

The August 6, 1886 issue of the Eagle indicated the drought conditions were so bad in the county there was again the danger of losing population. With cattle prices very low, times were very difficult...

READ MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF RUNNELS COUNTY IN THIS WEEKLY SERIES BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE WINTERS ENTERPRISE AND THE RUNNELS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION PAGE 4

# The Winters Enterprise



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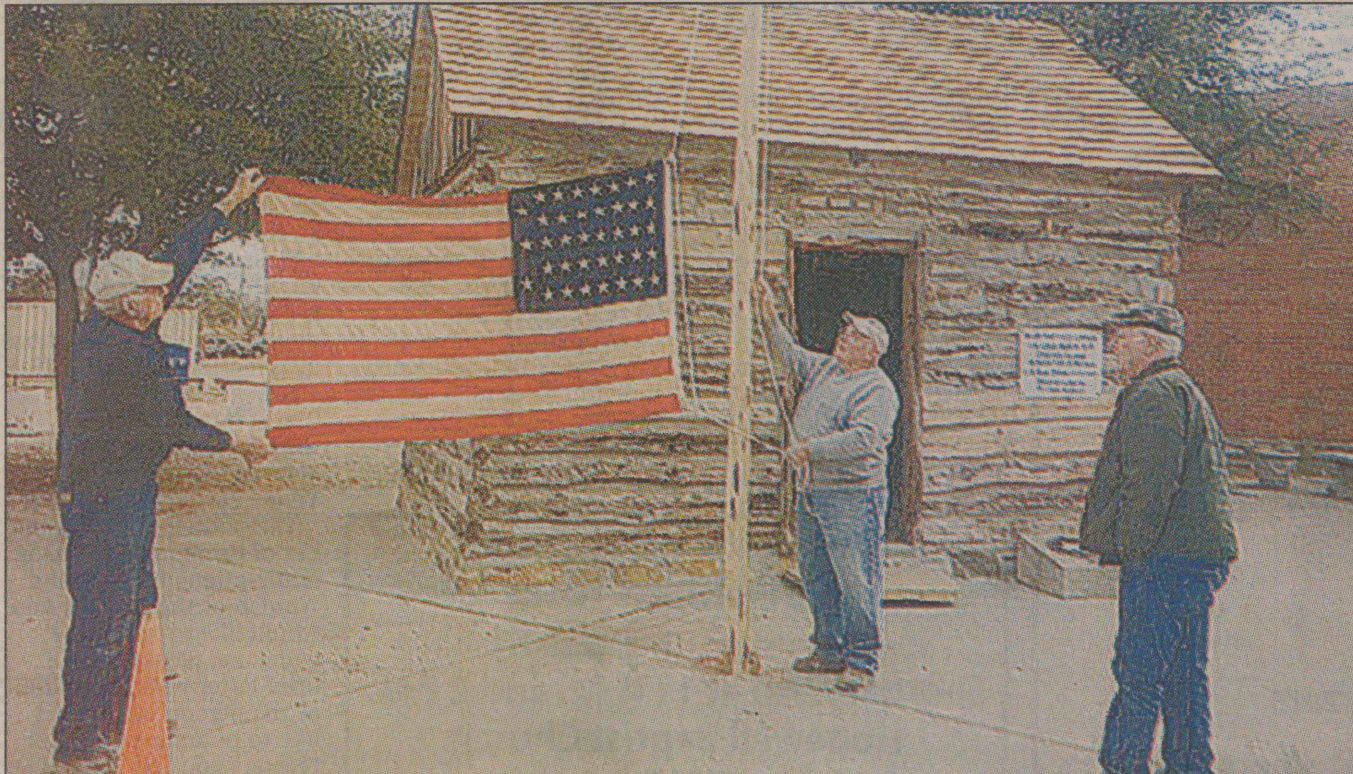
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Volume 24, Issue 10

Thursday, February 6, 2014

Winters, Texas 75¢

## Rededication slated for the historical Blue Gap Post Office



Charles Brewer, Fred Watkins, and John Long raising the 38-star US flag at the reconstructed Blue Gap Post Office.

WINTERS ENTERPRISE  
STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- The Z. I. Hale Museum and the Runnels County Historical Commission will host a rededication of the Blue Gap Post Office on Saturday, March 1, 2014 at 2:30 p.m. at the site, located on 120 North Main. A reception will follow at the adjoining Winters Public Library where they will be observing an open house for the new addition to the library.

The Blue Gap Post Office is a log cabin that was built in 1878 in the gap of Table Mountains, 16 miles east of Winters. It served as a US Post Office from 1878-1882 and also was the stage stop on the Round Rock to Buffalo Gap stage line. It served as an office, store, dwelling, and eventually for storage in later years.

The owner of the proper-

ty wanted the partially-collapsed structure removed and he donated it to the Z. I. Hale Museum in Winters. The logs were carefully labeled and stored for several years. Early in 2013, a construction crew consisting of retired builders — Fred Watkins, Charles Brewer, Roger Stephenson, and Mike Kozelsky — began reconstructing the building at a site on Main Street in Winters.

The crew has spent literally hundreds and hundreds of volunteer hours on the project.

