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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON

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FEATURES

Students attend Model UN



page 2

Guess that mustache



page 4

Texas's seasonal attractions



page 7

Sailing Singlehanded Nationals



page 8

INDEX

News.....page 2&3

Texas A&M Maritime Academy.....page 4

Science & Technology.....page 5

Editorials & Opinions.....page 6

Entertainment.....page 7

Sports.....page 8

Construction progress of phase one and groundbreaking phase two

By Jack Clark, '19



Photo: Amanda Barbato, Nautilus Staff

Academic Complex phase 1 is set to be completed by summer 2017. Academic Complex phase 2 will soon be breaking ground near Oceans Hall.

There has been significant progress of the Academic Complex phase one building in front of the clock tower. Recently construction crews have started to prep the grounds where phase two of the Academic Complex will be. The ground breaking ceremony will occur during finals week as students depart for winter break. These buildings will become the first thing prospective students and visitors see when they come to campus.

Texas A&M University at Galveston has big plans for the future of the campus. With these new state of the art buildings, the goal is to attract many new scholars that will contribute to the growing traditions in Ag-gieland by the Sea.

Phase two in will be considered the lecture facility/support service building. Throughout the structure there will be many lecture rooms and seminar rooms. Many departments will also

move into the space. The campus book store which will find a new home on the side of the building facing the clock tower. The campus mail room will be closer to all students as it will also be located in the phase two building.

With 38,000 usable square feet there is plenty that this building can offer. The conference rooms will be used to host many new events on our campus, in an effort to give compa-

nies and researchers an upgraded space to engage with students. These conference rooms, located on the first floor, will also give organizations on campus a place to meet and host their own events.

Another contribution to the campus is the cutting edge banquet room that will be located on the second floor. This banquet room is able to house a large number

See Construction page 2

Students attend Model UN in Washington, DC

By Savannah Mehrrens, '19

The Intro to World Politics class instructed by Dr. DiGeorgio-Lutz attended the National Model United Nations on November 11 in Washington, D.C. This event is conducted yearly by the National Collegiate Conference Association, a U.S. nonprofit organization that works to both teach and inspire university students about current international issues.

Students learned about this event over the summer, and have been preparing during the semester. Students learned the basis of world politics and built up their knowledge on the specifics of various countries they represented. In addition, students were taught the history of the United Nations, including but not limited to the formation, functions, and policies.

In order to prepare, students researched and learned about a specific country they were chosen to represent. For Intro to World Politics, all students did personal research and practiced for the official event in class. Students Michelle Allcon '16, and Thomas Johns '17, participated in Model UN.

"With so many resolutions and treaties already in place in the UN, you really have to sift through all of them to figure out how

See Model UN page 2

Construction (continued from cover)

of students for formal events and possibly a future career fair. The banquet room will also have retractable walls that can divide the space to accommodate many different configurations.

When both phase one and two are complete, students looking at the building from the front will be able to see the clock tower between the two buildings through the plaza it will

create. The lobby on the first floor of the building will be used as a space for students to pass the time. It will have a grand staircase and several places to sit and look out into the courtyard.

Administration, Auxiliary Services, and Human Resources will also find a new home within the building. In conjunction with the departments that will move into phase one

of the project, many spaces elsewhere on campus will be freed up for new occupants to move in. First floor of Hullabaloo, P MEC, and the Sea Aggie Center will have plenty of new space for departments to expand into.

Phase three is still being planned. This is the phase that will house the new library. Current students may not see all of these changes by the time

they graduate. However, as alumni, graduates can look back at old TAMUG days and be proud of the changes that have given Texas A&M University at Galveston the much deserved attention.

More information about the Academic Complex buildings as well as the construction's progress can be found at www.tamug.edu/waveofchange.



[Photo courtesy: TAMUG Wave of Change website]

Conceptual view of Academic Complex phase 2 building from CLB.

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Model UN (Continued from cover)

your country would react to certain resolutions," Johns said. "Sometimes even how your country would react to certain choices in vocabulary."

Johns represented the Socialist republic of Vietnam in the General Assembly First Committee, which discussed the implication of technology on global security and combating sexual violence in conflict zones. Both discussion topics provide an opportunity to diverge into specific details, such as the types of technology that could be created or the types of specific medicinal needs that would be necessary.

"The implication of technology on global security can be discussed many ways, being such a general topic," Johns said. "It is important to understand how technology is being used in war zones around the world, and to promote defensive armaments rather than offensive technologies in order to better protect and preserve life around the world."

Women in war zones are often participates of social change but face consequences that directly relate to their mental and physical health. As reviewed in "The Unfinished Revolution," life for women in the present day has vastly improved. However, there are still major dilemmas in women's rights

that have hindered the overall accomplishments of the few who have successfully opened a gateway to equality in a particular region of the world not previously exposed to such a crucial idea.

