

New York changing bank check clearing policies

United Press International
NEW YORK — If your bank ever has denied you access to your money or charged you for "unavailable" funds you know are available take heart, your day may be at hand.
 Check clearing up to now has been left to the discretion of banks whose policy ranges from giving immediate access to access on the day a check actually clears to holding money for 30 days.

Banks also have dramatically increased to as much as \$20 their charges for "unavailable funds," money that you deposit but which the bank deems not yet usable.
 New York's recent legislation mandating the time a bank can take to clear checks was prompted by such "outrages that show a total disregard for the consumer," said State Banking Superintendent Vincent Tese, who was charged by the legislature with implementing

the law.
 "Our concerns were twofold," Tese said, "to clear the largest number of checks in the shortest time and to insure the safety and soundness of the banking system in this state."
 Tese believes it is only a matter of time before a standard is adopted nationwide. He has testified before the House banking committee, whose chairman Rep. Fernand St Germain, D-R.I., has sponsored legislation (HR-5301) that is similar to the New York law.

The issue has such great consumer appeal that passage is almost certain.
 "Banks move slower than the old Pony Express in processing checks, and I may be libeling

"Banks move slower than the old Pony Express in processing checks, and I may be libeling Pony Express by suggesting it moved as slowly."

Pony Express by suggesting it moved as slowly," St Germain said.
 St Germain has been hammering at federal regulators, but he believes the voluntary program they have come up with doesn't really change anything.
 There is a reason for the foot-dragging. Banks earn millions investing the money deposited in checking accounts in

short-term instruments, such as the overnight federal funds market, during the "unavailable" period.
 Bring the subject up in almost any group and you'll get a chorus of "horror" stories.
 Take the woman who owned stock in a New York bank and had all of her accounts in the same bank. She received a dividend check on her bank stock, deposited it in the bank and was

told she would have to wait 18 days to use the money because the check was written on a Boston bank.
 Or the woman who deposited her sizable U.S. Treasury refund check in a major clearing house bank and was told it couldn't be used for 10 days because "it might bounce."
 "The department was constantly getting complaints," Tese said. "There were stories of 30-day waits and many of them were from people on Social Security or government assistance who live from day-to-day." He said in virtually all cases banks get money from government checks within 24 hours.
 Tese believes the law was ap-

proached "in a responsible manner."
 Banks may take one day to clear all checks, \$100 and all government checks. Maximum clearing days on other checks range from two to eight days depending on the locality of the bank which a check is written. Institutions are given one day than commercial banks.
 "The losses to banks in the old system were small but built in safeguards to even that ratio," Tese said.
 Excluding government checks, banks can set their policy on checks of more than \$2,500 and all foreign checks.

HONG KONG RESTAURANT

香港餐廳

Fresh, authentic Chinese cuisine at reasonable prices
 "Quality Health Food"
 Taste our Lemon Chicken!

LARGE OR SMALL PARTIES AND BANQUETS WELCOMED
 Serving wine and beer

846-8345
 Mon. - Sun. 11 am - 2 pm
 Mon. - Sat. 5 pm - 10 pm

3805 TEXAS AV. - BRYAN

Ken's Automotive
 421 S. Main — Bryan
 822-2823

A Complete Automotive Service Center

- Tune-Ups • Brakes
- Clutches
- Front End Parts Replacement
- Standard Transmission Repairs
- GM Computer Testing

All American Cars
 Datsun-Honda
 Toyota

10% Discount with Student I.D. on parts
 (Master Card & VISA Accepted)

Cocaine abuse spreading to Wall Street businesses

United Press International
NEW YORK — In the simple old days, Wall Street worried about losing promising young businessmen to alcoholism.
 Lately, the problem has become multiple drug and alcohol dependencies among upwardly mobile under-40s.
 "You're seeing the end of the pure alcoholic," said Peter Topaz, administrator at the Lowell Institute in Manhattan. "It's not very common to find people under age 40 on just one substance."
 The Lowell Institute is a private psychiatric service that treats people with drug and alcohol problems. Its upscale clientele includes a large number of business executives.
 The 1980s may be the age of health and abstinence for

young urban professionals who prefer aerobics to alcohol, "but that's just one part of Wall Street," said Topaz. "The other part is deeply involved (in drugs). Almost any alley on Wall Street has its own dealer. Almost every building in the garment center has its own dealer. You can watch drug deals going on in the lobby of the World Trade Center."
 Alcohol abuse still is the most widespread problem by far. But it appears to have leveled off, while cocaine abuse "seems to be on the rise dramatically," said Dr. Jonathan Lampert, head of Lowell Institute.
 For Lampert's patients, cocaine use has become the center of their lives. Some spend \$1,000 a day on drugs. "I have one patient who says he literally

spent a million dollars on cocaine," Lampert said. "Even if he's exaggerating, you can imagine hundreds of thousands of dollars. It's overwhelming."
 The "hotbeds" of cocaine use are in the music industry, advertising, the garment industry and "the whole Wall Street financial area," Topaz said. The drug is particularly attractive to "high intensity, wheeler-dealer type personalities" who are attracted by the sense of endless energy and self-confidence it gives them.
 Ad Forum, a trade magazine for marketing management, recently conducted a three-month investigation into cocaine use in the advertising and marketing industries.
 "It's far more widespread in the ad industry than it used to

