Briefly

Markers of Runnels Coun-

Runnels County" is avail-

able at Ballinger Printing

& Graphics and JK Hair Sa-

lon in Ballinger; The Attic,

Bee's Quilting, and the Z.I.

Hale Museum Gift Shop in

Winters; Beverly Teplicek

in Rowena or from members of the Runnels Coun-

ty Historical Commission. The book can be ordered from Ballinger Printing & Graphics at ballingerprinting.com, Amazon.com, or by mailing payment to the Runnels County Historical Commission, PO Box 211, Winters 79567. The previous book "Volume I The Organization of Runnels County is also

available for \$25 or \$31 if shipped, and "Volume II Schools of Runnels County," is available for \$30 or \$37 if shipped.

RCSO Toy Drive

The Runnels County Sheriff's Office is holding the annual Christmas Toy

Drive to benefit children throughout Runnels County. The toy drive is funded

through donations from local businesses. Last year over 400 children in Runnels County were served.

Children receive toys, clothes and blankets.

Families who wish to sign

up to receive toys may do

so by calling the Runnels

County Sheriff's Office

at 325-365-2121 and list

the household, whether

distributed on Wednes-

at 612 Strong. Ave. in

Ballinger.

day, Dec. 21 at the RCSO

they are a boy or girl and the ages. The toys will be

the number of children in

ty and Post Offices of

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Sheriff hanging up the badge

RCHC book

IF YOU GO available What: Retirement The latest book titled "Volume III Historical Party for Sheriff Bill

> **Baird** When: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4 Where: St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic

Church Parish Hall

Bill Baird to retire after 33 years

BY CELINDA HAWKINS MANAGING EDITOR WINTERS ENTERPRISE

The Winters

Sheriff Bill Baird, who has been serving Runnels County for the past 33 years, will be hanging up his badge at the end of this month.

Baird will officially retire on Dec. 31 and Sgt. Carl Squyres, who was elected sheriff in the March primary election, will officially be sworn in on January 1, 2017. Baird will be honored at a retirement party from 2-4 p.m. Sunday at the parish hall at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church.

Baird has had an unusually long reign as the Runnels County Sheriff, being appointed in 1982, following Sheriff Hershel Hall's departure. Prior to that, he worked for the Ballinger Police Department, starting in 1976, and later as a deputy for the Runnels County

Baird, 68, said he is ready to retire and pin the badge on his successor.

"It's time," he said. While you can't call Baird a Runnels County native, you

BAIRD, 5



Bill Baird

Voting on Grain

Indemnity

Fund

scheduled

Dec. 5-9

AUSTIN -Texas grain pro-

ducers can vote December 5

through December 9, 2016,

for a producer referendum

that, if approved, would cre-

ate a refundable assessment

the gross sales price of the grain in Texas. The assess-

of two tenths percent of

ment would be collected

at the "first point" of sale

Eligible producers can

AgriLife Extension Service

county office during each

office's regular business

The Runnels County

Extension Office is located

at 608 Sealy Ave. and will be open from 8:30 a.m. to

"We will be open during

the lunch hour so producers

can come vote," said Gar-

rett Cline, Runnels County

5 p.m. Monday through

hours.

Friday.

vote at any Texas A&M

grain buyer in Texas.

STAFF REPORT

It's holiday time in "Winterswille"



CELINDA HAWKINS | ENTERPRISE PHOTO

Querstin Lara, Winters Snow Princess from 2015 was featured in the Christmas in Olde Ballinger Parade on Saturday, Nov. 26, 2016. The Winters Christmas Parade will be Saturday Dec. 10 and applications for Snow Queen, Princess and Snow Flake are due by 5 p.m. Friday in Winters.

Winters Christmas Parade slated Dec. 10

The last drop

Cool weather and rain are in the forecast this week according to the National Weather Service of San Angelo.

Last week, Ballinger received .68 inches of rain, while Winters and San Angelo each received .61 inches of rain. A cold front moved through the area on Tuesday night bringing low temperatures to the mid 30s.

A warming trend follows the cold front, with high temperatures expected to reach 65 today. However, it will get cooler Friday with the high only reaching 59 and a 60 percent chance of rain in the forecast Friday night. The high for Saturday is only expected to reach 49 and there is a 50 percent chance of rain in the forecast.

So far this year, Ballinger has received 35.48 inches of rainfall, with 36.74 inches reported in Wingate and 30.90 inches received in San Angelo.

ON THE NET: http://www.srh.noaa. gov/sjt/

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

he Christmas season will be in full swing Dec. 9-10 in Winters as activities are planned both Friday and Saturday sponsored by the Winters Chamber of Commerce. A special shopping event begins Friday night, and on Saturday the Winters Christmas Parade gets underway at 10 a.m.. Events Saturday also include the selection of the Snow royalty and a

tamale contest at the Rock Hotel.

Sandee Schneider, who is organizing the parade, said the theme this year is "Wintersville," in keeping with "Whoville" in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," by Dr. Seuss.

We want everyone to get their stuff together and create," Schneider said. "And the more the merrier."

So Schneider is calling on everyone to participate - old classic cars, tractors, floats, riders, walkers and horses everyone is welcome.

'There are no fees for the parade," she said. "And there will be a contest and the winners get cash prizes.'

First place is \$100, second is \$75 and third is \$50.

Contest will be held. The deadline to enter the contest is 5 p.m. Friday at Bee's Quilting. There will be three categories, Snow Flake for girls in grades 3-5; Snow Princess, for girls grades 6-8 and Snow Queen, for girls in grades 9-12. The Snow Queen will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and the others will receive Winters bucks, which are good at all merchants that are members of the Winters Chamber

PARADE, 8

In addition, the annual Snow Queen

Extension Agent. A mail-in ballot may be requested from TDA no later than December 2, 2016, and postmarked no later than close of business Friday,

December 9, 2016. If passed, the funds would be collected at the "first point of sale" grain buyer when producers sell their grain, and remit to the Texas Grain Producer Indemnity Board (TGPIB). The rules adopted by the TGPIB set an assessment of two tenths percent of the gross sales price of the grain.

