

Melvin Mitts 06/15
PO Box 523
Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

75 cents

Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084 usps 523

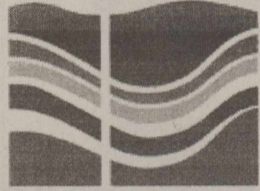
Number 4

January 22, 2015



District Celebrates 60 Years of Conserving Protecting and Preserving Groundwater

January 21, 2015 marks 60 years since residents north of the Canadian River in Texas voted to confirm the designation of the area by the Texas State Board of Water Engineers and the creation of the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, dedicated to protect and conserve groundwater resources north of the Canadian River. The district celebrated the occasion with a reception in conjunction with the Dumas Moore County Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at the district office at 603 E. 1st Street in Dumas.



**NORTH PLAINS
GROUNDWATER**
Conservation District

Along with the beginning of the district in 1955, other milestones include: promoting and developing the first research station north of the Canadian River, annexation of remaining land north of the Canadian from 1972-2012, adoption of the districts management plan in 1998, and receiving the state highest conservation honor, the Texas Environmental Excellence Award for Agriculture from the Governor and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in 2012.

Since 1955, twenty-three different board members, representing the eight counties comprising the district service area, have guided the district, as well as six full-time and acting general managers. Since 2007, Steve Walthour has served as the district general manager. The current members of the district board of directors provide direction and oversight. The current board members and their counties are as follows: Gene Born, Lipscomb; Justin Crownover, Sherman; Harold Graff, Moore; Mark Howard, Hartley; Danny Krienke, Ochiltree; Zac Yoder, Dallam; and Bob Zimmer, Hansford and Hutchinson.

The district works in conjunction with local, state and federal agencies to conserve, protect and preserve the regions groundwater by creating and enforcing rules and standards for groundwater production, educating stakeholders about conservation, issuing water well permits, collecting and maintaining groundwater data and performing water quality analyses. In addition, the district has embraced the state water planning process by establishing and maintaining a current district management plan, creating desired future conditions in cooperation with district stakeholders and the other members of Groundwater Management Area 1, and establishing rules to accomplish the desired future conditions.

The district provides water conservation education for stakeholders from children to adults and including residential and agricultural applications. In 2010, the board of directors initiated the awarding-winning 200-12 Reduced Irrigation on Corn Demonstration Project to demonstrate the potential for saving irrigation water while maintaining crop yields. In 2005, the district began its annual children's water festivals-serving over 5,000 students and teachers over the last nine years with a full-day of hands-on natural resource education. The district also offers in-class educational programs to schools, clubs and service organizations throughout the district. Shown above NPGCD board members Phil Haaland, Hartley County and Danny Krienke, Ochiltree County, along Haaland's wife Glynette are congratulated by Governor Rick Perry when the district received the Texas Environmental Excellence Award in 2012.

CASA 69, Inc. Calls for Volunteers This MLK Day

Dalhart, Texas - At the March on Washington on Aug. 28, 1963, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his inspirational "I Have a Dream" speech. King's dream was equal rights for all Americans, regardless of the color of their skin. CASA 69, Inc. also has a dream this Martin Luther King Jr. Day - a dream that every child in Texas has a safe, permanent home.

When children are removed from their homes due to evidence of abuse or neglect, they are placed in the child welfare system, sometimes far away from their friends and loved ones. Often times, they are left to navigate the system on their own without a consistent adult to guide them.

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteers are appointed by judges to speak up for a child in court. A CASA volunteer's main goal is to help move the child out of the temporary system and into a safe, permanent home as quickly as possible. CASA 69, Inc. is one of the 71 local CASA programs in Texas that recruit volunteers to advocate for children in court.

"By getting to know the child personally and speaking up for his or her best interest, CASA volunteers make sure the child's voice is not lost in the chaos of court proceedings," said Edey Cunningham, Executive Director of CASA 69, Inc.

In 2013, more than 46,600 Texas children were in the child welfare system. Of those children, roughly half did not have a CASA volunteer.

Last year, 24 CASA volunteers served 40 children in the child welfare system in Dallam, Hartley, Moore and Sherman Counties. We have always been able to serve 100% of the children that have come into CPS care and continue to need more volunteers to train so we can always serve 100% of the children that may be assigned to us in the future. To insure we are serving the children's best interest.

"We hope for a day when CASA is no longer needed because all children are safe and cared for," said Cunningham. "But until then, we need more community members to step up and advocate for our most vulnerable children."

CASA volunteers speak with everyone involved in the child's life, including family members, teachers, therapists and foster parents. They gather information about the child's physical, educational and emotional needs and report their findings to the court so that the judge can make an informed placement decision.

CASA volunteers advocate first and foremost for reunification with the child's immediate family, but when that is not an option they work to place the child with a loving adoptive family.

"At CASA 69, we have a dream of ensuring that every child has a forever-home where they can thrive and grow," said Cunningham. "Join us in making our dream a reality this Martin Luther King Jr. Day by becoming a CASA volunteer."

For more information, visit www.becomeacasa.org or www.casa69.org, 806-244, 2486/. The next information session is

CHILI & ALL THE FIXINS' FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2015 11:30 am - 1:00 pm EVERYONE IS INVITED FREE WILL DONATION

Christian Women's Fellowship is hosting their annual Chili dinner with all the fixins'. It will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2015 at the First Christian Church. There will be homemade chili, beans, baked potatoes, hot dogs, cornbread, Frito pies & desserts. Everyone is invited. We will be serving from 11:30 am until 1:00 pm. Please come and bring your appetite. Your gifts will help support Basic Mission Finance, a work of the General Office of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Schedule of all 2014-2015 4-H & Clover Meetings

**Dates are subject to change with weather or AgriLife mandatory meetings*

All meetings for both clubs are at 6pm

4-H Meetings

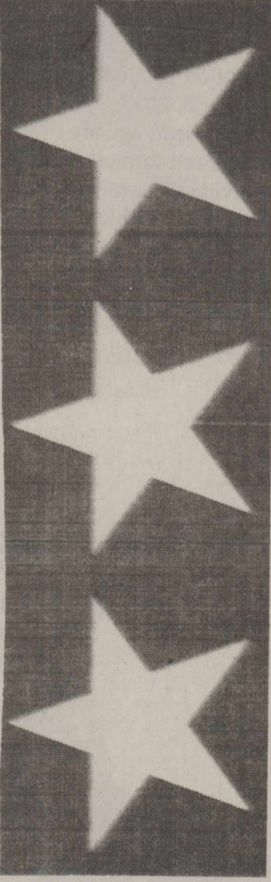
November 10
December 8
January 12
February 9
March 16
April 13
May 4

Clover Kid Meetings

November 24
December 15
January 26
February 23
March 30
April 27
May 18

Financial Aid Night

Financial Aid Night for Class of 2015 and their parents
Thursday, January 22 @ 6 p.m. in the High School Library



2015 TREE SALE

Time is here once again for Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District's annual Spring Tree Sale. Order forms are ready and can be picked up at our office at 418 North 4th in Stratford, or we can mail it if you give us a call. We can also email the order form if you supply us with an email address. Just call us or email us at shermwcd@xit.net.

While we try to list as many species that are available for this area, we cannot list them all. If you have any special wants or wishes as far as trees go this year, please call the office at 396-5517 ext. 3 and we will be happy to try and find what you need.

The District can also fill requests for drip irrigation supplies. We keep some drip supplies in stock, and will help in the design of your system and order exactly what is needed for you if we do not have it. Delivery is usually within three working days. You can also help your investment with the installation of weed barrier. We have this available also. This is especially important in windbreaks because we do not want the newly planted seedlings to have to fight with weeds and grass for water. The barrier will help prevent the growth of weeds and grass and keep the moisture in the ground.

If you need a Tree Order Form, want to place an order for trees, irrigation supplies, weed barrier or just have any questions regarding the trees or need help planning for your particular needs, please do not hesitate to contact the District or the NRCS at 396-5517 ext. 3.

Thank you for your continued support of conservation in Sherman County.

