

Recent Trial of Local Sex Offender Raises Community Awareness

By Bailey Naugle

In Stratford, a town of only about 2,000 residents, people tend to relax and focus on football and the weather instead of worrying about sexual predators. However, the issue was brought to the surface last week.

A Sherman County jury recently tried an illegal alien, who has been living in Stratford, on six felony counts of sexual abuse of a child.

The accused, whose name will soon be available through the County Clerk's office, was convicted on four of the six felony counts: two counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child, and two counts of indecency with a child.

He was sentenced to 18 years in prison, of which he will have to serve at least half before being eligible for parole, said Larry Penfold, Stratford Chief of Police and arresting officer.

In Penfold's two years in Stratford, there has been a yearly average of five accusations of sexual offenses involving children. The previously mentioned conviction was the third that involved a victim under the age of 10, he said.

According to the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Texas Sex Offender Registration Program requires that all sex offenders register with the law enforcement of the city or county where they live. Registration information includes the name and address of the offender, a color photograph, and information about the offense. Registered sex offenders are required to regularly report and verify their registration information and to immediately report any changes in the information. Failure to comply would result in felony prosecution.

These records are accessible online through TDPS.

This particular offender will later be charged with two felony counts of identity theft, and after serving all sentences he will be deported, explained Penfold. If a registered offender were to move to Stratford, he/she would be obligated to contact the police department who would then notify the state and the information would be available to anyone online.

Currently, the regulations offenders would have to follow in Stratford are those set by the state parole board specifying the distance they must live from a child safety zone.

A proposed city ordinance, currently under legal review, is expected to be discussed at the next City Council meeting. All citizens are encouraged to attend the meeting and give feedback on the issue.

It is hard to imagine such crimes taking place in this little town. "People have in their minds that it doesn't happen here, but we have

everything big towns have," Penfold warned. "A lot of little towns have the same kind of problems," he said.

According to the TDPS website, Dumas is home to 26 registered sex offenders, Dalhart houses 19 and Texhoma has one registered. Penfold advises parents to remember that these people do not just stay in the towns that they live in. They travel, and it is possible that they pass through Stratford.

Penfold has found that many people are hesitant to report very sensitive crimes, such as sexual abuse. "They are too afraid they'll make someone mad, or they are scared that if they report it they may be wrong and their name will be tarnished," he said. He urges people to make the right decision, "I encourage everyone to think: 'What if I was the victim? Would I not want everyone in the world helping me?'"

In this case he believes that some teachers suspected the abuse and failed to report it. One parent expressed her concerns about the lack of guidance and protection for teachers who suspect abuse, but are afraid to act. "I think people are reluctant to get involved or blow the whistle," she said, "We have to support our teachers if they suspect anything. Encourage our teachers to be involved. Do our school employees have an easy, confidential, set process to report odd behavior? That's something I want my tax dollars spent on!"

"The state does require that school employees report abuse to the Child Protective Services," said Penfold. "Or they can contact us and we will contact CPS," he said. Penfold explained that abuse must be officially reported. "It is not enough to come in and tell us - you have to put it down on paper."

If you suspect that someone you know has been sexually assaulted, he recommended immediately reporting it and leaving the investigation up to the professionals.

"Always, always, always come to the police," he said, "Don't try to visit with them. If they need to spill their heart out to you - let them - but don't try to get information out of them."

The following statistics are from Family Watchdog, a Web site dedicated to informing society about the dangers and status of sexual predators.

- 1 of 5 girls and 1 of 6 boys will be molested before their 18th birthday.
- 90% of all sexual assaults against children are committed by someone whom the victim knew.
- The typical sexual predator will assault 117 times before being caught.
- The re-arrest rate for convicted child molesters is 52%.

Parents can regularly check for new offenders in the area. The Family Watchdog Web site offers a free e-mail alert if an offender should move into your area. "Awareness is your best defense," is their motto.

Although there is no surefire way to keep your child from becoming a victim, there are some precautions you can take. Always be aware of where your child is and who he/she is around. Make sure that your child is always able to contact a trusted adult in case of emergency. Teach your children not to enter the homes or vehicles of strangers or distrusted people.

Penfold also encourages parents to be actively involved in their children's lives. "Ask questions, stay involved, and show them that you want to be a part of their lives," he said. "Overall our town is good, and we have an excellent school system. But, there are always a few people that you worry about," Penfold explained, "We have more good than bad; it's just that some of that bad is felony level." To search for registered sex offenders in your neighborhood, visit records.txdps.state.tx.us/dps web/Portal/index.aspx or www.nsopr.gov to search in other states. View www.familywatchdog.us for more helpful information.



Stratford Elk #15 Kaleb Horsford looks for a pass against Levelland on Friday, August 31.

