



Richard Bermea sent this photo in after last week's early morning surprise storm that brought needed rain and unneeded hail stones.

Celebration and Remembrance



Congratulations to the Class of 2021. Sixty-one students became alumni last Friday night at an indoor ceremony made necessary by unpredictable weather conditions. Friends and family filled the gym to cheer their favorite soon-to-be graduate. Everyone in attendance seemed to be celebrating the end of a journey and the promise of a brighter future.

Surviving the lows and celebrating the highs of the past year

June is National Dairy Month

By Darren Turley

What a strange year the past 12 months have been for everyone, including Texas dairy farmers. As National Dairy Month begins, it seems a fitting time to reflect on both the lows and highs our state's dairy industry has experienced since last June, and how they've impacted consumers.

A year ago, National Dairy Month saw the country deep in the COVID-19 pandemic. Consumers were drinking lots of milk and eating other dairy products while quarantining at home, but sales were down overall because large-volume dairy users such as restaurants were closed.

Still, dairy farmers and workers stayed on the job. You can't run a dairy farm or feed livestock on Zoom, and you can't turn off a cow's milk production. As a result - both during the early days of the pandemic and during February's historic winter storm - the state's dairy farmers, for a time, had more milk than they could process and sell.

Unfortunately, that led to a short-term dumping of milk by some dairy farmers. At the start of the pandemic, the national milk supply exceeded demand by 10%. Milk disposal was more widespread in other parts of the country than in Texas.

But Winter Storm Uri, although it lasted about a week, had a tremendous impact on Texas dairy farms when the weather and power outages closed down roads and processing plants. The Texas Department of Agriculture estimates that \$14 million in milk was lost.

Not only is it a financial blow to see your livelihood flow down a drain, it also is disheartening to see your hard work go to waste when so many individuals are in

need.

Despite these hardships, there's plenty to celebrate during National Dairy Month.

First, Texas in December produced 1.3 billion pounds of milk (more than 151 million gallons) to overtake New York as the nation's fourth largest milk producing state. Now it remains to be seen if that can be sustained under a plan to curtail overproduction - our cows are making more milk than we can sell. A new processing plant in Texas would truly be something to celebrate.

Second, our ranking moved up because milk production continues to boom - up 7% last year. That translates into jobs and a boost to local and state economies.

Third, 18.6% of U.S. dairy production was exported in March - the second-highest month of all time. Exports are expected to climb year over year as foreign markets mature.

Finally, as the pandemic eases, the country is returning to "normal," with businesses and restaurants opening. An increase in food service sales will boost dairy producer income. Fingers crossed that we continue on this recovery course, for many reasons.

Our dairy farm families and workers couldn't survive the industry's lows and celebrate its highs without the support of Texans who purchase and enjoy our products. So, grab a glass of milk, a scoop of ice cream, a slice of cheese or other favorite dairy product and join us in celebrating National Dairy Month.

Darren Turley is executive director of the Texas Association of Dairymen, which can be found at www.milk4texas.org and on Facebook and Twitter.



Memorial Day is a special time to remember our veterans. Their commitment to duty, honor, and country allows us to enjoy the fruits of freedom. They deserve our honor and respect.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Commission awards more than \$21.6 million in local park grants to Texas communities

AUSTIN — The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved more than \$21.6 million in competitive local park grants to help fund projects that will create and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities like nature trails, native gardens, playgrounds, splash pads, dog parks and sports fields at 38 community parks state-wide. The commission, which administers the local park grants program for the state of Texas, awarded projects in various categories based on community population size and scope.

The Small Community Recreation Grants are for

park projects in towns of less than 20,000 population and were awarded to 12 communities throughout the state; of which Friona was ranked 3rd. "This is the first time Friona has ranked this high in a competitive grant application," says City Manager Lee Davila. "This project has been a long time coming and a lot of work went into the grant application. I would personally like to thank the Mayor and Friona City Council as well as the Visitor Impact Commission for their tireless work in making this project become a reality."

The City of Friona will re-



Proposed Community Center Renovation

ceive a \$150,000 small community grant for its Friona Community Park on a 50/50 reimbursement match basis for a project total of \$300,000. Proposed development and renovations include site-

work, outdoor seating, lighting and security, overhead canopies, dog park, disc golf course, project signage, and professional services. (See illustrations on back page)

Source: TPWD News

	Town Talk Page 3	Dairy Month Recipe Page 4	Church Page Page 5	Classifieds Page 7	WTRT Meeting Page 6	Library Calendar Page 8	
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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	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	Precipitation	Burn Ban
June 3-9	 81 57 SSE 10-15	 82 58 SSW 10-15	 83 58 S 15-25	 82 59 SSE 10-20	 84 62 S 10-20	 88 63 S 10-20	 89 63 S 10-20	May 1.63 Year 3.20	Yes

Community Calendar

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

- June 3**
- Senior Citizens meal at noon in the Senior Citizens Center
- June 7**
- Senior Citizens meal at noon in the Senior Citizens Center
 - Noon Lions Club meeting at The Farmwife Kitchen
- June 10**
- Senior Citizens meal at noon in the Senior Citizens Center
 - Friona Community Blood Drive at Calvary Baptist Fellowship Hall from Noon to 7:00 p.m.
- June 14**
- Flag Day
 - Senior Citizens meal at noon in the Senior Citizens Center
- June 17**
- Senior Citizens meal at noon in the Senior Citizens Center
- June 20**
- Father's Day

Local Ag Association announces scholarship recipients

The Friona Vocational Agriculture Association has announced its annual scholarship recipients. The scholarships are awarded based on academic merit, and participation in Friona High School's FCCLA or FFA programs and completions.

Applicants provided an application form and an essay regarding how FHS's vocational training programs have prepared them for the future. Recipients are required to be enrolled in the Fall semester at a college or university to receive the scholarship.

Three (3) \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to **Kambree Kimbrough (FFA)**, **Mirelly Armendariz (FCCLA)**, and **Keegan Hurst (FFA)**

Four (4) \$500 scholarships were awarded to FCCLA members **Daniela Rodriguez, Valilah Hernandez, Nohemi Castillo, and Marilyn Bolanos**



(l-r), Keegan Hurst, Kody Kimbrough (FVAA secretary), Greg O'Brian (FVAA president), Kambree Kimbrough, Valilah Hernandez, Clint Hurst, Richie Herring, Aaron Abarca.

Association guidelines state that no more than four FFA and four FCCLA scholarships are to be awarded. However, the scholarship committee felt that the additional FCCLA scholarship, in the absence of more FFA applications, justified the decision.

The Friona Vocational Agriculture Association provides monetary

support to the youth of Friona who exhibit a commitment and dedication to 4-H, FFA, and FCCLA activities. Through this support, and their fundraising

efforts, the association encourages young people to pursue endeavors that will enable them to become the future leaders of the community, state, and country.

Ivy Cottage
Bridal Registry
Will Herring & Amanda McCollum
Taylor Stallings & Dallin Woods
Stephen Albarado & Kendra Harman

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or call us at 250-8073

Milk House Market
Wedding Registry
Stephen Albarado & Kendra Harman
Will Herring & Amanda McCollum
Taylor Stallings & Dallin Woods

Hours:
Thursday 11-5
Friday 11-5
Saturday 10-3

Call:
602-739-0813

Farmhouse to Your House

**SUMMER SNACK PAK
4 KIDS - FRIONA**

We will continue providing weekly Snack Pak 4 kids bags during the summer months. Snack Pak bags will be available for pickup on Fridays from 1:30pm-2:00pm at the First United Methodist Church (North Entrance on East 9th Street)

You/your child can pick up their bag every Friday at the church from June 11, 2021 until August 13, 2021.