MEDICAL FUND FOR JACK GORE HAPPY STATE BANK

A medical fund has been set up for Jack and Vicki Gore at Happy State Bank

A medical fund has been set up for Gerardo Romero at Happy State Bank to help pay for his shoulder surgery. Your help will be appreciated!

Un fondo medico se ha creado para Gerardo Romero en Happy State Bank para ayudar a pagar por su cirugia de hombre. Su ayuda sera apreciada!

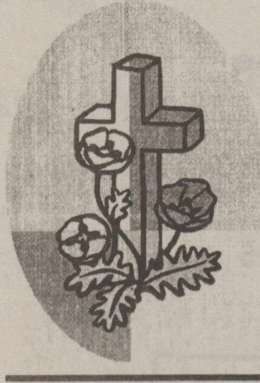
A Pauline Griffin fund has been set up for help with funeral expenses at The First State Bank of Stratford.

Financial Aid Night

Financial Aid Night for Class of 2015 and their parents Thursday, January 22 @ 6 p.m. in the High School Library

Sherman County 4-H is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a Louisiana Pellet Grill LG 900 or a Keurig 2.0 K550 Coffee Brewing System. You can purchase tickets from any 4-Her or at the Sherman County Stock Show. Remember 4-Hers, your tickets are due back in the office on January 28th by 4:00.

Obituaries



Geneva Bell

October 3, 1917 - January 17, 2015

Geneva Bell, 97 of Stratford, passed away on Saturday, January 17, 2015. A Funeral Service was held at 11 o'clock in the morning on Monday, January 19, 2015 at First Baptist Church with Rev. Gary Smith, pastor of First Christian Church, officiating. Graveside services were at 1 o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at Brownfield Cemetery in Brownfield. Arrangements were entrusted to Morrison Funeral Directors.

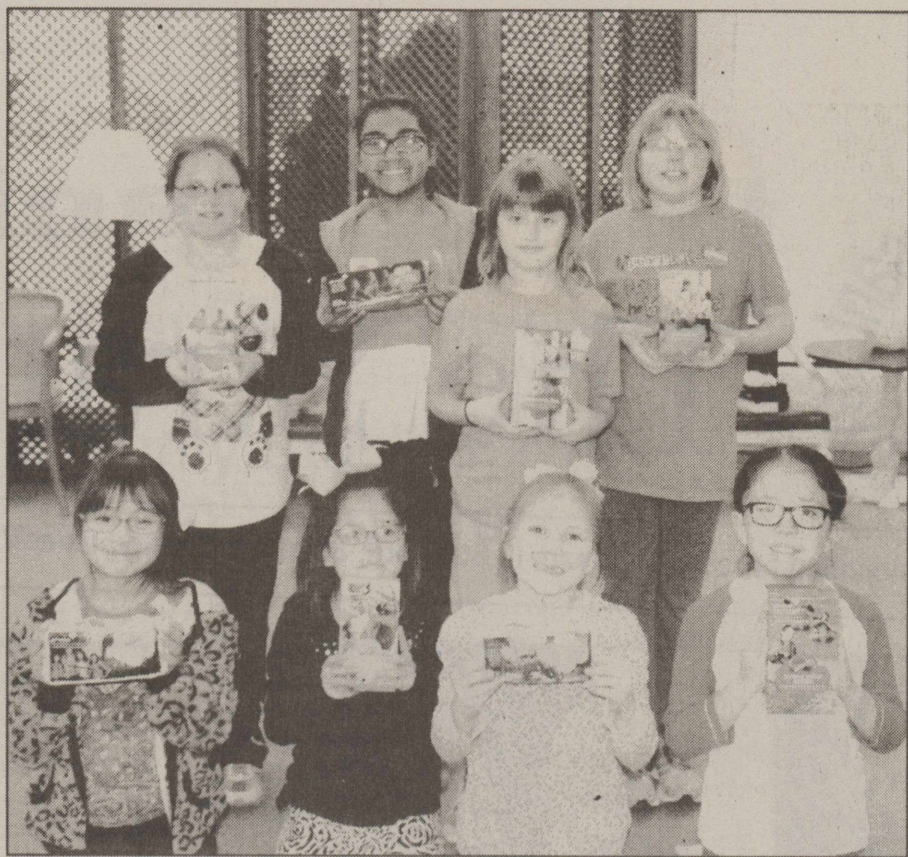
Geneva was born on October 3, 1917, in Wellington, TX to Madison and Mary (Hodges) Goforth. She had been a resident of the community since 1983. She was united in marriage to Gilbert Bell on October 3, 1934 in Wellington, TX; he preceded her in death.

Geneva was an avid reader and enjoyed playing skip bo and dominoes. She was an active member of T.O.P.S. and SCOT Hall. Geneva was a faithful member of First Baptist Church; she loved the church and was a very devoted Christian. Geneva was passionate about her family, they brought her great joy.

In addition to her husband, Gilbert, she is preceded in death by her parents; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Geneva is survived by five sons: Billy C. Bell and wife Jeanne of Stratford, Dan Bell and wife Clara of Idalou, TX, Ronnie Bell of Lubbock, TX, Gary Bell and wife Cynthia of Brownfield, TX, and Joe Bell and wife Fern of Pearland, TX; eighteen grandchildren; thirty-nine great-grandchildren; and twenty-nine great-great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be made to SCOT Hall or Coldwater Manor Activity Fund, PO Box 1189, Stratford, TX 79084.



Girl Scouts Cookie Sales January 16th-February 28th, 2015

Stratford Girl Scouts will be participating in the largest girl led business this year, Girl Scout Cookies. 2015 is a great year for the cookies a new one is introduced and another is celebrating its 10-year anniversary. "Trios" is a Gluten Free cookie made with peanut butter, chocolate chips, and oatmeal. We only have a limited supply of the Trios and the cost of the Trios is \$5.00 per package. The cookie celebrating 10 years is "thanks-a-Lots" which is a shortbread cookie dipped in chocolate on the bottom. Thanks-a-Lots, Thin Mints, Caramel deLites, Peanut Butter sandwiches, Peanut Butter Patties, Cranberry Citrus, Shortbread, and Lemonades are \$4.00 per package. Please support the Girl Scouts by purchasing these wonderful cookies. This year, they are raising money to upgrade the Girl Scout park right here in Stratford along with some other little projects they would like to do. Sell date is January 16th - February 28th. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Moczygemba (806) 333-7539.

Imagine That at The Imagination Station

The "Italian Lunch" served Sunday, January 18 was well attended. The fund raiser will pay almost one half of the insurance for 2015. We thank those who supported the effort.

Girl Scout cookies have arrived and will be on sale soon. (We have a boat load.)

The next event will be the 'Mother & Daughter Brunch' March 21. Limited advance tickets on sale March 2.

April 13-15 is the Week of the Young Child Exhibit "Dr. Seuss"

In the summer, look for 4-H Main Street Fun; Drama Camp; Jamboree. We are now taking items for the September "Whale of a Sale", give us a call.

FSA Accepting Emergency Loan Applications

Applications for emergency farm loans for damages and losses caused by drought beginning January 1, 2014 and continuing are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Perryton, Texas.

156 Texas Counties recently received a disaster designation as eligible for loans to cover part of actual production and physical losses under the "fast track" authority. As contiguous counties also named under this disaster are another 43 Texas Counties. All of the Counties in the Texas Panhandle were designated under this disaster.

Farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agricultural business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.625 %.

As a general rule a farmer or rancher must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of crop production or suffered any physical loss to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan under this disaster designation of drought conditions beginning January 1, 2014 and continuing. Producers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance program will have to consider proceeds from those programs in determining their production loss. Additionally, any insurance proceeds received by producers as a result of the physical loss will have to be considered in determining their total loss.

Application for loans under this emergency designation for physical or production losses will be accepted until September 8, 2015.

FSA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who meet U.S. citizenship requirements and to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizenship requirements are met by individual holding a majority interest.


For further information, you may contact James M. Heck at (806) 435-6597, ext. 4 or contact your local FSA office and they will direct you to the Farm Loan Program office that handles your county. Additional information regarding Disaster Assistance Programs may be found online at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

New Year, New You!

