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Volume 20, Issue 13

Thursday, February 18, 2010

Winters, Texas

75c

## Winters Elementary students of the month



Gage McFadin



Maci Oliver

The Winters Elementary School recognized individual grade level Students of the Month for the month of February. The following are the grade-level representatives:

- Pre-Kindergarten: Kira Collins, daughter of Kyla Collins; and James Speir, son of Scott and Kayla Speir
  - Kindergarten: McKenzie Ventress, daughter of Jason and Missy Ventress; and Rider Duggan, son of Will and Leslie Duggan
  - First grade: Natalie Lara, daughter of Rudy and Elosia Lara; and Bryce Hermesmeyer, son of Stephen and Laura Hermesmeyer
  - Second grade: Makayla Speir, daughter of Scott and Kayla Speir; and Rico Sanchez, son of Jesus and Sabrina Sanchez
  - Third grade: Jisela Cavazos, daughter of Nancy Cavazos; and Gage McFadin, son of Angela Parrott
  - Fourth grade: Joey Garcia, son of Jose and Vicki Garcia; and Kelsey Riddle, daughter of Vickie Riddle
  - Fifth grade: Sam Woodall, son of Michael and Stacy Woodall; and Audrey Moore, daughter of Natasha Moore and Russell Moore
  - Sixth grade: Cameron Cooper, son of Allan and J'Lynn Cooper; and Maci Oliver, daughter of Theresa Kennemer and Troy Oliver.
- The Winters I.S.D. School Board recognized Maci and Gage as the Elementary Students of the Month. Mr. Phil Mooney was recognized as the Winters I.S.D. Employee of the Month.

## Comptroller Susan Combs distributes \$618 million in local sales tax to cities

(AUSTIN)— Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said today the state collected \$1.66 billion in sales tax revenue in January, down 14.2 percent compared to January 2009.

"Collections continue to be down in major industry sectors like retail trade, oil and natural gas production, construction and manufacturing," Combs said. "January's sales tax revenue was down by dou-

ble digits compared to January 2009, which was the third highest collection month ever and was also the last month of year-over-year growth. We will continue to closely monitor sales tax revenue, and although we expect further collection declines in the near term, it is anticipated the rate of decline will moderate and then return to revenue growth sometime in the second quarter of 2010."

Combs sent \$618.2 million in local sales tax to Texas cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, down 7.1 percent compared to sales tax distributions to local governments in February 2009.

January state sales tax collections and February's local sales tax allocations represent sales made in December, and also include earlier sales by businesses that report sales tax to the Comptroller on a quarterly or annual basis.

### Local sales tax receipts take a further dip downward

February sales tax allocations in all three Runnels County municipalities were lower than they were for the same time last year. February allocations represent December sales.

The year over year decline was not unexpected given the economic downturn in the state and for the country as a whole. However, the decline was higher than it has been for the year.

Ballinger's allocation was \$114,673 down 24.5 percent from last year's \$152,039 and the 19.9 percent reduction for the year.

Miles' allocation was \$4,956 down 7.36 percent the \$5,350 allocation in February 2009. The allocations for the year for Miles have been holding steady, \$8,875 to last year's \$8,843.

In Winters' allocations received were down 19.63 percent with \$19,587 for December 2009 sales compared to \$24,372 for the previous period.



The Comptroller sent \$417.7 million in sales tax to Texas cities, down 6.2 percent compared to February 2009 payments. Texas counties received February sales tax payments of \$35.1 million, down 15.1 percent compared to last February.

The 163 special purpose taxing districts around the state received \$24.6 million in sales tax, down 7.8 percent compared to February 2009.

Ten local transit systems received \$140.6 million in February sales tax payments, down 7.5 percent compared to a year ago.

For details of February sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the Monthly Sales Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports on the Comptroller's Web site at [www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/compsum.html](http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/compsum.html).

## Regional census bureau kicks off 2010 count

**By FLOYD INGRAM**

Texans, real Texans, have never been afraid to stand and be counted.

The U.S. Census Bureau is urging Texans, especially rural Texans to take the time to fill out this year's census form and mail it in.

"The federal government will allocate approximately \$400 billion next year based on census data collected this year," said Bob Aguilar, Texas Partnership Specialist for the U.S. Census Bureau. "In 2008, Runnels County received \$37,742,000 in federal dollars based on census numbers taken 10 years ago. As you can see it is very important we count everyone."

