

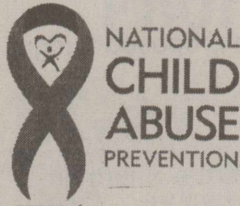
Melvin Mitts 06/16
PO Box 523
Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

75 cents

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Number 16 April 21, 2016



CASA 69, Inc. Celebrating 30 Years of Service... During 2016 National April Child Abuse Month

This April during National Child Abuse Prevention Month, CASA 69, Inc. asks you to step up and join us in raising awareness about child abuse and neglect.

Join us as we celebrate 30 Years serving abused and neglected children from Dallam, Hartley, Moore and Sherman counties. In the last 30 years, we have served over 800 abused and neglected children. Our volunteers have made a difference in the lives of these children by advocating for a safe, permanent and loving FOREVER FAMILY. They are there for all CASA kids daily, monthly and yearly advocating for the best interest of the child.

Every child has a chance...it's you. Every child deserves to be protected and cared for, and it's our obligation as a community to be their voice to ensure they get proper care and are kept safe within the system. Breaking the cycle of abuse and ending this epidemic will take each and every one of us, so please join the movement and give every child a chance.

Ways You Can Help:

- **Support families in need.** When you see struggling parents you can help them by directing them to the [Help for Parents. Hope for Kids. website.](#)
- **Report abuse and neglect.** Call the Department of Family Protection Services. (1-800-252-5400)
- **Make a donation.** Please send to CASA 69, Inc. 414 Denver, Ste 103, Dalhart, TX 79022.
- **Become a CASA Volunteer.** As a CASA volunteer, you can keep abused and neglected children safe while they reach a safe, permanent home by speaking up for them in court. You are not a foster parent; you are a voice making a difference at a critical point in a child's life. Read more at www.casa69.org or call 806-244-2684/806-934-4417.

Please join us on April 29th at the Stratford High School at 6:00 p.m. as we celebrate 30 years of service.

David Marin, author of *This Is Us*, is the featured speaker and he will talk about being a CASA volunteer and his experience adopting three young children as a single parent. We had several seniors from the seven high schools enter the essay contest and several children from 7th and 8th grades enter the T-shirt Art Contest. We will announce the winners of our Essay Contest and T-shirt Art Contest.

Do not forget Stratford "Fine Arts Extravaganza" Tuesday, April 26th at Amarillo Globe News Center

Attention Stratford Residents,

Please be advised that high grass and weeds are a fire/health/safety issue and must be kept under control per Stratford Ordinance Sections 6.03.00 1 and 6.03.002. The City Code Enforcement Officer will be checking properties in the upcoming weeks for compliance with these and other ordinances. Citations for non-compliance may be issued. Please be sure to keep your property, including behind fence lines and up to the alleyways, free of high grass/weeds and other debris in order to avoid a Citation. For further information, call 806-268-4158.

ATTENTION 8th Grade Parents:

There will be a parent meeting on Monday, April 25th at 6:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. You and your child are encouraged to attend as we will be discussing high school graduation requirements and choosing classes for next year. If you have questions please contact Mrs. Garza at 366-3322.

Fundraiser to be Held

On May 1st there will be a fundraiser Brisket Dinner to help send 17 Youth and Sponsors to a Group Work Camps Mission Trip. This dinner will be from 11:30am-12:30pm at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall and will be free will donation. For the mission trip, the kids will be repairing and painting homes as well as having evening worship services with kids from all over for a week in Garnett, KS. Your support of sending them is greatly appreciated.



Judge Carter signs Proclamation

On Thursday, April 14th, 2016 County Judge Terri Beth Carter signed a proclamation making April 2016 Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month. Shown above left to right are Steve Ulrey- First United Methodist Minister, Judge Carter and Wayne Smith- Casa Board Member.

Proclamation: Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month, April 2016

WHEREAS, in Federal fiscal year 2015, the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services confirmed 66,721 cases of child abuse or neglect, including 54 in Dallam, Hartley, Moore and Sherman Counties

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone in our community; and

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of Texas; and

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that can have lifelong consequences for victims of abuse; and

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children;

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the meaningful connections and partnerships created between child welfare, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses and law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that benefit children and their families;

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, nurturing environment,

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families;

WHEREAS, the impact of abuse and neglect has long-term personal, economic and social costs; therefore, hurting Texas' future;

WHEREAS, Court Appointed Special Advocates® - CASA volunteers - are assigned by the court to speak up for a child's best interest and be a voice for that child in the courts;

WHEREAS, every child in care deserves a CASA volunteer, but roughly less than half the children in care do not have a CASA volunteer;

WHEREAS, 8,476 CASA volunteers spoke up for the best interest of 25,947 children in Texas last year;

WHEREAS, CASA 69, Inc., Child Protective Services, Child Advocacy Centers, foster parents, teachers and others work to ensure that children in our community have the opportunity to grow up in safe, loving permanent homes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terri Beth Carter, Sherman County Judge, do hereby proclaim April 2016 as NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH in Sherman County and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

Signed by Terri Beth Carter County Judge

Cimarron Country Music Theater
4th Saturday Night of Each Month
Cimarron Country Music Theater in
Boise City, OK, USA
Show Date, Saturday night, April 23, 2016
Show starts 8:00 pm - doors open 7:00 pm
Country & Gospel Music at its best
For more info call
Sandy Hawkins-806 674 5147

A Medical Fund has been set up at Happy State Bank For Zackary Eloy Garcia, son of Tina Garcia

CASA 69, Inc.
Celebrating 30 Years

SAVE THE DATE!

April 29, 2016 -

6:00 p.m.

