

Trail Writer

*The Official Publication of the
Winchester Trails
Maintenance Assoc. Social Committee*

Volume 2, Issue 3

www.winchestertrails.com

March 2006

Board Message

Winchester Trails Residents,

As you know Winchester Maintenance Board Member Eric Schmied resigned his position as of December 31, 2005. At the February Board Meeting, we had two qualified individuals volunteer their time as an appointed member of the board and fill the remainder of Eric's term. Following the regular meeting, the Board met in Executive Session to discuss the position, the individuals and vote on each volunteer. Unfortunately, the Board vote was tied (the problem with an even number of members on the board). At this time, we have decided to leave the seat open until further notice or when the election cycle is upon us again in late summer. Thanks to those who expressed an interest in the position. We encourage those individuals to run as a candidate in the next elections as we will have up to three open positions on the board.

We have been working on the website to make more information available as well as provide more links to other useful websites. Thanks to Tim Loney for all his help as we could not have done it without him. Check out the website from time to time as you will notice the changes.

We also have Sherry Wright as a new volunteer helping with the Newsletter. The February newsletter was Sherry's first and it came out great. Kudos to her as she has taken on this challenge with vigor! If you have any suggestions or would like to help, let Sherry know.

Finally, as I walk Winchester Trails I notice how many children we have playing or riding their bicycles in the street. With the warm winter, there are plenty of outdoor activities taking place. Please take the time to slow down as you drive through the neighborhood as I am sure the children (and especially their parents) would appreciate it.

Best Regards, Walter

Upcoming Events

March 1	Ash Wednesday
March 2	Maintenance Board Meeting 7pm
March 6-10	CFISD Spring Break
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 20	Spring Begins
April 2	Daylight Savings-'spring forward'
April 6	Maintenance Board Meeting 7pm

Yards of the Month



10318 Hondo Hill – Joanne Delaney & Charles Lantrip



8914 Crazy Horse Trail - Alex & Lynn Watt

**View the Winchester Trails
Trailwriter
each month on-line
at www.PEELinc.com**

Winchester Trails

Winchester Trails Social Committee Officers

Chairman (open)	
Tennis Representative	
Alice Brunson.....	281-955-9045
Clubhouse Rentals	
Lesa Smith	281-615-0335
Editor	
Sherry Wright.....	281-955-9737

Maintenance Association Directors

Holly Calbat.....	281-894-4535
Jim Malone.....	281-890-3803
David Othold.....	281-890-1799
Walter Sonne	281-894-7117
Open	

Jim Malone is the security representative for WT.
His email can be found on the Security page of the Trails website.

MUD #9 Officers

David Gurghigian, President.....	281-894-4140
Jeff Ottmann, Vice President	281-469-1465
Wayne Wilcox, Secretary	281-894-6233
Jim Giese, Assistant Secretary	281-890-5207
Sandor Karpathy	281-955-1138

To ask questions or report problems concerning the Winchester Trails Subdivision, call

PLANNED COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT
281-870-0585

Sheriff, Non-911 Calls	713-221-6000
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Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Winchester Trails Trailwriter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all residents to receive a newsletter each month at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our Sales Representative, Donna Sommer at 832-237-4684; dsommer@PEELinc.com or our Sales Manager, Kelly Peel at 512-989-8905; kelly@PEELinc.com for ad information and pricing. The deadline for ads is the 10th of each month for the upcoming month's newsletter.

We would like to thank Houston Plant & Garden World for their sponsorship of our Yard of the Month program.

Note: Due to camera limitations we were able to show only a portion of these beautiful yards. We encourage you to take the time to drive by these homes and enjoy the entire yard.

Social Committee Chairman Wanted

Since no one has volunteered to be social committee chair, there is not going to be a children's Easter Party this year. Sorry for the cancellation. If anyone is interested in filling the social committee chair for the remainder of the year, please contact the board liaison, Holly Calbat, 281-894-4535 or email her at hcalbat@houston.rr.com

Newsletter Deadline

- The deadline for the April newsletter is March 13. All items should be sent to heggs23@sbcglobal.net.

The Trails Website

The Trails has a new website: www.winchestertrails.com.

Please visit it often for updates on committees and important contacts. You can also find links for deed restrictions, the newsletter and school info. You can even load money in your child's lunch account from there! As always your feedback is important so let me know what you think.

Lesa Smith

The Maintenance Board meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in the clubhouse. All residents are encouraged to attend.

