

The town of Runnels City had exhausted 'every legal remedy,' and managed to remain the county seat but the victory came too late to save her crumbling fortunes.

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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Volume 24, Issue 11

Thursday, February 13, 2014

Winters, Texas 75c

## Fundraiser for Norma Jo Collins

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- A fajita dinner fundraiser will be held Sunday, February 23, 2014 for Norma Jo Collins. Jo has been diagnosed with a rare form of lymphoma and also has a genetic kidney disease. A fajita dinner with the trimmings will be held from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the WISD school cafeteria.

Plates will be available for adults and for children 10 and under. A live and silent auction will be held in conjunction with the meal along with a quilt that will be given away at the meal. Tickets for the quilt are available individually or at a discounted rate for six tickets. Jo has been an LVN since the late 1970s and has cared for many residents of Winters and Runnels County in her nursing career. Jo will not be able to work while she is taking chemo treatments.

Volunteers will be contacting the community to help give back to Jo in her time of need. Money raised at the benefit will help defray Jo's medical insurance. If you would like to donate your time at the meal, donate auction items or funds to help pay for expenses, please contact Bobbie Collom at (325) 977 7379, Teresa Walden at (325) 669 8157, or Kim Jackson at (325) 365 6657 or drop by Hatler Insurance.

## Enough with the cold

The cold weather will be giving Winters and all the Big Country a short break for the following few days, after the hazardous road conditions recorded on Tuesday, February 11, 2014.

According to the NWS the lowest temperature will be Wednesday night, at 23 °F, and then after that the skies will be starting to clear.

## Early voting by personal appearance starts next week

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

BALLINGER- Early Voting by personal appearance for the March 4 Democratic and Republican Primary Election will be conducted February 18 through February 28, Monday through Friday

from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Courthouse Annex Building, located at 608 Strong Avenue in Ballinger, directly behind the Courthouse.

Any qualified voter is eligible to vote early in person. Voters are reminded that identification

is required when voting. Sample ballots are available at the County Clerk's Office in Ballinger and at the Tax Branch Office in Winters.

For more information, please contact the County Clerk's Office at 365 2720.

## Chamber taking nominations for Man, Woman of the Year

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- The Winters Area Chamber of Commerce is now taking nominations for Man and Woman of the Year. Nominations are open until March 8, 2014.

Nominations should include the name of the person being nominated, the reasons why this person deserves to be Man or Woman of the Year, and the signature of the person making the

nomination. Announcements for Man, Woman and Business of the Year will be made during the Chamber's Annual Banquet, to be held on March 29, 2014 at the Winters Community Center.

This Year's theme for the gala will be "A Day at the Beach." Meal will be steak, mashed potatoes, seasoned green beans, salad, and yeast rolls. Dessert will follow. Choice of drinks will be tea and coffee.

## Business of the Quarter



The Senior Citizens Nursing Home, located at 506 Van Ness, was awarded Business of the Quarter, for the first quarter of 2014 by the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce. The award was presented by chamber President Pam Barnes to Danny Prado on Friday, February 7, 2014.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Eligible to participate in Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. Head Start are children from birth to age 5 who meet federal guidelines.

## WINTERS HEAD START

### A wide array of services for families in the Winters area

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- Serving children ages 3-5, Head Start, a program of Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. has a wide array of services available for families in the Winters area.

Head Start was started with the belief that regardless of one's circumstances, everyone deserves the chance to have a better future. Head Start accomplishes this by supporting the growth of the whole child and family. Physical wellness, social - emotional development and early learning experiences help children and their families succeed.

Head Start is a comprehensive child development program which serves children from birth to age five and their families. The programs are child-focused and have the overall goal of increasing the school readiness of young children in low-income families.

Head Start provides a range of individualized services in the areas of education, medical, dental and mental health, nutrition and social service to children and their families.

Priority assistance is given to children from low-income families and children with a disability, including a severe disability. Income eligibility requirements for Head Start may be waived, if a child has a current Individualized Education Plan.

What does the Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. Head Start 3 and 4-year-old program offer?

The 3 and 4-year-old program currently serves 356 children and serves seven area counties including: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, McCulloch and Runnels. Ten centers are available to families in these counties.

A variety of services are offered to children and their families who participate in the program, including nutrition, health, education and disabilities services.

