



CHRISTMAS in the Park

Friday, December 5, 2025 Schedule of Events

5:00 p.m.

- Welcome by Mayor Greg Lewellen
- Santa arrives at the City Park with Miss Friona Kyleigh Stephens and Little Miss Friona Amaya Mendez
- Visit & take photos with Santa
- Crafts
- Vendors
- Food Activities

6:00 p.m.

- Christmas Parade of Lights participants line up on Euclid between 10th & 7th Streets

6:30 p.m.

- Christmas Parade of Lights begins
- After parade, vendors and activities continue

The Spirit of Giving

Project Christmas Card

The Parmer County Hospital Auxiliary is accepting donations for the 70th Annual Project Christmas Card. This year, donations will be used to purchase iPads for Parmer Medical Center so that patients in the swing bed program can use them during their stay. Canisters/boxes are placed around town in various businesses for the collection of donations. The names of donors will be included in a special Christmas Greeting Card in the Friona Star newspaper. Please make sure you put your name with ALL donations. You can contact Connie Neelley at 806-250-2542 for more information.

Adopt A Resident For Christmas

As the festive Christmas Season draws near, Prairie Acres is wholeheartedly dedicated to ensuring that every resident experiences a warm and joyful holiday filled with cheer. To bring this vision to life, they rely on the kindness and generosity of our wonderful community. If you are interested in contributing or require further information about this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact the Activity Department at 806-250-3922. To create the best possible experiences for the residents, please make your donation by December 12th. Your generous support is crucial in helping craft unforgettable holiday memories for everyone at Prairie Acres. Thank you for being an essential part of this heartwarming effort!

Empty Stocking Fund

Donations are being accepted for the Empty Stocking Fund which provides clothing and a toy to local needy children. School teachers are consulted to determine the recipients. USDA at the Friona Cargill Plant purchases the toys. Donations may be made at Friona InterBank or given to project co-chairs Holly Campbell and/or Jyl Grimsley. Make check payable to Empty Stocking Fund.

Bunker Named Offensive Player of the Year

All-District Volleyball honors for Class 3A District 1 were announced last week and eight Friona Squaw players were selected including all six of the Seniors.

Selected to the 1st Team were senior Aubree Bunker, junior Aaliyah Padilla, and sophomore Peyton McFarland. Bunker was also named the Offensive Player of the Year. She amassed over 1,700 kills during her 4-year tenure as a Friona Squaw varsity volleyball player.

Seniors Ella McFarland and Yaselene Faudoa were named to the 2nd Team and seniors Stephanie Cruz, Leslie Ortiz, and Mireya Shelby were named to the Honorable Mention Team.

The Friona Squaws finished the 2025 season at 22-19 and were 4-4 in district play and 1-1 in the playoffs.



Volleyball All-District Honors Class 3A District 1



Aubree Bunker
1st Team
Offensive Player
of the Year



Aaliyah Padilla
1st Team



Peyton McFarland
1st Team



Ella McFarland
2nd Team



Yaselene Faudoa
2nd Team



Stephanie Cruz
Honorable Mention



Leslie Ortiz
Honorable Mention



Mireya Shelby
Honorable Mention



Town Talk
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Classifieds
Page 6

Sports
Pages 8 & 9

Turkey Trot
Page 10



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 December 4-10	T 42 26 SW 10-15	F 52 29 NW 10-15	S 60 31 WNW 15-25	S 58 30 N 10-15	M 64 29 W 10-20	T 64 34 WSW 10-20	W 65 32 N 10-15	Precipitation November 1.13 Year 23.08	Burn Ban Yes
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Community Calendar

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

December 4

- Community Noon Meal @ Friendship House

December 5

- Christmas In The Park & Light Parade @ Friona City Park beginning at 5:00 p.m.

December 8

- Community Noon Meal @ Friendship House
- Deadline to file as candidate for County Office Election

December 9

- Band Boosters Chili Dinner @ FHS Cafeteria from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

December 10

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

December 11

- Community Noon Meal @ Friendship House



ON YOUR PAYROLL



U.S. Government

President: Donald J. Trump, 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 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.



State Capital Highlights

By Gary Borders



Older Texans face steep ACA price hikes

About 1 million Texans over the age of 45 who receive health insurance coverage through the federal Affordable Care Act will likely face monthly premiums of more than \$1,000, the Austin American-Statesman reported. That accounts for one-fourth of the state's 4 million ACA enrollees.

The Republican-led Congress has thus far refused to extend pandemic-era subsidies that reduced ACA premiums, a factor in the recent government shutdown. Part of the deal to reopen the government includes a promise to hold a vote on the issue in December, but it appears unlikely to pass.

Texas insurers have raised ACA premiums by an average of 35%, but the hikes have been even higher for older enrollees.

"So price impacts tend to hit older folks the hardest," said Laura Dague, who is the James M. Griffin professor of health policy at Texas A&M University. That is because insurance companies consider them higher risk, she added.

Abbott demands action on Mexico's violation of water treaty

Gov. Greg Abbott and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality have demanded Mexico address its failure to meet the minimum requirements to deliver water to the United States under a 1944 water treaty.

"Mexico must be held accountable for (its) continued breaches of our long-standing water agreement," Abbott said. "Because of their pattern of neglect, Texas farmers are enduring preventable hardship and an erosion of the agricultural viability of the Rio Grande Valley."

Abbott said Mexico has failed to supply more than two years' worth of water — almost 2 million acre-feet. He said that has had a severe negative impact on the state's agricultural industry.

"Economic losses from delayed water deliveries cannot be recovered," said TCEQ Commissioner Tonya Miller. "Texas communities across the lower Rio Grande Valley will continue to suffer unless Mexico starts meeting their treaty obligations."

Under the treaty, the United States has consistently met its delivery obligations on the Colorado River, while Mexico has significantly breached its commitments on the Rio Grande River, Abbott said.

