



Lopez selected to All-State team

Friona High School senior Anthony Lopez was selected as a member of the Padilla Poll Coaches 2022 All-State Team for Class 3A, Division II. Anthony earned a spot on the 2nd Team Defense as a Linebacker. He previously earned 1st Team All-District honors and was the second leading tackler for the Chieftains last season. Congratulations Anthony!!!

Cardboard recycling comes to Friona



A ribbon cutting ceremony was held last Friday at the new City of Friona cardboard recycling center. Mayor Greg Lewellen and City Manager Lee Davila were joined by a host of other officials which included (l-r): Emma Rector, Marca Herring, Daphne Morcom, Salvador Garcia, Mayor Lewellen, Andy Alexander, Manager Lee Davila, Alan Monroe, Cindy Moreno, Yvette Williams, Esmeralda Mills, Sherri Alger, Mari Martinez, and Sandra Busch. See more photos of the event on page 11.

Nominations are needed!!!

The 67th Annual Chamber Awards Banquet "There's No Place Like Home" is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7th, 2023. Now is the time to nominate a candidate for Man, Woman, Citizen, Employee, Teacher, Student, and Business of the Year! You can stop by the Chamber of Commerce office to pick up a nomination form or complete one online. Contact the office at 806-250-3491 for more information. The last day to enter nominations is Tuesday, February 14th.

Hay supply near 50-year low, prices near record highs

By Adam Russell

Hay supplies remain short and prices continue to rise as Texas cattle ranchers try to feed herds through winter. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Jan. 27 Texas Hay Direct Report priced large

round bales of good-to-premium Bermuda grass between \$70 and \$175 each with prices for the same quality hay reaching \$410 per ton in the Panhandle. Most counties across the state are reporting decent quality bales above \$100.

Deeper than usual culling in preparation of that winter feeding shrunk Texas cattle numbers and the national herd to lows not seen since 2012, said David Anderson, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension economist, Bryan College Station. Cattle producers expect good calf prices in the future but feeding cows until spring forages are

ready to graze is the concern now.

Anderson said drought and high fertilizer prices were the two major factors that led to near-record low hay production. Grass needs soil moisture to grow during the summer hay season, but pastures also need fertilizer, especially nitrogen, to maximize growth and yields.

Vanessa Corriher-Olson, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension forage specialist, Overton, said \$160 per bale was around the breakeven point during the 2022 season for hay producers who maintained pastures with average inputs due to the cost of fer-

tilizer, weed and pest control applications.

"It's no shock that hay prices are so high," she said. "The drought, poor range and pasture conditions and high feed costs have all worked together against producers."

Hay yields, supplies near 50-year low

Anderson said Texas pastures produced the lowest amount of hay since 2011. Hay yields averaged nearly 1.95 tons per acre over the last decade but totaled 1.56 tons per acre in 2022. Texas produced 4.44 million tons of hay in 2011 compared to 6.5 million tons in 2022.

Continued on page 2.



Creative Chaos celebrated its 10th Anniversary last Saturday with free tacos, fun prizes, and lots of discounts. Owner Adrianna Stowers would like to thank everyone that came by the store and helped celebrate the milestone. Creative Chaos is located at 603 Main St. in Friona and also at 2493 I-40 (Wolflin Village) in Amarillo. You can also shop online 24/7 at www.shopcreativechaos.com

Filing period open for May 6 general election

The candidate filing period is open for positions on the Friona Independent School District Board of Trustees, Friona City Council, and Parmer County Hospital District Board of Directors. **The filing period ends on Friday, February 17th at 5:00 p.m.** The general election will be held on Saturday, May 6th from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

The Fisd Board of Trustees has two positions up for election this year. The terms of Jamie Lewellen and Wade Schueler are expiring.

School board members serve three year terms. Anyone who is interested in filing for the election can contact Claudia Castillo at the Fisd administration office at 909 E, 11th, Friona Texas or call 250-2747.

There are three positions up for election on the city council. The terms of council members Bruce Fleming, Esmeralda Mills, and Alan Monroe are expiring. Council members serve two year terms. To file as a candidate, go by City Hall at 623 Main, Friona, Texas or call 250-2761

for information about the election.

The Parmer County Hospital District Board will have two positions open for election. The terms of Ricky Barnett and Danny Kendrick are expiring. Board members serve two year terms. Individuals interested in running for the hospital district board can contact Rocio Carrasco at Parmer Medical Center, 1307 Cleveland, Friona, Texas, call 250-2754 for information, or pick up forms at City Hall at 623 Main, Friona, Texas

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY	Town Talk Page 3	Church Page Page 5	Classified Page 7	Sports Page 8	Obituaries Page 11	
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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 February 9-15	T 39 19 N 25-35	F 45 23 NW 10-20	S 60 33 SW 15-25	S 66 32 SW 10-20	M 50 29 NE 10-20	T 58 34 W 15-25	W 56 24 WSW 20-30	Precipitation February 0.00 Year 0.55	Burn Ban Yes
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Community Calendar

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

February 9
• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

February 13
• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

February 14
• Valentine's Day
• Packing SP4K bags at 2:30 p.m. at Friona Methodist Church north door

February 15
• Library Book Shop at 618 Euclid is open from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

February 16
• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

February 17
• Last day for candidates to file for place in General Election
• Early school release for Students Only

February 20
• Presidents' Day
• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center
• Noon Lions Club meeting at The Farmwife Kitchen

Hay supply near 50-year low, prices near record highs

By Adam Russell

Continued from page 1.

The number of hay acres cut and baled was also down to 4.19 million compared to a 10-year average of almost 5 million acres.

U.S. hay production followed the Texas trend. According to the December 2022 hay stock reports, the 71.9 million tons of hay on hand was the smallest amount since the USDA began tracking forage supplies in 1973. Texas hay supplies were 37% below the December 2021 report and other Plains states like Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska were all at least 30% below their stocks last year. Hay stocks in southeastern states were also down except for North Carolina.

"So, you have less hay production in Texas, but you also have less production in all the states around you that might be a source to have bales shipped

in," Anderson said.

