

Vol. 95 | No. 2

# Vaccine news update

Parmer Medical Center did not be receive any vaccines this week. They are still on the list and will notify the public on their Facebook page when the next batch in comes in. PMC staff will continue to take your calls and maintain the waiting list.

To request a place on a list for a vaccine, please call: 806-240-1562 or 806-240-1761 (Para Espanol llame a este numero de telefono). English speakers can call either number.

When you call, you will need to provide your name, date of birth, and a phone number so you can be notified when you are scheduled. If the line is busy, leave a voicemail message and someone will call you back to confirm your information and answer any questions you might have. The goal is to get everyone vaccinated as quickly as possible.

PMC has had a great response to the vaccine "hotline" and they thank you for calling to reserve your vaccine. Currently, over 400 people have called requesting a vaccine. As soon as the next shipment arrives they will start calling and scheduling again.

A couple of questions have been repeatedly asked:

Should I or can I get the vaccine if I have had CO-VID? Yes, you can. In fact, it is recommended that you get the vaccine. The CDC says you can choose to wait 90 days before getting vaccinated but it is not necessary.

How long before I am protected from the virus? For the two-dose vaccines, the process of getting fully vaccinated takes over a month in total. You will get full protection from the vaccine usually 1-2 weeks after getting your second dose.

# **Commissioners accept** resignation of J.P.

The Parmer County Commissioners Court met in regular session on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 10 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.

There were no public comments. Minutes from the December 28th meeting were read and approved. Commissioners approved the payment of the accounts payables as presented by County Treasurer Sharon May. The Treasurer's Report was also approved. The contract with UniFirst which includes carpet maintenance was extended for one year at a slightly lower cost than last year. Jo Beth Gipson, Justice of the Peace Precinct 1, tendered her resignation effective January 31, 2021. Judge Gipson told the court that she and Bruce (husband) are moving to Graham, Texas to be closer to family. Commissioners are weighing their options concerning a replacement. The J.P. Pct. 1 position is up for election in 2022. In other business, Commissioners approved an engagement letter with the firm of Carr, Riggs & Ingram CPAs and Advisors to perform the Year 2020 outside

audit for the county. An request for an irrigation tile line under a county road was approved. The location is 1/2 mile west of County Road 17 & County Road R. The Salary Grievance Committee for 2021 was selected from the Grand Jury pool.

The 2021 holiday schedule was approved. For Christmas, the courthouse will close at noon on Wednesday and be closed until Monday the 27th. The courthouse will also be closed on Friday, December 31st for the New Year's Day holiday. Sheriff Randy Geries reported that there are currently 25 inmates at the Law Enforcement Center. Commissioners approved a contract extension with Mentalix, Inc. which provides software/support for the fingerprint scanning/ imaging system. The next scheduled Commissioners Court meeting is Monday, January 25th. All meetings are open to the public. The Commissioner's Court reserves the right to go into Executive Session at any time. The agenda may be found on the Parmer County website. Information in this article is only a summary. Any questions concerning specific actions should be directed to the Commissioners Court.

## Four decades of service



Friona's Fire Chief Jim Taylor is stepping down after 32 years of service as head of the Friona Volunteer Fire Department. Jim has been a member of the fire department for the past 40 years and will continue to serve as a firefighter with the organization. New Assistant Fire Chief Chance Lewellen is shown presenting Jim with a plaque commemorating his 40 years of service.



## **Blood drive is January 21st**

Coffee Memorial Blood Center will conduct a "2020-2021 Fingers Crossed" blood drive on Thursday, January 21st from Noon until 7:00 p.m.

Since 1925

\$1.00

Melting of last week's snowfall resulted in the formation of some unusual icicles on the metal roof at the Friona Star. See snow report in Town Talk on page 3.



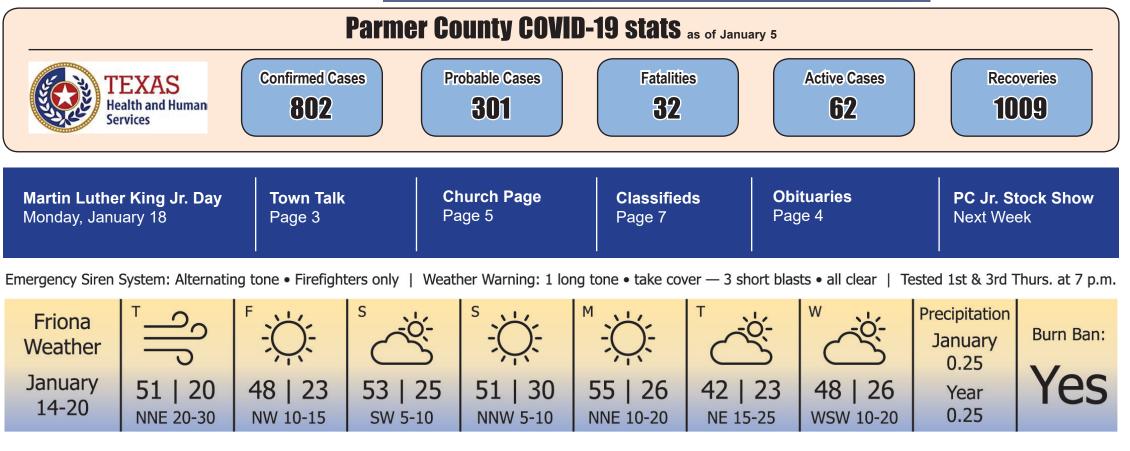
in the Calvary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. The Friona Community Blood Drive is sponsored by the Friona Noon Lions Club.

Call 806-331-8833 or visit yourbloodinstitute.org to schedule an appointment. All donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies to identify potential convalescent plasma donors.

Appointments are preferred to help with social distancing but walk-ins are accepted as the schedule allow. Masks are required.

All donors will receive a 2021 long sleeve t-shirt and a free pass to Escape the Trap House to try an escape room.

To donate convalescent plasma, donors must have had a positive COVID-19 test result, be symptom-free for 14 days and be at least 7 days past their last blood or plasma donation. Donors can sign up by calling the convalescent plasma hotline at 888-308-3924 or by visiting thegiftoflife.org.





# **Community Calendar**

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

#### January 12-14, 16

• Parmer County Jr. Livestock Show & Sale

#### January 18

• Martin Luther King Jr. Day

• Friona Noon Lions Club meeting at The Farmwife Kitchen

#### January 21

• Friona Community Blood Drive at Calvary Baptist Fellowship Hall from Noon to 7:00 p.m.

#### February 1

• Friona Noon Lions Club meeting at The Farmwife Kitchen

#### February 2

• Groundhog Day

#### February 15

· President's Day

# **COVID-19 News**

## **Coronavirus cases confirmed**

**Texas:** 2,020,000 cases 31, 017 deaths

## As of January 13, 2020 Worldwide: 91,800,000 cases 1.970.000 deaths 50,800,000 recoveries

**United States:** 22,900,000 cases 381,000 deaths

**Ivy Cottage Bridal Registry** 

**Marc & Kelsey Haile** Josh Barnett & Rachel Box **Anna Murphree & Jeff Chambliss** 



frionaonline.com

# **Mayor's Minutes** by Ricky White

2020 has ended and we have entered into a new year "2021". I wish everyone a prosperous and safe new year. The city of Friona finished 2020 in a good financial position. I want to reflect back and share some things that were accomplished in the later part of 2019 and 2020. Even with the CO-VID Pandemic beginning in March 2020, the city of Friona was able to accomplish several things:

• Implemented a Building Standards Committee.

 Recognized Public Safety workers with an appreciation dinner.

 Purchased a street sweeper.

· Created a Visitor Impact Committee.

• Replaced the roof and installed a new central heating and AC system at the Community Center (Visitor Impact Center).

• Ordered and purchased 420 new chairs for the Visitor Impact Center.

• The City teamed up with the schools for an anti-bullying campaign.

• Implemented the Census Complete Count Committee and created a video campaign with the help of Friona **Elementary Students** 

• The city participated in the Chieftain Choices Day at the High School.

• Fire Department received a grant for \$5,000 for a new industrial washer.

• The city teamed up with Sea Scrolls, LLC for a housing project at 7th Street and Ashland Avenue.

• City of Friona awarded \$216,370 from the CARES Act for COVID-19 relief efforts.

· Created the Small Business Recovery Grant Program to help 8 businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic

• City held two separate COVID-19 on-site testing centers with the National Guard.

• Purchase of a new fire truck for the Friona Volunteer Fire Department.

• City completed a Parks Master Plan Survey to see how residents feel about our local parks, pool and outdoor spaces.

• New EMS building completed.

• City began working with a new EMS billing system company Emergicon.

• City helped Parmer Paws with operational needs and support for the completion of Parmer Paws.

• Sales Tax revenue set a







5-year record high.

• Received bid for the addition of the Friona Library bookstore.

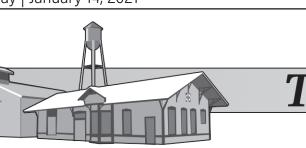
• City taxes have trended downward from 2013 to present. In 2013, city tax rate was \$.8250 per \$100 valuation and today the tax rate equals \$.6894. Lee Davila and the Friona City Council have done a tremendous job managing the taxes.

I want to thank Lee Davila and the Friona City Council for the great job they are doing. At times the job can be "thankless" and very frustrating. But at the end of the day when you look back at what has been accomplished, it gives you a sense of satisfaction for the difference you've made for your community and the residents of Friona. Each have done a great job and I ask all citizens to join me in applauding the Friona City Council for the accomplishments that have been made.

