



## The Spirit of Giving

### Empty Stocking Fund

Donations are being accepted for the Empty Stocking Fund which provides clothing and a toy to local needy children. School officials are consulted to determine the recipients. Donations may be made at Friona InterBank or given to project co-chairs Holly Campbell and/or Jyl Grimsley.

### Project Christmas Card

The Parmer County Hospital Auxiliary is accepting donations for the Project Christmas Card. The proceeds will be used to purchase medical equipment for Parmer Medical Center. Canisters/boxes are 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. You can contact Connie Neelley at 806-250-2542 for more information.

### Toys for Tots

Friona FFA members will be collecting toys for their annual Toys for Tots drive. Toys can be dropped off at the Ag building or the high school office as well as several locations around town including Hi-Pro, Lowe's, and First National Bank. The deadline to donate toys will be Monday, December 12th. Please help us collect toys that will go to our local Friona kids who need a little more love this Christmas!

### Santa's for Seniors

If you would like to adopt a resident for Christmas, the list is ready at Prairie Acres. Please contact the Activity department @ 806-250-3922. It's an opportunity to bring JOY to a resident at Prairie Acres.

### Give to the United Way

You can bring your donation to Friona Interbank at 1105 N. Cleveland or mail it to Friona Interbank, P.O. Box 549, Friona, Texas 79035.



Little Miss, Arribelle Hernandez, and Miss Friona, Kitzy Welch, helped Santa as he spent close to three hours with kids taking photos and reading letters in the Depot at the Christmas in the Park event Monday evening. It looks like the elves have some work to do before they will get any presents from Santa. See Christmas in the Park photos at [www.frionaonline.com](http://www.frionaonline.com).



# Friona Fire Department Presents Awards

The Friona Volunteer Fire Department held its annual Christmas Party last Saturday night at the Friona Senior Citizens Center. Hens & Fins of Lubbock catered the meal for the attendees which included

fire fighters, family, friends, and invited guests.

Fire Chief Danny Campbell presented various service pins and announced that the recipient of the Ralph Shirley Award for 2022 Friona Fire

Fighter of Year was Gary Stowers. Gary was unable to attend the event.

Special awards were also presented to Chuck Teague and Glenn Reeve.

Chuck is retiring after 30

years of service and Glenn Reeve was recognized for his 67+ years of service. The special awards were handmade by fire department members and brothers Jim Taylor and John Taylor.

The Friona Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank everyone for their support during the past year including the gun raffle. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Fire Chief Danny Campbell and Glenn Reeve



Fire Chief Danny Campbell and Chuck Teague

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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 8-14	T 62   29 W 20-30	F 59   34 SSW 10-20	S 57   35 SSW 10-15	S 62   38 WSW 15-25	M 60   34 SW 20-30	T 48   24 WNW 20-30	W 44   23 WNW 10-20	Precipitation December 0.10 Year 10.70	Burn Ban <b>No</b>
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**Community Calendar**

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

**December 8**

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

**December 12**

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

**December 13**

• Packing bags for Snack Pak at 2:30 p.m. at the north entrance of Friona United Methodist Church and volunteers are always welcome!  
• Christmas Band Concert at Jr. High Auditorium

**December 14**

• Library Book Shop at 618 Euclid is open from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

**December 15**

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center  
• Early release from school for students

**December 16**

• Early Release from school for everyone

**December 19**

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center  
• Friona Noon Lions meet at The Farmwife Kitchen

**State Capital Highlights**

By Gary Borders



**Patrick lays out legislative priorities**

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick outlined his goals for the upcoming legislative session, calling them “general concepts,” according to the Austin American-Statesman.

With an estimated \$27 billion surplus, the Legislative Budget Board voted last week to boost the Legislature’s spending capacity by 12.3% — the largest increase allowed under the state constitution. But that still leaves the Legislature having about \$14.5 billion in the piggy bank above its spending limit.

Consequently, property tax reduction is one of Patrick’s priorities. He is calling for a hike in the homestead property tax exemption from \$40,000 to \$60,000, as well as an expansion of personal property exemptions for businesses, the Statesman reported.

Other priorities include strengthening the state’s power grid, boosting border security and law enforcement measures, such as increasing pay for sheriffs and a 10-year mandatory minimum sentence for anyone who uses a gun while committing a crime.

Patrick stressed that the Legislature has the ultimate say.

“So much of what I’m laying out today is not specific, because it’s really up to the members to write the bills in the Senate and the House,” Patrick said. “It’s good that the Legislature is back. We have an extraordinary opportunity, like we have never had before, to chart the future of the state of Texas.”

Rainy Day Fund, highways get boost from oil, gas revenues

A significant amount of the state’s current surplus is coming from oil and gas industry tax revenues, with the latest contribution being \$7.3 billion split equally between the Rainy Day Fund and the State Highway Fund. A 2014 constitutional amendment mandates that 75% of oil and gas tax revenue that exceeds the amount collected in 1987 be split evenly between the two funds.

“Revenue from the oil and gas industry is what’s in the Rainy Day Fund, accounts for billions to the State Highway Fund, and contributes to state funds that pay for schools, universities, and first responders,” Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Wayne Christian said.

**Report: Private border wall could collapse**

A U.S. Department of Justice report kept secret for more than a year and produced by the global engineering firm Arcadis concludes a private border wall along the Rio Grande in Hidalgo County is in danger of collapsing if the area receives extreme flooding.

The report, obtained by ProPublica and The Texas Tribune, concludes the wall built by Fisher Industries doesn’t meet basic international building code and industry standards. Its foundation is far shallower than previous border walls built by the federal government.

The feds reached a settlement with Fisher Industries last May requiring that the fence be inspected quarterly, that bollards be removed, and that a gate be maintained to allow for the release of floodwaters.

