

The

# Winters Enterprise



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Volume 23, Issue 38

Thursday, July 25, 2013

Winters, Texas 75¢

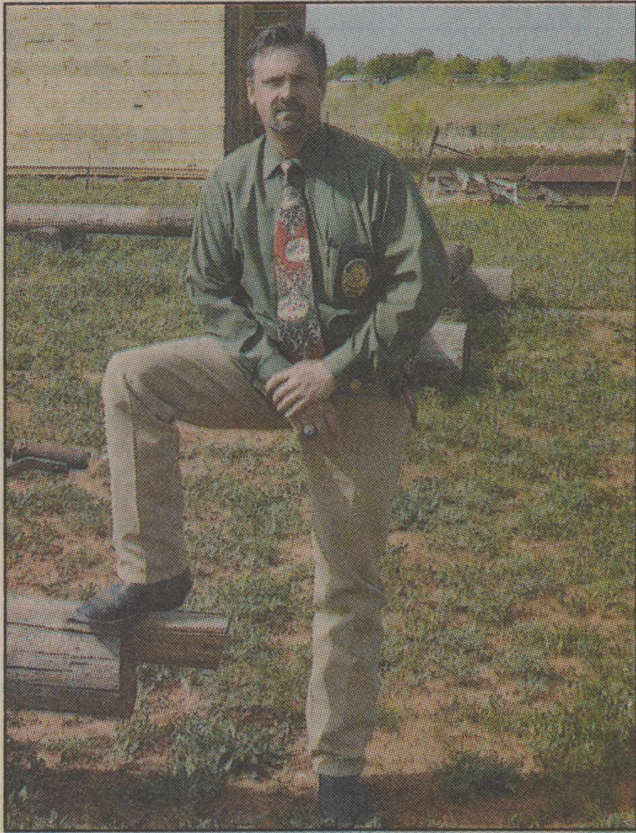


PHOTO: FILE

Nathan Johnson presented his resignation as Winters Chief of Police to the Winters City Council.

## Winters Chief of Police is stepping down

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ  
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Five year veteran Winters Chief of Police Nathan Johnson will be leaving the Police Department at the end of the current fiscal year, after submitting his letter of resignation to the Winters City Council.

Johnson, who has been leading the Winters PD since 2008, submitted his letter of resignation on Monday, July 15, 2013 after the regular City Council meeting. The resignation will be effective at the end of September of 2013.

Johnson said he decided not to renew his 2-year contract, and submitted his notice in a private manner after the City Council meeting.

"The City Council is completely satisfied and thrilled with Chief Johnson's performance," said Winters City Mayor Lewis Bergman. "He has been an outstanding chief, he is a man of high integrity and accomplishments," he added.

In a copy of his resignation letter submitted to the Winters Enterprise, Johnson lists all the accomplishments and challenges faced during his tenure as head of the Winters Police Department.

"There have been some rough times here and there, but I think together we have been able to see things through and make a positive impact on our community," said Johnson in the letter.

"Some of the challenges were big and at times seemed insurmountable, like the July 4th incident fallout, and the internal turmoil with Dr. Hassan. Others were just routine challenges that accompanied the position, like animal control and not writing too many tickets," he added.

Johnson, a Marine Corps veteran who was hired in 2008, previously served as a Captain

for the Uvalde County Sheriff's Department, and became a Special Investigator for the District Attorney's Office serving Uvalde, Real, and Medina Counties.

In addition to his police duties, Johnson developed the Paladin Community Services program, an adventure-based education program designed to help teenagers develop self esteem and build confidence through strength and experience.

Johnson's contract with the City of Winters will expire on July 28, 2013. According to the terms of his resignation letter he is willing to facilitate a smooth transition with the new chief, and also to continue working with the gun show to be held at the Dove Fest in September.

"I feel my work here as your 'reformer' chief is done. I plan to take some time to 'de-compress' but hope to be available to you and the department for needs that may arise," he stated.

Winters City Mayor Lewis Bergman said that the council is looking at the officers currently working in the Winters Police Department in order to fill the vacancy, as well as other candidates.

"We expect a smooth transition. We anticipate that a new hire will fill in the shoes. We understand that the leadership will be different and he (Johnson) will be missed. (But) we have officers on staff that are capable of filling in the position," said Bergman.

Bergman added that regardless of the decision made about the new chief, the Winters Police Department will remain fully staffed, with four officers plus one chief of police. He also said that Johnson will stay until the end of September.

READ THE RESIGNATION LETTER PAGE 2

## Winters Dove Fest to feature a heritage celebration

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ  
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- "Celebrating our hunting heritage," on Saturday, September 7, 2013, the Winters Dove Fest will be held in Winters, Texas, with plenty of activities and attractions, fun and food for all ages, as well as fun shoots, live and silent auctions, and entertainment.

The meal, consisting of barbecue brisket lunch, drink and desert, will be served 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Winters Community Center, located on FM 1770 east of U.S. Highway 83. Entertainment, chances for door prizes and adult and child plates will be available.

The Gun and Knife Show, featuring all kinds of hunting equipment, will be held Downtown 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The dove hunts, on locations near Winters and benefiting West Texas Rehab Center, will be available on Saturday September 7, and over the weekend too.

This year there will be an art show downtown, at the Winters Ministerial Alliance building, on Main Street. Karate and Tai Chi demonstrations will also be held on site.

The motorcycle fun run "Scenic Bike Run near Winters" will kick off with registration at 9 a.m. at the Winters Community



PHOTO: FILE

Clay pigeon fun shoot, one of the many activities to be held at the 2013 Winters Dove Fest.

Center. Donations will also benefit West Texas Rehab and the tickets include a barbecue lunch.

