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Volume 26, Issue 3

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Winters, Texas 75c

**Briefly**

**Sales tax allocated**

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced last week he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$626.3 million in local sales tax allocations for December, 3 percent less than in December 2014. These allocations are based on sales made in October by businesses that report tax monthly.

Runnels County received \$32,618.95 for the December allocation, down almost 12 percent from the 2014 allocation of \$36,690.32. In 2015, Runnels County has received \$473,781.06, which is up .58 percent over last year's total of \$471,022.00.

Ballinger received \$49,125.77, down almost 13 percent from last year's allocation of \$56,453.01. So far this year, Ballinger has received \$926,016.52 down almost 4 percent from last year's total of \$955,259.68.

Winters received \$21,286.58 down 14 percent from December of 2014 when \$24,803.65 was allocated. Year to date, Winters has received \$261,472.60 up 2.5 percent from last year's total of \$254,902.27.

Miles received \$4,845.14 up 13.2 percent over last year's total of \$4,277.21. So far in 2015, Miles has received \$61,441.87 up 2.7 percent over the 2014 year to date total of \$59,803.34.

Hegar said sales tax revenue for the state in November was \$2.58 billion, down 3.3 percent compared to November 2014.

"Sales tax revenue declined again due to reduced spending in oil and gas-related sectors," Hegar said. "Remittances from other sectors, including construction, restaurants and retail trade, continued to grow. The net decrease in sales tax receipts is in line with the October Certification Revenue Estimate."

**The last drop**

Runnels County received rainfall thanks to a line of storms that passed through the area Saturday night according to the National Weather Service in San Angelo.

Ballinger received .50 inches of rain while San Angelo received .53 inches and Wingate received .21 inches of rain, during the rain event Saturday.

High temperatures are expected to reach the upper 50s today and Friday as a cold front moves through the area. Lows will be dipping into the upper 20s, making for normal seasonal weather forecasters said.

A warming trend is expected over the weekend, with highs expected in the low 60s.

Dry weather will be the norm for the remainder of the week, forecasters say.

So far this year, Ballinger has received 27.65 inches of rain while 30.48 inches has been reported in Wingate. The NWS reported 25.64 inches of rain has fallen in San Angelo.

## Two candidates vying for Runnels County sheriff

### Challengers emerge in only two races for March primary



Carl Squyres

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

Two candidates will be vying for the Republican nomination for the position of Runnels County sheriff in the March primary. Sheriff Bill Baird, who has served 32 years

as Runnels County sheriff, will not be running for reelection.

Sgt. Carl Squyres, a 14-year veteran of the Runnels County S.O. filed to run for sheriff and has been challenged by Toby Virden, current police chief in Miles and the general manager of KRUN

Radio in Ballinger.

Squyres, who was named sergeant a little over a year ago, has been in law enforcement for 21 years, earning his Texas Peace Officer License in 1994 from the West Central Texas Law Enforcement Academy in Abilene. His first job

in law enforcement was at the Coleman Police Department where he worked as a detective and earned the rank of sergeant. During his tenure in Runnels County, Squyres has worked in narcotics, assisting with cases



Toby Virden

SEE SHERIFF, Page 8

## LADY BLIZZARDS FIGHT HARD IN ZEPHYR TOURNAMENT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Lady Blizzards faired well in the Zephyr Tournament held Dec. 18-19 and are on their way to an impressive season. Pictured from left to right in the back row are Coach Chelsey Jordan, Mckenzie Ballard, Abigail Gonzales, Brenna Knight, and Jenessa Wade. Pictured from left to right in the front row are Bailly Knight, Brooklynn Anderson, Stacie Ventress, Alia Renfro, Sonya Vasquez and Kasandra Esquivel.

BY CHAD MCDUFFEE  
 WINTERS ENTERPRISE  
 cmcduffee@ballingerledger.com

On Friday at the Zephyr Tournament the Lady Blizzards Varsity played Blanket. The girls kept fighting throughout the contest, but couldn't put Blanket away. Blanket won the contest 31-27. Monique Carrillo had a career-high scoring 20 points for the Lady Blizzards and she

continues to turn in an impressive season.

On Saturday, due to injury, illness, ACT tests and Texas Tech graduation, the Varsity Lady Blizzards only suited out six players against Rising Star. Despite being behind 28-19 at halftime, the Lady Blizzards played a tremendous second half and won the game 47-41. The Lady Blizzards had three girls in double figures: Monique Carrillo had 15 points, Christy Kruse had 13 and Aimee Green had 10.

On the Junior Varsity side the girls won their

first game of the year, defeating Blanket's JV, 24-13. Brenna Knight had six points, while Stacie Ventress had five points and Abigail Gonzales and Brooklynn Anderson had four points each.

On Saturday, in the JV consolation championship, the girls made it two wins in a row by defeating Zephyr's JV 17-14, a team they had previously lost to this season. Stacie Ventress and Brooklynn Anderson had five points a piece.

## Hot Tamales!

### Three winners chosen in Tamale Contest

STAFF REPORT

Winters' Rock Hotel was the site of the Tamale Contest on Saturday, Dec. 12 and 13 contestants competed for bragging rights on who made the best tamales.

The tamales were judged by DJ Rudy Fernandez of KEAN in Abilene along with his friends, Jay Towell, director of student nutrition at Abilene ISD and Mark Young, CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of Abilene.

After eating dozens of

tamales and washing them down with plenty of tea, the trio finally chose the first, second and third place winners.

There were a total of 13 contestants for the contest and all donated tamales for the dinner which included beans and rice, which was served during the event. Plus there were tamales available for purchase during the contest.

Mary Arredondo of Winters took first place and received a cash prize,

SEE TAMALES, Page 8



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Tamale Contest held at the Z.I. Hale Museum in Winters Saturday, Dec. 12 was a rousing success with two women from Winters and one from Ballinger taking home the bragging rights for the best tamales. There were 13 contestants and all donated their tamales to be judged and to feed the guests who attended the event. All proceeds went to the Z.I. Hale Museum.

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FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES

### Paul Alexander Stoecker

Paul Alexander Stoecker, 83, of Winters died Nov. 30, 2015. He was born Feb. 20, 1932 to Carroll and Mamie Stoecker in Winters, Texas and grew up there. He was in the National Guard and served in the United States Army. He married Antoinette Mattiuzzo on Dec. 4, 1954 in Lockport, New York. They were married for 19 years and had 4 children. He later married Jo Karr on July 2, 1977 in Abilene, Texas. He worked for Merchants Fast Motor Lines for 37 years retiring in 1995. He then was a stock farmer. He loved football, to fish, hunt and tend to his cows better known as his pets. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church and was a longtime choir member.

He is survived by his wife: Jo Stoecker of Winters. 6 children: Sharon Ellis and husband John of Dublin, Michael Stoecker of Abilene, Tom Stoecker and Kelly Melton of Winters, Mike Karr and Wife Cindy of Abilene, Marty Karr and wife Patty of Port Aransas and Suzanne Karr of Abilene. 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren plus 1 on the way. He was preceded in death by 1 daughter: Linda Gail.

The family received friends at 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, 2015 at Winters Funeral Home.

Services were 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, 2015 at St. John's Lutheran Church. Burial followed in the Lutheran cemetery directed by Winters Funeral Home.

The family requests in lieu of flowers memorials be made to St. John's Lutheran Church.

Winters Enterprise, December 17, 2015

### Ellen Kettler

Ellen Kettler, 93, of Winters passed to her heavenly home on Monday, Dec. 14, 2015.

She was born Jan. 24, 1922 in Abilene and lived on a farm east of Winters before moving in to Winters in 1953. She was baptized in 1922 into St. John's Lutheran Church where she was a lifelong member. She married L.W. Kettler on March 13, 1941 in Rio Grande City. She worked for McMillan Cleaners and the Henslee Cleaners for many years. When her husband retired from Dry Manufacturing she started selling Avon for approximately ten years before switching to Stanley products. She gave that up after a number of years in favor of making cakes, cookies, candy and fried pies for family, friends and neighbors. She touched many lives and will be sorely missed by all those who knew and loved her.

Survivors include two sons, Jimmy Kettler and wife Lajuana of Arlington, Leroy Kettler and wife Neet of Dayton; one daughter, Judy Mapes of San Angelo; six grandchildren, Jay Kettler and wife Samantha of Gatesville, Angie Steinau of San Antonio, Adrian Kettler of Arlington, Tony Mapes of Austin, Levi and Lucas Kettler of Dayton; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband L.W.; sister, Elfreda Gottschalk; brother, Harry Gerhart; and parents, Martin and Minnie Gerhart

The family wishes to express heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Nikki and Robin Lowe of Ashwood Manor in Ballinger and nurses of Ballinger Home Health and Hospice for their loving care given to mom.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. today at the Lutheran Cemetery with Rev. Alsen Wenzel officiating under the direction of Winters Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to your favorite charity.

Winters Enterprise, December 17, 2015

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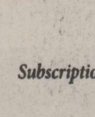
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### Nina Rose Burger

Nina Rose Burger, 86, long time resident of Odessa before moving to Ballinger in 2008 passed away Thursday, Dec. 10, 2015 at her residence.

She was born Jan. 10, 1929 in Brown County to Devoe and Kate (Martin) Manley. After high school, Nina attended North Texas State College. She graduated with a Bachelor's of Science Degree and began her life long career in education. She was a teacher and coach for 25 years, spending most of that time at Nimitz Jr. High School in Odessa. Nina was



a member of Crescent Park Baptist Church in Odessa. Nina was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Ray Burger; her parents; and her sister, Madalyn Stewart. She is survived by her daughter, Charla Nord and husband John of Ballinger; her son, Jerry Burger of Wilson; grandchildren, Heidi Winkler, Trent Burger, Charlie Burger, Russell Dill, Cali Trowbridge, Caleb Dill, Jonathon Nord, Amiee Wright; numerous great-grandchildren; and many, many former students that she taught throughout her career.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2015 at Sunset Memorial Cemetery in Odessa.

The family requests that memorials be made to needy families or to a favorite charity. Arrangements are with Lange Funeral Home in Ballinger. Guests may register online at ballingerfuneralhome.com.

Winters Enterprise, December 17, 2015

### Christine Faye (Bryan) Barker

Christine Faye (Bryan) Barker was born on the farm near Norton, Sept. 5, 1923.

She passed away early Friday morning Dec. 4, 2015.

She was the daughter of O.F. and Edith Devore Bryan. Christine attended schools in Norton, Wingate, and Bradshaw before her marriage on March 31, 1939 to Ernest M. Barker.

The young couple soon traveled to California to find work. Christine worked in numerous jobs during her life, lastly with Western Electric, from which she retired after 30 years of service. Christine was a loving daughter, wife, sister, aunt and friend. She and Ernest hosted many service men that were located in the Alameda, Calif. area, and from this, many lasting friendships developed. The focus of their marriage was serving Christ and bringing as many as possible to Him. Christine had fond memories of the year she and Ernest spent on Saipan helping rebuild the area after World War II. Her nieces and nephews thought she made the best macaroni and cheese of anyone. It was a staple at all family dinners. Christine was a member of the North Fifth and



Grape St. Church of Christ in Abilene.

