

Sherman County Museum 7 / 05
Box 1248
Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

75 cents

Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084

usps 523

Number 6 February 10, 2005



Open House Held

An Open House was held on Tuesday, February 1, 2005 hosted by Great Lengths Salon & Sherman Co. Development. They wanted everyone to come in and meet Mika Bell, (shown above) new stylist at Great Lengths.



Happy Birthday

Happy 100 years Laura Pipkin. Everyone wishes you many many more birthdays. Laura celebrated her 100th on Thursday, February 3rd. A party was given for her by her family and friends at Coldwater Manor. Janice Brown also shares her birthday with Laura, She turned 50 years. Happy birthday to Janice.

Private Pesticide Applicator's Testing To Be Held

Sherman County Texas Cooperative Extension will host a Private Pesticide Applicator's training and testing on February 24, 2005. The training will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Sherman County Exhibit Building, 501 S. Maple, Stratford, TX. The training materials will cost \$15.00. The testing will be conducted by the Texas Department of Agriculture at 1:00 p.m. in the same location. The certification steps to obtaining a private applicator's license is to participate in a 3 1/2 hr training by a certified instructor, achieve a 70 or better on the license exam, apply for license, and pay a \$50.00 fee. Please contact Leslie Neve at the Sherman County Extension Office, (806) 366-2081, to RSVP and obtain more information. Please RSVP by February 18, 2005 to ensure adequate training material.

Texhoma School Board Election

The Texhoma Texas Independent School District will hold a Trustee Election on Saturday May 7, 2005. The first day to apply for a place on the ballot is Monday, February 5, 2005 and will continue through March 7, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. You may apply at the Superintendent's office, 5th and Denver Street, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. School will be closed on February 14, 2005 for vacation. Information concerning applications during this time will be posted on the window at the school.

Early voting by personal appearance will begin on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 and continue through May 3, 2005. Early voting will be conducted at the Superintendent's office from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. each day.

Board members whose term will expire are Vicki Freeman and Cody Cartwright. Holdover members are Jay Blume, Christina Smith, and Jay Murphy.

Happy Valentines Day

"Geriatrics on the Go" Coming to Stratford

Mark your calendar for February 22, 2005 when "Geriatrics on the Go" Mobile Health Fair will be coming to Stratford.

The mobile health fair will be at SCOT Hall from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. with free educational information for seniors, caregivers of the elderly, family members caring for an aging loved one, healthcare professionals working with geriatric clients or students interested in geriatric nursing.

Free health screenings will include glucose, cholesterol screening, and blood pressure checks. Topics to be presented by Amarillo College Nursing Students include: diabetes management, mental health issues, and aging, controlling

cholesterol, medication management, eating right, exercise for older adults, fall prevention and safety, hypertension/high blood pressure, osteoporosis education, caregiving and aging, men and prostate health, women and breast health, and snuff out smoking.

The fair co-sponsors are SCOT and Sherman County Extension Family and Consumer Science program. For more information, contact Susie Spurlock at 366-2122 or Lynn Wells at 396-2011 or Karen Russell, Amarillo College Division of Nursing at 806-356-3691.

Educational programs of the Texas Cooperative Extension are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin.

Stratford Youth Basketball

It's time once again for Stratford Youth Basketball. The program is open to any 2nd - 6th grade boy or girl. Entry forms have been sent home and are also available at the Principal's offices. Entry forms will be due on Tuesday, February 15th by 4:00 PM. Forms can be turned into the principal's office or to Dinah Horsford at the superintendent's office.

If you are interested in coaching a team or helping out in any other way, please call 366-2219. A volunteer program must have volunteers to be successful!

Date Set for Story Time at Library

The Sherman County Public Library will offer a shortened Spring Session of "Story Time" beginning Monday, February 14th followed with February 28, March 7 and March 21. Story Time will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and end at 10:15 a.m. Programs are open to all children of Sherman County ages 3-5. Pre-enrollment is encouraged to allow for the purchase of adequate supplies. For more information, please contact Sandy Baskin at 366-2200.

Trees to be Available at SWCD

REMINDER: If you are interested in windbreak/landscape trees, call the Sherman County SWCD at 396-5517 ext. 3 as soon as possible. Orders must be placed by the first week in March.

Cowboy Church Held Wednesdays

Cowboy Church will meet every Wednesday at the County Barn at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcomed to attend

Have A Computer Question?

Chris Riffe will help with the answer at the Imagination Station, 202 N. Main on Thursday's from 4:30 to 5:30 (If he is not called out on a job). The Imagination Station Lab is open to the public Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 4:00-6:00 and Sunday 2:00-5:00.

Breast Cancer Screening Clinic

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Comprehensive Breast Center will conduct a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic at First United Methodist Church, 520 N. Main, in Stratford on March 23, 2005.

Breast cancer affects one in eight women. The key to winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month.

All exams are done by appointment only. Call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Tascosa Speech Tournament

The Stratford Speech team competed in the Tascosa High School Speech Tournament on Saturday in Amarillo. The team members competing were Staci Hays, Evan Haile, Austin Riffe, Ashley Duschel, and Trenda Maiwald.

1. Staci Hays: She competed in Duet Acting and Domestic Extemporaneous speaking. She broke to Semi-finals in Prose and placed 5th in impromptu speaking.
2. Evan Haile: She broke to semi-Finals in poetry and prose.
3. Austin Riffe: he competed in Impromptu speaking and broke to semi-Finals in prose.
4. Ashley Duschel: She competed in Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu Speaking.
5. Trenda Maiwald: She competed in Duet Acting, Impromptu speaking and she broke to Semi-Finals in poetry.

This was a huge tournament with many class 5-A schools. Our team represented Stratford High School very nicely.

School Board Election-May 7th

The Stratford Independent School District will hold a Trustee Election on May 7, 2005. Anyone interested in applying for a place on the ballot may do so from February 5 through March 7, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. You may apply at the Superintendent's office, 503 N. 8th Street, from 7:8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

School will be closed for Spring Break march 10 through 15, 2005, and candidate applications may be filed at The Sherman County Public Library with Sandy Baskin. Hours are as follows: Monday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Friday-Closed, Saturday 9 a.m.-12p.m.

Early voting by personal appearance will begin on Wednesday, April 29, 2005 and continue through May 3, 2005. Early voting will be conducted in the Administrative Office Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. each day.

Board members whose term will expire are Ricky Reed and Joe Reinart. Holdover members are Gared, McBryde, Patti Vincent, Brent Spurlock, Steve Hays and DeWain Trayler.

Sherman County Emergency Management

Sherman County Local Emergency Planning Committee hosted a meeting January 24, 2005 to provide information regarding the Citizens Corps and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT Training promotes a partnership effort between emergency services and the people they serve. Mr. Carl Unlaub, Moore County Corps Council Coordinator presented a program describing the various ways citizens can help during times of disaster.

In addition to Mr. Unlaub's program, Keith Henderson with Panhandle Regional Planning Commission provided information regarding available training for first responders and Marta Brown, Panhandle Canine Search and Rescue presented information regarding search and rescue capabilities.

Other special guests included Mr. David Solis, Regional Liaison Officer for Texas DPS Division of Emergency Management and Emily Nolte, Regional Disaster Planner for Panhandle Regional Planning Commission were present. Attendees included: -Sherman County: Commissioners



Shown above Back row: left to right David Brown, Carl Unlaub, David Solis, Keith Henderson, David Hass, Randy Williams, Tommy Asher. Front row: Kim Crippen, Steve Pemberton and Marta Brown.

Tommy Asher, David Hass, Steve Pemberton and Randy Williams, Judge Crippen and Judge Batis, Sheriff Jack Haile and Sandy Williams, EMC.

City of Stratford:-Mayor David Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem George Harding, Council member Nan McWilliams, Police Chief Dwayne Dennis and Officer Tim Hughes.

Stratford ISD was represented by Superintendent Taliaferro.

