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 RANDALL CONNER
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 WINTERS, TX 79567-3504



WISD votes to separate superintendent

CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
 WINTERS ENTERPRISE
 The Winters Independent School District board voted last week in a special session to accept the voluntary separation agreement with the district's superintendent.

Superintendent David Hutton will leave the district at 7:05 p.m. on Friday, December 10, and three hours later the board will vote on the decision. Hutton will remain in Winters until June 30, 2011. Kevin Busher made a motion to accept the resignation of David Hutton, and the board approved the voluntary separation and release agreement between the Winters Independent School District and Mr. Hutton as discussed in closed session.

The motion was seconded by Doug Bryan, and without further discussion passed with a 7-0 vote. The board authorized board's President Doug Wheat to sign and execute the agreement on behalf of the district.

"The board feels that our school district needs a change of direction, it was not a single factor or issue that led to this decision, with two and a half years



After a three-hour negotiation David Hutton listens to the motion made by Kevin Busher to accept the terms of his voluntary separation agreement.

Hutton will continue to serve as superintendent for several more months and will help guide the district through a smooth and peaceful transition period. The Board will begin the search process for our next superintendent in January.

"This Board appreciates Mr. Hutton and his dedication to Winters ISD the past several years. Mr. Hutton has worked tirelessly and has accomplished many positive things for the good of the students and families of our school district. Our district has achieved overall TEA Recognized status, many facility improvements, enhancements and additions have been made, and our district is in excellent financial condition, just to name a few. We wish David and his family the very best in the days, months, and years ahead. Hutton served the students and community of Winters for the last five years. "This has become our home and we have many close friends and family here," said the Superintendent in a statement. "As I reflect on our time in Winters as Superintendent I am proud of the accomplishments that we have seen. Winters ISD is a 'Recognized' district for the first time ever. The HS has been 'Recognized' for the last two years, the JH is now 'Recognized' for the first time ever," said the Superintendent. Among other achievements during the last

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Among other achievements during the last



RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ / WINTERS ENTERPRISE

Doug Wheat and Carla Hooper raise their hand to vote on the separation of David Hutton as the school's Superintendent, the vote was unanimous.

years the Winters ISD has been able to feed all students and provide all school supplies without any cost to parents. The district has now and expanded cafeteria, a new band hall and new gymnasium.

"(The gymnasium was) paid entirely out of fund

balance at a cost of about \$5 million. This is in addition to keeping the tax rate at \$1.04," said Hutton.

"I have been privileged to work with a fine school board, some fantastic coaches, teachers, staff and principals... I believe we are leaving the district

in good shape including a healthy fund balance. My family and I are excited to move onto new challenges. I believe that while we will sorely miss dear friends in Winters I see a bright future and anticipate great things to come. With change comes great potential."

History comes alive

BY RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
 WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS - On Saturday, December 4, the Runnels County Historical Commission held a headstone dedication ceremony at the Truett Cemetery, in Winters, for Corp. Martin Baty Cochran Sr., a Confederate soldier born in the Mexican province of Texas, and certified as a "First Texas Family" of the Republic of Texas.

Terry Lee Cochran, Martin's great great grandson, was present at the ceremony where the history of Texas came alive, with the readings and remembrances of the Runnels County Historical Commission.

Ruth Cooper, chair of the RCHC led the prayer. The ceremony also featured the history of Runnels City and the Truett community.

Terry Cochran read the biography of his great great grandparent.

The Cochran family was there when the Mexican province of Texas became the Republic of Texas, in 1836, and Martin was laid to rest in the same land where he grew up, enlisted and fought.

"Glimpses of Newton County" states that Martin's father, Joseph Sidney Cochran and his family were early Newton county settlers, and that Joseph was one of the first county commissioners.

The book further states "In the year 1832 three Cochran brothers, together with with Colonel's Lewis family, came down the Ohio River from Evansville, Indiana, where the Cochran family had settled after migrating from Massachusetts."

According to Terry's research Martin married Isabella Elizabethson West, in Newton County, Texas, on October 10, 1850.

Before his enlistment in the regular Confederate Army, Martin enlisted in the war in



RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ / WINTERS ENTERPRISE
 Ruth Cooper, with the Runnels County Historical Commission and Terry Cochran, great great grandson of Martin Baty Cochran Sr. watch the new headstone.



RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ / WINTERS ENTERPRISE
 Elaine Coleman, with the Truett Cemetery, Susan and Randall Conner as a Son of the Republic of Texas attended the dedication ceremony.

two Texas State Troup units. These were local home guard units, and many men enlisted first in these units before enlisting in the regular Confederate Army.

Martin served in the Gonzales Rifles, in Gonzales County, 24th Brigade, Texas State Troops. He enlisted on May 25, 1861, at the Gonzales Headquarters, in Gonzales, Texas.

Martin also enlisted with the Iron Guards, Mounted Riflemen, Caldwell County, 25th Brigade, Texas State Troops. Martin enlisted on July 10, 1861, on the Sandy Fork of Peach Creek.

Martin enlisted in the Confederate Army with the 31st Texas Cavalry. This unit was also known as the Texas 1st Cavalry Regiment, Arizona Brigade. Martin enlisted in the unit in 1862. This unit fought the Camden Expedition (March-May, 1864); at Poison Spring (April 18, 1864); Massard's Prairie, near Fort Smith (July 27, 1864), and at Cabin Creek (September 19, 1864).

