



Martha Mitts 06/18
PO Box 523
Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

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Number 15 April 5, 2018



Legacy Hosts Egg Hunt

By Paula Nusz

Legacy Assisted Living hosted an Easter Egg Hunt for Miss Sessions's kindergarten class from St. Anthony's Catholic School on Monday, March 26, 2018. Fourteen excited and adorable students proceeded to gather the eggs scattered on Legacy's north corner lawn. The residents had decided it was too cool to go outside to watch the hunt and were viewing from the dining room windows. After the hunt, the children came inside to greet residents.

The students greeted residents and showed off their gathered bounty. The students also had made Easter/Thank You drawings that were shared with residents. Children are a special treat; these smiling and affectionate children brought love to the residents. This egg hunt is an annual event between Legacy and St. Anthony's church. Legacy is located in Dalhart, Texas.

Photo courtesy of Dalhart School. Thank you

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MARY ALLEN ELEMENTARY 2018-2019
Enrollment for Pre-K & New Kindergarten
students at
Mary Allen Elementary
BEGINS, MONDAY APRIL 16th at 8:30am.

- To be eligible for Pre-K, student must be 4 years of age on or before September 1st, 2018.
- To be eligible for Kindergarten, student must be 5 years of age on or before September 1st, 2018.

Please bring the following information to the Mary Allen Elementary office to register:
BIRTH CERTIFICATE, SOCIAL SECURITY CARD & SHOT RECORD

Thank You!

MARY ALLEN tendrá

Inscripciones para el año escolar 2018-2019 para Estudiantes de Pre-K y Nuevos estudiantes de Kinder de

Mary Allen Elementary

Empiezan el LUNES 16 DE ABRIL alas 8:30am.

-Para ser elegibles para Pre kínder, su hijo(a) debe de tener 4 años de edad en o antes del 1° de Septiembre del 2018.

-Para ser elegibles para Kínder, su hijo(a) debe de tener 5 años de edad en o antes del 1° de Septiembre del 2018.

Por favor de traer la siguiente información a la oficina de Mary Allen para el registro:
CERTIFICADO DE NACIMIENTO, SEGURO SOCIAL Y LAS VACUNAS.

Gracias!

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Active Threat Combined Response Training
Mary Allen Elementary
Saturday, April 14 - Sunday, April 15, 2018
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Amarillo College in conjunction with Frank Phillips College The Active Threat Combined Response Training Is designed to bring regional Fire, Law Enforcement and EMS together to build response capabilities. The course covers point-of-injury medical interventions and establishing/deploying rescue task forces during a hostile critical incident while law enforcement actively neutralizes the threat. The course will include scenarios where the students have to neutralize threats, conduct hasty triage, treat injuries, establish casualty collection and extraction points, and learn to integrate with Law Enforcement/EMS/Fire personnel.

It is disturbing that we find ourselves in a time where this type of training is necessary. That being said, your First Responders are dedicated to being as well trained as possible to save lives should an incident occur. I greatly appreciate Amarillo College and Frank Phillips College for allowing us to host this training in Stratford. It allows the agencies who would likely respond to an incident in Stratford to learn to work together in a hands on environment.

I must ask the citizens of Stratford please do not approach the elementary school during these training days if you are not involved. This type of training is complicated and requires strict security around the area. I wish to thank the Board of Trustees, Supt Dominguez, and his staff for offering the facilities for this event.

Sheriff Ted Allen
Sherman County Texas



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Multi-use exemption applies to some taxpayers.

Texas Property Tax Code Sec. 11.254, provides for an individual to exempt one passenger car or light truck from personal property taxes if the vehicle is used for both business and personal purposes.

- 11.254. Motor Vehicle Used for Production of Income and for Personal Activities
- Except as provided by Subsection (c), an individual is entitled to an exemption from taxation of one motor vehicle owned by the individual that is used in the course of the individual's occupation or profession and is also used for personal activities of the owner that do not involve the production of income.
 - In this section, "motor vehicle" means a passenger car or light truck as those terms are defined by Section 502.001, Transportation Code.
 - A person who has been granted or applied for an exemption under this section may not apply for another exemption under this section until after the application or exemption has been denied.
 - This section does not apply to a motor vehicle used to transport passengers for hire.

To qualify for the exemption individuals need to fill out an application form available from the appraisal office at 402 N. Third Street in Stratford. **The exemption form must be filed prior to April 30.** Annual Renewal of this exemption is no longer required (Sec.11.43c). However the exemption is for a specific vehicle, so **if you change vehicles or replace the tag you must file a new exemption form.**

TAX DEFERRAL AVAILABLE FOR HOMEOWNERS 65 or OLDER or DISABLED or DISABLED VETERAN

The above listed qualified homeowners can postpone paying delinquent and current taxes on their homes. They can take advantage of a tax option called "over-65 deferral" or "tax deferral" by signing an affidavit at the Sherman County Appraisal District office.

If the affidavit is on file, a homeowner cannot lose a homestead because of delinquent taxes. Once a homeowner files a tax deferral affidavit with the appraisal district, no taxing unit can start or continue a lawsuit for delinquent taxes as long as that person owns and lives in that home. The tax deferral only postpones paying delinquent taxes on the home; it does not cancel them. Interest will continue to accrue on the deferred property.

This deferral applies only to homesteaded property. It does not include other real property or personal property taxes.

The form and more information are available at the Appraisal District office, 402 N. 3rd Street in Stratford or call (806) 366-5566.

Exemption Information Available From Appraisal Office

Sherman County Appraisal District offers property owners a pamphlet called "Property Taxpayer Remedies". Published by the State Comptroller's Office in Austin, the "Remedies" pamphlet explains the appraisal protest process.

Homeowners may file for various property tax exemptions offered by taxing units on residence homesteads. In Texas, a homestead is generally the house and yard used as the owner's principal residence. The Appraisal District can explain each exemption and how to apply for it. Homeowners do not need to reapply for the exemption this year if they received the exemption last year.

For example, all homeowners may file for a \$25,000 general exemption from their principal home's value for school taxes. In addition, certain disabled homeowners and those aged 65 or older may qualify for an additional \$10,000 exemption from the value of their home.

Disabled Veterans with a service-connected disability may present the Appraisal District with proof from the Veterans Administration to qualify for exemptions based on their percent of disability. Veterans designated 100% disabled or unemployable may qualify for a 100% homestead exemption.

Productivity appraisal is another type of tax relief available to agricultural landowners.