Women who are trapped in war usually become victims of rape and/or child marriage that have consequences such as fistulas and death in child birth.

"Combating sexual violence in conflict zones is important to be addressed and discussed due to the prevalence of such acts around the world today," Johns said. "It is important to protect any civilian from the horrors of war, but also to protect women and children, the primary victims of sexual violence in conflict zones, as well as provide medical care for victims of such acts, and seek justice for those who may be voiceless around the globe."

Allcon was assigned to be the Head Delegate for Guatemala and work specifically with the Food and Agriculture Organization committee to discuss the role of child laborers in agriculture and responsible investment strategies for food security and nutrition.

"There are roughly 168 million child laborers globally. In Guatemala most of the 1.1 million child laborers work in the agricultural

sector. This is mostly due to people being so poor that they cannot afford enough food and are chronically undernourished," Allcon said. "It is a cycle that has to be broken."

Children are forced to work in the field all day with their parents, so they are unable to attend school. The time management of most child laborers revolves in the same cycle that the parents does. This is a positive feedback loop, both the parents and the children remain mostly uneducated which limits them from making any different wages and increases poverty rates over time.

"The cycle remains unbroken and the people stay hungry," Allcon said. "These topics are relevant, important, and prevalent today."

Working with over 100 people in committees varying with specialized topics, there is a complex manner in which delegations and ideas are expressed and then progressively discussed. Students gathered from across the world in order to practice world politics and attempt to make a difference for the mass they represented. No matter where each person had come from, everyone found a manner in which to communicate respectfully and proceed with the job at hand.



[Photo Courtesy: Dr. DiGeorgio-Lutz, Professor and Department Head for the Department of Liberal Studies]

Intro to World Politics students attended the National Model United Nations on November 11 in Washington.

"Seeing the process of an idea becoming a working paper, and a working paper becoming a resolution that you and everyone else actually vote on is amazing. It really gives you a sense of how complex and busy the delegates at the actual UN are day in and day out," Johns said.

"Although it was tough, it was rewarding to see all of your hard work pay off and finally have the opportunity to see something you contributed to or thought of be put to a vote."

In addition to learning about world politics in an interactive environment, students who attend Model UN are given the lesson of corporation and delega-

tion. Even if students do not choose to follow the path of world politics after attending the conference, they learned valuable skills that will help in any future professional setting.

"I do not want a career in politics, but the basic principles of interaction with others is the same," Allcon said. "You must treat others respectfully and courteously, even if you don't agree with them. You need to follow the rules and procedures of the company, or companies, you are working for or with. You need to understand the dynamics of the group as a whole and of the individuals involved to reach the needed outcome."

Growth of campus population incites upgrades to buildings disability accommodations

By Ciara Anderson, '16

As TAMUG continues to expand in student population, new buildings are being erected to accommodate growth. Disability accommodations and standards were upgraded after most of TAMUG's buildings were built. This leads to the question of how old and new buildings will become compliant with modern Ameri-

can Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. For those who have a physical disability, temporary or permanent, it is important to have necessary accommodations.

The ADA has a checklist in place available on their website which entails what is needed for a building to be up to code. Kirkham is exempt from compliance be-

cause the building was built before any federal regulations for disabilities were enacted. The elevators as well as the accessible doors were built afterwards. If buttons are not functioning or elevators are broken disability services staff should be notified.

Questions regarding buildings, their compliance

with ADA standards, and receiving disability accommodations should be directed to Dana Little in Counseling and Career Services and Pat Hebert in Administration and Auxiliary Services.

"Students should come in for disability accommodations if they've ever received them rather than waiting until the last minute with

the possibility of not being able to utilize accommodations," Little said.

Beginning next semester, students with mental or physical disability will be able to register for classes early. This will allow students to create schedules with enough time to get from class to class.

GSA welcomes trans representative to honor National Trans Day of Remembrance

By Reana Palmer, '18

The Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) at Texas A&M Galveston held a special meeting in honor of Trans Day of Remembrance and Trans Awareness Week. A speaker and representative of the nonbinary community, Eli Twitty, presented what it means to be Transgender.

Members of LGBTQ+ communities are most likely to be targeted by hate crime than any other minority group, according to the New York Times. November 20 is recognized as an annual observance that honors the lives of those lost due

to anti-trans violence. Trans and LGBTQ+ allies come together to memorialize with ceremonies and candlelight vigils held in many cities around the country. All of the victim's names from the past year are put on a list that is read aloud while candles are lit and families mourn.