Stratford Fire Department: Chief Eddie Williams, Asst. Chief Jack Gore, Dean Hauser, Ernie Maiwald, Ronda Mathews and Norma Rangel. Jimmy Lanning, EN's Director, represented Stratford EMS.

Interested Stratford citizens included: John Johnson and Greg Wright, Don & Gaynelle Riffe and Chris Riffe.

Representing Texhoma were: Texhoma Fire Department and EMS: Fire Department and EMS: Fire Chief Phil Kittle, David Thrasher and Mary Coffey, Texhoma EMS. In addition, Tim Wager of Texhoma represented Texhoma Boy Scouts.

Eric and Elizabeth Buck represented Texhoma Faith Missionary Church.

We appreciate the interest each of these individuals brought to the meeting and look forward to our goal of preparing Sherman County to meet disaster needs.

Chamber News

By Patty Tims

Obits

Andy Alexander

Andy Alexander, age 37 died at Albuquerque, New Mexico on Thursday, January 27, 2005.

Services were held at 3:00 p.m. Saturday, January 29, 2005, at First Christian Church in Stratford, TX, with Rev. Walter Reed, pastor of First Christian Church of Stratford, officiating. Burial was in Stratford Cemetery, under direction of Morrison Funeral Directors.

Andy was born June 21, 1967 in Dumas, Texas. He had been a Stratford, Texas, resident for 30 years. He was a graduate of Stratford High School and a member of the First Christian Church of Stratford, Texas. He was active in the Stratford Volunteer Fire Department and in law enforcement.

He is survived by one son-Brady Alexander of Amarillo, TX; Mother-Dora Bruns of Albuquerque NM, Father-Donnie Alexander of Dumas, TX; Sister-Misty Luther of Texline, TX and Grandmother-Reba Davis of Albuquerque, NM

Memorials may be made to Stratford Volunteer Fire Department.

Rowena Williams

Rowena Williams, 90, formerly of Stratford died Feb. 7, 2005 in Dumas. Services were held Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. at The First United Methodist church of Stratford with Rev. John Wagoner, officiating. Burial was in at Stratford Cemetery under the directions of Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors of Stratford.

Rowena was born in Amarillo and had been a long time resident of Stratford, moving to Dumas 10 years ago. She had been a Depot Agent for the Rock Island Railroad and had been a member of the First United Methodist Church of Stratford. She loved the Scot Hall in Stratford. She was preceded in death by one sister, Mary Foster in 2004.

Rowena is survived by her brother Randy McAdams of Dumas; a sister, Alice Gomez of Frederick, Maryland; 4 nephews, Randy McAdams of Lubbock, TX Randy Gomez of Frederick, Maryland, Carl Foster of Denver, CO and Gene Foster of Barlot, KS; 2 nieces, Rowena Baker of Amarillo, TX, Sallie Silva of Santa Fe, NM, 2 great nieces Brandi Egizio of Darien, IL, Miranda McAdams of Lubbock, TX and 4 great nephews, Christopher McAdams of Lubbock, TX, Heath Chisholm of Baton Rouge, LA, Gene Foster Jr. of Barlot, KS and Bill Foster of Barlot, KS.

The family suggests memorials be to Memorial Hospice of Dumas, 224 E. 2nd, Dumas, TX 79029

PIGS-IN-A-BLANKET

1 can refrigerated Crescent Dinner Rolls (8 oz.)
1 package Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies

Heat oven to 375°F. Unroll dough into 1 large rectangle; press perforations to seal. Cut dough into 1/2" strips (approximately 32). Wrap each strip around the Lit'l Smokies. Place on ungreased cookie sheet and bake for 15 minutes (or until golden brown).

For more recipes and meat ideas, visit www.hillshirefarm.com.

Everything that we see is a shadow cast by that which we do not see.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

Letters To the Editor

Dear Marty

Doug and I went to Austin a week ago for my niece, Alison's wedding. We were to leave Amarillo at 9:05 Friday morning but due to fog our plane was delayed until 4:00 Friday afternoon. During the time we spent in the airport we met some wonderful new people and got to know them on a first name basis, where they lived and what they did for a living. One special young woman, Sharon Haas, was in the insurance business and had been to Amarillo on business and was on her way home. In the process of getting to know each other I learned she was from Shiner, TX!! I said the "the Shiner, Texas that beat the Stratford Elks in the State Championship football game"? She assured me it was one and the same. We talked at length about our teams and how proud we were of them. The statement she made that I want to pass on to our young men, their coaches and their parents are that our Stratford Elks made quite an impression on them. Not only did they think our guys were great athletes but also gentlemen. It seems so many times we tend to focus on the negative instead of the positive things about our young people. We know we have great kids here in Stratford but it's sure nice when other people see it too. The Stratford Elks have a reputation they can be proud of. On and off the field.

Joyce McBryde

We will win our freedom because the sacred heritage of our nation and the eternal will of God are embodied in our echoing demands.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

HELLO AGAIN

The Chamber of Commerce would like to thank these businesses and families for renewing their memberships: Don & Gaynelle Riffe, John & Nina Lavake, City of Stratford, & Russell Wiswell. New Member: The Stratford Inn.

Without the support of these families and businesses, the Chamber of Commerce would not be able to serve the community of Stratford. Once again, thanks to all of you.

If you would like to become a member of the Chamber, please come by the office, Monday, Wednesday, or Friday, or call 366-2270. Help us make a difference.

THE STRATFORD INN

The Stratford Inn has a new owner, Vishnu Patel. Mr. Patel and his family have lived in Stratford a couple of months and reside at the Stratford Inn. He is married and has two small children.

Mr. Patel informed me the name will remain the same. The Stratford Inn is now the only motel opened in Stratford, so please support this new business owner.

New York Times Best Sellers at the Sherman County Public Library

1. The Broker by John Grisham
2. The DaVinci Code by Dan Brown
3. The Five People You Meet In Heaven by Mitch Albom
4. Conviction by Richard North Patterson
5. State of Fear by Michael Crichton
11. Nightfall by Nelson DeMille
13. London Bridges by James Patterson
14. A Salty Piece of Land by Jimmy Buffett
15. I Am Charlotte Simmons by Tom Wolfe
20. The Cat Who Went Bananas by Lillian Jackson Braun
26. Whiteout by Ken Follett
27. Angels and Demons by Dan Brown
28. Entombed by Linda Fairstein
29. Black Wind by Clive Cussler
30. Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell by Susanna Clarke
33. Life Expectancy by Dean Koontz
34. Song of Susannah by Stephen King

4-H Clothing & Textile Projects Begin February 12

The 4-H Clothing and Textile Projects will begin Saturday, February 12 with a kickoff brunch. The brunch will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Stratford High School Homemaking Department and interested 4-H members and parents are invited to attend.

Following the brunch, 3-H members will learn about self-poise, good grooming, and basic sewing skills. HopeTotes will be constructed as a community service project to be given to Safe Place, domestic violence shelter in Dumas.

Additional project meetings will be held on February 16, March 2, and March 16. Members who wish to participate in the County 4-H Fashion Show will be receiving information about the achievement event.

Texas Cooperative Extension educational programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin.

For more information, please contact Susie Spurlock at 366-2122 or Connie Burton at 769-4425.

THE GENERAL STORE

515 N. POPLAR

Convenience, Service, Selection—In you neighborhood!

Spring is on its Way!
Time for Cleaning inside and out!

Special of the Month
Your Choice
1.50
13 gallon, 30 bags
Kitchen Bags 409534
33 gallon, 15 bags
Trash Bags 409552

Home Deals
2.00
Formula 409
All Purpose Cleaner 421277

Locksets for the doors, new outlet strip for your electrical equipment and auto-load utility knives!

Special Buy
12.97
Steel Pro Keyed Alike Lockset Combo Set 208910

Manager's Special
1.99
Doit Multiple Outlet Strip 501123

Tool Savings
3.97
Auto-load Utility Knife 355917

Doit Best

Mary Allen Elementary to Hold Jump Rope for Heart Event

Scot Talk

By Mary Hill

SCOT continues to be doing things!

