

NEW BEGINNINGS

January 2026

Volume 34, Issue 8

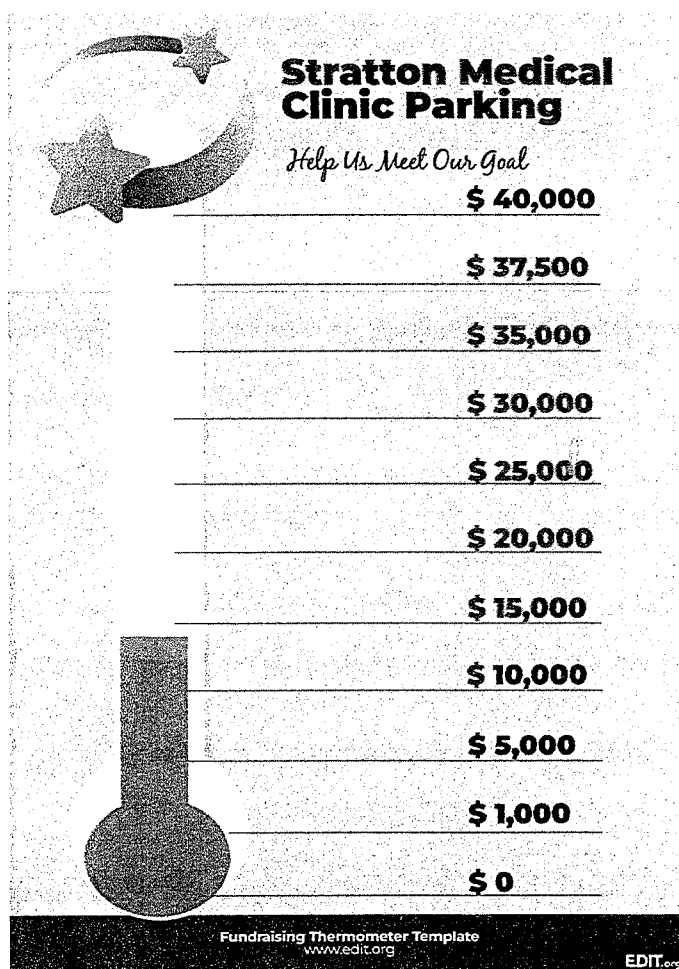
Grandview Project

We are excited to announce that we have been working with the Dundy County Hospital and Clinic to improve the Stratton Medical Clinic. Our task in the project is to create a Handicap accessible parking lot, ramp and entrance to better provide the Clinic patrons access to the soon to be completed renovated Clinic in the East Wing of the Grandview Community and Events Center here in Stratton.

That said we have reached out to our local concrete experts and gravel handlers and they have given us a number that we are in NEED of your help to reach. As you know, we have been hosting Chicken Dinners twice a month for the community and surrounding areas. We also host several events including but not limited to morning coffee, FROGS three days a week, AA Thursday evenings, and monthly Community Meals. We have been host to Retirement parties, Birthday parties, Holiday parties and events, and much, much more.

The funds that we receive from the free will donation of hosted events and proceeds from the Chicken Dinners have been earmarked to be directed to the new Driveway fund, including \$1000 from the Vending Machine Larry keeps stocked in the Dining room, we have the first 10% of our goal reached. We need a significant amount more to make this project a success.

If you have some stray pennies under the bed or quarters in the couch cushions we have a can that sure could give them a home. Big or small, anything counts. If you have questions please feel free to reach out to us!



Quilt Raffle —

The Little House Museum is raffling a queen-sized quilt with “lots of hearts” on it. It is a chance to surprise your Valentine with Lots of Hearts.