An attorney for Fisher Industries said the company “strongly disagrees” with the report. However, several civil engineering experts say the settlement ignores the report’s conclusions. Alex Mayer, a civil engineering professor at the University of Texas at El Paso, said the agreement overlooks what he termed the wall’s flawed design, as pointed out by the report.

“It just shows the shoddiness of the whole effort. It worries me even more,” Mayer said.

The two news organizations spent 15 months trying to obtain the Arcadis report, which confirms their earlier reporting about the privately built wall’s potential flaws.

**Texas traffic congestion increased in 2021**

Delays on the state’s most crowded roadways grew last year, though they are still below pre-pandemic gridlock levels, according to the latest study by the Texas A&M Transportation Institute. The institute has conducted the study annually since 2009.

This year’s “winner” for most gridlocked stretch is Houston’s West Loop, which held onto the title it garnered the previous year. Rounding out the top five of roadways one might consider avoiding if possible are the Woodall Rogers Freeway in Dallas; Interstate 35 in Austin; and Houston’s Eastex and Southwest Freeways.

Researchers say traffic delays cost

a ton of money in lost time and wasted fuel – more than \$3.8 billion on the state’s busiest road sections last year, though that is about 10% lower than pre-pandemic levels.

Delays are not confined to the state’s largest cities. Gridlock affects areas of all sizes, according to the institute, which has compiled a complete list of 1,860 road segments in 23 urban regions across Texas. The list can be found at [mobility.tamu.edu](http://mobility.tamu.edu).

**Lawmakers sign NDAs to get Uvalde info**

A half-dozen Texas lawmakers signed nondisclosure agreements to obtain investigative records from the Texas Department of Public Safety concerning the May shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde that have thus far been kept secret from the public.

The Austin American-Statesman reported that state Sen. Roland Gutierrez, D-San Antonio, whose district includes Uvalde, was one of the six. Others include Sens. Royce West, Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa and Paul Bettencourt, and Reps. Dustin Burrows and Tracy King, according to the DPS. Most of the agreements were signed in June or July.

Since the shooting, which killed 19 students and two teachers, parents and others have fought for investigative records that might explain the failed law enforcement response at the school. A coalition of media outlets, including the Statesman, have sued seeking the public release of information from DPS.

**COVID-19 cases rise in state**

The number of COVID-19 cases in the past week in Texas rose to 21,026, with 43 deaths reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. That is more than double the number of new cases reported the previous week. There are 1,750 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations throughout the state — also an increase, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

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](mailto:gborders@texaspress.com).

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**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](mailto:comments@whitehouse.gov)  
Senator: John Cornyn, 517 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-2934, fax 202-228-2856.  
Senator: Ted Cruz B40B Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-5922.  
Representative: Jodey Arrington, 2019 Longworth, House Office Building, 202-225-4005. Lubbock District Office, 1312 Texas Ave. #219, Lubbock, TX 79401. Abilene District Office, 500 Chestnut St. #819, Abilene, TX 79602  
**State**  
Governor: Greg Abbott, Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 12428, Austin, Tx 78711-2428, 512-463-2000.  
Senator: Kel Seliger, P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, Tx 78711. 512-463-0131. Amarillo office; P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, 79105. 806-374-8994.  
Representative: John T. Smithee, Room CAPIW.10, Capitol P.O. Box 2910, Austin, Tx 78768. 512-463-0702. fax 512-476-7016. Amarillo office; 320 So. Polk, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Lobby Box 28, Amarillo 79101. 806-372-3327, fax 806-342-0327.

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**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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P-1615  
solution on page 3

**ACROSS**  
1 Garden City is seat of Glass \_\_\_\_\_ County  
5 archaic “soon”  
6 softest mineral found in Texas  
7 TXism: “got \_\_\_\_\_ in the oven” (pregnant)  
8 British mother  
9 org. for academic psychology  
12 TXism: “skinny as \_\_\_\_\_”  
17 “trees” in Spanish  
19 military NCO  
21 Stamford’s “Texas Cowboy \_\_\_\_\_”  
22 TXism: “tight enough to pick a \_\_\_\_\_” (good fence)  
23 Texas tennis teams can raise funds with a “\_\_\_\_\_ -thon”  
28 ooze  
29 catch one’s breath  
30 Queen Elizabeth II had \_\_\_\_\_ of 70 years  
31 audience reaction at a comedy club  
35 TXism: “got \_\_\_\_\_ under his saddle” (irritable)  
36 “The Big Tree” at Goose Island is the \_\_\_\_\_ state (live oak)  
42 TXism: “numerous as ants on \_\_\_\_\_”  
44 rub out  
46 TXism: “about \_\_\_\_\_ Red River mud” (confusing)  
48 TX-born Ann Doran 1955 film: “Rebel Without \_\_\_\_\_”  
49 dir. from Buna to Orange  
50 prefix meaning “large”  
51 TXism: “down to \_\_\_\_\_ and bones” (thin)  
52 TXism: “shin \_\_\_\_\_” (party)  
53 TX “Cactus Jack” said the vice-presidency “\_\_\_\_\_ worth a bucket of warm spit”  
54 TX Garrison who won 1988 Olympic medals in tennis  
56 TXism: “\_\_\_\_\_ New York second” (quick)  
57 where many Texans fought, for short  
58 lamb’s mom  
**DOWN**  
1 Ruff Rider Regatta, e.g. (2 wds.)  
2 TXism: “loud as boot heels \_\_\_\_\_ floor”  
3 seat of Colorado County  
4 Corpus Christi FM  
9 falsehood (2 wds.)  
10 TX Patrick Swayze was this periodical’s 1991 “Sexiest Man Alive” (2 wds.)  
11 fed. ID no.  
12 Texas “fire \_\_\_\_\_”  
13 drilling rig workers  
14 Santa \_\_\_\_\_, Texas  
15 a lake in South Texas never \_\_\_\_\_ over in the winter  
16 many Texas towns are encircled by one  
18 TXism: “more than \_\_\_\_\_ way to skin a cat” (alternative)  
20 Texas “Monkee,” Nesmith (init.)  
23 “Alamo City” init.  
24 Astro Verlander stat.  
25 country singer McEntire  
26 “widow” in Spanish  
27 fancy word for “exit”  
32 TXism: “old \_\_\_\_\_ sin”  
33 Longhorn univ. in Austin  
34 U.S. Army soldier  
36 “O” of IOU  
37 good farming soil  
38 a Houston doctor who had a national television spot: “\_\_\_\_\_ Duke”  
39 TX Sam Bass was a \_\_\_\_\_ robber  
40 what a ghost might do in the house where he died?  
41 suffix denoted the female gender  
43 state I.D.  
45 boot width  
47 on highway 496, ten miles northwest of Fort Worth  
48 largest continent  
55 TXism: “he’s on a first \_\_\_\_\_ basis with the bottom of the deck” (card cheat)