That \$37 million is more than the annual payroll of any business in Runnels County.

Census information also affects the numbers of seats the state occupies in the U.S. House of Representatives. And people from many walks of life use census data to advocate for causes, rescue disaster victims, prevent

diseases, research markets, locate pools of skilled workers and more.

"April 1 is rapidly approaching and we want to make sure everyone is counted," said Aguilar. "We are asking 10 questions, the census requires 10 minutes to take and it will last for 10 years."

Census data is also used to help communities like Ballinger and Winters improve their infrastructure. Ballinger recently qualified for a federal sewage improvement grant based on census data. Winters also qualified for a massive federal water project to bring new pipes, pumps and water meters to Winters based on community profile numbers.

The information the census collects helps to determine how federal funding is spent on infrastructure and services like, hospital, job training centers, schools, senior centers and road and bridge projects.

Texas gained more people than any other state between July 1, 2008, and July 1, 2009 (478,000), followed by

California (381,000), North Carolina (134,000), Georgia (131,000) and Florida (114,000), according to the latest U.S. Census Bureau estimates.

Aguilar said census officials are focused now on ensuring they get a complete and accurate count in 2010.

"During the last census Runnels County had a 59 percent response rate," said Aguilar. "Nationally the rate was 67 percent and the state response rate was 64 percent. There is work to be done in Runnels County this year."

In the 2000 Census Runnels County had a population of 10,724 with 32 percent of those being Hispanic and 17 percent living below the poverty level.

"Sadly, the people who need to be counted the most are often undercounted," said Aguilar. "The dollars that fund social services are allocated to communities based on census data."

"Any businessman will tell you that to make good decisions, you have to have good data," he

added. "The census helps our leaders and government make good and fair decisions."

Aguilar said the Census bureau faces two hurdles in West Texas.

"We can only mail census forms to home addresses and not Post Office Boxes and that mean a lot of rural homes won't get a census form," said Aguilar. "Hispanics are also leery of the government and they are typically undercounted, too."

Aguilar said his workers will soon fan out across Runnels County to help with the count. He also urged church, civic and community leaders to urge their congregations and constituents to take ten minutes to answer 10 questions that will affect their lives for the next 10 years.

"It's simple, important and safe," said Aguilar. "The numbers we gather this year will influence Runnels County for the next decade."

For more information about the local census call 325-340-9420.

## Republicans consider five propositions on the 2010 Primary Ballot

AUSTIN — Early voting for the 2010 Republican Primary begins Tuesday, February 16, and along with candidates for offices from courthouses to the state house, voters will have the chance to weigh in on five ballot propositions. The propositions were placed on the GOP primary ballot by the State Republican Executive Committee during its December 2009 meeting in Austin. The non-binding propositions are intended to gauge voter interest in issues, as well as inform our elected officials where the party's grassroots stand on the issues.

"These ballot propositions are Texas Republicans' chance to be heard on issues facing our

state," said Republican Party of Texas Chairman Cathie Adams. "All five of the propositions came up from the grassroots through the SREC to address serious concerns. Voters should study the questions and then use their vote to speak directly to their elected officials."

Noting that the Democrats have no propositions on their primary ballot, Republican Party spokesman Bryan Preston added: "Apparently the Democrats don't want to know what their primary voters think about, say, ObamaCare or the cap and tax bill. If they put those questions on the ballot, they might find out that their own primary voters are just as disenchanted with

Washington Democrats as the rest of us. Or, that they're still on the big government bandwagon — and therefore out of touch with the rest of Texas. So in their case, apparently it's best just not to ask."

The five ballot propositions are as follows:

**Ballot Proposition #1: Photo ID**

The Texas legislature should make it a priority to protect the integrity of our election process by enacting legislation that requires voters to provide valid photo identification in order to cast a ballot in any and all elections conducted in the State of

Texas.

YES OR NO

**Ballot Proposition #2: Controlling Government Growth**

Every government body in Texas should be required to limit any annual increase in its budget and spending to the combined increase of population and inflation unless it first gets voter approval to exceed the allowed annual growth or in the case of an official emergency.

