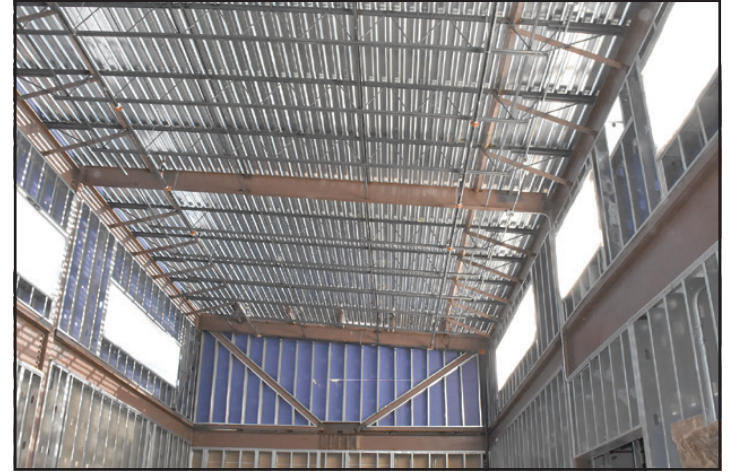




New Primary School Beginning To Take Shape



Superintendent Lorenzo Soto of Teinert Construction discusses work being done on the library in the new Primary School building. Lorenzo gave a tour of the new facility to Fisd Superintendent Jimmy Burns, Special Services/Student Data specialist Ashley Smith, and the Friona Star this week. The Primary School project is on schedule and should be ready for students next fall. Stay tuned.

Parmer County COVID-19 stats as of December 15



Confirmed Cases
752

Probable Cases
262

Fatalities
28

Active Cases
139

Recoveries
847

Commissioners approve new phone system

The Parmer County Commissioners Court met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 10 a.m. in the County Courtroom of the Parmer County Courthouse in Farwell, Texas. The meeting began with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Texas Flag.

There were no public comments. Minutes from the November 23rd meeting were read and approved. Commissioners approved the payment of the accounts payables as presented by County Treasurer Sharon May. The Treasurer's Report was also approved.

Commissioners approved the purchase of a new phone system for the Courthouse and Law Enforcement Center. The new phone network will be purchased from Ideacom of Amarillo before December 18th in order to take advantage of a \$7,000 discount. The total cost will be approximately \$44,000 after the discount. All offices will now be connected by the same system which will include voice over IP, the ability to keep current phone numbers, and voice mail for everyone. This is the first ever major renovation/update of the county phone system. The new

network should be fully operational sometime in February. The current 911 system will not be affected by the new county upgrade.

A request by Bovina ISD for \$83,814.55 from its portion of the Permanent School Fund to pay for school renovations was approved. Approval was also given for payment of unused vacation hours to Parmer County employees. A Bond was approved for the Parmer County District Clerk Deputy and continuing education hours were granted for the Parmer County Tax Assessor. Discussion concerning a tower lease was tabled until the

next meeting.

The 2020 Parmer County Fire Report was presented to the Court by the five Fire Departments that serve Parmer County. At the first of the year, the county allocates \$150,000 to be divided among the departments to be used for the purchase of equipment and other expenses. Friona received \$32,000, Bovina, Farwell, & Lazbuddie received \$22,000 each, and Rhea received \$12,000. Another \$40,000 is distributed on a per call basis (Rhea not included). There were 165 calls in 2020 and the breakdown by department

at \$242 per call is as follows: Bovina (32 calls-\$7,744), Farwell (46 calls-\$11,132), Friona (57 calls-\$14,036), and Lazbuddie (29 calls-\$7,018).

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, December 28th.

All meetings are open to the public. The Commissioner's Court reserves the right to go into Executive Session at any time. The agenda may be found on the Parmer County website. Information in this article is only a summary. Any questions concerning specific actions should be directed to the Commissioners Court.

Basketball Season is underway!!!



The 2020-21 basketball season has begun for both the Squaws and Chieftains. In fact, district games begin this week. Bovina was in town Tuesday night and the Lady Mustangs won 61-23 and the Mustangs defeated the Chiefs 48-38. See more photos on page 8.

	Town Talk Page 3	Church Page Page 5	Classifieds Page 7	Sports Page 8	Obituary Page 9
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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 December 17-23	T 58 30 SSW 15-25	F 58 22 W 20-30	S 53 22 WSW 10-20	S 55 27 WNW 10-15	M 62 30 SSW 10-20	T 61 31 WSW 15-25	W 47 23 N 15-25	Precipitation December 0.03 Year 9.44	Burn Ban: Yes
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Community Calendar

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

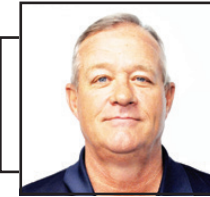
- December 19**
 - Friona Local Livestock Show
- December 21**
 - Friona Noon Lions Club Meeting at The Farmwife Kitchen
- December 24 - January 3**
 - Friona Star office closed
- December 25**
 - Christmas
- January 1**
 - New Year's Day
- January 12-14, 16**
 - Parmer County Jr. Livestock Show & Sale

COVID-19 News

Coronavirus cases confirmed

As of December 16, 2020

Texas: 1,510,000 cases 24,796 deaths	Worldwide: 73,600,000 cases 1,640,000 deaths 41,700,000 recoveries
United States: 16,800,000 cases 304,000 deaths	



Mayor's Minutes by Ricky White

The pandemic continues to affect the way we live, the way we work, learn, socialize, meet, worship and play. We will continue to be resilient and do things that are within our control. I encourage everyone to continue wearing a mask, social distance, wash hands frequently and stay home if you are feeling sick. Our hearts and prayers go out to all of the families that have lost loved ones due to this pandemic. As of December 10, 2020, Parmer County has recorded 776 confirmed cases, 651 recoveries, 98 active cases and 27 deaths. Our healthcare workers have worked tirelessly and we thank each of them for their dedication.

On March 1, 2020, the City of Friona received grant money from the Corona-Virus Relief Fund as part of the Cares Act which provides for payments to state, local and tribal government navigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. The City of Friona received a total allocation of \$216,370 to spend on COVID related expenses to support the city, local businesses, school districts and regional hospitals. Each entity listed has received money from this grant to assist in purchasing supplies to help keep their healthcare workers, employees, faculty,

or students safe.

Volunteer Fireman responded to 7 emergency calls in November; (1st) structure fire, (4th) storage fire, (5th) smoke investigation, (6th) vehicle accident, (13th) railroad ties on fire, (17th) grass fire, (19th) vehicle accident. Each emergency response was met with a minimum of 3 trucks responding and 7 fire firefighters.

Chief Jimenez and officers responded to 205 calls in November. There were 184 stops, 103 warnings, 125 citations, and 12 arrests. The arrests were as follows; 5 arrests for possession of marijuana, 2 arrests for furnishing alcohol to minors, 1 arrest for aggravated assault on a family member, 3 arrests on warrants, and 1 arrest for evading an officer. The officers drove a total of 3,643 miles patrolling and protecting our city.

Judge Campbell had 96 new cases in November with 73 cases resolved. The court collected \$13,143.22 in fines and total court cost equaled \$8,095.67 which was remitted to the state.

Emergency Medical Service made 55 runs in November. NOTE: total runs have increased monthly since the pandemic began. There were twenty one

calls for 911, fifteen transfers, and twelve calls ended in a "no transport". Collections equaled \$5,538.84 and billing totaled \$28,647.88. The EMS personnel has done a great job handling and responding to all emergencies. We thank them for their time serving our community and dedication.

The City of Friona pumped 12,903,700 gallons of water in November, sold 9,873,00 gallons. Total billing equaled \$59,427.44 on 1465 accounts. Accounts Payable totaled \$151,365.66 in November. The city continues to be in good standing. There was one large expenditure of \$10,000 for the remaining balance on the completion of the reconstructed EMS building on highway 60. The EMS personnel are enjoying the improved living quarters, space, and location. The building looks great and will service the EMS needs for many years.

Friona Public Library was open for 17 days in November. There were 281 (electronic visits) and 23 patron visits. There were 286 items circulated and 168 new items added to inventory.

I want to wish everyone a safe and merry Christmas and a joyful New Year!!!!
Your Mayor



Oatmeal Muffins

This week we honor oatmeal muffin day on December 19, 2020 with a couple of recipes that will be great for breakfast for the family over the Christmas break.

CRANBERRY OATMEAL MUFFINS

www.food.com

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup low-fat sour cream or 1 cup yogurt
- 1/2 cup oil
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 cup flour

- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 teaspoons orange rind, grated
- 3/4 cup cranberries, chopped

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Soak oats in yogurt or sour cream just

enough to make it moist. Sift dry ingredients (flour, salt, baking powder & baking soda) into a bowl. In a separate bowl, add oil, sugars, and egg. Beat until well blended. Gradually fold in dry ingredients. Add chopped cranberries and orange zest. Put in greased muffin tins. Bake for 20 minutes.

