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The Strawn Advocate

The Community's Local News Source

VOL. 1. ISSUE 12

NOVEMBER 2013

TAKE ONE  
IT'S FREE

# Local Reps Attend Midwest Conference

Representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Strawn, and the Development Corporation of Strawn attended the 20th Annual Texas Midwest Conference at the Abilene Civic Center on October 23. Founded in 1994, Texas Midwest Community Network (TMCN) is a consortium of cities and towns located throughout Central and West Texas. They work together to accomplish what one community cannot do alone by promoting a regional approach to achieve economic and community growth. The conference offered numerous exhibits and morning and afternoon seminars that addressed a variety of issues faced by area communities.



Pictured above (L-R) and the groups they represented are Georgia Braun, Strawn Chamber of Commerce; Shirley Lindsay, City of Strawn, Alderman; Esequiel Rodriguiz, City of Strawn, Alderman; Jeff Hinkson, Strawn Chamber of Commerce; Shanah Coe, Strawn Chamber of Commerce; and Alan Alison, Strawn Development Corporation. (Photo courtesy of Microplex News.)

Other area cities attending were Abilene, Anson, Aspermont, Baird, Ballinger, Brady, Breckenridge, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Cisco, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Cross Plains, (continued on page 7)

# New Petition Calls for Reconstruction of Ranger Hill

A group of concerned citizens are petitioning state and local representatives to have Ranger Hill reconstructed due to the increased number of accidents and casualties over the span of the last decade. Ranger Hill was constructed in the 1960's when the amount of traffic was lower. However, the amount of traffic has multiplied greatly since that time, resulting in the need for new construction. The petition calls for reconstructing the grade and curvature of Ranger Hill, as well as immediately lowering the speed limit to a maximum of 55 from mile marker 355 to mile marker 363. Petitions are available for local residents to sign at Country Dollar Store, Pac-A-Sac, Mary's Café, and Machaceks.

This space intentionally left blank  
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STRAWN'S FUTURE

Join the Chamber  
Next Meeting Dec. 2nd, 6pm  
All are Welcome



## Construction Begins on New City Water Lines

Roberts Construction Company from San Angelo, Texas recently broke ground on a new section of 8" water line. This project is a continuation of long-term plans to eventually ring the entire town with a new water line.

The new section will include 4,100 feet of new pipe, 23-8" valves and 5 new fire hydrants. They will replace a section of the line on Palo Pinto Avenue. They will then replace a section of line running parallel to the North side of the railroad tracks, bore under the tracks and go south toward the school. They will also replace a section of line in front of the school. This project is funded by a Texas Department of Agriculture grant. The City of Strawn will provide \$17,500.00 of the \$275,000.00 project. Please be patient with the construction for the next few months.



*The Strawn Booster Club held its annual Fall Festival on Saturday, October 28th, and included a Haunted House, bounce house/slide and all sorts of games where prizes could be won. (Photo Courtesy MicroplexNews.com)*

### Greyhound T-Shirts for Sale at Chamber Office

You can now buy a Strawn Greyhound t-shirt when the Chamber office is open on Friday from 10-3. Sales of the shirts benefit the Strawn Booster Club.



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## The Strawn Advocate

Published Monthly by the  
Strawn Chamber of Commerce

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#### Chamber Info:

Contact Georgia Braun at  
254-595-0197

Email: [strawnchamber@att.net](mailto:strawnchamber@att.net)

## Strawn Well Represented at Conference *(continued from page 1)*

De Leon, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Eden, Gorman, Hamilton, Hamlin, Haskell, Hico, Knox City, Menard, Merkel, Miles, Munday, Ranger, Rising Star, Robert Lee, Rotan, Roscoe, San Angelo, San Saba, Santa Anna, Snyder, Stamford, Sweetwater, Throckmorton, Tye, and Winters.

