

In the southwestern part of Runnels County, the town of Maverick, named for Samuel Augustus Maverick, was one of the two choices for the county seat.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF RUNNELS COUNTY IN THIS WEEKLY SERIES BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE WINTERS ENTERPRISE AND THE RUNNELS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
PAGE 4

The Winters Enterprise



Visit us online!

Look for the latest information, posts and videos at www.MyRunnelsCounty.com



*****CAR-RT LOT**R 002
0298769 10/21/2013 R002
RANDALL CONNER
216 CIRCLE DR
WINTERS, TX 79567-3504

Volume 23, Issue 40

Thursday, August 8, 2013

Winters, Texas 75¢

New Chief sworn in at Winters Police Department

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Former Olney Chief of Police and most recently serving as an officer for the Winters Police Department, Randall Joe Davis was sworn in last Thursday, August 1, 2013, as the new Winters Chief of Police. Davis was sworn in at the City Hall by Mayor Pro-Temp Armando Tamez.

Davis, originally from Brownwood and with strong ties to Goldthwaite, has been working for the Winters P.D. for almost three years. Davis will be taking over the position left by Nathan Johnson, who served as Chief of Police for five years.

"I would like to thank the Mayor, City Council and Chief Johnson for their belief and their trust

in me, it's been a great deal, I think we have a great city and department to work with and I'm looking forward to it," said Davis after being sworn in.

"We'll be doing the best we can in serving the community, as far as immediate changes within the department we have a department which is respected by the community and the city, we have a roadmap that we've been on for several years thanks to Chief Johnson, and I'd like to continue on that same roadmap."

If any changes are needed, he said, they will be made as the need arises. The department policies and staff currently in place at the Winters P.D. are working, he said, and he'd like to continue with that work.

As of the number of officers in the department, the full-time vacancy left will most likely be fulfilled by the end of the month.

"Thank you for your faith in me, I've had several people coming to congratulate me, giving me their support, I have to say that I respect and admire that. It is a great community and I'm honored to be a part of it at this time. I'm looking forward to be a part of it for a long time," Davis said.

Former chief Nathan Johnson will remain with Winters Police Department as a reserve officer. He was also sworn in at the ceremony held last Thursday.

"Thank you so much for supporting the Winters Police Department and all the officers that we have,

we have a core group that has been here almost four years," said Johnson.

During that transitional phase, he added, the community of Winters has offered the Winters P.D. a tremendous support. "And I would just ask the community to support Randall in his efforts to continue what we started, and to build on that foundation in his own way. There is a good core team here that is going to stay and keep things stable," Johnson said.

Johnson will stay available to the Winters P.D. as a consultant and assist them as a reserve officer.

"I would just ask the community to keep them in their prayers, support them and reach out to them and let them know that you're there for



PHOTO: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
Armando Tamez swearing in Randall Davis as the new Winters Chief of Police.

them," Johnson said.

As of his personal plans, Johnson said that he will take some time to decompress, do some research and writing. Him and his family will stay in the community, with his wife

Lenise teaching at the school district, and him working with the Paladin youth leadership program.

"We'll just kind of wait and see what door opens, and kind of clear our heads and see where it leads."

Winters ISD announces new Jr. High Principal, staff

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Winters Independent School District announced the arrival of new staff members for the 2013-2014 school year including the Winters Junior High Principal, Junior High Special Education teacher, and two new teachers for the Elementary School.

This week, Winters ISD announced that Jeff Kirby will be the new Winters Jr. High Principal. Kirby, who has been in education for over 23 years, spent the first two decades as a teacher in various school

districts.

He received his master's degree from Concordia University in Austin and holds certifications as superintendent and principal, as well as physical education, biology, and health. He has been an administrator for the last 3 years.

Kirby announced that one of his goals will be the creation of a parent-teacher organization.

READ MR. KIRBY'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR PAGE 3

Also joining the staff at Winters ISD is the new Junior High Special Edu-



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED
Pictured left to right are: Jeff Kirby - WJH Principal, Kayla Kuempel - Third Grade Teacher, and Edward Garcia - JH Special Education Teacher and Assistant Coach.

cation Teacher, Edward Garcia. Garcia will be also working as an assistant coach.

New teachers starting at

Winters Elementary for the 2013-2014 school year are Third Grade teachers Kayla Kuempel and Cindy Kirby.

Heath, drought in the forecast for Runnels Co.

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Recent rains in the area left a little runoff, but the levels in area lakes, rivers and creeks are going down, reaching historical lows amid of what the National Weather Service is calling unseasonably hot temperatures.

