Thursday, January 26, 2012

## Hole-in-one



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED BY JERRY SIMS Winters resident Rick Dry hit a hole-in-one last Friday, January 20, 2012 at the Winters Country Club. The holein-one was at Hole No. 5, 150 yards, when he hit the ball with a nine iron. Witnesses are Connie Mac Gibbs, Jerry B. Whitlow, Aref Hassan and Jerry Sims.

## Chamber Banquet will feature 'Winters in the Spotlight'

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- The Winters Chamber of Commerce will host their annual banquet at the school cafeteria on Saturday, March 3, from 6 to 8 p.m. Keynote speaker will be Randall Conner, long-time Winters resident and Economic Development Director of Winters Area Business and Industrial Corp.

Tickets are only \$15 in advance and include a delicious dinner, a silent auction and local businesses highlighting their wares and services prior to the meal. Tickets are available at the Chamber office (Professional Building on Main), J&T Hardware, Daisy Patch, and Wes-T-Go.

Table sponsorships may also be purchased. Gold sponsorships are

\$200 and include eight tickets to the banquet. All sponsorships will be recognized on the banquet program, during the banquet, and will have the opportunity to decorate their own table as they choose.

To help spotlight Winters, we are inviting any of the local businesses to set up a table to display their wares and/or services to be viewed by everyone attending as they enter the banquet. There will be a total of 10 spaces available, on a firstcome, first-served basis. There is no charge for current Chamber members. Contact the Chamber office for details or to sign up.

Nominations are being accepted for Man and Woman of the Year with winners to be announced at the banquet. Please send your nominations with information as to why you believe this person should win, to the Chamber at P.O. Box 662, Winters 79567, e-mail to wacc@ wtxs.net, or come by 110 S. Main, Suite 106 between 10 a.m. and 2

p.m. Monday thru Friday. Business of the Year will also be honored at the banquet and is being selected by votes from other Chamber members who submit their votes by email or the Chamber office. Nominees are 2012 Business of the Quarter winners: Winters Auto Tech, Pioneer Vet Clinic, Lone Star Estates and A-C Nutrition. Deadline for nominations is Monday, Febru-

For banquet information or tickets, please call the Chamber at 754-5210.



PHOTO: FILE

A group of area investigators is looking to spend a night at the historical Hock Hotel, to record what they consider could be paranormal activity.

## Rock Hotel drags 'paranormal' attention

**RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ** 

WINTERS- The long history and uniqueness of the Rock Hotel, in Winters, have dragged through the years the attention of thousands of visitors, and now a very uncommon research group has shown interest in the historical building as well.

Mike Zuniga, head of Elm Creek Para-normal Research will be meeting with the Rock Hotel Board of Directors this week. Zuniga is looking forward to make the arrangements to spend a night in the historic hotel doing research as well as video

and audio recording.

Zuniga said that if permission is granted the group will be spending the night gathering evidence of any kind of paranormal activity at the hotel, and they will later present their findings to the

Rock Hotel Board of Directors.
"We are a small group of people that is interested in the paranormal activity, we believe that there is a lot of potential in this building and we are trying to get this documented through our research", said

This West Texas "ghost buster" has been doing this kind of investigation for some years now. His work includes spending several nights at the historical Fort Concho, in San Angelo, during the Thanksgiving break documenting energy fields and what they said could be evidence of old ghosts haunting the

'We recorded some activity during that investigation at the Fort Concho, we have some sounds in the recording while

everybody was asleep," said Zuniga.
Zuniga has been doing this kind of investigation for over three years. He started at his parents' home, near the Old Runnels Cemetery, once he went to feed

"My parents had gone out of town and I was going to feed the dogs when I heard a voice that was telling me 'get out of here, get out of here' it was a very clear voice," Zuniga said.

According to the paranormal researcher he later found out that years ago a person had committed suicide in that property, and he had not been the first one to have an experience of this kind in

For now Mike and his group will be seeking to do an investigation at the Rock Hotel, but they are also aiming at some other historical buildings in Runnels County, such as the Carnegie Library and the old Texas Grill.

This places, according to Zuniga, hold some kind of energy that could be recorded by modern science.