The state's two U.S. senators, Ted

Cruz and John Cornyn, have proposed a bill that would hold Mexico accountable for failing to provide water to South Texas under the 1944 treaty.

Final rules on state's voucher program are released

The comptroller's office has finalized rules for the state's \$1 billion school voucher program, the Houston Chronicle reported. Applications for families are scheduled to open in February.

Among the features:

- Families seeking pre-kindergarten services will be able to access accounts worth \$10,500, which can be spent at private pre-K schools or childcare centers that have pre-K classes.
- A clarification in the rules means that private schools or charter school networks already established in other states can open new campuses in Texas. The law says private schools must have been accredited for at least two years. The new rules mean this includes operating a campus in another state.
- The application window opens on Feb. 4 and will last around six weeks.
- Students approved for vouchers will not need to reapply in the following years.

Power plant loan program making progress

After a rocky start, a state plan to boost the construction of natural gas plants has begun loaning money two years after the \$7 billion Texas Energy Fund was created, The Dallas Morning News reported. That comes after one of the original loan applicants chosen for the program possibly committed fraud in their application and was selected despite the company's head having been convicted of a federal crime. Other companies pulled their applications, citing supply chain issues in procuring the large turbines needed to produce electricity.

However, since June, the Public Utility Commission of Texas has approved about \$1.5 billion in loans for six power plant projects. When completed, they will have the capacity to power at least 875,000 homes.

The Legislature created the Texas Energy Fund after the February 2021 blackouts killed more than 200 people. The fund was created to build power plants that can produce electricity on demand. One of the companies receiving a loan is Houston-based Calpine.

"This 460-megawatt, state-of-the-art facility is designed to start within

minutes and will deliver safe, reliable power exactly when Texans need it most," Caleb Stephenson of Calpine said in a news release.

\$1.2 billion headed to Texas broadband access

Federal funding included in the 2021 infrastructure law passed during the Biden administration has been slow to reach states, The News reported. But the Trump administration announced recently that it has approved a plan to spend more than \$1.2 billion in federal funds to improve broadband access in Texas, delivering high-speed internet to rural areas.

That amount is considerably less than the \$3.3 billion allocated to Texas under the original infrastructure law passed in 2021. Texas is the 19th state to win approval of a final plan.

Acting Texas Comptroller Kelly Hancock said the approved plan will make it possible for nearly every Texas location to connect to high-speed internet.

"The Texas broadband plan reflects our state's commitment to responsible stewardship and to creating an environment where families, students and businesses can continue to thrive for generations to come," Hancock said.

PUC provides money-saving tips as winter nears

The Public Utility Commission of Texas has launched a new website, Ways to Save, to help Texans conserve energy and save money during frigid weather.

"Small changes at your home or business can make a big impact on your electric and water bills," PUCT Executive Director Connie Corona said. "It's important to prepare ahead of the cold winter months, especially ensuring you are enrolled in the electricity plan that is right for your home and family."

The page includes tips on how consumers can prepare their home or business for cold weather and reduce energy and water use to save money on utility bills. Tips range from small lifestyle changes to physical updates consumers can make to prepare their homes for winter.

You can find the site at: puc.texas.gov/waystosave.

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

ACROSS

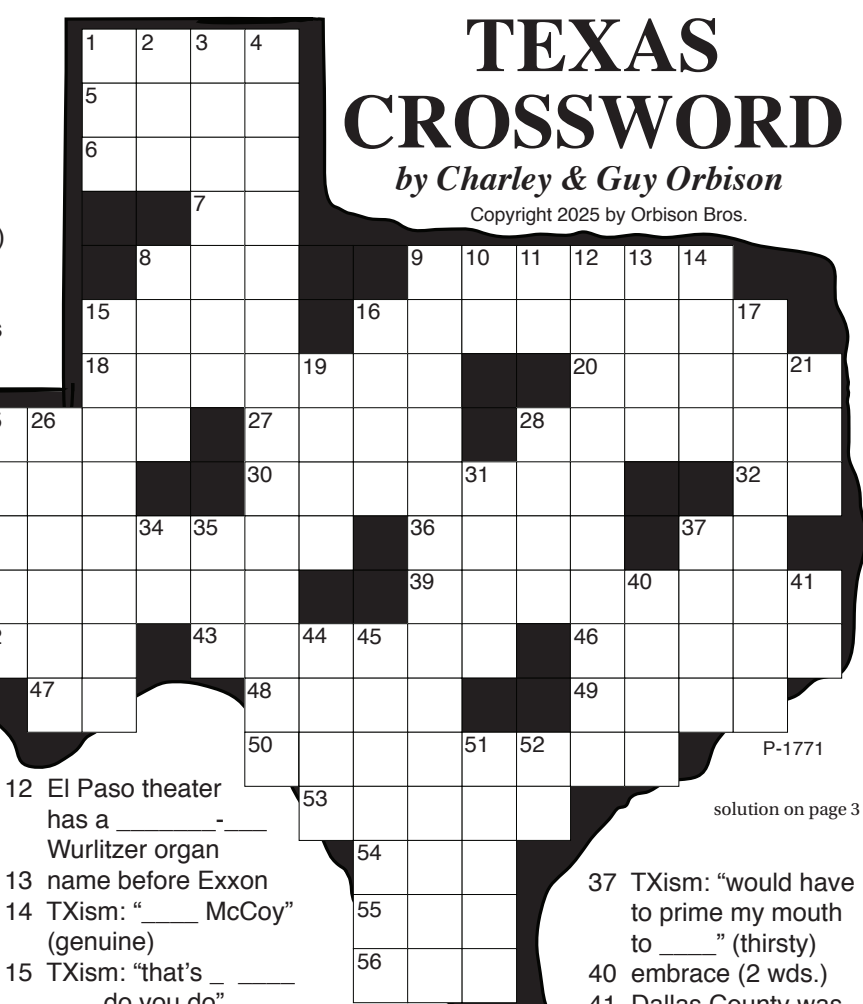
- 1 TXism: "living ____ on the hog"
- 5 early Fort Worth lawless area: "Hell's Half ____"
- 6 TX Roger Miller's "Dang Me" was 1964 Song of the ____
- 7 TXism: "pay him ____ never mind"
- 8 TXism: "in a coon's ____" (long time)
- 9 TXism: "porch sitter"
- 15 high cards
- 16 TXism: "packed like ____ in a can"
- 18 TX Willie benefit series (2 wds.)
- 20 TX Tommy Lee was Woodrow ____ in "Lonesome Dove"
- 22 TXism: "a ____ the pan"
- 27 TX Roy Orbison's "____ the Lonely"
- 28 rustled cattle
- 29 A&M's color, with white
- 30 with "sodium," it's fertilizer
- 32 Texas' ____ Pepper
- 33 TXism: "____ as lightning striking your zipper"
- 36 Gen. Robt. ____
- 37 former ABC reporter, TX Donaldson (init.)
- 38 San Antonio's King William Street was named after King ____ I of Prussia
- 39 TXism: "got knocked ____ _ ____ or two"

