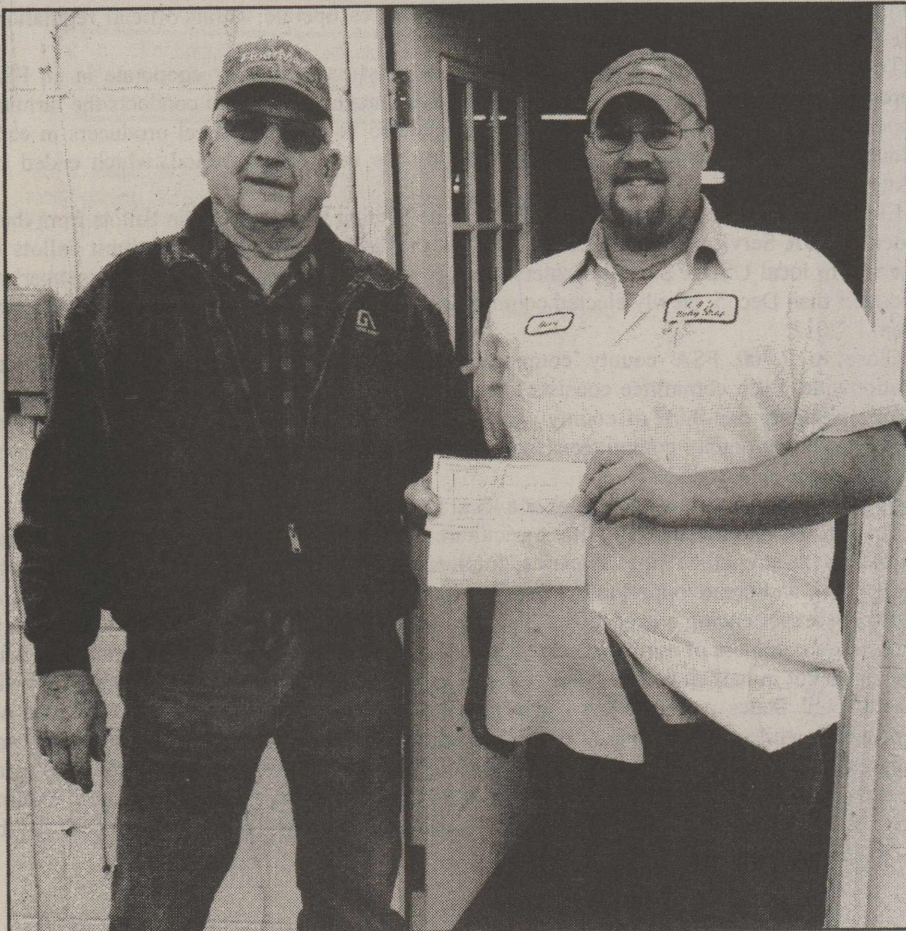


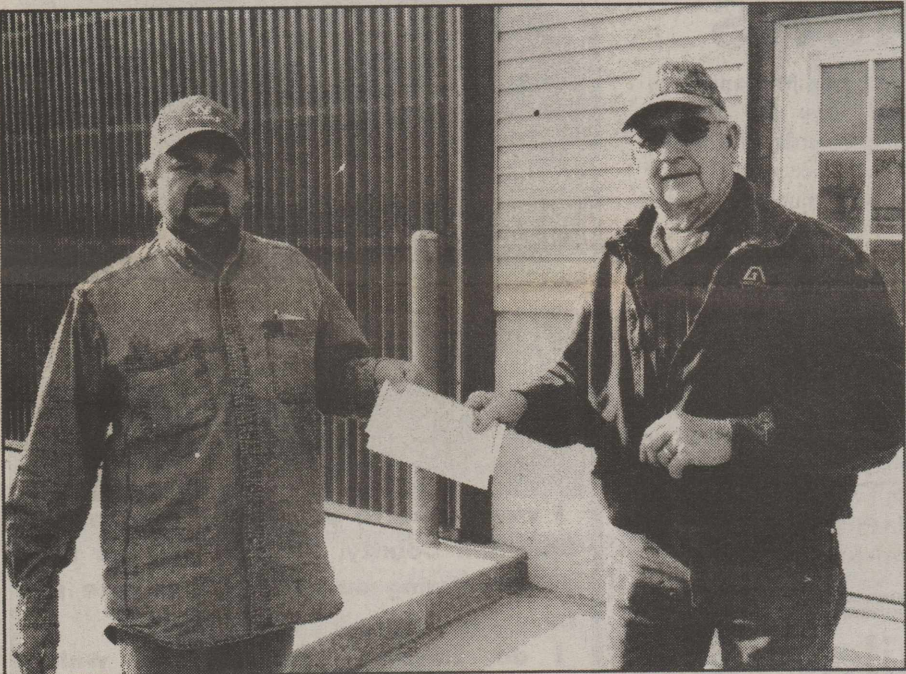
Sherman County Museum 07/12  
 PO Box 1248  
 Stratford, TX 79084

# The Stratford Star

75 cents Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084 usps 523 Number 47 November 24, 2011



Stratford Fireman, Danny Davis, from the Stratford Volunteer Fire Department is shown above accepting donation given by Sherman County Farm, Bureau, Vice President Jimmy Chesher.



Texhoma Fire Chief, Jeff Tanquary, from the Texhoma Volunteer Fire Department is shown above accepting donation given by Sherman County Farm Bureau, Vice President Jimmy Chesher.

Story on page 6

## A time for THANKS and GIVING....

This is the time of year most of us are preparing for gatherings with family and friends. Children are excited to see cousins and grandparents and share in games, movies and snacks of all sorts. However, not too far from our homes are broken families with children who will not share in those joys. These are the mothers and children who have sought shelter from things some of you cannot imagine but also some of you who have been in their shoes such as me. While at this time many look forward to the banquets on the carefully decorated tables and the abundance of laughter and joy beside the Christmas tree as wrapping paper is thrown about, this is but a wish for many victims of Domestic Violence who may be spending their holiday in the shelter. As a survivor myself, these women and children hold a very special place in my heart. Having worked for Safe Place I know what the families of Sherman County can do when called upon for help in making these holidays special and bright. There are special families that need your help more than ever this year. In the past, I've asked everyone for donations of all sorts....this year I have a special request on behalf of these families.

Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner!

A HUGE thank you to two Stratford Ladies for donating turkey's for the last minute Thanksgiving request. The other fixings are coming in and I think we'll be able to provide the families in the shelter with a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner. Christmas will be upon us soon after we wash the dishes from Thanksgiving. As many of you are out shopping, what a blessing it would be if you could add one of the items listed to your shopping cart. I did some thinking, and if each family in Stratford, Sherman County could pick up just 1 item from this list, the Shelter Wish list would be fulfilled!!!! And even if an item could not be delivered to the donation box, if \$1.00 was donated by each family, the items on the Wish List would still be fulfilled. In advance, I'd like to extend to each and every one of you a big thank you for your consideration of these families during this time of Thanks-Giving and Hope that you will assist in providing a special blessing for Christmas this year.

