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Thursday, February 23, 2012



Glacier King and Queen 2012

Andy Garcia and Sarah Lara were crowned last Thursday, February 16, Winters High School 2012 Glacier King and Queen, in a ceremony held at the Winters High School Auditorium

BISD accounts cleared following former employee's arrest

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ WINTERS ENTERPR

BALLINGER- Following the arrest and investigation of a former Ballinger ISD administrative employee charged with theft in an unrelated non-profit organization, BISD reviewed its accounts and didn't find any issues, irregularities or concers.

Will Brewer, Ballinger ISD Superintendent said that the district was aware of former accounts payable employee Jackie Gibbs, who was charged by the Runnels County Sheriff's Department in relation with an alleged theft in the Ballinger Education Foundation.

The Ballinger ISD is aware of the arrest of a former district employee on criminal charges related to the financial man-

Generous donation to NRH

WINTERS-Winters Area Foundation presented a \$10,000 check on Monday, February 20, to the North Runnels Hospital Board. The money was col-lected through the Winters Area Foundation Project Fund

administered by the Community Foundation of Abilene.

agement of the Ballinger **Education Foundation.** While the foundation has been and continues to be a tremendous support to the students of BISD through scholarships and mini-grants, the district and the education foundation are separate and distinct entities. The district does not have any control or oversight over the operations of the education foundation, and has not been involved in this criminal matter," Brewer said.

Ballinger ISD Superintendent added that the District has no reason to believe that its funds or financial records have been mishandled or misappropriated. The District, Brewer said, has systems and procedures in place in order to ensure maintenance of accurate records and reports, regularly conducts internal checks of its financial system, and is subject to periodic exter-

nal financial audits. An external audit of the district's finances was recently completed by an accounting firm in San Angelo, and produced no findings of irregularity or concern.

"The Ballinger ISD has dedicated staff members assigned to the task of managing the district's day-to-day business and financial affairs. It is through the commitment of our employees, the support of the community and the guidance of our board of trustees that our students are afforded the opportunity to achieve their educational goals.



Junior candidates are Joanna Perez and Anthony Lara; Sophomores are Fermin Cruz and Kara Heathcott, and Freshman candidates are Danny Whipple and Gabby Jimenez.

PHOTOS: JOE GERHART

Local student places third in District VOD

See more photos inside Page 3

A total of \$35,580 has been raised by generous contributors in the area for the clinic improvement project which is soon to be underway.

Pictured here are left to right: George Mostad, Scotty Belew, Joe Guajardo, Jeanne Hilliard, Dewey Whitfield, Sidney Tucker, North Runnels Hospital Administrator; Marvin Jones, Winters Area Foundation President; Susan Conner, Gene Wheat and Freddie Grohman. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Warming up

The District 12A champs Winters Blizzards played a warm up game last Saturday against Aspermont.

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- Saturday February 18, 2012, Armando Rodriguez was honored at the District 8 Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting at the VFW Martin Denson Post 6873 in Abilene, Texas. Armando, son of Ronald and Ida Rodriquez was presented a plaque and a \$400.00 scholarship in honor of wining third place in the District 8 Voice of Democracy Contest by District 8 Commander Ralph Rodriquez Jr. (no relative), District 8 Auxiliary President Trish James, and District 8 Voices of Democracy Chairwoman Sandra Martin.

Armando wrote and recorded a 3 - 5 minute speech on the theme "Is There Pride in Serving in Our Military" in the

Winters High School Contest sponsored by the Winters Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9193 where he won First Place and the right to compete in the District Contest. Those cheering him on were Winters Veterans of Foreign Post 9193 Commander Pete Gray, Quartermaster RC Kurtz, Chairperson Mary Kurtz, his parents and three brothers.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED District 8 Commander Ralph Rodriguez Jr., District 8 Voices of Democracy Chairwoman Sandra Martin, and District 8 Auxiliary President Trish James, honoring contest third place Armando Rodriguez with a plaque in Abilene, Texas.