- 42 "top dog" at a Texas corporation
- 43 in Lamar County on highway 271
- 46 Astro or Ranger base
- 47 this George wasn't a Texan because he couldn't tell a lie (init.)
- 48 Texas lottery's first director Linares
- 49 Astro defensive goals
- 50 Cowboys July camp

- 53 TXism: "got the short ____ the stick"
- 54 topaz is the state ____
- 55 Astro or Ranger pitchin' stat.
- 56 fed. govt. ID no.

DOWN

- 1 horse morsels
- 2 Texas Blue Bell treat: ____ cream
- 3 ex-mayor of Fort Worth, Kay
- 4 Texas war memorial: "Texas ____"
- 8 TXism: "opened up ____ of worms"
- 9 Texas Tech women (3 wds.)
- 10 TXism: "put up ____ shut up"
- 11 it can be classified



TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1771

solution on page 3

- 37 TXism: "would have to prime my mouth to ____" (thirsty)
- 40 embrace (2 wds.)
- 41 Dallas County was named for this George (init.)
- 44 sweat outlet
- 45 fruit grown in the Rio Grande Valley
- 51 TX Roddenberry line: "where ____ has gone before"
- 52 TXism: "____ he's a rooster, he'll crow" (inevitable)

THE FRIONA STAR (USPS 210-800) is published each Thursday at 1215 Elm Ave. in Friona Texas, 79035. Postmaster: send address changes to Friona Star, P.O. Box 789, Friona, Texas 79035. Periodicals postage paid at Friona, Texas.



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Annual Subscriptions
\$40 in Parmer County
\$50 out of County
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Deadlines

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 \$20 each. Obituaries are published at no charge. Deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday.



The Cold Singing In

Five Yorkies, a Lab,
My wife and I,
One room big,
Huddled tight.

A fireplace prefab,
Was built for show,
Not to heat,
Big home cold.

Forgotten truth
Which I just found,
Whistle logs can,
When burning down.

And other details
Of life of old,
Pass'd they have,
Lost, behold.

Five Yorkies, a Lab,
A six dog night,
One room big
Huddled tight.

The Yorkies snore,
My wife does too,
And she, they, I,
A choir of cold.

In future days,
I'll miss these times,
Yorkies, a Lab,
My wife and I.

1122
2/18/2021
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COURTHOUSE NOTES

Susie Spring, County Clerk

Warranty Deeds recorded at the Parmer County Clerk’s Office from November 20, 2025 to November 27, 2025

(11/20/25) Wilbert Kalbas Kalbas — Mary Martha Kalbas — All of the Northeast Quarter of Section 28 Township 9 S Range 1 East Capitol Syndicate Subdivision of Parmer County

(11/20/25) Terry Dan Parham — Lazbuddie Wind Energy LLC — County Road 27 on Common Line of Section 88 and Section 89 Block H in the Thomas Kelly Subdivision and the SE Corner of Called 10.01 Acre Tract of Land and See Document

(11/25/25) Jayson Grimsley, Jyl Grimsley — Matthew Clarke — Lot 15 Block 2 Western Addition City of Friona in Parmer County

(11/25/25) Tony B. Spears, Samuel L. Spears — Spears by Samuel L., Tony M. Spears, Samuel L. Spears, Tony M Spears — 344/1000 of an Acre more or less out of Capitol League Number 549 and more in Parmer County See Document for more tracts

(11/26/25) Pat Ann Owen, Patricia Ann Owen — Colby Whitten — A 5.178 Acre Tract of the SE Corner of Section 31 Township 9 S R 1 E of a Capitol Syndicate Subdivision in Parmer County See Document



Melissa Underwood
Counselor

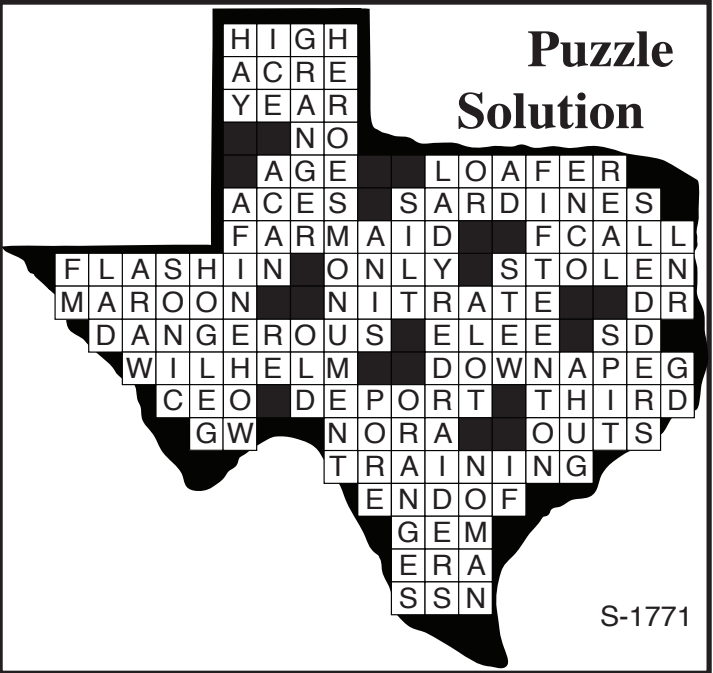
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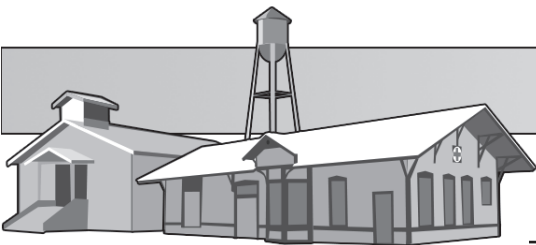
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Puzzle Solution

