

### Apples of Gold

FAITH—He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.  
Hebrews 11:6

Depths of Depression  
Page 6

Missile Silo Tour  
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# The Winters Enterprise

Serving Winters and North Runnels County

Volume 12, Issue 13

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Winters, Texas

50¢



BRIDGEMAN FLORIST celebrated a ribbon cutting on March 20 with members of the Winters Chamber of Commerce. Left to right are Chamber president Dale Montgomery, Chamber members Joe Heidenheimer and Jane Bourdo, Mark Bridgeman with son Kimble and mother-in-law Isabel Lujano, owner Yolanda Bridgeman, and Chamber directors Janice Pruser, Janie Rocha, Gail Williams and Donna Smith. The store is located at 115 S. Main.

## Winters VFD to host Hill Country Spring Convention

—Special thanks owed to Hoppes for supplying water—

The Winters Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting the Hill Country Firemen's Association Spring Convention on Saturday, April 7, 2001. This convention is held bi-annually among 32 different fire departments.

Winters has been a member of the Hill Country Firemen's Association since 1930.

Events scheduled for the day include business meetings, a ladies luncheon, pumper races, a meal, and a dance. In addition, the Hill Country Fireman of the Year will be named.

This year, the Winters Fire Department owes a special thank you to Glenn and Melinda Hoppe

who have donated water from their wells to the fire department for their pumper races. Without this donation, the district association would have to find other means for the pumper races.

Many thanks go to Glenn and Melinda from the Winters Fire Department and the Hill Country Firemen's Association.

## Greens improving, events scheduled

### Winters Country Club: small course with big plans

Recent rains have been welcome for many reasons, including "greening up" the grounds at the Winters Country Club.

Located only five miles south of the city on highway 83, the course offers nine holes with a 36 par. Various memberships are available as follows:

- Full: \$37.50 per month, includes entire, immediate family.
- Out of Town: \$128.10 (per year) for full membership for person(s) living farther than 40 miles from the club.
- Associate: \$25.00 per year (must play to pay). Club facilities only. No voting privileges.
- Youth: \$100 per year (family

not a member).

• Three-day pass: Good for bar/restaurant facilities.

• Extended Family Pass: A family member visiting a member may purchase a one-week pass for \$20.00 for unlimited golf.

Course fees Tuesday through Friday are nine holes for \$5, 18 for \$9.00; Saturday and Sunday fees are nine holes for \$8.00 and 18 holes for \$12.00. Cart rentals and storage sheds are also available.

Hank Bourdo, newly elected Club president, reports that, beginning April 4, there will be a Wednesday night scramble each week.

The always-popular Industrial Tournament is tentatively scheduled for June 16, with several events planned in conjunction with the large tourney. A city-wide golf tournament is also being planned for October 13, homecoming weekend.

The Club also offers a game night, open to the public, on the second Saturday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. The clubhouse features a pool table, dart boards, bar facilities and rooms available for party rentals.

## Council cancels general election

With the withdrawal of Lisa Nitsch as a candidate for City Council Place 1, this left all races unopposed. Therefore, during Monday night's meeting of the City Council, members voted to cancel the May 5 general election.

Mayor Dawson McGuffin, Councilman Tommy Russell (Place 3) and Hank Bourdo, candidate for Place 1 are unopposed.

In other action, there was no comment during the public hearing on the proposed renovation of the Winters Community Center. City Manager Aref Hassan commented that the next step will be to take bids on the project, and he hopes "that local contractors will bid."

The Council approved a lease agreement with Vera Mac Kraatz on the bait house at Elm Creek Reservoir.

Winters resident Gloria Gordon asked the Council to zone a specific area for mobile homes. According to Gordon, placing mobile homes at random areas in the city will possibly reduce the value of properties. She said she thinks a specific area for mobile homes will improve the appearance of Winters. No action was taken by the Council.

The Council approved the bid of \$19,693.94 from Charles

Bahlman Chevrolet of Winters for a 2001 half-ton pickup. Toliver Brothers of Ballinger had submitted a bid of \$20,522.95.