Each year a community is

awarded the All-Star Community Award. This is a competitive award requiring those applying to show achievements in their community and write an essay explaining how the community goals were accomplished and how clean-up and beautification were addressed. Eastland took home that award last year. Eastland Chamber of

Commerce manager Cecil Funderburgh spoke at this year's conference and reported that a portion of the \$2,500 cash award they received was earmarked for lighting the Windmill/Welcome to Eastland area on Main Street at I-20 as well as several other projects.

Cisco, Haskell and Hico were this year's nominees

for the All-Star Community Award, with Haskell receiving the award. Munday, located in Knox County, received the Community Achievement Award.

This was the first year that Strawn has attended the TMCN Annual Conference, and Strawn is the first city in Palo Pinto County to join the organization.

## Strawn Museum Named As Grant Recipient by Brazos Foundation

The Brazos Foundation of Mineral Wells has selected the Strawn Historical Museum as one of the recipients of its 2013 grants. The

\$10,000 grant will be used to help with moving and restoring the old Strawn Depot so that it can become an addition to the museum complex

in Memorial Park.

According to the *Mineral Wells Index*, The Brazos Foundation awarded a total of \$45,540 in grants to Palo Pinto

County organizations who submitted requests for specific projects. Palo Pinto Challenge of Strawn was also selected as a 2013 grant recipient.

## Raffle to Support PPC United Way

The United Way of Palo Pinto County is selling raffle tickets which can be purchased from Strawn merchants. Two tickets will be drawn on November 23, with the winners of each drawing receiving a \$100

Walmart gift card.

All proceeds benefit local agencies sponsored by the United Way of Palo Pinto County. Our Strawn Home Delivered Meals is one of the local agencies receiving support from United Way.

*"The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time."* ~ Abraham Lincoln

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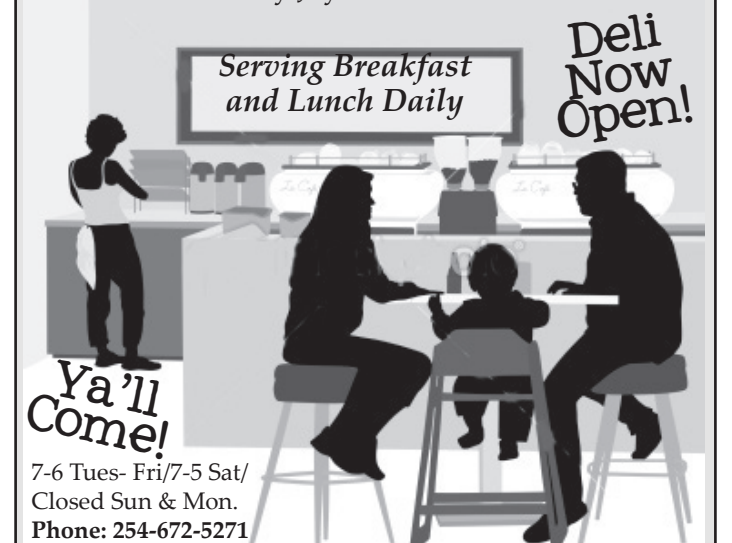
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PPC Taking Tamale Orders Now

Orders for delicious tamales prepared by Palo Pinto Challenge are currently being taken through November 8. Call 940-325-7100 or 254-672-5891 to leave your order. The tamales are \$10 per dozen. You may pick up your order on Saturday, November 23, from 10 a.m.-noon at the Palo Pinto Challenge headquarters in Strawn.

Palo Pinto Mountains State Park to Host Equestrian Trail Ride on November 9th

Palo Pinto Mountains State Park will host an equestrian trail ride on Saturday, November 9. Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m., and the ride begins at 9 a.m. The ride will last about four hours. The fee for the ride is \$10, and proceeds will be used to fund more trail clearing at the park. A negative Coggins test result is required to participate in the trail ride. The park is located 2 miles west of Strawn on FM 2372, or Tucker Lake Road. For more information, call Park Superintendent John Ferguson at 254-210-3015.

A Thank You Note From C.A.R.E.