Welcoming Committee

The Welcoming Committee is now ready to meet and greet all our new Trails residents. If you are new to the neighborhood and have not been welcomed, please call Carolyn Stone at 832-237-8178 or email her at cstone@swrg.com. We want to stop by and say hello, get some information to introduce your family to the neighbors through the Howdy Partner article, and give you a handy packet of information to help familiarize you with your new neighborhood. We also have Trails information available on our website at www.winchestertrails.com. Welcome to the Trails!

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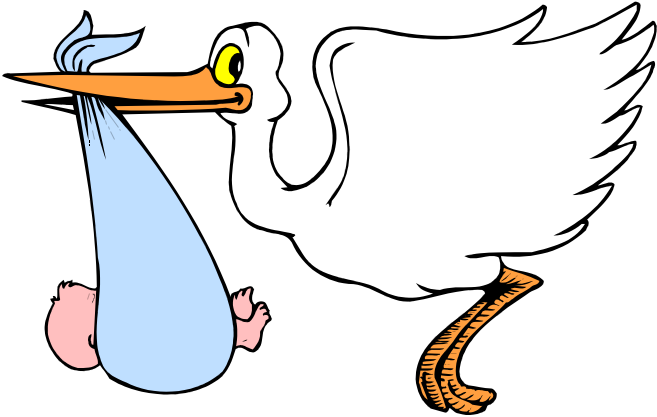
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Winchester Trails

Stork Report

Trails residents Martin and Dana Zera welcomed in 2006 with the arrival their new son, Andrew Martin Zera. Andrew arrived on January 18, 2006, at 3:48 p.m., weighing 9 lbs. 11.4 oz. and measuring 22 inches long. Waiting at home to welcome him were his excited siblings, Taylor, Hailee and Kaitlyn. Congratulations to the whole family!

If you too have a new little one due, please contact Jeff and Julie Kelly at 281-970-5441 to share your news and have the WT Stork appear in your yard if desired.



Garage Sale Early Reminder!

The next Trails Garage Sale will be coming the third weekend in April. Now is the time to start your preparations, as "one man's junk is another man's treasure".

Business Classified Ads

Business Classifieds are \$45.00. Please contact Donna Sommer, djsommer@aol.com, 832-237-4684.

Classified Ads

FOUND: Key ring with 2 car keys, on the corner of Copperdale and Rio Grande. Please call 281-469-4339 if you lost some keys.

FOR SALE: James Avery 14k gold University of Houston (UH) Drop Charm, 1/2" long. Perfect condition. College charms are no longer made by James Avery, so this is a rare item. Originally

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Winchester Trails

Unraveling the Viral Mechanism

by Baylor College of Medicine

HOUSTON (Feb. 2, 2006) – Using powerful computer tools and cryo-electron microscopes, researchers at Baylor College of Medicine unmasked the secrets of a tiny virus that infects bacteria and, in doing so, opened the door to a better understanding of a variety of viruses that infect people and animals.

In a report that appears on the cover of the current issue of the journal *Nature*, Dr. Wah Chiu, professor in the BCM department of biochemistry and molecular biology and director of the National Center for Macromolecular Imaging, and his colleagues describe how they were able to look beyond the highly symmetrical ball-like surface protein shell of the epsilon15 bacteriophage that infects *Salmonella* bacteria and describe different molecular parts involved in binding to host cells, injecting DNA into the cell and packaging it during the virus formation.

“This methodology, in theory, can be applicable to other kinds of human viruses,” said Chiu. In fact, he said, this bacteriophage appears structurally similar although smaller than the herpes simplex virus, which causes cold sores and related infections. That means it should be possible to use these tools to understand better how this and similar viruses infect nerve cells and, some day, interrupt that disease process.

The advance occurred because of innovations in computational method development in addition to the powerful cryoelectron microscopes operated at very low specimen temperature and very high energy that Chiu and others use in their work that looks at different biological nano-machineries at the nanoscale.

In fact, Dr. Wen Jiang, previously trained in the BCM Graduate School for Biomedical Sciences’ Graduate Program in Structural and Computational Biology and Molecular Biophysics (SCBMB), developed a new image reconstruction algorithm. These developments enabled him and his co-authors at MIT to see through the bacteriophage at very high resolution.

“It turns out that, in addition to the surface protein, there are other proteins that make this virus viable,” said Chiu. In particular, proteins protruding at one of the 12 vertices of the virus shell contain structures like tails that actually anchor the bacteriophage to the surface of the bacteria itself. The shape of these “tail” structures gives clues about how the virus or phage and cell interact.