### Thanksgiving/Christmas Dinner :

- 2 Bags Pepridge Farm bread stuffing
- 2 lbs bacon or sausage
- 4 cans Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 2 Cans of Onion Rings (for green bean casserole)
- 2 cans Cranberry
- 2 large cans Yams
- 1 large bag Marshmallows
- 1 bag brown sugar

### Shelter Wish List:

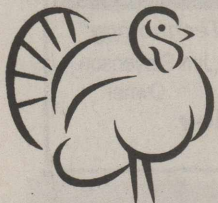
- Disney Movies, Super Hero Movies, Stuffed Animals (new), Games (all ages), Balls (soccer, football, etc.)
- 10 Full size & 10 Twin Size blankets and Mattress Pads, 10 sets of Lined Curtains, Daily Planners, Devotionals and Bible's are welcomed too.

A Very Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family from Amanda Evans and Safe Place Inc. of Dumas!!!!

## Happy Thanksgiving

### Sherman County Offices up for election

The offices that are up for election are Sherman County Sheriffs office, Sherman County Attorneys office, Sherman County Tax office, and Sherman County Commissioners Precinct 1 and 3. To file you must do so between November 28 and Dec. 15 at the Sherman County District and Clerk's office. Before announcing you must have a Campaign Treasurer appointed.



### AMERICAN LEGION ANNOUNCES FINAL MEETING FOR 2011

The Howard Norvell Green Post 262 of the American Legion will conduct its final meeting of 2011 on Thursday night, December 1st at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held at SCOT Hall in Stratford. All Legionnaires are encouraged to attend. Your attendance is critical to the continuation of the work of the Legion in this community. If you want to make a difference in this country it has to start in our own community. If you have any questions about the Legion or just are just interested in our programs, please call the Post Adjutant, Aaron Sheehan at 806-680-4513 or the Post Sgt-at-Arms, Robert McGinnis at 806-396-2212. The Veterans Service Officer for the Sherman County area is Dennis Phelps. He can be reached at 806-753-7316 or 396-5316.

**The Angel Tree is up and ready. It is located at main Street Essentials. The Angel Tree board appreciates all that has been and will be done for the families in need. Please stop by and pick an Angel and register it with Mary Return back by Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!**

### CORRECTION

**New Recycle Center Hours  
 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 Monday-Saturday  
Effective  
 November 1, 2011**

**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

Janice Brown is retiring after 27 years of service to the Sherman County Farm Service Agency  
 Please join us at the Sherman County FSA Office, 418 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
 From 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.  
 Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 For a reception thanking Janice for her service

**Daylight Donuts**  
 Will be open on Thanksgiving Day  
 5 a.m. until 12 noon  
 Call 366-4488  
 309 N. Main

### S.C.O.T. HALL



Sherman County Older Texans  
**HUNTERS LUNCH**  
 EVERYONE WELCOME

**SATURDAY**  
**DECEMBER 3, 2011**  
**TIME: 11:30-1:00**

S.C.O.T. HALL 517 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> STRATFORD TEXAS  
 FREE WILL DONATION



## From the desk of Chief Powell



From YOUR Police Department, here are some words for thought this week:

During this time of Thanksgiving, embrace your family and friends. We never know what tomorrow will bring, so, today and this week, simply take a moment out of your day to shake someone's hand, wish someone happy holidays, give to, or at least pray for those who are less fortunate, ask to be forgiven, and most of all forgive others even if they don't ask. Let's get a head start on making 2012 the best year ever for each and every one of us.

### YOUR Police Department will be hosting a Christmas Open House!!!

On Friday December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 from 5pm — 8pm, Chief Joe Powell and the Officers will be hosting a Christmas Open House at YOUR Police Department located at 212 North Poplar Street. We will have Christmas lights up & Christmas music playing. Soda & water will be on hand for drinks and we will have chips, candy & finger foods available while they last.

Police vehicles will be cleaned up and shiny for the children to see. We are so proud to be a part of this community and we value time spent with you, especially during the holidays. We invite you and your family to stop by so we can wish you a Merry Christmas in person.

Someone once said: "If you love what you do for a living, you'll never work a day in your life."

We not only love what we do for a living, we appreciate the opportunity to serve YOU!!

As always, don't forget to check us out online at [www.stratfordpd.com](http://www.stratfordpd.com).

Thank You  
Chief Joe Powell



### Joachim Treptow Treptow-new wildlife biologist

Joachim Treptow is a new wildlife biologist working for Texas 151-ks and Wildlife in the Panhandle district. Although he will assist on wildlife projects across the entire 56-county district, his primary area of responsibility is Dallam, Sherman, Hartley, Moore, Oldham, Potter, Carson and Deaf Smith counties.

He studied forestry and wildlife management in Munich, Germany. He's worked on a variety of large mammal projects, from surveying chamois in the Bavarian Alps to radio-telemetry of grizzly bears in the Canadian Rockies. He comes to Texas after working for the Wildlife Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

"I am not originally from Texas, but I got here as quick as I could. I really appreciate the warm welcome I've received so far and am looking forward to serving this region.

Joachim is based in Dalhart and will conduct annual wildlife surveys and research projects associated with wildlife species and habitats in the northwest Panhandle.

He will also provide technical assistance and public outreach programs to the general public, sportsmen, private landowners and land managers.

You can reach Joachim at 806-249-1818 or by email at [achi.treptow@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:achi.treptow@tpwd.state.tx.us).

Joachim would like to remind landowners in the northwest Panhandle that received pronghorn permits this year to please send in their Pronghorn Harvest cards by November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Your harvest report is required in order to be eligible for pronghorn permits next year.

### USDA Farm Service Agency urges farmers and ranchers to vote in County Committee Elections before December 5, 2011

Washington, Nov. 3, 2011 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Bruce Nelson announced today that the 2011 FSA county committee elections began on Nov. 4, with USDA mailing ballots to eligible voters. The deadline to return the ballots to local FSA offices is Dec. 5, 2011.

"The role and input of our county committee members is more vital than ever at a time when our country faces important choices regarding the funding and operation of our government," said Nelson. "New county committee members provide input and make important decisions on the local administration of disaster and conservation programs. With better participation in recent years, we have also seen promising increases in the number of women and minority candidates, helping to better represent the richness of American agriculture."

County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA and provide a link between the agricultural community and USDA. Farmers and ranchers elected to county committees help deliver FSA programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on commodity price support programs; conservation programs; incentive indemnity and disaster programs for some commodities; emergency programs and eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws.

To be an eligible voter, farmers and ranchers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age, but supervises and conducts the farming operations of an entire farm may also be eligible to vote. Agricultural producers in each county submitted candidate nominations during the nomination period, which ended on Aug. 1.

Eligible voters who do not receive ballots in the coming week can obtain ballots from their local USDA Service Center. Dec. 5, 2011, is the last day for voters to submit ballots in person to local USDA Service Centers. Ballots returned by mail must also be postmarked no later than Dec. 5. Newly elected committee members and their alternates will take office Jan. 1, 2012.

Close to 7,700 FSA county committee members serve in the 2,244 FSA offices nationwide. Each committee consists of three to 11 members who serve three-year terms. Approximately one-third of county committee seats are up for election each year. More information on county committees, such as the new 2011 fact sheet and brochures, can be found on the FSA website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections> or at a local USDA Service Center.

