



\$1.00 Vol. 97 | No. 27

















Town Talk Page 3

Church Page Page 5

July 4th

Classified Page 7

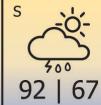
Buffalo Lake Page 9



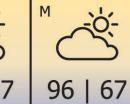
Emergency Siren System: Alternating tone • Firefighters only | Weather Warning: 1 long tone • take cover — 3 short blasts • all clear | Tested 1st & 3rd Thurs. at 7 p.m.

Friona Weather July 6-12

SSW 15-25 SE 10-20



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SSE 10-15

96 | 68

S 10-15

99 | 70

SSW 10-20

Precipitation July 0.00 Year

12.07

Burn Ban

★ PAGE 2

Community Calendar

Send Calendar information to:

frionastar@wtrt.net or call (806) 250-5200

July 6

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

July 7

• School physicals at Friona Rural Health Clinic

- Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center
- Summer Drama Workshop Begins

July 11

• Family Night at Prairie Acres at 6:30 p.m. for residents and their families

July 12

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

July 13

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

July 15

• Cheeseburger Festival & Cook-off at Reeve Lake

July 17

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

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 Office Building, 202-225-4005. Lubbock District Office, 1312 Texsas Ave. #219, Lubbock, TX 79401. Abilene District Office, 500 Chestnut St. #819, Abilene, TX 79602

State

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



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

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



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Web Site

frionaonline.com

Annual Subscriptions \$30 in Parmer County \$40 out of County

Deadlines

\$24 e-Star Online

News articles and photos are due by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Deadlines may be altered for holidays or special issues.

Advertising

Open Display rates and Classified Ads are \$5.00 per column inch. Thank You Notes are \$15 each. Wedding, anniversary, graduation and birth announcements are \$15 each. Obituaries published at no charge. Deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

wrestle King Kong"

36 TX Jeffrey Jacquet

Parker's father

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38 edible starch ob-

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37 TX Quanah



Hello Friona We are Mexi-Q

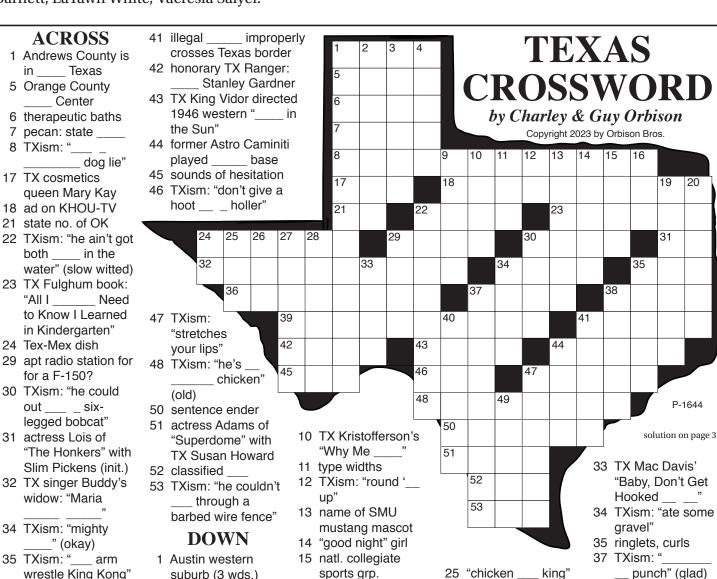




The Friona Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday for Friona's newest business, Mexi-Q Restaurant. Owners Andrea & Franklin Baker (center) were joined by crew members Joshua Main, Persephonie Leyua, Josh Gonzalez, Delia Martinez, Serenity Castillo at the grand opening. Several members of the Chamber of Commerce also participated in the event to welcome the new business to Friona. The restaurant specializes in Mexican food and BBQ. Operating hours are Monday-Thursday 7-7, Friday 7-8, and Saturday 7-6. They are located at 1505 W. 5th and the phone number is 806-250-5079.



Best Wishes — A Retirement Reception was held last Thursday for Veca Masters in recognition of 23 years of service with Parmer County Farm Bureau. Attendees enjoyed snacks and punch at the come & go event. In the photo (l-r) — Varla Wilcox, Kevin & Linda Welch, Veca & James Masters, Valeigh Salyer, Ellis Warsaw, Vanette Barnett, LaTawn White, Vacresia Salyer.



