

Volume 22, Issue 19

Thursday, March 1, 2012

Winters, Texas 75



Riley Ripley jumps to take a shot a the Area playon game the Winters Blizzards held against Munday.

Blizzards great season

Remodeling brings savings, enhancement to City Hall

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- The remodeling of the second story of the Winters City Hall will represent savings for the City of Winters and the Police Department in expenses for Police officers, and provides an adequate facility to hold training seminars and conferences. The second story of the building located on Main Street is now ready after several months of remodeling by the Winters Police Department. Chief of Police Nathan John-

Chief of Police Nathan Johnson toured last Monday, February 27 the council members through the facility that had not been used for many years. The tour was held after the City Council meeting celebrated downstairs.

The second story of the City Hall was once used as the Council chambers, but changes in the disability regulations and the high cost of getting an elevator installed turned that part of the building for many years into a warehouse.

Yet without the elevator the building now has a bedroom, restrooms, a conference room, kitchen and everything needed to provide housing to one Police officer. The facility is also equipped with plenty of tables, and video and audio equipment to hold seminars or conferences.



Council member Rick Dry, Mayor Lewis Bergman, City Attorney Ken Slimp and Alderman Chris Bahlman.

The Winters Council members toured the building as the closing of the February monthly meeting held last Monday.

Other agenda items in the meeting included the final pay request for Maguire Iron for the USDA-Rural Development funded water tank improvements project. City auditor Ricky Bowman presented his fiscal year 2010-2011 audit report, which was accepted by the City Council unanimously.

Aldermen present at the meeting also approved the fire fighting contract and agreement with Runnels County, the new WTU Energy rates, and passed a resolution upon request of Atmos Energy to suspend proposed effective date of the proposed rate schedules in order to start with the new rate process.

The Winters City Council passed a resolution updating the fee schedule for City services and rejected a project to accept debit/credit cards for utility bills and Municipal Court payments. According to the analysis presented by Mayor Lewis Bergman the cost of this service would be adding to the City budget the debit/ credit card processing fees.

Mayor Lewis Bergman and Council members Rene Woffenden, Rick Dry and Chris Bahlman were present at the Council meeting.

USDA announces highly erodible cropland initiative

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

WASHINGTON- Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced a new conservation initiative to protect up to 750,000 acres of the nation's most highly erodible croplands. Vilsack made the announcement via video to attendees of the National Pheasant Fest and Quail Classic, held Feb. 17-19 in Kansas City, Mo. The new initiative will assist producers with targeting their most highly erodible cropland (land with an erodibility index of 20 or greater) by enabling them to plant wildlife-friendly, long-term cover through the **Conservation Reserve Program** (CRP).

Service Agency (FSA) county office. With the use of soil survey and geographic information system data, local FSA staff can quickly determine a producer's eligibility for the initiative.

"As we work towards President Obama's vision for an economy that is built to last, growth. I urge landowners who have highly erodible land to visit their county office to learn more about this program."

Lands eligible for this program are typically the least productive land on the farm. In many cases the most cost-effective option to reduce erosion is to put the land into a wildlife friendly cover, which will improve habitat and reduce sediment and nutrient runoff and reduce wind erosion. For 25 years, CRP has improved water and air quality, preserved habitat for wildlife, and prevented soil erosion. Programs such as CRP are important conservation safeguards. They prevent the return of the dust storms of the 1930s and the ravages of unmitigated gully erosions of our past.

comes to an end

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- The Winters Blizzards finished last Friday, February 27 a great basketball season in the Area round of the playoffs. The Blizzards were defeated by Munday by a score of 65-48. However the Blizzards end the 2011-2012 season as Bi-District champions and with a long list of awards, nominations and accolades. Among these recognitions are the nominations of Senior Riley Ripley as the Most Valuable Player, and Senior Andy Garcia as the Defensive Most Valuable Player. Ripley and Senior Cristian Sandoval were also named to the first team All-District.

Hayden Nitsch, another Senior, was included in the All-District second team. Those receiving honorable mention are Senior Matt Pritchard, Senior Nik Kraatz and Junior Bryce Mikeska.

Producers can enroll land on a continuous basis beginning this summer at their local Farm America's natural resources must play an important role. Lands in CRP help support strong incomes for our farmers and ranchers and are the source of good middle class jobs related to outdoor recreation, hunting, and fishing," said Vilsack. "This announcement will strengthen CRP by focusing on protecting the most environmentally sensitive land. It targets limited resources where they can make the most difference for farmers, ranchers and to drive economic

Courthouse possibly having a 'facelift'



PHOTO: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ

The Runnels County Commissioners Court is evaluating a project to remodel/repair some aging effects in the Courthouse building. Last Tuesday, during the regular Commissioners Court the commissioners took a tour around the building to discuss about possible actions. Here County Judge Barry Hilliard watches the mason check the mortar in the building.

