

Melvin Mitts 06/16
PO Box 523
Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

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Dear Readers:

On Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 2 p.m. at the Sherman County Courthouse there will be a dedication Ceremony to honor Trooper Bobby Steve Booth. There is a section of the highway that will be dedicated to the Memory of Steve Booth who was shot and killed north on Highway 287 in June of 1993.

For this special occasion I am rerunning the article that ran on June 24, 1993. For many of you- you will remember that day very clearly, (I know I do). For the many that do not even know about this. Steve Booth was a very caring individual, good family man, etc. A really nice Guy. This tragedy shook this town like no other. We just want to re-run this in conjunction with the dedication next week. Special thanks to Angela Harbour for sharing her paper.

Thank you-Marty

The Article is reprinted below from the The Stratford Star issue June 24, 1993. Minus the photos as we do not have the original photos. I am sorry for that.

Trooper Slain While On Duty

Texas Department of Public Safety trooper, Steve Booth, 28 was shot and killed Wednesday afternoon about 2 miles north on Highway 287.

Trooper Booth was responding to a report of a man with a gun on the side of the highway. Booth was dead on arrival at 3:47 p.m. at Dumas Memorial Hospital, Dumas, Texas

Joseph H. Norton, 48 was arrested approximately at 4 p.m. in the Stratford City limits. Witnesses had reported that the gunman left the scene of the shooting in a 1977 GC pickup truck. About an hour later, the suspect was arrested on foot in Stratford.

Norton was carrying a Florida driver's license; the pickup truck had Colorado plates.

Norton was indicted on Friday by a Sherman County grand jury on a charge of capital murder in connection with the death of Booth. The authorities have recovered the hand gun they believe was used to kill Booth. Norton remains in custody in the Sherman County Jail. Bail was set at \$1 million dollars. Attorney David Green of Dumas has been appointed for Norton. Steve was well-liked and thought of in the Stratford Community and surrounding area. He was a caring person, family man, loves fishing and working with old cars. He had

become actively involved in the community. Served on the Lollipop Junction Board and Imagination Station board. Very active in First Baptist Church in Stratford.

Services for Steve Booth were held Saturday, June 19th, 1993 at 10 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Stratford with Dr. Derrel D. Lewis, pastor officiating. Graveside services were held at 3 p.m. in Fairview Cemetery at Memphis, Texas. Memorial services were held at 4 p.m. at Church of Christ at Memphis with David Stites of Churn of Christ Stratford Officiating.

Mr. Booth was born in Childress and had been a resident of Stratford for the past six years. He was a former resident of Lubbock and Memphis. He graduated from Memphis High School in 1982 and from Clarendon Junior College in 1985. He graduated from the Department of Public Safety Academy in August-Class A - 1987. He was a Trooper II with the DPS. He married Renee Nelson in 1984 at Estelline. He was preceded in death by a son, Benjamin Ray Booth, in 1988. Survivors include his wife; two sons, Brian Booth and Brady Booth, both of the home; his parents, Bobby and Barbara Booth of Memphis; two brothers, Stacey Booth and Shane Booth, both of Waco; and his grandparents, Clark Rickman and Mr. and Mrs. B.B. Booth, all of Memphis.

Law officers from across the Panhandle and across the county, as many as twelve states reporting to have come to the funeral to pay their respects. All officers wore a single black strip across their badges in tribute to Mr. Booth. States represented by fellow officers were Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Massachusetts, Arkansas, Maryland and Tennessee. It was reported that over 300 officers were in attendance at the very moving ceremony. At the graveside service in Memphis, Lewis said Mr. Booth was "brought back home to wait until God, sounds that trumpet." Following Lewis Graveside eulogy, two DPS Troopers folded the Texas flag that had covered Mr. Booth's casket and presented it to Steve's wife, Renee. After a 21-gun salute, the melancholy strains of "Taps" sounded through the silent cemetery. As Lewis said "We're all going to miss him," but we will have good memories of Steve, and all of our lives are richer and better because we knew him.

All the citizens of Stratford are still reeling with the shock of Steve's death. As Rev. Derrel Lewis, pastor of the First Baptist church said. "He paid the ultimate price for our safety and our welfare." "I don't know why good men die young when many times evil men live long," Lewis said.

Memorial Highway Dedication for Fallen Stratford DPS Trooper Steve Booth to be Held March 24th, 2016

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) announced today a memorial highway dedication for fallen Stratford DPS Trooper Steve Booth.

On Thursday, March 24 at 2 p.m., a dedication ceremony will take place in Stratford, Texas, at the Sherman County Courthouse. The Trooper Steve Booth Memorial Highway will consist of approximately 15 miles of US-287 that starts at the north city limits of Stratford and ends at the Oklahoma state line.

In June of 1993, Trooper Steve Booth responded to a call of a man waving a gun and driving erratically, approximately two miles north of Stratford on US-287. Trooper Booth located the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop. During the traffic stop, Trooper Booth was shot and killed by the driver. The driver was later located in Stratford and taken into custody. He currently serves a life sentence.

Stratford Lion's Club member and close friend of Trooper Booth, Duane Pittman, initiated the proposal for a highway dedication. Pittman and the Stratford Lion's Club worked with State Senator Kel Seliger and State Representative Four Price to have this part of US-287 dedicated for Trooper Booth.

The public and media are invited to attend the ceremony in honor of Trooper Booth's selfless sacrifice and continued support for family and friends.

Editor's Note: I sincerely hope that re running this article will not upset anyone, I just wanted folks to know that the reason this dedication is being done is because this was a special young man that was taken way too soon. He was a good human being and had so much ahead of him, No one knows why and we will never know. But I want citizens that live here now, know why this Trooper is being honored and remembered next Thursday, March 24th. And for the folks that were living here on that awful day in June of 1993, remember Troop Steve Booth with fond memories! I know I do.

Editor's Note: The "OFF BEAT" Column by Stan Simmons of Dalhart appears in the Dalhart Texan, Sunday, June 20, 1993 edition I thought should be shared with all my readers in Stratford. Following is the column as it ran in the Dalhart Texan in June of 1993.