Then as Chiu and Jiang used the computer visualization tool to strip away the surface shell entirely, they saw the concentric coil of DNA underneath. They also identified a protein “hub” through which

DNA enters and exits the virus.

“It’s like a garden hose, in some ways,” said Chiu. “You extend it. If you put it away in a heap, then you have trouble using it again. But if you coil the hose orderly, then it is easy to use again. I think the virus does the same thing. The virus genome has to enter the capsid during the birth of the virus and then inject into the cell during infection. It has to come in and get out easily. The hub anchors the tail spikes, but is also a conduit for the DNA to get in and out.”

Below is the “portal” that acts as a motor using energy to coil the threads of double-stranded DNA. Using the capabilities of his program, Chiu and colleagues identified 12 protein copies that make up this viral motor.

Chiu anticipates using the same technique to study other spherical viruses as soon as he can obtain the computer power to study larger structures. Soon, he said, he hopes to be able to study the interactions of virus and cell more closely.

Others who participated in his study include Juan Chang (a current graduate student in the SCBMB Program) and Joanita Jakana of BCM, Dr. Peter Weigele and Professor Jonathan King of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Jiang is now a faculty with Purdue University.

This work was funded by the National Institutes of Health and the

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MILESTONES

New Teenagers – Happy 13th!

3/3 - Megan Avery

New Drivers – Happy 16th!

3/13 – John Hood

3/14 - Julia Shatilo

3/17 – Chris Chumley

3/22 - Julia Larry

3/23 – Chase Wilson

3/27 - Joseph McCormick

3/31 - Melissa Olson

New Voters – Happy 18th!

3/11 - Michael McCarthy

3/15 - Blaine Hatten

3/20 - Rachel Ward

New Adults – Happy 21st!

3/4 - Andrew Kidd

3/5 - James De Los Santos

3/7 - Bryan Roper

3/22 - Aaron Strong

3/26 - Blake Stolz

Happy 10th Anniversary!

3/16 - James & Gina Storemski

Happy 25th Anniversary!

3/21 - Tim & Leda Lindsey

Sherry Wright

281-955-9737

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Winchester Trails

Directory Form

To get ready for the publication of the next telephone directory, we would like to ask **ALL** residents to complete a new form as some forms on record go back to 1989. With security issues these days, children will only be listed if so indicated by the parent, so our apologies to those that have submitted a new form recently, but we now want this permission on record. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

The following addresses have a recent form on file and DO NOT have to submit a new one (as of Jan.13):

Bent Spur Ct – 10603, 10607 - **Bent Spur Ln** – 9315 - **Copperdale** – 10207 - **Crazy Horse** – 8919 - **Cutting Horse** – 10206, 10215, 10303, 10327, 10506, 10514 - **Dude** – 10310, 10414 - **Gold Pt** - 10403

Great Plains – 10410, 10515, 10610 - **Hondo Hill** – 10318, 10411 - **Hoot Owl** – 10506 - **Minturn** – 10527- **Pearl** – 10311 - **Tepee** - 9118 - **Wagon Trail** - 10406

Please fill out a new directory form to the right and return it to Sherry Wright @

Winchester Trails Information & Telephone Directory Form
[Complete information you want included in Telephone Directory]

Name(s) _____
Address _____
Home Phone # _____
Work Phone #(s) _____
E-Mail Address _____

[This information for use only in 0 Milestones0 column in TrailWriter newsletter]
Wedding Anniversary _____ (MM/DD/YY)

[This information for use only in 0 Milestones0 column of TrailWriter newsletter. Please initial here → if it is alright to list in Directory also]

Children [under age 11] Name _____ Birthday (MM/DD/YY) _____

[This information published in TrailWriter newsletter]

Teen Services	Name	Birthday	Phone #
Babysitting	_____	_____	_____
Lawn Care	_____	_____	_____
Pet Sitting	_____	_____	_____
House Sitting	_____	_____	_____
Odd Jobs	_____	_____	_____

I understand that the information on this form is to be restricted to the private use of the residents of Winchester Trails.

Signature of Resident Date

- [] Yes, I wish to be in the next WT Directory
[] No, I do not wish to be included

(Return forms to Sherry Wright @ 10303 Cutting Horse or e-mail information to heaps23@global.net)

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The first political convention held for the purpose of nominating candidates was held in New York City in 1812.

