

# Friona ★ Star

VOL. 89, NO. 27

FRIONA, TEXAS

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2013

TWELVE PAGES

## Fundraiser for Depot windows

During their recent meeting the Community Heritage Society decided to hold a fundraising campaign to raise money to replace the rotting windows in the Depot in the Park.

Much consideration and research was done before deciding to replace the windows. Committee president Bill White said, "In order to preserve the facility for future generations we thought it best to replace the windows and we would appreciate any help from the community."

White said there are several windows that need replacing to prevent water damage and dirt from getting into the building. The cost could be as much as \$5,500. The committee would like to replace the windows as soon as possible, preferably before this winter.

If you are interested in making a donation please send or take a check to Friona State Bank (Friona Interbank). Make checks payable to the Community Heritage Society.

## Friona cheer camp dates

The Friona cheerleading camps have new times this year due to some scheduling conflicts. Brandi Surman, the Friona ISD varsity cheerleading coach, furnished this schedule for the camps.

The junior high cheerleaders and 6th graders camp will be July 29-August 1 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The Friona cheer camp for 4-year-olds to 5th graders will be July 29-August 1 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Registration for the junior high and 6th graders will begin at 3:30 p.m. July 29. Registration for the Friona cheer camp will begin at 6:15 p.m. July 29. Both camps will be at the high school gym and the price for either camp is \$25 per person and will include a t-shirt.

## Love Fund For Larry Gonzales

Newly retired long-time Friona ISD employee Larry Gonzales was recently diagnosed with Stage 3 cancer and will be receiving treatments in Amarillo in the coming weeks. The course of treatment will involve daily trips to Amarillo for approximately 6-7 weeks for the initial treatment.

A love fund has been established for medical and travel expenses at First National Bank-Friona Banking Center. Anyone interested in donating to this fund can see any teller at the bank or call the bank at 806-250-2900 for more information.

# Cargill Friona- 45 years later

By Jon Surman, AVP, General Manager



In preparation for this article, I decided to look back 45 years and read what was written about the first day of operations at our facility. It is amazing how the industry has changed and grown over the last 45 years. Excitement was building about a state-of-the-art facility, the largest of its kind in the world, inaugurating beef production in a plant that Frionans could be proud to call their own. Even though much has changed, some things have changed very little. In the original plans we employed 250 people and processed nearly 1,500 head of cattle daily. Today, our team is comprised of nearly 2,000 people and we process 1,500 cattle

by lunch break on our first shift. I wonder what employees from the plant's past would think if they could see us now?

The original plant was built at a cost of \$3 million dollars. Seven years ago, we spent more than eight times that amount - \$25 million - on an automated box distribution center. Costs have certainly increased as technology has improved and the price of materials and labor have also increased. The goal at the time was to process 7,000 head per week and ship out sides of beef to the marketplace. Today, we process nearly 5,000 head per day (25,000 weekly), and fabricate every piece into a cut that becomes boxed beef, cure the hides, render the by-products, treat our wastewater, and produce and use methane biogas for heating water used to sanitize the plant. We commonly say that we process everything but the "Moo".

The article from 1968 also stated that there were more than 1 million head of cattle on feed in our three-state area. Today, Texas Cattle Feeders Associa-

tion shows just over 2 million on feed in the Texas Panhandle alone, and more than 7 million in Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma. The cattle feeding industry has been as big a part of our success over the past 45 years as any factor. It has changed with the times, now using automated feeding technology and shipping thousands of head of cattle for harvesting within a few hours. Many of the yards feed 20,000 to 50,000 head of cattle at a time, with a small number feeding more than 100,000 head. Our strategy was to operate beef processing plants close to the cattle supply, provide jobs for the community and invest in the community to make it a better place to live and conduct business. I believe it has worked so far.

Earlier this year, there was a major change to the beef processing industry when Cargill made the painful and difficult decision to idle our Plainview plant due primarily to drought-related cattle supply constraints. Yet, for Friona it has provided us with an opportu-

nity to show what we can do to serve our customers. The idling of Plainview also allowed us to increase the weekly number of run hours in our facility, providing a full weekly paycheck for our employees. We have significantly increased our running hours and through-put of cattle and beef products, which helps our customers, our employees in Friona and surrounding communities.

During this evolution we have also built one of the best safety cultures and engaged workforces in the company and the industry. We are proud of the 45-year journey Cargill has taken with the community, and how we have evolved during that time. We are equally optimistic about the future of the beef business and our operation at Friona. This year, there are several very exciting new plant investments in the planning phase that will make us more efficient, cost competitive, and better prepared for the future. Thank you for the past 45 years and join us in celebrating the many years to come.



ron carr photo

Long time Chieftain fans will recognize these guys from the 1996 Chieftain team that advanced to the State 3A football semi-finals in Texas Stadium, losing to eventual state champion Tatum. From left are center Landon Wiseman, quarterback Kyle Grimsley, and running back Andy Kendrick. They were participating in the Pudge Kendrick Memorial Golf Tournament last weekend at Friona Golf Club. Landon farms in Friona, Andy has moved back to Friona to join the family business, and Kyle recently purchased the State Farm Agency in Dalhart.

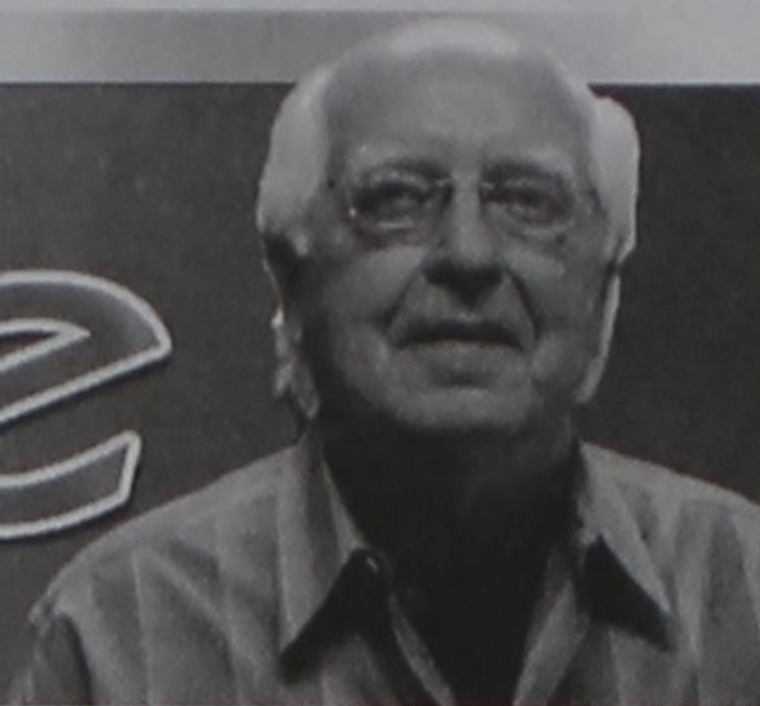
## Scenes from the Pudge Kendrick Memorial Golf Tournament





# Out Here

By Ron Carr



## forty five years ago in friona

For folks my age 1968 doesn't seem so long ago. For the young folks it is a lifetime.

You will notice in today's Star we are featuring the 45th anniversary of the opening of what is now the Cargill Beef plant. It was originally Missouri Beef Packers, than Excel, and now Cargill.

The first official cow was processed at the plant on May 6, 1968. At the time, a good day was processing around 120 cattle. Today they process 4,000 cattle a day, a sign of the technological advances the past 45 years.

You can read about much of that progress in this Star from Cargill General Manager Jon Surman and others. Check out page 1 and page 11.

While researching our 1968 Friona Star archives for the Cargill stories I discovered the MBP opening was not the only news in 1968. Although I am not a Friona native it is always interesting to look though early issues of the Friona Star.

Here is some of the stuff I found from 1968:

City mail delivery began June 29, 1968, almost exactly 45 years ago. Prior to that folks had to go to the post office for mail. A front page headline in the July 4, 1968 Star said, "City Delivery Begins With 350 On Routes." Residents had been told earlier to

get mailboxes out by the street and sign-up for mail delivery.

The first two city mail carriers were Dale Hart and Valton Howard. Dale Hart, who still delivers a rural mail route today, had the western part of the city and Valton Howard, who passed away a few years ago, delivered the eastern part of the city.

Postmaster Wright Williams was pleased with the new city delivery but told the Star that some of the boxes were too high to reach from the cars being driven by Dale and Valton.

Elsewhere in the 1968 Friona news, Friona erected signs at the east and west city limits proclaiming Friona as the "Beef Capital of Texas", no doubt because of the packing plant. Ira Holt was one of the men shown putting up the signs. Seems in the ensuing years Hereford has claimed the Beef Capital title.

Honor graduates in the Class of 1968 were Larry Truitt, valedictorian and Becky Coffey, salutatorian. The Friona Noon Lions Club had its charter meeting June 8, 1968. Cecil Maddox was the first Noon Lions president. Charter member Dale Houlette is still a member of today's Noon Lions.

Another article told of the resignation of Chamber of Commerce manager Ted Weaver

who resigned because the Chamber had no money and was having trouble gaining members. A campaign was launched to attract new members.

The high temperature on June 29, 1968 was 108 degrees, said to be a new Friona record. From a Piggly Wiggly ad, bell peppers were 5-cents each, fryers were 29-cents a pound, and 10 pounds of potatoes were 69-cents.

At an FFA convention in Lubbock, four local boys were named Lone Star Farmers. They were James Schlenker, Danny Carthel, Tommy Mars, and Mike Riethmayer. Young Riethmayer's future wife, Becky Elliott, was named a finalist in the 1968 Dimmitt Miss Grain Sorghum contest.

In 1968, commissioners approved No Parking on Highway 60 and signs were put up to enforce the ban. And I found a photo of Mitchell Smiley and Rusty Redfearn in baseball uniforms. They won sportsmanship awards, Mitchell in the Pee Wee League and Rusty in the Intermediate League. I called Mitchell, now the Parmer County Farm Bureau manager, to see if he still had that trophy from 45 years ago. He said his mother probably had it somewhere.

Congratulations Cargill and Friona on the progress of the past 45 years.

## Bovina Chamber offers cash to parade winners

Buddy Prather, Bovina Chamber of Commerce 4th of July parade chairman, says that owners of restored antique cars and tractors can win a cash prize during the Bovina 4th of July parade.

Cash prizes of \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place, and \$7.50 for third place will be given. Same cash prizes will also be given for the best equestrian group.

Mr. Prather said, "The parade has always been well received by the folks in Bovina and any way we can improve the event is well worth the money. We all love the old cars and tractors and any parade in Texas that doesn't sport beautiful

horses is not a parade." Prizes for the kids remain as usual and everyone in the county is invited to come to the festivities.

Judges for the cars, tractors, and horses will be well known antique entrepreneurs Orville and Gilda Hinkledoover. They advise everyone that the entries should be in line not later than 9:30 a.m. for the 10:00 a.m. parade. This will give parade officials time to line up the entries as well as the judges time to view them.

Bovina Chamber of Commerce president Don Spring says, "Come one and all expecting one of the largest and greatest parades in Bovina."

