

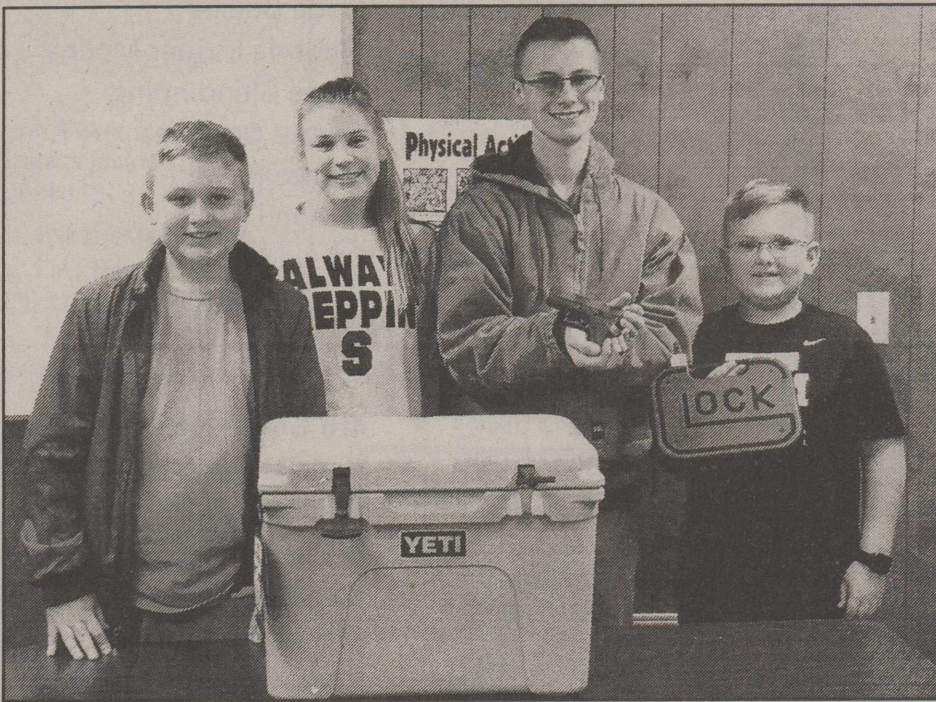
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4-H Raffle

The Sherman County 4-H are once again having a raffle this year with the County Stockshow. Prizes this year include a 50" Vizio HDTV, a Glock G43 9mm pistol and a Yeti Cooler. There will also be mystery prizes with the cooler. The cooler was donated by Bain Tire Country. The drawing will be January 28th during the sale for Stockshow. Tickets can be purchased from any 4-H member or at the county extension office. You don't have to be present to win. There will be a table set at the school gym during the basketball game January 24th. Shown with the prizes are Levi Springer, Bo and Max Engelbrecht and Holly Sladek.



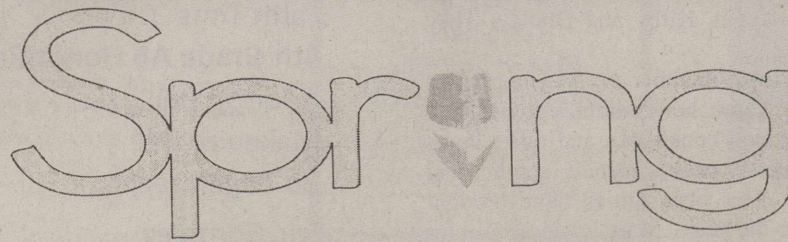
Nominations open for Golden Nail Awards

The Golden Nail Awards is to honor those who made financial, in-kind and volunteer contributions to the fine arts in Amarillo and Panhandle Area. The Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Arts Alliance is seeking area nominations for the Golden Nail Award to include categories; Individual; Business; Foundation; distinguished Volunteer and Up and Coming distinguished Young Volunteer. Nominations should be received by February 13, 2017.

Nomination forms are available from Amarillo Chamber of Commerce or from Gaynelle Riffe in Stratford. For more information contact Kishion Smith at 806-342-2023. The Golden Nail Gala will be held in the Grand Plaza Ballroom of the Amarillo Civic Center on Thursday, April 6, 2017.

Narcotics Anonymous meetings every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm at the Church of Christ.

These are non-religious and confidential meetings.



Spring begins March 20th, 2017

Stratford Jamboree will meet on Friday, January 20th at noon at the First Christian Church Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided. We will be discussing a Ranch Rodeo and honoring a Pioneer Family.

LaRita Performing Arts Theatre Annual Meeting

The LaRita Performing Arts Theatre, Inc. in Dalhart held their annual meeting Saturday evening January 14. Members attending had the opportunity to enter a drawing for two 2017 season tickets.

