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Volume 25, Issue 33

Thursday, July 9, 2015

Winters, Texas 75¢

**Briefly**

**Candidate filing July 25**

Filing for two seats on the Winters ISD Board of Trustees begins July 25 with the deadline set on Aug. 24. Candidates may file from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Winters ISD Administration office at 603 North Heights St.  
ON THE NET:  
[www.wintersisd.org/](http://www.wintersisd.org/)

**Friends to meet**

The Friends of the "Gus" Pruser Agriculture Exhibit will hold their monthly meeting at 6 p.m. Monday July 13 in the Gus Pruser Agriculture Exhibit at 219 W. Dale in Winters. Friends of the "Gus" Pruser Exhibit is a group interested in preserving the agriculture heritage of the Winters area. The group works on tractors and other displays in the museum. For additional information contact John Long at 325-754-5389.  
ON THE NET:  
[zihalemuseum@wtxs.net](mailto:zihalemuseum@wtxs.net)

**Software up and running**

Runnels County Clerk Julia Miller said Monday the software is up and running and that her office is now able to issue same sex marriage licenses.

Miller said so far, there have been no applicants, but the software updates have been made to allow for the issuance of the licenses.

**Rainfall totals**

The National Weather Service in San Angelo reported .14 inches of rain fell in Ballinger from June 30-July 6. The rainfall was from a thunderstorm on June 30, NWS officials said. A total of 1.73 inches of rain was reported in Wingate June 30 when a thunderstorm hit the area with winds reported at 62 miles per hour and dime size hail was reported.  
So far this year, Ballinger has received 17.42 inches of rain while 20.62 inches has been reported in Wingate.  
The NWS reports 18.41 inches of rain in San Angelo, which is 7.56 inches over the normal annual amount of 10.85 inches.

## Noted author and speaker to revisit Winters library

**STAFF REPORTS**

The Winters Public Library will welcome noted author Nancy Robinson Masters of Abilene for a second special creative writing session at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday.  
"Nancy has been a long-time supporter of the Winters Public Library," said Rhonda Neal, library board president. "Our young readers as well as our experienced readers always enjoy Nancy. As a small rural community library we are very fortunate to have an author such as Nancy, willing to share her time and talents."  
Masters is an author and popular inspirational speaker for schools, businesses, organizations, and events.

During the session, Masters will assist attendees with compiling their memories and will give tips on writing notes, letters and emails during the session.  
Masters is a pilot and the author of 42 books. Her more than 3,000 feature articles have appeared in a variety of publications. Her writing has taken her around the world including traveling with the National Science Foundation in Antarctica. She has twice been named the Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the United States Air Force. She became the first woman to receive the Stephen F. Austin Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Scottish Rite Masons.

She has spoken to more than 350,000 students and teachers promoting the power of free people to freely read and write. Her workshops providing practical, proven techniques to succeed as a freelance writer are recommended by publishers and participants from all genres.  
She grew up on a cotton farm in Jones County, during seven years of severe drought. She credits much of her success today to the values, patriotism, and work ethic instilled in her during those difficult years. She resides in the Elm-dale community near Abilene with her husband, Master Aviator Bill Masters. Their front door opens

to a grass runway she keeps mowed with her 1949 Farmall tractor.  
Her most important work in life, Nancy says, is "teaching second graders in Sunday School."  
"We are so excited to have her," said Joyce Carbery, library volunteer. "It is going to be wonderful."



**Nancy Robinson Masters**

## NRC treats community

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

**Employees of North Runnels County Hospital served up hamburgers with all the trimmings during the hospital's annual Community Hamburger Meal, Wednesday, July 1 on the hospital grounds, Pictured here from left to right are Mary Smith, Judy Espita, Anna Esquivel and Bobbie Col- lum.**



## Miller creates Office of Water

**STAFF REPORTS**

AUSTIN - Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller last week announced the creation of the Office of Water within the Texas Department Agriculture (TDA) to address critical water issues across the state. Since taking office, Commissioner Miller has made water a top priority at TDA because of its importance to the agriculture industry and the Texas economy as a

whole.  
"Water is necessary to continue to produce food, fiber and jobs," Commissioner Miller said. "Despite being blessed with rain, our water issues have not gone away. We have been working from day one with stakeholders across the state to find solutions and plan for the future. Agriculture is the largest consumer of water. It only makes sense that we have a seat at the

table when we are talking about water policy, because if you don't have a seat, then you're probably on the menu."  
TDA will work with stakeholders to address critical water needs for all citizens, not just specific constituencies. Technology, innovation and creativity will be the key to meeting our water needs for the next 100 years. Key stakeholders in this issue include farmers, ranchers, busi-

nesses, water districts, schools, river authorities, hospitals, cities, researchers and other state entities. Together, these groups will work on water issues.  
"Recent rains have given us some relief from the drought, but most importantly, they have given us an opportunity to plan better for the future," Commissioner Miller said. "We must work together with our urban, suburban and

agriculture counterparts to determine how we can meet the water needs for each of these critical groups and continue to be a world leader in food and fiber production. Failure to meet water demands will stall the Texas economy in every industry, not just agriculture."  
With the creation of the Office of Water, TDA continues to work towards making water issues a top priority in Texas.