Appraisal District staff can offer more information about special land appraisal, tax rendition and exemptions. We urge all property owners to read the pamphlet and learn about possible property tax relief.

Remember, taxpayers must file an exemption application with the Appraisal District office no later than April 30. The "Remedies" pamphlet and all exemption forms are available at the Appraisal District office, 402 N. 3rd in Stratford or by calling (806) 366-5566.

BUSINESSES

**Don't get hit with a penalty!
Render your property now!
Deadline: April 16, 2018**

If you have not rendered your business personal property, such as inventory, equipment, and fixtures you must do it now to avoid a penalty of 10-50 percent. If you need additional information, contact the Sherman County Appraisal District at 402 N 3rd in Stratford or call 806-366-5566.

Tales from No Man's Land Museum

Before settlers began to populate No Man's Land, hardy cowboys were maintaining large herds. Among their many duties was "working and branding" cattle. The branding iron has become an iconic symbol of the "Old West". The No Man's Land Museum in Goodwell has a branding iron that is over 100 years old. It was once used on the famous CCC or Three C Ranch that covered a large portion of what later became Texas and Cimarron Counties. It was once the largest ranch in the Oklahoma Panhandle.

According to *Ten Decades of Texhoma 1901-2001*, the ranch originated in 1878 with G. W. E. Griffith and was later owned by Vickers, Wells, and Gates of Tombstone, Arizona. It contends that the ranch grazed from 20,000 to 30,000 cattle on over a half million acres.

A December 1989, article in the *Guymon Daily Herald* reports a ranch encompassing 23 townships with 28 wells and 40 acres of land around each well. Since the Ranch was in an area with few rivers, they drilled the first water wells and set the first windmills and tanks for their large herds of cattle. The 1989 article also mentioned that a man named Harve Taylor drilled wells for the CCC from 1886-1896. Clovis Fleming, J. S. Ingle, and J. E. Gardner are listed as some of the cowboys.

In *Poems, Stories, and Recollections of Earl Cavis*, the 1905 settler related coming to Beaver County (now Cimarron County) as a 10 year child. His family traveled by train from Kansas to Texhoma. He remembered seeing three year old horned steers belonging to the Three C in the stock pens ready for shipment and a large herd being held east of the stock pens. The Cavis family had to drive their two teams of horses and cows through the Three C cattle. The young 10 year old was impressed to see his first real cowboys and recalled the foreman of the Three C was Col. Glenn who was riding a small blocky blue horse. When the Three C ceased operation in 1906, with the settlement of the land, they shipped the last of their cattle by rail from Texhoma so Cavis probably saw some of the last of the great ranch herd.

Cavis also wrote that the Ranch had a contract with the United States Government that wherever they drilled a well and erected a windmill, they would be deeded 40 acres of land at the well site. His family's homestead (near Marella in Cimarron County) was three miles southeast of a well called the U. S. Well on the Beaver. He remembered hauling water from the U. S. Well and another well called the Upper 5th on the Beaver. As a child, Cavis recalled seeing as many as 20 outfits waiting to get water at the U. S. Well. He

also mentioned Deep Well near the Rally Post Office and wells near Cane Lake and Dry Lake. The homesteaders had to haul enough water for their families and their stock.

A February 1939, article in the *Panhandle Herald* mentions various names such as the OK Well near Glen Rose, the Anchor D Well northeast of Eva, the



Two Circle south of Elkhart, Mid Well in the edge of Cimarron County, North Fork 20 miles northwest of Texhoma, as well as the Ranch headquarters being a "watering place".

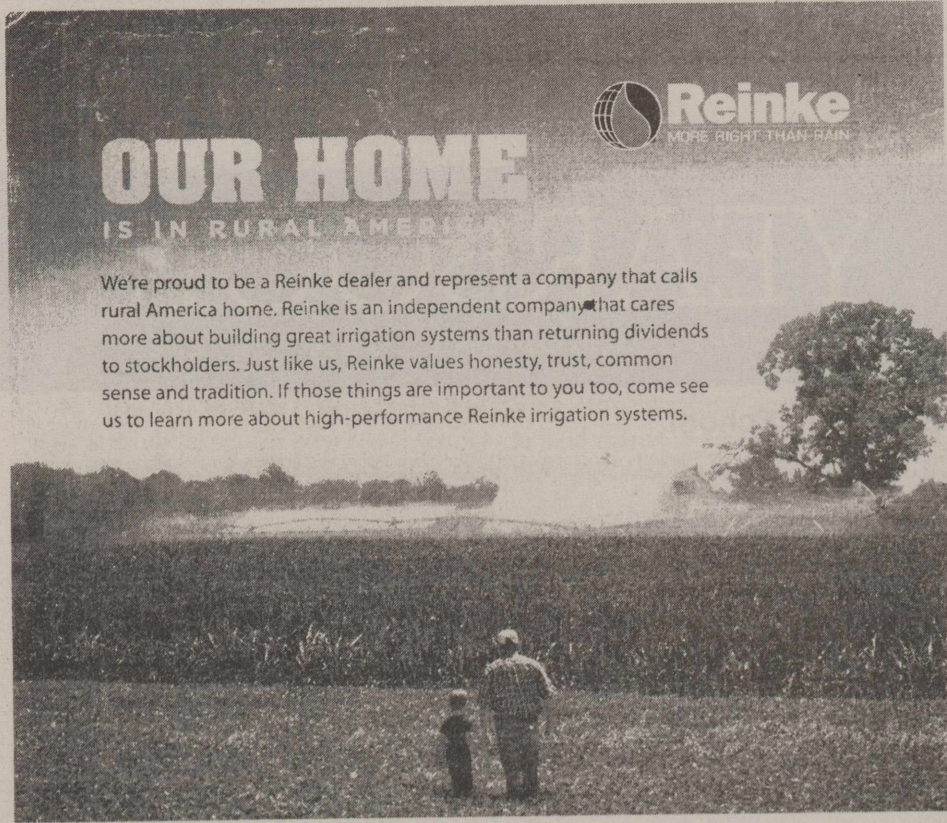
A cowboy who realized the importance of the old Three C Ranch gave the branding iron to the No Man's Land Museum. It came from the Twin Windmills about 20 miles northwest of Texhoma. Over a hundred years ago, it was an ordinary piece of ranch equipment, but today it is truly a unique object that evokes thoughts of cowboys and survival and the spirit of the Panhandle.

Without the Three C water wells, settlement would have been almost impossible for the early homesteaders. They began to drill their own wells when it was feasible, but they truly owed a great debt of gratitude to the Three C Ranch.