She is survived by her brother, Joe Bryan and wife Glenda of Winters; sister-in-law, Doris Armstrong and husband Don; brother-in-law Albert Barker and wife Margie, all of Modesto, Calif.; nephew, Douglas Bryan and wife Debbie of Winters; nieces, Rebecca Airhart and husband Paul of Winters, Lisa Blake and husband Charles of Norco, Calif., Cindy Stuart and husband Russ of Clinton, Ill., Connie Bozarth and husband Tim of San Angelo, Cathy DiMaria and husband Tony of Anchorage, AK.; 14 great-nieces and nephews, all who thought she was the fun aunt to visit. She always had ice cream and Hershey's chocolate syrup to go with it and fun stuff to watch on TV.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest Barker; her parents, Edith and O.F. Bryan; one son, Michael Barker at birth; three brothers, Allen Eugene Bryan in Anchorage AK, Floyd Wayne and Travis Fred, in infancy; nephew, Mark Allen Bryan and niece, Sheila Rene Bryan.

Services were held at 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 6, 2015 at the 9th Street Church of Christ in Ballinger. Burial followed at Wilmeth Cemetery

Arrangements are with Lange Funeral Home of Ballinger. Guests may register online at ballingerfuneralhome.com.

Winters Enterprise, December 17, 2015

### Frances Hale Bryan

Frances Hale Bryan, 88, of Winters, died Nov. 24, 2015.

She was born Sept. 24, 1927 to A.N. and Minnie Mae Hale in Bradshaw and graduated from Bradshaw High School in 1945. She married Dewitt Bryan November 10, 1945 in Winters, he preceded her in death May 28, 2008. She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ.

She is survived by three children, Gary Bryan and wife Cheryl of Winters, Marsha Powell and husband Harry of Big Foot and Kendra Nitsch and husband Kenny of San Angelo; two sisters, Doris Bryan and husband Lelon of Winters and Shirley Denton and husband Ronnie of Bronte; seven grandchildren, Susan Hamilton and husband Tony, Angela Perkins and husband Brooke, Lance Feldhausen



and wife Lesa, Flint Feldhausen and wife Brandi, Shauna Nitsch, Jason Nitsch and Aaron Nitsch; eight great-great grandchildren, Lauren and Allison Hamilton, Layne, Logen and Bryant Feldhausen, Ashanti Nitsch, Rayden and Tristan Manchaca; three nieces and six nephews and several great and great-great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by one brother, Joe Hale; her parents; and one sister-in-law, Pat Hale.

Services were held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015 in the Winters Funeral Home Chapel with Brooke Perkins and Tony Hamilton officiating. Burial followed at Wilmeth cemetery directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were her grandsons: Lance and Flint Feldhausen, Jason and Aaron Nitsch, and nephews Brent and Kendall Denton.

The family had a time of visitation following the burial at the fellowship hall of the North Main Church of Christ.

The family suggest that memorials be made to the American Heart Assoc. or the donors favorite local charity.

Winters Enterprise, December 17, 2015

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### A Christmas Mass at St. Joseph's

Christmas Vigil Mass will be held at St. Joseph's Church in Rowena on December 24, 2015 at 7pm. Prior to the mass, beginning at 6:20 p.m., the story of the birth of Christ will be told through narration, scripture readings and special music by St. Joseph's Choir and congregational participation. Four young soloists - Marissa Kalina, Alexa and Kameryn Schwertner and Alison Sharp - will be featured during the program along with elementary children from the St. Joseph's CCD Program. Following mass the final ornament will be placed on the Jesse Tree by the children in attendance, after which they will gather round the crib to sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus. Everyone is invited to attend and participate in the celebration of this beautiful Christmas tradition. Mass on Christmas day will be at 8

a.m.

#### Shot clinics in January

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 appointment, please call 754-4945. If no answer, leave a message. The clinic in Winters will be from 10 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 3 p.m., Thursday, January 7, 2016, at the Professional Building, 110 South Main, 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, January 14, 2016, at 600 Strong Ave. Please bring the child's immunization records. If the child has Medicaid, please bring the card.

#### Visit Friendly Neighbors

The Texas Extension Education Agency "Friendly Neighbors" invites everybody in the Runnels County area who is interested in learning about cooking, gardening, arts and crafts and other useful subjects to meetings at 2 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month (except during the summer). Meetings will alternate between the Runnels County Extension Office on the corner of south 7th Street and Sealy Ave. in Ballinger and the Winters Public Library at 120 N. Main St. in Winters. If you are interested and would like to find out more about this group, call Martha at 365-3890 or Judy at 754-5386.



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TEXAS HISTORY MINUTE

# H.L. Hunt: From farmer to oil tycoon

"Money is just a way of keeping score," oil baron H. L. Hunt was once reported to have said. H. L. Hunt kept score, counted cards, and had a relentless appetite for anything he saw in one of the most unusual rags-to-riches stories in the history of American business.

Haroldson Lamar Hunt, Jr., was born in Ramsey, a small farm community in southern Illinois, in 1889. He was the youngest of eight children. His father, Haroldson Hunt, Sr., was a farmer, and all the entire family worked full-time to support the farm. His mother, Ella, taught the children at home, and Hunt had very little formal schooling. At the age of 16, he left home and started exploring the West, taking a series of odd jobs along the way, including lumberjack and mule skinner.

He had a talent for math and turned to gambling. He made it to Arkansas by 1910, and after his father's death, he used his inheritance and bought a cotton plantation in Chicot County. He married Lyda Bunker in 1914. By the early 1920s, facing ruin from a series of floods, Hunt moved to nearby El Dorado, which was in the midst of an oil boom that was producing incredible fortunes and bringing in swarms of prospectors.

While he had seven children with wife Lyda Bunker of Lake Village, he was not a devoted family man. He carried on torrid affairs with at least two other women, having eight known children with his mistresses.

According to several stories, nearly broke, Hunt gambled his last dollars in a series of poker games in the notorious "Hamburger Row" area of El Dorado, an area known at the time



for speakeasies, greasy spoons, and houses of prostitution. Hunt ended up winning a fortune in games that included stakes in the lucrative oil fields of South Arkansas. One turn of the cards made the difference between riches and ruin.

From these developing leases, he formed partnerships with businessmen in the area and began parlaying investments from oil sales and began brokering oil leases, steadily building what would become a business empire. Eventually, he had 44 producing wells in South Arkansas and sold a stake in 40 wells in 1924 for \$600,000 (more than \$8.1 million in 2015 dollars). By 1925, the once nearly-bankrupt cotton farmer was now a millionaire and had bought out an entire city block in downtown El Dorado where he built an august three-story mansion.

At this point, Hunt was just beginning. He began expanding his oil hold-

ings, drilling more wells in southern Arkansas and expanding into Louisiana and Oklahoma. By 1930, he was exploring the rumored oil fields in East Texas.

At this point, he was approached by Columbus M. "Dad" Joiner, who owned a small farm in Rusk County, Texas. Joiner had been attempting to find investors for his claims. Hunt learned that there were problems with Joiner's legal claims to the oil and that he was deeply in debt. Convinced there was oil, Hunt gambled again. Hunt bought the oil leases for \$30,000 in cash, secured mostly from an El Dorado investor, and promised Joiner up to \$1.2 million when oil was found. Hunt promised to protect Joiner from any lawsuits or legal action regarding the claims. The field paid off beyond his wildest dreams.

In 1932, Hunt moved his family and his headquarters to Tyler, Texas. He began drilling more wells and buying local refineries. The East Texas oil fields would make Hunt not only a billionaire but the richest man in the world.

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



Dr. Ken Bridges

COMMUNITY NEWS

**Christmas release**

Winters ISD will have early release at 1 p.m. Friday for all campuses for the Christmas holiday. Classes will resume Tuesday Jan. 5 at 7:30 a.m.

**City Council meetings**

The Winters City Council meets at 6 p.m. the Monday, Dec. 21 in the council chambers at 310 North Main.

**AA meets in Winters**

Alcoholics Anonymous meets in Winters 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 Alcohol-

ics 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.

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CELINDA HAWKINS | LEDGER PHOTO

Runnels County Sheriff Bill Baird is spearheading the annual Christmas Toy Drive once again this year and is encouraging families to call his office to submit names of children who will receive toys during the event, which is in its 32nd year. Baird, left, and his secretary Marie Hoffman, are taking toy and monetary donations at the Runnels County Sheriff's Office at 612 Strong Ave. Call 325-365-2121 for more information.

## Sheriff Santa is on a mission Christmas Toy Drive is underway

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

Runnels County Sheriff Bill Baird is on a mission – to make sure all children across the county have a wonderful Christmas.

Baird has been spearheading the annual Christmas Toy Drive since he took office in 1983 and each year it has grown.

He remembered one of his inspirations for getting the Toy Drive started those many years ago, came after he saw a note on the front door of a home where he had been called to.

"It read 'Santa Claus me and my brothers and sisters hope your reindeer don't have the flu again,'" Baird recalled and then it was on, and the tradition began.

Each year, he and his staff are happy to help families who are less fortunate, make sure their children have a Merry Christmas.

And each year, generous citizens of Runnels County pull through, donating funds and toys and

other items for hundreds of children in Ballinger, Winters, Miles, Rowena and Wingate.

"In the last two or three years, we've given toys to over 400 children county wide," Baird said.

Parents who wish to put their children on the list, simply call the RCSO and give their names and the names of their children.

It has been slow going this year, Baird said. So far, the RCSO has only received names of about 40 families, which translates into gifts for about 150 children.

"We need people to call and get their names on the list," Baird said.

Those who wish to donate toys, may bring them by the Sheriff's Office or may drop them in the Salvation Army box at Wal-Mart.

Father Hubert Wade of St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church, heads up the Salvation Army portion of the drive.

"We will be taking the toys from Wal-Mart next week," Wade said.

Baird said Wade and

the congregation of the church as well as other churches and community members have been so generous over the years and he and all of the recipients of the gifts appreciate their kindness.

Each year, between \$2,000 and \$3,000 is raised for the Toy Drive, which includes monetary donations and toy donations. Each child receives four or five gift items.

And each year, Baird uses whatever cash funds he has left to buy blankets and warm clothing for the kids.

Baird and his helpers will begin bagging the toys on Friday and will distribute them throughout the county on Dec. 22.

Donations of new toys, clothes and other items may be dropped off at the Runnels County Sheriff's Office at 612 Strong Ave. between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 325-365-2121 to submit names or for more information.

