# Winters Enterprise

Thursday, October 6, 2011

### Big Country Player of the Week



PHOTO: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ

Winters Blizzards' quarterback/defensive back Riley Ripley was awarded Big Country Player of the Week for the week ending September 24, after leading a heart-stopping drive in the final minute of a 34-31 win over the Bronte Longhorns.

Ripley hit Strait Daniel with a 12-yard touchdown pass with two seconds remaining on the clock, and gave his team and the public a big reason to celebrate Homecoming. Ripley finished with 14 passes completed out of 26, for 183 yards and one touchdown pass. He also had 13 carries for 168 yards and two more touchdowns. Ripley received a plaque last Friday, September 30, at the Special Events Center, during the pep rally.

### **Homecoming Queen and King**



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Caitlin Kurtz and Fabian Esquivel were named 2011 Homecoming Queen and King last Friday, September 23 at Blizzard Stadium. The Winters Blizzards celebrated big time that night with a victory over the Bronte Longhorns by a score of 34-31 with a last minute touchdown.

## **Broadband experts bring** roundtable to Winters

**RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ** 

WINTERS - The Winters Area Chamber of Commerce and Texans for Economic Progress hosted last Monday, October 3, a Rural Broadband Roundtable. The Federal Communications noted earlier this year that it could hundreds of millions of dollars to connect rural Texas and America to highspeed broadband networks.

"As technology evolves, high speed Internet for everyone in Texas is more important than ever," said Robert Howden, **Executive Director of** Texans for Economic

Progress. "High-speed Internet connections of all kinds — at your desktop or on a hand-held wireless device — can deliver the world to your fingertips. We are proud to team with the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce to educate Texans about being in touch in a high-speed

Speakers included Howden, Executive Director of Texans for Economic Progress, an Austin-based non-profit advocacy group that monitors competitive processes in key sectors of the Texas economy; Erin Flournoy, of Connected Nation, a technology organization committed to bringing affordable high-speed Internet and broadband-enabled resources to all Americans, and Randy Teakell, Regional Director of External Affairs for AT&T in Abilene, Texas.

The roundtable presented the benefits of an AT&T merger with T-Mobile currently under evaluation by federal regulators, which would expedite the broadband service expansion to rural Texas.

Howden said that everyday tasks such as the proposed merger would expand access to the next generation of high-



PHOTOS: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ

Randy Teakell, Regional Director of External Affairs for AT&T in Abilene, Texas; Erin Flournoy, of Connected Nation; Winters Area Chamber of Commerce President Don Wood, and Texans for Economic Development Executive Director Robert Howden.

> speed mobile broadband to millions of Texas, most of them living in rural

Some of the advantages of the wireless project include opening opportunities for small community businesses, real time communication from virtually everywhere, and even bringing families together by opening online college pos-

Randy Teakell, Regional Director of External Affairs for AT&T in Abilene, Texas, said that due to the scale, spectrum and resources resulting from this transaction AT&T could expand 4G LTE coverage over 97 percent of U.S. population.

'These changes will come to rural Texas and to you eventually, they are like tone dial and call forwarding that were once seen like something very remote, the difference is that if the merger is approved that would expedite the process," said Howden.

Howden encouraged assistants to get in touch with the Winters Chamber of Commerce and support the AT&T/T-Mobile merger and write to the Public Utility Commission.



Erin Flournoy presents the broadband benefits at the roundtable held at Dot's Diner last Monday, October 3.

## Lutheran Cemetery dedication to be held this Sunday

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- The Runnels County Historical Commission under the auspices of the Texas Historical Commission will host the Historic Texas Cemetery dedication for the Lutheran Cemetery at the intersection of Loop 438 and SH 153 west of Winters, Texas.

The dedication ceremony will begin at 3 p.m. Sunday October 9, 2011. In the event of inclement weather, the dedication ceremony will be held at the St. John's Lutheran Church at that

Steakhouse

The Texas Historical Commission designated the Lutheran Cemetery as a Historic Texas Cemetery. The distinction means the cemetery has been legally recorded through the THC's Historic Texas Cemetery Program, an important step in ensuring its preservation.

This designation is reserved for cemeteries that are at least 50 years old and documented through the Historic Texas Cemeteries process to record their historic association and

significance.

We are very pleased to have the Lutheran Cemetery designated as a Historic Texas Cemetery. This is Runnels County's second, the other being Hoffman Cemetery in the far southeastern area of the county. At this time, we are working with other cemeteries in the county to get historic designation" said Ruth Cooper, Chairperson of the Runnels County Historical Commission.