## TMCN to host meeting in Graham

**STAFF REPORTS**

The Texas Midwest Community Network (TMCN) will host the Quarterly Council/Membership Meeting on July 15 at the Alley House in historic downtown Graham. Rick Rhodes, Administration for Texas Department of Agriculture's Office of Rural Affairs, will be the guest speaker.  
Rhodes is a native Texan who grew up in Sweetwater. After leaving Sweetwater, he earned a degree in Business Administration from the University of Texas at Austin. His career includes ownership of a successful small business, assignments in banking and mortgage lending, serving four

terms as the Mayor of Sweetwater, and service on Governor Rick Perry's job creation team. Rhodes also served on the initial steering committee for the creation of TMCN in 1994 and was its first president from 1995-1996.  
The Graham meeting will focus on leadership and maximizing individual and workplace impact. Community leaders from member and neighboring communities are invited to attend, enjoy the local cuisine and discuss mutual concerns.  
The meeting will be held from 11:30 to 2:30 with a cost of \$12.50 per person. Reservations are requested by Friday, July

10 and can be made by calling or emailing the TMCN  
Office at 325-795-8626 or [tmcn@tmcn.org](mailto:tmcn@tmcn.org) or online at <http://tmcn.org/eventregistration>.  
The Texas Midwest Community Network is a regional organization focused on community and economic development, regional promotion, education, and legislative awareness. A network of "communities working together to accomplish what one community cannot do alone", TMCN sponsors networking events throughout the year and projects to market the region for business and tourism development.

The TMCN Member cities are: Abilene, Albany, Anson, Aspermont, Baird, Ballinger, Brady, Breckenridge, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Cisco, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Cross Plains, De Leon, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Eden, Goldthwaite, Gorman, Graham, Hamilton, Hamlin, Haskell, Hico, Jacksboro, Knox City, Menard, Merkel, Miles, Munday, Ranger, Rising Star, Robert Lee, Rising Star, Roscoe, Rotan, San Angelo, San Saba, Santa Anna, Seymour, Snyder, Stamford, Strawn, Sweetwater, Throckmorton, Tye, and Winters.

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Winters summer reading program**

The Winters Public Library Summer Reading Program runs through Aug. 11 starting at 1:30 p.m. Every Tuesday. The theme for the program this year is "Every Hero Has a Story." The program which will include stories and crafts for toddlers through kindergarten. There will be a special treats and surprise. For more information call 325-754-4751.

**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](mailto:jrc@abilene.com) or Randall Conner at [rconner@wtxs.net](mailto:rconner@wtxs.net) or mail to PO Box 211, Winters 79567.

**City Council Meetings**

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

**Winters Public Library**

We are excited to have Nancy Robinson Masters to present the second of two sessions on "Creative Writing" at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 14. Nancy, a noted author, will help attendees with started writing their memories and give information on writing notes, letters, e-mails. For more information call Joyce at 325-754-4251.

**AA Meetings**

AA meetings are held at 204 W. Truett behind the Church of Christ on Main Street in Winters at 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

**Runnels County Alzheimer's Support Group**

The monthly Runnels County Alzheimer's Support Group will be held at Central Texas Nursing and Rehabilitation Center from 6:30-7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month from. All concerned citizens are invited to share in discussion and education about the disease process and caregiver perspective.

There is no charge for this public service sponsored by the National Alzheimer's Association.

**Sobriety First AA Group**

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

**Alanon meetings**

Alanon meetings are held at the First United Methodist Church in Ballinger at 7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday night. Enter on the Avenue A and Seventh Street side. Alanon is open to all family and friends of alcoholics or drug users. For more information call 325-365 2323.

**MARRIAGE LICENSES**

**June 9**

Michael Paul Harris and Rose Caroline Busenlehner.

**June 10**

Don Addison Davis and Randi Larissa Buxkemper.

**June 18**

Ian B. King and Samantha Rene Burgess.

**June 23**

Edward R. Griswold Jr. and Tiffany Nicole Dubose.

**June 24**

Don Warren Brewster and Hunter Leiann Hamrick.

**FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES**

**William T. "Buck" Buchanan**

William T. "Buck" Buchanan, age 82, of Plano, Texas, passed away on July 4, 2015. He was born on May 24, 1933, in Ballinger, Texas, to William Andrew Newton Jackson Buchanan and Ina (Todd) Buchanan. On February 4, 1956, Buck married Geraldine "Jerry" Quick in Chesterfield South Carolina. He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force Special Services, earning status as a Senior Master Sergeant before retiring in 1973. After retirement he worked as the Equipment Manager for the Dallas Cowboys from 1973 until 1994.

He is survived by his wife, Jerry Buchanan of Plano, Texas; daughter, Julie Rene Buchanan Rodriguez and husband David of Sachse, Texas; son, William Andrew "Bucky" Buchanan and wife Deborah of Highland Village, Texas; grandchildren, Rochelle Rodriguez and husband Robert Tousley of Garland, Texas, D. Andrew Rodriguez and wife Hannah of Garland, Texas, William T. Buchanan II and wife Liz of Allen, Texas, J. Brett Buchanan of Allen, Texas, Jake B. Dean, Sammie B. Dean, Will B. Dean and Cameron B. Dean all of Highland Village, Texas; great-grandchildren, Carson, Chloe, Max and Griffin; brother, Hoyt Smith and wife LeeAnn of Abilene, Texas; and sister, Marriane Buchanan of Richardson, Texas.

Buck is preceded in death by his parents. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, July 9, 2015 at DFW National Cemetery in Dallas, Texas. The family will receive friends during a visitation being held from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., on Wednesday evening, at Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow Funeral Home in Allen, Texas.

To convey condolences or to sign an online registry, please visit [www.tjmfuneral.com](http://www.tjmfuneral.com).



Ballinger Ledger, July 9, 2015

**TMCN Seminar coming**

ABILENE - On Tuesday, July 14, 2015, the West Central Texas Council of Governments and Texas Midwest Community Network will host an Elected Officials Seminar focused on providing basic information and tools for city and town officials, helping them manage their first year in office and build a foundation for a successful term.

Experts in the fields of city management, ethics and conflict of interest, parliamentary procedure and budget planning will provide key insights to equip participants with the knowledge and confidence to meet the challenges that come with public service. To register go to <http://tmcn.org/event-registration/>.

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M-F 9:00 to 5:30 • SAT 10:00-5:00

The heat can get to a person before they realize it. Heat exhaustion and heatstroke are two serious health conditions

that can be very serious if not treated quickly. Heat exhaustion is where a person experiences fatigue (extreme

tiredness) as a result of a decrease in blood pressure and blood volume. It's caused by a loss of body fluids and salts af-

ter being exposed to heat for a prolonged period of time. Someone with heat exhaustion may feel sick, faint and sweat heavily.

People that work outside need to take precautions to avoid heat exhaustion and a possible heat stroke. Gradually build up hours spent working in the heat. Wear light, loose clothing and wear a hat outdoors. Drink water steadily before and during your outside work. Avoid hot foods and drinks that contain alcohol or caffeine. Don't overexert yourself, take regular breaks in cool places and work at a steady pace.

If you feel you are experiencing heat exhaustion, move to a cool place, loosen your clothing and apply cool compresses. Drink water slowly and elevate your feet about 8-12 inches while you are resting. If you feel you are having a heat stroke, call 911 or your primary care provider immediately. Move to a cool area immediately and soak your clothing with cool water and fan yourself.

"Don't give fluids to a person if they are unconscious" states Tami Halfmann, N-PC with North Runnels Hospital. "Take care of yourself outside in the heat and seek profession help in case of heat exhaustion or a heat stroke."

**Take care to avoid summer heatstroke**

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**Celebration begins at:** 9:00 am  
**The day's adventure ends at:** Noon  
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# "Ma" Ferguson Emerged as Pioneer in Texas Politics

She grew up in a time when women almost never attended college, almost never spoke out on the issues, and certainly never voted. But one woman did all of them, and in the process, "Ma" Ferguson became one of the most unforgettable women in Texas political history.

Miriam A. Wallace was born in Bell County in 1875. She was well-educated, attending Salado College and the Baylor Female College, among the very few colleges in the south that allowed women students at the time. On New Year's Eve 1899, she married James Ferguson, a lawyer and banker living in Belton. The couple had two daughters and were extremely devoted to one another.

In 1914, her husband was elected governor. Gov. Ferguson, had a stormy two-term reign and was impeached in 1917

over charges of misappropriation of funds regarding the University of Texas as well as embezzlement.

He maintained his innocence, and was banned from ever holding office in the state. In spite of that, he ran three more times.

In 1924, he had his wife run for governor in his place. Always the devoted wife, determined to uphold his honor, she agreed.

Campaigning on the theme of "getting two governors for the price of one," as she put it, the contest soon became a heated contest between Ferguson and Judge Felix Robertson, the candidate of the Ku Klux Klan. Klan forces in the 1920s attempted to seize control of the major political parties across the nation, Democratic and Republican alike.

