Thursday, July 28, 2011

# City looking to a 'bare bones' budget

**RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ** WINTERS ENTERPR

WINTERS - The City of Winters will not fill the vacant position left two weeks ago by the City Secretary, and will continue to look forward to reduce the budget for the next fiscal year. Mayor Lewis Bergman said that the City Council will have a "bare bones" budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year that starts on October 1

Last Tuesday, July 12, City Secretary Shelia Paschal retired after 33 years of service in the City administration. Paschal had been recently appointed City Secretary. The City of Winters administrative staff has been reduced to two people.

Bergman said that further staff cuts are unlikely to happen, "but that is not impossi-ble". "The City Council accepted last meeting (June 27) the resignation of Alan Hollander as the City Manager and now we are trying to focus on the budget for the next fiscal year," said Bergman.

The retirement of the City Secretary and resignation of the City Manager left the administration with two full time employees. Administrative Assistant Shelly Antilley-Guevara took over City Secretary duties as Acting City

Secretary.
While the search of a new City Manager continues, Mayor Lewis Bergman was appointed interim City Manager by the City Council. Bergman said the budget needs to reach a reasonable limit and become more efficient. Former City Manager Alan Hollander had said that the objective of the City Council was to reduce the budget by \$64,000.

"We are focusing on the budget and looking forward to decrease expenses," said Bergman "we are making a top to bottom analysis to make sure that we are saving all we

As of press time, last Monday, July 25, the City Council had scheduled the July regular meeting and among agenda items for discussion and approval were a rate increase for the Convenience Center proposed by the City Hall, rate increase for Cemetery Plots, a proposal regarding payroll being moved to pay in arrears, and requiring mandatory direct deposit of payroll checks. Accepting the retirement of Shelia Paschal and the appointment of Shelly Antilley-Guevara as Acting City Secretary were also items for the regular monthly meeting.



FILE PHOTO

Winters City Council

## Water drought one of worst on record



PHOTO: SHEILA CAVAZOS

Water levels remain dangerously low due to one of the worst droughts recorded in Runnels County. As you can see from the picture above and individual was able to walk from one end to the other in one of the area lakes.

# One car accident claims Ballinger resident

**WINTERS ENTERPRISE** STAFF REPORT

BALLINGER - One person was killed in a one vehicle crash occurring last Wednesday, July 20 at 6:50 p.m. in Taylor County. The accident was on U.S. Highway 83, one mile north of Bradshaw.



Veronica Cuellar, 35 years of age from Ballinger, Texas, was pronounced dead at 8:12 p.m. at Hendrick Medical Center, in Abilene, Texas, by Judge Pueschel. The body was taken to Lange Funeral Home in Ballinger, Texas.

Cuellar was driving a 1998 Plymouth Breeze southbound on U.S. Highway 83 in Taylor County. The vehicle traveled off of the roadway striking a tree. The driver was taken to Hendrick Medical Center, in Abilene, Texas. Cuellar worked as a correctional officer at

the John Middleton Detention Center/Transfer Facility near Abilene. According to the Texas Department of Public Safety the roadway was dry and the

by Trooper Jamie Duke.

weather clear. The crash is being investigated

# RUNNELS CO. HISTORICAL BUILDINGS The Thiele Building

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

STAFF REPORT MILES - Joe Thiele was born in 1850 in Prussia in the German Empire and came to America in 1870. After his voyage to Boston, he made his way to Chicago where he drove a meat wagon. He moved on to St. Louis where he worked in the stock yards. During this period in time there was a lot of talk about the great State of Texas where there was open country and he could have as many sheep as he wanted. He brought his herd from St. Louis to Texas by railroad as far as he could, then herded them overland to West Texas before the railroad arrived in this area.

Mr. Thiele grazed his flocks on open range from Coleman County to the Pecos River including Miles City, Menardville, Ft. McKavett and the Lipan Flat southeast of San Angelo, Texas. He kept Mexican sheep herders with his flocks and visited them regularly. His dream was to have sheep in every direction as far as he could see. This dream was realized for at one time he had seven sections of land and more than 100,000 head of sheep. By the time Mr. Thiele married in January of 1900, he had already bought a place from the government for his headquarters located on Willow Creek, two miles west of Miles.

Mr. Thiele married Mary Schwartz of Ballinger. She had been working at the Park Hotel for sometime. They had seven children. Three died in infancy. Mrs. Thiele had the dream of Miles becoming a great metropolis. He built the Opera House in 1904 and touring companies began to come to the Opera House. This lasted until

Joe Thiele was instrumental in getting the railroad to Miles and put a lot of his money into a branch line from Sterling City to Paint Rock. This branch was never used. Miles was still an active commercial center until the highway was built from Ballinger to San Angelo in 1930.

Mr. Thiele retired in 1911 and began operating a grocery store in the corner of his building. It was later sold to H. W. Bigler, an attorney, rural mail carrier and operator of a hotel in the building.

Mr. Thiele died in 1940, and Mary died in 1961. They are buried in Miles Cemetery.

Mr. Henry W. Bigler came to Miles, Texas to "grow up with the West". He graduated from Temple High School and the University of Texas Law School. He married Mabel Irene Hancock in 1910. She was the daughter of a pioneer merchant of Miles. He practiced law from 1910 to 1916 at Miles. He became a rural mail

carrier in 1916 and retired in 1948. He covered more than 1.25 million miles on the mail routes without accident. At various times, he served as Mayor of Miles, several terms as city attorney and many years as Justice of the Peace. With the hobby of carpentry, he was active past the age of 80 years maintaining his properties. The Biglers operated the Hotel Miles for some 30 years, housing numerous Miles public school teachers and other local permanent residents in addition to transient guests. Most of the time it was the principal gathering place for civic, church and school functions like banquets, parties, wedding receptions and Mrs. Bigler did the catering. Mr. Bigler donated thousands of hours and a great deal of money and some property over a lifetime span-he

was a civic-minded person. When the Miles Opera House was active, there was a frame hotel directly across the street to the East with an elevated walkway spanning main street from hotel to opera house so guests could walk straight over and attend the big show. There were many businesses housed there, the post office, hotel, bank, dry goods stores and Mr. Thiele's grocery

While the original Miles School stone building was being razed

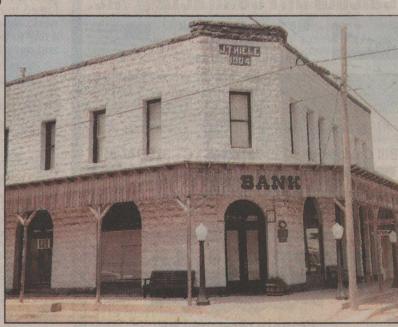


PHOTO: COURTESY RUTH COOPER

The Thiele Building, in Miles, Texas in one of the community historical assets.

and another erected, around 1920, school was carried on in the upper portion of the building with most of the classes meeting there for sometime.

The Miles Preservation Authority includes the Thiele Building and Miles Opera House. The Thiele Building is now a

The Recorded Texas Historical Landmark was dedicated Sunday December 8, 1968 with ceremony.

