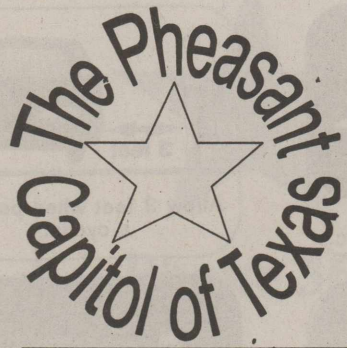


Sherman County Museum 07/11
PO Box 1248
Stratford, TX 79084

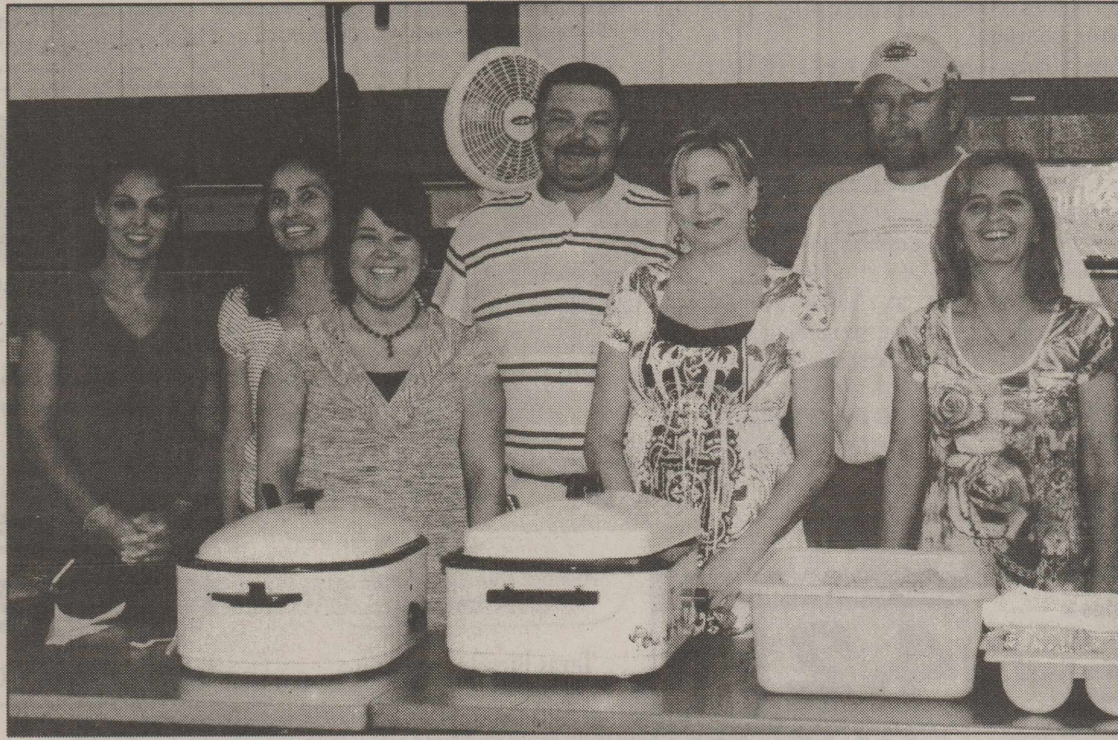


The Stratford Star

75 cents

Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084 usps 523

Number 28 July 14, 2011



The Mexican Pile On to benefit the "Angel Tree Project" was a huge success. Serving at far left are Heather Braden, Jasmin Rios, Tracy Gutierrez, Jade Palmer, Stephanie Hartman, Clinton Miller and Yvonne Miller. Shown immediate left is Merlene Dean, who was the money taker. Shown below Brandy Wells and Becky Asher who also helped served, shown bottom at left is Carl and Anna Dretske and family and friends who came to enjoy the wonderful meal.



USDA Authorizes Emergency Haying of CRP Acres for 73 Texas Counties

(Stratford, TX) — July 6, 2011 - In response to drought conditions, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) authorized emergency haying use of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for 73 Texas counties.

