

The Winters Enterprise

Serving Winters and North Runnels County

Volume 14, Issue 49

Thursday, December 4, 2003

Winters, Texas

50¢

NEWS

Pearls of Wisdom

An honest heart being the first blessing; a knowing head is the second.

—Thomas Jefferson

Look what's new in town

Brenda Grohman's *Something Special* store offers one-of-a-kind shopping.

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A special holiday of sharing

Junior High students enjoy a fun, hands-on learning experience about the first Thanksgiving.

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Thanks for your help

Winters Public Library lists recent supporters to local facility.

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Rehab 2004 just around the corner

Country music star Joe Nichols will headline telethon in January.

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Nice to meet you . . .

Lillian Grissam is new Animal Control Officer for City of Winters

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What's happening in the ag industry

Mohair Council to meet; advice given to protect poultry and livestock

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MAKING WORDS COME TO LIFE is noted author, Nancy Robinson Masters, as she introduces some of her books during a special children's program at the Winters Public Library. Following her program, Nancy was honored with a reception provided by members of the library's board of directors. (photo by Jean Boles)

Noted author entertains readers at public library

by Jean Boles, editor

Young readers and adults were treated to a special event recently when noted author, Nancy Robinson Masters, spoke at the Winters Public Library.

She reminded her audience, "If you can read, if you can write, you have power and this power cannot be taken from you!" She challenged the youngsters to expand their horizons with their reading and writing skills. She also reminded the audience how fortunate Winters is to have such a "fantastic" library which houses approximately 11,000 books.

Nancy is a popular inspiration speaker for schools, businesses, organizations and events. She has spoken to more than 200,000 students in schools across America through her visiting author programs. She is an approved presenter for staff-development training targeting TAAS and TAKS objectives for Texas schools.

She is author of 14 books, including award-winning books for children. Her more than 3,000 feature articles have appeared in a variety of publications. Nancy's writing has taken her around the world including traveling with the National Science Foundation in Antarctica.

Nancy grew up on a cotton farm in Jones County, Texas, during the difficult years of drought in the early 1950's. She credits much of her success today to the values, patriotism, and work ethic instilled in her during those difficult years.

A licensed pilot, she resides on a farm in the Elmdale community near Abilene, adjacent to the airport built by her hus-

band and writing partner, veteran aviator Bill Masters. Her most important work in life, Nancy says, is "teaching children in Sunday School."

Nancy introduced some of her books including *All My Downs Have Been Ups*, *The Horrible Homemade Halloween Costume*, and *The Fabulous Flying Flag Farm*.

Following her program, members of the board of directors of the Winters Public Library visited with the popular author, thanking her for taking time to come to this community.

The Winters Public Library hosts Story Hour for children each Tuesday from 4:00-5:00 p.m. at 120 N. Main. The Library is open Monday through Thursday from noon until 6:00 p.m., and Saturday mornings from 10:00 until noon.

For more information about the Library and its services, call Kristina Bullard, Librarian, at 754-4251.

Council adds Veterans Day to city's paid holidays

by Jean Boles, editor

With three votes "for" and one "against," members of the Winters City Council approved an additional holiday for city employees.

"We are low in salary compared to many, many cities," said City Manager Aref Hassan, "so if we can give them (employees) one more paid holiday, that would definitely make them feel better."

Approving Veterans Day as a paid holiday were Aldermen Steve Esquivel, Mike Meyer and Tommy Russell. Voting against the motion was Alderman Jimmy Butler. Councilman Hank Bourdo was absent for the November 24 meeting.

"I didn't realize City Hall wasn't closed for Veterans Day," added Councilman Meyer. "I think it's a very important holiday that we should observe."

Adding Veterans Day will

give the City's employees twelve paid holidays — the same as Runnels County employees, according to City Attorney Ken Slimp.

In other action, Councilmen

- cast all of their votes for Preston Barker as a board member of the Runnels County Appraisal District

- appointed Nelan Bahlman and Randall Boles to the Zoning Board with Armondo Tamez as alternate.

- approved incumbents Bettye Pinkerton, René Woffenden and Geraldine Broyles for appointment for two years on the Winters Housing Authority Board of Directors. Present members of the WHA are Dan Killough and Dottie Loudermilk.

- approved the sale of the 1995 Chevrolet police car to the highest bid of \$350 sub-

mitted by Ray Adame of Coleman.

- approved a resolution to reapply for a grant for the proposed Kozelsky Sports Complex. The original grant request in January, 2003, was denied due to lack of sufficient funds from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

- hired Lillian Grissam as Animal Control Officer

- approved City Manager Hassan's employment agreement renewal for three more years, from November 27, 2003, to November 27, 2006

Councilmen and the mayor reviewed correspondence from Dr. Hassan in which he thanked Runnels County Judge Marilyn Egan for the county's loan of a loader and dump truck used by the City in clearing the Medina property on

See COUNCIL, page 3



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS are ready to load the last of 120 Thanksgiving boxes on Nov. 24, at the Winters Outreach Center. About 35 workers took time out of their busy day to load the groceries from Lawrence Bros. IGA Supermarket at 7 a.m., "build" the boxes according to each family's specific needs, and then deliver many of the packages which were not picked up. Left to right are Barry Taylor, Maudella Reeves, Georgia Orr, Bill Hall, Glenn Dittmer, Tommye O'Dell and Adam Taylor. (photo by Jean Boles)

Donations and volunteers needed

Holidays are busy time for Ministerial Alliance

The regular meeting of the Winters Ministerial Alliance was held Monday, Dec. 1, at the WISD Administration Office

with fifteen in attendance, representing seven churches. Newly elected WMA Chairman Glenn Dittmer of St. John's Lutheran Church presided.

One-hundred twenty Thanksgiving baskets were distributed on November 24, at a cost of \$1,842.79, with \$670 given to date. Members voted to take \$1000 from the Relief Fund to pay for this year's baskets.

Christmas baskets for the needy in the community will be provided again this year. Baskets will be put together on Friday, Dec. 19 at 8 a.m. at the Outreach Center. Baskets may be picked up from noon until 5 p.m. that day. Deliveries will not be made unless absolutely necessary. Volunteers are needed to put baskets together than morning and again from noon until 5 p.m. to help with distribution.

Donations for Christmas Baskets can be sent to Winters Ministerial Alliance, P.O. Box 211, Winters, Tx. 79567.

Mary Wilkerson, Counselor for the Winters Elementary School, brought a list of names of children who need to be helped with Christmas gifts. Each church took names from the list. A suggestion was made that a total of \$25 be spent on each child, which includes an

item of clothing and a toy. Gifts should be delivered to the home on Thursday, Dec. 18.

The annual Christmas Party will be Monday, Dec. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church Educational Building for anyone who is involved in any way with the Ministerial Alliance, the Outreach Center, or the Relief Fund, along with spouses. Guests should be a pot luck dish and a white elephant gift.

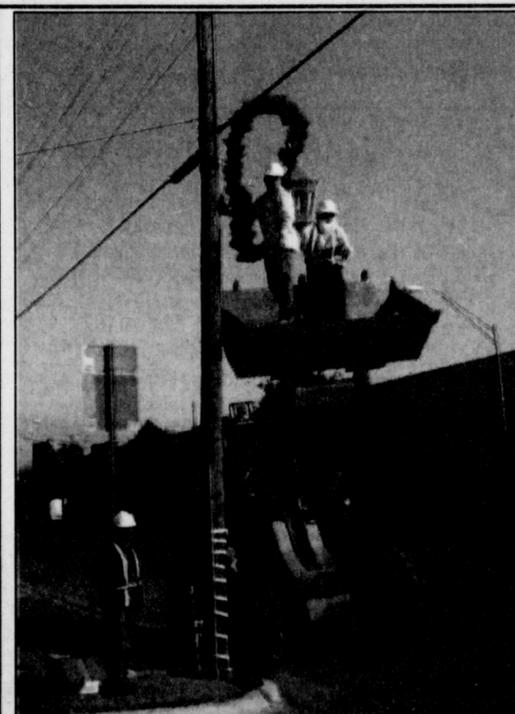
There will be a hayride and caroling for high school kids on Dec. 14 at 6:45 p.m. for youth from all churches. Refreshments will be served at the Methodist Youth Building at the conclusion of the hayride. Adult sponsors are needed.

Maudella Reeves reported the Food Pantry served 69 families (208 people) in November. The Relief Fund assisted five families for \$402.00

The next Winters Ministerial Alliance Meeting will be Monday, January 5, 2004, at the WISD Administration office.

Winters Outreach Center is located at 141 N. Church, south of the Methodist Church. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 a.m. until 12 noon.

For more information, contact Maudella Reeves at cell # 365-1417.



CITY EMPLOYEES were busy Monday installing decorations along Main Street. Charlie Burton and Pete Gray are in the bucket operated by Felix Gonzales as Robert Ortiz waits for a replacement bulb from Frank Reyna, not pictured. (photo by Jean Boles)

The City of Winters welcomes tourists

Visit our lake parks.

Call 723-2081 for information.

Editorial

Oil Bidness

by Reg Boles © 2003



This may seem like a strange place to discuss Texas public school finance reform, but the truth is that it will likely impact the oil and gas business.

The idea behind school finance reform is to broaden the base from which revenue is collected to finance school districts. The current "Robin Hood Plan" (RHP) is an attempt to flatten the difference between "rich" school districts and those not so well off.

The logic is that every school child in Texas deserves some minimum amount of resources that shouldn't depend upon the location of that child. As we all know, many school districts have a rich tax base from which to finance schools, while others don't have the high-dollar real estate or lucrative local oil patch to draw property taxes from.

