

Apples of Gold
FAITH—First do more than you are paid for before expecting to be paid for more than you do.

Drug Free **Celebrating** **America**
Red Ribbon Week
October 23-27, 2000

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The Winters Enterprise

Serving Winters and North Runnels County

Volume 11, Issue 42

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Winters, Texas

50¢

What do you think about Winters?

WABIC to host forums for community assessment

by Randall Conner, Director of Economic Development
 Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation

The Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation will team up with the Texas Rural Development Council (TRDC) on October 24, 25, and 26 (Tuesday through Thursday) to do a community assessment of the Winters area.

The TRDC will provide team members who will "listen" to local citizens express their concerns about our community.

The team members will be asking three primary questions —

- 1) What are the major problems/challenges in Winters?
- 2) What are the major strengths/assets of Winters?
- 3) What would you like to see happen in the next 3-5 years?

The TRDC team will be led by Tony Resendez of Concho Valley RC&D in Brady. Other team members will be Tom Mann of Council Finance,

Abilene: Warner Endsley, HUD, Fort Worth; George O'Kelley, Texas Department of Economic Development, Austin; Judy Fort, Texas Department of Agriculture, Austin; John Clary, Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Austin; and Patricia Butler, USDA, Brownwood.

The listening sessions have been arranged to represent various sectors of our community. See agenda on page 10 for groups and locations. Everyone is encouraged to attend one of these sessions so that your voice is heard.

A Town Hall Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 26, at 7:00 p.m. at the Winters Community Center. The team will share their initial summary of comments and allow time for additional community input.

Everyone in Winters is encouraged to provide your comments about our community and its future.

WISD to celebrate October 23-27—

Red Ribbon Week committed to awareness and the creation of a drug free America

Red Ribbon Week will be celebrated in the Winters ISD from October 23 to 27. The students will be furnished red armbands to wear during the week compliments of the Safe and Drug Free Schools Cooperative through the region XV Service Center.

The elementary school has sev-

eral activities planned for the week, which each day representing a different theme. Monday is "Put a Cap on Drugs Day" and students are encouraged to wear a cap or hat to school that day.

Tuesday is "Sock It To Drugs Day" where students will wear crazy or mismatched socks.

Wednesday is "Wear Red Day". Thursday is "Team Up Against Drugs Day" when students are encouraged to wear their favorite team jersey or blue and white for the Breezes.

Friday is "Blizzards Against Drugs Day". Students will wear See RED RIBBON, pg. 6



BLIZZARD FOOTBALL SWEETHEART will be chosen from these four young ladies from Winters High School. Left to right are Jackye Dexter, senior; Juanita Armendariz, junior; Isha Lara, junior; and Kayla Colburn, senior. Crowning ceremonies will begin at 7 p.m. Friday prior to the Winters/Bangs game.

Football Sweetheart—Blizzards to crown royalty prior to game

The Winters Blizzard football team will crown the 2000 Football Sweetheart in ceremonies before the Bangs ballgame tomorrow night. The presentation will take place at 7 p.m. in Blizzard Stadium, prior to the 7:30 p.m. District 9-2A showdown.

Selected as candidates by this year's Blizzard team are seniors Kayla Colburn and Jackye Dexter, and juniors Juanita Armendariz and Isha Lara.

Kayla is the 17-year-old daughter of Phil and Karen Colburn and a member of the North Main Church of Christ. While at WHS she has been involved in Student Council, Future Homemakers of America, Fellowship for Christian Athletes, basketball, and band.

She has participated in UIL, One Act Play and is a member of the National Honor Society. She plays varsity softball for the Lady Blizzards.

Kayla serves as president of the National Honor Society and editor-in-chief of the school newspaper, *The Blitz*.

She has earned Academic All-District honors for softball and See SWEETHEARTS, pg. 6

Authorities arrest five on felony drug charges

Law enforcement authorities arrested five people on felony drug charges Wednesday, October 11 after the October Grand Jury returned sealed indictments against the five.

The arrests were made in Ballinger and Winters by Runnels County Sheriff's Officers and drug

task force agents. After a two month investigation they arrested the five either at their homes or places of work, according to Runnels County Sheriff Bill Baird.

Baird said no weapons were seized nor did any of the suspects give any problems with their ar-

rests. Charges were for delivery of methamphetamine and marijuana. At the time of the five arrests, one other arrest was pending.

Sheriff Baird said those arrested included Les Belaire, Jr., 25, of Blackwell; Jeffery Len Stewart,

20, of Ballinger; Willie Collins, Jr., 47; Rudy Santoya Torres, 40; and Tanya Marie Essex, 22, all of Winters.

Also arrested was Frank Ortiz, 41, of Winters, for possession of marijuana. This arrest was unrelated to the drug investigation.

Women's Service League to host chicken fried steak dinner, Oct. 20

Women's Service League will host a chicken fried steak dinner Friday, October 20, at the WHS cafeteria from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Items on the menu include chicken fried steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, homemade dessert, and tea. Take-outs will be available.

Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$3 for children age 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased from any Service League member or at the door. For more information, call Christy Lindley at 754-4959.

Seniors 2004 to host meal, Oct. 22

Parents of the Freshman Class, Seniors 2004, will host a Sunday lunch, October 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the school cafeteria.

Items on the menu are grilled chicken breast, baked potato, green beans, fresh baked hot rolls, homemade cobbler, and tea.

Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for children age 10 and under. Take-outs will be available at the cost of \$6 per plate. For advance tickets, contact Janet Cason at 754-5205.



AMERICA'S BREAST CANCER RIDE 2000 bicyclists and support volunteers stop for lunch at North Runnels Hospital on Oct. 12, during their 3,320-mile trek from Jacksonville, Florida, to San Diego, California. The 18-member team is participating in the third cross-country ride since 1997. The major goal of the ride is to raise awareness that early detection is the key to saving lives. Standing second from left is Mary Rocha, second from right is Scott Boulter, both EMTs with North Runnels Hospital.

—America's Breast Cancer Ride 2000

Cyclists stop in Winters during cross-country trek

An 18-member team of bicyclists and support volunteers stopped at North Runnels Hospital in Winters on Oct. 12 during their cross-country bike ride to raise breast cancer awareness and donations for research.

The mostly all-women participants in America's Breast Cancer (ABC) Ride 2000, which includes a husband and wife team, are expected to arrive in San Diego, California, on Octo-

ber 29 after a grueling trip of 3,320 miles through eight southern states.

The team left Jacksonville Beach, Florida, on September 25, after a launch ceremony at which time the riders symbolically dipped the rear wheels of their bicycles in the Atlantic Ocean before departing. When arriving in San Diego, they will dip their front wheels in the Pacific Ocean. This is the third cross-country

ride since 1997, formerly known as Pedal for the Cure. The major goal of the ride is to raise awareness that early detection is the key to saving lives. The second goal is to raise funds to support basic clinical research.

The facts and statistics around breast cancer are grim. One woman is diagnosed with breast cancer every three minutes, and one woman dies every eleven minutes. It's the leading cause of

death for women aged 35 to 55. This means one woman dies for every mile the team pedals.

ABC Ride 4, from San Francisco to New York City, is planned for summer, 2002.

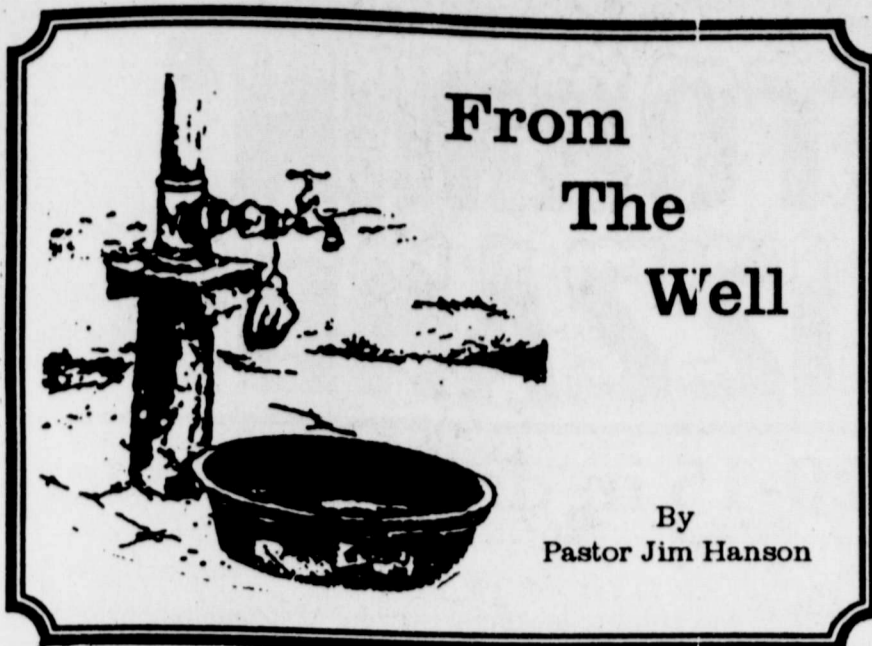
For more information call Pacific Coast Events Foundation at (760) 630-9880, or write them at P. O. Box 4533, Oceanside, California 92052, see their Web site at www.abccride.org or e-mail eventsrus@aol.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ?