Who is eligible to participate in Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. Head Start? Children from birth to age 5 who meet federal poverty guidelines may be eligible for Head Start services. Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. Head Start has established priorities for enrolling children based upon child and family circumstances, community needs and available funds.

Winters individuals interested in completing an application can contact Winters Head Start at (325) 754 4325.

## WHS BASKETBALL SENIORS

# TURNING THE PAGE

Playing their last minutes of their basketball career with Winters High School, the senior players are pictured to right: Alanna Cooper, Kalli Wilson, Lauren Bredemeyer, Sabrina Esquivel, Courtney Wyatt, Tamron Tamez, Kara Heathcott, Jaymee Pritchard, Chris Gerhart, Stormie Diaz.

PHOTO: JOE GERHART



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**FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES**

**Karen Austin**

Karen Smith Austin died on Thursday, January 9 in McKinney, Texas. She was 73. She is survived by her husband, Roy, her children, Toni and Greg and their families, along with countless relatives, colleagues and friends. A memorial service for Karen will be on Saturday, February 15 at 11 a.m. at Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the McKinney Young Artist Competition, 701 Sorrell Road, McKinney, Texas and for autism research through the Autism Research Institute at [www.autism.com](http://www.autism.com). Karen's life was a rare and wonderful blend of love, beauty, excellence and strength. Her devotion to her family was foremost and unwavering, but she also created a sense of family among all those whom she knew and loved. As a piano teacher, her love for her students was as deep and expressive as her lifelong love for the music she taught. Karen delighted in all that was truly beautiful, both in things and in people. She created a world of beauty all around her, including her home, her joyous celebrations, her inspiring music and, most of all, through her gracious smile and generous spirit. Karen sought excellence in all she did, whether in her long career as a teacher, as a leader in numerous professional and community organizations, or as she ministered to so many by sharing her musical gifts through her passion for genuine worship. Karen was a woman of extra-ordinary strength, both in character and conviction. She used adversity as an opportunity for constant learning and growth, personal success as a means to affirm others rather than self, and responsibility as a power to be used for good. Karen Austin's accomplishments are too many to describe, her limitations too few to mention and her essence too deep to fathom. For most of us, when we are gone, our presence is merely absent. There are those few among us who, when they leave us, create an absence that is ever present. Karen Austin was one of those people. She loved us, she inspired us, and we will miss her greatly.

Winters Enterprise, February 13, 2014

Obituaries in The Winters Enterprise are also online, check out our webpage at [MyRunnelsCounty.com](http://MyRunnelsCounty.com)



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San Angelo, TX 76903 [Brandon@Mi-Benefit.com](mailto:Brandon@Mi-Benefit.com)

**NEWS NOTES**

**Norton Windy Top Wind Energy meeting**

The Norton Windy Top Wind Energy Project Board of Directors will have a meeting on Tuesday, May 13 at the Norton Community Center at 7 p.m. to discuss future plans of the project. If you would like more information, please submit your request in writing to: Norton Wind Energy Project, P.O. Box 63, Ballinger TX 76821

**Cyber world issues conference to be held at WHS**

Winters ISD is honored to host Mr. James Paul Cummings Jr. one night only on March 3, 2014 at 6 p.m. in the High School auditorium. Mr. Cummings is a professor at ASU and Senior Special Agent for the Department of Homeland Security specializing in Homeland Security Investigations.

Mr. Cummings will speak to our community about the following important issues we face in this new digital age. Social Media Issues, Identity Theft, Internet bullying, Child Exploitation/Child Pornography cases worked in our area. This event is open to anyone in our community. For additional information, please contact: Billy Mobley at (325) 754 5574 or [billy.mobley@wintersisd.org](mailto:billy.mobley@wintersisd.org).

**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

**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 clinic in Runnels Co.**

The Texas Department of State Health Services will be holding an immunization clinic in Ballinger on 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.

**SAAF scholarship application now available**

The San Angelo Area Foundation's 2014 scholarship application is now available through March 1, 2014, for

students attending college in the fall of 2014. Interested students can apply at <http://www.saafound.org>, by clicking on the "Scholarships" tab. The San Angelo Area Foundation manages over 80 scholarship funds, created by generous donors for the benefit of students. The student need only complete one online application and each scholarship is awarded based on a variety of qualifications unique to each scholarship fund. Scholarship awards are announced in early May. If you have any questions during the application process, please contact our office either by email at [scholarship@saafound.org](mailto:scholarship@saafound.org) or by calling (325) 947 7071.

