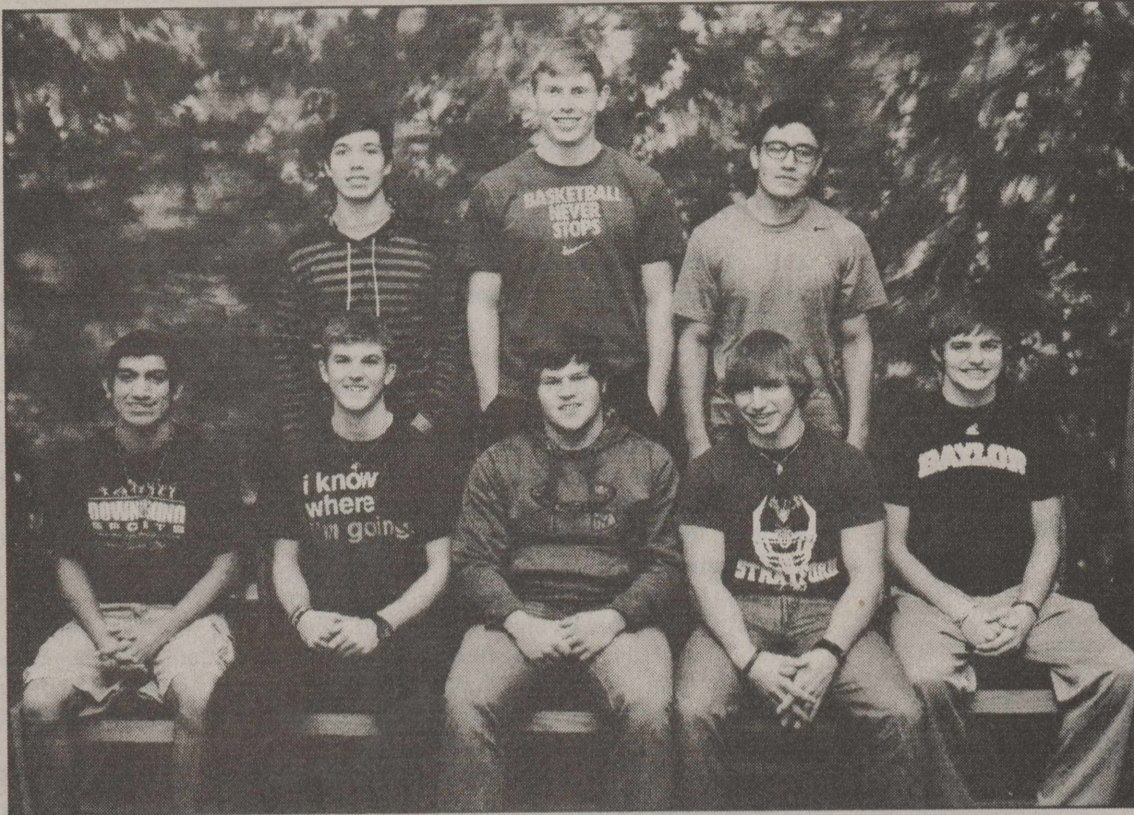


The
Capitol of Texas

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

The Stratford Star

75 cents Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084 usps 523 Number 2 January 14, 2016



