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Volume 20, Issue 20

Thursday, April 8, 2010

Winters, Texas

75c

Lake Winters, in the Center of Crossfire

Area neighbors demand safety, hunters struggle to keep public hunting lands open, and irresponsible dumping of trash and shooting of firearms makes an odd place for the sandhill crane roost

Ruben Cantu
 Winters Enterprise

WINTERS, Texas.- Dense vegetation, flood zones and inaccessible trails in the area around Lake Winters provides a paradise for protected species. Lake Winters also provides a haven for illegal activities and a nightmare for law enforcement agencies.

The lake has numerous entrances with dozens of trails and secondary back roads that lead to a hunters delight and an inviting recreational area for others.

This lake, located about 8 miles East of town, is the main source of water for Winters. It supplies a home for a number of native species. The area is an attraction for visitors who travel to hunt and fish. Local ordinances regulate hunting, trespassing, and discharge of firearms. All of which endanger the residents who live in the area.

The illegal activities are well documented by ranchers and officials but at this time no legal action has been taken against those who are breaking the rules.

Reports of feral hog hunters with dogs have caused other hunters to go elsewhere for hunting.

Hunting in the area is limited to shotgun fire, but nearby homeowners have found bullet holes in their homes. Hikers and other visitors have had close encounters with hunters, when all they wanted was a closer look at the roosting place of the sandhill crane.

According to reports, some 90 or so rifle and/or pistol shots were fired in an evening. Signs posting the prohibition of bearing firearms and dumping were installed, but ironically the signs were shot from inside the fenced area.

The shotgun is now allowed but has been used irresponsibly by some. Dozens of used shells lay on the ground around domestic trash that has been used as a target.

Ranchers report use of illegal pistols, high-powered rifles and shots fired in the vicinity of campers, families, and people on the roads nearby.

Local law enforcement is trying to take control of the recreational area and the city council has approved a contract for a lake keeper. Ranchers



Ironically the signs appear shot from the inside of the premises.

in the area are afraid a lake keeper will not be enough to get the job done.

Some groups demand that a hunting ban be reinstated for all lake grounds, and the action be taken immediately.

"The way things are going somebody is going to get killed down there," said Don Davis, a local rancher whose family has lived in the area for over a century.

Reports to the Police Department indicate the presence of night hunters with flashlights, and shots fired from boats.

The 1984 Winters Code of Ordinances states the prohibition of loaded firearms, ammunition, loaded projectile firing devices, bows and arrows, cross bows and explosives in the Lake Winters area.

The 7.101 section refers to firearms on city property but excluded a ban on shotguns from the area on the East side of the lake and North of the old dam.

An amendment to the ordinance was made in March 2009, and shotguns became illegal on city property except in places "where the city may designate with an ordinance."

The change did not last long; in October a group of duck hunters requested a new amendment to the ordinance, in order to allow waterfowl and wing hunting.

The petition was taken to the City Council and unanimously approved the recommendation to allow firing of shotgun shells only, regulate the hunting with permits for the lake area, and log in with the Police Department and lake keeper.

Sandhill crane roosting

People and ranchers passionate about the sandhill crane want protection for this large unique species, which mates for life and lays one or two eggs on the waters edge to hide them from predators.

Bill Swisher, past president of the Dallas Safari Club, offered full support to "protect the roost" for the sandhill cranes in Winters, according to a letter sent to the Winters Enterprise.

The crane, when disturbed in an area seeks new ground and changes



Above: The Police Department and ranchers had to reinforce the entrance with a steel pipe barricade. Below: Some people use the grounds as a dumpster and others practice shooting at anything on the ground.



Photos by Ruben Cantu

See LAKE, Page 6

NRH Auxiliary March meeting

Joyce Carbery
 For Winters Enterprise

WINTERS, Texas.- North Runnels Hospital Auxiliary met March 22 at the hospital. Bettye Pinkerton presided as president with a number of members present. First Business discussed pertained to election of officers with decision for the election to be held in the April meeting.

Mr. Sydney Tucker, hospital administrator, spoke to the group about what the hospital auxiliary might furnish. One need in particular he mentioned was hypo-hyperthermia combination machine. Cost would be approximately \$5,000.

Discussion included hosting a fundraiser luncheon on April

19. The menu would consist of salads, meat and/or vegetable casseroles, and desserts. The president asked each member to contact Winters' citizens for food items for the fundraiser. Those furnishing food should bring their items to the Church of Christ fellowship hall by 10:30 a.m. on the day of the luncheon. Luncheon tickets will be \$5.00 at the door or can be purchased from any auxiliary member.

During Mayfest there will be a booth where nurses will take free blood pressure and blood glucose monitoring.

A called meeting will be on April 12th, at 5:30 p.m. at the North Runnels Hospital to plan the luncheon needs and last

minute details.

Bettye Pinkerton said that Winters Citizens worked diligently to save their hospital and one way to continue supporting the hospital is through the auxiliary. Functions of the auxiliary include fundraisers to purchase needed items and equipment not included in the hospital budget. In the past, the auxiliary purchased computers, blood pressure monitor equipment, mattresses, and other items for the clinic and the hospital.

Anyone interested in becoming an auxiliary member contact Bettye Pinkerton at 754-4488. Regular meetings are fourth Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. This auxiliary will include both men and women members.

Truancy project in budget reviews

Ruben Cantu
 Winters Enterprise

WINTERS, Texas.- Winters Independent School District is evaluating the terms of a new agreement with the city and in collaboration with the Winters Police Department to prevent students from dropping out of school.

