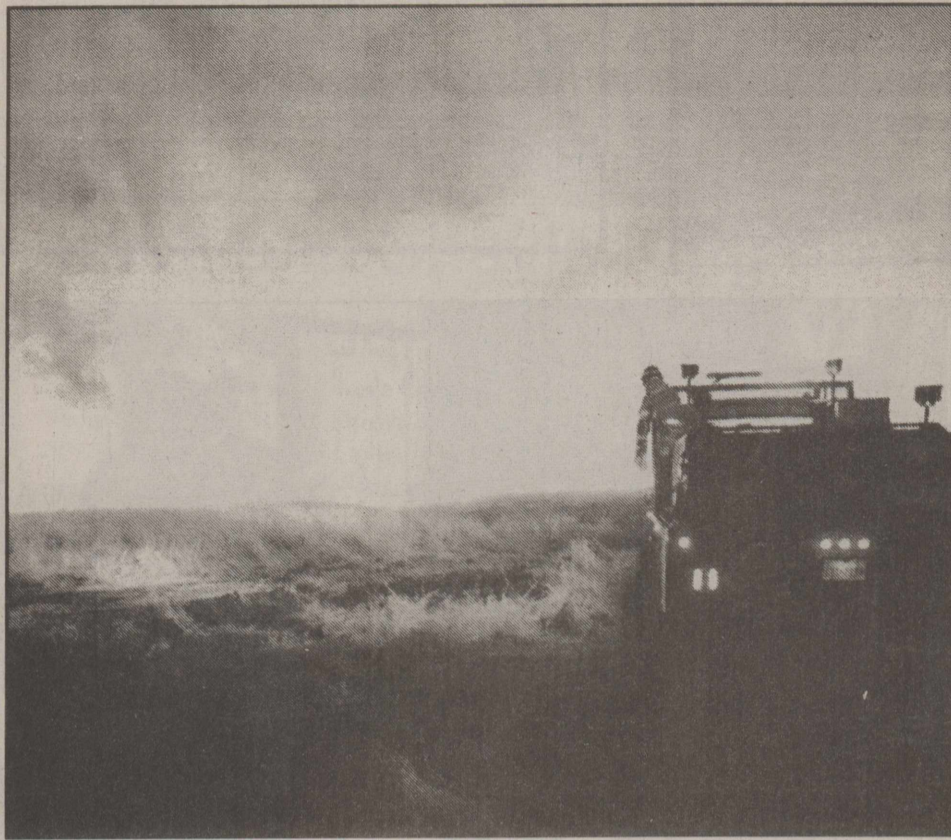


Ann Wells 10/18
PO Box 809
Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

75 cents Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084 usps 523 Number 19 May 3, 2018



Fire Crews fight fire again

The Stratford Fire department with the help of Texhoma, Sunray, Gruver and Goodwell fought a fire on Sunday, April 29th out on Highway 15. Fire started around 4 p.m. and continued to burn for many hours before it was brought under control. One fireman said he got home about 3a.m. High winds and contents made the fire very difficult to fight. Also County Road graders were on hand to help. Many folks brought out water, food, fuel to help the firefighters. EMS was also called out. Thank you guys for taking care of us, while were home in bed. You are so so appreciated. Sheriff and Stratford police were also out shutting down the highways. Lots of folks are first responders in our area, and we are so thankful for each and every one of them. As this Editor was finishing up and going to bed Our Fire Department was being called out again. Prayers for all!!!!

ATTENTION EVERYONE

This notice is to everyone in Stratford and surrounding areas that may need a Fire Dept., EMS, and First Responders of any kind. That includes all of us. I was reminded last night- (I am slow at saying this again) but if you would like to help these folks, please think about dropping off water, snacks, gater aid, power aid, socks, Chap Stick or anything that you think the First Responders may need at this very scary fire season. And of course any monetary donations, small or large can be such a tremendous help. Donations of any kind can be left at Clements Insurance next to the post office. They will take anything you leave and get it to the fire dept. They also will have a box for you to drop off your monetary donations as well. These folks are volunteers I know not all of them but the majorities are Volunteers on the Fire Depts. Stratford was fortunate to have the aid of Goodwell, Sunray, Gruver, and Texhoma Fire Departments and with folks who brought fuel, food, water and snacks. It does not matter who these folks are they are working together to stop these fires because of our dry conditions. They need our help. We would be in trouble if we did not have these people helping all of the time to take care of us and keep us safe. Please think about dropping off items at Clements Insurance for the Stratford Fire Department. These donations can do so much to helping them when they are out protecting us. And I said all First Responders, because they are on the scene when we are home safe and snug in our beds. Thanks from the bottom of my heart. A special thanks to Clements Insurance for volunteering to help.