Imagine That at The Imagination Station

Wishing you a Happy and Successful New Year

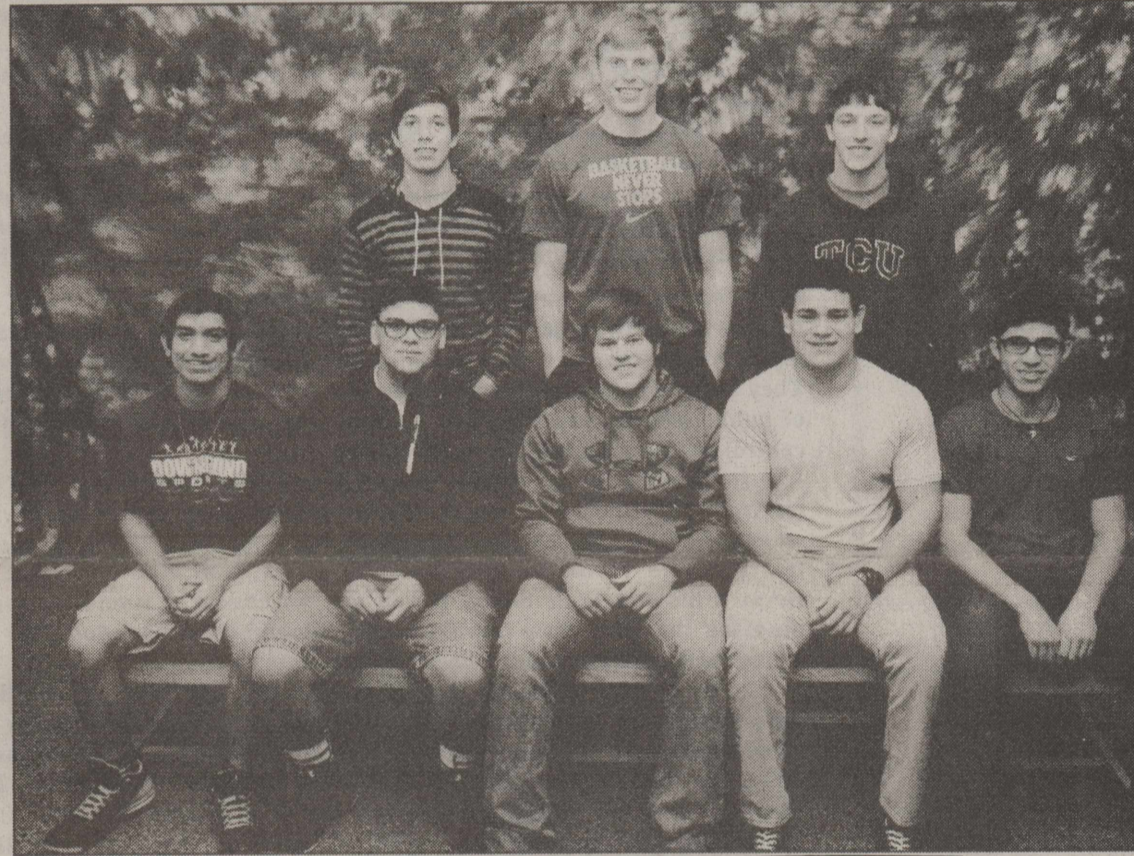
Upcoming activities: January 17 "Italian Dinner" Fund raiser, February; Cub Scout Pinewood Derby, Rented for Jazz

March: Mother c& Daughter "Cinderella Brunch" April: Week of Young Child "Fairy Tales".

The Imagination Station will receive items now for the Whale of a Sale in September. Terri Teig, our drama queen, has moved to Amarillo so..... how can we replace her? Maybe with two enthusiastic persons.

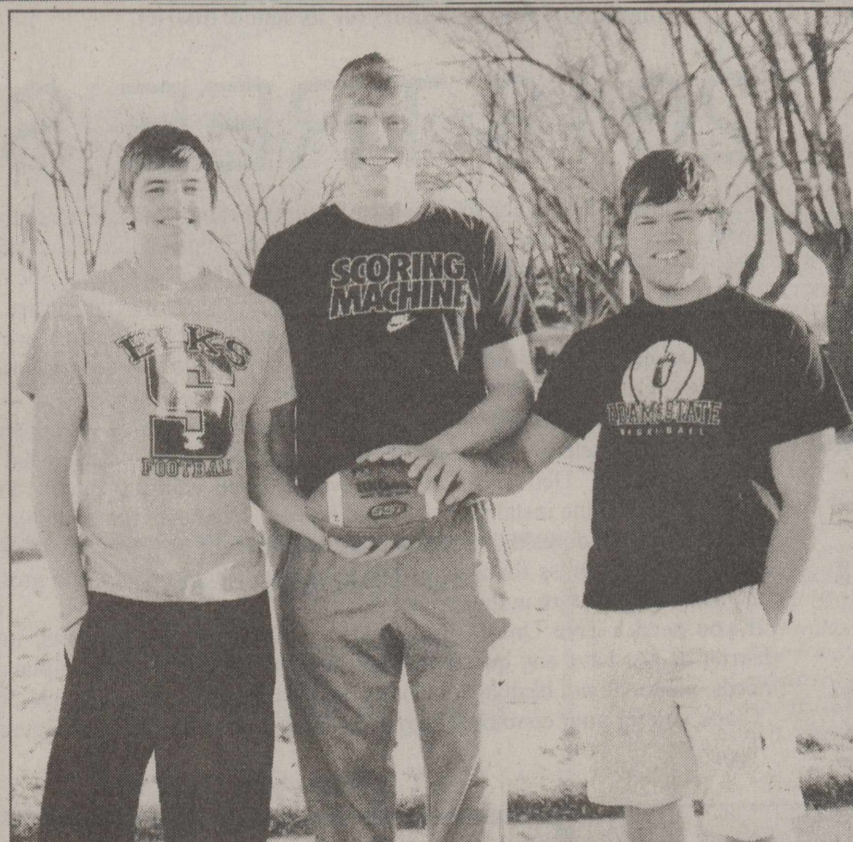
1-2A Football All-District 1st team offense & defense

1-2A Football All-District First Team Offense & Defense. Seated L/R: Kevin Hernandez - Running back, Jack McBryde - Quarterback, Tanner Stone - Defensive MVP & Offensive Line, Blake Griffin - Running Back, Ty Hess - Receiver and Secondary. Standing from left, Fernando Jacquez -Secondary, Parker Hanna - Defensive Line, Andy Reyes - Tight End and Secondary.



