

Melvin Mitts 06/16  
PO Box 523  
Stratford, TX 79084

Capitol of Texas

*Happy New Year*

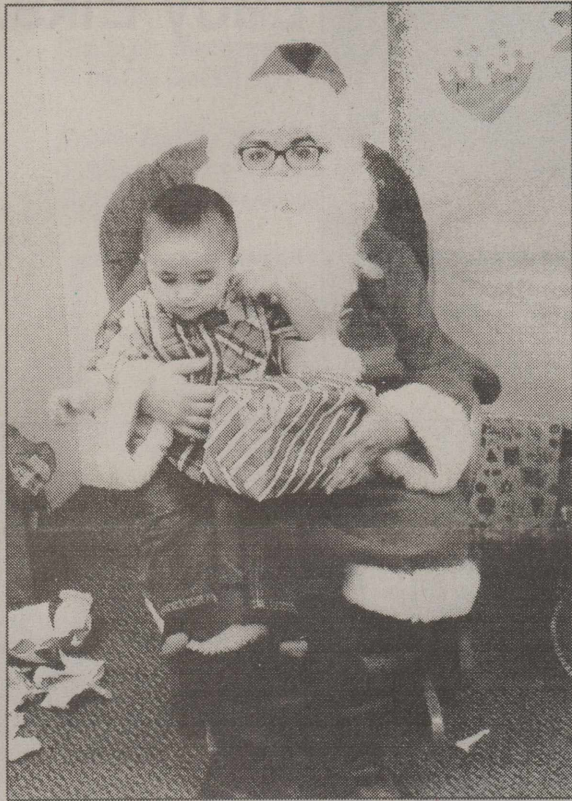
# The Stratford Star

75 cents

Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084 usps 523 Number 52 December 31, 2015



Nineteen Pre-K and toddlers enjoyed their morning snacks during the Christmas Party held at Lollipop Junction.



This young child got to sit on Santa's lap during his visit at Lollipop Junction during the Christmas Party

## Christmas Celebrated at Lollipop Junction

Twenty-seven children celebrated Christmas at Lollipop Junction December 17, 2015. Santa Claus came to the child day care center and learned from children their Christmas wish, then received a gift and candy cane from the Jolly St. Nick. After opening their gifts, the children enjoyed snacks of cheese cubes, fruit, fruit juice and a cookie.

The board of directors would like to express appreciation to the community for supporting the recently conducted Zak's Cheese fundraiser. Over \$1000.00 was raised and this money will be used for operational expenses of the center. The board also extends a big thank you to the parents of the children who attend the day care center who patiently understood the major plumbing problems that forced the center to be closed for two days.

Lollipop Junction extends New Year greetings to everyone for a successful 2016!!! The center extends an invitation to everyone to visit and learn more about their service to the community.



## Santa visits on December 17th

Santa Claus was extremely busy trying to visit as many places as he could before Christmas Eve. Santa visited with the kiddos on Thursday, December 17, 2015 at the "Christmas on the Star" event held on the Star on Main Street. Cece Yelek brought Santa down Main Street with her horse and carriage. (Photographers pic did not come out). Also Stratford Fire Department and EMTs blocked off Main Street and helped with the visit from Santa. Thanks to everyone.

**Medical Benefit Account has been set up at Happy State Bank for David Acosta**

## Updated Project Christmas Card

Joe & Chris Flores  
Claudine Allen  
The Lisa  
Gonzalez Family  
Joyce & William  
Glen Hart  
Marty Bain

Total for Project Christmas Card-\$2930.00

## 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

BBTX08V07

## Stratford Lady Elks Christmas Gift to Snack Pak

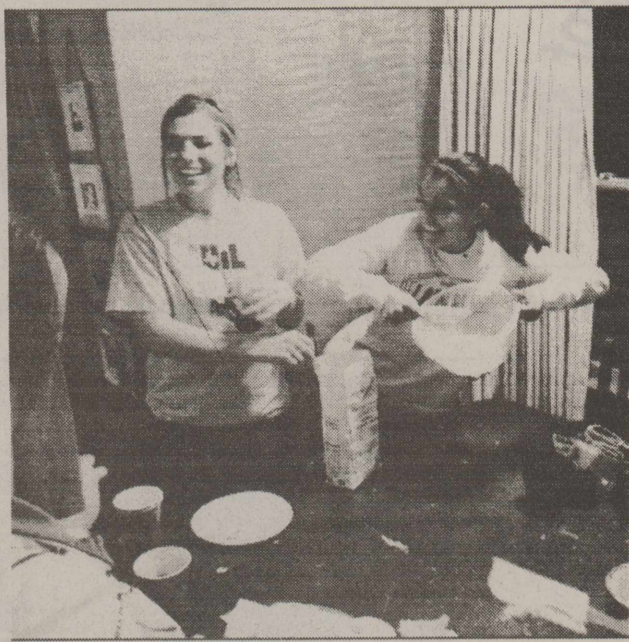
For most children Christmas break is a fun and exciting time, but there are many children in our community who dread the long holiday because for them it means a two week period with very little food.

