



Smithee announces re-election bid

Rep. John Smithee, the fourth most senior member of the Texas House of



Representatives, filed for re-election to House District 86 yesterday, which is comprised of Armstrong, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Hartley, Oldham, Parmer, and Randall counties.

"I am proud of my record of delivering real results for the people of the Texas Panhandle," remarked Smithee. "I am as committed as ever to our shared conservative values and look forward to continuing to be a voice for the Panhandle in the Texas House."

Committee. He has previously served as a chairman for various House committees.

"We are at an extremely important crossroads as a state and nation. Now is the time for steady, principled conservative leadership. I am excited about the campaign ahead and earning the support of the people of House District 86 once again," concluded Smithee.

Rep. Smithee currently sits on the powerful State Affairs Committee, as well as the critically important Juvenile Justice & Family Issues



On Stage - Amy Montana (Ti Moune) and Noah Aguilar (Papa Ge, God of Death) in a dramatic scene from *Once on This Island*. Friona High School Theatre presented the musical, written by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, last Sunday and Monday. See photos on page 11 and at www.frionaonline.com

Thanksgiving Community Service is Nov. 19th

The Annual Community Thanksgiving Service is set for Sunday, November 19, at Victory Family Worship Center, located at 110 E. 9th St. The service will begin at 6:00 p.m. and is hosted by Friona Christian Ministries. An offering will be taken and the proceeds will be used throughout the year to help people in our community with basic needs. There will be a time of fellowship immediately following the service.

Comptroller Distributes \$1.2B to Local Governments

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced that he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.2 billion in local sales tax allocations for November. This amount is 1.9 percent more than the amount distributed in November 2022. These allocations are based on sales made in September by businesses that report tax monthly and on sales made in July, August and September by quarterly filers.

Texas cities will receive \$751.4 million, transit systems will get \$242.1 million, counties will get \$70.2 million, and special purpose districts will receive \$108.5 million. These allocations are based on sales made in September by businesses that report tax monthly and on sales made in July, August, and September by quarterly filers.

The City of Friona will receive \$60,372.13 in sales tax allocation

for the month of November. This payment represents a 6.94 percent increase from the \$56,454.12 received in November of 2022. For year-to-date 2023, Friona has received \$616,369.95 which is a 10.97 percent decrease from the YTD amount of \$692,356.17 received in 2022. The Friona Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) will receive \$15,093.03 of the November allocation for its operating budget.

Plea agreement reached with former trainer

On Tuesday, former Athletic Trainer for Friona ISD, Michael Ray Taylor Jr., pleaded guilty in two cases to Injury To a Child, a state jail felony. Mr. Taylor had been indicted on April 4, 2022 in the two cases for Indecency with a child by contact, a second degree felony.

As part of the plea agreement, Mr. Taylor is surrendering his National EMT License, his Teacher's Certificate, and any licenses or certificate that he holds as an athletic trainer. He has also agreed to lifetime protective orders protecting the victims in both cases. Mr. Taylor was sentenced to 5 years of deferred probation where he will have to report and be supervised by the Community Supervision office of the 287th Judicial District during the entire duration of his probation. As part of his supervision requirements imposed by the Court, he will have to complete sex offender counseling.

When asked to comment, District Attorney Jackie Claborn replied, "While not the exact plea desired by the District Attorney's Office, the DA's office reached this plea after considerable consultation with the victims and the Law Enforcement agencies involved in these cases. As a condition of this agreement, Michael Taylor, is surrendering his teaching license, athletic training license, and National EMT License and can never seek to obtain one again in the State of Texas or any other State, assuring that Mr. Taylor can never again victimize any minors, or any young women, from these positions of authority that he previously held. While we know that this can never make up for what happened to these victims, we hope that this plea agreement can provide them with a measure of closure." Jackie Claborn is the District Attorney for the 287th Judicial District in Bailey and Parmer Counties.

Former Mayor honored at Veterans Day Program



Former Mayor Clarence Monroe was honored posthumously at the Veterans Day program last Friday at Friona High School. Mayor Monroe, a U.S. Army veteran, served as mayor from 1983 until 2002. His 19 years of service is the longest tenure of any mayor in Friona history. Monroe passed away on Monday, August 21, 2023. In honor of his service, the Clarence Monroe family was presented a flag which was flown over the U.S. Capitol at the direction of U.S. Congressman Jodey Arrington. **In the photo** — Mayor Greg Lewellen, City Council Member Alan Monroe (son) and wife Debbie, Kaci Morris (Congressman Arrington field representative), Peggy Monroe (wife), Renae Barnett (daughter), City Manager Lee Davila, and Asst. City Manager Sandra Busch.



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

Friona Weather November 16-22	T ☀️ 77 40 WSW 10-20	F ☁️ 63 37 NE 10-20	S ☁️ 67 44 SSW 10-20	S ☀️ 70 40 W 10-20	M ☁️ 56 31 N 20-30	T ☀️ 56 32 NW 10-20	W ☀️ 64 33 W 10-15	Precipitation November 0.00 Year 17.25	Burn Ban No
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Community Calendar

Send Calendar information to:
frionastar@wtrt.net or call (806) 250-5200

November 16

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

November 19

• Community Thanksgiving Service 6 p.m. at Victory Family Worship Center

November 20-24

• No School (Thanksgiving Holiday)

November 20

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

November 24 (Friday)

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

November 27

• Senior Citizens meal at noon at Senior Citizens Center

November 28

• Packing bags for Snack Pak 4 Kids[®] at 3 p.m. north door on 9th street of the Friona Methodist Church

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

State

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



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



Representative: John T. Smithee, Room CAPIW.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.



State Capital Highlights

By Gary Borders



Voter turnout in amendment election was 14.4%

Voter turnout in the Nov. 7 election reached 14.4% of registered voters. The good news is that is the highest turnout for a constitutional amendment election since 2005, according to the Texas Secretary of State's office. The bad news: well, it was just 14.4% of the electorate.

Voters approved all but one of the 14 propositions on the ballot, the lone loser being a bid to raise the mandatory retirement age for judges from 75 years to 79. Measures providing property tax relief and a boost in teacher retirement pay passed overwhelmingly.

Also receiving approval was Proposition 5, which establishes a \$3.9 billion permanent endowment for research in eligible universities. Those include Texas State University, the University of North Texas, Texas Tech University and the University of Houston.

"We feel like we won the Super Bowl," Texas State University president Kelly Damphousse told the Statesman.

TEA releases financial accountability ratings

The Texas Education Agency has released its 2022-2023 financial accountability ratings for Texas public schools, with 88% receiving a "Superior Achievement" rating. The rating system, established in 2001, "encourages school systems to improve financial resources to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes."