I can't tell you about what's really on my mind today.

That, of course, is the murder of DPS Trooper Steve Booth. Just know he was a good friend to many of us here, and know, too that he was a good cop.

But I will not talk the case yet. Not in this format. Perhaps, after the trial.

What I will talk about, though is Stratford.

In this terrible time for that town, they have pulled together. Just as I have witnessed Dalhart people do over and over, Stratford folks came to the aid of their fellow man.

Opening their homes, their hearts, and their pocket books, Stratford-ites fed more than fifty police officers meal after meal as we came in bone-tired and weary from various efforts in this case.

The wives of the volunteer fire department rallied with sandwiches and soft drinks and tea, even far into the night, and miles from town on old dirt roads.

They, along with other volunteers, made a horrible situation as comfortable as possible.

It put me very much in mind of the efforts of our own Fire Dept. wives after the Church Bus accident here this winter.

The mayor of Stratford cooked the evening meal Thursday. The bank and savings and loan in that town provided funds...I can't even name all those people who made food and other supplies available. I wish I could

At a time when one sorry excuse for a human being brought sorrow to a community, many, many others stepped forward in the roles of quiet heroes and heroines.

I will never think of our neighbor town exactly the same again.

The mere voicing of the name of Stratford will forever in my life...and in the memories of dozens of police from all over the northern part of the state...bring a mixed feeling.

One of intense sorrow, over the loss of a good man...and one of comfort; that the kind of people live there that we are proud to call "neighbors".

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Dinner Theatre

The Stratford High School one-act play cast and crew will host a dinner theatre on March 21 featuring a performance of the play Unexpected Tenderness. The meal-a salad, pork tenderloin, macaroni cheese, green beans and cupcakes-will begin at 6:00, followed by the play at 7:00. A silent auction will be open for the duration of the evening. Tickets are \$15. For tickets, contact Taylor Aduddell, Bret Barnard, Juan Carlos Camberos, Brendan Campbell, Blake Griffin, Courtney Griffin, Nicole Law, Matalin Mace, John McBroom, Carlee Metcalf, Branson Palmer, Brenda Portillo, Val-mari du Plessis, Russell Spurlock or Daniela Valdez.

Advisory: This year's play contains brief instances of spousal and child abuse.

A portion of the proceeds from the performance will be donated to Martha's Home, an organization which provides homeless women and their children with shelter and support while guiding them towards a lifestyle of self-sufficiency.

CASA 69, Inc. - Volunteer Opportunities

Every child has a chance - It's You. Your voice can be a child's only chance. CASA 69 (Court Appointed Special Advocates) currently needs volunteers to advocate for the safety and future of children in foster care in Dallam, Hartley, Moore and Sherman counties. Training provides volunteers the resources they need to give foster children a chance at finding happiness in a safe, permanent forever home.

Requirements - You must be 21 years of age or older and willing to commit to at least one year of advocacy. You must be able to pass criminal and CPS history background checks. You must complete training - 10 hours online course work plus 20 hours of classroom work.

We are accepting applications until March 28th and Orientation begins April 11, 2016.

We hope you will consider taking classes that could enrich your life, making you better prepared to help someone else, especially a vulnerable child. Please contact the CASA office TODAY to start the application process—244-2684 or 934-4417 or Qasa69@xit.net.

Orders For Fresh, Hot Tamales Ends Soon

March 28 will be the last day to pre-order fresh, hot tamales from Lollipop Junction. The tamales will be delivered to your door on April 2, 2016.

Staff members of Lollipop Junction, Stratford's non-profit childcare center, will be making the red chili tamales. Tamales will be sold by pre-order for \$15.00 a dozen by placing an order between now and March 28.

This year, Modern Woodmen has selected Lollipop Junction as a community partner for this fundraiser with a \$2500 matching grant. This partnership will enable Lollipop Junction to double the amount of money raised this spring. Funds raised will be used in the center for children's educational supplies, utilities, insurance premiums, and on-going repairs at the child care center.

To order tamales, call either Julie or Erica at Lollipop Junction 366-5886 or stop by the childcare center located at 210 N. Main Street, Stratford. In addition, orders may be placed with Suzanne at First State Bank or Bailey at Happy State Bank. Valarie and Martha at Duncan Chevrolet will also be happy to take pre-paid orders.

Don't delay, place your order today!!! And thank you for supporting Lollipop Junction.

Thrift Store News

Spring Break, Spring Cleaning, Remember the Community Thrift Store for your donations.

Numerous nonprofit organizations benefit from the store proceeds, which are dependent upon donations of goods and volunteer time to sort and display the merchandise. To continue providing the best quality shopping experience for our customers, the Thrift Store would like to remind donors of their guidelines for donations:

The Thrift Store accepts clean, gently used clothing, clean, working household items, and clean, working children's toys. Unfortunately, the store cannot accept television sets, electronic items such as DVD players and games, tape players and tapes, toys that are not in working order or broken.

To assure your donations will be sold through the Thrift Store, please make plans to drop them off when the store is open. Store hours are 10am to 4pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays unless notice is posted otherwise.

Thank you Stratford and surrounding communities for your support.



AUCTION

Tuesday, March 22, 2016 — Sale Time: 10:30 a.m.
Bad Weather Date: March 28, 2016

LOCATED: From Spearman, Texas (Hansford County): 5 Miles Northeast on Highway 15, then 1 1/2 Miles North & West on FM Highway 3214, then 1 Mile West on CR G, Then 1 Mile North (Watch for Signs).

DENNIS NELSON & BILL STRAWN — OWNERS

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or Five Star Auctioneers: Jim Summers (806) 292-2149 or Cris Ingram (806) 265-7646.

NOTE: NOT WANT SMALL ITEMS, BE ON TIME.

Log Onto Our Website For Complete Listing: www.5starauctioneers.com

Dennis Nelson is changing his farming operation & Bill Strawn is retiring from farming, and the following will be sold at public auction.