The January board meeting was on January 25, with their big event being election of officers. Karen Perrin is our new president, Mary Brannan is vice president, and Jo June McDaniel is secretary. We appreciate our officers for taking care of business.

One important program in February will be the Mobile Health Fair, "Geriatrics On The Go", which will be on February 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be educational topics and health screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, and glucose. This is free and open to the public, sponsored by our Sherman County Extension program.

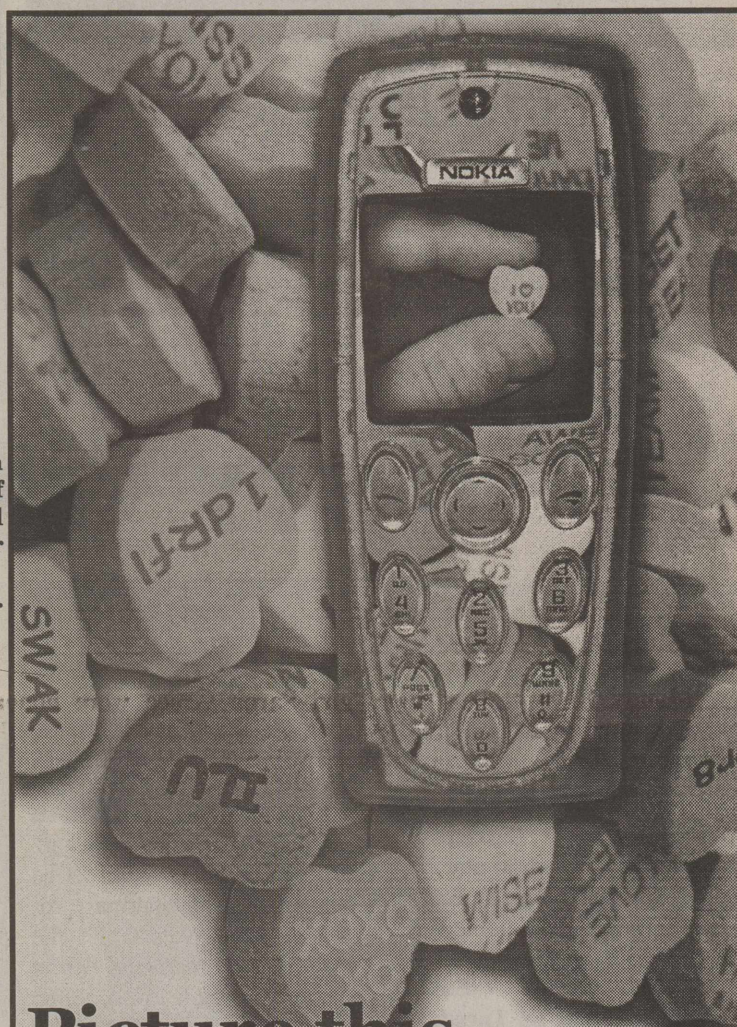
Other things to remember are game night on Friday, February 11, at 7 p.m.; bingo on on Thursday, February 17 at 7 p.m. the birthday party also on the 17th at 2 p.m.; the luncheon will be on the 24th.

Line dancing continues on Monday evenings at 5:30, with practice sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m. This is a fun way to get some exercise.

New members are always welcome at SCOT Hall, so if you have always wanted to, come on down and join up!

—Saadi

Reveal not every secret you have to a friend, for how can you tell but that friend may hereafter become an enemy. And bring not all mischief you are able to upon an enemy, for he may one day become your friend.



Picture this...
sending your heart
to the one you love

Nokia 3200 or Nokia 6200

\$29.95

with a 2-year contract

Trade in your old phone for

\$10 off

any new GSM phone

ask about unlimited
text messaging

Sale Dates - February 1st thru 14th

XIT
Wireless
366-3355

Stratford - 401 North 3rd St.

Some restrictions apply. See stores for details.



Sharon Engelbrecht and son to be were honored with a shower Saturday, February 5th in the home of Brenda Brownlee. Shown above left to right are Germaine Meyer, Sharon, Christine Meyer and son Thomas, Marihoward Engelbrecht and Ronna Riffe.

Baby Showers Held Saturday



Mandy Helmuth and baby girl Sarah Grace were honored with a shower Saturday, February 5, 2005 in the home of Becky Brooks. Shown above left to right are Tammie Helmuth, Mandy, Kyla Helmuth and Toni Hopson



Richie Brotherton presenting program.

Prospectus Study Club Hosts Two Speakers Feb. 2

Two speakers gave an interesting program at GFWC/Prospectus Study Club on Feb. 2 at Sherman County Library. Richie Brotherton narrated a slide presentation on Conservation. He is with NRCS. Conservation covers land & animals.

Mike Everett, Southwest Field Coordinator, Heifer International, spoke about the project. The club is considering this project.

Desine Garza told about the upcoming Relay for Life, June 3. Marsha Wright will chair this. Watch for information

about this later this spring.

D'Lynn Reed, president, conducted the business session.

The Book Fair date has been changed to the last week in October at the Library.

A Prairie Dog Hunt is still being investigated.

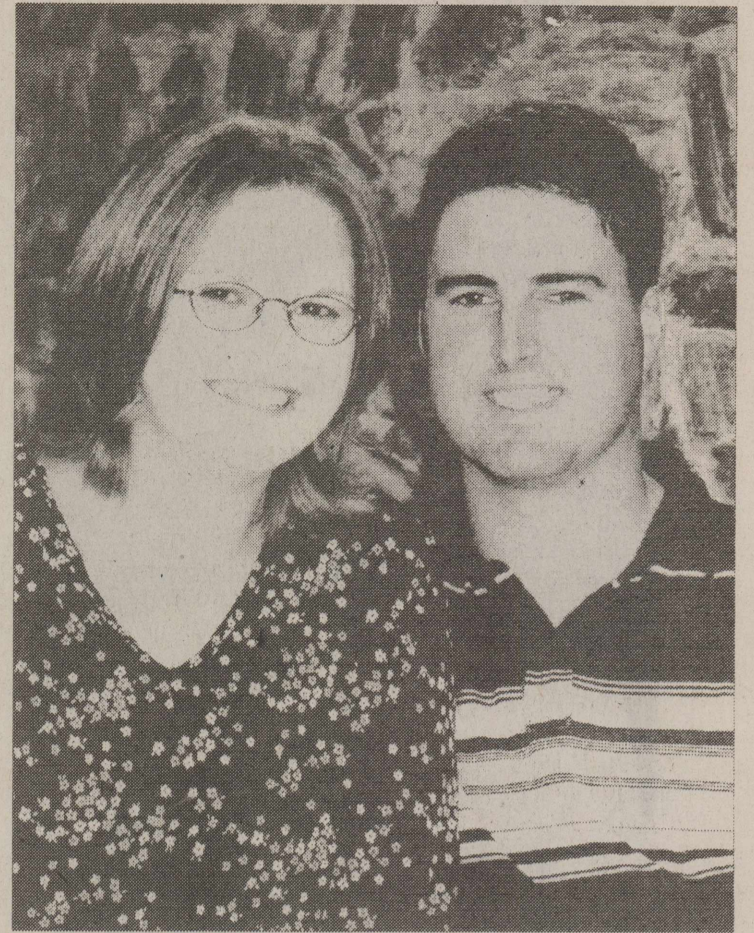
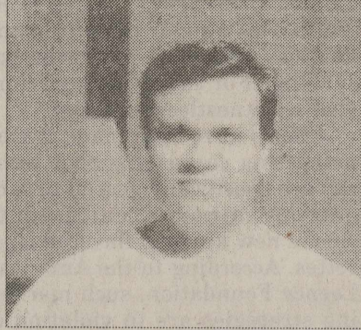
April 9 is the date for District Top of Texas meeting in Canyon.