PUMPKIN OATMEAL MUFFINS

www.thebittersideofsweet.com

INGREDIENTS

- FOR THE MUFFINS:**
- 1 stick butter, melted
 - 1 cup milk
 - 2 eggs
 - 1/2 cup pumpkin
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla
 - 1/2 cup brown sugar
 - 2 cups all-purpose flour
 - 1/2 cup old fashioned oats
 - 2 teaspoons baking soda

FOR THE TOPPING:

- 1 tsp pumpkin pie spice
- 4 tablespoons butter, melted
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 400°. Line muffin pan with liners. Set aside. In large bowl add butter, milk, eggs, pumpkin, va-

nilla, and brown sugar. Whisk together until completely incorporated. Add in flour, oats, baking soda and pumpkin pie spice. Stir until combined. Scoop into muffin liners. Set aside. In small bowl add melted butter, flour, brown sugar, and pumpkin pie spice. Stir together. Sprinkle the top of each muffin with a little of the topping mixture. Bake for 12 minutes. Serve warm and ENJOY!

Ivy Cottage
Bridal Registry
Marc & Kelsey Haile
Josh Barnett & Rachel Box
Anna Murphree & Jeff Chambliss
Ivy Cottage • 250-8073

Milk House Market
Wedding Registry
Josh Barnett & Rachel Box
Macey Thurman & Justin Brown
Hours:
Thursday 11-5
Friday 11-5
Saturday 10-3
Call: 602-739-0813
Farmhouse to Your House

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2020 by Orbison Bros.

ACROSS

- 1 Houston traffic gridlocks
- 5 Valley medicinal plant
- 6 in McLennan County on highway 164
- 7 TXism: "___ bien" (good)
- 8 some Texans do it in Colorado
- 9 TX Bonnie & Clyde specialties
- 16 TXism: "high as a cat's ___" (expensive)
- 18 TXism for "join" (3 wds.)
- 21 that is (abbr.)
- 22 reading light
- 23 Cowboy, Maverick, Spur, Astro, Star, Rocket, or Ranger
- 24 in Hill County on I-35
- 30 the business end of an Indian weapon in early Texas
- 34 Burt takes elephant to Texas in "Smokey & the Bandit ___"
- 35 TXism: "too big ___ petticoat" (arrogant woman)
- 36 country singer Collin
- 37 TXism: "eatin' ___" (silverware)
- 39 Leon County seat
- 43 TX O. Henry story: "Whiskey ___"
- 44 Caddo Indian tribe native to East Texas
- 45 TXism: "hasta ___ vista" (see ya)
- 46 horse docs

DOWN

- 1 TX Perot's running mate in 1992
- 2 state of 1989 spill by Exxon Valdez
- 3 TX Carolyn Jones "Addams Family" character
- 4 TX Michael Johnson ___ world record in 200-meter sprint in 1996
- 9 TX singer Hank (init.)
- 10 TXism: "numerous as ___ in Texas"
- 11 TX Orbison ballad
- 12 10-cent coin
- 13 cowboy before the roundup was over
- 14 star role of "Big Top" 1988 film with TX Kris Kristofferson (init.)
- 15 a taste of iced tea seat of Kerr County
- 19 Groveton's county
- 20 hauls up
- 24 TX Jennifer Love Hewitt film: "___ Only"
- 25 TXism: "nothing ___ write home about"
- 26 TX "Tighten Up" singer Bell, for short
- 27 TXism: "he could sell sheep ___ to a cattleman"
- 28 official Texan count
- 29 Grandee was 1st official TX ___
- 31 Irion County was named for this Robert (init.)
- 32 TX Duvall was this Olive in "Popeye"
- 33 TXism: "passion pit" theater
- 38 WR Beckham, Jr. from neighbor state
- 40 TX Perot's first naval rank (abbr.)
- 41 TX "petticoater" Meredith Mac ___
- 42 TXism: "skinny as a lizard-___"
- 48 TX Ginger's mother
- 50 1999 TX Quaid film: "___ Given Sunday"
- 51 TXism: "___ many irons in the fire"
- 56 bawler
- 57 TXism: "if it ain't true there ___ cow in Texas"

ON YOUR PAYROLL
U.S. Government
President: Donald J. Trump, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20500. 202-456-1111, fax 202-456-2461, email comments@whitehouse.gov.
Senator: John Cornyn, 517 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-2934, fax 202-228-2856.
Senator: Ted Cruz B40B Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-5922.
Representative: Jodey Arrington, 2019 Longworth, House Office Building, 202-225-4005. Lubbock District Office, 1312 Texas Ave. #219, Lubbock, TX 79401. Abilene District Office, 500 Chestnut St. #819, Abilene, TX 79602
State
Governor: Greg Abbott, Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 12428, Austin, TX 78711-2428, 512-463-2000.
Senator: Kel Seliger, P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711. 512-463-0131. Amarillo office; P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, 79105. 806-374-8994.
Representative: John T. Smithee, Room CAPIW.10, Capitol P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768. 512-463-0702. fax 512-476-7016. Amarillo office; 320 So. Polk, 1st Floor, Lobby box 28, Amarillo 79101. 806-372-3327, fax 806-342-0327.

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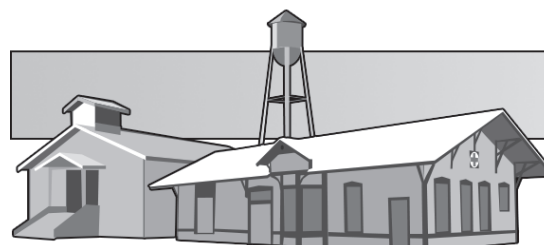


FRIONA FLASHBACKS

From the Friona Star Archives



The Chiefs won the Farwell Tournament championship. Showing off their medals and trophy are, back, l-r, Alex Gurley, Ryan Gerles, Sawyer Reed, Coach Ky Graham; middle, l-r, Caleb Miller, Tolby Wilcox, Hector Sanchez; front l-r, Ryan Schwab, Jared Boyd, Kaison Graham. (Friona Star, Thursday, December 14, 2006)



TOWN TALK

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

The Parmer County Soil and Water Conservation District is accepting entries for this year's youth essay contest until Friday, January 8th. Cash prizes are offered up to \$100. Call Donnelle Jones at 1-806-481-3311 x3 for the theme and more information.

★★★
The Canadian Wildcats defeated the Gunter Tigers 33-6 last week a State Semi-Final playoff matchups. The #1 ranked Wildcats will now face the #6 ranked Franklin Lions in the 3A State Championship Game at 3 p.m. on Thursday at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

★★★
The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) announced this week that the waiver on expiration dates for driver licenses (DLs) and identification cards (IDs) ends on April 14, 2021. The waiver, granted by Governor Greg Abbott in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, applied to DLs, commercial DLs, commercial learner permits, ID cards and election identification certificates that expired on or after March 13, 2020.

★★★
Governor Greg Abbott issued a statement this week after Oracle announced that they will relocate their headquarters to Texas from California. "Oracle is a global technology giant with an already strong presence here in Texas, and we are proud to welcome its headquarters

to Austin. While some states are driving away businesses with high taxes and heavy-handed regulations, we continue to see a tidal wave of companies like Oracle moving to Texas thanks to our friendly business climate, low taxes, and the best workforce in the nation. Most important of all, these companies are looking for a home where they have the freedom to grow their business and better serve their employees and customers, and when it comes to economic prosperity, there is no place like the Lone Star State."

★★★
The Parmer County Hospital Auxiliary is accepting donations for its 2020 Project Christmas Card. This year, proceeds will be used to enhance and upgrade the "COVID-19 Wing" at the hospital. Canisters have been placed around town in various businesses for the collection of donations. The names of donors will be included in a special Christmas Greeting Card in the Friona Star newspaper. Please make sure you put your name with ALL donations. The deadline for donations is Saturday, December 19th.

★★★
Get the flapjacks ready for National Maple Syrup Day. December 17th calls for orders of pancakes, french toast, or biscuits topped off with butter and delicious maple syrup. It is usually from the xylem sap of sugar maple, red maple, or black maple trees that maple syrup is made from although it not limited to those maple species. These trees, in cold climates, store

starch in their trunks and in their roots. In the spring, the starch is then converted to sugar that rises in the sap. The maple trees are then tapped by boring holes into their trunks and the released sap is collected. After the sap is collected, it is processed by heating to evaporate much of the water, leaving the concentrated syrup.

Maple syrup was first collected, processed, and used by the indigenous peoples of North America. The practice was then adopted by the European settlers who gradually refined production methods.

In the 1970s further refinements in syrup processing were made with technological improvements. A maple syrup production farm is called a sugarbush or a sugarwood. The sap is boiled in a sugar house which is also known as a sugar shack, sugar shanty, or a cabane à sucre. Up until the 1930s, the United States led in maple syrup production, now Canada is the world's largest maple syrup producer. Vermont is the largest producer of maple syrup in the United States.

- ★★★
National Days
December 17: Maple Syrup Day
December 18: Twin Day
December 19: Wreaths Across America Day
December 20: Sangria Day
December 21: Crossword Puzzle Day
December 22: Date Nut Bread Day
December 23: Roots Day

Past issues of the Friona Star are archived by Texas Tech
<http://newspapers.swco.ttu.edu/>

We love wind-up toys and train...
Newspaper Fun!
www.readingclubfun.com
Animills LLC © 2020 V16-48
...tracks around the Christmas tree.
Kids: color stuff in!