TRACTORS —

1—2002 J.D. 8520 M.F.W.D. Dsl. Tractor Cab, A/C, Htr., ILS, P.S. Trans. Duals, 480/80R50 Front Duals 420/85R34, Q.H. PTO 4 Hyd. Star Fire ITC Guidance (10,370 Hrs.) S.N. 64423 (255 h.p.)

1—1995 J.D. 8300 M.F.W.D. Dsl. Tractor Cab, A/C, Htr., P.S. Trans. 18.4R46 5 Hyd. Q.H. PTO (9,782 Hrs.) S.N. 02525 (200 h.p.)

1—1991 J.D. 8760 4 Wheel Drive Tractor Dsl.

Cab, A/C, Htr., Duals 18.4R46 3pt. 4 Hyd. Q.R. Trans. (6,772 Hrs.) S.N. H004049 (256 h.p.)

1—1982 J.D. 4840 2WD Tractor Dsl. Cab, A/C, Htr., P.S. Trans. 18.4R42 2 Hyd. 3pt. PTO Q.H. (11,001 Hrs.) S.N. 15093RW (180 h.p.)

COMBINE, HEADERS, GRAIN CART —

1—2002 J.D. 9750 STS Combine, Cab, A/C, Htr., Monitor Bin Ext. (3,500 Eng. Hrs, 2,975 Sep Hrs.) New Tires S.N. 695914

1—J.D. 936 D Platform W/Bat Reel S.N. 711141

1—J.D. 843 Corn Head 8 Row 30" Poly Snouts

1—Kinze 840 Grain Cart

TRUCKS, TRAILERS, PICKUPS, FARM EQUIPMENT, CATTLE EQUIPMENT,

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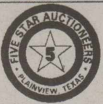
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American Legion to Hold Annual Fundraiser

The Howard Norvell Green Post 262 of the American Legion will again host the annual Boys State/Girls State Hamburger Fundraiser on Sunday, March 20, 2016 at the Sherman County Barn from 11:30 - 1:30. This year the Boys State Representative is Francisco Barajas and the Girls State Representative is Nicolle Law. As usual there is no charge - but a free will donation will be gratefully accepted. Funds raised at this event go to pay for registration and transportation for these fine young people to attend these programs.

Agriculture and Energy Summit. Lubbock, TX March 30-31

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridor runs through North America's energy and agriculture heartland. Our region is a productive land, providing the resources that feed, clothe and power our three countries and beyond. Of course the Corridor is a vital transportation connection to deliver those goods to markets.

As energy and agriculture drive the economic engine of our region, it is important that our members are aware of the issues facing these industries. Ports-to-Plains Alliance is pleased to partner with the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance to host the annual Energy and Agriculture Summit March 30-31 at the Arbor Hotel in Lubbock. During the two-day conference, we will hear policy and industry experts tell us what is happening in energy and agriculture, what can we expect in the future and what can our communities do to capitalize on economic opportunities.

Not only are we assembling a terrific agenda of experts, but we expect about 150 grass roots leaders from throughout the corridor that extends from

First Texas War of Secession Part II

By Rocky Jim Sprott, Member Sherman
County Historical Commission



Asher Named Distinguished Alumni

Texas Tech University's College of Agricultural Science and Natural Resources honored six distinguished alumni on Monday (Feb. 15) at the University's McKenzie-Market Alumni Center. The Distinguished Alumni Award honors graduates who've made significant contributions to society and whose accomplishments and careers have brought distinction to the college and to the professions associated with agriculture and natural resources

(www.depts.ttu.edu/agriculturalsciences/news/?p=63-78). Scott has worked in the crop protection and seed industry for 18 years in many different roles. He started his career as a technical service representative and has since held various technical, marketing and managerial-roles. Scott served as a global project manager which exposed him to agriculture all over the world including India, China, Australia, Argentina, Brazil and Europe. Scott is currently the Eastern Agronomic Service Manager for Bayer where he manages a team of agronomists whom service the cotton and soybean business in the Delta, Mid-Atlantic, and Southeastern US.

Scott has continued his education at Texas Tech University in Crop Science, under the advisement of Dr. Peter Dotry. In May 2016, he will become the first Ph.D. student to earn their degree online in the department of Plant & Soil Science.

Scott and his wife Stephanie of 16 years, make their home in the Raleigh NC area. Scott is the son of Tommy and Becky Asher, brother of Heath and Jolie Asher and grandson

On March 2nd, 2016, Texans celebrated the 180th anniversary of the Secession of Texas from the Mexican nation and the creation of the Republic of Texas at Washington on the Brazos. This monumental step for the future of the people of Texas was taken as bloody fighting raged some 160 air miles to the southwest at the old-Spanish mission, San Antonio de Valero, the Alamo.

Determined to stamp out the Texas rebellion, President and General Santa Anna at the head of an army of some 6000 men, crossed the Rio Grande on February 12, 1836. On February 3 the garrison at the Alamo, commanded by Colonel Jim Bowie had been reinforced by a small detachment under Colonel William B. Travis. By February 23 the lead elements of the Mexican forces arrive in the area and a bombardment of the mission begins.

Faced with overwhelming odds, Colonel Travis On February 24 pens appeal for aid, "To the People of Texas and all Americans in the World". In this letter called, "the most historic document in American history", Colonel Travis plainly states the desperate nature of his command.

The enemy has demanded surrender at discretion, otherwise, the garrison are to be put to the sword, if the fort is taken - I have answered the demand with a cannon shot and our flag still waves proudly from the walls - I shall never surrender or retreat.

The bombardment of the Alamo continued with little effect until General Santa Anna determined to commit his soldiers to an all-out assault on the walls of the mission. Colonel Francisco Ruiz, Alcalade of San Antonio, described in his eye witness report the events as they unfolded that last day of the siege.

On the 6th of March 1836, at 3 A.M. General Santa Anna at the head of 4000 men advanced against the Alamo. The infantry, artillery, and cavalry had formed about a 1000 varas from the walls of the same fortress. The Mexican armies charged and were twice repulsed by the deadly fire of Travis' artillery, which resembled a constant thunder. At the third charge, the Taluca Battalion commenced to scale the walls and suffered severely. Out of 830 only 130 were left alive.