At the next Winters School Board meeting, scheduled for April 12th, terms of the agreement will be presented to the city and school district legal departments.

On March 29th, the Police Department presented this project to the City Council, in order to get the budget updates needed to handle the revenue. If approved, a police officer will be designated to follow up on truancy cases, both on and off school campuses.

According to the memorandum, the school district will cover expenses

incurred by the officer.

David Hutton, WISD superintendent, said that everything is on schedule, and the project will be part of the School Board agenda. The budget for the program and a targeted start date will be part of the discussion.

"In fact the program already started with the preliminary works. We have Paula Geyer, a Police Officer who is working in an alternative school and will be tackling the truancy problem," said Hutton.

The project presented to the City Council states that a full time employee for the Police Department will help the school district with campus rounds and home enforcement for students who drop out of school. If approved the program will start this school year.

Student drop outs are a cause for a loss in rating at the state level and a possible cutting of funds to the district.

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Death Notices

Velma Lee Giles Havlak

Velma Lee Giles Havlak, 79, of Rowena passed away Wednesday, March 31, 2010. She was born February 14, 1931 in Shamrock. She moved to Leedy, OK with her family as a child where she graduated high school. She married Lloyd Giles on June 15, 1951 in Spearman and he preceded her in death in 1986. She and Lloyd farmed together in the Drasco community. She worked for Dry Mfg. Co. retiring after 29 years. She married Joe Havlak on February 8, 2002 in Olfen, moving to Rowena in 2005. Velma was a loving Christian, wife, mother and grandmother.



She was preceded in death by her parents Joe and Sadie Mowles; her sister Anna Belle Mowles; her brother Jimmy Mowles; and her daughter-in-law Mary Pilger Giles.

She is survived by her husband Joe Havlak of Rowena; 3 children: Lynn Giles of Iola, Connie Holladay of Abilene and Lesa Monical of Corpus Christi; 3 sisters: Mary Jo Free of Houston, Willie Mae Tusing of Ballinger and Rosie Pace of Weatherford; as well as 7 grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. at the Crews Cemetery with Ferris Akins officiating. Services are under the direction of the Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise
Thursday, April 8, 2010

Ella Lawan Foreman

Ella Lawan Foreman, 75, of Winters passed away Monday, April 5, 2010. She was born August 9, 1934 in Lubbock and graduated high school there. She married Coleman Foreman on July 25, 1971 in Lubbock and was a long-time resident of the Talpa Community. Coleman preceded her in death in 2003. She had lived at the Senior

Citizens Nursing Home since 1993. She was a member of Hopewell Baptist Church. She is survived by a number of friends.

Graveside services will be held Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. at the Crews Cemetery with Ferris Akins officiating. Services are under the direction of the Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise
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Donus Ray Belew

Donus Ray Belew, 81, died Saturday, March 27, 2010, in Abilene, Texas, at his residence.

Funeral services were held at 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 29, at the Hamill Family Funeral Home Chapel. A graveside service followed at 3 p.m. in Lakeview Cemetery in Winters, Texas.

Survivors include his wife, Mada Belew of Abilene; one brother, Scotty Belew and wife Peggy of Wingate; two sisters, Doris Reid and husband Verlon of Abilene, and Charlotte Robinson and husband Gaylan of Brownwood; sister-in-law, Carrie Belew of Big Spring and several nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society, 209 So. Danville Dr., Bldg. B Suite 107, Abilene, TX 79605 or Solaris Hospice, 4150 So. Danville Dr., Abilene, TX 79605.

Mr. Belew was a farmer in Runnels County, Texas, for a period of time, later working as technician for Sun Oil Company for many years, retiring in 1988. In 2005 he returned to Abilene, where he was a member of Faith Baptist Church.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society, 209 So. Danville Dr., Bldg. B Suite 107, Abilene, TX 79605 or Solaris Hospice, 4150 So. Danville Dr., Abilene, TX 79605.

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Name of new principal expected soon

Ruben Cantu
Winters Enterprise

WINTERS, Texas.- The list of candidates for the position of Winters ISD high school principal has been narrowed to five. After the final interview process the board will receive recommendations for the high school principal position. As the process comes to a close the superintendent's office will evaluate

each of the five candidates and make a recommendation to the board. One of 40 original candidates, the new principal will be a person of experience and well suited to the job as principal of the WISD high school.

After processing 40 applicants, the office of the superintendent reduced the list keeping only those most qualified with experience. The recommendation from

the superintendent's office should be made to the board on April 12th during the regular board meeting.

Susan Sharp has been the principal of the high school for the past 4 years and will be retiring after 34 years in education.

The job was posted on educational sites and after the deadline for qualified persons to apply ended the screening of candidates

began and has been narrowed to the present list of five. The new principal should be on the job as of May 1.

The Winters School Board has regular meetings on the second Monday of each month. In the last meeting on March 8 the details for the hiring of a new principal were drafted with instructions to the superintendent to make a recommendation on April 12th.

News Notes

Child's play at WISD

On April 15th, second grade students of the Winters Elementary School will perform a play entitled "I Need a Vacation!" with upbeat and fun to listen songs. The play will be in the WHS auditorium at 6:30 a.m. that morning for the elementary school.

On May 11th the First Graders will perform their play entitled "Ee-I-ee-i-ooops!" They will perform at 6:30 in the WHS auditorium and at 9:00 that same morning for the students in the elementary school.

