

#### Sales tax fluctuates in February

**Texas Comptroller Glenn** Hegar announced Feb. 10 that he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$867.1 million in local sales tax allocations for February, 0.7 percent less than in February 2015. These allocations are based on sales made in December by businesses x monthly

COMING SOON! mience Market/Fuel

# **Runnels** County

More than 16 arrested on drug charges, more expected

**BY CELINDA HAWKINS** MANAGING EDITOR WINTERS ENTERPRISE

On Monday, the Runnels County Sheriff's Office converged on the county and began arresting individuals for drug violations in what was the biggest drug ecent msto Sheriff Bill Baird said that the roundup was the culmination of an undercover narcotics investigation that has been ongoing for months Baird and staff members from the RCSO led the investigation and were assisted by the Ballinger and Winters Police Departments and the game warden in Runnels County. Law enforcement began making arrests on more than 45 warrants issued for 24 persons for drug violations at noon Monday. "Most of them were for delivery of a controlled substance," Baird explained. "And most involved methamphetamine." The drug sweep continued throughout the day, Baird said. A total of 15 were arrested on drug violations, one was arrested on a non-drug related charge. Many of the charges included delivery of a controlled substance near a school or a city

October, November and December sales by quarterly filers; and 2015 sales by businesses that report tax annually.

Ballinger's allocation was down 3.54 percent from 2015, with \$167,871.72 received for February, versus \$174,034.93 received last year.

Winters sales tax receipts were down 21.59 percent from last year, with \$21,593.29 received this month, down from the \$27,542.23 received in February of 2015.

**Receipts in Miles were** up 20.58 percent with \$7,417.67 received in February and \$6,151.53 received at the same time last year.

**Runnels County showed** an increase over last year receiving \$75,496.85 in February up 3.45 percent from \$72,976.54 last year.

#### The last drop

Warmer temperatures have returned to Runnels County this week making for spring-like conditions with highs expected to reach the mid to upper 80s by the end of the week according to the National Weather Service in San Angelo. Lows will only reach the mid-50s.

No rainfall was reported from Feb. 11-16 in Runnels County.

Rain chances are in the forecast for Sunday and Monday, with a 40 percent chance predicted Sunday and a 50 percent chance for Monday.



# New travel stop to open in fall of 2016

**CELINDA HAWKINS | ENTERPRISE PHOTO** 

The Wheat family limited partnership announced

during a groundbreaking ceremony Friday, Feb. 12,

the construction of The Crossing Travel Market

2016. The family gathered in front of the

sign to turn the first dirt for

the project.

**BY CELINDA HAWKINS** MANAGING EDITOR WINTERS ENTERPRISE

riday the sun was shining on a little corner of Winters as what appeared to be the entire community turned out for the groundbreaking for The Crossing,

which will be convenience store and travel market that is set to open in the fall, owners Doug and Amy Wheat formally announced Friday.

The groundbreaking ceremony was held at the 7-acre site at the corner of Highways 83 and 153. The

SEE CROSSING, Page 5



MAR

SEE DRUGS, Page 6



# **Glacier royalty announced** at 2016 ceremony

named the 2016 Glacier King and

Class-Bianca Trevino and Angel

Escamia; Junior Class-Desiree Wil-

son and Sam Woodall; Sophomore

**Class-Monique Carrillo and Chris** 

Diaz; and Freshman Class-Michae-

The 2016 nominees were: Senior

#### **SPECIAL TO THE WINTERS ENTERPRISE**

The Winters High School Glacier Staff hosted the 2016 Glacier Ceremony on Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the WHS Auditorium. Junior Desiree Wilson and sophomore Chris Diaz were

PHOTO COURTESY JOE GERHART

The Winters High School Glacier Staff hosted the 2016 Glacier Ceremony in the WHS Auditorium Thursday, Feb. 11, 2016. Candidates from each class were presented closing with the naming of the Glacier King and Queen. Junior Desiree Wilson and sophomore Chris Diaz were named 2016 Glacier King and Queen.

Queen.

la Sanchez and Orlando Ochoa. This year's theme was the

wonderful world of Disney and featured WHS students dressed as Disney Princes and Princesses. A large crowd of Winters Elementary students enjoyed photo opportunities with the Disney royalty prior to the ceremony.

Also announced that evening were WHS class favorites including: freshmen-Keith Fields and

SEE ROYALTY, Page 3

The City welcomes tourists Visit our lake park

and in-town RV park.





**2lb KC For 2 Includes: Grilled Zucchini, Choice** Of Potato, Salad Bar, Soup Bar And Texas Toast. Set Up For 2 People. Starts At 5 Pm. Start It Off With Our Famous Onion Rings. We Are Here Til 11pm Every Night BYOB 325.365.2424 1608 N. Broadway - Hwy 158 • Ballinger

#### **Nominations** wanted

Nominations are being accepted for honorees at the annual Winters Chamber of Commerce Banquet, set for March 5 at the Winters Community Center. Man and Woman of the Year along with Agriculture Family of the Year will be honored. New awards to be announced at the banquet this year will be Teacher of the Year and First Responder of the Year. The deadline for nominations is Feb. 24. Nominations may be sent to the Winters Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 662 Winters, 79567 or drop them off at J and T Hardware, the Daisy Patch, The Attic. or Bee's Ouilting in Winters.

The banquet will be catered by The Shed. Tickets are \$20 each with a limited number of sponsorship tables available for \$200, seating eight people at each table.