Cemeteries hold valuable historic information and they are often the last reminders of early

settlements, historical events, religious beliefs, lifestyles and genealogy. While the Historic Texas Cemetery designation encourages cemetery preservation, it cannot guarantee that a historic cemetery will avoid destruction. Threats to historic cemeteries include urban expansion and development, vandalism, grazing animals and longterm deterioration from weather and uncontrolled vegetation.

The THC developed the Historic Texas Cemetery designation to address the destruction of

historic cemeteries and the illegal removal of cemetery fixtures. Any individual or organization is eligible to submit an application for this designation.

For more information, visit the THC's web site at www.thc.state. tx.us or contact the Runnels County Historical Commission.

The Texas Historical Commission is the state agency for historic preservation. The agency administers a variety of programs to preserve the archeological, historical and cultural resources of Texas



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PHOTO: FILE

According to a recent wildfire risk report by Southern Area Fire Risk Assessment the wildfire risk will remain for

## Wildfire conditions expected for the fall and winter

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

COLLEGE STATION-Dangerous wildfire conditions that have plagued Texas for nearly a year are expected to continue through the fall and possibly into the winter, according to a recent wildfire risk assessment report. Texas remains mired in one of the worst droughts in state history and there appears to be little relief in sight, according to the Southern Area Fire Risk Assessment, which is calling for below average moisture and above average temperatures through the end of the year.

Compounding the problem, the relentless

drought has left in its wake an overabundance of dead and drying vegetation including high-risk fuels like pines and junipers that burn intensely. "With much of the state so critically dry, a wildfire could spread quickly especially with the fall winds that will pick up as fronts move through the state," Predictive Services Department Head Tom Spencer said. "These factors were all in place over Labor Day weekend. They can really create a dangerous situation where the wildfire is in control." It was Labor Day weekend that the devastating Bastrop Fire ignited, ultimately charring more than 34,000 acres.

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#### FSA urges ranchers to re-register livestock brand

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

COLLEGE STATION- James B. Douglass Acting Texas State Executive Director for the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds ranchers that the 10-year livestock brand re-registration deadline in Texas is

Livestock brand re-registration started on August 30, 2011 and ends February 29, 2012. All livestock producers who have a brand recorded in the county clerk's office must re-register their brand in the county in which the livestock are located in order for the brand to remain valid. After the re-registration period is over, any previously recorded brands that were not re-registered will expire and become available to the

Producers who obtain FSA direct or guaranteed loans and pledge their cattle as collateral are typically required to have a registered brand that is recorded with the county clerk. This condition must be met as long as the loan is outstanding.

"It is the producer's responsibility and a condition of most livestock operation loans to have your livestock brand recorded," said Douglass. "Questions regarding a livestock producer's specific FSA loan conditions should be directed to their local FSA farm

Brand applications can be found at: http://www. tscra.org/brands/application.pdf. Producers who have obtained FSA credit should provide their local FSA farm loan manager with a copy of their current brand registration.

## Women's Club meeting

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- The Winters Woman's Club met on September 13, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. at Casa Cabana.

Randall Conner gave a program on "Conditions in Winters". He started with a quiz on little know facts about Winters. It dealt with the number of businesses, churches, restaurants and other facts that seemed to stump most of the members.

The meeting was called to order by President, Marlene Smith. She announced some changes in officers because of member resignations. They are: Recording Secretary - Jane Bourdo, Treasurer - Kay Guy, and Philanthropic Committee Chair - Brenda Bahlman.

Two guests were recognized at the meeting. They were Debbie Gowler and Peggy Belew.

After dinner dessert was served by hostesses Joyce Broadstreet and Marianne Ray.

A thank you note was read. It was from Deb Pritchard's reading group thanking the Woman's Club for the donation given to them at the end of the school

year to help them buy books. It was announced that a bake sale will be held on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The location is yet to be determined. And, plans are already underway for the annual Ladies Night Out. It will be held on Thursday,

April 19, 2012. The next gathering of the Winters Woman's Club will be on Friday, October 14. The club will attend "The King and I" at the Abilene Civic Center.

The Winters Woman's Club normally meets on the second Tuesday of each month from September through May. Contact President, Marlene Smith for more information, 754-4961.

#### NEWS NOTES

Winters Flags raising funds to perform at Cotton Bowl The Winters Flag Corp. have been asked to preform at the Cotton Bowl. They are trying to raise money to attend to this important event. The Winters Flag Corp. will be having a Hamburger Supper (Burger-Curly Fries-Tea-Cake) at the Winters School Cafeteria on Friday, Oct. 7,

from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Plates are \$6.00 per plate. Thanks you for helping us get to the Cotton Bowl!

Spirit nights at WHS

loan manager," he said.

