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Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

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Number 1, January 5, 2006



STRATFORD RUNNERS EARN ALL-STATE HONORS

Senior Yadira Ortega and sophomore Kristen Crabtree tabbed as some of the state's best class A cross-country runners for the 2005 season.

Miss Ortega had an outstanding season for the Lady Elk cross country team as well as an outstanding career during her last four years. She would finish in the top 10 in 7 of the 8 meets she competed in this season, including a 1st place finish in district, 9th at regionals and 10th at state. She would run sub 13 minute times on three different occasions this year, with her best being a

12:23 at the state meet. She lead her team to back to back district titles over the last two years, as well as winning the individual district championship over this same time period. Yadira is a four-time academic all-district and all-district selection. She helped her team to a second place silver medal finish at the Region I Meet in Lubbock. This qualified the Lady Elks for a return trip to the State Meet in Round Rock where they would finish 6th out of 12 teams. The Stratford girls were the 3rd place state bronze medalists during the 2004 cross-country season. Yadira qualified for state 3 of her 4 years in high school earning all-state honors with the Texas Girls' Coaches Association in 2003 and with the Cross Country Coaches Association of Texas in 2004. She made it a clean sweep in 2005, earning all-state honors with the Texas Girls' Coaches Association, the Cross Country Coaches Association of Texas and the 24th Annual Texas Track & Field News all state selections. It is hard enough to make one all-state team, much less three of them.

Kristen Crabtree fought through several bouts of sickness and asthma both early and late in the season to put together an excellent year. She would finish in the top 10 five different times, including 3rd place at district. Miss Crabtree would finish 16th at regionals and 12th at the state meet in Round Rock, Texas. She is a two-time academic all-district selection and alldistrict selection over the last two years. Kristen was a huge part of the 2004 team that finished 2nd at regionals and 3rd at state. And her 2004 accomplishments and 15th place finish at the state meet earned her all-state honors with the Cross Country Coaches Association of Texas. She again was named all-state by the CCCAT and was named to the 24th Annual Texas Track & Field News all-state team. These are some tremendous accomplishments for a young lady who is just a sophomore.

Congratulations to both of these young ladies on an outstanding 2005 cross-country season!

Kenedi Jae Groves fund At First State Bank

A fund has been set up at First State Bank for Kenedi Jae Groves, daughter of Kelli (Wight) and Rob Groves and granddaughter of Ken and Barbie Wight. Kenedi was born Dec. 18, 2005 in Amarillo and was transferred to Children's Medical Center in Dallas where she underwent heart surgery. A donation for Kenedi can be given at First State Bank branches in Stratford, Dumas and Dalhart.

Order Forms Deadline-

State champ T-Shirt order forms can be picked up from the campus secretaries or administration office?

Prayer & Praise
Service Thursdays
@ 7:00 p.m.
First United
Methodist Church

SPIRIT US 54 To Have A Paid Staff

SPIRIT US 54 will have a paid staff in February. The Liberal Chamber of Commerce has provided the office staff to this point but that will change in February. Each of the four states will be seeking funding for SPIRIT from Cities, Counties, Economic Development, Chambers, business and individuals. SPIRIT also has a Washington DC. Lobbyist. A Washington DC trip is planned for April. Each state Governor will be asked to sign a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) regarding the importance of US 54 upgrade to a 4 lane divided for the 4 states. Senator Kel Selinger and Representative David Swinford have agreed to speak to the Governor when the MOU document is presented.

Red Hat To Meet Thursday, Jan. 5

The Red Hat Society will meet on Thursday, January 5, 2006 at Elk Junction at 6 p.m.

ORDER PROHIBITING OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, the Sherman County Commissioner's Court finds that circumstances present in all or part of the unincorporated area of the county create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioner's Court of Sherman County that all outdoor burning, including fireworks, is prohibited in the unincorporated area of the county for 90 days from the date of adoption of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by the Texas Forest Service or this Court. This Order is adopted pursuant to Local Government Code §352.081, and other applicable statutes. This Order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for: (1) firefighter training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; (3) planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; or (4) burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Natural Resources Code §153.048, and meet the standards of Natural Resources Code §153.047

In accordance with Local Government Code §352.081(h), a violation of this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

Adopted this 30th day of December, 2005 by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Terri Beth Carter, County Judge and Attest: Gina Jones-County Clerk.

City Council Minutes

COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17, 2005

Stratford City Council met in Regular Session on Thursday, November 17, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor David Brown presiding and the following council members present: George Harding, Nancy Kimball, and Bryan Mungia. Council members absent: Blake Confer

Also present were: Sean Hardman, City Administrator; Kathy Rendon, City Secretary; Cindy Jackson, Municipal Court Judge; Brian Webber, Police Department; J.D. and Michelle Swart, and Karla Edmond.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVE MINUTES

Nancy Kimball motioned to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2005 Regular meeting, Bryan Mungia seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

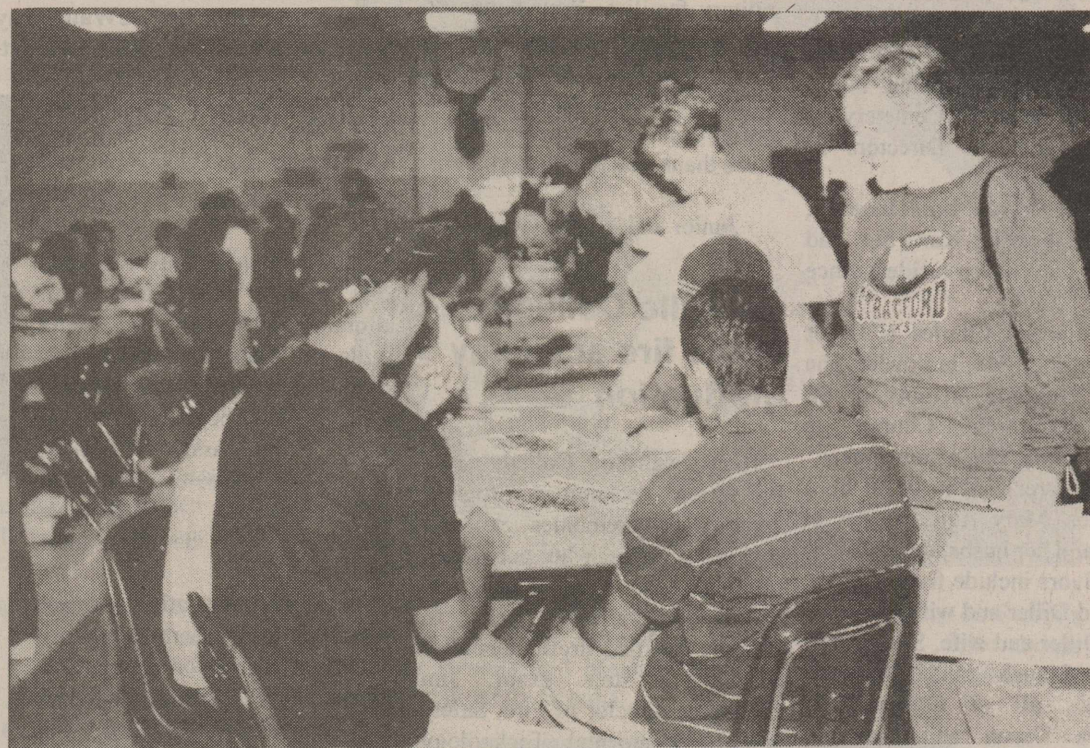
COUNCIL BUSINESS

Keri Harris was sworn in as councilmember to fill the unexpired term of Nan McWilliams.

Chad Brazell with Rural Waste Management was present to discuss the rate increase for trash service beginning January 1, 2006 due to the increase in fuel expense. Discussion took place regarding the dumpsters on Stickney. Discussion also took place regarding old tires.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

A report from the police



Autograph Signing Party

The Happy State Bank sponsored an autograph signing party for The 2005 Stratford Elks State Champion Football team. Members of the football team and coaching staff were on hand to sign footballs, T-shirts etc. for fans at the High School cafeteria on December 20th.