The following counties are approved for emergency CRP haying: Armstrong, Bailey, Baylor, Borden, Briscoe, Callahan, Carson, Castro, Cochran, Coke, Coleman, Collingsworth, Concho, Cottle, Crosby, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Duval, Ellis, Fisher, Floyd, Foard, Gaines, Garza, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hardeman, Hartley, Haskell, Hemphill, Hill, Hidalgo, Hockley, Howard, Jones, Kent, King, Kinney, Knox, Lamb, Lipscomb, Lynn, Martin, Maverick, Medina, Mitchell, Motley, Nolan, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Pecos, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Sherman, Starr, Stonewall, Swisher, Taylor, Terrell, Terry, Tom Green, Uvalde, Wheeler, Wilbarger and Yoakum Counties. Haying authorization will end on August 31, 2011.

"Eligible producers who are interested in emergency haying of CRP must request approval before haying eligible acreage," said Hemphill. "It is also important for producers to obtain a modified conservation plan from the Natural Resources Conservation Service that includes haying requirements," she said.

Upon approval of emergency haying, producers must leave at least 50 percent of each field or contiguous field unhayed for wildlife. For those counties that

are eligible for emergency haying and grazing, the same CRP acreage cannot be both hayed and/or grazed at the same time. For example, if 50 percent of a field or contiguous field is hayed, the remaining unhayed 50 percent cannot be grazed; it must remain unhayed and ungrazed for wildlife.

In addition, participants are limited to one hay cutting and are not permitted to sell any of the hay. There will be a 25 percent CRP payment reduction depending on the number of acres actually hayed.

To take advantage of the emergency haying provisions, authorized producers can use the CRP acreage for their own livestock or may grant another livestock producer use of the CRP acreage for the purpose of haying.

For more information on and to request approval for emergency haying of CRP acres contact the Sherman County FSA office at 806-396-2211.

"When is it going to Rain Contest?"

We at the Stratford Star are setting up a "WHEN IS IT GOING TO RAIN CONTEST?"

Mail or e-mail or fax the day and time of day when Stratford will receive at least one inch of rain. If you picked the time and day or the nearest to the exact time it does rain, you will receive 2 years subscription free of The Stratford Star and a free meal anywhere in Stratford for two on us. Mail to Stratford Star, Box 8, Stratford, TX or e-mail stardm@xit.net or fax 366-5884. Be sure and put your name, address and telephone number along with your pick of time and day. You may only enter once each month. This is now open for guesses. If by chance it does not rain in July (Heaven forbid) we will continue through August, one entry per month please. GOOD LUCK! (If by chance it has rained before the paper hit's the street this week, then I have done my job and brought on a rain.)



Happy State Bank purchases location from Austin Bank

Happy State Bank Expands to Texline

J. Pat Hickman, Chairman and CEO of Happy State Bank & Trust Co., announced the consummation of the acquisition of the Texline location from Treaty Oak Bank. The Texline location will open as Happy State Bank on Monday, July 11, 2011. Texline was named for its location which is near the New Mexico- Texas State Line.

Tony White has been named President. He attended of Oklahoma Panhandle State University and has approximately 30 years banking experience. Debbie White will serve as a Bank Officer and administrative assistant and will be responsible for operations of the branch.

With this acquisition, Happy State Bank purchased approximately \$3.1 million in loans and \$7.1 million in deposits. The bank now has \$1.6 billion in total assets, all within the Panhandle of Texas. Happy State Bank now has 28 offices in 19 area communities.

"We are so excited to move into this new community. This will enhance our strong presence in Dallam County. It's just a perfect fit for our Happy banking family," stated Hickman.

Happy State Bank now has offices in Happy, Amarillo, Borger, Canadian, Canyon, Dalhart, Dumas, Floydada, Hereford, Higgins, Lockney, Olton, Pampa, Panhandle, Plainview, Silverton, Sunray, Stratford and now Texline. Happy State Bank was chartered in 1908 in Happy, Texas. In 1990, the then \$10 million bank headquartered in Happy, Texas was acquired by a group of Panhandle area investors and is now the second largest bank in the Amarillo region. The bank has approximately 225 stockholders (95% of them living in the Panhandle area).

PUBLIC NOTICE ON ILLEGAL DUMPING

Disposal or dumping of litter or other solid waste on or around county roads is a criminal offense. This includes, but is not limited to, tires of any size, appliances, and dead animals. The charge for illegal dumping can be a Class C misdemeanor up to a State Jail felony, depending on the amount dumped. Punishment includes fines up to \$500 at a minimum and may also include jail time. Tax dollars are wasted when the County has to clean up illegally dumped items. If you see anyone dumping litter or solid waste, please call the Sheriff's Office with a license tag number or identification.

