

Santa Claus letters will be printed in the Christmas Edition of The Stratford Star on Thursday, December 18, 2003. Deadline for Santa letters is Thursday, December 11, 2003. Please bring letters to Santa Box at Mary Allen Elementary, Shari Hudson at 1114 N. Putnam or Marty Robertson 805 Purnell and leave in our mail boxes outside our houses. Thank you very much.

The Phoenix
Capitol of Texas

Sherman County Museum 7 104
Box 1248
Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

75 cents

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Number 49 December 3, 2003

Student Tickets Available for Stratford-Sunray Game until Friday at Noon

Stratford School has student tickets for the Stratford-Sunray game to be held at Dick Bivins Saturday, December 6, at 6 p.m. for sale for \$2.00. If purchased at the game, all tickets will be \$5.00. These will be on sale until Friday, December 5th at noon.

Pantry Board Meeting-Thursday

A Pantry Board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2003 at 7 p.m. at the XIT Building.

Depot Museum Open House

Sherman County Depot Museum will hold their annual Open House on Sunday, December 7, 2003 from 2:30 until 4:30 p.m. Featured are Christmas Villages by Rick Reinart. Refreshments will be served. Please take time and stop by for a visit.

2nd Annual Sherman County Ag Conference To Be Held Dec. 8th

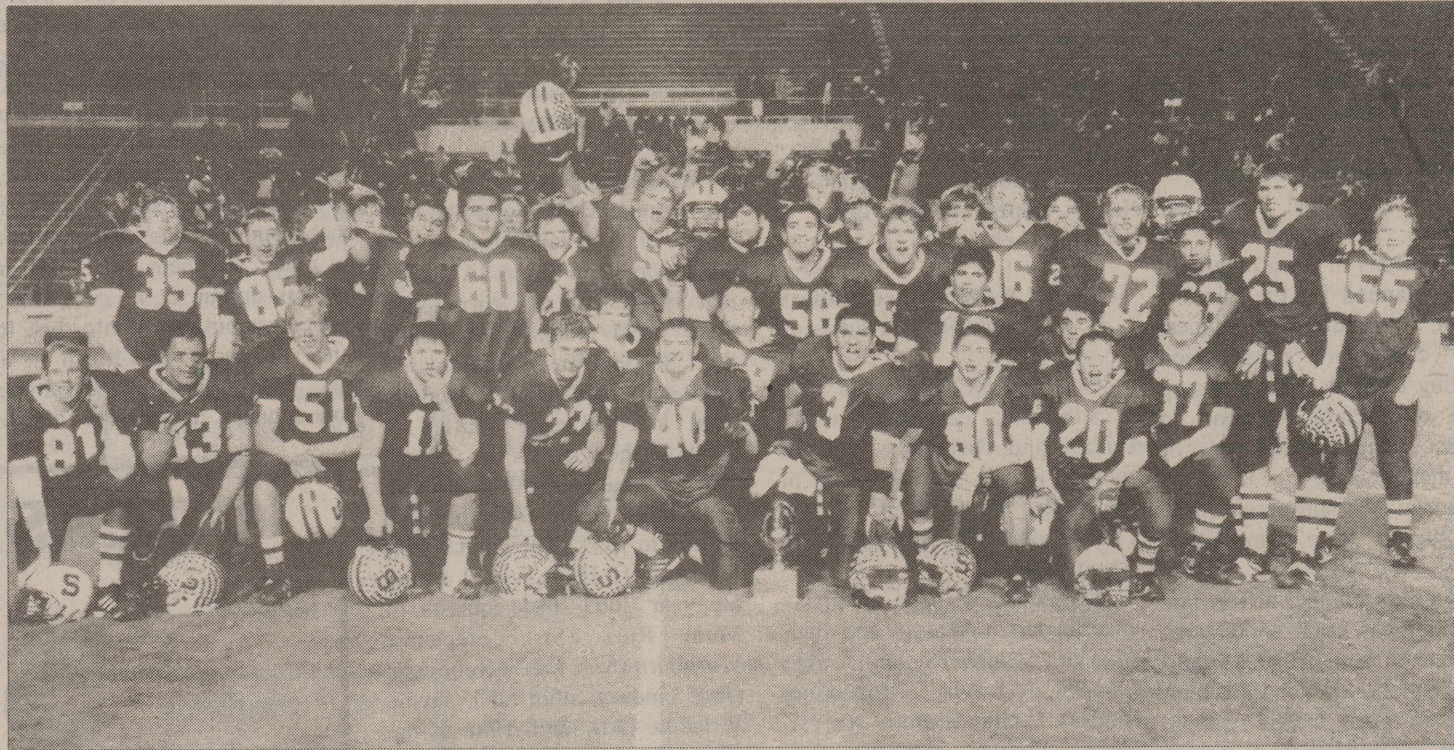
The second annual Sherman County Ag Conference will be held on December 8, 2003 at the Sherman County Exhibit Building. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and booths from local businesses will open. Three C.E.U.'s will be offered for Pesticide Applicator's and a BBQ Lunch is being sponsored by local businesses. Speaker's for the event will be providing pertinent information for Agriculture Producers. If you need more information regarding this event please contact Leslie Neve, Sherman County Agriculture Extension Agent at (806) 366-2081.

Cowboy Church Held Wednesdays

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

Angel Tree Project

Stratford Angel Tree Project will be taking applications once again this year. Please come by the Chamber Office located at 305 N. Main and the SCDC Office located at 301 N. Main on December 1st and 2nd from 2:00 until 6:00 p.m. If you are interested in adopting an angel from our tree, please come by First State Bank located at 302 N. Main. Our Christmas party will be on Thursday evening, on December 18, at the First Assembly of God Church located at 921 N. Fulton. If you have any questions, you can contact Dianthe Downs at First State Bank at 396-5521.



Elks Advance To Quarterfinals!

The Stratford Elks beat Crosbyton 28-23 on Friday, November 28th to advance to the 1A Quarterfinals on Saturday, December 6th. The Elks will again face Sunray at 6 p.m. at Dick Bivins Stadium. CONGRATULATIONS ELKS AND LET'S GO GET A BOBCAT!!

Sherman County Crimestoppers

Sherman County Crimestoppers needs your help with a felony crime. In the early morning hours of November 27, person or persons unknown broke into Stratford High School and did several thousands dollars worth of damage and stole multiple fire extinguishers. It is not known at this time the exact dollar amount of the damage incurred.

Crimestoppers pays up to \$1,000.00 in cash for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons involved. If you have any information on these or any other crimes contact the Crimestoppers answering machine at 366-TIPS (8477) and leave a code name and return phone number or the Sherman Co. Sheriff's Office at 366-5551 or the Stratford Police Dept. at 366-3051.

The letter written by Junior Gomez for the Veteran's Day Program and the City Council Minutes will be in the next edition of the Star!

GO ELKS

STRATFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION November 17, 2003

The Stratford ISD Board of Trustees met in regular session on Monday, November 17, 2003 in the High School library.

President Joe Reinart established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Board members present: Joe Reinart, Gareed McBryde, Brent Spurlock, Ted Allen, Patti Vincent, Ricky Reed, Jim Taliaferro, Superintendent.

Board members absent: Steve Johnson

Guests present were: Dinah Horsford, Steve Haynes, Mary Pat Williams, Jennifer DeAnda, Misti McBryde, Tiffany Confer, Stan Strobel, Coy Barton, Stan Strobel, Debbie Shoulders, Kasey Mylar, Keri Walden and Nathaniel Walden.

Mrs. Williams led the invocation.

