Vinters Enterprise

Serving Winters and North Runnels County

Volume 13, Issue 5

Thursday, January 31, 2002

Winters, Texas

50°



Pearls of Wisdom-Pain and suffering is inevitable but misery is op-

-Anonymous

Letter to the **Editor**

Passing motorist Alex Dec thanks and praises local "heroes" after car trouble stranded him in Winters last week.

page 2

Spring sports schedules

Many spring sports teams begin their seasons in early February. 2002 spring schedules are listed for easy reference.

page 4

Powerlifters begin season

The Winters High School Powerlifting Team opened their season at Coahoma last Saturday.

page 5

NRH benefit on Feb. 10

The North Runnels Hospital Auxiliary will hold a benefit Chicken Fried Steak Lunch and Auction on Sunday, February 10. page 6

CIA sets workday

The North Runnels Christms In April Board of Directors set Saturday, April 20, as the 2002 workday.

page 7

Re-register by Feb. 28

All ranchers and farmers must re-register brands at the Runnels County Clerk's office by February

page 7

It's worth thinking about

Fact: Every 12 hours, Americans create enough garbage to fill the Louisiana Superdome.

Tip: Look for products and appliances that are easy to repair. Often an appliance can be repaired to avoid throwing it away.



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City Council votes to close school street

Winters High School Prin- rials. cipal Bill Cathey, representing WISD, presented a request to resolution to authorize applicathe City Council Monday night to close the block of Jones mately \$200,000. Street in front of the high school building.

closing to be effective 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. during school days. The school will be responsible for posting barri-

Cathey stated the need for the closing is due to the number of students crossing this removal of the runway and rearea from the high school and placing the base. junior high to the cafeteria.

Scott Hay with the engineering firm of Hibbs and Todd of Abilene presented a recommendation for sewer and water service to recently annexed properties in Winters.

proposed service to the Novice Road area and the addition by TxDOT. by St. John's Lutheran Church.

for the City is to obtain easements which will mean the and to send a letter to TxDOT shortest routes for new lines.

His proposal calls for a Step Grant application which allows the City to do the labor while the grant pays for all the mate-

The Council approved the tion for this grant of approxi-

Wes Hays, Jr. was appointed Airport Manager by the Coun-The Council approved the cil, and he introduced Steve Roth with the Texas Department of Transportation Aviation Department of Abilene.

Mr. Roth presented a procades at each end of the street. posal for "rehabilitation" of the Winters Municipal Airport runway. This project calls for the

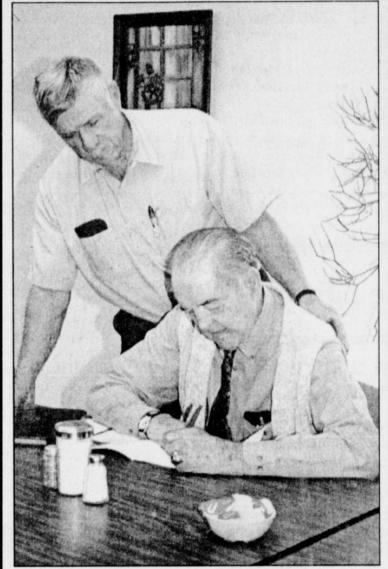
The hangar access taxiway will also be renovated.

Estimated cost for this project is \$266,561. The City's share of this cost is \$26,656.

Mr. Roth said he has taken this plan to TxDOT in Austin Hay shared a drawing of and it has been approved, and the money has been set aside

The Council approved a The least expensive route motion to apply for a grant for the City's share of this project in Austin expressing the City's desire to pursue this project.

> In other action, the Council approved the hiring of Gary See CITY, page 6



LOCAL RESIDENT JERRY B. WHITLOW watches his former coach, Gordon Wood, autograph a copy of his autobiography, Coach of the Century. Whitlow played for Coach Wood at Winters in 1950. When Wood retired in 1985, he had won more games than any other coach in the history of football. See story on page 7.

Party planned for Opal Hunt's 100th birthday

A birthday party will be held on Sunday, February 3, 2002, to honor Opal Hunt on her 100th birthday. The celebration will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. at Our House Retirement Center, 616 East Truett in Winters.

All of her many friends and family are invited to attend this special event. Opal made many friends over the years she was at Audra Mercantile in Bradshaw, and she is looking forward to seeing them on Sun-

CONTICO tour planned for Tuesday, Feb. 5

The Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation (WABIC) will sponsor a tour of the CON-TICO facilities in Winters on Tuesday, February 5, 2002 at 10:30 a.m.

Anyone interested in seeing the plant is invited. Community leaders are especially encouraged to attend.

CONTICO manufactures aluminum and steel tool boxes. Randall Conner, Director of See CONTICO, page 2

LULAC initiates lawsuit against Lipan-Kickapoo **Water Conservation District**

The League of United Latin not receive preclearance for the American Citizens (LULAC) and several citizens of San Angelo, Miles, and Ballinger filed suit January 11 against Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District in United States District Court in Lubbock.

The original complaint by LULAC, et al alleges Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District failed to secure preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act for the original formation of the District in 1987 and also did

referendum election adding territory to the District on May 5, 2001.

LULAC, et al also filed a motion for a temporary restraining order against the Water Conservation District because it failed to meet the requirements of the Voting Rights Act since its inception.

Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District annexed rural areas of Runnels County after an affirmative vote by landowners in May 2001.

Lutherans plan annual Super Bowl BBQ Dinner this Sunday

Proceeds plus matching funds to benefit CIA

St. John's Lutheran Church will hold their annual Super Bowl Sunday Brisket Dinner on Sunday, February 3, 2002.

The meal will include barbecued brisket with all the trimmings, potato salad, pinto beans, desserts, and tea or coffee. Serving will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Free-will donations will be accepted for the meal.

Take-out plates will be available and whole briskets may be ordered for \$20 by calling Teresa Davis at 754-5422 or Nancy Spill at 754-4073.

All proceeds from the meal will benefit Christmas In April, which holds a one-day workday to repair homes for the elderly, disabled and those financially in need.

The Lutheran Brotherhood and Aid Association for Lutherans will furnish matching funds of all proceeds collected. Last year this luncheon raised over \$4,000.

Old Fashioned Stew Supper to be served on Tuesday night at game

The WHS sophomore class be served through the end of parents will sponsor an Old the basketball games. The meal Fashioned Stew Supper in conjunction with the Coleman basketball games next Tuesday, late cake, and tea. February 5.

includes a large bowl of homemade stew, cornbread, choco-Tickets are \$5 for adults and

The meal will begin at 5 \$3.50 for children. Takeouts p.m. in the school cafeteria and will be available.

Fundraiser February 2 for Ballinger resident

Friends of Cliff Fournier will host a Yard and Bake Sale on Saturday, February 2, to help defray medical expenses for the Ballinger resident.

Fournier, 48, was diagnosed last month with bone cancer See FUNDRAISER, page 3



GENE WHEAT stands with one of the transport trucks he drives to deliver fuel for Bob Loyd L.P. Gas Company. Wheat celebrated his 50th anniversary with the company in December, 2001.

Wheat's 50-year career fueled by perseverance

by Jean Boles, editor

challenge. And maintaining a good attitude while meeting all the demands can be especially difficult.

But local businessman Gene Wheat of Bob Loyd L.P. Gas Company seems to have found the key to success and survival.

For more than fifty years, Gene has experienced a plethora of business headaches, nightmares and triumphs — from kerosene to gasoline to propane, severe droughts, the Arab Oil Embargo, the oil patch bust, EPA regulations, and even explosions.

Wheat started this journey with Bob Loyd on December 19, 1951, at age 17. Loyd was the commissioned agent for Humble Oil & Refining Company which had bought the old Texas Pacific Coal and Oil Company.

Gene says he was brought to work that day at 7 a.m. because he didn't have a car or even a driver's license. His job was to keep books, do Humble Warehouse stock reports, and maybe an occasional pickup delivery of oil. He soon got his commercial driver's license, and says that after a few pay checks, he managed to 'talk" Spec Robinson (of Robinson Chevrolet) out of a brand new, 6-cylinder, 1952 Chevy for about \$1,800.

The early days had Gene taking on more and more responsibilities including head bookkeeper. With Humble, all of the inventory belonged to them and Loyd's group was subject

Running one's own business is always a to audit at any time and had to pay for any inventory that was lost or short.

Gene tells of the auditor who lived in San Angelo and "had a gruff voice like a bear."

"When I would see him drive up out front, it gave me cold chills. We always had a few products 'on the cuff' that we had not billed out yet for one reason or another. So Bob and I developed a plan that when the auditor came, Bob would take him across the street to the Cowboy Cafe or Jayne's Coffee Shop while I quickly got these cuff items billed out.

"Occasionally we would get a tip from another Humble agent that they thought 'the bear' was on his way to see us," laughs Wheat.

He further relates, "With the things that have transpired in the past fifty years, that seems quite simple now. We worked a lot of what I then thought were pretty long hours — a full six days a week and more when need be. I can remember thinking when I was working on the farm that it was the hardest work there is and I just wished I had an office job. But many is the time I went home from the office feeling worse than if I had hoed careless weeds and hoorah grass all day!"

In the mid 1950s, the business increased with the purchase of the Humble Agency in Ballinger which increased Gene's workload even more.

During his single days, he'd take a "full 20minute lunch hour" at Jayne's Coffee Shop in

See WHEAT, page 3

Opinion

Applications being accepted for early voting by mail

The County Clerk's Office election day is unlikely. is now accepting applications for early voting by mail for the will be accepted through March 12, Primary Election. A March 5, 2002. qualified voter is eligible to vote by mail if the voter:

by personal appearance; 2. is disabled;

3. will be 65 years of age or older on election day; or 4. is confined in jail as fol-

on or after election day;

b. pending trial after being denied bail;

your fine community.

It was my suburban that lost

the left rear tire, just missing

the lady in the new white sub-

urban (my apologies) and

showering sparks for some dis-

tance as I came to a forced halt

the cemetery. That was at 5:00

K.W. Cook was behind me

witnessing the near carnage

and was a welcome angel, as-

sisting me in getting the situa-

E Thanks to Bill Polston,

W&R Wrecker and Recovery

for letting us use the car that

night to get to the restaurant

and motel and pick up the

needed rear axle Tuesday to

· Thanks to *BUBBA* for

helping get the trailer off the

street; to Johnny, master me-

chanic, and your capable CNA

assistant for doing the repairs;

to the waitress of 12 years at

Casa Cabana, your sugges-

tions were delicious; to DC

Patel, your room was clean and

the beds comfortable and the

shower plenty hot, I'll stay

there again; to the good people

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bout Service Directory rates.

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ower Kill Trucks, 30-130 BBL Transports Vacuum Truck, Test Fanks, Frac Tanks

Harley Belk, owner/manager

24-HOUR SERVICE

SERVICE (

DIRECTORY

tion under control.

make the repairs.

p.m. Monday, 21 Jan, 2002.

d. release on bail before

Letter to the Editor

Stranded motorist appreciates

My name is Alex Dec. I am at Carquest auto parts who

from Victoria, Texas, some gave me the proper u-joint and

300+ miles south and east of only needed updating on the

under the streetlight in front of time of GREAT NEED.

help received in Winters

Applications to vote by mail

Any qualified voter will be eligible for early voting by per-1. expects to be absent from sonal appearance at the County the county of residency on Clerk's office beginning Febelection day AND during the ruary 25 through March 8, to 5 p.m., Monday through Fri-

conducted Sunday, March 3, noon and 5 p.m. at the county a. serving time on a misde- Clerk's office in Ballinger and fice in Winters.

c. awaiting the outcome of early by mail, please contact

details not the whole story.

The bottom line is that I was

dead in the street and up and

running with a replacement

axle in 24 hours; I appreciate

the wonderful blessings that

were showered on me in my

munity of caring people,

THANK YOU for all your

help. If any of you are near

Victoria, I am in the phone

book and will do what I am

able to repay your kindness.

May God's Blessings continue

to abound in your community.

Birthday girl is Suzanne Jones.

FLEET CEMENTERS

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All Types Dirt Construction

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24 Hour Service

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DIRT CONTRACTORS

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1-800-866-8427

DANE BISHOP

Box 795

PHONE (915) 754-4526

WINTERS, TEXAS 79567

WINTERS, TX 79567

Again many thanks.

alex Dec

Winters is a wonderful com-

Obituaries

Clemmie Jo Reel

WINTERS-Clemmie Jo Reel, 76, a lifetime resident of Winters, died Saturday, January 26, 2002, in San Angelo. She was born July 26, 1925, in Winters.

Mrs. Reel was a homemaker and a member of Southside regular hours for early voting from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 Baptist Church where she taught Sunday School for 35 years.

Survivors include three sons, Ronnie Reel of Paint Creek, Danny Reel of El Sobrante, California, and Kenny Reel of San Weekend voting will be Angelo; two brothers, Billy Wilson of Buffalo Gap and Don Wilson of Abilene; two sisters, Flora King of Abilene and 2002, between the hours of Freddie Riggan of Sweetwater; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Family visitation was at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 29, at meanor sentence which ends at the County Tax Branch of Southside Baptist Church in Winters. Services were at 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 29, at Southside Baptist Church with Rever-For further information or to end Dwayne Andrus officiating. Burial was in Lakeview Cemrequest an application to vote etery in Winters, directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of San Angelo, Inc., 36 an appeal of a felony convic- the County Clerk's office at East Twohig, San Angelo, Texas.

Olla Belle White

GRANBURY---Olla Belle White, 92, died Saturday, January 19, 2002, in Granbury.

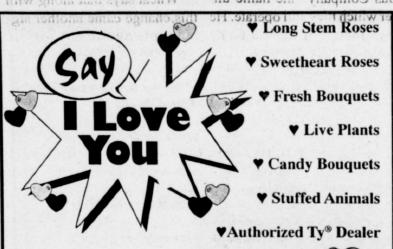
Ms. White lived in Granbury for 28 years and was a retired clothing sales clerk. She was a member of First Baptist Church

of Granbury. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Eugene White; four sisters; and two brothers.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Faye and Hershel Maxfield and Barbara and Vayden Horton; a sister, Pearl Mathis; a sister-in-law, Lula Mae Smith; nine grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, and 15 great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation was from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday, January 21, 2002, at Martin's Funeral Home in Granbury. Services were held at 10 a.m., Tuesday, January 22, 2002 at the funeral home. Burial was held at 2:30 p.m at Crews Cemetery under the direction of Martin's Funeral Home in Granbury.





♥ Remember your Valentine Order early to insure early delivery on Valentine's Day, Thursday, February 14.

♥ Due to the enormous Valentine's Day delivery load, we will not deliver anything not purchased in our store.

Winters Flower Shop ... & More 119 S. Main • (915) 754-4568 • Janice Pruser, owner

Winters Enterprise

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2002

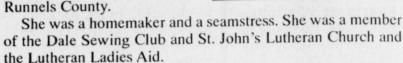
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Hildegarde Kruse

WINTERS—Hildegarde Kruse, 98, died Sunday in Coleman County Medical Center.

She was born May 10, 1903, in Rockdale in Milam County to Henry and Lena Wagner Henniger. They moved to Winters when she was a small child.

She graduated from Winters High School in 1922 and attended Draughon's Business School. She married Walter W. Kruse on August 11, 1926 in Runnels County.



She was preceded in death by her husband Walter W. Kruse, two sons, Harry and an infant, one daughter Maurine Kruse, and a grandson, Kenny Kruse.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law, Kenneth and Freda Kruse of Big Lake and Donald and Marie Kruse of Winters; a daughter-in-law Bo Dean Kruse of Alice; eight grandchildren, Hilda Henriquez of San Angelo, Martha Bridges of Elgin, Dee Kruse of Alvin, Dennis Kruse and Brenda Iskra of Midland, Terry Kruse of Winters, Brad Kruse of Tuscola, and Cassie Kruse of Corpus Christi; six great-grandchildren, Zac Iskra, John Bridges, and Camille, Reagan, Dustin, and Brynn

Visitation was held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, January 29, 2002, at the Winters Funeral Home. Service were held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, January 30, 2002, at St. John's Lutheran Church with Reverend Arthur Goetz officiating. Burial followed in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Winters Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Dee Kruse, Dennis Kruse, Terry Kruse, Brad Kruse, Zac Iskra, and John Bridges.

Memorials may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church, 1100 W. Parsonage, Winters, Texas, 79567.

In Appreciation

Card of Thanks Card of Thanks

In my 92 years, I have been Words cannot express the fortunate to live in such a appreciation that we have for blessed community. Crews is everyone at the loss of our my hometown, and I appreci- mother, Edna Parramore. ate the interest local residents have taken in my writing.

dated in the "Crews News" on and care you provided over the recent happenings, but could years. To everyone who called, not have done so without the visited, brought food or flowhelp of so many friends and ers, thank you. neighbors who so kindly called or sent their news to me.

sometime and miss contribut- port. ing news and information to The Winters Enterprise. How- Georgia Orr, Fran Kidwell, ever, I have heard from many Ace Polk, and the bagpipe of you and appreciate your car- players for a beautiful service. ing and loving concern shown to me.

You kids have been good to me. May God bless you! Hilda Kurtz

To the Senior Citizens Nursing Home staff and residents, I tried to keep everyone up- thank you so much for the love

To Mike, Linda, and the staff at the funeral home, we I have not been writing for appreciate your care and sup-

A very special thank you to

May God bless each of you! The family of Edna Parramore

CONTICO, continued -

Please e-mail < rconner February 5.

Community Development for @ivitcom.net> or call 754-WABIC says, "If you have 4542 if you would like to atnever been through the plant, tend the tour. The group will the tour will prove informa- meet in the front offices at 305 North Frisco at 10:30 a.m.,

Have you IRA contribution?

Don't miss out on one of two great ways to save for retirement:

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tax-free income.

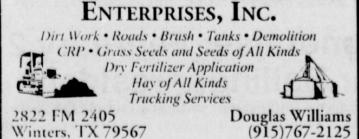
You can't afford to wait!

Call or stop by to make your contribution today!

> Jim Woodruff 719 Strong Ave. Ballinger, Tx 76821



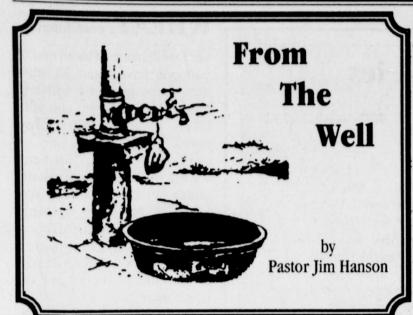




ALL WORK GUARANTEED

Douglas Williams

Community





Pastor Jim Hanson

We were sitting at son John's table, eating breakfast. Only this morning, there was someone new at the table. And he wasn't eating. He was talking as he was working, getting ready to install a "dish," a TV thing that would bring 212

channels into John's house.

His name is Jose. And he knew about preachers. Earlier, before I came on the scene, he had asked John where he wanted to place the inlets for the TVs. John really wasn't ready, so he sort of wandered around the house, saying "Maybe here," "Maybe there," "I'm not sure." Jose asked John, "Do you preach that way too?"

For the next 30 minutes, as he was unloading the box, unscrambling the wires, and getting ready, he told his story. "My dad and our family were into selling dope, mostly cocaine and marijuana. In the room at the end of the hall from my bedroom, there was at least \$3,000 worth of marijuana and \$10,000 of cocaine. All the time.

"When I was 18, I joined the marines. I was using at the time. And ended up being discharged... for using drugs. After I got out of the service, my brother-in-law told me 'If you'll go to college, I'll pay your way." 'Why should I go to college?" 'In four years, you'll have a job teaching... all told you'll make \$50,000 a year.' 'Why should I do that? I can make \$20,000 a month dealing in drugs right now.'

"After that I got a job working for my brother. I was a oneman collection agency. For people who owed my brother big bucks for dope. If they didn't pay, we'd work them over. Pistol whip. Try to hurt them bad so that they would pay up on time. One night I was sent to collect. I really beat up on a guy who was delinquent. I beat him with my pistol. There was blood all over. And he was on the floor, holding his head in his hands.

"For some reason, that night I was sober. The man looked up at me and said, 'God... don't kill me.'

"That stopped me. For some reason... I don't know why... I couldn't keep on doing it. I went home. Told my wife what had 196I, he and Loyd formed the tinued this way well into the or the ground not having any happened. The next week, we went to church. My wife received corporation "Bob Loyd L.P. 1980s. Christ, It took me longer, I learned more about Jesus Christ, I Gas Company" the name ungave myself to Him. I took some Bible courses, And I got a job with a Lutheran Church, as part of an Evangelism team. I worked the streets. You preachers couldn't get to the people I got to. Having worked in a topless bar, and having done drugs... I knew the language. And could get to them in their language. You don't preach to them. You don't ask them to church. You witness, you listen, you lead, you share the Bible with them, you answer their questions, and then you bring them to church.

"But then that church got a new preacher and he didn't want the program anymore. Was afraid that the people we were bringing would contaminate the congregation. But one of his members called me over to his house one night. One of his kids was in confirmation class. The whole family was there. All he said was 'Tell us about Jesus.' And I did." (He contaminated them with Jesus, I guess. And they were glad.)

Now he's got a job with RCA doing "hook-ups." And he also works part-time with another Lutheran Church in the city... starting home fellowships, with people just like he was. Lost. In drugs. Down. He tells them "Jesus is real." And they listen.

He likes his job with RCA because it gets him into homes. "When I get into a home, I look it over. For a cross or a picture hanging on the wall. Something spiritual. And then I ask, 'What does this mean? Is this a decoration? Is it a symbol?' And then we talk. Sometimes they get angry. But mostly not. I get into their house because I have something they want to buy. And once I get in there, I have something to give."

Sounds like Jose is a disciple, not just a member. Sounds like he is as real as Jesus. I've met a lot of Christians in my day. But Jose is a first. He is one of those whom Jesus said, "The last shall be first." Praise God!

FUNDRAISER, continued.

and has been undergoing medical treatment. He has owned and operated Jumbo Burger in Ballinger for a number of years. He and his wife have three children.

The fundraiser will begin at 8 a.m. at Ashwood Manor Assisted Living Center, 1502 Highway 158, in Ballinger.

Baked goods and donations are needed for the event. Anyone willing to help should contact Nikki Lowe at 365-2959, or Donna Williams 365-3318.

Arrangements can be made for the pick up of donated items.

Sweetheart Deals § **20% off** Prices good thru Friday, on all gifts for February 15. Valentine's Day -Diamonds-Plus a large Gold & Silver assortment of **Jewelry** gift items. **Jewelers** Bahlman Winters, TX

WHEAT, continued

Winters or Jack's Cafe in Ballinger.

The 1950s saw a drop in farm gasoline business because farmers were converting tractors to L.P. gas, commonly called butane or propane. Wheat explains that this fuel was pretty economical because in those days natural gas and crude oil still had some waste or by-products that couldn't be used anywhere else.

"A big decision but we decided we must get in the butane business and we did," he recalls. "We didn't know a thing about it but we learned quickly.

Selling tractor fuel necessitated furnishing or loaning a storage tank to the farmers.

"We only loaned them for farm tractor use but on occasion someone might also tie the tank onto their house heating line and use the same tank for both. As big a financial strain as this was, we did it because herbicides) and we could count on filling that tank maybe 6-8 times or more per year," says Gene.

And to his amazement, he to 60%." says, this all happened during one of the worse droughts this cording to Wheat, his gasoline area has known — from 1951-

Wheat was soon drafted into the Army for a couple of years and was shipped to France. He Wheat's company could sell to which would have cut down says he "grew up a lot" during a service station dealer. his Army years.

an ear opener," he says. "Not nience stores was by putting in everybody had the rare privi- keylock pumps," Gene says. lege to be able to speak Run- "We are pleased with the sucnels County, Texan, American cess of our key and cardlock English."

ters in early 1959, and says he them." "hasn't been caught up since."

Comptroller records, Railroad Commission LP License, IRS records, and so forth."

and Julie.

Gene says all the children their loan tanks. Jeanie has worked full time at the office since 1982, when Loyd retired controlling interest.

After Doug graduated from Baylor University in 1991, he decided to return to Winters and be a part of the business.

Of his son Gene says proudly, "He has been a tremendous asset to us."

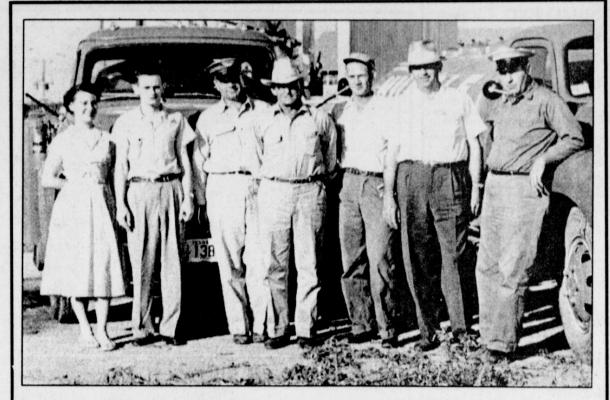
In addition to computerizing a truck, many times taking the task he had been doing for more than 25 years.

Completing the family picture in the Winters office is Doug's wife Amy, an employee since 1990. They have two children, Erica and Josh, and are expecting twins in August.

Bill, wife Julie and daughter Lauren live in Arlington where he is Controller for D. R. Horton, Inc., a nationwide homebuilder. Julie and husband Bryan Green and their son Kaden are in Winters where Bryan coaches and Julie does on-line computer work

for Blue Bell Creameries. Wheat's company has faced many challenges through the years including the Arab Oil Embargo in May, 1973. Gene says at that time, crude oil was about \$2.65 a barrel. But several major spiraling increases pushed the cost to \$40.00 a barrel before the end of the 1970s.

He says, "I would not attempt to recall all the disturbing things the embargo and af-



EMPLOYEES FROM THE 1950's of Bob Loyd L.P. Gas Company included (I-r) Gypsy Blalock (Mrs. Joe D. Gardner), Gene Wheat, Alvin Mingus, Rube Guin, Jack Pierce, Bob Loyd, and Kenneth Sneed.

people plowed a lot (before during that time when we were of years that bill jumped to \$50 allocated to buy only 70% or 80% of the gallons we bought the same month the year be- would be a new guideline fore. One month we were cut

To make matters worse, acsales began to drop in the late 1970s due to the increase of fill shutoffs and spill boxes. convenience stores which of- And, we were not permitted to fered a lower price than what do any of this work ourselves

"The only way we were able "It was an eye opener and to compete with the convepumps, and thankful to the He returned to work in Win- many customers we have on

The farm tractor fuel cycle Wheat soon became a part- once again started to shift in the were the only ones in the ofner in the business. In October, 1970s to diesel fuel, and confice that day. We hit the floor

der which they still operate. He this change came another sigsays they will have a name nificant investment for his change "some of these days," business — furnishing/loaning but "it's not easy to do because overhead diesel tanks with filof Supplier Agreements, ters and other equipment to people who had diesel tractors.

The 1980s also brought a new agriculture program called In 1965 he married Jeanie CRP which took a significant Seals and they have three amount of farm land out of progrown children - Bill, Doug duction, greatly reducing Wheat's farm fuel sales.

In the late 1980s, the Envispent quite a few hot summers ronmental Protection Agency going from customer to cus- (EPA) began to regulate much tomer painting and decaling of the fuel industry, including Gene Wheat's.

"I am reluctant to even talk about this horrendous thing and Jeanie and Gene bought that struck our business, but it has to be the single most significant problem that ever hit us," says Wheat.

The EPA published their rules on underground fuel storage tanks and then ask each state to establish an agency to carry out the EPA rules.

"We had a total of 90 underthe business, Doug also drives ground tanks in 1986, which had to be registered with the "after hours" calls in the Texas Water Commission middle of the night or week- (later to become the TNRCC)," ends, relieving Gene of this says Wheat. "Later I received

"We had several months cation of each tank. In a couple fire. per tank.

> "Every 2-3 years, there (from the TNRCC), which included third party liability insurance which cost several hundred dollars per tank per year, line leak detectors, overexpenses."

During the early 1990s, Wheat's business suffered two other setbacks. In 1993, a leak in a natural gas main caused a terrible explosion that demolished five automobiles and the keylock station building, knocking out the front windows of the main office.

"Doug, Amy, Jeanie and I earthly idea what was happen-Wheat says that along with ing," he says. "As we saw the would like to see it again as devastation, we all realized that the good Lord must having something else for us to do here on earth or we could easily have been goners."

Several months later, a gasoline transport truck crashed in Abilene, killing the

ter affects placed on our little a bill from TNRCC for \$25 per driver, and spilling gasoline business, but there were many. tank for them to know the lo- which caused a tremendous

> As Wheat reflects over the past fifty years, he says, "Life and business are full of ups and downs and changes. Our business has continued to survive because of hard work, good employees, good customers and friends, and good health, and we are thankful to God for all of that."

There are a few subjects that come up around his place of business from time to time which Wheat may or may not discuss. Things such as:

The weather. "Yes, we talk about it every day."

Politics: "No, not with a tenfoot pole. Maybe worse than talking about taxes.

Religion: No, not with a ten foot pole.

Christianity: "Yes. Jesus Christ is the Light of the World! The free gift he provides is offered to each one individually."

Patriotism: "Yes, and I terrific as I remember it as a young boy in World War II.

Football or sports: "Yes, we always take time to talk about that."

Cheap Gasoline Prices in Many Places: "Yes, we are see WHEAT, page 4

Jan. 31-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Center 5 p.m., Hale Museum Board, The Rock Hotel Feb. 1-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Center

7:30 p.m., Cowboys for Christ, Drasco

Feb. 2-Spend the day with your family! Feb. 3-11 a.m.-1 p.m, Lutherans Super Bowl Sunday BBQ Dinner & Auction to benefit Christmas In April, School Cafeteria 3-5 p.m., Opal Hunt's 100th Birthday, Our House, 616 E. Truett

Feb. 4-9 a.m.-4 p.m., WIC, Housing Authority 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Center

7:30 p.m., Ballinger Masonic Lodge

Feb. 5-9 a.m., Ministerial Alliance, School Administration Office 10:30 a.m., Tour of CONTICO, 305 N. Frisco

11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Center Noon, Lions Club, Sr. Citizens Activity Center 3 p.m., Friends of the Hale Museum, The Rock Hotel

5 p.m., Sophomore Class Stew Supper, School Cafeteria 7 p.m., AA, First United Methodist Church 7 p.m., WVFD, Fire Station

7 p.m., American Legion, Legion Home Feb. 6-7 a.m., Industrial Board, Windmill Enterprises Office

6 p.m., Chamber Directors, Chamber Office

11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Center Feb. 7-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Center 2-6 p.m., Immunization Clinic, Texas Department of Health 5:45 p.m., Evening Garden Club, Taylor's Restaurant, Ballinger

Senior Citizens Activity Center Menu

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> Feb. 4 thru Feb. 8 Subject to change

Monday, Feb. 4: Goulash beets, hominy, cornbread, apricots.

Tuesday, Feb. 5: Steak & gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, apple

Wednesday, Feb. 6: Chick en & biscuits, peas & carrots, tossed salad, pie.

Thursday, Feb. 7: Potato soup, grilled cheese sandwich, pear & cottage cheese, crackers, cookie.

Friday, Feb. 8: Hamburgers, French fries, pea salad, pickles & onions, dessert.





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Kenneth H. Slimp Attorney at Law



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100 DAYS DOWN...80 TO GO! Mrs. Butler's kindergarten class observes their 100th day in school with an all-day celebration involving the number 100. Each student brought a display of one hundred items to share with the class. Those enjoying the day were (standing, I-r) Tamron Tamez, Taylor Riffe, Zachary Schwartz, Corey Pritchard, (on knees) Katie Lara, Tyler Saucedo, Jaymee Pritchard, Kara Kraatz, Sophia Reyes, (seated) Sonja Rocha, Katie Gray, Emily Reyes, Missy Calcote, Iesha Tamez, and Christopher Gerhart.

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CAFETERIA MENU Feb. 4-8 Subject to change*

Breakfast Monday-Feb. 4

Pancakes Cereal Juice

Tuesday-Feb. 5 Blueberry Waffles Cereal

Juice Wednesday-Feb. 6 Doughnuts

Cerea Juice Thursday-Feb. 7 Pigs in a Blanket Cereal

Juice Friday-Feb. 8 Breakfast Bars Cereal

Lunch

Juice

Monday-Feb. 4 Chili Dog French Fries Fruit Salad Brownie

Tuesday-Feb. 5 Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce **Tossed Salad** Green Beans

Garlic Bread Jello Cake Wednesday-Feb. 6 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes

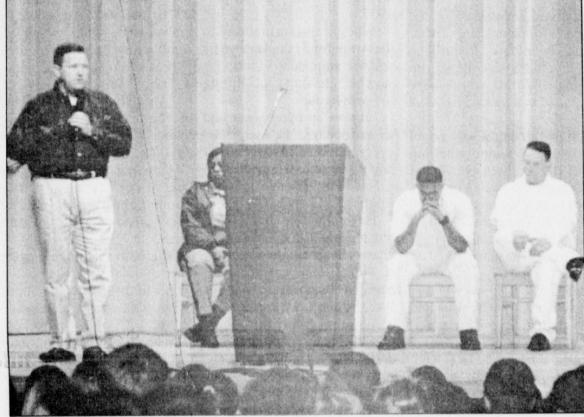
Corn on the Cob Hot Roll Peanut Butter Cookie Thursday-Feb. 7 Pizza

Tossed Salad Pears Cinnamon Roll Friday-Feb. 8 Cheeseburger French Fries Lettuce, Tomatoes, & Pickles

Dessert Salad Bar Available Daily Milk Served With All Meals

Peaches

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"LESSONS LEARNED THE HARD WAY" was the theme of talks given by two young inmates (at right) from the Huntsville Unit of the Texas Prison System who recently spoke to junior high and high school students of WISD. One prisoner was serving a 12-year sentence for armed robbery; the other, a 10-year sentence for driving while intoxicated. The young men were introduced by the Unit Program Director, standing, and escorted by an armed officer, seated at left.

DATE

Feb. 8

Feb. 12

Feb. 16

Feb. 22

Feb. 26

March 5

March 8

March 12

March 15

March 19

March 22

March 26

March 29

April 2

April 5

April 9

April 16

April 19

April 23

*Denotes District Games

Feb. 28-Mar. 1

WHEAT, continued

very well aware of them and if you ever have about 30 minutes, come by and I will tell you what I know, but you will likely go away more confused."

Gene continues, "So here we are in 2002 with 50 years under our business belt. We had a lot more fun working during all those stressful times that we talked about here. There's a lot of work to do but if you kinda make a game of it, it's more fun."

Of slowing down, Gene says he prefers to use the term "semi-retirement" because he's never thought about it any other way.

"Yes, I have days that I might like to be somewhere rather than working. Doug can and will handle it nicely, but I have a few more things started that I would like to complete. Then I will consider cutting back to something less than full time-maybe even as few as 35 or 40 hours a week. I might even spend a little time out at the golf course. But grandkids will probably become top priority."

To celebrate his fifty years of business, Wheat was given Bob Loyd L.P. Gas Company's old post office box which he has opened almost daily for more than forty years. The gift was bought by Jeanie, Doug and Amy from the owners of the old post office building which was vacated in 2000.

Gene says with a laugh, "By the way, now I'm working on the third post office to be built in Winters. I also have two or three young customers who are the fourth generation of their clan that I have served.

He adds, "Like I said, we've had many good employees at Ballinger and Abilene as well as Winters and Wingate all through the years. And with good customers, family and friends, why would I want to be anywhere else?

Powerlifting 2002 Schedule

Feb. 2-Cisco Feb. 7-Mason March 9—Regional March 23—State

PLACE

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5:30

11am

2002 VARSITY BLIZZARDS

BASEBALL SCHEDULE

OPPONENT

Sonora

Menard

Bangs*

Eula*

Cisco*

Miles

Bangs*

Eula*

Cisco*

Coleman*

Jim Ned*

Colorado City

Hawley*

Coleman*

Jim Ned*

Hawley*

Menard (Scrimmage)

Ballinger (Scrimmage)

Sweetwater Tourney

Blue/White (Scrimmage)

BLIZZARD/LADY BLIZZARD 2002 TRACK SCHEDULE

Sat., February 22 Wildcat Relays (Water Valley) Sat., March 2 Blackland-Divide Relays (Roscoe) Sat., March 9 Blizzard Relays (Winters) Sat., March 16 Spring Break Fri./Sat., March 22-23 San Angelo Relays - Boys Sat., March 23 Longhorn Relays (Early) Sat., March 28 Cotton Patch Relays (Wall)-Boys Sat., March 29 Rattlesnake Relays (Sweetwater)-Girls Thurs. April 4 Eagle Relays (Goldthwaite)

Thurs./Fri., April 11-12DISTRICT (Jim Ned)

Fri./Sat., April 26-27......REGIONAL (Stephenville)

Fri./Sat., May 10-11.....STATE (Austin)

2002 BLIZZARD TENNIS SCHEDULE

Feb. 8-9 Feb. 22-23 March 1-2 March 8-9 March 19 March 22-23 March 28 **April 9-10 April 19-20**

Colorado City Forsan Team Tennis-San Angelo Santa Anna-Tentative **Ballinger-Tentative** Big Lake Colorado City **REGIONAL-** Stephenville STATE-Austin



April 22, 27 May 6-7

DISTRICT - Rose Park, Abilene REGIONAL QUALIFIER

BLIZZARD Jan: 31- Feb. 7, 2002

Friday, Feb. 1 4PM, JV-VG&B @ Cisco, Cisco Lions Club Pancake Supper Saturday, Feb. 2 Powerlifting Meet @

Cisco Sunday, Feb. 3 11AM-1PM, St. John's Super Bowl Sunday BBO Dinner, School Cafeteria Monday, Feb. 4 5PM, 7th & 8th Girls @ Cisco

5PM, 7th & 8th Boys vs. Cisco, Here Tuesday, Feb. 5 5PM, JV-VG &B vs. Coleman, Here Monday, Feb. 4 5PM, 7th & 8th Girls @ Cisco

DATES TO REMEMBER: Thursday, February 14, Glacier King & Queen Coronation, WHS Auditorium Friday, February 15, End of 4th six weeks, Elementary



District #1

District #2

District #3

Abilene/Maxwell

Abilene/Maxwell

Abilene/Maxwell

March 18

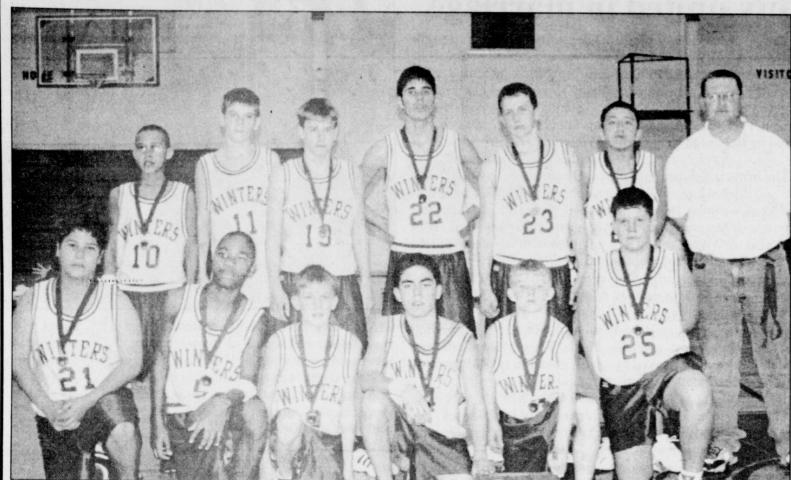
March 27

2002 LADY BLIZZARDS SOFTBALL SCHEDU

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
Feb. 7	Sweetwater (Scrim.)		4:30
Feb. 12	OPEN		4.00
Feb. 14	Sweetwater Tourney	There	TBA
Feb. 15	Sonora	Here	4:00
Feb. 16	Sweetwater Tourney	There	TBA
Feb. 22	Sonora	There	4:00
Feb. 26	Eula*	Here	4:30
March 1-2	San Angelo Tourney	There	TBA
March 5	Bangs*	There	4:30
March 8	Hawley*	Here	4:30
March 12	OPEN	SPRING B	
March 15	Cisco*	Here	4:30
March 19	Coleman*	There	4:30
March 22	Jim Ned*	There	4:30
March 28	Bangs*	Here	4:30
April 2	Hawley*	There	5:00
April 5	Eula*	Here	5:00
April 9	Cisco*	There	Total Control Control Control
April 16	Coleman*	Here	5:00
April 19	Jim Ned*	Here	5:00
*Denotes Distric		nere	5:00

School

Tournament Champions



FIRST PLACE WINNERS in the Roscoe tournament were the Winters 8th grade Breezes. Left to right, kneeling, are Armando Nava, Michael Liggins, Brice Wilkerson, Chris Medina, Justin Fenwick, and Matt Tekell. Standing, left to right, are Marcus Tubbs, L. J. Nitsch, Jonathan Meyer, David Scates, Aaron Colburn, Jordan Sanchez and Coach Bryan Green. Winters defeated Jim Ned in the championship match.

Blizzards start powerlifting at Coahoma meet

The Winters High School Powerlifting Team opened their season with a meet in Coahoma last Saturday with all six Blizzard lifters placing. Nine 1A to 3A schools competed in the event.

Winters will travel to Cisco

Results and total weights for three lifts in each division at

148 lbs., Jared Airhart, 760 lbs., 5th place

181 lbs., Chad Landers, 755

lbs., 5th place 198 lbs., Will Ahrens, 825 lbs, 3rd place

220 lbs., Jerry Hord, 910 lbs, 5th place

242 lbs., Steven Cuevas, 1135 lbs., 3rd place

PLEASE... **Conserve** water & pray for rain.

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

Couch's Comments: Great hustle from start to finish. The Lady Breezes did a topnoteli job on defense and turned their offense up a notch. Good job, Lady Breezes!

Feam: 9th Boys Coach: David Acevedo Deponent: Hawley Date: Jan. 21, 2002

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

Sophomore Class Parents

Old Fashioned

Stew Supper

Large Bowl of Stew • Cornbread

Chocolate Cake & Tea

Tuesday, February 5

/Children

5pm • School Cafeteria

(during the Coleman basketball games) Takeouts available

^{\$5}/Adults

Basketball

Hoopla

POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

POINTS SCORED EACH OUARTER



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for a meet on Saturday. Coahoma are as follows: 165 lbs., Guy Slimp, 715 lbs., 4th place



LACI WALKER drives around the Bangs defender during varsity action. Walker scored 34 points for the Lady Blizzards in their win over the Lady Dragons.



ADDISON BERGMAN keeps her eye on the ball as she and teammate Abby Guy (left) perform with the PIPS basketball squad during halftime of the WHS Blizzards' game.

Scheduled 2-6 p.m. TDH Clinic set Feb. 7

The Winters office of the Texas Department of Health has scheduled their February Immunization Clinic. As a change from the usual schedule, the clinic will be open from early afternoon to early evening.

The clinic will be held Thursday, February 7, 2002, from 2-6 p.m at the Professional Building, Suite 108, on the Grant Street entry. For more information, call 754-4945 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and noon Monday-Friday.

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POINTS SCORED EACH QUARTER

Team: 8th Boys "A" Coach: Bryan Gree Opponent: Bangs "A" Date: Jan. 14, 2002 Place: Bangs

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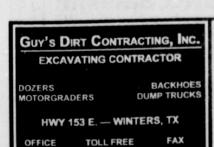
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Evening Garden Club to hold organizational meeting Feb. 7

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Restaurant Manager-exp. req.

Garden Club will meet on Thursday, February 7, at 5:45 p.m. at Taylor's Restaurant in Ballinger, for a dutch treat din-

The purpose of the garden club is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, to share the advantages of association by means of educational meetings, correspon- to attend. For more informadence and publications, and to tion, contact Mary Burns at restore, improve, and protect 365-2992 after 4 p.m. or the quality of the environment Rhonda Goetz at 754-5433.

DEMAND

The newly formed Evening through educational programs and action in the fields of conservation and community improvement.

> More organizational details will be discussed at the meeting and a program on growing geraniums will be given by Mary E. Burns.

Anyone interested in learning more about plants is invited

Vicki Brown and Jackie Guy united in marriage

Forrest Jack (Jackie) Guy were united in marriage on Saturday, January 12, 2002. The doublering ceremony was held at 5 p.m. in The Rock Hotel, officiated by Reverend Barry Tay-

The bride is the daughter of Brown of Winters. The groom Guy, also of Winters.

The Rock Hotel parlor mantel was draped in tulle and topped with an array of candles accented with silk magnolias, iridescent and gold pearls, and ivy. The fireplace was adorned with tiers of candles flanked by ficus trees decorated with miniature white lights.

Jeanne Poor of Abilene, sis- Abilene later in the evening. ter of the bride, served as matron of honor. Brenda Groh-Winters, was a bridesmaid. couple resides in Winters.

Vicki Gale Brown and They wore black tea-length gowns and carried bouquets of purple tulips accented with baby's breath and greenery.

Standing as best man with his father was Brandon Guy of Winters. Bret Guy served his brother as a groomsman.

Decorated by Brenda Mr. and Mrs. Horice Chilton Grohman, the bride's cake featured a dancing bride and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. M.L. groom figurine and was adorned with white and purple tulips and greenery with gold accents. The groom's cake was decorated with chocolatedipped strawberries, greenery, white doves, and gold wedding bands. The table was adorned with gold and crystal appoint-

A light buffet table was The bride wore an ivory silk decorated with candles, actwo-piece suit with a Manda- cented by silk magnolias and rin collar and a tea-length skirt. gold ribbons, and featured a She carried a fresh bouquet of variety of finger foods. The white tulips, ivy, and baby's wedding party enjoyed a dance at the Ponderosa Ball Room in

The groom is employed with All-American Chevrolet man, cousin of the bride, of in Abilene as a salesman. The

NRH Auxiliary plans Chicken Fried Steak Lunch & Auction

-Sunday, February 10 from 11 am-1 pm-

The North Runnels Hospital Auxiliary is planning a help with the meal and auction. raise funds for the hospital and much needed equipment to meal: update the NRH Clinic.

The meal is planned for Sunday, February 10, 2002, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Winters School Cafeteria. An auction of donated items will start at 1 p.m. Cost of the meal will be \$6 per plate and take-

The luncheon includes Barbara Heathcott 754-5610 chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, hot rolls, homemade desserts and tea.

Volunteers are needed to Chicken Fried Steak Lunch to Please contact the following people if you can help with the

> Workers for the Meal Janet Cason 754-5205 Rhonda Goetz 754-5433 **Auction Items**

Hank Bourdo 754-2048 Richard Hamilton 754-4103 Shelia Paschal 723-2697 Teresa Davis 754-5422

outs with be availables to bas noon Homemade Desserts Cheryl Sneed 767-3977

> **Takeout Meals** Shelia Paschal 723-2697 Teresa Davis 754-5422





CITY, continued

Heberlig as a city police of-

City Manager Aref Hassan reported that places currently held by Councilmen Jimmy Butler, Steve Esquivel and Mike Meyer are up for election this year, and the first day for filing an application for a place on the ballot is February 18. Deadline is March 20.

None of these three incumbents have expressed whether or not they will seek re-elec-

Present for the January 28 meeting were Councilmen Tommy Russell, Steve Esquivel, Jimmy Butler, and Hank Bourdo, Mayor Dawson McGuffin, Manager Hassan, and City Attorney Ken Slimp.

Mansells' works on display

Susan Mansell of Ballinger and Brandon Mansell of Mexico, mother and son, recently had works accepted into the Big Country Art Show at the Grace Museum in Abilene.

Brandon's blown glass vase, 'Garnet and Silver," won Honorable Mention in the show that will run until April 6. Susan's "Floor Patterns," a transparent watercolor, will also be displayed. Grace Museum hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday.

Susan has a one-woman show, "Works in Watercolor," at McMurry University's Amy Graves Ryan Fine Arts Gallery on the corner of Sayles Blvd. and Hunt in Abilene. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. She also had one of her watercolors, "Colors of Mexico," accepted into the Watercolor Society of Alabama 61st National Exhibition. The watercolor will be on display at the Huntsville Museum

The public is invited to view these works as well as others.

my ____ ' (irritated)
57 Hawaiian two-steps



MIRANDA TORRES (left) and LISA DEES, along with their fellow girl scouts of Brownie Troop #338, enjoyed an afternoon of skating at Heartland Skateway in Early. The skating party was a celebration for coming away with the 2nd place trophy at the Christmas parade. Others skating were Sarah Campos, Amber Blackshear, Shelby Gehrels, and Alex Sudduth.

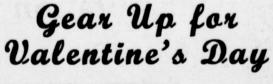
Newspaper Facts

Texas' newspapers have a combined circulation of 4.29 million. Source: Texas Press Association

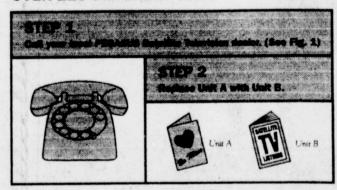




Identity of birthday girl may be found elsewhere in this paper.



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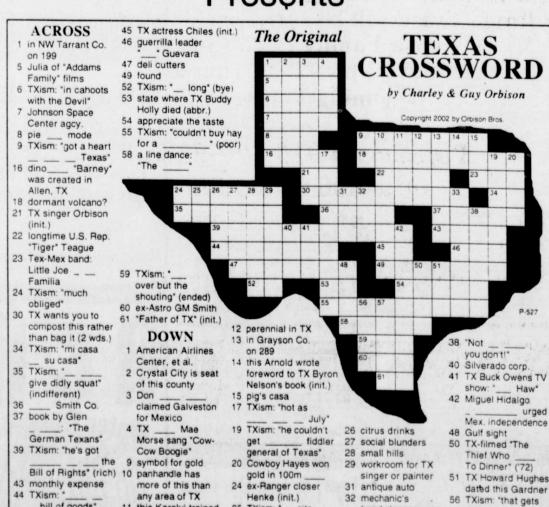
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Solutions for this puzzle appear in this issue.

tall in the saddle

this Karolyi trained

Mary Lou in Houston

Outdoors

Coaches Wood and Southall speak in Winters

Winters High School students and teachers, as well as members of the Winters Lions Club, enjoyed special appearances by two former Winters coaches, Gordon Wood and Morris Southall on January 22.

Gordon Wood coached the Blizzards in 1950. One local resident, Jerry B. Whitlow, who played for Coach Wood, visited with his former coach and had high praise for the special man.

"Coach Wood was an exceptionally fine coach and man. I just didn't have enough of him," Whitlow said.

Whitlow also talked of playing with helmets that had no face masks. He said the only person who played with any sort of face protection was one teammate who had already broken his nose during a game.

While in town, Wood reminisced about his football career that spanned five decades, including time at Winters. He spoke of his team of 1950, including Gayland Robinson, Minor Nelson. He also recalled how his daughter loved to have the former Pat Puckett babysit.



BRENDA BURTON of the Winters Lions Club, visits with Coach Morris Southall who, along with Coach Gordon Wood, spoke to the Club on Jan. 22. Burton discovered she lives in the same home on Paloma Street where Southall resided during his tenure at Winters from 1951-57.

had won more games than any football. He has written an autobiography, Coach of the Century, and autographed copies while in Winters.

When asked about his best advice for any coach, Wood answered, "It's not how many games you win, it's how many kids you influence and lift up

When he retired in 1985, he from one level to another."

Coach Morris Southall told other coach in the history of of the years he spent in Winters from 1951 and 1957, winning district football championships in 1951 and 1952.

In 1960, Wood and Southall teamed up to coach football at Brownwood High School where they won 257 games and seven state championships.

Extension News & Views

by Rick Minzenmayer, Extension Agent-IPM

9 steps to helping your plants overwinter

Winter is definitely here, shrubs with old blankets. If you mistings or changing the locaand it's wise to know what actions you should take to ensure plant survival:

1) Check for pests. Many insects - like aphids and lacewings — feed until the first hard freeze. Pest infestations can force plants into an early dormancy that decrease winter survival.

2) Mulching protects roots and conserves moisture. One to two inches of bark, or three inches of pinestraw or leaves under the canopy of a plant, protect it from sudden changes in temperature and soil mois-

3) Continue watering if necessary. Outdoor plants need water, even when they aren't actively growing. Periods of extended drought make plants more susceptible to cold injury. Watering up to one inch per week is recommended during dry spells.

4) Provide extra protection during hard freezes. Cover your most cold-sensitive

reregister brands

Livestock producers are re-

minded that all registered live-

stock brands expired as of Au-

gust 30, 2001, in accordance

with the provisions of Section

144.044, Agriculture Code,

Vernon's Texas Codes Anno-

through February 28, 2002, at

the County Clerk's Office in

the Runnels County Court-

house at a fee of \$11 per brand.

Officer hours are 8:30 a.m. to

noon and 1 to 5 p.m., Monday

or before February 28, 2002,

will become null and void, and

can then be claimed and regis-

tact the County Clerk's office

For further information con-

Brands not reregistered on

through Friday.

tered by anyone.

at 365-2720.

Brands may be reregistered

is February 28

Deadline to

cold that can harm extremities. 5) Take a wait-and-see approach with plants that seem to have died from a freeze. They may return to life in spring. If so, prune any dead tips or branches back to just above the new growth.

6) Container Plants: Again, make sure plants are healthy going into winter. Check for pests and treat if necessary. Reduce the frequency and winter and for plants that are not actively growing. Watersoluble or slow release fertilizers are preferable.

7) The heating system in most homes tends to decrease humidity levels. Supplemental

use plastic, don't let it touch tion of plants can improve leaves, because it conducts health.

8) Most plants tolerate a few months of lower light levels while overwintering. But do check plants occasionally look for symptoms of light deprivation. These include yellowing or pale foliage, dropping or drooping leaves, and leggy growth. If necessary, move to an area with higher light levels or supplement with grow lights.

9) Spring is a good time to strength of fertilization during see if plants are potbound. Are plants wilting, do they have poor color, are leaves dropping? Lay the pot on its side and gently tap it out of its pot. Are the roots crowded, or even growing through drainage holes? If so, it's time to re-pot.

Christmas In April Board of Directors sets 2002 work day for Saturday, April 20

the ground running, and is finalizing plans for their annual work day.

In a meeting on Thursday, January 24, the CIA Board of Directors selected Saturday, April 20, as the designated 2002 workday. The screening process is nearing completion to select three or four houses for repair this year.

The board selected officers for the 2002 year during the selection; Doug Wheat and

15TH ANNUAL

RUNNELS COUNTY

CONSIGNMENT SALE

Saturday, April 6, 2002

Wingate, TX

CONSIGNMENTS WELCOME

CONTACT:

Red Hill 915/743-8388

Wingate Gin 915/743-2196 Day

Suvern O'Dell 915/743-6061 Night

Paul Airhart 915/743-6550 Day

By Ace Reid

compliments of

Rehabilitation

217 West Dale St. (

Winters 79567

754-5555

Clinic

Chiropractic &

Dan Killough, D.C.

The North Runnels Christ- business meeting. Robert Michael Alatore-house captain mas In April program has hit Garza will serve as president, recruitment; Ace Polk-food; Charles Murphy as vice-presi- Mary Wilkerson-hospitality dent, and Barron Guy, past- wagons; Hank Bourdo-materipresident. Kristi Stoecker was als/supplies & warehousing; elected secretary and Teresa and Efrain Esquivel-logistics. Davis is treasurer.

and their committees are: Deb day" when supplies will be Pritchard and Shanna Bear- moved from various storage public relations and fundrais- areas throughout the city to the ing; Gary Bear-volunteer re- newly acquired Rives Building cruitment; Mannie Esquivel at 110 East Dale. Dr. Rives and Freddie Grohman-house donated the building to Christ-

Saturday, March 2, has been Other CIA board members designated as a CIA "moving mas In April last fall for use as a warehouse for supplies and meeting facility.

In other business, the CIA Board of Directors expressed their appreciation to St. John's Lutheran Church for once again sponsoring their annual Super Bowl Sunday BBQ Dinner on February 3. The board encourages the community to support this free-will offering dinner, as all proceeds and matching funds from the Lutheran Brotherhood and Lutheran Aid Association will benefit the Christmas In April pro-

Anyone wishing to volunteer in any capacity for the Christmas In April workday on April 20, should contact Gary Bear at 754-4625 or any CIA board member. Monetary donations may be sent to:

Christmas In April

PO Box 262 Winters, Texas 79567.

Christmas In April is a nonprofit organization which sponsors a yearly volunter project to repair and/or renovate the homes of elderly, handicapped, and those financially in need in North Runnels County.



6 AM- 1:30 PM TUES.-FRI. 6 AM- 3 PM

The Lighthouse **Coffee Shop**

Now serving plate lunches every Friday 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$5/plate

7763 E. Hwy 153 754-1146

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Hand Tools Spraying Systems Feed Deer Corn **Hunting License** Tony Lama Boots Horse Tack

Come In and See Jennifer Prewit & Barry Coker

Tuesday Grain Markets

All Prices Subject To Change Milo

4.30/Cwt 1.50/Bu Oats 2.70/Bu **New Crop Wheat**

Plumbing Bolts Animal Health Ammunition **Hunting Supplies Justin Boots** Spray Pumps



Airgas Southwest, Inc. 222 N. Treadaway Abilene, Texas 79601

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A **New Distributor** IN WINTERS

In the meantime, in order to serve our customers, our Route Truck will be at the parking lot in front of the Family Dollar Store from 12-3 p.m. each Thursday beginning January 24

> Please call 915-677-5205 or 1-800-299-1806 with any questions

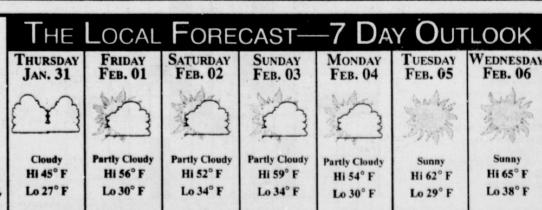
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'THE RODRIGUEZ & WARREN FAMILIES"

754-1500



Law & Order

Financial Focus

by Jim Woodruff

Tax Season is Here: Are You Ready?

If you're like most people, you've probably had some experience with getting your taxes done just before the clock ticks down on April 15. Of course, it's human nature to put off tasks that aren't much fun, but last minute tax returns often lead to stress and mistakes-some of which can be costly. That's why you'll be doing yourself a favor by starting your tax preparation early.

What can you do to get off to a good start this tax season? Here are a few ideas:

Plan how you'll do your taxes

If you're going to do your taxes yourself, you have two basic options. First, you could take the oldfashioned approach and use paper, pencil and calculator. Second, you could use a commercial software package. A good program will walk you through the steps you need to take, provide you with help if you get stumped, do all the math and show you deductions that you may not have noticed.

Consider using a CPA

You may want to hire a certified public accountant (CPA) to do your taxes. The expense may be worth it, particularly if you have a complex tax situation. An experienced CPA, who is obviously well informed on changing tax laws, can help make sure you get all the deductions and other breaks that you're entitled to. And, over time, your CPA will become familiar enough with your situation to suggest possible moves you can make throughout the year to improve your tax picture on April

Organize tax-related documents

No matter which method you choose to prepare your taxes, you'll still need to gather all the key information. You'll find it very useful to set up files for the various tax-related categories: charitable contributions, interest paid, medical ex-

penses, investment expenses, union dues, tax preparation fees. If you're self-employed, make sure to keep the receipts for all business-related expenses.

Review last year's returns

By going over last year's tax returns, you're likely to get some ideas on deductions and "carry forwards" that you'll want to look at this year. For example, if, in 2000, you incurred capital losses that exceeded the \$3,000 write-off limit against ordinary income, you can carry these losses over to your 2001 tax return and again apply them in and Lacy, age 8. your favor.

Become familiar w/ tax-law changes

The Economic Growth & Tax Relief Act of 2001 makes far-reaching changes in the tax system. For starters, as of July 1, 2001, you may have entered a lower tax bracket. Plus, your child tax credit rises from \$500 to \$600, effective in 2001. Other changes-such as increased contribution limits for IRAs and 401(k) plans-go into cffect in 2002. Your tax adviser can inform you about any tax changes that may affect you. You can also learn more about tax changes by browsing through the various web sites devoted to financial matters.

Get some help from Uncle Sam Even if you're doing your taxes on your own, you're not really alone. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) can actually be quite helpful in answering your tax-related questions-if you know where to look. To obtain a list of publications produced by the IRS, call 1-800-829-3676 and follow the prompts. You can have forms sent to you via the mail, Internet or fax. To get detailed information on dozens of tax topics, call the IRS' Tele-Tax line at 1-800-829-4477.

By taking these few simple steps, you can improve your tax season outlook and maybe even your outcomes.

ALLERGY & SINUS

It's that time of year;

Newer and better methods are available for

treating both the acute and chronic conditions.

HAVEN'T YOU SUFFERED LONG ENOUGH?

Consult a M.D. specialist with years of

experience in dealing with these afflictions.

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Board Certified

Ear, Nose, Throat & Sinus Disorders

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(915)677-2026

Officer Gary Heberlig joins the Winters Police Department



Gary Heberlig, formerly of San Angelo, joined the Winters Police Department on Monday, January 28, 2002. Mr. Hegerlig is originally from Shippensburg, Pennsyl-

Officer Hegerlig graduated from the Concho Valley Law Enforcement Academy in May of 2001, where he studied child abuse, criminal law,

traffic, and penal code specifications.

He comes to Winters with his wife, Donna, who is stationed at Goodfellow Air Force Base, and two children, Mark, age 10,

Official Records

County Court Dispositions

Sara Marie Islas, driving while intoxicated, pleaded nolo contendre, sentenced to six months in county jail probated to one year, fined \$750, plus \$236 court costs and 50 hours community service

Phillip Boggess, theft by check, pleaded nolo contendre, sentenced to 90 days in county jail probated to six months, fined \$100, plus \$235.25 court costs, \$82.57 restitution, \$25 hot check fees and 30 hours community service

Demetrio D. Zertuche, driving while intoxicated, pleaded nolo contendre, sentenced to six months in county jail probated to one year, fined \$500, plus \$235.25 court costs and 40 hours community service

Erika Marie Alvarado, driving while intoxicated, pleaded nolo contendre, sentenced to six months in county jail probated to one year, fined \$750, plus \$236 court costs and 50 hours community service

Tanya Essex, making alcohol available to a minor, case dismissed, defendant successfully completed probation in another case

Tanya Marie Essex, possession of marijuana, case dismissed, defendant successfully completed probation in another case

Criminal Cases Filed January 22

Perry Blake Poe, filed for driving

while intoxicated Riley Keith Marks, filed for driv-

ing while intoxicated

Marriage Licenses Filed January 18 Jeremiah Cole Gore and Terrie Renee Hair

District Court Divorces Granted

January 17 Clinton Joe Smith and Laura **Edington Smith**

Divorce Cases Filed January 22

Terry A. Sandoval vs. Daniel Sandoval January 24

Christopher Bryan Rock vs. Shawna Kay Rock

> Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 Civil Cases Filed January 14

State of Texas vs. William Ray Sherman, Jr., rightful ownership **Felony Cases Filed** January 15

Kenneth Dale Colvin, filed for aggravated assault January 23

Nikki Cruz, filed for forgery **Criminal Cases Filed** January 19

Larry G. York, Jr., filed for untagged doe deer **Small Claims Cases Filed** January 23

Don Jones vs. Edward Glick, debt owed for labor

Legal Notices

BID NOTICE

The City of Winters is accepting sealed bids for remodeling the Community Center funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Grant/Loan program and City matching funds (Cash & Inkind Service). Bid specification/ bid sheet may be obtained at the City Hall, 310 S. Main, Winters, Texas 79567, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bids will be accepted until 5 p.m. Wednesday, February 20, 2002. Bid opening is scheduled for Thursday, February 21, 2002, at 10 a.m. in the City Manager's office. The City reserves the right to accept and/or reject any or all bids.

13-5(3tc)

TO NOTIFY OWNER OF 610 W. Roberts, Winters, TX, Runnels County, in town

lots 2-6, Block 2, Roberts Notice is hereby given that on February 11, 2002, the City of Winters will tow two junk vehicles from the property at above named location. They have been identified as a violation of City Health and Sanitation Ordiance, dangerous premises in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 7 Article 7.600 Section 7.602 (a-b) (Junk Motor Vehicles) of the City Code of Ordinances.

If any interested parties have questions and/or comments, contact City Hall, 310 S. Main, Winters, Texas 79567, or call 915-754-4424, Monday thru Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. 13-5(2tc)

Classifieds Get Results

Police Beat

The information below is taken from reports on file with the Winters Police Department. Some of the information is provided to police by citizens, and in some cases, police have not finished investigating the reports. These reports make up a small percentage of the total calls the Department receives and responds to each week.

Winters Police Department reports received and/or investigated from Sunday, January 20, 2002, through January 26, 2002. Winters Police Officers: * received report of a burglary in the 600 block of N. Fannin Street. A 44-

year-old Winters female reported that person(s) unknown entered her residence between the hours of 8 a.m. and midnight Monday removing stereo equipment. Evidence was collected at the scene and this is under investigation as Burglary of a Habitation.

* received report from the San Angelo City Marshall's office of a warrant subject working in Winters with approximately \$1800 in outstanding fines. The subject, Cindi Lewis of Bronte, was located in the 100 block of N. Main Street and transported to Runnels County Jail to await transport by the San

· officers were contacted at the Winters Police Department by a 19-yearold Abilene male who turned himself in on two outstanding warrants of of Winters Municipal Court. The fines totaled \$936 and the subject was transported to Runnels County Jail.

 officers stopped a 1979 Chevy pickup on N. Rogers Street for a traffic violation. A license check of the driver revealed outstanding DPS warrants otaling \$553 in fines. The driver, a 28-year-old female of Winters, was able to pay the fines and was released.

Runnels County Crimestoppers offers a cash reward for information which leads to the grand jury indictment or conviction of offenders and the caller does not have to give his or her name. To give a Crimestoppers tip, call your local law enforcement agency at:

Winters Police Department—754-4121 Ballinger Police Department—365-3591 Sheriff's Department-365-2121



MIDWEST PHYSICAL THERAPY

Fred Garcia, PT

120 S. Main Street • Winters, TX 79567 (915) 754-4381



Chicken Fried Steak Luncheon

Sunday, February 10, 2002 11AM to 1PM • School Cafeteria

Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Homemade **Desserts & Tea**



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754-4818

Craig & Kelly Gehrels **INSURANCE & ANNUITIES OUT OF AREA CALL 1-800-962-4011** 100 W. DALE · WINTERS, TEXAS 79567

ACROSS 5. Piece of asparagus

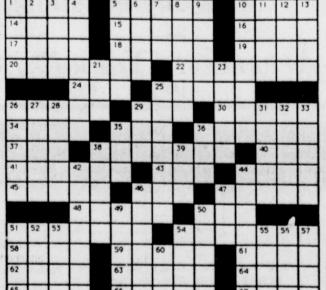
- 10. Phase
- 15. Adorable tot's nickname 16. Ring of light
- 17. Bring up Nonpareils
- Beer-making recipe word
- Supernatural event
 "What's the _ !"; cry of despair
- Elegant residence
- Alcatraz resident Animal
- City southeast of Milano Stick out
- California athlete Recent tyrant Ornamental headpiece
- Direction: abbr. Tee-hee
- Advance rapidly
- Handle
- Nasai noise 6-yr. office
- Bet Formed a curve
- 50. DI doubled Cover
- Give orders Tobacco maker's need _ events; in any case
- Neighborhood Suffix for major or marion
- Reddish-brown
- Boo-boo
- Diplomacy Word with lip or proof

- 1. Enjoy a water sport Linden
 - Atlantic island group **Biscuit** Football kick
 - Time to take a summer course at the Sorbonne Member of the military Plant secretion
- Fleeced
- 11. After-bath item 12. Israeli airline 13. Southern food
- 33 35
- 44. Bring to life 46. Long-haired dog Ship cells 47. Ready-fire connector 49. Stop 27. Sculptor 50. Wisdom tooth
 - Bolivian buddy Mutt Representative Levelheadedness
- Do the dog paddle JFK's pop
 - Group of Scouts Store employee 39. One who has taken vows
 - Advertiser's award Sea Head support 56. Calendar square 60. Busy time for the IRS

War (1899-1902)

Movie dog

"Born Too _ "; hit of the '50s



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is proud to announce that Bob Loyd L.P. Gas Company will be its reseller in the Winters area.

When in Winters, stop by Bob Loyd L.P. Gas Company at 104 E. Parsonage. Doug & Gene Wheat will be glad to assist you with your welding supply needs.

When in Abilene, stop by Texas Midwest Welders Supply at 301 S. Treadway. Michael Davis, Mark Roe, Jeral Davis, Kathy Davis & James Sumners will assist you with all of your welding supply needs.

Doug & Gene Wheat, Bob Loyd L.P. Gas Co. 754-4555 Texas Midwest Welders Supply in Abilene 673-0266 RATES

Paid in Advance: \$5.00, up to 20 words, 20¢ per word over 20 words; .50 thereafter up to 20 words, 20¢ per word over 20 words Charged:

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DEADLINES

General News/Display Ads Noon Monday

Classified Ads 5 p.m. Monday

Special Services

SEE ANGELA AT BALLINGER COMMUNICATIONS for your car phone needs. Basic digital cellular service with no roaming and no long distance is as little as \$21.95 per month. Ballinger Communications, through Mid-Tex Cellular offers free phones, and free phone chargers with activation. 365-8910.

12-26(tfc/alt)

HOUSE LEVELING, floor bracing, slab, pier, & beam. Insurance claims. Free estimates. References. No payment until work satisfactorily completed. David Lee House Leveling, 915-675-6369 or 915-659-8844, <www.davidleeandco.com>. 9-14(tfc)

Has your cellular service always been expensive, because you live on the edge of the coverage? Now with Mid-Tex Cellular digital service, with NO ROAMING and NO LONG DIS-TANCE, in Texas, affordable cellular service is a reality. Service is as little as \$21.95 per month, plus tax. Call Angela at Ballinger Communications, Mid-Tex Cellular Limited Agent. 365-8910.

13-1(alt/tfc)

Classifieds Get Results

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754-4816 office 754-5610 home

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HIRING CNAs, 6-2 and 2-10, fulltime, part-time, and PRN. Start at \$7.30 per hour and after 90 days of full time employment make \$7.55!!! HIRING LVNs part time and PRN need to be flexible as to shifts. Start at \$13.50 per hour and after 90 days \$13.75 per hour. Come over and check us out, we're only about 15 minutes from Winters and it's worth the drive!! Runnels County Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, 1800 N. Broadway, Ballinger. (915) 12-43(tfc) 365-2538.

SENIOR CITIZENS NURSING **HOME** seeks Certified Food Service Supervisor. Apply in person. 506 Van Ness, Winters, Tx. M-F, paid holidays and vacation.

13-3(3tc)

PRODUCTION: In Winters area. Day & night shifts. Call 365-8880 for more info. WELDER NEEDED. Come by Personnel Services in Ballinger, 119 N. Broadway or call 365-

13-5(1tc)

4056.

Help Wanted

Admin. Assistant/Full Charge Bookkeeper. Nursing home experience preferred. Accounts receivable, payroll, payables, Medicaid billing, and Medicare knowledge required. Must be computer literate. Excellent salary, benefits, and working conditions. Apply in person, or fax resume to Larry at Runnels County Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, 1800 North Broadway, Ballinger, Texas, 76821. Phone 915-365-2538, Fax 915-365-2530.

13-4(2tc)



Will take care of your elderly in the evenings. 20 years experience. References available. 754-1146.

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Only \$70 Per Month

FLAT RATE * GUARANTEED ACCEPTANCE SELF-EMPLOYED OR NOT!-NO INCREASE!

Real Estate

610 W. FLOYD- Very nice home. Large corner lot. Beautiful neighborhood. 3 BD/2 BA. 1800 sq.ft. Single garage-double carport. Pool. Sprinkler system. New Berber carpet. Recently updated. \$85,000. Call 754-4889 or 254-840-0545.

12-42(tfc)

NICE 3 BR/2BA BRICK HOME. Fireplace. C/HA. Lots of storage. Detached bldg. with office space. Bathroom & kitchenette. Sprinkler system. \$56,500. Contact J.B. Guy, Jr. 754-4543 or 754-5248. 12-45(tfc)

214 PARKLANE—Very nice 3 BR/ 2 1/2 Bath house. 2 living areas w/ dining areas, lovely kitchen w/pantry & utility. Home has great enclosed sunroom Corber sink & jennair stove, office, all appliances like new, double attached garage, smoke free. Call for an appointment 915-754-

12-47(5tp)

For Sale: 102 Belair, Winters. 3BR, 1BA. Call 723-2076.

13-4(tfc) HOUSE FOR SALE: 206 Broadway. 2BR, 1Bath. Dining Room. Kitchen, living room, water well.

710 West Pierce: 3BR, 2BTH. Living room, dining room, kitchen. Den and office. 2 car-carport, 2 fenced lots, storage room. Call 754-4218 or come by 301 Wood St. Financing available.

13-5(1tp)

For Rent

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for 1,2,3, & 4 bedrooms, newly remodeled apartments. Apply at 300 N. Grant. Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Equal Housing Opportu-

MILLER STORAGE—For all your storage needs- small, medium, and large units available. 754-5401 or 365-1655. 12-31(5tp)

NEELY APTS., 2 bedroom vacancies; apply at 300 N. Grant, Winters, TX 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Available immediately to qualified applicants. Equal Housing Opportu-12-10(tfc)

SEPARATE LISTINGS: Bldg downtown; 1 BR apartment furnished; 3 BR house; 3 BR house in country; bldg. in country. Call 754-5083 or 754-4286. 12-34(tfc)

ACE MINI STORAGE UNITS, boat and travel trailer storage. Contact Windmill Enterprises, 221 West Dale, 754-4542.

YEAR-END SPECIAL - NO DEPOSIT WITH APPROVED CREDIT. Winters Apartments, 100 N. Grant. 2 BR apts. w/washer & dryer connections. Susie Leady, mgr. Office hours: M & F 1-3 PM, apt. 8. 365-9131, 365-4922, 365-6793 mo-13-1(tfc)

FOR RENT: Beautiful house at Lake Ivie. 3BR, 2 full baths, 17 x 28 den w/ fireplace, large kitchen. Call 1-915-483-5519.

13-5(2tc)

Manufactured Homes

\$500 MOVE IN-Owner finance. Call 893-5210. 12-35(tfc)

CUTE LITTLE HOUSE-Very affordable. Call 673-7353.

12-35(tfc)

BEAUTIFUL DOUBLEWIDE— Possible owner carry. Call 665-3544. 12-35(tfc)

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relationships with key officials who influence and/or adopt public policies that impact company operations. The successful candidate must possess a bachelor's degree with an emphasis in business, finance, economics, communications, political science or a related field. An advanced degree is preferred. At least 10 years of diversified experience in telecommunications, legislative matters, regulatory affairs and/or law is required. The outstanding candidate will also possess excellent oral and written communication skills and the ability to manage multiple tasks at once. Negotiating and decision-making skills are essential. All interested candidates should e-mail or fax their resume to: Gale Fair at Gale. Fair@mail.sprint.com or (913) 762-0536. Sprint is proud to be an EEO/AA employer. We value diversity and offer a quality workplace

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Let's talk. 1-888-942-4053. 'New Way of Making Money". Pioneers (1-888-667-3729). DRIVERS...EXPERIENCE real estate notes, private mortgage job! Travel USA. Fun coed busibecome millionaires. Toll free, 1-888-202-8853 or EarnBigAtHome.com

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entry level drivers. No CDL-Noproblem. come. 1-800-237-4642. Motor Lines has immediate openings for Company paid training if qualified. DRIVER - YOUR EXPERI- 50%. Debt consolidation. Fast 1-866-367-9933 or 1-817-367-9933.

822-8209. S.W. Driver Recruitment. 1-877-BIG-PAYDAY.

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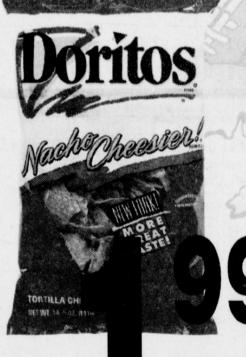
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