



Holiday Songs

Friona Star

VOL. 82, NO. 50

FRIONA, TEXAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2006

TEN PAGES

Commissioners divvy up fire money

Parmer County commissioners held their regular meeting Wednesday, December 20.

Among items discussed was a new software program for Justices of the Peace and the County Attorney. They also heard a report from County Treasurer Altha Herington and considered a resolution to issue revenue bonds through the Parmer County Industrial Development Corporation to finance a project for Angus Energy, LLC, pertaining to an ethanol plant east of Friona.

Treasurer Herington said that

each year the county budgets \$50,000 for fire department calls in the county. In January she issues \$5,000 each to the Friona, Farwell, Bovina, Lazbuddie, and Rhea fire departments for a total of \$25,000.

The remaining \$25,000 is divided at the end of the year based on how many fire calls the departments respond to out in the county. At the December 20 meeting, commissioners approved disbursements to Bovina, \$3,873.25, Farwell, \$2,288.75, Friona, \$14,330.95, and Lazbuddie, \$4,507.05. The Rhea

Department chooses to accept just the \$5,000 in January of each year.

The fire department disbursements are prorated based on the number of calls made during the year. In 2005 firemen responded to the following number of fire calls in Parmer County: Bovina 28, Farwell 23, Friona 61, Lazbuddie 30, and Rhea 11. The figures do not include first responder calls to accident scenes or fire calls within their respective city limits.



ron carr photo

Friona will have a new municipal judge as of January 1, 2007. Judge Eddie Mays, right, is retiring and turning the office over to Donice Jones, left. A reception for Judge Mays was held Friday December 22 at Friona City Hall.



star file photo

The Friona Livestock Show will be held Thursday January 4 at the Friona Community Center. The Parmer County Junior Livestock Show will be January 18-20. Oran London and his lamb were entered in last year's show.

Demolition



ron carr photo

Demolition has begun on the historic building at 5th and Main owned by Connie Dodson. In August a drunk driver plowed into the building causing a partial collapse. The city then condemned the property and ordered it to be torn down. Messer Construction of Hereford is handling the tear-down. Over the years the building housed an implement company and a body shop. Dodson said it was built in 1926. Messer Construction is tearing down and hauling off all the way down to the concrete foundation. They said they could be finished by Friday.

Texas Has Property Tax Burden

By Marc A. Levin

As a new year dawns, Texans should be looking forward to exploding fireworks and expanding opportunities. Unfortunately, many families cannot help but feel financially deflated by the property tax bill that has come due for 2006.

Indeed, a new national study shows Texas has the ninth highest property taxes in the nation as a percentage of personal income.

Early January will bring anticipated recommendations for property tax relief from Gov. Rick Perry's Texas Task Force on Appraisal Reform. The state's taxpayers must hope the Legislature will both heed those recommendations, and at the same time return the \$15 billion surplus to taxpayers as tax relief.

For much too long, Texans angry over their property taxes have been dismissed as selfish misers. The conventional wisdom

has been that Texas is one of the nation's lowest tax states and complainers should just be glad they don't live in Massachusetts. However, the Tax Foundation's national report on property taxes released earlier this month shows Texas homeowners are being drowned in rising property taxes, forcing some to flee their homes for the safer ground of lower appraised property.

The report documents how property taxes have skyrocketed relative to personal incomes. From 1999 to 2005, property tax appraisals in Texas went up 75 percent, while personal incomes rose only 35 percent.

This is the result of rising property appraisals, on which state and local governments have been cashing in rather than rolling back tax rates accordingly. No wonder many Texans are struggling to simply pay their property tax bill.

The report not only reveals that Texas has higher property taxes than 80 percent of other states; it also shows that the property tax burden is particularly severe in several Texas localities.

For example, residents of Houston endure the highest effective property tax rate of any major city in the nation at \$2.99 per \$100 valuation. While other cities had a much higher statutory rate, they had significant exemptions. As a result, Houston's effective property tax rate is nearly three times that of New York City and more than five times that of Denver.

In addition, Fort Bend, Williamson, and Tarrant counties made the Tax Foundation's dubious list of the 20 counties with the highest median property taxes paid as a percentage of the median home value. The other 20 counties were in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania,

and Illinois.

Relief is already on the way. Legislation passed in the last special session will reduce the current maximum school property tax rate of \$1.50 to \$1.33 in 2006 and \$1.00 in 2007. Just as importantly, starting in 2007, rollback elections will automatically be required when appraisal creep effectively produces a school property tax increase of more than four cents per \$100 valuation.

Now, Gov. Perry's panel is preparing to unveil recommendations that will go further in relieving property taxes. It's widely rumored the proposal will include finally placing meaningful restraints on the de facto property tax increases that can be levied by local governments through skyrocketing appraisals.

In addition to adopting the panel's recommendations for reforming appraisals, the \$15 billion surplus lawmakers will have

in-hand this session should be used to provide an additional 25-cent tax rate reduction. With a stroke of the pen, Texas taxpayers can be given needed relief.

Thanks to Texas' reputation as a low-tax state, our rate of economic growth has exceeded the national average in recent years, but we cannot afford to rest on our laurels.

Let's make a New Year's resolution: Texans deserve to be secure in their homes, not forced

to live in a house of cards subject to the whims of an unaccountable appraiser. With an overpayment of taxes resulting in a record state surplus, this is one New Year's resolution for which there is no excuse not to keep.

(Marc A. Levin, Esq. is general counsel for Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (www.empowertexas.com) and can be reached at mlevin@empowertexas.com)

Project Christmas Card results given

According to Connie Neelley, spokeswoman for the Parmer County Hospital Auxiliary, the annual Project Christmas Card donations totaled \$3168.16.

One additional donor name that did not make last week's list is Sharolyn Cline. Mrs. Neelley said that there were also quite a few anonymous donors that contributed to the success of the project. "We appreciate everyone who contributed this year," she said.

The money raised through the Project Christmas Card fund benefits Parmer County Community Hospital.



OUT HERE

by Ron Carr

it beats a cob crawlin'

Fifty-two times this year, through ankle deep snow and 110-degree-in-the-shade heat we managed to get this newspaper printed and distributed.

Depending on the particular week, or the season, or what is happening around here, we put together up to 30+ pages or as few as 10 pages (like this one).

Thanks to modern technology and people that know how to use it, we can layout a paper of almost any size in a couple of working days. It is much easier today to move articles or photos around until they all fit.

As my granddaddy would say, "don't that just beat a cob crawlin'." My mother said it Christmas day in the kitchen when we were putting dinner on the table. "Well don't that just beat a cob crawlin'." My brother Rick and I make fun of those old sayings, mostly just to aggravate mother.

"What does that mean mother?" We got the standard answer.

"I don't know but I've been saying that since before you were born."

Back in my youth there were often a pile of corn cobs laying around. Now that I think about it I don't know why we had corn cobs because we weren't farmers. Maybe friends gave us corn to eat since we were poor.

We played with the corn

cobs, threw them at each other, or tied them on a string and swung them around. Don't ask me why. One thing I don't remember is ever seeing one of those cobs crawling. If we had ever seen a cob crawling by itself we would have been all the way down to Jimmy Morelock's house before the cob made it to the curb.

Either that or we would have killed it with a Red Ryder BB blast. In those days you could shoot a BB gun in the city limits. Nobody thought much of it if you were seen walking down the street carrying a BB gun or .22 rifle on the way home for supper.

The end of another year is a time to clean up last year's messes and promise to do better next year. Out with the old and in with the new, people like to say. Looking back can be fun or painful or both. I hope your 2006 was mostly fun.

It was the Centennial Year for Friona, the 100th birthday of the town. For more than a year, local librarian Darla Bracken worked hard each week to bring us a close look at Friona's history during those 100 years. Her Centennial Moments features were a big hit. Many of you have mentioned how much you have enjoyed Darla's efforts.

I want to add my thanks to Darla for the untiring effort she put into the weekly fea-

ture. When Darla first approached me in late summer of 2005 about running a weekly column I agreed with some skepticism. Most folks don't realize how often a weekly deadline comes around and I wasn't sure that she could produce weekly stories and run the library too.

But she has been up to the task. Beginning in the fall of 2005 and throughout 2006 she appeared faithfully in our office each week with old clippings, old photos, and stories written. The ones she did not write herself she saw to it that several local pioneer families provided their own stories.

Friona Public Library is a real asset to this community and Darla and Brenda and Debra and the staff at the library do a great job.

We rely on a lot of people to provide news and information each week to fill the newspaper. My wish for 2007 is that more of you guys; coaches, law enforcement, city officials, etc., would remember to provide us with news information sooner rather than later, before we have to chase you down and wheedle it out of you.

On the other hand, the folks we deal with on a regular basis are a great group. We appreciate the cooperation we receive throughout the Friona school system. Superintendent Parker and the school board

do keep us updated monthly on school happenings. Thanks to Betty Chaney for putting together the monthly school calendar and bringing it by our office. The school principals Tracy Ellis, Becky Riethmayer, Kevin Wiseman, and Denver Crum, thanks for a world of cooperation.

Thank you coaches for allowing us to cover the kids that play the games and for helping us give parents, grandparents, and fans sports coverage and material for their scrapbooks.