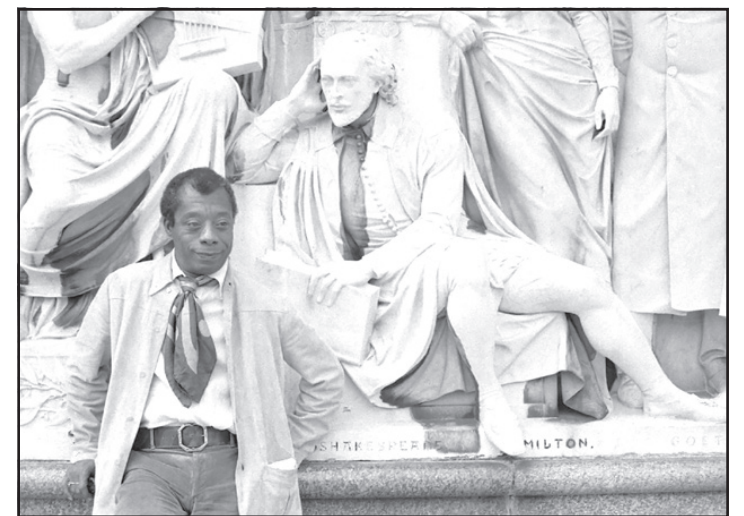
**SNACK PAK PARA NIÑOS
DURANTE EL VERANOFRIONA**

Continuaremos proporcionando bolsas para niños Snack Pak 4 semanas durante los meses de verano. Las bolsas de Snack Pak estarán disponibles para recoger los viernes de 1:30 pm a 2:00 pm en la Iglesia Metodista First United Methodist Church (la entrada por la calle East 9th)

Usted / su hijo pueden recoger sus bolsas todos los viernes en la iglesia desde el 11 de junio de 2021 hasta el 13 de agosto de 2021.



Giving a voice to hungry kids.



Freedom delayed

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith

On January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation put an end to slavery in the United States, but it took time for the news to advance. The state of Texas, for example, did not know anything about it until two years later, when Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston on June 19, 1865, after the War, and announced the news to the enslaved people there.

According to History.com, "The day instantly became an important one to the African American citizens of Texas, who held annual celebrations and even made pilgrimages to Galveston each

Juneteenth." In no time, festivities proliferated throughout the nation; now, forty-seven states and the District of Columbia recognize Juneteenth as a holiday, but Texas was the first to decree annual observance of June 19th in 1979.

For more information about Juneteenth, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends books such as **The Fire Next Time** by James Baldwin. *Courtesy of History Matters, a feature of The Grateful American Book Prize: Showing our children that their past is prelude to their future.*

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- in NW Tarrant County on 199
- Julia of "The Gumball Rally" with TX born Gary Busey
- TXism: "in cahoots with the Devil"
- Johnson Space Center agcy.
- pie ___ mode
- TXism: "got a heart ___ Texas"
- dino ___ "Barney" was created in Allen, TX
- dormant volcano?
- TX singer Orbison (init.)
- longtime U.S. Rep. "Tiger" Teague
- Tex-Mex band: Little Joe ___ Familia
- TXism: "much obliged"
- TX wants you to compost this rather than bag it (2 wds.)
- TXism: "mi casa ___ su casa"
- TXism: "___ give didly squat" (indifferent)
- ___ Smith County
- 1981 book by Glen ___: "The German Texans"
- TXism: "he's got ___ the Bill of Rights" (rich)
- monthly expense
- TXism: "he ___ ___ bill of goods" (was lied to)
- TX actress Chiles (init.)
- guerrilla "___" Guevara
- deli cutters
- found
- TXism: "___ long" (bye)
- state where TX Buddy Holly died (abbr.)
- appreciate the taste
- TXism: "couldn't buy hay for a ___" (poor)
- Houston mayor, Welch (1964-73)
- TXism: "it's ___ over but the shouting" (ended)
- ex-Astro GM Smith
- "Alamo City" abbr.

DOWN

- American Airlines Center, et al.
- Crystal City is seat of this county
- Don ___ claimed Galveston for Mexico
- TX ___ Mae Morse sang "Cow-Cow Boogie"
- symbol for gold
- panhandle has more of this than any area of TX
- this Karolyi trained Mary Lou in Houston
- perennial in TX
- in Grayson County on 289
- this Arnold wrote foreword to TX Byron Nelson's book (init.)
- pig's casa
- TXism: "hot as ___ July"
- TXism: "he couldn't get ___ fiddler general of Texas"
- former Cowboy Bob Hayes won gold in 100m ___
- ex-Ranger closer Henke (init.)
- TXism: "___ sits tall in the saddle"
- citrus drinks
- Silverado truck corp.
- TX Buck Owens TV show: "___ Haw"
- Miguel Hidalgo ___ urged Mexico's independence
- Gulf or lake sight TX-filmed "The Thief Who ___ To Dinner" (1972)
- TX Howard Hughes dated this Gardner
- TXism: "that gets my ___" (irritated)
- Hawaiian dances
- social blunders
- small hills
- artist's workroom
- antique auto
- maker of caulks and sealants
- qualified voter
- "Not ___ you don't!" (take it outside)

solution on page 3

ON YOUR PAYROLL
U.S. Government

President: Joseph R. Biden, 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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MEMBER
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



Dairy Month

Recipes

Dairy MAX
YOUR Local Dairy Council

A CASSEROLE LOVER'S SUNDAY BRUNCH

19g Protein

270 Calories	11 g Total Fat	180 min Cook Time
23 g Carbs	15 min Prep Time	8 Servings



Ingredients

- 1 medium onion, diced
- ½ green bell pepper, diced
- 1 (9.6-ounce) package precooked turkey sausage links, sliced
- 1 cup canned black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 (4-ounce) can diced green chilies
- 8 large eggs
- ¾ cup 2% reduced-fat milk
- 1 (1-ounce) package taco seasoning
- ½ cup shredded Mexi-cheese blend
- ½ cup 2% milkfat cottage cheese
- 1 (20-ounce) bag of refrigerated hash brown potatoes
- Sour cream, optional
- Salsa, optional
- Cilantro, optional

Nutrition Facts

per serving: Calories: 270 Protein: 19g Carbohydrate: 23g Fiber: 5g	Total Fat: 11g Saturated fat: 4g Cholesterol: 222mg Calcium: 13% DV Sodium: 829mg
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Instructions

1. In a large skillet, sauté onion and pepper, stirring frequently until cooked, about 10 minutes. Add the sausage, beans and green chilies. Stir and set aside.
2. In a large bowl, whisk the eggs. In a liquid measuring cup, mix milk and taco seasoning until taco seasoning is well dissolved, then pour it into the eggs. Stir in cheese and cottage cheese and mix well.
3. Spray the inside of a slow cooker generously with nonstick cooking spray. Layer the hash browns, then add the cooked sausage mixture. Pour egg mixture over the top. Cover and cook 3½ hours on high or until eggs are set. Due to differences in slow cookers, check after 2½ hours.
4. Serve with sour cream, salsa or cilantro, if desired.

Tips:
Using ½ the amount of hash browns reduces the cook time by 30-60 minutes.
Use half the amount of the taco seasoning for less zip!

Simple Swaps:
Substitute turkey bacon or your favorite breakfast meat for the sausage. Plain Greek yogurt can be substituted for the sour cream.

