

The Winters Enterprise

Serving Winters and North Runnels County

Volume 14, Issue 10

Thursday, March 6, 2003

Winters, Texas

50¢

NEWS

Pearls of Wisdom

The size of your body is of little account; the size of your brain is of much account; the size of your heart is of the most account of all.
—B.C. Forbes

Election updates

Several incumbents have filed for re-election in area government races and remain unopposed as of press time.

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2003-04 WHS cheerleaders selected

Both Winters Secondary Schools have selected cheerleading squads for the 2003-04 school year.

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Secondary accepts G/T nominations

WHS counselor Charles Murphy has announced that nominations for the secondary Gifted and Talented Programs are being accepted until March 28.

page 5

Letters to the Editor

One area resident responds to a recent Pastor's Points and comments on last week's story on budget cuts. Winters City Administrator praises efforts to light city tennis courts.

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Peanut passion...

Former Winters resident Dr. Charles Simpson continues his support and quest in discovering one of the most sought after wild peanut species despite his recent retirement.

page 7

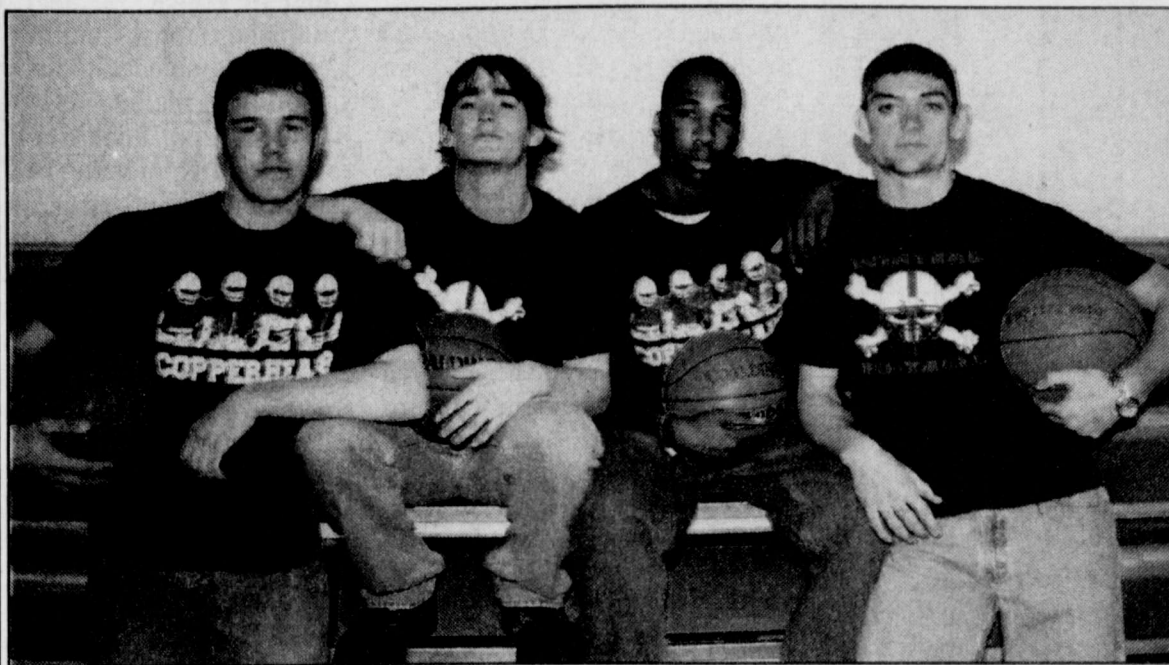
Playtime—

New Phase I playground equipment is being installed on the west side of Winters Elementary School thanks to tremendous efforts by the Blizzard Kid Boosters and WISD maintenance personnel.

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All-District Basketball Honorees



(photo by Deb Pritchard)

FOUR VARSITY BLIZZARDS, all WHS seniors, have been selected to the 9-2A All-District Basketball Team. Shane Colburn (left) and Rusty Jackson (right) were named to the First Team. Colburn, a 6'1" forward, averaged 9.8 points per game with 4.7 rebounds, 1.4 steals and 2.7 assists. A 6'4" post, Jackson averaged 12.9 points per game with 6.7 rebounds. Second Team honorees are Brian Pritchard (second from left) and Yul Gibbs. Pritchard, a 5'11" guard, averaged 7 points per game, 4.2 rebounds, 1.3 steals and 4.2 assists. Gibbs added 9.7 points per game, 7.2 rebounds, 1.4 steals and 1.6 assists, and is a 6'4" post.

Saturday, April 12— CIA seeking donations for 2003 workday

Christmas in April North Runnels Inc. is asking for assistance in making the 2003 CIA Workday on Saturday, April 12, a success. Plans are underway to improve either three or four homes.

Monetary donations are needed in order to buy supplies necessary to repair this year's homes. No gift is too large or too small and will go directly towards repairing a home. Those businesses, organizations, and individuals who faithfully donate to Christmas In April are reminded that now is the time to make those contributions. Donations may be sent to:

Christmas In April
PO Box 262
Winters, Texas 79567.

Christmas in April is a national organization whose purpose is to provide free home improvement to ensure continued health and safety, to low income, elderly, or handicapped individuals.

It's Independence Day...



(photo by Deb Pritchard)

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY was celebrated in fine fashion as new Texas flags lined Main Street in the downtown area Sunday. Texas and U.S. flags were sold recently to businesses and community members as a fundraiser by the Winters Lions Club.

Court date set Tuesday to contest election results from County Commissioner, Precinct 2 race

by Deb Pritchard, assistant editor

A court date has been set for Tuesday, March 11, 2003, in the 119th District Court to contest the November 5, 2002, election for Runnels County Commissioner, Precinct 2. The suit of Freddie Grohman vs. Keith Collom is scheduled for 10 a.m. in the Runnels County Courthouse.

Grohman ran for the Precinct 2 commissioner's position against the incumbent Collom. Unofficial results on election night had Collom defeating Grohman by five votes. Following the canvass of votes by County Clerk Elesia Ocker the morning of November 6, Collom had defeated Grohman by three votes, 336-333.

Grohman filed a request and paid a fee for a recount with Judge Marilyn Egan which took place on November 15. The recount did not change the outcome of the election, although the vote count changed to 341-337, still in favor of Collom.

Grohman, who familiarized himself with new redistricting boundary lines between Commissioner Precincts 2 and 3, feels the change affected the outcome of the election. Some voters informed Grohman they had not been allowed to vote for County Commissioner, Precinct 2 when they arrived at their polling place.

Upon an inquiry from a concerned voter the morning of the election, Runnels County Tax Assessor-Collector Robin Burgess discovered the voter was correct and that a total of 23

voters were shown in the wrong precinct. Burgess said her office "immediately corrected the error and sent new lists to the voting boxes, instructing voting officials to let those people vote in the Commissioner Precinct 2 race."

However, Grohman claims that several voters had already been turned away from the polling place due to the error. The County Clerk's office determined 13 of the 23 voters voted in the wrong precinct and the other ten of the registered voters either didn't vote or voted in the correct precinct.

Grohman filed a "contested election" suit against Collom on December 18, 2002. On Tuesday, the District Court will determine if a new election must be held or enter a decision declaring a winner in the election.

Concerning the lawsuit, which to date Grohman is financially responsible for, he said, "After much consideration and contemplation following the November 5th election, I realized I had asked to represent the people of Runnels County Precinct 2. In order to represent those who voted for me and those who were not allowed to vote, I must take the necessary steps to complete this election process."

Commissioner Collom responded to a call from *The Winters Enterprise*, but on the advice of his attorney declined to comment at this time.

World Day of Prayer, March 7

Mt. Carmel Catholic Church of Winters will host the annual World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 7, from noon until 1:00 p.m.

The theme for this year's gathering is "Holy Spirit: Fill Us," with special emphasis on Lebanon and the Christian work being done in that country. A slide presentation will be given and a meal will be served.

World Day of Prayer (WDP) is an international event that unites women and men in 179 countries in prayer. Throughout the day, from the first sunrise to the last sunset, prayers follow the sun's path around the globe. Spoken in hundreds of languages and dialects, WDP strives to bring "informed prayer and prayerful action" to communities.

Everyone in the community is encouraged to attend and participate in this special gathering. For more information, contact Mary Jo Tucker at 754-5811.

Winters to host Breezes & Blizzard Relays Friday and Saturday



(photos by Deb Pritchard)

WHS SENIOR Laci Walker (left) easily outdistances the rest of the field to win her second of three gold medals at the Blackland Divide Relays in Roscoe last Saturday. Walker placed first in the 100M and 300M Hurdles and High Jump and anchored the second place 800M Relay team. Junior Benjie Valles (above) placed fourth in the triple jump and fifth in the long jump for the Blizzards.

Winters Independent School District will host the Breezes and Blizzard Relays at the Winters Track Complex this Friday evening and Saturday. Ten schools are registered to compete in both meets which officially start the week of spring break for area schools.

The Breezes Relays will begin with field events at 3:30 p.m. on Friday. The 2400M Run is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. with all other running events as finals beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Teams competing will include: Eula, Blackwell, Ballinger, Baird, Cross Plains,

Gorman, Coleman, Hawley, Rising Star, and Winters. There will be seventh and eighth grade divisions for both boys and girls.

The Blizzard Relays will kick off on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. with field events. The 3200M Run is scheduled for 11 a.m. followed by running prelims. Running finals will begin one hour after the prelims are completed.

Varsity girls, JV and varsity boys will complete. Teams registered for the event include: Eula, Menard, Hamlin, Baird, Cross Plains, Gorman, Ballinger, Hawley, Wall, and Winters.

Project Graduation 2003 will furnish a full concession stand including drinks, snack items, and a hamburger meal at both events. All proceeds will benefit this year's all night celebration following graduation ceremonies.

Admission to both meets is free. The community is encouraged to attend the events and support the Winters athletes. (For more of last week's track results see page 5.)



Editorial

Oil Bidness

by Reg Boles © 2003



As part of the infamous Texas Senate bill 310, another key component is about to be encoded into Railroad Commission (RRC) rules: the requirement that all operators verify that a plug has been set (in the abandonment of a well) no higher than the base of the deepest freshwater sand.

You may recall that much controversy has arisen from Senate bill 310, including the still-brewing controversy of plugging bond requirements. The bill was passed in September 2001, but many mandates from the bill are still being implemented.

The latest are the proposed changes in Statewide Rule 14 (plugging requirements of the RRC) requiring an operator to certify that a plug is properly guarding against contaminating any freshwater sands.

The new policy will even indicate the accepted method to check that plug is where it should be: tagging with tubing or drill pipe. While there is a loophole that allows approval of a different method, it requires that the approval come from the district RRC director or "his delegate."

I am told that the RRC has been enforcing this requirement since 2001, even though it had not been codified until now. As any operator will tell you, if the RRC representative on location wants something done, you usually do it without asking questions.

Despite some complaints about the new rule, it would seem to be plain common sense to verify the placement of the plug. It is the certification by the operator of such a check that seems to bother most operators, but every operator agrees to protect freshwater when they apply to drill a well. As such, it doesn't seem unreasonable to require that an operator put their name to that promise by attesting to the proper placement of a plug.

Now, when it comes to potential failure of that plug through no fault of the operator, I don't agree with the landowner groups who are saying that the operator is now fully liable for anything that can go wrong in the future. It is a risk, I grant you, to drill and produce oil and gas. But, the royalty

owner has agreed to be a party to that risk, as has the state, and even landowners who sign waivers to receive damage payments.

It is only by setting some reasonable ground rules that business can be conducted. And, the parties involved need to agree on some recourse in the event of a plug failure that all parties can live with and do a reasonable job of protecting freshwater sands. It may require participation by all those that benefit from the oil production in the first place, including the operator, the royalty owner, the landowner, and the state.

Of course, that isn't the first time you have heard that something "reasonable" should be done (asbestos and saccharin come to mind), I am sure. "Reasonable" doesn't seem to have a place in lawsuits these days.

HIGHLIGHTS OF AREA DRILLING ACTIVITY

COMPLETIONS

None This Week

STAKINGS

Callahan County

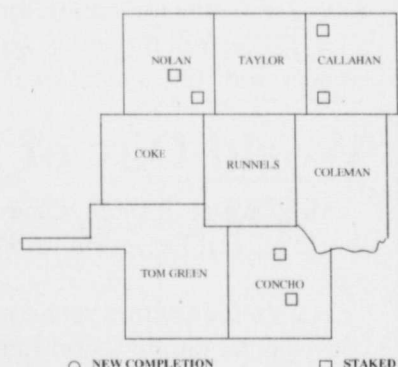
Michael C. Glover has staked the Snyder Mineral Trust-4-#7 as a Wildcat, 8 miles N of Baird (Depth 1000). Loc. is 150 FSL & 150 FEL of Sec. 4, Blk. C, T&NO Sur., A-1713.

J & M Company has staked the R. Eubank #1 in the County Regular Field, 5 miles SW of Cross Plains (Depth 500). Loc. is 1913 FEL & 243 FSL of Lot 48, Lge. 181, County School Land, A-107.