Marty

What's Happening

Waka School Reunion-June 30th
Beginning at 12 p.m. until?
Accepting Free Will Donations for non profit
FMI call Lori Borst at 806-202-4133 or
Bernie Olivariz at 806-202-5230

Prom Weekend May 5th

Stratford Grain Hot Dog Feed Thursday,
June 7, 2018

May is Stratford Cemetery Clean Up

Piano Recital- Sunday May 6, 2018
1:30 at First Christian Church

Public Invited

Public is invited to the Prom Skit to be given on Thursday, May 3rd at the Mary Allen Elementary School at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, May 5 come to the Mary Allen Elementary School and view the Red Carpet Prom goes at 6:30 p.m. You do not want to miss the Girls and Boys all dressed up in their finery.



*You are cordially invited
To the
Spring piano recital
Sunday, May 6, 2018
1:30 p.m. at
First Christian Church*

Stratford Area Foundation April 24

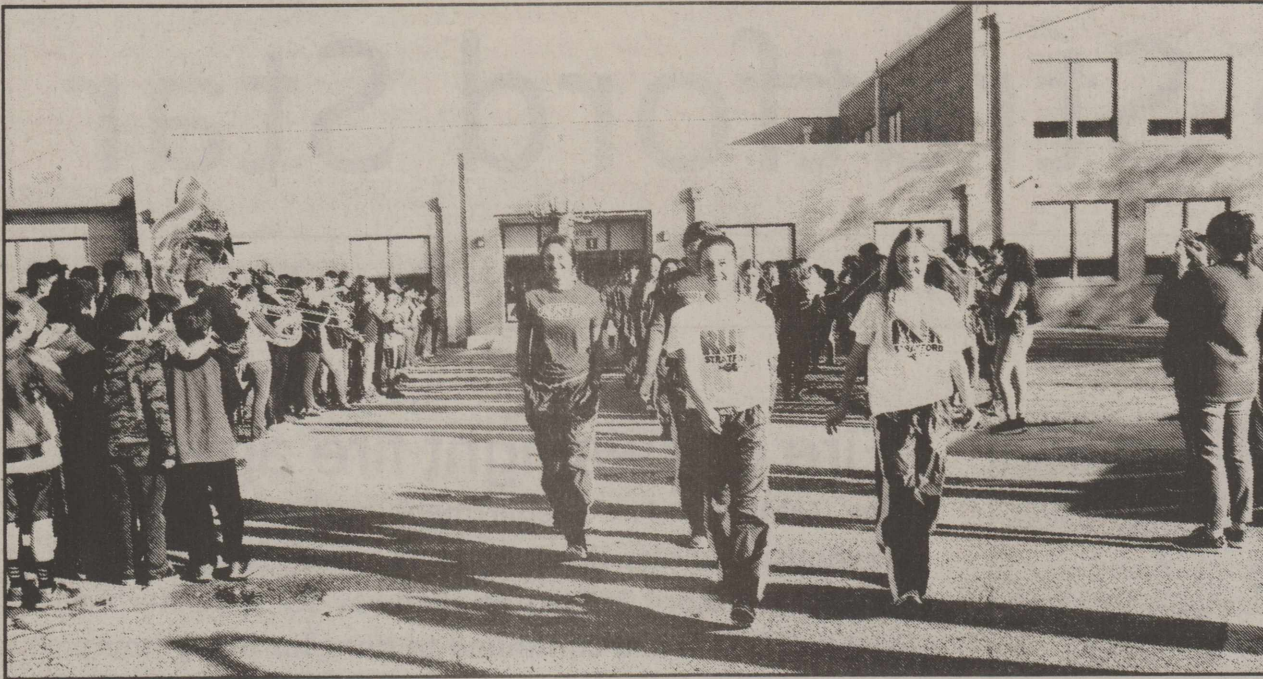
By Gaynelle Riffe

The Stratford Area Foundation and the J.B. Riffe Foundations for Sherman and Texas County held their annual membership meeting at the Elementary School Library on April 24 at 7:00 p.m. A report was made from representatives of grant request made for 2017. Danny Davis from Stratford Fire Department showed some of the equipment purchased from Stratford Area Foundation matching grant. Susie Spurlock reported on roof repairs to their newly acquired building for Lollipop Child Care. She had submitted another request for electrical upgrade which was granted. Gaynelle Riffe reported on the new equipment building for the Texhoma Cemetery with a matching grant. Laurie Spurlock reported on the new carpet for the Imagination Station., a matching grant from Italian Dinner plus donations. Jimmy Lanning from the EMS reported on the new First Responder Vehicle, a long time need, that the Foundation was part of several grants. Deide Ziemann and Melody York showed off the new books purchased for the Elementary Library. Stratford High School received a grant for the Aric Bostick presentation.

The Stratford Area Foundation is a public 501 C3 tax exempt foundation and must be supported monetarily by the public. In order to satisfy the IRS, donations should be made from the public. Better to have \$100.00 from 10 people than one \$ 1000.00 from one person although large e donations are appreciated. Please remember the Stratford Area Foundation with you memorials, honorariums, and end of year giving. Membership to the Stratford Area Foundation is \$100.00 a year and can be accumulating with gifts throughout the year. Other public entities' requiring public support are: Depot Museum, SCOT Hall, The Imagination Station, and Stratford Education Foundation. Each of these organizations help make Stratford a nice place to live.

