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Winters Enterprise



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Volume 22, Issue 10

Thursday, January 05, 2012

Winters, Texas 75c

Winters color guard to perform at the Cotton Bowl

RUBEN CANTU RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- The AT&T Cotton Bowl Classic will kick off on Friday, January 6 at Cowboy Stadium with a special guest. The Winters High School Color Guard will be representing Winters, Runnels County and the Big Country performing during the pre-game and halftime shows for the first time.

The flag corps is sponsored by Mandy Mostad and comprised of Hailey Wilson, Brianna Taylor, Brittany Gray, Jaynee Pritchard, Adreanna Lopez, Gaby Peña and Jennifer Rios.

The game will feature No. 8 Kansas State Wildcats facing No. 6 Arkansas Razorbacks. Kansas State comes into the Classic after finishing with a surprising 10-2 record and a second place finish in the Big 12 Conference. Arkansas is in its third-straight and 39th overall post-season appearance.

"I feel very good about this, we have been working very hard and raising funds to take our girls to this game," said Mostad.

She said that this will be the first time for a Winters flag corps to have such a huge honor.

The color guard received an invitation in early 2011 from the Marching Auxiliaries in Dallas, Texas, and immediately started organizing donations and fundraiser meals.

"We started raising money in May, getting the word out with businesses because it is an incredible opportunity for these girls," said Mostad.

Mostad is in her eighth year as the color guard sponsor and ninth year teaching at Winters High School. The flag corps is making it big after the glory days they had in the 1990's.

The Cotton Bowl will be broadcasted nationally to an audience of millions on FOX starting at 7 p.m.

The 76th Cotton Bowl Classic will feature Grammy nominees the band "Perry", performing the national anthem to a sold-out Cowboys Stadium.



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Sponsor Mandy Mostad (not pictured) will be taking the Winters High School Color Guard to perform at the pre-game and halftime shows this Friday in Arlington, Texas, at the Cotton Bowl Classic.

NRH Employee of the Quarter

Ann Booth, RN was selected as North Runnels Hospital Employee of the Quarter. Ann has been an RN for 37 years and prides herself in patient care. North Runnels Hospital is fortunate to have Ann as one of their RNs. Pictured with Ann is Sidney Tucker, administrator.



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

China Wok opens new restaurant in Winters

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- Fa Gui (Rich) Ni and Shao Lan (Joey) Yan, managers of the Winters China Wok, along with Jianxin (Ryan) Zhuang and Jinyun (Jean) Ni, managers of the Ballinger China Wok, announced the opening of the China Wok in Winters on Tuesday, December 27, 2011.

The restaurant offers a wide selection of Chinese food for both dining in and

take out. They are open 7 days a week from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. China Wok is located at 133 North Main and the phone number is (325) 754 1888.

A Ribbon Cutting was held on Tuesday by the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce and the Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation presented a certificate to the new business. Both of these organizations welcome China Wok to the Winters business community.



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Front row: Vanessa Esquivel, representing the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce; Rich Ni and Joey Yan, managers of the Winters China Wok; Ryan Zhuang, manager of the Ballinger China Wok; Querstin Lara, Winters Sno Flake; and Jim Lincycumb, representing the City of Winters. Back row: Brent Jacob, Cheryl Bryan, Kay Sharpes, and Charles Bahlman, representing the Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation.



Elementary holds chess tournament

The Winters Elementary Chess Tournament was held on December 14 in the Elementary Library. The Tournament was conducted under tournament rules and had 33 players competing for first thru third places.

Pictured above are Chris Correa, third place; Domyenic Lujano, first place, and Karlee Busher, third place.

Pictured right is Winters Elementary Principal, Mrs. Edwards with first place winner, Domyenic Lujano.



PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED

New Property Tax exemption for veterans' surviving spouses

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN- Texas continues to do its part to keep helping military veterans and their families. A full homestead property tax exemption that began in 2009 to help totally disabled military veterans will extend to their surviving spouses after January 1.

Texas voters overwhelmingly passed a constitutional amendment that will allow

surviving spouses of totally disabled veterans to continue to claim a full exemption and not pay property taxes on their home. In 2009, veterans began receiving an exemption for the total appraised value of their residential homesteads if they have received 100 percent disability rating or are considered unemployable by the VA. Based on information provided by appraisal districts, about 35,300 veterans currently receive that exemption.

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FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES

NEWS NOTES

Leo White Eubanks

Leo White Eubanks, a longtime resident of San Angelo, departed this earthly life for her heavenly life on January 2, 2012. Leo was born in Winters, Texas to Ambrose Lee White and Hettie White Childs. She had two sisters and a brother who all preceded her in death. She graduated from Winters High School and attended college in Wichita Falls.

Leo married Elma Lee Eubanks in Houston immediately after his graduation from Officers Candidate School. Her life as the wife of a military pilot took her to many countries where she made life-long friends, many of whom sent her cards and letters as recently as this past Christmas. Elma Lee preceded her in death in 1995.

Leo began work in 1965 for San Angelo National Bank where she remained until 1983, retiring as vice-president. She loved her work at the bank and highly respected the bank presidents for whom she worked.

Mother loved golf, which she continued to enjoy into her early 80's. A perfect day was one spent with her golfing ladies. Leo also avidly played bridge and loved to travel anywhere. She was blessed by her many friends who continued to visit her during her recent illnesses.