The No Man's Land Museum invites visitors to view all their artifacts on Tuesday - Friday, 10 AM -12 AM and 1 PM -4 PM and Saturday 10 AM -4 PM. Follow the Museum on Facebook @NoMansLandMuseum.

ATTN: FARMERS & LANDOWNERS

If you have land that came out of CRP in 2017, you need to contact the Appraisal District now. The land classification may need to be corrected and could reduce your taxes. You will need to complete a new ag form prior to June 30, 2018 for any land reclassifications to take effect for the 2018 tax roll. Sherman County Appraisal District, 402 N 3rd Stratford TX or call 806-366-5566.



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Stratford Family Medical Clinic

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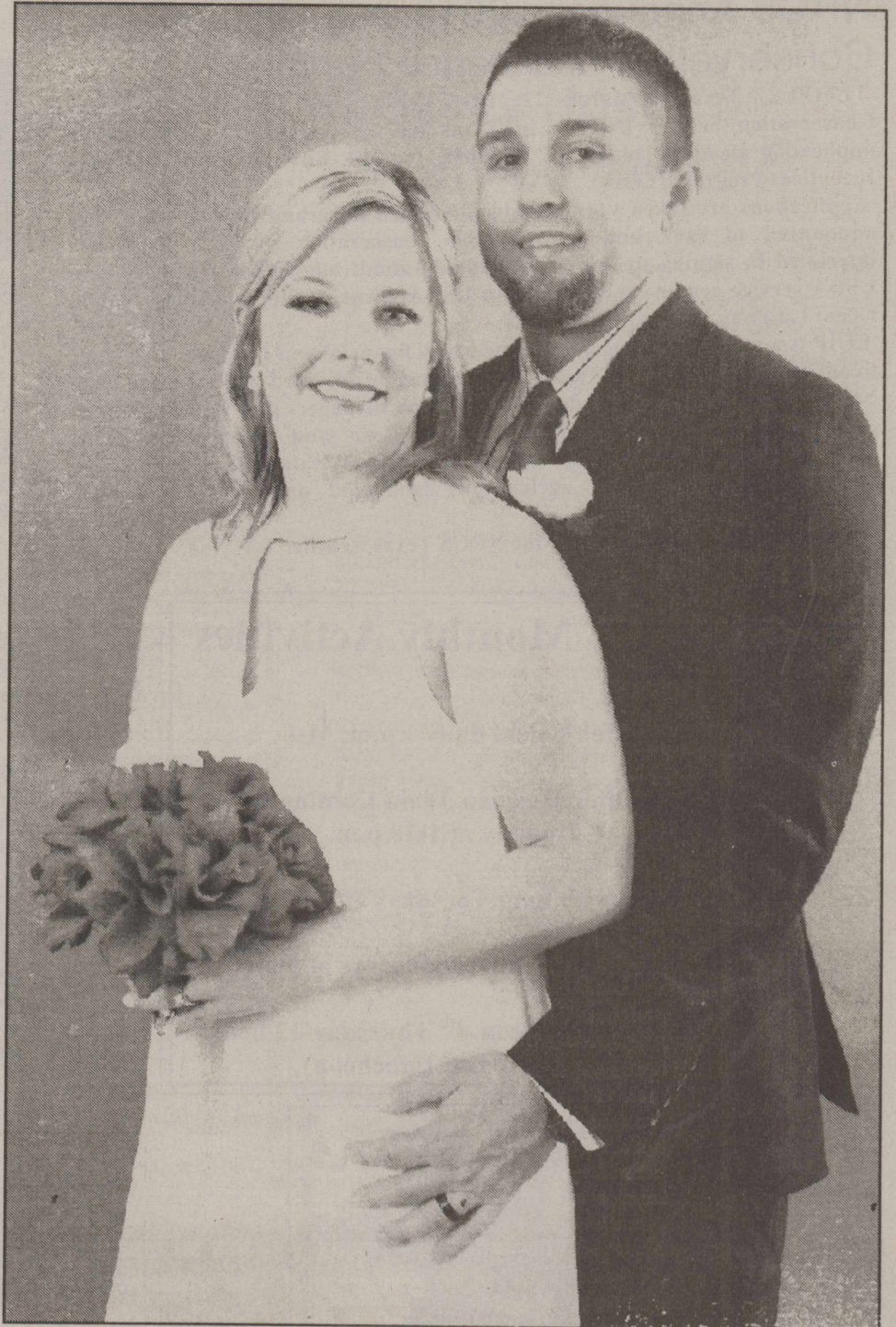
Coldwater Manor Nursing Facility

396-5568 Leo Sanders, LNFA

Stratford EMS

9-1-1 or 396-2844 Jimmy Lanning, Director

The Stratford Hospital District operates on a non-discriminatory basis, giving equal treatment and access to services without regard to sex, race, religion, age or ethnicity.



Mr. and Mrs. Josh King

On the 13th of March 2018 at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, Josh King & Shayla Kenworthy exchanged vows in the beautiful wedding chapel of Las Vegas, Nevada. Shayla is the daughter of Tommy & Sherri Kenworthy of Perryton, TX and Bryan & Sherri Prater of Amarillo, TX. Josh is the son of Keith and Tami King of Stratford, TX.

THE SPIRIT SHOP is having a

Spring Fling

April 17th & 18th from 9-5, we'll have lots of items for sale at the shop at 6200 Hwy 15!

Contact us @ 806.753.7795 for all your needs - we appreciate your business.

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

First Assembly of God
Kevin Anderson, Pastor

921 Fulton
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

First Christian Church
5th & Main
Tim Boyer, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. (Nursery)
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. (nursery)
No Sunday evening Worship Service

First United Methodist
Rev. Damon Stalvey
520 N. Main
Sunday School 9:20 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Junior & Senior High UMY 5:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Catholic Church
6th & Pearl
Rectory 366-5687
Sunday morning 8:00 a.m. (English) 9:30 (Spanish)
Sacrament of Reconciliation Before Mass or t.
Christian Formation Classes K-6 Grade Wed. Afternoon
Jr. & Sr. High. Wed. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church
Pastor Ron Whitt
702 N. 3rd
Sun.-Coffee 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Children 6 p.m. youth 7 p.m.

Heritage Bible Baptist
Pastor Mark Looney
302 S. Main
For more info-call 396-2212
Morning worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Thurs. Service 7:00 p.m.