By Paula Nusz

January 2015 has arrived and it's time for making those New Year's Resolutions. Legacy has jumped into the new year with 2 new programs designed to improve one's body. The first program is provided by the Texas Agri-Life Extension Service is titled 'Walk Across Texas'. This program is designed to encourage at least 30 minutes daily of some type of exercise activity. Legacy residents (known as Legacy Legends) are competing against the Legacy staff (known as the Legacy Darlings). Each group is keeping record of their exercise; and that is being converted into mileage. The goal is to 'walk' to Lubbock (198 miles) in the next 14 weeks. If you drop into Legacy, you will see people walking, wheel chairing and riding the exercise bike. Every Friday, all mileage charts will be turned into the captain. The captain will then report to the Extension Office of the weekly progress, complete a team mileage chart, and post the progress on a map. Groups from all over Texas are currently using the 'Walk Across Texas' program.

The second program, also provided by the Extension Service, is 'Eat Smart- Live Strong'. This program is designed to help everyone make wise food choices. This 4 week program will also include aspects of exercise. Kay Rogers will be bringing this program to Legacy. All of the participants are eager to start the New Year by making their lives better and healthier. Who knows, maybe some new clothes in a smaller size is on the horizon for some of the participants!



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
The Stratford Star is published weekly
Editor & Publisher Martha Robertson
Advertising & Photographer Shari Hudson
Subscription rates
\$33.00 per year in Sherman & Adjoining counties
\$40.00 per year all others
\$27.00 per (9 months) College rate
The Stratford Star-PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084
Periodicals postage paid at Stratford, TX
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Stratford Star,
PO Box 8-Stratford, TX 79084

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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**

**Attention to all subscribers!!
Rate change**
The Stratford Star is no longer 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

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www.seguoyah8.com
620-275-2760

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396-5583 Tommy Brian, ANP
Elk Pharmacy
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. - 5:30 PM
"Check our Competitive pricing"
"Compounding Available"
366-5505
Coldwater Manor Nursing Facility
396-5568 Laura Davis, 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.



"Stratford Education Foundation Alumni Feature"

Sarah Graham Bolin

I have loved math for as long as I can remember. Be it math races or UIL Number Sense, I have always found beauty in finding the right answer. It likely all started, quite simply, because I was reasonably good at it. While the end has not yet been written, I now work with numbers every day as a manager at Google.

When I think back over my time in Stratford schools, I can point to a few pivotal moments that really solidified my love for math and, later, computer science.

In fifth grade, I joined the UIL Number Sense team. I don't remember if I volunteered or Mr. Norris "voluntold" me, but this marked the beginning of my STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) career. As the team sponsor, Mr. Norris spent countless hours coaching us in math shortcuts for everything from perfect squares (I still know all of them to 30!) to the rainbow method for 3-digit by 3-digit multiplication. I saw these formulas and shortcuts as a secret language and loved learning to speak it.

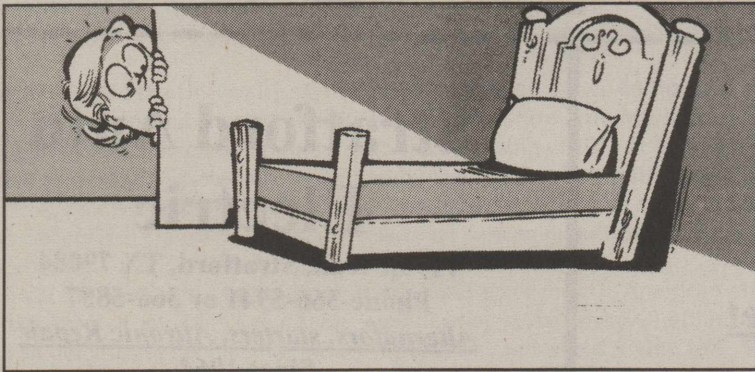
Fast forward to high school and I took every math class that was offered at SHS. At the time, this ended with Mr. Kendrick's pre-calculus class. For those of you who were fortunate enough to have Mr. Kendrick as a teacher, you know he let you bring formula sheets into the tests. His philosophy was revolutionary to me at the time: you don't need to memorize what the answer is; you need to know how to derive the answer. This means you have to truly understand the material rather than just remember it long enough to take a test.

Last but certainly not least, I took Computer Science, again with Mr. Kendrick. We started with Pascal, which we programmed on dummy terminals from a local mainframe that once had to be reformatted from 9.5" floppy disks. Even for that time, the machines were ancient! Our first programming language was Pascal, and much like my experience in Number Sense, I felt I was learning a secret code to a whole other world. The elegance of writing code to solve a problem fascinated me, so much so that I decided I would study computer science in college.

I double-majored in Computer Science and Mathematics at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX. During my time at SMU, I spent my junior year at University College London and completed two internships as a computer programmer at Alcatel Networking in Richardson, TX. After earning my Master's degree in Computer Science at Johns Hopkins University, I moved to Austin, TX, where I began my career as a software engineer.

As a professional software engineer, I still hold to Mr. Kendrick's philosophy: understand how to derive the answer. This means I have always focused on the user: what they need, why they need it, and how I can create software to meet their needs. Be it creating scientific instruments for manufacturing lines or building medical software to check for dangerous drug interactions at hospitals, I have always been the team member who wanted to see the software in action and work directly with customers to make it better.

In the end, this love for the user has led somewhere I would have never dreamed: Google. When my friend suggested I apply over 8 years ago, I said no because I was convinced I would never make the cut. Thank goodness I risked rejection, as I landed a job at Google's Manhattan office working as a Customer Solutions Engineer for Fortune 500 companies. Things have certainly evolved since May 2007: my career shifted to management, I met and married my husband Michael, we relocated to Silicon Valley and had our daughter Natalie last December, and I am now a working mom. Yet over 7.5 years later, I still love working at Google. I now manage the Data, Tools, and Business Intelligence team that supports a 1500 person organization. Both math and computer science are part of my daily life, and I can never express how truly thankful I am for those who shaped my path along the way.



Clinophobia is the fear of going to bed.



Alfred Hitchcock Movie Marathon

By Paula Nusz

Legacy Assisted Living hosted an Alfred Hitchcock Movie Marathon during the week of January 12th. Each day a different movie will be shown. Movies that were viewed include: Vertigo, North by Northwest, The Birds, Strangers on a Train, and Rear Window. This has been a popular activity for Legacy residents. Hitchcock was a master as suspense. His movies enlivened the dark days of January. Other movie marathons are planned for later in the year including Elvis and Doris Day. Thank you to the Dallam-Hartley County Library for securing the movies. Shown left to right are Irma Joe Mitchell, Carl Wiebe, Charlie McClain

New Creation in Christ Means New Thinking

2 Corinthians 5:17 - "Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." It takes time for me to internalize what "new" actually means in this scripture. I understand that my body is still the same old, frail piece of flesh before and after my commitment to Christ. So I think, "What part of me became new?" If my body is not new, then obviously God makes my spirit new. This is a miraculous transformation that only God can do. I am "born again" (made new) by accepting God's spirit. His spirit replaces my old spirit and a new creation is formed (in Christ).

Studying this scripture makes me ponder: Do I act like a new creation? What is different about me? The most striking difference I notice in myself is the change in my thinking. When my thoughts take a path that is away from the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I oftentimes (almost immediately) recognize the divergence. If my thoughts are not characteristic of God's spirit, something inside of me feels uncomfortable. This uncomfortable feeling alerts me to stinking thinking that might cause me to drift away from the path to God. If I allow it to do so, my conscience guides my thoughts and my actions away from evil. When I think thoughts that are not kind, patient, peaceful, or don't lead to acts of love, my alarm bell goes off. This is evidence of God working to change me from the inside. Although he accepts us (just as we are) into his family the moment we accept him, he doesn't leave us there. He walks with us and teaches us how to become Christ like.