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"Rawhide" trail

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3 TX romance



Susie Spring, County Clerk

Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk's Office from June 22, 2023 to June 29, 2023

(6/22/23) Larry Moyer, Virginia Moyer — Kasandra Faudoa Gonzalez, Luciana Gonzalez Meza — A Tract of Land in the Northeast Quarter of Section 8, Township 4 South, Range 4 East, of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision of Parmer County, Texas

(6/27/23) Jayson Grimsley — Ana D. Lopez Calderon, Roy K. Vielmann Rodriguez — All of Lots 6 and 7, West Group Subdivision of Western Addition to the City of Friona, Parmer County, Texas

(6/27/23) Paula Fairchild — Ruben Rejino, Melissa Rejino — All the West 50' of Lot 3 and the East 50' Lot 4, Block 3 Western Addition, City of Friona, Parmer County, Texas



SHERIFF'S REPORT

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

(6/22/23) Salvador Juarez Jr., 46, of Friona was arrested by the Friona Police Department on charges of Unlawful Possession of Firearm by Felon and Driving W/Lic Invalid with previous Conv/Susp/w/o/Fin Res

(6/22/23) Joshua Anthony Silva, 32, of Friona was arrested by the Department of Public Safety on a charge of Man/Del CS PG 1 ≥ 4G < 200G

(6/26/23) Stephen Peidad Von Garban, 35, of Clovis was arrested by the Department of Public Safety on a Curry County New Mexico Warrant as a Fugitive from Justice.

(7/3/23) Gunner Kemp Russell, 21, of Muleshoe was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a Parmer County Warrant/VOP/MTR on a charge of Assault Causes Bodily Injury to Family Member

Come have Fun with us at Malouf's Fabric

These are the classes scheduled this summer		
July 8	Beginning Sewing Class	
July 14, 15 H	andi Quilter Education Event	
July 22	3 Yard Quilt Class	
July 29	Free Accuquilt class	

Call 806-250-3575 to register • like us on Facebook

Friona Public Library Story Time

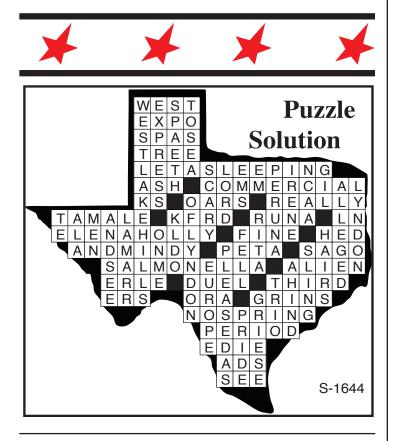
call 806-250-3200 for info

Read and Play Story Time

Every Tuesday in June and July at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Ages Birth to 6 years old

Kids Rock Story Time

Every Thursday in June and July at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Ages 7 to 12 years old





News Prairie/Legacy

— The Prairie Acres Resident of the Month for July is Ethel Walker. The Employee of the Month is Maria Olivas who joined the staff in July of 2022 and works in the Dietary Department. Family Night at Prairie Acres is Tuesday, July 11th at 6:30 p.m. Family members are invited for a meal of brisket, potato salad, and coleslaw. Attendees are asked to bring a side or dessert to complete the meal.

Jell-O Day — Trademarked in 1897 by Pearle Wait of Leroy, New York, Jell-O is the novel and fun dessert loved by millions. Francis Woodward, who later purchased the recipe and trademark, eventually made Jell-O a household name. Jell-O's primary ingredient is gelatin. Gelatin consists of collagen, specifically animal collagen. It's a protein extracted from the connective tissues of cows and pigs. Once the protein is broken down and extracted, the collagen is dried and ground into a fine powder. With 21 different flavors, Jell-O satisfies every taste and can be enjoyed in numerous combinations.

*** **Pun Intended** — I don't trust stairs... they are always up to something. Source: www.pun.me

TOWN TALK

Phone: 806-250-5200

Email: frionastar@wtrt.net

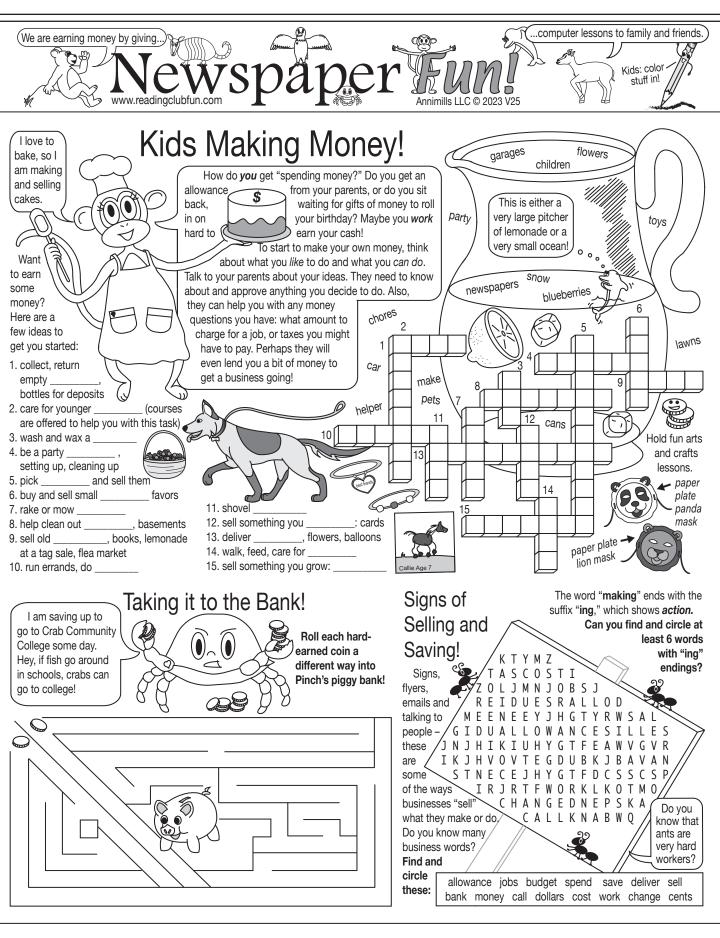
*** **National Days**

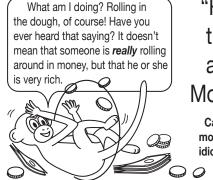
July 6: Fried Chicken Day July 7: World Chocolate Day July 8:

Raspberry Day July 9: Dimples Day **July 10:** Kitten Day July 11: Blueberry Muffin Day **July 12:** Eat Your Jell-O Day



To Perryton with Love — Kevin & V'Lynda Barnett and their kids came from Perryton and picked up all the donations that were given by Friona. Thanks to everyone who donated. If you gave a monetary donation, it will go to a fund that is supplying school supplies for the kids affected by the tornado.





"Rolling in the Dough" and Other Money Sayings

Can you match each money saying (called an idiom) to its meaning?

1. cut your losses 2. a dime a dozen

6. money to burn

3. cold hard cash 4. feel like a million bucks 5. work for peanuts

1. money doesn't grow on trees

2. stop on a dime 3. pay through the nose

4. rake in the money 5. rolling in the dough 6. time is money

F. very cheap and common A. wasting time can cost you money

E. leave before you lose too much more

A. coins and bills

B. get paid very little

C. feel really great or healthy

D. extra spending money

B. pay a very high price C. stop very quickly D. to make a lot of money

E. money is important, so don't waste it F. to be very rich



Moist Banana Nut Bread

BY CHAPMAN DAIRY

INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 cup butter, softened
- 3 cups sugar
- 3 eggs
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups (12 ounces) sour cream
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 6 ripe medium bananas, mashed
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- $4\frac{1}{2}$ cups flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 3/4 cup chopped pecans

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 325°F. Grease and flour two 9x5-inch loaf pans.

Cream butter and sugar in large bowl with mixer. Add eggs, sour cream, vanilla and almond extract; mix well. Add bananas and mix. Combine dry ingredients and add to bowl; mix until just combined. Stir in pecans. Pour into pans and bake for 1 hour or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 5 minutes; remove from pan to wire rack to cool completely.



A gallon of milk today is produced with 90% less land and 65% less water than it was decades ago.

Postage increase set for July 9th

The United States Postal Service has filed notice with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) of mailing services price changes to take effect July 9, 2023. The new rates include a three-cent increase in the price of a First-Class Mail Forever stamp from 63 cents to 66 cents.

If favorably reviewed by the Commission, the proposed increases

will raise First-Class Mail prices approximately 5.4 percent to offset the rise in inflation. The price changes have been approved by the Gover-

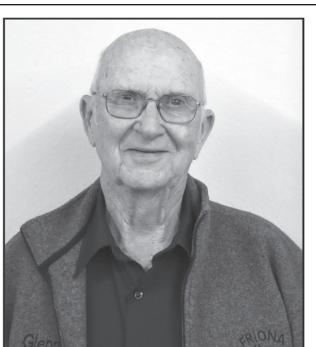
nors of the U.S. Postal Service.

The price for 1-ounce metered mail will increase to 63 cents, and the price to send a domestic postcard will increase to 51 cents. A 1-ounce letter mailed to another country

would increase to \$1.50. There will be no change to the single-piece letter and flat additional-ounce price, which remains at 24 cents. The Postal Service is also seeking price adjustments for Special Services products including Certified Mail, Post Office Box rental fees, money order fees and the cost to purchase insurance when mailing an item.

The proposed Mailing Services price changes include:

O	1	0
	Current Prices	Planned Prices
	63 cents	66 cents
	60 cents	63 cents
	48 cents	51 cents
	\$1.45	\$1.50
	\$1.45	\$1.50
	8	Current Prices 63 cents 60 cents 48 cents \$1.45



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Happy Birthday

July 6 Max Jones

Krita Potts
Terry Copley
Lance Gatlin
Alex Dunnam
Deidre Ferguson
Phoebe Kemple
Valerie Izaguirre
Dominick S. Rocha
Charlie Pool
Beverley Hall

July 7

Kemal Tongate
Noel White
Jaclyn Peace
David Gowens
Fermin Reyes
Suzanne Wood
Matthew Riethmayer

July 8

Nathan Terry
Greg Steen
Tyler Talley
Matthew Maberry
Teresa McCoy
Carrie (Cox) Zinck
Yvonne Lucero
Jack Dennis
Evangelina Gonzales



July 9 Christeene Mann

Timothy Clark Megan Stone Kyle Mars Abraham Soto

July 10

Melody Drake M'Kell (Jarecki) Jeter Elizabeth McLellan Phillip White Lavon Reeve Rex Hefner