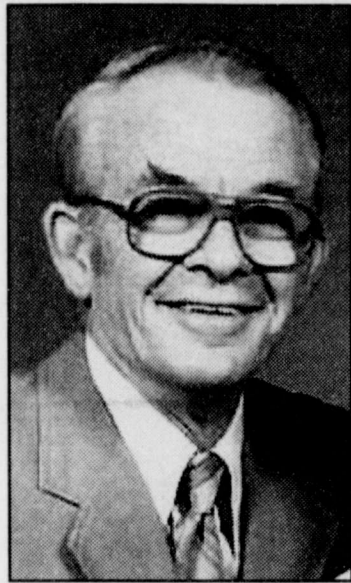
Concho County

Bowerman Energy Co. has staked the W. Mika #2 as a Wildcat, 2 miles E of Eden (Depth 4000). Loc. is 796 FNL & 1026 FEL of Sec. 2019, Blk. 72, J.D. Amd Sur., A-13.

Nitram Oil and Gas, Inc. has staked the A. Pope #2 in the West Paint Rock Field, 4 miles S of Paint Rock (Depth 3600). Loc. is 1980 FWL & 1980 FNL of Sec. 154, Blk. 72, T&NO Sur., A-1118.



Frank Harwell Smith



BALLINGER—Frank Harwell Smith, 72, died Wednesday, February 26, 2002, at his residence surrounded by his family, after a long courageous battle with Multiple Sclerosis and lung cancer.

Mr. Smith was born March 27, 1930, in Ballinger to A.H. (Buzz) & Grace K. Smith. He graduated from Rankin High School in 1948 and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict in Okinawa from 1951 to 1953.

He married Margarette Parker on November 11, 1955 in Ballinger and worked for Ragsdale Tire Co. and then Ballinger Butane Gas Co. before his retirement.

He lived the majority of his life in Ballinger and enjoyed playing golf and bowling. He will always be remembered for the beautiful furniture that he refinished. He greatly enjoyed his grandchildren and participating in their activities.

Mr. Smith was preceded in death by his parents, A.H. (Buzz) & Grace K. Smith; his in-laws, Oscar & Edna Parker; and one brother, Jerry Smith.

Survivors include his wife of 47 years, Margarette Smith of Ballinger; one daughter and son-in-law, Jill & Mike Schwertner of Lubbock; two grandsons, Ben and Jeremy Schwertner of Lubbock; one sister, Madge Snell of Camden, Arkansas, two brothers, Jack Smith and Jimmy Smith both of Ballinger; four sisters-in-law, Virginia Redman of Odessa, Maudie Roundtree of San Angelo, Mildred Webb of Odessa, and Linda Parker of Ballinger; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Family visitation was held on Thursday, February 26, 2003 from 6-7 p.m. at Rains-Seale Funeral Home in Ballinger. Funeral services were held at First Baptist Church of Ballinger on Friday, February 28, at 2 p.m. with Reverend Ferris Akins officiating. Burial followed in the Old Runnels Cemetery under the direction of Rains-Seale Funeral Home in Ballinger.

Memorial contributions may be made to Ballinger Meals on Wheels, VistaCare Hospice of San Angelo, or your favorite charity.

Effie Mae Pumphrey

WINTERS—Effie Mae Pumphrey, 104, died Thursday, February 27, 2003, at the Senior Citizens Nursing Home.

She was born on April 21, 1898, in San Augustine and moved to Runnels County as a young woman. She married James Marvin Pumphrey in 1916 in Winters.

Mrs. Pumphrey worked as a clerk and cashier in various businesses in Winters including Heidenheimer's, the Surplus Store, and Higginbotham's Brothers. She owned and operated a hotel for many years. She was a Baptist.

Her husband, James Marvin Pumphrey preceded her in death in 1975.

Survivors include one son, Doyle Pumphrey of Winters; six grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held at 3 p.m., Saturday, March 1, at Lakeview Cemetery with Reverend Glenn Dittmer officiating. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Winters Funeral Home.

Wanda Reid Cave

SAN ANGELO—Wanda Reid Cave, 69, formerly of Winters, died Thursday, February 27, 2003, at a San Angelo hospital.

She was born August 9, 1933, in Tuscola and married George Cave in 1950.

Mrs. Cave began nursing in 1956 and worked as a nurse in Bronte, Ballinger, Winters, and Cross Plains, retiring from Baptist Memorial in San Angelo in 1996. She was a member of the Eastern Star, serving in every station including worthy matron, and Day Memorial United Methodist Church in San Angelo.

Survivors include one son, Randy Cave of San Angelo; one brother, Tommie Reid and wife Dorothy of Decatur; and one sister-in-law, Anita Sowders of Wingate.

Graveside services were at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 1, at Hylton Cemetery with Reverend June White and Reverend Barbara Dyke officiating. Funeral services were directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Obituaries

Winford C. Reel

WINTERS—Winford C. Reel, 75, died Monday, February 24, 2003, at a local hospital.

Mr. Reel was born August 29, 1927, in Crews and lived in Runnels County all of his life. He served in the United States Army Air Force during World War II.

He owned and operated the Exxon Service Station in Winters for 26 years. He was then a member of the Winters Police Force for 12 years, serving some of that time as the Assistant Chief of Police. He also farmed and was a member of the Southside Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by one sister, Juanita Hill. Survivors include his wife, Billie Reel of Winters; three sons, Ronnie Reel of Paint Rock, Danny Reel of El Sobrante, California, and Kenny Reel of San Angelo; four step-daughters, Jaimie Palmer of Arlington, Glenda Sue Black of Ballinger, Anna Marie Miller of Abilene, and Sandra Musick of Ohio; two sisters, Lavanda Dobbins of Abilene and Wanda Brown of Abilene; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

Services were held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, February 27, at Southside Baptist Church in Winters with Reverend David Smith officiating. Burial followed in the Crews Cemetery under the direction of Winters Funeral Home.

Katie L. Onken

ARLINGTON—Katie L. Onken, 92, formerly of Winters, died Monday, February 24, 2003, at a nursing home in Arlington.

She was born on July 3, 1910, in Hallettsville and grew up in Winters. She married George Onken on March 4, 1933, in Winters. They moved to Hobbs, New Mexico in 1948.

Mrs. Onken worked at Lea General Hospital in Hobbs as a private duty nurse. They returned to Winters in 1983. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Winters. Her hobbies were painting, sewing, and playing the organ.

She was preceded in death by her husband. Survivors include two sons, G.W. Onken of Manila, Phillipines, and Ralph Onken of Fort Worth; one daughter, Helen Hantsche of Arlington; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Services were held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, February 27, in the Winters Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed in the Lakeview Cemetery under the direction of Winters Funeral Home.

Thomas Edsel "Ed" Wells

CONCHO COUNTY

Thomas Edsel "Ed" Wells, 80, passed away Sunday, March 2, 2003, in Oklahoma City.

He was born July 5, 1922, in Lynnville, Tennessee. He attended Abilene Christian College (ACC) and served his country during World War II, as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. He married Velma Pauline Moseley on March 11, 1944.

After receiving his BBA from ACC, Mr. Wells worked for Conoco Oil Company, living in Abilene, Fort Worth, Houston, Midland, and Oklahoma City. In 1984, he and Pauline retired to Concho, Texas. He was an active member of the Church of Christ, serving as an elder among other leadership roles.

Survivors include his wife, Pauline of Concho, Texas, and Oklahoma City; two sons, Wayne Wells and wife Karen of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Dwayne Wells of Baytown; and four grandchildren.

Services were held Wednesday, March 5, at Rains-Seale Funeral Home in Ballinger. Burial followed in the Concho Cemetery under the direction of Rains-Seale Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the general scholarship fund at Abilene Christian University.

Lounette Alexander

PAINT ROCK—Lounette Alexander, 93, died Friday, February 28, 2003, in a Ballinger nursing home.

She was born on the old home place in Concho on July 14, 1909, to Antonio and Alice Leverenz Rezzle and was the youngest of 10 children. She married Austin Alexander on December 22, 1935, in Millersview.

Mrs. Alexander lived her life in Concho County where she was a homemaker and farmed and ranched. She was a member of the Paint Rock Church of Christ. Her passion in life was cooking, at which she excelled.

She was preceded in death by her husband on August 11, 1970, her parents, and all of her siblings.

Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Ronny and Robin Alexander of Paint Rock; three daughters, Jan Heald of Pagosa Springs, Colorado, Alyne Holland of Miles, and Pat and Fred Thomas of Tennyson; eight grandchildren, Dusty Alexander, April Alexander, Josh Alexander, Don Heald, Jr., Austin Holland, Eppie Houston, Tiffany Meek, and Mark Thomas; ten great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Family visitation was Sunday, March 2, from 6-7 p.m. at Rains-Seale Funeral Home. Funeral services were at 10 a.m., Monday, March 3, at Rains-Seale Funeral Chapel with Chris Chant of Paint Rock Church of Christ officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery in Ballinger under direction of the Rains-Seale Funeral Home.

The family requests that memorials be made to the American Heart Association or a favorite charity.

Benny R. Polston, C.P.A.

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e-mail: wintersenterpriz@aol.com

Jean Boles Editor/General Manager
Deb Pritchard Assistant Editor
Susan Ripple Production Manager
Jennifer Riffe Office Manager

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MEMBER
2003

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Community

Community leaders present list of concerns to government officials at Texas Midwest Day

Pastor's Points

Editor's Note: This column will feature a different Winters minister each week in no particular order. Comments may or may not reflect the opinions or views of *The Winters Enterprise*.

America's Present Crisis

by Pastor Ferris Akins, Hopewell Baptist Church

The debate around the world and in America. Go to war or stay home?

What does our President think? What do you think? What does the rest of the world think? What does God think?

My prayer is we will all realize we are dealing with a new type of enemy few understand. Bin Laden said, "This war is fundamentally religious. Under no circumstances should we forget this enmity between us and the infidels. (That's you and me.) For the enmity is based on creed."

Not all Muslims are radical fundamentalists, but some are. Radical fundamentalists are similar whether Baptists, Catholic, Church of Christ, etc. or Islamic. It is "us against them," win at any cost, the end justifies the means, rule or ruin. I pray I will not be judged by the attitudes and actions of some Baptists (though I am one).

What must we do? God will in time restore his intended order. He will give special attention to the poor and lowly. He will oppose the oppressor and the evildoer. There is such a thing as a just war, that is "under specific circumstances" war might be less evil than the evil which it confronts.

I am going to support our service personnel and pray for them, and their loved ones. I am going to pray for our President and our elected leaders that they will seek God's wisdom in their decision making.

A South Korean preacher told a group of Texas Baptists how blessed we are in America. He was right. I am going to be more appreciative of my blessings and my freedoms as an American. I am going to pray God will help me be a part of the solution to a complex issue.



(photo by Randall Boles)

GEOFFERY CONNER, Assistant Secretary of State, accepts a picture of the Winters Public Library featuring "Reflections of Winters" from Randall Conner of the Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation on Feb. 19.

During Texas Midwest Day in Austin on Feb. 19, twenty-eight community leaders from Winters expressed concerns over legislative issues to Senator Robert Duncan and Representative Harvey Hilderbran.

Randall Conner, Director of Economic Development for the Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation, said a list of concerns was presented to the government officials.

"We don't know the impact our list may have but at least our representatives know that we are seriously concerned about these things," said Conner.

Some issues and requests were submitted as follows:

- **Unfunded Mandates**
"We encourage the legislature to not enact legislation that places any additional burden on local governments unless

the legislature provides full funding, including all administrative costs."

(For example, the Winters ISD will pay \$16,000 for an audit of duplication of audit already being done.)

- **Rural Economic Development**

"We encourage the legislature to maintain all programs that support rural economic development and quality of rural life. We support programs that strengthen job creation in small communities."

- **Water**

"The future needs of rural communities and agriculture must be of primary concern in any changes to state water policy. Initiatives to improve the availability of water resources to rural communities are strongly encouraged."

- **Health Care**

"Local hospitals are important to the vitality of rural com-

munities. We encourage efforts to help retain North Runnels Hospital and its ability to provide effective health care to this area."

- **Education**

"Quality education is a priority in rural communities. We encourage an equitable and fair school finance plan that takes into consideration the unique needs of rural West Texas."

- **Budget Cuts**

"We request that state spending cuts be made on an equitable basis within all agencies. Funding for programs should be a priority and cuts should be made in areas of waste, duplication of services, misuse of funds, fraud, unnecessary spending, and deferments of capital spending. Each agency should review all mandates, directives, regulations, and programs and eliminate all unnecessary items."

Senior Citizens Activity Center Menu

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North Runnels Hospital
A Small Hospital With A Big Heart
HWY. 153 EAST P.O. BOX 185
WINTERS, TEXAS 79567 (915) 754-4553

March 10 through March 14
Subject to change

Monday, March 10: Lasagna, green beans, tossed salad, garlic bread, & apricots.

Tuesday, March 11: Steak & gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, hot roll, jello cake.

Wednesday, March 12: Meatballs in mushroom gravy, egg noodles, peas & carrots, bread, & cobbler.

Thursday, March 13: Sausage, black-eyed peas, cabbage, cornbread, cherry dump cake.

Friday, March 14: Bar-B-Que sandwich, chips, fruit salad, pickles, onion, & dessert.

Meals are served at 11:30 a.m. daily. Anyone who does not take the meals regularly are asked to reserve a lunch by contacting the Activity Center at 754-4205 by 10 a.m.

In Appreciation

Card of Thanks

Thanks to all our friends and family who visited, sent food, and flowers, and attended the graveside service for our mother and grandmother Effie Pumphrey.

A special thank you to the staff of the Senior Citizens Nursing Home, Mike Meyer and Linda Dry; and to the Reverend Glenn Dittmer we thank you for the lovely service.

