



Sherman County Museum 7 /05
Box 1248
Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

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Number 12 March 24, 2005

Pantry Meeting March 24th

The Pantry meeting will be held on Thursday, March 24, 2005 at the XIT Building in Stratford at 7 p.m.

Code Enforcement Agents to Begin Citing Residents

Residents in Stratford will need to dust off the mowers, pick up trash out of their yards, rehabilitate or demolish dilapidated structures, and haul off or repair abandoned or inoperable vehicles. If they don't they could be fined up to \$200 and in some cases even more.

After reviewing city ordinances, city officials said code enforcement agents will begin citing residents for those that are violating the above ordinance. Legally the City has always had the authority to enforce this. They will now be more proactive to increase compliance and to continue their efforts on making the appearance of the city better and on making Stratford a better place to live and do business. Littering, noxious weeds, dilapidated structures, and abandoned vehicles are all considered and will be classified as a nuisance.

City officials have told city employees to be on the lookout for violators. In most cases, a warning will be issued giving the guilty party up to two weeks to do away with the nuisance. After this time if the nuisance is not corrected, citations and corrective action WILL be issued.

*Have A Happy
Easter*

Trustee Election May 7, 2005

The Stratford Independent School District will hold a trustee election May 7, 2005 to fill two positions.

Early voting by personal appearance will begin Wednesday April 20, 2005 and will end Tuesday, May 3, 2005. Early voting will be conducted in the Business office Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. each day.

Board members whose term will expire are Ricky Reed and Joe Reinart. Holdover members are Gared McBryde, Patti Vincent, Brent Spurlock, Steve Hays, and DeWain Trayler.

Candidates are Joe Reinart, Ricky Reed, and Barney Wilborn.

Attention Junior Parents

Junior Parents-We will be meeting Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wesley Spurlocks barn on Beaver Road next to the Ambulance Building. We NEED all Junior Parents to be there.

Cowboy Church Held Wednesdays

Cowboy Church will meet every Wednesday at the County Barn at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcomed to attend



54th XIT Annual Membership Meeting

James Spurlock, XIT Rural Telephone Board President, welcomes the members of XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative to the 54th Annual Membership Meeting. Story on page 6

New Date for Weather Spotters Class

Weather Spotter's Class night will be held on April 7, 2005 at 7 p.m. at the Stratford EMS Building due to bad weather canceling on March 15th, 2005.

Red Hatters To Meet Thursday, April 7, 2005

There will be Red Hatters meeting at the Methodist Church on Thursday, April 7, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.

Hostesses: Bobbie Wilson & Janice Vaughn. Catered by: Connie Biddy. Entertainment will be provided and door prizes.

RSVP to Janice Vaughn, 396-2464 or Bobbie Wilson, 366-5891. Please RSVP by April 4th so we can let Connie know how much to cook.

Entire Community Invited

The entire community is invited to come and join us in the Relay for Life festivities. We're going to kick off the event at 6:00 p.m. at Sam Bass Stadium on June 3. The food, fun, games, and music will continue on into the night. The festivities will culminate at 1:00 a.m. the following morning. Don't miss this opportunity to contribute to our fight against cancer.

Main Street Enhancement Public Meeting

TxDOT and the Main Street Enhancement committee will hold a public breakfast meeting for Main Street store owners, property owners and interested persons, Tuesday, April 19. This meeting will include a progress planning report from Texas Department of Transportation and discussions on relocation of water lines, awnings, lighting and brick pavers. (Recently, an out of town business showed interest in a location in Stratford but was discouraged by the appearance of our Main Street especially the curb and sidewalk in front of the Post Office!)

*Happy
Easter*

Pancake Supper Wed. March 23rd

There is a Methodist Men Pancake supper on Wednesday, March 23, 2005, at the First United Methodist church from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited. Freewill donation.

Master of Memory to be Offered

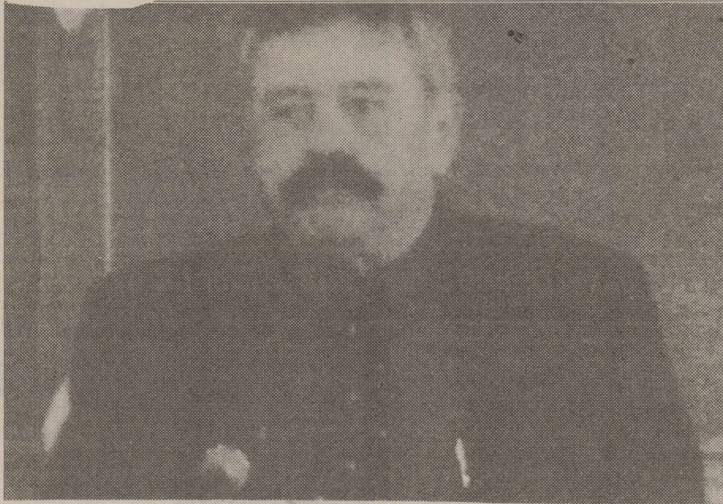
Many people believe that memory loss and aging go hand-in-hand: as a person gets older his or her memory begins to fail. Not true!!

The Sherman County office of the Texas Cooperative Extension and SCOT will be offering "Master of Memory". The six -lesson class series will help you understand how your memory works and what may affect your memory. Medical conditions, medications, diet and exercise, among other things, may all play a role in how your memory works. "Master of Memory" will also help you identify and use strategies to improve your memory functions.

The class series will be offered April 4, 15, 18, 29, May 2 & 6 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at SCOT Hall in Stratford. There is no charge for the class.

Susie Spurlock, County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences will be teaching the series. Topics will include how the brain takes new information and processes it, memory strategies, role of nutrition, medications and how they affect the memory, memory problems, and importance of exercise.

Pre-registration is encouraged so that adequate materials will be available to class participants. To register, contact the Sherman County Extension Office at 366-2122. Extension educational programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.



5-Year Anniversary

J.D. Henley of Iowa Veterinary Supply Company, spoke a few words to the good crowd on hand at their 5 year Anniversary Celebration Luncheon last Tuesday, March 15th. The snow did not stop the folks that came out for the delicious meal, speaker and door prizes. Good luck and many many more years in Stratford. Glad to have you.



The lucky members winning the cash grand prizes included Charles Sutterfield, Bobby Faver, Dessie Carter, Alicia Smith with Freedom Café, Mrs. Dorland Burton and Betty Menges.



Recipients of the 2005 XIT Rural Telephone Educational Program Scholarship were announced during XIT's Annual Meeting on March 9, 2005. Pictured are Ryan McDaniel, Craig Reinart and Kayla Willard, all from Stratford. Other recipients, not pictured, are Allison White from Dalhart, Jayme Wilhelm from Stratford and Tyrel Crum from Texline.

Cody Brotherton Wins Second Indoor Title

McMurry's University senior Cody Brotherton a Stratford High School Graduate claimed his second shot put title in the last three years Saturday, March 12th at the NCAA Division Indoor Track and Field Championships hosted by Illinois Wesleyan University.

Cody's mark smashed his own indoor school record of 57-9 1/2, established a Shirk Center record and is the best throw in

Division III for 2005. Previously, he had won the national indoor shot-put championship in 2003.

Brotherton was named the South/Southeast Region Division III Indoor Athlete of the Year by the U.S. Track and Field Coaches' Association. He won the outdoor version of that award last spring.

Cody is the son of Richie and Linda Brotherton of Stratford.



Norris Receives Award

Larry Norris (Nationally Registered / Licensed Paramedic) with the Stratford EMS recently received the "EMS Educator of the Year Award" at the annual awards banquet of the Panhandle Emergency Medical Services System (PEMSS) held in Amarillo. The PEMSS organization consists of 29 counties of the Texas Panhandle, Oklahoma Panhandle, and Eastern New Mexico with 51 EMS Services and over 800 providers in the network. Larry was selected by a panel of his peers and recognized for his dedication to the education of EMS personnel. Thanks from the community for your hard work, Larry, and congratulations upon your award.