1-2A football all district second team offense and defense

1-2A Football All-District Second Team Offense & Defense. Seated from left, Kevin Hernandez - Linebacker, Kobi Garza - Defensive Line, Tanner Stone - Punter, Juan Camberos - Tight End & Defensive Line, Erasmo Ibarra - Offensive Line. Standing from left, Fernando Jacquez - Running Back, Parker Hanna - Kicker, and Gage Brooks - Running Back.



Hess, Parker & Stone honored on Amarillo Globe News Golden Spread Team

Ty Hess, Parker Hanna, and Tanner Stone were recently named to the Amarillo Globe News Golden Spread Team. Ty Hess was named Honorable Mention All-State Defensive Back. Parker Hanna received Honorable Mention All-State Defensive Lineman and Tanner Stone received Honorable Mention All-State Linebacker.

2015 Weather Year in Review

It is said most droughts end in flood here in the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles. That was certainly the case for 2015's many heavy rain events. After 4 years of persistent and severe drought conditions, above normal precipitation returned to the whole region over the course of the year. Most locations in the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles received between 150%-200% of normal precipitation by year's end. Precipitation totals comparable to this year had not been seen since the 1960's. Amarillo reached its 41st wettest year on record. Other locations including Borger, Pampa, and Lipscomb experienced their wettest year on record. Beneficial rainfall during the year finally pushed Lake Meredith back above 25% capacity (first time since 2006) and Greenbelt above 23% capacity. The beginning of an El Niflo event took shape across the equatorial Pacific Ocean during the winter of 2014-2015 and strengthened throughout the year to eventually tie 1997-98 as the strongest El Niño event since records began in 1950. This oceanic and atmospheric pattern helped direct many notable weather systems across the Panhandles including a January snowstorm that brought 12 inches of snow to Amarillo, record-setting rainfall in May, river and playa lake flooding throughout the summer, a rare November tornado outbreak, and a Thanksgiving weekend ice storm that halted holiday travel for many.

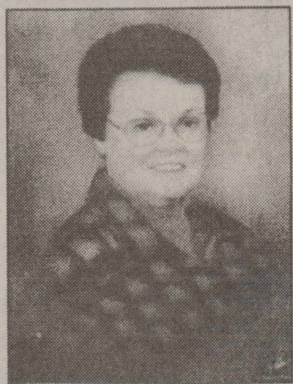
The spring and summer months were dominated by severe weather and flooding rain events, as the strengthening El Nifio enhanced the North American monsoon and shifted its impacts toward New Mexico and West Texas. An extremely active Eastern Pacific hurricane season saw the remnants of several dying tropical storms and hurricanes impact this region with increased rainfall and storminess. The year's first severe storms produced hail in late March, and periods of severe weather continued even late into the year. A very rare November tornado outbreak occurred on November 16th, with 19 separate tornadoes touching down across the eastern Panhandles. A single December tornado spotted north of McLean and quarter to half dollar sized hail accompanied the last severe weather episode for the year on December 12th. For the first time since 2002, the temperature never reached 100 degrees or higher in Amarillo all year. In comparison, Amarillo hit the 100 degree mark a record-setting 50 times during the height of the drought in 2011.

Attention All 4-H and FFA Members:
Sherman County Stock Show Entry
Fees Are now being accepted at the
Sherman County Extension Office
Must be paid by 4:00 PM January 22nd

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

Greg Wright said the official
total moisture for
Stratford-2015
30.89 Inches

Obituaries



Mary Jo Cox

August 28, 1934 - January 10, 2016

Mary Jo Cox, 81 of Stratford, passed away on Sunday, January 10, 2016. Graveside services are scheduled for 10:30 in the morning on Thursday, January 14, 2016 at Marella Cemetery in Griggs OK. A memorial service will follow at 2 o'clock in the afternoon at the First United Methodist Church in Stratford with Rev. Steve Ulrey, pastor of the church, officiating and Rev. Robert Sewell assisting. Arrangements are entrusted to Morrison Funeral Directors.

Mary was born August 28, 1934 in Maple TX to Jimmy Ray (J.R.) and Olga (Hogg) Thompson. She attended school in Claude where she graduated High School. She was united in marriage to Bill Cox on August 18, 1968 at the Kingswood United Methodist Church in Amarillo. Mary worked as a bookkeeper for several different companies including, JC Penney, Pacific Finance, and Corral Ford in Stratford.