Leo is survived by her son Lee Eubanks Jr. and wife Lenora of Arizona, her daughter Pam Salmon and husband Richard, a granddaughter-Aimee French and husband Michael and their children Chad, Lauren and Dawson, all of San Angelo.

The service will be held at Southland Baptist Church, where Leo was an active member of the Friendship Class, on January 6, 2012 at 10 a.m. with graveside service following at Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens. Arrangements are made by Johnson's Funeral Home.

A heartfelt thank you is extended to VistaCare Hospice, their faithful chaplains Ellen and J.T., and the remarkable compassionate staff of Rotary House of Hope. Memorials are suggested to West Texas Boys' Ranch, VistaCare Hospice, or Rotary House of Hope.

Mother, may God and Dad hold you tenderly and sweetly to welcome you to Heaven.

Family and friends may sign the online register book at www.johnsons-funeralhome.com.



Winters Enterprise, January 05, 2012

Melva Eckert Edwards

Melva Eckert Edwards, 91, died December 27, 2011. She was born February 9, 1920, in San Saba. She moved to Tom Green County as a child. She was the middle child of Lola and Jonah Eckert. She was preceded in death by her husband, Walter Rex Edwards, both parents and both sisters. She was a 1937 graduate of Miles High School. She worked 17 years for South Texas Life Insurance Company and eight years for Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

She is survived by one son: Carson and wife Cookie; two grandsons: Shannon and wife Deleen, and Shane and wife Janeene; four grandsons: Hunter, Logan, Jagger, and Cash; and two step daughters: Emily and Elizabeth; one great niece Tamera Freeman; and one great nephew Sean Faubion.

A graveside service was held at 10 a.m. Friday, December 30, 2011 at Lakeview Cemetery with Dr. Bob Scott officiating under the direction of the Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise, January 05, 2012

Jackie R. Ripley

Jackie R. Ripley 69 of Winters died Monday morning in Abilene. She was born October 4, 1942 in Winters and lived in various places returning to Winters in 1999 to become produce manager for Lawrence Brothers Grocery. She was a member of the North Main Church of Christ.

She is survived by three sons: Larry Ripley and wife Donna of Christoval; Ronny Ripley and fiancée Daylor Bays of Winters; Jimmy Ripley and wife Shanon of Winters; her sister Patsy Musick of San Angelo, several grandchildren and great grandchildren, and her two special friends Sue Armstrong of Abilene and Mary Alix of De Leon.

She was preceded in death by her sister Joyce Barton, and one son Lonnie Ripley.

Visitation will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Winters Funeral Home and services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the North Main Church of Christ in Winters with Jordan Hubbard officiating. Burial will be in Shep Cemetery under the direction of the Winters Funeral Home.



Winters Enterprise, January 05, 2012

Benjamin Franklin Alldredge

Benjamin Franklin (Ben) Alldredge passed away Tuesday December 27, in Winters, Texas. He was 92 years old.

Funeral Service was held at 1:00 p.m. Friday December 30, 2011, at the Winters Funeral Home Chapel with nephew, Clifton Reed officiating. Burial followed in the Cemetery at Shep, Texas under the direction of the Winters Funeral Home.

Ben was born October 14, 1919, in Silverton, Texas to Benjamin Franklin and Sudie Lee Christian Alldredge. He was the oldest son of eight children. In Ben's early years the family moved several times, interrupting his schooling. He graduated from Crane ISD and played football for the Golden Cranes. Ben assisted his dad in a variety of jobs, construction, trucking and grocery. At 18 years old, he left home and went to live with his Uncle John Christian in Shep, Texas. Ben helped his uncle in his cotton fields and farming. It was at Shep that he met and married the love of his life Johnnie Ben Franks. In 1942 Ben joined the military becoming a part of the Military Police. He was honorably discharged after the close of the war.

Following his discharge from the military, Ben pursued many career choices in the oil industry, seismograph crew, testing for oil, oil rig trucking, retipping of drilling bits and construction all over the southern United States from Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico and California. He was in the oil field business many years before settling in San Angelo in the 1950's.

In the early 1960's Ben began to take on the family farming and ranching business in Nolan and Runnels County. The family moved to Winters in 1966 where he continued farming and ranching until his death.

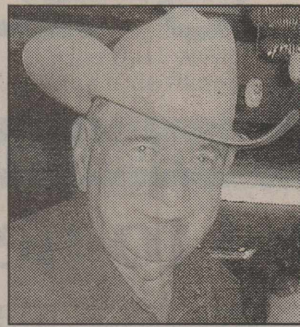
The most blessed and joyous event in Ben and Johnnie's life was their son Benji. He was the absolute apple of their eyes. One of their most proud moments was Benji's graduation from Texas A&M Veterinarian School. Some of Ben's most happy and memorable times were the times spent with his three grandchildren. He loved to brag about them to any one who would listen and to some who didn't.

Ben was a member of the San Angelo Sheriff Posse, San Angelo Saddle Club, San Angelo Cowboy Polo Association (winning many awards), the Masonic Lodge, and a member of the Suez Temple Shriners.