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- 26 Baseball card brand
- 30 Off yonder
- 31 Comedian Wanda
- 33 Handle for a poodle
- 34 Hummus scooper
- 35 Singer Rawls
- 37 Change one's \_\_\_\_
- 39 Wriggler
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- 45 \_\_\_\_ Romeo
- 46 Director Wenders
- 47 Oil of \_\_\_\_
- 49 Barber's supply
- 51 Pavarotti, notably
- 55 Single
- 56 Rand McNally product
- 58 Director Ephron
- 59 Sch. in Madison, N.J.
- 61 Yuletide beverage
- 63 Comic Conway
- 64 Grant-in-\_\_\_\_
- 65 Detectives for hire
- 70 Wedding words
- 71 Leg part
- 72 Justice Kagan
- 73 Stimpy pal
- 74 Pope's "An Essay \_\_\_\_"
- 75 Little cat

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Down

- 1 Size up
- 2 Like mollusk-laden beaches
- 3 Wild Bill of the Wild West
- 4 Be off base
- 5 Requisite
- 6 Make the \_\_\_\_ (profit from)
- 7 Slice of history
- 8 Gymnast's goal
- 9 Twaddle
- 10 Jacob's twin
- 11 Like constitutional amendments
- 12 Disturbs
- 13 Across-the-board
- 18 Trike rider
- 23 Forty winks
- 25 Actor Lugosi
- 27 Hidden hazard
- 28 "Bah, humbug!"
- 29 Toughness
- 32 Slammin' Sammy
- 36 Court org.
- 38 Cut, maybe
- 40 Salt, for one
- 41 Used for support
- 42 "\_\_\_\_ first you don't succeed..."
- 43 "You got that right!"
- 44 Arctic blast
- 48 Evergreen shrub
- 50 Palestine, in the Bible
- 52 Procrastinator's reply
- 53 Set straight
- 54 Chef Gordon
- 57 Drunk
- 60 \_\_\_\_ snuff
- 62 Nerd
- 66 Thousandth of a yen
- 67 Maker of Watson
- 68 \_\_\_\_ Appia
- 69 Teacher of Samuel

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER GRID

C	H	E	S	T	C	O	P	S	E	C	O	N				
O	I	L	E	R	A	B	E	T	S	O	W	E				
W	H	I	T	E	T	E	K	N	I	G	H	T	N	E	W	
L	A	D	S	O	O	T	E	R	N	E	S	T				
S	T	E	T	S	O	N	B	L	E	A	H					
					E	E	L	S	L	E	E	P	E	R	S	
M	E	R	E	S	T	U	N	T	A	A	A					
I	R	O	N	T	H	I	N	S	M	D	C	C				
L	I	D	S	A	I	N	T	C	A	S	E	S				
T	E	M	P	T	I	N	G	L	O	Y						
					C	O	A	L	S	C	U	R	A	B	L	E
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N	A	N	A	D	E	P	T	W	I	S	E	R				

## Weather Whys

**Q: How do cold fronts differ from others on a weather map?**

**A:** The quick way for a meteorologist to convey a lot of information in a hurry is by using weather symbols, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "The symbols on a weather map can tell people quickly what is happening all over the country," he explains. "They can show rain, snow, thunderstorms, wind direction, all sorts of things. One quick way to distinguish fronts was to make them different colors. So many decades ago, cold fronts were colored blue and warm fronts were colored red."

# ROLIND-UP

## Runnels County

### Public Record

#### Runnels County Jail Record December 17, 2015

Name	Age	Agency
Travis D. Phillips	51	Coke
DWLI w/previous convictions		
Dana Brown	62	Coke
Hindering secure creditors, MTR		
Emalee M. Roznovsky	22	WPD
Kerr County warrant		
Mathew D. Bryant	28	DPS
Poss. of controlled substance		
Brian Thibodeaux	30	DPS
Poss. of controlled substance		
Dustin R. Whitlock	25	Concho
Sent to 3 years TDCJ on indecency with a child		
Christopher L. Dering	32	Coke
Unauthorized use of Motor Vehicle		
D'Kotu S. Tiller	19	RCSO
Sent to State Jail		
Waymon C. Norman	36	WPD
Poss. of marijuana		
Randy C. Mathews	32	Concho
P.I. - D.O.C.		
Xavier Camacho	20	BPD
Poss. controlled substance		
Daniel Diaz	20	BPD
P.I. Poss. of DP		
Ampam Bautista	34	Concho
Warrant Aggravated assault w/deadly weapon, warrant driving while license invalid, DWI		

The VA reported the reduction of the disability claims backlog to 98,535. This is the lowest it has ever been in VA's history, and it represents an 84-percent reduction from its peak of 611,000 claims in March 2013. The backlog of claims older than 125 days was over half a million and climbing, and the claims inventory was nearly 800,000 and rising. In 2009, VA set a goal to process claims in an average of 125 days. They set in motion the Transformation Plan - a series of people, process, and technology initiatives that, when integrated, would bring the backlog down. Today's numbers are a reflection of the success of this plan. It's been personal to all VBA employees - 53 percent of whom are veterans themselves and many more are family members of veterans - and to Veterans Health Administration physicians and staff and IT colleagues who have gone above and beyond to provide veterans with the medical examinations needed to support claims. It was through the efforts of these employees, team members

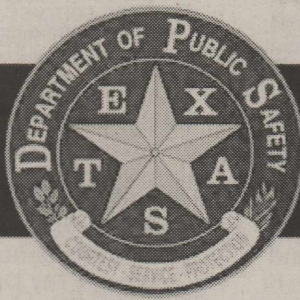


Sandra G. Van Zant

and partners that they were able to achieve such a dramatic reduction in the backlog, without sacrificing quality. Claims-based quality has risen from 83 percent at the start of transformation to 91 percent today - and holding strong - and on the eight separate quality categories measured within a claim, employees are making the correct decision more than 98 percent of the time. With the help of Congress, our partners in Veterans Service Organizations and County Veterans Service Officers, they are on track to complete nearly 1.4 million claims this fiscal year - exceeding 1 million claims for the fifth year in a row, and setting a new historical record. For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or call 365-3612.

— Sandra G. Van Zant, Veterans County Service Officer



## Texas Department of Public Safety

### DPS offers tips to avoid vehicle theft during the holidays

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety is reminding Texans about the potential for vehicle thefts during the holiday season and is advising individuals to take extra precautions to guard against possible auto thefts. Vehicle burglaries are also a concern during the holiday season. "The holiday season is a busy time for everyone - including criminals; and DPS is urging Texans to do what they can to keep

vehicles and valuables safe from possible thieves," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "The months of December and January can be prime times for auto theft and burglaries. It is important to always lock car doors and store valuables out of sight." In December 2014, 5,717 automobiles, pickups and motorcycles were recorded stolen, making it one of the highest months for vehicle thefts that year, outside of the summer months. In addition, more than 13,190 vehicle burglaries were reported and \$13.3 million in property stolen last December, also making it one of the highest months that year. DPS offers the following

tips that Texans can follow to help protect against vehicle theft:

- Never leave your car running unattended, even for a quick visit to a business or store.
- Never leave keys in the car or ignition, inside a locked garage, or in hide-a-key boxes.
- Always roll up your windows and lock the car, even if it is parked at your home.
- When possible, always park in high-traffic, well-lit areas.
- Install an anti-theft device that locks the steering wheel, column or brakes, especially if your vehicle is considered to be at increased risk for theft.
- Never leave personal

documents, vehicle ownership title or credit cards in your vehicle.

■ Always keep valuables or property hidden out of sight or locked in the trunk.

If your vehicle is stolen, report it to the police immediately. DPS also encourages individuals to keep a copy of their license plate and vehicle identification number on hand in case of theft, since police will need this information to take a report.

For more information about auto thefts and burglary, see <http://www.txdmv.gov/motorists/consumer-protection/auto-theft-prevention>.

### Hearing in murder case slated Jan. 7

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

The first hearing for Queandro Quarles, indicted for murder Dec. 2, will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, 2016 at the Runnels County Courthouse.

Queandro Quarles, 34, of Ballinger was indicted for murder in the Oct. 3 death of Kenneth Sneed, 36, of Tennessee.

According to Ballinger Police Chief Mark McNulty, Quarles and Sneed started

arguing after a night of drinking.

The two reportedly got into a fight at an apartment in the 1500 block of 8th Street and according to McNulty, Sneed was knocked down and "did not get up." Police were called to the scene at 1:40 a.m. Saturday and found Sneed unresponsive.

Sneed was airlifted to Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo, where he died at around 1 p.m. Quarles was arrested at the scene and initially charged with

aggravated assault. He was later arraigned and charged with murder.

Quarles remains in custody at the Runnels County Jail charged with assault that causes serious bodily injury and murder. Bond for both offenses totals \$650,000.

McNulty said doctors told him that Sneed suffered a cerebral edema and a fracture near the neck area.

If convicted of the first degree felony, Quarles could face up to life in prison.

# GOT NEWS

We welcome your news items and photos to include in the upcoming edition of The Ballinger Ledger or Winters Enterprise

Choose the way that's most convenient for you

In person, at 806 Hutchings Avenue in downtown Ballinger. Office Hours are Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

By phone to 325-365-3501.

By fax to 325-365-5389.

By email: [chawkins@ballingerledger.com](mailto:chawkins@ballingerledger.com)

Deadlines are as follows: News items - Noon Monday; Display advertising - 5 p.m. Monday; Classifieds line advertising - 11 a.m. Tuesday.

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"Wilbur, tell me some more about that new breakfast cereal with that extra glt up and go!"

#### SUBMISSIONS POLICY

*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](mailto:chawkins@ballingerledger.com) or if you have questions, call 325-365-3501.

Check us out on the web at  
[wintersenterprise.com](http://wintersenterprise.com)

# Official Runnels County Seal presented

## STAFF REPORT

History was made last month as the first official Runnels County Seal was presented to the county by the Runnels County Historical Commission.

The seal is the first ever in the county's history which dates back to 1858.

The commissions approved an official Runnels County Seal as proposed by the Runnels County Historical Commission at the meeting in November and the official seal was presented to County Judge Barry Hilliard in early December.

As Runnels County Historical Commission Chairperson Ruth Cooper was researching the County Seal for Runnels County to be used in the new Runnels County Historical Marker Program, she discovered

that an official seal had never been adopted. Her research included working with Hilliard and County Clerk Julia Miller. Cooper discovered that no record of a seal being adopted was found.

"They worked so hard and it just amazed me," Hilliard said. "The RCHC is active and very thorough in their research."

Several similar seals were being used by various county offices and were legal on documents, but no standard seal was used by all offices. The Runnels County Historical Commission recommended to the commissioners that a seal with the year 1858 be approved as the official seal of Runnels County, the year that Runnels County was laid out by the Texas Legislature and was named after Hiram G. Runnels,

a politician and the ninth governor of Mississippi. Runnels County was not officially organized until 1880.

The Runnels County Historical Commission ordered a 12 inch cast seal similar to historical markers to be used at official events of RCHC. The county seal is property of Runnels County and is to be used only by official offices of Runnels County. Permission for any use of the seal would need to come from the Runnels County Historical Commission or the Runnels County Commissioners' Court. County offices will transition to the new seal in coming months.

Hilliard has yet to find the official place to put the seal, but suggested placing it on the outside of the courthouse.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The official Runnels County Seal was presented to Runnels County Judge Barry Hilliard earlier this month and approved by commissioners in November.

## NORTH RUNNELS HOSPITAL EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



Mike Goetz has been voted Employee of the Quarter at North Runnels Hospital in Winters. Goetz has been in the EMS field for 18 years and a paramedic for 12 years. Goetz makes sure that his patients receive all the care possible when being transported by the EMS staff. Hospital officials say Goetz is always willing to lend a hand where ever it is needed and that North Runnels Hospital is fortunate to have him as part of their health care team. Goetz, left is pictured here with NRH CEO Judy Espitia.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Fatal accident reported Sunday on U.S. 83

### STAFF REPORT

The Department of Public Safety reported a fatal accident at 7:08 p.m. Sunday on U.S. Highway 83 south of Winters involving a motorcycle, an 18-wheeler and one other vehicle.

Early reports show that the motorcycle was northbound on US 83 behind another unknown vehicle. The motorcycle was passing the vehicle in front when it met an 18-wheeler going the opposite direction.

The motorcycle veered left to the west side shoulder of US-83 to avoid the rig and then struck the vehicle following the 18-wheeler. One person was killed the DPS reports. The name of the deceased person has not been released by the DPS.

The condition of the drivers of the other vehicles is unknown at this time.

The DPS will provide additional information as it becomes available.

## LUTHERAN CHOIR CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT THE ROCK HOTEL



PHOTO COURTESY JOE GERHART

The Winters Christmas Carolers performed during the Rock Hotel Christmas Season Grand Opening Christmas Carols at the Rock Hotel Christmas Season Grand Opening, Monday, Dec. 7. Before they sang they enjoyed touring the museum to view the Santa display. The Rock Hotel will be open for viewing from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The raffle drawing will be held Saturday. Call 325-754-5389 for a special viewing time. Seated in the front row from left to right are: Alton O'Neal Jr, Naomi Gerhart, Ruth Cooper, Darlene Sims, Nelda Voss, Melinda Hoppe and Brenda Watkins. Seated in the back row from left to right are: Allen Andrae, Sarah Craig, Joyce Broadstreet, Audine McBeth, Juanita Bredemeyer and Frances Holle.