This year the Dove Fest will feature a seven-gun raffle totaling over \$8,000. Guns to raffle will be a 12 ga. Browning Citori White Lightning over and under shotgun, Bushmaster AR-15 .223 semi-auto rifle, Remington 700 BDL .243 bolt-action rifle, Tikka T-3 Hunter 300 Winchester Magnum bolt-action rifle, Remington 700 VTR 22-

250 bolt-action rifle, 12 ga. Winchester Super X pump shotgun, Remington 870 Exp. Com pink-camo 20 ga. shotgun.

The clay pigeon shoot will be held 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. on North U.S. Hwy. 83, east at the Rodeo Arena Road.

The entertainment will be carried by Winters' own Harvey McFadden and his Tribute to Elvis. McFadden will be taking down memory lane at the Winters Community Center stage from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with music

from the 1950s to 1970s. A children's story and activity hour will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the Winters Public Library, and the live auction will kick off at 1:30 p.m. at the Winters Community Center. The gun raffle will be held following the live auction.

This is a great opportunity for all to come and enjoy a good time in Winters, have a great meal and entertainment, with a chance of winning a door prize or one of the raffle guns.

## Southern tradition earning a place in NY history

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ  
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

Living in Astoria, New York and with strong ties to Winters, Texas, a group of southern entrepreneurs decided to carry-on a tradition and start a snow cone business up north. However the uniqueness of their business which is not limited to the product only, but it's also in the process of making it, earned them a place in history.

Jet Thomason, Chelsea Barker and David Burdick were featured last week in Nancy Ruhling's blog in the Huffington Post "Astoria Characters." Riding a bicycle to shave the ice they were featured as the "Ice Riders."

Nancy, who has written about 200 profiles for Astoria Characters and has interviewed everyone from Mike Wallace and Sandy



PHOTO: NANCY RUHLING / ASTORIA CHARACTERS / HUFFINGTON POST  
Jet Thomason, Chelsea Barker and David Burdick the Ice Riders.

Weill to Jesse Tyler Ferguson and Baxter the Clown, said she had never talked to an Ice Rider before.

"I met them at the LIC Flea market... It was sweltering, and they had

a bowl of ice water out for dogs. My puppy, Zora, wouldn't leave the bowl," said Nancy.

Jet, Chelsea and David are musical theater actors and have the snow cone

business in between acting jobs. Jet was raised in San Angelo, Texas, Chelsea is from Louisiana and David from Missouri.

Jet is the son of John Thomason, of Willis, Texas, and Donna Thomason, of Winters, Texas. He is the grandson of Keith and Betty Thomason, of Winters, Texas.

Jet, pictured in the story as a "muscle-bound Marlboro Man," explains that he got the idea for the stationary snow-cone mobile a couple of years ago, when he was strolling through Times Square and he couldn't find a snow cone in the city.

The trio started this business with old bicycles adapted to shave the ice, and offer a very unique product to the area residents, while continue auditioning for their theatrical careers.

## Monday, first day to file for General Election ballot

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ  
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- The November 2013 General Election is quickly approaching, and with the days passing by the election calendar will start warming up on July 29, first day to file for a place on the General Election ballot.

This year each one of the City of Winters, Winters Independent School District and North Runnels Hospital

will be having openings in their governing bodies. The openings could lead to an election if more than one candidate files for office.

The City of Winters will be having openings for Mayor and Council Member Places 1 and 3. Incumbents for those positions are Mayor Lewis Bergman, Council Member Place 1 Jim Lincycomb, and Council Member Place 3 Rene Woffenden.

Winters ISD will be having two openings due in the November General Election: Places 1 and 7. Incumbents for those positions are currently Board Member Place 1 Doug Bryan, and Board Member Place 7 Bill Bredemeyer.

The North Runnels Hospital Board of Trustees will be having three places up for election. Members up for re-election are Marvin Jones, Joe Guajardo,

and Freddie Grohman. To receive an application for a place on the North Runnels County Hospital Board of Directors ballot, please see Teresa Walden at North Runnels Hospital, 7821 State Highway 153, Winters, Texas 79567 or call the hospital at (325) 754 4553.

Generally, the filing deadline is the 71st day prior to Election Day according to the Texas Election Code.

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**FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES**

**Pauline Briley**

Pauline Briley, 90, of Winters died Sunday July 21, 2013. She was born March 25, 1923 in Ballinger. She grew up in the Ballinger area and attended school in Olfen graduating from high school there. She married Homer Briley, Jr. in 1945. He preceded her in death in 1980. She was a lifetime resident of Runnels County. She was a homemaker and worked for Heidenheimer's for a number of years. She was a member of the First Baptist Church.

She is survived by four sons: Mike Briley and wife Nelda, Max Briley and wife Pauline, Mark Briley and wife Brenda and Monty Briley and wife Ronda all of Winters. One sister-in-law: Theresa Briley of Winters. She is also survived by eight grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Graveside service was held Tuesday July 23, 2013 at Lakeview cemetery directed by Winters Funeral Home.

The family received friends Monday July 22, 2013 at Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise, July 25, 2013



PHOTO: FILE

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9196 and its Ladies Auxiliary are hosting a membership day on Sunday, August 11 in Rowena.

**VFW to hold membership appreciation and recruitment day**

WINTERS ENTERPRISE  
STAFF REPORT

ROWENA- The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9196 and its Ladies Auxiliary are hosting a membership appreciation and membership recruitment day on Sunday, August 11 beginning at 4 p.m. at the Post home on Depot St. and U.S. Highway 67 in Rowena.

This is a chance for members to renew their membership and recruitment for new members to join. If you are a veteran, honorably discharged with overseas duty during a period of conflict, we are inviting you to consider joining our Post.

After a period of fellowship and companionship, a chicken strip dinner will be served at about 6 p.m. We look forward to meeting any veteran interested in joining.

A short program honoring our Korean Veterans will be held. The Post wishes to recognize those Veterans who served during that conflict and thank them for their service and to show our appreciation for that service.

