

Sherman County Museum 7 /06
Box 1248
Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

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Number 17, April 27, 2006



Fire Dept. Installing New Cabinets

Fire Department members, L/R: Sandy Williams, Rhonda Mathews, Ernie Maiwald, Eddie Williams, and Jack Gore installing kitchen cabinets in the new Fire Hall, Saturday, April 15th. The project was interrupted earlier by a fire call to Cactus. They are standing ready and watching the fire alert for Amarillo that day.

STRATFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION April 18, 2006

The Stratford ISD Board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday April 18, 2006 in the High School library.

President Joe Reinart established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Board members present:
Joe Reinart Barney Willborn
Gared McBryde DeWain Traylor
Brent Spurlock Patti Vincent
Steve Hays Tim Gilliland, Superintendent

Guests present were Dinah Horsford, Lynette Kautz, Michelle Lutes, Greg Wright, Bryan Mungia, Jessica Wheeler, Clint Seward, Mary Pat Williams, Steve Haynes, John Abbott and James Hicks.

Mrs. Williams led the invocation.

Mr. Gilliland introduced the guests and went over the monthly recognition. Mary Pat Williams gave the elementary report. The math TAKS test was given today and reading will be on Wednesday, April 28th will be Continuing Education Seminar on March 28-30, 2006.

The annual continuing education seminar works to meet the educational needs of county officials and the public by anticipating, identifying, and addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by Texas county government. Included in the program were workshops on portfolio management, HR essentials, property tax expectations, Legislative updates, Public Information Act and Open Government Meetings Act.

Texas is one of a small number of states that requires elected county officials to earn continuing education credits. Ms. Parsons earned her required 20 hours for 2006, and 5 hours in investing Public Funds.

The Elks Summer Basketball teams will be selling Coke products, including PowerAde, from April 25 thru May 4. The cost is \$18.00 per case of 20 lg. bottles. If you need more information please contact Dinah Horsford at 366-3300 or 366-2219. Thanks for your support!

COUNTY TREASURERS MEET IN COLLEGE STATION

Doris Parsons, Sherman County Treasurer, joined over 250 county treasurers for the 34th Annual County Treasurers' Continuing Education Seminar on March 28-30, 2006.

The annual continuing education seminar works to meet the educational needs of county officials and the public by anticipating, identifying, and addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by Texas county government. Included in the program were workshops on portfolio management, HR essentials, property tax expectations, Legislative updates, Public Information Act and Open Government Meetings Act.

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Week of the Young Child

The Imagination Station is having a two-day event on Transportation to celebrate Week of the Young Child. Event days are April 25th (cars and airplanes) and 27th (boats and trains). We will be doing crafts and learning all about transportation. Any child 3 years old and older is welcome to attend. Please call 366-2772 for reservations or with any questions.

LONG TERM CARE PROGRAM THURSDAY

Come join SCOT and other interested county residents Thursday, April 27 at 1:30 p.m. at SCOT Hall for an information program on "Long Term Care". The program will be presented by Andy Crocker, Gerontology Health Specialist with Texas Cooperative Extension. Mr. Crocker will be informing interested persons on options for long-term care in Texas, financing options for long-term care in the state, and how to evaluate and select the appropriate level of care needed and facility to provide said care. In addition, he will briefly discuss long-term care insurance. 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.

Meet the Candidates Forum May 2

By Gaynelle Riffe

Tuesday, May 2, meet the candidates for City Council and School Board at the Imagination Station at 7:00 p.m.

The Candidates for School Board 3 places are; Michelle Lutz, Brian Mungia, Brent Spurlock, Patti Vincent, Greg Wright. Candidates for City Council: David Brown, Mayor; Ernie Maiwald, unexpired term; 2 places; Jolie Asher, Kere Harris, Connie Quin.

Moderator, Karen Riffe will call on each slate of candidates to introduce themselves and each one to answer subject questions and questions from the audience.

Know your candidates. Early voting begins May 1 with election on Saturday May 13.

Volunteer Party To Be Held

Wednesday, April 26th, 2:00 p.m. at Coldwater Manor Dining Room. Please come and let all of THANK YOU for a job well done.

Thank you, Janice Vaughn, Activity Director
JoAnn Cobos, Activity Director

Rattlesnakes are out looking for water. BEWARE!!!!