Photo Courtesy Ruth Cooper Runnels County Historical Commission Collection Marker **Histories** 

The Ballinger Ledger, Ballinger, Texas, December 5, 1968. Rowena Press, Rowena, Texas, November 29, 1968

The Winters Enterprise, Winters, Texas, November 15, 1968

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#### FUNERALS AND DEATH NOTICES

#### Clara Lucille Hord

Clara Lucille Hord, 92, of Winters, TX passed away Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at the Abilene Regional Hospital after a short illness. A memorial visitation was held on Sunday, July 24, 2011 at 1 p.m. at Winters Funeral Home with memorial services following at 2 p.m. at Winters Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Ferris Akins officiating. Burial followed at Fairview Cemetery, Winters, TX. Clara was born to Robert



and Clara Bruce in Belton, TX on August 19, 1918. Her childhood years were spent in the Union Grove, Austin and Bradshaw, TX areas. Clara met the love of her life, Wesley Lee Hord, at a service station operated by her father in Bradshaw, TX. They were married on September 4, 1940 at Abilene, TX. The two began their married life farming west of Winters, Runnels County, TX at which time Patsy Ann, Wesley Lee Jr., Mary Louise, Jackey Lynn and Jakie Gene were born. In 1950 the family moved to a farm near Kress, Swisher County, TX. During this time Princess Gay, Polly Sue and Pamela Kay were born. The family returned to Runnels County in 1962 and continued farming until Mr. Hord passed away June 4, 1993. Clara and Wesley enjoyed 53 years of marriage. Clara's primary love in life was being a full time Mom and homemaker. Prior to entering the eternal heavens, she was a resident at Our House in Winters and Care Inn, Abilene, TX.

Clara is survived by three sons, Wesley L. Hord, Jr. and wife, Linda, of Georgetown, TX, Jack L. Hord and wife, Venita, of Fort Worth, TX and Jake G. Hord of Odessa, TX; five daughters, Patsy and husband, Rickey Grissom, of Winters, TX, Mary and husband, Zane Gray, of Ballinger, TX, Gay and husband, Ben Grenwelge, of Kempner, TX, Polly and husband, Ray Lovelady, of Abilene, TX, Pamela and husband, Larry Hoelscher, of Odessa, TX; 19 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and one great-great-

Clara was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; three brothers, Robert Jr., William, Sam and one sister, Mary Elizabeth; two grandsons, James Barton Marks II and Cody Grant Lovelady.

Winters Enterprise, July 28, 2011

## Suspensions of permitted state surface water diversions

**RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ** 

WINTERS - On April 11,2011, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) notified water right holders state-wide that diversions of state surface water may be suspended or curtailed due to drought conditions. The TCEQ has now received a priority call on surface water from a senior water right holder in the Llano River Watershed of the Colorado River Basin. In accordance with the Texas Water Code (TWC), §5.013(a)(1), the TCEQ is responsible

for enforcing water rights, which requires protecting senior surface water rights, and must take action in response to the senior priority call. With no immediate relief forecast-

ed, the TCEQ has suspended certain diversions in the Llano River Watershed of the Colorado River Basin. Suspended water rights include water right permits with a priority date of 1950 and later (excluding those for municipal uses

and power generation), term water right permits, and temporary water right permits. Domestic and livestock diversions are not subject to this suspension. The TCEQ has also notified the remaining water right holders in the Colorado River Basin about the senior call and the potential for additional suspensions or curtailments should drought conditions persist. Copies of this correspondence are enclosed for your refer-

TCEQ are actively engaged in the oversight of available water supplies statewide. We are monitoring drinking water supplies, both groundwater and surface water. We are also working with municipalities that face potential shortfalls of available drinking water. There is a common understanding in all of our program-matic efforts that our decisions have profound impacts on the people of Texas. We are weighing our decisions judiciously, paying particular atten-

Multiple program areas at the

tion to those potential impacts. With no immediate relief forecasted, the TCEQ is soliciting your help in disseminating appropriate information to affected parties in the Colorado River Basin communities. If this drought cycle worsens, it will be very important that all residents living and working in the Colorado River Basin are well informed. The TCEQ has established a drought web page to provide additional information and address questions and concerns. The drought web page is locat-

http://www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/dr ought.html. We have also activated the TCEQ Drought Hotline at 1-800-

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Deputy

Director, Office of Water at 512-239-1321.

Sincerely, Zak Covar **Deputy Executive Director** 

# Runnels County 4-H record books completed

Runnels County 4-H members completed 4-H record books. Eight Seniors placed first and will be advancing to the State competition, to be held in

The following is a list of record book winners

Seniors		
Name	Place	Division
Jessica Kalina	1st	Beef
Jordan Kalina	1st	Clothing
and Textiles		our ency h
Paige Zentner	1st	Consumer
Judd Hatler	1st	Entomology
Janell Fant	1st	Foods and
Nutrition		

Sarah West 1st Healthy Lifestyles Jamie Pritchard 4th Horse Abbey Multer 1st Safety Alyssa Flanagan 4th Sheep Garrett Looka 2nd Shooting Brandon Schaefer 1st Swine

Intermediates Ethan Bredemeyer 1st Beef Chelsea Toliver 5th Beef James Rouse Communication and Expressive Arts Allison Schaefer 1st Consumer Cole Cave 1st Entomology Hadley Hatler 1st Foods and

Nutrition Rebecca Simpson 2nd Goats Adam Multer Shane Flanagan 4th Sheep Rachel Gibbs 1st Sheep 1st Shooting Kolton Looka

Jennifer Castleberry 1st Swine Inniors 1st Beef Marcus Toliver

Nicole Rouse 2nd Foods and Nutrition Brandon Teplicek 4th Goats Cammi Teplicek 5th Goats Kinlee Bowman 3rd Rabbits Jessica Castleberry 2nd Swine

BALLINGER - Veronica Cuellar, 35, of Ballinger passed away Wednesday, July 20, 2011 as a result of an automo-John and Joelda (Galvan) Cuellar and graduated from

her paternal grandfather, and her brother, John Henry

Veronica is survived by her parents; her children, John Isaac, Mykaela, and Maryssa, all of Ballinger; special aunt and uncle who acted as second parents, Belinda "Nana" and Frank "Tonto" Mata of Ballinger, siblings, Rebecca Cuellar and husband, Mohamed Hussein, of Clearwater, Florida; Melinda Duffy and husband, Justin, of McKinney; John Gabriel Cuellar and wife, Cari, of Ballinger; and Elizabeth Cuellar of Ballinger. Also surviving are grandmother, Irene Cuellar of Hondo; grandfather, Jose Gomez of Ballinger; a special friend, Hector Martinez and daughter, Kasey; and numerous, deeply-loved nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were at 2:00 pm Sunday, July 24 at the First United Methodist Church in Ballinger with burial in the Latin-American Cemetery. The Cuellar Family had viewing and visitation at their home, 507 Sealy, Saturday and until noon on Sunday.

Donations may be made to Veronica's memorial fund, may register online at ballingerfuneralhome.com.

#### Veronica Cuellar

bile accident. She was born July 10, 1976 in Lubbock to Ballinger High School in 1994.