Long-term outlook depends on rain, pasture management

Corriher-Olson said supplies are the concern now, but that pasture management will determine the long-term production in pastures. Many hay producers avoided input costs like fertilizer and herbicides during the drought. Some pastures received reduced fertilizer applications while other fields received nothing.

The reduced management and overgrazing during the drought could cost producers this season, she said. Whatever the case may be, Corriher-Olson said hay producers should be ready to capitalize on appropriate management, whether that is applying fertilizer or monitoring and treating weeds and pests like fall armyworms.

Cutting corners now could

hurt future calf crops

Jason Cleere, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist, Bryan-College Station, said high grain prices have compounded the short supply of hay and high winter feed prices.

Whatever producers incorporate into their winter feeding plans, Cleere said they need to maintain cow body condition scores well enough to ensure those cows are ready to breed following this spring calving season.

"It's a challenging year, but indications point toward extremely good prices for next year's calf crop," he said. "I suspect producers are going to be short on hay if we don't get an early spring green-up. My main message would be: Don't cut too many corners now that you can't take advantage of good calf prices in the future."

State Capital Highlights

By Gary Borders



Fentanyl test strips backed by lawmakers

Test strips that would determine whether pills, powders, or other forms of drugs are laced with deadly fentanyl might be legalized, if a bipartisan group of lawmakers have their way.

The percentage of overdose deaths tied to fentanyl has risen to 97%, according to a report in the Austin American-Statesman. Gov. Gregg Abbott has ended his opposition to legalizing the strips, and several nearly identical bills have been filed in both the House and Senate as a result.

"They deserve action, action that will save other innocent families from the devastation they have suffered," Abbott said in January. "And they will get that action this session."

Legislators are also considering measures to increase the penalty for manufacturing or delivering fentanyl even in small amounts to a third-degree felony. Right now, it is a state jail felony.

Meanwhile, the state comp-

troller's office is being pushed to speed up distribution of more than \$1 billion in funds from the Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund, intended to mitigate the fentanyl crisis. The money comes from settlements with opioid manufacturers and distributors.

"We've somewhat sacrificed expediency in getting dollars out the door," Hegar said. "We have to create a system that treats everybody fairly and everybody understands the process."

DSHS data indicates 1,569 Texans died of a fentanyl-related overdose last year, according to the Statesman report.

Housing cost burden examined

The Texas Demographic Center has used census data to examine housing cost burdens in the state. That is when a household spends more than 30% of its monthly income on housing costs, including rent or mortgage payments, utilities and other costs.

The center concludes that counties with the highest percent of households dealing with housing cost burdens are in the so-called Texas Triangle along the Austin-San Antonio corridor, as well as some border counties.

The study found that nearly half of Texas renters - 1.7 million - spent more than 30% of their income on housing costs from 2017-2021, with a median monthly housing cost of \$1,146. Among homeowners, 21% experienced housing costs burden during the same period, with median monthly housing costs of \$1,747.

Texas ranked 10th in median gross rent from 2017-2021. Hawaii was the most expensive state, followed by California.

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.

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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: Kevin Sparks, P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711. 512-463-0131. Amarillo office: Historic Federal Building, 620 S. Taylor St., Suite 203, Amarillo, TX, 79101.
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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TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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P-1623
solution on page 3

ACROSS
1 Linden is the seat of this county
5 Paul Reubens was ___-wee
6 TX Bonnie & Clyde killed at least ___ people
7 Spurs' "Pop" was 3 times NBA "Coach of the ___"
8 a State Fair mo.
9 creator of cartoon "Cowpokes" (2 wds.)
16 TXism: "___ light idea" (inspiration)
18 Amarillo "Ranch" has ten of these buried nose-first
21 "In Dreams" TX singer Roy (init.)
22 a Columbus ship
23 this Masterson fought Indians in Texas
24 speak spitefully
30 this Air Command used at least 9 bases in Texas
34 SMU great Kyle Rote's suffix
35 in 2023, U.S. taxes ___ April 18
36 Cuero is seat of De ___ County
37 hubbub
39 TXism: "he's a ring- (party animal)
43 rock 'n roll "King" army person
44 birth name of TX born Joan Crawford: Lucille Fay ___Sueur
46 Blake Shelton hit: "___ Country"
47 dies with a valid will
49 George W.'s is located on SMU campus
52 ___-dah! (fanfare)
53 TX Bob Wills line: "Ah ___, take it away Leon"
54 "hoity-___" (pompous)
55 TX-born Kate Capshaw debuted on soap opera "___ of Night"
58 rueful
59 TXism: "throw some leather ___ horse" (saddle up)
60 TXism: "the whole ___ and caboodle"
61 TX Nash hit: "I Can ___ Clearly Now"

DOWN
1 home of West Texas A&M
2 TXism: "just down the road ___"
3 TX Ted Cruz and TX John Cornyn
4 soothsayer
9 summer necessity in Texas (abbr.)
10 TX Don Henley co-wrote "I ___ You Why"
11 actress Adams of "Raquet" with TX Lynda Day George
12 Cowboys "___ of Honor"
13 John Steinbeck's Texas widow
14 birth state of Charles Goodnight (abbr.)
15 TXism: "smack ___ in the middle"
17 TXism: "it's ___ ___ didley squat"
19 Ted aka "Lurch" first acted in Dallas
20 strain and pressure
24 29th & 32nd governor "___" Ferguson
25 this Howe played for and managed Astros grassy land (poetic)
27 TXism: "chucklehead"
28 TXism: "it'll warm your ___"
29 TXism: "I need that like an armadillo ___ highway"
31 ___ Grande
32 big Dallas cell phone company
33 toothpaste brand since 1873
38 TXism: "___ tickler" (pianist)
40 a Morse Code dot
41 Texans like it iced
42 say again
48 TXism: "___ high on the hog" (rich)
50 TXism: "trust every- ___ but always cut the cards"
51 oil ___
56 in Bowie County on U.S. 82
57 TX Banks who was "Mr. Cub"

Small Town Cookin' By Jeri Lynn White

National Potato Lover's Day

February 8th is National Potato Lover's Day. The following is a twist on a regular baked potato but made especially delicious by covering every piece of the potato with buttery, garlicky goodness.