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From the front page of the July 4, 1968 Friona Star: First mail...One of the city mail carriers, Dale Hart, is shown making the first stop on his route last Saturday morning, the first day that mail delivery was made. Hart and Valton Howard are the carriers.

**Friona Star**  
**IS ONLINE AT**  
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**U.S. Government**  
**President:** Barack Obama, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20500. 202-456-1111, fax 202-456-2461, email comments@whitehouse.gov.  
**Senator:** John Cornyn, 517 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-2934, fax 202-228-2856.  
**Senator:** Ted Cruz B40B Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-5922.

**Representative:** Randy Neugebauer, 1424 Longworth HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515. 202-225-4005, fax 202-225-9615. Lubbock office: 611 University Avenue #220, Lubbock 79401 806-763-1611, fax 806-767-9168.

**State**  
**Governor:** Rick Perry, Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 12428, Austin, Tx 78711-2428, 512-463-2000.  
**Senator:** Kel Seliger, P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, Tx 78711. 512-463-0131. Amarillo office; P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, 79105. 806-374-8994.  
**Representative:** John T. Smithee, Room CAP1W.10, Capitol P.O. Box 2910, Austin, Tx 78768. 512-463-0702. fax 512-476-7016. Amarillo office; 320 So. Polk, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Lobby box 28, Amarillo 79101. 806-372-3327, fax 806-342-0327.

**ACROSS**

- TX shine ball pitcher "Daunt \_\_\_ Dave" Danforth
- Valley plant
- mineral no longer produced in TX
- TXism: "\_\_\_ a hog had wings, he d be an eagle"
- corp. VIP (abbr.)
- TXism for "old man"
- Monte \_\_\_\_, TX
- TX stunt pilot Tom Danaher took part in 1st \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ transfer in film "Cliffhanger"
- TXism: "struck \_\_\_" (successful)
- "Cave Without a Name" near Boerne "\_\_\_ pretty to name"
- test the ore again?
- once a Cotulla FM
- works the dough
- England inhabitant
- TX Reeves "Am \_\_\_ You?"
- TX actress Tierney (init.)
- in Tyler Co. on 69
- leave out
- 7-11 s Slur\_\_
- Cowboys play in recent years
- Kentucky Derby winner purchased by King Ranch in 71: "\_\_\_ II"
- \_\_\_hart, TX
- get the youngsters in the house (2 wds.)

**DOWN**

- "Gone to TX" came to mean "on the \_\_\_"
- UT grad Wallach
- film for TX-born Ethan Hawke: "Dead Poets \_\_\_" (89)
- Pappadeaux Cajun eatery in Metroplex (2 wds.)
- Henrietta is seat of this county
- prominent fashionable urbanites
- TXism: "come hell \_\_\_ high water"
- Bob Lilly's old position (abbr.)
- song: "Is Anybody Antone?"
- TXism: "he \_\_\_ tall in the saddle"
- Boerne's historic "\_\_\_ Kendall Inn"
- seat of Jackson Co.
- TXism: "\_\_\_ in the hole" (reserve)
- Rice provost (86-92)
- TXism: "esta \_\_\_"
- TXism: "high as popcorn \_\_\_ picture show"
- \_\_\_ Kay Granger
- ex-Cowboy Emmitt (init.)
- "put your mind at \_\_\_"
- TX Kristofferson's ex-wife Coolidge
- TXism: "flat as \_\_\_"
- former name of Dallas bldg. "Energy Plaza": "\_\_\_ Tower"
- Hammerstein's sidekick
- TXism: "got as much to do as a hibernating bear"
- bone prefix
- notorious TX Judge Bean (init.)
- TXism: "let \_\_\_ rip!"
- a general's assistant
- TXism: "\_\_\_ bought"
- disagreeably
- Wichita Falls FM
- song: "\_\_\_ Old Cowhand"
- alien (abbr.)
- "\_\_\_ the season to be jolly ..."
- this Gent wrote "North Dallas Forty"
- TXism: "it'll warm your gullet"
- TX Benson film: "\_\_\_ to Billy Joe"
- TXism: "loud as boot heels \_\_\_ floor"
- TX-born Steve Martin film: "\_\_\_ of Faith" (92)
- TXism: "strong enough to float \_\_\_ anvil" (strong coffee)

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
 by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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solution on page 4

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## Town Talk II

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

Hotter than a firecracker. 100, 100, 100. That seems to be our temperature highs this week. Maybe a few cooler temps and slight chance of showers this weekend. The burn ban in the county remains lifted until July 8, the date of the next county commissioners meeting. Fireworks sales are set to begin this week until Thursday July 4 at midnight. Parents and kids be careful and don't start a fire or injure anybody. It is still illegal, against the law, to shoot fireworks in the city limits of Friona. You could get a citation and fine if they catch you popping them in the city.

At Monday's county commissioners meeting, they approved purchase of a new roadgrader for use in Commissioner Kirk Frye's Precinct 1, approved a \$106,000 share from the Permanent School Fund for Lazbuddie ISD, and renewed a lease with Efrain Balli for the county's roll off box on FM2397 west of the Hwy 214 overpass. After a closed executive session, the commissioner meeting resumed in public session and county auditor Joyce Ketcherside of Farwell's employment was terminated by order of 287th District Judge Gordon Green. The county will be seeking a replacement auditor in the next few weeks.

Happy anniversary to Edward and Joann Castillo who will celebrate 30 years July 2. Hollis and Lunell Horton observed their 60th anniversary June 20. Former residents Winfield and Patty Davenport celebrated 25 years June 25. Best wishes and congratulations to each and every one. If you have an anniversary coming up or know someone who does let us know. Don't Twitter us though because we don't tweet.

Long time Friona ISD employee Larry Gonzales, who retired at the end of this school year, has been diagnosed with Stage 3 colon cancer. For the next 6-7 weeks he will be driving to Amarillo every day for treatment. A love fund has been set up for the family to assist with travel and medical expense at First National Bank-Friona Banking Center. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers in hopes of a positive outcome for Larry.

Former Chieftain assistant football coach Ryan Rhodes still has friends and fans here in Chieftain Country. After stops at Texhoma, Levelland, Lubbock Monterey, and Plainview last year, Ryan has just been named Athletic Director and Head Coach for the Plainview High School Bulldogs. He is a deserving young man and we wish him much success.

The Pudge Kendrick Memorial Golf Tournament was a big success last weekend with 69 two-man teams teeing off in morning and afternoon start times. I hung around for a couple of hours Sunday afternoon, shooting some photos and visiting with folks I hadn't seen in a long time, many from out-of-town. As mentioned here before, Andy Kendrick and his family have been back in Friona for a couple of weeks. They moved back here from Bullard, Texas where Andy was a football coach. He has joined the Kendrick family business. Good to see everyone and thanks for participating. Proceeds from the tournament go to the Parmer County Cancer Coalition.

Two fireworks stands will be open for business through midnight July 4, when they have to cease sales. The Geries family,

Randy and Sarah, will be open on Hwy 60 across from the west Allsup's. The yellow TNT stand on the south side of west Hwy 60 will be operated this year by Joe and Evelyn (Hart) Romero. Both will have creative ways you can blow up some money.

The Cheeseburger Festival is coming up Saturday July 20. It is a cook-off and car and motorcycle show. Kris Gordon will be back again to entertain. Cheeseburger cook-off registration forms, booth vendor forms, car and motorcycle show entry forms can all be found on the Chamber website, www.frionachamber.com.

Next week a carnival will be in town at Reeve Lake from July 2-5. Rides, games, food, and fun for all. Saturday July 6 is Kid Fish Day at Reeve Lake from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring your own equipment but equipment and bait will also be furnished. Prizes for longest, biggest, first fish, etc.

Early deadline for the Star next week. Thursday, our normal publishing day, is a holiday so we will finish and print the Star one day earlier. Deadline for stories, news, advertising etc. will be Monday July 1 by 5 p.m. Next week's paper will go to the post office Wednesday July 3 which means it will still be delivered out on the routes on Friday.

The 40th annual Nazareth German Festival will be held in Nazareth, Texas Saturday July 13. There is a big schedule of activities and the Suds 'n Sounds concert and dance at the Nazareth Ballpark. Gates for the Suds open at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person. The headliner band is Whiskey Myers, plus Agave Posse, Mike Chism and

Hollow Point, Beyond Country, and Texas Rebels. Other activities start at 9 a.m. and the German sausage dinner is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.. Cost is \$10 adults, \$5 children. Happy sauerkraut.

Friona grad Natasha (Lafuente) Butler, works in Amarillo as a family support coordinator for Special Delivery Infant Adoption Agency. On July 6 her organization will sponsor an event "Bogging for Babies." It will be from 12 - 5 p.m. at Hardy Coffman's land, 10800 Cemetery Road in Canyon. Souped up four-wheel drive vehicles run through mud competing for the longest distance or fastest time. There will be vendors and delicious food. If anyone is interested in participating or just attending check out her website at www.specialdeliveryadoptions.org. On July 28 her organization and San Jacinto Christian

Academy will bring Duck Dynasty CEO Willie Robertson to Amarillo. People can "like" Special Delivery Infant Adoption Agency on Facebook to find out about the Duck guy's information. You can contact Natasha at 806-367-6755.