# COURTHOUSE NOTES

Susie Spring, County Clerk

## Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from November 24, 2022 to December 1, 2022

(11/29/22) Mario Alejandro Lara, Nora Ramirez Lara — Legacy Capital LLC — The North 10 Feet of Lot 30, All of Lots 31 and 32, of Block 44, Original Town of Farwell, Parmer County Texas

(11/29/22) Mario Lara, Nora Lara — Legacy Capital LLC — All of That Part 14, and 15 Lying South of U.S. Highway 70-84, in Section 33, Township 9 South, Range 1 East of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision in Parmer County Texas

(11/29/22) Cecilia Giron Tresban, Sandra Gay Howard — Brandon Foster, Jalaina Foster — A Tract of Land in the Southeast Part of Lot 50, Section 31, T9S, R1E, Capitol Syndicate Subdivision, Parmer County Texas

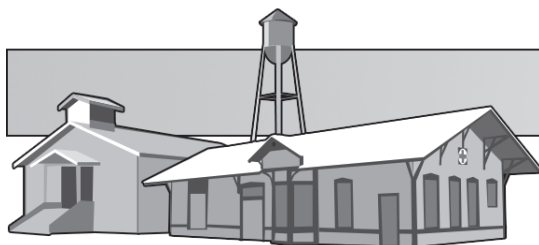
(11/30/22) Paco Feedyard LLC — Bovina Feeders Inc. — All of Section 25, Township 6 South, Range 3 East, Capitol Syndicate Subdivision, Parmer County, Texas

(12/1/22) Carl Kirkland — Brandon Lunsford — All of Lots 17, 18, and 19 of Block 37 of the Original Town of Farwell in Parmer County Volume 2 Page 499 in Parmer County, Texas

(12/1/22) Carl Kirkland — Brandon Lunsford — All of Lot 9 and 10, of Block 1, of the Hillcrest Addition to the City of Farwell, Parmer County, Texas; More Tracts on Document

(12/1/22) Judy Browning, James Snitker, John Snitker — Jacob Fehr, Justina Fehr — All of Lots 10, 11, 12 in Block Number 15, Original Town of Enochs, Bailey County

(12/1/22) Patrick McBrook — Ana C. Castillo — Lot 3, Block 3, 1st Addition to West Loop Drive, City of Friona, Parmer County, Texas



# TOWN TALK

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

**Music to Our Ears** — Thanks to WT Services providing Wi-Fi in the city park for the Christmas in the Park festivities on Monday evening. It allowed Christmas music to be played during the entire event. ★★★

**Prairie/Legacy News** — Beverly Hall is the Prairie Acres Resident of the Month for December. The Employee of the Month for December is Issac Eubanks who works in the nursing department and has been on staff since February of 2022. ★★★

**Schedule A Tea Time** — A new Christmas tradition is being launched in Hereford with a series of holiday high teas at the historic E.B. Black House. Morning and afternoon high tea will be served at

the Black House at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. December 9th & 10th and 16th & 17th. Contact the Deaf Smith Chamber at 806-364-3333 to make reservations for high tea as soon as possible. Admission for the festivities is \$25. ★★★

**Time 2 Laugh** — (1) How many times can you subtract 10 from 100? Once. The next time you would be subtracting 10 from 90. (2) Why did the M&M go to school? It wanted to be a Smartie. Source: <https://www.rd.com/list/short-jokes>. ★★★

**Setting the Agenda** — Representatives Jodey Arrington (TX-19) and Chip Roy (TX-21) are hosting a press conference at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 8th with Republi-

can members of the Texas delegation to unveil their border security agenda, "A Commitment to Secure the Border, a Framework by Texans for Texas," for the 118th Congress. ★★★

**On the Horizon** — There are multiple projects in the works for 2023. Phase 3 of the Ashland building project is getting ready to start as well as the housing project just west of Legacy Pointe. O'Reilly's Auto Parts is on schedule to build their new store.

Remodeling of the Modern Study Club building is underway. Also two daycare centers are being planned as well as a cardboard recycling facility. Stay tuned. ★★★

**Sick and/or Tired** — Many students and teachers have missed school the past few weeks because of the many illnesses going around. Up to 80 or more students have been absent at the Elementary School.

### National Days

- December 8 — Brownie Day
- December 9 — Christmas Card Day
- December 10 — Dewey Decimal System Day
- December 11 — App Day
- December 12 — Poinsettia Day
- December 13 — National Guard Day
- December 14 — Monkey Day

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## Engagement



### Jacob Osborn - Tiffani Barkley

Robert and Jo Osborn are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Jacob Osborn, to Tiffani Barkley, daughter of Kerri and Barry Barkley of Perryton.

