

Early voting starts Monday

Early voting for the May 24 Primary Runoff election will begin Monday May 16 and run through Friday, May 20. The election includes three races on the Republican side with Wayne Christian and Gary Gates running for Railroad Commissioner; Ray Wheless and Mary Lou Keel vying for the Judge **Court of Criminal Appeals** Place 2 and Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals Place 5 between Brent Webster and Scott Walker. Only the race for Railroad Commissioner between Grady Yarbrough and Cody Garrett are on the Democratic ballot.

Voters may cast ballots from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Runnels County Courthouse Annex on the corner of 6th Street and Strong Ave. in Ballinger.

The election will be held Tuesday May 24 with the polls opening from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.. The polling locations have been combined in Runnels County with Precincts 1,2,7,8.9 and 10 at the Ballinger Courthouse Annex and Precincts 3,4,5 and 6 at the Winters Tax Office at 143 West Dale St. in Winters.

Prom Night Saturday

The Winters High School Junior Senior Prom will be held Saturday at the Texas Theater in Ballinger. The junior class will be deco-



FILE PHOTO

The Z.I. Hale Museum board is seeking new members. Some of their annual projects include raising funds for the "Paint the Rock" project to paint and repair the Rock Hotel Heritage Center.

Z.I. Hale Museum seeking new members

Organization had a successful year, through events and projects

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

Each year members of the Z.I. Hale Museum Board conduct a membership drive seeking new member and to make sure current members renew their memberships with the Z. I. Hale Museum Complex. Memberships and donations make the work of the Z.I. Hale Museum possible each year. Contributors can earmark their funds for a specific project or event or just make sure their funds are contributed to the general fund. The annual meeting will be held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 7 at the Rock Hotel Heritage Center. Suzanne Campbell, curator of the West Texas Collection at Angelo State University will be the guest speaker. The recent Quanah

SEE MUSEUM, Page 8





Mike Neal

Neal joins TCEA's Board of Directors for 2016-17

STAFF REPORT

rating for prom at the Old Texas Theater in Ballinger at 8 a.m. Saturday. Any Junior parents willing to help are encouraged come and help decorate. .

The last drop

More rain fell on Runnels County last week adding some additional moisture to the area. Ballinger tallied just .26 inches of precipitation while Wingate received .41 inches of rain according to the National Weather Service in San Angelo.

After the system that brought rains to the area on Sunday, sunny skies emerged and a warming trend prevailed with temperatures reaching the upper 80s Monday. Thursday the forecast for Runnels County calls a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms with a high of 79 and a low of 59. Friday expect sunny conditions with the high reaching 82. Rain chances return Saturday . A 30 percent chance of rain is in the forecast for Saturday and Sunday decreasing to 20 percent overnight.

So far this year, Ballinger has received 8.20 inches of rainfall, with 8.66 reported in Wingate and 9.25 inches received in San Angelo.

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

gov/sjt/

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PHOTO COURTESY OF A.J. PENA

Storms swirled around Runnels County on Sunday, May 8, 2016 bringing severe weather to surrounding Taylor and Jones counties. Here, storm clouds loom over Wilmeth near Wingate.

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

n Sunday evening, thunderstorms brewed across Runnels County and though the clouds looked ominous and the lightening show was intense, very little moisture fell on the area.

According to the National Weather Service in San Angelo, an upper level low descended on the area bringing chances of severe weather with it.

However, while the black clouds swirled around the area and appeared ever threatening, Runnels County did not bear the brunt of the storms that brought severe weather to Abilene in Taylor County and to areas in Jones County.

"There was a lot of hail in that event," said Amy McCullough, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in San Angelo.

No tornadoes were reported during the severe weather event in Runnels or any other surrounding

SEE WEATHER, Page 8



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 32nd annual Western Heritage Classic gallops into Abilene Thursday and runs through Sunday at the Taylor County Exposition Center in Abilene.

Western Heritage Classic in Abilene this weekend

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

The 32nd annual Western Heritage Classic gallops into Abilene Thursday and runs through Sunday at the Taylor County Exposition Center in Abilene.

The event kicks off at 7:30 a.m. Thursday with the Ranch Horse Compeititon at the coliseum. The Bit and Spur Show opens at 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. The WHC Trading Post will be open from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday.

The internationally recognized event showcases cowboy lifestyle at its finest and most authentic, right down to the chuck wagon cook off, where participants are judged not only on the flavor of their grub but also on period equipment.

The weekend's highlight is the Ranch Rodeo in which some of the largest and most historic ranches in the country compete in

SEE HERITAGE, Page 8

AUSTIN - Last month the 27 education leaders who will serve on the TCEA Board of Directors for the 2016-2017 fiscal year officially assumed their duties. The board is comprised of 20 area directors, each of whom serve a region that aligns with Texas' Education Service Centers, and seven executive committee members. Included in the new leadership team is Mike Neal of Clyde ISD, who will act as Area 14 Director. Neal resides in Winters.

TCEA Executive Director Lori Gracey praised the new team, noting that, "TCEA has continued to grow and flourish because of the hard work and dedication of our grassroots board of directors, and our record membership numbers mean that we are able to reach more educators than ever and have an even greater impact on student achievement."

TCEA (www.tcea.org) is a member-based organization devoted to the use of technology in education. The primary focus of the organizataion is about integrating technology into the PreK-12 environment and providing our members with state-of- theart information through conferences, workshops, newsletters, the Internet, and collaborations with higher education and

Learn more about TCEA at www.tcea.org and view board member photos and contact information at www.tcea.org/about/board.





2 Winters Enterprise BIRTHDAY

. .

