

Thursday | June 16, 2022

\$1.00

Vol. 96 | No. 23

# **Friona Blood Drive**

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Calvary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall 3:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

# **Dairy MAX Celebrates National Dairy Month**

For some, June is the beginning of summer when kids are out of school and families are planning a vacation, but for dairy farmers, it is the start of National Dairy Month. This monthlong celebration recognizes the commitment dairy farmers have to their animals, their land and their communities. Dairy MAX, a non-profit dairy council representing more than 900 dairy farm families across eight states, will commemorate the annual monthlong event by sharing the great news of dairy - a delicious and nutritious, cost efficient food produced by the original environmental stewards, farmers.

"Being in the top five of milk production, Texas dairy farmers know how important it is to feed our fellow Texans," said Nathan Maroney, Texas dairy farmer. "We are committed to producing safe and nutritious dairy for our communities and celebrate the hard work of dairy farmers and cows this National Dairy Month."

Dairy farms contribute nutritious food, jobs, income and support to their local communities. More than two million U.S. jobs are created by the agriculture industry, with every dollar generated from dairy farming having an impact of seven times greater in the local community. The overall economic impact of dairy foods in the U.S. is nearly \$200 billion, which goes back to serving the local, state and national economies.

National Dairy Month recognizes the dairy industry and its significant contribution to feeding the world. The celebration was started by dairy distributors and grocer organizations in 1937 and has grown into an annual tradition. Although June is the official National Dairy Month, Dairy MAX works year-round to promote the dairy industry through events and sharing resources about the goodness of dairy to families, schools, health professionals, athletes, and partners.

"Not only is dairy good for our communities and the planet but is good for our people too. Dairy provides 13 essential nutrients and is a great choice for rehydration as we go into the summer," said Marty McKinzie, Dairy MAX chief growth officer. "The impact of dairy doesn't end there, dairy farmers are committed to taking care of their animals and environment for future generations to enjoy."

Dairy farmers are just as committed to giving back through their work as they are to giving back to the communities they call home. Dairy MAX will partner with regional blood centers for the tenth annual Passion for Pints Blood Drive to celebrate National Dairy Month. Local dairy farmers will be present at select drives to visit with members community about dairy foods and how milk is sustainably produced on the farm. As a bonus, blood donors will receive giveaway items, including a commemorative t-shirt, stress-relief cow squeeze toy, recipe book featuring dairy foods, and dairy products for post-blood donation recovery at select locations.

Not every month is dairy month, but let's celebrate every day like it is. Join dairy farmers in celebrating National Dairy Month and visit Dairy-DiscoveryZone.com to learn more or for additional resources.

# **Special Rangers and Paco Feed** Yard team up to get the job done!

By Chrissy LeClear

In late December 2021, Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association Special Rangers Bo Fox, Jay Foster, and Ben Eggleston conducted an investigation requiring more than 2,000 head of cattle to be inspected at Paco Feedyard, LLC in Friona.

The special rangers contacted Paco operations manager, Vince Montes, who agreed to meet with them on December 31, 2021.

"Feedyards hold tens of thousands of head of cattle," Fox said. "Inspecting a particular few thousand head out of the large group can be very difficult without the assistance of the feedyard

Montes and his staff assisted the special rangers by leading them to each pen with the cattle in question, and the staff moved the cattle down



Paco Feed Yard manager Vince Montes, center, is shown receiving an Award of Commendation and custom TSCRA sign from Special Rangers of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. Vince received the recognition for "Service Beyond the Call of Duty" and "Generously Assisting the TSCRA Special Rangers." On the left is Cris Ward, District 1 Special Ranger. On the right is Jay Foster, District 7 Special Ranger and Region 1 Supervisor.

the allies for easy inspection by the special rang-

"Montes and his staff went above and beyond to make our jobs as easy as possible," Fox said.

"Their assistance brought a quick resolution to the investigation at hand."

TSCRA and the special rangers presented Montes with a custom TSCRA sign and a certificate of appreciation for all his hard work and dedication in assisting the special rangers.

Reprinted with permission. Originally published May 17, 2022.

### Friona to receive \$51,250.80 in sales tax allocation for June

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$1.01 billion in local sales tax allocations for June. This amount is 11.6% higher than the amount distributed in June 2021. These

allocations are based on sales made in April by businesses that report tax monthly.

The City of Friona will receive \$51,250.80 in sales tax allocation for the month of June. This amount is 9.32% higher than the \$46,878.43 received in June

of 2021. The 2022 year-to-date total of \$398.575.75 is 41.41% higher than the \$281,845.62 received last year at this time. The Friona Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) will receive \$12,812.70 of the allocation for its operations.

# **Hello Friona** — **We are your 2022 Friona Swimming Pool Staff**



In the photo (l-r) — Lifeguard Michael Bautista, Lifeguard Jonathan Gonzalez, Lifeguard Reese Stowers, Pool Manager Rickie Castillo, Lifeguard Jacee Burney, Lifeguard Gabe Abarca, and Pool Cashier Lilly Abarca. Not Pictured is Lifeguard Andrew Husted. The swimming pool is open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Swimming lessons, pool rentals, and splash passes are available. Call 806-250-5279 for more information.



**Happy Father's Day** June 19

**Church Page** Page 5

**Classifieds** Page 7

**Obituary** Page 6

**FFA Awards** Page 8



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.

Friona Weather June 16-22

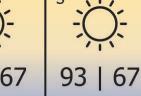


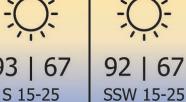




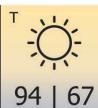




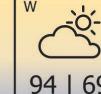








SSW 15-25



SSW 10-20

Precipitation May 1.56 Year

2.25



**By Marie Samarron** 

The Write Way Club

performed a special

act of kindness for

the Massie family. We planted a tree to re-

member a little girl who

lives in Heaven, Sayge.

If you have never read

the book, "Little Wild-

flower," by Jena Grims-

ley-Massie, you should!

Mrs. Samarron read this

book to all the fourth

grade classrooms, and it

changed our hearts and

made us think about

others, especially since

the author, Jena, grew

up and went to school

The story behind our

tree is that there was

a woman who lost her

daughter when she was

only 7 weeks old. We

didn't know who she

was or what she felt like,

in Friona.