Mary had several talents. She was an excellent cook, artist, seamstress and well known for her quiet books she would make. She was member of the First United Methodist Church where she served as the assistant treasurer and was a co-chairman on the funeral committee. She was also very active in the Methodist Women's Organization and was a member of the Tri Corner Art Association. Most of all she was a very devoted wife, mother, and grandmother to her family.

She is preceded in death by her parents, sister: Ranita; sister-in-laws: Viola Thompson and Donna Thompson; son-in-law: Billy Stafford and daughter-in-law: Ginger Higgins.

Mary is survived by her husband Bill Cox of the home; sons: Jim Higgins of Fredricksburg, TX and Mike Cox and wife Christy of Griggs, OK; daughters: Linda North and husband Jack of Shallowater, TX and Nakita Brack and husband John of Amarillo, TX; brothers: Leron Thompson of Canadian, TX and David Thompson and wife Jimmie of Oklahoma City, OK; sister: Peggy Sewell and husband Bob of Nashville, TN; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and hosts of extended family members and friends.

The family suggests memorials be made to First United Methodist Church, Funeral Account, PO Box 1289, Stratford, TX 79084 or Coldwater Manor, Activity Fund, 1111 Beaver Rd, Stratford, TX 79084. The family will be at 1211 N Chestnut.

From the Bird's Nest January, 2016 By Jerry Birdsong Superintendent

It is halftime for the 2015-16 school year. Our students continue to be successful and make us proud. Our staff is doing tremendous job on a daily basis getting our kids the things they need to be successful. The fall semester was great, but we are looking for more great things at Stratford ISD this spring.

The 2015 Niche Ranking has Stratford ISD as the 83rd best school district in the state of Texas. This includes every district in the state - almost 1100 districts - large and small - meaning Stratford ISD is in the top 10% of school districts in Texas. Ranking factors included Academic, Health & Safety, Student Culture & Diversity, Teachers, Resources & Facilities, Extracurricular & Activities, and Sports & Fitness. According to the k12.niche.com website "The high ranking indicates that the district contains great schools with exceptional teachers, sufficient resources, and a diverse set of high-achieving students who rate their experiences very highly." It is always great that someone on the outside of Stratford recognizes what a tremendous place Stratford ISD is for young people.

On February 1st, the University Interscholastic League will release the district alignments for 2016-18. Last November UIL released realignment conference numbers that will bring changes to Stratford's football and basketball districts. UIL Academic, track and cross country districts are the same as basketball.

The new football conference enrollment numbers of Class 2A Division will be 158-220. Stratford HS turned in an enrollment of 165. Current district rival Canadian (270) and Wellington (155) turned in numbers that will move them out of our district and into other classifications. Panhandle, West Texas and Boys Ranch are expected to stay in the football district. Fritch (206) and Sunray (166) are likely replacements.

In basketball, Conference 2A enrollment numbers will be 105-220. Again, Canadian will move out as will Booker (99). Gruver, Sunray, and West Texas High are expected to stay in the basketball district. Fritch is likely to join Stratford's basketball district, but we won't know until February whether UIL keeps the district with five teams or finds other schools to fill out the district.

January is School Board Recognition Month and Stratford ISD is joining other districts across the state to thank these local leaders for the dedication and willingness to serve as advocates for our children and public schools. We want to take this opportunity to build awareness and understanding of the vital function an elected board of trustees plays in our communities.

Texans and Stratford benefit every day from the dedicated energies and countless hours devoted by a group of more than 7,000 men and women across the state. Their actions and decisions affect the present and future lives of all our children. Even though we are making a special effort during January to show appreciation to our school board members, we recognize their work reflects a year-round commitment. Every day trustees demonstrate strength and dedication as they focus on excellence for their district programs, their teachers, and most importantly their students. They unselfishly contribute their time and talents toward the advancement of public schools, and represent a continuing commitment to local citizen control and decision making in education.

Serving as a crucial link between the community and the classroom, this board is responsible for an annual budget of \$6.4M, 600 students, 110 employees and three campuses. Stratford ISD is served by trustees Brad McBryde, Tres Hess, Jo Hinds, Tim Hudson, Dan Law, Bryan Clift and Walt Berry. If you get the chance, I would encourage thanking them for their service to our community, school and kids and giving them a nice pat on the back for their efforts.

The successes that Stratford ISD has had are a direct reflection of the support and high expectations that the community has given the district over the years. It is an honor and a privilege for me to serve the community, parents, staff, and students of Stratford ISD. Stratford ISD has done a tremendous job of educating the kids of this community for many years. Again, I want to thank the Stratford community for its support for its school district.

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.
4th Thursday Immediately following
noon luncheon

Monthly Luncheon-fourth Thursday-
12:00 noon (covered dish luncheon)

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.

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.



