Friona + Star

VOL. 88, NO. 2

FRIONA, TEXAS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012

TEN PAGES

Burn ban lifted

At their regular meeting Monday, January 9, Parmer County commissioners lifted the county burn ban. Precinct 1 commissioner Kirk Frye said the ban is lifted indefinitely.

Free baby items, pre-natal classes

The Healthy Baby Coalition

of Parmer County is having sign up for free pre-natal classes Saturday, January 14 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Registration will be at the Parmer Medical Center conference room.

All expectant mothers are encouraged to register for the free classes. Mothers who participate in the classes earn points to use for free baby items for their newborn.

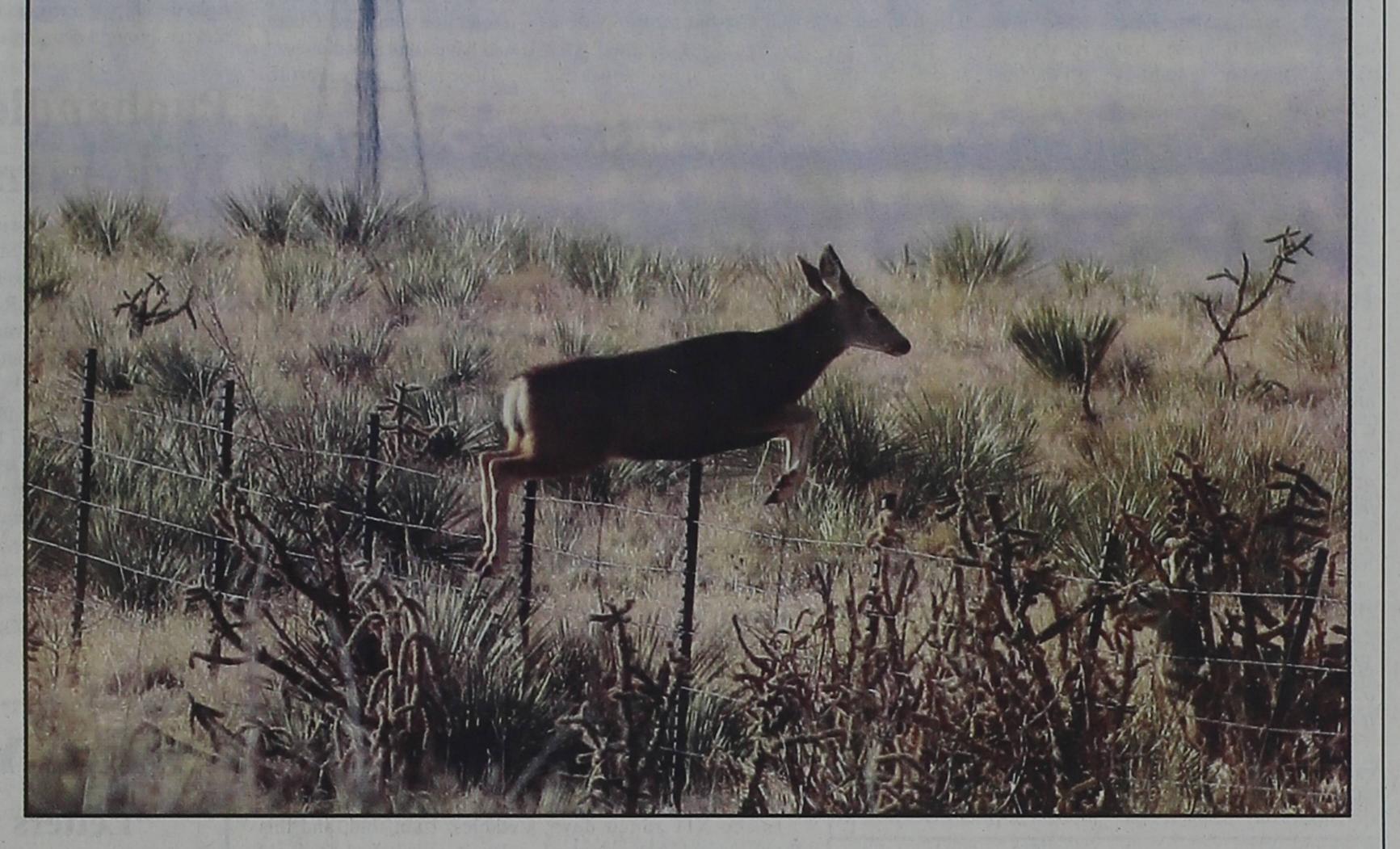
Classes are available in both English and Spanish. The coalition will also be accepting donations of new or gently used baby items at the same time.

For more information about the coalition see a HBC board member or contact Heidi Eichenauer at 806-250-2754 or JoDonna Terry at 295-8291.

Two arrested on drug warrant

In the early morning hours of Tuesday, January 10, the Parmer County Sheriff's department exercised a search warrant on a residence at 2626 FM2397.

Sheriff Randy Geries said the two men arrested were



courtesy photo

Local veterinarian Dr. Gary Cash is also a pretty good wildlife photographer. He has a series of bird, coyote, and deer photos posted on Facebook. This one in particular of a deer leaping a fence up in Oldham County with the old windmill in the background is a nice capture of life on the high plains.

Livestock shows begin Sunday

Gabriel Miguel Rodriguez, 31, and Juan Lares, 31. They were charged with possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, a first degree felony. Geries said both men were asleep when deputies came calling.

The Parmer County Sheriff's office also assisted Castro County law enforcement with the arrest of 8 people in Dimmitt last week during a similar drug bust operation. January is livestock show time in the Panhandle. Young men and women from throughout the area will be grooming, feeding, and hoping their animals will be on their best behavior.

A week of stock shows at

Council meeting is quick and short

The Friona city council met in regular session Monday, January 9, in council chambers at 619 Main St. Mayor J.B. Douglas presided. Councilmen Charlie Pope and Mark Osborn were absent. The agenda was brief. The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

Prior to the start of the official meeting it was noted that vandals shot or otherwise broke glass in the front window of the Book Shoppe on 6th St. and the east entrance door of the Friona Library.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Friona Police Chief Tino Salinaz submitted the 2011 racial profiling report required by the state for all law enforcement agencies. Doug Kelley was reappointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission. The accounts payable, first quarter financial statements and December 2011 financial statements were all discussed and approved.

A 4-foot variance was approved for Kendrick Oil Co. property at 9th and Washington Sts. The next meeting of the Friona city council will be Monday, February 13 at 6:30 p.m., 619 Main St. All regular council meetings are open to the public.

the Friona community cenconcession stand available. Weigh-in for the Parmer ter kicks off Sunday January 15 at 2:00 p.m. with the County Livestock Show Friona stock show. County will be Wednesday January extension agent Benji Hen-18 from 1 - 5 p.m. Barrows derson will coordinate and and lambs will be classified the judge will be Briscoe as weighed. Steers will be County extension agent Naclassified at 5:30 p.m. and a heifer show will be at 6 p.m. than Carr. There will be a The Parmer County Junior Livestock Show will

begin at 8 a.m. Thursday January 19. The goat show is first, followed by lambs. The steer show is scheduled at 11 a.m. followed by gilt show. The barrow show is

in the afternoon beginning at 1 p.m. Judges will be Skipper Carlisle lambs and goats; Greg Schilling steers; and Brad Bevel barrows and gilts. The Lazbuddie stock show

The Lazbuddie stock show will be held Friday January 20 at 11 a.m. in the Friona community center. (The Farwell stock show was held Saturday January 7.) Saturday January 21 the premium sale will start at 1 p.m. A concession stand will be serving lunch prior to the sale. Only Grand and Reserve Grand animals will be shown at the sale. Other sale exhibitors will walk through the sale without their animals. The sale is limited to 140 animals.

Mack Heald is the general superintendent; Je-Don Gallman assistant superintendent; Lesly Curtis swine superintendent; Kevin Schueler lamb and goat superintendent; and Terry Jesko cattle superintendent. John Jarecki and Dale Schueler are board treasurers.

Gatlin resigns as PMC administrator

Parmer County Medical Center administrator Lance Gatlin has resigned effective February 17. Gatlin has accepted a position in Amarillo as administrator for Amarillo Pathology Group and an associated company, Physicians Preferred Laboratory. Gatlin, who moved back to Friona in 2003 to take over as Parmer County Community Hospital administrator, successfully guided the planning and construction of the new Parmer Medical Center hospital.

Hospital district board member Danny Kendrick said the hospital management company is accepting applications for an administrator. Several applications have been received. After review of the applications the management company will submit candidates to the hospital board for further consideration.



ron carr photos

A three vehicle accident at 5th and Grand Wednesday afternoon January 4 resulted in lots of damage but no injuries. A pickup, a Muleshoe ISD Suburban, and a smaller SUV were involved. The small SUV collided with the pickup then hit the Suburban, which was stopped at the stop sign. Friona EMS, Friona firemen, and Friona police all responded to the scene.

Thursday, January 12, 2012



what does that even mean

Mitt Romney wants to save the soul of America.

He said so Tuesday night after declaring victory in the New Hampshire primary. He has declared that before out on the old campaign trail.

In the months leading up to the November 6 election we will no doubt be the recipients of some high and mighty glorious political rhetoric.

When a politician says we need to save the soul of America, many people have a different notion of what that really means. Some have no idea what it means but applaud anyway. It implies

that America has lost its soul, otherwise how could we save it. That in turn implies that all 313 million Americans are soulless which is perhaps not true.

If Romney is elected I would expect him at some point to declare "We have now saved America's soul." Otherwise how will we know? Several politicians declare we need to get America back on track. What does that mean? Before you send me an anonymous note, I know it is a figure of speech. But is it. In some minds America is off the track, at least partially

derailed. I hope they will tell me as soon as we are back on track.

In New Hampshire last night Romney made reference to that shining city on the hill, which of course is attributed to President Ronald Reagan but Mitt didn't mention Ronald. We still dream of that shining city on the hill, no doubt some biblical reference intended. Who wouldn't want a shining city on the hill?

Then there is President Obama's goal for America: Winning the future. No one ever really explained what that means. It too implies that

now. There are winners and losers so I reckon if we win the future the rest of the world won't have much of a future. But, see, you can never win the future because there will always be more future, even after you win it.

we have lost the future up to

Saving the soul of America. Getting America back on track. Winning the future. That shining city on the hill. Looking forward to more gems of political rhetoric in the days ahead. In his bid for re-election I'm sure Obama will have some good ones. Hope and Change, Part II.

Letters to the Editor

Governor Rick Perry issued the following statement on the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals decision to overturn a district judge's injunction against Texas' sonogram law:

"Today's ruling is a victory for all who stand in defense of life. Every life lost to abortion is a tragedy, and this important sonogram legislation ensures that every Texas woman seeking an abortion has all the facts about the life she is carrying and understands the devastating impact of such a life-ending decision. We will continue to fight any attempt to limit our state's laws that value and protect the unborn."



Senator John Cornyn issued this statement following a report that the national debt is now larger than our entire economy:

"This dismal benchmark underscores the President's aversion to making tough fiscal choices in an election year. Rather than listening to the campaign advice coming from Chicago, the President should heed the advice of his own fiscal commission. Next month the President will submit his budget to Congress and voters will see if we have a leader who possesses the audacity to right the ship or one who will continue to lead us down a path that has brought economies in Western Europe to their knees."

cogitations & aphorisms of jodok

By Uncle John White • 1868 - 1965

Paul Crume wrote about Bovina in BIG D

The late Paul Crume, a native of the Lariat and Farwell area in Parmer County, wrote a column titled BIG D that appeared on the front page of the Dallas Morning News from 1952 to 1975. The following column about Bovina was written by Mr. Crume in 1964, almost 50-years ago. One of our readers and a former Friona teacher, Mal Manchee of Hereford, found a copy of the column and sent it to us.

The lady said her husband came from Bovina out on the high plains and had set up in

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Car & Truck Center

Dallas a shingling scaffold just like the ones he always used in Bovina.

Down here in this swampy, hot climate, however, the scaffold collapsed on him and injured a wrist. This proves again that the only things that work in both Bovina and rocks all day and probably Dallas are people.

Maybe you've never heard you were trying. of Bovina, but the chances are it hasn't heard of you either, so don't feel smart about it. As of now, I don't care much for the town. It has become a crowded, teeming metropolis of 2,000 people, and if a wanted to.

I. Hwy 385 in

364-2160

Se Habla

Español

ereford, TX

fellow just turns loose and throws a rock for the heck of it, he is likely to hit something. In our day, they used to line up the population of Bovina and run them by twice in census years. If you wanted to, you could heave not hit anything even when

The target value of a rock has gone way up in Bovina in the last 25 or 30 years. I liked the town better when you could rear back and throw a rock through it if you

In the XIT ranch days, Bovina reportedly shipped more cattle with less pedigree per car than any other city in the world.

The Bovina that we knew, however, was in the late 1920's, when as a smart alec from the county seat we

People would come from miles around to see it and show the kids what happened to Noah.

> Nowadays, I hear, farmers don't get this kind of joy out of a heavy rain around Bovina. Sometimes the fields get so wet that the farmers can't get into them to turn on the irrigation pumps.