Present for the March 26 meeting were Mayor McGuffin, City Manager Hassan, City Attorney Ken Slimp, Street Department Supervisor Charles Grenwelge, and Councilmen Steve Esquivel, Jimmy Butler, and Joe Gerhart. Absent were Councilmen Tommy Russell and Mike Meyer.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME  
2:00 AM  
SUNDAY, APRIL 1ST



Turn clocks forward one hour.



SAMSON JACKSON, WHS senior, heaves the shot put for a new meet record at the Blizzard Relays on March 10. Samson repeated his toss of 55'8.5" for first place at the San Angelo Relays on March 24. The Winters team will compete in Coleman Saturday to prepare for the upcoming district meet at Bangs.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING ?

- March 29-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 5 p.m., Hale Museum Board, Rock Hotel
- 7-9 p.m., School Board Candidate Workshops, Abilene & San Angelo District UIL, Hawley
- March 30-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 12:25 p.m., FCA, WISD Science Lab
- 7:30 p.m., Cowboys for Christ, Drasco
- SCHOOL HOLIDAY
- March 31-9 a.m.-4 p.m., Home School Workshops, Abilene
- 2-4 p.m., Missile Silo Tour, Oplin
- April 1-2 a.m., Daylight Savings Time Begins, Turn Clocks Forward 1 Hour
- APRIL FOOLS DAY
- 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., Assembly of God Revival Begins, 304 Wood St.
- April 2-9 a.m.-4 p.m., WIC, Winters Housing Authority
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 7 p.m., Winters Squares, Community Center
- 7 p.m., Freshman Orientation, WHS Auditorium
- 7:30 p.m., Ballinger Masonic Lodge
- April 3-9 a.m., Ministerial Alliance, First Baptist Church
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- Noon, Lions Club, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 3 p.m., Friends of Hale Museum, Rock Hotel
- 7 p.m., American Legion
- 7 p.m., WVFD, Fire Station
- 7:30 p.m., Genealogical Society, San Angelo
- April 4-7 a.m., Industrial Board, Chamber Office
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 5 p.m., Relay for Life Organizational Meeting, 302 Laurel Drive
- 6 p.m., Chamber Directors, Chamber Office
- April 5-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 4-7 p.m., Immunization Clinic, Texas Dept. of Health
- LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN MAY 5 ELECTION

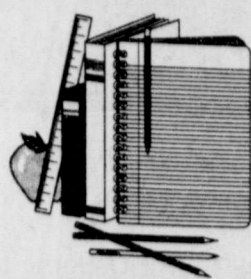


ENJOYING GREENER GREENS at the Winters Country Club is Connie Mac Gibbs as Dawson McGuffin approaches with his golf car. Recent rains and a great deal of hard work by Course Manager Terry Quisenberry have improved the 9-hole course which is located only five miles south of Winters. New board members and staff welcome residents and guests to visit the Club.









# ON THE FIELD AND IN THE CLASSROOM



**WILL BLAINE**, pitcher for the varsity Blizzards, gets ready to throw against the Coleman batter as teammate Louie Esquivel covers first base.

## Blizzards take fourth at San Angelo Relays; too cold at ACU for Ladies

The Winters Blizzards placed fourth in Division 4 of the San Angelo Relays run at Bobcat Stadium last weekend. Coleman won the meet followed by Iraan and Sonora.

Competing with only six athletes, WHS brought home two golds, a silver, and two bronze medals.

Samson Jackson won the shot put with a toss of 55' 8 1/2", while teammate Chris Hoppe took third with a put of 50' 8 1/2" and Rusty Jackson finished fourth with a throw of 49' 5 1/2".

In the discus, Winters placed

second, third and fourth. Hoppe threw 146' 10", while Samson Jackson's throw measured 142' 11" and Rusty Jackson's 136' 6".

Tony Agüero placed first in the 800 M Run with a time of 2:05 and fourth in the 200 M Dash clocked at 23.0.

Also competing for the Blizzards were Juan Santos and Tim Fenwick.

The Lady Blizzards traveled to ACU for the All-American City Track Classic but withdrew from competition due to the weather. They ran in a practice meet at ACU on Monday night.

Both teams plus the Blizzard JV will travel to Coleman for the Bluecat Relays on Saturday. Field events are scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. The 3200 M Run will start at 10:30 a.m. and running finals are scheduled for 1 p.m.