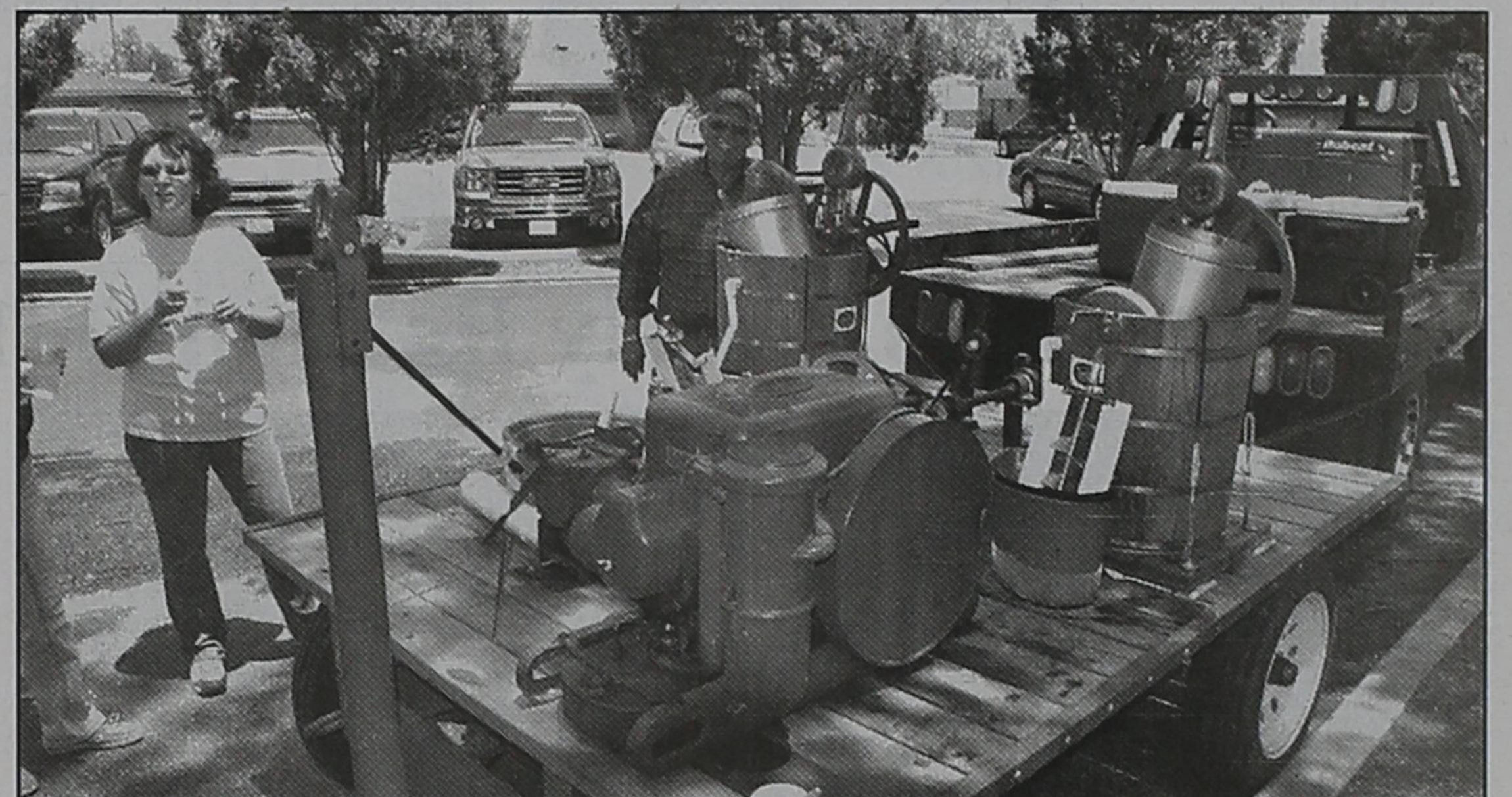
Art and crafters, want to go to Dalhart? The XIT Arts & Crafts Show will be held in Dalhart at Veterans Memorial Park, 7th St. & Rock Island. Booth fee is \$75 plus \$10 for electricity. For more details call Kay Rogers at 806-244-4434. It is sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension Agency.

The next Friona blood drive will be Thursday July 11 at Calvary Baptist Church fellowship hall. Donors will receive a Boots & Badges t-shirt and a coupon for 20% off at Hunan Restaurant plus name in a drawing for dinner for two at Hu-

nan's. The noon Lions will cook burgers and fries for the donors. More details next week.

Reta Martin flew off to Florida this week to bring her granddaughters back for their summer visit. The girls will operate their Cousin Camp Lemonade Stand out at A-1 Service Center Monday July 1 through Wednesday July 3 from 1:00 p.m. till ???. Reta says stop by and say hello to the grandkids. I had some of their lemonade and cookies last year and recommend it.

Finally, the Summer Drama Workshop will begin Monday July 8. Allison Johnston, Candice Geske, and Joy Morton are directors. Cost remains at \$25 per child for the two-week workshop. You can contact Allison for details at 806-220-1610. Hope you have a "cool" summer maybe. Until then!



ron carr photo

This is the way to make ice cream. John Taylor and his daughter Carolyn Stowers worked the ice cream cart at Friona Interbank's reception for Gary Brown last Friday. This motorized ice cream freezer trailer can make two 10-gallon buckets of homemade ice cream. It is the property of 4-Way Pump Service. They dished up over 250 cups of ice cream.

## Friona Interbank welcomes Yadira Perez

The employees at Friona InterBank invite you to come in and meet our new employee, Yadira Perez. She started to work at the bank on June 6 and is a teller.

Yadira lives in Bovina and that is where she grew up. She attended and graduated from Bovina High School. She then moved to Amarillo and worked at Amarillo National Bank for 3 1/2 years: as a teller for 2 years and then was promoted to customer service.

Mrs Perez met her husband, Ramon Perez, through a mutual friend in Bovina. He is from Georgia and that is where his parents still live. The couple were married in 2009 and lived in Amarillo until recently when they decided to move back to Bovina where he opened an auto body shop business.

Yadira's parents are Fermin and Leonore Vela from Bovina. She has an older sister, Yuri, and a younger brother, Gael. Both parents work for Cargill.

Yadira and Ramon like to



"hang out" with friends. She loves to cook and Ramon plays in a band for baptisms and parties. The band is called Tamborazo 5to Elemento. They attend St Ann's Catholic Church in Bovina.

We are so happy to have Yadira as a part of our banking family. She has a quick smile and easy personality and she can hardly wait to help you with your financial needs.

**Dr. Rick Roden and staff would like to introduce our new hygienist RAVEN JONES! If you are due for a cleaning or have a dental issue we are here to serve you. We are accepting new patients and always enjoy seeing our established patients.**

**Call today!  
806-364-2213.**



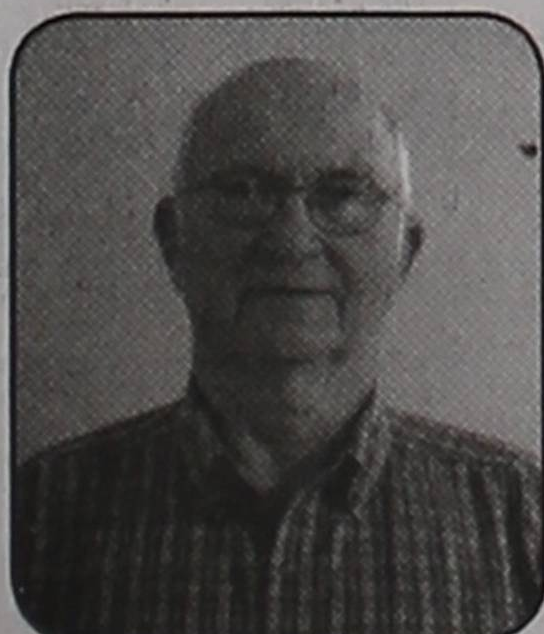
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## DPS boosts holiday DWI patrols

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will increase DWI patrols for a 10-day period that includes the July 4th holiday. From June 28 – July 7, DPS troopers will focus DWI patrols in high-risk locations at times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent.

"The Fourth of July is a time of celebration in our country, and we encourage Texans to enjoy and mark this holiday responsibly," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Impaired driving can quickly turn a time of celebration into a tragedy, so Texans should designate a sober driver or secure another form of transportation if they plan to drink alcohol. Our troopers will also be doing their part during the holiday by increasing their patrols to keep our roadways safe."

The increased patrols that target impaired driving are funded through a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). During the 2012 July 4th enforcement effort, DPS troopers made 1,294 DWI arrests, and 361 of those arrests were the direct result of the increased patrols. DPS enforcement also resulted in nearly 13,700 speeding citations, more than 2,200 seat belt/child safety seat citations, 750 fugitive arrests and 518 felony arrests during this period.

According to TxDOT, Independence Day traditionally ranks among the deadliest holiday periods on Texas highways as a result of alcohol-related crashes.

## 20 Year Reunion Planned

The FHS class of 1993 will hold its 20 year class reunion on July 19 and 20. The class will meet at Thompson Park in Amarillo on the afternoon of the 19th and then again as a group at the cheeseburger festival in Friona on the 20th. For more information, contact Britt Conklin or a class officer or email bconclindvm@gmail.com. Please RSVP by July 15th.

## Local dairy farmer on capitol hill

Nathan and Crystal Moroney, dairy farmers from Friona, Texas, recently visited Washington, D.C., to meet with congressional leaders and discuss issues impacting the dairy industry. The Moroneys attended the 2013 National Milk Producers Federation's (NMPF) Dairy Policy and Legislative Forum as representatives of Dairy Farmers of America's (DFA) Young Cooperator (YC) Program.

The Moroneys were among several DFA members who attended the conference, where they discussed key legislative issues affecting the industry and sat down with congressional leaders to discuss pending changes to dairy policy. While in the nation's capital, the couple met with the staffs of Sens. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) and John Cornyn (R-Texas), and Rep. Randy Neugebauer (R-Texas).

During these meetings, the Moroneys expressed their support of the Dairy Security Act and urged their representatives to pass a Farm Bill incorporating these provisions. Additionally, they expressed the agricultural community's support for the immigration reform legislation.

The Moroneys milk 3,250 Holstein and Swiss cows on their 3,500-acre operation in Friona. The couple serves as the Cooperative's Southwest Area YC chair couple and represents DFA on the 2013 YC National Milk Producers Federation Advisory Council. Additionally, Crystal is a member of Panhandle Dairy Women and United Dairy Women, and has written articles for Dairy Max.

DFA's Young Cooperator program fosters interaction between young dairy farmers ages 18 to 40 who are involved as owners, partners or hold distinct management responsibilities on a DFA-member dairy operation. The program facilitates the development of leadership skills, enabling young cooperators to improve their industry, their Cooperative and their lives.

# OBITUARIES

## Mary H. Damron

Mary H. Damron, 91, of Friona, Texas, died Thursday June 20, 2013 in Amarillo. Visitation was held Sunday June 23, 2013 at Blackwell-Mullins Funeral Home in Friona. Graveside services were held at 10 a.m. Monday June 24, 2013 at Sudan Cemetery in Sudan, Texas. Arrangements were by Blackwell-Mullins Funeral Home of Friona.

Mary was born October 29, 1921 in Lakeview, Texas to Warren Nelson and Lillie Belle Anderson Williams. She attended schools in Lakeview and graduated from Lakeview High School. She married Floyd Damron October 26, 1946 in Clovis, New Mexico. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Bovina.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, one daughter, Carolyn Sabbe, one grandson, David Loe, and nine brothers and sisters.

Survivors include two daughters, Tammy Damron of Ruidoso, New Mexico and Pat Loe of Fort Worth, Texas; one sister, Corinne



Mary H. Damron

Srygley of Littlefield, Texas; four grandchildren, Carol Sawyer, Todd Loe, Heath Sabbe, Kelli Maddox; six great grandchildren, Brock Sabbe, Tyler Wormsbaker, Tallon Sabbe, Kenley Maddox, Saylem Maddox, Tabbitha Harris.

To sign the register book online go to www.blackwellmullins.com



## Feliz C. Crutchfield

Feliz C. Crutchfield, 77 of Friona died Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at Parmer Medical Center. Rosary was recited at 7 p.m. Thursday June 20, 2013 at St. Teresa's Catholic Church. Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10 a.m. Friday June 21, 2013 at St. Teresa's Catholic church with Reverend Anthony Swamyakula, Celebrant. Burial followed in Friona Cemetery. Arrangements were by Blackwell-Mullins Funeral Home.

Feliz was born November 20, 1935 in Rocksprings, Texas to Valentin Castillo and Lupe Vela Castillo. She married Troy N. Crutchfield September 2, 1963 in Clovis, New Mexico. She had been employed by Parmer Medical Center and Prairie Acres Nursing Home as a custodian. Her hobbies included crocheting, sewing, and shopping. She is a member of St. Teresa's Catholic Church where she was involved in the Ladies Society, Jamaica Committee, and Cursillo Movement.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, eight brothers, and one son, Ernesto Grimaldo.