The Christ in Christians constantly prods them toward sanctification--spiritual maturity. God already knows I am not a perfect. When I stumble and cry out to him for help, he picks me up and guides me back onto the path of righteousness. Thankfully, never leaves me when I fail. He patiently waits for me to grow in grace, knowledge, faith and love. The process of learning to be Christ like is identical to a baby learning to walk. There are many skips, trips and falls along life's journey. Yet, fortunately for me, God remains ever present, loving and forgiving.

Meditation: Am I following Christ toward sanctification?

1 Peter 1:22-23 2 Peter 3:18 Ephesians 1:13-14 Ephesians 4:14-15 2 Thessalonians 1:3 Philippians 1:9 2 Corinthians 5:17

Feedback welcome. joniahysop@gmail.com

Roy Jacuzzi, who is credited with inventing and marketing the first integrated whirlpool bath in 1968, came from a family of inventors who are credited with inventions in both aviation and agriculture, including an agricultural pump.

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

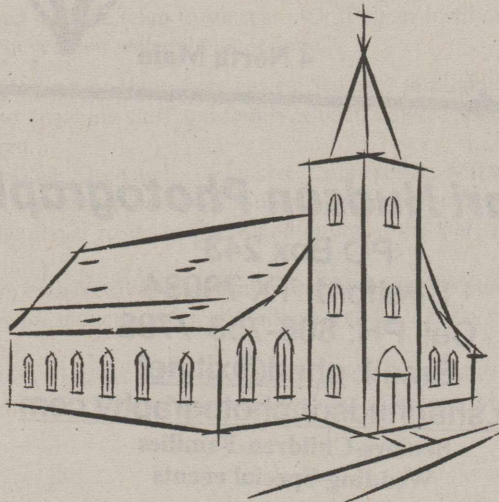
First Assembly of God
Kevin Anderson, Pastor
921 Fulton
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

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. Steve Ulrey 396-2178
520 N. Main
Sunday School 9:20 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Junior & 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 Ron Whitt
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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Juan Campos
N. 3rd & Chestnut
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Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

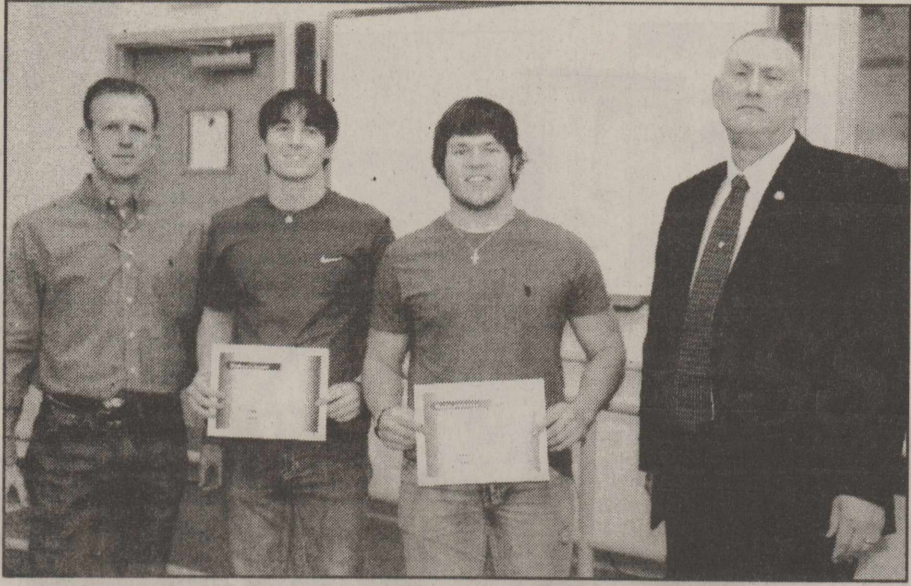
Heritage Bible Baptist
Pastor Mark Looney
302 S. Main
For more info-call 396-2212
Morning worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Thurs. Service 7:00 p.m.

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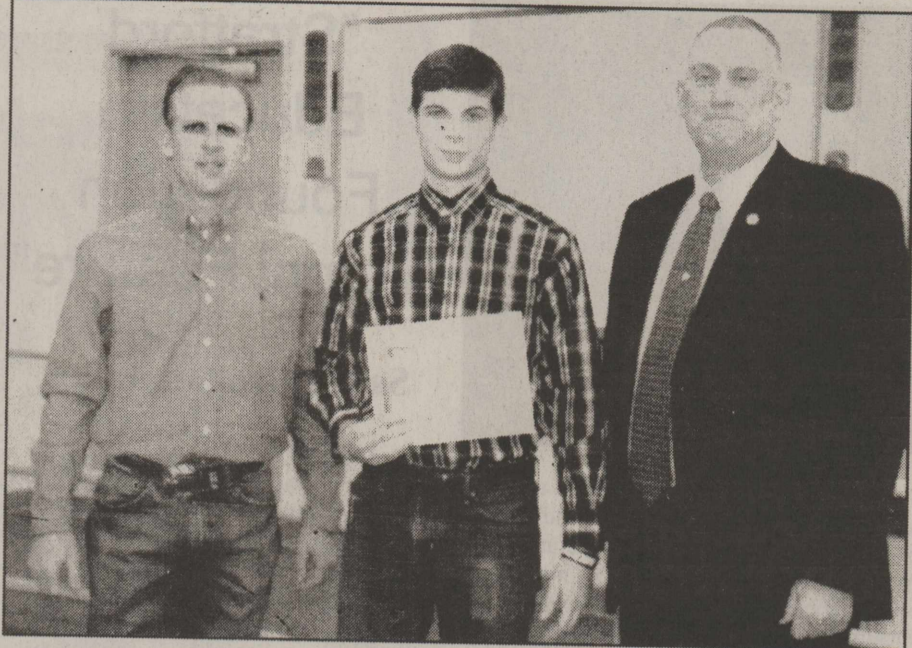
Kerrick Community
Pastor Roy Harris
Community Building
10 a.m. Worship Service

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

Students recognized at School Board Meeting January 15th, 2015



Receiving recognition for their honors in football were Tanner Stone, Jesus Tarango, Trevor Melton and Rett Schoonover. Tanner Stone received District 1-2A Football Defensive MVP Globe New Super Team Linebacker. Jesus Tarango received Globe News Super Team Offensive Lineman. Trevor Melton received Globe News Super Team Defensive Lineman and Rett Schoonover received Globe News Super Team Defensive Back. Pictured with Board President Brad McBryde and Superintendent Jerry Birdsong is Rett Schoonover and Tanner Stone. Tarango and Melton were not in attendance.



SHS Band student Brantley Powers shown with Board President Brad McBryde and Superintendent Jerry Birdsong was recognized for All-Region Trombone - 1st Chair Symphonic. Students also recognized but not in attendance were Kobi Garza All-Region Tuba - 6th Chair Symphonic and Karina Henderson All Region Clarinet - 5th Chair Symphonic.



Raeleigh Willborn was recognized at the school board meeting on Thursday, January 15, 2015 for her accomplishments at stock shows. Raeleigh received Reserve Champion Spotted Poland China at Kansas City Stock Show and Reserve Breed Champion York at Arizona National Livestock Show. Shown with Raeleigh are Board President Brad McBryde and Superintendent Jerry Birdsong.

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Sherman County 4-H is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a Louisiana Pellet Grill LG 900 or a Keurig 2.0 K550 Coffee Brewing System. You can purchase tickets from any 4-Her or at the Sherman County Stock Show. Remember 4-Hers, your tickets are due back in the office on January 28th by 4:00.