Doyle Pumphrey
Jim, Cindy, Mike,
Sue, James, & all the great-grandchildren

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Filing begins for City, Hospital, School & Water District elections

Candidates began filing this week for local elections scheduled for Friday, May 3, 2003.

Local officials on the City Council, WISD School Board, North Runnels Hospital District, and Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District are listed below. Positions available on this year's ballots along with who currently holds the office include:

City Council

Mayor — Dawson McGuffin
Place #1 — Hank Bourdo
Place #3 — Tommy Russell
Winters ISD School Board
SMD 3 — Cheryl Bryan
SMD 4 — Bob Prewit

North Runnels Hospital Board

At Large — Randall Sneed
At Large — Doug Wheat
At Large — Charlie Brown
Lipan-Kickapoo WCD Board
Runnels Co. — Billy Don Davis
Runnels Co. — Billy Halfmann

At press time the following candidates have filed: City Council-Dawson McGuffin, Mayor; Hank Bourdo, Place #1; Tommy Russell, Place #2; WISD School Board-Cheryl Bryan, SMD 3; Bob Prewit, SMD 4; North Runnels Hospital Board-Charlie Brown.

City Council candidates may file at City Hall and School Board candidates at the WISD Administration office. Filing deadline for these entities is Wednesday, March 19, 2003.

Candidates for North Runnels Hospital Board of Trustees may file at the hospital until Wednesday, April 2, 2003 at 5 p.m.

Lipan-Kickapoo WCD candidates may contact the office in Vancourt at (915) 469-3988.

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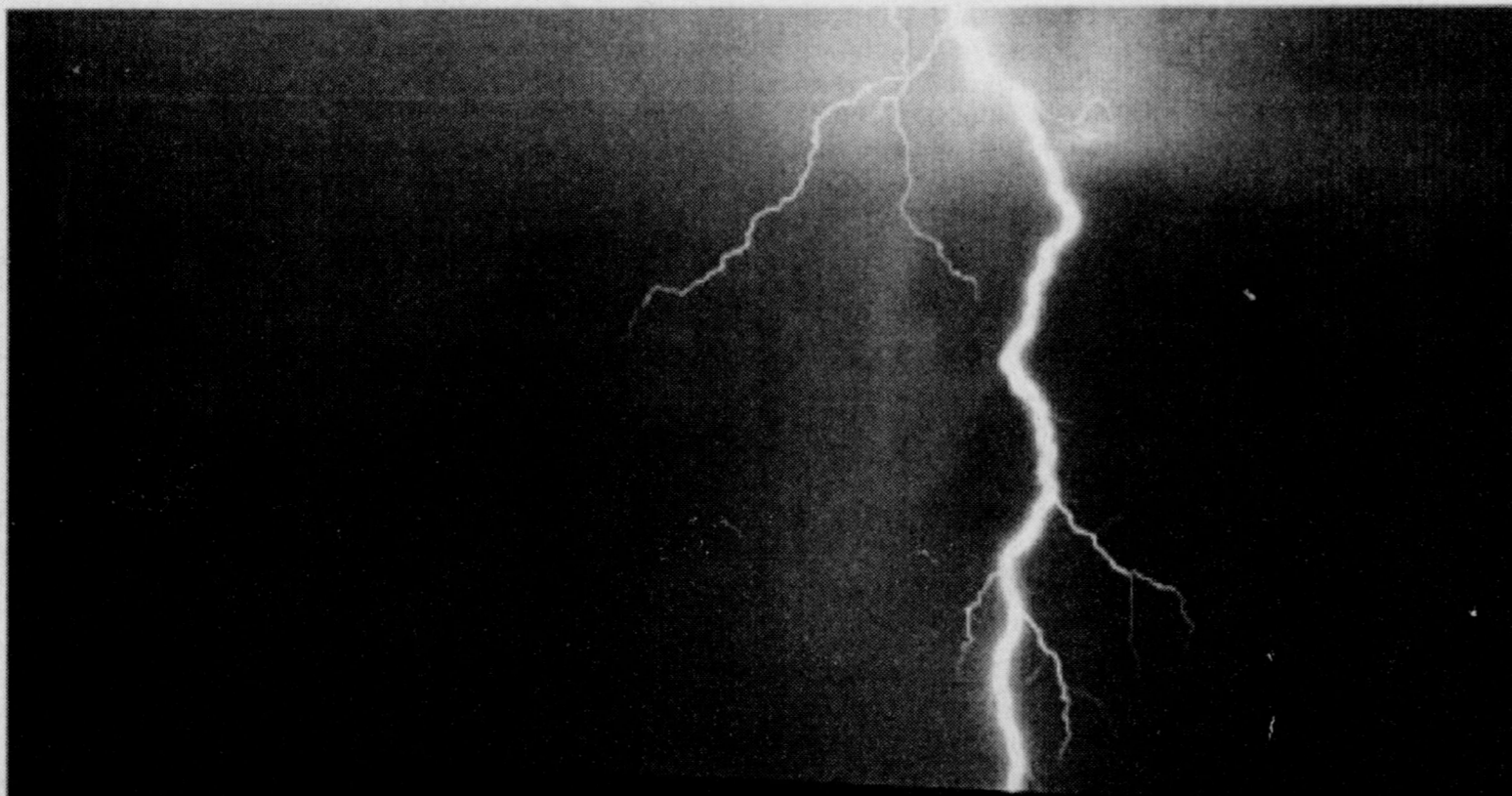
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New area code begins in April — be sure to update your invoices, statements, business cards, and letterhead!

104 N. Main
Winters, Texas

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Fax 754-4628

2:45 a.m. Monday



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Never go near fallen power lines.
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WHAT'S HAPPENING ?

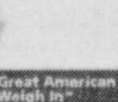
- Mar. 7- TBA, Varsity Blizzard Baseball at Grape Creek
Santa Anna Invitational Tennis Tournament, Santa Anna 11:30 a.m., Senior Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center Noon, World Day of Prayer, Catholic Church 3:30 p.m., Breezes Relays, Winters Track Field 4:30 p.m., Lady Blizzards Softball vs. Lakeview, Winters Field 7:30 p.m., Cowboys for Christ, Drasco
- Mar. 8- TBA, Varsity Blizzards Baseball at Grape Creek
Santa Anna Invitational Tennis Tournament, Santa Anna 9 a.m., Blizzard Relays, Winters Track Field
- Mar. 9- Attend the church of your choice
- Mar. 10- Blizzard Golf at Merkel
11 a.m., J.V. Blizzards Baseball vs. Coleman, Winters Field
11:30 a.m., Senior Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
7 p.m., VFW & Auxiliary, Post Home
7:30 p.m., School Board Meeting
- Mar. 11- 10:00 a.m., Commissioners Court, Courthouse, Ballinger
11 a.m., Varsity Blizzards Baseball vs. Sweetwater, Winters
11:30 a.m., Senior Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
Noon, Lions Club, SCAC
7 p.m., WVFD Business Meeting, Fire Station
7 p.m., AA, FUMC
7 p.m., Literary & Service Club
7 p.m., Woman's Club
7:30 p.m., Elm Creek Water Control District, SCAC
- Mar. 12- 7 a.m., Industrial Board, Windmill Enterprises Office
11:30 a.m., Senior Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- Mar. 13- 11:30 a.m., Senior Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center

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WHEN: Wednesday, March 5th WHERE: The Weight Watchers center near you



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School

Winters Secondary selects 2003-04 cheerleaders

Cheerleader tryouts for the 2003-2004 school year were held Monday afternoon, March 3, 2003. Both a high school and junior high squad were selected.

Those representing WHS will be: seniors Briana Paramore (head), Gessica Bear, Macy Hopson, Kari Walker, and Raquel Rios (mascot); and juniors Rachel Davis, Kat Hatler, Katy Wilkerson, and Ashly Santoya.

Selected to the junior high squad were: seventh graders Jessica Barker, Crystal Perry Juana Harrison, and Heather Pope and eighth graders, Rashaé Martinez, Natalie Rangel, Cassandra Perez, and LeAnn Lopez.

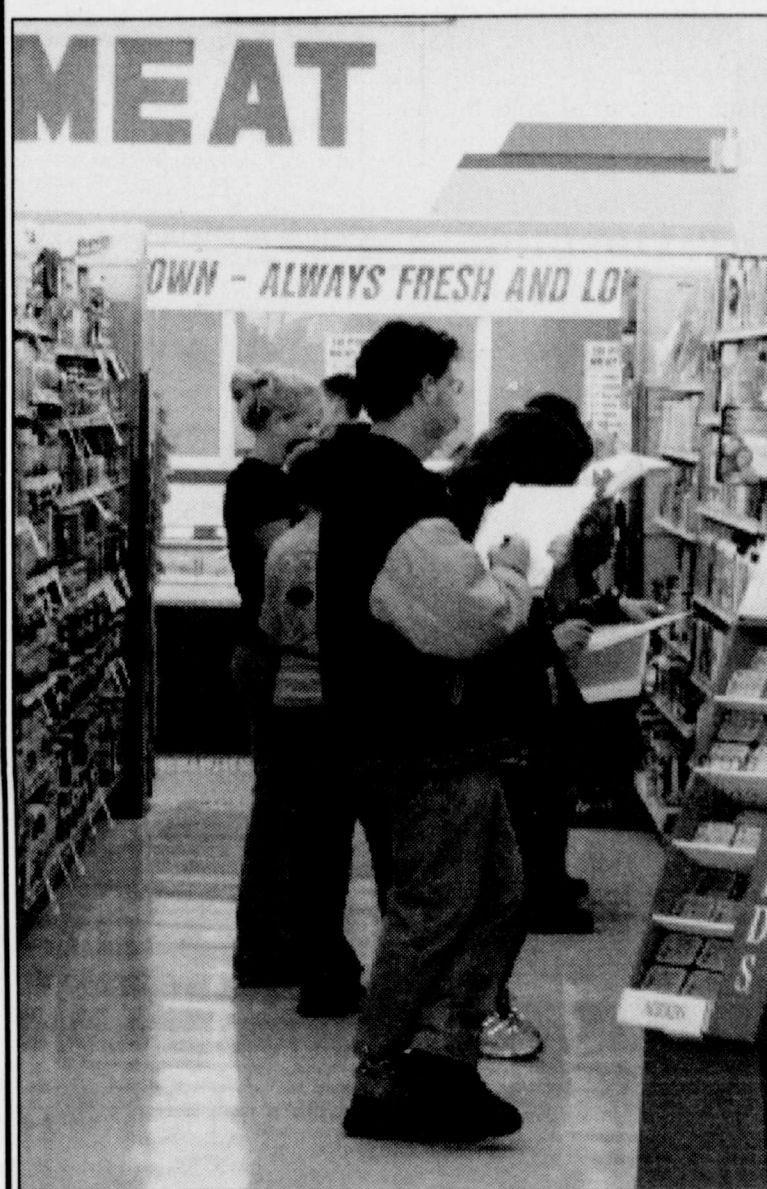
Tootin' their own horns...



(photo by Deb Pritchard)

...ARE THESE ENERGETIC FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS from Winters Elementary. The large group of merry music makers gave the first public performance of their young careers, along with the other WISD bands, in a Spring Concert last Tuesday evening. Practicing an original piece written by Band Director Phil Mooney, the brass section was particularly pleased with their rendition of the "Blizzard Blues." Mooney wrote an upbeat selection for each of the bands for the spring musical.

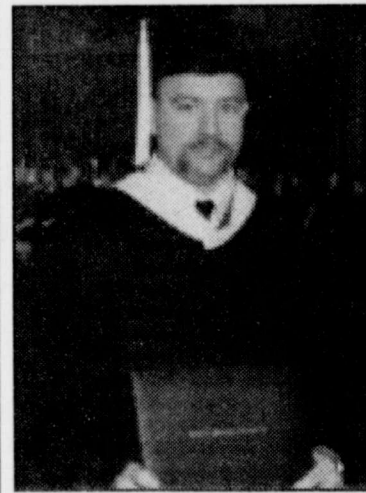
Beyond the books—



(photo by Deb Pritchard)

MATTHEW PRICE AND HIS SENIOR CLASSMATES research the prices of common household items such as toiletries, pain relievers, and cleaning supplies in efforts to learn how to set a personal budget — useful knowledge for the students upon becoming financially independent. The project was a field trip to Lawrence Bros. IGA in conjunction with Mr. Acevedo's economics class.

Archie Ross Austin receives masters of science degree from Central Michigan



Archie Ross Austin recently received a masters of science degree in education administration from Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant. Mr. Austin is a 1986 graduate of Winters High School and a 1991 graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, with a bachelor of science degree in education.

The past 12 years, Archie has taught high school math in

Tennessee, Texas, and Michigan, and is currently teaching at Shepherd High School in Shepherd, Michigan.

Archie resides in Morley, Michigan, with his wife, Crystal, and children, Rayna, Tatiana, and Justin. He is the son of Archie and Betty Sue Austin and Pete and Barbara Gray of Winters and the grandson of the late W.M. and Cora Hord and the late J.R. and Winnie Austin.

Coleman County Electric Co-op sponsoring trip to nation's capital

Entry deadline-March 18; Essay deadline-April 5

How would you like to make new friends with students your age from other parts of our state and other parts of the country? What about seeing the nation's capital, the Smithsonian Institute, historic monuments and documents, Congress in action and some fantastic scenery along the way?

If this sounds exciting to you and you are at least 16 years of age and will be no more than 18 years of age on March 1 and are a full-time student enrolled in a high school within the Coleman County service area, you have the opportunity to win an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 12-24. The high schools in the Coleman County Electric service area include Coleman, Santa Anna, Panther Creek, Novice, Winters, Ballinger and Miles.