*The Stratford Star wants to wish a Happy New Year and wishes everyone a Healthy and Safe 2006 for all of our readers.
Thank You*

department was in Council packets. Some discussion was held regarding the schools and/or training that City employees are attending. It was

reported that a citizen complimented Officer Larry Penfold on his professional behavior regarding an emergency situation.

MUNICIPAL COURT REPORT

Judge Cindy Jackson passed out her report to Council. She discussed obtaining further information from a Warrant Enforcement Agency who can collect past due fines as far back as 7 years. The cost to the city would be nothing. George Harding, installed a heater in her office.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Sean Hardman reported:

* Met with Dwight Brandt on Tuesday and discussed the water lines. The project probably won't get started until about this time next year

* Discussion was held concerning the water lines under Highway 287. City needs

To find out if the lines were there before the road became a designed highway

* There will be a Town Hall meeting somewhere around January 12, 2006 regarding The Main Street Project

* Tuesday, November 22, 2005 is the next Main Street meeting

* Discussion regarding concrete at the intersection of Main and Highway 54

To the great folks of Stratford,

I just wanted to take this time to say a simple thank you to the community of Stratford for their support of the Stratford Sports Network. When I began this project last year, I had no idea how many folks would ever listen. It is a lot of fun to bring Stratford Athletics to you each week during the football season. I want you folks to thank the businesses who supported this project. First, it would have never happened without the generosity of First State Bank of Stratford and XIT Communications. The bank donated our equipment and XIT donated our cellular airtime. That is a huge thing to take on and I could never thank them enough. Many other businesses came onboard as we went into the playoffs. I would like to thank them as well.....Duncan Chevrolet, A&I Parts, Brooks Motor, Duran Welding, Premier Ag, Gustin Equipment, Dairy Queen, Gary Hudson Pioneer Hybrids, C&D Body Shop, Elk Pharmacy, Happy State Bank, Stratford Grain, Stratford Gym & Health Club, Prime Vest Financial, Modern Woodmen of America, and I know there are some others that came on that I am unaware of. KXIT has not mailed me the final list, but if you weren't mentioned, I apologize.....but THANK YOU!! I want to

also thank Tim Gilliland and Eddie Metcalf, along with their staff at Stratford ISD. You guys were great!!! Thanks for your cooperation. And to the 2005 State Champion Stratford Elks.....thanks for letting me be a part of your season. You guys are very special and I look forward to hanging your team picture on my "wall of champions" I would also like to thank George Chambers and the staff of KXIT for putting us on the airwaves. Last, but not least, thanks to my great friend Walt Berry for stepping up and taking up the slack when I needed help. He came on board and just added a great addition to this project. I never thought there was anyone who loved Stratford football any more than myself, but Walt would have to be pretty close. I know as the season went by, Walt settled into his new position and really helped make the program a great success. To my family.....I love you guys!!! Without your support (and a lot of sanity on Marsha's part) I couldn't handle anything like this. We want this project to continue in the years to come, and with your support, I plan to continue until my boys are on the field. Stratford.....you are the best and I love you all!!!

Sincerely
Greg Wright
"The Stratford Sports Network"

Cont. on page 3

Obits

CATHERINE MARGARET DILLER: 1922-2005

GRUVER — Catherine Margaret Diller, 83, died Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005, in Amarillo.

Rosary was said at 7 p.m. Tuesday in St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stratford. Mass was held at 10 a.m. Wednesday December 28th, 2005 in the church with the Rev. Scott Raef, pastor of Church of the Holy Spirit of Tulia, officiating. Burial was in Stratford Cemetery by Morrison Funeral Directors of Stratford.

Mrs. Diller was born June 23, 1922, in Fowler, Kan. She had been a Gruver area resident since 1948.

She married Charles L Diller on April 19, 1944, in Fowler. She was a longtime member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stratford. She was a homemaker. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Mary Agnes Diller in 1957, and her husband in 1987.

Survivors include five children, Richard Diller and wife, Barbara, Tom Diller and wife, Sherry, and Alice Slough and husband, Kenneth, all of Gruver, and Barbara Unruh and husband, C.J., and Mark Diller and wife, Debbie, all of Dalhart; a sister, Francis Diller of Hereford; 18 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be to St. Joseph Catholic Church, Stratford, TX 79084.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Community,

My family and I would like to express our gratitude to those individuals who so graciously took the time to thank veterans and their families this holiday season by preparing and delivering Christmas turkeys. It is rare to come from such a place in which you find people who are so genuinely devoted to their country and those who fight to protect it. You will never know what in impact you have had on military families. Your Kindness and generosity not only affects us, but it also touches the hearts of other soldiers who hear the stories of our community.

We thank you and love you all.

Junior and Mandy Gomez

Amarillo College holds fire academy graduation

The Amarillo College Fire Protection Technology program conducted ceremonies recently for 16 students who completed training in the program. Completion allows them to become certified firefighters after passing a state exam. Jim Clements, director of Fire, Safety and Environmental Technology programs at AC, gave the keynote address. Awards were also presented to outstanding students in the program.

Graduating from Texhoma, Okla., was Eryn Yoder.



Open House Held at Happy State Bank

Happy State Bank held their Christmas Open House on Tuesday, December 13, 2005. Shown above left to right are DeWain Trayler, Doak Crabtree, Misty Desbian, Cindy Cummings, Adam Bell, Lupe Duarte and Rick Reinart.

Living Wills Program January 17

By Susie Spurlock

All Sherman County residents are invited to attend an informational program on Living Wills on Tuesday, January 17, 2006. The program will be held at SCOT Hall beginning at 1:30 p.m. Andy Crocker, Gerontology Health Specialist with Texas Cooperative Extension, will be the guest presenter.

For more information, contact Susie Spurlock, Sherman County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences at 366-2122 or Lynn Wells, SCOT at 396-2011.

Educational programs of the Texas Cooperative Extension are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin.

Education

(NU) - Research shows that parental involvement in schools improves student achievement, reduces absenteeism and restores confidence among parents in their children's education. The National Education Association, the nation's largest educators organization, offers the following tips for parents on how they can ensure a successful educational experience for their children: Go to parent-teacher conferences; visit the classrooms; join the PTA or other parent group; pay attention to what your children are learning at school; and contact the school if you have any concerns. For more information, visit www.nea.org/parents.

Transportation News

By Gaynelle Riffe

Main Street Project final plans are with TXDOT and the Texas Historical Commission for approval.

The Plan is: Replace curb, gutter, sidewalks with ADA access and add storm drainage; Relocate water and electric services to a 3 ft. brick or pavers service area behind the curb; Pedestrian and Street lighting poles will be placed in the 3 ft. service area.

Building awnings will have to be removed for the replacement of the sidewalk and will be limited to six and one half feet overhang (to accommodate lights) Brick street from 1st to 4th with a 10 ft. concrete extension from the curb. Concrete street from US 54 to 1st street. The original grant was to replace sidewalks, curb/gutters and add pedestrian lighting from 4th St. to the School. The escalation and shortage of building materials may require that portion of the project to be canceled. While the new street and sidewalks will be great, there is concern about the inconvenience it will cause for several months while the street is torn up. (I once had my kitchen torn up for 3 months with three small children. That was inconvenient!)

TXDOT will hold a public meeting January 24 on the project to widen 7 blocks of US through town. (Saturday afternoon a train blocked US287 for I don't know how long but the trucks were stacked up past the Farm Bureau. I knew how to go around on US 54 but I wonder how much time and gas those trucks used going through the 4 way stop. Good case for a grade separation).

Recently I traveled US 287 north. Four lane through most towns but Campo has just striped their road for angle parking taking out two lanes. Eads has a two lane bottle neck railroad underpass. Boise City has received several million dollars to construct a relief route for their main street and courthouse square.

Ports-to-Plains celebrated with Governor Richardson, the ground breaking for the four lane divided US 87 from Raton to Clayton. The four lane from Clayton to Texline is completed and the next 10 miles from Texline to Dalhart is under construction. Seven persons representing Ports-to-Plains

were present from Del Rio, Lubbock, Dumas, Stratford and Raton. Other New Mexico persons on the program: Paul Grey Dist. 4 Engineer; Rebecca Montoya, NMDOT adjutant Secretary, Jim Franken, Dist. 4 Commissioner, Staff representing US Senator Jeff Bingaman and US Representative Tom Udall, State Representatives Hector Balderas and Brian Moore (Clayton) and the Mayors representing the towns on the Route. (All of these persons got a special invitation to consider upgrade of the SPIRIT US 54 route also in northeast New Mexico).