## Bake sale Saturday benefits animal rescue group

### STAFF REPORT

R.E.A.S.O.N. Animal Rescue of Winters will hold a bake sale at WalMart Express on North Main Street in Winters beginning at 7 a.m. Saturday. Proceeds from the sale benefit the organization.

R.E.A.S.O.N. Animal Rescue, of Winters is a nonprofit, 501 (c) 3 charity that rescues abused, abandoned and stray dogs and cats. The group's goals are to "Rescue, Educate, Adopt, Spay Or Neuter."

Since R.E.A.S.O.N.'s inception, volunteers have rescued, spayed, neutered, medically treated and have adopted out, to "forever" homes, over 400 dogs and 350 cats. It has been with your assistance that R.E.A.S.O.N. has been able to continue efforts to rescue stray dogs and cats, helping to reduce and hopefully to conquer public health threats from animal disease.

Public donations of baked items to our event are greatly welcomed and appreciated. Volunteers appreciate all of the help that they receive in the way of contributions and donations from their Runnels County neighbors. For more information call 325-754-5201.



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# Winters Elementary UIL results

Winters Elementary students placed second overall at the UIL contest held in Anson, Thursday, Dec. 3.

## UIL RESULTS

### 2nd Grade

**Chess**  
Caden Vasquez, 1st  
Montgomery Hatter, 2nd

**Team 1st**  
Caden Vasquez  
Montgomery Hatter  
Jonah Whitaker

**Creative Writing**  
Angel Sanchez, 4th  
Nikole Bowen, 5th

**Music Memory**  
Shayla Camacho, 2nd  
Abel Gonzales, 4th  
Jonah Whitaker, 5th  
Lianna Esquivel, 5th

**Team 2nd**  
Shayla Camacho  
Abel Gonzales  
Jonah Whitaker  
Lianna Esquivel

### Oral Reading

Shayla Camacho, 2nd  
Montgomery Hatter, 5th  
Corley Belew, 6th

### Spelling

Jonah Whitaker, 4th  
Caden Vasquez, 5th  
Trent Edwards, 6th

### Team 2nd

Jonah Whitaker  
Caden Vasquez  
Trent Edwards

### 3rd Grade

**Chess**  
Avison Lin, 2nd  
Hunter Jackson, 5th

**Team 2nd**  
Avison Lin  
Hunter Jackson  
Braiden Williams

**Music Memory**  
Kaelynn Hoelscher, 4th  
Addison Anderson, 5th  
Weston Bueschel, 6th

**Team 2nd**  
Kaelynn Hoelscher  
Addison Anderson  
Weston Bueschel

**Oral Reading**  
Kaelynn Hoelscher, 3rd  
Hunter Jackson, 5th  
Baylie Bryant, 6th

### Ready Writing

Addison Anderson, 4th  
Jaleena Ramero, 5th

### Spelling

Avison Lin, 3rd  
Diego Rodriguez, 5th

### 4th Grade

**Chess**  
Winni Lin, 1st  
Justin Gomez, 2nd

**Team 1st**  
Winni Lin  
Justin Gomez  
Payton Cortez

**Music Memory**  
Ishmael Sanchez, 4th  
Riley Calcote, 5th

**Team 2nd**  
Ishmael Sanchez  
Abby Glascock  
Riley Calcote  
Payton Duggan

### Oral Reading

Payton Duggan, 1st  
Rylee Calcote, 6th

### Number Sense

Winni Lin, 2nd  
Ishmael Sanchez, 4th  
Malachi alvaredo, 5th

### Team 1st

Winni Lin  
Ishmael Sanchez  
Malachi Alvaredo

### Ready Writing

Mikaela Auguero, 4th

### Spelling

Mikaela Augero, 1st

### 5th Grade

**Art**  
Nick Trevino, 5th

**Team 3rd**  
Nick Trevino  
Nico Rodriguez  
Jaydon Santos

**Chess**  
Kaden Ballard

**Team 3rd**  
Abanea Cortez  
Gavriel Diaz

Kaden Ballard

### Dictionary

Team 3rd  
Shelby Santos  
Mary Ann Renfro  
Ashlynn Richards

### Maps, Graphs and Charts

Kaden Ballard, 6th

### Team 3rd

Kaden Ballard  
Charlie Seaney  
Nico Rodriguez

### Listening

Valentina Costa, 6th

### Team 3rd

Valentina Costa  
Kira Collins  
Alissah Landeros

### Music Memory

Zander Hadlock, 1st  
Kate Zachary, 2nd  
Courtney Chausey, 3rd  
Alexyss Bigham, 4th  
James Speir, 6th

### Team 1st

Zander Hadlock  
Kate Zachary

Courtney Chausey  
Alexyss Bigham  
James Speir

### Number Sense

Zander Hadlock  
2nd  
Charlie Seaney  
6th

### Team 3rd

Zander Hadlock  
Charlie Seaney  
James Speir

### Ready Writing

Mary Ann Renfro, 2nd  
Abanea Cortez, 3rd

### Spelling

Ashlynn Richards, 6th

### Team 3rd

Ashlynn Richards  
Keleigh Ramirez  
Brianna Griggs

### Social Studies

Kate Zachery, 6th

### Team 3rd

Charlie Seaney  
Nick Trevino  
Kate Zachery

## Just Around the Corner

Toys from back in the day...You'll shoot your eye out, kid...

What were toy makers and parents thinking back in the day with all of the dangerous toys we grew up with? It's a wonder we all made it to adulthood without shooting each other, breaking our necks or burning down the house.

Back in the day, toy guns looked like real guns — and for the most part, they had real ammo. Our love of guns started at an early age.

How about the Bat Masterson Derringer Belt Gun? This looked like something the original actor Gene Barry (who played Masterson) would pull out of his vest or what Maverick AKA James Garner would draw after a contentious poker game.

If you were into war games, how about really hurting your friends with the Johnny Rebel Cannon which shot real cannon balls



Celinda Hawkins

about the size of a golf ball - up to 35 feet. "Mom, can we play with the cannon ball?" "Sure, here's some matches, go outside..."

During the 60s, otherwise known as the "decade of bad (toy) ideas," things like Whammo's Swing Wing existed, and it was a little plastic beanie with a whirly gig on top with streamers. In the spirit of the Hula Hoop, this toy forced kids to twirl their heads really fast to keep it going. You reckon Baby Boomers have neck problems because of this one? Ask a chiropractor.

Would you like a mini cake or mini pan of brownies cooked by a high wattage light bulb that gets so hot it can melt the plastic doors off of the toy? Sound the sirens, it's the Easy Bake Oven, my personal favorite.

Hundreds of thousands of little girls had their first baking experiences with this "toy," or "fire hazard." Just take the toy in your room, whip up the cake mix with your Suzie Homemaker beaters, take the short cord and make sure you're by the curtains and fire it up. This thing was almost faster

than a microwave, thanks to the 200-watt light bulb that baked your mini-cake at 500 degrees. Yum, yum, those cakes were delish.

Girls and boys enjoyed another fire trap called "Creepy Crawlers," which featured a hot plate — yes, here's a kid-friendly toy. Again, a short plug goes into the wall turns the hot plate to 5,000 degrees and then kids poured this goop into a mold that formed into some kind of scary bug. Be sure to wait until the bug cools off before touching.

Oops, a little too anxious? Burns and blisters were a fact of life in the hot plate, hot plastic bug business. "Mom, I need some Bactine."

Here's one for the record books - The Gilbert U-238 Atomic Energy Lab was sold from 1951-52. This thing actually had real uranium ore in the set - really?

Then what about Gilbert's Chemistry Outfit for Boys? Fifty years ago, you were hard pressed not to find a family without a chemistry set somewhere around the house. This set, which dates back to 1922, instruct-

ed the kids to take the experiments outside. Red flag? But seriously, a recent show on PBS about science blames the demise of chemistry sets for the declining interest in science. Hmmm...

And then there were "Lawn Darts," which were giant darts for the outdoors. Now what kid is actually going to use the handy paper target provided in the box of four 12-inch darts with metal tips. The fact is, these things were pulled from the shelves after a government agency reported that these babies could cause "skull punctures and other serious injuries."

How about "Clackers?" This was another popular toy/dangerous weapon that we played with in the 60s and 70s. Yes, these lovely glass balls dangling at the end of a string were fun to play with. The idea was to get them going and fast and not to give your friend a concussion if you accidentally lost control. My mom hated this toy and it

SEE CORNER, Page 8



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Friday prior at 5pm

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Sales deadline is 3 p.m. Friday

Ad copy 2 p.m. Monday

The staff of the Ballinger Ledger and the Winters Enterprise would like to wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

We thank you for your business during the 2015 year and look forward to working with you in 2016!

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Contact Bryan Davis at 325-754-1108 or e-mail: [bryan@davislandandcattle.com](mailto:bryan@davislandandcattle.com)  
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GIVE US A CALL ON OUR CURRENT LISTINGS PROPERTY AVAILABILITIES AT: [www.davislandandcattle.com](http://www.davislandandcattle.com)

## Giving Gifts

This time of year, I try to spend some time in the evenings thinking about my loved ones. What a joy comes to my heart when I think about each one and how much I love them. When we give gifts from the heart, we are motivated by love. As I think about giving a gift to my loved ones, I try to find a balance between what they want and what they need. What warmth comes to my heart when I have given a gift that they really need and enjoy. In my trying to decide what gifts to give reminds me of a dilemma God may have faced many years ago. He loved us very much (1 John 4:8) and was facing the problem of giving us what we needed the most or the things we wanted. He knew that mankind was going to disobey Him and forever be separated from Him. He wanted to make a way that fellowship could be restored with Him (1 John 4:9,10). He did this by sending His own son to die for us (Romans 5:8) so a new relationship could be established with Him (Ephesians 2:4-10, John 3:16). Let us make sure we have received and accepted that special gift and are experiencing the love of God. Then we can experience, enjoy, and understand the true meaning of Christmas, (His Son, John 1:12). See you in Church on Sunday.

Brother J

## CORNER

from Page 6

was one we had to save our allowance to buy, and we did. They were even outlawed at school. These things were never recalled, but they did make the strings nylon and the balls plastic to keep the strings from breaking and hurling the glass balls possibly into someone's head. Thanks for that extra safety measure, folks.

What about the BB gun rifles? Your father's father's father had a Red Ryder carbine-action, 200 shot Range Model air rifle with a compass in the stock and this thing that tells time. And thanks to Ralphie on "A Christmas Story," this toy gun enjoyed a whole new generation of popularity. One of my Dad's best buddies used to regale us kids with stories of how he lost an eye to a BB gun and how after the unfortunate accident, he wore a patch and then finally got a glass eye. I never knew whether or not he was just yanking our chains ...

But there's no doubt, the warning was true ...  
"You'll shoot your eye out, kid ..."

Celinda Hawkins is the managing editor of the Ballinger Ledger and the Winters Enterprise. Contact her at 325-365-3501 or via email at [chawkins@ballingerledger.com](mailto:chawkins@ballingerledger.com).

## Social Security evolves to serve customers

BY RAY VIGIL  
SOCIAL SECURITY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

Social Security is at the forefront of adapting and meeting the ever-changing needs of our customers. Technology plays an important role in helping us provide the world-class customer service America expects and deserves. And we're changing to keep current with new laws and judicial rulings as well.