Garlic Butter Potatoes
by LAUREN MIYASHIROU
www.delish.com

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 lb. new or small potatoes
- 1/4 c. butter, melted
- 1/4 c. extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1 c. shredded mozzarella
- 1/2 c. freshly grated Parmesan
- 1/4 c. finely chopped parsley

Directions

Preheat oven to 375° and line a large baking sheet with parch-

ment paper. Make small slits in each potato, like an accordion, making sure not to cut all the way through. Place potatoes on a large sheet pan. In a small bowl, whisk together melted butter, olive oil and garlic. Brush mixture over potatoes then season with salt and pepper. Bake for 20 minutes, until the slits are starting to separate, and the potatoes are beginning to turn golden. Brush the potatoes with more of the melted

butter mixture then sprinkle mozzarella and Parmesan on top. Bake for another 23 to 25 minutes, or until the potatoes are crispy on the outside and tender on the inside. Garnish with parsley and serve warm.

HINT: The easiest way to slice the potato is to use the bowl of a large stainless steel basting/serving spoon. Just lay potato in and the sides of the spoon will stop knife from slicing through.

Check Your Mirrors

By Sue Jane Sullivan



Saving and Spending a Surplus

The Texas Tribune reported on January 9 that Texas lawmakers will have \$188.2 billion available for the next budget after record-breaking revenue growth. Texas Comptroller Glen Hegar provided the budgetary information.

"The amount of projected revenues give the state a remarkable, a truly once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, for historic actions in this legislative session," Hegar said, as reported in *The Tribune*.

Naturally, that surplus comes with cautionary advice. Texas will prioritize its Rainy Day Fund (the Economic Stabilization Fund) as well it should.

To save or to spend should not be the only question. It is wise to recognize both actions are necessary.

I would encourage the men and women sitting behind those nice desks in the chambers of the Texas Capitol to consider two policy matters. One would save money by ending the STAAR high-stakes testing. The other would call for

spending surplus funds on needed improvements to the Texas foster care program. Both benefit the state's children.

As a result of House Bill 3906, students are adapting to yet another change in the STAAR test. Since its implementation in 2012, STAAR testing has evolved into the rating system for schools. It is a pressure that often puts children at-risk and teachers at-bay. Accountability is necessary, but the problem with STAAR is that results are viewed as an attempt to force uniform accountability in a state with over 1,026 school districts of different geographical/social/economic/cultural demographics.

Re-allocate the \$90 million spent annually on STAAR combined with some of the budget surplus to tackle another issue impacting children.

The Texas foster care system was deemed "broken" and unconstitutional eight years ago by U.S. District Judge Janis Graham

Jack.

The Texas legislature has tried to address the foster care system with several bills, but problems still exist. Data collection that provides the history of abuse children have endured is not centralized. Many children are unaware of the 24-hour hotline availability. Private companies have been outsourced to assist with CPS caseloads, raising the possibility of profit over protection.

As of last week, the 88th Legislature has introduced 2,795 bills. It appears that only one would address the foster care system data collection (HB 1342). Several bills have been introduced which relate to "the academic assessment of public school students."

Let's hope our state representatives and senators use common sense and wisdom. Writing, researching, and passing meaningful legislation is what they are there to do—not to get bogged down in political posturing.

Grand Opening set for Wayland's Flying Queens Museum

Imagine a Beechcraft Bonanza airplane flying above as you walk onto a shiny, wooden basketball floor, where you are surrounded by historic championship memorabilia, basketball shoes, travel uniforms, and jerseys that bring collegiate sports legends to life.

Imagination meets reality at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 18, at the grand opening of the Flying Queens Museum on the Wayland Baptist University Campus in Plainview, Texas. Officials representing WBU and Hutcherson Flying Queens Foundation,

Inc., are scheduled to formally dedicate the museum. Many former Flying Queens are expected to be present for the ceremony.

Constructed inside Mabee Regional Heritage Center, the Flying Queens Museum tells the story of how Wayland's women's

basketball program changed the course of collegiate game, including winning 131 consecutive games. The museum highlights the international reach and the remarkable role the Flying Queens have had in transforming women's basketball.

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Feb. 9
Diane White
Joel Osborn
Renaee Barnett
Randa Copley
Vanette (White) Barnett</p> | <p>Feb. 13
Mike Schueler
Robin Peace
Nina Trevino</p> |
| <p>Feb. 10
Hayes Jones
Cindy Mitchell
Vanessa Rueda</p> | <p>Feb. 14
Loraine Anthony
George Rushing
Wade Schueler
Wayne Schueler
K.C. Padilla</p> |
| <p>Feb. 11
Dale Widner
Kody Kimbrough
Halle Haile</p> | <p>Feb. 15
Donna Schueler
Benjamin Anthony
Lee Allen Kube
Ashleigh Brewer
Braxton Irwin
Kate Lynn Madrigal
Jimmy Burns</p> |
| <p>Feb. 12
Aundrea Frye
Davy Howard
Sandy Houston
Lynette Jubay-Smith
Jeff Schueler</p> | |



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

Gas and diesel prices decline

By GasBuddy

Average gasoline prices in Texas fell 3.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.05 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Prices in Texas are 21.0 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 3.1 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas was priced at \$2.27 while the most expensive was \$4.17 per gallon.

The national average price of gasoline has fallen 4.4 cents in the last week, averaging \$3.44 per gallon. The national average is up 17.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 1.7 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 5.2 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.60 per gallon.

"For the first time in 2023, the national average price of gasoline has seen a weekly decline, primarily thanks to a sharp and sudden drop in the price of oil," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

De Haan explained, "While the decline in both gasoline and diesel prices is terrific, it's not unusual to see prices falling in February, which tends to be the month with some of the lowest gasoline prices of the year thanks to seasonally weak demand. For diesel, we're likely to see more declines, and potentially much more significant in the weeks ahead as imports of distillate have accelerated, leading to a sell off. And, with warmer weather ahead, demand may struggle as well. However, especially for gasoline, high levels of coming maintenance and the eventual transition to summer gasoline could lead today's declines to reverse down the road. For now, motorists should enjoy the decline, but be wary as we're likely to eventually see increases again down the road."