The TGPIB will set the minimum fund balance necessary to cover all anticipated administrative and operating costs, as well as a reasonable estimate for indemnity claim payments. Once the fund reaches an amount determined by the TGPIB as sufficient to cover the risk, a refund process

GRAIN, 5

Construction is ongoing at The Crossing Applications currently being taken BY CELINDA HAWKINS open in the fall of this MANAGING EDITOR year, but rains have caused WINTERS ENTERPRISE numerous delays. chawkins@ballingerledger.com Ahrens said that the company is currently tak-Construction is coming ing applications and will along nicely at the Cross-

begin interviewing poten-

tial employees this month.

Applications are available

CROSSING, 8

in person at 800 S. Main

St. in Winters or online

CELINDA HAWKINS | ENTERPRISE PHOTO The Crossing Travel Market in Winters is set to open in early 2017. The company is currently taking applications.



welcomes tourists

ing Travel Market located

at Highways 83 and 153

in Winters. But so far, no

opening date has been set,

said Manager Will Ahrens.

The market was set to

Visit our lake park and in-town RV park.





Margaret Hattie Pruser

Margaret Hattie Pruser, 84, of Winters died Friday November 11, 2016. She was born October 13, 1932 in Winters and lived here most of her life. She graduated from Winters High School in 1950. She married George Pruser, Jr. January 23, 1951 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Winters. She worked as a secretary and insurance clerk. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church.



She is survived by her husband: George Pruser, Jr. of Winters. 2 children: Howard Pruser and wife Jacalyn of Winters and Laurie Pruser Stockman of Austin. 1 sister: Frances Holle of Ballinger. 2 Brothers: Henry Minzenmayer, Jr. of San Antonio and Luther "Bud" Minzenmayer of Ballinger. 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren

The family will receive friends at 5:00 P.M. Sunday November 13, 2016 at Winters Funeral Home. Service will be 10:00 A.M. Monday November 14, 2016 at St. John's Lutheran Church. Burial will follow in the Lutheran

Memorial may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church.

Winters Enterprise, December 1, 2016

Ima Jean Stephens

Ima Jean Stephens, 81, of Winters died November 21, 2016. She was born June 8, 1935 in Haskell, Texas and lived in several Texas towns. She later lived in California where her father was a minister. She married Troy Stephens July 26, 1951 in Ballinger. She worked for Kone Corporation in McKinney, Texas working in electronics.

She is survived by her husband: Troy Stephens of Winters. 3 children: Davy Earl Roy Stephens and wife Joy of Princeton, Texas, Shirley T. Stephens of McKinney, Texas and Karen Pylant and husband Rick of Mineola, Texas. 2 brothers: Wendell Mercer and Paul Mercer. 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Services will be 3:00 P.M. Friday November 25, 2016 in the Winters Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in Lakeview cemetery directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise, December 1, 2016

Deacon Leroy Paul Beach

Deacon Leroy Paul Beach of Millersview, Texas passed away Thursday, November 24, 2016, 4 hours short of his 94th birthday. He was born November 25, 1922, to Michael and Sophie Beach in Westphalia, Texas.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10 a.m. Monday, November 28 also in Olfen, TX at St Boniface Catholic Church with graveside services at Millersview Cemetery at 2 p.m. Arrangements are with Lange Funeral Home in Ballinger.

Winters Enterprise, December 1, 2016

Roger Dick 'Dickie' Hadley

Roger Dick "Dickie" Hadley, 71 of San Angelo, passed away Friday morning, November 25, 2016 at his residence in Veribest, Texas.

He was born January 31, 1945 in San Angelo to Dick Vernon and Ida Pauline (Luckenbach) Hadley.

Funeral Services were held at 2:00 pm Monday under the direction of Lange Funeral Home at the First United Methodist Church in Paint Rock with Bro. Mike Thompson officiating and Rev. Don Sessom assisting. Burial followed at Protestant Cemetery in Rowena.

Winters Enterprise, December 1, 2016

Winters Enterprise

Since 1886

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Periodical postage paid at Winters, Texas

Fred Edward Minzenmayer

Fred Edward Minzenmayer, son of Fritz Otto Minzenmayer and Elvera Gerhardt Minzenmayer, passed away on November 11, 2016. He was born in Winters, Texas, the second of four children. He attended Texas A&M, earning a BS in Soil Science and a Master's in Agronmy. In 1969, he married the love of his life, Patsy Morgan. They lived many places during his 38 years of employment with the Natural Resources Conservation Serdream of cattle ranching.



vice. They retired to Franklin in 2008 to fulfill his lifelong

Fred greatly loved his family, all animals and his friends. He will be missed by all.

Fred is survived by:Wife - Patsy; Daughter - Tracey; Brother - Gilbert Minzenmayer; Sisters - Donna Lowe, Lee Smith and husband Rodney; Sister-in-law - Shaaron Towns and Nephew - Richard Towns and family.

A memorial services will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 11:00 A.M. at the McCauley Funeral Home Chapel in Franklin. Al Jolly and Blan Chrane will officiate.

The family wished to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to them during this time of bereavement. May God bless and keep you. The Minzenmayer Family.

Winters Enterprise, December 1, 2016

TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

COMMUNITY NEWS

Community Calendar 2016

Immunization clinics for December

Texas Department of State Health Services ill have immunization and flu clinics for children with Medicaid, no insurance. 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 12:30 to 3 p.m. today at the Professional Building, 110 South Main St., Suite 108. For your convenience, please use red entrance (Grant Street). The clinic in Ballinger will be from 10 a.m. to noon and 1:30 to 3 p.m. Thursday December 8, 2016 at 600 Strong Ave. Please bring the child's immunization records and if the child has Medicaid, please bring the card.