Mr. Taliaferro introduced the guests. Misti McBryde, Tiffany Confer, Stan Strobel, Debbie Shoulders, and Kasey Mylar were attending the meeting to fulfill a college class requirement. Coy Barton is with the Keeney, Hembree & Company, L.L.P. and is the district's financial auditor. Jennifer DeAnda, is the chairperson of the District Site Based Decision Making committee.

Mr. Taliaferro gave the district's monthly recognition. It was as follows:

1. Twyla Young and Mark Miller are currently ranked 3rd in barrels and team roping respectively in the state in the Texas High School Rodeo Association.

2. The Stratford Patriots

(Stratford's Special Olympics team) competed at the state meet in College Station. Tyler Pickens and Brian Zinck each received two 3rd place medals. Wade Plunk and Linda McKinney are also members of the team. Congratulations to the Patriots on a job well done.

3. The Big Blue Band competed at the State Marching contest in San Antonio. The band placed 6th in an extremely tough contest and represented the community of Stratford well. Congratulations Band.

4. The Lady Elk cross-country team finished 4th at the District. Members of the team were: Brittany Hudson, Yadira Ortega, Haley Buckles, Erin Ashley, Shiloh Dickenson, Chelsi Thiessen, and Jenny Rueda.

5. Academic All District honors for cross-country went to the following girls: Erin Ashley, Haley Buckles, Brittany Hudson and Chelsi Thiessen.

6. Brittany Hudson and Yadira Ortega qualified for the Regional Cross Country Meet. They placed 3rd and 4th respectively at the district meet. Yadira Ortega placed 10 at the Regional cross-country and Brittany Hudson placed 12th. The 10th place finish qualifies Yadira Ortega for the State meet in Round Rock on November 15.

7. The Junior High cross-country team placed 2nd at the district meet and received a silver medal. The students that medaled were: Sierra Valenzuela, Whitney Reese, Lucero Ortega, Katrina Harkins, Kelsey Stein, Sinead Everett, and Yessinia Ibarra.

8. The Elk football team finished district as runners-up. They will play Nazareth in the Area game.

9. Academic All District honors for football went to the following boys: Jason Ashley, Brady Bell, Carson Buckles, Tyler Haynes, Adrian Jacques, Carlos Jacques, Josh King, Ryan McDaniel, Mark Miller, Brad Reed, Cory Rendon, Kevin Walls and Adam Witcher.

10. The Junior Varsity Elk football team finished their season as district champs. Their record was 8-1.

11. The junior high football teams finished their season as district champs. The 7th grade team finished with a record of 7-1 and the 8th finished with a record of 8-0-1.

12. The High School Student Council sponsored a Veteran's Day assembly on Tuesday,

November 11th. All area veterans were honored. The Student Council and Cindy Russell are to be commended on a job well done.

13. April Kautz was awarded the Gold Star award Saturday at the 4-H Gold Star Banquet in Amarillo. This is the highest county honor that a 4-H'er can earn. Congratulations to April.

A public hearing was held on the district's Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST). Mr. Taliaferro explained each indicator.

SISD Rating was Superior Achievement

A public hearing was held on the district 2002-2003 AEIS report Mr. Taliaferro explained the change of standards from TAAS to TAKS. Discussion was held and questions were answered. The District received a rating of Exemplary for the 2002w2003 school year. The individual Campuses were not rated this year.

Mr. Haynes gave the high school report. He went over the weekly bulletin. The girl's basketball team will be recognized at a pep rally on Tuesday at 1:15 PM. The Area playoff game with Nazareth will be at 8:00 PM on Friday, November 21st at Dick Bivins stadium in Amarillo. High school night school will resume in January. He briefly discussed changes in the standards from TAAS to TAKS. Several FFA students participated in the FFA contest in Clarendon on Saturday. Ashton Robinson placed 2nd in the experienced division of the WT AMU speech tournament on Saturday. Jordan Taylor placed in the top 8 in the Lincoln-Douglas debate. He commended the band on their performance at the state band marching contest. He also commented on how the students behaved while in San Antonio.

Steve Johnson arrived at 7:35 PM.

Mrs. Williams gave the elementary report. She passed out the weekly bulletin. Thirty-five students will compete in the Elementary/Junior High UIL Academic meet will be on December 5th at Frank Phillips College in Borger. Thanksgiving dinner will be served in the cafeteria on Friday. The 3rd graders will sing at SCOT Hall on Thursday. Mrs. Williams congratulated eight elementary students competed this weekend

ATTENTION ELK FANS!!!

Pep Rally
Friday, Dec. 5 at
1:15 p.m.

Send-Off
Saturday, Dec. 6
At 2:00 p.m.

Come To The
Game and lets
**OUTCHEER
OUTSPIRIT
AND OUTDO
SUNRAY
FOR THE WIN!**

at the World Championship Junior Ranch Rodeo. Both teams won their division. They are: PeeWee team - Preston Burr, Brady Cross, Rett Schoonover and Chase Richardson; Junior team - Chance Walker, Justin Mungia, Reed Schoonover and Braden Hudson. They are to be commended on their accomplishments.

Mr. Taliaferro gave the superintendents report. The cost per mile for transportation for the month was 23. He then gave the budget summary. Monthly expenditures are at 17.16% and revenue

collected at 30.85%. Tax collections are at 64.39%. The district enrollment is currently at 635 with 262 students at the elementary, 186 students at the junior high and 187 students at the high school.

Ricky Reed made the motion and Brent Spurlock seconded to approve the consent agenda. Discussion was held. Motion carried 7-0.

Jennifer DeAnda, Site Based Decision Making chairperson discussed the changes in the District Improvement Plan from the previous year. Discussion was held. Gareed McBryde made the motion and Patti Vincent seconded to accept the 2003.2004 District Improvement Plan as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Taliaferro introduced Coy Barton from Keeney, Hembree & Company, L.L.P. Mr. Barton discussed the district's financial audit with the board. He explained how the FIRST, the District Improvement Plan and the AEIS report all tie together into the financial audit. He went over several indicators with the board. He explained how the accounting requirements and the auditing requirements will change for the upcoming years. Ricky Reed made the motion and Ted Allen seconded to accept the 2002-2003 school year audit as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Taliaferro explained to the board an option of early payoff of the bond. He discussed building the interest and sinking fund to payoff the bonds when they are able to be called. (2008)

Mr. Taliaferro explained the textbook committee list and the textbooks to be adopted. Ricky Reed made the motion and Brent Spurlock seconded to approve the textbook committee as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Cont. on page 6

Frank Phillips College Changes GED Registration & testing dates

Frank Phillips College in Borger has changed the GED registration and testing dates for the month of December. New dates are as follows:
GED registration Thursday, December 4, 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the FPC Student Union Building.
GED Testing -Friday, December 5, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. for the Writing test, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for the math test.
Friday, December 12: 8:30 a.m. to noon for the Science, Social Studies and Reading tests.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Readers,

The decoration barn was cleaned by the extra hands available at Thanksgiving. Things may be a little harder to find but you can walk through it and the floor has been swept. Thanks to my girls who know how to complete mom's project.

Gaynelle Riffe

Dalhart LaRita Dinner Theater Dec. 13th

"Christmas with Dirindia & More Friends" is the musical program following the Christmas Dinner at the LaRita, Saturday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. Performance at 8:00 p.m. Dinner and Performance \$25.00. Performance only \$15.00. Reservation can be made at Dalhart Chamber of Commerce 244-5646.

Imagination Station News

By Gaynelle Riffe
Wed. Dec. 3, Stew & Cornbread after the Parade. Stew, Cornbread, drink and dessert following the 6:30 Christmas Parade, Wednesday, December 3.