S-1771



TOWN TALK

Local, State, National & International News

December 4th is National Cookie Day

— The origin of the cookie appears to begin in Persia in the 7th century, soon after the use of sugar became common in the region. They then spread to Europe through the Muslim conquest of Spain. Cookies were common at all levels of society throughout Europe by the 14th century, from the royal cuisine to the street vendors. Cookies arrived in America in the 17th century. Macarons and gingerbread cookies were among the popular early American cookies. In most English-speaking countries outside of North America, the most common word for cookie is “biscuit.” In some regions,

both terms, cookies, and biscuits are used. Cookies are classified into different categories, with the most common ones being: Bar cookies, Drop cookies, Filled cookies, Molded cookies, No bake cookies, Pressed cookies, Refrigerator cookies, Rolled cookies and Sandwich cookies.

★★★

Big Givers — Michael Dell, the founder of Round Rock’s Dell Technologies, and his wife, Susan, are donating \$6.25 billion to U.S. children aged 10 and under who live in ZIP codes with a median household income of \$150,000 or less. The \$250 donations target 25 million children who aren’t eligible to receive \$1,000 from the federal



Congratulations — Antonia “Toni” Ramirez won the \$250 Visa gift card at the Thanksgiving Blood Drive on November 26th. Ten individuals participated in the half-day event and included 7 whole blood, 2 power red, and 1 plasma donation.

government in accounts authorized by the One Big Beautiful Bill. Only children born between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2028, are eligible to receive those federal funds. At a White House ceremony to announce the gift, President Trump called it “truly one of the most generous acts in the history of our country.” The Dells said it is the largest single private commitment to U.S. children. “We believe that if every child can see a future worth saving for, this program will build something far greater than an account. It will build hope and opportunity and prosperity for generations to come,” said Michael Dell. *The Texas Flyover*

★★★

Big Spenders — Americans shelled out big over the holiday weekend, spending \$11.8 billion online during Black Friday alone. Analysts say the surge comes in spite of inflation concerns

and economic uncertainty heading into the Christmas season. *The Flyover*

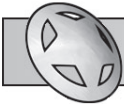
★★★

Teens wary of news media — A new survey found that 84% of American teenagers ages 13 to 18 describe today’s news media with negative terms like “biased,” “fake,” “boring,” and “depressing,” reflecting their widespread skepticism toward journalism. More than half say they believe that journalists regularly engage in unethical behaviors, such as fabricating details or quotes, paying sources, taking images out of context, or doing favors for advertisers. Less than a third of teens believe reporters correct their errors, confirm facts before reporting, gather information from multiple sources, or cover stories in the public interest—practices fundamental to reputable journalism. *The Flyover*

★★★

National Days

- December 4 — National Cookie Day
- December 5 — Bathtub Party Day
- December 6 — Microwave Day
- December 7 — Pearl Harbor Day
- December 8 — Brownie Day
- December 9 — Christmas Card Day
- December 10 — Dewey Decimal System Day



SHERIFF’S REPORT

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

November 24, 2025 through November 30, 2025

(11/24/25) Jayden Alexander Peralez, 23, of Lubbock was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff’s Office on a charge of Possession Marijuana < 2oz

(11/26/25) Jose Pedro Frias, 41, of Muleshoe was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff’s Office on a charge of Possession CS PG 1 < 1G

(11/28/25) Noel Fabian Avila Castillo, 33, of Mesa, Arizona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff’s Office on a charge of Possession Marijuana < 2oz

(11/28/25) Alejandro Galindo, 22, of Mesa, Arizona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff’s Office on a charge of Possession Marijuana < 2oz

(11/28/25) Fermin Gonzalez-Estrada, 47, of Friona was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff’s Office on a charge of Driving While Intoxicated

(11/30/25) Obidjon Khujakulov, 41, of Salt Lebabono, Ohio was arrested by the Parmer County Sheriff’s Office on a charge of Assault Against Elderly Or Disabled Individual



We’ve got just what you need,
Storage! Clean out that garage,
store it with us & let your car
have the garage back!!



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Homer Allan & Patty Haile - Owners
1015 W. Hwy 60 - Friona, TX
806-250-2555 Cell 265-7923

Small Town Cookin’ By Jeri Lynn White

Appetizers for the Holiday Season

The holiday season is the perfect time to gather with friends and family, sharing laughter, memories, and delicious food. Whether you’re hosting a festive party or simply looking to add a little cheer to your table, appetizers are a great way to kick off any celebration. This month I will share a few delicious and interesting appetizers to share at all your holiday parties.