Nowadays, the plains people have taken up the dangerous assumption that water is an ally, but in our day it was an Act of God.

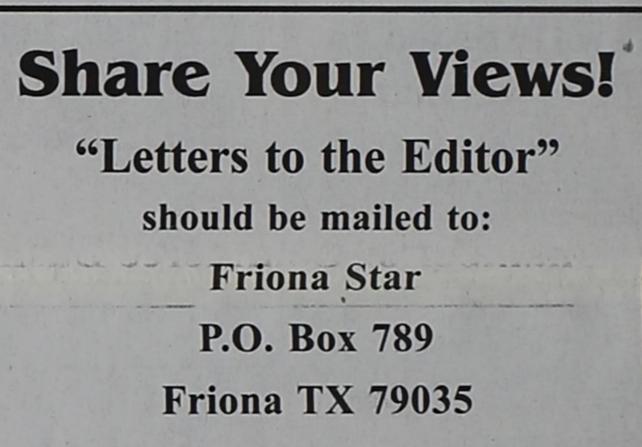
The farmers around Bovina now grow a lot of vegetables, I am told, and this also is a switch. In the old days, nobody in his right mind would have wasted good milo and kaffir land on vegetables when you could go to the store and buy plenty of dried beans.

Oldtimers everywhere would go down and spend the from Bovina to Alaska have proved that the dried bean is the only vegetable required by the human body for tone and health. The dried bean eaters lived long and healthful lives. Their sons and grandsons have not fared so well, probably because they have foundered on green stuff like lettuce and broccoli spears. If there was one

Panhandle Professional Writers meeting Jan 21

The Panhandle Professional Writers b-monthly meeting is Saturday, January 21, at St. Stephen United Methodist Church east campus at 4415 Wesley Drive (off 45th between Coulter and Soncy) in Amarillo. Registration and greeting time is 9:30 - 10 a.m. The program runs from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with a lunch break from 12-1 p.m.

Barbara Brannon, marketing manager at Texas Tech University Press will present a program: Circles of Desire: A Workshop for Refining Your Plot and Synopsis. This workshop is helpful for anyone with a work of fiction or nonfiction in any stage of completion. Bring your materials for one projectideas, notes, outline, manuscript-to this hands-on session. There is a \$5 guest fee, deferred if you join PPW. Dues are \$30 annual. Student guests with a school ID will be charged a \$1 fee. Lunch is \$10 and requires an RSVP to Janet Taylor at 282-1227 or ppwlunch@gmail.com.



stroke this week pitalized at BSA **** Tickets have well for the Mo 23 steak dinner champion Chan It will be held at Church of Chris Tickets are \$1: \$8 students. Fro. meet and greet ti Proceeds benefit County Cancer Co lent auction will b the dinner. Ticket info from Jamie 250-3545 or the I

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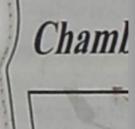
friend and former

dent Anne Corr

In case you on the front pa mer County bi been lifted indef be reinstated if n commissioners now there is no t ****

ber of Commerce

Congratulatic





See Glenn Reeve for new GMC, Chevrolet, or Buick vehicles. Glenn can also sell all makes or models of pre-owned vehicles. Let Glenn help you find your next new or pre-owned car or truck. Call Glenn at 265-7034.

night with the Caldwell boys or the Ezell boys. We could always think up some innocent amusement at Bovina such as going out at night and locating some unbranded watermelons loose in a field.

At the time Bovina was mainly famous as the flood capital of Precinct 2. Bovina is located on the shores of Running Water Draw. Although it is not exactly navigable nine years out of ten and a lot of good crops were grown in the channel, Running Water Draw occasionally would collect all the rain that fell over the plains and turn into a torrent.

thing people knew in our day it was never to eat green alfalfa. Not that there was any danger of eating anything green around Bovina in those days. Times have changed, and that's probably what happened to that scaffold.

or emailed to: frionastar@wtrt.net

and should include your name and phone

number or address. Anonymous letters are not

published. We reserve the right to edit all

'letters to the editor' for content and/or length.

ON YOUR PAYROLL

President Barack Obama, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500; (202) 456-1414

U.S. Senate

Kay Bailey Hutchison, 284 Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510-4304; (202) 224-5922; email, senator@hutchison. senate.gov John Cornyn, 517 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510;

U.S. House District 19

Randy Neugebauer, 429 Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515; (202) 225-4005; e-mail is through Website http://www.house.gov/neugebauer. District Office: 611 University Ave., Suite 220, Lubbock 79401; (806) 763-1611 or toll-free (888) 763-1611

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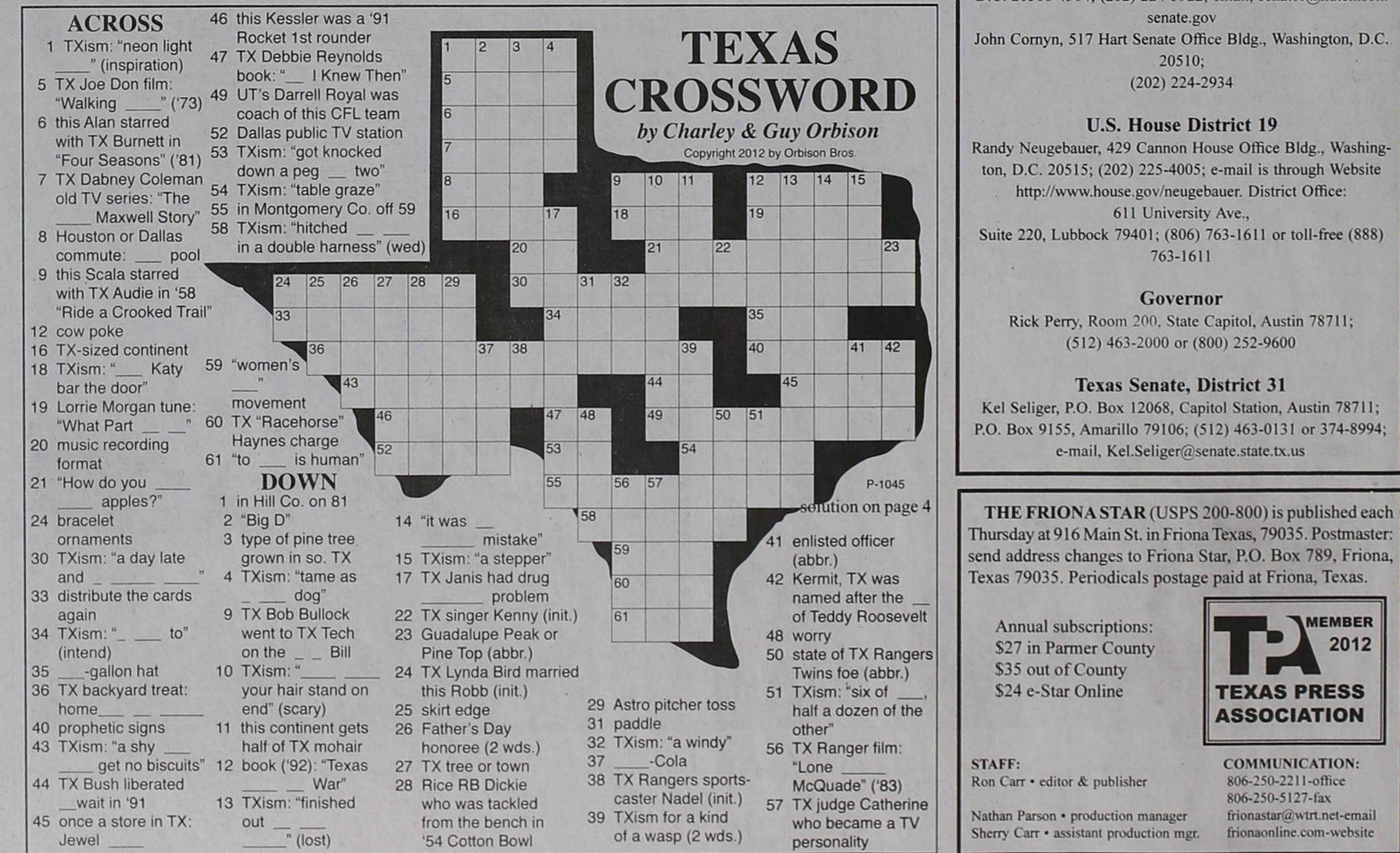
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Acceptance, people you v through to yu MEMBER 2012 **TEXAS PRESS** ASSOCIATION

COMMUNICATION: 806-250-2211-office 806-250-5127-fax frionastar@wtrt.net-email frionaonline.com-website

12, 2012 tor ent on the a district lefense of important in seeking Tying and ding decj. our state's

conomy: s aversion ather than icago, the nmission. ngress and udacity to wn a path ir knees."

ng a report

will be closed Monday January 16 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Not sure about any other local businesses.

Received word that my friend and former Bovina resident Anne Corn suffered a stroke this week and is hos-

23 steak dinner with rodeo

champion Chandler Bownds.

It will be held at the 6th Street

Church of Christ at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 adults and

\$8 students. From 5-6:30 the

meet and greet tickets are \$5.

Proceeds benefit the Parmer

County Cancer Coalition. A si-

lent auction will be held during

the dinner. Ticket purchase and

info from Jamie Lewellen at

250-3545 or the Friona Cham-

ber of Commerce 250-3491.

Thursday, January 12, 2012

Not meaning to alarm you

but there is a Friday 13th this

week. Looks like we were

already unlucky since the pre-

dicted snow ducked farther

south than expected. Heard

from former FHS coach Rex

Cumpton in Hobbs, New Mex-

ico where they received 8-9

inches of snow. Rex said it was

the second big snow there in

three weeks, unprecedented in

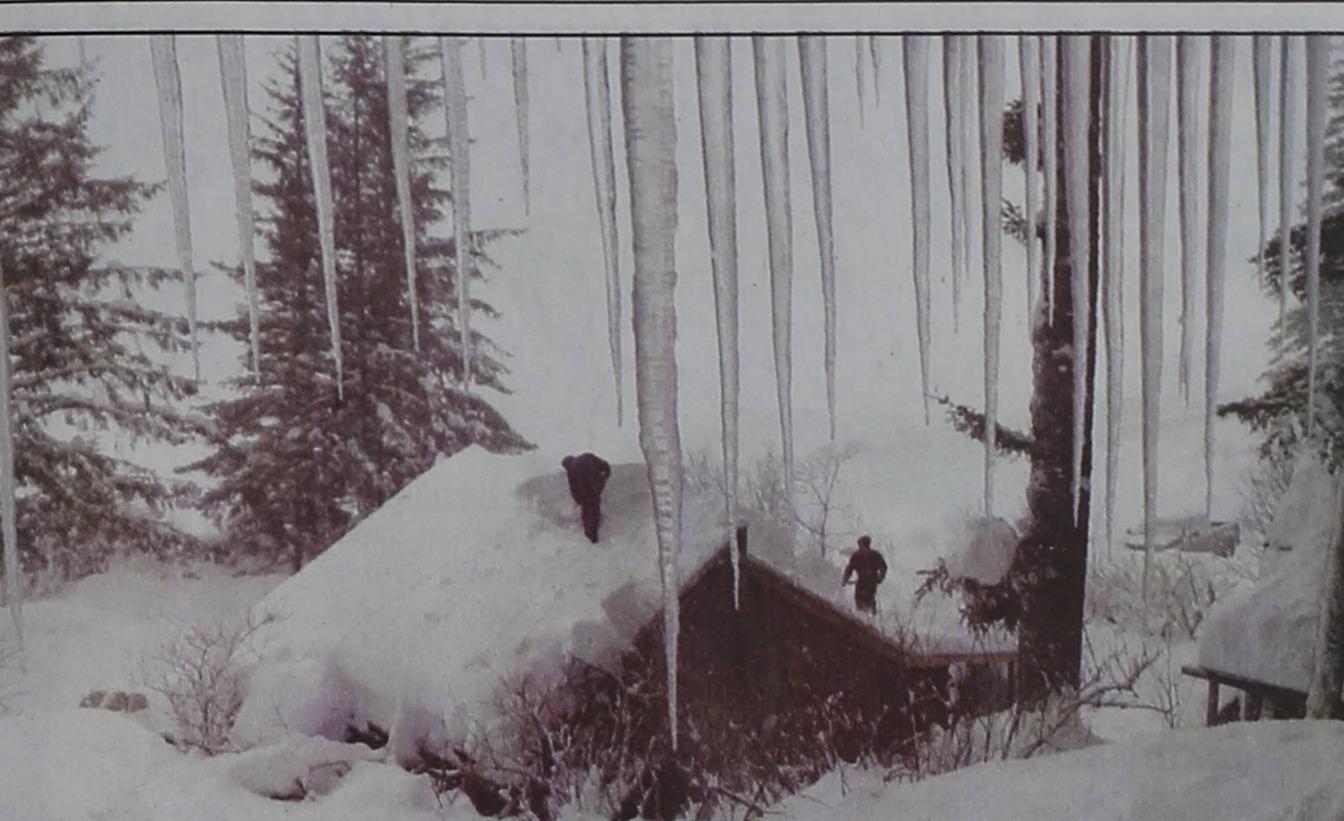
The banks and post office

that part of New Mexico.