Stratford High School

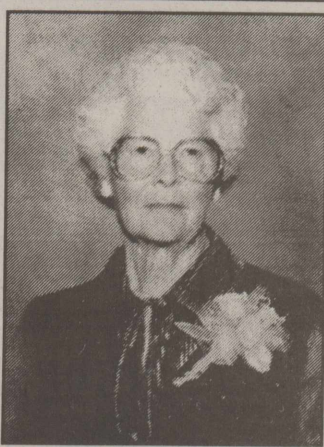
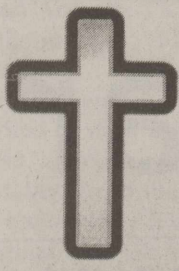
Speaker: David Marin

"This is Us; The New

All American Family"

Reception Following the Event

Obituaries



Earlene Branham

April 22, 1927 - April 16, 2016

Earlene Branham, 88 formerly of Sunray, passed from this life to her heavenly home on Saturday, April 16, 2016. She will be greatly missed. A Graveside Service was held at 2 o'clock Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at Lane Memorial Cemetery in Sunray with Bruce Broxson officiating. A family visitation was held on Tuesday from 6 to 8pm in the evening at 1310 E. 2nd in Dumas. Arrangements were entrusted to Morrison Funeral Directors.

Earlene was born on April 22, 1927 in Gruver, TX to Charles Earl and Mona Irene (Eubanks) Reynolds. She was the third child of seven of this union. Earlene was raised through the depression and dirt days of the 30's where she learned how to survive and thrive on very little which in turned formed the independent, tenacious woman she became. A force to be reckoned with as people who knew her found out. Earlene graduated from Sunray High and was a member of Sunray Baptist Church.

Earlene met the love of her life, Olen and married him on February 9, 1946 in Dumas, TX. Although unable to have children they started out to get the family, they wanted through adoption process. She worked at the Post Office and Sunray drugstore as a clerk while Olen started his-plumbing business. Earlene then managed Branham Plumbing until with hard work and sheer determination managed to save enough money to start the real dream; a family farm and ranch, which was achieved in early 1962 becoming lifetime, residents of Sherman County. Earlene managed farm and ranch until 2016. During her lifetime, she received many awards for her input in to her work and civic duties such as a Presidential award for her numerical aptitude, a conservationist award from ASC, and awarded Texas Homemaker of the Year Award from Teel Bivins in 1982. For many years, Earlene would help at election time counting votes.

Cont. on page 5

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

Notice of Public Hearing on Sherman County Appraisal District Budget

The Sherman County Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2017 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on Friday, May 27, 2016 at 7:00 a.m. at the Sherman County Appraisal District Office.

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget.	<u>\$414,310</u>
The total amount of increase over the current year's budget.	<u>\$ 8,211</u>
The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget.	<u>4</u> (full-time equivalent)
The number of employees compensated under the current budget.	<u>4</u> (full-time equivalent)

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and special districts served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the appraisal district office.

Sherman County Appraisal
402 N. Third, Abstract Building
Stratford, Texas 79084

(806) 366-5566

Prices Good Thru 05/14/16

CINCO DE MAYO

CELEBRATION SALE

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It's Time for
Tamales
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dozen

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CHILE LIME
BEEF JERKY

ALLSUP'S
TERIYAKI
BEEF JERKY

YOU DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE MISSING

Stratford Country Club Membership Drive

The Stratford Country Club is having a membership drive from February 1-June 15. New members will be accessed only \$100.00 membership fee and \$65.00 monthly dues during this time instead of \$150.00 membership fee. Please contact Suzanne Ashley at First State Bank 396-5521 for more information or to enroll.

PRAYING FOR ABUSED CHILDREN SINCE 1994

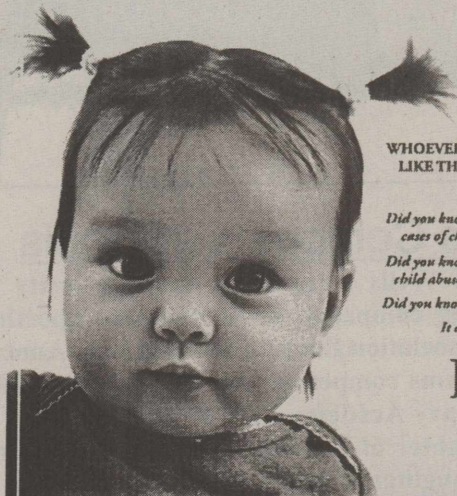
BLUE SUNDAY DAY OF PRAYER

April 24, 2016

The day when churches take time in their service to pray for the victims of child abuse and for those who rescue them.

We pray because they shouldn't have to pray alone.

Won't you ask your church to join in this life-changing effort?

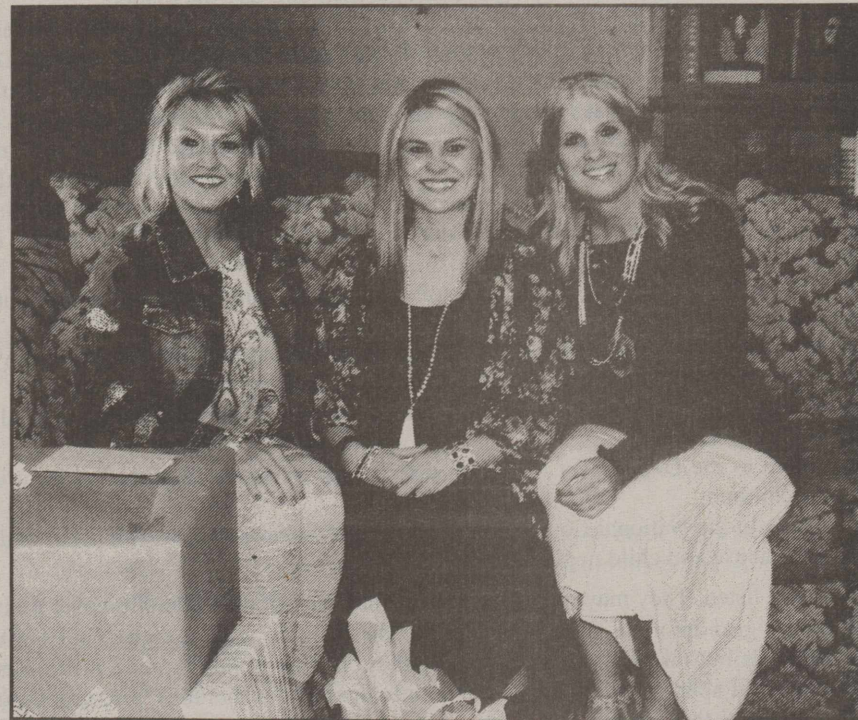


WHOMEVER RECEIVES ONE LITTLE CHILD LIKE THIS IN MY NAME RECEIVES ME. MATTHEW 18:5

Did you know there are over 3 million confirmed cases of child abuse in our nation annually?
Did you know that of the 1640 child deaths from child abuse that most were under the age of 3?
Did you know your church can make a difference? It can and it starts by praying.