- Oct. 19-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 5 & 6:30 p.m., Jr. High vs. Bangs, Here
- 6:30 p.m., JV vs. Bangs, There
- Oct. 20-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 5-7 p.m., Women's Service League Chicken Fry, School Cafeteria
- 7 p.m., Football Sweetheart
- 7:30 p.m., Cowboys for Christ, Drasco
- 7:30 p.m., Varsity vs. Bangs, Here
- Oct. 21-11 a.m., UIL District Band Contest, Shotwell Stadium, Abilene
- 7 p.m., 4-H Banquet, Ballinger School Cafeteria
- 8 p.m.-Midnight, Tejano Dance & Fall Festival, Coleman
- Oct. 22-11 a.m.-1 p.m., Freshman Class Sunday Lunch, School Cafeteria
- 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Fall Festival, Coleman
- Deadline for FFA turkey, ham, & fruit sales
- Oct. 23-8 a.m.-5 p.m., Early Voting Begins, County Clerk's Office
- 9 a.m., Cross-Country Meet Begins, Seabee Park, Abilene
- 9:30-10:30 a.m., Social Security Rep., Winters Housing Authority
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 5:15 p.m., 4-H, Catholic Hall
- 7 p.m., Wingate Masonic Lodge
- 7 p.m., TIFO, San Angelo
- Red Ribbon Week Begins
- Oct. 24-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- Noon, Lions Club, Community Center
- 7 p.m., Athletic Booster, Blizzard Stadium
- 7 p.m., WVFD, Fire Station
- WABIC/Texas Rural Dev. Council Community Assessment Begins
- Oct. 25-7 a.m., Industrial Board, Chamber Office
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- Oct. 26-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 5 p.m., Hale Museum Board
- 4:30 & 6 p.m., Jr. High vs. Jim Ned, There
- 7:30 JV vs. Jim Ned, There

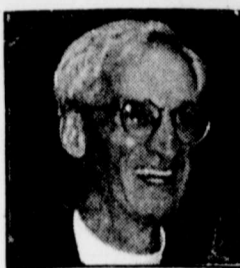
GO • FIGHT • WIN • BLIZZARDS!!





From The Well

By
Pastor Jim Hanson



Pastor Jim Hanson

The other day, while driving up to northern Minnesota, I turned on the radio. It was a religious talk-show that Ramona and I heard. The guests that hour were two preachers from Texas. Both were serving large congregations. One was a Southern Baptist. The

other one was a Missouri Synad Lutheran. I think they were both from Houston.

They were in absolute agreement that day. They had a cause: "All Christians of voting age must vote in this year's national election." And they were putting the finger on clergy. "Clergy, get your people to vote. Bring it up in your sermons." As I recall they said that it would be a sin if one didn't vote.

I could hardly believe my ears. Both of these preachers come from denominations that stress very strongly the "separation of church and state." And, it has been my experience that these denominations do not ordinarily encourage folks to get "political." And certainly not from the pulpit.

Now, don't get me wrong. Both denominations have been very much opposed to abortion. And to homosexual activities and their agenda. And I certainly agree with them. And they have spoken out from their pulpits on these issues. But to say that it is a sin not to vote, when you are qualified to do so, was almost shocking to me. I have always encouraged my parishioners to vote, but not with such a strong emphasis. I have not thought it a sin.

But, I am changing my mind.

I am agreeing with these two preachers from Texas.

For these reasons:

First of all, Jesus said, "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's." Now, I know this had to do with taxes. Which is tougher to do than to vote...to pay them, that is. You can read about it in Matthew 17:24-27, and in Matthew 22:15-22.

It costs money to pay taxes. It is a law...you have to. To vote is not a law. It is a privilege. It cost our forefathers of this nation...their lives. At least some of them. And, one of the war cries of the American Revolution was "Taxation without representation is tyranny." It is the representation that they fought for. And won.

Jesus lived in the time of Caesar and kings. Yet He taught that one had a responsibility to them in the form of taxes. I have no doubt He would challenge all who claim His name to vote. As a responsibility.

Secondly, we are in danger of losing our heritage of religious freedom and patriotism if we don't vote. There are things happening in our courts, at least some of them, that are just plain scary. A judge in Kentucky, a Federal District Judge by the name of Jennifer Coffman ruled that public displays of historic American documents in Eastern Kentucky schools and county courthouses were unconstitutional and had to be removed. These included:

- from the Declaration of Independence "All men...are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights...Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of happiness

- the national motto, "In God We Trust"
- the Ten Commandments,

Thirdly, this election is probably the most important of many. Because whoever is elected President will be nominating Supreme Court Justices...to replace those who retire.

Now, I'm not in a pulpit these days. And I'm not telling people how to vote. I'd like to, but I don't operate that way. But I am saying...and writing to you, dear readers:

"Vote. Please"

For God's sake.

And, the sake of our country. Amen.

FFA turkey, ham & fruit sale order deadline Saturday

The Winters FFA smoked turkey, spiral glazed ham, and fresh fruit sale is drawing to an end as ordering deadline is Sunday, October 22.

The FFA will deliver the popular holiday meats before Thanksgiving. Boxed combinations of apples, oranges, pears, and grapefruit plus half peck assorted nut baskets will be delivered in time for the Christmas holidays.

If you have not yet been approached by an FFA member you may contact FFA Advisor Roy Shackelford at 754-5516 or 754-4612 by Sunday.

VFW needs information on the Korean War

by Mary Kurtz,
Winters VFW Auxiliary

If you served in the United States Armed Forces overseas or on the home front between June 25, 1950 thru July 27, 1953 during the Korean Conflict, we need your name and address and when you served.

Veterans who served during this time came home one at a time and received little or no recognition and there are no records available that we can find.

We do not want to sell you anything or force you to join anything. We just want to know who you are so you may be recognized during the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War during the next three years.

Please contact Winters Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9193 Commander Billy Ray at 754-5621 or Auxiliary President Mary Kurtz at 754-5182 or mail to Box 353, Winters, Texas.

Winters Police remind residents of dispatching phone numbers

Local residents are urged to call the Winters Police Department at 754-4121 for routine police assistance any time of the day.

However, while glitches are being worked out in the system, if you are unable to reach the department, particularly after 5 p.m. and weekends when the phone lines are to be transferred to the Runnels County Jail in Ballinger, residents are asked to dial 365-3591 or 365-3592 for assistance.

In case of an immediate emergency, residents are always encouraged to call 9-1-1 for assistance. Know your 9-1-1 address in the event of an emergency.

Pvt. Vasquez completes Marine Corps basic training

Marine Corps Pvt. Abraham Vasquez, son of Elena F. and Fortunato L. Vasquez of Winters recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego.

Vasquez successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.



WHS CLASS OF 1958 MEMBERS gathering for their 42nd reunion were (bottom row, from left) Lavanda Russell Dobbins, Adalene Tishler Tomlinson, Elizabeth Mitchell Garner, Elaine Hoppe Miller, (second row) Dorothy Fairey Pruett, Kay England Busher, Pat Wade Smith, Mildred Tabor DeBerry, Diane Sims Davis, Dalah Hord Tucker, Kleta Gerhart, (third row) Bobby Blackwood, Donald Hejl, Joe Young, George Estes, Jerrel Walker, Charles Carter, Pete Gray, (top row) Dale Young, Jerry Sullivan, Cotton Everett, Fred Austin, and Roger Long. Not pictured, but attending, were Robert Dunivan and Joe Tucker.

WHS Class of 1958 hosts 42nd reunion

The Winters High School class of 1958 met recently at the Winters Community Center for their 42nd class reunion.

Kay England Busher registered guests. A silent auction was held throughout the day with Elaine (Hoppe) Miller and Mildred (Tabor) DeBerry in charge. The money raised will be used for

memorials to the Pearl Jackson Scholarship Award at Winters High School and for future reunions.

A Mexican theme was used for the evening meal which was catered by Casa Cabana. Lunch was provided by classmates still in the Winters area. Diane Sims Davis was in charge of the meal.