While the RHP sources form good intentions (to support every child), it has consequences that make many local tax payers and local parents mad. Few people like to see millions of dollars in locally-collected taxes sent to parts unknown even if they know the intentions for that money are good.

So, many want to see a new plan that broadens the tax base over the whole state but depends less upon property taxes, the current source for most of the revenue for Texas school districts. That is where the oil and gas business comes in.

The oil and gas business already carries a considerable burden of financing school districts through property taxes, also known as "ad valorem" taxes. Just check out those indoor swimming pools in small schools in oil-rich west Texas to know what I mean.

But, several oil and gas taxation devices are on the table for discussion in regard to new sources of tax revenue to replace a portion of local property tax revenue collected by schools.

The state already collects severance taxes on oil and gas production (4.6% of the value of oil produced and 7.5% of the value of gas produced) for the general fund. In several proposals, these rates would be increased by 1% to 5%. The highest proposed rate I have seen is 10% for oil and gas, but many call for a 1 or 2% bump above current rates.

This wouldn't provide all of the financing needed to make a new school revenue plan work, but it could provide a

significant percentage.

Additionally, there have been proposals to tax transport of oil and gas based on volume, which is just another way to tax the wellhead value of petroleum. The difference is who writes the checks (in this case the transport companies — trucking firms, pipeline companies, etc.), but the producer will still bear the burden because it will be billed back to the source. These proposals call for anything from a nickel per unit (barrel or thousand cubic feet) up to a dollar per unit.

Finally, there are a number of proposals to increase fees (or create new ones) to generate revenue. There is a lot of momentum to increase the cost to register as a producer, as the perception is that many operators have plenty of cash to pay in order to operate in the state. The fees for such registration are pretty nominal right now, but fees could be pushed into the tens of thousands of dollars or even more under certain proposals. Ironically, this will not raise that much revenue but would likely cause a pretty big uproar.

This is by no means a full accounting of all proposals, as the current school finance reform process is in its formative period. Any legislation is a long way from approval and passage, existing currently only as ideas on a Congressman's desk somewhere. And, there are other sources of revenue (outside of the oil and gas business) being considered, as well.

However, it would be beneficial to keep tuned in to this process as it moves forward. The direction it takes could impact your bottom line, and, in some cases, an effort to comment or impact this process may become desirable.

HIGHLIGHTS OF AREA DRILLING ACTIVITY

Not Available This Week

Flowers, Novelty Gifts, Tuxedo Rental

Winters Flower Shop
... & More

Janice Pruser, owner

119 S. Main
754-4568

Obituaries

Jerry Chambliss

WINTERS—Jerry Chambliss, 59, died Tuesday, November 25, 2003, in Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

He was born on October 31, 2003, in Pasadena, to Neal and Betty Campbell Chambliss. He came to Winters in 1950 and graduated from Winters High School in 1963 and Clarendon College in 1992. He married Dana Bishop on June 25, 1965, at Drasco Baptist Church.

Mr. Chambliss served in the National Guard and worked for West Texas Utilities in several Texas towns including Tulia and Clarendon. He retired in 2000 after 30 years service, and he and Dana moved to Winters where he was a bus driver for Winters ISD.

Jerry was a member of the Lions Club and the Chamber of Commerce wherever he lived and held most offices while a member of these organizations. He was also serving on the board of the Rural Water Authority in Winters. He was the lead fiddle player of the Bluff Creek Ramblers and played several other instruments as well. He also taught guitar to several youngsters. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Winters.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Betty Campbell Chambliss; one sister, Celia Heater; and one son, David Glenn Chambliss.

Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Dana Chambliss of Winters; his father, Neal Chambliss of Winters; a son, Jerry Wayne Chambliss of McKinney; a daughter, Michelle Chambliss of Lake Elsinore, California; and two brothers, Tommy Chambliss of Ballinger and Richard Chambliss of Winters.

Funeral services were at 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 29, at the First Baptist Church of Winters with Reverend Barry Taylor officiating. Burial was in the Bluff Creek Cemetery, directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Company G 4th Regiment Calvary of Fort Chadbourne. Jerry's guitar students, known as "One Chord Short," served as honorary pallbearers.

RubyLynn Sophia Hernandez

WINTERS—RubyLynn Sophia Hernandez, infant daughter of Amy Perkins and Ruben Hernandez, Jr. of Winters, died Monday, November 24, 2003, in an Abilene hospital.

Survivors include her mother, Amy Perkins; father, Ruben Hernandez, Jr.; two brothers, Christopher and Michael Diaz; grandparents, Calvin and Jessica Perkins and Ruben and Mary Lou Hernandez, Sr., all of Winters.

Graveside services were at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 26, at Evergreen Cemetery in Ballinger. Arrangements were directed by Rains-Seale Funeral Home of Ballinger.

Jerome Wesley Campbell

BALLINGER—Jerome Wesley Campbell, 71, passed away on Sunday, November 23, 2003, in Anchorage, Alaska, where he had been working the last four years.

He was born on February 11, 1932, in Balmorhea, Texas, to Virgil Moore and Winnie Mae Whitmire Campbell. He graduated from Pecos High School in 1949 and Texas Western College with a degree in Civil Engineering in 1953. He married Bobbie Marie Eoff in Ballinger on July 2, 1955.

Mr. Campbell started working for the Texas Highway Department in 1954, before getting a job with the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs. In 1976, he moved back to Ballinger and began his own survey business. In 1990, he moved to Kodiak to work with the Coast Guard as a civilian employee, and, in 1999, started his current job with EDA through the Department of Commerce in Anchorage, Alaska. He was a past member and an Elder of Avenue B Church of Christ in Ballinger. In Anchorage, he served as an Elder of South Anchorage Church of Christ. He loved God, Christ's church, his family and friends, fishing and hunting, and working with his German Shorthaired Pointer dogs.

He was preceded in death by his mother, father, and one sister.

Survivors include his wife, Bobbie Marie of Ballinger, his children, Jerome Campbell, Jr. of Abilene, Craig Campbell of Fayetteville, Arkansas, Kevin Campbell and his wife Stacie of Phoenix, Arizona, Shauna Campbell of Borger, and Thorne Campbell and his wife Julie of San Angelo; five grandchildren; one brother, Joe Campbell and his wife Melva; his mother-in-law, Robbie D. Eoff; and his "adopted" son, David Green.

Funeral services were at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 26, at the Avenue B Church of Christ in Ballinger. Burial followed at Old Runnels Cemetery near Ballinger, directed by Rains-Seale Funeral Home of Ballinger.

Jessie Ruth Adams

WINTERS—Jessie Ruth Adams, 84, passed away Saturday, November 29, 2003, at Parkview Rehab in Little Rock, Arkansas.

She was born on November 3, 1919, in Itasca, Hill County, Texas, and moved to Runnels County in 1924. She graduated from high school at Norton in 1938. She attended beauty school in San Angelo and worked in Ballinger and Winters. She married Damon W. Adams in 1940 in Runnels County. They moved to Corpus Christi in 1951, and she worked and lived there until 1973 when she moved back to Winters.

Mrs. Adams worked at Clara Bell's Beauty Shop in Winters, retiring in 1990. She moved to Jacksonville, Arkansas, in 2000 and lived with her daughter and son-in-law. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Winters.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Damon Adams; her parents, Oscar K. and Jessie Hamner Paschal; one sister, Helen Paschal; and one great-grandson, Stanley Johnson.

Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Dorothy Nell and Royce Johnson of Jacksonville, Arkansas; one brother Robert Paschal and wife Betty of Shep; two sisters, Truman Deike of Winters and Patsy Chupik of Dallas; two grandsons, Damon Johnson and wife Judy of Tucson, Arizona, and Gary Johnson of Jacksonville, Arkansas; three great-grandchildren, Steven, Dorothy Lynn, and Tommy Johnson.

Services were at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 2, at the First United Methodist Church in Winters with Reverend Georgia Orr officiating. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery in Winters, directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Loretta K. Michalewicz



BALLINGER—Loretta K. Michalewicz, 63, passed away Wednesday, November 26, 2003, at her residence surrounded by her loving family after a courageous battle with cancer.

She was born on February 25, 1940, to Rudolph and Elizabeth (Schraer) Gerngross in Olfen, Texas. She married Edward Don (Donnie) Michalewicz on June 30, 1960, at Olfen.

Mrs. Michalewicz was the District Clerk of Runnels

County since 1982 and held office until the time of her death. She loved to spend time with her kids and grandchildren; she had a special joy in crocheting afghans for her grandchildren. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, St Ann's Akar Society, and Christian Mothers.

She was preceded in death by her husband on March 7, 1994, and her father in 1989.

Survivors include her daughter, Terri Cahoon and husband Gary of Rowena; four sons, Curtis Michalewicz and wife Martha of Potosi, Clifton Michalewicz and wife Maxine of Rowena, Kenny Michalewicz and wife Kerri of San Angelo, and Kevin Michalewicz and wife Diane of Rowena; ten grandchildren, Zane, Alex, Kristin, Lance, Lauren, Davis, Meagan, Marcus, Damian, and Katie; her mother, Elizabeth Gerngross of Olfen; two sisters, Natalie Lange of Rowena and Mary Lou Gerngross of Austin; two brothers, Gregory Gerngross of Baird and Rudy Gerngross, Jr. of San Angelo

Rosary service was at 7:00 p.m., Friday, November 28, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rowena. Mass of Christian Burial was at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, November 29, at the church with Father Bhaskar celebrating. Burial will follow at St. Boniface Catholic Cemetery in Olfen, directed by Rains-Seale Funeral Home of Ballinger.

Pallbearers were Richard Lange, Keith Lange, Jody Gerngross, Jason Gerngross, Nathan Halfmann, Derrick Grelhesl, and Michael Michaelis.