Toys And Joys of Christmas

Do you write to Santa Claus or visit him to tell him what you would like for Christmas? What is the special toy that you have your eye on?
Choo! Choo! Trains run around the bottom of Christmas trees. Reindeer have red, blinking noses. Christmas toys can bring lots of joy, especially when shared with others.

Read the clues to fill in the crossword puzzle:

- ice
- _____ to Santa
- _____ bell
- gingerbread _____
- tin _____
- _____ over a fireplace
- long wooden _____
- Sugar Plum _____
- Model _____ under the tree
- _____ ballet
- _____ on the shelf
- holiday _____
- _____ pull Santa's sleigh
- _____ for naughty kids
- striped candy _____
- rocking hobby _____
- steaming hot _____
- _____ hat: red with white fur
- crunchy _____ for reindeer
- singing _____
- _____ gliding downhill
- Santa's _____
- spinning _____
- North _____
- holiday drink, _____
- Sugary _____ with fun shapes
- _____, Santa's favorite drink
- _____ cubes for the reindeer
- _____ on the top of the tree
- wind-up _____

Fill in the blanks to spell the names of Santa's reindeer:

1. Da _ he _
2. _ an _ er
3. Pr _ nc _ r
4. Vi _ e _
5. _ ome _ d
6. C _ p _ d
7. _ on _ er
8. B _ it _ en
9. _ udol _ n

and "the most famous reindeer of all..."

A Present from Santa Claus
What did Santa leave under the tree? The box is open, now follow the numbered stars to see!

Holiday Toys and Surprises
There are so many kinds of toys and surprises that might be found under the tree. Use the letter bank below and cross off the letters as you fill in the blanks:

1. ga _ es and pu _ zles
2. _ olls and s _ uffed ani _ als
3. con _ truction to _ s
4. mo _ els
5. spo _ ts equi _ ment
6. bik _ s and ridi _ g toys
7. ca _ s and truc _ s
8. trai _ se _ s
9. art _ and cra _ ts
10. musi _ al instrume _ ts

Letter bank: y m z r m n c s t p e s t n n d p d k r

Where Are The Toys?
Where might we find the toys? Follow the dots to see where the toys are packed, stuffed or left:

Property of Santa

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50.

COURTHOUSE NOTES

Susie Spring, County Clerk
Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from December 3, 2020 to December 10, 2020

- (12/3/20) Tresban Cecilia Giron, Sandra Gay Howard, Donald Watkins, Lila Watkins Revocable Trust — Tresban Cecilia Giron, Sandra Gay Howard, Donald and Lila Watkins Family Trust — All of grantors right title and interest in property situated in Parmer County and a 2.23 ac tract of Lot 50 31 Township 9 S R 1 E in Parmer County
- (12/4/20) The Estate of Teddy L. White — Sharon R. White — The W 55 ft of Lot 33 all of Lot 32 and the E 5 ft of 131 and Blk 2 Western Addition city of Friona in Parmer County and all of the N/2 of Sec 27 Township 3 S R 3 E Capitol Syndicate Subdiv in Parmer County and all of the Sec 22 Township 3 S R 3 E Capitol Syndicate Subdiv in Parmer County and all of NW/4 of Sec 26 Township 3 S R 3 E Capitol Syndicate Subdiv in Parmer County and a 224.15 ac tract of land lying in the S/2 of Sec 36 Township 1 N R 3 E of a Capitol Syndicate Subdiv in Parmer County Vol 5 Pg 394
- (12/7/20) Dale Bentley — Shirley Vinson Jackson — the S/2 of L 3 and all of Lots 4 and 5 of Blk 48 of the Original Town of Friona in Parmer County
- (12/7/20) Shirley Vinson Jackson, Brenda Irene Jackson — Irma Franco Marquez — S/2 of Lot 3 and all of Lots 4 and 5 of Blk 48 of the Original Town of Friona in Parmer County
- (12/7/20) Clyde E. Cumble — Marllan LLC — All of L 7, 8, 9, 10 of Blk 1 of the Baxter Addition to the City of Friona Vol 98 Pg 564 in Parmer County
- (12/7/20) Manuel Cruz — Patricio Crespín, Audrey Sena, Don Crespín — All of L 11 and 12 Blk 94 of the Original Town of Friona in Parmer County in Vol 5 Pg 421
- (12/7/20) Linda Bullock, Bullock Family Trust — Linda Bullock, Linda Bullock Marital Trust — All of the L 7 and 8 Blk Num 1 Daniel and Gammon Subdiv of 2 acres out of the ESW quarter of Sec Num 71 Blk H Kelly Subdiv recorded in Vol 110 Pg 191 in Parmer County and L 1, 2, 5, and 6 Daniel and Gammon Subdiv in Blk No 1 located out of the SW quarter Sec 71 Blk H Kelly Subdiv in Parmer County

Puzzle Solution

S-1510



Congratulations to Vana Stanberry for making the TMEA Junior High All-Region Choir. Vana was 8th chair out of 124 sopranos. (l-r) Ms. Steadman (choir director) and Vana.

Don't Let Credit Card Skimmers Steal Your Holiday Joy

The holiday season can get hectic, and it's easy to get distracted when performing tasks like filling up your gas tank. Crooks depend on that inattention to make it easier for them to steal your credit card information off gasoline pumps. "There are Grinches out there who want to steal your money and your joy," said TDLR executive director Brian E. Francis. "If consumers, fuel retailers and TDLR work together to fight credit card skimmers, we can all protect the pump - and your bank account."

Credit card skimmers are devices that criminals place in or on gas pump cabinets to steal credit card information from customers when they purchase fuel.

Often, there are signs that show consumers and retailers there may be an issue.

- Does the pump appear to have been tampered with?
- Is the cabinet door loose or damaged?
- Is the card slot loose?
- Does the card slot have an additional outside over it?
- Check to see if the keypad has an overlay on the original

pad.

- If there's security tape on the cabinet, does it look like it has been cut?

- Is there a screen shade over the display? Watch out - there could be a tiny camera hidden inside.

Here are some suggested best practices for protecting yourself at the pump:

- Go to a station that appears to be well-maintained and has security cameras.

- Pay for your gas inside the station using cash.

- If you opt to pay with a card inside the store or outside at the pump, use a credit card, NEVER a debit card, or crooks could drain your bank account before you even know what's happening.

- Choose a pump close to the building, one that's in the clerk's line of sight.

- If you must use a code like a PIN number, be sure to cover the keypad with your other hand to hide your code from prying eyes.

- Monitor your credit card statement for unauthorized purchases and report them immediately to your credit card company.

Happy Birthday Friona Folks!

Dec. 17
 Mary Joyce Barnett
 Jason Hankins
 Jim Schlenker
 Cynthia Silva
 Vanessa Hernandez
 DeeDee Davila
 Michael Prokop

Dec. 18
 Bud Rainey
 Logan Loflin
 Maxwell Moroney
 Wade Procter
 Brittany (Anthony) Field
 Hal Ratcliff
 Michael Scott
 Stephanie Madrigal
 Amanda Zapata

Dec. 19
 Wes Drake
 Jason Rector
 Lonnie Busch
 Noah Houston
 Jazmin Bautista
 Jaxson Peace



Dec. 20
 Maria Davila
 Rocky Nichols
 Deloris McNeely
 Faith Cooper
 C.J. Tamez
 Abigail Rodriguez
 Michael Bautista
 Kyndal Moyer
 Staci Hand
 Craig McCloy
 Harper Pack

Dec. 21
 Robert Sandoval
 Lindsey Pitsch
 Chip Stevenson

Dec. 22
 Jane Houlette
 Chris Haile
 Garrett Surman
 Sabrina Clark
 Thomas Preyer
 Loriel Brewster

Dec. 23
 Sue Wells
 Nancy Davis
 Kasandra Gonzalez

Congratulations Friona Junior High Students for making All-Region Band!!!



(l-r) Angelica Reyes, Desiree Raymond, Kitzy Welch, and Vanessa Pensaran. Not pictured - Rosalia Silva.

Symphonic Band

8th - Vanessa Penaran,
 Flute (12th chair)
 8th - Kitzy Welch,
 French Horn (4th chair)

Concert Band

8th - Angelica Reyes,
 Clarinet (7th chair)
 8th - Desiree Raymond,
 Clarinet (17th chair)
 8th - Rosalia Silva,
 Trombone (2nd chair)

Angelo State University announces honor list

Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, has announced the students achieving the Dean's List designation for the 2020 fall semester. To be eligible for the ASU Dean's List, full-time undergraduate students must maintain a 3.25 or better grade point average on a 4.0 scale. The complete fall 2020 Dean's List is available at angelo.edu.