His wife Isabella died in the Wimberley area of Hays County, Texas in October of 1904. After her death Martin moved to Runnels County to live with his son, Levi Newton Cochran, Sr. and his son's family. Martin was pictured in a 1906 reunion of Confederate soldiers in Ballinger.

Martin died at the age of 75, on March 9, 1907, in Truett, Runnels County, Texas, he was buried in the Truett cemetery, near Winters.

Martin was a Civil War Veteran of the Confederate States of America/Sons of the Republic of Texas in the 31st Texas Cavalry. Corp. Cochran, Sr. is certified, as a "Citizen of the Republic of Texas" by the SRT, and a "Texas First Family" by the Texas State Genealogical Society.



CONTRIBUTED

Martin Baty Cochran Sr. was pictured in a 1906 reunion of Confederate soldiers in Ballinger, he is seating on the ground at the lower left corner of the picture.

Snow-Royalty 2010



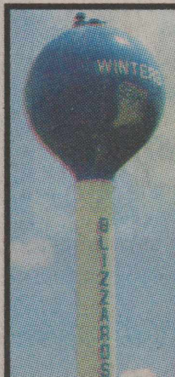
RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ / WINTERS ENTERPRISE

The 2010 Sno-Royalty pageant was held last Saturday at the Rock Hotel, in Winters, Texas. Nineteen girls participated as contestants and the pageant was a huge success. Parents, judges and the general public gathered at the historical building on West Dale to share a magic moment with these enthusiastic girls. The 2010 Sno-Royalty winners picture above: Brittany Gray-Snow Queen, Amanda Horton-Snow Princess and Karlee Busher-Snow Flake. See page 2 for contestant photos.

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FUNERALS

David Ross Bradley

David Ross Bradley, 64, of Winters passed away Thursday, December 2, 2010. He was born January 9, 1946 in Independence, Kansas and moved to Leonard, Texas then to Denison where he graduated from high school. He graduated from Texas Tech University where he was involved in debate and R.O.T.C., and was commissioned an officer in the United States Army. He married Beth Spill September 1, 1967 in Winters. He had eight years in active service in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and Germany. He moved to Winters in 1976 where he farmed then established Bradley Grain Storage Systems. He was deacon of the First Baptist Church in Winters and an adult Sunday School teacher for the past 30 years.

He is survived by his wife Beth Bradley of Winters; two children: Barbie Chambers and husband Todd of Lubbock and Aaron Bradley of Winters; mother: Marilyn Bradley of Denison; mother-in-law: Genevieve Spill of Winters; one brother: Rev. Barry Bradley and wife Jackie of Orange; one sister: Janis Bailey and husband Jeff of Lucas; two grandchildren: Emily and Macy Chambers; as well as several nieces and nephews.

The family received friends at the Winters Funeral Home Saturday, December 4, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. Funeral services were held at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, December 5, 2010 at the First Baptist Church in Winters with Rev. Heath Powers officiating. Burial followed at the Lutheran Cemetery under the direction of the Winters Funeral Home.

The family asks that memorials be made to the First Baptist Church of Winters.

Winters Enterprise, Dec. 9, 2010

PUBLIC RECORD

Marriage licenses, divorce filings, crime and misdemeanor in Runnels County

Divorce Filings
Christopher Kevin Korn vs. Jennifer Leigh Korn Dec. 1

Crime and Misdemeanor
Name Charge Filed
Dale Clifton Wyane DWI Nov. 30
Jeffrey Alan Kinney Speeding Dec. 1

Jail Log

Name	Age	Agency	Charge
Reyes Rendon	57	Concho Co.	Theft by check
Regan W. Dillon	20	DPS	Reckless driving
Jason L. Biddo	30	BPD	Aggravated assault
Lori J. Clifton	47	DPS	TBC Taylor Co. warrant
Michael D. Henderson	36	Concho Co.	DWI I
Jerry J. Carson	56	BPD	P.I.
Isais Lara	31	DPS	DWI I
Benjamin L. Quinonez	26	DPS	TBC Brwon Co.
Jacqueline A. Chastain	37	Coleman Co.	Child support
Valerie A. Rendon	34	Menard Co.	MTR Assault

Snow Royalty contestants



Snow Flake contestants
Myra Ochoa



Allysara Rodriguez



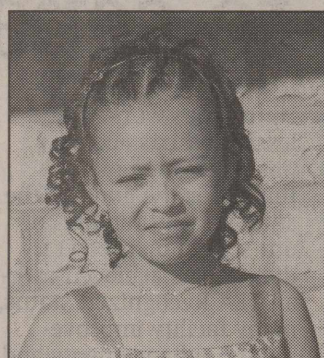
Saleen Jalomo



Jaydeen Garza



Querstin Lara



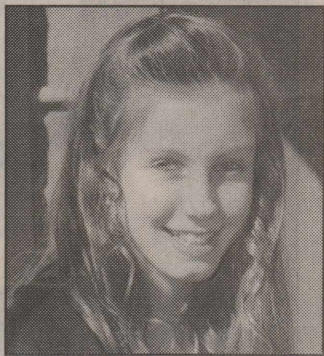
Miranda Rodriguez



Millie Rios



Natal



Hyla Fordin, first runner up.



Emily Espino



Princess Victoria Sanchez, first runner up.