Ben was preceded in death by wife, Johnnie; parents Frank and Sudie Alldredge; in-laws, Joe and Lillie Franks; brothers JC Alldredge, Leo Alldredge; sisters, Christine, Valera, and Cleo Alldredge and Marie Walters.

His surviving family includes son and daughter-in-law, Benji and Claudia Alldredge of Comfort; grandchildren Bryan and Casey Alldredge of Grand Prairie, Rachael Alldredge of Plano, and Katie Alldredge of Bryan-College Station; sister Bonnie Barefoot Walker, and several nieces, nephews, cousins and good friends.

The family would like to express their gratitude and thanks to Dr. Biddix and the caring staff of the Senior Citizens Nursing Home, Ben's hunters, and next door neighbors.



Winters Enterprise, January 05, 2012

J.B. Grenwelge

J.B. Grenwelge 79 of Winters died Tuesday morning. He was born November 29, 1932 in Llano, Texas and came to Winters in 1940. He graduated from Novice High School. He married Betty Jonas on November 26, 1971 in Rowena. He worked as a foreman of the shear department at Dry Mfg., for the U.S. Postal service as a postal carrier and as a mechanic. He was a Lutheran.

Survivors are his wife Betty Grenwelge of Winters, three daughters Latresha Allen and husband Brent of Ballinger, Diane Kiser and husband Edwin of Nordheim, Texas, and Gayle Stender of Abilene; his son Dennis Stender of Tye; brothers Charles and wife Ruth Grenwelge of Winters, Carl and wife Betty Grenwelge of Winters, and Jr. and wife Gay Grenwelge of Kempner; sisters Mary and husband Walter Davis of Ballinger, Elizabeth and husband Nick Giammarino of Phoenix, Arizona; seven grandchildren: Alyssa Allen, Kelsey Allen, Terri Reininger, Edwin Kiser, Matthew Kiser, Justin Minzenmayer and wife Stephanie and Josh Minzenmayer; three great grandchildren: Taryn Minzenmayer, Addison Rogers and Carlson Kiser.

Visitation was held Friday at Winters Funeral Home. Services were held Saturday December 31, 2011 at the Winters Funeral Home with Rev. Alsen Wenzel officiating. Burial was in Lakeview Cemetery under the direction of the Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise, January 05, 2012

Funerals and obituaries now also online

Adapting to the changing roles of caregiving

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

BALLINGER—The Alzheimer's Association announced that Teepa Snow, one of the most qualified and engaging speakers the Alzheimer's Association has ever brought to North Central Texas, will speak at the Alzheimer's Association

Caregiver Seminars on February 14, in Abilene.

Ms. Snow has over 28 years experience in geriatrics and dementia care and is a strong voice and advocate for people living with dementia. Throughout her long and varied career as occupational therapist, professional caregiver, lec-

turer, researcher and clinical specialist in geriatrics, she has focused on helping care providers, family members and professionals better understand the experience of the person living with dementia. An excellent actress, Teepa keeps the audience glued to her every word as she adopts the voices of the fictitious people she uses as examples.

The seminar will be held at the Southern Hills Church of Christ, 3666 Buffalo Gap Road, Abilene, Texas. The session will start at 12 noon and run to 4 p.m. This program is presented at no cost to family caregivers. Professional cost is \$35 and includes CEUs for one discipline. Disciplines approved are: Social Workers, Activity Directors, Nurses, Assisted Living Administrators and Long-Term Care Administrators. All attendees need to register for this event.

Currently, Ms. Snow

works with dementia service providers throughout the U.S. to improve and optimize programs and services for people with dementia. She has developed training videos, published articles, and made presentations on a variety of topics and to a wide variety of audiences and has received awards for her clinical and teaching skills from numerous organizations. To learn more about Teepa Snow, visit her website at <http://www.teepasnow.com/>.

"It's dynamic, informative and fun! Teepa Snow brings real solutions for the problems that so many caregivers and people with dementia are struggling with. Participants will learn techniques to practice right away," said Heather McKay, OTR/L, a past caregiver seminar presenter about Teepa Snow. To register or for more information, call Libby Connally at (325) 672 2907 or (800) 272 3900.

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Winters Elementary UIL Award's Day
 The Winters Elementary 2011-2012 UIL Award's Day will be held on Jan. 20 at 9 a.m. in the yellow building. Students grades second thru fifth will be recognized. Please join us in recognizing the hard work our students exhibited during this year's UIL competition.

Benefit dinner for Mary I. Cortez
 A drive-thru dinner will be held to benefit Mary I. Cortez on Sunday, January 22, 2012 at Old St. Mary's Hall from 11 a.m. 1 p.m. Brisket, sausage, beans, potato salad and dessert will be served. Plates will be \$7.00. Tickets can be purchased at Dixie Hardware, Ballinger Chamber of Commerce, Rustic Princess, or Heidenheimer's. All proceeds will be used to offset medical expenses.

Coleman Electric Co-op scholarships
 Golden Spread Electric Cooperative is a wholesale generating cooperative from whom Coleman County Electric Cooperative purchases power. The scholarship is available to an entering freshmen college or university student who is a member, or spouse or child of a member, or child whose guardian is a member of Coleman County Electric Cooperative which is an owner (member) of Golden Spread Electric Cooperative. Applications and Directors Memorial Scholarship Brochures are available at Coleman County Electric Cooperative. For more information call Tony Williams at (325) 625 2128 or visit their office at 3300 N Hwy 84, Coleman, Texas 76834.

