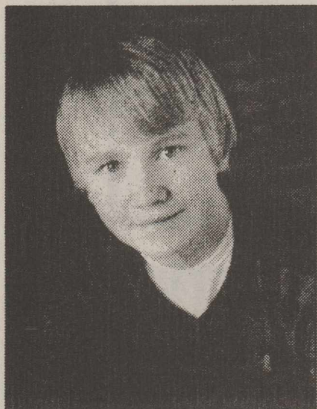


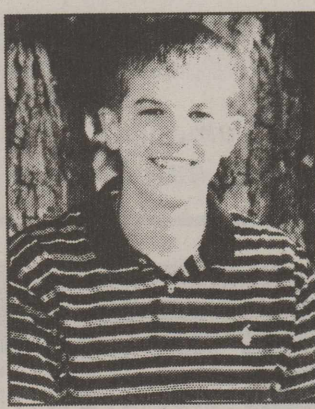
Sherman County Museum 07/12
 PO Box 1248
 Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

75 cents Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084 usps 523 Number 20 May 17, 2012



AJ Riffe



Jack McBryde

Riffe Named Valedictorian McBryde named Salutatorian

The Valedictorian is Alexander Joseph Riffe, son of Chris and Ronna Riffe. AJ has a numerical grade point of 99 for two years of work. He has participated in UIL science, math, and ready writing. He was a member of the football, basketball and track teams. He is a member of the SJH band and was selected to the All-Region Band. He is also a member of the 4-H shooting sports and the state qualifying nutrition quiz bowl teams. AJ is on the honor roll and has received the President's Education Award. AJ is an Eagle Scout and a member of the First United Methodist Church where he is involved with the youth group. His hobbies include camping, climbing, target shooting, and hunting.

The Salutatorian is Jackson McBryde, son of Gared and Misti McBryde. Jack has a numerical grade point average of 98.00 for two years of work. He has participated in Number Sense, Spelling, Maps, Graphs and Charts, and Ready Writing in UIL competition. Jack was also involved in Football, Basketball and Track. He was named on the Honor Roll and received the President's Education Award. Jack is a member of the First Baptist Church of Stratford and enjoys attending sports events or reading science fiction books when not at school.

Powell to be at Pendleton Park Thursday, May 17

Joe Powell, will be set up in the pavilion at the park on Thursday evening, May 17, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Feel free to bring a lawn chair and listen to country and gospel music...or grab a mic and sing along. This is a free event, so come out and enjoy the music. Check us out at bluelineparty.com or friend us on Facebook!! Sponsored by Blue-Line Entertainment/D.J. "Joe Powell"

Stratford Community Thrift Store

Now accepting good, clean, reusable items. All items can be dropped off May 19, 21 and 22 between 8-12 noon and 1-4 p.m. Location is E Hwy 54 next to state Hwy building (the old John Deere building). The store house is scheduled to open the first week of June. Watch for more details.



Rueda wins Reserve Breed Champion at Houston Stock show

Jesus Rueda won Reserve Breed Champion at the Houston Stock show held earlier this year. Jesus is the son of Jesus & Nohemi Rueda. Shown in photo, Third and Fourth from left Jesus and Jeff Kautz.

FIRE CAUTION!

We are not currently under a BURN BAN, but Sherman County is asking for everyone's cooperation in preventing fires. We are asking that you use caution with any fire. Please monitor any fires and make sure fire is completely extinguished before leaving the area.

The Community is welcome to view the prom skit on Friday, May 18, 2012 at 6 p.m. at the Sherman County Barn as it will not be able to be watched on prom night.

Come Join the Party

Lollipop Junction's Board of Directors and Staff invite you to join them to celebrate its 20th birthday on Saturday, May 26, 2012.

Entertainment by Lollipop Children and Chief Joe Powell, free games and prizes begin at 10 am at 3rd and Main Street in Stratford. Free hot dogs will be served at 11:30 am on the lawn of First State Bank.

Come join the celebration that day as Lollipop Junction expresses "Thank you" Stratford for your support.

SAVE THE DATE

TRAINING TITLE: Serving Those Who Have Served: Educating community healthcare providers working with service members, veterans and their families

DATE: Tuesday, June 26, 2012

TIME: 9:00 a.m. — 4:30 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.)

LOCATION: Amarillo College Polk Street Campus Auditorium Business & Industry Center - 1314 South Polk Street - Amarillo, Texas

OVERVIEW: An educational training designed to share practical information about military culture and healthcare needs and concerns of

OEF/OIF/OND service members, veterans and their families with community healthcare providers.

TARGET AUDIENCE: Registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses, social workers, licensed professional counselors (LPC), licensed marriage family therapists (LMFT), Psychologists, behavioral/mental health professionals and all other healthcare professionals who provide services to service members, veterans and military families.

A NEW GENERATION OF VETERANS: OEF — Operation Enduring Freedom OIF — Operation Iraqi Freedom OND — Operation New Dawn

HOSTED BY: Panhandle Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and Amarillo College Center for Continuing Healthcare Education

REGISTRATION FEE: No Cost (Lunch is provided)

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT will be offered at no cost: Nursing Contact Hours: 6.0

Social Workers, LPCs, LMFTs, Psychologist CEUS: 0.6

REGISTRATION CONTACT: (Registration Form Attached)

Karen Russell, Panhandle AHEC, Office: 806-651-3482, Fax: 806-651-3489, Email: krussell@mail.wtamu.edu.

Pre-registration is appreciated by June 22nd.

CALLING ALL QUILTERS---

SCOT is hosting a Quilt Show Saturday, July 28 during Stratford Jamboree Days and Ex Student Weekend. The show will be held at SCOT Hall from 1:30 pm to 4:00pm. SCOT would like to show case the talents of quilters in our community at this event. Anyone who would like to display a quilt (either one they made or have received) is encouraged to do so. All quilts will be displayed in a food and smoke free setting.

Persons interested in exhibiting quilts are asked to contact Susie Spurlock at 396-2864 or email lockspxit.net as soon as possible. SCOT thanks everyone for their assistance with the show.

Summer Food Service Program

Stratford ISD is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided at the sites and times as follows:

Mary Allen Elementary
 501 N Shirley Ave
 Stratford, TX 79084

May 31, 2012 — June 29, 2012
 Breakfast — 8:00am — 8:30 am
 Lunch — 11:30 am — 12:00 pm

To file a complaint of discrimination, write or call immediately to:
 USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
 (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY)
 USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Ex-Student Reunion July 27-28

Help! No plans or updated addresses from classes 1952, 1962, 1982, 1992. The mailing should go out by the 15th of May. Please contact Gaynelle Riffe 396-5303.

Volunteers needed to cook 220 hamburgers and 10 freezers of ice cream for July 17th.



Stratford Flour Mill moved 40 miles to Boise City, Oklahoma in 1920.

Front Cover of "Panhandle of Oklahoma" pictorial book. Sherman Co. Historical Commission is working on a Sherman County Pictorial Book. We need pictures of agriculture then and now. Energy and water then and now. Cattle pens and railroad. Sports- Town team baseball, School sports then and now. Arts-band, Fair, movies, plays etc. Stratford Trade area: Kerrick, Conlen, Stevens, Texhoma(Texas). Historical Commission will take the summer off while continue working to place permanent markers in the Cemetery. (Free will donations taken at Memorial bay ceremony) The Historical Commission is also working on the Indian Arrow markers in each county. Stories of Indians activities in the County are needed. The Commission will meet September 11. Anyone interested in History is invited to Commission meetings.



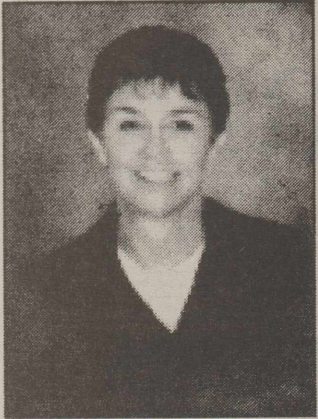
Wheat is thought to be the most widely grown plant in the world. It has been cultivated for more than 7,000 years in every continent except Antarctica.