Prom pictures can be viewed at www.ioctaylorphoto.com

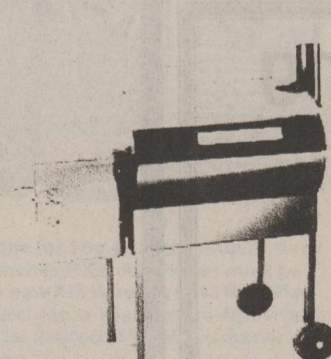
WANTED

The Imagination Station is looking for items that relate to transportation - cars, planes, trains, or boats. We would like to borrow them for Week of the Young Child. Our theme is Transportation and would love to have anything to add to our display. Call Laurie Spurlock at 366-2772 or Gaynelle Riffe at 396-5303 to drop off you items. We will take items up until April 15th and will be done with all items on April 26th. Thanks for your help!

Annual Lions Club Broom & Mop Sale

Stratford Lions Club Broom & Mop Sale on First State Bank of Stratford Parking Lot on Friday, May 5, 2006. Starting at 8:00 a.m.

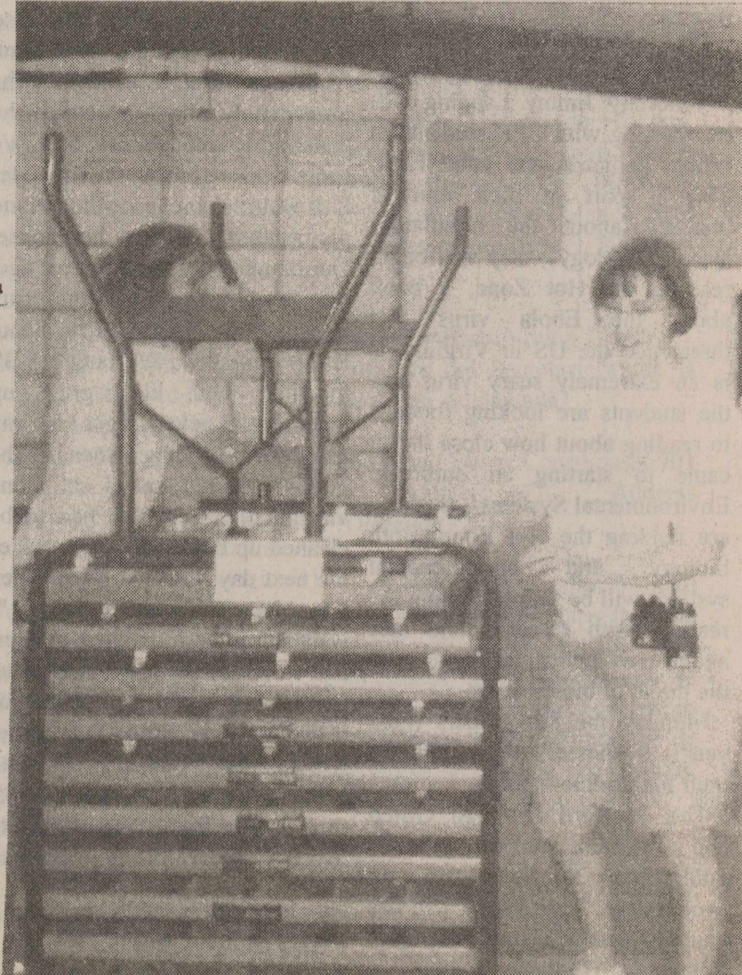
Brooms, Mops, Brushes and many other items. Quality cleaning aids for Home, business, or Industry. Plan to come by Help the Blind help themselves and Help our local Stratford Lions Club and Help Our City. All articles may be the blind.



Enter to win \$699 Traeger Grill

Donated by Randy Lehr & Lehr Fertilizer \$5.00 per ticket or 5 for \$20.00

Drawing to be held on May 22 during Opening Night Ceremonies.



Setting Up For Fundraiser

The Fundraiser held Sunday, April 23rd was a huge success. Stratford Fire Department and Stratford EMT association would like to thank everyone who so generously supported them. Shown above on Saturday setting up for the event held at the County Barn are Sheila Lanning and Sandy Williams.