Blue Sunday

Register your church at: WWW.BLUESUNDAY.ORG



Begley honored with Baby Shower

Macy Begley was honored with a Baby Shower Sunday, April 17th in the home of Stacy Metcalf. She is expecting a girl. Shown above left to right are Kay Mires, Macy and Tracy Dawson.

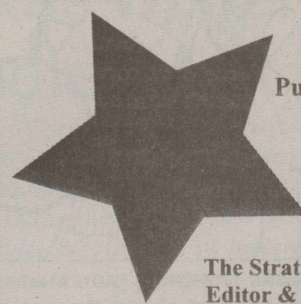
Attention to all subscribers!! Rate change

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

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



The Stratford Star
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PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084

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-4th 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 Shelly Worley, PharmD, 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.

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.

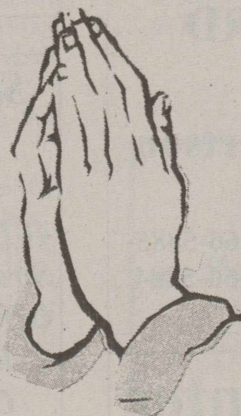
First Christian Church
5th & Main
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. (nursery)
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. (nursery)
No Sunday evening Worship Service

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.



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

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 Oracion 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.

8 Million To Participate in Blue Sunday Day of Prayer for Abused Children, April 24th

A stranger called saying she thought she had our grandchildren. Their drug addicted mother left the toddlers with the caller to run an errand and never returned. It had been two days.

We knew the caller's address was in an area known for high crime, terrible poverty, and a hotbed for drug activity but that didn't prepare us for what we found. Literally trash filled the yard, and on it sat a mobile home with broken and missing windows. That run down mobile home contained the most important things in the world to us, our grandchildren who stood at the door wearing nothing but their two day old diapers.

This was not the first time our grandchildren had been left with strangers, nor would it be the last.

At our wits end with child protective agencies, family court, and failed rehabs we realized all we had going for us was prayer. So we prayed. Next we asked our church to pray for us. Eventually we asked other churches to pray, not for us, but for the local foster children we met during our journey of finally rescuing our grandchildren.

That was 22 years ago. What started with 20 churches praying for abused children has grown into an international program called Blue Sunday Day of Prayer for Abused Children (Blue Sunday) with over 8 million people participating. We have two goals: To meet the needs of local abused children and to ask the Faith Community to do the same in their own cities, and it starts by asking them to pray. This year Blue Sunday is on April 24th. It's free. Nothing to join. Just prayers.

Our motto is: Let's pray, educate ourselves, and volunteer for the children of our nation until black and blue are just colors in their crayon box.

Are you a grandmother, friend or neighbor who is concerned about a child? Do you know a child who is in harm's way because of addicted parents? We know it is hard but you must be brave.

Tell the parents it's dangerous for their health and the safety of their children. Tell them good parenting and drugs/alcohol will never mix.

Tell them according to the Department of Health and Human Services drugs and alcohol is the number one reason parents lose their children.

Tell them according to the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, alcohol and drug abuse are involved in 7 out of 10 child abuse and child neglect cases.

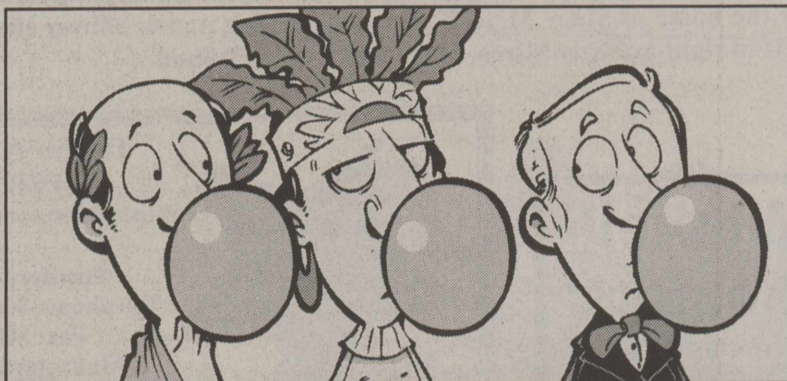
The parents may not listen. They may not change. They may choose their addiction over their children.

So now what does a grandmother, friend or neighbor do? You do what is right. Call 1-800-4 A CHILD. It's the law. We know it hurts but take comfort in knowing that on Blue Sunday over 8 million people will be praying for the victims of child abuse and for those that rescue them. That includes you, grandmother, friend, or neighbor and it includes the children you rescue. Janet Magee is the co-founder of Blue Sunday Day of Prayer for Abused Children. To register for Blue Sunday visit www.bluesunday.org. You'll also find free resources and ideas to help abused and neglected children in your community.