In the last meet before district, Winters will compete against Albany, Cross Plains, Early, Eastland, Hawley, and Coleman.

## Women's Service League to donate \$1,000 towards refurbishing Scout Hut

In their business meeting of March 22, the Women's Service League voted to donate \$1,000 towards the refurbishment of the Winters Scout Hut.

Also discussed was the availability of club cookbooks. Women's Service League still has a few cookbooks for sale. Please contact Carla Hooper at 754-5627.

In honor of the cookbooks, members put together one of their favorite dishes from an included recipe, and all enjoyed a wonderful, delicious meal.

## Home School Workshops set for March 31

There will be free Home School Workshops on Saturday, March 31, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Abilene. The program will take place at Beltway Park Baptist Church, 4009 Beltway South (707), across from Wylie Middle School.

The event will feature speakers Tim Lambert, president of Texas Home School Coalition, and his wife Lyndsay, and is sponsored by Big Country Home Educators.

The workshops will include "Texas Home Schoolers & the Law," "Home Schooling: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly," "What Comes After Graduation?," "Keeping Peace at Home," and "Courtship from a Father's Perspective."

Bring a sack lunch and visit with the Lamberts from noon to 1 p.m. Admission is free and open to anyone interested in home schooling. You may attend all or any of the workshops. For more information, call 695-2166.

## WISD Pre-K and Kindergarten Round-Up set for Tuesday, April 17

Pre-registration for 2001-2002 pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 17, 2001, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Elementary Library.

Parents of children who will be four (4) years old for pre-k, or five (5) years old for kindergarten, on or before September 1, 2001, should bring birth certificates (hospital and church records), immunization records, and Social Security cards.

Those students not enrolled in

kindergarten and who will be six on or before September 1, 2001, should also register for the first grade.

A four-year-old child shall be eligible for pre-kindergarten if he/she is unable to comprehend the English language or is from a family whose income is at or below subsistence level.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that all students be pre-registered. The school needs to determine the number of pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade teachers needed for the 2001-2002 school

**NEED HELP?**  
Texas Runaway Hotline  
1-888-580-HELP (4357)  
or www.txrunaway.org

## State Bound to Corpus Christi—



WINTERS HIGH SCHOOL has earned the right to compete in the Small Schools Academic State Meet on Sunday, April 22, in Corpus Christi. WHS originally just missed the opportunity to earn a trip to the state meet after placing third in the regional meet held at Coleman earlier this year. Only the top two teams advance, however, the team's overall score of 34, a ten point improvement over last year's results, ranked higher than some of the other region's second place schools. Consequently, Winters was issued an invitation to the state meet after all. The team consists of one "A" student, a "B" student, and a "C" student, plus one alternate. Team members shown above are (l-r) Ryan Bland, Raul Zermeno (alt.), Stacey Walden, and Aaron Pritchard. Not pictured is WHS Small Schools Academic Team advisor Cheryl Kruse.

## Searching for '91 WHS graduates

It's ten-year reunion time! The WHS Class of 1991 is searching for classmates.

Please contact Bodie Collins at (915) 723-2108 or by mail at 217 CR 163, Winters, TX 79567.

## Colby Walker wins Big Lake tennis tourney

Colby Walker, WHS senior, captured the singles title at the Big Lake tennis tournament last weekend.

Winning his first two matches by tiebreakers (9-7 and 7-1), a determined Walker overpowered the Wall player in the finals to take the championship.

Colby's sister, Laci, a WHS sophomore, won her first match, then lost 7-4 in the tiebreaker in the second round to Reagan County.

Senior G. G. Hernandez also won his first match 6-1, then fell in second round play to Wall.

Winters High players will compete at Colorado City this weekend, in preparation for the district meet April 4 and 5, at Abilene Christian University.

## Winters Secondary School G/T nominations due by Friday, April 27

by Charles Murphy, Secondary School Counselor

The Texas State plan for the education of Gifted/Talented students requires that school districts provide services to students identified in one or more of the following academic areas: Math, Science, Social Studies, and Language Arts.

Due to this State requirement, Winters Junior High and High School will assess all nominated seventh through eleventh grade students. This assessment will occur in the spring of the school year.

