



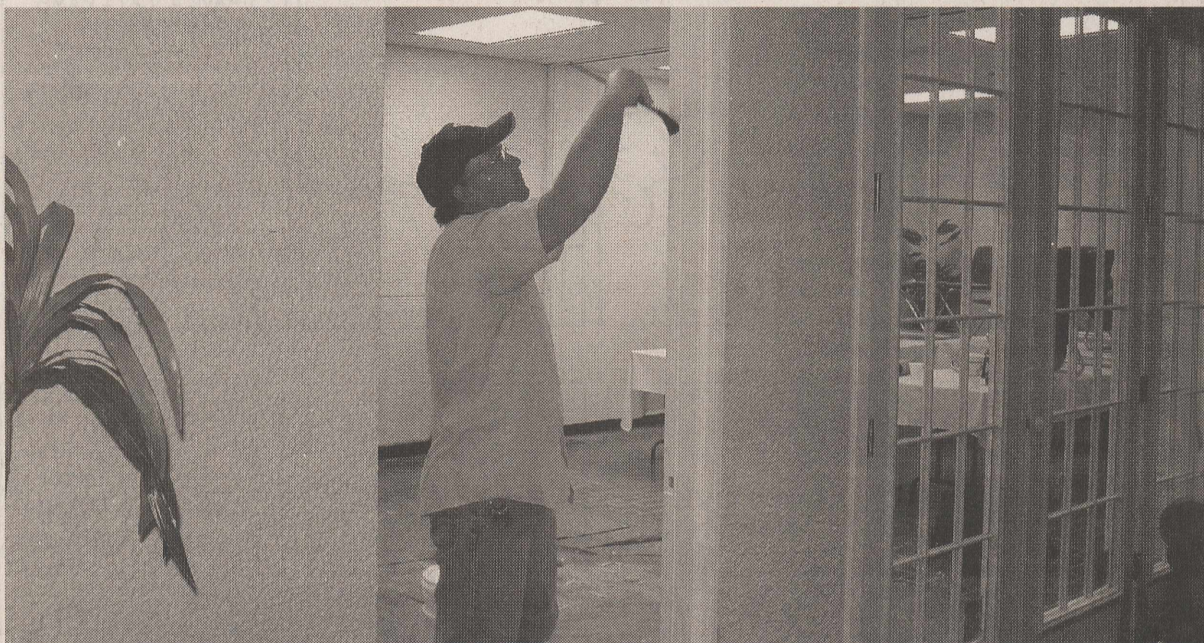
## Thanksgiving Holiday

The Western Texas College campus will be closed November 26 - 28 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



Sunday, November 23, 2003

Western Texas College, 6200 College Ave. Snyder, TX 79549



Jeff West of Johnson Controls puts the final touches on the renovated faculty dining room being renamed the Pruitt Community Room.

## Faculty Dining Room named in honor of Dr. Franklin B. Pruitt

The faculty dining room at Western Texas College will carry a new name to honor a former faculty member.

At the November board meeting, Dr. Williams, president, announced that the dining room would be named in honor of Dr. Franklin B. Pruitt. It was announced that the name of the room would be the Pruitt Community Room. Elois Pruitt, Dr. Pruitt's widow, and Deborah Boyd, his daughter, were present to hear the announcement.

The room will be available to be rented out by the community. The first event scheduled is appropriate to its name. Kyle Pruitt, son of Dr. Pruitt, will be married to Jennifer Nipsch there on November 29, by his sister, Justice of the Peace, Deborah Boyd.

Dr. Pruitt was born in Waco, Texas, on February 1, 1927. He was one of six children. His father passed away when he was seven years old and his mother moved all the family to a farm in Lindale, Texas, so that she could better provide for them.

After World War II began, three brothers and a sister were in the service. Not wanting to be left out, Franklin hitchhiked to Tyler every weekday in the summer of 1944 so that he could graduate midterm. His mother would not sign for him to go into the service until he completed high school. He entered the coast guard in January 1945 and in May, his mother walked across the stage to pick up his diploma.

After the war was over and he was discharged he went to Baylor University and received his BA de-

gree with a major in history and a minor in journalism.

During the Korean Conflict, he again served his country but this time he was in the Navy.

He came to teach at Snyder High School in 1952. Besides being a history and journalism teacher, he was very involved in the sports program.



Dr. Franklin B. Pruitt

He received his Master of Education from East Texas State in 1955. Also in 1955, he married Elois McDow, who was a native of Snyder.

In 1974, Dr. Pruitt began teaching at Western Texas College in Snyder. He was a professor of history and government.

He received his Doctor of Education from Texas Tech University in 1978.

Dr. Pruitt was the recipient of the first student senate and Phi Theta Kappa award honoring the "Outstanding Campus Personality" at Western Texas College.

Dr. Pruitt and Elois have four

children. Deborah Boyd who is married to Gaylon Boyd. They have four children: Samantha, Ben, Matt and April. Cecile Cheatham, married to Mark Cheatham, who has two daughters Laurie and Katie. Kyle Pruitt, and Kevin Pruitt with wife Christie and two boys Lucas and Noah.

Shortly before his retirement in 1988, Dr. Pruitt remarked to his wife that he never one day dreaded going to work. It was always a pleasure, even when he was running a temperature and was sick.

A close friend, Dr. Jim Palmer, Dean of Academic Instruction, recalls Dr. Pruitt's love of teaching. He would get to the door, lift his head and shake off the illness, for an hour or so, no student had a hint that he was not well.

His great love was teaching. An aunt offered to pay all his tuition, books, and support him while he was in college if he would choose another profession. He turned it down and never regretted that decision.

