

CRP Emergency Haying and Grazing a Possibility for Sherman County

By Bailey Naugle

The below average precipitation levels that we saw in the fall of 2007 have lingered through the winter and well into the spring, leaving cattle producers in Sherman County desperate for forage. Sherman County Farm Service Agency records show that an average precipitation level for our area from August to March, when wheat and winter grass are established, is 8.2 inches. Sherman County has received only 3.22 inches this season, and the majority of that was not considered beneficial. "You need at least a quarter inch at a time to do any good," explained Becky Hemphill of the Sherman County FSA office.

This area received only two rains that were over a quarter inch, one in September and one in December, which resulted in a total of .92 inches of beneficial precipitation. "If you look at it that way, we are 7.28 inches below normal," she said.

Hemphill has already heard from eight area cow-calf producers that the drought has adversely affected. "Because there was no wheat pasture they had to use hay early," she said. Now that supply is gone and there are no prospects for more.

In Sherman County 29,000 failed acres have already been reported and experts expect another 21,000 before May 15th.

"This year all dry-land is well below yield potential if not 100 percent below," she said.

Hemphill has a plan that may help ease the burden of the feedstock shortage. If things go well, Sherman County will be approved for CRP emergency haying and grazing by mid-May and producers will be able to graze their CRP immediately instead of holding out for the Managed Haying and Grazing period which runs July 2 through September 30.

However, there is one major obstacle standing in the way of this relief. On a drought intensity scale of D0 to D4, four being the worst, the National Weather Service has Sherman County ranked at a surprising D1. Because the D1 analysis is based on broad-scale conditions, it does not accurately reflect the situation in Sherman County. "Our procedure states that it has to be a D3 to be considered for emergency grazing," she said.

As part of the effort to acquire emergency status, Hemphill is working with Judge Terri Carter to have Sherman County deemed a disaster area. She pointed out that from November of 2007 to April 17th the National Weather Service placed Sherman County under fire weather watches seven times and red flag warnings nine times. "The potential is there, but we've been blessed and not had a fire yet," she said. Hemphill has contacted neighboring counties in hopes that they too will request emergency status which would help illustrate the severe need in this region.

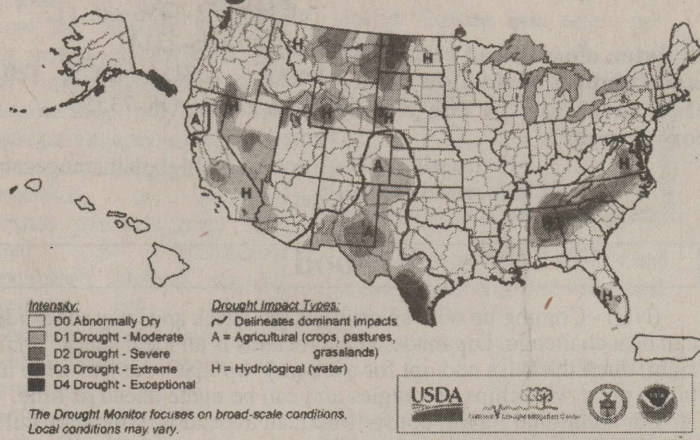
If Sherman County is approved for CRP emergency haying and grazing, producers will have to buyout the CRP that they choose to graze, most likely for 25 percent of their contract per acre. "In the past they have reduced that to 10 percent or even zero, but they tend to stick with 25 percent," Hemphill explained. She believes that for most producers, the buyout expense - even at 25 percent - is better than being forced to sell cattle.

Considering the lengthy drought, is there enough grass on CRP land to do any good? David Graf, the Ag/Natural Resources Agent for Sherman County believes that it will. "No doubt the grass has deteriorated due to the drought, but it has not been grazed since last spring/summer's growth and it can provide some roughage that can help maintain cattle," he said.

Emergency CRP haying and grazing has not been activated in Sherman County since 2003, when drought conditions were similar to those producers are facing now. Unfortunately there are currently no other livestock disaster aid programs, and Hemphill predicts that there will not be any for at least a few years. "That doesn't help us now," she said.

Graf encourages producers to help the effort by getting involved. "Producers need to call and or write their congressman to educate them on the situation and encourage their support." To contact the office of U.S. Congressman Mac Thornberry call 806-371-8844.

U.S. Drought Monitor April 15, 2008



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary.
Released Thursday, April 17, 2008
Authors: Jay Lawrimore, Liz Love-Brook, NOAA/NWS/DI/NCEP

U.S. Drought Monitor map shows that Sherman County drought is classified as D1, or moderate intensity.

Free Mulch Available

Mulch is available for free at the City of Stratford Recycling Center during business hours.

SCOT Selling Memorial Day Flowers

SCOT is selling Memorial Day flowers. These will be at SCOT Luncheon on Thursday, April 24, 2008. Prices range from \$6.00 to \$20.00. To see any other time, call Karen Perrin at 396-2097.

Weather Line 366-2000

Sponsored by Stratford Grain & ADM/Alliance Nutrition

Greg Wright - 7 days a week, updating as needed

Red Hat to Meet

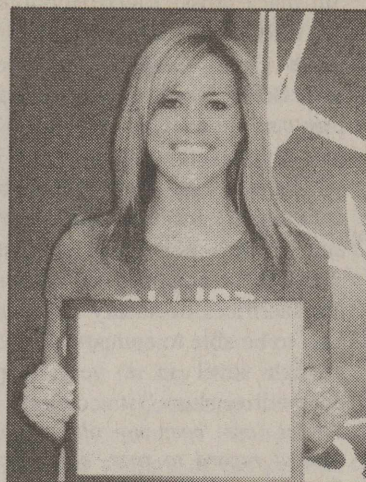
Red Hat Society will meet on Thursday, May 1st at 6 p.m. at Elk Junction.

Elks Summer Basketball Coke Fundraiser

Coming Soon-Elks Summer Basketball Coke Fundraiser. Sale will begin April 28 and will end May 5th.

All cokes must be paid for when ordered. Coke Products and Water will be \$20.00 case. Powerade Products will be \$21.00/Case.

Contact Any JH or his Boys Basketball Player to place an order or call Dinah at 366-3300 or 753-7053.

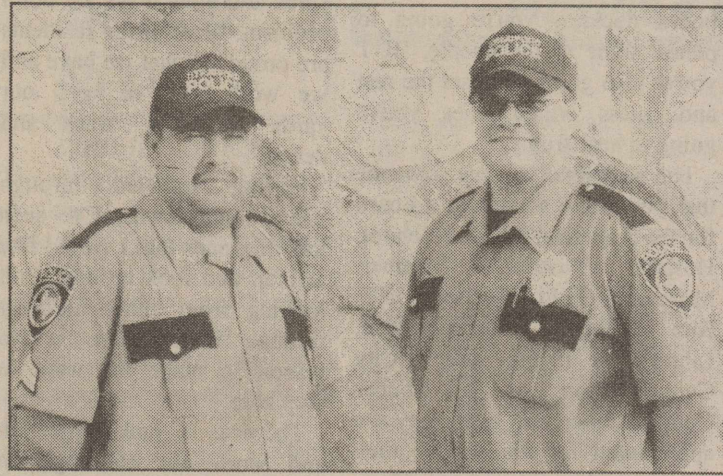


Crabtree Selected 2-A Athlete of the Month

The Sports Division of the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce selected Kristen Crabtree, a senior at Stratford High School as the 2-A High School Girls' Track Athlete for the month of March. Kristen, her parents Doak and Lisa Crabtree and Coach Terry Davis attended the luncheon for the athletes on Thursday, April 17, 2008. Kristen competes in the 3200 M Run (12:01) and 1600 M Run (5:33) and is the 2-A District Champion in both of these events.

The Imagination Station "Week of the Young Child" April 22 & 24

The Imagination Station will host their annual "Week of the Young Child" theme of "On the Farm". April 22 will feature crops and machinery. April 24 will feature animals. The April 24 program is filled with some space available on April 22. This program is for pre-kindergarten through 2nd grade.



Shown above Officer Manny Jimenez and Officer Brannon Jones (See story below)

Jimenez Promoted to Sergeant

The Stratford Police Department is proud to announce that Officer Manny Jimenez has been promoted to Sergeant. He will be in charge of Patrol and will be Supervisor at any time when Chief Mullins is not available. Sgt. Jimenez is certified in K-9 and in Narcotics Interdiction. Sgt. Jimenez and "Sarah" will be working the highways to help stem the flow of narcotics through our area. According to Chief Mullins and others with the City, Sgt. Jimenez has more than demonstrated his leadership abilities, and has proven to be a tremendous asset to the community. Chief Mullins stated he is looking forward to be working with Sgt. Jimenez in the coming years. The City of Stratford Police Department has also hired a new Officer, Brannon Jones, a recent graduate of the East Texas Police Academy. Officer Jones was sworn in to the Department on February 25th. Officer Jones is from Sulphur Spring, TX and was by far the best candidate. All of the Officers have expressed their excitement to serve the citizens of this community. Please join in congratulating Sgt. Jimenez and in welcoming Officer Jones. In the past few weeks Sgt Jimenez and K-9 Officer Sarah have made 7, drug related arrests during interdiction stops. While backed up by Officer Jones. Good Job!!! Remember if you need Help from the Police Dept: Dial 911 in an Emergency, and on a non-Emergency Call: dial 366-3051 and if there is no answer call Dispatch at 366-5551. This will get the best response. Please do not call City Hall.