District litigation puts voter cards on hold

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- Voters in Runnels County will not be receiving their voter cards until the election dates in Texas are settled. Robin Burgess, Runnels County Tax Assessor/Collector, said that there are roughly 7,000 voter cards in the county that need to be mailed, and that represents a considerable amount of funds just for the mailing.

"Voter cards will not be mailed until the elections dates are settled," said Burgess.

As a result of on-going redistricting litigation, the mailing of new voter registration certificates is delayed in the county and all over the state. All previously-issued voter registration certificates expired on December 31, 2011, but only the cards expired, voter registrations remain valid, according to the Texas Secretary of State's office. Voters, who are currently registered, but do not have any changes to their voter registration do not need to take any action, their cards will be automatically renewed.

Voters who remain in their county of registration but have changed residence address or name, will need to submit their updated information to their county voter registrar.

For those voters who changed their county of residence, they will need to submit a new voter registration application no later than the 30th day before Election Day.

"Once the court approves interim redistricting maps and counties have the opportunity to finalize precinct lines, the county will issue new voter registration certificates."

For information on how to register to vote or to determine if you are already registered, please visit www.votetexas.gov.

For more information about the Texas voters' online voter registration and election information resource visit the website is VoteTexas.gov

There voters will find all of the information they need to register to vote and how to cast their ballot during early voting or on Election Day.



2 Winters Enterprise

FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES

Harold Poe

Harold Dean "Butch" Poe, 77, of Winters, died February 21, 2012. Butch was born February 26, 1934 to Fred C. and Rebecca Poe on the family farm west of Winters. He graduated from Winters High School. He married Nelda Smith in January 1955 in Winters. He was a farmer and a rancher and he was a Methodist.

He is survived by his wife: Nelda Poe of Winters, two children Pamela Bell of San Angelo and Fred Poe and wife Amanda of Winters; brother Fredrick Poe of Midland, and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Carey Poe.

Graveside services were held Thursday, February 23, 2012 at Lakeview Cemetery with Rev. Jayme Palady of-ficiating directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise, March 01, 2012

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

webpage at MyRunnelsCounty.com

Trophy bass management symposium to be held on March 24

WINTERS ENTEPRISE

ATHENS- Private bass pond managers will get a behind-the scenes look at how Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) inland fisheries biologists monitor fish populations and care for trophy bass at a statewide symposium set for March 23-24, 2012, at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) in Athens.

"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," said Dr. Billy Higginbotham, Texas AgriLife Extension wildlife and fisheries specialist. "As many landowners have learned, you just don't stock a pond or lake with largemouth bass and automatically get trophysize fish."

Growing big fish takes top management, which can be learned at "Bass Tech: The Technology to Manage for Success." Participants may register online at http://agriliferegister.tamu.edu (enter the keyword "bass") or by

calling (979) 845-2604. There is a fee for attendance. In addition to session presentations, attendees will be able to observe a TPWD fisheries management crew electrofish on Lake Athens and demonstrate how to obtain and record data necessary for managing a bass population.

Also included will be a behind-the-scenes tour of the Toyota ShareLunker holding facility at TFFC. The "Lunker Bunker" is where bass weighing 13 pounds or more are cared for and spawned as part of a selective breeding program. This tour will take place from 3-5 p.m. March 23.

Session presentations March 24 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 Control, and Aging Largemouth Bass Using Otoliths.

Instructors include wildlife and fisheries experts with AgriLife Extension, TPWD and American Sport Fish Hatchery, a southeastern U.S. stocking and pond maintenance service. A similar symposium was held in 2008. "The main difference this year is that we've trimmed some topics based on participant evaluations," Higginbotham said. "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.' Registration will be from 7-8 a.m. on March 24. The symposium will conclude at 5 p.m. A catered lunch and break refreshments are included in the registration fee.

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 Thurs-day, 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, three-person 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, two-person 18 holes shots.

Carts are limited so sigh up early if need carts. Bronte Longhorn Golf Club (325) 473-2156.

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.

Spring Craft Show in Kingsland The Spring Craft Show at Kingsland House of Arts and Crafts, 112 W. Chamberlain St., Kingsland, Texas, will be held on Saturday, April 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 8 from 11a.m. to 4 p.m. Food, music, crafts, children's activities will be available. Interested Vendors can contact Elsi at (512) 755-1322 or website www.kingslandcrafts.com

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 April 10, 2012 UIL Students will be the program at the Winters ISD.

NEWS NOTES

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 T-shirts. 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.ballingernoon-lions.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" 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.

