

Focused on School: Elementary recognizes students

The Winters Elementary School recognized individual grade level Students of the Month for March.

The following are the grade-level representatives:

Pre-Kindergarten

Mary Ann Renfro, parents: Ophie Lopez and Bennie Renfro
Gabriel Diaz, parent: Jessica Tamez

Kindergarten

McCaelyn Beuschel, parents: William and Kelly Beuschel

Charles Childress, parents: Bill and Megan Belew and John and Kimber Childress

First grade

Hailey Renfro, parents: Ophie Lopez and Bennie Renfro

Xavier Rodriguez, parents: Sandy Reyna and Jimmy Rodriguez

Second grade

Gracie Jiminez, parents: Aracely Jiminez and Venicia Reyes

Mason Abernathie, parents: Juan and Diane Tamez

Third grade

Summer Schneider, parent: Sandee Schneider

Michael Diaz, parent: Amy Trevino

Fourth grade

Frisco Reyna, Great-grandson of Lydia Castillo

Megan Jacob, parents: Mark and Susan Jacob

Fifth grade

Kamri Soto, parent: Elizabeth Silva

Tristan Bentrup, parents: Nathan Bentrup and Irene Ramos

Sixth grade

Joshua Coffman, parent: Leslie Squyres

Bianca Trevino, parent: Maria Trevino

The Winters I.S.D. School Board recognized Charles Childress and McCaelyn Beuschel as the Elementary Students of the Month. Mr. Tommy Burton was recognized as the Winters Employee of the Month.



Charles Childress



McCaelyn Beuschel

Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet

Pride, commitment, and a very solid compromise to help Winters become a better place to live were the main reasons that helped two people and a business to be awarded as Man, Woman and Business of the Year last Saturday, in the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet.

Gordon Fenwick was awarded as the Man of the Year, Cheryl Bryan received the nomination for the Woman of the Year and Joe Gerhart's work at J&T Hardware made the best place for Business of the Year.

"This is a family owned and operated business and is quite an honor, the community is really being good to us", said Gerhart about the nomination.

Dallas Huston spoke at Banquet. Dallas was introduced by local hero W. T. Stapler who warmed up the crowd with pleasing



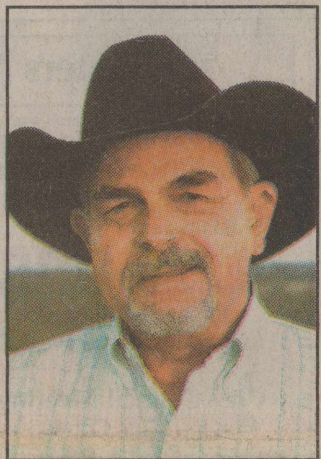
Clockwise left to right: Man of the Year Gordon Fenwick, Woman of the Year Cheryl Bryan, and Business of the Year J&T Hardware.

The table is set and the guests are seated

With a runoff election set for Tuesday April 13, the Runnels County Republican Party will soon know their candidate for the County Judge spot on the ballot in the general election in November.

The narrowing of the list from six candidates down to two signals the clock is ticking for Nathan Johnson and Barry Hilliard. Both candidates come with a law enforcement background, and are anxious to serve the community.

Interviewed separately, (see page 4) both candidates turn in the same direction, a deep willingness to serve the public and to do their best to help Runnels County become a better place to live and work. Each candidate points to their public service background and the need to wisely spend to hold the taxes down.



Barry Hilliard



Nathan Johnson



Winters HS course selection March 24

Winters High School course selection for 2010-2011 will occur on Wednesday, March 24, according to the schedule below. Students and parents will be provided with information on graduation plans and available courses, and students will begin completing their course requests for next year.

Parents are encouraged to attend the grade level meetings during the day on Wednesday, March 24. If parents are unable to attend during the day, a general meeting will be held at 5:30 pm. The general meeting will cover graduation requirements for all grade levels while the meetings during the day will be grade

level specific.

Please attend the meeting for the grade that your student will be in next school year (2010-2011). If you have any questions, please call the counselor's office at (325) 754-5516 Ext. 111.

Wednesday, March 24
9:00 am - Seniors 2010-2011 - WISD Cafeteria
9:45 am - Juniors 2010-2011 - WISD Cafeteria
1:45 pm - Sophomores 2010-2011 - WISD Cafeteria
2:30 pm - Freshmen 2010-2011 - WISD Cafeteria
5:30 pm - General Meeting (if unable to attend during the school day) WISD Cafeteria.

Officer Simcik, a standard in public service

Due to her valuable work as a peace officer and also as a public servant, Officer Tricia Simcik was nominated as Employee of the Quarter of the City of Winters.

Officer Simcik received the proclamation from the Mayor Dawson McGuffin.

Since June 2007, when Officer Simcik arrived to the force, she has continued to develop herself professionally.

Faithful to her and the public servant principles she is scheduled to complete her degree in Criminal Justice at Midwestern on this Fall.

In addition to her regular officer duties, Officer Simcik is also responsible for the Uniformed Crime Reporting for the State of Texas, a system that sets statistical standards on the statewide records.

She is also responsible for maintaining the warrant list for the local wanted fugitives and is instrumental in helping to facilitate many communities.