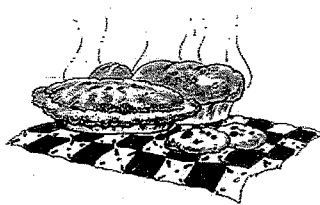
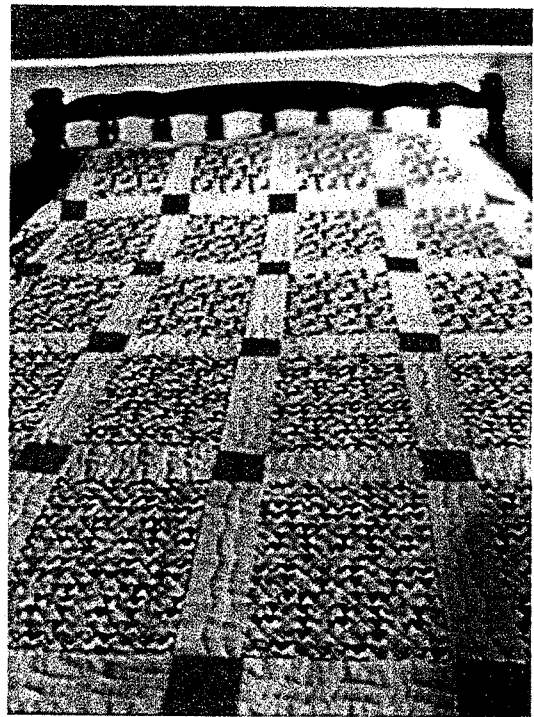
or — it would make a great present for that graduate or special person in your life.

Tickets are 6 for \$5 or \$1 each. It is on display at MNB—Stratton.

Tickets available from Janet Felt, Jane Voss at the Grocery store, Bernard Andrijeski, Monica

Desautels, or at the bank.

The quilt will be given away February 12 so it can be delivered to the winner before that special day. Thanks!!



... Tasties From Tuesday's Kitchen —Home baked goods along with other goodies. **Now available on Saturdays at Johnny Whiskers—406 Bailey Steet in Stratton.**

You can pick up your **Tasties from Tuesday's Kitchen** home baked goodies at **Johnny Whiskers, Saturdays • 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM beginning January 17th.**

Stop in, grab your favorites, and enjoy a delicious start to your weekend.

PLEASE NOTE—Johnny Whiskers Outdoors just added several lines of refreshing beverages!!

We are excited to be carrying Bloom energy drinks in lots of flavors, Bud products as well as Bush Light, CarBliss and Mic Ultra along with several more to come.

We sell bags of ice as well. Stop on in and see us soon. As always, we appreciate our customers and their business!





Thank You

We just want to give a great big thank you for all the wonderful gifts and food we received for Christmas! We are so blessed to live in a wonderful community full of wonderful people. Your generosity is much appreciated!!

Rebecca Wasia and Family.

No Bake Samoa Cookies

Ingredients

- 2 cups unsweetened shredded coconut
- 1 cup soft caramel candies about 20 pieces
- 2 tablespoons milk or heavy cream for richer flavor
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon coconut oil or butter
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon vanilla extract

Instructions

Toast the coconut. Spread the shredded coconut on a dry skillet over medium heat. Stir frequently until golden brown and fragrant (about 5–7 minutes). Transfer to a plate to cool.

Melt the caramel. In a small saucepan over low heat, combine the caramel candies and milk. Stir continuously until smooth. Remove from heat and stir in the vanilla and salt.

Combine coconut & caramel. Pour the toasted coconut into the caramel mixture and stir until fully coated.

Shape the cookies. Using a tablespoon or small cookie scoop, drop mounds of the coconut-caramel mixture onto a parchment-lined baking sheet. Use your fingers to gently flatten and shape into rounds.

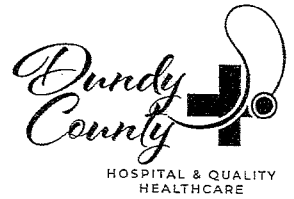
Melt the chocolate. In a microwave-safe bowl, combine the chocolate chips and coconut oil. Heat in 20-second intervals, stirring after each, until melted and smooth.

Dip & drizzle. Dip the bottom of each cookie into the melted chocolate, place back on the parchment, and drizzle remaining chocolate over the tops.

Refrigerate for 15–20 minutes until the chocolate is firm. Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 3 days, or refrigerate for longer freshness.

Get Your Wellness Fix in '26

Tuesday, January 13, 2026
7:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. (MT)



Lab work NOT required to take advantage of the FREE screenings.