Linda Brotherton was a guest. Members present were Linda Swain, Linda Haynes, Marsha Wright, Pat Hartman, Mattie Baskin, Betty Brown, Margaret Reed, Mary Woodford Wisdom, Dorothy Haile, Oline Caraway, Laurie Spurlock, Shorty Albert, Marty Bain, Paula Everett, Sandy Baskin, Patti Vincent, J.A. Lasley, Ann Johnson.

Births

Dr. Michael and Erin Shanks are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Sara Jane Shanks, born on February 1, 2005 at 7:24 p.m. in Abilene, TX. She weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz and was 20 inches long.

Grandparents are Wayne and Terry Smith of Stratford and Howard and Mary Shanks of Capitan, NM. Great grandparents are Dean Smith of Stratford, Richard and Lois Sudermann of Spokane, WA and G.W. and Lorraine Shanks of Roswell, NM. Great great grandmother is Violet Krueger of Stratford.



Stratford Inn Has New Owner

Shown above new Stratford Inn Owner Vishnw Patel. More in Chamber News by Patty Tims. Welcome to Stratford.

Strong feelings do not necessarily make a strong character. The strength of a man is to be measured by the power of the feelings he subdues not by the power of those which subdue him.

—William Carleton

Above all things, never be afraid. The enemy who forces you to retreat is himself afraid of you at that very moment.

—Andre Maurois

Engagement Announced

Christina Loraine Sides and David Alan (Davy) Brown Jr. would like to announce their engagement and upcoming marriage on June 25 at First Christian Church in Hooker, OK. The bride-elect is the daughter of Rachel Sides of Hooker and Kevin Sides of Amarillo. She is a 2000 graduate of Hooker High School and plans to graduate in May from West Texas A&M University with a degree in mass communications with an emphasis in advertising and public relations. Christina is presently employed as business manager for the WTAMU student newspaper, the Prairie. The prospective groom is the son of David and Janice Brown of Stratford. He is a 1997 graduate of Stratford High School and 2001 graduate of Oklahoma Panhandle State University with a degree in agribusiness with minors in agronomy and computer information system. Davy is currently employed by Iowa Veterinary Supply in Stratford.

Anger at lies lasts forever. Anger at truth can't last.

—Greg Evans

First Assembly of God Kevin Anderson, Pastor 921 Fulton

Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm

First Christian Rev. Walter Reed

5th & Main
Sunday School 9:45 am (nursery)
Morning Worship 10:45 am (nursery)
No Sunday Evening Worship Service
Wed. : Youth Choir 3:45 pm, Chi Rho 5 p.m.,
CYF 6 p.m., Bell Choir 6:50 p.m., Adult Choir 8 p.m.

First United Methodist Rev. Gene Weinette

520 N. Main
Sunday School 9:40 am
Morning Worship 10:50 am
Junior High UMY 5:00 pm
Senior High UMY 6:00 pm

St. Joseph Catholic Rev. Dr. Johnson, Reiki Master 6th & Pearl

Rectory - 366 - 5687
Sunday morning: 8:00a.m. (English), 12 noon. (Spanish)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass, or by appt.
Christian Formation Classes: K-6th Grade, Wed. afternoon
Jr. & Sr. High, Wed. - 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Church of Christ Ernie Maiwald

N. 3rd & Chestnut
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

Calvary Baptist James Washburn

302 S. Main - 806-396-5335 lv. message
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wed. Service - 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist Brent Farney

702 N. 3rd
Early Service 9:00 a.m.
Growth groups/Sun. School 10:00 a.m.
Late Service 11:00 a.m.
Growth Groups Nightly 7:00 p.m.
Wed.- Youth Group Teen Kids 7:00 p.m./Adult Choir 7:00

La Mision Bautista Mision Bautista

401 S. Wall 396-5376
Domingo-(Sunday)
Estuela Dominical 9:45 am

Miercoles (Wednesday)
Servicio De Adoration 11:00 am
Servicio De Oration 6:00 pm
Servicio De Adoration 6:00 pm
Susninos Durante El Servicio.

Estudio Biblico &
Se Cuidamos

Templo Hispano Eben-Ezer

Pastor Roberto Frescas
205 N. Poplar - Hwy 287
Escuela Dominical 10 a.m.
Servicio De Adoracion 5 p.m.
Meir Co Les Serv De Ador 5 p.m.

Kerrick Community Church

Pastor Roy Harris
Community Building
Sunday Morning - 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening-6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

15 Years, 4500 Babies In Dumas

Women's Health Center

Normal and high risk pregnancies
Gynecologic cancer screening
Breast cancer screening
Infertility and family planning
Menopause and hormone problems

Dr. Turhan I. Baykan, M.D.

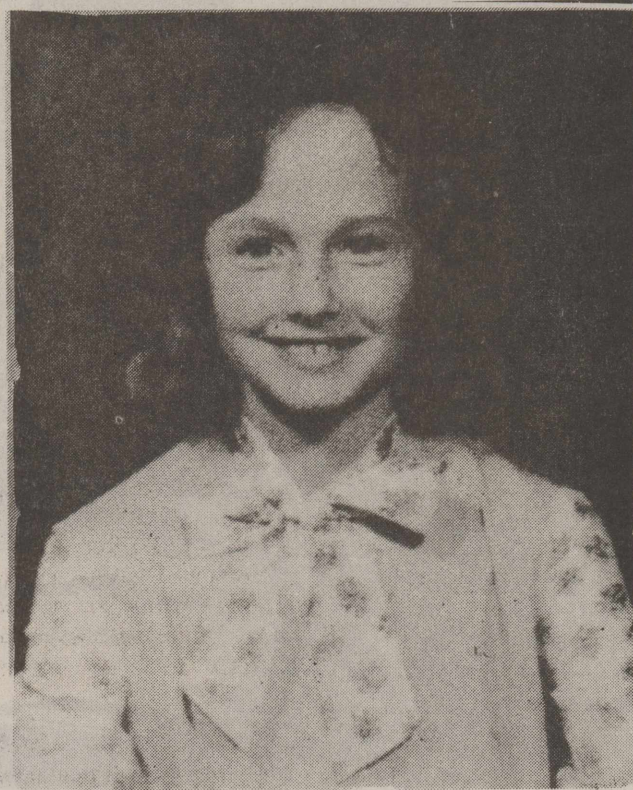
Specializing In
OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.



110 S. Bliss

Oh No!!!



The Big "50"

"Happy Birthday" from your Friends & Family

Healthy Ideas

(NAPS)—The National Institutes of Health define metabolic syndrome as having three or more of the following conditions: a thick waist, high blood pressure, low HDL (good) cholesterol, insulin/sugar resistance and high blood sugar. To stem the rising tides of obesity and the metabolic syndrome, work out and eat healthy. Eating healthier does not mean you can't enjoy a treat now and then. There are health-conscious foods to satisfy your sweet tooth. Nestlé's Crunch[®], one of America's favorite candy bars, has recently introduced Nestlé's Crunch Carb Select[™] Sugar Free, which uses a sugar substitute and has less than four net carbs per serving. For more information, visit www.nestlecrunch.com.

Efforts have been made to stop marketing campaigns that some say are specifically geared toward getting minority children to smoke new kinds of flavored cigarettes. According to the American Legacy Foundation, such marketing strategies are in violation of the Master Settlement Agreement, which prohibits marketing of tobacco products to minors. The group cites various tobacco industry promotions and products that it says reveal the industry's intention. To learn more, visit www.americanlegacy.org.



Senior Class Hosts Barbecue Brisket Dinner

The Sr. Class of 2005 hosted a barbecue brisket dinner on Sunday, February 6th. Shown serving from left, senior class members Manual Barrazas, Adam Gomez, Rocio Molina, and Cassie Harbour. They had a great turn-out!