Preceding her in death were her maternal grandparents,

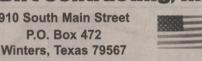
"Mama's Dream," established at Ballinger National Bank. Arrangements were with Lange Funeral Home. Guests

Winters Enterprise, July 28, 2011

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#### This doesn't just make a live in a nursing homedifference in my life: It which would not only take makes the life I have possiaway my quality of life, it ble. I work at an independwould cost the taxpayers

Making the Case That Medicaid Works

BY ANNA LIEBENOW

You never know what obstacles life is going to put in front of you. When I was 25, I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Before I turned 30, I was using a wheelchair. When you have a disability, it takes a fair amount of creativity to make life work. Like millions of other Americans with disabilities, I found a way. I continued to work, volunteer and live my life.

After a few years, my MS progressed to the point where I could no longer get in and out of the wheelchair on my own. I was still the same person and still wanted to contribute something. But without help transferring from my bed to my wheelchair, I couldn't even get out the door. The world beyond my bedroom would be lost to me, and all I have to offer the world would go to waste.

Fortunately, Medicaid gives me the missing piece need to make my life work. An aide comes twice a day to help get me into and out of my wheelchair.

ent-living center and I volunteer with organizations that serve people with disabilities. The assistance I get means I can help others live meaningful and more independent lives. For me, a meaningful life

includes contributing to my community. Recently, I was appointed to serve on the board of the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority. Many people with disabilities, seniors and others would be unable to get to work or to their doctors without public transit. Without Medicaid, I wouldn't even be able to leave my home to get to a board meeting. I think that says it all.

Medicaid also helps me buy medications that control my MS. Without Medicaid, I could not afford my medications, treatments or specialized wheelchair. No amount of creativity or effort would be enough to make my life work if I lost that care. In fact, I might be forced to

more than the help I now receive.

As I said, you never know what kind of obstacles life will throw into your path. Our country is facing the greatest economic challenges of my lifetime. Life has gotten much harder for millions of people. I know what that's like. People are making sacrifices to make life work, and I know what that's like, too.

Lawmakers in Washington are now negotiating a debt-reduction deal that will likely include massive cuts in federal spending. Medicaid as we know it is at risk, and some proposals would gut the program. To put it bluntly: Cutting Medicaid would end the life I know. Taking away my benefits amounts to telling me that our government does not value the contributions I make. That would be wrong, and I don't believe it's what Americans want our government to do.

I am not a policymaker but I do know that slashing the kinds of benefits I rely upon is bad policy. Medicaid makes sense because it helps people live up to their potential. Eliminating the opportunities it provides is bad poli-

Not every American has as much at stake in this discussion as I do, but we should all be concerned about the future of Medicaid. In America, we recognize each person's potential to contribute. When a person is working hard to overcome a roadblock, we don't throw another one up in her way. Our elected leaders need

to hear that cutting Medicaid is not what we need, and goes against everything that we are. I am the face of Medicaid: a woman who is not ready to give up on herself and is asking the government not to give up on her.

Liebenow is a member of The American Association of People with Disabilities and a disability rights leader in Rhode Island.

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# Jennie Bell Perkins Phillips

The family would like to thank First Baptist Church and everyone who helped with her funeral.

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# A&M's Fish Camp kicks off on Aug. 1

**COLLEGE STATION -**Texas A&M University has a host of outstanding programs to help new students begin their academic careers successfully, but the one that most makes them a part of the Aggie Family and the first tradition that new students experience — is Fish Camp.

Texas A&M's unique orientation program for freshmen — who are called "fish" in Aggieland — is a series of four-day camps during which the new Aggies spend time with upperclassmen who have volunteered as camp counselors. The vast majority of the incoming freshman class of about 8,000 students will attend one of this year's seven sessions of

Fish Camp organizers say the new students arrive at camp unsure of what to expect or what will be expected of them, but by the time they leave, they are the newest members of the Aggie family.

"I loved Fish Camp. It was probably the best way to come into the Aggie Family. I really felt as if I was meant to be here," said one of last year's freshmen.

"It was honestly one of the most amazing experiences of my entire life, the perfect way to begin my new life at Texas A&M,' said another.

Members of the first Fish Camp session for the Class of 2015 will gather August 1 outside Reed Arena where they will be welcomed to Aggieland. They will then

board buses to travel to an East Texas Piney Woods encampment near Palestine.

During their time at camp, the new students will learn about Aggie traditions and the university's core values: integrity, excellence, leadership, loyalty, respect and selfless service. They will also learn about the university's 800 student organizations and how to join them, how to find the help they may need while on campus and much more. By the time they leave the camp, many of the students will have formed lasting friendships.

More than 1,000 counselors, crew and staff members have been working since last October to create a special experience for the members of the Class of

The counselors and planners for Fish Camp say they believe it is their responsibility, as well as an honor and a privilege, to aid freshmen in that important transition from high school to Texas A&M. In addition to welcoming the new freshmen, they work to create a support system that allows them to build relationships and share in the Aggie

The Fish Camp staff and counselors say they are aware that they are role models, as well as leaders for the freshmen class and, as such, it is important to act with utmost integrity and to set an example.

The last Fish Camp sessions will begin August 19 and end August 22, the week before fall semester classes begin on August 29.

#### ANNIVERSARY

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# What does debt ceiling debate mean for you?

LARRY GILBERT

EDWARD JONES FINANCIAL ADVISOR

If you're like most Americans, the term "debt ceiling" probably didn't mean that much to you until recently. Now, of course, the debt ceiling debate is front-page news, day after day. As a citizen, you're no doubt hoping the situation is resolved in the best interests of the country. But as an investor, you may be especially concerned about what might happen to your holdings, and your overall investment strategy, if the debt ceiling is not increased by the August 2 deadline.

Before you consider how the situation may affect you, let's quickly review just what is meant by the term "debt ceiling" and what might happen if no agreement is reached. Essentially, the debt ceiling is the legal limit on borrowing by the federal government. If Congress doesn't increase the limit, borrowed funds wouldn't be available to pay bills, so

the U.S. could be forced to default on its debt obligations, which would be unprecedented.

No one can really predict what might happen if the debt ceiling isn't raised, but virtually everyone agrees that it would be an undesirable outcome. That's why Congress has, more or less routinely, always raised the debt ceiling in the past — in fact, it's been raised every year for the past 10 years. This year, however, political and philosophical differences between Congressional leaders and the current Administration have, thus far, blocked the lifting of the debt

Nonetheless, there's still time for Congress to take action before August 2, which is the estimated date of when temporary actions to avoid default are exhausted. (The actual debt ceiling was reached in mid-May). And as an individual investor, here's what you can do:

Don't panic. It's hard to imagine

that an agreement won't be reached to raise the debt ceiling, even if such a deal doesn't happen until the last minute. But even if the August 2 deadline passes, the U.S. may still find ways to make payments on its debt for a while. So don't rush into investment decisions based on this

Overlook short-term results. Even if the U.S. finds ways to pay its debts after the August 2 deadline, lenders who don't like uncertainty could become more concerned and start demanding higher interest rates on their investments in U.S. Treasury securities. As a result, market interest rates could rise across the board, leading to declines in bond and stock prices. Remember that the market can drop for any reason, and this would be no exception. While such a drop could well be sharp the resulting distress would likely jolt Congress into taking quick action on the debt ceiling.