The Obama Administration, with Agriculture Secretary Vilsack's leadership, has worked tirelessly to strengthen rural America, implement the Farm Bill, maintain a strong farm safety net, and create opportunities for America's farmers and ranchers. U.S. agriculture is currently experiencing one of its best years in decades thanks to the productivity, resiliency, and resourcefulness of our producers. Today, net farm income is at record levels while debt has been cut in half since the 1980s. Overall, American agriculture supports 1 in 12 jobs in the United States and provides American consumers with 86 percent of the food we consume, while maintaining affordability and choice. The Obama Administration has aggressively worked to expand export opportunities and reduce barriers to trade, helping to push agricultural exports to record levels in 2011 and beyond. Strong agricultural exports are a positive contribution to the U.S. trade balance, support nearly 1 million American jobs and boost economic growth.

★ Main Street ★ Essentials ★

**AFTER Black Friday**  
**Remember Small Business Saturday**

**Store wide 10% off**  
**Many items deeper discount**  
**"Come see us for your early Holiday shopping"**



**Stratford Hospital District**

**Elk Pharmacy**  
Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM  
366-5505  
Angie Hipp, RPh

**Stratford Family Medical Clinic**  
Mon. - Fri. 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
396-5583  
Tommy Brian, ANP

**Coldwater Manor Nursing Facility**  
396-5568  
Karl Punch, LNFA

**Stratford EMS**  
9-1-1 or 396-2844  
Jimmy Lanning, Director

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

**Young's Trailer Sales, Inc.**  
1100 S. Manhattan  
Amarillo, TX 79104  
806-374-8171

**We sell all types of trailers & we service what we sell. If you have a need for a new trailer or service on an existing one**

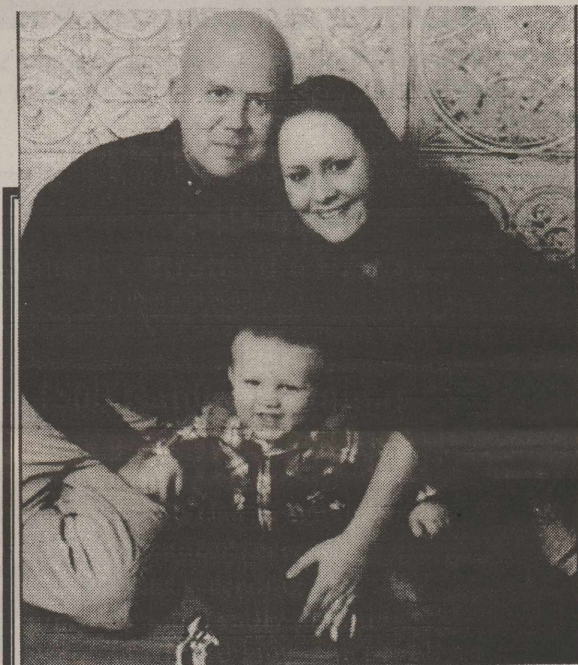
**Call Jimmy Gillenwaters**

**The Stratford Star**  
(USPS 523-108)  
Published for over 100 years  
805 Purnell  
Stratford, TX 79084  
Telephone: 806-366-5885  
Fax: 806-366-5884  
E-Mail: [stardm@xit.net](mailto:stardm@xit.net)

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Advertising & Photographer Shari Hudson

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PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084



I would like to say to the citizens of Sherman County, "Thank You" for the overwhelming support in this race so far.

I do, however, realize that while becoming YOUR Sheriff may be extremely important to me, spending quality time with my family and knowing you are spending quality time with yours during this Thanksgiving week, should be the utmost priority. We are nothing without "Him" and our loved ones. My wife and I have mailed out some Holiday cards but I won't be knocking on doors this week. I have visited with a number of you and I hope to continue meeting and greeting soon. However, I feel in my heart our focus should not be on elections until after we give thanks with our families.

Thank You. / Joe Powell

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*"Professionals in Pest Control Technology"*  
**249-4202** Jim Stevenson  
Owner

**Dalhart • Stratford • Hartley**  
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Differences between electric and hydraulic-driven systems

Reinke Dealer-Professionals are ready to share other eye-opening reasons why more and more producers are choosing Reinke Irrigation systems.

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Office 806-396-2300

**Mitchell Theaters**

Northridge 8  
Guyton, OK  
[www.northridge8.com](http://www.northridge8.com)  
580-338-3281

Southgate 6  
Liberal, Kansas  
[www.southgate6.com](http://www.southgate6.com)  
620-624-5573

Garden City, Kansas  
[www.sequoyah8.com](http://www.sequoyah8.com)  
620-275-2760

**15 Years, 4500 Babies in Dumas**

**Women's Health Center**

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Specializing In  
**OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY**

110 S. Bliss Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday 8 a.m.-12 noon





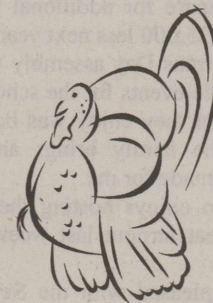
## Reed honored with Baby Shower

A baby shower honoring Rachel and Brad Reed was held on Sunday, November 20 at the home of Fami King. Shown from left, Margaret Reed, Esther Ferguson, Terri Hargrove, Rachael Reed, ViAnn Reed, Dartha Hargrove, Rebekah Lackey, Hannah Lackey, and D'Lynn Reed.



## Smiths' Honored

Kelby and Tiffany Smith were honored with a wedding shower on October 22, 2011 in the home of ViAnn Reed. Shown above Kelby and Tiffany Smith, Braxton, Jean Turpin (Tiffany's Grandmother), Lori Smith, Leslie Reagan, Adelaide Brace, Mitzy Brace (Aunt), Terri Blankenship (Aunt) and Carter Brace.



I would like to wish the residents of Sherman County a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving from me and my family. This is a time to give thanks and I am most thankful for this amazing county that my family and I call home and our friends who we also consider family. I am also thankful for the opportunity to run for the office of Sheriff of Sherman County. Don't forget to visit my web-site at [www.evans4sheriff.com](http://www.evans4sheriff.com) or you can call me at 806-717-9208.

Sincerely,  
Wesley Evans  
Pd Pol Ad by Wesley Evans PO Box 1312  
Stratford, Texas 79084

## The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

## Organ Donation: Giving The Gift Of Life

(NAPS)—It's not often that a gift can actually give someone a second chance at life. However, organ, eye and tissue donations do just that.

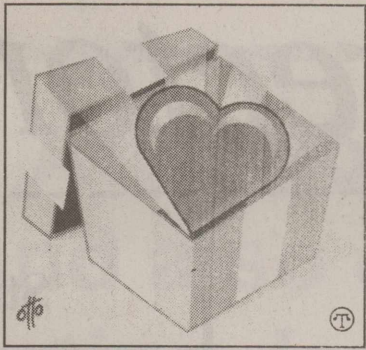
Currently, more than 111,000 people in the United States are on the waiting list to receive a life-saving organ. Last year, organ donors made more than 28,000 transplants possible. And the need for organ donors grows each day.