To city hall and the county offices in Farwell, to Sheriff Gerries, Police Chief Tino Salaniz and their officers and deputies, to DPS Troopers Trey Ellis, Joel Rejino, Izzy Carrasco, and Sam Perez, to the local volunteer fire department and EMS personnel, we thank each of you for allowing us to cover the news and thank you for the cooperation that provides another year's worth of newspapers.

There are many of you that contribute to the success of the Friona Star. Whether you are a reader or advertiser or both, I appreciate your support. Thanks for all you do and for reading our newspaper.

With this issue we managed to print 52 consecutive newspapers in 2006. Don't that just beat a cob crawlin'.

Happy New Year everybody!

Congress, then and now

By U.S. Senator John Cornyn

As each year draws to a close, it is traditionally the time for reflection. We take stock of where we've been, and set goals for the future.

This is a particularly useful exercise for those of us in government. The U.S. Congress adjourned in early December having achieved some notable accomplishments, while also leaving a great deal of unfinished business.

For the first time in a decade, Congress took a tentative, but serious step to reduce federal spending. I supported the Deficit Reduction Act that cut approximately \$100 billion in projected outlays over the next decade.

As that legislation was being debated, I introduced an amendment that would have addressed fast-growing entitlement expenditures such as Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security, which compose two-thirds of federal spending. Though this common-sense measure didn't pass, I will pursue it again next year.

In the session's final hours, we extended several tax measures important to Texans. One is a \$4,000 annual college tuition deduction, and another is the research and development tax credit that is vital to many businesses in our state.

Most importantly, for those who itemize deductions on their

federal income taxes, we extended the state and local sales tax deduction for two years. This means residents of Texas and six other states that don't have an income tax will be on a level playing field with other states that do.

Working families are paying steadily more for health insurance and medical costs, so I was especially pleased that Congress made important improvements to Health Savings Accounts (HSA). Payments into these accounts can be made with income before it's subject to payroll taxes, so our move to raise the contribution limits should have a big impact.

There were other significant steps forward. We reduced abuse of the legal system by revising class-action lawsuit rules, updated federal bankruptcy laws to protect consumers and encourage responsible budgeting, and safeguarded Second Amendment rights by banning lawsuits directed solely at the legal manufacture of firearms.

And Texas will eventually get major benefits from the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006, which opens more than eight million acres of the Gulf of Mexico to responsible oil and gas exploration and production. The state will begin receiving a portion of offshore royalty payments to combat beach erosion

and other effects on the coastal environment.

I was most proud to help confirm two new members of the U.S. Supreme Court. Chief Justice John Roberts and Associate Justice Samuel Alito both understand well the proper role the judiciary should play in our federal system. I'm convinced they will faithfully interpret the laws made by elected representatives of the people.

As we look forward to 2007 and the 110th Congress, we see a great deal of unfinished business.

Domestically, we must repair our broken immigration system and restore respect for our laws. Though we talked about this issue a great deal for two years, we did not resolve the problem. In a post-9/11 world, we need to know who is coming into our country—and right now, we don't. Furthermore, it's affecting our economy, families, and eroding traditional respect for the rule of law. This situation will only deteriorate if Congress fails to act.

Leaders on both sides have pledged to work in a cooperative manner to address matters that were bogged down in partisanship during the 109th Congress.

The bipartisanship should start with Iraq and the war on terror. Protecting the American people is our first responsibility.

In my view, we will be under the assault from Islamic extremists for years—even decades—to come. We must join together on a strategy to win the war against these terrorists, not simply criticize, delay, or attempt to exploit setbacks for partisan advantage.

We all want the troops home as soon as possible, but our military strategy in Iraq must be based on clear national security considerations. We owe it to all Americans to establish a strategy, and to support it—with one voice.

I am determined to work in the coming year with my Senate colleagues on common goals. For example, I've long sought to bring more Texas sunshine to Washington. So, Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and I intend to pursue open government legislation, to improve transparency and make the federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) more effective.

The Congressional delegation from Texas enjoys a well-deserved reputation for working together, Republicans and Democrats, on projects that are vital to our state. If we can expand that model to the entire Congress, and help reestablish cooperation and bipartisanship once again in Washington, 2007 will indeed be a happy new year for our country.

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starfile photo

Emily Allen and Caleb Monroe will be participants again as the 2007 livestock show circuit kicks off with the Friona show January 4.

ON YOUR PAYROLL

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Tumbleweed Smith

Observations at the post office, store and airport

While standing in line at the post office, I wonder about things. Once I went to buy some stamps and there was just one person in line ahead of me. I was feeling lucky until I realized she had 45 eleven by fourteen business envelopes, each one requiring a different amount of postage. I watched the mail clerk carefully pick up each one, place it on the scale and apply the postage. I had plenty of time to think about things.

During the holidays postal clerks remind me of soldiers in combat or a quarterback in a close championship game. They are cool under pressure. No matter how many people are standing in line they are able to give their undivided attention to the person at their counter. And some postal customers choose the strangest times to get into a conversation with the clerk about church, a vacation, kids or a bargain they found somewhere, totally oblivious to the people waiting in line behind them.

Speaking of the holidays, I went with my son to Circuit City in Dallas the day after Thanksgiving. He bought a new HDTV with surround sound. After he selected one, he asked a store

employee where he could pay for it. The employee replied,

"That's the line to pay for HDTV's over there." Twenty people were in line. We stood in line two and a half hours before he got to the cashier. Every check stand in the store had a line in front of it. When we arrived at the store we noticed some trash on the sidewalk outside. People had been camped there all night. One customer said he got there at 2:30 AM because the store was handing out specials a dozen or so at a time. I was amazed at the patience of the customers standing in line. I didn't see any of them giving dirty looks to the cashier or anything negative. I guess they figured this is normal if you're going to shop for specials the day after Thanksgiving in a big city.

Have you noticed at airports the amazing number of people using cell phones? Some people have two cell phones, one for

business, one for family. Some plane passengers have it all together. Some don't. I saw a woman sitting on the floor waiting to board the plane. She had her computer open, was drinking from a quart-size container, eating a sandwich and talking on her cell phone. When boarding started, she somehow managed to carry all her stuff and hand her boarding pass to the attendant. Multi-tasking at its best.

I'll be glad when Southwest starts assigning seats. Passengers first in line always choose to sit in the front of the plane, getting settled while other passengers are forced to wait. I think it's fun to watch the rhythm of exiting the plane after it arrives at its destination. Some people jump up, get their items from the overhead bin and are ready to go when it's time for their row to get off the plane. Some people prefer to remain seated until their row's turn to leave. Then they reach up, get five or six sacks, a piece of luggage and a backpack while other passengers behind them wait. I'm not hurling complaints here...I'm just observing how people do things. It's fun.



Barnett, Monroe chosen for Farm Credit Young Leaders program

Ricky Barnett and Alan Monroe, both of Friona, recently traveled to Washington, D.C., and New York City as part of the Farm Credit Young Leaders Program, a week-long event sponsored by the Tenth District Farm Credit Council.

The Young Leaders Program is designed to give young Farm Credit stockholders an overview of the Farm Credit System and an opportunity to interact with System leaders and decision-makers in Washington, D.C. Each lending co-op in the district had the opportunity to select a participant for the program. Barnett represented Great Plains Ag Credit, and Monroe represented First Ag Credit, associations of which they are stockholders.

The trip included meetings with U.S. Secretary of

Agriculture Mike Johanns, officials of the Farm Credit Council and congressional leaders in Washington, D.C. The group also traveled to the New Jersey/New York City area for a briefing at the Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation and a tour of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. They started the trip in Austin, Texas, with a visit to the Farm Credit Bank of Texas, the wholesale lender to the district's financing cooperatives.

"We put this program together to show our appreciation to a few of our young stockholders and all they do to support agriculture and their rural communities," said Jimmy Dodson, chairman of the Tenth District Farm Credit Council. "We hope the program not only thanked them but also gave them an inside look at the Farm Credit System,

how their loans are funded and how their voice can be heard in Washington."

Barnett began farming in 1991, and currently raises feeder cattle and farms wheat, corn silage, cotton and milo. He received a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from Texas Tech University. He and his wife, Erin, have two children.

Monroe serves on the Parmer County Farm Bureau Board and the Parmer County Stockshow Board. He graduated from Texas Tech University with a degree in agricultural economics. He and his wife, Leigh, have three children.

The Tenth District Farm Credit Council is the trade association of the Tenth Farm Credit District and represents the district's legislative and regulatory interests.



Lions Club News

BY RON CARR, PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

Happy New Year to everyone from the Friona Noon Lions and Friona Evening Lions Clubs.

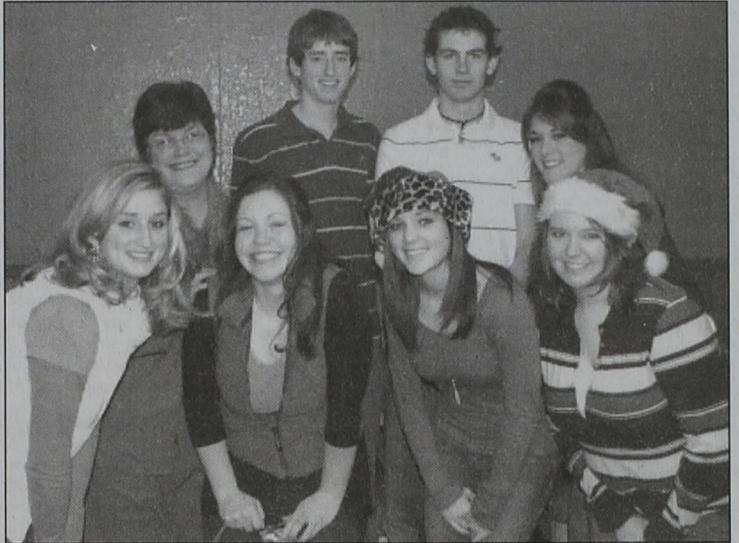
The Friona Noon Lions met for their last 2006 meeting December 21 at Headquarters Restaurant. There were 14 members and two guests present. Our club sweetheart Alli Jones was also present. She was also the lucky winner of the weekly club drawing and took home some Christmas cash.