Grandmother of the prospective groom is Joy Osborn of Friona. Grandparents of the bride-elect are Les Barkley of Gruver and Sandie and Vic Martindale of Amarillo.

Jacob graduated from Friona High School in 2014 and West Texas A&M University in 2018 with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He is currently a Distribution Engineer for Xcel Energy in Amarillo.

Tiffani graduated from Perryton High School in 2016 and West Texas A&M University in 2020 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. She is currently a dance instructor at Perryton Dance Academy and the Edge in Amarillo. She also assists at the In His Hands Preschool in Canyon.

A March 2023 wedding is planned.

### Puzzle Solution

S-1615

We have just enough time before... ...the holidays to make our presents. Kids: color stuff in!

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2022 V49

Chatter and I are teaming up to make all of our holiday gifts this year. I'm using my computer to help. I will write stories and recipes, draw pictures and then print out my work. Next, Chatter will decorate the pages and bind them into books or make other fun items. We can't wait to start!

**Gifts to make - by computer or by hand:**

- if you have photos or postcards from a trip, you can make a travel \_\_\_\_\_
- think of a theme (like "winter fun"), make a crossword or word search \_\_\_\_\_; roll it up and tie it with a ribbon
- make \_\_\_\_\_ for photos or drawings
- tie together pieces of cardboard or buy a \_\_\_\_\_ in which to put photos, school papers
- write tales and make drawings, print them out and make them into a book of \_\_\_\_\_

## The Gift of Giving

Fill in the missing vowels to name items that you can use to decorate or make your gifts:

ST \_ CK \_ RS      Y \_ RN  
R \_ BB \_ NS  
SP \_ RKL \_ S      B \_ TT \_ NS  
C \_ L \_ R \_ D      P \_ P \_ R

stationery      scrapbook

stories      coloring

recipe      journal

frames      bookmarks

calendar

puzzle

I make wrapping paper by decorating paper bags!

I'm going to paint, glue and make a big, fun mess on the kitchen table!

I'm making all of my gifts by hand.

pen  
glue  
ruler  
string  
pencils  
photos  
scissors

### Kinds of Gifts

Gifts show joy and caring. It takes time to think about gifts and to make, buy and wrap them. A present tells people that they are important to you. It also makes you feel good when the people receiving your gifts smile as they open or enjoy them! 1

**There are many kinds of gifts! Read the clues to fill the puzzle:**

- ask a new classmate to an event
- offer to sew, repair items or to shovel walks
- tell jokes, amusing tales, share comics
- listen, talk, put groceries away, have tea
- sing or play an instrument
- water plants, help with pets
- thoughtful items that people need
- lets someone choose his own gift

### No More Stuff! Gifts in Name Only!

Some people just don't want or need any more stuff. So, think about giving them a gift in "name only." You can let them know about the gift with a card! This list will get you thinking. **Can you match up my ideas?**

- to be planted in a schoolyard or park
- money for kids to go to school or college
- to pantries or soup kitchens
- to families in need in other countries to feed themselves or start businesses
- donation to keep people warm
- to children's hospitals

A. money for research and health care  
B. food or groceries  
C. cows, chicks, goats  
D. tree, bush, flowers  
E. heating oil  
F. scholarship or fund

### Put-Together Gifts

Not everyone likes to make gifts. Sometimes we just run out of time or our budgets are small.

Here are gifts that you can "put together." Think about items that go well together — for example, a movie rental coupon and popcorn — then buy or gather them together. Next, find a box, bag, basket, tin or other container to hold your gift. Add a bow or card.

One Dozen Ideas

- coloring or puzzle books; crayons or pencils
- tea bags, coffee, cookies
- jar of jelly, cheese, crackers
- car wash, polish, sponge or mitt, bucket
- pine cone bird feeders, bird seed
- ink pads, rubber stamps, paper
- golf balls, tees, score cards
- hot chocolate packets, marshmallows
- soaps, bath powder, wash cloth
- pears, apples, oranges, grapes
- model cars, planes, trains; paints and brushes
- nuts, spicy snacks, chili mixes



# Small Town Cookin' By Jeri Lynn White

## National Brownie Day

Here is a recipe to help you survive National Brownie Day on December 8th. This looks like a good one. Hope you enjoy it.

**Seriously Fudgy Homemade Brownies**  
www.sallysbakingaddiction.com

### Ingredients

- 3/4 cup (12 Tbsp; 175g) unsalted butter
- one 4 ounce (113g) semi-sweet chocolate bar, coarsely chopped\*
- 2 cups (400g) granulated sugar\*
- 3 large eggs, at room temperature
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 1 cup (82g) unsweetened natural or dutch-process cocoa powder\*
- 1 cup (125g) all-purpose flour (spoon & leveled)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- optional: 1 and 1/4 cups (225g) semi-sweet chocolate chips

### Instructions

Preheat the oven to 350°F (177°C) and grease a 9x13 inch pan or line with aluminum foil or parchment paper, leaving an overhang on the sides to lift the finished brownies out (makes cutting easier!). Set aside. In a microwave-safe bowl, combine the butter and 2 ounces of chopped chocolate. Melt in 30 second increments, whisking after each, until completely smooth. Whisk in the sugar until completely

combined, then whisk in the eggs and vanilla. The batter will be light brown and a little dull looking. Add the cocoa powder, flour, salt, remaining 2 ounces of chopped chocolate and the chocolate chips. Fold it all together with a rubber spatula or wooden spoon. Batter will be very thick. Spread evenly into prepared pan. Bake for 30 minutes, then test the brownies with a toothpick. Insert it into the center of the



pan. If it comes out with wet batter, the brownies are not done. If there are only a few moist crumbs, the brownies are done. Keep checking every 2 minutes until you have moist crumbs. My brownies take 31-32 minutes. Remove from the oven and place on a wire rack to cool completely in the pan before cutting into squares. Cover and store leftover brownies at room temperature for up to 1 week.