To enter the competition, students must type an 800-1000 word essay on the subject, "Why were electric co-ops formed and what did it do for rural America?"

The deadline for submitting entry forms is March 18 and the deadline for submitting essays is April 5. Judging will be on April 9.

If you are interested in entering this year's Youth Tour essay contest, please contact Tony Williams at Coleman County Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 860, 3300 North Highway 84, Coleman, TX 76834, (915) 625-2128 or 1-800-560-2128. You can also e-mail at: tony@colemancountyelectcoop.org.

CAFETERIA MENU

March, 10-14

Subject to change*

Spring Break
No School
Classes Resume on
Monday, March 17

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Have a safe and happy Spring Break!

Softball Scoreboard

Team: Lady Blizzards
Coach: Edward Poehls, Becky Airhart
Date & place of game: Feb. 28, 2003—San Angelo Tourn. #1
Opponent: Wall
Winning pitcher: Jackie Ledbetter
Losing pitcher:
Winning catcher: Rachel Davis
Losing catcher:

	Runs	Hits	Errors
WINTERS	6	4	2
OPPONENT	5	4	1

Team: Lady Blizzards
Coach: Edward Poehls, Becky Airhart
Date & place of game: Feb. 28, 2003—San Angelo Tourn.#4
Opponent: Sonora
Winning pitcher: Amber Green
Losing pitcher:
Winning catcher: Rachel Davis
Losing catcher:

	Runs	Hits	Errors
WINTERS	11	9	3
OPPONENT	6	7	3

Team: Lady Blizzards
Coach: Edward Poehls, Becky Airhart
Date & place of game: Feb. 28, 2003—San Angelo Tourn.#2
Opponent: Abilene High J.V.
Winning pitcher:
Losing pitcher: Jackie Ledbetter
Winning catcher:
Losing catcher: Rachel Davis

	Runs	Hits	Errors
WINTERS	3	5	3
OPPONENT	6	6	0

Team: Lady Blizzards
Coach: Edward Poehls, Becky Airhart
Date & place of game: Feb. 28, 2003—San Angelo Tourn.#5
Opponent: Brownwood
Winning pitcher: Amber Green
Losing pitcher:
Winning catcher: Rachel Davis
Losing catcher:

	Runs	Hits	Errors
WINTERS	8	11	3
OPPONENT	1	5	2

Team: Lady Blizzards
Coach: Edward Poehls, Becky Airhart
Date & place of game: Feb. 28, 2003—San Angelo Tourn.#3
Opponent: Miles
Winning pitcher: Jackie Ledbetter
Losing pitcher:
Winning catcher: Rachel Davis
Losing catcher:

	Runs	Hits	Errors
WINTERS	5	6	4
OPPONENT	2	1	1

Team: Lady Blizzards
Coach: Edward Poehls, Becky Airhart
Date & place of game: March 1, 2003—San Angelo Tourn.#6
Opponent: San Angelo Central JV
Winning pitcher:
Losing pitcher: Jackie Ledbetter
Winning catcher:
Losing catcher: Amber Green

	Runs	Hits	Errors
WINTERS	0	1	6
OPPONENT	7	7	0

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Kenneth H. Slimp
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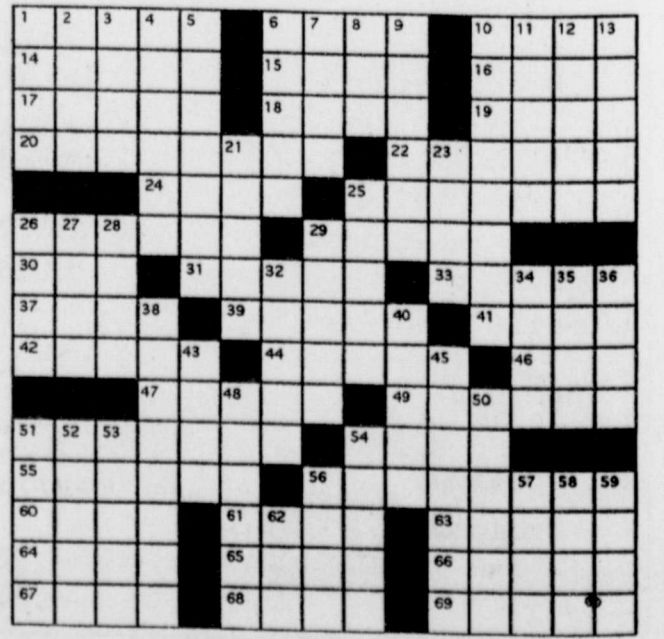
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- ACROSS
- One of twelve signs
 - Señora's abode
 - school
 - To the point. Lat.
 - Seafaring villain
 - Ted's mom
 - Make ___; end hostilities
 - Capital city, to a native
 - Hardie
 - Easter's forerunner
 - Like a good steak
 - Major disturbance
 - Guiding lights
 - Complete failure
 - No longer in vogue
 - MacGraw or Baba
 - Ram
 - Burn
 - Church season
 - Blot
 - Murder
 - Approach midnight
 - Lab burners
 - Under the weather
 - House divisions
 - Change
 - Fears
 - Gambler's spot
 - Let go of
 - Minuteman II and Trident I
 - ___-a-brac
 - Send out
 - Upper crust
 - High rating
 - Leave the ground
 - Seed covering
 - Toboggan
 - Retort rudely
 - Titles for many Miss Universe contestants: abbr.
- DOWN
- Drinks like Fido
 - Concept
 - Unpleasant child
 - Takes place again
 - Christopher's discovery
 - 200 milligrams
 - Word for Popeye
 - Houston
 - Ebbs
 - Lively horses
 - Musical composition
 - City in Germany
 - Tom, Dick and Harry
 - Busy time at a cafe
 - Places for peepholes
 - From Indiana to Ohio
 - Sink
 - Collapse
 - Parts of intestines
 - Misbehavin'
 - New sod coverings
 - Knickknacks
 - Inter ___; among other things
 - Sweet treat
 - Jim Nabors' role
 - Tired
 - Comical Kett
 - Black and Yellow
 - One of Sinatra's exes
 - Daily occurrences
 - Mandates
 - Laborer
 - Brass instruments
 - Join
 - River in Western Europe
 - Ceremonies
 - Feel the loss of
 - Tilt to one side
 59. Comical Kett
 58. Black and Yellow
 62. One of Sinatra's exes



School

Lady Blizzards capture team championship, Junior Varsity Blizzards second at Blackland Divide Relays to open season

The Lady Blizzards took first in the Blackland Divide Relays at Roscoe last Saturday, while the JV Blizzards finished second. Winters Junior High competed in the relays last Thursday evening.

Yul Gibbs, Laci Walker, David Scates, and Jacob Bridgeman earned gold medals in the high school division.

All WJHS squads will compete in the Breezes Relays on Friday with field events scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m.

Winters will host the Blizzards Relays on Saturday. Field events will begin at 9 a.m.

Last week's results are as follows:

- LADY BLIZZARDS**
3200 M Run
 5th, Kari Walker, 14:53
100 M Hurdles
 1st, Laci Walker, 15.35
 7th, Erica Buckelew, 18.88
100 M Dash
 4th, Ashly Santoya, 13.75
800 M Relay
 2nd, Winters, (Ashly Santoya, Jena Bahlman, Stacey Sneed, Laci Walker)
400 M Dash
 6th, Stacey Sneed, 69.08
300 M Hurdles
 1st, Laci Walker, 50.87
1600 M Run
 2nd, Briana Parramore, 6:23
Long Jump
 5th, Ashly Santoya, 14'4"
 6th, Stacey Sneed, 14' 2.5"
High Jump
 1st, Laci Walker, 5'
High Jump
 5th, Jessica Bear, 88" 5"

- BLIZZARDS**
Shot Put
 2nd, Rusty Jackson
 4th, Jerry Hord
Discus
 3rd, Rusty Jackson
Triple Jump
 1st, Yul Gibbs
 4th, Benji Valles

- Long Jump**
 2nd, Yul Gibbs
 5th, Benji Valles

- JV BLIZZARDS**
400 M Relay
 3rd, (Francisco Perez, Randy Jackson, Michael Liggins, David Scates)
800 M Relay
 4th, (Jacob Young, Cody Pritchard, Randy Jackson, Francisco Perez)

- 1600 M Relay**
 3rd, (Jose Cruz, Michael Liggins, James Vasquez, David Scates)

- 100 M Dash**
 4th, Randy Jackson
 5th, Michael Liggins
 6th, Francisco Perez

- 200 M Dash**
 1st, David Scates

- 800 M Dash**
 5th, Jose Cruz

- 1600 M Run**
 5th, Jonathan Meyer

- 300 M Hurdles**
 6th, Marcus Tubbs

- Long Jump**
 3rd, David Scates

- Triple Jump**
 3rd, Michael Liggins

- Shot Put**
 1st, Jacob Bridgeman

- LADY BREEZES**

- 2400 M Run**
 6th, Cassandra Perez, 10:56

- 800 M Run**
 Susan Sneed, 3:29

- 100 M Hurdles**
 Addison Bergman, 3:30

- Shelby Walker, 21.06**
 Cassie Mendoza, 21.22

- 100 M Dash**
 Natalie Rangel, 15.91

- 150 M Dash**
 Laura Armendariz, 15.51

- 150 M Dash**
 Nissa Ontiveros, 18.16

- 800 M Relay**
 6th, (Laura Armendariz, Lillian Garcia, Araceli Flores, Kyli Knight), 2:09.10

- 400 M Dash**
 Susan Sneed, 86.1

- 300 M Hurdles**
 RaShae Martinez, 89.44

- 300 M Hurdles**
 Cassie Mendoza, 63.28

- Shelby Walker, 65.10**

- 200 M Dash**
 Natalie Rangel, 33.68



(photo by Deb Pritchard)

READY TO COMPETE in the 800M run are JV Blizzards (from far left) Luke Hale, Jose Cruz, and Jonathan Meyer at the Blackland Divide Relays in Roscoe on Saturday, March 1. Jose took 5th place. The Winters Blizzards JV team won second place in the meet.

- 1600 M Run**
 6th, Cassandra Perez 7:43
 Asenette Vasquez, 7:59
1600 M Relay
 6th, (Laura Armendariz, Lillian Garcia, Araceli Flores, Kyli Knight)
Discus
 6th, Addison Bergman 62' .5"
 Erica Roman
 Katy Kitchen
Shot Put
 LeAnn Lopez
 Juanita Simpson

- High Jump**
 Tie 3rd, Shelby Walker 4'4"
 Araceli Flores
Triple Jump
 Shelby Walker, 25' 4"
 Susan Sneed, 24' 11"
 Cassie Mendoza, 21' 4"
Long Jump
 Yesenia Flores
 Shelby Walker
 Laura Armendariz

- BREEZES**
110 Hurdles
 4th, Luke England
1600 M Run
 4th, Javier Rodriguez
2400 M Run
 4th, Javier Rodriguez
Triple Jump
 4th, Mark Scates
Shot Put
 4th, Ty Cason

Secondary G/T nominations due March 28

by Charles Murphy, Secondary School Counselor

The Texas State plan for the education of Gifted/Talented students requires that school districts provide services to students identified in one or more of the following academic areas: Math, Science, Social Studies, and Language Arts.

Due to this State requirement, Winters Junior High and High School will assess all nominated 7th through 11th grade students in the spring of the school year.

If you believe your child might benefit from a Gifted/Talented program in one or more of these academic areas, we welcome your nomination.

The identification process includes a parent nomination, a teacher nomination, a general intellectual abilities test, and an achievement test. Nomination does not necessarily mean acceptance into the program; however, it will initiate the identification process.

Nomination forms must be completed and returned to the counseling office by Friday, March 28.

Congressman Charles Stenholm announces plans for 22nd Annual Congressional Art Competition for local high schools

Congressman Charles Stenholm has announced plans for the 22nd Annual Congressional Art Competition for high school students in the 17th Congressional District of Texas. Last year's winning entries, from across the nation, currently hang in the Cannon tunnel in our nation's capitol. This impressive exhibit represents the combined effort of the members who conducted their local contests and the students who participated. The Artistic Discovery program provides members the opportunity to showcase the talent of their creative high school constituents.

Students in grades 9 through 12, from Callahan, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Runnels, Shackelford, Stonewall, and Taylor Counties may enter the preliminary contest to be held in Abilene on April 12, 2003. Students may obtain release forms and further information at their local high school. Entries should be brought to the Hardin-Simmons University Art Department, Frost Center., by April 11, 2003 for the regional judging.

Other regional shows will be held in Brownwood, Graham, Mineral Wells, Post, San Angelo, Stephenville, and Sweetwater. Winners from the entire 32 counties of the 17th District will be announced at an awards brunch in Abilene on April 26, 2003. Charlie & Cindy Stenholm will host this honor's brunch.

Artwork must be no larger than 32" by 32" framed (framing not required) and two dimensional. Eligible categories are paintings, prints, drawings, collages, computer art, or photography. Artwork must capture the flavor or depict the heritage of the West Texas area and 17th District in any category, which may include, but is not limited to landscapes.

For more information call Stenholm's Stamford office at (915) 773-3623 or Martha Kiel at (915) 670-1246.

Five local students inducted into the National Honor Roll

This year five students from the Winters region qualified for induction into the 2002-2003 National Honor Roll. Receiving the honor were Amy Esquivel, Tayna Price, and 2002 graduates, Travis Grohman, Tassi Hopson, and Samantha Montgomery.

