

The Winters Enterprise



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Volume 25, Issue 49

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Winters, Texas 75¢

Briefly

Winters ISD honors veterans

The Winters Independent School District will honor veterans during the Annual Veterans Day Celebration set for 9 a.m. at the WISD Special Events Center. During the event, veterans will be escorted in to the facility while patriotic music is played. The WHS Band and the Winters Elementary Choir will perform. The Color Guard from the U.S. Air Force will present the colors. There will be a breakfast for veterans at 8 a.m. in the SEC building.

ON THE NET:
www.wintersisd.org

Election results

A total of 235 voters cast ballots during early voting in Runnels County which ended Oct. 30. Due to issues with the press, the Winters Enterprise was unable to post election results in this edition of the paper. The results can be found online at www.wintersenterprise.com.

Voters were casting ballots on seven constitutional amendments determined by the 84th Legislature in the last session.

ON THE NET:
www.wintersenterprise.com

The last drop

Runnels County got a good soaking during rain events Oct. 30 and 31, according to the National Weather Service in San Angelo. A total of 1.77 inches of rain was tallied in Ballinger by the NWS during the two-day event. There is no gauge in Winters and the gauge in Wingate was down last week.

A cold front is expected to arrive in Runnels County today and is expected to bring precipitation with it. A 60 percent chance of rain is predicted today, turning to 20 percent tonight night as a front passes through the area. A 40 percent chance of rain is predicted Friday and into Saturday, as another cold front moves through the area.

Highs temperatures are expected to be in the mid to upper 70s through Friday, with highs dipping in to the mid-60s as another cold front passes through Saturday and Sunday.

So far this year, Ballinger has received 25.48 inches of rain while 26.22 inches has been reported in Wingate. The NWS reported 23.10 inches of rain has fallen in San Angelo.

Pride of West Texas band has great year



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The Winters Blizzard Band dubbed "The Pride of West Texas," advanced to the area round of the UIL marching competition this year. Here, they are pictured at the first contest held Oct. 17 in Early.

BY CHAD MCDUFFEE
WINTERS ENTERPRISE
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The Winters Blizzard Band had a very good year marching

as they advanced all the way to the Area round of the UIL Marching competition. Band Director Phil

Mooney attributes much of their success to having good and interesting music for the students to play. "We pushed

the difficulty," he said, "And they responded. They had the dedication to get it done and they were motivated to achieve high marks."

Winters performance piece this year was a Sparta themed show custom made for the band by Luke McMilian which focused the band and had them enjoying every moment of practice.

After achieving a Division 1 rating at Regionals the Pride of West Texas Band advanced to area where the competition and judging really steps up a



The Winters Blizzards Band advanced to the area UIL competition this year. Pictured here are drum majors Brooklyn Anderson, left, and Justine Alvarado, right.

notch.

Only four teams from the area competition move on to the State competition and even though the Blizzards failed to advance, their accomplishments have been noticed.

"These kids faced some very stiff competition and they did an amazing job. I am extremely proud of them and all the hard work that they put in this year," said Assistant Band Director Karen Mooney.



The Winters Blizzard Band, advanced to the area competition during the UIL contests this year. Here, seniors Samantha Wills, Marissa Gray, Samuel Reyes, Brandon Reyna, Michael Aleman, Chelsea Gray and Alexis Walker are holding the UIL trophy. Not pictured is Mickey Martinez.

Blizzards on the verge of playoffs Winters defeats Miles 22-12

BY CHAD MCDUFFEE
WINTERS ENTERPRISE
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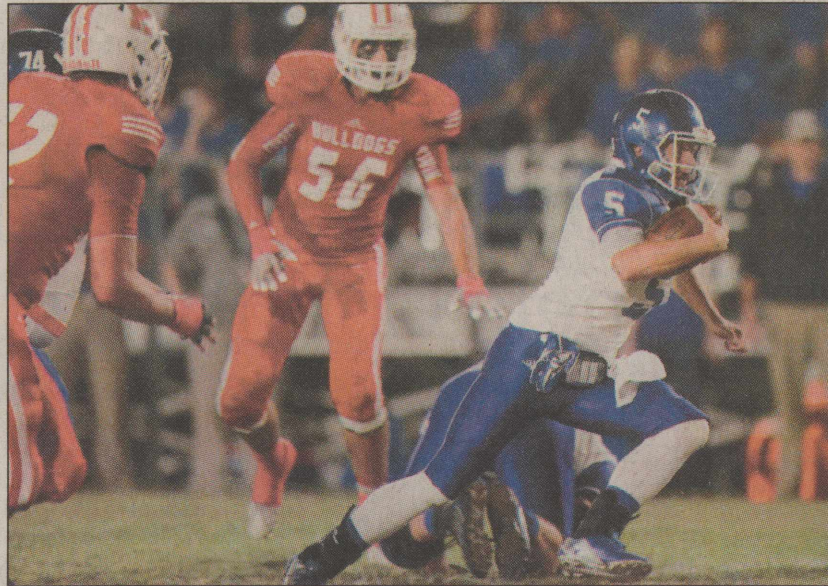
Winters needed to do one of two things to guarantee a playoff berth; win by 12 points against Miles or win their last two games. The Blizzards were able to beat the Miles Bulldogs 22-12 which means they need to win one more. It will either be a second place district finish for Winters or they will miss the playoffs. There is no margin for error.

A big factor for the Blizzards is that they are finally a complete and healthy team. After battling all year to get that way, it made a difference against the Bulldogs. Three players that had not all

played together at any point this season were able to gash Miles for yards all night long. Tyler Richards (9 carries 63 yards), Julian Soto (16-67) and Chris Diaz (15-94-3TD's) were able to do whatever they wanted running behind a big offensive line that also welcomed back two starters in Mason Payne and Andrew Sanchez.

Winters is hoping to have a large crowd for their final home game of the year to support this year's senior class as they close out their football careers for Big Blue.

The Winters Blizzards (2-7, 2-2 district) will face the Menard Yellowjackets (7-2, 3-1 district) in Winters at 7:30 p.m. Friday.



JOE GERHART | PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Winters' Tyler Richards makes a long run on a quarterback keeper during the Blizzards game against the Miles Bulldogs Friday, Oct. 30, 2015. The Blizzards defeated the Bulldogs, 22-12.

Extension agent hits the ground running Texas A & M grad makes Runnels County home

BY CELINDA HAWKINS
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With almost six months under his belt, Texas AgriLife Extension Agent Garrett Cline is getting more familiar with the lay of the land in Runnels County.

Cline hit the ground running in June, when he succeeded former District 7 Extension Agent Marty Gibbs who served as Runnels County extension agent from 2000-2014.

Gibbs now works at the TAMU office in San Angelo.

Cline said he has been very busy since officially starting the position July 1. He said he heard about the position through Gibbs who made the initial contact with Cline about the position. Gibbs recommended the job to Cline and ultimately hired him.

"He is very knowledgeable and came highly



recommended as a graduate of Texas A&M and Mississippi State," said Gibbs who is now the District Extension Administrator at Texas AgriLife Extension in San Angelo. Cline, whose first official day was July 1, said he was excited to apply for the position in Runnels County because of the county's reputation as a leader in agriculture

SEE AGENT, Page 8



THERESA GERHART | PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Winters Blizzards Football Sweetheart candidates were announced last week. Pictured from left to right are Carrie Davis, Bailee Busher, Michaela Rodriguez and Megan Ballard. The Football Sweetheart will be announced during halftime at the football game Friday.