Stratford Cemetery Clean Up

It is time to retire the winter and tired decorations and retrieve those blown into the fence. The tumble weeds are back. May is cemetery clean up-preparing for Memorial Day on May 28. The Sherman county Historical Committee will again assist the American Legion in remembering those who have served this country.
A special remembrance of America's 100th Anniversary of WW I-1917-1919.



Send off for Track Team

The track team was given a sendoff to Regional Track held in Odessa. Send off was Thursday, April 26, 2018.

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Deadline for The Stratford Star

Deadline for Stratford Star items. Photos by Sundays at 4 p.m. Letters to Editor 9 a.m. on Mondays (typed) and all other articles and ads at 10 a.m. on Mondays. (PLEASE) Thank you

SCOT Monthly Activities

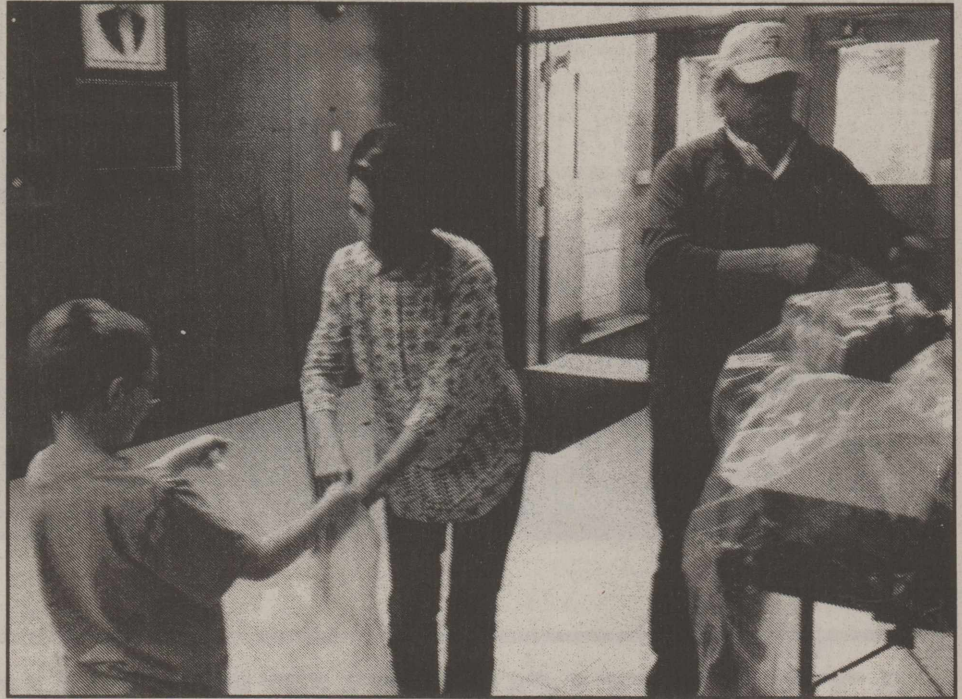
Men's Pool daily 1 p.m. M-F

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)



Seedlings Given Away

On Wednesday, April 18th, The Sherman County SWCD gave away 400 Lacebark Elm Seedling trees to students at Mary Allen and Stratford Junior High. This was an effort to promote conservation in Sherman County. Board of Directors are Scott Buckles, Tom Moore, Roger Wells, Dr. John Killian and Matt Whittington.

Stratford Hospital District Board Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018

The Stratford Star
 (USPS 523-108)
 Published for over 100 years
 805 Purnell
 Stratford, TX 79084
 Telephone: 806-366-5885
 Fax: 806-366-5884
 E-Mail: stardm@xit.net

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 Editor & Publisher Martha Robertson
 Advertising & Photographer Shari Hudson

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 \$27.00 per (9 months) College rate

The Stratford Star-PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084
 Periodicals postage paid at Stratford, TX
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Stratford Star,
 PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084

Board Members Present

Richard Chumley
 Ed Metcalf
 Marsha Wright
 Cecil Wright

Meeting called to order:

Opening Prayer:

Community Comments:

Others Present

Leo Sanders
 Jimmy Lanning
 Donna Zimmer
 Sabra Patterson
 Shelly Worley
 Lee Hughes
 Jamie Jacoby
 Armando Rivera

Richard Chumley asked for the motion to approve the January monthly minutes. Marsha Wright motioned to approve the minutes and Ed Metcalf seconded and the motion carried 3/0.

CEO Report:

Stratford Hospital District:

Leo reported to the board of directors that at this time it is not feasible to pursue a Hospice Program.

Richard Chumley asked for a motion to approve the Stratford Hospital District Bylaws of the Board of Directors with a change to be made to the terms and elections from May to November, change in quorum from 4 to 3, change term of office from one year to two years. Marsha Wright motioned to approve, Ed Metcalf second and the motion carried 3/0.