Survivors are her husband Troy N. Crutchfield, Sr. of Friona; four daughters, Christina Donovan of Friona, Emmie Crutchfield of El Paso, Texas, Irma Torres of Ft.



Feliz C. Crutchfield

Worth, Texas, Anna Gonzales of Dallas, Texas; three sons, Troy Crutchfield, Jr. of Plainview, Texas, Ernest Crutchfield of Louisville, Kentucky, and Jesse Grimaldo of Dublin, Texas; four sisters, Sara Armijo of Clovis, Ignacia Sanchez of Clovis, Maria Flores of Rocksprings, Texas, Victoria Hollis of Friona; 12 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren.

To sign the online register book go to www.blackwellmullins.com.



## Panhandle Parables

### Remember the Force...Luke!

JEFF PROCTER, Minister, 6th St. Church of Christ

In 1977 like many others, I stood in line to go see a movie in Clovis at the Hilltop Theater. Star Wars would change the landscape of the movie industry. In simple terms it was a good vs. evil scenario. But when you are 7 years old and the smallest in your class, "The Force" was a powerful thought. Obi-Wan Kenobi, could be heard in my head for years to come. "The Force, Luke...use the Force..." The good side of the Force demonstrated characteristics such as: courage, selflessness, compassion and yes freedom from the dark side of the Force. It was power demonstrated in humility and light always prevailing against darkness no matter the odds.

Now 36 years later, and a few more Star Wars movies, I am reminded not by Luke Skywalker, but Luke one of the gospel writers, of the greatest story of power demonstrated by humility the world has ever known. Luke pens two books in the New Testament. Luke and Acts, this comprises roughly half of the New Testament.

In Luke's gospel account, we are given a letter of record of the story of Jesus. In the book of Acts we see what happens when the apostles, in faith are given God's Spirit and "Light" is given a foothold in this dark world. To this day, we believe that good claims the final victory in Jesus Christ.

This matters, because with it comes hope in our daily struggle, and with hope we can do all things through Christ. I don't have a light saber, but I have God's Word. I don't have the ability to make things float around the room, but I have peace that surpasses understanding. I don't have the Force, but I have His Spirit. Christians this is not a movie, but life in real time. Let us equipped by God, step in to darkness and shed His light to the Glory of God and the salvation to all who will trust Him and obey. (Read Luke 1:35 then keep reading!)

## A Good King

BRETT HOYLE, Pastor, First Baptist Church

What would you want your tombstone to say about you? What about if your closest friends wrote it, or what if God weighed in on the matter? In 1 Kings 15, the epitaph for King Asa was that he "did what was right in the eyes of the Lord," which is the greatest compliment any leader could receive. Why was King Asa, who followed in the footsteps of two bad kings, such a success in God's eyes?

First, he did what was right in the sight of the Lord, and what was best for the nation. These two things are one in the same, and a leader who does not do what is right in the eyes of the Lord, is not doing what is best for the nation. During the first 10 years of Asa's reign he experienced peace, and he intentionally purged the land of perverseness and idolatry, honored God with the riches of the kingdom, depended upon the Lord for protection, and listened and obeyed the word of God. Asa was a man who sought the Lord privately, publicly and politically. Proverbs 14:34 says, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." Lord, Jesus, please help our nation do what is right in your eyes, and give our leaders hearts to follow you.

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# Forage crop insurance deadline near

Livestock producers considering adding a layer of protection against drought loss on annual forage crops have an insurance deadline ahead, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service specialist.

The Rainfall Index - Annual Forage Insurance plan, referred to as RI-AF, is a risk policy designed to provide livestock producers the ability to buy protection against losses due to a lack of moisture, said DeDe Jones, AgriLife Extension risk management specialist in Amarillo.

The sign-up deadline for RI-AF is July 15 for the fall growing season - Sept 1, 2013-March 31, 2014 - and Dec. 15 for the spring season - March 1-Sept. 30, 2014. All premium payments are due by Aug. 30, 2014.

While RI-AF is similar to Pasture Range and Forage In-

urance, or PRF insurance, the difference lies in the type of commodity covered, Jones said.

PRF encompasses perennial grasses such as pasture and hay, while RI-AF is strictly for annual forage crops, she explained. These include but are not limited to winter small grains, such as wheat, oats, rye and triticale, and spring plantings such as sudan, haygrazer and millet.

Under both insurance plans, payment is not determined by individual damages, but rather area losses based on a grid system, Jones said. Producers can select any portion of acres to insure. They must also choose a maximum of three, two-month intervals per growing season per year. Insured acres are then spread between time periods, with no more than 40 percent of the acres placed in any interval. Coverage levels between 70

and 90 percent are available, she said. Once coverage is selected, the producer chooses a productivity factor between 60 and 150 percent. The productivity factor is a percentage of the established county base value for annual forage. Base value is a standard rate published by the Risk Management Agency for each county. For example, Hansford County's

value is \$107.74 per acre.

The Rainfall Index determines RI-AF coverage. This model uses National Oceanic and Atmospheric Prediction Center data and a 12-by-12 mile grid system. Indemnities are calculated based on the deviation from normal precipitation within a grid for a specific period selected, Jones said.

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# Uncertainty in farm country

When the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management (FARRM) Act of 2013 failed to pass the U.S. House of Representatives last week, many farmers were faced with the difficult realization that uncertainty in farm country will continue.

According to Rodney Mosier, executive vice president of the Texas Wheat Producers Association (TWPA), this vote was not the first let down for farmers hoping for a five-year farm bill. After House leadership prevented the bill from floor consideration last year, a one-year extension of 2008 policy was hurriedly passed in January.

"The policy that came before the House last week was a product of several years of hearings, deliberations and compromise," said Mosier. "Getting everyone to achieve consensus again will be a challenge."

TWPA President Ben Scholz said wheat farmers across Texas were especially

disappointed with the failure as they had great interest in policy items in the House version.

"Our association really favored the farm policy items in the House version," said Scholz, a wheat farmer from Lavon. "Right now we have a bill that has passed the Senate, but no obvious way forward in the House."

Scholz explained that the demise of the bill will be felt for a long time if new action is not taken prior to September 30, when the current extension expires.

"Most agricultural practices demand a lot of forward thought and planning for the future," said Scholz. "Right now I am making decisions with no clear idea of what my risk management options will be next year."

Mosier said that the consequences could reach farther than the farm gate.

"Farming operations provide a large boost to local economies, but if we do not see long-term policy passed that impact may decrease," said Mosier. "Most farmers

cannot secure financing without proof of crop insurance and the assurance of a sustainable safety net. It is hard for financial institutions to continue approving loans when no one knows what the farm safety net will look like."

Scholz said he greatly appreciates the work that has been done by the House Agricultural Committee and the U.S. Senate to generate progress, but expressed concern about the House's inability to pass legislation that provided security for farmers and contributed significantly to budget savings.

"As for what will happen with the farm bill now - time will tell," said Scholz. "I will be back on my farm wrapping up wheat harvest and doing what I can to facilitate what lies ahead."

According to Mosier, the work for the association is far from over. He said members and staff will continue working on options and providing input to legislative leaders as they work to protect the future of the farm safety net.

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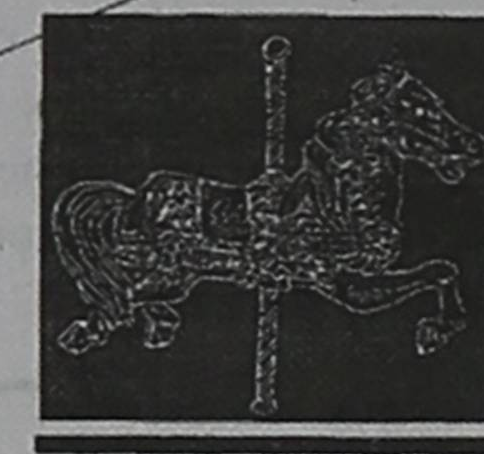
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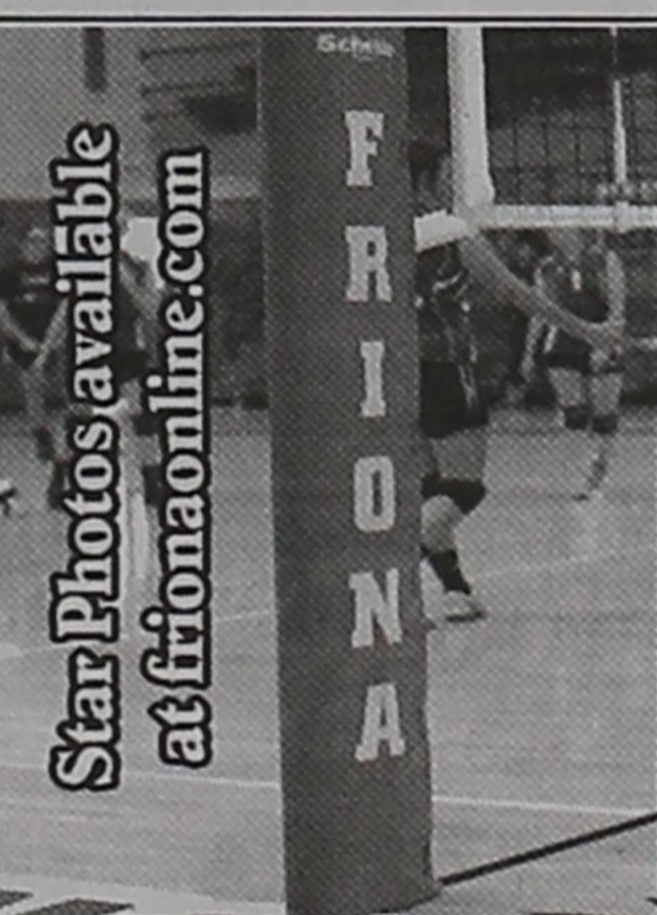
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The Friona High School Class of 2003 held a 10-year reunion in Lubbock. Attending were, back row, l-r, Raul Herrera, Riley Rector, Corbin Neill, Andy Carthel, T.J. Randolph, Nathan Haile, Chris Wiseman, Adam Bandy; front, l-r, Mandy Geris Rigler, Lindsay North Coursey, Amy Murphree Hand, Holley Hand, Amber Widner White, Ty White, and D'Lyn Carr Massey.

# Did You Say a Four-Letter Word?

By Melanie Gallman Braun

"Diet." Augh. The word is just vile and causes an involuntary cringe. The average weight of American adults between the ages of 20 and 74 has increased by 25 pounds or more since 1965, and just in the last decade, the average weight of American adults has increased by about 15 pounds. Why? We have become an increasingly mechanized and automated society. We are sedentary. Food is abundant, and we have a practically unlimited number of food choices (translated, temptations). More than a third of our population is on a diet at any given time. We spend \$40 billion a year trying to get rid of unwanted pounds, and \$117 billion on treating obesity-related diseases.