Breakfast with Santa, Postponed- Santa and helpers double-booked!

"Captain Abdul's Pirate School" toured by 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades before Thanksgiving. They learned about Latitude, Longitude, Sextants, Gyroscopes, Magnet North, Compass, GPS and Maps. Exhibit will be stored after Dec. 3.

Computer Lab is open Tue. Wed. Thurs. Sun. Average 4-5 persons.

Stratford Patriots Bowling Results

On Saturday, November 8, 2003, the Stratford Patriots bowled in Pampa. The results were:
Wade Plunk-silver medal
Brian Zinck-silver medal
Tyler Pickens-4th place
Linda McKinney-silver medal
Matt Powers-gold medal

They all had a really good time and met a lot of new friends. On Saturday, November 22, 2003 they bowled again in Amarillo at the Area 16 Bowling Tournament.
Wade-5th place
Brian-bronze medal
Tyler-4th place
Matt-silver medal
Linda-gold medal
CONGRATULATIONS PATRIOTS for a really good bowling season.

Good Luck

Patty's Potpourri

Chamber News

Written by Patty Tims

CHRISTMAS PARADE

The Christmas Parade is tonight at 6:30 p.m. This is a special event for our community to come together and launch into the Christmas season. This will be a casual parade and everyone is welcome to come and enjoy in the fun. Santa and Mrs. Clause will be at the New Chamber of Commerce Office, 305 N. Main, following the parade to visit with the children.

PHEASANT HUNT

We have had good response from hunters all over the state of Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma and Tennessee. Last week we had 32 openings, this week we have 21 openings for hunters.

There has not been any response from clubs or organizations in town regarding meals planned for the hunters. Again, I would like to request any club or organization wanting to have a fund raising meal, on opening weekend, to contact the Chamber of Commerce office.

Also, if any farmers in the community have land they would like to lease, please contact the Chamber office. The Chamber has over 2500 acres leased as of now. Again I would like to stress, the Pheasant hunt brings in much needed revenue to our community and in turn benefits us all. Please help support our community.

THE HOUSE THAT LOVE BUILT

I had the privilege of speaking with Audrine Olson, who is involved with the Ronald McDonald house in Amarillo. The Ronald McDonald house has a special place in my heart. When my grandson Christopher was born, he had several birth defects and spent most of his first year in the hospital. If it were not for the Ronald McDonald family room, volunteers, and house, we would have spent most of our time on the road driving from Amarillo to Stratford, stressed out more than we already were and without a place to stay, (because we could not afford it).

The Family Room, located at Northwest Texas Hospital across from the Pediatric ICU, provided refreshments, computer access and a friendly face. There was also a washer/dryer/shower room, for the parents and family members of sick children in the hospital. Jessica and I used these facilities quite often. While Christopher was in the hospital, it was such a stressful time and having the Ronald McDonald Family room available for our use, took a tremendous burden off our shoulders.

The volunteers, associated with the Ronald McDonald house, are the most wonderful people you could meet. They were always there to give a kind word, smile or hug if you needed it. Believe me, we needed all three often. The volunteers would come to the pediatric floor once a week and pass out hand made toys for the children. Christopher has a large collection. What makes these people so special is they don't have to be there. Each one is there out of the goodness of their hearts and that reflects on the kindness they show everyone. The volunteers at the Ronald McDonald house are special people.

To continue, Christopher had to stay in Amarillo for one week, but not in the hospital. He had to have a bronchoscope and his physician wanted him to stay in the city. The Ronald McDonald family room, volunteers, and house. The RMH is a safe haven in times of stress and grief. I pray no one has to go through what we did, but having a place like the RMH is a comfort.



Nu-Beta Parade of Homes to be held

On Sunday, December 7, 2003 Nu Beta Sorority will sponsor a Parade of homes. Also on the tour are Mr. and Mrs. Rhea Chumley at 900 N. Pearl. Come out Sunday and help support this worthy cause and enjoy some homes decorated for the holiday. Remember also on the tour are Steve Pemberton at 701 N. Pearl, Jim Bob Brown at 1210 N. Pearl and Dennis Phelps at 1219 N. Division

Editors Note
The following articles are written by Mrs. Jennifer Wells Honors English classes, hope you have been enjoying them.

Stratford Varsity Cheerleaders By Kayla Robertson

Going to UCA camp in June at 8:00 a.m., pep rallies every Friday, and cheering at lots of football games are only a few of the things the Stratford Varsity Cheerleaders do to make their school spirited.

The squad is made up of six cheerleaders, a mascot and their sponsor. Heather Seiler, Amber Larance, Kayla Robertson, Lindsay Stein, Deidre Tarver, Yadira Ortega, and the Elk-Audrey Navarrete, make up the 2003-2004 varsity squad. Their sponsor for this year is Viann Reed. The cheerleaders start their year out as a squad by attending the UCA Cheer Camp in June. This is a three-day camp where a personal UCA instructor comes down to Stratford and teaches the squad the new material for the year.

Most people think that all these girls do is cheer at the pep rallies on Fridays and cheer at the game that night. Making those pep rallies and football games successful takes a whole lot of work. On Thursday right after school these girls have to memorize their pep rally and say it to Mrs. Reed. Lindsay Stein, says that "Memorizing our pep rallies helps a lot; it helps the pep rally flow better so there aren't any long pauses between cheers." Next they go through the pep Rally at least 5 to 10 times to make sure they all know where they are going and what they are doing. Putting a pep rally takes a lot of patience because it hard to figure out formations to do the cheers. The girls also put ribbons in all the football players' lockers and also make little notes from the squad to each football player telling them good luck on the game. When they get this done they head over to one of their houses and paint the footballs that they throw at the football game on Friday. After all this is done it is around 8:00 so all the cheerleaders head home for a good night sleep for the pep rally and the game the following day. The girls also cheer every Tuesday and Friday night for the varsity boy's basketball team. Apart from cheering on the sports teams they also make lots of signs to bring more school spirit into the school.

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The Stratford Star
Box 8
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Fax 1-806-366-5885

Arts in the Area

By Gaynelle Riffe

*** note new listing

- Dec. 4-21 "Man of La Mancha" Musical
Amarillo Little Theatre 806-555-9991
- Dec. 6-21 Borger High School } Musical Dance/vocal
Dumas High School } "Christmas in Oz" 8:00 p.m.
Dec. 13 Tascosa High School } Texas Dance Theatre
Center for Texas Culture 806-274-9050
- Dec. 10-11 Trans Siberian Orchestra
Amarillo Civic Coliseum 806-378-3096
- Dec. 12-14 "The Nutcracker" Lone Star Ballet
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-372-2463
- Dec. 13 "Dirindia Kelly & more Friends" LaRita Dinner Theatre
Reservations Dalhart C of C 244-5646
- Dec. 19-21 Christmas Pageant
Amarillo Civic Auditorium
Paramount Terrace Christian Church 806-353-6615
"Seussical The Musical"
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-378-3096
- Jan. 6-7

Fun & Games? By Lindsay Stein

When most people think of the annual staff, playing on computers and taking pictures is what comes to mind. Although that is part of our curriculum, there is so much more behind this. Schools around the world put together an annual staff every year, and they are entitled to compose the book for the year. In order to qualify for this position, you should be creativity but also willing to work. The annual staff for Stratford High School during the year 2003-2004 consists of Mimi Ruiz (Sr.), Stephanie Washburn (Sr.), Kayla Robertson (Jr.), Lindsay Stein (Jr.), Jayme Wilhelm (Jr.), and Tami King, our advisor.