#### Spaghetti dinner in Rowena

The Rowena Catholic Daughters, Court Our Lady of Grace #1734, is sponsoring its annual Spaghetti Dinner/Bake Sale on Sunday, Feb. 28, 2016. The event will take place at St. Joseph's Parish Hall and will feature dine in or drive thru. Serving begins at 10: 30 a.m. and runs through 1 p.m. The menu will includes spaghetti

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

with meat sauce, salad, garlic bread, dessert and tea. Adult plates and plates to go are \$8 and children's plates are \$4 Homemade baked items will be available for purchase during the event. Drawings for various prizes donated by CDA members will be held and include home décor items, toys, jewelry, fresh baked items, crocheted doilies, and gift cards. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

#### St. Boniface BBQ

The Olfen St. Boniface Knights of **Columbus and Catholic Daughters will** be selling barbecue chickens, homemade potato salad and beans Sunday, March 13 at the St. Boniface Catholic Church Parish Hall. Orders may be picked up at the drive through between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Call Marty Frey at 365-6618 or David Rohmfeld at 442-3331 to place your oder.

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.

#### **Out of this world!**

The Carnegie Library in Ballinger will be hosting an exhibit from NASA during the month of March. See NASA artifacts like official uniforms and suits to photos of the legendary moon walk in 1969 to models of of the Space Shuttle, plus much more. The Carnegie Library will be featuring the NASA exhibit from March 8-23. Call the library 325-365-3616 to schedule a tour to see the exhibit.

#### **Runnels County Alzheimer's Support Group**

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

#### charge for this public service sponsored by the National Alzheimer's Association.

#### Sobriety First AA Group

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

#### Alanon meetings

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

#### Wingate Masonic Lodge meetings

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

# ADAPT AND OVERCOME **On Higher Ground**

#### "Believe you can and you're halfway there."

#### - Theodore Roosevelt

If you have never heard of the non-profit organization Higher Ground don't feel alone. Higher Ground military program caters specifically to soldiers with Post Traumatic Stress(PTS) and Traumatic Brain Injury(TBI). When the program was established, it was decided that there were plenty of programs that catered to individuals with physical injuries, but not so much for individuals with psycho-social-emotional injuries. I applied with Higher Ground several years ago, but only just participated due to conflicting schedules over the past couple of years.

Higher Ground currently hosts 13 week-long sports camps every year, completely free for veter-

couples, single men and women. After a week of challenging activities that highlights your individual ability, Higher Ground commits three years of follow-up care for each participant, helping to connect participants to local resources and dedicating a reintegration budget to help them achieve goals.

My individual story took place last week as my wife, Jaslyn, and I were flown out to Sun Valley, Idaho to participate in the Winter Sports camp. Now being from West Texas both of our experience with snow means we get excited if it sticks to the ground. In Sun Valley, where they have had their best snow in ten years by most accounts, there were snow drifts several feet deep.

Our first two days of camp took place on Dollar Mountain where I took on the challenge of snowboarding. I chose snowboarding because it relied on both legs working together instead of separate for downhill skiing. What

200 S. Main

754-5555

I didn't know was that manipulation of the board relies on lifting and dropping your toes on the board and since

I only have one

functional foot and ankle it made this more even more challenging than I expected. What made me even more frustrated was that on my first day on the slopes my boot kept pressing the release on my prosthetic and my leg would come out midslide. This led to some pretty good falls, but my instructor and I were able to place some stiff styrofoam around to prevent it from being depressed. The first evening was a shock as we went to a donors house and ate a wonderful home cooked

Chad

**Mcduffee** 

my day was cut short due to injury, but I was feeling very confident that I would achieve my own personal goal of making it down the mountain.

Day three was a day of new challenges as we started out the day with some cross country skiing which was far less challenging than going downhill and although some slips and falls were definitely involved it was a fairly relaxing event. My personal highlight was when I decided that diving headfirst into a four foot snowbank would be a perfect way to cool off. After lunch the ladies went to go have pedicures while the men went to the local hockey arena to go play some sled hockey.

On the fourth day we drove north on a little sightseeing trip and also got to take a nice hike in some snowshoes. Our fifth and final day we went back to the slopes before going to the peak of Mount Baldy and having a lunch with all the people that were involved in making the week happen, including board members and donors. This was the most amazing week that I have. had in a long time. Higher Ground provided me with an experience that was plainly irreplaceable. On top of all of the activities



ans and their supporters. These camps are catered specifically towards

meal and also got to sit down and talk with one of the people that helped to make all of this possible.

Onto the second day and I finally was getting comfortable enough to go down the slope on my own without holding onto a ski-pal for a short distance. Unfortunately

that we got to do I got to meet many other veterans and their wives and make more connections and relationships that I would have never had otherwise. If you are interested

in learning more about Higher Ground or making a donation so that other veterans can enjoy this experience you can go to their website at www. highergroundsv.org.

# Sentences handed down, hearings set in 119th District Court

**BY CELINDA HAWKINS** MANAGING EDITOR WINTERS ENTERPRISE

Judge Ben Woodward of the 119th District Court handed down several sentences during hearings

Thursday at the Runnels County Courthouse. April Heitman, 39, was sentenced to three years in prison after pleading guilty to assault causing bodily injury to a disabled person, a third degree felony.