After the battle, Colonel Ruiz was ordered to dispose of the dead defenders of the Alamo. His report goes on to describe his inspection of the bodies of the Travis, Crocket, and Bowie and the location where they fell.

of the bodies of 182 Texians in stacks like cordwood, with brush wood piled in and around each pyre. At 5 o'clock in the evening it was lighted.

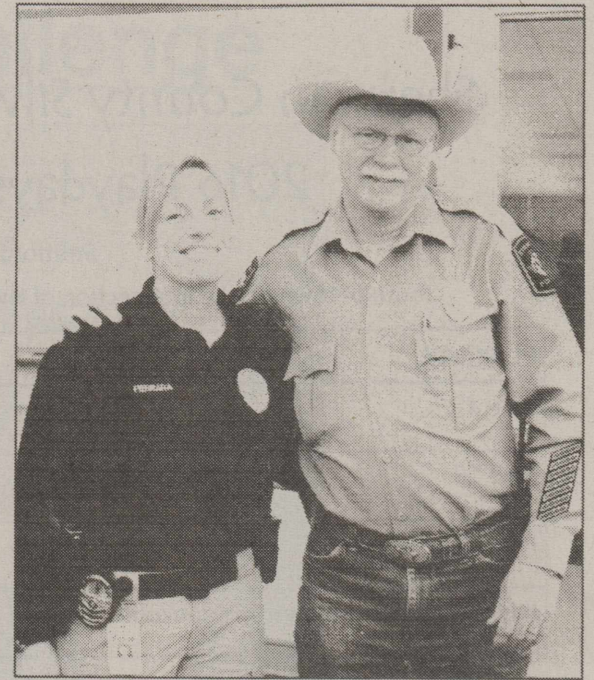
- Colonel, Ruiz concluded his report with these words of praise for the Alamo defenders who would become martyrs for Texas liberty in the eyes of the whole world. - -

The gallantry, of the few Texans who defended the.....-

- Alamo was really wondered at by the Mexican army. Even the generals were astonished at their vigorous defense and how dearly victory was bought.

Once a friend of mine from another state commented on how disappointed he was on viewing the Alamo mission for the first time. To him the small church did not seem particularly impressive. In his mind such a humble pile of stone was entirely improbable as the "Cradle of Texas Liberty"

But then you have to remember he was not a Texan!



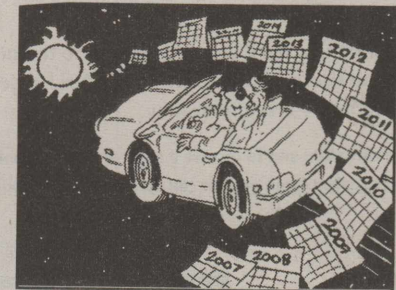
Sgt. Presents programs

On February 23rd 2016 Detective Sgt. Barbara Ferrara with the West Texas A&M University Police Department Canyon, Texas was at the Stratford High School to present two programs to the Junior and Senior Class.

The programs Sexual Assault Awareness and Date Rape are designed to assist the students as they move from High School to College on the dangers that they face.

Sgt. Ferrara explained to the students some of the changes that they are facing and how the environment can change from High School to College. She explained to the students the law on Sexual Assault and Date Rape.

The program was well received by the students and staff.



If you could drive to the sun at 55 miles per hour, it would take you about 193 years.

Stratford Country Club Membership Drive

The Stratford Country Club is having a membership drive from February 1-June 15. New members will be assessed only \$100.00 membership fee and \$65.00 monthly dues during this time instead of \$150.00 membership fee. Please contact Suzanne Ashley at First State Bank 396-5521 for more information or to enroll.



Stratford Senior Class BBQ Sales

Let us take care of dinner one night this week

Brisket (sliced or chopped) 1/2 lb- \$8

Orders may be placed by 1/2 lb increments

Sausage (jalepeno or regular) -\$5 per link

Sides (8 oz) \$3

Beans

Cole slaw

Cream corn

Orders can be placed with any senior or by calling the Ag Shop at 806-366-3333. Please place orders by Monday March 21.

All orders can be picked up on Wednesday March 23 from 3:00 to 5:00

The American Legion
Hamburger Feed
Fundraiser
Boys State-Girls State
Sunday, March 20, 2016
11:30 - 1:30
Sherman County Barn
Free Will Donation

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
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.

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.



This page sponsored by
Stratford Grain 396-5541
Lautz 769-5541
Stratford Star
366-5885

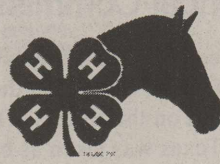
La Mision Bautista
Mision Bautista
401 S. Wall 396-5376
Domingo (Sunday)
Estuela Dominical 9:45 a.m.
Miercoles (Wednesday)
Servicio De Adoracion 11 a.m. Estudio
Biblico & Servicio De Oracion 6 p.m.
Servicio De Adoracion 6 p.m. se Cuidamos
Susunos Durante El Servicio

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

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

Sherman County Silver Spurs 2016 Playdays



Stratford Arena

South of town on the intersection of HWY 15 and HWY 287 | (806)390-9030

PLAYDAY	BOOKS OPEN	STARTING TIME
June 4	1:00	2:00
June 18	1:00	2:00
July 9	1:00	2:00
July 23 (awards program and cookout to follow)	1:00	2:00

AGE CLASSES: Determined by State 4-H Age rules; summer events based off of previous grade.

Pee-Wee (no lead-line)	ages 3 & 4
Clover	ages 5 - 7
Junior	grades 3 rd - 5 th
Intermediate	grades 6 th - 8 th
Senior	grades 9 th - 12 th

Rider must be a 4-H member in any county and must show proof

****Riders in the Intermediate and Senior age class will be required to work one (1) event at every playday from set-up to tear-down or no points will be awarded for that day.**

EVENTS:

Cloverleaf Barrel Race	Flag Race	Fun Run (changes every race)
Pole Bending Race	Goat Tie	

Entry Fee is \$8.00 for speed events and \$12.00 for livestock events.