Winchester Trails

The Ideas of March

E	P	G	O	U	T	N	Y	S	K	I	K	G	F	Q	M	M	B	E	X
I	T	K	O	O	D	V	Y	A	N	R	C	N	R	B	W	O	R	R	W
F	H	A	Q	A	Y	P	L	I	V	E	O	I	G	E	V	R	O	D	K
K	A	U	R	K	V	W	E	N	B	L	R	R	P	R	V	N	L	J	S
S	I	P	P	B	Q	Z	Q	T	O	A	M	P	O	I	F	O	E	P	P
N	U	A	H	C	E	R	P	E	L	N	A	S	E	E	N	G	L	P	E
A	K	L	Z	P	T	L	A	E	A	D	H	D	E	P	C	C	X	C	A
W	I	Z	A	X	A	T	E	M	R	L	S	B	U	A	R	J	H	R	O
T	B	R	S	K	C	L	G	C	W	V	N	J	B	N	D	S	R	E	A
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M	Z	L	B	I	R	M	U	T	D	B	H	L	S	Z	C	G	U	D	G
Y	N	T	Q	G	C	R	A	K	U	G	F	O	W	B	M	T	L	B	L
J	D	M	Z	J	M	K	Q	P	D	L	O	G	G	Y	F	L	A	A	S
T	T	C	B	N	I	Y	A	L	M	A	M	V	D	Y	G	N	M	Y	Q
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I	R	I	S	H	V	O	I	A	D	J	T	L	B	O	M	J	A	Q	S
R	Q	O	C	M	N	F	K	X	J	J	B	Z	I	L	F	M	A	U	G

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Winchester Trails

Texas Events - March

1-12—HOUSTON: *An Infinite Ache* Taking its title from a Pablo Neruda poem, this play chronicles a love that spans 60 years. www.stagestheatre.com 713/527-0123

1-19—HOUSTON: Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Combines world-class livestock and horse shows with action-packed rodeo and star-studded entertainment. Kicks off with the rodeo parade. All 20 championship rodeo competitions are concluded with entertainment by music superstars. Reliant Park. www.rodeohouston.com 832/667-1000 or 713/629-3700

1-26—HOUSTON: Cowboy, Craft of the American West Exhibition at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. www.crafthouston.org 713/529-4848

1-Apr. 23—HOUSTON: *Eva Hesse Drawing* The exhibition features about 100 of the artist's finished drawings, as well as examples of her early drawings, major examples of Hesse's reliefs of 1965, a group of sculptural works and several "test pieces." The Menil Collection. www.menil.org 713/525-9400

1-May 7—CLEAR LAKE AREA: *Robots & Us* Meet the lifelike, intelligent machines known as robots — passionately created to maintain and extend human capabilities. Space Center Houston, 1601 NASA Road. www.spacecenter.org 281/244-2100

1-May 21—CORPUS CHRISTI: Sacred Landscapes: Collins/Woodson/Dixon Exhibit of works by these Texas-based artists addresses humankind's relationship with place and the spiritual, psychological nature of landscape. South Texas Institute for the Arts.

2—GALVESTON: *Broadway Jr.* Combining entertainment and education in one production, this performance introduces Volume One of Music Theatre International's condensed versions of genuine Broadway classics. Begins at 7 p.m. The Grand 1894 Opera House. www.thegrand.com 800/821-1894 or 409/765-1894

3-5—HOUSTON: Swan Lake Presents a spectacular new version of this ballet. Wortham Theater Center. www.houstonballet.org 713/227-2787

4—GALVESTON: Horton Foote's *The Trip to Bountiful* Carrie Watts revisits her hometown in the low farmland of the Texas coast where she makes some discoveries. Begins at 8 p.m. The Grand 1894 Opera House. www.thegrand.com 800/821-1894

4—HOUSTON: Go Wild Enrichment Day Enjoy a rare opportunity to see a variety of environmental enrichment and training activities. Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Houston Zoo. www.houstonzoo.org 713/533-6500

4—SURFSIDE BEACH: Irish Costume Contest Begins at 6 p.m. Stahlman Park. 979/233-2200

10-12—HOUSTON: River Oaks Garden Club Azalea Trail Features four private homes and gardens, as well as Bayou Bend, Rienzi and the River Oaks Garden Club Forum of Civics Building and Gardens. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. www.riveroaksgardenclub.org 713/523-2483