"While you're here participating in the health fair event, treat yourself to a complimentary breakfast! Choose from a delicious breakfast burrito, muffin, or biscuits-gravy, paired with coffee or juice."

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR
LAB WORK CALL: 308-423-2204 OR
308-423-2151

General Health Panel- \$50
A1C- \$15
PSA- \$15

For accuracy of your test results you will need to be fasting (nothing to eat or drink except water) for 10-12 hours.

Payment will be collected at the time you come in for your testing. We cannot accept debit or credit cards. Check or cash only please! This cannot be billed to your insurance or wellness plan.

Sign-up for My Care Corner (Patient Portal) to view lab results as soon as they are completed or results will be mailed.

Most insurance companies will pay for Mammograms but it is always best to check with your insurance company.

Free Screenings Open **to Everyone**

FREE Blood Pressure Check
FREE Vision Check
FREE Skin Cancer Screening
FREE Pulmonary Function Screening

- * Sign up for Advanced Directive
- * Flu shots available

Radiology Department

* 3D Mammogram needs to be a calendar year from last screening, billed to insurance, provider order is not needed.

* Body Composition Tests- Self referral **\$30** paid up front. This measures your body fat percentage, muscle mass and more. It can help you understand your overall health and set a benchmark for your fitness goals.

* Cardiac Calcium Scoring Exam- Self-referral **\$135** paid up front. (Separate Radiologist charge for interpretation that will be billed to you later.)

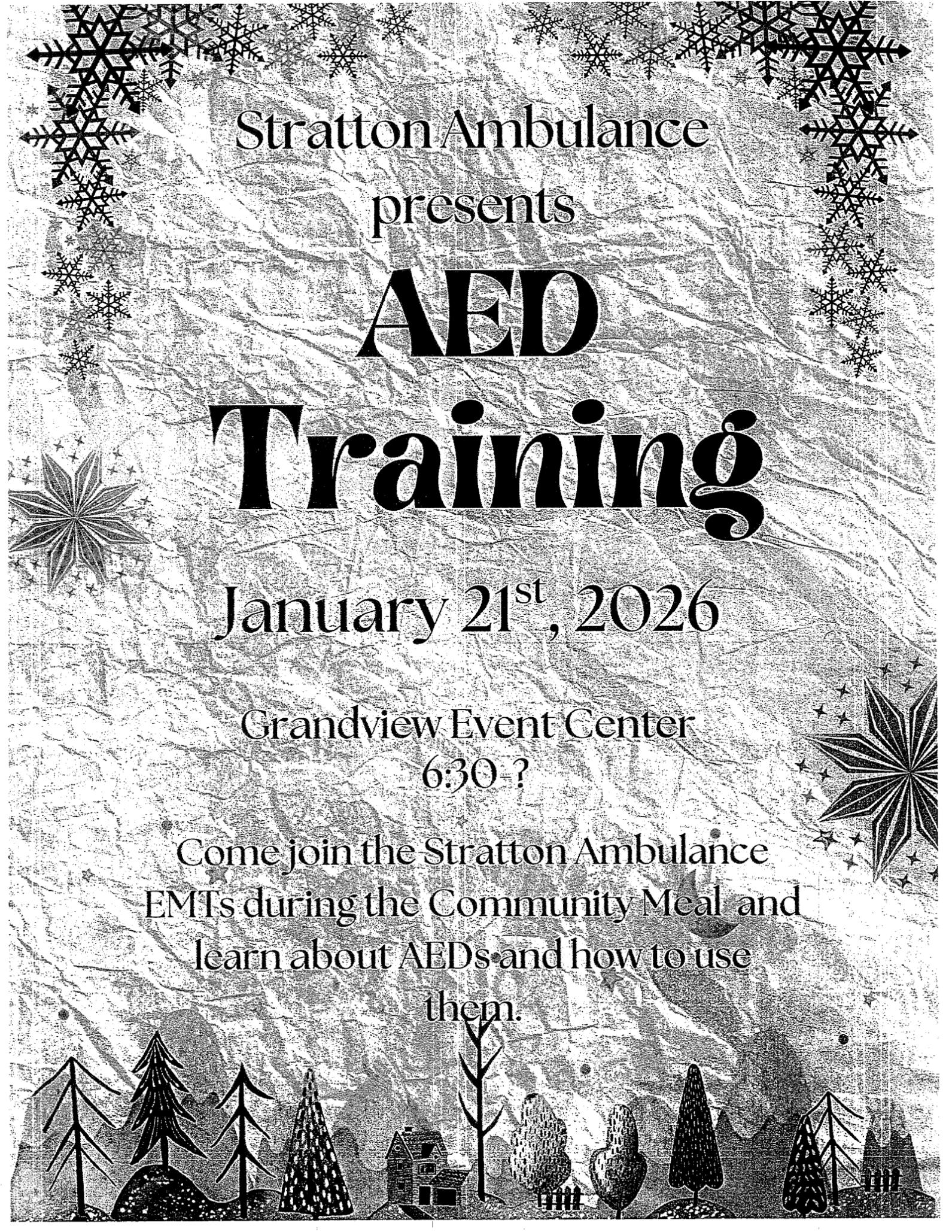
Call DCH's Radiology Department at 308-423-7009 to schedule your Radiology exams today.