Only eight public schools and three charter schools received

substandard achievement ratings. The eight public school districts receiving an "F" were Holliday, Ben Bolt-Palmer to Blanco, Keene, Pridley, Denver City, Tioga, Matagorda and Sunray ISDs. The three charter schools receiving an "F" were Education Center International Academy in Sunnyvale; St. Anthony School in Carrollton; and Texas Preparatory School.

Texas Medicaid recipients were victims of data breach

A data breach of a data file transfer company has exposed Texas Medicaid recipients, whose names and Social Security numbers were obtained in the hack. The breach occurred in late May when hackers obtained files being transferred using the MOVEit platform, The Dallas Morning News reported. A total of 67 million people in multiple countries had their personal information illegally obtained, including the Texas Medicaid

recipients.

Anyone concerned about being affected by the hack can call UMass Chan, which was providing services directly to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, to find out. That number is 855-457-6006.

Lege gets to work in fourth special session

The Texas Legislature, conceived as a part-time body to meet every other year for 140 days, is now in its record fifth session (counting the regular session). When the impeachment trial of Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is included, legislators have been in Austin pretty much the entire year, as the Texas Tribune noted. While legislators are paid just \$7,200 a year in salary, per diem payments - meant to cover their expenses while in Austin - have mounted. If the fourth special session goes a full 30 days, taxpayers will have spent \$4.8 million keeping lawmakers in Austin.

The Senate quickly passed measures last week allocating \$1.54 billion for segments of a border wall, a school finance bill that increases per-student funding, teacher retention bonuses for teachers and vouchers to parents who elect to send their children to private schools, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Once again, the onus is on the House, which has been reluctant to pass a school choice bill. The measure, being strongly pushed by Gov. Greg Abbott, is largely opposed by Democratic members and rural Republican legislators. On Friday, the latest plan was approved by the House Select Committee.

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, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.



FCCLA hosted a brunch after the Veterans Day Program last Friday at Friona High School. FCCLA members in the photo are: (l-r) Abby Marquez; Stevie Herring; Molly Rector; Lexi Saldana, President; Lilly Abarca, Treasurer; Saraya Luna, Secretary; Ashley Maldonado, Advisor; Erin Barnett; and Abril Arzate.

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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 are published at no charge. Deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

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ACROSS

- 1 Lone ___ State
- 5 TXism: "it ain't a ___, there ain't a cow in Texas"
- 6 go by horse
- 7 TXism: "he's ___ hombre" (mean)
- 8 agcy. that regulates Texas utilities
- 9 TX Trini sang "___ Had a Hammer"
- 12 TXism: "old ___"
- 17 some say an ___ ___ your socks will cure the flu
- 19 it was Letterman's nightly list (2 wds.)
- 21 Fox ___ carries NFL football games
- 22 TXism: "he's ___ ___ walk the river with" (reliable)
- 23 "the die ___"
- 28 hankerings
- 29 TX Vikki Carr album: "___ Hombres"
- 30 this 1967 hurricane hit Texas hard
- 31 horny ___ (lizards)
- 35 ___ of cotton
- 36 museum Institution in Washington, D.C.
- 42 the Alamo was originally "Mission San ___ Valero"
- 44 TX Charley Pride's "Kiss an ___ Good Mornin'"
- 46 Seur ___ ___ led first French expedition in Texas

- 48 liquid absorber
- 49 first 2 init. of president born in Denison, Texas
- 50 high school student, e.g.
- 51 Spanish for "little girl"
- 52 driver's license agcy.
- 53 it's used to catch shrimp in the Gulf (2 wds.)
- 54 "___ Day" (Wednesday)
- 56 ___ City, Texas in Upshur County
- 57 "Surf the ___" (online)

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "___ ___ ___ feedbag" (eat a meal)
- 2 Quannah ___ - Chief newspaper
- 3 impudence
- 4 this Donna was in "Apache Trail" with TX Chill Wills
- 9 "___ the plan" (privy to)
- 10 Galveston had the ___ exchange in Texas
- 11 TXism: "___ slinger" (writer)
- 12 TX Tanya Tucker sang "One Love ___ Time"

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2023 by Orbison Bros.

P-1663
solution on page 3

- 13 TXism: "he's still got ___ in his garters" (able)
- 14 health resorts
- 15 TXism: "pay ___ never mind" (disregard)
- 16 they hang on basketball rims
- 18 in debt
- 20 TXism: "he's ___ spring chicken" (old)
- 23 this Berlin wrote songs for TX Ginger 1936 film "Follow the Fleet" (init.)
- 24 "___ Rim State Park" on the Gulf
- 25 Havana's country
- 26 TXism: "does ___ office business"
- 27 seasoned
- 32 TX Roy Orbison's "___, Pretty Woman"
- 33 TXism: "honest ___ the day is long"
- 34 TX Strait's "What ___ You Say to That"
- 36 bro's sib
- 37 water ditch around a castle
- 38 wasted time
- 39 "hole ___"
- 40 TXism: "he could shoot the eye out of ___"
- 41 saying "no" (abbr.)
- 43 symbol for sodium
- 45 noted black golfer, TX Elder (init.)
- 47 guaranteed
- 48 Crackle and Pop's amigle
- 55 New York's NL team in MLB

COURTHOUSE NOTES

Susie Spring, County Clerk

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

(11/6/23) Jose S. Rivera — Gloria Alvidrez Cano — The North 20' of Lot 15, and All of Lots 16 and 17, and the South 1/2 of Lot 18, Block 65, Original Town of Bovina, Parmer County, Texas

(11/6/23) Angelica Perez — Lucia Perez — All of Lots 11 and 12, Block 15, of the Original Town of Friona, Parmer County, Texas

(11/6/23) Bertha Alicia Mendoza — Lucia Perez — All of Lots 11 and 12, Block 15, of the Original Town of Friona, Parmer County, Texas

(11/6/23) The Boy Scouts of America — The Boy Scouts of America Settlement Trust — Parmer County Texas NPR1, Sec. 20 in Block B, 160 Acres of the Capitol Syndicate Subdivision Farwell National Farm Loan Association

(11/9/23) Brandy Lann Green, Brittany Nicole May, Bryce Scott Martin, Baylee Michelle Thomas — Joshua Ryan McDonald, Kristen Marie McDonald — All of the North 160 Acres of the East 320 Acres of Section 35, Township 11 South, Range 3 East, of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision of Parmer County, Texas; All of the North 166.75 Acres of the West 333.5 Acres of Section 35, Township 11 South, Range 3 East of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision of Parmer County, Texas

(11/9/23) Brandy Lann Green, Brittany Nicole May, Bryce Scott Martin, Baylee Michelle Thomas — Aidan Ryan McDonald — All Certain 5.32 Acres Out of the East Part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 26, T11S, R3E, of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision of Parmer County, Texas; All of the NE 1/4 of Section 26, T11S, R3E, of Capitol Syndicate Subdivision of Parmer County, Texas

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Reported by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office:

Eric Geske, Sheriff

(10/23/23) Stephen Raymond Corliss, 31, of Texico, New Mexico was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Fail to ID/give false/fictitious info.