Despite the fact that the annual staff doesn't get as much recognition as football or basketball teams, there is hard work that goes into this organization. First of all, money isn't just handed over to us. We have to work to raise our money to design the yearbook. We go to businesses in Stratford and surrounding towns to ask for support. They can purchase an ad/or booster line to promote their business in the back of our

book. This takes patience and can be extremely time consuming. After ads are sold, it is time to get right to work. Ads pages aren't fun to work with, but once you get those finished, you are ready to start the real thing. You get to choose the pages you want to do in the yearbook. Now, here comes the creative part. Everyone chooses different backgrounds, fonts, and pictures to place on their pages. Each page is unique in its own way. You must put effort into this. It isn't something you finish in a day. "It's not just fun and games, you actually have to get down

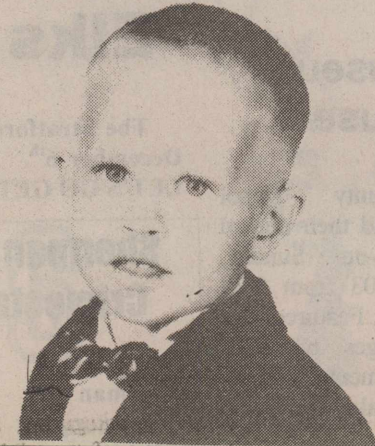
and work", concludes seniors, Mimi and Stephanie. These two seniors work great together and enjoy helping the juniors out every once in a while.

Annual staff is a fun class but you can see that you also have to work hard. There are always deadlines that you have to meet. Working with this year's annual staff has already been a great experience, and I look forward to the rest of this year and next.

Go Elks

GUESS WHO'S

50

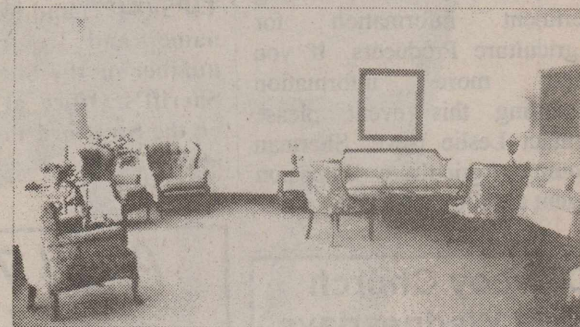


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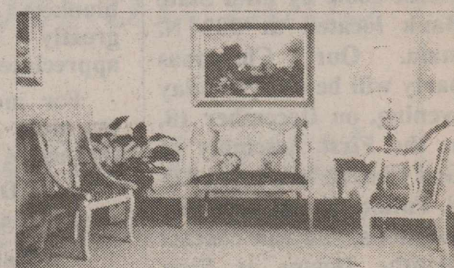
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Jim, Bart, Mike, and Brad



The Boxwell's Believe In
Supporting Your Community

Kerrick News
By Marylou McDaniel

It was a busy Thanksgiving holiday for most of Kerrick. And the weather couldn't have been better!

Nita Taylor had son Doug of Waco, son Bill and wife, Sandy of Euless and their granddaughter, Aubrey Wiley of Ft. Worth. Aubrey is two and a half. Thanksgiving dinner was at Linda and Poe Keener's in Stratford. Other family members were there too.

The Hamptons had their Thanksgiving on Friday when Nora and Parker Wells joined them. Mike was under the weather and had to stay home.

Saturday visitors were Laurie, Martin & Lexie Cisneros of Freeberg, Illinois, and Katie and Stephen Nutt of Dallas.

Jo June McDaniel and son John and family, Terri, Nicholas & Shelby were in Clayton with Penny & Linda Whitson.

Bill & Pat Boren have a roof over their patio, courtesy of Joe Bill & Kelly. Here for the holiday were Joe Bill, Jennifer, Will, Brice, Callie & Ryan Boren of Rio Rancho, NM. And Kelly, Kerry, Kevin & Kole Carlisle of Ropesville.

Two birthdays were celebrated. Callie is five and Kole is three and they each had a birthday party.

Florencia Eslinger had Thanksgiving dinner for Becky, Monty & Keegan Lily of Sunray and Shorty & Gary Hudgens.

Friday was Turkey day at Marylou McDaniel's. Diners were Thelma & Duane Smith, Dumas; Clifford Abbot, Lubbock; Patti McDaniel, Denver, Mike & Merilee McDaniel.

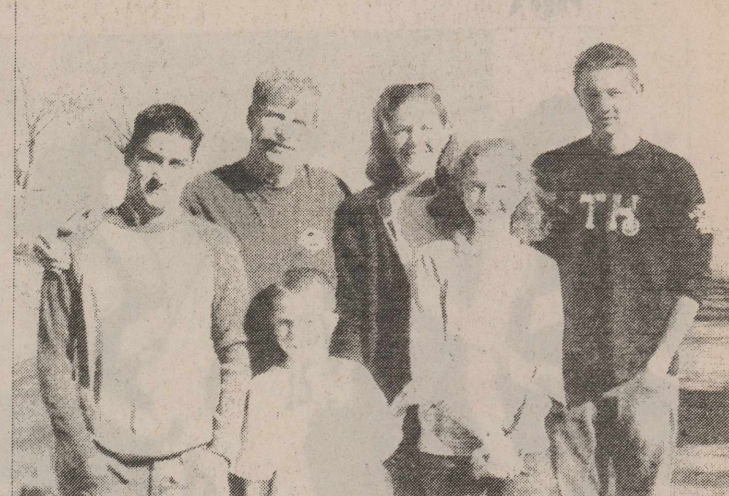
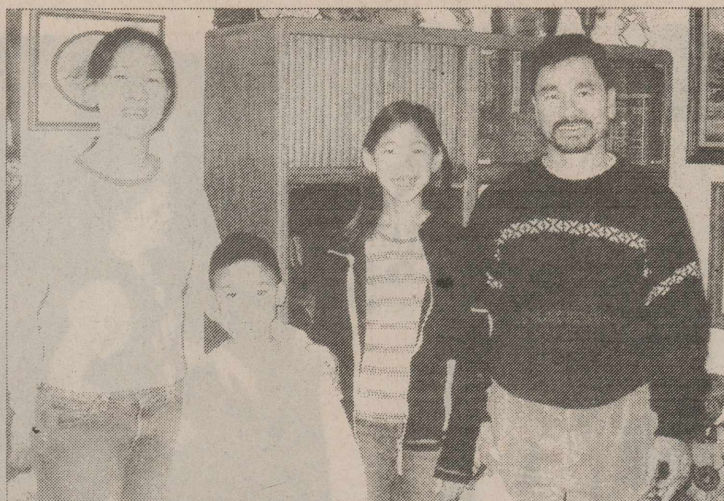
Other visitors during the day were Doug Taylor, Waco; Mike Mathews, Guymon; Donna Baker, Colorado City, CO.

A special surprise was a visit from Lieu Hoang, an AFS exchange student in 1973-74. He lived with Dave & Shirley McReynolds. He was accompanied by his wife Kimberly and children, 10 year old Pauline and seven year old Austin. They live at Celina, TX.

Brady, Trisha, Reed, Rett & Rees Schoonover spend the holiday in Ballinger with sister Roxanne and family. Also going were the Tillerys and Mungias.

Ted & Joyce Irlbeck attended a big family gathering at his brother Thomas at Denton.

Shown at right, Lieu Hoang, right and family were in Stratford last Friday. Lien was an AFS Exchange student in 1973-74 at Stratford High School. He lived with Dave & Shirley McReynolds. With him are his wife Kimberly and children, Pauline & Austin. They live at Celina, TX.