The Fergusons and their allies, repelled by the violence and corruption the Klan brought with it, portrayed Miriam Ferguson, "Ma," as the embodiment of traditional Texas values and motherhood. The battle of "the bonnet versus the hood" captivated Texans, and she won the election easily.

She became the first woman elected governor in Texas history, and only the second in the nation, after Gov. Nellie Tayloe Ross of Wyoming took office just a few days before Ferguson and served from 1925 to 1927.

Her husband was believed to have been responsible for most of her decisions. The most important law passed was an anti-mask law aimed at the Klan. Ferguson though was very forgiving and pardoned an astonishing 100 convicts per month. Though critics charged that she and her husband accepted bribes for these pardons as well as high-way contracts, no evidence

ever emerged from these charges. However, the rumors led to her defeat in her 1926 re-election bid and the eventual creation of a commission to oversee all pardon requests before they reached the governor.

Ferguson failed at another run in 1930 before winning again in 1932. She pushed for attempts to control state spending during the cash-strapped years of the Great Depression. However, attempts to consolidate agencies failed. While she advocated old-age pensions,

bank reforms, and other measures, the state legislature failed to make any significant progress, and the Fergusons found themselves embroiled in new political fights.

She quietly stepped down in 1934 and stayed away from politics for the next few years. In 1938, voters across the state signed petitions asking her to run for governor once again. She resisted the "Draft Ma" movement, but accepted the call when a new draft movement spread in 1940. She attempted to unseat Gov. W.

Lee "Pappy" O'Daniel in the Democratic Primary, but in spite of the many criticisms of O'Daniel, Ferguson could not win the nomination.

With this loss, the Fergusons stepped away from politics for good. After her husband's death in 1944, "Ma" Ferguson lived a quiet life of retirement in Austin until her passing in 1961 at age 86.

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



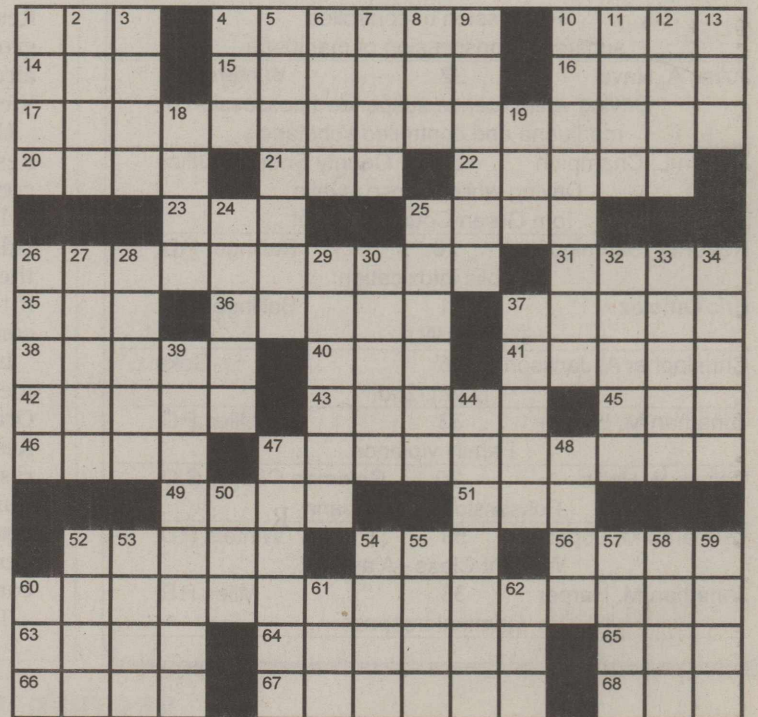
Dr. Ken Bridges

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

"Here Comes The Sun"

### Across

- 1 Bustle
- 4 In order that it may
- 10 Boxer's fare
- 14 Little dog, for short
- 15 Underground Railroad leader
- 16 "It's a \_\_\_"
- 17 Musical based on a 1950 movie
- 20 Pythoner lude
- 21 Hardly a beauty
- 22 Of the same stripe
- 23 Pres. Lincoln
- 25 Contents of some cartridges
- 26 City east-southeast of Newcastle England
- 31 Gumbo pods
- 35 "Gimme \_\_\_" (start of an Iowa State cheer)
- 36 Holdup
- 37 Wheat or pumpnickel
- 38 Good witchcraft
- 40 French beverage
- 41 Plains Indian
- 42 Hawke of film
- 43 \_\_\_ Park, N.J.
- 45 Eighth planet from the sun: Abbr.
- 46 Does in general?
- 47 Fancy duds
- 49 Foot pads
- 51 \_\_\_ de mer
- 52 Gaucho's accessory
- 54 Ball
- 56 Come back
- 60 Jewelry and gold doubloons, maybe
- 63 Years back
- 64 Ten years
- 65 Texas tea
- 66 At hand
- 67 Be short with
- 68 Backing