Annual Area Foundation Meeting to Be Held

The Stratford Area Foundation will be having their Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 24th at 7 p.m. at Sherman County Barn. Entertainment by Penny Boyd, New Board members will be selected and refreshments will be served.

Presley Fund Set Up At Bank

A medical fund for the son of J.B. & Amanda Presley has been set up at the First State Bank of Stratford. For more information contact the First State Bank 396-5521.

Fund for Zelda Pickens Has Been Set Up

There has been a fund set up at Happy State Bank to help with Medical Expenses for Zelda Pickens.

A player who makes a team great is better than a great player.

—John Wooden

STRATFORD CHAMBER BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

The Stratford Chamber of Commerce needs volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors. Due to various schedule conflicts, Jolie Asher and Shannon Sellers are the only remaining board members and the Chamber needs additional volunteers. The Chamber is organized for the purpose of advancing the agricultural, industrial, educational, civic and general interest of the City of the Stratford and the Sherman County trade area. The Chamber does not wish to close due to lack of interest, so please contact the office at 806-366-2260 or contact Jolie or Shannon by May 12 if you are interested in serving the citizens of Stratford.

Don't Forget the Tag When You Move Dairy Cattle in Texas!

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) cattle tuberculosis (TB) regulations went into effect April 1, 2008, requiring an approved identification device on dairy cattle being moved within the state.

If a calf, steer, heifer, bull or cow looks like a dairy animal, make sure it has an official identification device before it's moved within the state, stresses Dr. Bob Hillman, Texas' state veterinarian and head of the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock and poultry health regulatory agency.

"Dairy producers, calf raisers, feeders, or beef cattle owners who have a few dairy animals must comply with this cattle tuberculosis regulation that will be introduced into Texas," said Dr. Hillman. In October 2007, the TAHC enhanced cattle TB and ID regulations for dairy animals entering from other states.

"USDA ear tags, which have been used in the Brucellosis and cattle TB programs for years, are available from the TAHC area offices at no charge for dairy cattle," said Dr. Hillman. Cattle owners who use these tags are to maintain a simple log of the animals tagged. Information is to include the date a tag is applied to the animal, the tag number, and the animal's breed, sex and age. The record keeping can be as simple as listing the tag number,

date and the animal's description, he said. Tag pliers are not provided, but they are available for purchase at most agricultural supply stores. Once applied, the identification is to remain on the animal. Producers not familiar with their TAHC area office can call the agency headquarters in Austin at 800-550-8242 for information.

Alternatively, cattle owners may purchase and use any of the following approved identification devices for dairy cattle:

- Electronic official AIN tags, differentiated by the first three digits of the fifteen-digit number:
 - * Manufacturer code "900" series RFID (radio frequency identification devices) tags, available from many feed or supply stores.
 - * USA prefix RFID tags
 - * Country code "840" series RFID tags. (To use these, producers need to register their premises in the National Animal Identification System. This can be accomplished easily and at no charge by calling the TAHC at 800-550-8242.)

A commercially produced cattle-style clip, flap or button tag that identifies owner and includes a unique animal number in the herd.

Although dairy animals are no more susceptible to cattle TB than beef cattle, their close confinement and movement between herds presents a greater risk of exposure to the bacterial disease, if an infected animal is introduced into the herd.

Dr. Hillman explained that cattle TB has not been eradicated in the U.S. At least 12 infected beef herds have been detected in Minnesota since 2006, a state where infection had not been found since 1971. On April 9, Minnesota was downgraded to modified accredited status, the third lowest rung on the five-

Cont. on page 2

Letters to the Editor

Obits

Nathan "Buddy" Uselton

Nathan "Buddy" Uselton, 78, of Littlefield, passed away Tuesday, April 15, 2008 in Littlefield. He was born July 19, 1929 in Burkburnett, Texas to the late Clyde and Irene (Sanders) Uselton.

Buddy graduated from high school in Walters, Oklahoma. He moved to Littlefield in 1980 from Temple, Oklahoma. He married Kathryn Harris and with her had three children, Jim, Becky and Linda. He then married Tommie Baker July 12, 1981 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Buddy was a spray pilot, a proud member of the Texas Aerial Applicators Assoc., and served on the board of the City of Littlefield Airport. He was also a member of the Elks Lodge in Temple, Oklahoma and of the First Baptist Church in Temple.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Tommie of Littlefield; a son, Jim Uselton, & wife Stephanie of Red Bluff, CA.; four daughters, Becky Sellers & husband Mike of Sherman, TX., Linda Sprick & husband Frank of Houston, Karon Caviness of Levelland, TX., and Sharon Hobbs & husband Kirk of Midland, TX.; nine grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one sister, Pauline High of Ardmore, Ok.

Services to celebrate the life of Buddy were held 10 a.m., Friday, April 18, 2008 at the Follow Thru Fellowship Church in Littlefield, with Pastor Tracy Spencer officiating. Interment followed in Littlefield Memorial Park. Arrangements were under the personal care of Hillcrest Funeral Home in Littlefield, Texas.

Tag
Cont. from page 1

tiered cattle TB ranking system. In February, TB infection was detected in a large California dairy, and in 2007, infection was detected in New Mexico, Colorado and Oklahoma. For years, Michigan has battled the disease both in cattle and free-ranging deer. Texas lost cattle TB-free status in 2002, but regained it in fall 2006 after employing a strategic plan that included TB testing of dairies and purebred beef herds, and enhancing slaughter surveillance.

"Preventing the introduction of cattle TB is crucial," said Dr. Hillman. "But, we must be prepared to deal with infection, if it does slip through. Identifying dairy and dairy-cross animals will enable us to complete epidemiological investigations more quickly, so infection can be eliminated before it spreads to more herds."

Dear Editor:

In reading Gaynelle's letter last week, I can tell you what the biggest problem is in finding people to run for the elected offices and it's very simple, no one says "thank you" anymore. When you serve on a board, you become a complaint department where anyone can come to file their grievances. Whatever a board decides, you're going to please some of the people, BUT you're also going to upset the rest and guess which ones you're going to hear from?

The next time you see someone that you know serves on a board for the Appraisal District, School, Hospital District, Chamber, Museum, Child Welfare, XIT, Rita Blanca, Water District, Library, or if they are a City Councilperson or a County Commissioner, tell them they are appreciated for the service they put in on these meetings. Many community members also give their time and sometimes their own money to travel and serve on district and state boards to help Sherman County stay involved with what's going on in other areas and especially to keep Stratford's name out in front of the legislators. We're pretty far removed from Austin so local faces have to keep showing up down there to remind them that we do matter and we're here all the time, not just during election years.

If you have an idea how something might work, go to a meeting, offer a suggestion instead of a complaint, or sign up to run for a board position. Be part of the solution - not part of the problem.

Serving on a board is a time-consuming job. Tell these people - "Thank you! We appreciate your time and efforts."

Kathy Allen -
Director SCDC

Dear Editor:

It's so nice that Stratford will be taking part in the Keep America Beautiful Campaign. This campaign suggests that residents clean up their yards and alleys. Have you looked around town lately?

In my opinion, residential yards and alley ways are not a problem. Most of the residents are proud of what we have and we work hard to keep our yards clean of "trash and debris".

Having traveled through many small towns, I've seen lots of places that I would like to stop and look around. But, looking from either highway through town, there is no reason to make me want to stop here.

There is a junk collection and worn out buildings on HWY 54 and Hwy 287 offers nothing that would make me think that Stratford could be an interesting place to stop and look around. There is a woodpile that covers a city block, buildings full of "debris" and yards with no grass.

Don't misunderstand me-I am not saying that every business and home along our highways is in disrepair, I'm just stating that there are places other than yards and alleys that need to be cleaned up.

I'm proud to be a resident of Stratford, but I'm not proud of the way Stratford looks to travelers along our highways.

Audra Meidinger

You can get help from teachers, but you are going to have to learn a lot by yourself, sitting alone in a room.

—Theodor Geisel

Home

(NU) - Invite Mother Nature's finest aspects into your everyday living:

- **Make citrus the centerpiece.** Try a naturally inspired look by arranging whole fruit in a bowl for a quick, easy and inexpensive centerpiece.
- **Set a mood.** Try a new take on candlelight by creating candle holders out of citrus. Cut a space just large enough to hold a tealight candle in one half of a grapefruit or an orange.
- **Utilize the beauty of flowers with a new twist.** A great way to make any arrangement unique is to put citrus fruits, either sliced or whole, in a clear vase as filler around flowers.

For more citrus ideas, visit www.TexaSweets.com.

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4-Hers Shooters Compete in Matches

By David Graf

Nine Sherman County 4-Hers and 1 former 4-Her recently competed in sectional and state matches in Amarillo said David Graf, Texas AgriLife Extension agriculture and natural resources agent for Sherman County. Leading competitors were Sunny Russell with a gold and 2 silver medals, Eric Burton-1st in intermediate, Catherine Arisano-2nd in intermediate, and Ransom Lerman- 1st in junior. Also shooting were Madeline Drake, Garrett Ely, Tyler Gilliland, Rowdy Lerman, and Britten Pickens.