July 11

Aubrey Schueler Abigail Rushing Tristan Gayle Jamie (Stokes) Faber Jeremy Campbell Rogelio Palacios Frances Jennings

July 12 Jett Jerden

Jimmy Maynard
Eddie Allen
Robert Lynn Alexander
Hollye Pederson
Kyndness Garza

To have your birthdays listed in the newspaper, email them to frionastar@wtrt.net or call: 806.250.5200

Summer starts with lower prices

By GasBuddy

Average gasoline prices in Texas fell 8.7 cents last week, averaging \$3.12 per gallon, according to Gas-Buddy's survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Prices in Texas are 7.1 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 125.7 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas was priced at \$2.56 while the most expensive was \$4.17 per gallon

The national average price of gasoline fell 4.1 cents last week, averaging \$3.50 per gallon. The national average is down 1.9 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 129.3 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel fell 3.4 cents last week and stands at \$3.80 per gallon.

"Just ahead of Independence Day, the national average has fallen to its lowest level since late April, with oil prices remaining under considerable pressure due to a cloudy outlook for the global economy. We could see gasoline prices under some additional pressure soon, especially as we head into the closing innings of summer next month," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

De Haan continued, "For now, gasoline demand will likely ramp up as we enter the peak of the summer, with millions of Americans set to take to the roads with some of the season's lowest average gasoline prices. At the half point of the year, the national average is right at level we anticipated for a full year average. While that's good news, I believe we may see prices close out the second half of the year below our expectations, which would be welcome news for motorists, and the possibility exists that the national average this fall could fall under \$3 per gallon."

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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Wayward Math

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

For those who dislike arithmetic this article will be a disappointment, and for those looking to bash "new math" methods and ways to solve will likewise be left wanting more, because the wayward math that you need to be aware of is in relation to spiritual matters, not simply numbers and equations. In Deuteronomy 4:2, the Lord warns of a devilish kind of addition and subtraction as He commanded, "You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you." Wayward and wicked math is when you add to or subtract from God's word, and through Israel's history they were prone to do just that. They might add to God's word in their allowances of idolatry, and in Jesus' day a massive legalistic religion had been added to the Law of God to help others see the holiness of the religious leaders. Israel was also prone to take away from God's word as well by ignoring God honoring giving, the prophets who preached the Word of God were persecuted, and when the feasts were forgotten. In subtracting from God's Word, the people found it more convenient to leave things out, not commit

and ignore what God commanded.

The temptation to add to or subtract from God's word was alive and well in the Old Testament, and it is also an issue today. Sometimes cults such as Mormons or Jehovah's Witnesses blatantly add to God's Word through their organization's strict teaching on which Bible you can use, who can interpret it correctly, even though their interpretations and literature only serve the purpose of perpetuating heretical beliefs. Catholics add to God's Word in the name of church tradition and papal authority, while health and wealth teaching, name it and claim it, and Christian mysticism sprinkle in some truth to make their heresies more palatable to the modern culture. Many Churches and denominations have subtracted from God's Word by crossing out God's standard for sexuality, ignoring God's holiness as revealed in His moral standards, and going along with the culture just to get along. To ensure that you are not doing wayward math in your walk with the Lord, you must be grounding yourself in the Word of God by daily taking in the life-giving truth the God gives and waking in love and obedi-

Panhandle Parables

Alabama Skeeters!

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

The summer after 5th grade I took a two-week road trip with Martha Bates to see my friend and her grandson Robert. Robert's dad was in the Air Force and during 5th grade he and his older two siblings lived with Martha due to a housing shortage in the Air Force for a family with 6 kids. By the end of that school year I was #7. Robert and his siblings rejoined the family in Montgomery, Alabama. Thus our road trip.

One night Rob and I decided to sleep in their van. We thought it would be fun. Of course if you are going to be a 6th grader of any merit you must have a club so Rob and I started our own. To prove our allegiance to the club which was made up of the two of us, we decided a good dose of cologne would do for initiation. Let's just say that van smelled really good by the time we were done. Sometime in the wee hours we fell asleep and woke up the next morning looking like we had chicken

pox. Never had I had so many mosquito bites. For many years I was and to some extent still am convinced it was the cologne that was our undoing, after all, it is female mosquitos that bite.

Let's say, lesson learned. We made a choice where to sleep, we made a choice to leave the windows open, it was a summer night in Alabama and humidity was thick. The short of it we made choices. I am free to do that, make choices I mean, but that does not make me free from the consequences.

We all make choices, and some of them have negative consequences and you can get bit by some of those consequences. As we enter summer, evaluate how you choose to do or be. What do you base choices on?

You have a choice when it comes to God, but I must warn you as difficult as it is to be a faithful Christian, the choice not to has consequences that are far worse than an Alabama Skeeter.

Surrender to Jesus, Not the World

By Teena Hughs

I apologize if I have told this story before, but I know people of all ages struggle with surrendering their convictions to the world. I just want to encourage you to surrender only to Jesus, not to the world!