One way we've evolved is by developing the my Social Security account. Once you enroll for a free account at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount), Social Security can help you estimate your future retirement or disability benefits, or manage them if you are already receiving benefits. You can do all of this easily and securely from the comfort of your home or

office.

Social Security listens to your needs as we improve the technologies that enhance the customer experience. We continue to look for new services to add to my Social Security to make it an even more powerful resource for you and your family.

Another way we're evolving is by adapting to legal and social changes. In 1935, when Social Security was created, the definition of "family" was different than it is today. On June 26, 2015, the Supreme Court issued a decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, holding that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry in all states. As a result, more same-sex couples will be recognized as married for purposes of determining entitlement to Social Security

benefits or eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments.

Not only have we adapted to provide benefits for same-sex spouses, but transgender people can now change the gender marker on their Social Security records based on identity, with no requirement for reassignment surgery.

Our mission at Social Security is to deliver services that meet the changing needs of the public. By keeping the public informed of their benefit estimates with my Social Security and adapting to our changing society, we will continue to achieve our goals and help you achieve yours. No matter who you are, you deserve the benefits of Social Security. Find out more at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

## ADAPT AND OVERCOME

# Seeking understanding

*"Some people's lives seem to flow in a narrative; mine had many stops and starts. That's what trauma does. It interrupts the plot. You can't process it because it doesn't fit with what came before or what comes afterwards."*

— Jessica Stern

One of the things we hear about all the time concerning veterans is Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Even though it is continually spoken of, it is rare that it is understood, even when it comes to veterans. One common misconception is that PTSD is something that only affects combat veterans, but this is simply not true. Although normally associated with war it can also be caused by sexual abuse, rape, crashes, natural disasters or the sudden death of a loved one.

There is one commonality with all of these events. Don't try to fight

alone. No matter what you have gone through there is someone else out there that has been through it before. Of course their experience

and resolution will not ever be completely similar to yours sometimes it helps just to talk to someone that understands.

Some misconceptions of PTSD are that everyone suffers the same. If one person has intrusive thoughts that make them continually relive the event, they might think it must be the same for everyone. Some people think that it is a sign of weakness, when it is actually a sign of your humanity. One common saying is that PTSD

is your brain's ordinary reaction to extraordinary events. Having your brain react in this way only proves that you are human.

There's no one size fits all reaction with PTSD. In my experience one person might have extreme reactions to gun shots, but another might have an extreme reaction to feeling trapped. Being understanding in difficult situations is the best thing for that person. Many times someone might not even know the exact cause of where their difficulties stem from. Sometimes it is more complicated and less straightforward than you would think.

*Adapt and Overcome is a 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.*



Chad McDuffee

## TAMALES

from Page 1

and gifts from The Attic, Hairway 83 Salon, Ms Bee's Quilting and Winters Auto.

The second place winner was Lupe Vazquez of Winters, and third place winner was Iris Blake of Ballinger with both winning cash prizes.

All of the contestants said they prepared the

tamales with love and with recipes handed down through many generations.

John Long, of the Z.I. Hale Museum, said the event was so successful, "we are already talking about having another one next year."

Organizers of the event wished to thank everyone who participated.

"We want to thank those who helped us make this a wonderful night at the

Rock, Josie Gonzales, for her many hours of helping gathering gifts and contestants for the contest," said Wanda Brewer, president of the Z.I. Hale Museum board. "As well as Nadine De La Cruz, a Z. I. Hale board member, for her help locating contestants. Also the local businesses; The Hairway 83 Salon, The Attic, Winters Auto, Ms Bee's Quilting, and Winters' Auto for their donations."

## SHERIFF

from Page 1

in Tom Green, Coleman, Taylor, Concho and Coke counties. He also worked along side investigators with the West Central Texas Interlocal Crime Task Force.

A native of Coleman County, Squyers graduated from Santa Anna High School in 1980 and would go on to work at Stempel Manufacturing for a number of years.

Squyers said he is the most qualified candidate to follow Sheriff Baird and said he knows the county and the citizens well.

"I am the most qualified person for the job," Squyers said. "I love Runnels County and the people here and I am the best person to continue Bill's (Baird) work."

Virden, who was appointed Miles police chief in 2012, has worked simultaneously at KRUN Radio in Ballinger beginning in 1999. He has been working on the morning show and serves as general manager of the station. He also does play by play for Bearcat football as well as offers commentary for other school sports events. This will be

Virden's second time to run for sheriff, with the first being in 2000.

Virden, a Ballinger native, is a 1988 graduate of Ballinger High School, and a 1992 graduate of Tarleton State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Services and Development.

Virden has held a Texas Peace Officer license since 1990. Virden was trained at the Basic Reserve Academy at Tarleton State University in 1990 and he completed Basic Peace Officer curriculum at the Permian Basin Regional Law Enforcement Academy in Midland in 1992. Toby completed the requirements to receive a Master Peace Officer license in 2001.

Virden said he wants to improve Runnels County and the sheriff's office.

"I want to do all I can do to make this county a better place," Virden said. "I want to provide a safe and secure place for citizens to live and work. I also want to bring a new set of eyes to things that can be improved in this county."

In the second contested race, Incumbent Sam Scott has filed for commissioner Precinct 3 and

has been challenged by Roy Mints. The sheriff's race and the Precinct 3 commissioners race are the only contested races that will be on the ballot for the March 1 primary.

All other candidates listed will run unopposed in the primary.

Runnels County Election Administrator Julia Miller said the winners in the contested races will be declared winner of the primary.

"We cannot officially declare anyone the winner until November, in case there is a write-in candidate," Miller explained. "The candidates have to go through the whole election process."

Other Runnels County candidates who have filed for election include incumbent Wayne Poehls who filed for the Precinct 1 constable position. Incumbent Archie Jobe has filed for the Precinct 2 constable position while incumbent Robert Moore has filed for Precinct 1 commissioner. Incumbent Robin Burgess has filed for tax assessor collector and incumbent Kenneth Slimp has filed for county attorney.

The deadline to file to run in the March primary was 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14.

*Christmas*  
**CHEER**  
**TABLE**

Please join us for our  
**Customer Appreciation**  
**Christmas Cheer Table**  
At  
**The Security State Bank**  
700 S Main St. Winters &  
502 Vine St. Buffalo Gap  
**Tuesday, December 22, 2015**  
9:00am to 3:00pm

Member  
**FDIC**  
EQUAL HOUSING  
**LENDER**

## Scott's Community

Words can't even say or express the gratitude that this community has shown for us during our mourning for our son, brother and friend. Our sincerest thank you to Brother Heath, Mike Meyer and Dan Killough for the wonderful service they put together to honor him.

Our hearts go out to the many individuals that been with us day and night. Without your help, we would have never made it to this point, whether it be a shoulder to lean on or a fresh cup of coffee to make it through the day, you have been there and we can never repay the selfless gratitude you have shown.

To all his fellow classmates, thanks for stopping by and making sure we are making it through this terrible time. We didn't realize that Scott was blessed with so many friends. We ask that you keep Cameron Cooper and Brendon Mikeska in your prayers. These two young men were like brothers to Scott. James and I welcome all of you to stop by anytime, whether it be to share a story or simply needing a hug. We love you all.

The Winters Volunteer Fire Department and Blizzard Football Team have given us great pride by making sure our angel got his last ride in the fire truck. We know he was making sure that all those in heaven were with him and watching with beautiful smiles as we made the journey down the road.

A special thanks to Menard's community for waving our Blizzard flag for our #51, it was one of the classiest things we have ever seen, and it will never be forgotten.

With love and sincerity,  
James, Debbie, Justin, Brandi and Trayson Lange,  
Richard Hamilton, Zane Lange and family,  
Diane Spraggins and family, Joyce Green and family,  
Donna Hall and family, Beverly Asbury.





# Dear Santa...

All letters were submitted by the PreK through Second Grade classes of Ballinger and Winters ISD and are greatly appreciated. While not every letter was prepared for publication, ALL were forwarded to the North Pole.



Ballinger Pre-K

Dear Santa,  
 This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)  
 Here are a few things I am wishing for:  
 an orange toy car, a orange toy bird, a shark toy. I will leave you a cheese stick and some apple juice.  
 Love, DeAnthony  
 PK Mrs. Skelton  
 PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.

Dear Santa,  
 This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)  
 Here are a few things I am wishing for:  
 a super, big giant gun, a big giant truck, I will leave you chicken strips and a hot pepper.  
 Love, Jordan  
 PK Mrs. Skelton  
 PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.

Dear Santa,  
 This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)  
 Here are a few things I am wishing for:  
 Tractor play, a truck car. Can you bring a Barbie for my sister. I will be leaving you cookies.  
 Love, Jason  
 PK Mrs. Skelton  
 PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.

Dear Santa,  
 This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)  
 Here are a few things I am wishing for:  
 Doc McStuffins Playset  
 And a car for my brother.  
 And something for my sister. I will leave you cookies and milk.  
 Love, Kamrie  
 PK Mrs. Skelton  
 PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.

Dear Santa,  
 This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)  
 Here are a few things I am wishing for:  
 Doc McStuffins toy, a soft jacket.  
 And can you bring my brother Wyatt a gun. I will leave you cookies and Kool-Aid.  
 Love, Allie  
 PK Mrs. Skelton  
 PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.

Dear Santa,  
 This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)  
 Here are a few things I am wishing for:  
 The Mickey Mouse curcake.  
 I want one stamp something for my brother Aldo, he wants the cars.  
 Love, Michelle Gutierrez  
 PK Mrs. Skelton  
 PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.

**Mrs. Fabion's Pre-K Ballinger Elementary**  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I help everybody clean up. I am in pre-k and I have learned drawing, ABCs, numbers, months of the year, days of the week, and colors. Please bring me Anna and Elsa dolls, a boy toy for my brother, and a baby for my sister. I like baby dolls a little bit. I like to buy apples and Goldfish. I live in Ballinger on 6th Street. I live in a big, green house. I will leave you a note that says, "Ho, Ho, Ho" and cookies with milk.  
 Love, Isabella  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I help my dad with the tower. I am in pre-k and I have learned toys, about school. Please bring me a doll, a mama for the doll, and my toys. Thank you, Santa Claus! I live in Ballinger, Texas. My house is big and brown. I will leave you cookies.  
 Love, Lashae

Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I help my dad fix the car. I am in pre-k and I have learned letters. Please bring me a motorcycle, Legos, and a talking bird. Thank you for giving me the stuff. I live in my mom's house. I will leave you a holiday cookie.  
 Love, Joseph  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I help my mommy clean up my room. I am in pre-k and I have learned coloring. Please bring me Barbies, a yo-yo, and dollies. Thank you for getting the toys. I live down the street. My house is big and white. I will leave you a cookie.  
 Love, Grace  
 Dear Santa, I have been good girl this year. I help my mom decorate for my birthday. I am in pre-k and I have learned my lessons. Please bring me a fake toy pet mouse that moves, a Doc McStuffins toy, and scissors-because my mom won't let me use hers. I love you, Santa. Don't tell

my Mom and my Nana, but I love them so much. I live at my Nana's but I'm going to get a new house. I will leave you a card that says, "I love you".  
 Love, Kendra  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I help (my friend) Raymond clean up. I am in pre-k and I have learned math. Please bring me Sonic, cars, and Batman. I miss you! Thank you for bringing me toys. I live at my house. Our house is big and a little bit brown. I will leave you cereal.  
 Love, Chaz  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I help my mom and my dad and my brothers. I am in pre-k and I have learned my letters. Please bring me a Doc McStuffins toy, a doggy-because Gigi's gone and I miss her, and a surprise. My dad lives in Glen Rose now. It is way, way far away. I live down the street, with my mom. My house is big and brown. I will leave you a toy and turkey.  
 Love, Avah