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

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Handling Anxiety and Worry

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Length of life, health, food, clothing, relationships, crowds and so many more things could become the breeding ground for anxiety and worry. Legitimate care and concern is part of a responsible life, but anxiety and worry are twin terrors that seek to hijack those cares and concerns and inflate them in such a way that they cloud your thoughts, dreams, plans and interactions in a debilitating way. In our culture today, there is a noticeable rise in mental health awareness, but the reality is that anxiety and worry have been around since the fall of man, and Jesus gave clear teaching and guidance regarding them.

In Matthew 6:33-34, in the middle of the sermon on the mount, Jesus address the presence of

anxiety, the promises you can trust in light of anxiety, and the purpose you have in Christ. Anxiety is not a new phenomenon, and Jesus deals with the presence of anxiety, namely in the areas of life, health, food and clothing, to the crowd he addressed. Jesus doesn't stop at simply acknowledging the worries and anxieties at hand, but he also directs one where to turn. When anxieties, and cares crash in, look to the Father's love and care for his creation and also his care and love for you. If God takes care of birds and clothes the flowers, how much more will the Lord make sure you are cared for? The reality is that God loves you so much that he even sent his Son, Jesus, to save you from your sins through his life, death and resurrec-

tion, and you can trust his love, his sovereignty and his care for you! This trusting, though is not a trust that leads to selfish soaking and self admiration, but gives you purpose to move forward. The purpose is not found deep within your deceptive heart, but is found in your place in the kingdom of God and seeking first his will and righteousness in your life. Jesus simplifies the matter by saying, "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you," Matthew 6:33. Since God cares for you, sees your anxieties and loves you, then seek him first! When you make his will and his glory your highest priority you build a seawall in your life that dashes the waves that seek to crash in with anxiety and worry.

Panhandle Parables

Snow Lessons Part 2

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

When I was in my 20s I had the opportunity to work for Hi-Pro Animal Health in Kearney, Nebraska. I was there nearly three years. When I first moved up to Kearney I followed a snowplow for 70 miles only to get stuck in my driveway in 15 inches of level snow. I had never really seen level snow before. But that was only the beginning. In 1995 I experienced something else I had never really seen before a blizzard like nothing I could recall. It started on a Thursday afternoon, it had rained all day then around 3:00pm it went from 37 degrees to 7 degrees in 15 minutes. Instantly all roads were ice and the snow began to blow in and take over every ac-

tivity. Ignorant as I was I didn't head home until 5:00pm when I closed the store. It was a war zone cars stalled everywhere and abandoned. In my slow drive home a guy jumped out of his stalled camero and hopped into my pickup while I was still moving. I said, "Hi, guess you need a ride." I took him home and finally got to my apartment. The air temp was now 20 degrees below zero. By morning the wind chill hovered around 40 below. My nose practically froze shut in just a few breaths. Life stopped.

It was devastating. Cattle died, people were stranded and all we could do was wait. I learned a valuable lesson that weekend: Nev-

er underestimate the weather and always be prepared.

Life can come at us fast. It can hit us with such devastating force that we are almost frozen in the experience. Whatever the event that blows in we struggle with why, we struggle with suffering through, we are almost unable to function. No one can be prepared for all that can come at you in life. But we can have faith. For us to believe God is good we do not have to have all the answers. Faith is the anchor, the shelter, the hope that allows us to go on knowing that because God is good, one day all will be made right. So, when life hits you hard, lean into the wind and wait in faith on the Lord.

Stand Up and Make a Difference

By Teena Hughs

I love(d) Hallmark movies. They all have the same story line, just a different setting. It doesn't take an ounce of brain power to watch one of their movies, and they always have a happy ending.

Several years ago, I began to notice hints of homosexual relationships in their movies. It was subtle, at the end of the movies, and a child could watch it without noticing what was going on. Then, they started putting gay couples in minor roles, and I would change channels. At Christmas, I read several times that Hallmark was putting out its first movie with a gay couple in the leading roles; that is when I started my boycott of Hallmark movies and cards.

The reason I am boycotting Hallmark is be-

cause they are pushing the gay agenda on people. I have written before and quoted Scripture saying homosexuality is a sin. By having gays in their movies, making it look "normal" and good, Hallmark is encouraging people to sin. I can't be a part of something that encourages people to sin.

Sadly, Hallmark is not the only company doing things like this; some of our churches are too. That is part of the reason the Methodist denomination is undergoing a split today, and why other denominations have already split. Church leadership is saying homosexuality and other sexual sins are ok, and the Bible should bend and evolve to the world's beliefs, making it all right to sin.

In today's world,

with the liberal media biases, with so many sources of social media and their biases, with so much hatred toward people who do stand up for Biblical principles, we have to be careful what we listen to and watch. We have to protect our children and grandchildren from what is false, and show and teach them what is true according to God's Word. Just like homosexuality has crept in slowly but surely in Hallmark movies, that is what happens to us when we watch or listen to people who promote sin. If you look at it long enough or listen to it long enough, you become desensitized to it, and you wake up one morning and sin is all right and the Bible is all wrong; after all, it is an old book.

Continued on page 10

Send your church news to the

Friona★Star

frionastar@wtrt.net

Area Church Directory

Friona

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15th & Cleveland • 806-250-3000
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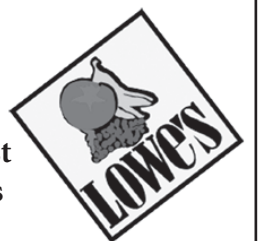


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has an archive of past obituaries at frionaonline.com

**Asher Solano,
Juan Samarron Jr.,
& Jaylon Samarron**



Parents: Albert and Josephine Solano and Juan and Jennifer Samarron
Grandparents: Jose and Marie Samarron, Javier Solano and Sulema Moran, Gregorio and Santa Jaramillo
Great Grandparents: David and Emma Davila

Magnolia Marie & Kallie Rae Samarron



Parents: Matthew Samarron and Adrianna Samarron
Grandparents: Jose and Marie Samarron, Joe and Angela Aguirre
Great Grandparents: David and Emma Davila



Husted signs with WTAMU



On Wednesday, February 1st, Andrew Husted signed a letter of intent to play football for the West Texas A&M Buffaloes. A signing ceremony was held for the Farwell High School senior and a fellow classmate who signed to play football for the Hardin-Simmons Cowboys. Andrew was recruited to play on the offensive line and is excited to join new head football coach Josh Lynn at WTAMU this fall. Andrew was joined by his mom, Pam, and brothers, Grayson and William, at the event which was held in the Farwell gym. Andrew attended Friona Schools through his sophomore year before transferring to Farwell.