# **Community Calendar**

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

#### June 9

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

#### June 13

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

#### **June 14**

• Flag Day

#### June 16

- Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center
- Blood Drive 3:30-7:00 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Fellowship Hall

#### **June 19**

• Father's Day

#### **June 20**

- Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center
- Friona Noon Lions Club meet @ The Farmwife Kitchen

#### **June 23**

 Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center





Friday 11-5 · Saturday: 10-3

602-739-0813

Farmhouse to Your House

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 middle name of
- 5 repair socks
- 6 get ready for publication
- 7 TXism: "a shy dog
- don't get \_\_ biscuits" 8 TXism: "old as \_
- 9 late TX actress and
- model, Fawcett "against" prefix
- 16 TX Leon Jaworski became Watergate prosecutor after this Cox was fired
- 19 TXism: "that's a fine how \_ (something irritating)
- where Moses got the commandments
- 22 TXism: " of arrows in his quiver" (capable)
- 27 tear in a sweater
- 28 sell door to door
- 29 TXism: "useless as perfume \_\_\_
- TXism: " a whipped pup"
- 32 Austin band: "Asleep the Wheel"
- 33 TX Cooley is known for his work in \_
- surgery 36 Granbury historic
- hotel: "\_ House" 37 nickname of presi-
- dent born in Denison 38 TXism: "attracted like
- 39 male fowl (2 wds.) 41 "black gold"
- magnet"

- 42 Texas city meaning
- "Lady Bird" Johnson 45 many Texans have played on the PGA
  - 47 chain-\_\_\_\_ fence 48 marching cadence word
  - 49 in Texas, cars must have a registration
  - (an insult) 53 \_\_ Ocean, Texas
  - 33 54 word before a woman's maiden name 55 big cell service provider

#### **DOWN**

- or "lime" 2 young man

sang "San

- 3 Groveton is the seat of this county 4 TX Tanya Tucker
- " (1975) 8 TXism: "
- slinging drunk" 9 TXism: "a
  - would have more fun"
- (bored) 10 summer necessity in Texas (abbr.)
- 11 actor Rock in Texas epic "Giant" (init.)

- "the pass" (2 wds.)
- 46 Astros former leag.
- \_\_ in the face"

#### 12 TXism: "cream 1 suffix for "lemon"

- (good quality) 13 head nod at an auction (2 wds.)
  - TX Woodward was the walking boss in "Cool \_ \_\_ Luke" 15 TXism: "if he's \_
  - bark" 16 Eve's mate in Eden

30

43

53

54

55

35

- 17 TX Shaquille won 3 titles as this
- (city abbr. + team) 18 calorie counter
- 20 the family
- 22 TX Jim Reeves hit: "He'll Have to \_\_\_' 23 Lennon's widow
- 24 it's played at

36

- 26 Travis drew a
- the dirt at the Alamo
- military funerals 25 "took to it like an

- \_ a banana"
- 28 he starred with TX Ann S. in 1937 film

"San Quentin"

Thanks to Prairie Acres

paint and use to decorate where the tree and wildflowers would be planted. Luis Amezcua helped us plant the tree

but we still helped her. We went on a field trip to get our tree and WILD-FLOWERS because she called her daughter her wildflower.

The Write Stuff

We bought the tree with the money the Friona Elementary School raised with the help of Ella Rector's parents, Jason and Karla, donating extra money and helping us by taking home the tree for us.

Nursing Home and Elizabeth Romero, we were able to choose rocks for all the 4th graders to and wildflowers, and we laid out the rocks as



Please see photo on back page

decorations. The day after school got out, we invited Jena and her family to the school with snacks from the Farmwife Kitchen and our principal, Mrs. Jeter, who bought some for us.

Yudith began by explaining to Jena and all her family the purpose of the project. We did all these things to remember Sayge because her mother showed kindness to others, and this was how we came up with an idea to do something special for her.

Jena read us a story about how thankful she was for what we had done for her and all the things she had thought when we told her we had a surprise for her. The story was so beautiful, and she was so grateful for us. We showed her the tree and wildflowers and blew glitter on to it since they do that a lot! It was such a beautiful day! That is our story which we are very happy of how it turned out.

Write Way Club members are Yudith Gutierrez, Sophie Lewellen, Sindy Lopez, Oscar Ordonez, Ella Rector, and Celio Tafoya. Marie Samarron is the 4th Grade ELA teacher.







**TEXAS** 

**CROSSWORD** 

by Charley & Guy Orbison

48

31 Palo

Copyright 2022 by Orbison Bros.

32

P-1589

solution on page 3

34 Metroplex mexican

eatery: "\_\_ Fenix" 35 TXism: "\_\_ some

gravel" (fell)

43 "The Leaning

Tower of \_

as

44 TXism: "numerous

50 a "Corps" member

at Texas A&M

military kitchen

duty (abbr.)

dead worm"

37 TXism: "lapped \_\_

" (believed)

\_ grapes'

Canyon

#### **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.

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

#### Texsas Ave. #219, Lubbock, TX 79401. Abilene District Office, 500 Chestnut St. #819, Abilene, TX 79602

Office Building, 202-225-4005. Lubbock District Office, 1312

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

Senator: Kel Seliger, P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station, Austin, Tx 78711. 512-463-0131. Amarillo office; P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, 79105. 806-374-8994.

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

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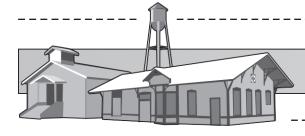
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#### STAFF:

Clint Mears • Executive Editor Holly Campbell • Associate Editor Nathan Parson • Production Editor/IT Evelyn Romero • Accounting

MEMBER **TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION** 

COMMUNICATION office: 806-250-2211 mobile: 806-265-5200 email: frionastar@wtrt.net website: frionaonline.com



# TOWN TALK

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

**Let it ride** — the Garry Moore Carnival will be at the Community Center through Sunday, June 19th. Take the family and enjoy food, games, and rides at the Carnival.

#### \*\*\* **Note from Deena Leuea**

 Steer validation will be June 21st at Dr. Kennedy's in Muleshoe, Texas. It will start at 8:00 a.m. **Save the Date** — Parmer **County Retired Teachers** & School Personnel will host an ice cream social to welcome new members on Tuesday, June 28 at 6:00 p.m. in the Leg-

**Welcome** — Friona ISD is preparing welcome

acy Pointe community

baskets for approximately 40 new staff members. If you have promotional materials or giveaways you would like to donate contact Jennifer Gonzales at 806-250-2747 or 806-250-3265 and she would be happy to come by and pick up any donation.

#### $\star\star\star$

Workin' at the car wash — The Volleyball Team held their annual car wash/bake sale last Friday in the Friona Inter-Bank parking lot. The team uses the event to raise money for their summer workouts and tournaments. Volleyball season starts August 5th with the Alumni scrimmage.

### \*\*\*

**Check it out!** — The Friona Public Library will host "The Science of Magic" at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 16th. The program will be presented by the Discovery Center.

#### \*\*\*

**Batter up!** — The Parmer County Babe Ruth Baseball League (PCBRBL) is hosting the 10U Minors

District Baseball Tournament this week. If you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact Brett Hoyle or Jayme Schlabs.

Book Shop open this **Saturday** — The Friends of the Library Book Shop will be open this summer on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30-5:30 p.m., as usual, and also one Saturday morning per month. Please visit the book shop on June 18 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Books sell for only one dollar a bag, and all proceeds benefit Friends of the Library projects. The book shop

### \*\*\*

behind the library.

is located at 618 Euclid,

**National Days** June 16: Fudge Day June 17: Mascot Day June 18 — Go Fishing Day June 19: Juneteenth June 20: American Eagle Day June 21: Smoothie Day

June 22:

**HVAC Tech Day** 

# **Raspberry Orange Frozen Yogurt Bark**



#### **Ingredients**

1 (32-ounce) container vanilla Greek yogurt 1 cup fresh raspberries, washed, slightly crushed zest of one small orange ½ cup chopped pistachios 1/4 cup mini chocolate chips or 1/4 cup shaved chocolate

#### **Nutrition Facts**

per serving

Calories: 111 Protein: 8 g Carbohydrate: 13 g Fiber: 1 g Total Fat: 4 g Saturated fat: 1 g Cholesterol: 3 mg Calcium: 10% DV Sodium: 48 mg

#### **Instructions**

1.Line a rimmed baking sheet withparchment paper. 2. Spoon the yogurt onto the preparedbaking sheet and spread into arectangle about ¼ inch thick. 3. Scatter remaining ingredients on top. 4. Freeze 2 to 3 hours or untilcompletely frozen.