The family would like to give a special thanks to all the caregivers and Hospice of San Angelo that gave so much love and care to their mother through her illness.

Memorials may be made to the West Texas Rehab or a charity of choice.

See "Obituaries," pg. 7

In Appreciation

Card of Thanks

For almost a week, we walked with Bede through the valley of the shadow of death, but so many thoughts and prayers were with us that Jesus sent the Comforter to give us peace.

Thanks to everyone for each prayer, each word of comfort, every act of kindness, and your presence at the service. For the wonderful memorial service led by Bro. Barry Taylor and Bro. James Vermillion, the music by Bro. Ken Williams, Susan Conner, and the "Sons of Thunder," Monty, Randall, and Jim. You filled our hearts with joy as we worshipped the risen Lord. Thank you, thank you.

A special thank you to our church family for taking care of our needs. For the delicious Thanksgiving meal, the office staff for the printing of the order of service, providing a nursery for our little ones, we are most grateful.

To all our extended family, our loving neighbors, and friends, that came with gifts of food, supplies, etc., but most of all for the hugs you gave us, and the special kind words of your love for Bede. To the loving, medical, angels of mercy from the side of the road on Hwy. 83 to Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene to University Medical Center in Lubbock — ministering not only to Bede's needs, but to the entire family — thank you from the depths of our hearts.

Mike Meyer, Linda and Rick Dry, we know God has touched you with the talent of extra compassion. Thank you, thank you, for your patience and consideration. You made us feel so comfortable in making decisions.

The Family of Bede England

Edna England, Lanny and Mandie England, Kay and Bud Busher, Lu and Bill Shoemake, Donna and Doyle Riddle

Benny R. Polston, C.P.A.

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2003
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The Winters Enterprise

(USPS 005016)

Published every Thursday

by Brownwood Newspapers, Inc.

P.O. Box 1189 • Brownwood, TX 76801

The Winters Enterprise

104 N. Main • Winters, TX 79567

325-754-4958 • FAX 325-754-4628

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Periodicals Postage Paid at Winters, TX.

Subscription Rates:

Runnels County \$17.00 per year

Other Texas Counties \$21.00 per year

Outside Texas \$24.00 per year

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which appears in the columns of this paper will be corrected upon due notice given at The Enterprise office.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Winters Enterprise, 104 N. Main, Winters, TX 79567-5108.



MEMBER
2003

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Community

Pastor's Points

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

Think on Christmas

by Ferris Akins, Pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church

As we approach this Christmas season, I pray we will remember how much it has cost others to preserve this story for us.

They told the story and they cast them into prison, but still that story persisted. Some of those who told the story, they beat with many stripes, but still the story persisted. Others they took, stoned them, then left them for dead, but still the story persisted.

In the years that passed, some of those who told the story suffered great economic loss, but the story itself persisted. There were others who left home, left their family, said goodbye to their friends, some whom they never saw again, but still that story persisted. There were some who told the story in later years with vigor and vigorously announced to all that would listen that the story was true; some of them were cast in the dens of hungry and angry beasts. And it was certain that their limbs would be torn asunder, but still they told the story and still the story persisted. And the years passed and the story was told again and again, and some of those who told the story were arrested, were tried, were denounced, and were asked to recant. They did not. They were burned at the stake, and, though their lives were snuffed out, the story still persisted.

Even the church herself, once the repository for the truth, and once the teller of that great story, made her great compromise with the world, and that marriage with the world was finalized. The bargain was sealed and the Dark Ages ensued. And during the Dark Ages not many dared to tell the story, but some did. Many of them paid for their audacity dearly, but still the story persisted.

And in modern times and in recent years, others have dared to go leaving the safety of a home land, leaving the fellowship of friends, leaving the security of a position and a job, the love of family, and have gone to tell the story. I know Carlton died; Bill Wallace died. Others in South America died and men are still dying, but their story they told with such vigor and enthusiasm and the story they insisted was true, though they died, the story lives and still persists even until this present hour.

The story is told in Luke's gospel chapter two, verses 1-20. It sometimes becomes too familiar and we disregard it. Please read it carefully this Christmas season.

COUNCIL, continued

Main Street. Mayor Dawson McGuffin apologized to Mr. and Mrs. Duane Petty for the city's inability to provide sewer service due to the cost. The Petty's re-

quest for de-annexation was approved by the Council, and their city taxes will be refunded, according to McGuffin.

Dr. Hassan reported to the Council about the proposed lake lots at Elm Creek Reservoir, showing a drafted plan of designated lots. The Council voted to allow Hassan to continue investigation of the plan but not to spend any money on the lots. This agenda item will be reviewed periodically as updated information is available, Hassan said.

Council members voted to reschedule the next regular meeting from December 29 to December 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The public is encouraged to attend all Council meetings.

RCR Teachers to meet Dec. 8

Runnels County Retired Teachers will meet Monday, Dec. 8, at 11:00 a.m.

A Dutch-treat lunch will be enjoyed at Casa Cabana Restaurant in Winters.

Following lunch, the group will go to the Winters Elementary music room for a Christmas program. Fran Kidwell will host the program.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING ?

- Dec. 4- 10 a.m.-Noon & 1:30-3 p.m., Immunization Clinic, Texas Department of Health
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- Dec. 5- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 7:30 p.m., Cowboys for Christ, Drasco
- Dec. 6- 9 a.m., Beautification Committee Meeting, Winters Public Library
- 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Christmas Bazaar, San Angelo Fair Grounds
- Dec. 7- Noon-5 p.m., Christmas Bazaar, San Angelo Fair Grounds
- 1:30 p.m., ABC Scramble, Winters Country Club
- Dec. 8- 11 a.m., Runnels County Retired Teachers, Casa Cabana
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 7 p.m., VFW & Auxiliary, Post Home
- 7:30 p.m., School Board, Administration Bldg.
- Dec. 9- 10 a.m., Commissioners Court, Courthouse, Ballinger
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 6 p.m., Writers' Club, Golden Corral, San Angelo
- 7 p.m., AA, First United Methodist Church
- 7 p.m., WVFD, Fire Station
- 7 p.m., Athletic Boosters, Blizzard Field
- 7:30 p.m., Elm Creek Water Control Board, Sr. Citizens Center
- Literary & Service Club
- Woman's Club
- Dec. 10-7 a.m., Industrial Board, Windmill Enterprises Office
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- SPCB/TDA Conference, Civic Center, Abilene
- Dec. 11-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- Winters Country Club Meet
- CEU Course, A&M Center, San Angelo



BRENDA GROHMAN, owner and manager of *Something Special*, shows some of the one-of-a-kind specialty items she offers in her new store at 103 S. Main. Brenda also offers her talents in decorating and designing for weddings, parties, reunions, and other events. (photo by Jean Boles)

Something Special offers variety of gifts

by Jean Boles, editor

No need to travel to the Metroplex or even Abilene to find a beautiful decorating item for the home or a unique gift for that special someone.

Something Special, located at 103 S. Main in Winters, offers a wide variety of one-of-a-kind items for the home, office and gift-giving.

Owner and manager Brenda Grohman says, "This has been a longtime dream of mine. I've been planning and buying special items from all over."

Brenda, an employee of Contico for the past 17 years, says she wants her store to be a fun, exciting experience for shoppers of all ages.

When *Something Special* opened on November 15, Brenda's first customer was a local barber, Raymond Lindsey, who was "tickled pink" to find a "Shave and Haircut 25¢" sign, perfect for

his business. Soon, two young girls found feather-covered, beaded items and funky candles to their liking.

The store, located at the corner of West Dale and Main Street, has areas divided by events and items such as wedding rentals, quincenera necessities, kitchen goods, metal and wood art, candles, hand-made wreaths, frames, crosses, and much more.

"This store is definitely a work in progress," says Brenda. "I'll have new items every week or two. I want to keep things fresh and fun."

Brenda also offers her services and expertise in the areas of wedding and party planning. She enjoys all aspects of decorating, whether for a formal wedding with 500 guests or a fun, private party for a dozen friends. Brenda will

also work with clients who want to redecorate their home.

"Decorating and designing have always been a passion of mine," she says. "It's just taken this point in my life to allow me to follow my dream."

Brenda, a Winters native, adds a big note of gratitude to her family who helped launch the store.

"Without the generosity and talents of my family, I couldn't have done this," she says with a big smile. "It's really handy to have a brother who's a carpenter, a daughter-in-law who makes crafts, a cousin who's a decorator, and a mother who will pitch in and do just about anything I need."

Brenda invites everyone to come by and visit. *Something Special* is open Mondays through Fridays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Beautification Committee to meet Saturday

Mike Neal, President of the Winters Beautification Committee, asks that all members and potential members meet at the Winters Public Library on Saturday, December 6, at 9 a.m.

The Committee has several projects underway, including "Adopt-A-Window" decorations for the holidays. Owners of vacated stores downtown have been contacted and approval given for decorating. Various school and civic groups have volunteered to help

"spruce up" these downtown buildings.

This will be the last meeting of the year, so plan to at-

tend and get a jump start on next year's ideas to make Winters a more beautiful place to live.

Senior Citizens Nursing Home News

by Billie Ruth Bishop, Activities Director

Christmas party Dec. 18

Plans are underway for the Christmas season. As has been our custom in years past, we will have names of the residents (with sizes and gift suggestions) displayed on Christmas trees in Heidenheimer's, Family Dollar, and Dollar General stores downtown. We urge you to go by and select a name or two or more of residents in our nursing home. We

appreciate these businesses for supporting us at this time.

Our annual Christmas party this year is December 18, beginning at 5:00 p.m. The family dinner will be served at 5:30. We would appreciate any gifts to be received no later than December 16 so that they may be under the tree prior to the day of the party.