The Post meets once a month on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. For more information please call John Multer, Post Commander at (325) 658 1655.

**NEWS NOTES**

**Annual Fireman's BBQ**

The Winters Volunteer Fire Department will be holding its Annual Fireman's Barbecue on Saturday, August 3, 2013 11 a. m. to 2 p.m. at the Winters Community Center.

Choice of two meats: Brisket, sausage, chicha and pork ribs.

**Z.I. Hale Museum monthly meeting**

The monthly meeting of the Z. I. Hale Museum will be held at 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 25. The meeting will be held in the Rock Hotel with meet and greet and then the meeting to begin at 5:15. Visitors are welcome. For more information call Wanda Brewer.

**Winters Area Chamber of Commerce meetings**

Winters Area Chamber of Commerce meets at 7 p.m., first Thursday of the month at the Lone Star Video, 200 Tinkle Street.

**TEEA 'Friendly Neighbors'**

The Texas Extension Education Agency "Friendly Neighbors" invites everybody in the Winters and Ballinger area who is interested in learning about cooking,

gardening and arts and crafts to join us on the fourth Tuesday of every month (except during summer) at 2 p.m. at the Runnels County Extension Office on the corner of South Seventh and Sealy Ave in Ballinger.

If you are interested and like to find out more about us, call Nancy at 325 5042 or Linda 754 5385.

**Winters Women's Club**

Members meet the second Tuesday of the month. Call Marlene Smith at 754 4961 for additional information.

**AA Meetings**

AA meetings 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.

**NATHAN JOHNSON'S RESIGNATION LETTER**

**'It's been a great honor and a privilege'**

Members of the Winters City Council: 7-15-2013

It has been a great honor and privilege to be entrusted with the public safety of Winters as the Chief of Police for the past five years. I am thankful to the council for their support and oversight as I served in that capacity. I believe together we have been able to accomplish the critical goals set forth by the council at the time I was hired, and in addition, we have sought out and accomplished other significant projects that contributed to the welfare of our community.

There have been some rough times here and there, but I think together we have been able to see things through and make a positive impact on our community. Some of the challenges were big and at times seemed insurmountable, like the July 4th incident fallout, and the internal turmoil with Dr. Hassan. Others were just routine challenges that accompanied the position, like animal control and not writing too many tickets.

Over the past five years, we have identified, addressed, and accomplished many tasks that have culminated in Winters being a better place to live and raise families with a Police Department that can be trusted and relied upon. These challenges, projects, and duties range from "soup to nuts" but all were necessary to accom-

plish the original hiring council's request to "turn things around and give us back our Police Department."

I would like to take a moment to recall some of the highlights of our progress toward a stable department that the public now relies upon. Hiring good staff has been a pivotal issue in the agency's success. Rather than officers staying an average of six to nine months, we have a core team that has been in place for over four years, and we are adding to that core with quality officers that embody the ideals that work in a small West Texas community. We have put in place a comprehensive operations manual that includes performance reviews to keep staff moving forward as professionals. Extensive personnel files have been constructed on each staff member, and the department has received a perfect compliance review from the state regulating agency (TCLEOSE) for the past three years.

Working together, the staff painstakingly mended the battered reputation of the Winters Police Department in the eyes of area law enforcement and judicial branches as well as the state oversight agency TCLEOSE, located in Austin. We have also worked closely with other community entities such as the school district to help facilitate the peace in our town. We have solved

issues like the ongoing fiasco of the May Fest softball tournaments, which were in effect a "drunken fest" that diminished the reputation of our community and facilitated destructive behavior by a small percentage of the citizens in our town. Working collaboratively, we were able to find a balanced approach to this and other issues facing our community.

We remodeled the upstairs, building an apartment and classroom for the Police Department to use to develop professional standards and house those in need such as trainers/instructors, staff, or those in

need of emergency shelter. The evidence room has been remodeled, organized, and much of the ancient property no longer needed as evidence has been disposed of. The department has been modernized, equipped, automated, and organized to create an effective and efficient environment for the officers to serve the public. Our vehicle fleet is in good condition, we have obtained a boat and motorcycle to patrol the lake areas, and we have outfitted each officer with an inventory of personal equipment so they can quickly respond to the needs of the community. Our office has been slowly remodeled and is now a place where the public is comfortable meeting with officers, and the officers have the space and supplies they need to perform their duty. An annual department inventory is submitted to the City Secretary and surplus property is disposed of rather than gathering dust and taking up space in perpetuity. The city yard has been cleaned up and things like old equipment and junk cars have been sold at auction, making the facility look better and cleaner for the public.

The Animal Shelter has been updated with automatic water devices and although it is an aging facility, it is functional for the current needs of the community. The gun range has been cleaned up and modernized and officers can now qualify easily and practice their firearm proficiency during training. The tumultuous issues at the lake have been addressed and although

the solution took a great deal of effort, the results have been excellent by anyone's standards. The City Pool is an essential element of our summer programs here in Winters, and although it is not a "police duty", we were able to assist the staff there by adding lights and electrical outlets to the facility to make that program more effective and easier to administrate.

Two very significant endeavors have been in the areas of registered sex offenders and outstanding warrants. When I arrived in Winters some 5 years ago, the warrant list was between 350-400 outstanding warrants. These were warrants issued by the court but where no arrests had been made and the huge list was not even a complete accounting of the un-served warrants. Several other warrants were in the court files but not on any list. In other words, these persons had broken the law, been summoned to court to give an account, but had absconded and no one was actively looking for them. Our staff made a commitment to actively address this issue and to do whatever it took to find and arrest these persons. To address this overwhelming issue, officers spent many hours searching computer records to locate where these persons were hiding, countless sleepless nights doing surveillance on possible locations to apprehend them, and spent a significant amount of fuel and travel to find, arrest, and transport these persons back to the Runnels County Jail. Today, I am proud to report that the local warrant list is down to only four (that is FOUR) wanted persons and we continue to seek and follow up leads regarding their whereabouts in an effort to apprehend them and bring them to court.