The two guests were Ed Ortega of WT Services and Andy Montana, local Farm Bureau agent. Boss Lion John Gurley, who is also the local weather guy announced to the members that it had snowed during the week. Most members acknowledged they already knew about it.

The Noon Lions will cook hamburgers all day January 13 for the area Special Olympics bas-

ketball tournament to be held in Friona. Several members of the Friona High School Choir sang Christmas carols for the meeting. Thank you choir and thanks to everyone that has supported our Lions Club fundraisers throughout the year. We appreciate you all.

The next meeting of the Friona Noon Lions will be Thursday, January 4. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome.



ron carr photo

Friona High School choir members sang carols for the Noon Lions Club meeting Thursday December 21. The talented youngsters are, l-r, Hollis Gurley, director Allison Johnston, Deirdre Johnston, Alex Gurley, Briana Wright, Ryan Gerles, Meghan Hendrickson, and Allison Jones.

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Ricky Barnett



Alan Monroe

Thank You, Darla



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We hope 2007 is a Grrrreat year for you



Do you make New Year's resolutions?

One resolution that we might all think about is starting a savings account or adding to our present one.

If we can be disciplined about saving a portion of our pay check, whether it's a couple of dollars or a percentage of our check, by this time next year we'll be ready for those emergencies, or have money saved for that special something, or just have a feeling of satisfaction that we did it!



Marca Herring
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DPS says update your license

The DPS wants to remind you to make one more New Year's resolution—update the address on your driver license. Keeping a current address on your license provides DPS with the ability to communicate important information to you regarding your driver license. Plus, updating your driver license address is important because it's the law. DPS routinely sends out reminders to drivers when their license is about to expire, information on how to renew their license and even

notification when there is a change in driver license status, such as when your license is being suspended or revoked. Updating your address can also help you avoid a situation in which law enforcement cannot identify your residence to contact a family member or a loved one in the event of an emergency. "It's impossible for DPS to send drivers updates on their license status, if the Department does not have a current address for each driver on file," said Director of the DPS,

Col. Thomas A. Davis, Jr. "Update your address to avoid unnecessary costs and possible charges if you're driving on an invalid license." There are several reasons why it is important for DPS to have your current address. Do you know when your license expires? Many people don't. DPS sends a reminder out to drivers reminding them that their driver license is about to expire and provides information on how to renew your license by mail, over the Internet, by telephone or even the old-fashioned way...in person. While some people (such as CDL holders) cannot be renewed by mail or over the Internet, many others can. Another reason it is important for you to keep your address current is so that DPS can notify you if your license is suspended or revoked. If your address is not current, you may not receive this notification. If you are stopped for any reason and found to be driving on a suspended license, you can be arrested. Licenses are of-

ten suspended or revoked for driving with no insurance, driving while intoxicated, failing to appear in court for a citation, or for failure to comply with the requirements of the Driver Responsibility Program. In the event that you are involved in a car crash or some other type of emergency in which you are unable to identify yourself, law enforcement must rely on your license to determine who you are. If your address is current, they will at least have a starting point in trying to notify your family about what has happened to you. Finally, you should keep a current address on your license because it's required by law. You have 30 days to change your address on your driver license when you move, or you could face a citation. If you have questions concerning your license or how to change your address, please call the Driver License Customer Service office at 512-424-2600.

Courthouse Notes

The Parmer County Clerk's Office recorded the following warranty deeds from December 14, 2006 to December 20, 2006:
 Clyde Redwine, Marie Redwine, and Kathleen Marie Redwine – Friona Land Holdings LLC, 320 AC N/2 S1 T11S R3E
 Harold Redwine, Harrol Redwine, and Leslee Redwine – Friona Land Holdings LLC, 320 AC N/2 S26 T6S R3E
 Lesa Bermea – Triple G Farms LLC, 2.403A OF NW PART S18 T5S R4E
 Jorge Roque and Anna Roque – Triple G Farms, L1-2 B15 BOVINA
 Bill Beran Family Limited Partnership – Bill Beran, N/2 S29 BLK X WD & FW JOHNSON
 Bill Beran – John Lyle Visser and Grace Ajean Visser, N/2 S29 BLK X WD & FW JOHNSON
 HUD – Richard Bermea, L9-10 BW BAXTER

Atmos Energy Share the Warmth program

Atmos Energy Corporation (NYSE: ATO) has announced a new initiative that will make it easier for its customers to help their less fortunate neighbors pay their natural gas bills this winter. Atmos Energy Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer Robert W. Best said that customers can now 'round-up' their payment to

the next highest dollar amount with the difference going directly to the "Sharing the Warmth" program. Atmos Energy's "Sharing the Warmth" program supports approximately 2,000 community energy-assistance agencies nationwide. These agencies use federal funding and customers' donations to help the elderly, the disabled, and low-income families pay their energy bills. The total funds distributed last year accounted for about one-fifth of the annual energy costs of low-income customers. "Last season, our customers donated more than \$370,000 through "Sharing the Warmth", which when combined with our donation of \$500,000, meant that some \$870,000 went toward helping people pay their gas bills. We think that this new 'round-up' program will enable us to greatly expand that support," Best said. "Our goal is to double the amount the "Sharing the Warmth" program raised from customers last year."

All donations are tax deductible and go directly to local people in need that meet criteria established by each individual program's guidelines. The new 'round-up' option will appear on future monthly bills. For more information or to make a donation, visit www.atmosenergy.com.

Texas Workforce honors Cargill

Cargill, Inc. received an Employer of Excellence Award for 2006 at the Tenth Annual Texas Workforce Conference held in Grapevine, Texas during December. The Panhandle Workforce Development Board nominated the company for the honor. The award recognizes those employers that have been actively involved with local workforce development boards, and that have had a positive impact on their workers and community. Cargill, Inc. operates one of its largest meat processing facilities in Friona, where it

employs nearly 2,000 workers. The company has hired over 70 percent of its personnel through the Board's Panhandle WorkSource office in Hereford, which provides recruitment and screening services for the company. The company has partnered with Region 16 Education Service Center to provide General Equivalency Diploma and English as a Second Language instruction to its workers, and offers generous incentives for those individuals to attend college. It is also active in supporting other projects in the fields of public health and safety, social services, parks and recreation, and the performing arts.

The Panhandle Workforce Development Board provides a wide variety of services to employers, workers and families through its eight Panhandle WorkSource offices. The facilities are located in Amarillo, Borger, Childress, Dumas, Hereford, Pampa and Tulia.

Mustangs place two on all-state academic

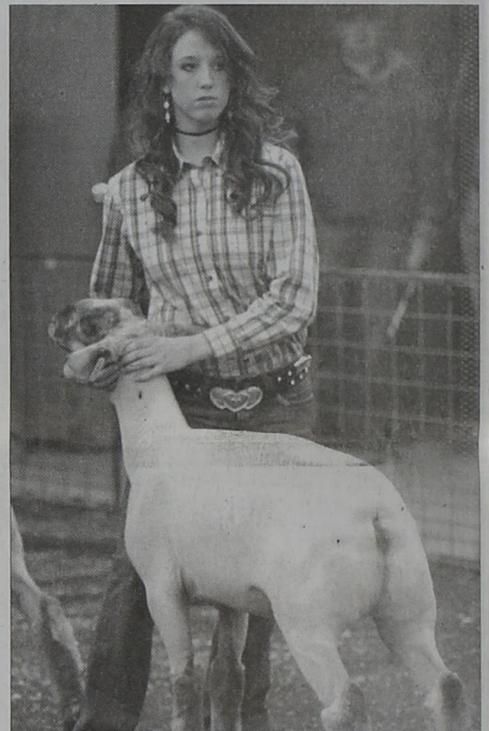
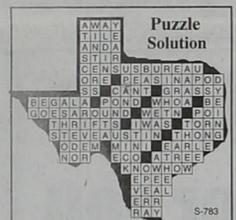
Bovina Mustangs head coach Hector Guevara has announced that two Bovina Mustang football players were named to academic all-state rosters. Frank Martinez was 1st team Academic All-State and Jessie Reyna was named to honorable mention Academic All-State. Congratulations to both boys on their accomplishment.

Sheriff's Report

The following is reported weekly by Parmer County Sheriff Randy Gerries' office:
 December 22, Holley Agee, 33, of Muleshoe, was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol and charged with possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces, pending County Court.
 December 22, 2006, John Agee, 40, of Muleshoe, was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol and charged with possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces, pending County Court.
 December 23, 2006, Manuel Quintana, 26, of Bovina, was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol and charged with driving while intoxicated 2nd offense, pending County Court and carrying a prohibited weapon, pending County Court.
 December 24, 2006, Darryl Bonngard, 48, of Minnesota, was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol and charged with possession of marijuana, less than 2 ounces, pending County Court.
 December 26, 2006, Jacob Thurman, 19, of Farwell, was arrested by the Farwell Police Department and charged with unauthorized use of a vehicle, pending Grand Jury.