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I help my mommy put my snack in the refrigerator. I am in pre-k and I have learned the ABCs and the EFGs. Please bring me toys to play doctor for checkups and a toy dinosaur, and house shoes for when it's cold. Please can I have a ball? Thank you for the toys. I live with my Nana at her house. It has a black trampoline. I will leave you pumpkin pie.  
 Love, Brooklynn  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I help my mommy clean up toys. I am in pre-k and I have learned to behave. Please bring me a four wheeler, a helmet, and Christmas presents. I live on the highway in a brown house with a brown roof. I will leave you spaghetti and a cheese sandwich.  
 Love, Cason  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I play nice and I help my brother clean up. I am in pre-k and I have learned to play nice

with others. Please bring me a Peppa Pig house and dinosaurs. To get to my house you turn and you turn and you park. It's a white house and the roof is brown. I will leave you a jug of milk and a gingerbread man.  
 Love, Raymond  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I help clean up my toys and I play nice. I am in pre-k and I have learned to make a puppet. Please bring me a choo-choo train and lots of Autobots. I like rein-deers. My favorite one is the blue one-I call him "Flashlight". I live by my cousins in a grey house. I just have a cat. I will leave you cookies that my Dad makes.  
 Love, Kayden  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I help my friends clean up. I help my mommy find her glasses. I am in pre-k and I have learned to work hard and be nice. Please bring me a dolly that talks when you push a button, a Jack in the box, and new scissors. I'll be 5 on my birthday. Its December 14th. I don't have a chimney but you can open the door. I will leave you cookies and milk.  
 Love, Brandee

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I help Mommy fold her clothes and towels. I am in pre-k and I have learned some stuff. Please bring me a singing toy, a bicycle, and roller skates. I have been at school, I like Christmas. I live in Ballinger, Texas. My house is big and white. I will leave you some pie.  
 Love, Aurora  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I help my mom make cookies, and I help my dad roll tortillas. I am in pre-k and I have learned to make stuff and to write my name. Please bring me Anna and Elsa dolls and a book. My sister and two brothers live with me. We play on the trampoline. I live in a red house. My dogs are nice. They won't bite. I will leave you cookies and bananas.  
 Love, Xavia  
 Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I help my mom make brownies. I am in pre-k and I have learned to write my name. Please bring me a red Power Ranger thing to help me be a Power Ranger, and a sword and a gun. I want to talk about my cows. One ran off, over a fence. One has a sore ankle. You know where I live ... in a forest. ... with coyotes. They won't hurt you if you make sounds. I will let you make your own snack.  
 Love, Elijah

Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I help Santa Claus make presents. I am in pre-k and I have learned writing and working. Please bring me a Superman toy, a Spiderman toy, and a Batman toy. Thank you for Batman, Superman, and Spiderman. I live at home. I will leave you an envelope.  
 Love, Jayden

**Merry Christmas**  
 and **Happy New Year**  
 From  
**North Runnels Hospital**  
 7821 State Hwy. 153 Winters, TX • 325-754-4553

Ballinger Kindergarten

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I would like a train and a pet unicorn for Christmas this year.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Clara H.

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I want a big ball and a remote control dragon that can fly and shoot out fire balls.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Cooper Bok

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I want a new bike, please bring Abna a new rattle.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Brylee

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I want a big video ball.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Alison

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I want two flags, stockings to hang in my room, 3 paints a coloring book and some crayons.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Indira

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I want some candy canes, chocolate, a Christmas tree and a skeleton.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Nehemiah II

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I want a BIG robot, A Christmas tree of my own, and a new jacket and a toy of inside out people.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Hunter

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I would like a truck, an airplane, and cowboys and horses with a wagon.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Carolina Robledo

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 6 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I would like a Lego set, a set of highlighters, and I think I want a new pencil.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Zach Grimes

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I would like a toy shop maker, a little skate board I can ride on, and a motorcycle.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Christian Carney

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 6 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I would like a toy gun, a water gun, a zombie book and a Batman, Joker and Robin toy.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Daniel Contreras

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 6 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

Ben 10 shoes, Ben 10 watch, and a Ben 10 jacket.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Ben Fair

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 6 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I would like: a Star Wars Voda toy, a giant remote control car and a Batman toy.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Jesse Flores

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I would like: a dollhouse, a baby doll, a Doc McStuffins clinic and a Ana and Elsa Lego set.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Mykella

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

I would like: a battery powered blue truck, a cowboy set, a small library that has books for kids and basketball goal door hanger.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Adam Guana



OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like a toy pony that comes with a purple strawberry and a pink battery powered car.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Ximiona  
Ximiona Vernon

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like a new tablet, a cell phone and a train set.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Camryn  
Camryn King

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like a babydoll with babydoll clothes.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Anam  
Anam Alajik

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 6 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like: the Star Wars movie and Star Wars father. Also could you bring me the Star Wars PS3 game.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Dylan  
Dylan McNauley

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

For Christmas, I would like puzzles, bubbles, a jacket, and a baby doll.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Katie  
Katie Melton

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like: a unicorn, a momma doll and baby doll. could you also bring me a necklace and a pretend eat.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Sydney  
Sydney Kordtner

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 6 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like a toy blue and red horse with green cowboy clothes. I want white boots with a brown hat.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Ethyn  
Ethyn Tillery

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like: a monster truck, a batman toy and a minecraft game.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Braydon  
Braydon Walker

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like: a marble track and race car track. Also Santa, could you bring my sister a barbie house.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Jake  
Jake Wiley

OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like: a babydoll and a babydoll stroller.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Mishah  
Mishah Zainab

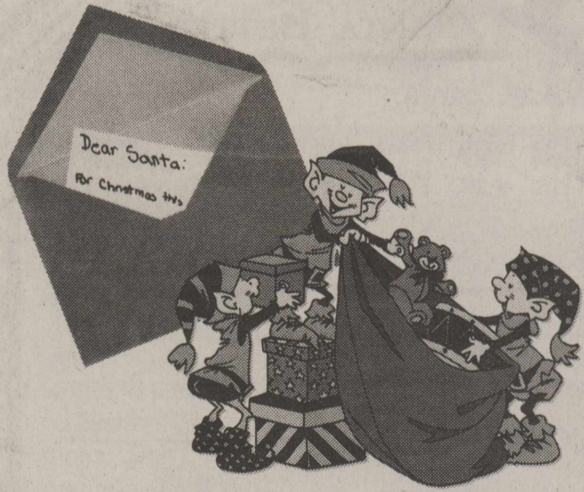
OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER

Dear Santa,  
This Christmas, I am 6 years old.  
This year, I have been  nice  
 naughty

I would like: a purple basketball, a frozen Elsa doll and purple high heels.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
I'll be waiting for you on Christmas Eve with cookies & milk!  
Love,

Kamilah  
Kamilah Zayna



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**Buddy's Plant Plus Corp.**  
2022 N. Broadway • Ballinger, Texas  
325-365-2575

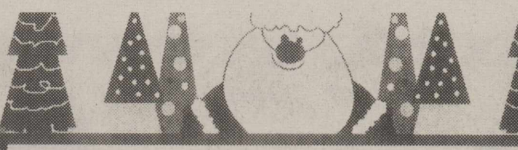
**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**  
From our family to yours.  
**BEDFORD-NORMAN INSURANCE AGENCY**  
111 W. Dale • Winters • 325-754-4515

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & Happy New Year**

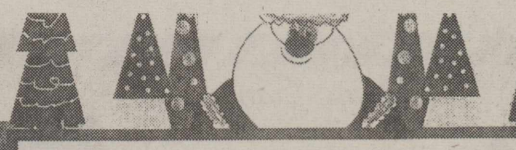
**KIT'S BODY SHOP**  
All Types of Body Repair & Painting  
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Ballinger, Texas



Dear Santa,  
 I have tried to be good,  
 How are your reindeer?  
 My 15 Mrs. Claus  
 Is Rudolph still with you?  
 I would like a big  
 stuffed animal.  
 I would like a  
 American Girl Doll  
 Kaya. I would like  
 ginormous unicorn.  
 Thank you!  
 From: Lee Miklik  
 I love you!



Dear Santa,  
 I have been good all  
 year. I want a iPad. Also  
 I need new shoes.  
 I'll wear gift tags.  
 I'll keep the first Junior B  
 Jose Real.  
 Thank you  
 From: Davis Peterson



Dear Santa,  
 How high does  
 your sleigh go?  
 Merry Christmas!  
 Please bring me some  
 Shopkins, a tea party  
 set, and some books.  
 I hope you have a  
 safe trip!  
 From: Ava Aguilera



Dear Santa,  
 I have been  
 good all year.  
 How is your  
 house a real?  
 Dalmation  
 puppy and I'm  
 going to nomy  
 puppy sawiggles.  
 Thank you love  
 you.  
 From: den coos



Dear Santa,  
 How does your  
 sleigh fly so high?  
 Are the reindeer  
 ready for their  
 flight? Merry  
 Christmas! And I  
 hope you have a  
 good flight! Please  
 bring me a train  
 and some books.  
 From: Dylan Pargo



Dear Santa,  
 Are you ready  
 for the night of  
 Dec. 24?  
 Merry Christmas!  
 Please bring me  
 A puppy and a stuffed  
 reindeer. Can you make  
 the puppy a weenie  
 dog? Thank you!  
 From: Jake Bartle



Dear Santa,  
 Why is Rudolph's nose  
 so bright?  
 I love you.  
 Are you ready for  
 the night of Dec. 24?  
 Are the reindeer ready  
 for their flight?  
 Now I will be good!  
 I want a puppy and  
 a kitten that are real.  
 From: Di'Warp



Dear Santa,  
 Are you ready for  
 your big night?  
 I love you  
 Santa Claus!  
 Please bring me  
 a bed bike and legs.  
 Merry Christmas  
 From: Davin Gairman



Dear Santa,  
 Does Rudolph have a bright red  
 nose?  
 I love you Santa Claus!  
 May I have a Yo-yo?  
 May I have a turtle?  
 May I please have a flag?  
 Merry Christmas!  
 From: Jaedyn Partlow



Dear Santa,  
 Are you ready for the  
 night of Dec 24?  
 Merry Christmas!  
 I want a remote  
 control truck, a  
 new wallet and  
 a bean bag chair.  
 Thank you!  
 From: Pierson  
 Word



Dear Santa,  
 Are the reindeer  
 ready for their  
 flight?  
 I love your hat  
 and your clothes  
 Santa Claus.  
 Please bring  
 me two  
 little baby  
 kittens.  
 From: Judy Richard



Dear Santa,  
 Why is Rudolph's nose  
 so bright? I am  
 leaving you some  
 milk and cookies.  
 Please bring me a  
 new game for my X-box 360  
 a book and an iPad.  
 Merry Christmas!  
 Thank you!  
 From: Kaiyon Medina



Best Wishes during  
 this Holiday Season  
 from the DLC Realty Team

- Bryan Davis - Broker/Owner
- Jill Davis - Agent/Owner
- Carson Bennett - Agent
- Brad Tyler - Agent
- Jennifer Bean - Agent
- Jon Bean - Agent
- Ray Bartek - Agent
- Joanna Sanchez - Admin Assistant



www.davislandandcattle.com

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Dear Santa,  
 Does Rudolph have a  
 bright red nose?  
 I hope you have a very happy  
 Christmas! Please  
 bring me some fish and Santa  
 will you bring me a bike? Please  
 bring a present for  
 my baby sister.  
 From: Anna  
 Mc Duffee

Ballinger  
Second

Dear Santa



I want you to give  
all the best presents  
many gifts but dont  
forget about me the one  
you for all the gifts have  
you have a good  
Christmas! p.s.  
I will like Nintendo  
DS with games Santa  
Please get som thing  
to me

Your Friend

Maria Garcia



Dear Santa



I was wondering if Rudolph  
was up there with you How  
are things going? I'm for  
Christmas I want a snowglobe,  
jewelry, toys, microphones and a  
penguin stuff animal and I  
hope you have a merry  
jolly Christmas I love you  
Santa

Your Friend

Kara Mata



Dear Santa



Are you ready for Christmas?  
I hope you are, it will be  
here before you know it.  
I have sort of been good this  
year and I would like Under  
Armour clothes, wide rice,  
glue, new football, and a new  
set. Thank you be safe

Your Friend

Ashlyn Harris



Dear Santa



I know that some of my friends say  
that you are not real but I know that you  
are real. I want a water gun for  
Christmas. I think you are a good  
friend. What I want for Christmas  
is a water gun, a truck, a car, a race  
car track.