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249-4202 Jim Stevenson, Owner

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Open-Faced Spinach Omelet Sandwich 4 servings

Cooking spray
4 cups fresh whole baby spinach leaves or chopped large spinach leaves (about 6 oz.)
1 tablespoon water
4 eggs
1/2 cup low-fat (1%) cottage cheese
2 teaspoons Italian seasoning, crushed
1 (8- to 9-inch) plain, tomato or herb-seasoned focaccia bread, split crosswise (about 5 oz.)
4 tomato slices

Evenly coat 10-inch omelet pan or skillet with spray. Add spinach and water. Cover. Cook over medium heat until spinach is

wilted, about 1 minute. Pour out liquid, if necessary. In medium bowl, beat together eggs, cheese and seasoning until blended. Pour over spinach mixture. Gently stir to evenly distribute mixture in pan. Cover. Cook over medium heat until egg mixture is almost set, about 4 to 5 minutes. Remove from heat. Let stand, covered, until egg mixture is completely set, about 2 to 3 minutes. With pancake turner or spatula, slide fritata from pan onto bottom half of bread. Top with tomato slices and top half of bread. To serve, cut into wedges.

Arts in the Area

By Gaynelle Riffe

- Jan. 7 Concerto Extraordinaire Chamber Music Amarillo Santa Fe Ballroom 900 S. Polk 8:00 p.m.
- Jan. 19-29 "Crowns" Musical ALT Main Stage Amarillo Little Theatre 806-372-7464
- Jan 21-22 "Odyssey" Sat. evening Sat.-Sun. Matinee Globe News Performing Arts Opening www.panhadletickets.com 806-374-8288 Kwahadi Indian Ceremonials 7:30 Kwahadi Kiva Museum
- January 20-21 29,28 "Thoroughly Modern Millie" Broadway Series Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-378-3096
- February 1 "Three Mo' Tenors" Lift Every Voice Amarillo Opera 806-372-7464
- Feb. 3

Nutrition information per serving of 1/4 recipe using baby spinach and plain focaccia bread:
217 calories, 8 gm total fat, 216 mg cholesterol, 448 mg sodium, 121 mg potassium, 23 gm carbohydrate, 15 gm protein and 10% or more of the RDI for vitamins A, B₂ and C, riboflavin, calcium, iron, phosphorus, dietary fiber

Let's Make Arrangements Tea Room
Reopening January 9, 2006.
Soup, Croissant Sandwich & Dessert
will be served from
11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Hot Tea, Peach Tea, Coffee, Hot
Chocolate & Dessert available everyday
from 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

VOTE
Cindy Jackson
For
Justice of the Peace
"Experienced", "Fair", "Committed to Sherman County"

Pol. Ad Pd by Cindy Jackson camp., David Jackson Treas.
6354 Co Rd CC, Stratford, TX 79084

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15 Years, 4500 Babies In Dumas

Women's Health Center

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Breast cancer screening
Infertility and family planning
Menopause and hormone problems

Dr. Turhan I. Baykan, M.D.
Specializing In
OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY
Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

110 S. Bliss



Vincent Insurance held their Christmas Open House on Tuesday, December 13, 2005. Shown above are Sabrina Melton and Patti Vincent.



XIT held their Christmas Open House on Friday, December 16, 2005. Shown above are Kathy Duggan and Trena Howell of XIT.

Spurlock Hostess-Lunch & Learn

Susie Spurlock was hostess to Lunch and Learn Extension Thursday, Dec. 15 at her home. She gave an informing and entertaining program called "Awe Nuts".

Guests were Kathy Alien and Dorothy Varner. Others were Doris Dyess, Cindy Jackson, Connie Oquin, Dorothy Haile, Sharon Perkins, Liz Sanders, and Marylou McDaniel.

ANNUAL EXTENSION MEETING HELD

The annual meeting of the Sherman County Extension Program Council was held December 8 in the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church in Stratford.

Vice-Chairman Jean Everett welcomed the group following a buffet lunch. Donna Brauchi, District Extension Administrator presented the program on InVest in Volunteers, Extension's Superior Team. Mrs. Brauchi's presentation focused on the importance of volunteers and how more can be accomplished when everyone works together. Mrs. Brauchi stated the success of Extension programs is due to volunteers and their interest and willingness to serve on committees. These committees provide leadership in relevant Extension programs that serve the county. She also shared with the group that the committee responsibilities will be changing as Leadership Advisory Groups and the 4-H and Youth Committee will be composed of more youth leaders than adults.

Susie Spurlock, County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences shared a brochure highlighting Extension programs conducted in Sherman County during 2005. Programs included Agriculture, 4-H and Youth, and Family Living.

Doak Crabtree, Mary Cross, Jean Everett, Sandy Tillery, Felix Saenz, Jo June McDaniel, Patsy Harland, Call Hamilton, Mary Lou Maldonado, Max Christian, Steve Johnson, and Asbel Gomez were recognized for their term of service on the Extension Program Council or one of the Program Area Committees.

Special thanks was extended to Lynn Wells for her efforts in making educational programs available to SCOT members during 2005. Jack Swain was also recognized for his work in assisting youth with animal projects for the 2006 Stockshow season in the absence of an agriculture agent.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY WALTER

Walter Vincent was given a 80th Birthday party by his family on Friday, December 23rd in the home of Patti Vincent. Shown above left to right with Walter are his grandchildren-Ami Davis with son John, Conner, Walter, Mazie, and Clint

Texas Department of Transportation

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Amarillo District of the Texas Department of Transportation will be hosting a public meeting regarding the proposed improvements to U.S. 287 within the city limits of Stratford. The limits of this project are from the Junction of U.S. 54, north to Purnell Street in Stratford.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. It will be located at SCOT Hall, 515 North Third Street, Stratford, Texas

This meeting is intended to seek the input of all interested parties who wish to comment about the project. All interested citizens are invited to attend this public meeting. If anyone interested in attending the meeting has special communication or accommodation needs, please contact Cheryl Luther, the District Environmental Coordinator 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.

City Council Minutes Cont. from page 1

* Discussion regarding the title commitment and survey for the Wastewater Plant

* Jesse Mariscal would like to apply for Yard Waste Containers for the Solid Waste Grants

* Two pictures were submitted by Jesse Mariscal for purchase of refurbished self-storage Containers. George Harding

motioned for Sean Hardman to decide and purchase, Keri Harris seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

* Christmas lights will be put up before Thanksgiving

* Discussion regarding utility bills with the new sewer rates

* Consumers will be auctioned on Tuesday

* Mobile home on 302 East Texas Avenue is to be moved next Monday

* Discussion regarding property at 217 East Texas Avenue

* Clean-up letters needs to be sent out on various properties

COUNCIL BUSINESS

A written policy submitted by the Personnel Committee regarding comp time/flex time for the Police Department was included in Council packet. Discussion-took place. George Harding motioned to table the approval until the City Attorney had opportunity to review the policy change and to also add a clause concerning emergency events, Nancy Kimball seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussion took place regarding a provision regarding the sewer charge for rental property. Consensus of the Council was that no action be taken.

Bryan Mungia motioned to appoint Bill Boren, Jay Murphy and Gerald Wilhem for the three places for the Sherman County Appraisal District Board of Directors for the 2006-2007 term of office, Nancy Kimball seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Nancy Kimball motioned to set Monday, December 26th as the Christmas Holiday for the City to be closed, George Harding seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Sean and Kathy will take care of the Christmas party.

Discussion regarding longevity pay was tabled and would be discussed at a Special meeting to

be set. George Harding motioned to pay all bills except the XIT phone bill, Bryan Mungia seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Bryan Mungia motioned to pay the XIT phone bill, George Harding seconded, Nancy Kimball abstained, all else in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the October Financial Statement was tabled until the next Regular meeting.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL

The issue of abandoned vehicles needs to be addressed again.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

COUNCIL MINUTES

DECEMBER 1, 2005

Stratford City Council met in Special Session, Thursday, December 1, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Pro-Term George Harding presiding and the following council members present: Nancy Kimball, George Harding, Bryan Mungia, Blake Confer, and Keri Harris.