Schedule of the week at FUMC
 The First United Methodist Church in Winters had a service for KW Cook on Wednesday, at 11 a.m. Thursday is John Johnson's birthday. Let's shower him with cards and birthday wishes and let him know that he is still loved by his FUMC family.

Friday is the first "first friday" prayer gathering. From 7-8 p.m. the sanctuary will be open for personal, group, or prayer. Come and go or stay the entire hour. If you can't make it, pray at home or wherever you are. Prayer is powerful and even more powerful when we pray together. See you Friday evening. Also, keep Pastor Jayme in prayer that he gets healthy and is back among us very soon!!

Winters Elementary Food Drive
 During the last two weeks of the fall semester Winters Elementary participated in a food drive to benefit the local Samaritan's House. The drive featured a competition between the classes with the winning classroom getting special recognition for their efforts. The winning classroom was Mrs. Dugan's fifth grade class. In all the school brought in 1,090 cans of food. A big thank you to all who helped make this a complete success.

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 January 10, at FUMC, Massage 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.

Cross Emmaus Community gatherings
 The Cross Emmaus Community gatherings held first Thursday 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 Meetings
 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.

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Blizzards hoop through the holidays

ATHLETIC REPORT
STEPHEN HERMESMEYER

Basketball
Varsity Girls (Brooke Bicknell)
Date: 12/28/2011 - 12/30/2011
Anson Tourney

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	4	8	24	28	28
Hamlin	9	21	33	46	46

Caitlin Kurtz 10, Jordan Busher 10, Camille Kurtz 2, LeeAnn Taylor 6

Quarters	1	2	3	4	OT1	OT2	Final
Winters	5	13	21	32	38	42	42
Graham	7	15	22	32	38	44	44

Jordan Busher 22, Lauren Bredemeyer 2, Michelle Kruse 6, Camille Kurtz 5, LeeAnn Taylor 2, Kat Lindley 4

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	8	25	40	48	48
Bronte	13	17	35	43	43

Caitlin Kurtz 19, Jordan Busher 15, Michelle Kruse 2, Camille Kurtz 4, LeeAnn Taylor 6, Ashley Guy 2

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	8	19	35	46	46
Coahoma	4	10	15	27	27

Caitlin Kurtz 8, Jordan Busher 13, Lauren Bredemeyer 2, Michelle Kruse 7, Camille Kurtz 3, LeeAnn Taylor 4, Kat Lindley 7, Ashley Guy 2

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	6	15	21	28	28
Roby	15	24	30	38	38

Caitlin Kurtz 13, Jordan Busher 4, Camille Kurtz 2, LeeAnn Taylor 9

Varsity Boys (Coach Bicknell)
Anson Tournament

GAME 1

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	8	7	9	5	29
Childress	22	13	19	18	72

Winters: Strait Daniel 9, Cristian Sandoval 7, Bryce Mikeska 7, Riley Ripley 2, Andy Garcia 2, Chris Gerhart 2
Childress: Caldwell 26

GAME 2

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	9	8	8	27	52
Seymour	21	15	13	18	66

Winters: Riley Ripley 28, Cristian Sandoval 8, Andy Garcia 6, Strait Daniel 5, Kolton Garcia 2, Chris Gerhart 2
Seymour: Baker 19

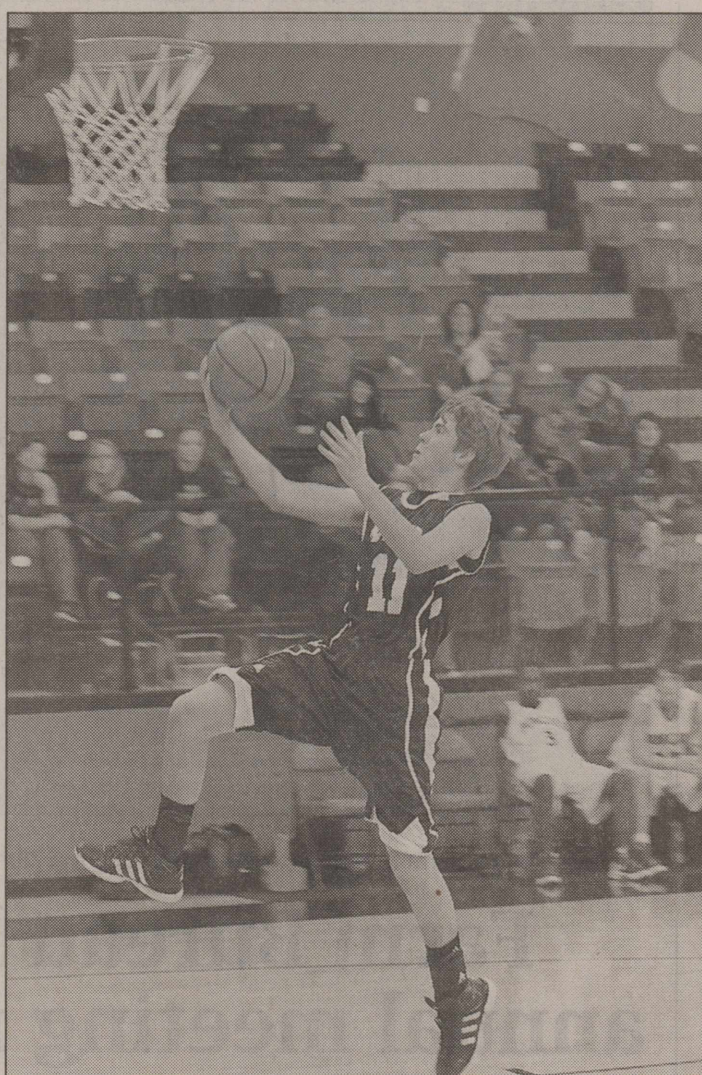
GAME 3

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	4	8	10	17	39
Bronte	12	10	8	15	45