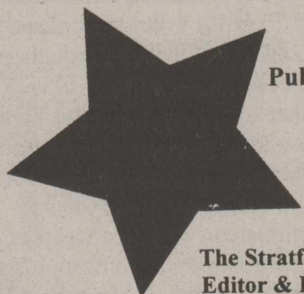
It's said that in the 1600s, English women would sometimes wear carrot leaves in their hats in place of flowers or feathers.

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

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



The Stratford Star
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Stratford, TX 79084
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Advertising & Photographer Shari Hudson
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Periodicals postage paid at Stratford, TX
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Stratford Star,
PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084



3rd graders entertain residents at Coldwater Manor and deliver socks

The 3rd graders had a very busy day on Friday, December the 18th. Along with their Christmas party activities, they also tried to spread some holiday cheer. They were very excited to sing Christmas carols and deliver close to 100 pairs of fuzzy socks to the residents of Coldwater Manor. They wanted to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas

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www.southgate6.com
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Garden City, Kansas
www.sequoyah8.com
620-275-2760

TEXHOMA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended August 31, 2015

EXHIBIT C-3

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 1,384,064	\$ 227,117	\$ 15,745	\$ 1,626,926
5800 State Program Revenues	275,668	-	45,960	321,628
5900 Federal Program Revenues	-	-	114,660	114,660
5020 Total Revenues	1,659,732	227,117	176,365	2,063,214
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
0011 Instruction	646,783	-	70,403	717,186
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	51,022	-	-	51,022
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	1,222	-	28,358	29,580
0021 Instructional Leadership	80,082	-	-	80,082
0023 School Leadership	90,906	-	-	90,906
0033 Health Services	206	-	-	206
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	38,072	-	-	38,072
0035 Food Services	-	-	139,366	139,366
0036 Extracurricular Activities	475	-	-	475
0041 General Administration	170,784	-	-	170,784
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	187,671	-	-	187,671
0053 Data Processing Services	33,138	-	-	33,138
Debt Service:				
0071 Principal on Long-Term Debt	42,006	215,000	-	257,006
0072 Interest on Long-Term Debt	3,462	4,912	-	8,374
0073 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	400	-	400
Intergovernmental:				
0091 Contracted Instructional Services Between Schools	82,310	-	-	82,310
0093 Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	15,502	-	-	15,502
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	35,866	-	-	35,866
6030 Total Expenditures	1,479,507	220,312	238,127	1,937,946
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	180,225	6,805	(61,762)	125,268
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
7915 Transfers In	-	-	60,930	60,930
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	(60,930)	-	-	(60,930)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(60,930)	-	60,930	-
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	119,295	6,805	(832)	125,268
0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	425,271	37,191	3,320	465,782
3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 544,566	\$ 43,996	\$ 2,488	\$ 591,050

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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
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. 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
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 Ron Whitt
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.

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 Adoration 11 a.m. Estudio
Biblico & Servicio De Oration 6 p.m.
Servicio De Adoration 6 p.m. se Cuidamos
Susunos 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. 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.

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Stratford Grain 396-5541
Lautz 769-5541
Stratford Star
366-5885



Deadline Approaches for All American Scholarship Sponsored By Catholic Life Insurance

(San Antonio, TX) - Applications for the 2016 All American Scholar Program, sponsored by Catholic Life Insurance, are available and must be received no later than March 1, 2016. Send your completed application package to:
Catholic Life Insurance
Attn: All American Scholar Award
PO Box 65952 San Antonio, TX 78265

The All American Scholar Program awards 35 non-renewable college scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each to graduating high school seniors. Applicants must be Catholic Life Insurance members who will be enrolled in a private or public college, university or trade school for the upcoming fall semester. The scholarships are granted to those students whose academic achievements, leadership skills, and community service experiences set them apart from the others.

Application forms may be downloaded from the company website at www.cliu.com.

For more information, please contact Briana Gilmore in the Communications Department at (800) 292-2548 or (210) 828-9921 ext. 141, or send an email to branch@cliu.com.

About Catholic Life Insurance: Founded in 1901, Catholic Life Insurance offers life insurance, IRAs, annuities and fraternal benefits to individuals living in Texas, Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Mississippi and New Mexico. As a not-for-profit entity, Catholic Life Insurance returns profits to members and the surrounding community through charitable, religious and patriotic community service projects.

Search Begins for next OPSU President

Goodwell, Okla. - Following the recent announcement of Dr. David Bryant's decision to retire, the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma A&M Colleges is accepting applications or nominations for the Presidency of Oklahoma Panhandle State University. Details regarding this process, as well as a nomination form, are available at <http://www.opsu.edu/presidentialsearch/>. If you know of individuals who would be good candidates for this important position, the Board requests that you please submit nominations.