(10/24/23) Celso Gael Guevara, 17, of Friona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Duty on striking fixture/hwy landscape ≥ \$200 and a charge of Reckless Driving.

(10/27/23) Johnny Garcia, 37, of Clovis, New Mexico was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Man/Del CS PG1 ≥ 4g < 200g.

(11/1/23) John Ryan Soliz, 33, of Earth was arrested by the Department of Public Safety on a Lamb County Warrant on a charge of X3 Out of County Warrants.

(11/2/23) Ismael Garcia, 62, of Friona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Prohibited Substance/Item in correctional facility, and on a Parmer County Warrant for Terroristic Threat of Family/Household.

(11/3/23) Juan Christian Esteban Fernandez Jr, 17, of Clovis, New Mexico was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of UNL carry weapon.

(11/5/23) Miguel G. Torres, 47, of Friona was arrested by the Friona Police Department on a charge of CS PG1 ≥ 1g < 4g.

(11/8/23) Senque Eugene Polk, 43, of Amarillo was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of DWLI w/Previous conviction.

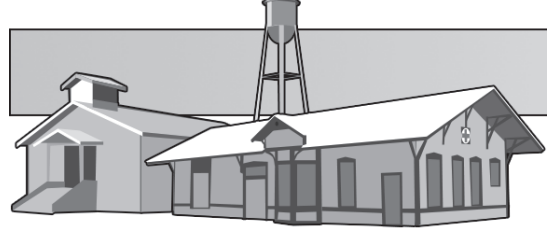
(11/9/23) Alfredo Juan Martinez Solis, 50, of Farwell was arrested by the Farwell Police Department on Curry County Warrants for X3 Out of County Warrants.

(11/9/23) Omar Medrano Jr, 17, of Bovina was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff's Office on a charge of Resist Arrest search of transport.

(11/10/23) Jared Alexander Montano, 27, of Clovis, New Mexico was arrested by the Bovina Police Department on a charge of DWI/Open Container and a charge of Resist Arrest search or transport.

Puzzle Solution

S-1663



TOWN TALK

Phone: 806-250-5200
Email: frionastar@wrtt.net

The Votes Are In

Based on statewide election night returns, the estimated voter turnout for November 7th Constitutional Amendment Election was 14.4% of registered voters. More than 2.5 million Texans cast a ballot. That was the highest turnout for a constitutional amendment election since 2005.

Project Christmas Card

Connie Neelley informed the Star this week that Project Christmas Card Project will begin soon. Donation containers will be placed in businesses around town after Thanksgiving and will be gathered up on December 14th. Stay tuned for more details.

The Good, the Bad, and

the Ugly

The Chamber of Commerce invites your business to participate in the Ugly Sweater Contest this year. Just submit a group photo of your employees in ugly sweaters to the Chamber by December 13th. The winning business will be awarded a secret prize on December 15th. Must be a chamber member to participate.

Texas Senate News

The Senate's school choice plan, SB 1, would call for the creation of education savings accounts worth \$8,000 each. Priority would be given to students from low income backgrounds, and funds could be used to pay for a number of private education expenses including tuition, transportation, and tutoring. SB 2

would pay for teacher pay raises, school safety improvements, and increase the basic allotment.

Pun Fun

A man was severely injured when a pile of books fell on him. He only had his shelf to blame. Source: www.pun.me

Empty Stocking Fund

Donations are being accepted for the Empty Stocking Fund which provides clothing and a toy to local needy children.

School officials are consulted to determine the recipients. Donations may be made at Friona InterBank or given to project co-chairs Holly Campbell or Jyl Grimsley.

Right Around the Corner

Christmas In The Park is Monday, December 4th. Makes plans to visit Santa and his helpers as they arrive at the Depot to visit with the kids. A light parade will begin at dark. Stay tuned for more details.

National Days

- November 16 — Rural Health Day
- November 17 — Homemade Bread Day
- November 18 — Adoption Day
- November 19 — Play Monopoly Day
- November 20 — Child's Day
- November 21 — Stuffing Day
- November 22 — Cranberry Relish Day

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Come have Fun with us at Malouf's Fabric

These are the classes scheduled this fall

November 18: Crazy Quilt Stocking

December 9: "Quilt as You Go" Table Runner

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

Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

Animills LLC © 2023 V43

Happy Thanksgiving, Everyone!

Our Thanksgiving holiday is based upon a December 1619 feast that the Pilgrims and Native Americans shared at Plymouth Plantation, where the Pilgrims lived in Massachusetts.

We travel 'Over the River and through the Woods' to places where 'We Gather Together' to give thanks for our family, friends and all that we have!

Read these clues to fill in this puzzle about Thanksgiving:

- about half of these people moved to Holland, then to North America so they could build a better life and worship as they pleased
- Native _____ taught the Pilgrims skills they would need to survive
- Native American who lived with the Pilgrims
- number of Native Americans who came to the Pilgrims' feast
- stone that marks the Pilgrims' landing place (2 words)
- an agreement signed by the men to set up a new government (2 words)
- Pilgrims' ship, sailed 66 days and nights to America
- "wildfowl" was eaten at the Thanksgiving feast — today the centerpiece is often this large bird
- the first Native American to welcome the Pilgrims
- to say or show that we are pleased, grateful
- big games played today
- on an early check of the land (Cape Cod) Pilgrims found baskets of this buried in the sand in Native American fields

Fill in this puzzle to get an idea of the perfect Thanksgiving Day for Forest!

- I'll wake up to Mom and Dad making stuffing and getting the turkey ready to _____.
- Next, we will go into town to _____ in the parade.
- When we get home, the whole family will have arrived and we will all _____.

Color Key:
O = orange
B = brown

Run away... it's: _____

Do you remember the Thanksgiving picture that you made in first grade using the outlines of your hands? Umm... yes, why?