High School sophomore choir member Isaac Gallardo who advanced to the area choir competition in Abilene last weekend. He did not advance out of area but good job to Isaac. He deserves a couple of attaboys.

Several local ladies have begun training to run a half marathon (13.1 miles) in Dallas in March. I'll not say who just yet but Dana Campbell is one of them. Keep up the good work girls. We'll try to follow your progress. *****

Sheriff Randy Geries bunged up a knee on the Ruidoso ski slopes during the holidays. Was scheduled to see the doc in Amarillo again this week to find out if he might need surgery. Didn't prevent him from the search warrant drug bust early Tuesday on FM2397 though. Two men were arrested for possession of cocaine with intent to sell it. *****



Town Talk II

frionastar@wtrt.net

By Ron Carr • Phone: 250-2211 • Fax: 250-5127 • Email: frionastar@wtrt.net

nal pitalized at BSA in Amarillo. Tickets have been selling 21 well for the Monday January

eeting is t Church Coulter e is 9:30 n. with a

Univer-A Workkshop is n in any rojectssion. Jues are narged a aylor at

In case you didn't see it on the front page, the Parmer County burn ban has been lifted indefinitely. It can be reinstated if needed by the commissioners court but for now there is no burn ban.

Congratulations to Friona

Enjoyed the pancake supper at the gym Friday night. The Chieftain baseball team sponsored it as a fundraiser to help the baseball program. Dimmitt visited to play basketball. Big crowd of Dimmitt fans there, several of whom dined on the pancakes. Ricky Barnett won the \$100 from Great Plains Ag Credit by putting a golf ball the length of the gym floor and stopping it on a mat. That was sponsored by the Booster Club.

All home basketball games this season are on Friday night. Squaws at 6:30 p.m. and Chiefs at 8 p.m. Coming up this week on Friday are

courtesy photo

Friona Star, Page 3

Could not resist borrowing this Facebook photo of the current winter in Cordova, Alaska. Former Friona resident and art teacher Pat Carmichael Castle, moved to Anchorage, Alaska and married Van Castle. She shares many interesting Alaska photos on Facebook, including this one of two Cordova heroes shoveling snow off a roof. Wow!

the Muleshoe Mules. Videos , T.A. Kelley still in PMC, Don of the Friday night games are replayed on WT Services channel 76 on Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. This is brought to you by FHS-TV and Chieftain/Squaw Boosters sponsors. Grab a cup of coffee and watch the action from your easy chair. *****

The 6th Street Church of Christ hotline (250-3495) noted the passing of Troy Sharrock's sister Opal Wilhelm in Oklahoma. Also mentioned with illness concerns were

Loafman, Libby Procter, and Jason Bullard, Shannon Atwell Bullard's husband receiving cancer treatment in Houston this week.

Don't forget the Friona blood drive Thursday January 19 from 12 noon to 7 p.m. at the Calvary Baptist fellowship hall. Donors can receive a 30th anniversary M*A*S*H t-shirt. See the Coffee Blood Center announcement elsewhere in this newspaper. *****

I stopped by the powerlifting meet for a few minutes on Saturday. Wanted to get a few photos of the action. I would describe it more as chaos as about 250 lifters plus

coaches and scorers were on the gym floor, all shouting and grunting and carrying on. There were an abundance of strong youngsters there from 20 different schools. Quite a production.

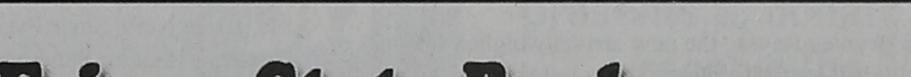
Hollis Horton was looking at the brands in the Parmer County museum and spotted two men with brands from Boom, Texas. Research by Brian Evans found that Boom, Texas was what Summerfield was called before 1907. Lots of interesting stuff in the museum. It is open on Mondays. Stop by sometime.

The monthly Tasty Cream fish fry is Saturday January 14 from 6-8 p.m. A 2-piece

catfish is \$7 and a 4-piece is \$9. Includes fries, hushpuppies, coleslaw, tartar sauce, dessert and drink. This is a special monthly event. Tasty Cream usually closes at 4 p.m. on Saturday.

It has been a bit cold here this week but not as cold as Cordova, Alaska. Couldn't resist running the photo on this page of the current weather in Cordova. Former Friona resident Pat Carmichael Castle moved to Anchorage, Alaska and married Van Castle. She posts some great photos on Facebook of the scenery in Alaska. We borrowed this one. Thanks for reading the Star. See you next week. Until then! *****

Chamber of Commerce Business of the Month no broond maio an





ron carr photo Xcel Energy employees, I-r, Bryan Johnston, serviceman; Mike Grant, manager; and Scott Hindman, supervisor.

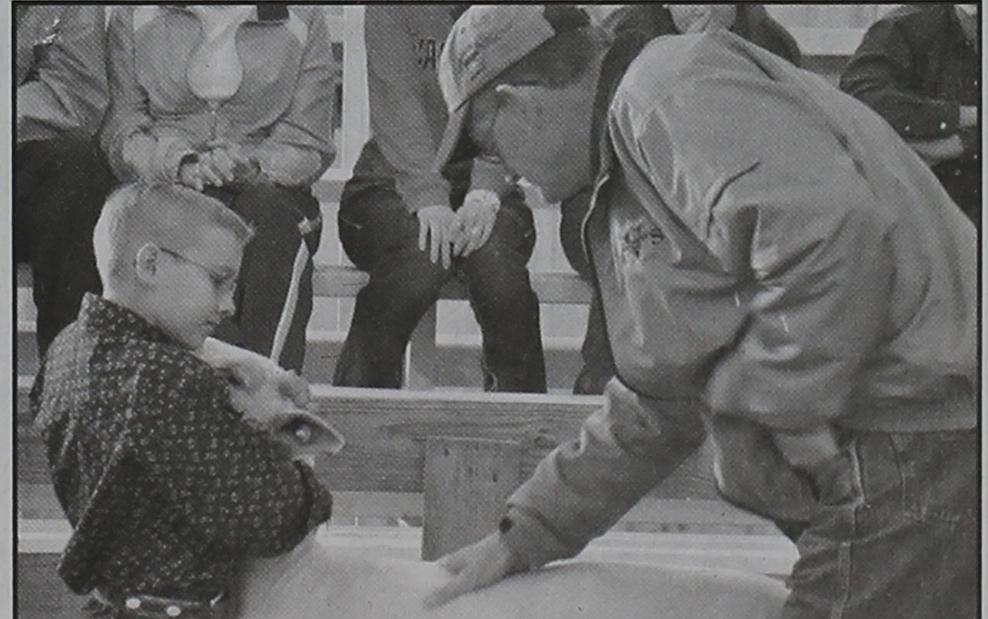
Xcel Energy is the Friona Chamber of Commerce Business of the Month for January 2012. Xcel Energy provides more than just electricity to the communities of northwest Texas and eastern New Mexico. As a corporate partner in community development for more than 100 years, the company also energizes nonprofit causes with financial gifts and by sharing the talents and enthusiasm of its employees.

Because of their strong regional presence Xcel Energy is heavily invested in the communities it serves. The Xcel Energy Foundation provides more than \$300,000 in focus area grants to nonprofit agencies in Texas and New Mexico with several gifts made in Friona and Parmer County nonprofits over the years.

In the Friona area the company provides sponsorship support and volunteers for annual events such as the Cheeseburger Festival, Maize Days Parade, Friona Chamber of Commerce banquet, and other events throughout the year. Bryan Johnston, lineman journeyman serviceman serving Friona and Bovina, is quick to help out on just about any community need.

"Xcel Energy's community involvement is good business for the company," said Riley

Frida State Lank supports all the area 4-H and FFA members who participated in the Parmer County Livestock Show



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Hill, president and CEO of Southwestern Public Service Company, an Xcel Energy company. "Stronger communities produce an educated workforce for the company, as well as provide more economic opportunities that lead to growth in customer numbers. And because we are raising our families here too, these issues matter a great deal to us personally."

Special Call Acceptance

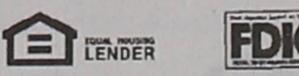
Do you constantly get unsolicited calls? Are you always getting up to answer the phone when it's not someone you want to talk to anyway? With Special Call Acceptance, you can screen incoming calls by creating a list of calls from the people you want to talk to. Calls from phone numbers not on your list won't get through to you -- they will be routed to an announcement informing the caller that you are not accepting calls at that time.

For more information on Special Call Acceptance, or our other phone features, please contact WT Services at 250-5555..



1010 Columbia, 250-5555, Friona, Texas 79035

We will be closed Monday, January 16 in **observance of Martin Luther King Day!**



FRIONA STATE BANK

a Division of InterBank

Phone 250-5000 "Where People Come First"

1105 N. Cleveland www.frionastatebank.com Friona Star, Page 4

frionastar@wtrt.net

New Arrivals

Jaxon Anthony Wright Jaxon Anthony Wright was born on Monday, October 31, 2011, in Amarillo. He weighed 6 pounds 14 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long.



Thursday, January 12, 2012

Sheriff's Report

The following is reported by the Parmer County Sheriff Randy Geries office:

January 3, 2012, Julian Pena, 22, of Muleshoe, was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office charged with motion to revoke (possession of marijuana), pending County Court. January 6, 2012, Landon Wiseman, 32, of Friona, was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a Potter County warrant charge, bonded and released.

January 7, 2012, Isidro Castro-Morales, 22, of Friona, was arrested by the Friona Police Department charged with failure to identify, pending County Court.

January 7, 2012, Josue Leon, 19, of Friona, was arrested by the Friona Police Department charged with escape and resisting arrest, both pending County Court.

In 287th District Court with Judge Gordon Green presiding: On December 13, 2011:

Jesus Montiel, 53, of Muleshoe, charged with DWI, was sentenced to 10 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ), probated for 10 years; \$484 court costs; and \$1,000 fine.

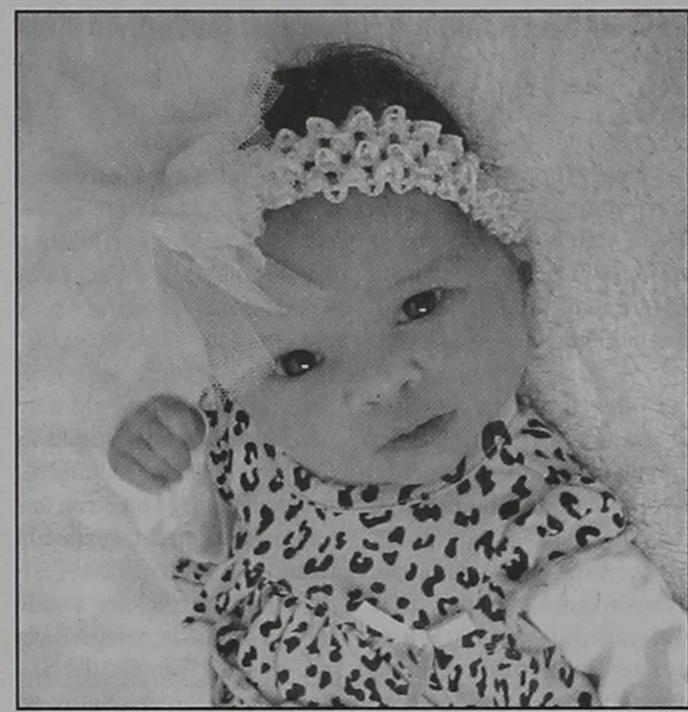
Juan Ulloa-Gonzalez, 19, of Farwell, charged with attempted tampering of government records, was sentenced to six months in Parmer County Jail; \$299 court costs; and \$500 fine.

On December 15, 2011:

Johnny Morris, 44, of Dimmitt, charged with violation of community supervision (prohibited substance in a correctional facility), community supervision revoked; sentenced to 3 years in an Institutional Division of the TDCJ; and \$75 court costs.

His proud parents are Jason and Melissa Wright of Canyon & big sister, Ava Grace.

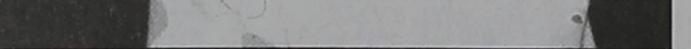
Grandparents are Troy & Karene Bass of Canyon, and Karen Wright of Friona. Great Grandparents are Dale & Laura Hart of Friona.



Brynlee Rayne Beyers

Adam and Lindsey Beyers of Vernon, Tx are the proud parents of a baby girl born Thursday, December 29, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. at United Regional Health Care Systems in Wichita Falls, Tx.

Named Brynlee Rayne, the new arrival weighed 6 lbs 11 oz and was 20 1/2 " long. Brynlee is the couple's first child. Grandparents are Mark and Lisa Neill of Friona and Geoff and Linda Beyers of Vernon. Great grandparents are Tommy Brockman and Kenneth Neill of Friona, Ralph and Pat Waller of Lubbock, and Bobby and Glenda Nichols of Vernon. Greatgreat grandmother is Nita Warren of Lubbock.