Taylor elected to Texas Baptist Executive Board

Barry Taylor of Winters was elected to the Texas Baptist Executive Board during the Baptist General Convention of Texas annual meeting in Lubbock, Nov. 10-11. Taylor serves as the pastor of First Baptist Church in Winters.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas exists to help churches, providing an avenue of support for 23 institutional ministries — schools, hospitals, child and family services ministries, and elder care facilities. Last year, these institutions touched 2.7 million lives — more than 10 percent of the Texas population.

The BGCT Executive Board conducts business of the convention between annual sessions.

Senior Citizens Activity Center Menu

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Dec. 8 through Dec. 12
Subject to change

Monday, Dec. 8: Potato soup, grilled cheese, peaches & cottage cheese, crackers, and cookies.

Tuesday, Dec. 9: Roast, potatoes & carrots, peas, hot roll, and banana pudding.

Wednesday, Dec. 10: Steak & gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, bread, and cake.

Thursday, Dec. 11: Sausage, green beans, rice, pear salad, bread, and cookie bar.

Friday, Dec. 12: Mexican cornbread, Pinto beans, cole slaw, crackers, and 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.

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INDIANS AND PILGRIMS (l-r) Rudy Torres, Kevin Bredemeyer and Corey Fenwick work together to build replicas of early day campgrounds.



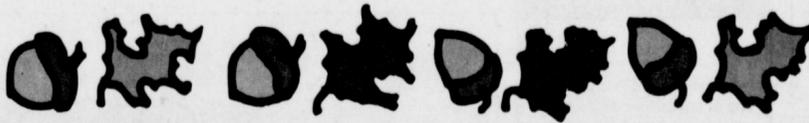
INDIAN PRINCESSES are (l-r) Cassi Mendoza, Cassandra Perez (kneeling) Susan Sneed, Shelby Walker, Kyli Knight and Addie Bergman.



WILEY GUY and **JULIE ENGLAND** show their costumes worn for Thanksgiving Celebration Day at Winters Junior High School as Coach David Wood oversees the cloth dyeing project in background.



MAKING CORN HUSK DOLLS are (l-r) Christina Guerrero, Julie England, Sonia Aremendariz, Clinton Schwartz, Anthony Esquivel, and Norma Arragon.



WINTERS JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS line up to share a Thanksgiving feast of authentic and modern foods prepared by parents, teachers and volunteers.



DEB PRITCHARD, WISD Aide (in period clothing at right) sets out some unique foods in preparation for the Thanksgiving feast as junior high school students wait to enjoy the special meal and celebration. Mrs. Pritchard coordinated the day's events which included teaching the youngsters various skills such as dyeing cloth, making bows, arrows, and corn husk dolls, various means of hunting and food preparation shared by the Pilgrims and Native Americans.



(photos by Jean Boles)

School

2003-2004 Lady Blizzards



TEAM MEMBERS are (kneeling, l-r) Gessica Bear #24, 5'5" senior; Amber Green #23, 5'6" junior; Kari Walker #22, 5'6" sophomore; and Ashly Santoya #11, 5'4" junior. Standing, l-r: Jennifer Gray #10, 5'5" sophomore; Suzanne Jones #24, 5'6" senior; Macy Hopson #12, 5'6" senior; Erica Lujano #15, 5'7" sophomore; Marci Paschal #20, 5'8" junior, and Coach Deb Whittenburg.

(photo by Jean Boles)

Basketball Hoopla



Team: 7th Boys Coach: Paul Morton

Opponent: Goldthwaite Date: 11-24-03

Place: Goldthwaite

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

WINTERS	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	1	3	2	4		10
OPPONENT	12	9	14	0		35

Free throws made: 0 of 4 for 0%

Player's Name Points Rebounds Steals Assists

Ethan Coffman	2				
Gabriel Callaway*	4				
Colby Pritchard	1				
Michael Perez	1				
Corey Fenwick	2				

*Denotes High Point Individual for Winters

Coach's Comments: Great defense the 4th quarter. Perez and Fenwick were all over the court stopping their players. Goldthwaite didn't get a shot off during the 4th quarter.

Team: 8th Girls "A" Coach: Linda Grohman

Opponent: Goldthwaite Date: 11-24-03

Place: Winters

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

WINTERS	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	10	0	4	8		22
OPPONENT	4	1	4	4		15

Free throws made: 0 of 0 for 0%

Player's Name Points Rebounds Steals Assists

Araclia Flores	2				
Shelby Walker*	10				
Susan Sargent	2				
Kylie Knight	6				
Laura Armandarez	2				

*Denotes High Point Individual for Winters

Coach's Comments: The 2nd quarter was slow, but the girls kept working and we came out on top. They are improving with every game.

Team: JV Boys Coach: Todd Harrison

Opponent: Coleman Date: 11-20-03

Place: Intra Tournament

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

WINTERS	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	7	15	0	8		30
OPPONENT	20	20	18	17		75

Free throws made: 0 of 2 for 0%

Player's Name Points Rebounds Steals Assists

Anthony Ramirez	3				
Marcus Tubbs*	8				
Cale Denton	2				
David Scates	6				
Allan Green	3				
Luke England*	8				

*Denotes High Point Individual for Winters

Coach's Comments: The kids played hard against a much bigger and more physical team.

Team: JV Boys Coach: Todd Harrison

Opponent: Hamlin Date: 11-22-03

Place: Intra Tournament

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

WINTERS	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	7	1	9	9		26
OPPONENT	2	11	8	10		31

Free throws made: 2 of 8 for 25%

Player's Name Points Rebounds Steals Assists

Corey Fenwick	5				
Jordan Sanchez	3				
Cale Denton	3				
David Scates*	12				
Allan Green	2				
Luke England	2				
Don Davis	2				

*Denotes High Point Individual for Winters

Coach's Comments: We are going to have to improve on our shooting and the ability to hit the open man in the post.

Team: JV Boys Coach: Todd Harrison

Opponent: Stamford Date: 11-24-03

Place: Winters

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

WINTERS	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	10	1	7	12		32
OPPONENT	10	6	6	15		37

Free throws made: 6 of 14 for 43%

Player's Name Points Rebounds Steals Assists

Marcus Tubbs	4				
Cale Denton	3				
David Scates*	21				
Justin Fenwick	2				
Luke England	2				

*Denotes High Point Individual for Winters

Coach's Comments: We are improving with every game played. When we put four quarters together and start playing better defense and running the offense better, this is going to be a very good team.

Team: JV Boys Coach: Todd Harrison

Opponent: Eula Date: 11-25-03

Place: Eula

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

WINTERS	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	12	12	19	15		58
OPPONENT	12	12	19	15		58

Free throws made: 1 of 2 for 50%

Player's Name Points Rebounds Steals Assists

Mark Scates	3				
Jordan Sanchez	2				
Marcus Tubbs	3				
David Scates	2				
Allan Green	2				
Luke England*	4				
Don Davis	2				

*Denotes High Point Individual for Winters

Coach's Comments:

Team: Varsity Boys Coach: Matt Odum

Opponent: Stamford Date: 11-24-03

Place: Winters

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

WINTERS	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	13	11	13	8		45
OPPONENT	10	12	3	11		36

Free throws made: 2 of 8 for 25%

Player's Name Points Rebounds Steals Assists

Tim Fenwick	3				
Wacey Cason	5				
Jose Hernandez	0				
Aaron Colburn	2				
Max Harrison	7				
Jeremy Sherman	0				
Scott Bryan	0				
Pete Griffin	0				
Benj Valles*	17				
T.J. Nitsch	2				
Michael Liggins	9				

*Denotes High Point Individual for Winters

Coach's Comments:

Team: Varsity Boys Coach: Matt Odum

Opponent: Eula Date: 11-25-03

Place: Eula

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

WINTERS	1	2	3	4	OT	FIN
WINTERS	6	17	6	12		41
OPPONENT	8	13	9	19		49

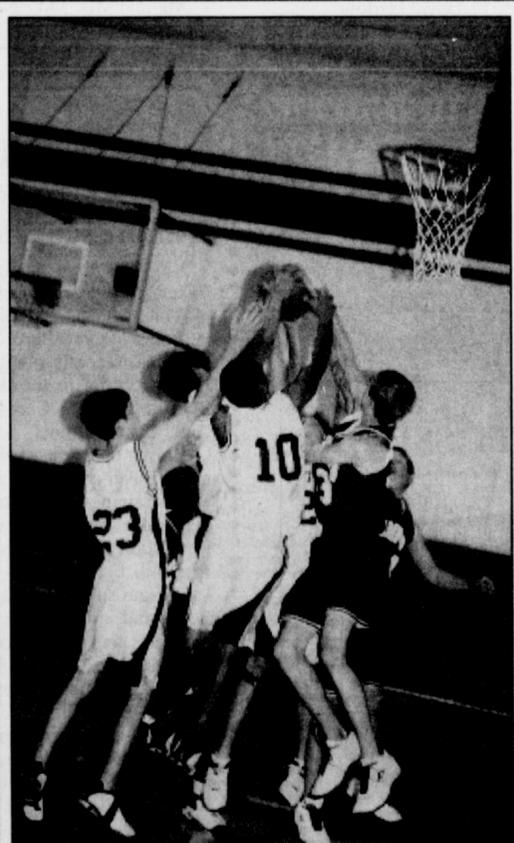
Free throws made: 0 of 0 for 0%

Player's Name Points Rebounds Steals Assists

Tim Fenwick	2				
Wacey Cason	0				
Jose Hernandez	0				
Aaron Colburn	6				
Max Harrison	0				
Jeremy Sherman	0				
Scott Bryan	2				
Pete Griffin	0				
Benj Valles*	13				
T.J. Nitsch	4				
Michael Liggins	4				

