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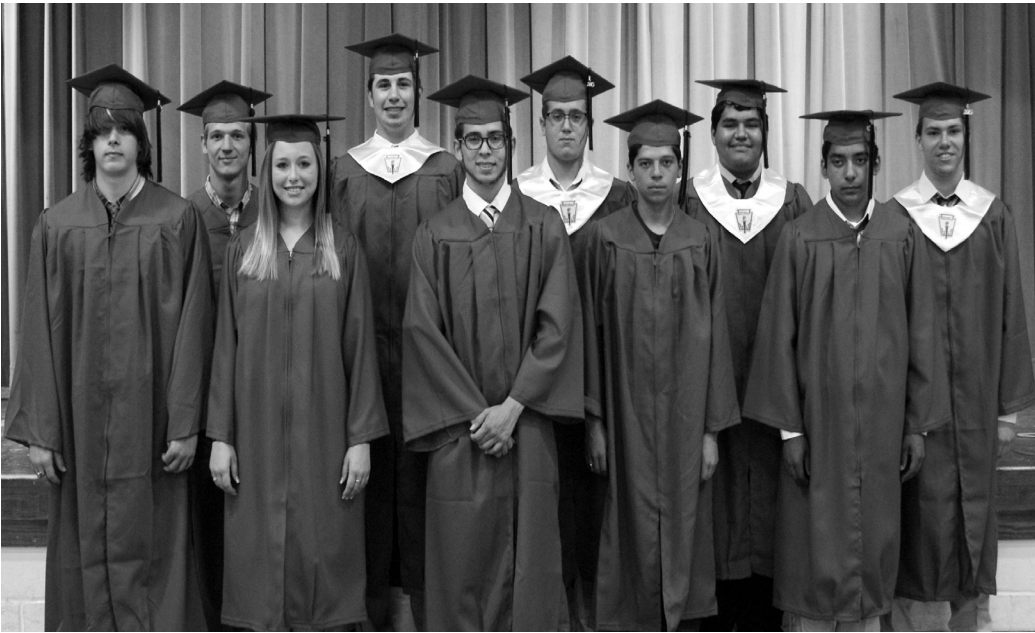
# City Releases Full Report of Recent Water Emergency

On Friday, May 17, the water line from Tucker Lake to the water treatment plant experienced a blockage that prevented any volume of water from reaching town. After many hours of troubleshooting to no avail, temporary pumps were brought in to draw water from a holding pond on the Sparks property. Strawn VFD also started transporting water from the lake. Divers were called in on May 18 to inspect the intake at the lake. They found one hole in the intake about the size of a man's wrist. They did not find anything in the intake that was causing a blockage.

A plan was then begun to bring the old 6" water line back in service; however, it was found to have too many leaks to repair in a timely manner. A submersible electric pump was still in place at the lake. Electricians serviced the pump and brought it back on line. This pump and 6" line were plumbed into the 10" line with the hopes of forcing water past the blockage. This worked until 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21. Mayor Frazier called for an emergency meeting and plans were put in place to transport water by truck until the problem could be corrected. It was later determined that the problem was caused by a blockage in the water line past the blockage.

*continued on page 5*

## Congratulations! Strawn High Class of 2013



Congratulations to the graduating seniors of Strawn High School who were awarded their diplomas on May 31. The senior class includes the following: Collier "Cole" Abbott, (Salutatorian), Julian Atkins, Angel Berumen, Luis Berumen, Kaity Gray, William "Dub" Little, Valedictorian, Zach Pena, Jacob Sharp, Jon Thomas, and Bobby Wells.

## Proposed ISD Construction Bond Defeated

*Sparks & Abbott declared winners in ISD board race*

In the May 11 elections, voters rejected Strawn ISD's proposed \$5 million bond for the construction, renovation, acquisition and equipment of school buildings. The bond was defeated by a vote of 158 against and 63 for.

In the school board race, Reese Sparks and Craig Abbott were declared the winners.

