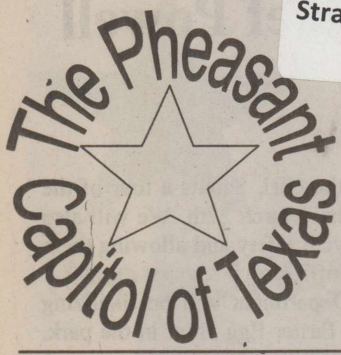
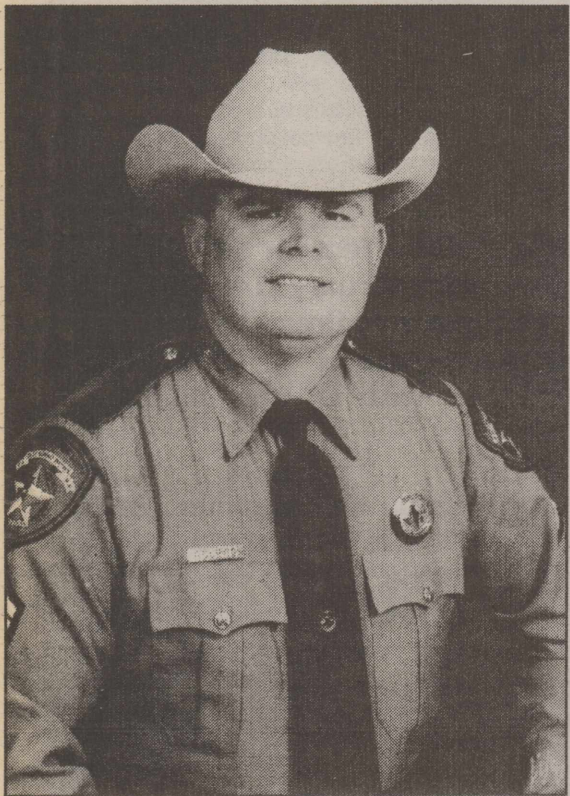


Sherman County Museum 07/12
PO Box 1248
Stratford, TX 79084



The Stratford Star

75 cents Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084 usps 523 Number 13 March 29, 2012



Rogers promoted to Sergeant

Jason Rogers of the Texas Department of Public Safety has been promoted to Sergeant. Jason has been in law enforcement for 14 years and with the DPS for 11 years. Jason graduated from Fritch High School in 1993 and shortly thereafter attended the Panhandle Regional Law Enforcement Academy. Upon graduation he went to work for the Hutchinson County Sheriff's office and served as a Deputy there until he enrolled in the Texas DPS Academy in Austin. He graduated from the academy on March 8, 2002 and went to work as a Trooper stationed in Dalhart. He was later transferred to Dumas, and then Stephenville.

He moved his family to Stratford in 2006 and continued to work as a Trooper here. He has four children; Kennedy (3), Lexi (9), Slade (14), and Lauren (18) of Ulysses, Ks. (Jason's wife Laura (Norris) Rogers is a Paramedic and they oftentimes meet in their different job descriptions at the scene of a motor vehicle accident.)

He is a firearms instructor for the DPS and also serves as a driving instructor at the DPS Academy in Austin. There he instructs recruits as well as recertifies current Troopers. He also serves on the Accident Reconstruction Team that investigates vehicular deaths in this area. Jason was promoted to Corporal in 2009.

As Sergeant he will be working out of the Dumas office and will supervise the Troopers in Moore, Hartley, Dallam, and Sherman counties. He will continue to serve as a firearms instructor and head the Accident Reconstruction Team as well as continuing as a driving instructor in Austin.

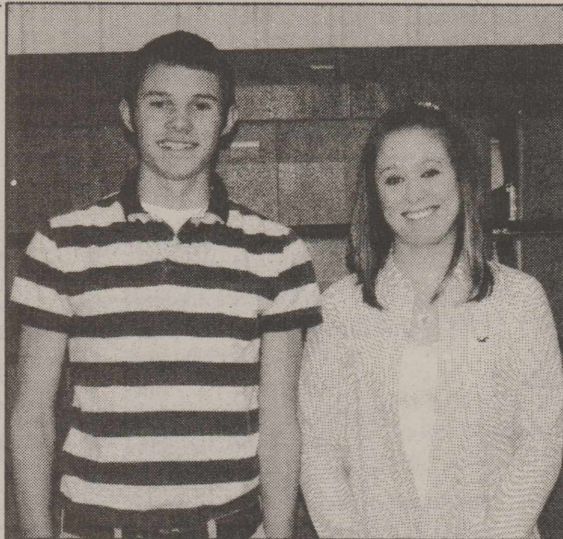
We want to wish him our very best as he begins this new direction in his DPS career.

Sherman County Livestock Association Annual Meeting

The Sherman County Livestock Association will hold their Annual Meeting on Monday, April 9th, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the County Barn. Anyone interested in participating on the Livestock Association is encouraged to attend this meeting. They will have their annual Board member elections that evening and elect 3 new board members to serve 3-year terms. If you have any problems, complaints, or suggestions about how the stock show should be changed this is your chance to voice your opinion. You do not have to serve on the Board to be involved in the Livestock Association and all help and involvement is greatly appreciated.

Storm Spotter Class

A storm spotter class will be held on Thursday April 5th at 7:00 P.M. at the Stratford Fire Department. This is an opportunity to be trained to recognize tornado clouds as well as other types of clouds. Sherman County has a few volunteers who perform the task of storm spotter but we could use more. If you are currently a storm spotter or are interested in learning about more, please plan to attend the training. For more information contact Margaret Ewers Sherman County Emergency Management Coordinator at 366-2021



Fundraiser held

American Legion held a Fundraiser on Sunday, March 25, 2012 to benefit the Boys State and Girls State recipients. Proceeds are to go to defray the expenses associated with registration and travel of the delegates. Boys State is held on the campus of the University of Texas in Austin and the Girls State program is held on campus of Texas Lutheran University at Sequin. Delegates chosen this year are Boys State-Grayson Gonzalez, son of DeWain and Suzanne Trayler and Girls State delegate is M'Lynn Wells, daughter of Jennifer Wells. Congratulations!