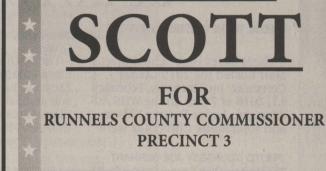
Woodward sentenced her to three years at the Texas **Department** of Criminal Justice and ordered her to pay a \$10,000 fine.

Eliazar Hernandez entered a plea of not guilty to second degree felony charges of burglary of a habitation that were filed on July 11, 2015. Hernandez has since changed his plea and is scheduled to accept a plea offer during a hearing slated for Feb 25 at the 119th District Court in San Angelo.

Crystal Reyes, pleaded guilty to driving while intoxicated with a child on Sept. 12, 2015. She was sentenced to 180 days in jail which was probated to

two years. Judge Woodward ordered her to pay a \$500 fine.

Bobby Cortez, 39, of Ballinger was charged with aggravated assault that causes serious bodily injury for an incident that occurred Aug. 26, 2015 in Ballinger. He was released on a \$50,000 bond. During the hearing, Judge Woodward reminded Cortez that as a condition of his bond, he was to have no contact with the victim. Woodward said if the conditions of the bond were violated, the bond would be revoked. Cortez's next hearing is slated for March 10, with a jury trial tentatively scheduled for May 23.



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 COMMITTED TO PROVIDING THE ESSENTIAL **SERVICES FOR ALL OF OUR CITIZENS** 

I want to Thank All of You for giving me the opportunity to serve as your commissioner, and am once again asking for your consideration and your vote in the upcoming election.

> **EARLY VOTING Runs from** February 16th through February 26th **ELECTION DAY is March 1st**

> > Political ad paid for by Sam Scott





**Celinda Hawkins** Managing Editor 325-365-3501 chawkins@ballingerledger.com

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- Jewelry & Accessories ~

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- Houseware Items ~

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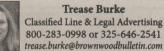
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Thursday, February 18, 2016



**GLACIER FRESHMEN** Michaela Sanchez and Orlando Ochoa



**GLACIER SOPHOMORES Monique Carrillo and Chris Diaz** 



## **GLACIER JUNIOR**

#### **Desiree Wilson**

Junior candidate Desiree Wilson escorted by classmate Drey Patton who represented junior Glacier candidate Sam Woodall who fractured his leg at baseball practice just prior to the Thursday, February 11, evening Glacier Ceremony.

PHOTOS COURTESY JOE GERHART

Winters Enterprise 3

ROYALTY, from Page 1

Abbie Killough; sophomores-Catheryn Thurmond and Brandon L'Abbe; juniors-Brooklyn Gallaway and Drey Patton; and seniors-Marissa Gray and Daniel Vasquez.

Also awarded were Senior Class Honors including: Most Likely to Succeed-Jonathan Sandoval and Magan Ballard; Most Athletic-Julian Soto and Bailee Busher; Most School Spirited-Angel Escamia and Damaris Sanchez; Class Clowns-Brendon Mikeska and Bianca Trevino; Friendliest-Michael Aleman and Samantha Wills; Biggest Flirts-Mason Payne and Chelsea Gray; Best Dressed-Brandon Reyna and Jessica Roman and Most Dependable-Brady Calcote and Caitlyn Shew.



**GLACIER JUNIOR** Sam Woodall

**GLACIER SENIORS Bianca Trevino and Angel Escamia** 

# School menus for Feb. 19 to Feb. 26

#### **Breakfast**

Feb. 19 **Blueberry muffin** Cereal w/ grahams Peaches Fruit juice Choice of milk

Feb. 22 Pancake on a stick Cereal w/graham Mandarin oranges

Hot dog Baked chips Salad/carrot sticks, grapes

Choice of milk

Feb. 22 Chef salad Spaghetti/toast Chicken/bun Italian green beans Salad/carrot sticks Mixed fruit Choice of milk

Salad/carrot sticks, apple Choice of milk

Feb. 24 Chef salad, steak fingers Chicken nuggets Cinnamon grahams Mashed potatoes/gravy Salad/broccoli, peaches Choice of milk

Chef salad, mac n cheese

Feb. 25

Chicken tenders

**Black Eyed peas** 

Salad/carrot sticks

Fruit cup, raisins

Peas & carrots

#### Choice of Milk

Feb. 26 Choice of milk

Baked beansuous ansol

Chef salad, Cheese burger, fish Curly fries Salad/carrot sticks, diced pears

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE** 

Fruit juice Choice of milk

Feb. 23 Donuts, eggs w/ hash brown Cereal w/Grahams Raisins, fruit juice Choice of milk

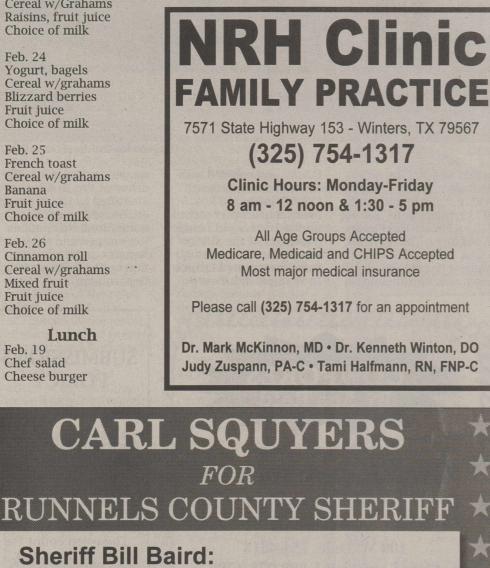
Feb. 24 Yogurt, bagels Cereal w/grahams **Blizzard berries** Fruit juice Choice of milk

Feb. 25 French toast Cereal w/grahams Banana Fruit juice Choice of milk

Feb. 26 Cinnamon roll Cereal w/grahams Mixed fruit Fruit juice Choice of milk

Lunch Feb. 19 Chef salad Cheese burger

2Feb. 23 Chef salad, bean & cheese chalupa Chicken Fajita, corn



# **Sheriff Bill Baird:** "I endorse the candidacy of Sgt. Carl

Squyers for Runnels County Sheriff."