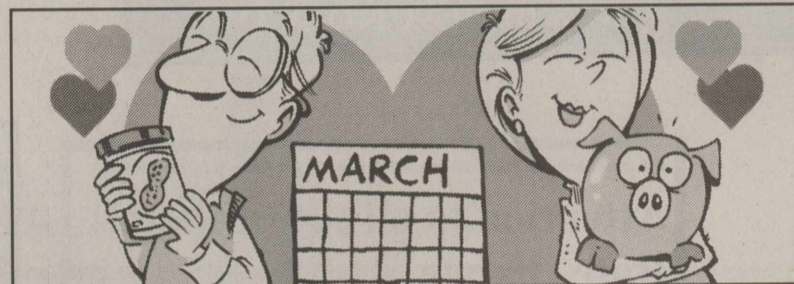


Wells Competes at Finals

M'Lynn Wells a junior at the University of Wyoming competed at the National Sporting Clay Association finals in San Antonio. Among other teams competing were West Point, Iowa State, Navy Academy, OU, & Yale. M'Lynn is the daughter of Jennifer and John Ewers and granddaughter of Kenneth and Lynn Wells.



The ancient Greeks chewed a gum made from the resin of the mastic tree. The Mayans chewed chicle, the sap of the sapodilla tree. In 1906, Frank Henry Fleer invented a bubble gum called Blibber-Blubber.



In the U.S., both National Pig Day and Peanut Butter Lover's Day are observed on March 1st—hopefully, not at the same time in the same place.

Business Directory

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

Duncan Chevrolet
www.duncanchevrolet.com
E-mail: duncanch@xit.net
AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION

**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

**Stratford Auto
Electric**
806-366-5941
saeroymc@gmail.com
Altronics, starters, Alternators,
ACmotors
New & Rebuilt
Full Line Available

**Vincent Insurance
Agency**
Sabrina Melton

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

**Stratford Grain
Company**

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Lautz 769-4485

4 North Main

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e-mail: stardm@xit.net

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Stratford, TX 79084

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*Toll-free 800-624-5494
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Fax: 366-5884**

STRATFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION April 14, 2016

THE STRATFORD STAR
Thursday, April 21, 2016
Page 5

The Stratford ISD board of trustees met in regular session on Thursday April 14, 2016. President Brad McBryde established a quorum of members present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Board members present: Brad McBryde, Jo Hinds, Tres Hess, and Dan Law.

Walt Berry, Tim Hudson and Bryan Clift were absent.

Staff present: Jerry Birdsong, PJ Hanna, Misti McBryde, Dinah Horsford, and Lynette Kautz.

Mr. Hanna led the invocation.

Guests present: Tonya and Chad Hodges, Claudia and Johnny Bravo, John Blackburn, Jake Lawrence, John McBroom, Parker Hanna, Ty Hess, Bret Barnard, and Jack McBryde.

Mr. Birdsong introduced the guests.

Mr. Birdsong recognized the students and teachers that were receiving special recognition for the month. The following students were present to receive their certificates:

Bret Barnard received the Tech award at the Area One Act Play competition.

Athletics

Ty Hess – District 1-2A Most Valuable Player; Texas Association of Basketball Coaches (TASB) All Region; Golden Spread 2A Basketball Team and Golden Spread All-Star Game

Parker Hanna – District 1-2A Defensive Most Valuable Player; Texas Association of Basketball Coaches (TABC) All Region; and TABC All-Star

Jack McBryde – Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Academic All State

John McBroom – Golden Spread All-Star Game

Janeht Bravo – District Champ at the Junior High District track meet in the following events: 8th 100 meters; 8th 800 meters; 1600 meters; 8th Long Jump; and 8th Triple Jump

Students that were not present but receiving special recognition were as follows:

FFA Major Show Class winners

Caitlyn Skiles – Denver: Reserve Champion Charolais and Reserve Champion Chianina Heifers

Fort Worth: Reserve Breed Hereford Steer

San Antonio: Reserve Supreme Grand Heifer and Reserve Champion Simmental Steer

Stewart Skiles – San Antonio: Reserve Champion Angus Heifer and Reserve Champion AOB Steer

Lillie Skiles – San Antonio: Grand Champion Shorthorn Heifer

Houston: Champion Chianina Heifer

Allie James – Houston: Light Weight Division Champion Cross Pig

Stratford High School One-Act Play – under the direction of Chris Lough and Stacy Metcalf, our OAP advanced into the Area competition before being eliminated. Several individual performances were recognized at the Bi-District and Area competitions:

Branson Palmer – Bi-District All Star Cast and Area Best Actor

Carlee Metcalf – Bi-District All Star Cast and Area Honorable Mention All Star Cast

Taylor Aududdell – Bi-District Honorable Mention All Star Cast and Area Honorable Mention All Star Cast

Athletics

Layne Burr – Texas Association of Basketball Coaches All Region

Tanner Stone – Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Academic All State

JH Track District Champions – Junior ran their district track meet at Stinnett last Saturday

Lara Wells – 7th 100 meters

Angie Couch – 7th 200 meters and 7th 800 meter relay

Reaghan Audrain – 7th 800 meter relay

Lashala Anderton – 7th 800 meter relay

Rese Schoonover – 7th 800 meter relay

Toni Lopez – 8th Discus

Oscar Sauzameda – 8th Pole Vault

Andy Gutierrez – 8th 2400

Mr. Birdsong presented Chad and Tonya Hodges. They are requesting that their three children be allowed to attend Stratford ISD the remainder of the school year. Jo Hinds made the motion and Dan Law seconded to approve the transfer and waive the tuition fees. Motion carried.

Tim Hudson arrived at 7:15 PM.

John Blackburn with Government Capital Securities visited with the board about options for a bond election/tax ratification election.

Walt Berry arrived at 8:30 PM.

Mr. Birdsong gave the superintendent's report. Brad read thank you note from the Joe Reinart family. Mr. Birdsong reported a district enrollment of 578. He went over the TASB Summer Leadership Institute information with the board. The Spring TASB workshop will be on May 18th in Canyon. The board signed up for speaking parts at the scholastic and teacher appreciation banquets.

Lynette Kautz gave the business managers report. Monthly expenditures are at 52.42%, revenue 89.33%, and tax collections are at 96.35%. Cost of transportation for the month was .66¢.

