

The Winters Enterprise



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 RANDALL CONNER
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 *****CAR-RT LOT**R 001

Volume 25, Issue 24

Thursday, May 7, 2015

Winters, Texas 75¢



Winters artist in statewide exhibit

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
 STAFF REPORT

For the twelfth consecutive year, some of the most accomplished artists in Texas will hold a special exhibition in the Hill Country Memorial weekend, and Winters' Roy Brown will be among them.

The local potter will show his work when the annual Texas Masters of Fine Art and Craft fills the ballrooms at Kerrville's famed Y.O. Ranch Resort Hotel May 22-24.

His 30-year career in the arts has centered on pottery as an art form rather than simply utilitarian. An accomplished metalsmith as well as a potter, he expands his artwork to include metal that is hand-forged to fit the designs of his pottery, from finials on lids to bases for his larger platters. He divides his time between his family ranch, his studio in Lincoln County, New Mexico and exhibiting at shows throughout the Southwest.

Show hours are 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Friday, May 22; 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 23; and 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 24. A reception with the artists is slated between 2 and 4 p.m. on opening day. There is no charge to attend.

The Y.O. Ranch Resort Hotel is at 2033 Sidney Baker (Highway 16) at Highway 534 in Kerrville.

For more information, please go to www.texasmasters.com.

Road closure

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
 TXDOT SPECIAL REPORT

Starting May 11, the Texas Department of Transportation has said that the northbound lanes of US 83 will be closed on the Elm Creek and Railroad bridges and two-way traffic will be placed on the southbound lanes. TXDOT says they anticipate this traffic shift will be in place for at least 90 days.

Mayfest draws closer

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
 STAFF REPORT

The Ballinger Chamber of Commerce urges those looking to take part in the annual Mayfest to keep in mind of several upcoming important dates and deadlines regarding the celebration.

The washer and horseshoe tournament teams will require a \$10 per team fee. For those wishing to take part in the tournaments, contact Jordan or Allison Sanchez at J&T Hardware or the Attic.

Also, there are still spaces and locations available for vendors. The vendor fee is \$25 for unlimited space. For more information regarding the vendor areas, contact Christina Davis at 325-977-0958.

The Chamber also mentioned the dog contest time is still pending. All dogs are welcome to take part and are encouraged to attend in memory of Dr. Jimmy Smith, D.V.M. The dog show is sponsored by REASON Animal Rescue.

Lastly, the Chamber has asked local musicians to contact Teresa Walden at 325-669-8157. An emphasis of local music is in demand.

American Legion Post 8 elects new officers



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The American Legion Post 8 elected new officers at their meeting on Tuesday. Newly elected were (L to R) Raymond Anderson-Historian, Alex Kvapil-1st Vice Commander, Daniel Hallmark-Finance Officer, Ron Cornett-Post Commander, Andrew Lange-Adjutant, and Sandra Van Zant-Service Officer. Not pictured but elected was Ricky Strube-2nd Vice Commander and Maynard Schwertner-Sgt at Arms.

BLIZZARDS BASEBALL POSTSEASON BEGINS

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
 STAFF REPORT

The Winters Blizzards closed out their regular season last week in a defensive struggle against Bangs 12-10.

The Blizzards captured the majority of

their runs in the first inning posting a nine spot in the frame.

However, Bangs clawed their way back thanks to five runs in the top of the seventh, but ultimately fell short.

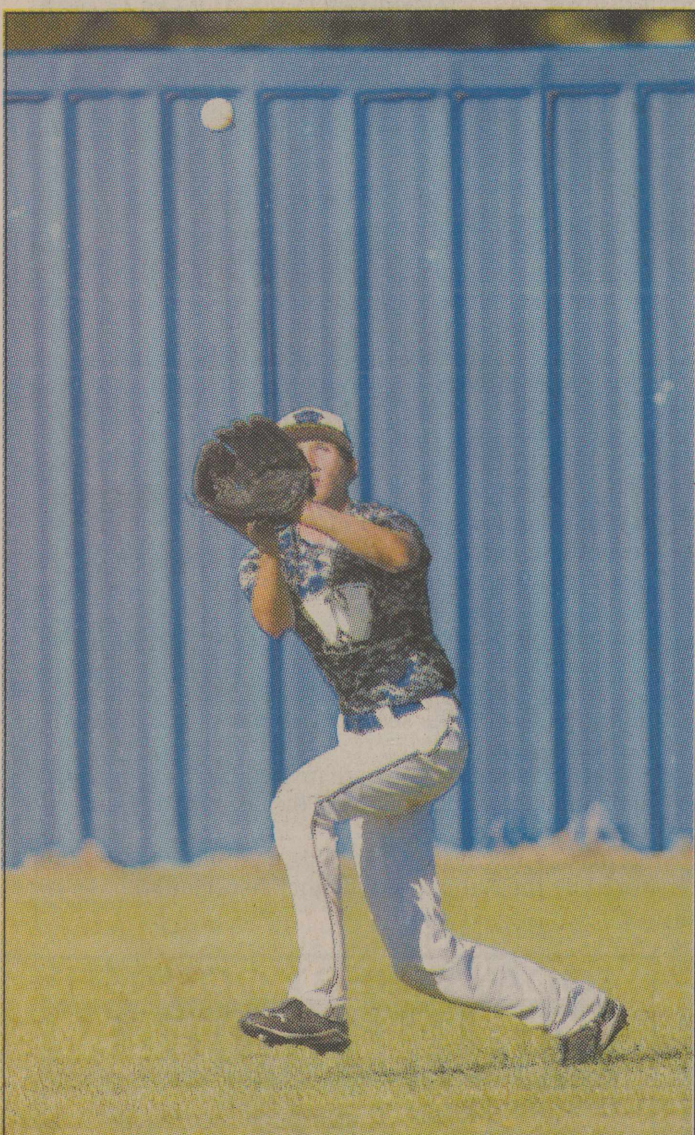
Lukas Kraatz led the Blizzards on offense

with two hits while Jordan Hamrick posted two rbi's. Jonathon Sandoval also drew three walks in the match-up.

Daniel Gerhart and Daryl Hagle combined to pitch for five innings and three strikeouts. They also both regis-

tered sub 2.00 ERA's in the game.

According to the UIL website, Winters will play Albany in the bi-district round of the 2A Region 1 state baseball playoffs on Saturday, May 9.



PHOTOS BY JOE GERHART
 Winters outfielder Lukas Kraatz runs down a fly ball in center field.



Winters baserunner Jordan Hamrick steals second base in a win over Bangs last week.

The City of Winters
 welcomes tourists

Visit our lake park
 and in-town RV park.

Call 723-2081 or 754-4424 for information.

WE CARE

If you have a news tip
 call
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At (325) 365 3501

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FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES

Maurilio 'Mark' Nava

Maurilio 'Mark' Nava, 56, of Winters, died April 22, 2015. He was born September 15, 1958 in Kerrville and grew up in Winters. He was a truck driver for 13 years (1989 thru 2002) for Alderman Cave Milling and Grain Company. He was a Catholic.

He is survived by three brothers, Santos Nava of Craig Colorado, Robert Gibbs of Ballinger, Sammy Nava; four sisters, Claudia Arroyo of Ballinger, Elena Vasquez of Winters, Yolanda Rojas of Dallas and Sylvia Nava of Waco; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by one sister, Mary Lou Hernandez.

A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday May 2, 2015 at Lakeview cemetery.

Winters Enterprise, May 7, 2015

Sandra K. Ford

Sandra K. Ford, 71, of Kerrville, Texas, passed away Saturday, May 2, 2015 at a family residence in Grapevine, Texas. She was born October 23, 1943.

She is survived by her sisters, Elaine Beard Gray and husband JW, and Cherilyn Beard Ziemer and husband Brian

Visitation with the family was at Lange Funeral Home in Ballinger, Texas on Wednesday, May 6 from 6 to 7 p.m. Graveside Services will be at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 7 at Evergreen Cemetery in Ballinger, Texas.

Guests may register online at ballingerfunerahome.com.

Winters Enterprise, May 7, 2015

American Legion Post 8 longevity awards



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The American Legion Post 8 held their meeting Tuesday and longevity awards were presented. The awards were given for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of membership in the American Legion. Those receiving awards were (L to R) Raymond Anderson, Alex Kvapil, Daniel Hallmark, Ron Cornett, Andrew Lange, Ben Hoelscher, and Clifton Grimes.

NEWS NOTES

Gifted/Talented Nominations

Nominations are being accepted for the Winters Elementary Gifted/Talented program, first-fourth grades. If you believe your child might benefit from a gifted/talented program, we welcome your nomination. Nomination and parent-permission-for-testing forms may be obtained at the Elementary Principal's office during normal working hours. All forms must be completed and returned to your child's homeroom teacher by May 8, 2015.

Los nombramientos para el programa de gifted/talented se están tomando para el grado primero-cuatro. Los padres que desean nominar a un niño/una niña pueden recoger una forma en la oficina elemental. Regrese las formas a la escuela antes May 8, 2015.

Winters Public Library

The Winters May Fest will be held on May 16th in the downtown area this year. The Winters Public Library will have a silent auction. The silent auction is one of our fund raisers and we depend on this revenue to help with the overhead costs to maintain our facility. If you would like to donate items for the auction, it would be greatly appreciated. Just bring your donation to the library or call 325-754-4251 and we will be glad to pick it up. We thank you for all you do to help support your library.

Immunization Clinic

Texas Dept. of State Health Services Immunization Clinics for: Children with Medicaid, no insurance, or underinsured, adults with no insurance.

For questions or to schedule an appointment please call 754-4945 if no answer leave a message.

The next clinic in Winters will be from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1:30-3 p.m. Thursday, May 7 at the Professional Building (110 South Main, Suite 108). For your convenience please use rear entrance (Grant Street).

Historical Commission to publish book

The Runnels County Historical Commission is planning to publish a book about the many schools and post offices that have served the county. Over one hundred schools and twenty-eight post offices have been identified in the county.

The information is being compiled with plans to have the book published in the fall of 2015. Much more information is needed about the older, rural schools. School histories are needed for the current schools-Ballinger, Winters, Miles, and Olfen—as well as Wingate, Rowena, and Norton. Pictures are needed, especially from the 1940s to present.

Much information is found in the Rural View published in 1920, but that only covers a short period of school history. Anyone having histories of schools, pictures, or other historical information about Runnels County schools or post offices is encouraged to send

the information to Ruth Cooper at jrc@abilene.com or Randall Conner at rconner@wtxs.net or mail to PO Box 211, Winters 79567. The information must be received by June 1, 2015 in order to be included in the book.

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 Linda at 754-5385.

City Council Meetings

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

WIC open to many incomes and families

Women Infants and Children, located at 706 Strong Ave in Ballinger is open Monday thru Wednesday 7 a.m. till noon and 1 p.m. till 6 p.m.

Closed every third and fourth Monday of each month. Phone (325) 365 5925. WIC is open to many incomes and all kinds of families.

AA Meetings

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

Wingate Masonic Lodge meetings

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

Paint Rock Masonic Lodge meetings

Paint Rock Masonic Lodge No. 613 meets the first Thursday night of each month at 7:30 p.m. Supper will be provided after the meeting. The location is the Masonic Lodge building located at 360 South Roberts on Highway 83 South.

Alanon meetings

Alanon meetings are held at the First United Methodist Church on Monday and Wednesday night at 7 p.m. Enter on Ave A and Seventh St. side.

Alanon is open to all — for family, friends of alcoholics or drugs including relationship issues and all other forms of addiction. For more info call (325) 365 2323.

Sobriety First AA Group

Sobriety First Alcoholics Anonymous Group will meet at the First United Methodist Church, Ballinger, every Monday and Friday at 7 p.m. Please use the Ave. A and Seventh St. entrance. For more information please contact the church at (325) 365 2323.

Runnels Co Alzheimer Support Group

The monthly Runnels County Alzheimer Support Group will be held at Central Texas Nursing and Rehabilitation Center the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

All concerned citizens are invited to share in discussion and education about the disease process and caregiver perspective.

There is no charge and this is a public service sponsored by the National Alzheimer Association.

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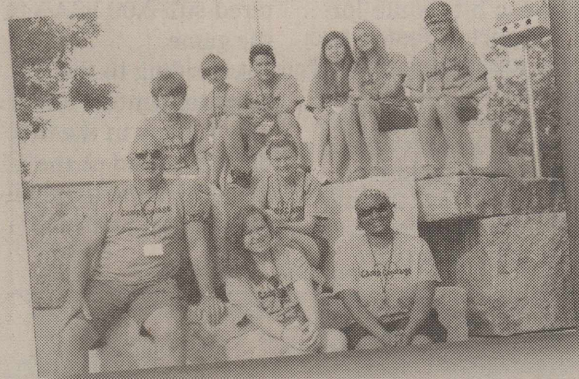


Camp Courage

A grief camp for children who have experienced loss or separation from a loved one

June 2 - 5

For children entering third - 12th grade



Who: Children, third grade through 12th grade
(must have completed second grade)

Where: Lueders, Texas

Cost: \$10 application fee*

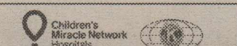
* If child is accepted and attends camp, \$10 will be redeemable at the camp store.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Camper applicants must undergo a screening process to participate in CAMP COURAGE.



Made possible by donations to Children's Miracle Network through Kiwanis Clubs of the Texas Midwest.



For more information and applications, visit hendrickshospice.org/campcourage or call 325.670.6951. Deadline for application is Friday, May 15.



The Winters Enterprise

Since 1905

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Publication No. 5016

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The family of Arlene Boles gives their thanks and appreciation for all the expressions of sympathy-phone calls, visits, food and prayers from friends, neighbors and relatives at the time of her passing. A special thanks to her caregivers at Central Texas Nursing and Rehabilitation for the loving care given to her during her residency there.

The Boles Family

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EDITORIAL BY: CHIEF

It's been a while since I have written an article for the paper. It seems once you miss a week, and then find yourself preoccupied with matters at hand, then the second week passes, well then, you just get out of the habit. Let's see if I can get back into the habit of writing now.

A lot of things have happened since my last article, many things I will have to catch up on in later issues, but for today I can start out with concerns from citizens voiced to me recently.

Again we are living in the "last days of filing taxes". OH, what fun. To make matters even more fun, there seems to be no shortage this year of unscrupulous individuals trying to separate you from your money. I have received calls from concerned persons reporting they are receiving phone calls from the IRS demanding a call back accompanied with a threat to put you in jail. As terrifying as the IRS is to the most of us, they don't do that.

I contacted the IRS (online) and found a great deal of useful information, including warnings regarding scams using the disguise of the Internal Revenue Service.

According to the IRS website, scams continue to surface generating a large amount of complaints and inquiries to the IRS. The warning goes on to state: "Tax payers

should remember their first contact with the IRS will not be a call from out of the blue, but through official correspondence sent through the mail. A big red flag for these scams are angry, threatening calls from people who say they are from the IRS and urging immediate payment. This is not how we operate. People should hang up immediately and contact TIGTA (Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration) or the IRS (Internal Revenue Service)".

In addition all persons should remember the IRS never asked for credit card, debit or bank card numbers over the phone. Never insists tax payer use a specific method to pay tax obligations. Never requests immediate payment over the telephone and will not take enforcement action immediately following a phone conversation. Tax payers will receive prior notification of IRS enforcement involving tax liens or levies.

The IRS website posted a list of characteristics commonly used by scam artists including the use of fake names and badge numbers. The caller may be able to tell you the last four digits of your Social Security Number (this may be really disturbing to many, but remember, we live in a technology driven, digital age where everything is online and easily accessible, including your Social Security Number,

date of birth, address, credit information as well as other information).

Some scammers will go so far as to "spoof" an IRS phone number into your caller ID, or send information through a bogus email account. You may hear background noise causing the appearance of the call being made from a large phone site office. Scammers may hang up, only to have a second person from a govt. agency, police department, or other official sounding entity, calling you in a second attempt to collect funds and lending credibility to the first caller. Be assured No real officer from a local police de-

partment, especially the Winters Police Department will call demanding a payment to the IRS.

If you get a call from persons claiming to be the IRS and believe you may owe taxes, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 and an IRS employee can assist you with any IRS issues.

If you received a call from persons claiming to be the IRS and believe you owe no taxes you can report the incident to the TIGTA by calling 1-800-366-4484.

Under no circumstances should you ever give out your banking information or card number to an unsolicited caller.

Bonnie Ballard named Employee of the Quarter



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Bonnie Ballard, RN was awarded the Employee of the Quarter of North Runnels Hospital for January-March 2015. Ms. Ballard is a registered nurse for North Runnels Hospital has is a very giving person. She goes the extra mile to give her patients to care they need. North Runnels Hospital is very pleased to have Ms. Ballard as part of their caring team. Pictured with Ms. Ballard is Judy Espitia, CEO.

CAFETERIA MENU

*Subject to Change**

May 11-15

Winters ISD Breakfast Menu

Monday

Biscuit/Sausage/Gravy or Cereal w/ Graham Cracker, Tropical Fruit, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

Tuesday

French Toast or Cereal w/Graham Cracker, Peaches, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

Wednesday

Pancake on a Stick or Cereal w/ Graham Cracker, Pear, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

Thursday

Breakfast Pizza or Cereal w/Graham Cracker, Orange, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

Friday

Cinnamon Roll or Cereal w/Graham Cracker, Banana, Fruit Juice, Choice of Milk.

Winters ISD Lunch Menu

Monday

Chef Salad or Salisbury Steak or Steak Fingers, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli w/Cheese, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Pineapple, Choice of Milk.

Tuesday

Chef Salad or Corn Dog or Chicken Nuggets, Peas & Carrots, Green Beans, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Blue Bell Fruit Bar, Choice of Milk.

Wednesday

Chef Salad or Nachos or Bean and Cheese Burrito, Spanish Rice, Cheesy Potatoes, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Apple, Choice of Milk.

Thursday

Chef Salad or Pizza or Grilled Chicken/Bun, Corn, Cheesy Potatoes, Peaches, Graham Cracker, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Choice of Milk.

Friday

Chef Salad or Hamburger or Hot Dog, Curly Fries, Italian Green Beans, Tossed Salad/Carrot Sticks, Applesauce, Choice of Milk.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

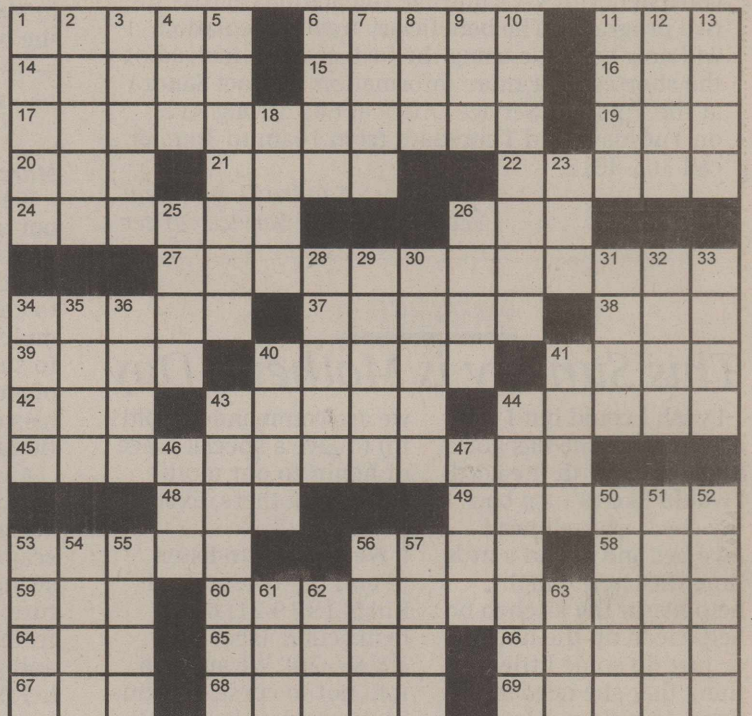
"Quick Puzzle"

Across

- 1 Sparks, as of ideas
- 6 Bounding main
- 11 Depressed
- 14 Profit
- 15 Rich kid in "Nancy"
- 16 Big galoot
- 17 "Snake It Off" singer
- 19 Feb. follower
- 20 "___ to Joy"
- 21 Level, e.g.
- 22 Aesop story
- 24 Edit a report
- 26 Muffin choice
- 27 Start of a nursery rhyme
- 34 Church section
- 37 At no time
- 38 Bagel fish
- 39 Off, like a note
- 40 Hauls
- 41 Ask for more service
- 42 B&B or lodge
- 43 Apartment manager
- 44 Made sure of
- 45 Erica Jong novel
- 48 Louisville slugger
- 49 Chocolate dessert
- 53 Primrose with yellow flowers
- 56 Chew like a mouse
- 58 Nexus of activity
- 59 Two-piece top
- 60 Delivery service of old
- 64 Light-colored wood
- 65 In the know
- 66 Causing shivers, perhaps
- 67 Storm center
- 68 Point on a line
- 69 Certain hucksters

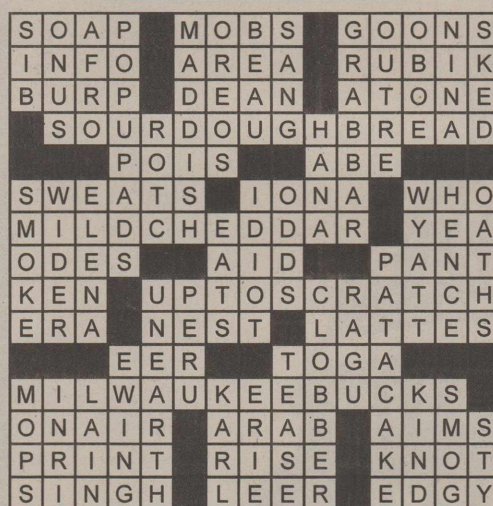
Down

- 1 Not a croc
- 2 Equivocate
- 3 Having beams of light
- 4 Cool amount?
- 5 Miniature racer



- 6 Approximating words
- 7 Monk's head covering
- 8 Biblical high priest
- 9 Fuzzy TV E.T.
- 10 Equity complaint
- 11 Petting zoo baby
- 12 Translucent gem
- 13 Had been
- 18 College marching org.
- 23 Where to draw 24 hrs. a day?
- 25 "Your door is ___"
- 26 Low scores
- 28 Publisher Alfred A. ___
- 29 Nut of a certain palm
- 30 Opposite of no
- 31 Bungled, as a task
- 32 Oafish sort
- 33 Large intl. show
- 34 "No way!"
- 35 The ___ Ranger
- 36 Casserole fish
- 40 Cluster of small feathers
- 41 Name in tomato sauces
- 43 Kitchen cleanser
- 44 Stir-fry unit
- 46 Slugger's stat.
- 47 Big theater
- 50 Col. Potter of "M*A*S*H." to pals
- 51 "___ Q" (CCR)
- 52 "Beverly Hillbillies" star
- 53 Clarinet kin
- 54 CAT scan ancestor
- 55 Salt ___ City
- 56 Kin of a pita
- 57 Classic hair removal brand
- 61 Take on debts
- 62 Power ___ (exec's break)
- 63 Electoral map shade

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER GRID



Weather Whys

Q: What are some of the biggest myths about tornadoes?

A: There are several, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "One of the most widely spread is that you should always open the windows if a tornado is approaching," he says. "It's a terrible idea because it actually makes a home more dangerous and wastes time that could be better spent seeking shelter. It won't matter if the windows or open or not, and the last place you want to be is around a lot of glass that can become shattered with tornadic winds that can reach 250 miles per hour and higher."

Weather Whys is a service of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences.

Search is over for new Carnegie librarian

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

The search has finally concluded for a new librarian at the Carnegie Library of Ballinger as Mechele Ussery was chosen to fill to the vacant spot.

Before becoming the librarian, Ussery served 25 years as a bilingual teacher. She learned to speak Spanish after attending several universities in Mexico, including ones in Puebla and Cuernavaca.

Ussery graduated with a bilingual elementary education degree with a minor in Spanish from Texas Women's University and she says that her education background will

be a great tool in her new workplace.

"I have certifications in pre-kindergarten, early childhood, elementary, bilingual education and Spanish and I think that will be a great asset," she said.

In addition, the library also mentioned several upcoming events. Some of the events included a golf tournament and a ballet recital in June.

Once June rolls around, the library's hours will also change. It will be open from 10-4 p.m. on Tuesdays and then from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday through Friday. The Library will be closed on weekends and Mondays.

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ROLLING-UP Runnels County

4 Winters Enterprise

Thursday, May 7, 2015

VETERAN'S CORNER

In order to expand eligibility for the Veterans Choice Program, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced that it will determine eligibility for the Veterans Choice Program based on the distance between a Veteran's place of residence and the nearest VA medical facility using driving distance rather than straight-line distance. This change has been published in the Federal Register and is effective immediately. The change from straight-line to driving distance roughly doubles the number of eligible Veterans. Letters are being sent to the newly eligible Veterans to let them know they are now eligible for the Veterans Choice Program under this expansion. If a Veteran does not remember receiving a Veterans Choice Card or has other questions about the Choice Program, they can call (866) 606-8198. Effective immediately, VA is also changing the mileage calculation for beneficiary travel. The change will ensure consistency in VA's mileage calculations across the two programs. The beneficiary travel calculation will now be made using the fastest route instead of the shortest. For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 3pm, or call 365-3612.

Sandra G. Van Zant
Veterans County Service Officer

BROTHER J

This Sunday is Mother's Day

I wish I could but I cannot because she has gone home to be with the Lord. I would like to turn back the clock and tell her I love her and spend a little time with her. I might help her in the kitchen or help clean up the house or just do some little thing that she needed done. I would not let a Mother's day pass by that I didn't get her flowers or a card, call, or take her out to dinner or all of the above. I would also go to church with her because that pleased her so much, (both my mother and my grandmother). I would try doing something to let her know that she was special and appreciated. God created women special and unique and

we are commanded (told to) to give a special place of honor to our mothers, (and fathers, Exodus 20:12).

We are told to listen to and not overlook, (1 Kings 19:19-21) their instruction, (Proverbs 1:8 & 6:20). We are also told not to curse, (Exodus 21:17) or despise or rob them, (Proverbs 15:20 & 28:24).

It is good that we have a special day to honor mothers but I also think we also need to treat them special the rest of the year.

By the way the Bible mentions two people who did not have mothers, (Genesis 1:27). See you in Church next Sunday.

Brother J

Hello To All:

From Maureen:
We are looking forward to rain this week. Hey, not so soon, I had a load of clothes to hang but the rain beat me and it started to rain just as I began hanging. Thankful for dryers.

Today is son #2's birthday and when HM asked me how old Dan was, I couldn't remember. I just remember he was born in Maine and we always struck up a conversation as to whether Portsmouth Naval Shipyard was in Maine or NH. It was on the border, in case you

didn't know.

My husband worked at Pratt Whitney Aircraft which was in Maine and even though we lived in NH, we had to pay state taxes to Maine.

Well, I recalled that Dan was born on May 4, 1959. You do the math.. He did get a card in the mail but what does a guy that old need? Hope to get a gift before I see him next month. I would sure appreciate suggestions

It has been a quiet week out here. Enjoying the cool but not cold days. Not bad for getting out

and mowing and such.

Have the windows all open in the house and have not had the air conditioner on so far. We got some of the rain that was reported in different areas..we got almost 2/10th. I am beginning to think that those guys who report 4" are stretching it a little bit.

Judy was remarking about the smell of the air just as the rain got started. She was reminiscing about when she was growing up in OK and how good the air smelled just after a rain and she would go walking down a dirt country road. Did I

remember that from when I was younger?

No. Not even when I would be working out in the country with a seismograph crew (Doodle bugging). We didn't have this type soil...we had caliche. Not much fragrance at all. Wet grease wood or mesquite in not much to smell either.

We were supposed to go to Dallas on the 4th and 5th. Not going to make it. Judy was feeling wonky so we rescheduled for June.

So it goes out in our quiet little corner of Coleman County.

Talpa Bob

HERE IN TALPA

By Talpa Bob

'Living' mulches a healthy alternative to bark

More Content Now

We need to consider our use of mulch. What is mulch and why is it used? A mulch is anything used to cover bare ground. A mulch covering is used to suppress the growth of weeds and prevent the loss of water by evaporation from bare soil.

A uniform mulch covering visually unites the separated plants in a landscape, prevents extreme swings of soil temperature, prevents the soil from caking and drying and provides myriad other helpful functions depending on the type of mulch used and the needs of the homeowner.

Problems arise because mulching material is applied incorrectly or the wrong material is used. Forty years ago, the mulch used was the bark stripped off trees at lumber mills. It was a waste product. Over four decades, the dynamics have changed. Bark mulch has become a marketable

product. Wood may be triple-ground and dyed for use everywhere.

We need to be aware that there are few definitions governing the sale of wood mulch. Wood waste can come from construction projects, building demolition, shipping pallets or other materials that in the past ended up in landfills. We also should be aware that you are unlikely to see wood mulch used in landscapes in England, Ireland, Europe or the Orient.

What do they use as we use mulch? They make use of living mulches. Think of living mulches as groundcovers that self-renew, self-perpetuate, perform environmental functions and add ecological and aesthetic dimensions as well. They are sustainable.

Depending on the site and the existing planting, moss can be utilized as it is in famous landscapes

in England and Japan. If an evergreen "mulch" is needed, consider the use of ivy (hardy English), Vinca (blue or white flowers), Pachysandra (Allegheny or Japanese Spurge), or native plants like Partridgeberry, Bunchberry (Cornus canadensis), Ginger (Canadian or European), heaths and heathers, or visit Garden In The Woods to view a living catalogue of native hardy plants.

If you wish to broaden your palette, look to the wealth of deciduous groundcovers to use between and under shrubs and trees. Ajugas with white, pink, blue, or purple flowers and leaves of various colors, Lady's Mantle (Alchemilla), Lily-of-the-Valley, some of the Astible, Epimedium, ferns, Lamium, Ground Phlox, Veronica, Carex, Liriope, Waldsteinia (Barren Strawberry), Thyme in great variety, as well as

the Sedums and Hens and Chickens that can be used in hot, dry, sunny locations.

Aged sawdust or cocoa beans may be used, but never more than 1 inch deep, as both form an attractive mulch for annuals and small perennials. Clean hay (free from weedy plants) is well used in vegetable gardens, as is thin applications of cut lawn grass.

I do not recommend fiber mats or black plastic, as both inhibit the free movement of water into the soil and the exchange of soil gases with the atmosphere. A functional mulch should be loose and open. For the same reason, bark mulches should never be applied more than 4 inches deep and never in contact with living plants.

Paul Rogers is a correspondent for The Worcester (Mass.) Telegram & Gazette.

Health Watch: Pack your pantry with healthy items

More Content Now

TIP OF THE WEEK
If you're trying to lose weight, you probably know diet and exercise are key to success. If you're exercising consistently and truly challenging yourself at the gym, but you're still not losing weight or you're exercising and continuing to gain weight, it's time to rethink what you eat. Shop for success to achieve success on the scale.

It's unrealistic to ban snacking between meals. Snacking on healthy options can actually bolster weight loss by preventing the urge to binge. Put these options on your shopping list: heat-and-serve edamame, almonds, popcorn, watermelon, pineapple, mini carrots, Cuties, bananas and Hershey Kisses.

Snacking is one contributor to weight gain, but so is eating unhealthy meals.

If you have the building blocks on hand to make quick, healthy meals, you'll be less tempted to hit the drive-thru or order a pizza. Here are a list of ingredients to keep on-hand for quick and easy meal prep: assorted healthy frozen proteins, eggs, healthier condiments, healthy grains, chicken broth, garlic, onions, canned beans and a rainbow of vegetables.

Shopping smartly and stocking your kitchen with healthy options is the first step in changing your eating habits and setting yourself up for weight-loss success.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH
Is there any harm in letting your kid spend time in front of the TV set? A recent study shows that children who watch an hour of TV a day or more are more likely to be overweight or obese, com-

pared with kids who watch less than an hour of TV a day. Researchers — who followed 10,000 children from kindergarten through the first grade — presented their findings at the annual meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies.

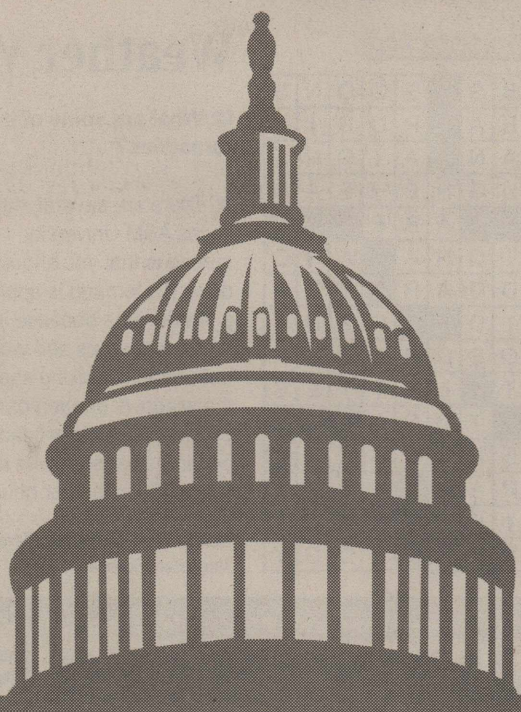
SENIOR HEALTH
Seniors planning on spending some time outdoors this summer should keep these four tips from the National Institute on Aging in Mind: 1.) Limit time spent out in the sun. Try to stay out of the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. 2.) Use sunscreen. Look for a sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher. Put the sunscreen on 15 to 30 minutes before you go outside. 3. Wear protective clothing. A hat with a wide brim can shade your neck, ears, eyes and head. 4.) Avoid tanning. Don't use sunlamps or tanning beds.

NEW RESEARCH

A new survey conducted by researchers at Ohio State University suggests that the majority of American women are unaware of the risk factors for strokes, despite the fact that strokes are the third leading cause of death for women in the U.S. The researchers surveyed 1,000 women and found that a mere 11 percent could identify pregnancy, lupus, migraine headaches, oral contraception or hormone replacement therapy as female-specific stroke risks, according to a news release.

BOOK PICK
'Tox-Sick: From Toxic to Not Sick' by Suzanne Somers

Pioneering health and wellness advocate, Suzanne Somers, delivers a powerful answer in this expose on the immediate and long-term dangers of living in a world that has become increasingly toxic to our health. Moved to investigate by her own family's plight, Suzanne sits down with environmental doctors and specialists who share eye-opening information and practical advice for how to survive, thrive, and stay healthy today.



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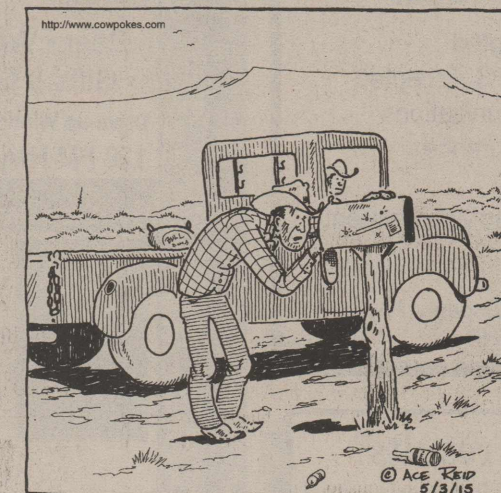
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- 101 Gateway, Winters, Texas 2 bed-1-3/4 bath, approx. 3/4 an acre, large living/dining area, office, unfinished basement, fireplace, storage buildings, 3 adjacent lots and water well
- 103 Second Street, Wingate, Duplex, each unit 1 bedroom/1 bath, open kitchen, living, brick, metal roof, 1,304 sq. ft. per RCAD
- 111 Hunter's Glen, Winters - 3/2, considerable upgrades, large open living, fireplace, open kitchen, dining area, large basement, landscaped yard, pond, two car garage, much more, 2,031 sq. ft. per RCAD
- 315 E. Pierce, Winters - 3 brdm, 2 bath, high ceilings, large closets, 2 living areas, dining room and large informal dining, bonus room upstairs for extra bedroom or playroom, utility room, hobby room, central heat/air, new cedar fence, large metal shop.
- 110 S. Main St, Winters - Office space available for rent. Professional Building.
- 115 E. Pierce, Winters - Duplex, great investment property! 1 brdm, 1-3/4 bath, dining, large kitchen, large den, fireplace, covered patio, guest house, plus much more. Rental unit has two bedrooms, and 1-3/4 baths - you have to see this home to believe it.
- 109 CR 395, Wingate, Texas - Newly remodeled 3 brdm, 1 bath, very clean, living, kitchen, utility room, large yard, pecan trees, carport, water well.
- 214 Paloma, Winters - 3 brdm, 2 bath, dining room, nice kitchen, pecan trees, 576 sq. ft. metal shop with attached carport.
- REDUCED: 705 W. Dale, Winters - 2 brdm, 1 bath, updated floors and paint, fireplace, central heat, attached garage and alley entry garage, screened porch.
- 224 Circle Dr., Winters, 2 brdm/2 bath, large living/kitchen, enclosed porch with wood burning fireplace, garage, storage shed, water well, large trees.
- 601 N. Heights, Winters - 5 brdm, 2-1/2 bath, two living areas. Two stories, hardwood floors, tall ceilings, large picture window in living, built in hutch in dining room. Across street from Winters school campus. 3,554 total sq. ft. per RCAD, living plus third floor attic space.

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EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted-Part Time

Ballinger ISD is seeking to employ Bus Drivers for the 2015-2016 school year. CDL license is required or willing to obtain one before the start of school. Applications may be picked up at the Ballinger Administration

Help Wanted-Part Time

Building, 802 Conda Avenue, Ballinger, Texas. FMI contact Tony Harral, Transportation Director (325)365-3727

Help Wanted-Full Time

THE CITY of Winters is accepting applications for a temporary Street Department Employee. Applications can be picked up at City Hall, 310 S. Main Street, Winters, TX 79567 or call (325)754-4424. All applicants will be considered, must have valid driver's license, high school or GED diploma required. The City of Winters is an EOE. Open until filled.

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Applications may be picked up at the Ballinger Administration Building, 802 Conda Avenue, Ballinger, Texas. FMI contact Tony Harral, Transportation Director (325)365-3727

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Applications available at www.wtcmt.org or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769. EOE.

Legal Notices

APARTMENTS LOW-Rent Public Housing available. Please apply in person at the Ballinger Housing Authority 1401 N. 13th St., Ballinger, Tx Tel 365-2629

Legal Notices

BID NOTICE Olfen ISD is currently accepting bids for a house remodel. The house is located, on school grounds, in Rowena, TX. For more information, please call Olfen ISD Superintendent, David Dillard at 325-442-4301

Olfen ISD Kindergarten Round-Up To Be Held May 11th

Olfen ISD will host Kindergarten Round-Up on May 11, 2015. Parents may register their children for the 2015-2016 school year. Registration will be from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Parents should bring

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4- 441.800 ACRES NOLAN COUNTY, BEACON HILL RANCH This property stands out among others on the market due to the owners' desire to leave as small a footprint on the land as possible. The attention paid to detail when planning and building this property was definitely above average. It is currently a quality release habitat. The improvements include a custom built 3/2 home and a 2 car garage built in 2006. The custom built deck allows a wonderful view of Lake Sweetwater, which is located about a mile away. The views alone from this elevation cannot be found anywhere else in Nolan County. The amazing history of the ranch name, Beacon Hill originates in old bi-plane era, when that was the method for delivering mail. There is still one of the directional arrows remaining on the ranch that pilots used to find their way to their destination. There are numerous bird and wildlife feeders and water containers throughout the property. The sale of this property includes a John Deere 5303 tractor and several implements. Kawasaki Mule with trailer. Any qualified interested persons can call me to schedule an appointment. Priced to sell @ \$795,240.00

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CELEBRATING MOTHER'S DAY

More Content Now

Today, I'm writing about my Mother so you will think about yours. Harry Caray, the old baseball announcer for the Cardinals and Cubs used to say when someone took a big swing at the ball and missed, "Well, he didn't get cheated on that one." Mother had a very eventful life and, believe me, never got cheated on living it.

She grew up in the roaring '20s, married and birthed her children during the years of the Great Depression. Like most of that generation, she learned to be self-sufficient. She could pluck a chicken whose neck she had just rung and cook a family dinner for 20+ people and put every dish on the table piping hot.

Her father taught her to drive in his brand-new Ford touring car in 1923 when she was 13. She learned to drive anything, a car, truck, or tractor be it manual shift, automatic, or 4 on the floor.

Mother was the first of her family to go to college in those years when a woman could only become a nurse, secretary or a teacher. She chose the latter and taught music, history and mathematics, among her many assignments but her great love was teaching English, which she did for almost 40 years.

She could direct a choir or a play, could teach poetry, Shakespeare, or how to diagram a sentence. Yes, I know you have to be a certain vintage just to know what I'm talking about with diagramming sentences.

When she retired from teaching school, she continued to teach her Sunday school class, which she did for close to four decades.

Mother was a staunch Republican and became so

when the Democrats repealed prohibition in 1932. She read two newspapers each day, took Time and Newsweek magazines, and watched CNN on a regular basis. She loved a good discussion and if you weren't pretty knowledgeable about current politics, you could expect to get your ears pinned back.

Mother loved watching Fox News, Lawrence Welk, and the Atlanta Braves on TV. However, her greatest joy was to hear from one of her former students and to remember again all of the good times she experienced in her younger years when she was teaching high school students the poems of Longfellow or the plays of Shakespeare.

On any week day morning you could find her at the Anderson Mall pushing her walker from Penney's to Belk's exchanging greetings with her many mall walking friends. She started walking when she retired from teaching in the early 70s. She always said that if she had strung all that walking together she would be somewhere west of Albuquerque by now.

Who could ask for more than a life well lived? Harry Caray would have been impressed. Mother has been gone for many years now. But, mothers are never really gone, are they?

Dr. Mark L. Hopkins writes for More Content Now and Scripps Newspapers. He is past president of colleges and universities in four states and currently serves as executive director of a higher-education consulting service. Hopkins' latest book, "Journey to Gettysburg," is now available at Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble. Contact him at presnet@presnet.net.

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Cancer diagnosis is unlikely to thaw grandmother's heart

DEAR ABBY: I recently found out my grandmother has been diagnosed with lung cancer and has elected not to treat it. The doctors give her a year at the most. My dilemma is whether to extend just one more olive branch.

She has never been a "warm and fuzzy" type of grandmother. She was cold and distant when I was in my teens and 20s, and downright mean when I was in my 30s. If I try to talk to her at family functions, she turns away and begins a conversation with someone else, not even acknowledging that I'm standing there. Last year at a family reunion, she took several photos with my mom and sister, and when it was suggested I join them in the photo, she walked away before one could be snapped. I'm not the only family member or grandchild she behaves this way toward. None of us knows why.

Do I try one more time, suspecting the diagnosis hasn't softened her heart and that I'll again end up with hurt feelings? Or do I assume that nothing I do now will change who she is and that I



DEAR ABBY
Abigail Van Buren

will have no positive, happy memories of her? -- **INVISIBLE IN KANSAS**

DEAR INVISIBLE: Frankly, the chances of your grandmother transforming into someone warm and accepting don't look promising because she appears to be a punitive and unhappy person. However, if you feel you might have regrets if you don't try once more to connect with her, then make the effort so that when she dies, you'll know you did everything you could. Don't do it for her; do it for yourself.

DEAR ABBY: Ever since I was young, which was not that long ago, I have known my parents' marriage wasn't a healthy one. But only recently has it begun to affect me emotionally. It isn't that I blame myself, but that I'm afraid of how my own romantic endeavors will fare.

Recently, I was told about my mother's infidelity. I was always curious and suspected that one or both of them had affairs. But now more than before, I worry about finding love. Love is something we all seek, and I believe we all need, but I don't see myself as able to handle that kind of heart-

break. I understand why Mom did it -- that's part of what hurts me. I'm angry that they would masquerade a failure "for me," that failure being their "relationship." I think my anger is valid. My family has screwed me up emotionally and it started long before I knew what was going on. What should I do? -- **SCREWED UP IN OREGON**

DEAR SCREWED UP: When children are raised in a household where the parents' words and actions are different, they cope either by believing only what they are told (even if it contradicts what they see happening) or only what they see. While it can interfere with forming healthy relationships later in life, it's the way they keep themselves sane.

You are right to be concerned, and I hope you will discuss this with a licensed counselor or therapist because if you do, you will find it helpful.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Drought conditions in Runnels County

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

The Texas Water Development Board released its drought report this week and the situation in Runnels County appears to be improving.

According to the report, Runnels County's current situation is a mixture between abnormally dry and also a moderate drought.

The Board reported that over the past week the state saw an additional 600,000 acre-feet of water in reservoirs and the amount of state in drought shrinking to 31 percent.

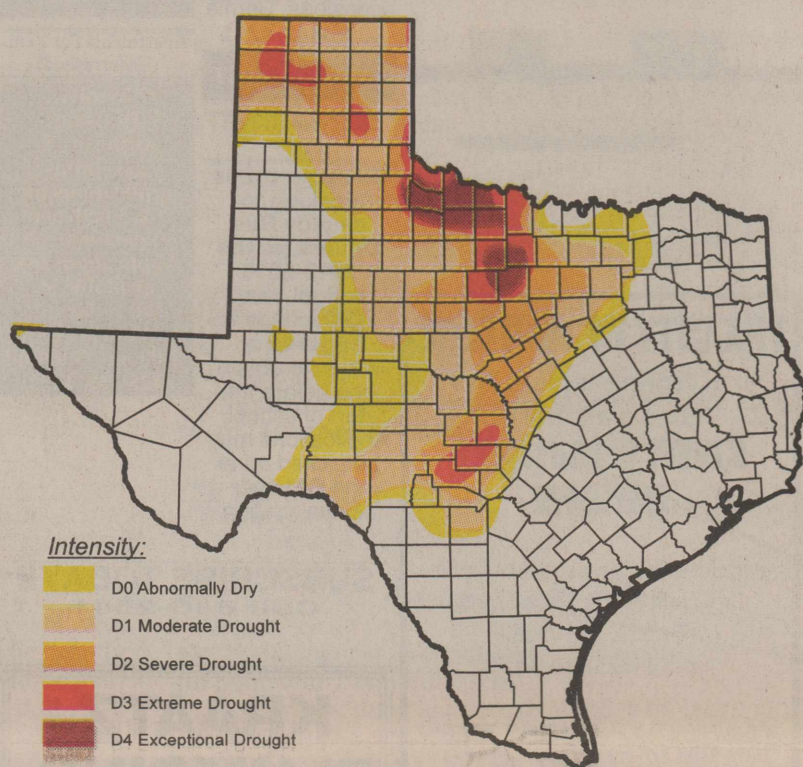
Several statistics given by the Texas Water Development Board included:

- 31 percent of the state is currently in moderate to exceptional drought.

- A week ago, 35 percent of the state was in moderate to exceptional droughts.

- Three months ago, 39 percent of the state was in moderate to exceptional droughts.

- A year ago, 74 percent of the state was in moderate to exceptional droughts.



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