Study links principal behavior and student achievements

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

COLLEGE STATION- A Texas A&M University study focused on de-veloping the leadership skills of principals has identified positive changes in principal behaviors that research links to student achievement. **Conventional** wisdom is that an effective school leader sets the tone for high academic expectations, works with teachers to make changes that impact classroom instruction and still finds time to put the 'pal' in principal, interacting with students, teachers and community members to develop positive relationships. Roger Goddard, principal investigator and director of the Education Leadership Research Center at Texas A&M, and a team of researchers from Texas A&M and the University of Michigan are working to assess the efficacy of the Balanced Leadership Program. This profession-

al development program, created by Mid-Continent **Research for Education** and Learning (McREL), provides principals with intensive guidance that addresses three key challenges of school leadership: improving school culture and climate, man

improve learning in their schools," Goddard says. "The program provides them with the tools for change but lets them decide how to actually use these tools in their own schools."

After receiving just 50 percent of the training, principals in the treatment group were reporting positive effects. Of note, principals receiving the training reported higher levels of knowledge and involvement in their school's curriculum, instruction and assessment programs, higher levels of efficacy and a greater likelihood to create a positive school climate. Furthermore, turnover rates in control schools were five times higher than in the group experiencing the program (10 principal departures vs. two). Although preliminary, researchers concluded the Balanced Leadership Program has the potential to create long-term changes in principals' job performance, school climate, teacher practice and student learning. 'Changes in educator behavior are often hard to produce," Goddard says. "Many recent scientific studies have found limited or no effects on student

achievement, largely because educator practices have remained unchanged. Not surprisingly, experts have questioned the value of leadership development programs. These findings are striking because they suggest important leadership behaviors linked to higher levels of student achievement can be improved through targeted leadership development." As the study continues, researchers will examine the link between the program and teacher reports of principal leadership, school climate and student achievement. Goddard would eventually like to take the study to a national trial, with schools in the study being more representative of the U.S. "Our evaluation shows the Balanced Leadership Program positively impacts principals' learning of leadership practices that are linked to student achievement," says Goddard. "We know that as lifelong learners, these principals can benefit from further development, and in the end, we all want to help schools and the students they serve.' Goddard and his team are funded by a U.S. Department of Education grant.

In addition, each registrant will receive a CD of the proceedings, speaker notes and a copy of Higginbotham's "Wildlife and Fish Management Calendar.'

Texas Department of Agriculture private pesticide applicator license holders can earn one continuing education unit in integrated pest management.

TFFC is four miles east of Athens and 75 miles southeast of Dallas. More information on the center can be found at http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/. For more information on the symposium, 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, at (979) 845-7370 or m-masser@tamu.edu.

COME

IN

FOR

aging change, and focusing efforts on improving

student learning. Participants in the study include 78 elementary school principals from northern Michigan broken into two groups. Half the schools in the study participated in the two-year Balanced Leadership Program, which consists of 10, two-day professional development sessions. The other half are part of the control group and only use current professional development practices already in place in the schools.

"The Balanced Leadership Program is designed to teach these principals about the research and prepare them to use it to make changes that

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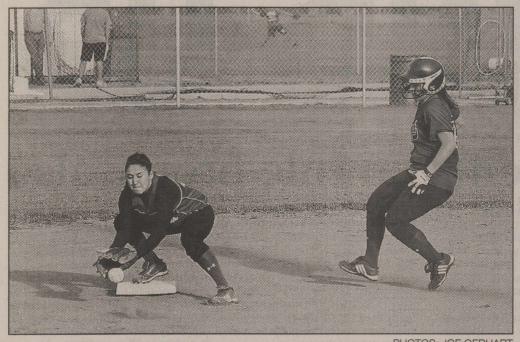
7771 East Highway 153 - Winters, TX 76567 (325) 754-1317 **Clinic Hours: Monday-Friday** 8 am - 12 noon & 1:30 - 5 pm All Age Groups Accepted Medicare, Medicaid and CHIPS Accepted **Texas Health Steps & Immunizations** Most major medical insurance Please call (325) 754-1317 for an appointment

Dr. Sarah Endicott, M.D. • Dr. Mark McKinnon, M.D. Judy Zuspann, PA-C



Thursday, March 1, 2012

Winters Enterprise **3**



Sara Perez catches ball at second base to put out the Water Valley runner.

PHOTOS: JOE GERHART

It's play ball time!

on Saturday. February 25.