Animills LLC © 2023

Small Town Cookin' By Jeri Lynn White

Healthy Comfort Food

This week I found a healthier version of Chicken Parmesan. By using a little butter or olive oil to make the breadcrumbs stick, you can get a crispy breaded chicken breast without frying it. I usually serve with a side of spaghetti with marinara sauce or you could use spaghetti squash to add one more vegetable to the dish.

Baked Chicken Parmesan
www.skinnytaste.com

Ingredients

- 4 chicken breasts, about 8 oz each, sliced in half lengthwise to make 8
- 3/4 cup seasoned breadcrumbs, I used whole wheat, you can also use GF crumbs
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tbsp butter, melted (or olive oil)
- 3/4 cup reduced fat mozzarella cheese, I used Polly-o
- 1 cup marinara or Filetto di Pomodoro
- cooking spray

Instructions

Preheat oven to 450°F. Spray a large baking sheet lightly with spray. Combine breadcrumbs and parmesan cheese in a bowl. Melt the butter in another bowl. Lightly brush the butter onto the chicken, then dip into breadcrumb mixture. Place on baking sheet and repeat with the remaining chicken. Lightly spray a little more oil on top and bake in the oven for 25 minutes. Remove from oven, spoon 1 tbsp sauce over each piece of chicken and top each with 1 1/2 tbsp of shredded mozzarella cheese. Bake 5 more minutes or until cheese is melted.

Check Your Mirrors

By Sue Jane Sullivan



On the road to Aspermont

Come next week, the pew may call or a spot under a tree. Where'er I land on sabbath day the Spirit goes with me. -- sjs

My respect for those whose faith still leads them to participate and commune with believers in a church setting is genuine and profound. You lead and you love. And you matter. My younger daughter, son-in-law, and two granddaughters attend a small church, a source of nurturing fellowship for all four of them as individuals and as a young family.

This is not my choice now. I did not wake up one day and think that attendance was no longer necessary (or mandatory). Even with that questionable motive for showing up at church three times a week as a backdrop to my faith's foundation, the rhythm of prayer and song and

communion still exists in my life though in different ways.

On a recent Sunday morning, I woke up and wanted to have a good lunch, the kind I knew I could find at Hickman's in Aspermont: the hot buffet, the cold salad bar, the rolls, the desert of choice.

There was no dramatic revelation on that twenty-five-minute drive to Stonewall County. God did not blind me for not going to church because church was going with me.

Church taught me to pray. I did silently say grace over that delicious meal and smiled when I saw the couple across the way holding hands and giving thanks aloud.

Church songs taught me to think of others. I let my little light shine by getting three of those delicious

meals to go for a family I knew in Aspermont who had health issues.

Church taught me to tithe from the heart.

My server received an extra \$20, not because I wanted to be flashy cashy. It was my way of showing appreciation for her work on a day of rest.

It still comforts me to see cars and trucks and trucks-with-horse-trailers pulled up at St. Mary's Catholic Church or the 5th and Elm Church of Christ or the local First Baptist or United Methodist building in any town.

Carry on and go worship for all the right reasons, especially the ones that involve love.

And know that I, too, share the Spirit's love, not out of necessity but of healthy habits formed long ago when I was sitting where you are.

Happy Birthday

Nov. 16
Mike Scott
Glenda Richards



Nov. 20
Keri Jack
Monda Daniel
Sammy Ott
Rosa Velasco
James Morgan Lambert

Nov. 17
Henry Clark
Dora Parson
Karen Renner
Della Henry
Jo Benson
Jamison Lambert

Nov. 21
Joyce Veazey
Jordan Jamerson
Alicia Spring
Regan Tongate
Camron Gilter
Stephanie Barrett
Kailani Salinas

Nov. 18
Melba Smiley
Joy Cooper
Joey Howard
Joe Don Henry
Gabe Goodwin
Eric Veggeberg

Nov. 22
Gary Brown
Peyton Gilter
Michelle Hromas

Nov. 19
Betty Lewellen

Lower prices for holiday travelers

By Gas Buddy

Average gasoline prices in Texas fell 7.7 cents last week, averaging \$2.75 per gallon, according to GasBuddy's survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. Prices in Texas are 30.7 cents lower than a month ago and 30.1 cents per gallon lower than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Texas was priced at \$2.29/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.11/g, a difference of \$1.82/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.29/g while the highest was \$4.11/g, a difference of \$1.82/g.

The national average price of gasoline fell 4.6 cents last week, averaging \$3.33 per gallon. The national average is down 24.8 cents from a month ago and is 42.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel fell 4.2 cents last week and stands at \$4.34 per gallon.

"As motorists turn their attention to Thanksgiving, they certainly can be thankful for the decline in gasoline prices, which has now reached eight straight weeks. GasBuddy counts 11 states where average prices are below \$3 per gallon, with several more to join this week. Even in California, the nation's most expensive gasoline average will fall below \$5 in the next 48 hours," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

De Hann added, "Gasoline demand has struggled in recent weeks, falling not only due to the seasonal nature, as Americans drive less as the weather gets colder, but it appears there may be some economic headwinds entering the equation as well."

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

FFA Leadership Development Events, Littlefield District Results

Greenhand Creed Speaking

Mario Molina - District Champion (advancing to area)

Senior Creed Speaking

Aubree Bunker - 3rd
Aubrey Garcia - 4th

Spanish Greenhand Creed Speaking

Carlos Ríos - District Champion (advancing to area)

Job Interview

Aubrey Schueler - 3rd

Public Relations

Dieter Ally, Aubree Bunker, Anna Jo London, and Kitzy Welch - 3rd

Greenhand Quiz

Iram González, Stevie Herring, Shelby Lewellen, Jackie Salinas, and Kyleigh Stephens - 4th

Senior Quiz

Avram Hernández, Karen Morales, Francisco Pérez, Aiden Pitsch, Racee Rogers, and Edward Trevino - 13th



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Enduring Trials

By Brett Hoyle, Pastor, First Baptist Church

What does God expect of you when you go through trials and difficulties? Is the burden on you to muster up enough faith to overcome, are you to pull yourself up by your bootstraps and face things head on, are you to give in, give up, let go and let God, or is there something else that God calls you to when the trials of life pour in? Thankfully, the answer to this question is clear in scripture and James 1:12 is precise on this matter, "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."

God wants you to "remain steadfast under trial." It is not up to you to overcome, because Jesus has already done that. It is not up to you to generate healing or help or deliverance, because only God can determine that, but what you can do is "remain steadfast under trial." In other words, en-

sure the trials you face by clinging to the Lord. This does not mean you resign your future to fatalism, but that you focus on what God has called you to do, which is to "remain steadfast under trial."