DON'T FORGET!! JAMBOREE & BLOCK PARTY - JULY 29th & 30th If you want to showcase your business during the parade or block party, email SCDC at scdc@xitnet or call 366-2897 for information.

For a full schedule of events, go to www.shermancountytx.org.

Drama Camp

Wanted Drama Kings and Queens or just kids who want to have creative fun. Drama camp will be July 11-14 at the Imagination Station in Stratford. There will be two session. For ages 4-6 it will be from 10:00-11:00. For ages 7-11 it will be from 2:00-4:00.

Registration fee is \$15.00 per child. We will have a performance by both groups on Thursday at 5:00. For more information and to register please call Terri Teig at 727-4412

Special
(Wednesday thru Tuesday)
2 p.m. till closing

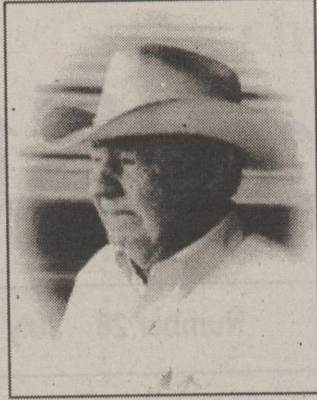
Clip this coupon for
Hamburgers- \$1.99
or
Hamburger Combo \$4.99

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

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

Obituaries



Johnny Floyd Summerour

DALHART - Johnny Floyd Summerour, 76, died Saturday, July 2, 2011, in Amarillo. Services were at 10 a.m. Wednesday July 6th in St. James Episcopal Church with The Rev. Philip C. Ray, rector of St. James Episcopal Church of Dalhart, officiating. Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery. Arrangements were by Horizon Funeral Home of Dalhart. Johnny was born to Elmer and Dorothy Pronger Summerour Dec. 9, 1934, at Pronger Ranch. He lived at Summerour Ranch all of his life, doing what he loved to do: working with cattle and raising registered Herefords. Johnny graduated from Stratford High School and attended Panhandle State College in Goodwell. He was a member of St. James Episcopal Church in Dalhart. Johnny was active in many different organizations. He served as director for Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo Association for 15 years, was president of the Texas Hereford Association for two years, was president of Panhandle Livestock Association and president of Great Plains Hereford Association of Guymon, Okla. He served on the Stratford School Board for five years. On July 4, 1954, he married JoWayne Harding of Stratford, and they were married for 57 years. He was preceded in death by his parents; and a niece. He is survived by his wife; two daughters, Melody Sample and husband Buddy and Stephanie Sanders, all of Fort Worth; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He is also survived by two brothers, Jimmy and wife Helen and Buzz and wife Nell of Dalhart; and a sister, Donna Brasch and husband Bob of Los Angeles; and several nieces and nephews. The family suggests memorials be to St. James Episcopal Church of Dalhart; or a charity of your choice. Sign the online guest book at horizonfuneral.com.

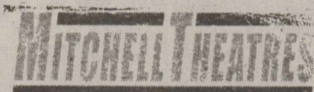


Juanita "Nita" Taylor

KERRICK - Juanita "Nita" Taylor, 90, died Friday, July 8, 2011. Graveside services were held at 10 a.m. Monday July 11, 2011 in Memorial Park Cemetery in Dalhart with the Rev. Steve Patterson, pastor of Central United Methodist Church in Dalhart, officiating. Arrangements were by Morrison Funeral Directors. Nita was born May 3, 1921, in Boise City, Okla., to Hiram and Minnie Butler. She married Ray "Hap" Taylor on Aug. 3, 1941, in Boise City. He preceded her in death in 1977. Nita and Hap were charter members of the Elks Lodge in Dalhart. Nita was a member of First United Methodist Church in Stratford. She also was preceded in death by a grandson, Ralph Ray Keener. Survivors include a daughter, Linda Keener and husband Poe of Stratford; two sons, Doug Taylor of Kerrick and Bill Taylor and wife Sandy of Eules; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. The family suggests memorials be to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1289, Stratford, TX 79084. Sign the online guest book at www.morrisonfuneraldirectors.com.