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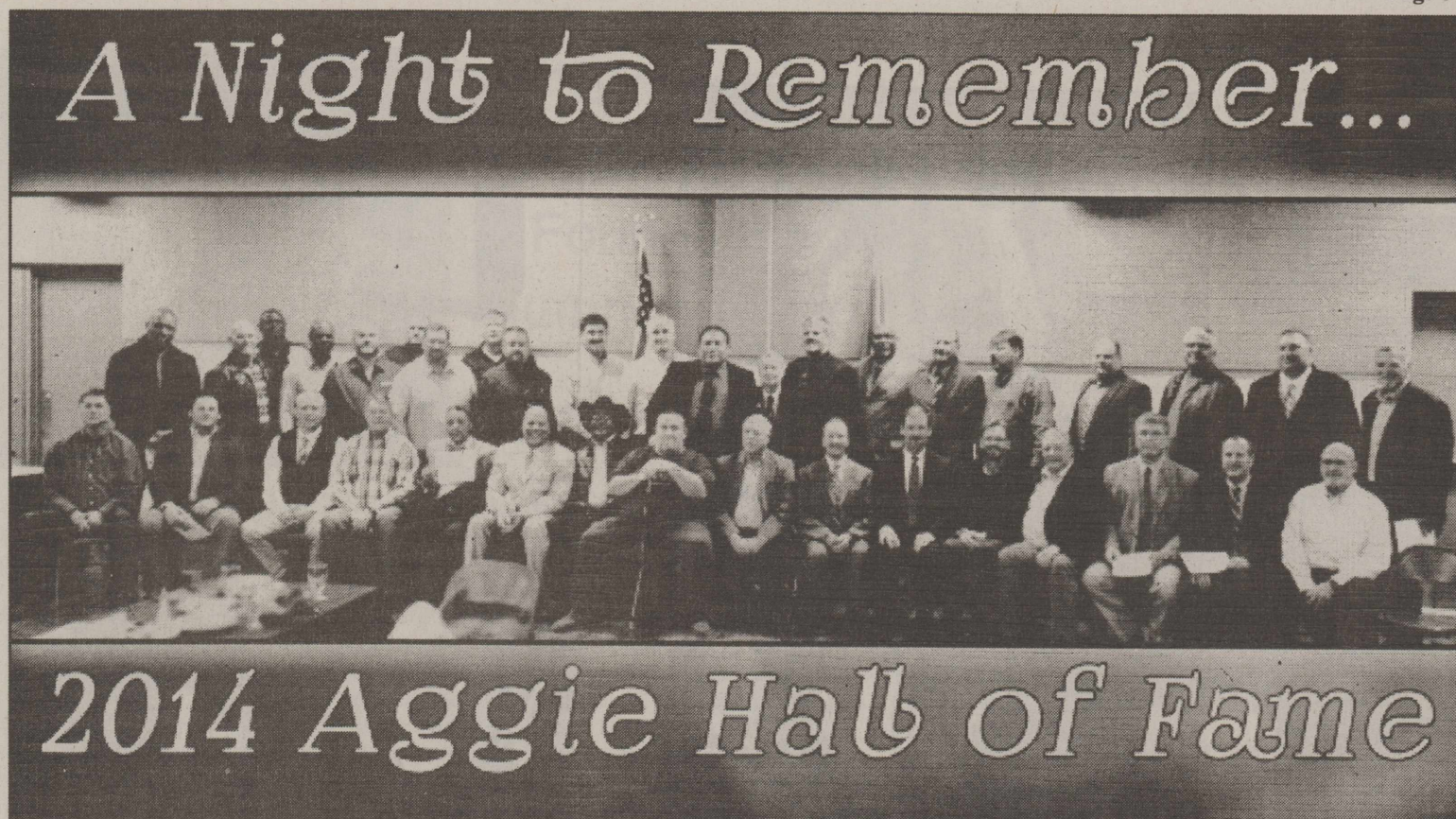
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The Class of 2014 was inducted into the Aggie Hall of Fame Friday evening, January 16th, 2015. Inductees present included Paul Wilcox, Jr., Joe Piccininni, Mike Lee and many members of the 1981 Football Team, which included Roger Allen of Stratford, Max Plunk, formerly of Stratford and the Late Jim Owen Everson. Congrats to all. Photo by Kelsey Moser. Article by Justine Gaskamp

2014 Hall of Famers Prove that Aggies "Make It Happen"

By Justine Gaskamp on 01/19/2015

Goodwell, Okla.—The OPSU Student Union Ballroom was bursting at the seams Friday evening as close to 200 alumni, athletes, friends and family gathered to celebrate the Class of 2014 at the Aggie Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet.

Three individuals and one team became permanent fixtures in the history of Aggie Athletics; Paul Wilcox, Jr. (golf), Mike Lee (football), Joe Piccininni (football) and the 1981 Football team are now official members of the Aggie Hall of Fame.

Many tales were told and memories shared throughout the evening but one common theme ran through all, and that was a genuine love and appreciation of their times spent at Oklahoma Panhandle State University. Be it football or golf; northerners, southerners; East Coast or West ... all agreed that little could match the experiences and relationships built at a small university in the Panhandle of Oklahoma.

OPSU Men's Basketball coach Jerry Olson served as emcee and opened the evening in prayer. Sodexo provided a buffet-style dinner fit for athletic royalty, and once bellies were full, the induction ceremony got underway.

OPSU alum Jim Hampton made the first presentation as he introduced Paul Wilcox, Jr., referring to him as the "Littlest Big Man on Campus." The Aggie golfer from Berkeley, Calif. earned his induction as a four-time Oklahoma Collegiate Conference Medalist Champion from 1962-1965. Hampton recalled the reluctance Wilcox had on moving to the Panhandle, but after being talked into returning after his freshman year stated this of his good friend, "He came, he saw, he stayed, and a lot of golf he played."

Wilcox brought smiles and laughter to the room as he entertained the crowd with anecdotes on what brought him to OPSU and what eventually led him to stay at OPSU; the people. "I'd never been treated so well and, by the end of my second year, I wanted to come back. I missed the people." He added that OPSU gave him everything he needed to succeed not only in the golf world, but life in general, "I learned how to treat people right" (based off of how he was treated in the Panhandle).

Humbled by his Hall of Fame induction, Wilcox went on to thank his friends, his coach (Otis Sanders) and gave special appreciation to his wife Janice. Paul continues to be an active member of the golf community and remains involved with the Northern California PGA.

Mario Mendoza was up next and presented his teammate and friend Joe Piccininni, First Team All-District IX defensive lineman for the Aggies from 1981-1982. Mendoza began by saying that his friendship with "Pic" was something he was "blessed to be a part of." He added that Pic was a great leader and a tough player who never resorted to trash-talking on the field, "He did his talking with his shoulder pads and helmet."

Genuinely proud of his teammates Piccininni had difficulty in accepting the individual honor and expressed his feelings best through a quote from Ohio State Head Football Coach Urban Meyer, "We are now brothers forever." He added his own words saying, "It is about what we did as a team; not about me. We developed a bond of strong trust and belief in each other and in our coaches, who always put us in the best positions to play every game. We had each other's backs."

Piccininni thanked the University saying, "[OPSU] has always given the best, so we can do our best. I am blessed to have been put here." He offered a touching tribute to his parents and showed utmost appreciation for his wife Marietta and their children. The very well-respected d-lineman went on to become an equally well-respected football coach, earning a state championship in 2011 at Newfield High School in New York.

The third individual inductee was presented by David Flowers, a hall-of-fame caliber defensive tackle in his own right. Flowers introduced teammate Mike Lee with one word, "Passion." Using the idiom "you sharpen steel with steel" to describe his relationship with Lee and how he helped to make him a better player, Flowers maintained his theme stating, "It takes real passion to do what Mike has done. He was passionate at practice, passionate during games and the whole team fed off of that passion."

Lee earned his spot in the Hall of Fame as an All-District and All-American offensive lineman from 1979-1981. He described his time at OPSU as "Easily some of the best years of my life." Lee offered genuine congratulations to all of the inductees with special compliments to the 1981 football team. "That was easily one of the best defenses in the country and our offense complimented it very well. We didn't turn the ball over very much, grinded out first downs and could score at key moments; the most memorable of which kicker Larry Welch scored a game-winning field goal against Chadron State to help seal the eighth win of that undefeated season."

Also a player-turned-coach, Lee has accumulated nine state championships at Clinton High School and gives much of his credit to his former coaches who had major influences on his life and his career. "Coach Lawrence changed everything here at Panhandle, I learned a lot from him, but everything I've accomplished in coaching I owe to Mike Wyatt (Lee's offensive line coach in college). He was a great innovator and I love and miss him greatly." Lee beamed while talking about his two sons and thanked his wife Patti saying, "She is the best person I know."