WINTERS BLIZZARDS ATHLETIC REPORT BY STEPHEN HERMESMEYER

Varsity Boys Basketball Coach: Scott Bicknell Date: 2/24/12 AREA CHAMPIONSHIP GAME 15 11 48 Winters 15 Munday 16 21 15 11 65 Winters: Riley Ripley 23, Strait Daniel 12, Hayden Nitsch 9, Andy Garcia 5, Cristian Sandoval 1 Munday: Collier 12

ALL-DISTRICT SELECTIONS MVP - SR., Riley Ripley - Winters Offensive MVP - JR., Taylor Stephens - Goldthwaite Defensive MVP - SR., Andy Garcia - Winters New Comer - Soph., Mitchell Lane - Christoval

FIRST TEAM ALL-DISTRICT SR., Strait Daniel - Winters SR., Cristian Sandoval - Winters SR., Micheal O`Bryan - Christoval SR., Joshua Meyers - Miles SR., Tyler Horton - Goldthwaite SR., Miguel Castorena - Goldthwaite

Texas Girls Coaches Association Softball Poll, Feb. 21

19. Boyd

20t. Early

Class 3A

1. Celina

3. West 4. Sweeny

7. Robinson

11. Midland

Greenwood

19. Yoakum

20t. Lindale

20t. Sanger

1. Santa Fe

3. Dripping

Birdville

Hallsville

9. Barbers Hill

10. Whitehouse

11. Port Lavaca

CEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

COWPOKES

8. Royse City

6. Burleson

Class 4A

2. Forney

Springs

Lamar

son

Rusk

per

Class 1A 1. Shiner 2. Grapeland 3. Albany . Lindsay 5. Petrolia 6. Itasca 7. Mart 8. Sam Rayburn 9. Charlotte 10. Beckville 11. Chico 12. Ralls 13. Blue Ridge 14. Moody 15. McLeod

18. Colorado City Calhoun 12. New Braunfels 20t. Coahoma Canyon 13. Montgomery 14. Red Oak 15. Corpus Christi Moody 16. Brenham 17. Elgin_i 18. Little Cypress . Huntington Lucas Lovejoy Mauriceville 19. Frisco Wake-6. Lubbock Cooland 20t. Fort Bend 8. Henderson **Ridge Point** 20t. Manvel 10. Pilot Point Class 5A 1. The Woodlands 12. Burkburnett Plano 13. Mineral Wells 3. San Antonio 14. Paris North O'Connor Tomball 15. North Forney Keller 16. Lufkin Hud-6. Alvin San Benito 17. Pleasanton 18. Van . Dobie 9. Plano East 10. Houston Bellaire 11. Deer Park 12. Round Rock 13. Mansfield Legacy 14. El Paso Hanks 15. Round Rock **Stony Point** 16. Plano West 4. Waco Midway 17. Lubbock Coronado 18. San Antonio Southwest

Marcus

C ACE REA

e trying to decide whose gonna drive and whose gonna open the gates

SECOND TEAM ALL-DISTRICT

SR., Hayden Nitsch - Winters JR., Dale Cumingham - Christoval SR., Ray Fay - TLCA JR., Dawson Halfmann - Miles Soph., Trey Mayberry - TLCA Soph., Travis Fischer - Miles

HONORABLE MENTION SR., Matt Pritchard - Winters SR., Nik Kraatz - Winters JR., Bryce Mikeska - Winters

Fourth Six Weeks

FIRST GRADE

Jesenia Corral

Abanea Cortez

Roman Sandoval

"A-B" Honor Roll

Courtney Chausse

James Galvan

Kolton Briley

Kira Collins

Raven Collins

Shelby Gardner

Brianna Griggs

Anthony Llana

"A" Honor Roll

Softball (Coad	ch A	irhar	't):					
Inning	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Final
Grape Creek	0	1	3	0	1	4	6	15
Winters	0	1	2	0	12	3		19
Pitcher: Ashle	ey G	uy						
· Catcher: Sabr	ina I	Esqu	ivel					

Lady Blizzard JV	vs. Gr	ape C	reek La	dy Eagle JV
Inning	1	2	3	Final
Grape Creek JV	0	1	2	3
Winters JV	5	5	-	10
Pitcher: Alanna C	ooper			
Catcher: Courtne	y Wyat	tt		

Strait Daniel tags out the runner in second at the game the Blizzards held against Baird,

Lady Blizzard	Varsity	vs. Colora	ado City	
Sweetwater To	urnam	ent		and the second s
February 24, 2	012			
Pool Play - 75	minute	game		
Inning	1	2	3	Final
Winters	1	0	0	nes 1 prim
Colorado City	9	0	1	10
Pitcher: Ashley	Guy, A	Alanna Coo	oper, Victor	ria Sanchez
Catcher: Sabrii	na Esqu	uivel	Ta sedmant	

Lady Blizzar					
Sweetwater '	Tourname	ent			
February 24	, 2012				
Pool Play - 7	5 minute	game			
Inning	1	2	3	4	Final
Winters	0	0	1	2	3
Post	7	5	1	0	13
Pitcher: Ash	ley Guy, S	abrina (Dswalt, A	lanna C	ooper
Cather: Sabr					