Jim and Carrie Smith, Jennifer, and Jacob from Pueblo, CO celebrated with the Don Riffe's, a Texas Thanksgiving with two Foreign exchange students. Left - Huerrem Agbaba from Turkey/German and Right - Donkee from Holland.



4th Grade Class "Finding their Way" at Captain Abdul's Pirate School. Laurie Spurlock, director of the Pirate School was visited by 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade from Mary Allen Elementary. Other volunteer pirates were, Jeannie Bell, Kathie Altman, Barbara Chumley, Gayle Harding, and Gaynelle Riffe.

Go Get A Bobcat!

There were about 80 family members attending the Thursday-Sunday event.

Leroy & Barbara Judd hosted the Hawkins family Thanksgiving Supper. All but one of the siblings were there. Billy & Sandra Hawkins of Beaver, OK were among those present along with the Leonard Hawkins family.

Chandra Hawkins is playing seventh basketball. Mother Peggy and Sister Kenna Collums watched the team win over White Deer.

It was a cousins Thanksgiving at Melba and Ronnie Swensons at Hooker, OK. About 50 attended that included Barbara & Terry Schoonover.

4-H MEMBERS TO REPRESENT COUNTY

Nine Sherman County 4-H members will be representing Sherman County at the District I 4-H Food Show this Saturday in Amarillo. In addition, 7 members will be competing in the District I 4-H Nutrition Quiz Bowl also scheduled that day.

Food Show participants will be Shiloh Dickenson, Ryan Pendergrace, Rhyan Burton, Simsy Valdez, Rebekah Pollack, Eric Burton, Sunny Russell, Autumn Witcher, and Jennie Spurlock.

Nutrition Quiz Bowl participants will be Kaylee Harris, Autumn Witcher, Eric Burton, Jennie Spurlock, Sunny Russell, Brooke Barnard, and Rhyan Burton.

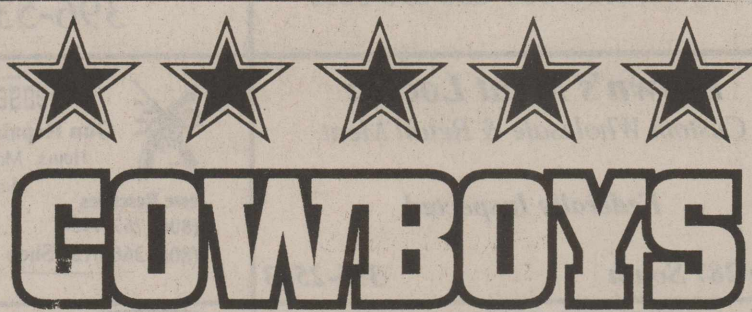
Good luck to these 4-H members in these contest which contestants exhibit their knowledge and skills in the areas of nutrition, food safety, food buying, and food preparation.

Coaches for the 4-H members are Connie Burton and Becky Harris.



Mike Hammock will be in concert at Cowboy Church held in the Sherman County Barn on Wednesday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m. Mike was a nominee at the Christian Music Awards recently held in Nashville. Mike is from Nacogdoches, Texas and has captured the Texas sound of country music with a Christian message.

Mike ministers and sings at Cowboy Churches, traditional, fairs and rodeos from south Texas to Wyoming. He says, "All I want to do is serve my Lord by ministering to others through the songs God inspired me to write. Everyone is invited to attend."



A&I Parts can get you there!!!

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When:
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What's Included:
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Morning Worship 10:45 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
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Rev. Bob Sweeten
5th & Main
Sunday Coffee Fellowship 9:00 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
No Sunday Evening Worship
Wed., Adult Choir 8:00 pm
- First United Methodist**
Rev. Mark Metzger
520 N. Main
Sunday School 9:40 am
Morning Worship 10:50 am
Junior High UMY 5:30 pm
Senior High UMY 6:00 pm
5:00 pm Cable Ch. 3 for
Morning Worship Service - Ev. worship - 7:00
- St. Joseph Catholic**
Father William A. Gorman
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**
Larry Evans
N. 3rd & Chestnut
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study - 7:30 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
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
Church Training 6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm
- La Mision Bautista**
Mision Bautista
401 S. Wall 396-5376
Domingo-(Sunday)
Estuela Dominical 9:45 am
- Miercoles (Wednesday)
Servicio De Adoracion 11:00 am Estudio Biblico &
Servicio De Oration 6:00 pm
Servicio De Adoracion 6:00 pm Se Cuidamos
Susninos Durante El Servicio.

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

Between You and God

You don't like your dirty linen hung out for everyone to see, do you? I don't either. To put it another way, we all have skeletons in our closets we'd prefer others knew nothing about. Interestingly enough, God looks at our sin in a similar fashion. He is not interested in humiliating us before our contemporaries. For example, when Judas Iscariot was plotting to betray Jesus, he sat at the table with Jesus. The other disciples were astonished when Jesus exclaimed, "The hand of the one betraying me is with Me on the table" (Luke 22:21). "They began to discuss among themselves which one of them it might be who was going to do this thing" (Luke 22:23). Jesus did not expose Judas before his contemporaries. The sin of Judas in seeking the murder of Jesus was a sin kept between Judas and Jesus. Jesus, it seems, wanted that sin dealt with on this intimate level. This is an important lesson for you and me! You see, your rebellion against God is first of all sin against god. When David had committed adultery, that adultery was not so much a sin against Bathsheba's husband as it was hostility toward God. David told God, "Against Thee, Thee only have I sinned" (Psalm 51:4). Now you can say that you have never had feelings of guilt? Dirty linen, old skeletons and feelings of guilt indicate sin against God. Your sin is a matter between you and God. Like David, you need to go to God and seek His forgiveness. The Bible says, "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Let me tell you, forgiveness for sin, cleansing from guilt, is simply wonderful!

Sponsored by:
Thriftway 396-5586
Stratford Grain 396-5541
Lautz 769-4485
Ellie's 396-2092
Stratford Star 396-5885
Walter Lasley & Sons, INC
753-4411

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.

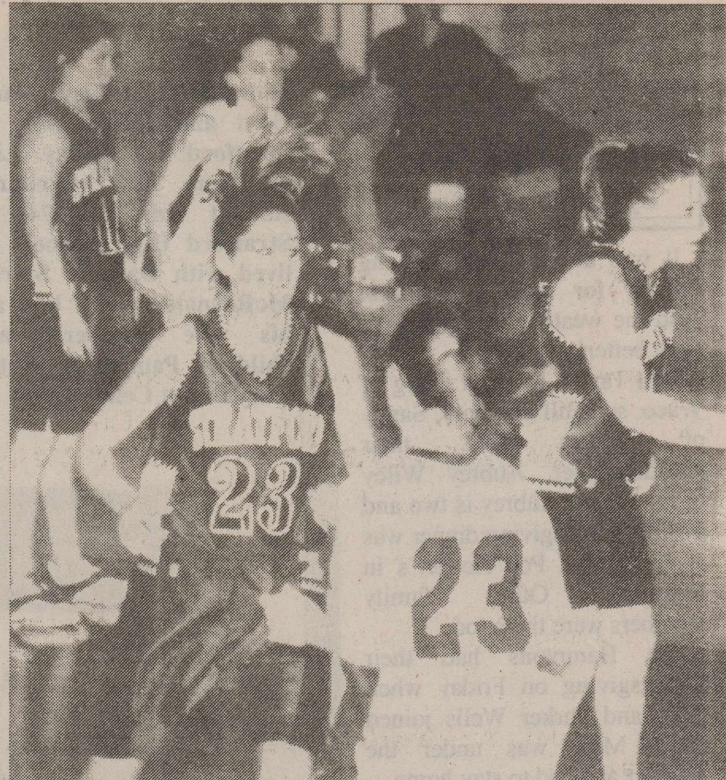
Kerrick Community Church
Pastor Roy Harris
Community Building
Sunday Morning - 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening-6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. Wednesday



J.V. Lady Elks from left, Shadley Audrain, Merilee McDaniel, and Chelsi Thiessen.