Animal Issues Committee Meeting

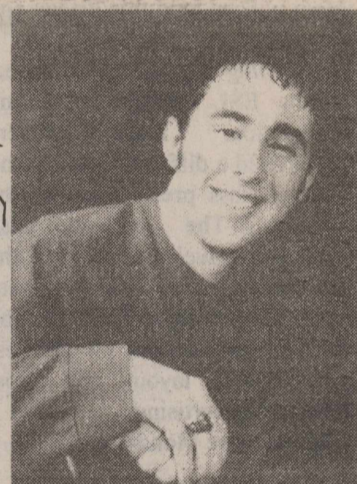
Sherman County Emergency Management and Sherman County Extension Service will co-host a kick-off meeting of Sherman County Animal Issues Committee, Thursday, May 4, 2006 7 p.m. at the Stratford Fire Station.

This very important committee will address issues dealing with animal health, before during and after a crisis and will include domestic pets. Committee members will provide input for planning for disasters, responding to and recovering from emergency or disaster situations involving animals.

For more information contact Sandy Williams 753-7331 or Sherman Hammons 366 2081.

There is nothing in which the birds differ more from man than the way in which they can build and yet leave a landscape as it was before.

—Robert Lynd



Taylor Regional Champion

Jordan Taylor was Regional Champion in Lincoln Douglas Debate held this past Friday at UIL Academic meet. He will advance to State in May. He is the son of Joe and Cathy Taylor. Congratulations Jordan, WAY TO GO!

STRATFORD HOSPITAL DISTRICT TO HOST RECEPTION

"The Stratford Hospital District will host a reception at Coldwater Manor Nursing Facility on Sunday, May 7, 2006 from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm. The reception will be to honor the outgoing board members, Ronnie Brooks and Larry Drake, and to welcome new board members LeRayne Donelson and Kathy Allen

Hospital District Board President, Wayne Smith stated; "The District will miss the services of Ronnie Brooks and Larry Drake. This community owes both of these gentlemen a debt of gratitude for their honorable and faithful service. Ronnie and Larry both gave their all in the improvement and betterment of the services provided to our patrons. We hope the entire community will come and wish them well".

The District will also be welcoming it's newest members Kathy Allen and LeRayne Donelson. Smith stated that "both of these ladies bring a wealth of knowledge and compassion to the board room. I know the rest of the board joins me in welcoming them aboard. Kenton Kimball will also be serving his first full term on the board. He was appointed to the board last year to fill the unexpired term of Shannon Taliaferro. We are glad Kenton agreed to stay for a full term".



ELK TALES
By Lynda Hauser

Whew! TAKS is behind us for another year! There may be some re-takes, but most everyone is finished for now. What a relief.

Spanish III is writing their own bilingual children's books and they will go read them to students at Mary Alien soon. Spanish II is finishing up their city maps so that they can learn how to give and receive directions (commands) in Spanish. Mrs. Ronna Riffe is our Spanish teacher.

Mrs. Glass's classes include: Anatomy—Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Jimmy Lanning will be working with CPR students in infant, pediatric and adult CPR. This is part of their unit of learning about the circulatory system. Biology—they will begin reading the Hot Zone, a book about the Ebola virus that threatened the US in Virginia. It is an extremely scary virus and the students are looking forward to reading about how close that it came to starting an outbreak. Environmental Systems—they too are reading the Hot Zone. Both biology and environmental systems will be supplementing the reading with research and labs about how epidemics begin and the threat of bioterrorism.

Monday the 8th graders (next year's freshman!) registered for their high school classes.

The Stratford Jr. High Gifted and Talented students will be going on a field trip on Wednesday, April 26. A trip has been planned to visit the National Ranching Heritage Center in Lubbock.

"The National Ranching Heritage Center is a unique museum and historical park comprised of 38 original ranch structures. The buildings represent the history of ranching from the 1780s to the 1920s."

Regional Golf Meet was held in Lubbock on Monday and Tuesday. Tutorial notices are due on Thursday. Regional Track Meet will be held this Friday and Saturday.

Traveling the World, a project of the ESL classes, is nearing completion. Each student researched a different country and gave a class presentation of the country. The students also designed travel posters for the hall of the school. Awards were given in the junior high division and the high school for the best design and layout and most effective advertising.

Three more Mondays!

Why I Relay

by: Kathy Switzer

Last year was the first time I have had the opportunity to walk in a Relay for Life. It gave me great satisfaction to do something "physical" to strike out against a devastating disease that has hurt so many of my friends and family.

