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STRAWN, TEXAS

# The Strawn Advocate

*The Community's Local News Source*

VOL. 1. ISSUE 3

FEBRUARY, 2013

## City of Strawn and State Parks Department Meet to Discuss Management of Lake Tucker

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) representatives met with interested citizens on January 31 in Guest Chapel to give a presentation and hold a question and answer session regarding plans for the Palo Pinto Mountains State Park. The City of Strawn and TPWD are working jointly to develop a plan for the management of Tucker Lake that is mutually beneficial to area residents and supports the efforts to build a quality destination park. Rodney Franklin, Regional Director for Region 5 of TPWD, along with Chris Beckcom, Chief of Planning for Texas State Parks, and Kevin Good, Special Assistant to the Director of Texas State Parks, discussed the management of Lake Tucker and the impact the new state park might have on water usage. Franklin stressed that the lake would be a key feature of the state park and many of their plans for future development involve management control around the lake. He also reassured citizens that protecting the lake as a water resource for Strawn was of utmost importance to TPWD. Kevin Good pointed out that the water quality of Lake Tucker would be even better since TPWD has the resources to protect water. Citizens asked questions such as “What happens if we have to raise the spillway? How much water will be pulled from the lake? What would happen if Strawn imposed water rationing?” Representatives of Jacob & Martin Engineering, the Engineering firm utilized by the City, answered questions about the lake based on their recent studies. They stated that the


*continued on page 6*

## Palo Pinto Challenge Fundraiser Slated for March 2nd

The main fundraiser of the year for Palo Pinto Challenge is the Salsa Barons' Ball, a really fun, casual evening offering good food, prizes, and the satisfaction of helping challenged adults “Work with Pride.” The event will be held on Saturday, March 2, from 6-10 p.m. at the Sheriff's Posse building in Mineral Wells. Pulido's will cater the fajita dinner from 6-8. Robert Snyder will emcee, adding his usual entertaining commentary. A live auction will be held by Eric Dyess and Michel Franklin. The event also includes a silent auction chaired by Michael and Amanda Franklin, which provides the opportunity to bid on some really great items. For a fun time, music and comedy is provided by CoeBoy. Sponsorships are available at several different levels to fit any pocket book. Donations for the auction and raffle prizes would be appreciated. Tickets are \$100, which includes admission for two people to enjoy an evening of fun, food and friends and the chance to win a \$1,000 cash prize. You may purchase tickets by calling 254-672-5738 or 940-325-7100 and leaving a message.

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Next Meeting Feb. 21  
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# Thurber Museum to Host Night at the Opera

The W.K. Gordon Center invites everyone to attend a “Night Out at the Opera House” on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. February’s feature film will be the 1921 silent film “The Sheik” starring Rudolph Valentino. From the 1920’s to the 1930’s, Thurber’s Opera House transformed into a movie theater. The Night Out at the Opera House program features films shown during that time period. The film will be shown in the W.K. Gordon Center’s recreated Opera House. Seating is limited to the first 25 guests. Reservations can be made by phone at (254)968-1886 or by email at giffin@tarleton.edu. This is a FREE public program open to all ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The W.K. Gordon Center is located on Exit 367 on Interstate 20 in Thurber, Texas.

# TxDOT Installs Warning Lights on Ranger Hill

Texas Department of Transportation is installing solar powered beacon warning lights alerting drivers to the 65 mph speed limit along Ranger Hill. The hill has had a 65 mph speed limit posted, but it’s been the scene of many recent accidents. Now it will have 4 flashing signs eastbound going down the hill, and 2 flashing signs on the westbound side going up the hill to warn drivers to slow down on Ranger Hill.

## Machacek Bakery & Market

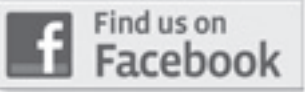
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## The Strawn Advocate

Published Monthly by the  
Strawn Chamber of Commerce

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# Texas Six-Man Coaches Announce All State Teams


(MicroPlex News)—The Texas Six-Man Coaches Association has released the names of members of the Division I All- State Football Team for 2012. Eight players from Strawn and six from Gordon were selected for the team. Those selected include the following:

**Strawn Greyhounds**


*Bobby Wells* –Senior lineman, First Team Defense; *Harrison Nowak* – Sophomore quarterback, Second Team Offense; *Jacob Trujillo* – Senior fullback, Second Team Offense; *Grayson Brandenburg* – Sophomore lineman, Honorable Mention Defense; *Abram Jarmillo* – Senior cornerback, Honorable Mention Defense; *Ross Alison* – Freshman safety, Honorable Mention Defense.