If I remember correctly, it was July 5th,1966 when my parents took my cousins, my brother and me to the Rocksprings rodeo. As I watched the rodeo, I saw a young woman drinking a can of Lone Star beer and smoking a cigarette. On the way home, I said I thought that girl looked "trashy". My dad said I should never criticize anyone like that because I would probably turn out to be like her. It was then that I made up my mind to never drink. Believe it or not, I have stuck with that promise. I just wish I could keep the same promise when it comes to Dr. Pepper and food!

When I was in college, I would go to bars and parties, and people would always try to get me to drink. After about a year of politely telling them I didn't drink, they left me alone. In fact, it was at a bar in Lubbock where I realized one night that I was no longer trying to prove to my dad that I wouldn't drink; I wasn't drinking simply because I didn't want to drink!

Last week, I got to thinking about this as I was driving to Uvalde. It dawned on me that I would have probably disappointed God if I had given in and started drinking just to be part of a crowd, or to be accepted. I would have been surrendering who I am, and who I want to be, to the world. This is true not only for drinking; it is true when you surrender any conviction to the world.

Everyone (and especially young people) needs to learn to be you, the person God created you to be. In today's world, it takes a lot of courage and strength to stand up for your convictions and be that person, especially if you are a Christian who knows the Word and tries to live it.

I have always found that even though people may be uncomfortable around me for not drinking, they usually respect me for living what I believe. They may choose to talk about me and make fun of me; they might not invite me to parties. No matter what they choose to do, I am fine, and so are you!!! I will always try to be nice to people and accept them for who they are. Most of all, I will be comfortable being the person God created me to be, and I will continue to work on the things God points out that I need to change. Because God loves each of us so very much, He never gives up on improving us, and aren't we glad for that???!!! We just need to surrender to Jesus in all that we say and do, and not to the world!

Send your church news to the

Friona *Star

frionastar@wtrt.net

Area Church Directory

Friona

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 15th & Cleveland • 806-250-3000 Pastor D.J. Lewis Sunday School 9:30 • Worship 10:45 Wed @ 6:00 p.m. • Like us on facebook

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

FRIONA METHODIST CHURCH

8th & Pierce • 806-250-3045 Pastor David McGaughy Email-frionamethodist@wtrt.net

NUEVA JERUSALEN 701 E. 11th • 806-250-5363 Pastor Benito Mejia

IGLESIA EVANGELICA

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301 Grand Ave. • 806-240-0826 Pastors Mark & Mary Goff

SIXTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 502 W. 6th • 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

TEMPLO DE ADORACION

Pastor William Tapias

620 Washington • 806-250-5929 Pastor Roy Dominguez

TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST 10th & 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 411 Ashland • 806-223-3469 Pastor Aurelio & Cynthia Silva



Bovina

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308 3rd Street 806-251-1632 Pastor Frank Landry

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

FIRST UNITED **METHODIST CHURCH**

205 4th Street 806-251-1124 Pastor Larry Mitchell

ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

409 3rd Street 806-251-1511 Pastor Gregory Bunyan

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

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103 1st Street 806-251-5232 Pastor Rafael Marin

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Friona Texas



Prairie Acres **Quality Care** 806-250-3922 201 E. 15th Friona Texas



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



has an archive of past obituaries at frionaonline.com



Small Town, Big Heart Parade & Block Party

See all July 4th photos at photos.frionaonline.com























Join us for a week of fun and festivities as we build up our excitement to the 17th Annual Cheeseburger Festival and Cook-Off!



For more information, please scan this QR code

Monday, July 10th 9AM-11AM Archery for Beginners – Tyler Gunworks 1PM-5PM Video Game Challenge – Boy Scout Hut 2PM-4PM City Park Splash Party – Friona City Park

Tuesday, July 11th
1PM-5PM Video Game Challenge – Boy Scout Hut
6PM-9PM Bingo Night - Community Center
8PM-10PM Flicks and Floats - Friona City Pool

Wednesday, July 12th
9AM-11AM Kites - Community Center
2PM-4PM Volleyball Tournament - Friona City Pool
1PM-5PM Free Swim Day - Friona City Pool
Thursday, July 13th

6PM-8PM Painting with a Twist - Farmwife Kitchen, music by Ayden Hayes 6PM-9PM Bingo Night - Community Center 6PM-9PM Softball Tournament - Friona Ballpark Fields Friday, July 14th

9AM-4PM Basics of Longarm Quilting Class - Malouf's 6PM-9PM Softball Tournament - Friona Ballpark Fields

Saturday, July 15th
7AM-9AM "Bun" Run - Friona High School
11AM-3PM Cheeseburger Cook-off - Reeve Lake
11AM-3PM Classic Car Show - Reeve Lake
9AM-4PM Pro-Stitcher Basics Class - Malouf's
To Be Announced - Softball ChampionshipFriona Ballpark Fields
9AM-9PM Basketball Tournament - Friona High School

Sunday, July 16th 9AM-9PM Basketball Tournament - Friona High School

Sunday Night is Family Night at TEXAS Outdoor Musical

TEXAS Outdoor Musical is offering tickets for \$1 to all kids ages 6-12 for every Sunday during the month of July. Kids under 5 get in free as a part of this special promotion.