## Check Your Mirrors

By Sue Jane Sullivan



### It Was Said

Podcast alert.

Audio blogs, as they were originally called, gained momentum in 2004 as broadband internet access increased. Podcasting in 2022 gives listeners shows about financial advice, history, true crime, self-help, current events, religion, sports commentary, cooking, and education. Some are just fun and funny. I've mentioned some I enjoy in a previous column, and now I'd like to give you another recommendation.

Before you older folks

think this medium is not for you, please reconsider. I am in that category myself and have found it to be user and listener friendly. Your smart phone probably comes with the podcast app. It is a purple icon. Click on it, do some searching involving your interests, and I bet you a podcast is out there to suit your fancy. Most are free; some are through a provider such as Wondery which might run you \$4.99 a month and is commercial or ad-free. I don't mind the ads, so I

listen for free.

My new favorite is one called *It Was Said*, hosted by Pulitzer-Prize winning writer/historian Jon Meacham. In this podcast, which is now into Season Two, Meacham narrates the stories and people behind some powerful speeches. Many of the speeches are not as well-known as *The Gettysburg Address* or John F. Kennedy's inauguration address in 1961. Rather, Meacham highlights the orations of well-known world figures giving speeches that may not be in history books.

A good historian's lens is one of balancing objectivity with subjectivity. Meacham does not reflect a calculated bias but more of an appreciation for speeches that tell us what we need to hear. From Margaret Thatcher's unpopular economic policies, Meacham recalls her address called *The Lady's Not for Turning*. Lis-

teners hear Great Britain's first woman Prime Minister spell out the most concise argument for conservatism. Kennedy's 1962 speech at Rice University makes the Meacham cut, too. *We Choose to Go to the Moon* puts in motion a dream which becomes a reality. Words can do that.

Margaret Chase Smith and Nelson Mandela are included in Meacham's Season Two podcast, too. Smith, the first woman U.S. Senator, took on Joseph McCarthy in 1950 with *The Declaration of Conscience*. On another continent a decade later, Mandela told a jury *I Am Prepared to Die* before being sentenced to Robben Island.

A podcast's success depends on a good voice. Meacham carries that weight. But make no mistake that the real stars of the show are the words which mattered then and continue to resonate today.

## Gas prices fall again

By GasBuddy

Average gasoline prices in Texas fell 11.3 cents last week, averaging \$2.71 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Prices in Texas are 43.5 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 20.1 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas was priced at \$2.29 while the most expensive was \$4.49 per gallon.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 15.8 cents in the last week, averaging \$3.36 per gallon. The national average is down 43.0 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 1.5 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 13.6 cents in the last week and stands at \$5.06 per gallon.

"For the first time in 670 days, the national average price of gasoline has fallen below its year-ago level, dropping for the fourth straight week to its lowest level since January," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

De Haan continued, "Every state has again seen average gasoline prices drop in the last week, and it remains very possible the national average could fall under \$3 per gallon by Christmas. There has also been a drop in diesel prices, which this week will fall back under \$5 per gallon, and could soon thereafter fall to their lowest level since March. However, despite all the good news about fuel prices, there may be some concerns coming as the price cap on Russian oil kicks in. Retaliation is possible, and while OPEC+ upheld production cuts from last month, they could always cut more production. For now, however, we'll likely see another week of declines at the pump in nearly all areas."

GasBuddy data is compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

## Friona ISD Notice of Public Meeting

A public meeting will be held during the Friona ISD Board Meeting on Monday, December 12, 2022, at 7 p.m.

The purpose of this part of the board meeting will be to discuss Friona ISD's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

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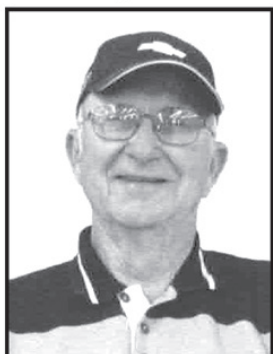


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# Already Here?!?!

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Maybe I'm just getting older, or maybe time really is flying by, but I found myself thinking "Is Christmas already here?!?!?" It just seems like a couple of weeks ago that we were singing Joy to the World and Away in a Manger, and now it is time to sing the wonderful carols again. Jesus' birth took place in God's perfect timing, but I wonder if Mary and Joseph found themselves saying, "He's Already Here?!?!" as they were in Bethlehem.

Jesus came the first time about 2,000 years ago, but Jesus is coming back again. I don't know exactly when, but it could be any day. He came the first

time as a humble servant on a mission to save us from our sins, but when he comes again it will be as the reigning and conquering king. I wonder if Jesus came back today, how many people would be saying "He's already here?!?!," because they didn't turn from their sin and trust Christ to save them. How scary to stand before God and be haunted by one's apathy and sloth in spiritual things, condemning one's soul to hell. Wherever you are, whatever you think, know that Jesus came to save us from our sins (Matthew 1:21), so don't delay any longer, because one day it will be too late.

## Panhandle Parables

# Night of Anticipation

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

I have many childhood memories of Christmas. Like many of you, memories flood the mind this time of year. I remember making lists, hinting about this toy or that, leaving pictures watching the calendar as each day peeled of with the speed of December molasses. Until there it was the 24th of December the longest day of the entire year. Preparations were made and then off to bed it was the night of anticipation. Sleeping came with great difficulty, each noise would cause me to quickly look at the clock, 12:07am. I would fade until I thought I heard something else, 12:19am the clock would remind. At some point running on adrenalin would wear me out and then next thing I knew it WAS TIME. Out of bed we would fly and head to the living room

to see what all had happened in our slumber.