Special
 (Wednesday thru Tuesday)
 2 p.m. till closing
 Don't forget
 Happy Hour 2-5 p.m.
 Any size drinks - 85 cents
 "Something special coming soon"

Cheese burger combo \$4.99
 Steak Sandwich combo \$4.99

El Primo's
 Call 806-366-3799
 1120 E. Texas Hwy 54

OBITUARIES



Elaine Mungia
June 17, 1951 - May 5, 2012

Elaine Mungia, 60 of Stratford, went home to be with her Lord on Saturday, May 5, 2012. Graveside services were held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 10, 2012 in Stratford Cemetery. Memorial services followed at 11:00 A.M. at First Baptist Church in Stratford, with Ralph Mireles officiating. Arrangements were entrusted to Morrison Funeral Directors.

Elaine was born on June 17, 1951 in Clayton, New Mexico to Kenneth Jr. and Betty (Bell) Earle. She graduated from Amistad High in Amistad, New Mexico. Elaine was united in marriage to Johnny Mungia in August 23, 1969 in Dalhart. She was a loving and devoted homemaker, and also worked as a secretary.

Elaine was a member of First Baptist Church in Stratford, where she actively served. She loved her Lord and had a great passion for her church. Her greatest joy in life was spending time with her family, especially her children and grandchildren. She loved nature and enjoyed spending time outdoors. She also collected clocks of all types. Elaine will be greatly missed by her family and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Kenneth Jr. and Betty Earle.

Elaine leaves behind her husband Johnny of the home; Her son, Duane Mungia and wife Lisa, and grandchildren, Tig and Tres Mungia of Phoenix, AZ; her son Bryan Mungia and wife Kendra, and grandchildren Justin, Kaylee and Madison Mungia of Stratford; her daughter, Rachelle Long and husband Justin, and grandchildren, Tommie, Rylie and Karston Long of Stratford; two sisters, Kaye Pugh and husband Warren of Weatherford, TX, and Lois Girard and husband David of Nara Visa, NM; and two brothers, Norman Earle and wife Leann of Amistad, NM, and Leland Earle and wife Danelle of Logan, NM.

The family suggests memorials be to First Baptist Church, Youth & Children's Scholarship Fund, P. O. Box 390, Stratford, TX 79084; or to Coon Memorial Hospice, 1422 Denver Ave., Dalhart, TX 79022.

Bessie L. Stone
April 3, 1915-May 13, 2012

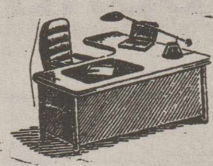
Bessie Stone, 97 of Stratford, passed away on Sunday, May 13, 2012. Services are pending with Morrison Funeral Directors of Stratford.

PROM TIME

Get your tax
Great prices starting for
complete tax \$70.00
Hair Creations
396-2809

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

From the desk of Chief Powell



As most of you know, Animal Control and Code Enforcement have been placed under my direction. With the increased case-load we have unfortunately had here recently, we haven't been able to give these two areas the attention they need. However, for the next few weeks, one officer has been assigned specifically to these duties. The code enforcement / animal control officer will be available Monday thru Friday from 9-5. Please contact us immediately if you have issues with any stray animals. We must get the pet population under control. By city ordinance, the pets we pick up will be put down after three consecutive days in holding, so if your pet is picked up by our department, please contact us ASAP. You may be required to pay a fine and / or fee for the release of your pet. I am a pet owner myself and I know what yours means to you, so please help us out with this problem. Also, this officer has been instructed to start sending out letters of violation for things like; trash in the yard, old broken-down vehicles, etc. etc. If you receive a letter, you will be given a specified amount of time to correct the issue. Should the issue not be resolved in the required amount of time, citations will be issued for the violations. Please understand, this is part of our duty and we should all work together to beautify our community and control our pet population.

Your cooperation is much appreciated. We thank you for your continued support of YOUR Police Department and we look forward to working hand in hand with you on this situation!!

Thanks, again.

Friend us on Facebook!!

(I also want to thank our city workers for helping us out with some of the animal control processes so far.)

Chief Joe Powell

Resolve to be Ready

By Brad Easterling

"Resolve to be Ready" is an instant messaging system for Cities and Counties in the Texas Panhandle. This system will notify you through email or text when severe weather is in the area and is especially useful for folks living in the country who are not able to hear emergency sirens. I recently signed up for this service myself and personally it is handy and convenient and can make a nice addition to a weather radio. When living in the country you cannot here the sirens from town so it helps to let you know when the storms are getting a little severe. Along with NOAA weather information, you can get Emergency Notices and Public Safety Warnings such as wildfires, evacuations, and boil orders, or Community Alerts such as Amber Alert. Hopefully we will never need any of these. You can also choose Stratford, Texhoma, or both with selecting Sherman County. You may cancel the service at any time but hopefully you will be pleased with the information that you are receiving.

RE-ELECT DANA BUCKLES

FOR
SHERMAN COUNTY
COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 1

PAID FOR BY DANA BUCKLES FOR COMMISSIONER, P.O. BOX 209 STRATFORD, TX 79084

A Medical Fund has been set up for
Jessica Acosta at the First State Bank
of Stratford

Powder Puff Football

May 22

5-7 p.m.



High School
Football Field

\$1.00 Admission

All Proceeds benefit

STUCO

Come watch the girls play
and the boys cheer!

VOTE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE

Aaron Sheehan For Sherman County Sheriff

PO POL AD BY AARON SHEEHAN FOR SHERMAN COUNTY SHERIFF

PO POL AD BY AARON SHEEHAN FOR SHERMAN COUNTY SHERIFF

Reminder from FSA Executive Director Rebecca Hemphill

Stratford, TX — May 14, 2012 Sherman County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Rebecca Hemphill, reminds foreign persons with an interest in agricultural lands in the United States that they are required to report their holdings and any transactions to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

"Any foreign person who acquires, transfers or holds any interest, other than a security interest, including leaseholds of 10 years or more, in agricultural land in the United States is required by law to report the transaction no later than 90 days after the date of the transaction," said Hemphill.

Foreign investors must file Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) reports with the FSA county office that maintains reports for the county where the land is located.

"Failure to file a report, filing a late report or filing an inaccurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land," said Hemphill.

For AFIDA purposes, agricultural land is defined as any land used for farming, ranching or timber production, if the tracts total 10 acres or more.

Disclosure reports are also required when there are changes in land use. For example, reports are required when land use changes from nonagricultural to agricultural or from agricultural to nonagricultural. Foreign investors must also file a report when there is a change in the status of ownership such as the owner changes from foreign to non-foreign, from non-foreign to foreign or from foreign to foreign.

Data gained from these disclosures is used to prepare an annual report to the President and Congress concerning the effect of such holdings upon family farms and rural communities in the United States.

For more information regarding AFIDA and FSA programs, contact the Sherman County FSA office at 806-396-2211 or visit the USDA Web site at <http://www.usda.00v>.

Mitchell Theaters

Northridge 8
Guymon, OK
www.northridge8.com
580-338-3281
Southgate 6
Liberal, Kansas
www.southgate6.com
620-624-5573
Garden City, Kansas
www.sequoyah8.com
620-275-2760



Stratford Hospital District

"Proudly serving the medical needs of Stratford and Sherman County."