A few key ingredients are necessary if you will "remain steadfast under trial." First, you must have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. If you are lost in your sin, you cannot cling to Christ through trials, because you do not belong to Him. If you don't know Christ as your Lord and Savior, turn from your sin and receive the salvation that only he can give.

Second, prayer and the Word of God are so important as you "remain steadfast." When you are in the Word of God regularly, meditating on it, obeying it and clinging to the promises of God in the Bible, your soul is nourished, your faith is strengthened, and your love for the Lord is stirred. Prayer is a natural outflow of intentionally clinging

to the Lord, and when you are in the Word and in prayer before God regularly, you allow the Holy Spirit to fill you and comfort and strengthen you in the midst of your trial.

Further, as you cling to the Lord through trial rest in God's providential control over every aspect of your situation. The outcome is in His hands, and you can trust Him, no matter the situation or outcome. Finally, as you "remain steadfast under trial" remain connected with a local church family. The body of Christ is called to bear one another's burdens, and this doesn't happen through online church or facebook feeds, but it happens when we allow other believers into our mess so they can minister to, pray for, and come alongside someone who is going through difficulty. Isolation in a trial doesn't lead to anything good, and the cure for isolating oneself is being plugged into a biblical, loving church family.

Panhandle Parables

Safely Home

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

In Psalm 100 David pens these words in verse 4. "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." It is the time of year for reflection, harvest is nearing its end and it lends itself to a time of thankfulness.

It is a simple thing really. Be thankful. Yet there are many who struggle with being thankful. The attitude of thanksgiving should be as natural as breathing to a believer, for there is much to be thankful for in this life and the one to come.

From childhood we are taught to say, "thank you." Two little words used properly can bring encouragement to the hearer and praise to God. I remember as Monica and I taught Elaina to pray and many of those early prayers included a lot of thanksgiving. Even in my own childhood I recall praying with one eye open looking around the room for things to be thankful for, I sure didn't want to leave anything out.

Redeemed by the blood of Christ we rejoice at the notion of all He has done. How could we not be thankful? Answering that with negativity is to listen to all

other voices besides that of God. Why would Paul tell the early church to not grumble or complain? Why would he tell them "with thanksgiving make your requests known to God?" Because he knew, as do we, complaining divides and thankfulness lifts up.

So, as we enter a season of thanksgiving, resolve within yourself to be thankful each day. Thankful that there is today, thankful for all the blessings both physical and especially spiritual, and while you are filling your heart with thanksgiving, share it! Your list will be longer, but here are a few to get you started...

Thank a veteran, thank our first responders and your neighbor. If you see one of your teachers from your school years, which most of us around here still can, thank him/her for your education and love. Thank your families and above all give thanks to God for your life is unique and special to Him.

David concludes the Psalm with a simple reminder, "For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." Amen!

Don't Go For The Tie, Fight To Win

By Teena Hughs

I think I have lowered my blood pressure enough to write this after Texas Tech just beat KU in the last 26 seconds of the game.

With less than a minute to play, and with Tech leading 13-10, it looked like KU was going to tie the game with a field goal, and Texas Tech head coach Joey McGuire called a timeout. Everyone was already thinking overtime, and I told Feller it was stupid to call timeout; I think most of Raider Nation agreed.

Sure enough, KU tied the game, and Tech got the ball with 26 seconds left in regulation play. Tech's second string quarterback, Behren

Morton, passed the ball into field goal range in four plays. Field goal kicker Gino Garcia made the field goal and won the game for Tech.

The TV announcers admitted it was a crazy move for Coach McGuire to call timeout. But, if Coach McGuire hadn't stopped the clock, time would have run down, and we wouldn't have had the time to move the ball into field goal range.

I told Feller I could say one thing about Coach McGuire: he didn't go for the tie; he went for the win!

Friends, our country, our churches, our schools, our businesses are all in a mess, be-

cause we have gone for the tie to get along rather than stand up and fight for the win! We are paying for our lack of courage to stand up and do what is right.

We know that looting stores, defunding police, allowing illegals to come across our borders, breaking laws in general is wrong. We know that wokeness has taken us down the wrong road, causing schools, businesses, the government and our military, and churches to support sex changes, sexual immorality, changing the Word of God to suit people rather than letting God change our lives.

Continued on page 8

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Area Church Directory

Friona

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Website-www.fbcfriona.com

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

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Pastor Benito Mejia

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Jeff Procter, Minister

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TEMPLO DE ADORACION
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Pastor Roy Dominguez

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UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1601 Euclid • 806-250-3635

VICTORY FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER
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Pastor Robert Kerby
Website-www.thevictory.tv

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Pastor Aurelio & Cynthia Silva

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Pastor Frank Landry

CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Mike Prather, Minister

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
205 4th Street
806-251-1124
Pastor Larry Mitchell

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

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November Bible Verse

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV*

¹⁶ Estén siempre alegres, ¹⁷ oren sin cesar, ¹⁸ den gracias a Dios en toda situación, porque esta es su voluntad para ustedes en Cristo Jesús. *1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-18 NVI*

Friona★Star

has an archive of past obituaries at frionaonline.com

Council discusses water conservation

The Friona City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 13, 2023 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.

There were no public comments. Council Member Cindy Trevino was absent and Assistant City Manager Sandra Busch answered questions from council members related to the agenda items. Minutes of the October 9, 2023 regular meeting were reviewed and approved.

There was a discussion on the proposed City of Friona Water Conservation Rebate Program. Details of the program are still being worked out and a fund has been established to implement the incentives in the program. When the plans are finalized, there will be a community-wide rollout of the program. Even though

a recent water study concluded that the City of Friona has plenty of water through the year 2070, there is a consensus among council members that it is never too early to plan for the future. Water conservation and stewardship are important issues now.

A motion was approved for the reappointment of Justin Jeter, Greg Lewellen, and Clint Mears as board members of the Friona Economic Development Corporation (FEDC). A motion was approved on the appointment of Olga Legarreta as a new board member of the FEDC. Members serve 2-years terms.

An Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the city of Friona Police Department and the Parmer County Sheriff's Office for police services was approved.

Happy Tribe Academy Daycare facility will

open soon. The facility is approved for a maximum of 42 children. Estimated cost for the project was \$225,000 and construction finished under budget with an approximate \$2,000 surplus. Thanks to the City of Friona, Cargill, and the Amarillo Area Foundation for working together to make daycare a reality in Friona.

Sheriff Eric Geske presented the Parmer County Emergency Operations Plan. This countywide "operations manual" is updated by law every five years. A motion to approve the plan was approved.

In other business, the accounts payable for October 2023 were approved as well as the financial statement for October 2023. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, December 11th.