If you believe your child might benefit from a Gifted/Talented program in one or more of these

academic areas, we welcome your nomination.

The identification process includes a parent nomination, a teacher nomination, a general intellectual abilities test, and an achievement test. Nomination does not necessarily mean acceptance into the program; however, it will initiate the identification process.

Nomination forms must be completed and returned to the counseling office by Friday, April 27. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Charles Murphy at 754-5516.

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**Steve Esquivel**  
for  
**Place 7 (At Large)**  
Winters ISD Board of Trustees  
May 5, 2001

Graduated Winters High School — May 1976  
Texas Tech University — BBA in Finance/Accounting — 1981  
University of Texas-Arlington — MBA in Accounting — 1989  
Certified Management Accountant (CMA) — 1984

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts — Tax Auditor — 12 years  
City of Winters — Councilman — 3 years  
Winters Housing Finance Corporation Board of Directors — 1 year  
Winters Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors — 2 years

Political Adv. Paid by Brenda Briley, Treasurer, 406 E. Broadway, Winters, TX 79567



## Poe's Corner

By Charlsie Poe

### Alex Orr and his ties to Winters

Part 2 of a continuing series

Many might wonder how it came to be that I spent so much time with Wash and Lela Nance, my maternal grandparents. It is no secret that my mother was in poor health much of my life. This tied my dad down quite a bit in that he could not spend as much time working as he really needed to.

By Mother and me spending the summers there with Mom and Pop, it freed my dad up to spend those months really applying himself to his work. In my last two years of high school, it was evident that Mother would be in and out of hospitals.

That is why I spent those two years at Winters and graduated from Winters High School in May 1943. My senior year I was editor of *The Gale*, which was our high school newspaper. Our sponsor was Floy Hood, now Mrs. Homer Hodge.

She really put up with a lot but



Charlsie Poe

kept us in line. The staff of *The Gale* had a lot of fun putting the paper out. It was printed there at *The Winters Enterprise*. I don't recall that we earned a Pulitzer Prize, but we did learn a lot and treasure those memories.

After graduating from Winters High School in 1943, I went back to Tyler where I went to Tyler Junior College in the '43-'44 year. The summer of 1944 I went to the University of Texas (now Austin) which at that time did not have the network of universities that it now includes.

In January 1945, I went into the Army Air Corps (Aviation Cadet

Program). The war ended in August 1945, so I never finished flight training. I did get to fly as an Aerial Engineer on B-17s at the Hobbs, New Mexico, air base, during the summer of 1945.

Experiences there were the basis for my short story, "The Wild Goose," which you also used in your column. The name came from the war weary B-17 on which I flew. In January 1946, I went back to the University of Texas and picked up where I had left off a year earlier. In May 1948, I graduated with a BS degree in electrical engineering.

While my grandparents were still alive, we made it a point to get back to Winters for visits a time or two each year. It was always "coming home" for me. Over all those years while growing up in Winters, I made many, many friends for life. For the past 10 or 15 years, Nannette and I

have gotten back to Winters to check on cousins, Laura and Lucy Kittrell. As you know, Laura passed away some years ago following the death of her husband, Rankin Pace. Lucy passed away in May 2000.

While in Winters on those visits, I also saw to the cleaning off of the cemetery lots of our family at Fairview Cemetery. Those were the lots of the following families: W.W. Nance, J.L. Pumphrey, C.F. Pumphrey, and S.L. Alexander.

At my age, 74, I am going to turn this responsibility over to our two sons, Kevin and Lex. It is a "labor of love" to be continued. In 1910 there was a contest to name the new cemetery west of Winters. My great-grandmother, Mary Margaret Pumphrey, submitted the winning name, "Fairview." I never found out what she did with the \$10 prize she claimed.

To be continued



Jace Tanner Wade & Melinda Cuellar

### Wade, Cuellar wedding planned for May 19

Jace Tanner Wade, graduate of Winters High School, and Melinda Cuellar, graduate of Ballinger High School, will be joined in holy matrimony on Saturday, May 19, 2001, in Ballinger.