Gas prices trend lower

By GasBuddy

Texas gas prices have fallen 1.6 cents in the past week, averaging \$2.73 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Gas prices in Texas are 12.9 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand \$1.08 per gallon higher than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas is priced at \$2.39 while the most expensive is \$3.49 per gallon. The national average price of gasoline has risen 0.6 cents in the last week, averaging \$3.04 per gallon. The national average is up 14.3 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.06 per gallon higher than a year ago.

"With the summer driving season now officially begun, gas prices have clung to a \$3 per gallon average on continued strong demand as Americans take to the roads amidst a continued economic recovery," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "Through Sunday, U.S. gasoline demand was very strong over the weekend, with Friday and Sunday both setting new Covid records for gasoline consumption for their respective day of week, according to GasBuddy data. While gasoline demand continues to recover, oil production has only slowly started gaining momentum after a very challenging 2020 forced oil companies to take several steps backward as prices and demand plummeted last year. While oil production is now moving in the right direction, we're in catch up mode to searing hot gasoline demand, and the imbalance has pushed prices up notably. For now, there's little chance of a backslide in gas prices, but a larger chance that this summer could boast near-record gasoline demand as Americans hit the road, but remain mostly stuck to the U.S. due to overseas travel challenges that persist."

Happy Birthday Friona Folks

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>June 3</p> <p>D'Lynn Jamerson
George Frye
Kyle Grimsley
Cara Speer
Kiley Gibson
Debbie Sweatt
Terri Cummings Zerfas
Cindy King
Fabiola Dominguez
Miranda Pina
Kayla Alexander
Logan Stewart
Jennifer Martinez</p> <p>June 4</p> <p>Pam Hamilton
Jackson Reeve Fluck
Tara Kendrick
Jesse Allen
Angelina Gonzalez
Kyle Lambert</p> <p>June 5</p> <p>Brian Wiseman
Olivia Jones
Alicia Piñon Garza</p> <p>June 6</p> <p>Holly Campbell
Jennifer (Smith) Jolly
M'Kenzie Hurst
Cindy Todd
Erin Parsley-Grimsley
Ashley Landrum
Azriel Flores</p> | <p>June 7</p> <p>Kevin Schueler
Kelci Osborn
Charlie Brewer
Larry Johnston
Gisela Rosas
Andrew Husted</p> <p>June 8</p> <p>Jack Moser
Paxton Schueler
Joe Bob Mann
Lisa Reed
Kevin Zachary
Rachael (Knowles) Schulle
Michael Bentley
Angelina Zulas
Doug Daffern
Becky London Bulkeley
Debbie Stewart</p> <p>June 9</p> <p>Joel Venhaus
Landon McLellan
Joseph Bautista
RaeLynne Wren
Joseph Bautista
Ryan Newman
Mika Salazar</p> |
|--|---|



State sales tax revenue totaled \$3.4 Billion in May

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that state sales tax revenue totaled \$3.4 billion in May, the highest-ever monthly total and 30.1 percent more than in May 2020.

As with April's results, year-over-year increases for most tax revenues this month and in the coming months will be among the highest in the history of the data series. This is due to base effects: year-ago revenue collections to which this year's collections are compared were severely suppressed by the pandemic. Compared to May 2019, sales tax collections were up 12.9 percent.

The majority of May sales tax revenue is based on sales made in April and remitted to the agency in May.

"Resurgent consumer spending drove monthly state sales tax collections to a new high," Hegar said. "Supported by the end of pandemic restrictions, further vaccination progress and declines in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, continued recovery in employment, and federal stimulus checks and enhanced unemployment benefits, receipts from all retail sectors other than grocery stores surpassed pre-pandemic levels.

"Sales at retailers that had benefited from pandemic spending - online and big box general merchandisers, building materials and home furnishings stores, sporting goods and hobby stores - continued at elevated levels, while sales at retailers severely depressed last year, such as clothing stores and electronics and appliance stores, rebounded sharply from last spring.

"Spending at restaurants also surpassed pre-pandemic levels, with increased dine-in patronage adding to still elevated take-out and delivery business. While total spending in the sector increased sharply from a year ago, the recovery was uneven, with business at large popular restaurant chains up sharply while many smaller venues continued to languish. Spending at theme parks and live entertainment venues, though remaining below pre-pandemic levels, also was up significantly from a year ago, while business at fitness centers showed little evidence of recovery.

"Receipts from oil- and gas-related sectors fell below year-ago levels, as drilling and well development activity remained substantially below pre-pandemic levels despite the rise

in crude oil prices in recent months." Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in May 2021 was up 19.4 percent compared to the same period a year ago. Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 59 percent of all tax collections.

Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes, all of which were up sharply from a year ago due to base effects: (1) motor vehicle sales and rental taxes - \$554 million, a record monthly amount; up 109 percent from May 2020, and up 29 percent from May 2019; (2) motor fuel taxes - \$315 million, up 42 percent from May 2020, and down 0.4 percent from May 2019; (3) oil production tax - \$364 million, up 303 percent from May 2020, and down 1 percent from May 2019; (4) natural gas production tax - \$131 million, up 323 percent from May 2020, and up 1 percent from May 2019; (5) hotel occupancy tax - \$48 million, up 509 percent from May 2020, and down 18 percent from May 2019; and (6) alcoholic beverage taxes - \$126 million, up 355 percent from May 2020, and up 8 percent from May 2019.

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Governor announces Additional Food Benefits For Texas WIC Families This Summer

Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announced this week a temporary increase in food benefits for families participating in the Texas Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) through September 2021. This temporary increase specifically covers the purchase of fruits and vegetables.

"This increase in benefits will help Texans who participate in WIC provide more fruits and vegetables for their families this summer," said Governor Abbott. "I thank Food and Nutrition Service and HHSC for their continued partnership to ensure Texas children and their families have access to nutritious, healthy food."

"Texas WIC provides foods that have great nutritional value — providing key nu-

trients at key stages of development," said Texas WIC Director Edgar Curtis. "This nutritional support early in life builds stronger, smarter, healthier and happier children and Texans. Fresh fruits and vegetables, which are loaded with vitamins and other plant-based nutrients, are at the forefront of that strategy."

The American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law in March 2021 and allows states to temporarily provide up to \$35 for fruits and vegetables per child and adult, per month. This additional benefit allows WIC clients to purchase more fresh fruits and vegetables so they can consume more healthy foods.

As a result of federal legislation, Texas WIC clients will receive four months of additional benefits, from June through September. Clients receive benefits three

months in advance and existing clients should already have the \$35 in their benefits starting in June.

WIC clients include pregnant and breastfeeding women and children up to the age of five who also meet income guidelines. All WIC clients are encouraged to keep their next appointment to receive additional benefits.

WIC is a federal nutrition program administered by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. The program provides healthy food, one-on-one nutrition counseling, recipes, nutrition classes, and breastfeeding support to mothers and families with children younger than 5. The program serves approximately 700,000 women and children monthly. For more information about Texas WIC, visit TexasWIC.org.

Jesus is the True Vine

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Have you ever seen a delicious peach or apricot grow on a branch that was not connected to a tree? Of course you haven't, because to have a delicious fruit, it must stay connected to the source of life and growth, the tree. In a similar way, Jesus drives home the point that only when believers are abiding in him can they bear fruit in their lives, ministry, witness, and be filled with His joy. In John 15:5, Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit,

for apart from me you can do nothing." Jesus was speaking to people who knew grapevines and vineyards as a part of life and his point was crystal clear to them. Just as a grape needs a vine as its source, Jesus is the source, sustainer and supplier of all you need for life. In fact, when you abide in him, you "bear much fruit." We need cities filled with believers who bear much fruit, in their lives, families, churches, jobs and community involvement, but the only way this will happen is if they are abiding in Jesus Christ. In

fact, Jesus is clear that to not abide in him, not to cling to him, his truth and his ways, leads to spiritual breakdown and fruitlessness in His kingdom.