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

Commissioners approve biogas project

Parmer County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, November 13, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the County Courtroom of the Parmer County Courthouse in Farwell, Texas. The meeting began with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Texas Flag.

Commissioners unanimously approved a biogas project financed by the Port Arthur Navigation District Industrial Development Corporation which will be operated by Route 86 Biogas LLC. The company will employ approximately 16-20 workers.

Sheriff Geske reported to the Court that the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center is currently housing 27 inmates of which 13 are

from Lubbock County. So far this year, the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center has billed \$258,125.00 to other counties for the housing of inmates.

Commissioners approved the Wellness Incentive Program for 2024 in conjunction with the Texas Association of Counties (TAC). The plan includes a \$50 gift certificate for any employee who follows the prescribed guidelines.

The canvassing of the November 7th Constitutional Amendment Election was tabled until November 16th. Parmer County Clerk Susie Spring reported that turnout was approximately 14.8% for the recent election. There was a 14.4% turnout of voters state-wide.

In other business,

the annual Interlocal Agreement between Parmer County and the Regional Public Defender's Office was approved. Also, a bond was approved for Jessica Rosenblad, who is the new Deputy Clerk in the Tax Assessor/Collector's office.

There were no comments from the public during the open forum. Minutes from the October 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. The next regular meeting is on November 27th.

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

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Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Clarence R. Monroe, Deceased, were issued on November 2, 2023, in Cause No. P03364, pending in the County Court of Parmer County, Texas, to: Alan Monroe.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Betsy S. Clark**
Attorney at Law
PO Box 236
Friona, TX 79035

DATED the 14th day of November, 2023.

Betsy S. Clark

Betsy S. Clark
Attorney for Alan Monroe
State Bar No.: 24078346
PO Box 236
Friona, TX 79035
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LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed proposals addressed to City Manager, City of Friona, for the rehabilitation of one 200K gallon elevated water storage tank, including the preparation and painting of the interior and exterior of the tank, and associated appurtenances entitled:

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FRIONA, TEXAS
TxCDBG No. CDV21-0157**

will be received at the City Hall, 623 N. Main Street, Friona, Texas, 79035 until

**9:00 AM
Tuesday, December 05, 2023**

and bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 9:00 AM on December 5, 2023 at 623 N. Main Street, Friona, TX 79035.

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

Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin.

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

All contractors/subcontractors that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

Contract Documents are on file and may be examined in the office of the City Manager, at City Hall, City of Friona, 623 N. Main Street, Friona, Texas, telephone (806) 250-2761 and at the offices of Hi-Plains Civil Engineers, Consulting Engineers, 4537 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas 79110, telephone (806) 353-7233

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

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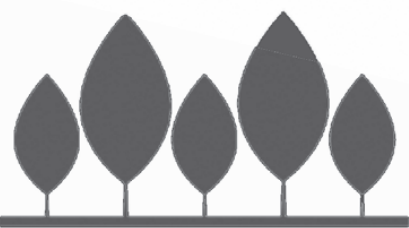
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Don't Go For The Tie, Fight To Win

By Teena Hughs

Continued from page 7

A part of our country is turning into a police state where Hamas supporters are allowed to say and protest all they want, but people are arrested and spending time in jail for being on the Capitol grounds in Washington, D.C. on January 6th.

Do we want our country back from the likes of George Soros, the Murdoch brothers, Mark Zuckerberg, Bill Gates, lobbyists, the establishment and deep state and others? Or do we want to just keep going the direction we are going and go for the tie, which is not winning!

We are in danger of losing our country: morally, financially, spiritually. Are we going to play and fight to win, or are we going to let things continue to "go to heck in a handbasket"? The choice is ours, but it is time to stand up and fight.

With all my heart, I believe God is on our side. He gave us this wonderful country; He worked through our founders and writers of the Constitution to create a document that has lasted longer than any other nation's Constitution, because it is God-inspired, and when it is God-inspired, it works!!!! Just like the Bible does!!!!

Friends, don't be afraid to stand up for what you believe. Don't be afraid to have your congressmen and senators in your list of contacts, and for Heaven's sake, don't be afraid to call them! We are paying their salary, and they need to hear from us! If you call and ask their aides how they are going to vote on an issue, don't be surprised if they tell you they don't know, or they are waiting to decide. Your call helps them decide. We are inching closer and closer to primaries, and their ears seem to perk up a little bit more the closer it gets to an election.

Do whatever you have to do to help our country win again. Call people, speak up, be educated on who is running for office. Have you noticed that quite a few people aren't running for office next year? I told Feller their votes helped us get into some of the trouble we are in, and now they are getting out. That is ok. Maybe we can get someone in office that wants to fight and win, not go for the tie.

Our country is worth fighting for!!!! On this Veterans Day, thank you, Coach McGuire, for reminding me of that!!!!

Happy Thanksgiving, Everyone!

Dreaming of a Fun Family Thanksgiving!

