southern Plains states may experience lower humidity and cooler-than-normal weather at times this summer. "Frequent fronts may get down into the southern U.S., which is kind of unusual as you get into July and August," Pastelok said. With cooler air prevailing to the north and a more humid air mass fueled by the warm waters of the Gulf Coast, parts of southeastern Texas up to Dallas could get more frequent severe weather, he said.

Meanwhile, southwestern Texas, including cities such

as El Paso, is poised for prolonged hot weather. One city that might feel some heat relief this summer compared to last as tropical moisture and cold fronts trim back temperatures is Laredo. Last summer, the city made headlines as temperatures soared past the triple-digit mark during a 38-day streak of sizzling heat. Laredo Mayor Pete Saenz declared, "Thank goodness, we have air conditioning!" at the height of the heat. Drought conditions may persist and even intensify, particularly in areas away from the Southeast coast for most of the summer season.

AccuWeather serves more than 1.5 billion people daily to help them plan their lives and get more out of their day through digital media properties, such as AccuWeather.com and mobile, as well as radio, television, newspapers, and the national 24/7 AccuWeather Network channel.



Construction work continues all around town. In the top photo, the original windows of the Friona Junior High have been removed and the openings boarded up until the new windows are ready to install. The middle photo shows work at the new Primary School site. The pad has been finished and the next step is concrete footings and grade beams. In the bottom photo, the plumbing has been installed and dirt is being moved to prepare for the installation of the slab.

## Storing Vegetables

**IN THE PANTRY (50-70° F)**

**1 week:**  
Rutabagas, Peas (unshelled), White potatoes

**2-4 weeks:**  
Onions (dry varieties), Sweet potatoes

**5-8 months:**  
Fresh garlic, Winter squash

**Tips:**  
Keep pantry storage cool and dry  
Store produce in metal, plastic or glass containers  
Canned vegetables will store for 1 year  
Dried vegetables will store for 6-12 months

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Created by: Courtney Lowe, Extension Agent Health Castro, Hale & Lamb Co.

## Storing Vegetables

**IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR (37-40° F)**

**1-3 days:**  
Corn, Greens, Mushrooms (don't wash before), Okra, Ripe tomatoes

**3-5 days:**  
Asparagus, Beans, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cauliflower, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Peas, Peppers, Summer squash, Vegetables bought frozen

**1-2 weeks:**  
Artichoke, Beets, Cabbage, Carrots, Celery, Garlic, Green onions, Lettuce (in bag or lettuce keeper), Parsley, Radishes, Rutabagas, Turnips (only after ripe), Winter squash

**Tips:**  
Store vegetables separately from fruits & in airtight wraps or containers

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Created by: Courtney Lowe, Extension Agent Health Castro, Hale & Lamb Co.

## 12th Annual PUDGE KENDRICK MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Proceeds benefit the Parmer County and Hereford Cancer Coalitions, which provide grants for local cancer patients

**July 25-26, 2020**  
John Pitman Golf Club  
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Two-Person Scramble  
Entry Fee \$300 per team

Space limited to 80 teams

Saturday tee times:  
8 am or 1:30 pm  
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Free practice round Friday (cart not included)  
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✓ Player evaluation Saturday following meal

To sign up, contact:  
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806-363-7139

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