## Area youth enjoy hunting experience through Paladin Community program

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Several area youth were able to experience a hunting adventure this year guided by the Winters Police Chief Nathan Johnson as part of the Paladin Community Services program.

During the last weekend of the season Drey Patton and AJ Smith bagged their very first deer and enjoyed the excitement of that once in a lifetime event.

The Paladin Community Service's Police Explorers program is an adventure

based program in the Winters community and surrounding area where participants develop leadership, knowledge, skills, and proficiency in varied subject areas while reinforcing character, code

of conduct, and community values. Current projects for the program are the construction of a rappelling and

rock climbing wall scheduled for completion in June of 2012 and the refurbishing of an old down-town building to be used as a classroom and equipment storage facility.

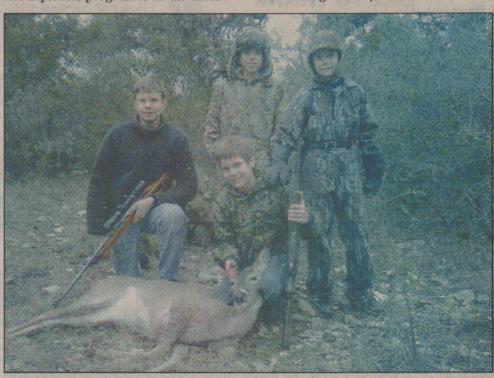


PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Front row: Mason Johnson and AJ Smith. Standing up: Drey Patton and Cody John-

## Marvin Jones elected President of the WAF

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Winters Area Foundation Board of Directors met to elect officers on January 13, 2012. Newly elected president is Marvin Jones. Other officers are Mike Bedford, Vice-President and Susan Conner, Secretary. Directors reelected were Mike Bedford, Gene Wheat and Armando Tamez. Also continuing as directors are Hilda Woffenden, Nancy Spill, George Mostad, Charles Bahlman, Marvin Jones and Susan Conner.

The Foundation scholarship fund had received a large donation from the class of 1961 given in memory of Freddie

Gardner, much-loved long-time WHS coach and teacher. The Winters Area Foundation scholarship given this year will given as the Freddie Gardner schol-

The board began making plans for the annual dinner to be held in late April. Local associations, organizations and projects are encouraged to apply for some of the grants given each year to area causes. Application consists of a letter written to the foundation stating the need and plans for the grant money. Letters should be sent to Winters Area Foundation, Box 211, Winters, Texas





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#### **FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES**

## Luther Smith, Jr.

Luther Lee (Smitty) Smith, Jr., 78, of Winters, died January 19, 2012. He was born March 2, 1933 in Comanche County, Texas and came to Winters in 1956. He was a truck driver for many years and will be remembered as a unique individual.

He survived by seven children: Mickey Smith of Norman, Oklahoma; Rickey Smith of Winters, Johnny Smith of Abilene, Tray Smith of Abilene, Shon Smith of Hawley, Shoni Phelps of Winters, and Teresa Arispi of Winters. One step-son Michael Liggins, of Winters; four sisters and one brother: Bobbie Fry of Winters, Gene Peterson of Ballinger, Peggy Peterson of Midland, Jo Ann Tubbs of Winters, and Conrad Smith of Winters.

Winters Enterprise, January 26, 2012

## Inflatable theater to be presented in Abilene

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

ABILENE- On Sunday, February 12, at 2 p.m. the Fred Garbo Inflatable Theater Co. performance will be presented by the Children's Performing Arts Series at the Paramount Theatre, 352 Cypress Street in Abilene,

With sold out performances around the world, "Fred Garbo Inflatable Theater Co." stars pneumatic wizard Fred Garbo and Brazilian ballerina Daielma Santos. This exquisite duo delights audiences with huge inflatable props, comedy, juggling and dancing, transcending age

Fred Garbo Inflatable Theater Co. has won the praise and affection of many audiences, including two sold-out runs at the New Victory Theater on Broadway. They have performed at the Kennedy Center and appeared on international television and Playhouse Square in Cleveland, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, and the Hong Kong International Arts Carnival (just to mention a few). They also garnered ongoing mentions on David Letterman's Late Show.