He loved history and could remember almost everything he read. At restaurants, where he and Elois ate, he would look at the bill and whatever the total was, he would translate it to a date and tell the cashier what happened in that year. Some were not impressed but an owner of a restaurant said after his death, "I will never have my history lesson again."

One professor at Western Texas College told his student, "If you have questions concerning anything in history, go ask Dr. Pruitt. He was there." After hearing him teach, you felt as if you were there.

## WTC Reaches United Way Goal



### Prizes drawn for participation

Western Texas College met its goal of \$6000 donated to United Way during the 2003 campaign. Money was generated by the Fall Festival held at WTC and by employee contributions.

A drawing was held on Friday, November 7 for incentive prizes Pictured is Jana Neal receiving a ce-

ramic vase from Laura Ritchey. The vase was donated by WTC ceramics instructor, Shane Christensen.

Other winners were: Donna Billingsley-bath and body basket donated by Cutting Edge; Barbara Preston-two brisket wraps donated by Tammy Wesson; Jeanine

Wilburn-two buffets donated by Dragon China; Zelma Irons-one tanning session from Sun Trax; N.C. Smith-one tanning session from Sun Trax; Ruth Richburg-one tanning session from Sun Trax; Ava Russell-one month membership from Tiger Fitness; Troy Lilly-one month unlimited tanning from Tiger Fitness; Randy Vernon-one facial or massage from Margaret's Day Spa and Carolyn Osborn-\$100 cash. Carolyn Osborn donated back the \$100 cash to complete the \$6000 United Way goal.

The United way teams of Melanie Schwertner and Julie Fritz were rewarded with a pizza party for 100% participation in the campaign and team leaders were presented certificates of appreciation for their efforts and leadership. Team leaders were: Dave Hanes, Raul Alcalá, Julie Fritz, Melanie Schwertner, J.R. Torrez, Lee Burke, and Vicky Rowland.

## Keeping It All In The Family

by Michelle Kuhl

One thing Western Texas College is known for is the variety of its students. This is evidenced by Sharon Gill and her relatives. Sharon Gill, a Western Texas College employee and student, has seven family members currently enrolled at WTC. Sharon said, "I don't get to see or talk to them much because we are all going different directions but sometimes they walk by my office on their way to class and wave." The family members range in age from eighteen to seventy one.

Sharon herself graduated from WTC in 1997 but continues to take classes to better her skills and is now enrolled in Joann Snider's Word Perfect class. She is also a PTK Alumni.

The senior family member that

is enrolled in WTC is Jimmie Nan Tate. Ms. Tate is seventy one and graduated from Western Texas College in the Spring of 2003, but decided to continue her education by taking History and Biology this semester. She is Sharon's second cousin.

Shannon Jones is also Sharon's second cousin and is a full-time student at this time. His major is prelaw. He is a member of PTK and SGA.

Catalina Jones is Sharon's second cousin by marriage and Shannon's sister-in-law and a full-time student. She is currently working on a certificate in business.

James Michael Hembree, also a second cousin, is a full-time student that is living in the dorms.

Michael is involved in Drama and provides technical support for the ongoing drama production.

Sabrina McCauley, also a second cousin, is currently enrolled in the nursing program. She is an LVN working at a hospital in Lubbock and is working toward becoming an RN.

Shell Hembree, the youngest of the family members, is again a second cousin and also enrolled in the nursing program at WTC.

Just this week, Sharon found out that her first cousin and Shell's father, Johnny Hembree, was hired as night security. This just adds to the list of Sharon's family members affiliated with Western Texas College. One could say that Sharon Gill is keeping Western Texas College all in the family.



## Spring Pre-Registration

November 17th - December 12th


Beat the crowd and get the classes you want!

Come by the Counseling Center or call 573.8511 ext. 313 to make an appointment.

*\*Students who have not passed THEA (formerly TASP) and are in DRE, DMT, & DEN classes must wait until grades are posted.*

## Getting to Know You

Dr. Jim Clifton: Dean of Students  
Hired: January 14, 1998



**What led you to WTC:** I took classes here many years ago and remembered a very kind and caring place. When teaching as an adjunct at Southwest Texas State, an instructor's position came open here at WTC. I enjoyed teaching so much I resigned as a Chief of Police and came here to be a teacher. Although many of the names and faces have changed over the years, there still exists a safe and comfortable environment for students to learn in. Even though I am no longer a member of the faculty, I am proud, and lucky, to daily contribute to our students' lives and our future as a society.

**Where do you go from here:** I'll continue to work with WTC as long as I can be of use, and seek to expand my own educational interests to see where they lead.

**Most memorable moment:** Ah, so many. I was a peace officer for fifteen years, and I continually pursue new adventures on my days off, so I could probably regale you with many moments that have been seared into my brain. Those memories pale in nature though, when compared to the moments when both of my sons were born.

**Hardest decision I've ever made:** A tough question for such a light hearted forum. I think I'll pass on this one.

**Favorite Book and Favorite Author:** Favorite book, probably "How We Think" by John Dewey, favorite author, probably Paul (originally Saul) of Tarsus, 5-67AD.

**Favorite Movie:** "Remember the Titans". I was in high school in Virginia when all of that was going on.

**Favorite spare time activity:** The world is a more interesting place when your face is in the breeze and you are holding onto the handlebars of a motorcycle. "Sunshine on chrome": the best way to enjoy a beautiful day.

**Names of family members:** My oldest son is Jonathan, who is 21 and a junior in college. My youngest son is Douglas, who is 18 and a senior in high school.

**If you could spend an hour talking to any person living or dead, who would it be:** My father, who passed away in 1984. An hour with him would be worth a lifetime.