Queen Basilia Aragon



Hailee Wilson



Annie Wood



Veronica Garcia



Sarah Lara

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Christmas in the City
Mrs. Shay's Dance Studio will be performing "Christmas in the City" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Winters ISD Cafeteria. Girls ages 3 to 12 will be performing their first Christmas performance in front of their friends and family. We would like to invite our community as well to come and enjoy our Christmas performance. We are very excited to show our hard work in our routines for the past three months. We hope that you can come to our "Christmas in the City"

Open house at the Citibank
Citibank of Winters will be having Christmas Open House on Friday, Dec. 17, 2010, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Ministerial Alliance meet until January
Winters Ministerial Alliance will not meet in December. Next meeting will be on Jan. 10, 2011, at the Samaritan's House at 9 a.m.

Living Nativity
The First United Methodist Church will be presenting its second annual Living Nativity at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010, at the First United Church, 141 N. Church St. This special event is presented by the children of Kids Klub and the youth of UMYF.

Sno-Royalty wanted
The Winters Area Chamber of Commerce would like to invite all ex Sno-Royalty, Miss Winters and Runnels County titles to participate in their 2010 Christmas Cheer. On Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010 there will be arts and crafts downtown and the parade will begin at 3 p.m. Toys

WIL TEXAS TRAIL FOOD!

to everyone who came and enjoyed a sandwich with us, made a cash donation or donated products. Jonessa, Kaitlyn and Alexis are grateful for your support.

LONDON -- HERE WE COME!

Thanks, Jonessa Wade & Family, Alexis Briley & Family, Kaitlyn Fuentes & Family

will be collected during the parade for local families in need. Forms for the parade may be picked up at the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce office. Forms must be turned in complete and on time to be eligible. For more information on booths contact Shannon Daniel. For more information on the parade contact Raymond Lindsey or Craig Gehrels.

Winters on Wednesday
Sylvia Richie and the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce would like to remind you how important it is to shop at home. Winters on Wednesday should serve to all of us as a reminder to do just that. Every Wednesday plan on doing all of your shopping, errands, appointments for hair or nails or tanning, doctor and dentistry appointments, grocery shopping, feed and seed needs, filling up your gas tank and more all right here at home, in Winters. Even if we start with one day a week making conscience decisions to take care of all of our needs at home, that is a start. Every dollar spent at home counts! Start now and mark your calendars with a big W on Wednesdays. The Winters Area Chamber of Commerce appreciates your daily choices for Winters, TX.

VFW meetings
Winters Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9193 meet the second Monday night of each month at 6 p.m. in the Rock Hotel. All eligible veterans of the United States military are invited to attend.

CDC used book sale
The Winters Child Development Center (Winters CDC) will continue having a used book sale Thursday, December 9 and Thursday December 16 from 5-8 p.m. The sale is in the building next to the Stitchin Post on Main Street. 119 South Main You may still continue to donate books by bringing them by the center at 500 North Heights. There are hundreds of books to choose from so come and get a few at a reasonable price. CDC would appreciate any donations! All proceeds will be used to purchase a changing table and vanity for an additional infant room at the center. For more information call the center at 754-4871 or bring books to 500 North Heights.

Co-Dependant Recovery Group
Winters Co-Dependant Recovery Group meeting at Southside Baptist Church on Tuesdays, at 6 p.m. for more information call Theresa at 325 977 1007.

Band Boosters
The Band Boosters meet at 6:30 p.m. every Monday evening at Dot's Diner.

Winters Woman's Club
Members meet the second Tuesday of the month. Call Marlene Smith at 754-4961 for additional information.

AA Meetings
AA meeting are held at 204 W. Truitt behind church on Main St. Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. Ballinger Al-Anon meetings Al-Anon meetings will be held every Monday and Wednesday at the First United Methodist Church of Ballinger, on Broad Ave. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. Please enter through the south side of the church. FMI contact Theresa at (325)977-1007

Chamber of Commerce
Chamber of Commerce meets at 5:30 p.m. first Monday of the month at 100 West Dale Street.

City Council Meetings
Winters City Council meets at 6 p.m. the last Monday of the month at 310 North Main.

School Board Meetings
Winters ISD School Board meets at 6:30 p.m. every second Monday of the month at 603 North Heights.

Wingate Masonic Lodge meetings
Wingate Masonic Lodge 1042 A.F. & A.M., meetings on fourth Monday of the month, at 6:30 p.m. at Wilmeth, TX Lodge. For further information contact Hank Bourdo, at 754-2048.

Ballinger Masonic Lodge meeting
Masonic Lodge # 643, 500 N Broadway, Ballinger TX. Stated meetings are at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of every month except for holidays if it falls on that Monday. For more information call 325-365-3202.

Winters Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9193
Members and families will host the Open House at the Rock Hotel for the "Magic Moments with Trees" Monday, Dec. 13 2010, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. All service persons, veterans, widows, mothers, friends, families and the general public are invited to stop by and visit. Light refreshments will be served.

County retirement reception scheduled
Marilyn Egan, County Judge will be honored for her fifteen years of service on December 20, 2010 from 9 a.m. thru 11 a.m. on the first floor of the courthouse.

The Winters Enterprise

Since 1905

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Publication No. 040700 Postmaster:
One year mail subscription Rates: Send address changes to:
Runnels County \$21.00 The Winters Enterprise
Elsewhere in Texas. \$31.00 200 Tinkle
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SPORTS

December 9, 2010

Winters Enterprise 3

Vinters Athletic Report

WHEN HERMESMEYER

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
Girls Basketball
Winters Junior High
Games played at home
Monday, November 29,
the Miles team.

By their efforts and
name the Winters
and Blue teams did-
not have very much luck,
in both of the
games.