I lost two of my very closest friends to cancer. When I first moved to Stratford, I was a young mother of two small children. We lived out in the country and I literally did not know anyone. One of the first outings I made in Stratford was to attend Wednesday night services at the church of Christ. It was there that I met Nina. She also was a young mother. I don't think Nina ever met a stranger. She immediately talked to me as if she had known me all my life. We soon became close friends. Her kids would come to my house and play and my kids to her house. Our daughters were the same age. Our friendship grew as the years passed. We were Girl Scout leaders together. We taught VBS together. Our kids grew up together. I'll never forget after my daughter's wedding, when all the guests had left and I sat alone viewing the mess that had to be cleaned up before church services the next day. I was so tired. Then I heard a voice in the room say, "I went home and changed clothes, and now I'm ready to help clean up the church with you as long as it takes. It was Nina. True to her word, she picked up and vacuumed until it was done. I lost this good friend in 1995 to ovarian cancer. She is in heaven,

but her smile and laugh will always be in my heart.

I lost another very dear friend in 2003. Chloe and I were so close, I could tell her anything. She was in a wheelchair, and I drove her to church for about 10 years. I spent a lot of time telling her my problems and she always gave me sound Christian advice. I don't remember her ever complaining about her situation at all. Even when she was told she had pancreatic cancer and probably would not live more than a year, she was concerned about me. She called me to say goodbye and not to worry.

I also have had cancer strike my own body in 1993. It's so very scary to hear that word from a Doctor. It is such an ugly word, even though fortunately my prognosis was good.

My husband, Larry, was diagnosed with chronic leukemia a year ago. He also has had good test results and that we are thankful. But it seems like the dreaded disease is always "hovering" about. I pray it will be completely extinct soon.

MAY 5- CHANCE TO HAVE SCISSORS SHARPENED

Stratford area residents will have an opportunity to get sewing and hair care scissors sharpened by Precision Machine Sharpening on May 5, 2006. Jack Chapman will be located on the parking lot of First State Bank from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to provide this service.

In addition to sewing and hair care scissors, residents can have other kitchen tools, gardening tools, hunting knives, paper trimmers sharpened that day. Fees will be according to the length of the blade and generally will be 25-50% of replacement cost.

For more information about this service contact Susie Spurlock at 366-2122.

Coldwater Manor Nursing Home is a Winner

Coldwater Manor Nursing Home enters the TAHSA Contest held yearly in Arlington, Texas.

For the second year we have a winner. Maida Walker's Panhandle Pheasant, drawing was submitted in the Majestic Contest, Mrs Walker won 1st finalist in this category. Over 250 entries were submitted throughout the state of Texas.

Her art work will be on display, May 19th-24th, at the Wyndham Hotel in Arlington, at the TAHSA 47th Annual Meeting.

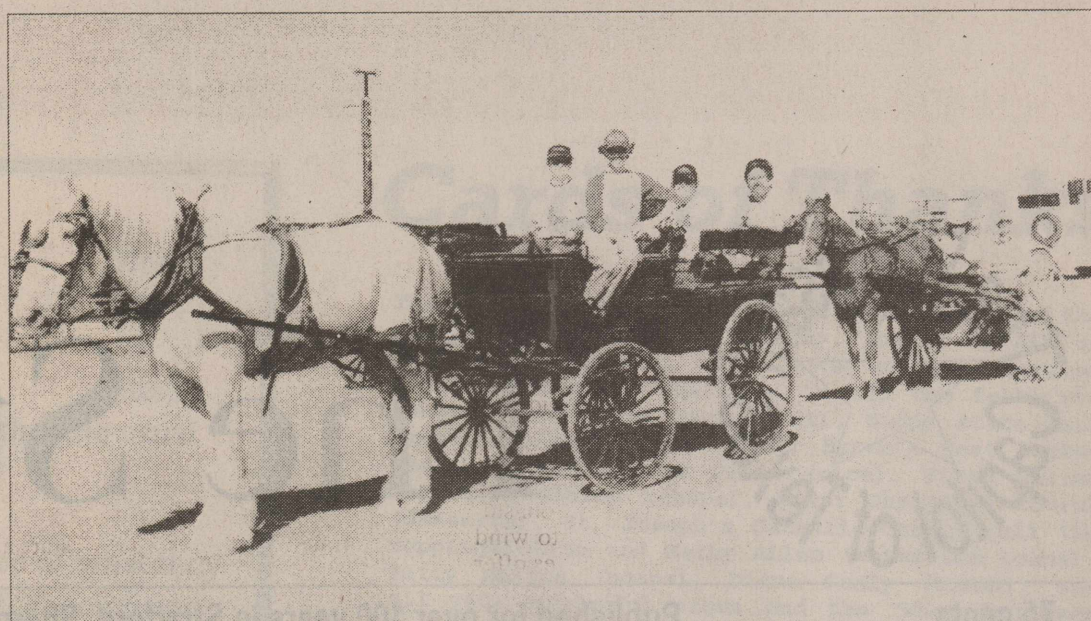
Activity Director's JoAnn Cobos and Janice Vaughn, organized the idea and the name of the drawing, "Panhandle Pheasant". Stratford, Texas being the Pheasant Capital of the Texas, inspired the idea. Congratulations Mrs. Maida Walker