McKenzie Ventress THIRD GRADE Seth Gerhart **Evelyn** King Natalie Lara Megan Tarr Avery Wheat

Armando Esquivel

Isabelle McMahan McKenzie McWhorta Shiyann Reyna Miguel Rodriguez Miranda Rodriguez Hailye Santoya Majalca Makayla Speir Nevaeh Tamez Mollie Weaver FIFTH GRADE

'A-B" Honor Roll Caleb Cates Christopher Correa Emily Espino Priscila Espino

SECOND GRADE "A" Honor Roll Chaney Bahlman McCaelynn Beuschel Jon Busher Tori Campos

Charles Childress Rider Duggan Connor Garcia James Killough Dayvin Oats

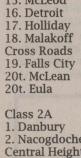
"A-B" Honor Roll Simon Camacho **Cordell** Cary Kent Cates Destiny Ch

"A" Honor Roll Kristina Correa Joseph Escalona Marc Sanchez Zachary Wheat

> "A-B" Honor Roll Skyla Camacho

Arazeli Reyes John Jo Rodriguez Logan Schneider FOURTH GRADE "A" Honor Roll **Alexis Briley** Karlee Busher Tara Campos

Hunter Duggan Esmeralda Gallegos Cody Johnson Domynic Lujano **Rico Sanchez** Karin Soto "A-B" Honor Roll Mason Abernathie Peyton Anderson Treyson Brown Christopher Craig Felipe Erazo Keagen Esquivel Sonnie Hagle **MacGuire Hooper** Graciela Jimenez Skylar Lee Briana Luera Adrian Marrero **Tiffany Martinez**



2. Nacogdoches Central Heights 3. Wall 4. East Bernard 5. Refugio 6. Santa Gertrudis Academy 7. Wichita Falls **City View** 8. Alpine 9. Mineola 10. Poth 11. Crawford 12. Tom Bean 13. Edna 14. Brock 15. Grandview 16. Rogers 17. Mildred

Serenity Luera Andrew Moreno Bravdon Ortiz **Kaydee Palady** Felix Reyna Krisol Reyna Jazelyn Rodriguez Nicholas Rodriguez **Chelsea Sanders** James Speir Wyatt Staggs Nicholas Trevino **James Winchester**

Cannon Collins Anastasia Delacruz Hayden Forder Monica Garcia **Trent Hamilton** Damian Hubach Michael Luna **Chase Morton** Myra Ochoa Chantel Reyna Alyssara Rodriguez Emmett Rodriguez **Giselle Rodriguez**

Kaitlyn Fuentes Hayden Galvan Brvce Hermesmever Juan Hernandez **Cecille Hunter** Jacob Matt Querstin Lara Gloria Llanas-Saldana Mara Mostad **Dayton** Nava Madison Poe Hailey Renfro

Audie Goodwin Abigail Killough Gage Mc Fadin Jayden Palady **Patrick Reyes** Celeste Sanchdz Jenessa Wade Clara Heaven Willborne



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Runnels County

TAHC accepting comments on rule proposals

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN- The Texas Animal Health Commission is currently accepting public comments on rule proposals that were au-thorized during the January 24 Commission meeting.

The Commission proposed amendments to Chapter 51, entitled "Entry Requirements." The purpose of the proposed amend-ments are to make Texas' entry requirements more consistent with current national interstate movement standards.

The Commission is specifically amending Section 51.3 entitled "Exceptions,", to clarify and

modify interstate entry requirements for sheep, goats and swine. The first amendment will waive the prior requirement for an entry permit and certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) for swine consigned directly to slaughter, or consigned to a specifically approved livestock mar-ket from their farm of origin.

The proposed changes to Section 51.3 would also no longer require an entry permit for sheep and goats consigned from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) sanctioned "Consistent States," which means they have an active scrapie surveillance and control program.

The Commission is also removing a requirement related to Vesicular stomatitis (VS) in Section 51.7. Currently, when VS has been diagnosed in another state, the veterinarian issuing the CVI must write on it that any equine, bovine, porcine, caprine, ovine, or cervidae entering Texas from that state have not been exposed to the disease. The Texas requirement prohibiting entry of certain livestock from a premises or area under quarantine for vesicular stomatitis will be left in place to protect Texas livestock.

In Section 51.14, the Commission is removing the requirement that swine imported into

A REAL PROPERTY AND INCOME.

Texas for feeding, breeding, or exhibition purposes must be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection certifying that swine have not been exposed to hog cholera, which is now called Classical Swine Fever (CSF.) CSF has been eradicated from the United States for several years so this requirement is no longer necessary.