YES OR NO

See BALLOT, Page 6

Make the Right Call

## CHAMBER BANQUET

March 6th at 6:00 p.m.

Winters H.S. Cafeteria

Guest Speaker: Dallas Huston

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See Page 2 on how to get it into

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**ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST**  
Monday  
Breakfast Pocket, Juice, Choice of Milk.  
Tuesday  
Cereal, Cinnamon Toast, Juice, Choice of Milk.  
Wednesday  
Bagel Pizza, Juice, Choice of Milk.  
Thursday  
Biscuit, Sausage, Juice, Choice of Milk.  
Friday  
Muffin w/Ham, Juice, Choice of Milk.

**JUNIOR AND HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST**  
Monday  
Scrambled Eggs or Breakfast Pocket or Muffin w/Ham, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.  
Tuesday  
Cereal or Cereal Bar or Oatmeal or Breakfast Taco, Cinnamon Toast, Juice, Choice of Milk.  
Wednesday  
Pancake w/Ham or Breakfast Pizza or Yogurt w/Ham. Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.  
Thursday  
Biscuit w/Gravy, Sausage or Cereal or Cereal Bar, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.  
Friday  
Breakfast Burrito or Cinnamon Roll w/Ham, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.

**WINTERS ISD LUNCH**  
Monday  
Chicken Spaghetti or Grilled Cheese, Chicken Noodle Soup, Baked Beans, Tossed Salad, Rosy Applesauce, Sugar Cookie, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk.  
Tuesday  
Lasagna or Sweet/Sour Chicken, Corn, Broccoli w/Cheese, Carrot Sticks, Peaches, Vanilla Pudding, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk.  
Wednesday  
Frito Pie or Burrito, Spanish Rice, Pinto Beans, Coleslaw, Mixed Fruit, Cornbread, Peanut Butter Cookie, Choice of Milk.  
Thursday  
Chicken Stick or Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Black Eyed Peas, Tossed Salad, Pear Wedges, Bread Pudding, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk.  
Friday  
Cheese Burger or Hot Pocket, Oven Fries, Baked Beans, Apple Wedges, Lettuce & Tomatoes, Rice Crispy Treat, Choice of Milk.

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The Winters High School Prose and Poetry team participated in the Wylie Valentine Meet Feb. 13. Pictured left to right: Shelby Gehrels, Kat Lindley, and Daisy Martinez. Not pictured in team member Brittany Gray, who was participating the District Cross x Debate in Hamlin.

## Winters Basketball Results

**7th Grade Girls: (Coach Villarreal)**  
Winters 4 16 18 20 20  
Baird 3 8 12 14 14

**JH Boys: (Coach Bates and Spivey)**  
The Breezes went out with a bang in the basketball season finale. Both teams got off to hot starts and blew out the Baird Bears. The 7th grade bunch came out on fire and was determined to keep their winning season alive with a 32-13 victory. The team was led by Jimmy John Ripley with 12 points and the team knocked down three 3-pointers on the night (Jimmy John Ripley, Daryl Hagle and Jake Brock). The Breezes finished the season at 9-2. The 8th graders started hot also. They lead 23-3 at the half. They were led by Chris Gerhart with 19 on the night. Corey Pritchard and Daniel Diaz lead the team with 7 rebounds a piece. They ended the year on a huge win 42-18 over the Bears. The 8th graders end the year with a record of 8-3. I would like to congratulate the

Breezes on a season well done. Also, a special thanks to the family's and fans for all of there support throughout the season. We will see you on the track this spring, keep coming out and supporting the Breezes in all athletics!

**8th Grade Girls: (Coach Airhart):**  
The 8th grade Lady Breezes fell to the Baird Lady Bears 14-8 in the final game of the season. As a team, the Lady Breezes struggled offensively throughout the game against the zone defense. There were a few instances in which it looked like the Breezes would put together a run of scores, but then Baird would respond and keep the point spread consistent.

The Lady Breezes have made lots of progress this season and we are proud of them. Most losses were determined by less than 6 points and several were determined by only 2 points. We are looking forward to seeing these young ladies in the high school program and see them continue to progress.