State Fair of Texas Lamb, Goat, and Swine Tags and Steer State Tag Orders

The time has arrived to start ordering your Lamb, Goat, and Swine ear tags for the State Fair of Texas this fall. We are also taking orders for Steer tags for the 2013 Major Stock Show Season. Anyone needing to order tags please come by or call the Extension office at 366-2081 and place your order. The deadline to order tags is April 13th. All tags will be \$8.00 a piece and validation will take place during the month of June. Contact the Extension office if you have any questions.

Stratford ISD Old Bus Barns for Sale

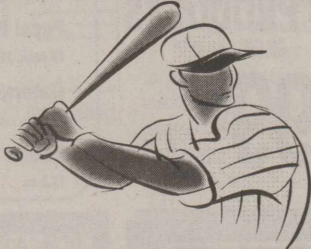
The Stratford Independent School District Board of Trustees has resolved to sell the old bus barns on Lots 11-14 in Block Number 2, in the town of Stratford, Texas, recorded in Volume 109 page 456 as per the map or plat thereof on file with the County Clerk of Sherman County, Texas. The property will be sold as one unit. The selected bidder will be responsible for all survey, title policy and closing costs.

Sealed bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., April 9, 2012. Stratford I.S.D. has the right to reject or accept any and/or all bids, to make awards as they may appear advantageous and to waive all formalities in bidding. Bids will be reviewed with possible action at the Board of Trustees meeting on April 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Stratford ISD does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, March 22, 2012 and Thursday March 29

Volunteers Needed

Stratford Youth Baseball League needs volunteers. If you are interested, please call Tammy Couch 806-305-2618. We are in need of coaches, coaches, coaches!!! In order to have a successful year we need adults to volunteer their time, knowledge and leadership to our youth. Without your help our kids won't have a team!



Good luck to the One Act Play when they compete at Canadian for District on Monday, April 2, 2012

Attention Stratford: prom decorations needed: we need clear lights, any greenery. If you want it returned after the prom please put your name and phone number on it and deliver to Crystal Pitti at her house. All junior parents are meeting Tuesday's at 7 p.m. at the high school for decorations.



Happy State Bank announces Promotion

Pat Hickman, Chairman and CEO of Happy State Bank and Trust Company announced the promotion of Trisha Keener.

Trisha Keener was promoted to Assistant Vice President and Commercial Lender in Stratford. She will be responsible for branch operations and will serve as a commercial lender for the agriculture and business communities as well. Keener attended Oklahoma Panhandle State University and has eleven years banking experience - ten of those with Happy. She is a trustee for First United Methodist Church and a member of the Stratford Lions Club. Keener is married to Mark and they have six children and one grandchild.

Celebrating its 104th year of operation, the \$1.8 Billion Happy State Bank has 29 full-service offices and 80 ATMs in 20 communities in the Texas Panhandle including, Happy, Amarillo, Borger, Canadian, Canyon, Dalhart, Dumas, Floydada, Hereford, Lockney, Lubbock, Higgins, Olton, Pampa, Panhandle, Plainview, Silvertown, Stratford, Sunray and Texline. Happy State Bank also owns a non-depository branch — Gold Star Trust Company which is head-quartered in Canyon, Texas.

Early Enrollment

MARY ALLEN ELEMENTARY Early Enrollment for Prekindergarten and NEW Kindergarten students BEGINS, MONDAY April 2nd (from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm).

-To be eligible for Pre-K, student must be 4 years of age on or before September 1, 2012. -To be eligible for Kindergarten, student must be 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2012.

Please bring the following information to the Mary Allen Elementary office to register: BIRTH CERTIFICATE, SOCIAL SECURITY CARD & SHOT RECORD MARY ALLEN tendrá Inscripciones Temprano para Pre kinder y estudiantes NUEVOS para el Kinder empezando el LUNES, 2 de Abril (de 9:00am hasta las 2:00pm). Para ser elegibles para Pre kinder, su ho(a) debe de tener 4 años de edad en o antes del 1º de Septiembre del 2012.

Para ser elegibles para Kinder, su hijo(a) debe de tener 5 años de edad en o antes del 1º de Septiembre del 2012. Por favor de traer la siguiente información a la oficina de Mary Allen para el registro: CERTIFICADO DE NACIMIENTO, SEGURO SOCIAL Y LAS VACUNAS.

Red Hat will meet Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church.

A Medical Fund has been set up for Jessica Acosta at the First State Bank of Stratford

Who is Your Hero??? Page 4

Special (Wednesday thru Tuesday) 2 p.m. till closing Happy Hour 2-5 p.m. Any size drinks - 85 cents

Chicken Basket Combo-\$5.99 2- hamburgers-\$2.99

El Primo's

Call 806-366-3799 1120 E. Texas Hwy 54

Blue Line Entertainment will be hosting a dance at Scot Hall on Thursday, March 29th from 6 p.m. to midnight. "Older" crowd only. Come out for songs 40's, 50's and up. Take your spouse out for a night of dancing. See you there D.J. Joe "Chief" Powell

"SCDC's COLDWATER CREEK COOK-OFF"

July 28, 2012 on Main Street - Stratford
Cooking will begin @ 3 p.m. and serving @ 7 p.m.
Watch the Stratford Star for further details!!



Obituaries

Wesley Jay Willey
October 3, 1948- March 24, 2012

Wesley, Jay Willey, 63 of Stratford, passed away on Saturday, March 24, 2012. Services were at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at First Assembly of God in Stratford. Rev. Kevin Anderson and Rev. Darla Anderson, pastors of the church officiated. Interment followed in Stratford Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Morrison Funeral Directors.