10-Apr. 23—HOUSTON: FotoFest 2006 Includes photography exhibitions, art installations, film and video, portfolio reviews for artists, fine print auction, workshops and forums. E-mail: info@fotofest.org • www.fotofest.org 713/223-5522 ext. 19

10-May 7—HOUSTON: *David Levinthal: Blackface* Taking hundreds of photographs of objects, Levinthal has explored the many facades and characteristics of black memorabilia, creating a useful tool for

researching, composing and rethinking the image of blacks in America. The Menil Collection. www.menil.org 713/525-9400

11—SURFSIDE BEACH: St. Patrick's Day Parade Begins at 1 p.m. Surfside Beach City Hall. 979/233-2200

12—CORPUS CHRISTI: *Mame* Broadway musical comes to Selena Auditorium, Bayfront Plaza Convention Center. 361/980-1949

12—HOUSTON: Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra Begins at 2 p.m. Jones Hall. www.spahouston.org 713/227-4SPA

14-26—HOUSTON: Disney's *Beauty & the Beast* Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, 800 Bagby. www.tuts.com 713/558-TUTS or 888/558-3882

17—CLEAR LAKE AREA: Gulf Greyhound Park — Irish Stakes Race The best "Irish" greyhounds in Texas race during a daylong St. Patrick's celebration. www.gulfgreyhound.com 800/275-2946

17—GALVESTON: Tim Conway & Harvey Korman — *Together Again* Best know for their crazy skits from the Carol Burnett show, Conway and Korman share a rare comedic rapport. The Grand 1894 Opera House. www.thegrand.com 800/821-1894

18—GALVESTON: *Die Fledermaus* — Helikon Opera Light-hearted story of revenge taken for a practical joke played years before. Begins at 8 p.m. The Grand 1894 Opera House. www.thegrand.com 409/765-1894

18—GALVESTON: St. Patrick's Day Bike Parade With parent's help, kids, age 12 and younger, decorate the bikes then parade through the campgrounds. Begins at 10 p.m. Galveston Island State Park. 409/737-1222

18-19—CORPUS CHRISTI: Seashore Marketplace Includes arts & crafts vendors from around Texas, specialty displays, live bands and more. On Padre Island. www.seashoremarketplace.com 361/779-6989

18-19—HOUSTON: 17th Annual Auto Swap Meet Features more than 800 dealers with more than 1 million car parts and accessories, plus all types of classic and antique cars and trucks on display. Traders Village. www.tradersvillage.com 281/890-5500

24-26—HOUSTON: Bayou City Art Festival This juried fine art event transforms Memorial Park into a magical gallery of 300 acclaimed artists from around the world. Enjoy music, entertainment and a variety of artistic media. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Memorial Park. E-mail: bayoucityartfest@aol.com • www.bayoucityartfestival.com 713/521-0133

25—CORPUS CHRISTI: Corpus Christi MS Walk www.nationalmssociety.org/txh/home 800/344-4867

25-26—GALVESTON: *Thoroughly Modern Millie* The Grand 1894 Opera House. www.thegrand.com 409/765-1894

25-26—HOUSTON: Woodland Heights Home Tour Woodland Heights is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Houston, and it celebrates its 99th birthday in March 2006. The home tour focuses on the original bungalow-type homes and remodeling efforts. 832/814-9808

Texas Events has been published with the permission of the Texas Department of Transportation. All events are taken in part from the Texas Events Calendar. All dates for events were correct at the time of publication and are subject to change.

Green Thumb Corner

The mild winter was kind to our shrubs and perennials, but it also means that the insect pests have survived and will soon be bothering us again. And of course the weeds have been growing pretty fast, so it's time to get down to some serious work during the spring season to get the yard and garden in good shape before the warm weather arrives.

For an impressive display of spring and summer color, this is a good time to get started with transplants. There were some nice displays of pansies during the last few months but they won't be very happy in warm weather after the end of March, so pull them up and replace with petunias, marigolds, vinca (periwinkle), begonias or geraniums. Lantana is also very good - as a regional native, it is tolerant to heat and drought and is very hardy in summer conditions (although it may not survive winter frosts if you try to keep it going as a perennial). Plant caladiums and impatiens in the shady areas.

Complete the winter pruning, if not done already. We didn't have any significant freeze damage this year, but make sure you remove any dead wood and cut back to green growth. Try to complete all tree and shrub planting now, before the first full burst of spring growth, and divide and

transplant perennials. We reviewed tree-feeding in last month's article but it's not too late to do it in March/April (for established trees, not newly planted) and don't forget an acidifier (such as Ironite) if the pine trees are looking yellow.