The most recent report by the Colorado River Municipal Water District, released on Tuesday, August 6, 2013, shows that O.H. Ivie, one of the most important water reservoirs in West Texas, has been constantly dropping and is now 17.99 percent full.

Even though O.H. Ivie is not as low as one year ago (13.75 percent), the trend, after the September of 2012 rains, has been going constantly down. In September of last year rains down poured tenths of thousands of acre-feet of water into local lakes and helped to mitigate the drought that has been undermining area reservoirs since 2011. That weekend as much as 12 inches of rain were recorded in some gauges in the area. The official report was 7.75 inches in Ballinger.

This year, some rains in May and July poured a little water in the reservoirs, bringing the Ballinger lake to a 41 percent it haven't seen in a long time. However the big picture shows a different scenario.

The Colorado River at the U.S. Geological Service station in Ballinger is currently at 3.97 feet. That is well-below its 18-foot flood stage or its highest recent peak occurring on September 29 of 2012, at 27.78 feet.

The upper Colorado River Basin is in similar shape: Lake J.B. Thomas in Scurry County is currently at 1.91 percent full, and the E.V. Spence reservoir, just west of Robert Lee is 5.77 percent full.

The situation at the Elm Creek is not better by any means. Tuesday morning, the USGS station in Runnels County showed 3.19 feet of water. Last September with the most recent peak recorded, rains brought this body of water to 7.14 feet.

The drought, according to the short term forecast, will continue. The National Weather Service in San Angelo issued a warning effective until Wednesday of heat index values approaching the 105 to 108 range for most of the Big Country, Concho Valley and Heartland. According to the NWS warning "unseasonable hot temperatures may create potentially dangerous conditions."



Diane Torres awarded Employee of the Quarter at NRH

Diane Torres was voted as North Runnels Hospital Employee of the Quarter. Diane works in the admission office of the hospital. She has been employed at North Runnels Hospital since 2011 and is always ready to help anywhere in the hospital. North Runnels Hospital is pleased to have Diane as part of their healthcare team. Pictured with Diane is Sidney Tucker, North Runnels Hospital Administrator.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Coleman Co. Electric Co-Op celebrates 75 years of service

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

COLEMAN- Coleman County Electric marked its 75th Anniversary on July 19, 2013. The co-op was incorporated in 1937 and started construction to its first substation and electric lines to members in 1938; as of 2013 CCEC serves 8,563 meters with 3,769 miles of line.

The idea behind cooperatives is simple: a voluntary mutual association owned and operated by the people we serve, where any excess capital ("profit" in the investor owned world) is returned to the members.

The motto: "Owned by those we serve."

Before the meeting, members enjoyed several different types of scrumptious refreshments in the junior high cafeteria served by the Coleman 4-H. One-man band George Allison entertained members that lead to the start of the meeting held in the Coleman High School auditorium.

General Manager Roland Witt started the program. The invocation which was given by Director David Wright. The pledge and national anthem was given by Daniel, Kim, and Abby Stovall of Coleman.

Witt then thanked the Stovall family for the pledge, George Allison for some great entertainment, Coleman County 4-H for an assortment of delicious refreshments and the Coleman ISD and staff for the use of their facilities. Johnson Implement of Coleman was then recognized for the use of its mules to escort members to and from the complex.

Witt explained the procedure of the meeting and reminded members to turn in their ballots. The meeting proceeded with the names of the nominating committee, election

officials and the Board of Directors was announced.

While the vote-counting committee was tallying the votes, Witt recognized CCEC's attorney Don Johnson and introduced the Director Candidates for Districts 2, 4, and 9 as well as other special guests, retirees and other co-op personnel.

President Bob Fuchs called the meeting to order and declared that a quorum of members was present. Vice President Roger Kruse then read the proof of mailing.

Mr. Fuchs then asked for PLEASE CONTINUE PAGE 6

Get ready for the heat

- If spending any time outside during this time please take the following precautions:
- Drink plenty of water and sports drink, do not wait until you are thirsty.
 - Wear light-weight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.
 - Find a shaded or air-conditioned place to cool.
 - Never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle.
 - Bring pets inside during the afternoon when temperatures are really hot. Otherwise... give them plenty of fresh water.

Source: National Weather Service

WE CARE
If you have a news tip call
The Winters Enterprise
At (325) 365 3501

The City of Winters welcomes tourists
Visit our lake park and in-town RV park.
Call 723-2081 or 754-4424 for information.