Wesley was born on October 3, 1948 in Dalhart, Texas to Johnny Joe and Jane (Brannan) Willey. He graduated from Stratford High School and had been a resident of the Stratford community for most of his life. Wesley was united in marriage to Paula Young on August 2, 1995 in Las Vegas, Nevada. He was a member of First Assembly of God in Stratford.

Wesley was a beloved and devoted husband, father and grandfather. He owned and operated a farm near Stratford, and also worked at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Dalhart. He enjoyed fishing and gold prospecting and spending time with his family. Wesley loved attending church and worshipping the Lord. His hobbies included collecting coins and baseball cards. Wesley will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Johnny Joe and Jane Willey, two nieces, Belinda Britten and Lititia Williams, and one nephew, Ty Young.

Wesley is survived by his wife Paula of the home; four sons, Craig Dusenbury of Stratford, Kevin McDonald and wife Cynthia of Amarillo, Mark Dusenbury of Stratford, and Ryan McDonald-Willey and wife Kristin of Amarillo; three grandchildren, Brittney McDonald, Chance McDonald and Kali McDonald, all of Amarillo; three sisters, Judy Williams and husband Jay of Stratford, Janetta Britten and husband Charles of Alto, NM, and Janice Brown and husband David of Stratford; one brother, Joe Dwayne Willey of Halton City, TX; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials be to First Assembly of God, Youth Ministries, P. O. Box 736, Stratford, TX 79084; the Salvation Army, P. O. Box 1117, Dumas, TX 79029; or the Stratford Area Foundation, c/o First State Bank, P. O. Box 48, Stratford, TX 79084.

Good Luck
One Act Play

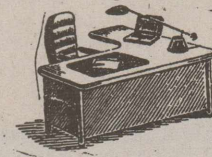
Action & Acting Set for the Oklahoma Panhandle State University Stage

by Sara Jane Richter

Oklahoma Panhandle State University in Goodwell will present an original drama entitled *If Only It'd Rain* on the stage in Centennial Theatre in Hughes-Strong Hall! on three separate occasions: Sunday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m., Monday, April 2 at 7:30 p.m., and Tuesday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free for all performances.

The play, directed by Tito Aznar and written by Sara Jane Richter, occurs on Black Sunday—April 14, 1935—in the middle of the Dust Bowl on a Cimarron County farm belonging to the DeVoll family: Malcolm, Verda, and their son Harlan.

Familiar OPSU faces have the roles of the DeVoll family members. Mandy Battenhorst of Goodwell and director of the OPSU bookstore portrays wife and mother Verda while her son is played by Jeremy Black an OPSU computer graphics major from Oklahoma City. Other characters include Ray played by Kyler Wheeler, a psychology major from Amarillo, and Ray's wife Red portrayed by Krista Gum, an OPSU graduate and Anchor D Bank employee originally from Hardesty, Oklahoma.



From the desk of Chief Powell

We are proud to be giving the Girl, Scouts a tour of the Police Department on Tuesday March 27th. We will also be talking to them about bicycle safety and allowing them to meet the Chief and all the officers.

This week, YOUR Police Department will be finalizing plans for our second annual Easter Egg Hunt in the park. It is planned for Saturday April the 7th from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Watch for our article in the Stratford Star next week for further details and any changes or updates. Thank you for your continued support!!

Friend us on Facebook or visit us at www.stratfordpd.com.
Chief Powell

The Stratford Star
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Fax: 806-366-5884
E-Mail: stardm@xit.net

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Advertising & Photographer Shari Hudson

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PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084

A burn ban is in effect for Sherman County as of February 14, 2012. Please help prevent fires. Violation of the burn ban is a Class C misdemeanor with a fine up to \$500.

Una prohibicion de quemar es vigente para el Condado de Sherman el 14 de febrero de 2012. Por favor ayude a prevenir los fuegos. La violacion de la prohibicion de quemar es una Clase C delito con una multa hasta \$500.

15 Years, 4500 Babies in Dumas

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Menopause and hormone problems

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580-338-3281

Southgate 6
Liberal, Kansas
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620-624-5573

Garden City, Kansas
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Allsup's Wheat Bread 24 oz.	2 \$1.89 FOR
Kellogg's Cereal Cups each	99¢
Rock Star Energy Drink 16 oz.	2 \$3 FOR
Pepsi Products 12 pack, 12 oz. cans	\$3.99
Gatorade 20 oz.	99¢
Ocean Spray Juice 15.2 oz.	2 \$3 FOR

JACK LINK'S Beef Sticks EACH \$1.59

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Franks Honored with Shower

A bridal shower was held on Sunday, March 25, 2012 to Honor Megan Franks, bride elect of Brock Swain. The couple will exchange vows on May 26th, 2012. Shown above left to right are Betty Franks, Kim Franks, Mary Franks, Linda Swain, Megan Franks, Melissa Henthorn, Chyrel Pelfery, Jane Parker, and Betty Whitson. The shower was held in the home of Kay Mires.

Singles' Activities

UnTied, Stratford's singles fellowship will be meeting on a regular basis and wants to invite all area single folks to come and join the fun. The regular meeting date is the 1st Tues. of every month at 7:00 p.m. The group will meet at the First United Methodist Church.

The March regular meeting was hosted by Jake Lawrence. The group ate in pairs and discussed their experiences in first grade. Afterwards, cards games were played. Group activities for the month included a trip to Groom to view the cross on March 17th, and attending the Trans-Siberian Orchestra concert on March 25th.

Ann Wells will host the regular April meeting scheduled for April 3. Bring your own supper and come join the group. Discussions for activities for April will be held. For more information, contact Paula Nusz (806)-753-6489.

Imagine That, The Imagination Station News

By Gaynelle Riffe

The Imagination Station is preparing for "Week of the Young Child" April 16-18. The theme is Transportation, "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" plus feet, bikes, horses, etc. The Week of the Young child is a program for pre-kindergarten through 2nd grade.