Scot Hall Scuttle

By Cindy Jackson
S.C.O.T. Hall held its first quilt show along with the annual garden tour. It was a huge success. Even though we worried about the gardens being a little sparse, they were beautiful and everyone enjoyed the tour immensely. We had an amazing display of quilts. If the quilts could have talked, the history and love they have wrapped themselves around. You had to go around and look at them more than once because you got a little more of their story each time you looked at them. Winner of the quilt raffle was Kim Allen. Congratulations Kim you won a beautiful quilt. We had close to 50 people in attendance. Everyone had a great time. A proper thank you will be placed in the paper next week. We did finally get our floor in the kitchen. It is beautiful; we are pretty well back together. Come by and see it if you get a chance. Luncheon Hosts for July are: Cindy Jackson, Jack Gore, Margaret Reed, Martha Mitts and Leonda Fedric It will be a Mexican Pile on Luncheon. Birthday Hostess: Gladys Arnold July 15, 2011- 2 p.m. Games July 21, 2011- 2 p.m. Birthday Party 3 p.m. Bingo July 26, 2011- Board Meeting 5:00 p.m. July 28, 2011- S.C.O.T. Luncheon Mexican Pile On July 30, 2011- B.B.Q. will be served @ S.C.O.T Hall @ Noon. S.C.O.T members are to bring desserts to sell at BBQ lunch. July 30th, 2011- Bake sale at Block Party. All S.C.O.T members are asked to bring something that can be eaten easily (cookies, brownies, bars, rice crispy treats, etc.) Thank you for being a part of the SCOT Hall family.



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

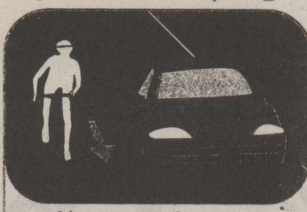
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Amarillo, TX

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Thursday & Friday
2 till 4 p.m.
For more
information call
Ann Wells 396-2527
Pat Hartman 366-7644
Dick Bachman 366-7679

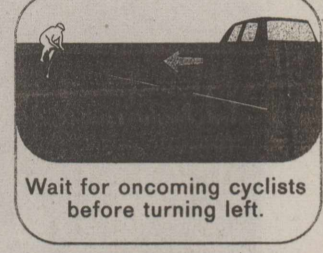
Reminder
Stratford Star
Fax number is
366-5884
Office phone
366-5885

Stratford Hospital District
Elk Pharmacy
Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM
366-5505
Angie Hipp, RPh
Stratford Family
Medical Clinic
Mon. - Fri. 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
396-5583
Tommy Brian, ANP
Coldwater Manor
Nursing Facility
396-5568
Karl Punch, LNFA
Stratford EMS
9-1-1 or 396-2844
Jimmy Lanning, Director
"Proudly serving the medical needs of
Stratford and Sherman County."

Share the Road Cyclist's Safety Tips



Share the Road Motorist's Safety Tips



These SAFETY TIPS are brought to you by
Save a Life
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
SUBARU
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Texas Bicycle Coalition
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More economical!
Differences between electric and hydraulic-driven systems
Have you seen the ads that insist hydraulic-driven systems are the better way to irrigate? Make sure to read between the lines - and we don't mean the oil lines. Fact is, Reinke "Electrogator" and "Alumigator" electric-driven irrigation systems are, and have always been among the safest, most reliable and cost-effective methods available to deliver water to your thirsty crops. Reinke encourages you to "leave to compare" the electrical energy requirements of electric and hydraulic driven systems. You will be amazed by the dollars you can save by going electric.
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Stratford, TX 79084
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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Stratford Star,
PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084

Attention to all subscribers!!
Effective immediately The Stratford Star will no longer be sending out notices when your paper is due. Check the label on the paper and see what month your subscription expires. **It will be putting "Stars" on the current month** If you have a Star on your label it means that your sub expires that month. If you are not sure the amount you owe if you live out of the area call 753-7373 and double check. Locally is \$30.00 and out of the area \$37.00. If you are paying for someone else's sub, you will be billed for that person. Due to the rising cost of postage, etc. we feel this is the best solution for us at this time. Thanking you in advance.
Marty