Ballinger

Junior Livestock Show

The Ballinger Junior Livestock Show is slated for Saturday, Dec. 17 at the Ballinger Community Center. The barns open at 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16. The entry fee is \$10 per head of livestock and must be paid between 7 and 8:30 a.m. Saturday. Steer weight cards must be turned in by 8 a.m. and sheep weight cards mut be turned in by 8:30 a.m. with all other species turned in by 9 a.m. The show order is steers, lambs, rabbits, goats, a lunch break and then swine. The show starts at 8:30 a.m.

CASA volunteers wanted The Children's Advocacy Center of Tom Green County, Inc. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advo-

26 27 28 29 30 cates) is seeking volunteers. Currently CASA serves 60 percent of the children in foster care. To sign up, call 325-653-4673 or email mblue@cactomgreen. org. CASA serves Tom

Miles America 1st Saturday Trade Days

Schleicher counties.

Green, Runnels, Concho,

gan, Sutton, Sterling and

Crockett, Coke, Irion, Rea-

The Miles America 1st Saturday Trade Days will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m in downtown Miles. open and vendors will have booths on the street. Vendor booths are available for \$20 each. For more information contact Debbie Elguezabal at 325-

Shirley Ann Wolverton

Shirley Ann Wolverton 80, of Ballinger, died Monday eve-

ning, November 21, 2016. She was born February 14, 1936

A memorial service was held on Friday, November 25,

Winters Enterprise, December 1, 2016

John Bascom (J.B.)

Terry, Jr.

John Bascom (J.B.) Terry, Jr., 88, of Ballinger passed away

Thursday, November 24, 2016. He was born February 23,

1928 in Santa Rosa, New Mexico to John Bascom and Nel-

lie (Minor) Terry. Visitation for family and friends will be

held from 6:-8 p.m. on Saturday at Lange Funeral Home in

Ballinger. Services will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday at the

ficiating. Burial will follow at 4 p.m. at Evergreen Cemetery

in Ballinger. Arrangements are with Lange Funeral Home in

Winters Enterprise, December 1, 2016

Check out a full list of services on our website at

ballingerfamilydentistry.com

AnneMarie Benage, D.D.S. | Mark Benage, D.D.S.

604 Avenue B, Ballinger, TX | 325-365-2583 | Mon-Thurs 8:30am-4:00pm

GENERAL DENTISTS

Heights Baptist Church in San Angelo with Dr. Miller of-

Ballinger.

2016 at Lange Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor David

in Ballinger, Texas to W.C and Myrtle Dodson.

Dunn. Private burial will be at a later date.

227-0013 or Bonnie Sloan at 325-656-1355

19 20 21 22 23

11 12 13 14 15 16

AA meeting Sobriety First Alcoholics Anonymous group will meet at the First United Methodist Church, in Ball-

inger, at 7 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday. 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.

A Time for Freedom A new addiction class is forming in Winters called "A Time for Freedom," and Pastor Tommy Akin, of the Pioneer Church of God in Winterswill be overseeing the program which will provide addiction education to addicts, family and loved ones. The meetings will be held at 7 p.m. every Thursday at the Pioneer

For more information call 903-474-4740. **Visit Friendly Neighbors**

Church of God at 158

North Main St. in Winters.

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.

FRIDAY SATURDAY

Runnels County Alzheimer's Support

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. e is no charge for th public service sponsored by the National Alzheimer's Association.

Recycling Center Hours
The City of Ballinger's Recycling Center, located at South 7th Street and Sealy Avenue, is open from 8 a.m. to noon on Monday. The recycling center is open from 8 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Saturday, the recycling center is open from 8 a.m. to noon.

WIC open to many incomes and families

Women Infants and Children, (WIC) located at 706 Strong Ave. in Ballinger is open from 7 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. WIC is closed every third and fourth Monday of each month. Phone 325-365-

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 Wingate Masonic Lodge in Wilmeth. For further information contact Brandon Poehls at 325-786-2125.

FAMILY PRACTICE

7571 State Highway 153 - Winters, TX 79567

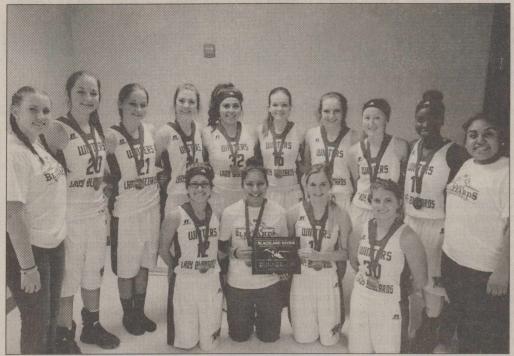
(325) 754-1317

Clinic Hours: Monday-Friday 8 am - 12 noon & 1:30 - 5 pm

All Age Groups Accepted Medicare, Medicaid and CHIPS Accepted Most major medical insurance

Please call (325) 754-1317 for an appointment

Dr. Mark McKinnon, MD Judy Zuspann, PA-C • Tami Halfmann, RN, FNP-C



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Winters Lady Blizzards Varsity Basketball Team are on a roll. They will be playing today in Seymour and in Albany and will play in Early at noon.

Lady Blizzards racking up wins

Samaritan House accepting donations

2 Cans Cranberry Sauce

2 Boxes Stuffing Mix

Box Cake Mix

5 Member Family 3 Cans Corn

3 Cans Green Beans

1 Frosting

3 Cans Yams

3 Cans Fruit

Cocktail

Cran-

ber-

2 Cans

SPECIAL TO THE WINTERS ENTERPRISE

Thanksgiving week saw basketball action on Monday, as the high school Lady Blizzards traveled to San Angelo to play TLCA and the junior high Lady Breezes played host to the Forsan JH Lady Buffs. The varsity improved to 5-2 with a

50-13 win over the TLCA Lady Eagles. Monique Carrillo had 14 points and eight rebounds, Cha-Cha Lovelace had 12 points and eight rebounds and Aimee Green had 9 points, eight rebounds and six assists. Karlee Busher also had eight rebounds, as the Lady Blizzards dominated the glass, out-rebounding TLCA, 54-26.