Grayson, Andrew, Pam, and William



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Back row: Ronin King, Nash Rigler, Noah Rigler; Front row: Rowyn Bridges, Randy, August King, Ethan Geris, Sarah, Jordan Geris, Rylee Bridges



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Great Grandchildren of the late Donna Mears**



Thomas Waid Barnett
Son of Joshua & Rachel Barnett
Grandson of Ricky & Erin Barnett
and Luke & Ginger Robbins



Miller Shane Nieman

Happy Valentine's Day to the Wilcox Grands



**Back row: Mila Wilcox, Aubrey Sundlie, Varla, Terry, Theo Wilcox, Mason Barnett, Palmer Pelton
Middle row: Marlee Barnett, Slaton Sundlie, McCoy Barnett, Parker Pelton, Easton Sundlie
Front row: Mavrick Barnett, Paxton Pelton Peyton Wilcox**



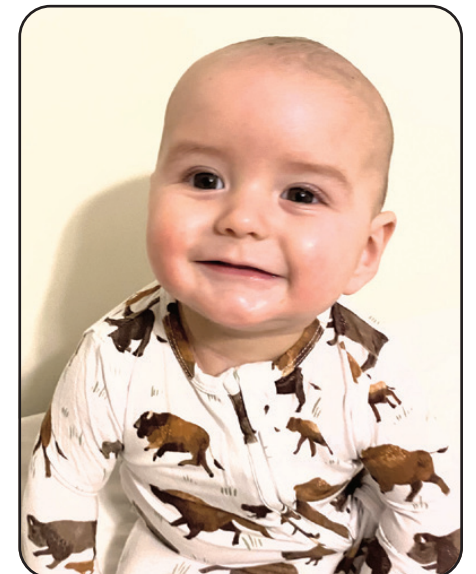
Meritt Mae Nieman

**Back Row: Arron Gutierrez, Payton Gutierrez, Blake Morris & Grayson Gutierrez
Front Row: Laramie Smiley, River Smiley, Baylon Gutierrez & Bo Morris**



Parents:
Jason & Ashley Gutierrez
Barry & Blair Morris
Clayton & Sara Smiley

Grandparents:
Mitchell & Kim Smiley
Great Grandparents:
George & Andrea Frye
Melba Smiley



**Macklin "Mac"
James Nieman**

Children of Jamie Mae
& Tyler Nieman
Grandchildren of James
& Rachel Clark & Robbi
Nieman & Stella Nieman



Finley Ellis Clark
Daughter of Galen & Adelyn Clark
Granddaughter of James & Rachel
Clark and Dennis & Lisa Hokanson

Great Grandchildren of the
late Bob & Bobbie Clark,
Mac McMurtrey,
& Helen Romo



Sports



Friona Youth Sports Basketball Season underway

Friona Youth Sports Basketball Season kicked off this past weekend in Friona where teams from Friona & surrounding communities all came together for the love of the game. We had the Friona "Hornets" 1st & 2nd grade boys team take the win vs. Farwell "Ballstars" 38-11 with Matthew Marquez scoring 21 points and Nathaniel Licerio 13 points.

Following up we had the Friona "Redstorm" take on the Bovina "Hancock" 1st & 2nd grade boys team 27-4. Dylan Mendez scored 10 points, Yahdriel Faudoa 7 points & Malyk Miller 6 points.

The 3rd & 4th grade boys "Friona Chiefs" took on the "Friona Hawks" 17-14 Anthony Marquez scoring 13 points bringing them the victory! The "Friona Chiefs" won against Farwell "Bonestroom" 13-7 as

well, Anthony Marquez leading in points with a total of 8 for the game.

The 3rd & 4th grade boys "Friona Hawks" won vs. Bovina "Rebels" 16-15 this was a close game with Yahdir Faudoa scoring 14 points. Lastly for the 3rd & 4th grade boys division the "Friona Warriors" won vs. Farwell "Allan/Fisher" 10-8 Logan Tyler scoring 4 points & Elian Aguirre 4 points for the victory.

The 5th & 6th grade girls "Friona Hotshotz" won vs. Muleshoe "Lady Mules" 21-15 Genesis Aguirre scored 11 points, D'Nasha Shelby 6 points leading the Friona Hotshotz for the WIN!

The 5th & 6th grade girls "Friona Squaws" won vs. Farwell "Blue Fierce" 21-12 Jaylee Perez scored 8 points, Ivanna Guevara 6 points & Aylen Moreno 5 points for the victory. Also the "Friona Squaws



took the win vs. Muleshoe "Lady Mules" 33-23 Jalee Perez scoring 11 points,

Aylen Moreno, Karleigh Rangel & Ivanna Guevara each scoring 6 points for the WIN!

The 5th & 6th grade boys Friona "Nets" won vs. Farwell "Williams" 32-2 Marcelo Leon scoring 12 points,

Darien Padilla 10 points & Hector Mendez 6 points for the victory.

We want to thank coaches, participants, and parents for being a part of Friona Youth Sports, also our sponsors & Friona ISD FHS custodians, for making this a possibility. Thank you to referees and all FYS board members &

volunteers we couldn't do this without your continued support.

Please follow us on Facebook for the latest information, send pictures to frionayouthsports@gmail.com to be published weekly and also text the word "connect" to 806-454-9040 to sign up for text message updates.

