

The Winters Enterprise



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Thursday, August 11, 2011

Winters, Texas

75¢

City evaluates tax increase

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS - The City of Winters is evaluating a property tax increase from this year's \$0.68866900 per \$100 of appraisal value to \$0.73717598, which is equivalent to a 7.04 percent tax rate increase. According to Winters City Mayor and Interim City Manager Lewis Bergman, the increase looks forward along with some other cuts, to balance the budget and prevent a possible bankruptcy in the nearby future.

Last Tuesday, August 2, the City Council held a budget workshop, and despite some reluctance from some of the Council members at the end all voted unanimously for the proposed budget.

According to Bergman the budget is tight, and includes hiring a part time City Manager, with an annually income of about \$20,000. The budget also eliminates the incentive and longevity pays, as well as merit raise allowance for the City employees.

For the next fiscal year services to the citizens of Winters will be reduced. Cemetery personnel will be sharing its only employee with the Street Department, and the limb pick up service will no longer be performed. Each individual will be responsible for his own house.

According to the City Mayor has been working with a deficit for the last seven years. This, he said, could drive Winters to face a bankruptcy within the next three years.

These measures, Bergman said, are adopted to deal with the deficit as well as the adjusted appraisal value, which passed from \$63,684,150 to an adjusted tax base of \$59,446,457. The \$4,237,693 loss represents a 7.7 percent of the appraisal value.

Tuesday's budget workshop was held by Mayor Lewis Bergman, Acting City Secretary Shelly Antilley-Guevara and Councilmembers Rene Woffenden, Armando Tamez and Jim Lincycomb. Council members Rick Dry and Chris Bahlman were absent.

Along with these cuts, some other measures approved previously by the City Council are being taken to improve the efficiency in different departments such as the City Pool, where the rates will be increased from \$0.50 to \$1 for children up to 4 and from \$1.50 to \$2 for 5 and over starting next summer.

Cemetery plots will also be updated: the two person plot will go from \$1,000 to \$2,000, and the six person plot will be increased from \$1,800 to \$2,500.

Also, the vacancy left by the retirement of the City Secretary will not be fulfilled.

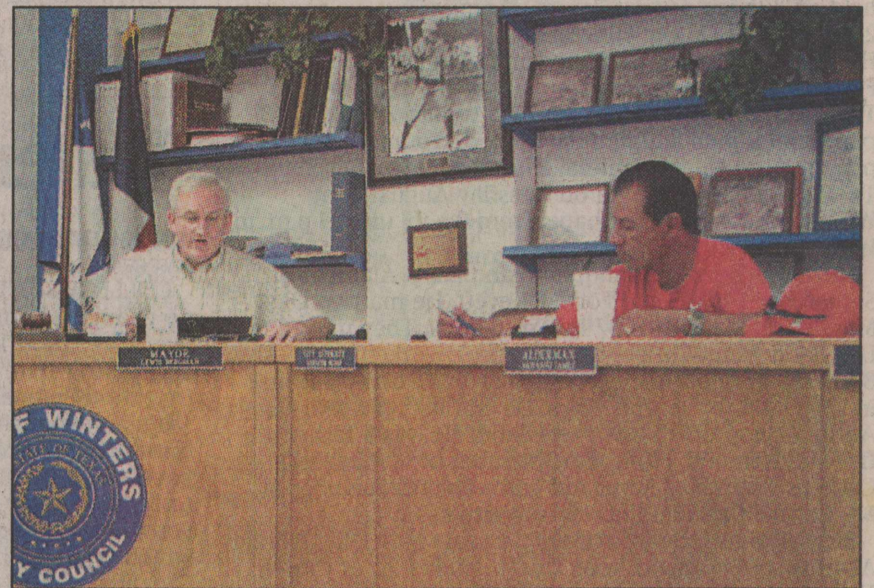


PHOTO: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
Mayor Lewis Bergman and Alderman Armando Tamez at the budget workshop held at the Winters Council chambers on Tuesday, August 2.

Ready for action

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS - Football season is officially underway. The Winters Blizzards got the football season kicked off on Monday morning August 1, at 7 a.m. Forty-two young men showed up for high school football practice.

The Blizzards will have back to back practices in the morning until August 15 and at that time they will switch to afternoon practices, said WHS Athletic Director and head football coach Stephen Hermesmeier.

The Blizzards will travel to Roby on August 13 for a scrimmage starting at 9 a.m. with the JV kids.

Cross Country practice began on August 8 at 6:30 p.m. Coach Holson will be the cross country coach this year. Coach Holson is a graduate of Abilene Wylie and ACU.



USDA extends deadline for grazing

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

WINTERS - Runnels County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Byron Bauerlein announced that, in response to drought conditions, the Texas FSA State Committee has extended the deadline for emergency grazing use of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for 25 Texas counties.

Emergency grazing of land enrolled in CRP has been extended through September 30, 2011 for the following counties: Bailey, Baylor, Callahan, Coleman, Concho, Dallam, Duval, Frio, Gaines, Gray, Hidalgo, Hill, Kinney, LaSalle, Maverick, Medina, Pecos, Randall, Runnels, Shackelford, Starr, Taylor, Terrell, Terry and Uvalde.

"Producers in counties that are also approved for emergency haying of CRP acres should note that this extension only applies to emergency grazing," said Bauerlein.

There will be a 25 percent CRP payment reduction for CRP acres used for grazing under these emergency provisions.

To take advantage of the emergency grazing provisions, authorized producers can use the CRP acreage for their own livestock or may grant another livestock producer the use of the CRP acreage. Eligible CRP acreage is limited to acreage located within the approved counties.

Eligible producers who are interested in grazing CRP under the emergency authorization and current CRP participants who choose to provide land for grazing to

SEE USDA, 4

Our streams now and then



PHOTOS: COURTESY SHARON ROHMFELD/RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ

In the midst of one of the worst droughts in Texas history, this 1986 picture allows to compare the water levels that our area streams registered back in those days, and the conditions they have now. A big rise in the Colorado River (left) was captured 25 years ago in this picture, sent to our newsroom by Sharon Rohmfeld. The most recent photo was taken at the same river this week.