11

- 14 years with the **Runnels County Sheriff's Office**
- Narcotics investigator Numerous other
- duties

Paid political ad by Runnels **County Sheriff Bill Baird** 

"Odds Are"

Across 1 "\_\_\_\_ show time!' 4 Graze 7 Trickery 10 Capp and Capone 13 Vet 14 Panting dog, e.g. 16 Upholstery problem 17 "I'm impressed!" 18 Insulin regulates the amount of it in the blood 19 Nashville-based awards org. 20 "You choose" 23 Meteorological effects 25 Kind of grass 26 Some small batteries 27 Rush job notation 28 "Alley \_\_\_!" 30 Heavy water, for one 31 Classic children's nursery song 35 Remote abbr. 36 "I got an \_\_\_\_ my test!" 37 1970 Jack Nicholson film 45 Some grape sodas 66 Common ID 46 Put to work 67 Big Apple inits. 47 Orange juice feature Down 48 Harem rooms 1 Phrase of 49 Car ad abbr. commitment 51 Hardly a he-man 2 Extremely 52 1955 Marilyn Monroe 3 Librarygoer movie, with "The' 4 Nips 56 Chopper 5 1968 folk album 57 Better 6 \_\_\_\_\_ de force 58 Publicity, slangily 7 Football's \_\_\_\_ Bowl 61 Hula hoop? 8 Change, as a clock 62 Early MP3 sharing 9 Early smartphone site 63 Ninny 10 Extremely old 64 Summer hrs. in D.C. 11 Citrus drink 65 "\_\_\_ luck?" 12 Spread out

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15 Cousins of squids

21 Slangy denial

22 Kind of stand

23 Pillbox, e.g.

29 Earthen pot

30 All: Prefix

32 Nights before

34 Numbskull

38 "Eureka!"

39 Workbench

attachment

33 Those opposed

37 Overnighted, perhaps

24 Volcano output

28 Wind up on stage?

- 41 Huge
- 42 Banquette item
- 43 Golfer Ernie
- 44 007, for one 45 Key on some registers
- 49 "Homey!"
- 50 Full of energy
- 51 Unsmiling
- 53 Columbus ship
- 54 Goes bad 55 "Concord Sonata'
- composer 59 "Uh-uh"
- 60 No Clue

40 Body substances

# Weather Whys

Q: What's the difference between mist and drizzle?

A: The real difference is only a slight one, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "Mist is composed of tiny droplets of water, so tiny they are suspended in the atmosphere," he explains. "Mist reduces visibility, but not as much as fog, which it closely resembles. Technically speaking, during mist, visibility is one-half mile or more. Drizzle, on the other hand, is fairly uniform precipitation and is composed of small water drops that fall to the ground. The only real difference between drizzle and actual rain is that the droplets in drizzle are much smaller.

# Runnels County Winters Enterprise

#### Runnels County Jail Record

#### February 18, 2016

Name	Age	Agency
Jeremy G. Perez	19 Indian arrest w/aray sam	BPD
	ding arrest w/prev. con	v. Coke
Robert Joe Runyan II		Coke
	lon endanger child	Concho
Mark E. Turpin	39	Concho
	lary of habitation	BPD
Cory A. Alldredge	29	DPU
Dubu L Coince	DWLI 55	Coleman
Ruby J. Gaines	ation, man/del, DWI 2nd	
Eric I. Tekell	35	WPD
	ce officer, terroristic thre	
Patrick L. Stufel	40	BPD
Fallick L. Stulei	DWLI	DFU
Quintin D. McClerry	32	Concho
Quintin D. McClerry	DWLI	CONCHO
Harold Melius	DVVLI	WPD
	rest/detention w/vehicle	
Dan L. Escobar	36	BPD
	of marijuana under 2 oz	
Benny R. Renfro	39	WPD
	lled substance, criminal	
	bired driver's license	uespass,
Jerry J. Carson	61	BPD
	espass, resisting arrest	
Hannah M. Cortez	19	DPS
Possession	of controlled substance	)
Brian S. Garza	20	DPS
Possessio	n controlled substance,	
poss	ession marijuana	
Matthew O. Cortez	21	DPS
Possession	of controlled substance	)
Jerry A. Carrascoza	22	DPS
Posse	ssion of marijuana,	
possession of	controlled substa	nce
Michael S. Ventress	25	WPD
Resisting arres	t, assaulting public serv	ant,
possession of contro	lled, unauthorized use	of vehicle
Joseph B. Edwards	25	BPD
Posse	ssion of marijuana	
Charlie Dillard	28	DPS
Unautho	orized use of vehicle	
Arnie L. Stanislawski	29	Concho
Failure to change	address on drivers's lie	cense
Jeremy M. Jackson	29 stourn?	Concho
	Asslt. cause	