"I am very proud of having such an officer in the Police Department and we will continue to support her in her personal and professional development" said Nathan Johnson, Chief of the Winters Police Department.



Officer Tricia Simcik receives a proclamation from Mayor Dawson McGuffin for her dedication to public service.

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Obituaries

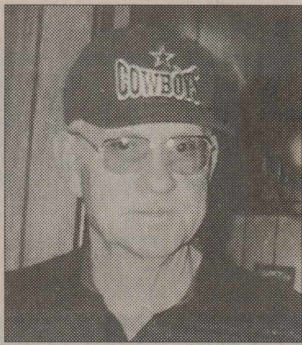
Raymond 'Gerald' Danford

Raymond "Gerald" Danford, 71, passed away on March 2, 2010.

Gerald was born on March 15, 1938 to the late Scottie and Jesse Danford in Winters, Texas.

Gerald worked in Abilene, Texas as a barber for 15 years. He moved to Winters in 1974 and worked as a carpenter for 35 years, until he retired in 2009. Gerald enjoyed camping and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Barbara Danford of Winters; his son Scott Danford of Winters; two daughters: Denna Kuhn and husband Morris of Midland, and Tracy LaBedelle and husband Ricky of San Angelo; three grandchildren: Dusty



LaBedelle and wife Amber and Whitney, Kelsey and Zane Kuhn; and three great-grandchildren: Zariah, Zane and Xavier.

Funeral services were scheduled for Thursday, March 4, in the Winters Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Terry Loehman officiating. Burial at Lakeview Cemetery under the direction of the Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise
Thursday, March 11, 2010

Melvin B. Halfmann, Sr.

Melvin B. Halfmann, Sr., 67, of Eola passed away Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at his residence.

Rosary was Thursday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rowena. Funeral services were at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 26 at St. Joseph Catholic Church with burial following in St. Joseph

Catholic Cemetery. He is survived by his wife, Joan Halfmann of Eola; children, Melvin B. Halfmann, Jr. of Lowake, Charlotte Matschek of Rowena, and Brent Halfmann of Wall; and a brother, Dennis Halfmann of Lowake.

Arrangements were with Lange Funeral Home of Ballinger.

Winters Enterprise
Thursday, March 11, 2010

Winters News Notes

Ministerial Alliance

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

Chamber of Commerce

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

City Council Meetings

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

School Board Meetings

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

Hospital Board Meetings

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

Literary Service Club

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

Public Library

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

Are you at least 16 years of age and still struggling with dyslexia?

If so, would you like to participate in a study of the Reading from Scratch program? This is a program that is supposed to retrain the brain to help those with dyslexia read better.

If you would like to become a participant in this study, please call Donna Moore at 325-754-5140.

The number of participants is limited to 6. If your child is currently a student of Mrs. Moore's at Winters High School, your child is not eligible to participate in this study.



Sincere Thanks to All My Friends and Supporters

To the Citizens of Runnels County and the candidates for Runnels County Judge:

I want to extend a world of thanks to the other candidates for their hard work, courtesy, and consideration.

Thanks to everyone who signed my petition and voted for me. Additionally, I am truly grateful to those of you who supported me with your well wishes, prayers, monetary contributions, and advice in my bid for Runnels County Judge.

It warms my heart to know that I have such wonderful friends and neighbors.

Runnels County and Ballinger helped raise me. I feel a great debt of true gratitude to my friends, teachers, church, and 4-H leaders for my success in life thus far.

Elizabeth O'Connor
Attorney & Mediator
325 365 2606 ~ Ballinger

Baptist churches thank community

The Baptist churches in the area would like to thank its citizens for being so kind as we deliver to you the Texas Hope 2010 CD. Our prayer is that everyone, regardless of church affiliation, will have a deeper walk with Christ. We are grateful to be able to minister in such wonderful communities.

Bluff Creek Cowboy Church, Winters
FM 2405; Winters, Texas
Pastor: Marcy Grun
325-767-3021

First Baptist Church, Ballinger
400 N. 8th; Ballinger, Texas
Pastor: Bobby Broyles
325-365-3565

First Baptist Church, Miles
Miles, Texas
Pastor: Eddie Tingle
325-468-2041

First Baptist Church, Winters
104 W. Truitt, Winters, Texas
Pastor: Heath Powers
325-754-5521

Glory Road Cowboy Church, Ballinger
Hutchings Ave; Ballinger, Texas
Pastor: Tommy Tutt
325-743-2312

Hopewell Baptist Church, Crews
Crews Community, Highway 153
Pastor: Ferris Akins
325-365-2777

Seventh Street Baptist Church, Ballinger
1200 7th Street, Ballinger, Texas
Pastor: David Williams
325-365-2741

Southside Baptist Church, Winters
617 Crews Highway, Winters, Texas
Pastor: (interim) Alan Cartright
325-754-4286

Wingate Baptist Church, Wingate
309 CR 395; Wingate, Texas
Pastor: Kenneth Jones
325-743-2120

Winters Public Library

The Winters Public Library received donations from:

- Genevieve Spill
- Mr. and Mrs. Dale Duggan
- Dollie Post, memorial for Jimmy Davis
- Raymond and Barbara Talley, memorial for Bill Holowell
- Wingate Gin Corp
- Class of 1957, memorial for Maxine Lowe
- Joyce Gosh
- Jerry Alexander
- Ellenda Boykin

Census jobs offered for Abilene

ABILENE, Texas.- Need a job? The 2010 Census hiring campaign hits high gear in Abilene, with a mass testing session that starts at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 13, at the Abilene Civic Center, 1100 North 6th St., Abilene, TX 79601-5037.