Stratford Family Medical Clinic

Mon. - Thurs. 8 AM - 5 PM, Fri. 8AM - 3 PM
396-5583 Tommy Brian, ANP

Elk Pharmacy

Mon. - Fri. 9 AM - 5:30 PM
366-5505 Angie Hipp, RPh

Coldwater Manor Nursing Facility

396-5568 Karl Punch, LNFA

Stratford EMS

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

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

The Stratford Star

(USPS 523-108)

Published for over 100 years

805 Purnell

Stratford, TX 79084

Telephone: 806-366-5885

Fax: 806-366-5884

E-Mail: stardm@xit.net

The Stratford Star is published weekly

Editor & Publisher Martha Robertson

Advertising & Photographer Shari Hudson

Subscription rates

\$33.00 per year in Sherman & Adjoining counties

\$40.00 per year all others

\$27.00 per (9 months) College rate

The Stratford Star-PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084

Periodicals postage paid at Stratford, TX

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Stratford Star,
PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084



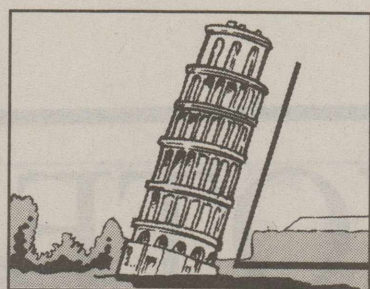
Ellison graduates from OSU

Brenna Ellison, a 2004 graduate of Dumas High School, recently graduated with her Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Oklahoma State University. Her dissertation work was on the effects of mandatory nutrition labeling on restaurant menus.

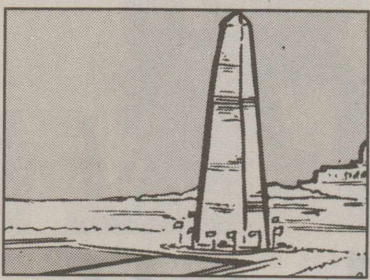
Brenna is the daughter of Ernie and Sheryl Ellison of Dumas. Her grandparents are Judy McGowen of Dumas and Don and Martha Ellison of Stratford.

Prior to completing her Ph.D., Ellison received a B.S. in Agribusiness from Abilene Christian University and an M.S. in Agricultural Economics from Oklahoma State University.

Ellison has accepted a Professor of Agribusiness position with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and will begin employment this fall.



The restoration work on the Leaning Tower of Pisa that took place between 1990 and 2001 shifted the tower's "lean" back to an angle of four degrees after it was previously leaning at an angle of 5.5 degrees.



The 555-foot-tall Washington Monument contains an estimated 36,000 granite and marble stones that weigh 90,000 tons.



Pale honored with Baby Shower

A baby shower was held on Saturday, May 12, 2012 honoring Monica Pale in the home of Jeanette Artho. Shown above left to right are RoAnn Tims, April Kautz, Jennifer Artho, Monica Pale, Sandi Pale, Viola Kautz and Jeanette Artho.

Stratford Community thrift store

Now accepting good, clean, re-useable items. All items can be dropped off May 19, 21 and 22 between 8-12 noon and 1-4 pm. Location is E Hwy 54 next to state Hwy building (the old John Deer building). The store house is scheduled to open the first week of June. Watch for more details.



SWOOSH girls Win Hoop 10 Basketball

SWOOSH girls win the Hoop 10 basketball-5th grade division again. Back L/R Macy LeGrange (Guymon), Cambri Cummings, Jordan Pritchard (Guymon), Shaylee Audrain. Front L/R Kenlee McBryde, Marlie Kelp (Spearman), Reagan Audrain.

Forget conventionalisms; forget what the world thinks of you stepping out of your place; think your best thoughts, speak your best words, work your best works, looking to your own conscience for approval.

—Susan B. Anthony

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AND THE
RAWLS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

ANNOUNCE THE GRADUATION OF

Morielee Nell McDaniel

WITH THE DEGREE OF
Masters of Science
in
Accounting

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY WILL BE HELD
FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2012
AT 7:00 P.M.

UNITED SPIRIT ARENA
LUBBOCK, TEXAS

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

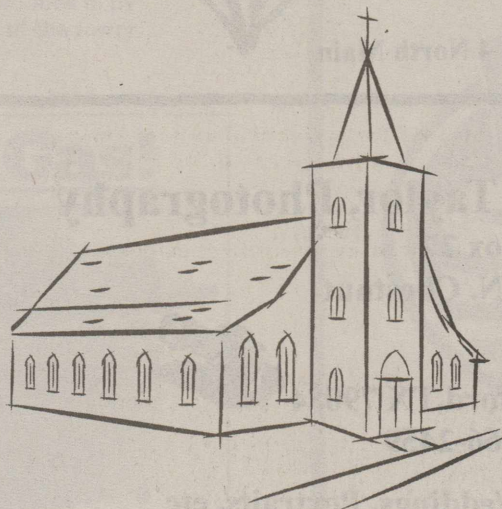
First Assembly of God
Kevin Anderson, Pastor
921 Fulton
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

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

First United Methodist
Rev. David Terry
520 N. Main
Sunday School 9:20 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Junior High UMY 5:00 p.m.
Senior High UMY 6:00 p.m.

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

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



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

Heritage Bible Baptist
Pastor Rick Carter
302 S. Main
For more info-call 396-2212
Morning worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wed. Service 7:30 p.m.

Eben-Ezer Templo Hispano
Asambleas De Dios
Pastor: Juan M. Valenzuela
806 366-3071
205 N. Poplar-Hwy 287 268-2188
Escuela Dominical 10 a.m. - 12 noon
Servicio De Adoracion 5 p.m.-7 p.m.
Miercoles: Servicio De Adoracion 6-8 p.m.

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

La Mision Bautista
Mision Bautista
401 S. Wall 396-5376
Domingo (Sunday)
Estuela Dominical 9:45 a.m.
Miercoles (Wednesday)
Servicio De Adoracion 11 a.m. Estudio
Biblico & Servicio De Oracion 6 p.m.
Servicio De Adoracion 6 p.m. se Cuidamos
Susunos Durante El Servicio

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Stratford Grain 396-5541
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Stratford Star
366-5885

Sherman County Appraisal District Friday, March 23, 2012

The Sherman County Appraisal District Board of Directors met on Friday, March 23, 2012 in the appraisal district board room. Board members present were Roger Wells, David Jackson, Tim Hudson, Mel Yates, Tom Moore, Dana Buckles, and Valerie McAlister. Chet Everett was not present. Chief Appraiser Teresa Edmond was also present.

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Wells at 7:08 a.m. Yates moved to approve the minutes. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion passed. There was no Old Business. The January and February bills were presented along with the bills for the first part of March. Hudson moved the bills be paid. Jackson seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Consideration of Service Contracts included in the 2013 budget was next on the agenda. Contracts remaining the same amount for 2013 are Rent, Insect Control, Mapping, Computer Contract, and Website. The Mineral Valuation contract amount for 2013 is the amount included in the four-year contract that was approved previously. An increase of 3% was estimated for the 2013 Audit budget amount.

Edmond presented the proposed 2013 budget and information about prior years' return to the jurisdictions and staff qualifications and several salary surveys. Edmond stated that she has reduced the estimate for social security and retirement, and added a budget item for imaging old records.

After discussion, Yates moved that the board go in to executive session. Hudson seconded the motion. The motion passed and the board went into executive session at 7:38 a.m.

Yates moved to re-convene in regular session and Hudson seconded the motion. At 8:10 a.m., the board re-convened in regular session. Everett moved to approve the preliminary 2013 budget: with 2% salary increases. Moore seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Chief Appraiser Edmond stated that a representative from Aflac Insurance has asked that the Board of Directors approve offering employees the option of buying Aflac Insurance. It would be optional insurance, the premiums would be withheld from pay checks, and the Appraisal District would then pay Aflac. After discussion, the Board agreed that the Aflac representative should talk to the employees first to determine if any are interested. If so, then the Board would consider the Chief Appraiser Edmond reported that the staff is busy working on appraisals for 2013 and collecting taxes. Work on the second phase of the State Comptroller's MAP Review of Appraisal Districts is continuing. Public Relations Policies and Manual are now a requirement.

Moore moved the meeting be adjourned. Jackson seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

VOTE FOR

Ted Allen For Sheriff

Early voting Monday May
 14 thru Friday, May 25th
 Election Day
 Tuesday, May 29th

Paid Political ad Paid for by
 Ted Allen For Sheriff, Andy
 Riffe Treasurer PO Box 1224,
 Stratford, TX 79084

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.