The Winters Black started a
balanced game, and
the first quarter Miles
was ahead in the score 4-2
still within a reason-
able distance. By the sec-
ond period the points
started to accumulate in
the visitors side which
took and advantage that
wouldn't loose anymore.

By the break the score
was already 12-3. After the
half time the Winters Black
girls came out motivated,
scoring seven uncontested
points and balancing again
the score 12-10. The last
period Miles harvested
eight points, against two of
the hosts for the final
score 20-12.

Winters Blue also played
a good game, but the lack
of points in key moments
turned out to be final in
their game against Miles.

Miles started at full
speed, scoring seven
uncontested points in the
first quarter, and even
when the locals went from
less to more in the rest of
the game, the damage was
already done. The final
score was 23-13.

Junior High Girls
Winters Black 2 1 7 2
Final score: 12
Miles 4 8 0 8
Final score: 20

Winters Blue 0 6 2 5
Final score: 13
Miles 7 10 2 4
Final score: 23

JH Boys Basketball
Seventh grade
Winters 6 8 8 10
Final score: 32
Miles 0 8 2 4
Final score: 14

The Winters seventh
grade boys defeated the
Miles seventh grade boys
by a score of 32 to 14.
This win marks the first

Eighth Grade
Winters 6 7 7 1
Final score: 21
Miles 5 16 14 13
Final score: 48

The Winters Eighth grade
boys were defeated by the
Miles Eighth grade boys by
a score of 48 to 21. With
the loss, Winters drops to
0-3 on the season. The
Breezes will travel to San
Angelo on December 6,
2010 to play TLCA.

JV Girls Basketball
11/30/2010
Winters JVG Blue VS
Hamlin
Score: 14-45

The Lady Blizzards
played a hard fought game
against Hamlin, on
November 30, but fell
short to move their record
to 4-3 on the year. Leading
scorer for the Lady
Blizzards was McKenzie
Hooper with 6. Brianna
Taylor, Stormy Diaz, Kara
Heathcott, and Crystal
Sanchez all added 2 points.



Date: 11-30-10
Played at: Mason

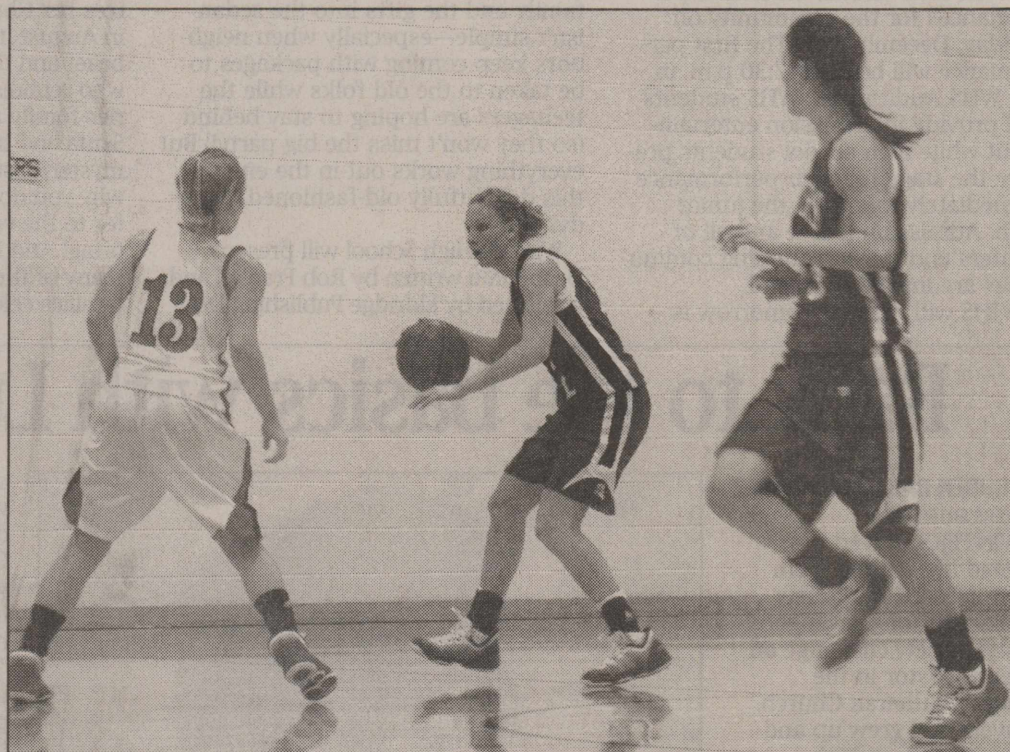
JV White
Winters 6 2 4 2
Final score: 14
Mason 8 4 10 6
Final score: 28

Varsity Girls Basketball:
The Varsity Lady
Blizzards played Menard
on November 23 and won
64-35. They combined for
a total of 22 assists and 19
steals. Bianca Carrillo led

team the girls had a total
of 11 steals and 13
rebounds. The Lady
Blizzards handled Hamlin's
pressure pretty well and
did some good things
defensively. Abby Guy led
the way with 14 points,
Zannie Slimp contributed
8, Jordan Busher had 5,
Camille Kurtz had 3, and
Caitlin Kurtz had 2. The
Lady Blizzards are 5-2 for
the season.