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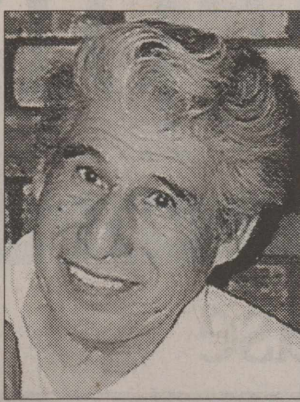
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FUNERALS AND DEATH NOTICES

Cruz Deanda Alambar

Cruz Deanda Alambar, 79, of Levelland formerly of Winters, Texas, passed away on Friday, August 5, in Levelland, Texas. He was born on September 14, 1931 in Fort McKeveitt. Cruz was the son of Tranquilino Alambar and Luisa Deanda Alambar. Funeral services were held on Wednesday August 10, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel Catholic Church in Winters, Texas. Rosary services were held on Sunday August 7, 2011 at Head Duarte Funeral Home, rosary and visitations continued at Winters Funeral Home on Tuesday August 9, at 7 p.m. in Winters, Tx. Visitation was held on Sunday August 7, from 1:00 p.m. until 9 p.m. and Monday Aug. 8, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Head Duarte Funeral Home Chapel in Levelland, Tx. Visitations continued on Tuesday August 9, at Winters Funeral Home Chapel from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. in Winters, Tx.



Cruz was born to Tranquilino and Luisa Alambar on September 14, 1931 of Fort McKeveitt. He married Olga Morales on May 16, 1957 in Winters, Tx. They moved to Levelland from Winters in 1962. Cruz worked in the Auto Body repair department at Phil Martin's Cheverly House in Levelland for several years. He and his wife own Olga's Antique Shop down town Levelland. He was a father of five children and a long time member of St. Michael's Catholic Church of Levelland and a Former member of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church of Winters, Tx.

Survivors include his wife of 54 years Mrs. Olga Morales Alambar of Levelland, sons Cruz Alambar Jr. of Clovis, New Mexico, Dr. Efreem Alambar of Lubbock, Alexander Alambar of Amarillo, Lewis Alambar of Lamesa, daughter Theresa (Scott) Scharfenberg of Lubbock, six grandchildren, his brother Nick Alambar of Denton, Tx, sisters: Catalina Ruiz and Maria (Tino) Rodriguez both of Ballinger, Carolina Alambar of Dallas, Santos Alambar of Odessa.

Cruz was preceded in death by his parents Tranquilino and Luisa Alambar and one brother Cecil Alambar of Denton, Tx.

Pallbearers were Ector Alambar, Erasmo Alambar, Nick Alambar Jr., Norman Alambar, Nole Alambar, Norbert Alambar. Internment was at Lake View Cemetery in Winters, Texas under the direction of Head Duarte Funeral Home, of Levelland.

Winters Enterprise, August 11, 2011.

Winters ISD to sponsor open house

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
CONTRIBUTED

Winters ISD will have a district wide open house and hot dog supper on Thursday, August 18th. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. Come and meet the teachers and have a hot dog or two.

There is still hope for West Texas gardeners

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

SAN ANGELO - There's still hope for home grown veggies this year for those who plant a fall garden, according to Texas AgriLife Extension Service expert. To help gardeners succeed, the AgriLife Extension office in Tom Green County will conduct a fall vegetable gardening class at 6 p.m. Aug. 30 at the Tom Green 4-H Center, 3168 N. U.S. Highway 67.

"Most gardeners have struggled with their vegetables this summer," said Allison Watkins, AgriLife Extension horticulturist in Tom Green County. "The heat and drought have made it very difficult

to grow healthy, productive plants. Many people don't realize that fall is a great time to garden. Milder temperatures and fewer pests allow vegetable plants to produce well, making them easier to care for than in the late spring and summer."

Watkins said the class will provide information on planning and preparing a fall garden, pest control, crop selection and timing, and gardening basics. There will also be a question and answer session at the end of the program.

"Even some avid summer gardeners don't realize that many of their favorite spring garden plants such as tomatoes and squash can be successfully grown in the fall," Watkins

said. "Then later in the season there are cool-season crops to consider such as spinach and broccoli. And best of all? It's way more pleasant to work outside when it's cooler."

Watkins said gardeners further north in the Panhandle might run into trouble with cold weather hindering warm season vegetable crops, but they can certainly plant cool season crops successfully.

The deadline to register is Aug. 23. Individual registration is \$25 which includes a meal, a tomato plant and a chance at door prizes.

Participants can pay at the door, but all must RSVP to attend by contacting Watkins at 325-659-6522 or aewatkins@ag.tamu.edu

Watering calculator helps preserve lawns

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

COLLEGE STATION - Drought or no drought, homeowners typically overwater their lawns, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service irrigation engineer.

It's an expensive practice anytime, but during an extended drought, it's particularly wasteful "and may lead to further water-use restrictions by communities if done by everyone, which is often the case," said Dr. Guy Fipps, AgriLife Extension irrigation engineer.

Moreover, it's unnecessary as there is an online calculator that will allow Texas homeowners to apply within a tenth of an inch of exactly the amount their turf grass needs, said Fipps, who is also the director of the Irrigation Technology Center at the Texas A&M University College Station campus.

"I guess a lot of people don't know this sort of information and tools exist," he said.

There is also a lot of misinformation circulating about, Fipps said. "Look at garden sections in newspapers and elsewhere, you'll typically see recommendations like water 1 inch to 2 inches a week, or that you should water infrequently and deeply - vague concepts like that," he said.

There are lots of reasons such an approach isn't appropriate, Fipps said. One reason is climatic variation.

"For example, this year we are

having a very hot and dry summer, and water requirements are 30 percent to 50 percent higher than they would be in a more normal year," he said.

In reality, the amount of irrigation a given variety of turf grass needs at any time depends upon many factors, such as temperature, humidity levels, wind, solar radiation and, of course, recent rainfall, if any, he said.

"The way you determine how much water grass actually needs is a fairly complex process, but fortunately, we have this website that does all that for you," he said. "All you need to do is put in a little info about your location, the type of grass you're growing, and what your goal is."

Personal goals vary, he said. Some people don't worry about the expense of watering and want a lawn as green as a golf course even during the drought. Others may want to strike a balance with the amount of water they apply, just wanting "pretty decent" turf quality. Others may want to conserve water and economize during drought restrictions and put on just enough water to keep the turf alive, he said.

"This choice greatly affects the amount of water you use and will double or triple the amount of irrigation water (in most parts of the state) from about 0.6 to 1.7 inches a week during August, and in West Texas from 0.9 to 2.2 inches a week," Fipps said.

To use the online-calculator tool,

go to the TexasET Network website at <http://texaset.tamu.edu/>.

The calculations are based on current weather data from nearly 30 automated scientific weather stations located throughout the state. Users must first pick one of these weather stations either from a drop-down menu or by simply clicking on the nearest one to them on the webpage's Texas map.