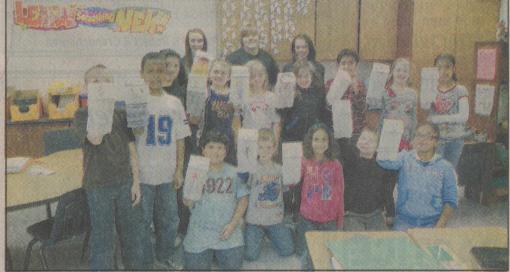


PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED BY HAILEY WILSON Winters FCCLA students addressed how to deal with bullies and bullying in a workshop with Winters Elementary Third Grade students.

For That

Beefmaster

FCCLA students discuss bullying at Winters Elementary

CONTRIBUTED BY MR. CHARLES MURPHY

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR WINTERS- Breanna Lynn, Jacob McMinn, Christa Bahlman and Hailey Wilson, all FCCLA students at Winters High School, recently came to Winters Elementary School to speak to Third graders about something that has become a problem throughout the nation, bullying.

Their mission was to help these third graders become better citizens by showing them how to take a stand against bullying.

Their presentation included important information about the effects of bullying as well as various methods for dealing with a bully. Also discussed was how to react when being bullied and what to do when you witness another person being bullied.

Their presentation included giving the Third graders a "paper puppet" that represented a person. Each puppet had a list of characteristics that the student was to use as they made a drawing of their "person." After making the drawing each student was asked to present their "person" to the entire class. The point of this exercise was to show that everyone is different and that it is ok to be different. A great deal of discussion ensued over how we are all different and deserve to be treated with respect regardless of those differences.

Elementary students sent thank you notes to the FCCLA group with a note and a picture attached that represented what they had learned from the discussion.





2 Winters Enterprise

FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES

Domingo Torres Escamia, III

Domingo Escamia, III, 55 of Winters passed away Wednesday February 15, 2012. Domingo was born in Port Lavaca Texas, February 14, 1957 to Domingo

Escamia, Jr. and Odilia Escamia, he moved to Runnels County at an early age. He graduated from Winters High School in 1978. Domingo loved fishing, drawing and he played



with several bands throughout his life including Jimmy Flores-Los Catrinas. He is survived by his Wife Carol Escamia of Winters, daughters Jessica Hurt of Ballinger, and Sarah Frost of Winters, Mother Odilia Escamia of Winters, Sisters Guadalupe Escamia, and Maria Ochoa and one Brother Jose Escamia of Winters.

Domingo was preceded in death by one brother Valino Escamia, and father Domingo Escamia, Jr.

Funeral under the direction of Heritage Family Funeral Home, Ballinger, Texas. Rosary was recited on Friday, Febru-

ary 17, 2012 at Heritage Family Funeral Home. Funeral services were held on Saturday,

February 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel Catholic Church with a committal service to follow at Lake View Cemetery. Mass Celebrated by Father Romanus.

Winters Enterprise, February 23, 2012



Obituaries in The Winters Enterprise are now also online, check out our webpage at

MyRunnelsCounty.com

CUSTOMER NOTICE INCORPORATED AREAS OF THE MID-TEX DIVISION

On January 31, 2012, Atmos Energy Corporation, Mid-Tex Division ("Atmos" or "the Company"), filed a Statement of Intent with each City served by the Mid-Tex Division (hereafter "Affected Cities") with the exception of the City of Dallas. The Company's Statement of Intent proposes to increase its gas rates and implement a new schedule of rates and riders applicable to all customers within the Affected Cities. The proposed effective date of the requested rate changes is March 6, 2012. If approved, the proposed changes will affect approximately 1,194,420 residential, 100,461 commercial, and 705 industrial & transportation customers.

If approved, the proposed rates will increase the Company's annual revenues by \$49,080,069 or 4.36%, including gas costs, or 11.94% excluding gas cost. The proposed change in rates constitutes a "major change" as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code. In addition to the rate changes, other proposed tariff changes include revision of the Company's residential and commercial rate schedules (Rates R and C), as well as its Rider WNA and Rider GCR to change the current billing rate basis from Mcf to Ccf. The Company further proposes to revise the Rider GCR to: (1) remove the 2009 interest rate reference, (2) clarify that the calculation of (b) Pipeline Cost is inclusive of interest, and (3) update the Upstream Pipeline Charge Allocation (Factor D). Atmos also proposes to modify its Rider WNA to update the heat load and base load factors. The Company further seeks to implement a new Rate Review Mechanism ("RRM") tariff, as well as a new conservation and energy efficiency tariff ("Rider CEE"). In addition, the Company seeks to recover all of its rate case expenses and all city rate case expenses as allowed by law. The exact amount

NEWS NOTES

Immunization clinics

The Texas Department of Sate Health Services will be having two immunization clinics in Runnels County. Flu vaccine will be available. The first clinic will be held in Winters, on Thursday, March 1, 2012 from 1:30 p.m. thru 5 :30 p.m. at the Professional Building, 110 South Main St. Suite 108. For your convenience us rear entrance on Grant St.