# **Veteran's Board**

For a survivor to be eligible for Dependency and **Indemnity Compensation** (DIC), the veteran's death must have resulted from one of the following causes: 1. A disease or injury incurred or aggravated in the line of duty while on active duty or active duty for training. 2. An injury, heart attack, cardiac arrest,

or stroke incurred or aggravated in the line of duty while on active duty for training. 3. A service-connected disability or a condition directly related to a service-connected disabili-

ty.
For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave or call 365-3612.

#### NEWSHOTES

WHS classes of 1976-80 reunion

Winters High School Classes of 1976-1980 invites all of their classmates and graduates to a multi class reunion September 23-24, 2011. A hamburger supper will be held at the school cafeteria at 5:30 p.m. before the Winters vs. Bronte football game. An after game fellowship sponsored by the Ex Student Association is tentatively being planned to be held after the football game at the Winters Community Center.

On Saturday, a tour of the high school and new activity center is planned to begin at 1:30 p.m. From 3-6 p.m., visiting will be at The Shed Pavilion 608 CR 226, Wingate, TX. At 6:30 p.m. a catered BBQ dinner will be served. A dance will begin at 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person. Class representatives are: Class of 1976, Becky Bryan Airhart 1412 S. Main Winters, TX 79567; Class of 1977, Teresa Wright Walden 717 FM 2405 Winters, TX 79567; Class of 1978, Marsha Smith 908 State Winters, TX 79567: Class of 1979. Janet Jacob Cason 6010 Hwy. 83 Winters, TX 79567; Class of 1980 Renee' Pierce Calcote 100 Park Lane Winters, TX 79567. Please RSVP to your respective class representative by September 12, 2011. The organization is working to contact all classmates of these five classes.

WHS activity calendar These are some important dates to remember. Aug. 1 - 7 a.m. Start of high school football Aug. 13 - 10 a.m. First high school scrimmage (at Roby)

Aug. 22 - First day of school

HS Cross Country Practice will begin on August 8 at 6:30 p.m. (meeting with Coach Holson) and running at 7 p.m. at the HS gym.

**Immunization clinics** The Texas Department of \*State Health Services will have two immunization clinics in Runnels County. The first one will be held in Winters, on Thursday, August 4 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Professional Building, 110 South Main, Suite 108. For your convenience please, use rear entrance (Grant Street).

Immunization clinic in Ballinger will be on

Thursday, August 11 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:30 to 3 p.m. at 608 Strong (behind the Courthouse).

Please bring child's immunization records. If child has Medicaid or CHIP, please bring card. For more information call 325-754-

**Cross Emmaus Community gatherings** The Cross Emmaus Community gatherings held second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 at the United Methodist Church. For more information call (325) 365 2323.

**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.

**Band Boosters** The Band Boosters meet at 6:30 p.m every Monday

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> August 1 - 5 Subject to change

**MONDAY** Chicken Pot Pie, Fruit Salad, Carrot Salad, Crackers, Rice Krispies.

**TUESDAY** Salmon, Pork'n'Beans,

Tomato Salad, Cornbread, Cookies.

Meatballs, Rice, Mixed Vegetables, Hot Rolls, Peach Cobbler.

WEDNESDAY

**THURSDAY** Steak & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Bread Cake.

**FRIDAY** 

Goulash, Beets, Hominy, Cornbread, Dessert.

Meals are served 11:30 a.m. daily. Anyone asked to reserve a lunch by contacting the Activity Center at 754-4205 by 1 a.m. evening at Dot's Diner. meetings

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

AA Meetings AA meeting are held at 204 W. Truett behind church on Main St. Tuesday and Thursday at 7

**Ballinger Al-Anon** 

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 p.m. Please enter through the south side of the church.

**Chamber of Commerce** Chamber of Commerce meets at 5:30 p.m. first Monday of the month at DLC Realty 116 S. Main St. in the backroom.

**Cub Scout Meetings** Winters Cub Scouts Pack 249 meet every Monday at

p.m. at the Scout Hut. Meetings are open to every-**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.



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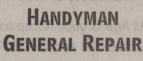
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# THE IDLE AMERICAN Liars by design...

Lying is not what it used to be, or maybe it's so far ahead of the truth these days, the novelty of whopper-telling has worn off — right down to the nub.

Still, any contest conducted in the bright light of the law for 82 consecutive years is worthy of examination.

Officers of the Burlington, WI, Liars Club would have us believe they are "squeakyclean" in the "truth department." Since their tongues seem forever alternating between cheeks, however, we fear that on occasion(s), judges of the world's best lies each New Year's Eve may themselves be

Back in 1929, when the Great Depression enveloped our land, folks scratched pretty deep for humor. Digging cost nothing, though, and many - caught up in the struggle for their next meals latched onto laughter to keep from crying. Maybe that was the backdrop when a



TEXAS COLUMNIST

Don

Newbury

handful of men sat around a potbellied stove in the Burlington, WI, Police Station, lamenting an "unhappening" time of year — the days after Christmas.

Included were the police chief, a lawyer and a reporter. Bogged down in the "blahs," they opted to see who could concoct the biggest lie. You may think the lawyer or reporter might prevail. You would be wrong the police chief was the champion with his stonefaced insistence that he had never once

lied....

The contest made the local newspaper, and other publications picked it up. It

grew with beanstalk rapidity, becoming an annual contest. Soon entries were sought from across the land. Charge was a dime each, and participants received bona fide membership cards in the club. Wow! Lies poured in.

Entry fees have ballooned to a buck, and the scope is now world-wide. However, all winners have been from the USA. (Sorta like the "Miss Universe" winners — all of 'em from earth.)

And, while the championship award is somewhat rinky-dink - perhaps worthy of "honorable mention" as a second-grader's craft project — it signifies fibbing excellence. Notoriety for the winner — and for Burlington, hometown of Dallas quarterback Tony Romo — is thunderous.....

Romo may be the last great hope for Texas' liars to gain the recognition for the craft they've been honing since before statehood - several decades prior to the contest.

Don't tell me that judges' bias doesn't come into play. Wisconsin contestants have won more than a third of the time – 30 of 82 years. Almost two decades flopped off calendars before a Texan won.

Come on. Oklahomans' answer to Texans' claims that Oklahoma is an "outlying state of Texas" is that "no state can out-lie Texas." Maybe this applies to Wisconsin as well....

One of a handful of Texans so honored, C. R. (Choc) Hutcheson of Lubbock took top honors 50 years ago. His "terminological inexactitude" described a guy who invented a duck call so authentic that it attracts wooden decoys.

They promised to mail him the award if he'd promise to send it back to them prior to the following year's contest.

"I wrote a letter vowing to return it, but

after the award came, I mailed a copy of the same letter, indicating that I had lied. Further, the letter served as my entry in the 1962 contest," Hutcheson joked....

There have been some fabulous entries. (See for yourself online at burlingtonliarsclub.com or order Liars Club booklet at burlingtonchamber.org.)

There's also information if you have an extra dollar to enter the 2011 contest. Officers of the loose-knit organization promise that entry fees will never increase, but who's gonna believe that? Some of the winners have been

"doozies," but three really stand out....