**High School Basketball**

**Varsity Girls: (Coach Motheral)**  
The Lady Blizzards finished their season strong on Tuesday, February 9, with a win over Cross Plains, 53-49. The girls had a one point lead going into halftime and continued to battle in the second half for the four point victory. LeeAnn Taylor finished with 15 points, Jordan Busher had 14, and Allie Yates contributed 13 points.

The Lady Blizzards ended the season with a 9-18 overall record, and a 3-9 record in district.

**Varsity Boys: (Coach McGuire)**  
Winters 40  
Cross Plains 38  
Leading scorers: Riley Ripley 11, Strait Daniel 7, Devin Martinez 6  
Winters 26  
Eula 64  
Leading Scorers: Riley Ripley 5, Devin Martinez 5, Coltyn Pritchard 3  
Record 14-14 5-6

## Schwartz honored at UNT

DENTON, Texas - The following University of North Texas students from your area were honored recently by being named to university honors lists.

Clinton D. Schwartz of Winters was named to the Dean's List for the 2009 fall semester.

To be named to the Dean's List, undergraduates must complete at least 12 academic hours with a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.9. UNT is one of Texas' largest universities, offering 97 bache-

lor's, 101 master's and 49 doctoral degree programs. Many of these programs are nationally and internationally recognized. A student-centered public research university, UNT is the flagship campus of the UNT System.

UNT's deadline for applying for the fall 2010 semester is March 1, and students may use the ApplyTexas application. For more information, go to www.unt.edu/vwbk/admission.htm, or call 1-800-868-8211.

## Sneed earns spot on Honor list

Susan Sneed, a Junior at Texas Tech University in Lubbock was on the President's Honor List with a

4.0 for the Fall semester 2009.

Susan is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Golden Key International Honor Society, Association for Childhood Education, volunteers weekly for Big Brother/Big Sister.

Susan is majoring in speech pathology with a minor in English. She is the daughter of Randall and Cheryl Sneed and a 2008 graduate of Winters High School.

**2nd Annual Co-ed Softball Tournament**  
When: March 6 & 7  
Where: Rowena, TX  
Cost: \$10 per person  
More info, call  
Tony (325) 977-0453 or Ernest (325) 365-1239

Your vote will be appreciated!  
**Mark Baird**  
for  
**County Judge**

★ ★ ★

- Lifelong resident of Runnels County
- Ballinger High School Graduate
- Texas Tech University Graduate  
Degree in Sociology/concentration in Criminology
- 3 years experience as a Community Supervision Officer/Court Office

★

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## WINTERS BLIZZARDS 2010 FOOTBALL

August 14	Roby (Scrimmage)	10:00 am
August 19	@ Junction(Scrimmage)	6:00 pm
August 27	@ Coleman	7:30 pm
September 3	Miles	7:30 pm
September 10	Cross Plains	7:30 pm
September 17	Menard (Homecoming)	7:30 pm
September 24	@ Bronte	7:30 pm
October 1	@ Albany	7:30pm
October 8	@ Eldorado	7:30 pm
October 15	Reagan County (Big Lake)	7:30 pm
October 22	@ Goldthwaite	7:30 pm
October 29	Open	7:30 pm
November 5	Mason (Senior Night)	7:30 pm

## A&M Corpus Christi scholars

The following Runnels County students have been named to the Dean's List at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for the 2009 fall semester:

**Ballinger:**  
Daniel Quirino, College of Science and Technology, Biomedical Sci-Clinical Science;

**Winters:**  
Laura Armendariz, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Nursing.

To qualify, undergraduates must be enrolled full time with a minimum of 12 semester hours and must earn a grade point average of 3.65 or better on a 4.0 scale.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is a four-year university and part of The Texas A&M University System. The student-oriented university has around 9,100 students and provided bachelor's, master's, doctoral degrees.

## Mustangs win district tournament, finish 15-1

The Olfen Mustangs basketball team finished off a wonderful season by winning the district 29-1a Div II basketball tournament last weekend in Eden. In the first game on Thursday the Mustangs routed the Richland Springs Coyotes 53-21. Angel Lozano scored 16 points and Cameron Henry added 14. In the next game Saturday morning against Veribest the Mustangs prevailed 30-17 to clinch their spot in the final. In the final the Mustangs faced Eden. Olfen had already squared off against Eden three times this year winning two of three against the Bulldogs. It was a frantic, physical game but the Mustangs won again 31-25. Dustyn Hurt scored 16 points in the final. The win capped off an incredible season for the Mustangs as they finished their season 15-1, won the Oak Creek Tournament in Blackwell, and the district tournament. Teams members are eighth

graders Dustyn Hurt, Angel Lozano, Cody Jenkins, and Cameron Henry, 7th graders Andrew Lozano, Richard Rollwitz, Logan Velky, Fabian Jiminez, and Julian Ruiz, and 6th graders Chris Salazar, Paul Salazar, and Bradley Thurmond.