Obits



Manuel O. Navarrete

Manuel O. Navarrete, 59, died Wednesday, March 16, 2005, in Cactus.

Rosary was said at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 20, 2005 in St. Joseph's Catholic Church Parish Hall. Mass was at 2 p.m. Monday, March 21, 2005 in St. Joseph's Catholic Church with the Rec. Dr. Johnson, CMI, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Stratford Cemetery by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors at Stratford.

Mr. Navarrete was born June 16, 1945 in Coyame, Chihuahua, Mexico. Mr. Navarrete married Josefa Rivera on July 21, 1971 in Coyame, Chihuahua, Mexico. He loved his family and was proud to have brought them with him to the United States. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. He was preceded in death by three brothers, Guadalupe, Alfonso and Julian and one sister, Antonia. He is survived by his wife; one son, Arturo Navarrete of Stratford; four daughters, Emma Navarrete of Wichita Falls, Alma Navarrete and Amparo Navarrete, both of Stratford and Lupe Navarrete of Pampa; a brother, Abelardo Navarrete of Monahans; four sisters, Emma Jasso of Elida NM, Socorro Romero of Coyame, Otilia Adames of Chihuahua, Mexico, and Hermila Ramirez of Cactus; and nine grandchildren.

Julia Lavake

Julia Lavake, 86, died Friday, March 18, 2005.

Services were held at 10 a.m. Monday in First United Methodist Church with Glenn White, family friend, and the Rev. Gene Weinette, pastor of the church, officiating. Burial was in Stratford Cemetery by Morrison Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Lavake was born Feb. 11, 1919, at Quealy, WY. She had been a Stratford resident since 1936. She married Herman "Cotton" Lavake on April 19, 1936, at Clayton, NM. She was a homemaker and a longtime member of First United Methodist Church of Stratford. She was very proud of her Basque heritage and the fact that her parents met on the ship while coming to the United States and are on the register at Ellis Island.

She was preceded in death by her husband on Aug. 8, 1991 and a son, Dwane Lavake on Feb. 26, 1984.

Survivors include a son, Wayne Lavake of Stratford; a sister, Felicia Hatt of Rock Springs, WY; a granddaughter, Darla Mastrovich and husband, John, of San Antonio; a grandson, Jeremy Lavake and wife, Jennifer, of Amarillo; a great-granddaughter, Allison Paige of San Antonio; a great-grandson, David George of San Antonio; and a daughter-in-law, Pat Lavake of Amarillo.

Pallbearers were Harry Oquin, Elmer Oquin, Wesley Willey, Claude Fedric, Ray Lerman and Keith Whatley.

The family suggests memorials be to Coldwater Manor, 1111 Beaver Road, Stratford, TX 79084 or to First United Methodist Church, PO Box 1289, Stratford, TX 79084.

Chamber News

By Patty Tims

HELLO AGAIN

The Chamber of Commerce would like to thank these businesses and families for renewing their membership: Lone Kendrick. Without the support of these families and businesses, the Chamber of Commerce would not be able to serve the community of Stratford. Once again, thanks to all of you. If you would like to become a member of the Chamber, please come by the office, Monday, Wednesday, or Friday, or call 366-2270. Help us make a difference.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL BANQUET

The Stratford Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet will be April 11, 2005 this year. The banquet theme this year will be, "Envision the Future", with Scott Buckles presenting the program. There will also be a live charity auction, with Aubrey Latham, auctioneer, XIT Auctions, Jeff Kautz is catering the meal, which will be rib eye steaks, baked potato, green beans, salad, dinner roll and dessert. Auction items are being displayed at the Chamber office. Come in and take a look or check it out as you walk by. This promises to be a fun time. We encourage everyone to attend this event.

DUCKWALL'S CLOSING THEIR DOORS

Duckwall's is closing. Everything must go. What a sad, sad turn of events for Stratford. But the saddest thing of all is, this could have been prevented. If sales had been up, if people would have shopped locally, if everyone that is shopping now had shopped when it was open. So man if's. For those of you who have supported this business since its opening, bravo! For those of you who have not, sham on you! This is what happens when you do not support your local businesses. The doors close and your left with yet another empty building. It's time for a wake up call citizens of Stratford. Look around at all the houses for sale, all the empty buildings, and the migration of people out of Stratford. If we are not careful, this town will dry up and blow away. How many businesses will we have to lose before something is done?

Arts in the Area

By Gaynelle Riffe

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| March 29-30 | "Miss Sigan" Broadway Series
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-378-3096 |
| April 1-3 | "Hank The Cow Dog" ALT Academy
Amarillo Little Theatre Main Stage 806-355-9991 |
| April 1 | West Texas A&M U Showcase of Music
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-651-2840 |
| April 2 | Chamber Music Amarillo- strings 8:00 p.m.
Amarillo Museum of Art 806-236-3545
www.chambermusicamarillo.org |
| April 2 | Sandy A. Flint Magic Show
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-378-3096 |
| April 9 | Amarillo Symphony, Jennifer Frautschi, violin
Amarillo Civic Chorus, WTAMU Choirs
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-378-8782 |
| April 12 | Harrington String Quartet
WT A&M U Mary Moody N Recital Hall 806-376-8782 |
| April 7-17 | "Cat on A Hot Tin Roof" Drama
Amarillo Little Theatre Adventure Space 806-355-9991 |
| April 16 | "Coppelia" Lone Star Ballet
Amarillo Civic Auditorium |

Obits

Cont. from col. 1

James Ross Boardman

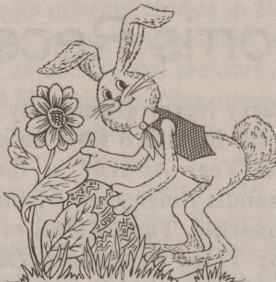
Amarillo-James Ross Boardman, 76, of Amarillo died Friday, March 18, 2005.

Services were held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday in Southwest Church of Christ with Brent Adams, minister, officiating. Arrangements were by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors, 2800 Paramount Blvd.

Mr. Boardman was born in Santa Anna and married Modean Emfinger on January 28, 1949 at Lamesa. He had lived in Amarillo for 14 years and was a member of Southwest Church of Christ. He was a wonderful husband and loving dad.

Survivors include his wife: a son, Jesse Boardman of Dumas; a daughter, Alice Marie Sladek of Stratford; three brothers, Sanford Boardman of Lamesa, Nathan Boardman of Crosbyton and Bob Boardman of Amarillo; a sister, Mary Ada Alred of Roscoe; five grandchildren, Justin, Rebecca, Amy Lynn, Dalton and Alisha; and two great-grandchildren, Creed and Blakeley.

The family suggests memorials be to High Plains Children's Home, 11461 S. Western St., Amarillo, TX 79118.



Happy Easter

Scot Notes

By Jack Gore

Scot activities for this week is Board meeting Tuesday, March 22nd at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, the 24th Luncheon with prizes given for "Wearing the Green".

Saturday the 26th Dance from 8 p.m. till 11 p.m., this is the first dance in over a year. So come enjoy and bring a friend. Happy Easter Scotters.