It is surprising to many of us to think that there are children in Stratford who are hungry, but the harsh reality is that approximately 60 children in this community live in food-insecure homes where little ones sometimes go days at a time without a meal.

The Snack Pak 4 Kids program was created specifically to provide weekend nourishment for elementary-aged children in food-insecure homes so that they are able to concentrate and learn at school on Mondays. Over long holidays the Snack Paks also include peanut butter and crackers to provide some additional nutrition over the long school break.

This year the Snack Paks will also include a little bit of Christmas cheer, courtesy of the Stratford Lady Elks. These amazing young ladies are preparing Christmas cookies and Christmas candy to include in the Paks that the children will receive when they leave for the long break.

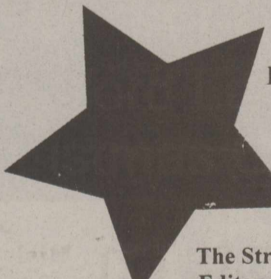
Snack Pak would like to thank the Stratford Lady Elks for this loving act - a true showing of the Christmas spirit.



Thanks to  
 all of the  
 Stratford  
 Lady Elks



\*\*\*\*\*  
**Attention to all subscribers!!**  
**Rate change**  
 The Stratford Star is no longer sending out notices when your paper is due. Check the label on the paper and see what month your subscription expires. **I 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 \$33.00 and out of the area \$40.00. If you are paying for someone else's sub, you will be billed for that person. The Stratford Star, PO Box 8, Stratford, TX 79084  
 Thanks-Marty



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### SCOT HALL ACTIVITIES

Men's Pool-daily 1 p.m. M-F

Ladies Mexican Train Dominoes-  
 Mondays 1:30 p.m.

Ladies Chair Exercises-M-W-F  
 10:00 -10:30 a.m.

Ladies Yoga-Tuesdays 9:15-10:00 a.m.

Bingo-Second Tuesday 7 p.m.  
 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Immediately following  
 noon luncheon

Monthly Luncheon-4<sup>th</sup> Thursday-12 noon  
 (covered dish luncheon)

## Stratford Hospital District

"Proudly serving the medical needs of Stratford and Sherman County"  
 Stratford Family Medical Clinic

**Stratford Family Medical Clinic**

Mon. - Thurs 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
 396-5583 Tommy Brian, ANP & Krista Brown ANP

**Elk Pharmacy**

Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. - 5:30 PM  
 "Check our Competitive pricing"  
 "Compounding Available"

366-5505 Randall Orcutt, RPH

**Coldwater Manor Nursing Facility**

396-5568 Mark Moore, 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.

## Mitchell Theaters

Northridge 8  
 Guymon, OK  
[www.northridge8.com](http://www.northridge8.com)  
 580-338-3281  
 Southgate 6  
 Liberal, Kansas  
[www.southgate6.com](http://www.southgate6.com)  
 620-624-5573  
 Garden City, Kansas  
[www.sequoyah8.com](http://www.sequoyah8.com)  
 620-275-2760



Left to right back row: Wid Stevenson (not shown but holding sheep and dove) and Joan Henderson (holding donkey and cow) front row: Frances Stipe, Grace Lyles, Wade Estes, Lynn Gilbert, Helen Summerour and Charles McClain

## Legacy Hold Christmas Party

By Paula Nusz

Legacy Assisted Living of Dalhart, Texas, held their Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 22, 2015. Over 55 persons attended the program and party. The entertainment was the Legacy Choir's presentation of "The Friendly Beasts". The presentation had narration, singing and prop animals. The choir members were Frances Stipe, Grace Lyles, Wade Estes, Lynn Gilbert, and Helen Summerour. The narrator was Charles McClain. The props were displayed by Wid Stevenson and Joan Henderson (a volunteer). The director was Paula Nusz. The story line was about what gifts the animals gave Baby Jesus while he was in the stable.