One was submitted by William C. Cook. He told of a year when Texas had little wind. He had three windmills on his ranch, and there was so little wind he had to take two of 'em down to get enough wind to turn one. And if he hadn't removed the barbed wire fence that was holding up the wind, the remaining wind-

mill might have been idle, too.
The 2008 winner fended off "bathroom humor" allegations, since granddaddies and their "grands" get passes. Gareth Seehawer of Oconto Falls, WI, boasted that his grandson was well on the way to becoming one of the world's most, uh, persuasive adults. He claimed that by the time the youngster was two years old, when he soiled his diaper, he convinced his mother that someone else had done it.

Last year's winner, Wisconsonite David Milz, almost had a psychic girlfriend. "Alas," he moaned, "She left me before we

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Metroplex. Send inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com

#### Texas was \$115,000. ically for restoration, con-WINTERS ENTERPRISE The live auction item STAFF REPORT SAN ANTONIO - A of desert bighorn sheep, was offered by the Texas

Ram permit auctioned for \$152K

record auction amount for a desert bighorn ram permit in Texas was paid by a Texas hunter on July 9 at WildLife 2011, the annual convention of the Texas Wildlife Association.

The record high bid of \$152,000 for the opportunity to hunt one desert bighorn ram at the Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area in Brewster County, Texas, highlighted the TWA Grand Auction in San Antonio and exhilarated the 1000 people in attendance.

The previous record auction amount for a desert bighorn ram permit in

Wildlife Association Foundation (TWAF), a 501(c) 3 organization. TWAF is donating 90 percent of gross revenue from this auction item to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Desert Bighorn Program for desert bighorn restoration, management, and research in the state of Texas. Ten percent of gross revenue from this auction item will be utilized by TWAF to support its charitable, scientific, and educational

purposes. Donated to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in 1985 specifservation, and management the Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area continues to serve as the primary source of brood stock for reintroduction efforts. Considered one of the premier desert bighorn hunting areas, 25 total bighorn hunts have been conducted on the area since 1996, and hunter success has been 100 percent. Sixteen B&C record book rams have been harvested on the area.

For more information, contact Texas Wildlife Association CEO Gary Joiner at (210) 826-2904 or gjoiner@texas-

# Good News for Women's Health and Pocketbooks

BY CINDY PEARSON AND LOIS UTTLEY The Institute of Medicine, an independent panel of doctors and health experts,

has just recommended that insurance companies be told to stop charging copays for contraception and several other types of women's preventive health care in any new health plans. Ending those extra out-of-pocket insurance charges will be good for women's health and good

for women's pocketbooks. Medical experts also are urging that insurance companies end co-pays for breastfeeding supports, including rental of breast pumps, and for annual well woman exams, HIV infection screening and counseling for women experiencing domestic violence. Most of the public attention so far, though, has focused on the experts' recommendations about contraception. No wonder, because the vast majority of women in our country have used

birth control at some time in their lives.

For young women and their families who are struggling in these tough economic times, a \$20 or

\$30 co-pay can make it difficult to afford to fill a birth control prescription each month. Some contraceptive methods like IUDs, which work better for certain women, require copays or deductibles that can run into hundreds of dollars. It's understandable that women facing financial stress report they use contraception inconsistently and put off family planning office visits to save

money. Without affordable and reliable contraception, however, women face the risk of unintended pregnancy. In fact, half of all pregnancies in this country are now unintended. Medical experts point out that there can be serious health consequences for both women and babies

from these "surprise" pregnancies. When a woman isn't able to space pregnancies, allowing enough time between them, her risk of experiencing maternal health problems increases. This is especially true for women who have health conditions like high blood pressure or heart disease that may exacerbated by pregnancy, problems that disproportionately affect women of color.

Women whose pregnancies not planned are less likely to receive timely prenatal care, quit smoking and begin taking adequate folic acid to promote a nealthy pregnancy.

When there is an interval of less than a year between births - which can happen when a woman has no family planning -- the chances increase for a pre-term birth and a low birthweight baby who will be at risk of serious complications and even death in the first year of life.

## **Beef Conference and Trade** Show to be held in San Angelo speakers of note will be

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

SAN ANGELO - The West Texas Beef Conference and Trade Show tailored specifically for West Texas cattlemen is scheduled for 8 a.m.-4 p.m. August 20 at the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo Fairgrounds Sale Pavilion. The conference is being conducted by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

it's been a while since we've had a regional beef event in San Angelo and this should be a good one," said Dr. Bruce Carpenter, AgriLife Extension livestock specialist at Fort Stockton. 'We also plan to have an extensive trade show during the event which should generate much interest."

The morning will begin with a talk on the long-term market implications of the ongoing drought by Dr. Darrell Peel, Extension economist, Oklahoma State University.

"One of the morning's

Grand Prize

Paul Colman, chief operating officer for Frontera Cattle Company at Muleshoe," Carpenter said. 'He's been involved with the cattle feeding industry since 1970 and really knows his business.

Colman's talk will be "Lessons Learned" for both the industry and for individuals as they relate to the default of Eastern Livestock Company, once one of the largest cattle brokerage companies in

Other topics and speakers will include "Feeder and Stocker Calf Health and Preconditioning," Dr. Ted McCollum, AgriLife Extension livestock specialist at Amarillo, and "Low Stress Cattle Handling," Dr. Ron Gill, AgriLife Extension livestock specialist at

College Station. "Dr. Gill will also spend time demonstrating design and function of various types of cattle working

about the relevance of low stress cattle handling techniques to the industry and ultimately the consumer," Carpenter said.

facilities and he'll also talk

Individual pre-registration is \$60. The fee includes a noon meal. Five beef quality credits will be available for those participating in the Texas Beef Quality Producer program.

To pre-register go to: nttps://agrilleregister.tam u.edu and type in keyword:

For more information, contact Carpenter at 432-336-8585, bbcarpenter@tamu.edu or Dr. Rick Machen, AgriLife Extension livestock specialist at Uvalde, at 830-278-9151.

rmachen@ag.tamu.edu.

# Drought, urbanization, diminishing fireflies

**WINTERS ENTERPRISE** 

**COLLEGE STATION -**They're called fireflies, lightning bugs, glowworms and other names, but one thing they are not called in recent years is plentiful. You can still find the flashy bugs in many areas of the country, but in Texas you might have to do some serious searching, say two Texas A&M University researchers.

Entomologists Ed Riley and Bart Drees say the past few years have dimmed the lights of the flashy insects, once seen almost nightly throughout the state during spring and summer months.

"There's no doubt the severe drought the past few years has affected them," confirms Drees, who is a Texas AgriLife Extension Service entomologist. "The lack of water has to be one big reason why you don't see as many as in years past, but there are probably other reasons,

"Most insects need a certain level of moisture in their environment, so the drought can play a big role in their numbers," adds Riley, a curator for the **Entomology Department** with a joint appointment with Texas AgriLife Research. "But another likely reason is urbanization - most insects need natural settings in which to live such as woods, meadows and creeks. In places where you have a lot of homes and concrete, you will find fewer insects, and lightning bugs certainly fall into that category.'