Winters: Strait Daniel 12, Cristian Sandoval 10, Bryce Mikeska 7, Riley Ripley 5, Nik Kraatz 3, Chris Gerhart 1
Bronte: McGinnis 13

GAME 4

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	19	26	16	20	81



PHOTOS: JOE GERHART

ABOVE: Bryce Mikeska makes a layup against Childress at the tournament the Blizzards played in Anson last week.

ABOVE RIGHT: Kat Lindley shooting against Graham at the Anson Tournament. The Lady Blizzards extended the game to a second overtime but were defeated by a score of 44-42.

BELOW RIGHT: Strait Daniel breaks the defense to shoot at the game the Blizzards held against Roby at the Anson Tournament, the Blizzards won the match 38-28.



Roby 9 15 18 10 52
Winters: Cristian Sandoval 16, Andy Garcia 15, Riley Ripley 11, Bryce Mikeska 10, Kolton Garcia 9, Strait Daniel 8, Andrew Chavis 4, Chris Gerhart 2
Roby: Stevenson 15

Winters played Baird on Tuesday Jan. 3 in Baird. They will play Abilene Christian on Friday, Jan. 5 in Abilene. Game time is at 7:30 p.m. Please come out and support.

JV Boys Basketball (Coach Cates)
JV Boys vs Coleman 12-19-11

Quarters	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	7	9	4	6	26
Coleman	14	12	13	10	49

Winters: Ethan Bredemeyer 7, Luke Kraatz 6, Daryl Hagle 5, Stephon Cleghorn 4, Christian Tamez 2, Jake Brock 2

January is School Board Recognition Month

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN- January 2012 is School Board Recognition Month, a time when districts across the state show their appreciation for the pivotal role elected boards of education play in their local schools and communities.

More than 7,200 locally elected school board members serve — without pay — in the 1,034 school districts located throughout the state.

"The people who make up these boards volunteer their time because they care about their communities and their schools. Each year, the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) designates January as School Board Recognition Month to emphasize the importance of the service these dedicated men and women provide to the schools and students of Texas," said James B. Crow, TASB executive director.

"These community ser-

vants focus on ensuring the success of their local school district and serve as strong advocates for our kids. In a time of financial uncertainty, they are willing to step forward to meet the critical challenges facing our public schools, working to balance the district budget while still providing excellent educational experiences for each child," Crow said.

"We hope every community will express appreciation to our local board members for their dedicated commitment and offer support to the school board as it tackles the important task of governing. Local trustees work closely with parents and educators to develop sound education policies in their district and set high standards for student success. We applaud them for shouldering enormous responsibilities and making the time to care about the future of Texas schoolchildren," he said.

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On the Level

"What if I"... A New Year song...

BY CHARLES FRERICH

A new year is a time of new beginnings, reflections on what happened the previous year and of course the New Year's resolutions. I was listening to a speaker the other day and he made a comment that really struck me as a thought provoker. He said three words, "What if I". If you think about these words your mind should go in one of two directions, What if I had and what if I do. "Had" referring to if I would have done something and "do", referring to if I will do something.

I look back on my year and there are lots of "What if I" moments come to mind. What if I had said "I love you" a few more times. What if I had spent a little more time in prayer? What if I had stopped to help that person? What if I had taken more time to practice my music? What if I picked up after myself more? Would it have made a difference? Could I have made someone else's life better? I may not have solved all the world's problems but it has to start with you and me.

So many "what if" moments occur and our decision to react or not, is a path that is an individual decision. This last year of drought makes me wonder, what if I had kept that rain from running out of my field would I have had the extra moisture to yield a few more pounds. What if I had preserved some of the crop litter to protect the soil would I have shielded the soil from the sun's rays and harsh winds. What if I had sold the stock sooner and left some grass on the pasture to slow runoff and hold the soil when it does rain. What if I had killed those mesquite trees when they were small and not let them get ten feet tall?

So this next year what if I made a conscious effort to notice things that I can do to make someone smile or feel better? What if I took the time to make myself better? What if I did get involved in my community or church and make a difference? What if I contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service and ask for assistance.

This year, 2012, will be an interesting year with elections coming and the critical state of the economy. We can only hope and pray that the drought will end and we can get some runoff to fill our lakes. So in closing I want to wish you a happy and prosperous new year and a year filled with, will I do, and less of the, what if I had. See you next time "On the Level". For more information you can contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service or contact me at charles.frerich@tx.usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Runnels County Farm Bureau members attending the 78th Texas Farm Bureau annual meeting in Corpus Christi.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Farm Bureau leaders attend annual meeting in Corpus Christi

BALLINGER LEDGER
STAFF REPORT

BALLINGER- Agriculture leaders from Runnels County Farm Bureau participated as voting delegates recently at the 78th Texas Farm Bureau annual meeting Dec. 3-5 in Corpus Christi.

