

The Winters Enterprise

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WTU files for general rate increase



Looking up...

This new parking area located immediately behind the city hall complex is part of City Administrator Glenn Brown's program to improve the appearance of the city buildings. The new parking area was created when several old buildings that were used when the city

operated its electric generating plant were demolished. The interior of the city hall is also taking on a new look with new carpeting, wall covering, and window coverings. More work is planned for the exteriors of the buildings in the near future.

1982 Winters Livestock Show plans underway

Plans are under way for the 1982 Winters Livestock Show sponsored each year by the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce, to be held January 17 and 18.

Chairman of the event is Tobin Burns. Committee members include Charles Allcorn, Ray Alderman, Preston Barker, Bud Davis, Jeryl Priddy, Erwin Schroeder, G. W. Sneed, and Arnold Thormeyer, all of whom will soon be canvassing the town "selling" shares to provide the awards for the winners in the Livestock Show.

Any business or individual who is not contacted, but would like to be a part of this worthwhile program should contact a member of this committee or the Chamber of Commerce office, 754-5210.

Holiday schedule for refuse collection

There will be no residential or commercial refuse collection on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26.

All commercial customers will be picked up on Friday, November 27, as well as all residential customers which are routinely picked up on Fridays anyway.

Band Boosters seek funds for April concert

The Winters Band Boosters will meet at 7:00 p.m., December 7 in the Band Hall.

The Winters High School Band is planning a trip to Arlington in April, to participate in a band contest, sponsored by Six Flags. This trip will be very costly, as it involves not only board, but lodging as well.

Any input, concerning financial help for this concert, is greatly needed. If you are a Booster member or an interested party, you are invited to attend this meeting.

Assault charges filed in week-end arrest

County Court at Law Judge Bill Stultz Monday sentenced a Winters man to 30 days in the county jail and fined him \$500 plus court costs after the man was arrested by police Sunday and charged with aggravated assault and criminal trespass.

Police officials said that Alphonso Campos was arrested after he allegedly entered the home of his ex-wife, broke through a bathroom door and threatened his ex-wife with a knife. Police said that Campos was jailed Sunday night on preliminary charges of public intoxication and that the more serious charges of aggravated assault and criminal trespass were filed against Campos Monday.

In other activity over the

weekend police said that two women were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct Saturday after a domestic disturbance erupted into a fight between the two women. Officers also said that the fight also resulted in one man being arrested and charged with public intoxication and simple assault.

Police said that a one vehicle accident on West Dale street involving a utility pole resulted in two citations, one for failure to control vehicle and one for leaving the scene of an accident. Police said the driver of the vehicle involved in the accident left the scene of the accident and went home where officers found him.

West Texas Utilities Company has filed for a general increase in its retail rates, citing inflation, high interest rates and an essential major construction program as the reasons for this action.

The official filing was made Wednesday in Winters by F. R. Anderson, local manager.

Anderson said the application is a systemwide request for higher rates. Simultaneous filings were made in other incorporated towns for retail customers within their jurisdiction and with the Public Utilities Commission of Texas for an increase to retail customers outside incorporated towns. The filing with the PUC also includes customers in eight incorporated towns which have ceded jurisdiction to the PUC.

WTU filed October 15 with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a rate increase to wholesale cooperative and municipal customers.

The proposed rates would produce an increase in total revenue of \$32,256,983. This amounts to 15.4 per cent based on adjusted revenues of \$209,402,398 for a

12-month test period ending September 30, 1981.

WTU requested that the new rates become effective January 1, 1982.

Anderson said that a rate increase granted WTU last year "did not get the job done." That increase was for an average of 8.3 per cent and was only the second in the Company's entire history. "The relief you granted us has been overrun by inflation and high interest rates and the need to build additional facilities," Anderson said.

Growth in demand for electric energy, caused by a steady increase in new customers and higher usage by older customers, is forcing WTU to expand its facilities.