About \$4,000 is still needed to pay for the Blue Gap Post Office Project. Donations can be sent to Blue Gap Fund, Z. I. Hale Museum, PO Box 211, Winters 79567.

Everyone is invited to join in the celebration of the completion of this extraordinary project.

## Local youth wins Calf Scramble at Ft. Worth Stock Show and Rodeo

WINTERS ENTERPRISE  
STAFF REPORT

FORT WORTH- Samuel Woodall, a member of the Winters FFA, was among the winners in the Calf Scramble event during the January 25 morning performance at the 118th edition of the legendary Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo. Parents of the winner are Michael and Stacey Woodall. The award was sponsored by Charley and Peggy Johnson of Weatherford.

The Calf Scramble, which allows 16 students to compete at each of the 29 rodeo performances, has eight winners each performance. The young people are high school students out to catch and halter a calf with hopes of winning a \$500 purchase certificate that will help buy a registered beef or dairy heifer for a yearlong 4-H or FFA project.

Winners must care for their animals throughout the year and return for the 2015 Stock Show to exhibit it in the Junior Heifer Show. Those who do the best job will be in line for scholarship funds when they enter college. To date, the program has awarded more than \$3 million toward the purchase of heifers and granted 1,039 scholarships totaling \$1.1 mil-



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Samuel Woodall won a \$500 purchase certificate toward a registered beef or dairy heifer for a 4-H or FFA project to exhibit at next year's Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo. The certificate, presented by Ed Bass, was sponsored by Charley and Peggy Johnson.

lion. In all, 232 youngsters will catch calves during the 2014 Stock Show.

All entries receive a special T-shirt with their contestant number. Participants who fail to catch a calf receive a certificate for a pair of Justin boots. Long time sponsor, Justin Boots continue their support along with new sponsor, Texas Mutual Insurance Co.

The nation's oldest livestock show is cur-

rently underway now through February 8, 2014 at the world-class Will Rogers Memorial Center. The Stock Show features 23 days of family fun and entertainment, and will host nearly 28,000 livestock entries throughout the run. In addition to the prestigious livestock competitions, the Stock Show offers many interactive educational exhibits, great shopping in the trade show area as well as an exciting carnival.



## Lady Breezes claim third in District Tourney

Eighth Grade Lady Breezes won third in the District Tournament held in Christoval on Saturday, February 1, 2014. Their first game was a win vs. Eldorado by a score of 31-15. The Lady Breezes lost to Christoval next with a score of 48-23, and in their third and final game the Lady Breezes defeated Miles 43-36 to secure the third spot.

Pictured front row: Kristian Seaney, Charcyana Lovelace, Aimee Green. Back row: Coach Becky Airhart, Brooklynn Anderson, Brenna Knight, Baily Knight, Megan Jacob, Hyla Forder, Lizette Carrillo, and Macey Gerhart.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

## Blizzards pleased with new districts

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ  
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Football and basketball district realignment will be bringing a little peace and less travel time for the Winters Blizzards, as well as more balanced games with schools closer in size to Winters High School.

This week, the UIL district realignment was announced at the Region XV Education Service Center, in San Angelo, and unlike some of the area teams that will be traveling to places as far away as El Paso, the change didn't bring any big surprises for the local teams. Winters was paired with Bronte, Menard, Miles, Roby, and Roscoe in District 6-2A Division II.

"We are excited about it, the change will be good for us because we'll be playing schools our size," said Winters High School Athletic Director

Stan Caffey.

Last year Winters was the smallest school in District 4-1A Division I, sharing grounds with the twice-in-a-row state champion Stamford, Anson, Forsan, and Haskell.

"Last year we were the smallest school in the district, this year's district makes a little change for us and gives us a better opportunity," Caffey added.

For the non district games, Caffey said that the schedule is not ready to be released, but he anticipated that all the games will be against

area teams, keeping travel to a minimum.

The basketball districts were also announced, with Winters sharing District 7-2A grounds with Albany, Anson, Hamlin, Haskell, Hawley, Roscoe, and Stamford.

Division I and Division II cutoffs were established for football only in schools ranging from 1A through 4A, while 5A schools and the newly added Class 6A will be comprised of one division only.

For the realignment, back in October Winters turned in an enrollment of 149.

### New districts

Football	Basketball
District 6-2A	District 7-2A
Div. II	Winters
Winters	Albany
Bronte	Anson
Menard	Hamlin
Miles	Haskell
Roby	Hawley
Roscoe	Roscoe
	Stamford

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DESSERT CHOCOLATE CARAMEL CAKE

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**Ruby Nell Rougas**

Ruby Nell Rougas entered her heavenly home on Thursday, January 23, 2014 at Abilene Regional Hospital. She passed peacefully and was surrounded by her loving family.

Ruby Nell was born on September 14, 1928. She was raised by her Aunt Gertrude and uncle Press Edwards. Through years of love and encouragement she graduated from Winters High School at the age of 16. She went on to enter the Cadet Nurse Corps at Shannon Hospital from which she graduated in 1949 as a registered nurse.