Runnels County attending members were Daniel and Suzie Wilde, Bill and Nancy Halfmann, Dale and Linda Duggan, LeRoy and Elaine Pelzel, Paul and Monica Minzenmayer, Collin Klattenhoff, Sally Buxkemper,

Chad Halfmann, and Cody Halfmann.

Discussion of the latest agriculture issues, recognition of top county Farm Bureaus and individuals and evaluation of the organization's policies was the task for more than 1,050 delegates from 147 organized Farm Bureaus. County delegates voted on proposed policy changes during the meeting's business session. Farm Bureau policies reflect the needs of local farmers and ranchers and direct the state's larg-

est farm organization. Approved recommendations on national policies advance to the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting to be held in January in Honolulu, HI.

Addressing the delegates were Kenneth Dierschke of San Angelo, TFB president, and Vernie Glasson, TFB executive director. The business session covered the final day of the meeting. The last order of business was the election of the president, Kenneth Dierschke.

THE IDLE AMERICAN

Musings with Mort...

Cometary by
Dr. Don Newbury

Surely he uses cue cards when he phones during bowl game intermissions, touching topics all over the conversation map in record time. Verbal responses lengthen calls, so I simply smile, nod or frown, relying on assorted expressions of bewilderment.

Such was the plan when Uncle Mort, my 99-year-old kin, called from the thicket. He was awash in holiday excitement akin to a ten-year-old on Christmas morning.

Like horses released from barn confines, his words fairly galloped. Committed to a vow of silence, I listened....

First off, he spoke of 2011's final meeting of the Lions Club. (No, he's not a member, but he hastily accepts when friends invite

him. Sure enough, they had turkey, dressing and pecan pie — two pieces, since Mort sat next to a guy on the front end of a diet dare.)

At meal's end, a usually-timid Lion — for whom joining in the Pledge of Allegiance was problematic and voicing a holiday prayer was unthinkable — approached the lectern. He wasn't scheduled to speak, but requested a "point of personal privilege."

Members stopped at mid-bite, moved that the mild-mannered, "milque-toast-y" man might muster the mettle to make meaningful microphone mentions....

Gripping the lectern, the Wizard-of-Oz-like Lion admitted his fondness

for juice of the grape and occasional indulgence to excess. "Sometimes I reach a state of amiable incandescence," he said, "But this time, good judgment prevailed."

At a holiday party, he was warmed by "too many trips to the eggnog bowl." When hours wound down to wee, a sunny thought broke through his cloudy mind.

"I decided to take a bus home," he said proudly....

Listeners silently considered applauding, or at least offering back-pats and/or congratulatory notes.

"I'm sure some of you have imbibed to excess, and that my decision to take a bus home comes as a surprise to you," the

speaker said. "It shocked me, too, since I don't know how to drive a bus, don't know where I found it and have no clue where I parked it."

Stone-faced, the speaker walked slowly back to his table to finish his pie....

Switching topics, Mort mentioned feeling sorry for football coaches. "For the few who run championship flags up the pole, there are hundreds of others who feel run over at worst, or run down at best," he said.

He cited a recent high school state championship game at Cowboys Stadium.

"The losing coach probably felt like he'd been run over by a truck — figuratively — and the winner's response hit dead center of the truth button," my uncle opined. "He likely felt as if he'd been run over by a golf cart — literally...."

Sometimes Mort reaches "way back" comparing current notables to historical figures. He asked what Dallas Cowboys defensive Coach Rob Ryan has in common with the late Gorgeous George — whose showmanship did for TV wrestling what Elvis Presley's did for rock-n-roll music.

I kidded that since both showed partiality to long locks, maybe they had the same hairdresser. Mort agreed, adding that both of them seem better known for their bravado than for "delivering the goods."

My uncle remembered one interview with the wrestling star best known for his TV antics during a decade beginning in 1947. "I don't believe I'm the most capable wrestler in the world, I don't think I'm the most handsome man on the planet, and I don't think I'm the most intelligent athlete in the history of sports," the gorgeous one said. "But

what's my opinion against millions of others?"...

Gorgeous George warrants Googling. A showman and well-above-average wrestler, his flamboyance propelled him to stardom. Wearing garish capes and sparkling jewelry, he sprayed the ring with what he called "Chanel No. 10" (Why be half safe?)

His ring entry, set to music with assorted folderol, often took more time than the matches. Oft-quoted, his admonitions usually ended with zingers, such as "Win if you can, lose if you must, but always cheat!"

With that, Mort signed off, I dozed off and the second half kicked off....

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

Man arrested in motorcycle pursuit in Abilene

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

ABILENE- Texas Department of Public Safety arrested a motorcycle driver last Thursday, December 29, 2011, who was involved in a westbound pursuit on Interstate 20. The driver was identified as Samuel A. Rutledge, 32 years of age, from Arlington, Texas.

During the morning, Texas Highway Patrol Trooper Fred Biddle was notified that Cisco Police Department was involved in a westbound pursuit on Interstate Highway 20. The agency was

attempting to stop a 2007 Suzuki motorcycle. Trooper Biddle observed the motorcycle traveling west on IH 20 at 10:27 a.m. just east of Clyde, Texas, at mile post 302.