### Down

- 1 Cathedral recess
- 2 Gloomy
- 3 Prefix for bus or science
- 4 Fr. martyress, maybe
- 5 "We're on the patio"
- 6 "Fernando" group
- 7 Urban haze
- 8 Cross shape
- 9 Not at sea
- 10 Counselors
- 11 Tap trouble
- 12 Whittle (down)
- 13 Used
- 18 Gob
- 19 Wapiti

### 24

- "Borstal Boy" author
- Mean
- Cut, as lumber
- Rally
- Recess
- Kind of test
- Pale
- "The Family Circus" cartoonist
- Storms
- Proficient
- "In your face!"
- Ford or Toyota, e.g.
- Dance craze from Brazil
- Spectators' seating
- French cheese color

### 50

- Cleaned the plate
- Ancient alphabetic character
- Old Peruvian
- Killer whale
- Gather
- Field yield
- Prince or princess
- Christiania, now
- Junior
- Number after nine
- Workout unit



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rene Woofenden and Mark Bridgeman explain fire fighting equipment to participants at the summer reading program June 23, 2015.

## Fire fighters are heroes at Winters Public Library

### STAFF REPORTS

Children attending the summer reading program on June 23 at the Winters Public Library were treated to a visit by community heroes from the Winters Volunteer Fire Department. Rene Woofenden, Chief Mark Bridgeman, Jeremy Sherman, Michael Blackshear, and Chris Kraatz spent time with the children, demonstrating fire fighting equipment and clothing.

Two fire trucks were available for up close exploration. Woofenden provided information on preventing fires and re-

minded participants what to do in case of a fire. Dianne Davis presented a story and coloring activity for preschool children. This was followed by water balloon games and ice cream and cookies. Everyone enjoyed the event.

Two additional events are scheduled this summer on July 14 at 1:30 p.m. a presentation about frontier heroes from Ft. Chadbourne is scheduled.

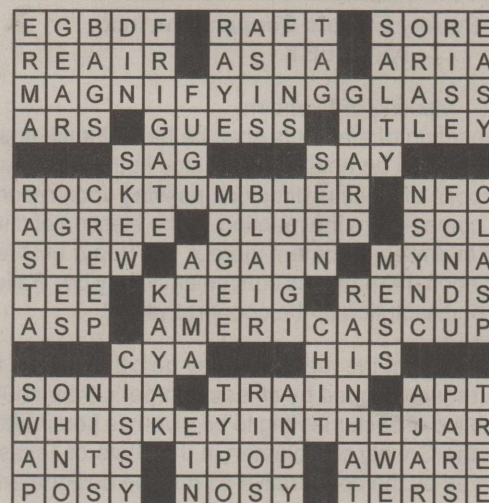
The next and final program will be held at the Gus Pruser Agricultural Museum at 1:30 pm.

August 11 and will focus on ranching and farming heroes. All programs are free and open to all children. Follow the Winters Public Library on Facebook.

"This has been such a success this summer," said volunteer Joyce Carbery of Winters.

Other upcoming event slated for 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, the Winters Public Library welcomes John "Rusty," McLen, MMFT, LMFT of Abilene who will be speaking on issues in dealing with grief. The program is free and open

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWER GRID



## Weather Whys

Q: What exactly is a dust devil?

A: It's really not that sinister, says Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. He says a dust devil is a swirling wind that looks like a small tornado, but is not. "Dust devils often occur on sunny days with no clouds in the sky," he explains. "They may look like a small tornado because of their funnel shape, but they are usually harmless. The winds produced by a dust devil rarely exceed 30 to 40 miles per hour, not really capable of doing any damage, but fast enough to give you a mouth full of dust and dirt. They only last a few seconds."

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# Runnels County ROLL-UP

## Public Record

### Runnels County Jail Record July 9, 2015

Name	Age	Agency
Juan R. Estreda	39	Ballinger P.D.
Illegal entry		
David L. Valdez	22	Concho
Sentenced 8 years burglary of habitation		
Zane Baugh	25	Concho
Bail jumping- failure to appear		
John Rasseay	35	Coleman
Bench warrant		
Michael Liggins	27	Ballinger P.D.
Parole violation		
Anthony C. Torres	32	Winters P.D.
Possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana		
Julian A. Nave	32	Winters P.D.
Driving while license suspended possession of marijuana and controlled substance		
Jordan L. Champion	27	County Sheriff's Office
Driving while license invalid, Tom Green County warrant		
Robert A. Sanmiguel	28	Ballinger P.D.
Public intoxication		
Eric Ornelaz	31	Ballinger P.D.
D.W.I.		
Christopher A. Jackson	35	Coke
D.W.I. 2nd		
Jonathan M. Harper	33	Miles P.D.
Family violence		
Patrick H. Hollis	20	Coleman County S.O.
Possession of marijuana		
Leonardo M. Lopez	53	Winters P.D.
Warrant Class -A assault		
Jonathan M. Harper	33	Miles P.D.
Criminal trespass		