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Domingo (Sunday)
Escuela Dominical 9:45 a.m.
Miercoles (Wednesday)
Servicio De Adoracion 11 a.m. Estudio
Biblico & Servicio De Oration 6 p.m.
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Eben-Ezer Templo Hispano
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Pastor: Juan M. Valenzuela
806-366-3071
205 N. Poplar-Hwy 287 268-2188
Escuela Dominical 10 a.m. - 12 noon
Servicio De Adoracion 5 p.m.-7 p.m.
Miercoles: Servicio De Adoracion 6-8 p.m.

Kerrick Community
Pastor Roy Harris
Community Building
10 a.m. Worship Service

Church of Christ
N. 3rd & Chestnut
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

NRCS Announces 2018 Deadline for Conservation Assistance Funding

TEMPLE, Texas - March 22, 2018 - The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas has announced the first funding application deadline of April 20, 2018 for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Applications are taken year around for NRCS programs, but deadlines are announced to rank and fund eligible conservation projects. Producers interested in signing up for EQIP should submit applications to their local USDA service center or if already a USDA client, on-line via Conservation Client Gateway (CCG).

EQIP is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers. Technical assistance is provided without a fee from NRCS specialists to help landowners and land managers plan and implement conservation practices to help them meet their land management goals, address natural resource concerns and improve soil, water, plant, animal, air, and related resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland.

For additional information visit the NRCS Texas website.

SCOT Monthly Activities

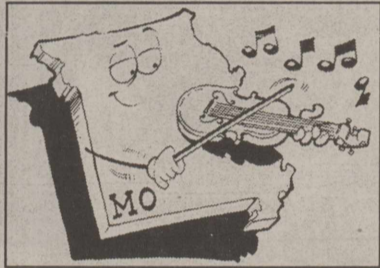
Men's Pool daily 1 p.m. M-F

Ladies Mexican Train Dominoes
Monday at 1:30 p.m.

Yoga with Erin Tuesdays at 8:15 a.m.

Yoga with Cindy Thursdays at 9 a.m.

Monthly luncheon-4th Thursday-12 noon
(covered dish Luncheon)



The fiddle was named the state musical instrument of Missouri in 1987.

YEARBOOK

CELEBRATING MOMENTS THAT MATTER

Stratford High School

Please return orders with checks payable to SHS Annual to your campus secretaries or to Mrs. Shari Hudson at Stratford High School or order online at jostensyearbook.com. DEADLINE: APRIL 27, 2018. AFTER THIS DATE: \$70.00

We appreciate your continued support!

1
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YEARBOOK

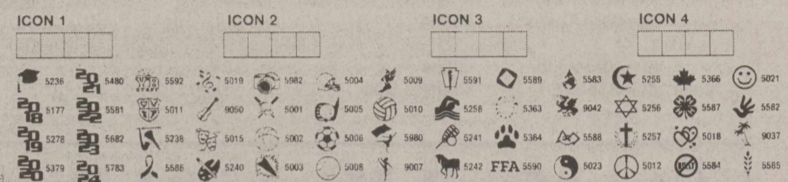
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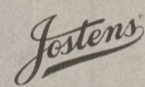


Enter 4 digit icon code from chart on the right into boxes provided above.

See more icon options at www.jostens.com/ybicons

4
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INFORMATION

Student Name _____
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Business Directory

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Phone: 806-366-5557

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www.duncanchevrolet.com
E-mail: duncanch@xit.net
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Texas Livestock Producers May be Eligible for 2018 Drought Disaster Assistance

COLLEGE STATION, Texas, March 29, 2018 – USDA today announced that ranchers and livestock producers in impacted Texas counties may be eligible for assistance through the 2018 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP).

Many Texas counties recently met qualifying drought ratings and may be eligible for LFP compensation for grazing losses for covered livestock on land that is in native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or certain crops planted specifically for grazing.

Qualifying drought ratings for this USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) program are determined using the U.S. Drought Monitor located at <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>.

Eligible livestock include alpacas, beef cattle, buffalo, beefalo, dairy cattle, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, reindeer, or sheep that have been or would have been grazing the eligible acres during the normal grazing period.

Long Season Small Grains (67 Counties)

Archer	Cochran	Garza	Kent	Motley	Throckmorton
Armstrong	Collingsworth	Gray	King	Ochiltree	Titus
Bailey	Coryell	Hale	Knox	Oldham	Wheeler
Baylor	Cottle	Hall	Lamar	Parmer	Wichita
Bell	Crosby	Hansford	Lamb	Potter	Wilbarger
Bosque	Dallam	Hardeman	Lipscomb	Randall	Williamson
Bowie	Deaf Smith	Harrison	Lubbock	Red River	Yoakum
Briscoe	Dickens	Hartley	Lynn	Roberts	
Carson	Donley	Haskell	McLennan	Sherman	
Cass	Falls	Hemphill	Marion	Stonewall	
Castro	Floyd	Hockley	Moore	Swisher	
Childress	Foard	Hutchinson	Morris	Terry	

Short Season Small Grains (60 Counties)

Archer	Cochran	Garza	Hockley	Marion	Roberts
Armstrong	Collingsworth	Gray	Hutchinson	Moore	Sherman
Bailey	Cottle	Hale	Kent	Morris	Stonewall
Baylor	Crosby	Hall	King	Motley	Swisher
Bowie	Dallam	Hansford	Knox	Ochiltree	Terry
Briscoe	Deaf Smith	Hardeman	Lamar	Oldham	Titus
Carson	Dickens	Harrison	Lamb	Parmer	Wheeler
Cass	Donley	Hartley	Lipscomb	Potter	Wichita
Castro	Floyd	Haskell	Lubbock	Randall	Wilbarger
Childress	Foard	Hemphill	Lynn	Red River	Yoakum

Full Season Improved, Native Pasture (59 Counties):

Archer	Cochran	Floyd	Hemphill	McLennan	Stonewall
Armstrong	Collingsworth	Foard	Hockley	Moore	Swisher
Bailey	Coryell	Garza	Hutchinson	Motley	Terry
Baylor	Cottle	Gray	Kent	Ochiltree	Throckmorton
Bell	Crosby	Hale	King	Oldham	Wheeler
Bosque	Dallam	Hall	Knox	Parmer	Wichita
Briscoe	Deaf Smith	Hansford	Lamb	Potter	Wilbarger
Carson	Dickens	Hardeman	Lipscomb	Randall	Williamson
Castro	Donley	Hartley	Lubbock	Roberts	Yoakum
Childress	Falls	Haskell	Lynn	Sherman	

Annual Ryegrass (30 Counties):

Baylor	Cottle	Foard	Hardeman	Knox	Terry
Briscoe	Crosby	Garza	Haskell	Lubbock	Wheeler
Childress	Dickens	Gray	Hockley	Lynn	Wichita
Cochran	Donley	Hale	Kent	Motley	Wilbarger
Collingsworth	Floyd	Hall	King	Stonewall	Yoakum

Applications are required for 2018 losses. To expedite applications, producers who experienced losses in 2018 are encouraged to collect records documenting their losses. Supporting documents may include information related to grazing leases, federal grazing permits, contract grower agreements, and more.