Trooper Biddle attempted to stop the motorcycle but the driver refused to stop. The motorcycle exited IH 20 in Abilene, Texas at Farm Road 600 exit.

Motorcycle and driver were located behind La Quinta Motel, just north of IH 20 at 10:36 a.m.

Rutledge was arrested and charges were pending.

Paint Rock ISD awarded eight 'Gold Stars'

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

PAINT ROCK- The Texas Education Agency (TEA) recently announced the awarding of "Gold Star" Awards to campuses and school districts across the state who have achieved top levels of performance in specific academic areas and disciplines. Paint Rock ISD earned a record setting eight such "Gold Star" Awards beating the previous district record of six such awards.

Paint Rock ISD tied two other districts in Region XV for the most district-wide "Gold Star" Awards. Both of the other two districts are also small schools like Paint Rock.

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Paint Rock ISD earned "Gold Star" Awards in Attendance (2009-2010), having "College-Ready Graduates (Class of 2010), Texas Success Initiative in English/Language Arts, Texas Success Initiative in Mathematics, Commended Performance in Reading, Commended Performance in Writing, Commended Performance in Science, and Commended Performance in Social Studies.

Paint Rock ISD has also earned "Recognized" status from TEA in two of the past three school years.

If the Commissioner of Education had not eliminated the Texas Performance Measure (TPM) performance from the state accountability system this year, PRISD would most likely have earned an "Exemplary" rating from TEA to go along with its eight new "Gold Star" awards.

God Answers Prayer!

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Let by Bertha Owens

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141 N. Church Street
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Come pray for an hour, or walk in, pray and leave as you are ready.

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Philippians 4: 6

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Matthew 18: 20

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Disaster recovery guide now available as e-book

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

COLLEGE STATION - The Texas AgriLife Extension Service disaster recovery guide on how individuals, families and businesses can recover from a disaster such as a hurricane, fire or flood, is now available free in e-book format.

"You can download this guide before a disaster happens," said Dr. Andy Vestal, AgriLife Extension director of homeland security and emergency management in College Station.

The guide was developed by experts from AgriLife and other A&M entities.

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413 S. Church, Winters - 3 bedroom, 1 bath, new electrical and insulation, detached garage, cellar, pecan trees, great condition.

309 Tinkle, Winters - 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 2 wood stoves, fenced yard with pecan trees, store room and a detached garage.

606 & 608 Trinity, Winters: Beautiful pecan trees on two lots in east part of Winters. Ready for you to make it yours. Water meter on south lot. Reasonably priced at \$2,800.

517 Tinkle, Winters, Texas - 4 bdrm, 2 baths, very clean, carpet, tile, custom kitchen cabinets, dishwasher, utility room, central h/a, carport, metal roof.

910 State, Winters - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, living, dining room, vinyl siding, one car carport.

NEW LISTING: 309 Tinkle - 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 2 wood stoves, fenced yard with pecan trees, store room and a detached garage.

REDUCED!! 206 E. Broadway, Winters, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, kitchen with dining, jetted tub in bath, carport.

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tice of the intent to sell the following vehicles on an "as is, where is" bases by sealed bid auction. Minimum bids must meet or exceed impound fees.

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- 2000 Volkswagon Jetta VIN# 3VWSC29M6Y M181449

Bids will be accepted by mail at Winters Auto Tech & Tire Service thru January 9, 2012

Bidders may contact Winters Auto Tech to inspect the vehicles.

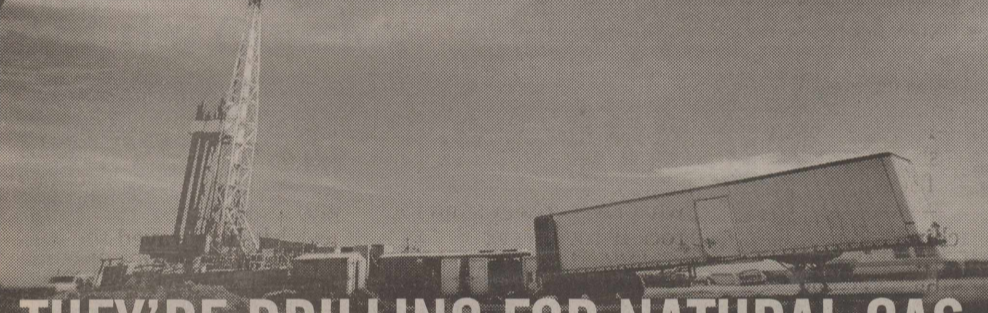
High bidder will be notified by Rudy Lara. Vehicle must be removed within 10 days of notification. If not claimed, vehicle will accrue storage charges.

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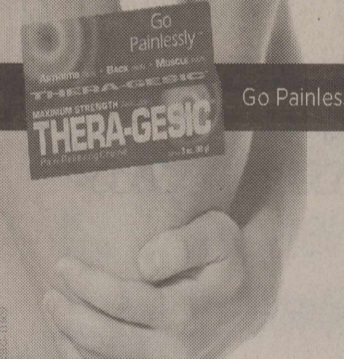
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Meals on Wheels thanks volunteers

ELM CREEK WATER CONTROL DISTRICT will meet in regular session on **Tuesday, January 10, at 6:30** at the Senior Citizens Activity Center, 600 Wood, Winters, TX.