Amarillo Area Foundation Announces Community Funds

The Amarillo Area Foundation is pleased to announce a matching gift of \$50,000 to the Stratford Education Fund. The purpose of the program is to work with area communities to partner with the Amarillo Area Foundation for endowed community funds or designated funds to benefit programs and meet needs in their community.

The fund will operate under the policies and guidelines of the Amarillo Area Foundation and all distributions will be subject to the recommendation of the fund advisors with approval of the Amarillo Area Foundation Board of Directors.

The fund will accept contributions at all times with donations made to the Amarillo Area Foundation and restricted for your community fund. All donations are tax deductible according to the limits of the law.

For more information contact: Charlotte Rhodes, Vice President of Regional Services, Amarillo Area Foundation, 801 S. Fillmore, Suite 700, Amarillo, TX 79101. You may also call the Foundation office at 806-376-4521 or send email to Charlotte@aaf-hf.org

Season Football Tickets on Sale Now!!!!

Season football tickets are on sale now in the office of the Superintendent.

Officer hours are Mon-Fri, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Seating will be held for previous owners until Monday, September 3. After that date seats will be sold on a first come first serve basis.

There are 5 home games this year. Costs of seats for District 2A for the season: Adults-\$20.00 Child-\$10.00

We are hoping for another great season and the Elks look forward to your support. Call Penny at 366-3305 to hold or give up your seat, or for more information. GO ELKS.

Stratford Fire Dept. to Host Radiological Emergency Preparedness Training

By Sandy Williams

Stratford Fire Department will be hosting Radiological Emergency Preparedness training September 24 and 25, 2007, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. each night. This is an 8-hour performance based (hands-on) course for emergency first responders to a radiological incident. Areas of instruction include a review of radiation fundamentals, biological effects of ionizing radiation, radiation detection instruments, survey techniques, radiological protective actions, decontamination procedures, radiation hazards, radiological terrorist threats and first responder action. This course is EMS and TCLOSE credited. All area first responders are invited to attend. Contact Sandy Williams if you have questions: 806-753-7331 or firedept.@xit.net

Back to School Night Sept. 10th

Junior High and High School Back to School night will be September 10th at 6:30 to 8 p.m. Parents meeting in Cafeteria from 7:30 to 8 p.m.

Lions Club Starts September 10th

Lions Club will meet Every Monday at noon beginning Sept. 10th at First United Methodist Church.

Weather Line

366-2000

Sponsored by Stratford Grain & ADM/Alliance Nutrition

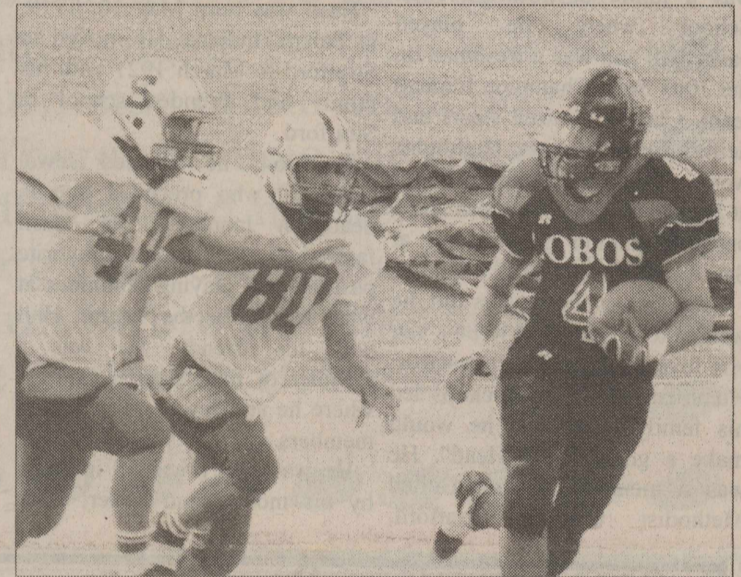
Greg Wright - 7 days a week, updating as needed

To Listen to Sports on the Internet-you will need to upgrade

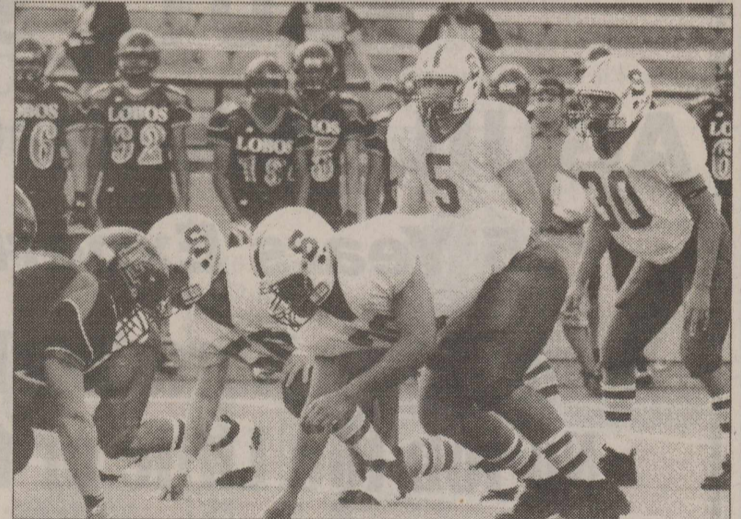
If you listen to Greg Wright on the Sports Network on the internet, you will need to download a new upgrade to your media player. Follow the instructions for your particular media player and you should be able to receive the broadcasts. Go to <http://www.tsrnsports.com/downloads.htm>