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110 S. Bliss Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday 8 a.m.-12 noon

Business Directory

Vincent Insurance Agency

Sabrina Melton

PO Box 739 Office: 806-396-2456
 Stratford, TX 79084 Home: 396-2512
 Email: vincins@xit.net

Great Lengths Salon



Walk-ins always
welcomed

Melissa White
(806) 396-5004

Stratford Auto Electric

119 S. Wall, Stratford, TX 79084
 Phone-366-5941 or 366-5857
 Alternators, starters, Altronic Repair
 Since 1964
 Roy McAlister

A & I Parts Center

Automotive and Industrial Parts
 201 N. 2nd Street-Stratford, TX 79084
 Tel: (806) 366-5592
 *Toll-free 800-624-5494
 Fax: (806) 366-2583

Stratford Grain Company

Stratford 396-5541
 Lautz 769-4485

4 North Main

Car Detailing By Chad Smith Wash, Wax & Shine



Inside and Out-
\$60.00
806-753-7411

Structured Touch Massage Therapy Clinic

Cece Yelek, CMT, LMT

301 N. Main St. or 7199 Co. Rd P
 Stratford, TX Sunray, TX
 Office 806-366-ahhh (2444)
 Cell 806-290-3655
 9-5 M-F-Sat. by appt

Joe Taylor, Photography

PO Box 27
 1305 N. Chestnut

Stratford, TX 79084
 806-366-2459

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 Walk ins only

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 Stratford, TX 79084
 Phone: 806-366-5557

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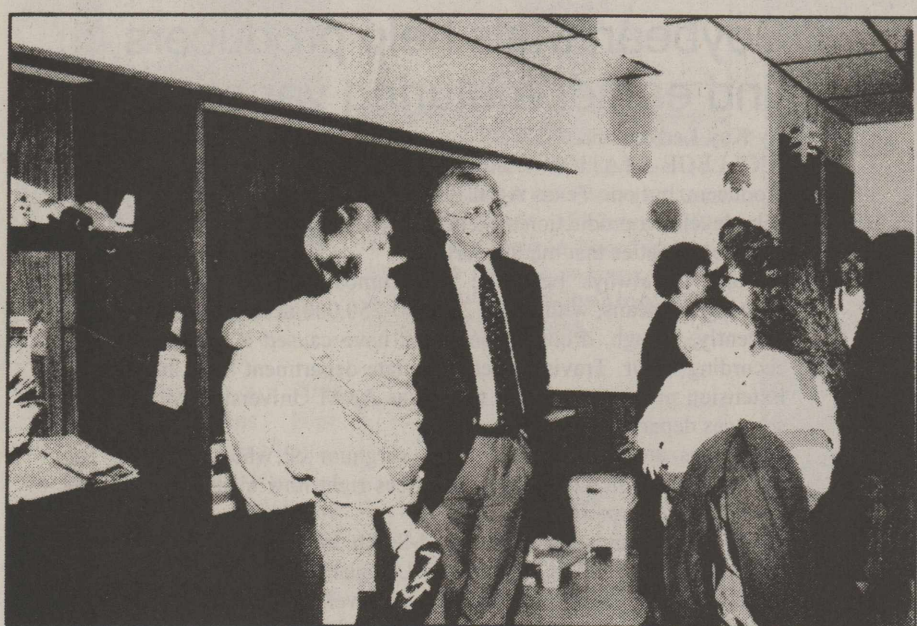
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 Free Estimates



Michelle Lutes and son, Chandler visit with Jim Allison of the Amarillo Area Foundation at an appreciation reception for the Foundation's grant to purchase and renovate the building to house Lollipop Junction. Michelle is joined by LeRinda Wright and her son, Bryce.

Choo, Choo, Lollipop News A dream became a reality!!

Lollipop Junction celebrates its 20th birthday this month!!! To some folks, Lollipop has always been in Stratford, but may not know the child care center's history. What started as a dream became reality is how the community non-profit child care center is described in Stratford.

The Board of Directors for Lollipop credits its beginning to the Sherman County office of the Texas Agriculture Extension Service (now known as Texas AgriLife Extension Service) and its motto of People Helping People. County Extension Agents, Jim Allison and Susie Spurlock, served as advisors to the Sherman County Extension Program Council 1987-1990 Long Range Extension Program identification forum.

During the forum, a need for an adequate child care center to assist 46% of mothers with pre-school children employed outside of the home was selected as one of the county Extension program educational objectives. At this time, child care in Stratford was provided by individuals in their homes of which very few were registered with the state regulatory agency, had limited hours and seasons of service, and no provisions for substitute care if they were sick or unavailable thus creating a hardship for young families.

To make sure the need for child care was a "real or perceived" need in the community, a team of trained Family Community Leadership members, analyzed this issue and formulated a plan of action. Members of this group included the late Jean Everett and Arnita Lane, along with others who conducted a needs assessment among employed families of major employers of the county. The results of the needs assessment identified the number of children needing care, time periods involved, reasonable fees, and other desired services was shared with the public at a community forum. At the forum, a task force was appointed to further study the issue. After several months of exploring this issue, it was determined that a community day care center was needed and adopted the mission statement: "A non-profit organization to provide quality, dependable, and affordable care for minor children."

Members of this task force completed work necessary to establish Stratford Area Youth Care Agency, recognized by the IRS as a non-profit 501(c)(3) status, secured grants of over \$32,000 to purchase, renovate, and equip the facility along with securing licensing from the state regulatory agency. The center's name, Lollipop Junction was selected by the board of directors and opened for business June 15, 1992. Trisha Tillery Keener was the first director of the center with 14 children enrolled for regular attendance. Board members were Michelle Lutes, Cindy Russell, Arnita Lane, Jim Taliaferro, Margaret Reed, LeRinda Wright, Jackie McIver, Steve Booth, Linda Haynes, Rev. John Wagoner, Jim Bob Brown, and Susie Spurlock.

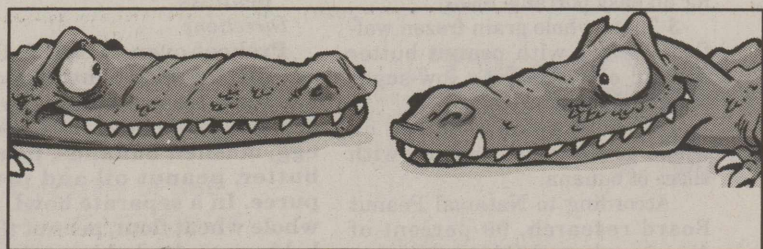
As a result of Extension leadership training and development efforts, Stratford's quality of life has been enhanced by providing pre-school and after-school children with skilled care in a safe and healthy environment.

All members of the community and especially those who helped make Lollipop Junction a reality are encouraged to attend the Birthday Party Street Fair on Saturday, May 26. The fair will be from 10 am to 12 noon at 3rd and Main Street.

Children attending Lollipop Junction will be providing special entertainment that day. Other entertainment will include children's games, music and food. Opportunities for people to donate canned food items for the center's use will be available.

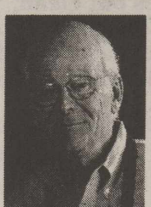
The Street Fair is Lollipop's way to say "Thank You" to the community for supporting the non-profit child care center and the programs it offers. More information about Lollipop Junction and the programs offered may be obtained by visiting www.stratfordchildcare.com or calling the center at 366-5886.

Circle the date, May 26th 10 am to 12 Noon, to help Lollipop Junction celebrate turning 20!!!



One way to tell the difference between alligators and crocodiles is by their teeth. On crocodiles, the fourth tooth on each side of the lower jaw projects outside the snout when the mouth is closed.