Winters Athletic Booster Club is sponsoring the following Spirit Nights.

- October 7, Eldorado

Tailgate party at Winters City Park at 6 p.m... Burgers/ fries must show membership card for admittance... bring a dessert to share... bring your own drink October 14 at Reagan Co. (Big Lake )\*

White Out (All Blizzard fans wear white for a Blizzard

October 21, Goldthwaite Senior Night/Football Sweetheart

- October 28 Open

Support the WABC Halloween Carnival on Saturday night, October 29 at yellow activity building - November 4 at Mason

Road trip... Let's take all of Winters to Mason for a show-

Senior Citizen's Center requesting candy donations The Senior Citizens Nursing Home is asking for candy donations of individually wrapped candy for the Halloween Trick or Treat that will be given out by the residents from 5 - 6 p.m. Halloween evening, October 31, 2011. Donations may be brought to the office of the Activity Director at the nursing home.

**Ballinger Rotary Annual Raffle** 

Club will be having its Annual Raffle Rotary with a TW200 trail Wagon Runabout 4x2 light utility vehicle as the main prize. Tickets are \$10 and tax deductible. Chances are available with any Rotary member. Drawing will be held at the Hunters Appreciation Dinner on November 5, 2011. Proceeds go to scholarships for local students.

**Immunization clinics** 

Texas Department of State Health Services will have an immunization clinic from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m., on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at the Professional Building, 110 South Main, Suite 108 in Winters. For your convenience, please use rear entrance on Grant Street.

The clinic in Ballinger will be from 10 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 3 p.m. on Thursday. October 13, 2011 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 325-754-4945.

St. Boniface 'Days Gone By' Fall Festival
St. Boniface "Days Gone By" Fall Festival at Olfen, Texas will be held on Sunday, October 9, 2011. Turkey, dressing and sausage meal will be served from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Lunch meal \$8 adults and children under 10 years \$5. Drive thru and plates to go \$8, from 10:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Homemade raw sausage \$4 lb.

Games, entertainment, country store will open at noon, the auction will be held at 1 p.m. and at 3 p.m. will be a candy drop. Sausage sandwiches and concessions.

Mentors needed

Winters Elementary School is looking for volunteers to be a mentor on an elementary student. The volunteer would meet with the student once a week during school hours for approximately 30 minutes to help with homework, read a book, or just talk. Mentoring has shown to help build self-esteem, improve grades and in some cases improves test scores. Anyone interested may contact Charles Murphy, Elementary Counselor at 754 5577 ext. 1126.

Runnels Co. RSE meetings

The Runnels Co. Retired School Employees meet at the First United Methodist Church, the second Tuesday of the month at 9:45 a.m. On Tuesday, Nov. 15 Dorothy Hoelscher will be presenting the program - Yoga - at the FUMC in Ballinger; on January 10, at FUMC, Massage

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Therapist Ashley Wiley will present the program; on February 14, 2012 Dist. XV President Nancy Byler will present the program at the Miles Citizen's State Bank; on April 10, 2012 UIL Students will be the program at the Winters ISD.

\*\*On October 11, Runnels Co. RSE is invited to San Angelo Retired Teachers meeting to hear Rep. Drew Darby at San Angelo First Christian Church (29 N. Oakes); meeting begins at 9:30.

America's Girl preliminary pageant
America's Girl Pageants will be holding a Preliminary pageant on October 15 in Ballinger. All age divisions and for both boys and girls.

Call your local director at (325)718 9989 for more information or to pick up an entry form.

Frank Rodriguez benefit softball tournament

Benefit co-ed softball tournament for the family of Frank Rodriguez. October 15 (14 if necessary) in Rowena, Tx. Deadline is October 12. First thru third place T-shirts plus additional prizes. Homerun derby for male and female, MVP and Golden Glove prize for male and female, depending on teams might be a midnight madness.

Fore more information call Mark Gonzales at (325) 718 8540, Tony Flores (325) 977 0453, Vanessa Lujano (325) 718 8945, or John Escobar (325) 718-7261.

**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 every Monday evening at 7

p.m. at the Band Hall.

Winters Women's Club

Members meet the second Tuesday of the month. Call Marlene Smith at 754-4961 for additional information.

AA meeting are held at 204 W. Truett 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 p.m. Please enter through the south side of the church.

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, Texas. 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.

## The Winters Enterprise

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PHOTOS: JOE GERHART

Triston Bentrup runs with the ball at the game the Seventh Grade Breezes held against the Albany Lions.