be," said editor Joshua Lampert. "It's now seeping down the executive offices to lower levels—even at the mailroom."
 Lampert said he can understand the attraction of a like cocaine for people like Wall Street traders, whose jobs require intense concentration and self-confidence.
 "But most people do abuse drugs, even in great situations like that," he said.
 Predisposition to alcohol drug addiction may be genetic, Topaz said. "I believe about a third of the population is vulnerable to addictive drugs. Probably up to 15 percent go active. The more stress the job, the more likely going to have people use some chemicals for relief."

A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION



The Newest From Lake Wobegon

Powdermilk Biscuit T-shirts & Postcards, Lake Wobegon T-shirts, Whippet Team Caps & Patches, Garrison Keillor's book *Happy To Be Here*, plus assorted record albums and the newly released News from Lake Wobegon cassettes... for all of you shy persons out there. Be sure to tune in, Saturdays at 7 p.m. on KAMU-FM.

Whole Earth Provision Company

Where Quality Makes the Difference
 105 Boyett College Station 846-8794

FREE DELIVERY



Just Prelease Your Furniture before May 31st, and We'll Deliver it FREE!!!

5 Packages Tailored to Your Personal Tastes and Comfort.

Freshman Package	\$39.95
Sophomore Package	\$49.95
Junior Package	\$59.95
Senior Package	\$69.95
Graduate Package	\$79.95

All Packages consist of a complete Living Room, Dining Room and Bedroom.
 (Individual Pieces Also Available)
 *DEPENDS ON AVAILABILITY. STYLES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

RENT NOW AND SAVE \$

CERTIFIED FURNITURE RENTAL


913-D Harvey Road
 Woodstone Shopping Center
 College Station, Texas 77840
 (409) 764-0721

Signing bags to better quality

United Press International
TRENTON, N.J. — They are used and abused, and most people handle them dozens of times a week, but they have one thing in common with a priceless painting, an important letter or the Declaration of Independence.
 The lowly paper bag, just like a Picasso painting, now has a signature revealing the identity of its maker.
 "We use the signature to instill pride into the person making the bags," said Ted Duffy, manager of retail packaging for Union Camp Corp. of Wayne, N.J.
 "It also tells you, if there is a quality problem, who ran the bag so you can go back and talk to the person," Duffy said.
 The practice of putting a signature on the bottom of a bag is relatively new and not widespread. For some who do, it seems to work.
 Verlon Rowe, general manager of the bag and sack division for Georgia Pacific's Richmond, Va., plant, cooked up the idea of bag signatures two-and-a-half years ago when the company was having problems with defective bags.
 One bag manufacturer used to identify its paper bags with Indian names or the names of animals, Rowe said.
 John Morgan works at the Georgia Pacific plant. He said signing the bag makes him "personally committed" to doing a good job.

Open House
Sat. & Sun.
1-5 P.M.

Move Over to Wood Brook



Move over to the heart of the off-campus community. Wood Brook's ideal location is:

- Only 1 1/2 miles from A&M
- On the shuttle bus route
- A short walk to Post Oak Mall and other major shopping areas
- Convenient to many popular restaurants and night clubs
- In an area known for its investment potential

Move over to substantial savings. Investment in a Wood Brook condominium will:

- Save four years of non-returnable rent
- Provide exceptional tax advantages

Move over to the comforts of a home away from home. Wood Brook's superb amenities include:

- Garden window & mini-blinds
- Fireplaces
- Built-in kitchen appliances
- Washer/dryer connections
- Hot tub & swimming pool
- Private patios

offered by

brazosland realty services, inc.

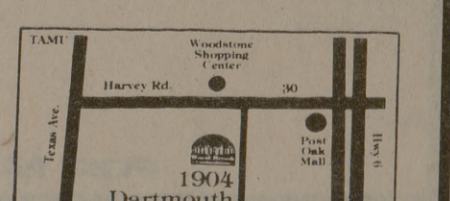
846-5735

Wood Brook Condominiums

Brazosland Realty Services, Inc.
 4103 Texas Avenue
 Bryan, Texas 77802
 409/846-5735


Yes, please send more information to:
 My Parents Myself

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____



Another development by **Sycon Corp.**

GRIMES COUNTY YOUTH FAIR
 C & M PRODUCTIONS PROUDLY PRESENTS



GEORGE STRAIT'S TEXAS DANCE HALL TOUR
 WITH FRIENDS
JAMES & MICHAEL YOUNGER
SATURDAY APRIL 28 9:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.
GRIMES COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS-NAVASO

TICKETS: \$10.00 ADVANCE
 \$12.00 AT THE DOOR

ON SALE AT:
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-SADDLE SHOP-BRENNAN
 RAINBOW RECORDS & TAPES-COMPTON
 1ST NAT'L BANK-HUNTSVILLE
 Tip Top Records