The Imagination Station will host a fund raising dinner on

Friday, April 20 "Ports of Call".

April 23, The Stratford Area Foundation will hold their annual meeting, 7:00 p.m. at The Imagination Station. The Stratford Area Foundation has help fund the recent awning addition to the building and the Eagle Scout stage project.

Planned activities: June 9 "Minnow of a Sale"; June 11-15 Science Week for 4th and 5th Graders; July "Quilt Raffle", 4th at the park??, July 9-12, Drama Camp; July 28 Jamboree- "Old Timers", Street Party; September "Whale of a Sale"

Story Time@Your Library

The spring session of "Story Time" will begin on Monday, March 19th at the Sherman County Public Library. Mrs. Yvonne Pittman will be in charge of this session and all children are sure to enjoy the stories and activities. "Story Time" will be held on Monday, March 19, April 2, April 23, and April 30. Please call the Sherman County Library at 366-2200 to enroll your child or if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Good luck to the
One Act Play when
they compete at
Canadian for
District on Monday,
April 2, 2012

Laura Bush Keynote Speak Power of Purse April 5

By Gaynelle Riffe

The Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health the 3rd annual "Power of the Purse" Luncheon and Purse Auction, Thursday April 5 at the Amari Center Heritage Ballroom. The Purse Auction will 10:30-1:00. Luncheon 11:30 featuring keynote Laura W. Bush an advocate for women's health.

"Ladies First," the third annual Power of ti Luncheon will benefit the programs and research -It and educate those who care about this Pioneer Spini role of women today and tomorrow everywhere. First: *First in Family, First in Health, I Community*

Funding from "Power of the Purse" 2010 launc Infant Risk Call Center in Amarillo and 2011 ber was GIRL Power (Growing Relationships in Life) Reservations are limited: Call Jennifer Sir Development 806-356- 4614 Sneak a Peek Purse www.laurabushinstitute.org/amarillo/community/PoF

When I am painting I have a general notion as to what I am about. I can control the flow of paint: There is no accident.

-Jackson Pollock

April Prom Special
Order your tux in the month
of April with 10% deposit
for your chance at winning
your tux for free



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Attention to all subscribers!! Rate changed

The Stratford Star is no longer be sending out notices when your paper is due. Check the label on the paper and see what month your subscription expires. **I will be putting "Stars" on the current month" If you have a Star on your label it means that your sub expires that month.** If you are not sure the amount you owe if you live out of the area call 753-7373 and double check. Locally is \$33.00 and out of the area \$40.00. If you are paying for someone else's sub, you will be billed for that person. The Stratford Star, PO Box 8, Stratford, TX 79084
Thanks-Marty

Stratford Hospital District

"Proudly serving the medical needs of Stratford and Sherman County."

Stratford Family Medical Clinic

Mon. - Thurs. 8 AM - 5 PM, Fri. 8AM - 3 PM
396-5583 Tommy Brian, ANP

Elk Pharmacy

Mon. - Fri. 9 AM - 5:30 PM
366-5505 Angie Hipp, RPh

Coldwater Manor Nursing Facility

396-5568 Karl Punch, LNFA

Stratford EMS

9-1-1 or 396-2844 Jimmy Lanning, Director

The Stratford Hospital District operates on a non-discriminatory basis, giving equal treatment and access to services without regard to sex, race, religion, age or ethnicity

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

First Assembly of God
Kevin Anderson, Pastor
921 Fulton
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

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

First United Methodist
Rev. David Terry
520 N. Main
Sunday School 9:20 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Junior High UMY 5:00 p.m.
Senior High UMY 6:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Catholic Church
6th & Pearl
Rectory 366-5687
Sunday morning 8:00 a.m. (English) 9:30 (Spanish)
Sacrament of Reconciliation Before Mass or t.
Christian Formation Classes K-6 Grade Wed. Afternoon
Jr. & Sr. High. Wed. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church
Pastor Jason Stone
702 N. 3rd
Sun.-Coffee 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Children 6 p.m. youth 7 p.m.



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366-5885

Church of Christ
Brad Beckett
N. 3rd & Chestnut
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Heritage Bible Baptist
Pastor Rick Carter
302 S. Main
For more info-call 396-2212
Morning worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wed. Service 7:30 p.m.

Eben-Ezer Templo Hispano
Asambleas De Dios
Pastor: Juan M. Valenzuela
806 366-3071
205 N. Poplar-Hwy 287 268-2188
Escuela Dominical 10 a.m. - 12 noon
Servicio De Adoracion 5 p.m.-7 p.m.
Miercoles: Servicio De Adoracion 6-8 p.m.

Kerrick Community
Pastor Roy Harris
Community Building
10 a.m. Worship Service

La Mision Bautista
Mision Bautista
401 S. Wall 396-5376
Domingo (Sunday)
Estuela Dominical 9:45 a.m.
Miercoles (Wednesday)
Servicio De Adoracion 11 a.m. Estudio
Biblico & Servicio De Oracion 6 p.m.
Servicio De Adoracion 6 p.m. se Cuidamos
Susunos Durante El Servicio

Who is Your Hero??



Last week a family member of ours, who lives in Kansas, saved an elderly man from a burning car. Everyone is calling him a hero. He said he just reacted, like anyone would do. I don't know if everybody would have done the same thing, we like to think we would. But it got me to thinking, who are our everyday "Hero's" People we admire or look up to. Not doing anything as dramatic as saving another one's life, but maybe how that person conducts his everyday life may have an influence on someone else. So I am asking my readers to tell us about someone they may have as a hero. Write me a letter 350 words or less if you know someone you consider a hero. We will publish the letters in the newspaper. It does not matter what your age is, we want to hear from you. I believe at this most difficult time in our nation and country, we need some feel good stories. Something to make us smile and remind us why we are here on earth. Please share with our readers who you may think of as a "Hero" to you. As I told my niece about her husband, who said he is not a hero, I told her the 94 year old man he saved I bet considers him his hero.