# **VETERAN'S CORNER**

The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that it will start a program that may permit some veterans to receive disability compensation if they fell ill from drinking contaminated water at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The VA has provided health care expenses for veterans and their family members with 15 illnesses related to exposure to contaminated drinking water, but it has not given "presumptive status" in order to render them eligible for disability compensation. However,

veterans may receive disability compensation if they have one of three illnesses; kidney cancer, angiosarcoma of the liver and acute myleogenous leukemia, and served at Camp Lejeune between 1953 and 1987. The drinking water, which has presumed to affect more than 750,000 people on the Marine Corps base, was suspected to contain volatile organic compounds such as benzene and vinyl chloride. The Marine Corps first acknowledged the problem in 1985 when they found traces of toxins in their water, which they suspected to be the result of illegal dumping by an off-base dry cleaner. Further discussions regarding establishing "presumptive status" for those affected will begin on August 19, 2016 between the VA and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. The VA will consider all public statements accepted when determining the final scope of any presumptions. Veterans who believe they may have health problems related to contaminated water exposure at Camp Lejeune may file a claim for disability compensation online athttp://ebenefits.va.gov or come to my office and let me help you file. 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



Sandra G.

Van Zant

Runnels County Jail Record February 18, 2016

Thursday, February 18, 2016

Name	Age 24	Agency							
Leandro Sanchez	Concho								
Possession of marijuana, less than 2 oz									
Michael P. Roman		RCSO							
	In county warrant								
Edwin Meddeis		RCSO							
In	county warrant DWI								
Eric L. Tekell	35	WPD							
Criminal	Criminal trespass, public intoxication								
Rosendo F. Ovalle	s 59	<sup>9</sup> WPD							
Sex offender du	uty to register with pri-	or conviction							
Earl Carter	33	RCSO							
В	urglary of habitation								
Justin I. Perez	20	RCSO							
Possession of stolen property									
Juan R. Flores-Del	acruz 40	DPS							
	DWI 2nd warrant								
Shelby G. King	25	BPD							
	DWLI								
Kristina C. Alfaro	24	BPD							
S/W for	rgery financial instrun	nent							
Joshua I. Watts	60	Concho							
Duty on	striking fixture/lands	cape							
Lucas Collins		WPD							
Melissa Lopez	56	WPD							
Posses	sion of meth school z	one							
Francisco Ortiz	31	BPD							
Deliven	y of controlled substa	nce.							
Eddie C. Johnson	23	BPD							
possess	sion of prohibited wea	ipon.							

# 18-wheeler and SUV collision sent two to hospital

BY CELINDA HAWKINS MANAGING EDITOR BALLINGER LEDGER chawkins@ballingerledger.com

A collision between and 18-wheeler and an SUV Friday afternoon, sent two to Shannon Medical Center 

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

oliday

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

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

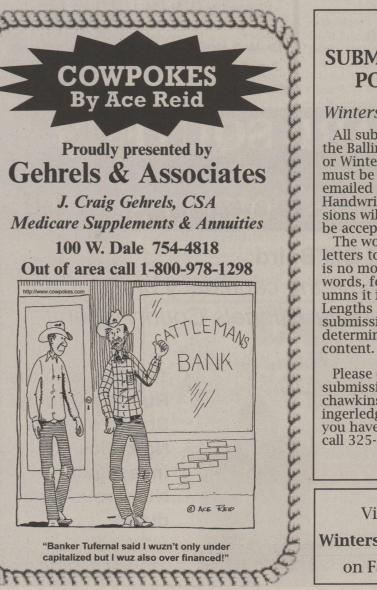
We're proud to be a part of these communities **Ballinger Ledger**Winters Enterprise



in San Angelo. The accident occurred at 1:30 p.m. Friday at the intersection of U.S. Highway 67 and FM 2133 (Hickory Hill Road) in Ballinger. The driver of a GMC SUV, identified as Andrew Lozano, 19 of Ballinger, was northbound on

U.S. 67 and collided with the trailer as it crossed U.S. 67 on FM 2133. A medical helicopter picked up the 16-year-old female passenger of the SUV at the scene, while an ambulance transported Lozano to Shannon. Both were

treated and released. The driver of the 18-wheeler, identified as James Crockett, 60, of Dennis, was not injured. No citations were issued and the wreck remains under investigation by the Ballinger Police Department.



## SUBMISSIONS POLICY

Winters Enterprise

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

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

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

Visit the **Winters Enterprise** on Facebook!

Thursday, February 18, 2016

# A sweet treat for the troops Winters church members aim to bake 800 dozen cookies

#### **SPECIAL TO THE WINTERS ENTERPRISE**

The community of Winters is embarking on a sweet project designed to lift the hearts of those serving the military all over the world by baking 800 dozen cookies for the troops.

The project involves Winters citizens and church members as well as members of the First United Methodist Church of Ballinger.

The Ministerial Alliance in Winters, which has 17 member churches is overseeing the project under the direction of Pastor Bob Murchison of the First United Methodist Church in Winters. Murchison decided to continue the efforts started at Christmas by Doris Haynes of Novice Methodist Church for a cookies for troops project she undertook at Christmas. Wes Hays, Sr., of Novice, has been responsible forcoordinating the efforts at Christmas and Easter.

Once the sweet treats are baked by community members, the cookies will be picked up by retired Air Force sergeants on March 18 and delivered to Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene. Dyess AFB will then be responsible for delivering the cookies before Easter.