The JV Lady Blizzards stayed undefeated at 6-0, as they won 36-18. With a very balanced scoring attack, Marley Smith had nine points, while Jezebel Gonzales, Skylar Lee, and Shelby Gray all had six, Miranda Rodriguez had five and Gracie Reves added four. Gonzalez also had 10 rebounds, while Gray had nine.

At home, the Lady Breezes began their

STAFF REPORT

Baskets.

The Samaritan House

donations for the Holiday

A donation of a turkey,

in Winters is asking for

Please bring all donations to the Samaritan

chicken, or ham would

etary donations are also

house hours are Monday,

Wednesday and Friday 9

a.m. to 12 p.m. and Tues-

day and Thursday 3 p.m.

to 6 p.m. If you have any

questions, call Barbara

Jones at 325-977-2027.

1-2 Member Family

1 Can Corn

1 Can Green

1 Can Yams l Can Fruit Cock-

1 Can Cranberry

1 Box Stuffing

1 Box Cake Mix

1 Frosting 3-4 Member Fam-

2 Cans Corn

2 Cans Green

2 Cans Yams

2 Cans Fruit

Beans

tail

Sauce

Beans

Cocktail

Mix

be appreciated. Mon-

welcomed. Samaritan

House by Nov. 28.

season. The 7th Grade Lady Breezes opened up their season with a 26-8 win over the Forsan Lady Buffs. Myra Ochoa had 10 points, while McKenzie Ventress had six. The 8th Grade Lady Breezes lost to a tough Forsan 8th grade team, 34-13. Querstin Lara and Hailey Renfro had four points each

The Lady Breezes will host the Ozona JH Lady Lions on Monday. The 7th grade game is at 5:30 p.m. and the 8th grade

will play at 6:30 p.m. The Lady Blizzards will host the Paint Creek Lady Pirates with only the varsity teams playing. The varsity Lady Breezes will then play in the Albany Invitational Basketball Tournament. They will play Seymour at 9:20 a.m. and Albany at noon today. Then, they will play Early at noon Friday. Saturday's games will be seeded based on pool play. The JV Lady Blizzards will take their undefeated record to play in the Robert Lee Invitational Basketball Tournament. They will face off against Eden's varsity on 3 p.m. today.

3 Boxes Stuffing Mix

2 Boxes Cake Mix

2 Frosting

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENUS

Breakfast

Friday Cinnamon roll or cereal. yogurt, diced peaches,

fruit juice, choice of milk.

Monday Biscuit & sausage or cereal, pineapple, fruit juice, choice of milk, jelly, gravy.

Tuesday • Breakfast taco or cereal, hash brown, raisins, fruit juice, choice of milk.

Wednesday breakfast pizza or cereal, egg pop, mixed fruit, choice of milk.

salsa.

Thursday Waffles or cereal, oatmeal, banana, fruit juice, choice of milk, syrup/

Lunch

Friday Cheeseburger or hot dog, baked chips, lettuce/ tomato, carrots, grapes, choice of milk.

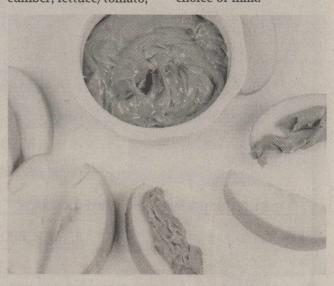
Monday Chef salad or chicken sandwich or mac-ncheese, black eyed peas, mashed sweet potatoes, salad, mandarin oranges, rice krispy, choice of milk.

Tuesday Chef salad or nachos or quesadilla, rice, zesty cucumber, lettuce/tomato,

peaches, choice of milk.

Wednesday Chef salad or lasagna or mini corn dogs, Texas toast Italian been beans, salad, carrot sticks, apples, choice of milk.

Thursday Chef Salad or Salisbury steak or chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, salad, carrot sticks, applesauce, choice of milk.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

"Final Four"

- Across 1 Rope
- 6 To boot 10 Waste
- 14 Hate
- 15 Sign on for another tour 16 Beloved, in "Rigoletto"
- 17 Homebuyer's expense
- 19 Cold capital
- 20 Fine-grained wood
- 21 Joint problem 22 Having pecans, say
- 24 Man Friday
- 25 Artist Henri
- 26 Turns away from
- 29 News office
- 30 Directs 31 N.F.L. commentator Phil
- 32 Quid ___ quo 35 Liberal pursuits
- 36 Pound sounds
- 37 Kind of page
- 38 On the vive 39 Hardwood trees
- 40 Implore 41 Hawaiian thank you
- 43 30th anniversary gifts 44 Makes a fuss
- 46 Gang's domain
- 47 Fall 48 Listening devices
- 49 Part of H.R.H.
- 52 Sews up 53 Assembly line output
- 56 Shade of green 57 Red state
- 58 "Anywhere else!"
- acronym 59 Frozen-treat brand
- 61 "If They Could ___

- 6 Bicker
- 5 Inceptions

2 Up to snuff

1 Delicate

3 Air

- 4 Kind of pad

- 7 Took a powder
- 8 Go after
- 9 Show of welcome
- 10 Nova follower

- 11 Da Vinci subject
- 12 Van Gogh painted here
- 13 "Johnny B. ___"
- 18 Auction actions

- 26 Hoopster O'Neal

_ (modern

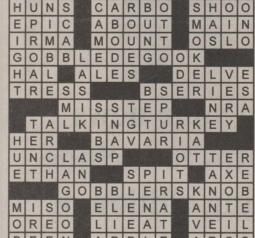
24 Kind of dealer 25 Kind of vaccine

vehicles)