Ruby Nell enjoyed a long successful career in nursing which ranged from teaching classes to LVN's, to holding the position of Director of Nurses at the Ballinger Hospital, to handling medical records. While doing medical records she became aware of the ever changing rules and regulations for Medicare patients, thus prompting her to work with the State Health Department to establish the Swing Bed Program, which allowed Medicare patients who met the criteria to have additional days of hospital care including physical therapy and nursing care. She retired from nursing at the age of 65, but stayed on as a medical records consultant for the next 11 years.

In 2004 she retired and moved to Abilene to spend time with her children,

grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She is survived by her children: Tony and his wife Suzanne, Kandace Chancey and Tye and his wife Gwen. Her sister: Betty Harville and her husband Clyde and her brother Foy Wilson and his wife Margie. Her grandchildren: Harrison, Porsha, Baylee, Angela, Dana, Brandi, Kevin and Staci. Her great-grandchildren: Jaya, Colton, Laurel, Dayton, Jaylie, Dakota and Sierra.

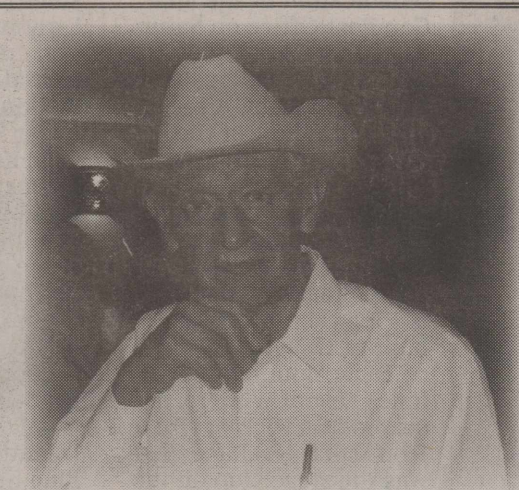
Services were held Sunday January 26, 2014 at The First United Methodist Church in Winters. Burial followed at Lakeview cemetery directed by Winters Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made to Winters Meals on Wheels.

The family offers their gratitude for the outstanding job by the staff at Abilene Regional Hospital.



Winters Enterprise, Feb. 6, 2014



October 10, 1941 - December 31, 2013

**Dear Friends, Family, Neighbors, Customers and the entire West Texas Area:**

On behalf of the Bernal family, we would like to thank everyone for their overwhelming outpour of support and blessings during our transition period. We received an incredible amount of condolences, food, flowers, but more importantly, we received the kind of love Gene so willingly displayed during his life. We believe that his legacy will have a greater impact than we could ever fathom. His influence and character were a true display of heart and compassion for humanity. He proved to be the epitome of a loving husband, father, friend, and mentor and he will be greatly missed.

To all those who assisted relentlessly and tirelessly in the search and to those who responded when Gene was found, we salute you! Multiple State Troopers, County Sheriffs, Local Police, EMS, Fire Fighters, 911 Emergency Dispatch, MEDIVAC Personnel from Lubbock and Eloy Rodriguez, Jr.; Also to Jimmy Ripley with his Son Riley who ultimately discovered Gene (grandpa) - Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for what you all did! We saw a community bind itself during a tragedy that was wonderful to see.

Special thanks to the Winters Funeral Home & Flower Shops, Church of Christ & Members & Theresa Gerhart for their excellent service, Sonny Santoya, Alexis Diaz, Javier Garcia & his group for the beautiful music, Lorena Vega for the Rosarie, Pallbearers: Jessie Perez, Jimmy Ripley, (3 sons) Albert, Erik, Gene IV, (3 grandsons) Riley, Jimmy John, Nathaniel; Mary & Richard Arredondo, Paul, Sabrina, & Sky Bishop for their extensive assistance, Love and support.

We know that Gene is resting peacefully in Heaven, but his spirit will live on through his wife (Dora Bernal), children, grandchildren and the iconic landmark he built in Casa Cabana.

Thanks, Gene, for giving us 72 blessed years of your life. It was truly awesome. We'll see you again someday and It will always be "Me and You Pa"!!

With Great Love,  
**The Bernal Family**

**Abilene Area Aggie Mom's Club monthly meeting**

Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 6:45 p.m. the Abilene Area Aggie Mom's Club will be holding its monthly meeting at Coldwell Banker Panian and Mash Building, 2500 S. Willis (S. 27th and Willis, one-half a block N on Willis).

Please join us for a light meal. You will get to meet other Aggie Moms and learn a little more about Texas A&M and all of its traditions.

We meet the third Tuesday of each month, at 6:45 p.m. for refreshments and fun. If you can't make the meeting but would like more information, please call or email Venita Teal (President) 669 0886, vltmini5@gmail.com or Kathy Hocke (Membership) 721 3131, hockeig@camalott.com

**Hopewell Baptist Church hosting Muslim faith speaker**

The Hopewell Baptist Church is having Dr. William Tolar to share information about Islam (the Muslim faith). Dr. Tolar will speak at Hopewell on Sunday, February 9. He will speak at the 11 a.m. service and at a 2 p.m.

Dr. Tolar is a former professor at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. He also

taught at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, for several decades.

Hopewell Baptist Church is located on Texas State Highway 153, 21 miles west of Coleman and 13 miles east of Winters. The public is cordially invited to attend.