Also present were: Sean Hardman, City Administrator; Kathy Rendon, City Secretary; Rob Elliott, City Attorney; and Larry Penfold and Brian Webber, Police Department.

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Pro-Term George Harding called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Discussion was held concerning longevity pay for the City employees. Bryan Mungia motioned to calculate longevity pay based on percentages, Blake Confer seconded, George Harding opposed, all else in favor, motion carried.

Mayor David Brown arrived at 6:45 p.m.

Discussion took place regarding the policy change regarding comp time for the police department. A short recess was taken at 7:15 pm so that Sean could make the changes requested and present a corrected copy to Council for approval. Council reconvened at 7:22 p.m. and JJ Williams also arrived at that time. Nancy Kimball motioned to approve the comp time policy change, George Harding seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Dwayne Dennis requested a public hearing instead of Executive Session. The public hearing began at 7:25 p.m.

Discussion took place. Public hearing ended at 8:25 p.m. No action was taken.

The City will have their Christmas party on Tuesday, December 13th at the office with snack trays prepared by a local caterer.

Discussion took place regarding the final draft for the Main Street Project.

New Police Officer Sean Overeynder will start on Friday, December 2, 2005.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL

There were no items from the Council.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

ORDINANCE #09-21-05 (4)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD, PROVIDING FOR AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING AND ESTABLISHING A CURFEW FOR MINOR CHILDREN WITHIN THE CITY OF STRATFORD, TEXAS.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is dangerous and unsafe to allow minor children, as defined herein, to be in any public place without supervision during the hours from 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. on Monday through Sunday.

WHEREAS, the City Council

Cont. on page 6

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

THE BATTLE FOR CHANGE

When a new year rolls around we think a little more about making some changes. But personal change comes very hard. Old habits are difficult to break. And many people find them impossible to break. This is what happens. You come to the place of realizing that a certain habit is bad. For example, with the threat of AIDS today, promiscuous sex can kill you. All the logical powers of your head tell you the habit is bad. Even Magic Johnson came out in favor of abstinence. But your heart is not in step with your head. The power to follow what you know is right is not present. You feel trapped. In fact, you know you are a prisoner of your own lusts. You cannot do what you know is right. Amazingly enough, your experience is verifying the words of the Bible. Listen, "I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind, making me a prisoner of the law which is in my members" (Romans 7:22-23). Here is a losing battle. The mind says one thing. But the power to follow through is absent. I am a prisoner of sin. When I realize my condition, I begin to look in the right place for answers. Interestingly enough voices from many quarters are telling us to look within for the power to change. But I've already found that such power is not present. I must look outside of myself. I must ask, "Who will set me free from the body of this death?" (Romans 7:24). Here is the proper perspective. The power for change comes from someone else. Who is it? "Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (Romans 7:25). Jesus Christ is the power to change. Jesus Christ is the power to break old habits and form new ones.

*Sponsored by;
Thriftway 396-5586
Stratford Grain 396-5541
Lautz 769-4485
Stratford Star 396-5885
Walter Lasley & Sons, INC.
753-4411

Templo Hispano Eben-Ezer

Pastor Roberto Frescas
205 N. Poplar - Hwy 287
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

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 9:20 am

Morning Worship 10:30 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

Morning Worship - 11 a.m.

Evening Service 6 p.m.

Wed. Service - 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist

396-5554

702 N. 3rd

Sunday School - 9:30

Worship Service - 10:30

Adult Choir Practice - 6:30

Wed.—Children—6:00, youth—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

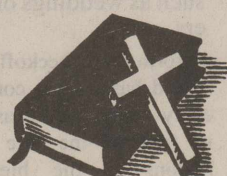
& Servicio De Oracion 6:00 pm

Servicio De Adoracion 6:00 pm

Susninios Durante El Servicio.

Estudio Biblico

Se Cuidamos



Texas Peanut Producers Board Announces Election for Four Director Seats-Voting Deadline, January 16, 2006

The Texas Peanut Producers Board (TPPB) announced that elections will be held in four of its five voting regions to elect four board members where current members' seats are expiring. The election will be conducted by voting regions and will be held December 31, 2005 through January 16, 2006.

There is One Seat open for election in Voting Region Two, which consists of Sherman, Hansford, Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Moore, Hutchinson, Roberts, Hemphill, Potter, Carson, Gray, Wheeler, Randall, Armstrong, Donley, Collingsworth, Castro, Swisher, Briscoe, Hall, Childress, Lamb, Hale, Floyd, Motley, Cottle, Hockley, Lubbock, Crosby, Dickens, King, Terry, Lynn, Garza, Kent, Stonewall, Dawson, Borden, Scurry, Fisher, Martin, Howard, Mitchell, Nolan, Midland, Glasscock and Sterling counties.

There is One Seat open for election in Voting Region Three, which consists of Jones, Haskell, Knox, Foard, Hardeman, Wilbarger, Baylor, Throckmorton, Shackelford, Stephens, Young, Archer, Wichita, Clay, Jack, Palo Pinto, Erath, Bosque, Somerville, Hood, Parker, Wise, Montague, Cooke, Denton, Tarrant, Johnson, Hill, McLennan, Limestone, Freestone, Navaro, Ellis, Dallas, Collin, Grayson, Fannin, Hunt, Rockwall, Kaufman, Henderson, Anderson, Leon, Houston, Trinity, Angelina, Cherokee, Smith, Van Zandt, Rains, Wood, Hopkins, Delta, Lamar, Red River, Franklin, Titus, Morris, Camp, Upshaw, Gregg, Rusk, Nacogdoches, San Augustine,

Sabine, Shelby, Panola, Harrison, Marion, Cass and Bowie counties.

There is One Seat open for election in Voting Region Four, which consists of Maverick, Zavalla, Frio, Medina, Bexar, Guadalupe, Gonzales, Lavaca, Dewitt, Wilson, Atascosa, Karnes, Goliad, Victoria, Jackson, Calhoun, Refugio, Bee, Live Oak, McMillen, La Salle, Dimmit, Webb, Duval, Jim Well, Nueces, San Patricio, Kleberg, Kenedy, Brooks, Jim Hogg, Zapata, Starr, Hidalgo, Willacy and Cameron counties.

There is One Seat open for election in Voting Region Five, which consists of Dallam, Hartley, Oldham, Deaf Smith, Farmer, Bailey, Cochran, Yoakum, Gaines, Andrews, Loving, Winkler and Ector counties.

A person is eligible to vote in this board election if he or she is currently a producer of peanuts, or for at least one production period during the three years preceding the date of this election (January 16, 2006) has been a producer of peanuts or has caused peanuts to be produced for commercial purposes. This includes owners of farms and their tenants or sharecroppers that pay the peanut assessment. Qualified voters must reside within the TPPB voting region wherein they seek to vote.

Ballots will be available from all peanut buying point locations, county agent offices in each of the 167 counties where elections are being conducted, and by mail from the TPPB

Office between December 31, 2005-January 16, 2006. For a ballot to be valid, it must be mailed to TPPB, 4205 N. 1-27, Lubbock, TX 79403, with a postmark date of no later than January 16, 2006. Ballots with a postmark date later than January 16, 2006 will not be valid. Voters will be voting for qualified candidates who have sought nomination within the respective TPPB voting regions where elections are to occur. All voters otherwise qualified to vote as peanut producers must reside in a county within the TPPB voting region where they seek to vote. Voters can only vote for candidates within the TPPB voting region where the voter resides, in addition to the candidates on the ballot, voters may also vote for write-in candidates.

TPPB is a research and promotion program for peanuts funded by a uniform peanut checkoff, collected on a refund basis, from peanut producers in every county of Texas. This election in four of the TPPB five voting regions is the biennial election required by the Texas Commodity Referendum Law.



For a brief time in 1998, Lake Champlain—on the border of Vermont and New York—was officially designated as the sixth Great Lake.