The issue of sex offenders was also an uphill battle. When I arrived, the registered sex offender files were thrown haphazardly into a box on the floor in the corner of the chief's office. The records were not complete and many files that should have been present were not found in the agency files. With help from officials in Austin, we

PLEASE CONTINUE PAGE 6

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## New head girls basketball coach

Winters ISD new head girls basketball coach is Meredith Caffey. Coach Caffey is the 2005 Graduate of Sul Ross State University. She was a four year letterman in track where she received All-Conference recognition. She started her coaching career in Morton. She has spent the last 6 years in Nazareth, Texas, where she was assistant cross country and basketball coach and Head boys and girls track coach. Coach Caffey hopes to bring a winning tradition to the Lady Blizzards program.

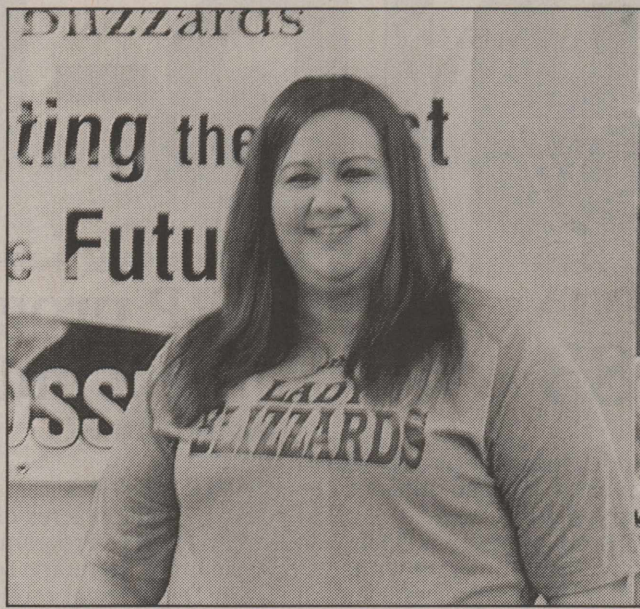


PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

## Head Boys' Basketball coach comes to WISD

Winters High School is welcoming Coach Joseph Hood as the new Head Boys' Basketball Coach/Offensive Coordinator. Coach Hood comes to Winters ISD from Seagraves ISD. While at Seagraves he was the Defensive Coordinator and Head Baseball Coach. Coach Hood has also made coaching stops in Littlefield and Dalhart. He has coached all sports at some time during his coaching career. Coach Hood is married to Laurie, who will teach Fourth Grade math at Winters Elementary. They have four children: Tanji (18), Kalli (17), Isiah (13), and Jayli (11). The Hoods are excited to be in Winters and are looking forward to the great things to come.



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

## Davis-Nichols families gather for their 89th reunion

### WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

WINTERS— It all started "way back" when three Davis boys married three Nichols girls. The descendants of these unions met for the 89th time Sunday, July 21, 2013 at the DLC Realty in Winters.

One can only imagine the resulting "double cousins" and their descendants that followed. Understandably, it is becoming increasingly difficult for even the ones closest to the family to keep up with "who's who."

The trails of both families started at different times from different states. W.T. Nichols moved his family from Selma, Alabama to Milam County in Texas. W.S. Davis moved his family to Milam County from Mississippi at about the same time.

Story goes back in Mississippi there was an ownership dispute over allegedly stolen horses. The Davis boys somehow decided their opportunities best lay in Texas and in haste departed Mississippi (rumor goes with the disputed horses).

The two families became Milam County neighbors prior to 1900 and began to become close friends. This



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

The 89th Davis-Nichols family reunion was held Sunday, July 21 in Winters, Texas.

closeness, the remoteness and the nature of things understandably resulted in the three Davis brothers married three Nichols sisters.

W.T. Nichols is credited with a deep appreciation and love for his family. It was W.T. Nichols that is credited by the family for starting the annual reunion during 1923. For 89 years it has always been held on the third Sunday in July.

Regrettably though, the name Nichols gradually faded and the surname Davis name remains.

Goodness, the whole thing turned out to be a "hoot." Several of the attendants promised to do better next time.

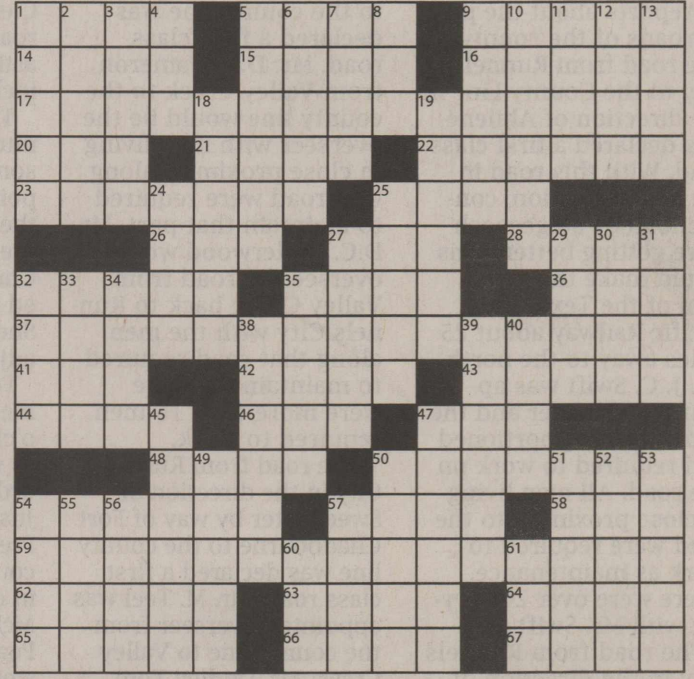
The newest Davis there was (Rhonan Kash Davis-age 3 months). It was a good thing he is too little to realize how ugly all the Davis males' are — but he'll find out soon enough.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### Three Cheers