TDH immunization January schedules

Immunization clinics offering the vaccines that give protection against childhood diseases are scheduled for January 2007 in Friona and Bovina. The clinic in Friona will be Friday, January 5 and Friday, January 19, at 616 Euclid, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The clinic in Bovina will be Monday, January 8, in the Bovina EMS Building, 109 S. 3rd, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. All clinic times are subject to change or cancellation due to weather or scheduling conflicts.



star file photo Ashley Ingram is serious about her lamb competition during the 2006 livestock show. The local livestock show circuit begins January 4 at Friona Community Center with the Friona Livestock Show. The Lazbuddie show is January 13 in Friona.

Getting in Gear for the New Year

It's close to the end of December, and we'd simply like to say, how wonderful this past year was, and what good friends you have been to us, So now we'd like to wish everyone, a fabulous New Year!!

Happy New Year!

All the best to our family of loyal customers!

We will be closed Mon, Jan 1, 2007 for New Year's



MEMBER FDIC
 710 W 11TH
 PO BOX 727
 Phone 806-250-2900
 Banking Hours:
 Monday-Friday
 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
 Drive-thru open Friday until 6:00 pm

Jameson Photography
 Give me a call if you have any need for Photo Restoration, Photo Editing, or Family Portraits.
 Call Tyler at 265-5141 or 265-5142.

YOUR EYES
What Is Astigmatism?
 Did you know that approximately two-thirds of Americans have a condition called astigmatism? In this optical condition, the front skin of the eye, called the cornea, is irregular in its shape. If a person were to measure the roundness of the cornea, the astigmatic eye would have two different curvatures. In other words, this "front skin" of the eye has a steep curve and a flat curve, much like a football. It's not perfectly round.
 The effect of astigmatism is to cause images to form near the retina, but not on the retina. This results in blurred vision. People with uncorrected astigmatism who do a lot of reading or computer work will often complain of headaches and eyestrain. Depending on your optical prescription, your symptoms, and the type of prescription you need, your doctor may decide to fit you with corrective eyeglasses or contact lenses. If you suspect you may have a vision problem, the best way to find out for certain is to visit your optometrist today.
 Brought to you as a community service by:
DR. HAROLD W. BRIGANCE
 Optometrist O.D.
 426 N. Main-Suite Hereford The Atrium 364-8755

Chiefs-Squaws in Caprock tournament

The startup of fall and winter basketball competes with football playoffs, holidays, and weather. Add in a non-district

schedule and an array of tournaments and it is January before the regular fan can depend on the Tuesday and Friday

schedule. So far the local, varsity and JV teams have entered tournaments at Frenship, Nazareth,

Randall, Muleshoe, Vega, Tulia and Farwell. Now add one more to the list as the Chieftains and Squaws compete at the annual

Caprock Tournament December 28-30 in Lubbock.

The 48th Annual Ambucus Caprock Holiday Basketball Tour-

namment will tip off Thursday with 30 boys teams and 26 girls teams from the area and across the state entered. According to a report in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, the number of teams entered at Caprock has shrunk but the quality has not. The tourney will include 11 teams which last week were ranked in the latest Texas Association of Basketball Coaches polls.

The Squaws, who have a 2-0 district record, open play Thursday December 28 at 10:30 a.m. vs. Randall. The Lady Raiders are the only team to defeat the Canyon Lady Eagles this year. The game will be at Lubbock High. If the Squaws win they will play either Borger or Merkel at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. If they lose they will play Ralls or Seagraves at noon Friday at Estacado High School.

The Chieftains, are 1-0 in district with an opening win over River Road. They will challenge Odessa at noon Thursday December 29 at Monterey New Box. The winner will play either El Paso Americas or Palo Duro at noon Friday at Frenship. The loser will play El Paso Burgess or Hereford at 9:30 a.m. Friday at Monterey Old Box.

The Chiefs and Squaws continue district play Tuesday January 2 at Highland Park and Friday January 5 at home vs. Tulia. Mike Hutson and Clint Mears of FHS-TV will re-broadcast all varsity home district game on Saturdays beginning January 6 with the Tulia games.



ron carr photo

Miranda Frye, Staci Murphree, Krista Graham, and Erica Davila, l-r, are shown in basketball action at Friona gym. The Squaws will be up against some tough competition in this weekend's Caprock Tournament in Lubbock. District play resumes January 2.



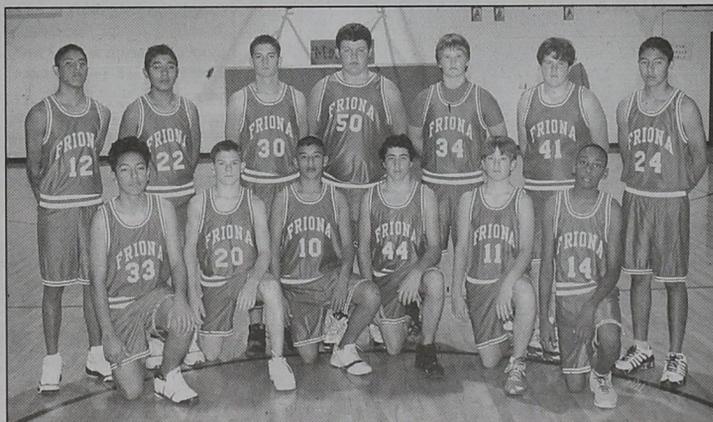
ron carr photo

Caleb Miller (32) will join his teammates at the Caprock Tournament this weekend. It marks the first time a Chieftain team has participated in the popular tournament. Watch for basketball action Saturdays on FHS-TV beginning January 9 and check out future photo albums at the Friona Star website, frionaonline.com.



courtesy photo

The 7th grade Braves basketball team, front, l-r, Sammy Rosas, Matthew Teague, Miguel Soto, Donovan Johnson, Jacob Pena, Victor Reveles; back, l-r, Donaven Ortiz, Weston Wyly, Gabriel Avalos, Ismael Rocha, Ryan DeWit, Caleb Monroe, Michael Ortiz, and Dillon Kelley.



courtesy photo

The 8th grade Braves basketball team, back, l-r, Nick Ortiz, Juan Martinez, Kirby Frye, Clayton Smiley, Aaron Osborn, Cyle Lookingbill, Chris Garcia; front, l-r, Moises Lucatero, Zack Fair, Ernesto Monreal, Duncan Welch, Brenner Barnett, and Dominique Kellum.



High School News

By Hannah Stovall

The success of Friona High School's study and celebration of F. Scott Fitzgerald's, *The Great Gatsby*, was tremendous. The study was wrapped up Friday, December 15 with a *Gatsby* dinner, complete with streamers, balloons, fountains, and food. Walls were lined with timelines

and slide sequences prepared by English classes. A version of the film was shown during the lunch, followed by a schoolwide viewing of another version.

Many people contributed to the success of the *Gatsby* dinner, but we cannot go without

thanking the Friona High School cafeteria staff for playing a vital role in the celebration. They went out of their way to prepare dinner fitting of a 1920's party. Special thanks go to these ladies for their support of this project and their incredible involvement.

Great Photos Great Memories

Photo Reprints Available

Click on "Photos"

www.frionaonline.com

2007 Basketball Schedule

		JV Girls	JV Boys	V Girls	V Boys
January 2	@ Highland Park	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
January 5	Tulia	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
January 9	@ Dimmitt	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
January 12	Muleshoe	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
January 16	Bushland	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
January 19	@ Texico	4:00	5:15	6:30	8:00
January 23	@ River Road	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
January 26	Highland Park	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
January 30	@ Tulia	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
February 2	Dimmitt	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
February 6	@ Muleshoe	7:30	6:00	6:00	7:30
February 9	@ Bushland		6:00		7:30



STAR CLASSIFIEDS

250-2211

Deadline: Tuesday @ 5 p.m.



MARS REAL ESTATE & INSURANCE

908 WEST 11TH OFFICE: CALL 250-2090
 NEW LISTING! 3BR, 3BA, 2CAR, BRICK.....\$79,900
 LARGE COMMERCIAL BUILDING, LOTS OF STORAGE.....\$64,000
 142 ACRE FARMLAND ON HWY. 60.....CALL FOR PRICE
 640 ACRES, 5 WELLS, 2 SPRINKLERS, LAZBUDDIE AREA.....CALL
JOHN MARS
 OWNER/BROKER, 265-7004
 CROP INSURANCE SPECIALIST

608 Summit



Wonderful, spacious backyard for lots of family fun. This 3 bedroom 2 bath house has central heating and air for added comfort. Large carport with storage room. Storm shelter in back. Metal roof and some updates. Call for an appointment today!