Jace is the son of Melanie and Donald Wade of Winters. He is currently employed by Coca-Cola Enterprises in Abilene and will continue a computer-networking course at Texas State Technical College in the fall.

Melinda is the daughter of John H. and Joelda Cuellar of Ballinger. The couple was blessed on March 20, 2001, with the birth of their daughter, Jenessa Jacette. She weighed 6 lbs., 5 oz. and was 19 inches long.

The new family will make their home in Abilene.

## Financial Focus

by Jim Woodruff

### IRAs—You Have a Choice

Many people think of an IRA as a specific type of investment, like a CD or bond, but it is really an account that allows the investments within it to grow tax-deferred. You can put a variety of investments in your IRA. Which investments are best for you depends on your time horizon (How long until you retire?), your risk tolerance (Can you tolerate movements in the stock market?) and your retirement goals (How much money will you need?). Here are a few of your IRA investment choices:

#### CD IRA

People for whom safety is an overriding concern may opt to invest their retirement funds in FDIC-insured certificates of deposit (CDs). When you invest in a CD, your money earns interest at a specified rate, which will generally increase with the length of CD maturity. Two disadvantages of a CD IRA are that you own only one investment type and your rate of return may be significantly lower than what some other IRA investment options offered.

#### Mutual Fund IRA

IRAs comprised of mutual funds may be a good choice for investors who want more variety in their IRAs and more growth opportunities than CDs. Mutual funds offer a mix of stocks or bonds, or a combination of the two, that are professionally managed by the fund company's money managers. Mutual funds comprised of bonds offer a more predictable rate of return, while mutual funds comprised of stocks offer more growth potential.

#### Annuity IRA

It may seem strange to buy a tax-deferred investment to hold in a tax-deferred account, but annuities offer two features that are not available on other investments, either inside or outside an IRA: 1. The possibility of income payments you cannot outlive and 2. A guaranteed death benefit. A lifetime payment is valuable if you're concerned about having enough income for a long life and a guaranteed death benefit is important if you are concerned about what might happen if

you died prematurely.

#### Self-directed IRA

A self-directed IRA offers the most flexibility of all the types of IRAs. Any number of investments such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds, CDs and annuities can be used in a self-directed IRA. This investment flexibility also allows you to better diversify your IRA to maximize your return potential and minimize your risk. Consider the following example of the benefits of diversification:

Paul and Cindy each invest \$10,000 for retirement in 25 years.	
Paul	Cindy
Invests all \$10,000 in an investment compounding at 7%	Diversified
	\$2,000 is lost - \$0
	\$2,000 breaks even - \$2,000
	\$2,000 at 5% - \$6,772
	\$2,000 at 10% - \$21,668
	\$2,000 at 15% - \$65,836

Investment compounded on an annual basis  
Total value 25 years later

Paul	Cindy
\$54,274	\$96,276

Despite the fact that one of Cindy's investments resulted in a total loss, the value of her other four investments surpassed Paul's investment by a wide margin at the end of 25 years. By spreading her retirement savings dollars among several different investments, Cindy reduced her risk of being closely tied to a poor-performing investment, while taking advantage of the greater potential offered by growth investments. Of course, this is an example and does not represent any specific investments.

All of these investment choices are available in either a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA. Your investment representative can help you select the IRA that's best suited for your retirement needs.