Dundy County Hospital
308-423-2204

1313 N Cheyenne St.
Benkelman, NE 69021
www.dchbenkelman.com

Quality Health Clinics
308-423-2151





Stratton Ambulance
presents
**AED
Training**

January 21st, 2026

Grandview Event Center
6:30 ?

Come join the Stratton Ambulance
EMTs during the Community Meal and
learn about AEDs and how to use
them.



Stratton Public Library News January 2026

HOURS: MONDAY 12-7 THURSDAY 12-5

Reading Goal for 2026

2026 ... make this the year that you reconnect with an actual book in your hands! Comprehension is greater with an actual printed book than it is from a device. So, this would be a good time to set some new goals. Set a book and page number goal for the year and see how far you get. Be sure to come share how it is going and tally your books and pages at the library for a chance to win a prize.

The Stratton Public Library is an excellent place to find a great selection of books.

Happy New Year to everyone! Come check out the variety of books. This past month many Christmas related books were added to the shelves. Watch for another selection of books coming next month.

Thank You, Stratton Community!

Your generosity has once again made the Caring Tree and the Christmas Food Baskets a success. Because of your kindness, local families were able to experience a brighter, more joyful Christmas.

Thank you to everyone who donated, shared, volunteered, or helped spread the word. Our community is blessed because of people like you.



MEET A MEMBER - JEN MOORE

Stratton Community Foundation Fund (SCFF) is led by a volunteer Fund Advisory Committee that works actively to increase charitable giving and award grants to local worthy causes and projects that are addressing emerging needs and future opportunities in our community.



Name: Jen Moore

Hometown: I have lived all over the U.S. in Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania (twice), and Arizona and now I am happy to call Stratton my home.

Occupation: Technical Recruiter and Interior Designer

About Jen: I am a new resident in Stratton, however spent many summers in the area. My dad grew up farming in Trenton and we would visit family every summer. As an adult, I started returning and fell in love with the area all over again. Rick and I are a blended family with six grown kids between us, one grandson and one granddaughter.

What do you love about living in Stratton or the Stratton area? I love being close to family again, the pace of life, and of course the people. I admire the ingenuity, the willingness to help, and Stratton pride!

How would you describe your experience serving on the Stratton Community Foundation Fund?

I am new to serving and am truly in awe of how much SCFF has done for the community and am looking forward to becoming more involved and in Stratton as well.

When you think of SCFF's impact, what are you most proud of? That's a tough one, but I am impressed by SCFF's commitment to long-term planning and goals. They take every grant request seriously and I enjoy the discussions we have about them. I've learned a lot in my short tenure and believe that I am part of an amazing group of people.

Why do you choose to give your time, talent, and treasure to SCFF? Stratton is our home and has an amazing future ahead of it. SCFF's grants align with how I believe we can best continue to make Stratton a "Great Place to Grow!"