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## Strawn Council Considering Future Water Possibilities

(MicroplexNews.com)

The May 13th Strawn City Council meeting included a discussion between the council and the city engineer involving the problem with water rights allotments that Strawn has and will have in the future. Strawn has exceeded its permitted water rights in past years according to City Secretary Danny Miller and been just under the allotment in other years. With the arrival of the state park and the possibility of any future growth, Strawn will need to find alternative water rights to meet the demand. The city has put

in a request to the state that their allotment of water from Tucker Lake be increased, but they have been told that this increase is doubtful.

The next idea is to pay for the up-size of a line the City of Ranger will be running to the new TxDOT rest stop being built on I-20 at the top of Ranger Hill and purchase water from Ranger. TxDOT is paying for the installation of a four-inch line from Ranger's main line to the rest stop. Ranger has indicated they might be interested in increasing the size of that line at Strawn's expense and then selling

Strawn water.

Derek Turner, engineer for the city, said that Strawn may be able to get a 30% grant to pay for the project. The city could also refinance existing debt service at a lower interest rate and extend the years to pay on the loan, which could keep Strawn from having any increase in their current debt payment. The total cost to up-size the line and get water from Ranger to Strawn is estimated to be around \$1 million according to Turner. Current debt service is just under \$590,000. Adding those together and having it re-financed would be a total

funding package of \$1.6 million. The Council approved pursuing the possibility of a contract with Ranger and having Mayor Carl Frazier be the contact person.

Also on the agenda was a discussion with Texas Parks and Wildlife representative, Rodney Franklin, concerning the proposed transfer of property at Tucker Lake. Franklin assured the council that this had nothing to do with water rights and that the water would still belong to Strawn. TPWD and the City of Strawn are negotiating a contract in which the City will sign over possession of

(continued on page 7)

## Future Water Possibilities Being Discussed *(continued from page 2)*

the land around the lake and a long term lease for the land under the lake. Maintaining the dam would still be the responsibility of the city. Franklin said that they need to have control over the land in order to have leverage when request-

ing funding for projects on and around the lake. Franklin also said that a reason to have control of the land under the lake was so that people on the lake "aren't able to do things that are counter to our mission." Without control of the land around

and under the lake, State Park Rangers would not have jurisdiction over anyone using the lake. A reversion clause will be in these contracts that would revert ownership of the land back to the City of Strawn if, for any reason, the state park

never opens or opens and is later shut down. Plans are to have one more public meeting after a final contract is presented. A motion was made to continue to pursue a contract with TPWD.



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## The Strawn Advocate

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## Strawn Boosters Honor Club's First Scholarship Recipient

Strawn High School Senior Cole Abbott is the recipient of the first Strawn Booster Club Student-Athlete Scholarship Award. Abbott was honored during commencement services for his contributions in the community as well as his efforts in the classroom and accomplishments in athletics.

Abbott has consistently been on the Strawn ISD Honor Roll and has served and competed on academic teams throughout his high school tenure. Abbott has been a three-year starter in football and basketball and has competed in tennis as well as track and field, serving as a team captain over the past two seasons. Tarleton State University will welcome Abbott next fall as he pursues his post secondary education in Kinesiology with aspirations of becoming a physical therapist.

The Booster Club hopes to expand the scholarships next year to provide a \$1,000 scholarship to both a male and female student-athlete.

## Inaugural Booster Club Clay Shoot Slated for June 8th

The inaugural Strawn Booster Club Clay Shoot will be held Saturday, June 8th at the Dodson Prairie Shooting Range just north of Strawn. The Booster Club has accumulated over fifty sponsors that have generously donated cash and prizes to help raise money for academic and athletic activities for the 2013-2014 school year.

To go along with the day's clay shoot tournament, the Booster Club will also challenge the marksman-ship of participants with several other games and contests, which include a skeet shoot, a wolf chase, and an archery clay shoot hosted by Bargain Hunters Outdoors of Weatherford. Would-be archers will take aim at large foam disk targets to earn a prize.

A barbecue dinner will be served at 5 p.m. with live music provided by Shane Mallory. A silent auction and a live auction featuring items such as a mountain lion hunt, red deer doe hunt, Ranger & TCU Football tickets, rounds of golf at some of the Metroplex's finest golf courses, autographed helmets, jerseys and many more items will follow the meal.