Historical Association in Winters

Runnels County Historical Association will be hosting Edward's Plateau Historical Association spring meeting on Saturday, May 1, 2010 at the Rock Hotel.

Registration time is from 9:30 to 10 a.m.

The morning program includes the Presentation of Runnels County History Papers: Anthony Lange, and Ruth Cooper.

Lunch: Catered meal (There will be a charge for the meal, can pay at the door, but need reservation ahead of time).

Afternoon: Carolyn Gully history paper & then Tour of Rock Hotel, Z.I. Hale Museum & Ag Museum.

Please, RSVP if you can attend Saturday May 1 so we can give the Edward's Plateau Historical Association (EPHA) a big welcome to Winters.

Upcoming events

Wingate farm sale April 10.

Nut n Bolt run on April 17. ABC 18 hole scramble 1:00 p.m. Winters Country Club April 18.

Winters Area Foundation Dinner April 20 at Winters Country Club.

Mayfest on May 1. Raffle for mower, Winters Volunteer Fire Dept. May 1

Two-man-one-woman scramble 18 holes at Winters Country Club on May 8.

Texas 4000 riders will be here on June 8.

AA Meetings

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

Ministerial Alliance

Winters Ministerial Alliance meets the first Monday of every month at 9 a.m. at Samaritans House on the corner of E. Dale and Grant.

Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce meets at 5:30 p.m. first Monday of the month at 100 West Dale Street.

City Council Meetings

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

School Board Meetings

Winters ISD School Board meets at 6:30 p.m. every second Monday of the month at 603 North Heights.

Hospital Board Meetings

The North Runnels Hospital Board meets at 7 p.m. the third Monday of the month.

Literacy Service Club

Literary Service Club meets at 6 p.m. the third Monday of the month.

Public Library

Winters Public Library meets at 4:30 p.m. every third Tuesday of the month at the Library.

Winters Women's Club

Winters Women's Club meet on the second Tuesday of the month, from September through May. Contact Jane Bourdo, 754-2048 or Becky Hays, 754-1912 for more information.

Masonic Lodge meetings

Wingate Masonic Lodge 1042 A.F. & A.M., meetings on fourth Monday of the month, at 6:30 p.m. at Wilmeth, TX Lodge. For

further information contact Hank Bourdo, at 754-2048

Nominations for Gifted/Talented

Nominations are being accepted for the Winters Elementary Gifted/Talented program, First-Fifth grades. If you believe your child might benefit from a gifted/talented program, we welcome your nomination. Nomination and parent-permission-for-testing forms may be obtained at the Elementary Principal's office during normal working hours.

All forms must be completed and returned to your child's homeroom teacher by April 30, 2010.

Las nominaciones para el programa de niños dotados/con talento se están recibiendo para los grados de primero a quinto. Los padres que desean nominar a un niño/niña pueden recoger una forma en la oficina elemental. Regrese las formas a la escuela antes del 30 de abril 2010.

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The Winters Enterprise

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CAFETERIA MENU
April 12-16
Subject to change

ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU
Monday
Breakfast Pocket, Juice, Choice of Milk
Tuesday
Cereal, Cinnamon Toast, Juice, Choice of Milk
Wednesday
Pancake w/Ham, Juice, Choice of Milk
Thursday
Biscuit, Sausage, Juice, Choice of Milk
Friday
Breakfast Burrito, Juice, Choice of Milk
JUNIOR AND HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU
Monday
Scrambled Eggs or Breakfast Pocket or Muffin w/Ham, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk
Tuesday
Cereal or Cereal Bar or Oatmeal or Breakfast Burrito, Cinnamon Toast, Juice, Choice of Milk
Wednesday
Pancake w/Ham or Breakfast Pizza or Yogurt w/Ham, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk
Thursday
Biscuit w/Gravy Sausage or Cereal or Cereal Bar, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk
Friday
Breakfast Burrito or Cinnamon Roll w/Ham or Cereal Bar, Toast w/Jelly, Juice, Choice of Milk
WINTERS ISD LUNCH MENU
Note: Menus are subject to change without notice. Students may purchase extras: Entrees for \$1.00, Milk for .30, sides for .50.
Monday
Tater Tot Casserole or Sloppy Joe, Green Beans, Mac & Cheese, Tossed Salad, Apple Wedges, Chocolate Chip Cookie, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk
Tuesday
Frito Pie or Baked Chicken, Baked Beans, Broccoli w/Cheese, Carrot Sticks, Rosy Applesauce, Ice Cream Cup, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk
Wednesday
Taco Salad or Grilled Chicken on Bun, Spanish Rice, Pinto Beans, Coleslaw, Honeydew melon, Cornbread, Peanut Butter Cookie, Choice of Milk
Thursday
Chicken Sticks or Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Black Eyed Peas, Tossed Salad, Orange Wedges, Rice Crispy Treats, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk
Friday
Cheese Burger or Chicken Bits w/Gravy, Curly Fries, Green Beans, Lettuce/Tomato, Strawberries, Bread Pudding, Hot Roll, Choice of Milk

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"The Right Time" for Melissa

Winters Enterprise Staff Report

WINTERS, Texas.- Melissa Calcote, eighth grade student at Winters Junior High School, was honored at a District 8 VFW meeting as the second place winner of the District 8 2009-10 Patriot Pen Contest. She received a plaque and a \$200.00 prize. Melissa's essay was one of seven submitted by the Winters VFW from 91 entries in the Winters Patriot Pen Contest. They competed against 15 other Posts of District 8. Winters Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9193 is very proud of Melissa and all



of the other students who competed. The Patriot's Pen Contest is a youth essay writing contest that gives students in grade 6, 7, and 8 the opportunity to write essays expressing their views on democracy in a nationwide competition sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. This year's theme was "When Is The Right Time To Honor Our Military?" Melissa is the daughter of Rancee and Mike Calcote of Winters.