Powerlifting Results

4th Annual Demon Powerlifting Invitational - Dumas - 2/4/2023 - THSPA Boys

Wt.	Place	Athlete	School	BWT	Squat	Bench	Dead	Total
114	7	Flores, Azriel	Friona	113.6	260	135	310	705
123	2	Bautista, Michael	Friona	121.4	370	215	385	970
132	1	Garcia, Jorge	Friona	130.8	405	235	385	1025
132	2	Bautista, Mario	Friona	132	385	250	380	1015
132	9	Ramos, Gabriel	Friona	131.7	320	200	320	840
148	4	Garcia, Xuan	Friona	147.6	405	225	420	1050
148	14	Lara, Gael	Friona	141.6	315	185	330	830
181	8	Rodriguez, Tony	Friona	174.7	405	245	405	1055
198	9	Saucedo, Angel	Friona	196.1	405	215	400	1020
220	2	Flores, Ishmael	Friona	220	550	305	525	1380
220	5	Perez, Hevilat	Friona	199.4	500	295	405	1200
220	8	Quezada, Diego	Friona	212.9	370	235	380	985
242	3	Garcia, Mario	Friona	221.9	530	320	465	1315
275	BO	Rodriguez, Aaron	Friona	251.4	535	0	0	0

Team Results: 1st: Dumas, 47 points, 2nd: Perryton, 29 points 3rd: Friona, 28 points

4th Annual Demon Powerlifting Invitational - Dumas - 2/4/2023 - THSWPA Girls

Wt.	Place	Athlete	School	BWT	Squat	Bench	Dead	Total
105	5	Carranza, Anaesha	Friona	101.7	160	95	180	435
123	6	Ramos, Trinity	Friona	119.8	210	125	210	545
123	8	Hernandez, Evelyn	Friona	122.6	195	95	210	500
165	8	Garcia, Aubry	Friona	159.9	175	70	175	420
181	5	Abarca, Lilly	Friona	176.5	205	115	205	525
198	3	Espinoza, Mercedes	Friona	188.6	265	105	255	625

Team Results: 1st: Dumas, 48 points, 2nd: Perryton, 44 points, 3rd: Borger, 29 points, 8th: Friona, 5 points



Lupe Taylor, Tonya Lookingbill, Mary Noriega, and Tina Sota all turned 60 this past week. All four work at Parmer Medical Center and their birthdays are only three days apart! Happy Birthday to all!!!

Scoreboard

Varsity Boys Basketball

Tuesday 1/31/23

Dimmitt	23	15	15	8	61
Friona	0	0	2	2	4

Anthony Lopez 2 points,
Jameson Daniels 2 points

Tuesday 2/7/23

Friona	0	4	10	6	20
Lamesa	25	8	9	20	62



Lions Club News



Sharon Rector and Kaci Morris

Kaci Morris, District Field Representative for Congressman Jodey Arrington, was the guest speaker at the Noon Lions Club meeting on Monday at the Farmwife Kitchen. She explained how the delay in electing the Speaker of the House put the transition to the new congress 4-6 weeks behind schedule. Congressman Arrington is the new House Budget Committee Chairman and is still putting together the required staff. All spending bills of the Congress go through this committee. Sharon Rector was the guest of Lion Larry Rector. Next meeting is February 20th.

State Sales Tax Revenue Totaled Record \$4.11 Billion in January

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced on February 1st that state sales tax revenue totaled \$4.11 billion in January, 6.6 percent more than in January 2022. The majority of January sales tax revenue is based on sales made in December and remitted to the agency in January.

"While state sales tax collections reached another all-time high, it is important to note that the rate of growth from the previous year was the lowest in the 22 months since the end of pandemic restrictions," Hegar said. "This reflects slowing in the rate of inflation and slowing

growth in real economic activity as well. Unfortunately, inflation continues to erode the purchasing power of Texas consumers as the consumer price index rate for December was 6.5 percent.

"Gains in tax receipts from sectors driven by business spending continued to lead the growth, with the largest gains coming from the mining sector compared with a year ago. Receipts from the manufacturing, construction and wholesale trade sectors continued to grow robustly year over year, but at lower rates than in recent months as inflation

subsidies for items such as construction materials.

"Overall, retail trade receipts grew only slightly and at less than the rate of inflation for consumer goods. Within the retail sector, remittances from the electronic shopping segment led the way as people celebrated the holidays. Receipts from big box retailers and department stores declined, while receipts from dollar stores were up sharply from a year ago — with consumers choosing lower-cost retail options over other outlets during the peak of the Christmas shop-

ping season.

"Receipts from restaurants were once again about in line with inflation in food away from home."

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in January 2023 was up 9.4 percent compared with the same period a year ago. Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the

state budget, accounting for 56 percent of all tax collections.

Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes: (1) motor vehicle sales and rental taxes — \$566 million, up 18 percent from January 2022; (2) motor fuel taxes — \$311 million, up 5 percent from January 2022; (3) oil production tax — \$486 mil-

lion, up 14 percent from January 2022; (4) natural gas production tax — \$322 million, down 13 percent from January 2022; (5) hotel occupancy tax — \$55 million, up 11 percent from January 2022; and (6) alcoholic beverage taxes — \$156 million, the highest monthly collections on record, up 11 percent from January 2022.



FRIONA FLASHBACKS

From the Friona Star Archives



FLAGS AT MOURNING...Flags around the city and indeed, all over the country, are currently flying at half-mast to honor the crew of the Columbia shuttle who perished last Saturday upon re-entry into earth's atmosphere. These flags are at W.T. Services' location at Columbia and Highway 60. (Friona Star, Friday, February 7, 2003)

From toast to allies

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith

On February 10, 1763, the French and Indian War ended. The Treaty of Paris terminated the hostilities, but the "Republique" was forced to cede virtually all of its North American territories, including Canada and Louisiana. The British scooped up Florida from Spain.



According to History.com, "the treaty ensured the colonial and maritime supremacy of Britain and strengthened the 13 American colonies by removing their European rivals to the north and the south." Fifteen years

later, French bitterness over the loss of most of their colonial empire contributed to their intervention in the American Revolution on the side of the Patriots."

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends *The War That*

Made America: A Short History of the French and Indian War by Fred Anderson.

Source: *History Matters: Showing our children that their past is prelude to their future at the gratefulamericanbookprize.com website.*

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Stand Up and Make a Difference

By Teena Hughs

Continued from page 5

Thankfully, today we are seeing people stand up, get involved, and take charge of school boards, boycotting businesses (look at what has happened to Bed, Bath and Beyond), working elections, running for office, etc. They have found their voice, because they know the future for our children and our country is at stake. As long as we remain quiet, the more we will continue to be run over, and the more sin will become acceptable.