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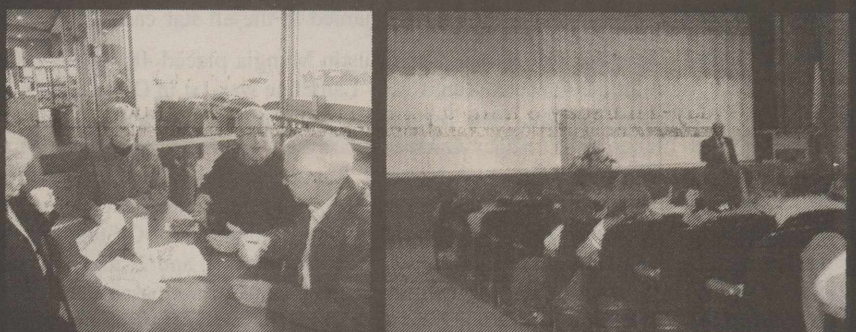
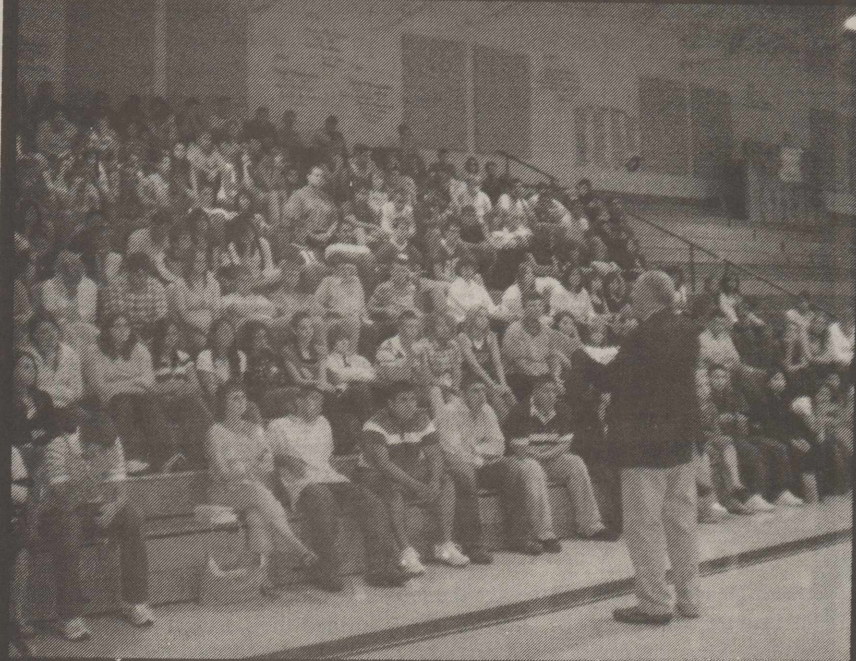
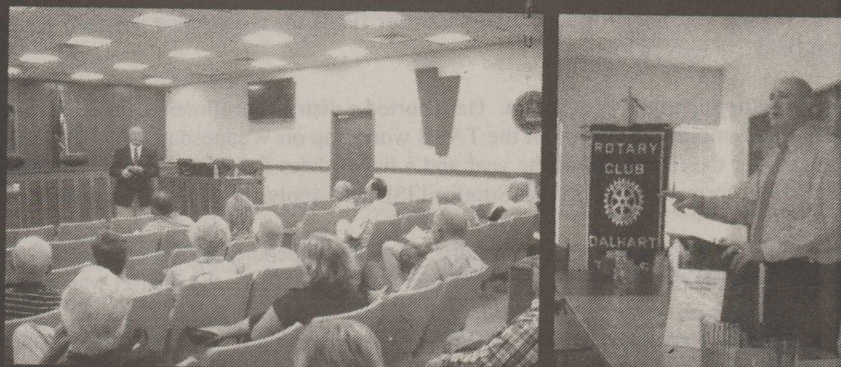
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because he's a good listener.

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Early Voting: May 14 - 25

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STRATFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION May 10, 2012

The Stratford ISD board of trustees met in regular session on Thursday, May 10, 2012. President Joe Reinart established a quorum of members present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Board members present: Joe Reinart, DeWain Trayler, Michelle Lutes, Greg Wright, Tres Hess, Barney Willborn and Chet Everett

Staff present: Clint Seward, Misti McBryde, Paul Uttley, Lynette Kautz, Dinah Horsford and Sabra Farabee.

Guest: Rebecca Boyd.

Mr. Seward led the invocation.

Joe Reinart read thank you notes from Paula Everett for iPads for the science labs and Harletta Carthel for the journalism field trip to News Channel 7.

Mr. Birdsong gave the superintendent report. He reported a district enrollment of 599. He passed the Sports Banquet tickets and reminded the board of the TASB workshop on Wednesday, May 16th. He passed out the calendar of events for the remainder of the year and a list of dates for the regular scheduled board meetings for 2012-2013. He informed the board that Stratford ISD will apply for all federal grants that are available.

Lynette Kautz gave the business managers report. Monthly expenditures are at 55.69%, revenue 91.90%, and tax collections are at 97.60%. Transportation cost for the month for the district was .81¢.

Mrs. McBryde gave the elementary report. All students are finishing the year end AIMSweb test. The April STAAR test went very well, the results should be posted online on May 23rd. Kindergarten parent conferences will be conducted next week followed by Pre-Kindergarten parent conferences the last week of school. The 4th grade science fair is Friday, May 18th, the 4th grade farm tour is Tuesday, May 22nd, Kindergarten graduation is May 22nd, Mary Allen Play Day is May 23rd with the awards assembly on May 24th. She and Mr. Seward are finalizing the plans for this year's summer school. She reported a campus enrollment of 270.

Mr. Seward gave the junior high report. He recognized the 8th grade band and congratulated them for receiving all 1's at the District UIL contest. They were one of four bands in the area to receive all 1's on stage and in sight reading. He reported that the Junior High GT students went on an overnight trip to Alamogordo and Cloudcroft, NM. They toured the Eagle Ranch Pistachio Farm, the New Mexico History Museum and White Sands National Monument. In addition, they hiked, shopped and ate lunch at the lodge in Cloudcroft. The 7th grade band also went to the UIL contest. They did not compete, but performed on stage and did very well. After the competition, the band went to see Shrek at the civic center. This was funded by the Education Foundation. The band will go to Wonderland Park for their end of the year trip. Junior High cheerleader tryouts will be on Friday, May 11th at noon followed by a junior high dance that evening. The 5th - 7th awards assembly will be on May 17th. The junior high field day will be on May 24th and junior high graduation will be that night at 8:00 PM. The STAAR tests have been completed at the junior high. Mrs. Haile's class is working on their mythology project and preparing for their Greek Feast. Mrs. Brownlee's classes are working on their end of year project.

Dr. Uttley gave the high school report. He gave the monthly recognition. Ellen Daniels qualified for State by placing 3rd in Feature Writing. The One Act Play finished their season as the alternate play at the Regional competition. Shyanne Acker and Mary Ann Spurlock were named to the honorable mention All Star cast and Kammi Birdsong and Jordan Johnson were named to the all star cast. At the Regional Track meet, Colten Rendon placed 6th in the 100 Meter Dash, Justin Mungia placed 4th in the 200 Meter Dash, Grayson Gonzalez placed 7th in the 3200 Meter Run, Casey Lantelme was 1st in Discus and 6th in Shot Put, the 4x200 Relay placed 7th (Colten Rendon, Rett Schoonover, Justin Mungia and Sterling Audrain), the 4x400 Relay placed 5th (Rett Schoonover, Edgar Guerrero, Grayson Gonzalez and Justin Mungia), Jackie Gonzalez placed 7th in the 100m Hurdles, and Nohemi Ruedas placed 8th in the 3200m Run. He congratulated these students. He reported that the high school is currently taking the end of course exams. The results are expected to be back after school is out. He explained that the EOC Standards were released in April. He explained how it will be phased in over 5 years for levels 1 and 2, and 3 years for level 3. Students are grouped into cohort groups. He explained the ramifications of not passing the tests. There will be a scheduling meeting for all incoming freshmen parents on May 21st at 6:00 PM. The high school prom will be on May 19th at the county barn. The county barn contract requires two deputies to be on the premises. The high school applied for a \$10,000 grant from Monsanto for iPads for the science department. Several area farmers nominated the school to be eligible to apply for the grant. He reported a campus enrollment of 173.