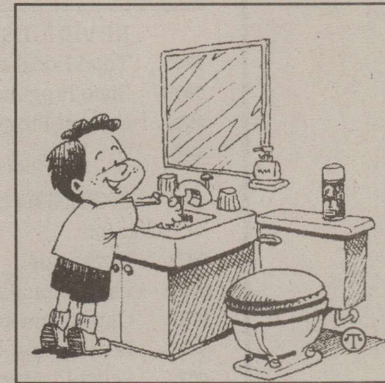
The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the University and is responsible for providing leadership to and assuring the effective administration of this four-year institution located in Goodwell, Okla. Founded in 1909, OPSU provides higher education opportunities primarily for people of the Oklahoma Panhandle and surrounding areas. It offers a comprehensive range of academic programs, research, and public service activities in its schools of Agriculture; Business and Technology; Education; Liberal Arts; and Science, Mathematics and Nursing. The University has an enrollment of approximately 1,300 students.

Applications may be considered up to the time the position is filled; however, to be assured of consideration they must be received by Feb. 15, 2016.

A search committee is being formed and will meet later this month.

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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.

Business Directory

PO Box 510
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E-mail: duncanch@xit.net

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Automotive and Industrial Parts
201 N. 2nd 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

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



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Legal Notice

Texhoma ISD
A Success for All School

A hearing for public discussion of the 2014-2015 Texas Academic Performance Report for Texhoma independent School District will be held at the regularly scheduled board of trustees meeting. The meeting will be held on January 20, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the superintendent's office at 4th and Denver Texhoma, TX 73960.
Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, Thursday, January 7, 2016 and Thursday, January 14, 2016

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO VACATE A PORTION OF 2ND STREET (IOWA AVENUE), PINE STREET, 1ST 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 "J" 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, January 14, 2016 and Thursday, January 21, 2016

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etc.

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Good Luck to all Elk Basketball teams

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
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Great benefits for full-time positions that include:
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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)

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Card of Thanks

A special thank you to the Spurlock Barn cooks for the wonderful beef in honor of Junior. It was delicious-thanks again.
Bill and Kay Mires

Card of Thanks

To the Good Samaritan that cleaned off my driveway and sidewalks. Thank you. I really appreciate it.
Marty Bain

Hints For The Home

Why It's Smart To Soften Water

(NAPS)—You can save money, feel better and maybe even look better if you take your water with a grain of salt. Well, lots of grains. That's because the right sort of salt and system can soften hard water—and hard water is tough on your clothes, appliances, pipes and complexion.

Hard water is water with a lot of minerals in it. It's the kind found in most homes in America and it can lead to such problems as:

- Dry, itchy, irritated skin
- Razor burn
- Fading hair color
- Spots on glassware
- Dingy, rough clothes, which tear more easily
- A "funny" taste in your water, coffee and other drinks made with water or ice
- The need for more soap and detergent to get things really clean
- Crusty buildup on faucets and showerheads. According to the Water Quality Association/Battelle Institute research study, showerheads on hard water lost 75 percent of the flow rate in less than 18 months.

Fortunately, you can prevent all those troubles with a quality water softener system.

A good water softener such as ProMate EcoMax will also use less salt (saving you money and from having to carry so many heavy bags) and less water while reducing the amount of chloride it gives off, which is good for the environment. So is the fact that a new water softener is likely to be energy efficient.

In addition, it can improve the life span of your appliances, saving you from maintenance and early replacement expenses. Hard



Sometimes, life can be hard. Your water doesn't have to be.

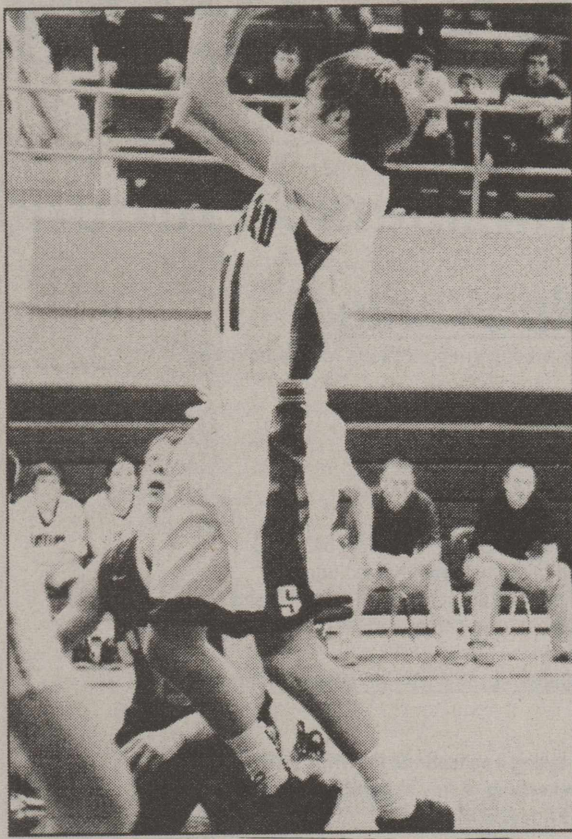
water can lead to as much as a 24 percent loss of operating efficiency in gas-storage water heaters and it's a problem for washing machines and dishwashers, too. By some estimates, softened water lets you use 60 percent less detergent and save energy by lowering the water temperature.