Richard Chumley asked for a motion to approve the Stratford Hospital District Board Meeting Protocols with a change to be made to the terms and elections from May to November. Marsha Wright motioned to approve, Ed Metcalf second and the motion carried 3/0.

Stratford Hospital District Indigent Care Guidelines were tabled until the April board meeting.

Richard Chumley asked for a motion to approve the Stratford Hospital District Employee Handbook. Ed Metcalf motion to approve, Marsha Wright second and the motion carried 3/0.

EMS:

Jimmy Lanning reported to the Board of Directors that for the month of November the Stratford Emergency Medical Service had 27 calls, 11 transports, 22 non-transports and 0 stand-byes, 4 fires.

Jimmy Lanning reported to the Board of Directors that EMS will be having a State Inspection in April.

The lights for the First Responder vehicle will be put on in the next two weeks.

Financial Report:

Armando Rivera presented the financial report to the board of directors.

Discussion was held to approve the nursing home monthly updates.

New Business: No new business.

Richard Chumley asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. Marsha Wright motioned, Ed Metcalf seconded and the motion carried 3/0.

Coldwater Manor:

Leo Sanders reported to the board of directors that the shower room remodel has been started.

Discussion was held to remodel the Kitchen, at a later date.

Clinic:

Sabra Patterson updated the Board of Directors that both the clinic and EMD'S are working diligently together to recoup outstanding revenue loss.

The Compliance Team completed its survey February 22, 2018 with only 2 deficiencies.

Pharmacy:

Shelly Worley reported to the board of directors on the progress at the pharmacy. The Pharmacy had a total of 2061 perscriptions for the month of February.

Leo Sanders updated the board of directors about the courier service, it is not going as expected.

Attention to all subscribers!!

Rate change

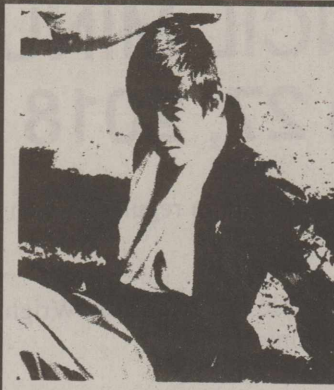
The Stratford Star is no longer sending out notices when your paper is due. Check the label on the paper and see what month your subscription expires. **I will be putting "Stars" on the current month" If you have a Star on your label it means that your sub expires that month.** If you are not sure the 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



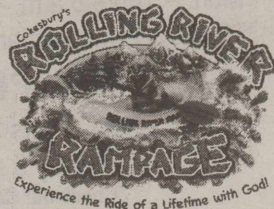
Josh and Shayla King honored with Wedding Shower

Josh and Shayla King were honored with a Wedding Shower on Sunday, April 29th 2018 in the home of ViAnn Reed. Shown above left to right standing our Sharla Strickland, Jessica, Cody Paige, Reaghan and Shaylee Audrain, Shawna Schulte and Marlene Methvin. Seated are Sherri Prater, Shaylin Schulte, Shayla King, Sam Audrain, Tami King and Paula King.



Justin Duran

I have been invited to participate in the Down Under Sports Tournaments hosted on the Gold Coast of Australia. I will be an ambassador of not only my community and state, but also our country. I will be representing Texas on the cross country team in the 2018 Down Under Gold Coast Classic. Your sponsorship will be a very important part of fundraising for me and my team. Please help me achieve this once in a lifetime opportunity by contributing. <http://downundersports.com/payment/E41> D-0753-CEFB or mail donations to: PO Box 952, Stratford, TX 79084



First United Methodist Church of Stratford invites children of all ages to experience the ride of a lifetime with God at Rolling River Rampa Vacation Bible School! This white water rafting adventure includes exciting new music, creative crafts, a delicious meal, fun recreation and memorable Bible stories that will help children know God is always with them as they ride the rapids of life!

The adventures runs from June 3-5, 5-8 p.m. at FUMC Stratford, 520 N. Main Street, Stratford, Texas.

Join us for the ride of a lifetime at Rolling River Rampa VBS by calling Macy Begley at (806) 759-7770 or visit us online at rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/fumcstr/

fccstratford.org

SUNDAYS

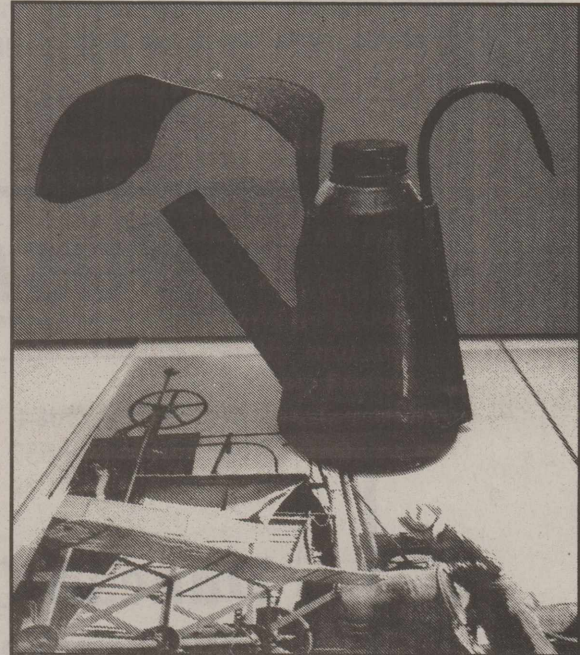
Sunday School: 9:45am
Traditional Service: 10:45am
Contemporary Service: 6pm

sermons online



420 N. Main St., Stratford, Texas 79084

COME SEE US



What is this for? Please come by the Sherman County Depot Museum and tell us!
Monday thru Saturday
10:30-3
Answer to last week's mystery photo
A Diffuser

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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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.