The realtors to call are:
 Margaret Del Toro, 346-2581
 Reba Buske, GRI 250-3140
 www.century21.com
 Independently Owned and Operated

PROPERTY ASSOCIATES REALTOR
 102 East 11th Friona
 806-250-2745
 806-265-5028 cell
 www.fronarealestate.com



1204 W. 6th
 3/2 Brick w/metal siding, corner lot, central heat & air, close to the High School
 \$85,000

NEW LISTING RESIDENTIAL

3/2 Brick w/fireplace, corner lot, cent. h&a, close to H.S.....Cont. Pend
REDUCED: 4/2 Brick w/fireplace, central h & a, metal roof, close to High school, corner lot, basement.....Call for details
4/3 Brick, Country fp, cent. h&a, 5 acres, 2 barns, CRP.....Call for details
3/2/1 Brick w/central heat & air, corner lot, sprinkler.....Call for details
3/2 Brick, w/fireplace, metal siding, central h&a, corner lot, storm cellar, storage bldg in fenced backyard, covered patio, 2 living areas.....\$110,000
REDUCED: 3/2 Brick w/fp, 2 liv. areas, cent. h&a, cellar, patio.....\$89,800
REDUCED: 3/2 Brick w/fp, cent. h&a, new carpet, close to HS.....\$84,000
4/2 Brick, Country home w/fireplace, basement, barn, NICE.....SOLD
3/2/1 Brick, w/fireplace, central heat & air, new fence, cellar.....SOLD
3/2 Brick w/central heat & air, Close to High School.....NICE.....SOLD
4/2 Brick Country on 3 acres, 2 fireplaces, 2 barns, 2 liv. Areas.....SOLD
3/2 Brick w/fp, cent. h&a, close to High School, NICE.....SOLD
5/2 Stucco Country Home with cellar, barn, shop on 2+ acres.....SOLD

BOVINA
 2/1/1 Stucco, Nice kitchen, Great Starter Home in Bovina.....SOLD
 3/1 Brick & Siding, metal roof, ceramic tile.....SOLD



1705 W. 10th
 4/3/2 Brick Western Addition, fireplace, formal dining room, office
 Call for details

3V Realty
 401 A W. 7th St.
 (Corner N. 25 mile Ave. & 7th St.)
 Hereford TX, 79045
 Serving Farmer, Deaf Smith & Castro Counties
 Office phone - 806-363-1800
 Cell phone - 806-265-7057
 Troy White
 Broker/Owner
 Hoping your New Year is filled with Joy and Good Health.
Listings
Frona Property
 3 brd/ 2 bath/ 2 car garage - 77,000
 3 brd/ 2 bath/ 2 car carport, storm cellar, lots of storage - 63,300
Hereford Property
New Construction
 Come in and choose your location and floor plan.

HELP WANTED

We will be having Certified Nurse Aide classes January 8th through January 19th
 Monday-Friday
 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Apply in person
 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday
Prairie Acres
 201 E. 15th Friona, TX.
 3tc-12.14-12.28

Wilbur-Ellis company has opening for warehouse/delivery person. Full time employment with benefits. CDL preferred. Please apply in person at 3495 County RD H, Hereford, TX or call 806-364-0712.
 4tc-12.14-1.4

Truck Driver Wanted
 CDL Required
 Home every night
 Farmers Feed
 Call 265-5911 or 250-2378
 tfn-12.7

Job Opening
Frona High School Cafeteria
 Part time or full time
 Applications available
 Friona ISD Admin. Office
 909 East 11th St.
 Contact Roxanne Hurst
 250-3353
 tfnc-11.9

Now under new Management
Now Hiring!
 Minsa is accepting applications for positions in the Maintenance Dept. Some previous maintenance or welding experience preferred. Apply in person at WorkSource 201 S. Main, Muleshoe or at Minsa EOE
 tfnc-2.23

FOR SALE

MOVING!!!! Queen mattress set \$119. Twin mattress set \$99. NEW, CLEAN, Washer \$255. 806-549-3110
 4tpd-12.7-12.28

NEW sofa/loveseat with 3 pc coffee table. In crate. \$489. 806-549-3110
 1tpd-12.28

CHERRY BEDROOM set, 6 pc, nice 4 poster bed, sell fast. \$949. 806-549-3110
 1tpd-12.28

URGENT SELL
 King mattress set \$199. Full mattress set \$99. PERFECT CONDITION. Microwave \$225. 806-549-3110
 4tpd-12.7-12.28

Large dining room table, 6 chairs, buffet, hutch, still boxed. \$999. 806-549-3110
 1tpd-12.28

ZERO ACHES. NASA memory foam mattress set. List \$1599. Sell \$399. Warranty. 806-549-3110
 4tpd-12.7-12.28

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE PHONE NUMBER IS 1-800-252-5400. Remember that our children today are our future tomorrow.
 F-tfnc

TEXAS COUNCIL ON FAMILY VIOLENCE
BREAK THE SILENCE
MAKE THE CALL
1-800-799-SAFE
ROMPE EL SILENCIO
LLAMA AHORA
1-800-799-SAFE

FRIONA MASONIC LODGE No. 1332
 Meeting-1st Tues. 8 P.M. - 7th & Ashland
 Lewis D. Gore, W.M.
 Larry J. Knowles, Sec.

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Sixth St. Church of Christ is collecting clothes for Medina Children's Home. If you have clothes that you would like to discard, regardless of size or condition, please bring them to Sixth St. Church of Christ.

FOR SALE

For Sale
 Good Used Treadmill. \$75.00
 250-2745 - Day
 250-2584 - After 6:00
 tfn-12.28

THE BONE JOINT CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC
 Dr. Mindy Neal
 509 Ave. I
 Bovina, Texas
 79009
 PHONE 806-251-1300

Now under new Management
Now Hiring!
 Minsa has several positions available in our production facility. We are looking for hardworking individuals to fill several positions. Apply in person at WorkSource, 201 S. Main St., Muleshoe or at Minsa EOE
 tfnc-2.23

Experienced cowboy needed at Dimmitt Feed Yard. Must have own horse and tack. Apply in person, see Scoty Edwards (806) 647-2106.
 tfnc-8.17

The VVS Cafeteria at the Cargill Plant in Friona is taking applications for an evening cook, hours: 3-10 pm. No Sundays or Holidays. Competitive starting pay and benefit package available. Apply in person at the Plant Cafeteria, ask for Christopher.
 2tc-12.21-12.28

FOR RENT

FOR RENT
 1 Bedroom Apartment
 Call 250-3818
 tfnc-12.14

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

I do handyman work of all kinds. Residential or farm. Allen Humburg, (806) 295-6737 leave message. Have references.
 tfnc-12.7

Experienced Loader Operator Needed
TexZona-Frona, LLC
 (806)-295-6905 Office
 Competitive Wages & Benefits
 Contact T.C. Cook
 806-265-5500 Cell
 2tc-12.21-12.28

Nursery Worker needed. Apply at Calvary Baptist Church 15th & Cleveland
 tfnc-11.2

SILVERHAWK SECURITY has positions open for security guards. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or GED and have no criminal record. Pay \$7 per hour. Call 295-8357 or come by the security office at Cargill Meat Solutions.
 tfnc-4.25

Want to make more money?
 Work at Home
 Member of BBB
 Daily Pay
 With Benefits
 For Additional Information:
 Email: Tjameson@ameriplan.net
 Website:
 www.mybenefitsplus.com/Tjameson
 Phone: 1-806-265-5142

Happy New Year!

MOOVIES 6
 Sugartand Mall 400 N. 25 Mile Ave - Hereford, Texas
 Business Offices: 364-0101 - Movie Hotline: 364-8000
DEC 22 THRU JAN 4
We are Marshall PG
 1:15 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:30
Night at the Museum PG
 1:30 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:20
Rocky Balboa PG
 1:30 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:10
Pursuit of Happiness PG
 1:15 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:20
Charlotte's Web G
 1:30 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:05
The Holiday PG-13
 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:10
Eragon PG
 MONDAY-THURSDAY: 7PM SHOWING ONLY
 WEEKEND & HOLIDAY: MATINEES: \$3
 ADULTS \$5 KIDS & SENIORS \$3

Stevens 5-Star
 Glenn Reeve is your local contact for
New and GM Certified Used Vehicles
Over 300 New and Used Cars & Trucks
 Stevens Car & Truck Center
 Call 250-3278 or 265-7034

Cargill Meat Solutions in Friona, TX is currently looking for Data Entry Clerks who are interested in becoming a Team Member with the Beef Industry Leader.

- Cargill Meat Solutions Offers:**
- Starting pay of \$8 per hour
 - 3rd Shift Opening, 9pm-6am
 - Paid Vacations, Holidays
 - Discounted Beef Meat Sales
 - Excellent Tuition Reimbursement Program
 - Outstanding Family Medical, Dental and Prescription Drug Program
 - Disability and Life Insurance Plan
 - Company Paid Pension and 401(K) Plan
 - Safe Working Environment
 - Opportunity for Advancement

- At Cargill Meat Solutions:**
- Every employee, in every job matters
 - We are valued, respected and have the opportunity to succeed
 - We share a commitment to hard work, accountability and results
 - Every employee, in every job, makes a difference, every day

Cargill Meat Solutions values an engaged, diverse organization that embraces, respects and maximizes each individuals potential resulting in improved business performance.

If you are interested in taking advantage of the many opportunities where employees are appreciated, Cargill invites you to be a part of this organization.

Please mail application & resume to P.O. Box 579, Friona, TX 79035 or fax to (806) 295-6329. Contact Shaunta Fox at (806) 295-8227 for more information, Please Leave a Message.