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ADAPT AND OVERCOME

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"I was given today, when I didn't have tomorrow. Leave a mark on the world, how you want to be remembered. Leave this world a better place." -Michael Kacer



Chad McDuffee

100m, 1st in the 200m in 2014; and 2nd in the 200m in 2015.

Elizabeth, while on assignment in Iraq as a combat medic, sustained bilateral hip injuries. Elizabeth is a member of the US Paralympic Swimming Resident Team at the Olym-

pic training center and is the first female Paralympic athlete and Paralympic swimmer in the US Army World Class Athlete Program. Sgt. Wasil captured the 2013 CISM World Title for female wheelchair racing winning three gold medals and setting the 2014 American record in the SB9 200m breaststroke. She also earned the 2015 CISM World Title for Men's Disabled Swimming winning one gold and two bronze medals.

Earlier this year both of these amazing people were selected to compete in a new competi-

tion for disabled veteran's called the Triumph Games. They were two of 12 veteran's that were selected to compete in the inaugural event.

The competition was in August and consisted of a triathlon, gaming tournament and a motorsports challenge.

The Triumph Games will air on the CBS Sports Network

November 11th at 6 p.m. CT and 8 p.m. CT. Tune in to support these great Americans to see who will win the 2015 Triumph Games.

Adapt and Overcome is a new weekly article by Chad McDuffee, a veteran who served 11 years in the U.S. Army. The column will cover his experiences on his journey as an amputee as well as documenting the journeys of others.

"When my body hurts and I feel as though I can't push any harder, I remember all of those who no longer have the choice." -Elizabeth Wasil

Almost three years ago exactly I attended my first tryouts for the Warrior Games. I ended up being one of 50 selected to represent the Army in competition against the other services.

While being selected for the competition was a great accomplishment, even more important to me has been the relationships I've made with the competitors.

Over the last few years I have been able to become a part of a community that provides endless support for each other. Two of the people I met early on were Michael Kacer and Elizabeth Wasil. Both of these individuals have been a source of great inspiration to me personally as well as to many others.

Michael has suffered from traumatic brain injury, PTSD



Michael Kacer



Elizabeth Wasil

and amputation above the left elbow and yet he has many accomplishments. Michael won two Silver and one Bronze medal at the 2014 Invictus Games in the 200m, 4 min Concept 2 Row Machine and 100m, respectively. Michael competed four times in the Paralympic Nationals. He won: 3rd in the 100m, and 2nd in the 200m in 2012; 3rd in the 100m and 2nd in the 200m in 2013; 2nd in the

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dreaming of a Tanzania Safari

Ever dream of going on a safari? Lloyd Farris will share his "Dream Come True" safari with during a special program at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10 at the Winters Public Library. He will narrate and show slides of his amazing Tanzania Safari. The program is free and open to the public and sponsored by the Winters Public Library.

B.E.S.T. Fall Festival

B.E.S.T will have its Fall Festival 5-9 p.m. Saturday. The costume contest will be at 4:30 p.m. and Bingo and booths will open at 5 p.m. Admission is one non-perishable food item per person. All admission fee will be donated to the Winters Samaritan House.

Flu shots, immunizations

Texas Department of State Health Services will have immunization/flu clinics for children with Medicaid, no insurance or underinsured, and adults with no insurance. For questions or to schedule an appointments, please call 754-4945. If there is no answer, leave a message.

The clinic in Winters will be from 10 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 3 p.m. today, at the Professional Building, 110 South Main St., Suite 108. For your convenience, please use rear entrance (Grant Street).

The clinic in Ballinger will be from 10 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 3 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 12 at 600 Strong Ave. Please bring child's Immunization records and if the child has Medicaid, please bring the card.

Aggie Moms Club to meet

The Abilene Area Aggie Moms Club will be holding their annual kick off meeting at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, at the Coldwell Banker Panian & Mash Building at 2500 South Willis Drive. The event will include a light meal and discussions on Aggie traditions. The club meets at 6:45 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month. For more information call Shelley Hughes at 325-669-

6271 or email ramhughes@hotmail.com or Emily Meador at 325-864-3902 or email at emilymeador@gmail.com.

City Council meetings

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

AA resumes in Winters

Alcoholics Anonymous has resumed in Winters. The first meeting was held Tuesday. The group will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m. at 204 W. Truett St. behind First Baptist Church in Winters.

Runnels County Alzheimer's Support Group

The monthly Runnels County Alzheimer's Support Group will be held at Central Texas Nursing and Rehabilitation Center from 6:30-7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month from. All concerned citizens are invited to share in discussion and education about the disease process and caregiver perspective. There is no charge for this public service sponsored by the National Alzheimer's Association.

Sobriety First AA Group

Sobriety First Alcoholics Anonymous group will meet at the First United Methodist Church, in Ballinger, at 7 p.m. every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The group will meet Saturday with prior arrangements. Please use the Avenue A and Seventh Street entrance. Child care is available. For more information please contact the church at 325-365-2323.

Alanon meetings

Alanon meetings are held at the First United Methodist Church in Ballinger at 7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday night. Enter on the Avenue A and Seventh Street side. Alanon is open to all family and friends of alcoholics or drug users. Child care is available. For more information call 325-365 2323.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS OF THE QUARTER



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

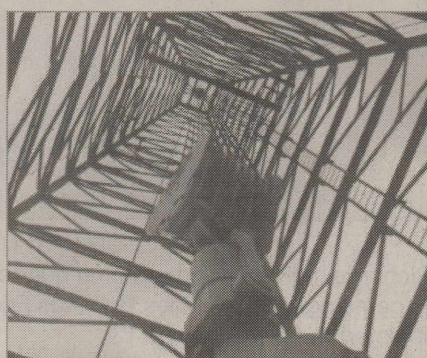
J & T Hardware has been named Business of the Quarter in Winters. J & T Hardware is a subsidiary of Milton's Hardware & Auto Supply which was established by Milton and Naomi Gerhart in 1968. Since 1988 it has been owned and operated by Joe and Theresa Gerhart. They offer a full line hardware, auto parts and a rental store. J & T Hardware is a proud supporter of the Winters community and surrounding area, always going the extra mile to help wherever possible. Pictured from left to right are Frank Arevalo, Jordan and Allison Sanchez, Naomi Gerhart, Theresa and Joe Gerhart, Rene Woffenden, Travis Morton, and Jonathan Meyer. Future J & T workers are Reilly and Maddie. Not pictured are Chris Guerrero and Staci Morton.

Cardiff completes drilling for Runnels County well

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

On October 26, Canadian based oil and gas explorer Cardiff Energy Corp. announced to have completed drilling of the Clayton #1H horizontal well in Runnels County, without any technical issues. Numerous strong gas kicks and oil shows from the target formation, the Gardner Lime, were encountered, which is a strong indication that the upcoming flow test may turn out impressive.

Before the eagerly awaited flow test starts, Cardiff Energy and its operator must prepare the site with equipment for well completion. This completion stage is a mere formality and no issues are expected. Rockstone anticipates the announcement of initial flow rates next week. The one day flow test will be conducted once the well has been completed,



including clearing the location and releasing all drilling equipment, moving in the completion rig and frac tanks, rigging up flow lines and bop, running tubing in the hole, performing swab runs to kick well off flowing in order to monitor and measure flow rates. An acid wash through the lateral may be required after the swab runs, whereas a nitrogen treatment may also be required to further

enhance cleaning and consequently flow rates. Rockstone expects this work to be completed this week so that the initial production test can be performed next week with results to be disclosed shortly thereafter.