## **Eighth Grade Breezes keep their winning ways**

**BLIZZARDS ATHLETIC REPORT** 

JR High Football (Coach Bicknell)

Seventh Grade game The Seventh Grade Breezes got an opportunity on Thursday night to play a true seventh grade game. It was a very well played game by the Seventh Grade. The Breezes came up on the short end of the stick with the Albany Lions. The final score was Albany 22- Breezes 6. They will play again on October 6 in Eldorado at 5:30

**Eighth Grade game** 

kick off.

The Eighth Grade Breezes continued their winning ways Thursday night against the Albany Lions. The final score was Breezes 34 - Lions 22. The Breezes improve their record to 3-1. They will play next at Edorado at 5:30 kickoff.

JV Football Team Travels to Albany (Coach Cates) Game was played on Thursday 9-29-11. Albany scored on their opening possession with 9:33 left in the second quarter. They also had a score right before the end of the half. Both two-point conversions failed. Winters went into halftime down 0-12.

The second half scoring for Winters JV started on the opening second half drive when Dusty Hines capped a drive with a 40-yard touchdown run. Extra point kick by Lucas Kraatz failed. 6-12. The rest of the game was a defensive battle. It was highlighted with "Tackle for losses" by Armando Rodriquez, Rudy Lara, Ty Cortez, and Taylor Hooper. Jayton Torres had several Big Hits. JV Blizzards fought throughout this contest. Record is 3-2. Next game will be October 13 at home vs Reagan County.

WHS/WJHS Cross Country By Coach Holson

Jim Ned Meet

Varsity Girls: 2 mile run		
Name	Place	Time
Kat Lindley	38	14:17
Joanna Perez	58	15.07
Ali Crook		15.39
Crystal Sanchez	0 18	17.22

Varsity Boys: 3 mile run Kolton Garcia 36 Marshall Scates 31 19.58 Jordan Hamrick 41 21.03

**Eighth Boys: 2 mile course** 

J. Sandoval Angel Escamia 13:37 Brandon Reyna 3

Eighth Girls: 2 mile course Athena Mata 14.45

Seventh Boys: 2 mile course Dre Patton 6 15.06 Marcus Mostad 9 17.36

Seventh Girls: 2 mile course K'lee Lindley 15.16 Tia Campos 16.41 Angel Stratton 3 14.40 Stacey Ventress --20.00 Makayla Cates --18.10 Desiree Wilson --



Angel Escamia carries the ball at the Eighth Grade Breezes game against Albany. Winters won the match and is now 3-1 for the season.

#### CAFETERIA MENU October 10 - 14

WINTERS ISD BREAKFAST Biscuit/Sausage or Cereal or Cheese and Egg Omelet, 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 Sausage on Stick, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.
THURSDAY

Sausage Roll or Cereal or Breakfast Bui rito, Toast w.Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.

Biscuit/Sausage or Cereal or Cinnamon Roll/Sausage, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk..
WINTERS ISD LUNCH MENU

Visiting Adult \$4, Visiting Child \$3.50.

MONDAY

Salisbury Steak or Chicken Bites/Gravy Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Black Eyed Peas, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Strawberry Cup, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk TUESDAY

Chicken Pattie/Bun or Lasagna, Corn, Broccoli w/Cheese, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Orange Wedges, Peanut Butter Cookie, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk.

WEDNESDAY
Frito Pie or Mexican Casserole, Spanish
Rice, Pinto Beans, Tossed Salad/Carrot
Sticks, Coleslaw, Cornbread/Jep.Che.
Bread, Apple Wedges, Choice of Milk.
THURSDAY
Chicken Nurseta Western versions of Popular

Chicken Nuggets w/Gravy or Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich, Tomato Pasta, Black Eyed Peas, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Apple Wedges, Rice Crispy Treat Hot Roll, Choice of Milk. FRIDAY

Cheese Burger or Pizza, Curly Fries, Green Beans, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Lettuce/Pickles. Rosy Pears,

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## Albany breaks Blizzards' streak

WINTERS- This non district contest between the Albany Lions and Winters Blizzards would turn out to be a tale of two halves. The first half took on the look of two teams locked into a stare down to see who would blink first. Both teams would answer the call repeatedly. The half ending with the Lions up 21-14. The second half another story entirely with the Blizzards staring back at an Albany bunch that would dominate the second half. When it was all added up the Blizzards would fall for the first time in four weeks 48-14 to the number 6 ranked team in 1A. The contest would

bet started with Winters receiving and only taking 4 plays to light up the scoreboard when Cristian Sandoval took the fourth and one play for the distance on a 39 yard touchdown run with barely two minutes gone from the clock. Andrew Chavis would be good for the extra point and a 7-0 lead. It would not take the Lions long to answer the call as they put together an 11 play drive culminating in a 4 yard touchdown run with 3:48 to go in the first quarter. The extra point was good and the score was knotted up at 7.