Many, many years ago Bethlehem would finally fall to sleep, except in one little stable where there was much activity. I am not sure of the day, but it matters little, there was great anticipation by a man named Joseph and his young bride Mary. All had been foretold and by faith they accepted this gift from above. Angels watched on in wonder as did I suspect a few others who shared their home with this couple for the night. The day had finally come, and the Christ child arrived with little fanfare. There were no gifts, no tree with lights, just swaddling and hay, but there was one gift and He was it. A gift from God to all mankind. Angels would sing, shepherds would be astounded, and Joseph and Mary would

embark on a life like no other had ever known.

Jesus would be the light that would ignite a fire in the darkness. He would be Savior of the world yet die alone that darkness would forever be defeated. He would be buried in a borrowed tomb and rise again. Some 50 days later He would leave the earth with a two-fold promise. He would be with us always and one day He would return to claim His own. So, here we are those who believe live in great anticipation not for just one night a year, but every night believing and knowing one day He will return as He had promised. My encouragement to you this day is to seize it for all its worth, love more deeply, forgive more quickly and always look forward to His return on this night of anticipation.

# Peace

By Teena Hughs

When I started researching Advent, I thought I would find the season acknowledged the same way by each denomination. I have found that not to be the case. Advent is a tradition, and there doesn't appear to be a set-in-stone way to experience Advent.

Even though I didn't find what I expected, everyone agrees that the purpose of Advent is to remind us that in the busyness of this season, we are to focus on the birth of Jesus and His Second Coming.

This week we are focusing on the Peace Candle. Isaiah 9:6 tells us Jesus would come to be the Prince of Peace. The word peace is the Hebrew word shalom which means completeness or well being. In part, Jesus came to make us complete by saving us from our sinfulness. In the book, Not the Way It's Supposed to Be, "shalom is, in essence, how things are meant to be: a slice of Heaven."

According to Hope Bolinger, "One of the hallmarks of the Christmas story is when the angels appear to the shepherds and proclaim, 'Peace on earth,' in Luke 2:14.

"Jesus brought about peace, in the most unexpected ways, when He arrived. The Jews, particularly the zealots, wanted a rebellion. They wanted their Savior to overturn the oppressive rule of the Romans and bring about peace in a violent way." But, Jesus brings us peace in different ways.

According to Gail Rodgers, "Inner peace begins with a relationship with God, and it continues as we focus on His strength and trust Him to fill us...If inner peace is eluding you these days and anxiety is spilling over in your life, choose to trust God. You can choose to put your hand in His and draw from His patience through the maze of life if you ask Him.

Choosing to trust God with those blind corners in your life will take you down the road to inner peace. Choosing not to trust Him will take you down the road to stress and worry. Inner peace is there for the choosing."

Peace with others is another way Jesus brings us peace. Matthew 5:9 says, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called the children of God." Rodgers says, "Peace with others begins as we understand that God has called us to be peacemakers in our world. Is there somewhere in your own world where you can be a peacemaker this Christmas? Is there an invitation that needs to be extended to smooth over a fractured family relationship? Is there an apology to be made or a silence to be broken that has stood as a barrier for too long? Don't miss the blessing God promises in your life as you respond to His call to be a peacemaker in your own circle. We can help bring peace to our world one heart at a time."

For me, peace comes from reading the Bible. Bolinger says that, "Peace from God, biblical peace, allows us to trust in God's promises through restful, tranquil faith, despite the dark, scary world around us."

Biblical peace also "guards our hearts from the devil" (Philippians 4:7); "brings us joy" (Proverbs 12:20); "is a blessing from God" (Psalm 29:11); "assists us during dire circumstances" (Isaiah 54:10).

At the conclusion of her article, Bolinger asks God to, "keep us in perfect peace as our mind is stayed on the truth of Your powerful hand...Help us to trust fully in You and rest in the peace that you offer." May we all continue to focus on the birth and Second Coming of Jesus, and may we choose to trust God and rest in the peace that only He offers!

Send your church news to the

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# Area Church Directory

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Website-www.fbcfriona.com

**FRIONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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Rev. David McGaughy  
Email-frionaum@wtrt.net  
Website-www.frionaumc.com

**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**  
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Pastors Mark & Mary Goff

**SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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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**  
10<sup>th</sup> & Euclid • 806-250-5236  
Gerall Wyly

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
1601 Euclid • 806-250-3635

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

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## Bovina

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
308 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
806-251-1632  
Pastor Frank Landry

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

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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806-251-1124  
Pastor Larry Mitchell

**ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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806-251-1511  
Pastor Gregory Bunyan

**LA IGLESIA DE DIOS DEL PRIMOGENITO**  
The Church of God of the Firstborn  
102 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