**RCRSE to meet on Feb 18**

Runnels County Retired School Educators will meet at the County Extension office on February 18 at 9:30 a.m. Sandy Taylor with the Ag Life Extension Office will do a program on Nutrition for the members. When you come into Ballinger from Winters/Norton turn left and from Miles turn right onto Paint Rock Highway 83/7th St. (at the Courthouse). Travel two blocks then turn left on Sealy Ave. and you will see the Senior Citizens Building. The County Extension Office is at the end of it.

**Eat at home and save workshop starts Feb 25**

Sandy Taylor, Runnels County Family and Consumer Science Extension Agent with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension will be presenting four cooking classes that will teach individuals to plan and prepare more meals at home and in return — save them money. Classes

will be held on February 25, March 18, April 29, and May 6 at the Runnels County Extension Office, 608 Sealy Ave in Ballinger. Classes will begin at 6 p.m. The cost covers all classes. So bring your friends, or come make new friends. For more information or to reserve your spot call the Runnels County Extension Office at (325) 365 5042.

**Immunization clinics in Runnels Co.**

The Texas Department of State Health Services will be holding two immunization clinics in Runnels County. The first clinic will be in Winters from 1:30 to 5:30 Thursday, February 6, 2014, at the Professional Building, 110 South Main, Suite 108. For your convenience please use rear entrance (Grant Street). Please schedule an appointment, if not answer, please leave a message.

The clinic in Ballinger will be Thursday February 13, 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 600 Strong, (corner of Sixth and Strong).

Please bring child's immunization records. If child has Medicaid, please bring card. For more information, call (325) 754 4945.

**Nominations open for Man and Woman of the Year**

The Winters Area Chamber of Commerce is taking nominations for Man and Woman of the Year. If you would like to nominate someone, please send a brief letter with the name of the person you would like to nominate and the reasons you feel they deserve to be Man or Woman of the Year.

Please send nomination to: Winters Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 662, Winters, Texas 79567

You can also drop off your nomination letter to Pam or Randal Barnes.

**Fundraiser for Chad McDuffee**

An account has been established at the First National Bank of Ballinger to accept donations or sponsorships for Chad McDuffee. McDuffee is a Ballinger native and veteran of the Iraq War. Chad lost most of the use of his right foot after sustaining an injury while on deployment in Iraq in 2006. Chad earned a bronze medal in the 2013 Valor Games Midwest in powerlifting and is currently trying to earn a spot on the U.S. Paralympic Team in time for the 2016 World Games in Brazil. Donations to the account will be used to help defray his travel expenses and purchase special equipment for training.

**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.

**AA Meetings**

AA meeting are held at 204 W. Truett behind church on Main St. Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m.

**City Council Meetings**

Winters City Council meets at 6 p.m. the last Monday of the month at 310 North Main.

You are cordially invited to hear  
**Dr. William Tolar**  
speak on Islam (the Muslim faith)  
**February 9th at 11 A.M. and 2 P.M.**  
**Hopewell Baptist Church**  
**State Highway 153**  
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*13 miles east of Winters*

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**DAILY CLEARANCE ITEMS**  
M-F 9:00 to 5:30 • SAT 10:00-5:00

Keith Collom is proudly asking for your vote for his daughter, Amanda Collom, a 1995 Winters graduate, in the Republican Primary for the office of Runnels County Clerk, election to be held on March 4th.

Amanda has served as a Deputy Clerk in the Runnels County Clerk's Office since 2010. Amanda will provide a smooth, cost effective transition for our county.

Amanda, who is a 5th generation Runnels County resident, moved back to the county to be near her family and to raise her children. Amanda has always been in the business of serving others and has always done so with a positive attitude.

Elesa Ocker (our County Clerk since 1998) trained Amanda and would not be retiring if she did not believe that Amanda was prepared to do the job, and leaving the office in good hands.

Amanda attended the County and District Clerk School last month and is prepared to meet the State's new mandatory systems which must be in place by January 1, 2015. Amanda was also selected as a Board Member at the State Conference in December to assist in the final developments of the new Vital Statistics System which also goes into effect January 1, 2015.

Please vote in the best interest of our County • Vote Amanda Collom for Runnels County Clerk • Thank You

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**ATHLETIC REPORT**

**Winters Junior High Basketball**

**Eighth Grade Breezes**

District Tournament Saturday Feb. 1, 2014  
Winters 37, Christoval 22  
Hood 13, Diaz 12, Rodriguez 4, Garcia 2, Hadlock 2,  
Mendoza 2, Hernandez 2

Championship game  
Winters 45, TLCA 15  
Diaz 12, Hood 11, Ochoa 7, Garcia 6, Hadlock 4, Rodri-  
guez 3, Mendoza 2

Season record 13-0, District Champions

**Going up for the glass**

Tuesday, January 28, 2014 the Winters Blizzards played vs. Eldorado. Winters was defeated by a score of 46-38. Pictured here is Daryl Hagle going in for a lay up. As of press time and pending February 4 results, TLCA (10-0) and Christoval (8-1) had secured a playoff berth in District 8-1A boys basketball. Winters is third in the standing with a district record of 4-5.