*Denotes High Point Individual for Winters

Coach's Comments:



A BUNCH OF BLIZZARDS, including Luke England #23, David Scates #24 and Marcus Tubbs #10, goes up for the rebound during junior varsity action against the Stamford Bulldogs. (photo by Jean Boles)

Great truths little children have learned:

- Don't sneeze while someone is cutting your hair
- You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk
- Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts
- No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats

Basketball '03

Catch the Action

- Dec. 4-6—Ballinger Tournament, TBA, There, VG, VB
- Dec. 4-6—Hawley Tournament, TBA, There, JVG, JVB
- Dec. 8—Jim Ned, 5 p.m., Here, 7G, 8G
- Dec. 8—Jim Ned, 5 p.m., There, 7B, 8B, 9B
- Dec. 9—Hamlin, 4 p.m., There, JVG, VG, JVB, VB
- Dec. 11-13—Miles Tournament, TBA, There, VG, VB

VG Varsity Girls VB Varsity Boys
JVG Junior Varsity Girls
JVB Junior Varsity Boys
9B Freshman Boys
8B 8th Boys 8G 8th Girls
7B 7th Boys 7G 7th Girls
*Denotes District Games

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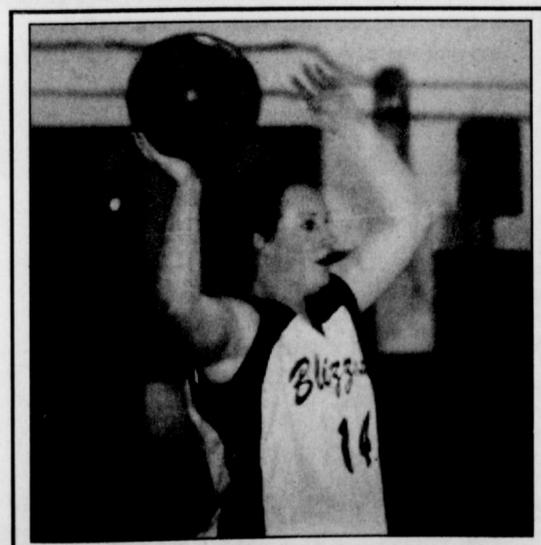
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GESSICA BEAR, WHS senior and starter for the varsity Lady Blizzards, looks to make the pass. (photo by Jean Boles)

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Life



TRYING TO CONCENTRATE on making their Christmas decorations are Lisa Rahne (left), age 4, and Nina Mooney, age 7. The girls were part of a get-acquainted and organizational meeting for Girl Scouts which includes Brownies and Daisies. Anyone interested in becoming a member or volunteering to help this worthwhile organization is asked to contact Melissa Rodriguez at 754-1814. (photo by Jean Boles)

Financial Focus

By Jim Woodruff of Edward Jones

Urgently needed: Better retirement planning

You may not have realized it, but last week was National Retirement Planning Week. Even though you may have missed it, it's still a great time to review your retirement account because achieving your desired lifestyle requires careful planning and periodic reviews of your savings and investments.

National Retirement Planning Week, sponsored by a group of financial industry and consumer advocacy organizations, is designed to raise public awareness of the need for comprehensive retirement planning. And right now, that's a big need. Consider the following:

- **We're not saving much** - Three-fourths of all Americans between the ages of 50 and 60 have saved less than \$37,000 for retirement, according to the U.S. Census. And 29 percent of American workers say they

or their spouse have not saved for retirement, according to the 2003 Retirement Confidence Survey, co-authored by the American Savings Education Council.

- **We're not taking full advantage of available retirement plans** - Less than 15 percent of working-age Americans contributed the maximum amount to their 401(k) plans in 2002, according to a Reuters report, published in June.

- **We're not planning ahead** - Sixty-one percent of workers and more than half of all worker households have not calculated how much money they will need to save for retirement, says the Retirement Confidence Survey.

So, what should you do? For starters, identify your retirement goals - and give them a "price tag". What do you plan to do during your retirement years? Will you travel? Buy a vacation home? Open a small business? Once you identify what your retirement might look like, you should be able to calculate about how much money you'll eventually need. An investment professional can help you come up with these figures.

Next, evaluate your current savings and investment vehicles. Are you putting away as much as you possibly can? If not, what opportunities do you have? You may be able to put in more to your 401(k) or another type of tax-deferred, employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you have already "maxed out" on your 401(k), then you may be able to contribute to a traditional or Roth IRA, both of which also offer tax advantages.

If you've contributed the maximum amounts to a 401(k) and an IRA, then you may want to look at other retire-

ment savings vehicles, such as annuities. You can contribute large amounts to an annuity, and, as is the case with a 401(k), your earnings grow on a tax-deferred basis. If you need to make a withdrawal from an annuity, any accumulated earnings are taxable at the time of the withdrawal. In addition to paying income taxes, you may also be subject to a surrender charge by the issuing insurance company. And if you are younger than 59 1/2, you may be subject to a ten percent IRS penalty on the earnings.

You have a wide array of investment options in all these retirement plans - 401(k)s, IRAs and annuities. But the volatile stock market of the past few years may make you leery of funding your retirement plan with stocks. However, stocks historically have been the only financial asset to provide the type of growth that most people need to help achieve their long-term goals. Therefore, when you're investing for retirement, you may want to reconsider owning stocks.

But what can you do to help protect yourself from the volatility of the stock market? First, start investing early for retirement - the more time you have on your side, the better your chances of overcoming market downturns. Next, diversify the investments within your retirement plans. By spreading your dollars among a wide array of stocks - along with bonds, government securities and money market vehicles - you can help blunt the impact of volatility and give yourself more chances for success.

By taking these steps, you'll go a long way toward achieving your retirement objectives - and when National Retirement Planning Week rolls around again, you can look back on a year's worth of progress.

Winters Business Forum December 18

The Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation will be hosting the second Business Forum at noon on December 18 at the Rock Hotel.

Guest speaker will be Judy Wilhelm, director of the Abilene Small Business Development Center.

The Business Forum will provide resource personnel each month to assist Winters area business owners. There is no charge for the forum and everyone is welcome to attend.

Please call 754-4542 or e-mail rconner@winters-texas.us to make reservations for pizza or you may bring your own brown bag lunch.

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- Roger Robinson
- Wayne Schwartz
- Mr. and Mrs. Mike Neal
- Tommye O'Dell

Country Club News

by Brenda Clough
Ladies Golf Association President

The Club will have the monthly scramble on Sunday, Dec. 7, weather permitting. Tee off will be at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to come out and play.

Reservations are not being accepted for the New Year's Eve dance. Tickets are \$3 per person or \$5 per couple. You may call the club house at 754-4679.

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Baker completes 8-week U.S. Navy training course

Navy Seaman Robert D. Baker, son of Cecelia Delarosa of Winters, Texas, and Mitchell H. Baker of Goldsboro, North Carolina, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois.

During the eight-week program, Baker completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, fire fighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the key skills and confidence they need to graduate and take to the fleet. "Battle Stations" has been designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. Its distinctly 'Navy' flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a Sailor.

Baker is a 1986 graduate of Winters High School.

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Andrew Thyen, M.D. • Denice Tyler FNP-C

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by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- Astro Bagwell contributions (abbr.)
- TXism: "busy as a _____ armed paper hanger"
- TXism: "pick of the litter"
- TX perennial
- TXism: "blister" (handle)
- "Bureau of _____ Indian"
- TXism: "sick as a watermelon"
- divine
- Alamo's Travis: "I shall never surrender _____ retreat"
- TX Quaid was "Doc" in "Wyatt _____"
- evidence used in some TX cases
- TX Larry King's "Confessions of _____ White"
- Cowboy Gundiff kick (2 wds.)
- TX Ginger (init.)
- in Pecos Co.?
- "The Treasure of _____ Gap"
- where some TXns ski
- accessory for the Aggie Color Guard
- TXism: "scarce _____ a frog"
- TX Nancy Griffith tune: "_____"
- Something Fine
- TX Supreme Ct. is a ct. of last _____
- TXism: "scared me plumb _____ death"
- TXism: "hat against my grain"
- TXism: "got a bun in the _____" (pregnant)
- Carl Sandberg: "Texas _____ valor and swagger"
- window attachments
- TX "Babe" Didrikson (init.)
- TXism: "it belongs to _____ and the bank"
- cowboy rope
- convenience'
- boot bottom
- Angelo
- TX pest: fire
- international distress signal
- White
- Richardson Foundation'
- period of high radio listening (2 wds.)
- Mavs tough foe: Los _____ Lakers
- TXns Hagman and McMurtry
- ex-Aggie coach _____ Slocum
- Abilene Wylie football class
- U.S.S. Hatteras was sunk off TX by _____ Alabama"
- TXism: "got _____ the horse's mouth"
- Brewster is the _____ TX county
- This Victor was in in "Four for Texas"
- 2,000 lbs.
- 60 minutes (abbr.)
- new law school grad's situation? (2 wds.)
- the "Seven _____"
- TX actress Meredith Mac _____
- road curve
- _____ Cantina"
- In song "El Paso"
- Llano Co. seat

Solutions for this puzzle appear in this issue.

Life

Obituaries

Edward Wardell Long

GOLDTHWAITE—Edward Wardell Long, 85, died Saturday, November 15, 2003, at Hillview Manor Nursing Home in Goldthwaite.

He was born on June 24, 1918, at Victor, Texas, in Erath County, the son of Charles Solomon and Amanda Bell (Wilkins) Long. He married Retha Mozell Tippett on November 15, 1941, at San Angelo. He served in the United States Army during World War II in the Aleutian Islands.