The Varsity Lady
Blizzards played
Sweetwater in the first
round of the Ballinger
Tournament on December
2, and lost a hard fought
game 51-60. They com-
bined for a total of 10
steals and 16 assists.
Jordan Busher led the way
with 12 points, Abby Guy
had 10, Zannie Slimp had
9, Caitlin Kurtz had 8,
Camille Kurtz had 6,
Bianca Carrillo had 4, and
Michelle Kruse had 2.
This puts the Lady
Blizzards at 5-3 for the
season.

The Varsity Lady



RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ / WINTERS ENTERPRISE
Zannie Slimp scored 9 points in the game held at Ballinger, against Sweetwater.



RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ / WINTERS ENTERPRISE
Abby Guy completed 10 points in the first game of the Lady Blizzards at the Ballinger invitational.

Austen Green led the team
in scoring with 6. Justin
Ventress and Lane Gibbs
also added some baskets.
The Blizzards have Friday
off and will hit the court
again next Tuesday and
Breckenridge. Tip off will
be around 5pm.

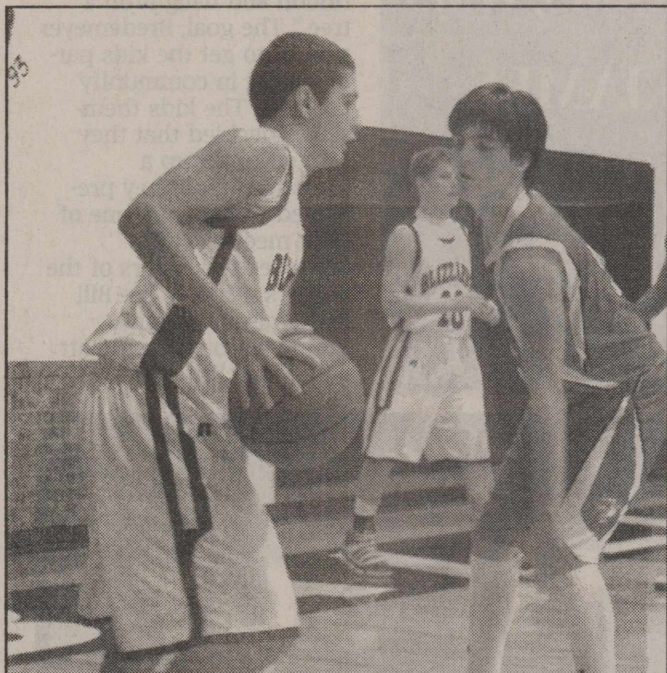
Varsity Boys Basketball
Winters 56-43 Merkel
Strait Daniel 20, Cristian
Sandoval 12, Devin
Martinez 11, Andy Garcia
6, Dustin Oswalt 4, Hayden
Nitsch
The Blizzards Traveled
to Merkel Tuesday night
and defeated he Merkel
Badgers 56-43. Winters
trailed Merkel by 6 enter-
ing the 4th quarter. Nitsch
and Daniel led off the 4th

with back to back 3's
which tied the game. The
Blizzards proceeded to
outscore the Badgers 27-8
in the final quarter. This
win moves the Blizzards to
3-0 on the year.

Winters 51 (4-0)
Ballinger 40
Devin Martinez 19,
Cristian Sandoval 10, Andy
Garcia 7, Strait Daniel 7,
Hayden Nitsch 4, Dustin
Oswalt 4

Winters 41 (4-1)
Hawley 61
Cristian Sandoval 11,
Strait Daniel 7, Hayden
Nitsch 6, Dustin Oswalt 6,
Andy Garcia 6, Nik Kraatz
3, Devin Martinez 2

Winters 49 (4-2)
Christoval 67
Devin Martinez 14,
Cristian Sandoval 13, Strait
Daniel 13, Hayden Nitsch
5, Andy Garcia 4



win of the season for the
Winters seventh grade
team. The Breezes
showed outstanding
improvement from their
last performance against
Christoval and hope to
continue that improvement
into their next game
against TLCA. Winters (1-2)
will travel to play TLCA on
December 6, 2010 in San
Angelo.

the way with 20 points,
scoring 5 3-pointers, Abby
Guy had 17 points, Jordan
Busher and Zannie Slimp
each had 8, Caitlin Kurtz
had 6, Sara Perez had 4,
and Michelle Kruse scored
1. This puts the Lady
Blizzards at 5-1 for the
season.

On November 30, the
Varsity Lady Blizzards lost
to Hamlin 32-42. As a

The Lady Blizzards had a
second shot at Sweetwater
later that same afternoon.
They made some great
adjustments and lost an
extremely close game, 32-
36. The ladies had a total
of 20 rebounds, 13 assists,
and 10 steals throughout
the game. Abby Guy had
13 points, Jordan Busher
had 7, Caitlin Kurtz had 6,
and Zannie Slimp and
Michelle Kruse each fin-
ished with 3.

The final game in the
Ballinger Tournament
occurred on December 4,
and the Lady Blizzards
beat an athletic Abilene
High JV team 39-22. The
team had a total of 15
steals, 11 assists, and 29
rebounds. Abby Guy had
12 points, Michelle Kruse
had 9, Caitlin Kurtz had 7,
Jordan Busher had 5,
Lauren Bredemeyer had 3,
Bianca Carrillo had 2, and
Camille Kurtz had 1. The
Lady Blizzards are now 7-4
on the season.

JV Boys Basketball:
The JV boys basketball
team went on the road to
Hamlin this past Tuesday
to take on the Pied Pipers.
The boys played a hard
fought game coming up a
little short in the end.