WTU's newest power plant was completed in 1977, and since then the summer peak demand has grown to a point termed "uncomfortably close" to the system generating capacity.

The current construction program includes a coal-fired power station at Oklaunion, near Vernon. Although ownership of this plant

will be shared by two sister companies in the Central and Southwest Corporation, Oklaunion will be the most costly project ever undertaken by WTU.

So far, WTU has lagged well behind most of the industry in increasing its rates. A recent report from the Public Utility Commission shows WTU's rates to be the second lowest in the state among investor-owned companies and fifth lowest among all utilities.

Under the proposed rates, an average bill for basic residential service would be increased by 19.1 per cent. For example, a residential customer using 600 kilowatt-hours per month would pay \$40.95, compared to \$34.39 under the present rates—a difference of \$6.56. This would include fuel costs.

The city has several options in responding to WTU's request. It may deny the increase, suspend the increase for a certain period of time, or approve the increase. The city also has the option of denying the request and ceding future jurisdiction to the Public Utility Commission. Eight municipalities in the WTU service area chose to cede jurisdiction last year.

Christmas Parade scheduled Dec. 5

The annual Christmas Parade, sponsored by the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce will be held Saturday, December 5 at 2:30 p.m.

Santa Claus will be on hand giving away candy, and prizes will be awarded to the three best floats. A Kiddie Section, also, will have three winners.

In the float division, 1st place will receive \$75.00, 2nd place will receive \$50.00, and 3rd place will receive \$25.00.

In the Kiddie section, 1st place

will be awarded \$25.00, 2nd place will receive \$15.00, and 3rd place, \$10.00.

Call 754-5210 or write the Chamber of Commerce office to register an entry in the parade. Deadline is December 1.

All winners will be announced immediately following the parade, along with the winner of the Big Buck Contest.

The annual Sno-Queen Contest for Winters High School girls and Little Sno-Princess Contest for 3-5 year olds will be held in conjunction with the Christmas parade. The Chamber office may be contacted for details.

Sno-Queen Contest deadline Dec. 1

The annual Miss Sno-Queen Contest sponsored by the Winters Area Chamber of Commerce will be held in conjunction with the Christmas parade, Saturday, December 5.

All Winters High School girls are eligible. There will be a \$5.00 entrance fee and each girl may select her sponsor, or the business may select the girl they wish to represent them.

Deadline for entering the Miss Sno-Queen Contest is December 1. Rules and entry forms may be picked up at the Chamber of Commerce office, 118 West Dale Street.

Also to be held is a Little Miss Sno-Princess contest for all three to five year old girls in North Runnels County. Entrance fee is \$1.00 and entry forms may be picked up at the Chamber office.

City offices to close Thursday and Friday

Winters City Administrator Glenn Brown said that all city offices will be closed both Thursday and Friday of this week in observance of Thanksgiving.

Brown said that the city will conduct business through closing time Wednesday and would not re-open until the regular time the following Monday.

The city administrator said that the police department would continue to operate its routine schedules through the holiday and that emergency calls to other city departments would also be handled.

Chamber enlists aid of merchants in city Christmas decorations

The Winters Area Chamber of Commerce is asking the help of all merchants and businesses in Winters to get the city decorated for the holiday season.

Because of the deteriorated condition of the Christmas decorations that are customarily hung each year, the Chamber has decided not to use them until they could be refurbished or new ones bought.