Also competing was Rustin Russell, former standout member of the Sherman County 4-H shooting project. Rustin garnered 2 gold medals. He currently is on full scholarship to University of Memphis in Tennessee as a member of their collegiate shooting team.

Volunteer leaders working with this year's youth are Sherwin Burton, Steve Meyer, Lem and Cindy Russell, Frank Vaughn, and David White. Rustin Russell has also assisted.

Service are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin. The Texas A&M University system, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas

Sherman County Youth Compete At Houston

By David Graf

4-H and FFA members from Sherman County recently competed with excellent success at the Houston Livestock Show said David Graf, Texas AgriLife Extension agriculture and natural resources agent for Sherman County. Six youth exhibited swine, with Kyle Horsford winning 1st place Hampshire and also Texas-Bred winner with his pig that was a product of the Horsford family's swine operation. Jennie Spurlock had 5th place cross, Kaleb Horsford-5th Chester, and Craig Kautz- 8th place cross. Grayson Gonzales and Brent Reed also exhibited pigs and Ryan Dahl exhibited a pen of commercial steers.

"These kids are to be commended for their hard work and effort, plus their parents should be recognized for making the sacrifices necessary for these kids to be able to compete at such a high level in a very, very competitive show," stated Graf. *Service are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin. The Texas A&M University system, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas*

These, then, are my last words to you: Be not afraid of life. Believe that life is worth living, and your belief will help create that fact.

—William James

Freedom is not merely the opportunity to do as one pleases; neither is it merely the opportunity to choose between set alternatives. Freedom is, first of all, the chance to formulate the available choices, to argue over them — and then, the opportunity to choose.

—C. Wright Mills

Stratford Ex-Student Reunion???

The Stratford Ex-Student Reunion has been held the last week-end in July for many years. (July 25-26, 2008) It can only happen with the help of the honored classes local ex-students. April 8 was a meeting of local honored class representatives, in order to update mailing list and identify the activities for each class. Out of a possible 23 representatives from 1948 to 1998 only two persons attended, 1948 and 1988 were represented. We need a little help here. Realizing the local ex's are home, reunion does not seem to be important but to classmates away, that is what it is all about. This is only successful with long range planning (at least 3 months ahead) You never know when you might be inviting an ex-student who can help with Stratford's economic development.

6th Annual 5-State Motorcycle Run To Be Held

The Sixth Annual 5-State Motorcycle Run will be held Saturday, May 10, 2008, starting in Guymon, Oklahoma at the Texas County Activity Center. Riders will travel 300 miles through Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, and Kansas all in one day. Registration is \$35 per person and includes one poker hand, one meal, one patch, one rocker, and one chance to win door prizes. The prize for the winning poker hand is \$2000. Registration begins on Saturday at 7AM with the last bike leaving at 9AM. A BBQ dinner will be served at 5PM. Visit the website at www.5staterun.com.

Main Street Guymon will sponsor Guymon Outback the night before the 5-State Motorcycle Run at 5th & Main Street in Guymon, Oklahoma on Friday, May 9, 2008. For only a cover charge of \$5, attendees will get burgers, beer, bands, bike games, and a CMA service.

The Run is sponsored by the Iron Thunder Motorcycle Club and all proceeds are donated to local individuals and non-profit agencies with medical or financial needs throughout the year.

To listen closely and reply well is the highest perfection we are able to attain in the art of conversation.

—Francois de La Rochefoucauld

Food

(NU) - Coming up with an original, yet quick and easy snack idea can be a challenge. Dip made with avocados is an ideal snack. That's right, ditch the salsa and opt for a creamy dip that's easy to whip up, tastes great with chips or veggies and can be made ahead of time.

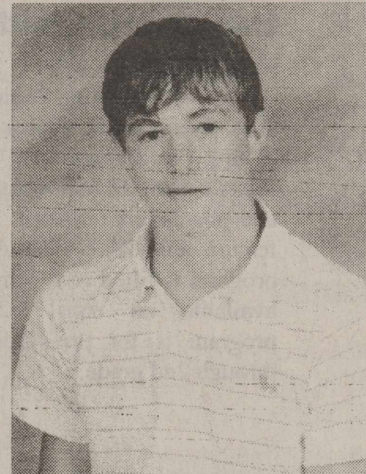
For additional flavor, opt for Mexican avocados, which are cultivated in ideal conditions and result in a creamier avocado dip. There are many other quick, delicious ways to enjoy Mexican Hass avocados. To learn more and find recipes, visit www.avocadosfrommexico.com.

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Bryce Cummings is a freshman at Stratford High. He is a member of the Elk football, basketball and track teams. Bryce is also a member of the FCA.



Bryce Cummings

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Movies Beginning April 25th

21 PG-13 Kate Bosworth Kevin Spacey

Forbidden Kingdom

PG-13 Jet Li Jackie Chan

Stop Loss

R Ryan Phillippe

Prom Night

PG-13 Brittany Snow

Street Kings

R Keanu Reeves Chris Evans

Nim's Island

PG Jodie Foster Abigail Breslin

Leatherheads

PG-13 George Clooney Renee Zellweger

Never Back Down

PG-13 Djimon Hounsou

Drillbit Taylor

PG-13 Owen Wilson

Horton Hears a Who

G Animated (Jim Carey)

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Kerrick News

By Marylou McDaniel

Bill & Pat Boren have been busy. They enjoyed dancing when Eloy Gonzales played at SCOT, having lunch in Boise City with Ciccy & Roy Harris, then lunch in Dalhart with Elaine & Leo Home Next came a Little League baseball game in Canyon with grandsons, Will, Brice and Ryan.

Jo June McDaniel, John McDaniel, and Terry McDaniel were among those going to Boys Ranch Thursday for the band contest Stratford received all ones! Shelby plays clarinet with the Elk band.

They visited with the Gary Laramores of Panhandle. He was a band director at Stratford, now the superintendent at Panhandle. Their son is at Texline.

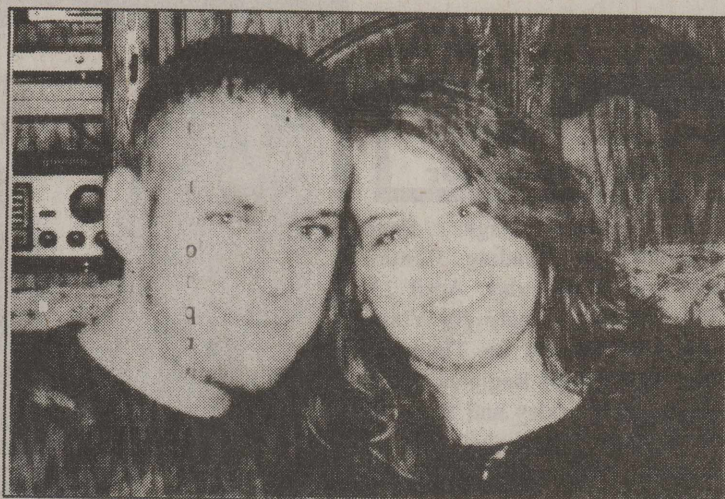
Donna Gillenwaters was in Amarillo beginning Monday for a series of tests. Saturday son Jimmy and grandson Kaiden of Bushland came for a visit.

Jean Danner of Guymon celebrated her 84th birthday Sunday with a large group of family and friends. Daughter Barbara Schoonover, Terry, Brady, Trisha, Reed, Rett, Rese were among those attending.

There were 22 SCOT members going to the Chicken House April 15. Going together were Donna Gillenwaters, Jo June McDaniel, Marylou McDaniel and Lynn Wells.

Rett Schoonover celebrated his 12th birthday with an overnight party Friday. Guests were Justin Mungia, Preston Burr, Jesus Tarango, Trevor Melton, Sterling Audrain, Kelby Hartman, Victor Ortega and Brother Reed.

Consciously or unconsciously we all strive to make the kind of a world we live.
—Oliver Wendell Holmes



Engagement Announced

Craig Bell of Amarillo and Margaret Ewers of Stratford announce the engagement of their daughter Candie to Kenny Rickwartz, son of Kenneth & Mary Rickwartz of Amarillo. The wedding date has been set for June 14, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at First Assembly of God Church in Stratford.



Second Helicopter Company Available

Sherman county residents now have a second helicopter company available for dispatch in emergency situations. Lifestar out of Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo has always been the only helicopter service for the top of Texas area but due to such a large coverage area have not always been able to respond when we have needed them. We now have the option of dispatching a helicopter out of Guymon, OK. EagleMed is a Wichita-based air ambulance that has been in service for over 30 years. Guymon became the 14th base to be served by EagleMed when it launched its service on April 1 of this year. They have a 6-8 minute lift-off time from the time the call is received.

Reflective Vest for Walkers and Bicyclist

It's summer time, everyone is out walking or riding a bike. Sometimes it's hard to see you early in the morning or late at night. Thanks to Happy State Bank and First State Bank for purchasing reflective vests. These will be sold at the banks and Stratford EMS Building anytime during the day for \$5.00 each. All proceeds will go to the Stratford EMT Association so we may better serve our community. Be safe this summer and wear a reflective vest while out exercising. One size fits all. Have a safe and productive summer.