Mr. Long was a private contractor in Winters, Texas, until 1980 when they moved to Comanche. The couple moved to Goldthwaite from Comanche in 2002.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Granvel Long and J. D. Long.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Mozell Long of Goldthwaite; one son and daughter-in-law, Danny and Becky Long of Goldthwaite; three granddaughters and spouses, Tassie and Tim Spradley of Goldthwaite, Mindy and Craig Hopper of Priddy, and Jenny and B.J. Carnes of Brownwood; six great-grandchildren, Ashley and Bailey Spradley, Kendel, Allison, and Mitchel Hopper, and Mackenzie Carnes; one brother, Alvis Waldrop of Winters; and two sisters, Jessie Danford of Winters and Opal Herring of Comanche.

Funeral services were Monday, November 17, at 10:00 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Goldthwaite. Doug Holtzclaw, pastor of the church, officiated. Interment was at 3:00 p.m. Monday at Lakeview Cemetery in Winters. Stacy-Wilkins Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were Harlan Jernigan, Frank Bridges, Don Henson, Mike Hoover, Gerry Head, and Lanny Dowell.

Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 490, Goldthwaite, Texas 76844.

James M. "Jim" Mitchell

FORT WORTH—James M. "Jim" Mitchell, 85, formerly of the Pumphrey community, died Wednesday, November 26, 2003, in a Fort Worth hospital.

He was born on May 9, 1918, in Pumphrey and grew up there where he farmed. He served in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II.

Mr. Mitchell worked for Chance Voit Aircraft in Fort Worth for many years and became a treasure hunter following his retirement. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include one brother, Walter M. Mitchell of Albuquerque, New Mexico; and several cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Services were at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, November 30, in the Winters Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Michael Ingram officiating. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery in Winters, directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Minnie B. Hart

GOLDTHWAITE—Minnie B. Hart, 78, passed away on Wednesday, November 26, 2003, at Brownwood Regional Medical Center.

She was born on November 23, 1925, in Fox, Oklahoma, to Jim Oglesbee and Fanny Collins Oglesbee. She married J.D. Hart in 1940 at Winters, Texas, and lived there all her married life.

Mrs. Hart was a homemaker, beautician, and a Baptist. She was preceded in death by her husband and three brothers.

Survivors include two sons, Doug Hart and wife Marie Elena of Goldthwaite and Alan Hart of Winters; two granddaughters, Annette Knight and Barba Dowell, both of Goldthwaite; one grandson, Chad Hart of Hondo; seven great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Services were at 10:00 a.m. Monday, December 1, at Stacy-Wilkins Funeral Chapel in Goldthwaite. Burial was at 3:00 p.m. in Crews Cemetery, directed by Stacy-Wilkins Funeral Home.

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Joe Nichols to perform at Rehab 2004

One of the hottest young stars in country music today will be the headline performer for Rehab 2004. West Texas Rehabilitation Center (WTRC) President and CEO, Woody Gilliland, has announced that Joe Nichols will perform at the 34th annual telethon to benefit WTRC.

Nichols just recently won the Country Music Association's Horizon Award which is given to the artist who has demonstrated significant growth in country music over the past year. He was also nominated for "Album of the Year" for his album "Man With A Memory." Some of his hits include "The Impossible," "Joe's Place," "Broken-heartsville," "She Only Smokes When She Drinks," and "Cool To Be A Fool."

Rehab 2004 will be held Saturday, January 17, 2004, at the Abilene Civic Center. The five-hour live show, that begins at 7 p.m. will be broadcast in

10 television markets in Texas and portions of Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Joining Joe Nichols at Rehab 2004 will be Charlie Chase, Red Steagall, and regulars Bill and Susan Hayes, Anacani, and Brad Maule.

The telethon is the largest fund-raiser of the year for the Rehab will a goal to raise over \$1 million in support of the Rehab's mission, to improve the quality of life of those served regardless of their financial circumstances.

Underwriters for Rehab 2004 are American Electric Power (AEP) and Associated Publishing/Area-Wide Phone Book. American Airlines/American Eagle is the official air carrier of Rehab 2004. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas is a Rehab partner in the auction.

For additional information on Rehab 2004, please contact Dan Huggins in Abilene at (325) 793-3508 or Dee Lackey in San Angelo at (325) 223-6300.



DECORATE A TREE and promote the Winters Public Library during the holiday season. Librarian Kristina Bullard (left) and Tabatha Grohman, assistant, will place your name or the name of a loved one on a special handcrafted decoration for each \$10 donation. Memorials and honorariums are welcome. (photo by Mike Neal)

Free photography contest open to Winters residents

The International Library of Photography is pleased to announce that over \$60,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Amateur Photography Contest.

Photographers from the Winters area, particularly beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of over 1,300 prizes. The deadline for the contest is March 1, 2004. The contest is open to everyone and entry is FREE.

"Everyone has at least one memorable photo that captures a special moment in time," stated Christina Baylon, Con-

test Director. "When people learn about our free photography contest, they suddenly realize that their own favorite photos can win cash prizes, as well as gain national exposure," continued Baylon.

To enter, send ONE photograph in ONLY ONE of the following categories: people, travel, pets, children, sports, nature, action, humor, portrait, or other. The photo must be a color or black-and-white print (unmounted), 8" x 10" or smaller. All entries must include the photographer's name and address on the back, as

well as the category and the title of the photo. Photographs should be sent to: The International Library of Photography, Suite 101-2618, 3600 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Entries must be post-marked by March 1, 2004. You may also submit your photo directly at www.picture.com.

The International Library of Photography is an organization dedicated to bringing the work of amateur photographers to the public's attention. You can view the work of over 1.1 million amateur photographers at www.picture.com.

Confused about environmental regulations?
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Who can you turn to for help?

Small Business and Government Assistance
1-800-447-2827
www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/exec/sbea/sblga.html

Local compliance assistance specialists:
Region 3 (Abilene)
Mandy Ellifritz 698-6104
Region 8 (San Angelo)
George Ortiz 481-8061

Post office offers job opportunities

The United Postal Service announces upcoming job opportunities in processing, distribution and delivery positions in the post offices in some of the following cities: Abilene, Anson, Aspermont, Baird, Clyde, Coahoma, Colorado City, Hamlin, Haskell, Hermleigh, Knox City, Merkel, Roby, Roscoe, Rotan, Snyder, Stamford, Sweetwater, Tuscola, and Winters.

Announcement Number 77518 is open between December 1, 2003, 11:01 a.m. CST, and December 12, 2003, 10:59 p.m. CST.

Apply on the internet at www.usps.com/employment or on a touch-tone phone by calling 1-866-999-8777 (TTY 1-800-800-8776) and following the prompts. You will need the Announcement Number identified above. Applicants can only apply once per Announcement Number. Duplicate applications will not be accepted.

Job Choices: The positions/salary range covered by this examination announcement are as follows:

City Carrier	from \$17.07 to \$22.55
Clerk	from \$16.03 to \$21.83
Flat Sorting Machine Operator	from \$16.89 to \$22.36
Mail Handler	from \$13.92 to \$20.93
Mark-Up Clerk	from \$15.22 to \$21.35

A list of Career Postal Employment Benefits is available upon request.

All applicants are required to take a multiple choice examination (Test 470 Battery). The examination and completion of forms will require approximately 2 hrs. and 15 minutes. Note: Applicants will be sent a scheduling package that includes the exam date, time, and location, and material to prepare for the examination.

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Christmas Bazaar in San Angelo Dec. 6-7

Come one, come all to the 29th annual Christmas Bazaar on December 6, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. & December 7, noon-5 p.m. at the Concho Pavilion on the San Angelo Fair Grounds.

Many unique and unusual handcrafted items will be available including:

- *Decorative Items
- *Christmas Decorations
- *Woodcrafts
- *Metal Art
- *Jewelry
- *Clothing
- *Hair Accessories

- *Quilts
 - *Needlework
 - *Wind Chimes
 - *Toys & Games
 - *Stained Glass
 - *Ceramics
 - *Oil Paintings
 - *Photography
 - *Gourd & Egg Creations
 - *Floral Arrangements
 - *Candles, Soaps & Oils.
- There will also be drawings for hourly door prizes, and Santa will be there all day Sunday.
- No admission is charged.

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Law & Order

Lillian Grissam, new animal control officer



Lillian Grissam, wife of police officer Rick Grissam, has been hired by the City of Winters as animal control officer effective Nov. 10, 2003. She and Rick have two children, Stephanie, age 11, and Jimmy, 14.

Lillian is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days per week to serve the needs of the community.

She is excited about the opportunity to help save the lives of as many dogs and cats as possible. "I love working with animals," Lillian says, "and the more I can find homes for the better." Current policy states

that animals be euthanized after only 3 days in the shelter. However, Lillian is sometimes lenient, especially if there are only a few dogs or cats in custody at the shelter, in hopes of placing the animals in homes as pets. She states that her goal is to save as many animals as possible and get them back to their original owner or to find a new owner.

The animal shelter is open Monday through Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. Unless Lillian is out on a call, she will be at the shelter and invites you to come take a look. Flyers with pictures and descriptions of the animals will also be hung in local stores.

To adopt a pet, a \$20 fee is required for a city tag, as well as \$13 for a rabies vaccination and tag. If you are interested, you may schedule an appointment with Lillian by calling the Winters Police Dept. at 754-4121 or City Hall at 754-4424.

Police Beat

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

The following are calls investigated by the Winters Police Department during the week of November 24, 2003, through November 30, 2003. Officers:

- filed a report of retaliation against a witness. The case was sent to the District Attorney's Office for review.
- filed a report of theft over \$500 in the 1100 block of North Main Street. The property was recovered. The case is still under investigation.
- arrested a subject in the 100 block of North Melwood Street on municipal warrants.
- investigated a disturbance on Circle Drive.