Before serving, break or cut the bark into pieces.



**June is National Dairy Month** 

## SHERIFF'S REPORT

room.

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

(6/4/22) Mervin Hernandez, 20, of Muleshoe was arrested by the Department of Public Safety on a charge of Aggravated assault on Public Servant, pending Grand Jury; arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Arson, pending Grand Jury; arrested by the Bovina Police Department on a charge of Evading Arrest with a vehicle, pending Grand Jury; arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Criminal Mischief > \$750 < \$2,500, pending County Court; arrested by the Department of Public Safety on charges of Evading Ar-

(6/5/22) Jesus Fernando Ramirez, 23, of Texico, New Mexico was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Evading Arrest or Detention, pending County Court; arrested by the Farwell Police Department on a Public Intoxication Citation

rest or Detention and DWI, pending County Court

(6/7/22) Christopher Muzik, 41, of Clovis, New Mexico was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Possession CS PG1 <1g, pending trial (6/10/22) Juan Ramon Chico, 31, of Friona was

arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charges of Injury Child/Elderly/Disabled Reckless Bodily Injury, pending trial; and Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Member, pending County Court

(6/10/22) Christopher Diaz, 43, of Clovis, New Mexico was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Criminal Mischief > \$2,500 < \$30,000, pending Grand Jury



Susie Spring, County Clerk

Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from June 2, 2022 to June 9, 2022

(6/2/22) Johan Loeppky — Prime Lending, Plains Capital Company — Lots 10-12 and the North 12.5' of Lot 13, Block 9, Original Townsite, City of Farwell, **Parmer County Texas** 

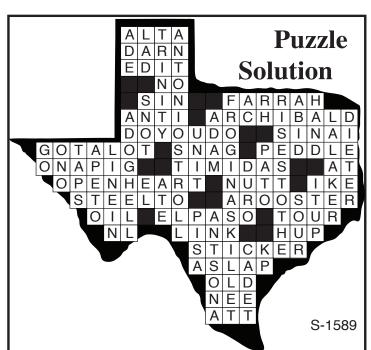
(6/3/22) Prince Ingeborg Margarethe — Prince Ingeborg Margarethe — All of the Estates Undivided Interest In and To the E. 38' of Lot 3 and the W. 42' of Lot 2, Block 1, Lakeside Addition, City of Friona, Parmer County, Texas

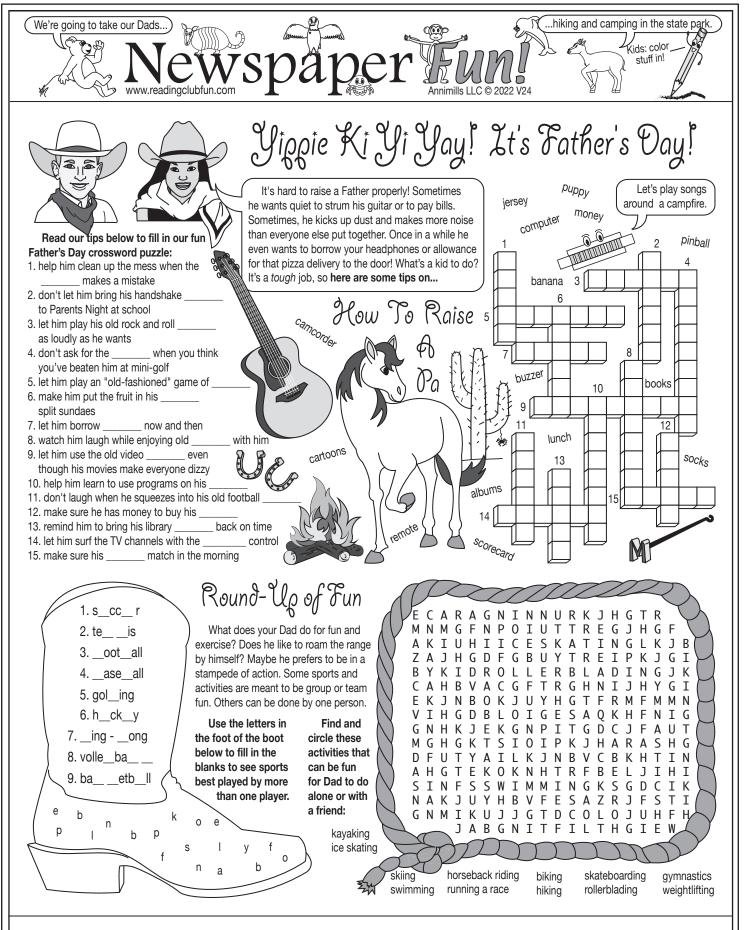
(6/6/22) Verna Davis — Joel Owen, Racheal Owen — the South 20.80 Feet of Lot 5 and All of Lots 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, of block 40, of the Original Town of Farwell, Parmer County Texas

(6/6/22) Nancy Roden — Mike Chaney — All of Lots 15 and 16 of Block 61, of the Original Town of Friona, Parmer County Texas

(6/7/22) P. L. Mathews Farms Inc. — Bovina Feeders Inc. — the Southwest One-Fourth of Section No. Four, of Township 14 South, Range East, Parmer **County Texas** 

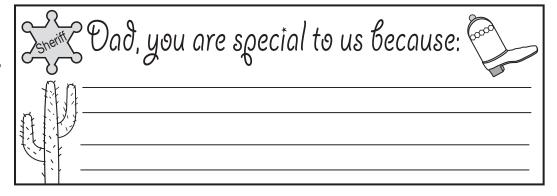
(6/7/22) Wayne Schilling, Mary Schilling — Oswaldo Canchola, Perla Garcia — Lot 6 and 7, Block 7, Lakeview Addition, City of Friona, Parmer County **Texas** 





# On the Ranch

Make a list of the special things Dad does "on the ranch" for you and your family. Have everyone write one line. When you are done you can cut the list out and put it next to his place at breakfast or hang it on the refrigerator for all to see and agree!



Chris Hunt

Ian Martinez

Donald Phelps

Ella Downs



By Sue Jane Sullivan



#### FONT YOUR WAY THROUGH LIFE

The keyboard font Times New Roman is used for business and professional writing. When a Sixth Grader does a PowerPoint presentation, he or she wants to go big. **Rockwell Extra Bold** was a favorite of many of my ambitious 12-year-olds. A few students chose an understated Calibri Light or Bookman Old Style. Even I am subject to the whim of selecting a font. When composing a more informal email or letter, my choice is Comic Sans MS, which mimics my own handwriting.