Utility Customers of the City of Stratford

Due to his illness, the water sample courier for Phoenix Environmental failed to collect and deliver for analysis the required number of bacteriological samples for coliform monitoring of the water distribution system during the month of February 2006 for the City of Stratford, PWD ID #2110001. This monitoring is required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's "Drinking Water Standards" and the federal "Safe Drinking Water Act," Public Law 95-523.

Bacteriological samples are used to monitor water quality and indicate if the water is free of coliform bacteria. Our water system is required to submit two bacteriological samples each month. Failure to collect all required bacteriological samples is a violation of the monitoring requirements and we are required to notify you of this violation.

If you have any questions regarding this violation, you may contact Randy Melton (water system official) at (806)366-5581.



Out for a Drive with Captain

Tanner, Austin, Karen and Andy Riffe taking a Sunday drive on April 16th in their new carriage pulled by Captain. CeCe Green Yelek of the Green Tree Ranch, South East of Stratford is also training a new driver from Amarillo.

Public Notice

Basic and low cost telephone services from Verizon

Verizon is an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in Texas under Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Texas Public Utility Commission guidelines. As such, we receive universal service funding, which enables us to provide service at reasonable rates to high cost, usually rural areas and low income customers.

Under those guidelines, Verizon certifies that it provides the following basic services for a monthly charge of \$7.10 to \$16.40 (plus Federal Subscriber Line Charge, applicable taxes and surcharges) to residence customers.

- Single-party service
- Voice grade access to the public switched network
- Touch call service
- Access to emergency services (including 911 and enhanced 911)
- Access to operator, interexchange and directory assistance services

We also provide a Lifeline discount for qualified low-income residence customers of up to \$13.50. Also available to qualified Lifeline customers is a low-cost Link-up basic connection service at a 50% discount (up to \$30.00). In addition, we can provide Lifeline customers with free toll blocking to help them control long-distance usage. If Lifeline customers do not pay toll charges, their access to the toll network may be denied, but their local service won't be disconnected.

For more information please call our customer sales and solution center at 1-800-483-4000 (Residence). For Information on Lifeline/Link-Up Service call Lite-Up Texas at 1-866-454-8387.

MITCHELL THEATRE'S
NORTHRIDGE CINEMA 8
Guymon, Okla

Movies beginning April 28

RV
Pg- Robin Williams
Akeelah & the Bee
PG Angela Bassett Laurence
Fishburne
The Sentinel
Pg-13 Michael Douglas Kiefer
Sutherland
Silent Hill
R Radha Mitchell, Sean
Bean
The Wild
G Animated
Scary Movie 4
PG-13 Ana Fan's Regina
Hall
Benchwarmers
PG13 Jon Heder David
Spade
Ice Age 2: Meltdown
PGAnimated

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Toilet Paper Rolls Needed

Toilet paper rolls are needed for Week of the Young child. Please drop off empty rolls at 1301 Division-just put on porch. Thank you for your help.

Watch out for "Rattlesnakes, some have been killed in the city limits of Stratford.

STRATFORD HOSPITAL DISTRICT
Announces
Board Member Reception
May 7th, Sunday, at 2:00 p.m. til 3:00 p.m.
Coldwater Manor Board Room
Those leaving are Ronnie Brooks and Larry Drake. New Board Members are Kathy Allen, LaRayne Donelson and Kenton Kimball

Aguilera Roofing
Lawrence Aguilera

"No Job Too Big or Small"

10+ year's experience
930-0199 (Lawrence)
930-0937 (Jeff Kautz)

Still laughing, after all these years.

It feels good to laugh out loud. We have a term for it these days: LOL! But at The Craig LOL! means Love of Life!

You should come see for yourself how good Life can be at The Craig Retirement Community. We want every resident to make the most of each day and celebrate life with good health and well-being.