Tonight, my tiny church stood up for God and His Word; it stood up for its future; it stood up for what is right and voted to leave the United Methodist Church. It was an 11-2 vote to leave a denomination that has left God, His Word, and its people. If enough small churches stand up, it makes a difference. If enough people write letters and/or make calls to Washington, DC or to corporations promoting views that are not Biblical, people begin to notice, and you can make a difference. Look at the debt ceiling. Congressmen are standing firm right now on raising our debt ceiling, and I don't hear anyone griping. Six to 20 people stood firm on what they expect the Speaker of the House to be, and look at him now; he is one of our best Speakers so far. Those six to 20 people helped make him a better Speaker by taking a stand!

God gave us a voice, and He gave us the Bible that tells us the difference between right and wrong. We need to use both to help turn America back to Him. No matter how big or small you are; no matter how weak or strong you think you and your voice are; no matter the issue, whether it be political, church, morals, values, etc., you can take a stand and you can make a difference. I encourage all of us to stand up and make a difference!!!

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Obituaries

Tammy Odell

Tammy Odell, 59, of Friona, Texas passed away on Friday January 20, 2023, in Friona, Texas. There are no scheduled services at this time. Arrangements and cremation services have been entrusted to Mendez & Mullins Family Funeral Home of Hereford, Texas.



Tammy was born on October 25, 1963, in Tullia, Texas, to Sam and Doris Richards. Tammy has been a resident of Friona most of her life. She graduated from Friona High School in 1981.

Tammy married Wayne Odell on February 12, 2000. She worked a couple of years at Heritage Estates Assisted

Living in Friona, Texas and was a proud homemaker. She loved her family and especially her son Evan Odell. She was a scout leader in her younger days. Tammy enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, especially her best friend Lupe Taylor of Friona, Texas.

Those left to cherish her memories are her husband Wayne Odell

of Friona, Texas, her son Evan Odell of Friona, Texas; four nieces Shonda Bentley of Hereford, Texas, Valerie Lopez of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Allison Fluck of Rockwall, Texas, and Melissa Francis of Lubbock, Texas; two nephews Jeremy Bentley of Lubbock, Texas, and Corey Bentley of Aztec, New Mexico. Her best friend of 53 years Lupe Taylor of Friona, Texas.

Tammy is preceded in death by her parents Sam and Doris Richards, a sister Rhonda Bentley and one brother Randy Richards.

You may go online and sign the guest book at www.mendezandmullins.com

Harold Bernard Gowens

Harold Bernard Gowens, 88 of Friona peacefully passed to his heavenly rest on January 31, 2023. Viewing was held from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM with family visitation from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Sunday, February 5, 2023 in the Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel of HANSARD FAMILY with Celebration of Life Services conducted at 11:00 AM Monday, February 6, 2023 at First Baptist Church in Friona with Elder Michael Gowens, Elder Ronnie Hedges and Elder Wayne Venable, officiating. Burial with military honors following in the Friona Cemetery by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona.



Bernard was born April 29, 1934 in Crosbyton, Texas, the first of six children, to Sylvester B. and Minnie Bass Gowens. He was a graduate of the 1952 class of Lubbock High School. He attended Texas Tech University in the fall of 1952, while working at Furr's Supermarket in Lubbock to help in the support of his family. The need to work interrupted his collegiate career, but he was at Texas Tech long enough to become a lifelong Red Raider fan. In 1955, he was drafted into the United States Army. After completing Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Bliss, Texas, he was deployed to the army base at Wiesbaden, Germany where he spent the next 18 months as part of a heavy artillery battery, radar specialist and mechanic. When he returned to the States, he continued his education at Draughon's Business College in Lubbock. There he met a pretty redhead from Roswell, New Mexico, named Maxie Lynn McBride. Intrigued, Bernard decided to make his move before several other young men had an opportunity, and ask her on a date. They were married just six weeks later on September 17, 1957.

Over the next decade, Bernard and Lynn lived in Roswell, NM, where he worked as bookkeeper for a local radio/television station, and in Tullia, Texas, where he worked for the next five years as a staff accountant for Brown, Graham & Company, Certified Public Accountants. While work-

ing in Tullia, he took a number of accounting classes at West Texas State University, and sat for his CPA exam in 1966, which he passed on the first attempt. Before long, Bernard was promoted to a Senior Managing Partner of the firm.

Bernie and Lynn (as many locals know them) relocated to Friona from Tullia in 1968, where he assumed management of Brown, Graham & Co.'s Friona branch. He served in that capacity until 2001, when the Friona office was consolidated into the Hereford office. He spent another few years with Brown, Graham & Co. Then, from 2005 to 2013, he worked for Donna West CPA, PC in Hereford, where he retired after a dedicated career as a Certified Public Accountant. After his retirement, Bernard was recognized by the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy for 50 years of licensure as a Certified Public Accountant in the State of Texas.

Public accounting, however, was not the only vocation in which Bernard was employed. In September 1968, he was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry at Muleshoe Primitive Baptist Church, Muleshoe, Texas. Over the next 54 1/2 years, Elder Gowens traveled extensively to serve Primitive Baptist Churches in Texas and Eastern New Mexico, as well as preaching on appointment in Tennessee, Virginia, Florida, North Carolina, Alabama, Georgia and California. He pastored churches in Tucumcari, NM, Clovis, NM, Muleshoe, TX and Snyder, TX, as well as filling monthly appointments for years in Perryton, TX, Andrews, TX, and Brownfield, TX.

Brother Bernard was reared in a godly, Christian home, attending Primitive Baptist churches from his earliest days. He was baptized into the fellowship of Anton Primitive Baptist Church at the age of nine. At his death, his membership was with Fairview Primitive Baptist Church in Clovis, NM, where Elder Steve Baldock is pastor. He sincerely believed

the doctrine of grace as proclaimed by the Primitive Baptists, and maintained an honest conviction for its practical simplicity. He was known as a doctrinal preacher, but made it a point to teach the whole counsel of God. Elder Gowens served the Lord and His people with dedication, self-sacrifice and humble devotion throughout his ministerial career. His tender heart, humble attitude and love for the cause of Christ endeared him to the people he served.