Thank you to everyone who supported the LaMancha BBQ Cook-Off. The proceeds benefitted area animal shelters and C.A.R.E. rescue. Thank you, LaMancha, and all the wonderful sponsors for making this benefit possible. Thank you, CARE friends, for all your support!

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Spotlight on Business: WAM Essentials

WAM Essentials, Inc. is a small, family-owned company that was first started in 2004. Owners Dr. William Wong and wife Michelle, residents of Mineral Wells, relocated their business to Strawn in August 2012. The building at the corner of 320 Grant Ave. (formerly Pruitt's store) attracted them to Strawn when they were searching for a facility to begin manufacturing their nutritional supplements. Previously, they had hired contract manufacturers to produce the supplements, but now they produce everything here in Strawn and feel they have much better control over the

quality. The manufacturing operation meets FDA standards and is in compliance with cGMP, which means they are a pharmaceutical grade facility. According to Dr. Wong, they are not the typical nutritional manufacturing company. They cater to a niche market for nutritional supplements by offering affordable natural remedies referred to as Dr. Wong's Essentials® brand of products. Although one of the smallest manufacturers in the U.S., they ship and supply their products worldwide. Dr. Wong specializes in the practice of natural medicine, having received his training in naturopathic medicine and from a Ph.D. in exercise physiology. In addition to the success of the supplements, Dr. Wong has been recognized for his teachings on natural health through audio files, books, and radio shows. Two Christian radio stations, WWCR in Tennessee and WINB in Pennsylvania, broadcast his radio show twice a week. You can listen to Dr. Wong's podcasts by visiting the website at [www.drwongradio.com](http://www.drwongradio.com). He gave a plug to Strawn in one of the podcasts, which can be accessed at [http://www.naturalhealth-podcasts.com/PodCasts/dr\\_wong\\_show\\_205.mp3](http://www.naturalhealth-podcasts.com/PodCasts/dr_wong_show_205.mp3)

The Wongs are happy to be in Strawn and hope to spur business growth by sharing their success story with others. Dr. Wong commented that when he first visited Strawn, it reminded him of Mayberry. Remembering fondly that he saw a young girl riding her bike in the middle of town, he said he hadn't seen that in years with the other places he lived. WAM Essentials is open Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and offer discounts to walk-in customers. To order online or learn more about their products, visit [docsprefer.com](http://docsprefer.com) or call 940-463-1668.

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Area Happenings

Election Day

Tuesday, November 5

The Texas State Water Fund Amendment, Proposition 6, also referred to as the Texas Rainy Day Fund Amendment, is on the November 5, 2013 ballot in Texas as a legislatively-referred constitutional amendment. The measure asks voters whether an amendment should be implemented to create the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) and the State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas to assist in the financing of priority projects in the state water plan. Approximately \$2 billion would be withdrawn from the Texas Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF)--referred to as the Rainy Day Fund--to finance the newly created funds.

Workforce Solutions Mobile Unit  
(Mineral Wells)

November 6, 13, 20 and 27 -- Every Wednesday at the Boyce Ditto Public Library  
Computer stations to search for jobs, work on resumes and receive training.  
2300 SE Martin Luther King Jr. St., Mineral Wells, TX 76067 (940) 328-7880

Turkey Trot -

5K Benefitting Abused Children

November 9, 8 - 10 a.m.  
Earl and Billye Bradley Wellness Center,  
304 S. Daugherty, Eastland, TX 76448  
Contact Beverley Christiansen, 254-965-6610 or email her at the following address: [beverley@casacta.org](mailto:beverley@casacta.org)

Veterans Day

Monday, November 11

Veterans Day is an official Federal holiday which honors people who have served in the US armed services. It is observed on November 11, which is the date that major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. It coincides with Armistice Day and Remembrance Day (Britain & the British Commonwealth of Nations), which are celebrated in other parts of the world and also mark the anniversary of the end of World War I.  
**Everyone is encouraged to fly your flag in salute to our active duty military and Veterans.**