The National Honor Roll recognizes high school students who have achieved exceptional academic success. The 2002-2003 Commemorative Edition, which was released in December, honors students who excelled during the 2001-2002 school year.

"The future is in the hands of our children," says Lynn Romeo, Publisher of the National Honor Roll. "These young people have worked

hard to attain academic success. Honoring their achievement provides motivation and encourages them to continue striving. We're proud to include them in the National Honor Roll."

The National Honor Roll contacts potentially qualifying students after reviewing information on their academic performance. Students are asked to submit information about their GPAs, their interests, activities, and future goals for further consideration. Only students with a B or better average are eligible. This year, 68% of the inductees averaged an A- or better and 32% averaged B through B+.

For more information, visit <www.nationalhonorroll.org>.

Administration office to be closed

The WISD Tax & Administration office will be closed March 10, 2003 through March 14, 2003 for Spring Break. An after-hours drop box will be available for payments.

BLIZZARD ACTIVITIES
 March 6-13, 2003

Thursday, March 6
 Secondary 9 Weeks Testing for 2,4,6,8 periods

Friday, March 7
 4:30PM, Lady Blizzards vs. Lakeview, Here
 3:30PM, Breezes Relay

Saturday, March 8
 9AM, Blizzard Relays

Friday & Saturday, March 7 & 8
 Tennis @ Santa Anna

Thurs.-Sat., March 6-8
 Varsity @ Rockfield Tourney, Hamlin

Monday, March 10
 11:00AM, JV vs. Coleman, DH, Here
 Boys Golf @ Merkel

Help is just a **TOUCH AWAY**

Our Emergency Response Services program allows you to live independently at home, knowing that help is always there when you need it. At the touch of a button, you receive immediate assistance - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This service is available FREE to those who qualify through TDHS* or on a private pay basis. Call 1-800-347-7590 for more information.

OUTREACH HEALTH SERVICES

* Contact your local Texas Department of Human Services office for eligibility requirements.

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 To See The **WHITE TIGERS**
 Now Through March 16

Runnels County Residents Receive Half Price Admission
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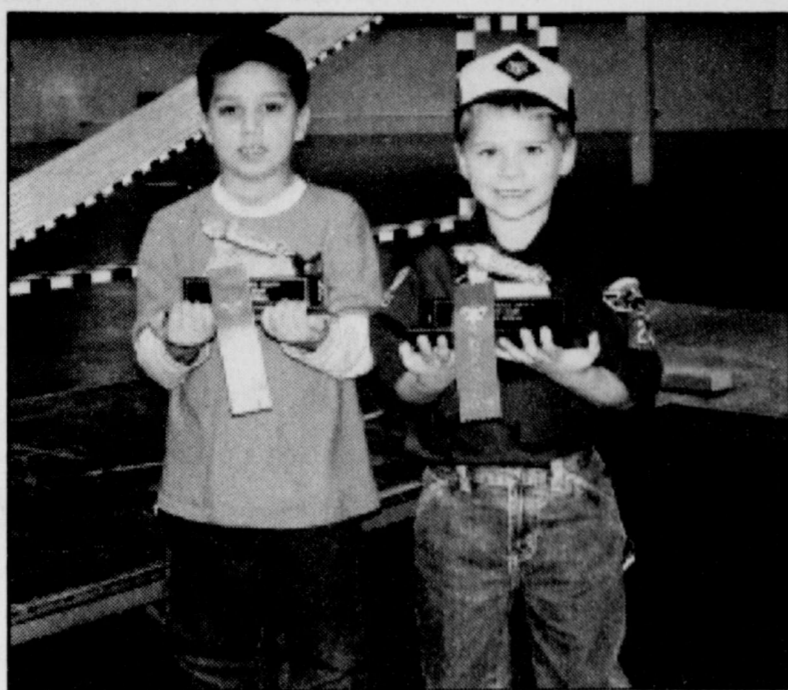
Life

Reader comments on grants and abortion issues

Dear Editor:
I am looking at an article in your paper (2/27/03). Mr. Butler is praising grants as though they appear out of thin air and don't include a lot of sweat on the part of the taxpayer. Somebody had to produce that money because the government has nothing that is not taken away from a producer.

Mr. Huddleston (Letter to Editor 2/27/03) should go to a school house and watch little kids in first grade and think of how many like them and like us are in the landfill. Then get on his high horse and try to make his point.

Coy McNeill
Winters, Texas



CHRISTOPHER GERHART (left) and LANE GIBBS won overall first and second places, respectively, among 200 racers in the Abilene Pinewood Derby held Saturday, February 8, 2003, at the Taylor County Expo Center. In the Tigers division, Christopher received first place, and Ty Black, second. In the Bears division, Lane won first place while Marcus Torres captured second place.

Letter to the Editor

Thanks to Winters Enterprise and tennis association

Dear Editor:
Thank you so much for taking and printing our newly improved tennis court pictures on the front page of *The Winters Enterprise*, Volume 14, Issue 7; Thursday, February 13, 2003.

Your column about this improvement and fine words used about the Strake Foundation who funded the purchase of the 1500-watt metal halide lights for the City tennis courts is greatly appreciated. It sure was well written; short, sweet, precise, and to the point.

I mailed a copy of the newspaper along with a cover letter to Mr. George Strake, President of Strake Foundation. I asked him to practice his dedication speech and his tennis game. We might surprise him one of these days, and call him to come to Winters for a formal ceremony.

On behalf of the Mayor, Council members, City staff,

and the community at large, I extend my appreciation to members of the tennis association, Jim Lincycomb, Mike White, Doug Wheat, Lewis Bergman, Barry Jackson, Randall Boles, Jerry Sims, Larry Walker, and yourself that matched Strake Foundation's grant with labor, talent, and expertise. It was very kind of Mr. Joe Gerhart to donate the Joe's Rent-All Nifty Lift to install the 1500-watt metal halide lights atop the 25-ft high poles.

Paris was not built in one day, neither will be Winters. However, every break, step, and blister counts. Things are getting better in our town every day. Thanks to the unity and closeness of our small community.

Let us keep improving, and pick up our steps in the right direction. We will not allow the busters on our hands to slow

us down. With patience, positive moves, and perseverance, we can do more.

Our next big and exciting project is the JOE KOZELSKY SPORTS COMPLEX. If we needed more tennis court, we may include it in the new project.

So far it looks like our grant will be approved, and we will be funded by the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife. In case we do not get enough funds, we will contact Winters' best friend, the Strake Foundation. I am confident Mr. George Strake will help us, as much as he can. He has the love of our city and its people in his heart.

Aref Hassan,
Ph. D., TRMC, TLPI
City Manager/Secretary/
Fire Marshal

Financial Focus

War and investing

by Alan F. Skrainka, CFA, Chief Market Strategist
as submitted by Jim Woodruff, Edward Jones, Ballinger, TX

Looking back

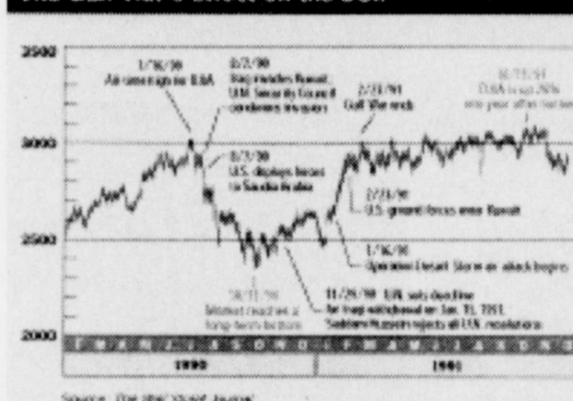
A look back at the Gulf War offers important lessons for investors. The events leading up to war almost always create uncertainties and fears that push stock prices down. The Gulf War helps illustrate this. After Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait in August 1990, the stock market lost 15% over the next three months.*

The mood of the country was anxious. Oil prices were rising, the economy had entered recession, and predictions of a bloody war with large casualties on both sides created tension and concern. The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) reached a new low of 2365 on Oct. 1, 1990.* The following month, the U.N. set a deadline of Jan. 15, 1991, for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait. The following day, after Saddam rejected all U.N. resolutions, Operation Desert Storm air attacks began.

The stock market responded by exploding to the upside. Buoyed by the euphoria of certain victory and the prospect of oil prices returning to pre-war levels, the Dow rocketed 17% over the course of the next 30 days.* The effects of the Gulf War on the market can be seen in the following chart.

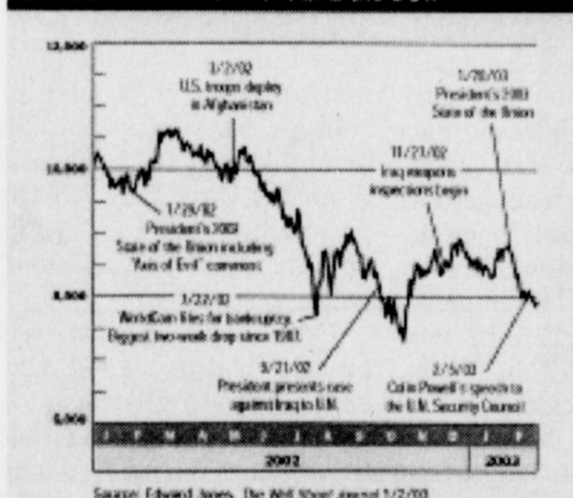
The here and now

The Gulf War's effect on the Dow



The mood of the country is somewhat similar today. While we don't know how this situation will ultimately turn out, we do see some parallels in how the market has behaved so far.

The current environment and the Dow



We do not believe any military action ever follows a pre-dictable script. History does not always repeat itself. But a close examination of historical events can offer important lessons to investors faced with difficult financial decisions.

First, recognize that military events are unpredictable and should not be the basis for investment decisions. In addition to the out-

come of any military action, other factors—including economic growth, the growth rate of corporate profits, the level and direction of interest rates and investor psychology—will likely determine the course of stock prices in the years ahead.

Second, don't assume that everything will go smoothly but don't assume the worst-case scenario will unfold either. Investing is about developing a plan and sticking to it. Investors who make long-term investment decisions based on guesswork or short-term fears often fall short of their financial goals.

Third, realize that while you are reading about the prospects for war and its consequences, so is everyone else. So, to some extent, the risk of war is already reflected in current stock prices. Once the risk of war is removed, we believe stock prices might move significantly higher in a very short period of time (absent any other bad news, of course). This presents the risk of being left out of the next major market rally, which might catch investors by surprise.

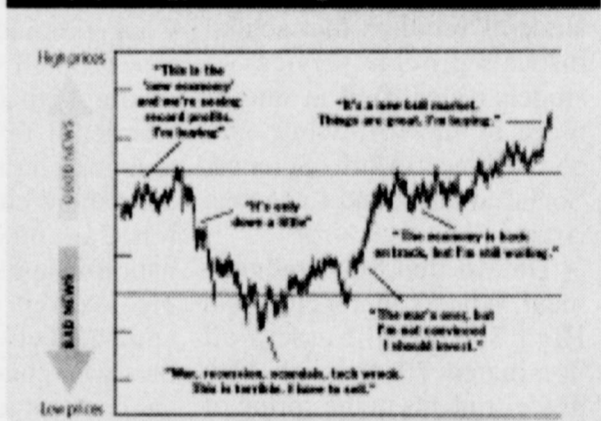
And, finally, realize uncertainty can present opportunities. More than a decade ago, many investors lamented having missed the great bull market of the 1980s. Many of those same investors remained on the sidelines when stock prices were depressed in 1990-91 because of the uncertainties created by the Gulf War. Little did they know one of the greatest bull markets of all time lay just around the corner. This bull market helped quadruple the DJIA over the next 10 years.

Buying Low in today's market

Investing is not as simple as buying when you feel good and selling when you feel bad. Let's face it: Buying low is hard. It doesn't always "feel right." It's easy to look back and say you wish you would have invested in the early 1970s. Investing then probably felt much like investing now. Good news is often reflected in higher stock prices, which can produce lower future returns. Bad news is often reflected in lower stock prices, which offer the potential for higher future returns. The following is a hypothetical price chart that helps illustrate these principles.

Investors who stick to their long-term plan,

The psychology of investing



take advantage of short-term setbacks by adding to their portfolios, or simply ignore the pendulum of investor psychology—which swings from irrational exuberance to irrational fear—should successfully reach their long-term goals.

Talk to your investment representative about a free portfolio review, which can help identify opportunities for investing in this market.

*Bloomberg

Evangelism rally March 26

Runnels Baptist Association will meet for an evangelism rally on Wednesday, March 26, at First Baptist Church in Ballinger.

The rally will begin at 7:00 p.m. Morris Johnson, mission/evangelism director, is in charge of the program. The public is invited.

Marine Corps Staff Sergeant reports for duty in Japan

Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Vernon K. Watkins, son of Clovia Drummond of Winters, Texas, and Jay L. Watkins of Ringwood, Oklahoma, recently reported for duty with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, Japan.

Watkins is a 1991 graduate of Ringwood High School of Ringwood, Oklahoma, and joined the Marine Corps in November 1991.

War, Terrorism and Your Investments

Edward Jones is pleased to welcome highly decorated, four-star Army General **Barry McCaffrey** (retired) for an in-depth conversation on war and terrorism.

Please join us as General McCaffrey and our panel of financial experts explore:

- What's next for America's military forces?
- Our nation's progress toward homeland security
- Should war impact your investment decisions?