COUNCIL MINUTES March 27, 2018

Stratford City Council met in regular session with Mayor Reed presiding and the following:

Council: Joe Zak, Kyle Sandvig, Greg Wright, Ann Johnson
 City Manager: Tommy Bogart
 City Secretary: Kathy Rendon
 Police Chief: Randy Hooks

Others: James Lutes, Kathy Allen

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- Mayor Reed called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda Items

- Minutes from Council meeting on March 6, 2018
- Accounts Payable for February 2018
- Financial Statements for February 2018
 - Joe Zak motioned to approve, Ann Johnson seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Council Business

- There was no Council business to be considered.

Police Department Report

- Randy Hooks gave a verbal report for the police department and animal control. Ann Johnson asked about recommendations to remove the graffiti from the brick on the SCOT Hall building. Ricky Reed stated that trucks are using Purnell as a short cut. The City has an ordinance against this.

Public Works Report

- The report was unavailable for this meeting.

City Manager Report

- Met with SISD about a permit for the school renovations and also about some security concerns during the process. Shay with OJD Engineering will oversee the construction for code compliance and construction oversight.

- Received notice for approval of park grant of \$75,000 with a City match of \$75,000. These funds will be used to clear the property, construct a walking trail and install lighting. PRPC will be the project manager. CM Bogart travelled to Austin to address the commission regarding this grant and thanked them for considering the smaller cities. The emphasis will be on recycling for the demo portion of this project.
- A cease and desist letter was sent to Fierro Trucking since this business closed. Their previously approved zoning variance is not transferrable.

Citizen Comment Period

- There were no citizen comments.

Items from the Council

- Joe Zak asked about the status of dissolving the zoning board.
- Kyle Sandvig asked about use of the yard waste containers by commercial landscapers and also advised about a pot hole on Shirley Street between Putman and Chestnut.
- Ann Johnson advised about status of controlling pests at the cemetery, mentioned that no trucks should be using Purnell Street and branches at the Girl Scout Park.
- Greg Wright advised that pot holes on Pearl and Fulton need to be filled if possible, all tornado sirens are working and active shooter training for First Responders will be held on April 14 and April 15 at the Mary Allen Elementary.
- Ricky Reed advised that guineas have been spotted at the Girl Scout Park on South Wall Street. This needs to be addressed by Animal Control.

Adjourn

- Ann Johnson motioned to adjourn at 6:35 pm, Joe Zak seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Stratford Hospital District

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 Stratford Family Medical Clinic

Stratford Family Medical Clinic

Mon. - Thurs 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 396-5583 Tommy Brian, ANP & Krista Brown ANP

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366-5505 Shelly Worley, PharmD, RPH

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.

Business Directory

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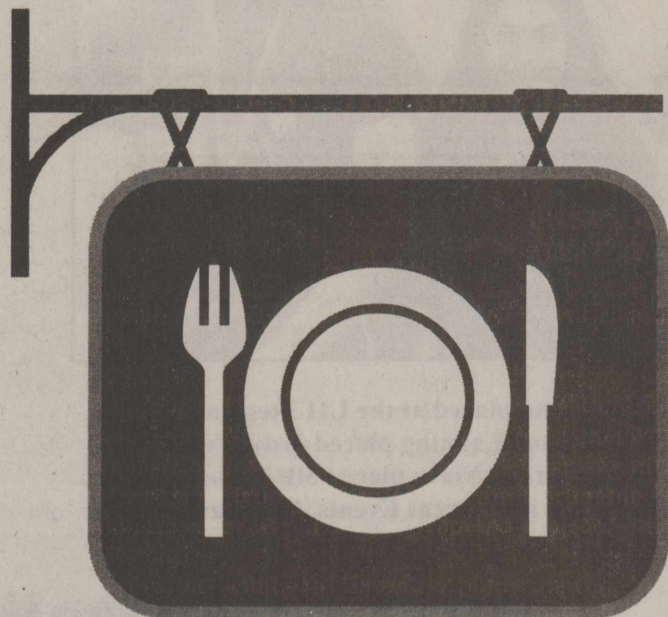
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Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DWIGHT D. BAUGH, Deceased were issued on April 24, 2018 under Docket No. 2276, pending in the County Court of Sherman County, Texas to:

DANA BAETHGE
3775 Maner Road
Harper, Texas 78631

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follow:

Representative of
Estate of DWIGHT D. BAUGH, Deceased
c/o Greg Oelke
Law Offices of Greg Oelke, PC
507 Denrock Avenue, P.O. Box 792
Dalhart, Teas 79022

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by Law.
DATED April 24, 2018
LAW OFFICES OF GREG OELKE, PC

By Attorney for Applicant
Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, May 3, 2018

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ELIZABETH JO BAUGH, Deceased were issued on April 24, 2018 under Docket No. 2279, pending in the County Court of Sherman County, Texas to:

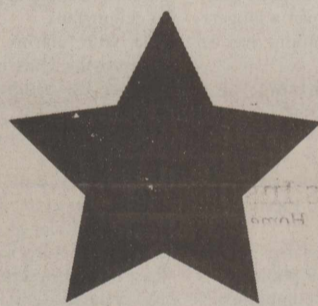
DANA BAETHGE
3775 Maner Road
Harper, Texas 78631

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follow:

Representative of
Estate of ELIZABETH JO BAUGH, Deceased
c/o Greg Oelke
Law Offices of Greg Oelke, PC
507 Denrock Avenue, P.O. Box 792
Dalhart, Teas 79022

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DATED April 24, 2018
LAW OFFICES OF GREG OELKE, PC

By Attorney for Applicant
Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, May 3, 2018



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Notice of Open House

US 54 Stratford Roadway Rehabilitation Project
The City of Stratford, Sherman County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct an open house regarding the rehabilitation of US 54 through Stratford, TX in Sherman County.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 21, 2018, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Sherman County Exhibit Barn located at 501 S. Maple Street, Stratford, Texas, 79084. The open house will convene with a short presentation from TxDOT at 6:30 p.m. Exhibit review, comments, and questions will be welcome after the presentation concludes. TxDOT personnel will be onsite to answer questions regarding the project.

The project proposes upgrading the existing US 54 roadway through the City of Stratford by rehabilitating the existing pavement to concrete with sidewalks and pedestrian accommodations from west of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad crossing to east of FM 2677. Improvements to existing driveways would also occur as part of the proposed project. There is no anticipated additional right of way required, nor any anticipated relocation of existing businesses or residences.

Maps and other exhibits will be displayed for public viewing.

All interested residents are invited to attend this open house and opportunity for public involvement. The open house will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending the meeting who have special communication or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact Sonja Gross at (806) 356-3256, or email: sonja.gross@txdot.gov. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the meeting. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

Written comments from the public regarding this project are requested. Written comments will be accepted at the meeting or may be mailed to: the Texas Department of Transportation, Attn: Brian Crawford, P.E., District Engineer - TxDOT Amarillo District, 5715 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, Texas 79110. Comments need to be postmarked no later than Tuesday, June 5, 2018, 15 calendar days following the meeting date.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, May 3, 2018

Help Wanted

Help wanted for Spring Cleaning. Call Gaynelle Riffe 1301 Beaver Rd. 806-396-5303

PUBLIC NOTICE

Competitive sealed proposals for the Stratford ISD 2017 Bond Projects are being accepted by the Stratford Independent School District. Proposers may obtain an electronic copy of contract documents by contacting the Construction Manager, Gallagher Construction Services, 3501 Token Drive, Suite 100, Richardson, Texas 75082, 972.633.0564, 972.633.0164 Fax. An electronic copy of the contract documents will also be furnished to area plan rooms.

Mailed proposals should be addressed to Stratford Independent School District, Dr. Mike Dominguez, Superintendent, Administration Office, 503 8th Street, Stratford, Texas 79084, and received before 2:00 PM, Tuesday, May 22, 2018. All other proposals shall be sent/delivered directly to Stratford ISD Administration Office, 503 8th Street, Stratford, Texas 79084, and received before 2:00 PM, Tuesday, May 22, 2018. Thereafter, at 2:00 PM, all sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at the Stratford High School Cafeteria, 503 8th Street, Stratford, Texas 79084. Attendance is encouraged by a representative of each firm submitting a proposal. Failure to be represented at this meeting may eliminate a proposer from consideration for work on this project.

Published in the Stratford Star newspaper Thursday, April 26, 2018 and Thursday, May 3, 2018