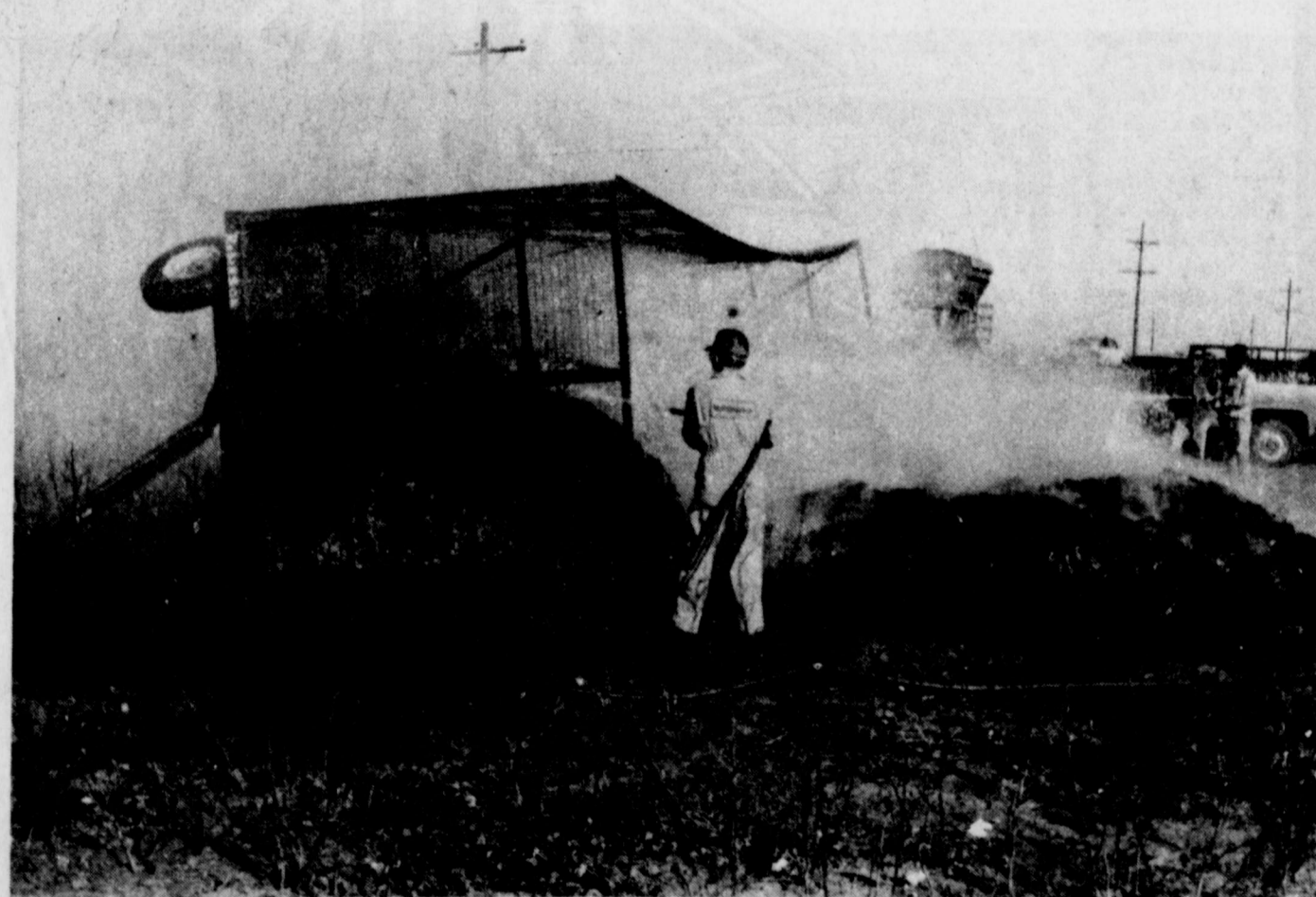
In order to have a well-dressed town this Christmas season, it will be the responsibility of each individual to have a display that can be seen from the street and enjoyed by passers-through as well as citizens of Winters.

The cooperation of any clubs or organizations who would like to decorate one of the vacant downtown buildings would be appreciated. Call the Chamber of Commerce office, 754-5210, to take on this as a project.