PHOTO: JOE GERHART

**Family meal time: Make meals and memories together**

**WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT**  
**BALLINGER**— With today's busy schedules, many families do not have time to sit down and enjoy a meal together. But having family meal time has many benefits says Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent, Sandy Taylor.  
In fact, research shows that compared to children who seldom participate in family meals, children who sit down to regular family meals consume more fruits, vegetables and fiber, consume less

soda and fried foods, and eat less heart damaging saturated and trans fat. Families that eat together also have more time and opportunities to communicate and build relationships and these children tend to perform better academically.  
Families can experience positive benefits by eating together at least four to five times per week with these tips:  
- If possible, start eating meals together as a family when your kids are young. This way, it becomes a habit.

- Plan when you will eat together as a family. Write it on your calendar!  
- During the meal, focus on each other. Turn off the TV and cell phones.  
- Talk about fun and happy things and make meal time stress-free.  
- Encourage your child to try foods, but do not lecture or force your child to eat.  
FCS Agent Taylor also says that you do not have to cook an elaborate meal to enjoy the benefits of family time together.  
To learn more about family meals contact AgriLife at (325) 365 5042.

**CAFETERIA MENU**  
*Subject to Change\**

**Feb. 10-14**  
**Winters ISD Breakfast Menu**

**Monday**  
Breakfast Taco or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

**Tuesday**  
Pancake/Syrup or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

**Wednesday**  
Breakfast Burrito/Salsa or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

**Thursday**  
Sausage Roll or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

**Friday**  
Muffin or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

**Winters ISD Lunch Menu**

**Monday**  
Chef Salad or Sloppy Joe or Chicken Nuggets/Bread Stick (H.S.), Mac & Cheese, Mashed Potatoes, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Pear, Choice of Milk.

**Tuesday**  
Chef Salad or Chicken/Bun or Chicken Spaghetti/Bread Stick, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Blue Bell Fruit Bar, Choice of Milk.

**Wednesday**  
Chef Salad or Machos or Soft Taco, Spanish Rice/Coleslaw, Pinto Beans, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Orange, Choice of Milk.

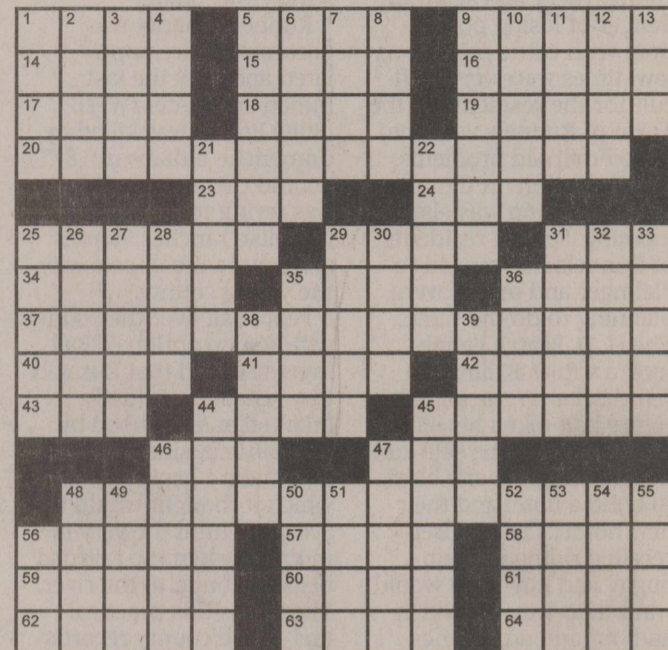
**Thursday**  
Chef Salad or Salisbury Steak/Bread Stick (Elem., J.H.)/Hot Roll (H.S.) or Chicken Tenders/Bread Stick, Mashed Potatoes w/Brown Gravy, Broccoli w/Cheese, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Strawberry, Choice of Milk.

**Friday**  
Chef Salad (H.S. only) or Hamburger or Chicken Bites/Bread Stick, Black Eyed Peas, Oven Fries, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Apple, Choice of Milk.

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

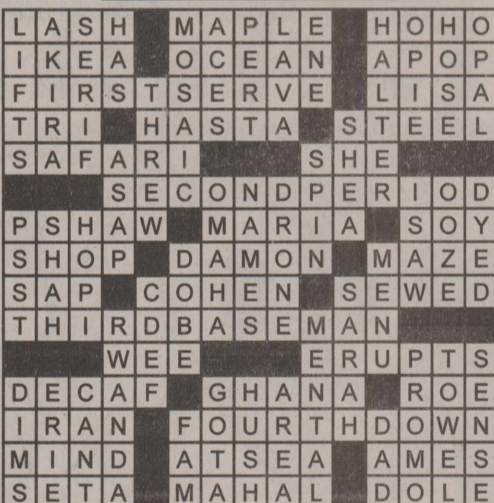
"Made in the Shade"

- Across**
- Fellow
  - Simple boat
  - In a good mood
  - Be in possession of
  - Singer Brickell
  - North of a 1980s scandal
  - Guitarist Clapton
  - "\_\_\_ the Explorer"
  - Thing in a pot
  - Tom Clancy book
  - Word after Quality or Days
  - \_\_\_ Trapp (family name in "The Sound of Music")
  - "\_\_\_ Bovary"
  - Actor Arkin
  - Its T stands for "teller"
  - "You \_\_\_ Beautiful"
  - Part of, as a plot
  - Land amount
  - Dr. Seuss book
  - "A Doll's House" heroine
  - Job for an actor
  - "Old MacDonald" chorus
  - Leave amazed
  - Hard to find
  - They may have drawers
  - Used your teeth
  - "Thanks \_\_\_ asking!"
  - Alice Walker book
  - Request to a restaurant hostess
  - Put an end to
  - Eye part that's also a flower
  - Make \_\_\_ of (remember)
  - "Look \_\_\_!"



