



Winters High School Athletic Director Adam Bright welcomed last week the new girls' Head Basketball Coach and Math teacher, Ryan Ochesky

DETAILS INSIDE



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The

Winters Enterprise

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Thursday, June 21, 2012

Winters, Texas 75c

County accepting applications for early voting by mail

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

BALLINGER- The County Clerk's Office is accepting applications for early voting by mail for the July 31, 2012 Democratic and Republican Primary runoff election. The election in Runnels County will define state and federal officials only. No local elections will be held in the July 31, 2012 runoff.

For the Republican Party Ted Cruz and David Dewhurst will be facing off for the U.S. Senator seat left by Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson, who is not looking for re-election.

Warren Chisum and Christi Craddick are running for Railroad Commissioner, while Barry Sitherman and Greg Parker are running for the unexpired Railroad Commissioner term.

The last Republican runoff on the July 31 ballot is the Justice of the Supreme Court, Place 4, between David Medina and John Devine.

The Democratic Party runoff will have only one election on the ballot. Paul Sadler and Grady Yarbrough face off for the opportunity to run against either Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst or Ted Cruz, in November. The ultimate November winner will succeed Kay Bailey Hutchinson, who has been a Senator since 1993.

To be eligible to vote by mail a voter must expect to be absent from the county of residency on election day and during the regular hours for early voting by personal appearance; requirements also include being disabled, being 65 years of age or older on election day; or to be confined in jail but eligible to vote.

The last day to receive an application to vote by mail is July 24, 2012.

Any qualified voter will be eligible for early voting by personal appearance at the County Clerk's office in Ballinger, beginning July 23 and ending July 27, 2012 from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

For further information or to request an application to vote early by mail, please contact the County Clerk's Office at 365-2720.

Winters businessmen, Mayor, apply for local option election

If approved, the petition to end local prohibition would be included in the ballot for the November general election

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- A local group in Winters has announced that will be submitting a petition to the Winters City Council, so that a local option election can be held in November, to open the city regulations to the legal sale of beer and liquor in stores and restaurants.

The group, denominated Winters Economic Coalition Political Action Committee is led by President and Winters City Mayor Lewis Bergman, as well as

PAC Secretary Jill Davis. Other business men and women in Winters are part of the committee and support the petition.

Mayor Bergman said that the petition has not been officially presented to the City Council, but it is expected to be presented soon, for the validation of the signatures required to include the item in the upcoming November election.

"It is my understanding that the sole duty of the City Council is to certify the validation of the signatures," Bergman said.

According to local citizens and historians the City of Winters has been considered "dry" forever.

The former attempt to open the alcohol city regulations in the city was made in 1985, but the initiative was rejected.

According to the Texas

Election Code, it is necessary to apply for a petition for a local option liquor election. Before the county clerk or elections administrator can issue a petition to gather signatures, the petitioners must first apply for the petition and provide proof of publication.

The Political Action Committee published the notice in the June 7, 2012 issue of the Winters Enterprise.

Sections 501.023, 501.024, and 501.025 of the Texas Election Code state that an application for a petition is made by written application by 10 or more qualified voters of the territory to be covered by the election.

The Election Code simply requires that the application be in writing and bear the signatures of 10 voters.

The additional information required on a petition (i.e., address, date of birth) is not necessary for an application.

After the application has been approved, the City Secretary will provide blank petition pages to the petitioners. The Secretary of State and the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission must be notified of when petitions to gather signatures have been issued.

Section 501.032 of the Election Code provides that the number of required signatures depends on the category of local option liquor election the petitioners are seeking.

The number of signatures required to be on a petition is equal to or greater than 25 percent of the registered voters in the political subdivision

who voted in the most recent general election, if the ballot issue involves voting for or against "The legal sale of wine on the premises of a holder of a winery permit."

The petition that will be submitted by the Winters Economic Coalition Political Action Committee includes the following issues according to the notice posted: 1) "the legal sale of beer and wine for off-premise consumption only; and 2) "the legal sale of mixed beverages in restaurants by food and beverage certificate holder only".