Greg Wright made the motion and Tres Hess seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Birdsong went over the student transfer request from J.D. and Jodie Roberts. The request was originally denied due to the fact that they live in Oklahoma and the district would not be eligible to receive state funding for their enrollment. Mr. Birdsong met with the Roberts' and explained the chain of command remedies for the situation. They filled out the proper paperwork and were placed on the agenda for the board to consider the transfer. Several letters of recommendation were received from community members in support of the transfer. Barney Willborn made the motion and DeWain Trayler seconded to approve the transfer and waive all transfer fees. Motion carried 7-0.

Joe Reinart read a letter of resignation from Enedit Baeza. Michelle Lutes made the motion and Chet Everett seconded to accept the resignation with regrets. Motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. McBryde presented Sabra Farabee for employment. Tres Hess made the motion and Barney Willborn seconded to approve the employment subject to assignment. Motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. McBryde presented Rebecca Boyd for employment. Greg Wright made the motion and Michelle Lutes seconded to approve the employment subject to assignment. Motion carried 7-0.

The board took a short recess at 7:40 PM. 5

Mr. Birdsong presented the resolution concerning high stakes, standardized testing. Over 500 school districts in the state of Texas have adopted similar resolutions. The resolution calls on the Texas Legislature to reexamine the public school accountability system in Texas and to develop a system that encompasses multiple assessments, reflects greater validity, uses more cost efficient sampling techniques and other external evaluation arrangements, and more accurately reflects success, enhances the role of teachers as designers, guides to instruction and leaders, and nurtures the sense of inquiry and love of learning in all students. Chet Everett made the motion and Greg Wright seconded to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried 7-0. SEE ATTACHMENT #1

Mr. Birdsong presented the resolution to eliminate the personal property tax. Tres Hess made the motion and Barney Willborn seconded. Motion carried 7-0. SEE ATTACHMENT #2

Mr. Birdsong passed the timeline for the tax ratification election from the school attorney for the board to review.

Mr. Birdsong presented a proposal from Duncan Chevrolet for an ag pickup in the amount of \$35,575.00 plus \$550.00 for the B&W gooseneck hitch. Barney Willborn made the motion and Tres Hess seconded to approve the proposal as presented. Motion carried 7-0. SEE ATTACHMENT #3

Mr. Birdsong went over the football bleacher replacement proposal from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Department. Barney Willborn made the motion and Michelle Lutes seconded to accept the proposal in the amount of \$22,973.00 for the west end of the home bleacher and \$41,523.00 for the visitors side. Motion carried 7-0. SEE ATTACHMENT #4

Mr. Birdsong reported that no proposals had been received for the bus barns.

Mr. Birdsong presented a budget amendment to approve for the purpose of updating the security systems in the buildings. Chet Everett made the motion and Greg Wright seconded to approve the budget amendment as presented. Motion carried 6-0-1, Barney Willborn abstained. SEE ATTACHMENT #5

Mr. Birdsong updated the board on personnel.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Soybean trials help producers find earlier maturing varieties

By Kay Ledbetter

COLLEGE STATION - Soybeans aren't something new for Texas producers, but one Texas AgriLife Extension Service expert is trying to help develop a production system that will help combat the drought and includes varieties that mature earlier.

Texas has always been the westernmost and southernmost state growing soybeans, with about 200,000-250,000 acres planted annually. Recently, though, drought conditions have caused a drop in acreage, according to Dr. Travis Miller, associate department head and AgriLife Extension program leader in the Texas A&M University soil and crop sciences department.

Soybeans are a riskier crop than sorghum or wheat, he said. But having more than \$14-per-bushel prices right now means there's good money "if you can make a crop."

Miller is participating in the Mid-South Soybean Consortium trials being planted in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas under the direction of Dr. Larry Purcell with the University of Arkansas.

Soybeans can be a determinant or indeterminate crop, he said. Indeterminate means the crop can put on blooms and continue to grow at the same time. Determinant, or late-maturing soybeans, must reach a certain photoperiod, or day length, before they bloom.

"We are looking for varieties that can be early planted and which the bloom date coincides with more favorable growing conditions," Miller said.

College Station is the southernmost trial, he said. This trial will include eight varieties mixed between determinant and indeterminate varieties, with each planted on four different dates. The earliest planted was on March 26 and the latest will be planted early in June.

"We're looking at the number of nodes per plant, plant height, bloom date - all factors that are affected by photoperiod and growing conditions," Miller said.

He said they would like to find plants that are less photoperiod sensitive to plant in regions with available sunshine and moisture.

Determinant soybeans generally grow from May to September, or about 160 days, while the indeterminate varieties can be planted as early as March and harvested in late July or early August, or less than 140 days, Miller said. The indeterminate plants will grow and set pods at the same time, allowing more height and more nodes, "and that's what pays," he said.

"It also fits our weather patterns better," Miller said. "We know we get rain in April and May and that's the ideal time to set pods, so we would be able to use the weather patterns if we find good indeterminate varieties for this region."

The overall goal is to minimize the risk and better utilize the weather and resources that we have, he said.

Texas soybeans are primarily grown in the upper Gulf Coast, south of Houston and around Beaumont, northeast Texas along the Red River and a smattering of irrigated acres on the High Plains, Miller said.

Once completed, the data on Miller's 2012 trials, as well as past trials, can be found on the <http://varietytesting.tamu.edu> website.

Better Breakfast Ideas

Start Your Day With Peanut Butter

(NAPS)—If you're looking for a better way to start the day, try some peanut butter.

This nutrient-dense food is a smart option for breakfast because it's filling and tastes great. Two tablespoons of smooth-style peanut butter offers 8 grams of plant-based protein and more than 30 essential nutrients and phytonutrients. "Making time for breakfast and choosing a meal that has fiber, protein and good fats can play a role in maintaining a healthy diet," said Registered Dietitian Sherry Coleman Collins. "Research shows that a balanced breakfast including fruit, whole grains and protein such as peanut butter gives you the fuel and nutrients needed to stave off hunger until lunchtime."

Here are four easy breakfast ideas:

1 Swirl peanut butter into oatmeal.

2 Add smooth-style peanut butter into a breakfast smoothie for an easy portable meal.

3 Toast whole grain frozen waffles and top with peanut butter instead of syrup for a low-sugar start to the day.

4 Spread peanut butter on whole grain bread and top with slices of banana.

According to National Peanut Board research, 90 percent of American households contain one or more jars of peanut butter.

For a new twist, try one of the slightly indulgent gourmet chocolate peanut butters, such as those from Peanut Butter & Co. or Sunland Peanut Butter. Flavored peanut butter is a great way to perk up a dull breakfast routine.

Peanut Butter Banana Power Muffin
Serves 12



Peanut butter is a source of good fats.

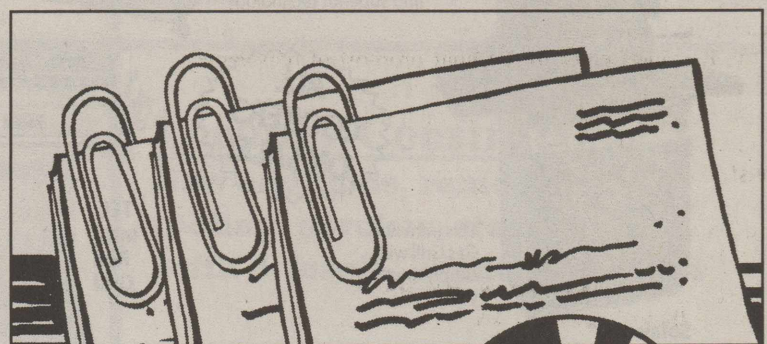
Ingredients

- 1/2 cup honey
- 1 large egg
- 3 medium bananas
- 3/4 cup peanut butter, smooth
- 2 Tbsp peanut oil, salad or cooking
- 1/2 cup prune puree
- 1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 2 Tbsp peanut flour, defatted (optional)
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp salt, table
- 1/2 cup multigrain cereal
- 1/2 cup unsalted dry roasted peanuts

Directions

Preheat oven to 350° F. Coat muffin tins with nonstick cooking spray or use muffin tin liners. In a large bowl, mix honey, egg, mashed bananas, peanut butter, peanut oil and prune puree. In a separate bowl, mix whole wheat flour, peanut flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and multigrain cereal. Mix wet and dry ingredients. Mix until almost completely combined. Fold in peanuts. Using an ice cream scoop, divide the batter between 12 muffin tins. Bake for approximately 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean.