The Lady Mustangs showed some improvement in the tournament. After falling to eventual champion Lohn in the first game 41-10. The Lady Mustangs battled back against Veribest to win 29-22 and get into the consolation final. In the final the girls lost to Paint Rock 41-21. For the tournament Ana Fuentes scored 50 points in three games. This years team included eighth graders Ana, Marie Schroeder, and Jamie Fox, as well as 6th graders Megan Ochoa, Samantha Lozano, and Taylor Guajardo. This was a young and inexperienced team that worked really hard. They finished their season at 3-13, but are sure to be better next year.

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# RUNNELS COUNTY ROUND-UP

## Ranchers and Landowners to gain valuable tools at TSCRA's school for successful ranching

Fort Worth, Texas - Ranchers and landowners from across the state will gather in Fort Worth for the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association's (TSCRA) 16th annual School for Successful Ranching during the TSCRA Convention in Fort Worth. The school will take place March 18-20 and will address multiple issues facing ranchers and landowners including animal disease control, animal nutrition, and business and marketing techniques.

"2009 was a trying year for the cattle industry in Texas. The economy slumped, credit was harder to come by, and a record drought plagued our state. It wasn't the best of years, but the Texas cattle

industry still managed to survive partly because our ranchers have access to valuable tools and information that help them make financially smart decisions," TSCRA President Dave Scott said.

"TSCRA's School for Successful Ranching is an opportunity for ranchers to gain the education and resources they need to protect and secure their operations during good and bad times," Scott continued.

On Thursday, school participants will attend a special series of hands-on classes and demonstrations where they can view live cattle handling



and chuteside demonstrations and test their skills at ear tagging, using implants, fence building and plant identification. Day two of TSCRA's School for Successful Ranching offers six different tracks covering animal health, animal nutrition, business and marketing, pasture and forage, wildlife management and holistic resource management.

You can register online at <http://www.texascattleraisers.org/convention/>.

More than 2,000 ranchers and landowners will gather in Fort Worth for a weekend of programs and educational sessions, a trade show with

more than 200 companies, networking and fellowship with fellow cattle raisers.

The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is a 133-year-old trade organization. As the largest livestock association in Texas, TSCRA represents more than 15,000 beef cattle producers, ranching families and businesses who manage approximately 4 million head of cattle on 51.5 million acres of range and pasture land, primarily in Texas and Oklahoma. TSCRA provides law enforcement and livestock inspection services, legislative and regulatory advocacy, industry news and information, insurance services and educational opportunities for its members and the industry.

### Runnels County News Briefs

#### Olfen Fish Fry

Fish Fry & Sweet Bingo hosted by Friends of Olfen and Olfen Home and School will be held 5:30-7:30pm Friday, Feb. 19 at Saint Boniface Parish Hall in Olfen. Meal includes Fish, French Fries, Beans and Hushpuppies, Slaw and Dessert. Cost is Adults and Plates to Go \$7, Children \$4. Proceeds will be benefiting Olfen ISD and the Olfen Community.

#### Rowena Fish Fry

Rowena Vol. Fire Dept. Annual Fish Fry and Raffle will be held from 11am to 1pm Sunday, Feb. 21 at St. Joseph Parish Hall. Drive thru available. \$7.00 for Adults, \$4.00 for children. For more info contact Randy Schaefer 325-895-1960

### Runnels County Jail Log

#### Jail log for Feb. 18, 2010

- Henry, Garry D., 42, DPS US Marshals warrant
- Gomez, Reynaldo, 17, BPD poss marj, assault
- Watts, Jennifer, 26, RCSO T.B.C
- Stuck, Amanda, 20, RCSO MTR, False statement P.O
- Cua-Vasquez, Moises R., 20, RCSO Illegal entry
- Sandahl, Brandon A., 22, Coke, Midland Co warrant, P.O.M
- Fuentes, Edward Jr., 28, RCSO P.O.M, poss drug paraph
- Anderson, Shane E, 38, Coke Co fail to I.D., Dwli