TEXAS CORN PRODUCERS BOARD ANNOUNCES ELECTION FOR FIVE DIRECTOR SEATS - VOTING DEADLINE, JANUARY 16, 2006
TEXAS CORN PRODUCERS BOARD ANNOUNCE BIENNIAL ELECTIONS FOR FIVE BOARD SEATS AND OPENS NOMINATION PROCESS

Texas Corn Producers Board (TCPB) announces that elections are to be held in four of its five voting regions to elect five board members where current members' seats are expiring. The election will be conducted by voting regions and will be held from December 31, 2005 until January 16, 2006.

TCPB will also be conducting a referendum on the assessment of corn silage during the 2006 Biennial Election. Eligible voters will decide if an assessment of .037 cents per ton of silage, which is produced and sold in Texas, would be collected and submitted to the Texas Corn Producers Board. (This is based on .005 cents per bushel dry corn kernels with the factor for corn silage being equal to 7.94 bushels of dry corn kernels per ton of silage. This amount is based on factors that can be used by the Farm Service Agency when production has not been proven on a farm.)

There are Two Seats open for election in Voting Region One, which consists of Carson, Dallam, Gray, Hansford, Hutchinson, Hartley, Hemphill, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Potter, Roberts, Sherman, and Wheeler counties.

There is One Seat open for election in Voting Region Two, which consists of Andrews, Archer, Armstrong, Bailey, Baylor, Borden, Briscoe, Castro, Callahan, Childress, Clay, Cochran, Collingsworth, Cottle, Crosby, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Eastland, Fisher, Floyd,

Foard, Gaines, Garza, Hale, Hall, Hardeman, Haskell, Hockley, Howard, Jack, Jones, Kent, King, Knox, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, Mitchell, Motley, Nolan, Palo Pinto, Parmer, Randall, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Swisher, Taylor, Terry, Throckmorton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Yoakum, and Young counties.

There is One Seat open for election in Voting Region Three, which consists of Anderson, Angelina, Bandera, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Bowie, Brewster, Brown, Burnet, Coleman, Collin, Comal, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, Dallas, Delta, Denton, Ector, Edwards, El Paso, Ellis, Erath, Falls, Fannin, Franklin, Freestone, Gillespie, Glasscock, Grayson, Gregg, Hamilton, Harrison, Hays, Henderson, Hill, Hood, Hopkins, Houston, Hudspeth, Hunt, Irion, Jeff Davis, Johnson, Kaufman, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Lamar, Lampasas, Leon, Limestone, Llano, Loving, McCulloch, McLennan, Marion, Mason, Menard, Midland, Milam, Mills, Montague, Morris, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Panola, Parker, Pecos, Presidio, Rains, Reagan, Real, Red River, Reeves, Robertson, Rockwall, Runnels, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Saba, Schleicher, Shelby, Smith, Somervell, Sterling, Sutton, Tarrant, Terrell, Titus, Tom Green, Travis, Trinity, Upshur, Upton, Val Verde, Van Zandt, Ward, Williamson, Winkler, Wise, and Wood counties.

There is One Seat open for election in Voting Region Four, which consists of Aransas, Austin, Bastrop, Bee, Brazoria, Brazos, Burleson, Caldwell, Calhoun, Chambers, Colorado, DeWitt, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Grimes, Guadalupe, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Karnes, Lavaca, Lee, Liberty, Madison, Matagorda, Montgomery, Newton, Orange, Polk, Refugio, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Tyler, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Washington, Wharton, and Wilson counties.

Ballots will be available from the county agent offices in each of the 227 counties where elections are being conducted, from elevators or processors in such counties, or by mail from the TCPB office between December 31, 2005 and January 16, 2006. For a ballot to be valid, it must be mailed to the TCPB, 4205 N. 1-27, Lubbock, Texas 79403, with a postmark date of no later than January 16, 2006. Ballots with a postmark date later than January 16, 2006 will not be valid. Voters will be voting for qualified candidates who have sought nomination within the respective TCPB voting regions where elections are to occur. All voters otherwise qualified to vote as corn producers must reside in a county within the TCPB voting region where they seek to vote. Voters can only vote for candidates within the TCPB voting region where the voter resides. In addition to the candidates on the ballot, voters may also vote for write-in candidates.

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Mitchell Named to 4-H Position in Dallam/Hartley Counties

Writer: Kay Ledbetter, (806) 677-5608

DALHART * Brandon Mitchell will have to hit the ground running when he starts his job next month as the Texas Cooperative Extension 4-H agent in Dallam and Hartley counties. The junior livestock show season fast approaching, with the bi-county show on Jan. 19.

The Mangum, Okla., native said his main goal will be to make sure the project animals stay healthy until show time.

"We are looking forward to having Brandon work with the excellent 4-H volunteers and youth in both Dallam and Hartley counties as they work together to provide strong youth development activities," said Donna Brauchi, district Extension administrator.

A graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Mitchell said he has always liked the Dalhart region * he had an aunt he used to visit there * and he's glad to get the opportunity to work with area youth.

Mitchell was a 4-H member for 10 years, working primarily with livestock projects and in the Share-the-Fun program.

"I look forward to the chance to help the young people by increasing their opportunities for involvement and leadership roles," he said.

Health

(NU) - Want faster cold and flu relief? The sublingual spray Cold & Flu has been proven to shorten the duration of viruses and help rid you of the symptoms associated with colds and the flu. This spray also can protect you when entering germ-infested areas such as crowded offices. For more information, visit www.thespray.com or call (866) 412-7827.

Human Interest

(NU) - When they got married in 2002, Elizabeth Spees and Michael Robinson chose something different to put on their wedding gift wish list: farm animals. The couple asked their guests to contribute to an "ark" through Heifer International, a non-profit organization that provides livestock and agricultural training to impoverished families all over the world. Creating an ark means collecting \$5,000, which goes toward education and sustainable development of Heifer projects in any one of 50 countries, including the U.S. Heifer International's new online "Giving Registry" at www.heifer.org allows people to set up wish lists for events such as weddings or fundraisers.

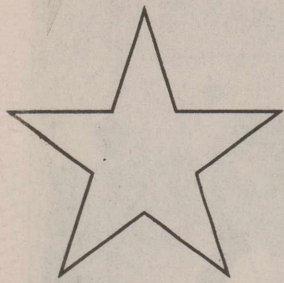
uniform corn checkoff, collected on a refund basis, from corn producers in every county of Texas. This election in four of the five TCPB voting regions is the biennial election required by the Texas Commodity Referendum Law.



Santa Visits First State Bank

First State Bank of Stratford held their Christmas Open House and Santa Claus visit on Wednesday, December 21. Shown above top left are Santa Claus and Doris Parsons holding her granddaughter Kate, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clint Parsons. Shown left below are Audra Meidinger, Sherry Phelps and Martha Mitts helping to serve the folks that stopped by and visited with Santa and had their picture taken. Shown above is Felix Saenz putting in his order to Santa Claus. It goes to show you no matter how old or young, everyone believes in Santa.

<p>Business Directory</p>	<p>Stratford Hospital District Coldwater Manor Stratford Family Medical Clinic Stratford EMS Proudly serving the medical needs of Stratford and Sherman County</p>
<p>WALTER LASLEY & SONS INC. <i>THE Feedyard</i> Since 1953 753-4411</p>	<p>folkstr ONE Stroke OSCI BOBBIE STRONG 806-396-2802</p>
<p>Stratford Grain Co. Stratford 396-5541 Lautz 769-4485 4 North Main</p>	<p>Robert's Service Center 400 S. Poplar 396-2882 <i>Tires & Batteries</i> Auto & Lawn Mower Repair</p>
<p>This space available Call 366-5885</p>	<p>This space available</p>
<p>Stratford Auto Electric 119 S. Wall, Stratford, Texas 79084 Phone 366-5941 366-5857 <i>Alternator, Starter, Magneto Repair</i> Since 1964</p>	<p>Allen-Tarver Insurance Agency Carolyn A. Tarver Auto • Home • Life • Commercial Bus: (806)396-5810 • Res: (806) 396-2393</p>
<p>Betty Brown's Medical Claim Service 605 S. Main P.O. Box 7 Stratford, TX 79084 806-396-2623</p>	<p>Joe Flores Farm Bureau Insurance 396-5538 office 396-5389 home</p>
<p>Brown's Meat Locker <i>Custom Wholesale & Retail Meat</i> <i>Federally Inspected</i> Hwy 287 South 396-2513</p>	<p>Jesse's Gun Shop Gun Repairs • Sales • Cleaning Hours: Mon. - Fri. - 1730 - 2000 Sat. - 0800 - 1600 Jesse Resendes (806) 767-4454 (806) 366-3134 Shop 111 S. Maple Stratford, TX 79084</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>Your Home Town Pharmacy. ELK PHARMACY 317 N. Main P.O. Box 480 Stratford, TX 79084 806-396-4505 Major Prescription Plans Accepted Gayland Vandiver, R.Ph. Debbi Vandiver/ Owners Carlton Cards...Millionaire Candy, Gifts • Goolie and Balloon Bouquets</p>
<p>This Space Available Call 366-5885</p>	<p>Tommy's Embroidery 580-423-7718 Texhoma, OK 210 Hwy 54 West Caps, Shirts, Jackets, Baby Blankets, Towels, Trwel Wraps, School Logos, & Much More!</p>
<p>THRIFTWAY Big Town Selection * Small Town Friendliness Wide Selection Frozen Food Quality Foods Fresh Produce Hwy 54 East 396-5586</p>	<p>This space available</p>
<p>This space available</p>	<p>Joe Taylor, Photography PO Box 27 1305 N Chestnut Stratford, TX 79084 806-366-2459 Weddings, Portraits, Etc.</p>