Adding peanut butter to your morning meal can help provide the energy necessary to live, work and play well.



Bent-wire clips appeared in American offices as early as 1867, but it was the British-designed Gem paper clip that took off and is still produced by the billions.



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Help Wanted

Stratford ISD is seeking a Maintenance/Transportation Assistance to assist with district's maintenance and transportation operations. Applications available at the Business Office. For more information, please call (806) 366-3300. 5-10-5-17-2X'S

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- Mill Laborer
- Processor

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15 miles N of Stratford, TX on HWY 287, then right 5 miles on HWY 171. Apply in person: M-F 8a.m-3p.m. or call (580) 543-6383

Great benefits for full-time positions that include: Medical, Dental & Vision insurance as well as 401 K and paid time off. Pre-employment drug screen required. EOE/M/F

Coldwater Manor is seeking a full time RN or LVN. Please apply in person at 1111 Beaver Rd. Stratford, TX EOE 3-22-tfn

Production Worker-hourly Employee insurance & 401 K after 90 days. Call Edward Ned @ 806-344-7422 5-17-tfn

For Rent

Available June 1st 2BR, 1 bath apartment. Close to schools. Furnished with stove & Fridge. Has stack W/D hookups. www.westtexasrentals.com for application. 806-244-3418. 5-10-tfn

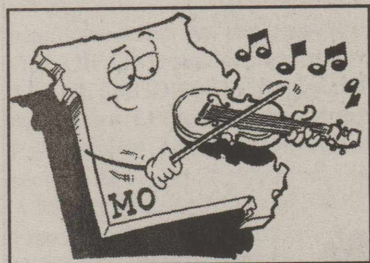
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To all citizens of Stratford:

In an effort to cut the cost of recycling and the transfer of trash at the waste transfer/roll-off station, the City will set new hours. Starting June 1, 2012 the Recycle Center and transfer/roll-off station will only be open to the public during the hours listed below.

We recognize that recycling is a major concern for the public and we wish to acknowledge all those that do their part in the City's recycling efforts. However, reality is that keeping the facility open 40 hours per week is not cost effective.

Therefore, in an effort to keep our facility operating and to maintain our green goals, we have determined that fewer hours is the best way to solve this issue at this time. We encourage all citizens to continue the great job you are doing in recycling and hope this change is not too much of an inconvenience.

Recycling containers will be available near the entrance of the Recycle Center for 24 hour drop-off of recyclable materials only. In an effort to keep the area clean, do not unload transfer/roll-off station waste in these containers.

The hours of operation to have access to the transfer/roll-off station are necessary to make sure that all waste brought to the station meet with disposal regulations.

RECYCLE AND TRANSFER/ROLL-OFF STATION HOURS

Monday thru Friday: 11 am to 12 noon and 4pm to 5pm
Saturday: 10 am to 2 pm
Sunday: Closed

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.
Tommy R. Bogart City Administrator
806-366-5581

Houses for Sale

701 Purnell, 2,692 sq. ft., 3 bdrm, 2 bath, office, new windows and roof, sprinkler system in front and back, Call for appt. 806-753-6423.4-12-tfn

House for sale by owner-619 Purnell, 4bdrm 3 bath, 2981 sq. ft. New sculptured metal roof, h/ac, windows, Teak hardwood floors and tile, corner lot close to schools, Call for appointment, 806-366-7664 or 806-753-6677. 3-29-tfn

401 S. Maple, Stratford 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 living rooms, laundry room, garage. Includes: 3 lots beside the house. (806) 366-3512 or 753-7513.

House for Sale: 313 N. Pearl-3 Bdr, 2-1/2 Bth 806-930-6920 2-23-tfn

House for sale by owner-611 N. 3rd Street-newly remodeled-1900 sq. ft. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, C/H/A Call 753-6677 or 366-7664. Possible Owner Finance with Large Down 3-8-tfn

House for Sale-3-bdrm, 1 1/4 bath, approx 2000 sq. ft., 2-car attached garage, Many updates inside in 2008, as well as new 50-yr roof, 12 x 20 storage bldg, privacy fence, 403 Purnell. For appt. call 366-3586 3-15 thru 4-26th 7x's

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The annual report of the Earl N. and Conrad E. Riffe Memorial Scholarship Trust is available at the address noted below for inspection during normal business hours by any citizen who so request within 180 days after publication of this notice of its availability.

Earl N. and Conrad E. Riffe Memorial Scholarship Trust, The First State Bank of Stratford, Trustee, 302 N. Main Street, Stratford, Texas.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, May 17, 2012.

Notice of Public Hearing

Please be advised that the City of Stratford has received applications for zoning variances from:

*Pedro Hernandez 617 N. Poplar Lots 7 & 8 Block 20

*Cary Smith 419 N. Fulton Lots 11, 12, & North 17th of lot 13 Block 45

*Karl Punch 1313 Division South 4ft of Lot 2 and North 42ft of Lot 3 Block 3 Unit 1 Elk Subdivision.

*Gary Graham 406 S. Pearl Lots 16, 17, & South 'A' of Lot 18 Block 123

Please be advised that the City of Stratford has received an application for a zoning change from:
Lorenzo Fierro Lots 1-10 Block 72

The zoning change request public hearing will be conducted on May 22, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall council chambers located at 518 N. 3rd.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, May 3, 2012, Thursday, May 10, 2012 and Thursday, May 17, 2012

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice to all persons having claims against the estate of Wesley Jay Willey, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of WESLEY JAY WILLEY, were issued on the 23rd day of April, 2012 in Cause No. 2197, pending in the County Court of Sherman County, Texas, as Independent Executor to:

Paula Darlene Willey
PO Box 1320
Stratford, Texas 79084

The attorney representing such Estate is as follows:

William Hunter
Hunter & Oelke, PC
507 Denrock Ave.
PO Box 792
Dalhart, Texas 79022
Telephone (806) 244-5632
Telefax (806) 244-2863

All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by Law.

Dated this the 7th day of Mat, 2012

Hunter & Oelke, PC
William Hunter
State Bar card No. 10304000

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, May 17, 2012

A CELL TOWER'S GOING UP NEXT DOOR OR HADN'T YOU HEARD?

KEEP THE LIGHT ON PUBLIC NOTICES

Governments are required to publish their decisions in the newspaper -- including their intent to build a structure nearby that you might not want. But some officials want to bury public notices on little seen, rarely visited government websites.