BEFMASTER STEAKHOUSE
Nightly Specials
TUESDAY
8 oz sirloin. \$7.00
(Includes House Salad)

Runnels County ROUND-UP

4 Winters Enterprise

Thursday, August 8, 2013

THE ORGANIZATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY Settlers thrive as they occupy and tame the land

CONTRIBUTED BY RUTH COOPER
RCHC CHAIRPERSON

WINTERS— The young county had grown steadily, but the population was not equally divided. There were still far fewer women than men that had moved into the area.

The cattlemen were acquiring more land since the Texas Rangers had the Indian situation under control. With more and more ranches and livestock, it was becoming very difficult to control them as they grazed on the open range. In the southwestern part of Runnels County, the town of Maverick, named for Samuel Augustus Maverick, was one of the two choices for the county seat, in the election held in February of 1880, but it wasn't until 1883 they established a Post Office with Marion Cobb as the Postmaster in the town's store.

The editor and owner of The Runnels County Record, Mr. I.C. Huege in Runnels City was always optimistic in his writings. He was in fact extravagant with praises of whatever he saw around him. He began in early January of 1883 with his writings... several houses finished in our town... the sale of land on the rise to strangers and locals as well... the lively stable

on the public square was a special addition to the city... the saloon belonging to Mr. Swift was recently painted... the stone building known as the Brandt Hotel was almost complete. It was owned by a Mr. Brandt. The account continued... by March, Runnels City had the appearance of a boom town. It by now had a regular water wagon and all carpenters were busy building new houses. By June of 1883, there were four different mail lines coming into Runnels City as the center.

Monday morning June 11, 1883, the Runnels County Commissioners Court met in Regular Term in the Town of Runnels City with the Honorable Judge, Sylvester Adams presiding. The purpose of the meeting was in accordance with the requirement of the law as a Board of Equalization. The four Commissioners, R.F. Counts, Job Davies, J.D. Yarbrow and Henry Paddleford, the Sheriff John M. Formwalt and W.L. Towner, County Clerk were all present. The Honorable Court promptly reviewed as the law in such cases provided and the County Assessor W.W. Odom punctually laid out before them all documents pertaining to his assessment of the property of Runnels County. The Honorable Court, after a careful, patient and thorough investigation and examination of the assessment, adjourned at that time. The court reconvened on Tuesday and continued their

labors. They researched until they became satisfied that the report had fulfilled the letter of the law. Therefore, the court approved and returned the report to the assessor for making his general roll as required by law.

The court then withdrew the order in their previous meeting for a special tax that would be levied "for public buildings" and then specified "shall read for general purposes." All orders in contradiction were repealed.

The court ordered that Mr. W.G. Green's account of \$14.50 for feeding jurors at the fall term of 1882 be paid. They also ordered the account of \$29.50 in the Second Class Fund be transferred to the First Class Fund. The court recognized the County Treasurer, Mr. W.L. Hightower. "The State of Texas, County of Runnels, Commissioners Court, June Term, 1883: I here with respectfully tender my resignation as Treasurer of Runnels County, since I expect to remove myself from the county soon... W.L. Hightower, Treasurer of Runnels County Texas." The next order was to accept the resignation with regret and then the court thanked Mr. Hightower for his faithful, efficient manner in which he has administered his office and the clerk was requested to record the same in the minutes of the court.

The next order was to move \$600 to the Common County Fund from the Special Fund for the purpose of paying some

indebtedness.

The court, due to the resignation of Mr. W.L. Hightower, County Treasurer, was prompted to occupy that office. The Honorable Court voted by ballot and elected Mr. B.W. Taylor, Treasurer. Mr. Taylor was appointed to fill the vacancy of that office and fill the unexpired term of Mr. W.L. Hightower.

The Court determined the County Judge was entitled to a leave of absence from the county for 15 days, beginning Thursday morning June 14, 1883. He was paid \$50 for his quarterly wage. The court then also paid the officers of the court, and they adjourned.

The Honorable Commissioners Court met June 25, A.D. 1883, in Runnels City. This meeting was for the transaction of special business. Present were the County Judge, three Commissioners, the Sheriff and County Clerk. The court approved the bond for the new County Treasurer. The court heard the report on the completion of the Court House roof and approved. They ordered Mr. H.A. Thomson be paid for his work. The court then adjourned after the officers were paid their due. The court would meet in the next Regular Term.

Resources:
Runnels County Historical Commission History Records,
Runnels County Commissioners Court Minutes, June 11, A. D., 1883,
June 25, A. D., 1883.