A special thanks goes to Dora Bernal for providing decorations and a wonderful meal.

The class voted to have their 45th reunion in 2003 on the last Saturday in July. There are still 86 class members scattered everywhere for which the class has addresses. There are eight members with no known addresses.

Friends of the Museum elect officers

The regular monthly meeting of the Friends of the Museum was held on Tuesday, October 3, 2000.

Nomination and election of officers for the next year were held. Officers are: Kay Colburn, president; Nina Hale, vice president; Marlene Smith, treasurer; Betty Thomason, secretary; Wanda Brewer and Jane Bourdo, reporters.

Participation was invited for "Make a Difference Day," which will be held community wide on

October 28. The VFW will be working on the upstairs of the Rock Hotel and Friends members were encouraged to participate.

A Christmas open house at the Rock Hotel is tentatively scheduled for December 10. It will feature a display of small Christmas trees provided by local merchants and other crafty individuals.

The scheduled hours for the museum are Thursday through Saturday from 1:30 to 3:30. Volunteers are needed to keep the

doors open during those times. Jane Bourdo volunteered to maintain a schedule of volunteers. Anyone interested may call Jane at 754-2048.

Fund raising for the completion of the Rock Hotel is an ongoing project for members. Anyone interested in helping to raise funds is invited to attend the regular monthly meetings held at the Rock Hotel on the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be November 7 at 3:00 p.m.

Thank you for reading
The Winters Enterprise.



**MIDWEST
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Fred Garcia, PT

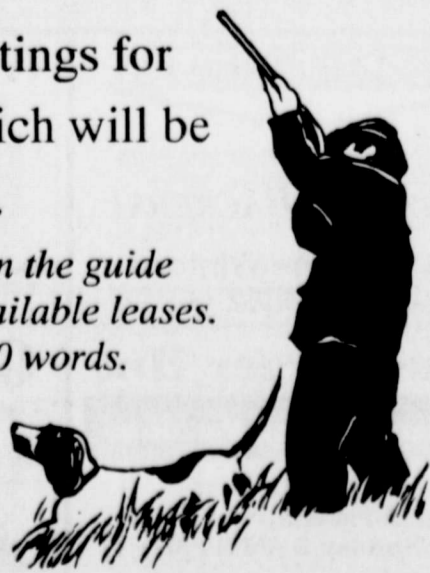
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WANTED: RANCHERS, FARMERS & LANDOWNERS

We need your HUNTING LEASE listings for the 2000 Hunter's Guide which will be published on November 2.

A special section in the guide will feature local available leases. Rate is \$5 for 20 words.

Contact Deb at
The Winters Enterprise
at 754-4958 by
Wednesday, October 25.



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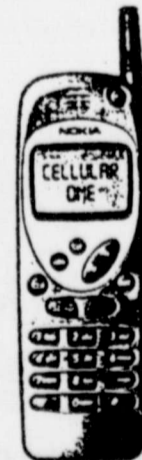
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HERE COME THE STORMIN' BLIZZARDS

CAFETERIA MENU

October 23-27
Subject to change

Breakfast
Monday-Oct. 23
Biscuits
Sausage
Juice
Tuesday-Oct. 24
Toast
Cereal
Juice
Wednesday-Oct. 25
Blueberry Muffins
Cereal
Juice
Thursday-Oct. 26
Pancakes/Syrup
Cereal
Juice
Friday-Oct. 27
Cheese Toast
Cereal
Juice
Lunch
Monday-Oct. 23
Pizza
Corn
June Peas
Chocolate Pudding
Tuesday-Oct. 24
Chicken Nuggets/Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Pears
Hot Roll
Wednesday-Oct. 25
Taco/Meat/Cheese
Tossed Salad
Red Beans
Fruit
Thursday-Oct. 26
Turkey Roast/Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
June Peas
Pineapple Chunks
Hot Roll
Friday-Oct. 27
Barbecue on Bun
French Fries
Pickles
Peaches
Cookie

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Good Luck
Winters Blizzards & Lady Blizzards
at District Cross-Country in Coleman.
Monday, October 23
Qualify for Regionals!
from your fans at The Winters Enterprise

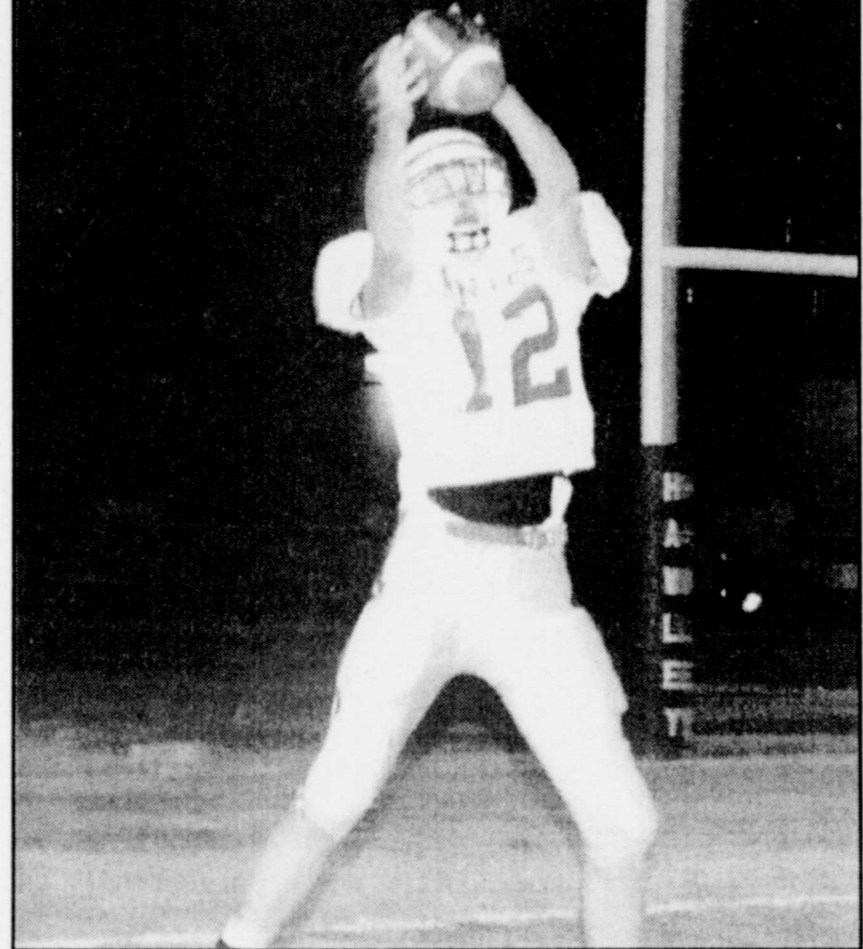
Good Luck
Marching Blizzard Band
"The Pride of West Texas"
at District UIL Marching Band Contest on Saturday, October 21 at 11 am in Shottwell Stadium, Abilene
from your fans at The Winters Enterprise

Blizzards outlast Bearcats 20-15 in district opener

by Charles Murphy, special to The Winters Enterprise

It was Friday the 13th, the moon was full and the field ran east and west. Any one of those three circumstances could, in itself, create expectations of weird happenings.
I know I saw a headless horseman on a white horse riding back-

Minzenmayer unleashed a 67 yard punt that died on the Hawley two yard line.
Hawley set up the Blizzards at their own 56 yard line after being in the hole at their own two. At the end of the first quarter, no one had scored.



KEEPING HIS EYE ON THE BALL is senior Josh Minzenmayer who brought down the pass against the Hawley Bearcats. The Blizzards won the first district outing 20-15 and will face the Bangs Dragons this week at Winters.

ward from west to east. Wait, that was on the Andy Griffith show.
Winters is playing Hawley.
The wind was blowing across the field from south to north as Hawley won the coin flip and chose to receive. The kick was a bit short and the Bearcats lined up on the 37 yard line to begin district play.
The Winters defense forced the Bearcats to a three and out on their first possession. The punt on fourth down rolled into the end zone for a touchback.

The Winters set up on their own 20 yard line for their first series of plays. On first down Wade Parramore, starting as quarterback after some position changes during the off week, hit Rusty Jackson on a screen to the right for two. Second down gave Zeke Martinez his first carry for eight yards. While struggling for extra yardage, Martinez lost the handle and Hawley recovered near the Winters 30 yard line.

The Bearcats turned the ball over after two fourth down conversion attempts — one successful, one not. On fourth and three, Aaron Pritchard recovered the fumble and set the Blizzards up at their own nine yard line. After two runs, one by Rusty Jackson for three and one by Jeffery Oats for two, and an incomplete pass, the Blue punted.