Please join us in celebrating Leo Minzenmayer's 80th Birthday

Come and Go Reception
 May 14, 2016 from
 2:00-5:00 pm in the
 Community Room
 Ballinger Housing
 Authority



Cards and Memories, No Gifts



Food Handlers class June 2

SPECIAL TO THE BALLINGER LEDGER

A food handlers course accredited by the Texas Department of State Health Services is being offered by the Texas A & M AgrLife Extension Service in Runnels County on Thursday, June 2 at the Ballinger Community Center at 200 N. Crosson Ave. The class titled "Food Safety: It's In Your Hands," will be offered through two classes, one from 9:30 a.m. to noon and the second from 2-4:30 p.m.

The Texas Food Establishment Rules were revised and updated and were effective Oct. 11, 2015 and the major change in the the rules now requires all food employees to complete an accredited food handlers training program within 60 days of employment, effective September 16, 2016.

This 2.5 hour course is required for all food service employees to help prmote the service of safe food. The certificate is good for two years and is valid anywhere in the State of Texas. The course is a basic overview of food safety practices that are necessary to ensure that safe food is served at your establishment. Practices discused include good personal hygiene, cross contamination and time and temperature abuse.

To register for the course, call Sandy Taylor, CEA-FCS at the Extension office at 325-365-2219 by May 31. The cost is \$20 per person and must be paid in full before the course begins.

Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aide service or accommodation in order to participate in the event are encouraged to contact our office within five working days prior to the program. Educational programs of Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, national origin or generic information or veteran status.

FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES

Elvera Minzenmayer

Elvera Minzenmayer left this world on May 7, 2016 at the age of 100 at Covenant Place Assisted Living in Burleson, Texas. A service will be held at 2:00 P.M. Wednesday May 11, 2016 at the Winters Funeral Home Chapel. She will be laid to rest in the Lutheran Cemetery west of Winters next to her husband Frederick O. Minzenmayer who preceded her in death on March 9, 1985. Elvera Freda Gerhart was born to Edward and Anna (Armbrecht) Gerhaft on October 10, 1915 in Winters. She was baptized and confirmed at St. John's Lutheran Church then she and her husband married there on November 1, 1945. They farmed west of Winters until they retired and moved to Winters.

She was happy as a homemaker and member of St. John's Lutheran Church where she participated in various women's groups. She was known for her beautiful yard, especially her roses and the homemade cookies and cinnamon rolls that were always in the freezer. She was an excellent seamstress who could make the latest fashions without patterns. Her many quilts and crocheted covers are in all of her children's homes. She is survived by four children, Donna Lowe of Burleson, Fred and (Pasty) Minzenmayer of Franklin, Gilbert Minzenmayer of Winters (and wherever his travel trailer takes him) and Myrlee also known as Lee Ann and husband Rodney Smith of Monterrey, Tennessee, one granddaughter: Tracey Minzenmayer of Arlington, She was preceded in death by one son in law, Gerald Lowe, six brothers and sisters and two cousins taken in to their home. She has one sister in law surviving: Alvina Gerhart who has been her friend since childhood

Winters Enterprise, May 12, 2016

Herman Smith

Herman Smith, 89, of Winters, died May 8, 2016. He was born September 18, 1926 in Brown County, Texas and lived in New Mexico for many years. He was a building contractor. He married Pat Wade on November 29, 1997 in Winters at the Rock Hotel. They lived at Lake Brownwood for several years returning to Winters in 2012. He was a member of the First Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife: Pat Smith of Winters. 5 children: Danon Lee Smith of Amarillo, Julie Ann Springer of

San Angelo, Carolyn Janiece Williams of Burleson, Jeffery Allan Fenter of San Francisco and Christi Lynn Mikeska of Forsan. 10 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by 1 son: Earnest Lamont Smith.

Services will be 2:00 P.m. Thursday May 12, 2016 at the First Baptist Church. Burial will follow at Lakeview cemetery directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise, May 12, 2016

USDA offers new loans for portable farm storage

STAFF REPORT

COLUMBUS, Ohio — U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will provide a new financing option to help farmers purchase portable storage and handling equipment. Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Val Dolcini and Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Administrator Elanor Starmer announced changes to the Farm Storage Facility Loan (FSFL) program today during a local and regional food roundtable in Columbus, Ohio. The loans, which now include a smaller microloan option with lower down payments, are designed to help producers, including new, small and mid-sized producers, grow their businesses and markets.

"As more communities reconnect with agriculture, consumer demand is increasing for food produced locally or regionally," said Dolcini. "Portable handling and storage equipment is vital to helping farmers get their products to market more quickly and better maintain product quality, bringing them greater returns. That's why we've added this type of equipment as a new category for our Farm Storage Facility Loan program."

The program also offers a new "microloan" option, which allows applicants seeking less than \$50,000 to qualify for a reduced down payment of five percent and no requirement to provide three years of production history. Farms and ranches of all sizes are eligible. The microloan option is expected to be of particular benefit to smaller farms and ranches, and specialty crop producers who may not have access to commercial storage or on-farm storage after harvest. These producers can invest in equipment like conveyers, scales or refrigeration units and trucks that can store commodities before delivering them to markets. Producers do not need to demonstrate the lack of commercial credit availability to apply. "Growing high-value crops for local and regional markets is a common entry point for new farmers," said Starmer. "Since they often rent land and have to transport perishable commodities, a loan that can cover mobile coolers or even

refrigerated trucks fills an important gap. These producers in turn supply the growing number of food hubs, farmers markets or stores and restaurants interested in sourcing local food."

Earlier this year, FSA significantly expanded the list of commodities eligible for Farm Storage Facility Loan. Eligible commodities now include aquaculture; floriculture; fruits (including nuts) and vegetables; corn, grain sorghum, rice, oilseeds, oats, wheat, triticale, spelt, buckwheat, lentils, chickpeas, dry peas sugar, peanuts, barley, rye, hay, honey, hops, maple sap, unprocessed meat and poultry, eggs, milk, cheese, butter, yogurt and renewable biomass. FSFL microloans can also be used to finance wash and pack equipment used post-harvest, before a commodity is placed in cold storage.