Both experts say there has been very little research over the past decade to determine why there appears to be fewer fireflies, which are technically members of a family of beetles and not true flies. Many Texans can recall summer months of catching the bugs and plac-

ing them in a jar to admire their glowing abilities. But too many children today are stuck with an empty

"Some theories are that fire ants are partly to blame because they can destroy them (lightning bugs) in the early development stages," says Drees.
"As to whether pesticides are to blame, it may be possible but there is no definite proof. There are just not that many scientific studies to look at to come to one definitive answer."

**Residents of East Texas** probably have a better chance of seeing them, as do persons who live in the Midwest, South and Northeast United States, where fireflies remain in abundant numbers.

There's no doubt they are interesting bugs. Fireflies produce a chemical reaction inside their bodies that allows them to light up. This type of light production is called bioluminescence. The flashing - both males and females light up — is a huge neon sign to other fireflies that it is time to mate.

But some species use the flash for a more sinister reason — dinner time.

'There are some species of the flashing beetle that flash to attract others so they can eat them," Riley notes.

So some fireflies aren't sure if it is time for romance or time to be lunch, and the bugs don't have much time for either, since they live as adults 7-14 days at the most, the experts explain.

"I have lived in this area for almost 25 years, and I have never seen very many of them in town," Riley adds. "It's a question that seems to come up very frequently, but there seems to be no real answer."

For persons wishing to learn more about fireflies and other insects, Drees. recommends visiting http://insects.tamu.edu/

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central h/a, carport, metal roof
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& 6th starting at Paint Texas. niture necessary be Brick house on for the operation Ballinger left side of San of the school dis-5 trict. Miles Angelo Hwy. of will contact venwest down town. Nice dors quotes when sup- administration TV console and plies are needed building entertainment for 2011-2012 center, 2 TV sets, school year. player, ra- Mail letters of band interest to: Gibson. items. Superintendent of quilt, Schools 308. Box

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is as follows.

PETITION

NAME CHILD as more shown by Plain-tiff's Petition on

file in this suit. Issued and under hand and Ballinger, Texas PERSO this 21st day of THAT: July 2011.

Attorney Plaintiff or Plaintiff: proposes to Elizabeth P.O. Box 495 Texas and Ballinger,

Tammy Burleson P.O. Box 166 Ballinger, Te. 76821 Runnels Texas County, Texas.

**NOTICE OF** BIDS Ballinger ISD accepting sealed bids for the purchase of one crew cab pickup. Bids will be accepted until 12:00 P.M August 8, 2011 Envelopes month 204 N 12th

should be clearly "Sealed Bid:Pickup". Ballinger reserves the right to any and all bids or to waiver any irregularities or informalities any bids or the bidding City and to the City of

the process, the merit and qualioffered. **Furthermore** office Ballinger ISD may Texas, supplies, custo- accept whatever persons dial supplies, and bid deemed to be ested all other items, in the best inter- above Bids mailed Box 231 ISD Ballinger,

to said ISD, place all persons appear price delivered to the heard. 802 things, all persons Conda Ave. Specs may by tioned, obtained contacting notice.

Robert Tony Harral, Transportation Director, at 325-365,3727 the Ballinger, the NOTICE TO BIDDER with Sealed bid probe posals

received by the THE MEAT VEGETABLES MILK. FRUITS. FRUITS, CONDIMENTS, ATTEST: MISCELLANE-OUS FOOD Secretary ITEMS and

NON-FOOD DISPOSABLE **PRODUCTS** NO. for the time NO. for the time
THE period AUG. 30, OF HIGHPOINTE said iron corner post, due immediately iron corner post iron corner upon notification. OF 30, 2012.

TO unopened considered. mately

ROBERT with the clerk GIBSON, who issued this Superinte citation by 10:00 JUDY Superintendent MCNEILL Food C the Service Director next Miles expiration of 42 Independent days after the School date this citation District
was issued a P.O. Box 308 default judg- 1010 I ment may be 76861

against 76861
Please mark your Public envelope SEALED BID appear by filing PRODUCTS, acres

nitted on 1990,
"Bid Sheet" recorded in submitted expiration of 42 Court of Runnels wise approved. County, at the Courthouse in serves the right said County in to reject any bid Ballinger, Texas. and/or all bids, Said Plaintiff's to make awards Petition was filed as they may ap
Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Subdivision. Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Contrain 34.30 corner of acres described in Highpoint deed from Con-Subdivision. Court of Runnels wise approved. County, at the The district re-Petition was filed as they may ap- 1990, in said court on pear to be ad- recorder.

bidding. state- Bids ment of the na- without ture of this suit proper to- will not be ORIGINAL accepted.

ROBERT GIBSON OF is JUDY MCNIELL fully NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING on

giv- NOTICE my HEREBY seal TO ALL GIVEN said Court at INTERESTED

The City of for Ballinger, Texas institute annexproceedto enlarge extend the limits boundary of said city to in-Clerk of the Court: clude the followdescribed territory, to-wit:

> 21.746 acres of land, known as the Highpointe Subdivision, in Runnels County, Texas, out of the tracts as referred to in **EXHIBIT "A** and said 21.746 acres being more particularly described by metes and

bounds in the hereto attached **EXHIBIT** "A" incorporated herein by this reference and made a part hereof for all purposes.

public hearing Studer in will be held by acre in and before the along tract Council of east line Texas, sole Ballinger the on the 8th day of Jali- August, 2011 Balllinger at 5:30 p.m. o'clock corded in the City Council ume 37, Chamber of of the 76. City Hall of the City of Ballinger, the County inter- post found at the the North corner proposed of said may annexation. 18.20 acre time and and at the such corner of Ballinger shall have the right to Complex tract.

all THENCE said matters and 54'55"E interested in the \$34°06'45"E things and mat- 76.25'] along ters herein men- northeast line

and order of the general council City of representations. Texas southwest of representing day of July, 2011 an at 5:30 PM.

for BALLINGER Samuel J. 52'03"E

BREAD, Mallory, Mayor [Deed \$52°03'16"E

Exhibit "A"

BOUNDARY

being 10 25.49 post cated ACRES N51°52'03"W COUNTY, TEXAS All bids will be of land in Run- [Deed Call received until nels County, 25.49'
TO: 9:00 AM, Aug. Texas, contain- N52°03'16"W] 10, 2011. Any ing approximately of the East corproposal re- 14.546 acres of ner of said ceived after that the Charles Studer 18.20 time and date Osgood Survey acre tract. will be returned No. 364, Abstract and 393, and approxi- THENCE 342° red. mately 7.200 01'26"W 31.05' DEFENDANT: not considered mately 7.200 01'26"W 31.05'
"You have Bidders are in- acres of the along a fence to been sued. You vited to be pres- G.W.H. Taylor an iron corner als for contracts Austin at 150 E. may employ an ent at the bid Survey 2, abstract post, said iron listed below will Riverside Drive, attorney. If you opening. Please 1005, said 21.746 corner post be received by 4 North Austin, or your attorney mail or deliver acres being that ing located 41.49' TxDOT until the TX 78704. No do not file a all bids to:

Weither answer ROBERT

To the Hold 26"W 31.05'