CAFETERIA MENU December 13-17 Subject to change*

WINTERS ISD BREAKFAST
Monday
Biscuit/Sausage or Cereal or
French Toast/Sausage, Toast
w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.
Tuesday
Breakfast Pizza or Cereal or
Breakfast Pocket, Toast w/Jelly,
Juice, Choice of Milk.
Wednesday
Biscuit/Egg Pattie or Cereal or
Oat Meal or Breakfast Sausage
on Stick, Toast w/Jelly, Juice,
Choice of Milk.
Thursday
Sausage Roll or Cereal or
Breakfast Burrito, Toast w/Jelly,
Juice, Choice of Milk.
Friday
Biscuit/Sausage or Cereal or
Cinnamon Roll/Sausage, Toast
w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.

Note: Menus subject to change
without notice. Students may pur-
chase extras: Entree got \$1.00,
Milk for \$.30, Sides for \$.50.

WINTERS ISD LUNCH MENU
Monday
Salisbury Steak or Chicken
Sticks/Gravy, Cheesy Potatoes,
Ranch Style Beans, Tossed
Salad/Carrot Sticks, Apple
Wedges, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk.
Tuesday
Lasagna or Sloppy Joe/Bun, Italian
Green Beans, Cooked Carrots,
Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks/Rosy
Pears, Peanut Pixies, Hot Roll,
Choice of Milk.
Wednesday
Taco Salad or Enchiladas, Spanish
Rice, Pinto Beans, Tossed
Salad/carrot Sticks, Colelaw,
Peaches,
Cornbread/Jep.Che.Bread, Choice
of Milk.
Thursday
Grilled Chicken/Bun or Steak
Fingers w/Gravy, Broccoli
w/Cheese, Mashed Potatoes
w/Gravy, Tossed Salad/Carrot
Sticks, Peach Cobbler, Hot Roll,
Choice of Milk.
Friday
Cheese Burger or Chicken
Tenders, Oven Fries, Baked
Beans, Lettuce/Tomatoes, Tossed
Salad/Carrot Sticks, Hot Cinnamon
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WHS, JH to present Christmas plays

BY RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS - Winters Junior High and High School theatre arts classes will present their annual Christmas performances for the community on Sunday, December 12. The first performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the WHS Auditorium. WHS students will provide intermission entertainment while high school students prepare the stage for their performance immediately following the junior high. Admission is free and all of Winters and the surrounding communities are invited to attend. WJHS will present Tomorrow is

Christmas, a one act comedy by Mildred Hark and Noel McQueen and published by Baker's Plays. Off to Grandma's house they go for the holidays—almost! Trying to pack the family and the gifts into the sedan isn't simple—especially when neighbors keep coming with packages to be taken to the old folks while the teenagers are hoping to stay behind (so they won't miss the big party!) But everything works out in the end in this delightfully old-fashioned comedy.

Winters High School will present Dear Santa written by Rob Frankel and published by Eldridge Publishing. Dear

Santa is composed of a number of short Christmas scenes that range from hilarious to touching. Many views of Santa are seen from the point of view of the child—from one that alphabetizes her Christmas list and sends it out in August to those at various stages of belief and disbelief. There are teens who reminisce about Christmas memories fondly and some, not so fondly. Santa and his helpers shed light on the mysteries surrounding him including why you don't always get what you ask for to the very special gifts he might bring! And in the end we learn about many of the Christmas customs our families celebrate today.

North Pole postmark through Dec. 15

BY RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

NORTH POLE, AK - Once again this year, the U.S. Postal Service is offering North Pole postmarks on holiday mail.

To receive the North Pole postmark on your holiday cards, you should purchase stamps at any post office, affix the stamps to

envelopes of your choice, address the sealed envelopes, with the card enclosed, to those on mailing list and mail them in a larger envelope, by Priority Mail or Express Mail package to: NORTH POLE HOLIDAY CANCELLATION POSTMASTER 4141 POSTMARK DR ANCHORAGE AK 9959998

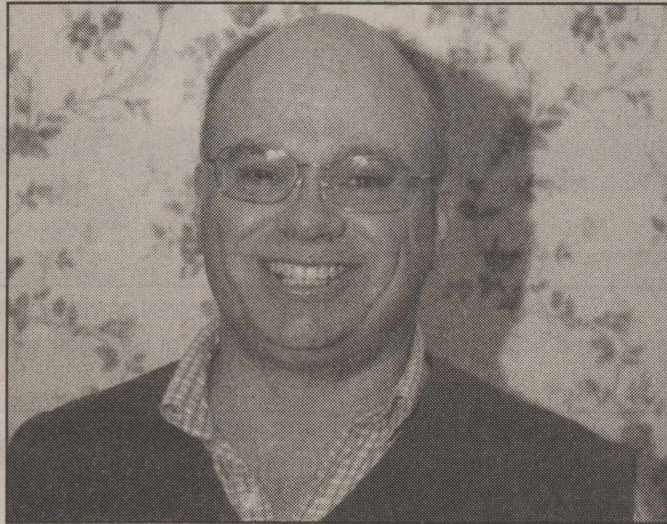
Requests must be received in Anchorage by Dec. 15 in order to ensure delivery by Christmas. Postal Service receives hundreds of thousands of requests each year for North Pole postmarks from around the world. The service is provided at no cost. Each card or letter must have the correct amount of postage and be addressed.

Many communities around the country have local programs set up to respond to letters to Santa Claus. In North Pole Alaska, requests may be sent to - 1 Santa Claus Lane, North Pole AK 99705-9901. Check with your local post office or call 1-800-ASK-USPS.