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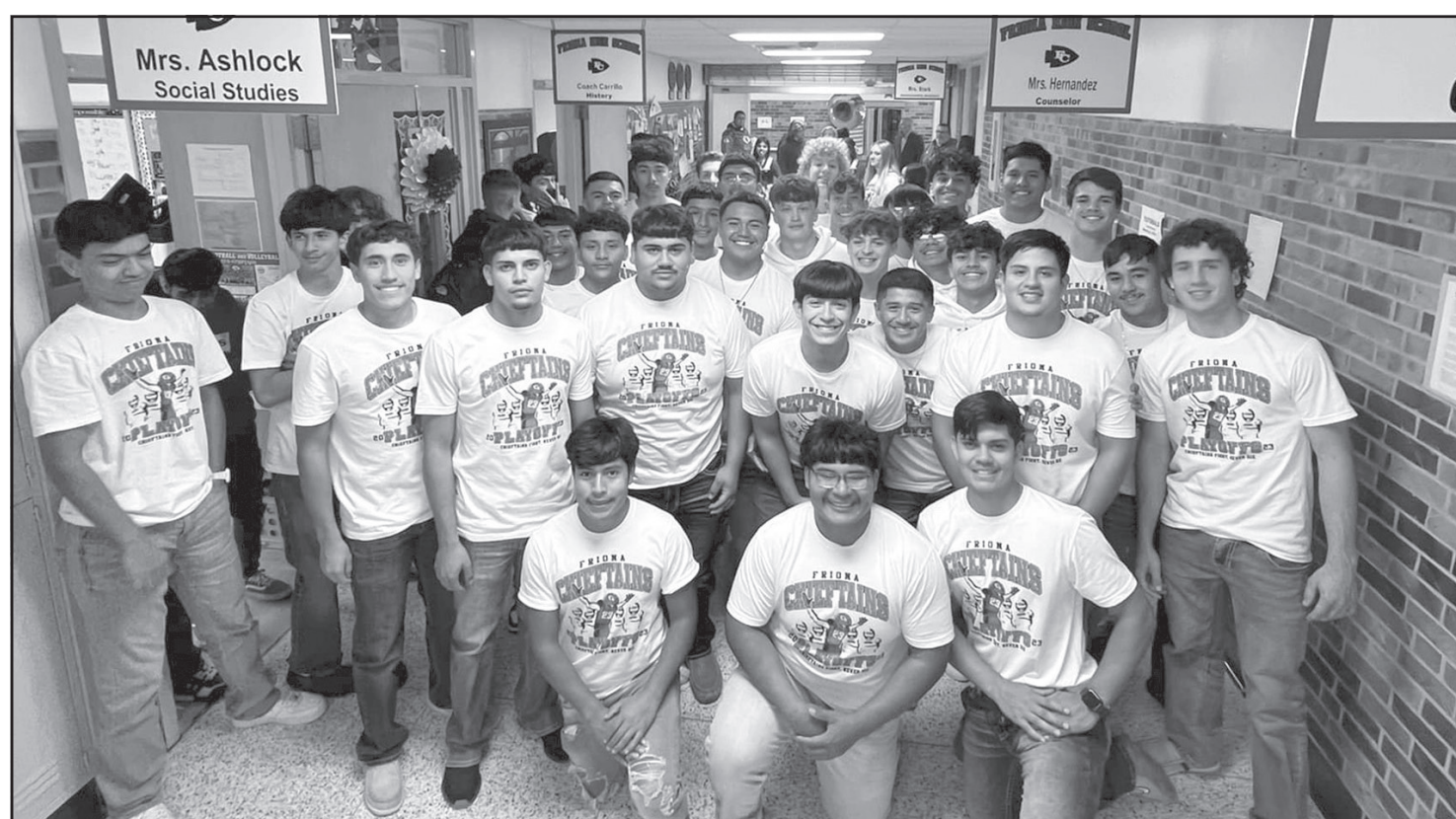
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Sports News



Friona 14 Roosevelt 35



Chieftains win first half, cannot hold momentum

The Roosevelt Eagles (#2 seed in District 4-3A) rushed for 281 yards on a cold and rainy Friday night in Tulia to defeat the Chieftains 35-14 in a Bi-District Playoff game.

Friona built a 14-6 halftime lead on a Carson Seaman 2 yard run and a Cade Seaman 4 yard pass to Damian Sanchez. The defense contained the Eagle rushing attack but the offense let a scoring

opportunity slip away on a turnover. The 2nd half, however, belonged to Roosevelt as they scored 29 unanswered points thanks to three touchdown runs by their quarterback to take the victory.

Cade Seaman rushed for 114 yards and passed for a touchdown. Carson Seaman ran for 199 yards and one touchdown. He also had 101 passing yards and

Jonathan Gonzalez was the leading receiver with 46 yards on 4 receptions.

On defense, Damian Sanchez led the way with 12 tackles. Deiter Ally, Abram Rocha, Jose Alvidrez, and Aaron Rodriguez each had 9 tackles.

The Chiefs finished the regular season at 5-5, were 3-2 in District 3-3A, and 0-1 in the playoffs.

Scoring Summary

1st Quarter

F — Carson Seaman 2 yard run (Jose Luis Saucedo PAT good)

R — Angel Olivares 5 yard run (2 Pt. Conversion no good)

2nd Quarter

F — Damian Sanchez 4 yard pass from Cade Seaman (Jose Luis Saucedo PAT good)

3rd Quarter

R — Nathen Sasarez 75 yard run (2 Pt. Conversion no good)

R — Nathen Sasarez 23 yard run (2 Pt. Conversion Noah Salas pass from Nathen Sasarez good)

R — Noah Salas 39 yard fumble return (Armando Gonzalez PAT no good)

4th Quarter

R — Nathen Sasarez 16 yard run (Armando Gonzalez PAT no good)

R — Dakota Zuber 10 yard Field Goal Good

Rushing Stats	Carries	Yards	TDs	Avg
0 Carson Seaman	15	119	1	7.9
3 Damian Sanchez	2	15	-	7.5
4 Cade Seaman	21	114	-	5.4
7 Aaron Rosales	3	7	-	2.3
14 Jonathan Gonzalez	1	6	-	6.0
Rushing Totals:	42	261	1	6.2

Receiving Stats	Receptions	Yards	TDs	Avg
1 Isaac Olmos	1	24	-	24.0
3 Damian Sanchez	2	20	-	10.0
4 Cade Seaman	1	18	-	18.0
13 Jose Luis Saucedo	1	13	-	13.0
14 Jonathan Gonzalez	4	46	-	11.5
Receiving Totals:	9	121	0	13.4

Passing Stats	Comp	Att	Yards	TDs	INTs
0 Carson Seaman	7	16	101	-	1
4 Cade Seaman	1	1	4	1	-
13 Jose Luis Saucedo	1	1	16	-	-
Passing Totals:	9	18	121	1	1

Kicking Stats	Extra Pt	Att	Field Goal
13 Jose Luis Saucedo	2	2	

Defensive Stats	UN	AST.	TOT	TFL	FR	FC	INT	SACK
1 Olmos, Isaac	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
3 Sanchez, Damian	3	9	12	-	-	-	-	-
4 Seaman, Cade	3	4	7	-	-	-	-	-
7 Rosales, Aaron	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
10 Daniels, Jameson	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
11 Garcia, Jorge	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
13 Saucedo, Jose Luis	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
14 Gonzalez, Johnny	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
17 Rocha, Abram	1	8	9	-	-	-	-	-
21 Alvidrez, Jose	2	7	9	1	-	-	-	-
28 Ally, Deiter	6	3	9	1	-	-	-	-
44 Flores, Andrew	1	4	5	-	-	-	-	-
53 Garcia, Mario	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
54 Perez, Hevilat	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	-
74 Rodriguez, Aaron	2	7	9	-	-	-	-	-

Yards allowed; Rushing 281, Passing 0, Total 281

All-Region Choir



Representing Friona High School in the All Region Choir were Caydee Humphrey, Reagan Daniels, Karen Morales, Andres Pinon, Evan Snyder, Juan Vargas, and Gabriel Rocha. Andres was selected to sing a solo!