Back for an encore presentation, Mario Mendoza introduced one of the best overall teams in Aggie history, the 1981 Football team. The team went undefeated in the regular season (9-0) and earned home-field advantage for the NAIA Division II Quarterfinal playoff game against Austin College. As a member of the team himself Mendoza thanked the University, Dr. Bryant and the Hall of Fame Committee on behalf of the whole team. He also thanked their head coach Rich Lawrence for "making us believe we can win and bringing us together as a team."

Coach Lawrence then took the podium and began by saying, "This is truly a God-blessing for all of us." He offered congratulations to current coach Russell Gaskamp on the 2014 team's success and said, "Keep it going."

The 1981 NAIA District IX Coach of the Year continued with stories on both Piccininni and Lee that he felt embodied the mental toughness and emotion of that particular team as a whole. Lawrence made a point to give extra thanks to Dr. Thomas Palmer (then University President) whom he shared a special bond with and felt was responsible for the "We'll make it happen" attitude that helped lead the team to success. "Dr. Palmer instilled that things could get done and I took that attitude and the players took that attitude and they did the work and believed that we could get it done."

Proud of his players' accomplishments after college Lawrence stated, "What brought us here has carried over through the years; that state of purpose that the team had. These players mean so much to me." He concluded by thanking his coaching staff and family. Coach Lawrence and his wife Joan have retired to Commerce, Texas and he attributes his success and happiness to his wife and children.

The 1981 Football team was led by Rich Lawrence, Head Coach; Doug Orebaugh, Defensive Coordinator; Mike Sinkovitz, Defensive Line; Mike Wyatt, Offensive Line; Jim Curlee, Defensive Secondary; and John Donovan, Defensive Receivers. Support personnel included trainers Jim McClellan and Bob Bailey; managers Greg Gray and Kevin Coyle; and filmer Richard Chavez. The player roster can be found online at the Hall of Fame page on the OPSU Aggie Athletics website.

Each individual inductee received a certificate and ring; team members each received certificates and the option to purchase a ring. To close the evening the 2015 class was named with the following individuals receiving nominations for induction: Oscar Williams (coach), Betsy Skibyak (track), John Winchester (football) and Frank Beede (football).

Nominations are received and reviewed by the Hall of Fame Committee which is made up of OPSU alumni and staff members. This year's committee members are: Eric Begley, Murry Gloude, Carroll Gribble, Doris Looper, Lloyd Looper, Wayne Manning, Gwen Martin, Jerry Martin and Jerry Olson.

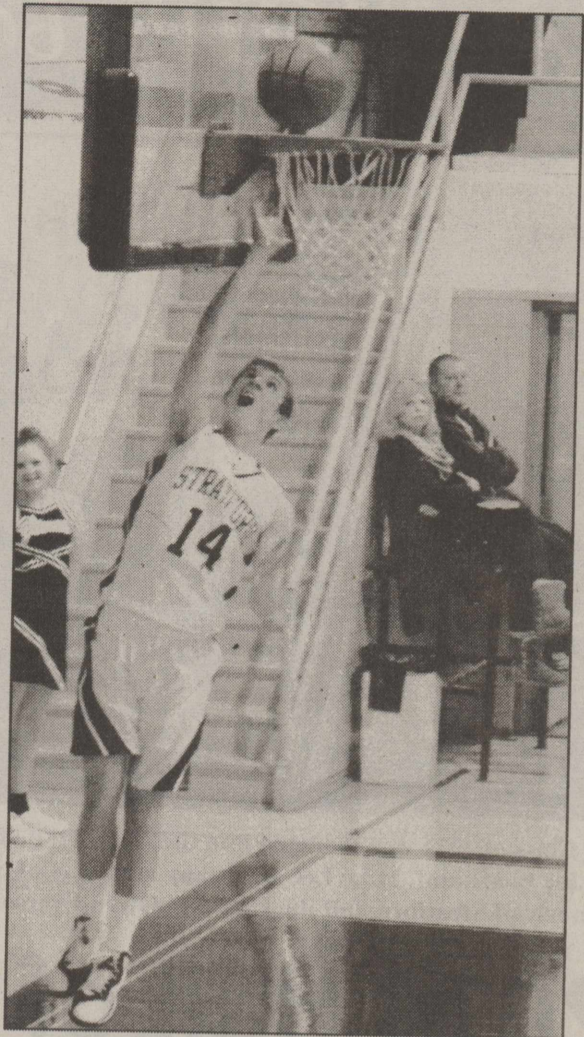
Stratford Star would like to congratulate our home town boys. Very proud of you all!



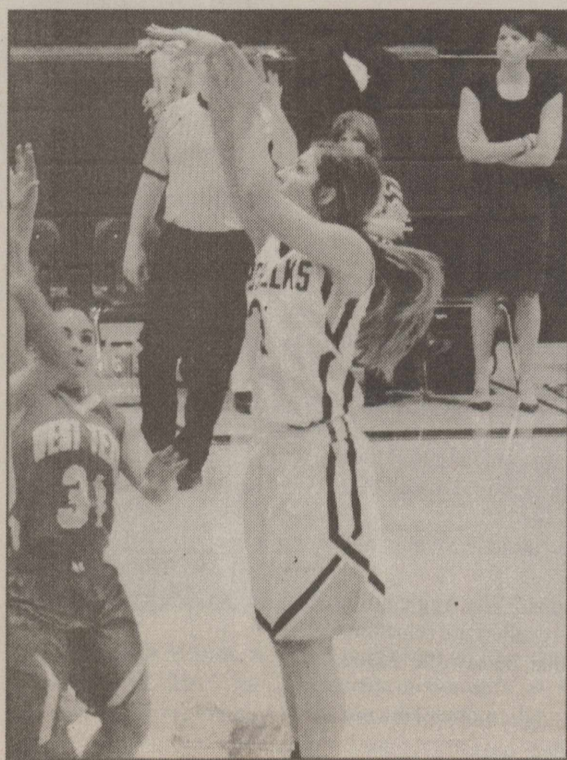
Stratford Elk #33 Tanner Stone goes up for the shot in the Elks win over Amarillo Flames.



Stratford Elk #32 Trevor Melton shoots over Amarillo Flames defense in the Elks win.



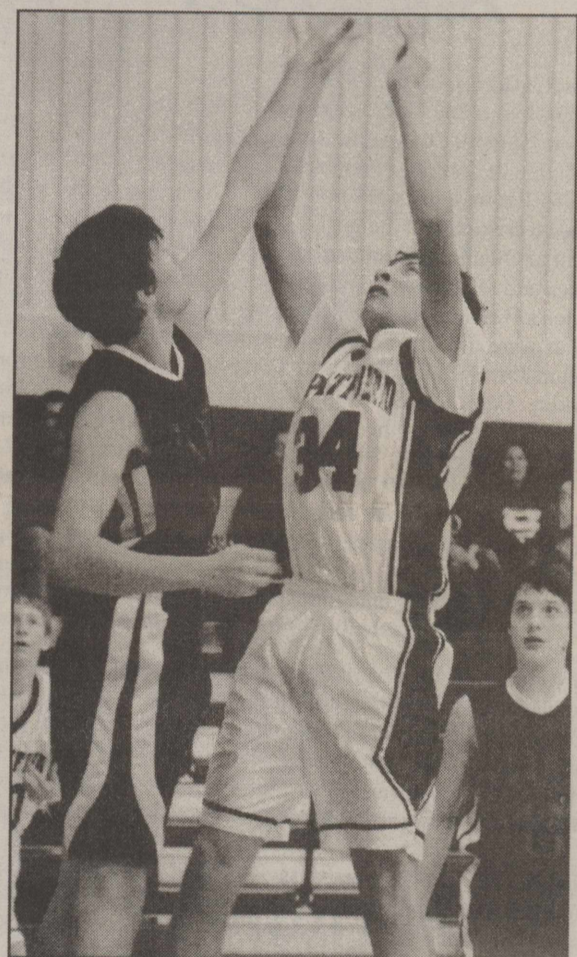
Stratford Elk #14 Jack McBryde scores on a lay-up against the Amarillo Flames.