They then must click on one of three buttons: "home watering," "turf/landscape irrigation" or "crop irrigation."

"One simply puts out containers and run the irrigation system for a specified amount of time, usually 10 to 30 minutes," he said. "Everything from tuna cans to cups are often used, but the results must be converted to inches of water applied over the area per unit of time."

To make the process easier, Fipps designed the Aggie Catch Can. The catch can is cone-shaped and has graduated markings in both inches and millimeters to take the guesswork out of measuring, he said.

Aggie Catch Cans may be purchased as a kit on the AgriLife online bookstore at <http://agrilifebookstore.org>. For the Homeowner Kit, search for item number SP-424. Each kit comes with five cans and stands, as well as an instruction sheet, and costs \$18. "Unlike tuna cans, catch volumes may be read directly without the need for rulers or graduated cylinders," Fipps said.

Wildfires endanger suburban houses

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

DENTON - Few Texans realize that homes in suburban areas can be at risk from wildfires. But whether one lives in the forested areas or in suburbs on the outskirts of relatively treeless places, houses are at risk every year when wildfires sweep across the land. Sparks from wildfires as far as two miles away can

be blown into yards and roofs.

In order to prevent damages in the event of a wildfire, the Texas Forest Service recommends to remove ladders, trellises or any other object that might serve as a path for fire to travel from ground level to the roof of a building, or from the ground into canopies of trees.

Always avoid planting

shrubs and trees that catch fire easily, for example: juniper, yaupon holly, pine, evergreen, eucalyptus and fir trees. Instead, plant hardwoods, crepe myrtle, red yucca, forsythia, China rose and Texas sage.

Remove any tree limbs located within 10 feet of the chimney and roof, prune tree limbs from ground level to six feet up, regularly rake up leaves, dead limbs and other dead vegetation, remove branches, twigs and leaves from roof and gutter areas, and prune limbs of trees and shrubs that are near the ground.

Growing trees are always a threat for power lines, ask power companies to clear branches away from power lines.

Dry firewood and all combustible materials are always risk for houses, they should be placed at least 100 feet away from the house.

Store gasoline, oily rags and other flammable materials in approved safety containers.

For more information on fire danger and advisories, see the Texas Forest Service website at: <http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu>.

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10:10 AM & 4:05 PM - Bearcat Pep Rally
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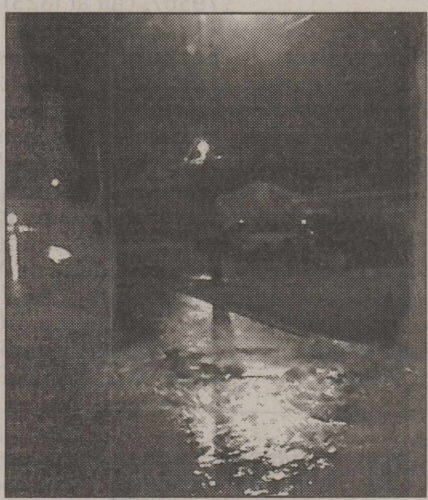
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concerned citizen addresses water leak

At midnight last night (Wednesday, Aug. 3), I noticed a bad water leak on the southwest corner of Broadway and S. Rogers. Water was gushing out from the street, and had probably been doing so for about 30 minutes. At 1 a.m. I checked on it again, and the water was still gushing. At this point, the two blocks of S. Rogers St. south of Broadway were completely flooded. I left a voicemail with the after hours water emergency line, and I sent a text message to the same number (it's a cell number). I also called the non-emergency Police line to report the problem. Despite my efforts to get the water shut off, nobody came to address the issue. It wasn't until this morning (Thursday, Aug. 4) that anything was done about it.



Why, in a major drought when water is so very precious to us, was this not addressed last night? What is the point of an after hours water emergency line if nobody is going to respond? Our tax dollars are at work for what? Is sleep more important than the thousands of gallons of water pouring frivolously into the streets of Winters?

I have attached a picture that I took with my cell phone.

Gregory Bartlett,
Winters, Texas

City Secretary thanks for retirement party

First of all, I want to thank my First Baptist Church family for hosting my retirement party. It was very nice and greatly appreciated! Secondly, I want to thank all of those who attended, sent words of encouragement and well wishes through prayers, by card, email and/or Facebook, and for the wonderful gifts. God is so good and has blessed me with many family and friends of which has been very evident. Your outpouring of support has been deeply appreciated and will never be forgotten.

When Margaret Baldwin came to me some 33 year ago and asked if I wanted to go to work for the City, I never

dreamed I would be there for so long! However, I never expected it would come to such an abrupt end either! I really thought I had a few more good years left in me before I would be "put out to pasture"!

Over the years I've seen a lot of changes to our little town and I remember most of them by major milestones in my life. When I was pregnant with Michelle, Elm Creek Reservoir was built. When I was pregnant with Marci and Shane the water treatment plant was renovated. And while I was dealing with my Mother's illness, City Hall was remodeled. Just recently I witnessed another major renovation of the water treatment plant, sewer treatment plant, water line replacement projects, and the beginning of the installation of digital read meters. We had a City Manager who made a statement when he first came to Winters, "welcome to Winters, set your clock back 40 years!" Well, Mr. MacIvaine, that's not the case anymore! We've gone digital!

During my 33 years I have worked with seven mayors, numerous council members, as well as seven City Managers. And I can't even begin to tell you how many personnel who I've seen come through the doors! In fact, there have been several times when someone called for employment verification and I had to ask when the person worked for the City because I had totally forgotten about them! There was one day when a former Police officer came in to say hi and after he left, I had to go through personnel files to figure out what his name was!

I have seen and experienced a lot of ups and downs during my tenure, but for the most part, working for the public made it all worth while and rewarding. I enjoyed being able to help someone whether it be finding a solution to problems with their water bill, helping someone pay out their taxes so they wouldn't lose their property, to making arrangements to help some sweet little old lady with her stray cat problem. I've also had the pleasure of working with some wonderful people, many of whom are responsible for keeping me sane enough to endure the not so good times! All will greatly be missed. I just wished I would have kept a diary during the years because I'm sure it would have made a best seller!

Thanks again for allowing me to "serve" you and for the fond memories you helped make! It means a lot to not only me, but my family as well. Please keep us in your prayers as we go through this sudden change in our life. Even though retirement was not my choice and I don't understand why this all happened like it did, I know God has a plan for me and I hope and pray I don't disappoint Him!