The second clinic will be held in Ballinger, on Thursday, March 8, 2012 from 10 a.m. thru 12 noon and from 1:30 p.m thru 3 p.m. at 608 Strong Ave. behind the Courthouse.

Please bring child's immunization records. If child has Medicaid or CHIP please bring card. For more information call (325) 753 4945.

Bronte Golf Club select shot

The Bronte Longhorn Golf Club is having a two-person 18 holes select shot at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 3, 2012. Carts are limited, so sign up early if you need carts. For more information, call Bronte Longhorn Golf Club at 325-473-2156 or after 4 p.m. weekdays 432-661-3431.

Bronte 2012 golf calendar

Bronte Longhorn Golf Club 2012 events: March 3, two-person 18 holes select shot; April 7, two-person 18 holes select shot; May 5, two-person 18 holes select shot; May 19, Wilson tournament three-person 27 holes select shot; June 2, two-person 18 holes select shot; July 7, two-person 27 holes LB/AS/SS; August 4, threeperson 27 holes select shot; September 8, two-person 18 holes select shot; September 29 and 30, Coke Co. Tournament two-person 18 holes select shot each day; October 6, two-person 18 holes select shot; November 3, twoperson 18 holes shots.

Carts are limited so sigh up early if need carts. Bronte Longhorn Golf Club (325) 437-2156.

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.

Mentors needed

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.

Thursday, February 23, 2012

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.

Colorado River Bikefest

The Ballinger Noon Lions Club will be holding its 37th annual Colorado River Bikefest/Lions Journey For Sight on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.

Entry fee for the 5 mile ride, run and walk will be \$10. The 30K, 60K, and 100K tours registration fee is\$20. The first 100 entries will be getting free Tshirts. Proceeds will benefit Lions Club Journey for Sight. For more information contact Lanada Driskell at (325) 234-7842, e-mail lanada_driskell@yahoo.com or visit the Noon Lions Club website at http://www.ballingernoonlions.org. Entry forms are available on the website.

SOIL Annual Prayers Breakfast

Sisters Operating in Love Women's Ministry of Jesus Christ Church will be having their first Annual Prayers Breakfast "Women Moving Forward in Christ"

will not be known until the case is completed.

Based on the proposed rate design, the average monthly bill for each customer class within the Affected Cities will change by the amount and percent shown in the table below:

Customer Class	Current Bill **	Proposed Bill**	Difference	Percentage Change with Gas Cost	Percentage Change without Gas Cost
Residential *	\$48.51	\$51.21	\$2.70	5.57%	13.60%
Commercial *	\$241.15	\$246.50	\$5.35	2.22%	9.69%
Industrial *	\$3,703.47	\$3,499.26	\$(204.21)	-5.51%	-14.22%
Transportation	\$1,754.60	\$1,550.39	\$(204.21)	-11.64%	-14.22%

*Includes Rider GCR Part A cost of \$4.5750 per Mcf.

****The calculation of bill impacts assumes average monthly consumption of 4.4 Mcf for residential, 34.2** Mcf for commercial, and 3,897 MMbtu for industrial and transportation customers.

Persons with specific questions or desiring additional information about this filing may contact Atmos Energy Corporation at 1-888-286-6700. Complete copies of the filed Statement of Intent, including all proposed rates and schedule changes, are available for inspection at Atmos' offices located at 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75240 or on our website www.atmosenergy.com/mtx-soi. In addition, customers can contact their City for additional information regarding this rate request.