**Gordon Longhorns**

*Michael Cherry* – Senior utility player, First Team Offense; *Emory Allen* – Senior quarterback, Second Team Offense; *Jonathan Ruiz* – Junior linebacker, Second Team Defense; *Jake Wigginton* – Junior tight end, Honorable Mention Offense; *Stephen Plowman* – Senior center. Honorable Mention Offense; *Alex Montelago* – Senior lineman, Honorable Mention Defense. Congratulations, Boys!



*Dub Little* – Senior tight end, First Team Offense;  
*Cole Abbott* – Senior nose guard, First Team Defense;



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## City of Strawn/TPWD Discuss Joining Forces *(cont. from page 1)*

current lake conditions and infrastructure are capable of handling the projected water usage needed by the park. According to studies, the park would only use about 10 percent of the water supply that is currently used by Strawn residents. Regarding the question about raising the spillway, Derek Turner, with Jacob & Martin, stated that it was feasible to raise the spillway and that it would significantly increase the acre feet of water available, provided the State of Texas will allow us to increase our water permit. The current permit from the State allows 160 acre feet of water to be

drawn from Tucker Lake. The City will continue to maintain the drinking water, dam and spillway. Rodney Franklin responded that many of these issues could be negotiated with the city and become part of a planning document.

Franklin reassured everyone that the park would comply with any local provisions and do everything they could to support water conservation. City Secretary Danny Miller pointed out that the park would have to abide by any rules the city has, just as any other business does.

John Ferguson, Park Superintendent, provided a

handout to those attending the meeting, which listed the following basic components for TPWD's development plan to date:

- TPWD has already invested more than \$8 million in the approximately 4,000 acres that make up Palo Pinto Mountains State Park.

- One full-time employee and two part-time employees currently work at the park, with many more employees to be hired in the future.

- A precise date for official opening of Palo Pinto Mountains State park is uncertain, and is dependent upon funding appropriated from the Texas legislature.

- TPWD envisions Tucker Lake as the central feature of the park, offering fishing, canoeing, kayaking, and potentially other water sports, but is considering exclusion of gasoline boat engines in order to safeguard water quality.

- TPWD is prepared to work closely with the city to ensure that long-term water needs are met for the city and its citizens. City officials are currently determining what provisions are necessary to make certain those needs are met.

- TPWD anticipates improvements to the land surrounding Tucker Lake, such as picnic areas, fishing access, and other responsible public amenities.

- TPWD submits that pub-

lic entrance access to the park should remain along FM 2372, insuring that park visitors will approach the park through Strawn, creating opportunities to stop and shop in town en route to or from the park.

- TPWD will be responsible for law enforcement patrols at the lake, ensuring public safety and protection of the water resource.

- If, because of unforeseeable reasons, TPWD is unable to establish the park all land that the city deeds to TPWD will revert to city ownership.

- TPWD concurs with the consumptive rights for the water supply in Tucker Lake remaining with the City of Strawn, in perpetuity. In short, the water supply for the citizens of Strawn should remain unaffected.

TPWD welcomes input from the public regarding this new state park development. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Palo Pinto Mountains State Park Superintendent John Ferguson at (254) 210-3015.

Mayor Carl Frazier also encouraged residents to give input by filling out an opinion poll. During February, the poll will be available at City Hall and citizens can sign indicating they are for, against, or undecided about transferring ownership of the property surrounding Lake Tucker to TPWD.