Love you guys!
Shelia Mathis Paschal

NEWS NOTES

WJH schedules on Aug. 17

Winters Junior High School will be picking up their schedules on Wednesday, August 17 in three different time slots. Schedules for Sixth Grade students will be given from 1:30-2:30 p.m., Seventh Grade schedules will be given from 2:30-3:30 p.m., and Eighth Grade schedules from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

On Thursday, August 18, WJHS will have its open house from 7:30-8 p.m. Parents and new students are welcome to meet the teachers and get familiar with the facilities.

On Tuesday, August 23, Meet the Blizzards will be held at Blizzard Stadium, at a time TBA, ice cream hot dogs will be served.

WHS classes of 1976-80 reunion

Winters High School Classes of 1976-1980 invites all of their classmates and graduates to a multi class reunion September 23-24, 2011. A hamburger supper will be held at the school cafeteria at 5:30 p.m. before the Winters vs. Bronte football game. An after game fellowship sponsored by the Ex Student Association is tentatively being planned to be held after the football game at the Winters Community Center.

On Saturday, a tour of the high school and new activity center is planned to begin at 1:30 p.m. From 3-6 p.m., visiting will be at The Shed Pavilion 608 CR 226, Wingate, TX. At 6:30 p.m. a catered BBQ dinner will be served. A dance will begin at 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person. Class representatives are: Class of 1976, Becky Bryan Airhart 1412 S. Main Winters, TX 79567; Class of 1977, Teresa Wright Walden 717 FM 2405 Winters, TX 79567; Class of 1978, Marsha Smith 908 State Winters, TX 79567; Class of 1979, Janet Jacob Cason 6010 Hwy. 83 Winters, TX 79567; Class of 1980 Renee' Pierce Calcote 100 Park Lane Winters, TX 79567. Please RSVP to your respective class representative by September 12, 2011. The organization is working to contact all classmates of these five classes.

WHS activity calendar

These are some important dates to remember. Aug. 13 - 10 a.m. First high school scrimmage (at Roby) Aug. 22 - First day of school HS Cross Country Practice will begin on August 8 at 6:30 p.m. (meeting with Coach Holson) and running at 7

p.m. at the HS gym.

Immunization clinic

The Texas Department of State Health Services will be having an immunization clinic in Ballinger, on Thursday, August 11 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:30 to 3 p.m. at 608 Strong (behind the Courthouse). Please bring child's immunization records. If child has Medicaid or CHIP, please bring card. For more information call 325-754-4945.

Cross Emmaus Community gatherings

The Cross Emmaus Community gatherings held second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 at the United Methodist Church. For more information call (325) 365 2323.

VFW meetings

Winters Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9193 meet the second Monday night of each month at 6 p.m. in the Rock Hotel. All eligible veterans of the United States military are invited to attend.

Band Boosters

The Band Boosters meet

Senior Citizens Activity Center Menu

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August 15 - 19 Subject to change

MONDAY
Vegetable Soup, Pimento Cheese Sandwich, Fruit Salad, Celery Stick, Cookies.

TUESDAY -- EXERCISE 12:15
Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Corn, Garlic Bread, Cake.

WEDNESDAY
Liver or Steak, Parsley Potatoes, Greens, Cornbread, Jam Crunch Bar.

THURSDAY
Chicken & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Peaches.

FRIDAY -- EXERCISE 12:15
Burritos, Spiced Rice, Pinto Beans, Chips & Hot Sauce, Dessert.

Meals are served 11:30 a.m. daily. Anyone who does not take the meals regularly is asked to reserve a lunch by contacting the Activity Center at 754-4205 by 1 a.m.

at 6:30 p.m. every Monday evening at Dot's Diner.

Winters Women's Club

Members meet the second Tuesday of the month. Call Marlene Smith at 754-4961 for additional information.

AA Meetings

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

Ballinger Al-Anon meetings

Al-Anon meetings will be held every Monday and Wednesday at the First United Methodist Church of Ballinger, on Broad Ave. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Please enter through the south side of the church.

Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce meets at 5:30 p.m. first Monday of the month at DLC Realty 116 S. Main St. in the backroom.

City Council Meetings

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

School Board Meetings

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

Wingate Masonic Lodge meetings

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

Ballinger Masonic Lodge meeting

Masonic Lodge # 643, 500 N Broadway, Ballinger Tx. Stated meetings are at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of every month except for holidays if it falls on that Monday. For more information call (325) 365 3202.

Welcome letter from WISD Superintendent Don Kuempel, Jr.

Blizzards Upbeat for 2011-12 school year

Record-setting heat and drought are two prevalent forces that will usher in the 2011-12 school year. Being reared and having lived in Texas all my life, I have come to accept begrudgingly the temperature gauge typically does not fall below 100 degrees until October finally rolls around. Driving throughout our community over the past few months, one can observe the seriousness of this problem by reading the bevy of common messages posted on nearly every church marquee evoking people to "Pray for Rain".

Even more compelling has been the outpouring of prayer vigils and requests in this and surrounding communities. It seems rain, or the lack thereof, is weighing heavily on everyone's mind just as we are nearing the advent of the 2011-12 school year. Two things are certain: we will have a successful school year and it will rain again. As much as we wish we could have an on and off climate switch, school staff have no control over Mother Nature, undoubtedly designed that way for our own good. Imagine what problems humanity would create if that were possible.

Fortunately, we do have a say in the organizing and planning of the new school season. Based on current research and best instructional practices, our teachers and staff have participated in several meaningful workshops and trainings not only to hone their craft, but to learn innovative and better approaches to develop curriculum and create engaging lessons for our children. Equally important, our custodial and maintenance staffs have worked very diligently over the summer break to ensure our campuses are clean, safe and in neat appearance. You can literally see your reflection emanating from the freshly waxed and polished floors. This district is beaming with pride!

Expect to see many new faces on campus as we have hired many wonderful teachers, administrators, and staff to bolster our already exceptional team. The administrative staff increased by two with the addition two campus principals: Mrs. Sammy Edwards, Elementary Principal and Mr. Jeff Henry, Junior High Principal. If you have not already met these two dynamic individuals, you are in for a very pleasant surprise. When you see Mrs. Edwards, be sure to ask her about her rascally orphaned raccoon, and be sure to ask Mr. Henry about his beloved border collies.