"We encourage producers to contact their county office and make an appointment to learn more about applying for LFP and related program requirements," said Gary Six, FSA state executive director in Texas.


FSA disaster assistance program information can also be found online at disaster.fsa.usda.gov. To apply for LFP, contact your local USDA service center.

Legacy Hosts Meals on Wheels

By Paula Nusz

Legacy Assisted Living hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Reception for Dalhart Meals on Wheels drivers and board members. The reception was on Friday, March 16, 2018. Currently over 40 persons are associated with the Meals on Wheels. Meals on Wheels delivers lunches to home-bound residents of Dalhart. These volunteers are many times, the only person to actually see the meal recipients on a daily basis. Not only do these drivers bring nutritious meals, but they also bring friendship and human

contact. Many drivers said that these people become almost like family and additional bonds are formed. Eleven volunteers/board members attended the reception. These self-less volunteers were greeted and thanked for their service. Refreshments were served, and each participant received a gift bags as they left the reception. This time together as a group to visit and to network was valuable to drivers as they seldom see each other. Many volunteers also know Legacy residents- which just made the party happier. Meals on Wheels is looking for additional drivers and for monetary contributions. Some meal recipients cannot afford to pay for their meals, and donations pay these costs. Legacy Assisted Living is located in Dalhart, Texas.



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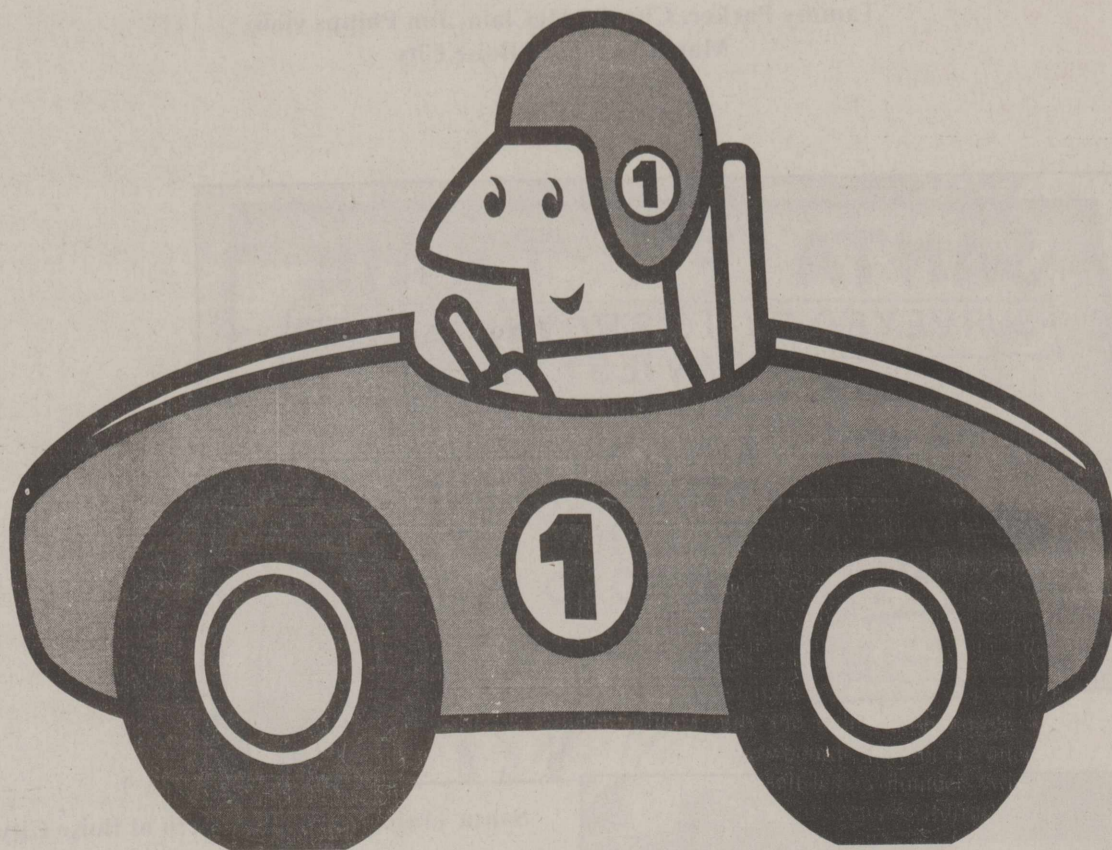
Attention to all subscribers!!

Rate change

The Stratford Star is no longer sending out notices when your paper is due. Check the label on the paper and see what month your subscription expires. **I will be putting "Stars" on the current month" If you have a Star on your label it means that your sub expires that month.** If you are not sure the amount you owe if you live out of the area call 753-7373 and double check. Locally is \$33.00 and out of the area \$40.00. If you are paying for someone else's sub, you will be billed for that person. The Stratford Star, PO Box 8, Stratford, TX 79084
Thanks-Marty

**Stratford High School
 Seniors are having a car
 wash fundraiser on
 Saturday, April 14, 2018
 at the school parking
 lot. From 1 to 4 p.m.**

**"Come get your car
 washed free of charge!"**





Group on Tour (l-r) Paula Nusz, Jim Phipps, Charlie McClain, Wid Stevenson Seasted Coe Beverly

Walk the Santa Fe Trail Field Trip

By Paula Nusz

Legacy Assisted Living residents took a field trip to Boise City, Oklahoma, and Clayton, New Mexico, on February 27, 2018. As a portion of their winter exercise program, Legacy residents and staff have been walking. This year they are walking the distance of the Santa Fe and Camino Real Trail system- a total of 2465 miles. Legacy residents took this field trip to see some of the history of the trail located in our immediate area. Four residents (Coe Beverly, Wid Stevenson, Charlie McClain, and Jim Phipps) and two staff members (Tammy Parker and Paula Nusz) embarked on this trek on a windy but surprisingly warm morning, heading north out of Dalhart towards Boise City.