Austin Bids will all so received in listed below will Riverside Drive, attorney file a all bids to:

TxDOT until the TX 78704. No date(s) shown pre-bid meeting ported to con- [Deed Call below and then is scheduled.

to con- [Deed Call ported tain 18.20 acres 41.4' publicly read. described in the S79°38'35"W] of deed from Brian said East corner CONSTRUC-C Richards to of Studer 18.20 TION/MAINTE-Edward Studer acres tract tain 18.20 acres 41.4' Edward Edward Grand Wife, Kris-ten Studer, dat-THENCE July 31, 48'08"E Studer acre tract. July and 21.27 District 2002, and re- [Deed Bearing = P.O. Box 308 corded in Vol- \$53°15'E] to a 1010 Tenth Street ume 210, Page capped (Need-Miles, Texas 433, Runnels ham Surveyors) 76861 County Official 1/2" iron stake our Public Records, set for a corner CURB RAM
as and being a part of said
of that tract of Highpointe Sub-AND
land reported to division, said STANDARDS

a written answer OPEN 9:00 A.M. in deed from northeast line of be opened on 9291. Plans and to the Plaintiff's AUG. 10, 2011 Sallie R. Boek-said Studer August 09, 2011 specifications at or BID NO. 7-27- ing to Edward J. 33.38 acre tract. at 1:00 pm at are available studer an wife, Kristen H. Studer, THENCE S62° THENC before 10:00 2011-8-10-2012 studer an wife, Kristen H. Studer, THENCE the Monday next the wife in the sub-rise bed dated July 14, 05'12"W and 949.04' days after the provided by the Volume 45, Page of said Highpointe available date of issuance district. Bids not 360, Runnels Subdivision to a with of this citation submitted on the County Official capped (Needproposals Monday the same being bid sheet public Records, ham Surveyors) Monday September 5, district will not of that tract of set for the most 2011 before the be considered land reported to southerly South Honorable District unless other-contain 34.30 corner of said acres described in Highpoint N20°

16, Bearing = N21° tion and 48"W] along the to in said court on pear to be adrecorded in general course least 10 days young 2011 in the district above entitled to waive all formalities. in Public Records. Studer project. said

received BEGINNING at and a northeast terials may be signature Johnson) 5/8" nard tract to a the State Office iron stake found 1/2" iron stake listed below. South set of the N20°58'56"E the 0.62 corner

Studer 18.20 acre tract, corner bereported to located

S59°31'26"E 1988.25' N79°38'35"E of corner iron accepted to be the South corner of said Survey 2.

said

ing

THENCE 53'09"W N20° 555.06'[Deed N21°04'34"W 554.901 along southwest the Studer 18.20 427.85 and bearing acre tract, Northalong east line of that along the south-tract described east line of said rence

in deed to Law- Studer Leonard acre Patsy Leo- along and nard recorded in west line of said volume 233, 559, Leonard Page and County Runnels County general course Public of a fence to the Records and place of beginalong the gener-ning, this tract fence to an iron acres, corner post found less, as shown on North the plat hereon. the corner said Bearings Studer 18.20 acre herein tive North

THENCE N63° 99°57'09.0000" 884.60' W 50'23"E = meridian N63°38'04"E termined 884.40" along GPS northwest tions. the and areas given herein reflect 18.20 herein and horizontal the south-face

described deed to the Ilinger Sports Vol-Page Department Runnels hereby Official public all to an iron corner Studer basis by sealed East said Sports

must meet or Engire exceed impound 4502 fees of \$470.00. Knick **Description:** 76.20 CHEVROLET K1500 - PICKUP 1GCDC14K1JZ Studer along to course found 18.20 acre tract PLATE:

TEXAS in bidding documents and the 227DS5 of a fence found Bids will be ac-rates will be part in the cepted by mail of the contract. County, line or at city hall TXDOT ensures be ope to through Friday, that bidders will August line or 25th of 13th Street to through an iron corner August 12, 2011. at a said Bidders

OF Studer 18.20 acre. contact Winters nicer 937.90' inspect the Call = vehicle. = vehicle.

ATTEST: Bonita 937.90'] along a High bidder will Shields, City northeast line of be notified by Secretary Said Studer Chief of Police. 18.20 acre tract Vehicle must be and along the removed within general course 30 days of notiwithin of a fence to an fication. Bid funds iron corner post, due immediately

> TORS OF PROPOSED DEPART-MENT OF TRANSPOR-TATION (TxDOT)

date(s) = below, and then Estimated \$59.700.

BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

without charge and can be oba Dist/Div: San Angelo tained from Angelo for 4502 RAMPS bocker TAS San Ange ADA attention San Angelo, TX, in Tinney, 33.38 iron stake being TOM GREEN described located on the County, etc will FAX 325-947-9209,

Plans and spec-ifications are Austin, request available for in-spection, along by FAX on your along ifications along company bidding letterhead to: proposals. and applications for Management the TxDOT I qualified C tractor's list, Pre- Mana Con- FAX: 512-416at 3080. or to Judy applicable email the and/or Gage
Offices Judy.GageWern Dist/Div listed below. applicable,

ders must

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Plans of above

If er@txdot.gov. bid- D47B(07-77-470400812-[Deed mit prequalifica- 771) Ballinger information NOTICE TO

CONTRAC-TORS OF PROPOSED **TEXAS** DEPART-MENT OF TRANSPOR-**TATION** (TxDOT)

CONTRACTS propos- or national origin. Sealed



[Deed

18.20

S79°38'35"W1

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Distances

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**NOTICE OF** 

SALE:

Winters

vehicle

the following

Minimum

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Police

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large fenced corner lot.

contract(s) are als for contracts from listed below TxDOT's at TxDOT until website date(s) and from repro- below. and then compa- publicly read. duction nies at the pense contractor.

TION/MAINTE-NPO NANCE/ BUILDING Office State Constr./Maint. CONTRACT(S) Division 200 E Dist/Div: Riverside Lubbock Contract

gives 78704 Phone REMOVE AND 512-416-2540 REPLACE LIMIT SPEED Dist/Div SIGNS WESTERN in LUBBOCK auction. District County, etc will bids District August 10, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the State Engineer

Knickerbocker Office for an Angelo, 76904 estimate San \$1,367,385.39. Texas Dist/Div 325-944-1501 San Angelo Contract Minimum

rates are set out INFRASTRUC TOM GREEN that bidders will August 10,

be discrimi- at against the State Office. may on the grounds of the race, color, sex, Plans and specon-duty or national origin. **NOTICE TO** spection, Roofing Contractors proposals. and for Texas applications Department TXDOT of Transpor-

(TxDOT)

San Angelo District, Runnels

Location:

placement

posal

Plans

\$1,000.00.

qualified tractor's list, at applicable listed below. County, Ballinger, applicable, ders must No. CBC4704-00prequalificamit 812 for roof reat tion information the Shop Building at the Ballin-least 10 Maintenance prior to the bid Facility, 630 FM date to be eligi-2887, Ballinger, ble to bid on a TX, Bid Date: project. Pre-TX. Bid Date: August 16, 2011 - 3:00 P.M. in

qualification ma-Austin. Bids will requested the State Office listed below. Plans for the

scheduled website Cost: Prowww.txdot.gov and from repro-Guaranty duction Bond: nies at the and pense of contractor. Specifications will NPO: 36942 furnished

> Office Constr./Maint. District. Division Knicker-Riverside Road. We Austin, phone Phone: 325-947- 512-416-2540

District Engineer 135 Slaton Lubbock. 79408-0771

806-745-4411

San Angelo District District Engineer 4502 Knickerbocker Rd San Angelo, Angelo, 76904 Texas Phone: 325-944-1501

Minimum rates are set out in bidding docu-ments and the rates will be part of the contract.
TXDOT ensures ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of

# Grants, loans, tech assistance for Texas wildfires

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

COLLEGE STATION - A true team effort exists in response to wildfires in the state of Texas, as numerous state and federal agencies offer help to those responding to and recovering from the

In addition to support from the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural

Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) also have assistance programs available.