## VETERAN'S CORNER

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has published a new regulation that expands eligibility for some benefits for a select group of Air Force Veterans and Air Force Reserve personnel who were exposed to the herbicide Agent Orange through regular and repeated contact with contaminated C-123 aircraft that had been used in Vietnam as part of Operation Ranch Hand (ORH).

The VA published this regulation as an interim final rule so that it could immediately begin providing benefits to eligible Air Force veterans and Air Force Reserve personnel who submit a disability compensation claim for any of the 14 medical conditions that have been determined by VA to be related to exposure to Agent Orange. This VA found evidence that as many as 1,500 to 2,100 Air Force and Air Force Reserve personnel who served as flight, medical and ground maintenance crew members on ORH C-123 aircraft previously used to spray Agent Orange in Vietnam were exposed to the herbicide.

Under this new rule, Air Force and Air Force Reserve flight, medical and ground maintenance crewmembers who served on the contaminated ORH C-123s are presumed to have been exposed to herbicides during their service, thus making it easier for them to establish entitlement for some VA benefits if they develop an Agent Orange-related presumptive condition.

In addition, for affected Air Force Reserve crew members, the VA will presume that their Agent Orange-related condition had its onset during their Reserve training. This change ensures that these reservists are eligible for VA disability compensation and medical care for any Agent Orange-related presumptive condition, and that their surviving dependents are eligible for dependency and indemnity compensation and burial benefits.

The VA will immediately begin processing claims

and issuing benefits to eligible Air Force crew members. The VA encourages reservists who were assigned to flight, ground or medical crew duties at Lockbourne/Rickenbacker Air Force Base in Ohio (906th and 907th Tactical Air Groups or 355th and 356th Tactical Airlift Squadron), Westover Air Force Base in Massachusetts (731st Tactical Air Squadron and 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron) or Pittsburgh, Penn., International Airport (758th Airlift Squadron) during the period 1969 to 1986, and developed an Agent Orange-related disability to file a disability compensation claim.

The VA also has identified several active duty locations where ORH C-123 aircraft may have been used following their service in Vietnam. Active duty personnel who served in a regular USAF unit location where a contaminated C-123 was assigned and who had regular and repeated contact with the aircraft through flight, ground or medical duties during the period 1969 to 1986, and who develop an Agent Orange-related disability, also are encouraged to apply for benefits.

For more information on applying for these benefits, including the affected units, Air Force Specialty Codes and dates of service for affected crew members, and a listing of Agent Orange-related conditions, visit [www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/agentorange-c123.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/agentorange-c123.asp). Individuals with specific benefit questions related to herbicide exposure on C-123s may call VA's special C-123 Hotline at 1-800-749-8387 (available 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. EST) or e-mail [VSCC123.VAVBASPL@va.gov](mailto:VSCC123.VAVBASPL@va.gov).

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

### A Yellow Dress

It was a short flight from the mainland to the Bahamas. Across the aisle sat an older lady of African descent. She had a well-kept appearance and was wearing a bright yellow dress. In her hands was a tiny black book with frayed edges. As we flew along she would open it and read from it and then close it and seemed to be praying silently. After a while she looked my way and I pointed to her little book. She smiled and opened it where I could see it and to my surprise it was the New Testament with the Psalms and Proverbs in French. I asked her to show me where she was reading. She opened to Romans 3:22, 23, and 24. I told her I liked Romans 5:8 and pointed it out to her. She looked at the verse a long time and then she smiled and in broken English she said, "If Jesus do not clean you heart you will not go up there." She was making a rubbing motion over her heart and then she pointed upward. I smiled and said you are so right. It is only by faith in Christ do we have the hope of entering heaven (John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8, 9). I told her she was my sister in Christ and she smiled. It is so warming to my heart to meet other Christians. See you in church next Sunday.

Brother J

## TALPA TALK

By Talpa Bob

Hello To All:

It has been a quiet week out here. Probably a few degrees cooler than last year at this time.

Friday evening, Judy and I walked over to H.M. and Maureen's house. As you get near the house, H.M.'s dog, Pluto comes out and barks mightily to scare off any invaders. He has been on the end of a 30 or 40 foot rope (for as long as I know him) and runs in an arc that the rope allows, until he has a rut worn into the dirt.