Think about those things for a moment, and take time to examine your own heart. Are you bearing fruit in your life that is a result of who Jesus is and what he is doing? Is there spiritual vitality and a growing love for God? Or, is there spiritual apathy, religious resignation, and a minute concern for the advance of Christ's kingdom in your life and community?

Being Real

By Teena Hughs

Ever since Feller moved here a little over a year ago, he has been feeding deer twice a day here at the house. At 7:00 each evening, you will find us sitting outside watching the deer eat.

Feller has one buck, Clarence, named for the angel on "It's a Wonderful Life"; and Clarence eats out of his hand. There is Split Ear, who literally has a split ear. We think he is an orphan, and his ear became split in an attack by some other animal. It has been fun watching Split Ear become a little more aggressive at getting the food that is thrown to him; he used to let the bigger deer beat him to it.

From Walt Disney, you get the impression that deer are the sweetest things, but hunters know that isn't always true. There is a "pecking order" with these deer, and other deer know who is "in charge." The leaders will rise up and fight as a reminder of their leadership position. So, even though this is what deer are really like, many of us have always had a different idea of

what they are, and in this case, deer really are what they don't always appear to be on TV.

Sometimes people aren't who they appear to be either. They pretend they are someone they really aren't so they can make an impression on someone, so they can gain social status with a certain group, so they can fit in with a certain group, so they can appear better than some other people, especially in competitions. I can remember doing something similar when I was trying to get more Girl Scout badges than anyone else. I really had to stretch the truth on some of those requirements to get some of those badges, and that was not the right way, the Girl Scout way, or God's way to earn those badges. But, that is what I did to appear to be the best Girl Scout in my troop.

As I have gotten older, and more learned in God's Word, I have come to realize that most people will eventually be able to figure out what is real and what is fake about me. For sure, Jesus knows, Matthew 7:22-23 tells us that, "On judg-

ment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name. But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from Me, you who break God's laws.'"

While this verse usually deals with people and their salvation, it spoke to me as a reminder that God knows what is real and fake about each one of us. For me, I try my best not to be concerned with what people think about me, and that is a full-time job; but, I am definitely concerned about what Jesus thinks about me. That is why it is always so important to follow His Word and be obedient to it.

Remember that God loves you for who you are. He created you, and He created you for a specific purpose. It may be to be a ditch digger; it may be to be President of the United States. Whatever your purpose, fulfill it to the best of your ability. You won't be disappointing God or yourself. Just be real to yourself and to Him.



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

Friona	Area Church Directory	Bovina
<p>CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 15th & Cleveland • 806-250-3000</p> <p>CHILDREN'S CHURCH • 3 yrs-6th grade www.calvaryfriona.org</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 6th & Summitt • 806-250-3933 Pastor Brett Hoyle Email-firstbc@wtrt.net Website-www.fbcfriona.com</p> <p>FRIONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 8th & Pierce • 806-250-3045 Rev. Skip Hodges Email-frionoam@wtrt.net Website-www.frionoamc.com</p> <p>GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH North end of Congregational Church 1601 Euclid</p>	<p>IGLESIA EVANGELICA NUEVA JERUSALEN 701 E. 11th • P.O. Box 655 • 806-346-9725 Pastor Benito Mejia benitomejia@live.com</p> <p>QUALITY OF LIFE BIBLE STUDY CHURCH 301 Grand Ave. • 806-240-0826 Pastors Mark & Mary Goff</p> <p>SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 502 W. 6th • 806-250-2769 Jeff Procter, Minister</p> <p>ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 401 West 17th St. • 806-250-2871 Pastor Gregory Bunyan</p> <p>TEMPLO BAUTISTA DAMASCO 403 Woodland • 806-250-3472 Pastor William Tapias</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 308 3rd Street 806-251-1632 Pastor Frank Landry</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST 500 Ave. E 806-251-1334 Mike Prather, Minister</p> <p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 205 4th Street 806-251-1124 Pastor Larry Mitchell</p> <p>ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 401 3rd Street 806-251-1511 Pastor Gregory Bunyan</p> <p>LA IGLESIA DE DIOS DEL PRIMOGENITO The Church of God of the Firstborn 102 2nd Street</p> <p>IGLESIA BAUTISTA HISPANA 103 1st Street 806-251-5232 Pastor Rafael Marin</p>

THIS DIRECTORY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THESE BUSINESSES WHO ENCOURAGE ALL OF US TO ATTEND WORSHIP SERVICES.

 1380 Hwy. 214 • 265-3425	 1010 Columbia at Hwy 60, Friona Hours: 8:00 am -5:00 pm Monday-Friday 250-5555	 P.O. Box 956 Friona, Texas 79035 (806) 265-3433 (806) 265-3281	 250-3913 1205 Hwy. 60 West Friona Texas	 806.250.5200
 Phone 250-5000 "Where People Come First" 1105 N. Cleveland www.interbank.com	 Phone 806-364-3331 Hereford, Texas 79045	Friona Heritage Estates Assisted Living 806-250-5599 201 E. 15th Friona Texas	Prairie Acres Quality Care 806-250-3922 201 E. 15th Friona Texas	 E. Hwy. 60 • Friona TX • 806-250-2791

Welcome to Friona!



The Friona Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony last Thursday at the Open House hosted by Karla Rector, Realtor; The Pam and David White Group; and Ward Kellner Properties. Ceremony participants included (l-r) Sherri Alger, Chris Alexander, Shelby Rhodes, David White, Pam White, Karla Rector, Jason Rector, Crystal Moroney, Ruby Moroney, Marla Hart, Lee Davila, Yvette Williams, Heather Grimsley.

We are Pam and David White with Ward Kellner Properties, Inc. David and I formed The Pam and David White Group to assist others to grow their real estate businesses. David grew up in Odessa and we love visiting and engaging in our hometowns. Being born in Friona and raised in Bovina, I have always desired to come back home. We began to see an opportunity to have Karla Rector associate with us. Karla is married to my cousin, Jason Rector (whom I adore), she has a desire to grow her knowledge and utilize her unique and creative skills to serve Bovina, Friona, Parmer County, and the surrounding counties as a profes-

sional who seeks to serve and guide her clients with the utmost amount of knowledge and professionalism. Karla and Jason have chosen to make Friona their home and raise their three girls, Emma, Molly, and Ella in Friona. This is a special part of Texas with a special kind of person making their home here. We are excited to be part of it. This office gives me the opportunity to engage and be a part of Bovina, Friona, and Parmer County. I am very grateful to Karla, David and Beth Kellner, our Broker at Ward Kellner Properties, Inc. for supporting me and being on our team to make this unique opportunity come true.



David & Pam White, and Karla Rector



The planning committee for the All School Reunion announced this week that all systems are go for a reunion this fall. The Main Event will be held on Saturday, September 11th at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center with catering by Desperados. Tickets are \$20 per person. Mail to Kim Smiley at 2546 CR 27, Friona, TX 79035 by September 1st. Stay tuned! Back row (l-r) Ted Procter, Marca Herring, Mitchell Smiley, Kim Smiley, Larry Rector. Front row (l-r) Lee Davila, Sharon White, Elizabeth McLellan.