Whether you're totally independent or need some assistance from day to day, there are Craig lifestyle options that can be customized to meet your needs.

Choose health. Choose involvement. Choose freedom. Choose The Craig, where love of life isn't the exception. And doesn't that make life worth living?

352.7244
The Craig Methodist Retirement Community
5500 W.9th Ave. Amarillo

A member of SMRS, Inc. Sears Methodist Retirement System, Inc. has developed admission criteria without regard to the resident's race, color, national origin, religion, sex, handicap, age or political beliefs.

How many a man has dated a new era in his life from the reading of a book.
—Henry David Thoreau

The only obligation to which in advance we may hold a novel, without incurring the accusation of being arbitrary, is that it be interesting.
—Henry James



DSHS Training Held

DSHS Training was held Dec. 18, 2006 at the Stratford High School. The Program was presented by David Dickerson, HSR1 Public Information Officer and Claudia McQueen, Strategic National Stockpile Coordinator regarding how to set up a dispensing site and the number of volunteers need to operate a dispensing site. "34" is the number of volunteers needed in Sherman County. Anyone interested in joining and helping out, please contact Zelda Pickens, Ann Wells, Bobbie Strong or Sandy Williams. There is a job and place for anyone who wants to help. Volunteers receiving training Bobbie Strong, Lynda Hauser, Larry Norris, Lloyd Merony, Kathie Altman, Jim Hand, Emily and Ed Nolte, Joe and Viola Abeyta, Gaynelle Riffe, Ann Wells, Jimmy Lanning, Ann Johnson, Belinda Roberts and Sandy Williams.

band on their performance at the UIL Concert and Sight-reading. The band received another sweepstakes award. He reported that the TAKS tests are being administered this week in several areas. The students seem very confident. Allison Baskin was named the Valedictorian and Jordan Taylor is the Salutatorian.

Mr. Gilliland gave the superintendent's report. The cost per mile for transportation for the month was 420. He then gave the budget summary. Monthly expenditures are at 57.86% and revenue collected at 95.82%. Tax collections are at 97.97%. District enrollment is down from this time last year. There are currently 252 students enrolled at the Mary Alien, 167 at the middle school and 190 at the high school making a total enrollment of 609. Brent Spurlock made the motion and Steve Hays seconded to accept the consent agenda. Motion carried 7-0.

Patti Vincent made the motion and Gared McBryde seconded to make fund balance designations: Motion carried 7-0.

DeWain Trayler made the motion and Patti Vincent seconded to approve the budget amendment as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. John Abbot of Shiver-Meggert and Mr. James Hicks of Wilcy-Hicks were present to present bid packets that were received. They passed out bid packets and discussed them with the board.

A short recess taken. Discussion was held on the 2007 Appraisal District Budget. Patti Vincent, the school board's representative on the appraisal district board, explained the budget. Discussion was held. Brent Spurlock made the motion and Barney Willborn seconded to approve the budget as presented. Motion carried 4-3.

Mr. Gilliland went over the 2005-2006 District Plan. The plan meets legal requirements. Discussion was held. Steve Hays made the motion and DeWain Trayler seconded to approve the plan as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Gilliland explained the School Health Advisory Committee. Beth Bench, cafeteria manager, has spent many hours meeting new wellness requirements set by the state. If guidelines are not met, funding could be lost. Brent Spurlock made the motion and Barney Willborn seconded to approve the committee as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion was held on the superintendent's house. Mr. Gilliland explained the problems with the house. Discussion was held on the options for the house. The board decided to get bids for tearing down the house, leveling the lot and preparing it for a parking lot.

Mr. Gilliland went over the ESL Summer School dates and hours. Barney Willborn made the motion and Patti Vincent seconded to accept the dates and

hours as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Jessica Wheeler briefly explained the district 504 program. She handed out the proposed guideline changes. She explained and answered any questions that the board had. DeWain Trayler made the motion and Brent Spurlock seconded to approve the guideline changes as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

At 8:57 PM, the board adjourned into executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074.

At 9:15 PM the board adjourned out of executive session.

DeWain Trayler made the motion and Patti Vincent seconded to open a position for an autism teacher. Motion carried 7-0.

The board discussed the proposals/bids for the construction project. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

I once had a sparrow alight upon my shoulder for a moment, while I was hoeing in a village garden, and I felt that I was more distinguished by that circumstance than I should have been by any epaulet I could have worn.