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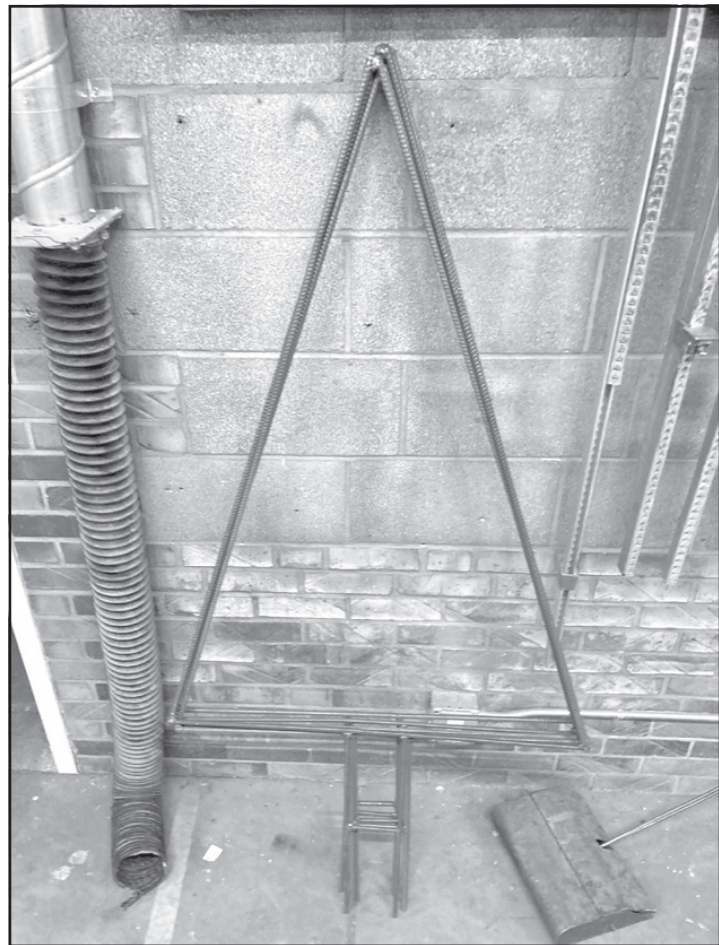
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# FFA NEWS



It's that time of year again! Friona FFA is selling Christmas tree yard ornaments for twenty dollars apiece. They look great in your yard with lights wrapped around them. There are not many left so if you are interested contact advisor Lonnie Born at 580-461-8295, or drop by the Ag shop to pick one up. If you live in the Friona or Hereford area we can also deliver them to you. This is first come first serve, so let us know if you are interested!



On Monday evening, Friona FFA participated in the Christmas at the Park festivities which included helping kids write to Santa as well as participate in a parade. Our float placed 2nd. Also, some of our CNC cutouts were used for a border around the tree in the park which turned out really nice. This was made by our members Kenneth Morales and Heston Grimsley. It was a fun evening!

# Sports News



The Friona Chieftains finished in 4th place at the Whiteface Basketball Tournament last week. The Chiefs were 2-2 in the tourney and Kaden Jeter had a total of 85 points for the 4 games. He was named to the All-Tournament team.

## ★ Scoreboard ★

### Varsity Boys Basketball

Tuesday 11/29

Highland Park	18	12	8	11	49
Friona	9	9	5	8	31

Kaden Jeter 17 points, Justen Trevino 7 points

Whiteface Tournament:

12/1/22

Hart	11	13	14	11	49
Friona	23	11	11	13	58

Kaden Jeter 25 points, Jose Luis Saucedo 11 points, Johnny Gonzalez 10 points

12/1/22

Loop	4	4	21	10	39
Friona	11	13	9	11	44

Kaden Jeter 27 points, Jose Luis Saucedo 13 points

12/2/22

Whiteface	16	19	15	9	59
Friona	7	5	11	8	31

Kaden Jeter 20 points, Jose Luis Saucedo 6 points

12/3/22

Silverton	7	8	6	19	40
Friona	8	7	14	3	32

Kaden Jeter 13 points

Friona finished 4th in the tournament.  
Kaden Jeter was named All-Tournament.



## Deaf Smith Electric Co-op Directors Achieve Credential in Today's Electric Utility Competencies

Two directors from Deaf Smith Electric Co-operative recently received the Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate from the National Rural Electric Co-operative Association (NRECA).

Michael Carlson from Vega, a director since 2016, and Robert Boozer from Dimmitt, a director since 2021, have demonstrated understanding of the basic competencies contained in five core courses:

- Director Duties and Liabilities
- Understanding the Electric Business
- Board Operations and Process
- Strategic Planning
- Financial Decision Making

"This credential is the educational baseline for co-op boards across the country. It's the first



Michael Carlson

of a three-part Director Education Program focused on fulfilling their fiduciary duty as elected officials," said Tim Burkhalter, President and General Manager of DSEC. "Our directors work tirelessly on behalf of the members they serve, and continuing their cooperative education is a big part of that."

An ever-changing business environment

has imposed new demands on electric cooperative directors, requiring increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills and a solid knowledge of the cooperative principles and business model. DSEC has a commitment to work through NRECA to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of their electric cooperative consumer-owners.

NRECA represents the nation's more than 900 private, consumer-owned electric cooperatives, which provide electric service to more than 42 million people in 47 states.

Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative is a distribution cooperative with headquarters in Hereford, serving portions of Castro, Deaf



Robert Boozer

Smith, Oldham and Parmer counties on the high plains. Founded in 1937, the service area includes about 4,652 miles of line and over 2,600 members.



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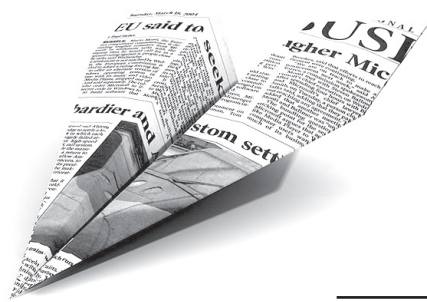
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**FRIONA FLASHBACKS**  
From the Friona Star Archives



SPECIAL LETTER...John Schueler, son of Holly and Gene Schueler is shown putting his Letter to Santa in one of the special boxes at Friona Elementary School. Youngsters are urged to write to Santa early, so that their letter can be included in the Friona Star's Christmas edition. (Friona Star, Saturday, December 12, 1992)



Edna at the Post Office helped the Friona Star package the Santa letters and get them in the mail to the North Pole.



Work is underway at the Women's Federated Clubhouse just north of the Methodist Church. The rock exterior was removed and will be repurposed.