Mike Ferrell receives appointment to US Naval Academy

(Left to right, Barbara Weyer, High School Counselor, Dan Ferrell, Mike Ferrell, Mary Jo Ferrell, and Mark Fickie, High School Principal). Mike Ferrell, son of Dan and Mary Jo Ferrell of Lake Ozark, Missouri, grandson of the late Leo and Garnette Meek, former residents of Stratford, Texas has recently received the announcement that he has been accepted in the Naval Academy, with induction being June 29, 2005. Mike is a senior at "Osage High School", Lake Ozark, MO. Mary Jo Meek Ferrell is a 1971 graduate of Stratford High School. Mike was also invited to Amarillo this weekend to escort Deidre Lee Tarver, a Symphony Belle, at the Amarillo Symphony Ball, February 5, 2005.

American Cancer Society Organizes 1st Annual Relay for Life Event

Walkers and runners will participate to show their support in the fight against cancer during the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, June 3-4, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. to be held at the Elk Stadium track. Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's community-oriented team event where participants walk or run around a track relay-style for hours. The teams consist of walking and running enthusiasts from all walks of life. When they aren't taking their turn on the track, team members camp out around the track and take part in a variety of fun activities.

The American Cancer Society is encouraging local businesses, civic organizations, church groups, schools, and friends and neighbors to form teams. During the event, there will be food, entertainment, games and other fun activities to keep the party going. "Relay for Life is as much an awareness raiser about progress against cancer as it is a fundraiser," said Laurie Gilliland, Event Co-chair. "Many of the participants will be recovering cancer patients themselves. Their involvement is proof of the progress that has been made not only in cancer cure rates, but in the quality of life following cancer treatment."

"The funds raised will enable us to continue our service to cancer patients and their families, to offer more educational programs, and to expand cancer research," said Stacy Metcalf, Event Co-chair.

The American Cancer Society is a nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service. If you would like to register a team for Relay for Life, participate as a cancer survivor or recognize someone during the evening Luminaria ceremony contact Desine Garza at 396-5336.

I still believe that one day mankind will bow before the altars of God and be crowned triumphant over war and bloodshed, and nonviolent redemptive goodwill will proclaim the rule of the land.
—Martin Luther King Jr.

If physical death is the price that I must pay to free my white brothers and sisters from a permanent death of the spirit, then nothing can be more redemptive.
—Martin Luther King Jr.

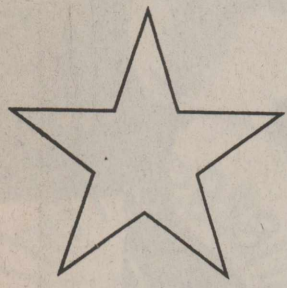
North Plains Groundwater Conservation District Approves Rule Changes

After over four years of working on a set of proposed rule changes for the North Plains Water District (NPWD), the Board of Directors of NPWD has approved a set of rules to guide the District into the future. At a public hearing on January 19, 2005, the Board voted five to two to approve the proposed rules.

The proposed rule changes had been under construction for approximately two years when the NPWD Board of Directors presented them to residents of the District for comment in 2003 and 2004. After a series of town hall meetings, which were held in Peryton, Dumas and Dalhart, and after considerable rewording, a new set of Proposed Rules was presented at a public hearing in Dumas on May 25, 2004. At that time, the Board of Directors again heard comment from the public, and those comments and suggestions convinced the Board of Directors to make further changes to the proposed rules before consideration for adoption. From May 25, 2004 through December 11, 2004, additional consideration and refining occurred. On January 19, 2005, a final set of proposed rules was presented for public

Cont. on page 5

<h3>Business Directory</h3>	<h3>Stratford Hospital District</h3> <p>Coldwater Manor Stratford Family Medical Clinic Stratford EMS Proudly serving the medical needs of Stratford and Sherman County</p>
<p>WALTER LASLEY & SONS INC. <i>THE Feedyard</i> Since 1953 753-4411</p>	<p>This space available</p>
<p>Stratford Grain Co. Stratford 396-5541 Lautz 769-4485 4 North Main</p>	<p>Robert's Service Center 400 S. Poplar 396-2882 <i>Tires & Batteries</i> <i>Auto & Lawn Mower Repair</i></p>
<p>CONSUMERS 208 Texas <i>We Sell Seed & Fuel</i> <i>Farmland, Acco, & Moorman Seeds & Diamond Shamrock Products</i> 366-2261</p>	<p>George Harding <i>Sewer & Drain Cleaning</i> <i>Plumbing, Electrical, Remodeling, Painting</i> 366-2206</p>
<p>Stratford Auto Electric 119 S. Wall, Stratford, Texas 79084 Phone 366-5941 366-5857 <i>Alternator, Starter, Magneto Repair</i> Since 1964</p>	<p>Allen-Tarver Insurance Agency Carolyn A. Tarver Auto • Home • Life • Commercial Bus: (806)396-5810 • Res: (806) 396-2393</p>
<p>Betty Brown's Medical Claim Service 605 S. Main P.O. Box 7 Stratford, TX 79084 806-396-2623</p>	<p>Joe Flores Farm Bureau Insurance 396-5538 office 396-5389 home</p>
<p>Brown's Meat Locker <i>Custom Wholesale & Retail Meat</i> <i>Federally Inspected</i> Hwy 287 South 396-2513</p>	<p>Jesse's Gun Shop <i>Gun Repairs • Sales • Cleaning</i> Hours: Mon. - Fri. - 1730 - 2000 Sat. - 0800 - 1600 Jesse Resendes (806) 767-4454 (806) 366-3134 Shop 111 S. Maple Stratford, TX 79084</p>
<p>A & I PARTS CENTER AUTOMOTIVE AND INDUSTRIAL PARTS THE CAR CARE PEOPLE Jerry Ewers Manager P.O. Box 1146 201 N. 2nd-Stratford, TX 79084</p>	<p>Your Home Town Pharmacy. ELK PHARMACY 317 N. Main P.O. Box 360 Stratford, TX 79084 806-396-4505 Major Prescription Plans Accepted Gayland Vandiver, R.Ph. Debbi Vandiver/ Owners Carlton Cards, Millionaire Candy Gifts Cookie and Balloon Bouquets</p>
<p>This Space Available Call 366-5885</p>	<p>Tommy's Embroidery 580-423-7718 Texhoma, OK 210 Hwy 54 West <i>Caps, Shirts, Jackets, Baby Blankets, Towels, Towel Wraps, School Logos, & Much More!</i></p>
<p>THRIFTWAY <i>Big Town Selection • Small Town Friendliness</i> <i>Wide Selection Frozen Food</i> <i>Quality Foods Fresh Produce</i> Hwy 54 East 396-5586</p>	<p>Westside Laundry & Dry Cleaners <i>Boise City, OK</i> 1-800-547-2761 Owners—Jerry & Janie Smith</p>
<p>Joan Bell THE TRAVEL STORE <i>affiliated with National Travel Systems</i> A Full Service Travel Agency 396-5958 1-800-753-2792</p>	<p>Joe Taylor, Photography PO Box 27 1305 N Chestnut Stratford, TX 79084 806-366-2459 Weddings, Portraits, Etc.</p>
<p>This space available</p>	<p>Rockin' C Cross Appraisals <i>Farm, Ranch & Residential Appraisals</i> 711 Purnell P.O. Box 1172 Stratford, TX 79084 Bus: (806) 366-7525 Fax: (806) 366-7515 DAVID J. CROSS</p>



It Pays To Look In The

Star Classifieds

..The Best Salesperson Around

Phone 366-5885

For Sale

For Sale or Lease-212 N. Poplar-40' x 60' office building. Call 806-679-5585. 3-31-c

Call or come by Let's Make Arrangements to take care of your Valentine. We WILL be open Feb. 12 & 13th. Find flowers, balloons, candy & plush, as well as food items (Dinner for 2, cookies, cakes, chocolate covered strawberries) from the LMA Tea room. See Ya Soon! Call 366-7673. 2-3-c