"We want families to feel welcome to share a night at the best outdoor musical in Texas, so we are making it easy to bring the kids out Sundays in July," said Andrew Hay, Executive Director

TEXAS Outdoor Musical is a family-friendly show set against an

authentic tapestry of history. The show's fictional characters bring to life the stories, struggles and triumphs of the settlers of the Texas Panhandle in the 1800s. Song and dance abound – and a generous helping of good ol' Texas humor, too.

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The TEXAS Outdoor Musical is performed nightly Tuesday-Sunday until August 5th. For a complete listing of show times, admission costs, volunteer opportunities and more information, visit our website, www.texas-show.com.





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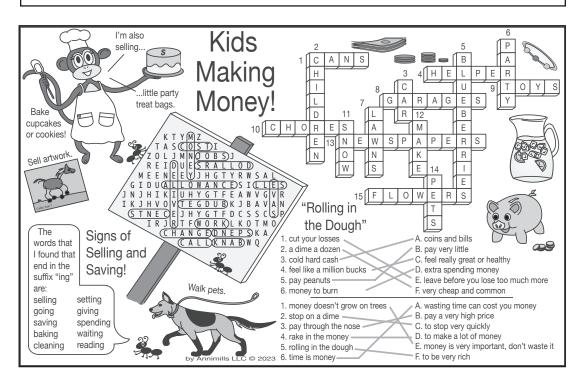
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homeowner checklist

CLEAN EXTERIOR LIGHTS LIGHTEN UP LINENS - OPT FOR CRISP WHITE ADD SHADE TO THE YARD - PERGOLA / UMBRELLA UPGRADE HOME SECURITY FOR SUMMER TRAVEL **CHECK WINDOW SCREENS FOR HOLES GRILL HOMEGROWN VEGETABLES** HAVE A BONFIRE AND ROAST MARSHMALLOWS **BUY SLIPCOVERS FOR PATIO FURNITURE** REFURBISH A PIECE OF FURNITURE HAVE AN OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT STAY ON TOP OF POOL MAINTENANCE

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A FLOOD OF GOOD WILL . . . Mrs. Bobbie Pierson, right, retired tax assessor-collector for Parmer County was among a host of well wishers on hand as Teresa Garth, left, marked her final day as tax assessor-collector for Deaf Smith County with a retirement reception in the District Courtroom of the Deaf Smith County Courthouse Friday, June 30 in Hereford. Mrs. Garth received a flood of flowers and gifts, and kind words from fellow tax assessors in attendance that also included Sherri Aylor of Potter County; Carrie Kimmell of Hutchison County; Patty Combs, Texas Department of Motor Vehicles regional manager from Amarillo; and Connie Gilbreath from Castro County. Among other things, fellow assessors made note of Mrs. Garth's friendliness and willingness to help them with problems and challenges through the years. Here, Mrs. Pierson and Mrs. Garth share a visit during the proceedings. (Photo by Jim Steiert)



Lions Club News



In the photo — Parmer County Clerk Susie Spring and Lions Club President Andy Montana. The guest speaker at Monday's Lions Club meeting was county clerk Susie Spring. Attendees learned of plans to implement county-wide voting for the November election. If approved, there would be a polling location in Bovina, Farwell, Friona, and Lazbuddie. Parmer County voters would be able to vote at any of the locations.

German Fest Playa Tour is July 8

By Jim Steiert

The traditional Ogallala Commons Playa Tour held in conjunction with the Nazareth German Fest is set for the morning of Saturday, July 8 from 9 a.m. -11a.m.

Participants will gather at the Home Mercantile building in Nazareth at the corner of Second and Leo Streets to get organized at 8:45 a.m. then will drive three-quarters of a mile south on FM 168 to the Playa Classroom adjacent to the highway.

Activities will begin with a short presentation by speakers and participants will then divide into small groups to explore and identify an abundance of wetland plants in and around the playa basin at the site.

There is no registration fee for the Playa Tour, but participants are asked to contact Darryl Birkenfeld, deputy director of Ogallala Commons, by emailing or by phone atdarryl@ogallalacommons.org or 806-945-2255 in order to facilitate preparations.

The long-range forecast predicts 93 degrees for the high on July 8, and a cool morning. After the Playa Tour adjourns, attendees can make their way to the Nazareth German Fest sausage dinner at the Nazareth Community Hall served from 11a.m.-2 p.m.

Following the sausage dinner, participants can attend the live music at Paige's Beer Garden, or a small informal tour to see some large playas that can be enjoyed from the side of the road may be organized. There are several wet playas in any direction participants choose to drive from Nazareth.

Notice of Public Hearing

The City Council of the City of Friona will hold a public hearing on the Consumer Confidence Report 2022 at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, July 10, 2023.

The hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers at City Hall which is located at 619 Main Street in Friona, Texas.