Mrs. McBryde gave the elementary report. She recognized the students that made the 5th six weeks honor roll. The 5th six weeks perfect attendance winners were: PK- Eli Lujan, K- Sebastian Barajas, 1st – Vanessa Gonzalez, 2nd – Bruce Glendinning, 3rd – Aylee Derma, and 4th – Cielo Rios. She reported on STAAR test preparations. There has been a tremendous response to early registration for the PK and Kindergarten for next year. She congratulated the students that placed at the major stock shows.

Mr. Seward gave the junior high report. He recognized those that made the honor roll for the 5th six weeks. He passed out a list of STAAR testing dates. He told the board that he and Mr. Hanna are looking into possible offering a high school algebra course at the junior high next year. He congratulated the junior high students that placed at the major stock shows. He passed out a list of the district track meet results. Cheerleading tryouts will be on April 15th at 12:30 PM.

Mr. Hanna gave the high school report. He passed a list of students on the honor roll for the 5th six weeks, a list of students that placed at major stock shows, District 1-2A Basketball Academic All District Honors and the 1-2A Basketball District honors. The Area track meet will be on April 20th at Wellington. The High School Prom will be on April 16th at the Imagination Station.

Tres Hess made the motion and Tim Hudson seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

The cafeteria has received a grant from the Texas Department of Agriculture for the amount of \$16,527.39 to be used for the purchase of a Combi Oven. Tim Hudson made the motion and Dan Law seconded to approve the quote of \$16,983.39 for a Combi Oven for the school cafeteria from TREX Restaurant Equipment. Motion carried.

Mr. Birdsong presented the Sherman County Appraisal District Budget. Tres Hess made the motion and Jo Hinds seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Action on the security camera system was tabled until the next meeting.

Mr. Birdsong presented TASB Legal Update 104. Tim Hudson made the motion and Walt Berry seconded to approve TASB Legal Update 104 as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Birdsong explained to the board that another light fixture in the gym was hit and fell from the ceiling. Three quotes were received: Energy Solution of Texas - \$24,276, Kel-Tex \$22,755 and Stateline Electric \$18,750 to replace the lights in the gym. Tim Hudson made the motion and Tres Hess seconded to accept the quote from Stateline Electric in the amount of \$18,750. Motion carried.

Mr. Birdsong presented the Instructional Materials Allotment and TEKS Certification for the 2016-17 school year. Tres Hess made the motion and Jo Hinds seconded to approve as presented. Motion carried.

The board took a short recess at 9:25 PM.

Brad McBryde read a letter of resignation from Heather Braden. Jo Hinds made the motion and Dan Law seconded to accept her resignation with regrets. Motion carried, Tres Hess abstained.

Mr. Hanna presented Shari Hudson for employment. Tres Hess made the motion and Dan Law seconded to approve employment as a teacher subject to assignment. Motion carried.

At 9:55 PM the board entered into executive session pursuant to Texas Open Meetings Act section 551.074 to discuss the personnel. At 10:29 PM the board reconvened into regular session.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:34 PM.

Submission Deadline for The Texas Upper Panhandle Book Extended

The publishers for "The Texas Upper Panhandle Tales," a unique book about the region, have extended the deadline for submitting material for the book until May 16, 2016.

The book, to be published by Hometown Memories Publishing Company of Hickory, NC, will be a collection of unusual, nostalgic, humorous, and inspirational stories and anecdotes about the people, places, and institutions in the region.

The publishers urge contributions of stories, anecdotes, and information, which may be suitable for the book. They wish to specify that writing ability or experience is not necessary.

Almost any subject is acceptable as long as the story is true and involves the area in any way. The kind of material desired, according to the publishers, will be similar to the anecdotes or stories, which are submitted to the "Reader Digest" magazine by its readers. Submitted material may be three pages or up to 2000 words. Hand-written submissions are acceptable and encouraged.

The contributor of the most interesting or appealing story will be awarded \$250.00. There will also be second and third prize awards of \$100 and a \$100 award for the best picture. The winning stories will be selected by an impartial third party.

To submit material to "The Texas Upper Panhandle Tales," or for more information, contact us at Hometown Memories Publishing Company, 2359 Hwy 70 SE, Ste. 112, Hickory, NC 28602 or call us toll free at (877) 791-8802

Earlene Branham Obit Cont. from page 2


She is preceded in death by her husband Olen; a sister: Beverly Childers; a brother: Charles Earl Jr.; her parents: Earl and Mona Reynolds.

Her greatest dream was a family. Olen and she were blessed with the addition of five children.

Earlene is survived by her children: Kevyn of Amarillo his daughter and son: Bridget and Les and their children: Mathew and Kiera; Brent and wife Susan of Dumas their children: Amanda and Ian; grandchildren: Julie, Micala, Annise, Finnely; Bryan and wife Dianne of Ft. Worth their children: Michele, Andy, and Sam; Tara and husband John of Amarillo their children: Kele, James, Carolyn, Emily, John Jr., and Catherine their children: Jordyn, Sydnee, Quintyn, Karson, Jocelyn, Tyler, Zane, Dylon, Kaiden, Aariah, Gentry, Camden, Kason, Liam, Corwin, Jacob, Alice; and three great great grandchildren: Koltyn, Keatyn and Kynzlee; Paige and husband Kyle of North Richland Hills and their daughters: Lauren and Lyncee; sisters: Ramona Spurlock of Amarillo, Fernie McRae of Dallas, Donna Broxson of Sunray, Carolyn Blair of Amarillo and numerous nieces and nephews which she loved so. Each a special treasure to her.

The family would like to express their thankfulness to the staff of Open Heart Home in Amarillo. They provided the excellent care Earlene received in her final days. They truly opened their home and became part of our family.