Julie's Ion Spa-Valentine Day Special Couples De-Tox 2 for 1. Bring in your valentine today! (Located inside Let's Make Arrangements). Will be closed Feb. 11-Feb. 14. Call for appt. today. 366-7673. 2-3-c

For Sale: 2002 Chevy Pickup 4x4 LS Crew Cab w/matching shell. 48,000 miles Call evenings 366-3777. 3-3-c

For Sale: Pickup topper-'91 Ford Ext. Cab, fiberglass-3 windows w/locks-red. Can be seen at 402 S. Maple or call 396-2572 3-3-c

For Sale 1996 Camper 25' travel trailer, coachman Catalina lite-Excellent condition, sleeps 6 Call evenings 366-3777. 3-3-c

Help Wanted

Looking for dependable, reliable & loves to work with children. Fulltime/partime position. Must apply in person. No phone calls please. Lollipop Junction 9-30-tfn

Stratford Family Medical Clinic is in need of a full-time nurse. Must be able to draw blood and start IV. Apply at the clinic or call 806-396-5583. Must be able to multitask. 2-3-tfn

DALLAM-HARTLEY COUNTIES HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Dietary Positions

Cook
Salary Range \$7.75-\$11.50/Hour

Dietary Aides
Salary Range \$7-\$9/Hour

Career Ladder offers opportunity for wage adjustment during first year of employment. Opportunities for advancement. Quality benefit package.

Human Resources Dept.
Coon Memorial Hospital
1411 Denver Avenue
Dalhart, Texas
806-244-9280
EOE

Services

SANDY'S "ROUN-TUIT" SERVICE Home Repair, Welding, Painting, Odd jobs, Mower Repair. No job too small. "If you can't get around to it," CALL SANDY! 753-7354 or 727-4692 9-16-tfn

I will do little handwork jobs for the elderly at a reasonable cost. Call Dick Bachman 366-7679. 8-19-tfn

For Rent

Country Rent House-4 1/4 miles west of Stratford. 3 bdrm-1 bath. Washer, dryer hookups. Call 333-5465 or 727-4619. 3-3-tfn

PHEASANT RIDGE APARTMENTS

1319 & 1320 N. Chestnut Stratford, Texas

Newly remodeled
Very spacious, 2 bedroom
New appliances
Central heating & air-
Washer/Dryer hookups
Clean, comfortable & convenient
Professionally managed
SENIOR DISCOUNT
Contact Laura Jo Smith
753-6540 after 4:30 p.m. or leave message

FOR RENT...Office space on Main Street for rent. For information call (806)396-5541. 11-27-tfn

For Rent 2-bedroom house, utility porch, fenced backyard and garage. 396-2125. 1-6-tfn

For Rent: 1 Bedroom furnished apt., 6th & Fulton. Call 396-5541 daytime, 396-5692 at nights. 1-28-tfn

Lost

Lost: Brown lab. Answers to Hershey. East on Hwy 15. Call Jon Hart at 676-2931. 2-17-c

Lost: Border collie last week. May have gotten into someone's pickup at Post Office. Has collar and tags with North Texas Wholesale on it. Answers to Maggie. Belongs to James Crawford. Reward-if found call 396-2268. 2-3-c

Land for Sale

Land for Sale: Section 66 and South 1/2 of Section 67 Block 8. Capital Syndicate sub-division. Dallam County CRP to 9-30-2007. Contact Trust Dept. at First State Bank of Stratford 806-396-5521. 10-23-tfn

The secret of success is sincerity. Once you can fake that you've got it made.
—Jean Giraudoux

A little sincerity is a dangerous thing, and a great deal of it is absolutely fatal.
—Oscar Wilde

Acquisitions...

Remember your Valentine this year with a special gift. Choose from a great new selection of sterling silver heart-shaped jewelry, crystal crosses, flower pins, spring ponchos, watches, candles, stiletto earrings, inspirational bracelets, and so much more!!! We also have a new selection of buffets, Welsh dressers, end tables, dining chairs, lamps, cupboards, washstands, curio cabinets and bookshelves for your home or office.

Stop by and see what's new at **Acquisitions...** on the corner of Hwys 54 & 287 in Stratford, TX (806)396-5691

Houses For Sale

For Sale: House and furnishings as a package. 1320 sq. ft. living; detached garage; sprinkler system. \$49500.00. Shown by appointment only. Trust Dept. 396-5521. 9-25-tfn

For Sale: 3BR, 1.75 bath home at 603 S. Fulton. 2 living areas, dining room, master bedroom with 2 walk in closets. Lots of closets and storage throughout the house. Large backyard with above ground swimming pool, metal storage shed and covered patio. 2 car garage. Brick and vinyl exterior for maintenance free up keep. Contact Rhonda Browne after 6:30 at 366-7597 or leave message. 12-9-tfn

3 Bdrm Brick, 2 baths on large corner lot. 1201 NW 2nd St. Sprinkler system, fenced yard. Located in Casa Bonita Addition. Call 366-2153 for appointment. 10-21-tfn

For Sale: Our home at 619 S. Pearl. 2572 sq. ft. living area, 3 b, 2 b, fireplace, heated tile floor in den & kitchen, 2 car garage, separate storage garage extra lg. Lot 366-5829 or 753-7775. 4-22-tfn

FOR SALE BY OWNER...Beautiful 4 bedroom home, large sized rooms, 3 full baths, office, large utility room, basement, covered patio, beautifully landscaped backyard. W/deck. This house is located in a GREAT neighborhood!! 202 Kay Ave. Approx. 3800 sq. ft. Call 806-366-2482. 4-22-tfn

PRICE REDUCED
300 N. WALL
\$86,000.00
Owners need to sell this really nice home on large lot. This 2 Br., 2 bath home, office, could be 3rd bedroom, with 2 car garage, sprinkler system and much more could be yours for nothing down. Sellers willing to pay some or all the down payment and closing cost, for a qualified buyer. This is a great deal! For more info. Call 806-570-5716 or 806-655-2560 ask for Toni. 11-25-tfn

For Sale: 604 S. Pearl, 3/1.75/2 1950 sq. Ft. w/2living areas, new C/H&A and tile. Large covered patio, workshop and shed. 366-3455 or 244-1296, \$78,000. 2-10-tfn

Legal Notices

Stratford Independent School District's Notice of Intent to Apply for Waiver

In accordance with Texas Education Code TEC 25.0811 Stratford ISD intends to apply for a waiver of the prohibition concerning the date of the first day of instruction. The waiver will request the first day of school for the 2005-06 school year to begin August 15, 2005.

The District will hold a public hearing concerning the date of the first day of instruction on April 12, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library. Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, February 10, 2005.

Sincerity is the way of Heaven.
—Mencius (Meng-Tzu)

Ad Rem Land Co.

803 S Bliss
Dumas, TX 79029
806-935-7364
 
Stratford Agent:
Raymond Wiley
806-676-7457
806-744-5270

2-bedroom 2-bath home with recent updates, new floors, carpet, and paint. 33,000

3 bedrooms 1.75 bath, Large master suit with walk-in shower, workshop with double garage and C/H&A. 95,000

3 bedroom 1.75 bath. This home has a new sewer line and has had carpet professionally cleaned. Move up to this beautiful house. Possible lease before purchase 89,900

2 bedroom 1.75 bath home with style. Large living and dining areas, hardwood floors and updated bathrooms. 78,900

Very cute 1 bedroom .75 bath home that would make a great rental property. 15,000

2 bedroom 1 bath home, this would make a great starter home. 25,000

Nice 3 bedroom 2 bath home with a 1 car detached garage and a shop in the backyard. 50,000

This 3 bedroom 2 bath home is located in a prime location in a quite neighbor-hood and close to schools. 125,000

This 4 bedroom 1.5 bath home is a very nice corner lot with a great fence. C/H&A, sewer lines, and gas line all recently replaced. 60,000

For Sale by Owner: 4/2/3 home on corner lot. Custom built in 1995. New carpet, 20 x 20 finished basement, fireplace, ceramic tile in entry, utility, dining and kitchen, sprinkler system, open floor plan, approx. 3200 total sq. ft. Call 806-366-2303 evenings or leave a message. 11-4-tfn

CHILD FIND.....