On October 26, Cardiff Energy's operator, Martin Energies, reported: "We have completed the lateral drilling of the Clayton #1H and will be commencing completion activities shortly. The lateral was drilled with no issues, and encountered numerous strong gas kicks and oil shows from the Gardner zone. We have high expectations for this well."

A few days earlier, on October 23, the operator commented:

"During the past few days of drilling numerous impressive gas kicks and oil shows were encountered. The deeper into the zone we drill the formation appears to be much richer

SEE CARDIFF, Page 5

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Texas Tech University School of Nursing senior students Kyera Copeland, Luke England, Paul Fazenbaker, and Brittany Ward presented a program to the Winters Elementary 4th grade regarding the importance of proper hand-washing techniques. The presentation included activities with fluorescent glo-germ, hand-washing practice, signing a pledge and discussion. School personnel who assisted included Coach Cody Rogers, Becky Airhart, J'Lynn Cooper and Jennifer Payne.



Winters Elementary Honor Roll

First Six Weeks 2015-2016

First Grade "A" Nehemiah Alvarado Araceli Costa Cora Leigh Hatter Martin Reyna	Third Grade "A" Sahaylee Curry Kaelynn Hoelscher Guillermo Levario Avison Lin	Olivia Nava Carlos Reyna Cera Reyna Fabio Reyna Adrian Rocha Jazelyn Rodriguez Martin Rodriguez Ishmael Sanchez Jesse Sanchez Xavier Trevino Janel Vega Morgan Yanez
"A-B" Wyatt Brylock Marley Cook Chloe Edwards Colton Kraatz Alejandro Moreno Joshua Powers Joseph Scott Giselle Soto Gailha Strambaugh	"A-B" Felicity Agüero Addison Anderson Adrian Beazley Weston Beuschel Baylie Bryant Hunter Jackson Janie Lara Bailey Martinez Jeremy Prater Diego Rodriguez Jaleena Romero Raimy Walker Braiden Williams Luzion Woods	Fifth Grade "A" Kaden Ballard Courtney Chausse Abanea Cortez Valentina Costa Zander Hadlock Keleigh Ramirez Ashlyn Edwards Charlotte Seaney Tammie Zachary
Second Grade "A" Nikole Bowen Shayla Camacho Hannah Casey Genesis Garcia Caine Gauna Montgomery Hater Ebony Manley Mark Moreno Morgan Mostad Angel Sanchez Caden Vasquez Jonah Whitaker	Fourth Grade "A" Mikaela Agüero Aidan Bryant Rylee Calcote Payton Cortez Winni Lin Hannah Powers Damarious Woodruff	"A-B" Selena Agüero Alexyss Bigham Kira Collins Raven Collins Jesenia Corral James Galvan Hailey Horton Johnny Liggins Anthony Llanas Mary Renfro Felix Reyna Maddox Rodriguez Nicholas Rodriguez Jayden Santos Shelby Santos Eliza Scott James Speir Nicholas Trevino
"A-B" Ashleigh Barnes Corley Belew Madysen Curry Wayne Davis Serenity Delacruz Lianna Esquivel Hunter Gray Trinity Mooney Deilah Moreno Sandro Perez Sebastian Reyna Rico Rodriguez Ajay Soto	"A-B" Malichi Alvarado Malachi Burleson Nicholas Cruz Payton Duggan Jasmine Edwards Ernest Escobar Alejandro Garcia Justin Gomez Maelynn Gonzales Kacie Lindley Christopher Martinez Ciro Martinez Aislynn Nalley	

TEXAS HISTORY MINUTE

The tale of the Moonlight Murders



Dr. Ken Bridges

In 1946, five people were murdered and three more critically injured in a series of bloody attacks that kept Northeast Texas and Southwest Arkansas gripped in panic over the "Moonlight Murders."

The first attack occurred on February 22, 1946, when local salesman Jimmy Hollis and Mary Jeanne Larey of nearby Hooks were forced from their parked car on a secluded road. The two were severely beaten but left alive.

One month later, on the night of March 23, Richard Griffin of Texarkana and Polly Ann Moore of nearby Atlanta were gunned down in their car. Police were convinced it was the same man who was involved in the earlier assault and immediately began arresting suspects, but none of the evidence connected the suspects to the attacks. The nightmare grew with the predawn murders of Paul Martin and Betty Jo Booker on April 14. Like the previous attacks, the two were shot while in their car in a remote area. Texarkana police and Bowie County deputies arrested dozens of suspects but came up empty handed.

As the days went by, fear overran the area. A voluntary curfew was established and businesses closed early. Citizens raised thousands of dollars in reward money for information leading to an arrest, to no avail. Texas Rangers established decoys to try to lure the assailant, with no results. Suspects were arrested and questioned as far away as Corpus Christi and Oklahoma City.

On the night of May 3, Virgil Starks was shot and killed through the window of his home northeast

of town. Moments later, Katie Starks, his wife, discovered the bloody scene and ran to phone police. However, the murderer was still close and shot her through another window as she made the call. She barely survived.

A handful of suspects were detained but were eventually all released. While most of the killings were committed with a .32 pistol, the Starks shootings were carried out with a .22. In spite of the different gun used, investigators were convinced it was the same assailant.

The attacks abruptly stopped after the murder of Starks, without explanation. The three survivors of the attacks could never clearly identify their attacker and quietly resumed their lives. Psychologists theorize that in cases where serial killers suddenly stop their attacks is often because the perpetrators leave the area, go to jail on unrelated charges, or die themselves. However, little evidence exists to support any conclusion about the Phantom Killer, as newspapers called him.

The story of the murders was made into the

movie *The Town That Dreaded Sundown* in 1976. The film outraged many residents still tormented by memories of the deaths. Most of the details of the killings were twisted around as to be almost unrecognizable. Filmmakers suggested in their advertisements and the movie itself that the murderer was still in Texarkana though there was no proof of this. In spite of the controversy, the movie is often shown at the local film festival each October at a park near the scene of one of the murders.

The family of victim Polly Ann Moore sued filmmakers over the depiction, claiming defamation of character. The case was

dismissed by the Texas Supreme Court in 1980.

A 2014 remake of the film, filmed in Texarkana and nearby Shreveport, featured a story with even less resemblance to the original murders than the 1976 film. Several books about the murders have been published.

The months of terror were the worst serial killings Texarkana has ever seen. The identity and the fate of the Phantom Killer was never determined. Nearly 70 years later, Texarkana still has no answers.

Dr. Bridges is a Texas native, writer, and history professor. He can be reached at drkenbridges.com.