23 Sport

- 27 Big copper exporter 28 At last
- 29 Sitcom sergeant
- 31 Christmas
- 33 True-to-life
- 34 Bookie's quote
- 36 They long a lot
- 37 "Frozen" snowmar
- 39 __ McAn shoes 40 Individuals 42 Brings about smiles

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER GRID



Proudly presented by

away Thursday, Noven

43 Engine sound

44 Actor Michael

48 Advantage

49 Actor Cronyn

51 Eye affliction

54 Catch a few Z's

55 It's spotted in casinos

50 Long-range nuke

46 Attached, in a way

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Runnels County Jail Record

December 1, 2016

Name Age Agency **BPD** Jeffrey Davis 56 Identity theft. 20 Concho Amber M. Barnett Possession of drug paraphernalia. 52 Jonathan W. Lee **RCSO**

Parole violation,

manufacture/delivery controlled substance.

Lisa M. McClure 31

DWI.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bad motel experience

My family gathered at our house for Thanksgiving this year. While we had a wonderful time being together, we had a horrible, unexpected experience at Aby's Motel facility in Winters. Here are some of the things they found, and consequently checked out the next morning, even though they had four rooms reserved for three nights:

■ The rooms were cold and the heat would not come on. ■ The beds had unclean sheets, if they had sheets at all. (My sister-in-law even reported finding pubic hairs on her sheets.)

■ My niece had NO sheets on her queen-sized bed. When she called the office for sheets, ALL THEY HAD WERE FULL

■ Her medicine cabinet in her bedroom was full of old

■ While coffee is advertised as being available, there were NO COFFEE FILTERS AVAILABLE SO COFFEE COULD

My husband and I take great pride in our little community. This was such an embarrassment, and it saddened us both to know that when family comes to visit, there's not a decent place in Winters for them to stay except with us!

> Sadly, Fran Kidwell Winters

BPD

VETERANS CORNER



Sandra G. Van Zant

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced recently that an information technology system that it deployed in 2014 and enhanced in 2015, the Beneficiary Fiduciary Field System, allowed it to identify claim processing errors affecting approximately 14,000 Veterans and survivors. These Veterans' and survivors' claims were initially filed over many years, with some going back as far as 2000. The errors concern cases in which VA had proposed that due to disability or age the beneficiary was unable

to manage his or her VA benefits without assistance, but did not complete the action by transferring it within VA for appointment of a fiduciary. These cases represent approximately four percent of such proposals since 2000. VA's Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) became aware of a potential problem when it received inquiries about delayed fiduciary appointments from affected beneficiaries or their families. A system-wide review by VBA using the new technology found claim processing errors that had occurred at each of its regional offices and pension management centers across the country. In these cases,

one or more of the procedures for controlling and transferring the workload were not followed, resulting in the fiduciary appointment delays. VBA has set up a dedicated team to immediately review the cases, notify beneficiaries, complete the claim processing steps, and appoint a fiduciary as quickly as possible. Because the law requires VA to check the qualifications of the fiduciaries it appoints, including conducting a faceto-face interview, VA anticipates that it may take as much as six months or more to complete the fiduciary appointment process for these beneficiaries. However, the beneficiaries will continue to receive their monthly benefits as VA works to appoint a fiduciary to assist them. Additionally, VBA has already modified its systems to better track this workload and plans to remove manual transfer processes that are prone to error through enhancements to its automated claims processing system, the Veterans Benefits Management System. For more information, Veterans can contact (1-888-407-0144). For more information, contact Sandra Van Zant at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or call 325-365-3612.

> - Sandra G. Van Zant, Veterans County Service Officer

Texas Farm Bureau annual meeting set Dec. 3-5

STAFF REPORT

WACO -Texas farmers and ranchers will address policy issues—like transportation, the right to repair agricultural equipment and agricultural liens—at the 83rd annual meeting of Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) Dec. 3-5 in San Antonio.

Members from the state's 206 county Farm Bureaus will work together to craft policy positions and prepare for the challenges agriculture faces.

"Agriculture and rural Texas are facing some challenges," TFB President Russell Boening said. "Our policy discussions will look to address ways to help continue to make agriculture sustainable and profitable, while always ensuring we have a nutritious and affordable food and fiber supply."

Approximately 1,000 Texas farmers and ranchers are expected in San Antonio during the annual meeting to discuss the latest agricultural is-



sues, recognize successes from the past year and evaluate the organization's policies.

"As a grassroots organization, the decisions we make regarding policy reflect the needs of our members and the needs of Texas agriculture," Boening said. "That policy will guide Texas Farm Bureau's efforts in the coming year as we work to raise awareness and fight for farmers and ranchers in Austin and Washington,

The meeting will begin at the San

Antonio Marriott Rivercenter Hotel Dec. 3 with registration at 10 a.m. Saturday's events include TFB member services and benefits exhibits, the Free Enterprise Speech Contest, Discussion Meet and the Young

Farmer & Rancher Social.,
The meeting will continue Sunday, Dec. 4, with a devotional, followed by membership recognition awards, Pioneer Award presentations and the naming of the 2016 Outstanding Young Farmer & Rancher and Excellence in Agriculture award winners. Former TFB Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer Vernie R. Glasson III will accept the Distinguished Service Award from the agricultural organization. Sunday afternoon will feature the president's annual address to the TFB delegates.

The TFB Annual Meeting will conclude Monday, Dec. 5, with the organization's annual business session. For more information about the 83rd annual meeting, visit www. texasfarmbureau.org.



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

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In person, at 709 Hutchins 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.