Here's how you can register to become a donor:

- **Enroll with Your State Registry.** Signing up to be a donor is a state-specific process, and laws related to donation vary. You can learn more about the donation process in your state and sign up on your state's registry by visiting [www.organdonor.gov](http://www.organdonor.gov).

- **Indicate Your Consent on Your Driver's License.** Most states allow you to declare your organ donation status on your driver's license. The next time you renew your license, you may be able to register as an organ donor on the spot. Check with your state's department of motor vehicles to see if this is an option in your state. In some states, you can also sign up online.

- **Notify Your Family and Friends.** If you want to make the



Many states allow you to declare your donation status on your driver's license. Check with your state's department of motor vehicles.

commitment to give the "gift of life," it is helpful to tell your family and friends. Notify the people close to you about your decision to become an organ, eye and tissue donor so they can support and verify your wishes if needed.

- **Declare Your Intent on Documents.** To add further verification to your decision to become an organ, eye and tissue donor, include donation in advance directives, such as your will and living will.

To learn more, visit [www.organdonor.gov](http://www.organdonor.gov).

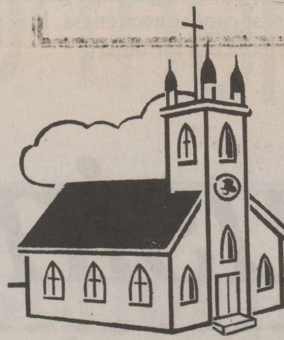
**First Assembly of God**  
Kevin Anderson, Pastor  
921 Fulton  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Evening Worship 8:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

**First Christian Church**  
Pastor Gary Smith  
5<sup>th</sup> & 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**  
6<sup>th</sup> & Pearl  
Rectory 366-5687  
Sunday morning: 8:00 a.m. (English), 9:30 (Spanish)  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass or by appt.  
Christian Formation Classes: K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Wed. Afternoon  
Jr. & Sr. High, Wed. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Church of Christ** Brad Beckett  
N. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 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. 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. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Sun.-Coffee-8:30  
Sunday School-9:30  
Worship Service-10:30  
Wed.-Children-6 p.m. youth-7 p.m.

**La Mision Bautista**  
Mision Bautista  
401 S. Wall 396-5376  
Domingo-(Sunday)  
Estueta 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  
Susinos Durante El Servicio

**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

Sponsored by  
**Stratford Grain**  
396-5541  
**Lautz**  
769-5541  
**Walter Lasley & Sons, Inc.**  
754-4411  
**Stratford Star**  
366-5885

The Food Pantry in Stratford is in need of your help, we need donations. They may be made at the First State Bank of Stratford or Happy State Bank. Canned goods, etc. are also very welcomed. THANK YOU

**CORRECTION**  
New Recycle  
Center Hours  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Monday-Saturday  
**Effective**  
November 1, 2011



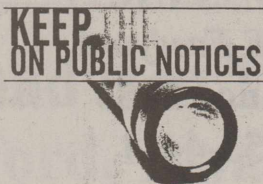
**YOUR PROPERTY TAXES JUST WENT UP.  
OR HADN'T YOU HEARD?**

When local governments want to increase tax revenues, they are required to publish notices in the newspaper so that you will know. But that right to know could disappear.

Local governmental entities across the state want to hide 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.



**The Stratford Star**



From the Bird's Nest-November, 2011  
 By Jerry Birdsong  
 Superintendent-Stratford ISD

The school year has reached about a third of the way through another school year. Our district functions very well in complex situation with nearly 600 students and over 110 employees. Throw in the external factors such as school finance and new state assessments, the district has plenty on its plate in providing each of our kids a quality education.

This year will be our first in the STAAR assessment system. The campuses are working diligently to discover what will be on the new test and preparing our students. The state has promised a more rigorous test with career and college readiness on the table. I am not against testing or accountability, but I am concerned that it is being overdone. It is like food - I am not against it, but you can get too much.

On the financial side the district has been cut about \$350,000 for the 2011-12 school year. Our district maintains its financial stability. We have prepared for the cuts and we may utilize some of our fund balance to offset the cuts. In the recent Financial Integrity System of Texas (FIRST) report, the district received a superior achievement rating which is a tribute to the Board of Trustees and their oversight of the public funds. We will continue to prepare for additional funding cuts as the district is expected to receive approximately \$525,000 less next year from 2010-11.

The school Veterans Day assembly was a great success for another year. It has become one of my favorite events for the school district. It is important that we teach our kids that the freedom that they enjoy was bought with the sacrifices of others. Having military personnel in the family brings an appreciation and understanding for the sacrifices that have been made for me.

The district also enjoys hosting the annual Thanksgiving lunch at the school cafeterias. We had a great turnout last week and our cafeteria staff outdid themselves again.

I was pleased with the Seven Project programs the district recently hosted. They were straight forward and matter-of-fact when it came to some of the decision making our young people face. I am sure that we will not cure all of the ills of society, but if we can help a bunch of kids avoid self-destructive behavior, it is all worth it.

Congratulation to the Stratford ISD Foundation grant recipients. The foundation had four outstanding grant proposals to consider - Rachel's Challenge, Headphones for Keyboard Lab, Kindle E-Readers, and Jr. High Band trip to see the musical "Shrek". Over \$10,000 were given for these grants. Many of our kids have had once-in-a-lifetime experiences through the generosity of the Foundation. Since its founding in 2002, over 35 grants have been awarded at a cost that exceeds \$60,000. Many of these opportunities would not have been possible through normal school funding. I am looking forward to seeing the impact of these grants on student learning.

The younger students have begun their WOWW trips. These trips give tremendous opportunities to experience things beyond the classroom that enables us to produce well-rounded students. However, I am concerned about the future of these types of activities. In our current educational climate, the State of Texas continues to require more from classroom curriculum and state assessments. Money continues to tighten for education. As long as our students must pass state assessments to receive a diploma, preparing students for these requirements will be the main driver for our time and resources.

Believe it or not, the primary season for the state legislators is just around the corner. Educational issues are political whether we are talking about finances or accountability. How much funding does it take to get a student a quality education and how does more state assessments help accomplish that goal? There is a wide range of opinions. Our representatives need to hear how we feel.

Some of our students have stepped it up in the giving of themselves for those in need. The high school raised \$675 for the fire victims in central Texas. The student council has also instituted a no texting and driving campaign. The cheerleaders also raised \$2511 during "pink out" week for breast cancer awareness. It is refreshing to see our kids give back to the community and show concern for others.

Think I laughed so hard that I was nearly crying...the Fall OAP Production really brought a smile to the audiences last month. The kids did a great job performing on stage and I appreciate the time and effort that the directors put in to make it a success. The fall production is such an important part of the One-Act Play program. It gives a lot of kids a chance to show the abilities on stage without the high stakes of the UIL competition. I am thankful that we have staff members willing to put in the extra time to ensure that we have a quality program.

Speaking of quality programs, we have a couple of other that have brought honor to our school and community - band and cross country. The band competed in the area competition against twenty-two of the top bands from Van Horn to Stratford. The Big Blue Band performed well in the prelims and advanced to the finals before its great run came to an end. Great accomplishment!