We have several new coaches and teachers who have joined the Blizzard faculty: Steve Cates (HS Math), Chase Richardson (Jr. High Sped), Kelsey Holson (Jr. High AVID and Social Studies), Scott Bicknell (Elem PE), and Aven Straw (HS English). Expect a great athletic and academic season for all our boys' and girls' teams as Athletic Director Hermes Meyer has assembled an incredibly solid group of coaches. On the teaching front, we are pleased to welcome Tracy Cates (Jr. High English), Megan Belew (Elementary Third Grade) and Billy Mobley, our new Technology Director. Be sure to check out the new web site slated for unveiling in September; it should be a drastic improvement graphically and in providing school news and information.

As always, my door is always open and I look forward to serving my first fall as your Superintendent.

God bless and Go Blizzards!

Don Kuempel, Jr.
Superintendent, Winters ISD

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Texas drought becomes officially the worst ever

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

COLLEGE STATION - As Texas continues to bake in record heat, the drought news for the state continues to be bleak - Texas is now in the midst of its most severe one-year drought on record, according to John Nielsen-Gammon, the Texas State Climatologist and professor of atmospheric sciences at Texas A&M University.

Preliminary reports from the National Climatic Data Center indicate that July 2011 was the warmest month ever recorded statewide for Texas, with data going back to 1895, Nielsen-Gammon reports. The average temperature of 87.2 degrees broke the previous record of 86.5 degrees set in 1998. The June average temperature of 85.2 was a record for that month and now ranks fifth warmest overall.

Rainfall totals were also unusually light across the state. The July monthly total of 0.72 inches ranks third driest, surpassed by the 0.69 inches recorded in both 1980 and 2000. This is the fifth consecutive month in which precipitation totals were among the 10 driest for that month, says the Texas A&M professor.

Among the other rainfall records set this month: least year-to-date precipitation (6.53 inches; historical average 16.03 inches; previous record 9.36 inches in 1917); driest consecutive 8, 9 and 10 months on record (7.25 inches 8.35 inches, and 9.17 inches respectively); and driest 12 months ending in July (15.16 inches, previous record 16.46 inches in 1925).

"These statistics rank the current drought as the most severe one-year drought ever for Texas," Nielsen-Gammon explains. "Never before has so little rain been recorded prior to and during the primary growing season for crops, plants and warm-season grasses."

Texas would need more than 4.5 inches of rain in the next two months to avoid breaking the 1956 record for driest 12 consecutive months, he adds.

"Dr. Nielsen-Gammon's work confirms the harsh realities," Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples says.

"The extreme heat and unprecedented dry weather are crippling agricultural operations in Texas upon which all Americans rely for food, fuel, clothing and

other daily necessities. This historic drought has depleted water resources, leaving our state's farmers and ranchers in a state of dire need. The damage to our economy is already measured in billions of dollars and continues to mount."

Recent rains have brought some relief from drought conditions in extreme west Texas, extreme south Texas and extreme southeast Texas. However, in the interior of the state, conditions remain dire, Nielsen-Gammon says.

"The climate division that covers west-central Texas has received only 3.32 inches of rainfall since Nov.1," says Nielsen-Gammon. "That's less than 21 percent of the historical average and less than half of the previous record, set in 1956. Add in the record heat, and it's just devastating."

Nielsen-Gammon notes that the most severe Texas drought overall is still the 1950-1957 drought. During the most intense year of that drought - 1956 - Texas set its all-time record for lowest 12-month precipitation, 13.69 inches ending in September.

"But in 1956, much of the rain fell in the spring when crops were being established," he says. "The current 12-month total (from 2010 to 2011) is dominated by rain that fell early last fall, and the ground had already dried out in many parts of the state by planting time."

Because the 1950-1957 drought lasted longer, it had a substantial impact on water supplies across the state, and most water supplies are now designed to withstand a similar drought, the Texas A&M professor explains.

"The present drought is shorter but sharper," Nielsen-Gammon adds. "So far, its impacts have been disproportionately felt in agriculture, but many water suppliers throughout the state have now imposed water restrictions."

"The outlook is not entirely grim," he reports. "Late August and September bring increased chances of widespread rain from tropical disturbances, as well as the occasional cold front. Some computer models predict a return to La Niña conditions this winter, which would imply continued dry weather, but most predict neutral conditions in the tropical Pacific and the possible return of normal weather patterns."

Winters ISD will continue free meals

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

WINTERS - The Winters Independent School District announced that it is making plans to continue the Provision II Meal Program for all of its students in grades Pre-K thru Twelfth Grade. The National School Lunch and Breakfast Program for the 2011-2012 school year will provide for all students in grades Pre-K thru Twelfth Grade to receive breakfast and lunch at no cost.

For additional information please contact Lisa O'Dell, Winters Food Service at 603 North Heights, Winters, Texas

79567, call at (325) 754-5574 extension 1122, or e-mail at lisa.odell@wintersisd.org

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No excuse for drinking and driving

Excuses won't protect impaired drivers

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN - State officials say excuses won't protect impaired drivers from being arrested during the annual Labor Day DWI crackdown.

The Texas Department of Transportation and the Texas Department of Public Safety say drivers who rationalize with excuses like "I can hold my liquor," or "I'm fine to drive," or "I'll take the back roads home" face an expensive fine, losing their license, and jail time if they are convicted of driving while intoxicated.

Thousands of state troopers, Police officers, and Sheriff's deputies across the state will be out in force as part of the Drink, Drive, Go to Jail stepped-up enforcement effort and public awareness campaign which begins August 19 and runs through Labor Day.

"It comes down to making the right choices and planning ahead if you are going to drink," said Carol Rawson, TxDOT's Traffic

Operations Division Director. "No matter how good your excuse may seem at the time, it won't save you when an officer pulls you over. We're reminding people that drinking and driving is a crime with serious consequences and warning them that more officers will be on the streets looking for impaired drivers."

Convicted first-time DWI offenders can pay a fine of up to \$2,000, lose their driver's license for up to a year and serve as much as 180 days in jail. Safety officials say other costs associated with an impaired driving arrest and conviction can add up to as much as \$17,000 or more for bail, legal fees, court appearances, court-ordered classes, vehicle insurance increases, and other expenses.

The Texas Department of Public Safety has a zero tolerance policy for drinking and driving. Director Steven McCraw said, "If you are driving and found to be impaired, you will be arrested."

In 2010, there were 25,032 alcohol-related crashes in Texas that resulted in 1,057 deaths and 16,877 injuries. In 2010, 24 percent of people killed in alcohol-related crashes in Texas were between the ages of 20 and 25, though that age group represents only 9 percent of the overall state population. More alcohol related crashes occur between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. than any other hour of the day. Also, more alcohol related crashes occurred on Saturday than any other day of the week.