The cookies will be baked by the members of the churches, placed in bags,

#### **CROSSING**,

from Page 1

The Wheat family along with city and county officials as well and hundreds from the community turned out for the event. Attendees were invited to bring their shovels and help turn the first dirt for the construction of the market.

"It is such a great day for this groundbreaking," said Winters Mayor Lisa Yates. "It is always a blessing when a new business comes in, especially at the hands of a family that has been so involved in the community.

The Crossing Travel Market, a limited partnership of the Wheat family, will be supplied fuel by Wheat Energy Services, a Wintersbased fuel distribution company owned and operated bythe Wheats.

The Wheats have envisioned a modern convenience store/travel

matriarch of the family, Gene and Jeanie Wheat, who started Wheat Energy Service in Winters decades ago. They also thanked their current and future employees and all of the businesses and business leaders in Winters.

Doug Wheat also introduced the polar bear, which is the official mascot of the market, which will take its décor cues from the Winters brand, which means a "cold theme," he said. And, they want to get the public involved, with a contest to name the polar bear in coming months.

He added that the theme of the business will be "a Texas gathering place,' which will become a "destination stop" for travelers, commuters, truckers, and local and regional fleets. TheCrossing will offer several quick-service food options including Krispy Krunchy Chicken, Hunt Bros. Pizza, and its Hometown Grill, which will feature a variety of menu offerings. The store will have indoor seating for 40 patrons as well as expanded seating in an outdoor, covered area. The Crossing will also feature an exceptional fountain drink and coffee bar and a drive through window. The Crossing will have four highway entry/ exit points, two each from highways 83 and 153, which will greatly assist with customer flow and separation. The Crossing will include 10-position fueling island, and the truck/fleet island will have five fueling lanes. The passenger vehicle area will offer gasoline and highway diesel, and the fleet fueling area will offer highway diesel, off-road diesel, and diesel exhaust fluid. Amenities planned for truck and fleet customers include truck parking, showers, washer/ dryer and a relaxation lounge. Randall Conner, economic development director for the Winters Area **Business and Industrial** Corp. said the community as a whole is excited about the new business. 'This is a big project," Conner said. "We are looking at this project as

something we can build on for the future and for other things to happen in our community."

With that, Conner instructed the Wheat family to grab the golden shovels and turn the first dirt for the project. Then, they were joined by members of the city, county and community for the groundbreaking.

Conner said the project should take about nine months to complete and that the community will return, in late fall for a ribbon cutting and grand opening.

"We appreciate all of the efforts (the Wheats) are making now that will make this community better," Conner said.

Celinda Hawkins/Winters Enterprise

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Friday Feb. 12, 2016 at the corner of Highway 83 and 153 in Winters for The Crossing Travel Market in Winters. Here, owner Doug Wheat, introduces the Polar Bear,

# **Commissioners consider** new lighting, roof

**BY CELINDA HAWKINS** MANAGING EDITOR WINTERS ENTERPRISE

**Runnels County Commissioners** are looking to bring new lighting to the courthouse and voted to proceed with a project to upgrade the lighting throughout the courthouse and other county facilities which will ultimately save the county money on utility bills.

Fred Lippe of West Texas Power Co. made a presentation to the panel on Feb. 10 for an upgrade to the lighting at the courthouse that will cost an estimated \$9,700 after incentives are granted through a program with American Electric Power or AEP.

"Your electric costs will go down considerably," Lippe told the court after detailing the project which will change all of the fluorescent lighting to LED lighting at the courthouse.

The lights will last a long, long time," Lippe explained.

Members asked Lippe to survey the costs to upgrade lighting at the jail as well. Lippe will present the plan to upgrade the lighting at the jail at a future meeting.

Commissioners also heard a presen-

tation from a representative of Booe Commercial Roofing of Abilene on the replacement of the roof at the courthouse at a cost of \$38,975. This is the second contractor who has made a presentation. No final decision has been made on the roofing project.

In other business commissioners: Heard a report on new requirements for the meals at the Senior Citizens Center and that the new requirements will cause funding problems for the agency.

Approved the management policy for the Runnels County Auditor's Office.

Accepted the certificates of course completion for District Clerk Tammie Burleson and County Clerk Julia Miller.

Approved a new agreement be-tween the Runnels County Jail and Dr. Bundrant as the new primary care physician for inmates at the Runnels County Jail.

Accepted the annual report from the Runnels County Emergency Services District No. 1

Received the auditors report from the Runnels County Emergency Services District No. 1.

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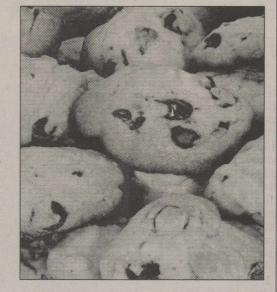
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which in turn will be placed in to ship-

"The (members of the) Ministerial Al-

will be baked and delivered to the women

and men, serving our country overseas in the armed forces," Murchison said. Those interested in participating or

contributing cookies, please contact any

of the local churches in Winters for more

liance is hoping that 800 dozen cookies

ping boxes.

information.

market, which will be a multi-faceted retail destination. It will have a distinct local feel, from its graphics, design, and store theme, to its West Texas hospitality and service.

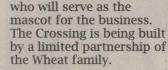
With construction beginning in this month, the anticipated opening date should be late fall of 2016, barring any significant delays, company officials say. Waldrop Construction of Brownwood will be the contractor for the construction project, Doug Wheat announced. Hibbs and Todd of Abilene provided the engineering for the project and Security State Bank and First Financial Bank of Abilene are both involved in the financial side of the project.