Phone 366-5885

It Pays To Look In The

Star Classifieds

..The Best Salesperson Around

For Sale

Used Tire Sale: Duncan Chevrolet-366-5557.
1-28-tfn

For Sale or Lease-212 N. Poplar-40' x 10' office building. Call 806-679-5585.
1-1-tfn

For Sale:
1-1999 Suburban
1-2001 Pickup
1-2002 Pickup
1-2003 Pickup
2-2004 Pickups
Call Billy Bell at 366-2576.
10-27-tfn

Let's Make Arrangements Annual 40% off sale. Everything in the store is 40% Now until January 13.

*Cash & Carry
*No Gift Wrap
*All sales final
*No delivery on sale items.
Hurry in to take advantage of these great discounts!
1-5-c

Help Wanted

Help Wanted-Counter Salesperson needed at A&I Parts. Contact Jerry Ewers at 366-5592 or 753-7593.
12-1-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

To Give Away

Your Christmas Kitten is still available. Also 2 half grown male mousers. Don Riffe.
1-12-p

Cards of Thanks

The Travis Spurlock family expresses our appreciation for all the kindnesses shown to us. We thank you for the cards, flowers, food, memorials, calls, prayers, visits and concerns of sympathy. Your love shown to us through caring acts are comforting to all the family. God Bless you all.

Jean Spurlock
Max & Elaine Jordan
James & Linda Spurlock
Brent & Laurie Spurlock & family
Paul & Mary Beth Tallant & family

The Imagination Station thanks the anonymous \$50.00 donation to West Texas Gas in September. We couldn't figure out why we had a credit. Thank you for the utility help.

Sherman Co. Child Welfare Board

To report Suspected Child Abuse, call

Kathie Altman-366-5611
Paula Everett-966-5445
Ken Forthman-366-2586
Patsy Harland-827-7568
Belinda Hamilton-827-7728
Jesse Resendes-366-3134
Ernie Maiwald-366-5546

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

Future president Franklin D. Roosevelt spent much of his youth summering at Campobello Island in New Brunswick, Canada. His cottage is now part of a joint Canadian-American international park.

Houses for Sale

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.
3-31-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: 605 N. 3rd, 2 bedroom, laundry room, CH/A, detached garage, storage building, nice location \$20,000. Call 930-0734 or 930-5613.
3-31-tfn

House for Sale: 3 bdrm, 1 1/4 bath, brick, great location by elementary school. Call 366-3485. 1317 N. Division.
9-22-tfn

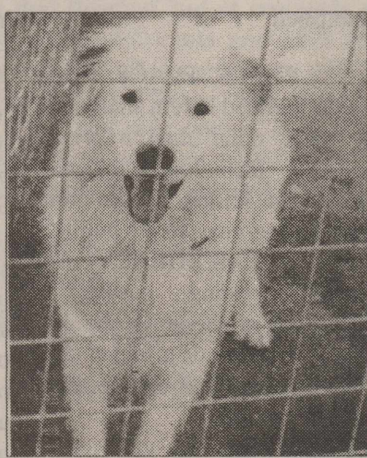
For Sale: 611 N. Chestnut, 3 Bdrm, 1 full bath-2 1/4 bath, CH/A detached garage, Big back Yard with storage building, close to school. Call 366-2401.
5-5-tfn

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 806-934-3381 evenings or leave a message.
11-4-tfn

House for Sale; 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath, 2-living areas, 2 car garage-indoor grill. Roof-1 yr. old, New H/A, Updated Kitchen, Storage building, close to schools. Call 806-744-5270
9-22-tfn

REDUCED: 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

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 free food. AH of these dogs have had their shots and are looking for lots of love. Please contact Diane Trull at 244-3216 for additional information.

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



NEW LISTING! Hurry to see this large family home. It has central heat and air, a free standing fireplace and a great location.
\$58,900

Shop in Backyard! Nice 3 B/R, 2 bath with 1 car detached garage.
Reduced to \$43,000

Corner Lot! This 4 B/R, 1 1/2 bath home has had C/H&A, sewer lines, and gas line recently replaced.
\$55,000

Reduced Price. Precious brick house. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, New carpet, central heat & air, sprinkler system and huge storage building. 401 S. Pearl. Call 366-3678.
6-16-tfn

House for Sale at 1209 Division St. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, nice neighborhood. Close to schools. Lg. Storage building in fenced backyard-attached garage. For more information call 934-3569 or 922-3569.
7-14-tfn

Services

Piano Tuning-Dwight Odell
(580) 544-3331-Boise City, OK
11-10-p8x's

Tree trimming or removal. Call Dusty Stewart for a free bid. 366-7601.
6-9-tfn

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

For Rent

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

House for Rent-2 Bdrm at 609 N. Grace. Call 366-2008 for more information.
5-12-tfn

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

PHEASANT RIDGE APARTMENTS

1319 & 1320 N. Chestnut
Stratford, TX

HAS OPENINGS

"2 BEDROOMS"

Great for Senior Citizens and HUD Approved.

Call we have a home you.

806-244-3418

Health

(NU) - Winter warriors may be strong on the ski slopes, but they are not invulnerable. Without proper socks and boots, feet may suffer from blisters, infections or even frostbite, a painful condition that could result in the loss of toes. The American Podiatric Medical Association suggests buying socks that are appropriate to your winter activity. For example, hunters and snowmobilers should always wear thick socks for extended warmth, while runners don't need to be as picky since running generates plenty of body heat. For a list of socks that hold the APMA Seal of Acceptance, go to www.apma.org/sealofacceptance. Visit www.apma.org for more winter foot care information.



A domestic cat can run up to 30 miles per hour.

Legal Notices

Stratford Independent School District's Notice of Intent to Apply for Waiver

In accordance with Texas Education Code TEC 25, 0811 Stratford ISD intends to apply for a waiver of the prohibition concerning the date of the first day of instruction. The waiver will request the first day of school for the 2006-07 school year to begin August 16, 2006.

The District will hold a public hearing concerning the date of the first day of instruction on March 14, 2005 at 7:00 PM in the High School Library. Published in The Stratford Star Thursday, December 22, 2005, and Thursday, January 5, 2006

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF SHERMAN

To those indebted to or holding claims against the Estate of TRAVIS F. SPURLOCK, Deceased, No. 2,105 in the County Court of Sherman County, Texas, Probate Matter:

The undersigned having been duly appointed Independent Co-Executor of the Estate of TRAVIS F. SPURLOCK, Deceased, by the Judge of the County Court of Sherman County, Texas, on the 27th day of December, 2005, hereby notifies all persons indebted to this Estate to come forward and to make settlement, and those having claims against this Estate to present them to the Co-Executor within the time prescribed by law, at the following address:

Martha Mitts
First State Bank
P.O. Box 48
Stratford, Texas 79084

FIRST STATE BANK
Stratford, Texas
By Martha Mitts, Senior Vice President and Trust Officer

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, January 5, 2006

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Texhoma, Texas ISD will apply for a waiver to start school earlier than the week in which August 21st falls. The Texhoma, Texas ISD intends to start school in coordination with the Texhoma, Oklahoma ISD. The Texhoma, Oklahoma SID intends to start school on August 16, 2006. The Texhoma, Texas SID will hold a public hearing on this matter at the January 18, 2006 school board meeting. The meeting will be held at the office of the superintendent at 4th and Denver starting at 5:30 p.m.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, January 5, 2006



Tyson Brooks was not too pleased to be sitting on Santa's lap at The First State Bank on December 14th. Also shown Gage Brooks and Meghan Brooks. They are the children of Lance & Kelly Brooks.