Students in our area making the Dean's List include:

Briana Beristain of Friona
Michael Dunham of Muleshoe
Marco Monreal of Friona
Lizbeth Rojas of Friona
Preston Stewart of Muleshoe



Angelo State University, founded in 1928, is a thriving four-year public school in Texas. It is part of the Texas Tech University System with campuses across the state. The "Ram Family" environment helps students feel at home, a place where they know faculty and staff care deeply about their success.

| FRIONA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT | | | | | EXHIBIT C-3 |
|---|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES | | | | | |
| GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS | | | | | |
| FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2020 | | | | | |
| Data Control Codes | 10 General Fund | 60 Capital Projects | Other Funds | Total Governmental Funds | |
| REVENUES: | | | | | |
| 5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources | \$ 4,373,526 | \$ 167,814 | \$ 2,393,141 | \$ 6,934,481 | |
| 5800 State Program Revenues | 7,781,279 | - | 54,935 | 7,836,214 | |
| 5900 Federal Program Revenues | 982,750 | - | 1,212,143 | 2,194,893 | |
| 5020 Total Revenues | 13,137,555 | 167,814 | 3,660,219 | 16,965,588 | |
| EXPENDITURES: | | | | | |
| Current: | | | | | |
| 0011 Instruction | 6,701,698 | - | 856,564 | 7,558,262 | |
| 0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services | 104,683 | - | - | 104,683 | |
| 0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development | 197,924 | - | 20,103 | 218,027 | |
| 0021 Instructional Leadership | 5,000 | - | 203,423 | 208,423 | |
| 0023 School Leadership | 676,750 | - | 83 | 676,833 | |
| 0031 Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services | 274,742 | - | 596,649 | 871,391 | |
| 0033 Health Services | 106,356 | - | - | 106,356 | |
| 0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation | 541,288 | - | 783 | 542,071 | |
| 0035 Food Services | 826,829 | - | - | 826,829 | |
| 0036 Extracurricular Activities | 837,645 | - | 234,276 | 1,071,921 | |
| 0041 General Administration | 698,532 | 1,128 | 10,831 | 710,491 | |
| 0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations | 1,288,167 | - | - | 1,288,167 | |
| 0052 Security and Monitoring Services | 25,306 | - | - | 25,306 | |
| 0053 Data Processing Services | 452,092 | - | - | 452,092 | |
| Debt Service: | | | | | |
| 0071 Principal on Long-Term Debt | - | - | 1,110,000 | 1,110,000 | |
| 0072 Interest on Long-Term Debt | - | - | 564,926 | 564,926 | |
| 0073 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees | - | 155,500 | 715 | 156,215 | |
| Capital Outlay: | | | | | |
| 0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction | 37,001 | 7,088,150 | - | 7,125,151 | |
| Intergovernmental: | | | | | |
| 0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges | 115,168 | - | - | 115,168 | |
| 6030 Total Expenditures | 12,889,181 | 7,244,778 | 3,598,353 | 23,732,312 | |
| 1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures | 248,374 | (7,076,964) | 61,866 | (6,766,724) | |
| OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES): | | | | | |
| 7911 Capital Related Debt Issued | - | 17,895,000 | - | 17,895,000 | |
| 7915 Transfers In | 98,000 | - | 198,245 | 296,245 | |
| 7916 Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds | - | 1,261,666 | - | 1,261,666 | |
| 7949 Other Resources | 103,094 | - | - | 103,094 | |
| 8911 Transfers Out (Use) | (295,079) | (1,166) | - | (296,245) | |
| 7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) | (93,985) | 19,155,500 | 198,245 | 19,259,760 | |
| 1200 Net Change in Fund Balances | 154,389 | 12,078,536 | 260,111 | 12,493,036 | |
| 0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning) | 5,773,688 | - | 443,892 | 6,217,580 | |
| 3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending) | \$ 5,928,077 | \$ 12,078,536 | \$ 704,003 | \$ 18,710,616 | |

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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 So hallow'd and so gracious is the time.
 - William Shakespeare

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Christmas is about Less...

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Christmas is about less than the average Christian makes of it. In no way is this saying that Jesus should be in a lesser spot this Christmas, because the nomenclature of Christmas means to Celebrate Christ (Christ + mass/celebration=celebration of Christ). Sadly what is generally celebrated each

December is Me-mas, Santa-mas, Present-mas or whatever cultural idols take the focus off of Christ and place it elsewhere. Christmas is less about the gifts and food, less about the reindeer and elves, and completely about Jesus Christ.

As you celebrate Christ this year, would you do

less, so that he might become more? John the Baptist, Jesus' miraculously born cousin, said in John 3:30, "He must increase, but I must decrease." May our Christmas be less about the cultural traditions and more about Christ. 2020 has taught us very clearly that life cannot be taken for granted,

nor should it be, and those who would make much of Christ must be biblical, convictional, loving and focused on him. Focus on the Lord this Christmas by reading scripture together, praying together, serving the Lord together and worshipping him more, and the worldly traditions less.

Thinking About 2021

By Teena Hughs

As we close in on the end of 2020, I have been thinking about what I am going to do in 2021. Am I going to just do devotionals; am I going to read through the Bible again; am I going to read books by authors I respect and admire; am I going to continue to do Community Bible Study on Zoom?

2020 has been a relatively slow year thanks to our living situation and Covid. It has given me more time to focus on my Bible reading and prayer life. However, that is going to change in January when we start moving into our home at Barksdale. We are going to be very busy for several months, and I don't want to wimp out and do something easy because I don't think I will have the time to do something more in-depth and time-consuming.

I have been reflecting on what reading through the Bible this year has done for me, and the greatest thing it has done for me is to give me peace in very turbulent times. If I had gone through a year like 2020 25 years ago, I would have been a basket case. I

would have probably worried myself sick. I would have been so afraid. I would have made many decisions I would later regret. There is no telling what else I would have done, and none of it would have been good.

God's Word continues to amaze me. No matter how many times I read it, God teaches me new things; He helps me see Him from just a little different perspective; my relationship with Him just gets better and better. It is through His Word that I have felt comfort and peace, and it has taught me not to worry and be afraid, because God is in control, and I need to let Him handle everything.

I just want to encourage you to start reflecting on where you are with God in your relationship with Him. What do you need to fix; what do you need to work on; what would help make your life better in 2021? If you don't know, ask God. It may be just reading a chapter a day; I have a friend who reads the Bible ev-

ery night until God tells her to stop. It might be a year-long book of devotionals. It might be Bible study or returning to Sunday school and church. Whatever it is that you need, find what you think will help you grow the most. You can google things; you can visit Christian bookstores, you can ask people you trust to recommend things to read and study.

For me, I haven't read through the Bible in chronological order in a while, and I really want to do that again. I don't know if that is what I will end up doing or not, because I don't know where my chronological Bibles are. I have considered just reading a chapter a day and just concentrating on it for the day to see what God teaches me. Whatever I choose to do, I just know I need to be in the Word; I know it is vital in my life; I know I am thankful to Jesus for how He has helped me, changed me, and taught me. And, whatever you choose, He will do the same thing for you!!!

Gas prices will be lower for holidays

By GasBuddy

Texas gas prices rose 0.5 cents last week, averaging \$1.85 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 stations. Gas prices in Texas are 5.4 cents per gallon higher than a month ago but are 36.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas is priced at \$1.45 while the most expensive is \$2.69 per gallon. The national average price of gasoline has fallen 0.7 cents in the last week, averaging \$2.14 per gallon. The national average is up 1.4 cents per gallon from a month ago, however, it is still 41.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

"After gas prices spiked last week in their biggest weekly rise since August, we've seen them cool back down for the time being. With COVID-19 cases continuing to rise and restrictions weighing on gasoline demand, we're likely to see optimism over vaccinations offset by lower current demand for the most part," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "In the weeks ahead as that balance shifts and millions get the vaccination, if things look much improved, I would expect for a longer upward move in gas prices. For now, however, the holidays will be marked by the lowest seasonal prices in years."

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data is accessible at <http://FuelInsights.GasBuddy.com>.

Comptroller to distribute \$790 million in monthly sales tax revenue to local governments

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$790.3 million in local sales tax allocations for December, 3.7 percent less than in December 2019. These allocations are based on sales made in October by businesses that report tax monthly.

The City of Friona will receive \$43,385.97 for December. This payment is 3.25% less than the \$44,845.98 received last December. However, the 2020 year-to-date total of \$528,321.21 is 25.22% higher than last year's total of \$421,881.57 received during the same time frame.

Despite COVID-19, FISD maintains strong financial standing

The Friona ISD Board of Trustees met in regular session on Monday, December 14th in the Board Meeting Room of the FISD Administration Building at 909 E. 11th Street, Friona, Texas 79035. The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with a call to order, invocation, and an open forum.

Richard Blankenship, from the firm Johnson & Sheldon, presented the final report of the 2020 FISD financial audit. Friona ISD received an "A" rating for Superior Achievement under the Texas' School First financial accountability rating system. Mr. Blankenship told board members he was impressed that the district was in such good financial health despite

the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Blankenship and the Board thanked FISD Business Manager Dianna Wright for her outstanding work during the past year to keep the district on a sound financial footing.

Friona ISD showed a fund balance of \$5.9 million at the end of the year (see Exhibit C-3 on page 4). At the present time, the school district has a 5-6 month fund balance excess. In an emergency, the district could operate for that length of time without any income. The State of Texas requires a 3 month balance excess for its school districts.

Zach Allen, Project Manager for Teinert Construction presented an

update on the FISD construction project. He said that the project is on schedule and that you would really begin to notice changes in the upcoming weeks at the new Primary School site.

The consent agenda was approved. It included the Minutes of previous meetings, fund reports, maintenance reports, account reports, and the payment of monthly bills. The Board then went into Closed Session.