The Wheats thanked the community for its patience during the planning and design of the retail outlet.

This day is the result of many hours of preparation and hard work," said Amy Wheat.

"We've been overwhelmed by the support we've had from the entire community," said Doug Wheat.

The Wheat's thanked their entire family, including the patriarch and



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Thursday, February 18, 2016

# **Historical Commission reports on 2015**

# Official seal presented to commissioners

#### **STAFF REPORT**

For the Runnels County Historical Commission, 2015 was a busy year. The RCHC presented their Annual Report for 2015 in Runnels County Commissioners Court January 26. In addition, the RCHC presented the first Official Runnels County Seal Medallion to the Runnels **County Commissioners'** Court to be displayed on the Runnels County Courthouse.

In 2015, the commis-sion established a marker program with the presentation of the Official County Seal. These were both approved in Commissioners' Court in November 2015, along with two amendments to the RCHC by-laws. A committee will work with anyone wanting a county historical marker. Applications for the county markers will be filed with the County Marker Committee.

Also in 2015, the commission released Volume II, "The Schools of Runnels County," November 11. The volume was published by Ballinger Printing and Graphics. Work is underway for Volume III, "The Markers and Their History" and "The Post Offices of Runnels County."

In their preservation work, the RCHC achieved a total of 3,450 in volunteer hours and they traveled approximately 9,240 miles. Their work of recording various Runnels County sites included traveling to all of the known school sites in the county, establishing GPS readings, checking Runnels County



The Runnels County Historical Commission presented the official seal medallion to commissioners on Jan. 26, to be displayed on the Runnels County Courthouse. Pictured from left to right, Ruth Cooper, Beverly Teplicek, Judge Barry Hilliard, Randall Conner, Linda Duggan.

bridges, interviewing residents of the county



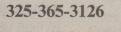
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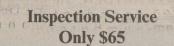
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and visiting other sites of significance. And, most of the information collected was used in the most recent RCHC publication as well as the two upcoming volumes of the books that

Anniversary as an established town March 1, 2015 at the Pioneer Church of God near the marker site located in Winters Historic Park by the Blue Gap Post Office. This was held in accordance with Texas Independence weekend. The post office and Winters Public Library were all open for the dedication. Several students were also involved in the event.

#### DRUGS. from Page 1

park. Another person was arrested for possession of marijuana and for allegedly making "oil" from the marijuana with a device at his home in the area of 14th and Country Club Drive, in Ballinger.

In addition, a marker application was submitted for the town site of Rowena.

Several appointees attended the Edwards Plateau Historical Association meeting held in Winters in the spring and Burnet in the fall.

The Commission was honored by the presenta-tion of the Distinguished Service Award from the THC for the year 2014. The award was presented in County Commissioners' Court in July of 2015. Several appointees serve and volunteer as officers and directors on the Z. I. Hale Museum Board.

An appointee and two youth restored three Historical Markers throughout

#### the year.

Several appointees participated in four different webinars sponsored by the THC.

The following per-sons were appointed in Commissioners' Court to serve on the commission in 2016 including Wanda Brewer, Bobbie Campbell, Randall Conner, Ruth Cooper, Linda Duggan, Dr. James B. Hays, M.D., Anthony Lange, Alton O'Neal, Marianne Ray, Roy Rice, Diana Rozmen, Sally Spill and Beverly Teplicek. Officers that will serve

for 2016 are: Chairperson, Ruth Cooper; Vice Chair-person, Randall Conner; Secretary, Alton O'Neal; Treasurer, Anthony Lange; Reporter, Beverly Teplicek.



are now underway. A marker dedication was held in Winters in observance of its 125th

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The drug roundup Monday in Runnels County netted numerous arrests for delivery of a controlled substance. One was a "buy bust" and this large amount of methamphetamine was confiscated.

"This is the largest drug investigation we've had in years," Baird said. "It should help with eradicating the drug trade and deter other related crimes like theft and burglary."

The cases will be turned over to the 119th District Attorney for prosecution, Baird said.

Those arrested included: Danny Duffy, 27, delivery of a controlled substance in a school zone, two counts, delivery of marijuana, \$120,000 bond.

Ramone Aleman, 43, delivery of a controlled substance in school zone (methamphetamine), two counts, \$40,000 bond.

Samuel Nall, 52, delivery of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), delivery of a controlled substance in a school zone, \$20,000 bond.

Alberto Padillo, 23, posession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) school zone, two counts \$50,000 bond.

Pete Tamez, 40, delivery of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), delivery of a controlled substancein a school zone, \$30,000 bond.

Fifencia Quiroga, 48,

delivery of a controlled substance, two counts, \$60,000 bond.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Erika Alvarado, 33, delivery of a controlled substance, two counts,\$40,000 bond.

Lisa Lawson, 31, possession of a controlled substance, \$50,000 bond.

■ Elsie Lopez, 33, pos-session or distribution of a controlled substance, \$20,000 bond.

Melissa Lopez, 55, delivery of a controlled substance (packaged), \$10,000 bond.

Kira Reel, 33, delivery of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) in school zone, delivery of a controlled substance in a city park, \$30,000 bond.

Lucas Collins, 49, delivery of a controlled substance in a school zone, two counts \$200,000 bond.

Francisco Ortiz, 31, delivery of controlled substance (packaged), \$5,000 bond.

Jason Rodriguez, 28,\* delivery of a controlled substance in a school zone, delivery of a controlled substance, \$30,000 bond.