66th Annual Meeting of the Membership Of West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative
 Tuesday, June 8, 6 p.m. at the New Hereford Civic Center
 Dinner of Brisket, Chicken, Sausage and All Trimmings
 Door Prizes
 Election of Directors—Nominees Include:
 Craig Wagner, Dawn
 Savannah Ouellette, Frio
 Sy Olson, Frio
 Corbin Riethmayer, Hub
 Charles Christian, Oklahoma Lane
 Cody Grimsley, Parmer/Summerfield
 Report on Operations by Amy Linzey, CEO



P O Box 1737 3425 US Hwy 385
 Hereford, TX 79045-1737
 806-364-3331

Changes at the Book Shop

Many changes have occurred at the Friona Book Shop (Friends of the Library Book Shoppe). For one, we have moved into our brand new building, located on Euclid directly behind the library in the former garden area. The move was necessary due to a drainage problem in the garden area and a change of ownership of the old book shop building, which will be used as an annex for the museum.

The book shop will continue to be open on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 p.m. to

5:30 p.m., but also on Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. -12 noon, at least during the month of June. Thanks to volunteers for helping with this additional "open" day. You may call 265-5811 to schedule an appointment at another time if needed.

At this point, books are displayed on tables and in boxes. Bookcases have been secured and will be refinished and installed at a later date. We ask for your patience during this transition time.

Thanks so much to the City of Friona, the EDC, and

Friends of the Library for this new building. Also, to the FHS Ag Department, Mrs. Rodriguez' third graders, and a dozen brave volunteers for helping with the move and organization. Thanks to Allan Haile for donating the use of a much needed storage unit.

We have a large supply of children's books, novels, western fiction, paperbacks, and Texas or Southwest related non-fiction at this point. Many of these books have been in storage, and you have not seen them. We look forward to your visit.



Lila Gaye Chairs



Kids Section

EVERY SUMMER HAS A STORY

Friona Community Blood Drive

Sponsored by Friona Lion's Club

Thursday, June 10

Noon - 7 p.m.

Calvary Baptist Church-Fellowship Hall

To schedule an appointment, visit yourbloodinstitute.org

All donors will receive two free t-shirts, one WOW pass to Wonderland Amusement Park and a squeeze cow!*

806-331-8833 yourbloodinstitute.org

*While supplies last. Photo ID required.



STAR CLASSIFIEDS

250-2211
Deadline: Tuesday @ 5 p.m.



HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED CHS Agronomy — Friona

Job Description:

CHS has an exciting opportunity in our Country Operations Division. We are looking for an Agronomy Truck Driver to deliver products such as feed, seed, fertilizer, anhydrous ammonia, and other commodities as needed. You must exhibit personal integrity, have an excellent driving record and be committed to safety and customer service.

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Paid Holidays + Paid Time Off
(Vacation & Sick Pay)
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Please apply at Chsinc.com/careers

Friona Interbank has an opening for a full-time teller. To apply online, please go to interbank.com. Thank You.



****Sign-On Bonuses Offered**** Due to growth, Prairie Acres is seeking to fill multiple positions including CNA's (both shifts), nurses, dietary and housekeeping employees! We are pleased to offer great health, dental, vision and life insurances, paid time off and sign-on bonuses for those that qualify! Interested? Come by and see us at 201 East 15th St. today!

BUSINESS

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Dr. Mindy Neal
1100 Hwy. 86
Bovina, TX
806-251-1300

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.

EG Photography



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Broker/Owner:

Kevin Cooper
806-250-2745

Sales Associate:

George Rushing 806-265-7037

1405 Columbia \$122,000



3/3/2 Brick w/cent. heat & air, fireplace, front & back yards, all-electric, carport, storage building, fence

Friona

3/3/2 Brick w/cent. h&a, 2 living areas, metal eaves, fenced backyard, corner lot\$160,000

3/2 Country Mobile Home 4 acres, fenced back and side yards, new well, cellar, horse stall.....Cont Pend

Sold

3/3/2 Brick in Western Addition w/cent. h&a, sunroom, office, fp, fenced back yard, hot tub.....Sold

BOVINA 3/2/1 Brick w/central heat & air, fenced backyard, vinyl and ceramic tile.....Sold

3/2/2 Brick w/central heat & air, wood-burning stove, storage building, fenced backyard, close to H.S.Sold

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HELP WANTED

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Help Wanted

Part-Time Help needed at Friona Senior Citizens
Contact Susan Gonzales at 806-626-8602 (cell phone)
or Senior Citizens Center at 806-250-3645
or come by 1410 Washington
on Mondays or Thursdays

NOW HIRING

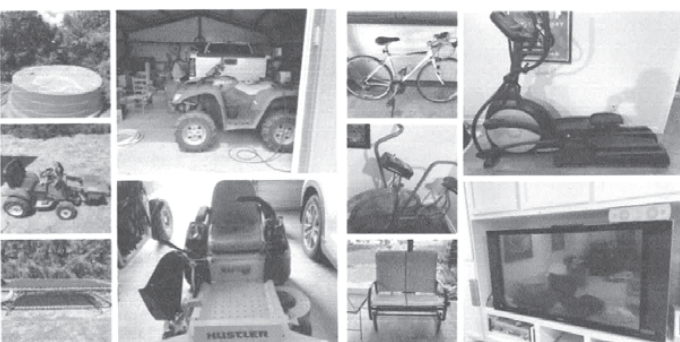
Friona ISD is looking for a full time custodian. Hours are 7 am -6 pm with a 2 hour lunch and a 30 minute break in the morning and afternoon. Interested applicants may call Friona ISD 806-250-2747 or Martha Moreno 806-346-2091.

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.

GARAGE/YARD SALES

Estate Yard Sale Everything Must GO!

Friday, June 4 and Saturday, June 5
8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.



1953 FM 1172 Friona, TX

Furniture, yard equipment, kids stuff, gardening, 4 wheeler and trailer, generator, antiques, yard art, industrial lawn mower, water tank, trampoline, elliptical, road bikes, power equipment and so much more!

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Drivers License Office Schedule

Tuesday-Wednesday
9:00 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.
Located at Friona Police Department Building
public.txdpsscheduler.com
By appointment only.

Friona Star is on the Web at frionaonline.com

Jump! Leap! Hop! **Oops!**

Dolphins leap through the air to save energy. **Humans Jump Too!** Did you match the people below to what they do?

Five Little Jumping Monkeys
Five little monkeys jumping on the bed.
One fell off and bumped his head.
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said,
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed."

1. hopperscotch players
2. high jumpers
3. deep sea divers
4. ballet dancers
5. basketball players
6. skydivers
7. gymnasts
8. stunt people
9. cheerleaders

a. jump into the ocean
b. hop in the squares
c. bounce and turn on a trampoline
d. jump off buildings in movies
e. jump as high as they can over a set bar
f. leap into cartwheels
g. jump out of airplanes
h. leap into the air
i. jump to reach the hoop

Wheel
Spiderman
These animals do not jump.

1 J U M P I N G
2 F
3 D O L P H I N S
4 J U M P I N G S P I D E R S
5 C
6 G R A S S H O P P E R S
7 C O U G A R S
8 R
9 K A N G A R O O S
10 H O R S E S
11 G A Z E L L E S
S L O T H
S E L E P H A N T

Check Your Mirrors

By Sue Jane Sullivan



High school graduation exercises in small towns are not just a yearly event. They are The Event.

Chances are that when the calendar reaches the month of May, folks in rural areas are buying graduation gifts for not just one senior, but the entire class. These are students we know well, many of whom we have watched for 13 years. Instead of the scrawny little Kindergartener, a certain young man is now over 6' tall and headed for trade school to become a diesel mechanic. The girl who could not stop talking in the Fifth Grade channeled her talents in speech and debate competitions. Perhaps our star athletes caught the attention of a D-II college program and earned scholarships. Some in the class know they want to go right to work, become financially independent, and set their sights on making that happen.