This is only a brief summary of the meeting. Any questions should be directed to the FISD Board of Trustees. The agenda for this meeting can be found at frionaisd.com and by clicking on the Boardbook link.

City Council to restart lease bid process

The Friona City Council met in regular session on Monday, December 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 619 Main in Friona, Texas. The meeting began with a roll call, an invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was brought to the Council's attention that some technicalities needed to be addressed involving the process for lease bids on land owned by the City of Friona. Before opening any of the bids, the Council voted to reject all current bids and begin the process again. None of the original bids were opened. The bidding process will begin again as soon as the issues are resolved.

City Manager Lee Davila gave an update on the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) spending. He informed the Council that Friona was one of the few towns that actually spent the money on items in accordance with the regulations.

The Council approved the Accounts Payable and Financial Statement for November 2020. The Minutes of the November 9, 2020 regular council meeting were approved.

Information in this article is only a summary. Any questions concerning specific actions should be directed to the City Council.

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

Friona

Area Church Directory

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CHILDREN'S CHURCH • 3 yrs-6th grade
www.calvaryfriona.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
6th & Summitt • 806-250-3933
Pastor Brett Hoyle
Email-firstbc@wtrt.net
Website-www.fbcfriona.com

FRIONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
8th & Pierce • 806-250-3045
Rev. Skip Hodges
Email-frionoam@wtrt.net
Website-www.frionoamc.com

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
North end of Congregational Church
1601 Euclid

IGLESIA EVANGELICA NUEVA JERUSALEN
701 E. 11th • P.O. Box 655 • 806-346-9725
Pastor Benito Mejia
benitomejia@live.com

QUALITY OF LIFE BIBLE STUDY CHURCH
301 Grand Ave. • 806-240-0826
Pastors Mark & Mary Goff

SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST
502 W. 6th • 806-250-2769
Jeff Procter, Minister

ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
401 West 17th St. • 806-250-2871
Pastor Gregory Bunyan

TEMPLO BAUTISTA DAMASCO
403 Woodland • 806-250-3472
Pastor William Tapias

TEMPLO DE ADORACION
620 Washington • 806-250-5929
Pastor Roy Dominguez

TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST
10th & Euclid • 806-250-5236
Gerall Wylie

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1601 Euclid • 806-250-3635

VICTORY FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER
9th & Washington • 806-250-2207
Pastor Robert Kerby
Website-www.thevictory.tv

FRIONA PARA CRISTO LLAMADOS A CONOCERLE
1007 w. 11th • 806-247-2217
Pastor Aurelio & Cynthia Silva

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
308 3rd Street
806-251-1632
Pastor Brian Mullins

CHURCH OF CHRIST
500 Ave. E
806-251-1334
Mike Prather, Minister

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
205 4th Street
806-251-1124
Pastor Larry Mitchell

ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
401 3rd Street
806-251-1511
Pastor Gregory Bunyan

LA IGLESIA DE DIOS DEL PRIMOGENITO
The Church of God of the Firstborn
102 2nd Street

IGLESIA BAUTISTA HISPANA
103 1st Street
806-251-5232
Pastor Rafael Marin



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Campus Life—Spring 2021

By Walter V. Wendler, WTAMU President



Third in a series on COVID-19 and studying in Spring 2021

Provisions are being made for students, faculty, and staff to return to West Texas A&M University this spring.

Beginning last summer, to meet diverse needs of faculty and students, a wide swath of flexibility was provided. Opportunities to teach or study online, on campus, or in a hybrid/hyflex environment were available. Capable, engaged faculty used the freedom afforded to respond best to needs for healthy and effective study. Latitude was creatively employed, and study options that worked best were implemented by individuals for individuals: A high-water mark for responsiveness. The results? Imperfect, but generally well-received. We gave it our best shot and will continue to do just that.

Spring campus life will not be “normal.” The college experience will not be absent, though. And history will show some aspects of teaching and learning were never better.

Pollyanna? No. West Texas lemonade making? Yes.

Some universities have planned for online instruction only. WT believes that freedom and varied avenues to pursue study and campus life safely will yield the highest attainment of educational aspirations.

WT provided weekly COVID-19 testing in the fall semester, receiving kits supplied by The Texas A&M University System under Chancellor Sharp’s leadership; we will continue to provide as needed. We also provided quarantine residences for students exposed to or testing positive for COVID-19 in

the fall semester; we will continue to provide as needed. In total, 88 beds were available, split 44 each for males and females. At no time during the fall did we exceed the capacity to safely house students. With the cooperation of quarantined students, the food service provider ARAMARK, and the residential living staff, the accommodations worked successfully. It was not what we or anyone had hoped for; however, a safe place to stay with meals was provided. Challenging for many, but the Panhandle spirit prevailed, and what needed to be done was done, and things worked. Occupancy rates were near 90% for on-campus housing. It is early, but we expect the spring to be similar.

Intercollegiate athletics have been suspended at many other institutions but will continue at WT. Last summer, we committed to playing football in the fall to not interfere with spring sports. As a result, the Buffs played more football games (six) than any other Division II school in the nation. This fall, our men’s cross-country team won the Lone Star Conference for the eighth straight year.

Our excellent winter and spring teams lost the opportunity to complete their seasons last spring due to the pandemic. We will make up for it with a full slate of athletic competition beginning with basketball the second week of December. Volleyball, softball, and indoor track will begin their seasons the last weekend in January, while baseball, soccer, golf, and outdoor track will open competition in February. The

campus will offer intercollegiate athletics all spring long as the circumstances of COVID-19 and the safety of our people permit.

We will limit available game tickets to 10% of facility capacity for indoor sports and 50% capacity for outdoor sports for those wishing to attend. Athletes, coaches, staff, and officials—particularly those in high-contact sports like basketball—will be tested multiple times weekly. Competition will only be conducted if testing results for both teams support play. We will cancel competition on an hour’s notice, subjecting neither students, athletes, nor fans to unsafe circumstances.

All services that support students will be available. Health care, advising (virtually or face-to-face), employment, placement, scholarship and grant services, and counseling will be provided. Students from our region studying elsewhere who chose to stay home this spring for family, cost, or safety reasons may register at WT for face-to-face or online study. WT staff will help select courses that will transfer back to home institutions and degree programs. We are professionals. We are good neighbors. We are here to serve. It’s what we do, and we aim to do it well.

We endeavor to create the safest possible environment for all. We did that in the fall and will use a similar approach in the spring—not perfect, but tirelessly pursued.

People place trust in us, and it will not return void. Trust is WT’s most valued investment.

Drive Sober This Holiday Season: Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving



Wendy Case

This holiday season, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service’s Watch UR BAC Program is teaming up with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to remind all drivers about the dangers of drinking and driving. Before traveling to holiday festivities or seasonal vacations, make sure to plan for a sober, designated driver before enjoying an alcoholic beverage. This holiday season, and every day, remember: Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving.

“We want our community to enjoy a safe and happy holiday season. With more drivers on the roads during this busy time of year, it’s more important than ever for us to stress the importance of safe driving habits,” said Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Family and Community Health Agent Wendy Case, Parmer County. “We know everyone is rushing around, finishing those last-minute errands and attending various holiday parties. But before you ever head out to the festivities, make sure you plan a sober ride home—because driving drunk should never be an option. Help us spread the message: Even one drink is one drink too many if you’re the driver.”

According to NHTSA, 10,511 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes in 2018. On average, more than 10,000 people were killed each year from 2014 to 2018—one person was killed in a drunk-driving crash every 50 minutes in 2018. This is why the Watch UR BAC Program is working

with NHTSA to remind drivers that drunk driving is not only illegal, but also a matter of life and death. When heading out to the holiday festivities and office parties, help the Watch UR BAC Program and NHTSA spread the word: Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving.

This holiday season, the Watch UR BAC Program and NHTSA urge drivers to designate a sober driver before ever leaving for holiday events and festivities. For those who plan to drink, plan on not driving. Choosing to drive while impaired could be life changing, not to mention the lives of passengers, pedestrians, or even those of other drivers and passengers nearby.

When chosen as the designated driver, make sure to uphold that promise to safety drive all passengers to their final destination of the night. Also, stay hydrated with water and other non-alcoholic beverages. Support other designated drivers, too. It can be a long night, but people are counting on the designated driver—not to mention the other drivers, passengers, and pedestrians on the roadways—so take the role of designated driver seriously. Lives are depending on it.

Party with a Plan

Before ever heading out, it’s vital to plan ahead. Be honest when making plans, by knowing if alcohol will be consumed or not. Follow these ideas to ensure the safety of everyone:

- Remember: It is never OK to drink and drive. Even after only one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver to get home safely.
- If it is evident that a drunk driver is on the road, contact local law enforcement immediately.
- Have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take their keys away and make arrangements to get them home safely.



The Skin Cancer Foundation Shares Winter Sun Protection Tips

As autumn turns to winter, many places in the country are experiencing cooler weather and less sunlight. While it may be tempting to slack off on sun protection when the rays aren’t beating down, it’s imperative to stay vigilant through the darker winter months.

“Most ultraviolet rays from the sun can penetrate cloud cover and fog,” says Deborah S. Sarnoff, MD, president of The Skin Cancer Foundation. “So you can still sustain sun damage—which can lead to skin cancer and premature skin aging—during winter months.”