CAFETERIA MENU
Jan. 9-13
*Subject to change**

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- MONDAY**
Biscuit/Sausage or Cereal or Scrambled Eggs, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.
- TUESDAY**
Breakfast Pizza or Cereal or Breakfast Taco, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.
- WEDNESDAY**
Biscuit/Egg Pattie or Oatmeal or Breakfast Burrito, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.
- THURSDAY**
Breakfast Pocket or Cereal or Pancake/Sausage Link, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.
- FRIDAY**
Biscuit/Sausage or Cereal or Muffin/ Sausage, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.

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Note: Menus are subject to change without notice. Students may purchase extra Entree for \$1.00, Milk for \$.30, Sides for \$.50, Large Chef Salad for \$2.00, Small Chef Salad For \$1.00, Tea \$.50 (Jr. High and High School), Water \$1.00, Visiting Adult \$4.00, Visiting Child \$3.00.

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- TUESDAY**
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- WEDNESDAY**
Nachos or Bean Chalupa, Spanish Rice, Pinto Beans, Tossed Salad/ Carrot Sticks, Colelaw, Rosy Pears, Cornbread or Jalapeno Cheese Bread, Choice of Milk.
- THURSDAY**
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Sharing your time,
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Making the load lighter,
All the little things you do,
And the big smile you bring.
Thank you for being so special,
And thank you for everything.
From Lutheran Church, Catholic Church, Church of Christ, Methodist Church, First Baptist Church, Wingate Baptist and Eastern Stars. God Bless the 125 volunteers that make our Meals on Wheel Program possible.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Betty Henson has volunteered seven years delivering everyday to home bound clients, David Devore has joined in to help, also.

USDA establishes board for native American farmers

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT
WASHINGTON, DC- A special advisory board was established last week to help USDA officials ensure Native Americans participate in and benefit from USDA programs. The board is being put in place as part of the Keepseagle settlement announced Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. The Council will work closely with the Office of Tribal Relations, Farm Service Agency and other USDA agencies.

COWPOKES

By Ace Reid

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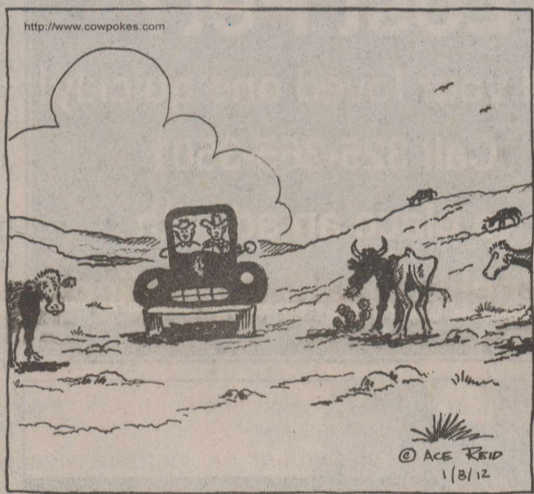
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"Naw, I won't sell 'em, but I'll loan 'em to you 'till spring!"

Veteran's Corner

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has expanded the list of ships exposed to Agent Orange in Vietnam. They have also presumed herbicide exposure for any veterans who served between April 1, 1968 and August 31, 1971 in a unit that operated in an area in or near the Korean DMZ. For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave. or call 365-3612.
Veterans County Service Officer
P.O. Box 108
Ballinger, TX 76821

PUBLIC RECORD

Runnels County Jail Log

Name	Age	Arrest agency
Alissa Pinon No D.L.	21	BPD
Tyler Smith PI and MIC	17	BPD
Michael Jordan MTR-F and DWI	32	Coke
Wyman Burson MTR-F and Retaliation	21	WPD
Charles Dwihal Parole violation and assault family violence	22	WPD
Toshe Tidar Sent to CRT	36	RCSO
Charles Weinrche Poss. C.S., Poss marijuana with lawful carry work	53	Concho
Stephanie Rodriguez	23	BPD
City warrant HD D.L.		
Alison Arteage Tom Green Co. and Polk Co. warrants	22	BPD
Joseph Eldred Assault family violence	20	BPD
Danny Elded Disorderly conduct terroristic threat	33	BPD
Dionicio Cordero DWI, POM <2 oz prob. weapon switch blade	21	Concho
Travis Sawyer Driving While License invalid	45	DPS
Daniel Sandoval Assault family violence	35	RCSO
Nathan Collins DWI 3rd or more	35	RCSO
Landis McCormic T.B.C x3, Parole violation	53	Coke
Bryan Valencia Money laundering	28	Concho
Jeffery Stewart Assault family violence	32	BPD
David Barron Assault Class C	48	BPD
Kenny Freeman Retaliation, Assault H.F.V., Crim. Misch, Fail to ID	31	BPD
Freddy Brown Jr. DWI with Child under 15 yrs.	24	BPD
Ronnie Winans DWI	41	Concho
John Dennison DWI	51	Concho
Braulio Villarreal DWLI, Capias x2	45	Concho
Jesus Guillon-Stelo Illegal entry	25	USBP.

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