Éste es un aviso a los clientes de Mid-Tex División de Atmos Energy Corporation, (la "Compañía"), que la Compañía está solicitando un aumento en la tarifa del gas. Este aumento afecta a todos los clientes de la Compañía excepto en la ciudad de Dallas y las áreas no incorporadas. Aquellas personas que deseen comunicarse con la autoridad reguladora que tiene jurisdicción sobre esta solicitud deben ponerse en contacto con su ciudad. Si usted tiene preguntas con respecto a este aumento, por favor llame a Atmos Energy Corporation al 1-888-286-6700.

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only \$21 in Runnels County



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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

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Dr. Sarah Endicott, M.D. • Dr. Mark McKinnon, M.D.

Judy Zuspann, PA-C

The Runnels Co. Retired School Employees meet at the First United Methodist Church, the second Tuesday on Saturday, March 3, 2012 from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. at the Jesus Christ Church 407 South Seventh Street, Ballinger, Texas.

Minister Cheryl Crider, Bible Way, will be the speaker. Tickets are \$6.95 per person and can be purchased in advance from any member of S.O.I.L. and are available at the door. For more information contact the church at (325) 365-8711 or Sis. Reba Bonner at (325) 977-1931 or Lady Michelle Blaylock (325) 716-9948.

I'm not going back, I'm moving ahead, I'm here to declare to you, the past is over, in you all things are made new, surrender my life to Christ, I'm moving, moving forward.

Elmer Blaylock, Pastor; Lady Michelle, President; Reba Bonner, Chairperson.

In Memory of **Benito Reyna** I feel a warmth around me like your presence is so near, For that and close my eyes to visualize your face when you were here. I endure the times inside my heart. For as long as I yard sale have those memories, we will never be apart. Even though we cannot speak no more, your voice is always there, There is no better opbecause every night before I sleep I have you in my prayers. tion than an ad in **The Winters** Love, Arturo & Rachel & Robert & Grandchildren **Enterprise** (365) 365 3501 The Winters Enterprise Since 1905 **NRH** Clinic (325) 365 3501 FAX (325) 365 5389 news@wintersenterprise.com FAMILY PRACTICE **Ruben Cantu-Rodriguez, Managing Editor** editor@wintersenterprise.com 7771 East Highway 153 - Winters, TX 76567 (325) 754-1317 Sheila Cavazos, Advertising Sales ads@wintersenterprise.com **Clinic Hours: Monday-Friday** Linda Arispe, Office Manager / Newsclerk 8 am - 12 noon & 1:30 - 5 pm Subscriptions, Accounts, Weddings, Announcements All Age Groups Accepted Medicare, Medicaid and CHIPS Accepted Publication No. 040700 Postmaster: **Texas Health Steps & Immunizations**

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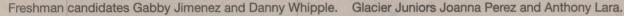
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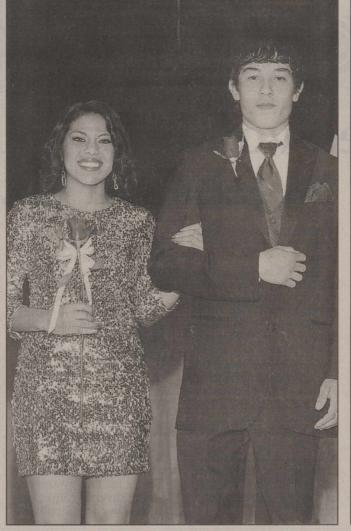
Thursday, February 23, 2012

GLACIER ROYALTY 2012

Winters Enterprise 3









Glacier Sophomores Kara Heathcott and Fermin Cruz. <u>Seecelleelleelleelleel</u>e

4-H 'invests' in Young Texas Saves initiative

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPOR

COLLEGE STATION - Texas AgriLife Extension Service has joined with state and federal financial policy, consumer credit and banking organization partners to bring the Young Texas Saves initiative to youth statewide through its Texas 4-H program.

Young Texas Saves is a community-based effort to empower youth to increase saving and become more financially capable," said Angela McCorkle, an AgriLife Extension program specialist in family development and resource management in College Station. "Through Young Texas Saves, young people are challenged to take the first step in reaching their financial goals by making a savings commitment.

She said financial literacy and financial management are not just adult issues, and efforts through Texas 4-H will be targeted at helping young people develop good savings habits to serve them for a lifetime.