Your Mayor







TOWN TALK

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

On Tuesday, Texas Secretary of State Ruth R. Hughs today convened the 87th Legislature's regular session, presiding over the opening ceremonies for the Texas House of Representatives and conducting the election of the new Speaker of the House, Representative Dade Phelan. The Texas Legislature operates under a biennial system and convenes at noon on the second Tuesday in January of odd-numbered years for a maximum of 140 days. The 87th Legislature's regular session begins January 12th, 2021, and will conclude May 31st, 2021.

#### \*\*\*

January 18th is National Thesaurus Day. As you know from your prehistoric studies

# FRIONA FLASHBACKS



MAKES ALL-STATE...Gary Mingus qualified for the All-State Band for the second time in his high school career this past week. Pointing to his allstate patch is Janice Hayes. She and Hope Mays also represented Friona and Region XVI in the area tryouts. (Friona Star, Thursday, January 25, 1973)

# **SHERIFF'S REPORT**

## Reported by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office: Randy Geries, Sheriff

(1/5/21) Joe Monroe, 60, of Friona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on charges of Man/Del CS Pg 1 > 4g < 200g, pending Grand Jury and Tamper/Fabricate evidence,

(Pre-K), Thesaurus is a wellspoken dinosaur who always has the right word for any given situation, condition, or circumstance. You might know him as Thesaurus Rex or T-Rex for short, tiny, or minuscule. Thesaurus is synonymous with synonyms which are synonymous with Thesaurus. Easy, effortless, simple. Some might not realize that Thesaurus is a distant cousin to Dictionary Rex. That dinosaur is absolutely, completely, and totally undefinable.

#### \*\*\*

January is the beginning of a new year and the perfect time to celebrate National Blood Donor Month. Due to increased seasonal illnesses during the winter months and inclement weather conditions, donations of blood and platelets decline and demand increases. Blood donation is safer than ever before and saves lives. Millions of people including cancer patients, organ recipients, and victims of accidents rely on blood donations. Over 36,000 units of red blood cells and 7,000 units of platelets are needed every single day. About 6.8 million people donate blood every year in our country. 38% of our population is eligible to donate, but less than 10% actually do so.  $\star\star\star$ 

John Gurley reported that Friona received 2.5 inches of snow last weekend. The area was projected to receive around 6 inches of snow but the low pressure shifted south and blanketed most of the central part of the state with the white stuff. John said that this 2.5 inches of snow converted to .25 inches of moisture. This "quarter inch of rain" equals the amount received last November and December combined. We are off to a good start but there is still a long way to go to climb out of our drought.

Commonly, the percentage of water to snow is called the "snow ratio". An old rule of thumb is that for every 10 inches of snow, there would

be 1 inch of water (10:1). This conversion applies for snow falling at temperatures near freezing, between 28 and 34 degrees Fahrenheit. To calculate snow to rain for temperatures between 20 and 27 degrees Fahrenheit, divide snowfall by 15 instead of 10. For temperatures between 15 and 19 degrees Fahrenheit, divide snowfall by 20. Between 10 and 14, divide by 30; between 0 and 9, divide by 40; between -20 and -1, divide by 50, and between -40

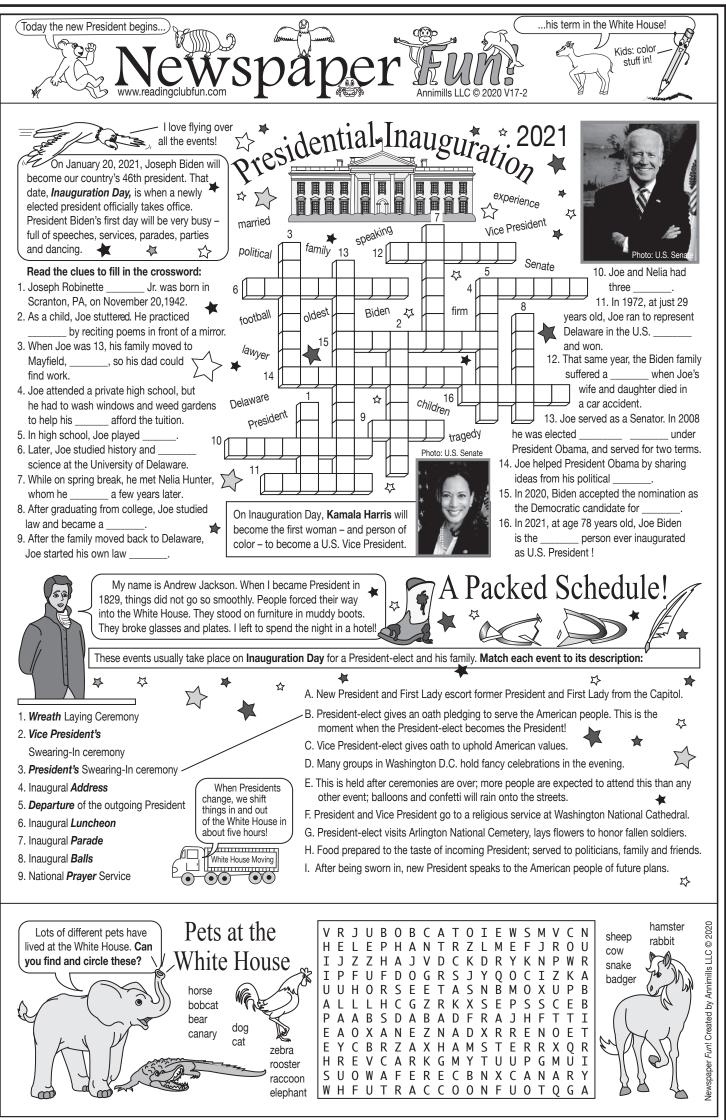
and -21, divide by 100.

## \*\*\*

**National Days** January 14: Dress Up Your Pet Day January 15: Hat Day January 16: **Religious Freedom Day** January 17: Hot Buttered Rum Day January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day January 19: Popcorn Day January 20: Cheese Lover's Day  $\star\star\star$ 



You may drop off your scissors, rotary blades, pinking shears, knives, etc. before January 21st



pending Grand Jury.

(1/5/21) Raul Chavez, 38, of Friona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a Potter County warrant, posted bond & released.

(1/6/21) Bronson Arington, 31, of Hereford was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Criminal Mischief, pending County Court.

(1/7/21) Evan Paiz, 21, of Muleshoe was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of DWI, pending County Court.

(1/10/21) Kurt Bryant, 18, of Farwell was arrested by the Bovina Police Department on a charge of Possession CS PG 2 < 1g, pending Grand Jury.

(1/10/21) Omar Aguilar, 39, of Bovina was arrested by the Friona Police Department on a charge of DWI, pending County Court.



Susie Spring, County Clerk

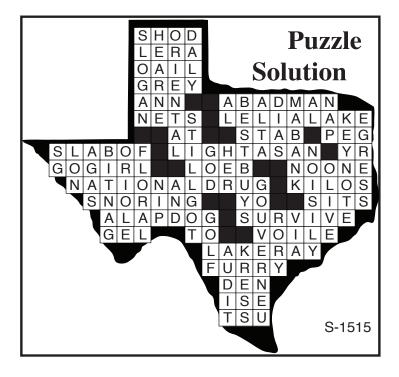
## Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from December 31, 2020 to January 7, 2021

(12/31/21) Clint Cole — Jared Flores, Maddie Flores — The NW 3 Ac of land out of the NW/4 of Sec No 27 Township 9 S R 1 E Parmer County

(1/5/21) Vicente Molina Guerrero, Maria L. Guerrero — Carlos Jesus Ruiz Jacob, Perla J. Ruiz — N15' of L1Blk101 Original Town of Friona in Parmer County

(1/6/21) Jose Lule, Rosabla Lule — Alberto Mendoza, Blanca E. Mendoza — A 3.6 Ac tract of land out of the NE/4 of Sec 22 Blk H Thomas Kelly Subdiv in Parmer County

(1/6/21) Kenneth Dwight O'Brian — John Matthew O'Brian, Gayle O'Brian, Megan O'Brian — All of the N/2 of Sec 16 Township 5 1/2 S R 5 E Capitol Syndicate Subdiv in Parmer County



Jan. 17

Kitty Gallman



## LAZBUDDIE ISD 3rd 6 Weeks Honor Roll 2020/2021

## Elementary "A" Honor Roll

Kutter Bradshaw, Attaleigh Conner, Layne Davis, Ryan Dyck, Anndrea Fehr, Kassi Fulcher, Yarely Hernandez, Nikki Hill, Angel Loya, Creed Russell, Alejandra Silva, Bryton Bilyeu,Grecia Reyes, Paislee Ruthardt, Ayden Solano, Tyler Logan, Kaylee Chancey, Davyn Glover, Lejynd Smyer, Elizabeth Burch, Rhett Weaver, Paisley Branscum, Naomi Cleavinger, Cole Dyck,Reagan Kirby, Hagen Logan, Yaslin Silva, Dylan Tyler

## Elementary "AB" Honor Roll

Brantley Chancey, Heinrich Thiessen, Gonzalo Silva, Abigail Fehr, Alexia Hernandez, Kylee Beggs, Lorraine Bishop, Sophie Chambers, Berkley Cleavinger, Audrey Damron, Chance Dyck, Joe Hooley, Adan Ontiveros, Carlee Roush, Nash St. Clair, Nusly Ayala, Joseph Carrillo, Heidi Garcia, Sebastian Ibarra, Lily Smith, Marius Van Dyk

## Junior High "A" Honor Roll

Brynlie Cleavinger, Kobi Kirby, Jacey McDonald, Madison Tyler

## Junior High "AB" Honor Roll

Leelynn Davis, Noelith Fernandez, Judy Froese, Claire Lostroh, Deveny Pacheco, Brock St.Clair, Bruno Ibarra, Wylee Chambers, Johanna Garcia, Jacquenline Nunez, Nelinora Thiessen, Blaykin Branscum, Ed Carillo, Carson Davis, Dwight Dyck, Emmaly Ibarra, Tanner Lostroh, James Olson

## High School "A" Honor Roll

Eva Froese Dyck, Iliana Lopez, Julia Ibarra, Catalina Sanchez, Halley Wales, Maribel Gomez, John Henry Schacher, Jr Vallejo

## High School "AB" Honor Roll

Luke Kerr, Kaylee Lee, Ryelan Mason, Fabiola Nunez, Noemi Garcia, Erin Martinez, Daniella Sanchez, TJ Chavez, Macy Davis, Isabella Salazar, Jamie Carrillo, Gatlin Copley, Priscila Gonzalez **Council approves contract for new library bookshop** 

The Friona City Council

met in regular session on

Monday, January 11, 2021 at

6:30 p.m. in the City Coun-

cil Chambers at 619 Main in

Friona, Texas. The meeting

began with a roll call, an in-

vocation, and the Pledge of

There were no public

comments. Minutes of the

December 14, 2020 were

reviewed and approved.