Hawley was snapping the ball from the Blizzards 31 yard line after a 15 yard unsportsmanlike penalty. On third and six the Hawley quarterback put the ball on the ground and Joey Joeris came up with the fumble.

The Blizzards were set up on their own 30 yard line. This possession netted two yards on two carries and an incomplete pass. On fourth down, Josh

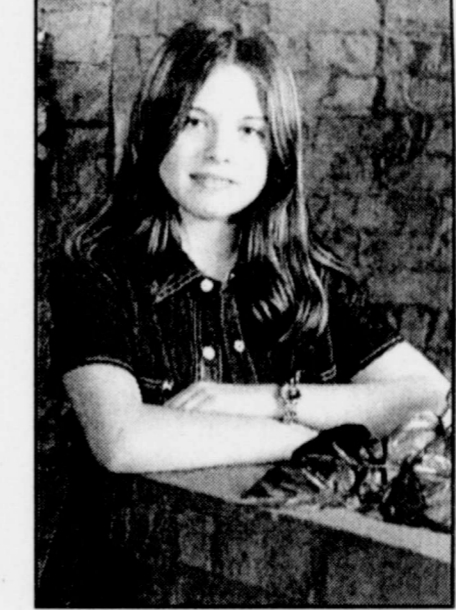
The PAT was a bizarre-looking thing. The fake was on as the holder Parramore started left and pitched the ball to Minzenmayer, the kicker, who was stopped before crossing the line of scrimmage and shuttle-passed the ball at a receiver in the end zone, all for naught. The pass was incomplete and the score stayed Winters 6, Hawley 2.
The Bearcats came out and put a couple of first downs together and turned the ball over to Winters on downs at the Blue 42 yard line. After a holding call on first down, Minzenmayer directed traffic as he kept the ball for 16 on first and 20.
On third and one after Oats gained two, Minzenmayer followed Jackson off right tackle for five and another first down.
At the end of the third quarter, the score was still Winters 6, Hawley 2.
After a bad snap and a loss of eight, the Blizzards were faced with a third and fifteen. Minzenmayer hit Parramore for a ten yard gain. It was fourth and five when Minzenmayer hit Pritchard, who made a spectacular catch in the end zone for the touchdown with 10:16 left in the game.
The Blizzards elected to go for

two and Minzenmayer delivered by outrunning the Hawley defense to the northeast corner of the end zone. Winters 14, Hawley 2.
After the kickoff the Bearcats were at their own 20 yard line. Five plays later they were kicking a PAT to make the score Winters 14, Hawley 9, with 8:21 left.
The ensuing kickoff was returned by Taylor Brown to the Blizzard 39 yard line. After two first downs and some nifty running by Oats (15 yards on a draw called back by a penalty) and a completion to Yanez for twelve yards, the Blizzards turned the ball over at their own 42 with a fumble.
Four plays later the Bearcats were going for two with a 15-14 lead over the Blizzards and 5:10 left in the contest. Everyone in blue was getting antsy.
After a three and out by the Blizzard offense and a 45 yard punt by Minzenmayer, the Bearcats had the ball at their own 19 yard line with 3:49 left and an opportunity to win the game by running out the clock. On fourth and three with 2:45 left, the Bearcats elected to punt. The punt netted them six yards.
Winters was set up at the Hawley 32 yard line with 2:31 to

See BLIZZARDS, pg. 5

Students of the Month

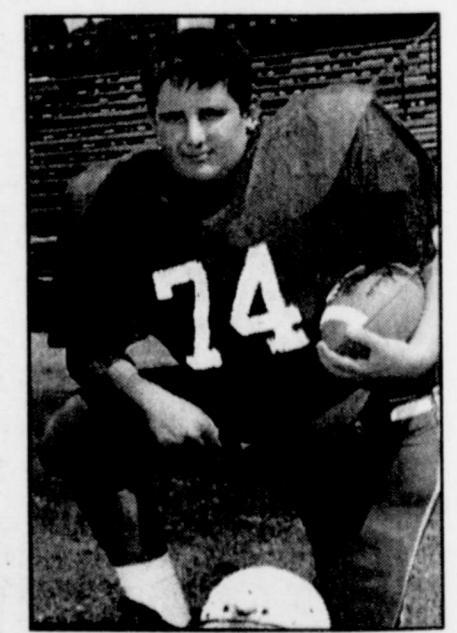
Each month the junior high teachers select students from the 7th and 8th grades to be Boy and Girl of the Month. These selections are made on the basis of academics, leadership, and citizenship.



Raysha Garcia
October
Girl of the Month

Raysha Garcia has been selected as "Girl of the Month" for October 2000. She is the daughter of Junior Garcia and Sharan Abdallah.
Raysha, 12, is in the seventh grade and enjoys science and social studies.
Her hobbies include playing basketball, talking on the phone, and babysitting.
In her spare time, she enjoys watching TV, listening to the radio and reading.
Her duties include taking care of her little cousins and being a good role model for them.
She plans to attend college to become a psychiatrist.
Raysha most admires her parents because they have both worked hard at providing for me.

Jacob Bridgeman has been chosen as the "Boy of the Month" for October 2000. He is the son of Mark and Yolanda Bridgeman.
Jacob, 13, is in the eighth grade and enjoys math, technology applications and U.S. History.
His honors include earning "A" honor roll, seventh grade top ten GPA, taking the ACT, and various UIL academic awards.
His hobbies include drawing and playing sports.
In his spare time, he enjoys playing video games.
His duties include taking out the trash.
His future plans are to attend the University of Texas and to become a lawyer.
Jacob most admires his parents for always being there for him.



Jacob Bridgeman
October
Boy of the Month

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Crews News

By Hilda Kurtz

Today is mine — no one in the world has one exactly like it.

Hopewell Church had no visitors this past Sunday. The congregation was proud to have Gideon speaker James Hobbs of Abilene.

Nila and Therin Osborne attended the Germanfest dinner and enjoyed it. Joe Osborne of Houston visited Nila and Therin on Saturday. He came for the Ballinger school reunion.

Melvina and Marvin Gerhart and Sally Mae Gerhart were in Clyde to spend the day with Keith, Cathy, and Caylie Gerhart. Melvina and Marvin also went to spend awhile with neighbor Leona Matthies.

Selma Wilkerson and Margie Jacob spent a day last week in Abilene. Selma also attended the Ballinger school reunion.

Jerry Alexander of Tucson, Arizona, is spending several days with his mother, Helen. Jamie Detrick, Helen's second cousin of Troy, Ohio, is also visiting for two weeks.

Adeline Grissom had dinner on Sunday with Katherine and Luke Grissom in Ballinger.

My kids of San Angelo were here all day Saturday. They sanded the house and got all the old paint off except what is inside the car garage. They will be back in two weeks.

My sister Josie called and said to tell everyone in Winters hello.

Doris Wood spent Sunday with Larry and Bobbie Calcote in Winters. Wes was home from a college in Midland. Doris and her sisters, Louise Walters and Bess Brantley of Fort Worth, spent a few days on the coast and fished. No luck. The weather was just too cold for any fish.

Doris Wood spent ten days at Red Rivers, New Mexico, with some friends. She also went to Perryton, Texas, to visit with friends. Doris came home this week.

Hilda Kurtz



Cam and Doris Shields have been visiting and went home to Canyon Lake on Saturday.

Visiting Connie and Georgia Gibbs during the week were Jean and Connie Mac Gibbs of Winters. Travis and Linda Ford of Rising Star visited during the week.

I'm proud of that 1/2 inch of rain that came by my place on Sunday evening.