Safety advocates are urging drivers to consider a variety of alternatives to getting behind the wheel if they've been drinking. They suggest calling a cab, asking a friend or a family member for a ride, handing keys to a designated driver, or simply stay put until the driver sobers up. TxDOT's digital RideFinder at www.TexasDWI.org, accessible from smart phones, lists ride options in local areas throughout Texas.

THE IDLE AMERICAN

Versatility redefined...

He was, by any measure, the most versatile student whose path I crossed during a 40-year career in higher education.

Upon completing high school in Toronto, he was off on his bike to "seek his fortune." This sounds like a nursery rhyme beginning; for Dan Murray, though, it was the real deal. First, he flew to Vancouver, the starting point of his 3,400-mile biking adventure that ended in Texas 36 days later. (The only "break" was a stop in San Francisco to run in the marathon.)

He was a freshman at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, TX for the 1991 spring semester. Like most other first-year students, he was unsure of his academic path. Dan was certain, though, that while at the undergraduate fountain, he would take on collegiate experiences in big gulps. My family and I — as well as colleagues and his fellow students — quickly realized that he didn't march to drummer beats. A sharp picture would show him strapped to a laser beam — maybe multiple beams — hanging on for the ride....

This is not to say I always understood his judgment. Sometimes when I heard "Can-you-believe-what-Dan-did" stories, I cringed, thankful he survived. I'll cite just a couple.

One Thanksgiving, he headed for Sacramento on a motorcycle one would expect to buy for a three-digit figure at Sanford and Son's place. Never mind it was sleet-



TEXAS
COLUMNIST
Don
Newbury

ing, with the temperature in the tens. He fell asleep near Las Cruces, struck a road sign, sustained a deep gash on a big toe and knocked a foot peg off the 'cycle. He bought a needle, thread and alcohol, sewed up the toe and proceeded to Sacramento.

"I also would have recommended that he leave it to others for challenges of a country road's "thrill hill." It was near the campus, and its 75-foot drop on a thousand-foot descent lured students for assorted races. Dan, though, was the first to make the descent on roller blades, sometimes at speeds exceeding 50 MPH. Clad in leather clothing, he came to sudden stops by falling down before smacking into a foreboding cable-topped fence....

The list of accomplishments is far longer than his "freshman follies," some in which he was engaged for all four years. A graduate of the university's prestigious Douglas MacArthur Academy of Freedom, Dan's interests were many and varied.

He was a member of three honor societies, played trumpet in the marching and concert bands and appeared in a college drama. A cheerleader all four years, he was a three-time All-American and "top gun stunter." As head cheerleader for two years, he led the school's first-ever team in national competition.

He also was a member of HPU's championship track teams in 1993-94, running in the 800-meter, 1,500-meter and 5,000-meter events. In '94, the conference track meet was held in Abilene, where he was to take the MCAT exam on the same day. I urged him to forego the 5,000-meter race that day. He ran the race in the a.m., then sat for the MCAT in the afternoon. And he did well in both....

He won numerous academic honors, and later was the alumni association's "outstanding young graduate" during 2004 homecoming activities.

In 1995, he was off to medical school at Texas A&M University. In an initial class, his studies included a textbook written by his father, Dr. Robert Murray, a longtime member of the faculty at the University of Toronto Medical School. Dan received his M.D. diploma in 1999 before completing his residency in family medicine in 2002. Specialty honors included his being named chief

resident and "resident of the year."

Next were duties as a flight surgeon in the U. S. Air Force. Yet another degree was forthcoming. He received the Master of Public Health degree as part of the residency in Aerospace Medicine from UTMB-Galveston. Awards continued to multiply....

A few weeks ago, he was one of eight officers graduating from the residency in Aerospace Medicine. At the San Antonio ceremony, my wife and I "teared up," noting how Dan has continued to endear himself to others. He was host for the commencement speaker, Lt. Gen. Bruce Green, Surgeon General of the Air Force. It was a weepy occasion for everyone, this being the final event for the military facility that provided medical training for almost an entire century.

Now, Lt. Col./Dr. Murray — or just "Dan, the guy who conquered 'thrill hill'" — is Chief of Aerospace medicine at Vandenberg AFB in California. When astronauts come back into play, his name is on the candidacy list. Any parents would be proud to call him "son."

We salute him, his wife, the former Melissa Wertz, and their live wire sons, Kaid and Ian, who, at ages 4 and 2, are "chips off the old block"....

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Metroplex. Send inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.

USDA: emergency grazing

CONTINUED FROM 1

an eligible livestock producer, must first request approval to graze eligible acreage; obtain a modified conservation plan from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to include grazing requirements, leave at least

25 percent of each field or contiguous CRP field ungrazed for wildlife, or graze not more than 75 percent of the stocking rate as determined by NRCS.

For more information on emergency grazing of CRP acres contact the Runnels County FSA office at 325-365-5757.

CIUDAD DE WINTERS, TEXAS

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA REFERENTE A REALINEACIÓN LOS DISTRITOS DE LOS MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO

Conforme la información emitida por el Censo del 2010, los distritos de los miembros del Consejo de la Ciudad no son suficientemente equitativos en cuanto a su población, por lo cual deberán ser nuevamente configurados de acuerdo al principio "una persona - un voto", establecido por la Constitución de los Estados Unidos.

El Consejo de la Ciudad de Winters está considerando nuevos límites para los distritos de los miembros del Consejo y desea escuchar su opinión. Díganos que piensa sobre el plan preliminar para el distrito de los miembros del Consejo durante la audiencia pública descrita a continuación:

AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA REFERENTE A LAS PROPUESTAS DE REDISTRIBUCIÓN

Hora: 6:00 p.m.
Fecha: August 29, 2011
Dirección: 301 South Main Street, Winters, Texas

El plan preliminar para los distritos de los miembros del Consejo estará disponible durante la audiencia para ser inspeccionado por el público, y también durante horas hábiles en 310 South Main Street, Winters, Texas 79567, de Lunes a Viernes a partir de hoy hasta la fecha de la audiencia pública. Los planes preliminares y toda información referente a la manera de presentar comentarios tocante al proceso de redistribución de la Ciudad están disponibles en el sitio web de la Ciudad en Winters. De igual forma, si tiene alguna pregunta, puede llamar al 325-754-4424 y Shelly Antilley-Guevara.

CITY OF WINTERS, TEXAS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON REALIGNING COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICTS

According to the 2010 Census data, the City's councilmember districts are not of sufficiently equal population and must be redrawn in order to comply with the "one-person, one-vote" principle established by the U.S. Constitution.