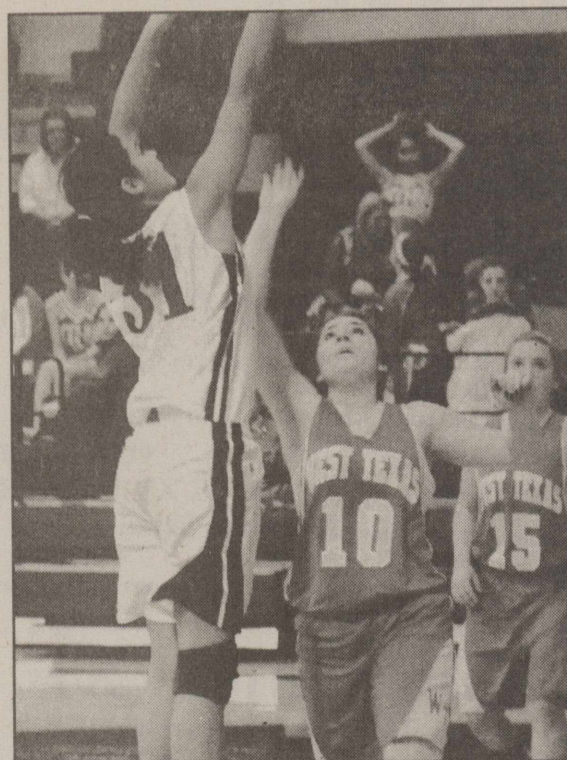
Lady Elk Laynee Burr scores on the three-point shot in the Lady Elks win over West Texas.



Lady Elk Whitney Stone gets set for the free throw in the Lady Elks district win over West Texas.



Jaime Jacquez #34 for the J.V. Elks goes up for two points in the Elks win.



J.V. Lady Elk #31 pulls up for the shot in the Lady Elks district win over West Texas on Tuesday, January 13, 2015.



Sidney Turner scores for the J.V. Lady Elks at the free throw line against West Texas.



J.V. Elk #10 Kade McBryde scores on the lay-up in the Elks win over Amarillo Flames on Tuesday, January 13, 2015.

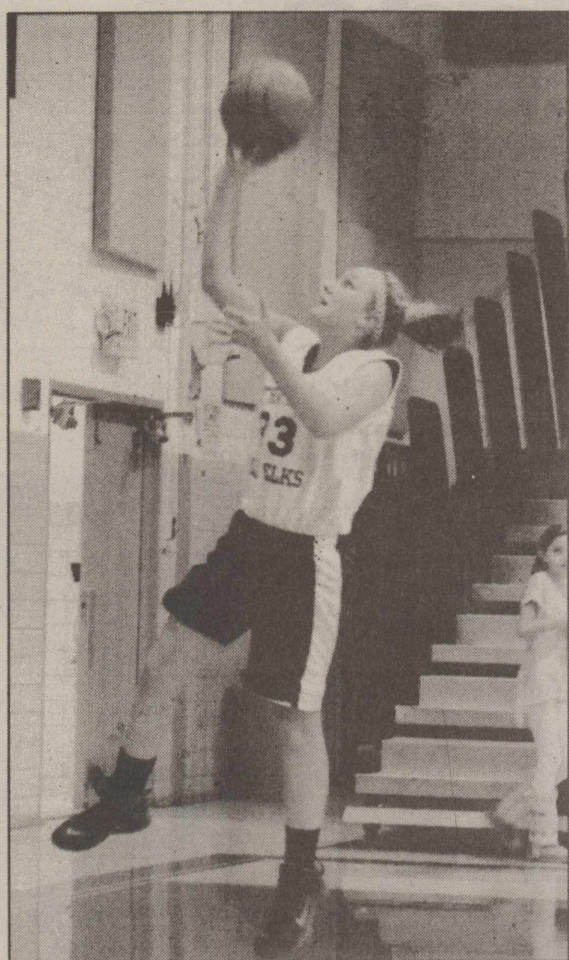


Stratford High School students enjoyed their own ESPN night at the basketball games on Tuesday, January 13, 2015.

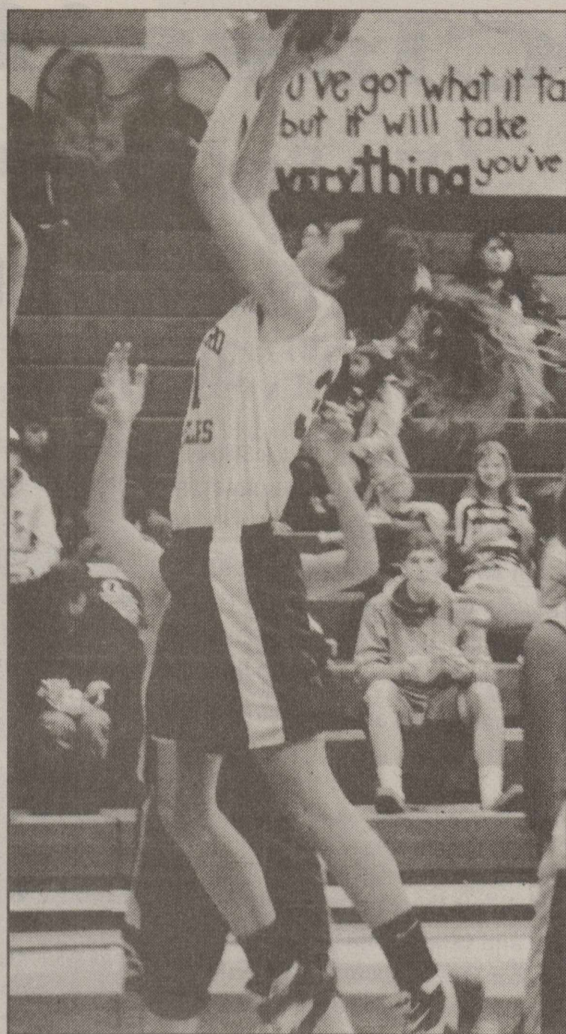
Basketball

The J.V. Lady Elks beat West Texas 40-20 on Tuesday, January 13, 2015. Sidney Turner led the Lady Elks with 17 points followed by Rabecca Couch with 12.

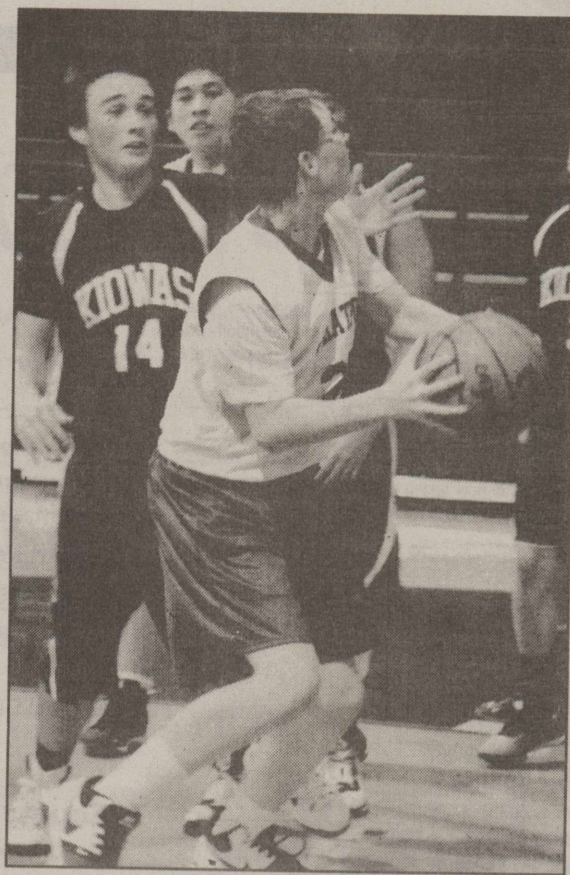
The Lady Elks beat Booker 74-33 with Laynee Burr leading the scoring with 22 points followed by Bethany Everett with 13 points and Nicolle Law and Allie James with 10 points each.