Here are some things to consider when dieting. When you try to lose weight by dietary restrictions alone, you will also lose lean

body mass, i.e., muscle protein and vital organ protein. Loss of lean body mass weakens the organs and muscles and SLOWS metabolism. When you go on a near-fasting diet (which I absolutely do not recommend), half of the weight loss is lean body mass, the other half is fat loss. When a diet is combined with exercise, close to 100 percent of the weight loss is in the form of fat, and lean tissue may actually increase.

More lean tissue (muscles) yield a higher metabolic rate meaning—happy dance here—you burn more calories at rest! What is the lowest suggested limit for calorie intake when dieting? 1500 calories. And even at that amount, the retention of lean body mass is not guaranteed

UNLESS you combine it with exercise. I'm hearing a collective sigh. Diet AND exercise...double vileness. I know, but the human body was created to move and to be physically active. Exercise is also the best predictor of long-term maintenance of weight loss.

Bottom line, there is no magic pill. No quick and easy way to take off excess pounds. Remember it took months maybe even years to gain those extra pounds. Likewise, it's gonna take some time to lose them in a healthy manner. The best "diet" is making good food choices and being physically active. If you aren't moving, you aren't losing!

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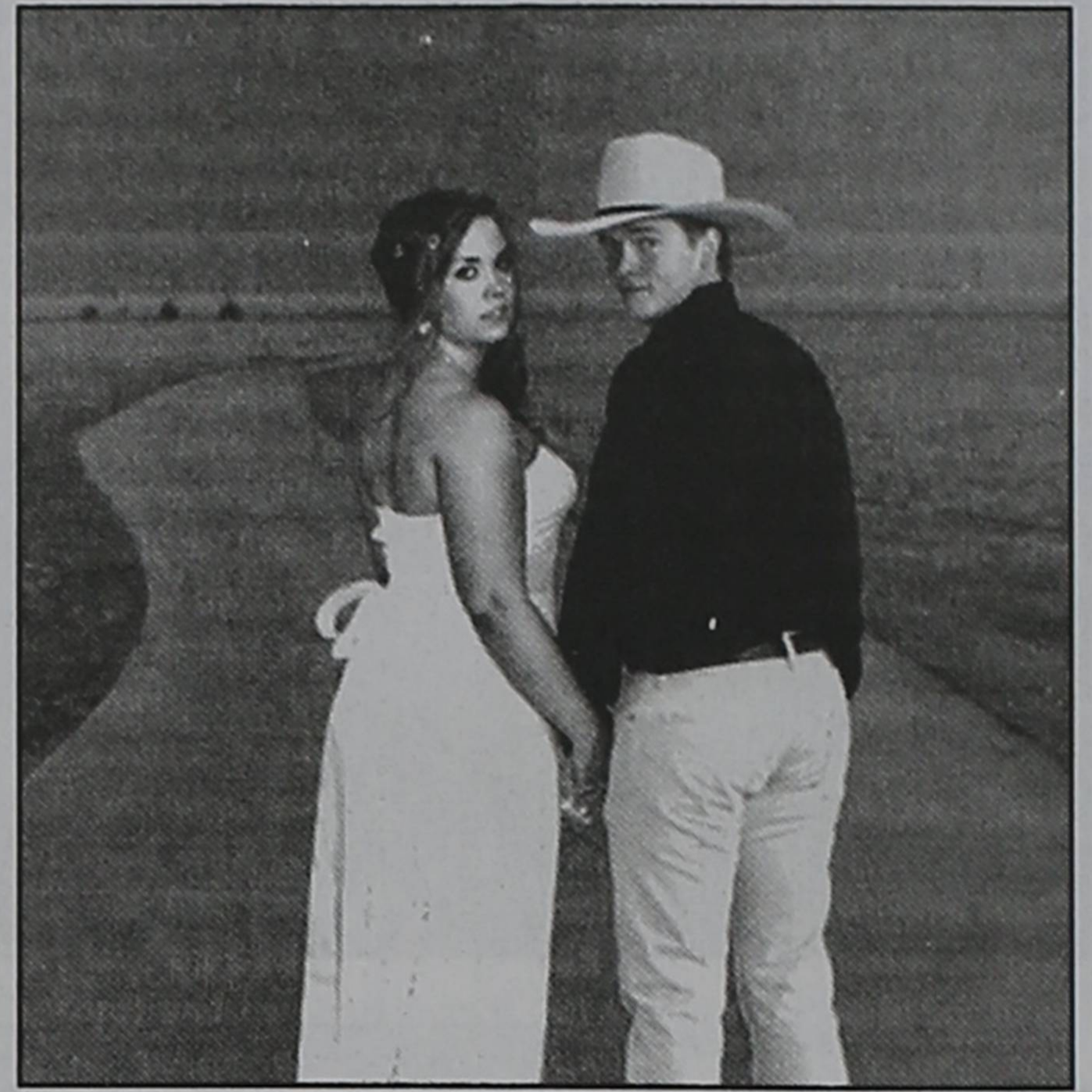
Friona Interbank sponsored this group, the IBK Roadrunners, to participate in the 2013 5K Color Run in Amarillo. Roadrunners are, l-r, Christine Gomez, Susie Teague, Cynthia Escobedo, Leilani Escobedo, Meagan Balli, Julie Wiseman, and Judy Rocha.

## Wedding Announcement

### Kibbe - Jamerson

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Jamerson are proud to announce the union of Megan Kibbe to their son, Derek Jamerson. The two were joined in marriage May 25, 2013 in an intimate outdoor service. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Kibbe and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Delma Newman, Ms. Reba Jackson, and the late Mr. Clifton Kibbe of Clovis. The Groom is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Jamerson of Bovina and Mrs. Tawana Johnson and the late Mr. James Johnson of Clovis.

Derek is a 2010 graduate of Friona High School and is currently farming. Megan was homeschooled and also graduated in 2010. She is pursuing a career in Speech therapy at Eastern New Mexico University. The couple resides in Bovina, TX.



# A Nation Under God

## I Timothy 2:1-6

What would America, or any nation, be like, if it truly lived as a nation under God?

This week our country will celebrate the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the day that we generally regard as the beginning of America. Many of the founders of this country were dedicated students of the Bible. They frequently quoted it and alluded to it. The Bible was important to them.

When the Pledge of Allegiance was first written in 1892, it didn't contain the phrase "under God." The United States Congress added those words in 1954. They added those words because they realized that this nation—as every nation—exists under the Almighty hand of God. President Dwight Eisenhower on August 17, 1954 expressed how Americans felt about that phrase "under God": "These words (he said) will remind Americans that despite our great physical strength we must remain humble. They will help us to keep constantly in our minds and hearts the spiritual and moral principles which alone give dignity to man, and upon which our way of life is founded." In 1954 Congress and President Eisenhower understood the difference between living "under God" and living without God.

We pledge ourselves to "one nation under God." On every coin and dollar bill is our national motto, "In God We Trust." When we sing the patriotic song, "America the Beautiful," we ask God to "shed His grace on thee." Our Declaration of Independence acknowledges that all men are "created equal and endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights." Yet, we wonder if we today are a nation "under God." Has our nation not forgotten the moral and spiritual values found in the Scriptures? Are we a nation "under God"?

1 Timothy chapter 2: 1 -- 6. "First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time."

Are we a "nation under God"? No thinking person would say America has the same mindset today that it had in 1954. Since then our country has spoken clearly that prayer and Bible reading can-

not be done in public schools. Our courts have upheld the right of women to end the lives of the unwanted in the womb. More than two of every five children born here are to unmarried parents. Are we a "nation under God"? Some of our states have redefined marriage in ways contradictory to the teaching of God. Nearly 40 percent of Americans say marriage is obsolete. Today the government sponsors gambling. Freedom of speech permits taking the name of God in vain. Pornography fills the land. Are we a "nation under God"?

We can hardly build prisons fast enough in this land and many of our states are so overcrowded they are releasing prisoners early. In some places our children cannot even open a Bible privately and read it. In many states schools can teach evolution but they can't teach what the Bible says about creation. Are we a "nation under God"? While the first amendment of our Constitution grants us the free exercise of religion, many have reinterpreted that to mean freedom from the Religion of Christianity. We ask again: are we a "nation under God"? Now, from our human standpoint, we might say no, we're not a nation under God. But is that the viewpoint of heaven?

We can rebel against God, but that doesn't mean that God ceases to be God. We can throw Him out of our lives; we can ignore Him, deny Him, and even despise Him; but the Lord is still the one and only God. He is still the one and only ruler of this nation or any nation. The Bible says in Proverbs 21: 30 - 31 that, "There is no wisdom and no understanding and no counsel against the LORD. The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the LORD."

Job proclaimed in Job 42: 2, "I know that You (that is God) can do all things, and that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted." God deals with mankind on the basis of how people respond to Him. If we're obedient, He will bless us. If we're stubborn and rebellious, we will suffer His wrath. The real issue is whether we will live obediently "under God" or whether we will live our lives according to our own terms.

The Bible says in Romans 2: 5 to 11: "But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who will render to each person according to his deeds: to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, (He will give them) eternal life; but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey

the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation. There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God."

Now, what can be said about our country can be said about any country. The Lord blesses those countries that obey Him and in His time shows His wrath on those that reject Him. Many have lost sight of how we bring sorrows on ourselves by rejecting the will of God. We're causing so many of the problems of our time by tolerating sin. The Lord gave us His laws to protect us and to bless us. God loves us; and when we reject the law of the Lord and embrace sin, we do so to our ruin.

Psalm 1: 1 to 6 says, "How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers. The wicked are not so, But they are like chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the wicked will perish."

You see, we can't thumb our nose at God; you can't blaspheme Him, or rebel at His will and expect things to go well. The Holy Spirit gives us a look at the empty, pagan world in Paul's day when He inspired Paul to write in Ephesians chapter 4: 17 to 19, he said: "Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity."

You see, when people stop reading the Bible, they delude themselves with empty, imaginary notions. They start thinking about aliens, vampires, werewolves, witches, and genies. These are all figments of people's imagination just like the pagan idols were. And those who focus on such things are darkened in their understanding and become alienated from the life God wanted to give them.

Without God people harden their hearts towards the truth and what's good. They harden their hearts and then they become totally selfish and greedy and filled with lust.

God wants something better for us and has provided Jesus Christ to show us the way to an abundant life. Paul contrasted this life with the Christian life in Ephesians 4: 20 to 24 when he said, "But that is not the way that you learned Christ!—assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."

Now, democracy can be a good thing, when people are righteous; but when the unrighteous become the majority, everyone suffers from their tolerance and their promotion of sin. Good men who realize their accountability to God will rule wisely; but evil men bring disgrace to their nation. The Bible says in Proverbs 14: 34, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 11:11 says, "By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is torn down." Proverbs 29: 2 says, "When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when a wicked man rules, people groan."

If we want to see change for the better in our country, we must set our hearts on serving God. We must be a nation "under God." We must give up our rebellion and pursue obedience to God's will. It's never enough simply to say that we believe in God and in Christ. The Bible says in James 2: 19 - 20, "You believe that God is one; you do well. Well, even the demons believe—and shudder! Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?" You see, faith that's unwilling to obey is dead and useless indeed!