The Winters City Council is considering new boundaries for its councilmember districts and wants to hear from you. Tell us what you think about the preliminary councilmember district plan at the public hearing described below:

PUBLIC HEARING ON REDISTRICTING PROPOSAL

Time: 6:00 p.m.
Date: August 29, 2011
Address: 310 South Main Street, Winters, Texas 79567

The preliminary plan for the councilmember districts will be available at the hearing and is available for public inspection during normal business hours at 310 South Main Street, Winters, Texas 79567 Monday through Friday from now until the date of the public hearing. You may also call Shelly Antilley-Guevara at 325-754-4424 if you have any questions.

100
Announcements
160 Special Notices

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Runnels County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year budget for all interested citizens of Runnels County.

This year's tax levy to fund maintenance and operations expenditures does not exceed last year's maintenance and operations tax levy.

This hearing will be in the Runnels County Judge's Office/Commissioners Courtroom on August 23, 2011 at 10:00 am for the purpose of consideration of the proposed budget. The proposed budget may be examined on weekdays in the County Clerk's Office, Runnels County Courthouse, from 8:30am to 12:00 noon and from 1:00pm to 5:00pm.

Barry Hilliard County Judge Runnels County, Texas

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC 109 & 114

THE STATE OF TEXAS: IN THE INTEREST OF CARISSA ALEXIS MARTINEZ, A CHILD CAUSE NO. 790 IN THE 119TH DISTRICT COURT OF RUNNELS COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: ERIC JASON MARTINEZ
Defendant GREETING

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued."

You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 am on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after this citation is issued, a default judgment may be taken against you."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation. The same being the Monday, September 5, 2011 before the Honorable District Court of Runnels County, at the Courthouse in said County in Ballinger, Texas.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: **ORIGINAL PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF CHILD** as shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit. Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Ballinger, Texas this 21st day of July 2011.

Attorney for Plaintiff or Plaintiff: Elizabeth O'Connor P.O. Box 495 Ballinger, Texas 76821.

Clerk of the Court: Tammy Burleson P.O. Box 166 Ballinger, Texas 76821

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As provided by the state environmental review process adopted in the Permanent Rules of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) 31 Texas Administrative Code §375, Subchapter E for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S. Code §4321, et seq., the Executive Administrator of

the TWDB has determined that response dated June 29, 2011 proposed indicating that no historic properties will be affected and the project may proceed as planned.

This project will not impact wetlands or waters of the United States (U.S.) that are under the jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers and Amendments as noted above, no significant impacts to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

It is the policy of Ballinger ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Vocational Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; as amended.

The exclusion shall be revoked if (1) it is found that, due to changes in the project, the proposed action no longer meets the criteria for will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information your grievance procedure, contact the Coordinator and/or the Coordinator, Will Brewer, Superintendent at 802 Conda Avenue, Ballinger, Texas (325)365-3588.

NOTIFICACION PUBLICA DE NO DISCRIMINACION EN PROGRAMAS VOCACIONALES
Ballinger ISD ofrece programas vocacionales en Agriculture Science, Career and Technology, Family & Consumer Science, Business/Office Education and Industrial Technology. La admision a estos programas se basa en student course request, counseling, and prior course prerequisites.

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Education Programs

Ballinger ISD offers career and technical education programs in Agriculture Science, Career and Technology, Family & Consumer Science, Business/Office Education and Industrial Technology. Admission to these programs is based on student course request, counseling, and prior course prerequisites.

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de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Es norma de Ballinger ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, la ley de Discriminación por Edad, de 1975, según enmienda, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Ballinger ISD tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso del inglés no sea un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para información sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX, y/o el Coordinador de la Sección 504, y/o Will Brewer, Superintendente, 802 Conda Ave. Ballinger, Texas (325) 365-3588.

Texas Education Agency Division of Career and Technical Education

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Education* Programs

Winters ISD offers career and technical education programs in Agricultural Science, Computer Technology, and Family Consumer Science. Admission to these programs is based on interest and aptitude, age appropriateness, and class space availability

It is the policy of Winters ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as

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amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Es norma de Winters ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, la ley de Discriminación por Edad, de 1975, según enmienda, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Winters ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requiere el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda. Es norma de Winters ISD no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Winters ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your grievance procedure, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Don Kuempel, Superintendent at 603 N. Heights Winters TX 79567, 325-754-5574

Texas Education Agency Division of Career and Technical Education

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technical Education* Programs

Winters ISD offers career and technical education programs in Agricultural Science, Computer Technology, and Family Consumer Science. Admission to these programs is based on interest and aptitude, age appropriateness, and class space availability