Approval was given for the

disposal of records in accor-

dance with the management

The Council approved a

contract with Trejo's Roof-

ing & Construction for the

construction of the new li-

brary bookshop. The project

has a set maximum price tag

of \$108,000 that cannot be

Reports were presented

by the Friona Police Depart-

ment and the Friona EMS

budget, expenses, person-

nel, and upcoming events.

EMS Director Nik Baucom

told the Council that the

team has been very busy the

past couple of weeks since

the Bovina EMS has been in

quarantine due to the CO-

VID-19 pandemic. He also

informed the Council that

Friona EMS could be a vac-

cine access point in the fu-

concerning

rules and regulations.

Allegiance.

exceeded.

Department

ture, if needed.

The Council approved the Accounts Payable for December 2020 and the Financial Statement for December 2020. Approval was also given for the 1st Quarter (Oct-Dec) Financial Statement.

The Council discussed procedures and deadlines for the upcoming 2021 City of Friona Election. Anyone who is interested can pick up an application at the city office beginning Wednesday, January 13th and register to become a candidate. The deadline to file for a place on the ballot is Friday, February 12th. The council positions of Bruce Fleming, Alan Monroe, and Jeff Stowers are up for election this year.

The Council also discussed upcoming amendments to a garage sale ordinance and a truck ordinance. The meeting was adjourned.

All meetings are open to the public. The City Council reserves the right to go into Executive session at any time. Visit cityoffriona.com to find agendas and minutes from previous meetings. Information in this article is only a summary. Any questions concerning specific actions should be directed to the City Council.

## **Happy Birthday Friona Folks!**

**Jan.** 14

Colby Ingram Dave Hutson Larry Gonzales Lois Eitel Layne Clark Marcia (Blackwell) Brown Kari Tongate Mark Stovall Pamela Pauling Brian Mullins

Jan. 15

Aaron Hand Abigail Jones Pam Husted D'Ana Harper Christi Eitel B.J. Potts Terry Massey

## Jan. 16

Andy Kendrick Roger Peace Christie (Wiseman) Spring Breann (Barnett) Pool Andrew Kendrick Peyton McFarland Chris (Rodriguez) Schaaf Darran Procter Spencer LeRoy

Katherine Beauchamp Angelica Vazquez Amanda Henke Abigail Diaz **Jan. 18** 

Dr. Bret Whitten Hayden McGowan Clarissa Hernandez Retha DeLeon Debra Brownlee

## Jan. 19

Gene Schueler Iona Renner Cotton Fleming Heather (Sandoval) Chico Kristi Neill Sheila (Wiseman) Giddens Ericka Godoy

## Jan. 20

Arianna (Pena) Newman Fabian Flores Peggy Alexander Devan Huddleston Dave Van Valkenberg Dr. Shane Hand Zach Pack

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

E-STAR SUBSCRIPTIONS \$24.00 PER YEAR Call 806-250-2211 for more information



# Ruben Alfaro Sr.

(May 05, 1969 - December 31, 2020)

Ruben Alfaro Sr., 51, of Clovis NM passed away on Thursday December 31, 2020 at UMC in Lubbock TX. A visitation was held on Friday, January 8, 2021 from 1:00PM to 5:00PM. A funeral service was at 11:00 am on Saturday, January 9, 2021 at The Chapel, 1500 N. Thornton. A private burial was held in Friona, TX. Ruben was born on May 5, 1969 in Sinaloa, Mexico to Ponciano Alfaro and Maria Ellena (Rodriguez) Alfaro. They moved to Friona and he graduated from high school in 1988. He married Angie (Ortegon) Alfaro on February 14, 1999 in Clovis. Ruben worked for the city of Clovis as the assistant Superintendent for waste water department for the past 18 years.



Genesis, Cali Rey, Wyatt, James, Julian, Sophia, and Ella. He also leaves behind his father; Ponciano, sisters;

Hal Ratcliff, 78 of Canyon, formerly of Friona passed away January 6, 2021 in Amarillo. Viewing was held from

Obituaries



Hal Ratcliff

December 18, 1942 - January 6, 2021

Marie Norman and husband Darby of Canyon, 1 brother-Jim Ratcliff and wife Marion of Georgetown, 2 sisters-in-

Ruben is survived by his wife; Angie Alfaro and two



children they raised together; Ruben Alfaro Jr. and Julissa of Clovis, his daughters; Brooke (David) Salinas of Canyon, TX, Denise (Alex) Perales of Amarillo, TX, his step-children; Damin James of Clovis, Nieves (Justin) Davis of Portales, and Britney (Austin) Huggins of Florida, twenty cherished grandchildren; Diego, Ashton, Azalee, Audra, Caleb, Taylor, Brayden, Gracie (Robert) Chavez and Doraly (Rey) Lawas, and many beloved nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Ruben was a man known for his tremendous work ethic and contagious smile. He was a family man and loved playing with his grandchildren. He was always ready and willing to lend a helping hand, and never met a stranger. He enjoyed watching the 49ers, grilling, traveling, boating, and aspired to retire and spend time with his wife, children, and grandchildren. He will be greatly missed and left an impact on many lives.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Muffley Funeral Home, (575)762-4435, www. muffleyfuneralhome.com 9:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Friday, January 8, 2021 in the Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel of HANSARD FAMILY with Celebration of Life Services set for 2:00 P.M. Saturday, January 9, 2021 at the Friona United Methodist Church in Friona with Rev. Archie Echols of Lubbock and Rev. Rick Enns of Canyon, officiating. Burial following in the Friona Cemetery by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona.

Hal was born December 18, 1942 in Rotan, Texas to Arthur Glenn and Koma Hyatt Ratcliff. He later married Charlotte Ann Bock August 25, 1961 in Dimmitt.

Hal was a coach at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, taught and coached in Lubbock and was a school administrator at Levelland, Hartley, and Friona. Outside of his life as an educator, Hal loved to travel with his family including following children and grandchildren sporting events. He served on several state education, community, and church boards as well as teaching Sunday School.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

Those to carry on his legacy include his wife Charlotte of Canyon, 2 daughters-Sheri Beth Gervais and husband John of Bellville, and Ronda law- Janiece Baxter of Arvada, CO., and Judy Green of Amarillo, grandchildren-Sarah Ross and husband Andrew, Amy Beth Poole and husband Zachary, Joshua Garrett Gervais, Faith Norman and Drew Norman, great-grandchildren-Willow Mae Poole and Adeline Grace Poole.

In lieu of flowers you may send memorials to the Hal Ratcliff Memorial Scholarship Fund Friona Interbank 1105 N. Cleveland Friona, Texas 79035 or call 806-250-5000.

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



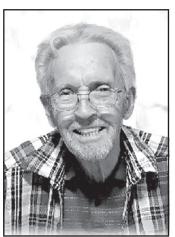
## **Dean McCallum**

November 25, 1929 - January 12, 2021

Dean McCallum, 91 of Bovina passed away January 12, 2021 in Bovina. Viewing will be held from 9:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Thursday, January 14, 2021 in the Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel of HAN-SARD FAMILY with Private Family Only Graveside Services scheduled for 2:00 P.M. Friday, January 15, 2021 at the Plainview Memorial Park in Plainview with Rev. Larry Mitchell, officiating. Burial following by HANSARD FAM-ILY Funeral Home of Friona.

Dean was born November 25, 1929 in Childress, Texas to Cletus Fariel and Ruth Hullum McCallum. He later married Arlene Turner October 9, 1953 in Clovis.

Dean is a former insurance and real estate agent, financial planner and farmer and rancher. He was very active in the Bovina community. He is



a past member of the Bovina Independent School District Board of Directors, Soil Conservation District, Bovina Lions Club, Bovina Jaycees. He was instrumental in building the Bovina baseball field, was a charter member of the Bovina Chamber of Commerce, and was awarded the Bovina Chamber Heritage Award in 2015. He is preceded in death by his parents, and 1 granddaughter Kelli Mitchell.