Your Friend

Ethan Vann



Dear Santa



In Christmas I want a train to  
go to the mountains I want a motor  
boat to go to the ocean  
I will be glad to get some  
and all I want is my toys that  
I love

Your Friend

Joyli Whitten



Dear Santa



Hello Santa how are you doing?  
I would really want to see you in  
the year. And I want to get a  
toy me puppy and some kites, thank you  
and I would like to see you in the  
year. I would really really want an  
ELF ON THE SHELF! It would be  
great to have a elf. I'd  
take good care of it thank you  
oh and Santa I LOVE  
YOU! and I would want an elf to  
take care of my toys and the  
toys.

Your Friend

Your name  
Grade 2nd



Dear Santa



Dear Santa I want a snake for  
Christmas and I want for Christmas  
my for Santa and I want for Christmas  
I want the best of the best I want  
I'll with baby bottles and with baby  
with it with it and I want a rich set  
a cook a heater and puppy and a  
two dogs with and a kitty and with it  
a puppy with it and I want a puppy  
a kitty and a Monster High set  
with it and dolls to go with it  
with a teddy and a puppy and some  
puppies with it.

Your Friend

Karlee Highsmith  
and Santa



Dear Santa



I have been a silly funny  
girl help I'm girl and  
we are 3 all like me! What do  
you want for Christmas? I want  
I can have a single push  
and a sex push please! I  
thank you, have safe trip!

Your Friend

Arianna Snowman



Dear Santa



This year I want coloring book,  
crayons and lots of Barbies and  
the chalk to make them. I hope you  
are not too cold. I will be  
with some cookies and milk and  
the Reindeer some carrots.

Your Friend

Jillian Rodriguez



Dear Santa



Dear Santa, Is Rudolph visible?  
Can I have a laptop or a  
key board? I was a good sport  
for Christmas I want peace on  
Earth, I want a new president,  
And chapter books.

Your Friend

Ali Carter



Dear Santa



Dear Santa I hope you have a  
great Christmas if you come to our  
house you will get cookies I hope  
Santa could have a hamster ball keep  
tea in your prayers

Your Friend

Jesse



Dear Santa



I have been good how are  
you? I would like a elf  
on the shelf and a girl  
scout cookie maker, a barbie  
Dream house, and a vanity  
point set and table, Monster  
high dolls, descendants dolls,  
barbie where she can go to bed  
and one where she can get in  
the shower. Thank you Santa

Your Friend

Taryn



FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN.

Merry Christmas!

First Baptist Church  
104 W. Truett, Winters • 325-754-5521

WISHING YOU  
a very  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
2016 & 2016  
A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Cason's  
MERCANTILE

802 Hutchins, Ballinger, TX • 325-365-0018

- Antiques
- Gifts for the home
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- Airsoft Guns \$20 & up
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- Seasonal & More

Mon-Sat 10-6 (Through December) • Owners Landy & Jacklyn Cason

Dear Santa

How are you and your wife  
doing? Are the elves and the  
reindeer doing good? I hope  
you have seen that I have  
been a good girl. This  
year for Christmas I  
would like a phone, a good  
tablet, a new bike and a  
sports car from the car  
shop, and give my daddy  
a black sports car like my

Your Friend

Addy Senting

Winters Pre-K

Dear Santa,


This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)

Here are a few things I am wishing for:

Superman toy, T.R.E.K., Shoes  
Ninja & Robot action figure  
Anthony Calman

Love, Adrian Carter

PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.



Dear Santa,


This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)

Here are a few things I am wishing for:

We Santa, the been good - I  
would like a doll and airplane  
for my baby brother Ayden and  
an airplane for me too and goodies  
and a Frozen alarm clock. Thank you

Love, Keni Madrid

PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.



Dear Santa,


This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)

Here are a few things I am wishing for:

I would like to have a Pikachu  
toy, and some Shopkins figures for  
Christmas please.

Love, MIA (was)

PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.



Dear Santa,

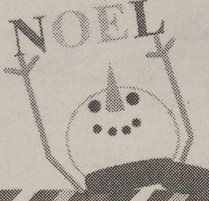
This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)

Here are a few things I am wishing for:

I want a dinosaur, basketball  
Basketball player, bike, robots,  
baseball, skates and a monkey.  
Bring Taylor and Baby Cole toys.

Love, George

PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.



Dear Santa,


This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)

Here are a few things I am wishing for:

I would like some Thomas the trains, beds  
and also I would like a some Lightning McQueen  
PS. Would you also bring my sister a baby doll and  
Frozen doll, Mouse would like some clothes.

Love, Logan

PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.



Dear Santa,


This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)

Here are a few things I am wishing for:

Surprise eggs, toys, and Christmas  
toys for my brother Ajay and my sister  
Jazzy. A new car for Daddy. And for my  
mommy, she wants surprise eggs like me!

Love, Emma Jane Soto

PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.



Dear Santa,


This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)

Here are a few things I am wishing for:

pizza, apple, dora, horse +  
bike

Love, Belinda Aguirre

PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.



Dear Santa,


This year I've been:  Naughty  Nice  
(but I can explain)

Here are a few things I am wishing for:

I would like a robot toy,  
a tractor so I can ride it and  
orange fuel car. I have been  
a good boy this year!

Love, (Beatrix)

PS. The milk & cookies are for you and the carrots are for Rudolph.



because she likes them and I think a Goat Goat a kind of stuffed animal. My sister Katie wants a horsey and a big giant animal house with stables and a Barbie and a puppy (a horse puppy). My mommy wants a magazine a MOM magazine so can look at it, My daddy wants a nice friend so he can play with him and he can do whatever Daddy says.  
Love,  
Maddie Mitchell  
3 years old

little monster thing that squirts water and a blue race car to drive. My mommy wants some pink fingernail polish to paint her toenails. My daddy wants an orange race car like Carter's. I will leave you some cold chocolate oatmeal and a glass of apple juice on top of the refrigerator. I love you Santa.  
Charli Jacob  
3 years old

-Dear Santa, I have been a nice and good boy. I want a green fire truck, a green tractor and a green trailer to pull my tractor. I want a green car that I can drive so it needs to work. Bring Ava a purple fire truck to drive to the

Dear Santa, I have been okay...I want some BIG toys like BIG tractors and little tractors. I will play with them outside. Hunter wants BIG BIG BIG trucks to play outside with me at the school. Landon wants BIG trucks too. I don't know what he'll do with it. I will leave you two corn

Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I would like some dinosaurs, some BIG ones. The kind I want is a dinosaur fake to play with. I want a bear a mean one that cries. I want a bell to ding and a train to play

with and a hippo. My mommy wants an Elsa to play with. My daddy wants a fast tractor so he can drive it on the rocks on the road. I will leave you hot dogs with mustard and catsup and some Coke or Dr. Pepper. It will be hiding in

mommy's closet in her room. I love you Santa.  
Sutton Casey  
3 years old

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl because I love mommy so much. I want an animal house that changes to a

house, a truck actually with animals every animal a monkey, kitten, rabbit, and a wolf that's nice, and a ballerina that has a pretty tutu and pretty sparkly shoes, dress, and glitter for my hair and eyelids. My sister Lexi wants a unicorn

and a purple dress to dress up. Mommy wants a purple fire truck like Ava's and we will all play with our fire trucks. Bring Daddy a green fire truck like mine so we can all put out the fires in the trash can. I will leave you salsa and chips to eat from Casa and leave you red milk. It will be in the garage for you.  
Love,  
Stryke King  
3 years old



dogs on a plate and brown milk in a Santa cup at my house. I don't know where.  
Love,  
Gagey G. Finlay  
2 years old

Dear Santa, I want an Ariel for Christmas. I have been a good girl. I will leave you some milk and some macaroni. It will be in mom's house.  
Love,  
Abigail Molamphy  
3 years old

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl! I would like an Elsa tower, Anna tower, Kristoff tower, Olaf tower, and a Sven tower. You just build the towers. Carter wants a

-Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. For Christmas I would like a baby, Dora the Explorer doll, Frozen Barbies and a Frozen jeep. Thanks Santa!  
Love,  
Chloe Pringle  
2 years old

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**  
FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

**Heidenheimers's**  
Complete Dry Goods-Shoes-Boots  
Clothing for Entire Family

Joe Heidenheimer - Owner  
105 S. Main, Winters • 754-4401

**Merry Christmas!**  
have a Blessed Holiday Season!

**L & M Hair Salon**  
Maribel Esparza, Owner/Operator  
406 N. Main St. | Winters, TX | 325.754.4613





**Winters Kindergarten**

**OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER**

Dear Santa,  
 This Christmas, I am 2 years old.  
 This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

Please bring me a doll,  
pretty doll butterfly  
phone, and a playhouse  
Also a butterfly slide that lights

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
 I'll be waiting for you on Christmas  
 Eve with cookies & milk!  
 Love,  
Avenice

**OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER**

Dear Santa,  
 This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
 This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

Please bring me a hat,  
dress, hat, hat, Anna dress  
and a hat.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
 I'll be waiting for you on Christmas  
 Eve with cookies & milk!  
 Love,  
Ally

**OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER**

Dear Santa,  
 This Christmas, I am      years old.  
 This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

Please bring me a dog with a  
zipper bag like a dog with  
1 leash that will walk

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
 I'll be waiting for you on Christmas  
 Eve with cookies & milk!  
 Love,  
    

**OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER**

Dear Santa,  
 This Christmas, I am 6 years old.  
 This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

Please bring me pellets,  
a new pair of shoes and socks,  
toy fingers, strap for the fence,  
a clown nose, and a saddle.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
 I'll be waiting for you on Christmas  
 Eve with cookies & milk!  
 Love,  
Steve

**OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER**

Dear Santa,  
 This Christmas, I am 6 years old.  
 This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

This year I want a toy  
rabbit, a dog and  
a Mikey Mouse lunchbox.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
 I'll be waiting for you on Christmas  
 Eve with cookies & milk!  
 Love,  
Anahi Aguirre

**OFFICIAL SANTA LETTER**

Dear Santa,  
 This Christmas, I am 5 years old.  
 This year, I have been...  nice  
 naughty

Please bring me a Frozen  
car, a bed and a Barbie  
play house.

Merry Christmas, Santa!  
 I'll be waiting for you on Christmas  
 Eve with cookies & milk!  
 Love,  
Elnora Collins

**Winters First**

Dear Santa,  
I want ten  
toys. They are  
a house and a  
computer and skily  
reges. I also  
want a white  
board with colored  
markers. I want  
seeds, a cat, black  
dominoes and dollars.