Tyler Bert Fincher

Tyler Bert Fincher was born October 20, 2011 at 9:21 a.m. in Lubbock to parents Tammy and Les Fincher. He was 8 lbs 3 oz and 21".

Grandparents are Cathy and the late Raymond Spencer and Joe and Paula Fincher. Great grandparents are Jerri Spencer of Soddy Daisy, Tennessee; Carolyn Green of Littlefield, Tx.; Sue Fincher of Jayton, Tx; and Mavis Middleton of Haskell, Tx.

Jan. 15 - Jan. 21, 2012

Happy Birthday

(To add, delete or change a name on our birthday list, please call us at 250-2211 or email to frionastar@wtrt.net.)

Jan. 15-Dora Geneva Bentley, Aaron Kyle Hand, Abigail Jones, Carl Robinson, Tim Smith, Julia Leake, Freeman Melton, Andrew Champenois, Charles Champenois

Jan. 16-Andrew Kendrick, Roger Peace, Darran Procter, Christie Wiseman Spring, James Warren III, Breann Barnett, Trell Taylor, Christy Barksdale, Tawnya Wales

Jan. 17-Amy Trevino, Jordan Nichols, Kitty Gallman, Mike Fair, Irma Hernandez, Billy Lynn Marshall, Mike McCallum, Terri Ellis, Sonia Gomez

Jan. 18-Nola Fay Vestal, Curtis Drager, Jenifer Lynn Buchanan, Joshua Kent Rivera, Bret Whitten, Claire Bingham, Mayzie Faith Zinck, AJ Hand, Grayson Gutierrez, Clarissa Hernandez

Jan. 19-Gene Schueler, Iona Renner, Krista Renner Kemple, Kristi Neill, Susie Preston Perkins, Libbye Turner, Cotton Fleming, Heather Sandoval

Adrian Rivas, 25, of Friona, charged with violation of community supervision (assault), community supervision revoked; sentenced to 3 years in an Institutional Division of the TDCJ; and \$466 court costs.

Juan Tavera IV, 24, of Bovina, charged with violation of community supervision (sexual assault), community supervision revoked; sentenced to 13 years in an Institutional Division of the TDCJ; \$1,099 court costs; and \$443 restitution. On December 20, 2011:

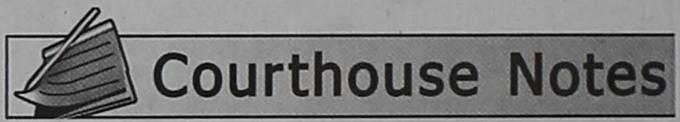
Johnny Chapoy, 35, of Hereford, charged with violation of community supervision (possession of a controlled substancecocaine), community supervision revoked; sentenced to 2 years in a State Jail Division of the TDCJ; \$415 court costs; and \$140 restitution.

Crime Stoppers Crime(s) of the Week

The Parmer/Bailey Crime Stoppers and the Friona police would appreciate your help.

In the early morning hours on January 7, 2012, unknown person(s) shattered a front glass window of the Book Shoppe on 6th Street in Friona. The vandals either shot or threw an object to shatter the window.

If you have any information about this or any other crime please call the Friona police at 806-250-2711 or Crime Stoppers at 800-774-8477 or 806-481-9178. You will remain anonymous and if your tip leads to an arrest you may earn a cash reward up to \$1,000.



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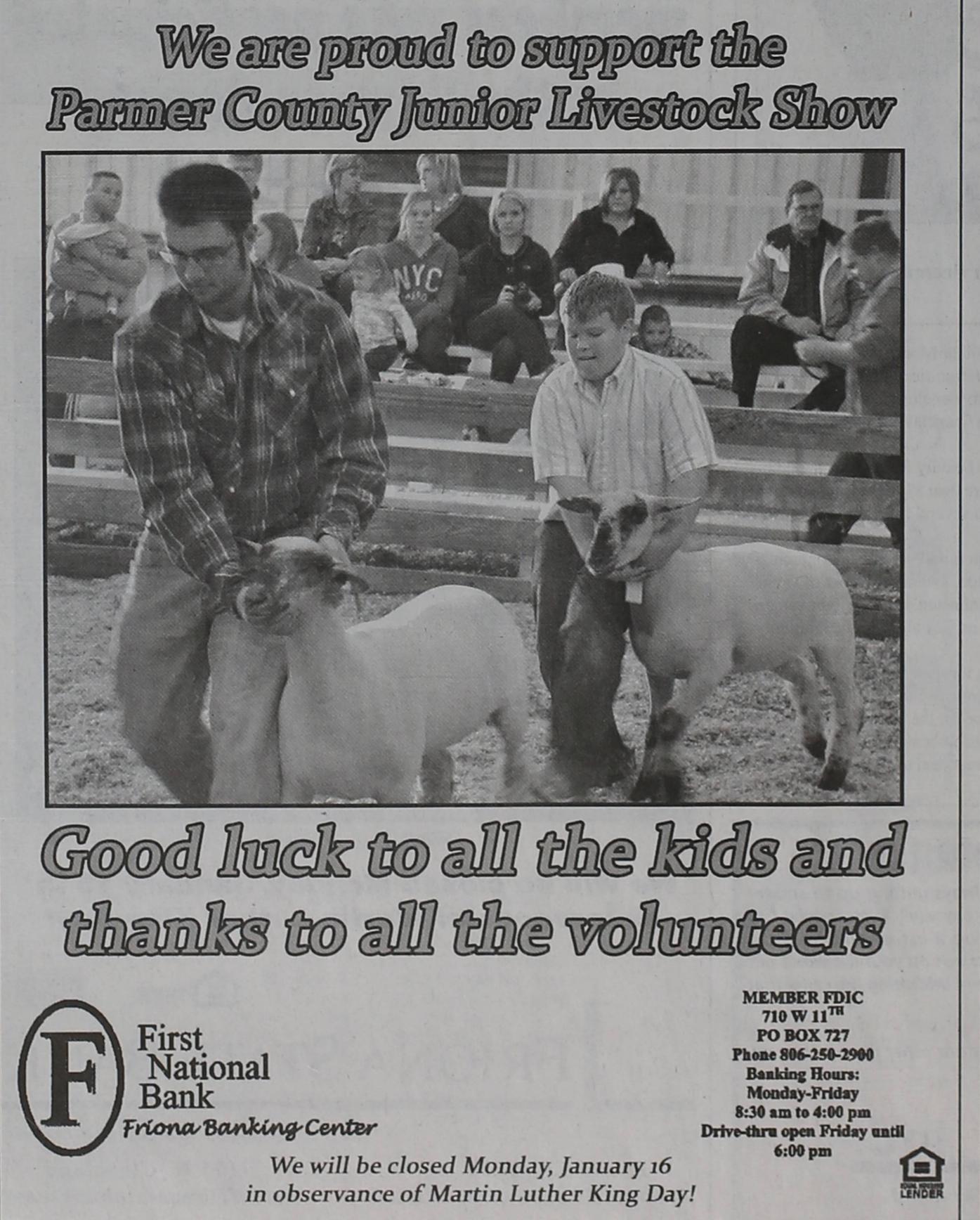
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Jan. 20-Brandon del Rosario, Dave Van Valkenburg, Darla Sue Procter, Arianna Pena, Fabian Flores, Devan Huddleston, Haden Walling, Irma Jo Englant, Sandra Ware, Peggy Alex-

Jan. 21-Karen Carter, Tommie Hamilton, Derrick Jamerson, Jim Roy Wells, Jacob Hoon, Elaine Carson



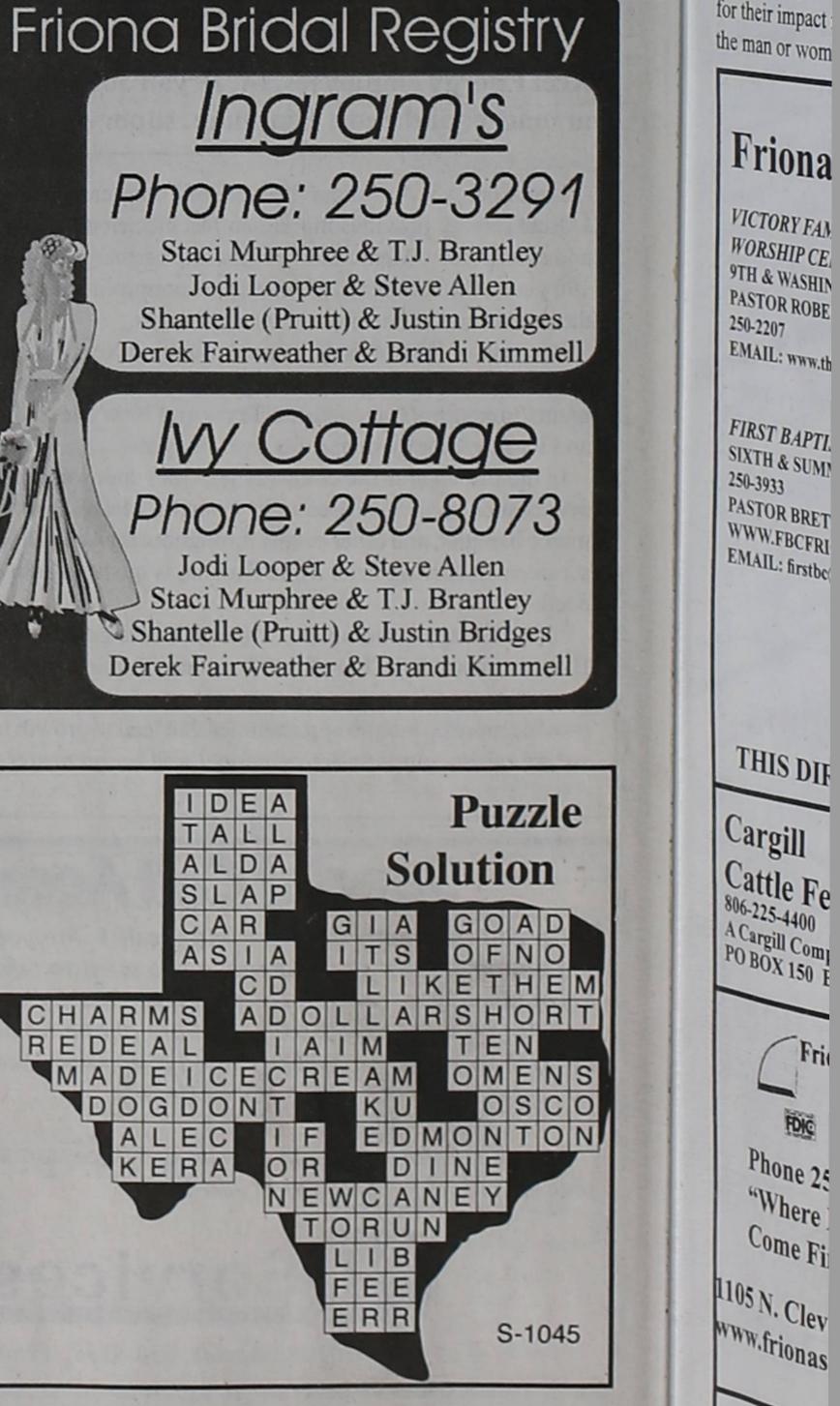
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The Parmer County Clerk's Office recorded the following warranty deeds from December 29, 2011 to January 04, 2012: Erma Lou Brownd - David M. Carthel and Kathy Carthel, SW/4 S16 T14 1/2Sa R5E.

Dale R. Schueler and Donna Schueler - Wade Evert Schueler and Candice Fay Schueler, E240 AC S/2 S24 BLK C RHEA. Patti Nickels Hunter - Nickels E.W. Farms Inc., S80 AC S42 DOUD & KEEFER.

Nicky Kim Nickels - Nickels E.W. Farms Inc., S80 AC S42 DOUD & KEEFER.

Nickels E.W. Farms Inc. - Landon Meeks and Shawndee Meeks, S80 AC S42 DOUD & KEEFER.



Thursday, January 12, 2012

frionastar@wtrt.net

Friona Star, Page 5

OBITUARY

Marie Redwine

Marie Redwine, 70, of Friona died Tuesday, January 10, 2012, in Friona. Funeral services will be Friday, January 13, 2012, at Calvary Baptist Church in Friona with Rev. Rick Burton officiating.

Burial to follow at Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery in Muleshoe by Blackwell-Mullins Funeral Home of Friona.

Marie was born July 30, 1941 in Wanette, Oklahoma to Raymond and Laura Pauline Bostick Houston. She married Clyde Redwine January 20, 1962 in Lazbuddie and were soon to celebrate 50 years of marriage. She was a homemaker and a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. She appreciated the prayers and kindness shown during her health issues, especially the loving assistance and care given by Betty Jackson.

She is survived by her husband Clyde of Friona; two sons, Denver Redwine and his wife Stefanie, and Randy Redwine and his girlfriend Betty Jackson, all of Amarillo; one brother, Eugene Houston and his wife Frances of Muleshoe; and two grandchildren John Ray Redwine and Kenzi Brooke Redwine.

You may sign the online guest book at www.blackwellmullins.com.



