



Congratulations to the 2023 Senior band members! According to school records and trophies, the last time a senior class got division 1's in Concert and Sightreading all four years was the Class of 1986 (1983-1986). In the photo (l-r) — Eduardo Jimenez, Ivan Reveles, Carter Gilley, Elaney Arzate, Mr. Rackley, Janessa Garcia, Lizbeth Toledo, Emmanuel Gonzalez, and Caleb Geske.

## Commissioners approve new salary for court reporter position

Parmer County Commissioners Court met in regular session on Monday, February 27, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the County Courtroom of the Parmer County Courthouse in Farwell, Texas. The meeting began with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Texas Flag.

Commissioners discussed a request from District Judge Kathryn Gurley concerning the salary for the court reporter position. The current budgeted yearly salary is \$50,000 and approval was given to increase that amount to \$89,000 of which Parmer County will pay 60% and Bailey County will pay 40%.

The Court also heard a request from District Attorney Jackie Claborn regarding funding for a forensic accountant involved in a specific felony case. An amount of \$7,500 was approved.

Parmer County Sheriff Eric Geske reported to the Court that the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center is currently housing 18 inmates of which 2 are paying customers from Dawson County.

In other business, approval was granted for a water line to be placed under County Roads J and 11, which are located in Precinct 2. Also, Commissioners received updates on current legislative initiatives involving election laws, an update on plats, and information on lease arrangements for procuring equipment.

There were no comments from the public during the open forum. Minutes from the February 27 meeting were read and approved. Commissioners approved the payment of the accounts payables as presented by County Treasurer Sharon May. The Treasurer's Payroll Report was also approved. The next regular meeting is Monday, March 27th.

All meetings are open to the public. Information in this article is only a summary.

## First National Bank to host grand opening and ribbon cutting

First National Bank is hosting a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Thursday, March 23 beginning at 3:30 p.m. at its newest location, 8700 FM 2219, between Amarillo & Canyon.

Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

The ribbon cutting will take place immediately at 3:30 p.m. The new location will service the Amarillo and Canyon areas. In addition to the new Amarillo/Canyon location, First National Bank has one location in Friona and two locations in Hereford.

## Senate rolls out property tax cut packages

By Richard Lee

Texas homeowners would see the largest cut to their property taxes in history according to lawmakers at a Tuesday press conference as the Lt. Governor and members of the Senate unveiled the chamber's plan for tax cuts this session. The three bills presented represent \$16.5 billion in tax savings across Texas. "It's important to know that we're touching every taxpayer, every homeowner, every business owner, with needed tax relief," said Houston Senator Paul Bettencourt. "We're spending the money as wisely as we can to get the maximum tax relief possible - and this plan has eyepopping numbers."

Senate Bill 3, by Bettencourt, would raise the homestead exemption - the amount of value a homeowner can write off before taxes - by 75 percent up to \$70,000. This was the plan announced by Lt. Governor Dan Patrick earlier in the session,

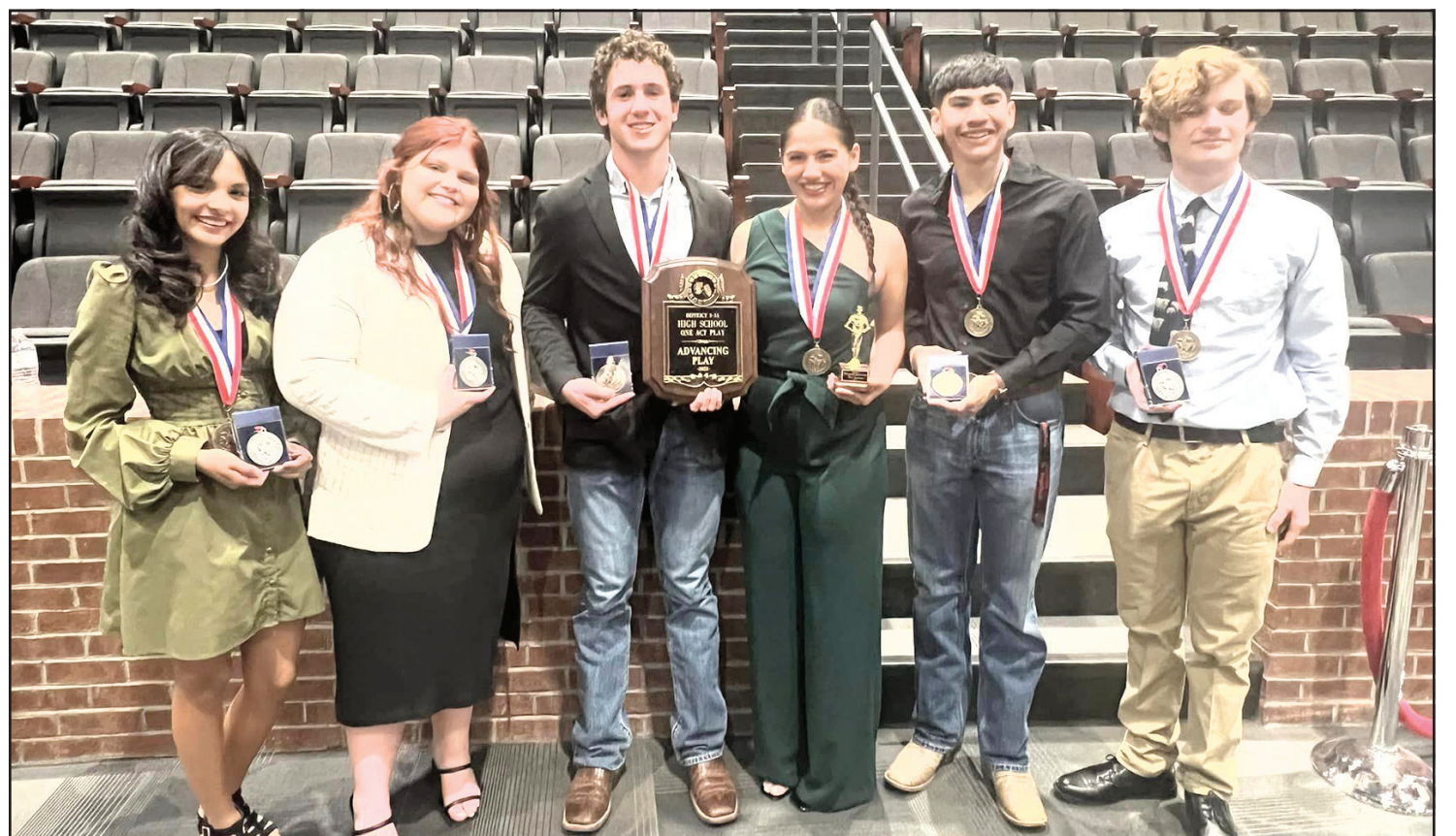
but Bettencourt revealed Tuesday that a second component will triple the senior property tax exemption for homeowners 65 years of age and older to \$30,000. Combined with the increase in the base exemption, Texas seniors would qualify for an exemption of \$100,000, said Bettencourt. Based on the average home value, he said homeowners would see a reduction in their property tax bill of around \$800 in the first two years. For senior homeowners, Bettencourt said they would see savings above \$1000 each year. "It's an astonishing number," he said. Two-point-two million homesteads, about 40 percent of the state total, are owned by seniors.

Senate Bill 4, also by Bettencourt, would buy down local school property taxes by another \$5.83 billion on top of on-going rate compression from 2019's education reform



bill for a total of \$10.68 billion in school property tax rate reduction. Senate Finance Committee chair and bill co-author Joan Huffman said that the legislature will ensure the state will cover any lost local revenue. "Where this empties the bucket, the state is going to continue to fill up the bucket," she said.

The third bill, SB 5 by Flower Mound Senator Tan Parker, is aimed at business taxes, and would increase the exemptions for the tax on business personal property up from two-and-a-half to twenty percent, and would reduce inventory taxes by 20 percent. "We hear so much from the business community about the importance of reducing the inventory tax," said Parker. In all, the bill would represent \$1.5 billion in tax reductions for Texas business owners.







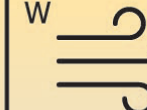
Continued on page 3.



Individual award winners at the District One Act Play contest (l-r) — Yvonne Legarreta (HM All Star Cast), Karlee Osborn (HM All Star Cast), Dieter Ally (All Star Cast), Amy Montana (Best Performer), Anthony Guerrero (All Star Crew), and Jarrett White (HM All Star Cast). See photo on page 11.

	<b>Town Talk</b> Page 3	<b>Church Page</b> Page 5	<b>Obituaries</b> Page 6	<b>Classified</b> Page 7	<b>Sports</b> Pages 8 & 9	
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Emergency Siren System: Alternating tone • Firefighters only | Weather Warning: 1 long tone • take cover — 3 short blasts • all clear | Tested 1st & 3rd Thurs. at 7 p.m.

<b>Friona Weather</b> March 16-22	T  52   23 NW 20-30	F  47   23 NNE 10-20	S  50   25 SSE 10-20	S  38   26 SSE 15-25	M  51   32 SSW 10-20	T  64   42 SW 15-25	W  75   45 WSW 20-30	Precipitation March 0.08 Year 0.94	Burn Ban <b>Yes</b>
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**Community Calendar**

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

**March 12-19**

- Spring Break

**March 13**

- Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

**March 20**

- Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center
- Noon Lions Club meeting at The Farmwife Kitchen

**March 21**

- Packing SP4K bags at 2:30 p.m. at Friona Methodist Church north door

**March 22**

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

**March 23**

- Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

**Texas Breaks Jobs Record**

Governor Greg Abbott celebrated the state's growing workforce and strong economy following the latest employment release from the Texas Workforce Commission showing Texas again broke the all-time record for total jobs in January for the 16th consecutive month. With Texas employers adding 48,600 nonfarm jobs in January, total jobs in Texas reached a new historic high of 13,782,300.