Our actions and words could take a hint from the effectiveness of choosing certain keyboard fonts. It is vital that we know how to respond professionally at certain times. It is natural to find a comfort and security with what we know. But interesting things can happen when we

step out of our comfort zones and try something new. I have tried to make myself do this since my early 40s, when I dropped some self-imposed shackles.

Today, my playlist shuffle goes from Loretta Lynn's Fist City to Yo Yo Ma's cello to Merle and Aaron Copland. I picked up my grandmother's routine and found a favorite "story" to watch on my lunch break (Days of Our Lives), although I am now way behind due to no cable tv. (Is Bo still dead?) Some of my debate students helped me appreciate the humor and satire in Family Guy and then marvel at all the Marvel movies. And remember, I fell in love with Asian food right here in Rotan, Texas, after all those years of denial.

We get to choose from so many options. I have preferences, as you do, but it is a treat for me to "change the fonts" from time to time. I don't have to know who wrote or even understand the words in an opera. I just know when I hear those powerful voices, it moves me. A toe-tapping song with a fiddle does the same. When I read a Mary Oliver poem, I am not thinking about rhythm or rhyme or the lack of—just that her verses touch something in my heart. Soccer rules are foreign to me, but when there is a shootout at the end, I swear it is the tensest moment in all of sports.

Go fishing at a stock tank. Go fishing in a Ranger Z520R Z

Throw a line in the ocean on a sportfishing yacht.

Try a variety of "fonts" as you draft your own story. Doing so will make for an enjoyable read.

# Lappy Birthday

#### June 16 Debra (Cooper) Campbell

Genevia Braillif Carter Lewellen Cheyenne Widner Glen Schueler Malina Williams Jessica McClure Peace

**June 17** 

Danny Hand

Johnny Spring

Rick Taylor

Kirby Frye

Oscar Schlenker

Trudi Johnson

**June 18** 

Nita Clark

Kayla Vaught

Shauna (Stokes) Jackson

**Casey Sims** 

Randy Chavez

**Isabel Salinas** 

**June 19** 

**Perry Hanes** 

Mickie Herring Randi Stokes Wayne Kube

Kaiden Bridges William Fairweather

Kirsten (Carr) McCurry

#### **June 21**

Izzy Cordova Sheldon Kyle Reeve Miranda Alexander Lupita Alvidrez Carson Haffner Angelina McWilliams

#### **June 22**

Ricky Barnett Jyl Grimsley **Chuck Nichols** Cecil Maddox Leslie Fangman Richard Bermea Kiara Reeves Yvette Garcia Janet Burleson



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

## Commissioners approve voting equipment purchase

Parmer County Commissioners Court met in regular session on Monday June 13, 2022 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.

Minutes from the May 23rd 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.

Lazbuddie Fire Chief Justin Burrus spoke to the Commissioners during the open forum portion of the meeting concerning the Lazbuddie Fire Department's need for equipment. Commissioners asked that the matter be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Approval was given for the purchase of ExpressVote machines,

ExpressPoll tablets, and printers. Total cost would be \$33,000 and would be paid with American Rescue Act funds.

The Court heard a request from Basin Oil President/CEO Steven Howard and company representative Carl Stroud concerning the current Permanent School Fund lease. The company wanted to modify the lease in order to do more drilling. The company also wanted to drill water wells in order to make the extraction of the oil up to 25 times more efficient. Commissioners approved the request.

Commissioners considered the banning of fireworks with missiles and fins. A motion was made but there was no second. Motion failed.

Three bids for the HVAC system and negative pressure cell for the jail were considered. Commissioners were unsure if all the bids contained the necessary requirements for the project. The item was tabled.

County Judge Trey Ellis discussed replacing county maps since the precincts were redrawn after the 2020 Census was released. The item was tabled until a few roads around Farwell are defined and accounted for.

Parmer County Sheriff Eric Geske reported that the Parmer **County Law Enforcement Center** was currently housing 44 inmates. Of those, 29 are paying customers from Deaf Smith County.

The Courthouse was vandalized along with several other buildings and vehicles last Thursday. Surveillance cameras captured some of the incident and a suspect is currently in custody.

All meetings are open to the public. Information in this article is only a summary. Any questions concerning specific actions should be directed to the Commissioners Court.

# City of Friona By the Numbers - May 2022

### **Public Library**

20 days open 373 e-visits 658 in-house visits 26 new patrons 557 items circulated 32 new items added

**Police Department** 182 calls 11 arrests 22 citations 75 warnings 94 stops 2,313 miles driven

18 transports (911) 7 transfers 15 non-transports (911) 2 no patient 1 standby 43 total runs

#### **Volunteer Fire Department** (date, incident, firefighters, trucks)

May 6 trash fire — 10 and 4 May 7 wreck — 2 and 1 May 12 gas leak — 4 and 1 May 13 electrical fire — 3 and 1

May 18 wreck — 6 and 3

May 20 grass fire — 10 and 6

May 20 grass fire — 4 and 1

May 21 grass fire — 10 and 4

May 21 grass fire — 8 and 4

May 21 grass fire — 11 and 6

May 22 grass fire — 7 and 3

May 28 oil spill — 7 and 4

May 30 train fire — 10 and 2

May 31 gas leak -2 and 1

May 18 grass fire — 6 and 3 May 18 grass fire — 4 and 1 May 20 grass fire — 11 and 3 May 22 grass fire — 7 and 2 May 23 elec. pole fire — 3 and 2 May 23 wreck — 4 and 1

# First time ever for national gas price average to hit \$5

By GasBuddy

Average gasoline prices in Texas rose 9.2 cents in the last week, averaging \$4.65 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Prices in Texas are 54.2 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand \$1.89 per gallon higher than a year ago. The price of diesel has fallen 4.0 cents nationally in the past week and stands at \$5.50 per gal-

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas was \$4.00 while the most expensive was \$5.68 per gallon.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 15.7 cents in the last week, averaging \$5.01 per gallon. The national average is up 57.1 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.94 per gallon higher than a year ago.

"For the first time ever, last week saw the national average reach the \$5 per gallon mark, as nearly every one of the nation's 50 states saw prices jump. For now, the upward momentum may slow down, but prices are still just one potential supply jolt away from heading even higher," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

De Haan added, "Gasoline demand, while rising seasonally, is still well below previous records, but remains impressive with prices in all states at record levels. Should the rise in price finally start to slow demand, we could see some breathing room, but for now, it seems like Americans are proving resilient to record highs."

GasBuddy data is compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

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## A Loving Response to an Unloving Request

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

By Jesus final week leading up to the cross, the gauntlet had been thrown down, sides had been chosen, a line had been drawn, and the religious leaders were in staunch opposition to the Son of God. These conniving opportunists were not ones to waste an opportunity, so the days Jesus taught at the temple during holy week the religious leaders made good use of their time in relentless attempts to undermine Jesus. Their questions ranged from taxes, to resurrection, to lineage and more, but one of the simplest, most explosive questions was cast by a scribe who said, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?", Matthew 22:34. The hundreds of wrong answers, no doubt caused the religious leaders to lick their chops with

anticipation of Jesus misquoting scripture or failing the test. Their unloving, devilish, murderous desires had lobbed a grenade waiting to explode, but once again, they were disappointed as the Savior gave them truth and love and an indictment in his response.