Imagination Station News

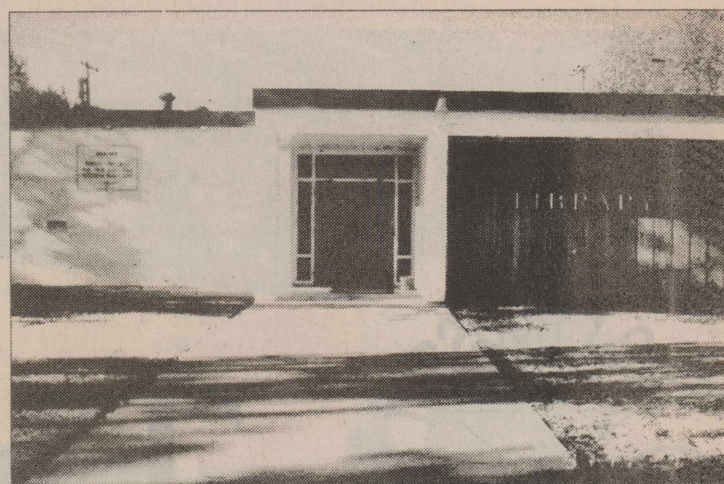
Plans are made for the Week of the Young child "Peter Pan". April 12 and 14. Children ages pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st grade in Stratford and Area Schools are invited to fly with Peter Pan in England to Neverland and the Indian Village. Watch out for Captain Hook!

Speaking of using your Imagination! The Beyond Imagination Beauty contest will return on Saturday, April 30. Applications are now accepted. Beauties with unusual talents will make an entertaining evening.

The Imagination Station is seeking three new board members. One term ended, one moved and one resigned because of other commitments. Imagine adventure and fun. If you are interested in board of just program volunteer please let us know.

The wonderful computer lab needs to be used. We need programs and volunteers to teach classes. Help!

Planning ahead-Summer Arts Program, Drama Camp, "Whale of a Sale". Work continues to complete Phase III of the Building Project.



Sherman County Library

SHERMAN COUNTY LIBRARY received their first matching funds grant from Stratford Area Foundation in 1983. To date they have benefited from matching funds grants totaling \$37,700.00, including grants from the J.B. and Esther Riffe Endowment for Sherman County of \$4,200.00.

Miss Ima Bussman-Billy Joe Potts
Miss Stormy Cloud-Greg Wright

STRATFORD YOUTH BASEBALL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The Stratford Youth Baseball Association will have an organizational meeting on Monday, April 4th at 6:30 p.m. in the high school library. If you are interested in coaching a team this season or have input concerning the baseball organization, your attendance at this meeting is encouraged. If you have any questions, please call Gared McBryde at 366-5307



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Kerrick News

By Marylou McDaniel

A Joyous Easter to everyone! Easter Sunday dinner will be at the Community Center at 1:00 p.m. Bring a dish of your choice and enjoy the visiting and food. The Hampton family are hosts.

The weather kept many from attending the funeral of Buck Weaver March 15. Graveside service was postponed until Friday, March 18th. Among those attending were Nita Mac Taylor, Linda Keener, Terry and Brady Schoonover, Marylou & Mike McDaniel. Bill Boren was a pallbearer.

Rita Blanca Electric annual meeting was attended by Bill and Pat Boren, Leo and Elaine Horne, Jon Hart, Marylou & Mike McDaniel. Yep, Marylou won a \$25 certificate. Terry & Barbara Schoonover went to Guymon Sunday to see his dad, Raymond Lewis, who recently broke his leg.

Ex-Student Reunion Meeting Thurs. March 24

Stratford Ex-Student Reunion July 29-30, 2005. A planning meeting of all honored Class members (1935, '45, '55, '65, '75, '85, '95) will be held Thursday, March 24, 17 7:00 p.m. at The Imagination Station.

Class 1935 Maurine Reeder Plunk; Mae Marshall Plunk; Bernice Fedric Stubblefield; Class 1945-Peggy Morse Jackson; Class 55 Gaynelle Parker Riffe; Richard Bachman; Sarah Lavake Keener; Joyce Haney Dodson; Class 1965 Ellen Dyess Tillery; Karen Keener Pulliam; Terry Mathews; Larry Norris; Zelda Roach Pickens; Lola Sanders Johnson; Kathy Sneed Bonds; Boyd Spurlock Karen Woolsey; Gary & June Huggins Palmer; Class 1975-Gayl Irland Sims; Miles Smith; Phillip Walden; Carrol Sadler; Carol McLaughlin Zimmer; Scott Buckles; 1985-Piper Bennett; Todd Drake; Kevin Long; Sabrina Palmer Melton; 1995-Shannon Burkhalter Stewart; Rhea Chumley; Arron Griffith; Marcus Lavake.

GFWC/TFWC Spring Convention Sat. April 9th

GFWC/TFWC Spring Convention is Saturday, April 9 in Canyon. Top of Texas District will meet at First United Methodist Church with the session beginning at 9:30 a.m. Betty Unlaub, Dumas, is District President.

Marsha Wright, GFWC/Prospectus Study Club, is District 1st Vice President. Margaret Reed will conduct the In Memoriam ceremony.

Spotlight is on Texas Heritage. Dr. William Green, history curator of Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, is on the program. There will be a play, "The Women Were Always There", by Mary Jo Ondracek with Dazzling Darlings from Dalhart starring.

Reservations are due April 1. Send name, make check for registration and lunch \$12.00 to Top of Texas District, c/o Betty Unlaub, P.O. Box 302, Dumas, TX 79029.

All club members are encouraged to attend.

Cancer Survivor Spotlight

Karla was diagnosed with breast cancer in February of 2003. A small abnormality was detected during a routine mammogram performed here in Stratford utilizing the mobile screening lab.

"I was not overly concerned during the exam until I was called back for an additional mammogram, sonogram and ultimately a biopsy. When I received the phone call informing me that indeed it was a cancerous tumor, I was devastated and extremely scared to know I had cancer. It did not really sink in until I hung up the telephone. I cried, I screamed and did not believe it had happened to me. I am extremely fortunate to have a husband who stood beside me and provided support to me during the entire experience. He was also very concerned and a little scared himself."

Karla had 2 surgeries and 7 weeks of radiation treatment and is now on preventive medication. Family, friends and even strangers with positive attitudes really helped her get through the treatments as well as day to day living with cancer.

"Cancer slowed down my life and made me realize that the "small stuff" wasn't worth sweating over and everything does not have to be done immediately and perfectly. Through the experience I learned that every chance I get I will enjoy life and make memories to enjoy forever. 'Live like you were dying'-as the song goes".

Cancer free for 2 years now, Karla would like other women to know that breast cancer CAN and IS being cured. The key is early detection.

Karla and husband Bobby will be participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life as volunteers as well as members of the Survivor Team.



Happy Easter

THE STRATFORD STAR
Thursday, March 24, 2005
Page 3

Texas Department of Transportation will host an Informational Meeting on March 31, 2005 concerning the planning of future projects.

This informational meeting is held to explain how the department plans transportation projects. We would like to receive the public's input regarding the current Transportation Improvement Plan for the district.

The meeting will be Thursday, March 31, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. It will be located at the Perryton Chamber of Commerce, 2000 S Main (US 83), Perryton, Texas.

The meeting will cover transportation plans for all areas of the Panhandle and the city of Amarillo. An overall view of the planning process will be presented, as well as the criteria used for selecting individual projects. Draft versions of current transportation plans will be presented at the meeting for public comment.

The public is invited to speak regarding projects currently planned or any additional projects that might be proposed. Speakers will be limited to five minutes. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding any project may be submitted at the meeting. Written statements and other exhibits may be submitted to the District Office at 5715 Canyon Drive (P.O. Box 7368) Amarillo, Texas 79114-7368. Comments must be received no later than April 10, 2005.