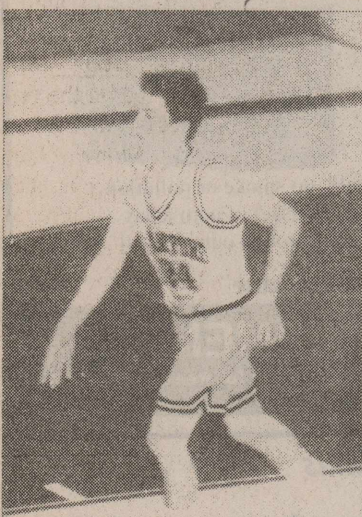


Lady Elks Deidre Tarver, and Erin Ashley.



Lady Elks from left, Lindsay Stein, Yadira Ortega, and Deidre Tarver.

BASKETBALL ACTION SHOTS!



8th grade Elk Hunter Buckles



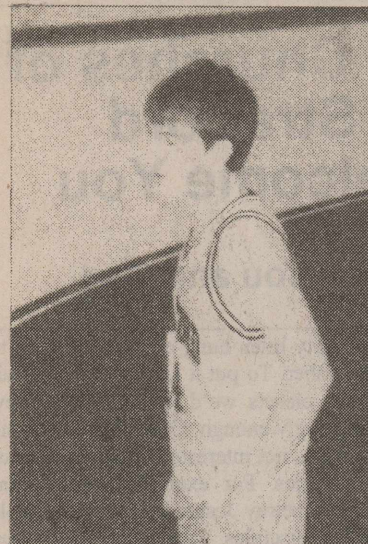
J.V. Lady Elk Haley Buckles



7th grade Elk Brent Reed



7th grade Elk Kaleb Horsford at right.



8th grade Elk Craig Kautz



J.V. Lady Elk Rhia Everett



8th grade Elk Sandro Gomez

The 7th grade Lady Elks beat White Deer 34-9 on Monday, November 24, 2003. Stephanie Bell led the Lady Elks with 14 points followed by Sinead Everett with 10 points. Also scoring were Chandra Hawkins and Becky Rosales, 4 points each and Chelsea Garza 2 points.

On Monday, November 24th, the 8th grade Lady Elks lost 20-33 to White Deer. Yadira Rojas and Anna Torres led the Lady Elks with 6 points each followed by Ivy Valenzuela with 4 points and Darcy Rosales and Kristin Crabtree with 2 points each.

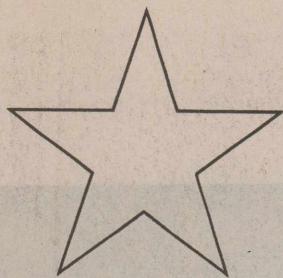
The J.V. Blue Lady Elks beat Sanford Fritch 53-16 on Monday, November 24th. Shadley Audrain led the Lady Elks with 15 points. Chelsi Thiessen followed with 6 points. Also scoring for the Lady Elks were Haley Buckles, Rhia Everett, and Krista Reta with 5 points each, Merilee McDaniel, Kayla Robertson, Brittany Hudson, and Katelyn Reed 4 points each.

On Monday, November 24th, the Lady Elks lost 30-31 to Sanford Fritch. Alisha Sladek and Amber Larance led the Lady Elks with 8 points each followed by Deidre Tarver with 6. Also scoring were Allison Baskin 4 points, Lindsay Stein and Yadira Ortega 2 points each. On Tuesday, November 25th, the Lady Elks beat Spearman 28-27. Erin Ashley led the Lady Elks with 8 points followed by Amber Larance with 7 points and Deidre Tarver with 6 points. Also scoring were Allison Baskin 5 points and Heather Seiler 2 points.

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<p>Business Directory</p>	<p>Stratford Hospital District 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>"TWO CRAZY BROADS" 108 N. Main Mon.- Friday 4-6:30 p.m. After hours call 396-2386 or 396-2097 Check out our frozen casseroles & desserts These entrees are created by Joan Palmer & Karen Perrin</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 Auto Repair & Lawn Mower Repair</p>
<p>CONSUMERS 208 Texas <i>We Sell Seed & Fuel</i> Farmland, Acco, & Moorman Seeds & Diamond Shamrock Products 366-2261</p>	<p>Blue Stuff of Stratford, Texas Betty Chamberlain 802 N. Pearl St. Stratford, TX 79084 (806)366-2843 E-Mail-rjb@xit.net</p>
<p>Stratford Auto Electric 119 S. Wall, Stratford, Texas 79084 Phone 366-5941 366-5857 Alternator, Starter, -Magneto Repair 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 Custom Wholesale & Retail Meat Federally Inspected Hwy 287 South 396-2513</p>	<p>Jesse's Gun Shop Gun Repairs • Sales • Cleaning Hours: Mon. - Fri. - 1730 - 2000 Sat. - 0800-1600 Jesse Resendes (806) 763-4454 (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 (806)366-5561 Fax: (806)366-2583</p>	<p>Your Home Town Pharmacy ELK PHARMACY 317 N. Main P.O. Box 380 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 Caps, Shirts, Jackets, Baby Blankets, Towels, Towel Wraps, School Logos, & Much More!</p>
<p>THRIFTWAY Big Town Selection • Small Town Friendliness Wide Selection Frozen Food Quality Foods Fresh Produce Hwy 54 East 396-5586</p>	<p>Westside Laundry/Stratford Laundry & Dry Cleaners 410 N. 4th - Stratford, Texas 396-2841 Owners - Jerry & Janie Smith Operators - Bob & Keri Harris</p>
<p>Joan Bell THE TRAVEL STORE affiliated with National Travel Systems 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 Farm, Ranch & Residential Appraisals 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

SISD Minutes
Cont. from page 1

For Sale

2 Lots for Sale: 305 S. Wall.
\$5000.00. 935-6702.
9-28-tfn

There are only 36 decorating days until Christmas so stop by THE General Store soon.
11-17-tfn

Let's Make Arrangement's holiday Hours-
Dec. 7-Open Sunday Afternoon, 1:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m.
Dec. 8-Children's Shopping Night 4:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m.
Dec. 14-Open Sunday Afternoon-1:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m.
Dec. 15-10 Shopping Days Till Christmas" Open House, door prizes throughout the day.
Dec. 21-Open Sunday Afternoon-1:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m.
12-11-c

Stop at THE General Store for refreshments after you go on the Nu Beta tour of homes. Yes, they will be open for your decorating convenience. Currently in stock, 27 different trees and 13 wreaths as well as garland, lights and ornaments. THE General Store has lots of gift ideas too.
11-20-tfn

Light up the town at least your part of it, stop by THE General Store.
11-17-tfn

For Sale: 5 piece sectional sofa (includes 1 recliner & hide-a-bed), daybed with pop-up bed, washer & dryer set. Call 366-5330 and leave message or call after 5 p.m.
12-4-1xc

For Rent

PHEASANT RIDGE APARTMENTS
STRATFORDS' NEWEST & NICEST

- * 2 Bedroom Apt.
- * Very Nice
- * C/H/A
- * New Appliances

WEST TEXAS RENTALS
806-244-3418

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

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

1 Bedroom house for rent: 420 N. Grace, newly remodeled 396-2125.
8-5-tfn

Small 2 bdrm house for rent. Storm windows & fenced backyard. Call 1-806-676-2931.
1-1-c

Services

New & Used Appliances
Factory Authorized Service
Whirlpool, G.E. & Frigidaire
BABER SUPPLY
Dish/Network Sales & Service
1-800-292-4023
1-580-423-7255

Is your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in brick or walls? Doors won't close?...Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo, TX.
1-4-1yrpd

Custom swathing and baling: 2 new John Deere Balers, volume discounts available. Call for quotes. John Bourk 580-546-7308 Cell # 806-683-5967; Matt Elder 580-349-1272 Cell #806-570-4694.