Stratford Elk running back #11 Craig Kautz carries the ball against Levelland on Friday, August 31.



Stratford Elks #44 Julio Ramirez and #80 Michael Frizzell close in on a Levelland player.



Elks #50 Brent Reed, #76 Sandro Gomez, #5 Hunter Buckles and #30 Joey Reta get ready on defense.

Elks Win Season Opener

The Elks opened their season on August 31, 2007 with a 16-8 win over Levelland.

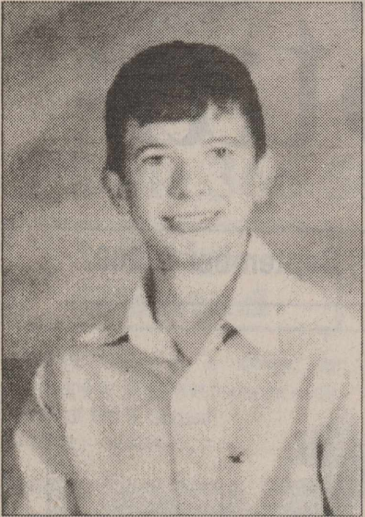
Hunter Buckles carried the

ball for 77 yards on 11 carries and 1 touchdown followed by Jesse Lopez with 52 yards on 13 carries. Craig Kautz carried the ball for 16 yards on eight carries and Kaleb Horsford carried the ball for 14 yards on four carries and scored one touchdown. Victor Carrera kicked two PAT's for

Cont. on page 4

SHS Annual Staff still has Elk Beanies & Headbands for Sale!
Several black beanies and a few blue and gray beanies left and headbands.
Beanies—\$15.00
Headband—\$10.00
To Order—Call Shari Hudson at 366-3336 or 366-5398

OBITS



Clayton Jacob Johnson

Clayton Jacob Johnson, 16, of Stratford, passed away on Wednesday, August 29, 2007, in Dumas, Texas. Services were held on Saturday, September 1, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, Stratford, Texas, with Rev. Gene Weinette, Pastor of First United Methodist Church, officiating. Graveside services were on Saturday, September 1, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. at Rest Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery, Hereford, Texas. Officiants were Rev. Gene Weinette and Rev. Barren Skinner, Pastor of First United Methodist Church, Hereford, Texas.

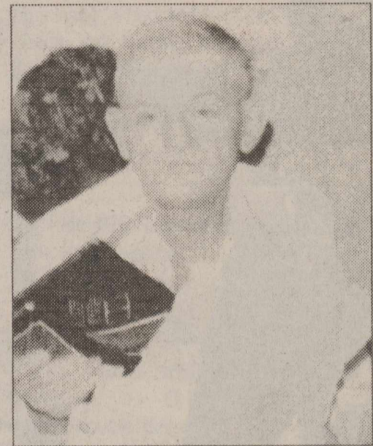
Clayton was born on September 24, 1990 in Amarillo, Texas. He was a junior at Stratford High School where he played basketball and was a freshman on the 2005 State Champion football team. Clayton showed steers and heifers for nine years. Highlights were a division champion heifer at Denver National Western and a breed champion maine steer at San Antonio.

Since he was nine years old, he wanted to go to A&M to be a vet. His love for John Deere tractors, Hummers and diesel pickups led his family to believe he would make a good "Gear Head". He was a member of First United Methodist Church, Stratford,

Texas. He is survived by his parents, Steve and Brenda Johnson, of Stratford; a sister, Bethany Johnson, Whittier, California and a brother, Jordan Johnson, of the home; his maternal grandmother, Ruth King of Hereford; paternal grandparents, Joe and Helen Johnson of Ankeney, Iowa; his beloved aunts, uncles, cousins and "Steer Show" family and his beloved dog Hank.

He was preceded in death by his granddaddy, "Jake" Jacob King.

The family requests memorials be made to Local Girl or Boy Scouts, PO Box 1289 Stratford, Texas 79084 or Dalhart Animal Rescue, P. O. Box 911, Dalhart, Texas 79022.



Basil Naugle, Jr.