# Tamale Supper

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*Saturday, February 9th*

*5:30 - 7:30*

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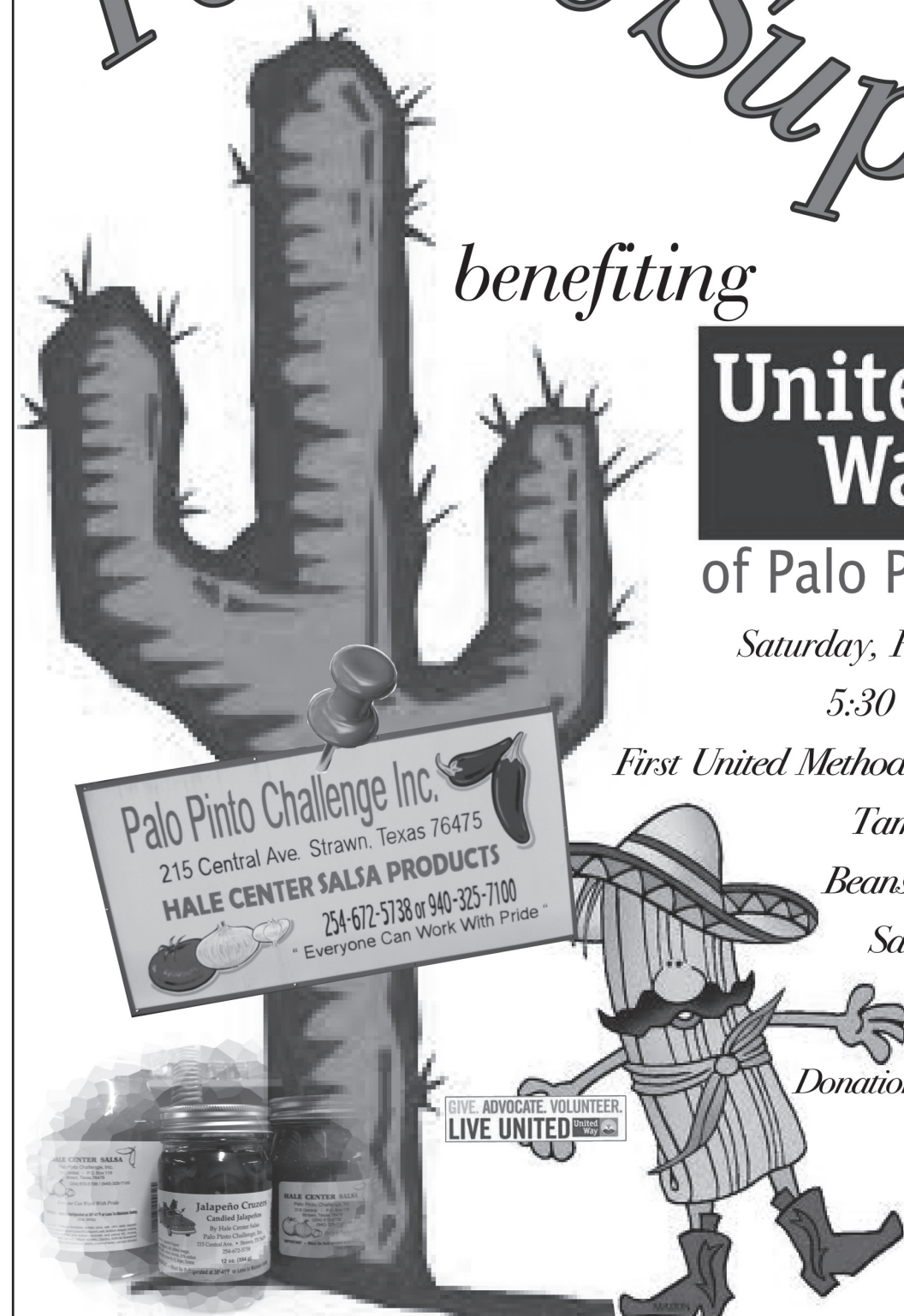
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## PK Chamber To Host Annual Mardi Gras Parade and Shrimp Boil

The Possum Kingdom Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a parade and shrimp fest on Saturday, March 2. This is a great way to promote your business or just have fun celebrating Mardi Gras at PK. The parade begins at 3 p.m. at Park Road 36. If you are interested in participating, please complete a parade entry form (no fee, it's free!!). Prizes will be given to the best parade entry - business and individual. Parade line-up begins at 2 p.m. at the public boat ramp located on FM 2951. Mardi Gras finery, throw beads and float decorations can be purchased at the Mardi Gras store located at the Chamber office during normal business hours beginning mid-February. The store will also be open on Saturday morning from 10 a.m. until around 1 p.m. The Shrimp Fest begins at 6 p.m. at the Chamber building, offering all-you-can-eat boiled shrimp and all the cajun fixin's. Ticket prices are \$22 adult, \$15 senior (62 up) and \$10 children (10 under) - no doggie bags. BYOB-no glass containers, only small coolers allowed (no larger than a 12 pack that will fit under your chair). Due to limited space, no baby strollers are allowed and everyone must purchase a ticket. Tickets are non-refundable.

## Strawn Students Bring Home Ribbons From Palo Pinto County Livestock Show

Congratulations to the following winners from the Palo Pinto County Junior Livestock show. They are listed according to their finish in each weight division.