Eli works for the office of sustainability at Texas A&M Kingsville as a recycling coordinator. They enjoy this work because while sustainability is environmental, there is a social aspect as well. As a nonbina-

ry trans person they have the opportunity to raise awareness on LGBTQ+ issues and educate students simultaneously.

This presentation depicted the many struggles transgender people face on a daily basis. Questions such as "So what do your genitals look like?" "Who's the man in the relationship?" and "Why did you hate yourself so much you decided to change identities?" are some of the few crude questions Eli has been asked from people outside of the LGBTQ+ community. Eli demonstrat-

ed this discomfort by asking these questions to a cis straight person from the audience, me. They asked me these questions in front of the whole gathering, and all I could think was 'how does anyone think this is okay to ask under any circumstance?' My face was hot and the whole exchange was awkward to say the least. This was an eye-opening exercise that perfectly showcased the problematic situations trans individuals frequently endure.

Many people may not fully understand the com-

plexities of trans identities, but full understanding is not required to show respect. They simply do not identify with the gender assigned to them at birth, and have the desire to live a fulfilled life as who they truly are.

Gender is more than an XX or XY chromosome, Twitty explained. Just like any other scientific aspect, it is a spectrum and individuals can land anywhere on it. Everything is not black and white, and that is proven with the colorful flag that represents the LGBTQ+ community.

Annual Math Olympiad challenges students to use creativity in problem solving

By Sarah Bordelon, '19

The TAMUG Math Olympiad award ceremony honored students with cash prizes for their creativity in problem solving. The Math Olympiad started in 2009 where only 9 students participated. Approximately 100 students participated in this year's 8th annual Olympiad, a significant growth from the initial competition. These students range from all majors. Marine biology and engineering majors alike have won consecutive competitions.

This year's first place award went to Joe Stan-

dridge. This year's second place award went to Kyle Kroes and Dapeng Li, and honorable mentions were awarded to Shawn Popal, Kyle Donnelly, Ruben Mendoza, Baltazar Guerra and Benjamin Swan. First place award recipients received \$300 and second place recipients received \$200.

This competition aims to inspire creative minds in the field of mathematics. The Math Olympiad demonstrates "not how much you know, but how creative you are" says Olympiad director Dr. Leon Luxemburg. The

competition is designed to be intellectually stimulating and push students to think outside of the box. Problems are difficult and require understanding of the theories behind mathematics rather than the formula you need to get an answer.

Math is especially important on our campus as S.T.E.M. programs are a vital component of each major. With this math based curriculum, it's easy to get in the habit of learning techniques without thinking about why they work, or how they can be applied. This

competition challenges students to get out of that habit and to broaden their understanding of mathematics as well as their own minds.

The Olympiad is not just an event to win prizes or see how much of a genius students truly are. It enables participants to "open their creative potential" says Luxemburg. The most elite of TAMUG join to put their ideas on paper and showcase how our campus has shaped the minds of future engineers and scientists. While these problems are difficult, they are not impossible and

often don't have fixed solutions. Students are encouraged to try the Olympiad at least once in their academic career to stimulate interests and ideas, as well as to inspire ingenuity.

A website was recently launched to provide practice problems for future Olympiads as well as the solutions to previous problems. Now students can utilize the website before they enter the competition to gain familiarity of the problems. To learn more, go to tamug.edu/matholympiad.

Amy Caton's Study Tips for Finals Week

- 1. Organize and relax.** Caton preferred to organize her classes by whether she could study with friends or needed to study independently. She broke her time up into 30 minute chunks so she could have a moment to relax between switching gears. During her relaxation times, Caton said, "you should physically step away from the desk or project and do some light stretches for your arms, back, and neck."
- 2. Stay focused.** Caton stressed the difference between eustress (good stress) and distress (bad stress) when talking about the manageability of finals. If you work hard and pull through, you'll be "rewarded with relief and relaxation and brain growth," she said. Caton likes to listen to wordless music using providers like Pandora or Spotify to help keep focused.
- 3. Take care of yourself.** "You are likely to push your body and mind beyond normal limits during finals so pay attention to what your body needs in order to get the most of your time studying and preparing for tests." Caton likes to channel a particular Buddhist proverb, "Eat when you're hungry. Drink when you're thirsty. Sleep when you're tired," when she is stressing or working on projects.

Editor's Note: Amy Caton is the Literacy Coordinator on campus as well as an Instructional Assistant Professor.

Coast Guard Auxiliary University Program offers skills for direct commission into the Coast Guard

By Travis White, Guest Writer

This semester, Texas A&M University at Galveston joined a growing number of schools across the country by implementing their own Coast Guard Auxiliary University Program (AUP). The Coast Guard AUP is a training program that works alongside active and reserve Coast Guard units. It allows members to learn valuable leadership skills they can carry on into their professional lives, or even directly commission into the Coast Guard as officers.