- Down**
- One-named singer/actress
  - He loses to the tortoise in a race
  - Enthusiastic
  - Bodybuilder's muscles
  - Completed again
  - Decorate
  - Like a good mattress
  - Crying drop
  - Boards, as a bus
  - Poker statement
  - Scheme
  - \_\_\_-pong
  - Up to now
  - Shakespeare's "\_\_\_ of Athens"
  - The Donald's mate, once
  - \_\_\_ Carta
  - Weapon for Robin Hood
  - John who makes tractors
  - Sailing, poetically
  - Slant
  - Go down in flames
  - Aspirin targets
  - Office notes
  - Dr. Frankenstein's assistant
  - Roll \_\_\_ (take your turn, in many games)
  - One of the Muses
  - India's first prime minister
  - Rags to \_\_\_
  - \_\_\_ a plea
  - Midler or Davis
  - "Kiss \_\_\_ Rose"
  - Tennille or Collette
  - Captain in "Peter Pan"
  - Test for future attorneys: abbr.
  - "The Simpsons" bus driver
  - Paella ingredient
  - Egg on
  - Margarita flavor
  - Sporty cable letters
  - Emeril Lagasse's shout

**LAST WEEK'S ANSWER GRID**



**Weather Whys**

**Q: You sometimes hear the term "Alberta Clipper." What is it?**

**A:** An Alberta Clipper is a winter storm that forms over regions of Canada near the province of Alberta and sweeps in a southeastern direction over the northern United States, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "It is believed the name comes from the big sailing ships of the 1800s, the ones with the huge sails that could travel quite quickly for vessels of that time period and were among the fastest ships on the seas. An Alberta Clipper storm moves quickly once it forms and brings cold temperatures, strong winds, and snowfall to the northern Great Plains and Great Lakes regions," McRoberts explains.

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# ROLL-UP

## Runnels County

Winters Enterprise

Thursday, February 6, 2014

### THE ORGANIZATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY

## Election determines to leave county seat in Runnels City

CONTRIBUTED BY RUTH COOPER  
RCHC CHAIRPERSON

WINTERS- The August 6, 1886 issue of the Eagle indicated the drought conditions were so bad in the county there was again the danger of losing population. With cattle prices very low, times were very difficult for the residents of the Town of Runnels with the added railroad problems.

The election on the county seat petition was also looming. Several residents of Runnels had moved to Ballinger and others were planning to do the same. The H. D. Pearce Family took a trip to Ballinger a few days after the lot sale. Henry had taken his older son, Hubert to the sale and he had bought a city block to build a hotel and their new home. The children recalled riding in their buggy and how they would wind their way around in and out among the mesquite trees and other brush as they worked their way through the "new town."

The county was surveyed in 1886. After the survey, some areas were changed. Fort Chadbourne was continuously occupied from 1852 through March of 1861 and through the Civil War. The fort was successful in giving settlers stability as Runnels County was set aside and named February 1, 1858. Early on, Fort Chadbourne was considered part of Runnels County, but the survey of 1886 indicated it to be located outside the county line on the West. The

survey also changed other areas as well. The Blue Gap Post Office was found to be in Runnels County and not Coleman County as once thought before an earlier survey was made.

Runnels County was becoming more populated and with the last Indian encounter (W. H. (Billy) Brown was killed by Comanche Indians in 1875) behind them, the residents was trying to get settled in, establish ranches, homes and have a life in peace in the young county.

People all over the county with the exception of Ballinger believed that Runnels City had been unjustly insulted and snubbed by the railroad, since the town had made a generous offer which it thought would be accepted until the very last moment when the railroad began to build to the river. There was this practical fact — the county records were already in a safe place in a rock building, the courthouse, and the rent had been paid by the county for five more years. People were reluctant to incur the expense of erecting a building in Ballinger and move the county records. The sooner the question was brought to a vote, the more people there would be in Runnel City to vote. Another factor, anyone now living in Ballinger could not legally vote for another six months.

Some of the new residents of Ballinger, in an attempt to make the residents of Runnels City look ridiculous for wanting an election that would not change anything anyway,

tried through the county papers to convey that Ballinger really did not want the county seat. When this attempt failed and the County Judge had to order the election, Ballinger supporters worked for an injunction to prevent the election.