****\$2.00 late fee applies to each event entered if books are closed.**

AWARDS:

To be eligible to win the Awards, you must compete in three (3) of the four (4) playdays which will be determined at the end of the playday season. Awards are based on riders completing required number of events worked, and total points earned at each playday.

Each playday, riders get points for their placing in each event and a 70% payback. Awards at the end of the year will be given through 3rd place in each class and each event, if a rider meets all other eligibility requirements.

A Top Hand Award will be awarded to the one (1) standout individual who participates in practices, playdays, fundraisers, parades, and other 4-H Horse project related activities. The Top Hand Award will go to a Sherman County 4-H member only.

For more information and to receive a copy of the rules and membership form, come into the Sherman County AgriLife office, email alexa.reed@ag.tamu.edu, or call during business hours to (806)366-2081. Also, text @shermhorse to 81010 for Remind101



Giving a Voice to Hungry Kids

We all know that there are children who have free breakfast and lunch provided for them at school Monday through Friday. Have you ever stopped to think what these children do for food on the weekends? Have you ever eaten lunch on Friday and then not had another actual meal until Monday morning? Can you imagine trying to listen to your teacher on Monday morning when all you can do is watch the clock and count the seconds until lunchtime? Unfortunately, there are children in Stratford and the surrounding towns in the Texas panhandle who face this struggle every weekend and during school holidays. Snack Pak 4 Kids is a program that provides food for children in these situations every weekend of the school year. 100% of all money is used for food only.

YES!!! I want to adopt a child for: **Stratford ISD**

___ 1 year- \$133 (number of children ___)
___ 1 month- \$14 (number of children ___)
___ 1 week- \$3.50 (number of children ___)
___ other- \$_____

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Organization _____
School you are sponsoring _____

Checks are payable to "Snack Pak 4 Kids." Please designate Stratford in memo line of your check.

Snack Pak 4 Kids
701 Park Place Ave
Amarillo, TX 79101
806-337-5252

Business Directory

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

Duncan Chevrolet
www.duncanchevrolet.com
E-mail: duncanch@xit.net
AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION

**Stratford Auto
Electric**
806-366-5941
saeroymc@gmail.com
Altronics, starters, Alternators,
ACmotors
New & Rebuilt
Full Line Available

**Stratford Grain
Company**

Stratford 396-5541
Lautz 769-4485

4 North Main

**THE STRATFORD
STAR**
Duane & Marty Robertson

PO Box 8 Office: 806-366-5885
Stratford, TX 79084 Fax: 366-5884
e-mail: stardm@xit.net

A & I Parts Center

Automotive and Industrial Parts
201 N. 2nd Street-
Stratford, TX 79084

Tel: (806) 366-5592
*Toll-free 800-624-5494
Fax: (806) 366-2583

**Shari Hudson
Photography**

PO Box 243
Stratford, TX 79084
Cell PH: 806-753-7798
Email: ghud@xit.net
www.sharihudsonphotography.com
Seniors-Children-Families
Wedding-Special events
Engagements

**Vincent Insurance
Agency**
Sabrina Melton

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



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**Structured Touch Massage
Therapy Clinic**

Cece Yelek, CMT, LMT
401 N. Third #11. or 7199 Co. Rd P
Stratford, TX - Sunray, TX
Office 806-366-ahhh (2444)
Cell 806-290-3655
Open 9-5 by Appointment Only

**THIS SPACE
AVAILABLE
CALL 366-5885
E-mail stardm@xit.net
Fax: 366-5884**

The Great American Challenge



The Mary Allen Elementary 3rd and 4th graders celebrated the end of their big push in the Great American Challenge on March 4, 2016.

Mrs. Nusz found a website created by Mr. Nussbaum, a teacher in Virginia. He has many different math games, one of which is the Great American Challenge. Counties across the nation can sign up to compete against other counties in a race to see who can complete the most multiplication problems. The total problems completed and the average percent correct are both figured into the rankings.

Our 3rd and 4th graders have joined forces and have taken Sherman County from 0 to 426,539 problems with a 98% accuracy rate. Out of 2,858 counties registered, Sherman County is currently ranked 4th in the nation and 1st in the state of Texas. Another impressive point is that there is only one other county in the top 10 that has a percent correct as high as ours. (We currently need to complete 637,000 to become 1st in the nation.)

Our final goal is to reach one million problems.



February Fun at Legacy

By Paula Nusz

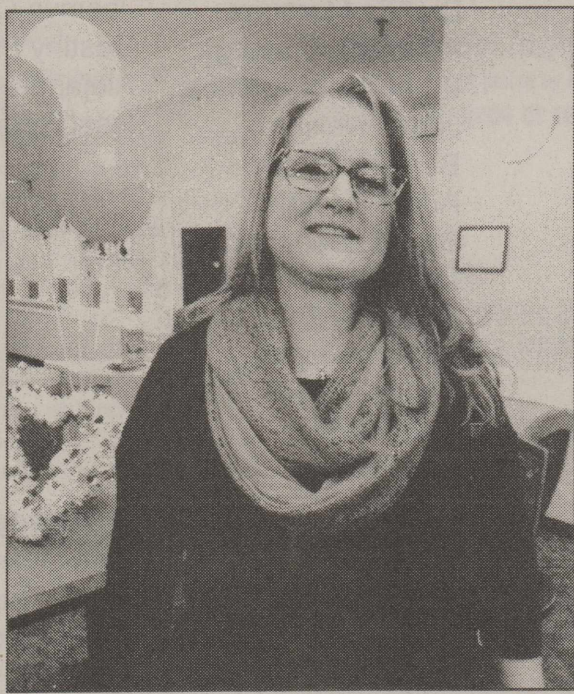
February makes one think of love and kindness. Legacy residents have been blessed with many such acts. A group of children from the St. Anthony's school came to Legacy to sing. A group of students from the Central United Methodist School came one morning to play Color & Shape Bingo, and Letter Recognition Bingo. The 4-H Clothing Project members came to help residents make Valentine collection boxes. The Mennonite Singers came for an evening of music and singing. The Missionary Guild of the 1st Christian Church has been to Legacy for two sessions of Bible Study. The study is titled, "It's Good to be Queen"; and the topic of study is the Queen of Sheba and her trek to meet with King Solomon. Volunteers from the Catholic Church came two evenings for Game Nite. Mormon Church Missionary volunteers have been calling the weekly Bingo games. Melanie Bridgeman Britten of Groom performed a concert of love songs during the monthly birthday party.