All interested citizens are invited to attend this public meeting. Persons interested in attending the meeting whom have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact Cheryl Luther at 806.356.3249. Requests should be made no later than two days prior to the public meeting. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, March 3, 2005 and Thursday, March 24, 2005



Have a Safe and Happy Easter



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First Assembly of God

Kevin Anderson, Pastor
921 Fulton

Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm

First Christian

Rev. Walter Reed
5th & Main

Sunday School 9:45 am (nursery)
Morning Worship 10:45 am (nursery)
No Sunday Evening Worship Service
Wed. : Youth Choir 3:45 pm, Chi Rho 5 p.m.,
CYF 6 p.m., Bell Choir 6:50 p.m., Adult Choir 8 p.m.

First United Methodist

Rev. Gene Weinette
520 N. Main

Sunday School 9:40 am
Morning Worship 10:50 am
Junior High UMY 5:00 pm
Senior High UMY 6:00 pm

St. Joseph Catholic

Rev. Dr. Johnson, Reiki Master
6th & Pearl

Rectory - 366 - 5687
Sunday morning: 8:00a.m. (English), 12 noon. (Spanish)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass. or by appt.
Christian Formation Classes: K-6th Grade, Wed. afternoon
Jr. & Sr. High, Wed. - 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Church of Christ

Ernie Maiwald

N. 3rd & Chestnut
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

Calvary Baptist

James Washburn

302 S. Main - 806-396-5335 lv. message
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wed. Service - 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist

Brent Farney

702 N. 3rd
Early Service 9:00 a.m.
Growth groups/Sun. School 10:00 a.m.
Late Service 11:00 a.m.
Growth Groups Nightly 7:00 p.m.
Wed. - Youth Group Teen Kids 7:00 p.m./Adult Choir 7:00

La Mision Bautista

Mision Bautista

401 S. Wall 396-5376
Domingo-(Sunday)
Estuela Dominical 9:45 am

Miercoles (Wednesday)
Servicio De Adoracion 11:00 am
Servicio De Oration 6:00 pm
Servicio De Adoracion 6:00 pm
Susninos Durante El Servicio.

Estudio Biblico &
Se Cuidamos

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

The Trial of Christ

The trial of Jesus Christ was amazing. There were in fact two trials. First, Christ appeared before the Jewish court. But the Jewish trial conducted by the religious leaders was illegal. The hearing before the high priest was conducted at night. This was entirely irregular. Since the desire was to put Jesus to death, the witnesses were required to produce the exact same testimony. No differences or contradictions were allowed. The Jewish court system placed a very high value on life. But the religious leaders were not interested in justice. "The whole Council kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus, in order that they might put Him to death" (Matthew 26:59). It was also improper for the high priest to speak during a trial. His opinion would sway the whole court. But the high priest entered directly into this trial to solicit a verdict. Then Jesus was physically abused. "They spat in His face and beat Him with their fists; and others slapped Him" (Matthew 26:57). The whole trial was a terrible miscarriage of justice. The Jewish Council then sent Jesus to the Roman governor. Pilate asked Jesus, "Are You the King of the Jews?" (Matthew 27:11). Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). This alleviated the governor's fears. Pilate knew he was dealing with a purely religious matter. So he pronounced his judgment to the people, "I find no guilt in Him" (John 18:38). Pilate pronounced this same judgment three times. The problem was that Pilate was a coward. Although he knew Jesus was innocent, because the Jewish leader was inciting a riot, Pilate "delivered Him to them to be crucified" (John 19:16). Here is an example of how mob action perverts justice. It turns our stomachs. And we cry out, "Why?"

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Pastor Roberto Frescas
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Escuela Dominical 10 a.m.
Servicio De Adoracion 5 p.m.
Meir Co Les Serv De Ador 5 p.m.

Kerrick Community Church

Pastor Roy Harris
Community Building
Sunday Morning - 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening-6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

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**STRATFORD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR SESSION
March 17, 2005**

The Stratford ISD Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, March 17, 2005 in the High School library.

President Joe Reinart established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Board members present:

Joe Reinart
Ricky Reed
Gared McBryde
DeWain Trayler

Brent Spurlock Patti Vincent
Steve Hays
Jim Taliaferro, Superintendent

Guests present were Shawnda Jackson, Jessica Wheeler, Dinah Horsford, Tim Gilliland, Mary Pat Williams and Steve Haynes.

Mr. Gilliland led the invocation.

Mr. Taliaferro introduced the guests. Shawnda Jackson was attending the meeting to fulfill a requirement for a college government class and Jessica Wheeler was presenting the PBMAS indicators to the board.

Mr. Taliaferro gave the district's monthly recognition. It was as follows:

1. Sunny Russell will compete in the Regional Spelling Bee on Saturday, March 5th in Canyon. Thanks for a good job Sunny.

2. Four Stratford High School Seniors will receive the XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative Scholarship. They are Ryan McDaniel, Craig Reinart, Jayme Wilhelm and Kayla Willard. Congratulations to these seniors.

3. Several 4-H and FFA students exhibited animals at the San Antonio Stock Show. Animals that placed high enough to make the sale were: Landan Luna - 4th place Chester White, Scott Hudson - 3rd place Hampshire, and April Kautz - 1st place York and Clayton Johnson - 4th Place steer.

4. The Stratford High School yearbook staff has been recognized by Taylor Publishing Company with an Honorable Mention Award for their overall dedication, effort and accomplishments. The Stratford High School yearbook is featured in the 2005 Yearbook. The 2004 Yearbook sponsor was Tami King.

5. The All District Teams for District 1A basketball have been announced. They are as follows:
Elks

Lady Elks
Tyler Haynes - 1st Team

Lindsay Stein - Defensive MVP
Josh King - 2nd Team

Yadira Ortega - 1st Team
Chris Ortega - 2nd Team

Allison Baskin - 1st Team

Chief Dennis of the Stratford Police Department was not present to present the update on the programs he visited with the board about last month.



"Miss Beyond Imagination"

Miss Ima Bussman crowned Miss Beyond Imagination 1998 and runner-up Miss Stormy Cloud are encouraging contestants to apply for the return of "Miss Beyond Imagination" contest sponsored by the Imagination Station scheduled for April 30, 2005. Contestants should contact Jeanne Bell or George Harding.

A public hearing was held on the early start date for the 2005-2006 school year. Comments were given from the following: Patti Vincent and Mr. Taliaferro voiced a concern of losing local control. The administrators and calendar committee select a calendar based on the needs of our community and students. Mr. Haynes stated that not being able to finish the first semester at the Christmas break would be detrimental to students efforts on semester tests. Mr. Haynes and Mr. Gilliland addressed potential lack of student focus in late May. Another issue discussed was the calendar concept addressed in House Bill 2. That calendar legislation would mandate a school start date of September 6 for the 05-06 school year with the final day of school being before June 7. Mr. Haynes also stated the early start would put the zero week of football before school starts. He also stated that there would be issues with the dress code. About 55% of our students are in the band. By starting school early, these students would be expected to perform before school starts. Because of our agricultural based economy, many of the summer jobs that

students have in the summer start before June 7.

Mr. Taliaferro gave the transportation report. The cost per mile for transportation for the month was 40¢. He then gave the budget summary. Monthly expenditures are at 42.23% and revenue collected at 85.49%. Tax collections are at 96.99%. He then gave the quarterly investment report.

Jessica Wheeler, Special Ed Diagnostician, gave a presentation on the PBMAS, Performance Based Monitoring Assessment System.

The board took a short recess at 8:11 PM.

Mr. Taliaferro discussed staffing with the board.

Ricky Reed made the motion and Steve Hays seconded to accept the consent agenda with the following amendment: "Coach Metcalf's contract be extended rather than renewed." Motion carried 7-0.

Gared McBryde made the motion and Patti Vincent seconded to table action item #10 Memorandum of Agreement between Stratford ISD and Sherman County for Emergency Management pending further information. Motion carried 7-0.