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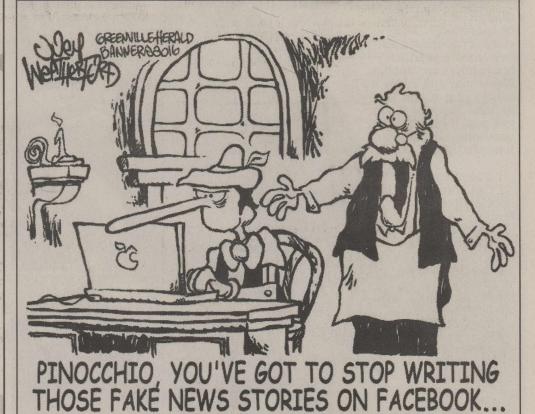
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Deadlines are as follows: News items - Noon Monday; Display advertising - 5 p.m. Monday; Classifieds line advertising - 11 a.m. Tuesday.

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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.

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CONTINUED FROM 1

almost can. He moved to Ballinger from Dodge City, Kansas with his parents Dale and Evelyn when he was one year old.

And he and his family have left an indelible mark on Runnels County. His father Dale, built the Texas Grill and Baird grew up there and even cooked there while he was in high

"I still cook to this day," Baird quipped.

He is a Ballinger High School graduate and he and his wife Sharon, of 33 years, still live in the home he grew up in as a

He counts the Runnels County Jail, which opened in 1999, as one of his greatest contributions to the county.

"Prior to that we were in the other jail (near the courthouse) which only held 17 prisoners," Baird said. The new jail would open March 10, 1999 and has 87 beds. "They said it should last 100 years," Baird said. Over his four decades in law enforcement, Baird has

handled and solved numerous cases. We had a case where the guy killed a woman's boyfriend

then kidnapped her," Baird recalled.

"We also had a case where a woman's decomposed body was found out on Highway 158. We solved those cases." He remembered the day the bank in Miles was robbed too. "The guy pled out to 99 years on that one," Baird said. But overall, it is the children who touch Baird's heart.

"When you help a child get out of a bad situation that is the best thing you can do," Baird said. "Helping children is the most satisfying.

And, he practices what he preaches. Throughout his time as sheriff Baird has held a Christmas Toy Drive every year. Last year, he and his staff took donations from the community and provided toys and clothing to more than 400 Runnels County children. Baird, has two sons, Travis currently works for the Ball-

inger Police Department and Mark who works for the State of Texas, will likely be spending time with his family and his two young grandchildren.

Overall, Baird said he wants to thank the community for supporting him in the eight elections that he ran. He had two opponents in one race and three in another, but he was always re-elected.

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve all these years as your sheriff," Baird said.

GRAIN

CONTINUED FROM 1

will be initiated to refund assessments. The fund is managed by the TGPIB. This money will not be a part of the State Treasury, and can only be used for the indemnity fund program.

If producers pass the referendum, the fund will be managed by grain producers and industry stakeholders, a council appointed by the Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, and includes a representative from the Corn Producers Association of Texas, Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council, Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Grain and Feed Association, Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Association, Texas Soybean Association and Texas Wheat Producers Association, as well as a member with expertise in production agriculture financing and a representative with the non-warehouse grain buying industry.

Any grain producer regardless of age who has sold grain in Texas anytime between December 5, 2013, and Decem-

ber 5, 2016, is eligible to vote.

A producer may be an individual or legal business entity, such as a corporation, LLC, LLP, or LP. Each producer (individual and/or legal business entity) may only vote once. Youth younger than 16 years of age must have a parent or guardian co-sign the ballot.

If approved, collection of the assessment will begin February 1, 2017, and continue until the TGPIB notifies collection points to cease collection.

For more information, including voting locations and hours, visit www.texasagriculture.gov.

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NORTH RUNNELS HOSPITAL NAMES EMPLOYEE OF QUARTER



Suzanna Bullock has been named Employee of the Quarter for North Runnels Hospital. Bullock has been a nurse's aide at the hospital for four years and enjoys caring for all her patients. She is always willing to help where needed. Presenting the Employee of the Quarter plaque to Bullock, left, is North Runnels CEO, Judy Espitia, right.

Afghanistan trip offers insight for West Texas AgriLife research scientist

Steve

Byrns

SAN ANGELO - Afghanistan and West Texas have more in common than one might imagine, noted a Texas A&M AgriLife Research scientist, fresh from a trip to the South Asian country. Dr. John Walker, AgriLife Research resident director at San Angelo, was among a group thattraveled to Afghanistan in mid-September to participate in an Afghan agricultural Extension project. The effort was part of a three-year \$20 million project in cooperation with University of California - Davis, Washington State University, Purdue University, Maryland State University and the Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture at Texas A&M University in College Station.

"Our purpose for going there was to assist in training their county Extension agents in sheep production and to help them with the analysis of information they're getting from their provincial model farms," Walker said.

That concept is very similar to the relationship his agency has with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, he said. AgriLife Research develops the technology and AgriLife Extension agents disseminate, explain and demonstrate it to producers, largely on the grassroots level throughout Texas.

'The take home message is they have a lot of issues, one of the biggest being that the country has as many people as Texas does with about the same land area. But because it's so mountainous, they have a very limited amount of land on which to grow food and fiber.

Afghanistan has about 8.8 million sheep and 7.3 million goats, which exceeds the total number of these animals for the U.S., he said. There are two different livestock production systems in the country, sedentary and nomadic, with about a third of the livestock in the latter.

Walker said about 35 percent is classified as barren land, as in solid rock and unable to grow anything. He said the temperature was very similar to San Angelo though Kabul, where he spent the most time, lies at 5,800 feet elevation. His other stops included Mazar-i-Sharif at 1,100 feet above sea level and Jalalabad at 1,900 feet elevation. Most of the country has a much

higher elevation, he said. About 40 percent of Afghanistan is classified as being grazeable, but frankly I didn't see any, because the areas where I was were irrigated valleys

with land that can be quite productive. They do seem to have a lot of water, but their use of it is rather inefficient as all the irrigation I saw was flood irrigation.