Basil Naugle, Jr., 88, of Stratford, died Sunday, August 26, 2007, in Stratford. Services were held at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, August 29, 2007, in First Baptist Church with Rev. Jason Stone, pastor, officiating. Burial followed in Stratford Cemetery.

Basil was born May 10, 1919, in Salem, Indiana. He moved to Stratford in March 1921 with his family and attended school in Stratford.

In 1964, he married Jewel Crawford who preceded him in death in January 1998. Basil farmed all his life and his favorite pastime was playing dominoes at what use to be the Legion Hall with his friends. He was a member of First Baptist Church, where he and Jewel were faithful members.

He was also preceded in death by his mother and father; three

s and three brothers. The family wishes to thank the staff and nurses at Coldwater Manor for their loving day-to-day care.

Survivors include a stepson, James and LaVell Crawford; two granddaughters, Debbie and Brian Walker and Jeana Loomis; a great-granddaughter; and a host of nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials be to Coldwater Manor, PO Box 1189, Stratford, TX 79084; or First Baptist Church, PO Box 390, Stratford, TX 79084.

Whips and Wheels Saturday, September 22

By Gaynelle Riffe After the presentation (last weeks paper)

The Country Drive is a timed 7.4 mile drive thru town.

Places for spectators to watch.

1. Coldwater Manor- Stop and Stand horse(s) for 3 minutes.

Groom or passenger to head the horse(s)(The first vehicle should be at this stop 9:15

to 9:30 and the rest to follow in 10 to 15 minute increments.

2 Cul-de-sac on Kay Street. Weave through cones in a

serpentine, turn around at last cone and weave back.

3 Sherman County Museum-PUB-HUB. Try to get right front

hub as close to the cone as possible, distance is measured.

Driver must pay a quarter and one penny for each inch you are away

from the cone. 4. Sherman County Rodeo Arena- Cones

course. Sherman County Craft Show at the County Barn , Saturday

September 22.

The Whale is Full

The Imagination Station really appreciates the donations to "Whale of a Sale" to be held September 15. "Sneak a Peek" for one dollar will be Friday Sept. 14.

We are Full!! Please save your lovely, precious treasures for us for next year.

If you would like to order a button of your favorite Stratford Elk Varsity Football player or Cheerleader, contact Shari Hudson - 2007/2008 SHS yearbook adviser at 366-3336 or 366-5398

Small buttons—\$2.00
Large Buttons—\$4.00

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

The Stratford Hospital District will hold a public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. September 11th at Stratford EMS

The proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll by .22 per \$100.00. The preceding fiscal year for properties tax was .23 per \$100.00

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 9:20 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Junior High UMY 5:00 pm
Senior High UMY 6:00 pm

St. Joseph Catholic

Father Aleksy Kowalski
6th & Pearl

Rectory - 366 - 5687
Sunday morning: 9:00a.m. (English), 12 noon. (Spanish)
Service - Wed. Thurs, Fri.—6 p.m. Sat. 5 p.m.
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.

Heritage Bible Baptist

Pastor Rick Carter
302 S. Main - For More Info—call 396-2212

Morning Worship - 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wed. Service - 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist

Pastor Jason Stone
702 N. 3rd

Sun.—Coffee - 8:30 Sunday School - 9:30
Worship Service - 10:30
Wed. -Children—6:00, youth—7:00

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 & Servicio De Oracion 6:00 pm
Servicio De Adoracion 6:00 pm
Susninios Durante El Servicio.

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When I need Him, God is there. When I turn to God in prayer, it is like placing my hand in God's. I feel the strong support of the loving presence of God within me. I feel the strength of God upholding and sustaining me. Through every experience, God is with me. When I need to stand strong, God helps me to do so. When I need to move forward with courage, God gives me the will and shows me the way. When my heart needs comforting, the love of God comforts me and renews my spirit, as nothing else can. The power of God is my power, the love of God is my love, the strength of God is my strength. Moment by moment I am kept in God's loving care. As I turn to God, I feel His presence, close, abiding.

*God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble,
Therefore we will not fear.*

-Psalms 46: 1, 2

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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

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4-H PCS CLUB TO MEET SEPTEMBER 10

THE STRATFORD STAR
Thursday, September 6, 2007
Page 3

By Susie Spurlock

"Beefing It Up in 4-H" will be the theme of the Sherman County 4-H PCS (Foods, Clothing, & Surprises Club) meeting on Monday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the County Exhibit Building in Stratford.

The educational program will be "Nutrition of Beef. Katie Killian will share information on Certified Beef products. Members will learn about food and nutrition projects and achievement events of county Food Show and Nutrition Quiz Bowl. Eric Burton will present the demonstration, "The Food Show Interview" to those in attendance.

Refreshments of Hot Beef Sundaes will be served. Club members and parents are encouraged to attend. This is the first meeting of the new 4-H year and club officers will be elected.

For more information, contact the County Extension office at 366-2122.