<b>Rabbits</b>	Kyle Nowak, 4th Place; Tierney Adkins, Reserve Breed Champion.	Jordan Spakes, 2nd Place; <b>Lamb/Sheep</b> Dub Little, 3rd Place; Jaron Dumas, 3rd Place.	J.W. Montgomery, 5th Place; Tanner Hodgkins, 2nd Place; Laynie Parsons, 6th Place; Shelly Abbott, 6th Place; Cole Abbott, 2nd Place; Sidney Pollock, 1st Place; Cori Pollock, 3rd Place; Jamisan Pollock, 4th Place.
<b>Goats</b>	Railey Mallory, Champion Light Weight; Jahlynn Flores, 2nd Place; Karlee Mallory, Reserve Champion Light Weight;	<b>Hogs</b> Rowdy Sparks, 6th Place; Jacob Sharp, 4th Place; Peyton Harris, 4th Place; Sarah Ross, 2nd Place;	

FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
DATE	EVENT	TIME	PLACE
Feb. 8	C.A.R.E. Board Meeting	5:30 pm	Mingus C.A.R.E. Headquarters
Feb 8	HS Basketball vs Gordon - VB	6:30 pm	Gordon ISD Gymnasium
Feb. 11	PPC Commissioners Court Meeting	9:00 am	Palo Pinto County Courthouse
Feb. 11	Development Corp of Strawn	6:00 pm	Strawn City Hall
Feb. 11	Strawn City Council Meeting	7:00 pm	Strawn City Hall
Feb. 12	Strawn Lion's Club Meeting	Noon	Mary's Cafe
Feb. 12	Strawn Historical Museum Meeting	6:30 pm	Strawn City Hall
Feb. 12	HS Basketball vs. Lingleville, VB	6:30 pm	Strawn ISD Gymnasium
Feb. 14	Elem. Class Valentine Parties	2:30 pm	Strawn Elementary
Feb. 18	Strawn ISD Board Meeting	7:00 pm	Strawn ISD Administration Bldg.
Feb. 19	Strawn Lions' Club Meeting	12 Noon	Mary's Cafe
Feb. 21	Strawn ISD Booster Club Meeting	6:00 pm	Strawn ISD Cafeteria
Feb. 21	Strawn Chamber of Commerce Meeting	6:30 pm	Guest Chapel
Feb. 25	PPC Commissioners Court Meeting	9:00 am	Palo Pinto County Courthouse
Feb. 26	Strawn Lion's Club Meeting	12 Noon	Mary's Cafe
Feb. 28	High School Track Meet	All Day	Zephyr ISD Track Field
March 2	PK Mardi Gras Parade	3:00 pm	Park Road 36, Possum Kingdom Lake
March 2	PK Mardi Gras Shrimpfest	6:00 pm	Possum Kingdom Chamber Bldg.

## Strawn ISD Elementary and Jr. High Academic UIL A+ Teams

Congratulations to the following students who placed in academic UIL contests. If you see these students, give them a pat on the back and let them know how proud we are of them. A big thanks goes out to Alan Alison with the Strawn Booster Club for creating a banner that hangs in the gym to recognize these UIL winners.

**2nd Grade**  
*Megan Utsinger* – Creative Writing, 5th, Chess Puzzles, 3rd, Storytelling, 6th; *Myah Forsee* – Chess Puzzles, 2nd; *Naomi Juarez* – Chess Puzzles, 6th.

**3rd Grade**  
*Bella Gallozzi* – Ready Writing, 5th; *Harrison Windham* – Storytelling, 3rd; *Issac Ensey* – Ready Writing, 2nd, Chess, Puzzles, 6th.

**4th Grade**  
*Cesar Espinoza* – Chess Puzzles, 5th tie; *Hannah Thomas* – Ready Writing, 3rd; *Karlee Mallory* – Spelling, 2nd, Music Memory, 2nd; *MyKaela Berumen* – Art, 3rd; *Rowdy Sparks* – Ready Writing, 6th, Chess Puzzles, 3rd tie; Number Sense, 5th; *Sara Ross* – Art, 2nd, Number Sense, 6th tie; *Trenton West* – Number Sense, 6th tie, Oral Reading, 6th, Art, 2nd, Spelling, 3rd.

**5th Grade**  
*Jamison Pollock* – Music Memory, 4th; *Jaren Dumas* – Chess, 6th tie, Listening, 3rd; *Jocelyn Mallory* – Art, 6th; *Megan Brock* – Chess, 1st, Art, 1st tie, Maps, Graphs, & Charts, 4th;

*Noah Allen* – Number Sense, 2nd; *Noah Hopkins* – Spelling, 4th, Social Studies, 1st, Chess, 5th; Number Sense, 1st ; *Vanessa Martinez* – Art, 5th.