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- Dragon Blade
- Pay The Ghost

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Winters HS Honor Roll

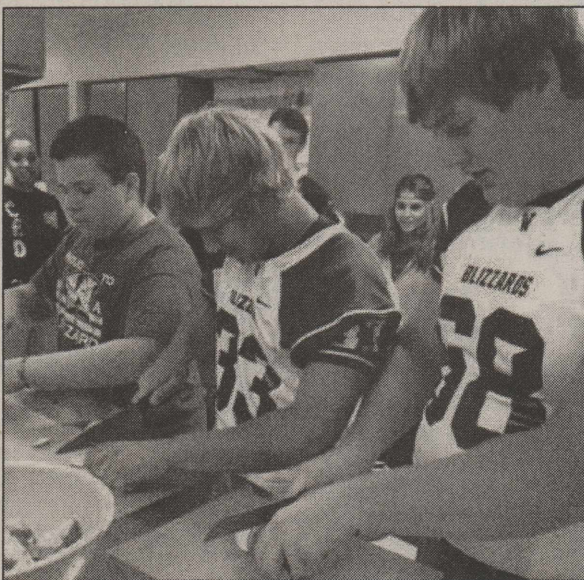
First Six Weeks 2015-2016

Ninth Grade "A" Mackenzie Ballard Celeste Sanchez Summer Schneider Jenessa Wade	Brenna Edwards Macey Gerhart Megan Jacob Brandon L'Abbe Coyanita Martinez Mariana Quintero	Matthew Wenzel
"A-B" Priscila Espino Kassandra Esquivel Abigail Killough Marcelina Lopez Omar Martinez McKenlyn Mason Gage McFadin Patrick Reyes Michael Sanchez Alexis Silva Chloe Underwood	"A-B" Brooklynn Anderson Jose Garcia Troy Hernandez Dakoda Hollis Bailey Knight Brenna Knight Heriberto Marin Alonzo Mendoza Francisco Reyna Rolando Rodriguez Daniel Sebastian Sonya Vasquez	Eleventh Grade "A" Grace Bryan Brooklyn Gallaway K'Lee Lindley Kamari Soto
Tenth Grade "A"		Twelfth Grade "A" Bailee Busher Samuel Reyes
		"A-B" Aaron Jacob Smith Desiree Wilson Samuel Woodall

Food safety

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Texas Tech University School of Nursing sent students to Winters High School Friday, Oct. 30 to present a program to the students in the Culinary Arts Program. The Tech students informed the students on food safety. Here students (pictured from left to right) Dakoda Hollis, Cameron Cooper and Brendon Mikeska, chop potatoes during class.



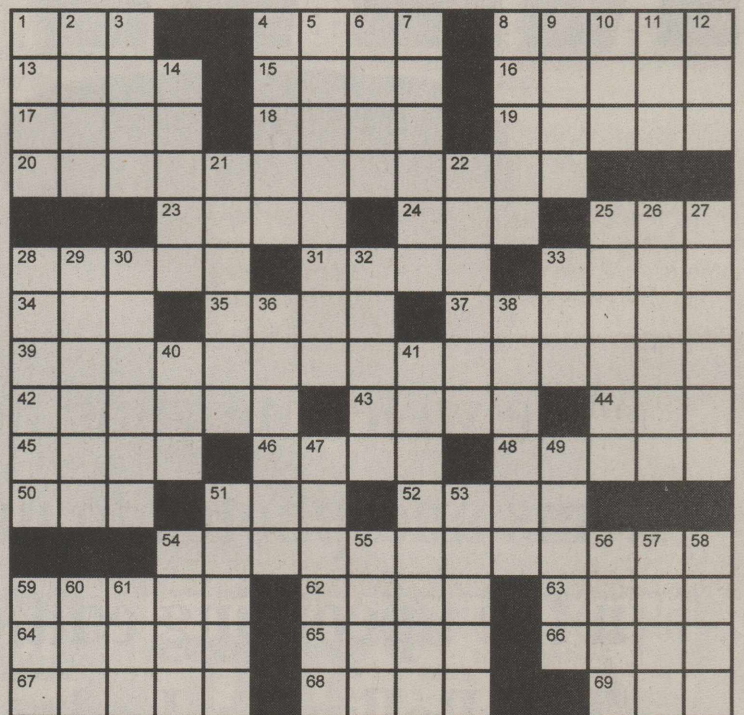
Winters ISD menus Nov. 5 to Nov. 12

Breakfast		Choice of milk	
Nov. 6 Cinnamon roll, cereal w/ grahams, Mixed fruit, fruit juice, Choice of milk	Orange slices, fruit juice, Choice of milk	Nov. 10 Chef salad, chicken nuggets, nachos, Corn, salad/carrot sticks, orange slices, Choice of milk	Choice of milk
Nov. 9 Biscuit & sausage w/ gravy, pop tart, Cereal w/ grahams, pineapple, fruit juice, Choice of milk		Nov. 11 Chef salad, bbq bun, peanut butter/jelly sandwich, Baked beans, coleslaw salad, apple, cinnamon grahams, Choice of milk	Choice of milk
Nov. 10 Breakfast pizza, cereal w/ grahams, Raisins, fruit juice, Choice of milk		Nov. 12 Chef salad, steak fingers, sliced bread, Grilled cheese sandwich, over fries, Salad/carrot sticks, fruit cups, raisin, Choice of milk	Choice of milk
Nov. 11 Sausage roll, cereal w/ grahams.			
Lunch			
Nov. 6 - Chef salad, cheese burger, hot dog Curly fries, salad/carrot sticks, Orange slices Choice of milk			
Nov. 9 Chef salad, chicken fried steak w/ gravy, Ham & cheese sandwich, Italian green beans, salad/carrot sticks, orange slices			

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

"Bad Outlook"

- Across**
- Took the cake
 - Plays a part
 - Dentist's advice
 - Old Testament prophet
 - Café lightener
 - Jazz great Armstrong
 - "Zuckerman Unbound" novelist
 - Words of enlightenment
 - It comes from the heart
 - Guns N' Roses ballad
 - Disturb
 - "To ___ is human ..."
 - Toothed tool
 - Listerine targets
 - Bad smell
 - Producer Premiger
 - Altar in the sky
 - Asian tongue
 - Portugal's second-biggest city
 - 1943 Claudette Colbert film
 - Easy-listening option
 - More or ___
 - Put away
 - Symbol
 - "Orinoco Flow (Sail Away)" singer
 - Boutros-Ghali's successor
 - Oozy stuff
 - Victoria's Secret purchase
 - Derby
 - Gift giving event for the recently engaged
 - Toy soldier
 - Flower with a bulb
 - Astronomer's sighting
 - Range name
 - Columbus carrier
 - It's got you covered
 - Blasé
 - Irritable
- Down**
- Caution
 - "Typee" sequel
 - Parental threat
 - Excuse
 - Court burden
 - Ticket info, maybe
 - Not mono
 - Pizazz
 - Diving bird
 - Lord's Prayer starter
 - Canine command
 - Swell place?
 - Col. Potter of "M*A*S*H," to pals
 - Hunter's quarry
 - Make the ___ (profit from)
 - Traffic directors
 - Back problem
 - Theseus' land
 - Fleeced
 - Like many streets in the 1890s
 - Beethoven symphony
 - Bird of prey
 - Something remarkable
 - "I'm impressed!"
 - Arm bones
 - Passover, among Jews
 - Stimpy's TV pal
 - Farm youngster
 - Literature Nobelist
 - Gordimer
 - Some Dodges
 - Scratch
 - Analyze
 - Paleontologist's discovery
 - Like Death Valley
 - Roused from sleep
 - Wickedness
 - Foul
 - Blah-blah-blah
 - "If you ask me," online
 - Shake up