Those to carry on his legacy includes his wife Arlene of Bovina, 2 sons-Mike McCallum, and Larry Mitchell and wife Donna, all of Bovina, 1 daughter-Nancy Cruz and husband Cass of La Veta, Colorado, 5 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the Bovina United Benevolence Fund P.O. Box 127 Bovina, Texas 79009

You may send condolences to the family and sign the online greeting book at: www. hansardfamily.com





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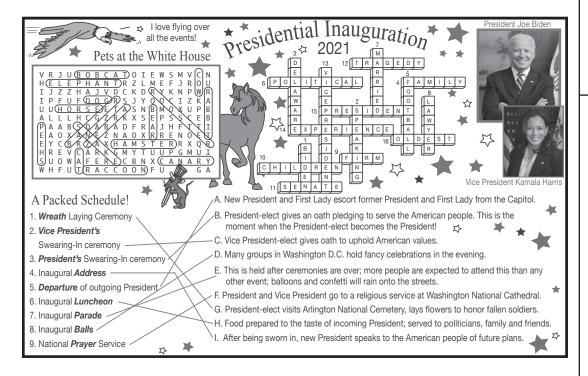
# **God's Authority**

## By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

When I attend a football game, I can call penalties all day long, but for some reason nobody pays attention. The coaches don't listen, the players don't stop and the scorekeeper just keeps the clock going as if my words are nonexistent. In reality, my words have been clear, but the problem is that my words carry no authority to determine what happens on the gridiron. On the other hand, if I had the proper referee credentials, a referee whistle, and an assignment to referee the game, my words and whistle would be the most important sounds on the field.

In a similar manner, many people spend their lives listening to advice and direction from those whose opinions lack the proper authority to last. Folks might be reading a best seller, or listening to the top rated professors, but if their opinions are not grounded on God's authority, then those ideas will fail you in the end. God's authority is the only authority that has always been, will always be and will sustain you every day! God's au-

thority is lasting because he is creator, author and owner of all! Psalm 24:1-2 says, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers." God's authority means that he is over all things, people, time, and that we will one day be held accountable to him. In fact, the reality that we will be held accountable to him, should dominate all we think, do and say, and especially how we respond to Jesus Christ.



## **PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF FRIONA** TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

The City of Friona will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 20th, 2021 at 5:05 pm at Friona City Hall located at 623 S. Main St., Friona, TX 79035 regarding the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Texas Community Development Block Grant - Downtown Revitalization Program.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the citizen participation plan, the development of local housing and community development needs, the amount of TxCDBG funding available, all eligible TxCDBG activities, and the use of past TxCDBG funds. The City encourages citizens to participate in the development of this TxCDBG application and to make their views known at this public hearing. Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Leander Davila, City Manager, at 623 S. Main St., Friona, TX 79035. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact the City to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact the City at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Para más información en español, comuníquese con Leander Davila al (806) 250-2761.

## **Panhandle Parables Hot Knees and Cold Feet**

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

Growing up in Friona has been more than just material for my little articles. It was the world I knew and although small it was everything and I have been blessed and am thankful.

Winters growing up were never that much fun. It was usually a lot of cold and not much snow, yet even then we found ways to entertain ourselves out in Pop and Gram's barn. We dressed as warm as we could but at some point your feet began to get cold and that was when we turned to the coolest invention a boy could imagine. Pop and a little "rocket" that he used to heat a portion of the barn. I know it was a kerosene heater, but back then we thought at any

minute it would launch right out the barn. If you back up to it, but not too close you could feel the heat. If you stood there long enough the back of your knees were so hot you could hardly walk, but it did leave your feet cold. The saga of hot knees and cold feet went on each winter we played in the barn while Pop tinkered around fixing this or that.

Life has a lot of hot and cold moments and like the back of our legs they happen at the same time. I believe the key to much of life is finding some balance. Don't get so heated that you can't walk away from something that needs to cool off and don't get so cold about certain life's ups and downs that you quite caring. We learned in that old barn some balance, if you didn't get too close, the heat spread over your body and allowed you to play and be warm. Sometimes you just need to take a step back see what God is doing and at times not be so laser focused that you miss the bigger works around you. Jesus is an excellent example of balancing things like work and rest or prayer and action. My prayer for me and for you this year is balance. Share compassion, yet stand upon His Truth. Show mercy without surrendering your faith. Live and love that your life be less about extremes and more about His calling.

## **DPS recognizes AMBER Alert Anniversary**

and several other countries

now have an AMBER Alert

Established in 2002, the

Texas AMBER Alert program

is managed by DPS. The

alerts provide law enforce-

ment a mechanism for rapid

notification to broadcast me-

dia and the public in these

serious child abduction cas-

es when they meet certain

statutory criteria. Addition-

ally, there are 18 regional

AMBER Alert programs

around the state, supported

by various law enforcement,

emergency management

Since the state program

was created, 251 alerts have

been issued and 263 chil-

dren have been located.

Some of the alerts issued

were for multiple children.

Activation of the Texas AM-

BER Alert Network involves

resources from the following

• Texas Department of

National Weather Service

• Texas Department of

• Local, state and federal

• Office of the Governor

and non-profit agencies.

program.

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) joined the country in observing national AMBER Alert Awareness Day on Wednesday, Jan. 13, marking 25 years since 9-year-old Amber Hagerman of Arlington, Texas, was abducted. Hagerman was found dead four days later. Her case, which remains unsolved, led to the creation of the AMBER Alert system, which stands for "America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response."

"The state's AMBER Alert program is a proven tool in helping save abducted children throughout Texas by engaging the public and other stakeholders," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "The vigilance and efforts of law enforcement, our partner agencies and the people of Texas are vital in protecting our most vulnerable population - our children."

In response to Amber Hagerman's death, law enforcement and broadcast media representatives in the Dallas-Fort Worth area created the first AMBER Alert program, which served as a

Broadcasters

• Independent Bankers Association of Texas

• Texas Lottery Commission

• The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

• Numerous other stakeholders

Parents concerned about a missing child should:

• Immediately contact their local law enforcement agency.

• Be prepared to give law enforcement a recent photo of your child, provide a detailed description of what the child was wearing, any details that could identify the child or abductor - including vehicle and license plate information.

DPS offers an email notification system that distributes AMBER Alert information to members of law enforcement, media and the public. To become a subscriber, register online with a valid email address and zip code at Subscribe to Receive Texas Alerts.

Follow @TX\_Alerts to receive AMBER Alert infor-

nationwide model for alerting the public about abducted children. All 50 U.S. states

law enforcement

Transportation

groups:

Public Safety

- Broadcast Media
- Texas Association of

mation statewide (as well as other alerts managed by the department).

# "We Live by Faith, Not by Sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

**Area Church Directory** 

## Friona

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 15th & Cleveland • 806-250-3000 CHILDREN'S CHURCH • 3 yrs-6<sup>th</sup> grade www.calvaryfriona.org

> FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 6th & Summitt • 806-250-3933 Pastor Brett Hoyle Email-firstbc@wtrt.net Website-www.fbcfriona.com

## FRIONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 8th & Pierce • 806-250-3045 Rev. Skip Hodges Email-frionoaum@wtrt.net Website-www.frionaumc.com

**GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH** North end of Congregational Church 1601 Euclid

**IGLESIA EVANGELICA** NUEVA JERUSALEN 701 E. 11th • P.O. Box 655 • 806-346-9725 Pastor Benito Mejia benitomejia@live.com

> **QUALITY OF LIFE BIBLE STUDY CHURCH** 301 Grand Ave. • 806-240-0826 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 401 West 17th St. • 806-250-2871 Pastor Gregory Bunyan

TEMPLO BAUTISTA DAMASCO 403 Woodland • 806-250-3472 Pastor William Tapias

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

TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 10<sup>th</sup> & Euclid • 806-250-5236 Gerall Wyly

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 1601 Euclid • 806-250-3635

VICTORY FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER 9th & Washington • 806-250-2207 Pastor Robert Kerby Website-www.thevictory.tv

FRIONA PARA CRISTO LLAMADOS A CONOCERLE 1007 w. 11th • 806-247-2217 Pastor Aurelio & Cynthia Silva FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 308 3rd Street 806-251-1632

Bovina

Pastor Brian Mullins

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

FIRST UNITED **METHODIST CHURCH** 205 4<sup>th</sup> Street 806-251-1124 Pastor Larry Mitchell



ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 401 3rd Street 806-251-1511 Pastor Gregory Bunyan

LA IGLESIA DE DIOS **DEL PRIMOGENITO** The Church of God of the Firstborn 102 2nd Street

IGLESIA BAUTISTA **HISPANA** 103 1st Street 806-251-5232 Pastor Rafael Marin

## THIS DIRECTORY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THESE BUSINESSES WHO ENCOURAGE ALL OF US TO ATTEND WORSHIP SERVICES.

1380 Hwy. 214 • 265-3425	WT Services Inc. 1010 Columbia at Hwy 60, Friona Hours: 8:00 am-5:00 pm Monday-Friday 250-5555	PACO FEED YARD, LLC	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	
FRIONA <b>B</b> InterBank Phone 250-5000 "Where People	Phone 806-364-3331 Hereford, Texas 79045	P.O. Box 956 Friona, Texas 79035 (806) 265-3433 (806) 265-3281	250-3913 1205 Hwy. 60 West Friona Texas	806.250.5200
Come First" 1105 N. Cleveland www.interbank.com	Friona <b>★</b> Star	Friona Heritage Estates Assisted Living 806-250-5599 201 E. 15th Friona Texas	<b>Prairie Acres</b> Quality Care 806-250-3922 201 E. 15th Friona Texas	<b>FEEDS</b> E. Hwy. 60 • Friona TX • 806-250-2791

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Bovina and the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Friona for the sealcoating of approximately 59,600 square yards of streets entitled:

#### SEALCOAT - 2021

will be received at the office of the City Manager of Friona at City Hall, 623 Main Street, Friona, Texas 79035 until:

## 2:00 P.M.

## January 28, 2021

A cashier's check, certified check or acceptable bidder's bond, payable to the Owners in an amount equal to not less than five percent of the bid submitted, must accompany each bid as guarantee that, if awarded the contract, the Bidder will, within fifteen days after receipt of Contract Documents, enter into a contract with the Owners and will execute bonds on the forms provided in the Contract Documents. Any bid received after the time and date listed above will be returned unopened and will not be considered.

Bidders are expected to inspect the site of the work and inform themselves regarding all local conditions.