The Stratford Star

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The Stratford Star Box 8

1-806-366-5885 FAX-1-806-366-5885

Sherman Co. Child Welfare Board

To report Suspected Child Abuse, call

Kathie Altman-366-5611
Paula Everett-966-5445
Leonda Fedric-366-5992
Patsy Harland-827-7568
Belinda Hamilton-827-7728
Jesse Resendes-366-3134
Ernie Maiwald-366-5546

Austin Hotline
1-800-252-5400
ALL CALLS CONFIDENTIAL

The Family of Tommy "TJ" Bench would like to thank everyone for their love & support. TJ was a wonderful man & will be deeply missed.

Beth & Katy Bench & Shelby Long
Bob & Kaye Lewis
Jeremy, Mandy & Sarah Bench
Stan & Sundie Millwood

To everyone who called, visited us, prayed for us during this sad time we say "THANKS". The flowers, memorials, cards and food were all appreciated. You made our loss easier to bear. Stratford is the most caring place we know. Thanks and God Bless.

The Family of Homer Blake

In November 1989 the Angels of Mercy visited my family and left with my grandson Kevin Griffith. In August 2007 the Angels of Mercy again visited my family and left with my son Steven Griffith to be with his son Kevin. Both times I witnessed the most wonderful and gracious outpouring of love and caring from the entire town of Stratford. You have such big hearts. In memory of my son Steven and my grandson Kevin I

THANK YOU ONE and ALL and may GOD BLESS YOU ONE and ALL.

Doris & Pete Hise

Communication works for those who work at it.
—John Powell

Notice of Vote on Tax Rate

The Sherman County Commissioners' Court conducted public hearings on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of Sherman County from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 3 percent on September 6, 2007 and September 11, 2007.

The Sherman County Commissioners' Court is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 18, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. in the Sherman County Commissioners' Courtroom.

Beat Childress



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Balls of Fury
PG-13 Dan Fogler George Lopez

Halloween
R Brad Pitt

The Last Legion
PG-13 Colin Firth

Daddy Day Camp
PG Cuba Gooding, Jr.

Nanny Diaries
PG-13 Scarlett Johansson

Superbad
R Seth Rogen

Rush Hour 3
PG-13 Jackie Chan Chris Tucker

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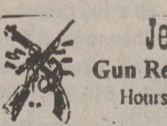
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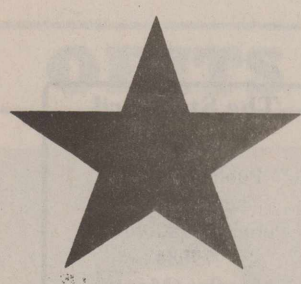
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Stratford Family Medical Clinic is taking applications for a Medical Office Assistant and Receptionist. Spanish a plus. Please apply in person 1220 Purnell, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Thurs and 8 a.m. till noon on Fridays. 9-27-c-4xs

Counter Sales person needed at A&I Parts in Stratford. Applicants must be dependable. Benefits include health insurance, vacation and holiday pay. Contact Jerry at 806-366-5592. We are an equal opportunity employer. 4-12-tfn

Lollipop Junction is searching for a new director. Also need dependable adult. Must be 18 years of age w/high school diploma or equivalent. Must love children. Hours may vary. Send resume to Box 411 or contact Wesley Spurlock-Board present at 753-7215. 6-7-tfn

Coldwater Creek Cattle Company, a feed yard located 3 miles West of Stratford is seeking a full time employee. Duties include working with cattle and yard maintenance. Applicants must be dependable and responsible! References are required. For more information, please call (806) 727-4646. 9-6-2xs

Cimarron Feeders needs a full time member to join the Pen Riding Team. Excellent facilities, team atmosphere & respect for refined skills and quality performance. Great benefits that include: Medical & Dental insurance as well as 401 K, vacation, & bonuses. Questions? Call: Garrett @ 580-543-6383 ext. 1646. Must pass physical and drug test. EOE. 9-13-2xs

Cimarron Feeders needs a part time member to join the Doctor Crew. Excellent facilities, team atmosphere & respect for refined skills and quality performance. Must be able to work weekends and some weekdays. Questions? Call: Garrett @ 580-543-6383 ext. 1646. Must pass physical and drug test. EOE. 6-13-2xs

The Stratford Chamber of Commerce is looking for a new Director. It is a part time position and we would like those interested in filling out an application to contact Shannon Sellers (806) 753-6533, Julie Asher (806) 922-2961 or Cindy Jackson (806) 753-6216. 9-6-c

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Bobcat, Beardless Blend

Presto, Pika, T-28, Full Season

Trit Blend, Tamcale 5019, Jenkins

****GRAZING BLENDS****

Bobcat Beardless Trit Blend

Triple B Beardless Blend

****BARLEY****

P919 Beardless Barley

****RYE****

Maton, Elbon, Strain Cross, Oklon

****OATS****

Troy, Hy-test, Jerrys

Bagged or Bulk, Delivery available

800-299-9273 *806-258-7394

GAYLAND WARD SEED

Hereford, Texas

9-27-8xs

Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear—not absence of fear.