Rudy Torres, 55, Winters PD, delivery of a controlled substance (marijuana), \$60,000 bond.



Thursday, February 18, 2016

#### Winters Enterprise 7



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GRAVES, from Page 1

The experience de scribed above is experience my opponent does not have. I will further bring the knowledge and care that goes along with being a 119th District native. I have deep roots in all three



Andrew Graves

counties of this district, roots that strengthen my desire and ability to represent the people of this district.

What are the most important issues you want to address if elected as the 119th District Attorney?

We should always seek to improve ourselves in any endeavor. When elected, I plan to work every day to keep citizens safe from crime and to see that those who commit crime face real consequences in a timely manner. I also will work to improve the efficiency of the office, improve communication with law enforcement, and improve communication with citizens.

## **ANDREW GRAVES**

Occupation: Attorney

**Education:**1994 Graduate of San Angelo Central High; 1998 Graduate of Texas Tech University; 2001 Graduate of Texas Tech University School of Law

**Clubs and organizations:** San Angelo Schools Foundation, board member;

San Angelo Rotary Club, board member; San Angelo Performing Arts Coalition, board member; United Way of the Concho Valley, member of the Community Investment Council; San Angelo Area Foundation. Member of the Scholarship Review Committee Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation; San Angelo 20 under 40 Honoree; 2013 Graduate of Leadership San Angelo, 2008; Tom Green County Bar Association, past president; Tom Green County Young Lawyers Association, past president; Angelo Civic Theatre, past president; Downtown San Angelo, Inc., past director and Fort Concho National Historic Landmark, past director.

**Family:** My parents, Bill and Linda Graves, were educators in the Concho Valley. My father was superintendent of schools in San Angelo and Paint Rock, and he was superintendent of schools in Winters when I was born 40 years ago. I have a brother and two sisters (one deceased) as well as 8 nieces and nephews.

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#### BEST, from Page 1

It's important for all of us that these felony cases come to trial. It makes our community safer. It's equally important that the person sitting in the DA's chair has the proven experience to successfully prosecute those felony cases. At trial, we need a DA with proven experience in successfully seeking justice in our courts of law? In addition to my experience as a prosecutor in the courtroom, I have also played an active role in managing five assistant district attorneys as well as more than 20 support staff in the DA's Office. I know what the office does, and what it needs, to succeed. Being a leader is earning the respect of those you lead by your example. I am blessed to have earned the respect of the professionals I work with in both the legal field and law enforcement.

## What do you think you can bring to the position if elected?

Felony prosecutors try cases. They are in the specialized position of having to prove the guilt of a felony defendant beyond a reasonable doubt. That is the highest standard in our law, and is a difficult challenge even in cases where the facts can appear clear cut. Prosecuting serious felony cases to a judge or jury requires someone with specialized experience in doing so, especially as it concerns incredibly difficult cases like child sexual assault and murder. Prosecution requires dedication and practice, no different than in any other profession. I bring that dedication and experience in taking these cases to trial with successful outcomes.

During this campaign, I have had the opportunity to speak to many people in Runnels and Concho Counties, including law enforcement, about their concerns regarding crime in their communities. As a felony prosecutor in Tom Green County for the past 14 years, I can identify with their concerns. I have seen first-hand the destructive effects of methamphet-amine and heroin in the Concho Valley. I understand the need and hope of the citizens of Runnels and Concho Counties that their DA aggressively prosecute drug dealers, child molesters, violent criminals and thieves. My track record reflects my dedication to seeking justice in and for the communities I am blessed to serve. I am a dedicated prosecutor. It's what I do, and I believe it's what the citizens of the 119th Judicial District need in their next District Attorney.

What are the most important issues you want to address if elected as the 119th District Attorney?

I intend to prosecute felonies. Child molesters, murderers, rapists and other

#### Thursday, February 18, 2016

dangerous felons need to know that if they commit the crime, there will be a prosecutor willing and able to take their case to court and seek justice on behalf of a victim. Law enforcement needs to know that when they work a case they will have the support of their district attorney. Prosecution is a partnership in which all of those devoted to serving and pro-



John Best

tecting the citizens of the 119th Judicial District through the criminal justice system need to work together. My track record reflects my commitment to the job, my commitment to law enforcement, and to the communities I serve. I am proud to have earned the endorsement of the San Angelo Police Officer's Political Action Committee. Their overwhelming support reflects my commitment to the work they put their lives on the line to do. I value those relationships and look forward to the opportunity to work with law enforcement in Concho and Runnels County to ensure the citizens of the 119th Judicial District are represented, their voices heard, and their communities protected.

# **JOHN BEST**

**Occupation:** First Assistant District Attorney, 51st Judicial District.

**Education:** University of Texas at Austin, BBA; St. Mary's School of Law, J.D.

Clubs, organizations: Children's Advocacy Center of Tom Green County, Board of Directors; Promises for Families Foundation,Board of Directors; San Angelo Pachyderm Club, Board of Directors; Concho Valley Law Enforcement Lions Club, President, Tom Green County Bar Association.

**Family:** John and Karen Best have been happily married for 17 years. They have two sons. Hayden, 13 and William, 9.

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**TAMMY BURLESON, Runnels County District Clerk:** I have seen Andrew Graves conduct himself in court many times. He is the right man for the job and has my vote.

#### **BARBARA HOFFMAN, Former Concho County District Clerk:**



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