This free one-hour program is part of the Edward Jones "Face to Face" investor-education series. To reserve your seat or for more information, please call or stop by today.

Tuesday, March 11, 2003
5:30 p.m.
719 Strong Ave.
Ballinger, TX 76821

Jim Woodruff
719 Strong Ave.
Ballinger, TX 76821
(915)365-2505

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MSRP \$31,900
DEALER DISC. \$3,000
REBATE \$3,000

\$25,920 +TTL

2003 CAVALIER 2-DOOR

\$229 MONTH

Six #219

AC, CRUISE, TILT, AUTO, CD, REAR SPOILER

AMT FINANCED 72 MOS @ 1.9% +TTL, W.A.C.

\$15,571.27

2003 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN

2.9% FOR 60 MO.

Six #460

MSRP \$37,470
DEALER DISC. \$3,750
REBATE \$2,000

\$31,720 +TTL

2003 S-10 REG. CAB

\$219 MONTH

Six #526

AC, AM/FM, 5-SPEED, 4-CYLINDER

AMT FINANCED 72 MOS @ 1.9% +TTL, W.A.C.

\$14,891.30

2003 1/2 TON EXT. CAB L/S

SAVE \$5,200

Six #813

V-8, AUTO, ALUM. WHEELS, WOL. TIRES, PW, PL, KEYLESS REMOTE, AM/FM, CD & CASS.

MSRP \$27,627
DEALER DISC. \$2,700
REBATE \$2,500

\$22,427 +TTL

2003 CHEVY IMPALA

\$19,647

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REBATE \$2,000

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01 CHEVY MALIBU, 22k miles	\$10,500	00 CHEVY Z71 EXT. CAB, 47k miles	\$19,950
01 CHEVY LUMINA (2)	\$9,550	99 CHEVY LUMINA, local trade	\$8,500
01 OLDS ALERO, 30k miles	\$10,500	99 TOYOTA COROLLA	\$8,995
01 CHEVY CAVALIER	\$8,995	98 HONDA ACCORD, loaded, 43k miles	\$13,995
00 OLDS BRAVADO, leather, 55k miles	\$15,900	97 FORD MUSTANG, extra clean, 57k miles	\$7,995
		96 CHEVY S-10 EXT. CAB V-6, auto, loaded, 62k	\$7,995

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Former resident continues quest to discover most sought after wild peanut species despite retirement

Dr. Charles Simpson, a long time peanut breeder with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at Stephenville and considered a leading international peanut expert and researcher, is continuing his support and quest in discovering one of the most-sought after wild peanut species despite his recent retirement.

Simpson was born and raised in Winters and is the son of Mrs. R.C. Simpson of Wilmeth. He was a member of the Winters High School Class of 1958 before graduating from Norton Rural High School.

Simpson, who received Professor Emeritus status by the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents late last year, officially retired January 31. He was honored at a retirement reception held February 21 by friends, family, colleagues and staff members at the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Stephenville.

Simpson earned a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education from Texas A&M University in

1963 followed by a master's degree in 1966 and doctorate in 1967 in Plant Breeding and Cytogenetics.

He began his research career as an assistant professor in 1967, then associate professor in 1975 and professor in 1984 with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at Stephenville. He has been on the Texas A&M University graduate faculty since 1979.

A new natural gas pipeline running through Bolivia to southeast Brazil has prevented scientists from having the opportunity to discover one of the most sought-after wild peanut species-one that could contain the genes to develop a peanut that is high-yielding, has early maturity, and/or boasts superior taste.

The pipeline extends through a remote area in the Gran Chaco region of southeastern Bolivia where research has shown many wild peanut species live. Scientists' collection efforts have been delayed because of opposition by indigenous groups living in and near the region.

Simpson, who has been on 22 collecting expeditions in South America during his career, and other fellow scientists made a trip to part of the Gran Chaco region in 1994. He said it's important the region is re-visited "because we want to preserve something that may be lost forever."

The Gran Chaco region is extremely inhospitable, Simpson said, which presented problems during their three-week expedition.

"It was a tough trip," he said. "We had to fend off Africanized bees, and we had to cut, hack and dig our way through the whole trip."

Despite the difficulties, the group came away collecting three new peanut species, "but we still didn't find that one major species we were looking for," Simpson said.

What they are hoping to find is the wild peanut known as the B-genome donor to the cultivated peanut, believed to be one of the original parents of today's domesticated peanut. If the do-



DR. CHARLES SIMPSON, (center) professor of soil & crop sciences at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, is honored upon his retirement by Dr. Mark Hussey (left) and Dr. Don Cawthon.

nor can be found, scientists could reconstruct the types of peanuts that humans ate more than 5,000 years ago.

Research from the 1994 expedition indicates the B-genome peanut is most likely to be found in a small, unexplored area in southeastern Bolivia or north/northwest Paraguay.

"If we could find that original B-donor, we very likely could find traits such as drought tolerance, early maturity, high-yield and all kinds of potential in edible quality-all of which would benefit the consumer," Simpson said.

The peanut most consumers eat today was formed when two wild species were crossed by bees. Researchers say over the centuries farmers and breeders turned off or eliminated many useful genes that were present in the first crosses between wild species.

Another factor contributing to the preservation effort is Bolivia doesn't have a reliable gene bank system. "If we can preserve the material in the U.S., we can provide it to them when needed," Simpson said.

Duplicate samples would be provided to Bolivian research organizations, to the U.S. De-

partment of Agriculture, and to the world peanut collection at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics based in Hyderabad, India. It houses nearly 15,000 different types of cultivated and wild groundnuts.

In his Emeritus status, Simpson will assume responsibility of maintaining his collection of germplasm, which is one of the largest in the world.

Simpson's "Tamrun 96" is a runner-type peanut variety that is most adapted to production in Texas. Merits of the variety include partial resistance to both tomato spotted wilt virus and southern blight, high yield, and good runner seed size. Tamrun 96 was derived from a cross of Langley and a Texas breeding line parented by Florunner and a germplasm line introduced from Brazil.

Simpson was recognized as the 49th recipient of the Frank N. Meyer medal in 1993 for his contribution to germplasm resources, specifically peanut germplasm by the Crop Science Society of America. Frank N. Meyer was the first Plant Explorer for the USDA.

To honor him, the Meyer medal was first awarded in 1920,

and has been dedicated to recognizing persons around the world for outstanding accomplishments in the area of germplasm, whether it is for collection, preservation, utilization, or administration of programs.

Simpson has also been honored by the American Peanut Research & Education Society with the Bailey Award in 1998 and 2000.

In his 40 year career Simpson has raised \$6.7 million in research funds to subsidize his research and development programs.

"He has dedicated his professional career and much of his personal life to the development of improved peanut varieties and production practices," said Don Cawthon, resident director of TAMU Agriculture Research and Extension Center and dean of College of Agriculture and Human Sciences, Tarleton State University. "He is largely responsible for the Stephenville center being a key research facility in agriculture, a friend, a colleague, a mentor to many, including myself."

Simpson, along with wife Lynann (the former Lynann Kruse of Winters), will continue to reside in Stephenville.

Residents benefit from Emergency Response Services program

Many homebound elderly and disabled could qualify for free service

Elderly, disabled or chronically ill Texans may be eligible for a free monitoring system that gives them an instant connection to the outside world from their homes. Outreach Health Services (OHS), a statewide leader in home health care, announced that it is launching an awareness campaign to inform residents of Abilene and surrounding communities they may qualify to receive the program, called Emergency Response Services (ERS), for free through the Texas Department of Human Services (TDHS).

The ERS program is available free of charge to individuals who meet certain income and Medicaid eligibility requirements. Offered by Outreach Health Services, the ERS program is a 24-hour monitoring and communication system that allows chronically ill, disabled or elderly persons to feel more secure in their homes.

ERS clients wear a lightweight help button at all times. The help button works in conjunction with an ERS console, which is placed at a central location in the client's home and is

connected to a phone line. When clients find themselves in an emergency situation, they press the help button, and the ERS console sends a signal to the Outreach Health Services Emergency Monitoring Center.

Trained professionals, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, then notify the individuals who the client has pre-selected to respond to his or her specific situation. Responders may be family members, neighbors, friends or emergency personnel. Responders must live close enough to the client to be able to reach the client's home quickly.

The State of Texas allocates funds for ERS. When funds are not available, the names of interested persons are put on a waiting list, from which individuals are selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Some individuals choose to personally pay for ERS until they can receive the service at no cost to them. The cost of service on a private-pay basis ranges from \$30 to \$40 per month, depending on the features selected.

The Outreach Health Services ERS program is designed to help individuals live independently in their own homes and provide an instant connection to family, friends, neighbors and emergency personnel when help is needed.

An innovator in Emergency Response Services, OHS was one of the first providers of this service in Texas, piloting the program for TDHS in the San Antonio and Dallas/Fort Worth regions more than 20 years ago.

"OHS recently became a licensed ERS provider in other regions of the state and we feel an obligation to let the public know this service may be available at no charge to those who need it," says Brian Partin, Director of Community Care Services for Outreach Health Services. "It's a great comfort to be able to live independently and know you are safe and secure in your own home. If you or someone you care about needs help, anytime day or night, our ERS system is there with a simple press of a button."

Those interested in this program for themselves or a family member should contact Outreach Health Services at 1-800-347-7590 or their local Texas Department of Human Services office.

NOTICE OF GAS RATE INCREASE REQUEST

TXU Gas Distribution (the "Company"), in accordance with the Gas Utility Regulatory Act, hereby gives notice of its intent to implement a new schedule of rates for natural gas service to be charged to all residential, commercial and industrial customers in the unincorporated areas in the vicinity of the West Region Distribution System ("Enviroms Customers"). The West Region Distribution System includes the following cities: Abilene, Albany, Alvarado, Anson, Avoca, Baird, Ballinger, Bangs, Benjamin, Blackwell, Blanket, Blum, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Carbon, Carlsbad, Cisco, Cleburne, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Covington, DeLeon, Desdemona, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Glen Rose, Godley, Gordon, Goree, Gorman, Granbury, Hamlin, Haskell, Hawley, Hermleigh, Hillsboro, Impact, Itasca, Joshua, Keene, Knox City, Lawn, Lipan, Loraine, Lueders, May, McCaulley, Meridian, Merkel, Miles, Moran, Morgan, Munday, Novice, O'Brien, Olden, Osceola, Ovalo, Putnam, Ranger, Red Springs, Rhineland, Rio Vista, Robert Lee, Roby, Rochester, Roscoe, Rotan, Rowena, Rule, San Angelo, Santa Anna, Santo, Seymour, Snyder, Stamford, Stephenville, Strawn, Sweetwater, Sylvester, Talpa, Throckmorton, Trent, Truscott, Tuscola, Tye, Valera, Vera, Weinert, Whitney, Wingate, and Winters.

The proposed revisions to the respective rate schedules will impact Residential Service, Commercial Service, Industrial Sales, Industrial Transportation, Rate Adjustment Provisions (Gas Cost Adjustment, Tax Adjustment, and Surcharges), and Miscellaneous Service Charges (Connection Charge, Read for Change Charge, Returned Check Charges, Delinquent Notification Charge, Main Line Extension Rate, Excess Flow Valve Charge, and Certain Stand-by Gas Generators). The proposed new schedule of rates will also eliminate the Rate Schedule for Public Schools-N and Commercial Contract Public Schools Rate.

The proposed rates are expected to produce a \$357,845 or a 10.27 percent increase in the Company's annual revenues from residential, commercial and industrial enviroms customers in the West Region Distribution System. The proposed change will affect 3,494 residential, 475 commercial customers and 18 industrial customers. The proposed change may constitute a "major" change as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code. The proposed changes will have differing impacts on individual residential and commercial customers, depending on consumption and current applicable rate schedules. A residential customer receiving a bill for 6 Mcf will see a bill of approximately \$50.93, which would constitute a change ranging from a decrease of \$6.93 to an increase of approximately \$7.60 per month. A commercial customer receiving a bill for 30 Mcf will see a change ranging from a 14.71% decrease to a 15.39% increase. Information on the change in any specific area can be obtained from TXU Gas Distribution.

A complete copy of the Statement of Intent, filed with the Railroad Commission of Texas on January 31, 2003 is available for inspection in the Company business office located at 1601 Bryan St., Dallas, Texas 75201. Persons with questions or who want information about this filing, or a copy, may contact TXU Gas Distribution at 1-800-460-3030. Any affected persons may file written comments or protest concerning the proposed change in enviroms rates by March 21, 2003, with Docket Services Section of the Legal Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967.

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We didn't feel we needed to write anything else down here, but a lot of people like to look at the really fine print. So, we thought this would be a good place to remind you that the 4.00% interest rate is not just the introductory rate for one year, but that 4.00% is guaranteed to be the minimum possible interest credited to your account as your interest income for the rest of your life. Also don't forget that your money is insured, and your money is guaranteed by Western United Life Assurance Company.