When is the Right Time to Honor Our Military Heroes?

By Melissa Calcote
Essay honored at a District 8 Winters Patriot Pen Contest.

America has set aside several days in the year to honor veterans. But just because those certain days have been selected for honoring our military, doesn't mean that they only serve on those days. America should honor military heroes every day, because every day, a military hero dies or gets injured, or is overseas away from home fighting for America. We should all be very thankful for our troops because they have so much pride for America that they are willing to die for people they may not even know. They are away from their families, sometimes for a long time, but they still find the strength to fight for what they believe in. We should all thank God that

so many men and women fight for our freedom everyday and ask Him to keep them safe. If we didn't have our military, then America wouldn't be as strong as it is today. Most people think that you should honor veterans and soldiers on the Fourth of July, Veteran's Day and Memorial Day. But our military heroes are out there fighting for us on all of the other 362 days of the year so we should recognize them for all the sacrifices that they make each and every day. God has truly blessed us with an excellent military, and we should take the time every single day to pray for them and their families. I am given an opportunity to honor

former and current military heroes every day during the Moment of Silence. That is one minute a day to act serious and reflect on what the military has done for America. More people, including myself, should act more respectful during that minute because the whole meaning of it is to be thankful for our freedom that our soldiers are fighting for and that our veterans have fought for. It isn't enough to honor veterans three or four days a year because they deserve more than that. If we get the opportunity to recognize them every day, then we should use that time to think about how they have influenced our lives in that they risk and sometimes sacrifice their lives for us.

Winters Athletic Report

Stephen Hermesmeier
For Winters Enterprise
WINTERS, Texas.- Winters Blizzards 7th grade boys clinched first place in the Junior High district track meet held last week at Cross Plains, the team accumulated a dozen of first places, dominated mostly all of the track events

and performed very well also in the field competition. Eight grade boys also did a good job, managed to keep the fourth place in the team competition, while both of the Lady Blizzard teams finished third on their meets. Winters Blizzards also had softball, baseball and golf results from last week's activity.

Golf team, putting it in there

Coach Bates
The golf team competed in their largest tournament of the year in Baird, at Shady Oaks Golf Course this past Wednesday. There were 25 teams competing in this competition. The Blizzards finished just shy of placing but there overall score was 23 strokes better than their best performance in previous tournaments with a 323. Senior AJ Tamez led the way with a 78, Dustin Oswald and Collyn Pritchard both shot 81's and Devin Martinez and Strait Daniel shot 83's. The team will be competing in their District rounds the next 2 Mondays (April 5 & 12) with the first round at Merkel (Tin Cup) and the second in Baird (Shady Oaks). Come support the Blizzards on to a District Championship!

Softball, baseball, tennis

Softball: (Coach Airhart)
Winters 8-6 Miles
Baseball: (Coach Spivey)
Winters 17-7 Loraine
Tennis: (Coach Villarreal)
No results available

JH Track: (Livingston)
District Junior High Track @ Cross Plains 4-1-2010
7th Boys
Marshall Scates 1st 2400m
Ethaniel Reyes 2nd 2400m
Rudy Lara 1st 400m
Armando Rodriguez 3rd 400m
Daryl Hagle 4th 400m
Jimmy J. Ripley 1st 300 Hurdles
Lukas Kraatz 2nd 300 Hurdles
Stephonne Cleghorn 3rd 300 Hurdles
Marshall Scates 1st 800m
Ethan Bredemeyer 1st 200m
Dave Hutton 2nd 200m
Jacob Brock 1st 1600m
Dave Hutton 1st 110 Hurdles
Lukas Kraatz 2nd 110 Hurdles
Jacob Brock 3rd 110 Hurdles
Jimmy J. Ripley 2nd 100m
800 Relay 1st
1600m relay 1st
Ty Cortez 3rd High jump
Lukas Kraatz 4th High Jump
Jacob Brock 5th High Jump
Daryl Hagle 1st Triple Jump
Christian Tamez 5th Triple jump
Dave Hutton 1st Shot put
Ryan Young 4th Shot put
David Torres 1st Pole Vault
Dave Hutton 2nd Pole Vault
Stephonne Cleghorn 3rd Pole Vault
Ty Cortez 3rd Long jump
Daryl Hagle 4th Long jump
Team Totals
Winters 282 (1st Place)

8th Boys
Fermin Cruz 2nd 400m
Chris Gerhart 4th 300 Hurdles
Chris Potts 5th 400m
Chris Gerhart 2nd 110 Hurdles
Andrew New 5th 110 Hurdles
Fermin Cruz 1st 100m
800 relay 2nd
1600m relay 3rd
2nd Long Jump
Fermin Cruz 6th long jump
Chris Gerhart 6th triple jump
Corey Pritchard 3rd Discus
Corey Pritchard 5th Shot
Marcus Torres 6th Shot
Andrew New 2nd Pole Vault
Team Totals
Winters 4th place 88.5 points