Valentine festivities included Valentine Bingo with special prize cookies. The Valentine Party included exchanging Valentine cards and snacks of Grape Punch and Pudding Cake. The program for the party was Unusual Customs of Love from Around the World. In honor of President's Day, one Challenge topic was about President Ronald Reagan. The Butler was shown as the monthly movie selection. This movie is a true story about a butler in the White House who served seven different presidents. The second Challenge topic was in honor of Harper Lee who recently died. A review of her biography, and a brisk discussion about her famous book, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, filled one entire morning.

The outing for February was coffee at Dairy Queen. The monthly dutch-treat lunch was cancelled due to snow. To celebrate Leap Year Day (February 29), a movie marathon of the *Crocodile Dundee* series was shown. The Super Bowl football game was another highlight of the month. A post-game party was held to discuss the game and review the commercials while enjoying a plate of nachos!

Two residents celebrated birthdays in February. Refreshments for the party were Coconut Pecan Strawberry Shortcakes and Strawberry punch. The winter exercise event, "Walk the Appalachian Trail" is continuing. The participants have almost completed their trek of 2,200 miles and should meet their goal in early March. Legacy was invited to the dress rehearsal of the La Rita's play, *Beautiful, Crazy*. The play was very funny and the group enjoyed an evening at the theater. An extra movie was shown, a continuation of the January Frank Sinatra Marathon. The film, *4 For Texas* with Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin, enlivened one afternoon.

Exercise, shopping, game time and bingo rounded out the event schedule for the month. One resident moved during the month. At this time, three apartments are empty and ready for new occupants. Events for March are planned to include Easter and St. Patrick's Day.



Melanie Britten sings love songs at February Birthday Party



Joan Frates and Grace Lyles enjoy Valentine party



Lynn Gilbert and 4-H'er makes a Valentine Box

Updated Property Tax Information Now Available for Texas Taxpayers

New and updated property tax information has been compiled by the Property Tax Assistance Division of the Comptroller's office and is available now to assist taxpayers. This property tax information is current and covers a wide range of topics, such as taxpayer remedies, exemptions and appraisals, and is of value to select groups, such as disabled veterans and persons who are age 65 or older.

It is important to know your rights and responsibilities concerning the property tax laws. You can contact Sherman County Appraisal District about any property tax issues with full confidence that we will provide you the most complete, accurate and up-to-date available information.

This includes information about the following programs:

- **Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans** - The law provides partial exemptions for any property owned by veterans who are disabled, spouses and survivors of deceased disabled veterans. This includes homesteads donated to disabled veterans by charitable organizations at no cost to the disabled veterans. The amount of exemption is determined according to percentage of service-connected disability. The law also provides a 100 percent exemption for 100 percent disabled veterans and their surviving spouses beginning in 2009, and for surviving spouses of U.S. armed service members killed in action.
- **Property Tax Exemptions** - Non-profit organizations that meet statutory requirements may seek property tax exemptions and must apply to their county appraisal district by a specific date. Businesses that receive tax abatements granted by taxing units; ship inventory out of Texas that may be eligible for the Ifreeporu exemption; store certain goods in transit in warehouses that are moved within 175 days; construct, install or acquire pollution control property; own and operate energy storage systems; or store offshore drilling equipment while not in use may also be eligible for statutory exemptions.
- **Rendering Taxable Property** - If a business owns tangible personal property that is used to produce income, the business must file a rendition with its local county appraisal district by a specified date. Personal property includes inventory and equipment used by a business. Owners do not have to render exempt property such as church property or an agriculture producer's equipment used for farming.
- **Appraisal Notices** - If a taxpayer's property value increased in the last year, the Texas taxpayer will receive a notice of appraised value from the appropriate local county appraisal district. The city, county, school districts and other local taxing units will use the appraisal district's value to set property taxes for the coming year.
- **Property Taxpayer Remedies** - This Comptroller publication explains in detail how to protest a property appraisal, what issues the county appraisal review board (ARB) can consider and what to expect during a protest hearing. The publication also discusses the options of taking a taxpayer's case to district court, the State Office of Administrative Hearings or binding arbitration if the taxpayer is dissatisfied with the outcome of the ARB hearing.
- **Homestead Exemptions** - A homestead is generally defined as the home and land used as the owner's principal residence on Jan. 1 of the tax year. A homestead exemption reduces the appraised value of the home and, as a result, lowers property taxes. Applications are submitted to the appropriate local county appraisal district.
- **Productivity Appraisal** - Property owners who use land for timber land production, agricultural purposes or wildlife management can be granted property tax relief on their land. They may apply to their local county appraisal district for an agricultural appraisal which may result in a lower appraisal of the land based on how much the taxpayer produces, versus what the land would sell for in the open market.
- **Residence Homestead Tax Deferral** - Texas homeowners may postpone paying the currently delinquent property taxes due on the appreciating value of their homes by filing a tax deferral affidavit at their local county appraisal district. This tax relief allows homeowners to pay the property taxes on 105 percent of the preceding year's appraised value of their homestead, plus the taxes on any new improvements to the homestead. The remaining taxes are postponed, but not cancelled, with interest accruing at 8 percent per year.

Property Tax Deferral for Persons Age 65 or Older or Disabled Homeowners - Texans who are age 65 or older or disabled, as defined by law, may postpone paying current and delinquent property taxes on their homes by signing a tax deferral affidavit. Once the affidavit is on file, taxes are deferred, but not cancelled, as long as the owner continues to own and live in the home. Interest continues to accrue on unpaid taxes. You may obtain a deferral affidavit at the appraisal district.