Law & Order

Official Records

County Court Dispositions

Alfredo Castaneda, theft of merchandise by check, case dismissed, defendant convicted in another case

James Harmon Lester, Jr., driving while license invalid, pleaded nolo contendere, fined \$500, plus \$211 court costs

Benito R. Garcia, failure to identify, pleaded nolo contendere, fined \$500, plus \$226 court costs

Macarias Reyna, failure to identify, pleaded nolo contendere, sentenced to 15 days in county jail, assessed \$236 court costs

Macarias Reyna, failure to appear, pleaded nolo contendere, sentenced to 15 days in county jail, assessed \$236 court costs

Jacob M. Gil, theft by check, pleaded nolo contendere, sentenced to

six months in county jail, probated to one year, fined \$100, plus \$118.02 restitution, \$75 hot check fees, and \$236 court costs, assigned 24 hours community service

Criminal Cases Filed February 24

Gabriel Hernandez, filed for driving while intoxicated

Marriage Licenses Filed February 14

Mario Esquivel Cavazos and Michelle Leanne Valles

February 27

Claude Johnson and Nancy Ann Brown

District Court Divorce Cases Filed February 27

Eusebio S. Escobar vs. Linda Escobar

Honor a loved one with a beautiful crepe myrtle

George Beard, coordinator for the Crepe Myrtle Project along Hwy. 83, reminds residence that funds are still needed.

"We've received some donations as memorials and honorariums for loved ones and I think that is an excellent way to honor someone special," said Beard. Beard and his committee are hoping to raise enough funds to buy approximately 64 red and pink crepe myrtle shrubs to be planted along the area between Hwy. 83 and Parklane at the north end of Winters.

Anyone wishing to make a donation should do so without delay as the ideal planting time is drawing near. Contact George Beard at 206 Parklane, Winters, Texas 79567, or call him at 915-754-4596.

Enterprise apologizes for million dollar error in story

An error was typed in a story regarding state budget cuts in the 2/27/03 issue of *The Winters Enterprise*.

Winters Independent School District has received \$285,161.00 in Telecommunications Infrastructure (TIF) grants since 1997, not \$285,161,000 as reported in the article.

The *Enterprise* apologizes for the error.

Police Beat

The following are cases from the Winters Police Department. Some cases may still be under investigation. Information, reported through Crimestoppers leading to the close of any case, could result in up to a \$1,000 reward.

The following information has been obtained from reports and or incidents investigated by the Winters Police Department during the week of February 18, 2003 through March 2, 2003. These are just a few reports received each week by members of the Winters Police Department.

Officers were contacted by adult probation stating that there was a warrant out for a Cole Andrew Reyna for Motion to Revoke Probation. Officers along with the juvenile probation officer and a Runnels County Deputy attempted to locate the subject at several locations in town. Reyna was located near Frisco Street. He was arrested and transported to Runnels County Jail on said warrant.

Officers located Kenneth M. Timberlake at his residence and arrested him for outstanding municipal warrants. Timberlake was transported to Runnels County Jail.

Officers were called to the 500 block of Walnut in reference to an assault in progress. Officers were met at the scene by Leah Whitfill, a 27-year-old Winters female. She stated she had been assaulted by her roommate, Toni Hill, a 20-year-old Winters female. When officers spoke to Hill she stated that Whitfill had assaulted her and pulled the phone out of the wall as Hill attempted to call the police. The officers determined that there was mutual contact between the two females and arrested them for Assault Family Violence. Whitfill was also charged with interfering with an emergency phone call.

Officers were called to a residence on Alexander Street concerning a burglary. Unknown person entered the residence without the owners consent and removed the owner's property. Taken were a television, DVD player, several DVD movies, a Sony Play Station, several Play Station games and a Play Station memory card. Officers took fingerprints and photographs of evidence left at the scene.

Runnels County Crimestoppers offers a cash reward for information which leads to the grand jury indictment or conviction of offenders and the caller does not have to give his or her name. To give a Crimestoppers tip, call your local law enforcement agency at:

Winters Police Department—754-4121
Ballinger Police Department—365-3591
Sheriff's Department—365-2121

Public Notice

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL)

To the Registered Voters of the City of Winters, Texas:

(A los votantes registrados del Ciudad de Winters, Texas:)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on May 3, 2003, for voting in a general election to elect Mayor, City Council Members for Districts 1 and 3 of the City of Winters. (Notifiquese, por las

presente, que las casillas electorales sitados abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 3rd de mayo de 2003 para votar en la Elección General para elegir ciudad concejal para zona 1 y 3 y mayor.)

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACES (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)
Winters Elementary School Library
702 N. Heights
Winters, Texas
Early voting by personal ap-

pearance will be conducted each weekday at (la votación adelantada en persona se llevará a cabo de lunes a viernes en) Winters City Hall, 310 S. Main, City Secretary's Office (sitio) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. beginning on April 16, 2003 (entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 12:30 de la tarde empezando y 1:30 and 4 de la tarde empezando el 16 de abril, 2002) and ending on April 29, 2003 (y terminando el 29 de abril, 2003). Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: (las

solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán enviarse a:) Aref Hassan, 310 S. Main (dirección), Winters, Texas 79567 (ciudad, zona postal).

Applications for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el) April 25, 2003 (25 de abril de 2003).

Issued this the 27th day of January, 2003 (Emitada este día 8th de enero, 2003).

Dawson McGuffin, Mayor (firma del Alcalde). 14-9(2)(c)

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serving the needs of those we love

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- ◆ Therapeutic Diets and Nutritional Supplements
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- ◆ Daily Activities
- ◆ Beauty Shop Services
- ◆ Transportation to & from appointments
- ◆ Personal Laundry
- ◆ Church Services
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Karla Pope, RN, Director of Nursing

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ACROSS

- TXism: "does ... have a climbing gear?" (yes)
- Houston space agy.
- TXism: "plain as the top line ... eye chart"
- TX globetrotter: Meadow ... Lemon
- president born in Dennison (init.)
- TXism: "tall ... the trough"
- singer from Lubbock: ... Davis
- film ("43"): ... Grande"
- Rosebud h.s. class
- sixties hit: "I ... Sheriff"
- TXism: "bilster ... (handles)
- Indian head dress
- Tex-Mex order (2 wds.)
- this Dick broadcast the Cowboys win in Super Bowl XXVII
- TXism: "... your poison" (choose)
- Houston AM radio
- ex-Cowboys owner: ... "Bum" Bright
- TXism: "touched in ... (crazy)
- Culberson Co.
- peak: ... Capitan
- U.S. senator Ralph elected in '58 (init.)
- they're "upon you" in TX
- Dallas' 1st hotel: St. ...
- "roses ..."
- TXism: "...-getter"
- Dallas oil company
- they're few at TWU
- this Wade prosecuted Jack Ruby (init.)
- these cause TXns to "ride the bed wagon" in Franklin Co. on 67
- "Big D" named for this Alvin (init.)
- Yoko ...
- "take a ..." (swim)
- Erath is no ... milk producing co.
- TXism: "tough as ...hide"
- TXism: "mean as ..."
- Hemphill Co. seat
- TXism: "mad ...-eyed cow"
- a pond in Texas
- TX billionaire Hughes (init.)
- early name for Bronte, TX
- TXism: "... it from the horse's mouth" near the stern of the U.S.S. Texas
- this Tom wrote "Harper Valley PTA" (init.)
- TX George Jones sang "Take ..."
- 214 & 972 are Metroplex ... codes
- firmly saddled horse
- TXism: "... bien"
- TXism: "he can't ... thunder" (deal)
- boot smells
- TX Clint Black hit: "... Tell Ourselves"
- Marshall hosts
- Fire ... Festival
- Gov. Hubbard (init.)
- TXism: "If it had ... snake it would have bit you"
- TX Catto was an ambassador here
- UT grad directed ... vs. Kramer"
- "saur "Barney"
- was created in TX
- Belo Co. owns Dallas newspaper
- TXism: "I reckon" ... this Neeson starred in "Leap of Faith" with TX Martin
- this John sang in TX Willie's Farm Aid IV
- Hondo is seat of this county
- church bench

Solutions for this puzzle appear in this issue.

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FIRE PREVENTION BASICS

Fire Safety Tip of the Week
courtesy of
The Winters Volunteer Fire Department

It's that time of year for using electric space heaters, so be careful not to overload a circuit. A large percentage of house fires are caused by electrical overloads. Please be careful.

915 AREA CODE SPLIT

Two New Area Codes - 432 and 325 - Named for West Texas

Q. Why do we need the new 432 and 325 area codes?

R. Due to population growth and the increased use of additional lines, fax machines, computer modems, pagers and cellular phones, the quantity of 915 phone numbers is nearly exhausted. To fix this situation, the new 432 and 325 area codes have been added.

Q. Who gets the new 432 and 325 codes?

R. The 915 area code will be split into three specific geographic regions, leaving the 915 area code in the western-most region, assigning 432 to the central of three regions, and assigning 325 to the easternmost of the three regions (see map).

Q. What areas are included in the three regions?

R. The new 915 region will include the areas of Canutillo, Clint, Dell City, Desert Haven, El Paso, Fabens, Ft. Hancock, Guadalupe Peak, Mile High, Sierra Blanca, and Vinton.

The new 325 region will include the areas of Abilene, Albany, Anson, Baird, Ballinger, Bangs, Barnhart, Bend, Big Lake, Big Valley, Blackwell, Blanket, Bradshaw, Brady, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Burket, Carlsbad, Cherokee, Christoval, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Crews, Doole, Eden, Eldorado, Eola, Fredonia, Goldthwaite, Gustine, Hamby, Hamlin, Hawley, Hermleigh, Junction, Katemcy, Kingsland, Lake Brownwood, Lake Coleman, Lawn, Llano, Locker, Lohn, London, Loraine, Lueders, Maryneal, Mason, McCauley, Melvin, Menard, Mercury, Merkel, Merton, Miles, Moran, Mozelle, Mullen, Newburg, Nolan, Noodle, Norton, Nubia, Ozona, Paint Rock, Pontotoc, Potosi, Priddy, Putnam, Richland Springs, Robert Lee, Roby, Rochelle, Rockwood, Roscoe, Rotan, Rowena, San Angelo, San Saba, Santa Anna, Snyder, Sonora, Stamford, Star, Sterling City, Streeter, Sweetwater, Sylvester, Tow, Trent, Tuscola, Valera, Voca, Water Valley, Westbrook, Wingate, Winters, and Zephyr.

The new 432 region will include the areas of Ackerly, Alamito, Alpine, Andrews, Balmorhea, Big Bend National Park, Big Canyon, Big Spring, Calamity Creek, Coahoma, Comstock, Cohanosa, Crane, East Hobbs, Forsan, Fort Davis, Frankel City, Ft. Stockton, Garden City, Goldsmith, Grand Falls, Heath Canyon, Imperial, Iraan, Kermit, Lajitas, Langtry, Lenorah, Lomax, Luther, Marathon, Marfa, McCamey, Mentone, Midkiff, Midland,

Monahans, Odessa, Orla, Pecos, Presidio, Pyote, Rankin, Redford, Sand Springs, Sanderson, Seminole, Sheffield, Six Shooter, Stanton, St. Lawrence, Terlingua, Terminal, Toyah, Valentine, Van Horn, Vincent, West Stanton, and Wink.

Q. Will my area code change?

R. Your telephone company has a complete listing of each telephone number that will be affected by the 915 area code split. If you are unsure if your telephone number falls within one of the above listed regions, please contact your

432) plus the telephone number you wish to call." Thus, you will have to hang-up and redial. After December 6, 2003, you will reach a wrong number if you don't use the new correct area code.

Q. Will my monthly service and/or long distance rates change as a result of the 915 area code split?

R. No. All calls that are local today will continue to be local calls, regardless of the area code change. Calls that are currently long distance will remain long distance calls. Rates for local and long distance service will not be affected by the addition of the new area code.

Q. What else will stay the same even with the 915 area code change?

R. The way you dial long distance will stay the same. Emergency calls to 911 will remain the same. Directory assistance calls and information type calls to 211, 411, 511, 711, etc., will not change. Calls to 800, 888, 877, and 900 numbers will not change. All credit card and operator-assisted long-distance calling procedures will remain the same as well.

Q. Will this area code change affect optional services?

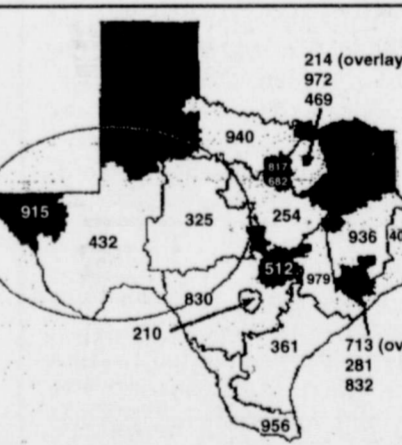
R. Yes, in some cases. If you use Call Forwarding, Selective Call Forwarding, Remote Access to Call Forwarding, Speed Dialing, Call Blocking, or Voice Dial, you will need to reprogram any 915 telephone numbers for which the area codes is changing to either 325 or 432. During the permissive dialing period, when calls to the 915 area code can still be made using either the old or new area codes, customers with Call Blocker or Selective Call Forwarding will need to program numbers in the new area codes with both the old and new area codes.

Q. My area code is changing, what steps should be taken to get ready for the new area code?

R. 1. Numbers with affected area codes will have to be re-entered on automatic dialers, speed dial, call forwarding, or voice dial.
2. Preprinted forms, checks, stationery, etc., should be updated to reflect the new area code.

3. Make sure friends, family, and customers know your new area code.
4. Between April 5, 2003 and October 4, 2003 reprogram or change communications equipment such as wireless phones, PBX's, fax machines, ISDN equipment, modems, pagers, etc. to update the area code.

5. For call blocker or selective call forwarding, make sure numbers are entered with both the old and new area codes until October 4, 2003 when only the new area code is required.



telephone company at 915-846-4111 or 1-800-238-4155 to inquire whether your telephone number is affected.