Patti Vincent made the motion and Ricky Reed seconded to purchase a route bus from the TASB Buy Board. Motion carried 7-0.

Brent Spurlock made the motion and Steve Hays seconded to approve the elementary teacher contract renewals as presented by Mary Pat Williams subject to assignment. Motion carried 7-0.

Ricky Reed made the motion and Gared McBryde seconded

to approve the junior high teacher contracts as presented by Tim Gilliland subject to assignment. Motion carried 7-0.

Gared McBryde made the motion and Patti Vincent seconded to approve high school teacher contracts as presented by Steve Haynes subject to assignment. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion was held on the purchasing of additional band uniforms and instruments, the sprinkler system at the football field, replacing one of the vans with a car and future funding priorities. The board instructed Mr. Taliaferro to pursue the band uniforms and instruments, the football field work, and the replacement of the van.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Sherman County 4-H Members Compete at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

Five Sherman County 4-H Members competed in the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Calf Scramble on March 11, 2005. The calf scramble is held each night of the rodeo. Twenty-four 4-H and FFA Members compete to catch one of twelve calves released into the four-acre arena in Reilant Arena. Those that catch a calf are awarded a \$1000.00 certificate to purchase a registered beef heifer. This animal must be cared for throughout the year by the individual and returned the following year to participate in the Houston Livestock Show Calf Scramble Jr. Heifer Show. Three individuals from Sherman County were awarded with such a certificate. Derek Blain, from Texhoma, caught the first calf of the evening and in addition to his certificate was awarded \$250.00 and a belt buckle. Kaleb Horsford from Stratford and Pete Dahl, from Texhoma, also received a certificate for their participation. Katelyn Blain and Nathan White also tried their luck at the calf scramble, and although they were unable to snag a calf this year enjoyed the experience of participating in front of a crowd of 60,000. Congratulations to everyone for representing Sherman County and good luck with those new beef projects.

Several other 4-H Members competed in the livestock show in Houston. Kyle Horsford walked away the big winner. Kyle's black and white Berkshire barrow placed in a premium position in the swine show. Kaleb Horsford, Katharina Pendergrace, and Jay Hacker, Jr all exhibited non-placing barrows at this year's show. Case and Kristen Crabtree each exhibited steers. Congratulations to everyone who participated in this year's Major Livestock Shows!



Mary Allen Relay for Life Team

The Mary Allen Relay for Life team consists of: Shanda Davis - captain, Yvonne Pittman, Susan Wheeler, Desine Garza, Judy Drake, Donna Gillenwaters, Rhonda Matthews, Marylou Maldonado, Christy Burr, Darlene Walker, Patty Brown, Daina Rouse, Ramona Rueda, Belinda Hamilton, Kendra Mungia, Mary Pat Williams, Kathy Switzer, Linda Sue Brotherton. These ladies have been working overtime to help eliminate cancer. They've planned several fund raisers for the American Cancer Society. Watch out for them on Friday, June 3 at the Relay. Their theme is "Aloha to Life". They'll be donning Hawaiian leis and attire at the Relay. They will be selling popcorn balls, snow cones, and tickets to play an interactive TV dance game. If you too are interested in having a team for the Relay for Life, contact Desine Garza at 396-5336.

Business Directory

WALTER LASLEY & SONS INC.
THE Feedyard
Since 1953
753-4411

Stratford Grain Co.
Stratford 396-5541
Lautz 769-4485
4 North Main

CONSUMERS
208 Texas
We Sell Seed & Fuel
Farmland, Acco, & Moorman Seeds & Diamond Shamrock Products
366-2261

Stratford Auto Electric
119 S. Wall, Stratford, Texas 79084
Phone 366-5941 366-5857
Alternator, Starter, Magneto Repair
Since 1964

Betty Brown's Medical Claim Service
605 S. Main P.O. Box 7
Stratford, TX 79084 806-396-2623

Brown's Meat Locker
Custom Wholesale & Retail Meat
Federally Inspected
Hwy 287 South 396-2513

A & I PARTS CENTER
AUTOMOTIVE AND INDUSTRIAL PARTS - THE CAR CARE PEOPLE
Jerry Ewers
Manager
P.O. Box 1146
201 N. 2nd-Stratford, TX 79084

This Space Available
Call 366-5885

THRIFTWAY
Big Town Selection ★ Small Town Friendliness
Wide Selection Frozen Food
Quality Foods Fresh Produce
Hwy 54 East 396-5586

Joan Bell THE TRAVEL STORE
affiliated with National Travel Systems
A Full Service Travel Agency
396-5958
1-800-753-2792

This space available

Stratford Hospital District
Coldwater Manor
Stratford Family Medical Clinic
Stratford EMS
Proudly serving the medical needs of Stratford and Sherman County

folks!rt ONE Stroke
OSCI
BOBBIE STRONG
806-396-2802

Robert's Service Center
400 S. Poplar
396-2882
Tires & Batteries
Auto & Lawn Mower Repair

George Harding
Sewer & Drain Cleaning
Plumbing, Electrical, Remodeling, Painting
366-2206

Allen-Tarver Insurance Agency
Carolyn A. Tarver
Auto • Home • Life • Commercial
Bus: (806)396-5810 • Res: (806) 396-2393

Joe Flores
Farm Bureau Insurance
396-5538 office
396-5389 home

Jesse's Gun Shop
Gun Repairs • Sales • Cleaning
Hours: Mon. - Fri. - 1730 - 2000
Sat. - 0800-1600
Jesse Resendes
(806) 763-4454
(806) 366-3134 Shop
111 S. Maple
Stratford, TX 79084

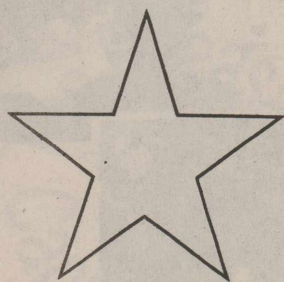
Your Home Town Pharmacy..
ELK PHARMACY
317 N. Main
P.O. Box 360
Stratford, TX 79084
806-396-6505
Major Prescription Plans Filled
Gayland Vandiver, R.Ph.
Debbi Vandiver/ Owners
Carlton Cards...Millionaire Candy, Gifts
Cookie and Balloon Bouquets

Tommy's Embroidery
580-423-7718
Texhoma, OK
210 Hwy 54 West
Caps, Shirts, Jackets, Baby Blankets, Towels, Towel Wraps, School Logos, & Much More!

Decks, Porches, Patios, Awning, Fence repair and New fence, Painting and Dry wall
All Types of Construction
935-5890-or-930-6545
930-0339

Joe Taylor, Photography
PO Box 27
1305 N Chestnut
Stratford, TX 79084
806-366-2459
Weddings, Portraits, Etc.