Protesting Property Appraisal Values - Property owners who disagree with the appraisal district's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to the appraisal district's ARB.

For more information about these programs, contact Sherman County Appraisal District at 402 N 3rd or telephone 806-366-5566. Information is also available on the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax/.

CATHOLIC LIFE CELEBRATES FLAG DAY WITH 19TH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S POSTER CONTEST

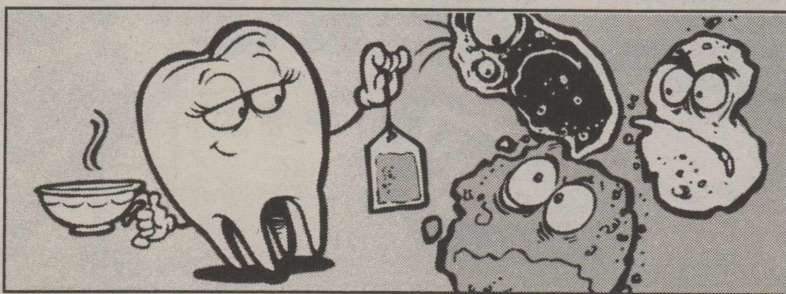
(San Antonio, TX) - Catholic Life Insurance is excited to commemorate the 239th anniversary of the American Flag with our annual "Flag Day Children's Poster Contest." All children currently enrolled in grades Kindergarten through 5th are invited to show us what the flag and its principles mean to them. Participants do not have to be Catholic Life members or of the Catholic faith to qualify. This contest is an opportunity for children to express their creativity and originality, while honoring a sacred American symbol.

Eighteen winners will be selected and awarded cash prizes for their outstanding submissions. The entries are separated into three divisions: Division A (Kindergarten/1st Grade); Division B (2nd-3rd Grade); and Division C (4th/5th Grade). Judges will score each poster submission based on the four following criteria: (1) Eye Appeal, (2) Originality, (3) Theme, and (4) Identification. The decisions of the judges will be final.

The theme for this year's poster contest is: What does freedom look like to you? Is it freedom of speech, or the freedom to go to church? Is it the freedom to get your education for free, or the freedom to grow up and be what you want to be? All entries must include a picture of the American Flag. (Please note: Posters that have other pictures drawn directly on the Flag or have changed its colors will unfortunately be disqualified.)

Entry forms and complete contest rules may be downloaded from the company website at www.cliu.com. An entry form must be completed legibly and attached to the back of the poster for qualification. We strongly encourage parents or teachers to fill out this form. Please submit your entries by May 13, 2016. Send entries to: Catholic Life Insurance Poster Contest, PD Box 659527, San Antonio TX 78265. All entries will become the property of Catholic Life Insurance and will not be returned unless postage accompanies the poster. Winning posters are published in the Catholic Life quarterly magazine. For more information, please contact Briana Gilmore in the Communications Department at (800) 292-2548 or (210) 828-9921 ext. 141 or send an email to branch@cliu.com.

About Catholic Life Insurance: Founded in 1901, Catholic Life Insurance offers life insurance, IRAs, annuities and fraternal benefits to individuals living in Texas, Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Mississippi and New Mexico. As a not-for-profit entity, Catholic Life Insurance returns profits to members and the surrounding community through charitable, religious and patriotic community service projects, including the Flag Day Children's Poster Contest.



U.S. and Japanese studies have found that both black and green teas have antibacterial capabilities that may help prevent cavities and gum disease.

Honor Rolls

Mary Allen Elementary A/AB
Honor Roll for the 4th six Weeks
for 3rd/4th grade students

3rd Grade

A Honor Roll

Lynley Albert
Bryce Braden
Deidre' Hininger
Tripp Hudson
Santiago Ibarra
Marlet Quintero

AB Honor Roll

Dane'ja Agu-White
Addison Bell
Makenzie Bell
Eric Gonzalez
Jocelyn Gonzalez
Iram Guerrero
Abigail Gutierrez
Michelle Lopez
Valeria Lucero
Jonathan Mendoza
McKinzie Moore
Nathan Morillon
Kolton Norby
Mauricio Ortega
Alli Jo Roberts
Treyton Smith
Faith Tims
Julio Valdez

4th Grade

A Honor Roll

Morgan Clift
Zaeleigh Gutierrez
Cole Hinds
Paola Howell
Abigail Ibarra
Omar Jacquez
Karston Long
Kimberly Mendoza
Joaquin Michel
Abraham Ortega
Jasmine Ruedas
Caitlyn Skiles
Angel Soto
Briana Tello
Mila Thompson
Linda Vega

AB Honor Roll

Abigail Botello
Grace Garcia
Jaermeie Lupercio
Tony McLaughlin
Meghan McNeely
Alexa Mendoza
Claudia Ramirez
Cielo Rios
Izakia Salas
Maggie Thomas
Joseph Valdez

Stratford Junior High School
4th Six Weeks Honor Roll
2015-2016

5th grade

Vinny Aguilera
Emiliano Alvarez
Cody-Paige Audrain
Luke Braden
Zane Burr
Alfredo Duarte
Adan Duran
Max Engelbrecht
Emmanuel Gonzalez
Thomas Mariscal
Brenda Marquez
Adamaris Mayorga
Ethan Moczygamba
Jaden Nelson
Benjamin Paez
Adam Sanchez
Brenda Sanchez
Lillie Skiles
Dezerray Tims
Violet Vazquez
Klaire Walden
Addie Wells

6th grade

Brendi Brown
Jocelyn Cardenas
Kaytly Clift
Erika Couch
James DeAnda
Emma Hartman
Anastacio Ibarra
Linzee Langston
Saralyn Mace
Mason McNeely
Jasmyn Ortega
Destiny Paez
Alejandra Portillo
Issai Reta