Mini Cheese Ball Bites

dangthatssweet.com

Ingredients

- 12 ounces softened cream cheese 1 and 1/2 blocks
- 1 cup bacon bits
- 1 tbsp ranch seasoning
- 1 tbsp fresh chopped parsley
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 30 pretzel sticks

Directions

In a large mixing bowl, combine softened cream cheese, ranch seasoning, and shredded cheese. Mix until well incorporated. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone baking mat, then begin rolling the

cream cheese mixture into 1-inch sized balls, placing them on your prepared baking sheet as you go. Your hands will get messy, so feel free to wear gloves. In a medium mixing bowl, combine bacon bits and fresh parsley. Working one

by one, roll each mini cheese ball in the bacon bits, coating the exterior completely. Then return to the prepared baking sheet. Insert a pretzel stick into the center of each bacon coated cheese ball bite before enjoying!

Happy Birthday

Dec. 4

Erin Barnett
Brock Field
Deniss Field
Myrna Barraza
Daniel Cretsinger
Alejandra Arreola



Dec. 5

Teena Hughs
Charles Wilkins
Allison Johnston
JR Ortiz

Dec. 8

Mike Beauchamp
Kandace (Frye) Burke
David Lopez
Felissa Dominguez

Dec. 6

Roy Dominguez
Roy Don Smith
Allison Jones
Tim Mercer
Alisia Rando

Dec. 9

Bill White
Bella Flores
Heather (Griffin) Rodriguez

Dec. 7

Carla Sue Scott
Sherri Alger
Darlena Burnett
Karlee Osborn
Audry Rowell

Dec. 10

Jason Berend
Connie King
Michael Johnston
Katy (Baize) Ellison
Brent Hall
Connie (Amezcu) Jiminez
Humberto Cruz

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

Average U.S. gas prices now stand at lowest level in over 1,660 days

By GasBuddy

Average gasoline prices in Texas fell 11.5 cents last week, averaging \$2.51 per gallon, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 13,114 stations in Texas. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.09 while the highest was \$3.99.

The national average price of gasoline fell 8.5 cents last week, averaging \$2.95 per gallon. The national average price of diesel decreased 5.5 cents compared to a week ago and stands at \$3.72 per gallon.

“Nearly every state saw average gas prices fall heading into Thanksgiving, with the national average dipping below \$3 per gallon for several consecutive days—falling to \$2.95/gal over the weekend, the lowest level since May 2021,” said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

“With refinery maintenance largely complete and OPEC increasing oil production for December, oil prices have struggled. Combine those factors and you have a solid recipe for continued downward pressure on gas prices in the weeks ahead. A few dozen stations are already offering gas under \$2 per gallon, and we could see that number grow as we move further into the holiday season. It couldn’t come at a better time for Americans—with relief arriving just as the holidays kick off,” De Haan stated.

GasBuddy data is compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country. With over 100 million app downloads, GasBuddy delivers real-time prices at 150,000+ stations and tangible savings through Pay with GasBuddy+™.

Look up past issues of the Friona★Star on our website!

- 1.) Go to frionaonline.com
- 2.) Click on the "newspaper archives" link
- 3.) Search

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Holiday Furniture Sale!

Big savings this December

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Spend \$2000, get \$400 off !!!

See store specialists for details

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Senior high dose flu shots are still in stock!

Furniture phone: 806-247-2210 • Pharmacy phone: 806-250-2270
902 Main St. Friona, TX • Your hometown pharmacy
Open 9 to 6 weekdays, closed Saturday and Sunday

Panhandle Parables

Popcorn and Cranberries

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

We have now knocked out the first of the trio of holidays that mark the holiday season. I hope your Thanksgiving was a time of just that, thanksgiving. It is a blessing to live in Friona, and I am truly thankful that we have this opportunity. Now the pressure is on. It's now time to ramp everything up at the last minute. I remember as a kid decorating the Christmas tree after Thanksgiving. We usually had a real tree, which meant dealing with pine needles and water. If you didn't manage your water well it was guaranteed you would have to manage the pine needles in abundance as they launched from their location on the branch to the floor and eventually stuck in your sock.

One year mom and dad decided it would be fun to make an old-fashioned tree decorated with homemade decorations and stringing popcorn and cranberries using needles and thread. Just for the record cranberries are much easier to string, popcorn can break and often did for me. That was one of the longest decorating adventures of my young life. It seemed you could string a whole bowl of popcorn, and it would equal about two feet of string. I was pretty sure we would be ringing in the New Year still stringing

that stuff. The work was long, there was pain involved especially in the learning phase as that needle would find my finger on the other side of the popcorn or cranberry, faster than quick. Finally, we were done and it looked amazing and smelled even better. We were proud of our little old-fashioned tree with ornaments made from some kind of dough with cinnamon and our strings of cranberries and popcorn draped across the branches.

There are things in life that come with much effort and some pain, but in the end are worth it. Lessons get learned along the way, growth and maturity soon follow and the toughness of the experience creates steadfastness and strength. Our walk with the Lord at times seems long and the climb seems steep, making you wonder if this trial will ever end. Then it does pass as most things do and when reflecting on the experience, we see the beauty of what has been accomplished to the glory of God. I am not sure I can recommend stringing popcorn and cranberries but just know that if you are in a challenging trial keep going, trust in what God is doing in the process and one day you will see the benefit of remaining faithful. Have a blessed week.

I Did It Again

By Teena Hughs

Yes, I did it again!!! I didn't realize how little I was doing for others until I read that the Friona Methodist ladies were making Advent boxes. I thought it sounded like a great idea! When I got excited about making some, I realized something was missing in my own life, and that something was not doing for others the way I should. So, I decided to make Advent boxes for the ladies in my Monday morning Bible study group and the people in my church.

I admit I didn't ask for an explanation for the purpose of the Advent boxes from Erin Barnett when I texted her and asked her how to get the boxes, but my interpretation is that you get a box of 24 gifts. Every day, you open one gift as a reminder to think about the upcoming celebration of our Lord and Savior's birth.

When I realized I wasn't doing for others like I should, I had a feeling of loss, a feel-

ing of less joy, a feeling of emptiness, and why didn't I realize I wasn't doing for others?