AMS helps thousands of agricultural food producers and businesses enhance their marketing efforts through a combination of research, technical services and grants. The agency works to improve marketing opportunities for U.S. growers and producers, including those involved in specialty crop production and in the local and regional food systems. Visit www.ams.usda.gov to learn more about AMS services.

Today's announcement will further advance the efforts of USDA's Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food initiative, which coordinates the Department's work to develop local and regional food systems. USDA is committed to helping farmers, ranchers, and businesses access the growing market for local and regional foods, which was valued at \$12 billion in 2014 according to industry estimates. Under this Administration, USDA has invested more than \$1 billion in more than 40,000 local and regional food businesses and infrastructure projects. More information on how USDA investments are connecting producers with consumers and expanding rural economic opportunities is available in Chapter IV of USDA **Results on Medium.** To learn more about Farm Storage Facility Loans, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport or contact a local FSA county office. To find your local FSA county office, visit http://offices.usda.gov.

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Do you want to get results? Call now at (325) 365 3501 and ask for our rates! A quick and easy way to help your business thrive

I would like to thank my sisters, Rosa and Belinda, my two daughters, Margaret and Lisa, for all their help. Special thanks to my husband Eli and his two sisters, Mary P. and Eva, for the brisket plates. The music was good thanks to Harvey (DJ). The raffle was a great success thanks to Lydia Luz. The winners were Maria Rangel and Rudy Carvazos. A fund has been setup for Frankie Guerreo at the Ballinger Bank. It has been a rough road for my son since February when we found out he had cancer, but yet he continues to think positive. He thanks everybody for everything.

Thanks, Diana Galvan and Frankie Guerreo



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The Winters Enterprise

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DONATIONS TO VFDS



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Contact

Ballinger Areas

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CELINDA HAWKINS | LEDGER PHOTO On Thursday, April 28, members of the Hochheim Prairie (Insurance) Chapter 228 board, presented volunteer fire departments with an annual donations of \$400 each. Pictured from left to right are James Rose, Chapter president, Fire Chief Mark Sklenarik, Miles VFD, Fire Chief Mark Irby, Rowena VFD. Eric Beimer. assistant chief Rowena VFD and Roeneal Boles, Chapter 228 secretary. There are about 300 members in Chapter 228. Each year, Hochheim returns \$5 per member which is presented to non-profit organizations within that chapter area. Hochheim Prairie Insurance is based in Yoakum and has been in serving as an insurance cooperative for customers since 1892.



Thursday, May 12, 2016

TEXAS HISTORY MINUTE

House, a powerful voice for peace

Edward House was a Texan determined to move the world when the world refused to be moved. He was a powerful diplomat and presidential advisor and a voice for peace in a time when so much of the world was bent on destruction.

House was born in Houston in 1858, the youngest of seven children. His father, Thomas W. House, an English immigrant, had made a fortune in banking, international trade, and real estate. As a youth, he traveled to Europe and across the nation often. He enrolled in Cornell University in New York in 1877. However, his father's declining health forced him to return to care for him.

After his father's death, he married in 1881 and continued to travel extensively to tend to the family's many business interests. He moved to Austin in 1885, where he expanded his real estate holdings and cotton plantations. While in Austin, he be-

COMMUNITY NEWS

Scouting For Food

Cub Scout Pack 249 is having a food drive at Cash Savers Grocery from May 14-28. There will be a donation box inside Cash Savers to drop off canned and nonperishable food items. All the food that is donated during the two week period will go to the Samaritan's House in Winters. The scouts with to thank everyone who participates in the food drive.

Mommie and Me program at WPL The Mommie and Me program at Winters Public Library is open to children 18 months to prekindergarten and will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, May 16. The event will include a story time, read by Holly Hubbard, a tea party and a coloring session. Moms, caretakers, all adults are invited to their special program while the children are enjoying themselves. During this session, Martha Crawford will demonstrate how to make candy and dip it in chocolate. Martha attended Trinity University in San Antonio and has been married to Jimmy, a horse shoer, for 46 years. They live in Ballinger. Martha serves as President of the TEEA club that is affiliated with the Runnels County Extension Office She also judges for the FHA activities in many areas.

This is a free program provided by the Winters Public Library

Donate to WPL

The Winters Public Library is reaching out to the community for donations. The library will have their annual silent auction at the May Fest. This is one of our fund raisers for the year. The May Fest will Saturday, May 7 at the Ted Meyer Park. If you will bring your donations to the library or call 325-754-4251 we will be glad to pick it up. Cash donations are always welcome and we will be glad to purchase an item for the auction. The Winters Public Library appreciates the community involvement for fund raisers and programs. The proceeds from the silent auction go toward maintaining the library.

AA meeting

Sobriety First Alcoholics Anonymous group will meet at the First United Methodist Church, in Ballinger, at 7 p.m. every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The group will meet Saturday with prior arrangements. Please use the Avenue A and Seventh Street entrance. Child care is available. For more information please contact the church at 325-365-2323.

A Time for Freedom

A new addiction class is forming in Winters called "A Time for Freedom," and Pastor Tommy Akin, of the Pioneer Church of God in Winters will be overseeing the program which will provide addiction education to addicts, family and loved ones. The meetings will be held at 7 p.m. every Thursday at the Pioneer Church of God at 158 North Main St. in Winters. For more information call 903-474-4740.

Visit Friendly Neighbors

The Texas Extension Education Agency "Friendly Neighbors" invites everybody in the Runnels County area who is interested in learning about cooking, gardening, arts and crafts and other useful subjects to meetings at 2 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month (except during the summer). Meetings will alternate between the Runnels County Extension Office on the corner of south 7th Street and Sealy Ave. in Ballinger and the Winters Public Library at 120 N. Main St. inWinters. If you are interested and would like to find out more about this group, call Martha at 365-3890 or Judy at 754-5386.