This service will be offered free and available within the library premises only with the use of a password which will be available at the circulation desk. Library patrons and travelers will be able to check, e-mail, surf the internet and access the library catalog and databases.

I am a man of fixed and unbending principles, the first of which is to be flexible at all times.
—Everett Dirksen

Ex-Students Reunion July 25-26

New addresses are needed for ex-students. Do you have a change of address for family, friends and class mates? We need them now to mail information before the stamp raise in May. Please call Gaynelle Riffe 396-5303 or B. A. Donelson 366-5905.

Library Becomes Wi-Fi HotSpot

The Sherman County Public Library became the first wireless HotSpot in Stratford on Friday, April 18th when they started offering wireless internet connections.

What is "Wi-Fi" or "wireless Fidelity" you may ask? "Wi-Fi" is a method of moving electronic data using radio waves, usually internet data. "Wi-Fi" is a play on the old stereo term "HiFi" that was used to describe high quality audio hardware.

What is a WiFi "HotSpot"? A WiFi hotspot is a location that offers wireless services. Airports, coffeeshops, hotels and some libraries are common places to find WiFi hotspots.

"The library is very proud of this accomplishment," remarked Sandy Baskin, library director. "This will allow the library to offer internet connections to travelers and our own library patrons who have a wireless enabled laptop computer and are just searching for a facility to connect to the internet wirelessly."

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Come celebrate with
Shelli McCarver & Casey Dawson

Chuckwagon Supper
Saturday, May 3rd
7:00-9:00 p.m.
Curry House, 616 E. 1st Stinnett

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Tasha Summers	Linda Thompson

Selections: Moore's Pharmacy, Wabbit Patch, Target, Bed, Bath & Beyond & Home Depot

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VOTE "NO" TO THE LEGALIZED SALE OF ALCOHOL

KNOW THE FACTS!!!
PROTECT OUR KIDS!!!

In 2005, underage drinkers consumed 20.3 percent of all alcohol sold in Texas, totaling \$1.7 billion in sales. Strong evidence exists which suggests that increased local access leads to an increase in underage consumption of alcohol. (Source: Miller, T.R., Levy, D.T., Spicer, R.S., & Taylor, D.M. [2006]. Journal of Studies of Alcohol, 67[4], 519-528)

The proportion of underage drinkers who report drinking heavily (five or more drinks at a sitting) is higher than for adults who consume beverage alcohol. While about 43 percent of adult drinkers report heavy drinking on one or more occasions in the past month, 50 percent of 12-14 year-old drinkers, 65 percent of 15-17 year-old drinkers and 72 percent of 18-20 year-old drinkers report heavy drinking in the past month. In short, young people who do consume alcohol are more likely than adults to drink heavily. (Source: Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation)

Political Ad. Paid for by KAOS, Box 978, Stratford, Texas 79084

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. Charles F. Fische, Interim Pastor
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
6th & Pearl
Rectory - 366 - 5687
Sunday morning: 8:00a.m. (English), 9:30 (Spanish)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass. or by appt.
Christian Formation Classes: K-8th 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.

Heritage Bible Baptist
Pastor Rick Carter
302 S. Main - For More Info—call 396-2212
Morning Worship - 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wed. Service - 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist
Pastor Jason Stone
702 N. 3rd
Sun.—Coffee - 8:30 Sunday School - 9:30
Worship Service - 10:30
Wed. -Children—6:00, youth—7:00

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

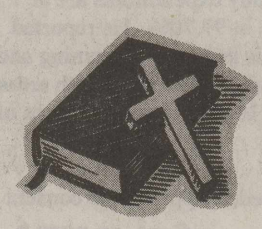
With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be.
James 3:9-10 New International Version

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205 N. Poplar - Hwy 287 806.268.2188
Escuela Dominical 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Servicio De Adoracion 5 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Miercoles: Servicio De Adoracion 6-8 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



The Stratford ISD board of Trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, April 15, 2008. President Joe Reinart established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Board members present: Joe Reinart, Barney Willborn, Greg Wright, DeWain Trayler, Patti Vincent, Brent Spurlock and Steve Hays.

Guest present: Lynette Kautz, Dinah Horsford, Eddie Metcalf (7:30 PM), Collin McKinney (8:50 PM).

Mr. Hartsell led the invocation.

Mr. Gilliland gave the monthly recognition. It was as follows:

1. Kade McBryde won the Boy Scouts pine wood derby. Congratulation to Kade.
2. Judy Stoy was the Farmers Insurance teacher of the month.
3. High School Cheerleader elections were held on March 14. The 2008-2009 cheerleaders will be: Chelsea Garza, Searra Valenzuela, Becky Rosales, Channing Ziemann, Kelsi Keener, Taylor Melton, Shannon Maiwald, Tori Rouse, and Sunny Russell - Mascot. Their sponsor will be Deide Ziemann. Congratulations to these girls.
4. Jordan Confer and Hunter Buckles have been selected to play in the Golden Spread All Star Tournament. The games will be on April 11 and 12 in Amarillo. Congratulations to these athletes.
5. Several students exhibited animals in the Houston stock show. Kyle Horsford won 1st place with his Hampshire pig, Kaleb Horsford won 5th place with his chester white pig, Jennie Spurlock placed 5th with her cross pig and Craig Kautz placed 5th with his cross pig. All of these exhibitors participated in the premium sale. Congratulations to these exhibitors.
6. The Texas ACT Council recognized our current juniors who demonstrated that they are on target to meet or exceed ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks by graduation. As a result of our 2006-2007 testing of sophomores with ACT's PLAN, four of our students were identified as being on target for reaching or exceeding ACT's empirically-based College Readiness Benchmarks in all four areas. Only 17% of Texas PLAN tested students reach that level of proficiency. Those students receiving recognition were Jennie Spurlock, Brooke Barnard, Deborah Molina and Sinead Everett.
7. The Mary Allen Elementary Library received a \$500.00 check from Wendy Marsh to purchase books for their library.
8. The district golf meet was held March 31 and April 7. Jordan Confer was the 2nd medalist and will advance to the Regional Golf meet in Abilene on April 21. Congratulations Jordan.
9. The District One Act Play contest was held on March 26 at Panhandle. The Stratford One Act Play placed 3rd. Margarita Rocha was named to the Honorable Mention Cast, Kelsey Stein was named Best State Manager, Tanner Riffe was named to the All-Star Cast and Austin Riffe was named to the Honorable Mention Cast. Congratulations to these students. Ronna Riffe and Stacy Metcalf were the One Act Play sponsors.
10. The District UIL Academic Meet was held on March 27 at West Texas High School. The following students place in events: Spelling and Vocabulary - Katie Killian - 4th, Sunny Russell - 6th, Spelling Team - Katie Killian, Sunny Russell, Braden Hamilton, Deborah Molina - 2nd, Accounting - Kristen Crabtree - 2nd, Becky Rosales - 3rd, Jennie Spurlock - 4th, Accounting Team - Kristen Crabtree, Becky Rosales, Jennie Spurlock, April Peregrino - 1st, Computer Applications - Brooke Barnard - 2nd, Journalism - 2nd Tyler Gilliland, Prose - Austin Riffe - 2nd, Whitney Reese - 3rd, Ready writing - Jennie Spurlock. Those advancing to the Regional Academic meet are: Becky Rosales, April Peregrino, Kristen Crabtree, Jennie Spurlock - Accounting Team, Tyler Gilliland - Headline Writing, Austin Riffe - Poetry, Whitney Reese - Poetry, Brooke Barnard - Computer Applications. Sponsors for these events are Tami King, Harletta Carthel, Paula Everett, Carla Griffin, Judy Stoy, Jennifer Wells and Ronna Riffe. Congratulations to these students and good luck at Regionals.
11. High School student council elections were held on Friday April 4th. Members are -SR.-Kaleb Horsford, Chandler Lutes, and Chandra Hawkins JR.-Sunny Russell, Eric Burton, Tyler Gilliland-Sunny Russell Class Pres. SOPH.-Kyle Horsford, Taylor Melton, and Courtney Hartman-Kyle Horsford Class Pres. FR.-Perla Reta, Braiden Palmer, and Ransom Lerman-Perla Reta Class Pres.

Senior Class and Student Body Pres is Becky Rosales.

12. Erik Ruiz went to the Art Jubilee at OPSU Wednesday and won the drawing category. He won \$50. He also was awarded a scholarship for next year. Congratulations Erik.

13. The Junior High District Track meet was held April 5 at Sanford Fritch. The following placed in events:

7th Grade Girls - 4th Overall
100 M - Tera Harris - 6th, 1600 M Run - Stephanie Jacquez - 4th, 800 M Run - Erika Robles - 1st, Elizabeth Reyes - 5th and Stephanie Jacquez - 6th, 400 M Relay - M'Lynn Wells, Alex Asher, Diana Lopez, and Meghan Brooks - 4th, 800 M Relay - Meghan Brooks, Alex Asher, M'Lynn Wells, Erika Robles - 3rd, 1600M Relay - Meghan Brooks, Alex Asher, M'Lynn Wells, Erika Robles - 4th, Shot Put - Veronica Lemus - 1st, Tera Harris - 2nd, Discus - Veronica Lemus - 2nd, High Jump - Alex Asher - 1st, Pole Vault - Alex Asher - 1st.