Doing for others is always a good thing! Sometimes we just get so busy just trying to survive that we don't think about doing for others. It's not intentional; it's just life!

I will admit that making the Advent boxes and distributing them has given me a "spring in my step!"

This Saturday is the Christmas parade in Camp Wood. At our last Canyon Gathering, our church's pianist got on her "high horse" about it being a CHRISTmas parade, and last year there was nothing in the parade to indicate it was the season of Christ's birthday. So, after her spiel, Feller and I agreed to help with a float for our church, but to be perfectly honest, I didn't want to do it. After my week of putting Advent boxes together and distributing them, my Christmas spirit is back,

and I am excited to do the float!

If you want to put a "spring in your step" or increase your "Christmas spirit," why don't you ask Jesus for the name of someone who is in need, or someone who is in need of Christmas cheer, or someone who is so busy with work, family, church, etc., and just do something nice for them this Christmas season? It can be as simple as babysitting for an afternoon, or taking someone supper; it can be helping someone decorate for Christmas. I believe that if Jesus gives you a name, He will tell you what their need is. What would make it extra special is if you can do something special for someone, and they don't ever find out who did it.

I hope you find someone to bring Christmas cheer to this year. For me, doing the Advent boxes is my Christmas present to myself. I hope you enjoy your Christmas present to yourself!!!

State Sales Tax Revenue Totaled \$4.5 Billion in November

Acting Texas Comptroller Kelly Hancock today said state sales tax revenue totaled \$4.5 billion in November, 5.4 percent more than in November 2024. The majority of November sales tax revenue is based on sales made in October and remitted to the agency in November.

"State sales tax collections showed strong growth last month compared with November 2024," Hancock said. "Results from nearly all major economic sectors

were positive, as the Texas economy continues broad-based expansion at a moderate pace."

Among the large sectors driven mostly by consumer spending, the retail trade and service sectors increased solidly compared with November 2024. The retail trade sector was up more than 3 percent compared with last November. Electronic shopping, the largest subsector within retail, was up more than 10 percent compared with last November.

Receipts from restaurants were up more than 2 percent from a year ago but no comparison to the rate of inflation for food away from home can be made due to a lack of federal data.

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in November 2025 was up 4.4 percent compared with the same period a year ago. Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 58 percent of all tax collections.

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

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6th & Summitt • 806-250-3933
Interim Pastor: Ted Spears
Email-firstbc@wtrt.net
Website-www.fbcfriona.com

FRIONA METHODIST CHURCH
8th & Pierce • 806-250-3045
Pastor Duke Underwood
Email-frionamethodist@wtrt.net

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

QUALITY OF LIFE BIBLE STUDY CHURCH
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
Father Nicholas (Nick) Gerber

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

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

TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST
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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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
Father Nicholas (Nick) Gerber

LA IGLESIA DE DIOS DEL PRIMOGENITO
The Church of God of the Firstborn
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IGLESIA BAUTISTA HISPANA
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806-251-5232
Pastor Rafael Marin

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201 E. 15th
Friona Texas



December Bible Verse

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14 (NIV)

Por eso, el Señor mismo les dará una señal: La virgen concebirá y dará a luz un hijo y lo llamará Emanuel.

Isaías 7:14 (NVI)



has an archive of past obituaries at frionaonline.com

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Vehicle Registration Tags Issued

Friona City Hall

Monday-Friday

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



FRIONA FLASHBACKS

From the Friona Star Archives



CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK . . . A couple of cute faces that showed up to see Santa Claus Monday evening at the Depot were, l-r, Becca White and Kendall Kimbrough. As they look forward to Santa's visit we wish them and everyone a Merry Christmas. Photo by Tyler Jameson. (Friona Star, Thursday, December 8, 2005)

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Friona, TX

806-240-2211

Deaf Smith County Crisis Center

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907 Hwy 86,

Bovina, TX 79009

806-251-HOPE

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

Call 988

Available 24 hours

English and Spanish

Poison Help Hotline

1-800-222-1222



Keep Friona Clean

Roll-off box to open up for waste items

The City will open up the roll-off box this Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Please come by to dump those items that don't belong in your dumpster and do your part to help Keep Friona Clean!

The roll-off box is located at East 8th and South Jackson Ave. It is a free service provided to Friona residents. Examples of items not allowed in dumpsters includes: steel and metal, mattresses and furniture, refrigerators/AC



units, paint cans (with or without liquids), electronics and appliances, drums/barrels, brick, wood and concrete, railroad ties. Items not accepted in the roll-off box are tires, oil and tree limbs. To dispose of these items, please contact the City office at 806-250-2761.

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is online at frionaonline.com

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frionarealestate.com

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We are excited to welcome our newest real estate agent, Joy Cooper!

Joy has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. With a client-focused approach and a genuine heart for people, she is committed to building relationships that last beyond the transaction

401 W. 14th \$240,000

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3 bedroom, 2 bathroom brick home on corner lot!

Features include central heat & air, entry, living area, office, and a sunroom. Enjoy two fireplaces, an indoor vented grill, and front and back yards. The home also features a metal roof.

Bovina

Two commercial barns with concrete flooring on approx. 2.176 acre tract. The combined square footage of the barns is approx. 27,221. Located in Bovina for sale or lease.

..Call our office for more details and information.

Friona

Reduced: 3/3/3 Brick home w/cent. h&a, living area, recreation room, fireplace, coffee bar, office, walk in closets, finished basement, extended garage, work shop, fenced backyard with covered porch, corner lot, close to High School..... \$375,000

3/2/1 House to be moved for sale

Call our office for more information..... \$20,000

Contract Pending

4/2 Country home on approx. 1.69 acres with barn. This home, with cent. h&a, features an entry, living area, and utility room. The barn sits on a concrete foundation with approx. 1,920 sq ft. Cont. Pend.