LAST WEEK'S ANSWER GRID

S	C	A	M	B	A	L	I	F	E	E	L
T	O	G	A	C	A	T	I	N	R	I	L
E	L	O	N	A	Z	T	E	C	I	N	F
M	A	G	I	C	I	A	N	S	A	C	T
A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
L	A	M	A	S	I	D	E	V	O	A	
E	C	O	L	C	H	L	O	E	B	I	N
A	E	R	H	I	M	D	I	N	G	E	
P	R	A	C	T	I	C	A	L	J	O	K
B	L	A	H	O	O	Z	E	R			
B	U	Y	D	I	N	N	E	R	F	O	R
C	O	D	A	A	I	N	G	E	A	L	G
O	D	I	N	M	E	R	E	S	C	A	R
P	E	N	A	S	T	I	R	E	K	E	S

Weather Whys

Q: Does an "Indian Summer" occur everywhere in the U.S.?
A: Technically, no, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. The term "Indian Summer" is rather vague and has been around at least 300 years. "According to the American Meteorological Society's Glossary of Weather, an Indian Summer is in mid or late autumn, of unseasonably warm weather, generally with clear skies, sunny but hazy days and cool nights. In New England, at least one killing frost must precede this warm spell for it to be considered a true Indian Summer," he points out. "But the book says that often, two or three Indian Summers can happen in one year. Most people believe Indian Summers occur only in New England or the Mid-west, but they can happen almost anywhere."

ROLL-UP

Runnels County

Winters Enterprise

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Public Record

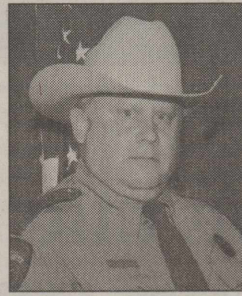
Runnels County Jail Record November 5, 2015

Name	Age	Agency
Thi L. Nguyen	21	CCSO
Warrant poss. of dangerous drugs / warrants poss. of marijuana.		
Gary S. Mocko	62	DPS
Poss. marijuana Class B.		
Ryan J. Graves	37	Coke Co. SO
Aggravated assault.		
Chad W. Murray	45	WPD
MTR		
Rojello Martinez	33	BPD
Indecency with a child.		
Adam J. Stokes	27	RSCO
Assault by threat, criminal trespass.		
Jennifer Rodriguez	37	WPD
Warrant failure to appear 2x warrant no DL.		
Luis G. Llanas	33	RCSO
Warrant - DWI.		
Brian L. Davila	34	DPS
DWI 2nd resisting arrest.		
Edward J. Odom	47	BPD
DWLI MTR- warrant.		
Jerry J. Carson	64	BPD
Public intoxication/resisting arrest.		

DPS sergeant dies in line of duty

AUSTIN - A Texas Highway Patrol Sergeant died Thursday night in Mills County following a one-vehicle crash.

Sgt. William "Karl" Keesee, 49, was driving southbound on U.S. Highway 84 near Goldthwaite when his patrol vehicle left the roadway, traveled over the guardrail and into a creek bed. The wreck was reported at approximately 11:25 p.m. after a passing motorist noticed debris on the



roadway. The exact time of the crash and the cause are still under investigation.

"The DPS family is deeply saddened by the loss of one of Texas' finest, Sgt. Keesee. Our state has lost a great man and outstanding peace officer, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family and loved ones during this very difficult time," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "During his more than 25

years of proudly serving this department and the people of Texas, Sgt. Keesee touched countless lives, and his selfless service and sacrifice will always be remembered."

Keesee joined DPS in 1990 and was stationed in Brownwood. He is the 217th DPS officer to die in the line of duty since 1837. He is survived by his wife and two children. Funeral services were held Tuesday, Nov. 3 at the Austin Avenue Church of Christ in Brownwood. Interment followed in the Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

VETERAN'S CORNER



Sandra G. Van Zant

More than 58,000 names are listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial that was built in 1982 to honor Vietnam veterans and help heal the wounds of a divisive conflict. But those who survived the war — and who later died as a result of their service — are not listed on the wall. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund acknowledges their service and sacrifice through an online "In Memory" Honor Roll. Causes of death that fit the criteria for inclusion in the program include exposure to Agent Orange, PTSD-related illnesses/events, cancer,

diabetes, heart attacks, etc.

The program is free and the application process is simple. To honor a loved one, you only need to submit the veteran's DD214 to show proof of his or her service in the Vietnam War, a copy of his or her death certificate, and a photograph. The application deadline for inclusion in the 2016 ceremony is in March. For information or to submit applications, go to: <http://www.vvmf.org/InMemoryProgram>. For more information, contact Sandra Van Zant 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

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DPS: Carry on the Proud Tradition of Protecting, Serving Texas

Seeking candidates for 2016 trooper recruit schools

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is encouraging the public to consider a career in law enforcement, and to proudly serve and protect Texas by becoming a Texas State Trooper. DPS is accepting applications for trooper recruit classes scheduled for 2016. The next application deadline is Jan. 27 for the class beginning July 10, 2016.

"The men and women who graduate from the DPS Training Academy will join an elite and reputable crime-fighting force that has answered the call to serve and protect the great state of Texas for nearly 200 years," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "DPS carries the enormous responsibility of protecting Texas from a wide range of public safety threats, and we are seeking a diverse group of first-rate recruit candidates who want to join one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the country."

In 2015, the Texas Legislature and Texas Leadership authorized 250 additional trooper positions to be permanently stationed in the border area by August 2017,

along with additional DPS recruit schools to help fill that need. Four trooper trainee recruit classes are planned for 2016.

After gaining experience on the job, Texas Highway Patrol (THP) Troopers have the opportunity to promote within THP or to other divisions or specialized units within the agency, such as the Texas Rangers, Criminal Investigations, SWAT, Tactical Marine Unit or Aircraft Operations. The department's 13 divisions and highly-trained personnel are steadfast in their commitment to serving and protecting the state, many of whom use cutting-edge technology and equipment to identify, disrupt and deter crime as well as dismantle dangerous organizations such as Mexican cartels, their gang counterparts and other criminal threats.

DPS is an equal opportunity employer, and the starting pay for accepted trainees is \$4,623.44 monthly or \$55,481 yearly, based on the current 10-hour workday (50-hour workweek). Basic requirements for acceptance into a DPS recruit class include

the following:

- 20 years of age at the time of application and 21 years of age upon graduation

- 60 college-earned hours from a regional accredited college/university; or 24 months active duty military or full-time peace officer experience; or six years of service in the military reserves or National Guard

- Pass a physical fitness test, written assessment, criminal history check and polygraph exam

"DPS employees are second to none, as the choice to join our department and fulfill our mission to protect and serve Texas demonstrates a selfless commitment to the people of our state," said Director McCraw. "DPS has a proud history of keeping Texas safe, and we are eager to meet the brave men and women who will carry on that tradition as the next Texas State Troopers."

For more information about the upcoming recruit class dates and deadlines, minimum requirements or to apply, visit www.JoinDPS.com. Individuals can also contact a regional DPS recruiter by calling 1-866-898-7667. After submitting an online application, applicants will be notified by email if they are selected to continue to the testing phase.

The current recruit class graduates on Dec. 18, 2015, and the next school begins Jan. 10, 2016.

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Ballinger Ledger, Winters Enterprise

All submissions to the Ballinger Ledger or Winters Enterprise must be typed and emailed to the editor. Handwritten submissions will no longer be accepted.

The word count for letters to the editor is no more than 350 words, for guest columns it is 650 words. Lengths for other submissions will be determined by the content.