In lieu of flowers please donate to Open Heart Home, 6818 Plum Creek Drive, Amarillo, TX 79124



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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27th **10:30-11:30AM**
STRATFORD **The General Store** **515 N Poplar**

We furnish hauling containers! - Live Delivery Guaranteed! - Discounts/Special Deliveries on large orders! - Turtle Traps, Fish Feeders, Fish Traps! - Decorative Fountains, Aerators, Windmill Aerators! - Vegetation Control, Pond Fertilizers!

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M-F 7am-5:30pm Sat 8am-12pm CST
1-800-433-2950 Fax 1-560-777-2899
www.dunnsfishfarm.com

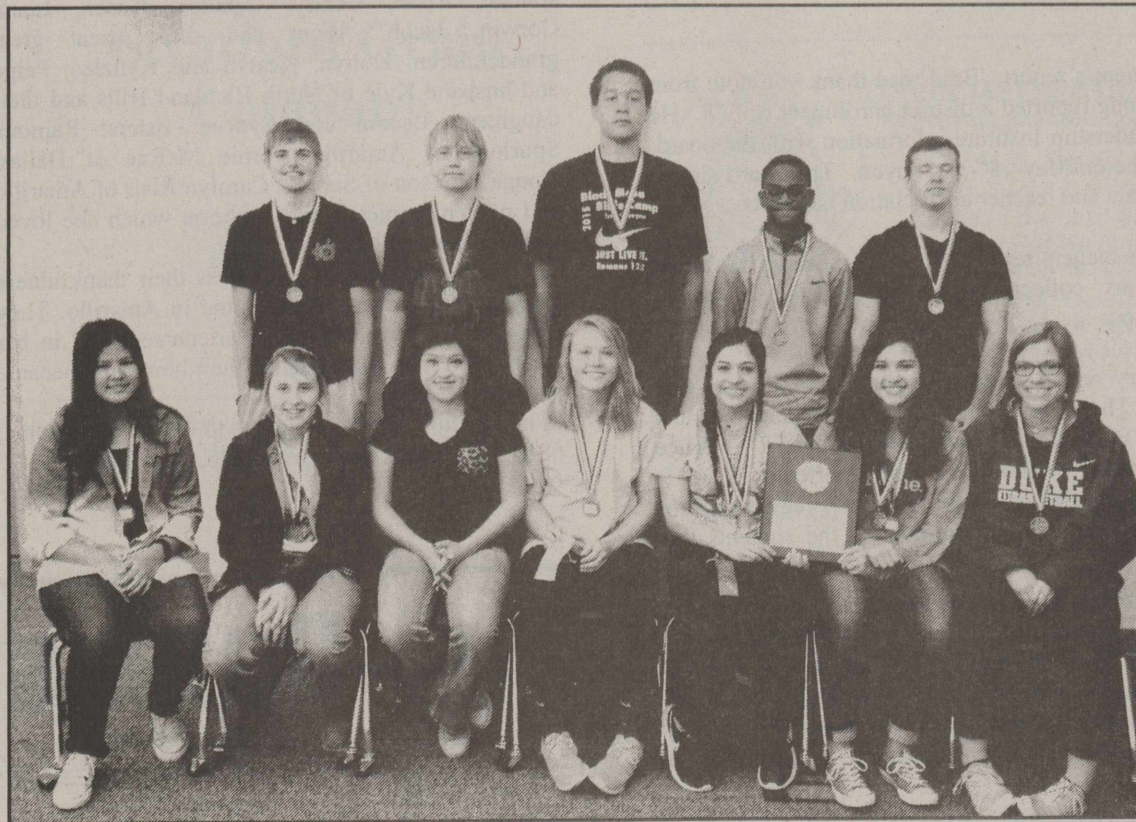
UIL District Academic Meet On Friday, April 1 at Amarillo College



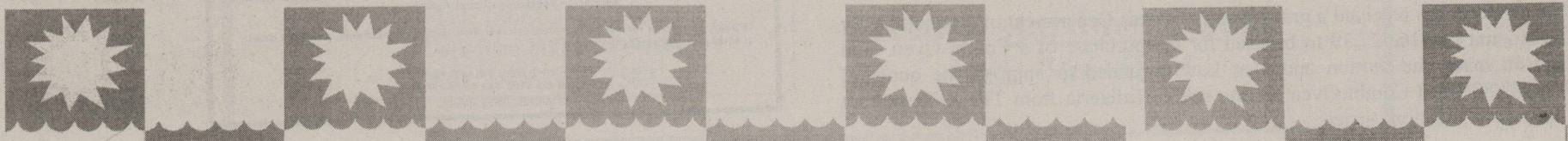
These SHS students competed at the UIL District Academic Meet on Friday, April 1 at Amarillo College



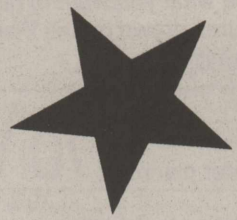
The SHS students pictured here competed at the UIL District Academic Meet and placed in the top 6. Top row: Kunticha Wongsopanakul - 2nd place Individual Number Sense and 2nd place Team Number Sense; Erika Lopez - 2nd place Copy Editing; Monica Reyes - 4th place Feature Writing and 5th place News Writing; Sidney Turner - 2nd place Ready Writing, 2nd place Team Social Studies, and 5th place Copy Editing; Scott Thompson - 5th place Individual Social Studies and 2nd place Team Social Studies; and Kory Punch - 1st place Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Middle row: Bret Barnard - 5th place Current Events and 6th place Headline Writing; AJ Rife - 4th place Individual Science, 2nd place Biology, and 2nd place Physics; Ty Hess - 1st place Biology and 6th place Individual Science; Zorro Daniels - 4th place Individual Number Sense and 2nd place Team Number Sense; Matthew Sandvig - 2nd place Team Social Studies and 3rd place Copy Editing; Fernando Jacquez - 6th place Individual Number Sense and 2nd place Team Number Sense; Noah Harris - 2nd place Poetry. Bottom row: Alexie Wright - 1st place Headline Writing, 1st place Team Spelling, and 4th place Editorial Writing; Natalia Niave - 1st place Team Spelling, 6th place Individual Spelling, 2nd place Team Social Studies, and 6th place Individual Social Studies; Nicole Law - 1st place Individual Spelling and 1st place Team Spelling; and Laynee Burr - 1st place Team Spelling. Not pictured: Francisco Barajas - 4th place Individual Number Sense and 2nd place Team Number Sense.