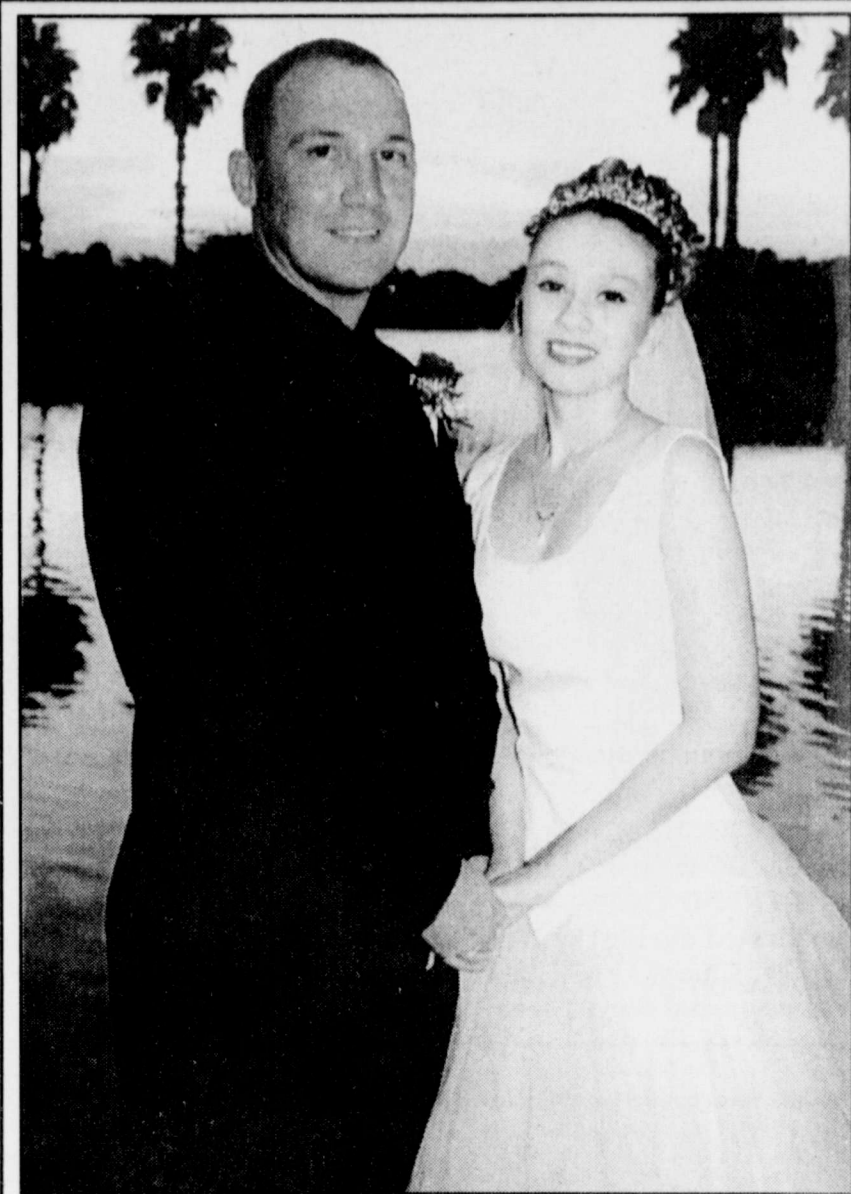
Dale and Linda Duggan, Katy Grigsby and son Kelton of Abilene were in Waco visiting with Jerry and Mary Duggan on Friday and Saturday. Also on Saturday, Linda and Dale, along with Dale's brothers Danny and Tim, gave a 50th wedding anniversary party for their parents, Mary and Jerry Duggan. All are from Waco. Will and Leslie Duggan of Winters also attended.

After church services, Coleman Foreman went in to see Lawan at the Senior Citizens Nursing Home.

Ronald Presley dropped in on Noble Faubion this week and had a good time talking over old times.

Evelyn and Margie Jacob visited with Hattie Minzenmayer on Wednesday.

Sharon Engler of Brownwood and Margie Jacob returned home Monday after spending the weekend in Bryan/College Station visiting Bryce Busenlehner and Kathryn, Scott, and Jeanna Kozelsky. Margie enjoyed seeing and being with her four grandchildren. They also celebrated with Bryce who graduated from Ranger Junior College in August and has passed the State Board Exam and is now a licensed vocational nurse.



Mr. and Mrs. Brandon Boles

Stacey Stoker and Brandon Boles exchange wedding vows

Miss Stacey Stoker and Mr. Brandon Boles were married on Saturday, September 16, at the Rancho Viejo Country Club in Rancho Viejo, Texas.

Miss Stoker is the daughter of Tom and Lupita Stoker of Rancho Viejo. She is a 1997 graduate of Pace High School in Brownsville and is a certified pharmacy technician.

Mr. Boles is a 1992 graduate of Winters High School and attended Texas A&M University. He is a computer systems engineer with Dynamix Group of Atlanta, Georgia. He is the son of Randall and Jean Boles, and grandson of Monroe and Arlene Boles of Winters.

Following a honeymoon on South Padre Island, the couple resides in Rincon, Georgia.

Brownie Troop #338 members earn their "Make It, Eat It" patches

Brownie Girl Scout Troop #338 recently held a sleep over at the home of their troop leaders, Laura and Ral Dees. The Brownies came out to the Dees's home Friday evening, October 6, to spend time earning patches and having fun together as a troop.

Members of Troop #338 are now considered official cooks. The girls made homemade pizza and fruit punch. Other food preparations were planned, but time did not allow all activities to be completed. They had a great time in the kitchen and this helped earn them their "Make It, Eat It" patch.

In addition, the leaders discussed the purposes of maps and had the girls draw a simple map of something familiar to them. Most chose to map out their bedroom or their classroom at school.

This project was in conjunction with earning their "Outdoor Adventurer" patch.

The girls made Halloween buttons, had free time together, watched a movie, and had popcorn before falling asleep around 12:30 a.m. It was a fun time had by all.

Brownies participating were Haley Kaczyk, Alex Suddeth, Miranda Torres, Riley Spill, Regan Newsom, Lisa Dees, and Shelby Gehrels. Brownies unable to attend were Sarah Campos and Abby Guy.

Plans were to sleep outside, but the cold weather changed that. The girls piled sleeping bags and cots on the living room floor instead. The troop will try their luck at an outdoor sleep over some other time.

County adopts public nuisance abatement procedure

County commissioners spent nearly an hour discussing a public nuisance abatement procedure to be adopted before finally passing the ordinance.

The state has a nuisance abatement law which must be adopted in some form by counties before the county can enforce the law. Commissioner Ricky Strube brought the matter before the court and said he had some problems which needed to be addressed in his precinct.

Citizen Ben Clayton who lives in Rowena was present at the meeting and encouraged commissioners to adopt the ordinance. Most of the discussion centered on whether commissioners should be the enforcement officer or another county officer should be appointed to enforce the ordinance. Other discussion hinged on the words "shall" and "may."

Commissioner Keith Collom said he had a problem with wording which said the enforcing officer "shall notify a property owner of noncompliance with the ordinance in writing." County Judge

Marilyn Egan said the "shall" had to be there because it is required to notify in writing. "There can be no discretion in that. The discretion is in deciding whether or not there is a violation," she said.

After some rewording, assisted by Mr. Clayton, who also happened to be an attorney, commissioners approved the procedure unanimously.

Commissioners also approved County Clerk's entering into a lease agreement with The Document Company for a copier for her office.

Other agenda items and action taken included:

- Approval of an interlocal agreement with the Texas Department of Public Safety.
 - A contract with Tom Green County for detention of juvenile offenders at the rate of \$75 per day was approved.
 - Approval was given of the County Treasurer's quarterly investment report.
- All commissioners were present for the almost two-hour meeting.

Woman's Club tours duplexes

The Winters Woman's Club met October 10 in the office of the Lone Star Estates. Gail Williams, Lavera Tharp, Virginia Brown, and Ouida Nichols were hostesses.

They served refreshments to nineteen numbers and there guests. Joyce Broadstreet, Joyce Carbery, and Donna Smith were elected to membership.

After the business meeting Joyce Carbery, of the Lone Star Estates, presented the program. She told the history of the estates, the regulations, governing them, and the method of financing them. She stated that the project benefits Winters even though no city taxes are paid. Later the group toured two apartments. One was two bedrooms and one was three bedrooms.



Christopher Schneider & Sandee Curry

Sandee Curry to wed Christopher Schneider in February ceremony

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Curry of Winters announce the engagement of their daughter, Sandee Lenea, to Christopher Mack Schneider, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Schneider of Coahoma.

The bride-elect graduated from Winters High School in 1994 and is attending Angelo State University. She is currently employed by Wal-Mart of Ballinger.

The prospective bridegroom graduated from Coahoma High School in 1993 and Howard College in Big Spring with an associate of science degree. He also attended Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene. He is employed by Baptist Memorial Hospital of San Angelo in the maintenance department. He recently completed six years in the U.S. Army Reserve.

A February 10, 2001, wedding is planned at Sand Springs Baptist Church.

Words are important

Can we all learn a lesson from this?

Hear then the Lesson of the Frogs.

A group of frogs were traveling through the woods, and two of them fell into a deep pit. All the other frogs gathered around the pit. When they saw how deep the pit was, they told the unfortunate frogs they would never get out.

The two frogs ignored the comments and tried to jump up out of the pit. The other frogs kept telling them to stop, that they were as good as dead. Finally, one of the frogs took heed to what the other frogs were saying and simply gave up.

The other frog continued to jump as hard as he could. Once again, the crowd of frogs yelled at him to stop the pain and suffering and just die. He jumped even harder and finally made it out.