*You are cordially invited to  
a Retirement Reception*  
\*\*\*\*\*

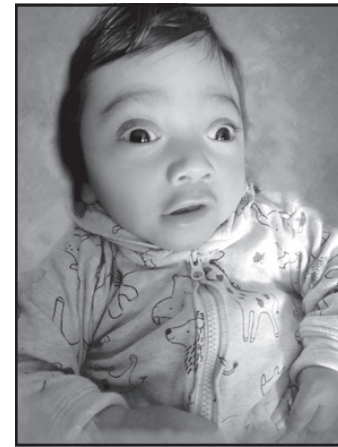
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**Judge Trey Ellis**  
\*\*\*\*\*

*For his 14 years of dedicated Judicial Service  
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*Wednesday December 28, 2022  
Courthouse 3rd Floor Conference Room  
401 3rd Street Farwell Texas  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
(No Gifts Please)*

Obituary

**Angel Perez**



Angel Perez, age 1 passed away December 3, 2022 in Friona. Viewing will begin at 5:00 PM, Services at 6:00 PM, Wednesday, December 9, 2022 at Iglesia La Nueva Jerusalén in Friona. Burial 10:00 AM Thursday, December 10, 2022 in Friona Cemetery by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona.

mother Petrona and brother Maynor, both of Friona, a brother Fulgencio Antonio and sister Maria Clara of Guatemala.

You may send blessings to the family and sign the online guest book at: [hansardfamily.com](http://hansardfamily.com)

to Petrona Perez Ortiz. Those to mourn his passing include his



**Friona★Star**  
has an archive of past obituaries at [frionaonline.com](http://frionaonline.com)

**Testimonial**

February 20th of this year saw my 30th year of employment at West Texas Rural Telephone/WT Services. What a pleasure and rewarding experience it has been to be a part of a progressive company such as ours. Growing and expanding from our West Texas Rural Copper only communication facilities in 1992 to our 2022 state-of-the-art Fiber Optic network in the communities of Hereford, Friona, Bovina, Bushland, and West Texas Rural has been a breathtaking experience to say the least. What I appreciate most about working at West Texas Rural Telephone/WT Services is best stated in our company's Culture Statement: "We cultivate a culture of excellence by delivering our very best in all we do, holding ourselves accountable for operating with integrity, professionalism, and innovation." This al-

lows growth in our employees and provides terrific services for our customers and neighbors. I am looking forward to what the future holds!



**Rich Kendrick**  
Lead Director of Accounting and Regulatory West Texas Rural Telephone/WT Services



*Santa is coming to Created with Purpose of West Texas*

*Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>*

*5pm - 7pm*

*Enjoy some hot chocolate and cookies while you hear a story.*

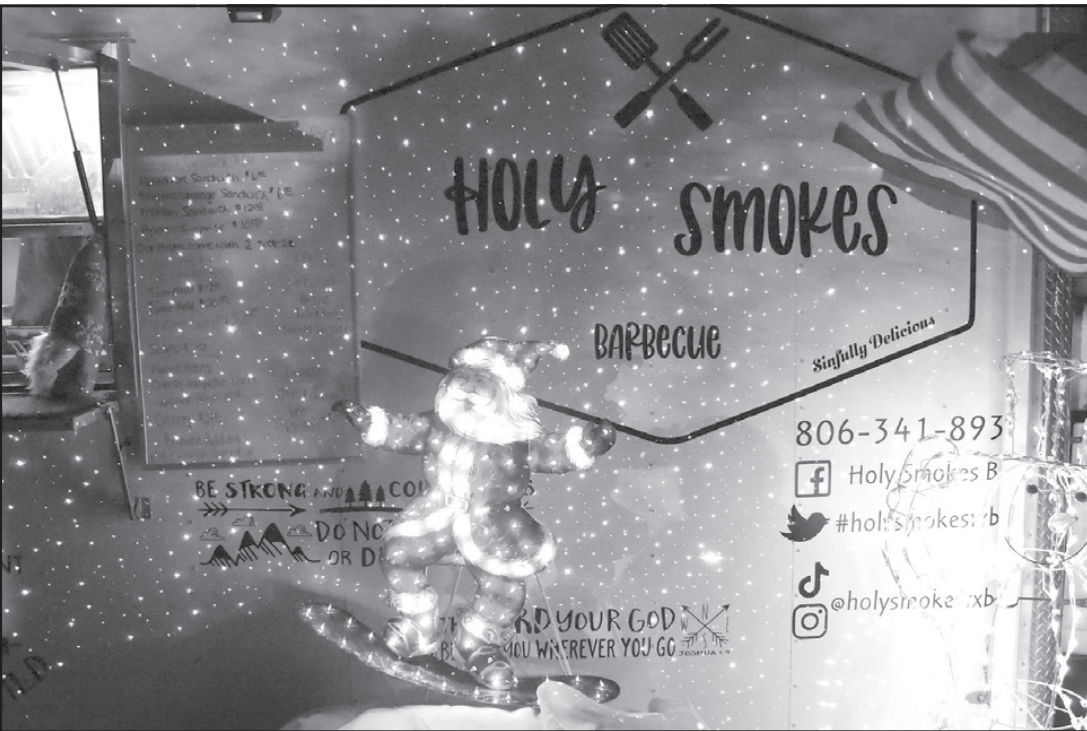
*Story will be read at 5pm and 6pm*

*Take pictures with Santa and receive a small gift*

*907 Hwy 86, Bovina, TX 79009*











# Christmas in Friona

A huge crowd turned out Monday evening for Christmas in the Park. The weather was mild and the spirit of Christmas was contagious. It was just a dog gone good time for "kids" of all ages. Merry Christmas, Friona!!! See Christmas in the Park photos at [www.frionaonline.com](http://www.frionaonline.com).



First Place - Cargill



2nd Place - FFA - Optima Dairy



3rd Place - Parmer Medical Center