Well, his collar broke or something and he was loose! He comes up barking and gets within 20 feet or so and discovers that he could actually approach us. But, he didn't know what to do, he had never been this close before...so he just lay down right there and watched us go to the house. I hope that H.M. lets him run loose. I don't think that he will run off or hurt anyone.

H.M. and Maureen took us to Voss Baptist Church (established June 17, 1906) for a bible study, prepared by Jim

Warl. His wife is Julie Warl. Julie greeted me as, "you must be Talpa Bob!" Our fame has spread wide and far, nearly to Gouldbusk.

This morning Judy calls to me, "Bob, come here quick". I thought it might be a rattler or something had made entry into the house. No, just a lizard sitting there, about 5 inches long with no tail. One of the cats nearly had a "kill". I opened the screen door and shooed it out with the admonishment to "go eat bugs." Now we have to look under everything to find the tail.

Correction to a typo. Last week I misspelled Roy Sharp as Ron. Sorry. Also, all the squash is 50¢ a lb, okra is \$1.25 and the rest is \$1 call about the cantaloupe prices for that day. Yesterday the corn was four ears \$1. Call for pickling cucumbers.

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

Talpa Bob

## Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Inc. ARTICLE II

### Meeting of Members

SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of members shall be held at such time, during the month of July as the Board of Directors may direct and such meeting shall be held at such place in the Cooperative service area, as shall be designated in the notice of the meeting for the purpose of electing directors, passing upon reports covering the previous fiscal year and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting. If the election of directors shall not be held on the day designated herein for any annual meeting, or at any adjournment thereof, the Board of Directors shall cause the election to be held at a special meeting of the members as soon thereafter as conveniently may be. Failure to hold the annual meeting at the designated time shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the cooperative.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings of the members may be called by the President, by the Board of Directors, or by a majority thereof or upon a written request signed by at least ten per centum (10%) of all members and it shall thereupon be the duty of the Secretary to cause notice of such meeting to be given as hereinafter provided. Special meetings of the members may be held at any place within the County of Coleman in the State of Texas specified in the notice of the special meeting, or elsewhere within the area served by the cooperative as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. NOTICE OF MEMBERS' MEETING. Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and, in case of a special meeting or an annual meeting at which business requiring special notice is to be transacted, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than ten (10) days nor more than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail, by or at the direction of the Secretary, or by the persons calling the meeting, to each member. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at his address as it appears on the records of the cooperative, with postage thereon prepaid. The failure of any member to receive notice of an annual or special meeting of the members shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by the members of any such meeting.

SECTION 4. QUORUM. As long as the total number of members does not exceed one thousand (1,000) at least fifteen per centum (15%) of the total number present in person shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the members. In case the total number of members shall exceed one thousand (1,000) then at least one hundred fifty (150) of the members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the members. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of those present in person may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

SECTION 5. VOTING. Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. At all meetings of the members at which a quorum is present all questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon in person or by mail, except as otherwise provided by law, the articles of incorporation of the cooperative, or these bylaws. If a husband and wife hold a joint membership they shall jointly be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members.

SECTION 6. VOTING BY MAIL. In addition to the method of voting for directors of the Cooperative as provided by the existing bylaws and by a member being present and voting in person or each member shall be and is hereby permitted to vote by mail for directors of this association. At the time notices of member's meetings are given as provided by Article II of these bylaws, and with a notice of member's annual meeting, or any postponement thereof, there shall be sent to each member either personally or by mail a ballot which shall contain the names of all members who have been nominated as candidates for directors with a statement of the number to be elected and with appropriate instructions to the member to vote for such members; EACH MEMBER SHALL BE INSTRUCTED AFTER VOTING FOR THE DIRECTOR CANDIDATES TO PUT THEIR BALLOT IN THE ENCLOSED BUSINESS REPLY POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE. SIGN THEIR NAME IN THE PLACE INDICATED ON THE FACE OF THE RETURN ENVELOPE. THE MEMBER'S SIGNATURE IS ESSENTIAL. IT IS PART OF THE VALIDATION PROCESS OF THE BALLOT. IF THE ENVELOPE IS NOT SIGNED ON THE OUTSIDE, IT WILL NOT BE COUNTED. MAIL TO THE COOPERATIVE OFFICE PRIOR TO THE DATE OF SAID MEETING. Said ballots when so received shall be retained and placed in a locked ballot box until the date of the members' meeting at which time shall be delivered to the inspectors of Election and counted together with the votes cast in person at such members' meeting. The Directors who receive a plurality of the vote shall be elected. Drawing by lot shall resolve, when necessary, any tie votes.