7th Grade Boys - 2nd Overall
100 M - Victor Acevedo - 3rd, Christian Confer - 5th, 1600 M Run - Reed Schoonover - 2nd, 200 M Dash - Tyler Seward - 4th, Alex Chavoya - 5th, 400 M Dash - Alex Chavoya - 2nd, 800 M Run - Grayson Gonzales - 1st, Kelby Hartman - 3rd, Reed Schoonover - 4th, 400 Relay - Kelby Hartman, Tyler Seward, Colten Rendon, Victor Acevedo - 2nd, 800 M Relay - Kenny Ruiz, Colten Rendon, Tyler Seward, Grayson Gonzales - 2nd, 1600 M Relay - Alex Chavoya, Grayson Gonzales, Kelby Hartman, Victor Acevedo - 2nd, 110M Hurdles - Colten Rendon - 2nd, 300 M Hurdles - Christian Confer - 6th, Long Jump - Colten Rendon - 4th, Shot Put - Victor Acevedo - 4th, Discus - Leo Ibarra - 5th, Triple Jump - Christian Confer - 3rd, High Jump - Alex Chavoya - 6th, Pole Vault - Kelby Hartman - 1st, Tanner Wright - 2nd, Tyler Seward - 4th.

8th Grade Girls - 5th Overall
1600 M Run - Tori Rouse - 1st, 2400 M Run - Tori Rouse - 1st, 400 M Relay - Perla Reta, Adriana Ibarra, Shannon Maiwald, Monica King - 4th, 800 M Relay - Carina Michel, Perla Reta, Tori Rouse, Monica King - 5th, 300 M Hurdles - Carina Michel - 6th, Shot Put - Tori McGinnis - 4th, Discus - Tori McGinnis - 6th, Pole Vault - Tori Rouse - 2nd.

8th Grade Boys - 2nd Overall
1600 M Run - Jesus Ruedas - 1st, 200 Dash - Neftali Valenzuela - 4th, 800 M Run - Jesus Ruedas - 2nd, Justin Mungia - 3rd, 800 Relay - Rafael Guerra, Justin Mungia, Braiden Palmer, Neftali Valenzuela - 2nd, 1600 M Relay - Rafael Guerra, Justin Mungia, Braiden Palmer, Neftali Valenzuela - 2nd, 300 M Hurdles - Edgar Guerrero - 2nd, Jordan Johnson - 6th, Shot Put - Wyatt Smith - 5th, Discus - Mark Hand - 4th, Triple Jump - Neftali Valenzuela - 3rd, High Jump - Justin Mungia - 5th, Pole Vault - Edgar Guerrero - 1st, Braiden Palmer - 2nd, Justin Mungia - 5th.

Mrs. McBryde gave the elementary report. She gave the TAKS results for 3rd grade reading. Eight students had a perfect score on the test. Early registration for Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten has started. The 2nd grade went to see Old Yeller at the Amarillo Globe News Center. The 1st grade will go to the Discovery Center in May. Both trips are sponsored by the Windows on a Wider World program through the Amarillo Globe News Center. Benchmark test continue. She passed out the 5th six weeks honor roll. Current enrollment is 239.

Mr. Seward gave the junior high report. Junior High enrollment is currently 183. He commended the junior high track participants. M'Lynn Wells won the county spelling bee and competed in the Regional spelling bee and placed 9th. He reported that 89% of 5th graders passed the Reading portion of the TAKS tests. Thirteen percent were commended. Ninety percent of the 8th graders passed the reading portion of the TAKS test and 56% were commended.

Mr. Hartsell gave the high school report. He reported an enrollment of 169. TAKS testing week will be April 28-may 2nd. The Concert and Sightreading contest will be Thursday, April 17 at Boys Ranch. Jordan Confer will compete in the Regional Golf Tournament in Abilene on April 21 & 22 and 9 boys and girls will compete at the Regional Track Meet in Abilene on April 25 & 26.

Mr. Gilliland gave the superintendent's report. The transportation cost was \$1.07 for the month. He reported on the renovation of the "89 Eagle. Travis picked it up and it looks very good. He then gave the monthly budget summary. Monthly expenditures are at 51.31% and revenue collected at 92.92%. Tax Collections are at 97.70%. He reported that all board members must complete the NIMS training. This is an online training and Sandy Williams will conduct the training. He went over the asbestos report. Both areas that the district were non-compliant in have been addressed. He reminded all trustees of the upcoming TASB Legal training in Amarillo on May 14.

Brent Spurlock made the motion and Barney Willborn seconded to approve the consent agenda and investment policy. Motion carried.

Cont. on page 6

Elk Tales
By Lynda Hauser

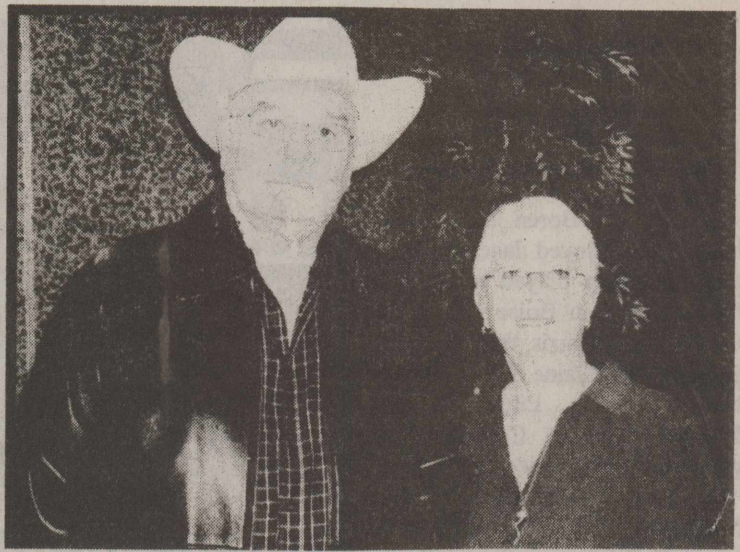
The junior high Band Concert/Sight Reading Contest was held Wednesday, April 23. The Sherman County Ag Youth Day will be held on Thursday. The high school Regional Track Meet is this Friday and Saturday in Abilene. Good luck to all students involved in these activities.

On Monday, the second graders went to Amarillo on a field trip sponsored by WOWW -Windows on the Wider World. The students got to ride an activity bus on the way to Amarillo. This is always a special treat for our little ones who feel grown up when they get to ride the BIG buses. The students saw a production of the play "Old Yeller" which is based on the novel by Fred Gipson. Following the show, the students had a picnic at the park.

In math, the second graders have been adding three-digit number and money amounts, multiplying by 1, 100, and 5, finding perimeter, identifying parallel lines, and working with various units of measurement. The second graders have finished their basal readers and will be working in reading groups on the computer as well as listening and learning centers. This week in social studies, the students will be learning about transportation, recreation, and communication and will discuss how these have changed over the years. In science, they have been talking about the conservation of our natural resources.

Next week is the big TAKS week. These tests will be administered on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Good luck, students.

Quote of the week: "Why be a man when you can be a success?" -Bertolt Brecht



PARSONS WINS STRATFORD PATRIOT RAFFLE

On April 6th the Stratford Patriots drew Larry Parsons as the winning ticket for the pig raffle. The pig was donated by Randy & Sue Sims of Sunray and the processing was donated by Sunray Quality Meats. Thanks to all of the people from Stratford, Sunray and surrounding areas for all your support in making the drawing a success. Shown above Larry with Carol McLaughlin.

Students Invited to Participate in Annual Water Conservation Artwork Competition

North Plains Groundwater Conservation District is pleased to announce the fourth annual Water Conservation Artwork Contest. Fourth, Fifth and Sixth grade students who live within the District are invited to enter their artwork in the contest and the District will feature the winning artwork in its annual calendar which is free to the public. The first place winner will receive a \$50 cash prize, a certificate of recognition and will have their artwork featured on the cover of the calendar. Twelve second place winners will each receive a \$25 cash prize, a certificate of recognition, and will have their artwork featured on one month inside the calendar. Children can draw, paint or use any other medium to depict water conservation. The deadline for submission of artwork to the District for the 2009 calendar is May 23, 2008. Artwork should be sent to District with the entry form, which can be downloaded from the District's website at www.npwcd.org/art_contest.htm.

Baskin Receives Scholarship

The Ninth Annual Holland School of Sciences and Mathematics Banquet and Awards Program was held at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas on Thursday, April 10, 2008. Dr. David Scott "Scotty" Holland presented the awards with the assistance of the various department heads. Receiving Holland Medals were graduating seniors Sara Rustin - B. A. Biology; Ryan Flanigan - B.S. Chemistry; Noel Courts - B.S. Geology & Environment Science; Beth Craig - B.B.S. High School Mathematics; and Jodi Zachry - B.B.S. Speech-Language Pathology. Receiving the Holland Scholarships were Allison Baskin - B.A. Biology; Samantha Chevie - B.S. Biology; Cassie Sandifer - B.S. High School Life Science Composite; Juvenal Havyarimana - B.S. Physics; Elizabeth Williams - B.S. Chemistry; Stephanie Qakeley - B.B.S. Middle School Mathematics; Lindsay Cogburn - B.B.S. Speech-Language Pathology; and Sarah Hagood - B.B.S. Speech-Language Pathology. Allison is the daughter of Sandy and Steve Baskin.