Upcoming events: Saturday, February 11, "The Quebe Sisters" award winning ensemble of fiddlers and singers; Thursday, May 4, "Asleep at the Wheel" 9 time Grammy Award winning Texas Swing Band.



Where will I watch the big game??

Biddy's on Main will be open Super Bowl Sunday - Feb. 5th starting at 4:30 p.m. Come watch the game on our new 60" tv, we'll have good food and lots of fun!

See you @ Biddy's for the Super Bowl!!!



2017 Sherman County Stock Show

Thursday, January, 26, 2017
4:30 Weigh In
Lambs, Goats, Swine

5:30 Exhibitor Meeting - Show Barn
Every Exhibitor Must Attend

7:00 PM
Lamb Show
Goat Show

Friday, January 27, 2017
8:00 AM
Swine Show

Cattle Show
Steer Show
Heifer Show

Saturday, January 28, 2017

5:00 PM - Exhibitors report to County Barn for Sale Meal

6:00 PM Sale Meal for Buyers

6:30 PM - Awards Presentation

7:00 PM - Sale Begins

From the Bird's Nest January, 2017

By Jerry Birdsong-Superintendent

January is School Board Recognition Month and Stratford ISD is joining other districts across the state to thank these local leaders for the dedication and willingness to serve as advocates for our children and public schools. We want to take this opportunity to build awareness and understanding of the vital function an elected board of trustees plays in our communities.

Texans and Stratford benefit every day from the dedicated energies and countless hours devoted by a group of more than 7,000 men and women across the state. Their actions and decisions affect the present and future lives of all our children. Even though we are making a special effort during January to show appreciation to our school board members, we recognize their work reflects a year-round commitment. Every day trustees demonstrate strength and dedication as they focus on excellence for their district programs, their teachers, and most importantly their students. They unselfishly contribute their time and talents toward the advancement of public schools, and represent a continuing commitment to local citizen control and decision making in education.

Serving as a crucial link between the community and the classroom, this board is responsible for an annual budget of \$6.4M, 600 students, 110 employees and three campuses. Stratford ISD is served by trustees Brad McBryde, Tres Hess, Jo Hinds, Tim Hudson, Dan Law, Bryan Clift and Walt Berry. If you get the chance, I would encourage thanking them for their service to our community, school and kids and giving them a nice pat on the back for their efforts.

I want to take this opportunity to inform you of my intent to retire this summer after 33 wonderful years in education. It has been such a blessing to be a part of the Stratford community over the past nine years. We are not looking leave any time soon. We plan to remain in the community and Stephanie will continue her teaching position at Mary Allen Elementary.

I want to thank all of the members of the Board of Trustees over the past 9 years. It has been a great honor and privilege to lead an outstanding organization in a great community. I am proud of the staff and student accomplishments during my tenure. I am confident and always hopeful that the school district and community will continue its tradition of excellence.

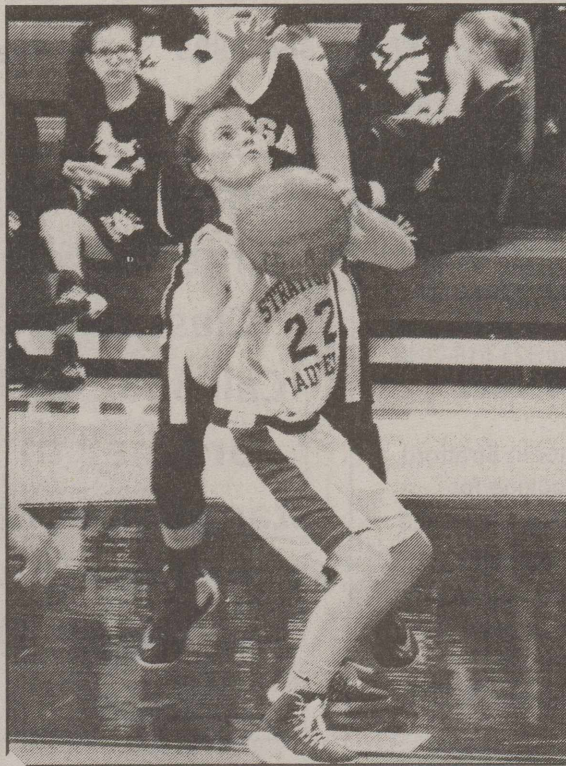
The successes that Stratford ISD has had are a direct reflection of the support and high expectations that the community has given the district over the years. It is an honor and a privilege for me to serve the community, parents, staff, and students of Stratford ISD. Stratford ISD has done a tremendous job of educating the kids of this community for many years. Again, I want to thank the Stratford community for its support for its school district.

Friday, January 20th is the last day to sign up for the Sherman County Stock Show!!