## Governor Perry proclaims Feb. 21-27 as Severe Weather Awareness Week

### THE TORNADO HIT WITHOUT WARNING

Each year Americans are surprised by tornadoes or severe thunderstorms. "Why?" you ask. For several of the following reasons: "It won't happen to us," "We were unable to hear the siren because we were either asleep or indoors," or "We didn't know about the warning." For these reasons, it is vitally important to have more than one way to receive NWS warnings. You can receive NWS warnings from

devices such as a cell phone, smart phone, PC, radio, television or NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards. Many communities now have ways of relaying NWS warnings to your cell phones or telephones. Please contact your local Emergency Management office for more details.

NOAA All Hazards Radio functions like a smoke detector and warns you anywhere and anytime. This device will automatically alert you of tornadoes, flash floods and severe

thunderstorms while you are asleep or away from your favorite radio or TV station or internet site. You can buy one at most places that sell electronic devices.

### TORNADO DRILL ENCOURAGED

The National Weather Service (NWS) in San Angelo encourages all residents and schools across West Central Texas to practice their tornado warning drill on Thursday, February 25th at 9:30 AM. The NWS in San Angelo will trans-

mit a Special Message through the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on Thursday February 25th at 9:30 AM. Because of the nature of this message, it may or may not activate certain NOAA Weather Radios.

### HELPFUL SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY LINKS

Feel free to use any of this information. Additional information is located at the following websites: [www.srh.noaa.gov/sjt](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/sjt), [www.srh.noaa.gov/tadd](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/tadd), [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org), [http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/pages/weather\\_aware\\_sever.htm](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/pages/weather_aware_sever.htm)

Help us prepare our fellow citizens from the hazards associated with severe weather.

Please feel free to contact Hector Guerrero or Buddy McIntyre at 325-944-9445 to set up an interview for your Newspaper, Radio or TV show. Your participation is extremely appreciated.

### SEVERE WEATHER SAFETY

#### Rules To Keep You Safe:

1) Stay informed with NOAA ALL HAZARDS RADIO, local Radio, TV, or internet— Always have more than one way to receive weather information in case you lose power. NOAA All Hazards Radio functions like a smoke detector and warns you anywhere and anytime. This

device will automatically alert you of tornadoes, flash floods and severe thunderstorms while you are away from your favorite radio or TV station, cable channel or internet site. You can buy one at most electronic stores.

2) Know the difference between a watch and warning. Watch— means conditions are favorable for severe weather.

Warning— means that severe weather such as a tornado, hail or damaging wind storm is very likely or imminent, and has been detected on radar, has been reported by you (public), and/or has been identified by National Weather Service trained SKYWARN Storm Spotters.

3) Know the name of your county and those around you— Have a road map nearby your TV remote control or radio receiver.

4) Know what to do ahead of time.

Tornado and High Wind Safety — Know the safe places from tornadoes and high winds, and be sure your family knows, too. An Underground Shelter or above ground shelter are the safest places. However, the next safest place is an innermost windowless room or hallway on the lowest floor of your home, school, or business away from outside walls and win-

dows. Get down low and cover your head with blankets, pillows, or mattresses.

Abandon Mobile Homes for a safer place from both tordamic and straight line winds, and know where to go when a Watch or Warning is issued for your area. Recent statistics prove that people in manufactured homes are at most risk from tornadoes.

Approximately 8% of all US residents lived in mobile homes. From the period 1985-2002, approximately 49% of all tornado deaths occurred in mobile homes. (American Meteorological Society)

Flash Flood Safety — Always Turn Around Don't Drown (R) when you encounter a flooded low water crossing whether on foot or in a vehicle. Many people drown at night when it is very difficult to see a flooded low water crossing. Flash Flood related deaths are the number one storm related killer.

Lightning Safety — Watch the clouds and be prepared to take shelter before you hear thunder or see lightning. If you're caught outside in lightning, your home and your car offer's a safer refuge. Stay out of the bathtub, stay away from windows and electrical appliances. Turn off all appliances prior to the storm. Don't use the telephone.