McCorkle said the Texas program was developed in conjunction with the Young America Saves component of America Saves, a national initiative led by the Consumer Federation of America involving more than 1,000 non-profit, government and corporate groups. Statewide activities through Young Texas Saves will help support the national Young America Saves initiative, which in-

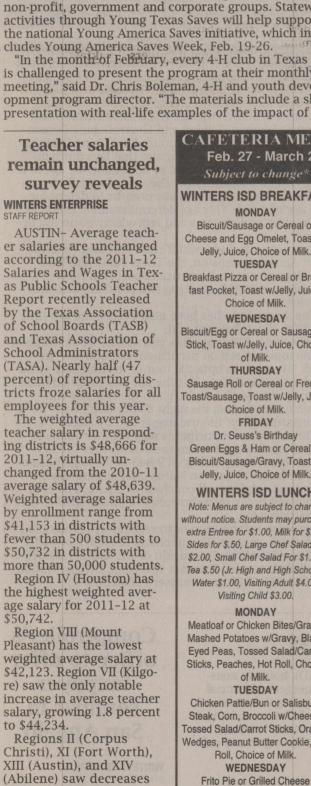
is challenged to present the program at their monthly meeting," said Dr. Chris Boleman, 4-H and youth development program director. "The materials include a short presentation with real-life examples of the impact of saving and investing at a young age, handouts for members and parents, and tips on saving and investing. It provides 4-H members the opportunity to create a savings goal and commit to making that goal happen.

of 62,765 with more than 662,000 youth involved in 4-H programs or activities throughout the state, Boleman said. "Compared to most other countries, the U.S. has one of the lowest personal savings rates in the world, as well as a huge amount of debt," McCorkle said.

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(Abilene) saw decreases in average teacher salary ranging from 1.5 to 2.0 percent. Changes in average pay in other regions were less than 1.0-percent.

The TASB/TASA survey, conducted annually by the TASB HR Services Division, is the third of a series of four that is the most definitive study of compensation and benefits practices in Texas. This information is used by policy makers at the local and state levels to make decisions about educator pay and benefits

TASB is a nonprofit association established in 1949 to serve local Texas school districts.





FWS approves voluntary plan to protect the Sagebrush Lizard

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN- A voluntary species conservation plan that will help protect the economic vitality of Texas oil and gas and other industries was approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS).

The Texas Conservation Plan (TCP) for the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard was spearheaded by Texas Comptroller Susan Combs with the help of stakeholders representing landowners, the oil and gas industry, agriculture and state and federal agencies.

The TCP is a voluntary plan which serves as a

safety net for landowners and businesses in West Texas who choose to enroll. The plan is expected to allow participants to continue operating uninterrupted if the lizard is later listed as an endangered species.

"This is great news for the Texas economy and all the people who put in hard work to develop this vital plan," Combs said. "I strongly oppose listing the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as an endangered species. What the TCP offers is a way to conserve lizard habitat while allowing vital sectors of the economy such as the oil and gas industry and agriculture to thrive in Texas."

The FWS is still reviewing whether to list the lizard as an endangered species. The Comptroller opposes the listing of the DSL because existing scientific data is inadequate to support the listing and she continues to ask the FWS not to list the species. This past year, the oil and gas industry hired Texas A&M researchers to collect data on the species. Their work found additional locations for the species. indicating more studies need to be done on the lizard.

"Comptroller Combs has proven to be a proactive leader helping solve difficult issues that face Texas. She understands the delicate balance necessary when it comes to wildlife and maintaining economic growth in Texas," said Debbie Hastings, Vice President of Environmental Affairs for the Texas Oil and Gas Association.

The range of the DSL is in parts of the Permian Basin, a region, which according the University of Texas Permian Basin Center for Energy and Economic Diversification, produces over 1 million barrels of oil a day — which is 68 percent of Texas' total production and 20 percent of the production of the lower 48 states. These assets are vital to the national economy and defense.

The Comptroller's office and stakeholders worked with the FWS regional office in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Stakeholders included the Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Oil and Gas Association, Texas Royalty Council, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, Texas Wildlife Association, Texas Association of Business, Texas A&M University, Texas Department of Agriculture, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Railroad Commission of Texas, University of Texas, University Lands, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Interagency Task Force on Economic Growth and Endangered Species.