Business Directory

Vincent Insurance Agency

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

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 Cell 806-290-3655
 9-5 M-F-Sat. by appt

Joe Taylor, Photography

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 1305 N. Chestnut



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 Lunch - 12-1 E-mail: S Garza56@yahoo.com
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Help Wanted

The City of Stratford is currently accepting applications for employment within the Public Works Department. High School diploma or GED is required. Previous experience preferred, but not required. An employment application can either be picked up at City Hall or downloaded from the City of Stratford website at www.stratfordtx.com under the "careers" tab. Applications will be accepted until March 29, 2012 at noon. Submit applications and resumes to:

City of Stratford
PO Box 188
Stratford, TX 79084-0188
ATTENTION: Kathy Rendon
E-mail: KathyRendon@ci.stratford.tx.us
3-21-3-29-2x's-c

Cimarron Feeders is accepting applications for the following positions:

- Feed Truck Driver
- Mill Laborer
- Processor

17 Keyes S Keyes, OK on HWY 171
15 miles N of Stratford, TX on HWY 287, then right 5 miles on HWY 171. Apply in person: M-F 8a.m-3p.m. or call (580) 543-6383
Great benefits for full-time positions that include: Medical, Dental & Vision insurance as well as 401 K and paid time off. Pre-employment drug screen required. EOE M/F

Truck driver w/class A or B CDL license w/clean driving record. Employee Insurance & 401 K after 90 days. Call Edward Ned @806-344-7422. 2-9-tfn

Coldwater Manor is taking applications for Dietary. Please apply in person at Coldwater Manor-1111 Beaver Rd. Stratford, TX 79084. EOE 3-1-tfn

Coldwater Manor is seeking a full time certified medication aide or LVN. Please apply in person at 1111 Beaver Rd. Stratford, TX EOE 3-22-tfn

Lost & Found

Found a Coat in almond color 300 Chrysler 6 weeks ago. Call 806-333-2255 and describe to claim 3-29-c

Deadline for The Stratford Star
Deadline for Stratford Star items. Photos by Sundays at 4 p.m. Letters to Editor 9 a.m. on Mondays (typed) and all other articles and ads at 10 a.m. on Mondays. (PLEASE) Thank you

More economical!

Differences between electric and hydraulic-driven systems

Have you seen the ads that tout hydraulic-driven systems as the better way to irrigate? Make sure to read between the lines - and we don't mean the oil lines. Reckle's Reckle's Electrogenerator II and Navigator electric-driven irrigation systems are, and have always been, among the safest, most reliable and most effective methods available to deliver water to your thirsty crops. Reckle encourages you to take a closer look at the electrical energy requirements of electric and hydraulic driven systems. You will be amazed by the dollars you can save by going electric.

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The month of April gets its name from the Latin "aperire," meaning "to open," as do the flower buds that month.

Art is made to disturb. Science reassures. There is only one valuable thing in art: the thing you cannot explain.
—Georges Braque

Don't be an art critic, but paint; there lies salvation.
—Paul Cézanne

Houses for Sale

House for sale by owner-619 Purnell, 4bdrm 3 bath, 2981 sq. ft. New sculptured metal roof, h/ac, windows, Teak hardwood floors and tile, corner lot close to schools, Call for appointment, 806-366-7664 or 806-753-6677. 3-29-tfn

401 S. Maple, Stratford 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 living rooms, laundry room, garage. Includes: 3 lots beside the house. (806) 366-3512 or 753-7513.

House for Sale: 313 N. Pearl-3 Bdr, 2-1/2 Bth 806-930-6920 2-23-tfn

House for sale by owner-611 N. 3rd Street-newly remodeled-1900 sq. ft. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, C/HA Call 753-6677 or 366-7664. Possible Owner Finance with Large Down 3-8-tfn

House for Sale-3-bdrm, 1 1/4 bath, approx 2000 sq. ft., 2-car attached garage, Many updates inside in 2008, as well as new 50-yr roof, 12 x 20 storage bldg, privacy fence, 403 Purnell. For appt. call 366-3586 3-15 thru 4-26th X's

For Rent

House for Rent: Nice clean updated country home on pavement \$700.00, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, wood burning stove in living room. Will be available April 1, if interested please contact First State Bank Trust Department (806) 396-5521. 3-23-tfn

1 Bdrm house for rent in country, 5 miles from Stratford. \$400.00 a month partly furnished with garage. Call 753-6694 3-22-tfn

Garage Sale

Friday, March 30th from 5-9 p.m. and Saturday, March 31st 8 to 12 noon. 507 N. Spruce, Little bit of everything! 3-29-c

THE STRATFORD STAR
Thursday, March 29, 2012
Page 5

Card of Thanks

THANK YOU JUST DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT IS ENOUGH TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION TO OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY FOR THE LOVE SHOWN TO US DURING THE ILLNESS AND LOSS OF OUR MOTHER, GRANDMOTHER, GREAT GRANDMOTHER AND AUNT. MAURINE (RENE) PLUNK....GREE. HOWEVER WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU AGAIN...FOR FOOD, CARDS, CALLS, FLOWERS, MEMORIALS, KIND THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS. THE COMMUNITY CHOIR WAS SPECIAL, AND THE LOVE AND HOSPITALITY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WAS SUCH A COMFORT. THERE WAS NO ACT OF KINDNESS THAT WENT WITHOUT NOTICE. WE LOVE YOU.