The Children's Performing Arts Series is a division of the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council, a non profit organization. The Children's Performing Arts Series brings live professional theater productions to Abilene for the benefit and enjoyment of the area's youngest audiences and their families. Ticket prices are made affordable though the generous underwriting of individuals and businesses in the community.

Tickets may be purchased online at abilenecac.org/ cparts. Tickets can also be purchased over the phone by calling 677-1161 or in person by visiting the CPAS office in the T&P Depot at 1101 North 1st Street, Monday - Fri-

day between 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tickets are \$8, pro-rated season tickets are also available, which include admission to the "Fred Garbo Inflatable Theater Co." show and the "Alice in Wonderland" show on April 15. The party level season ticket includes admission to a great Alice in Wonderland after party, where children and their families can meet the cast and enjoy refreshments and craft activities.

For more information, call CPAS director Hollye Jaklewicz at 677-1161 or send an email to cpas@abilene.com.

#### **WE WOULD** LIKE TO THANK

Dr. McKinnon, North Runnels Hospital and everyone else for their prayers and thoughtfulness during our time of loss.

**Family of Beth Hamilton** 

#### NEWSWOTES Gifted/talented nominations

Nominations are being accepted for the Winters Elementary Gifted/Talented program, Kindergarten only. If you believe your child might benefit from a gifted/talented program, we welcome your nomination. Nomination and parent-permission-for-testing forms may be obtained at the Elementary Principal's office during normal working hours. All forms must be completed and returned to your child's homeroom teacher by February 24, 2012

Las nominaciones para el programa de niños dotados y con talentos especiales están abiertas para el nivel de Kindergarten. Los padres que desean nominar a un niño pueden recoger una forma en la oficina de la Directora en la Escuela Elemental. Las formas se deben entregar antes del 24 de febrero del 2012.

Z.I. Hale Museum monthly meeting
The Z. I. Hale Museum will hold their monthly meeting on the last Thursday of the month, January 26, at 5 p.m. The meeting will be at the Rock Hotel. All members are asked to attend. Decisions are made on several items, to include the next fundraiser and other items.

**Rotary Pancake Supper** Ballinger Rotary Club assisted by Rotary Interact will be having its yearly Pancake Supper and silent auction on Thursday, February 9, 2012 from 5 - 8:30 p.m.

Join your friends and neighbors and enjoy a freshly prepared pancake supper consisting of pancakes, sausage and plenty of syrup. Plates are \$5 per person. Proceeds will be used for scholarships and other local

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 Co-operative. For more information call Tony Williams at (325) 625 2128 or visit their office at 3300 N Hwy 84, Coleman, Texas 76834.

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 Coun-

selor 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 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 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.

## **Ministerial Alliance** of Winters elects new officers

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- Winters Ministerial Alliance met Monday, January 9 for officer and director elections. Newly elected officers are President, Travis Akins, Vice-President, Alsen Wenzel. Returning officers are Secretary Tamara Grohman and Treasurer Susan Conner. Board Directors elected for a two-year term were Bobby Staggs, Sam Nix, Heath Powers, Alsen Wenzel and Don Kuempel. Continuing directors are Danny Martinez, Jayme Palady, Travis Akins, Enrique Martinez and

A report given by Barbara Jones, director of the Samaritan's House, indicated that, during the year, 202 families (542 individuals) were furnished food through the food pantry and 95 families benefited from the relief fund of the Samaritan's House. There were 71 volunteers who assisted the programs administered through the Alliance

The fund-raising drive conducted in November and December was very successful as over 40 different families contributed to the monies necessary for the work of the Samaritan's House. The Ministerial Alliance expressed their appreciation for the donations and they feel truly blessed by the support of the community. Contributions are taken throughout the year through local churches and at the Samaritan's House.

The Alliance also reviewed their yearly events: World Day of Prayer, Holy Week, Sunrise Service, WHS Baccalaureate, Back to School Blessing, Fall Fundraiser, Thanksgiving Service and meal, Holiday Food Baskets and Angel Tree Gifts.