The truth of the matter was clear that the greatest command is to love God completely, and the second command is to love your neighbor. Jesus response oozed with love, in calling them to obey the most important commandment to love God and others more than themselves. Jesus' slicing response cut to the heart of the issue exposing their pride and hypocrisy in contrast with Jesus great love. Jesus' love led him to the cross, while the religious leaders' hatred nailed him there,

although their empty religion was awash with ritual and rules, it was void of the most important aspect of a relationship with God, love. Their false religion was exposed because of their idolatrous love for themselves and their ways.

Just like the religious leaders, vou are also tempted to love other things or people, especially self, more than God and more than others. The sinful brokenness of our nature naturally moves toward pride and selfishness instead of humility and service. The challenge is to guard and guide your heart to love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. The evidence of such supreme love for God is displayed in your life, and in your attitudes and actions toward oth-

#### **Panhandle Parables**

### D.A.D.

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

What is in a name? There are many names used to call someone a father. Fathers in many cases are increasingly rare. It is not that there are less fathers in our world, just less present in the lives of their children. Masculinity in our culture has come under attack and many men have stepped out of the game and on to the sidelines. That being said, there are also many men who would love to be the father of their children, but circumstances thwart that desire

So keep these men in your prayers: Those who can be dad to their children, to do so well. Those who do not desire that responsibility, for their hearts to change. For those who have been denied the privilege give them peace and opportunity.

So what makes up a Dad?

D- A dad is one whose dedication and devotion is not merely a pay check and pat on the head. They are part of the lives of their children and their wife.

That dedication provides emotional, physical and spiritual stability, because dad is a constant not a variable. His devotion is expressed in his love, and that love comes from Father God himself.

A- A dad is aware. He is aware of the victories of his children, as well as, their struggles. He is aware of what provokes them and what encourages them. He is aware because he is there. His awareness of his children's needs helps him equip them for the future.

D A dad is a doer. He does what he says. His yes is yes and His no, no. His actions teach little boys how to treat a lady. His actions teach little girls what to look for in a husband. His actions often will speak for themselves, but sometimes words are necessary too and I love you should be at the top of the list.

In just these three your kids will see God. God is dedicated to His kids, He is aware of our needs, and He keeps His promises. So be a D.A.D. and let them see God. Happy Father's Day.

# What Happens to the Media?

By Teena Hughs

I have been upset with the media's coverage of what has taken place in Uvalde, because so much of it has been wrong. One report said a teacher propped the door open, and that is how the shooter got into the building; later, that was proven wrong.

I did not hear any news last week, because I was at Ceta Canyon, but my brother told me that this falsely accused teacher has had a nervous breakdown, and some in her family are having a very difficult time with all of this.

I do not know if this is true or not, but my heart broke for this teacher. Why? Because I have been through a tough situation that put me into depression for two to three months. I was trying to be obedient to the rules of an organization; people didn't like my stance on a certain issue; and, after treating me like I never dreamed I would be treated, I left when God told me I could leave.

I did not even realize I was going through depression, but my parents, who never saw me during this time, talked to me on the phone every night, and they knew something was wrong. My daughter knew something was wrong with me by the way I was acting. God brought me through it all; I can remember walking across my patio, knowing I had been delivered from the depression.

If what I was told about this teacher is true, what he/she and his/her family are going through is far, far worse than what I went through. I know that they will always wonder why something like this had to happen to them; I know they have lost a part of their life they can't get back; I know their lives won't ever be the same

For me, I have always been able to figure out why God allowed me to go through something, but I have yet to figure out why I had to go through the situation I did. A minister

recently said it was a Jesus moment, where unfair things happened to Him, and unfair things happen to people that we cannot explain.

The point of me telling this is that the media ran with the story that this teacher left the door propped open, when it wasn't true. So, what happens to the media? Do they realize the harm they often do to people; do they realize they ruin lives; and, do they even care? Who holds them accountable for telling something that was not true? Do they feel guilty? Do they even know this teacher may have had a nervous breakdown? Do they take to the airways to apologize to this teacher and his/her family? Do they recount their stories? Do they change their ways to keep something like this from happening again?

I don't know what needs to happen, but every media outlet reporting that the teacher propped the door open should have to pay, and pay a lot!!!

Continued on page 7

Send your church news to the

Friona \*Star

frionastar@wtrt.net

# Area Church Directory

#### Friona

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 15<sup>th</sup> & Cleveland • 806-250-3000 Pastor D.J. Lewis

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

6<sup>th</sup> & Summitt • 806-250-3933 Pastor Brett Hoyle Email-<u>firstbc@wtrt.net</u> Website-<u>www.fbcfriona.com</u>

#### FRIONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8<sup>th</sup> & Pierce • 806-250-3045 Rev. Skip Hodges Email-<u>frionoaum@wtrt.net</u> Website-www.frionaumc.com

#### 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 $10^{th}$ & Euclid • 806-250-5236

Gerall Wyly

#### UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 1601 Euclid • 806-250-3635

VICTORY FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER

9<sup>th</sup> & 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



#### Bovina

#### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

308 3<sup>rd</sup> Street 806-251-1632 Pastor Frank Landry

#### CHURCH OF CHRIST

500 Ave. E 806-251-1334 Mike Prather, Minister

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ETHODIST CHURCH 205 4<sup>th</sup> Street 806-251-1124

#### ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor Larry Mitchell

401 3<sup>rd</sup> Street 806-251-1511 Pastor Gregory Bunyan

#### LA IGLESIA DE DIOS DEL PRIMOGENITO

The Church of God of the Firstborn 102 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

#### IGLESIA BAUTISTA HISPANA 103 1st Street

806-251-5232 Pastor Rafael Marin

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2 Corinthians 5:7



has an archive of past obituaries at frionaonline.com



### FRIONA FLASHBACKS

From the Friona Star Archives



RUN SCORES ... Junior Coronado touches the plate to score a run for the B-J Bees in a game against Monsanto last Thursday. Monsanto pitcher David Blackburn is shown covering home, with catcher Joe Cunningham on the left. Umpire Jerry Loflin bends in to get a close look at the play. The B-J Bees won, 10-3. (Friona Star, Thursday, June 15, 1967)

#### Former Police Officer Sentenced to 20 Years

A former police officer who sexually assaulted at least two teenage boys was sentenced this week to 20 years in federal prison, announced U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas Chad E. Meacham.

Delia Ruiz, a 31-year-old former officer with the Friona Police Department, pleaded guilty to enticement of a minor in January. She was sentenced on Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Matthew J. Kacsmaryk.

In plea papers, Ms. Ruiz admitted that she began having sexual intercourse with her 16-year-old victim, identified in court documents as John Doe 2, in fall 2020, and continued the relationship through spring 2021, when the boy turned 17.

She further admitted that she began having sexual intercourse with her 15-year-old victim, John Doe 1, in spring of 2021 after meeting him at John Doe 2's home.

She sent the child flirtatious messages and arranged to meet him in a church parking lot for sex in her car on at least three occasions. She sent him sexually explicit photos and videos of herself and warned him not to tell anyone about what they did because she could get into "big trouble."

She was arrested in October 2021 and later fired from the Friona Police Department.

