

# Homes may get free repairs here

By DOUG ERCK  
Battalion Reporter

Many elderly and handicapped low income homeowners in Brazos and surrounding counties may receive free home improvements through the Brazos Valley Community Action Program.

The program's purpose is to reduce energy consumption and costs through such improvements as storm windows, caulking and roof repairs.

The Brazos Valley Community Action Agency was awarded \$24,800 by the Texas Department of Community Affairs (TDCA) for programs in Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Leon, Madison, Robertson and Washington counties.

The program was made possible by the U.S. Department of Energy. Persons interested in receiving assistance are required to apply to the BVCA agency, in the Varisco building located on the corner of 5th and Main streets in Bryan. Eligibility is based on income and present condition of the house.

A selection committee made up of persons from the seven counties surveys each house, takes slides and evaluates the actual needs," said Sharon Barnard, energy coordinator for the BVCA.

Barnard spent most of Monday looking at houses in Washington County, and said the condition of most of the houses was "terrible."

"You could see daylight right through the walls, there were holes in the roofs, and some had no windows," Barnard said. "You just know the program is working when you fix a hole in the roof."

The program allows for a maximum of \$250 for each house and only can be used for individual homeowners, not landlords. The money received for the program is used to buy supplies, Barnard said, but the labor must come from somewhere else. The Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program and the Senior Texans Employment Program have provided some of the labor.

"We have tried to get volunteers, such as church groups, to help us but we have been unsuccessful in that area," Barnard said.

Wayne Sadbury, director of CETA, said there is a labor project submitted to the TDCA for the weatherization program. "The project has not been approved yet, and until it is, we can't supply any labor," he said.

"Our main problem is labor," said Barnard. "We can't get any. We have plenty of supplies and money, but if there are no workers we will have to shut down."

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**what's up?**

**Thursday**

**ROOMMATE SWAP SESSION:** The Off Campus Center is holding a roommate swap session from 3-5 p.m. at the Off Campus Student Center.

**POLITICAL FORUM:** Thomas DeFrank will speak on "The Carter Administration - A Press Reaction." DeFrank is White House Correspondent for Newsweek Magazine and a former Texas A&M student. He will speak at 8 p.m. in room 206, MSC.

**MOVIE:** "Blazing Saddles," a madcap comedy spoof of westerns, starring Gene Wilder and Harvey Corman, will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

**CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST:** Will have a meeting at 7 p.m. in room 302, Rudder Tower.

**WATER SKI CLUB:** Will have a meeting at 7 p.m. in room 230, MSC.

**BLACK ENGINEERS:** The National Society of Black Engineers will meet at 7:30 p.m. in room 141, MSC. Everyone is invited and refreshments will be served.

**MSC RADIO COMMITTEE:** Will have a meeting at 6:30 p.m. in room 410, Rudder Tower.

**VOLLEYBALL:** The women's team will play at Sam Houston State in Huntsville.

**Friday**

**MOVIE:** "Oh, God," about God coming down from heaven in the cool, sharp form of George Burns. The person he picks to help him straighten out mankind is the assistant manager of a supermarket—John Denver. The movie will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

**ORGANIZATION OF ARAB STUDENTS:** Will have a meeting in room 502, Rudder Tower at 7 p.m. A membership drive will be organized.

**WIVES CLUB:** Gaines West, student legal adviser, will speak on "Establishing Credit, Apartment Leases," at 7:30 p.m. at 2612 Melba Circle, Bryan. New members are welcome and anyone who needs a ride should meet at Lot 50, Zachary, between 7 and 7:10 p.m.

**TENNIS:** The women's team will play in the LSU Invitational in Baton Rouge, La., today through Sunday.

**CANOEING SEMINAR:** There will be a canoeing seminar with John Schwartz speaking at 7:30 p.m. in room 401, Rudder Tower. After the seminar, those who wish will go to a lake to practice canoeing.

**CROSS COUNTRY:** The men's team will run in Arlington at 4 p.m. The women's team will go to the Houston Invitational in Houston.

**Saturday**

**FOOTBALL:** The Texas Aggies will play Texas Tech here at 1:30 p.m.

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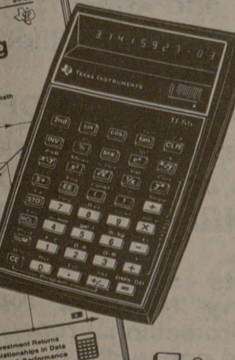
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