#### **PUBLIC LIBRARY DONATIONS**

The Winters Public Library received donations from:

■ Jim and Lisa West, memorial for Hattie Belle Bishop and Mamie Gene Hoppe.

■ James and Sue Spill, memorial for Beth Hamilton. ■ Larry and Fran Walker, memorial for Jackie Ripley and K.W. Cook.

■ Michael and Cheryl Bedford, memorial for Lisa Gray.

Marian Guerin. ■ Regnald & Becky Boles.

■ Michael Magee, memorial for Gary Don Pinkerton. ■ Thrivent.

■ Randal & Susan Connor. ■ Sharon Rice, honoring Ouida Nichols

■ Gary and dinell Jacob, memorial for Mary Jim Currie. ■ Harold Shelburne.

■ Barbara Pearce, memorial for Margaret and Buford Baldwin.

C. J. Carlson.

■ Martha Hale, memorial for Nine and A.I. Hale ■ Allen and Elsie Belk, memorial for Hattie Belle,

Bishop.

J.C. Wilkerson.

Jim Caskey.

## **Unemployment rate** drops to 7.8 percent

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN- Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 7.8 percent in December, down from 8.1 percent in November and down from 8.3 percent in December 2010. The Texas Civilian Labor Force grew by more than 17,000 individuals in December, and now stands at more than 12.3 million Texans.

Texas added 20,200 nonfarm jobs in December for a total of 204,500 jobs added over the year. Private employers in Texas added 10,100 jobs in December for a total of 260,000 private sector jobs added over the year. Texas has experienced positive annual job growth for the last 20 consecutive months with annual growth rates at or above 2.0 percent for the last seven

"Texas continues to see signs of improvement in the labor market," said Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Chairman Tom Pauken. "Texas' unemployment rate has decreased for the third consecutive month, and now stands at 7.8 percent, which is the lowest since July 2009. Our state's unemployment rate remains below the national unemployment rate of 8.5 percent." The Leisure and Hospitality industry added 4,100 jobs in December, totaling 41,200 jobs added over the year. This resulted in a robust annual growth rate of 4.0 percent. Growth in the Manufacturing industry continued with 2,200 jobs in December.

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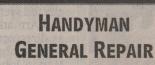
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Linda Arispe, Office Manager / Newsclerk Subscriptions, Accounts, Weddings, Announcements

Publication No. 040700

One year mail subscription rates:

Postmaster:

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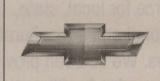
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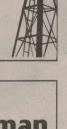


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# Runnels County Thursday, January 26, 2012

## RCHC annual report, officers appointed

2012 officers

and appointees

Chair Person

Ruth Coope

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Vice Chairperson

Recording Secretary

Alton O'Neal

**Recording Secretary** 

**Corresponding Secretary** 

■ Diana Rozmen

■ Anthony Lange

Betty Thomason

Appointees

Bobbie Campbell

■ Elaine Coleman

■ Linda Duggan

John Hancock

■ Bertha Owens

Roy Rice

■ Noleta Rice

■ Laverta Hubbard

■ Beverly Teplicek ■ Keith Thomason

■ Marianne Ray

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

**BALLINGER- Runnels County** Commissioners Court voted last Tuesday, January 24, 2012 the new officers and appointees of the Runnels County Historical Commission. Ruth Copper, RCHC Chairperson and appointee Linda Duggan presented the commission's annual report to the Commissioners Court.

The commission's first meeting of the year was held January 12, at Casa Cabana Restaurant in Winters, when officers were elected for the two year term of 2011-2012. The officers elected were: Ruth Cooper, Chairperson, Diana Rozmen, Vice-Chairperson, Alton O'Neal, Jr. Secretary, Anthony Lange, Treasurer, Betty Thomason, Recording Secretary-Reporter, Marianne Ray, Corresponding Secretary. With no other nominations, they were elected by acclamation.