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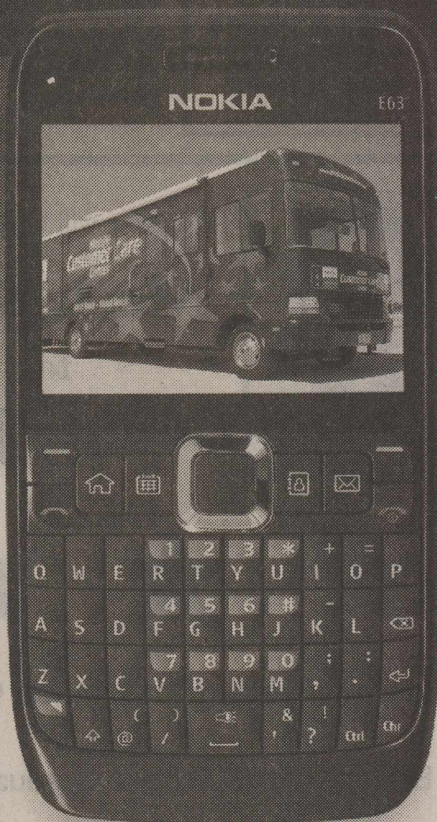
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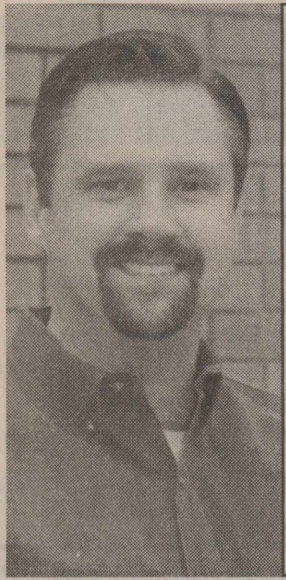
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- |   |   |  |   |  |
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| <p><b>San Angelo</b><br/>Right Wireless • 3371 Knickerbocker Rd.<br/>Right Wireless • Sunset Mall<br/>Right Wireless • 2609 N. Bryant<br/>Food Basket • 2 South Main Street<br/>HEB • 3301 Sherwood Way</p> | <p><b>Brady</b><br/>West Central Wireless • 2019 S. Bridge</p> <p><b>Brownwood</b><br/>Mid-Tex Cellular • 300 W. Commerce</p> <p><b>Early</b><br/>Mid-Tex RV</p> <p><b>Eden</b><br/>Lubck Chevrolet • 302 W. Broadway</p> | <p><b>Fredericksburg</b><br/>Five Star Wireless • 1425 E. Main St. #800A</p> <p><b>Kerrville</b><br/>Five Star Wireless • 1448 Junction Hwy<br/>Five Star Wireless #2 • 317 Sidney Baker S. #300</p> <p><b>Junction</b><br/>Five Star Wireless • 801 Main Street</p> <p><b>Mason</b><br/>Mason Gas • 1004 San Antonio Hwy.</p> | <p><b>Menard</b><br/>B&amp;N Artwear • 606 Ellis</p> <p><b>Mertzon</b><br/>Made in the Shade • 208 S. Broadway</p> <p><b>Miles</b><br/>Mid-Tex RV</p> <p><b>Ozona</b><br/>West Central Wireless • 1002 Ave. E</p> | <p><b>Robert Lee</b><br/>Rock Solid Communications • 803 Austin</p> <p><b>San Saba</b><br/>Central Texas Communications • 208 East Brown</p> <p><b>Sonora</b><br/>West Central Wireless • 102 E. Chestnut</p> <p><b>Winters</b><br/>Mid-Tex RV</p> |
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**ELECT  
NATHAN T. JOHNSON  
For  
COUNTY JUDGE**

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I ENCOURAGE YOU TO TAKE THE TIME TO EXERCISE THIS GREAT FREEDOM ASK FAMILY & FRIENDS TO GO WITH YOU TO THE POLLS

Vote for **NATHAN T. JOHNSON** for the office of Runnels County Judge.