Runnels County Alzheimer's

Support Group The monthly Runnels County Alzheimer's Support Group will be held at Central Texas Nursing and Rehabilitation Center from 6:30-7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month from. All concerned citizens are invited to share in discussion and education about the disease process and caregiver perspective. There is no charge for this public service sponsored by the National Alzheimer's Association.

came friends with many prominent Texas figures, including Gov. James S. Hogg.

In 1892, Hogg turned to House for help with his re-election campaign. House traveled the state extensively, persuading prominent individuals and influential groups to back the governor. The hard work paid off, and Hogg won re-election. Though House had no military experi-ence, a grateful Hogg rewarded him for his service with the honorary title of lieutenant colonel in the Texas National Guard. Before long, he simply became known as "Col. House" to reporters and politicians alike. Over the next several years, House contin-

ued to play an important role in Texas politics, helping the election of governors and acting as an advisor on all aspects of their administration. In

1911, he met New Jersey Gov. Woodrow Wilson, and the two formed an immediate friendship as Wilson prepared a run for the presidency. He advised Wilson on his campaign strategies and helped him secure the needed delegates and endorsements needed to secure the nomination. Wilson won easily in the 1912 election, defeating former President Theodore Roosevelt and the incumbent President William H. Taft.

After Wilson's inauguration, House declined to take any official role, preferring to stay in the background as a close advisor. House convinced Wilson to include several prominent Texans in his cabinet, including US Rep. Albert Burleson as postmaster general, attorney James W. Gregory as attorney general, and scholar David Houston as Secretary of Agriculture and later as Secretary of the Treasury. World War I and its aftermath con-

Dr. Ken Bridges

sumed much of Wilson's presidency. The intensity of the bloodshed shocked the world. Wilson sent House all over Europe in 1915 and 1916 to try to convince the warring powers to stop the fighting. In spite of numerous efforts. the peace overtures were rejected each time, including a 1916 offer by Wilson for the United States to mediate a peace conference. After the war ended, Wil-

son and House attempted to win approval for the Treaty of Versailles. House was desperate to save American support for the treaty and American entry into the League of Nations, the forerunner of the modern United Nations. He attempted to broker deals with European diplomats to make the treaty more palatable to Republican critics of Wilson who were determined to reject

the treaty if only to humiliate the president. After Wilson left office, House continued to lobby Congress to ratify the Treaty of Versailles and for American membership in the League of Nations. He continued to be active in Democratic Party politics, supporting the nomination of Franklin D. Roosevelt, another early supporter of the League of Nations, as president in 1932. However, by the 1930s, House steadily scaled back his role in politics. He died in New York in 1938 at the age of 79.

Dr. Bridges is a Texas native, writer, and history professor. He can be reached at drkenbridges.com.

WINTERS ISD BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENUS

Breakfast

Cinnamon roll or cereal

w/graham cracker.

Peaches, fruit juice,

Biscuit & sausage w/

gravy or Pop Tart or

cereal w/graham

Pears, fruit, juice,

Breakfast pizza or

w/graham cracker,

Grapes, fruit juice,

Sausage roll; or cereal

w/graham cracker,

choice of milk.

choice of milk.

choice of milk.

May 13

May 16

cracker,

May 17

May 18

cereal

iuice. choice of milk.

Orange slices, fruit

May 19 Pancakes w/bacon or cereal w/graham cracker, Watermelon, fruit juice, choice of milk.

Lunch

May 13 Chef salad or cheese sticks or cheese burger, baked chips, Salad/carrot sticks, pears, choice of milk.

May 16 Chef salad or choice of pizza, corn, black-eyed peas, Salad/carrot sticks.

applesauce, choice of

Mv 17 Chef salad or soft taco

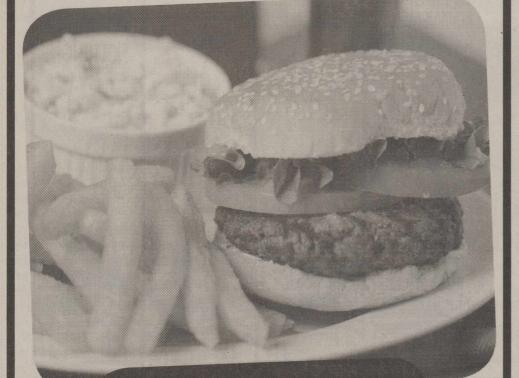
milk.

or fruit pie, broccoli w/ cheese. Mashed sweet potatoes, salad/carrot sticks, mixed fruit, choice of

May 18 Chef salad or meatball sub or grilled cheese sandwich, Italian green beans, goldfish, salad/ broccoli, pears, choice of milk.

May 19 Chef salad or chicken tenders or meatloaf/ sliced bread. Mashed potatoes w/ gravy, salad/carrot sticks, fruit cup, raisins, choice of milk

milk.



Everyone Welcome!

COMMUNITY HAMBURGER MEAL **Friday** May 13, 2016 11:30AM - 1:00PM

at NORTH RUNNELS HOSPITAL 7821 State Hwy 153 Winters, TX



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AGENCY Previously Gehrels & Associates J. Craig Gehrels, CSA Medicare Supplements, Annuities & Health 100 W. Dale 754-4818 Out of area call 1-800-978-1298

Runnels Count

Runnels County Records

Runnels County District Clerk April 1-30 Case filings

4/1/2016 Jodie Ellen ODell vs. Franklin Charles Odell, Jr. - divorce. 4/4/2016 Dunagin Transport Co. vs. Martin Ener-

gies, LLC, Cardiff Energy USA - Debt contract. 4/4/2016 Forrest B. McCray vs. Dunagin Transport Co., Cardiff Energy USA - Debt contract 4/4/2016 Timothy Ryan Antilley vs. Jennifer Tice Williams Antilley - Divorce. 4/8/2016 Portfolio Recovery Assoc. vs. Regina

Bridges — Account.