Is the ongoing process of locating children With disabilities from birth through age 21.

If you suspect your child has significant delays in learning, behavior, motor skills, speech, vision or hearing contact your school district (806) 366-3320

504 CHILD FIND NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Stratford ISD has a duty to identify, refer, evaluate, and if eligible, provide a free, appropriate public education to disabled students. For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible children, or for answers to any questions you might have about identification, evaluation and placement into Section 504 programs, please contact the District's Section 5-4 Coordinator Jessica Wheeler at 366-3324 or by mail at P.O. Box 108, Stratford, Texas 79084.

Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.
—Abraham Lincoln

As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy.
—Abraham Lincoln

Cards of Thanks

Thank you Stratford for the Love, Prayers and Concern shown for us during the loss of my sister K.

Love You
Oscar & Bobbie Wilson

There is no other place in the world like Stratford. Andy was a hometown boy who will be missed. He left a hole in our lives. Thank you for all the food, the flowers and especially the prayers and support.

The family of Andy Alexander

The Sr. Class of 2005 would like to thank Coronado Feeders, Dettle Coldwater Creek Cattle Co., Stratford Feedyard, Walter Lasley & Sons, Richard Chumley, Happy State Bank & The Stratford Star for their donations for our brisket dinner. Thank you also to Gregg Hudson and Jeff Kautz for cooking the meat. Thank you to our parents and the wonderful ladies in the cafeteria for all their help and to all those in the community who came out and supported us! It was a huge success thanks to all of you.

Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will.
—Martin Luther King Jr.

Pet of the Week

North Plains Cont. from page 4

comment.
The rule changes for the North Plains Water District include assigning allowable water production, requiring reporting of water production, requiring wells to be spaced away from property lines, changes in the permitting

process, and requiring registration of all new domestic and livestock wells.

The January 19th Public Hearing was attended by approximately fifty-five citizens, with seven people giving public comment. There were also three written comments on the proposed rules received by NPWD. After consideration of the comments given during the Public Hearing, the NPWD Board of Directors voted on accepting the proposed rules with some minor clerical corrections, and the rules were adopted by a five to two vote.

Directors voting were as follows: Danny Krienke, Ochiltree County-Yes, Gene Born, Lipscomb County-Yes, Phil Haaland, Hartley County-No, Tom Mellema, Dallam County-No, Bob Zimmer, Hansford & Hutchinson Counties-Yes, Wesley Spurlock, Sherman County-Yes, David Moore, Moore County-Yes.

President of the Board, David Moore, then announced that the vote had passed and the Rules were adopted.

Currently the Rules are in the process of clarification and will be available on the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District website at

As soon as possible. The rules will also be available in print form from the NPWD office at that time. Anyone having questions about the new rules and the changes in the rules may call the NPWD office at 806-935-6401.



The Dalhart Animal Rescue Shelter needs your old blankets, towels, & rugs for the dogs and puppies. If you have any that you would like to provide them, please contact Linda Reimer at 244-6326 (leave message) or 249-5333. You can also drop them off at the shelter.

The Dalhart Animal Rescue Shelter ("no kill" facility) currently has over 100 dogs and puppies available for adoption. These dogs are all sizes & range in age from 4 weeks on up. The older dogs have been spayed and/or neutered & have their shots. These dogs need a good home.

We are also seeking responsible individuals to provide foster care for the dogs. If you feel you would like to take one or two and care for them for a couple of months, we will provide the food. All of these dogs have had their shots and are looking for lots of love. Please contact Diane Trull at 244-3216 for additional