PETS

5 Steps to a Better-Behaved Pet

NewsUSA

(NU) - Want to live a healthier lifestyle? Get a dog. Studies show that pet ownership helps reduce stress, lowers blood pressure and fends off feelings of loneliness and depression.

While nothing can top the love and companionship of a dog, there are some unpleasant behaviors that just won't do — from barking all night to wetting the floor to chewing on your shoes when you're not looking.

If your dog is exhibiting this type of behavior, it may be acting out due to boredom, pent-up aggression or because of lack of training. With proper lifestyle adjustments and diligent training, you'll be on your way to having a happy, well-behaved pet. The following tips will help your furry friend become more obedient:

- **Spay or neuter.** The Humane Society of the United States says that this common procedure can help your dog live longer, be healthier and have fewer behavior problems.
- **Help your pet relax.** Just like people, dogs can get anxious, agitated and stressed. That's why some veterinarians suggest giving your dog a calming product, such as Pluto Pet's Pet Calming Spray, to help relieve hyperactivity.

Made with natural ingredients, Pet Calming Spray acts quickly to relieve restlessness, fear, nervousness and aggression and helps antsy pets sleep through the



With a few steps, you can help your dog become more obedient.

night, according to the manufacturer. The spray meets all Food and Drug Administration guidelines for good manufacturing practices. For more information, visit www.plutopet.com.

- **Have a workout routine.** Provide your canine companion with regularly scheduled walks twice a day. This will help your dog avoid boredom, which can lead to destructive behavior.

- **Go to school.** According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, enrolling your dog in an obedience class will teach you how to control your dog's behavior both safely and humanely.

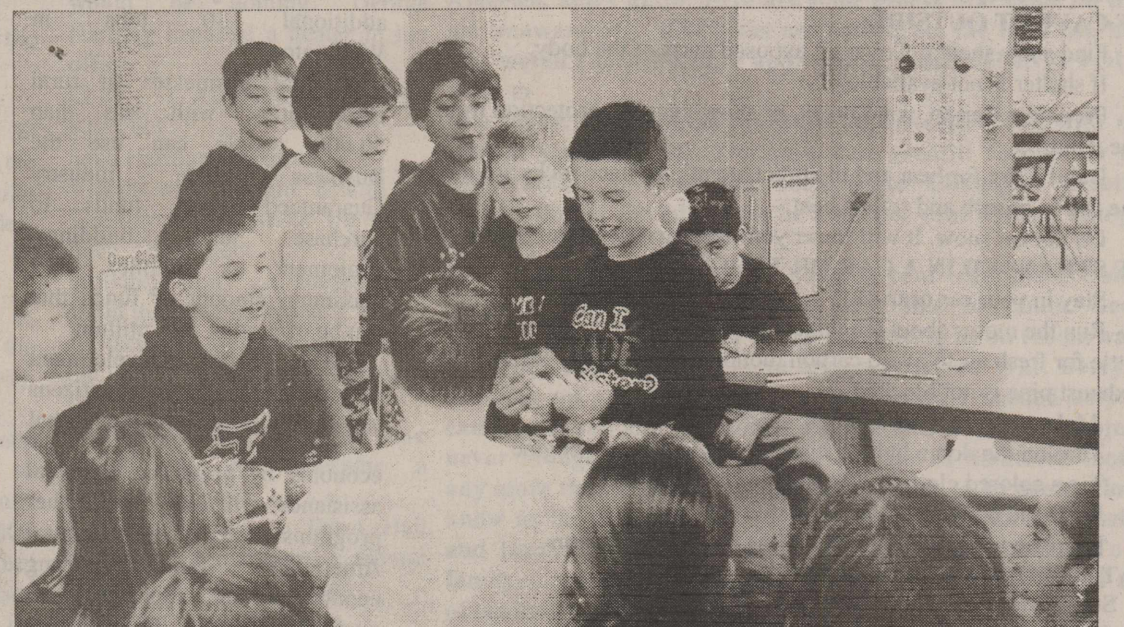
- **Be patient.** Though teaching your furry friend to be more obedient may take determination on your part, it's worth it. After all, as man's best friend, your dog will appreciate bonding with you during the process.



French is the official language of 32 countries.



The United States is the world's leading exporter of wheat and corn.

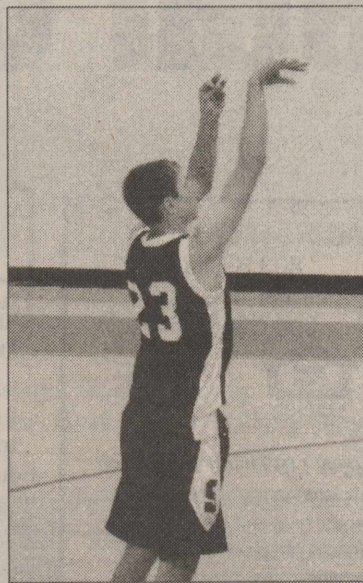


The 4th grade class was saddened to hear that one of its own, Omar Duran, had lost his home to a fire. In response to this news, the 4th graders decided to replace their traditional Christmas gift exchange with a donation to Omar and his family. Because the students wanted Omar to have an especially Merry Christmas this year, they used their donation to buy Omar a Play Station 2, a video, and a DVD. The remainder of the donation was given to the Duran family.

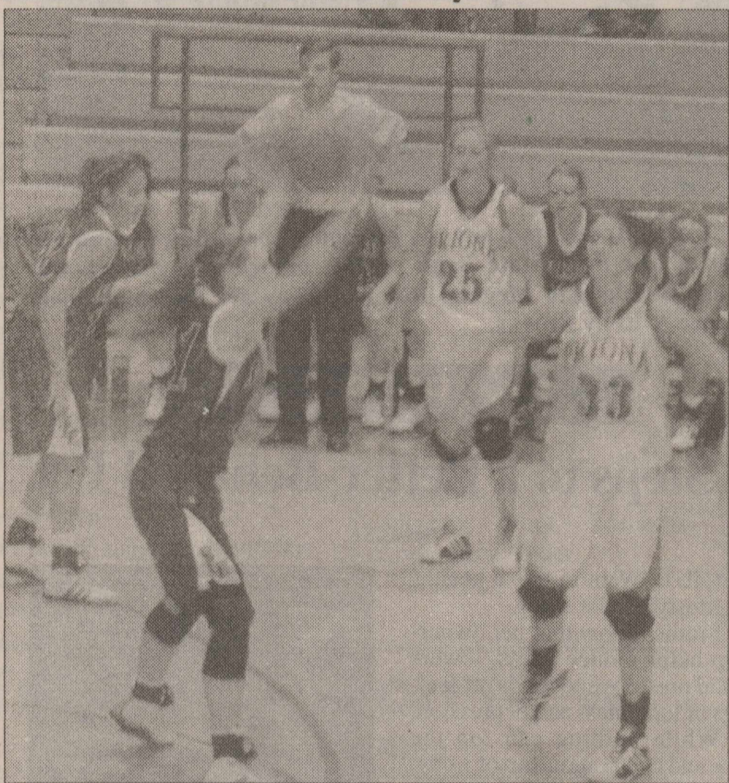
Basketball



Coach Horsford talks with the Elks during a time-out during one of the Elks' game in the Slaton Tournament held over the holidays.



Kaleb Horsford makes a free throw for the Elks in Slaton Tournament.



Yadira Ortega, left and Shadley Audrain on defense against Friona in Caprock Tournament held over the holidays.



Lady Elks #23 Candie Bell, Katelyn Reed and Yadira Ortega.



Billy and Jeanne Bell are shown above getting ready to enjoy the food at Farm Service Agency's Christmas Open House held in December.