<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>
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<p>A&I PARTS CENTER AUTOMOTIVE AND INDUSTRIAL PARTS 201 N. 2nd Street - Stratford, TX 79084 Tele (806)366-5592 * Toll-free 800-624-5494 Fax (806)366-2583</p>	<p>Your Home Town Pharmacy ELK PHARMACY 317 N. Main P.O. Box 380 Stratford, TX 79084 806-396-4505 Major Prescription Plans Accepted Gayland Vandiver, R.Ph. Debbi Vandiver Owners Carlton Cards...Millionaire Candy Gifts ...Cookies and Balloon Bouquets</p>
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Help Wanted

Part-time help wanted: Acquisitions is looking for someone (18 or over) to work part time. Must be available to work most Saturdays. Please contact Karen of Dana at 496-5691 or apply in person.
5-1-p

Coldwater Creek Cattle Co., a feed yard located 3 miles West of Stratford is seeking a full time employee. Cowboy experience is required. Must be dependable and responsible. Competitive References are required. Please call (806) 727-4646 for more information.
4-17-24-2x-c

Maintenance Man position opening at Coldwater Manor. Apply in person. Must speak English
4-17-2x's

Coldwater Manor has openings for 1-LVN-PRN and 1-CNA Apply in person.
4-17-c-2x's

Hourly Worker wanted: Good pay w/benefits. Call Joe Hernandez at 806-344-7424.
4-17-2x's

A&I Parts Center in Stratford is looking for a full time warehouse employee, job duties include stocking parts and pulling orders as well as other duties. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Applicants must be dependable. Benefits include health insurance, vacation and holiday pay. Contact Bryan at 806-366-5561. We are an equal opportunity employer.
3-13-fn

Counter Sales Person needed at A&I Parts in Stratford. Applicants must be dependable. Benefits include Health Insurance, vacation and holiday pay. Contact Coby at 806-366-5592. We are an equal opportunity employer.
3-6-fn

City of Stratford (pop. 1991) is seeking candidates for CITY ADMINISTRATOR for a Type A Municipality. The City owns and operates the municipal water and sewer system, cemetery, recycling facility and contracts the waste disposal services. Three to five years of municipal management experience is preferred. Degree in public administration or equivalent experience desired. Strong skills required in interpersonal communication, financial planning, budgeting, and economic development. Send resume with references, salary history and requirements to:
City of Stratford
Box 188
Stratford, Texas 79084 or phone (806) 366-5581. Resumes accepted until May 9, 2008
5-8-3x's

For Sale

For sale: Approx. 1000 sq. ft. of oatmeal colored carpet. Good Condition. \$500.00. For more information call 806-753-7644.
5-2-3x's

BED-\$250-Brand Name King PT Mattress Set. NEW in plastic, warranty 806-341-6233.
2-7-08-fn

NEW QUEEN Pillow Top mattress set. Unopened, w/warranty. Sacrifice \$150 806-341-6233.
2-7-08-fn

Mattress Set-Queen orthopedic \$140 Must Sell. Still in plastic. 806-341-6233.
2-7-08-fn

A brand new twin mattress and box. Sealed in plastic w/warranty \$100-806-341-6233.
2-7-08-fn

Full size mattress set-Brand new, still in package. Sell for \$125. 806-341-6233.
2-7-08-fn

For Sale or lease 212 N. Poplar 40' by 60' office building. Call 806-679-5585.
11-1-fn

DEKALB

Bar Double Diamond Seed
1580-544-2545-1-580-517-1700
1-24-08-fn

NASA VISCO memory foam mattress set, never used, must move \$350. 806-341-6233.
2-7-08-fn

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\$85,000

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\$20,000

911 Chestnut Stratford
\$89,900

N. Hwy 287 Approx. 5.5 ACS
Sherman Co., Cactus, Texas
\$179,500

Commercial Property
501 S. Poplar Stratford
\$29,900

301 N. Poplar Stratford
\$275,000

For Sale

Beautiful Handmade Memorial Day flowers and sprays. Call Sandy Williams 366-5330 for pricing and styles. Delivery to Stratford on May 25, 2008.
5-21-c-5x's
For Sale: 2007 Kawasaki KXF 250, Great Condition \$5000 Call 806-769-4446
4-24-c

Wanted

Wanted: Exercise Bike, please call 396-2097.
4-24-c

To Give Away

To Give away free a 28 ft. round above ground pool. Not assembled. Call 753-6189.
4-24-c

Money may be the husk of many things but not the kernel. It brings you food, but not appetite; medicine, but not health; acquaintance, but not friends; servants, but not loyalty; days of joy, but not peace or happiness.
—Henrik Ibsen

School Board Cont. from page 4

Patti Vincent made the motion to accept the certification of unopposed candidates and issue an order declaring the election cancelled. Steve Hays seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Gilliland presented computer proposals for the junior high computer lab. DeWain Trayler made the motion and Greg Wright seconded to accept the proposal from Westgate Computers in the amount of \$16,945.40. Federal funds will be used to cover all but \$1000.00 of the cost. Motion carried.

Mr. Gilliland presented the playground equipment. See Attachment #3. Mr. Gilliland reported on a grant received from the Stratford Area Foundation for playground equipment for the Mary Allen Elementary. Other grants have been applied for. He made the recommendation to approve the purchase of the equipment so that once all money is secured the equipment could be ordered and put into place by August. Barney Willborn made the motion and Patti Vincent seconded to accept the proposal as presented in the amount of \$53,538.11 and an installation charge of \$1919.40, and to order equipment once all money was secured. Motion carried.

Mr. Gilliland presented the state mandated school safety and security audit conducted by Edwards Risk Management. The board reviewed the document and discussion was held.

Mr. Hartsell went over proposed changes to the High School curriculum. Discussion was held. Steve Hays made the motion and DeWain Trayler seconded to accept the changes as proposed. Motion carried.

Mr. Gilliland presented the Appraisal District Budget. End of year actual figures were requested to compare budgets from year to year. Patti Vincent made the motion to not approve the budget. DeWain Trayler seconded. Discussion was held. Motion was rescinded and item was tabled pending receipt of requested information.

Mr. Gilliland presented the ESL Summer School Schedule: June 3 – July 2, 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM. Brent Spurlock made the motion to approve the dates and times as presented. Barney Willborn seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on cell phone use at school. The board reviewed the LOCAL and LEGAL FNCE policy. The board requested Mr. Gilliland to do more research on a "no possession" policy.

Public Notices

PROPOSED ORDINANCE #2008041001
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD REGULATING THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BY ANY DEALER WITHIN THE PROXIMITY OF CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD, TEXAS.
WHEREAS, it is necessary for the purpose of regulating the sale of alcoholic beverages within the proximity of churches, schools, and hospitals within the City Limits of the City of Stratford, Texas;
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STRATFORD, TEXAS:

(a) The city hereby enacts regulations prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages by a dealer whose place of business is within three hundred feet of a church, public school, or public hospital.

(b) The measurement of the distance between the place of business where alcoholic beverages are sold and the church or public hospital shall be along the property lines of the street fronts and from front door to front door, and in direct line across intersections. The measurement of the distance between the place of business where alcoholic beverages are sold and the public schools shall be in a direct line from the property line of the public school to the property line of the place of business, and in a direct line across intersections.

(c) The city may allow variances to the regulation(s) if the city determines that enforcement of the regulation(s) in a particular instance is not in the best interest of the public, constitutes waste or inefficient use of land or other resources, creates an undue hardship on an applicant for a license or permit, does not serve its intended purpose, is not effective or necessary, or for any other reason the court or governing board, after consideration of the health, safety, and welfare of the public and the equities of the situation, determines is in the best interest of the community.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, April 17, 2008 and Thursday, April 24, 2008

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
The annual report of the Earl N. and Conrad E. Riffe Memorial Scholarship Trust is available at the address noted below for inspection during normal business hours by any citizen who so requests within 180 days after publication of this notice of its availability.

Earl N. and Conrad E. Riffe Memorial Scholarship Trust, The First State Bank of Stratford Trustee, 302 N. Main Street, Stratford, Texas.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday April 24, 2008.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
The annual report of the Stratford Area Foundation is available at the address noted below for inspection during normal business hours by any citizen who so requests within 180 days after publication of this notice of its availability.

Stratford Area Foundation, The First State Bank of Stratford Trustee, 302 N. Main Street, Stratford, Texas.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday April 24, 2008.

ORDER OF CANCELLATION

The Stratford Independent School District hereby cancels the election scheduled to be held on May 10, 2008 in accordance with Section 2.053(a) of the Texas Election Code. The following candidates have been certified as unopposed and are hereby elected as follows: Candidate- Joe Reinart and Barney Willborn. Office sought - Trustee.