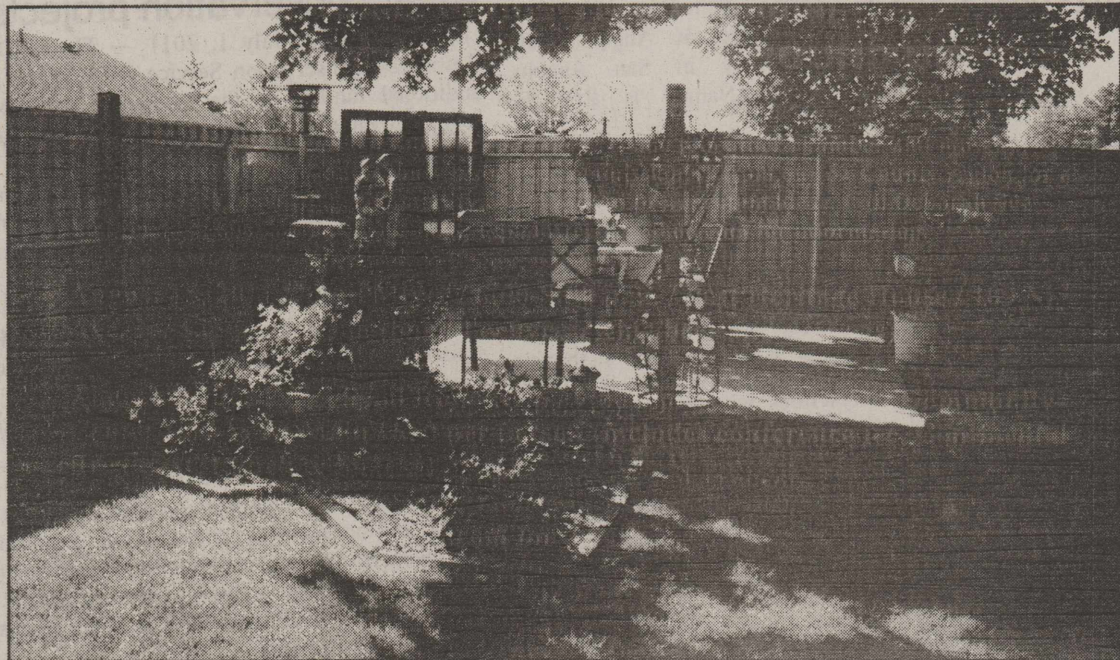
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Among the more unusual flavors of ice cream ever recorded are avocado, garlic, jalapeño and pumpkin.

EASY DOES IT EXERCISE CLASS @
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7/13/2011
7/20/2011
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WEDNESDAYS @ 8:00 A.M.
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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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OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY
110 S. Bliss Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday 8 a.m.-12 noon

Scot Garden Tour and Quilt show



Kerrick News

By Marylou McDaniel


Over the 4th of July weekend, Marylou McDaniel joined daughter, Patti, in Denver for wedding festivities. Kristen June Powell, married Naval pilot, Lt. Matt Gottschalk, July 3, 2011, at the Three Trees Chapel in Littleton, CO. Kristen is the daughter of former Stratford resident, Sharon Martensen Powell, Thornton, CO, and Gary Powell, One Tree, CO. Matt's parents are Mr. & Mrs. Rick Gottschalk of Arvada, CO. Nat Martensen of Pensacola, FL and Gloralie and the late Ray Martensen are the bride's maternal grandparents. Kristen's sister, Sarah Lynch, served as matron of honor and friend, Tricia Parkinson, bridesmaid. Jon Searle, long-time friend of the groom and the bride's cousin, was best man and Mat's brother, Derek Gottschalk, groomsman. Much to the delight of all, flower girl, 2 yr old Abigail Rose Lynch, niece of the bride, made one grand toss of the petals and chose to dart down the aisle into the arms of Uncle Matt. Conducting the ceremony was Michael Searle, uncle of the bride. A reception with dinner and dancing followed the service. Photographer for the event was cousin Morgan Martensen, Pensacola, FL, daughter of Allen & Barbara (Baber) Martensen.

On Saturday, July 2nd, Marylou & Patti attended a high tea hosted by aunt of the bride, Marcia Searle, and paternal grandmother, June Powell of Lewiston, ID. The ladies were regal in their hats and gloves enjoying delicacies served on a tea set that had belonged to Kristen's Swedish great-grandmother. That evening the McDaniels were included at the rehearsal dinner prepared by the groom's step-mother, Gayle, at the home of the groom's grandmother, Marion Gottschalk.