Those who score high enough might land jobs with good weekly pay, mileage reimbursement and gain experience in America's population count.

Those with test-taking anxiety can arrive at 1 p.m. to take a practice test. Those interested in taking the test are encouraged to make an appointment at 866-861-2010; walk-in test takers are welcome, however.

Interested applicants should understand that bringing proper identification to the test site is important.

Either bring a birth certificate or a U.S. passport, or two other forms: a social security card, along with a current drivers license, state identification card or student photo identification card. Tests will not be accepted without proper identification.

The U.S. Census Bureau is pushing to hire thousands people for its Abilene office, and will emphasize hiring individuals to help collect census information in their own neighborhoods. Unemployment in the Abilene area is relatively low, at 5.9 percent, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. All the jobs are temporary.

Census jobs are good for college students and stay-at-home parents. The work schedules are flexible and pay ranges from \$8 to \$24 an hour for job titles ranging from clerk to supervi-

sor. The terms will last from May through July or longer.

The lack of adequate workers could mean an undercount that could cost the region valuable federal funding for needed social services, roads, schools and hospitals.

To prepare for the test, applicants can take the practice test on the Census Web site: http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/documents/Practice_Test.pdf. "Everyone deserves to have a voice and be counted, and by working for the 2010 Census, you will be directly involved with ensuring that happens," said U.S. Census Bureau Dallas Regional Director Gabriel Sanchez.

If you can't come to the testing site, applicants are urged to call a toll free number, 1-866-861-2010, to schedule a time to take a qualifying aptitude test.

For more information on hiring, visit the Census' job site at <http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/>.

For information on the 2010 Census in general, visit <http://www.census.gov/2010census/>.

Census workers began delivering questionnaires to rural areas the first week in March.

Mailed forms should arrive in the third week of March.

Residents are asked to fill out their forms and return them as soon as possible.

Follow-up visits will begin in May.

The decennial Census determines congressional representation and the annual distribution of more than \$400 billion in federal funds for local and regional services.

Most positions require U.S. citizenship, a driver's license and the use of a vehicle, and each applicant will undergo a background check.

Hiring has already started and will extend through spring 2010 for temporary assignments, most lasting eight weeks to a few months.

The Dallas Regional Census Center is expected to hire about 111,000 workers to complete its task in its region, which includes Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

A party to remember



Annie Lee Smith was honored with a birthday party in her home, hosted by Carolyn Harris and Wanda Booe. Annie was 91 years young Feb. 26, 2010. Red velvet cake, punch, mints and nuts were served with a center of piece of red carnations. Those attending where Flo Stovall, Mark and Angie Halfman, Aubrey and Patsy, Faubion, Sophie and Lala Fuentes, Barbara Fry, Rhonda Boone, Gene Davis, Nana Haddon, Jim Templeton, David Hale, Sue Oxley, Angela Bigham, Ruth Mantamayor and Bob Harris. This was Annie's first birthday party.

Masonic Lodge changes meeting time

The Masonic Lodge will hold a stated meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at 500 Broadway. The Lodge does not meet on Monday holidays.

For more information call 365-3202.



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WISD Athletic Report

Powerlifter qualifies for regionals

Powerlifting: (Coach Kirkland)
Aaron Grenwelge has qualified for the Regional Powerlifting meet in Sundown this weekend March 13th. He has totaled over 1100 pounds in his best meet so far.

Golf tournament results

Golf: (Coach Bates)
On Thursday March 4, 2010, the Boys Golf team headed to Sonora for their 1st tournament of the year. The Blizzards stepped up to the challenge and competed with eight 2A teams such as Wall, Sonora, Alpine, and Ft. Stockton. The team shot a 362, and Devin Martinez placed 2nd overall with a round of 79. The Blizzards will be heading to San Saba this coming Monday the 8th.

Softball in San Angelo

Softball: (Coach Airhart)
March 4, 5, 6
San Angelo Softball Umpire's Association Tournament results:

Thursday
Game 1: Winters 22-3 Grape Creek JV
Game 2: Winters 3-4 Menard (District Game)
This game was originally scheduled for Monday, but due to weather was re-scheduled and played during the tournament. This was a hard fought game for both teams. Menard was the home team and started off with good defensive playing. We had 5 batters up in the 1st inning with Tana Gibbs getting a double and Shelby Gehrels a single, but unable to get them across the plate. It took Menard 7 batters to get 3 hits but they were able to score 1 run in the 1st inning. The 2nd and 3rd inning were defensive battles with neither team being able to score. The score ended up Winters 3 and Menard 4.