Our cross country program produced our first state qualifier this school year. Congratulations to Grayson Gonzalez for his accomplishment and thanks for representing SHS well at the state meet in Round Rock. The Lady Elk cross country also had a successful campaign as they pulled off an upset at the district cross country meet. Our district has 11 schools and three of those were ranked in the top 10 in the state. Our girls knocked one of the state-ranked out and advanced to the regional competition. Proud of the great efforts.

The transportation department has begun the process of moving into another facility. With the widening of 287 in front of the existing facility, the safety of our employees became a concern for the district. In response, the district recently acquired the Ivesco building at good price for over 17,000 square foot of indoor space. We will set up our transportation and maintenance departments in the facility over next few months.

Football season came to an unexpected early end. Maybe we have been spoiled by our past successes and have forgotten that it is tough to win championships. I feel the disappointment for the seniors - they have represented us well. The work needed for a successful season next year has already begun - we will be back.

Basketball is in full swing. The Lady Elks finished third at the Highland Park Tournament last weekend and the Elks opened their season with two wins. The junior high girls opened their season last weekend at Hooker. Lots of basketball to be played. I encourage you to come out watch these young kids represent our community.

We enjoy a lot of success at Stratford ISD in the classroom and in extracurricular. It would not be possible with a great community that supports its schools. Thanks - we could not do it without you.

## Topping Trees Can Be Deadly

Topping is a kind word for the indiscriminate butchering of a tree, and yet it is the most harmful tree-pruning practice known, and still very common. In usually well-intentioned efforts to prune back or reduce the size of a tree, tree trimmers and homeowners sometimes go overboard, leaving nothing more than the tree trunk and a few stumps branching from it. The entire crown of a tree, the area that contains a tree's leaves, is chopped off and hauled away. When people indiscriminately cut large branches at midstream and leave a large stub of a branch behind, they are doing great harm to the tree that could lead to decay and eventually kill the tree. When a spring flush pushes tiny branches out of the ends of those stumps, they are very weakly attached to the branch, he explained. A strong wind, insects or disease can easily wipe them out, leaving the tree without a food source and susceptible to decay.

Topping a tree reduces the value and longevity of that tree. A valuable shade tree is gone and we need to protect all of the shade trees that we can. Less is better when pruning a tree. Try to never remove more than 25 percent of the crown, the leafy area of the tree. And when you do trim off a branch, don't cut it flush to the trunk, but don't leave a big stump either.

Lion-tailing or mule-tailing is another no-no. This is when a homeowner will strip all the leaves off a limb except those at the very end. That leaves a branch looking like lion's tail. This is as bad as topping a tree. Those leaves closer to the trunk are there for a reason and should not be removed. They serve as a second line of defense of a tree, protecting its trunk from sunburn. They also help strengthen the entire limb from wind damage and serve as a tree's food source. If a tree's outer leaves are removed by insects, ice or wind, the interior leaves become the food factory for the tree. Trees live off its inner leaves. They are important for the long-term life of the tree.

So, what is the proper way to trim a tree? Proper tree pruning is difficult to explain without using illustrations or photos. Try hiring a qualified tree trimmer certified by the International Society of Arboriculture, or visiting ISA's Web site at <http://www.treesaregood.com>. The trees of a community or a city are considered an urban forest, and when even one tree is damaged or lost, it hurts everybody's property. Proper tree care is everybody's responsibility because we all benefit from healthy trees. Turn away tree trimmers who offer tree topping. Find a qualified tree trimmer who knows what he or she is doing. It could mean the difference between a thriving, beautiful tree and a dead one. For more information concerning trees, pruning or other questions you may have, feel free to contact Brad Easterling at the Texas AgriLife Extension Office at 366-2081.

# Business Directory

### Vincent Insurance Agency

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

### Great Lengths Salon



Walk-ins always welcomed

Melissa White  
 (806) 396-5004

### Stratford Auto Electric

119 S. Wall, Stratford, TX 79084  
 Phone-366-5941 or 366-5857  
 Alternators, starters, Altronic Repair  
 Since 1964  
 Roy McAlister

### A & I Parts Center

Automotive and Industrial Parts  
 201 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street-Stratford, TX 79084  
 Tel: (806) 366-5592  
 \*Toll-free 800-624-5494  
 Fax: (806) 366-2583

### Stratford Grain Company

Stratford 396-5541  
 Lautz 769-4485



4 North Main

THIS SPACE AVAILABLE  
 Call 366-5885

### Structured Touch Massage Therapy Clinic

Cece Yelek, CMT, LMT  
 301 N. Main St. or 7199 Co. Rd P  
 Stratford, TX Sunray, TX  
 Office 806-366-ahhh (2444)  
 Cell 806-290-3655  
 9-5 M-F-Sat. by appt

### Joe Taylor, Photography

PO Box 27  
 1305 N. Chestnut



Stratford, TX 79084  
 806-366-2459

Weddings, Portraits, etc

THIS SPACE AVAILABLE  
 CALL 366-5885

PO Box 510  
 Stratford, TX 79084  
 Phone: 806-366-5557

### Duncan Chevrolet

[www.duncanchevrolet.com](http://www.duncanchevrolet.com)  
 E-mail-duncanch@xit.net  
 AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION

### WALTER LASLEY & SONS INC.

THE Feedyard  
 Since 1953  
 753-4411

THIS SPACE AVAILABLE  
 CALL 366-5885



# "72nd ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE" SUNRAY CO-OP

SUNRAY • CAPPS SWITCH • GRUVER • CONLEN • COLDWATER • ETTER

\* Monday December 5, 2011 11:00AM Meeting\*

\*Sunray Baptist Church Family Life Center\*

\*Lunch Will Be Served Immediately Following the Meeting\*



## FISCAL YEAR RESULTS

Total Sales	\$ 2 44,000,000.00
Total Savings Before Income Taxes	\$ 5,068.000.00
Total Current Dividend	\$ 3,035.526.00
Old Equity Retirement	\$ 1,617,802.18
(15% of members total)	

Last 8 fiscal years Sunray Co-op has paid **BACK** 88% of member book credits.

Last 8 fiscal years Sunray Co-op has invested over \$10,000,000.00 in property, plant and equipment,

making **YOUR** co-op second to none!

# Hope To See You There!

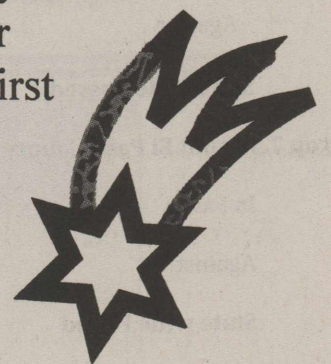
## Attention New Subscribers And also our loyal subscribers Starting January 1, 2012 our rates will be going up

We are offering you a Fall deal until the end of the year December 31, 2011.  
All new subscribers-if you subscribe from Thursday October 20, 2011 until the end of the year

Rates are \$27.00 local and out of area \$34.00  
(Usual rate \$30.00 and \$37.00)

We are also offering the same reduced rate to all our loyal subscribers (even if you have just paid or whenever you paid, you can get another additional year for paying for it now at the new reduced rate until December 31, 2011. After the first of the year, rates will be Local \$33.00 and out of area \$40.00

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State & Zip _____
Local _____
Out of Area _____
New _____
Already Subscribe: _____