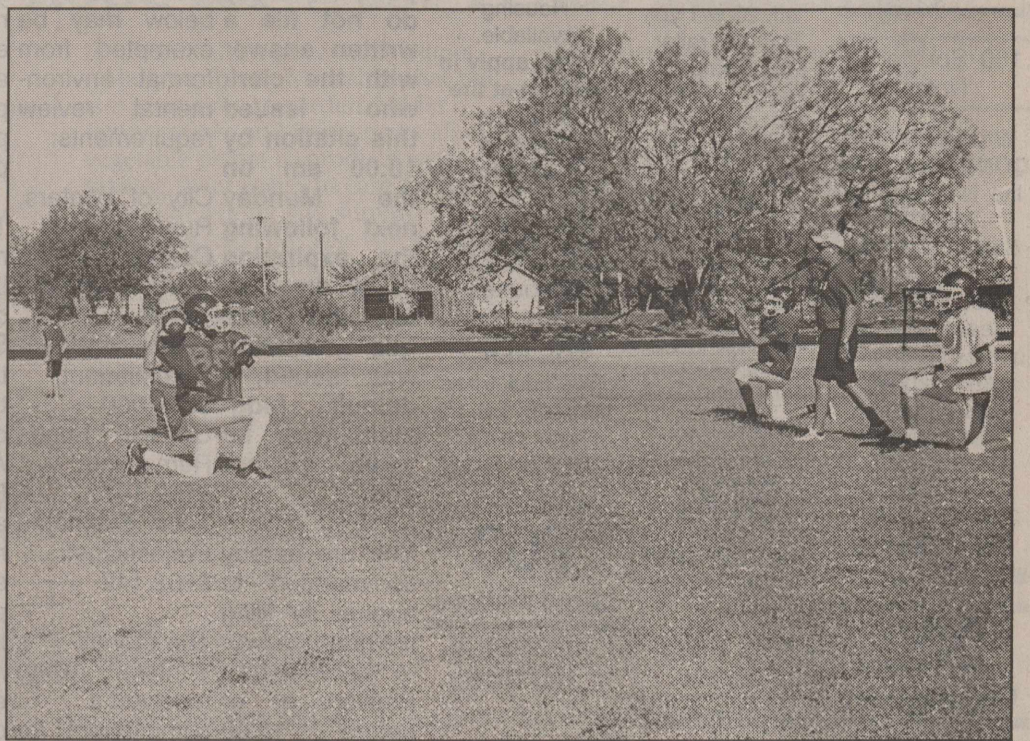
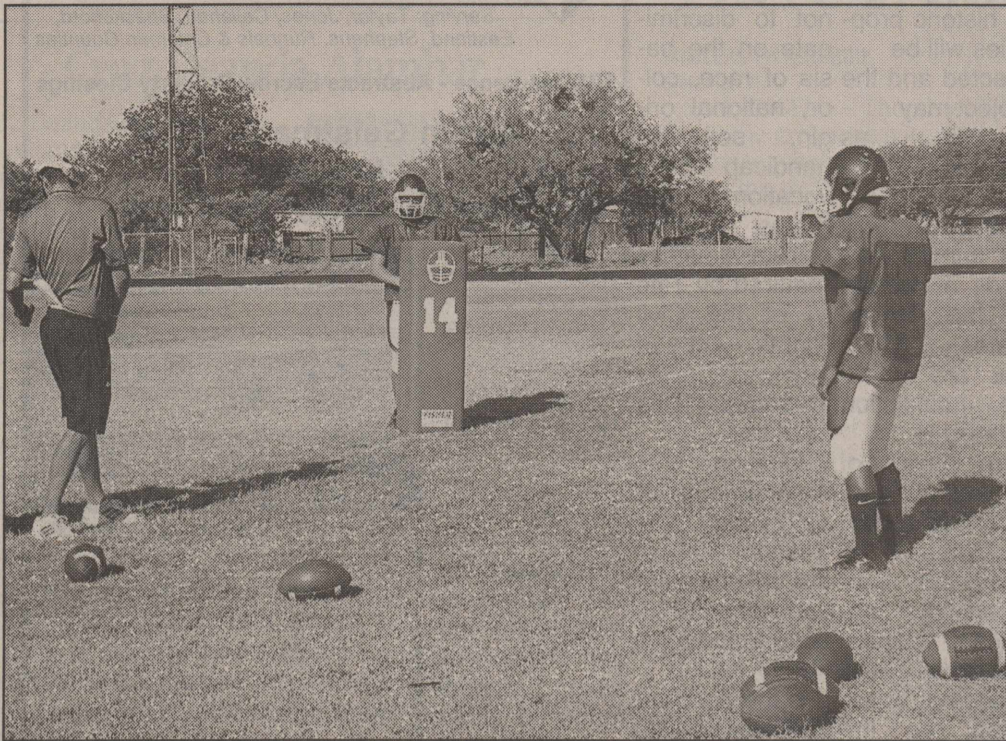
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910 State, Winters - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, living, dining room, vinyl siding, one car carport.
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NEW LISTING: 517 Tinkle, Winters, Texas - 4 bdrm, 2 baths, very clean, carpet, tile, custom kitchen cabinets, dishwasher, utility room, central h/a, carport, metal roof
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PHOTOS: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ

Back to back practices will continue for the Winters Blizzards during the morning hours to help prevent heat related injuries. Afternoon practices will begin after August 15.

New West Texas Court represented

SHEILA CAVAZOS

WINTERS ENTERPRISE

BALLINGER - America's Girl is proud to announce the crowning of our newest West Texas court.

Magdalena Hogan has been crowned America's Girl West Texas Teen Miss. She is the daughter of Paula Martinez and Fred Hogan. Maggie will be attending Angelo State University to major in theatre and minor in communications. After college she plans to be on the movie screens. Crowned as America's Girl West Texas Jr. Teen Miss is Carissa Cavazos. She is the daughter of Sheila and George Cavazos Jr and will be a sophomore at Ballinger High School. Carissa plans to finish high school and attend college to become a physical therapist.

Crowned as America's Girl West Texas Young Miss is Jamiee Keesee. Jamiee is the daughter of Aaron and

Julie Keesee and will be in the fifth grade at Ballinger Elementary. She is interested in cheerleading, basketball, softball, and plans to be a fashion designer. Korey Cavazos is also crowned as the America's Girl West Texas Petite Miss. Korey is the daughter of Sheila and George Cavazos Jr and will be in the 1st grade at Ballinger Elementary. She is interested in soccer, softball, gymnastics and plans to be something in the medical field so she can help people.

America's Girl Pageant is currently one of the fastest growing Natural Pageant Systems in the South and in the USA. America's Girl is currently in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, North and South Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Oregon and California. America's Girl is setting a new standard in

the Natural Pageant Industry. As a fast growing organization, America's Girl is an excellent opportunity for young girls, boys and young ladies to compete in the pageant world today. By participating in a strong, honest and fair program, contestants will be able to compete for sought after titles, awards and other prizes throughout their pageant journey.

We take pride in offering the youth of today the opportunity to become the leaders of tomorrow. America's Girl helps in developing good grooming, poise, personality and focusing on the ability to display excellent character in the world of today's "times", by affirming high standards, morals and honesty.

America's Girl's title holders will be role models and set examples for their surrounding peers. By competing within the pageant sys-

tem, America's Girl will help their contestants and royalty to develop their character, confidence, and sportsmanship qualities.

With many age divisions for both young boys and girls, there is an age division for everyone from 0 to Ms. Divisions. America's Girl works very hard to keep their pageant system affordable for everyone, preliminary fees are around \$35.00, State fees are about \$150.00, and Nationals about \$250.00. America's Girl offers discounts and contests all year long to help those that are having a hard time funding their pageant entry fees. America's Girl helps with fundraising, and offers support for those needing help with entry fees.

America's Girl works hard to offer all of their contestants, and Royalty many opportunities for appearances and events all year long. The 2011/12 year AG will be performing live at Dixie Stampede, and Silver Dollar City in Branson, Missouri, Santa's Village, in Richardson, Texas, and the Christmas Fest in Denton, TX. Many more events will be announced thru out the year.

Our next preliminary pageant will be held on October 15 in Ballinger. For more information please call the local director at (325) 718-9989 to get the details.



PHOTO: SHEILA CAVAZOS

West Texas Court

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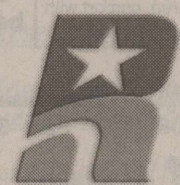
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