4/8/2016 Portfolio Recovery Assoc. vs. Brandy M. Woodard — Account.

4/8/2016 Portfolio Recovery Assoc. vs. Asisla

Rodriguez — Account.

4/8/2016 Portfolio Recovery Assoc. vs. Steven Rodriguez — Account.

4/8/2016 Portfolio Recovery Assoc. vs. Elizabeth Garcia — Account.

4/8/2016 Jefferson Capital Systems, LLC vs. Raco Edwards — Account.

4/8/2016 Jefferson Capital Systems, LLC vs.

Johnnie Jackson — Account.

4/13/2016 Adam Leroy Sallee vs. April Sallee ----**Divorce**

4/21/2016 Macy's Rental, LLC vs. WS Directional Drilling — Breach of contract.

4/26/2016 ExPorte, Hailey Allen Zelk - Occupational drivers license. 4/28/2016 Discover Bank vs. Barbara Warren -

Account

4/28/2016 Discover Bank vs. Candy Armstrong — Account.



ent problems in VA's interpretation of the law with regard to claims processing. The

VETERANS CORNER

Two subcommittees (Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, and Oversight and Investigations) of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee (HVAC) recently held a joint oversight hearing examining VA's disability claims process for veterans afflicted with Gulf War Illness (GWI). VA's own data reveals that at least 80 percent of Gulf War Illness claims are denied. The data is specific to undiagnosed illnesses and chronic multi-symptom illnesses-both presumptive conditions. This data reveals appar-

Sandra G. Van Zant

purpose of the hearing was to evaluate VA's disability claims process with respect to veterans suffering from Gulf War Illness. Don't let this deter you from filing a claim if you were there and experience these problems, come and talk to me. For more information, or to donate, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or call 365-3612.

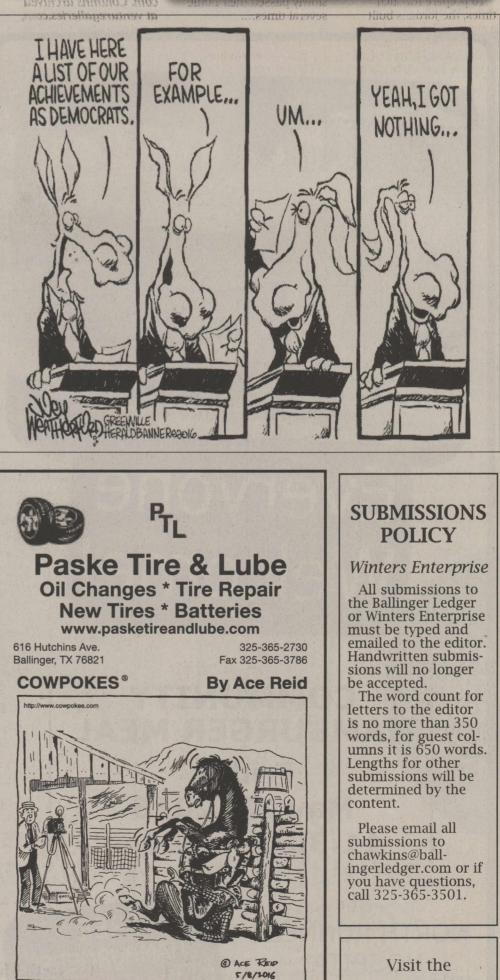
> - Sandra G. Van Zant, Veterans County Service Officer

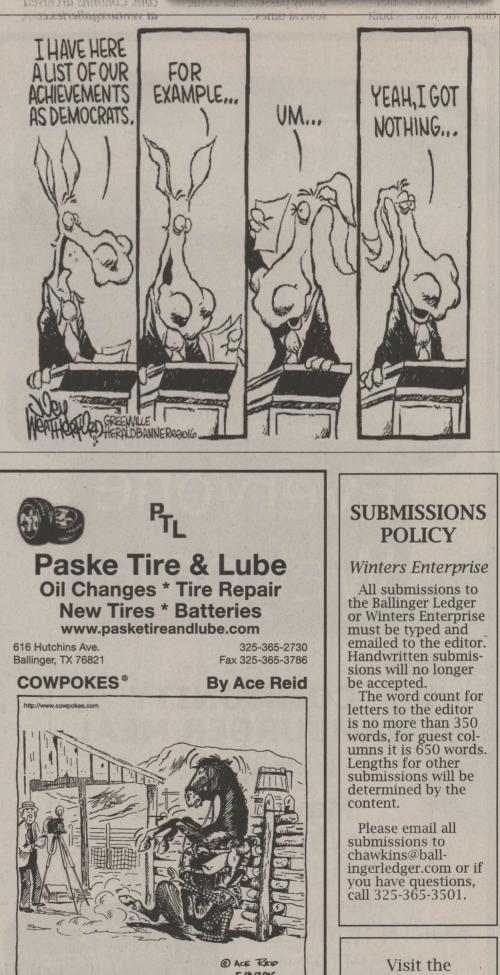
Runnels County Marriage certificates May 12, 2016 **County Clerk's Office**

Marriage Licenses issued March 1-April 30

Pamela Jo Fournier - Sarah Rodriguez
03/03/16
Andrew Richmond Peacock - Melinda Joy Kraatz
04/08/16
Christopher Lee Kraatz - Patricia Ann
Schmidt 04/13/16
Jason Michael King - Tamara B. Burkhalter
03/14/16
Roberto Vela - Luciana Lopez
03/22/16
Brandon Wade Davis - Meghan Michelle Holt
03/28/16
David Sanchez, Jr Jessie Rashea Childers
04/01/16
Christian Tyler Lincoln - Caroline M. Rodriguez
04/16/16
Quarles Qualietto - Elizabeth C. Hanneman
04/13/16
ue: www.speakeraoc.