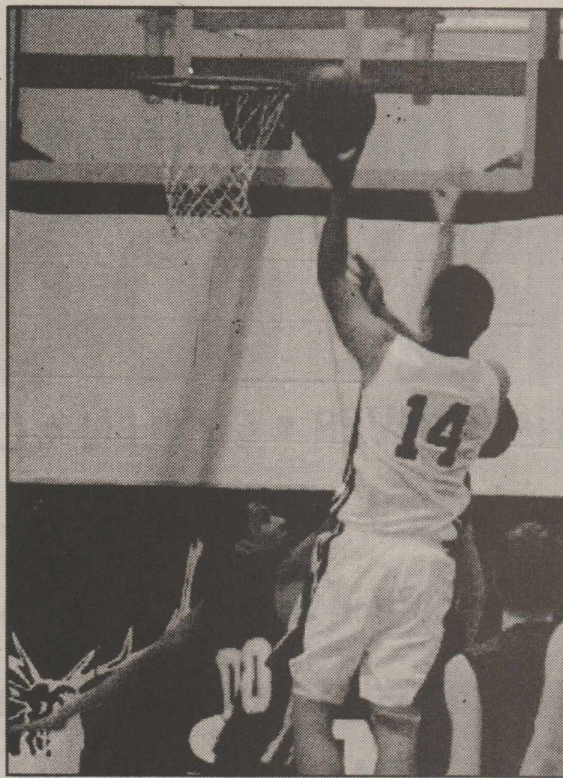
We have appreciated your support for all of these years, and would like to offer a discount before we raise our rates after December 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Just clip the coupon and send it to The Stratford Star, PO Box 8,  
Stratford, Texas 79084  
Att: Subscription enclosed**





Preston Burr goes up for two points in the J.V. Elks season opener win against Hartley on Tuesday, November 15.



Stratford Elk Edgar Guerrero scores for the Elks in their win over Hartley on Tuesday, November 20 to kick off their basketball season.

The J.V. Elks opened their basketball season with a 72-22 win over Hartley on November 15. Logan Uttley led the Elks with 22 points followed by Colten Rendon with 17, Preston Burr 12 and Grayson Gonzalez with 10 points. On Friday, November 18, they traveled to West Texas where they played Claude and won 38-24. Colten Rendon was high point with 19 points followed by Logan Uttley and Preston Burr with 7 points each.

The Stratford Elks beat Hartley 66-61 in the season opener on Tuesday, November 15. Edgar Guerrero led the Elks with 18 points, 7 rebounds and 5 assists. Kelby Hartman added 14 points followed by Justin Mungia with 13 points and 4 rebounds and Sterling Audrain added 12 points and 7 rebounds. On Friday, November 18, they beat Claude 41-33 with Edgar Guerrero being high point with 11 points followed by Casey Lantelme with 9 points, Marcos Garza and Sterling Audrain with 5 points each.

Players of the Week: Edgar Guerrero and Sterling Audrain.

## Texhoma Community Blood Drive

Texhoma Community Blood Drive will be held on Monday, December 5, 2011 from 3 to 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Fellowship Hall at 300 West Main Street.

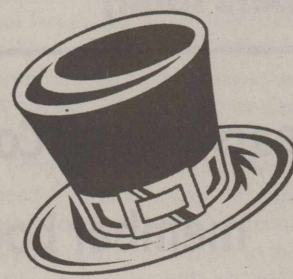
Every eligible donor who presents to donate will receive a Holiday t-shirt and will be entered into a weekly drawing for a chance to win a one year supply of milk (52 gallons) courtesy of Plains Dairy. Photo ID or Donor Card required to donate. Must be 17 years old to donate blood.

For appointments, please call 331-8800 or 1-877-574-8800. Walk-ins welcome. Find us on face book, Follow us on Twitter [www.thegiftoflife.org](http://www.thegiftoflife.org).

All Blood types are currently needed. The need is real. There is no substitute for blood. It can only come from volunteer blood donors. Please support the patients of the High Plains Region...Give the Gift of Life!

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## 2011 Constitutional Amendment Election For Sherman County



*Yasmin Nanna*  
Stylist  
Yahaira Beauty Salon  
201 Zauk Ave  
Dumas, TX 79029  
Specialize In Hair Extension  
Color/Highlights  
Men/Women Haircuts  
Hairstyles  
Wax  
Makeup  
Phone: 930-5235 or 935-2315