Please email all submissions to chawkins@ballingerledger.com or if you have questions, call 325-365-3501.

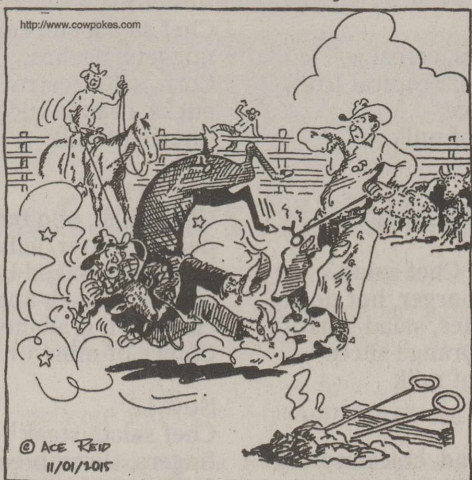
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Just Around the Corner

Friendly rivalries show the best in people

A few weeks back, I got to marvel at the awesomeness of many members of communities all over Runnels County and beyond, working together, shoulder to shoulder to continue the fall festival traditions that date back almost a century in this area.

I was so impressed by folks chipping in to help make traditional German sausage just days before the St. Boniface Fall Festival over in Olfen. And, there is one more festival to go, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church this Sunday in Rowena, so folks should do their best, come rain or shine, to make it over there for some delicious German sausage, a turkey and dressing dinner and the sausage sandwich dinner. You won't be sorry I understand.

I never knew the German and Czech heritage ran so deep in this area. I watched as men from all over the area, including Olfen, Rowena, Paint Rock, Ballinger, San Angelo and Winters worked side by side to make this annual deliciousness. I understand, there

is a friendly competition between Olfen and Rowena on the sausage front. But that's where it stops. You don't see arch rivalries, you see folks working together, helping one another and providing a great service to us, the eating public.

There is a little bit of difference in the sausages prepared in Olfen and Rowena, I hear. While Lee Jost, sausage making overseer, would not divulge the secret spice mix handed down to him by his father, Lee Allen Jost, he did say there was a difference in the way it is prepared, on fest day. In Olfen, they boil the sausage, then flash fry it, making the outside crispy, they say (I have 10 pounds coming and I can't wait to try it). In Rowena, the difference is garlic in the spice mixture, said Pat Van-

cil, who heads up the publicity committee there.

When I was over at Olfen that afternoon, Lee the keeper of the sausage recipe, was overseeing the project along with about 50 guys which ranged in age

from 5 years to 86. It was quite a sight.

Then next door, the ladies of the church were busy getting the turkey and dressing meal prepared. There were ladies from Olfen, Ballinger, Winters and Rowena there that day again, working together to prepare the annual meal. If there was any rivalry there, I did not see it.

But as with all communities, there are rivalries - but I really like it when it is referred to as "friendly."

And believe me when I say, I understand rivalry, coming from Odessa Permian, where the football rivalry between Permian and Odessa High is fierce. And, when I was growing up, I really had my feet firmly on both sides of the fence, since my father was a principal at OHS and my mother worked at Nimitz Junior High, one of three junior high feeder schools for Permian. Their rivalry game was last week, and at some point, folks from the OHS side, defaced the football sign and the campus at Permian with red paint. A few weeks prior, OHS got tagged, with black spray paint supposedly from Permian vandals. Mike Adkins from

ECISD said it wasn't just fun and games anymore, "it's criminal."

But, that's nothing compared to the urban legend there when some mischievous and stupid Permian folks stole the OHS mascot, a live horse, and painted it black. This was a live horse mind you, and, well the prank ultimately killed the horse, legend has it.

Fortunately, I have not seen that kind of fierce rivalry in this neck of the woods, but I have seen a bit of a divide between Winters and Ballinger, which some folks tell me dates back decades.

But, it is nice to see, when folks roll up their sleeves for a common purpose, they work as a community, and that is definitely refreshing.

As always, if you have a story to tell, want to visit or have some news, you can find me via email, phone or at the office where I will be just around the corner.

Celinda Hawkins is the managing editor of the Ballinger Ledger/Winters Enterprise. She can be reached at 325-365-3501 or at chawkins@ballingerledger.com.



Celinda Hawkins

THE MARKET PERSPECTIVE

Natural Gas hit melts on warm Winter news

We can drill as many wells as we did in 2012 with half the rigs and two-thirds the cost.

Bill Martinez, Vice President Chesapeake

Yes Bill, and that is precisely the problem.

At the Hart Energy DUG Eagle Ford and Midstream Texas Conference on Tuesday, Oct. 27, Martinez was upbeat with what I call "corporate speak." Consider this gem.

My outlook is based on the track record that our industry has in rising to the challenges in using good old American ingenuity and creativity, risk-taking and technology to continuously reinvent itself and adapt to the changing business models.

Translation, Baker-Hughes is laying off 16,000 employees. This is expected, given that Halliburton took Baker-Hughes as the oil price dropped. Halliburton essentially bought out the competition. And now the lay-offs begin just as they did

when Chevron took Gulf, then Unocal, and Texaco.

Actually the track record of the "industry" has not changed one bit since the collapse of prices in 1986. Which is to say, the insiders always get it wrong on the way down. At the same conference Chip Simmons, CEO of Titanium Exploration (I mean does that sound like a character out of the Dallas TV series?) noted a 2014 survey of "analysts" had the lowest expectation for oil prices at \$70. As we write today it is \$43.

Okay so where is oil on our road map to a final low in prices? The road map is unfolding just as we have predicted. Our prediction was that prices would bounce from the \$37.75 low in an up down up fashion. That unfolded with a final high around \$50. Since early September crude oil has had support at the \$44 level. That gave way Monday-Tuesday this week with a drop to \$43.22. This turns the daily trend down. We are

now focused on the \$37.75 previous low in August.

Meanwhile natural gas prices dropped 10 percent in one day this week. In the last five days of trading, December Natural Gas futures dropped from \$2.70 to \$2.32 on the Tuesday close. We remind readers the previous low was back in April of 2012. Then natural gas finally bottomed around \$1.92. As with crude oil, that is now the next target to watch. In 2012 there were actually predictions that natural gas would have to go to zero for the overhead supply to dissipate.

The "ingenuity and creativity" of energy investors, to borrow Martinez' phrase, has cut 76% of the value of Chesapeake CHK since its peak in 2011 and slightly lower high in 2014. Devon DVN has lost 50 percent since mid 2014 and Pioneer Natural PXD is down from \$220 to \$132 in the same time frame.

Not surprisingly, this has brought some new shoppers to the Permian Basin! Yantai Xinchao Industry is buying from Tall City Exploration and Plymouth Petroleum, both located in Midland, Texas. This

Handmade quilt winner



JOE GERHART | PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
The winner of the handmade quilt from St. John's Lutheran Church German Fest was Ron Beason. Pictured from left to right are Ron Beason, Alexis and Isaac Torres and Annette Torres. Pictured on the bottom row are Annalisa Torres, left, and Annemacie Torres, right.

is a positive in terms of approaching a final low in price. Someone from outside the US sees a bargain, while most in the industry are, ah, continuously re-inventing themselves.

Bell weather Exxon Mobil XOM joined crude oil in a rally from its August low

at \$68. It topped right at the 200 day moving average at \$82.25. It is quite possible XOM will return to test its prior low at \$68.