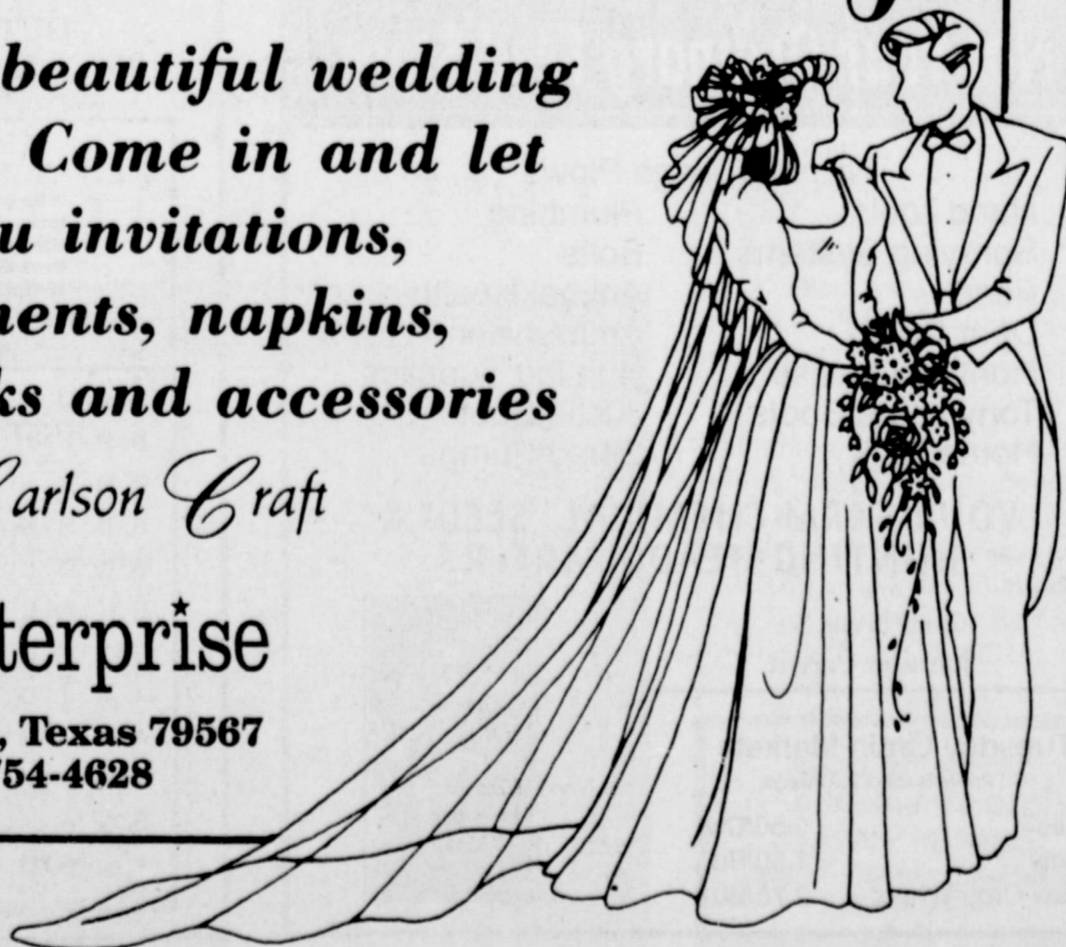
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The Winters Enterprise

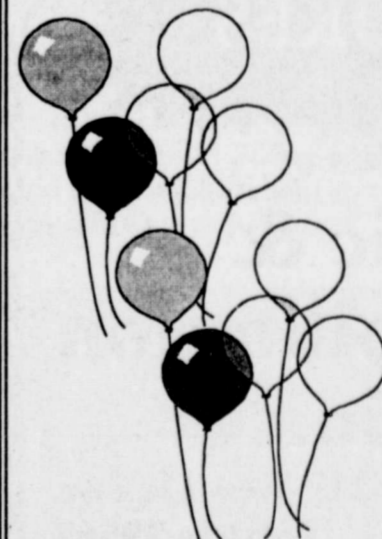
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to the  
90 Years Young  
MOM  
and the  
Senior Citizen  
SON  
We love you!!

Your family,  
Kids, Grandkids, Great-Grandkids

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAP!



We love you!  
JAMS

Joshua, Alexis,  
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Identity of Birthday Boy #1 found elsewhere in this issue.

The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read. — Mark Twain

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## Snakes alive... or dead!



RANDALL UNDERWOOD of Dallas killed these seven snakes under the front porch at the old family ranchhouse, approximately 15 miles west of Winters. Randall is the son of Marva Jean Underwood of Winters. The family is remodeling the house which is over 100 years old and discovered these critters during the renovation. The oldest snake had 10 rattlers. With the weather turning warm and snakes beginning to move, residents are warned to be on the lookout.

## Conservation News & Notes

### Patience is the advice for restocking rangeland

Patience! That is the advice given by Ronnie Vanicek, Natural Resource Team Leader with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Ballinger, when it comes to restocking rangeland this spring. Vanicek said there are two reasons we should be patient.