What's more, many households could benefit from a drinking water filtration system. All the water that ever existed on Earth still exists today; it is simply recycled over and over. Herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers are entering the environment, along with prescription drugs, and they all end up in our drinking water. Mother Nature is not designed to adequately address this. A properly designed filtration system, like the Millennium Reverse Osmosis System, can reduce the amount of many of these contaminants in your water.

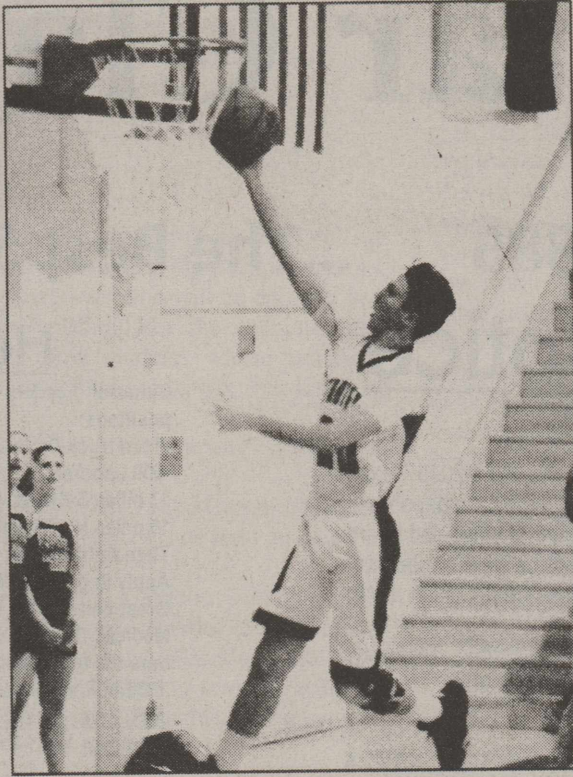
Learn More

For further facts about water softening and drinking water filtration, and to find a nearby Hellenbrand dealer who carries the ProMate EcoMax, go to www.hellenbrand.com/locate-your-water-expert.

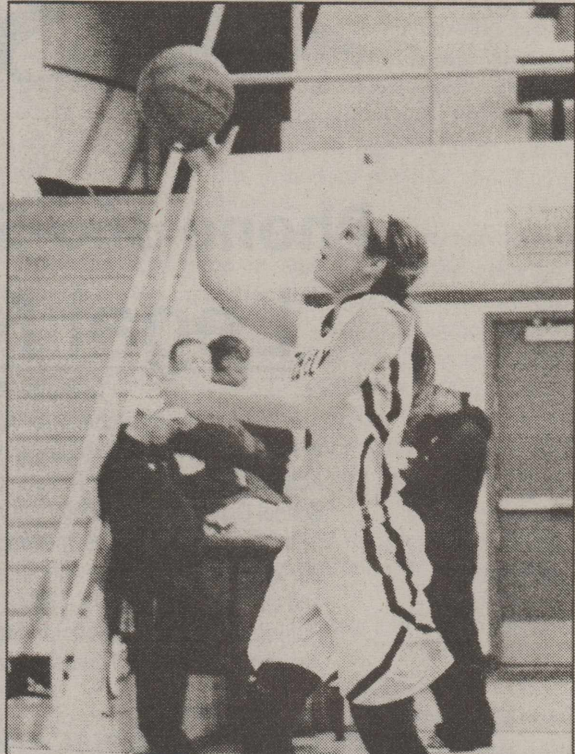
Basketball 2016



Stratford Elk Ty Hess pulls up for the 2 point shot in the Elks loss to Panhandle.