Official Records

County Court Dispositions

Theresa Louise Lane vs. Alfonso Martinez, application for protective order granted temporarily, until Dec. 8

Francisco Ortiz, assault, pleaded nolo contendere, sentenced to six months in county jail, probated to six months, fined \$500, plus \$236 court costs, assigned 40 hours community service

Civil Cases filed November 24

Theresa Louise Lane vs. Alfonso Martinez, application for protective order

Marriage Licenses Filed November 21

Claude Dale Stout and Jennifer Christina Kelsey Matthews

November 26

Paul Joseph Strand and Melinda DeGregory

District Court Civil Cases Filed November 26

New South Federal Savings Bank vs. Robert Molina, account

Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 Criminal Cases Filed November 25

James John Bedortha, filed for waste of game

Civil Cases Filed November 3

Citifinancial Mortgage Company, Inc., vs. Troy Harding and all other occupants, forcible detainer

Hunter airlifted after dropping gun and shooting self

contributed by Roeneal Boles, editor of The Ballinger Ledger

Kenneth Mitcham, 44, of Irving, owes a debt of gratitude to two young Runnels County men.

Mitcham was deer hunting on a ranch near Norton when he dropped his rifle while climbing into a deer stand. The 30.06 bullet tore through his upper right arm, shattering the bone.

Robbie and Cody Cook were also hunting in the area, on another place, and heard the gunshot, then cries for help. They located Mitcham and applied first aid as they were able and called 9-1-1.

Runnels County Sheriff Bill Baird, after locating the hunters, loaded Mitcham into his pickup and took him to a main road near Norton, meeting an

air ambulance out of San Angelo.

Mitcham was first taken to Shannon Hospital in San Angelo, then later transferred to a hospital in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

According to Game Warden Lane Pinckney, Mitcham was apparently climbing the tripod stand with his rifle loaded and the safety off, dropping the rifle, when it discharged upon hitting the ground.

Mitcham has undergone three surgeries since arriving at the Metroplex hospital and doctors think his arm can be saved.

He's awfully glad the Cook boys came to his aid.

Pinckney said this is the first accident reported in Runnels County this hunting season.

Public Notice

Elm Creek Water Control District will meet in regular session on Tuesday, December 9, 2003, at 7:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Activity Center, 600 Wood, Winters, Texas.

Grissam reminds residents of animal control regulations

Animal Control Officer Lillian Grissam would like to remind residents of some of the main regulations of the Winters Code of Ordinances pertaining to animal control.

Powers

The animal control officer has the power to issue citations to any person violating the provisions of the Code, to carry out necessary acts in order to fulfill and enforce the Code, and to generally have all those powers incidental to the operation of the office.

Interference Prohibited

It is unlawful for any person to interfere with, hinder, or prevent the police, animal control officer, or any person so authorized from enforcing the regulations of the Code or to violate any of the provisions of the Code.

Treatment of Animals

Cruelty to animals of any species is punishable in accordance with the Penal Code, Section 42.11.

Maximum Number of Dogs & Cats per Household

Each household shall have a maximum of five (5) dogs and cats, a combination of

which is not to exceed four (4) dogs or four (4) cats. Animal breeders and animal grooming establishments are exempt.

Animals at Large

Running at large is defined as "off the premises of the owner and not under the physical control of the owner and his authorized representative." An animal intruding upon the property of someone besides the owner is running at large. An animal within a vehicle of its owner is not running at large.

It is unlawful for any person owning any animal, including but not limited to cats, dogs, poultry, fowl, livestock, and all other domestic and pet animals as defined by the Code, to permit such animals to run at large. Dogs in public must be on a leash and may not be left unattended at any time. If an officer is in pursuit of an animal running at large and the animal returns to the owner's premises, the officer may confiscate said animal on the owner's property if the owner is not available to properly restrain the animal.

Nuisance

No owner shall harbor any dog, cat or other pet animal which by any sound, cry or other activity shall disturb the peace, comfort or property of the inhabitants of the neighborhood, and such disturbance is hereby declared to be a public nuisance and a class C misdemeanor. Upon citation from the police or animal control officer, the owner of the offending animal must appear before the municipal court.

Restraint Of Fowl

All forms of poultry and fowl must be confined by whatever fencing or caging is necessary to restrain them on the owner's property

License For Fowl

Any person harboring more than five (5) specimens of any type of outdoor fowl or poultry shall be required to purchase a city permit for a fee as provided for in the fee schedule found in the appendix of this Code.

Editor's note: The above information is from the Winters Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Animal Control. For more details, contact City Hall at 754-4424.

Reminders from Crime Victim Crisis Center in light of the Michael Jackson arrest:

Fewer than 1 in 5 sexual assaults on children are reported to law enforcement officials (20 percent of female and 12 percent of male victims). Texas law requires anyone who even suspects child abuse to report it to authorities. You must report to local law enforcement, or to the Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-252-5400 or online at <http://www.tdprs.state.tx.us>.

Child sex abusers are often known as "pillars of the community" and "wonderful with children."

Most child sex offenders are known to their victims, either as a family member or close acquaintance.

One in 3 girls, 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused before age 18.

A recent survey of Texans by KRC Research - the largest and most comprehensive study of its kind undertaken by a state to date - found that adults and teenagers are seriously concerned about sexual assault and believe Texas should take the issue more seriously. The survey also found that more than half of all Texans are not even aware of the sexual assault services available to them in their communities. (Source: Texas Association Against Sexual Assault)

Protect your child:

- Let your child know it's okay to say "no" to someone, even an adult, even a loved one, in a situation that doesn't seem right.
- Ask your child what hap-

pened while you were away.

- Believe your child.
- Do not blame your child.
- Reassure your child of your love.
- Create an atmosphere that encourages him/her to freely discuss sexual matters with you.
- Teach your young child how to dial your phone number.
- Don't scare your child. Instead, teach them to be self-confident, considerate and assertive.

More tips for adults and children are available free of charge from Crime Victim Crisis Center.

Initiated in 1977, Regional Crime Victim Crisis Center is a non-profit agency serving 11 counties in the Big Country. CVCC has a 24-hour hotline: 325-677-7895. CVCC staff and volunteers provide information, support, resources, and comprehensive crisis assistance to victims of violent crime. CVCC staff and volunteers also present the WHO ("We Help Ourselves") anti-victimization program to some 6,000 students, K-12th grade, each year. Safety presentations are also available to civic groups and other community organizations.

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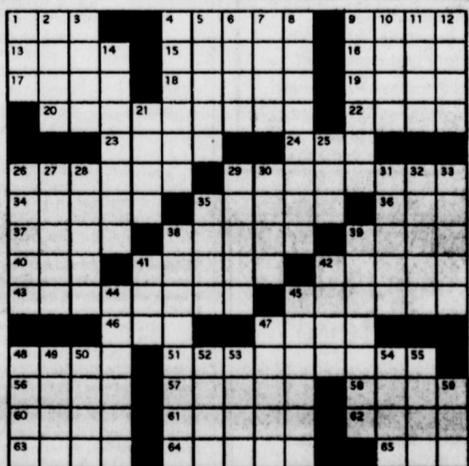
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ACROSS

1. Wee one
4. Pate
9. Stumble
13. Speaker's place
15. Casanova
16. Carousel
17. Hit
18. Castle
19. Beverages
20. Criteria
22. Piece of clothing
23. Late comedian Howard and namesakes
24. Holy Pariahs: abbr.
26. ___ down; become calm
29. Sweetheart
34. Fish holder
35. Portion
36. Peace: Lat.
37. Loud noise
38. Skeletal part
39. Mellow
40. Rubber tree mover, in song
41. Assigned task
42. Serape wearer
43. ___ up; preparing oneself mentally
45. Deflect
46. Layer
47. Small bird
48. Comedian's line
51. Opposite of a cad
56. Sheriff Andy Taylor's boy
57. January, to 42 Across
58. Leader's title: abbr.
60. Liq. measures
61. Name for a pet
62. Look for
63. Plum variety
64. Exchanges
65. Suffix for comment or element

DOWN

1. Koch and Sullivan
2. Regulations
3. Order
4. Pitcher's option
5. Womens' names
6. Allege
7. Loan
8. Compelling influence
9. Go from place to place
10. Vex
11. 3/15
12. Botherome person
14. Stutter
21. Joyful song
25. Item for Player
26. Fragment
27. Small appliances
28. Full of substance
29. Ending for no or any
30. Talk wildly
31. State one's views
32. Gas
33. Strain
35. Washing machine cycle
38. Bees
39. Renovates
41. Pronoun
42. Father
44. Jack ___
45. Sorrows
47. ___ throat
48. Exercises outdoors
49. October's birthstone
50. Unit of weight, for short
52. Enough, for Khayyam
53. Leningrad's river
54. Geographical section
55. Poet's word
59. Pilot's mislu



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Outdoors

Biosecurity to protect livestock and poultry health

At 1,200 pounds, cattle look tough...but these animals, just like horses, sheep, goats, poultry and other livestock can be "taken down" by just a few unseen bacteria, viruses or parasites, whether they're introduced intentionally or accidentally. By making some simple changes, however, you can ensure that your animals are afforded an extra measure of health protection!

Biosecurity practices don't have to be cumbersome, confusing or expensive, according to the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock and poultry health regulatory agency. In fact, a small tub, a gallon of bleach or disinfectant, and a brush will go a long way toward protecting your livestock from "outside" disease. Your premise needs to be a "safe" area — and biosecurity practices are the barriers you can use to keep disease out!