The first reason is that we really cannot be certain the drought is broken. The only sure way to know when a drought is broken is to be out of it for six months or longer.

The second and most important reason to postpone restocking of rangeland is to allow the better grasses and forbs to recover from the effects of drought. According to Vanicek, "plants are just like

humans in needing plenty of rest and recuperation time following an illness." He went on to say that restocking now could cause a long-term decrease in the carrying capacity of our rangeland.

The National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center is predicting that the area could see a return to a more normal rainfall pattern this spring and summer. With this in mind, the Natural Resources Conservation Service is recommending the following range management practices.

- Defer abused rangeland for at least 120 days this spring (April 1-August 1). A full growing season deferment is really best to promote range recovery.

- When restocking, stock at 70-80 percent of the ranch's carrying capacity with breeding females. The remaining forage can be used by retaining calves, lambs, or wether goats. This one practice can do so much in helping minimize the effects of the next drought.

- Manage the grazing of livestock with a properly designed planned grazing system.

- Make it your goal to not overgraze your rangeland.

You may call the NRCS at 365-3415, Ext. 3, or come by the office at 2000 Hutchins Avenue in Ballinger for more information on your natural resource concerns.

## Conservation News & Notes

By Ronnie Vanicek, District Technician

### How plants grow—

### Take advantage of present conditions to allow CRP a chance to recover for the future

Many people believe plants get their food from the soil. But this is not true.

If we were to analyze a sample of soil, we would find no proteins, no starches or sugars, no fats — in fact, no food.

What we would find are minerals such as nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, sulfur, iron, and numerous trace minerals. These are "raw materials" that are needed for plants to produce food.

The table included in this article is adapted from a book entitled "Plant Science," which was published by McGraw-Hill and written by J.A.

Barden, R.G. Halfacre and D.J. Parrish outline the composition of a typical plant.

These raw materials are absorbed through the roots and transported to the leaf once water

is available and temperatures are favorable for plant growth. In the leaf, the raw materials are mixed with air. Energy supplied by the sun then converts the raw materials and air into plant food.

research that removing 50% of the leaf volume stopped three percent of root growth. It took the plant 17 days to recover this root growth stoppage. Harvesting 60% of the leaf volume stopped 50%

of root growth, and it took 19 days to recover. Removing over 70% of the leaf volume stopped all root growth, and it would take a month or more for the plant to recover. This key research shows why a planned grazing system is needed to promote efficient harvest of the grazing plant.

Contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service at 915-365-3415, ext. 3, or come by our office at 200 Hutchins Avenue in Ballinger for more information on this or other conservation problems.

### Composition of a Typical Plant

Element	% Fresh Weight	% Dry Weight
Oxygen	81.0	45.0
Carbon	6.8	44.5
Hydrogen	11.5	6.0
Nitrogen	0.2	1.5
Potassium	0.15	1.0
Calcium	0.05	0.35
Phosphorus	0.03	0.02
Magnesium	0.03	0.20
Sulfur	0.02	0.15
Chlorine	0.015	0.10
Iron	0.015	0.01
Molybdenum	0.008	0.05
Zinc	0.003	0.02
Boron	0.003	0.02
Copper	0.001	0.01
Other	0.175	0.08

Referring to the table, we see that approximately 95% of all elements needed for plant growth come from the air. The leaf is the food factory.

F.J. Crider in 1955 found in his



DEANNA GOFF (center) was a winner in the Calf Scramble Event at the 52nd Annual San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo held February 10, 2001. For this catch, she earned \$1,000 to apply toward the purchase of a new calf for stock show purposes. She had previously earned \$250 in a calf scramble at the West Texas Fair and Rodeo in Abilene in September. DeAnna is a sophomore at Roscoe High School and is the daughter of Garry and Debbie Goff of Roscoe and the granddaughter of Robert and Virginia Carey of Winters.

*"Don't give your horse the spur till you know which way you're going."*

Jan Burns wasn't born in the saddle, but she got there as quick as she could. She's been riding since she was four and has won over a hundred buckles in barrel racing.

Jan counts on co-op power for her home as well as her saddle and tack shop. Jan belongs to a Smart Choice cooperative. Smart Choice is a coalition of West Texas cooperatives committed to making the right decision on electric deregulation.

The goal of deregulation is to bring the benefits of retail competition to the power industry. But so far, in states such as California and Pennsylvania, reality has fallen short of the promise, often bringing higher rates and even power shortages. The Texas Legislature gives cooperatives an opportunity to wait and see how deregulation will affect Texans. We intend to take advantage of that time to be sure deregulation is right for our member-owners. Before we ride off, we're going to be sure where we're headed.

Texas electric cooperatives have been providing power to Texans since 1937. As co-ops, we are non-profit and member-owned. To learn more about deregulation visit us at our web site, or call your local Smart Choice electric cooperative.



*the smart choice.*

Your Smart Choice Electric Cooperatives.

- Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Comanche Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Concho Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Southwest Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Swisher Electric Cooperative, Inc.

www.smartchoicecoops.com

### Your 1099 is in the mail

If you are a Social Security beneficiary, you can look forward to getting your "Social Security Benefit Statement for Tax Year 2000 (SSA-1099)" soon. Social Security has just finished mailing out more than 48 million.

Some people who get Social Security have to pay taxes on their benefits. Form SSA-1099 shows the total amount of benefits you received in the previous year. You use it when you complete your federal income tax return to find out if any of your benefits are subject to tax.

For more information on taxation of Social Security benefits, call the Internal Revenue Service's toll-free number, 1-800-829-3676, to ask for "Publication 554, Tax Information for Older Americans."

Need invoices, statements or delivery tickets? Call The Winters Enterprise 754-4958

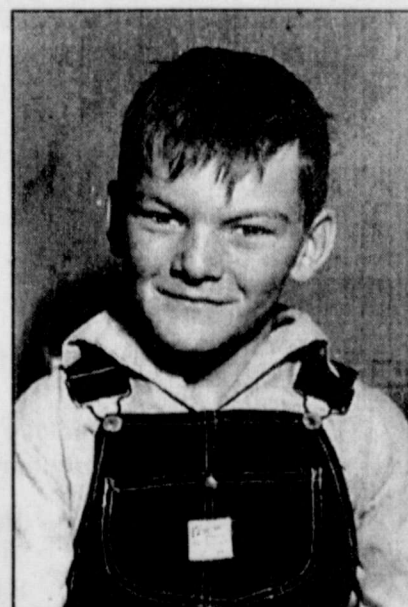
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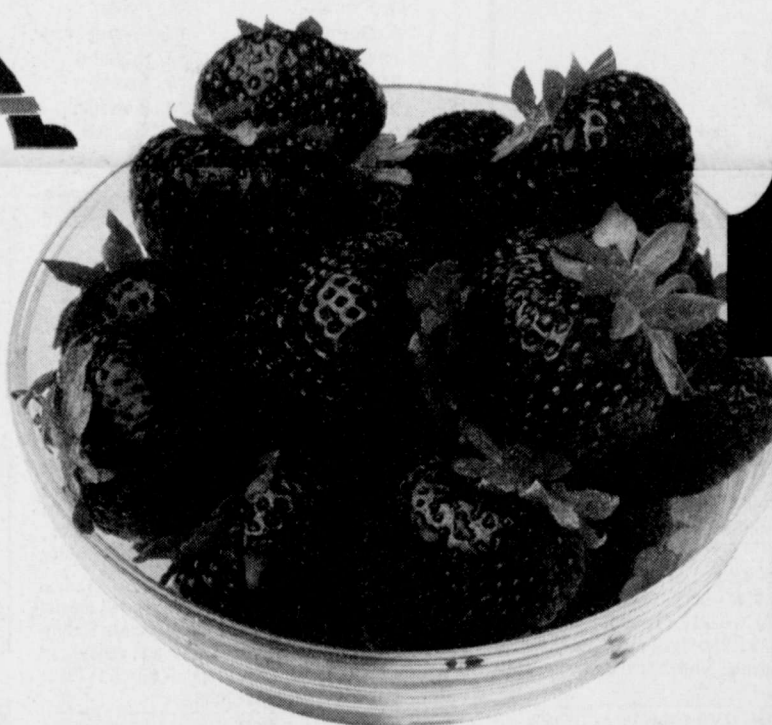
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