Contract Documents are on file and may be examined in the office of the City Manager, City of Bovina, 205 North Street, Bovina, Texas 79009, phone (806) 251-1116, and the office of the City Manager, City of Friona, 623 Main Street, Friona, Texas 79035, phone (806) 250-2761, and the office of Brandt Engineers, Consulting Engineers, 4537 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas 79110, telephone (806) 353-7233

Plans and Specifications may be obtained from the Engineers, Brandt Engineers, 4537 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas 79110, phone (806) 353-7233 in the following manner:

Cost: Seventy five dollars (\$75.00), non-refundable, for each set of paper plans and specifications or fifty dollars (\$50.00), non-refundable, for each set of digital plans and specifications on CD.

Performance and Payment bonds shall be set forth in the Contract documents.

The Owners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in the bidding. In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness, the Owners reserve the right to adopt such interpretations as may be most advantageous or to reject the bid as informal. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of 60 days from the bid opening date.

CITY OF BOVINA CITY OF FRIONA

# Subscribe to the Friona Star Today! 806-250-2211 • frionastar@wtrt.net

The City Council of the City of Friona, Texas (the "City") is soliciting sealed bid proposals for the lease of S/2 of Section 29, Township 1 North, Range 4 East owned by the City (the "Property") described in further detail in Exhibit A:

Bid Specifications

- 1. Initial term of the contract will be dependent on when the current lessee departs the contract to December 31, 2022. As such, the lease payment amount will be prorated accordingly.
- 2. Lease payment is due 30 calendar days after the current lessee departs the contract.
- 3. After the initial term, the lease shall continue in effect for two years (January 1- December 31) thereafter until written notice of termination is given by either party at least three (3) months before the then-existing lease term expires.

The City is seeking a combination of the best lease price for the Property as well as the best long-term benefit to the City and the citizens of Friona.

Bid opening will take place at City Hall at 1:00 p.m. on February 3, 2021.

The City Council of the City of Friona, Texas (the "City") is soliciting sealed bid proposals for the lease of TRACT ONE: 139.57 acre tract and TRACT TWO: 144.16 acre tract owned by the City (the "Property") described in further detail in Exhibit A:

## **Bid Specifications**

- 1. Initial term of the contract will be dependent on when the current lessee departs the contract to December 31, 2022. As such, the lease payment amount will be prorated accordingly.
- 2. Lease payment is due 30 calendar days after the current lessee departs the contract.
- 3. After the initial term, the lease shall continue in effect for two years (January 1- December 31) thereafter until written notice of termination is given by either party at least three (3) months before the then-existing lease term expires.

The City is seeking a combination of the best lease price for the Property as well as the best long-term benefit to the City and the citizens of Friona.

Bid opening will take place at City Hall at 1:00 p.m. on February 3, 2021.

Bid will be awarded at the City Council Meeting on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at 619 Main in Friona.

Bidders are expected to inspect the property and to inform themselves of all local conditions. Additional information such as a "Question & Answer" document and a copy of the USDA Cash Rent County Estimates document may be obtained at Friona City Hall, 623 Main St., Friona, Texas 79035 or by calling Public Works Director Salvador Garcia at 806-250-2761 or cell 806-346-2673.

Bids (with name of bidder, address, phone number and the dollar amount bid per acre) shall be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to, "City of Friona, Tract One and Two Real Property" in the lower left-hand corner, and must be received before the above-stated time. Failure to comply with any bid requirement can result in the bid being considered void by the City, additionally the City has the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality in bids received, and to accept the bid that best serves the interest of Friona, Texas.

Bids may be withdrawn at any time prior to the official opening. Alterations made prior to the opening time must be initialed by the Bidder to guarantee authenticity. After the official opening, bids may not be amended, altered or withdrawn without the approval of the Friona City Council.

## CITY OF FRIONA, TEXAS

By: Leander Davila City Manager

## EXHIBIT A

## TRACT ONE:

A 139.57 acre tract out of a part of a tract known as the North 160 acres of the East 269.6 acres lying South of the railroad in Section 5, Township 4 South, Range 4 East of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision in Parmer County, Texas as shown by the plat thereof of record in Volume 3, Page 558, Deed Records of Parmer County, Texas, said 139.57 acre tract being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

Commencing at a 1/2" iron pipe found for the Northwest comer of Section 4, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, whence the original 1-1/2" iron pipe found for the Southeast comer of said Section bears South 5248.15 feet;

Thence South (Base bearing), along the East line of said Section 5, a distance of 392.22 feet to a 1/2" iron rod with cap marked "RPLS 1848"found for the POINT OF BEGINNING of this tract; THENCE South along the East line of said Section 5, a distance of 2721.39 feet to a 1/2" iron rod

found for the Northeast corner of a tract known as the South 109.6 acres of the East 269.9 acres lying South of the railroad in said Section 5;

THENCE South 88 degrees 58 minutes 54 seconds West, a distance of 2232.30 feet to a 3/8' iron rod with cap marked "HBD" set for comer in the East line of a tract known as the West 320 acres lying South of the railroad in said Section 5;

THENCE North 00 degrees 02 minutes 31 seconds West, along the East line of the tract known as 320 acres, a distance of 2723.98 feet to a point in a 4" steel fence post found for the Southwest corner of a tract known a 7 acres;

THENCE North 89 degrees 03 minutes 02 seconds East, along the South line of the tract known as 7 acres, a distance of 850.00 feet to a 3/8" iron rod with cap marked "HBD" set for the Southeast comer of the tract known as 7 acres, same being the Southwest corner of a tract known as 12.435 acres;

THENCE North 89 degrees 02 minutes 52 seconds East, along the South line of the tract known as 12.435 acres, a distance of 1384.25 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING of this tract;

Bid will be awarded at the City Council Meeting on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at 619 Main in Friona.

Bidders are expected to inspect the property and to inform themselves of all local conditions. Additional information such as a "Question & Answer" document and a copy of the USDA Cash Rent County Estimates document may be obtained at Friona City Hall, 623 Main St., Friona, Texas 79035 or by calling Public Works Director Salvador Garcia at 806-250-2761 or cell 806-346-2673.

Bids (with name of bidder, address, phone number and the dollar amount bid per acre) shall be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to, "City of Friona, Section 29 Lease Property" in the lower left-hand corner, and must be received before the above-stated time. Failure to comply with any bid requirement can result in the bid being considered void by the City, additionally the City has the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality in bids received, and to accept the bid that best serves the interest of Friona, Texas.

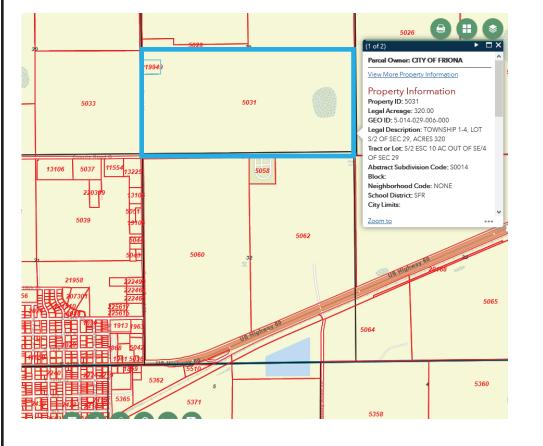
Bids may be withdrawn at any time prior to the official opening. Alterations made prior to the opening time must be initialed by the Bidder to guarantee authenticity. After the official opening, bids may not be amended, altered or withdrawn without the approval of the Friona City Council.

CITY OF FRIONA, TEXAS

## By: Leander Davila City Manager

#### EXHIBIT A

S/2 of Section 29, Township 1 North, Range 4 East owned by the City (the "Property") and bounds as follows in the illustration below:



Said tract contains a computed area of 139.57 acres of land.

#### TRACT TWO:

A 144.16 acre tract out of a part of a tract known as the West 1/2 of the North 318.2 acres of Section 4, Township 4 South, Range 4 East of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision in Parmer County, Texas as shown by the plat thereof of record in Volume 3, Page 558, Deed Records of Parmer County, Texas, said 144.16 acre tract being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

BEGINNING at a 1/2" iron pipe found for the Northwest corner of Section 4, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, whence the original 1-1/2" found for the Northeast corner of said Section bears North 88 degrees 58 minutes 53 seconds East, 5288.38 feet and the original 1-1/2" iron pipe found for the Southwest corner of said Section bears South 5248.15 feet;

THENCE North 88 degrees 58 minutes 53 seconds East, along the North line of said Section, 28.70 feet to a 3/8 " iron rod with cap marked "HBD" found for the Northwest corner of a tract known as 15 acres;

THENCE South 00 degrees 01 minute 07seconds East, a distance of 994.44 feet to a 3/8" iron rod with cap marked "HBD" set for the Southwest corner of the tract known as 15 acres;

THENCE North 88 degrees 58 minutes 53 seconds East, a distance of 657.06 feet to a 1/2" iron rod with cap marked "RPLS 1848" found for the Southeast corner of the tract known as 15 acres;

THENCE North 00 degrees 01 minute 07 seconds West, a distance of 994.44 feet to a 3/8" iron rod with cap marked "HBD " set in the North line of Section 4 for the Northeast corner of the tract known as 15 acres;

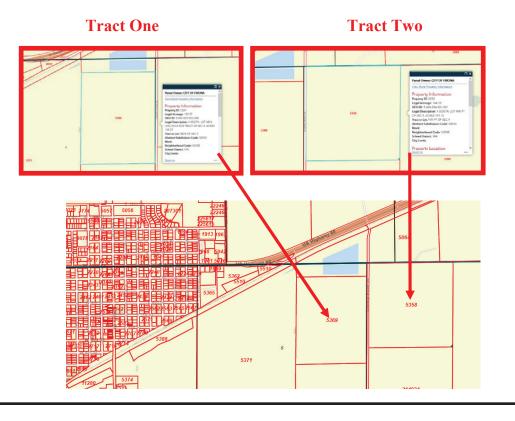
THENCE North 88 degrees 58 minutes 53 seconds East, along the North line of Section 4, a distance of 1958.43 feet to point in a 4" steel fence post for the Northwest corner of a tract known as the East 159.1 acres of the North 318.2 acres of said Section 4;

THENCE South 00 degrees 02 minutes 10 seconds West, a distance of 2623.06 feet to a 3/8" iron rod with cap marked "HBD" set for the Southwest corner of the tract known as the East 159.1 acres of the North 318.2 acres of said Section 4;

THENCE South 88 degrees 58 minutes 36 seconds West, a distance of 2642.54 feet to a 1/2" iron rod found in the West line of said Section 4 for the Northwest corner of a tract known as the West 159.1 acres of the South 318.4 acres of said Section 4;

THENCE North (Base bearing) along the West line of said Section 4, a distance of 2623.25 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING of this tract;

Said tract contains a computed area of 144.16 acres of land.