These students will represent SHS at the UIL Regional Academic Meet to be held at Odessa College on April 22-23.



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LEGAL NOTICE

APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE FOR A WINE AND BEER RETAILER'S OFF PREMISE PERMIT FOR PILOT TRAVEL CENTER #1083 AT 100 S. POPLAR, STRATFORD, SHERMAN COUNTY.

SAID APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE.

MITCHELL D. STEENROD-MANAGER

PUBLISHED IN THE STRATFORD STAR, THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016 AND THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit and Food and Beverage Certificate by Connie D. Biddy dba Biddy's on Main to be located at 207 N. Main Street, Stratford, Sherman County Texas. Owner is Connie Biddy, Manager.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, April 21, 2016 and Thursday, April 28, 2016.

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Era Irene Zaricor Deceased were issued on April 15, 2016, in Cause No. 2254, pending in the County Court of Sherman County, Texas, to: Melinda Lou Hess.

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

c/o: Melinda Lou Hess
1006 Mack Place
Denton, Texas 76029

DATED the 15th day of April, 2016

Kimberly L. Allen
Attorney for Melinda Lou Hess
State Bar No.: 12199270
507 Denrock Ave.
Dalhart, TX 79022
Telephone: (806) 366-270
Facsimile: (806) 366-3130
E-Mail: wkallen@xit.net

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, April 21, 2016.

Help Wanted

Sherman County Sheriff's Office is now accepting applications for Dispatcher/Jailer position. Must be 18 years of age or older, no experience necessary. Please pick up application Sherman County Sheriff's Office located at 701 N. 3rd Street. 3-10-tfn

Coldwater Manor in Stratford, Texas is looking for experienced RN's, LVN's and CNA's. If interested please come by 1111 Beaver Road for an application or send your resume to dgross@shdistrict.com EOE

Houses for Sale

411 N. Fulton, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, totally remodeled home. Extra-large garage with shop. Call for Apt. (806) 570-8857 or (806) 674-6593 3-3-tfn

Home for Sale-3 bedroom, 4 bathrooms, wood burning fireplace, large laundry room, all new kitchen + dining room, sprinkler system, large 24 x 30 ft. shop. Double car garage. 2914 total. Sq. Ft. 1220 Olive. Call 806-753-6187 or 806-753-6735

Spacious 2100 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 living areas, attached 2 car garage with covered driveway. Large backyard w/metal fence on large corner lot. New heating and A/C unit, updated bathrooms, gas/wood burning fireplace. 146,900 320 N. Wall For more information please call: 806-930-6575 or 806-930-6725

If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else.

—Yogi Berra

Spring garden iron has arrived at

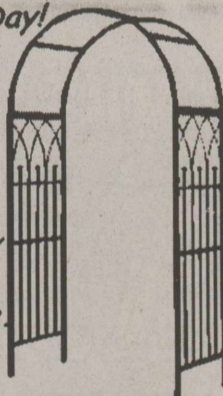
Acquisitions...

and it's just in time for Mother's Day! Choose from our great selection of planters, signs, flowers, animals, benches, and garden arches.

We also have loads of new clothing, jewelry, and decorative items for that extra special Mom in your life.

Acquisitions...

Open Monday-Saturday from 10-6 in Stratford.



Break open a cherry tree and there are no flowers, but the spring breeze brings forth myriad blossoms.

—Ikkyu Sojun

People ask me what I do in winter when there's no baseball. I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring.

—Rogers Hornsby

Protecting Your Assets

What To Do When Disaster Strikes

(NAPS)—Every year in the U.S., FEMA reports, about 100 disasters, natural and man-made, occur—but there are steps you can take to protect your family and finances if any ever occurs to you.

These seven hints can help:

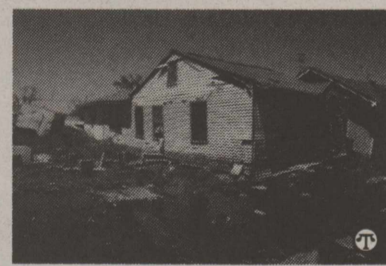
Before A Disaster

1. Develop a family communications plan. Everyone should know whom to reach and how.
2. Make an emergency kit. It should include enough food, water and other supplies to last at least 72 hours. Pack a flashlight, battery-operated radio and enough batteries for both. Include a supply of any medications you take. Have cash on hand.
3. Sign up for emergency alerts with the weather service.

After A Disaster

4. If you've been evacuated from your home, inspect it before re-entering. Walk carefully around the outside and check for loose power lines, gas leaks and structural damage.
5. Do not enter if:
 - You smell gas.
 - Floodwaters remain around the building.
 - Your home was damaged by fire and the authorities have not declared it safe.
6. Watch out for animals, especially poisonous snakes. Use a stick to poke through debris.
7. One silver lining is that damage, destruction or loss of your property resulting from such events that insurance doesn't pay for may be deductible on your tax return.

The experts at the National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA) suggest you photograph and inventory any property damage. "It is very important that



After a disaster, you can recover financially if you follow a few tips.

people take pictures or videos and do a complete inventory of damage before the mess gets cleaned up," explained EA Trish Evenstad. "My experience tells me that after the cleanup process has begun, people do not remember what they threw away." To help, she says, there's IRS Publication 584, "Casualty, Disaster, and Theft Loss Workbook," available at www.irs.gov and (800) 829-3676. It's useful for taking a room-by-room damage inventory.