When he got out, the other frogs asked him, "Why did you continue jumping? Didn't you

hear us?" The frog explained to them that he was deaf. He thought they were encouraging him the entire time.

This story teaches two lessons:
1.) There is power of life and death in the tongue. An encouraging word to someone who is down can lift them up and help them make it through the day.

2.) A destructive word to someone who is down can be what it takes to kill them. Be careful of what you say. Speak life to those who cross your path.

The power of words...it is sometimes hard to understand that an encouraging word can go such a long way. Anyone can speak words that tend to rob another of the spirit to continue in difficult times.

Special is the individual who will take the time to encourage another. Be special to others. Send this to someone you like.

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- candles-gourmet soup, dip & cookie mixes•
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Troy L. Carter, M.D.
Surgical & Medical Diseases of the Eye

Dr. Troy Carter, a member of Texas Midwest Eye Center in Abilene, has joined with North Runnels Hospital and Dr. Mike Bacigalupi, to offer cataract surgery in Winters. Patients can now be evaluated, have surgery with complete post-op care and never leave Runnels County.

Please call North Runnels Hospital to schedule an eye exam and cataract screening today.

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Ophthalmologist
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THE GOOD 'OLE DAYS appear to be a bit rough as depicted in the "Old Fort Chadbourne" skit performed during the 2000 Stabilization Project fundraiser. Cast members included Dr. David Coffey, Cheryl Lewis, Dewey Chestnut (on stretcher), Cody Fort, Dub Davis (far right), Cory Robinson and Steve Clark.



A STEP BACK IN TIME is enjoyed by a wagonful of riders as they tour the ruins of Fort Chadbourne during a recent fundraiser for the 2000 Stabilization Project. The event raised approximately \$22,000. Driving the wagon and team is Mac Sayles of Tuscola.

Support the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce.

Please vote and re-elect John McGregor as your County Attorney

Pol. adv. paid by John McGregor, Ballinger, Tx

"SINUS" is serious . . .
SNORING isn't funny . . .
SLEEP APNEA is deadly!

Persistent "sinus" and nasal obstruction are often the CAUSE of a *deadly duo* of snoring and sleep apnea, even in children.

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Government refund hoax targeting elderly Americans

Social Security's Office of the Inspector General Hotline has received numerous fraud allegations regarding advertisements targeting elderly Americans. One ad aimed at elderly African Americans states: "the Government is refunding monies to anyone alive that was born up until the year of 1927 due to the Slave Reparations Act."

This advertisement states that in order to qualify for this money individuals must become part of a "National Victim's Register" by supplying their name, date of birth and Social Security number. There is no such law as the "Slave Reparations Act"—the ad is a hoax.

A second ad involves the "Notch Babies" and targets individuals born between 1911 and 1926 whose benefits were lower because Congress corrected the benefit formula to fix an inflationary glitch. This ad also requires individuals to become part of a "National Victim's Register" by supplying their name, date of birth, and Social Security number.

While the "notch" is a legislative issue, the requirement to become part of a National Victim's Register is a hoax.

Such ads are typical of scams aimed at the elderly in recent years, and Social Security officials caution people to report them when they are approached, particularly when the ads ask for identifying information, according to Fredi Franki, Social Security Manager in San Angelo, Texas.

"It is important that all Americans recognize the danger in giving out personal identifying information to unknown individuals or companies," Franki stated. "Unscrupulous individuals can take the personal identifying information of another person and assume that person's identity. They can then open charge account, obtain car loans and commit crimes, all of which will be traced back to the person whose identity has been stolen. The burden will be placed on the victim to prove that someone else engaged in these activities."

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*In partnership with the citizens of Runnels County, I will enforce all laws, deter criminal activity, protect life and property, maintain order and operate a safe and constitutional jail system.
 *Through innovative leadership and dedication I will provide the citizens of Runnels County the highest quality service available.
 *Each employee of the sheriff department and jail will have an opportunity for career development, professional growth and a challenging work environment. Each and every employee will be provided the same concern, respect and caring attitude [within the office] that they are expected to share when contacting the citizens of Runnels County and the general public.
 *With over twenty years as an exemplary police officer, my goals is to lead the Runnels County Sheriff Department into the next century with fresh ideas and effective leadership.

Pol. adv. Tino P. Salinaz, P.O. Box 419, Miles, Tx 76861

Letters to the Editor

WISD crew commended for work at Blizzard stadium

Dear Editor:
 A very special **Thank You** to Dale Montgomery and his WISD crew for how great our football field looks. Anyone who has attended an out-of-town game has seen the brown dirt and poor lines the boys play on. Not only is this ugly, it's very unsafe.

Dale Montgomery, Gordan Fenwick, and Phillip Esquivel have spent many long hours hauling water from the school's water well to keep our field nice and green.

Also, for Homecoming there were a perfectly formed "WHS" across the middle of the field and diamond-shaped blue and white designs in both end zones. These were not painted during regular working hours because we had junior high home games on Thursday night. Therefore, Dale and his crew had to wait until the game was over to even start measuring to get the "WHS" and diamond shapes in exactly the right places.

When we came home at 11:30 p.m. from the junior varsity game at Wall, Dale, Gordan and Phillip were still working and worked way after midnight.

Thanks, guys, for the great job! We really do appreciate all your hard work.

Sincerely,
Biff and Deb White

Citizen questions McGregor and Baird

Dear Editor:
 In approximately 1996, Bill Baird, acting as sheriff, called a meeting in his office of myself and Johnny Ray Walker of 149 CRR1, Ballinger, over a fence dispute. When my daughter and I arrived, Mr. Walker started screaming and cursing us. My daughter tried to respond to Mr. Walker. Mr. Baird told her to shut up; if she couldn't act like a lady, she would have to leave his office. Mr. Baird told us this was a civil matter and he would have a deputy bring a copy of the law to us.

I called Mr. Baird to inquire why I did not receive a copy of the law. He informed me that he had nothing else to do with the problem, as County Attorney John McGregor had taken over and I would be hearing from him. I did, in the capacity of Mr. Walker's attorney.

I would like to know what kind of power convicted felon Johnny Walker has over the county attorney and sheriff. I have witnessed them protecting Mr. Walker through many complaints of wrong doing.

Having the county attorney as your personal lawyer is a Godsend. Johnny Walker seemed to have Mr. McGregor in his pocket.

A concerned taxpayer,
Sue Manning

Ballinger resident blasts county attorney and sheriff

To the Editor:
 What I know about some of the people we have elected to serve and protect the citizens of Runnels County:
 I don't think much of our sheriff. We all know Bill has been sheriff too long.
 I have heard John McGregor say, "I don't care what the people think of me." I guess he means what he says. I have seen and heard him go into a rage and curse some of the citizens.
 I have had John McGregor curse me because I called him on lying and trying to manipulate a Justice of Peace.

This is just a small part of the things I have seen John McGregor do. He has no respect for the office for which he was elected by the people of Runnels County!

Concerned Citizen,
J. D. Whitlock

Winters resident attends third annual summit for MTNA leadership in Cincinnati

Winters resident Susan Connor, along with more than 100 MTNA state, division and national MTNA leaders, attended the third annual Summit for MTNA leadership in Cincinnati, September 8-10, 2000.

The purpose of the weekend was to provide a time of learning, brainstorming, and networking for MTNA leaders so they may effectively work together to meet the greater needs of the association, its members and music education. The summit provided a great opportunity to interact with other leaders and discuss common goals for the organization.

Connor, local piano teacher, is currently the Vice President for Student Affairs for Texas Music Teachers Association. She attended the summit with four other state officers from Texas. She also is a member of Abilene Music Teachers and serves them as Recording Secretary.

Music Teachers National Association is a nonprofit organization of independent and collegiate music teachers committed to furthering the art of music through teaching, performance, composition and research. Founded in 1876, MTNA is the oldest professional music association in the United States.

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John McGregor seeks re-election as Runnels County Attorney

John McGregor, Runnels County Attorney, announces his candidacy for re-election. McGregor has worked in the County Attorney's office for a total of 15 years, including 1974 to 1981 and 1993 thru the present. Additionally, from May 1986 thru July 1989, he served as Assistant District Attorney under the eye of Dick Alcalá, District Attorney, 119th Judicial District. Alcalá currently serves as 340th District Judge in San Angelo.

McGregor grew up in a Schleicher County ranching family, and went all 12 grades in Eldorado. Besides chasing screwworm cases on horseback and fixing fences, he participated in high school UIL, Student Council, track, basketball, and in 1962 was named Class A All-West Texas middle linebacker/quarterback. Following that McGregor served three years in the Army, during which he survived OCS and spent two years as a commissioned officer (2nd & 1st lieutenant) at Fort

Hood, Texas. Beginning in January 1970, McGregor went back to college and graduated with a degree in English from Angelo State University in May 1971.