## HELP WANTED

## **NOW HIRING**

**Friona ISD is looking for a full time custodian.** Hours are 7 am -6 pm with a 2 hour lunch and a 30 minute break in the morning and afternoon. Interested applicants may call Friona ISD 806-250-2747 or Martha Moreno 806-346-2091.

**Friona ISD está buscando una persona que ayude a limpiar la escuela a tiempo completo.** El horario es de 7 am a 6 pm con un almuerzo de 2 horas y un descanso de 30 minutos por la mañana y por la tarde. Las personas interesadas pueden llamar a Friona ISD 806-250-2747 o Martha Moreno 806-346-2091.

Parmer County Sheriff's Office is taking applications for an Emergency 911 Dispatcher. You may call (806) 481-3303 or send email to sheriff@parmercounty.net for more information or to obtain an application.

## BUSINESS





The City of Friona will accept applications for the Public Works Department:

## UTILITY MAINTENANCE WORKER I (1 position) Full-Time, 40 hours a week Salary: starting at \$10/hr.

Candidates will perform construction, repair, and maintenance work on water/sewer lines; operate light equipment and perform extensive manual labor. Candidates may have other duties assigned to them by the Public Works Director. The applicant chosen for this position shall be required to submit to a pre-employment drug test at the cost to the individual.

Job descriptions and application forms may be picked up at the Friona City Hall, 623 Main Street, Friona. If you would like an application emailed to you, please email cityinfo@frionatx.us. Applications will be accepted until job is filled.

# **HELP WANTED**

House keeping needed. Must be able to work weekends.

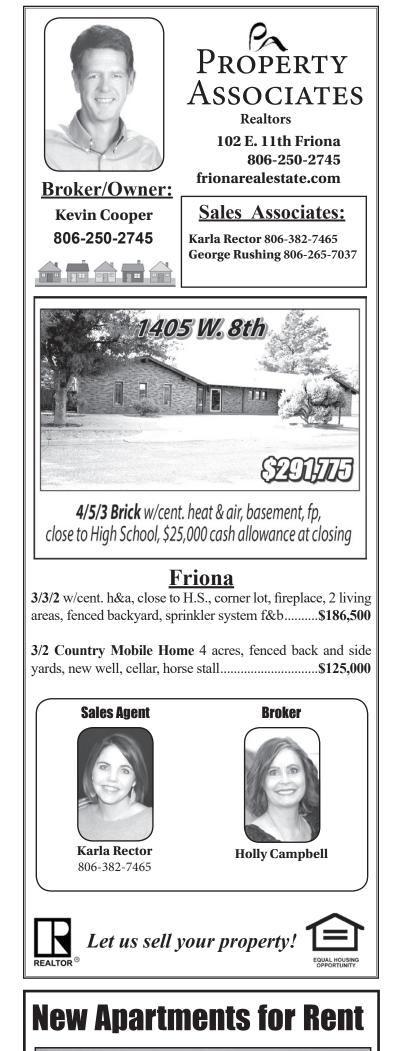
**Contact Friona Inn at** (806) 250-2784

The City of Friona will accept applications for the Library Department at the Friona Public Library:

CIRCULATION CLERK Full-Time, 40 hours a week Salary: starting at \$8/hour To begin work on January 25, 2021

Candidates will be responsible for performing clerical work in support of the Library's circulation function, provide general information to the public, and perform other duties as may be required. Candidates may have other duties assigned to them by the Library Director/Assistant Director.

Job descriptions and application forms may be picked up at The Friona Public Library, 109 W 7th or at the Friona City Hall, 623 Main Street, Friona. If you would like an application emailed to you, please email <u>library@frionatx</u>.us. Applications will be accepted until **January 18**, **2021**.





## CHARITY



A 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of cruelty to animals, the relief of suffering among animals, and the extension of humane education.

Volunteer opportunity. You have skills? Parmer Paws needs you. Bring your talents, whatever they may be, and join us. 806-240-2211 or ParmerPaws @yahoo.com

# You CAN do it!

Don't throw away your empty aluminum cans. Please place any cans you have in the trailer located on the north side of the Friona Fire Department building on Main Street. Proceeds from the sale of the cans will go to the FHS Senior Class and help fund the graduation party.

# <text><text><image>



608 Ashland 1 bedroom & 1 bath + garage 2 bedroom & 2 bath + garage Application and Background Check will be required. Text 806-680-2676 for a link to the application. Ready to Move in



## NOTICE

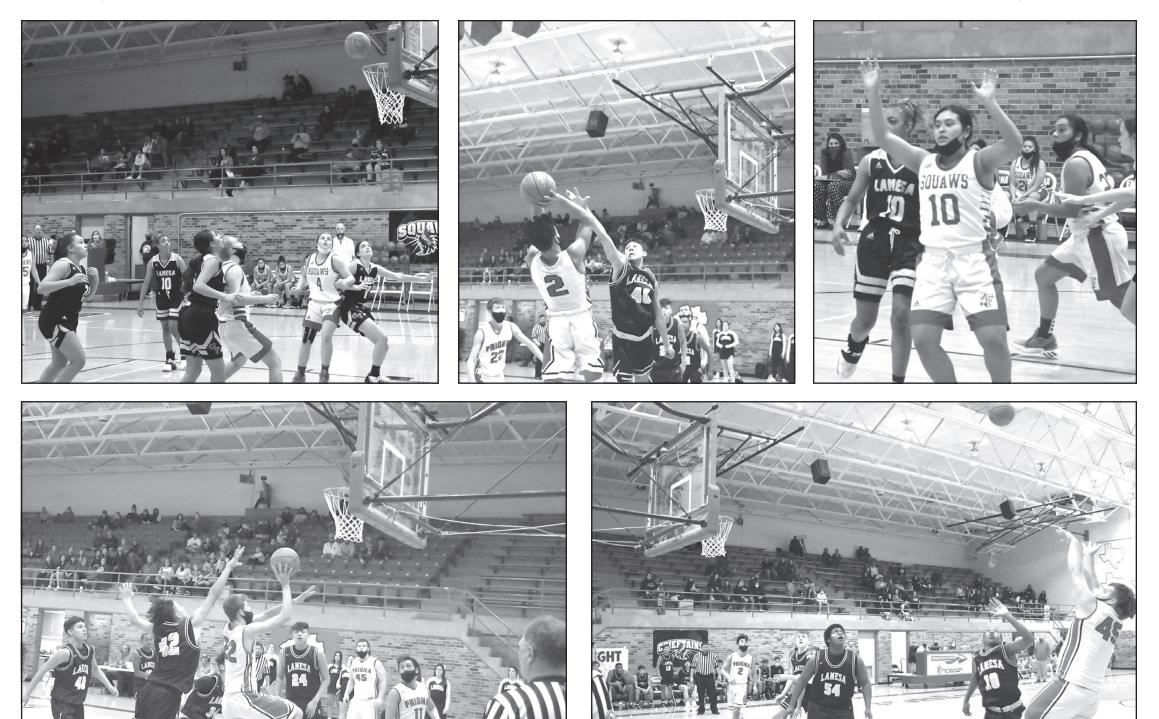
This is to give notice of intent to introduce in the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, a bill relating to the Sunset Commission's recommendations for the Brazos River Authority.

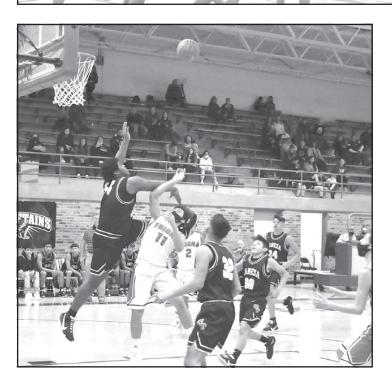
## **HOMES FOR SALE**

**2171 FM 214-FRIONA, TEXAS-South of Friona** - 3/3/2 brick home, 1.285+/- acres, Easy access to Friona-Clovis-Hereford. 2 living areas, fireplace, large office/utility/ storage, two wells, septic system, storage/workshop.

**Please view our website** for details on these properties, choice NM ranches (large & small), irr./dryland/CRP & commercial properties. We need your listings on any types of ag properties in TX., NM, OK & CO.

www.scottlandcompany.com Ben G. Scott - Broker Krystal M. Nelson – NM QB 800-933-9698 5:00 a.m./10:00 p.m.