Basketball



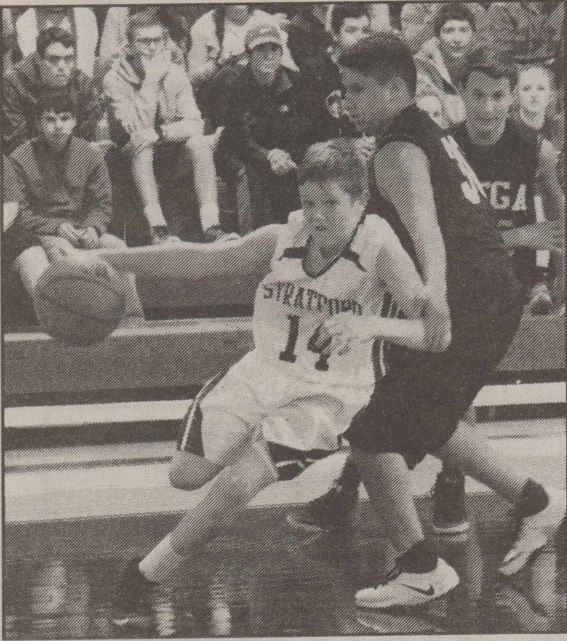
8th grade Lady Elk #35 Payton Berry scores under the basket in the Lady Elks win over Vega on Monday, January 9, 2017.



8th grade Lady Elk #22 Ashton Lavake shoots the two point shot in the Lady Elks win over Vega.



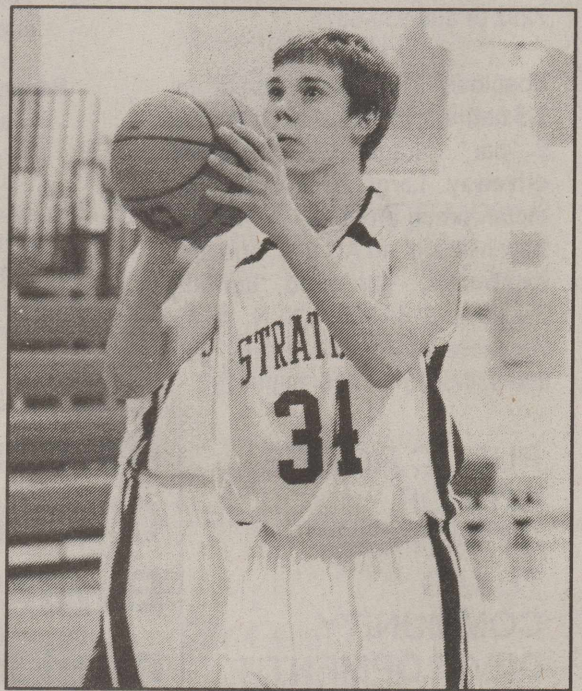
8th grade Lady Elk Rese Schoonover sets up for the three point shot against Vega on January 9, 2017.



8th grade Elk #14 Trever Bell drives to the basket in the Elks against Vega.



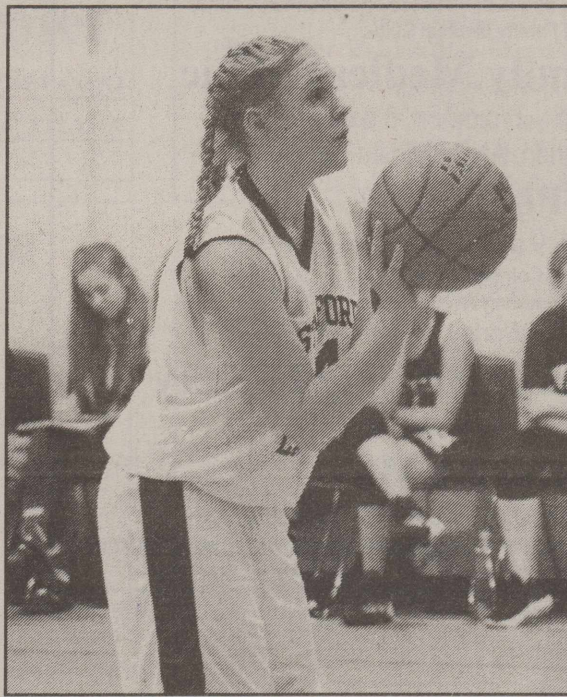
8th grade Elk #20 Benjamin James shoots free throws for the Elks.