Boys singles tennis results

Tennis: (Coach Villarreal)

Boys Singles

Semi-Finals	Jacinto Hernandez vs. Stevenson Forsan	0-8
Play back	Jacinto Hernandez vs. Luxton Grape Creek	0-8
Consolation Championship	Nikolas Kraatz vs. Doss Water Valley	
Consolation Bracket	Winters vs. Name School	Score
	Jack Pritchard/Joe Gallegos vs. Wheeler/Wells Forsan	6-1
	Zuylema Garcia vs. C. Davilia Bronte	8-1
	Zuylema Garcia vs. S. Holdampf Forsan	3-8

Blizzard Baseball

Baseball: (Coach Spivey)
The Blizzard Baseball team picked up win number 3 against Roby to open up the Hamlin Rock Field Tournament. With the win the Blizzards go to 3-0 on the season. Picking up the win on the mound for the Blizzards was Braden Mikeska (1-0) who allowed 4 runs on 3 hits and 4 walks. Mikeska also struck out 6 Roby batters. Leading the charge for the Blizzards at the plate were Coltyn Pritchard, Riley Ripley, and Hayden Bergman. The three accounted for 10 runs on 12 plate appearances. The Blizzards won the ticket to face Hamlin in the Semi-finals.

Winning Pitcher: Braden Mikeska (1-0) Winters (3-0)
Losing Pitcher: Sepida (0-1) Roby (0-1)
Game 2
Winters 1-11 Hamlin
Game 3: (Consolation)
Winters 3-9 Stamford

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Blizzard Track

JH Track: (Livingston)

7th Boys

Place	Discipline	Name	Score
1st	Pole Vault	Dave Hutton	7'
6th	Shot	Taylor Hooper	26'
4th	Triple Jump	Daryl Hagle	28'6"
6th	2400m run	Marshall Scates	10:21
5th	110 H	Dave Hutton	21.55
4th	100m run	Ty Cortez	13.2
1st	400m run	Rudy Lara	67.12
5th	400m run	Daryl Hagle	72.1
2nd	200m run	Dave Hutton	30.0
2nd	300m hurdles	Jimmy Jon Ripley	52.62
3rd	1600m relay	--	4:40.3

8th Boys

2nd	Discus	Chris Gerhart	100'
4th	Long jump	Gerhart	16'8"
5th	110H	Andrew New	21.18
1st	100m run	Fermin Cruz	12.3
3rd	400m run	Fermin Cruz	62.1
5th	300m hurdles	Chris Gerhart	51.51

JH/HS Girls Track: (Coach Motheral)
Junior High Girls Ballinger Track Meet Results - March 4.

8th Grade:

Place	Discipline	Name	Score
Team: 4th place with 59.75 points			
5th	High Jump	Tamron Tamez	
2nd	Discus	Destiny Chavis	60'4"
4th	Discus	Sabrina Esquivel	57'7"
1st	Shot Put	Destiny Chavis	27'2"
6th	Long Jump	Tamron Tamez	13'1.75"
4th	Sprint Relay	Alanna Cooper, Sabrina Esquivel, Kalyn Drake, Sierra Woffenden	59.28
1st	800 m	Tamron Tamez	2:50.8
1st	300 Hurdles	Tamron Tamez	57.15"
4th	Mile Relay	Kara Kraatz, Lauren Bredemeyer, Hannah Weaver, Tamron Tamez	5:05.3

7th Grade:

Team: 6th place with 24 points			
Place	Discipline	Name	Score
5th	High Jump	Rachel Nunez	3'10"
6th	Discus	Ashley Guy	46'8"
6th	Shot Put	Ashley Guy	25'1"
2nd	800 m	Olivia Rodriguez	2:53.5
4th	400 m	Vicki Madrid	1:14.8
5th	300 Hurdles	Gabby Jimenez	1:02.0
5th	200 m	Olivia Rodriguez	33.02
6th	Mile Relay	Gabby Jimenez, Brandi Wright, Vicki Madrid, Olivia Rodriguez	5:17.5

High School Girls Ballinger Track Meet Results - March 5.

Team: 4th place with 85 points

Place	Discipline	Name	Score
1st	High Jump	Zannie Slimp	4'6"
2nd	High Jump	LeeAnn Taylor	4'6"
2nd	Long Jump	LeeAnn Taylor	14'11.75"
2nd	Triple Jump	Zannie Slimp	30'5.5"
3rd	800 m	Zannie Slimp	2:42.4
1st	100 Hurdles	LeeAnn Taylor	15:28
6th	100 Hurdles	Kat Lindley	19.02
1st	400m	LeeAnn Taylor	64.0
1st	300 Hurdles	Zannie Slimp	50.81
5th	300 Hurdles	Kat Lindley	56.78
1st	200m	LeeAnn Taylor	27.78
6th	200m	Hannah Franklin	31.66
6th	1600m	Crystal Sanchez	6:32.4

High School Boys Track: (Hermesmeier)

JV Boys

Place	Discipline	Name	Score
3rd	Shot	CJ Johnson	36'6"
5th	Discus	CJ Johnson	
6th	Discus	Fabian Esquivel	
6th	800 run	Kolten Garcia	2:40
3rd	400m run	Alex Perez	60.2
5th	200m run	Alex Perez	27.1
6th	1600m run	Kolten Garcia	

Varsity Boys

Place	Discipline	Name	Score
1st	Pole Vault	Angel Barron	11'
3rd	Long Jump	Cristian Sandoval	19'2"
	3200m run	Juan Ramirez	
2nd	800m run	Miguel Rodriguez	2:13.1
3rd	110m hurdles	Kelton Bredemeyer	17.6
6th	400m run	Cristian Sandoval	59.66
6th	300m	H Kelton Bredemeyer	
4th	200m dash	Dillion Lindley	25.51

GOT NEWS

We welcome your news items and photos to include in the upcoming edition of The Winters Enterprise.