### Prop 1. Tax exemption for surviving spouse of veteran

In Favor 124  
Against 12

State wide Passed

### Prop 2. TX Water Dev Board issue additional bonds not exceed 6 Billion

In Favor 58  
Against 75

State wide Passed

### Prop 3. Issue bonds to finance education loans to students

In Favor 66  
Against 67

State wide Passed

### Prop 4. Permit county to issue bonds for development

In Favor 49  
Against 83

State wide Failed

### Prop 5. Allow city and county to enter interlocal contracts

In Favor 77  
Against 56

State wide Passed

### Prop 6. Gen Land Office distribute revenue for public education

In Favor 57  
Against 76

State wide Passed

### Prop 7. Permit El Paso County to create reclamation districts

In Favor 57  
Against 72

State wide Failed

### Prop 8. Appraisal for ad valorem tax of land devoted to water stewardship

In Favor 59  
Against 71

State wide Failed

### Prop 9. Auth. Gov to pardon a person who completed deferred adjudication

In Favor 47  
Against 85

State wide Passed

### Prop 10. Extend length of unexpired term which trigger automatic resignation

In Favor 61  
Against 69

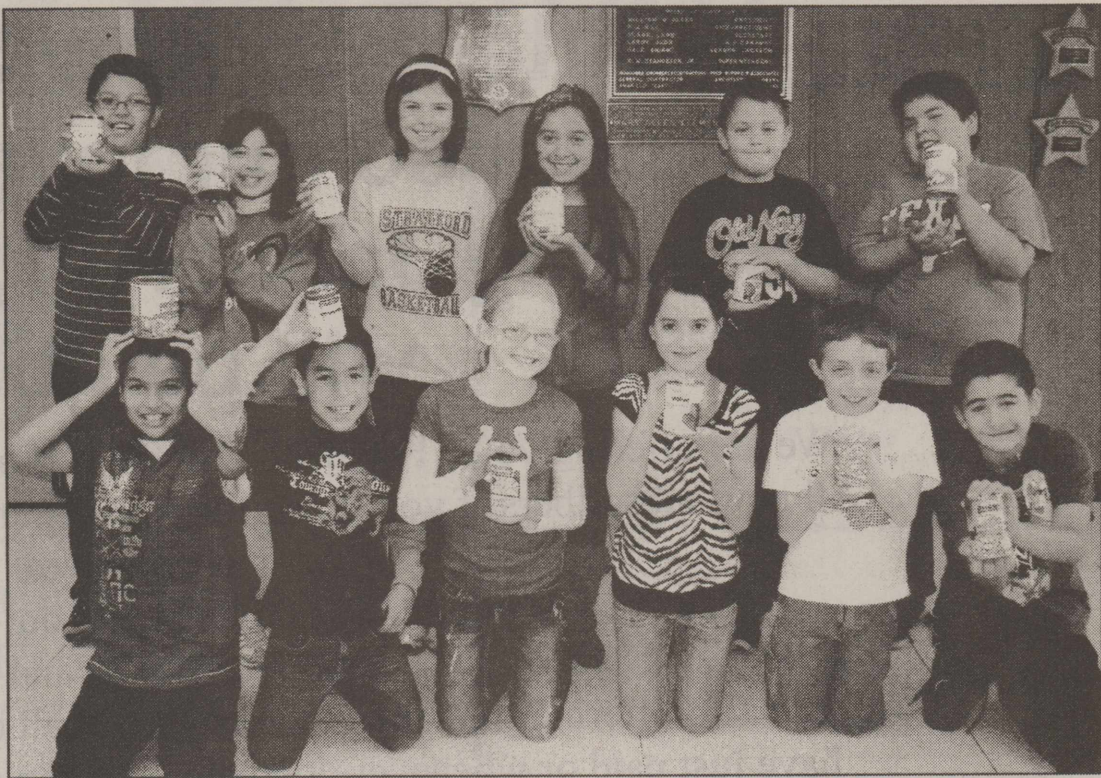
State wide Passed

Cont. from page 1

## Farm Bureau donates money to Volunteer Fire Departments

Farm Bureau donated \$1350 to Stratford Volunteer Fire Department and \$1350 to Texhoma Volunteer Fire Department. Sherman County Farm Bureau has donated to these Volunteer Fire Departments to help recover resources and funds used to keep our community safe. We are grateful for these firefighters' tireless efforts to protect our homes, land, animals and families, "said Sherman County Farm Bureau President Patrick Pronger. "With all that they've done for our community, this is a very worthy cause." The donation was made possible with the help of matching funds from the Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) state office. TFB committed to match county Farm Bureau donations on a \$3 to \$1 basis, up to a maximum of \$1,000 per volunteer fire department, across the state. "Volunteer fire departments are ready, at a moment's notice, to not just put out fires, but also prevent them. We all owe them a tremendous amount of gratitude for their service and sacrifice," Pronger said.

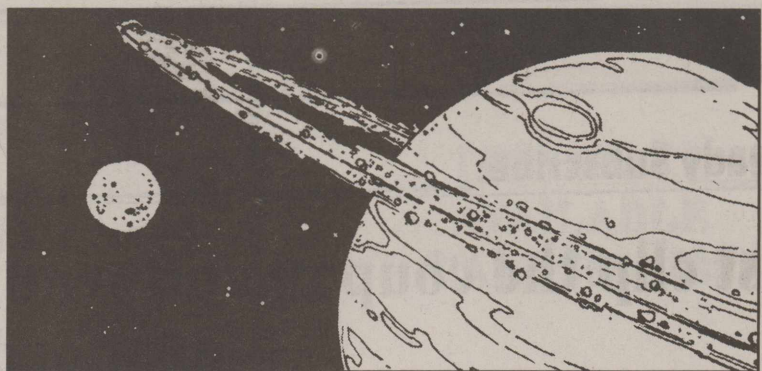
For more information about TFB's wildfire relief efforts, visit the organization's dedicated drought website, <http://www.txfb.org/drought2011.aspx>.



Mrs. Clark's 4<sup>th</sup> grade was the winning homeroom class in the Pantry Drive contest held at Mary Allen Elementary. They collected 446 items to donate to the City Food Pantry. Mary Allen students collected close to 2,000 items total for the pantry.

## Attention to all subscribers!!

Effective immediately The Stratford Star will 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 \$30.00 and out of the area \$37.00. If you are paying for someone else's sub, you will be billed for that person. Due to the rising cost of postage, etc. we feel this is the best solution for us at this time. Thanking you in advance. The Stratford Star, PO Box 8, Stratford, TX 79084  
Marty



The only moon in our solar system known to have an atmosphere is a moon that goes around Saturn.





It Pays To Look In The

THE STRATFORD STAR  
Thursday, November 24, 2011  
Page 7

# Star Classifieds

..The Best Salesperson Around

Phone 366-5885

## Houses for Sale

For Sale: 3 bed, 1 1/2 bath, sunroom, carport, 24x24 shop, nice yard, updated, appx 1800 sq. ft 514 N. Fulton. Call 806-930-3042 or 806-930-3043 6-2-11

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. Peari; 3bdr, 2 1/2 bth, cha, gas fp, 24 x 29 game/family rm, 2 c garage w/6 person ug shelter, Va approved assumable loan. 806-930-6920 10-27-11

## Help Wanted

Taking applications for "Morning Cook" Express Lane, Apply in Person 11-17-11

## For Sale

The holidays are fast approaching and for most of us there is never enough time to get it all done...especially the baking. Leave the baking to me!! I am taking orders for holiday desserts; anything is possible including Sugar Free-Cakes, Pies, Cookies and Cupcakes for kiddos. Everything is made from scratch! I am also able to make sugar free for those who have special dietary needs but still want to enjoy the best part of the holiday dinner...DESSERT!! To place your order Call or Text Amanda Evans at 806-717-9257. 11-10,17,24,12-1,8,15,22

## For Sale

For Sale-2002 Chevy Pickup, 97,500 miles. Call 806-366-2478. 11-17-11

Tri-Corner Art Association meets weekly on Tuesdays at the Sherman County Barn. Stop by from 12 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. to view other items of interest for the Christmas Season beginning November 22nd thru December 20th. TUESDAYS ONLY. 11-24-12-1-12-8-12-15-12-20

## Garage Sale

Garage Sale: Lots of children's items, clothing, TV, washer, some furniture, infant roller coaster. 811 N. 3rd St. Friday and Saturday, November 25-26, 9-3. 11-24-11

## For Rent

2 Bdrm Duplex C/H Deposit required. FMI call 806-884-5341 11-24-4x's

Thanksgiving week special!  
**25% off** all crosses, memo boards,  
and oil paintings through  
Saturday, Nov. 26th.

**Acquisitions...**  
**open Monday - Saturday**  
**from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**  
**the corner of Hwys 54 & 287**  
**in Stratford, Texas**  
**806-396-5691**

## STRATFORD ELECTRONIC RECYCLE EVENT

Until December 15, the City of Stratford will collect electronics

### Items Accepted:

- |              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| COMPUTERS    | MONITORS/COPIERS |
|              | TELEVISIONS      |
| GAME SYSTEMS | PRINTERS         |
|              | FAX MACHINES     |
| PHONES       | RADIOS           |
|              | Mp3 PLAYERS      |
|              | HARD DRIVES      |

AL MOST ANYTHING YOU WOULD FIND IN THE ELECTRONICS DEPARTMENT

ALL MATERIAL WILL BE TRANSPORTED DIRECTLY TO ESC IN TERREL, TEXAS. IT WILL THEN BE SHREDDED AND RECYCLED RESPONSIBLY!