The Texas Rangers, Federal Bureau of Investigation's Dallas Field Office – Lubbock Resident Agency, and the Amarillo Police Department conducted the investigation with the complete cooperation of the Friona Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Callie Woolam prosecuted the case with the help of Assistant U.S. Attorney Meredith Pinkham.

Source: DOJ, U.S. Attorneys Office, Northern District of Texas (June 3, 2022)

# Dads Ride Free\* on Father's Day!

Wonderland Amusement Park is continuing its long-standing tradition of celebrating dads on Father's Day by letting them ride for free! This Sunday, June 19th from 1p.m. till 10 p.m. all dads will enjoy

a Free WOW Pass\* with the purchase one kids' WOW Pass.

To take advantage of this special, simply visit the Wonderland website to find the Father's Day barcode. Either print it off or show it at gate from your phone. The address is Wonderland-Park.com/fathersday.

It's supposed to be a great day Sunday with highs in the 90's! Come enjoy some family fun in the sun on Father's Day!



# Under new ownership!

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2 large sides • 4 biscuits

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2:00 - 5:00 Any size fountain drinks

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Large Pizza with 8 Wings

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Combo \$8.99



Free coffee Friday 6a.m. - 9a.m.

Hunt Bros. Pizza: \$11.99



# Obituary



#### Jennifer Brockman Baize

Jennifer Brockman Baize, 52 of Friona passed away June 10, 2022 in Amarillo. Viewing was held from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM Monday, June 13, 2022 in the Ron Smiley Memorial Chapel of HANSARD FAM-ILY and Celebration of Life Services were held at 10:30 AM Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at the First Baptist Church of Friona with Jeff Procter, Rev. Brett Hoyle and Rev. Gary Johnson, officiating. Burial followed in the Friona Cemetery by HANSARD FAMILY Funeral Home of Friona.

Jennifer was January 3, 1970 in Dimmitt, Texas to Thomas Edward and Patricia Sue Copeland Brockman. The Brockman family moved from Nazareth to Friona when she was 4. She went to schools in Friona graduating from Friona High School in 1988. After high school she attended Clovis Community College and graduated with a LVN Degree. She was a LVN for Prairie Acres



Nursing Home for 25 years and considered that her second home and family.

Jennifer married the love of her life, Robin Baize on October 18, 1995 in Friona and that began a life of fishing, camping and companionship that is rarely seen or felt. Robin put it best when he said, "Jen was my wife, barber, personal nurse, and fishing buddy, but most of all, she was my best friend."

Jennifer was also "Mom and Grammy" and loved special times with her family, especially her grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her dad- Tommy Brockman, mom-Patricia Waller, son-Drew Baize and brother-inlaw-Mark Neill.

Those to mourn her passing include her husband-Robin Baize of Friona, 3 sons-Andrew Diaz and wife Kenia of Tucumcari, NM., Morgan Baize and wife Autumn of Parker, CO., and Logan Baize of Beaumont, 1 brother-Nathan Brockman of Mountain View OK., 4 sisters-Lisa Neill of Friona, Cara Speer and husband Enrique Ronelas of Carlsbad, NM., Laura Brockman of Duck Hill, Mississippi, Valerie Brockman and Brian Brogden of Amarillo, 2 grandchildren-Adan and Aubrey Diaz, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

In lieu of flowers, you may send memorials to Prairie Acres Nursing Home 201 East 15th St. Friona, Texas 79035.

You may send blessings to the family and sign the online guest book at: hansardfamily.

#### **Mayor proclaims June as National Dairy Month**

The Friona City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 617 Main in Friona, Texas. The meeting began with roll call, an invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

During the public comments portion of the meeting, the Council heard from a retired railroad engineer concerning the possibility of obtaining a "Quiet Zone" designation from the railroad which would allow trains to pass through Friona without having to honk the horn.

Mayor Greg Lewellen read a proclamation declaring June to be National Dairy Month. Local dairies were cited for their positive contributions to the local economy

In regular session, the Minutes of the May 9, 2022 regular meeting were approved.

The Council approved a resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the fire, ambulance, and services truck fund. The grant amount is \$750,000 and if selected, the City of Friona would have to supply \$7,500 of the grant.

Consideration of the approval of a purchase contract between the City of Friona and O'Reilly Auto Enterprises, LLC was tabled until a few more details could be worked out.

Consideration of a new 5-year Municipal Materials Management Agreement with Republic Waste Services of Texas LTD for waste management services was tabled until more details of the new plan are ironed out.

The Council approved an agriculture lease with Hough Cattle Company involving approximately 450 acres of City-owned property for the remaining 2022 crop year and the 2023 crop year.

Approval was given to change the title of Greg Lewellen to mayor and Alan Monroe to mayor pro-tem on the signature cards of the financial institutions pertaining to city bank and investment accounts.

In other business, the accounts payable for May 2022 and the financial statement for May 2022 were approved. The Council did meet in Executive Session regarding two agenda items.

All meetings are open to the public. Information in this article is only a summary. Visit cityoffriona.com to find agendas and minutes for council meetings.



**Fire & Ice** — John Gurley reported that Friona had four straight days of 100+temps last week. Friday–102°, Saturday–106°, Sunday–105°, and Monday–102°. That made it a good time to visit Candice & Ivy Schueler at Fire & Ice and "chill out" with a snow-cone.

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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.

# **Part-Time Help Needed**

Part-Time Help needed at Friona Senior Citizens Center. Contact Susan Gonzales at 806-344-6333 (cell phone) or, on Mondays and Thursdays, call 806-250-3645 or go to 1410 Washington St. in Friona.

#### What Happens to the Media?

By Teena Hughs

Continued from Page 5

The teacher and his/her family needs serious counseling, and they should not have to pay for it. I am not a fan of ambulance-chasing lawyers, but I hope a good, Godfearing lawyer who wants to right the wrongs done to these people will take their case!

Other than praying and not watching the news, I don't know what else to do. Many people have told me they aren't watching the news, so many feel as I do.

The situation in Uvalde is bad enough without the media ruining even more lives! Please continue to pray for this teacher, his/her family, and please pray for TRUTH to come out! Thank you!!!

\*\*Sign-On Bonuses Offered\*\* Due to growth, Prairie Acres is seeking to fill multiple positions including CNA's (both shifts), nurses, dietary

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#### **NOW HIRING!**

Farwell Care & Rehabilitation Center is hiring a Full Time LVN, or RN. Medical, Dental, and Vision insurance is available as well as shift Differential and PTO. Salary is competitive. Come to 305 5th St. in Farwell, Texas to apply. For information call HR, or Don at 806-481-9027. EEO

### Covid-19 Vaccines!!!

Please help in keeping COVID-19 at bay here in Parmer County. Pfizer, Pediatric Pfizer, and Moderna Vaccines are all available. First, Second, and Boosters available at vaccine clinics. Vaccine boosters for children 5-11 years of age now available and approved by CDC and FDA. If you have any questions, please call our COVID vaccine hotlines at (806) 240-1562 for English or (806) 240-1761 for Spanish.

Clinics Schedule: Thursday June 16th, and Thursday June 30th at the 6th Street Church of Christ in Friona. Friday June 24th in Bovina at the XIT building. No appointment times are necessary and walk-ins are accepted. Times for all clinics are from 1:00pm to 4:30pm.