GAY, SUE, LUANN AND FAMILIES

STEVENSON & SONS

PEST CONTROL
Termite & Pest Control • Rat Control • Bird Control
Yard & Tree Spraying

Residential • Commercial Farms • Ranches

"Professionals in Pest Control Technology"

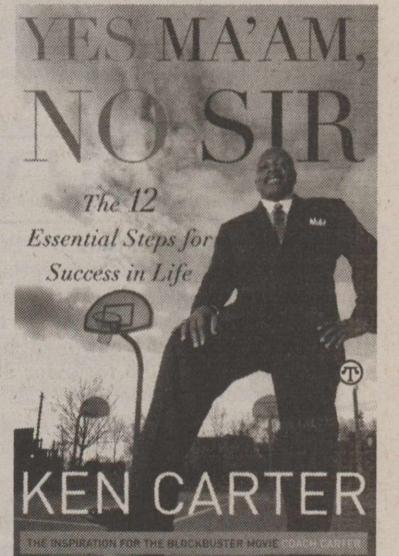
249-4202 Jim Stevenson
Owner

Dalhart • Stratford • Hartley
Licensed and bonded

Steps For Success

(NAPS)—Before Ken Carter became "Coach Carter" of Hollywood movie fame, he was a successful businessman and basketball coach of the Richmond High School Oilers in Richmond, Calif.—one of the toughest neighborhoods in the country.

Coach Carter gained notoriety when he canceled all of his undefeated basketball team's games and practices for eight days—forfeiting two games—because 15 team members had poor academic performances. The story is the basis for the film "Coach Carter," starring Samuel L. Jackson.



Going back to the basics can change lives, says a new book.

Accountability, overcoming adversity, taking charge of your life and learning to succeed when others expect you to fail are key essentials Coach taught. In his new book, "Yes Ma'am, No Sir," Coach Carter uses his personal experiences and core beliefs to explain his methods for success, including:

Quality of Character—understand who you are and what you can do; Self-discipline—motivate yourself regardless of outside factors; Flexibility—the ability to change course; Giving to Others—few can succeed without others.

In addition to this guide for getting ahead, Carter recently started the Coach Carter Impact Academy, a nontraditional boarding school for young men, and a business school for developing entrepreneurs. The book is available where books are sold.

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD'S BEEN REZONED OR HADN'T YOU HEARD?

KEEP THE LIGHT ON PUBLIC NOTICES

When local governments make decisions they are required to publish a newspaper notice to let you know. But that could change. Local governmental entities across the state want to bury their public notices on little seen, rarely visited government websites. What you don't know will affect you personally! If it is not in the newspaper, you won't know about it.

Call us to learn more - The Stratford Star

News of Jobs

Taking Your Skills With You

(NAPS)—If you think your work skills are only useful at your current job, think again. Many of the skills acquired in the workforce can be used in related or even completely different careers, so there's no need to stay in that dead-end job or keep trying for a job in an industry that's losing them.

Many skills can be transferred and be an asset in another type of career. Although the U.S. unemployment rate is currently 8.3 percent, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are 3.4 million jobs open right now. Many employers have positions they believe they can't fill and can't find the "right" candidates to join their team. Many of these open jobs are in sales and other areas such as human resources, where skill sets are easily adapted to new organizations and industries.

While many employers are having a tough time finding "qualified" candidates to fill open jobs, the insurance industry is hiring, targeting efforts at career changers.

For example, The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America (Guardian) expects to increase its sales force by 5 percent, adding over 800 new members to its national distribution team in 80 agencies across the U.S. The company has seen that life insurance industry experience is not the only desirable background in this rapidly changing economic time and hopes to fill many of those positions with candidates from other walks of life.

While the pool of people who succeed in making the shift into the life insurance and financial advisory arena is diverse, they



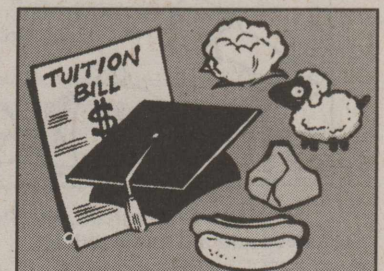
Many skills are transferable and can be used in another career.

share certain characteristics, particularly the eagerness and overwhelming drive to make the opportunity their own and create a business for themselves.

Diverse business experience, well-developed interpersonal skills, a keen interest in financial success, a passion for lifelong learning, and professional training are important transferable skills for people most likely to thrive in the financial services environment.

Some 65 percent of the company's representatives are career changers. Career changers tend to offer many great qualities: maturity, good judgment, professional comportment, knowledge of business etiquette, and experience. In addition, career changers are often self-starters, and while they may need training to assume their new responsibilities, they do not need an inordinate amount of hand-holding.

For many companies, hiring the "right stuff" means welcoming career changers. For more information, visit www.GuardianLife.com.



In hard times, early colleges in the U.S. were forced to accept payments such as cotton, sheep, pewter, and food rather than hard currency.

Don't Graze Pastures Too Early

By Brad Easterling

Grazing too early this year could perform the 'coup de grace,' further damaging already stressed Bermuda grass and native grass pastures. Beset by drought, wildfires, and simply tired of feeding cattle upwards of 18-20 months in some situations, you may be tempted to turn cattle onto your bunch grasses or Bermuda grass pastures as they green up from recent rains.

But don't turn into pastures just yet, just because they green up, doesn't mean pastures have recovered. Whether you have bunch grasses or sod-forming Bermuda, they need to allow more time to ensure restoration of the sugar reserves that foster growth before the animals graze the pasture again. Though Bermuda grass pastures should recover with proper management, they have been severely stressed. But to graze these north Texas pastures now might further damage the stands, especially those of ranchers who did not de-stock their pastures.

Our native grasses need time to green up this spring, begin the process of photosynthesis and replenish stored reserves in the crown and roots of the plant prior to grazing. If grazed too early, these plants will not have the leaf material available to replenish these lost reserves, especially if we are hit with another dry spell.

Areas to avoid for extended periods are places where cattle have been feed continuously for extended periods of time and fence lines where cattle have been walking. In most of these areas there is nothing left but blowing soil. In some of these areas the grass may take much longer to recover or be permanently destroyed. Places in these pastures may need to be fenced off to keep cattle out while they recover or possibly even reseeded.