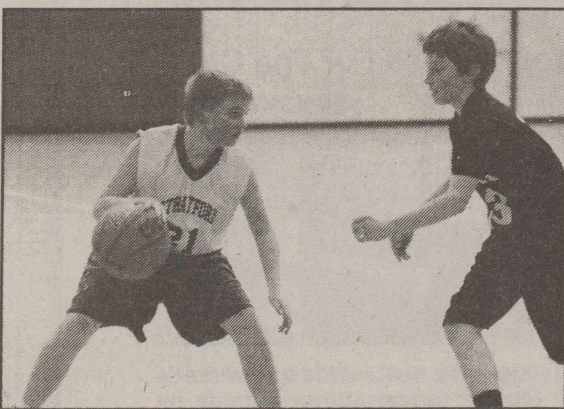
8th grade Elk #34 Dempsey Collums gets set for free throws in the Elks win over Vega.



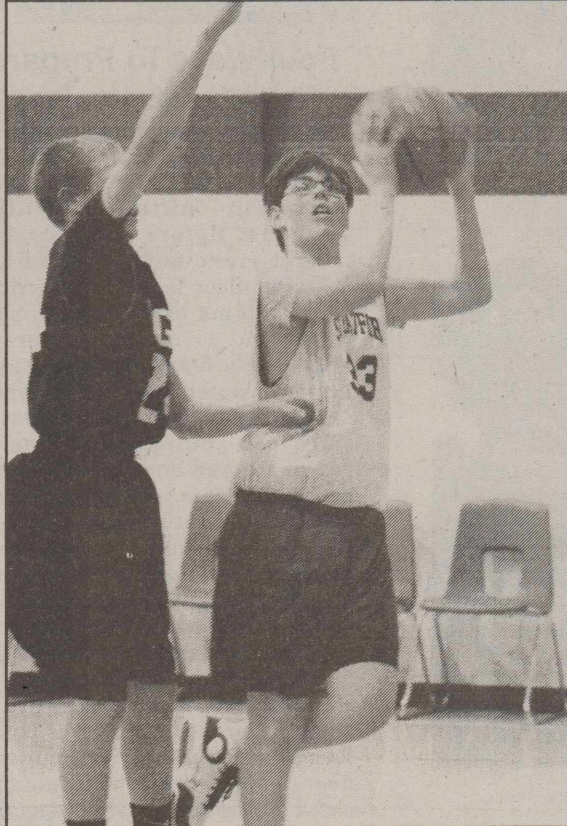
7th grade Lady Elk #2 JoJo Valenzuela drives to the basket in their win over Vega.



7th grade Lady Elk Hollie Sladek sets up for the free throw shot in the Lady Elks win over Vega.



7th grade Elk #21 James DeAnda drives down the court and sets up the offense for the Elks in their loss to Vega.



7th grade Elk Tyler Smith scores under the basket for the Elks against Vega.

Smart Snacking

Peanuts, Peanut Butter May Hold Key To Preventing Obesity

(NAPS)—Here's good news about tasty treats: Adolescents at high risk for obesity significantly reduced their Body Mass Index (BMI) by substituting peanuts and peanut butter for unhealthy snacks according to a new USDA-funded study.

"Obesity is the most pressing public health issue facing us today," said Dr. Craig Johnston, principal investigator at the University of Houston. "We'd like to think it's preventable but until now there haven't been many studies showing large scale effective measures."

Instructors guided over 250 adolescents through a program of physical activity and nutrition education. About half the students received an after school snack of peanuts or peanut butter about four times a week, while the rest had peanuts less than once a week.

"We have a lot of kids skipping meals for a lot of reasons," Dr. Johnston said. "What we found is that kids get home from school around 4 p.m. There's less supervision by parents and less structure. Kids are sitting down at the TV and eating, eating, eating," he added.

On average, American children consume between two and three snacks a day, a quarter of their daily energy intake. Data has shown that some children are actually eating snacks up to ten times a day.

Peanuts and peanut butter were chosen as snacks because they are very high in protein—more than any other nut, in fact. The protein promotes the feeling of fullness and cuts the number of snacks needed. Peanuts also have a very concentrated number of important nutrients.

Following the 12-week study, students spent another 12 weeks maintaining the healthy snacking habit.



Peanuts and peanut butter can go a long way toward helping young people grow up healthy.

At the end, those students who ate the snack more regularly experienced a decrease in their overall BMI compared to those who did not.

The new nutrition standards for USDA's Smart Snacks in School highlight peanuts as one of the healthiest snacks with zero empty calories. The standards apply to all snacks sold during the school day in cafeterias, vending machines, school stores and snack carts. You can read more about Smart Snacks in School at www.fns.usda.gov/healthierschoolday.

Researchers at University of Houston, Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Woman's University conducted the study. Their findings are published in the *Journal of Applied Research on Children*.

Learn More

For recipes and further facts about the nutritional benefits of peanuts and healthy snacking, visit www.peanutpower.org or www.peanut-institute.org.