1. Give "germs" the boot!

You wouldn't think of eating off the floor at the local coffee shop, livestock market...feed store or grocery. But, if you walk around these places in your work boots, then head home and work with your animals, you may be tracking "germs" on the soles of your shoes to your pasture, animal bedding or any livestock feed you step in.

Don't take unwanted "guests" to your animals. Either keep a pair of boots or shoes to wear only on your own premise, or clean and disinfect your footwear before heading out to check on livestock.

Commercial disinfectants are readily available, or you can mix three parts bleach to two parts water in a small, flat tub. A quick scrub of your boots with a long-handled brush will remove manure, mud or debris, and the bleach or disinfectant will kill viruses, germs and parasites.

Company coming? Ask your visitors and employees to clean their boots, too. If you entertain prospective international buyers, you might even consider providing them with rubber boots that are never removed from your premise.

Where have your hands been? Handling animals at the livestock market? In Great Britain, foot-and-mouth virus was spread at the livestock auction by buyers inspecting the mouths of hundreds of sheep.

2. Don't haul home disease

Car, truck or trailer tires can harbor "germs," too. At the livestock market, you've probably driven through manure, mud or muck. Taking a few minutes to spray disinfectant over your tires can kill the "germs" you've picked up in the parking lots, on dirt roads or in a friend's pasture.

If you've been hauling livestock in your trailer, a quick trip through the car wash is advisable before returning home.

3. Bucket brigades & tool trades

Borrowing equipment or tools from a neighbor? Carrying buckets, shovels or wheelbarrows to use at the local fair or exhibit? You can bet you've picked up "germs" at the event. Don't bring these items home until you've washed off the "crud" and sprayed the equipment with disinfectant.

Clean and disinfect borrowed items before returning them!

4. Trash & Garbage: "Bag it!"

Control refuse on your premise. Don't haul home trash or garbage from your office, store or another site, unless it's bagged in plastic and sealed.

Never bring home meat scraps to feed livestock. Besides being illegal to feed pigs meat scraps, it's also a dangerous practice, as viruses and bacteria can be alive in undercooked meat scraps.

5. Tourist OR terrorist?

Be aware of who is on your property! Strangers lurking near your fence line, could be innocent tourists admiring the scenery and your stock...or they could have sinister intentions. Ask questions — or call the local law enforcement officials. These days, it pays to be alert — and justifiably suspicious!

Friends, family or business associates coming to visit? If they've traveled internationally within the previous week, discourage them from handling your livestock. At the very least, make certain their footwear is disinfected. Some viruses can stay alive for several days on clothing, footwear.

If you've traveled internationally, wash your clothes, shower and clean your boots before going out to check on livestock or poultry. Better yet, avoid getting near your animals for at least 48 hours after traveling internationally, to ensure you don't pass any viruses that may be "harbored" in your nasal passages.

6. Padlock your perimeter.

Lock your gates! Keep feed sacks and veterinary supplies in a secure location. Don't tempt someone to tamper with feed, supplements or medicines.

Taking animals to a show or fair? Don't take chances with feed supplies and equipment at the show grounds. With the increased threat of agricultural terrorism, security is extremely important, particularly where unknown persons have access to livestock or poultry.

7. Give "germs" space!

Keep newly introduced animals isolated for at least two weeks.

Newly acquired animals should be isolated for at least two weeks, to ensure you don't introduce disease to your main herd or flock. Although it's not required, unless you import animals from out of state, you might consider having your private practitioner inspect animals prior to, or shortly after, making a purchase.

As an added precaution, consider keeping show animals segregated for two weeks after they've been to a fair or exhibit. If someone has introduced a disease at an event, you'll be protecting your main herd or flock.

8. Report signs of disease immediately!

Don't wait to report unusual signs of disease to your private practitioner or the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), or U.S. Department of Agriculture veterinarians will work with you and your private veterinary practitioner at no charge to take samples for diagnostic testing.

Early reporting is crucial to the health and safety of YOUR herd or flock and to the entire livestock and poultry industry!

The TAHC operates a 24-hour, toll-free hotline, with veterinarians on call to assess the situation and dispatch a foreign animal disease diagnostician, if the situation warrants. Call 1-800-550-8242 and follow the recorded instructions, please.

Why be Concerned?

* A foreign animal disease outbreak could stop Texas' interstate and international livestock and poultry trade "dead in its tracks."

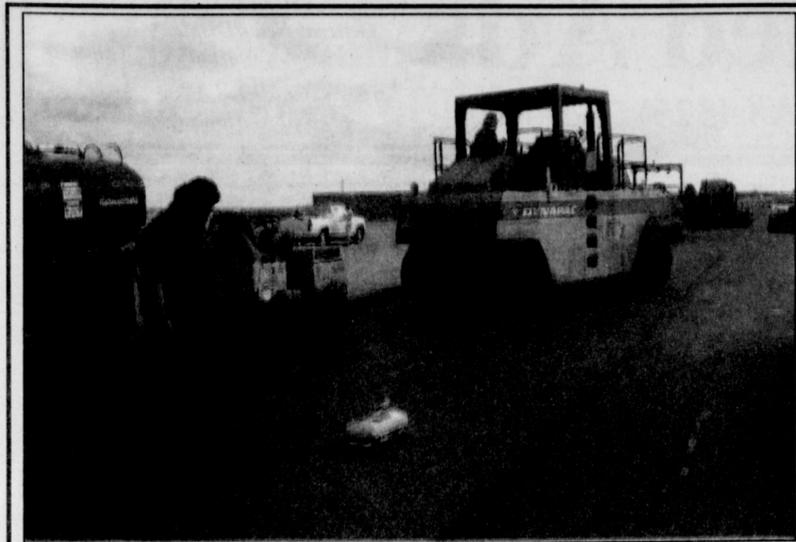
* Early reporting is the most important step in eradicating a disease outbreak! Don't be afraid of crying "wolf!"

* There is no charge for TAHC or USDA veterinarians to work with you and your private veterinary practitioner to conduct a disease investigation.

* Don't take shortcuts! Livestock health regulations were developed to protect herds and flocks!

Signs of disease that should be reported immediately:

1. Sudden, unexplained death loss in the herd or flock
2. Severe illness affecting a high percentage of animals
3. Blisters around an animal's mouth, nose, teats or hooves.
4. Unusual ticks or maggots.
5. Staggering, falling or central nervous system disorders that prevent animals from rising or walking normally.



PAVEMENT DENSITY of the newly topped runway at the Winters Airport is checked by an employee of Rodriguez Engineering (left) of Austin. The quarter-million dollar project is nearing completion with work by Reece Albert Construction of San Angelo. After the pavement "cures" for about a month, stripes will be painted.

(photo by Jean Boles)

Mohair Council to host annual membership meeting, Jan. 13-14

The 2004 Annual Membership Meeting of the Mohair Council of America will be Wednesday, January 14, 2004, at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in San Angelo. The Membership Meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. All mohair producers and individuals involved in the Angora goat and mohair industries are encouraged to attend and participate.

Topics that will be discussed include the wool and mohair loan program, progress on each of MCA's manufacturing ventures, sales efforts and results of recent nation-wide events, and the industry outlook for 2004. District caucuses will be included on the agenda in order that members from the ten MCA districts can elect directors to represent their area. As always, there will be special guests and representatives from related industry organizations to share insights.

The Membership Meeting is part of a two-day event. The schedule for both days is as follows:

Tuesday, January 13
1:30 p.m., Texas Mohair Producers Board

2:00 p.m., MCA Executive Committee

6:30 p.m., Reception at the home of MCA President & Mrs. Denny Ray Speck
Wednesday, January 14

8:45 a.m., 2003 Directors Final Meeting

9:00 a.m., MCA Membership Meeting

12:15 p.m., 2004 Directors, First Meeting

12:30 p.m., Buffet Lunch.

All individuals needing overnight accommodations may call the Holiday Inn at 325-658-2828, mention that you are part of the Mohair Council group, and receive the group rate of \$65.00/night. The deadline for reserving a room at this special rate is January 5, 2004.

Everyone planning to attend is asked to RSVP to Kelly Stultz or Suzy Mears at the MCA office, 325-655-3161.

Farm Credit lender passes \$7 billion in loan volume

The Tenth Farm Credit District has passed the \$7 billion mark in agricultural and rural mortgage loan volume for the first time in its 86-year history.

In its third quarter financial report released Nov. 12, 2003, the district reported a loan portfolio of \$7.141 billion at Sept. 30, 2003, a 7.1 percent increase over the \$6.668 billion reported a year earlier.

The Tenth District, the largest rural lending network in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, and Texas, is composed of the Austin-based Farm Credit Bank of Texas (FCBT) and 22 affiliated financing associations.

"The continued growth of our loan portfolio is attributed to the low interest-rate environment of the last two years, enhanced marketing and customer service efforts, and continued demand for real estate in most areas of the district," said FCBT Chief Executive Officer Larry Doyle.

The Farm Credit Bank of Texas provides funding and financial services to 12 Agricultural Credit Associations, which make agricultural and rural real estate loans, and to 10 Federal Land Credit Associations, which specialize in rural real estate lending. At Sept. 30, 2003, these customer-owned financing cooperatives reported a total of 63,808 loans outstanding to agricultural producers, agribusiness operators, country homeowners, and other rural landowners.

The Tenth Farm Credit District is part of the nationwide Farm Credit System. Nationally, the System reported net income of \$462 million and \$1.340 billion for the three and nine months ended Sept. 30, 2003, respectively. This compares with net income of \$437 million and \$1.371 billion for the same periods last year.

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By Ace Reid

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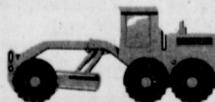
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