ORDEN DE CANCELACION

El Stratford Independent School District por lapresente cancela la eleccion que, de lo contrario, se hubiera celebrado el May 10, 2008 de conformidad, con la Seccion 2.053(a) delCodigo de Elecciones de Texas. Los siguientes candidatos han sido certificados como canidattos unicosypor lapresente quedan elegidos como se halla indicado a continuacion: Candidato- Joe Reinart and Barney Willborn. Caro al que presenta candidatura-Trustee

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, April 24, 2008 and Thursday, May 1, 2008.

Houses for Sale

Ranch style home for sale by owner. 619 N. 5th; 2354 total sq. ft. 1980 sq. ft ground level plus an additional 374 sq. ft. basement. 3 bedroom, 3 1/2 baths. Master suite w/large master bath. 2 fireplaces plus central heat/air. Sits on 3 1/2 lots, detached two car garage, covered patio, and privacy fence. 24 x 30 additional shop. Basement has one bedroom plus a large media room. Sprinkler system front/back. A home you must see! Call 753-7315 or 753-6484 for appointment.
2-28-fn

2 houses for sale:
514 N. 8th Street
2 bedroom, new windows & doors, new fence, 2 storage sheds, garden space and some cement in backyard, new siding, 800 sq. ft.
719 N. Pearl Stratford, TX fixer upper. 2 bedrooms, satellite dish, 1 bath, needs around \$10,000 in work but is livable. Will sell both houses for \$20,000. Contact Ron Solberg- 505-632-2044 (New Mexico#) or 806-366-3049 (Stratford#)
17-c

House for Sale

1217 N. Butler

Beautiful home app. 2800 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, den and living room w/fireplace, 2 car garage, sprinkler system

Contact: Neal Flathers 806 434-1407



Neal Flathers
neal@txpanland.com
www.txpanland.com

417 S. Amherst
Perryton, TX 79070
Office (806) 434-1407
Fax (806) 435-5123
Mobile (806) 202-0746

Cards of Thanks

SCOT wants to say a big Thank You to LeRayne and BA Donelson for making it possible to bring Eloy Gonzales to Stratford as a fund raiser. Thanks to them, the event was a huge success. We also say thank you to all the folks who came and enjoyed the music and visiting.

To everyone who bought tickets and came out to see the one act play at our annual dinner theatre, we say thank you for the great support. Thanks to Stratford Grain for donating the meat and to Andy and Karen Riffe for preparing it. Thanks to Barbara Haile for organizing and decorating and to the Haile family for the BBQ sauce. Thanks to all the moms and dads who brought food and helped with serving and cleaning. And thanks to those at SISD who helped us with many tasks as well. We had a very successful dinner theatre, and the kids loved having so many of you there to entertain. Hope to see you again next year.

Ronna Riffe and Stacy Metcalf

I can not express enough my thanks to everyone for everything you've done for me since the morning of the terrible accident. To Jimmy, Larry, Verlie and all the EMTs, I stand amazed at what you do. The phone calls, visits, food, flowers, gifts, and most especially the prayers have blessed me beyond belief. Knowing that Kaci and her family are being well cared for by all who know and love them has been so reassuring to me. You truly have been the hands and feet and heart of Christ. To both sides of my family, Kaci's family, and Brad's family - I thank you and I love you. To all my friends at school, church, and in the community - you've helped make this very difficult time so much more bearable. A recent speaker at our school remarked to our students that "Good worlds always swallow bad worlds." I believed him then, and I will continue to believe it. Many of you have said, "Good things will come out of this - just wait and see." We don't even have to wait - Kaci is my miracle friend, and I praise God she is with us today. God bless you all.
Love, Ronna

The board took a short recess at 8:29 PM.

Mr. Gilliland passed a spreadsheet of current and proposed teacher salaries and stipends of districts in our area. Discussion was held. The Board requested to have this on the May agenda.

Collin McKinney arrived at 8:50 PM.

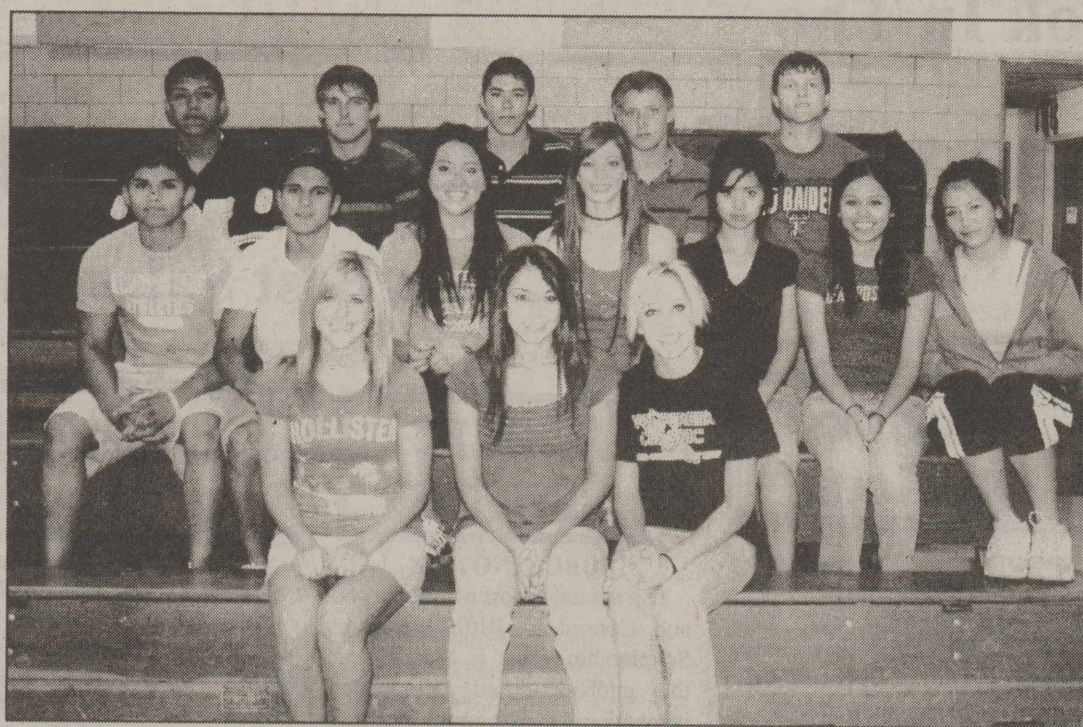
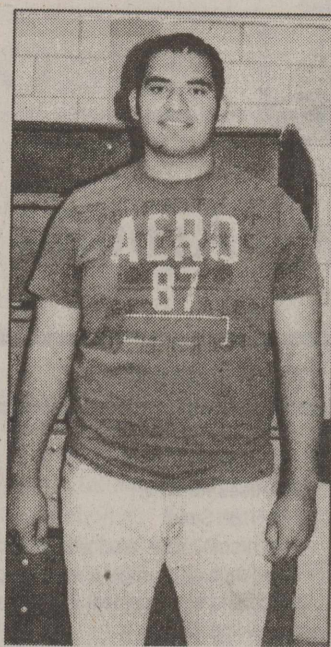
Joe Reinart read a letter of resignation from McKenzie Talcott and Collin McKinney. Brent Spurlock made the motion and Patti Vincent seconded to accept the resignations with regrets. Motion carried.

Mr. Gilliland recommended Collin McKinney for employment as the Head Girls coach. Discussion was held. Brent Spurlock made the motion and Greg Wright seconded to accept the recommendation. Motion carried.

At 9:20 PM, the board adjourned to executive session pursuant to Texas Opens Meeting Act Texas Government Code Section 551.074. The board reconvened open session at 9:43 PM.

The board discussed the trustee vacancy and possible appointees.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 PM.



Elk and Lady Elks qualifying for the Regional Track meet in Abilene this coming week-end are B/F/L/R: Jorge Robles (400 M Relay, 800 M Relay, 1600 M Relay); Craig Kautz (110 H Hurdles); Manuel Chavoya (800 & 1600 M Relay); Clinton Keener (Pole Vault); Caleb Horsford (High Jump); Jesse Lopez (400 M Relay, 800 M Relay, 1600 M Relay); Angel Resendes (400 M Relay, 800 M Relay, 1600 M Relay); April Peregrino (Discus & Shot Put); Sinead Everett (300 Hurdles, 800 M Relay, 1600 M Relay); Janeth Reyes (Alternate 800 M Relay); Perla Rueda (1600 M Relay); Rubi Rueda (Alternate 1600 M Relay); Kristen Crabtree (3200 M Run & 1600 M Run); Brianda Chavoya (800 M Relay, 1600 M Relay); Kelsie Keener (Pole Vault, Long Jump, 800 M Run, 800 M Relay, 1600 M Relay) and pictured at right Sandro Gomez (Discus, Shot Put. Not pictured Alex Martinez (400 M Relay), Kelsey Stein (200 M Dash, 800 M Relay). Congratulations and Good Luck!

The Lady Elk track team competed at the District Track meet in Spearman on April 8 and 9, 2008 and placed 2nd with 135 points.