Runnels County Jail Record May 12, 2016 Name Age Agency Carlos A. Pena WPD 18 Runnels Co. warrant-assault family violence Jose H. Nolasco Concho 24 Virginia warrant-possession of controlled drug Joey M. Saldana 33 **RCSO** Parole violation-assault with bodily injury, family violence James E. Taylor 36 Coleman Theft of copper Collin G. Duett 21 Coleman Assault causes bodily injury, engage organized crime **Cesario Ramon** 42 Coke Assault causes bodily injury-family violence RCSO Adam J. Stokes 40 Criminal trespass habitation BPD Gonzalo L. Nynez 59 Public intoxication Victorino Garcia-Gonzalez 48 BPD DWI







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By fax to 325-365-5389.

By email: chawkins@ballingerledger.com

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

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"Hold it, don't shoot! I want to buy a romantic picture for my gal, not a comedy with a owl headed bronc stealin' the show!"

Winters Enterprise on Facebook!

Thursday, May 12, 2016 THE IDLE AMERICAN GRAND Parents; Fair Grandparents.



Riney

'go retro"

success-

ful. They

smalltown life

in Ham-

ilton, TX,

first chose

COLUMNIST Don Newbury

before embarking on true rural living a while back on property miles

from town off a dirt road. Few people pass their house going to town. They're coping on even terms with "old-timey" life--gathering eggs, planting gardens and driving tractors. And they glance out their windows regularly to see "if it's coming up a cloud.'

Overall, this well-known public speaker and his wife deserve an "A+ life grade" heading into sunset years. (He served three decades in Grapevine schools, rising from classroom teacher to principal to district PR director.) They raised three children, and now are responsible for a grandson during his senior year of high school....

It would be untrue to suggest Dustin has magically become a "good farm boy." After all, he was thrust into the role last summer when his folks moved to the hill country.

Still ringing in his ears is his grandparents' generous offer to provide room and board so he could finish Hamilton High.

Oh, the warm memories he can share--this candidate for graduation in a few weeks-- including ones from a recent night when "it came up a cloud.".

To prepare for such times, the Jordans built a storm cellar--upgraded from the ones they scurried into as children when ill winds blew through. It

is concrete lined, and has electricity, six comfortable chairs and board games. Out of sight--and hopefully out of mind--is any evidence of social media, TV and such.

When Riney yelled warnings about a storm the other night, Karen happily followed him to the cellar. Dustin, however, opted to "stay put." After all, Chicago Fire--a favorite TV show--was on, and it is his habit to watch it while shoveling down a mountain of vanilla ice cream generously slathered with chocolate syrup. Riney and Karen often join him in the dessert repast, although with reduced portions....

They aren't apt to fret when Dustin's objections are rarely voiced. So they proceeded to the cellar without Dustin in tow.

As winds howled outside, they voiced prayers for him, so concerned for his safety they didn't even begin board games. Before long, their cellphone sounded. It was a text from Dustin saying how much he'd enjoyed both the TV show and dessert. He also sent a picture of four heaping scoops of ice cream, chocolate syrup sloshing against the side of the bowl. Touche.

Maybe this is a memory Dustin will share with his grandchildren when they ask him, "What's a storm cellar?".

Mrs. Lyndon Priest, who lives in Big Spring, has a story she has repeated across the years. She and her late husband, church goers all their life, were proud of their modest home. "Priest," their last name, appeared prominently in yard art.

And a cross implanted in their front yard made their Christian commitment obvious to all.

One day, a couple drove slowly passed their home several times....

***** Finally, they stopped, exited the car and rang the

doorbell. "You perhaps noticed we've driven by several times,' the man explained. "But we've had good



reason. We have a Jordan

nice piece of land we want to give the church, and since a priest lives

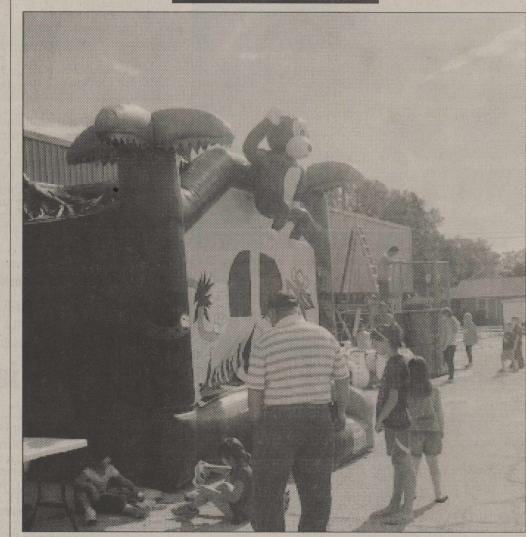
here, we figured you could help us out." (Before you ask, I assure you of Mrs. Priest's claim that she quickly explained they "weren't that kind of priest.")....

A rural friend claims there's yet another reason to consider addition of "outdoor privies" that were "part and parcel" of country life before modern bathrooms.

For those who don't remember, they were small wooden structures, usually with half-moons carved in the door. "I don't remember any arguments about who could use it," the oldtimer said.

And neither do I. I do remember storm cellars, however. It's where we went when it was "coming up a cloud." It was also where spiders abided, snakes slithered and makeshift shelves provided storage for my grandmother's boxes of Mason jars containing her homemade fig preserves. We spent many hours therein, but never once did our house blow away....