Ultraviolet B (UVB) rays, which are mainly responsible for sunburn, are the strongest in the summer. However, UVB rays can burn and damage your skin year-round, especially on reflective surfaces such as snow or ice. Snow reflects up to 80 percent of the sun’s UV light, so the rays hit you twice, further increasing your risk of skin cancer and premature aging. Winter sports enthusiasts should take special care: Skiers and snowboarders are at an even greater risk because these sports take place at a higher altitude, where the thinner atmosphere absorbs less UV radiation.

Ultraviolet A (UVA) rays, which lead to tanning, dark spots and wrinkles, remain constant throughout the year and can penetrate through clouds and fog. UVA rays can also penetrate glass, so it’s still possible to damage your skin while spending a bright winter day indoors.

Winter Sun Strategies

Your first line of defense against this sun damage is clothing. Covering up is easier in the winter — it’s cold! However, your face, head and neck tend to remain exposed year-round, and this is where most skin cancers occur. Don’t forget your wide-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses before heading out. A hat keeps you warm while keeping UV rays from damaging your face and scalp, and sunglasses protect your eyes while also fighting snow glare.

Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 or higher daily to all exposed skin, and make sure to cover often-missed spots like the tops of your ears, around the eyes and near the hairline. Consider choosing a moisturizing sunscreen with ingredients like lanolin or glycerin to combat dry winter skin. Finally, try to avoid the peak sun hours (generally between 10 AM and 2 PM in the winter months), and seek shade when you can.

Winter is approaching, but that’s no reason to let up on the sun-safe habits you practiced during the summer. Continuing sun protection efforts through the colder, cloudier months of the year reduces your risk of premature skin aging and developing the world’s most common cancer.

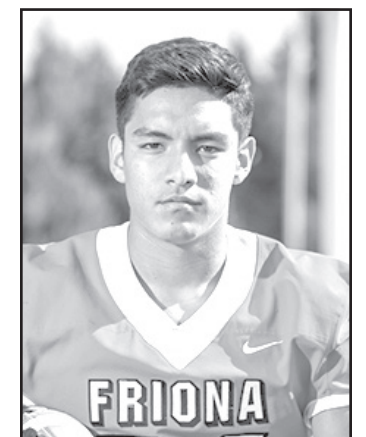
Three Chieftains named to Academic All-State Teams



Juan Diego Salinas
1st Team



Angel Carranza
2nd Team



Malachi Torres
2nd Team

The Texas Army National Guard and the Texas High School Coaches Association are proud to recognize Juan Diego Salinas (1st team), Angel Carranza (2nd team), and Malachi Torres (2nd team) as 2020-21 Football Academic All-State recipients.

The THSCA Academic All-State Teams are comprised of high school athletes who excel in the following categories: GPA, class rank and ACT/SAT score. The students are being recognized as team members based on their scores in these categories. They are to be applauded for their commitment and

dedication to perform with the highest of excellence academically and on the field or court.

The top team is the Elite Team. A player must have near perfect scores in all categories to earn that honor. The other teams are as follows: 1st Team, 2nd Team, and Honorable Mention. To be nominated for Academic All-State, a student must be: an athlete, student trainer or manager in good standing with the team; of good moral character; a senior; and have an overall grade point average of 92 or above.



Jake Hoyle, son of Brett & Lindsey Hoyle, has a remarkable story to tell of when he killed his first deer. Last Friday, he took out two does with one shot with a .243 rifle. Jake was hunting in Mitchell County, Texas. Photo was taken by Jake’s big brother, Matt.

Friona Star
is online at frionaonline.com

Toys And Joys of Christmas

There are so many kinds of toys and surprises that might be found under the tree. What are your favorite kinds of toys? One that I really like is my plastic, wind-up, walking chunk of cheddar cheese!

Holiday Toys and Surprises

- g a m e s and p u z z l e s
- d o l l s and s t u f f e d a n i m a l s
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- s p o r t s e q u i p m e n t
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- c a r s and t r u c k s
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HELP WANTED Furniture sales person

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NOW HIRING

Friona ISD is looking for a full time custodian. Hours are 7 am -6 pm with a 2 hour lunch and a 30 minute break in the morning and afternoon. Interested applicants may call Friona ISD 806-250-2747 or Martha Moreno 806-346-2091.

Friona ISD está buscando una persona que ayude a limpiar la escuela a tiempo completo. El horario es de 7 am a 6 pm con un almuerzo de 2 horas y un descanso de 30 minutos por la mañana y por la tarde. Las personas interesadas pueden llamar a Friona ISD 806-250-2747 o Martha Moreno 806-346-2091.

The City of Friona will accept applications for the Public Works Department:

UTILITY MAINTENANCE WORKER I (1 position)
Full-Time, 40 hours a week
Salary: starting at \$10/hr.

Candidates will perform construction, repair, and maintenance work on water/sewer lines; operate light equipment and perform extensive manual labor. Candidates may have other duties assigned to them by the Public Works Director. The applicant chosen for this position shall be required to submit to a pre-employment drug test at the cost to the individual.

Job descriptions and application forms may be picked up at the Friona City Hall, 623 Main Street, Friona. If you would like an application emailed to you, please email cityinfo@frionatx.us. Applications will be accepted until job is filled.

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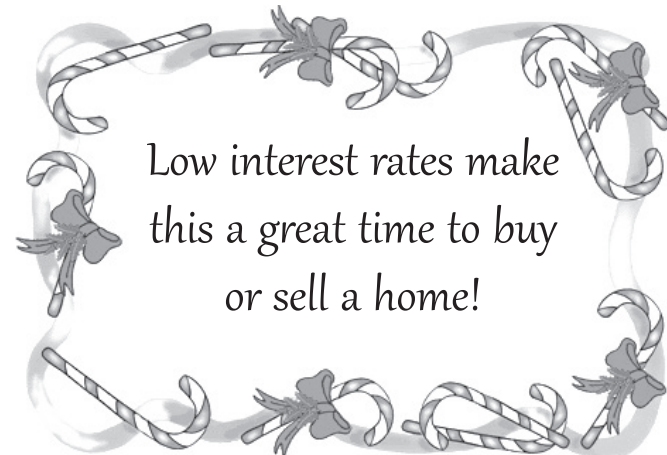
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Don't throw away your empty aluminum cans. Please place any cans you have in the trailer located on the north side of the Friona Fire Department building on Main Street. Proceeds from the sale of the cans will go to the FHS Senior Class and help fund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



SPORTS



Job Posting:

CHS has an exciting opportunity in our Global Grain and Processing Supply Chain team. We are looking for a **Maintenance Technician** to aid in the maintenance and repair of grain and fertilizer systems and associated equipment. You must have excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, be detail oriented, and be a self-starter with the ability to work unsupervised. You must also have a strong mechanical ability and mathematical aptitude.

You will:

- Assist the Terminal Manager to plan and implement repair and renovation projects and develop and maintain written maintenance and repair histories for facilities and equipment.
- Adhere to CHS policies for the protection, use, maintenance and disposition of company assets, fixtures, machinery and equipment.
- Assist with maintaining equipment lists with such information as machinery specifications, vendor information, drive unit specifications and other pertinent information for all equipment in the facility.
- Assist with maintaining equipment lists for future use in establishing histories and for decision-making about replacement, repair and maintenance of such equipment.
- Review and perform preventive and predictive maintenance on equipment.
- Diagnose problems and repair equipment as needed, recognizing when to recommend outsourcing projects when necessary.
- Assist in backup for general company maintenance on an as-needed basis and be available for emergency repairs and assistance on larger projects.
- Maintain and promote a strong safety culture and follow all safety policies, procedures and regulations. Identify and communicate workplace hazards and correct or seek assistance in correcting unsafe actions or conditions.

Basic Qualifications: (required)

- High School diploma or GED
- 1 plus years of experience to include:
 - Experience with conveyors, material handling equipment, electrical circuits and motors
 - Knowledge of welding and fabrication
- Ability to lift 50 lbs, bend, turn, twist, climb ladders, stairs and bins
- Ability to work at various heights, in dust and adverse weather conditions and temperatures
- Must hold and maintain a valid state driver's license
- Must be able to work weekends and holidays as needed during planting season

Preferred Qualifications: (desired)

- Industrial Maintenance Certification
- Agricultural background
- Experience operating heavy equipment Auto req ID

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CHS Inc. is a leading global agribusiness owned by farmers, ranchers and cooperatives across the United States. Diversified in energy, grains and foods, CHS is committed to helping its customers, farmer-owners and other stakeholders grow their businesses through its domestic and global operations. CHS supplies energy, crop nutrients, grain marketing services, animal feed, food and food ingredients, along with insurance, financial and risk management services. The company operates petroleum refineries/pipelines and manufactures, markets and distributes Cenex brand refined fuels, lubricants, propane and renewable energy products. CHS is an equal opportunity employer/disability/veteran.

The CHS Talent Acquisition Team supports recruitment for positions within CHS as well as finding opportunities for candidates within our robust network of member cooperatives. By submitting an application for any position, you give CHS permission to review your application and contact you to discuss opportunities within our member cooperatives. To explore current openings within our member cooperatives, please go to [chsinccareers](https://chsinccareers.com)



State Capital Highlights

By Chris Cobler



Supreme Court rejects Texas AG's lawsuit

The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear a lawsuit filed by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton challenging the results of the presidential election.