Q. When will the new 432 and 325 area codes go into effect?

R. The area codes will be activated on April 5, 2003. To ease the transition and give everyone enough time to make any necessary equipment changes, there will be "permissive" dialing period from April 5, 2003 until October 4, 2003. During this permissive period, calls to 325 and 432 area codes will complete using either the new area codes or the old 915 area code.

Q. When can we start using the new 325 and 432 area codes?

R. Callers should begin using the new area codes as of April 5, 2003, the beginning of the permissive dialing period.

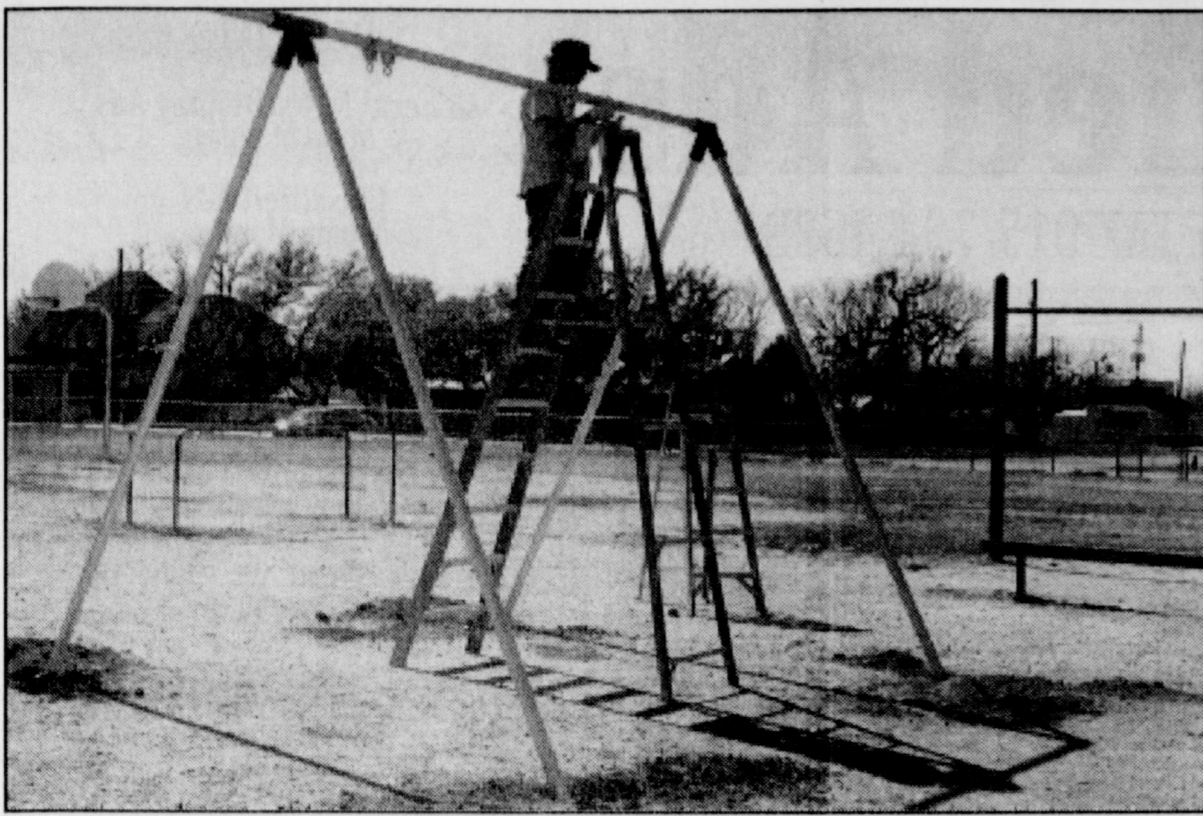
Q. What happens if I call a number whose area code has changed from 915 to the 325 or 432 area code?

R. During the permissive dialing period, you can dial either the old or new area code and be connected. However, we encourage you to dial the new 325 or 432 area codes to become familiar with the change.

Q. What happens on October 4, 2003 or later when I call a 10 digit number whose area code has changed from 915 to either 432 or 325?

R. If you use the correct area code, your call will complete. However, if you misdial and use the old 915 area code after October 4, 2003, you will receive a recording stating approximately that: "The area code for the number you dialed is 325 (or 432). Please dial 325 (or

Outdoors



(photo by Deb Prichard)

CECIL SUDDUTH, of the WISD Maintenance Department, installs new swings on the west side of the elementary school. Pea gravel will be put under the playground equipment as soon as weather permits. This Phase I equipment was purchased by Blizzard Kid Boosters who have also raised \$470.20 from Pizza Delivery Night and \$372.99 from the Book Fair to go toward the purchase of the Phase II equipment project which costs \$4,598 plus shipping.

Farm legislation offers environmental benefits for all Americans

Offering the largest boost in natural resources conservation programs in the history of farm legislation, the 2002 Farm Bill expands the opportunities for U.S. farmers and ranchers to implement conservation practices that benefit all Americans, according to James Moore, Executive Director of the Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB).

The new programs emphasize conservation on working lands, which allow farmers and ranchers to continue producing food and fiber while improving the nation's natural resources. They also introduce new opportunities for local stakeholders to help establish conservation priorities.

"This is the most significant piece of conservation and environmental legislation in over a decade, and the benefits are great for anyone who eats, breathes air, drinks water, and enjoys the quality of life we are blessed with in America."

Moore said. "Our local soil and water conservation districts and our partners at USDA are also pleased that this new legislation provides unprecedented opportunities for local citizens to get involved in local work groups that will help determine and direct local conservation efforts."

Because conservation practices often require significant investments of time and capital by farmers and ranchers, many of the Farm Bill conservation programs have been designed to provide incentive payments to agricultural producers who establish conservation practices and systems under the direction of local conservation leaders and technical service providers. These measures not only help stabilize the agricultural economy, they also provide important public benefits in the form of cleaner water and air, productive soils, and increased wildlife habitat.

An array of conservation

programs in the new Farm Bill offers incentives to agricultural producers, including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, Wetlands Reserve Program and the Farmland Protection Program. Two new programs are the Conservation Security Program and Grassland Reserve Program.

"There has never been a better time to implement conservation practices on working lands," Moore said. "We encourage farmers and ranchers to contact us to learn about the programs that could help them improve their farming operations and at the same time protect soil, water, air, and habitat. It's a great opportunity to get involved locally to set priorities for future conservation efforts."

For more information about these conservation programs and how to become involved, contact the TSSWCB at 254-773-2250 or visit the website at <www.tsswcb.state.tx.us>.

Ag Talk

by Congressman Charles Stenholm

Targeted Farm Disaster Aid Criticized

The crop disaster assistance measure that passed Congress last week promises to provide "such sums as are necessary" to eligible producers who incurred qualifying losses for their 2001 or 2002 crops.

However, this measure has already come under criticism from some farm groups that say this will not be enough.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has estimated the cost of this disaster package at \$3.1 billion, and the money to pay for it will come from offsets in the Conservation Security Program (CSP) which was authorized in the 2002 Farm Bill.

The new CSP has not even gotten off the ground, and yet it has seen its funding cut approximately in half under the mechanism recently adopted by Congress.

During Senate consideration of this disaster package, Senator Tom Harkin, the ranking member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, won a pledge from key senators to restore the cut in funding from the CSP.

The good news is that critically needed help will now be available to farmers who experienced drought losses. Unfortunately, the aid package has reopened the farm bill.

Trade Trip to China

As some of you know, I recently participated in a trip to China with Republican and Democrat colleagues from the House. We used the opportunity to meet with legislators in China to discuss trade and the controversial matter of human rights in China.

China is home to one fifth of the world's population and is obviously a tremendous market for U.S. agricultural and manufactured goods. There are more than three hundred million Chinese who are approaching a standard of living comparable to that of the United States.

Another billion are not, but the Chinese economy continues to grow and the living standards will continue to improve for these people also. While China is still a communist, one-party state, they are making strides. Our group used this opportunity to emphasize the importance of human rights, and we also emphasized trade issues.

We told the Chinese that the U.S. cannot continue to run up \$500 billion annual trade deficits. The law of economics and politics will ultimately take over. We told our Chinese counterparts that they must live up to their obligations under the World Trade Organization (WTO) and that if they fail to do so it will be hard for us to continue open trade.

China says they want to buy from us but that the U.S. doesn't try hard enough to sell. The last day we were there I showed them

my Texas boots, which fascinated them.

The head of Motorola seemed interested in finding a market for western boots and said he would like to open a "boot boutique" in China. I am hoping there will be an opportunity for us to sell Texas peanuts to China. Based on the ones I tasted there, the Chinese would love Texas peanuts.

China agreed to buy 3.5 million bales of U.S. cotton, however they still haven't lived up to their promise. If China wants to participate in the same world trade market that America does, they must follow through with what they agree to do.

We'll keep on them to make sure they live up to their agreements.

USDA Plans No Extension for Acreage Bases & Yields

Let me begin this program by reminding folks about the importance of taking steps to adjust farm program acreage bases and yields for the new farm bill's direct and counter-cyclical payment programs.

There are currently no plans for an extension of the April 1 deadline, according to the USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator, Jim Little, who spoke at the annual Southwest Crops Production Conference and Expo in Lubbock.

While the program sign-up is not as far along as the FSA would like, Mr. Little believes it is within striking distance of enrolling all the farmers who intend to take advantage of yield and acreage adjustments.

Mr. Little says this is an historical opportunity and marks the first time since 1985 that farmers have been allowed to update yields to reflect actual production.

Farmers who fail to meet the April 1 deadline will default to historical yields, many of which will be significantly lower than production for the past four years, the period they will use to establish yield and acreage bases for the life of the current farm legislation.

Frankly, it makes good sense for farmers to come into county offices and evaluate the differences to determine if proven yields will benefit their operations.

Nationwide, 43 percent have completed the process; however, in Texas, 54 percent of farmers have signed up.

According to Mr. Little, sign-up in the Texas High Plains outpaces most of the country, and more than 70 percent of the producers have come into the office to prove yields.

Again, I would encourage farmers to get your information together and meet with the folks in your FSA office in an effort to

determine if you will benefit from a change in bases and yields.

USDA Begins Work On Disaster Aid Implementation

Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman has announced that the USDA is establishing a disaster assistance working group to ensure timely and efficient implementation of program benefits contained in the \$3.1 billion disaster assistance package recently passed by Congress.

According to the Secretary, USDA wants to ensure that the disaster aid implementation is a farmer-friendly process, and this is surely a sentiment that I share.

One of USDA's goals is to make sure that the program benefits reach producers as quickly as possible. I should hasten to add that it is too early for USDA to determine when sign-up for the various disaster assistance programs will be available.

The new working group will begin examining program requirements and appropriate time tables.

The disaster assistance programs contained in the measure will require producers to sign up to receive program benefits through local FSA offices.

As part of the process, USDA will develop a new website for producers, and this website will contain information about the disaster assistance programs, questions and answers, as well as other significant data.

The website will also contain sections for comments and suggestions in order to encourage producers and interested parties to provide input to USDA on how best to move the process forward.

Payment Limits Commission Seeking Comments

The newly established Commission on the Application of Payment Limitations for Agriculture is seeking written comments from the public as it studies the potential impacts of further payment limitations on agricultural producers.

The 2002 Farm Bill created the Commission to study the effects of limitations on the receipt of direct payments, counter-cyclical payments, loan deficiency payments, and marketing loan gains by producers and other entities.

The Commission is also authorized to make recommendations to improve the application and effectiveness of payment limitations.

The Federal Register Notice detailing these issues can be found on the internet by contacting the FSA's web page.

Written comments must be received by March 24, 2003.

The Commission will report the results of its study to the President and to the House and Senate Agriculture Committees by May 13, 2003.

Old Mill Trade Days coming March 7, 8 & 9 in Post

When visitors arrive at the next Old Mill Trade Days in Post, March 7, 8 or 9, they will be met with the widest variety of arts and crafts, antiques and collectibles to be found in West Texas.

More than 250 vendors display their products and services in the buildings and on the grounds of the historic Postex Mill, which in its heyday produced the world famous "Garza Sheet."

Entertainment on the Rainmaker Stage will feature "penue!" on Saturday and Lubbock radio station Free 107.3 doing a live remote.

On Sunday, the "Rendition Quartet" will be strolling along the streets performing their unique style of music.

And don't forget — Old Mill Trade Days' streets are lined with top quality food vendors for hungry and thirsty vendors.

Visitors entering Post on U.S. Hwy 84 or U.S. Hwy 380 will find Old Mill Trade Days near the intersection of U.S. Hwy 84 and Texas Hwy 207.

If you have questions or need further information, please call the Old Mill Trade Days office at 806-495-3529 or toll free at 1-866-433-6683.

Cotton Conference set for March 25

The Texas Cooperative Extension's Concho Valley Cotton Conference will be held from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, 2003, in the San Angelo Convention Center.

Call to register at (915) 365-5212, 365-2219 or 659-6522. Registration after March 21 is \$10 per person.

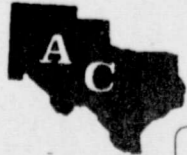


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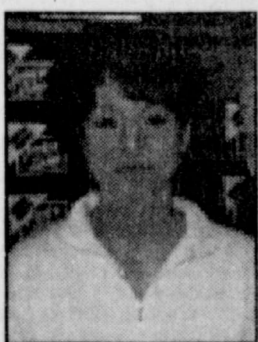
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