Following the program, eggnog and Tra-La-La Trifle was served. Thank you to Donna Thompson and her husband (volunteers) for serving the eggnog. Christmas Card Exchange cards were distributed. Thank you to everyone who brought cards to Legacy for the residents. An afternoon of holiday cheer and happiness was shared with friends, family members, Legacy residents and staff.

## Legacy Residents Enjoy Children at Christmas

By Paula Nusz

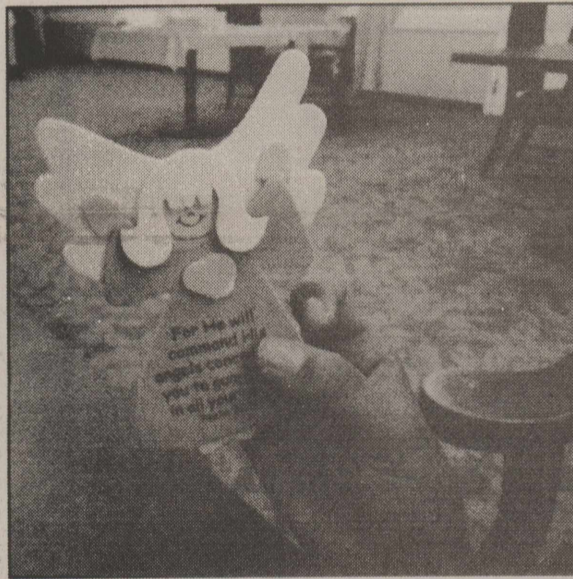
If Christmas is for children, then Legacy Assisted Living residents located in Dalhart, Texas, have had more than their share of holiday joy! Legacy residents have been visited by numerous youth in December.

The St. Anthony's Parochial School has been a special blessing this month. The fifth grade class came and helped resident make Christmas ornaments. The first grade class came to have a reading time with residents. The second, fourth, and sixth grade classes came to perform songs from their Christmas pageant.

The Intermediate School's fifth grade class (120 children) came one morning to sing. Several of their arrangements had instrumental accompaniments. The students played a variety of instruments including one called a Boom Whacker (Tone Tube) which resembled swimming pool noodles! One student, Mikayla Waller, played a special piece on the piano. These students came in 3 groups so the morning was full of music.

The pre-school from the Central United Methodist Church came and presented their program, "Christmas in Jammies". This group of 3 and 4 year olds was so precious and their songs were very sweet.

Friends and Family 4-H Club come one evening for their traditional time of games and snacks. Girl Scouts Daisy Troop 5151 brought Christmas cards and gifts to share. The youth from the Mennonite Church came to sing. A group of Dalhart girls brought homemade cookies to share. Legacy residents have been overjoyed by the community's interaction and interest. Children are special to these residents and each visit has been a blessing.



# Happy New Year

## 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.

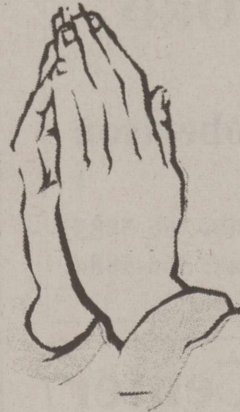
**First Christian Church**  
5<sup>th</sup> & Main  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. (nursery)  
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. (nursery)  
No Sunday evening Worship Service

**First United Methodist**  
Rev. Steve Ulrey 396-2178  
520 N. Main  
Sunday School 9:20 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Junior & Senior High UMY 6:00 p.m.

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
6<sup>th</sup> & 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 Ron Whitt  
702 N. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
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.

**Heritage Bible Baptist**  
Pastor Mark Looney  
302 S. Main  
For more info-call 396-2212  
Morning worship 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Service 6 p.m.  
Thurs. Service 7:00 p.m.



**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  
Susuinos 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.

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

**Church of Christ**  
Raymond Glendinning  
N. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 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.

This page sponsored by  
Stratford Grain 396-5541  
Lautz 769-5541  
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366-5885

## Pajama Drive

Macy Begley stated we collected 26 PJs in 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grades from Thanksgiving to Dec. 11. They will be delivered to the charity chosen by the great pajama drive, which is Martha's Home in Amarillo, and then Scholastic will send 26 books to Martha's home. The class pictured brought the most pajamas and won a prize.

This is the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive. Since 2009, Scholastic Reading Club classrooms have collected and donated almost 350,000 pairs of pajamas to Pajama Program through the Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive.



## State Competition

SHS cheerleaders will be competing in the UIL Spirit State Competition January 14. They will be competing in three categories: band dance, fight song, and cheer/chant. There will be 27 other 2A teams that they will compete against and the top scoring teams will advance to the final round where all three categories are combined for a three minute routine. Shown from left: Alexie Wright, Agustina Eizmendi, Brandon Mireles, Rabeca Couch, Francisco Ramirez-Mascot, Whitney Stone-Head Cheerleader, Remie Seward and Taylor Aduddell.