President Donald Trump and 17 Republican attorneys generals had joined the lawsuit, which asked the Supreme Court to toss out the elections in Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. The lawsuit claimed the states "exploited the COVID-19 pandemic to justify ignoring federal and state election laws and unlawfully enacting last-minute changes, thus skewing the results of the 2020 General Election."

Texas Democrats accused Paxton of filing the lawsuit to distract voters from his own legal problems. More than 100 Republican members of Congress signed an amicus brief supporting the Texas lawsuit.

Sen. John Cornyn, the senior Texas Republican, did not. He told CNN that "I frankly struggle to understand the legal theory of it. No. 1, why would a state, even such a great state as Texas, have a say-so on how other states administer their elections? We have a diffused and dispersed system and even though we might not like it, they may think it's unfair, those are decided at the state and local level and not at the national level."

Shining less bright

The Texas Education Agency partially extinguished STAAR for this school year because of the pandemic.

The agency said the A-F ratings would be paused for 2020-21 school year because of the disruptions to learning. Students still will take the STAAR test to provide information about individual learning.

"The last nine months have been some of the most disruptive of our lives. The challenges have been especially pronounced for our parents, teachers and students," Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath said in a statement. "We continue to prioritize the health and safety of students, teachers and staff in our schools this year while working to ensure students grow academically."

The Texas State Teachers Association, which has opposed the standardized testing, said the TEA's decision didn't go far enough.

"Teachers already can tell parents how their children have been performing during this school year," the teachers union said in a statement. "All the STAAR test will do is what it always has done: Measure a student's ability to take a test. And it will force teachers, who already are working long hours adapting lesson plans for virtual and in-person instruction, to

waste invaluable time on STAAR preparation and administration."

COVID black market

Federal agents seized more than 100,000 counterfeit N95 surgical masks being stored in an El Paso warehouse.

The fake masks, likely made in China, were headed to a hospital on the East Coast, officials said. The raid was conducted by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

ICE launched Operation Stolen Promise in April to protect U.S. consumers from fraud and other crime stemming from the pandemic.

The federal agency warns "that high public demand for access to vaccines and treatments will lead to illegal attempts to introduce counterfeit versions of these items into U.S. and global marketplaces." In response, Homeland Security has started Operation Stolen Promise 2.0, which focuses on this emerging public health threat.

Officials urged the public to report suspected fraud involving counterfeit vaccines and treatments to covid19fraud@dhs.gov.

Fewer surprises

Texans' complaints about surprise medical bills are down 96% through the first 10 months of the year, according to a new report from the Texas Department of Insurance.

In 2019, the Texas Legislature enacted a law to address the problem of surprise medical billing. The law removed consumers who have state-regulated plans, making up about 20 percent of residents, from billing disputes between health care providers and insurance plans. The protections took effect in January.

An agency spokesman provided highlights of the report:

In the 10 months, the state agency received 37 consumer complaints about such medical bills. That compares to 854 such complaints received from January through October 2019. Most of the 2020 complaints involved confusion about coinsurance amounts or concerned health plans not regulated by the agency.

The new law enables providers and plans to resolve billing disputes through arbitration and mediation. The state agency, which helps carry out the law, established an online portal to enter the system and built a list of certified arbitrators and mediators.

Chris Cobler is a board member and past president of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas. He welcomes email at ccobler@texaspress.com.

Beware of the following COVID 19 vaccines scams:

Scammers use public health emergencies as opportunities for new fraud schemes. These fraudsters rapidly alter their tactics and adapt their schemes to the changing landscape, and we anticipate that they will leverage the pending COVID-19 vaccine to prey on unsuspecting Medicare beneficiaries. Stay informed and protect yourself against COVID 19 vaccines Scams. When in doubt contact the Texas Senior Medicare Patrol.

- You likely will not need to pay anything out of pocket to get the vaccine during this public health emergency.
- You cannot pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- You cannot pay to get early access to the vaccine.
- No one from Medicare or the Health Department will contact you.
- No one from a vaccine distribution site or health care payer, like a private insurance company, will call you asking for your Social Security number or your credit card or bank account information to sign you up to get the vaccine.
- Beware of providers offering other prod-

ucts, treatments, or medicines to prevent the virus. Check with your health care provider before paying for or receiving any COVID-19-related treatment.

- If you get a call, text, email — or even someone knocking on your door — claiming they can get you early access to the vaccine, STOP. That's a scam.
- For Medicare coverage questions, contact your local State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) at SHIPTAcenter.org or 1-877-839-2675.

Contact the Texas Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) for help at 1-888-341-6187

Your local SMP is ready to provide you with the information you need to PROTECT yourself from Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse; DETECT potential fraud, errors, and abuse; and REPORT your concerns. SMPs and their trained volunteers help educate and empower Medicare beneficiaries in the fight against health care fraud. Your SMP can help you with your questions, concerns, or complaints about potential fraud and abuse issues. It also can provide information and educational presentations.

camentos para prevenir el virus. Consulte con su proveedor de atención médica antes de pagar o recibir cualquier tratamiento relacionado con COVID-19.

- Si recibe una llamada, un mensaje de texto, un correo electrónico, o incluso alguien que llama a su puerta, diciendo que puede darle acceso temprano a la vacuna, DETÉNGASE. Eso es una estafa.
- Si tiene preguntas sobre la cobertura de Medicare, comuníquese con su Programa Estatal de Asistencia sobre Seguros de Salud (SHIP) en SHIPTAcenter.org o al 1-877-839-2675.

Contacte a la Patrulla de Medicare para Personas Mayores de Tejas (SMP por sus siglas en inglés) para obtener ayuda al 1-888-341-6187

Su SMP local está listo para brindarle la información que necesita para PROTEGERSE del fraude, los errores y el abuso de Medicare; DETECTAR posibles fraudes, errores y abusos; e INFORME sus inquietudes. Los SMP y sus voluntarios capacitados ayudan a educar y capacitar a los beneficiarios de Medicare en la lucha contra el fraude en la atención médica. Su SMP puede ayudarlo con sus preguntas, inquietudes o quejas sobre posibles problemas de fraude y abuso. También puede proporcionar información y presentaciones educativas.

Tenga cuidado con las siguientes estafas de vacunas COVID:

Los estafadores utilizan las emergencias de salud pública como oportunidades para nuevos esquemas de fraude. Estos estafadores cambian rápidamente sus tácticas y adaptan sus esquemas al panorama cambiante, y anticipamos que aprovecharán la vacuna COVID-19 pendiente para aprovecharse de los desprevenidos beneficiarios de Medicare. Manténgase informado y protéjase contra las estafas de las vacunas COVID 19. En caso de duda, comuníquese con la Patrulla de Medicare para personas mayores de Texas.

- Es probable que no tenga que pagar nada de su bolsillo para recibir la vacuna durante esta emergencia de salud pública.
- No puede pagar para poner su nombre en una lista para recibir la vacuna.
- No puede pagar para obtener acceso temprano a la vacuna.
- Nadie de Medicare o del Departamento de Salud se comunicará con usted.
- Nadie de un sitio de distribución de vacunas o de un pagador de atención médica, como una compañía de seguros privada, lo llamará para pedirle su número de Seguro Social o su tarjeta de crédito o información de cuenta bancaria para inscribirlo para recibir la vacuna.
- Tenga cuidado con los proveedores que ofrecen otros productos, tratamientos o medi-

Check Your Mirrors

By Sue Jane Sullivan



When you hear the carol "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" this holiday season, you will be listening to verses written by American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. In 1863, during the Civil War, Longfellow received word that his son Charles had been severely injured in battle. Only a year prior he had lost his beloved wife in

tragic fire in their Massachusetts home. Longfellow later wrote in his journal, "How inexpressibly sad are all holidays. I can make no record of these days. Better leave them wrapped in silence. Perhaps someday God will give me peace." Then on Christmas Day 1863, he wrote "Christmas Bells."

Christmas joy is not quite

the same this year for many of us. Stanzas four-five-six are relevant again. We are fighting a pandemic. We are fighting each other. We are anxious. We are tired.

May we redirect ourselves to stanza seven and listen for the bells again. May Peace and Good-Will be under our trees, gifts we give to ourselves and to each other.



Obituary



Davis Madison "Dave, DM" Thompson II

Davis Madison "Dave, DM" Thompson II, 96 passed away Thursday, December 10, 2020 in Dallas Texas. Viewing was held from 9:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M. Tuesday, December 15, 2020 in the Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel of HANSARD FAMILY with Celebration of Life Services scheduled for 1:00 P.M. Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at the Friona First Baptist Church with Rev. Brett Hoyle officiating. A family-only graveside service with military honors will be held immediately following at the Friona Cemetery. Burial following by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona.