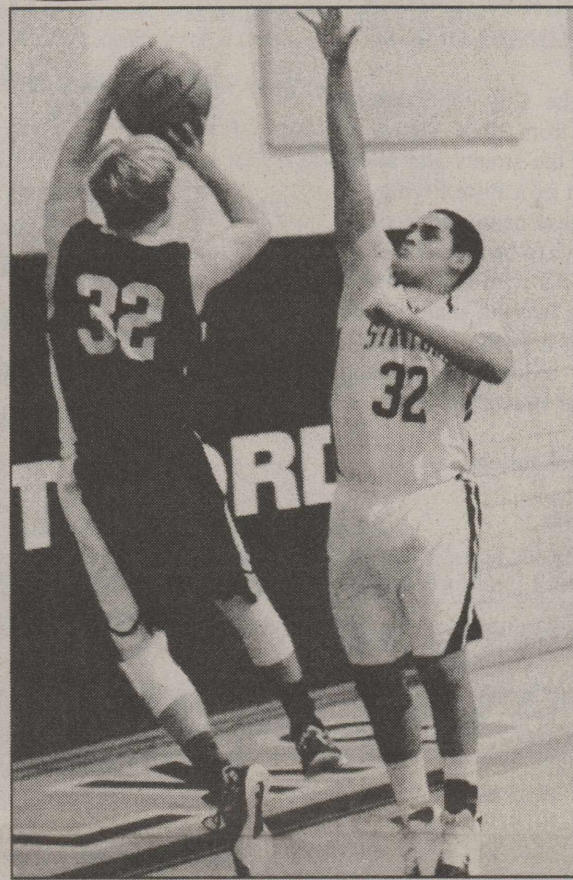
Stratford Elk John McBroom goes up for two points in the Elks 45-47 loss to Panhandle on Tuesday, January 5, 2016.



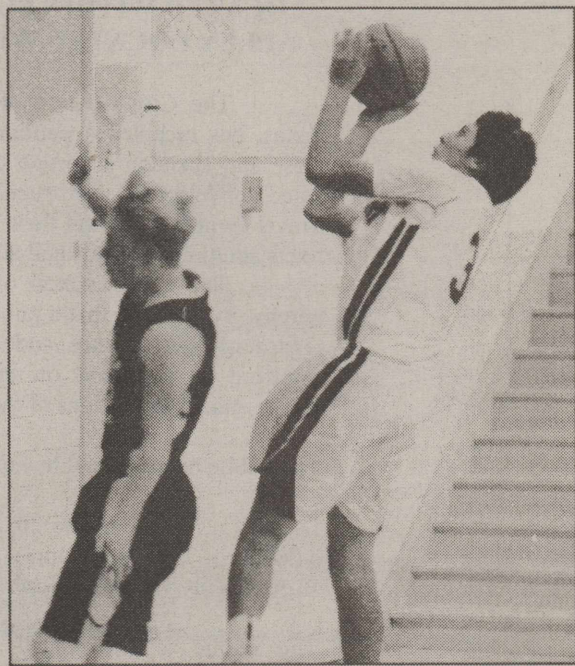
Stratford Lady Elk Laynee Burr scores on the lay-up in their first district game against Booker. The Lady Elks won 72-7.



Shaylee Audrain scores for the Lady Elks in their district win over Booker.



J.V. Elk #32 Ruben Gonzalez defends the basket against Panhandle in their win on January 5, 2016.



Jaime Jacquez goes up for two points in the J.V. Elks win over Panhandle.



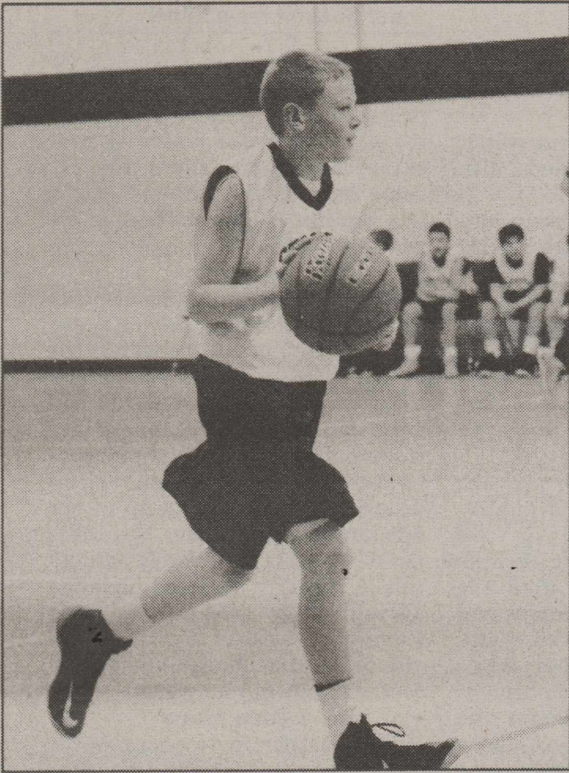
8th Grade Elk #12 Abraham Villegas gets ready on defense against Gruver on Thursday, January 7, 2016.



8th Grade Lady Elk defends the basket in the Lady Elks one point win over Gruver on Thursday, January 7, 2016.



8th Grade Elk Andy Gutierrez goes up for the shot in the Elks win over Gruver.



7th Grade Elk Trever Melton brings the ball down the court in the Elks loss to Gruver on Thursday, January 7, 2016.



7th Grade Lady Elks Lashala Anderton goes up for the shot in the Lady Elks win against Gruver on Thursday, January 7, 2016.



7th Grade Lady Elk Abby Law drives to the basket in their win over Gruver.