Texas Sheep Dog Association State Finals

November 23, 8 AM

Free Admission - Community is invited!  
Ashcraft Ranch - Stephenville  
Web Link: [www.txsheepdogfinals.com](http://www.txsheepdogfinals.com)

Cross Timbers Civic Chorale, Tarleton  
Choirs, & Orchestra

November 23, 2013 , 7:30 PM

Tarleton Department of Fine Arts presents the presentation of excerpts from Handel's Messiah featuring the University Singers, Cross Timbers Civic Chorale, and Fort Worth Symphony.

Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Auditorium  
Tarleton University, Stephenville

Palo Pinto County Livestock Association -  
Regular Meeting

November 28,  
7- 8 PM  
Expo Building  
in Mineral Wells

*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 254-672-5281. Thank you.*



Strawn Featured in  
Lake Country Sun's  
Annual Vacation Guide

In case you missed it, several photos and articles about Strawn were included in the 2013 *Lake Country Vacation Guide*, which is published by *Lake Country Sun*. This was the first edition that included Strawn, along with Possum Kingdom, Breckenridge, Mineral Wells, and Graham. Strawn is featured on pp. 42-50 of the guide. Copies are available at the Chamber Office any Friday between 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Time	Location
Nov. 5	Election Day	7 AM - 7 PM	Strawn City Hall
Nov. 5	Strawn Lions Club Meeting	Noon	Mary's Cafe
Nov. 5	JV & Varsity Girls Basketball vs ACHS	5:00 PM	ACHS
Nov. 7	Strawn Junior High Football vs. Moran	5:30 PM	Greyhound Stadium
Nov. 7-9	Varsity Girls Basketball Tournament	TBA	Coleman
Nov. 8	Strawn Varsity Football vs. Moran	7:30 PM	Moran ISD Stadium
Nov. 8	5th Quarter Following Game		First Baptist Church
Nov. 9	Equestrian Trail Ride	9:00 AM	Palo Pinto Mountains State Park
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day		<i>Fly Your Flag</i>
Nov. 11	Jr. High Basketball vs. Garner	6:00 PM	Strawn ISD Gymnasium
Nov. 12	JV and Varsity Girls Basketball vs. Tolar	5:00 PM	Tolar
Nov. 12	Development Corp. of Strawn Meeting	6:00 PM	Strawn City Hall
Nov. 12	Strawn City Council Meeting	7:00 PM	Strawn City Hall
Nov. 12	Strawn Lions Club Meeting	Noon	Mary's Cafe
Nov. 14-16	JV Girls Basketball Tournament	TBA	Lipan
Nov. 16	Varsity Girls Basketball vs. Early	11 AM	Strawn ISD Gymnasium
Nov. 18	Jr. High Basketball vs. Lingleville	6:00 PM	Garden City
Nov. 18	Strawn ISD Board Meeting	7:00 PM	Strawn ISD Administration Bldg.
Nov. 19	Strawn Lions Club Meeting	Noon	Mary's Cafe
Nov. 19	JV and Varsity Girls Basketball vs. Cisco	5:00 PM	Cisco
Nov. 19	Strawn Historical Museum	6:30 PM	Strawn City Hall
Nov. 21	Booster Club Meeting	7:00 PM	Strawn ISD Cafeteria
Nov. 23	Varsity Girls Basketball vs. Graham	Noon	Strawn ISD Gymnasium
Nov. 25	Palo Pinto County Commissioners Court	9:00 AM	Palo Pinto County Courthouse
Nov. 25	Jr. High Basketball vs. Morgan Mill	6:00 PM	Strawn ISD Gymnasium
Nov. 26	Strawn Lions Club Meeting	Noon	Mary's Cafe
Nov. 26	JV and Varsity Girls Basketball vs. ACHS	5:00 PM	Strawn ISD Gymnasium
Nov. 27-29	Strawn ISD Thanksgiving Holidays		

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