The Commission began 2011 with 21 appointees. In Commissioners Court, January 21, 2011, the officers and appointees were appointed for 2011-2012. They all were: Bobbie Campbell, Elaine Coleman, Ruth Cooper, Linda Duggan, John Hancock, Laverta Hubbard, Anthony Lange, Alton O'Neal, Jr., Bertha Owens, Marianne Ray, Noleta Rice, Roy Rice, Diana Rozmen, Beverly Teplicek, Betty Thomason, Keith Thomason, Joyce Carbery, Mark Miller, Gary Lee Wilson, Selma Dietz, Patrick Duarte.

Five appointees attended the February 17, 2011 Texas Forts Trails and the Texas Historical Commission Work:;hops at the Abilene Civic Center. They were: Linda Duggan, Diana Rozmen, Anthony Lange, Ruth Cooper and Beverly Teplicek.

At the request of the Texas

Historical Commission, Ruth Cooper began the project to inventory the 14 Recorded Texas Historical Landmark Buildings in the county. Each was checked for condition, current owner, Historical Marker status and any other relative information. Pictures

were taken and forms completed and sent to the THC.

The commission's second meeting of the year was a driving tour of Winters historic sites. The tour was prepared by the Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation.

In April 7, the Runnels County Historical Commission received an invitation to attend a meeting with the Coleman County Historical Commission. Seven appointees attended from Runnels County, they were: Bobbie Campbell, Betty and Keith Thomason, Elaine Coleman, Anthony

Lange, Marianne Ray and Ruth Cooper. They are working to get organized.

April 12, 2011 at 10 a.m. the Runnels County Historical Commission was presented the THC Distinguished Service Award by Runnels County Judge Barry Hilliard. Runnels County was one of 71 of Texas 254 Counties receiving the award. The official award certificate is now displayed in the Runnels County Courthouse. Four appointees attended the Edwards Plateau Historical Association at the meeting May 7, in San Saba

Two of the Commission appointees are officers of the EPHA. Betty Thomason is the President and

Anthony Lange is Vice-President. Keith Thomason and Ruth Cooper also attended the meeting.
The third meet-

ing May14, was held at the Acapulco Restaurant in Ballinger. Toby Virden presented the history of KRUN AM.

The commission

met with the Winters ISD Board to recommend they have the minutes of their meetings from their beginning to 1971 digitized with the West Texas Collection at ASU. They voted to do that and the commission is getting copies for their

In June 24, 2011, Ruth Cooper, Anthony Lange, Bertha Owens and Elaine Coleman attended the CHC Workshop held in San Angelo, Texas. The workshop was directed to County Historical Commissions, appointee attendance and various ways the county commissions should deal

collection.

with different situations. Fourth and fifth commission's meeting were held on July 23, in Buffalo Gap, and at the Turn-

row Restaurant on September 10 respectively. Randall Conner presented a program of all of the known schools in Runnels County. To date, there have been 102 schools located that were in existence at some point in time.

September 3,2011, appointees volunteering at the Winters Dove Fest were Anthony Lange, Bertha Owens, Betty Thomason, John Hancock, Marianne Ray, Roy and Noleta Rice and Ruth Cooper.

The commission received a portion of the profit.

On September 21, Ruth Cooper presented a history of Ballinger and the surrounding area to the Ballinger Woman's Club. On October 1, the Edwards Plateau Historical Association met in San Angelo, Texas.

On October 9, 2011, under the Auspices of the Texas Historical Commission the commission hosted a ceremony at St. John's Lutheran Church to dedicate the Lutheran Cemetery as a Historic Texas Cemetery. It was officially designated August 8, 2011.

The commission's sixth meeting was held at the Farm Bureau Office in Ballinger, Texas. Glenda Lacy with the Miles Preservation Authority presented part of our program about the History of the Miles Area.

Dale Duggan also presented a program about Farm Bureau and its benefits to the community and also its members.

The Runnels County Historical Commission is also working in some other activities as well and have six scheduled meetings for 2012. They are starting the year with 16 appointees. Some of their activities for this year include articles about the TxDOT Research of the South Orient Railroad

## DCP and **ACRE sign-up** starts Jan. 23

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

BALLINGER- Sign-up for the 2012 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) and the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) Program starts on January 23, 2012 and continues through June 1, 2012, announced Runnels County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Byron Bauerlein.

"I encourage producers to make an appointment with our office to sign-up for program benefits," said Bauerlein.