Winters 116 points 3rd place
8th Girls
L. Bredemeyer 2nd 400m
H. Weaver 4th 400m
J. Tamez 5th 400m
6th
3rd 800m
T. Tamez 1st 300 hurdles
J. Pritchard 2nd 300 hurdles
H. Weaver 3rd 100 hurdles
K. Kraatz 5th 100 hurdles
M. Calcote 5th 1600m
K. Heathcott 6th 1600m
S. Woffenden 4th 100m
800 relay 6th
1600m relay 3rd
T. Tamez 5th Long jump
D. Chavis 1st Shot put
D. Chavis 1st Discus
L. Bredemeyer 6th Shot put
Winters 3rd place 96 points

Irion County Track Meet - 4/2/10
Zannie Slimp:
300 hurdles - 49.3 - 1st place
100 hurdles - 16.8 - 2nd place
200 - 30.3 - 4th place
Triple Jump - 31'6" - 2nd place
High Jump - 4'10" - 2nd place

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RUNNELS COUNTY ROUND-UP

Fishin' with Dave

Dave Caudle
Fishing Report

This year to my limited knowledge there has been at least seven share-lunkers entered into the program. This program which takes black bass thirteen pounds or more from Texas lakes to brood ponds run by the Parks and Wildlife Department to get the best possible gene pool in our lakes. These fish are carefully transferred by the department and their offspring will hopefully produce the new Texas record and perhaps the new world record. So far this year of the seven entered five have come from the waters of Lake Ivie and we are just getting into the time where additional fish may be brought in by a lucky angler.

What all this means is that at Ivie a double digit bass is possible on each cast and the 13 pounder is always a possibility. This translates to Ivie being a prime destination for the big fish and will bring in many anglers who spend their money on motels, fishing tackle, ice, food, etc., etc., etc.

In the past I have suggested on many occasions that members of Congress, the White House and some of the

Supreme Court Justices should spend more time fishing. With the current condition of the lake and its outstanding population of fishes of all species, I must retract that invitation and suggest that we are doing fine without any stimulus plans or health care options. In other words come fish but don't do anything to bailout the lake or spread the wealth.

In the last few days I, as many others have, received my tax form which again has gone up on the bottom line. It is good to see that my property has increased in value which means I did nothing and gained being as my house is now worth more each year. It is sure nice to not have to do anything and your net wealth increases. I just wish the fish population would increase as fast as the taxes.

One other thing that is happening in our current administration is that fishing and hunting is being considered due to its impact on the environment and animal life. While we have all known for some time that the private ownership of guns does not sit well with some folks in Washington and California they now are getting the idea that recreational fishing is also an

issue. The use of lead in lures and sinkers will in the near future be a thing of the past and maybe monofilament line will get the axe. But there is hope being as all fishing tackle, and hunting stuff are charged a ten percent tax somewhere along the way to the consumer. That amounts to a lot of money going to the East coast for Congress to give to the banks, insurance companies and others who cannot run their business. Maybe some of those guys should spend some time on the lake, it just might clear up some things.

There is a move lead by some of the earthquake prone individuals from California to outlaw private ownership of guns and turn them into the local law enforcement agency. They are also planning to give a cash price for your guns which I am sure would be below the market value. I guess when the call goes out I won't be the first in line if there is one in West Texas. But if they force us to do so I want our local tax office to value my guns on the same basis they value my home. So there is joy in Mudville, sometimes you just have to look around for it, but it is there. See you on the lake.

County office ready for election

Ballinger Ledger
Staff Report

BALLINGER, Texas.- The County Clerk's Office will be open Election Day from 7:00 a.m. until the polls close and all votes have been tabulated.

Voting places and times for the Republican Primary Runoff have been set for the April 13th election.

The Voter Registrar's Office will be open on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Ocker reminded voters that they can participate in this Republican Primary runoff only if they voted in the Republican Primary in March or did not vote at all in the primary election.

Anyone that voted in the Democratic Primary in March is not eligible to vote in the run off election.

Questions regarding the election, call County Clerk's Office at 365-2720 or questions regarding voter registration, call Voter Registrar's Office at 365-2339.

VOTING PRECINCTS

Consolidated-Ballinger
(1, 2, 7, 8, and 10)

Runnels County Courthouse Annex Building, 608 Strong Avenue, behind Courthouse.

Winters

(3, 4, 5, and 6)

Housing Authority Building, 300 North Grant

Miles

(9)

City Hall, 110 Robinson Street

Runnels County Historical Commission meeting

Betty Thomason
RCHC Reporter

WINTERS, Texas.- Runnels County Historical Commission (RCHC) members met March 6 at Casa Cabana. Marianne Ray gave a program that traced her life from the time she was born in 1945 in Germany and on through the events that brought her to Runnels County where she lives now.

Chairman Ruth Cooper initiated plans for the RCHC group to host the upcoming Edward's Plateau Historical Association (EPHA) meeting at the Rock Hotel in Winters on May 1.

The EPHA meets twice a year—once in the spring (first Saturday in May) and once in

the fall (first Saturday in October). The association devotes their meetings to the presentation of papers on the history of settlement and pioneers of the Edward's Plateau area. The organization publishes the book, The Historian, from a collection of the papers presented the past five years.

In the May 1 meeting at the Rock Hotel, histories of Runnels County will be presented by Anthony Lange of Norton, "The History of Norton, the Town, and the Man;" Ruth Cooper of Winters, "Germany to Runnels County;" and Carolyn Gully of Novice, "Story of Nancy Parker."

A tour of the Rock Hotel, Z. I. Hale Museum and Ag Museum will be given in the afternoon and will conclude the program.