It is dangerous to be sincere unless you are also stupid.
—George Bernard Shaw

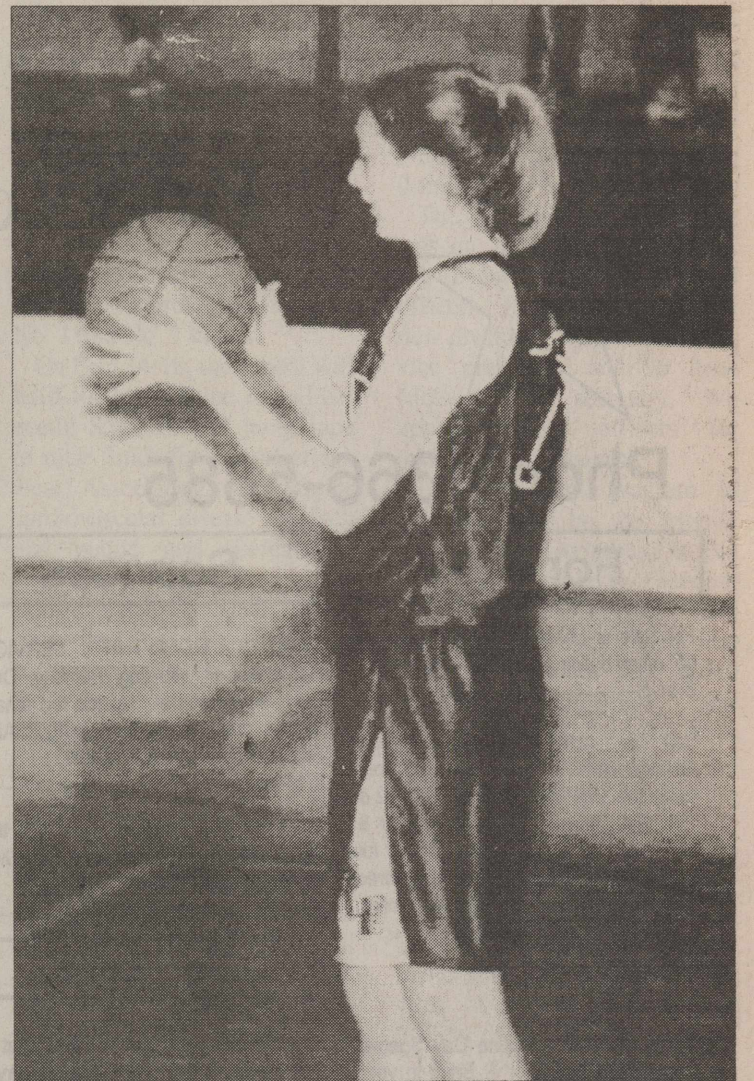
Basketball



Stratford Elks Josh King and Brady Bell



Stratford Elk Case Crabtree



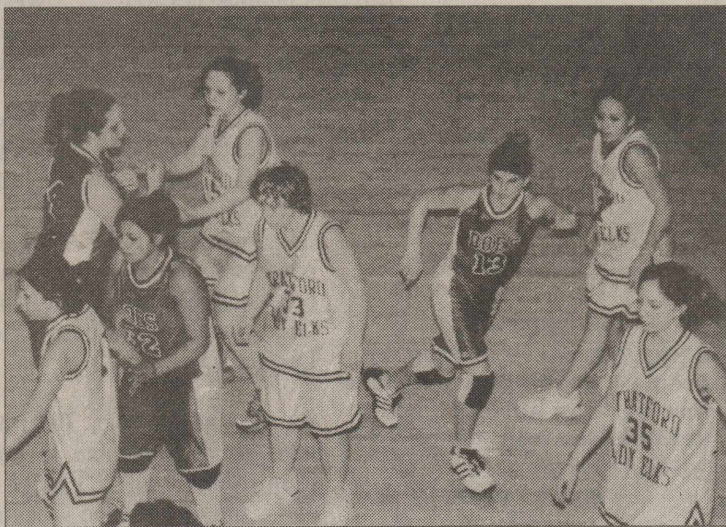
Lady Elk Allison Baskin



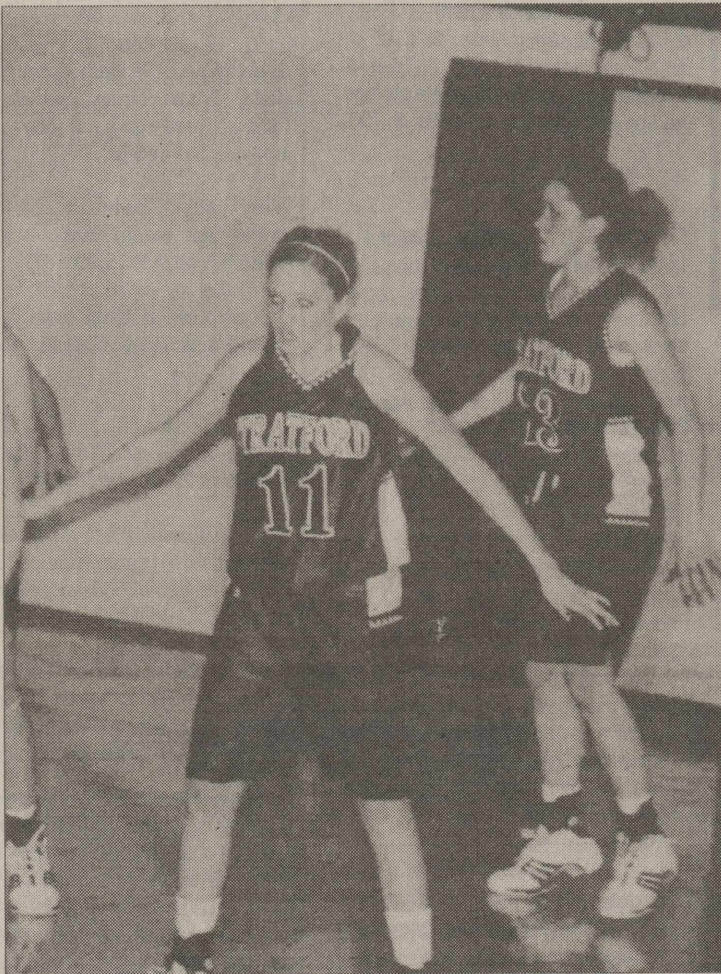
J.V. Elks Joey Reta and Brant Cummings.



Lady Elks Lindsay Stein and Shadley Audrain.



8th Grade Lady Elks from left, Sierra Valenzuela, Chandra Hawkins, Stephanie Bell, Becky Rosales, and Sinead Everett.



J.V. Lady Elks Merilee McDaniel and Jordan Confer.

BOBBY EDMOND HORSE SALES
Monthly and Special Sales

★

OPEN HORSE SALE
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 20
TACK STARTS 10 AM

Amarillo Livestock Auction
Amarillo, Texas
806/396-2880 • 806/396-5828
SALE DAYS • 806/373-7464
EMAIL • bkedmond@sit.net

The 7th grade Elks beat Sunray 24-22 on January 31, 2005. Elias Terrazas was high point with 8 points followed by Klinton Keener with 7 points.

The 7th grade Lady Elks lost 12-25 to Sunray on January 31, 2005. Chelbye Ellis was high point with 7 points followed by Janeth Reyes with 3 points.

On January 31, 2005 the 8th grade Elks beat Sunray 49-14. Kaleb Horsford was high point with 17 points followed by Angel Resendes with 8 points.

The 8th grade Lady Elks lost 27-29 to Sunray. Stephanie Bell was high point with 15 points followed by Jennie Spurlock and Sinead Everett with 5 points each.

The J.V. Elks beat Gruver 45-34 on February 1m 2005. Hunter Buckles was high point with 10 points followed by Daniel Hays with 9 points and Scott Hudson and Brant Cummings with 8 points each. On Friday, February 4, the J.V. Elks beat Sunray 47-24 Brant Cumming was high point with 21 points followed by Hunter Buckles with 10 points.

The J.V. Lady Elks beat Gruver 51-19 on February 1st. Jordan Confer led the Lady Elks with 10 points followed by Crystal Peregrino with 8 points. On Friday, February 4, they beat Sunray 41-27 to remain unbeaten for the season. April Peregrino was high point with 12 points followed by Crystal Peregrino and Rhia Everett with 8 points each.

The Lady Elks beat Sunray 41-33 in triple overtime on Friday, February 4th and captured the District championship with the win. Yadira Ortega and

Brittany Hudson led the Lady Elks with 12 and 10 points respectively. District play will end on Tuesday against Booker there.

GOOD LUCK LADY ELKS IN THE PLAY-OFFS AND CONGRATULATIONS

ON DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP.

The Stratford Elks lost 49-53 to Gruver on Tuesday, February 1st. Josh King led the Elks with 17 points followed by Tyler Haynes with 11 points. The Elks also lost to Sunray on Friday, February 4th. Stats not available.

Our Prayers and thoughts go out to the Ortega family on the loss of their father.



7th Grade Lady Elks Sunny Russell and Alma Marquez.

Arts in the Area

By Gaynelle Riffe

- Feb. 10-27 "Sweeney Todd" Musical
Amarillo Little Theatre Adventure Space 806-355-9991
- Feb. 10 David Copperfield Magic
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-378-3096
- Feb. 10-12 Circus Gatti
Amarillo Civic Coliseum 806-378-3096
- Feb. 19 Amarillo Symphony "POPS" John Bayless piano
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-378-8782
- Feb. 24 Chamber Music Amarillo
Family support Services Loft Space 806-236-3545
- Feb. 24 MercyMe, Jeremy Camp, Monk & Neagle and the Afters
Amarillo Civic Coliseum 806-378-3096
- Feb. 25 Chamber Music Amarillo "Polk Street Jazz"
Family Support Loft Space 1001 Polk
- Feb. 25-27 "The Miracle Worker" AC Youth Theatre
Amarillo College Ordway Auditorium 806-371-5353
- March 2-6 "Two Gentlemen of Verona" William Shakespeare
WTA&M Branding Iron Theatre 806-651-2799
- March 4-6 "Annie"
Guymon Community Theatre

SIGN-UP PERIOD FOR 2005 EQIP FUNDING TO END MARCH 18, 2005

Temple, TX, January 28, 2005— The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas announced that farmers and ranchers wishing to be considered for 2005 funding in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) should make sure they sign up by the close of business Friday, March 18, 2005.

EQIP was reauthorized in the 2002 Farm Bill to provide a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. EQIP offers financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and/or management practices on eligible agricultural land.

In 2005 Texas will receive approximately \$64 million in EQIP financial assistance funds and approximately \$5.5 million in Ground and Surface Water EQIP funds.

"The funds will help farmers and ranchers improve the natural resources on private working lands in Texas," said Dr. Larry Butler, Texas NRCS State Conservationist. "They will be used to solve locally identified resource problems in each county and will also fund special statewide concerns recommended by the Texas State Technical Committee such as water quantity, water and air quality, wildlife habitat, and treatment of invasive

species. This program offers cost share and incentives payments to producers applying approved conservation measures."

Butler explained, "Using national and state EQIP priorities, counties working through a Local Work Group chaired by the local Soil and Water Conservation District recommended local resource concerns to be addressed, eligible practices, and cost-share rates and/or incentive payments. This group also recommended cost-share rates for beginning farmers. In 2005, producers who meet the criteria as a Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher can receive 90 percent cost share for eligible practices. The group also recommended an application ranking process to prioritize applications for funding. We have reviewed and concurred in all of their recommendations."

Beginning immediately after March 18, 2005, all applications will be ranked and those selected for funding will be approved. A conservation planner will develop a contract and conservation plan for each contract that is approved. Producers who have been awarded contracts can then begin implementing the approved conservation practices this year. Local NRCS field offices have complete details for their county.

Additional information and access to ranking criteria, practices, and cost share rates for EQIP can be found at

www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs