

The Runnels County Commissioners' Court began a called term the 23rd day of March A.D. 1885 in the town of Runnels for the purpose of examining and receiving the jail.

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

The

Winters Enterprise



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WINTERS, TX 79567-3504

Volume 24, Issue 4

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Winters, Texas 75c

Five contested races to be held in March primary

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Once the deadline to file for the March primaries is due in Texas, five contested local races are in the horizon for Runnels County, as more than one candidate filed for the positions of each one of the two justices of the peace, the two county commissioners up for election, and retiring County Clerk.

Monday, December 9 at 6 p.m. was the deadline to file for the Democratic Party and Republican Party primaries in Texas. All those filing for local elections in Runnels County will be running for the Republican Party.

Those filing for the Republican Party primary are Dickie Ray Clough, running for County Commissioner Pct. No. 2 and Ronce Richard Scott, candidate for County Commissioner Pct. No. 4. Clough is challenging incumbent Ronald Presley while

Scott will be facing incumbent Rick Strube.

For the position of Justice of the Peace Pct. No. 1, challenging incumbent Glenda Wood will be Steven Gray, while Judge Richard Hamilton is being challenged by Louise Summers.

Two candidates filed for the position of long-time County Clerk Elsa Ocker. Ocker previously announced she will not be running for re-election. Those filing for the position are Julia Miller and Amanda Collom.

Filing for re-election and uncontested are County Judge Barry Hilliard, District Clerk Tammy Burleson, and County Treasurer Ann Strube.

Tuesday, December 17, 2013, a drawing will be held at Room 105 Runnels County Courthouse for positions on the ballot, at 10 a.m., the drawing is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend.



PHOTO: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ

Two women traveling from Winters to Ballinger on Friday morning went into the ditch on U.S. Highway 83, near Ballinger. The wreck didn't leave any serious injuries.

Winter storm leaves freezing toll

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Wrecks, damages and delays is the toll of the second winter storm of the season, along with slippery roads and bridges, water pipes bursting and roofs damaged by the heavy ice accumulation.

The blizzard, hitting Runnels County from Thursday, December 5, 2013 until Tuesday, December 10 with temperatures well-below freezing, left over 3 inches of solid ice in some parts of the county, causing the cancellation of many school, city and county activities on Friday, December 6.

The weather caused poor travel conditions on all area roads, turning them into dangerous slides.

Additionally, the extreme temperatures combined with north winds to keep wind chill readings in the single digits and teens.

According to the National Weather Service office in San Angelo the storm affected Fisher, Nolan, Sterling, Coke, Runnels, Irion, Tom Green, Concho, Crockett, Schleicher, Sutton, Haskell, Throckmorton, Jones, Shackelford, Taylor, Callahan, Coleman, Brown, McCulloch, San Saba, Menard, Kimble, and Mason counties.

Some of the school and government offices shutting down included the Runnels County Courthouse, Ballinger City Hall, Ballinger ISD, Miles ISD, Olfen ISD, Paint Rock ISD, and Winters ISD. The Winters City Hall remained open for regular business hours. Postal delivery was not cancelled in Ballinger or Winters.

Ice and sleet accumulation in Runnels County as reported by residents ranged from 1 inch to almost 3 inches in some places.

Most of the businesses Downtown Ballinger and Downtown Winters closed for the weekend.

The "World War II, Pearl Harbor Day" celebration originally scheduled for Saturday, December 7, was moved up one week to Saturday, December 14 at the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church at 1501 Broadway, beginning at 2 p.m.



First responders worked numerous wrecks all over the region, but no serious injuries were reported.

Winter traveling

Texas Department of Transportation recommendations for winter traveling:

- Reduce speed. Speed limits are based on normal road and weather conditions, not winter road conditions.
- Maintain at least three times the normal following distance on snow or ice.
- Watch carefully for trucks and equipment treating roadways, and stay at least 200 feet back if you are behind a snow plow.
- Use extra caution on bridges, ramps, overpasses and shaded areas as they tend to freeze first.
- If you start to slide, ease off the gas pedal or brakes. Steer into the direction of the skid until you feel you have regained traction then straighten your vehicle.

More winter weather safety information can be found at www.txdot.gov - key word: winter driving. For road conditions, call the TxDOT road conditions hotline at (800) 452-9292 or visit www.drivetexas.org.

Source: TxDOT.

Winter safety tips

- Avoid unnecessary travel if possible, and monitor local weather broadcasts, and follow up-to-the-minute weather conditions at <http://www.weather.gov/>.
- Remember that ice forms first on bridges, overpasses and shady areas. If you hit a patch of ice, stay off your brakes and decelerate slowly, holding the steering wheel steady.
- On icy roads, drive slowly, increase distance needed for stopping, and avoid using cruise control.
- Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before any trip - check fluid and antifreeze levels.
- Keep your gas tank full to prevent water condensation in the tank.
- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle - it's the law.

For more information on road conditions statewide, check www.drivetexas.org or call 800-452-9292.

Texas Department of Transportation crews were working around the clock to treat the most heavily traveled roadways first.

TxDOT urged to check road conditions before deciding to drive for the next few days and to delay travel plans until conditions improve.

Some emergency supplies to keep in your vehicle include:

- Blankets/sleeping bags and extra clothing, mittens and hat

- Cell phone, radio, flashlight, extra batteries

- First-aid kit and pocket knife

- High calorie, non perishable food, bottled water

- Sack of sand or cat litter for de-icing roadway

- Windshield scraper, tool kit, booster cables, tow rope and shovel

'Wills' conference to be held in Eden

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

EDEN- Concho County Judge Allan Amos with the assistance of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Concho County, will conduct a program on "Wills." The program will be held on Thursday, December 19, 2013 at 7 p.m. at the Eden Multi-Purpose Center located at 219 Blanchard in Eden, Texas.

The following are just a few of the topics/questions that will be answered: Do you have a will? Is it a valid will, What happens

when a person dies intestate (without a will)?, Are some of your heirs deceased?, Are there new heirs?, Have you remarried since your last will, any step children?, Why and how is a will probated?

There is no charge to attend this meeting and it is not limited to residents of Concho County. Everyone is welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

For more information call the office of Judge Allen Amos at (325) 732 4321 or the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office in Concho County (325) 732 4304.

Cotton and agricultural conference slated for Jan 14

STEVE BYRNS
SPECIAL TO THE WINTERS ENTERPRISE

STAMFORD- The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will conduct the 2014 Rolling Plains Cotton and Agricultural Conference from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Jan. 14 in Stamford.

The event, conducted by the AgriLife Extension offices in Jones and Haskell counties, will take place in the Texas Cowboy Reunion Bunkhouse on the Texas Cowboy Reunion rodeo grounds, on Farm-to-Market Road 2834 and U.S. Highway 277.

Individual registration due upon arrival is \$10. Organizers ask those planning to attend to RSVP by Jan. 10 to the AgriLife Extension office in Jones County by calling 325-823-2432.

Three Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units, one laws and regulations, one integrated pest management and one drift minimization, will be available.

"Our focus for the program will be on new technologies," said Steve Estes, AgriLife Extension agent in Jones County. "There is so much new technology becoming available these days, especially related to cotton, that a large part of our program will not only center around what those new technologies are, but also how to best manage them.

"We will also be spending some time updating producers on the farm bill and how any pending changes relating to it might affect our area farmers. Our slate of speakers are very current in their knowledge relating to their specific topics, so this program should be ideal for getting the new farming year off to a good start."

Topics and speakers will include:

- Farm Bill Update, Dr. Joe Outlaw, AgriLife economist, College Station.
- Alternative Crops and the Farm Bill-How Will they Fit? and Cotton Market Outlook, Bill Thompson AgriLife Extension economist.
- Using TopGuard to Manage Cotton Root Rot and Small Grains Integrated Pest Management Update, Rick Minzenmayer, AgriLife Extension entomologist for Runnels and Tom Green counties.
- Utilizing New Herbicide Technologies in Weed Management, Dr. Peter Dotray, AgriLife Extension weed and herbicides specialist, Lubbock.
- Managing Chemical Applications-Current and New Technologies, Dr. Adam Hixson, technical service representative, BASF, Lubbock.
- Cotton Variety and Herbicide Trial Results, Dr. David Drake, AgriLife Extension agronomist, San Angelo.
- Pesticide Laws and Regulations, Paul Weiser, Texas Department of Agriculture, Lubbock.

For more information contact Estes at 325-823-2432, saestes@ag.tamu.edu

WE CARE

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The Winters Enterprise

At (325) 365 3501



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FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES

Jimmy Ray Bilbrey

Jimmy Ray Bilbrey went to be with His Savior on November 10, 2013. Jim was born to Dee Bilbrey Jr. and wife, Annie Lee, in Ballinger on May 16, 1946. Preceding Jim's passing was his father, Dee Bilbrey Jr.; mother, Annie Lee Bilbrey of Ballinger; brother Gary Dale Bilbrey of Maverick.

Jim grew up in Ballinger and graduated from Ballinger High School in 1965. He was valedictorian of his class. Jim was a locksmith most of his life and worked for Lubbock Lock and Key over 25 years.

Survivors include three sons, Mike and wife Natalie of Herrin, Illinois; Terry and wife Cindy of Freeport, Texas; Chris of Rapid City, South Dakota. Two stepchildren, Scott Samples and Shanna. Brothers Larry Duane and wife Debbie of Winters; Glen of Ballinger; sister Tammie Lea and husband Steve Englert of Lake Corpus Christi, 11 grandchildren, two great grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews.

Rest in Peace Jim



Winters Enterprise, December 12, 2013

Beaunita Virden

Beaunita Virden, 84 of Ballinger died Sunday December 8, 2013 at Central Texas Nursing and Rehabilitation Center after a lengthy illness.

She was born on May 8, 1929 in Ballinger to Fred and Lula (Bristler) Tappee.

Arrangements are with Lange Funeral Home in Ballinger. Guests may register at ballingerfuneralhome.com.

Winters Enterprise, December 12, 2013

Millions of acres of Panhandle wheat in fair to good condition

ROBERT BURNS
SPECIAL TO THE WINTERS ENTERPRISE

COLLEGE STATION—Despite roller-coaster variations in temperatures, an ongoing drought, and a shortage of preferred varieties, most Texas High Plains wheat is in fair to good condition, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

"Late freezes in the spring of 2013 and other weather conditions limited the amount of available seed produced of preferred varieties, particularly AgriLife Extension's 'Pick' varieties," said Dr. Calvin Trostle, AgriLife Extension agronomist in Lubbock.

"Those Pick varieties were sometimes spread over more acres at a slightly reduced seeding rate," Trostle said. "But management keys like suitable planting date, irrigation and timely top-dress nitrogen applications in late winter 2014 will help compensate for lack of availability of preferred wheats."

Though there were some crops other than wheat planted in place of the preferred varieties, by far, most farmers turned to alternative wheat varieties: those shown by AgriLife Extension and Texas A&M AgriLife Research variety trials as possibly not performing as well on irrigated or dryland acres as the Pick varieties, he said.

Winter wheat is a very large and important crop in the Texas High Plains. In the Texas Panhandle region alone, total acreage often exceeds 2.5 million acres, Trostle said.

"A large proportion of the winter wheat is grown solely for grazing or dual-purpose uses—grazing plus grain. But wheat for grain produces the greatest value," he said.

There was some late-planted wheat, but late-planted wheat can still do well if it has enough warm days to get it up and growing, he said.

"Delayed planted wheat will have very slow emergence in some cases, particularly if they planted after early November," he said. "I think overall, that most of our grazing wheat is in better shape, because it was planted earlier and was well-established before recent freezing weather. Some late wheat for grain will grow slowly over the winter, but if we have a wet spring, then that all changes for the better very quickly."

Though some might be concerned about the effect of this year's unusually cold weather on the wheat crop, Trostle isn't, he said, at least for wheat grown for grazing.

From the Chief's Desk

Holiday season

BY RANDALL DAVIS
WINTERS CHIEF OF POLICE

The holiday season being upon us also means the season of theft and fraud is also upon us. Local merchants should be aware with the increased holiday shopping comes an increase of holiday shoplifting. Watching the local news from around the region it appears an increase in theft and related incidents have been on the rise. The Winters Police Department also has seen a slight increase in local businesses reporting incidents of shoplifting and related offenses.

In addition to the expected increase in thefts, the Winters Police Department has seen a disturbing increase of counterfeit money being circulated and passed in the area. The fake bills are showing up in smaller denominations and it is believed the bills are being passed at local businesses, mixed in with legal currency to prevent it from being detected. The Winters Police Department currently has two confirmed cases of the counterfeit bills being passed at local businesses with additional possible bills in circulation.

Today's home computer and printer technology has allowed the reproduction of the U.S. currency to be copied and printed to a level of detail and color, hard to detect with the bare eye, especially if passed to a clerk working a busy cash register. The quickest way to determine if a bill is counterfeit is to feel the paper then compare the bill to authentic U.S. currency. There is a distinct and very noticeable difference between the counterfeit money printed on paper and a U.S. currency bill printed by the government. Counterfeit bills are usually printed on paper readily available to the average consumer. U.S. currency is printed on stock specifically made for the printing of U.S. bills and not available for purchase by the public.

The Winters Police Department advises all consumers if you have come into contact or possess a suspicious bill, more recently appearing in \$10 and \$20 denominations, to take the bill to your local law enforcement agency or bank to determine the validity and origin of the currency.

The Winters Police Department would like to further caution citizens of other scams and practices designed to separate you from your hard earned money. Be very cautious when using your credit card number when making online or over the phone purchases. Never give your credit card number out over the phone unless you are absolutely sure who is on the receiving end of the transaction.

Always keep a printed receipt of your credit card purchase and never throw the credit card receipt in the trash. Avoid allowing other persons to use your credit card or bank card. Protect your PIN (Personal Identification Number) and be careful when using the card to ensure someone is not looking over your shoulder when typing your PIN into the card machine.

Be mindful of cell phones in use around you when using your card. Most cell phones these days also have a camera built into the device. A less than honest person can take a quick snap shot of your credit card from a comfortable distance while its being handed to the clerk at your favorite restaurant or

store without you or the clerk being the wiser. The photo can then be enlarged displaying your name on the card and your entire credit card number providing someone with an ill gotten spending spree and you with a crippling bill and a less than pleasurable holiday season.

One new scam designed to separate you and your money appears to be surfacing in the form of a collection agency attempting to collect on some old forgotten bill. The caller usually will know your name and few bits of information such as your current or former address (easy to obtain through various public records). The caller will advise you the call is an attempt to collect and debt and may even make subtle threat of a law suit to collect the debt or other legal action against you unless you pay the debt immediately. The caller may suggest a liberal discount of the debt owed if the debt would be paid immediately as an incentive to you paying money or providing your banking information. You may be asked to provide your banking information with a generous offer of being allowed to have your account deducted the amount of the debt in easier lower monthly installments.

An indication of this attempt to collect a debt as a bogus or fraud is the caller is collecting a debt from a creditor you have never dealt with or heard of and will usually have limited information on your account. Be assured if the caller is legitimate, they will already have your information and will not have to ask for it.

If you believe the call may be on the level, you can simply ask for the information to be forwarded to you to inspect and respond to, but never fall I to the trap of providing the caller with your banking information, or provide the caller with a credit card number for a quick resolution. If the caller is a legitimate collector and the debt is authentic, then there should be no issue with an agency providing you with documentation of the debt. If is fraud, you want receive the requested documentation from them.

Other ways to safeguard your Christmas spending money is simply be mindful of where you keep your money. Never lay your wallet, purse or credit cards on the checkout counter where they may be temporarily forgotten and left. Never keep all your money in the same wallet or pocket. When shopping be careful of packaging and shopping bags, especially expensive name brand stores left in open sight in your vehicle. A simple solution to concealing your purchases is to carry a blanket or bath towel to lay over and cover the shopping bags left in the rear seat of the car. Lock any purchase in the vehicles truck or luggage compartment if possible.

Taking a few simple commonsense steps, often innocently overlooked by the majority of us can mean the difference of you having a happy holiday or knowing somewhere, someone else is having your happy holiday.

The most important tip to protect yourself, not just during the holidays, but all year long remains the same, "If its too good to be true, it usually is." Please be mindful of scams, protect yourself and have a safe and Merry Christmas.

NEWS NOTES

Pearl Harbor Day celebration

American Legion Post 8, the VFW Post 9196, Odyssey Hospice and the Veterans Service Office would like to invite everyone to attend the "World War II, Pearl Harbor Day" celebration at the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church at 1501 Broadway at 2 p.m. on December 14, 2013. We will all be treated with a movie featuring four WWII Veterans and their experiences during the war and traveling on an "Honor Flight" to Washington, D.C. to see the WWII Memorial. The movie is courtesy of Odyssey Hospice. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave or call 365-3612.

Aggie Mom's Club monthly meeting

Abilene Area Aggie Mom's Club will be having its monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 6:45 p.m. at the Coldwell Banker Panian and Mash Building 2500 S. Willis (S. 27th and Willis, one-half block N on Willis) Abilene, Texas.

Please join us for a light meal. You will get to meet other Aggie Moms and learn a little more about Texas A&M and all of its traditions!

We meet the third Tuesday of each month, at 6:45 p.m. for refreshments and fun. If you can't make the meeting but would like more information, please call or email President Venita Teal at 669 0886, vltmini5@gmail.com or Kathy Hocke (membership) at 721 3131 hockeig@camalott.com

Winters Area Chamber of Commerce News

The Winters Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce that the Christmas Parade and Pageant will be coming December 14, 2013. Lineup is at 2 p.m. The parade will start at 3 p.m. This year Sno-Queen will receive a \$500 scholarship donated by Lone Star Video and Diner, first runner up will get a \$250 scholarship donated by Lloyd Farris, and second runner up will get a \$100 scholarship donated by the Lion's Club. Sno-Princess and Sno-Flake will receive gift certificates. Please contact Pam Barnes at 754 4978 for more information.

Winters Area Chamber of Commerce meetings

Winters Area Chamber of Commerce meets at 7 p.m., first Thursday of the month at the Lone Star Video, 200 Tinkle Street.

TEEA 'Friendly Neighbors'

The Texas Extension Education Agency "Friendly Neighbors" invites everybody in the Winters and Ballinger area who is interested in learning about cooking, gardening and arts and crafts to join us on the fourth Tuesday of every month (except during summer) at 2 p.m. at the Runnels County Extension Office on the corner of South Seventh and Sealy Ave in Ballinger.

If you are interested and like to find out more about us, call Nancy at 325 5042 or Linda 754 5385.

Winters Women's Club

Members meet the second Tuesday of the month. Call Sylvia Wilson 754 4992 for additional information.

AA Meetings

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

Ballinger Al-Anon meetings

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

City Council Meetings

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

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(325) 365 3501 FAX (325) 365 5389
news@wintersenterprise.com

Ruben Cantu-Rodriguez, Managing Editor
editor@wintersenterprise.com

Kristi Smith, Advertising Sales
sales@wintersenterprise.com

Linda Arispe, Office Assistant
Subscriptions, Accounts, Weddings, Announcements

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Winters Public Library donations

The Winters Public Library received donations during the annual fundraiser from Mrs. David Harlow, Lee and Judith Harrison; Jimmy Gault, memorial for Billy Ralph Russell; Sharon Rice, memorial for Billy Ralph Russell; Sharon Rice, memorial for Vera Lee Sneed; R. Wallace; David L. Brown, memorial for Betty Jo Brown; Barbara Everett; Celesta Bahlman; Paul Stoecker; J.C. Wilkerson; Craig Jacob, memorial for Freddie Bredemeyer; Ann L. Baldwin; Gary and Dinell Jacob, memorial for Freddie Bredemeyer; C.R. Dean, memorial for Freddie Bredemeyer; Bill

Walker; Pamela E. Salmon, memorial for Elma Lee and Leo Eubanks; Bonnie Elliot, memorial for Freddie Bredemeyer; James Self, memorial for Edna Ruth Self; Marianne Antilley, memorial for Noleta Rice and Bill Russell; Jan Boggan, memorial for John McMillan; Del and Cindy Davis, in honor of Sharon Rice; Elwood Brown; Jerry and Jan Sims; Charlotte and Tommy Lancaster, memorial for Freddie Bredemeyer; Lanny England and family, memorial for Vera Lee Sneed; James and Rose Mueller, memorial for Bud Henniger; Keith and Kimberly Fields; Charles

and Fran Kidwell in honor of Maurine Davis; Phil and Karen Colburn; Eric W. Ray; Dale and Linda Duggan, memorial for Freddie Bredemeyer; Ernest Cathey, memorial for Mayola Cathey; Jack B. Davis, memorial for Frances Davis married 59 years; Pat Dearing.

Also the library donations from: Billie and Benjie Tischler; Don and Judy Parker; Clyde Watkins; Nadine Delacruz; John Tomason; Paul and Selma H. Eisenstein, memorial for Harry and Ethel Herman; Margaret and Mike DeMarco, memorial for James Spill; Joe Ivey; Edward and Linda Westbrook;

Joyce Heathcott, memorial for Maxine Pritchard; Paul and Rebecca Airhart; Ed and Shirley Coleman, memorial for Jane Ellen Davis; Marlene and Elton Smith, memorial for Darlene Wilson and Pat Shomette; August Jr. and Doris McWilliams, memorial for Billy Russell; Justin and Kari Calcote; Fred and Brenda Watkins; Kraatz Plumbing; Bud and Kay Busher; Marianne Ray; Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Airhart, memorial for Freddie Bredemeyer, Louie Collins, Jerry Loyd; P.C. Alldrege, memorial for Nina Hine; Jimmie Walker; Nancy Thompson in honor of library volunteers.

Going for two



PHOTO: JOE GERHART

Lucas Kraatz going up for a shot at the game the Varsity Blizzards held against Robert Lee.

CAFETERIA MENU

Subject to Change*

Dec. 16 - 20 Winters ISD Breakfast Menu

Monday
Breakfast Taco or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

Tuesday
French Toast/Syrup or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

Wednesday
Breakfast Burrito/Salsa or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

Thursday
Sausage Roll or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

Friday
Muffin or Cereal/Toast w/Jelly, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk. (Early Release)

Winters ISD Lunch Menu

Monday
Chef Salad or Lasagna/Graham Cracker (Elem., J.H.) Bread Sticks (H.S.) or Grilled Chicken Pattie/Bun, Peas & Carrots, Baked Potatoes, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Peaches, Choice of Milk.

Tuesday
Chef Salad or Salisbury Steak/Hot Roll (2 oz.) or Chicken Tenders/Graham Cracker (Elem., J.H.) (H.S.) Bread Sticks, Italian Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Tossed Salad/Celery Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Fruit Bar, Choice of Milk.

Wednesday
Chef Salad or Nachos or Chicken Fajita, Pinto Beans, Spanish Rice, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Coleslaw, Pears, Choice of Milk.

Thursday
Chef Salad (H.S. only) or Turkey/Dressing/Gravy or Corn Dog, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Orange, Choice of Milk. (Early Release)

Friday
Chef Salad (H.S. only) or Hamburger or Chicken "Bites/Bread Stick, Oven Fries, Baked Beans, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Broccoli/Cherry Tomato, Orange, Choice of Milk. (Early Release)

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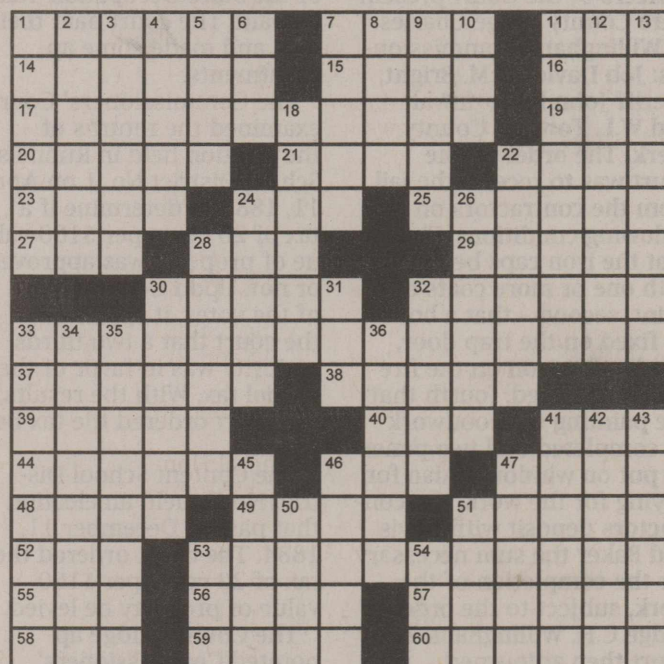
Across

- Hazzard County police officer
- Shocked sound
- Size between small and large; abbr.
- Animal prized for its wool
- Possessing power
- Blvd. cousin
- Toast-and-cheese dish
- "___ the season..."
- Prepares a fishing line
- Money with interest attached
- Marquis de ___
- Semicircles
- Put on TV
- Minnesotan
- "Marble" bread
- Little bear
- Old-fashioned contraction
- Verify, IRS-style
- New Hampshire-born president
- Certain Monopoly token
- Participates in a summer camp activity
- Banks of baseball
- Signs of the future
- Newspaper people, for short
- Dollop
- Makes good on one's debts
- They hook up IVs
- Location
- Dirt
- Dante's "Divine Comedy," for instance
- Some artists' studios

- Adam's madam
- Drink topped with whipped cream
- "Just a ___" ("hold on")
- "Waterloo" singers
- Slam ___ (impressive basketball feat)
- "Murder on the ___ Express"
- Prior to, in poems
- Iowa State University's town
- Razor targets

Down

- One place for seafood
- Mrs. ___ (owner of an infamous cow)
- Do some genetic engineering
- Fills roles for a movie



LAST WEEK'S ANSWER GRID

B	I	B	S	B	A	L	Z	A	C	J	A	G	
I	D	L	E	O	T	O	O	L	E	E	D	U	
N	A	T	A	L	I	E	W	O	O	D	R	O	E
S	I	L	A	S	T	I	G	E	R	S			
S	T	E	I	N	E	M	N	A	M	E	S		
L	A	D	D	E	R	H	U	N	G	R	Y		
A	L	I	E	N	S	O	S	O	R	I	G	A	
S	I	T	S	O	O	N	E	R	S	R	A	N	
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Weather Whys

Sleet is in the forecast. Is there any difference between sleet and freezing rain?

A: The only real difference is that they are formed a bit differently, explains Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. Freezing rain is rain that freezes when it comes into contact with other surfaces, such as pavement or cars. "Freezing rain forms when warm, moist air moves over cold air near the surface," McRoberts says. "Freezing rain is very dangerous because it tends to coat roads with ice first. If the surface it hits is 32 degrees or lower, it will quickly freeze on contact, and if the ice accumulates, it can shut down an entire city very quickly. Sleet is often confused with freezing rain. Sleet falls to the ground frozen, often forming in advance of a warm front. Sleet falls as ice pellets that make a familiar crackle sound as they hit the ground, trees or cars."

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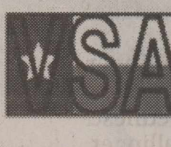
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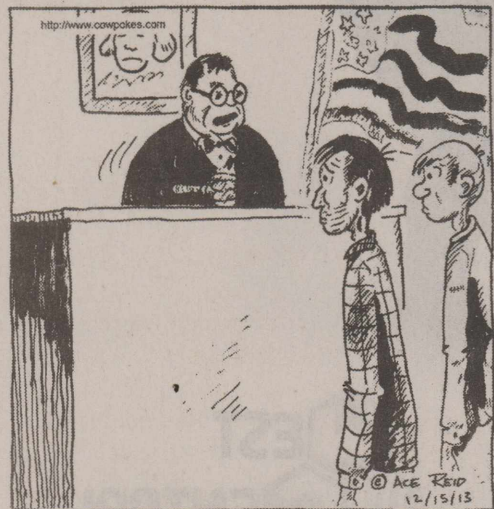


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Thursday, December 12, 2013

THE ORGANIZATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY

The called term of March, 1885

CONTRIBUTED BY RUTH COOPER
RCHC CHAIRPERSON

WINTERS- The Runnels County Commissioners' Court began a called term the 23rd day of March A.D. 1885 in the town of Runnels for the purpose of examining and receiving the jail. The Officers of the Court present were County Judge Charles H. Willingham, Commissioners: Job Davies, F.M. Bright, Sheriff John M. Formwalt and W.L. Towner, County Clerk. The order by the court was to receive the jail from the contractors on the following conditions: First - that the iron caps be coated with one or more coats of paint, second - that a bolt be fixed on the trap door, third - that iron on the fire wall is soldered, fourth that the painting on woodwork be completed and two panes be put on windows. Also for paying for the work, the contractors deposit with Davis and Baker the sum necessary for the completion of the work, subject to the order of Judge C.H. Willingham. The court then adjourned.

The Commissioners' Court met in a called term the second Monday of May, 1885. Officers present were County Judge C.H. Willingham, Commissioners: H.H. Luckett, H.C. Wylie, Job Davis and F.M. Bright, Sheriff J.M. Formwalt and W.L. Towner, County Clerk. The first order was to review a petition presented by J.H. Routh regarding a change in the road from the Town of Runnels to the Town of Paint Rock. The court appointed persons to view and make a report at the next term of the court. Other action taken was to appoint John L. Allen as Justice of the Peace in Precinct No. 3. C.B. Keeley was appointed as Constable of Precinct No. 3. The court then levied a tax for the year of

1885 as follows: State Ad Valorem -25 cents, School-12 and one-half cents, County Ad Valorem-25 cents, Road and Bridge-5 cents, for Courthouse and Jail-Special Tax -15 cents, State Poll Tax-\$1.50, County-25 cents, and also that one-half of the State Occupation Tax be paid. The court paid their bills and made some appointments.

The Commissioners' Court examined the returns of the election held in Runnels School District No. 1 on April 11, 1885 to determine if a tax of 20 cents per \$100 value of property was approved or not. Upon examination of the votes, it appeared to the court that a two thirds majority was in favor of the school tax. With the results, the court ordered the tax be levied.

The Content School District No. 3, held an election that passed December 11, 1884. The court ordered the tax of 20 cents per \$100 value of property be levied.

The County Judge appointed Commissioners' H.H. Luckett and Job Davies to serve on the Finance Committee of the Court. Commissioner Henry Wylie was appointed to serve on the Committee for Runnels County Roads. Judge C.H. Willingham and Commissioner F.M. Bright would serve on the Committee for Accounts. The Commissioners' Court heard the review of the Runnels and Paint Rock Road with changes.

The court ordered that the County Judge and Commissioner H.H. Luckett serve as a committee to confer with Mr. Thomson of the Town of Runnels and obtain from him a new deed to the land upon which the Town of Runnels is located. The court adjourned until the next morning being Tuesday, May 2, 1885.

The Commissioners' Court met with all present. The field notes of a survey of the west boundary line of Coleman County and the east boundary line of Runnels County was presented to the court. This order was made February 13, 1885. The report was accepted.

The Runnels County settlers created a lot of their own entertainment that provided a respite from the hard work they faced every day. The circus proved to be popular family entertainment, but one night performances were very hard on the circus crew. The "Mollie Bailey Show" was the name given to the former "Texas Show for Texas People." After the death of her father, she added animals. Mollie Bailey served as a nurse and spy for the Confederate Army during the Civil War. She took the character of an old crony cookie seller under General John Bell Hood, Commander of Hood's Texas Brigade. Mollie easily passed through the Union Lines peddling cookies as she listened in on conversations of the Union soldiers. She also performed with Gus and Alfred in the group called "Hood's Minstrels" after the Civil War.

Mollie's Circus coming to town meant first a parade through the street with clowns, the wailing sounds of the calliope, elephant's clank-clanking along with their chains, ornate barred cages holding exotic animals, all led by a blaring brass band. Mollie gave tickets to Confederate Veterans and children without money for tickets. Both Runnels and Content enjoyed the circus coming to town and the residents traveled long distances to see "Mollie's Circus." Her circus grew up with Texas and continued until the

death of Mollie Bailey, Circus Queen of the Southwest, in 1918.

Saloons and dance halls popped up in the communities of Runnels and Content, the two largest in the county, and provided entertainment for the cowboys that were herding cattle through Runnels County to trails leading to Kansas City. The trail started in South Texas and passed through Runnels County as the cattle from Tom Green and Concho counties added feeder trails that fed into the main trunk as it wandered through Coleman County on the foot of the hill below Fort Griffin.

Runnels County Jail Records indicate "ladies of the night" were charged with "Vagrancy." They were charged with fines of \$2.50 plus court costs, then they were expected to move on. Their means of transportation was usually by the next stage leaving town or sometimes they traveled by horseback.

Home town dances provided respectable entertainment for the dancers. The immigrants coming to settle Runnels County brought various ancestral backgrounds and brought their favorite dances. Square and round dances were most popular because they did not require the dancers to hold each other so close. The barn dances, cowboy balls and get-togethers with fiddle players providing the music, were becoming very popular with the Runnels County residents as a different kind of entertainment.

Resources:
Runnels County Historical Commission Histories
Runnels County Commissioners' Court Minutes, March, May, 1885, County Clerk Records.

Save money when eating out

AgriLife Extension Service Family and Consumer Services Agent Sandy Taylor has some holiday tips for all residents of Runnels County for the Christmas season, here's the second of a series

BALLINGER LEDGER
STAFF REPORT

Eating out is a trend that has been growing for many years. What used to be a special treat is now something that happens frequently for many of us. Did you know that for the average family half of their food budget is spent on foods eaten away from home.

For example, a family of four eats out, on an average three times a week. When they eat out, they spend about \$17. Eating out three times a week at \$17 each equals \$51 a week that is being spent. There are 52 weeks in a year, so this family may be spending as much as \$2,652 a year just on food that they eat away from home.

Tips to save while eating out

- Eat out for breakfast or lunch; dinner tends to be more expensive.
- Order an appetizer instead of an entrée.
- Look for restaurants that let kids eat free. Don't know which restaurants let kids eat free? Check out www.mykidseatfree.com
- Skip dessert or eat at home and then go out for dessert.
- Ask your server if there is a daily special.
- Order a gift card to your favorite restaurant at a discount. Use the gift card to pay for your meal. To see which restaurants offer gift cards check out: www.restaurant.com
- When your meal arrives ask for a to go box. Today's leftovers can be tomorrow's lunch. Always remember to store your leftovers safely to avoid getting sick.
- Order water instead of soda, tea, or other beverages.
- If you qualify, use senior citizen's discount.

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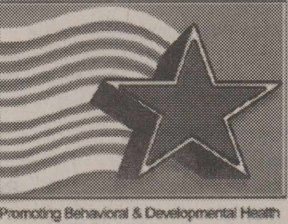
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THE IDLE AMERICAN

Wherefore art thou, simpler stage?...

Cometary by
Dr. Don Newbury

In his play, *As You Like It*, debuted some 410 years ago, Will Shakespeare said "all the world's a stage."

We can only guess whether theatre audiences nodded in agreement or shook their heads vigorously to object. Most of them likely were ambivalent, much like "players" on the world's stage today, when we face more issues than anyone cares to count.

So let us consider an addendum to his quote: "and cameras as well as microphones."...

We, the populace, may whimper, protest, mutter, lament or whatever. We are now at that place where sights and sounds are part of public records. Such has been stuffed into our collective pipes, ours to smoke, whether or not we inhale.

Nations spy on nations,

corporations on competitors, political parties on each other, and, of course, traffic cameras on motorists.

We may "cry uncle" or not, but it is clear that "uncle's" intrusions have taken over like kudzu, tentacles fully engaged....

More info whizzes about in cyberspace than mere mortals can imagine. The US mail, though, provides sobering reminders.

One came in a foreboding envelope from the City of Fort Worth the other day. It was addressed to me, and I opened it hastily, not dreaming that contents would apply to my wife, not to me.

Lo — and throw in "behold," too — the document, somewhat harshly worded, alleged that a motorist driving a vehicle

registered in my name "did then and there commit the following violation... failure to stop at a red light." Supporting evidence included photos shot from three angles, as well as a video. The "knock-out" blow was unmistakable — a picture "front and center" of my car's license plate....



TEXAS
COLUMNIST
Don
Newbury

I did what any spouse with a lick of sense would do. Racing to my calendar, I prayed that it would provide proof of my being other-where on the fateful day.

Hallelujah! I was in Dallas — driving our "good" car. I was "committing" a speech in the morning and visiting with a friend's family gathered in a hospital surgery waiting room in the afternoon.

After establishing in-

nocence, it was mine to inform my wife that she had committed a grievous traffic infraction and to contact the county tax office. After all, it seems best to get both our vehicles in her name. That way, she can open future such notifications herself....

She doesn't believe she had done anything wrong, of course. After all, she's been driving for a full half-century, NEVER having received a citation.

Stopped just once for driving a "teensy-weensy" bit over the speed limit, she cried real tears that rolled down reddened cheeks. The officer put away his citation pad, apologizing for causing any inconvenience.

Alas, while tears worked on the officer, they do no good for an emotionless camera. The \$75 check for the fine has been mailed, so officially, the matter is

closed. The saga continues verbally, however....

Views of such matters depend on whose foot the shoe pinches. Ours is major surgery; yours is minor, probably even "out-patient." I could probably stand your minor illness on my eyeball.

Brenda "sort of" remembers the errant turn, vowing that the light was primarily amber, maybe with the slightest "pinkish" hue.

My guess is that it was at the epicenter of red — the brightest hue sold at the paint store....

The recent holidays were joyous with convergence of kids and grandkids. At mid-morning, though, "technological overkill" tempered Thanksgiving joy. Daughter Jana and her hubby received frantic phone calls from Tyler. Police, they learned, had converged on their home, responding to a "911" call.

Relax, it was a false alarm. After all, no one was home. Some phone line fault triggered the "911" call. (Emergency responders explained that such calls are often the result of such breaches.)

Jana was chagrined. Kinfolks and neighbors inspected every room, making sure the home was free of intruders. With disarray associated with both the holidays and "getting out of town," Jana had postponed housecleaning until right AFTER Thanksgiving. She winced at the thought of others seeing the, uh, mess.

Ah, this stage on which we mortals strut may be far better illuminated than we like....

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Speaking inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com. Twitter: @donnewbury.

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Weddings		
Names		Issued
Brian Edward Ozbirn and Amber Nicole Davis		Dec. 5
Divorces		
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Miguel Pulido and Celia Pulido		Dec. 2
Runnels County Jail Record		
December 9, 2013		
Eugene R. Vasquez	26 DWI	RCSO
Jeffery L. Stewart	34 Assault	RCSO

Veteran's Corner

Due to inclement weather last week, the "World War II, Pearl Harbor Day" celebration has been moved to Saturday, December 14 at the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church at 1501 Broadway, beginning at 2 p.m. American Legion Post 8, the VFW Post 9196, Odyssey Hospice and the Veterans Service Office would like to invite everyone to attend. We will all be treated with a movie featuring four WWII Veterans and their experiences during the war and traveling on an "Honor Flight" to Washington, DC to see the WWII Memorial. The movie is courtesy of Odyssey Hospice. Refreshments will be served. For more information, 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
Runnels County Veterans Service Officer
P.O. Box 108
Ballinger, TX 76821



PHOTO: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
Last weekend's winter storm covered everything in the Big Country with a white blanket, while freezing rain, sleet and snow accumulated on the ground formed a thick layer of ice paralyzing most activities in the area.

★★★ Re-Elect ★★★

RICHARD HAMILTON

For
Justice of the Peace Precinct NO.2

I would appreciate your support and vote in the March 4, 2014 Primary Election

Vote Richard Hamilton
Justice of the Peace
Precinct No. 2

Political Ad Paid by Richard Hamilton