Everyone is invited to attend to voice comments and ask questions regarding the drinking water quality report that was mailed to all water customers in the City of Friona.

Unalienable rights

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith

On April 19, 1775, shots were heard from Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts; the Revolutionary War had begun, but The Continental Congress did not deliver a Declaration of Independence until July 4th of the following year.

It proclaimed—in part: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of



Happiness."

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends David McCullough's **1776**. Source: History Matters: Showing our children that their past is prelude to their future at the gratefula mericanbookprize.com website.



FRIONA FLASHBACKS

From the Friona Star Archives



NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH was celebrated at High Plains Dairy with an open house and ribbon cutting Thursday, June 26. The DeWit family, Margret, 2nd from right, Harry in back left with baby, and their children, welcomed over 300 guests to the open house, tour, and hamburger lunch. Ron Carr photo. (Friona Star, Thursday, July 3, 2003)



Go see Buffalo Lake (while it's holding water again)

By Jim Steiert

If you haven't done so yet, you probably owe yourself a trip over to Umbarger. Either a drive within the Buffalo Lake refuge or jaunt south down FM 168 to cross Tierra Blanca Creek in front of the dam and get a look at Buffalo Lake while it has water and is, indeed, for the first time in a long time, a lake. Attaining that status doesn't happen often in the modern era for what was once a Panhandle playground.

We visited the lake the other evening before sundown. It was a bittersweet sentimental journey that brought back memories of great times, as well as recollections of what some of us around here will always regard as a government boundoggle in the handling of a water resource.

Buffalo Lake was created with the building of Umbarger Dam by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Back in 1937, Buffalo Lake pooled behind Umbarger Dam, built as part of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937. Water in a dry land instantly attracted waterfowl along the Central Flyway.

The Soil Conservation Service first managed the lake for water conservation, recreation, and as a wildlife sanctuary.

Flowing spring waters along the Tierra Blanca Creek watershed—likely augmented by irrigation runoff in latter days, made for a jewel of fondly recalled recreational opportunity across decades into the late 1960s.

It was in 1958 that the 7,664 acres were transferred to the Department of Interior and in 1959, Buffalo Lake National Wildlife Refuge was established.

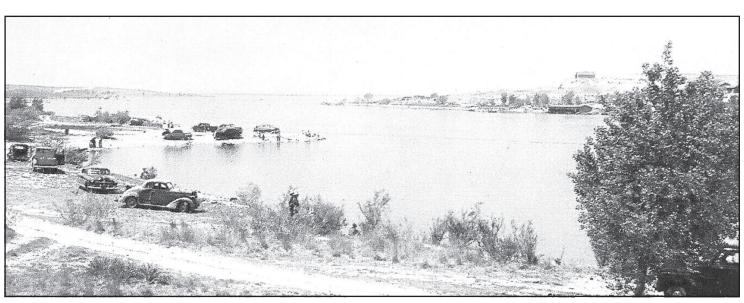
During its salad days Buffalo Lake drew fishermen from all over the Panhandle, particularly nearby Hereford, Canyon, and Amarillo, and there was excellent angling for panfish including bass and crappie, and channel catfish. There were bait stores in nearby Umbarger.

On the west side of the lake itself, you could store a boat, rent a boat, or obtain accommodations for a day or several. On weekends or late in the week there would be a line of boats headed for this shortgrass prairie lake.

An abundance of trees were a while in getting established but eventually surrounded the lake and there were numerous choice picnic sites. First come, first served, so best get there early. I remember times when the cousins from Saint Louis were visiting and other cousins from Amarillo would join in and we would all gather for a family outing at Buffalo Lake replete with fishing, picnicking and some in-the-water activi-



Once a playground — Many who grew up locally can remember the heyday of Buffalo Lake at Umbarger when it was a water playground close to home. This photo, taken from the west side of the lake looking east, shows sailboats and motorboats on the once spring-fed lake. (Portal to Texas History Photo)



In its heyday — A close observer can make an accurate guess as to when this photo looking west at Buffalo Lake at Umbarger was taken, based on the year model of autos and pickups parked around the lake. To the west is a recreation hall on a hill and boat rental and storage facilities near the water's edge. Hard to imagine today with virtually no live spring flow feeding it, but at one time, the highly popular playground was fed by flowing high quality spring water from the Tierra Blanca Creek. (Portal to Texas History Photo)

ties.

My grandad would take his before-its-time camper bus replete with kitchen and line a whole section of the shoreline with fishing rods in conduit holders. Perry Van Vliet from Hart could catch a burlap sack of catfish in a couple of hours, stopping by the lake on a return trip from Amarillo buying carpentry supplies.

There was water skiing on Buffalo Lake. There were fishing boats up and down. When the waterfowl wintering season came, floating barrel barriers on cables marked the limit that boats could traverse, the south end of the refuge was for waterfowl and bald and golden eagles—it all worked out nicely since there weren't a lot of water contact sports going on in the cold weather months anyway.

I can remember folks who attended church in Nazareth on Sunday morning—they had their boat parked just down the hill and right after church they would hitch up and hook 'em for Buffalo Lake for a day of family water skiing action. Thinking about that was a distraction from the sermon.