4/3.5/2 Country Brick Home w/cent. h&a, living area, dining room, utility room, multiple closets, finished basement, front porch, fenced backyard, gazebo, sprinkler system, approx. 4.86-acre, storage building, and barn..... Cont. Pend.

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CHIEFTAIN CLASSIC

The inaugural Chieftain Classic jackpot held on Saturday, November 22nd at the Clarence Monroe Community Center was a big success. We want to thank everyone who showed up and supported all of our exhibitors! We fought through fog and a power outage to put on one heck of a jackpot!



Grand Champion • Bentlee Burns

- Breed Champions (BC)**
Reserve Breed Champions (RBC)

Duroc
BC • Kinsey Fishbacher
RBC • Creed Russell

Hampshire
BC • Bentlee Burns
RBC • Creed Russell

Yorkshire
BC • Brock Bessire
RBC • Bentlee Burns

White Opb
BC • Creed Russell
RBC • Adaleiye Birkenfeld

Dark Opb
BC • Blaze Tomlinson
RBC • Kutter Bradshaw

Crossbred
BC • Brock Bessire
RBC • Bentlee Burns



Reserve Grand Champion • Creed Russell



3rd Overall • Brock Bessire



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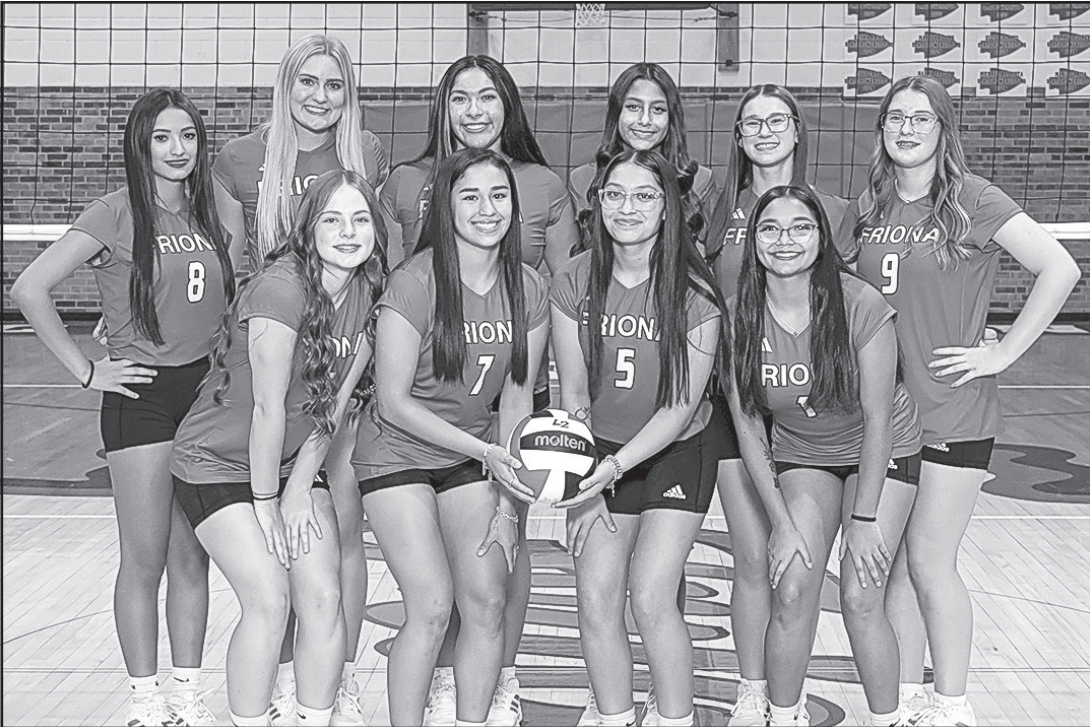
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Friona High School Volleyball Teams



Varsity Team — Back Row (l-r) Yaselene Faudoa, Aubree Bunker, Stephanie Cruz, Leslie Ortiz, Ella McFarland, Peyton McFarland. Front Row (l-r) — Harley London, Aaliyah Padilla, Aimee Jimenez, Mireya Shelby.



Junior Varsity Team — Back Row (l-r) Bella Flores, Ivy Schueler, Leah Salazar, Jaylee Perez, Kalie Hernandez, Ivanna Guevarra, Shelby Lewellen, Aylen Moreno. Front Row (l-r): Molly Rector, Lexi Saldana, Aaliyah James, Hailey Gomez.



C-Team — Back Row (l-r): Adrynn Castaneda, Emery Rangel, Zaylee Dominguez, Sophia Salinas, Tania Martinez, Evelyn Bejarano, Chelzey Garcia. Front Row (l-r): Karyme Rocha, Melanie Estrada, Yahaira Rivas, Kaylani Rodriguez, Neylan Lara, Itzel Arenas, Analee Aragon.

★

F

Basketball Scoreboard

F

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Junior High Girls

12/1/2025

7th Grade A Team | Friona 40 Muleshoe 19
Yuvia Arias 21, Amayah Rojas 11, Ayleen Marquez 6, Arianna Rocha 2
8th Grade A Team | Friona 26 Muleshoe 24
Preslie Goyne 8, Genesis Aguirre 7, Ella Rector 5,
Kamila Moreno 3, Karleigh Rangel 3

Varsity Girls

Friona 80 Plains 17
Aaliyah Padilla 25 pts, Jaylee Perez 14 pts,
Annison Steelman 11 pts, Harley London 11 pts
Friona 58 Bovina 30
Aaliyah Padilla: 24 pts, Yasalene Faudoa: 10 pts
Friona 38 Levelland 43
Annison Steelman: 13 pts, Aaliyah Padilla: 11 pts, Harley London: 8 pts
Friona 76 River Road 32
Aaliyah Padilla: 38 pts, Annie Steelman: 10 pts, Jaylee Perez: 10 pts
Friona vs Talkington (District)
Friona 84 Talkington 14
Aaliyah Padilla: 30 pts, Annison Steelman: 15 pts, Harley London: 13 pts
Overall Record for the season 4-3 and 1-0 in District



FHS FAFSA Night Highlights

Presented by Friona High School and the Friona Public Library, FAFSA night is an opportunity for FHS seniors to complete a form that determines their eligibility for federal, state, and college financial aid like grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study programs. It is free to submit and is used by many colleges and states to award their own aid as well. FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid and you must complete the FAFSA form each year you wish to receive aid. Area college representatives were there to answer questions and the library provided pizza and other snacks.