The previous rule proposals have a comment period of 30 days. They may be commented on until 5 p.m. on March 18, 2012. A detailed description of the proposed rules can be found on the TAHC web site at http:// www.tahc.state.tx.us under Rule

Proposals. The Commission also proposed amendments to Chapter 35, entitled "Brucellosis.' The Commission is proposing to remove the Brucellosis test requirement for change of ownership of adult sexually intact cattle, and to add a requirement that cattle be permanently and officially identified when there is a change of ownership.

Thursday, March 1, 2012

Comments on the proposed regulations must be submitted to Carol Pivonka, Texas Animal Health Commission, 2105 Kramer Lane, Austin, Texas 78758, by fax at (512) 719-0721 or by e-mail to comments@tahc. state tx us

Spaghetti dinner, a huge success

Rhonda Legg and Monica Minzenmayer co-chaired the committee in charge of planning the annual Spaghetti Dinner/Bake Sale/Prize Drawings sponsored by the Rowena Catholic Daughters on Sunday, February 26. A good number of diners enjoyed the spaghetti dinner and bake sale and participated in the drawings for 37 prizes donated by the CDA members. The group is grateful for all those who came and are looking forward to next year's event.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

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Cowboys linebacker, an inspiration for kids

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

DALLAS- Cowboys linebacker Sean Lee was a featured speaker at the recent Texas AgriLife Extension Service and Fuel Up to Play 60 Partnership kickoff, which took place recently at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center, in Dallas. Fuel Up to Play 60 is an in-school nutrition and

physical activity program launched by the National Dairy Council, Dairy MAX

and the National Football League, in collaboration with U.S. Department of Agriculture. It encourages young people to consume nutrient-rich foods, including low-fat and fat-free dairy foods, fruits, vegetables and whole grains, and to get at least 60 minutes of daily physical activity.

"Fuel Up to Play 60 is a great initiative to get kids interested in exercise and nutrition," said Lee, who has been a program spokesman and supporter since 2010. "If you get kids interested in a healthy lifestyle, it will help them in whatever career or endeavor that may have by making them feel better, have more energy and have better concentration.

The kickoff. which included speakers' presentations, a press conference, an exercise warm-up with more than 30 area 4-H club members and a 5K walk/ run led by Lee, officially welcomed AgriLife Extension to the program. It also introduced AgriLife Extension's plans to support and promote Fuel

Up to Play 60 statewide,

multi-county East Region,

which includes Dallas and

beginning with their

Tarrant counties.

Veteran's Corner

"My HealtheVet" is the Veterans online gateway to managing your health. Registered users can safely collect data from VA hospital records, data from your service days, view appointments, check lab results, review details about your allergies and vaccinations, see vitals and readings, refill prescriptions, and exchange messages with doctors, nurses and all members of their health care team. Sign up at va.gov today. For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave or call 365-3612.

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West Central customers, can receive a special "Double-Dog Dare Ya' Data Speed Challenge" t-shirt, or a donation can be made in your name to the Humane Society. Plus, you can check out the speedy Samsung Nexus S smartphone available for only \$99.

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Thursday, March 1, 2012



Winters Enterprise

Thursday, March 1, 2012

Winter rains bring good spring wildflower show

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN- Timely rains last fall and this winter have benefited early spring wildflowers, which will likely put on a good show in much of Texas despite last year's drought, according to the senior botanist at The University of Texas at Austin's Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

"The seeds left behind by annual wildflowers such as bluebonnets don't care if it's the worst drought in recorded history, as long as they get bouts of rain at the right time for germination and growth," said Damon Waitt, who also is the center's senior director.

The bumper crop of wildflowers in 2010 also helped add to the seed stockpile in Texas soils that can be revived by recent rains. Rain showers should provide decent viewings in regions of North, Central and East Texas. However, it is possible that the Panhandle, South and West

Texas won't fare as well. Among the early sightings of wildflowers this year are: Carolina jessamine blooming in North Houston along FM 1960, and along Woodlands Parkway between Interstate 45 and Kuykendahl Road; hundreds of trout lilies blooming in Dogwood Canyon and elsewhere around Dallas; Texas mountain laurel trees

blooming in Dripping Springs and Austin; and patches of stiff greenthread spotted in north San Antonio, such as along U.S. 281 above North Loop 1604.

Complementing these sightings will be a bumper crop of Texas bluebonnets and other wildflowers at the Wildflower Center and sites such as Brenham and the Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Gardens in Houston. Bluebonnet rosettes the size of dinner plates are hugging the ground at the Wildflower Center, and Texas mountain laurel, windflower, plains fleabane and Mexican plum trees are already blooming.