<http://www.ecsrefining.com>

LOCATION: RECYCLE CENTER  
DATES: MONDAY - FRIDAY  
TIMES: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15TH, 2011  
ECS is an "e-Steward" Recycling Facility

You are Invited  
To a **HAPPY** Christmas Open House!

happybank.com Member FDIC

**HAPPY STATE BANK**  
AND TRUST COMPANY

Tuesday, Dec. 6th  
10:00am - 2:00pm  
100 N. Main • Stratford  
806-366-BANK

## Legal Notice

### Legal Notice

**Request for Proposal #4 Concrete Work**  
Texhoma ISD is requesting proposals for concrete work for driveways at seven homes. RFP's will be accepted from November 23-December 13, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. contact Hope Appel or Jane Trammell at 806-827-7400 for more information  
Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, November 24, 2011, Thursday, December 1, 2011 and Thursday, December 8, 2011

### Legal Notice

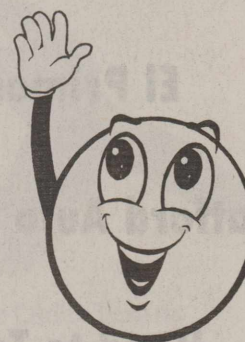
**Request for Proposal #5 Yard Sprinklers**  
Texhoma ISD is requesting proposals for yard sprinkler systems at seven homes. RFP's will be accepted from November 23-December 13, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. contact Hope Appel or Jane Trammell at 806-827-7400 for more information  
Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, November 24, 2011, Thursday, December 1, 2011 and Thursday, December 8, 2011

### Legal Notice

**Request for Proposal #6 Fencing**  
Texhoma ISD is requesting proposals for wood fencing at nine homes. RFP's will be accepted from November 23-December 13, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. contact Hope Appel or Jane Trammell at 806-827-7400 for more information  
Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, November 24, 2011, Thursday, December 1, 2011 and Thursday, December 8, 2011

\*\*\*  
The pat on the back, the arm around the shoulder, the praise for what was done right and the sympathetic nod for what wasn't are as much a part of golf as life itself.  
—Gerald R. Ford  
\*\*\*

\*\*\*  
Some minds seem almost to create themselves, springing up under every disadvantage and working their solitary but irresistible way through a thousand obstacles.  
—Washington Irving  
\*\*\*



It's estimated that the average person will burn 100 calories in just 14 minutes of tennis.



**Thanksgiving---a time of great joy,  
warm thoughts, and sincere gratitude.**

**A & I Parts**

**The Stratford Star**

**Stratford Flying Service**

**Smith Agency**

**Duncan Chevrolet**

**Farmers Insurance**

**Stratford Grain**

**Vincent Insurance**

**Moore's Food Pride**

**Main Street Essentials**

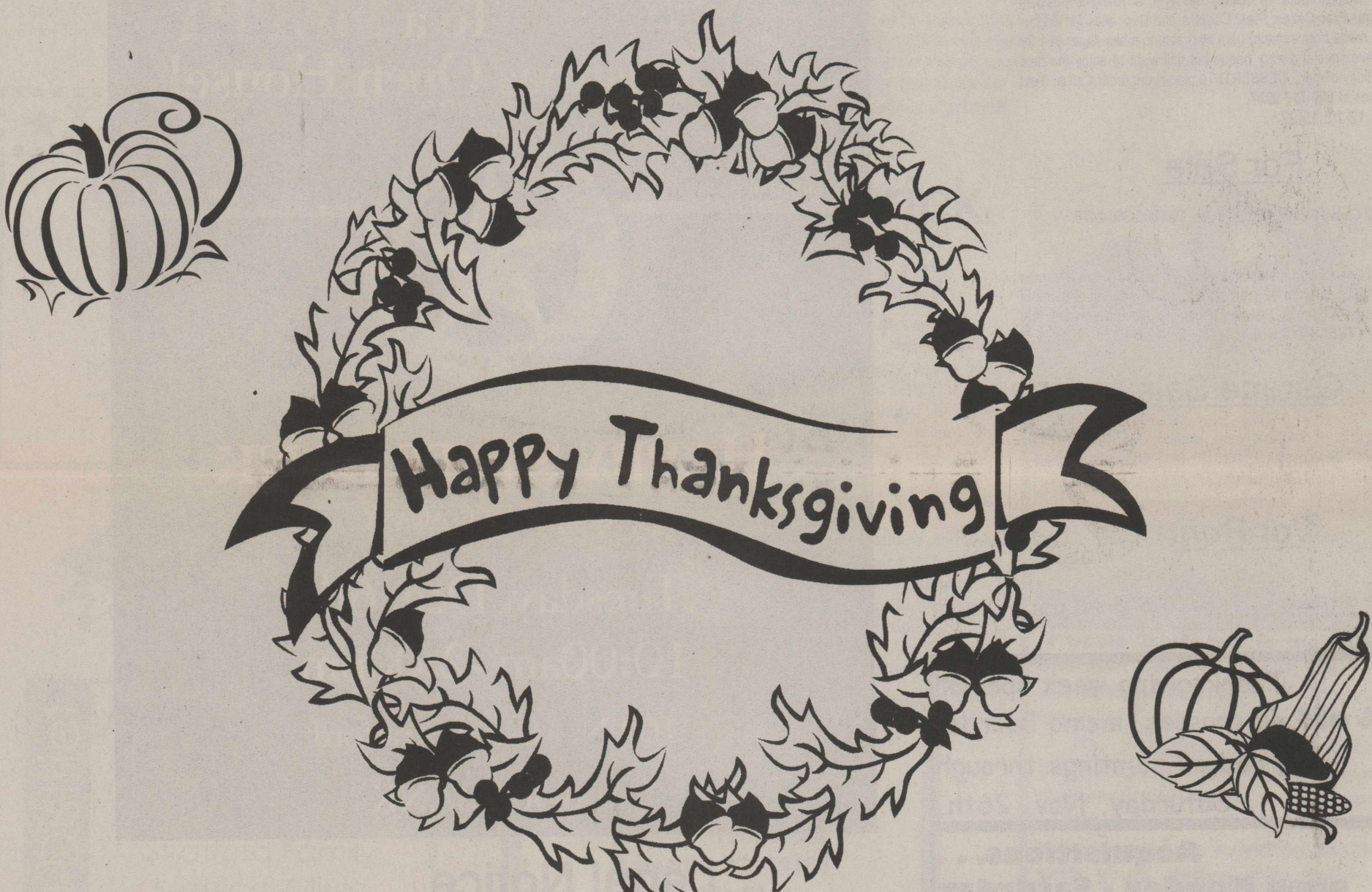
**Stevenson & Sons**

**Melton Welding**

**Hair Creations**

**Texas Electric Company**

**Great Lengths**



**Lockspur**

**Happy State Bank  
of Stratford**

**W&C Land & Cattle LTD**

**Bain Tire Company**

**Acquisitions**

**Daylight Donuts &  
Stratford Inn**

**Walter Lasley & Sons**

**Brown's Meat Locker**

**Sherman County  
Farm Bureau**

**1<sup>st</sup> State Bank of  
Stratford**

**The General Store**

**C & D Body Shop**

**El Primos**

**Structured Touch  
Massage**

**The Dollar General**

**Stratford Auto Electric**

**Let's Make Arrangements**

**Keener Oil Company**

**Head to Toe**

**Stratford Hospital  
District**

**Brooks Motor/  
Brooks Video**

**Many thanks for your business and many  
wishes for a bountiful Thanksgiving**