As noted in previous columns, it is not too early to join the Chinese in preparing a shopping list for bargains. We are not at the bottom yet but as

natural gas prices indicate, the move there is accelerating.

Follow Professor Elam at <http://www.themarketperspective.com>

Professor Elam teaches accounting at Texas A&M University San Antonio. Dennis.elam@att.net

CARDIFF,

from Page 2

in hydrocarbons. With drilling scheduled to be completed this weekend we are looking forward to testing the well."

On October 19, Marin Energies stated:

"We have landed the lateral into the Gardner Lime and have encountered significant Gas and Oil shows, indicating a zone with strong potential. The zone came in structurally at a very favorable sub sea level. This drill out has thus far exceeded our expectations."

Considering such statements from the operator, Rockstone also has high expectations for this well and anticipates initial production rates in excess of 500 barrels of oil equivalents per day, which should pave the way for a significant revaluation of the company. Jack Bal, Cardiff's president and CEO, said on Oct. 26, the company was excited to enter the completion stage.

"We are excited to be entering the completion stage for the Clayton #1H and are looking forward to reporting the initial production rate," Bal said. Bal also announced to have increased its working interest in Clayton #1H to 60 percent.

"We are elated with the drilling results to date and are extremely excited to have increased our WI in Clayton #1H to 60 percent," Bal said. "With funding secured and the

well scheduled to be completed this weekend we are looking forward to the initial flow test."

The phase between exploration/development and production typically provides most upside potential. With Cardiff on the verge of changing its status to a profitable producer, Rockstone anticipates an increased investor's interest in the upcoming weeks. In addition, follow-up drill sites are being selected for an upcoming drill program on its property, whereas negotiations continue for the acquisition of "prime oil and gas leases" in Runnels County. In case Cardiff can report positive production rates from Clayton #1H, the company will be in a favorable position to drill more horizontal wells on its property. This would allow the company to grow even faster as a producer.

On October 19, Cardiff announced that another lease had been acquired.

"The company is also pleased to report that they have acquired an additional 100 Acre prime oil and gas lease bordering the Clayton #1H and have entered into a letter of intent to acquire an additional 400 Acre oil and gas lease adjacent to the Clayton #1H. Furthermore, the Company continues to negotiate other strategic oil and gas lease acquisitions in Runnels County, Texas."

Stephan Bogner (Dipl. Kfm. in Economics) a mining and commodity analyst with Rockstone Research

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THE IDLE AMERICAN

Thumbs in a Pinch...

Commentary by
Dr. Don Newbury

If thumbs could talk, they might have more to say than walls. Chances are, they wouldn't talk, they'd scream: "We matter!" Sobbing, they might admit feeling deep hurt inflicted by our failure to acknowledge their true worth. There would be "boohooing" long felt from the sting of being outvoted, 4-1, by the other appendages co-existing in close proximity.

Armed with grand examples of their indispensability, thumbs have recognizable roles in daily lives once more, even as current attention points to overuse. Tendonitis looms for thumbs, which must have been largely absent when tendons were handed out. Each has just two; fingers alone have 14.

Thumbs get most attention now when they're "on the blink." If they had a theme song, it would be "One is the Loneliest Number."...

In days long ago, young braves-honing their bow-and-arrow skills-may have complained of aching

thumbs. Acknowledged "medicine men"--as well as unacknowledged "medicine women"--had simple answers. "Don't empty quivers so often; give other activities like canoeing, leather-working and smoke-signaling equal time."

Ah, in those days, thumbs and index fingers seemed joined at the hip. Both had to be at the ready if arrows were to find their marks. About the only time they seem to work together these days is to provide visual doughnuts, zeros or signals that everything is fine. The latter, however, seems to be fading into the technological tangle our world has become.

For several decades, thumbs have pretty much "gone it alone," often to starkly signify the "high drama" of authority figures decreeing live-or-die edicts with the familiar gesture of a thumb extended skyward or downward. More common

now is the expression "all thumbs" describing ultimate awkwardness, or "green thumb," suggesting we can grow a row or two of several plots of planted petunias. Of course, the thumb also is the appendage which some spouses have the other under....



TEXAS
COLUMNIST
Don
Newbury

Why all this? Well, if you have the time and if they'll take the time, ask hand doctors. Leslie Barker of the Dallas Morning News did, and did the doctors ever respond!

They had answers, chapter and verse-sometimes from the same translation-tracing the ills produced by thumbs working overtime pressing iPhones, electronic games and such.

Physicians offer solutions, such as practicing good posture, remaining alert for tingling and numbness, stretching, eating right and-most of all, like native Americans of yesteryear who were told to give bows and arrows a rest. "PUT YOUR DEVICE

OF CHOICE DOWN!"...

Thumbs have never been better positioned to hold out for conditions unique to their extremity. For years, elbows injured by tennis-and wrists impaired by carpal tunnel-have essentially rendered "nose-thumbing" regard for thumbs-extremities still waiting for a new disease bearing their name.

For a time, it looked like "BlackBerry thumb" might get a toe-hold, but alas, technology has left the BlackBerry behind in yesterday's dust.

Doctors might suggest a lengthy name, such as, "Don't-Do-It-Idiot-Disease." Their chorus: "Give your thumbs a rest."...

Suffice it to say that stress on thumbs is not expected to go away soon. Each thumb's two tendons once had nice, thin linings that were very slippery.

Overworked, however, they become inflamed and "thicken up, get 'gunky' and don't move right, or they get stuck or swollen," the News' writer said.

Strange thing: In my youth, when I heard



the word, it usually was extended by two letters-"ed." That's how my granddad and several uncles--none of whom had cars--described their hitchhiking on highways and byways.

Asked how they arrived at whatever destination, they almost always answered, "We 'thumb-ed' it." Perhaps that was their primary use of thumbs at the time....

As usual, I offer no solutions, only observations.

Perhaps I could pen an Irish proverb. Doing so, it wouldn't likely have staying power like wishing you to be favored by

wind from the back always pushing you along.

Instead, may I offer the hope that if you grow weary of thumb-twiddling, worry not if your thumb suddenly is in a downward and locked position. Maybe it'll land in the middle of a pie still warm from your mother's or grandmother's oven, and a plum extracted therefrom to sweeten your day....

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com. Archived: venturegalleries.com, newbury blog.

BROTHER J

Who takes out the trash?

It can be a source of irritation for many marriages. Especially when the subject arises about who will take the trash out and when it should be taken out. I can't believe how much trash and garbage accumulates around here on a daily basis. Our little trash can in the kitchen seems to stay perpetually full. I don't know when I have gone by and found it empty. I can take it out in the morning and come by later on that day and it is already filling up again.

Our kitchen trash can reminds me of a problem Christians face in life. Hauling out or getting rid of the daily sins we commit. If we say we don't have any sins the Bible

says we are deceiving ourselves, (1 John 1:8 & 10). I have found that in everyday life they just sort of build up or accumulate. If we don't deal with them, they will overwhelm us. I have also found that just like the trash that if my sins, (1 John 1:9) are dealt, (confessed) with frequently, (at least daily) they are not such a problem. The only reason God the Father can forgive our sins is because of what Jesus Christ did on the cross, (Revelation 1:5). It is because of His shed blood that we can be forgiven, (Ephesians 1:7 & 1 John 1:7). If we don't confess our sins we don't get forgiveness, (1 John 1:9). See you in church next Sunday.