DAVID J. CROSS
Rockin' C Cross Appraisals
Bus: (806) 366-7525 401 N. 3rd Suite 8
Fax: (806) 366-7515 P.O. Box 1168
rockinc@xit.net Stratford, TX 79084



Phone 366-5885

It Pays To Look In The

Star Classifieds

..The Best Salesperson Around

For Sale

Prom Jewelry Available Friday, March 25th at Acquisitions, corner of Hwy 54 and 287
3-31-c

FOR SALE: 1992 Suzuki 250 Quad-Racer 4-wheller, 2 stroke, New tires and tune-up. \$2000. Call 366-7664 or 753-6677.
2-17-tfn

For Sale: 2001 Chevy Impala LS Heated Leather Seats 40K \$11,900 (806) 366-5557.
4-6-c

PROM TIME: Get your tuxedo at Family and Friends, Prices starting at \$65.00. Call 396-2809, or come by 218 N. Main.
3-10-4x's-31

For Sale: 2001 Chevy 2500HD 4x4 \$10,900 (806) 366-5557
4-6-c

For Sale or Lease-212 N. Poplar-40' x 60' office building. Call 806-679-5585.
3-31-c

Used Tire Sale-Many Sizes Starting \$5.00 Duncan Chevrolet 806-366-5557
4-6-c

For Sale: 1993 Chevy Blazer, Low Mileage, 4 WD, Call 366-5308 or 396-5978.
3-34-tfn

Help Wanted

CASA 69, Inc. is currently seeking an Executive Director. Pick up or request applications from the CASA office at 414 Denver Avenue, Suite 103 (Basement-Dallam County Courthouse). Dalhart, Texas 79022. 244-2684-EOE
3-3-tfn

Looking for dependable, reliable & loves to work with children. Fulltime/partime position. Must apply in person. No phone calls please. Lollipop Junction
9-30-tfn

Now seeking a temporary full/part time dependable salesperson to operate Stratford Store. Duties: assisting customers, maintaining plants, and operating cash register. Starting pay: \$6.00/hour-40 hour workweek. No experience necessary. Hiring begins April 1st. Send resume to D&C Greenhouse, 36 Nelson Drive, Spearman, TX 79081.
3-24-c

PIANIST NEEDED

First Baptist Church of Stratford is looking for an individual to play the piano for Church Services on Sunday Mornings and to be available for Choir practice on Wednesday evenings. If you have a desire to serve the Lord with your talents, please call the Church office at 396-5554

Services

SANDY'S 'ROUN-TUIT' SERVICE Home Repair, Welding, Painting, Odd jobs, Mower Repair. No job too small. "If you can't get around to it," CALL SANDY! 753-7354 or 727-4692
9-16-tfn

I will do little handiwork jobs for the elderly at a reasonable cost. Call Dick Bachman 366-7679.
8-19-tfn

For Rent

PHEASANT RIDGE APARTMENTS

1319 & 1320 N. Chestnut
Stratford, Texas

Newly remodeled
Very spacious, 2 bedroom
New appliances
Central heating & air-
Washer/Dryer hookups
Clean, comfortable & convenient
Professionally managed
SENIOR DISCOUNT

806-244-3418

FOR RENT...Office space on Main Street for rent. For information call (806)396-5541.
11-27-tfn

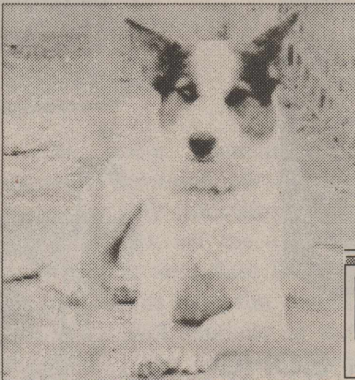
For Rent: 1 Bedroom furnished apt, 6th & Fulton. Call 396-5541 daytime, 396-5692 at nights.
1-28-tfn

For Rent: 2-bedroom house, utility porch, fenced backyard and garage.
396-2125.
1-6-tfn

Land for Sale

Land for Sale: Section 66 and South 1/2 of Section 67 Block 8. Capital Syndicate sub-division. Dallam County CRP to 9-30-2007. Contact Trust Dept. at First State Bank of Stratford 806-396-5521.
10-23-tfn

Pet of the Week



The Dalhart Animal Rescue Shelter needs your old blankets, towels, & rugs for the dogs and puppies. If you have any that you would like to provide them, please contact Linda Reimer at 244-6326 (leave message) or 249-5333. You can also drop them off at the shelter.

The Dalhart Animal Rescue Shelter ("no kill" facility) currently has over 100 dogs and puppies available for adoption. These dogs are all sizes & range in age from 4 weeks on up. The older dogs have been spayed and/or neutered & have their shots. These dogs need a good home.

We are also seeking responsible individuals to provide foster care for the dogs. If you feel you would like to take one or two and care for them for a couple of months, we will provide the food. All of these dogs have had their shots and are looking for lots of love. Please contact Diane Trull at 244-3216 for additional information.

(NAPS)—Drip irrigation can be a great aid to the efficient use of water. A well-designed drip irrigation system will lose practically no water to runoff, deep percolation or evaporation. Steady, consistent watering can also lower plant stress, which leads to healthier plants while lowering your water bill. Rain Bird offers an online step-by-step guide to drip irrigation, in addition to interactive demos and a drip calculation program to help homeowners and contractors design and schedule drip irrigation systems correctly. Check it out at www.rainbird.com. Search Information Managers work with Web browsers and search engines to make it easy to save, organize and share the information people find online. A leading Search Information Manager available today is a PC application

You create your own ambiance. Whether you surround yourself with flowers or clutter, you control your environment. If you don't like what you see, change it.

—Brenda Hunter

Houses For Sale

For Sale: 5 Bdrm house, 2 bath, garage & storage, newly remodeled \$35,000 Call 366-3625 or Cell-681-8406.
4-6-p

For Sale by Owner: 4/2/3 home on corner lot. Custom built in 1995. New carpet, 20 x 20 finished basement, fireplace, ceramic tile in entry, utility, dining and kitchen, sprinkler system, open floor plan, approx. 3200 total sq. ft. Call 806-366-2303 evenings or leave a message.
11-4-tfn

FOR SALE BY OWNER...Beautiful 4 bedroom home, large sized rooms, 3 full baths, office, large utility room, basement, covered patio, beautifully landscaped backyard. W/deck. This house is located in a GREAT neighborhood!! 202 Kay Ave. Approx. 3800 sq. ft. Call 806-366-2482.
4-22-tfn

For Sale: Our home at 619 S. Pearl. 2572 sq. ft. living area, 3 b, 2 b, fireplace, heated tile floor in den & kitchen, 2 car garage, separate storage garage extra lg. Lot 366-5829 or 753-7775.
4-22-tfn

3 Bdrm Brick, 2 baths on large corner lot. 1201 NW 2nd St. Sprinkler system, fenced yard. Located in Casa Bonita Addition. Call 366-2153 for appointment.
10-21-tfn

For Sale: 3BR, 1.75 bath home at 603 S. Fulton. 2 living areas, dining room, master bedroom with 2 walk in closets. Lots of closets and storage throughout the house. Large backyard with above ground swimming pool, metal storage shed and covered patio. 2 car garage. Brick and vinyl exterior for maintenance free up keep. Contact Rhonda Browne after 6:30 at 366-7597 or leave message.
12-9-tfn

For Sale: House and furnishings as a package. 1320 sq. ft. living; detached garage; sprinkler system. \$49500.00. Shown by appointment only. Trust Dept. 396-5521.
9-25-tfn

For Sale: Nice 3 br. 1.75 bath brick home at 408 N. Fulton. Ready to move into. Updated kitchen and bathrooms. CH/A, attached garage, new attic insulation, large fenced in backyard. Stove, washer, dryer and new built in dishwasher stay. Great neighborhood \$55,000. Call 366-3111.
3-24-tfn

For Rent or Sale: 305 N. 3rd, 2 Bedroom Laundry room, detached garage, storage Building, nice location 930-0734
3-24-tfn

Ad Rem Land Co.
803 S Bliss
Dumas, TX 79029
806-935-7364



Very Motivated Seller! 3 B/R, 1 1/4 baths, large master suite, walk in shower. Double garage with workshop and C/H&A.
Reduced to \$85,000

Move Up to this Beautiful Home! 3 B/R, 1 1/4 baths, 2 living areas, and a large adjacent lot for parking, on the east side.
\$89,000

Home with Style! 2 B/R, 1 1/4 baths, with large living and dining areas. Hardwood floors, and updated baths.
\$78,900

Very Cute! 1 B/R, 3/4 bath home, would make a great rental property.
\$15,000

Great Starter Home, or Possible Investment Property! 2 B/R, 1 bath.
\$25,000

Shop in Backyard! Nice 3 B/R, 2 bath with 1 car detached garage.
Reduced to \$45,000

Prime Location! This 3 B/R, 2 bath home is located in a quiet neighborhood and close to schools.
\$125,000

Corner Lot! This 4 B/R, 1 1/4 bath home has had C/H&A, sewer lines, and gas line has all been recently replaced.
\$60,000

Public Notice

Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held on April 14, 2005 in conjunction with the regular City of Stratford City Council meeting at City Hall, 518 N. 3rd. The hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m. This hearing will be held to discuss property located at 217 E. Texas Avenue. Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, March 24, 2005.