For more information on the TCP and other recent research on the DSL please visit the Comptroller's website: http://texasahead.org/ texasfirst/species/watch/ dunes_sagebrush_lizard. php.

UIL denies Paint Rock realignment appeals

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Paint Rock High School's appeal to their football and basketball district assignments was denied last Monday, by the District Assignment Appeals Committee of the UIL, in Austin.

The Paint Rock Indians had requested that the school be moved from District 6-1A 6-man Division 1 to 8-1A 6-man Division 2 in football. On February 2 the realignment was released by UIL with the Paint Rock Indians sharing the division with Eden, Sterling City, Veribest and Water Valley.

The Indians proposed

district includes Blackwell, Lohn, Robert Lee and

Valera Panther Creek. In basketball the Paint Rock Indians will be in **District 14-1A Division** 2 along with Blackwell, Bronte, Garden City, Robert Lee, Sterling City, Veribest and Water Valley. The Indians proposal was District 29-1A Division 2 or 15-1A Division 2 in basketball. In the first one the realignment included Cherokee, Eden, Lohn, Menard, Richland Springs, and Rochelle, and in the last one the schools that will be playing during the 2012-2013 seasons are Brookesmith, Cross Plains, May, Rising Star,

Santa Anna, and Valera Panther Creek.

After hearing testimony from all interested parties, both appeals were denied by the District Assignment Appeals Committee.

The committee granted only one out of 12 appeals regarding reclassification and realignment.

The committee composed of UIL Legislative Council members heard eight appeals regarding district assignments, three appeals dealing with conference assignments and one appeal regarding division assignment. The basketball dis-

trict assignment appeal

granted by the Committee was to Brackettville Brackett High School, which will move from 27-1A Division 1 to 28-1A Division 1 in the basketball alignment. They will join Charlotte, La Pryor, Sabinal, San Antonio Gervin and San Antonio Stacey to form a 6-team district in basketball.

The Assignment Appeals Committee voted to deny appeals from: Lockhart, Barksdale Nueces Canyon, Shallowater, Ferris, Irving North Hills Prep, Paint Rock (football and basketball), McKinney, McKinney Boyd, Amarillo Tascosa and Pollok Central.

Top management practices raise trophy bass

STAFF REPORT

ATHENS- As many landowners have learned, you just don't stock a pond or lake with largemouth bass and automatically get trophy-size fish, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service expert.

Growing big fish takes top management, which can be learned at "Bass Tech: The Technology to Manage for Success," a statewide symposium set March 23-24 at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center-Conservation Center Building, 5550 Farm-to-Market Road 2495, Athens, said Dr. Billy Higginbotham, AgriLife Extension wildlife and fisheries specialist.

"Many of the small- to medium-size lakes and ponds have caught water," he said. "There are many ponds that are still below their normal pool levels, but certainly, throughout much of the state ponds have recovered to a great degree."

There are more than a million private impoundments in the state, many of which could be used for increased recreation through bass fishing with better management, Higginbotham said.

Session presentations and tours will include Basic Pond Ecology, Water Quality, Pond Fertilization, Do-It-Yourself Fish Population Assessment and Corrective Stockings, Better Bass Fishing Through Genetics, Trophy Bass Management, Identifying and Controlling Nuisance Wildlife, Aquatic Weed Identification and

Stretching grocery dollars and eating healthy too

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- Concern Didd' about the cost of a healthy diet being out of reach remains on the minds of many Americans as the nation continues to work through serious economic woes. However, according to an Agriculture Department study, the cost of eating healthy hasn't changed as much as some tess-healthy alternatives. Eating healthy food while on a budget does require strategic shopping.