The number of signatures required is increased to 35 percent of the registered voters in the political subdivision who voted in the most recent gubernatorial election for an election on any other local option ballot issue.

Local residents to be featured on national TV

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- Winters residents, Richard and Starlyn Smelker, are Texas Representatives of Greyhound Protection League (GPL). GPL is a national organization that investigates and documents abuse cases, works for protective legislation and public information about Greyhound Racing dogs. Starlyn was recently invited to Dallas to be interviewed about Greyhound rescue and adoption by the nationally syndicated program "Wild About Animals" which is narrated by the Nationally acclaimed and Emmy winning actress, Mariette Hartley. The program segment will be centered around greyhound rescue and adoption by the Greyhound Adoption League of Texas (GALT). GALT is one of the largest Greyhound adoption agencies of its kind in Texas and the U.S.

"Wild About Animals" will be aired first in Texas on the FOX Network this coming November, when



Richard, Starlyn and Starlyn's mother, Verna Bachelder with their three Greyhounds, Ginny, Jesse and Benji.

it returns for the fall and winter programming season. Eventually the program will be nationally syndicated throughout the US, then in rerun and also shown on the Internet.

Richard, Starlyn and Starlyn's mother, Verna Bachelder, moved to Winters in 2009 to retire. Verna Bachelder was born and raised in Pear Valley, TX near Brady. They are "owned"

by three Greyhounds, Ginny, Jesse and Benji. Each of their Greyhounds has a moving background story and message. Smelker's recently lost their forth Greyhound, Mac, to bone

cancer. Starlyn says "Mac was a wonderful ambassador of his breed." "All who knew him were impressed by him and all of the Greyhounds he represented."

The Smelkers have been public speakers for many years to schools and organizations about the plight of the Racing Greyhound. They are members of the area's new REASON Animal Rescue, of which Starlyn is currently secretary. The Smelker's Greyhound, Jesse, was pictured as one of the first mascots on REASON's Animal Rescue area circulars. Jesse was found abandoned, starved and near death in Amarillo by Animal Control officers. Greyhound Adoption League of Texas received Jesse and nursed him back to health. Richard and Starlyn and Verna adopted him several months later. He is Verna's companion.

Starlyn has promised to let us all know when the "Wild About Animal" program will be aired this November.

Strait Daniel named in All-State baseball team

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- The Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association released last week the All-State nominations for the 2012 baseball season. Winters Blizzards starter and center fielder Strait Daniel was nominated second team outfielder.

Daniel played in a total of 31 games with 117 plate appearances and 102 at bats. Daniel had 19 base hits, 15 doubles, 6 triples and 1 home run for a total of 41 hits, he batted in 37 runs and scored 32. He finished the 2012 season with a batting average of .402.

The Senior player pitched in 19 games for a total of 292 outs. He finished the season with

an impressive 12-3 in wins and losses. Daniel had a season of 75 hits and 59 runs, only 35 of them are earned runs. He walked 54 opponents and struck out 113. Daniel finished the 2012 season with a 2.52 earned runs average.

The Blizzards had the best season in the baseball program history in Winters. They started winning their first playoff game ever and defeated in McCamey, Tahoka, Fort Hancock, and Seymour in consecutive series before falling to the Class 1A State runner up and three times in a row regional champion Stamford Bulldogs.

With a 23-8 record the Blizzards added four golden gloves to their trophy case.



Strait Daniel's great season with the Winters Blizzards was recognized by the Texas High School Baseball Association.

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ROLL-UP

Runnels County

Winters Enterprise

Thursday, June 21, 2012

HISTORICAL MARKERS AND THEIR HISTORIES IN RUNNELS CO

Mazeland and Wilmeth

CONTRIBUTED BY RUTH COOPER
RCHC CHAIRPERSON

WINTERS- Captain A. B. Hutchinson, a Civil War Veteran came to Runnels from Falls County in 1878 with his wife and two small daughters. They first settled at Walthall and moved to Runnels City in 1886. In 1892, Captain Hutchinson moved a house from Runnels City to a ranch he owned 12 miles west of Winters, Texas. East of the Hutchinson Ranch was a large tract of land known as the Turner Ranch. In 1903, Doose and Company had acquired the Turner Ranch and began cutting it into small tracts to sell to the farmers moving into the area. Some thought it was called Mazeland because it was good maize country. The Hutchinsons opened