'Mother Nature has not been kind to Texas farmers and ranchers in 2011, said Juan M. Garcia, State Executive Director for Texas FSA. "Although not a remedy to the extensive hardships and heartbreak experienced by many producers this year, it's my hope that FSA's disaster programs and loans can alleviate some of the financial strain producers have suffered from the devastating impact of the recent natural disasters."

FSA offers disaster assistance and lowinterest loan programs to assist agricul-

tural producers statewide in their recovery efforts following wildfires or similar qualifying natural disasters. Visit http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ for more details. The assistance programs available include: Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) which provides emergency funding for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate land severely damaged by natural disasters; includes fence loss (Currently, 32 counties have received ECP funding. Additional counties are being reviewed and considered for funding please contact the local FSA office to determine status of ECP availability).

Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) which provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occur due to natural disasters (includes native grass for grazing). Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) which offers payments to eligible producers for livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather. Eligible losses may include those determined by FSA to have been caused by hurricanes, floods, blizzards, wildfires, tropical storms, tornados lightening, extreme heat, and

Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) that includes payments to eligible producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock because of drought or

Tree Assistance Program (TAP) for eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers for qualifying tree losses due to natural disaster. Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) Under the ELAP, FSA may spend up to \$50 million per year to provide emergency relief for losses due to feed or water shortages, disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, which are not adequately addressed by other disaster programs Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment Program (SURE) which offers payments to eligible producers who have incurred crop production losses or crop quality losses, or both.

Emergency Loan Program - The recent primary or contiguous Secretarial Disaster designation for all counties in Texas which triggered the availability of FSA's low interest (3.75%) Emergency Loans. These loans help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, wildfire and other natural disasters or quarantine. NRCS State Conservationist Salvador Salinas said, "NRCS in Texas will help landowners to address wind erosion that continues to occur because of the drought and the effects from wildfires. Our assistance will enable landowners and livestock producers to accelerate the recovery of the health and vigor of the affected grazing land.

NRCS is offering technical and financial assistance statewide to landowners through several programs;

The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) helps with deferred grazing of livestock, to rejuvenate plant health and to prevent soil erosion, and cross fencing assistance. The Lesser Prairie Chicken (LPC) initiative is a local and regional working partnership through the NRCS EQIP program focused on assisting producers in conservation plan development to help maintain, establish, improve and manage habitat for the LPC. Additional conservation funding through the NRCS may also be used to address plant health needs for rangeland producers that have suffered losses from recent wildfires.

Applicants should visit the local NRCS office to fill out an application for costshare assistance. Information is also available at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov

There are also SBA and FEMA programs: For information on SBA disaster assistance programs, call SBA's Customers Service Center at (800) 659-2955 for more infor-

# FSA County Committee nomination deadline is August 1

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS - The deadline to nominate farmer and rancher candidates to serve on their local FSA county committee is approaching. and the nominations will be open until August 1, 2011 said Runnels County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) **Executive Director Byron** Bauerlein.

Elected county committee members serve a three-year term and are responsible for making decisions on FSA disaster, conservation, commodity, and price support programs, as well as other important federal farm program issues.

"County committee members are a valuable asset because they are local producers who participate in FSA programs themselves and have a direct connection to farmers and ranchers in the community," said

"I would like to see a high level of participation in this vear's nomination and election process," he said. Producers may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Organizations that represent minority and women farmers and ranchers may also nominate candidates. Nominees must participate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area (LAA) in which the person is a candidate. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. The form and more information about county committee elections are available online at:

www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. "It is important that the county committee reflects the demographics and agri-

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cultural interests of the community these individuals represent," Bauerlein said. "I strongly encourage all producers, including women, minority and beginning farmers and ranchers to participate in the nomination and election process," he said. County committees are

comprised of three to five members elected by local producers. All newly elected county committee members and alternates will take office January 2, 2012.

Nomination forms must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on August 1, 2011.

For more information about county committees, please contact the Runnels County FSA office at 325-

365-5757 or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

# Tractor Supply to host Pet Appreciation Week

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

BRENTWOOD, Tenn.- As part of its first annual Pet Appreciation Week, Tractor Supply Company will award one lucky customer at each store a \$150 Tractor Supply gift card good for a year's worth of pet food and a \$100 vet service rebate from Hills Science Diet. Pet Appreciation Week, Tractor

Supply's celebration of pets and the joy they add to our lives, will be held on August 3-7, 2011.

Customers visiting their Tractor Supply store throughout the event will also enjoy great sales items throughout the pet department, Saturday-only pet specials, nutrition demonstrations, pet adoptions, giveaways and more.

"Many pet owners in our communities, and in many cases even our own customers, don't realize how involved Tractor Supply is with pet care and the pet

community," said John Wendler, Tractor Supply Senior Vice President of Marketing. "Pet Appreciation Week, our largest pet event ever, is not only an opportunity for us to showcase our contributions to the pet community, but also gives our customers an opportunity to celebrate their pets and how much they mean to them. This is certainly an event for the entire family, including your leashed pet."

Tractor Supply is also partnering with PetFinder.com and local agencies to help organize a

pet adoption event at each Tractor Supply store. In addition to putting pets in the adopting homes of caring families, the events are designed to increase awareness of local pet adoption programs in communities across the country and the importance of neutering and spaying your pets. Contact the local Tractor Supply store for particular details concerning the pet adoption event and the other fun activities and events planned at the Tractor Supply store near

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# Drought Impacts on Texas Reservoirs Mounting

ATHENS - Following the drought of record of the 1950s, Texas built dozens of reservoirs designed to maintain an adequate water supply should another drought of equal severity occur.

That time has come, and the coming months will

reveal if those reservoirs are equal to the task. The outcome is anything

but certain. As shown by the thunderstorms that swept across extreme North Texas in early summer and boosted water levels in lakes around Dallas-Fort Worth, one exceptional rain event can go far toward relieving an exceptional drought, at least in the short term.

But we can't control the weather, and only one other part of the state has been blessed with reservoir-filling rains since the drought began in earnest in 2010. "Heavy rainfall in the Rio Grande watershed in 2010 filled both Amistad and Falcon International Reservoirs," said Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Inland Fisheries biologists Randy Myers. "Amistad is currently two to three feet below conservation pool, and Falcon is about 15 feet low. Angler access remains

excellent at both.

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