Bernard Gowens was a man of integrity, good humor and compassion to others. He worked hard, from the time of very modest beginnings in the wake of the Depression, to the more stable retirement years. His consistent Christian gait in community life and his faithful service to the Lord's people under his care was exemplary. Although he has entered the Lord's glorious presence and is no longer with us, his legacy will live on in the hearts of those whose lives he touched with his characteristic love and kindness.

Bernard was predeceased by his father, Elder Sylvester Gowens, his mother, Minnie Gowens, his sister, Gwendolyn Gentry, and a precious preborn child.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 65 years, Lynn Gowens of Friona, three sons - David (LaDelle) Gowens of Dripping Springs, TX; Michael (Lori) Gowens of Calabash, NC; Daniel (Lisa) Gowens of Inver Grove Heights, MN - fourteen grandchildren - Amber Ferrell, Bradley Gowens, Ashley Penn, Jared Gowens, Bethany Gowens, Hayden Gowens, Zachariah Gowens, Hannah Gowens, Jaycie Gowens, Kaylie Gowens, Evelyn Gowens, Briana Simek, Elivia Gowens, Alexandra Gowens - twelve great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to Fairview Primitive Baptist Church, c/o David Norton, Treasurer, 401 US Hwy 60, Farwell, TX 79325.

You may send blessings to the family and sign the online guest book at: hansardfamily.com




Green cardboard recycling bins are located at 8th Street and Jackson. Please follow directions posted on each of the bins.



Public Work Director Salvador Garcia explains the cardboard recycling process to visitors at the ribbon cutting last Friday.

Free Concert

PANHANDLE
SINGING MEN
 OF TEXAS



I will shout for joy as I sing Your praises; My soul will celebrate because You have rescued me.
 Psalm 71:23

Thursday, February 16, 2023

7:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church

404 W. 5th St.

Friona, TX 79035



Friona★Star

has an archive of past obituaries at frionaonline.com

Happy Valentines From Our Family to Yours



Evan DuMond, Adaline, Jeri Lynn, Holly, Hadley, Bill, Jarrett, Sharon, Elaine, Brent

Scott & Josh



Parents: Stephen & Debra Campbell
Grandparents: Danny & Holly Campbell and Kevin & Sharlet Cooper
Great Grandparents: Dale & Laura Hart and Iwana Taylor

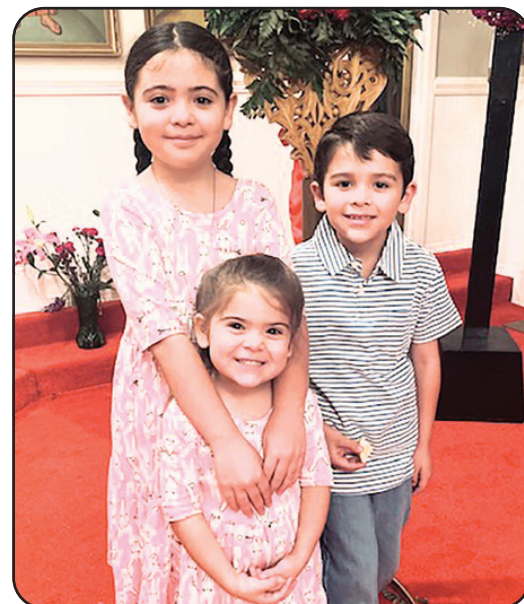
We Love You!

Happy Valentines Ava Grace, Jaxon, Ella Kate



Parents: Jason & Melissa Wright
Grandparents: Karen Wright, Troy & Karene Bass
Great Grandparents: Dale & Laura Hart

"Our Five Precious Little Valentines"



Emmelia, Rhett & Lucy Butler
Parents: Jarrett & Natasha Butler



Ava & Joseph Cortez
Parents: Pete & Felicia Cortez

Grandparents: Joe & Anita Lafuente

Bennett Michael Berend



Parents: Jason and Haley Berend
Grandparents: Roddy and Sandra Berend, Jonathan and Brenda Weiss
Great Grandparents: William and Catherine Fairweather, JoAnn Berend, JoAnn Yeager

Cale, Cortlyn & Brittan Bynum

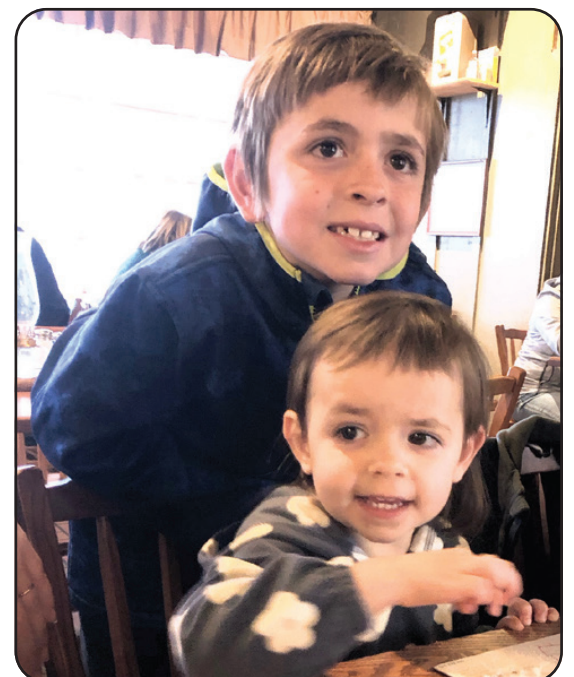


Parents: Tim & Charlotte Bynum

Grandparents: Ted & Glenda Procter

Happy Valentine's Day to our beautiful blessings! Love, Nonna & Poppa

Gus & Brisby Procter



Parents: Barry & Tiffanni Procter

Grandparents: Ted & Glenda Procter

Happy Valentine's Day to our beautiful blessings! Love, Nonna & Poppa

Sophie & Shelby Lewellen



Daughters of Greg & Jamie Lewellen
Happy Valentines
from Grammy & Grandpa

Aiden & Abram Padilla



Parents: Todd & Yessenia Padilla

Grandparents: Toddy & Marisela Padilla
Juan & Norma Hernandez
Todocio & Anita Padilla
Julio & Sara Hernandez

We love you boys!

Kendyll & Camryn Bailey



Parents: Cody & Kristin Bailey
Grandparent: Lynn Nelson