If you're feeling energetic, the lawn will benefit from a good thatch-raking and also aeration by spiking with a spading fork (special mower attachments make both jobs a lot easier). On the subject of mowers, some routine annual maintenance is advisable before the heavy usage begins: sharpen the blade, check the spark plug, change the oil, and you'll get better performance and reliability. A nice clean cut from a sharp mower blade produces a better appearance than the ragged and bruised grass stems that result from a dull edge.

Azaleas can be pruned and fertilized immediately AFTER blooming, and you can give the grass its first feed of the season (use something like 15-5-10) as soon as it has started to green-up. Begin a monthly feeding program with roses (12-24-12 is a good general-purpose fertilizer), and feed all established plants and shrubs. Surface cultivation will mix the fertilizer

(Continued on page 11)



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Green Thumb - (Continued from page 9)

into the soil and is important to promote good growth and rapid development. And of course, mulch well.

I try to limit the use of chemicals, but it's almost impossible to grow roses in the Houston climate without resorting to pesticides and fungicides. Spray weekly with Daconil to control Black Spot fungus, and Diazinon or Malathion for aphids (you can mix the two treatments in the same spray solution). Unfortunately, spraying is also necessary for successful fruit trees. Use a "fruit and nut" spray and make the first application when three-quarters of the blossoms have dropped, then continue at 10-day or two-week intervals until a couple of weeks before harvest. I've tried skipping the spray regimen with peaches and plums, and the result has been 100% infestation of the crop by wasp larvae.

In the vegetable garden, set out tomato and pepper plants this month (and if you hurry it may not be too late for broccoli). Plant seeds for beets and carrots now, but wait until April before planting corn, beans, squash, cucumber, cantaloupe and melons (when the soil is warmer for faster and more consistent germination).

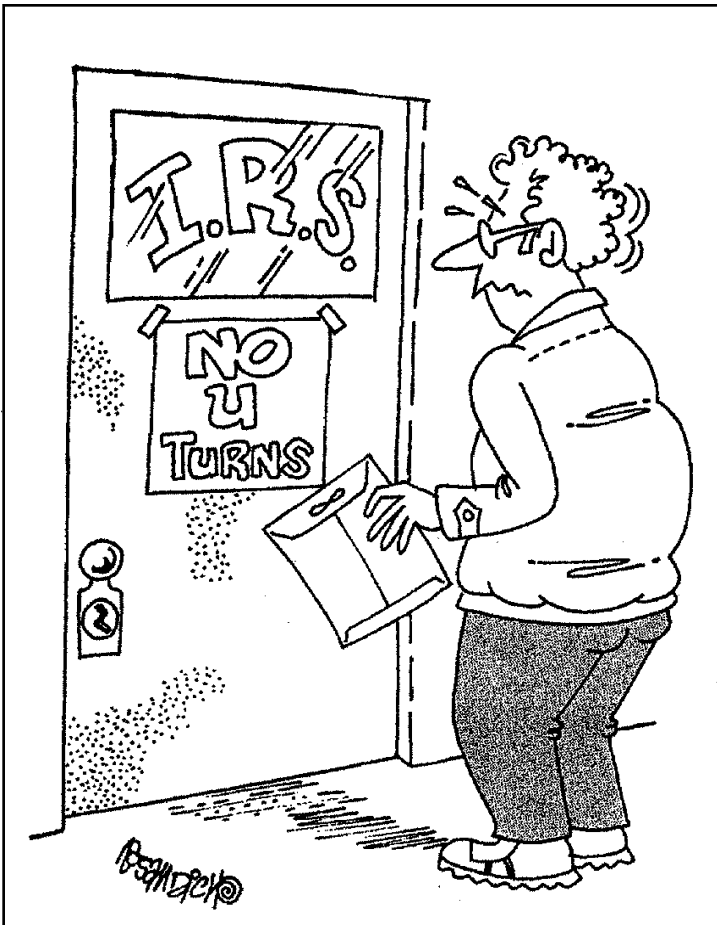
THIS MONTH'S TIP: As we get into the warmth and humidity of spring, watch out for Brown Patch lawn fungus, visible as an expanding circle of dead grass. Apply Terraclor granules and feed to encourage new growth - leaves and stems may be dead, but the grass will come back from the roots.

Phil Richards (281) 890-4531

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