With little to do but answer the call the Blizzards would put together a 10 play 55 yard drive of their own. The drive would be highlighted by a 29 yard completion from Riley Ripley to Kolton Alexander moving the ball to the Albany 20 yard line. From here it would be the Sandoval show. The



PHOTOS: JOE GERHART

Kolton Alexander struggles to gain a few more yards after receiving a pass from Winters quarterback Riley Ripley.

drive would see the first quarter end with the score knotted at 7. The first play of the second put the Blizzards for the second time with Sandoval carrying for the 1 vard score. Chavis's extra point was good for 14-7 lead with 11:57 left in the half.

It would not take long for the visitors to respond as Albany would score from 50 yards out with 10:16 left in the half. The ensuing kickoff and return would set the Blizzards up at their own 23. They would find little success and be forced in a punting situation. The punt was blocked setting the visitors at the Winters 24. The Blizzard defense would answer the call and force the Lions to attempt a field goal that would be blocked by Cannon Bryan and setting

the Blizzards up at their own 20.

With things looking up for the home team a Ripley pass would be tipped around two or three times and intercepted setting the Lions up with a short field at the Blizzard 35 with 6 minutes left in the half. With things looking bleak for the Blizzards AC Mata would fall on a Lion fumble giving the ball to the home team at their own 21. The Blizzards would be forced to punt setting the Lions up at their own 32 with 2:22 left in the half. The Lions would untie the knot with a 20 yard fourth and one run for the touchdown with 36 seconds left in the half. The extra point

was good and the visitors

took a 21-14 lead into the

locker room at half time.

The Lions would pick up where they left off in the second half and score repeatedly to establish little doubt as to the outcome of this contest, a 48-14 Lion victory. The second half of this contest was an exercise in frustration for the Blizzards as things iust continued to go south. With little success the Blizzards continued to battle the Lions showing the kind of character that one has come to expect from this group. They never stopped believing in one another and what they were trying to accomplish. As the contest wore on the victory they pursued was out of reach but the honor with which they pursued it was still evident and outstanding. Without a doubt it is good to be a Blizzard. Don't stop believing.



Andy Garcia dives to stop the runner at the game the Blizzards held last Friday, September 30 against Albany.

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## Drought confuses smart irrigation controllers

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

COLLEGE STATION - Confounded by Texas weather? So are most "smart" electronic irrigation controllers, according to a Texas AgriLIfe Extension Service expert.

Charles Swanson checks the setup of smart irrigation controllers at a College Station test site. (Texas AgriLife Extension Service photo by Jose Lopez)

"Over the last two years, in a testing program, we found that Texas' variable and erratic weather confuses many of the controllers being sold in the state," said Dr. Guy Fipps, AgriLife Extension irrigation engineer, College Sta-

Smart controllers refer to irrigation units that use weather data to calculate and apply the correct amount of water needed by lawns and landscape plants. Ordinary "dumb" controllers rely on timers and require human intervention, which, due to human error or lack of management, often apply two to three times more water than necessary, Fipps explained.

Among the weather factors smart controllers use is evapotranspiration, commonly abbreviated as ET, which is an estimate of the total amount of water needed by plants. Smart controllers either use historical ET data or calculate

it from weather sensors measuring rainfall, heat, amount of sunlight and other factors.

For more than three years at a College Station site, Fipps and Charles Swanson, AgriLife Extension landscape irrigation specialist, have been testing various brands of smart controllers sold in Texas. They have found that although the controllers are smart in theory, in actual use, some over-irrigate as often as their human counterparts who use guesstimates rather than calculations, according to Fipps.

However, the smart controllers have become smarter as manufacturers continue to tweak designs in response to such tests, he said. Still, during the third year of tests — which spanned 238 days from March 29 through Nov. 22 2010 — many controllers still did not perform as consistently as

'The 2010 results showed an increase in controller performance compared to the year-one and year-two results," he said. "However, we continued to see controllers irrigating excessively; some irrigated in excess of ET, even though 17 inches of rainfall fell during the 2010 study.

And that was before the drought worsened. During the drought of 2011, most of the controllers' performance was erratic,

Fipps said.
"Three of the eight smart controllers over-compensated and applied excessive amounts of water, and the remaining five did not apply enough irrigation water for all the irrigation zones and plant materials, although two of the controllers provided adequate amounts of water for five out of the six zones," he said. "The problem is likely due to which weather factors the controller uses."