The Booster Club's goal this year is to raise around \$20,000 through the Clay Shoot and establish it as an annual marquee event for the school. Sponsorship opportunities are still available ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. For more information contact Trey Hodgkins at 817-999-5071.

## Recent Business Expansion Takes Local Dollar Store In A Delicious New Direction

Linda Lloyd Faubion, owner of Country Dollar Store & More, has recently expanded her operations to include breakfast, lunch, and a deli.

Breakfast is served from 7 - 9:30 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The menu includes homemade breakfast tacos by Angelica Espinoza, as well as pancakes, bacon and eggs. The lunch specials change daily Tuesday through Friday, but at least two days of the week will feature Mexican food made from scratch by Angelica. On Saturday, deli sandwiches will be available for lunch. The deli is open each day and offers fresh sliced deli meats and cheeses.

After doubling the size of the store, Faubion will offer more items for sale in addition to the usual line of products. Handmade mosaics created by Joy Harris will be available. Strawn Greyhound t-shirts and other logo items made by Diana Sparks will also be featured.

Linda says, "Come check us out and see all the new things we have to offer!" Country Dollar Store & More is located at 109 W. Housley St. in downtown Strawn behind the bank. Store hours are 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Saturday.

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Strawn ISD 4th grader Hannah Nowak was named the grand prize winner in the 2013 Clark Gardens Garden Club Arbor Day Poster Contest. As a portion of her prize, an oak tree will be planted on school grounds, along with a plaque naming Nowak as the award winner. Nowak also received an annual family pass to Clark Gardens. The theme of the competition was "Trees are Terrific, In All Shapes and Sizes." Nowak is the daughter of Mrs. Shan Nowak of Strawn.



Area Happenings

Exhibition at the Old Jail Museum,  
Palo Pinto  
“Citizens at Last: The Woman Suffrage  
Movement in Texas”  
May 15 - June 12

When it came to politics as well as geography, Texas women found themselves on the treacherous border between the West and the South. In the end, Texas bucked the trend in both regions, lagging behind with the last three states to pass suffrage in the West, but charging ahead with the first four in the South. But the campaign to gain rights for women was not without contention and the battle fought for Texas women are some of the more colorful and fascinating in our state’s history. Find out more about this important period of Texas history. Exhibit on display at the Old Jail Museum in Palo into through June 12th.

122nd Annual Birthday Celebration  
for Dublin Bottling Works

Saturday, June 8, beginning at 7:30 a.m.  
in downtown Dublin

Dublin Bottling Works invites everyone to join Dublin in this annual all-day celebration! Come enjoy sand sculptures, live music, arts and crafts, and “The Irish Stampede” 5K! For more information, contact Laura Gambino at 254-485-0997 or visit [www.dublinbottling-works.com/visit-dublin](http://www.dublinbottling-works.com/visit-dublin)

Youth Art Camp  
At Cross Timbers Fine Arts Council

Starting Monday, June 24, 9:30 AM (other June dates available) the Cross Timbers Fine Arts Council’s River North Gallery, 204 River North Blvd. in Stephenville will host an art camp for area youth. Instructors are Stephenville ISD art instructors Liz Meiron and Misti Schulz-Henderson. Cost is \$75 per camper.

Class Schedules Are As Follows:

9:30 AM to 11:30 AM - Ages 5 years to 10

2:00 PM to 4:00 PM - Ages 11 years & up

Information: 254-965-6190

or visit the website at [www.ctfac.com](http://www.ctfac.com)

Palo Pinto County Livestock Assoc.  
Regular Meeting

June 27, 7-8 PM  
Expo Building, Mineral Wells

Night Out at the Opera House  
Featuring “Grand Hotel”  
Saturday, June 15, at 6:00 p.m.

Join us at the W.K. Gordon Center for our summer feature film “Grand Hotel”! This drama-filled 1932 Academy Award winning classic is set in Berlin’s most luxurious and expensive hotel whose guests come from all walks of life.

From the 1920’s to the 1930’s, Thurber’s famous Opera House began showing movies and “talkies.” The Night Out at the Opera House program features films shown during that time period and shown in the recreated Opera House located inside the museum.