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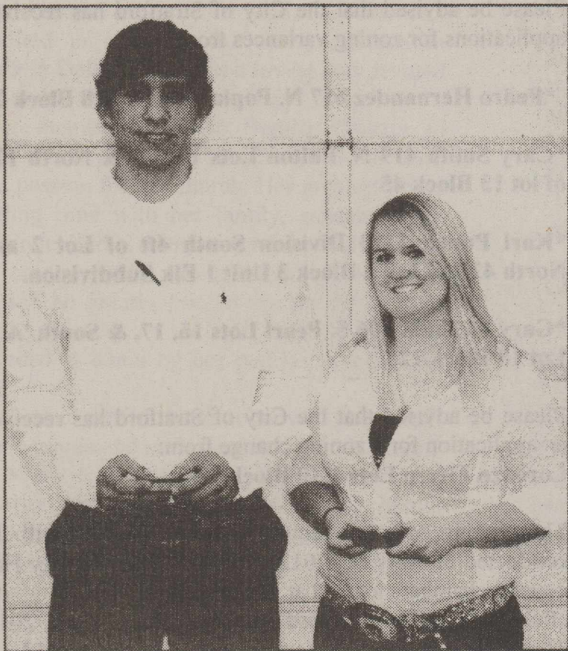
FFA Banquet-May 8, 2012



Star Greenhand award Madeline Drake, Star Ag-Mechanic Award Casey Lantelme and Star Chapter Farmer Kaylee Mungia



Rookie of the Year award Raleigh Willborn-Swine, Allie James-Beef and Abby Law-sheep



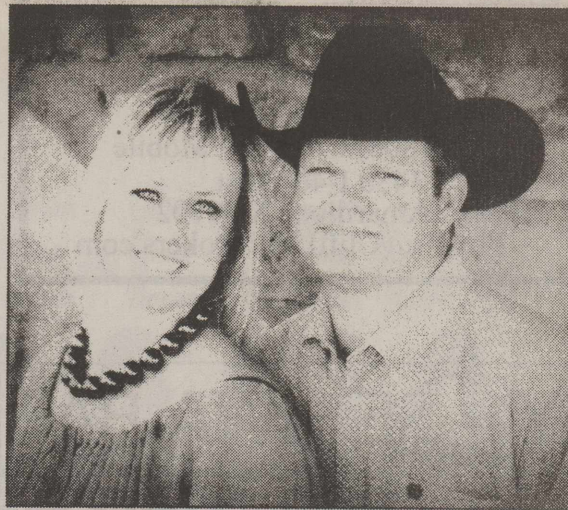
Proficiency Award Horse-Sterling Audrain
Proficiency Award-Swine-Kaylee Mungia



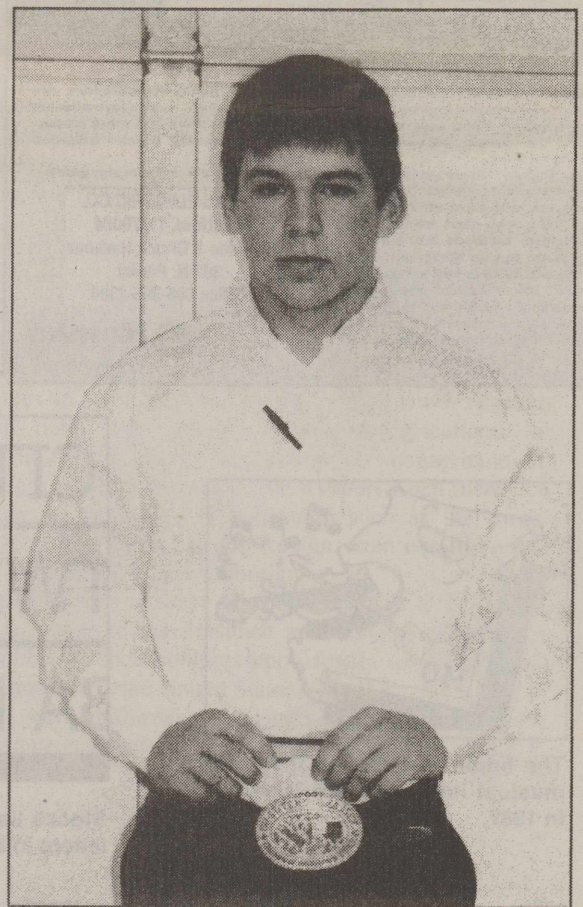
Welding Team-Madeline Drake, Sterling Audrain, Preston Burr and Hunter Everett



President Reed Schoonover and Kaylee Mungia Vice President

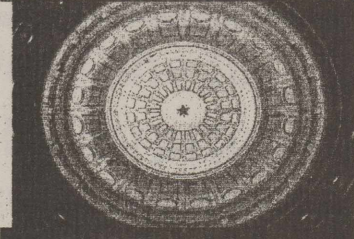


Trew James received Star Outstanding Parent Award, accepted for him by his wife Cara James



Preston Burr-1st year Rodeo Award

From the Office of



Monday, May 14, 2012

Senator Kel Seliger

To my friends and neighbors in Senate District 31:

Today is the first day of early voting for the upcoming 2012 Primary Election!



In addition to the presidential primary, a number of critical offices are currently on each party's primary ballot to determine who will be running in the general election in November. These include U.S. Senate, U.S. Representatives, two seats on the Texas Railroad Commission, justices on the state's two highest courts, all 31 State Senators, all 150 State Representatives, and a number of local district and county elected offices.

To find out in which congressional and legislative districts you reside, review your voter registration certificate, or go to the Texas Legislature Online, and fill out the Who Represents Me form on the bottom right corner of the webpage.

Early voting will continue through Friday, May 25th. Please contact your county Voter Registration Official for information about early voting locations in your community.

As you may recall, the 82nd Legislature enacted Senate Bill 14, which requires voters to present a state-issued photo ID before casting a ballot, but the U.S. Department of Justice refused to approve the application of this law. A lawsuit filed by Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott to have the law implemented immediately is currently pending in federal court. While awaiting a resolution, please be prepared with the necessary identification documentation required under current law when you go to vote.

If you will be away from your county on Election Day and during early voting or if you are unable to get to the polls, you may request a ballot by mail. The last day to apply for a ballot by mail - received, not postmarked - is Tuesday, May 22nd. For more information on how to vote by mail, please visit VoteTexas.gov, or contact your local election official.

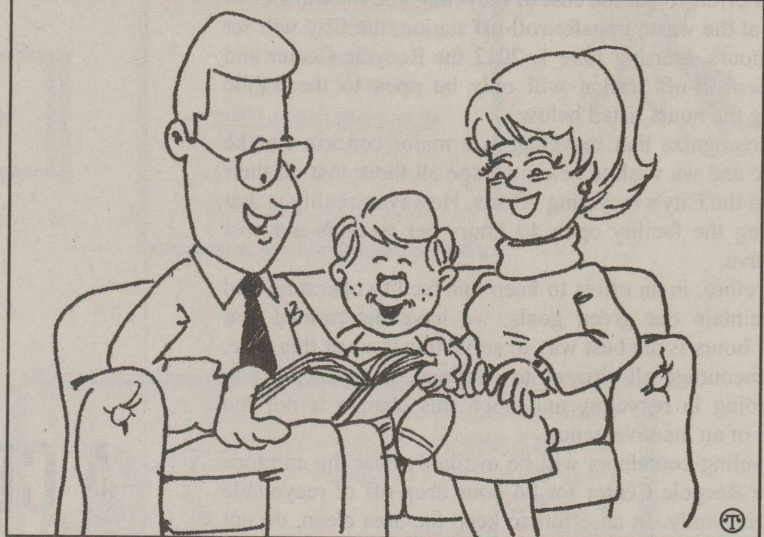
And of course, you can still vote at your polling location on Primary Election Day, Tuesday, May 29, 2012.

I hope you find this information helpful when you go to cast your vote. As always, if you have any questions or if I can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kel Seliger

Did You Know?



(NAPS)—Experts suggest it's best to teach children acceptable and unacceptable behavior immediately after they do or don't do something. For tips from Boys Town, visit www.boystown.org. Its national hotline offers free advice to parents, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For assistance, call (800) 448-3000.

compact utility tractor are versatile and offer a variety of features. For more information, visit www.JohnDeere.com.

*** According to GEICO Insurance Agency and the U.S. Coast Guard, all recreational boats must carry one Coast Guard-approved life jacket for each person aboard. Life jackets should be tested yearly and must be the appropriate size for the intended user. For more safety information, visit www.geico.com/information/about/insurance/boat.

*** Once you understand your yard, there are a variety of mowers to choose. The John Deere Select Series X310 riding mower and the John Deere 1026R sub-