The convoy of two vehicles arrived in Boise City and 'took the tour around the courthouse' then exited at the Denver highway outlet. About 10 miles north of town was the first designated stop. At this location off of the edge of the mesa, was three historical markers that told of the Santa Fe Trail and of its travelers. Everyone stretched their legs and read the markers. Then, back to Boise City for an unscheduled stop at the Boise City Pharmacy for hearing aid batteries! The next stop was at No Man's Land Jerky factory. The staff was very kind and even provided samples! Several bags of jerky were purchased for snacks during the day.

Lunch was eaten at Angel Café. The group ate: several selections of Mexican Food, Chicken Fried Steak, and Chicken Noodle Soup. The staff was wonderful and went the 'extra mile' to provide the services needed. In the vehicles and up the road to the Cimarron Heritage Center Museum was the next stop. This museum provided displays about the Santa Fe Trail. Their exhibit traces the story of the Trail with photographs and artifacts. Approximately 70 miles of trail crosses this northern portion of Cimarron County, Oklahoma. At the museum, the group was given a map with directions to the closest wagon ruts, and other historical markers throughout the area. Back into the cars and off they went westward, just like the real trail blazers of history!

The group arrived at the marker for the ruts that was just south of the turn for Lake Etling. It is amazing that the ruts are still visible after 150 years. This was a good time of year, as the vegetation was still short. Even the land is a different color due to the many foot/hof steps that traveled this area. A historical marker with the story of the wagon trains was present. At this stop was also a monument to Fort Nichols. This fort was established in May, 1865, to furnish military escorts for the caravans engaged in Santa Fe trade. The wind was really starting to blow, so this 'reading time' was short! The caravan headed south and then west to the little town of Wheelless, Oklahoma, and areas west. This part of the country is definitely a wilderness. They saw several herds of antelope, raptors and wide open spaces. Historical interest sites along this section were: Daughters of the American Revolution monument, McNeese Crossing Historical marker, New Mexico State Line, Cimarron Trail Cutoff marker, and the stone church at Moses. This road took the group around three sides of Rabbit Ears Mountain and Rabbit Ears Butte. It is easy to understand how travelers used these mountains as landmarks. The group learned that Rabbit Ears Mountain was named for an Indian Chief whose ear tips were black like that of a jackrabbit. His ears were frozen at some time in his youth. The legend is that he is buried on his namesake mountain. Santa Fe (the final destination for the wagon trains) is approximately 200 miles past these mountains.

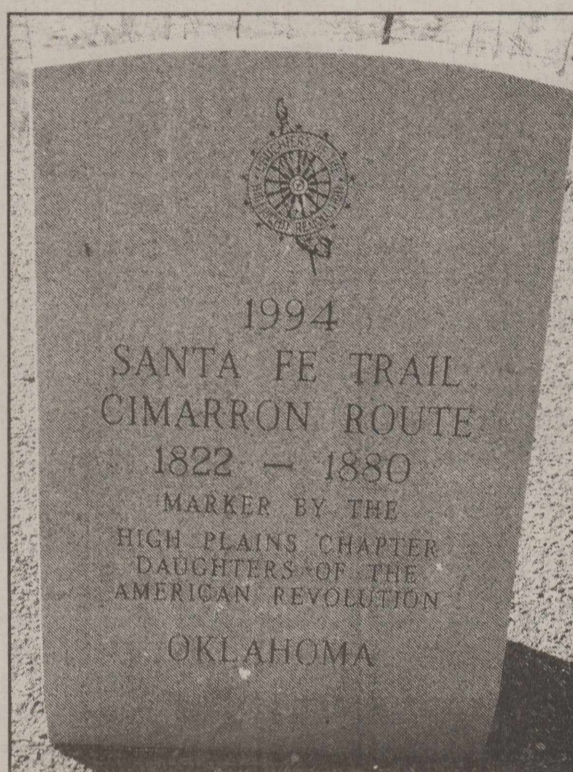
Entering Clayton, New Mexico, the group stopped at their new historical markers. Two new three-sided markers have been installed. Each side has some specific information such as the people who traveled the trail; the items they brought along; and landmarks in this area. Legacy's staff team is named the Susan Magoffin team; and her name, photo and biography was listed on one of these monuments!

The final stop was the Herzstein Memorial Museum. A special tour guide brought this history to life. This museum has many artifacts that have been found in the area. The majority of these items have been found at McNeese Crossing and at the Rabbit Ears Creek Camp site. It was unbelievable the items that have been found. We would expect shell casings, horse shoes, nails, bolts, chain, and etc. What is really amazing is items such as spectacles (still in their cases), a dredel, firearms, spurs, and a delicate pink crystal whale oil lamp were found. One learning point was that the oxen that pulled the cargo wagons were also shod to protect their hooves, just like horses. A set of used oxen shoes was displayed! Before the group left, the museum staff brought cookies and bottled water as snacks for the trip home. These kind and thoughtful people displayed the true Pioneer spirit of the people of the area.

The happy and weary group arrived back in Dalhart at Legacy in time for a late supper. One could hear the 'tourists' telling the stories of the field trip to their tablemates. Everyone was excited about the trip, the sites visited and the history learned. Hopefully their enthusiasm will inspiring others to join the next trip. The next field trip will