The summer of 2011 was not only hotter and drier than normal, but conditions interacted to cause plants to use from 30 percent to 50 percent more water than they would in an average year, Fipps explained. While the amount of solar radiation (total energy received from the sun) remained close to normal levels, temperatures and wind were significantly

In the 2010 tests, it was too much rain that caused problems with some smart controllers, he said. The 2010 work tested eight controllers from six different manufacturers.

"In 2010, it was only the smart controllers that were equipped with tipping-bucket rain gauges that were able to accurately provide the right amounts of irrigation," Fipps said.

For the tests, Fipps and Swan-

son programmed each controller for a typical Texas irrigation system and landscape that included ornamental plants, shrubs and turf. They also considered various soil types with different root-zone

"Programming these controllers was no easy task as only two controllers allowed us to input all the landscape parameters that were needed," Fipps said. "Each manufacturer was allowed to come in and provide assistance in programming to ensure the controller programming most accurately described the landscape, which most manufacturers did."

In the 2010 test, Fipps and Swanson added a "goldilocks" protocol, which interprets performance results to whether the controllers put on too much, too little or "just the right" amount of

"Adequate, inadequate and excessive categories make the testing results easier to understand by consumers and irrigation contractors who are trying to determine which controller to purchase," he said.

The full results are included in the recent report on smart controller testing and performance found on the Irrigation Technology Center website athttp://itc. tamu.edu/smart.php.

#### TWDB will host public hearing

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

AUSTIN- On Monday, October 17, 2011, the Texas Water Development Board will host a a public hearing on the draft 2012 State Water Plan. Attendance is free and open to the public. The hearing will be held at 6 p.m. at the Stephen F. Austin building, room 170, 1700 N. Congress Ave. Austin, TX 78701.

The State Water Plan is published every five years by the TWDB and serves as a guide to state water policy. The plan explains planning methodology, presents data for 16 water planning regions and the state as a whole, identifies statewide trends, and provides recommendations to the state legislature.

Prior to adoption of the plan, the TWDB publishes its intent to adopt the state water plan in the Texas Register and solicits feedback from the public before formal adoption by the Board.

Any member of the public interested in providing feedback on the draft 2012 State Water Plan is welcome.

## Halfmann Red Angus to host annual sale

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

MILES- Halfmann Red Angus of Miles, Texas, will host their annual "Red Investment Production Sale" Saturday,

October 8, 2011, at 1 p.m.

The sale will be held at the Halfman Red Angus ranch in Miles, Texas.

Preview of the cattle will begin Friday at 2 p.m. Selling will be 54 registered Red Angus bulls and 75 bred females including registered Red Angus, Sim-Angus and high percentage Red Angus commercial females. Halfmann Red Angus has been breeding Red Angus since 1964 and were honored with the "2007 RAAA

Pioneer Breeder of the Year" award.

Sale auctioneer is Kyle Gilchrist of Douds, Iowa, and the sale is managed by Glen Cody and Chad Halfmann. The sale will be available for viewing online at http:// www.DVAuction.com.

For more information contact Glen Halfmann at (325) 895 0544, email at glen@halfmannredangus.com or visit http://www.halfmannredangus.com

Sale Catalog and videos are posted on the web site. 

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## TXDOT names new **Executive Director**

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

AUSTIN- During their regular monthly meeting, the Texas Transportation Commission selected Phil Wilson as the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) 19th Executive Director, effective October 17, 2011. Wilson currently serves as senior vice president of public affairs for Luminant, an electric generation company headquartered in Dallas, and previously served as Texas Secretary of State.

As secretary, Wilson was respon-sible for elections and acted as the governor's chief liaison on the Texas-Mexico border and issues with Mexico. He has also served as Chairman of the Governor's Competitiveness Council, where Wilson helped identify ways the state could improve its economic position for continued long-term success. Wilson's public service also includes time as an aide to U.S. Senator Phil Gramm and on the senior staff of Governor Rick Perry.

"Phil's experience as a public servant and member of the Texas business community has prepared

him well to lead the department as it continues to modernize," said Ted Houghton, Texas Transportation commissioner and chair of the commission's executive director search committee. "While TxDOT is certainly a national leader in transportation infrastructure development, there are opportunities for Phil to guide the department through this period of transition, emerging a more responsive and efficient organiza-

"I am honored to be selected as the next executive director of TxDOT. This is an agency with a rich history in successfully building for our future with dedicated employees," said Wilson. "I look forward to working with the agency, Commission, Legislature and local communities on the most efficient and effective ways to build infrastructure for Texas.'