Eligible DCP participants receive a direct payment and/or a counter-cyclical payment. Direct payment rates are established by statute regardless of market prices. FSA reminds producers that the 2008 Farm Bill does not authorize advance direct payments. Counter-cyclical payments vary depending on market prices, and are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price (which takes into account the direct payment rate, market price and loan rate).

ACRE protects producers from farm market revenue declines when revenue triggers are met for a commodity at both the state and farm level. For more information about DCP and ACRE, please contact the Runnels County FSA office at 325-365-5757 or visit the web at: www.fsa.

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## Veteran's Corner

The Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam, also called "Paris Accords", arranged a settlement which ended direct military involvement by the United States and resulted in a temporary ceasefire, the end of the Vietnam War occurring two years later. The agreement was reached at the end of the Paris Peace Accords on January 27, 1973. On the anniversary of this historic event, the Rowena VFW Post 9196 is having a program at 7PM at the Post to honor Vietnam Veterans. I will be the guest speaker and discuss veterans' benefits. All are welcome. If you cannot make it, be sure to thank a Vietnam Vet.

For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office.

Runnels County Veterans Services Office 602 Strong Ave

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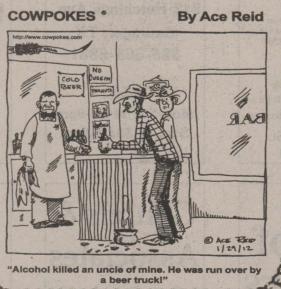
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## An economy built around cotton

**CONTRIBUTED BY RUTH COOPER** 

WINTERS- The population of Runnels County in 1900 stood at 5,379 and Ballinger, the most populous town, had emerged as the primary regional center of trade and commerce. It was the railway's sole terminal in the county. It was becoming a significant shipping center for the regions' agricultural products.

The county's economy had become largely agriculture related. The cash crops were wheat, oats, corn, maize sorghum, alfalfa and fruit. Livestock-cattle, horses, mules and swine contributed significantly. Cotton was beginning to play a significant part in the economy also. The year of 1903 saw 20,000 bales shipped. Cotton had first emerged in 1887. William J. Miller tried to encourage planting by distributing cotton seed free and he also constructed the first gin in this region. Mr. Miller's enterprise was known as the Missouri Milling Co., and included a burr mill. It was located in Ballinger on Hutchings Avenue near Elm Creek. The location more specific was about "two blocks north" of the Ballinger Co-Operative Gin Company (known earlier as the Farmer's Co-op Gin).

In 1890, Miller replaced the burr mill with a roller mill. The business became the Ballinger Milling Company. By 1904, several cotton-related businesses included four more cotton gins, the Ballinger Cotton Oil Co., The Western Compress Co. and The Ballinger Cotton Oil Company. It had established an extensive oil mill by 1903 at the site that is now the Ballinger Co-Operative Gin Co. (along the railroad tracks at the intersection of N. Fourth Street and Hutchings Avenue). The Western Compress Company built their facility in 1903 at the intersection of N. Third Street and Hutchings Avenue.

The first decade of the 20th Century saw Runnels County grow with economic prosperity and its population grew to 20,858 by 1910. The Abilene and Southern Railway was extended through the county in 1909. The number of farms increased from 669 in 1900 to 2,526 in 1910. As farming grew in importance, livestock ranching decreased in significance. By 1910, cotton was the primary cash crop of the county with 23,126 bales ginned in 1910. The bales increased to 58,000 in 1915. The expanding cotton production brought a number of cotton related businesses to Ballinger during this period

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps indicate that by 1910, a complex of cotton related enterprises had formed in the area south of S. Thirteenth Street, along the Gulf Colorado Santa Fe (GCSF) Railroad and within the project area of the Colorado River. The businesses included the Ball-

inger Compress Company, Farmer's Cotton Warehouse, the Days Cotton Gin, and a large cotton yard.

The drought lasting from 1916 to 1918 caused a decline in cotton production in this area. Ballinger population dropped in 1910 to 17,000 and dropped again in 1920. The farm totals also dropped by 2,023 by 1920. At the end of the drought, cotton again emerged as king in Runnels County and the population rose to a high of 21,827. In the years preceding the Great Depression, the economy of the county was primarily agricultural-based. Wholesale-retail trade figured prominently in the economy of the county at this period in time.