Farm Bureau's Food Check-Out Week, February 19-25, 2012, focuses on helping Americans learn how to stretch their grocery dollars with healthy, nutritious food. America's farmers and ranchers are committed to producing safe, healthy, and abundant ucts; food. And they share a beam common concern with are a consumers when it healt comes to putting nutritious meals on the table son a while sticking to a tight buying

uctsalean meats, fish, beans, eggs, and nuts are an important part of a healthy diet. Buying fresh produce when it's in season and costs less, while buying frozen fruits and vegetables when they're not in season, is a smart way to stretch that dollar," says Klattenhoff. Farm Bureau has developed Food Check-Out Week educational materials dedicated to helping consumers make healthier food purchases. Information on several topics including "Tips for Better Nutrition on a Tight Budget," "How Much Should I Eat?," "Understanding Food Labels" and" Understanding What MyPyramid Means" is available. Additionally, the Runnels County Farm Bureau will make a donation to each of the food banks in the county, recognizing the need everyone has to find solutions to feeding families healthful foods on a tight budget. Now in its 14th year, Food Check-Out Week also highlights America's safe, abundant and affordable food supply, made possible largely by America's productive farmers and ranchers.





The Accounting Office of Todd Jeffrey, Freeman, CPA



www.tsnradio.cor

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budget.

The good news is that a recent USDA report favorably supports the economics of healthier eating. Recent food price data show that prices for unprepared, readily available fresh fruits and vegetables have remained stable relative to dessert and snack foods, such as chips, ice cream, and cola. Therefore, as defined by foods in the study, the price of a "healthier" diet has not changed compared to an "unhealthy" diet.

Farm Bureau's Food Check-Out Week is aimed at helping American consumers learn how to shop strategically to put nutritious meals on the table with fewer dollars. "Learning to use your grocery dollars wisely helps ensure that nutrition isn't neglected," according to Collin Klattenhoff, president of Runnels County Farm Bureau.

"Fruits and vegetables — along with whole grains, low-fat dairy prodControl, Feeding, Seining and Electrofishing Demonstration, and Aging Largemouth Bass Using Otoliths.

"An otolith is a bony structure that lays down annual rings so it can be used to determine the age of a fish," Higginbotham said. "The workshop will demonstrate how to remove and use otoliths to determine the age of a fish. This age determination is useful in estimating growth rates and reproductive success by year."

Instructors include wildlife and fisheries experts with AgriLife Extension, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and American Sport Fish Hatchery, a southeastern U.S. stocking and pond maintenance service.

The symposium has been held before, the last time in 2008, Higginbotham said.

"The main difference this year is that we've trimmed some topics based on participant evaluations," he said. "We have an optional tour of the hatchery at the center the day before, but the one-day program means participants won't have to go to the expense and trouble of spending the night if they don't want to."

trouble of spending the night if they don't want to." Registration for the training is \$70 by March 16, \$100 thereafter. Participants may register online at http://agriliferegister.tamu.edu and enter the keyword "bass" or by calling 979-845-2604. Registration will be from 7-8 a.m. on March 24. Presentations, tours and exhibits will conclude at 5 p.m. A catered lunch and break refreshments will be included in the registration fee.

For more information or to register by regular mail and check, contact Higginbotham at (903) 834-6191 or b-higginbotham@tamu.edu or Dr. Michael Masser, AgriLife Extension fisheries specialist, College Station at 979-845-7370 or m-masser@tamu.edu.

Veteran's Corner

The Texas Veterans Commission announced the release of the newest Veterans Cash lottery scratch-off game. The new scratch-off ticket, titled "Honoring All Who Served," pictures soldiers from all eras silhouetted against a setting sun. Created by the 81st Texas Legislature, proceeds from the Veterans Cash lottery game provide a critical revenue stream for the Fund for Veterans' Assistance, which is used to fund services that include transportation to medical facilities, counseling for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), housing assistance, short-term emergency financial needs, Veteran courts, legal assistance and career training. For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave or call (325) 365-3612.

Sandra G. Van Zant Veterans County Service Officer P.O. Box 108 Ballinger, TX 76821 Phone: (325) 365-3612

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WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

SAN ANGELO- On Thursday, Feb. 23, the Comptroller's office will offer a free taxpayer seminar in San Angelo from 6 to 8 p.m. The seminar will take place at the ASU Small Business Development Center, Rassman Building, Room 100, located at 2222 Dena Drive.

Taxpayers can learn how to properly fill out sales tax forms, file and pay taxes electronically and more about e-services to help taxpayers manage their accounts online. Comptroller representatives will be available to answer questions and provide assistance to attendees. Thursday, February 23, 2012

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particularly de- Antonio Losoys SECOND

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