Most native bunch grasses propagate through seed production, but sod-forming Bermuda grass stands can recover and fill in open spots from their below-ground reserves stored in roots and rhizomes (underground stems) and from sugars in the stubble. This characteristic makes Bermuda grass highly resistant to both drought and wildfire.

The following recommendations will provide a stronger, fuller pasture by the end of the summer, provided that we have average rainfall this year.

-Wait longer than usual before turning cattle into pastures. Bermuda grass stands should be at least 8 inches tall before grazing, native pasture should be 8-12 inches

— Collect soil samples now if you have not done so already, and base pasture fertilization on soil test results. Native pasture generally does not need fertilizer.

Wait until nighttime temperature reaches 60 F for several days in a row before fertilizing.

-Control weeds when moisture is present. Without controlling weeds they will outcompete your grass.

Farmers may be out of feed and grazing the green-up is attractive, but buying Hay for a few more weeks will more than offset the potential damages and expenses (like weed control, replanting, etc.) that will result from grazing too early.

Stratford Youth Baseball Association Organizational Meeting

The Stratford Youth Baseball Association will be holding its' annual organizational meeting on Monday April 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Mary Allen Elementary Library. Little League age guidelines will be effect again this season. Boys and girls who will be five years old on or before May 1, 2012 are eligible to play. The agenda for the meeting will include: volunteers for coaching and umpiring, baseball schedule, registration night, cook-out fundraiser, concession stand, community correspondence and workday. Volunteers will be needed to fill these roles in order for our association to function.

All who are interested in coaching a team in T-Ball, Machine Pitch or Little League this year need to contact Tammy Couch 205-2618 before the meeting. Coaching slots will be filled asap and all interested coaches will need to attend the organizational meeting on the 2nd. If you have any questions, please call 205-2618.

Please note the following age parameters for each division -
T-BALL: BOYS OR GIRLS: Must be 5 before 5/01/12 and not 8 by 5/01/12

MACHINE PITCH- BOYS: Must be 8 before 5/01/12 and not 10 by 5/01/12 (9 year old boys will have the option to play up)

MACHINE PITCH - GIRLS: Must be 8 before 5/01/12 and not 11 by 5/01/12

LITTLE LEAGUE - BOYS: Can be 9, but must be 10 before 5/01/12 and not 13 by 5/01/12

LITTLE LEAGUE - GIRLS: Must be 11 before 5/01/12 and not 13 by 5/01/12

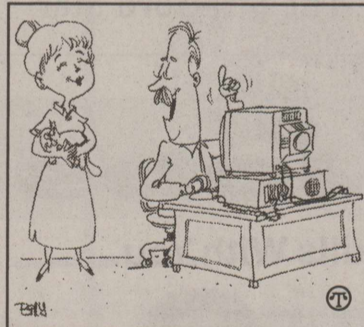
Did You Know?

(NAPS)—A brochure—"Staying Connected: Technology Options for Older Adults"—is available from the Eldercare Locator. It introduces topics such as e-mail, texting and social media for older adults. To receive a free copy, call (800) 677-1116. It can also be downloaded from the Resources section of www.eldercare.gov.

If you've made a risky investment, gone to a free lunch seminar or even chatted too long to a salesperson over the phone, you might be a target for investment fraud, says John Gannon, president of the FINRA Investor Education Foundation. For safe advice, visit www.SaveAndInvest.org.

As a part of its EyeSmart campaign that empowers Americans to take charge of their eye health, the American Academy of Ophthalmology has launched a redesign of the GetEyeSmart.org website. The new site has in-depth eye health content, new features and a fresh, contemporary look.

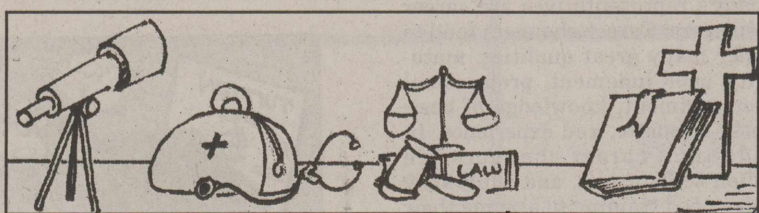
Whole Foods Market has adopted a system for ranking the animal welfare practices of its suppliers. The 5-Step Animal Welfare Rating program helps consumers make more-informed



choices about the meat they purchase. Learn more at www.wholefoodsmarket.com.

New smartcard technology is benefiting both mass transit systems and riders. When purchased by riders, it provides access to the coordinated elements of the transit system. It also provides the system with a record of rider use and revenues. Learn more at www.vixtechnology.com.

The National Association of Professional Women is the fastest-growing and one of the most recognized professional women's organizations in the country. It helps members showcase their businesses and gain exposure for their professional endeavors. Learn more at www.napw.com and (866) 540-6279.



Nicolaus Copernicus, the Polish astronomer, was also a doctor, a lawyer and a church official.

Concentration is the ability to think about absolutely nothing when it is absolutely necessary.

—Ray Knight

STRATFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION March 20, 2012

The Stratford ISD board of trustees met in regular session on Tuesday, March 20, 2012. President Joe Reinart established a quorum of members present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Board members present: Joe Reinart, DeWain Trayler, Michelle Lutes, Greg Wright, Tres Hess and Chet Everett

Board members absent: Barney Willborn

Staff present: Clint Seward, Misti McBryde, Paul Uttley, Lynette Kautz and Dinah Horsford.

Staff Guests: Eddie Metcalf

Guest: Scott Hudson and Neal Brown – ESC 16

Dr. Uttley led the invocation.

Joe Reinart read a thank you note from the David Lantelme family.

Mr. Birdsong gave the superintendent report. He reported a district enrollment of 595. He passed out a commentary from Joe Smith of TexasISD.com on the STAAR Facts. He reported that the Texas Department of Corrections have been out to measure the bleachers at the football field and will submit a bid for replacing/refurbishing some of the bleachers. The TASB Spring workshop will be May 16th in Amarillo. The administrators will attend the WTAMU job fair on Wednesday, March 21st. The OAP will compete in their zone competition on March 21 at West Texas high school.

