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Teleconnections

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Webster-Calhoun
Cooperative Telephone Association

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Congratulations to members of the Manson Northwest Webster Senior Class that participated in the
5th Annual Cash For Cougars Phone-A-Thon

Thirty-two members of the class were involved in this project and called patrons in the Manson Northwest Webster school district to help support scholarships for the class of 2005. Over \$8,000 was pledged that evening for the students to share in scholarships. All money raised will be divided equally among the participating seniors planning to attend an accredited post-secondary school. Scholarship winners will be announced Thursday, May 12th at the MNW Senior Awards Night.

The Cash for Cougars event is an annual fund-raising activity conducted by the Manson Northwest Webster Education Foundation. One of the goals of the Foundation, a local, non-profit organization, is to help graduating seniors with funding for their post-secondary education. Webster-Calhoun Cooperative Telephone Association has been a proud supporter of the Cash for Cougars program providing telephones, service and long distance for the Phone-A-Thon.

Congratulations To Area Graduates!!



Remember: Pre-Paid Calling Cards Make Great Gifts For Graduates!
Personalized Cards Are Available At WCCTA.

30 Minutes \$5.00
100 Minutes \$15.00
(plus tax)

Don't Forget To Call Your Mother And Wish Her A Happy Mother's Day!!

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 8, 2005

WCCTA Schedules Internet Classes

Are you interested in a very basic class that explains how to get around on the Internet?? Contact Marcie at 352-3151 or e-mail marcieb@wccta.com to get signed up! Classes are scheduled for Monday, May 16th or Tuesday, May 17th at 1:00 p.m. at the WCCTA office in Gowrie. Each class is suited for beginner computer users and will cover skills such as copying and pasting, email, computer maintenance, and gaining a better knowledge of the Internet. Class size is limited, so early registration is suggested.



Do-Not-Call Registry and Cell Phones...

An e-mail is circulating the Internet regarding the need to add your cell phone number to the National Do-Not-Call Registry because cell phone numbers will be made public to telemarketers.

According to www.snopes.com, an urban legends reference page (politics: Celling Your Soul), six national wireless companies (AllTel, AT&T Wireless, Cingular, Nextel, Sprint PCS, and T-Mobile) have banded together to produce a Wireless 411 service (directory assistance database only). The main purpose of the directory is to save money for the estimated five million customers that currently pay to have their cell phone numbers listed in phone directories. The Wireless 411 service would also be strictly "opt-in" – that is, wireless customers will be included in the directory only if they specifically request to be added. The phone numbers of those who do nothing will NOT be included. Nonetheless, many consumers don't trust the Wireless 411 consortium to uphold their promises.

So although the e-mail is correct in alerting consumers to a proposed directory of numbers, it is misleading in directing readers to sign up for the Do-Not-Call Registry. The latter step will NOT keep wireless customer listings out of the proposed database—it will only add the number to a list of numbers off-limits to most telemarketers, a step which is premature (because the Wireless 411 directory has not yet been implemented.)

Verizon Wireless and U.S. Cellular Corp. have always been opposed to the proposed cell phone directory, and initial partners Sprint Corp. and AllTel Corp. have since pulled away from the project due to concerns about bad publicity and possible new government regulations. So, as of January 2005, even if the cell phone directory database is compiled as planned at least 45% of the U.S. cell phone numbers won't be included.



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