Shot put: April Peregrino 2nd 33-00.50, America Terrazas 11 - 25-00.00; **Discus Throw:** April Peregrino - 1st - 105-04, Channing Zjeman 3rd - 102-10; **Triple Jump:** Esmeralda Sauzameda - 11th - 28-05.25, Jessica Ibarra - 27-06.50, Beatriz Marquez - 14 - 24-10.25; **Pole Vault - 3rd** Kelsie Keener - 7-06.00; **High Jump:** Sinead Everett - 5th - 5-00.00; **Long Jump:** Kelsie Keener - 2nd - 16-00.25, Sinead Everett - 5th - 15-09.75; **3200 M Run:** Kristen Crabtree - 1st - 12:01.80, Jessica Ibarra - 6th - 14:04.40, Lucero Ortega - 11 - 15:20.49; **400 M Relay:** 6th - 56.60 (Kelsey Stein, Rubi Rueda, Becky Rosales, April Peregrino); **800 M Run:** Kelsie Keener - 1st - 2:31.46, Janeth Reyes - 5th 2:42.75; **100**

M Hurdles - Esmeralda Sauzameda - 11th - 19.78; **100 M Dash:** Janeth Reyes - 6th - 13.85; Mary Lou Maldonado 7th - 14.42, Taylor Melton 13th - 14.95; **800 M Relay:** 1st - 1:50.53 (Kelsey Stein, Kelsie Keener, Brianda Chavoya, Sinead Everett); **400 M Dash:** Perla Rueda - 6th - 1:07.21, Janeth Reyes 9th - 1:08.46, Taylor Melton 18th - 1:22.89; **300 M Hurdles:** Sinead Everett - 1st - 47.31, Rubi Rueda - 7th - 52.41, Esmeralda Sauzameda - 12 - 59.99; **200 M Dash:** Kelsey Stein - 3rd - 28.39; **1600 M Run:** Kristen Crabtree - 1st - 5:35.35, Jessica Ibarra - 7th 6:33.52; **1600 M Relay - 1st** - 1:17.60 (Kristen Crabtree, Kelsie Keener, Brianda Chavoya, Sinead Everett). Those placing in the top 3 in their event advance to the Regional meet in Abilene on April 25 & 26. Congratulations and Good Luck!

Honor Rolls

Honor Roll

5th grade
Carlos Castaneda
Bethany Everett
Desinya Garza
Vanessa Mendoza
Allissa Palmer
Tyler Rouse
Jacie Seward
Colten Summers

6th Grade

Nathan Bennett
Ellie Daniels
Janette Daniels
Hunter Everett
Ricky Garay
Tiffany Turner
Mary Ann Spurlock

Honor Roll

7 grade
Alex Chavoya
Elizabeth Reyes
Grayson Gonzalez
Haydee Rojas
Itzel Salcido
Kaylee Mungia
Kelby Hartman
Kenny Ruiz
Meghan Brooks
M'Lynn Wells
Patty Flores
Reed Schoonover
Shyanne Acker
Tera Harris
Tyler Seward

8 Grade

Rhyan Burton
Marcos Garza
Mark Hand
Kavan Killian
Ransom Lermon
Lidia Mendoza
Justin Mungia
Briden Palmer
Perla Reta
Tori Rouse
Jesus Ruedas
Arleth Soto
Gabriel Tarango

PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT AT THE SAME TIME

Keep Amarillo Beautiful will hold its Annual Recycling Day on Saturday, April 26th from 10 am to 2 pm at the Amarillo Recycling Drop-Off Center located at 27th and Hays (just north of Llano Cemetery) in Amarillo. Panhandle residents will be able to drop-off many items for recycling and donation, including "e-waste".

A new addition to the recycle list is the ability to donate used electronics. From computers and game systems to cell phones and VCRs, Goodwill Industries will be on hand at the event to accept electronic waste or "e-waste", which also offers a safe solution for residents. "You would never throw your checkbook out on the curb in front of your house or at the landfill" says Elizabeth True Regional Program Specialist for the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission "You should take the same care when disposing of your computer." If you have ever used your personal computer to access your bank account, order online or pay bills, you could leave yourself vulnerable to identity theft if you simply send your hard drive to the local landfill. This event gives you the opportunity to donate your e-waste and receive a certificate that the hard drive has been "scrubbed" or cleaned by the same program used by NASA. You will also be donating to Goodwill, who will provide you with a donation receipt for your 2008 taxes.

Goodwill will accept any electronic device (except non-working televisions), regardless of condition, and either scrub the unit for re-sale in their stores or send it for recycling of all the separate components and destruction of the hard-drive disks. Either way, your identity is safe and, you could help a low-income family obtain a computer for their home. Goodwill Industries resells the computers and other electronics in their stores; therefore, a family could obtain a complete computer system including monitor and printer for less than \$200.00. "This is a Win/Win" for everyone involved" says Ms. True.

The event will also play host to other organizations and agencies who will be accepting donations from household appliances and furniture, clothing, backpacks and suitcases, eyeglasses, egg cartons, paper bags and egg cartons. The Amarillo Recycling Drop-Off Center will also receive items for recycling such as: aluminum and tin cans, automotive batteries, newspapers, office and computer paper, magazines and corrugated cardboard.

"This event comes at a great time" says True "You can combine spring cleaning, April's designation of Earth Month and a great start on tax deductions for next year's taxes!"

If residents cannot make the trip to Amarillo on the 26th, they can always make donations at their local recycle center for regularly accepted items or at any Goodwill location for e-waste items.

Take a music bath once or twice a week for a few seasons, and you will find that it is to the soul what the water bath is to the body.

—Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

New York Times Best Sellers @ Your Library Fiction

By Sandy Baskin-Librarian

- Where Are You Now? by Mary Higgins Clark
- The Appeal by John Grisham
- Compulsion by Jonathan Kellerman
- Bulls Island by Dorothea Benton Frank
- A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
- Remember Me? By Sophie Kinsella
- Zapped by Carol Higgins Clark
- 7th Heaven by James Patterson
- Dead Heat by Joel Rosenberg
- Winter Study by Nevada Barr
- A Prisoner of Birth by Jeffrey Archer
- World Without End by Ken Follett
- Guilty by Karen Robards
- Honor Thyself by Danielle Steel
- Duma Key by Stephen King
- The Winding Ways Quilt by Jennifer Chiaverini
- Buckingham Palace Gardens by Anne Perry
- The Memory Keepers Daughter by Kim Edwards
- Water for Elephant by Sara Gruen
- Friday Night's Knitting Club by Kate Jacobs
- Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini
- The Other Boleyn Girl by Philippa Gregory
- The Quickie by James Patterson
- Pillars of the Earth by Ken Follett
- For One More Day by Mitch Albom

Non-Fiction

- Mistaken Identity by Don & Susie Van Ryn
 - Ladies of Liberty by Cokie Roberts
 - Escape by Carolyn Jessop
 - I Am America (And So Can You) by Stephen Colbert
 - Lone Survivor by Marcus Luttrell
 - Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert
 - The Audacity of Hope by Barack Obama
 - John Adams by David McCullough
 - Marley & Me by John Grogan
 - 90 Minutes in Heaven by Don Piper
 - The Innocent Man by John Grisham
 - Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer
 - The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch
 - The Secret by Rhonda Byrne
 - The 4-Hour Workweek by Timothy Ferriss
 - Become a Better You by Joel Osteen
 - The Dangerous Book for Boys by Conn Iggulden
 - The Daring Book for Girls by Andrea Buchanan
 - Rich Dad, Poor Dad by Robert T. Kiyosaki
 - The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen Covey
 - Grace (Eventually) by Anne Lament
- To check the availability of these items go to www.hlc-lib.org/stratford. Next click on "Search the catalog" and search Sherman County Library. Call 366-2200 and we will be happy to place a hold on the item for you.

KEEP AMARILLO BEAUTIFUL ANNUAL RECYCLING DAY

April 26th from: 10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

Amarillo's Recycling Drop-Off Center

Located at 27th and Hays
(Just North of Llano Cemetery)

All Panhandle Residents are Invited

New: "E-Waste" accepted

Amarillo Recycling Drop-off Center

Aluminum Cans
Tin Cans (Rinsed with label and end removed)
Newspapers
Office and Computer Paper
Magazines and glossy Catalogs
Books
Corrugated Cardboard - except cereal and cracker boxes

HIGH PLAINS FOOD BANK

Clean Egg Cartons
Brown Paper and Plastic Grocery Bags
Clean Cotton Rags
Tops from Aerosol Cans

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES

Any Electronic Waste ("e-waste") - no non-working televisions
Household items
Furniture
Small Appliances
Kitchen Tools
Cell Phones
All Clothing

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)

Backpacks
Duffel Bags
Suitcases

LION'S CLUB

Eyeglasses

"e-waste"

How should I handle my old electronics?

Keep Amarillo Beautiful Annual Recycling Day

All Panhandle Resident Welcome!

Saturday, April 26th - From 10 am - 2 pm

Amarillo Recycling Center @ 27th and Hays

(North of Llano Cemetery)

By donating your old computers and other electronics to Goodwill Industries, your computer hard drive will be "scrubbed" with the same security program used by NASA and the US Department of Defense helping protect you from identity thieves.

Goodwill Industries will accept e-waste and other donations during all regular business hours

Goodwill also accepts the following Electronic waste items:

Monitors - Keyboards - Mouse - Laptops
Cell Phones - Printers - Network Equipment
Fax Machines - DVD/VCR - Working Televisions
Speakers - Game Systems - Radios
Cameras - Batteries - Cords - Remotes



Project in coordination with the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission's Regional Services