SCHOOL MENU January 16 – January 20

Monday, January 16 B) Cereal, pancake breakfast sandwich, grape juice, milk L) Enchilada casserole, lettuce & tomato salad, refried beans, cool treat, milk

Tuesday, January 17

 B) Cereal, cinnamon rolls, applesauce, orange juice, milk
 L) Picadillo, flour tortillas, fresh veggie dippers, Mexican rice, Mandarin oranges, milk

Wednesday, January 18

B) Cereal, sausage biscuit, grape juice, milk
 L) Steak fingers, hot rolls, green beans,
 broccoli & cheese, cookie sandwich, milk

Thursday, January 19

 B) Cereal, breakfast pizza, scooby treats, orange juice, milk



Panhandle Parables Bless You

BY JEFF PROCTER, Minister, Sixth St. Church of Christ

"Bless you", is a phrase we often use when somebody sneezes. There is nothing like springtime in the Panhandle. You hear "Bless you" a great deal, especially if you are an allergy sufferer like myself. You know the commercials, the achy head, itchy watery eyes, and congested nasal passages.

When people realize that you are sick, they often wish they could help. Some even offer home remedies while others warn you of lurking dangers if you don't... The simple truth is you don't feel good and you don't feel like doing anything. Regard-less, whatever it is you caught, your body is fighting it and leaves you a little vulnerable in its weakened condition.

Do we ever get a spiritual flu or allergies? You know the one where you don't really feel like doing, being, saying, praying, singing, exemplifying, sharing, caring, visiting, and going. You are just blah when it comes to spiritual thoughts. We all know those symptoms from time to time. I suspect most of us have felt some of these various symptoms.

The key to getting over it is taking care of the part that is sick. If the soul needs a little prayer, then pray. If it needs a little study in the Word, then study in the Word. (Two things that are good preventatives, as well.) If the soul needs forgiven, then confess, if it needs friendship, then fellowship, if it needs solitude, then be still, whatever it may be, know that God desires us to rely on Him for the help. Ignoring it, or neglecting it will only allow it to get worse. You must confront it! Take care of your body, but don't forget the soul can get sick too! Let the Physician of the soul take a look. Do not underestimate the epidemic of spiritual illness that has swept our nation and world into ungodliness and apathy. Far too many thought it wouldn't get them either. AAAAAA-CHOOOOOOOO!!!!!! Bless you!

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The family of Raymond Spencer would like to extend our appreciation for the words of encouragement, cards, food, phone calls, visits, the plants and flowers, and especially the prayers and love fund. It helped a lot.

We also want to say special thanks to those with the Friona EMS for their help and expertise in getting Raymond to the hospital.

A special thanks to the Hi-Pro co-workers for doing their best when they found Raymond. A special thanks for the little things friends do. May God richly bless you all.

It is so great to live in a small town like Friona that will come to the need of a friend.

Cathy Spencer Tammy and Les Fincher Logan and Jennifer Spencer

Going where God wants you

BRETT HOYLE, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Getting where God wants you is an exciting, grueling journey that you and I are on. Each day has new challenges, and only the Lord knows what is around the bend. Last week we looked at how David had an attitude alignment and sought unity among his people, and now we will see even more of what he did to honor God's calling on his life.

David forgives his enemies and corrects some mistakes he made earlier, especially pertaining to two scoundrels. Shimei was a guy who cussed and fussed at David when David fled from Absalom, and now David chooses to be the bigger man and spare Shimei's life. Ziba was a crafty servant who tricked David into granting him some land that didn't belong to Ziba when David was fleeing. Upon learning of his mistake, David attempts to correct his faulty decision, and set things back in order. We are not perfect, neither are those around us and in following God's plan we must be quick to forgive and correct errors we make. Those things are a fact of life, and being able to biblically handle your own sin, and situations where you have been sinned against are so important in walking with God. Finally, as David headed back to the throne he made it a point to thank those who had aided him along the way. There's no such thing as a self made man or woman, all have built upon the shoulders of those before them, and depended upon countless people in their lives. David knew this and was quick to show appreciation toward those who had aided him along his way. How about you? When was the last time you thanked someone for their impact in your life and for their part in helping you be the man or woman God wants you to be?

L) Lasagna, hot rolls, mixed veggie Italian, carrots, oranges 138 ok, milk

Friday, January 20 B) Cereal, pancakes, sausage, fruit punch, milk

L) Baked chicken, hot rolls, mashed potatoes, corn, peaches, milk

B) Breakfast

L) Lunch

ALE STREET

Friona Community Thurs. January 19 12:00 noon to 7:00 pm **Calvary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall 1500 Cleveland** Every eligible donor who presents to donate will receive the 2012 M*A*S*H t-shirt. Photo ID or Donor Card required to donate. Must be at least 17 years old. For appointments, please call 331-8800 or 1-877-574-8800.

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Friona

VICTORY FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER 9TH & WASHINGTON PASTOR ROBERT KERBY 250-2207 EMAIL: www.thevictory.tv

FIRST BAPTIST SIXTH & SUMMITT 250-3933 PASTOR BRETT HOYLE WWW.FBCFRIONA.COM EMAIL: firstbc@wtrt.net CALVARY BAPTIST 15TH & CLEVELAND PASTOR RICK BURTON, 250-3000 CHILDREN'S CHURCH 3 yrs - 6th grade

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH NORTH END OF CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH PASTOR GARY JOHNSON 1601 EUCLID 575-693-6381

TEMPLO BAUTISTA Pastor Antonio Rocha 403 WOODLAND

Area Church Directory

ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC 16TH & CLEVELAND FATHER WILLIAM 250-2871 SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 502 WEST SIXTH JEFF PROCTER, MINISTER 250-2769

TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 10TH & EUCLID RON SMILEY 250-3213 GERALL WYLY 295-6774 FRIONA UNITED METHODIST 8TH & PIERCE REV. KURT BORDEN 250-3045 EMAIL: frionaum@wtrt.net WEBSITE: frionaumc.com

TEMPLO DE ADORACION 620 WASHINGTON 250-5929 PASTOR ROY DOMINGUEZ

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH Bovina

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 308 3RD STREET PASTOR BRIAN MULLINS 251-1632

CHURCH OF CHRIST 500 AVE. E MIKE PRATHER, MINISTER 251-1334

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 205 4TH STREET PASTOR LARRY MITCHELL 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 STREET

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

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1601 EUCLID REV. BUCK MALONE 250-3635

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Friona State Bank	West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative Inc. Phone 364-3331 Hereford, Texas 79045	P.O. Box 956 Friona, Texas 79035 (806) 265-3433 (806) 265-3281		ing needs Member FDIC- Equal Housing Lender 301 W. 3rd 710 W. 11th Hereford TX Friona TX 806-363-2265 806-250-2900
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Friona Star, Page 6

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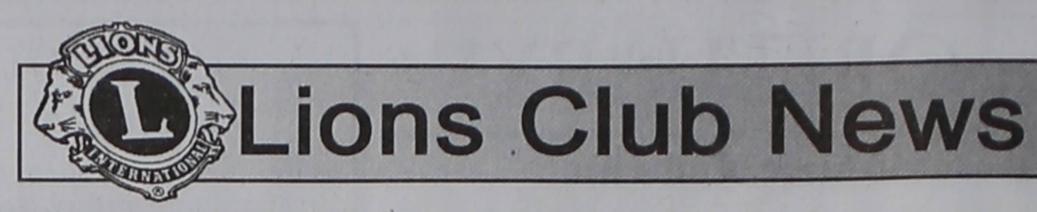
Chieftain powerlift meet

The annual Chieftain Powerlifting Championships meet was held Saturday, January 7, at the Friona gym. Over 250 lifters from 20 schools participated.

Each lifter competed in the squat, bench, and dead lift. The total of the three lifts is used to determine placement. Teams from Bovina and Friona were among the participants. Area results were:

Boys, 114 weight class, Erli Rueda 3rd and Arturo Aguillon 4th of Bovina; 148 weight class, Marco Terrones of Bovina 3rd.

Friona's Michael Garcia placed 1st in the 165 class, Omar Ramos was 3rd. IN the 181 class, Bovina's Anthony Ortiz was 5th; Luis Tafoya of Bovina placed 3rd in the 220 class. Daniel Meza and Edgar Guerrero of Friona placed 1st and 2nd in the Super Heavyweight class. Team finishes: Friona 3rd and Bovina 8th. Girls lifter results: Friona; 114-123 class, Estibali Hernandez 3rd; 132-148 class Elda Castanon 4th; 198-220 class, Vanessa Rodriguez of Bovina 5th. Team finish: Friona 5th, Bovina 10th.



regular meeting Thursday January 5 had 13 members and 2 guests present. Chris Keathley and Mark Collier were guests of Lion Andy Montana.

The Distirct 2-T1 mid-winter conference will be held in Hereford January 20-21. The club is considering new caps and shirts for members

The Friona Noon Lions to wear during our fundraisers. Lion Clint Mears will research the project.

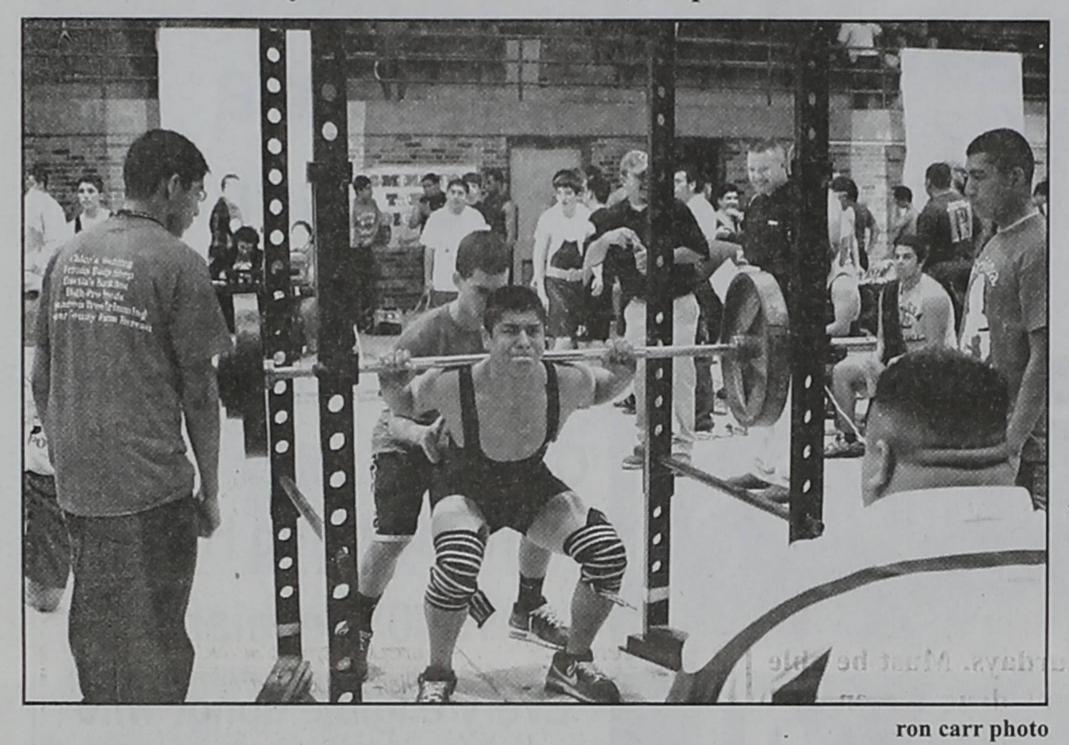
> The club is meeting for now in the not-yet-open Headquarters Restaurant located at the Friona Golf Club. Lupe Taylor and her mom Geneva Brailiff are catering the meals until a permanent club meeting location is determined. Thank you ladies.

The Noon Lions meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. We attempt to schedule a program for each meeting. If you or someone you know might be interested in presenting an interesting program contact Boss Lion Robert Jones at Great Plains Ag Credit or Clint Mears at Intheden Graphics.





Daniel Meza placed 1st in the Super Heavyweight class at the Friona Powerlift meet Saturday. Meza's total lift was 1,250 pounds.



Chieftain Omar Ramos executes a squat lift during the Friona Powerlifting Championships Saturday at Friona gym. Ramos finished 3rd in the 165 weight class with a total of 880 pounds.

ron carr photo Friona Noon Lions members meet January 5 at the soon-to-be-open Headquarters Restaurant location at the Friona Golf Club.