Greeting and helping to serve the folks at Farm Service Agency's Open House were Michelle Lutes and Jeannie Bryson.

WINTER WEATHER SAFETY RULES

How to stay safe this winter.

Preparation for cold and severe winter can lessen its impact on you and your family. Here are some tips to help get ready.

AT HOME OR WORK MAKE SURE YOU HAVE:

- 1 a working flashlight
- 2 radio, or TV tuned to weather information
- 3 extra food, water, medicine, and baby items
- 4 first aid supplies
- 5 heating fuel (propane, kerosene, fuel oil, etc...)
- 6 emergency heating source
- 7 fire extinguisher and smoke detector

IN CARS AND TRUCKS:

- 1 fully check and winterize your vehicle
- 2 keep your gas tank near full
- 3 try not to travel alone
- 4 let a friend or relative know your timetable for travel
- 5 carry a WINTER STORM SURVIVAL KIT which contains:
 - o blankets/sleeping bags
 - o flashlight with extra batteries
 - o knife
 - o high calorie, non-perishable food
 - o a smaller can and water-proof matches to melt snow for drinking water

ON THE FARM:

- 1 Move animals to sheltered areas
- 2 Haul extra feed to nearby feeding areas
- 3 Have a water supply available (most animal deaths in winter storms are from dehydration)

IF CAUGHT OUTSIDE:

- 1 Find a dry shelter. Cover all exposed parts of the body.
- 2 If shelter is not available:
 - o Prepare a lean-to, wind break, or snow-cave for protection from the wind,
 - o Build a fire for heat and to attract attention. Place rocks around the fire to absorb and reflect heat,
 - o Do not eat snow. It will lower your body temperature. Melt it first.

IF STRANDED IN A CAR OR TRUCK:

- 1 Stay in your car or truck!
- 2 Run the motor about ten minutes each hour. Open the windows a little for fresh air to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Make sure the exhaust pipe is not blocked.
- 3 Make yourself visible to rescuers:
 - o Turn on the dome light at night when running the engine
 - o Tie a colored cloth to your antenna or door
 - o Raise the hood after the snow stops falling
 - 4 Exercise to keep blood circulating and to keep warm

AT HOME OR IN A BUILDING:

- Stay inside!
- 1 If there is no heat:
 - o Close off unneeded rooms
 - o Stuff towels or rags in cracks under doors
 - o Cover windows at night
 - o Eat and drink. Food provides the body with energy and heat. Fluids prevent dehydration.
 - o Wear layers of loose-fitting, light-weight, warm clothing.



USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR FARMERS COOPERATIVE SOCIETY # 1

WELLINGTON, TEXAS, December 9, 2005- Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, today announced Farmers Cooperative Society No. 1 has been approved to receive a \$4,340,000 Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan. The funds will be used to replace two old cotton gins with a modern gin which will be located at 16250 Highway 203. It will utilize the same scales, office facilities, and other structures without modification.

"One of the goals of USDA Rural Development is to provide financial assistance to rural businesses that will strengthen the local economy and enhance the quality of life for area residents," said Daniel. "In Fiscal Year 2005, \$15.3 million in funds were awarded to rural businesses and 1,084 jobs were created or saved in Texas. This loan will help Farmers Cooperative Society No. 1, provide 5 new jobs and save an additional 30 jobs in Wellington."

Potential businesses in rural communities, with less than 50,000 people can use the Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan funds to purchase land, buildings, equipment or supplies. The maximum amount of funds that can be offered is \$25 million.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Amarillo Local Office at (8U6) 468-8600, Extension 4, or visit our website: <http://rurdev.usda.gov/yx/>

City Council Minutes Cont. from page 3

finds that the criminal activity of minor children during the hours between 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on Monday through Sunday, constitutes a compelling public need to protect the property, health, and safety of the public, including minor children; and, WHEREAS, the City Council finds that any such minor child found in any public place without responsible adult supervision during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. on Monday through Sunday, shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor; and, WHEREAS, the City Council finds that any parent or guardian or business, who knowingly allows any minor child to be in a public place during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. on Monday through Sunday, without responsible adult supervision shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor; and, WHEREAS, the City Council finds that any minor child to be in violation hereof shall be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$500, and any parent or guardian found to be in violation hereof shall be fined not less than \$200 nor more than \$500, and that any business agent or employee, who knowingly allows any minor child to remain on the premises during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday, shall be found in violation hereof shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$200 dollars.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD, TEXAS

A. CURFEW: The curfew herein imposed, created, and established shall be during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. on Monday through Sunday. Said curfew shall remain in force until terminated or modified by the City Council of the City of Stratford.

B. REVIEW OF ORDINANCE: Before the third anniversary of the date of the adoption of this juvenile curfew ordinance by the City of Stratford, Texas, and every third year thereafter, the City Council shall:

- 1) review the effects of this ordinance on the community and on problems the ordinance was intended to remedy;
- 2) conduct public hearings on the need to continue this ordinance; and

3) abolish, continue or modify this ordinance.

C. SUPERVISION: As defined herein, supervision shall mean the physical presence of a responsible adult. A business agent or employee for the purposes of this ordinance shall not be deemed to be a responsible adult, unless the direct parent/Guardian to child relationship shall be established.

D. MINOR CHILD: A minor child as defined herein shall mean any child under the age of 17 years, who has not been married or otherwise been emancipated from the disabilities of minority by court order.

E. RESPONSIBLE ADULT: As defined herein, a responsible adult shall mean any person 18 years of age or older; and being a parent, guardian, or person designated to chaperon or supervise minor children; and who shall not then and there be under the influence of drugs or intoxicating liquor. A business agent or employee shall not, for the purposes of this ordinance be deemed to be a responsible adult, unless the direct parent-guardian to child relationship shall be established.

F. PUBLIC PLACE: Public place as defined herein shall mean any place other than a private residence, including a business engaged in selling or providing goods and services to the public.

G. EMERGENCY: Any situation creating, posing, or constituting a threat to the life, health, or safety of a minor child or any other person or a threat of property damage.

CURFEW: It shall be unlawful for any minor child to be in any public place during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. on Monday through Sunday, without the supervision of a responsible adult. It shall further be unlawful for any parent or guardian or business to allow a minor child to be in any public place during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday, without the supervision of a responsible adult.

PENALTY

Any minor child found to be in violation hereof shall be guilty of a Class C Misdemeanor and fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$500 dollars. Any parent or guardian found to be in violation hereof shall be guilty of a Class C Misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than \$200 nor more than \$500 dollars. A business agent or employee, who knowingly allows minor children to remain on premises in violation of the stated curfew, hereof shall be guilty of a Class C Misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than \$50 dollars nor more than \$200 dollars. There is hereby excepted from this ordinance, the following:

A. Any minor child who is employed and where such employment requires the child to travel to or from working during the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

B. Any child who attends an organized event including, but not limited to, church, school, supervised club, or organization trips or functions to be allowed 30 minutes from the conclusion of the trip or function to travel home.

C. Any child who is exercising first amendment rights of free speech, religion, or lawful assembly after prior notice to the chief of Police of the City of Stratford.

D. Any child involved in a case of "reasonable necessity" after parental notification to the police.

E. Any child located on said child's sidewalk of that of said child's next door neighbors; with said neighbors permission.

F. Any child attending a meeting of one of the groups named in paragraph B directly above.

G. Any child traveling in a motor vehicle involved in interstate travel.

H. Any child acting in an emergency which reasonably requires the child's presence in a public place during the hours prohibited hereby.

SEVERABILITY: If any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance, or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances for any reason is held to be unconstitutional, void or invalid or for any reason unenforceable, the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance or the application thereof shall remain in effect, it being the intent of the City Council of the City of Stratford, Texas in adopting this ordinance, that no portion thereof or provision contained herein shall

become inoperative or fail by any reason of unconstitutionality or invalidity of any portion or provision.

REPEALING CONFLICT: All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of conflict with this ordinance.

PUBLISHING AND EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall be published in accordance with the requirement of publishing all ordinances and become effective in accordance with state law upon passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED on October 20, 2005
City of Stratford, Texas
By: David Brown, Mayor
Attest: Kathy Rendon, city secretary