The injunction came on the afternoon of October 8, the day before the scheduled election in all precincts of the county. Dudley Tom, a Runnels City man had found out that Ballinger was looking for the County Clerk to serve the injunction. Mr. Tom borrowed the best rig that the Fletcher and Webster's Livery Stable could provide and went to get the County Clerk and his Deputy to keep them out of circulation until it was too late for the injunction to be served.

Two Ballinger men had come to Runnels City to prevent the election and saw Dudley Tom jump in the buggy and ask him where he was going. He said his wife had never seen Ballinger and he was taking her over for a visit to the town. The two Ballinger men soon realized his real purpose and gave chase but not before he had picked up Towner and Hurley, the County Clerk and his Deputy. He hid them in a cane patch and the Ballinger men pursued Dudley Tom the rest of the afternoon without ever getting close enough to see that the passengers were no longer with him.

When the time for serving the injunction had expired, Dudley Tom

returned for Towner and Hurley. They had stayed in the cane patch because they were sympathetic with Runnels City. The election over the county was held the next day, October 9, 1886 as scheduled and Ballinger tried to stuff the boxes, when the Wiley Box turned in 500 votes instead of the 14 to which it was entitled, the election judge threw out the box. One man stationed at the polls at Runnels City turned back a hack of illegal voters.

The Runnels County Commissioner's Court met in regular term, the 29th day of November 1886. The honorable Judge Sylvester Adams, Runnels County's first Judge was elected for his fourth term in the 1886, November election, replacing Judge C. H. Willingham who had served the two years when Sylvester Adams did not run to stay in the position. The court reviewed the results of the election to determine if the county seat should be removed from the Town of Runnels to Ballinger, both in the County of Runnels. The following vote was polled with the following result. The vote at Runnels Election Precinct 1; for removal to Ballinger: 68, for remaining at Runnels City: 108. The vote at Content Election Precinct 2; for removal to Ballinger: 1, for remaining at Runnels: 46. The vote at Chadbourne Election Precinct 3; for removal to Ballinger: 0, for remaining at Runnels: 10. The vote at Craig's Election Precinct 4; no returns from this Precinct. The vote at

Maverick Election Precinct 5, for removal to Ballinger: 0, for remaining at Runnels: 18. Recapitulation: Vote for removal to Ballinger: 69, and for remaining at Runnels: 182.

The court records were as follows, "Ballinger being more than five miles from the geographical center of Runnels County and Runnels a point within five miles from the geographical center, a vote of two-thirds of all the electors in the county voting on the question was necessary for removal and Ballinger having failed as appears by the returns of the election. The requisite number of votes was not attained so, it is determined the County Seat of Runnels County, Texas be and remain at Runnels for a period of five years next succeeding, dating from the 9th day of October, A.D. 1886." Runnels County Judge Sylvester Adams hereunto subscribed his name and affixed the Seal of the County Court, done in office in Runnels City, this 20th day of November A. D. 1886. (Runnels County Records, page 385 and 386).

The meeting in the courthouse in Runnels City held November 29, 1886 was then adjourned.

Resources:  
Runnels County Historical Commission Histories  
Runnels County Commissioners Court Minutes, November 29, 1886  
Runnels County Clerk Records  
A History of Runnels County, L. G. Smith

## Agriculture workshop for military

PAUL SCHATTEBERG  
SPECIAL TO THE WINTERS ENTERPRISE

DALLAS - The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, in cooperation with the Texas AgAbility Program and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will present a free agriculture workshop on Feb. 15 in Dallas for current and former members of the military.

The workshop, designed for active duty and veteran military with and without disabilities, will be from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 17360 Coit Road in Dallas. It also is open to women interested in agribusiness, as well as beginning farmers and ranchers, coordinators said.

"From Battleground to Breaking Ground: A Transformational Journey" gives military veterans interested in farming or ranching the opportunity to get information on aspects of starting, developing, and funding an agriculture-based business, according to coordinators. It was developed with input from AgriLife Extension, AgAbility, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, the National Farmer Veteran Coalition, Farm Service Agency, Texas Department of Agriculture and others.

Attendees must RSVP at <http://txagrability.tamu.edu> or download the registration form from the website.

For more information, call at 979-847-6185 or email [orempilosi@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:orempilosi@ag.tamu.edu) or at 979-845-3727 or [chgrenwelge@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:chgrenwelge@ag.tamu.edu).