Ornamental plant & turf conference By Kay Ledbetter

Agriculture and the Texas sentation will resume at 1 AgriLife Extension Service p.m. and the conference will conduct the annual or- should conclude by 3:30 namental plant and turf con- p.m. ference January 19 at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 6500 W. Amarillo Blvd.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. followed by the first

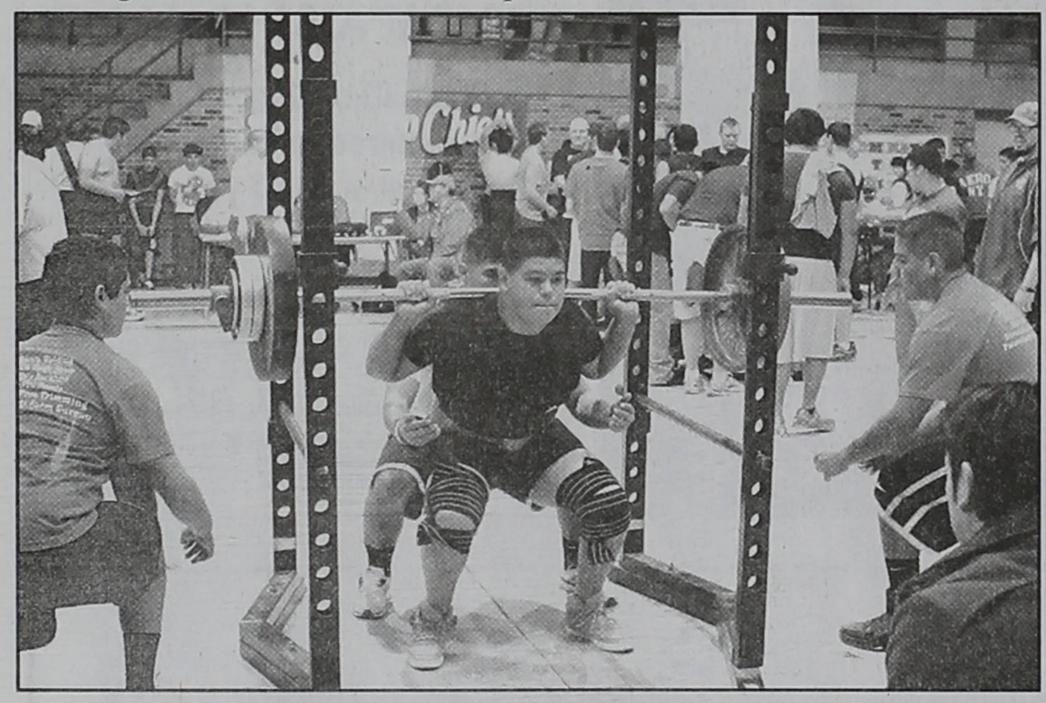
The Texas Department of will be 'on your own.' Pre-

Pesticide applicator license holders can earn five continuing education credits necessary for license renewal: two general, two integrated pest management, and presentation at 9 a.m. Lunch one on laws and regulations.

Industry professionals and TDA inspectors will be presenting information on tree planting care, herbicide applications, turf and ornamental pest control, vector control, and laws and regulations. A \$10 registration fee will be collected at the door. For more information contact Brandon Boughen at 806-373-0713.

Cotton conference in Muleshoe

The Llano Estacado Cot- issues. Topics include: crop sponsored lunch. Registraton Conference hosted by disease update, cotton mar- tion fee is \$25 at the door.



ron carr photo

Bovina Mustang powerlifter Joel Salas competes in the squat lift at Saturday's Friona Powerlifting Championship. The Mustangs finished 8th in the 20-team event.

Come join us for our monthly fish fry Saturday January 14th

tension Service in Bailey County is scheduled for January 26 at the Bailey County Electric Coop, 604 E. American Blvd. in Muleshoe.

The conference targets equipment. cotton producers in the High Plains to provide timely information about cotton management and industry

the Texas AgriLife Ex- ket update, integrated pest issues, and the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication program.

> Commercial exhibitors will be on hand to introduce the latest technology and

> Registration will begin at 8 a.m. The program starts at 8:30 a.m. and will conclude at 3:30 p.m. and includes a

Five Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be offered: three integrated pest management, one laws and regulations, and one general. Certified Crop Advisor units also will be offered.

For more information contact the AgriLife Extension office in Bailey County at 806-272-4583.

Farm Bureau introduces Texas-Ready brand

Parmer County Farm veiled at the 78th Texas said. Bureau members are excited about a new brand that builds on Texas Farm Bu- ber 4, 2011. The brand repreau's proud history and cel- resents all of the Texas Farm ebrates the Texas spirit.

town or city, the new brand was introduced to secure a strong foundation for Farm Bureau members," Parmer County Farm Bureau president Alan Monroe said. "Texas is our home, our identity, and our way of life. We are prepared to help all Texans face the challenges and opportunities ahead."

Farm Bureau annual meeting in Corpus Christi on Decem-Bureau-county Farm Bu-"Whether they live in a reaus, the state organization, and affiliated member companies-under a common communications approach and a brand new logo.

"The new logo-with the Texas Lone Star and the red, white, and blue of the Texas flag-immediately conveys Texas Farm Bureau's commitment to the Lone Star State and to all Texans, now The new brand was un- and in the future," Monroe

Parmer County Farm Bureau will roll out the new brand through updated signage, materials, and communications efforts.

"Parmer County Farm Bureau will continue to be a trusted source of protection, advocacy, and education for our neighbors," Monroe said. "We go the extra mile to put our members firsttaking action, setting a path for Texans to live well. That's why Texas Farm Bureau is Texas-Ready: For what's now and what's next."

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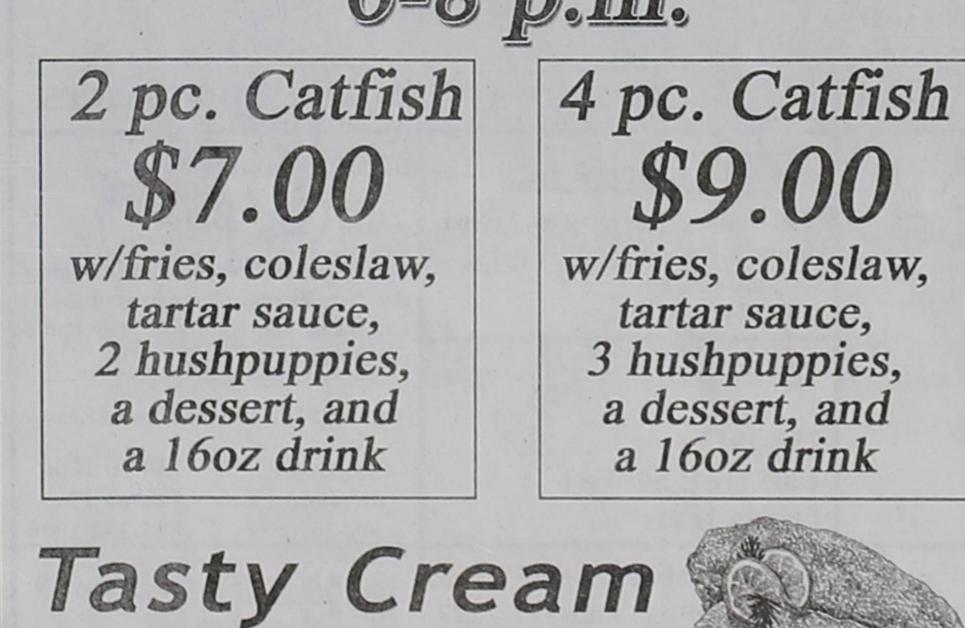
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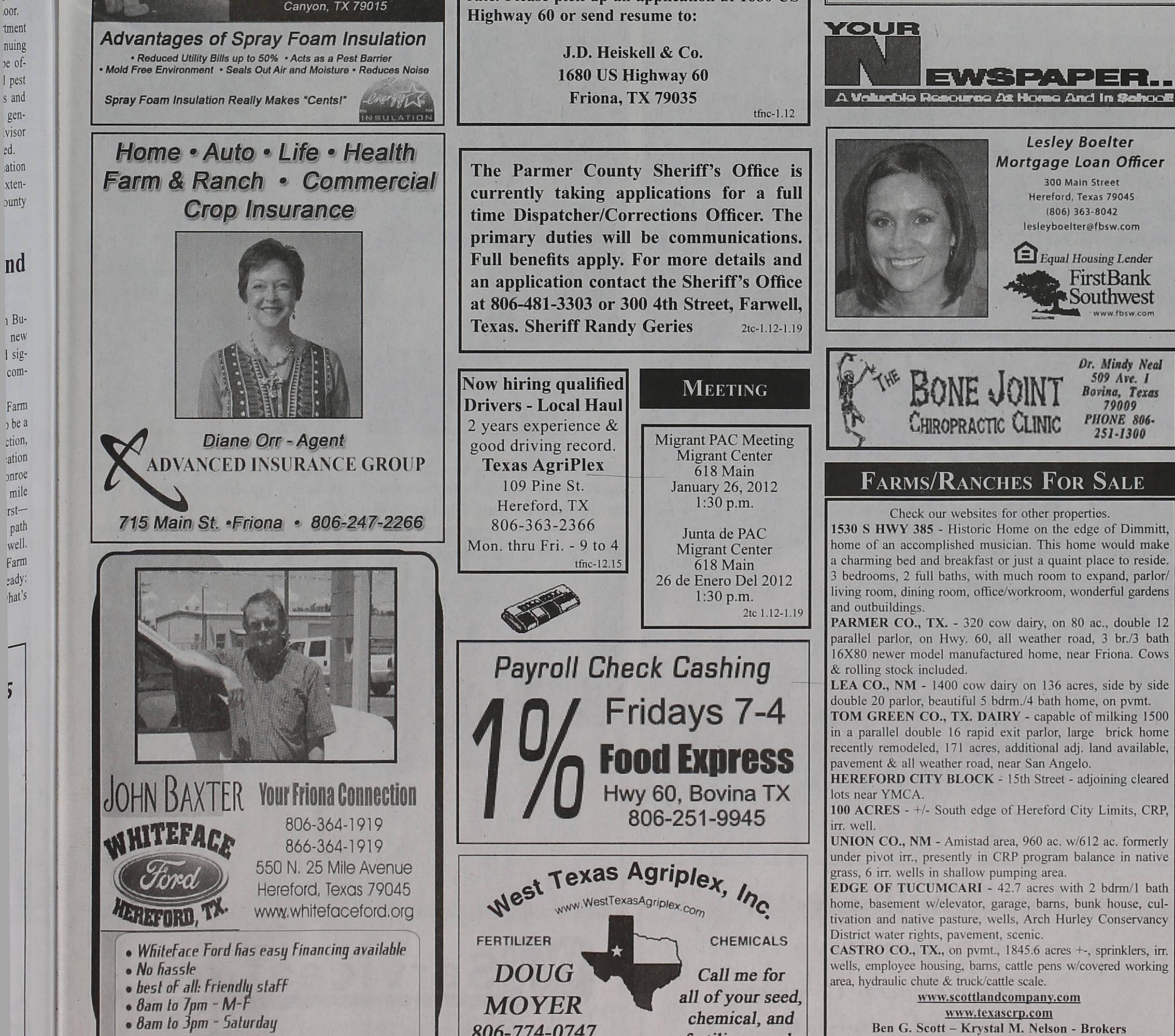
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Friona Star, Page 8

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Thursday, January 12, 2012

NOTICE To Parmer County Taxpayers

February 1, 2012, is the deadline to pay all personal and property taxes in Parmer County. Checks must be postmarked by February 1, 2012, or penalty and interest will occur.

If you turned 65 years old as of February 1, 2012, you need to sign up for the "65 and older" Homestead Exemption. This is a permanent exemption so if you have already signed up for it you do not have to reapply.

If you have purchased a home since you signed up for the Homestead Exemption you need to reapply for the exemption.