Brother J

Runnels County HOME program delayed

Commissioners seeking new contractor for project

BY CELINDA HAWKINS
MANAGING EDITOR
WINTERS ENTERPRISE
chawkins@ballingerledger.com

Runnels County commissioners are looking for a new contractor to oversee the county's HOME project, which the county took on over a year ago. The program is administered through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and allows entities like Runnels County to assist in rebuilding affordable housing for residents.

During a special called meeting Friday, Commission-

ers were informed that the contractor for the project has pulled out, after drawing \$62,000 in payments from the project. The contractor, Jerry Reiner of Ameriway Construction of Kerrville, was the lone bidder for the project, which was to cost no more than \$80,000 according to the contract, Reiner signed with Runnels County Feb. 1. The deadline for the house to be completed was Oct. 5.

"He informed us that he could not meet the deadline," said Runnels County Judge Barry Hilliard. Hilliard said he has re-

quested two extensions, but that TDHCA has turned down both requests so far. Hilliard plans to return to Austin to make an appeal for another extension. This will give commissioners time to hire another contractor and finish the job on the home located at 705 11th St. The original structure at that address was demolished and the new 1,157 square foot 3 bedroom, 2 bath home was being constructed. Currently the walls are up, but the outside of the

SEE HOME, Page 8



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Deep in the Heart of Texas



JOE GERHART | PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The 4th graders of Winters Elementary did an outstanding job of performing their Texas play on Tuesday evening at the Winters High School Auditorium. The play tells the story of the history of the state of Texas through group choral readings, dialogue, and songs. It featured children in speaking parts as well as dances from small groups. Some of the songs enjoyed by the audience included "Going to Texas," "Texas, our Texas," "Yellow Rose of Texas," "Battle Hymn of the Republic", a two-part song entitled "Texas, Beautiful Texas," and many others. Dances included the Mexican Hat dance, Boot-scootin' Boogie, and LaCucaracha!

BLIZZARDS FOOTBALL



JOE GERHART | PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Above: Winters' Chris Diaz got off a punt before a Miles player took him down during the game Friday, Oct. 30, 2015. **Below:** Winters A.J. Smith brought down a Miles player by a shoe string during the game Friday, Oct. 30 against the Miles Bulldogs.



HOME,

From Page 6

home has not been covered with brick or siding, and the roof has been tarped, but has not been completed. There are no cabinets in the home, but there are bathtubs. "He is going to owe us,"

said Commissioner Ronald Presley.

Commissioner Richard Strube voiced concern as well.

"Somebody is sitting on their tail not doing their job," Strube said during the meeting.

Hilliard informed commissioners that Reiner said he was a bonded

contractor.

"We are looking in to that, to make sure," Hilliard said.

Hilliard said he has been informed that the county is covered through insurance via the Texas Association of Counties.

The county approved participation the HOME program a year ago,

which allows for a resident homeowner to apply to get assistance in the reconstruction of their home. The homeowner must qualify for the program via income requirements and there must be no taxes owed on the property. If necessary, the homeowner may be required to participate in

the construction providing sweat equity. Plus the homeowner is required to pay for the utilities during the reconstruction project. Plus, the homeowner must agree to live in the home for 10 years and pay the taxes, then the deed is turned over to them free and clear.

The City of Winters, Miles and Ballinger have participated in HOME projects successfully.

In other business Friday, commissioners nominated

members of the Runnels County Appraisal District Board of Directors to serve in the 2016-17 term. Commissioners nominated the current board which includes Delbert Kruse, Sylvester Schwertner, Allen Belk and Lowell Freeman. All taxing entities in Runnels County make nominations, which should be complete by Friday. Voting must be completed by Dec. 15 with the board to be sworn in on Jan. 1, 2016.

AGENT,

from Page 1

with very active and successful programs in 4-H and FFA.

"I've heard of the reputation that Runnels County has for years," Cline said. "It is one of the strongest counties in the state with regard to agriculture and ranching."

Cline, 24, grew up in the cattle industry, on a Hereford ranch in Bosque County in East Texas, where he worked for his father, Jeff Chaffin. He brings that expertise with him to Runnels County, in District 7 of the Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service.

Cline graduated Magna Cum Laude in May of 2013 with a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas A & M University where he studied animal science and production option. He would go on to earn his Masters degree from Mississippi State University in Animal and Dairy Science with a focus on reproductive physiology.

While at Mississippi State, he

worked as a graduate assistant teaching classes and serving as a lab instructor. He also assisted with all of the activities in the Beef Extension office. During his time at Texas A & M, Cline worked in the Rosenthal Meat Science and Technology Center leading field day activities, seminars and other educational programs.

Cline has served as an official for the 4-H and FFA Livestock judging events in Bosque County as well as in College Station, Waco, Belton and Nacogdoches. He has served on the Texas Junior Hereford Association, served on the Bosque County 4-H Council and judged numerous events.

He has numerous awards and honors at Texas A & M where he was recognized as a Magna Cum Laude graduate, and on the Dean's Honor Roll. He has received scholarships from Texas A & M, the Texas Hereford Foundation, the Texas 4-H Foundation and the State Fair of Texas.

He is currently working with families on 4-H projects,

something he is very familiar with.

"We have some families who have never shown before and they have lots of questions and I help them with that," Cline explained. "There are others who are very experienced, and I just answer any questions they might have and advise them on deadlines they must meet."

The students are preparing for the Runnels County Livestock Show which is scheduled for January 16-17, 2016. There are about 40 to 50 youth who will be showing goats, sheep and steers this year, he said.

Overall, Cline, who is a resident of Ballinger, said he is readying the students for the various projects and making sure he can answer any and all questions. Plus, he is preparing to give workshops on alternative crops.

"I've loved it so far," Cline said. "If people have a question I don't know about, I find the right person to answer the question."

BIG COUNTRY CHEVY SPOTLIGHT



JOE GERHART | PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Joseph Toliver with Toliver Brothers in Ballinger, center, presented the Big Country Chevy Spotlight award to the Winters varsity cheerleaders during the pep rally on Friday Oct. 30. Pictured from left to right are: Brooklyn Gallaway, Abbie Killough, Brenna Edwards, K'Lee Lindley, Jessica Roman, Bailee Busher, Christy Kruse, Brenna Knight, Celeste Sanchez, Jenessa Wade

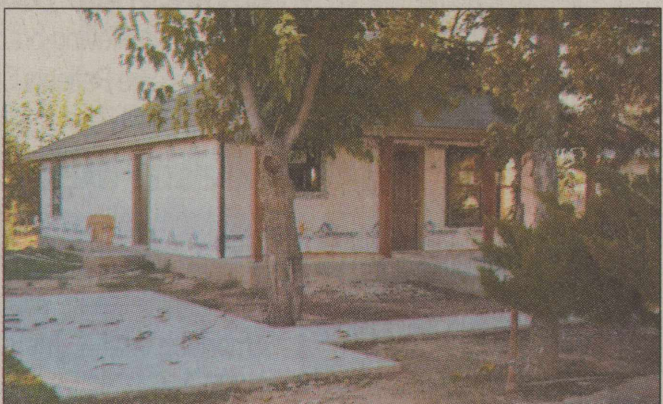
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STACI CORTEZ | WINTERS ENTERPRISE

Runnels County commissioners are looking for a new contractor to finish a home at 705 11th St. in Ballinger, that is being constructed through the HOME Program administered through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. The City of Winters successfully built 8 homes through the program.