a store on their place and established a post office in 1903 with Mrs. Hutchison as Postmistress. A school building was erected in 1904, with Miss Sammie Padgett serving as the first teacher. The school was called Mazeland and was located one mile west of Wilmeth and continued to be called Mazeland. By 1906, the settlement had spread north and east until the people on the east side needed a name. It was decided to name it Wilmeth in honor of Joe Wilmeth, a popular banker in Ballinger, known as "everybody's banker." Elgin Davidson was born November 19, 1879 in Russellville, Logan County, Kentucky, and moved with his parents and brother to Abbott, Texas at the age of 10 years. In 1897, he met

Ellen Campbell near Abbott, who had moved with her family from Tennessee, where she was born Feb. 7, 1880. They were married in Cordell, Oklahoma, December 28, 1901 and farmed near Abbott for four years. They moved to the community and lived on the same farm for almost 40 years. They then moved to Walnut Springs, Bosque County, in April of 1945, in interest of Mrs. Davidson's health. She died May 18, 1948, and is buried in the Wilmeth Cemetery. The cemetery is located on the farm they owned and lived on.

Mr. Davidson was a farmer, a Methodist, and held membership in various organizations. He served as deputy sheriff of Runnels County for six years under three sheriffs, Jim Flynt, John Perkins and Walter

Holt. He was also constable for a two-year term.

Most people like the idea of combining any history of Wilmeth and Mazeland, in fact they were so interwoven that the history of one is the history of the other.

The post office was established in 1903 in Mazeland with Mrs. Hutchison serving until March 26, 1907, then Richard Nash was appointed, and he served until May 31, 1909 when it was discontinued. It was located three miles southwest of Wilmeth. The Wilmeth post office was established April 1, 1907 and discontinued March 31, 1909 also. The only Postmistress was Mary L. Smith. People in the community were designated certain days to "carry the mail" through the community. Housewives would take their turn in driving or riding horseback to Mazeland getting the mail for the Wilmeth area and depositing it at the store or deliver it along the way.

There have been several Runnels County law officers from the Wilmeth area. They were Judge O.L. Parish, E.C. Grindstaff, Robert White, Judge Henry Rampy and Frankie Berryman. Others were Don Atkins, W.T. Moreland, Garland Freeman, the late John Wilson, Johnny and Merle Wilson, Jr. Other peace officers were Jerry Dean Watkins, City Patrolman of San Angelo, Joe Frank Albro with the Liquor Control Board in Lubbock and Ronnie Hill with the State Patrol.

In 1904, Andy and Walter Whiteley purchased land from the M.T. Hensleys and built the first community

gin. By 1906, the town of Wilmeth had a telephone office, barber shop, two stores, garage, blacksmith shop, two churches, and the gin as well as their post office. The citizens of the community realized the need for a school and erected a one room school house in 1904 on land donated by M.T.

Hensley. In 1906, a 20 foot addition was erected to the structure. The school was known as Mazeland (1904-1947), served both communities and was located one mile west of Wilmeth. In time, a church, a teacherage and community center auditorium was added there.

The citizens contributed to the project when the Abilene Southern Railroad came to Winters, Texas.

In 1913, a Methodist Church was erected at Mazeland (1913-1950). Wilmeth by now was a growing community. By 1915 and 1916, more residents had moved into the area and were operating places of business. The Wilmeth Cemetery was established in 1916.

Church of Christ erected a church in Wilmeth with a sizeable congregation. By 1921, the Baptist Church was established.

The school consolidated with Winters Independent School District in 1947.

June 16, 1968, Sunday afternoon, Under the Auspices of the Runnels County Historical Survey Committee, celebrated the Dedication of an Official Texas Historical Marker for Mazeland-Wilmeth.