#### ACROSS

- Downhill racer
- "Waterloo" pop group
- In any way
- Mah-jongg piece
- Landlocked Asian country
- "That's the truth!"
- SJS
- Left, after taxes
- In a draw
- Flared skirts
- Part of a bedroom suite
- One of the Mavericks
- Cocks and bulls
- "Yay, team!"
- OK Corral lawman
- "Taras Bulba" author
- Sport with mallets
- Route word
- BOOM
- Flower holder
- City founded by Pizarro
- Greets the judge
- "O.K., why not?"
- Has too much, for short
- Just great
- Still capable of exploding
- Feast finale
- Agreeing
- \_\_ qua non
- Alternative spelling: Abbr.
- BAH
- "Waste not, want not," e.g.
- Purple shade
- Big furniture retailer
- Exodus commemoration



American Profile Hometown Content

7/14/2013

- Some are inflated
- For fear that

#### DOWN

- Defensive effort
- One with no hope of getting out
- Make joyful
- Rep. counterpart
- Axis foes
- Big name in aspirin
- Investor's purchase
- Faulkner's " \_\_ Lay Dying"
- Bracelet site
- This evening, on marquees
- Author Paton
- Lawn application
- Fermentation dregs

- An end in \_\_
- Drive-in employee
- "Scat, cat!"
- Glider wood
- Suite parts
- Hertz rival
- Altar happening
- Shells out
- Ancient land including present-day France
- Fairy tale monster
- Urbane fellow
- Serengeti group
- Short-billed shore bird
- End of a #2
- Barbecue fare
- Icky stuff

- Some property borders
- Reason out
- Hustle music
- Conjure up
- Goes ballistic
- Pick up the tab for
- "As \_\_ saying ..."
- Junction point
- Like much folk mus.
- Overly self-assured
- Expose, in verse
- "Black gold"

## Moving?

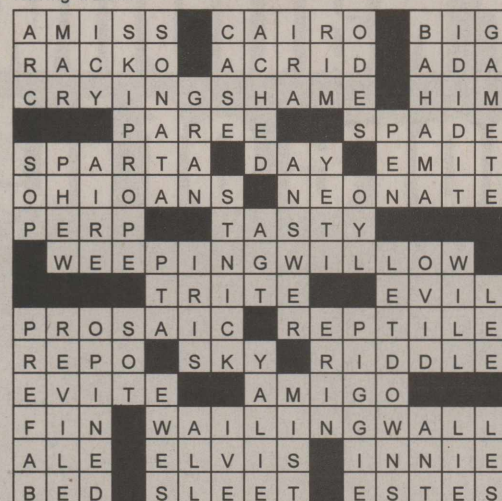
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### LAST WEEK'S ANSWER GRID

Having a Bawl



## Weather Whys

Q: What are the "dog days of summer?"

A: It's a slang term for the hottest time of the year, explains Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "In general terms, it's the time between early July and early September when the highest temperatures occur in the Northern Hemisphere," he says. "The ancient Egyptians named the brightest star in the sky Sirius, which they labeled the 'dog star' after one of their mythic gods. Sirius could be seen in the sky during this time and they believed it was responsible for the intense summer heat."

Q: Are the "dog days" really the hottest time of the year?

A: Almost always, adds McRoberts. "Today, we usually mark the 'dog days' as occurring from July 3 to the middle of August, but other countries mark them differently," he says. "It is usually the hottest and most uncomfortable time of the year. That's why 'dog days' also refer to periods of any inactivity or a slow time of the year."

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# ROUND-UP

## Runnels County

4 Winters Enterprise

Thursday, July 25, 2013

### THE ORGANIZATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY

## The busy year of 1883

CONTRIBUTED BY RUTH COOPER  
RCHC CHAIRPERSON

**BALLINGER-** The year of 1883, for the Honorable Runnels County Commissioners Court began with the Regular Term on Monday February 12. Present were the Honorable Judge Sylvester Adams and the four Commissioners, H. Paddleford, J.D. Yarbro, R.F. Counts, Job Davies, Sheriff John M. Formwalt and W.L. Towner, County Clerk. The agenda included reports about the public roads of the county. The road from Runnels City to the County Line in the direction of Abilene was declared a first class road. With this road in the best condition, connections by stagecoach were getting better. This would make the extension of the Texas and Pacific Railway about 25 miles away to the north. Mr. J. C. Swift was appointed overseer and the hands were apportioned and required to work on the road. All men living in close proximity to the road were required to work as maintenance. There were over 20 serving with Mr. Swift.

The road from Runnels City in the direction of Coleman to the county line was declared a first class road. Mr. L.F. Grissett from Hog Branch would be overseer. The number of men in close proximity to the road numbered over 12. The road from Runnels City in the direction of Paint Rock was also declared a first class road. Jake B. Cotton was appointed the overseer of the road with all men in close proximity along the road. The number of hands was

more than 11.

The road from Runnels City in the direction of Fort Concho to the county line was declared a first class road. The hands living in close proximity were required to work. W.H. Laxton was appointed the overseer with more than 19 hands.

The next road was from Runnels City in the direction of Colorado City, crossing Oak Creek at John Browns to the county line was declared a first class road. Mr. D.A. Cameron from Valley Creek to the county line would be the overseer with men living in close proximity along that road were required to maintain that part. Mr. D.C. Underwood would oversee the road from Valley Creek back to Runnels City with the men along that road required to maintain it. There were more than 16 men required to work.