**6th Grade**  
*Carlos Villanueva* – Mathematics, 2nd; *Gage Boston* – Chess, 4th; *Jordan Spakes* – Number Sense, 3rd, Music Memory, 5th; *Kaitlyn Striz* – Art, 1st tie; *Kelsi Striz* – Art, 1st tie; *Ana Nelson* – Art, 3rd tie; *Krece Nowak* – Chess, 5th; *Tanner Hodgkins* – Chess, 1st, Number Sense, 5th; *William Wong* – Spelling, 3rd.

**7th Grade**  
*Jahlynn Flores* – Spelling, 3rd, Ready Writing, 2nd, Social Studies. 6th; *Mikayla Mallory* – Ready Writing, 3rd, Social Studies, 5th, Number Sense, 3rd, Mathematics, 2nd, Calculator App., 1st; *K-Lani Nava* – Number Sense, 2nd, Maps, Graphs, & Charts, 5th; *Silence Jones* – Chess Puzzles, 4th; *Gavin Duncan* – Science, 2nd tie, Listening, 4th; *Zavion Winegeart* – Calculator App., 2nd.

**8th Grade**  
*Becky Short* – Dictionary Skills, 1st; *Garrison Baker* – Listening Skills, 5th; *Josh Moore* – Social Studies, 1st; Science, 1st; Dictionary Skills, 5th; *Kallie Hodgkins* – Art, 6th, Number Sense, 2nd, Mathematics, 3rd, Calculator App., 3rd; *Railey Mallory* – Dictionary Skills, 4th, Oral Reading, 4th; *Riley Fesser* – Chess, 2nd; *Ryen Sparks* – Editorial Writing, 5th, Number Sense, 5th, Calculator

App., 1st, Mathematics, 5th; *Sanjuana Lopez* – Spelling, 1st, Ready Writing, 6th; *Tyler Ross* – Calculator App., 6th; *Viola Mangrum* – Dictionary Skills, 5th, Oral Reading, 6th.

**Elementary Team Results**  
**2nd Grade**  
Chess Puzzles, 2nd – *Myah Forsee, Megan Utsinger, Naomi Juarez.*

**4th Grade**  
Spelling, 1st – *Karlee Mallory, Trenton West, Sara Ross*; Number Sense, 2nd – *Rowdy Sparks, Sara Ross, Trenton West*; Art, 1st – *Anna Hernadez, Mykaela Berumen, Sara Ross, Trenton West*; Chess Puzzles, 2nd – *Cesar Espinoza, Rowdy Sparks, Hanna Thomas.*

**5th Grade**  
Spelling, 3rd – *Noah Hopkins, Jamison Pollock, Hannah Nowak*; Social Studies, 1st – *Noah Hopkins, Jaren Dumas, Blaze Duncan*; Chess, 1st – *Megan Brock, Noah Hopkins, Jaren Dumas*; Number Sense, 1st – *Noah Hopkins, Noah Allen, Jaren Dumas*; Music Memory, 3rd – *Jamison Pollock, Noah Allen,*

*Marco Lopez, Hannah Nowak*; Art, 1st – *Megan Brock, Vanessa Martinez, Jocyeln Mallory.*

**6th Grade**  
Chess, 1st – *Tanner Hodgkins, Gage Boston, Krece Nowak*; Art, 1st – *Ana Nelson, Kaitlyn Striz, Kelsi Striz*; Number Sense, 2nd – *Jordan Spakes, Tanner Hodgkins, Gabby Edens.*

**Junior High Team Results**  
**7th Grade**  
Spelling, 2nd – *Jahlynn Flores, K-Lani Nava, Railey Mallory*; Social Studies, 3rd – *Jahlynn Flores, K-Lani Nava, Railey Mallory*; Science, 2nd – *Gavin Baker, Gavin Duncan, K-Lani Nava.*

**8th Grade**  
Spelling, 1st – *Ryen Spark, Sanjuana Lopez, Railey Mallory*; Listening, 2nd – *Gavin Baker, Gavin Duncan, Connor Kehl*; Number Sense, 2nd – *Kalli Hodgkins, Ryen Sparks, Tyler Ross*; Dictionary Skills, 2nd – *Becky Short, Josh Moore, Railey Mallory*; Science, 2nd – *Josh Moore, Ryen Sparks, Sanjuana Lopez*; Calculator Applications, 1st – *Ryen Sparks, Kalli Hodgkins, Tyler Ross.*

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