The inscription

Site of old communities of Mazeland and Wilmeth
Mazeland (2 1/2 mi. SW) was founded in 1903 when a Post Office and store opened on A. B. Hutchinson's ranch. Community was probably named for the corn or "maize" which grows in the area. A one-room school, built 1 mi. W (1904) later served both places. By 1906 the settlement had enlarged, so this section was named in honor of Joe Wilmeth, a popular Ballinger banker. Before Wilmeth Post Office was established (1907) citizens would take turns bringing mail from Mazeland in horse-drawn wagons. In 1909, however, both postoffices were discontinued.
1968

The dedication ceremony was held at the Wilmeth Baptist Church. The group singing was led by J.W. Bahlman, with Mrs. Jack Pritchard playing the piano.

The group sang "My Country 'Tis of Thee" and "The Star Spangled Banner".

The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and Salute to the Texas Flag was led by Sheriff Don Atkins. The Invocation was given by Judge W.H. Rampy and the Master of Ceremony was Rankin Pace, Chairman of the Runnels County Historical Survey Committee. The welcome was given by Rev. Clovis Griffin, introduction of guests by Mrs. L.B. Watkins, introduction of speaker by Frankie Berryman,

address by Judge O.L. Parish, Ballinger. The last song, "The Eyes of Texas" was led by J.W. Bahlman. The Benediction was given by Rev. Griffin.

Resources:
Runnels County Historical Marker Histories, Winters Enterprise, June 21, 1968
Daily Reporter-News, Abilene, Texas, June 12, 1968
Paint Rock Herald, Paint Rock, Texas, June 13, 1968
Daily Standard-Times, San Angelo, Texas, June 15, 1958

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E-mail revso@wtxs.net

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Basketball coach joins WHS

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- Athletic Director Bright (left) welcomed last week new girls' Head Basketball Coach and Math teacher, Ryan Ochesky. Coach Ochesky is a graduate of Abilene Christian University and played college basketball at Wayland Baptist and Hardin-Simmons University.

Coach Ochesky was previously employed at Baird High School, where he served as boys' Head Basketball Coach / Asst. Coach and was chosen District 15 A Basketball Coach of the Year in 2011.

"We are very pleased to have Mr. Ochesky on our high school teaching and coaching staff. Besides his notable coaching credentials I am most impressed with his classroom teaching experience, especially his background and success with the CScope math curriculum and the new STAAR end-of-course assessment," said Winters ISD Superintendent Mr. Don Kuempel.



Winters High School Athletic Director Coach Adam Bright and the new Girls Head Basketball Coach Ryan Ochesky.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Senior citizens tour the Abilene zoo



Senior Citizens Nursing Home residents made a trip to Abilene Zoo, Wednesday, June 13, 2012. Everyone spent the morning looking at all the different animals. After, all enjoyed a picnic. The residents left to right are Joanie McAdoo, Joyce Loudermilk, Jessie Waldrop, Anna Rogers, Jovita Lopez, Virginia Carey and Lee Colbath. The volunteers were Jen and Coby Johnson, Norma, CMA, Matt Price, Ashlee Hollis, Patricia Hollis, A.D. and Cacey.

Texas Tech graduate

Krystal Gibbens, daughter of Gene Gibbens, DVM, and Laurie of Sonora, Texas; and Dane and Robbie Bishop of Winters, Texas; granddaughter of Roscoe and LaNelle Morrison of Winters, Texas and Rosemary Cox of Marfa, Texas, graduated from Texas Tech University, May 18, 2012, with a Master of Science in Forensic Science.



Krystal has been an active member of the Forensic Science Society for the past two years, serving as treasurer for the past year. The society has volunteered with the Battered Women's Shelter of Lubbock and given nine presentations to Lubbock and surround high schools promoting the society and the Masters program.

This past semester she became involved with the Innocence Project of Texas aiding in an exoneration attempt. She has been employed at the Texas Tech Graduate School for the past year assisting with finance and student travel.

Krystal will be attending Texas Wesleyan School of Law in Fort Worth pursuing a Juris Doctor beginning this August.

Hee-haw!, at the nursing home



Saturday morning, June 9, 2012, Judy Zuspahn brought her miniature horses along with horse and carriage to the Senior Citizens Nursing Home. The residents had fun time of riding in the carriage. All appreciate her time coming to see the residents at their home.

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