Friona Squaws Friona Chie	tains District 3-A	District 3-AAA Boys Basketball			District 3-AAA Girls Bask		
<ul> <li>Kamree Kimbrough</li> <li>AJ London</li> <li>Brianna Rivera</li> <li>Sharlene Maldono</li> <li>Sharlene Maldono</li> <li>Bryan Chavira</li> <li>Jared Rejino</li> <li>Jose Saucedo</li> <li>Bryan Chavira</li> <li>David Martinez</li> <li>Andrew Rivera</li> <li>Andrew Rivera</li> <li>Kaden Jeter</li> <li>Luis Reveles</li> <li>Kaden Jeter</li> <li>Luis Reveles</li> <li>Kaden Jeter</li> <li>Ivory Shelby</li> <li>Hiromy Quiroz</li> <li>Emily Amaya</li> </ul>	<b>Team</b> Dimmitt Brownfield Littlefield Denver City Lamesa Muleshoe Friona	<b>District</b> 3-0 3-1 3-1 2-2 1-2 1-2 0-5	Overall 6-7 9-6 7-5 6-7 8-5 4-5 1-8	<b>Team</b> Brownfield Littlefield Muleshoe Denver City Lamesa Dimmitt Friona	<b>District</b> 5-0 5-1 3-3 3-3 2-3 1-4 0-6		

# **H&R Block Honors Friona Franchisee as Top Performer**

Marla Hart was among 25 Franchisees recognized nationwide for client and community service, as well as business performance

Marla Hart, who operates H&R Block franchise offices in Friona, Dimmitt and Muleshoe has been selected as an H&R Block Elite

25 Franchisee. The Elite 25 award recognizes individual franchisees who bring our purpose to life – to provide help and inspire confidence in our clients and communities everywhere. Our 2020 recipients were chosen for embodying the Block Experience through their outstanding business performance and actions to make every block better.

"In communities across the country, our franchisees provide year-round care and

expert financial guidance. Our top franchisees program celebrates their bold, client-centric actions, and recognizes franchisees who rose to the challenge and provided incredible expertise and care in the middle of a pandemic," said Bob Moretti, vice president of franchise for H&R Block. "Honorees blend digital

> convenience and efficiencies with human expertise and customer care to help millions of people with one of the most important financial moments of the year."

> The pandemic impacted nearly every aspect of lives, but H&R Block continued to help people get their often much-needed refunds in safe ways. As people face life situations that impact taxes, they can turn to H&R Block to help reduce the uncertainty and build financial

confidence by helping make sense of their current situation and the steps ahead.

To get tax questions answered or talk with Marla Hart, call 806-250-3638.

# **H&R BLOCK**°

# **Check Your Mirrors**



By Sue Jane Sullivan

As with most of you, I have thoughts about January 6 and the events at our nation's Capitol.

Of course, I want to write about "it." My gut is telling me not to

go there this time.

Yes, I did write last June about George Floyd's incident and its aftermath relating to race. Past columns have addressed elections, character, faith, family, and sports. All had the potential to cause some soul searching or even resentment.

Learning can be uncomfortable. There is much to digest from what happened last week, and I encourage you all to do just that on your own. While doing so, grace me with the state of mind that I try to provide you every week. When I write a column, it is essential to be accurate, whether I am writing about SEC football or my family's farm or a controversial topic. Sources with merit and substantial proof are vital to truth. How we interpret fact will never change because we are in-

dividuals whose perceptions are influenced by a variety of experiences. The key might be to re-examine how--and why--we determine what is true. That's a tough, tough gig.

I am not flaking out on the seriousness of what our country has experienced. However, it just might be a good time for the old teacher to assign some debate topics. Gather with your coffee shop buddies or engage at the supper table with your family and have at it. The only ground rules are that you cannot back out of paying for the coffee if it is your turn, and you must not throw food at your sibling sitting across from you. If any of these opinions lead to violence, the column's writer is not responsible for paying for bail or the therapy you obviously need.

The first two are for those of you with small children. It is never too early to set your child on the path to being an analytical thinker (not to be confused with being a smart ass).

--Daily bathing/showering should be optional until the age of 10.

--The best pet is a (1) cat, (2) dog, (3) horse, (4) guinea pig... create your own list.

--Raising Cane's Fried Chicken eating establishment stinks because it does not serve gravy.

--The Dallas Cowboys franchise is overrated.

--Ketchup is a necessity, not a condiment.

--All churches need a piano, for heaven's sake. (I can say this because I grew up C of C)

--Why bother grilling a rare steak?

--No store should offer more than two commode lid choices, white or sorta white

--Fruit cobblers made with a cake mix should be banned from church pot-luck dinners.

--Homecoming mums and garters should be abolished.

--A child should be called by his/her first name—no exceptions (unless it's Sue Jane) --Parallel parking is nothing but showing off and should be eliminated.



Marla Hart

# **HHSC Encourages Cancer Screenings**

In observance of January as National Cervical Health Awareness Month, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission is encouraging women to get screened for cervical cancer.

"It is so important to get screened regularly so that cervical cancer can be detected in its early stages when it's easier to treat," said Joe Perez, HHSC interim deputy executive commissioner for Health, Developmental and Independence Services. "HHSC is helping at-risk women receive these vital screenings through our Breast and Cervical Cancer Services program."

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Services (BCCS) program provides low-cost and free women's health services for uninsured and underinsured Texas women who meet eligibility requirements. Some of those services include cervical and cancer screenings, clinical breast examinations, mammograms and breast biopsies. BCCS helps fund clinics across the state to provide these life-saving screening and diagnostic services.

Between Sept. 2019 and Sept. 2020, BCCS helped more than 24,800 women including 9,466 women who received cervical cancer screenings and 1,043 women who received treatment for precancerous cervical conditions.

In 2017, which is the most recent year of available data, there were more than 12,000 new cases of cervical cancer for women in Texas. The disease is the third-most common cancer diagnosed among Texas women ages 20-39, and fifth among women ages 40-49.

To find BCCS providers or learn more about women's health services, visit www.healthytexaswomen.org or call 2-1-1.

About Breast and Cervical Cancer Services Funding: As an awardee of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP), BCCS is partly funded through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The federal program awards funding to states for early detection of cervical and breast cancers. Between June 2019 and June 2020, the federal program awarded BCCS more than \$6 million as part of the effort. The Texas Legislature appropriates more than \$2 million annually to supplement NBCCEDP efforts.

About National Cervical Health Awareness Month

National Cervical Health Awareness Month is observed in January in the United States. The month is intended to raise awareness about cervical cancer and provide education about prevention, screening and treatments. More information about cervical cancer is posted on the CDC website.

## **Comptroller to distribute \$783** million in monthly sales tax revenue to local governments

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$783.2 million in local sales tax allocations for January. This total is a 2.6% increase over the amount sent out in January 2020. These allocations are based on sales made in November by businesses that report tax monthly.

The City of Friona will receive \$41,074.82 for January which is 8.81% higher than the \$37,749.08 payment received last Ianuary.

The Friona Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) will receive \$10,268.71 (25%) of that amount for its operations. In its Oct '19-Sept '20 yearly financial statement, the FEDC reported an increase in sales tax revenue of \$29,960.94 (+29.67%) for the year versus Oct '18-Sept '19.

# **State Capital Highlights**



By Chris Cobler

New House speaker lays out challenges

The 87th session of the Texas Legislature opened Tuesday with COVID-19 encompassing every aspect of what the lawmakers do, according to new House Speaker Dade Phelan.

"COVID, obviously, it will be a blanket over the entire session," Phelan told his hometown TV station, KFDM Channel 6, in Beaumont. "We will deal with it in every aspect of policy. It will be a huge determining factor in the budget.

Before the pandemic hit, Phelan said, legislators "were supposed to come into this budget cycle with a surplus, and now we're coming into it with a deficit ..." Money will be even tighter for the next two-year budget lawmakers write during the session, he said.

"The No. 1 goal is to get the economy back on track," Phelan said

For opening day, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and State Rep. Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth and chair of the administration committee, laid out safety protocols for lawmakers and visitors to follow at the Capitol, which recently reopened after closing in March because of the pandemic. The opening ceremony was scheduled to be shorter than usual to reduce time spent gathering.

"It's always been difficult to be speaker. It's never been easy, but going into this session, the 87th, given the budget deficit, redistricting, and the fact that we have the first pandemic in 102 years in which to operate, I'm exceptionally proud they've given me this honor," Phelan said of the bipartisan coalition of lawmakers that voted for him to be the new speaker.

Phelan, a Republican, stressed the bipartisan spirit of Texas and cited how well former Gov. George W. Bush worked with Democratic Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock during their time serving together at the Capitol.

"That is the Texas model. We've always worked that way," Phelan said. "If you're sitting at the speaker's dais and you're looking at all the chairs in the House chamber, there is no left side or right side, red, blue, like there is in Washington, D.C. We all sit amongst each other."

Lawmakers are scheduled to be in session until May 31.

## Trying to speed up

Texas is going big with its approach to COVID-19 vaccinations this week.

Most of the doses available this week are going to 28 larger providers that can vaccinate at least 100,000 people, Texas Department of State Health Services officials said in a statement. Some doses also will be going to smaller providers in more rural parts of the state.

"We are working hard to improve the vaccination process for everyone," Dr. John Hellerstedt, state health commissioner, said in a statement explaining the pivot to the larger vaccination hubs.

Providers that receive the larger amounts of vaccine will vaccinate health care workers, people 65 and older, and those who have a medical condition that increases their risk of severe disease or death. They also agree to provide a registration phone number and website and to vaccinate people from surrounding areas.

The Texas Department of State Health Services surveyed vaccine providers about their capacity to operate large, community vaccination sites and on

## providers. The hubs will receive a total of 158,825 doses this week. An additional 38,300 doses will go to

Sunday published a list of vaccine hub

206 providers. Of Texas' 254 counties, 104 will receive vaccine shipments this week.

State health officials stressed that people need to register in advance for the shots and should not just show up at one of the hubs. Officials also urged patience as supplies remain limited.

## **Model behavior**

The small city of Dickinson set an example for how to handle a close election.