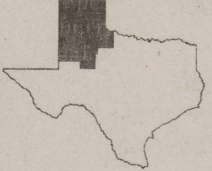
July 2, 2011, Mike McDaniel attended the nuptials of Cindy Graham and Edgie Walrath in Pueblo, CO. Cindy is the daughter of the late Donna Baker and niece of the late Franny Taylor. Serving as maid of honor to her cousin was Brenda Taylor of Littleton, CO, formerly of Kerrick.

A large crowd gathered at Morrison's Funeral Chapel Sunday evening for the open house for Nita Mae Taylor. Nita Mae passed away in her sleep Friday morning, July 8, 2011.

She was one of the original couples who built a home in Kerrick in 1948. Only one person of the original group still lives in Warrick (ME).



TEXAS PLAINS TRAIL
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
TEXAS HERITAGE TRAILS PROGRAM




—3rd Annual—
**Texas Plains Trail Regional
TOURISM & PRESERVATION ROUND-UP**
Let's Go To Post!

Does your community need a shot of enthusiasm? Come join other chamber and museum directors, civic leaders, and county historical commissioners from our 52-County region for a day filled with marketing, community building, and preservation ideas. Call Deborah Sue McDonald at 806-231-3479 or e-mail: txplainstrail@yahoo.com for information.


August 15, 2011 / Trail Mixer / 6:00-8:00 p.m. / Post Heritage House / 109 N. Ave. N / \$25 per person (hors d'oeuvres, wine/beer and desserts)

August 16, 2011 /Regional Round-Up / 9:00 a.m-3:30 p.m. / Post Community Center /113 West Main / \$50 per person (includes conference fee, Continental Breakfast, Lunch & Snacks)

Visit: www.TexasPlainsTrail.com for details



9TH ANNUAL



TURN THE HOGS LOOSE!

HOGMAN SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT STRATFORD, TEXAS

Friday, July 22, 2011
6 pm
Stratford Country Club

There will be burgers, golf, and trophies!!!

Contact Greg Wright @ 753-7059
Or Roger Allen @ 753-7833 for more info.

Come out have fun and help us support this great scholarship

Men's Health Update

Football MVP Helps Educate Men About Health

(NAPS)—Kurt Warner, a two-time professional football MVP and one of the final five competitors on Season 11 of ABC's "Dancing with the Stars," knows that staying healthy can make or break your game, whatever your game in life may be.



Kurt recently became a spokesperson for NUTRILITE®, from AMWAY, helping to educate men and their families about optimal health. He offers these tips for anyone looking to live a healthier lifestyle.

- 1. Eat a Rainbow a Day**—Most Americans eat a lot of beige food, like potatoes and bread. We all need to get foods from five color categories: red, green, blue/purple, white and yellow/orange.
- 2. Protein Comes in All Shapes and Sizes**—Instead of relying just on meat for protein, spice family meals up with quinoa, beans, oats, milk, yogurt, and soy protein.
- 3. Carbs Are Cool**—Cutting out carbs can have a negative effect on your mood, energy level, ability to build muscle and even to think. Eat good carbs like whole grains, fruit, leafy green veggies, and nuts.
- 4. Stay Connected Through Sex**—A happy, healthy sex life relieves stress and helps couples stay connected.
- 5. Hydration Is Huge**—Reach for water before you feel thirsty. Eight 8-oz. glasses per day is recommended. Or keep a rehydration drink like a NUTRILITE Sports Drink with you.
- 6. Feed Your Heart**—Some foods have heart-healthy benefits, like garlic, onions and apples, which contain nutrients that help lower blood pressure, and grapes and blueberries, which can help

Supplement your diet with a multivitamin, a concentrated fruit and vegetable supplement and an omega-3 supplement.

- cholesterol levels. Grapes are easy on the go and blueberries are a quick addition to cereal.
 - 7. Stay on Top of Stress**—Stress has a direct impact on the immune system and often leads to unhealthy choices. Spending time with friends or family, praying, practicing yoga or playing with your pet can help you deal with stress in a healthy way.
 - 8. Mind Games Matter**—Exercise your body AND your brain. Brain-stimulating games can keep your mind in top shape and support your memory.
 - 9. Make Exercise Fun**—Minimize time on the treadmill and instead maximize time playing with kids and friends while you exercise. A game of pickup basketball or an hour on the skating rink makes exercise fun.
 - 10. Supplement Your Diet**—NUTRILITE Perfect Pack includes a multivitamin, a concentrated fruit and vegetable supplement and an omega-3 supplement.
- For more information, visit your local Amway Independent Business owner or Amway.com/shopnutrilite.