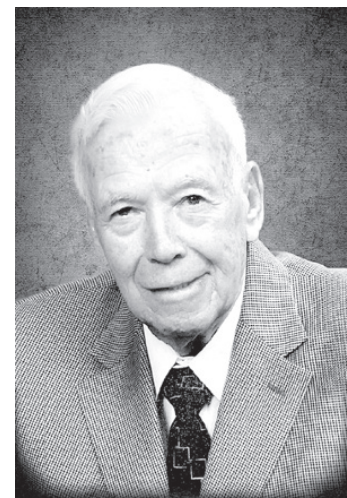
Masks and social distancing are required at the viewing and both services. Safety First! During these tough times, we encourage you to just be with us in your thoughts.

Dave was born in Plainview, Texas on July 23, 1924. He became well-known and was respected as a very knowledgeable farmer and served in many leadership positions in many agricultural organizations throughout the Panhandle. His first job was working as a grocery delivery clerk during high school. In the summers, he worked on the family farm in Cotton Center. Dave was a wonderful musician and while in the Plainview High School Band he played every reed instrument and assisted the band director in teaching at the junior high school band. Dave also played in the Plainview High School Jazz Band. He earned a musical scholarship to Baylor University and after the war he formed a "Champaign Music" style band known as the Blue Jackets. Dave played saxophone with the Clovis Community Band until he was 93 years old.

In his first year of college, he was called to serve in the Army during WWII. He served in the Battle of Bulge where he almost froze to death. He earned a Purple Heart for saving other's lives.

After returning from the war, he returned to work on the family farm in Cotton Center and eventually went on to buying his own farm in Tulia. He moved from Tulia to Friona in 1961 where he married Vera Beth Thompson in 1962. They raised eight children and prior to her death, they served as band parents, Chieftain Booster Club members, and senior class sponsors.

Dave went on to become active in the Texas Sugar Beet Growers Association in Parmer County and sat on the Holly Sugar Board



of Directors and served as the research chair on their behalf. Dave farmed in several counties throughout the Panhandle and Eastern New Mexico. He called ranching his hobby.

In 1996, Dave married Norma Coffey and they enjoyed traveling throughout the country to see their children and grandchildren. They also traveled in Europe, Canada, and the Caribbean. At age 72, Dave took up the sport of golf and he was proud of making a hole-in-one at the Friona Golf Course. Dave was active in the church his entire life, and he served as a deacon in the Baptist Churches in Cotton Center and Tulia where he sang in the church choir. He was also a very active member of the First Baptist Church of Friona. His Christian habits served as a great example for his children and others. Dave's greatest legacy is the Christian faith he leaves his family.

Dave is survived by his wife Norma, cousins Marion Coker of Norman, Oklahoma, and Marjorie "Pat" Ryan of Plainview and children Dinah Mae Thompson of Watsonville, California; Davis M. Thompson III of Estacada, Oregon; James Glen Hodges (Mary) of Tulia; John Robert Hodges (Jean) of Castroville; Lonny Joe Coffey (Karen) of Mansfield; Marsha Eileen Cline of Los Lunas, New Mexico; Autry Craig Hodges of Burleson (Vaughn Ann); Betty Jean "Jeanie" Thompson of Dallas (Daniel Seider Deceased); and Terry Lee Thompson (Mary) of Carrollton.

He was Grand Dave to 22 grandchildren: Cary Thompson (Jennifer); Randy Thompson (Valerie); Tracy Thompson (Sandra); Jolie Rutledge (Nate); Brandon Thompson (Kelly); Tawny Thompson (Julia); Jeffrey Thompson (Klicia); Davis Thompson IV; Scheid Hodges (Devon); John J Hodges (Sarajane); Francine Gust; Rhett Cline (Keri); Tara-Jill Cline-Smith (Anthony); Ashley Cline; Lauren Hodges (Cory Parker); Emily Hodges (Jeremy Motley) Travis Thompson (CJ); Angela Thompson; Micah Coffey (Robyn); Michelle (Wolf (Chris)); Leslie Smithwick (Phillip); and Brad Stapp (Amy); 50 great grandchildren: Gavin, Connor, and Bailey Thompson; Shaleigh, Carsen, and Henry Thompson; Silas,

Micaella Zoey and Selah-Rose Thompson; Remi and Cassie Rutledge; Stephanie and Christopher Thompson; Seth, Connor and Madison Thompson; Hannah Lee, Bethany, Kayla and Jacob Hodges and Annah Kreiner; Joshua and Brett Hodges; Kordell (Thayne), Jared (Ella); Meagan and Mathias Thompson; Brittney Maloy (Dustin); Ciarra and Davis Thompson V; Lindsey Whittaker (Cody); Tawnee Hall (Deceased), Alison Steele (Tyler), Kaili Nichols, Kelsie, Coy and Raegan Cline; and Jameson Parker; Callan Coffey; Lainey and Allie Wolf; Haley, Brooklyn, Hannah, Peyton, and Joshua Smithwick; Jordan Stapp 7 great great-grandchildren: Riker and Oliver Maloy Theodore Thompson; Little John Hall III; Brooklyn Gage; and Brody and Ryder Nichols; and Brinley Smithwick. He had numerous nieces and nephews and was a father figure to many.

He was preceded in death by his father, Davis Madison Thompson I and his mother Ethel May; his older brother Lewis (Alice) and sisters Vernie (Mac) McCaskill, Aileen Redinger, and Janice (Walter) Buenger; and a daughter, Carole Stapp. Cousins Davine (Jack) Sageser, and Sharon (Bob) Thomas. His first wife, Betty Louise Cirillo and Vera Beth Thompson, his second wife.

Pall bearers are Terry Thompson, Craig Hodges, Brandon Thompson, Christopher Thompson, Rhett Cline, and Ashley Cline. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be sent to the First Baptist Church of Friona or Prairie Acres Rehabilitation and Nursing 201 East 15th Street, Friona, Texas 79035; or an alternate organization of your choice.

To give memorials in honor of Dave Thompson to First Baptist Church Friona, send checks made out to "First Baptist Church Friona" to 404 w 5th St, Friona, Texas 79035. Please put 'memorial for Dave Thompson' in the memo. Also, you can give online at fbcriona.com, by going to the Online Giving page and selecting "Memorials" when you give.

For the video, Live Stream "First Baptist Church Friona" on Facebook or YouTube. You can also go to the church website fbcriona.com and go to the Live Stream page.

In addition to the Memorial Book at hansardfamily.com, a private family printable and downloadable social media site has been created where people can leave messages, short stories, and photos at https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/ybUa7Q18 We encourage you to do both.



Thank You From Empty Stocking Fund



Empty Stocking Fund Co-Chairman Holly Campbell receives a donation from J.D. Heiskell Representative Julio Cervantes



Gayla & Shawn Bucksath, USDA Food Inspectors

Special Thanks to Shawn & Gayla Bucksath and USDA Consumer Safety Inspectors for purchasing toys & games for local students.

Special Thanks to J.D. Heiskell Southwest Charity Committee for their contribution to purchase clothes and gift cards.

Special Thanks to the Friona United Way for their generous donation.

Special Thanks to everyone who donated to Empty Stocking Fund this year. We really appreciate the generosity of our community!



Gifts purchased by USDA Food Inspectors

Xcel Energy brings Sagamore Wind Project online

The Sagamore Wind Project, one of the largest wind farms ever built in New Mexico, is now complete and is expected to save Xcel Energy's New Mexico and Texas customers \$110 million annually in generating fuel costs by using the free and abundant wind of Roosevelt County, New Mexico, to produce clean electricity for a growing economy.

"This is a major accomplishment not only for Xcel Energy but also for Roosevelt County and the state of New Mexico, and the benefits of this clean energy resource will be apparent for decades to come," said David Hudson, president, Xcel Energy - New Mexico, Texas.

Xcel Energy invested more than \$900 million in Sagamore, which will be in service before the end of the month. The facility was constructed

by Wanzek Construction on more than 100,000 acres of crop and rangeland in east central Roosevelt County near the community of Dora, 17 miles south of Portales. A workforce that peaked at around 500 workers built Sagamore starting in December 2019, and approximately 25 full-time positions have been created to operate and maintain the facility going forward.

Tax revenues and landowner payments generated by Sagamore will provide more than \$234 million in local and state benefits over the 25-year life of the wind plant, providing a major economic boost and further developing New Mexico's expanding clean energy economy.

Sagamore is critical to Xcel Energy's plans to reduce carbon emissions by 80% by 2030. The company aspires to provide 100% carbon-free

electricity by 2050 across its eight-state service area. "While 2050 may sound like a long way off, Sagamore is a key component of our interim goal of reducing carbon emissions 80% by 2030, and we are well on our way," said Ben Fowke, Xcel Energy Chairman and CEO. "By 2024 we expect wind and solar energy to power about half or our customers' energy needs in Texas and New Mexico."

Sagamore's 240 Vestas turbines have a peak generating capacity of 522 megawatts and can produce enough clean electricity to power close to 194,000 typical homes. This large new supply of carbon-free electricity will go a long way toward helping New Mexico meet its own clean-energy goals. Shortly after Xcel Energy announced its carbon-free plans in late 2018, New Mexico passed the Energy Tran-



sition Act of 2019 mandating 100% carbon-free electricity by 2045.

Sagamore represents a historic achievement for Xcel

Energy, capping a three-year effort to boost regional wind generating capacity by 1,250 megawatts. Of that amount, 1,000 megawatts of capacity

have been constructed and are owned by Xcel Energy, including the Hale Wind Project north of Lubbock, Texas.



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