The race for mayor ended in a tie, but the two candidates didn't duke it out. Instead, candidates Sean Skipworth and Jennifer Lawrence followed state law, which calls for a random selection in the unlikely event of a tie.

Election officials in Dickinson, population 21,000 in Galveston County, put the candidates' names on ping-pong balls placed in a tophat. Even though her name wasn't drawn, Lawrence didn't demand a "Hunger Games"-style trial by fire.

Mayor-elect Skipworth described a decidedly different scene to KHOU-TV: "We get up there, one of us wins, one of us loses, and we give each other a hug or whatever, say, 'Good job' and wish you the best. Hopefully that's how it's going to be in the country in the future going forward."

Chris Cobler is a board member and past president of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas. He welcomes email at ccobler@texaspress.com.

By Jeri Lynn White

# Small Town Cookin'

## **National Soup Month**

Fittingly, January is National Soup Month. And even though our weather has been mild as of

soup is just what everyone needs in January. Some of these recipes

## **Classic Minestrone Soup** www.cookieandkate.com

- 1 cup whole grain orecchiette, elbow or small shell pasta
- 1 can (15 ounces) Great Northern beans or cannellini beans, rinsed and drained, or 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cups cooked beans
- 2 cups baby spinach, chopped kale or

may be familiar, but maybe there will be a new one that you can enjoy.

## 2 minutes. Pour in the diced tomatoes and their juices, broth, and water. Add the salt, bay leaves and red pepper flakes. Season generously with freshly ground black pepper. Raise heat to medium-high and bring the mixture to

late, I still think a warm bowl of

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

- **INGREDIENTS**
- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 1 medium yellow onion, chopped 2 medium carrots, peeled and chopped
- 2 medium ribs celery, chopped

## Gas prices predicted to trend higher

## **By GasBuddy**

Texas gas prices have risen 6.2 cents in the past week, averaging \$2.00 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 13,114 stations. Gas prices in Texas are 15.2 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 27.1 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas is priced at \$1.59 while the most expensive is \$2.79 per gallon. The national average price of gasoline has risen 4.9 cents in the last week, averaging \$2.31 per gallon. The national average is up 14.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 27.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

"With oil's meteoric rally continuing, motorists continue to face gas prices that continue to advance. With a barrel of crude oil now at its highest level in nearly a year, there's no where for gas prices to go but up," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "In a normal year, this is the time we tend to see gas prices struggle, and according to Pay with GasBuddy data, gasoline demand is indeed seeing seasonal struggles, but that has not tempered the appetite of the market as many remain bullish over the continued rollout of a COVID-19 vaccine. How long we may be on this road relies on continued reduction in new COVID cases, but we may for the coming weeks seeing gas prices continuing their climb."

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. Gas-Buddy'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://FuelInsights.GasBuddy.com.

## **ENMU announces Dean's List** and Graduates for Fall 2020

Anthony Campos Alcaraz was named to the Eastern New Mexico University's dean's list for the Fall 2020 semester. To be eligible for the dean's list, a student must complete a minimum of 15



credit hours with a GPA of 3.25 or greater.

Anthony Campos Alcaraz of Friona (Electronics Engr Tech Comp)

The following area students graduated from Eastern New Mexico University. A virtual commencement ceremony was held on December 12th. ENMU is a state institution offering associate, bachelor's and master's degree options.

Esmerelda Hernandez of Bovina (Forensic Science) Derek Jamerson of Bovina (Biology)

Anthony Campos Alcaraz of Friona (Electronics Engr Tech Comp)

Tonia Abarca of Friona (University Studies)

- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup tomato paste
- 2 cups chopped seasonal vegetables (potatoes, yellow squash, zucchini, butternut squash, green beans or peas all work)
- 4 cloves garlic, pressed or minced
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 large can (28 ounces) diced tomatoes, with their liquid (or 2 small 15-ounce cans)
- 4 cups (32 ounces) vegetable broth
- 2 cups water
- 1 teaspoon fine sea salt
- 2 bay leaves
- Pinch of red pepper flakes
- Freshly ground black pepper

chopped collard greens 2 teaspoons lemon juice Freshly grated Parmesan cheese, for garnishing (optional)

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

Warm 3 tablespoons of the olive oil in a large Dutch oven or stockpot over medium heat. Once the oil is shimmering, add the chopped onion, carrot, celery, tomato paste and a pinch of salt. Cook, stirring often, until the vegetables have softened, and the onions are turning translucent, about 7 to 10 minutes. Add the seasonal vegetables, garlic, oregano, and thyme. Cook until fragrant while stirring frequently, about

a boil, then partially cover the pot with the lid, leaving about a 1" gap for steam to escape. Reduce heat as necessary to maintain a gentle simmer. Cook for 15 minutes, then remove the lid and add the pasta, beans, and greens. Continue simmering, uncovered, for 20 minutes or until the pasta is cooked al dente and the greens are tender. Remove the pot from the heat, then remove the bay leaves. Stir in the lemon juice and remaining tablespoon of olive oil. Taste and season with more salt (I usually add about 1/4 teaspoon more) and pepper until the flavors really sing. Garnish bowls of soup with grated Parmesan, if you'd like.

This website, www.budgetbytes.com offers lots of low budget meals and all the costs are calculated in the recipes.

## **BROCCOLI CHEDDAR SOUP**

www.budgetbytes.com

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

**INGREDIENTS** 1 yellow onion (\$0.52) 1 lb. broccoli (\$1.49)

2 carrots (\$0.23) 4 Tbsp butter (\$0.52) 4 Tbsp all-purpose flour (\$0.04) 2 cups chicken broth (\$0.24) 2 cups whole milk (\$0.75) 1/2 tsp smoked paprika (\$0.05) 1/4 tsp garlic powder (\$0.02) 1/4 tsp freshly cracked black pepper (\$0.02) 1/8 tsp cayenne pepper (\$0.02) 6 oz. sharp cheddar, shredded (\$1.27)

Total Cost: \$4.97 recipe / \$1.24 serving

Dice the onion. Chop the broccoli into very small pieces. Peel and slice the carrots. Add the butter and onion to a large soup pot and sauté over medium until the onions are soft and translucent. Add the flour and continue to sauté for about 2 minutes more, or until the flour is coating the bottom of the pot and is a light golden-brown color. Add the chicken broth and whisk to dissolve all the flour off the bottom of the pot. T urn the heat up to medium-high and, while stirring often, allow the broth to come up to a simmer. When it reaches a simmer, it will thicken to a gravy con-

sistency. Turn the heat back down to medium and whisk in the milk, smoked paprika, garlic powder, black pepper, and cayenne pepper. Allow the broth to come back up to a simmer. Add the chopped broccoli and carrots, allow the broth to come back up to a simmer, and continue to simmer the vegetables, stirring often, for 15 minutes, or until the carrots are tender. Finally, turn the heat down to medium-low and stir the shredded cheese into the soup, one handful at a time, until it is fully melted. Taste the soup and add salt if needed (this will depend on the salt content of your broth—I did not add any).

Total Cost: \$7.22 recipe / \$0.90 serving

## **INGREDIENTS**

3 cloves garlic (\$0.24) 1 yellow onion (\$0.32) 1/2 lb. carrots (about 4 medium) (\$0.30) 3 ribs celery (\$0.46) 2 Tbsp olive oil (\$0.32) 1 Tbsp dried basil (\$0.30) 1 Tbsp dried oregano (\$0.30) 3 8oz. cans tomato sauce (\$0.75) 3 15oz. cans diced tomatoes (\$1.35) 1.5 cups vegetable broth (\$0.20)

## **SWAMP SOUP**

## www.budgetbytes.com

1 10oz. pkg frozen chopped spinach (\$0.99) 8 oz. Swiss cheese (\$1.69)

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

Mince the garlic, dice the onion, peel, and slice the carrots, and slice the celery. Add the onion, garlic, carrots, and celery to a large soup pot with the olive oil and sauté over medium heat for about five minutes, or until the onions are soft. Add the tomato sauce, diced tomatoes (with juices), vegetable broth, basil, and oregano to the pot. Stir to combine, then allow the soup to come to a simmer. Once the soup is simmering, add the frozen spinach (no need to thaw). Stir the spinach into the hot soup until it has melted and heated through. Once the spinach is thoroughly mixed into the soup, give the soup a taste and add salt if needed. I did not add any, but this will ultimately depend on the sodium content of your canned goods and vegetable broth. Dice the swiss cheese into small cubes. Add a small handful of cubes to each bowl, then ladle the hot soup over top. Serve and enjoy!









Friona Youth Sports held its annual Basketball Skills Camp last Friday and Saturday at the Friona High School Activities Center. Boys & girls from Bovina, Farwell, Friona, and Grady participated in the event. The 232 participants included 58 1st & 2nd graders, 77 3rd & 4th graders, and 97 5th & 6th graders.

The upcoming Basketball Season will feature games every Saturday beginning January 30th and running through February 27th. Games will be played in the Friona High School Activities Center with start time each week at 9:00 a.m. Refreshments will be available.

The 2021 Basketball Schedule can be viewed at www.frionayouthsports.org along with other information. Plans are in the works to have All-Star teams and a Soccer season is also being discussed.

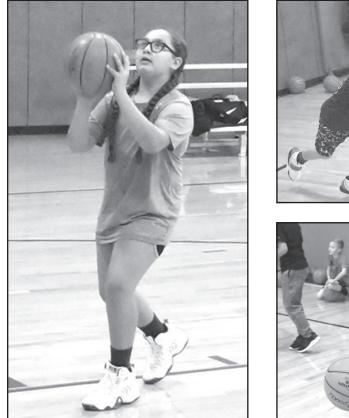
## **Basketball team sponsors are:**

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