He completed law school at Texas Tech University, moved to Ballinger in early 1974, and went to work for O.L. Parish, Jr., who was county attorney at that time. McGregor owes a deep debt of gratitude to Parish for his relentless example of integrity and hard work.

During the past 26 years,

McGregor has completed many hours of continuing legal education, many times acquiring 40-60 hours annually, rather than the 15 hours annually required by the State Bar of Texas.

McGregor has prosecuted all types of criminal cases, from speeding to murder. He continues to urge the need for Runnels County to have a full time county attorney due to the high crime rate. Currently, McGregor is almost full-time, having recently closed his private law office to concentrate more time on prosecution, and thereby better serve the people of Runnels County.

McGregor is the proud parent of two sons, Webster of Austin and Stu, currently enrolled in the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science at the University of North Texas, Denton.

McGregor says, "Your consideration will be greatly appreciated and regardless of how you vote, please vote. Our freedoms depend upon it."

Community Assessment Schedule

Story on page 1

Resource Team Agenda

Winters, Runnels County, Texas
October 24, 25, 26, 2000

Tuesday, October 24, 2000
10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon
12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM
1:00 PM to 5:30 PM
6:30 PM

Activity
Community Team Planners Orientation
Lunch with Winters Lions Club
Resource Team Takes Area Tour
Resource Team Working Supper

Location
The Rock Hotel Heritage Center
Winters Community Center
Winters Community Center
The Rock Hotel

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

6:30 AM to 7:45 AM
8:05 AM to 8:55 AM
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM
10:00 AM to 10:30 AM
10:30 AM to 11:30 AM
11:45 AM to 1:00 PM
1:00 PM to 1:50 PM
2:00 PM to 3:00 PM
3:00 PM to 3:15 PM
3:15 PM to 4:15 PM
4:35 PM to 5:35 PM
5:45 PM to 6:45 PM
7:00 PM

Team #1

Listening Session Group
Breakfast (All Team Members)
WHS 10th Grade Students
WHS 12th Grade Students
Break
WISD Faculty
Lunch
Winters School Administration
Health Care, Social Services
Break
Senior Citizens
Minorities
Utilities, Industry
Supper

Location
Burger Hut
WISD Board Room
WISD Board Room

WISD Board Room
WISD School Cafeteria
WISD Board Room
WISD Board Room

WISD Board Room
WISD Board Room
WISD Board Room
Casa Cabana

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

6:30 AM to 7:45 AM
8:00 AM to 9:00 AM
9:10 AM to 10:15 AM
10:15 AM to 10:30 AM
10:30 AM to 11:30 AM
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM
2:10 PM to 3:15 PM
3:15 PM to 3:30 PM
3:30 PM to 4:30 PM
4:35 PM to 5:35 PM
7:00 PM

Team #2

Listening Session Group
Breakfast (All Team Members)
Agriculture
County, Law Enforcement, EMS
Break
Churches
Lunch
City, Economic Development, Housing
Retail Business
Break
Banking, Financial Services, Insurance
Civic Clubs, Non-Profit Organizations
Supper

Location
Burger Hut
The Rock Hotel Heritage Center
The Rock Hotel

The Rock Hotel
WISD School Cafeteria
The Rock Hotel
The Rock Hotel

The Rock Hotel
The Rock Hotel
Casa Cabana

Thursday, October 26, 2000

7:00 AM to 8:30 AM
8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon
12:00 Noon
1:00 PM to 4:30 PM
5:00 PM to 6:30 PM
7:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Activity
Breakfast Catered
Team Prepares for Town Meeting
Pizza Lunch
Team Prepares for Town Meeting
Supper with Industrial Board, Community Leaders
Town Hall Meeting

Location
The Rock Hotel
The Rock Hotel
The Rock Hotel
The Rock Hotel
The Shed
Winters Community Center

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SPEEDY FAX 915-754-4628

Mid-West Texas Artist's Guild enjoys watercolor exhibitions; busy with shows

The regular monthly meeting of the Mid-West Texas Artist's Guild was held on Tuesday, October 3, 2000, at the Security State Bank in Winters. Fourteen members and one guest were present.

A short business meeting was held, primarily to discuss suggestions for the Guild's Second Annual Membership Show. The show will be held on November 25, 2000, in conjunction with the Christmas in Olde Ballinger celebration. Several buildings were suggested as possible sites for the exhibit. Though nothing was decided, a place is needed for the show.

Janet Vaughn, Chairman of the

Guild's Rotating Public Building Exhibit, asked for new artists to display their work in the eight locations we are currently using. She encouraged all members to participate. A schedule for those currently participating has been mailed to concerned members.

In a discussion of possible workshops, President Jean Hensley asked for suggestions for artists who could provide workshops and the members agreed that a length of one day or one and a half day would be best.

Shirley Minzenmayer introduced Ginger Test for the evening's program. Ginger, from Novice, is a favorite demonstra-

tor and workshop instructor for this group of artists. Ginger painted a sunset-beach scene. During a break in the painting, Jean Hensley showed the finished framing job which had been discussed at the last meeting. The frame, completed by Pam Crenshaw, included paint and repair on the shadow box frame, a new small frame inside the shadow box with an 1889 wedding photograph, the bride's headdress of handmade silk flowers and bow around the photo.

Everyone agreed that Pam had done a wonderful job on the frame. Many thanks to the owner for allowing it to be shown to the

group. Ginger then completed her painting, answering questions as she did so. The finished painting included silhouetted sea grass and gulls.

Several members participated in the ninth annual Coleman Art Show and Sale in Coleman. Paintings were on display on Saturday, October 7, in conjunction with Coleman's annual Fiesta de la Paloma.

Members receiving awards and recognition were Susan Mansell, professional water color, second place and honorable mention. Jean Hensley, professional oil, third place; Billy Dawn King, advance water color, first place and second

place; Dale Bradley, amateur pastel, first place and second place and best of amateur (a monetary award).

In addition, awards won by Doris Studer's granddaughters included Stacey Good, third place, youth and Brittany Hunter, honorable mention, youth. Ginger Test won first place and second place in professional water color (miniature) and Ruth Jackson, second place in professional pastel. Ruth has also given demonstrations and a workshop for the club. Thanks to all who entered and congratulations to winners.

The next meeting is Tuesday, November 7.



The Kennedy/Nixon election was one of the closest in history. The electoral vote was 303 to 219.



Thomas Jefferson invented the dumbwaiter.

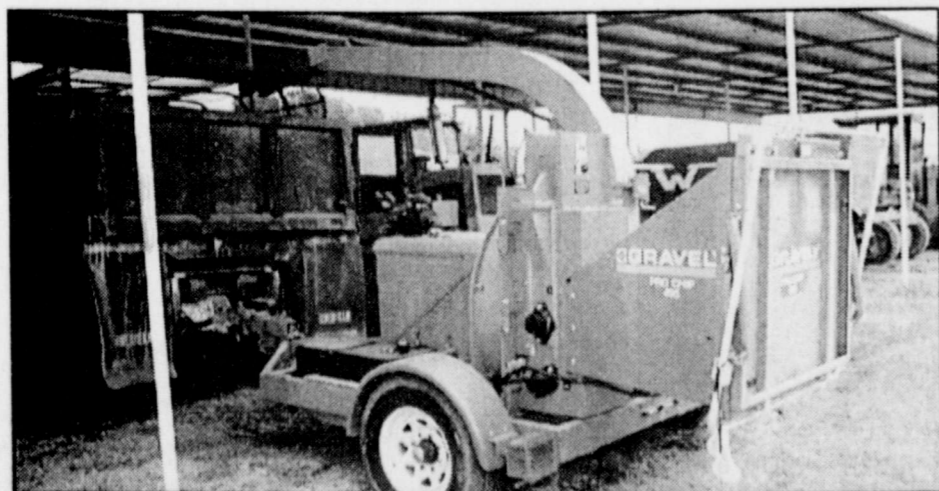
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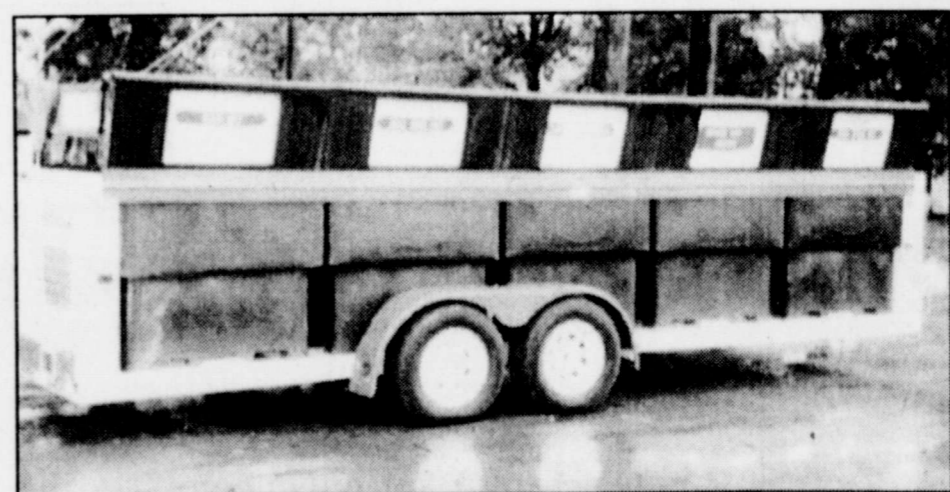
(available the last Friday of every month. Call City Hall at 754-4424 for details.)