Now it's June. The parties are over. A few schools may still have a Senior Trip looming, but for the most part, the reality is that their public-school education is completed. What's next is as much about community as it is our graduating seniors.

The Community's responsibility does not end after the tassels moved and caps were thrown high in the air. We have lived the experiences facing the Class of 2021.

- How am I going to pay for college?
- What job can I get that will pay my bills and give me a chance to buy my own car?
- Do I keep dating my high school boyfriend or decide to enjoy new social opportunities?
- What if I get depressed or have panic attacks?
- Do I invest some of my graduation money?
- Should I stay home the first couple of years, work, and save money?
- Do I want to get married now or wait?

Yeah, that last one may not be as pressing in 2021 as it was in the 1960s, but still, some 18 and 19-year-olds do think about making that commitment.

In each of these scenarios, these young adults could use community wisdom to help with their decision making. The tricky part is how to offer it, especially when they may not be asking for it.

That's where wisdom comes in. Work on developing the bonds early so that they have confidence in the lines of communication. Listen to their anxieties or concerns or dreams. Relatives not under the same roof can be wonderful sources of advice, and don't underestimate your role as the friend from church, the cashier at the grocery store, the teacher, or the farmer down the road.

A child's education has its beginning and end in a school building. However, the nurturing is still needed, maybe in the form of a card, or a text of encouragement, or just a "like" on their Instagram photo from the local pool hall.

Stay in touch with the Class of 2021 as well as other classes. Your investment makes a difference. It might even make The Difference.

State Capital Highlights

By Gary Borders



Budget headed to governor's desk

The Texas Legislature sent a \$248 billion two-year state budget to Gov. Greg Abbott after the House approved the measure last Thursday.

The 140-day legislative session ended at midnight May 31. Senate Bill 1 is \$13.5 billion less than the previous biennial budget, with the difference to be made up from COVID-19 relief funds from the federal government. As previously reported, Abbott plans to allow legislators to decide how to allocate those funds during a special session this fall.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick has suggested a special session for this summer to address some of his pet bills, such as limiting the participation of transgender athletes in school sports, banning lobbyists paid with public funds and putting limits on social media's power to restrict users. The Austin American-Statesman reported that Abbott called Patrick's proposal "pretty goofy," however. Only the governor can call a special session and dictate the topics to be addressed.

Expanded health coverage OK'd for Medicaid moms

The Texas Legislature on Friday approved a bill that provides mothers receiving Medicaid assistance at least six months of health coverage after birth. The measure expands postpartum coverage from the current two months provided under Medicaid.

The bill, sponsored by state Rep. Toni Rose, D-Dallas, is intended to reduce the maternal mortality rate in Texas and provide added assistance to mothers dealing with postpartum depression.

Medicaid covers almost half of the births in the United States, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. A provision in the American Rescue Plan of 2021 gave states the option of expanding Medicaid postpartum coverage.

More than a third of Texans vaccinated

With shots opened up to anyone 12 and older, more than a third of all Texans — more than 10.2 million — are now fully vaccinated against COVID-19, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. That is 35% of the state's population.

Abbott and the Texas Department of Emergency Management announced last week the expansion of the State Mobile Vaccine Program to include groups of five or more eligible Texans who voluntarily choose to be vaccinated against COVID-19. In addition, homebound residents can request a unit come to their home. Previously, a minimum of 10 people were required before requesting a mobile vaccination unit.

Anyone interested can call 844-90-TEXAS and select Option 13 to schedule a mobile vaccine clinic for groups of friends, families, employees and others. The call center is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday – Saturday.

Cases up slightly, hospitalizations down

The number of COVID-19 cases in the past week dropped slightly, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. As of last Friday, 282 deaths were reported. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients continues to drop, with 1,828 hospitalized as of Sunday, according to DSHS.

Number of missing children reported

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services has issued its annual report on children and youth missing from that agency's conservatorship or who are considered victims of human trafficking.

During fiscal year 2020, which ended Aug. 31 of last year, a total of 2,229 children and youth were missing at some point. On Aug. 31, 255 were still missing. During last year, a total of 47,913 were in DFPS conservatorship, meaning 4.6% went missing at some point.

Of the 1,972 children recovered during that time frame, 136 of them — 7% — reported being victimized while missing. Sixty-eight children — 3.4% — reported being a victim of sex trafficking.

Texas Film Commission celebrates 50 years

The Texas Film Commission, created in 1971 to expand the film industry in Texas, turned a half-century old this year. The commission has attracted \$1.66 billion in local spending and created more than 157,000 production jobs in Texas from 2007 to 2020. More than 150 Texas communities are now officially designated as "Texas Film Friendly."

"Texas has developed into such a vibrant destination for production across all media that the promise and potential recognized 50 years ago has been more than realized," Abbott said.

Hurricane season begins on June 1

The 2021 hurricane season kicks off June 1, and it's expected to be another busy one.

Last year's Atlantic hurricane season included a record-breaking 30 storms, including a dozen that made landfall in the United States.

Three storms — Hurricanes Hanna and Laura and Tropical Storm Marco — resulted in disaster declarations for several Texas counties, according to the Texas Association of Counties.

Hurricane researchers at Colorado State University warn that warmer Atlantic surface temperatures and the absence of El Niño conditions in the Pacific could result in a busy 2021 hurricane season.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

Friona Public Library

Phone: 806-250-3200

Follow us on facebook at: [frionapubliclibrary](https://www.facebook.com/frionapubliclibrary)



Web: www.frionalibrary.org



Becky, Mary & Anahi



The Friona Public Library has some exciting things planned for you. "Tails and Tales" is the theme for the 2021 national collaborative summer reading library program this year. We have been buying new books all year so that you will have something to read this summer (we hope you have enjoyed reading from your school libraries). You can help 'Tails and Tales' by reading all kinds of books and becoming a better reader at the same time. All summer reading program participants will receive book bags, bookmarks and reading logs. We also have incentive bonuses as you read.

Registration for summer reading will begin May 17 at The Friona Public Library.

In order to make the best of your summer reading time, try to challenge yourself by reading some every day and get your family to read also. You will be amazed at the things you can learn! The bonuses this year include your reading certificate at 5 books, a reading necklace (dog tag) at 10 books, your choice of any squishy toy at 15 books, and an animal mask scratch off when you have read a total of 20 books. Keep reading and see how many books you can read during the whole summer. Can you read for 1,000 minutes? The library will also have a writing contest! To enter into the writing contest come by the library and sign up. **The writing contest will end on June 21.**

Friends of the Library will be sponsoring our programs again this year (the calendar is on the back) so **do not miss** any of them. We will have 2 programs, the programs will be at **10 AM** at the **Friona City Park** both of them **on Wednesdays**. You will also have a chance to win door prizes at the programs!

➤ First Response Program (including EMS, Police, and Fire Department) - **Wednesday June 2nd**

➤ William Parker playing guitar - **Wednesday June 9th**

So get your library cards ready for the summer by making sure they are clear of any fines or overdues. If you have lost your card, a new one will be \$3. **Registration will start May 17th but you can register any time after to be part of this year's program.** We hope to see you often this summer...and bring a friend, a cousin, a parent or a grandparent we have books for them also. Share your reading with others!