SECTION 7. ORDER OF BUSINESS. The order of business at the annual meeting of the members, and so far as possible at all other meetings of the members, shall be essentially as follows:

1. Report the existence of a quorum.
2. Reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of the due publication of mailing thereof, or the waiver or waivers of notice of the meeting, as the case may be.
3. Reading of unapproved minutes of previous meetings of the members and the taking of necessary action thereon.
4. Presentation and consideration of, and acting upon, reports of officers, directors and committees.
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**Legal Notices**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Juan T. Esquivel, Deceased, were issued on June 30, 2015, in Cause No. 6928, pending in the County Court of Runnels County, Texas, to Christoval M. Esquivel.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them in the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Kenneth H. Slimp Attorney at Law P.O. Box 157 Winters, TX 79567**

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224 Circle Dr, Winters, 2 brdm/2 bath, large living/kitchen, enclosed porch with wood burning fireplace, garage, storage shed, water well, large trees.

109 CR 395, Wingate, Texas - Newly remodeled 3 brdm, 1 bath, very clean, living, kitchen, utility room, large yard, pecan trees, carport, water well.

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.

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.

214 Paloma, Winters - 3 brdm, 2 bath, dining room, nice kitchen, pecan trees, 576 sq. ft. metal shop with attached carport.

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# Independence Day luncheon at Rock Hotel



PHOTO COURTESY JOE GERHART

Many Winters citizens gathered near the Rock Hotel July 2, 2015 for the Pre-Independence Day hamburger supper, sponsored by the Z.I. Hale Museum. Those who attended said they enjoyed the food, fun and fellowship during the event.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Taryn Kalina of the Rowena 4-H club was presented a \$6,000 scholarship from David Waggoner of the Davison Family Foundation during the Texas 4-H Roundup held June 8-12 at Texas A & M.

## “On the Level” Painting a Portrait

“A picture is worth a thousand words”. On a recent trip to New York City I had the opportunity to visit the famous Guggenheim Art Museum. I didn't realize the things that could be art and the amazing stretch of the imagination one has to have to name and explain the art piece. I saw works by Picasso and Rembrandt. The paintings were really good to experience and while looking at the brush strokes of the painters that made up works of art, I began to imagine myself as an artist and if possibly I could someday create my own work of art. I feel quite sure that my piece would not compare to the Picasso but in my own eyes it would be a masterpiece. If you have followed

my articles over the years, I tend to make comparisons to various situations and try to tie them together. I wait for an “inspiration” to hit me and then I'm off. My inspiration came to me at a recent Riparian Buffer training that I attended. A riparian buffer is the land adjacent to a stream that protects the land from erosion. It is made up of grass, weeds, brush and trees that all play an important part to hold the soil in place. The trainers referenced how the green of the vegetation and the clear blue water paints a picture of success from a conservation standpoint. So how can our own property be transformed into a work of art. Pastures of lush green grass, brush

sculpted into strips to benefit wildlife, rows of crops following the contour of the land, streams running crystal clear or ponds of water filled with fish. Each in its own way a brushstroke of paint on the land. Like the painting hung in the art studio viewed by generations so too is the painting on the land viewed by the landowner but also by everyone that passes by. The painting is passed down from generation to generation as well as the land passed down. As the present landowner, do you want your painting on the land passed on to the next person a positive or negative reflection of yourself?

What you do as a steward of the land reflects on the image others see of you, in both your everyday personal life and how you care about the land. If you have an “it's all about me” and “I'm going to get all I can get out of the land” attitude it is painting a picture of yourself and your land. I imagine that picture to be a various shades of browns, dark and foreboding. The land is overgrazed, invasive brush species are prevalent, gullies in the field and muddy stagnant water.

For more information you can contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service or contact me at [charles.frerich@tx.usda.gov](mailto:charles.frerich@tx.usda.gov). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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Monday-Friday: 6:00AM-2:30PM  
\$8.00/Hour

ALUMINUM & STEEL

#### WELDERS

Monday-Friday: 6:00AM-2:30PM  
\$9.00-\$12.00/Hour

STEEL FABRICATORS

Monday-Friday: 4:30PM-3:00AM  
\$8.50/Hour

**EXTENDED HOURS**

**WEDNESDAY JULY 8<sup>TH</sup>**  
**MONDAY JULY 13<sup>TH</sup>**  
**8:00AM-7:00PM**

PERSONNEL



**BALLINGER • 325-365-8880 • 119 N BROADWAY**

PERSONNEL SERVICES IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER!

## Coleman County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

### 77TH ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday, July 17, 2015

Coleman High School  
Coleman, Texas

Registration begins at 5:30 p.m.

Business Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance gifts for members and kids!

Prize drawings for the adults and children!

Come out and enjoy homemade ice cream and cookies prepared by Coleman County 4H-er's!