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- City of Winters
- West Central Texas Council of Governments
- Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission



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Ag Talk

by Congressman Charles Stenholm

House completes action on 2001 Agriculture Appropriations Bill

This past Wednesday the House overwhelmingly approved an agriculture spending bill for fiscal year 2001, which officially began on October 1 of this year.

The legislation was passed by a vote of 340-75, clearing the way for final action by the Senate and a signature by the President.

A key feature in this year's bill is the addition of \$3.6 billion for emergency agriculture disaster relief that will aid a variety of farmers and ranchers.

The legislation will provide upwards of \$1.6 billion for producers suffering a series of harvest losses brought about by drought, fire, and flooding.

This will provide desperately needed assistance to agricultural producers who have been affected by natural disasters.

In addition, funding has been added to begin addressing the drinking water emergencies that we are seeing in rural areas as a result of the drought.

Frankly, the \$100 million des-

ignated for emergency water assistance is not sufficient to meet the needs of rural America, but it is a good beginning and one on



which I intend to build upon.

The legislation also increases the limitation on a producer's loan deficiency payment (LDP) to \$150,000 for the current crop year.

This was done because it was believed that the low crop prices under the previous \$75,000 level unrealistically reduced the safety net payment for many producers.

In addition to the \$1.6 billion

for nationwide crop loss from natural disasters, livestock producers will be able to draw upon \$450 million for loss of pasture and feed sources. Dairy farmers will also be eligible for assistance as the result of historically low prices.

On the subject of agricultural trade with Cuba, I believe the House lost a key opportunity to help U.S. producers to once again sell food and medicine to Cuba.

Earlier this year the House by a vote of 301-116 overwhelmingly expressed its will to end trade embargoes.

Despite this vote, the House leadership included a provision in this agriculture bill further restricting travel to Cuba and undercutting the ability of U.S. farmers and ranchers to take full advantage of Cuba's market.

The USDA has estimated that if trade sanctions against Cuba were lifted, U.S. agricultural exports to Cuba could reach \$300 million within a year or two and

that Cuba could become a \$1 billion a year market for U.S. products within five years.

USDA to issue CRP payments

Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman has announced that payments of more than \$1.4 billion are being processed to eligible producers under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

This program will pay an average of \$4,833 per farm on over 290,000 farms. The CRP is a voluntary program in which producers let sensitive crop land sit idle for 10 to 15 years.

In order to qualify, the enrolled land must be highly erodible, contribute to a serious water quality problem, or provide substantial environmental benefits if devoted to certain specific conservation uses.

The state of Texas currently has 4 million acres of land enrolled under CRP out of a national total of 31 million acres.

Texans Building Character Week recognized by Runnels County 4-H

Character education may begin at home, but it's reinforced by schools, communities and the larger environment. That's why character education has become everybody's business. That's why this week, October 15-20, has been designated as "TEXANS BUILDING CHARACTER" week. "Texans Building CHARACTER" comes from the CHARACTER COUNTS! program developed by the Josephson Institute of Ethics in California.

During the 1999 Texas Community Futures Forum process, 209 counties identified youth issues as high priority concerns. These issues ranged from character, ethics, morals, and pregnancy, to drugs, education, and job preparation.

Our youth often see negative examples of ethical behavior from some poor role models in professional athletics and the music and entertainment industries. Sometimes these negative examples are in their own communities or families. Parents, educators and youth leaders agree: "we need to help youth understand that their character counts."

As part of a national and statewide effort to provide character education to all youth in Texas, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service has embarked on a major character education effort.

We are incorporating character education into our regular programming for 4-H youth, families and communities as well as training volunteers to teach character education principles to other groups.

There are eight teaching models in the "Texans Building Character" program.

- **Community Model**—Involves targeting youth groups and youth support groups to encourage them to develop a plan to support and implement character education activities.

- **4-H Program Model**—Involves saturating the County 4-H Program with character education in all phases of the 4-H program, including youth and adults.

- **School-Based Model**—Brings character education to schools (teachers, administrators, students, parents) through training and school activities.

- **Workforce Investment Model**—Involves working with youth and employees in job skills/awareness training that emphasizes "employees of character."

- **Youth-at-Risk Model**—Involves taking character education to targeted groups of youth-at-risk, such as juvenile probation, incarcerated youth, low income/limited resource youth and boot camps.

- **Sports Model**—Involving

youth, coaches, and parents, in school or summer athletic programs.

- **Livestock Ethics Model**—Emphasizes ethics training and approaches for livestock activities and programs.

- **Mega Model**—Involves three or more of the above models.

Character is not hereditary and does not develop automatically. That's why the Extension Service has joined the nation's most respected youth and community organizations and the State of Texas in the CHARACTER COUNTS! COALITION TO DELIVER CHARACTER EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

Character education is not meant to replace what parents

teach their children. In fact, it supplements and enhances family efforts to instill ethical values and good character. Nor does it replace or conflict with religious teachings. It is based on common ethical values that transcend political, religious, socioeconomic and cultural differences.

Those common ethical values are known as the "Six Pillars of Character." These pillars are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

If you would like to know more about character education, or to review the curriculum materials we are using to teach it, or to volunteer for training yourself, please contact the Runnels County Extension Office.

Annual 4-H Achievement Banquet set Saturday, Oct. 21 in Ballinger

The 2000 Runnels County 4-H Achievement Banquet will be held Saturday, October 21, 2000. The event will take place at the Ballinger High School Cafeteria beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Tom Ben Williams, immediate past president of the District 7 State 4-H Council, will be the guest speaker.

Four-H'ers will be recognized

for their achievements of the past year as well as Runnels County Outstanding Leaders and Friends of 4-H. Awards for the recent 4-H/Wal-Mart Bike-A-Thon will also be presented.

Four-H'ers and their families are reminded to RSVP and turn in Bike-A-Thon money by Thursday, October 19, to the extension office for the banquet.

Monday, October 23—

Winters 4-H Club to host costume party to celebrate Halloween

by Wiley Guy, reporter

The Winters 4-H Club will host their monthly meeting on Monday, October 23, from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Mt. Carmel Catholic Church Fellowship Hall.

Club members are asked to come in Halloween attire for a costume party. Those in charge of refreshments are Jessica Pritchard, Luke and Julie England, and Kathryn Hatler.

Community service for the month will be a canned food drive. Members are asked to bring canned goods and nonperishable foods to replenish the Winters Food Pantry.

Kellyn Airhart will give the inspiration and Camille Kruse and Colton Pritchard will lead the pledges.

In last month's meeting, the club heard an informative program on hunting rules and regulations presented by Lane Pinckney, Texas Parks & Wildlife Game Warden.

Clover kids played a game of "What Am I?" to guess various animals. They also discussed the meaning of 4-H.

Forty-five members, clover kids, and adults attended the September meeting.

Hale Museum call for old WHS yearbooks

The Z.I. Hale Museum is in need of old WHS *Glacier* yearbooks. Often individuals who are doing research or merely reminiscing about Winters ask about annuals for specific years. For that reason, the museum hopes to put together a complete collection of *Glaciers*.

If you have old yearbooks that are just taking up space in your attic or closets, please consider donating them to the museum. Presently, there are several volumes, dating from the 1920's to

the 1970's, but the collection is far from complete.

If you have an annual you would like to donate, please contact Michael Pumphrey at 915-754-4595 or Randall Conner at 915-754-4542, or send a card or letter to the Museum at P.O. Box 211, Winters, Texas 79567, stating the *Glacier* year(s) you have available. If yours is one of the missing volumes, the museum and its visitors would certainly appreciate your donation.

For the latest information on weather, crops, & disaster assistance from the Texas Department of Agriculture
www.agr.state.tx.us

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