Choose the way that's most convenient for you

In person, at 200 Tinkle in downtown Winters. Office Hours are Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

By phone to 325-754-4958.

By fax to 325-365-5389.

By email to news@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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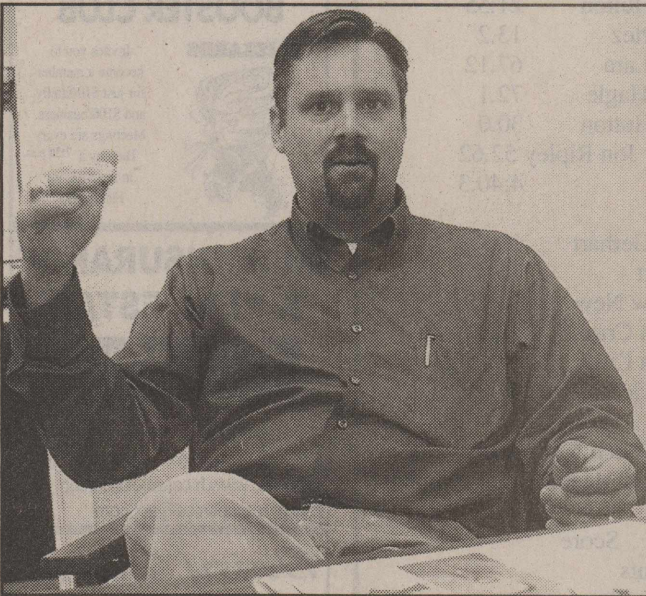
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RUNNELS COUNTY ROUND-UP

Nathan Johnson - Applying for a new job



Nathan Johnson said he is pleased with the primary election results and has a strong desire to continue serving the citizens of Runnels County. In evaluating his campaign and getting ready for the runoff election, he feels confident with his chances of becoming the next County Judge. Johnson received the most votes cast among the six candidates in the primary election on March 2. "The result, a runoff election, was pretty much expected, the great thing is that we had a lot of good candidates," said the Winters Police Chief.

In my mind, and with a much longer history as voter than as a candidate, Johnson said, that the taxpayers deserve choices. The choices have narrowed down to two in the runoff election.

"I look at it as just applying for a job, first there are a bunch of candidates for the job, then narrows down to a few and eventually somebody will get the job." For Johnson it's like a giant interview process, where the voters look at the options and choose who they think is better for them.

Johnson sees the judge's job in three different streams: the judicial part; the administrative part which

includes handling the budget, personnel and resources of the county, and the third stream is to be the face of the county. "The county judge is the person that the citizens see as the Runnels County; the values, needs and expectations of Runnels County."

"What the people will have to do is to say this is the job that we have, so what type of credentials, what type of experience, what type of ideas does Nathan Johnson have, as well as the other candidate, so which one will be best fit for us, this is just as hiring somebody."

All of the candidates, he says, are a combination of experience, education and efforts that are put into something. That combination comes together to make people who they are.

"What I am going to ask the voters to do is to continue to look at it that way and ask if I have the experience, knowledge, education and background to do a good job for Runnels County?" "I believe that I do and that's why I am applying for the job."

The new run, as well as the past one, is not a face to face competition with anybody, it's just a selection process to choose the best

people to run an office. As a former Marine and now Chief of Police, Johnson looks at the political twist to his career as a natural move, in order to keep on serving the community. "Thankfully in our country you can't be judge, jury and executioner, so it's going to be a little bit of a change for me, but there are a lot of people doing this. In Coke County the county judge is a former DPS officer, it's not really that unusual."

Johnson said, a lawman seems to have what it's necessary for the job, which includes interaction with the public, an understanding of the law, expertise to help people, and common sense. "Bring common sense and a background in the law together and I think it gives you a really good foundation. Johnson as a former captain in the Sheriff's Office in Uvalde, and as the current Chief of Police in Winters handles many situations not every officer gets to."

The most pressing issue for every county in America is the economy. Finances are going to be the main issue for every city and county administrator. It is the single biggest challenge we have to face because we only have certain amount of money and all of those expenses.

"We have an increased demand for services because we have fewer people in the private sector able to perform those services at a time when we have a diminishing ability to meet the needs; what a challenging time to come into this office," Johnson said. "The government's job it's not to answer all problems, but to create an environment where the people in the community can answer their own problems. Government is us, the citizens, and as a citizen leader I look at myself as a servant to the public."

Barry Hilliard - Hungry to serve the public

With an extensive public service background which includes the Runnels County Sheriff's Department and the Police Department in Midland, the former law officer and rancher Barry Hilliard is willing to take any challenge to serve the citizens of Runnels County.

Hilliard said his goals are very clear, "Runnels County is an agricultural community and county officials should spend its budget wisely, to help the farmers and ranchers."

Hilliard grew up in Runnels County and started his career after high school as a deputy, with the legendary Sheriff Don Atkins. After a few years he left to continue his career in Midland where he served on the city police department. At age of 26 he was sent to the FBI training field in Quantico, Virginia, and finished the academy as the youngest cadet ever, something he recalls as a huge honor. "There are police officers from all over the World," Hilliard said.