Obedience means that we hear a command or instruction and we place ourselves under the authority of the One that we hear. Simply speaking, obedience is doing what you are told. We can recall our parents saying to us, "Did you hear me?" Well, We knew they meant business and that we needed to obey what they told us. We can't obey until we listen and submit our will to God. Jesus obeyed the Father and went to the cross. By His obedience we have the way of salvation opened to us. The Bible says in Hebrews 5: 8 - 9,

"Although He was a Son, yet He learned obedience through what He suffered. And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him."

Obedience was not trivial to Jesus Christ; it was His passion. The Lord Jesus said in John 8: 28 - 29, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, (that is at His crucifixion) then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always (the Lord Jesus says I always) do the things that are pleasing to him." Now, if we are to follow Jesus, then we too should set our hearts on pleasing the Father in all that we do. We need to say what David said in Psalm 40: 8: "I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

It seems so human to see a problem in our lives and ignore it. We're too easily satisfied with our own sinful weaknesses and we fail to repent. The Bible says in James 1: 22 to 25, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word but not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, (this word) and he perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Now, obedience has so much to do with mindset and attitude. Many people are like the little boy who was told to sit down. And he muttered under his breath, "Well, I may be sitting down on the outside, but I'm standing up on the inside." We won't keep on following the Lord if our heart is not really in it. But when our heart is in it, it becomes a pleasure, not a pain. The Bible says in 1 John 5: 3, "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome." When we realize God's commandments are for our blessing, we'll gladly do what God instructs and quit following the selfish ways of the world.

Our attitudes set the direction of our souls and our destiny. The Bible says in Romans 8: 5 to 8, "For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject

itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God."

Our task is to please God in all that we do. We can't change in a day everything that has corrupted our country, but we can determine to change our individual lives. We can get back on the Lord's side and stop tolerating sin. We can speak up for what's right and speak against what is wrong. We cannot live our lives in neutral, sitting silent and letting sin have its way. We must restore our faith and our determination to follow the will of God.

In 1938 as the war in Europe threatened the United States, Irving Berlin wrote a song that stirred the hearts of every American. He called for Divine help in the song, "God Bless America." He wrote, "While the storm clouds gather far across the sea, let us swear allegiance to a land that's free, let us all be grateful for a land so fair, as we raise our voices in a solemn prayer. God Bless America, land that I love. Stand beside her, and guide her through the night with a light from above. From the mountains, to the prairies, to the oceans, white with foam God bless America, my home sweet home." That song still stirs our hearts.

Don't you think God still wants to bless America? The question is not whether God will bless His righteous people, but whether we are living lives worthy of His blessing and favor. Nations are made up of individual people, and faith in God is an individual decision. Decide to be a genuine Christian, who lives what he believes and stands up for God's way! Maybe we've been complacent about our faith and complacent about our commitment to God. Isn't it time that we turned our heart back to God?

If we care about the society that our children and grandchildren will inherit from us, we'll commit our life to Jesus Christ. And if we pray for God to bless America, live a life worthy of His blessing and grace. We can do this by placing our faith in Christ as the Son of God, turning away from sin and demanding righteousness in our heart and life, confessing Christ before all, and by being baptized. And when we're baptized, the Lord will wash away our sins and add us to His church according to what the Bible teaches in Acts 2: 38 and in Acts 22: 16. Won't you turn your life around today?

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## The Friona Chamber of Commerce Business of the Month.

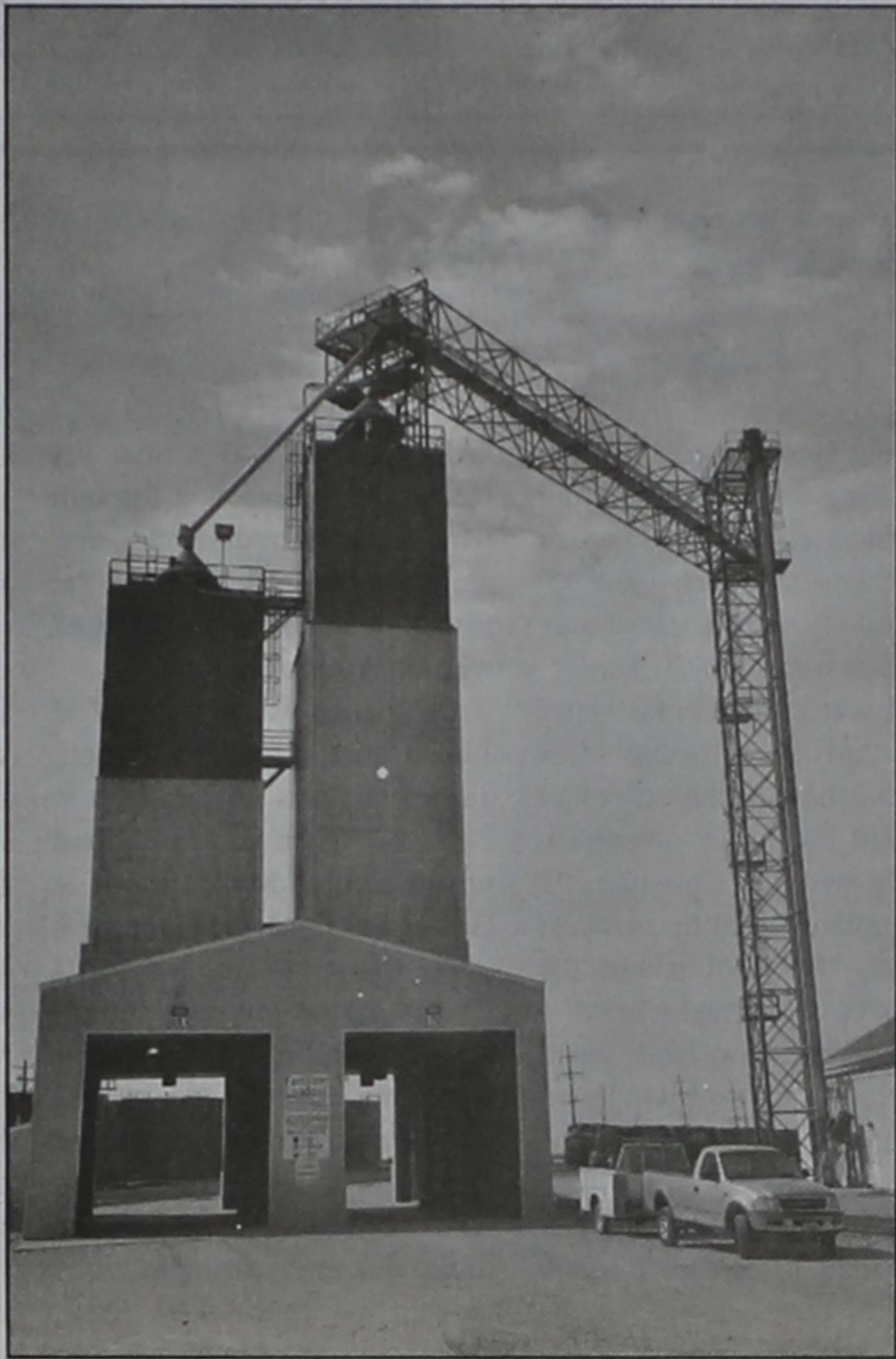


CHS, Inc., is a grain and fertilizer company.

Randy McCasland is the general manager and Lori Stormes is office manager. The facility is located at 2187 CR 17, west of Friona.

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## Lions Club News

The Friona Noon Lions met Thursday June 20 with 13 members and six guests present. Three guests were insurance adjusters working with Lion Allan Haile's State Farm Agency assessing damage from the June 5 hail storm.

Two guests representing the Sweet Bran plant being built west of Bovina. They were Matt Meland, facility manager, and Mark O'Rear. Sweet Bran is the Corn Milling Group of Cargill. Me-

land said the plant is being built on 163 acres, will have 29 employees, and will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. About 120 trucks per day will haul feed from the plant to area dairies and feedyards. The plant will receive a 100 car train every 2 1/2 days.

The Noon Lions will not meet Thursday July 4. The next meeting will be Thursday July 18 at Headquarters Restaurant.



ron carr photo

Mark O'Rear, left, and Matt Meland, representatives from the Sweet Bran plant being built west of Bovina, gave the program at Thursday's Noon Lions Club meeting, updating members on the progress of the plant construction.

## Puppets are Library Summer Program Finale

By Darla Bracken

Larry the Alligator, Waco the Weasel, Lily the Chinchilla and Charlotte the Monkey took turns entertaining reading club members via their 'voice', Nancy Burks Worcester [woo-ster] of Grandbury.

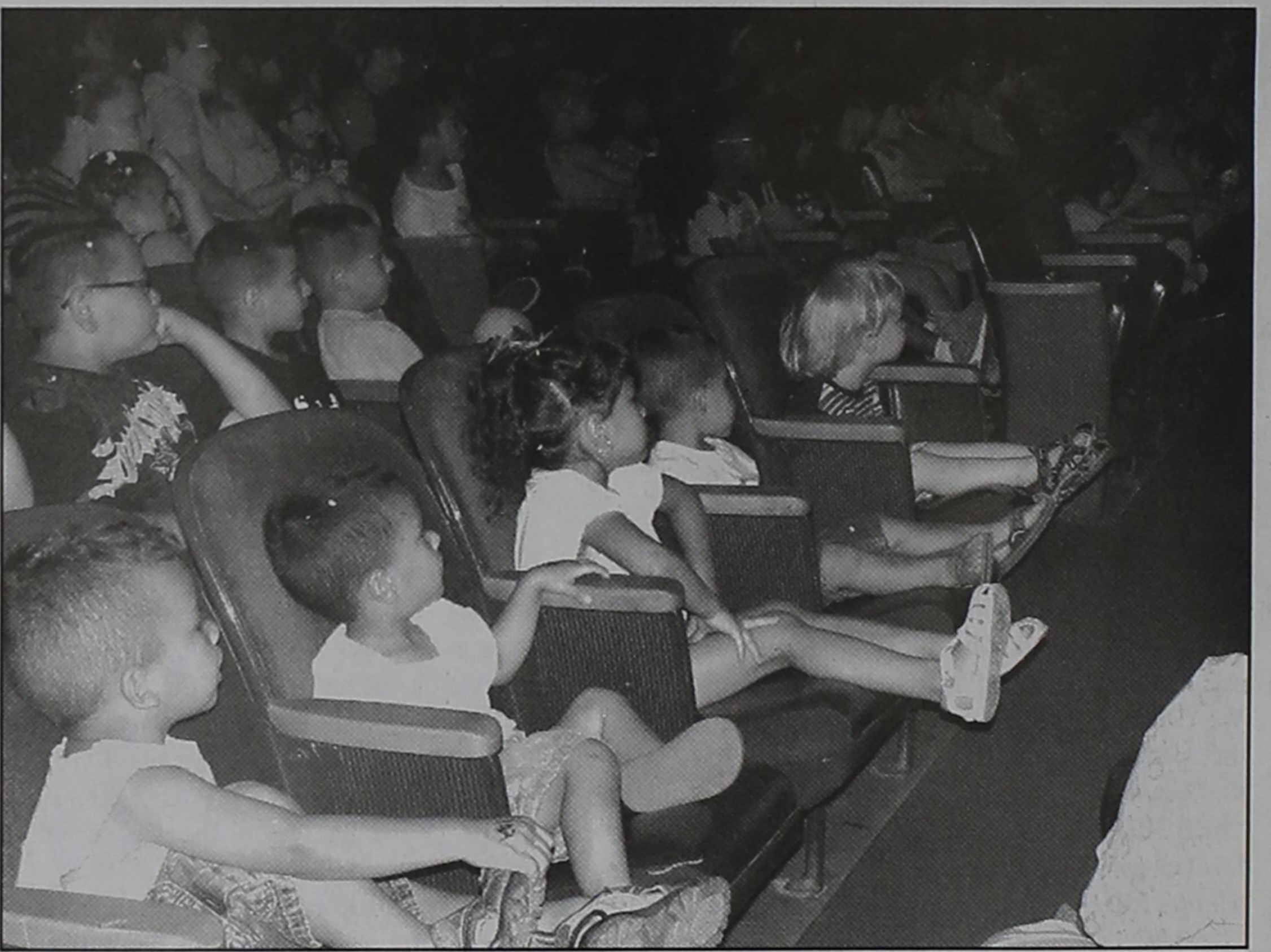
A 24 year veteran of storytelling, puppetry and ventriloquism, Ms Worcester gave a delightful program, 'Join the Club' emphasizing the importance of kindness on June 25th. Ms Worcester's 2013 Panhandle tour included public libraries in Borger, Canyon, Canadian, Childress, Dumas, Friona, Perryton and Wellington.

137 children and 30 adults—teachers, parents and grandparents attended the final program for the 2013 Summer Reading Program. Friends of the Library, Texas Commission on the Arts along with the Friona Public Library and the

City of Friona sponsored the programs and/or furnished supplies during this year opportunities of quality entertainment for Friona's youngsters.

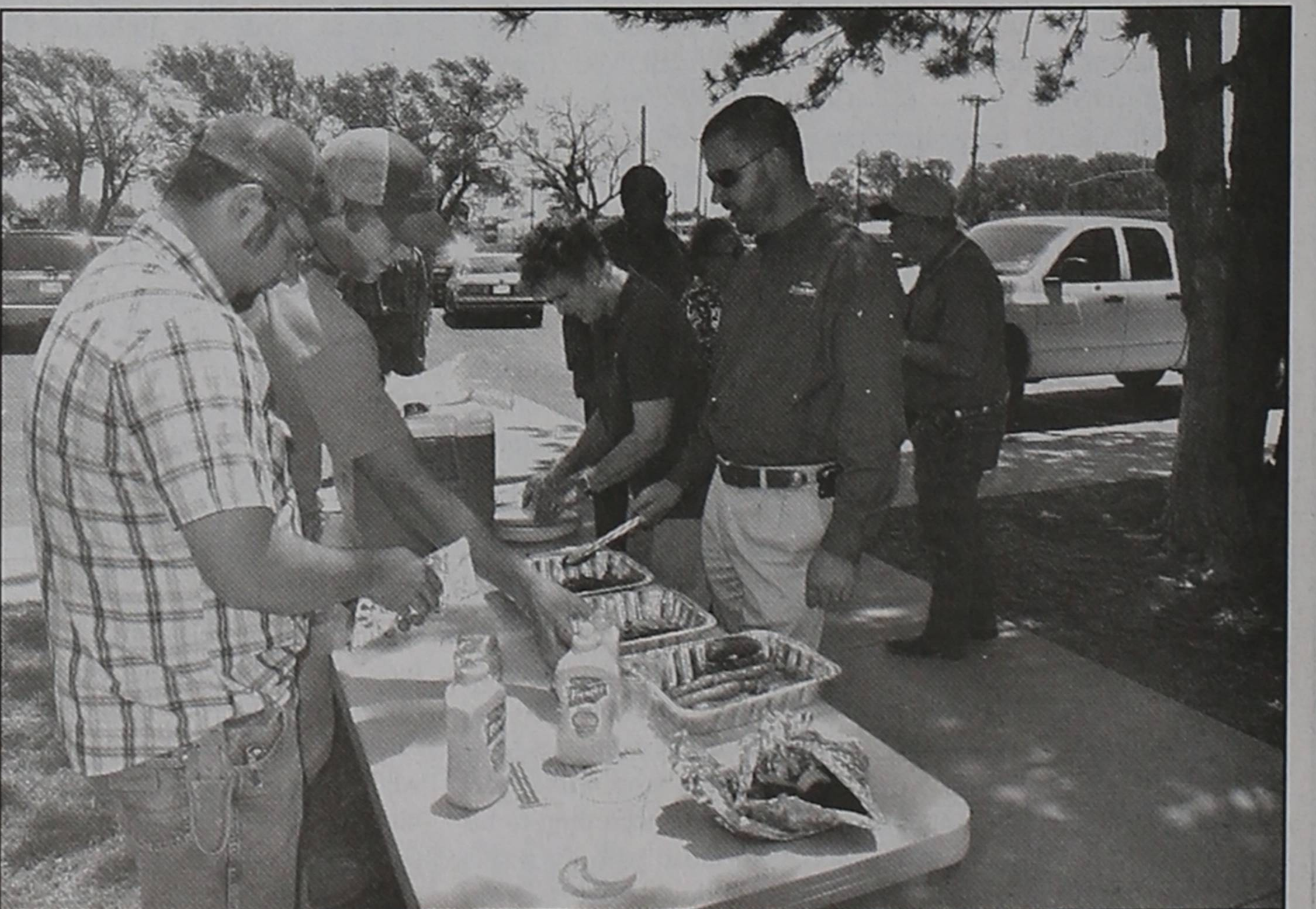
Special thanks go out to our summer 'extras' Angela Hernandez and Angel Mills for their assistance to the library staff at the programs and Friona ISD for use of the auditorium and the cafeteria. 240 participants made good use of their library facility during this year's "Dig Into Reading" theme. Keep on reading...and follow us on Facebook or at [www.frionalibrary.org](http://www.frionalibrary.org).

"Kudos to the Library Staff: Lucy Hernandez, Assistant Director, Ruby Rodriguez, Circulation Clerk and Julie Balli, Library Clerk for their dedication and hard work in planning and carrying out the program," stated Library Director, Darla Bracken.



courtesy photo

Lots of Little Readers were at the Junior High auditorium for Tuesday's Final Summer Reading Program.



ron carr photo

Friona Interbank employees Marca Herring and Justin Jeter took care of serving sausage wraps at the bank's reception last Friday for Gary Brown's 50-year anniversary party on the bank lawn.

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## Cargill 45 Years/Automation and Technology

By Charlie Pope, Plant Engineer

Many technological advancements have been made in the beef processing business over the last 45 years. The areas I will discuss include process efficiency, humane animal handling, environmental aspects, and water usage reduction.

Many things have contributed to the increase in process efficiency. The biggest contributor for our facility would have to be process automation. As with any industrial manufacturer, people have been replaced with machines that have the ability to make things faster and more consistent than humans. The beef processing business is no different. We run and maintain many automated processes in our business that have made us more efficient in what we do.

Of course the biggest, and most notable change, to those of you who have lived in the area for many years, has been our automated box distribution center. It is the building that is located on the west side of the facility that has a tunnel going to it. The process that happens in this building has the acronym ASRS. This stands for Automated Storage and Retrieval System. As the name states, the storage of the boxes is done through process automation that controls conveyors and single box cranes on the storage of the boxes.

The same holds true for the retrieval of the boxes. When an order is made and the operator keys in the order on the computer, the system knows where the different boxes are and retrieves the boxes that the customer has ordered. That order is then staged and delivered to the load-out area where it is loaded onto a refrigerated trailer with minimal employees. This technology greatly reduced our back injuries and made us more efficient in getting the right product to our customers.

As many of you have probably heard, the topic of humane animal handling is at the forefront of our industry. We at Cargill have taken steps to improve this aspect of our business. Over the last 10 years we have constructed new cattle pens that are of a "fishbone" design and have proven to allow cattle to naturally flow better versus having to be aggressively pushed and prodded by our employees.

We also utilize third party auditing done by video footage. We have cameras placed throughout the yards all the way through the stunning of the cattle. This video is reviewed by a third party and a score is given each week based on the video. This information is emailed out to top management at the facility and corporate offices. We also have periodic customer audits along with daily internal audits and USDA inspections.



"Global warming" and "greenhouse gases" are probably terms you have heard when there is discussion about the environment. Cargill has an entire team dedicated to protecting the environment. At Cargill Friona we have utilized technology to protect our natural resources and the community. One change that was/is noticeable to the public is the black tarps covering our wastewater lagoons. These tarps are used to capture methane or "bio" gas which has negative effects on our environment when released to the atmosphere. By capturing this gas we are able to burn it in our boilers which are used to make steam and hot water for our facility. This greatly reduced our natural gas consumption and as many noticed after the installation was complete, it greatly reduced the odor.

As with the ASRS system, we have automated parts of the wastewater treatment plant to control the quality of wastewater we are discharging into our playa lake. Many of our customers require to see what our carbon footprint on the environment is. They want to know how much waste we generate and want to see what we emit into the environment.

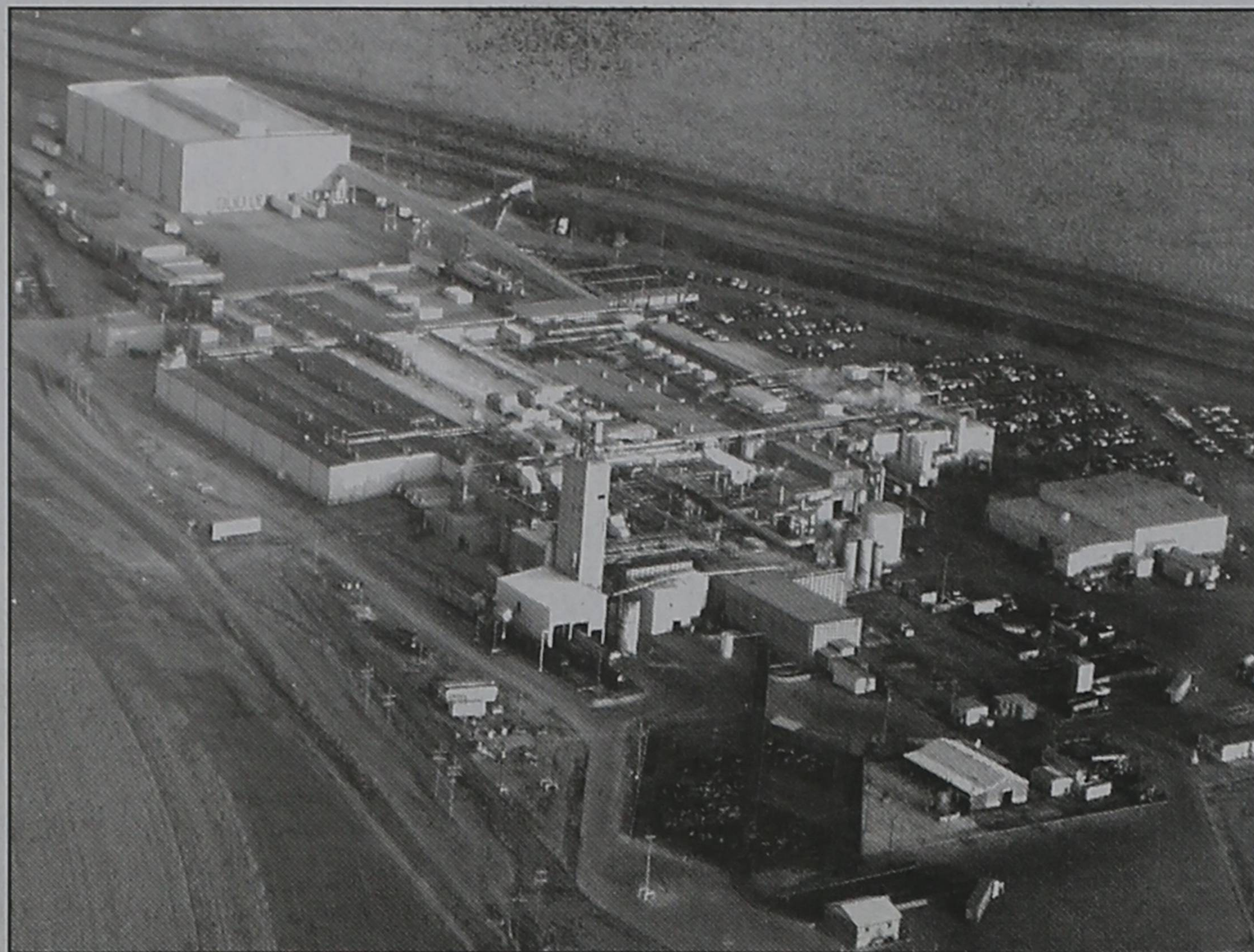
Now for the topic that most of the communities that surround our plant are concerned about. That topic is water usage. I personally have been involved in the water discussions for the entire 16 years I have been at the Friona plant. These discussions and actions have included purchasing more water rights and securing more water for the facility, but more importantly we have been and will continue seeking ways to reduce our usage.

Currently we use 380-400 gallons of water for each head of cattle we process at the facility. According to all the research we have done, this is best practice in the industry. It is definitely best practice within the Cargill beef plants. Our total usage over the last 5yrs has gone from 2.2MM gallons of water per day to 1.7MM gallons of water per day. If we operate the facility 300 days per year that translates into a reduction of 150MM gallons per year. This has been achieved through intense focus from our entire staff addressing leaks and unneeded water running.

We have also found ways to capture and re-use water that was used in heat exchangers to cool hydraulic oil or room air. In the past the water ran through these heat exchangers and absorbed the heat from the oil or air and was discarded to waste water. We now capture the majority of this water and treat it with chlorine and use it in our rendering area for wash-down and also use it to clean the yards. We also introduced chemicals into many of our washes that previously used an abundance of water to remove contamination.

By introducing chemicals and strategically placing spray nozzles, we were able to reduce the gallons per minute used in these cabinets and still maintain a safe product for consumers. We also installed many more flow meters on our water lines to determine where our highest usage was and executed projects in these areas to reduce the usage.

In closing I want to assure all the communities that we affect, that Cargill will continue to look for ways to improve how we conduct business and improve the quality of life for our employees. I hope over the last many years you have seen the difference Cargill is making in the lives of our employees and our community. We truly want to be a corporate partner in the community. Your support of Cargill is greatly appreciated and last but not least, EAT BEEF!!



## Cargill 45 years/Engagement "World Class"

By Rick White, Training Manager

Celebrating Cargill's 45 years of service, we were looking back and identifying some areas that have changed in the past 45 years. One area I wanted to discuss is Employee Engagement and the improvements this facility has accomplished over time.

Every Cargill employee whether they live in the United State's or foreign country is involved in an "engagement survey". This survey is given approximately every two years and consists of 54 questions, covering 13 different topics,

including Recognition, Communication, Teamwork, Customer Focus, Quality of Life, just to mention a few.

Our most recent survey began this past February and ended in March. The Friona facility scored an 85.0%, which means that 85.0% of everyone working in this facility is considered to be an engaged employee based on the way each person answered the 54 survey questions. Past survey scores have been much lower, but we have continuously improved the engagement score on each

survey cycle.

The overall Cargill score (which includes every Cargill location domestically and internationally), scored a 77.0%. The Friona facility scoring an 85.0% is considered to be "World Class".

Employee Engagement does not happen overnight. It's a culture and takes years to develop or change. Improvements come from training, education and focusing on each employee and their daily activities. It's improving the way we communicate with our employees and how they are treated and recognized for performing above standards. It's implementing good sound processes that everyone can "buy into". The benefit of having a high score is having a workforce that has a great attitude. When your employees have a great attitude, they will "say" positive things about their work, "stay" on their job longer, and "support" community activities.

Employee Engagement is an area that we are very proud of and will strive to maintain and improve.



## Cargill 45 Years/Safety and Innovation

By Don Holland, Cargill Safety Manager

The Cargill Friona Team not only celebrates 45 years of operations but we also are celebrating our best performance in safety by reducing the number of injuries for the third consecutive year. This achievement is a direct reflection of our employees' commitment to each other and the proven safety processes at our facility.

Our processes include communication, equipment validation checks, ergonomic studies, training and employee empowerment. Currently we have 11 employees with full-time safety responsibilities and 43 with partial safety responsibilities each supporting

before mentioned processes.

Our employees efforts coupled with Cargill Friona's adaptation of innovation continue to improve our work place making us the employer of choice for many in the area. Cargill Friona has adopted an all encompassing standardized knife sharpening system that greatly improves our employee's ability to sharpen and maintain their knives throughout the work day. Additionally through the use of ergonomic science and engineering we are continually improving work environments and improving our employee's ability to perform.

The safety departments in

collaboration with our operation and construction managers, constantly search for new ideas and better ways to perform our work and improve the employee experience at our facility. The contractors that support our efforts prove themselves committed to safety within their organizations through their internal programs and completing a staggering amount of hours without injuries. Looking forward to another 45 years, efforts will continue to assure our neighbors, friends and families who choose Cargill will have the safest and most efficient workplace in the beef industry.



## Cargill 45 years/Community Involvement

By Pedro Ramos, Human Resource Associate

Cargill's purpose is to be the global leader in nourishing people. We measure our performance through engaged employees, satisfied customers, enriched communities and profitable growth.

Focusing on Nutrition and Health, Education and Environmental sustainability are the areas our employees go out and take part in year after year, by being involved in projects such as the Annual Cheeseburger Festival, First Home Football Game Hamburger Feed and the Reeves Lake Clean up are only some of the many events that

we as employees of Cargill take pride in making a difference.

Serving all community members of Friona and the surrounding areas for these past 45 years has not only been an honor but a privilege. We, as Cargill employees look forward to the many new endeavors that will take place in the years to come.

In appreciation for the 45 years of outstanding support from the citizens of the Friona Area, We at Cargill thank you!





# Thank you Community: 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Chieftain Challenge A Success!



Senior Team Winners: Sawyer Osborn, Paco Martinez, Marisol Rodriguez, Cesia Boyzo, Jackie Flores, Joe Torres, Josaphat Rocha, Jorge Guerrero, Citlali Ojeda, Kalley Preston, Anthony Tapia, Jesse Cumpian, Luis Campos, Nohely Juarez, Jake DeWit, Magali Moralez (Not pictured – Coach Kathy Eppers and Natalie Tafoya)

### A Very Special Thank you to the following sponsors:

- Hi-Pro Feed
- Friona Golf Club
- Fitness Dynamics
- Friona Volunteer Fire Department
- Friona Police Department
- Skyler Haddock, Chieftain Challenge Coordinator
- Mr. Kenny Austin, Superintendent Friona ISD
- Parmer County Sheriff Department
- Friona EMS
- A1 Service
- Texas Tech Sports Medicine

## We strive for our health!



Brandon Gracia jumps through the first obstacle with ease! Hi-Pro provided the inflatable challenge.

The Chieftain Challenge provided students a customized adventure experience. The course was a sequence of teamwork-based learning activities designed to facilitate group and individual development in a safe and supportive environment that met the goals of the School Health Advisory Council. The experimental-education program designed by Coach Haddock used a variety of games, initiatives, elements, and obstacles to present challenges that encouraged individuals and groups to try new things and stretch beyond their comfort zone. It was truly a success, where students set and met their personal and group goals. They took risks, broke down barriers, and overcame self-imposed fears and limitations in an effort to grow and gain new awareness of personal potential in a fun and health improving setting.

We want to thank the community for all their hard work and help. Without them, none of this would have been possible. We want to thank all the volunteers, sponsors, parents and staff members. Hopefully, next year we will have more involvement so we can spread the message of living in a healthy community.



We conquered the mud pit! Tai Strohmayer, Coke Capshaw, Rebekah White, Kendall Kimbrough, Amy Osborn

## Running with the Chieftain Pride!

The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Chieftain Challenge was a huge success last month. It was a time where the community worked together in order to support a worthy cause: the health of our students.

The Friona School Health Advisory Council began working before the Christmas break on a plan to help improve the health and well-being of Friona. The objective of the SHAC team was and is to facilitate health

### SHAC promoting health for the community

Throughout the school year, the School Health Advisory Council discussed various reports reviewing the Coordinated School Health components from the state. Student members from the SHAC provided a video presentation for the committee that showed the results from their data collection of survey results. The surveys were provided at local sporting events, community involvement, and through staff members addressing the needs for creating a healthier environment.

improvement opportunities for our students, parents, staff and the community. The goal of the SHAC is to raise awareness and increase participation of positive health practices and activities, thus promoting "Healthy Lifestyles"



The information provided helped the SHAC to not only incorporate Nutrition Education across all school campuses, but to provide the idea behind a community wellness event, the Chieftain Challenge.



## Working together as one!

As the students from the SHAC committee developed videos and other materials to educate students and families about nutrition guidelines, school food requirements and limitations, Mr. Haddock began looking at how the SHAC committee could meet their objective for promoting a healthy lifestyle. The Chieftain Challenge came about through brainstorming a possible 5K walk-a-thon. Coach Haddock brought up the idea of a warrior challenge instead. He thought the idea of having students work together as a team, helping each other through endurance and physical activities would bridge the idea of health improvement and community involvement. Students were broken up into teams among their classes: freshman, sophomores, junior and seniors. Each group had their own team name and teacher that coached them through each obstacle. Teams started at Friona High School and made their way through 3 miles of a rugged course designed for teamwork, exercise and above all fun.



Seth Fothergill rose to the challenge and made it over the top of the obstacle course.



# Thank you community for all your support!!!!