—Mark Twain

For Rent

House for Rent: 519 N. Grace, 2 Bdrm, 2 bath, huge backyard. NO SMOKERS & NO PETS. For more information call 753-7052 or 753-7092. 8-16-tfn

Houses for Sale

For Sale: Country Living, 15 miles from Stratford, 25 from Dalhart, 4000 plus living, 4 bedrooms, 3 bath, formal dining, oak flooring, basement, 40 x 50 insulated shop. All rooms extra large. Call 366-3233 for appointment. See pictures @ Shermancountytx.org 6-28-tfn

For Sale: 816 N. Maple, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 story home. Call 753-6677 or 366-7664-lv message 5-17-tfn

NEW LISTING! For sale by owner, 314 S. Fulton, 1662 total sq. ft. 3 bed/2bath. CH&A. Single garage/double driveway. Large deck. Cash back at closing incentive. Will show by appt. 806-683-2553. 8-9-tfn

Ad Rem Land Co.

803 S. Bliss • Fax: 935-7687

935-7364

E-mail: adrem@adremland.com

website: www.adremland.com

MLS Se Habla Español

601 S. Pearl - 3/2/1, Lots of character! Lots of recent updates. Includes 270 sq. ft. shop and 135 sq. ft. metal storage, covered patio, large fenced yard, and isolated master.

207 West Texas Ave.—PRICE REDUCED! \$129,000 Commercial Building.

SHERMAN COUNTY SECTIONS—three sections, 3 phase electricity, two nice homes and landscaping, Quonset barn, irr. wells, sprinklers, 3 miles hwy front +caliche-WILL DIVIDE!

HORSEMAN'S PLEASURE/CATTLEMAN'S DELIGHT-NW of GRUVER-80 acres +/-, nice 4,000+/-sq. ft. brick home, metal roof, fireplace, two car garage, irr. well, 1/4 mile sprinkler, quonset barn, pipe-rail pens, covered working area.

HWY. 152 BETWEEN STINNETT & DUMAS-767 acres +/-, 4,000 sq ft +/-home & a 1,700 sq ft +/-home, beautiful homes and landscaping, large metal barn with office, irr. wells, sprinkler, strong water, hwy front, +caliche road-CONSIDER DIVIDING!

SHERMAN COUNTY 1/2 SECTION WITH PERMIT-plus 1 1/2 sections, hwy front, nice brick home, quonset barn, pens, irr. wells, sprinklers. Choice milk processing and dairy sites available in Dallam, Hartley, Moore, Oldham, Sherman and Hutchinson Counties. See our website or give us a call!

www.scottlandcompany.com

Ben G. Scott-Broker 800/933-9698

Approx. 640.7 Acres of land, w/dbl. wide mobile home w/garage \$640,700.00

Approx. 640.7 acres of land, 1/old abandoned house & Quonset barn—\$640,700.00

Approx. 640.7 acres of land—\$961,050.00

All acreage has irrigation equipment. All crops and farm equipment will be retained by seller. Seller will sell CRP land.

408 N. 8th-Stratford-\$85,000.00

3/1 3/4/1 Home Call: Lindahl Realty (806) 935-7300 or 1-866-935-7300.

402 N. 8th-Stratford-\$20,000.00

2/1 Home Call: Lindahl Realty (806) 935-7300 or 1-866-935-7300.

301 N. Poplar-Stratford-\$275,000.00

60 x 100 Commercial Building Showroom & Office

Call: Lindahl realty (806) 935-7300 or 1-866-935-7300.

9-21-c

Garage Sales

Moving-Garage Sale: Sept. 7 & 8th 1201 NW 2nd. Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. Furniture, clothes, Christmas Décor, Wall Décor, flower arrangements, many household items. 9-6-c

3-Family Garage Sale: Sat. Sept. 8th 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 806 N. Maple 9-6-c

*** Sometimes even to live is an act of courage.

—Lucius Annaeus

For Sale

For Sale or Lease-212 N. Poplar-40' x 60' office building. Call 806-679-5585 4-1-tfn

For Sale or Lease-Morten Building, 54' x 72' x 16. 396-2305. 6-22-tfn

For Sale: sofa, love seat, Lane recliner, dresser w/mirror and treadmill. Call 366-2153 9-6-c

For Sale: 2002 Ford Explorer-Jackie Burkhalter 396-5679. 9-6-c

4-H HORSE CLUB MEETING

By Susie Spurlock

Sherman County 4-H Horse Club will meet Tuesday, September 11, 2007. The meeting

will be held at the county Youth Arena. All members are asked to bring their horse and let's ride!!