# Business Directory

PO Box 510  
 Stratford, TX 79084  
 Phone: 806-366-5557

## Duncan Chevrolet

[www.duncanchevrolet.com](http://www.duncanchevrolet.com)  
 E-mail: [duncanch@xit.net](mailto:duncanch@xit.net)  
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Stratford 396-5541  
 Lautz 769-4485

4 North Main

## THE STRATFORD STAR

Duane & Marty Robertson

PO Box 8 Office: 806-366-5885  
 Stratford, TX 79084 Fax: 366-5884  
 e-mail: [stardm@xit.net](mailto:stardm@xit.net)

## A & I Parts Center

Automotive and Industrial Parts  
 201 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street-  
 Stratford, TX 79084

Tel: (806) 366-5592  
 \*Toll-free 800-624-5494  
 Fax: (806) 366-2583

## Shari Hudson Photography

PO Box 243  
 Stratford, TX 79084  
 Cell PH: 806-753-7798  
 Email: [ghud@xit.net](mailto:ghud@xit.net)  
[www.sharihudsonphotography.com](http://www.sharihudsonphotography.com)  
 Seniors-Children-Families  
 Wedding-Special events  
 Engagements

## Vincent Insurance Agency

Sabrina Melton

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



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## Legal Notice

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO VACATE A PORTION OF 2nd STREET (IOWA AVENUE), PINE STREET (ILLINOIS AVENUE), AN ALLEY LOCATED WITHIN BLOCK 97, AND AN ALLEY LOCATED WITHIN BLOCK 80**

The City Council of the City of Stratford, Texas, has received a petition from Ross Shaver to close and abandon a portion of the streets and alleys listed above for the construction of a Pilot Flying "3" Travel Center following their lease or purchase of all tracts abutting the roads and alleys to be abandoned.

The City Council of the City of Stratford hereby gives notice that a public hearing shall be held regarding said closure and invites the citizens of Stratford to comment on the request to abandon, vacate and close portions of these streets and alleys.

The public hearing shall be held as follows:  
**DATE:** January 26, 2016  
**TIME:** 6:00 P.M.  
**PLACE:** City Hall, 520 North Third, Stratford, Texas.

The public is encouraged to attend and provide comments to the City Council. Date: December 28, 2015.

Tommy Bogart, City Manager City of Stratford, Texas  
Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, December 31, 2015 and Thursday, January 7, 2016

## Help Wanted

Cimarron Feeders is accepting applications for the following positions:

- Feed truck Driver
- Mill Laborer

17 miles S Keyes, OK on HWY 171  
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 401K and paid time off. Pre-employment drug screen required.  
EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled  
JBS Five Rivers Cattle feeding is an equal opportunity Employer 12-31-tfn

Coldwater Manor is taking applications for RN's, LVN, Dietary Assistant and Housekeeping. Apply in person. From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday. EOE 7-16-tfn

## For Rent

Office Space-305 N. Main, across from bank. Call 806-570-0441 (7-30-tfn)

## Card of Thanks

To everyone who donated to Project Christmas Card, I thank you for your continued support. Please feel free to come by and visit your library  
Sandy Baskin

**Please consider using the Star classifieds for all your needs in selling, garage sales, help wanted ads etc. We appreciate your business 366-5885**

## USDA Begins 49th Enrollment Period for the Conservation Reserve Program

December 2015 Marks 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Nation's Most Successful Voluntary Conservation Program

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1, 2015 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today reminded farmers and ranchers that the next general enrollment period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) begins today, Dec. 1, 2015, and ends on Feb. 26, 2016. December 2015 also marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CRP, a federally funded program that assists agricultural producers with the cost of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees to improve water quality,

prevent soil erosion and reduce loss of wildlife habitat.

As of September 2015, 24.2 million acres were enrolled in CRP. CRP also is protecting more than 170,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, enough to go around the world 7 times. For an interactive tour of CRP success stories from across the U.S., visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/CRPis30](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/CRPis30), or follow on Twitter at #CRPis30.

"Over the past 30 years, farmers, ranchers, conservationists, hunters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts have made CRP one of the most successful conservation programs in the history of the country," said Vilsack. "Today, CRP continues to make major environmental improvements to water and air quality. This is another longstanding example of how agricultural production can work hand in hand with efforts to improve the environment and increase wildlife habitat."