The road from Runnels City in the direction of Sweetwater by way of Fort Chadbourne to the county line was declared a first class road. Mr. M. Teel was appointed overseer from the county line to Valley Creek. Mr. Dudley Tom was the overseer from Valley Creek to Runnels City. There were more than 14 men along the road required to work to maintain the road.

The road from Runnels City in the direction of Hudman's Gap by Ranger Peak to the county line then in the direction of Abilene was declared a public first class road. Mr. P.W. Hudman was appointed overseer from the county line to the south east corner of

Parramore's pasture and W.T. Hightower from the south east corner of Parramore's pasture to Runnels City. All men along the public were required to maintain the road. There were more than 30 men. With all of this business finished, the court adjourned until the next morning, February 13, A.D. 1883.

The first order of the court the next morning was when the County Clerk commissioned each road overseer to apply the articles from 1422-1429 inclusive.

The court then went into special session to pay some expenses. They appointed John McFarland as the Justice of the Peace for Precinct No. 4. Mr. Frank Chrisman was re-appointed as the Runnels County Sheep Inspector. The court adjourned for the day.

February 14, the court met in Runnels City at 9 o'clock a.m. More expenses were paid. The court ordered Mr. R.F. Counts, Justice of the Peace of Precinct No. 2, to hold his court the second Saturday in each month. Mr. John McFarland, Justice of the Peace of Precinct No. 3 would hold his court on the third Monday of each month. Mr. D.A. Cameron, Justice of the Peace of Precinct No. 4 would hold court on the first Saturday of each month. The report of Mr. W.J. Hightower, County Treasurer was copied into the court minutes. The report indicated the number of lots sold was 52 for \$596.00, promissory notes for \$342.50, commission for sales - \$93.85. Other expenses were noted and after all was settled, the total

indebtedness was \$98. The court adjourned until the next day.

February 15, 9 o'clock a.m., the court met with all members present. The first order of business was to pay the Coleman County jailer for board and washing for the prisoner, James Harrison. The amount paid was \$10.85. The court then paid for nine loads of wood at \$2.50 each for a total of \$22.50. The account of Mr. H.D. Pearce was addressed for stationary, court officials, for express and stage charges on deed book No. 3 from Dallas to Runnels City with a cost of \$7.90. The expense was paid. The court bought two more loads of wood and paid the County Clerk per annum \$50 for ex officio services. The Sheriff was allowed \$250 to be paid quarterly, a stove pipe for \$2.35 for the Surveyor's Office, the County Judge would receive a salary of \$400 per annum, to be paid quarterly. The court approved the bond for Mr. Chrisman as Sheep Inspector. The court ordered the Commissioners Report to be published one time in the Runnels County Record Newspaper. All members of the court received their per diem for four days service, being \$12 each. The court adjourned until the next meeting.

*Next: The called term in March  
Resources: Runnels County Historical Commission Histories  
Runnels County Commissioners Court Minutes,  
County Clerk Records, February 12-16, A.D., 1883*

## CRP program accepts 1.7 million acres

WINTERS ENTERPRISE  
STAFF REPORT

AMES, Iowa—U.S. Department of Agriculture will accept 1.7 million acres offered under the 45th Conservation Reserve Program general sign-up, announced Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack.

The Department received nearly 28,000 offers on more than 1.9 million acres of land, demonstrating CRP's continuing appeal as one of our nation's most successful voluntary programs for soil, water, and wildlife conservation. Under Vilsack's leadership, USDA has enrolled nearly 12 million acres in new CRP contracts since 2009. Currently, there are more than 26.9 million acres enrolled on 700,000 contracts.

"For 27 years, lands in CRP have helped to conserve our nation's resources and played a part in mitigating climate change," said Vilsack. "American farmers and ranchers continue to recognize the importance of protecting our nation's most environmentally sensitive land by enrolling in CRP. As the commodities produced by our farmers and ranchers continue to perform strongly in the marketplace — supporting 1 out of every 12 jobs here in the United States — it is no surprise that American producers continue to recognize the importance of protecting our nation's most environmentally sensitive land by enrolling in CRP."

In addition to the announcement, over the last four years, USDA has set aside significant acreage under CRP's continuous enrollment programs to target habitat conservation on especially important lands. For example, in March, 2012, President Obama dedicated 1 million acres of CRP to Continuous Enrollment Programs to conserve wetlands, grasslands and wildlife.

This year, farmers and ranchers have already offered more than 370,000 acres under Continuous CRP sign-up, a figure that is impressive given that the lack of a Farm Bill extension last fall meant that CRP enrollment only reopened this spring in May. Lack of a comprehensive Farm Bill this year has resulted in uncertainty for achieving further enrollment objectives under continuous CRP.

CRP is a voluntary program that allows eligible landowners to receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource-conserving covers on eligible farmland throughout the duration of their 10 to 15 year contracts.

Under CRP, farmers and ranchers plant grasses and trees in fields and along streams or rivers. The plantings prevent soil and nutrients from washing into waterways, reduce soil erosion that may otherwise contribute to poor air and water quality, and provide valuable habitat for wildlife. In 2012, CRP helped to reduce nitrogen and phosphorous losses from farm fields by 605 million pounds and 121 million pounds respectively. CRP has restored more than two million acres of wetlands and associated buffers and reduces soil erosion by more than 300 million tons per year. CRP also provides \$2.0 billion annually to landowners dollars that make their way into local economies, supporting small businesses and creating jobs.

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 705 W. Dale, Winters, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, updated floors and paint, fireplace, central heat attached garage and alley entry garage, screened porch  
 214 Paloma, Winters, Texas - 3 bdrm/2 bath, dining room, nice kitchen, pecan trees, 576 sq. ft. metal shop with attached carport.  
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## Historical Commission honors Runnels Co.