Friona Junior High Volleyball Teams



7A Team — Back Row (l-r): Priscila Quintana, Arianna Rocha, Aide Rodriguez, Ayleen Marquez, Yuvia Arias, Kyleigh Juarez. Front Row (l-r): Tensley Grimsley, Amaya Rojas, Jade Mills.



7B Team — Back Row (l-r): Alayhlee Villarreal, Aryelle Chico, Damaris Faudoa, Daleyza Godinez, Katiyah Perez, Emely Bejar. Front Row (l-r): Ava Lerma, Mari-cruz Osorio, Rosalina Ordonez, Maria R Lopez, Maria Bernal, Kiyomi Guevara.



8A Team — Back Row (l-r): Teresa Alvidrez, Sophie Lewellen, Kamila Moreno, Genesis Aguirre. Front Row (l-r): Preslie Goynes, Ella Rector, Sophia San Miguel, Karleigh Rangel, Yulaney Carrasco.



8B Team — Back Row (l-r): Avril Soltero, Angeliz Castillo, Dayana Faudoa, Sa-rina Amaya, Adamari Amaya. Front Row (l-r): Elicia Zetino, Sindy Lopez, Arianna Armijo, Odalys Quiroz, Alyssa Rubalcava.

Pheasants Forever Chapter President Restores Playas Across the Texas Panhandle

PLAINVIEW, Texas – Danny Glenn doesn’t just talk about habitat — he builds it. As president of the Plainview Pheasants Forever chapter and a lifelong landowner in the Texas Panhandle, Glenn has restored multiple playas across Hale, Swisher, and Briscoe counties to bring back the cover, water, and insect life that upland birds — and entire ecosystems — depend on.



Danny Glenn’s restored playas

off, forming temporary wetlands. These natural recharge basins play a vital role in replenishing groundwater and supporting wildlife. “We’ve lost so much habitat over the years, it’s alarming,” Glenn said. “I just couldn’t stand by and watch places I hunted as a kid disappear.” That personal connection to the land, combined with his leadership in the nation’s leading upland habitat organization, sparked Glenn’s commitment to restoration. His local chapter has supported playa buffer projects for

nearly a decade, recognizing playas as one of the last strongholds for pheasant nesting and brood-rearing in the region. “Habitat is everything,” he said. “If you don’t have it, you don’t have wildlife.” Even during long stretches of drought, Glenn has seen firsthand how a single rainfall can bring a playa back to life — sprouting diverse plants, attracting insects, and giving pheasants the conditions they need to reproduce. And playas require no constant maintenance — just

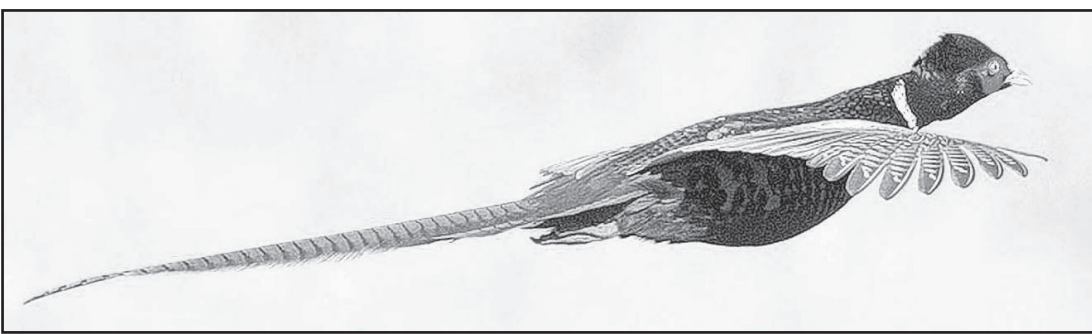


Photo by Tom Grey

space, stewardship, and a little patience. “I’ve hunted areas my whole life that are gone now,” he said. “But when we restore these playas, it’s like flipping a switch. You suddenly have cover, food, water — and wildlife starts coming back.” Today, Glenn has ap-

proximately 600 acres enrolled in conservation and has worked with multiple partners to restore these wetlands, including the Texas Playa Conservation Initiative. While drought remains the biggest challenge, the actual restoration process, he says, has been straightforward. Since 2017, the Texas Playa Conservation Initiative has worked with landowners to restore nearly 3,900 acres of playas across the Texas Panhandle. The program offers 100% cost-covered restoration and technical support, as well as a one-time incentive payment, helping producers bring these wetlands back to life. “They hired the contractor, handled the technical stuff — I just

had to stay out of the way,” Glenn said with a laugh. “It was easy. And it works.” Glenn sees this work as critical not just for pheasants, but for pollinators, monarch butterflies, and future generations of hunters and landowners alike. “If we don’t start now, we’re not going to have anything left,” he said. “Restoration isn’t just about the past. It’s about leaving something better behind.” His advice for other landowners or conservation groups thinking about playa restoration? “Start yesterday. Talk to your local NRCS office. Work with people who know the programs. You’ll be amazed how quickly things can improve — and how much more beautiful your land becomes.”

1st Annual Turkey Trot

The Friona Run Club hosted its first annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day morning at the Clarence Monroe Community Center. The 5K Run/Walk was a success with over 45 individuals participating in the fun. There were many local runners as well as visitors from out of town and organizers were happy to see the community come together for the inaugural event. Everyone received a medal and t-shirt and snacks were served.



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