Cece Yelik and Penny Gilbert are club leaders. For more information, contact Cece at 753-4400.

Football

Cont. from page 1

the Elks.

Julio Ramirez led the Elks defense with 14 tackles followed by Jorge Robles with 13 tackles. Craig Kautz, Hunter Buckles and James Smith each had seven tackles for the night and Angel Resendes picked off one pass for and interception for the Elks.

Players of the Week for the game performance are Offensive Line — Sandro Gomez, Offensive Back — Hunter Buckles — Defensive Line — Julio Ramirez, Defensive Back — Jorge Robles and Special Teams — Victor Carrera.

The Elks face Childress here on Friday, September 7, 2007.

ATTENTION READERS

Editors Note: If you have someone serving in the military and would like to have someone's picture and address put in the paper, please leave it with us and we will put it in for you. We will start putting addresses in and they will stay in every week. Call 366-5885 or fax to same number or e-mail stardm@xit.net

Nicholas McDaniel
Nicholas McDaniel is stationed in Iraq. If you would like to send Nicholas a card or letter His address is
BALAD IRAQ PVT
MCDANIEL NICHOLAS
ABTRY (all of above on one line)
1st PLT 1/9 FA
APOAE09391

Chance Crowl
LCPL CROWL, CHANCE E.
22 MEU DET C
BLT 3/8 (b 1/10)
UNIT 74044
FPO AE 09509-4044
E-mail address is
chance.crowl@ponce.usmcmil



On April 14, 1910, William Howard Taft became the first President to throw the first pitch to open the baseball season. The home team, Washington, beat Philadelphia 3-0.

September-National Preparedness Month

Americans with Disabilities or Special Needs can get READY for an emergency. These are things in addition to the regular emergency supply kit needed. "Be informed. Make a plan. Have a kit and have it personalized for your own needs." Create a Personal Support Network if you'll need special assistance during an emergency.

- o Prescription medicines, list of medications including dosage, list of any allergies.
- o Extra eyeglasses and hearing-aid batteries.
- o Extra wheelchair batteries, oxygen.
- o Keep a list of the style and serial number of medical devices.
- o Medical insurance and Medicare cards.
- o List of doctors, relatives or friends who should be notified if you are hurt.
- o Basic Emergency Supply Kit:
 - 1. One gallon of water per person per day for three days.
 - 2. Food for your family for three days.
 - 3. Battery-powered radio
 - 4. NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
 - 5. Flashlight
 - 6. Extra batteries
 - 7. First aid kit
 - 8. Pet food and water

Specialized Emergency Supply Kit:

- 1. At least three day's supply of medicine or medical treatments
- 2. Important documents
- 3. Copy of prescriptions, dosage and treatment information
- 4. Eyeglasses, hearing aids and batteries, wheelchair batteries, oxygen
- 5. Copies of medical insurance, Medicare and Medicaid cards
- 6. Emergency pet supplies for service animal
- 7. Information on any equipment or life-saving devices you use

Ready Kids
Children can and should be involved in the planning process. Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to plan in advance: how you will contact one another; how you will get back together; and what you will do in different situations. COMMUNICATE to achieve a family plan that the kids will know and understand.

Create a family communication plan so you can get in touch with family members. Give copies of contact information and meeting locations to everyone in your family

Options are available: telephones, cell phones, and e-mail are all great ways to get in touch with family members.

Make sure you know the emergency plan at your child's school. Make a decision about where you will meet in case you can't get home during an emergency.

Understand that it may take time to get through to everyone. Try to be patient. Needs of your pets should be kept in mind. Keep a pet carrier for easy transport.

Inform yourself. Watch news broadcasts, read online news updates, or listen to a battery-operated radio for official guidance during an emergency, but also prepare in advance. Copies of your emergency plan should be in your emergency supply kit in case you need to leave in a hurry.

Ask kids to discuss their concerns and feelings. Do they understand the family plan?

Take the kids to visit the "meeting spots" so that they are familiar and feel comfortable finding them on their own if necessary. Emergencies take many forms. Categorize different types of emergencies and discuss the level of concern related to each and how that is reflected in your family plan.

Ask the Geek

By Kevin McDonald

Dealing With Viruses and Spyware – Part 4

Over the last few weeks we've discussed firewalls and anti-virus software. Let's add a third layer of protection: Anti-spyware software.

Like most software, there are great solutions you can purchase, and great solutions that you can use for free. I've not found any "silver bullets," free or not. I'm not aware of one single anti-spyware solution that can detect and clean every kind of spyware out there, nor prevent every possible attack. However, I've had the best luck with "Spybot Search & Destroy." When Spybot is correctly installed and updated, and when practicing *safe browsing habits*, spyware infestations are minimal at most. Also, if you are running Spybot, don't neglect to use the tremendously useful "Immunize" feature.