Pre-registration for Olfen April 22

Ballinger Ledger
Staff Report

OLFEN, Texas.- On April 21, 2010, Olfen ISD will conduct a pre-registration for 2010-2011 Pre-Kindergarten and NEW students. Students currently attending Olfen ISD do not have to pre-register. To be eligible for public school Pre-Kindergarten, children must be at least 4 years of age on or before September 1, 2010, be income eligible, and be current on all immunizations.

Parents of Pre-Kindergarten children

MUST bring a certified copy of the child's Birth Certificate, Immunization Record, Social Security Card, and proof of income. Children should come with their parents and meet the teacher.

Any child that is planning to attend Olfen ISD as a new student for 2010-2011, may also pre-register on this day. Pre-Kindergarten will register 9-11 a.m. and all other students will register 1-3 p.m. If these times are not convenient, please call the school at 442-4301 to schedule an appointment.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

On March 15, 2010, Atmos Energy Corporation, Mid-Tex Division ("Atmos Energy" or "the Company"), filed a Rate Review Mechanism ("RRM") filing to increase its gas rates and implement a new schedule of rates and riders. This filing is applicable to all customers within all incorporated cities served by the Mid-Tex Division, with the exception of the City of Dallas. The proposed effective date of the requested rate changes is August 1, 2010. If approved, the proposed changes will affect approximately 1,190,843 residential, 97,756 commercial, and 735 industrial and transportation customers.

If approved, the proposed rates will increase the Company's annual revenues for the affected incorporated areas of its Mid-Tex Division by \$56,826,830, or 6.04% percent, including gas costs, or 14.82% percent, excluding gas cost. The proposed change in rates constitutes a "major change" as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code.

Based on the proposed rate design, the typical monthly bill for each customer class within the affected incorporated areas of the Mid-Tex Division will increase by the amount and percentage shown in the table below:

| Customer Class | Current Bill | Proposed Bill** | Difference | Percentage Increase with Gas Cost | Percentage Increase without Gas Cost |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Residential | \$56.25* | \$60.00* | \$3.75 | 6.67% | 16.95% |
| Commercial | \$213.36* | \$221.48* | \$8.12 | 3.81% | 17.58% |
| Industrial | \$2164.76* | \$2277.05* | \$112.29 | 5.19% | 20.90% |
| Transportation | \$635.97 | \$748.27 | \$112.30 | 17.66% | 20.90% |

Note: Bill impact ranges are subject to varying tax rates among the cities.

* Includes Rider GCR Part A cost of \$4.6303 per Mcf.

**The calculation of bill impacts assumes monthly consumption of 6 Mcf for residential, 30 Mcf for commercial and 300 MMBtu for industrial and transportation customers.

In addition to the rate revisions in Rate Schedules R, C, I, and T, the other proposed tariff change is an update to the factors included in Rider WNA.

Persons with specific questions or desiring additional information about this filing may contact Atmos Energy Corporation at 1-888-286-6700. Complete copies of the filed Rate Review Mechanism, including all proposed rates and schedule changes, are available for inspection at Atmos Energy's offices located at 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75240 or on our Web site at www.atmosenergy.com/mtx-rrm. In addition, customers can contact their respective municipality for additional information regarding this rate request.

Este es un aviso a los clientes de Mid-Tex Division de Atmos Energy Corporation (la Compañía) que la Compañía está solicitando un cambio en las tarifas del gas. Este cambio afecta a todos los clientes en las áreas incorporadas y servidas por Mid-Tex Division excepto la Ciudad de Dallas. Si usted tiene preguntas con respecto a este aumento, por favor llame a Atmos Energy Corporation al 1-888-286-6700.

Public Records

Court Records for March 25, 2010

Marriages

• Anthony Joseph Halfman and Linda Kae Beard

Divorces

• Joshua Moses Vidaurri vs Wendy Michelle Vidaurri Divorce granted

Crime and misdemeanor

• State of Texas vs Davis Roman 1 year probation, \$750 fine and \$417 court cost
• State of Texas vs Edward Fuentes 1 year probation, \$750 fine and \$317 court cost

Jail Log

| Name | Age | Agency | Charge |
|----------------------|-----|------------|--|
| • William R White | 23 | Concho DPS | DWLI |
| • Juan G Chapea | 58 | Coke Co | Sent Safpe |
| • Anita M Carter | 25 | RCSO | Poss C.S. |
| • Alice A Drake | 29 | RCSO | 180 days State Jail |
| • Gilbert R Garcia | 45 | RCSO | Sent to TDCJ |
| • Eric L Tekell | 29 | WPD | Assault w/bodily injury Family violence Resisting arrest |
| • Blaine E Melville | 50 | BPD | Public Intoxication |
| • Jennifer L Elmer | 30 | Coke Co | Assault public servant, assault causing bodily injury, assault with weapon |
| • Austin L Hord | 32 | WPD | Criminal trespass- habitation PI disorderly conduct public lewdness |
| • Melissa A Albarado | 34 | RCSO | Theft by check |
| • John L Guerra | 23 | RCSO | 60 days in jail |



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 Mary Slimp, Broker
 476 PR 2001, Winters, TX 79567
 668-9987

Call for Listings
 Monnie Davis, agent 754-5628
 cottonwood-realty.com mobile 365-6404

422 Tinkle, Winters 2 BR/1 BA, metal roof, large living area, carport with storage, small yard.

114 W. Spill, Winters, Texas - 2 bed/1 bath hardwood floors, custom cabinets, utility room, office. Fenced yard with 2 storage rooms, 1 car carport 814 E. Tinkle, Winters, Texas - 3 bdrm/2 bath, brick, two car carport, island cook top, living room, and large den.