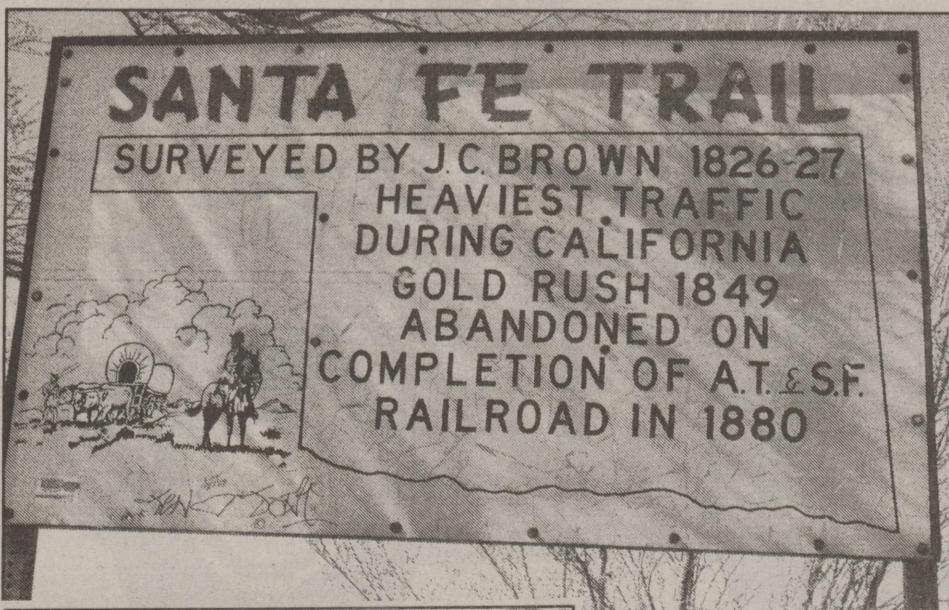
Old Santa Fe Trail Sign



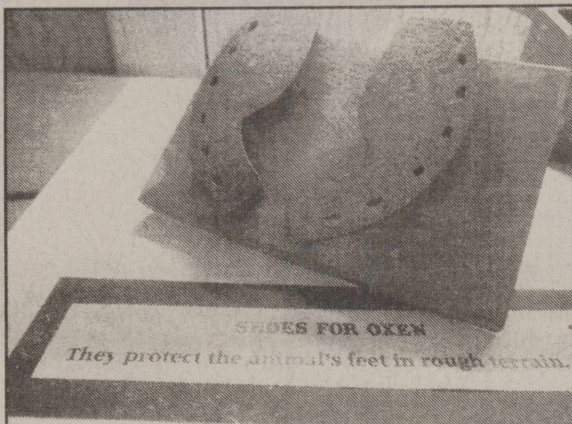
Daughters of the American Revolution marker



Tammy Parker, Charlie McClain, Jim Phipps view Marker north of Boise City



Santa Trail sign located north of Boise City, Oklahoma



Old Oxen Shoes

be to Elkhart, Kansas, in March. A photo wall has been prepared to share the experiences and sites of this trip. Legacy Assisted Living is located in Dalhart, Texas.



Happy Easter to All Star Classifieds

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Help Wanted

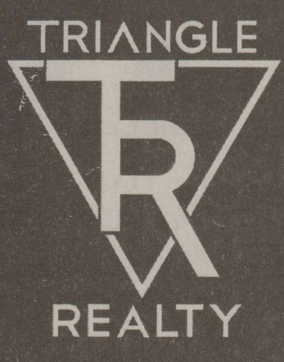
Coldwater Manor in Stratford, Texas is looking for a person for our House Keeping department. We offer great pay, benefits and great working atmosphere. If interested please come by 1111 Beaver Road, Stratford, TX for an application.

Stratford ISD is seeking applications for Payroll Clerk. Applications available on school website or in the administration office. For more information, please call (806)3300. Applications will be accepted until March 30th.


House for Rent

Move-in ready 3 bed, 2 bath country home with lots of natural light. Convenient to Stratford schools and Dumas shopping. Carpeted LR & 2 BD (-20x20 ea.) + 14x14 BD. Baths have new tile floors. Kitchen incl. Rein, garbage \ disposal, RIO filter, microwave, dish washer, new stove & laminate floor. Laundry (10x8) with sink, W/D, and walls of storage. House is freshly painted, carpets cleaned, fans in all rooms, tons of storage thru-out, and a new HVAC unit. Fenced front yard with large shade tree. Utilities not included. Please call 806.463.8771 or 806.930.3479 for more info.

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STRATFORD 640
Farmland

Location: S of Stratford, TX
Acreage: ±640 Acres

All of the acreage is currently under cultivation and just produced a very good dry land cotton crop. ±320 acres is historically planted in cotton and while the rest is kept in summer fallow. The farm is surrounded by irrigated farms providing a great possibility to further develop this section of ground. The ground is mostly flat and readily available for general farming uses. The property is in a great location set back about 1/2 mile from Highway 287 just 3 miles south of Stratford, Texas.

SMITH RANCH
Irrigated & Grass

Location: E of Stratford, TX
Acreage: ±2,926 Acres

Situated on the Coldwater Creek breaks providing stunning views of canyon terrain. While there is rolling ground on the ranch, the majority of the acreage is flat, great for ranching and farming. ±500 acres are currently under center pivot irrigation. Three wells combine to produce about 2,100 GPM. Additionally, there are very good pens and corrals setup, plus several traps. There is an abundant source of water for livestock with 11 water tanks. The wildlife are also in abundance.

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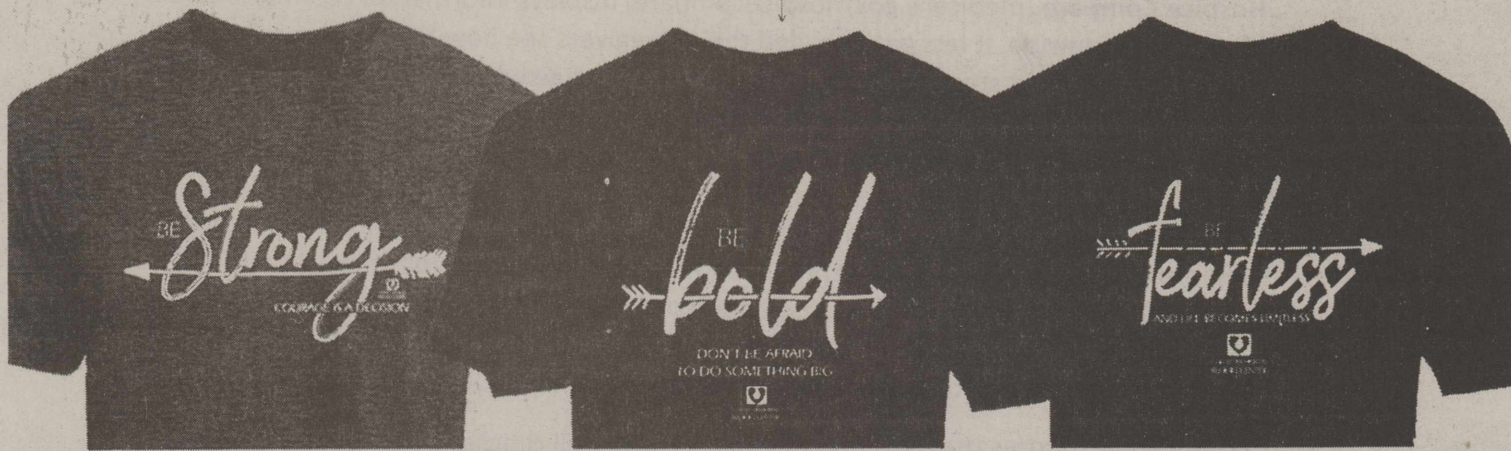
Stratford Community Blood Drive