8th grade Lady Elk #33 Katelin Berry scores on the layup against Booker.



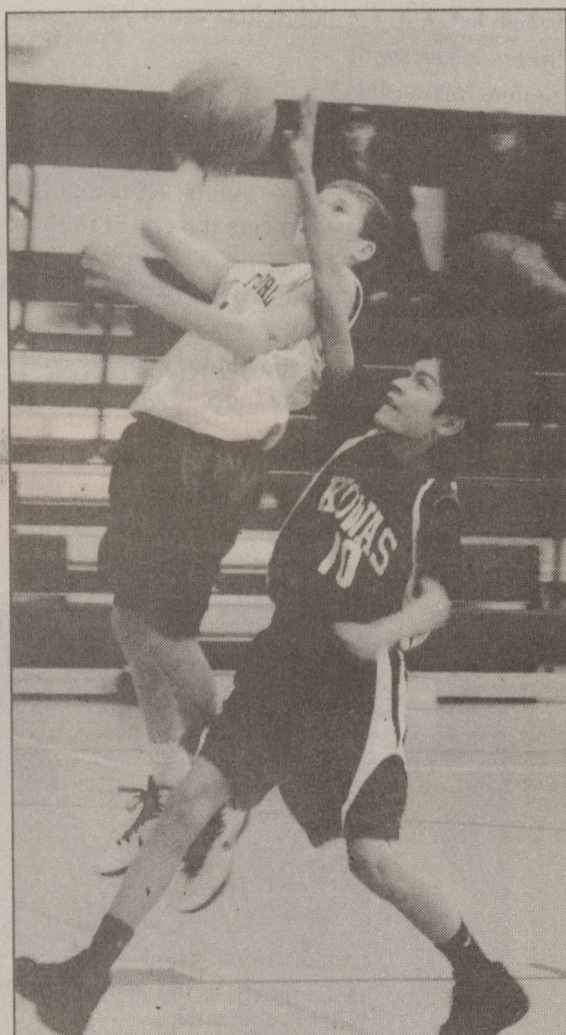
8th grade Lady Elk Shaylee Audrain goes up for 2 points in their win over Booker on Monday, January 12, 2015.



Turner Smith gets ready to go up for the shot under the basket in the 8th grade Elks win over Booker.



8th grade Elk #15 Justin Duran brings the ball down the court in their win over Booker.



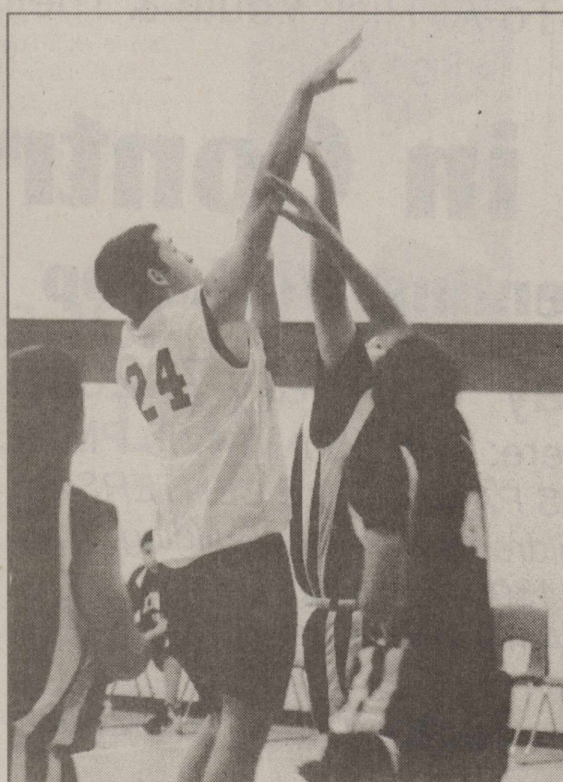
7th grade Elk #1 Walker McBryde is fouled as he goes up for the shot against Booker.



7th grade Lady Elk #10 Kenlee McBryde sets up the offense in their win over Booker on Monday, January 12, 2015.



Ty McBryde #2 shoots free throws for the 7th grade Elks in their victory over Booker on Monday, January 12, 2015.



7th grade Elk #24 Andy Campoya goes up for the shot in the Elks win over Booker.



Janeht Bravo #32 for the 7th grade Lady Elk goes up for the shot against Booker.

Basketball Pics



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Stratford ISD is seeking a custodian. Applications available on school website/administration office. For more information, please call (806) 366-3300
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Close to school, nice 2BR, 1 bath apartment. Furnished with stove and fridge. CH/A. No pets. Tenant pays electric and water. \$550 month on 6 month lease. Call 806-244-3418 or go to westtexasrentals.com to see and send in application. 1-8-tfn

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THE STRATFORD STAR
Thursday, January 22, 2015
Page 8

..The Best Salesperson Around

Sherman County Stock Show January 29th, 30th and 31st

Registration is now open for the County Stock Show. FFA & 4-Hers must enter at the AgriLife office. It is \$18 for the first animal and \$10 for each additional animal (regardless of breed or species). You may also sign up for Showmanship at the same time for \$10.

Registration closes Jan 23rd, so please get into the office and sign up before then!

Every Participant is required to help clean up. This year's clean-up starts at 8am Saturday, Jan 31st. If you cannot make it, please call Alexa or Lance BEFORE the end of the show on Friday to see what you can do to help. Failure to show up and work will have \$25.00 deducted from their final check.

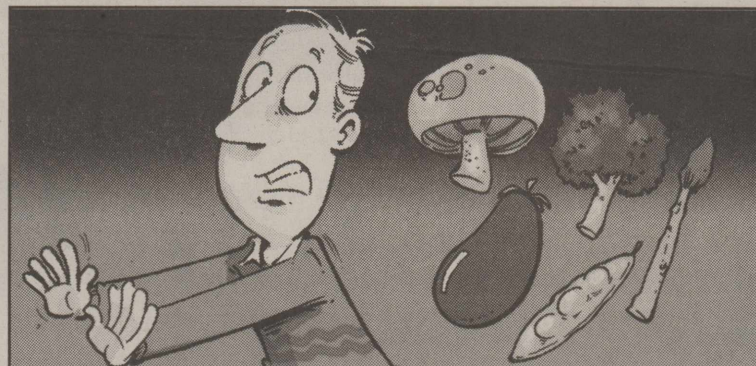
Also, ALL (FFA & 4-H) Thank Yous and Project Forms are due Feb 27th at the AgriLife office.

County Show Schedule

- **Thursday, Jan 29th**
 - o ALL Animals (except beef) must be in the county barns by 4pm.
 - o Lamb and Goat weigh in starts at 4:30
 - o Exhibitor meeting starts at 6:00pm. ←EVERYONE SHOWING MUST ATTEND!
 - o Swine weigh in starts after Lambs and Goats are 100% finished
 - o Lamb show starts at 7pm
 - o Goats will follow
- **Friday, Jan 30th**
 - o Swine start at 8am (prospect swine show, then gilts, then barrows)
 - o Weigh in for Steers and Heifers are at 9am
 - o Steers follow swine
 - o Heifers follow steers
 - o ALL animals must be out of the barns by 5pm
- **Saturday, Jan 31st**
 - o Clean-up starts at 8am. ← EVERYONE is required to help. If you are unable to, please get in touch with Alexa or Lance BEFORE the end of the show on Friday to see what you can do to help. Failure to show up and work will have \$25.00 deducted from their final check.
 - o The exhibitor is **REQUIRED** to be back at the county barn at 5pm to eat. NO LATER! This is so we can make sure everyone is there, fed, and can start serving the buyers and guests as they arrive. **If you do not attend the dinner and sale, you forfeit your sale spot.**
 - o Dinner starts at 6pm and the Sale will start at 6:30pm.



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Seating is limited.

No Childcare is provided.

STAR is a TDFPS funded program of TPC