OUR HOME
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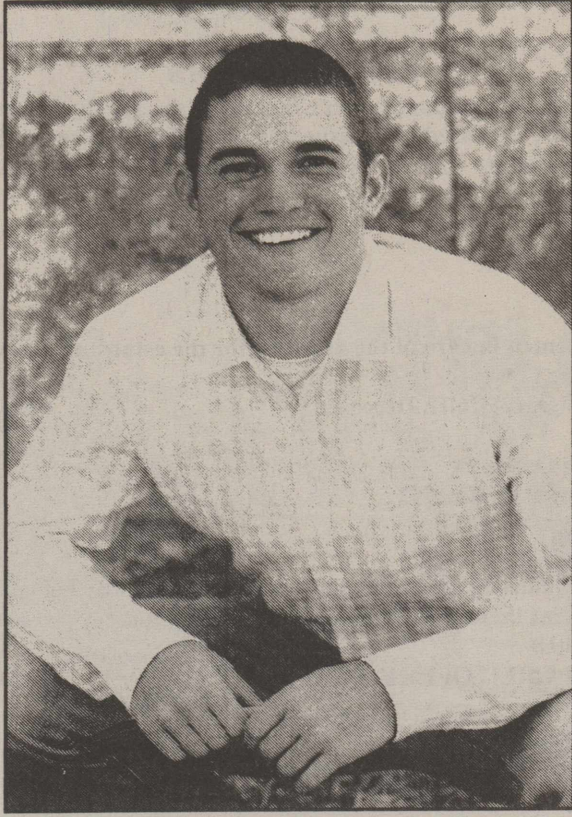
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Colten Lanning's 3rd place in News Writing at the UIL Region meet advances him to the UIL State academic meet to be held at the University of Texas in Austin on Friday, May 4th. Congratulations to Colten and best wishes at state!



Pictured above are the SHS Students who placed at the UIL Region meet held at Odessa College on April 14. Colten Lanning placed 3rd in News Writing and 5th in Feature Writing, Natalia Niave placed 5th in Social Studies and Scott Thompson placed 6th in Current Events. Congratulations to these students on a job well done.

How To Live This

Hearing Loss Need Not Be A Struggle For All Involved

by Lisa Klop, Au.D.

(NAPS)—Robert Seidler, a seasoned filmmaker, ruptured both eardrums while filming in an experimental aircraft. As an avid bicyclist, Seidler had always found that riding created a "Zen-like" environment where he could talk about important issues with those he loved. However, as his hearing worsened, this special environment fell silent. He became increasingly depressed and withdrawn, describing the loss as "profound as a death."

Seidler's family and friends shared how his hearing loss affected them during an interview for an online docu-series, It's Your Choice. Seidler's daughter said, "Whenever I try to talk to him, I have to repeat everything at least once. Conversation loses its momentum." Meanwhile, Seidler's wife expressed concern that while biking he might miss sounds alerting him to oncoming dangers. One of Seidler's closest friends shared the frustration that friends and family of a person with hearing loss will recognize: "Would you please get a hearing aid? Why won't you do this?"

Frustrations Associated With Hearing Loss

For the person with limited hearing, the negative emotions often include:

- Loneliness due to withdrawal from social situations because of inability to keep up with conversations
- Embarrassment when misunderstanding what others say
- Fear their disability will contribute to people thinking they're "old" or "infirmary"
- Frustration at not being able to easily understand speech or audio from TV and movies
- Anxiety, stress and grief that can contribute to depression.

But they're not the only ones affected. Friends feel hurt when their invitations to come over or go out on the town are always turned down. Family members run low on patience having to repeat themselves constantly, shout



Improving your hearing can improve your relationships with friends and family.

to be heard, and live with the television volume so loud it's painful.

Confronting Hearing Loss

Seidler finally met with a hearing care professional who diagnosed him as having a high-frequency loss and fitted him with a pair of hearing aids. During his first bike ride afterward, he discovered he could hold conversations with ease. "The last time I heard like today, I was in my 20s," Seidler said. "I'm 65 now. Pretty magical!" His family and friends think the change is "pretty magical," too.

Hearing aids do much more than help you hear. They transform the way wearers like Seidler interact with the world, relieving negative emotions and improving interpersonal relationships. If you have hearing loss but have been putting off doing something about it, consider how it affects your life—and everyone in it.

• Dr. Klop is a Sr. Educational Specialist for Sivantos, Inc., the manufacturer of Signia brand hearing aids. She is responsible for training customers and sales staff on the company's current technology and products. She conducts training sessions in customers' offices, remotely, via webinars, and at regional and national events. Areas of particular expertise include hearing assistive technology and fitting kids and teens. Prior to joining Sivantos (then Siemens Hearing Instruments) in 2012, she operated a private dispensing practice for six years. Other clinical experience includes hospital, ENT and nonprofit clinics. Lisa obtained her doctorate degree in Audiology from Central Michigan University in 2005.

Safety Around The Home

Fire Prevention Tips And Technology

(NAPS)—They look like small, plastic boxes, round or square, stuck up on the wall or the ceiling—but they could save your life. They're smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Facts And Figures

On average, eight people die in a home fire each day in the U.S.—almost 3,000 people every year. While working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire nearly in half, roughly two-thirds of all home fire deaths occur in homes without working smoke alarms, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

As for carbon monoxide detectors, more than 200 people die from carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning in the U.S. annually. Several thousand more are treated in hospital emergency rooms for CO poisoning. Yet an estimated 70 percent of U.S. homes are not protected by a working CO alarm. CO is created when common fuels such as natural gas, oil, wood or coal burn incompletely. This odorless, colorless, tasteless gas is often called the "silent killer" because it is virtually undetectable without the use of proper technology. You can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer time as well as by a large amount over a shorter time.