**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.

**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 Sylvia Wilson 754 4992 for additional information.

**AA Meetings**

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

**Ballinger Al-Anon meetings**

Al-Anon meetings will be held every Monday and Wednesday at the First United Methodist Church of Ballinger, on Broad Ave. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Please enter through the south side of the church.

**City Council Meetings**

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

**TEEA 'Friendly Neighbors'**

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If you are interested and like to find out more about us, call Nancy at 365 5042 or Linda 754 5385.

**WIC open to many incomes and families**

Women, Infants and Children, located at 706 Strong Ave in Ballinger is open Monday thru Wednesday 7 a.m. till noon and 1 p.m. till 6 p.m.

Closed every third and fourth Monday of each month. Phone (325) 365-5925. WIC is open to many incomes and all kinds of families.

**Ballinger Masonic Lodge meeting**

Masonic Lodge 643, 500 N Broadway, Ballinger, Texas. Stated meetings are at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of every month except for holidays if it falls on that Monday. For more information call (325) 365 3202.

**Wingate Masonic Lodge meetings**

Wingate Masonic Lodge 1042 A.F. & A.M., meetings on fourth Monday of the month, at 6:30 p.m. at Wilmeth, Texas Lodge. For further information contact Hank Bourdo, at 754 2048.

**Paint Rock Masonic Lodge meetings**

Paint Rock Masonic Lodge No. 613 will have stated meetings on the first Thursday night of each month at 7:30 p.m. beginning January 2, 2014. Supper will be provided after the meeting. The location is the Masonic Lodge building located at 360 South Roberts on Highway 83 South.

Dear friends... The simple words "thank you" do not convey our appreciation for the kindness, support, and caring thoughts we received during the recent loss of our loved ones. The food, flowers, cards, and prayers will not be forgotten.

Again Thanks,

*The McCabe, DeBerry, and Hughes families*

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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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# ROUND-UP

## Runnels County

4 Winters Enterprise

Thursday, February 13, 2014

### THE ORGANIZATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY

## Runnels City loses battle to railroad, drought

CONTRIBUTED BY RUTH COOPER  
RCHC CHAIRPERSON

WINTERS—The town of Runnels City had exhausted “every legal remedy”, and managed to remain the county seat but the victory came too late to save her crumbling fortunes. Failures of the different railroad projects to go through Runnels City and the devastating drought presented unsurmountable obstacles to the once thriving frontier town. With each passing day, more and more people were moving to the new railroad metropolis on the Colorado River.

The sunbaked citizens of Runnels City could not set un-tempted in their rapidly deteriorating town

while five miles away gaily and money flowed freely. Ballinger did not feel the drought so much and continued to display a carnival atmosphere throughout every day. Few people could see any point starving in Runnels City when business and residence lots were waiting to be occupied in Ballinger. For those wanting to move, the movers would set the houses on the running gears of wagons and make the five mile trip to Ballinger. On some occasions, the family would live in the house at night and ride in wagons by day.

Ballinger was the western terminus of the railroad and a wide open

surging city.

According to the records of Jim Johnson, early day rancher and financier, he remembered a lot about the old trail drivers and the various situations of the time. He tells the following story: “In 1886, I married Miss Cora Walden and the following year, I trailed a herd for Jim Parramore, whose headquarters were on Bluff Creek, five miles north of Runnels City, to Cooledge, Kansas as the boss of the outfit. We made a pretty fair drive, average time and nothing except the usual stampedes, storms, high water and Indians begging for beef to contend with. I rode the cushions back almost to my very door for the first time since I had been in Runnels County. The Santa Fe had built to within six miles of Runnels City and laid out the town of Ballinger, just close enough to kill our town.”

The first cemetery in Ballinger, Texas was located on a hill near the forks of the Colorado River and Elm Creek in the southeast

part of the city. It was thought to be the burial place for a Major Huston who had died a few weeks after Ballinger was established June 29, 1886; however there are no county records concerning Major Huston. Several decades later, several of the graves in this early cemetery were washed up by a flood.