The Library Staff...
Anahi, Becky, and Mary

<h1 style="margin: 0;">JUNE 2021</h1>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Remember to register so that you can start reading!	Prizes will be given out on Fridays	Summer Reading Begins!!	1 First Response Program @ 10am ➤ EMS ➤ Police ➤ Fire	2 Be sure to write the books you read in your reading log to claim your prize.	3 5 Books Read Prize Day	4
6	7	8	9 William Parker Plays Guitar @ 10am	10	11 10 Books Read Prize Day	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 15 Books Read Prize Day	19
20 Father's Day Read with your Dad!	21 Writing Contest ends!	22	23	24	25 20 Books Read Prize Day	26
27	28	29	30 Summer Reading Ends!! (But keep on reading)			Tails & Tales SUMMER READING

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Our mental health professionals are standing by to help.

StarCare Specialty Health System is providing a COVID-19 Mental Health and Information Hotline

Mosquito populations booming: Three varieties to worry about

By Adam Russell

That familiar buzz and bite are signs that mosquito season in Texas is here, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife entomologist.

Sonja Swiger, Ph.D., Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service entomologist and associate professor in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Entomology, Stephenville, said biting mosquitoes are a seasons-long problem that often changes based on the environment.

Which species are present and whether mosquitoes are an annoyance or vectors for diseases likely depends on those conditions, she said. Similarly, the temperature, availability of water and type of water available, such as clear floodwater in ditches, a wheelbarrow that has collected water or stagnant puddles in hot, dry weather are all contributing factors to what type of mosquito is visiting you and your family.

The annual mosquito boom

Rainfall, especially with multiple storm systems that have saturated and flooded areas around the state, can significantly contribute to a boom in mosquito populations, Swiger said.

"People are seeing, and should expect to see, quite a bit more mosquito activity in the next days and weeks," she said. "Our focus is going to be disease carriers that typically become a problem in late summer and early fall. However, all this rain has created plenty of habitat for floodwater and container species."

Swiger divides mosquitoes into those three categories - floodwater, container and stagnant - and they typically emerge in the order related to the breeding environment they prefer.

"Mosquitoes come in waves and can overlap as the season progresses," she said. "It can help to understand what type you are dealing with, how to do your part to control them around your home and how to protect yourself and your family because we are in mosquito season."

First wave: floodwater mosquitoes

Floodwater mosquitoes are the first to emerge after rain events, Swiger said.

Heavy rains leave the ground saturated and create standing puddles in ditches and low spots in fields and lawns. Floodwater mosquito larvae emerge quickly after water becomes available. Eggs are placed there by females and wait for water, sometimes two to five years before rainfall reaches them

depending on the species, Swiger said.

Floodwater mosquitoes are typically larger and are aggressive. These types of mosquitoes are often the persistent biters from dawn to dusk, Swiger said.

"The potential for standing water could make their habitat more widespread, which will make them a greater issue for more people than normal," she said. "Any location that is holding water, even in grassy areas, could be a breeding ground."

Swiger said females lay more eggs in the moist soil around puddles, and either more larvae emerge, or they will go dormant and wait for water to return. Subsequent rains can wash larvae downstream but can also trigger dormant mosquito eggs.

Second wave: container mosquitoes

Container mosquitoes, which include the Aedes species identified by its black and white body and white striped legs, typically emerge next. Female mosquitoes lay eggs in anything holding water - from tires, buckets and wheelbarrows to gutters, unkept pools and trash cans. They prefer clearer, fresher water, and females are constantly looking for good breeding sites.

Container mosquitoes like Aedes are daytime feeders but can be opportunistic at nighttime when large groups of people gather, Swiger said.

"Anytime after a rain, it is good to make a round on the property to look for anything that might be holding water," she said. "It just takes a matter of days for these mosquitoes to go from egg to biter, so they can become a problem pretty quickly."

Third wave: Culex mosquitoes

Culex, a mosquito species that prefers stagnant pools of water with high bacteria content, typically emerge as waters recede and dry summer conditions set in and create breeding sites in low-lying areas. They are the disease carriers that concern the public and health officials, Swiger said.

It is not easy to forecast their emergence because their ideal environment can be washed away by additional rains or dried up by extreme heat and drought, Swiger said. In rural areas, bogs, pooled creek beds or standing water in large containers such as barrels, trash cans or wheelbarrows can make a good habitat for Culex. In the city, similar pools in dried up creeks or other

low spots can create breeding sites, but most urban issues occur underground in storm drains where water can sit and stagnate.

"It's difficult to predict when or where these mosquitoes might become a problem," she said. "Widespread heavy rain makes it even more difficult to predict."

How to repel mosquitoes from yourself, children and pets

Swiger said reducing mosquito numbers in your location and the use of spray repellents are a good start when it comes to protecting yourself from bites. Covering exposed skin with long-sleeved shirts and long pants help as well.

Making recommendations for protecting people or locations from mosquitoes can be a tricky proposition, Swiger said. She does not recommend any repellents or mosquito repelling products that are not approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Anecdotal evidence exists that alternatives like essential oils repel mosquitoes, Swiger said. Spatial repellent devices like Thermacell are popular, however some people may balk at the chemical particles the units emit to create a barrier around a person or space.

Plants like citronella, geraniums, lemongrass, lavender, lantana, rosemary and petunias have been shown to repel mosquitoes, but Swiger said the distribution limits effectiveness for protecting a space. The number of plants and the location among other factors would weigh heavily into their effectiveness.

Candles and other smoke-based repellents fall into a similar category as plants, Swiger said.

"Protecting yourself with any spray-on, CDC-approved repellent like DEET, picaridin or lemon eucalyptus oil is my best recommendation anytime you go outside for an extended period," she said. "Personal protectants are the only certainty against bites."

Swiger said pets should be removed from areas with mosquito infestations. Small children should not be taken outdoors for long periods if mosquitoes are an issue because they can have adverse reactions to mosquito bites, and spray products should be used sparingly on them, especially babies. There are age restrictions for most repellents; no repellents on babies less than 2 months old and do not use lemon or eucalyptus oil on children 3 and under.

"This time of year, it's just best to limit their exposure to

mosquitoes," she said.

How to control, prevent mosquitoes

Controlling mosquitoes after widespread, heavy rains is difficult because their habitat can be so unpredictable, Swiger said. Container mosquitoes are a bit easier - remove the habitat by dumping the water or treat the water with granular or dunk larvicides.

"Empty containers filled with water as much as possible and look for standing water that can be drained or where dunks larvicides can be effective," she said. "It's just a matter of, how far do

you take it before other options are necessary?"

Sprays or barrier treatments that kill adult mosquitoes are another option, but effectiveness is limited, Swiger said. Products that homeowners can apply only last 24 hours. Professionals can apply longer-lasting barrier products - typically pyrethroid-based or organic products - but their effectiveness degrades with time.

Some groups and municipalities initiate mosquito abatement programs, especially when major outbreaks occur or mosquitoes become a health risk, but they are temporary as well, Swiger

said. They typically spray at night to kill adult mosquitoes, and the residue burns off in the sunlight after dawn.

"Some cities and counties do a pretty good job staying on top of mosquito control, but it can be an overwhelming task, and weather can hinder effectiveness," she said. "The best thing to remember is to protect yourself when outdoors for extended periods, reduce breeding sites as much as possible in your space and then be mindful of areas nearby that might become problematic."

Adam Russell is a communication specialist for Texas A&M AgriLife.