Political advertisement paid for by Nathan T. Johnson, Candidate for Runnels County Judge, 2010, Leslie Johnson Treasurer, P.O. Box 620 Winters, TX 79567

# Ballot

Continued from Page 1

**Ballot Proposition #3: Cutting Federal Income Taxes**  
In addition to aggressively eliminating irresponsible federal spending, Congress should empower American citizens to stimulate the economy by Congress cutting federal income taxes

for all federal taxpayers, rather than spending hundreds of billions of dollars on so-called "federal economic stimulus".

YES OR NO

**Ballot Proposition #4: Public Acknowledgement of God**  
The use of the word "God", prayers, and the Ten Commandments should be allowed at public gatherings and public educational institutions, as well as be permitted on government buildings

and property.  
YES OR NO

**Ballot Proposition #5: Sonograms**  
The Texas Legislature should enact legislation requiring a sonogram to be performed and shown to each mother about to undergo a medically unnecessary, elective abortion.

YES OR NO

The primary vote is March 2, 2010.

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## Heading to dinner at the Rock Hotel



Photos by Kim Nolan  
The Santa Fe Trail riders were in Winters on Feb. 15 and 16 and attended a stew dinner and a dance at the Rock Hotel. WACC and the Red Hat Ladies send a special thanks to Desperate Measures for their donation of time and talent.



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**BARRY HILLIARD**  
for  
**County Judge**  
Republican Primary

Folks, I didn't make the decision to pursue the Runnels County Judge's seat without a lot of thought. I had to decide whether or not I could all but give up operating our family ranch established in 1880. A ranch where I was raised, where my three girls grew up and where generations have laughed, cried, toiled, and of course, prayed.

You see, we are generations of church raised families. Most of you knew my parents, MaryBelle and Harley. I bet many recall mom playing piano at various functions around our community with Dad there as her "roadie". In addition, many of you know that for almost twenty five years I bred, raised, and trained quarter horses with much success.

I also have the distinction of having served the public in law enforcement for almost fifteen years. I began under Don Atkins then went to Midland where I began work as a patrolman. I rose rapidly through the ranks of a 120 man professional department and I became Detective Sergeant at age 24. At age 26 I was nominated by U.S. Congressman George Mahon to attend the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA. Upon graduation at age 27, I became one of four Detective Sergeant's assigned to the Major Crime Unit in Midland. Our duties were to direct or investigate all felony offenses and to make sure all case elements were met prior to presentation to the Grand Jury and subsequent trial. In 1981, I resigned from what I thought to be my life's work to return home, manage our family ranch and raise my kids in our wonderful community.

Management! That's what this job is about! I have no doubts I can handle the criminal aspect. I see as equally important protecting our tax money against wasteful spending and of protecting the rights of our people against abuse of power. I will work with law enforcement as they strive to keep us safe. I respect the efforts of those in our court house and they can trust that I'll defend them when called upon. I promise to meet the many challenges with careful thought and deliberation and that no matter your lot in life when you come before me, you'll be treated fairly. No matter if you are a friend or a stranger.

I believe in my ability! I have decided I would again seek work as a public servant. If elected, our farm land will be rented so that I can devote the time and energy needed to the office. I will do my best to continue the honorable work of those I follow.

I'll be on the Republican ballot for Runnels County Judge on March 2.

Sincerely,  
Barry Hilliard

Political Ad Paid for by Barry Hilliard

## Early Voting begin Feb. 26

Early Voting by personal appearance for the March 2 Republican and Democratic Primary Election is being conducted thru Feb. 26, 8:30 A.M. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday in the County Clerk's Office at the

Courthouse in Ballinger. Any qualified voter is eligible to vote early in person. A voter has the option of voting in either the Republican Primary or the Democratic Primary. Voters are reminded to please bring their voter registration card when voting.

Sample ballots are available at the County Clerk's Office in Ballinger and at the Tax Branch Office in Winters.

For further information, please contact the County Clerk's Office at 365-2720.

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HBO/Showtime: Programming credits will apply during the first 3 months. Customer must downgrade or then-current price will apply. HBO® and related channels and service marks are the property of Home Box Office, Inc. SHOWTIME and related marks are trademarks of Showtime Networks Inc., a CBS company.

Feb. 22-26

The Senior Citizens Activity Center Menu was not available at press time.

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

**How to get your news into the Winters Enterprise**

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- Fax: 325-365-5389
- Email: news@ballingerledger.com