From Iselle  
Soto  
 Mrs. Beraman's 1st Grade

Dear Santa,  
How is Rudolph  
and how  
are you? I  
Want  
Elsa and  
a barbie house

From Rose  
Pena  
 Mrs. Beraman's 1st Grade

Dear Santa,  
How are you? I want  
a pshop and a  
car and a Barbie car  
can I want 12 pieces  
of candy and two  
crayon boxes and  
two coloring books  
and a puppy and anything  
els.

From       
 Mrs. Beraman's 1st Grade

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a pufce,  
I want a dog for  
Christmas and a Xbox one  
I want a computer.

From       
 Mrs. Beraman's 1st Grade

**Mrs. Faubion's Pre-K Ballinger Elementary**

Dear Santa,  
 I have been a good girl this year. I help my grandma wash dishes. I am in pre-k and I have learned how to make stuff. Please bring me a Frozen table, a Frozen bed, and a Frozen castle. I play with my friends. Thank you for the presents. I live across the street. My house is big and brown. I will leave you some cookies and lemonade.  
 Love, Beautiful

Dear Santa,  
 I have been a big girl this year. I help Santa with presents-one for Kenna and one for Paige. I am in pre-k and I have learned about numbers. Please bring me a lot and lot of presents, and a train. I live with Mommy and Daddy and Paige and McKenna. I will leave you a car and a meatball.  
 Love, Kennedy

Dear Santa,  
 I have been a good boy this year. I help Jayden with his Christmas tree. I am in pre-k and I have learned to play with toys and eat.  
 Please bring me an Iron Man toy,

gumboils, and chocolate. Thank you for the chocolate. I live at my dad's. My house is white. I will leave you crackers.  
 Love, Dominic

Dear Santa,  
 I have been a good girl this year. I help Santa Claus wrap the presents. I am in pre-k and I have learned to be good. Please bring me a bike, a Barbie doll house and a Barbie. I want to go see you. Thank you for being nice to me. I live in town. My house is an old house. I will leave you a note and a paper.  
 Love, Alyssa

**Happy Holiday and New Year**

**City of Winters**  
 310 South Main • 325-754-4424

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

May the True Light of Christmas bring peace to you all year long.

**WINTERS FUNERAL HOME INC.**  
 120 State Street • Winters • 325-754-4529

**Sew Merry. Sew Bright.**

Have a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

**Bee's**  
 QUILTING & GIFTS

106 S. Main St.  
 Winters, TX 79567  
 325-754-4624

Winters First

Dear Santa,

I have been very good this year. I've been really good this year. Could you please bring me a baby dog? My mom wants a new dog. Could you please bring me a new dog?

From Yvian Smith

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? I've been really good this year. Could you please bring me a new bike? I've been really good this year. Could you please bring me a new bike?

From Araceli Costa

Dear Santa,

Hi, how are you? I've been really good this year. Could you please bring me a new tablet?

From Cora Leigh Hottel

Dear Santa,

Hi, how are you doing? I've been really good this year. Could you please bring me a baby dog?

From Ariah Fenwick

Dear Santa,

Hi, how are you doing? Thank you for my gift last year. Could you please bring me a new bike?

From Bobby Beazley

Dear Santa,

Thank you for my gift last year. Hi, how are you doing and Mrs. Clause and the reindeers doing? Could you please bring me a real T. Rex?

From Martin Reyna

Dear Santa,

Thank you for my gift last year. and I've been good. Could you please bring me a new bunk bed?

From Chloe Edwards

Dear Santa,

Thank you for my gift last year. How are Mrs. Clause and the reindeers? I've been really good this year. Could you please bring me a new stuffed animal?

From Galihya Stambouli

Dear Santa,

Hi, how are you? I'm doing good. Could you please bring me a bike and me dad wants a screwdriver, and you mom wants lipstick?

From John Pierce

Winters Pre-K

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas I would really like some new books to read. Also, I would like some blocks and a "beatbo" that dances and sings. Don't forget my mom and dad. They would like for you to bring me a whole bunch of diapers. Maybe you could bring them something special, like a nice long vacation. Thank you, Owen Conley 7 months old

P.S. I have been a very, very good boy!!

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl. Would you bring me an Ariel and a Sophia the First. Bring my brother Julian a BUZ and my daddy a tractor and my mommy some clothes. I will leave you some chocolate chip cookies and apple juice by the front door. Love, Julyssa Perez

3 years old

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl. Would you bring me a Barbie house and some Elsa and Anna clothes. Bring my mommy some pretty clothes and my daddy a football hat. I will leave you four pancakes with syrup and apple juice in my cup outside on a table in the back yard. Love, Karmyn Perez, 4 years old

Winters Pre-K

Dear Santa, Can you tell Mrs. Clause and the reindeers? How have you been? I've been really good. Could you please bring me a kitten and a litter box?

From Talina Castillo

May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours; And may the coming year be filled with happiness.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



SECURITY STATE BANK

700 S. Main ★ Winters, TX 79567



(325) 754-4505 Member FDIC





Winters  
Second

Dear Santa  



Hi Merry Christmas  
How is Mrs. Claus? I bet  
she's good! I bet she is sweet  
I want an Xbox one and  
I want my favorite puppy  
German shepherd! I also want  
a laptop and have a good  
trip

Your Friend  



Abel

Dear Santa  



Hi! Merry Christmas  
How is Mrs. Claus? I bet  
you all are very busy right now.  
I'd like a laptop and a Nintendo DS.  
Please if you cannot buy it  
it's fine. I won't throw a fit.  
I hope you have a great day.

Your Friend  



Ebony.

Dear Santa  


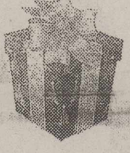
All I want for Christmas  
is to help homeless people  
and give them  
warm gifts.

Your Friend  



Ashleigh Barnes

Dear Santa  



Hi! Merry Christmas!  
Are the elves good? Is  
Mrs. Claus cookies good? I  
want Legos, a phone and a  
cutting grass suit. Have a  
good Christmas!

Your Friend  



Mark

Dear Santa  



Hi! My name is Montgomery.  
Is Rudolph's nose working?  
Please leave me a cookie  
when you stop by. Anyway  
I would like a remote control  
car and a new ipod. Thanks!

Your Friend  



Montgomery

Dear Santa  



How are you? Hi  
merry Christmas.  
me and my brother  
Alex want a new  
bike for Christmas.  
I will like a real  
puppy for Christmas too  
and my brother Alex.  
And he will like  
a ZIPPY SACK too.  
Thank you Santa!

Your Friend  



Delilah

Dear Santa  



Hi! Merry Christmas! Are  
your reindeer being good?  
How is Mrs. Claus doing?  
This is what I want for  
Christmas I want a laptop.  
I also would like an Xbox.  
Have a good Christmas!

Your Friend  



Shayla

Dear Santa  

How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Good I hope.  
Well this year I want an iPad with a  
blue case. Maybe a Minecraft Lego set. Also  
a Minecraft toy. And last but not least  
College Day Blackops 3.



Your Friend  

Carlen Vasquez

Dear Santa  

Christmas

All I want for Christmas is a blue  
max tow truck. How is Mrs. Claus. How are you.  
I miss you I want a bunch of Legos. Thanks  
for the presents. How are your reindeer  
leave me a special present I want to  
see you. How is Rudolph? Is he doing  
good. I want a gift card. I also want  
a phisher of you and Mrs. Claus and your  
reindeer to all of you and all of  
your friends. I'll see you now video  
game you I love you Santa I miss  
you

Your Friend  

Brian Gray

# Feliz Navidad

Wishing you a  
Happy & Safe  
Holiday Season  
from Security Title and Staff  
Sara, Julie and Jennifer



SECURITY TITLE CO.  
Ablene Eastland Breckenridge Albany Ballinger



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Have Yourself a  
Merry Little Christmas  
and a Happy New Year

from  
Winters and Ballinger Auto Tech  
and Tire Service

914 N. Main, Winters • 754-1058  
510 Hutchings, Ballinger • 365-4180

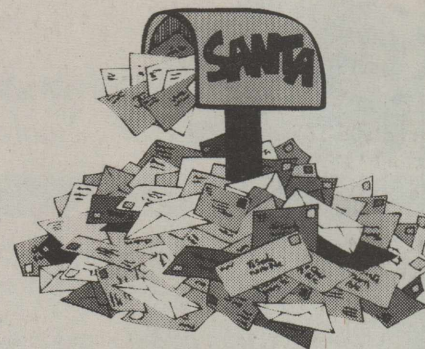
Dear Santa  

All I want for Christmas is  
a bike because mine broke. I want  
an iPad with a case. I would also  
like a Beanie Boo please. I really  
want skates. Oh, how are you doing  
and how is Chippy? He's at  
my house. I think I've been  
a good girl. I would like  
clothes too please. Merry Christmas.  
My favorite reindeer is Rudolph.



Your Friend  

Morgan Mostad

# Letters to Santa






Winters  
Second

Dear Santa  

I have been a good girl. There are my good deeds helping the kids using my manners making good and not bullying people doing what mamma says now this is what I want for Christmas all Xbox 360 with a game and a pair of Red sneakers can I also have a skate board and I want the whole things a new bike and a pogo stick thank you!!


Sincerely  
Jade



Your Friend  
Jade Romero 

Dear Santa  


I am a good girl I want a new case for my iPad and a colaf toy how are you Santa? How is Rudolph? How is Mrs. Claus? How are the reindeer? I like the Reindeer and Rudolph I hope you finish the cookie and the milk.



LOVE  
Priscilla

Your Friend  
Priscilla 


Dear Santa  



I want an iPad with a case and max case for my iPad my legs, please I want two Legos, how many are all of your things, and please send you for me and one for David. How are you and Mrs. Claus?

Your Friend  
Abbie Bowen 


Dear Santa  



Love you Santa I hope you have had a wonderful year. I've been good. I want a lot of toys. I want a pogo stick, a skate board, a cat, a toy airplane, a real phone and a pet snake. That's it I hope you have a good life.

Your Friend  
Romeo valenzuela 


Dear Santa  



I wish you a Merry Christmas Santa. I have been a good girl. I am going to leave you cookies and milk. All I want for Christmas is a baseball bat and whatever ever you can find for my baby brother like a soccer ball or a baby ball please. I want some new clothes and new baby for my baby brother.

Your Friend  
Chloe Lujano 


Dear Santa  



Hi buddX! How are you? I am grack! I want a Xbox 2, a rabbit, a car, a laptop, a puppy, a iPad, a taxi, a radio and a Book! Thank you.

Your Friend  
Sonabia 


Dear Santa  



Hi! how are you? I'm good. What I want for christmas is a happy toy, santa, a toy robot, xbox 1, christmas books, a bike with no training wheels, a white board and a whelling chair.

Your Friend  
Angel Sanchez 


Dear Santa  

Hello how are you how are your reindeer? I am good! I love your reindeer. Are you cold in the north? For christmas I want a real turtle, a pretty laptop, a cute puppy that does not grow, a friend, a pretty iPad, and real toy police car, a girly one with a radio and five big seats in a big car.

Your Friend  
Genesis 12-23-15 

Dear Santa  

Hi Santa, How are you doing? I am doing good. I want a big bike, a real car. Also, I want a stuffed animal dog that is blue with white stripes on his tail. I would like to also have new clothes, and shoes.

Your Friend  
Aubree 

Give Someone a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEWS YEAR



THE BALLINGER LEDGER To subscribe call 325-365-3501 The Winters Enterprise

WITH GRATITUDE AND BEST WISHES FROM OUR ENTIRE STAFF

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Shoppin' Basket

610 Hutchings Ave. Ballinger, Texas 325-365-2415