Yvonne Legarreta Cross Country Record

2023 Season

District - 1st (12:44.10)
Regional - 3rd (12:26.90)
State - 5th (11:45.10)

2022 Season

District - 1st (12:28.51)
Regional - 2nd (12:30.10)
State - 3rd (12:12.10)

2021 Season

District - 1st (13:04.65)
Regional - 5th (13:02.20)
State - 6th (11:58.00)

2020 Season

District - 1st (13:12.14)
Regional - 5th (13:02.70)
State - 8th (12:19.90)



Friona High School Veterans Day Program - November 10, 2023

See more photos at photos.frionaonline.com



Honored Veterans



FHS Band



FHS Band



FHS Band



FHS Band



FHS Band



5th Grade Choir



Taps by Ramon Ortiz and Jarrett White



Mayor Greg Lewellen



FHS Choir



High School Musical



FHS Theatre Seniors — Back Row (l-r) Juanpablo Ibarra-Martinez, Yvonne Legarreta, Amy Montana, Charlie Herring, Andres Pinon, Carson Seaman. Front Row (l-r) Cade Seaman, Jonathan Gonzalez, Emily Anderson, Duvy Ortiz, Gabriel Rocha, Pam Cardona.

Once on This Island

Principle Characters

- Adilene Rocha
- Nadia Snyder
- Gabriel Rocha
- Amy Montana
- Charlie Herring
- Carson Seaman
- Duvy Ortiz
- Yvonne Legarreta
- Andres Pinon
- Pam Cardona
- Noah Aguilar

Storytellers

- Aubrey Garcia
- Yoslin Vargas
- Jocelyn Reyes
- Abigail Marquez
- Emily Ibarra
- Emily Anderson
- JJ Trevino
- Allessander Vega

- Mia Moreno

Chorus

- Miranda Pina
- Juliana Martinez
- Kyleigh Stephens
- Khloe Galan
- Ivette Carrillo
- Leslie Ortiz
- Dylan Hasseloff
- Stevie Herring
- Jazmin Hernandez
- Jalie Cook
- Amberly Madrid
- Aylin Mendez
- Christa Phillips
- Thomas Cook

Crew

- Angelica Reyes
- Nicholas Gutierrez
- Owen McGaughy
- Jacob Vasquez
- Foster Gilley
- Juanpablo Ibarra-Martinez
- Cade Seaman

Directors

- Kelley Tucker
- Caisey Fowler

Special Thanks

- Erika Montana/FHS Admin
- Joy Morton
- Gay Taylor
- Lindsey Rackley
- FHS Maintenance Staff
- Parents
- Friona Star



See photos at photos.frionaonline.com

Technology advances attract producers to Southwest Dairy Day

AgriLife Extension hosts producers and vendors at Del Rio Dairy showcase

By Kay Ledbetter

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's 2023 Southwest Dairy Day drew dairy producers from a two-state area to view cutting-edge technology, including an anaerobic digester and rotary parlor with automated sanitation capabilities.

Dairy producers are looking for automation and precision technologies that will help them further their revenue streams and increase the efficiency of their operations, said Juan Piñeiro, DVM, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension dairy specialist and assistant professor in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Animal Science, Amarillo.

Piñeiro estimated roughly 400 people from Texas and New Mexico attended the event.

"Dairy farmers, allied industry professionals and people from local communities who participated mentioned they were very happy with the event and getting to tour a high-tech farm like Del Rio Dairy," he said.

One attendee was Frans Osinga from Proctor, who runs a 1,500-cow dairy. He came to see the anaerobic digester, which turns dairy manure into high-quality fertilizer, as well as other technologies that the vendors were featuring that he can implement on his operation.

For instance, he said the wide variety of sensors now available to be placed on cows are expected to save time and money. The sensors can show him at the touch of a button on his phone the animal's temperature for breeding, rumination and signs of sickness. This saves labor, antibiotics and hormone use.

"These technologies allow the cow to stay in the pen and not be stressed by moving them to a sick pen - essentially we give them two aspirin and a bolus, and they never leave the pen," Osinga said. "It's a lot less stressful for our cows."

Precision technology and automation

Sushil Paudyal, Ph.D., assistant professor in dairy science in the Department of Animal Science, Bryan-College Station, helped discuss the precision technologies and automation for attendees.

Some of the technology included activity monitoring systems for cows, automatic pre- and post-teat dipping systems and automated cow sorting systems.

"As these new technologies are becoming more and more available to dairy producers, it is crucial to evaluate if a given technology is truly a good fit for the particular farm and what benefits they hope it will provide to their operation," Paudyal

said. Paudyal said return on investment from these systems largely depends on how fully the producer can utilize the capabilities of the technology and leverage the data generated to inform management decisions.

"While the systems offer cutting-edge technology, simply implementing them will not guarantee improvements - they must be carefully integrated into day-to-day farm management and farms should be eager to use the data for management decisions," he said.

Anaerobic digester technology

A specific technology many of the dairy operators came to see was the anaerobic digester on the premises.

Zong Liu, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension specialist and assistant professor in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Bryan-College Station, said participants had questions about selling the biogas that is produced as a part of the digester process and finding out about the economics of the operation.

"What participants learned and were mostly intrigued about was that biogas sales value has greatly increased over general natural gas' price, mainly due to its trading value in reducing green-



A rotary parlor at the Del Rio Dairy near Bovina was part of the newer technology on display during the 2023 Southwest Dairy Day. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Kay Ledbetter)

house gas emissions," Liu said. "By selling biogas to energy companies, anaerobic digesters on dairies can potentially create substantial revenue."

Liu said the anaerobic digester technology can help producers and stakeholders find common ground in economic growth and the steward-

ship of land and water.

"Anaerobic digesters harness the natural process of decomposition," he said. "Greenhouse gases emitted by manure are harvested for methane-rich biogas via anaerobic digesters. It also has been shown as an effective manure management strategy to reduce

pathogens and the odor of manure."

The post-digestion effluent is a valuable fertilizer to support crop production as well, Liu said. The digestion process conserves total nitrogen and total phosphorus, while making these nutrients more readily available for crop use.



The methane or anaerobic digester harvests methane-rich biogas and fertilizer from the dairy manure, providing another economic revenue for dairies. (Texas A&M AgriLife photo by Juan Piñeiro)



In the photo - For Halloween, the FHS Boo Band hosted a "Haunted Circus" for trick or treaters.

Hereford Gun Club

Turkey Shoot

Food and Drawings Games and Prizes

Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 3:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M.
Annual Membership Meeting Follows

Hereford Gun Club
4175 US-60, Hereford, TX 79045
(at the Hereford Municipal Airport)

F

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

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