Back to the basics with Lutheran Pastor

BY RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS - Lived a nomad life, retired from the Air Force, and a few weeks ago Joe Leavengood found a new challenge as an interim Pastor in the Winters Lutheran Church. Leavengood grew up and graduated from high school in Tucson, Arizona, finished his seminary in San Antonio and came to Winters with a Lutheran Church change of denominations. The new pastor has been in Winters since October, commuting back and forth from Hondo, Texas where his family has been for about one year and a half. Leavengood is an Air Force veteran, with 31 years of service who retired on May due to medical reasons. His vocation took him to live in several places all over the United States. The Pastor and his wife Edie have two children, Jay is a freshman studying architecture and engineering at Texas Tech, and Sarah is an eight grader at McDowell middle school, in Hondo, Texas.



RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ / WINTERS ENTERPRISE

Joe Leavengood came to Winters in October, when the Lutheran Church decided to take a change of denominations.

Leavengood, who was

"We are blessed with two wonderful children," said the Pastor. Leavengood graduated from the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and from Law School in New Mexico. Serving in the reserve, after 9/11 Leavengood decided to close his law firm in Boise, Idaho, and get more involved with the Air Force. The Pastor served the United States Air Force as a legal counselor, he was part

of the staff in Iraq supervising the prosecution of dictator Saddam Hussein. Called to ministry many years ago he resisted, but his wife finally encouraged him to go to the seminary. "So far I had been practicing law trying to keep people out of trouble, but I felt the urge to go to the seminary, that was when I decided to keep on going to the Air Force part time." His religious education was held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, at the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Gettysburg, and he finished his Master of Divinity in San Antonio. The Lutheran Pastor came

to Winters in the middle of a change of denominations, when the local church formerly part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, dissatisfied with the denomination's liberal drift, decided to affiliate with the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. Leavengood previously served as a supply pastor for a congregation at Orange Grove, Texas. The Lutheran Church in Winters is actually re-writing its Constitution, and when the process is done they could be searching for a full time, permanent Pastor.

Living Nativity at the FUMC

BY RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS - Mary and Joseph - Baby Jesus - The Shepherds - The Sheep - The Wise Men - The Angels. All will be live at the First United Methodist Church of Winters on Wednesday, December 15.

The Second Annual Living Nativity, directed by Carrie Branaman, will be presented by the children of Kids Klub and the youth of the United Methodist Youth Fellowship. The festivities will be from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. on the south lawn of First United Methodist Church, 141 North

Church Street.

Kids Klub, directed by Karen Mills, is an outreach ministry for children ages 4 through sixth grade. Kids Klub class leaders are Elizabeth York, Kathy Pringle, Vickie Riddle, and Laura Palady. United Methodist Youth Fellowship is composed of all youth in jr. high and high school and activities are directed by Bertha Owens.

All are welcome. Please join Pastor Jayme Palady in celebrating the Christmas Season, and be blessed by the music provided by these talented kids!

4-H shares the magic moments

BY RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS - Faithful to the mission of bringing the youth together, the Winters 4-H Club shared some time setting up a tree at the Agricultural Museum, for the second annual Magic Moments with Trees. Bill

Bredemeyer one of the club leaders, said that 4-H is all about kids and making a better future, making the best even better under the organization slogan starting with the head, hand, heart and health. "Our club is all about the kids, and is a group effort, the kids and the parents come

together, we do different programs that help build citizenship," said Bredemeyer. The 4-H club has several different type of programs including shooting sports, livestock, cooking projects, leaders for life, teaches kids how to conduct themselves in a meeting. "Each one of

these kids find something that triggers their interest." The Winters 4-H tree has some clovers with the names of the participating kids, in order for the people to know who are these kids and their Christmas messages. "They put together some item that said something about their program, a kid might cut out a spear, a little pig, a cooking wood spoon on a ribbon and hang it on a tree." The goal, Bredemeyer said, is to get the kids participating in community projects. The kids themselves decided that they wanted to set up a Christmas tree, they presented a motion in one of their meetings and approved it. Leaders of the Winters 4-H club are Bill Bredemeyer, Tammy Young, Barbara Heathcott and Penny Pritchard.

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Warming up the season

BY RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS - The chilly weather stayed outside, inside the Rock Hotel last Wednesday Dec. 2 everything became joy and had a magic spirit. Dozens of trees lighted the old rooms with dimmed light and the Christmas carols helped to share a message of love.

The grand opening of the second annual "Magic Moments with Trees" at the Rock Hotel featured the Lutheran Choir singing. The choir greeted the public attending with the traditional carol "Christmas Tree" sung in German. Among other selections the choir also performed "Silent Night" with two guitars. The choir is under the direction of Naomi Gerhart.

Over 20 beautifully decorated trees were put up for all the community to enjoy. In addition to the trees put up during the last weeks, the showcase will be also exhibiting trees by



Eric W. Ray

the Winters 4-H Club, North Runnels Hospital Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Winters Activity Center, Lone Star Book Club, Runnels County Historical Commission, Nadine De la Cruz's Hispanic Tree, Sew and Sew Club creation, Sylvia Schroeder Richie's cotton tree, and The Winters Enterprise. "Magic Moments with

Trees" features creative Christmas trees at the Rock Hotel and for the first time at the Agricultural Museum.

The Board of Directors will be having a raffle for a Case knife and a beautiful winter floral arrangement. Drawing for the raffle will be on December 23. Chances are one for \$1, six for \$5 and 13 for \$10.