Tierra Blanca Creek and natural springs fed Buffalo Lake until the 1970s. Irrigation and urban water pumping sapped the water table and, simultaneously, the rains decreased.

Tierra Blanca Creek dried up. With the end of quality spring water, eventually so did Buffalo Lake.

After a torrential rain known as the Memorial Day Flood filled the lake to what some parties termed "capacity" in May of 1978, folks got all excited over the prospect of their recreation lake being back again. Texas Parks and Wildlife even stocked some fish. Despite the fact that it stood up to a substantial flood surge and saved Canyon from even worse flooding, Umbarger Dam was suddenly deemed unsafe and declarations from on high in Washington were that the lake must immediately be drained.

Those were fighting words. A volunteer citizen committee including folks from Hereford, Canyon, and Amarillo formed and took legal action against the Department of the Interior and

the Fish and Wildlife Service. Hearings were held. One in Canyon reached near-riotous proportions as oblivious Interior officials citing rote policy way-under-gauged the intense emotional attachment to Buffalo Lake and what locals deemed the unwarranted drainage of the lake.

Draining of the lake was stalled by the citizen committee legal action for two years—a little longer thanks to the sudden mysterious disappearance of the wheel controlling the gate at the dam amidst dark of the night activity, but in-

evitably the Feds, who in the opinion of some Buffalo Lake backers, didn't care about Panhandle water, prevailed.

The Umbarger Dam was summarily condemned and the lake drained.

In 1992, the Fish and Wildlife Service replaced Umbarger Dam with a lower flood control structure different in appearance and build from the old dam.

There's no denying that now, when major storms occasionally flood Tierra Blanca Creek, they are essentially a cattle manure washout of feedlots from Hereford virtually to the New Mexico border. Accordingly, water quality suffers from upstream cattle feedlots and water is laden with fecal matter and e-coli bacteria, prompting a no water contact directive.

Per Fed policy from Washington, our closeto-home refuge releases any accumulated water and instead the dry lakebed is managed as an arid wildlife habitat.

All of that is hard to ponder when one looks at water again in the fondly-recalled expanse of Buffalo Lake where we once dunked homemade dough bait and cranked channel catfish from the south end.

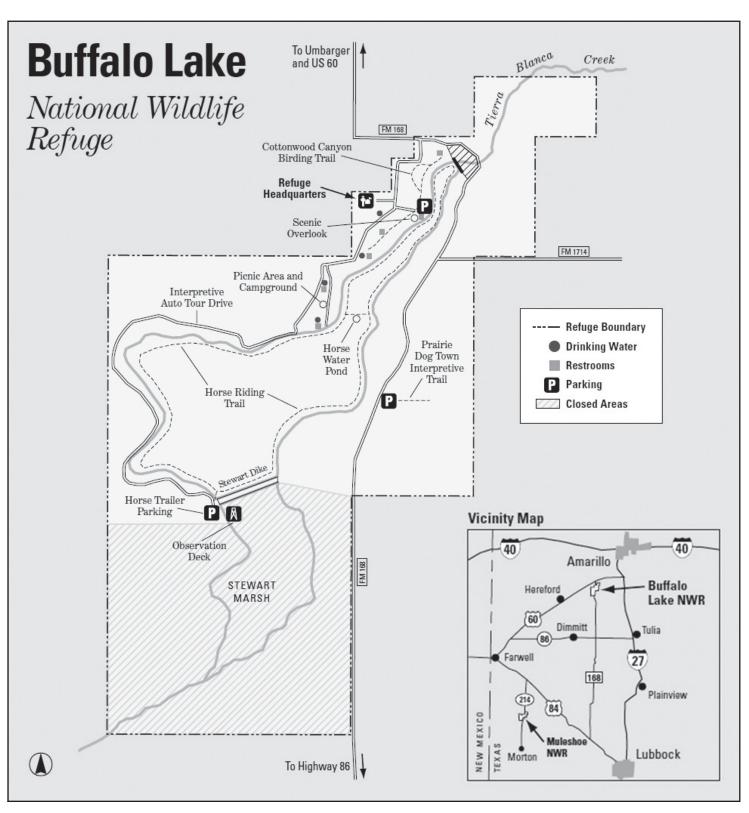
The tainted waters are deceptively blue and nonhazardous-appearing at a distance. Don't they shine amidst the green of surrounding grassland. The water will be there at least for a little while.

Our friends Jude Smith, refuge manager, and Melanie Hartman, who work at the Buffalo Lake, Muleshoe, and Grulla wildlife refuges, do their best to manage what's there at Buffalo Lake peaceably, according to dictums from agency folks far-removed from Panhandle values.

At least the grassland and the wildflowers, the walking trails, and the viewing points haven't yet been condemned.

Go see Buffalo Lake the way it used to be—while you can.

Jim Steiert is an awardwinning member of the Texas Outdoor Writers Association and a Certified Texas Master Naturalist.



Friona Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Presents

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