Cargill Meat Solutions is an ADA/EEO Employer

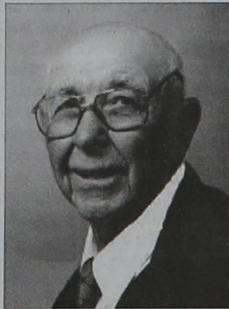
OBITUARIES

Christian G. Drager

Funeral services for Christian G. Drager, 96, of the Rhea Community, were held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 23, 2006, at St. John Lutheran Church at Lariat, Texas, with Pastor David Symm officiating. Burial was in the Rhea Lutheran Cemetery in Rhea, with arrangements by Blackwell Funeral Home of Friona.

Mr. Drager passed away on Wednesday, December 20, 2006, at Prairie Acres Nursing Home in Friona.

He was born on July 15, 1910, in Copperas Cove, Texas, to John Henry and Annie (Jacob) Drager. He moved from Copperas Cove to Parmer County in 1925.



Christian G. Drager

He married Ruth Durrenberger on June 8, 1947, in Warda, Texas.

He was a farmer and a veteran of WWII, serving in the Army. He was a member of St. John Lutheran Church in Lariat, the American Legion, VFW, Curry County Fiddlers Association, and Friona Senior Citizens. He was also an Elder and President of Immanuel Lutheran Church at Rhea and a member of the church until its closing.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth, and two sons, Raymond Drager of Melissa, Texas and Curtis Drager and wife, Shirley, of Friona (Rhea Community), three grandchildren, four step-grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and 11 step-great grandchildren. Also, a host of nieces and nephews.

2nd Timothy 12

...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

Funeral services for Darlene Swinney, 58, of Haskell, Texas, were held Wednesday December 20, 2006, at Trinity Baptist Church with Bro. J. C. Amburn and Bro. Charles Blair officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mrs. Swinney died Sunday, December 17, at her residence.

Born as a twin October 3, 1948, in Haskell, she was the daughter of W.O. Irvin and Laura Alice Sellers Irvin. She married Billy Joe Swinney February 9, 1966, at Trinity Baptist Church. She worked for Bassings Jewelry Store as

Darlene Swinney



Darlene Swinney

a sales clerk for 26 years. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

Darlene loved her grandchildren with all her heart, they referred to her as MeMaw. Her garden of wildflowers was always one of her favorite hobbies. She was an inspiration for all that knew her.

She was preceded in death

by her father; and brother Sonny Irvin.

Survivors include her husband, Billy Joe Swinney of Haskell; mother, Laura Alice Irvin of Haskell; daughter Shelia Renay Cothron and husband Bobbie of Haskell; son, Joseph William Swinney and wife Tamara of Haskell; brothers Bobby Irvin and wife Billye of Houston; and Ricky Irvin and wife Lynn of Graham, Texas; sisters Mayme Gee and husband Everett, and Marlene Mueller and husband Joe, both of Friona; and grandchildren Shelby Layne Morrow, Preston Dwaine Morrow, Tristen Maelynn Swinney, and James William Swinney.

A visitation was held from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, December 19, at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to Trinity Baptist Church, 114 South Avenue D, Haskell, Texas 79521.

James Daniel Johnston



James Daniel Johnston

Funeral services for James Daniel Johnston, 76, of Friona, will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 28, 2006, at the Union Congregational Church Sanctuary (Grace Baptist Church), at 1601 N. Euclid, in Friona, with Reverend Steve Patterson, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Friona, officiating. Burial will be in the Friona Cemetery under the direction of Blackwell Funeral Home of Friona.

Mr. Johnston died Monday, December 25, 2006, at Prairie Acres in Friona.

He was born on May 18,

1930, in Ft. Worth, Texas, to Manton DeWitt and Stella B. (Hand) Johnston. He married Mary C. Massey on July 6, 1951 in Ft. Worth. He was a 1952 graduate of Baylor University. A Friona resident since 1962, he moved here from Ft. Worth.

He was employed 15 years with Continental Grain Co. in Fort Worth and then Friona. He then worked for Friona Industries at Black Grain for 17 years as an accountant.

He was a member of Grace Baptist Church in Friona, a former Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church in Friona, he was a member of the choir of all the churches

he attended, a former little league coach, a member of the Friona Evening Lions Club and was past president, he was a founding member of the Friona Senior meals and Senior Citizens, kept books for the annual stock show, honorary chapter farmer, board member of the Friona United Way, former board member of Prairie Acres, former board member of the Friona Chamber of Commerce, member of the Friona Museum Board and was named Friona's Man of the Year in 1986.

He was preceded in death by his parents and by a sister, Dorothy Louise Johnston in 1944.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Larry Johnston and Bryan Johnston, both of Friona; two daughters, Dorothy Prudhomme of Friona and Diane Bryant of Fairview, Texas; a brother, Clifford Johnston of Arlington, Texas; and 12 grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be made to the Friona Museum, Parmer County Community Hospital Building Fund, or Prairie Acres Nursing Home.

Have a Happy & Prosperous New Year From Friona Star

Amarillo College
College Degree
Better Job
More Training
Just for Fun

Start Here
(806) 457-4400

Register NOW for Spring

Amarillo College
Hereford Campus
An Equal Opportunity Community College

start

www.actx.edu

ACROSS

1 TXism: "salt some _____"

5 Spanish _____

6 TXism: "goes together like a kid _____ candy store"

7 TX JoBeth film: "_____ Crazy"

8 this agency has a mess of data about Americans (2 wds.)

17 _____ City, TX

18 TXism: "two _____" (alike)

21 TX Stephen of CSN & Y (init.)

22 TXism: "he _____ cut the mustard"

23 Dallas conspiracy area: "_____ knoll"

24 this TX Paul was a Clinton consultant

29 TXism: "big frog in the _____"

30 stop horse!

31 TX Barbara Mandrell's "I Don't Want to _____ Right"

32 TXism: "what _____ comes around"

34 "_____ Wild"

35 Hawaiian food

36 S&Ls and credit unions

37 TXism: "feel like _____ chewed up and spit out"

38 TX actor Rip

39 TX "Stone Cold" actor/wrestler

41 flip-flop sandal

42 in San Patricio Co. on hwy. 77

43 "Lonesome Dove" was a TV _____series

44 "San Antonio Girl" TX singer Steve

45 "neither's" sidekick

46 "echo" so. of the border

47 TXism: "smart as _____ full of owls"

48 TXism: "he wouldn't _____ to mount a stick horse" (dude)

DOWN

1 this drains into the Frio River (2 wds.)

2 in Rannels Co. on hwy. 83

3 northern Houston suburb

4 New _____ Eve

9 TXism: "_____ at 'em juice" (coffee)

10 TXism: "don't _____ a boy to do a man's job"

11 inhabitant of Austin's Congress Avenue Bridge

12 _____ 77 goes from Brownsville to Dallas

13 grazing or drilling

14 Houston co. guilty of accounting fraud

15 Azle h.s. class

16 "_____ and downs"

19 old rocker Ozzy

20 coloring

22 eat or purchase

24 Gazzara of "Road House" with TX Swayze (init.)

25 _____ Siecke State Forest

26 TXism: "_____ up with the chickens"

27 Galveston mansion: "_____ Villa"

28 "Streets of _____"

29 TXism: "_____ pencil to it"

30 to detach from the mother

33 TXism: "scared the dickens out _____"

34 TX Audie was a hero of this war

35 Rains Co. town during the Civil War

37 TXism: "pay _____ mind"

38 TXism: "_____ in the towel"

40 TXism: "green around the gills"

41 35-across is made from _____ corn

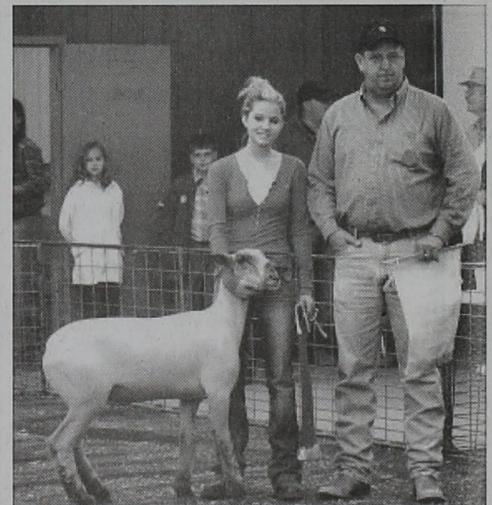
44 Lucy's best friend

47 song lyrics: "a cowboy's life is _____ thing ..."

49 TXism: "horse _____" (western)

The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
Answers on pg 4
Copyright 2006 by Orbison Bros.

P-783



star file photo
Many area youngsters have been working hard to compete in the upcoming livestock shows. Jordan Monroe enjoys a moment with show official John Jarecki during last year's county show. The county sale will be Saturday January 20.

Winter Clearance
40% OFF
SALE
Begins Dec. 29 in Hereford

Kids Alley
417 Main St. - Hereford TX
364-6074

Hash Browns and the Gospel: Scattered, splattered, smothered, and covered

Rewritten from "When Did Caesar Become a Salad and Jeremiah a Bullfrog" by Martin Babb

It was a traumatic and extremely noise-deafening experience when I moved from being a young married adult without children to a diaper-laden and French fries-between-the-seats young married adult with children. Before I had children, I ate in restaurants that actually had cloth napkins and breakable dishes, and where Styrofoam was a foreign word. These restaurants contained no playground, and the waiters didn't hover over our table like a crazed minstrel group to sing "Happy Birthday" in a manner that would make tap-dancing sumo wrestlers seem wonderfully artistic.