Other early spring bloomers will include Indian paintbrush,

THE IDLE AMERICAN

Lin's world of words...

winecup and Indian blanket. Center staffers will mark peaceful spots for taking bluebonnet photos. And a sneak peak of bluebonnets growing on site is available online via live broadcast.

Regions that missed pre-season rains may still have droughttolerant wildflowers that bloom. For instance, Fendler's bladderpod may become noticeable soon near Amarillo. A Wildflower Center plant conservationist has also seen a few Big Bend bluebonnets and yucca prepping to open blooms in the national park. The outlook may not be great for many tree species, such as Mexican plum and Texas redbud in Central Texas, though.

lutes, maybe Lin could

become the "LINchpin" to

secure our moorings of

truth, fairness, honor, in-

tegrity and a host of other

words long viewed as the

glue holding square deals

Such squaring won't

essentially making such

Maybe that's why so

many running in circular

motions think themselves

Lin's play on the court

— and play on words —

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'catch phrases" that usu-

ally run at a gallop for a

season or two. Yes, the

nouncers and athletes.

reference is to sports an-

We still hear too many you knows," and we've

heard enough "at the end

pression that is suffering

literary fatigue. ("Are you

of the day," another ex-

kidding me?" by sports

ed too many corners,

'deals" circular.

to be big wheels

come easily. We've round-

together.

"Trees had such a tough year in 2011. They may not have the energy resources to put on a significant flowering display this year," Waitt said, adding that perennial wildflowers may share that predicament.

For public sightings, visit the Wild About Texas Wildflowers website, contact the Texas **Department of Transportation** (TxDOT) at 1-800-452-9292, or view TxDOT's online flora map.

To learn more about wildflowers nationally, search the Wildflower Center's Native Plant Information Network. To purchase seeds to sow of mid- to late bloomers or potted native plants, visit the suppliers directory.

Commetary by Dr. Don Newbury

It's enough to make a grown man — or woman cry. And it could induce "sniffle-like symptoms" for discerning teen-agers, albeit the latter a shrinking group.

With an "America, love it or leave it" sentiment strong in the land, we yearn for newcomers to learn English. It's a worthy goal. Trouble is, we natives are having a hard time keeping up with it ourselves, what with new words introduced at a record clip and old words cast aside like old tires in a wrecking yard.

And "talking heads" on newscasts — as well as "mikeside" announcers at sporting events — aren't helping. They often butcher the language, slaughtering both grammar and pronunciation.

English teachers are tossing their pencils -

particularly retired ones who hoped and prayed that students whose papers they reddened with corrections would turn out better....

Paces hasten as life is compressed. "Once over lightly" is now a daily practice that blankets our waking hours. Abbreviations are given "thumbs up" for both the written and spoken word.

We welcome shortcuts. Postures for prayer became "Tebowing" Newbury

star Jeremy Lin has sparked such national interest that a new vocabulary is emerging. It applies specifically to him and his growing legion of fans

copyrighting the word

"Lin-sanity," for goodness sakes, and in the rapidlywhirling literary world of Lin, "L's" now precede dozens of words that formerly began with "in."...

> We're now "Lin-formed," and visitors in his home need first to be "Lin-vited.' He clearly is "Lindustrious," and he "Lin-vokes" the sort of verbiage that Christians are hungry to hear. When's the last time you heard a superstar quoting Corinthians? (It's good to know Harvard — moored by Puritans, then Baptists, in its early

years nearly 400 years ago – has at least one graduate acknowledging the scriptures.) Lin's boldness, bright-

ness and character are

sports stars. Can he be as genuine as he seems? So far, so good.

Millions line up (dare we say "LINear?") to pull for him. Oh, that he might "Lin-spire" our youth, always be "Lin-sational" and never be "Lin-visible."...

With luck and continued commitment, this Harvard graduate could change the way we view sports stars. (Wasn't it the Dal-las Cowboys' Hollywood Henderson who said Pittsburgh quarterback Terry Bradshaw couldn't spell "cat" if you spotted him the "c" and the "t?") Lin is extremely articulate, using words like "anomaly. If anyone can have fun

with all the new "Lin" words, he can.

"Googled" by gazillions, Lin stands taller than his height and seems wiser than his years. Refreshing. Remarkable....

Getting back to abso-

Texas State Parks a good choice to keep fit

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPOR

EDNA- TPWD invites everyone to take a look at Texas State Parks to help you achieve your fitness in an affordable "keep fit" setting.

Most Texas State Parks are available to the public seven days a week, year round and allow

CAFETERIA MENU

visitors to pursue physical fitness activities outdoors. This outdoor environment also provides a relaxing atmosphere for achieving wellness in body, mind, and spirit and an ability to soak up fresh air.