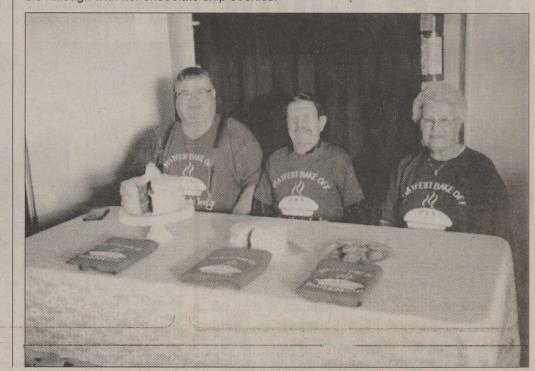
Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc. com. Columns archived at venturegalleries.com, newbury blog.



MAYFEST IN WINTERS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

ABOVE: Visitors to Mayfest enjoyed many activities including a play area for children on Saturday, May 7, 2016. BELOW: The Mayfest Celebration was held in Winters Saturday, May 7. The Bake Off judges from left to right included Doug Bryan, Raymond Lindsey and Ruth Cooper. The bake off winners were Champion Melinda Hoppe with her key lime cake, first runner up Donna Bredemeyer with her carrot cake, and second runner up Abbie Killough with her chocolate chip cookies.





Winters Enterprise 5

BROTHER J What about weather forecasts?

My oldest son called and he asked, "Dad are you and mom ok?" I said, "yes". They had been watching the local weather on television and they were forecasting big storms for our area. They were predicting high winds, rain, hail, and possible tornadoes. I laughed to myself because I had just been outside and the skies were clear. I went to bed and didn't think anything of it until a few hours later I was suddenly awakened by lots of thunder and lightning, high winds and strong rains. That experience reminded me of some of the future events the Bible predicts or talks about. Weather forecasters aren't always right but the Bible is. Everything that is predicted will take place. Maybe we don't know the exact hour or the precise order of events but they are coming. Some of the events mentioned are a great tribulation, (Matthew 24:21), the return of Jesus Christ to the earth, (Acts 1:11) and a one thousand year reign, (Revelation 20:1-3). The establishment of one world Church, (Revelation 17:15-18) a one world government, (Revelation Chapter 18), and a gigantic world war, (Revelation 20:7-9). Also near the end times people will be lovers of themselves, (2 Timothy 3:1-5) and there will be wars and rumors of wars (Matthew 24:6). Have we asked the one who is in control and Lord over all, to be our personal Lord and Savior, (John 1:12-13 & John 14:1&2)? See you in church next Sunday.

Brother J

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6 Winters Enterprise



FILE PHOTO The Winters Blizzards Summer Camp schedule kicks off with Girls Basketball May 31-June. 2.

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2016 Winters Blizzard Summer Camp Schedule

The Winters Blizzard Summer Camp is slated to get underway starting with the Girls Basketball Camp May 31-June 2. The Girls Softball Camp follows June 6-8, followed by Football June 25-27, Boys Baseball June 27-29 and Boys Basketball July 12-14.

All camps are \$30 and include a water bottle, T-shirt, and a Blizzard towel. Registration forms can be picked up at the field house or Administration building. If you have any questions please call Coach Matt McCarty at 512-517-8288.

Girls Basketball

Date: May 31-June 2 Time: 2nd grade-5th grade:9 a.m. - noon Time: 6th grade-9th grade: 1 - 4 p.m. Date: June 6-8 Time: 6-9 p.m.

Baseball

Softball

Date: June 27-29 Time: 9 a.m. - noon

Boys Basketball

Date: July 12-14 Time: 9 a.m. - noon

Football

Date: July 25-27 Time: 2nd grade-5th grade: 8 -10 a.m. Time: 6th grade-9th grade:10 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

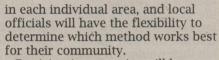
TDA initiative aims to stop feral hogs

STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) today announced the 2016 Coordinated Hog Out Management Program (CHOMP), which will run from May 1-31, 2016. The effort is focused on decreasing the feral hog population in Texas, which inflicts an estimated \$52 million in agricultural damage each year.

"Feral hogs cause hundreds of millions of dollars in damage every year, but by working together, we can take steps to protect our farms, ranches and property from these dangerous and destructive animals," Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller said. "Feral hogs are both an urban and rural problem, and there is no single solution that will solve it statewide. Through this partnership, local officials will have the flexibility to implement feral hog abatement efforts that work best in their areas."

Texas is home to the largest feral hog population in the U.S. with nearly 2.6 million feral hogs in the state. CHOMP is a concentrated and coordinated effort with local county partners across the Lone Star State to decrease this population and mitigate millions of dollars in damage caused by these animals. Location, terrain and vegetation impact which abatement methods work best



Participating counties will be scored on the number of feral hogs taken during the one-month challenge. Additional points will be awarded based on the educational initiatives implemented to teach residents about abatement technologies to help further manage the feral hog population in the area.

Through CHOMP, winning counties will receive assistance to continue local abatement activities after the challenge ends. This includes educating landowners on removal methods, coordinating trapping and hunting programs, conducting aerial gunning and addressing public safety hazards related to feral hogs.

To apply for a CHOMP grant, individual Texas counties must include the number of hogs taken, along with the number of individuals participating in county-approved educational courses, as certified by the county, during the one-month challenge. Selected applicants will receive project funding on a cost reimbursement basis. A total of \$200,000 is available. Applications will be reviewed through a competitive evaluation process.

The deadline to submit an application is June 16, 2016. To learn more and download an application, click here. For questions on the application process, contact TDA's grants office at (512) 463-6616 orGrants@ TexasAgriculture.gov.