Most of the livestock were fat-tailed sheep used for meat and karakul sheep used for meat and pelts for the karakul hat, which is very popular there, Walker said.
"Though the sheep breeds were different, their issues

didn't vary much from those producers face here in West Texas," he said. "Getting a lamb crop and being able to raise a good lamb crop are major concerns for them, just as they are for us. I think marketing may be their bigger problem though. They don't have the established type of markets there that we have here.'

TRIP, 6



The twelve sites of Social Security

BY RAY VIGIL SOCIAL SECURITY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST IN EL PASO

Gathering with family and friends during the holiday season reminds us we're part of a strong community. And sometimes, in the spirit of the season, we break into song. Our take on "The Twelve Days of Christmas"—a holiday favorite since 1780—highlights the national community we care for all year long. We call it "The Sites of Social Security."

For the first site of Social Security, we give to you: http://www. socialsecurity.gov. It's the place to go for all things Social Security. Everything you could want--from online services and benefit screening tools to publications and frequently asked questions--you can find all these and more on this site.

For the second site of Social Security, we give to you: our hub for Social Security news and updates at our blog, Social Security matters at blog.socialsecurity.gov.

For the third site of Social Security, we give to you: an easy way to learn how to replace your Social Security card at www/socialsecurity. gov/ssnumber. And in some states, you can replace it online at www/ socialsecurity.gov/myaccount!

For the fourth site of Social Security, we give to you: an online application for retirement benefits that you can complete and submit in as little as 15 minutes at www.

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And a partridge in a pear tree! Find all of this and more (except the partridge and pear tree) at www.social security.gov.

BROTHER J

In the fog

I live in a place where it is very easy to become disoriented if you leave the house in foggy weather and about this time of the year there are mornings and days of fog. When this occurs I can't tell where I came from or where I am going. I have also found myself in a similar situations in my Christian life. I can't explain as to why; I just know it happens. I might be going to church regularly, reading our Bibles daily; praying and doing everything God says to the best of our ability and still seemingly lose touch with God. I have come to the place in life that I want to have fellowship with God above everything else, (Psalm 119:33-35). I don't want to stray away from or lose fellowship with Him, (1 John 1:3&6). When in the spiritual fog, my soul or spirit seems empty, the strong joy and peace is not there and I have no sense of spiritual direction and it scares me. I start by searching and seeking for God with all my heart, (1 Kings 8:54-61). I spend more time reading my bible, and praying. Sometimes, I am not in the fog for long and at other times it may be awhile. Oh, what a joy (there is life within my soul or heart) when the fog clears, (Psalm 119:1-6). See you in church next Sunday.

CONTINUED FROM 5

Most of the research Walker saw in Afghanistan was evaluating and improving forage varieties so they can increase the

feed resources they have, particularly during the wintertime.

"Apparently, they don't have a culture of putting up hay like we do — though they do have places to buy grain supplements — but they typically don't put up hay," he said. "The hay and ensilage I did see being harvested was done in a very primitive manner, all by hand, no tractors.

They actually bring the hay to a hand-operated press to be baled, and silage is often made in barrels. Both processes are slow, primitive and labor intensive with a limited output of

product resulting.
"Though they have a lot of issues facing them, I was impressed by the people who were very friendly, attentive and appreciative," he said. "Our overall goal was to train their Extension agents to do what our Extension agents do and that's provide information and technology to their farmers. Equipped with this information, hopefully, they'll be able to increase their level of productivity and become more self-sufficient in their food and fiber production."

For more information, contact Walker at 325-653-4576,

jwalker@ag.tamu.edu.

Private pesticide applicator license training offered twice in December

BY STEVE BYRNS 325-653-4576 S-BYRNS@TAMU.EDU

PAINT ROCK — The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has scheduled two Texas Department of Agriculture private pesticide applicator trainings in December.

Both meetings start at 9 a.m. and have the same curriculum.

The Dec. 6 meeting will be at the AgriLife Extension office in Concho County, which is located directly across U.S. Highway 83 from the county courthouse in Paint Rock.

The Dec. 15 meeting will be at the AgriLife Extension office in Runnels County at 608 Sealy Ave., Suite A, in

Tanner Wieghat, AgriLife Extension agent in Concho County, said two classes are being offered to ensure area producers can attend one or the other.

"These are not continuing education unit trainings," Wieghat said. "These trainings are specifically for persons seeking a Texas Department of Agriculture private pesticide applicator license."

Wieghat said the license is required in order to purchase and apply restricted-use herbicides and pesticides.

"The Texas Department of Agriculture mandates individuals must complete this required training before they are able to test for a private applicator pesticide license, which is also obtained through that agency,"

In the past, both training and testing were offered together, but current Texas Department of Agriculture requirements allow only the training. However, information will be provided during the training on how and when to test, Wieghat said.

Individual registration is \$50 due upon arrival. To ensure the correct amount of study materials are ordered, preregistration is required by Nov. 29 for the Dec. 6 Paint Rock training by calling the AgriLife Extension office in Concho County at 325-732-4304.

Preregistration is required by Dec. 8 for the Dec. 15 Ballinger training by calling the AgriLife Extension office in Runnels County at 325-365-5042.