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3/2/2 Brick in Western Addition w/cent. h&a, storage building, fenced backyard, sprinkler system.. ......Cont Pend

3/3.5/2 Two-Story Brick w/cent. h&a, fireplace, class 4 roof, lots of storage, close to hospital, sprinkler system......Cont Pend

4/2 Brick w/cent. h&a, new metal roof, covered patio, metal eves, carport, fenced backyard, storage building......Cont Pend

3/2/2 Brick w/cent. h&a, fireplace, open floor plan, attic storage, storage building, sprinkler system (f&b), fenced backyard ...... SOLD

3/2/1 Brick w/cent. h&a, metal fence, storage building, close to schools, all-electric ...... SOLD





**Holly Campbell** 

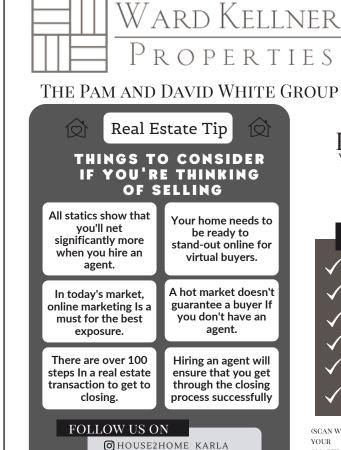


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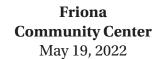




**FFA Instructors** Lonnie Born • Tyler Hatley Roque Magdalena

# **FFA Awards Banquet**

Part 1











**Jacee Burney Emma Schueler** 



**Gabriel Arbaca** 



**Tim Ally** 



**Stef Ally** 



Arianna Azarte



**Emma Schueler** 



Erik Estrada



**Gabriel Arbaca** 



**Caden Bunker** 



**Jaden Phillips** 



**Isaac Olmos** 



Elijah Robledo



**Anthony Arbaca** 



**Stef Ally** 



**Kaleb Nunley** 



Leslie Rodriguez



**Kitzy Welch** 



Lilly Arbaca



**Dylan Haseloff** 



Elijah Robledo

FIRST Dairy Cattle





**Leslie Rodriguez** 



**Edward Trevino** 



**Emma Schueler** 

Caden Bunker

**Aubrey Schueler** 

# **State Capital Highlights**

By Gary Borders



# Anti-gun violence protests and more school safety measures

Anti-gun violence protests were held in multiple cities across the state over the weekend, while the state has imposed additional measures designed to strengthen school security.

Texas State University's Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) program will be provided to all Texas school districts. The course is "designed to improve integration between law enforcement, fire, tele-communicator and emergency medical services in active attack/shooter events," according to its website.

Gov. Greg Abbott also requested AL-ERRT to provide an after-the fact debrief of the school shooting at Robb Elementary in Uvalde once the ongoing investigation is complete.

"We sadly recognize we cannot do anything to bring back the precious lives that were taken; however, we must do everything in our power to prevent the same tragic ending from happening again," reads the governor's letter.

In addition, the Texas Education Agency has been directed to create the position of Chief of School Safety and Security. The chief will be a "recognized expert on school security and public safety issues, an effective coordinator of multidisciplinary teams, a resource to school districts and the legislature, and effective at implementing programs," according to a TEA news release.

# Police chief explains delay in confronting shooter

The Uvalde schools police chief explained the delay in confronting the gunman who killed 19 children and two teachers by saying he couldn't obtain a key to locked classroom door.

"The only thing that was important to me at this time was to save as many teachers and children as possible," Pete Arredondo said in a Texas Tribune report. He said he tried dozens of keys that failed to work.

"Each time I tried a key I was just praying," Arredondo said. It took 77 minutes after the May 24 massacre began for officers to unlock the door and kill the gunman. Besides the Department of Public Safety, Arredondo is the only other law enforcement official to give a public account of the police response to the shooting.

In addition to the state probe, the U.S. Department of Justice has launched a review of the police response.

### First monkeypox case in Texas con-

A single case of monkeypox virus infection was confirmed in a Dallas County resident who had recently traveled internationally, the Texas Department of State Health Services has announced.

"Monkeypox is transmitted to humans through close contact with an infected person or animal. It can also be transmitted from person to person by inhaling large respiratory droplets or through close contact with body fluids and lesions, as well as bedding and other contaminated materials. Those infected may experience fever, rash and swollen lymph nodes, as well as more serious complications," the DSHS release said.

The patient is in quarantine at home. DSHS said the virus does not currently present risks to the general public, though it is reaching out to passengers who might have been exposed to the patient on a flight from Mexico to Dallas.

# A drier and warmer May for much of state

May brought some rain but not as much as hoped, according to Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist for the Texas Water Development Board.

"This May's modest rainfall and high temperatures combined to provide only small improvements in drought conditions across our state," Wentzel wrote. "Every little bit counts, but that little bit of recovery is disappointing considering that May has historically been the wettest month of the year for Texas."

# Drought conditions covered 78% of the state by the end of May.

Electricity demands breaking re-

As temperatures soared across the state during the first days of June, demand for electricity set daily and monthly records, according to numbers released last Friday by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas and reported in the San Antonio Express-News.

Triple-digit temperatures were reported across the state over the weekend — several days before the official first day of summer.

ERCOT asked power generators to defer maintenance over the weekend to ensure adequate generating power.

"ERCOT will continue to deploy all available tools to manage the grid reliably and coordinate closely with the Public Utility Commission, generation resource owners and transmission utilities to ensure they are also prepared for the warm weather across the state," Christy Penders with ERCOT said.

Agency releases latest COVID-19 workers' comp claim tally

The number of workers compensation claims related to COVID-19 claims reached 83,000 in May, with 448 fatalities reported to the Division of Workers' Compensation. Just more than half of these claims and fatalities involved first responders and correctional officers.

Most of the claims paid were to compensate people for lost wages.

## COVID-19 cases unchanged in last week

The number of new COVID-19 cases reported in Texas during the past week stayed essentially unchanged, with 47,582 reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. A total of 77 deaths were recorded. DSHS reported 1,488 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations, up 27% from the previous week.

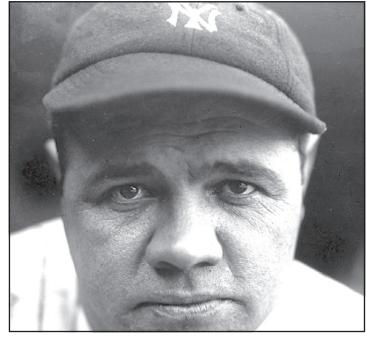
Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

# The Sultan of Swat

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith

On June 2, 1935, there "no joy in Mudville" when the "Sultan of Swat"-Babe Ruthretired. At nineteen, George Herman Ruth had signed with Jack Dunn, owner of the Bal-Orioles—and timore the team-enamored with his abilities-nicknamed him "Jack's newest babe" a moniker that stuck for the rest of his life.