During his time as secretary of state, Wilson led a number of transportation-related programs, including the Border Colonia Access Program and the Texas Interagency Work Group on the Texas and

Mexico Border Affairs initiative. The secretary of state also serves as the state's chief economic development officer, and in that role, Wilson worked with TxDOT professionals in bringing new opportunities to

As a chair of the Governor's Competitiveness Council, Wilson and his colleagues made several transportation recommendations to improve the state's competitiveness, including proposals to reexamine public-private partnerships, expand inland ports, repair and maintain the state's existing infrastructure and advancement of rail relocation se

Wilson succeeds Amadeo Saenz, Jr., who retired from state service at the end of August. Wilson is the department's first executive director since legislation was passed in 2009 removing the requirement that the position be occupied by a professional engineer. He holds a bachelor's degree from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene and a master's degree in business administration from Southern Methodist University.

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## Veteran's Corner

A space dedicated to Runnels County Veterans and dependents of Veterans.

Effective October, 2011, the Department of Veterans Affairs non-service connected burial allowance is increased from \$300.00 to \$700.00. The plot allowance is also increased from \$300.00 to \$700.00. For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave or call 365-3612.

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Sandra G. Van Zant Veterans County Service Officer

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#### **PUBLICIRE GORD**

Renee Louise Gamble vs. David Brian Gamble Filed on Sept. 13

Jerry William Cook vs. Debra Kay Cook Amber Marie Beggs vs. James Leland Beggs III
Filed on Sept. 22 Candace Isabel Martinez vs. Brandon Lee Martinez

Filed on Sept. 29 **Runnels County Docket and Fee Book** 

Filed Cause **Emmanuel Sanchez Sanchez Evading detention** Sept. 21 Billie Holland **Evading detention** Sept. 22 Billie Holland Resisting search Sept. 22 Pryce Jones Speeding Sept. 23

#### Daingerfield Park to showcase host of improvements

**WINTERS ENTEPRISE** 

DAINGERFIELD - One of Texas' oldest state parks, closed for almost a year for \$5 million in capital improvements, has been born anew and will host a free grand reopening on Saturday, Oct. 15. Carved out of the pine and hardwood forests of

northeast Texas in the 1930s by the Civilian Conserva-tion Corps, Daingerfield State Park had a soft opening in late June, but is pulling out all the stops on Oct. 15 with a 1 p.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony, a host of exhibits, interpretive programming and refreshments. The \$3 entry fee is being waived for the day.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., park visitors will be able to participate in a host of special activities.

245

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413 S. Church, Winters - 3 bedroom, garage, cellar, pecan trees, great condition, 309 Tinkle, Winters - 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 2

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#### A different way to carry the ball



Air Evac Lifeteam delivers the game ball last Friday, September 30 at Blizzard Field prior to the game the Winters Blizzards held against the Albany Lions.

## Are you ready to catch a 13-pound bass?

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

ATHENS—Largemouth bass weighing 13 pounds or more are rare. Only 523 have been entered into the Toyota ShareLunker program in the last 25 years.

Therefore, finding one on the end of their line comes as a total surprise to many anglers. Panic usually ensues when the biggest bass the angler has ever seen breaks the surface. "Holy [unprintable]! What do I do now?" is a common reaction.

The first problem is getting it into the boat, especially for anglers fishing alone. Those with a partner but no net can have their buddy grasp the fish by its lower jaw and tail and bring it in. Ideally there will be a rubber net available for landing the fish. In either case the fish should not be allowed to flop around in the bottom of the boat. This removes the slime coat that protects the fish from infection and can also result in wounds.

Many bass are caught on soft plastic baits, and sometimes they swallow it. Removing the hook through the gill arch is the recommended method. A video demonstrating the procedure can be viewed at http://www.youtube.com/user/TexasParksWildlife#p/c/DD326D97517E327F/3/3RGTL9RBG2s.

Now it's time to weigh the fish and put it in the livewell. You did fill the livewell before you started fishing, didn't you?

And even before that you read up on livewell management at http://www.bassmaster.com/sites/default/files/imce/KBA\_LivewellManage.pdf, right?

Give yourself a gold star if you installed a livewell oxygenation system using the information at http://www.slideshare.net/raminlandfish/livewell-oxygen-injection-8773301.

You can learn more about how to properly care for fish in the Outdoor Activity Area of the Toyota Texas Bass Classic on Lake Conroe October 28—30. For information on the event, visit www.toyotatexasbass-classic.com.

But now we come to the stumbling block that faces many anglers every year. Either they don't have a scale or they have a discount-store special displaying numbers that don't bear much resemblance to reality. Chances are the scale has rattled around in the bottom of the boat or tackle box for years and never been checked for accuracy.

There's an easy way to check your scale. Put a gallon of water and a five-pound sack of flour or sugar in a plastic grocery bag and weigh them. If your scale is accurate, it will read very close to 13.5 pounds. The minimum weight for a ShareLunker is 13.0 pounds.