Oil and gas exploration emerged as a significant industry within Runnels County with the 1927 discovery of the McMillan oil field near Ballinger.

Texas Department of Transportation, South Orient Railroad Ballinger Bridge over the Colorado River.

More Ballinger History and the Pratt Truss Bridge

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606 & 608 Trinity, Winters: Beautiful pecan trees on two lots in east part of Winters. Ready for you to make it yours. Water meter uth 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.

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**PUBLIC** MEETING will be held on Monday, March 19th 2012, 6:00 p.m. at the Winters

Housing Authority office. located at 300 North Grant Street, Winters. Texas, to receive comments on the Annual and Five

Plan for Year deposit. Beautiful, the Winters Housing Authority. All documents are on display at the Lone Star Estates office of the Housing

Authority, 300 North Grant, Winters, Monday through Friday, between the hours 035161438 a.m. and 3 p.m.

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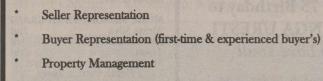
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## WHS Blizzards freeze TLCA

**WINTERS BLIZZARDS ATHLETIC REPORT** BY STEPHEN HERMESMEYER VARSITY GIRLS Coach: Brooke Bicknell Date: 01/17/2012 Played at: Miles Quarters Final Winters 31 42 42 10 12 21 27 Miles Jordan Busher 15, Caitlin Kurtz 7, LeeAnn Taylor 8, Camille Kurtz 4, Michelle Kruse 7, Kat Lindley 1

Date: Played at: Winters Quarters Final Winters 55 Caitlin Kurtz 8, Jordan Busher 13, Lauren Bredemeyer 4, Crystal Sanchez 2, Camille Kurtz 2, Kat Lindley 8, LeeAnn Taylor 18.

IV GIRLS Coach: Holson Date: 01/17/2011 Played at: Miles Team: Quarters Winters 17 17 23 35 44 Esquivel 10, Wyatt 1, Tamez 2, Heathcott 4

**VARSITY BOYS** Coach: Bicknell Quarters Final Winters 23 76 15 15 13 Winters: Strait Daniel 27, Riley Ripley 14, Andy Garcia 14, Cristian Sandoval 10, Hayden Nitsch 3, Bryce Mikeska 3, Nik Kraatz 3, Chris Gerhart 2.

JV BOYS Coach: Cates Final Quarters Winters JV 34 TLCA JV 32

Winters: Jake Brock 8, Daryl Haggle 6, Lucas Kraatz 6, Ethan Bredemeyer 5, Stephane Cleghorn 2, Kimble Bridgman 2, Christian Tamez 2.

**EIGHTH GRADE GIRLS** Coach: Airhart Date: 01/16/2012 Played at: Winters Final Quarters 1 Winters 6 27 Winters: Bailee Busher 7, Marissa Gray 8, Dawn LaVallie 4, Cedie Taylor 4, Athena Mata 4.

Date: 01/16/2012 Played at: Winters Team: Junior High White Final Quarters Winters 12 Abilene Hawks 2 19 Stacie Ventress 8, Grace Bryan 2, Shelby Ochoa 2.



PHOTOS: JOE GERHART Winters Blizzards Bryce Mikeska shooting during the Varsity Boys game against Miles.

SEVENTH GRADE GIRLS Coach: Straw Date: 01/16/2012 Played at: Winters Quarters Final Winters 34 M. Cates 15, K. Lindley 5, M. Ochoa 4, K. Soto 4, M. Drake 2, C. Kruse 2, T. Campos 2.

Date: 01/23/12 Played at: Jim Ned JH Girls White Team Team: Quarters Final Winters 14 Stacie Ventress 8, Desiree Wilson 2, Grace Bryan 2, Michaela Rodriguez 2

JUNIOR HIGH BOYS Coaches: Spivey/Richardson Date: 01/23/12 Played at: TLCA Team: Seventh Grade **Ouarters** Final Winters M. Mostad 1, AJ Smith 2.