WINTERS ENTERPRISE  
STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN- The Texas Historical Commission recently recognized Runnels County with a Distinguished Service Award for the 2012 year of service. This award was presented during a meeting of the Commissioner's Court on Tuesday, July 23, 2013 and recognized their County Historical Commission for managing preservation programs that educate citizens and generate interest in the history and character of Texas. This award also acknowledges the CHC's efforts to preserve Texas' unique heritage by promoting stewardship of, and tourism to, our state's unique cultural and historic sites.

"The Distinguished Service Award is our agency's

way of affirming County Historical Commissions that continue to improve and expand their preservation programs," said THC Executive Director Mark Wolfe. "The Texas Historical Commission works with CHCs to save the real places and tell the real stories of Texas."

Unlike most states, Texas counties have the legislative authority to establish CHCs to initiate and conduct programs that preserve historic and cultural resources. Texas CHCs are made up of unpaid county appointees who reported volunteer hours for the 2012 year of service that had a monetary value of more than \$8.8 million. The THC provides services to CHCs, as well as citizens across the state, to preserve Texas' heritage.

Public Record		
<b>Weddings</b>		
<b>Names Issued</b>		<b>Filed</b>
Hector Augustus Santoya and Marcela Espino		July 15
Frank Albert Hernandez and Linda Ann Hernandez		July 17
<b>Divorces</b>		
<b>Names</b>		<b>Filed</b>
Nannette Guerra Escobedo vs. Jose G. Escobedo		July 9
Nicholas Phillip Sonnenberg vs. Carrie April Sonnenberg		July 17
Karen Michelle Thompson vs. Gary Lynn Thompson		July 17
<b>Runnels Co. Jail Record</b>		
July 22, 2013		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Norma Arispe	42	BPD
DWI x3, no DL, no insurance, open container		
Sergio Mendez Alvarado	25	Concho
Tarrant Co. MTR, DWI		
Connie Martinez	46	Concho
TBC- Travis Co.		
Daniel Williams	37	BPD
Out of county warrant		
Leon Bellamy	49	RCSO
DWI, sent. 90 days to County Jail		
John Jonas	49	RCSO
Sent. 5 days County Jail		
Bryan Fountain	24	Coke
MTR-Possession dangerous drugs		
Della Yahra	-	Miles
Capias		
Brittany Vaughn	23	Concho
Theft of property		
Connie Martinez	46	Concho
Theft by check x2		

## Resignation letter: Registered sex offenders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

identified 32 sex offenders who were "supposed" to be registered with the Winters Police Department. Many had not reported in years, others had absconded to other areas, two had died, and one was deported. Once again, we committed to rectify this issue, and it was no small chore. Official records from the original courts had to be obtained, warrants issued, death certificates located, assistance from other agencies obtained, but in the end, we were able to arrest many and bring the rest into compliance. When the dust settled we had some 23 registered sex offenders in Winters, then with the help of the council we were able to pass an effective residency restriction ordinance and today we have only 14 registered sex offenders in our city, all of which are complying with their duty to date.

Overall our crime has significantly moderated. We have far fewer disturbances of the general peace than in our first two or three years. Violent crime and property crimes have fallen significantly in the past two years and domestic disturbances have slightly dipped below the first years of the department's "rebirth."

Although there are always projects and challenges to be found, I feel that with the exception of the officer pay scale which I hope to complete in this year's budget workshops, my real work here is complete and therefore I do not intend to seek a third contract to serve as Chief of Police. As anyone who has invested "blood, sweat, and tears" to build something good, I want to see what we have developed endure beyond my leadership. I wish to make myself available to the council to seek the most effective transition to the next chief. I would like to work with the next person entrusted by the council to lead the agency to facilitate a smooth transition for the department, the council, and the community. I suggest the council interview both Juan and Randall, both of whom could lead the department into the future, and determine with whom you are most comfortable. I am available to the council for frank inquiry regarding the pros and cons of both staff members. I believe appointing one of these men as the next chief would be the most effective transition for all concerned and Officer Zack Mazey has expressed an interest in returning to service at Winters which would alleviate a search for a new officer should Randall or Juan become chief.

Logistically there are many issues to work through and some will require authorization by the council. My current contract expires on July 28th and I believe we should begin the transition process immediately. I have approximately 40 days of unused vacation. I would like to take some of that vacation while the boys and Lenise are still out of school and then work with the new chief to transition, budget, logistical, and staff issues. This would result in me being compensated through the end of September and the completion of this budget cycle, at which time I would assume the rent of the residence in which I live. I also need to facilitate the remaining obligations associated with Dove Fest and the gun show, all of which will necessitate the use of the current phone and computer assigned through the Police Department. I respectfully request that I be allowed to maintain my law enforcement credentials through the department and in exchange, I will use my Firearms and Instructor credentials to keep the department compliant with TCLEOSE regulations in those areas because no other officer in the agency currently has the appropriate credentials in this area.

I feel like we are at a very good place with the department and I feel my work here as your "reformer" chief is done. I plan to take some time to "de-compress" but hope to be available to you and the department for needs that may arise.

Once again, I wish to say thank you so much for the deep trust placed in me to turn the department around in a time of immense turmoil and to restore the public's confidence in a quality and competent police force for the City of Winters. It has been a challenge, a joy, and most of all an honor to serve as your Chief of Police.

Semper Fi,  
Nathan T. Johnson

## Age 65? Get your hearing checked

One in three people suffers from a hearing problem by age 65. It only makes sense to have your hearing checked, and **the initial checkup costs you nothing at WTMA.**

Dr. Melissa McArthur, who holds the professional degree in the clinical diagnosis and treatment of hearing loss, will conduct your test.