7th grade

Carlos Almendarez
Reaghan Audrain
Trevor Bell
Payton Berry
Dempsey Collums
Christian DeCasas
Emma Franklin
Ivan Guel
Alberto Guerrero
Benjamin James
Bryce Killian
Ashton Lavake
Abby Law
Morgan Maldonado
Jennifer Morillon
Francisco Ortega
Melannie Ramirez
Rese Schoonover
Hannah Sims
Stewart Skiles

8th grade

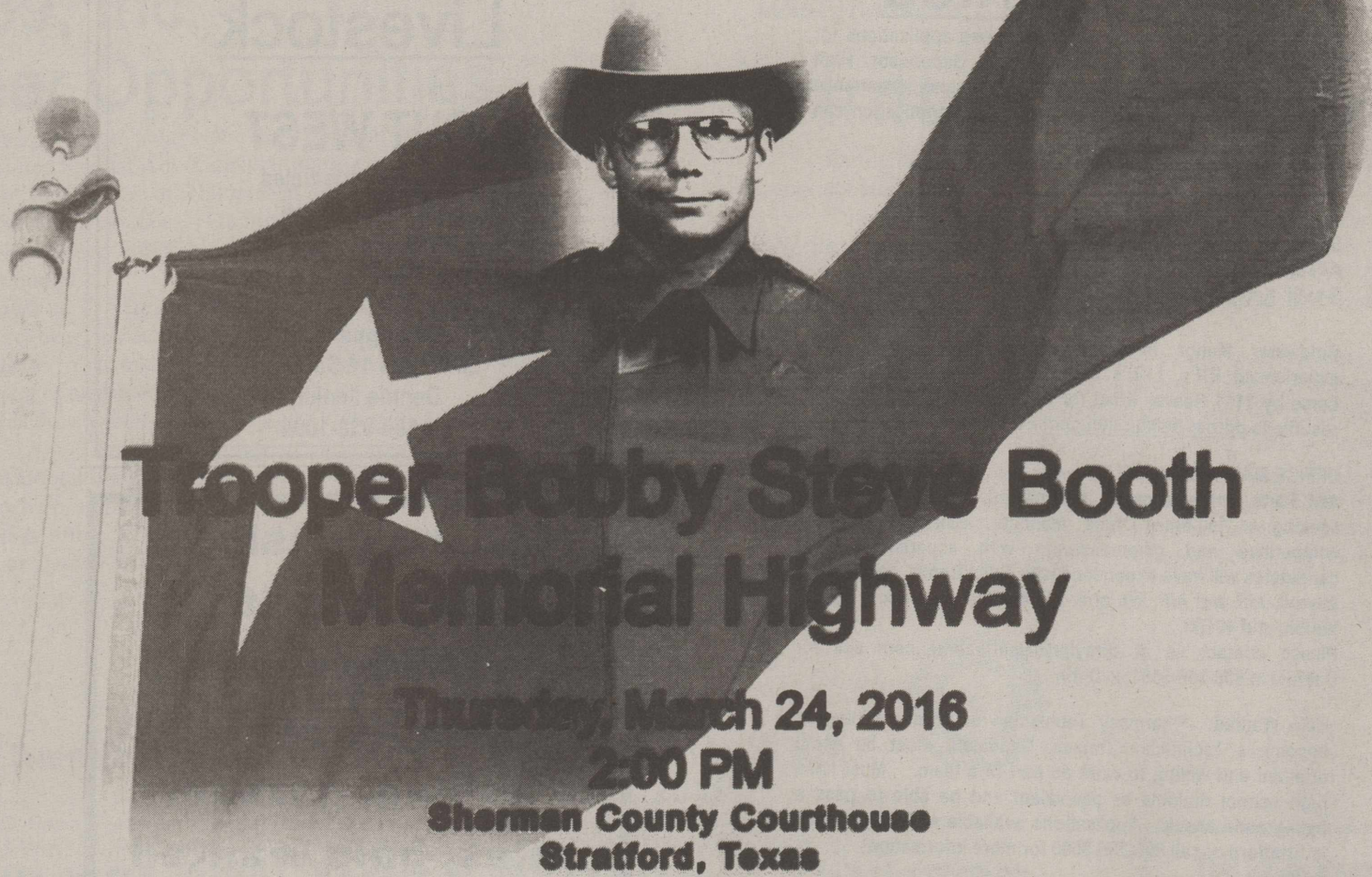
Janeht Bravo
Jesus Duran
Abigail Gomez
Charles Harbour
Xhander Lewis
Rylie Long
Toni Lopez
Fernando Martinez
Kenlee McBryde
Ty McBryde
Walker McBryde
Luis Molina
Carlos Reta
Annahi Ruiz
Daisy Ruiz
Jacob Sanchez
Oscar Sauzamedia
Lilia Trayler
Akira Vacio
Abraham Villegas

Happy St. Patricks Day

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND OUR

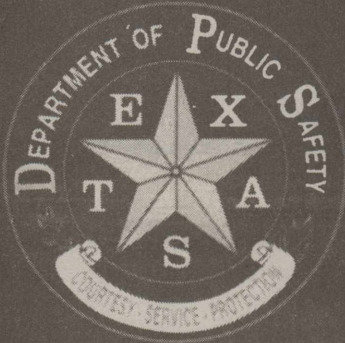
Dedication Ceremony

To honor our fallen brother by dedicating
a section of our highway as the



Trooper Bobby Steve Booth Memorial Highway

Thursday, March 24, 2016
2:00 PM
Sherman County Courthouse
Stratford, Texas



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
STATE SENATOR KEL SELIGER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE FOUR PRICE
THE STRATFORD LIONS CLUB

COLDWATER MANOR

EASTER EGG HUNT

COME JOIN US AND HELP
THE EASTER BUNNY
HUNT EGGS.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24TH 2016
AT 4:30

COLDWATER MANOR
1111 BEAVER ROAD
STRATFORD TX
KIDS AGE 1 TO 10
PLEASE BRING YOUR EASTER
BASKET!!!
WE WILL BE MEETING IN THE
NORTH PARKING LOT.