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

Looking For Farmland to Lease

Looking To lease irrigated farmland within 10 miles of Stratford. Call Martin Dettle at 727-4646.
12-4-p

Houses For Sale

Pretty brick home, 602 N. Maple, red tile roof, 2378 Sq. Ft. plus 650 in Garage. 2 or 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. \$80,000. Call 396-5946.
7-31-tfn

For Sale: '96 16x80 Mobile Home, 3/2/CH&A, FP, w/2 city lots. Appt. only. 366-7609 \$30,000.
11-6-tfn

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

House & Acreage for Sale by Owner. 2400 Sq. Ft. House, 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath. 14.9 acres. 40'x60' metal bldg, roping arena, 3 horse sheds, detached 2 car garage. Shown by appointment only. 806-966-5219, 806-679-8015.
8-21-tfn

House for Sale: 902 N. Maple. 3 Bdrm, Large Utility Room, New windows & carpet, corner lot, central heat/air, one block from school, big backyard. \$45,000. Call 366-3019.
11-27-4xc

For Sale: 3850 Sq. Ft. living area, 4 BR, 2 1/2 baths, basement, covered patio, 2 car garage, corner lot w/circle drive. 420 N. Chestnut. Call 806-396-2348.
7-10-tfn

House For Sale or Lease: Recently remodeled 2500 sq. ft. house. 3 bdrm, 2 baths. Call for more information. 244-2155 or 333-7120.
8-8-tfn

Ad Rem Land Co.

MLS Office
801 S. Bliss #107, Dumas
806-935-7364
Fax 806-935-7687 or call
Arnita Lane 366-5853

New Listing: This charming home sits on 5 1/2 fenced lots. Nice updates. Spacious den with wood burning stove. Beautiful hardwood floors in some areas. 3 bedroom. 2 bath. 1 car carport. Large attached workshop. Owner will furnish home warranty. \$79,900.

New Listing: Newly remodeled Home. 3 Bedroom. 2 3/4 bath. Fireplace. Sprinkler. Utility. 2 Car Garage. and much more! \$178,000.

A Unique Home with a lot of beautiful special features. Island Kitchen offers a cozy breakfast nook. Master bedroom has an office area and office area in hallway. Two living areas with fireplace. Energy tight. Come see today. \$126,000.

New Listing: Very Spacious, 3 BR. 1 bath, extra large fenced corner lot, large utility room. \$45,000.

Super Nice home with all new floor coverings and paint. Walk-in closets. 2 bedrooms. 2+ baths. carport. Low price of \$38,000.

Nice Stucco, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Great starter home or investment. Circling fans, storm windows, storage building. \$21,000.

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Brent Spurlock made the motion and Gareed McBryde seconded to vote for Bill Boren. Glenn Hamilton and Jay Murphy

for the Sherman County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Taliaferro explained to the board that one property insurance proposal was received. The proposal was from TASB. SEE ATTACHMENT. Discussion was held on the different options. Steve Johnson made the motion and Patti Vincent seconded to accept the T ASB Insurance proposal in the amount of \$55,913.00. Motion carried 7-0.

One bid was received on the sale of land. Ricky Reed made the motion and Ted Allen seconded to accept the bid from Nathaniel and Keri Walden in the amount 0£\$6750 for lots 6 & 7, block 3, unit 2. Elk Subdivision. City of Stratford. Discussion was held. Motion carried 7-0.

A short recess was taken.

Mr. Taliaferro explained the T ASB Update 71. Ted Allen made the motion and Gareed McBryde seconded to approve T ASB Update 71 omitting DEC (Local), DLB (Local), BBC (Local) and FDD (Local). Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion was held on the parking lots, sound and light system at the Mary Allen cafeteria, and the sound system at the football field, the Johnson Control system and the Interlocal Agreement with the Texas Department of Health.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 PM.

City of Stratford will be accepting **SEALED** bids for the following described property.

Property to be sold is an 8' x 140' easement located between Block 2, lot 7 and Block 2 Lot 8. Stratford, Texas. This property is to be sold as is.

Bids may be mailed to the City of Stratford, P.O. Box 188, Stratford, TX 79084 or may be dropped off at City hall, located at 518 N. Third in Stratford. **"SEALED BID"** must be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. All Bids must be received by Monday December 8, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. Bids will be opened at the Regular scheduled council meeting on December 11, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council chamber at City Hall. The City of Stratford reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids received. Anyone having any questions concerning the above may contact City hall at (806) 366-5582 during normal business hours.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, November 27, 2003 and Thursday, December 4, 2003.

BEAT SUNRAY

Good Luck Elks BEAT SUNRAY

GO FIGHT WIN

Help Wanted

TRANSPORTATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN II JOB REQUISITION NUMBER 004837

The Texas Department of Transportation will be accepting applications for one full-time position at the Sherman County Maintenance Office located at US 54 EAST, Stratford, Texas. The applicant must have one-year of experience in maintenance, construction or an equipment operation-related field. (Experience requirements may be satisfied by full-time experience or the prorated part-time equivalent.)

The starting salary will be \$9.35-\$12.34 per hour. A completed application is required and applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 8, 2003. For further application information, including a complete job vacancy notice, contact the nearest Texas Department of Transportation. Information may also be accessed via the Internet at

www.dot.state.tx.us

Mailed applications should be postmarked the day the job vacancy closes and sent to: 5715 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, TX 79110; Attn: Human Resources. If more information is needed or if an applicant needs an accommodation in order to apply for this job, contact Janice Stafford at (806) 356-3233.

TXDOT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER.
12-4-c

Dumas Nursing Center is now hiring for all shifts for CMA's CNA's, RN's and LVN's Apply in person-315 East 19th in Dumas.
12-1-c

Go Get A Bobcat!

Holiday Special

Get the perfect gift without any rush or hassle ... a VTech 2431 cordless phone from XIT Communications.

With this phone and call waiting caller ID you'll never miss an important call, even if you're already talking on the phone.