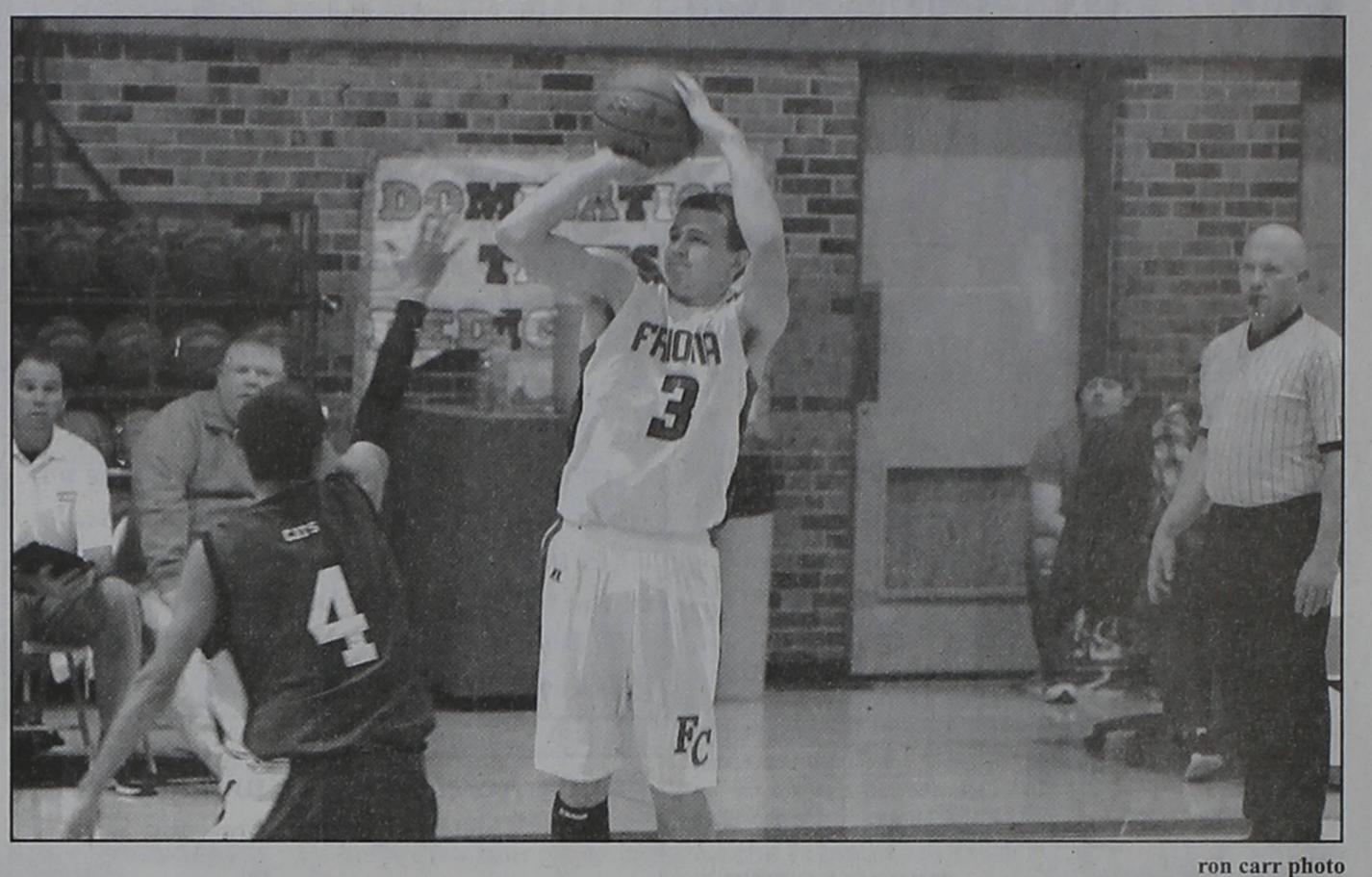
Chiefs beat Tulia, lose to Dimmitt

The Chieftains split in district play last week, giving them a 1-2 district record with losses to Idalou and Dimmitt. Their win was at Tulia as they stumped the Hornets 63-55. Ryan DeWit led scoring with 17 points. Caleb Monroe scored 13. On defense DeWit was credited with 4 blocks and Monroe with 5. Other scoring: Cole Stowers 7, Weston Wyly 7, Michael Ortiz 6, Brad Stowers 5, Gabriel Avalos 4, Kadyn Hicks 4.

The Friona vs. Dimmitt rivalry continued when the Bobcats visited Friona gym Friday night. A big crowd was on hand as the Chiefs and Bobcats played an exciting game. Friona led at the end of the 1st quarter 13-11, fell behind at the half 27-21, recovered in the 3rd quarter to lead 39-38. In a high scoring 4th period the Chiefs lost on a 22-18 Dimmitt run. The final was Chiefs 57, Dimmitt 60.

Scoring: Ryan DeWit 21, Cole Stowers 14, Brad Stowers 9, Caleb Monroe 5, Michael Ortiz 4, Kadyn Hicks 2, Weston Wyly 2. Monroe had 8 assists and 6 blocks to lead the Chieftain defense.

The teams travel to Littlefield Tuesday January 10 and host the Muleshoe Mules Friday night January 13 at Friona gym. JV plays at 5 p.m. Squaws at 6:30 p.m. and Chiefs at 8 p.m.



Agricultural use exemptions are available for all who have purchased agricultural property. If you purchased ag property during the past year you need to apply for the exemption.

Vehicle exemption forms for those who qualify are available online at www. parmercad.org or come by our office to apply.

Call or drop by our office for your application(s). They will be mailed to you on request.

> Jill Timms Chief Appraiser Parmer County Appraisal District P.O. Box 56, Bovina, TX 79009 806-251-1405

Chieftain senior Caleb Monroe (3) launches a shot over a Dimmitt defender. More Squaws/Chiefs action photos available at frionaonline.com.

Squaws 41 Tulia 74

The Squaws continued district play after the holiday break traveling to Tulia and the Lady Hornets. They got off to a slow start with 5 points in the 1st quarter and never recovered, trailing 39-16 at the half. Scoring: Dakotah Hicks 17, Kendall Kimbrough 7, Tamra Stormes 7, Maddie Murphree 5, Nohely Juarez 3. They converted 14 of 20 free throws.

Squaws 39 Dimmitt 56

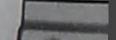
The Dimmitt Bobbies came to Friona gym for a district contest. The Squaws stayed close in the first quarter 14-12 but Dimmitt pulled away to a 29-20 lead at the half. The Squaws shot 9 of 18 free throws and the Bobbies were worse making only 8 of 21 free throw attempts. Scoring: Maddie Murphree 13, Dakotah Hicks 11, Kendall Kimbrough 8, Adaline Adame 5, Marisol-Posada 1, Ashli Smith 1. District record is now 1-4.



ron carr photo Squaws guard Marisol Posada (24 right) battles a Dimmitt Bobbie as she brings the ball up the court. More photos at frionaonline.com. Chieftain Chiefs bas the Dimmi

Thursday

Chieftain *fundraiser* manager F and Shilof



Good luck to everyone participating in the Parmer County Livestock Show!



ron carr photo

Chieftain senior post and leading scorer Ryan DeWit, right, battles for the tipoff of the contest with the Dimmitt Bobcats. The Chiefs lost in a close battle to the Bobcats. District record is 2-2.



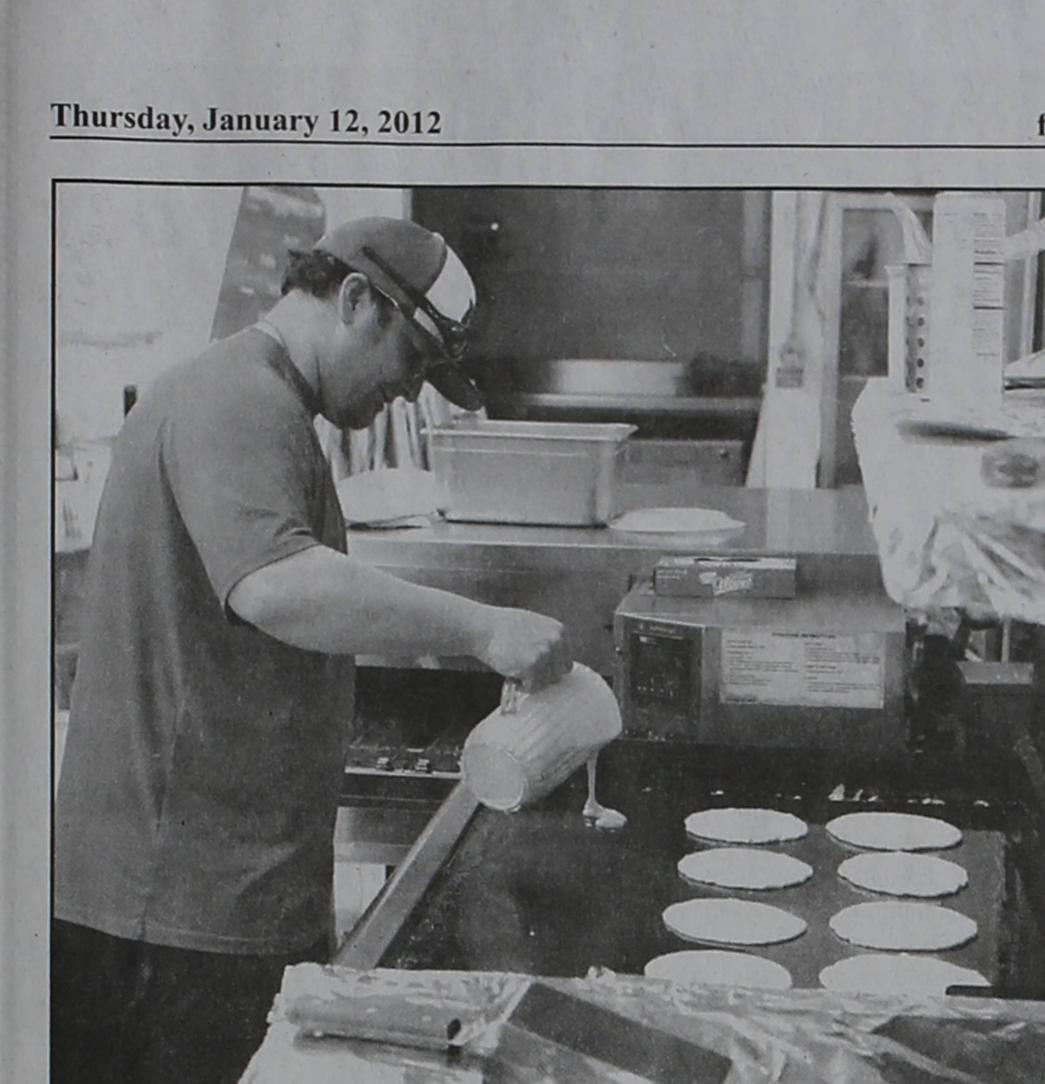


Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative Hereford 364-1166 The Parmer County Livestock Show is January 19-21

WT Services Inc.

1010 Columbia, 250-5555, Friona, Texas 79035



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Friona Star, Page 9



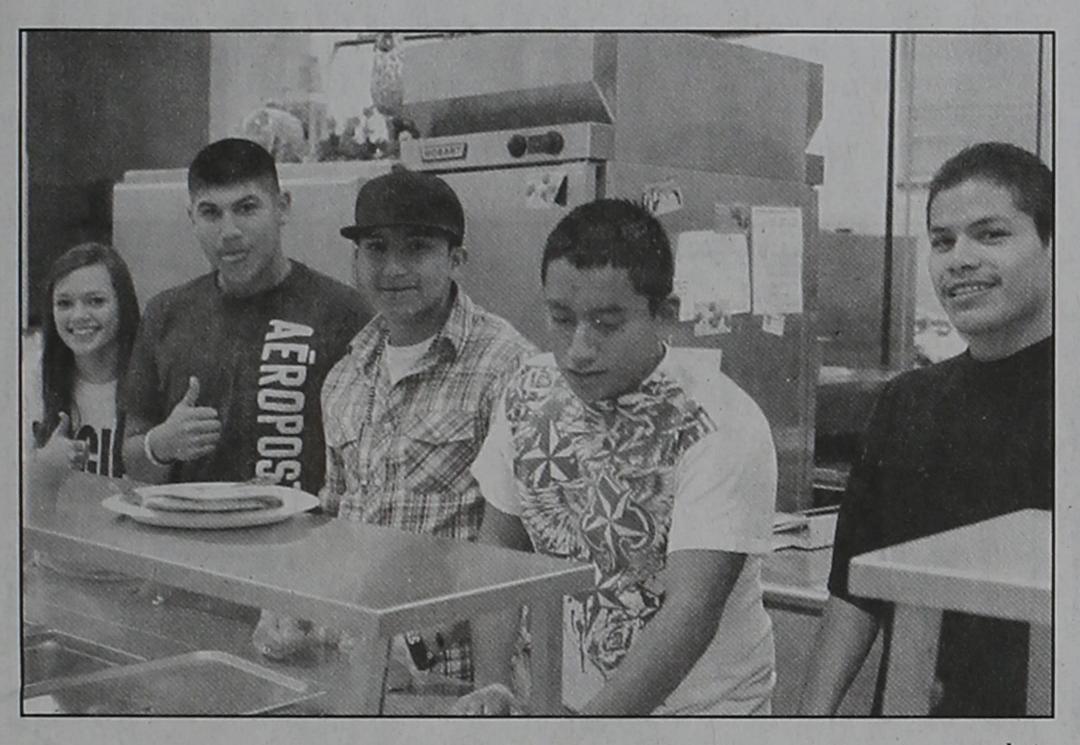
ron carr photo

Cole Stowers (5) outruns everybody to the basket in the Chieftains battle with Dimmitt. Chiefs lost by three points, 60-57. More photos for your scrapbook at frionaonline.com.



ron carr photo

Chieftain baseball coach Styler Haddock pours a pretty good pancake. The Chiefs baseball team held a pancake supper fundraiser last Friday before the Dimmitt basketball games.



ron carr photo

Chieftain baseball team members worked the pancake serving line at their fundraiser supper last Friday evening at the high school. From left are manager Rachel Dickson, Abel Palacios, Cesar Huerta, Alberto Nicolas, and Shiloh Harjo.

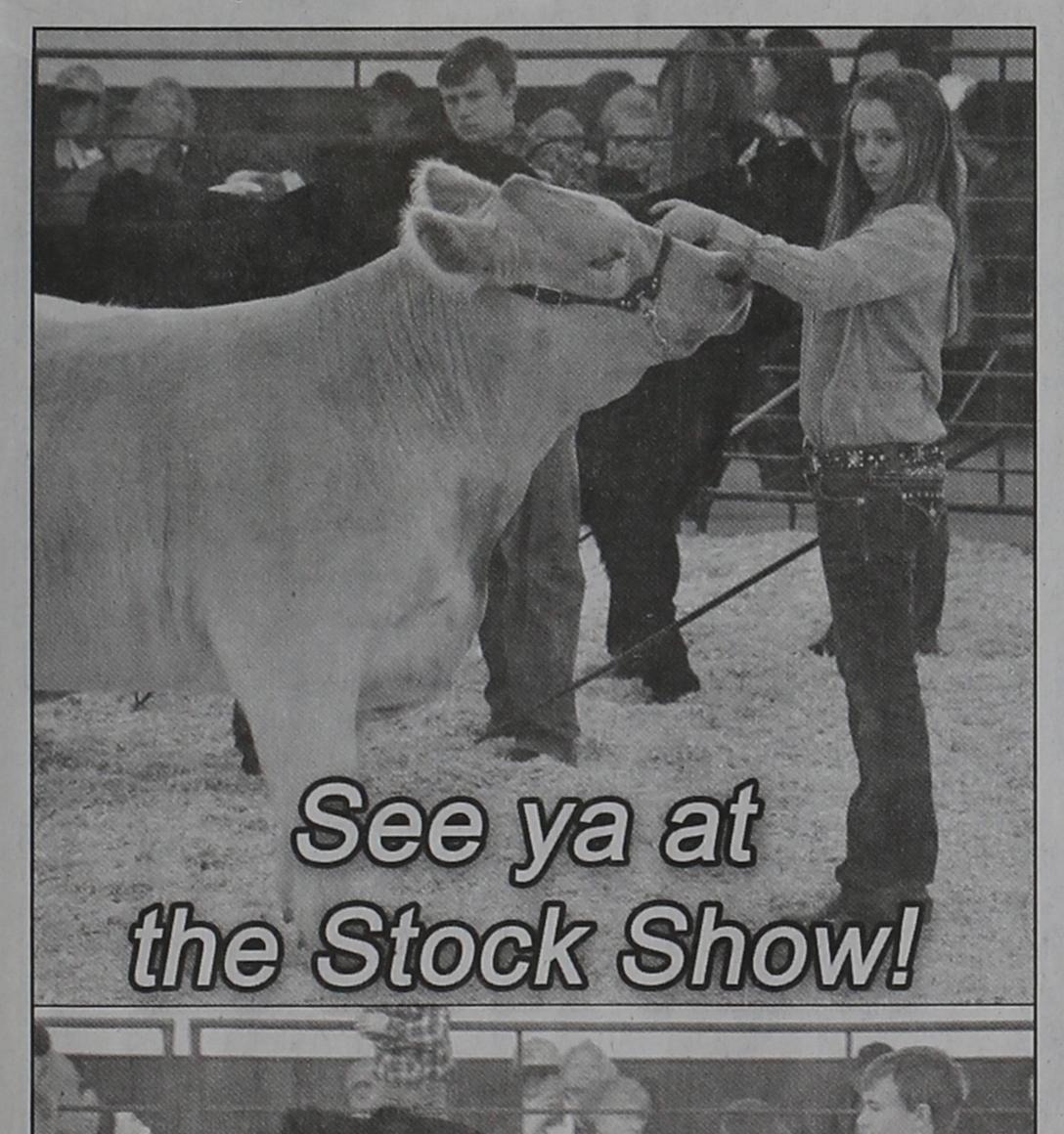


Dakotah Hicks (14) looks for help after grabbing a rebound in the game with the Dimmitt Bobbies.



ron carr photo

Stop, jump, shoot!! Maddie Murphree (21) goes up for a jump shot over the crowd of Dimmitt Bobbies. See more Squaw action photos at frionaonline.com.



Stock show schedule

Sunday January 15 - Friona Stock Show 2:00 p.m. community center

Wednesday January 18 – animal weigh-ins 1-5 p.m. Classify steers 5:30 p.m. Heifer show 6 p.m.

Thursday January 19 – Parmer County Stock Show – 8 a.m. community center Goat show first, followed by lamb show. 11 a.m. steer show, gilt show. Barrow show begins at 1 p.m.

Friday January 19 - Lazbuddie stock show - 11 a.m. community center

Saturday January 21 - premium sale - begins at 1 p.m.

West Texas Rural Telephone Co-Operative, Inc. So uth Hwy. 385 Hereford, TX 364-3331





Blackwell-Mullins Funeral Home wish all of the stock show exhibitors the best of luck in this year's livestock shows.

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Ag Secretary Vilsack: cuts will increase efficiency

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) must be built to meet the evolving needs of a 21st century agricultural economy, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said Monday in presenting USDA's Blueprint for Stronger Service; a plan that helps producers continue to drive America's economy by streamlining operations and cutting costs.

"The USDA, like families and businesses across the country, cannot continue to operate like we did 50 years ago," said Vilsack. "We must innovate, modernize, and be better stewards of the taxpayers' dollars. We must build on the record accomplishments of farm communities in 2011 with a stronger, more effective USDA in 2012 and beyond."

The Blueprint for Stronger Service is based on a Department-wide review of operations conducted as part of the Administration's Campaign to Cut Waste, launched by President Obama and Vice President Biden to make government work better and more efficiently for the American people. The agency took a hard look at all USDA operations, from headquarters to field offices. The end result is a plan that will create optimal use of USDA's employees, better results for USDA customers, and greater efficiencies for American taxpayers. "As part of the Campaign to Cut Waste, the President and I asked all Cabinet Secretaries to make tough choices within their departments to save taxpayer money, eliminate government waste, and allow us to invest in the programs and services the American people need. This announcement by Secretary Vilsack is another example of how this can be done," said Vice President Biden. "By under-

his Department, Secretary Vilsack has saved taxpayers millions in travel and printing costs and is consolidating more than 700 different cell phone contracts into about 10. What's more, the Department is finding significant savings by consolidating more than 200 offices across the country while ensuring that the vital services they provide are not cut."

"In the past few decades, U.S. agriculture has become the second most productive sector of the American economy, thanks to farmers adopting technology, reducing debt, and effectively managing risk," said Vilsack. "These are lessons from which we can all learn. As we continue to invest in rural communities across the country, USDA has heard from producers about reducing red tape and the need to modernize its services. Today, we are answering the challenge by announcing a series of efforts to help us continue to streamline operations, make the best use of taxpayer resources, and provide the best possible service to the American people."

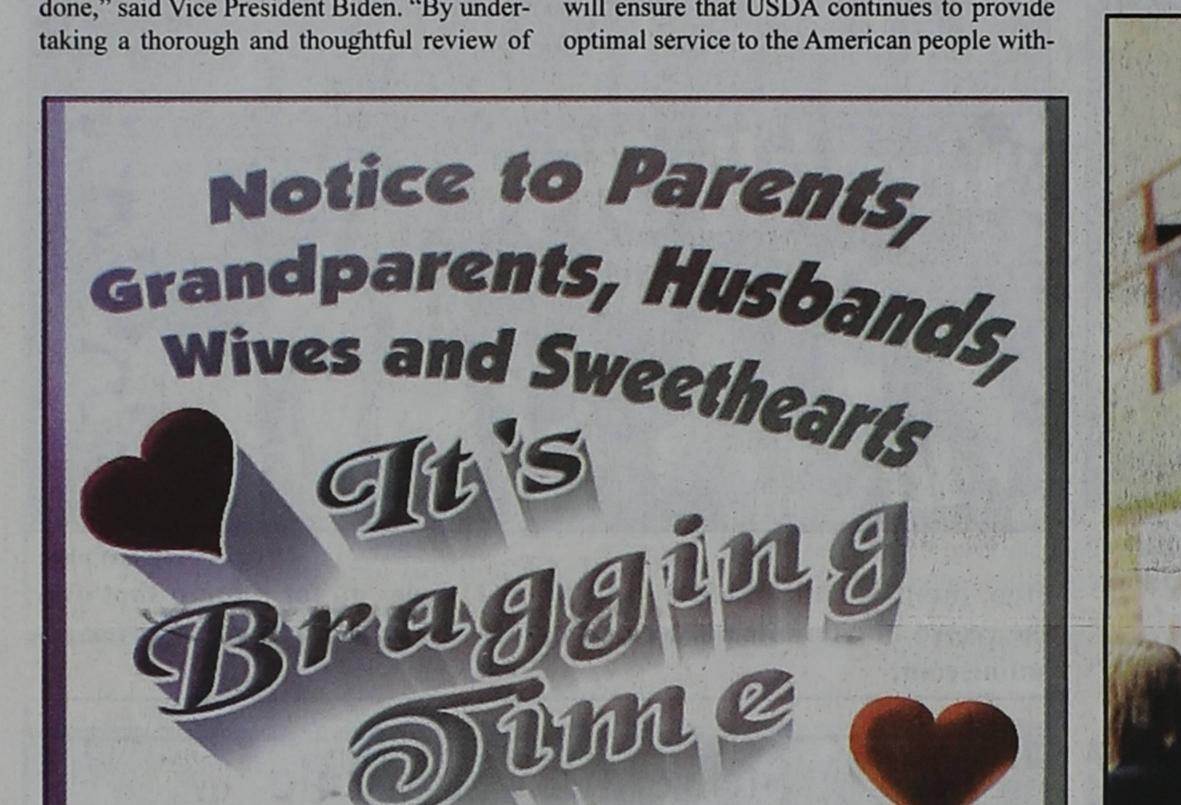
The USDA will close 259 domestic offices, facilities and labs across the country, as well as seven foreign offices. In some cases, offices are no longer staffed or have a very small staff of one or two people; many are within 20 miles of other USDA offices. In other cases, technology improvements, advanced service centers, and broadband service have reduced some need for brick and mortar facilities. When fully implemented, these actions along with other recommended changes will provide efficiencies valued at about \$150 million annually—and eventually more based on future realignment of the workforce—and will ensure that USDA continues to provide optimal service to the American people within available funding levels. These actions and plans to close or consolidate facility, office and lab operations will impact USDA headquarters in Washington and in 46 states and 1 U.S. territory.

- Farm Service Agency (FSA): Consolidate 131 county offices in 32 states; more than 2,100 FSA offices remain throughout the United States
- Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS): Close
 2 country offices; more than 95 FAS offices remain throughout the world
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS): Close 15 APHIS offices in 11 states and 5 APHIS offices in 5 foreign countries; more than 560 APHIS offices remain throughout the United States and 55 remain throughout the world
- Rural Development (RD): Close 43 area and sub offices in 17 states and U.S. territories; approximately 450 RD offices remain throughout the United States.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
 (NRCS): Close 24 soil survey offices in 21

32 FNCS offices will remain throughout the United States

In addition, USDA is implementing a series of other changes that will save taxpayers' money while eliminating redundancies and inefficiencies. The Blueprint for Stronger Service details 133 recommendations that affirm processes already in place, as well as 27 initial improvements, and other, longer-term improvements. The initial improvements include the following:

- Consolidate more than 700 cell phone plans into about 10;
- Standardize civil rights training and purchases of cyber security products; and
 Ensure more efficient and effective service to our employees by moving toward more centralized civil rights, human resource, procurement, and property management functions, creating millions of dollars in efficiencies without sacrificing the quality of our work.



states; more than 2,800 NRCS offices remain throughout the United States

- Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS): Close 5 district offices in 5 states; 10 district offices remain throughout the United States
- Agricultural Research Service (ARS): Close 12 programs at 10 locations; more than 240 programs remain throughout the United States
- Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services (FNCS): Close 31 field offices in 28 states;

The Secretary detailed the changes in a speech today at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 93rd Annual Meeting, where he also highlighted the impressive achievements of American agriculture over the past three years. Currently, U.S. agriculture is experiencing its most productive period in history thanks to the resiliency, resourcefulness, and efficiency of American producers. The Blueprint for Stronger Service will allow USDA to continue the investments that help to make this possible.



The Annual Friona Star Valentine's Issue will be published Feb 9. It's your opportunity to show off those kids, grandkids, sweethearts, and spouses. Deadline for photos is 5 p.m. Wed. Feb 1. Cost per photo: 1-2 people \$10 * 3 or more \$15 Photos may include names of parents and/or grandparents Valentine messages are optional and will be limited to 10 words or less. For more information call 250-2211 or email frionastar@wtrt.net

Bring photos by the Friona Star office Mon-Wed 10am to 5pm

Cameraman Danny Campbell and play-by-play guy Clint Mears video the home district basketball games (and playoff games) for broadcast Saturday mornings on WT Services channel 76. The schedule is listed below. Tune in to see the Squaws and Chiefs in action.



YOU'RE GETTING NEW NEIGHBORS OR HADN'T YOU HEARD?



Government officials are required to publish their intentions in the newspaper – including their intent to build a facility down the street that you might not want. But that could change.

Some politicians want to bury public notices on little seen, rarely visited government websites. Don't let government put you in the dark. Public notices should be published by the newspaper.

If it is not in the newspaper, you won't know about it.

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Friona + Star

January 7	Dimmitt
January 14	Muleshoe
January 21	Abernathy
January 28	Tulia
February 4	Littlefield
February 11	Floydada
February 18	Idalou

All games start at 10:00 a.m. each Saturday on WT SERVICES Channel 76

ron carr photo