History.com notes that he "made his Major League debut as a left-handed pitcher with the Red Sox in July 1914 and pitched 89 winning games for the team before 1920, when he was traded to the New York Yankees. After Ruth left Boston, in what became known as "the curse of the Bambino," the Red Sox didn't win another World Series until 2004



... Ruth was a huge star in New York and attracted so many fans that the team was able to open a new stadium in 1923, Yankee Stadium, dubbed The House That Ruth Built ... [his] career slugging percentage of .690 remains the highest in Major League history.

ever," the Grateful American Book Prize recommends **Babe Ruth** (**Up Close**) by Wilborn Hampton.

Source: History Matters: Showing our chil-

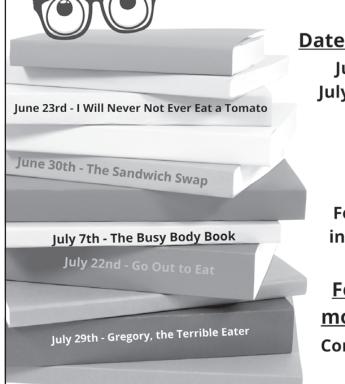
greatest baseball player

slugging percentage of dren that their past is .690 remains the highest in Major League history. For more about "the bookprize.com website.

# Books & Bites

A partnership between the Friona library and Texas AgriLife Extension - this program is designed for children who are going into 2nd-5th grades to learn about healthy lifestyles through reading. The program consists of a storybook (read aloud) with a health-related message, a hands-on activity,

and a snack.



<u>Date - Time - Location:</u> June 23rd & 30th July 7th, 14th, & 21st 11 - 11:45am

Friona Library

Age Group:
For students going into 2nd-5th grades

<u>For questions or</u> <u>more information:</u> Contact Wendy Case,

806-251-5120 wendy.case@ag.tamu.edu

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other classification by federal, state, or local law. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

TEXAS A&M GRILIFE EXTENSION

### **Hamilton named Baseball Coach of the Year**

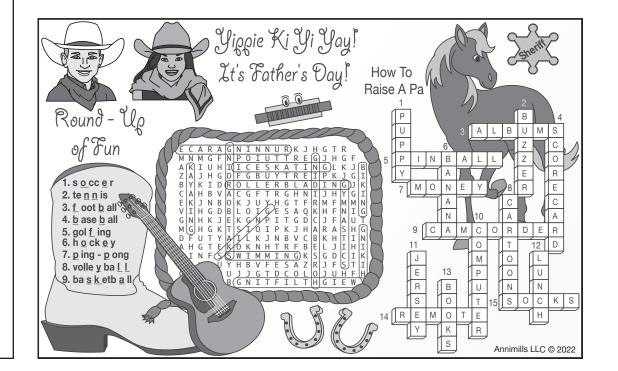
Cory Hamilton was named the 2022 Baseball Coach of Year at the 64th Annual Texas Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame ceremony last Sunday at the Amarillo Civic Center's Grand Plaza.

The Raiders finished the year with a 27-9 record and were District 3-5A champions. Their season ended with a loss to Lubbock Cooper, 2 games to 1, in the 5A



regional quarterfinals. Hamilton and his team went into the series with an 18 game winning streak and snapped Lubbock Cooper's 24 game winning streak in the first game of the series.

Cory is a 1995 graduate of Friona High School. This season marked his 19th year as head coach of the Raiders and he has amassed 360 career wins.



#### Texas melon, cantaloupe quality up, yields down

#### **By Adam Russell**

Texas melon producers reported exceptional fruit quality but slightly lower yields amid budget-breaking production costs and stagnant market prices, according to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts.

Watermelon production was coming to a close, and cantaloupe and honeydew harvests were well underway in the Rio Grande Valley. Watermelon and cantaloupe harvests were about to begin in the Winter Garden region as growers look to meet peak seasonal demand around the Fourth of July holiday.

Juan Anciso, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension horticulturist, Weslaco, said fruit sets were good and resulted in above-average yields and good quality, but that high temperatures were impacting new growth.

"The first cutting was heavy, and there is no new fruit coming on," he said. "The plants seem to be shutting down."

Despite good yields for watermelon producers, Anciso said honeydew melon growers experienced problems, including a hailstorm that hurt their fruit's aesthetics. Fruit with cosmetic "nicks" were not marketable to grocers. In some cases, Anciso said around 50% of fields, representing thousands of pounds of melons, were deemed unmarketable.

"There has been a flood of melons with these flaws on street corners and fruit stands, but they really don't make up for



Watermelon, cantaloupe and honeydew melon quality is exceptionally high this season as Fourth of July celebrations near. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Laura McKenzie)

the losses when you are talking 18-wheelers full of melons that are considered culls," he said. "Otherwise, growers in the Valley were looking at a heck of a season."

Windy conditions, melons for Fourth of July

Larry Stein, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension horticulture specialist, Uvalde, said "desperately dry," hot and windy conditions in Central Texas have contributed to slightly below-average watermelon and cantaloupe yields, but quality has been outstanding. Brix counts, the measurement for sugar content and sweetness, have been exceptionally high.

Cantaloupe producers have reported that the lack of rainfall and excess moisture has resulted in brix levels rivaling famed Pecos cantaloupes, Stein said.

Stein said fields with windbreaks were likely to fair better, as high winds negatively impact vine growth and their ability to bind to something and hold in place. High winds also blow vines together. The subsequent tangles

of vines and windy conditions inhibit honeybees' ability to pollinate blooms to set fruit.

High temperatures also impact the viability of pollen, he said.

"The heat and wind have been hard on melons this year," he said. "The wind has been beating everything up, and it complicates pollination," he said. "I think producers will hit the Fourth of July window, and the bottom line is that quality is exceptional despite the difficulties."

Prices stagnant, costs increased for growers

Despite the good yields, Anciso and Stein said growers were less likely to realize profits due to flat prices and higher input and logistical costs. Costs for fertilizer, fuel, labor, packing materials and shipping all increased, but prices only increased slightly.

"Farms are getting 16 cents-18 cents per pound when we'd like to see them getting 20-pluscents per pound," Anciso said. "But growers are concerned about the high costs this season. The good yields should help offset costs for some, but it will be difficult to make money, and it's not related to the supply and demand of their crop."

Anciso said many melon harvests had been delayed by the lack of available harvest crews. Stein said costs had doubled for most producers and tripled for some.

"Costs are an issue for sure," Stein said. "In some cases, producers break even, maybe."



Mascot Day — Friday is National Mascot Day and the Friona Star would like to recognize Magdalena Licerio for serving as the Friona Chieftain/Squaw mascot for the past three years. She did a great job of representing our school and town!



Jena Grimsley-Massie and the Write Way Club dedicate a tree and wildflowers planted in memory of Sayge with a breath of glitter. Please see story on page 2.



The SonShine School at Friona First Baptist Church recently held their graduation ceremony for the Class of 2022. In the photo (1-r): Diego Valenzuela, Mrs. Diann Daniels, Adriel Ramirez, Speedy Quintana, Pastor Brett Hoyle, Josue Moreno, Mrs. Candice Schueler, & Abel Alger. You can register for next year at www.fbcfriona.com.



Texas cantaloupe sweetness is expected to be outstanding, but yields are expected to be slightly below average due to tough weather conditions. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Laura McKenzie)

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