Lynette Kautz gave the business managers report. Monthly expenditures are at 41.72%, revenue 88.46%, and tax collections are at 96.26%. Transportation cost for the month for the district was .98¢. She then gave the quarterly investment report.

Mrs. McBryde gave the elementary report. The 4th grade will take the STAAR Writing test next week. She complimented Mrs. Clark on preparing the students for the test. The 3rd and 4th will take their last benchmark the first week of April. Attendance at the Open House was great. 3rd and 4th grade students attended the Science in the Movies demonstration. This was a grant that Crystal Pitti received from the Stratford ISD Education Foundation. The 1st grade will go on their WOWW trip to Amarillo this Thursday. They will be visiting the weather lab at the Discovery Center.

Mr. Seward gave the junior high report. He reported a campus enrollment of 154. The junior high school GT students went to see STOMP on February 23. Open House was well attended with about 100 students being represented by one or both parents. The 5th grade band students held a demonstration before Open House. Junior High track season is well underway. STAAR testing will begin next week. The remainder of the tests will be given on the week of April 24-27. He updated the board on the progress of the GT project.

Dr. Uttley gave the high school report. He reported the monthly recognition. It was as follows: **Crystal Pitti** was awarded a grant from the Education Foundation called Science in the Movies. Two assemblies were provided to students in grades 3-12. **Erin Wilkins** placed 4th with her Cross Barrow at the San Antonio Stock Show. **Jesus Ruedas** won Reserve Breed Champion Chester at the Houston Stock Show. **Justin Mungia** placed 2nd with his Chester Barrow at the Houston Stock Show. The Big Blue Band received Division I Ratings in Concert & Sightreading on Feb. 28th. This earns them the Sweepstakes award. The following Lady Elks were named to the Academic All District list: **Alex Asher, Karen Lozoya, Perla Reta, Elizabeth Reyes, Jackie Gonzalez, and Bethany Everett**. **Perla Reta** was named to the 1st Team Texas High School Coaching Association Academic All State list. Those Lady Elks receiving All District honors were **Alexa Peregrino, 1st Team, Bethany Everett, Honorable Mention, Jackie Gonzalez, Honorable Mention, Karen Lozoya, Honorable Mention, and Perla Reta, Honorable Mention**. Congratulations to all of these Lady Elk athletes. The following Elks were named to the Academic All District list: **Justin Mungia, Casey Lantelme, Marcos Garza, Gabriel Tarango, Kelby Hartman, Sterling Audrain, Rhett Schoonover, and Trevor Melton**. The following were named to the All District list: **Justin Mungia, Defensive Co-MVP, Edgar Guerrero, 1st Team, Sterling Audrain, 1st Team, Casey Lantelme, Honorable Mention, Marcos Garza, Honorable Mention, and Trevor Melton, Honorable Mention**. The following were named to the Texas High School Coaches Association Academic All State teams: **Justin Mungia, 2nd Team, Casey Lantelme, 2nd Team, Gabriel Tarango, 2nd Team and Marcos Garza, Honorable Mention**. The J.V. Elks were District Champs. Cheerleading tryouts were held March 9th. The following will be JV cheerleaders for the 2012-2013 school year: **Bethany Everett, Desinya Garza, Madison Mungia, Allissa Palmer and Chesney Rendon**. The Varsity cheerleaders will be: **Alex Asher, Meghan Brooks, Macy Everson, Kaylee Mungia, Nohemi Ruedas and Whitney Stone**. **Jessica Couch** will be the mascot.

He reported that the High School prom will be May 19. The site of the prom may change. The OAP Dinner Theater was a huge success. They raised about \$2500.00 that will be used to help fund theater and drama camp and the rest will be donated to the Blaine Killian Scholarship fund. The OAP will perform on March 21st at West Texas high school for zone competition. The top two plays will advance to the district competition. The UIL Academic meet will be on Friday, March 23 at Amarillo College. 43 students will be competing in various events. The Ag judging teams will compete in the West Texas contest on Friday and at Clarendon College on Saturday. The Open House was well attended. The End of Course testing for Reading and Writing will be given next week. 10 iPads were purchased for the science departments. These allow students internet access for research purposes. He reported on the DAEP students. He commended Casey Lantelme and Justin Mungia for participating in track meets over spring break. Casey competed at the Pearland Invitational. He placed 2nd in the discus behind the athlete that is currently 2nd in the nation. Justin competed at the Wall track meet. He placed 2nd in the 200, 3rd in the 400M and 4th in high jump.

Mr. Birdsong briefly reviewed the investment policy with the board. Tres Hess made the motion and Michelle Lutes seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

Neal Brown, ESC funding specialist, discussed and answered questions concerning personal property tax and tax ratification elections.

The board took a short recess at 8:10 PM.

Mr. Birdsong presented the resolution to nominate the Stratford Star to the TASB Media Honor Roll. Greg Wright made the motion and Chet Everett seconded to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Birdsong presented the resolution to suspend the 15% requirement on EOC assessments. Michelle Lutes made the motion and Tres Hess seconded to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

Mrs. McBryde presented her teachers for contract renewal. Mr. Birdsong recommended accepting the contract renewals as presented subject to assignment. Michelle Lutes made the motion and Tres Hess seconded to accept the recommendation as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Seward presented his teachers for contract renewal. Mr. Birdsong recommended accepting the contract renewals as presented subject to assignment. DeWain Trayler made the motion and Michelle Lutes seconded to accept the recommendation as presented. Motion carried.

Dr. Uttley presented his teachers for contract renewal. Mr. Birdsong recommended accepting the contract renewals as presented subject to assignment. Greg Wright made the motion and DeWain seconded to accept the recommendation as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Birdsong updated the board on the assistant transportation/maintenance position. The board reviewed the golf rules and policy with Stratford Country Club. There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.