All proceeds will be used for the hotel and museum. This Friday, Dec. 10, Fran Kidwell's Third Grade music class will be performing at 12:30 p.m. This will be the children's second year to sing for the event. The Baptist Choir under the direction of Susan Conner will sing.

On Monday, Dec. 13 the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) members will hold open house. The public is welcome. On Tuesday, Dec. 14, the Winters Women's Club will host at the Rock Hotel from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.



RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ / WINTERS ENTERPRISE

The Lutheran Choir performed at the Magic Moments with Trees grand opening Wednesday, Dec. 2.

Mylar packaging improves food safety

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

COLLEGE STATION - A team of Texas AgriLife Research engineers has developed a way to cut by as much as half the amount of irradiation needed to kill 99,999 percent of salmonella, E. coli and other pathogens on fresh produce.

By packing produce in a Mylar bag filled with pure oxygen, Dr. Carmen Gomes, AgriLife Research food safety engineer, and her colleagues found they could significantly reduce the amount of radiation needed to kill those pathogens. Reducing the amount of radiation is not so much a safety measure as it is a way to preserve quality of the produce, she said.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently approved the use of irradiation at dosages of up to 4,000 Gray on leafy greens such as spinach, Gomes said.

A Gray is a measure of ionizing radiation dose and it is equal to the absorption of 1 Joule of ionizing radiation by 1 kilogram of matter.

"That dosage was determined as what was necessary to achieve an 100,000-fold reduction of such pathogens as E. coli O157:H7 and salmonella," said Gomes, who is one of a three-member Texas AgriLife Food Safety Engineering Team. "However, we know based on previous research conducted by our group that above 1

kilo Gray (1,000 Gray) the quality of leafy vegetables starts to decay and they lose their freshness."

An 100,000-fold reduction corresponds to a 99.999 percent kill rate, according to Dr. Rosana Moreira, another member of the team.

"If you had 100,000 bacteria in your vegetable, it means you would end up with just one bacteria still living," Moreira said.

Though being exposed to a Gray of radiation would be lethal for a human, the radiation leaves no residue on the vegetables, and the vegetables are perfectly safe for human consumption after the process, according to Gomes.



RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ / WINTERS ENTERPRISE

The Winters community enjoyed a warm environment, great refreshments and Christmas carols at the Rock Hotel.

Beware of the Christmas decorations

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

COLLEGE STATION - While Christmas decorations reflect the joy and beauty of the holiday season, they also represent potential danger if not used or placed properly, said a Texas AgriLife Extension Service expert. "Nothing should spoil the

holidays, especially an accident that might have been prevented by taking a moment to ensure Christmas decorations were put out or removed as safely as possible," said Janie Harris, an AgriLife Extension housing and home environment specialist in College Station.

According to the U.S.

Consumer Product Safety Commission, every year hospital emergency rooms treat about 12,500 people for injuries related to holiday lights, decorations and Christmas trees.

"Christmas is a time for kids, and you should think about decorating for the season in the same way you think about child-proofing your home," she said. "Avoid putting out decorations with sharp edges or small pieces that may fall off if a child can reach them. And be sure to put either heavy or breakable decorations up high enough so they won't be pulled off or down by a child."

Harris said other Christmas decorations like small toys, pine cones and potpourri may constitute a

potential choking or poisoning danger for young children and also should be kept out of their reach.

"Of course, adults are also at risk of potential dangers from holiday decorations that are improperly placed or used," she added.

Product safety commission data also shows Christmas trees are involved in about 250 fires nationally each year, resulting in deaths, injuries and millions of dollars in property loss or damage. In addition, the data shows annually candles are responsible for about 11,600 fires nationally, resulting in 150 deaths, 1,200 injuries and an average of \$173 million in property damage or loss.

One of the top risks to homeowners on holiday decorations is the potential for fire," she said. "If you prefer a real Christmas tree,

be sure to keep it adequately watered and don't keep it too long. Check for frayed or loose electrical connections on tree lights, and don't place the tree close to candles or a fireplace, heater or any other heat source in your home."

Harris said overloaded cords and wall sockets are a serious fire danger around the holidays.

"Avoid overloading circuits and running electrical cords under rugs, carpeting, tree skirts or other potentially flammable materials," she said. "It's also a good idea to turn off Christmas lights and other electrical decorations if you expect to be away from home for a significant period of time."

Harris noted that while candles also are a favorite Christmas decoration, they are a major cause of holiday

house fires. "Candles should be kept out of the reach of children and away from anything flammable," she said. "Put them in a proper candle holder on a level fire-safe surface and away from air vents or ceiling fans as these may fan or redirect the candle flame."

Harris said candles should be checked regularly to ensure they are burning properly and should be extinguished before going to bed or when leaving a room where one is burning.

"Use a metal candle snuffer to extinguish the flame and never use your fingers or water to put out the candle," she said. "And extinguish a candle if it is burning irregularly or unevenly or its flame is too high. Don't take chances; it's better to be safe than sorry."

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TUESDAY
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Cake

WEDNESDAY
Chicken Pot Pie, Carrot
Raisin Salad, Mixed
Fruit, Crackers, Cookies

THURSDAY
Swiss Steak, Mashed
Potatoes, Peas, Bread,
Dessert

FRIDAY
Bar B Que on Bun,
Potato Salad, Cabbage
Slaw, Onions and
Pickles, Dessert

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