—Henry David Thoreau

Ginger Fruit Salsa

1 cup diced fresh strawberries
1 cup diced fresh pineapple
2 tablespoons minced crystallized ginger
Mayan Chocolate Ice Cream

Combine strawberries and pineapple. Stir in ginger and let stand at room temperature 1 hour for flavors to blend (or refrigerate up to 12 hours). Spoon over ice cream. Makes about 4 servings.

Jalapeño Fruit Salsa

1 cup diced fresh strawberries
1 cup diced fresh mango
1-2 tablespoons finely minced fresh jalapeño pepper
1 teaspoon granulated sugar
Mayan Chocolate Ice Cream

Combine strawberries and mango. Stir in jalapeño and sugar. Let stand at room temperature for 1 hour for flavors to blend (or refrigerate up to 12 hours). Spoon over ice cream. Makes about 4 servings.

To learn more, or for additional recipe ideas, visit www.haagen-dazs.com.

Teaming Up for the Fight

One in three Americans will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. The American Cancer Society Relay For Life gives everyone the opportunity to fight back and to make a difference in the battle against cancer.

Teams come from businesses, clubs, families, friends, hospitals, churches, schools, and service organizations. Be part of a Relay team and make a difference!

For more information about Relay For Life, complete and return this form to the address listed on the back side of this form. (Check all that apply below.)

YES! I want to participate in Relay.

- Learn more about forming a team
 - Information on survivor activities
 - Volunteer to help with the event
 - Learn more about becoming a sponsor
 - Make a donation (enclosed) of \$ _____
 - Other _____
- Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone () _____
Email _____

Please make checks payable to the American Cancer Society.

Light the way to a cure!

Give a gift to the American Cancer Society and keep the fire of hope burning with a luminaria in memory of someone lost to cancer, in honor of someone still fighting, or in special recognition of someone who has beaten this disease. Complete and return this form to the address below.

Note: To order more than one luminaria, please photocopy this form.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ which will light a luminaria during the luminaria ceremony at the American Cancer Society Relay For Life.

Date: June 2, 2006 Time: Sundown

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone () _____

Email _____

Please make checks payable to the American Cancer Society.



Because of friction caused by tides, the earth's rotation slows and the day increases about a millisecond each century.

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When you place that vehicle registration sticker in the corner of your windshield, you're helping build and maintain our highways, roads, and bridges. That's why your Texas Department of Transportation urges you to *Put Texas in your corner.*™

Not only does it say you obey the law, it says you're sticking up for all of us. To learn more, visit us online at: www.texasinyourcorner.com, or call (512) 465-7611.

Put Texas in your corner.

When God Made Firefighters

When the Lord was creating Firefighters, he was into his sixth day of overtime when an angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one."

And the Lord said "Have you read the specification on this person? Firefighters have to be able to go for hours fighting fires or tending to a person that the usual every day person would never touch, while putting in the back of their mind the circumstances.

They have to be able to move at a second's notice and not think twice of what they are about to do, no matter what danger. They have to be in top physical condition at all times, running on half eaten meals, and they must have six pairs of hands."

The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands...no way." "It's not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord, "it's the three pairs of eyes a Firefighter has to have."

"That's on the standard model?" asked the angel.

The Lord nodded. "One pair that sees through the fire and where they and their fellow Firefighters

should fight the fire next. Another pair here in the side of the head to see their fellow Firefighters and

keep them safe. And another pair of eyes in the front so that they can look for the victims caught in the fire that need their help."

"Lord" said the angel, touching his sleeve, "Rest and work on this tomorrow."

"I can't," said the Lord, "I already have a model that can carry a 250 pound man

down a flight of stairs and to safety from a burning building, and can feed a family of five on a civil service pay check."

The angel circled the model of the Firefighter very slowly, "Can it think?"

"You bet," said the Lord. It can tell you the elements of a hundred fires; and can recite procedures hi then* sleep that are needed to care for a person until they reach the hospital. And all the while they have to keep their wits about themselves.

This Firefighter also has phenomenal personal control. They can deal with a scene full of pain and hurt, coaxing a child's mother into letting go of the child so that they can care for the child in need. And still they rarely get the recognition for a job well done from anybody, other than from fellow Firefighters." Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek of the Firefighter. "There's a leak", she

Pronounced.

"Lord, it's a tear." "What's the tear for?" asked the angel.