Eating out with young children required driving un-

der a golden arch or fighting our way past a man in a mouse suit to enter a circus-gone-mad arena and eat pizza with all the flavor and texture of a manhole cover. Those were the days.

I mention food because the seven stages in a person's life coincide with the seven major food groups. Babies like baby food - various-colored runny foods that temporarily fit on a little spoon and will enter the baby's mouth only when the feeding parent makes absurd and embarrassing boat, plane, or train noises. Many parents make other embarrassing noises, but those don't help the feeding situation.

Preschoolers prefer lightweight food. This is any food that can be easily thrown, pitched, or crammed. Older children like

finger foods. These are food items that can be held with fingers, strategically placed underneath the table when parents are not looking, and given to a smiling dog. The dog quits smiling when the child tries to slip him pickled okra.

Young teenagers eat medieval food - food that can be catapulted during a food fight. Older teens prefer food that can be consumed in mass quantities, such as pizza and cheese dip. College students enjoy cheap, greasy food that can be paid for by parents and eaten after midnight. Adults eat cafeteria food. This is food on display under a dirty, plastic sneeze guard.

There is a popular eatery that offers hash browns cooked six different ways: scattered, smothered, covered, chunked, diced, and

topped. But no matter how you order them, they are still hash browns. The church has done the same thing with the gospel story. The good news of Jesus has not changed in two thousand years, but how we serve it has. We have found new ways to meet people at their greatest need. Sounds sort of biblical, doesn't it?

After all, isn't that what Jesus did? He chunked common religious customs of the day to spend time with sinners. Instead of coming to destroy the law, He topped it. Self-righteous Pharisees could not trap Him - He verbally diced them into little pieces. Ultimately, Jesus's blood covered out sins. Like hash browns, the gospel is not fully understood until it is shared - one way or the other. The gospel, fixed in definition and flexible in demonstration, is scattered to the world...and smothered with love.

Think about this

"Oh, you'd better watch out!"

BY T. LEON TALLEY, Sixth Street Church of Christ

Above all, a person who is a Christian, should be excited and hopeful about the return of Jesus Christ.

Now, certainly, the judgment of the Lord will be a terrible thing to those who have no hope. On that day, it will be a terrifying time for those who haven't loved and obeyed the Lord. Note the judgment scene in Matthew 25:31-46. Peter gives us another view in II Peter 3:1-13.

So, the message is: "You'd better get ready!" That, dear friend, is what this life is all about. Getting ready! Life is not about making money, getting an education, or being popular. It's about getting ready.

Our view of the coming of the Lord should mean more to us than just procuring insurance against the impending wrath of God. Absolutely, we must submit to Christ, but our view of the Lord's coming should motivate us to living today like today is THE Day of the Lord. Who knows, it may be!



"I'm not romantic? Who e-mails you a kiss good night every night?"

DID YOU KNOW?

The first grocery store and gas station in Lariat was built by J.C. Robertson and the first post mistress was Maggie, his wife. The post office was housed in a portion of the store. The year was 1923.

Prairie Progress c. 1981

New Year's Greetings

Happy Birthday

December 31, 2006-January 6, 2007

- Dec. 31-Bill Ellis, Glenda Ellis Kitten, Keith Martin, Staci Murphree, Oscar Torres, Frankie Lindeman, Emily Marie Epperson, Janice Richards, Tonya Rainey,
- Jan. 1-Hack Corbell, Gary Stowers, Richard Wilson, Cordella Jeter, Loree Myers, Benny Pryor
- Jan. 2-John Bill McFarland, Sunny Horton Ratliff, Dr. Neil Veggeberg, Buford Hartwick, Jose Luis Prieto, Deanna Duke, Jimmy Bynum
- Jan. 3-Vicki Kube, Jennifer Brockman Baize, Marriott Horton, Vondale Mann, Jeremy Reed, John Jarecki, Maxine Bolding, David Moseley, Jolynn Tongate, Keylan Moore, Dale Mann, Jayden Merket
- Jan. 4- Wanda Wilhelm Gibson, Debbie Stowers, Mike Sunderlin, Judy Hromas, Brad Hromas, Peter Vanegas, Sandra Cockerham, Joe Black, Sr.
- Jan. 5-Courtney Stowers, Carolyn Kaufman, Keith Moore, Jalyn Scott, Destiny Sandoval, Sarah Zagorin, Nora Fuentes, Charlsie Eubanks, Ricky Jamerson, Jim Bob Scott
- Jan. 6-Wesley Barnett, Randy Lee Sharpe, Megan Conlee, Linda Griffin, Don Teague, Carlene Grissom

Nice n' easy **TELLER RECIPE** MEMBER FDIC
APPLE DUMPLINGS
(Delicious!)

4 small Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored and cut into fourths
1 pkg. (8) crescent rolls
1 cup orange juice

2/3 cup sugar
1 stick margarine
Cinnamon and sugar (mixture)

Wrap two pieces (1/2 apple) in each roll and place in greased 9"x13"x2" baking dish. Combine orange juice, sugar and margarine in saucepan and bring to a boil. Pour mixture over rolls and sprinkle with a mixture of cinnamon and sugar. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes until done.

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Friona, TX 79035

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Joni Johnson & Paul Graham
Frank Estrada & Marissa Prieto



MY COTTAGE

Phone: 250-8073

Jamie Slagle & Greg Lewellen
Joni Johnson & Paul Graham
Nathan King & Kenley Baker
Jeri D'Lynn Carr & Thomas Massey II
Marissa Prieto & Frank Estrada

Area Church Directory

Friona

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
VICTORY FAMILY
WORSHIP CENTER
9TH & WASHINGTON
PASTOR ROBERT KERBY
250-2207

TEMPLO "MARANTHA"
SPANISH
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
301 GRAND
REV. ISIDRO JIMINEZ

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CALVARY BAPTIST
15TH & CLEVELAND
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CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1601 EUCLID
250-3456

TEMPLO BAUTISTA
403 WOODLAND
MAURICIO ANTONIO
MARTINEZ, PASTOR
250-3472

CATHOLIC
ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC
16TH & CLEVELAND
Rev. Johnson Vadakumchery, CMI
250-2871

CHURCH OF CHRIST
SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST
502 WEST SIXTH
T. LEON TALLEY, MINISTER
250-2769

TENTH ST. CHURCH
OF CHRIST
10TH & EUCLID
RON SMILEY 250-3213
GERALL WYLY 295-6774

METHODIST
FRIONA UNITED METHODIST
8TH & PIERCE
REV. STEVE PATTERSON
250-3045

IGLESIA COMPANERISMO
CRISTIANO
7TH & WASHINGTON
RUBEN RIVERA, MINISTER
250-8011

CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
UNION CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
1601 EUCLID
JULIA ALEXANDER
250-3635

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FIRST PENTECOSTAL
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251-1632

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MIKE PRATHER, MINISTER
251-1334

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
205 4TH STREET
AMELIA GONZALES, PASTOR
251-1124

ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
401 3RD STREET
251-1511

LA IGLESIA DE DIOS DEL
PRIMOGENITO
THE CHURCH OF GOD
OF THE FIRSTBORN
102 2ND

IGLESIA BAUTISTA HISPANA
103 1ST STREET
RAFAEL MARIN, PASTOR
251-5232

St. Teresa's Catholic Church



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Friona TX

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Methodist service on channel 76
The Sunday morning worship service of the Friona United Methodist Church is now being broadcast on Sunday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. on WT Services local channel 76. For up-to-date news, prayer requests, and birthday reminders the church hotline is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. The number is 250-8200.

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Mobile: 806-357-9132
Office: 806-357-2231
Summerfield
PO Drawer 1938
Hereford TX 79045

WT Services Inc.
1010 Columbia at Hwy 60, Friona
Hours: 8am-noon and 1-5 pm
Monday-Friday
250-5555

TOWN TALK II

by ron carr

This is our final issue for 2006. Happy New Year to everyone and thank you for your support throughout the year. We'll start the New Year off in January with a round of the livestock shows, some exciting Chiefain/Squaw basketball and whatever else we can find to report. Don't forget to keep us posted next year on any news or events of local interest to our readers and your neighbors.

The Christmas holidays brought families together. I visited with Matthew Kendrick. Seems like a few months ago

we were taking photos of Matthew running the football for the Chiefains. He is now living in Lubbock and working for his dad's company, Kendrick Oil, as a regional manager for Lubbock-area Fast Stop stores.

Saw Garland Buske last week. He is a Lubbockite too, with a year left in college at Tech. His parents B. K. and Janet are residents of Bulverde, Texas, and still in the real estate business. I know they receive the Friorn Star so Happy New Year to you both.

Also home for the holidays were Landon Martin, Quint Ellis and his sister Whitney, and Jeff Hamilton. All are Friorna graduates in recent years back home visiting family. I'm sure there were others home for the holidays. We are always happy to have former folks come back to Friorna for a visit.

Ask Blackwell Funeral Home director Dusty Hansard what his favorite Christmas present was. He can now listen to "All-Elvis, All the Time" he says.

A big cotton burr fire at the Parmer County Cotton Growers Gin east of Farwell Christmas Eve kept firefighters from Farwell, Texico, Bovina, Friorna, Lazbuddie, and Rhea busy until late at night. There was no damage to the gin facility.