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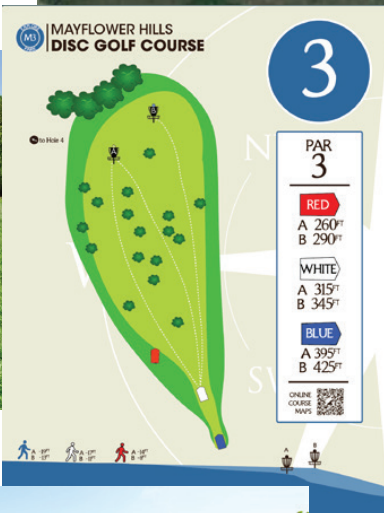
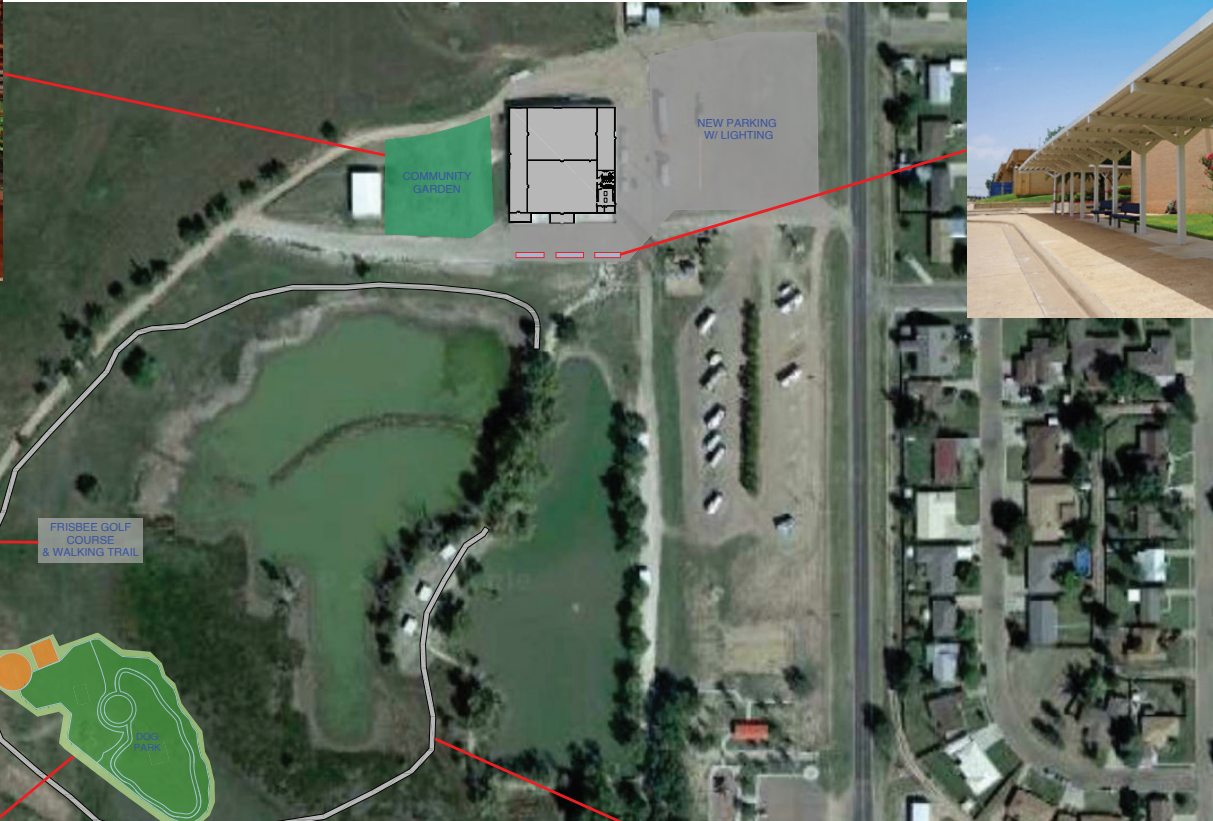
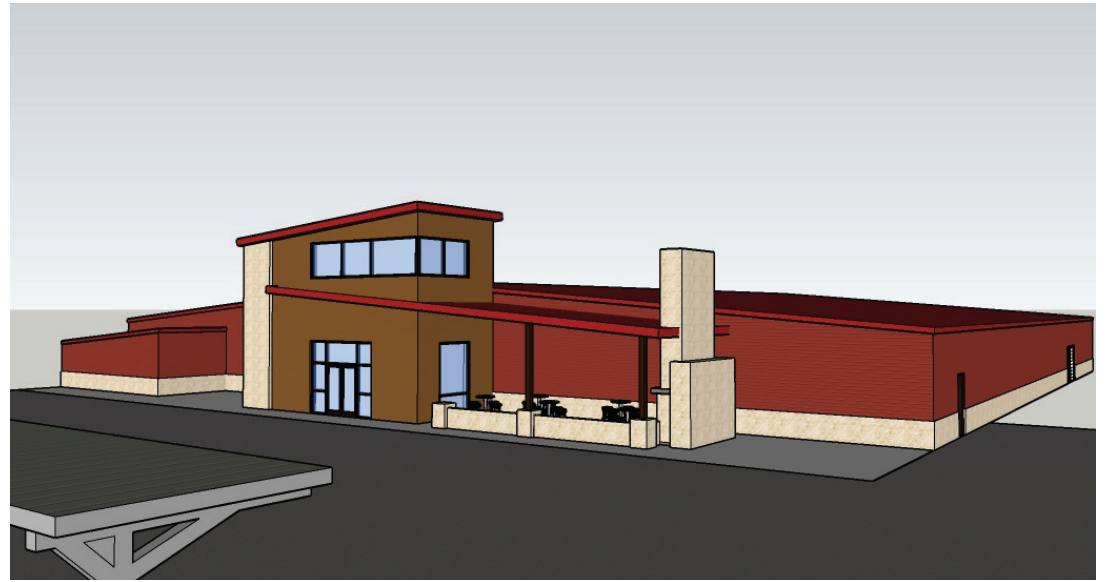
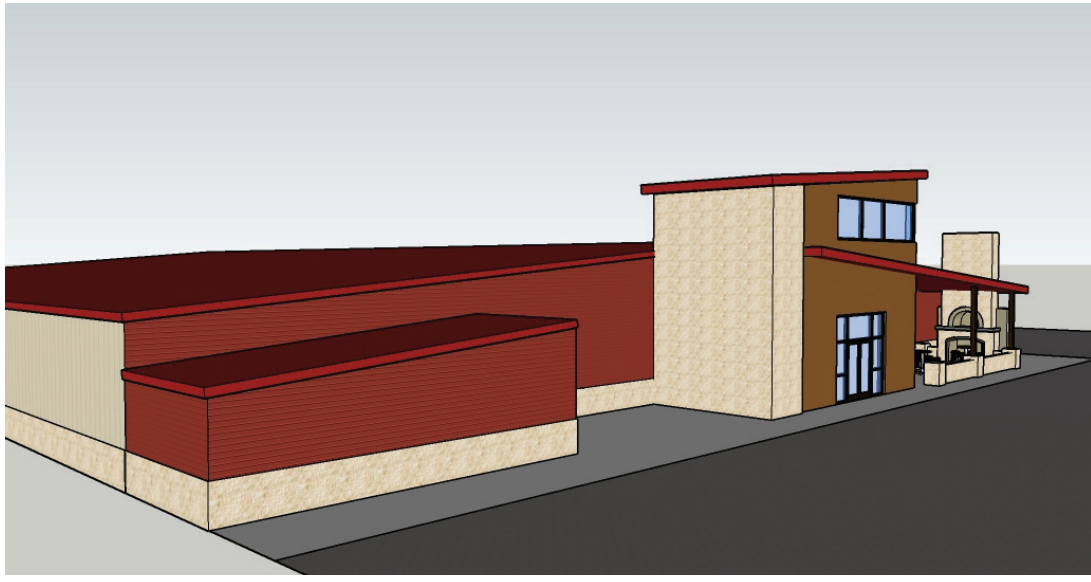


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Continued from Page 1

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