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 8:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

First Christian Church
Pastor Dan Elliott
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.
Senior High UMY 5:00 p.m.
Youth High UMY 6:00 p.m.

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

Church of Christ 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. 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 p.m. youth-7 p.m.

La Mision Bautista
Mision Bautista
401 S. Wall 396-5376
Domingo-(Sunday)
Escuela 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
Santitos Durante El Servicio

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.

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754-4411
Stratford Star
366-5885**

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

2011 MOBILE VET CENTER (MVC) VISIT – SHERMAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN STRATFORD, TEXAS:



Event: Mobile Vet Center (MVC) will visit Stratford, Texas.

Date: JULY 18, 2011.

Time: 10:30AM – 1:00PM.

Place: We will park at the Sherman County Courthouse.

Who is Invited: Open to all veterans, their families, and the general public.

Event Sponsor: Amarillo Vet Center
3414 Olsen Blvd., Suite E
Amarillo, TX 79109

Event Purpose: Provide education to veterans, their families, and visitors to discuss the mission of the MVC and help those who qualify for VA benefits and/or readjustment counseling services following combat trauma, military sexual trauma, and/or family members of deceased active duty members who died in combat.

Contacts: William Donaldson, MSW, MVC Counselor & Shawn White, MVC Technician-Driver.

Phone Number: (806) 354-9779

Burton Named to Dean's List

The Dean's List for the 2011 Spring Semester has been announced at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas. Named is Eric B. Burton.

Texas NRCS receives funding for Panhandle and South Plains water conservation projects

Lubbock, Texas, July 1, 2011 — The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced additional funding in the Panhandle and South Plains regions to enhance natural resources on Texas agricultural working lands. Additional funds are now available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to address water conservation concerns through the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) and the Ogallala Aquifer Initiative.

"AWEP and the Ogallala Aquifer Initiative are both voluntary programs and provide financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to improve water conditions on their agricultural land," said Salvador Salinas, NRCS state conservationist for Texas. "With water supplies at an all-time low, this is just one more way agriculture can help conserve its use."

AWEP and the Ogallala Aquifer Initiative promote ground and surface water conservation by helping farmers and ranchers implement agricultural water enhancement activities. Projects address water quantity resource concerns in the 49 Panhandle and South Plains counties within the Aquifer area.

Types of water enhancement activities include water quantity or water conservation plan development; irrigation system improvements and irrigation efficiency enhancements; water conservation restoration and activities designed to mitigate the effects of drought. All these activities are utilized to enhance water quantity or water conservation benefits on agricultural lands.

Producers are encouraged to work with NRCS on conservation planning assistance to develop a conservation plan as a primary tool for long-term management of their natural resources.

"Benefits of a conservation plan go a long way in helping producers protect and improve their land," said Jon Weddle, NRCS program manager in Lubbock. "The plan will help producers qualify for NRCS financial assistance to implement the conservation practices to make the changes on their farms or ranches. It will also serve as a planning tool, and can be modified as they change their objectives and goals throughout the years."

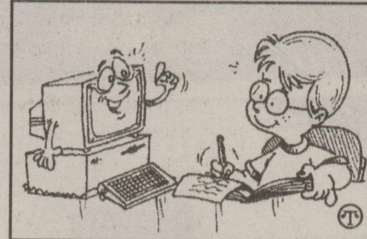
EQIP is a continuous sign-up program. NRCS will be accepting applications through July 29, 2011 for current funding. NRCS implements the programs by entering into EQIP contracts directly with agricultural producers.

Visit your local USDA Service Center and talk to the NRCS office staff about the details for AWEP and the Ogallala Aquifer Initiative, conservation planning, and other programs to help protect your farm. For more information about EQIP, go to

www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip and click on Texas 2011 EQIP information.

Did You Know?

(NAPS)—Explain to your children that when they post something on a social network, they're making it available to anybody anywhere who has an account there. Teach them that some information is worth keeping private, suggests Father Boes, president and national executive director of Boys Town. For more parenting tips, go to www.parenting.org.



The growing adoption of smartphones is making a huge impact on the real estate industry. As a result, many real estate companies are developing apps, such as the Century 21 mobile app, which may be downloaded via most major smartphones.

A benefit fund has been set up for Medical Expenses for Matthew Chaffee at The First State Bank of Stratford.

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