ShareLunker entries must be weighed on a certified scale. A number of reservoirs around the state have official ShareLunker weigh and holding stations.





PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

The local Laundromat, located on 103 South Murray Street was struck by an unknown driver last Monday or Tuesday.

## Hit and run leaves extensive damages at local business

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- A hit and run crash left extensive damages at the local Laundymat, located at 103 South Murray Street sometime between last Monday night and Tuesday morning.

Charles and Juana Wenmohs, business owners, realized about the wreck on Tuesday, October 4 morning, when they were going to open the business.

The front of the building presents extensive damages, estimated in more than \$15,000.

After the crash neighbors reported having heard a noise about midnight, but nobody notified either the owners or the Police Department until Tuesday morning.

until Tuesday morning.

According to the first evaluations the damage extends betond the wall into the structure, and the reparation will take time to be completed.

This is the second incident of this kind in Winters in a little over three months. On June 1 LG's Restaurant was struck approximately at 4:40 a.m. when a 60-year-old driver was driving a 2000 Chevrolet Silverado southbound on Main Street.

The driver lost control of the vehicle, veered to the right and struck the curb, a fence, a large sign and continued traveling through the yard area of LG's Restaurant until striking

the building.

The vehicle pierced the front wall of the building and the business was closed for over a month.

closed for over a month.
In both accidents the wrecks
caused severe damages to the structure including the outside of the
property, front wall, furniture and
appliances.



#### Patrol car for sale

The 2007 Dodge Charger formely used by the Winters Police Department as a patrol car remains for sale, parked at the City Hall, waiting for a buyer.

The car was no longer being used by the Police Department and the City Council authorized to sell it in order to keep only the assets needed.

Some days ago two other vehicles were parked side to side with this Dodge Charger, the Chevrolet Impala formerly used by the City Manager and a 1991 half ton Chevy 4x4 pick up that had been impounded by the Police Department.

PHOTO: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ

#### Rare piranha catch near Houston

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

AUSTIN – A rare catch of a red-breasted piranha in a community lake near Houston recently illustrates the need for prohibition of invasive aquatic species in Texas waters.

According to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials an actual piranha is a VERY rare occurrence in the wild—only 2 documented specimens in 30 years—and possessing and releasing live piranhas and dozens of other exotic, harmful or potentially harmful fish species is prohibited by Texas law.

Dave Terre, management and research chief with TP-WD's Inland Fisheries Division, said the 23-acre Tom Bass Park community lake in Pearland on the outskirts of Houston where the piranha was caught on Aug. 27 remains a great place to go fishing and is completely safe to go fishing there.

"We strongly believe that this is an isolated catch," said Terre. "Our biologists will do an electrofishing survey of the lake to confirm this."

#### GAME WARDEN FIELD NOTES

Night hunter also had

Young County Game
Warden Brent Isom apprehended two subjects
on Sept. 9 for hunting deer at night after seeing them shoot twice at deer from a public roadway. While exiting the vehicle, one of the subjects attempted to hide drugs before being taken into custody. Charges pending.

To kill a mockingbird

Tarrant County Game Warden John Padgett made contact with a dove hunter and his children on Sept. 11. When asked if they had shot any birds, the hunter replied no. But one of the hunter's sons asked, "What about that bird you shot and let us play with, that we threw in the bushes?" The hunter asked his son to go and get the bird, which turned out to be a mockingbird. Cases pending.

It helps to be able to see when you shoot

**Tarrant County Game** Warden John Padgett made contact with a dove hunter on Sept. 10 and asked if he had any luck. The hunter said he had shot one dove and one pigeon, and was looking for another bird. In his vest he had two pigeons and no dove. When asked about his dove, he said he didn't have his glasses and thought one bird was a dove. After locating his third bird still alive in the field, Warden Padgett told him he had shot an upland sandpiper. The hunter said he had thought that bird was a pigeon. He again mentioned that his glasses were at home. Cases pend-

Lead is dead when it comes to waterfowl

Trinity County Game Warden Sam Shanafelt and Polk County Game Warden Brandon Mosley on Sept. 10 filed numerous cases on subjects hunting teal on Lake Livingston. Several hunters were found to be in possession of lead shot and two hunters were hunting with unplugged shotguns. Cases are pending. Game Wardens Chris Bird and Aaron Koenig were patrolling for teal hunters near East Bernard. Upon contacting a group finishing up a morning hunt, the wardens discovered several shotgun shells containing lead shot in their possession. The wardens also located a large number of empty hulls matching the lead shells floating around the duck blind. Six green-winged teal were seized.





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