Shortly after the establishment of Ballinger, the Ballinger Cemetery Company was formed with J. A. Ollive, A. Mathews and W. S. Davis as Trustees. It would be completed July 11, 1888, when the trustees purchased from the Gulf, Colorado and Sante Fe Railroad Company a lot of 10 acres of land to be used as a cemetery. This land was located in the northwest part of Ballinger according to deed records. Stories of another early cemetery once existed on land southwest of and adjacent to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ballinger. Research has not proven any records regarding this burial site.

The controversy that had begun at Runnels before

the lot sale at Ballinger continued. Opposition to moving the county seat persisted. The most prominent people of the county were fighting hard to keep the county seat at Runnels. S. P. Brown was one of those best loved and most respected citizens. In “Biographical Sketches of Confederate Soldiers”, written by Henry Davis Pearce of Runnels City, a more glowing tribute had seldom been given than one written at his death by the Honorable A. C. Avery. Avery was a Judge of the Supreme Court of North Carolina when the letter was written. He had been a comrade of Brown on the battlefields of the Civil War. Brown had come into the county in 1879, settling in the Blue Gap Community. He helped organize the county and always took an active part and interest in the county affairs.

He with his family had just moved into Runnels City in 1885. His move could have been to see that his daughter had advantages of a good school and piano lessons

as well as a city life. Most everyone in Runnels had invested in good lots and nice homes and to change would mean personal and financial losses to the many families of the Town of Runnels.

It was the fall of 1886; Henry D. Pearce made daily trips to Ballinger to work on the block he had purchased. His children kept the post office going in the old Brandt Hotel where the family also lived. He had hired a house-moving business to move their house to the block in Ballinger.

Meanwhile, life went on in both areas. The ladies of the Pearce family made curtains, quilts and rugs for the hotel being built in Ballinger. It would be known as the Pearce Hotel.

**Resources:**  
Runnels County Historical Commission Histories  
The Pearce's Pioneering Days in Texas, Zelma (Haley) Strom  
A History of Runnels County, Texas L. G. Smith  
In Remembrance, Runnels County Historical Commission, 1985

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## Financial Focus

### Use 'tax diversification' to help manage retirement income

You need to save and invest as much as possible to pay for the retirement lifestyle you've envisioned. But your retirement income also depends, to a certain degree, on how your retirement funds are taxed. And that's why you may be interested in tax diversification.

To understand the concept of tax diversification, you'll need to be familiar with how two of the most important retirement-savings vehicles — an IRA and a 401(k) — are taxed. Essentially, these accounts can be classified as either “traditional” or “Roth.”

When you invest in a traditional IRA or 401(k), your contributions may be tax-deductible and your earnings can grow tax deferred. With a Roth IRA or 401(k), your contributions are not deductible, but your distributions can potentially be tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions. (Keep in mind, though, that to contribute to a Roth IRA, you can't exceed designated income limits. Also, not all employers offer the Roth option for 401(k) plans.)

Of course, “tax free” sounds better than “tax deferred,” so you might think that a Roth option is always going to be preferable. But that's not necessarily the case. If you think your tax bracket will be lower in retirement than when you were working, a traditional IRA or 401(k) might be a better choice, due to the cumulative tax deductions you took at a higher tax rate. But if your tax bracket will be the same, or higher, during retirement, then the value of tax-free distributions from a Roth IRA

or 401(k) may outweigh the benefits of the tax deductions you'd get from a traditional IRA or 401(k).

So making the choice between “traditional” and “Roth” could be tricky. But here's the good news: You don't necessarily have to choose, at least not with your IRA. That's because you may be able to contribute to both a traditional IRA and a Roth IRA, assuming you meet the Roth's income guidelines. This allows you to benefit from both the tax deductions of the traditional IRA and the potential tax-free distributions of the Roth IRA.

And once you retire, this “tax diversification” can be especially valuable. Why? Because when you have money in different types of accounts, you gain flexibility in how you structure your withdrawals — and this flexibility can help you potentially increase the amount of your after-tax disposable income. If you have a variety of accounts, with different tax treatments, you could decide to first make your required withdrawals (from a traditional IRA and 401(k) or other employer-sponsored plan), followed, in order, by withdrawals from your taxable investment accounts, your tax-deferred accounts and, finally, your tax-free accounts. Keep in mind, though, that you may need to vary your actual sequence of withdrawals from year to year, depending on your tax situation. For example, it might make sense to change the order of withdrawals, or take withdrawals from multiple accounts, to help reduce taxes and avoid moving into a different tax bracket.