Thursday, April 19
2 - 6 p.m.
Large Barn

To schedule your appointment,
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What will you BE?
Give blood and get your choice
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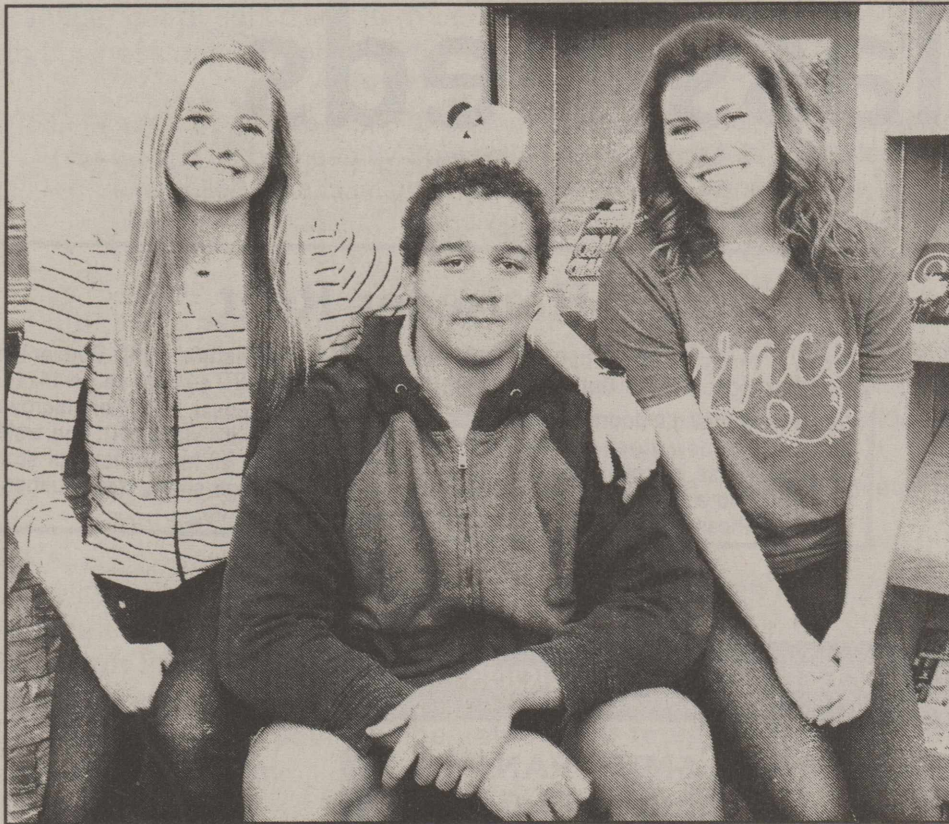
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OAP Cast Members Receive Honors



Shown above District OAP The Miracle Worker held at West Texas on March 5th Kenlee McBryde-Best Actress, Noah Harris-HM All Star Cast and Carlee Metcalf-All Star Cast.



Bi-District OAP The Miracle Worker held at Wellington on March 21 Carlee Metcalf-HM All-Star Cast & Kenlee McBryde-All-Star Cast

Medicare can help you find the right health care providers

By Bob Moos/Southwest regional public affairs officer for the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

How many times do we rely on the Internet to answer life's little questions, such as which movies to see or where to go for dinner? So, why not use it to help settle some of the bigger questions, like which nursing homes, hospitals and doctors to turn to for our care?

Four in five Internet users already search the web for information about diseases or medical problems. Taking that one step further and using the Internet to compare health care providers seems perfectly reasonable, as long as you can trust the websites you're visiting.

Medicare's "Compare" website fills the bill. It's a good place to begin your research when looking for a nursing home, hospital, home health agency or other health care provider.

Nursing Home Compare (medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare) gives you detailed information on 17,000 nursing homes nationwide. You can find out about a facility's recent health and safety inspections, its staffing levels and the quality of its care, such as whether residents have gotten their flu shots, are in pain or are losing weight. The website uses a star-rating system to point out the differences between nursing homes. The best homes score five stars; the worst receive one.

Hospital Compare (medicare.gov/hospitalcompare) puts 4,700 hospitals under the magnifying glass, allowing you to see how facilities fare on many indicators of quality care. You can learn, for example, how often patients who were admitted to a particular hospital because of heart attacks return within a month of discharge. An unusually low, or high, percentage could say something about how well, or poorly, the hospital treated the problem during the first stay.

In an emergency, you need to go to the nearest hospital. But when you do have time, it's worth discussing with your doctor which hospital best meets your needs. If you're considering one facility, you may want to know what recent patients thought of their care. Hospital Compare measures customer satisfaction by using survey responses from patients. You can find out, for instance, how well a hospital's patients thought the doctors and nurses keep them informed or managed their pain.

Home Health Compare (medicare.gov/homehealthcompare) lets you locate home health care agencies in your area and check on the types of services they offer and the quality of their care. Your doctor, hospital discharge planner or social worker can make some recommendations. But the statistics on Home Health Compare will help you follow up and confirm how well an agency's patients recover from illnesses or injuries and resume their everyday activities.

Hospice Compare (medicare.gov/hospicecompare) displays information on almost 3,900 hospices nationwide. It lets patients and their caregivers see how the hospice services they are considering stack up against the national average when it comes to such quality measures as managing pain, treating symptoms and respecting patients' beliefs and values. The website also has a list of questions to ask when choosing a hospice program.

Physician Compare (medicare.gov/physiciancompare) allows you to search for doctors who provide Medicare-covered services. You can find basic facts about individuals and group practices, such as their business addresses, medical specialties, clinical training and hospital affiliations. And you can check how well certain group practices perform specific tasks, like controlling blood sugar in patients with diabetes. Also available are patient survey scores that cover issues such as how well clinicians communicate.

Medicare's Compare website contains information on several other types of health care providers, such as dialysis facilities, long-term care hospitals and inpatient rehabilitation facilities. Convenience is important, so look at facilities near your home. But also pay close attention to the quality-of-care measures. In the case of long-term care hospitals and inpatient rehabilitation facilities, for example, you'll want to look at how often patients get infections or pressure ulcers.

As helpful as the Compare website is, it isn't meant to be the final word on a nursing home or a hospital or a physician's quality of care. It's simply a screening tool that lets you focus on a few providers that interest you, so that you can make an informed decision about your care.