Participants in CRP establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees (known as "covers") to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat on marginally productive agricultural lands. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. At times when commodity prices are low, enrolling sensitive lands in CRP can be especially attractive to farmers and ranchers, as it softens the economic hardship for landowners at the same time that it provides ecological benefits. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years. The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish native plant species on marginal agricultural lands for the primary purpose of preventing soil erosion and improving water quality and related benefits of reducing loss of wildlife habitat.

Contracts on 1.64 million acres of CRP are set to expire on Sept. 30, 2016. Producers with expiring contracts or producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP.

Since it was established on Dec. 23, 1985, CRP has:  
Prevented more than 9 billion tons of soil from eroding, enough soil to fill 600 million dump trucks;  
Reduced nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to annually tilled cropland by 95 and 85 percent respectively;

## 2016 TREE SALE

Time is here once again for Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District's annual Spring Tree Sale. Order forms are ready and can be picked up at our office at 418 North 4th in Stratford, or we can mail it if you give us a call. We can also email the order form if you supply us with an email address. Just call us or email us at [shermwcd@xit.net](mailto:shermwcd@xit.net).

While we try to list as many species that are available for this area, we cannot list them all. If you have any special wants or wishes as far as trees go this year, please call the office at 396-5517 ext. 3 and we will be happy to try and find what you need.

The District can also fill requests for drip irrigation supplies. We keep some drip supplies in stock, and will help in the design of your system and order exactly what is needed for you if we do not have it. Delivery is usually within three working days. You can also help your investment with the installation of weed barrier. We have this available also. This is especially important in windbreaks because we do not want the newly planted seedlings to have to fight with weeds and grass for water. The barrier will help prevent the growth of weeds and grass and keep the moisture in the ground.

If you need a Tree Order Form, want to place an order for trees, irrigation supplies, weed barrier or just have any questions regarding the trees or need help planning for your particular needs, please do not hesitate to contact the District or the NRCS at 396-5517 ext. 3.

Thank you for your continued support of conservation in Sherman County.

**Hope everyone has a Very Happy and safe New Year**

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Charles & Chuck Harbour  
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**Remko**

Cont. on page 6



### 150 Bags of breakfast food items donated

Shown above is a collection of the bags of breakfast food items donated by the folks in Stratford who participated in the XIT Breakfast Food Drive recently. Over 150 bags of food were collected for the local food pantries in our area. The food collected in Stratford went to the Pantry of Stratford. XIT would like to thank all the residents of Stratford for making the food drive such a huge success!

## XIT Food Drive a Success

Every October, Cooperatives from all over the country celebrate National Cooperative Month. This year, XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. management and employees decided to conduct a breakfast food drive in all our local communities during the months of October and November in celebration of the 7th core principle of cooperatives, which is Concern For Community.

We invited residents in our coverage area to come by one of our XIT offices to pick up a XIT reusable grocery tote, fill it with non-perishable breakfast food items, then bring the items to any XIT office. Residents were then given a reusable tote bag to keep as our thank you. The response in all the communities was just wonderful!

XIT collected over 150 filled grocery tote bags full of breakfast foods, along with several monetary donations. The food will be donated to the food banks and pantries in our coverage area to help struggling families to keep food on the table this winter. The pantries participating in this year's food drive include The Pantry of Stratford, Vega Food Pantry/UMC, Texline Food Pantry, The Food Pantry at Lincoln Street Baptist Church and the Dalhart Church of the Nazarene Food Bank.

If anyone would like to still participate in the breakfast food drive, it's not too late! Just drop your donated items off at any XIT office and pick up your free XIT reusable tote bag as our thank you!

XIT would like to thank all the people who participated in XIT's Breakfast Food Drive! Without generous and caring folks, like yourselves, we could not have made this food drive the huge success it was! Caring people are what make the Texas Panhandle such a wonderful place to live and a great place to raise a family! THANK YOU!

wants to say...

# THANK YOU!

to everyone who has helped to make our breakfast food drive such a **HUGE** success!

**Dalhart**  
244-3355 • 1624 Tennessee Ave  
384-3311 • 12324 US Hwy 87

**Stratford**  
366-3355 • 401 N 3rd St

### USDA Cont. from page 5

Sequestered an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, equal to taking 9 million cars off the road.

Since 1996, CRP has created nearly 2.7 million acres of restored wetlands.

For more information FSA conservation programs, visit a local FSA office or [www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation).

To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

The Conservation Reserve Program was re-authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for taxpayers. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing, and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).

#

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).