His duties in Midland included developing new standards adopted by the police officers in order to respect the constitutional rights regarding illegal searches and seizures. Hilliard also addressed the rookie class of the Permian Basin Police Academy.

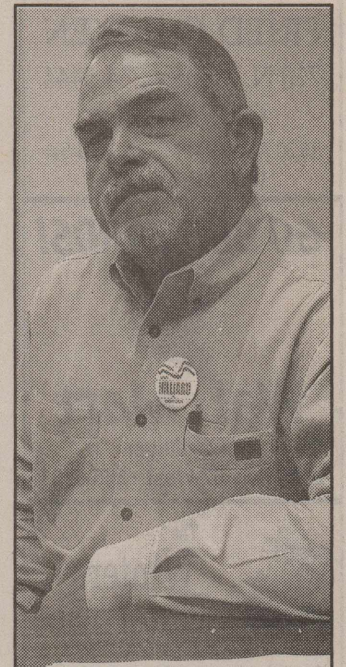
After some years in law enforcement service, a tragic accident with a pole digger forced to him alter his career path. At the age of 30 after I moved back to Runnels County, to raise my family I got my hand

caught in a post-hole digger and as a result of the injuries I had to quit law enforcement. "One of the best things about serving Runnels County as a law officer is having earned the community's respect" Hilliard said.

"Fortunately, the change in direction has turned out to really well," Hilliard said. After making the cut in the Republican Party primary election, Hilliard said he is ready for the runoff and assures that his campaign will become much more active. "Before I went through surgery and had some health problems, for this new election I am going to be more active, with the support of all my family and friends."

"When I learned that Judge (Marilyn) Eagan was retiring I was asked if I wanted to get back into public service, and I said to myself well I have three girls that are educated and raised, they are doing well in their chosen field and they said "go for it dad." Hilliard knew he had his family's support, and he is ready to take on a new challenge.

As a rancher who raises horses and cattle, Hilliard has a different outlook, which allows him to understand the needs and priorities of the people in his home county. "We are never going to have a tremendous budget, but we need to look hard to lower the taxes." If he is the County Judge, that will be one of his main goals, giving the money back to the agricultural matters, and with no further intention to keep on going



in a political career. "I have no further political ambitions than serving my community in an honest way."

This is the way I can serve my community and my county and I feel that I can do a really good job because if I mess up, if I am going to embarrass myself and my county, these people are my neighbors, I am not leaving this place.

My family started the ranch I live on in 1990. Our family has paid taxes forever and I am concerned that they are spent wisely, there are a lot of hands in that five million dollar pond for different reasons, and things are tough these days.

If things turn out in my favor I'm going to take some computer classes, I am willing to learn and take whatever challenge to become a better public servant, if I get the job I intend to do it correctly, with pride and dignity and at a 100 percent.

Financial Focus

Put Your Tax Refund to Work

It's Tax Refund Season again. This year, of you're going to get a check from your Uncle Sam, why not put it to work to help you meet your financial goals?

Last year, the average tax refund was more than \$2,700, according to the IRS. The size of your refund, or whether you will get one at all, depends on your individual circumstances. But if you

are going to get a refund, plan ahead for what you'll do with it. Here are a few possibilities:

- Pay down some debts. In these difficult economic times, you may be carrying a higher debt load than usual. If so, you may want to use some of your refund to pay down some of these debts. The lower your debt payments, the better your cash flow and

the more money you'll have to invest for the future.

- Build an emergency fund. If you don't have an emergency fund containing six to 12 months' worth of living expenses, you could use your tax refund to start one. Without such a fund, you may find yourself constantly dipping into your long-term investments to pay for unexpected costs, such as a new furnace or an expensive car repair. Keep your emergency fund in a liquid account - one that you don't draw on for your day-to-day expenses.

- Help fund your IRA. In 2010, you can put in up to \$5,000 to your IRA. Consequently, if you receive at \$2,700 refund, you'd have more than half of what you need to fully fund your IRA for the year. (If you're 50 or older, however, you can contribute up to \$6,000 per year.) You might not think that your \$2,700 would make much of a difference in the long run. But by investing your refund and giving it many years of growth potential, you could end up with a sizable amount.

Consider the following: If you put \$2,700 in your IRA, and you earned, on average, seven percent a year for 30 years, you'd end up with about \$20,000, even if you never invested another dime. If you put \$2,700 every year in that same IRA, again earning an average seven percent annual return, you'd end up with more than \$270,000 after 30 years. (These examples are hypothetical illustrations and do not represent any current available investments.)