This great looking phone is also loaded with these features:

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- Conference call capability
- Dual battery charging system with power backup (second battery optional)
- Headset compatible (2.5mm)
- Visual message waiting indicator (VMWI)
- Page/intercom
- Mute
- Hold
- Redial
- Quick Memory Keys (3)
- Flash (to be used with call waiting)
- Volume Keys
- Wall Mounting Bracket
- Belt Clip
- 5 Ringer Tones

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1.800.232.3312

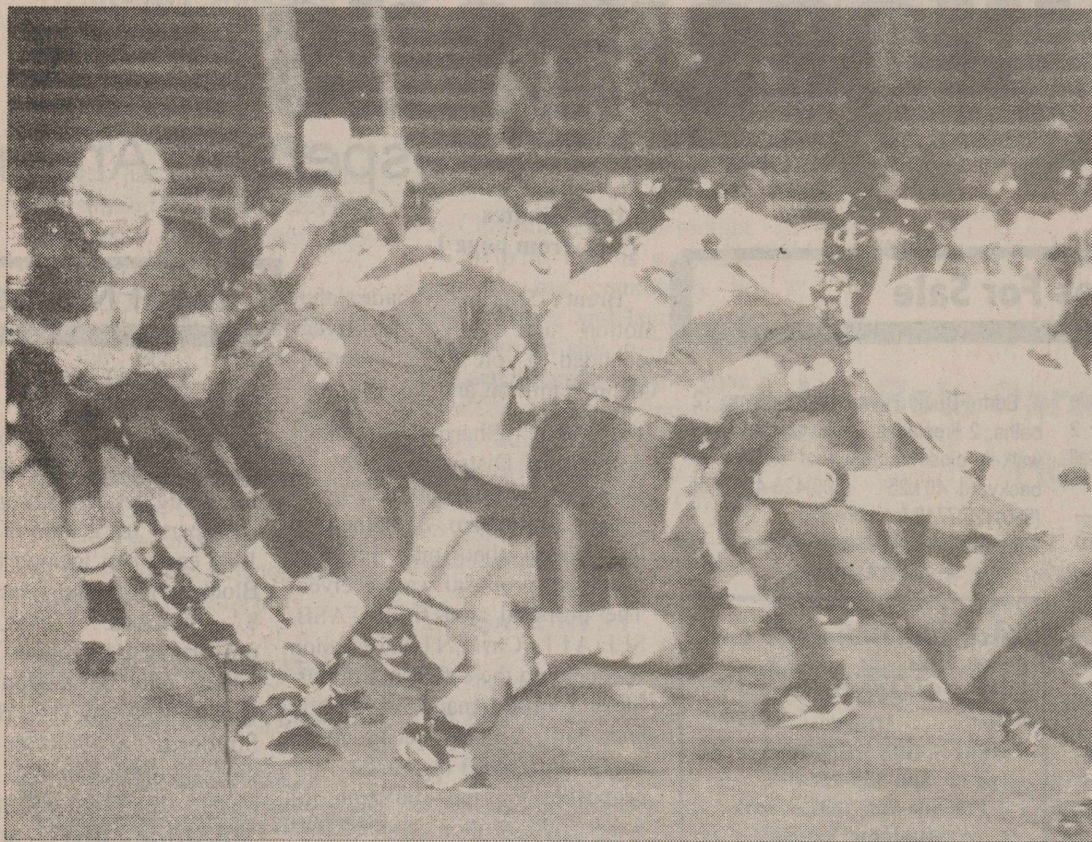
\$45.00
Some Restrictions Apply. See Store For Details.

December 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 JHG & JVG WH vs. Terrell (H) 5:00	2 A Christmas Carol Premiere 7:00 PM M&E Calendar	3 ASVAB Test for Juniors	4	5 Elementary Junior High 1st Meet - Roping 7:00 PM College	6
				JG & VB @ Frick Troop JVG BL @ Current Troop Crests by Exam		
7	8 7th & 8th vs. Sunny (H) 5:00 PM	9 JG & VB vs. Channing (T) 6:30 PM	10	11	12 5th Grade Field Trip to Lone Star Ballet	13 ACT Test - 8:00 AM
				JVG/VB vs @Stratford Troop		
14	15 JH vs. Glover 5:00 PM (H) (T) 8 (H)	16 4th Grade Musical - M&E Cafatorium - Dress Rehearsal - 9:30 AM Performance - 7:00 PM	17	18 Band Christmas Concert - 7:00 PM - Gym	19 Early Release - M&E - 1:40, 2:15 - 1:45, HS - 11:35	20 Teacher Work Day
				Regular School Board Meeting 4:00 PM - HS Library	JVG, VB, VJG, VB vs. Terrell (T) 4:00 PM	
21	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26	27
28	29	30 JVG, JVB, VJG, VB vs. Claude - TBA	31			

SISD will resume classes on January 5, 2004.

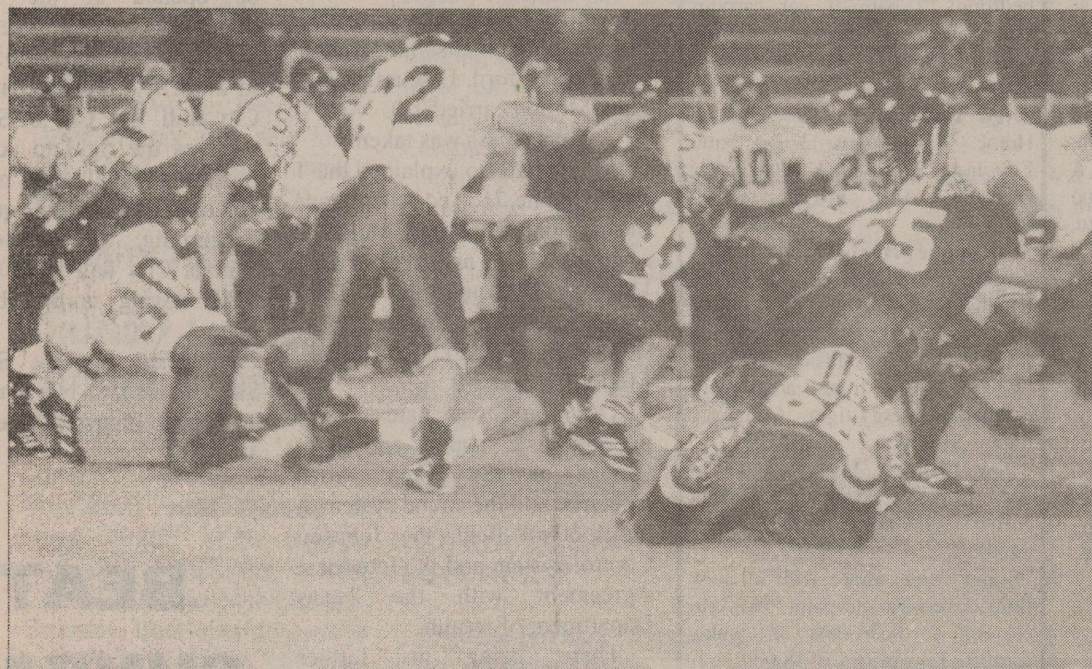
ELK ACTION SHOTS!



Quarterback #11 Josh King gets ready to hand off while the line blocks.



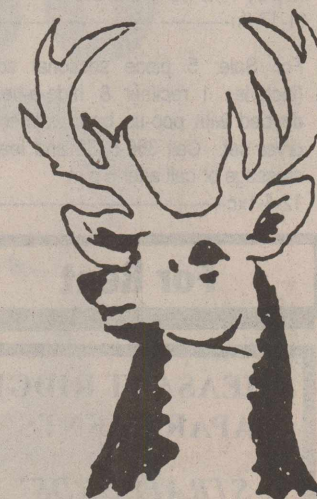
Stratford J.V. and Varsity Cheerleaders from left, LaRissa Luna, Allison Baskin, Amber Larance, Kayla Robertson, Lindsay Stein, Yadira Ortega, Heather Seiler, Deidre Tarver, Merilee McDaniel, and in front Chelsi Thiessen.



The Stratford Elks beat Crosbyton on Friday, November 28th 28-23 to win the 1A Regional Semifinal.



The Stratford Elks came out ready to play hard against Crosbyton on Friday, November 28th for the Regional Championship.



GO ELKS

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Price Good With Rate Plan Selection. Some Restrictions Apply. See Store For Details.
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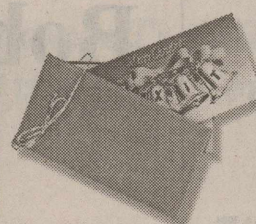
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- Leather Swivel Case

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Now Only... **\$19.95**

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