"Texas truly is America's economic engine as we continue to break our all-time record for total jobs, now for 16 consecutive months," said Governor Abbott.

From January 2022 to January 2023, Texas added 654,100 jobs, marking an annual growth rate of 5 percent, outpacing the national rate of 3.3 percent. Notable January job gains in Texas included 8,300 jobs added in Leisure and Hospitality, 8,100 jobs added in Professional and Business Services, and 5,900 jobs added in both Construction and Manufacturing employment.

**ON YOUR PAYROLL**

**U.S. Government**



**President:** Joseph R. Biden, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20500. 202-456-1111, fax 202-456-2461, email [comments@whitehouse.gov](mailto:comments@whitehouse.gov).



**Senator:** John Cornyn, 517 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-2934, fax 202-228-2856.



**Senator:** Ted Cruz B40B Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-5922.



**Representative:** Jodey Arrington, 2019 Longworth, House Office Building, 202-225-4005. Lubbock District Office, 1312 Texas Ave. #219, Lubbock, TX 79401. Abilene District Office, 500 Chestnut St. #819, Abilene, TX 79602

**State**

**Governor:** Greg Abbott, Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 12428, Austin, Tx 78711-2428, 512-463-2000.



**Senator:** Kevin Sparks, P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, Tx 78711. 512-463-0131. Amarillo office: Historic Federal Building, 620 S. Taylor St., Suite 203, Amarillo, TX, 79101.



**Representative:** John T. Smithee, Room CAP1W.10, Capitol P.O. Box 2910, Austin, Tx 78768. 512-463-0702. fax 512-476-7016. Amarillo office; 320 So. Polk, 1st Floor, Lobby Box 28, Amarillo 79101. 806-372-3327, fax 806-342-0327.



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**Friona grad accepted to Texas Tech Vet School**

What are the odds of being chosen for Texas Tech University's School of Veterinary Medicine? Well, here are the numbers. There were 900 applicants hoping to become a member of the Class of 2027. From those 900 initial contestants, 200 were chosen and invited back for final interviews. Of those lucky 200, only 100 would realize their dream.

On February 21st Angel Valencia's dreams came true. She received an e-mail that day. *Dear Angelica, Congratulations! the admissions committee has completed its review of your credentials and on behalf of the Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine (TTU SVM), we are pleased to inform you of your acceptance to our Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program entering Fall 2023. Welcome to the Class of 2027!*

Angel Valencia is the daughter of Antonio & Vickie Vasquez. She graduated from Friona High School in 2019 and will graduate this May from West Texas A&M University with a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science. She will begin



veterinary school this fall. What an accomplishment to be one of the 100 chosen out of 900 applicants! What are the odds?

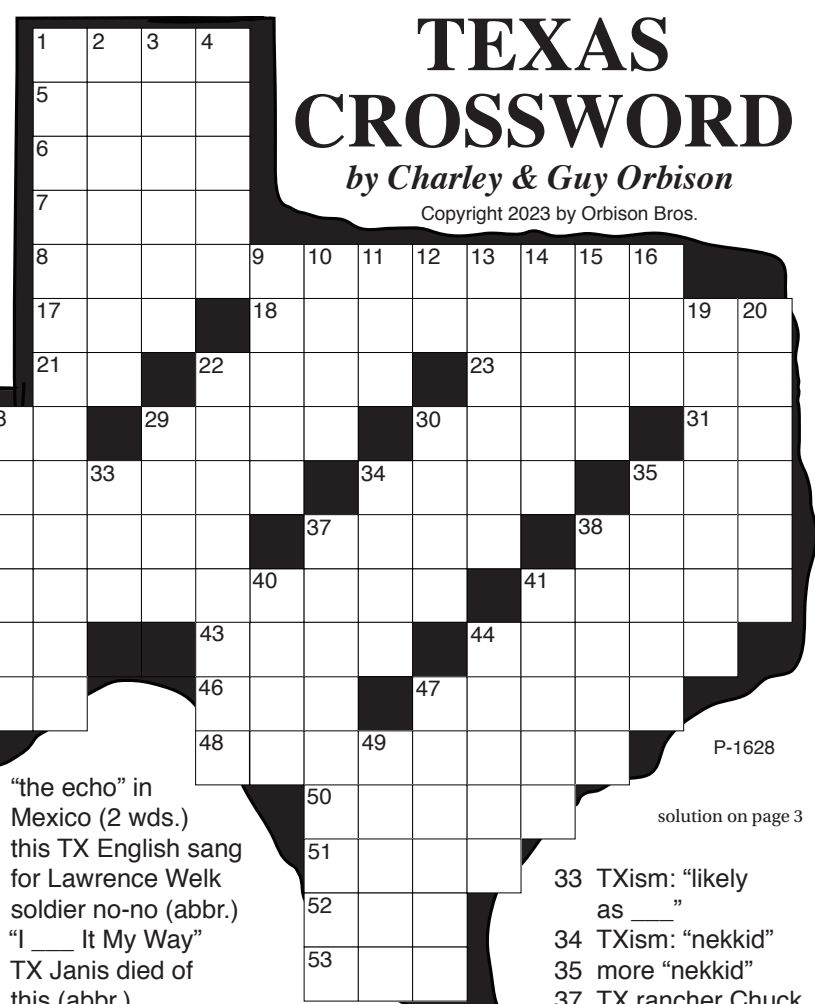


**ACROSS**

- 1 TX Kris film: "Alice Doesn't Live Anymore" (1974)
- 5 gem found in TX
- 6 "San Jacinto Battleground State Historic \_\_\_\_\_"
- 7 state tech. college system (abbr.)
- 8 Mitchell County seat
- 17 TX Benson film: "\_\_\_\_\_ to Billy Joe"
- 18 TXism: "he blazes \_\_\_\_\_" (big man)
- 21 TX Janis sang "\_\_\_\_\_ and Bobby McGee"
- 22 chunk of dirt
- 23 some East TX areas
- 24 Iraqi dictator Hussein who was caught in 2003
- 29 this was to be channel 19 in Nacogdoches
- 30 TXism: "his axles \_\_\_\_\_ hot" (active)
- 31 Commemorative Air Force Texas founder, Nolen (init.)
- 32 TXism: "he couldn't drive \_\_\_\_\_ snow bank" (incompetent)
- 34 snakes or scarves
- 35 TX Jimmy Dean's "Big \_\_\_\_\_ John"
- 36 plow pullers
- 37 TX Tommy Lee Jones film: "Eyes of Laura \_\_\_\_\_" (1978)
- 38 "Cinco de \_\_\_\_\_" is celebrated in Texas

**DOWN**

- 39 TXism: "lost everything \_\_\_\_\_ under my fingernails" (broke)
- 41 this Sophia was in "Houseboat" with TX Martha Hyer
- 42 TXism: "let sleeping dogs \_\_\_\_\_"
- 43 Abilene's Dyess Air Force \_\_\_\_\_
- 44 removed an apple skin
- 45 filmed in Galveston: "Capricorn \_\_\_\_\_"
- 46 "\_\_\_\_\_ Houston" was sunk in WWII
- 47 "mister" in Mexico
- 48 Alamo book: "\_\_\_\_\_ Days to Glory"
- 50 this Frances was in "War Games" with TX Dabney
- 51 hair products
- 52 Texas Blue Bell \_\_\_\_\_ cream
- 53 noted TX sculptor Elisabet
- 1 Houston group for 1992 Republican convention (2 wds.)
- 2 a story in TX Eva Longoria's "Desperate Housewives"
- 3 Texas snake WWII



**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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P-1628

solution on page 3

- 4 "the echo" in Mexico (2 wds.)
- 9 this TX English sang for Lawrence Welk
- 10 soldier no-no (abbr.)
- 11 "I \_\_\_\_\_ It My Way"
- 12 TX Janis died of this (abbr.)
- 13 jai alai wickers
- 14 TXism: "if \_\_\_\_\_ any better the sheriff wouldn't allow it"
- 15 Luby's transport
- 16 sweet tater
- 19 TX Byron's "How \_\_\_\_\_ the Game"
- 20 "L" of TX LBJ
- 22 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ no cigar"

- 24 "Alamo City" letters
- 25 fire or red insect
- 26 natl. patriot org.
- 27 in Texas: "Sierra \_\_\_\_\_ Mountains"
- 28 \_\_\_\_\_ School in Dallas
- 29 Houston AM
- 30 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ of" (kinda)

- 33 TXism: "likely as \_\_\_\_\_"
- 34 TXism: "nekkid"
- 35 more "nekkid"
- 37 TX rancher Chuck Norris 1984 film: "\_\_\_\_\_ Action"
- 38 brainless
- 40 short, quick race
- 41 former Speaker of Texas House, Pete
- 44 skins an orange
- 47 Joan of "Gunpoint" with TX Audie
- 49 TX Beasley, an NFL defensive back

# SHERIFF'S REPORT

Reported by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office:  
Eric Geske, Sheriff

(2/28/23) Daniel Ixtan-Gonzalez, 31, of Friona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a Bailey County Warrant on a charge of Sexual Assault

(2/28/23) Bradley Allen Wilt, 41, of Kearneysville, West Virginia was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on charges of Burglary of Habitation and Burglary of Building

(3/1/23) Andrew Powell Gontram, 36, of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania was arrested by the Friona Police Department on a charge of Public Intoxication

(3/3/23) Mark David Dowdy, 52, of Albuquerque, New Mexico was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on charges of Resisting Arrest/Search/Transport and Possession Marijuana < 2 oz

(3/3/23) Benjamin Andres Mejia, 35, of Hereford was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a Austin County Warrant on a charge of Possession CS PG 1 < 1g

(3/6/23) Christopher Ulisses Garcia, 33, of Fabens was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Aggravated Assault Causing Serious Bodily Injury

# COURTHOUSE NOTES

Susie Spring, County Clerk

## Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from March 2, 2023 to March 9, 2023

(3/3/23) Landmark Title Inc. — Devault Land and Cattle LLP — All of the E 1/2 of Section 34, Township 9 South, Range 1 East, Capitol Syndicate Subdivision, Parmer County, Texas

(3/3/23) Landmark Title Inc. — Lincoln Taylor Devault, Whitley Devault — All of the NW 1/4 of Section 27, Township 9 South, Range 1 East of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision of Parmer County, Texas; More Tracts on Document

(3/3/2023) Jesus Anaya Jr. — Alfredo Morales — All of that Five Acre Tract of Land out of Capitol League 520, being out of the Northeast Part of Section 13 Township 7 South, Range 2 East of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision in Parmer County, Texas

(3/6/23) Harlin Obenshain — Tammela Joy Jones — All of the North Half of Section 66, Block Z, W.D. and F.W. Johnson Subdivision, Parmer and Bailey Counties, Texas

(3/6/23) The Toledo Revocable Living Trust — Toledo Texas Investments LLC — A Tract of Land out of Capitol Leagues No. 484 and 485, Section 6 T4S, R4E, Capitol Syndicate Subdivision and Block 197 of Wrights Southside Addition, Town of Friona, Parmer County, Texas

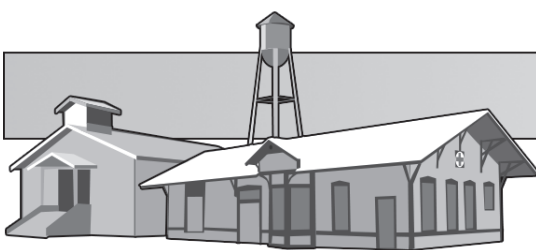
## Friona to receive a \$50,866.97 tax allocation payment for March 2023

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced last week that he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1 billion in local sales tax allocations for March. The total is 9.9 percent more than in March 2022. Cities will receive \$633.2M, transit systems will get \$215.7M, counties get \$62.1M, and special purpose districts will get \$92.4M. These allocations are based on sales made in January by businesses that report tax monthly; October, November and December sales by quarterly filers; and 2022 sales by businesses that report tax annually.

The City of Friona will receive \$50,866.97 in sales tax allocation for the month of March. This payment is a 24.36% decrease from the \$67,253.14 received in March of 2022. For year-to-date 2023, Friona has received \$167,641.98 which is a 17.74% decrease from the YTD amount of \$203,807.81 received in 2022. The Friona Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) will receive \$12,716.74 of the allocation for its operating budget.

### Puzzle Solution

S-1628



# TOWN TALK

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

**Save the Date** — the FHS Senior Steak Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, April 2nd from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tickets prices are \$20 in advance and \$20 at the door for all ages and are available from any FHS Senior. The meal includes steak, baked potato, green beans, roll, and dessert. You can dine-in at the Jr. High Cafeteria or curbside pickup in the west parking lot. Money raised will benefit the Alcohol/Drug Free Graduation Celebration Party.

**Cheers!** — Friona High School released the list of next year's cheerleaders and mascot. Cheerleaders for the 2023-24 year are Anaesha Carranza, Mercedes Espinoza, Yeslie Faudoa, Yvonne Legarreta, Shelby Lewellen, Amy Montana,

Aubree Salas, Jaquelyn Salinas, Nadia Synder, and Kitzy Welch. The FHS mascot will be Yaselene Faudoa. Congratulations to all!!!

**Hams for Sale** — The Friona Vocational Agriculture Association will have Maple Glazed Smoked Hams for sale for Easter. Please see ad on back page. Money raised will go to the FFA & FCCLA Scholarship Fund.

**Time 2 Laugh** — (1) How do trees get online? They just log on! (2) What do you call a bear with no teeth? A gummy bear. Source: <https://www.rd.com/list/short-jokes>.

**Friday is Sloppy Joe Day** — The Sloppy Joe is one of America's all-

time favorite hot sandwiches. Its base ingredient is often ground beef. However, others use turkey and buffalo, too. The other elements give it its flavor, though. Onions, tomato sauce, brown sugar, cola or maple syrup to sweeten it and seasonings to spice it - and of course, any secret ingredient families may add over the years. All of it is served up on a hamburger bun or roll.

**National Days**  
March 16 — Freedom of Information Day  
March 17 — St. Patrick's Day  
March 18 — Sloppy Joe Day  
March 19 — Certified Nurses Day  
March 20 — Spring Begins  
March 21 — Fragrance Day  
March 22 — Goof Off Day

# Senate rolls out property tax cut packages

Continued from page 1.

The Senate plan focuses on exemptions, said Bettencourt, because that's the best way to deliver lasting cuts to taxpayers. "An exemption is permanent," he said. "These permanent exemptions will be there year after year to save Texas homeowners and Texas business owners the money they need plus [tax rate] compression."

He said that combination has led to the reduction of the property tax burden across the state. Because the state capped local government spending growth in 2019 - 3.5 percent for counties and cities and 2.5 percent for schools - when appraisal values go up, the taxing entity must lower their tax rate to stay under the spending cap.

This has largely disconnected appraisal growth and property tax growth, said Patrick. "We all got calls about appraisals going up, but we didn't get calls in October when the bills went out," said Patrick. "The real key to saving Texans' taxes is limiting the size of government." It's the state's cap on its own spending, combined with record

revenue projections and a record budget surplus, said Patrick, that's driving the size of the relief package. Bettencourt agreed. "We've never had \$16.5 billion to throw at property tax relief, and that is a record number," he said. "It is well spent and I believe it's going to be well received by the citizens and taxpayers of the great state of Texas."

We're starting our spring sports... ...like tennis, baseball, and frisbee.

## Newspaper Fun!

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### Spring Is Spectacular!

Signs of Spring are all around us. Read the clues to fill in this puzzle, and then go outside to look at, listen to and feel the signs of Spring.

The early bird catches the worm!

Spring is spectacular! My bird friends are singing and building nests. The frogs are peeping and jumping in swamps. People are shouting and running, playing games. Everyone is outside enjoying the fresh air and bright, warm sunshine. I love watching it all!

Uh-oh! I'm not sure that I like all the birds around as much as he does!

You may see more bunnies bounding about in the springtime!

Even the flowers on a prickly pear cactus in the desert may blossom in the springtime.

Buzz around the page to find words that begin with the letter "b" as in "bees!" How many can you find and circle?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ blowing and blustering  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ singing and building nests  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ peeping and leaping  
4. \_\_\_\_\_ unwrapping on bushes and trees  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ shedding winter coats  
6. \_\_\_\_\_ swelling and overflowing  
7. \_\_\_\_\_ flowing in trees to carry water and food  
8. \_\_\_\_\_ flowers blooming in the desert  
9. \_\_\_\_\_ pushing up dirt mounds  
10. \_\_\_\_\_ shearing wool from sheep  
11. \_\_\_\_\_ mixing with dirt to make mud  
12. \_\_\_\_\_ floating in fields of flowers  
13. \_\_\_\_\_ shoots showing  
14. \_\_\_\_\_ warming the land and water  
15. \_\_\_\_\_ pollen floating and coating parked cars

cactus buds flower ants winds  
farmers tree streams sun birds  
butterflies frogs rain sap dogs

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### SPRINGS in Things!

Springs are here and there and everywhere. There are metal and plastic springs in many things to make them work. Find and circle these things that have springs in them. (P.S. Two of these are little jokes - different kinds of things that have "a spring" - they are not in the puzzle... cross them off the clue list.)

### Rainy Day Blues!

Little Duck loves water, but he's tired of spring showers! Help him get into the sunshine:

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### Things in Spring!

Spring is a time of great activity. People, animals and birds are outside working, exercising and playing. Match up this list of things people do in the spring...then ask to go outside and play!

1. cook
2. splash
3. paint
4. plant
5. wash
6. clean

- A. in puddles
- B. fences
- C. out garages, attics
- D. tree sap into maple syrup
- E. cars
- F. flowers, trees and gardens

1. clean
2. carry
3. open
4. fly
5. fish
6. buy

- A. kites
- B. in streams
- C. umbrellas and raincoats
- D. more fresh fruits and vegetables
- E. our houses
- F. windows to air out the house

**Friona Star**  
is online at [frionaonline.com](http://frionaonline.com)

Newspaper Fun! Created by Animills LLC © 2023

# Small Town Cookin' By Jeri Lynn White

## Oatmeal Cookies

The thought of this recipe made me want to go straight to the kitchen and stir up a batch. What could make oatmeal cookies better? Probably brown sugar. These are a thinner and more dense oatmeal cookie, but they will be the perfect way to enjoy National Oatmeal Cookie day on March 19th.

### Brown Sugar Oatmeal Cookies

www.thepioneerwoman.com

#### Ingredients

- 1 c. salted butter, softened
- 2 c. packed dark brown sugar
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 whole eggs
- 1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 3 c. old fashioned oats

#### Directions

Preheat the oven to 350oF. In the bowl of an electric mixer (or using a hand mixer) beat together the butter and brown sugar until fluffy. Beat in vanilla. Add eggs, one at a time, scraping the bowl after each one. Mix the flour, salt, and baking soda in a medium sized bowl. Add it into the creamed mixture in 2 to 3 batches, mixing it until just combined. Mix in the oats until just combined. Use your preferred size cookie scoop (or a regular spoon) to drop portions of dough onto a lightly greased cookie sheet, spacing them a couple inches apart. Bake for 12-13 minutes or until dark and chewy. If you'd like a crispier cookie, just cook a little longer! Let them cool slight on the pan after removing from the oven, then transfer the cookies onto a plate for serving.

\* Note: Add 1/2 cup finely chopped nuts to the flour mixture if you'd like a nutty flavor and crunch.



## Happy Birthday

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>March 16</b><br/>Glenda Sifford<br/>Amy Hand<br/>Seth Murphree<br/>Robert Tapia<br/>Parker Reeve Banfield<br/>Morgan Fury<br/>Belinda Gatlin<br/>Michael Reed</p> | <p><b>March 20</b><br/>Joyce Wells<br/>Claudia Hanes<br/>Kenda (Dunnam) Kiker<br/>Tammy (Spencer) Fincher<br/>Shelby (Hutson) Mata<br/>Pamela Nelson-Ray<br/>Karla Rector<br/>Eric Gonzales<br/>Sam Rushing</p> |
| <p><b>March 17</b><br/>Delwin Allen<br/>Frankie Allen<br/>Mendon Dixon<br/>Matt Mata<br/>Gabriela Benavides<br/>Geraldine Redwine<br/>Amanda Boeckman</p>               | <p><b>March 21</b><br/>Joe Murphree<br/>Lou Keith<br/>Amelia Wright<br/>Jeffrey Sunderlin<br/>Peyton Schueler<br/>Melissa Tamez<br/>Olga Legarreta<br/>Uriah Monreal</p>  |
| <p><b>March 18</b><br/>Ryan Cash<br/>Bob Ferguson<br/>Nick McFarland<br/>James Dakan<br/>Juan Tafoya</p>  | <p><b>March 22</b><br/>Zane Gonzales<br/>Kenny Austin<br/>Andrew Diaz<br/>Lillyana Madrigal<br/>Jane Veggeberg<br/>Ezmeralda Rangel</p>   |
| <p><b>March 19</b><br/>Laney Graham<br/>Crystal Moroney<br/>Randy Baize</p>   |   |



## State Capital Highlights

By Gary Borders



### House pushes armed officer at all schools

Under legislation prioritized by House Speaker Dade Phelan, every Texas school would have an armed police officer, and aspiring teachers would receive extra support.

The Dallas Morning News reported the bill would also provide \$15,000 in annual funding for safety measures for each school in the state. Another bill would increase the annual allotment per student for safety measures from \$10 to \$100.

Another House mea-

sure is aimed at improving teacher retention and recruitment, The Morning News reported. The measure, sponsored by state Rep. Harold Dutton, D-Houston, would create a new grant to help prospective teachers pursuing special education or bilingual certification, and would increase funding for educator mentoring. Special education and bilingual teacher positions are especially hard to fill in Texas.

### Rising car insurance rates causing sticker shock

Average statewide auto

insurance rates are up nearly 24% over last year, according to a report by the Texas Standard. That is the highest increase in at least 20 years, according to the Texas Department of Insurance. That comes on top of increased costs for vehicles both new and used, and higher fuel costs.

Michael Schnurman, a business columnist with The Morning News, was interviewed on the Standard and had this to say, in part:

"There are several elements that play into it. One...is the higher values of cars and used cars in particular - they really shot up during the pandemic," he said. "But the claims are also up a lot... When driving resumed, the number of accidents and the severity of accidents has really been a lot higher. If you look at fatalities, I think they were up 18%."

Schnurman suggested consumers shop around for auto insurance and look for discounts for bundling it with homeowners' insurance or multiple vehicles on the same account.

### Texas Senate passes first bill of session

The Texas Senate last week passed a bill that would close a loophole

in state law that allowed gun sales to people between the ages of 16 and 18 who have been involuntarily hospitalized for mental illness. The Texas Tribune reported it was the first bill passed by the Senate this session.

Courts are supposed to report all involuntary mental health hospitalizations to the Texas Department of Public Safety, which then sends them to the FBI's national background check system. However, problems with how existing state law was written led to those hospitalizations not being reported by courts.

The measure comes after an 18-year-old shooter in Uvalde with a history of mental health problems killed 19 students and two teachers at Robb Elementary last year. However, since that shooter was never hospitalized, closing the loophole would not have prevented him from legally buying two assault rifles.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, and Cedar Park. Email: gborder@texaspress.com.

## Gas prices also look to spring forward

By GasBuddy

Average gasoline prices in Texas rose 13.1 cents last week to an average of \$3.07 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Prices in Texas are 12.3 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 92.2 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas was priced at \$2.57 while the most expensive was \$4.17 per gallon.

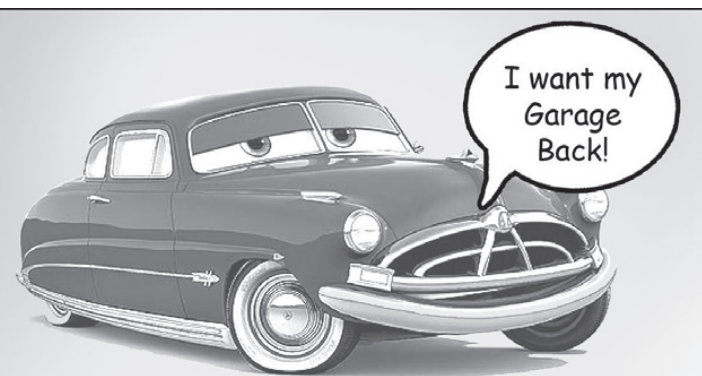
The national average price of gasoline rose 8.0 cents per gallon last week, averaging \$3.44 per gallon. The national average is up 7.1 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 87.7 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has fallen 4.1 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.30 per gallon.

"With the transition to more expensive summer gasoline underway coast to coast, wholesale gasoline prices continue to inch up at a rate typical for this time of year, reflected in the national average rising for the second straight week," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

In summarizing his weekly report De Haan stated, "While oil prices edged slightly lower on weaker outlooks for economic growth, continued refinery maintenance and the higher cost of seasonal blends of fuel are offsetting oil's decline. The price of diesel, however, continues to slowly decline as we see consumption for diesel lighten up. The best news for both gasoline and diesel prices is how significant a drop we've seen from year-ago levels, with more disinflation to come in the weeks ahead, even as gas prices are likely to inch up."

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data is accessible at <http://prices.GasBuddy.com>.

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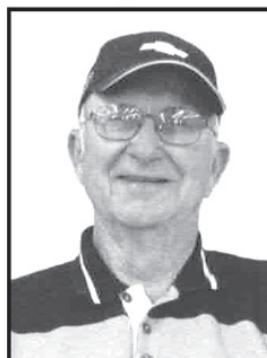


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# Greatness in God's Kingdom

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

Patrick Mahomes recently won his second Super Bowl Championship, and people are wondering if he will one day be the GOAT (Greatest Of All Time). Meanwhile, Tom Brady, the current GOAT, has retired and looks to be riding off into the sunset. In the financial sector, the gargantuan fortunes of a very few resonates their successes and greatness by the world's standards. Measuring greatness in sports looks at stats, greatness in business looks at revenue and wealth, greatness in music results in albums sold and awards received, but what does greatness in God's kingdom look like?

Greatness in God's kingdom is not a matter of stats, sales and stardom, but it is a matter of glorifying God. In Mark 10:32-45 Jesus and his disciples begin an important discussion about greatness in God's kingdom, and Jesus makes clear that greatness in God's kingdom always includes the cross. As they walked down the road toward Jerusalem for the last time together, Jesus tells his disciples again that betrayal, beatings, and death await him there. In verse 34, Jesus prophecies of himself in Jerusalem, "And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise." It is amazing that the disciples forgot what Jesus said about his death and resurrec-

tion multiple times before it happened, but in a similar way, we often forget that greatness in God's kingdom always includes the cross. On the cross, Jesus suffered and died for sin and because of sin, and it is only through faith in Jesus' perfect sacrifice and triumphant victory over death, hell and the grave that you can be saved. After salvation, God gives you commands and responsibilities to make much of him in all areas of your life. As you look to Jesus' death on the cross, you are reminded that before the crown of glory, there was the crown of thorns. Before the empty tomb, there were nails through His hands and feet, before Jesus ascended back to glory, he endured the pain and gore of the cross to accomplish your salvation. Jesus went to the cross, before he walked out of the tomb. There was no shortcut to greatness for the Son of God, and there are no shortcuts to greatness for His followers. Greatness in God's kingdom is not a path of comfort and ease, but one that follows the footsteps of Jesus, making much of Him through your trials and temptations, so that others too, will come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. It is impossible to be great in the Lord's kingdom without making much of Jesus' death on the cross, which begins with one's own salvation, then seeks to point others to Christ.

## Panhandle Parables

# The Backroads

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

One of the things I enjoy about living here in Friona where I grew up is the country roads. Most of the ones Northwest of town I know very well. It was where I learned to drive, it is where my daughter learned the same. Driving out there I remember. I remember things I did, the people that no longer live out there, I see the antelope play and now a deer or two, but if I am lucky, I see the two golden eagles that make that area home.

Remembering lessons learned from mistakes made or struggles overcome. These are the many things that come to mind when I reflect. Life doesn't always allow for much time to reflect, to remember the past and learn its lessons. We are

too busy with the urgent matters of this world to remember the important lessons taught us before. I, at times see this in my own life it is then that I take to the backroads to step away for a moment to think. The backroads offer the safety of being less traveled so less distraction. The backroads offer sight of the vastness of the countryside reminding me, my God is bigger than what I face. Satan could care less what I remember, but God asks me not to forget.

In Revelation 3 John is writing these inspired words regarding the church at Ephesus. They were hard working, good at spotting a false teacher or apostle. They had endured hardship and persevered,

yet the Lord held this against them. They had forgotten their first love. In all their endeavors although honorable at face value they forgot the Who and the Why. So, what is one to do in such circumstances? John writes "Remember the height from which you have fallen. Repent, and do again the deeds you did at first." There is our solution, Remember, Repent, Repeat.

Sometimes we just need to step out of the craziness and remember Jesus is our first love, ask for forgiveness and engage again in the worthy battle of dispelling darkness through grace and truth in a method of love. So, if I see you out on the backroads, I won't stop you, but will know why you are there.

# Show Honor to Each Other

By Teena Hughs

It seems I learn something valuable at nearly every funeral I attend. Yesterday, we made a flying trip to Dimmitt to Carolyn Sides' funeral. One of Carolyn's dearest friends, Ina Cleavinger, spoke, and she reminded me of something very important.

Ina said that she had read her "Upper Room" devotional for the day, March 5th. It was based on Romans 12:10, "Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other."

Ina went to the nursing home that day to say goodbye to her dear friend. Carolyn was pretty much despondent, but she told her how much their friendship meant to her, and when she finished telling Carolyn her heart-felt thoughts, she told her she loved her. Carolyn mouthed the words, "thank you". Carolyn passed later that day.

It is very difficult to tell a dear friend or family member goodbye. Sometimes it is difficult just to go and see them in the latter stages of life. It is also difficult to tell family and friends

how we feel about them; it is sometimes especially difficult to tell people we love them. I am not sure why that is.

I don't ever remember my parents telling me they loved me as we were growing up. When my mother was dying, she told me she loved me as I was leaving the hospital every evening. I learned from Feller and his family to tell others you love them. As a result I try to always tell Will and Lauren I love them, but I realize that I need to tell my sweet daughter-in-law I love her, because I do truly love her! My friend here, Jaclyn, tells me "Love you" every time she ends a text. Her "Love you" reminds me to tell her I love her too.

I have missed out on opportunities to tell people I love them, and sadly, it sometimes becomes too late to tell people how I feel. But, if you tell them whenever you see them, it gets easier and easier. So, I encourage you, and me, to not be afraid to tell someone you love them; let it become a habit, a priority to show honor to each other!

Send your church news to the



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# Area Church Directory

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**FRIONA METHODIST CHURCH**  
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Pastor David McGaughy  
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Pastor Benito Mejia  
benitomejia@live.com

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Pastors Mark & Mary Goff

**SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
502 W. 6<sup>th</sup> • 806-250-2769  
Jeff Procter, Minister

**ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Pastor Gregory Bunyan

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Pastor William Tapias

**TEMPLO DE ADORACION**  
620 Washington • 806-250-5929  
Pastor Roy Dominguez

**TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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**UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
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**VICTORY FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER**  
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Pastor Robert Kerby  
Website-www.thevictory.tv

**FRIONA PARA CRISTO LLAMADOS A CONOCERLE**  
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Pastor Aurelio & Cynthia Silva



## Bovina

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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806-251-1632  
Pastor Frank Landry

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

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

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

**LA IGLESIA DE DIOS DEL PRIMOGENITO**  
The Church of God of the Firstborn  
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2 Corinthians 5:7

**Friona Star**

has an archive of past obituaries at frionaonline.com



## Obituaries

### Jon Lin Riddle



Jon Lin Riddle, 80, of Bovina, Texas passed away on March 7, 2023. Celebration of Life Memorial Services were held at 2:00 PM Monday, March 13, 2023 at the Bovina Church of Christ in Bovina, Texas with Mike Prather, officiating. Arrangements by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona

Jon Lin was born September 9, 1942 in Lipan, Texas to Harley and Elizabeth Riddle. Jon spent his early years in Lipan and then moved to the Hale Center area. He moved to Bovina during his Junior High years. He loved participating in football, basketball and track during his High School years. He graduated from Bovina High School in 1961. In 1963, he married his life-long sweetheart, Brenda Jones. They recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in February of 2023. Jon Lin farmed south of Bovina in early adulthood. In the 1980's he began his own trucking business which

he owned many years. Jon Lin loved his family and friends and always enjoyed teasing and nicknaming all his children and grandchildren. He also loved cheering on and supporting his family at sporting and social events. Jon Lin fellowshiped at the Bovina Church of Christ where he served the Lord as Deacon and Elder much of his life. He dearly loved his church family.

Jon Lin was preceded in death by his parents Harley and Elizabeth Riddle, one sister, Lorette Wheeler, and his son, Denver Riddle.

He is survived by his wife Brenda Riddle of Bovina, Texas and 2 children. Jon Riddle and his

wife, Niki, of Dimmitt, Tx. Casey Lirot and husband, Toby, of Punta Gorda, Fl. He also leaves behind a brother, Joe Maxey(Butch) Riddle of New Orleans, La. His grandchildren include Kylah and Brant Hamilton of Amarillo, Tx; Kassi and Landon Long of Edmond, Ok.; Kade and Kassie Riddle of Canyon, Tx.; Taylor Lirot of Irwin, Pa.; Cammy Lirot of Durango, Co.; and Tanner Lirot of Punta Gorda, Fl. Also, Harlie Riddle of Powell, Wy. And Tori Lin Riddle of Grenada, Co. Two step grandchildren Tanner Coy and Mason Eckland of Grenada, Co. Additionally he leaves behind 10 great grandchildren.

Jon Lin's beautiful smile, bright eyes, and quick wit will be missed by all who loved him.

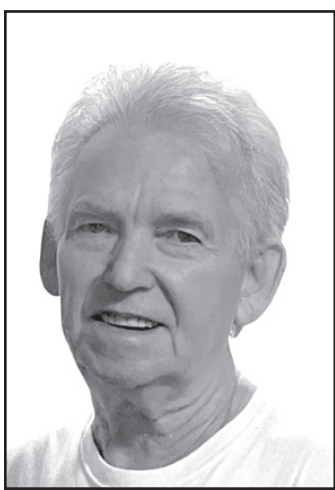
You may send blessings to the family and sign the online guest book at: [hansardfamily.com](http://hansardfamily.com)

*Hansard Family*  
Funeral Home

### Davis Madison Thompson III

Davis Madison Thompson III, known by those who knew and loved him as dad, granddad, and Davey, went to be with the Lord on Monday, January 23, 2023, after a prolonged battle with cancer. Celebration of Life Memorial Services will be held 11:00 AM Saturday, March 18, 2023 in the Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel of HANSARD FAMILY with Greg Corona officiating. Inurnment in the Friona Cemetery by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona.

Davey is most known for his great personality, sense of humor, ability to interact with others, and truly infectious smile. He was a peacemaker and was very much a people person. Davey was born in Plainview, Texas on July 1, 1944. Davey graduated from Friona High School in 1963, and he married Pamela Dollar from Dimmitt in 1964. He also worked as a farmer on the family farms, became a business owner of a beneficial ladybug service, and was an entrepreneur in wholesale and retail sales. He was with Nunn Electric in Amarillo, Texas for over 20 years. While living in West Texas, he worked in management for Family Dollar and Dollar General. He loved gardening and being outdoors. Davey loved his family, and he retired and moved to Estacada, Oregon where he helped raise his three youngest grandchildren. Later, he also assisted in the care of his mother while she was in assisted living in Canby, Oregon. He was always available to help others and was a wonderful volunteer.



Davey was a volunteer high school tennis coach who was recognized for his service in promoting physical activity and wellness by Oregon Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski in 2010. Davey also enjoyed playing in tennis tournaments with his brother, Terry.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Betty Cirillo; his father, Dave M. Thompson II; his stepmother, Beth Thompson, and a stepsister, Carol Stapp.

Davey is survived by his stepmother, Norma Thompson, four sons: Brandon and his wife, Kelly; Tawny and his wife, Julia; Jeffery and his wife, Klicia; and Davis Thompson IV. He has 12 grandchildren: Stephanie; Christopher and his wife, Sasha; Seth and his wife, Amber; Connor; Madison; Kordell and his wife, Thayane; Jared and his wife, Ella; Megan; Mathias; Brittany Maloy and her husband, Dustin; Ciarra Thompson and her partner, Zachery Hobson; and Davis Thompson V; and three great grandchildren: Riker and Oliver Maloy and Theodore Thompson. Davey is also survived by four sisters: Dinah Thompson, Marsha Cline, Betty Jean Seider, Janie Malloy, and a brother, Terry

Lee Thompson and his wife Mary; and four stepbrothers: James Hodges and his wife, Mary; John Robert (Bobby) and his wife, Jean; and Autry Craig Hodges and his wife, Vaughann, and Lonny Joe Coffey and his wife, Karen. He is also beloved by eight nieces and nine nephews: Cary Thompson (Jennifer); Randy Thompson (Valerie); Tracy Thompson (Sandra); Jolie Rutledge (Nate); Scheid Hodges (Devon); John J Hodges (Sarajane ); Francie Gust; Rhett Cline (Keri); Tara-Jill Cline-Smith (Anthony); Ashley Cline; Lauren Hodges (Cory Parker); Emily Hodges (Jeremy Motley) Travis Thompson (TJ Winkle); Angela Thompson; Kelsey Park (Michael), Noah Able, and Ellery Able.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Friona Cemetery Association, PO Box 823, Friona, Texas 79035.

In addition to the online register book at [hansardfamily.com](http://hansardfamily.com), a private family printable and downloadable social media site has been created where people can leave messages, short memorable stories, and photos at <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/nhyrDFza>. We encourage you to do both. His father's Kudo board is <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/ybUa7Qi8>. Davey will always be loved, remembered, and missed by many.

*Hansard Family*  
Funeral Home

### Harley Leonard Merritt



Harley Leonard Merritt gained his heavenly wings on Saturday, March 11, 2023 in Lubbock, Texas at the age of 83. Harley was surrounded by his wife, Francis and their children Joanna, Thomas, Mark and Terry as he took his first breath in heaven. Viewing will be held from 9:00AM to 8:00 PM with family visitation at 6:00 PM Friday, March 17, 2023 in the Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel of HANSARD FAMILY with Celebration of Life Service being held at 10:00 AM Saturday March 18, 2023 at Calvary Baptist Church of Friona with D. Jay Lewis and Alan Clark, officiating. Burial at 4:00 PM in the Snyder Cemetery in Snyder, Texas by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona.

Harley was born January 24, 1940 to Joseph Andrew (Snooks) Merritt, Jr. and Mildred Bethenia Jackson Merritt. He grew up in Snyder, Texas. After graduating from high school in 1958 Harley moved to Alpine, Texas and worked as a welder. Harley never planned to go to college but was convinced to go to school after attending one class. He graduated from Sul Ross University in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science degree. Harley married Sherlon Tipton in October of 1960. Together they had three children, Joanna Marie, Stephen Hugh, and Thomas Ross. After graduating from college Harley moved his family to Friona, Texas. Sherlon passed away in 1967. Harley taught school in Friona as the Biology teacher for 33 years. He made an impact on the lives of many students. Some of whom he kept in touch with until his passing. He cherished these relationships. Harley was quick to share his memories of school teaching, always remembering teachers like Bob Owens, Benny Pryor, and

Dub Cleveland. Harley met Francis Petchinsky in 1968 when she was working at Mama Seale's Drive on Main Street. Francis had two young boys, Mark and Terry Petchinsky. On August 9th of 1968 they were wed at First Baptist Church in Friona combining two families into one. Harley was a good father, provider and teacher and he loved Francis. Harley liked to hunt for arrowheads and Indian relics on country roads in all parts of Texas. and in the mountains of Colorado and New Mexico. He was a Texas History Buff and knew all things science, especially when it came to nature. If he didn't know something, he knew a way to find out about it. He took his family camping in Pagosa Springs almost every summer until the children had graduated from high school. Many memories were made in the mountains near Wolf Creek Pass. Beer Biscuits, fishing with lures he built himself and hearing, "get out of the water, you'll scare the fish", are some of the memories the children have. Harley took many of his grandchildren and even some of his great grand children to these same camping grounds just to make sure they had the experience. One of his favorite things to do was to go on a bear hunt and pretend the family was lost. Harley loved a good cup of coffee, a good steak, and talking with everyone and anyone who would listen. He learned to grow roses from his mother and filled his

porch every spring with flowers and vegetables. Harley sent many a handmade card to people he had made contact with. Family, friends and those he thought just needed lift received a birthday card, an anniversary card, a Christmas card, a get well card or a just because card. He didn't just send these cards one time; after you received one, he put you on his card list and you received them every year. Your children began to receive them.

Harley is preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Merritt, Jr. and Mildred. His wife, Sherlon Tipton Merritt, Stephen Hugh Merritt, infant son, his brother, Gilbert Ray Merritt, and his sister Nancy Ballard Merritt.

He is survived by his wife, Francis Katherine Merritt. His sons, Thomas Merritt and wife Virginia of Blanco, Texas; Mark Petchinsky and wife Safiye of Bulverde, Texas; Terry Petchinsky and wife Joann of Lewisville, Texas and daughter, Joanna Merritt Foster and husband Perry of Amarillo, Texas. Grandchildren Brandy Dodson; Keylin Merritt; Casey Merritt Jonathan Merritt, and Harlea Merritt, Alex Palos, Matthew Petchinsky; Kerim Petchinsky; Melih Uco; Julia Koch; Abby Searle; Brittney Foster; and Brandon Foster. Harley is survived by 14 Great Grandchildren, many nieces and one nephew.

If you are considering a memorial for Harley Merritt, the family suggest contributing to the Benny Pryor Memorial Scholarship fund by contacting Friona State Bank in lieu of flowers.

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

*Hansard Family*  
Funeral Home

## FRIONA FLASHBACKS

From the Friona Star Archives



MADWOMEN...Sheri Dodson (Josephine), Cindy Drake (Constance), Sheila Gresham (Gabrielle) and Patti Hinton (Countess Aurelia) are shown in a pose from the FHS Contest Play, "Madwoman of Chaillot." The cast will give its dress rehearsal on Friday, March 18 at 6 p.m. at the Friona High School Auditorium. (Friona Star, Sunday, March 13, 1983)

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CNA Class being offered by Prairie Acres starting March 20th from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. It will likely run three weeks plus one week of clinicals. For more information call 806-250-3922 ask for Marisa Eubanks.

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### Spring Is Spectacular!

**SPRINGS in Things!**

The early bird catches the worm!


Uh-Oh!

Did you match up this list of things people do in the spring?

1. cook	A. in puddles
2. splash	B. fences
3. paint	C. out garages, attics
4. plant	D. tree sap into maple syrup
5. wash	E. cars
6. clean	F. flowers, trees and gardens

1. clean	A. kites
2. carry	B. in streams
3. open	C. umbrellas and raincoats
4. fly	D. more fresh fruits and vegetables
5. fish	E. our houses
6. buy	F. windows to air the house

Did you cross off the words "earth" and "calendar"? They are the 2 things that do not have plastic or metal springs in them, but the season of "spring" instead.



### WARD KELLNER PROPERTIES

THE PAM AND DAVID WHITE GROUP



**HOMEOWNER March CHECKLIST**

- WASH LINENS
- WASH WINDOWS & ADD SCREENS
- SPOT CLEAN YOUR FURNITURE
- SWAP OUT YOUR FRONT DOOR MAT FOR SPRING
- VACUUM YOUR MATTRESS
- SPRING CLEAN THE KITCHEN: CLEAN BACKSPASH, WIPE DOWN CABINETS, & CLEAN UNDER APPLIANCES
- ORGANIZE THE PANTRY & TOSS EXPIRED PRODUCTS
- CLEAN MIRRORS, LAMPS, AND LIGHTBULBS
- GET READY FOR TAX SEASON
- SPRING CLEAN YOUR YARD AND PLAN TO PLANT FLOWERS

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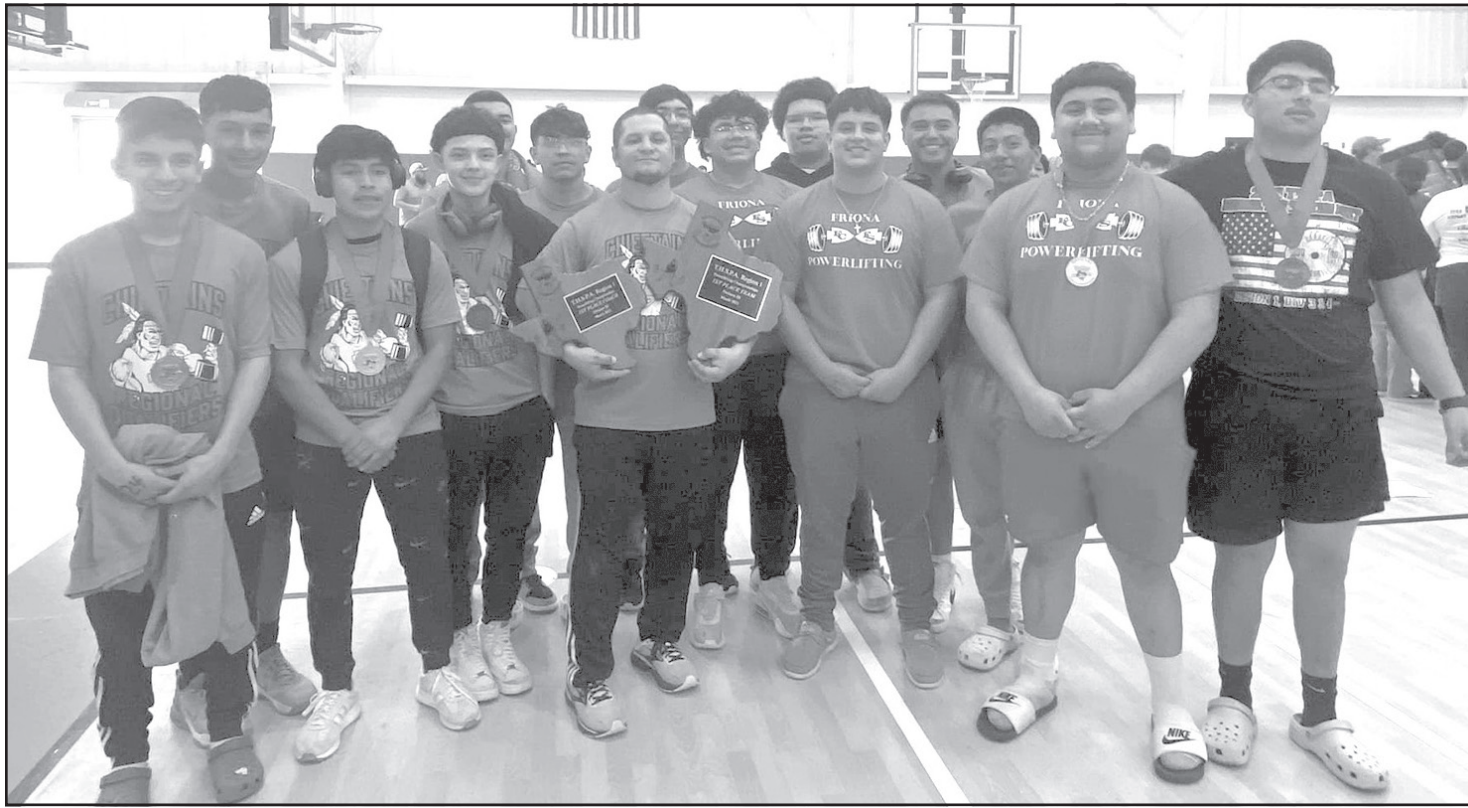
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# Sports



Friona Chieftain Powerlifting Team



Regional Powerlifting Team Champions  
Jorge Garcia, Erik Jaramillo, Michael Bautista  
State Championship Qualifiers

## SPORTS NEWS

### Powerlifting

The Friona Chieftains Powerlifting team had 13 lifters competing at the regional meet on Saturday March 11th at Sundown High School. Team members included Azriel Flores, Frank Gutierrez, Michael Bautista, Jorge Garcia, Gabriel Ramos, Xuan Garcia, Ramon Ortiz, Hevilat Perez, Ishmael Flores, Mario Garcia, Aaron Rodriguez, Erik Jaramillo, D'Andre Shelby. See full results on this page.

The Chieftain Powerlifting Team won the event with 26 points and was awarded the Regional Championship award. Michael Bautista, Jorge Garcia, and Erik Jaramillo qualified for the State Championship Meet to be held in Abilene, Texas on March 24, 2023.

### Golf

The boys golf team consisting of Elijah Thompson, Aiden Pitsch, Elijah Robledo, Gabriel Abarca, Maddox Ashlock, and Kayson Stanberry competed in the Farwell Golf tournament and finished 4th as a team.

### Baseball

The Friona Chieftains Baseball Team hosted a tournament last week which included Lbk Roosevelt, Hereford JV, Borger JV, Lbk Cooper JV, Muleshoe, and Floydada. The team finished 1-3 for the tournament and are 5-6 for the season. See photos below. The first district game is March 28th at Dalhart and the first home district game is April 1st against Bushland.



## Powerlifting Results

### Boys Region 1 Division 3 - Sundown High School - 3/11/2023 - THSPA Boys

#### Team Results:

1st: Friona, 26 points, 2nd: Kermit, 21 points, 3rd: Dalhart, 19 points

Wt.	Place	Athlete	School	BWT	Squat	Bench	Dead	Total	St.Qual.
114	4	Flores, Azriel	Friona	112.2	260	160	315	735	-
114	11	Gutierrez, Francisco	Friona	111.6	240	115	275	630	-
123	2	Bautista, Michael	Friona	121.8	355	230	370	955	2
132	1	Garcia, Jorge	Friona	130	415	250	405	1070	1
132	8	Ramos, Gabriel	Friona	130.6	355	215	315	885	-
148	11	Garcia, Xuan	Friona	146.2	410	215	390	1015	-
148	13	Ortiz, Ramon	Friona	145.2	375	205	380	960	-
198	6	Perez, Hevilat	Friona	195.8	515	305	445	1265	-
220	3	Flores, Ishmael	Friona	215.8	570	320	495	1385	-
220	4	Garcia, Mario	Friona	215.2	540	325	500	1365	-
242	6	Rodriguez, Aaron	Friona	235.6	530	310	455	1295	-
308	1	Jaramillo, Erik	Friona	286.2	590	375	535	1500	1
308	7	Shelby, D'Andre	Friona	298.2	345	220	320	885	-
UNC	SC	Estrada, Erik	Friona	0	0	0	0	0	-

## Hornet Relays (High School)

Friday, March 10, 2023 at Younger Field

### Varsity Boys (3rd Place)

**100 Meters**

- Abisai Torres ..... 11.22
- Alexis Rivas ..... 12.00
- Jose Alvidrez ..... 12.40

**200 Meters**

- Abisai Torres ..... 22.91
- Aaron Rosales ..... 25.50
- Isaac Olmos ..... 25.63
- Michael Lopez ..... 25.94
- Jose Alvidrez ..... DQ

**400 Meters**

- Fabian Salinas ..... DQ
- Kaden Jeter ..... DQ

**800 Meters**

- Fabian Salinas ..... 2:19.94
- Isaac Olmos ..... 2:30.47

**1600 Meters**

- Avram Hernandez ..... 5:42.81

**3200 Meters**

- Avram Hernandez ..... 12:39.01

**110m Hurdles - 39"**

- Kaden Jeter, 15.97
- Martin Godinez, 20.04

**4x100 Relay**

- Friona A ..... 45.38

**4x200 Relay**

- Friona A ..... 1:39.28

**4x400 Relay**

- Friona A ..... 3:56.40

**Pole Vault**

- Anthony Guerrero ..... 9-00.00
- Marco Leon ..... 8-06.00

**Long Jump**

- Michael Lopez ..... 17-08.00
- Alexis Rivas ..... 15-03.00
- Jose Alvidrez ..... DQ

**Triple Jump**

- Isaac Olmos ..... DQ

**Junior Varsity Boys (2nd Place)**

**100 Meters**

- Cook, Thomas ..... 13.22
- Quezada, Diego ..... DQ

**200 Meters**

- Gonzales, Jonathan ..... 24.47
- Lara, Gael ..... 24.68
- Cook, Thomas ..... 26.81
- Jeter, Brice ..... DQ
- Trevino, JJ (Jonathan) ..... DQ

**400 Meters**

- Trevino, JJ (Jonathan) ..... 1:03.50
- Santiago, Israel ..... 1:04.81

**800 Meters**

- Santiago, Israel ..... 2:30.91
- Gutierrez, Nicholas ..... 2:37.09

**1600 Meters**

- Gutierrez, Nicholas ..... 6:17.16
- Jimenez, Eduardo ..... 7:29.71

**3200 Meters**

- Nicholas Gutierrez ..... 13:24.00

**4x100 Relay**

- Friona A ..... 48.32

**4x200 Relay**

- Friona A ..... 1:43.62

**4x400 Relay**

- Friona A ..... DQ

**High Jump**

- Brice Jeter, Rafael Rocha, Gael Lara, Jonathan Gonzales ..... 4-08.00

**Pole Vault**

- Thomas Cook ..... 7-06.00

**Long Jump**

- Gael Lara, ..... 15-05.00

**Triple Jump**

- Rafael Rocha ..... 33-08.00
- Azriel Flores ..... DQ
- Jonathan Gonzales ..... DQ

**Shot Put - 12lb**

- Francisco Perez ..... 31-10.00
- Diego Quezada ..... 30-08.00

**Discus - 1.6kg**

- Diego Quezada ..... 94-07
- Francisco Perez ..... 81-10

**Varsity Girls (1st Place)**

**100 Meters**

- Ashley Chico ..... 14.03
- Breanna Rivera ..... 14.32
- Abril Arzate ..... X15.47

**200 Meters**

- Ashley Chico ..... 29.22
- Yaseline Faudoa ..... 31.00
- Leslie Ortiz ..... 31.59
- Aubree Bunker ..... DQ

**400 Meters**

- Ashley Chico ..... 1:11.15
- Makayla Ramos ..... 1:11.44
- Belinda Santos ..... 1:13.97
- Abril Arzate ..... 1:13.99

**800 Meters**

- Yvonne Legaretta, ..... 2:37.53
- Merary Salinas, ..... 2:58.40
- Belinda Santos, ..... 3:02.69

**1600 Meters**

- Yvonne Legaretta, ..... 5:51.31
- Merary Salinas, ..... 6:53.31
- Leah Hernandez, ..... 6:54.38
- Belinda Santos, ..... DQ

**3200 Meters**

- Yvonne Legaretta, ..... 12:59.00
- Merary Salinas, ..... 15:03.66
- Leah Hernandez, ..... 15:20.19

**100m Hurdles - 33"**

- Kitzy Welch ..... 17.56
- Jacquelyn Falcon ..... 19.53
- Reese Steelman ..... 19.86

**300m Hurdles - 30"**

- Kitzy Welch ..... 53.78
- Reese Steelman ..... 1:01.62
- Jacquelyn Falcon ..... 1:01.91

**4x100 Relay**

- Friona A ..... 2:02.03

**4x200 Relay**

- Friona A ..... 4:44.35

**High Jump**

- Reese Steelman ..... 4-02.00
- Lizbeth Toledo ..... DQ

**Pole Vault**

- Duvy Ortiz ..... 7-00.00
- Ella McFarland ..... 7-00.00

**Long Jump**

- Breanna Rivera ..... 14-09.00
- Lizbeth Toledo ..... 12-05.50
- Leslie Ortiz ..... 11-07.50

**Triple Jump**

- Kitzy Welch ..... 31-02.00
- Breanna Rivera ..... 30-07.00
- Aubree Bunker ..... 30-01.25
- Lizbeth Toledo ..... 27-03.25
- Yaseline Faudoa ..... DQ

**Shot Put - 4kg**

- Angelica Reyes ..... 32-11.00
- Reyna Arias ..... 31-08.00
- Amy Montana ..... 25-02.00

**Discus - 1kg**

- Kitzy Welch ..... 112-10
- Angelica Reyes ..... 82-08
- Amy Montana ..... 81-03
- Reyna Arias ..... 59-07

**Junior Varsity Girls (1st Place)**

**100 Meters**

- Sophia Leon ..... 14.94

**200 Meters**

- Sophia Leon ..... 32.40

**400 Meters**

- Sophia Leon ..... 1:16.97

**800 Meters**

- Jocelyn Hernandez ..... 3:06.18
- Evelyn Hernandez ..... 3:11.94

**1600 Meters**

- Jocelyn Hernandez ..... 7:12.12
- Aurora Bolanos ..... 8:36.63
- Evelyn Hernandez ..... DQ

**3200 Meters**

- Jocelyn Hernandez ..... 15:25.75
- Evelyn Hernandez ..... 16:17.67
- Aurora Bolanos ..... 16:57.00

**100 Meter Hurdles**

- Stephanie Cruz ..... 23.00

**300 Meter Hurdles**

- Stephanie Cruz ..... 1:09.22

**High Jump**

- Stephanie Cruz ..... 10.00

**Shot Put**

- Marie Phillips ..... 25-07.00

**Discus Throw**

- Marie Phillips ..... 71-02







The Friona Youth Sports 2023 Basketball Season concluded last week and a special "Thank You" goes out to all of the participants, parents, coaches, referees, Fisd custodians, volunteers, team sponsors, and FYS board members for their time and dedication to the league. This season has been one for the books and it is great seeing all these young athletes on the court.



1st Place / 1st & 2nd grade girls / Farwell "Lil Stars"



1st Place / 1st & 2nd grade boys / Red Storm



2nd Place / 5th & 6th grade girls / Bovina B-Town Elite



2nd Place / 3rd & 4th grade girls / Bovina "B-Town Elite"



2nd Place / 5th & 6th grade boys / Bovina Phenoms



2nd Place / 1st & 2nd grade boys / Farwell "Allen"



1st Place / 3rd & 4th grade boys / Friona Chiefs



1st Place / 5th & 6th grade girls / Friona Squaws



1st Place / 5th & 6th grade boys / Miller



2nd Place / 1st & 2nd grade girls / Bovina Sparks

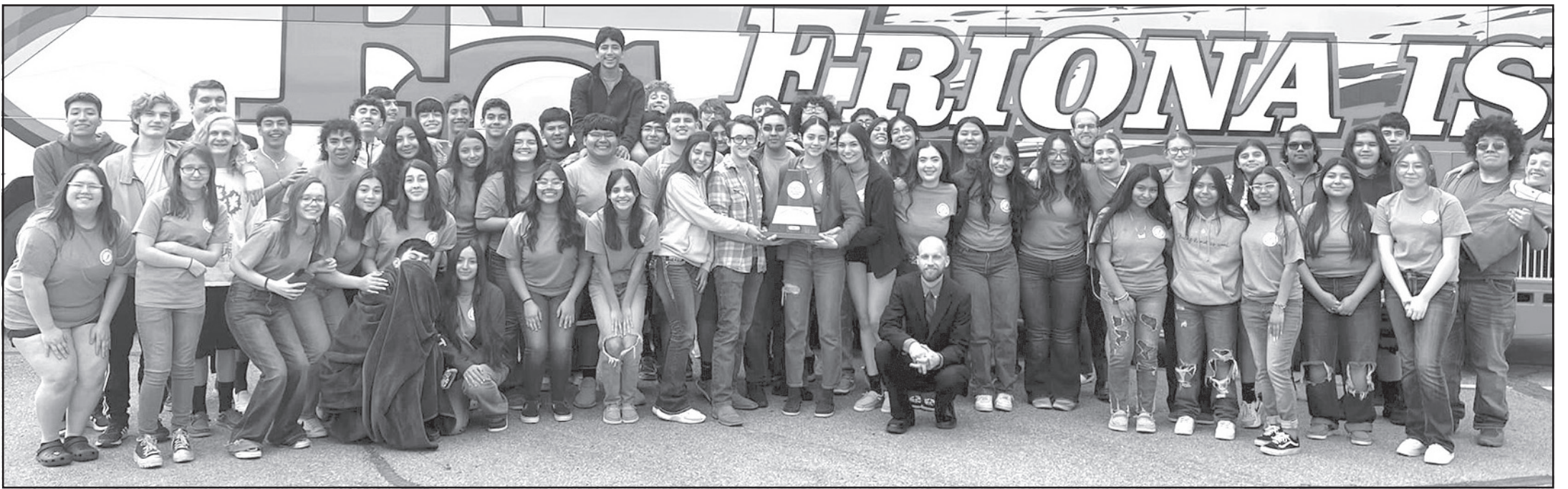


1st Place / 3rd & 4th grade girls / Farwell "Stancell"



2nd Place / 3rd & 4th grade boys / Friona Warriors

### Straight 1s in Concert and Sight-Reading. Way to go Mighty Chieftain Band!!!



# Chamber Awards Banquet Highlights



Xcel Energy Cooking Team



Tyleen Caffrey • Emcee



Friona FFA • Servers



Cub Scout Troop #56 • Pledge



Tim Vessels • Auctioneer



Friona Junior High students • Servers



Kitzy Welch  
Miss Friona



Madison Tyler  
National Anthem



Eduardo Guaderrama  
Entertainment



Arribella Hernandez  
Little Miss Friona



**Congratulations to the Friona High School One Act Play Company of "A Divine Kerfuffle" for advancing to Bi-District!**

### Friona Fire Training

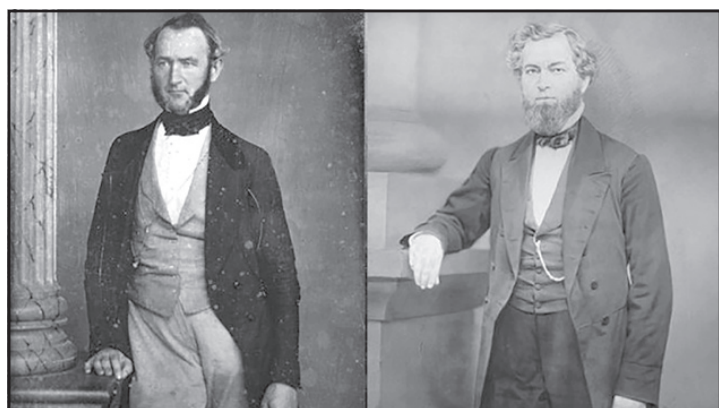
March 13



# Takin' it to the Bank

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith

A century and a half before the birth of Amazon, Henry Wells and William G. Fargo were traversing the country, and selling their merchandise to gobs of Gold Rush hopefuls in California. Business was so profitable that on March 18, 1852, they—and a coterie of investors—convened in New York City to inaugurate Wells, Fargo & Company.



The organization “also served as a bank—buying gold dust, selling paper bank drafts and

providing loans to help fuel California’s growing economy,” according to History.com. Since then, it has morphed into a worldwide financial titan.

For more information, The Grateful American

Book Prize recommends **Ralph Moody’s Wells Fargo.**

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

# Thank You Friona

The folks at the 6th St. Church of Christ would like to extend a heartfelt “Thank You” to our community. For the better part of 30 years, we have supported a clothing work that benefited two children’s homes. It started with the Medina Children’s Home in Medina, Texas, who later joined forces with the Boles Home in Quinlan, Texas to form Arms of Hope. Through your generous donations we have been able to send thousands of pounds of clothing to this organization that serves children in need and single mothers trying to make ends meet. The clothing and other items over the years have served in three basic ways. First the two homes were able to use for the children they served, Second, items that were not able to be used but in good condition were sold through their thrift store and finally, worn out clothing items were contracted to a

recycling center and made into rags. Pretty much everything was used in some capacity. Your help made that work thrive for all these years. Sadly, Arms of Hope had to cut back on travel to the panhandle due to fuel costs, as those expenses have made it cost prohibitive for that work to continue here. At the end of February they came for the last time and took the containers with them. We understand there is a season for everything as we are prayerful for Arms of Hope as they continue to serve children and single parent families. We are no longer accepting any items as we no longer have an outlet for the volume that was being produced. Thank you again, Friona is a special place with generous hearts, know that we pray thankfully for your kindness. God bless and to God be the glory. Sincerely, 6th St. Church of Christ family

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

**Date:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 **Time:** 5:30 p.m.  
**Place:** City Council Chambers, City Hall, 619 Main Street, Friona, Texas  
**Applicant(s):** Steve Meeks, Property Owner

**The Friona Planning and Zoning Commission will consider in public hearing a request for the rezoning of Block 12 Lots 1 and 2 and North 42 feet of block 3 as defined in Attachment A, plus one-half of all bounding streets, alleys, and public ways to change from “C” District – Apt/Multi-Family Dwelling District to “E” District – Central Business District.**

A recommendation to approve, deny, or modify the requested rezoning will be sent to the City Council.

**The Friona City Council will consider this proposed change in a public hearing on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.** in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 619 Main Street, Friona, Texas.

For further information, contact the Friona City Manager at (806) 250-2761

In the event of a lack of quorum to convene or continue either the Planning and Zoning or Council meeting described above, this matter will automatically be carried forward to the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting and succeeding meetings as necessary.

### Attachment A

**Legal Description:** Block 12 Lots 1 and 2 and North 42 feet of block



Everyone at Parmer Medical Center would like to congratulate

**Dawna Campos**

for being named the Employee of the Year at the 67th Annual Awards Banquet hosted by the Friena Chamber of Commerce & Ag



Celebrating 75 Years of Service to Friena

**Pre-K Transportation Parade**



See more photos at [frienaonline.com](http://frienaonline.com)

Members of Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative are cordially invited to attend our 85th Annual Meeting

Time: Dinner at 6 pm, meeting to follow  
Date: Tuesday, March 21st  
Place: Deaf Smith Co. Bull Barn in Hereford  
Delicious food! Member gift! Raffle prizes!

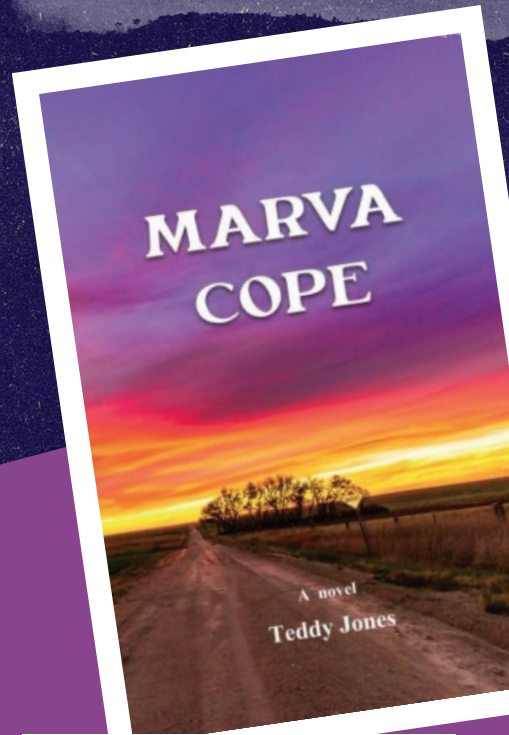


Book Reading with Teddy Jones



Saturday, March 25, 2023  
2:00pm-3:30pm

Friena Public Library



MS. JONES WILL INTRODUCE HER LATEST NOVEL. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WILL FOLLOW ALONG WITH BOOK SALES AND SIGNING.

This new novel in the Jackson's Pond, Texas series introduces a newcomer to town. Marva Cope arrives as the town's new Postmaster, bringing with her a lifetime of unresolved regrets, ambivalent memories of herself on a high altitude adventure in New Mexico, a habit of aloneness and loneliness, a desire to change, and the knowledge that making that change is up to her. Will she find a path toward a new kind of life in Jackson's Pond?

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