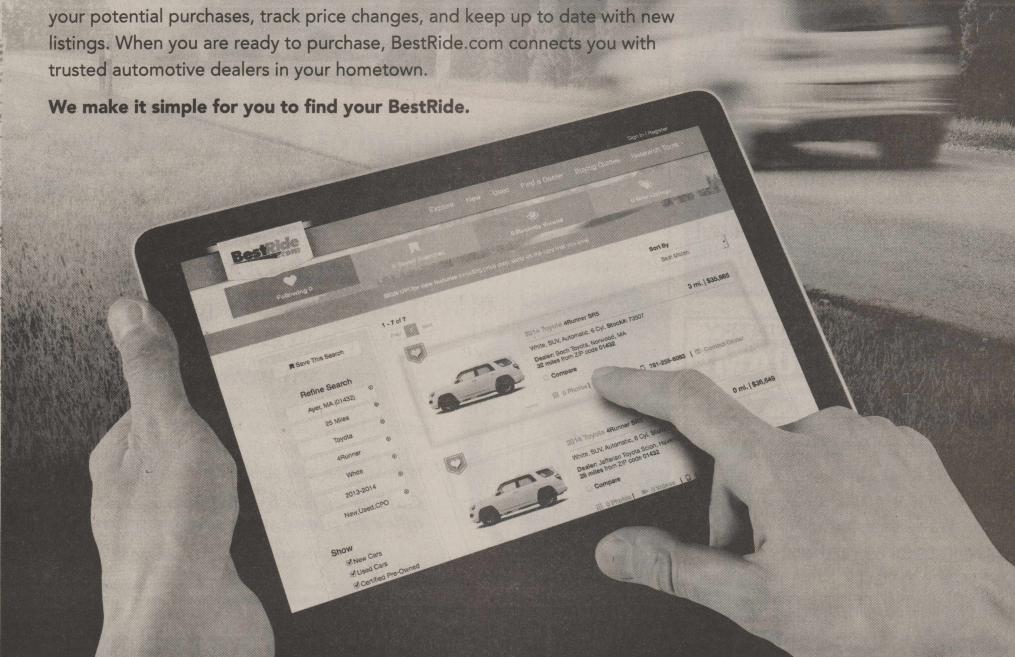
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Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Winters has determined that the following proposed action under the Community Development Block Grant - administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture - and contract # 7216509, is located in the 100-year floodplain, and the City of Winters will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management.

Project Description:

Contractor shall install approximately three thousand linear feet (3,000 l.f.) of ten-inch (10") to twelve-inch (12") sewer line, manholes, service reconnections, pavement repair, and all associated appurtenances.

There are currently no FEMA floodplain maps available for the project area. According to the project engineer, some or all of the project area could be considered a 100-year

Total Area of Disturbance: 1.4 acres Area of Floodplain Disturbance: 1.4 acres

Natural and beneficial values potentially adversely affected by the activity:

- 1. A flood could damage the new proposed infrastructure. However, such damage is not anticipated as flooding of a magnitude necessary to damage the new infrastructure is unlikely to occur.
- 2. The natural resources of the floodplain, including water, biological, and societal resources, could be adversely affected by construction activities. However, any effects are expected to be minimal as the project involves replacing existing sewer line/manholes which has been in service for years.
- 3. Plant and animal life could be adversely affected by construction activities. However, it was concluded that the habitats for no threatened or endangered species exist in the immediate project area and only native plants will be used in the floodplain and on the
- 4. Societal resources should be improved as a result of this project. The project will be designed to complement the natural features of the area and be aesthetically pleasing.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of Winters at the following address on or before December 19, 2016, (a minimum 15 calendar day comment period will begin the day after the publication and end on the 16th day after the publication): Winters City Hall, 310 S. Main Street, Winters, Texas 79567 and 325-754-4424, Attention: Lisa Yates, Mayor. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at 310 S. Main Street, Winters, Texas 79567 and 325-754-4424. Comments may also be submitted via email at todd@caveconsulting.com.

Publication Date: December 1, 2016

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THE CROSSING CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS



CELINDA HAWKINS | ENTERPRISE PHOTO The gas pumps have been installed at The Crossing Travel Market on Highways 83 and 153 in Winters.

CROSSING

CONTINUED FROM 1

at www.thecrossingtexas.com/employment and may be emailed to work@ thecrossingtexas.com.

The gas pumps are in and brick is going on the building, so progress is ongoing.

Randall Conner, economic development director for the Winters Area Business and Industrial Corp. said recently that the retail outlet which will be the newest convenience store in Runnels County, is set to open in early 2017.

Owner Doug Wheat has said that The Crossing will be a "destination stop" for travelers, commuters, truckers, and local and regional fleets. The Crossing 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 have four highway entry/exit points, two each from highways 83 and 153, which will greatly as-

sist 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 thefleet 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.

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

Waldrop Construction of Brownwood is the contractor for the construction project. 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.

Explanator in the state of the



TOP: Julie Davenport was riding in a float sponsored by the Norton Lions Club in Ballinger, Saturday, Nov. 26, 2016. **ABOVE:** Wallace and Alene Watson of Winters rode in the Christmas in Oide Ballinger Parade held Saturday, Nov. 26, 2016. **BELOW:** Becky Johnson, a Winters native, now of Junction, had a booth at the Sidewalk Sale in Ballinger on Saturday, Nov. 26 2016.





CELINDA HAWKINS | ENTERPRISE PHOTOS Theresa Gerhart, owner of The Attic, is one of the Winters merchants who is getting ready for the special Christmas events and will be open until 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9 for a special extended shopping event.

PARADE

CONTINUED FROM 1

of Commerce.

The cost to enter the Snow Queen contest is a \$25 sponsorship by a business that is a member of the chamber. Applications are available at Bee's Quilting, Hatler Insurance and at the school offices in Winters.

The Snow Queen Court will be featured in the parade, and then following the parade, they will be interviewed at the Rock Hotel. The winners will be announced at 6 p.m. said Maegan Schwartz, director of the Winters Chamber.

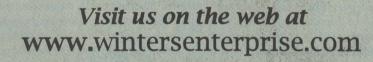
Meanwhile, there is also a Tamale Cook Off planned at the Rock Hotel from 5 to 7 p.m.

On Friday, take the family to the Winters Public Library, where the Grinch himself will be on hand for photos from 5-7 p.m.

Schwartz said businesses will be open until 7 p.m. and the Winters Volunteer Fire De-

partment will be hosting a hamburger fundraiser at the fire department. Plus, the Winters Chamber will be hosting Bingo from 7 to 11 p.m. at the fire department. "We are going to have a lot of things for everyone," Schwartz said.

For more information on the parade call Schneider at 325-977-1036 or Schwartz at 325-754-4624.





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