"It's a tear from bottled-up emotions for fallen comrades. A tear for commitment to that funny piece of

Cloth called the American Flag. It's a tear for all the pain and suffering they have encountered. And it's a

tear for their commitment to caring for and saving lives of their fellow man!"

"What a wonderful feature Lord, you're a genius" said the angel.

The Lord looked somber and said "I didn't put it there." Unknown Author

Cards of Thanks

Thank you, Thank you, Thank You, to all the people who came to eat Sunday. Thanks to ALL of you, the Fundraiser was a HUGE success, because of your generous donations. To all the folks who donated food-Steve Hays (meat), Happy State Bank (meat), Walter Lasley (meat) Brown's Meat Locker (meat), Moore's Food Pride (rice), First United Methodist church (chips), First Christian Church (desserts), St. Joseph's Catholic Church (all the toppings) Lynn and Kathy Allen (water and beans), Patty Melton (beans), Diane Coaly (beans), and all your wonderful signs and the "When God Made Firefighters), Linda Forthman, Shari Hudson, Sheila Lanning and Ellen Tillery. Special Thanks to First State Bank of Stratford, A&I Parts, for all the paper goods, Express Lane (ice), Sherman County. To Beth Bench and the ladies at SHS Cafeteria (You girls Rock). The ladies of Catholic Church (You gals Rock Also). To the Stratford Fire Department and Stratford EMT's YOU ARE THE BEST!!!!. Jack Gore (you saved the day). All the helpers and servers who jumped in Sunday and did such a fantastic job. I want you on my team all the time. No one can hold a candle to all of you SUPER Bowl team for sure. A Big thanks to Diane, Patty and Marihoward who helped in so many ways (who kept telling me it would be OK), To Doak for answers when I asked. Our apologies to you that may have come through when we had ran out of certain items, before we had some more, Thank you for your patience. 'Apologies for some who came but did not get to eat. We are sorry. A special thanks to Dean Hauser for being such a good sport (HAPPY 30th). To Duane when I said I have this "thought" and he said Good idea! You can do it. Only way I did it, was all of you .I know I have probably left someone out, if I did I am so sorry, because I needed everybody to make this the success it was. Again Thank you Stratford and Sherman County residents YOU MADE THIS HAPPEN! I thank you and I love you.

Marty

We want to thank everyone for the phone calls, notes, cards, and flowers that have been sent to us. You all have been wonderful. The prayers have been powerful. We can feel and see God's hand in all of this. Love to all,

Rex and Bernice

We would like to thank the Community of Stratford for all the heart warming support at the fundraiser last weekend. We are truly blessed to be part of such a caring and supportive community.

Thanks you from all of us.
The Stratford EMT Association

It is a mistake to regard age as a downhill grade toward dissolution. The reverse is true. As one grows older, one climbs with surprising strides.
—George Sand

Food Ideas

(NAPS)—Sweet potatoes are the most nutritious and heart-healthy vegetable, according to the National Center for Science in the Public Interest. For healthy recipes, visit www.brucefoods.com.

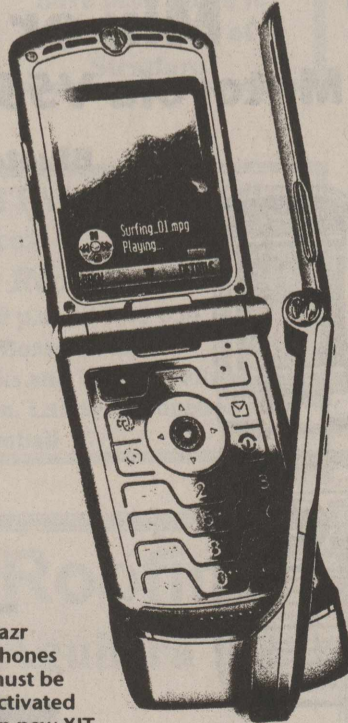
For kids who've developed a taste for science, here's a fun avenue to explore: the science of taste. Nestlé Ice Cream is inviting kids throughout the U.S. to try out for a chance to be a "Flavorologist for a Day" by dreaming up new ideas for the world's coolest frozen pop. To learn more, visit www.icecream.com.



Three servings of low-fat milk, cheese or yogurt, or up to 1,300 milligrams of calcium depending on age, are recommended each day to build strong bones. To help, the Dairy Council of California's meal-planning Web site, www.mealsmatter.org, contains hundreds of free and easy-to-make, calcium-rich recipe ideas.

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