To take advantage of the many benefits of exercising outside, a Texas State

reporters is an expression long since "tuckered out.")

If Lin can succeed in "squaring things up," we may even hear "That's the way we roll" less often. Whatever, he's bound to give us plenty of "Lin-side" information, and, in some games, add "Lin-sult to Lin-jury." Millions of admirers hang on his every word and watch his every move. After all, we have "Lin-satiable" appetites for such a feel good story and will vote "yes" if they introduce "Lin-glish as a second language." And, if Lin's basketball magic turns to mush, he can grab his cello and head for the symphony. I don't know how many chairs they have for cellists, but he'd be in one of the first ones....

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Metroplex. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.

Park Pass is available and allows the pass-holder and guests in the same vehicle to enjoy unlimited visits to all state parks for an entire year.

For more information about fitness and wellness opportunities please contact Kelley Morris, (361) 782-5718, or email -kelley. morris@tpwd.state.tx.us.

Fish hatchery facing possible



COLUMNIST Don

seemingly overnight — and now, the emergence of NBA

He's in the process of

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

traits we dream of in **CUSTOMER NOTICE**

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 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.

The Perfect Gift for that special day, a subscription to The Winters Enterprise

March 5 - 9

WINTERS ISD BREAKFAST 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 WINTERS ISD LUNCH Note: Menus are subject to change vithout 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

BQ Rib/Bun or Chicken Fries w/ Gravy, Baked Beans, Corn, Tossec Salad/Carrot Sticks, Tosy Applesauce, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk. TUESDAY

Baked chicken or Spaghetti/Meat Sauce, Broccoli w/Cheese, Baked Potato, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks Rainbow Bar, Bread Stick, Choice of Milk

WEDNESDAY

Nachos or Chicken Fajita, Spanish Rice, Pinto Beans, Coleslaw or Letuce & Tomato, Tossed Salad/Carrol Sticks, Orange Wedges, Cornbread or Jalapeno Cheese, Choice of Milk THURSDAY

Chicken Fries w/Gravy or Ham/ Cheese Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Rosy Pears, Bread Pudding. Hot Roll, Choice of Milk FRIDAY

Cheese Burger or Fish, Oven Fries Italian Green Beans, Lettuce/Pickes, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Hot Roll, Peaches, Choice of Milk.

to you by **Bedford-Norman Insurance** Agency 111 W. Dale • Winters 754-4515 Time **George Mostad**

closure due to drought WINTERS ENTERPRISE

ATHENS- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) may temporarily close the Dundee Fish Hatchery near Wichita Falls during the upcoming production season due to a declining water supply.

"Although we have not officially made the decision to suspend operations at Dundee for 2012, it looks like we will not have water to operate this spring, and we do not plan to put any ponds into production unless conditions change within the next couple of weeks," said Todd Engeling, hatchery program director for TPWD. "Although we have had restrictions placed on our water use in the past due to drought conditions, as far as I know this is the first time that it has resulted in a temporary suspension in operations at any of our facilities.

Located in Archer County below Lake Diversion, the Dundee Fish Hatchery has 97 ponds and 84 total acres of water, representing 34 percent of the state's available freshwater fish production capacity. It is the state's primary producer of striped bass and hybrid striped bass. turning out 3 million to 4 million fingerlings annually.

Originally constructed in 1927 and renovated in 1994, Dundee receives its water supply under contract with the Wichita County Water Improvement District No. 2, which provides water primarily for irrigation and municipal use. The hatchery gets its water from Lake Diversion, which is a constant level reservoir fed by Lake Kemp.

Severe drought in that part of the state has left water levels in Lake Kemp very low, resulting in restricted water use," Engeling said. "Under the water district's drought plan, the hatchery is not allowed to divert water when water elevations in Lake Kemp reach 1125 feet above mean sea level. The water elevation in Kemp is currently 1126 and is expected to drop to 1125 early this spring when irrigation activity increases."

Pronghorn restoration and research seminar to be held at Sul Ross

WINTERS ENTERPRISE TAFF REPOR

ALPINE- The Borderlands Research Institute (BRI) of Sul Ross State University and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) will host a March 6 seminar to discuss current findings of the Pronghorn Restoration and **Research Project.**

The seminar will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 6 in the Espino Conference Center, Morgan University Center. Refreshments will be served and the public is invited.

The purpose of the project is to identify causative factors associated with declining herds and to restore pronghorn to their historic habitats in the Trans-Pecos. The seminar will provide an overview of the ongoing restoration efforts and an update of the research findings.

The Pronghorn Restoration and Research Project is a collaborative effort by the BRI, TPWD, Trans-Pecos Pronghorn Working Group, Texas landowners, and concerned citizens.

For more information, call (432) 837-8488 or (432) 837-2051