What You Need To Know

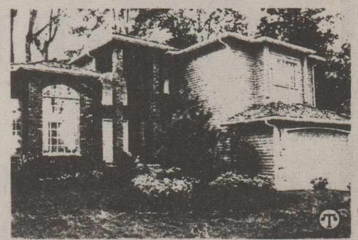
For the best protection, smoke alarms should be interconnected, so that they all sound if one sounds. Manufacturers are now producing battery-operated alarms that are interconnected by wireless technology.

Combination smoke alarms that include both ionization and photoelectric alarms offer the most comprehensive protection. An ionization alarm is more responsive to flames, while a photoelectric alarm is more responsive to a smoldering fire.

Hardwired smoke alarms with battery backups are considered to be more reliable than those operated solely by batteries.

What You Need To Do

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and



Properly installed and maintained smoke and carbon monoxide alarms could save thousands of lives a year—maybe even yours.

on every level of the home including in hallways and the basement.

- Choose alarms that bear the label of a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- Install smoke alarms at least 10 feet from cooking appliances to reduce the possibility of false alarms.
- If possible, alarms should be mounted in the center of a ceiling. If mounted on a wall, they should be six to 12 inches below the ceiling.
- Avoid locating alarms near bathrooms, heating appliances, windows or ceiling fans.
- Test your alarms every month by pressing the TEST button.
- Replace the batteries at least once a year. If an alarm "chirps" or "beeps" to indicate low batteries, replace them immediately.
- Occasionally dust or lightly vacuum the exterior of the alarm.
- Replace the alarms in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, but at least every 10 years.
- Never paint over an alarm.
- If you have difficulty hearing, you can get alarms with low-pitched sounds or vibrations.

Learn More

For further facts and tips on how to stay safe from fire, by the experts at Electrical Safety Foundation International, the premier nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety at home and in the workplace, visit www.esfi.org.

Seeing Is Believing When It Comes To Road Safety

(NAPS)—Although properly functioning vehicle lights, wipers and mirrors allow for better visibility while driving, these items are all too often forgotten or ignored when people perform basic auto care, says the nonprofit Car Care Council.

"Making sure that you can see and be seen on the road is essential to avoiding motor vehicle accidents, yet many motorists overlook simple maintenance steps that can improve driving visibility," explained Rich White, executive director, Car Care Council.

Following a few auto care visibility tips can be illuminating, helping to ensure the safety of you, your passengers and other vehicles around you.

- Replace any exterior or interior lights that are dimming, rapidly blinking or nonfunctioning and be sure headlights are correctly aimed.
- Make sure that vehicle mirrors are clean and properly positioned.
- Check windshield washer fluid level and, when it gets low, replace it.
- Replace wiper blades if they show cracking or if they chatter or streak when operating. Don't forget to check the rear wiper blade.
- When in doubt, turn your lights on



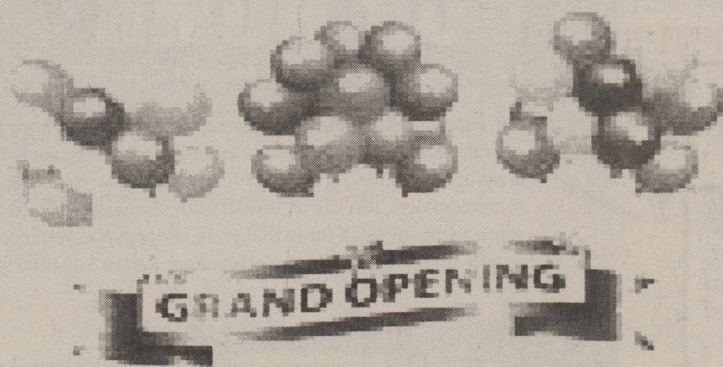
For safe driving, maintain vehicle wipers, lights and mirrors.

to help you see and help other drivers see you. Some places even have laws that require headlights to be on when windshield wipers are operating.

- Don't overdrive your headlights. Maintain a speed that will let you stop within the illuminated area; otherwise, you create a blind crash zone in front of your vehicle.

The Car Care Council is the source of information for the "Be Car Care Aware" consumer education campaign promoting the benefits of regular vehicle care, maintenance and repair to consumers.

For a free copy of the popular "Car Care Guide," visit the council's consumer education website at www.carcare.org.

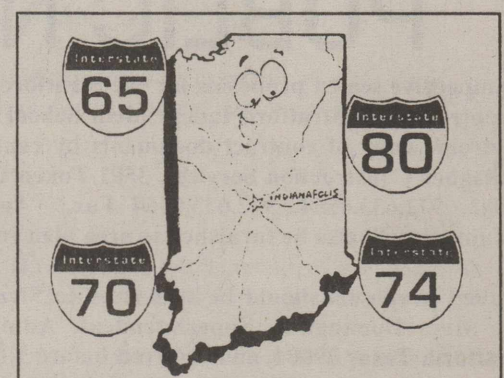


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