Clearly, tax diversification can be beneficial. So after consulting with your tax and financial advisors, consider ways of allocating your retirement plan contributions to provide the flexibility you need to maximize your income during your retirement years.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Submitted by Larry Gilbert.

## Veteran's Corner

As you may be aware, the eBenefits web portal was shut down for a period of time in January and a limited number of veterans had some of their private information exposed to other veterans or service members that were logged into the site. On the evening of Wednesday January 15, 2014, they updated a system that provides

information to eBenefits. While in the process of the update, some veterans notified VA that they were able to see other veterans' information when they were using eBenefits. They took action and stopped the update immediately and conducted a review to determine what went wrong. The eBenefits portal is now available to use. It's important to know that this was not a malicious act of hacking to steal veterans' identities, but rather a problem introduced by a software update. The initial analysis indicates that approximately 1,360 veterans or service members may have had their information inadvertently exposed to other veterans or service members. Their information was potentially seen by as many as 5,351 fellow veterans and service members who were logged into eBenefits during the update. VA's independent Data Breach Core Team is continuing its review of this incident. When their review is complete, VA will reach out to each individual user whose information may have been improperly exposed, about what steps should be taken and, as is standard VA practice, to offer free credit monitoring. 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.

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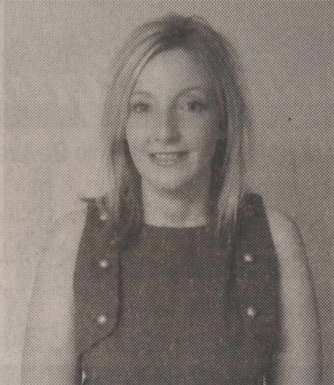
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## AMANDA COLLOM FOR RUNNELS COUNTY CLERK



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2013 -MODERNIZING VITAL RECORDS- STATE  
TRAINING  
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  
2010-2014 -DEPUTY CLERK-TRAINED BY ELESA  
OCKER, RUNNELS COUNTY CLERK SINCE 1998  
2010-2013 - REPRESENTED THE RUNNELS  
COUNTY COURTHOUSE ON THE BALLINGER  
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

I HAVE THE JOB EXPERIENCE, THE CLASSROOM TRAINING, THE CUSTOMER SERVICE AND THE MANAGEMENT BACKGROUND TO BE A SUCCESSFUL COUNTY CLERK.

I HAVE RECEIVED TRAINING ON THE BASICS OF THE NEW SYSTEMS THAT ARE MANDATORY FOR RUNNELS COUNTY BY JANUARY 1, 2015.

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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**Hwy 158 to be expanded between  
Garden and Sterling cities**

**WINTERS ENTERPRISE**  
STAFF REPORT

SAN ANGELO -In the coming months, a series of three construction projects, with two different contractors will be underway along a 46-mile stretch of State Highway 158 between US 87, north of Sterling City, and the Midland County line, about 20 miles east of the intersection with Interstate 20 in Midland. These improvements will widen the existing section of two-lane highway to a four-lane undivided highway.

Reece Albert, Inc., was awarded a \$19.2 million project to expand a 14-mile section of SH 158 between Garden City and the Sterling County line in November 2013. Barricades have been placed and construction is scheduled to begin the week of February 10.

Work will begin with the extension of the existing culverts. This activity is expected to last six weeks and to have little impact on traffic. The speed limit has been reduced to 65 mph in the work zone and a 10-foot width restriction is in place along the entire project in Glasscock and Sterling Counties. Construction on this segment is scheduled to be completed in August of 2016.

Last fall, Price Construction was awarded the \$13.8 million western expansion of SH 158 from Garden City at RM 33 to the Midland County line. Improvements to this 18-mile section began in October 2013 and are expected to be completed by March 2015.

Price Construction was also the successful bidder for the final segment, a 14.4 mile section.

**Record-setting  
Grand Champion  
at Ft. Worth Show**

**WINTERS ENTERPRISE**  
STAFF REPORT

FORT WORTH- Community support for Texas youth was evident during the Ft. Worth Stock Show and Rodeo, as \$3.3 million was generated for the 2014 Junior Sale of Champions. Local business owners, executives and individuals purchased 295 head of steers, barrows, lambs and goats.