You'd eventually have to pay taxes on your earnings, typically when you make withdrawals at retirement. And if you qualified for a Roth IRA, you'd never have to pay taxes on your earnings, as long as you had your account for at least five years

Court Records

Court Records for March 11, 2010

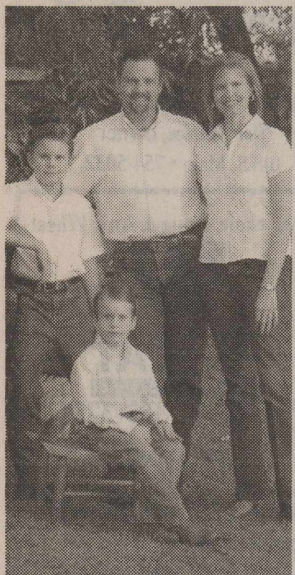
- Barbara Ann Odom vs Edward Jay Odom, Protective Order
- State of Texas vs Dylan Kohutek, MTR
- Dannel L Maas, Theft by check
- Maria Ramos, Theft by check
- Lupe Reyna, Theft by check
- Carrletta West, Theft by check

- Divorce Filings
- Timothy Ryan Bland vs Glacia Kay Bland
- Jon Zachary Guenther vs Raysha Jade Guenther

Runnels County Jail Log

Jail log for March 11, 2010

- Kohutek, Dylan B, 18, DPS MTR Criminal trespass
- Lara, Leslie, 27, RCO Felony theft by Check
- Woods, Otis B, 31, WPD Asslt w/ family violence
- Guerra, John L, 23, RCO POM >2oz <= 4 oz
- Riggs, Jeremy W, 20, Coke Co, Asslt / family violence/terroristic threat



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND YOUR VOTE FOR NATHAN FOR COUNTY JUDGE

I am grateful to all those who supported our campaign and gave me their faith and confidence by casting their vote, putting out signs, and talking with others.

Thank you so very much!!!!

I am excited about the future and I want to encourage everyone to join us in the process and vote

Nathan T. Johnson for County Judge.

I am asking for you vote in the runoff election that will be in six weeks.

Early voting will be April 5th - 9th
Run off Election Day will be April 13th.

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paladin_community_services@yahoo.com
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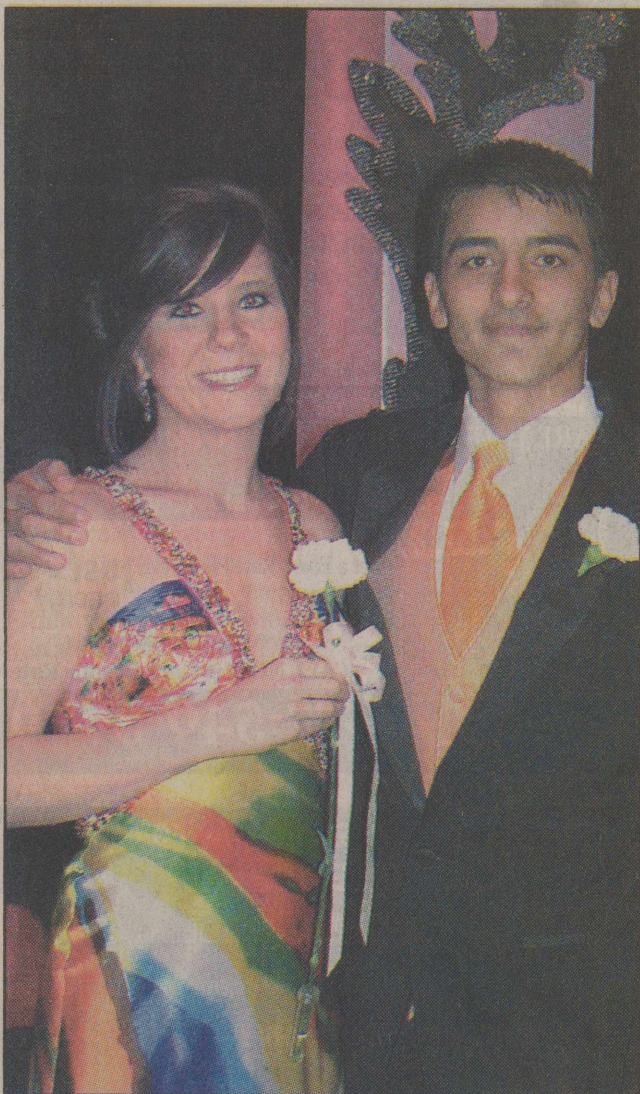
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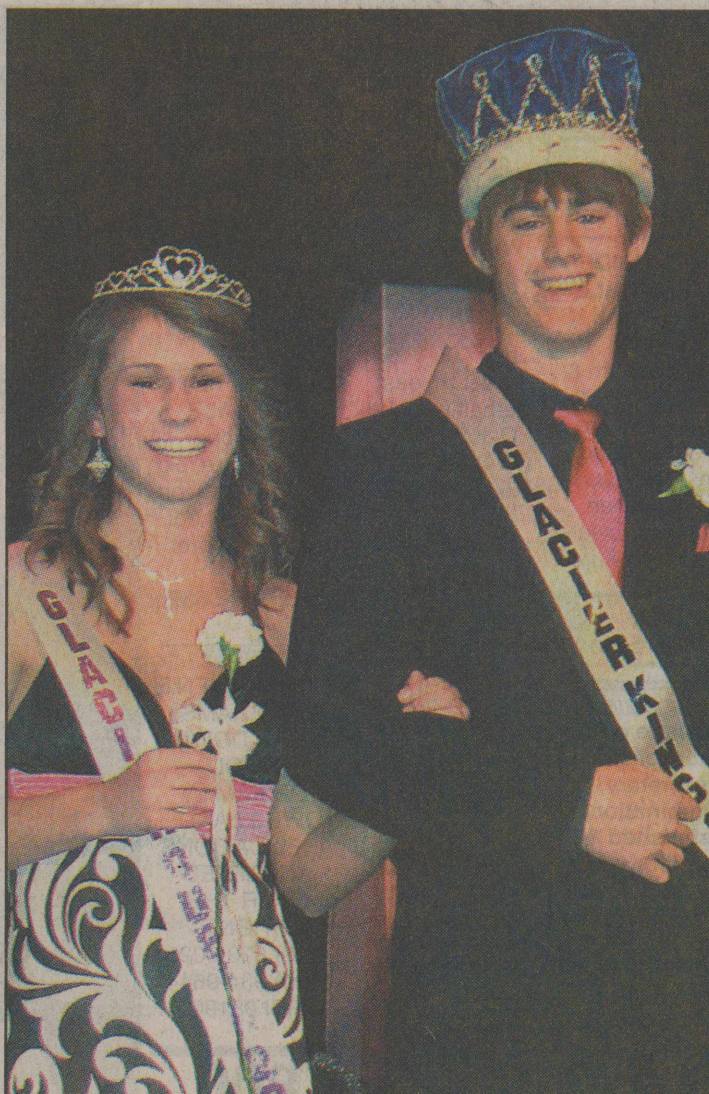
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GLACIER ROYALTY