Legal Notices

STRATFORD SECURE STORAGE LEGAL NOTICE

This is to notify that the contents in Units #101, #107, #108 and #205, currently leased by Kenn Srader of 207 South Chestnut are now seized. Anyone interested in bidding on the contents of these units should contact Henry Harrison at the numbers listed below. Bids will be made for contents of each unit. All bids will be confidential. Bids will be finalized by 10:00 a.m. On March 26, 2005. Phone #'s 806-366-5381 or 753-6481. Public notice published on Thursday, March 17, 2005 and Thursday, March 24, 2005.

STRATFORD SECURE STORAGE LEGAL NOTICE

This is to notify that the contents in Unit #110 currently leased by Delbert Smith of Dumas, Previously of 601 N. Grace in Stratford, are now seized. Anyone interested in bidding on the contents of this unit should contact Henry Harrison at the numbers listed below. All bids will be confidential. All bids will be finalized by 10:00 a.m. On April 9, 2005. Phone #4 806-366-5381 or 753-6481. PUBLIC NOTICE Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, March 24, 2005 and Thursday, March 31, 2005.

STRATFORD SECURE STORAGE LEGAL NOTICE

This is to notify that the contents in Unit #201 currently leased by Barbara Diller of Stratford are now seized. Anyone interested in bidding on the contents of these units should contact Henry Harrison at the numbers listed below. All bids will be confidential. All bids will be finalized by 10:00 a.m. On April 9, 2005. Phone #4 806-366-5381 or 753-6481. PUBLIC NOTICE Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, March 24, 2005 and Thursday, March 31, 2005.

Cards of Thanks

I want to thank everyone for being so kind to me before, during and after my surgery. For visits, telephone calls, food, flowers. Above all your prayers and just being there for me and offering to help. My special thanks to the Volunteers of Meals on Wheels. God Bless You all-I love you.

Benita Huereca

St. Joseph's Catholic Church CCD Enchilada Dinner Free Will Donation!!
Sunday, April 3, 2005
12:00-2:00 p.m.
PARISH HALL
Proceeds to help take CCD Kids to Wonderland at the end of the year!!
Come and help support our CCD Kids and Teachers!!!!!!

If you're knocked down, you can't lose your guts. You need to play with supreme confidence or else you'll lose again, and then losing becomes a habit.
—Joe Paterno

Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get—only with what you are expecting to give—which is everything.
—Katharine Hepburn

Trouble is a part of your life, and if you don't share it, you don't give the person who loves you a chance to love you enough.
—Dinah Shore

Sherman Co. Child Welfare Board

To report Suspected Child Abuse, Call

Kathie Altman-366-5611
David Cross-396-2396
Ken Forthman-366-2586
Patsy Harland-827-7568
Belinda Hamilton-827-7728
Jesse Resendes-366-3134
Brent Farney-396-5554

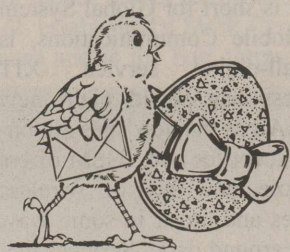
Austin Hotline
1-800-252-5400
ALL CALLS
CONFIDENTIAL

Have A
Safe and a
Happy
Easter

FREE THINGS TO SEND FOR



that makes it easy to collect, organize and share information found online. Called Onfolio, it's designed to make annotating, organizing and searching the collected content a straightforward process. Plus, users can share research in documents, e-mails, HTML reports, and Web sites. To learn more and access a free 30-day trial, visit the Web site at www.onfolio.com.



Dunn's
Fish Farms of Arkansas, Inc.
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www.dunnfishfarm.com

Channel Catfish, Bass, Hybrid Bluegill, Red Ear, Copper Nose Bluegill, Fathead Minnows, Koi, Crappie and Triploid Grass Carp are now available for Pond and Lake Stocking
One Week Notice & Permit Required for Triploid Grass Carp Purchase.
We furnish Hauling Containers! Live delivery guaranteed!
Discounts/Special Deliveries on large orders! Turtle Traps, Fish Feeders, Fish Traps, Liquid Pond Fertilizer and Gift Certificates.

Delivery will be Wed. March 30th, 2005 at the times listed for the following towns and locations.
Texhoma-Texhoma Wheat Growers 806-827-7261 7:30-8:30 a.m.
Stratford - THE General Store 806 396-5308 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Texline - OX Feed & Ranch Supply 806 362-4351 12-1 p.m.
Dalhart - Stockman's Feed Bunk 800-433-2950 2-3 p.m.
Sunray-Farm & Home Center 806-948-4121 4-5 p.m.
THURSDAY MARCH 31, 2005
Dumas-Dumas Coop 806-935-6440 7:30-8:30 a.m.
To Place An Order or For More Information call one of our Aquatic Consultants, local dealer, or email sales@dunnfishfarm.com.
Offices located in Oklahoma & Arkansas!
M-F 7 a.m.-8p.m. Sat 8 a.m.-6 p.m. CST
1-800-433-2950 Fax 1-870-589-202
www.dunnfishfarm.com

XIT's 54th Annual Membership Meeting . . . Continually Investing in the Future

"Continually Investing in the Future" was the theme of XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative's 54th Annual Membership Meeting. Approximately 500 XIT Rural Telephone members and invited guests gathered at Rita Blanca Lake Coliseum in Dalhart on Wednesday, March 9th. Two hundred and five were voting members. Members and invited guests were served a delicious roast beef dinner by XIT's management and employees. The meal was catered by Bar H Steak House of Dalhart. Round tables were draped with white tablecloths. Crystal vases with a single tulip and yellow votive candles centered each table. Silver gift boxes, containing a knife set, were placed at each place setting.

The stage was set with blue draping and a white banner carrying the theme line. Ficus trees and tulips in white pots helped to create an inviting setting for the meeting.

The invocation was delivered by XIT Director, E.H. Little.

Walter E. Lasley, director and chairman of the Marketing Committee; Kathy Duggan, Assistant Manager of Internal Operations, and Sonya Clark, Sales & Customer Relations Representative, presented the 2005 XIT Rural Telephone Educational Program recipients and their families to the membership. Duggan explained that several scholarship applications were received this year. She said that all applicants were deserving of a scholarship and that it was a difficult decision to select the winners. In fact, instead of having five recipients, the scholarship committee selected six winners. Four of this year's winners are from Stratford: Jayme Wilhelm, Kayla Willard, Craig Reinart and Ryan McDaniel. One recipient is from Dalhart: Allison White and the sixth winner is from Texline: Tyrel Crum. Each student will receive a \$2000 scholarship to the college of his choice. The funds will be divided over the number of semesters to be attended by the students.