What would you tell others who are considering a gift to SCFF? I love the Five to Thrive concept and could not agree more with the idea that if you love the community you call home, then take the opportunity to enrich its future. When you leave 5% of your wealth to your community, you help ensure your family's legacy and your community's future. To me this is a great way to ensure that Stratton continues to thrive.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January is a great time to reevaluate your charitable giving goals. A planned gift is one of the best ways to secure your legacy and help our hometown thrive! Contact any member of our Fund Advisory Committee for more information.



OUR FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The advisory committee meets on the third Sunday of each month to review grant applications and evaluate the long-term goals for the Fund.

Dustin Ladenburger, *Chair*
Rachel Lorens, *Secretary*
Ann Sutton, *Treasurer*
Brad Forch

Lisa Fox
Austin Jensen
Brian Kollmorgen
Jen Moore

Sandy Renfro
Terra Riggs
Ashley Stehno

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Welcome to 2026 AD. It's going to be an important year in our country and I'll try to share a few tips to help us to be good servants for the Lord and to be working Christians for our Lord. There is a prophetic news program called Flashpoint hosted by Gene Bailey that gives perspective on the current news that you won't hear anywhere else. It airs on The Victory channel 7 PM Monday, Tues. Thurs. And Friday, also on Rumble, YouTube etc. There is also a church named "Cornerstone Chapel" in Leesburg, Virginia and the pastor is Gary Hamrick. They have a teaching library and it has a Bible study on about every book in the Bible. The studies are 30 to 45 minutes long and on many of the books he goes verse by verse. He gives different opinions on controversial verses and they are excellent studies. Type in CornerstoneChapel.Net and go from there to the Teaching Library.

This year are the midterm elections and it is very important that Christians get out and vote. It is a great privilege to be able to do so and we need to take advantage of it. Not only will the left be making a big push, but Islam is quietly making a push, too. Islam is not just a religion, it is a form of government cloaked in religion. In Europe they are becoming so numerous, (through open borders) that they are pushing out local law and introducing Sharia law. If you are not familiar about Islam you need to study about it.

We are in a time unlike any time that we have experienced in this country. We need to be in prayer for our leaders, our country, for those around us and for ourselves. Ephesians 6:18; "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all Saints."

Richard Stahly

Women's Prayer Breakfast

January 17th—9:00 am

-HOSTED BY-

United Methodist Church



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

February 7th—8:00 am

--HOSTED BY--

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Church Worship Service Schedule

Comm. United Methodist Church

10:00 a.m. Church Services

Christian Union Church

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Church Services

St. Joseph Catholic Church

8:30 a.m. Mass

Church of Christ

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Church Services

Southwest Nebraska Holiness Church

10:30 a.m. Sunday School

11:30 a.m. Church Services

7:00 p.m. Church Services

STRATTON MEDICAL CLINIC

Mon, Wed, Fri—Closed

Tuesday—10:30 am—12:00 pm

1:00 pm— 4:30 pm

Thursday—2:00 pm—4:30 pm

Sat—Sun—Closed

Call for an appointment—(308) 423-2151

Walk-ins Welcome!

New Beginnings is published monthly by the Community Builders Academy. In order to assure a timely issue, articles must be submitted by the 25th of the month to Julie Bernt. Articles may be emailed to rbernt@gpcom.net. or mailed to MNB Bank, PO Box 367, Stratton, NE 69043. **Colored copies of New Beginnings are included on the Village of Stratton website.** Thank you to this month's donors:

Bill Condon
Stratton Community Foundation
Earl & Marjorie Denio
Erwin & Joyce Cushing
Little Village Daycare
Mel & Virginia Campbell

Blessing —BOX—

Located in front of the Church of Christ

Take what you need, leave what you

can. Donations may include—Non-perishable food items: Rice, pasta, cereal, nuts, seeds, granola bars, instant oatmeal packets, dried fruit, cake mixes, soup mixes.

Baby essentials: Diapers, wipes, baby formula. Hygiene items: Toilet paper, feminine products, soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant. Warm clothing: socks, mittens, hats, hand warmers, blankets.



Saturday Night from 7-9
Bring your family friendly games
to
Grandview Events Center
Join the Fun
Everyone is welcome!

from **"Community Builders"**
(MNB Postal Permit)
STRATTON NEBRASKA

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