Junior: Shelby Gehrels and Devin Martinez



On Feb. 15 Sophomore Caitlin Kurtz was chosen as the Glacier Queen and Senior Braden Mikeska was chosen Glacier King. Congratulations to all candidates!



Senior: Tana Gibbs with Braden Mikeska

Senior Citizens Activity Center Menu

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March 15-19

The Activity Center Menu was not available at press time.

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

Chamber

Continued from Page 1

stories of his past as well as our own communities history with his coaching career. Dallas spoke of Never Giving Up and Teamwork; lessons we all continue to learn in life. The chamber had a great turn out of approximately 175 local and out of towners. The chamber honored Danny Reel, a retiree of the WACC board of directors at the banquet.

President Franklin O'Dell was the master of ceremonies, Heath Powers gave the benediction and Ms Teen Runnels County Jennifer Pritchard sang the National Anthem.

Sno Royalty Katie Reyes and Macey Gerhart gave out door prizes throughout the evening.

WACC would like to thank Daisy Patch, Stitchin' Post, Bluebonnet Mercantile, Hatler Insurance, Bedford Norman Insurance, Wheats, DLC Realty, Four Star Title, Chandelier Ranch, Beauty Center, Andy's Upholstry, A-C Nutrition, Nextera Energy, Winters Feed &

Seed, Andrew Williams, Rustic Bound, Kandice King, RedBull, Coors, The Rose Lady-Rhonda Black, ACU Campus Store, J & T Hardware, Heidenheimers, Dairy Queen, Casa Cabanna, Security State Bank, Mary Meyers, Lacy Mathiesen-Cowgirl Scents, Frito Lay, Gandy's, Mrs Bairds, Charles Bahlman Chevrolet, Calacote Dirt Contracting, Best Fried Chicken, Compass Bank, WABIC, the Hair Post, Dollar General, Tradesman, Alejandra's, Pizza Hut, Shoppin Basket, Little Debbie, Winters Auto Tech, 3-G Automotive, Fran

Walker-Silpada, Guy's Dirt, Raymonds Clip Joint, Gehrels & Associates, Wes-T-Go, L & M Hair Salon, Walt's Jerkey and CARR for their donations. The WACC looks forward to all of their 2010 events and promoting their community. New officers for the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce are President: Raymond Lindsey, Vice President: Shannon Daniel, Secretary: Vanessa Esquivel and continuing treasurer is Craig Gehrels. Amanda Collom continues as the executive director of the board of directors.

E-Bay trading conference at ASU Taxes

The ASU Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is presenting "All About eBay: Learn how to buy and sell on eBay." on Monday, March 22, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the ASU Campus.

Conference Room. The cost is \$10 per person. Advance registration is required.

Making money on the Internet has never been easier! Learn how to use EBAY...the #1 Internet auction site in the world to sell

your products online and create an instant global storefront. This workshop will instruct you on how to list products on EBAY. Discussion includes how images enhance selling power, the basics of shipping

and the ease of using PayPal. Speaker: Lisa & Jim Koca have been eBay sellers since 2000 and are Educational Specialist Trained by eBay. They operate the traditional on-line auction site on eBay as well as an on-line store, Texas Gifts and Treasures. Lisa and Jim have taught eBay classes throughout the United States.

To register please call (325) 942-2098 or register on-Line at www.sbdcenter.org.

Continued from Page 4

and didn't start taking withdrawals until you were at least 59 1/2.

• Contribute to a Section 529 plan. If you have children or grandchildren, you want to establish Section 529 plans to help them pay for college. You can contribute virtually any amount, and the earnings grow tax-free, provided the money is used for higher education expenses. (Withdrawals used for expenses other than qualified education expenses may be subject to federal, state and penalty taxes. Contributions are tax-deductible in certain states for residents who participate in their own state's plan. Please note that a 529 college savings plan could impact a beneficiary's to qualify for financial aid.)

You may be tempted to spend your tax refund on things you want today - but, with a little planning, you can use it for things you need tomorrow.

Larry Gilbert is a financial advisor for Edward Jones in Ballinger. His column and financial advice appears regularly on these pages.

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