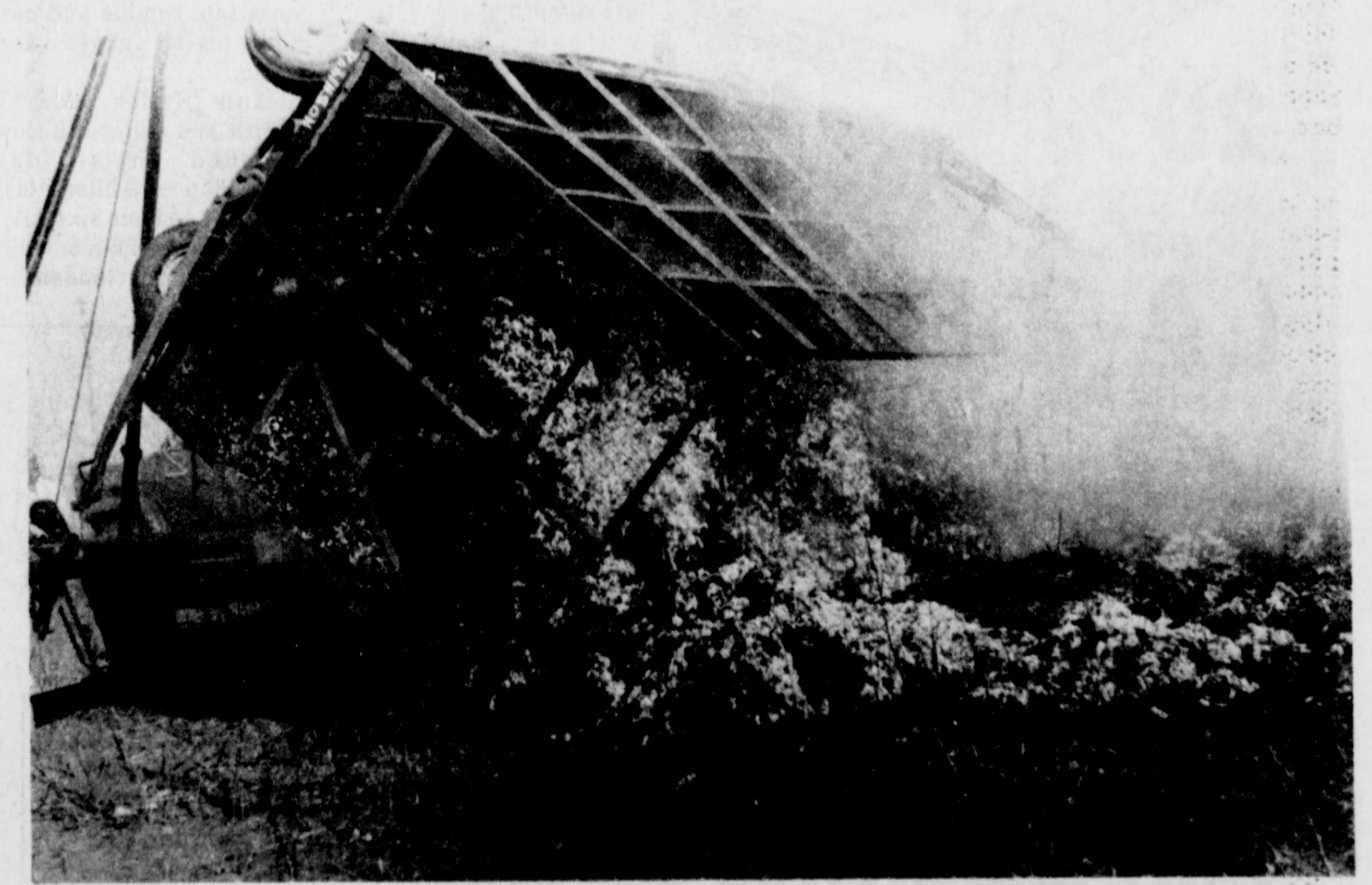
Norton to hold class reunions

Norton exes of classes 1957-1961 will meet for their annual class reunion at the Norton Community Center, at 6:30 p.m. on November 28.

Participants are requested to bring snacks for refreshments.



Cotton wagon fire...



Five bales of cotton lint go up in smoke on the Morris Robinson farm Sunday afternoon.