This is a FREE public program open to all ages, but 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](mailto:giffin@tarleton.edu). Children must be accompanied by an adult. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and the movie will begin at 6 p.m. The W.K. Gordon Center is located off Exit 367 on Interstate 20 in Thurber.

A Day In Thurber  
Kid’s Day Camp

Monday, June 24, from 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. The W.K. Gordon Center for Industrial History will be hosting its first summer day camp. The camp is open to children going into grades 4th-6th. Cost is \$5 a child. Kids will spend the day playing, learning and finding out what life was like when Thurber ghost town was booming! Registration will be open May 28. Children will need to provide their own lunches. Afternoon snacks will be provided. Children can be dropped off starting at 9:45 a.m. and need to be picked up between 4:00 - 4:15 p.m.

For more information, please contact 254-968-1886 or email [giffin@tarleton.edu](mailto:giffin@tarleton.edu).

If you know in advance of an event taking place that you would like to see listed in Area Happenings, please give us a call at 254-595-0197. Thank you.

Report of City-wide Water Emergency (continued from page 1)

mined that if this crisis continued for any length of time, it would be cheaper to run a pump and temporary line from the lake to town.

With the very generous help of many people including Ricky Jones and Stewart Tank Company, Commissioner Mike Pierce and crew, County Emergency Management Coordinator Buddy Harwell, Alderman Tye Jackson, Lone Camp VFD, Brazos VFD, Palo Pinto VFD, Gordon VFD and Strawn VFD, and the City of Gordon crew, Strawn’s water needs were met for the next few days. The temporary water line was brought into service by

Friday, May 24, as well as a borrowed irrigation pump from Clarke Tractor to operate the plant. The boil water notice was issued as a result of the pressure drop when the water tower got below 22 feet in capacity. The City employees spent Memorial Day weekend keeping the water plant operating and the water pump at the lake full of fuel.

The trouble shooting process continued on the 10” water line. The City narrowed the blockage to a ½ mile stretch approximately 1.5 miles west of Strawn. The problem appeared to be a large catfish and mussel shells in the water line, and pieces

of catfish were removed. When the 10” line is repaired and the plant operating back at completely normal capacity, the city will bring the old 6” water line back in service by repairing all of the bad spots. This will give us redundancy in transporting water from the lake to Strawn.

As of May 30, the City released the following statement: Our system has taken the necessary corrective actions to restore adequate pressure, disinfectant levels, and/or bacteriological quality and has provided TCEQ with testing results that indicate that the water no longer re-

quires boiling. The City has discussed the need to install some type of large trap at the lake to catch anything that comes through the pipe; this will have to be discussed with the engineers. The City must also consider alternate sources of water in the future. City Secretary Danny Miller urges everyone to come to the City Council meetings to weigh in on a possible water line tie in from Ranger to Strawn. This tie in is strictly in the discussion phase right now and would require many steps to be completed before it would be possible.

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Time	Location
June 8	Strawn Booster Club Clay Shoot	1 pm Check-In	Dodson Prairie Shooting Range
June 10	PPC Commissioners Court Meeting	9 AM	Palo Pinto County Courthouse
June 10	Development Corp. of Strawn Meeting	6 PM	Strawn City Hall
June 10	Strawn City Council Meeting	7 PM	Strawn City Hall
June 11	Strawn Lions Club Meeting	Noon	Mary’s Cafe
June 11	Strawn Historical Museum Meeting	6:30 PM	Strawn City Hall
June 14	Desdemona Senior Dance	7-9:30 PM	Desdemona Community Center
June 17	Strawn ISD Board Meeting	7:00 PM	Strawn ISD Administration Bldg.
June 18	Strawn Lions Club Meeting	Noon	Mary’s Cafe
June 21	Strawn ISD Booster Club Meeting	6:30 PM	Strawn ISD Cafeteria
June 24	PPC Commissioners Court Meeting	9 AM	Palo Pinto County Courthouse
June 25	Strawn Lions Club Meeting	Noon	Mary’s Cafe
June 27	Strawn Chamber of Commerce Meeting	6:30 PM	Guest Chapel

For more information, check the following websites:  
<http://www.strawntx.com> or <http://www.strawnschool.net>