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**(325) 224-5211**

**Executive Drive Clinic**  
3605 Executive Dr.

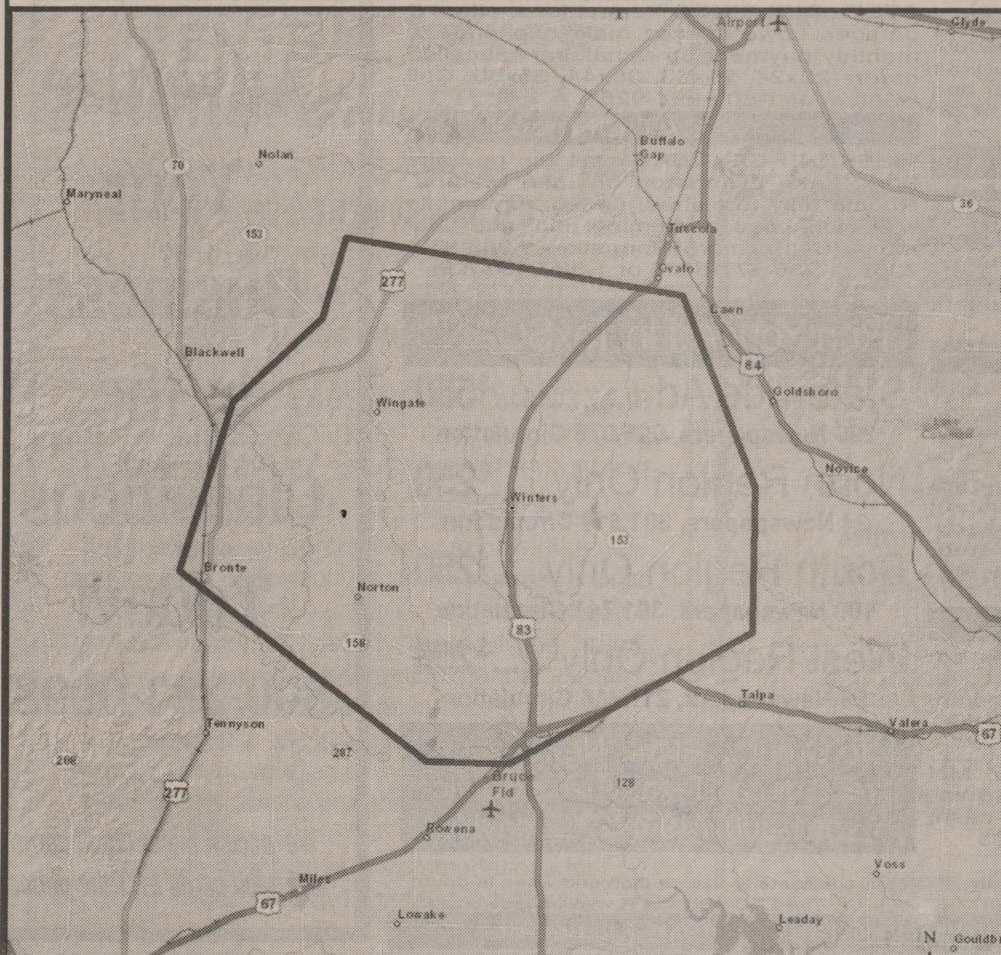
### Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

The USDA, Rural Utilities Service has received an application for financial assistance from North Runnels Water Supply Corporation (WSC). As required by the National Environmental Policy Act and agency regulations, the Rural Utilities Service has prepared an Environmental Assessment that evaluates the potential environmental effects and consequences of the proposal. This notice announces the availability of the Environmental Assessment for public review and comment.

The proposal consists of installing approximately 123 miles of 2" to 8" PVC waterlines and conducting minor upgrades to select pump stations. To mitigate for impacts to threatened and endangered species construction will avoid areas of known or potential habitat. A qualified archeologist has also surveyed the area to ensure historic or cultural artifacts of value are avoided. Due to the lack alternate routes to deliver water to rural residents, few alternative locations for the project currently exist.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment are available for review at 2608 Hwy 377 S, Suite A, Brownwood, TX 76801 and at 1020 N Main St., Winters, TX 79567. For further information contact Todd Powell of Rural Development at: (325) 643-1585x4. Any person interested in commenting on this proposal should submit comments to the address above by August 25, 2013.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below.



### NOTICE OF DEADLINE TO FILE APPLICATIONS FOR PLACE ON THE BALLOT (AVISO DE FECHA LIMITE PARA PRESENTAR SOLICITUDES PARA UN LUGAR EN LA BOLETA)

Notice is hereby given that applications for a place on the **North Runnels County Hospital District** (Regular/Special/Primary) Election ballot may be filed during the following time:

(Se da aviso por la presente que las solicitudes para un lugar en la boleta de la eleccion (Regular/Especial/Primaria) de Arroyos Del Northe County Hospital District durante el siguiente horario:)

#### Filing Dates and Times:

(Fechas y Horario para Entregar Solicitudes)

End Date **August 26, 2013 at 5:00 PM**

(Fecha Limite)

**26 de Agosto, 2013 del 5:00 PM**

Office Hours: **8:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

(Horario de la Oficina)

Physical address for filing applications in person for place on the ballot:

(Direccion a flsica para presentar las solicitudes en persona para un lugar en la boleta)

**North Runnels Hospital**  
7821 State Hwy. 153  
Winters, TX 79567

**North Runnels Hospital**  
Estatel 7821 153  
Los Inviernos, TX 79567

Address to mail applications for place on ballot (if filing by mail):

(Direccion a donde enviar las solicitudes para un lugar en la boleta (en caso de presentar pro correo))

**North Runnels Hospital**  
PO Box 185  
Winters, TX 79567

**North Runnels Hospital**  
PO Box 185  
Los Inviernos, TX 79567

*Teresa Walden*

Printed Name of Filing Officer  
(Nombre en letra de molde del Oficial de Archivos)

*Teresa Walden*

Signature of Filing Officer  
(Firma del Oficial de Archivos)

*July 24, 2013*

Date Posted  
(Fecha archivada)