The grand champion steer, a 1,335-pound European crossbred, was exhibited by Flint Newman of Stanton. Coors Distributing Company of Fort Worth topped all challenges with an impressive \$200,000 bid. The reserve grand champion steer was a 1,339-pound European crossbred exhibited by Jayton Cogburn of Eastland. Hillwood Properties purchased the reserve steer for \$140,000.

The grand champion barrow was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Bass for \$45,000. Claire McCormick of Canyon showed the crossbred barrow. Syracuse Food Group, LLC topped the bidding at \$25,000.

The grand champion lamb, shown by Teah Alane Patton of Silverton, was sold to the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Foundation for \$34,000. The res. champion lamb, exhibited by Rachel Evenson of Stephenville, went to the Ladies on the Lamb for \$27,000.

*To the Kind People of Winters, TX*  
Thank you so much for the prayers, cards, phone calls, flowers and food provided for us during the loss of Varnell Pierce. Your thoughtfulness was so much appreciated and your love was certainly felt during this most difficult time. Thank you, once again, for your kindness and for your prayers.  
**Varnell Pierce Family**

**Casa Cabana**

*Valentine's Day Special*

special only available from 5pm-9:30pm

**New York Strip \$13.95**

1 inch / 1 pound Steak w/FF or Baked Potato, Toast, Side Salad, Reg. Size Tea, and Choice of Dessert

**Sirloin Steak for Two \$22.95**

Each Steak w/FF or Baked Potato, Toast, Side Salad, Reg. Size Tea, and Choice of Dessert

**Sirloin Steak \$12.95**

Steak w/FF or Baked Potato, Toast, Side Salad, Reg. Size Tea, and Choice of Dessert

**Dessert Options:** Slice of Chocolate Cake or Cheese Cake w/Strawberries

**JULIA MILLER  
FOR  
RUNNELS COUNTY  
CLERK**



Julia Miller, daughter of Dr. Robert & Beth Miller, was born in Winters, raised in Ballinger and is a fourth generation resident of Runnels County. She is the second of four children who include Lori McClung, Nancy Minzenmayer and Rob Miller. She and her siblings grew up helping their dad at his vet clinic and at their ranch while developing a healthy respect for hard work as well as a deep love for animals. Julia graduated from Ballinger High School in 1979 and attended Hardin-Simmons University on a basketball scholarship. Her sophomore year, she transferred to Texas A&M University and graduated in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in Animal Science with an emphasis on equine studies. She began working in the thoroughbred industry during college which continued after graduation. She worked with thoroughbreds throughout the United States and later found her way to south Texas training horses on the King Ranch.

In 1990, she made the decision to follow a childhood dream and moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in film and television. Working sporadically as an actress, she needed a "day job" to pay the bills so she held down a full time job while studying acting. Initially, Julia worked as a messenger but rapidly worked her way up into a position as a facility manager in one of the larger law firms in Los Angeles. She was a supervisor of over 20 drivers/messengers and coordinated all incoming and outgoing deliveries, court filings, court research, service of process and mobile document copying. She later was offered a position with a litigation support company in Century City. In this new position as head of the accounting department, she managed all of the accounting systems and developed the department from the ground up. She was supervisor of two accounting clerks and was responsible for payables, receivables, invoicing and collections as well as office administration.

As her acting career began to pick up, she quit her "day job" and began working full time as an actress. Julia's hard work paid off and she appeared in dozens of television commercials as well as film and theatrical productions. It was during this time that she realized that she was blessed with a talent for drawing and her works quickly became displayed in private homes across the United States and as far away as Australia. She currently enjoys photography and is self-taught in website and graphic design.

In 2003, tiring of city life and longing for the country, Julia decided to move back to Texas. She wanted to get back to the horse work that she had always loved and also carry on with her artwork while being closer to her family. She returned to training horses until she accepted a position as assistant to the Runnels County Judge in 2011 which she currently holds.

In her spare time, Julia enjoys time with her horses and her adopted boxer, Liberty. As a lover of animals, she has also worked with rescue groups, fostered rescue animals and found loving homes for the animals that she has taken into her care.

Julia is an honest, dependable and highly organized individual and feels that her attention to detail combined with her years of office experience and management make her an excellent choice for the position of Runnels County Clerk.



**YOUR VOTE WILL BE APPRECIATED**  
**REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**MARCH 4, 2014**

*political advertising paid for by Julia Miller*