Royalty owner workshop to be held at Big Spring

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

FT. WORTH— Recognizing that knowledge is priceless, three leaders in minerals management education are bringing the only certification-based, Royalty Owner Program in the country to Big Spring over three days in August.

Co-sponsored by Texas Christian University's Energy Institute, the National Association of Royalty Owners, and the Institute of Ranch Management at TCU, this program is aimed at new and experienced mineral owners who want to master the fundamentals of minerals management.

The State of Texas is rich in oil and gas reserves and this stampede for access is evident in the numbers. With more than 1 million royalty owners in Texas claiming a stake, TCU established the Royalty Owner Programs to help level the playing field when mineral owners interact with oil and gas companies.

"I like to describe the energy industry as a wheel with the royalty owners as the hub. The oil and gas producers must connect with the royalty owners and both parties must work together to keep the industry healthy," says attorney George Wilson, royalty owner and lead instructor in the certification program. "Royalty owners who are educated and are able to work in concert with oil and gas companies make the wheel move that much faster."

Royalty owners new to this type of resource management, especially the younger generation who have been left mineral assets by their parents and grandparents, need expert guidance to negotiate the leases and manage the return on their investment. At the same time, families with a long legacy of ownership need to know how to maximize their investment on existing leases and identify new production opportunities on their land. As the industry continues to heat up, all royalty owners need to keep their playbook current.

"Many royalty owners are woefully unskilled and unprepared to manage their own minerals and thousands of families have lost millions of dollars over generations because of poorly negotiated leases," continues Wilson, who has more than 20 years experience managing his own royalties and those of clients throughout the southwest. "We give royalty owners the fundamental tools to negotiate and manage confidently and knowledgeably."

And the dynamics of minerals management go beyond production. Royalty owners must also know how to verify their check stubs, file their taxes, and engage in estate planning.

Past graduates give the program high ratings for its breadth and effectiveness. Furthermore, half of those who participate in the Royalty Owner Program are inspired to learn more through an Advanced Royalty Owners Program.

For more information call 800 255 1261, info@cerenergyinstitute.com or visit <http://www.energyinstitute.tcu.edu>

Your trade-in could pay for a new



Samsung GALAXY S4

Trade-in values vary and certain conditions apply, so see store for complete details.

You can trade in your old car for a new one... why not do the same with your cell phone? At West Central Wireless, your trade-in could even pay for a new Samsung Galaxy S4! That's right, just bring in your cell phone from West Central or any other cellular company and trade up for a brand-new Apple iPhone or Samsung smart phone.

The nationally advertised Samsung Galaxy S4 is the #1 selling Android phone in America! Videos pause when you look away, and you can answer calls with a wave of your hand. You'll be amazed at what this smart phone can do for you.

And, you'll love what West Central can do for you, too. We're offering the Apple iPhone 5 and the Samsung Galaxy S4 smart phones, as well as, the strongest and fastest data coverage in West Central Texas. Plus, we have local phone repair and loaner phones. All that and West Central even costs less than the "big guys"!

Come by any of our many locations and trade-in your current cell phone for a brand-new Apple iPhone 5 or Samsung Galaxy S4 today!

WEST CENTRAL WIRELESS
Local connections...
National reach
1-800-695-9016 www.westcentral.com

San Angelo: 3359 Knickerbocker Road • 2609 N. Bryant Blvd. • Sunset Mall • HEB • Lowe's Grocery • Thompson Wireless • iPhone Repair Store
Ballinger: Shopping Basket
Brady: 1200 S. Bridge
Brownwood: 300 W. Commerce • 3651 Hwy. 377 South
Coleman: Coleman Communications
Comanche: 217 N. Houston
Comfort: 616 B. Front Street
DeLeon: Telecom Communications
Dublin: 906 N. Patrick
Eden: Lubke Chevrolet
Fredericksburg: 1425 E. Main St. #800A
Goldthwaite: Central Texas Communications
Junction: 801 Main St.
Kerrville: 1448 Junction Hwy. • 317 Sidney Baker S. #300 • 231 Junction Hwy. • Advantage Communications • Audio Video Solutions
Mason: Mason Gas
Menard: 800 N. Highway
Meridian: Made in the Shade
Ozona: 1000 Ave. F
Robert Lee: Rock Solid Communications
San Saba: Central Texas Communications
Sonora: 205A Hwy 277 North
Stephenville: 2187 W. South Loop • Our Town Internet Services
Stonewall: Fred Burg Communications