Enrolled agents are America's tax experts, licensed by the federal government to represent taxpayers before the IRS. EAs provide tax preparation, tax advice and tax planning services and help taxpayers resolve problems with the IRS.

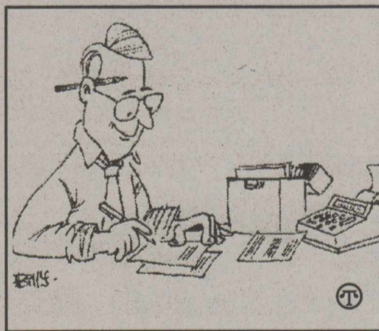
Evenstad points out that all claims for damage must first be submitted to your insurance carrier, and that you have to reduce your loss by \$100. Tax deductions for buildings with structural damage require a qualified appraisal and records of the repairs to restore the building to its previous condition.

Learn More

To find an EA nearby, call (855) 880-6232 or visit www.eatax.org.

Did You Know?

(NAPS)—Tax preparers who are enrolled agents (EAs) must fulfill continuing-education and licensing requirements and are bound by ethical standards. Learn more from the National Association of Enrolled Agents, including where to find one nearby, at (855) 880-6232 or visit www.eatax.org.



Visitors to www.BICFightForYourWrite.com can sign a pledge to encourage handwriting. In return, BIC, a leading manufacturer of stationery products, will donate pens and pencils to students in need across the country.

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Reinke

Spring is shoving up the front windows and resting your elbows on the sill, the sun burning your nose a little.

—Ruth Wolff

The flowers of late winter and early spring occupy places in our hearts well out of proportion to their size.

—Gertrude S. Wister

CATHOLIC LIFE CELEBRATES FLAG DAY WITH 19TH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S POSTER CONTEST (San Antonio, TX) – The deadline is drawing near for the 19th annual "Flag Day Children's Poster Contest" sponsored by Catholic Life Insurance. All children currently enrolled in grades Kindergarten through 5th are invited to show us what the flag and its principles mean to them. Participants do not have to be Catholic Life members or of the Catholic faith to qualify. This contest is an opportunity for children to express their creativity and originality, while honoring a sacred American symbol.

Eighteen winners will be selected and awarded cash prizes for their outstanding submissions. The entries are separated into three divisions: Division A (Kindergarten-1st Grade); Division B (2nd-3rd Grade); and Division C (4th-5th Grade). Judges will score each poster submission based on the four following criteria: (1) Eye Appeal, (2) Originality, (3) Theme, and (4) Identification. The decisions of the judges will be final.

The theme for this year's poster contest is: What does freedom look like to you? Is it freedom of speech, or the freedom to go to church? Is it the freedom to get your education for free, or the freedom to grow up and be what you want to be? All entries must include a picture of the American Flag. (Please note: Posters that have other pictures drawn directly on the Flag or have changed its colors will unfortunately be disqualified.)

Entry forms and complete contest rules may be downloaded from the company website at www.cliu.com. An entry form must be completed legibly and attached to the back of the poster for qualification. We strongly encourage parents or teachers to fill out this form. Please submit your entries by May 13, 2016. Send entries to: Catholic Life Insurance Poster Contest, PO Box 659527, San Antonio TX 78265. All entries will become the property of Catholic Life Insurance and will not be returned unless postage accompanies the poster. Winning posters are published in the Catholic Life quarterly magazine.

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, including the Flag Day Children's Poster Contest.



FLAG DAY POSTER CONTEST

It's the 239th anniversary of the American Flag, which flies for freedom. *What does freedom look like to you? Is it freedom of speech? Freedom to go to church? Freedom to get your education for free? Freedom to grow up and be what you want to be?* (You must include the American Flag. Posters that have other pictures drawn on the Flag or have changed its colors will unfortunately be disqualified.)

◆ Who Can Enter?

Children in grades kindergarten through 5th may enter.

◆ What Can Be Entered?

One original poster no larger than 20"x20."

◆ What Materials Can Be Used?

Pencils, ink, paint, watercolors, crayons, fabric, and construction paper can be used. Words, letters, pictures, or other materials from newspapers or magazines may also be used. Posters must be made of poster board or construction paper.

◆ What are the Divisions and the Prizes?

Division A: K-1st grade
Division B: 2nd-3rd grade
Division C: 4th-5th grade

Prizes to be awarded in each division:

First: \$125 Fourth: \$50
Second: \$100 Fifth: \$25
Third: \$75 Sixth: \$15

◆ Judging

Judges will use the scoring criteria. Their decisions will be final. All entries become the property of Catholic Life Insurance and will not be returned *unless postage accompanies poster. We dispose of all posters 60 days after the contest.* Winning posters will be published in the *Catholic Life* magazine.

◆ Scoring

Use as a guide in poster planning:

- Eye Appeal**.....30%
Does poster attract attention?
Preparation, neatness, colors;
- Originality**.....20%
Design, slogan, arrangement;
- Theme**.....45%
Does poster stimulate interest?
Does it carry out the theme?;
- Identification**.....5%
Attach entry form or copy of entry form to the back of poster.

◆ General Rules

- Entry form must be completed and attached to back of poster. An incomplete and/or illegible form will disqualify entry. **Please have a parent or teacher fill out the entry form.**
- We suggest mailing your entry in a poster tube which may be found at your local post office or business supply store.
- The deadline to submit your entries: **May 13, 2016.**
Send entries to:
Catholic Life Insurance
Poster Contest
PO Box 659527
San Antonio, Texas 78265-9527

Entry Form – Please Print

(Attach to back of poster. Must be complete and legible to qualify.)

Name _____
Home Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Grade _____
Hm. Phone # _____ School _____
Parent _____ Teacher _____

For more information, contact Briana Gilmore at (210) 828-9921 Ext. 141 or email bgilmore@cliu.com.

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OKLAHOMA'S

HALL OF FAME RODEO

Photo by James Phifer

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