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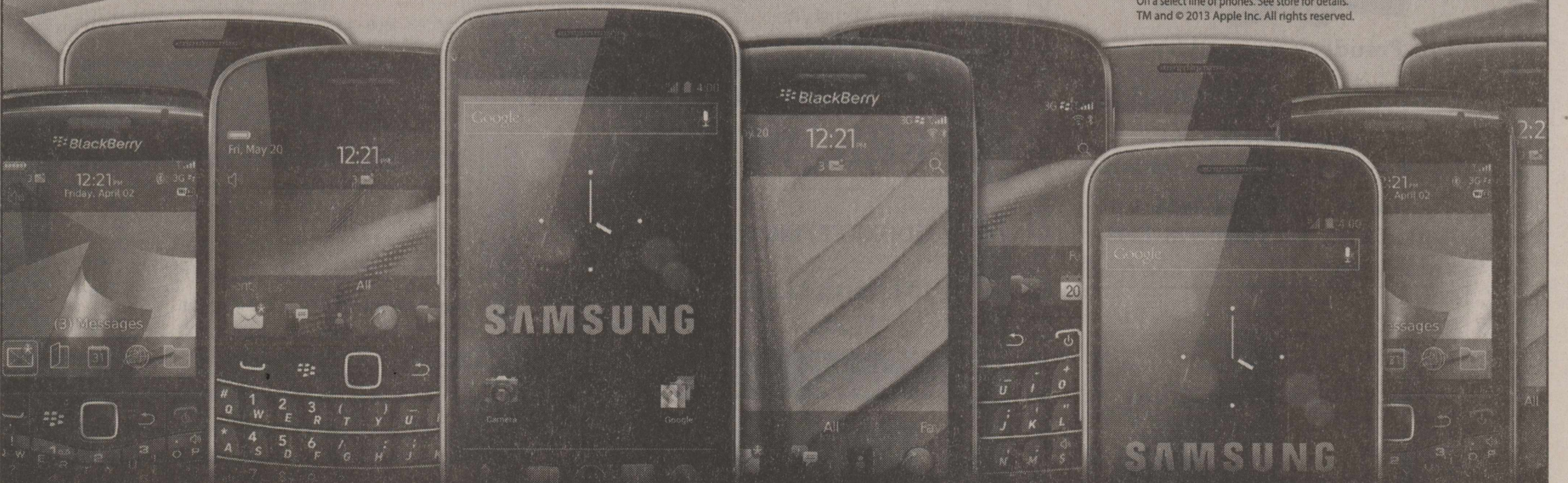
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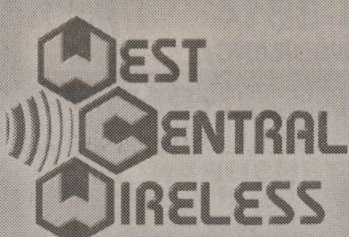
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## Going for two

The Winters Lady Blizzards played vs. Eldorado on Tuesday, January 28, 2014. Winters was defeated by a score of 55-43. Pictured here is Bailee Busher making a shot under the basket. Pending Tuesday night, February 4 results, the Lady Blizzards had a record of 3-8, and 9-16 overall for the 2013-2014 season.

PHOTO: JOE GERHART



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## Veteran's Corner

There will be an "Honor Flight" in September flying out of Midland and sponsored by the Permian Basin Honor Flight. This is a "free" flight for WWII veterans to see their Memorial in Washington, D.C. Guardians or volunteers must pay \$1,600. I have applications and would love to sign up any veteran who wishes to go. I would also volunteer to help any of our veterans that go. Please let me know if you are interested. The flight costs approximately \$250,000 which has to be raised before September. If you want to donate, let me know. For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or call 365 3612.

Sandra G. Van Zant  
 Veterans County Service Officer  
 P.O. Box 108  
 Ballinger, TX 76821  
 PHONE (325) 365-3612  
 E-MAIL rcvso@wtxs.net

## Camp Bowie hosts annual wildfire academy

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

BROWNWOOD- Firefighters are invited to attend a wildfire academy at Camp Bowie, Texas in preparation for the 2014 wildfire season.

In an effort to enhance skills and learn new firefighting techniques, responders from across the country will get hands-on experience utilizing the National Wildfire Coordination Group training standards.

"This academy offers a great chance for all firefighters to better their skills in fighting wildfires. These courses help us all protect our communities more effectively and go home safe at the end of the day," said Phillip Truitt, Texas A&M Forest Service wildland urban interface specialist.

The Central Texas Wildfire Academy held from Feb. 13 - 17 accommodates all skill levels of municipal, rural and wildland firefighters. Participants will have the option to choose classes that interest and best serve them including: introductory, intermediate, advanced and squad boss, ignition operations, and tanker shuttle courses.

Firefighters approved for grant funding through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program or the TIFMAS Grant Assistance Program are not required to pay for training.

For more information and registration visit the Texas Interagency Coordinating Center. To complete a grant application for tuition visit [texasfd.com](http://texasfd.com)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**DINNER & A MOVIE FUNDRAISER FOR CHAD MCDUFFEE**  
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 2013-TABC-LEGISLATIVE CHANGES- CITY AND COUNTY TRAINING  
 2013-ELECTION ID TRAINING  
 2013- LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS TRAINING  
 2012 -HART- ELECTION PROGRAMS AND EQUIPMENT TRAINING  
 2011 -VITAL STATISTICS- REGIONAL TRAINING

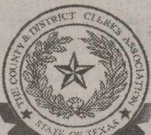
2010 -VITAL STATISTICS-STATE TRAINING  
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I AM THE ONLY CANDIDATE THAT CAN PROVIDE A SMOOTH TRANSITION FOR THE COUNTY AS WELL AS SAVE THE COUNTY THE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF TRAINING SOMEONE WITH NO DEPUTY CLERK EXPERIENCE

I WANT TO SERVE YOU AS THE RUNNELS COUNTY CLERK - PLEASE VOTE AMANDA COLLOM IN THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ON MARCH 4, 2014.



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