Commercial Property, Winters, Texas - Former lumberyard with main store, shops, fenced yards, lumber racks on Main Street
1300 N. 8th, Ballinger - Corner lot, quality built, 2 bdrm/1bath, new roof, fresh paint
611 E. Tinkle, Winters, Texas - 2 bdrm, 1 updated bath, screened in porch, upstairs apartment, central h/a, metal roof, two car garage, carport.
REDUCED! 309-4th Street, Wingate - Remodeled 3 bdrm/1 and 1/2 bath, pecan trees, two fenced yards, garage, two car carport, rural and well water.

200 E. Pierce, Winters - 4 bdrms, 2 large living areas, galley kitchen with new appliances, garage, carport, storage, central h/a
LOT FOR SALE on Freddie Lane, good neighborhood, 112' x 140', build to your specifications, 107 Laurel Dr., Winters, Texas - Looking for Your First Home? Then start here in this 2 bedroom, 1 bath home. This home has central heat and air, one car carport, and a large back yard. Little TLC will go a long way on this property. Priced at only \$15,500.00, you could have the joy of owning a home. Call Mary at 325-754-4381.

422 Tinkle, Winters - 2 bed/1 bath, metal roof, large living area, carport with storage, small yard.
301 E. Truett, Winters, Texas - 3 bed/2 bath, corner lot, metal roof, 2 car carport, workshop, shed
407 S. Arlington, Winters, Texas - 2 bdrm/1 bath, fenced yard, and cellar

100 Announcements
 160 Special Notices
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500 Merchandise
 540 Garage Sale Flea Market
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 Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

800 Rentals
 810 Apartments For Rent
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with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Pre-qualified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Pre-qualification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
 NPO: 32505 State Office

Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704
 Phone: 512-416-2540
 Dist/Div Office(s) San Angelo District Engineer 4502 Knickerbocker Rd San Angelo, Texas 76904
 Phone: 325-944-1501

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)
 Dist/Div: San Angelo Contract 6208-00-001 for SEAL COAT in RUNNELS County, etc will be opened on May 12, 2010 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$835,000.00.

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 Right Wireless where you're out the door for under fifty bucks!

San Angelo: Right Wireless • 3371 Knickerbocker Rd. / Right Wireless - Sunset Mall / Right Wireless - 2609 N. Bryant / Lowes Grocery - 2 South Main Street / HEB - 3301 Sherwood Way
Big Lake: Napa Auto Parts - 1200 2nd Street
Brady: West Central Wireless - 2019 S. Bridge
Brownwood: Mid-Tex Cellular - 300 W. Commerce
Eden: Lubke Chevrolet - 302 W. Broadway
Fredericksburg: Five Star Wireless - 1425 E. Main St. #800A
Kerrville: Five Star Wireless - 1448 Junction Hwy / Five Star Wireless - 317 Sidney Baker S. #300
Junction: Five Star Wireless - 801 Main Street
Mason: Mason Gas - 1004 San Antonio Hwy.
Menard: B&N Artwear - 606 Ellis
Mertzon: Made in the Shade - 208 S. Broadway
Miles: Mid-Tex RV
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Winters: Mid-Tex RV

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Winters Enterprise
Staff Report

WINTERS, Texas.- Winters Volunteer Fire Department is having a lawnmower tractor raffle, in order to replace the quick attack truck. The drawing will be held on May 1st, at the Mayfest downtown.

The prize, a McCulloch 13.5 horse power, 38 inch cut twin blade riding mower, model #MC13538LT, is in exhibition at J&T Hardware.

Tickets may be purchased from volunteers or Raymond's Clip Joint, for \$10 a chance.

All proceeds will go towards the new equipment at the Volunteer Fire Department.



The lawnmower for the May 1st raffle; proceeds will serve to replace the quick attack truck in the Fire Department.

From Winters to bookstores

Winters Enterprise
Staff Report

WINTERS, Texas.- Mother, with a sales career and passionate about writing, but most of all a proud Texan and daughter of Winters, Jamey Stewart had to go through a terrible battle since 2000, when her mother was diagnosed with lung cancer.

During the nine months her mother underwent chemotherapy treatments, Jamey was her primary caregiver and kept detailed journals for many years as a therapy. At the time, she only thought it would be beneficial for both.

Nonetheless, those journals became the basis for Last Trip Home, author's first book published by Outskirt Print and already on the market.

Jamey was born in Winters on November 9, 1959. She lives in Fort Worth, Texas with her husband, Mike. She has a son, Brad Edwards. He is in the plumbing, heating and air conditioning business, with his father in law, in Lubbock.

Brad's wife is Karen and they have twin, 8 year old girls, Allison and Taylor and a son, Ashton, 2. Jamey's daughter, Lisa Edwards, received her B.A. from Texas Tech University and is now a restaurant manager in Austin. Mike's son, Derek, is studying at the University of Texas at Austin. He plans on becoming a chemistry teacher.

Jamey's father, Jack Clough, was literally a "jack of all trades". He was a lumberjack, a mechanic, a cotton



Jamey Stewart is the daughter of Jack Clough, lumberjack, mechanic and cotton ginner and Gaylene Frances Clough, a homemaker and L.V.N.

ginner and numerous other trades. Her mother, Gaylene Frances Clough was primarily a homemaker in her earlier years, but later received her degree as an L.V.N.