XIT Board President, James Spurlock, welcomed the members and recognized the guests. He then announced that a quorum had been met and called the business meeting to order. Board Secretary-Treasurer, Gary Finch, was asked to read the notice of the meeting and the minutes of last year's meeting. There was a motion and a second from the floor to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

President Spurlock then asked that XIT's General Manager, Darrell Dennis, present his annual report to the membership. Dennis began by thanking Diane Hodo and Bar-H Steakhouse for the delicious catered meal. He continued by stating how impressed he is with the young people who applied for the XIT Educational Program Scholarship. He commented, "It seems that each year the choice gets tougher. When reading through the applications, you realize that they are all fine young adults that this area can certainly be proud of." He offered his congratulations to the students and their families and wished them the best.

Manager Dennis then began by thanking the XIT Board of Directors and the membership for the opportunity to come before them as the general manager of the Cooperative. He continued by saying that his father had raised registered Herefords just south of Perico, and in 1963, his family applied for telephone service with the Cooperative. He said, "As I stood on the porch and watched the men build the line up across the pasture to our home, I am sure I could not have imagined standing here today." A lot has changed since the open wire, rotary dial, party line that his family had in 1963. With the array of new services available, such as wireless and Digital Subscriber Line or DSL. He continued by saying that some things have not changed and that is the Cooperatives commitment

to provide high quality telecommunications services at the lowest possible cost to its members.

Manager Dennis then recognized the employees of XIT. He started by showing the Cooperative's appreciation to W.G. Stavenhagen. W.G. retired from the Cooperative on March 8, 2005. Elvin Ringo was also recognized for his years of service. Elvin has announced that he will be retiring in June of 2005. Dennis then introduced the new employees: Paul Gray is the new manager of information technology; Shawn Porter works in the information technology department; Ben Weber is new to the marketing department; and Nancy Kimball, Stratford customer service, and Duchess Saavedra, in the outside operations department, were welcomed back. Manager Dennis continued on by saying with the retirement of Mr. White as General Manager, the cooperative has reorganized the management staff. Kathy Duggan was promoted from marketing manager to assistant manager of internal operations. Working with Mrs. Duggan is Russell Routon, customer service manager, Cathy Taylor was promoted to billing manager, and Lorren Hallmark was promoted to marketing manager. The Cooperative has moved Jeff Harlow from manager of engineering to assistant manager of outside operations. Working with Mr. Harlow is Altus Jones, plant manager, Gary Hall, network and switching manager, Paul Gray, information technology manager and Joe Lang, engineer. Mr. Dennis then asked all XIT employees to stand and thanked them for their work.

Manager Dennis began his report by stating that every year seems to be a busy year for the Cooperative and this year is no exception. The Cooperative continues to work to improve the new billing system that came on-line in 2004. The new billing system allows XIT to bill all of its services on one bill. It also sets the stage for on-line billing service as well. In addition, the billing platform provides improved outside plant and engineering capabilities to improve our service to you, the members. XIT continues to deploy DSL onto the rural lines.

DSL allows high speed access to the internet. We expect demand for DSL service to grow.

Dennis then presented the Cooperative's financial reports to the members. These reports included: Access Line History and Forecast; Corporate & Customer Operations; 2004 Income & Expenses; 2004 Operating Revenue; Plant Operations, and the Patronage Capital Credit Summary Allocation.

Manager Dennis then gave an update on the activities of the Cooperative's wholly owned subsidiary, XT&T. He said that this year XIT Cellular changed its name to XIT Wireless to be more reflective of the type of services we have to offer. XIT Wireless converted 22 of the existing cellular sites to handle the GSM traffic. Since GSM,

which is short for Global System for Mobile Communications, is an all-digital service, XIT Wireless has added eight new sites. All of the new sites are on-line, except for two. GSM offers a whole new set of wireless features and most, in some way, center around data. Services that allow you to send and receive e-mail and send pictures will be possible.

On XIT Communications, Manager Dennis said that XIT has maintained a significant market share in Dalhart and Stratford despite a flurry of competitive activity in the fourth quarter of 2004. XIT has continued a path of growth by adding Hartley and Channing customers to its network and will soon be offering service in Boys Ranch. These communities, with their small size and proximity of XT&T's existing fiber network, fit well with XIT's overall service offering. Dennis concluded by stating that in 2004, XT&T began to upgrade its Internet facilities. When fully complete in 2005, it should allow us to operate at higher speeds, greater redundancy and reduced cost.

Manager Dennis then introduced Doug Schoppe, Comptroller, and asked him to

give the financial reports of the Cooperative and it's wholly-owned subsidiary, XIT Telecommunication & Technology, Ltd.

President Spurlock introduced A.E. Pronger, Jr., Chairman of the Nominating Committee, who presented the report on the nominations for directors for the ensuing three-year term. Those nominated were District I, Dallam County - Glenn Olson; District II, Hartley County - Jim Wilson, and District III, Sherman County - Walter E. Lasley. Spurlock then called for nominations from the floor. There being none, he appointed a Canvassing Committee consisting of Cecil McClellan, Ted Bauldin and CJ Kuper to tally the ballots. The committee declared the election of Glenn Olson, Jim Wilson and Walter E. Lasley.

Director E.H. Little then conducted the drawing for the ninety-six door prizes, which were awarded to attending members and their children. Director Little was assisted by XIT employees, fellow director, J.W. McClellan, Jr. and members' children Emma and Katie Krahn. The winner of the \$500 cash prize was Charles Sutterfield. The winners of the 5 - \$100 cash prizes were Betty Menges, Bobby Faver, Dorland Burton, Freedom Café and Dessie Carter.

Following the regular prize drawing, all the members' children and grandchildren (12 years and under) were called to the front and were given stuffed horses. The horses' blue T-shirts read, "Don't Horse Around Choose XIT." After the prizes were distributed, the meeting was adjourned.

Immediately following the conclusion of the annual meeting, the Board of Directors met at the Cooperative's headquarters and held their Organizational Meeting. At this meeting, the following officers were elected: James Spurlock, President; Glenn Olson, Vice President, and Gary Finch, Secretary-Treasurer.

Livestock Producers Program

Plan now to attend the livestock program that will explain the Premise Identification program and the National Animal Identification System. Many producers have already received the enrollment form from the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture for the Premise Identification Program; some may have even received their premise number. On Tuesday, March 29, 2005 all livestock producers are invited to attend a program explaining the premise I.D. program and the NAIS-National Animal Identification System. Vickie Ernstyn, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, will be presenting the information on premise I. D. and National Animal Identification. Arnold Peoples Texas County Sheriff will present information on the Texas County Emergency Response Plan for Foreign Animal Diseases.

Meal served at 6:30 p.m. with the program starting at 7:00 p.m. Please R.S.V.P. the Texas County OSU Extension office if you plan to attend. 580-338-7300. For more information ask for Steve Kraich, Extension Educator Ag/4-H. This program will be held at the Texas County Activity Center.

Relay For Life

Relay for Life is an event to help raise money for the American Cancer Society. It is a community wide event and all are asked to participate.

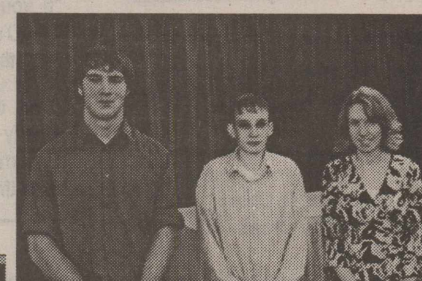
TEAMS ARE NEEDED TO MAKE THE EVENT POSSIBLE. Our goal is to have at least 15 teams with 10-15 members on a team. If interested in being a team captain or being on a team, contact Desine Garza at 396-5336 for more information. **HELP STOMP OUT CANCER!**



XIT Rural Telephone wants to thank everyone for making our 54th Annual Membership Meeting a huge success!

Special Thanks to:

- Joe Garcia/City of Dalhart
- Bar H Steak House
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