Date: 01/23/12 Played at: TLCA Team: Eighth Grade Quarters Final Winters 19 52 J. Soto 9, D. Gerhart 1, B. Reyes 3, A. Escamilla 2, B. Mikeska 1, F. Caberra 3.



Nick Kratz going up hard during the Varsity Boys vs TLC



Michelle Kruse shooting during the Varsity Girls game the Lady Blizzards held against Miles.

## CAFETERIA MENU Jan. 30 - Feb. 3

### WINTERS ISD BREAKFAST

MONDAY 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 Oatmeal or Sausage on Stick, Toast w/Jelly, Juice. Choice of Milk. THURSDAY

Sausage Roll or Cereal or French Toast w/Sausage, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.

FRIDAY Biscuit/Sausage or Cereal or Cinnamon Roll/Sausage, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk.

WINTERS ISD LUNCH 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.

MONDAY Tatar Tot Casserole or Chicken

Pattie/Bun, Tomato Pasta, Green Beans, Tossed Salad/Carrot Stick, Rosy Applesauce, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk. Tuesday

Salisbury Steak w/Gravy or Chicken Spaghetti, Broccoli/Cheese, Black Eyed Peas, Tossed Salad/Carrot Stick, Hot Cinnamon Applesauce, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk.

Bean Chalupa or Soft Taco, Spanish Rice. Pinto Beans. Coleslaw or Lettuce & Tomato, Tossed Salad/ Carrot Stick, Mixed Fruit, Cornbread or Jalapeno Cheese Bread, Choice of Milk.

Thursday Chicken Nuggets w/Gravy or Meatball Sub, Mashed Potatoes, Black Eyed Peas, Tossed Salad/Carrot Stick, Apple Wedges, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk.

FRIDAY Cheese Burger or Chicken Bites/ Gravy, Curly Fries, Baked Beans, Lettuce/Pickles, Tossed Salad/ Carrot Stick, Rosy Pears, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk.

**Bedford-Norman Insurance Agency** 111 W. Dale - Winters 754-4515

## NRH Employee of the Quarter



Becky Hoelscher was selected as the North Runnels Hospital Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2011. Becky has worked for North Runnels

Hospital since 1999. She has worked in admissions and currently works in the clinic. North Runnels Hospital is very fortunate to have Becky as one of their employees. Pictured with Becky is Sidney Tucker, administrator.

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Team members: Domynic Lujano, Rico Sanchez, Chris ART FIFTH GRADE

Chris Craig

Team members: Chis Correa Chris Craig, Summer Schneider.

CREATIVE WRITING 2ND GRADE

Charles Childress Connor Garcia LISTENING FIFTH GRADE

Chris Craig Team members: Chris Craig,

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MUSIC MEMORY THIRD GRADE Skyla Comacho 1st 2nd Avery Wheat Evelyn King 5th Team 1st Team members: Avery Wheat, Zach Wheat, Querstin Lara, Evelyn King, Skyla Comacho.

MUSIC MEMORY 4TH GRADE Esmerelda Gallegos 1s Felipe Erazo 2nd 5th 6th Miranda Rodriques Domynic Lujano Team Team members: Esmerelda Gallegos, Domynic Lujano, Felipe Erazo, Miranda Rodriquez, Alexis Briley.

MUSIC MEMORY FIFTH GRADE Alexis Silva Keith Fields 3rd Team members: Alexis Silva, Keith Fields, Patrick Reyes.

**NUMBER SENSE 4TH GRADE** Domynic Lujano Team members: Gracie Jimenz, Karlee Busher, Domynic Lujano.

**READY WRITING 4TH GRADE** Karlee Busher

Alexis Briley

**READY WRITING FIFTH GRADE** Janessa Wade

SOCIAL STUDIES FIFTH GRADE Jayden Palady 6th Team Team members: Gage McFaddin, Jayden Palady, Janessa Wade.

SPELLING THIRD GRADE Avery Wheat 2nd Team Team members: Zach Wheat,

Avery Wheat, Evelyn King STORYTELLING 2ND GRADE

STORYTELLING THIRD GRADE