Spybot doesn't update itself until you tell it to, so be mindful of that. Update it once a month at a minimum. The update process is quite easy, it just won't do it for you. You'll find "Spybot Search & Destroy" along with usage guides at the Safer Networking web site: <http://www.safer-networking.org>

There's another piece of software you should consider: "Windows Defender" is a *free Microsoft product*. (Yeah, I know, it's funny just typing it.) You can download it from Microsoft's web site: <http://www.microsoft.com> (once you're there, just search for "Windows Defender.") It seems to keep a low profile and I've seen it catch unwanted intrusions. Also, if you have Automatic Updates enabled (and you should), Microsoft will keep Defender updated.

I have not personally seen any problems running Windows Defender alongside Spybot Search & Destroy. Your mileage may vary.

Let's take a moment to discuss a few *safe browsing habits*. First: When a window pops up while you're surfing the 'net, blinking and spasming all over your screen, telling you that you're absolutely, positively and critically infected with viruses, spyware, malware, adware...whatever, you're probably not. Even if you were, that link is only going to make it worse. I've never seen any of these bogus warnings that were even *slightly* genuine. They're scams. I *guarantee* that if you click these links and/or install their software, you're going to be up to your eyeballs in computer pests.

Second: One other huge way to insure that your computer gets filled to the gills with garbage is to download and install free weather programs, screen savers, desktop toys, browser toolbars and the mounds of other wares that are hawked in banner ads on web sites everywhere. Trust me, their functionality is questionable, and in most cases, they're loaded with other programs that run in the background, over-tasking your computer, stealing your bandwidth and making your computing experience miserable. There are much better alternatives.

Kevin McDonald lives in Stratford with his wife and three children. He owns and operates Definition Computers: 806-366-7637

Do you have a burning computer question (or perhaps, a burning computer)? Email Kevin at askthegEEK@definitioncomputers.com.

Farm Service Agency Holds Cotton Program Referendum Sign-up

September 4 through November 30, 2007 (Stratford, Texas) - August 37, 2007- Cotton producer and importers who want USDA's Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS) to conduct a referendum regarding the Cotton Research and Promotion Program can sign-up at their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office September 4, through November 30, 2007. No action is necessary if a continuance referendum is not desired.

"This sign-up period allows eligible cotton producers and importers to request a referendum for continuation of the 1990 amendments to the Cotton Research and Promotion Act," said Rebecca Hemphill, Executive Director for Sherman County FSA.

In March 2007, following a comprehensive mandatory five-year review, USDA endorsed Continuation of the 1991 Order amendments without a continuance referendum. This sign-up period is significant because, "If results of the sign-up period show that at least 10 percent (4,622) of the voting program participants request the conduct of a continuance Referendum, then a referendum will be held within 12 months of the sign-up period end date," said Hemphill.

Changes to the Cotton Research and Promotion Program were approved in a July 1991 referendum, by a 60 percent majority of cotton producers and importers who voted. These

changes included: (1) importer representation on the Cotton Board, the organization that assists the Department in administrating the Cotton Research and Promotion Program; (2) assessments levied on imported cotton and cotton products; (3) increasing the amount the Department can be reimbursed for the conduct of a referendum from \$200,000 to \$300,000; (4) reimbursing government agencies that assist in administering the collection of assessments on imported cotton and cotton products; and (5) terminating the right of cotton producers to demand a refund of assessments.

According to Hemphill, eligible producers are individuals over age 18 engaged in the production of upland cotton during calendar year 2006. Eligible importers are those who imported upland cotton in excess of the value of \$2.00 per line item entry during calendar year 2006. Hemphill advises that other eligibility requirements might apply and eligibility will be determined by FSA.

Producers and importers will receive correspondence from FSA regarding the cotton referendum sign-up. For more information, please contact the Sherman County FSA at 806-396-2211 or visit the national website at www.fsa.usda.gov.

Rise & Shine Smoothie (Makes 1 serving)

- 1 cup ice cubes
- 1/2 cup (5 fluid-ounce can) evaporated fat free milk
- 1/2 cup fresh or frozen raspberries, strawberries or 1/2 of a banana
- 1/4 cup vanilla sugar free, fat free yogurt
- 1 packet No Sugar Added Strawberry Sensation or No Sugar Added Classic French Vanilla Flavor CARNATION® INSTANT BREAKFAST® Complete Nutritional Drink

PLACE ice, evaporated milk, berries, yogurt and Carnation Instant Breakfast in blender; cover. Blend until smooth.

Nutritional Analysis Per Serving: 250 calories (5 calories from fat), 18g protein, 45g carbohydrate, 0.5g fat, 0g saturated fat, 5mg cholesterol, 320mg sodium, 7g dietary fiber.