Thursday, May 12, 2016

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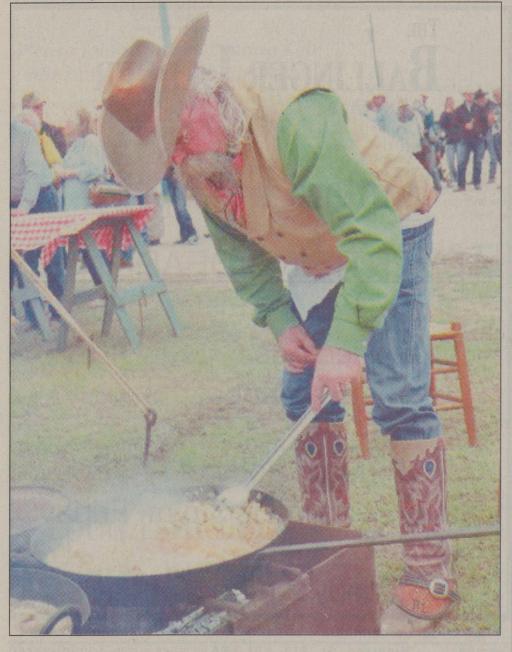
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8 Winters Enterprise



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 32nd Annual Western Heritage Classic will feature ranch cooks during the Chuckwagon Cookoff slated for Saturday.

HERITAGE,

from Page 1

various skill categories.

The WHC Parade will be at 6:30 p.m. in Downtown Abilene followed by a street dance that begins at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. Following the parade, head down to the corner of North 1st and Cypress Street for the Western Heritage Street Dance. The band Muddy Creek will provide some wonderful classic country music. This family fun event is free to the public and ends when the sun goes down. Enjoy Cowboy poetry and music at the

Enjoy Cowboy poetry and music at the Outdoor Entertainment Pavilion from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m Friday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. The Ranch Rodeo starts at 8 p.m. at the coliseum and there will be a dance at the Outdoor Entertainment Pavilion from 9 p.m. to midnight Friday.

The Chuckwagon Cookoff begins at 8 .m. Saturday and lunch will be served from noon to 1:15 p.m. The WHC Invitational Ranch Horse Sale gets underway at 10 a.m. at the coliseum. The Ranch Rodeo gets underway at 8 p.m. and awards will be presented at 10 p.m. The dance will get going at 9 p.m. and run through midnight at the Outdoor Entertainment Pavilion.

The WHC will host the Cowboy Church Service at 9 a.m. Sunday and the Bit & Spur Show will be open throughout the day.

For more information or for event schedules go to www.westernheritageclassic.com.

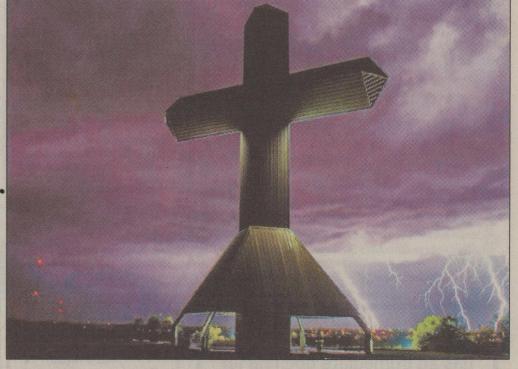


PHOTO COURTESY OF A.J. PENA

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Severe weather surrounded Runnels County on Sunday, May 8, 2016 bringing some rain and a significant lightening event to the area. Here, lightening strikes around the Cross in Ballinger on Highway 83.

WEATHER, from Page 1

counties, she said.

She said three inch or baseball size hail was reported in Jones County, while quarter size hail was reported in Abilene. Large hail and strong winds impacted the Abilene area Sunday afternoon. Wind gusts up to 60 mph were reported near Abilene.

Some of the intense clouds in Runnels County were seen over Wilmeth near Wingate and north of Ballinger on Highway 83. Only .26 inches of rain fell in Ballinger,

MUSEUM, from Page 1

10111 Page 1

Parker exhibit was one of the most successful exhibits ever to be featured at the museum.

In her letter to members, Wanda Brewer, president of Z.I. Hale Museum Inc., explained that the exhibit brought many visitors to see the story of Quanah Parker and his mother Cynthia Ann Parker.

"The Parker family has a tie to this area in that the herb doctor Nancy Rosson Parker lived in northeast Runnels County assisting the Texas Rangers and made the dress that Rangers took for Cynthia Ann when she was captured from the Indians," Brewer wrote.

ans," Brewer wrote. "Each time that we have displays of this caliber we attract new interest in the museum complex," said John Long, a member of the board. "Visitors came to see Quanah and when asked if they would like to tour other area of the complex, did so. In all cases they were very impressed while Wingate received. .41 inches. San Angelo only received .20 inches. But the lightening was intense.

"It was a pretty good light show," Mc-Cullough said.

Local photographer A.J. Pena captured the lightning in several photos taken near Wilmeth and others taken at the Cross in Ballinger.

"It was amazing," Pena said. "I do this as a hobby."

The severe weather chances continued Tuesday and Wednesday in Runnels County. Rain is in the forecast for the weekend, but so far, no severe weather is in the forecast.

the extent of our other collections. We have a great museum and need to promote it as a visitor asset."

Other successful events this year included the third annual "Memories of Times Past" Spring Festival held in April on the museum grounds. The event was held to raise funds to paint and repair the The Rock Hotel Heritage Center. The event included a classic car show, live music, a parade, blacksmithing demonstration and the Ballet Folklorico dancers from Abilene. All proceeds go to the "Paint the Rock" project.

Friends of the Gus Pruser Agricultural Museum also worked to improve their exhibit of old farm equipment and tractors at their museum. The group meets the second Monday of each month to talk about old farm equipment and to swap stories of times gone by.

Each month the ladies of the Z.I. Hale Museum host a luncheon. The lunch will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 19. The meal will feature spaghetti and meat sauce, salad and a drink.

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