Jamey has lived most of her life in Texas. As a child, the family lived in San Diego for a short time, while her dad was in the Air Force. Her mother's family received The Texas Family Land Heritage award in 1999. The award honors families who have owned and worked the same land for 100 years or more. Jamey and her mother attended the ceremony, in Austin.

This is Jamey's first time as a published author, although she has been writing for many years (primarily in journals). She enjoys spending time with her family, snow skiing, photography, gardening, dancing and antiquing.

Taking applications for Mayfest

Winters Enterprise
Staff Report

WINTERS, Texas.- Winters Area Chamber of Commerce looks forward to this year's event! The chamber is still signing up volunteer entertainment and taking applications for booth space.

Booth applications may be picked up at WACC office or Wes-T-Go convenience store. The deadline for applications is April 26. NEW entertainment already signed up. Items to look forward to at the arts and crafts show: Homemade Gourmet, Scenty, Doughnuts to benefit Winters Community Baseball, home made ice cream to benefit Winters Child

Development Center, cotton candy & pop corn to benefit the cheerleaders, auction to benefit the Winters Public Library, burgers and ice cold tea to benefit the Winters Volunteer Fire Department, candles and western décor, flip flops & tees, Don Wood-the computer guy AND a massage therapist!

This is a great time for all local churches and organizations to raise money. Wojtek Racing car #45 with driver Shane Wojtek will be available for pictures for the kids, please bring your camera. For more information on Mayfest see Raymond at Raymond's Clip Joint or visit the office at 100 W Dale. 754-5210, wacc@wtxs.net

Winters club offers memberships

Winters Enterprise
Staff Report

WINTERS, Texas.- Local citizens are still encouraged to join the Future of Winters Club of the Winters Area Foundation. The cost of membership is \$100 and entitles the member to dinner for two on April 20th at the Winters Country Club.

Members are invited to come from 5 p.m. to 6:30 to visit and to try their skills at the golf challenges. Highlight of the evening will

be the awarding of grants for the next year.

Memberships are being taken at the Chamber of Commerce, Raymond's Clip Joint or Windmill Enterprise.

This is the fourth year for the Project Club to exist and each year more people choose to join and become a part of the contributions that the Project Club makes to the betterment of the Winters community.

For more information call Susan Conner, President of the Winters Area Foundation at 325 754 5760.

Lake

Continued from Page 1

its migratory habits. These large birds come to Texas in large flocks from the North, to spend the winter on the Panhandle plains and in the South Texas brush country, looking for swampy lands located on or near lakes.

Large groups of birds are common in coastal areas feeding on a small

animals and aquatic life, insects, and grain.

Due to the large size of the species the gathering of the sandhill cranes is one of the greatest natural spectacles, as hundreds of these red crowned jumbo jets land majesti-

cally in the flood plains.

Birdwatchers and biologists travel each year to the area just to observe and study the habits of the sandhill crane.

Hunting season for this species was closed in Eastern Texas, but a strip of

land from Childress to San Antonio and Austin to Bowie allowed hunting from November 27th to February 7th.

Pollution and water supply
Another issue that Lake Winters officials are having is attempting to keep people from dumping their trash in the area.

Several cleaning campaigns have been held, but plastic bags, old mattresses, electronics and used tires still cover the premise.

To deal with the problem, the Police Department built a steel-pipe welded barricade on the lake entrance located on County Road 169, by far the easiest way to get to the lake without being noticed, but intruders took the fence down.

Officials counterattacked by building a reinforced structure, which still seems to be in place.

Ground pollution extends onto the flood plain and trash in the lake is a potential health risk. Projects to deal with this problem are under way and a consideration of an access management and registry for any people entering the lake property.

According to Police Chief Nathan Johnson "This could be a good way to prevent people from dumping, and also to conduct organized and safe hunting".



Above: A surveillance game camera shows some night visitors who were greeted by a reinforced steel barrier on the West side entrance. Below: Visitors, neighbors and shooters sharing the Winters Lake area is a dangerous combination. Photo Courtesy Don Davis



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April 12-16

Monday
Blackeyed Pea Creole, Cabbage, Cornbread, Kolaches.

Tuesday
Bar-b-que Chicken, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Bread, Jam Crunch Bar.

Wednesday
Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread, Chocolate Cake.

Thursday
Mexican Casserole, Pinto Beans, Cole Slaw, Chips & Hot Sauce, Blondie Brownie.

Friday
Hamburgers, Pea Salad, Chips, Lettuce & Tomatoes, Dessert.

Meals are served 11:30 a.m. daily. Anyone who does not take the meals regularly is asked to reserve a lunch by contacting the Activity Center at 754-4205 by 10 a.m.

BARRY HILLIARD for County Judge

VOTE April 13

EARLY VOTING April 5th - 9th

Republican Primary

TO THE VOTERS OF RUNNELS COUNTY:

It has been a pleasure visiting with so many of you throughout our county during this campaign. What began as something of a struggle has turned out to be an exciting, life-changing experience as I have renewed old friendships and gained many more! I am thankful to you all!

Now, as the run-off election draws near I ask for and sincerely need your vote to receive the republican nomination for the office of Runnels County Judge. Those wishing to vote early can do so at our court house during regular office hours until this Friday, April 9. Election day is Tuesday, April 13.

Sincerely,
Barry Hilliard

Political ad paid for by Barry Hilliard, Julia Miller treasurer

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