My friend and former Friorna Star publisher Bill Ellis will celebrate his 70th birthday December 31. He is a New Year's Eve baby if one can still be called a baby at 70. The family is planning a get-together outside of Lubbock at cousin Kenny Ellis' animal farm on December 30. Happy birthday, Mr. Bill.

Attended Municipal Judge Eddie Mays' retirement reception Friday at city hall. Quite a few well-wishers came by to

wish Judge Mays all the best in retirement. Her daughter Charity was present from Wolfforth to help with the refreshments. Enjoyed cake and coffee and all the city employees were decked out in Christmas attire.

Long time city employee Donice Jones will assume the municipal judge post. She has been working and training for the position for several months. Donice is a former police dispatcher, a city hall clerk, and now the municipal judge. Congratulations to Eddie and best wishes to Donice for their past, present, and future service to the community.

Our kindest sympathies to the family of Jim Johnston. After a long difficult struggle with many health problems, Jim passed away Christmas night. He had just recently been moved from an Amarillo hospital back to Prairie Acres nursing home in Friorna. Jim was an uplifting guy with many friends and a long history in Friorna. He is at peace now and our

thoughts and prayers are extended to his wife Mary and the Johnston family.

My daughter Megan and son Zach arrived Tuesday. They will be here a week. It was a new era for me. For the first time in the last 10-years I did not have to meet their mother in Childress to pick them up for their holiday visit. They drove out here by themselves since they both now have driver's licenses. I was nervous but aren't we all when our children start being adults. In a bit of irony, the kids stopped at our transfer point for the past 10-years, the McDonald's in Childress, for lunch before continuing on to Friorna. Old habits are hard to break. Kids grow up, we all get older, time marches on.

School resumes on January 3. We have put the holidays to rest for one more year. My New Year's wish is that your New Year's resolutions last much longer than mine. All the best success in 2007.



**Jon Douglas
5-year Firefighter**

Friorna volunteer fireman Jon Douglas received his 5-year service award at the department's annual Christmas banquet. Jon is the local manager of CHS, Inc. He and his wife Rachel have three children, Gavin, Brandon, and Gabby.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



NOTICE OF CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION APPLICATION General Permit Authorization No. TXG920830

APPLICATION. GARY SCOTT HICKS, 650 County Road 21, Muleshoe, Texas 79347-4809, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) under General Permit No. TXG920000 for authorization to operate a new dairy facility at 7,200 total head, of which 4,000 head are milking, in Parmer County, Texas. The notice of intent was received by TCEQ on August 29, 2006. No discharge of pollutants into the waters in the state is authorized by this general permit except under chronic or catastrophic rainfall conditions or events. All waste and wastewater will be beneficially used on agricultural land.

The proposed facility will be located on the south side of County Road Y, approximately 0.5 mile west of the intersection of County Road Y and County Road 22, said intersection is approximately one mile north of the intersection of County Road 22 and Ranch Road 145 in Parmer County, Texas. The facility will be located in the drainage area of the Double Mountain Fork Brazos River in Segment No. 1241 of the Brazos River Basin.

A copy of the notice of intent, application, the Executive Directors technical summary, and the CAFO general permit is available for viewing and copying at the **Parmer County Courthouse/County Clerk's Office, 401 3rd Street, Farwell, Texas 79325.**

The Executive Director of the TCEQ has made a preliminary decision to approve coverage of this facility under General Permit No. TXG920000.

PUBLIC COMMENT. Written public comments may be submitted to the Office of Chief Clerk, at the address provided in the information section below, within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of this notice. In addition, the public may request a public meeting. If significant interest exists, the Executive Director will direct the applicant to publish a notice of the public meeting and hold the public meeting. The applicant must publish notice of a public meeting at least 30 days prior to the meeting in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the CAFO is proposed to be located. The Executive Director will consider all relevant information pertaining to whether the applicant meets the requirements of the general permit and will issue a written determination as to any final action on the notice of intent for coverage under the general permit.

INFORMATION. Written public comments should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. For additional information, about the application or the procedure for public participation in the general permit process, individual members of the general public may contact the Office of Public Assistance at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. General information regarding the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Issued: December 14, 2006

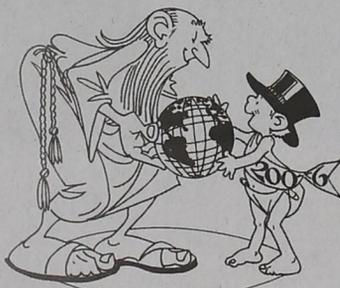
Whew!

Time really does fly when you're having fun, and we've had a great time getting to know you this year. Here's hoping the

2007

New Year is filled with good times and good fortune for all of you. Thanks for your kind support.

MAKE EVERY SECOND COUNT!

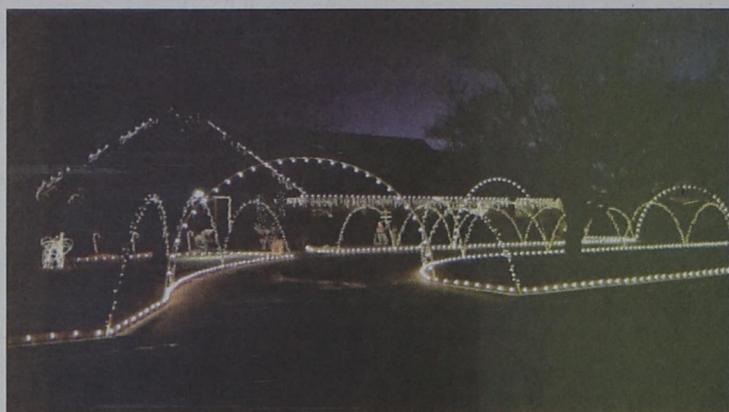


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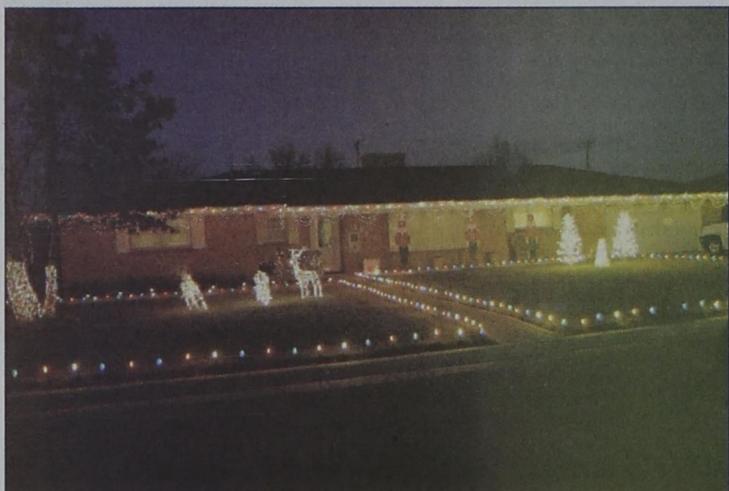
ron carr photo

1st place, John & Evelyn Mars, 1619 W. 10th St. The Mars residence was voted the 1st place winner in the Chamber of Commerce Christmas lighting contest.

Lighting contest winners named

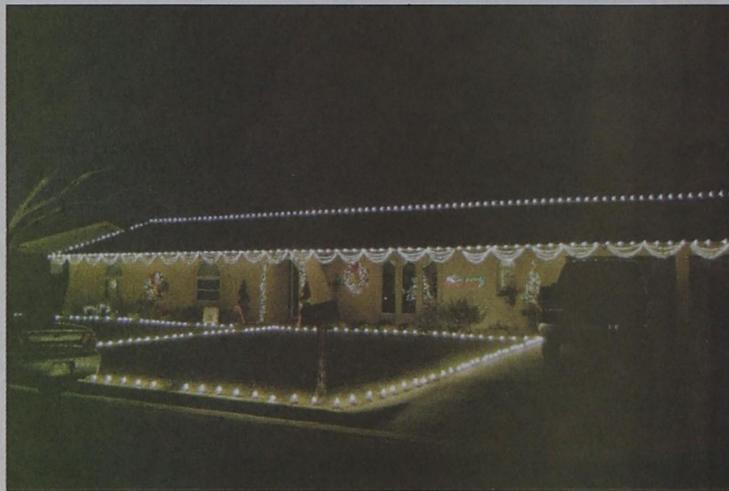
The Friona Chamber of Commerce, with the help of some volunteer judges, named the winners in the Christmas lighting contest. Residents were asked to fill out an entry blank to enter their home in the judging. Then a panel of volunteers went around to the homes entered and voted for their choices.

The winners this year are: 1st place, John and Evelyn Mars, 1619 W. 10th St. \$100 Friona Bucks; 2nd place Tom and Betty Jarboe, 1308 W. 7th St., \$75 Friona Bucks; and 3rd place, Bryan and Dana Campbell, 1610 W. 10th St., \$50 Friona Bucks.



ron carr photo

2nd place, Tom & Betty Jarboe, 1308 W. 7th St. The Jarboe home was the 2nd prize winner in the Chamber Christmas lighting contest.



ron carr photo

3rd place, Bryan & Dana Campbell, 1610 W. 10th. The Campbells won 3rd place for their decorations in the Christmas lighting contest.

Another Year Is Waltzing In...

*...And we'd like to
cut in with our
best wishes for a
happy, healthy
and prosperous
New Year to
all of our
neighbors
and friends.
You make
it all worthwhile!*



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