TAMUG's AUP is one of 19 units and 30 differ-

ent universities across the country. The program spans from New York City to Long Beach and all of the national Maritime Academies.

This was one of the primary driving forces leading to the founding of TAMUG's program, says the AUP's University Advisor, Commander Buzz Refugio. "Having an AUP on our campus makes sense," says Refugio. "It aligns us with other maritime academies including Cal Maritime, Maine Maritime, and Massachusetts Maritime as well as senior military colleges that have

an AUP such as The Citadel and Virginia Tech."

The student leadership is excited about the program as well, said AUP Vice President and Recruiting Officer Matthew Murdick.

"The AUP, I believe, is a great program for anyone thinking about either commissioning in the Coast Guard or getting involved in the community while serving a higher cause," Murdick said. "It gets them involved and allows them to get Coast Guard certified training, something that is not provided to most college stu-

dents, even in the maritime academy."

"This is the first ever Coast Guard Auxiliary University Program to have been started in Texas... I feel it is my job as well as my staff's job to get this detachment up and running to become fully functional," said AUP President Brent Walker. "Students and cadets are welcome to join at any time. Most of our members are interested in pursuing a career in the United States Coast Guard after graduation."

If you are interested in joining TAMUG's AUP,



[Photo Courtesy: Travis White, Guest Writer]

Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Program return to campus after a day out.

please feel free to contact the program's Administrative Officer Liana Salas at lsalas94@gmail.com.

No Shave November allows cadets to grow mustaches while raising funds and awareness of men's health issues

By Jack Clark, '19

Many have seen the hairy upper lips across many members of the Corps of Cadets. While it might look like the Corps is trying to host many different breeds of caterpillars below their noses, the attention helps raise awareness for many health issues that men face. What started years ago in 2003 as the famed month of "Movember," has grown into another organization called No-Shave November in 2009.

This year the Corps of Cadets has started their own group within the Movember organization in an effort to raise money and awareness.

Cadets wanting to grow a mustache had to donate twenty dollars to the foundation. However many cadets have gone above that call and have donated amounts of up to 300 dollars.

The organization Movember began 13 years ago when a couple of Australians gathered to discuss how mustaches have gone out of style. This prompted these mates from Down Under to create the organization Movember in order to raise awareness of prostate cancer and depression among men.

In 2009 the Hill family decided to create an organization in the United States

after their father passed away two years prior from colon cancer. This organization was created by the eight children of Mathew Hill, and is known as No-Shave November.

People seeing the beards and mustaches creates a discussion on the issues without any money having to be donated. If you truly wanted to be involved, the aim is that you donate money that you would have usually spent on facial hair trimming products. However the fund-raiser isn't just limited to men, women are encouraged to join in the discussion and possibly donate.

Reagan Micheli, '19, said his friends think his mustache is "pretty goofy, old-school like the 70's." Micheli loves his facial hair, "I wish I could keep it forever. I groom it every day!" The only problem he has is that, "It kind of tickles."

Ross Lotspeich, MART '19, said he thinks his mustache brings his friends joy. When it comes to the stache, it isn't Lotspeich's first rodeo. He was able to grow one throughout his entire freshman cruise with California Maritime.

In fact, many maritime schools permit cadets to grow mustaches. Most state

meet the regulations. maritime schools let upperclassmen join in this classic Navy tradition as a class privilege.

Throughout the history of the Navy facial hair regulations have changed. During the War of 1812 many officers had sideburns, and when the Civil War came around many sailors had full on beards. When submarines came into existence many sailors were encouraged to keep beards because it saved water from daily shaving. However by 1984 beards were no longer in regulation on submarines. Today mustaches live on in the Navy, so long as they

meet the regulations.

Mustaches have always been tradition among sailors. It is the only facial hair that still allows you to wear a self-contained breathing apparatus, which is needed to fight fires aboard ships.

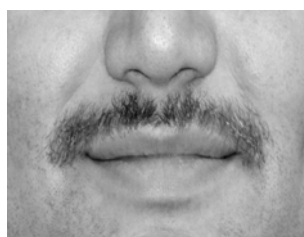
Overall, the Movember fund-raiser was successful as the Texas A&M at Galveston Corps of Cadets raised over a thousand dollars. While a significant amount of money was raised, many cadets had fun showing off their unique styles while continuing the discussion of the serious men's health issues.

Guess that Mustache

Members of the Corps of Cadets were able to participate in No Shave November if they donated \$20 to charity. Guess who's mustaches these are!



1



2



3



4

Answers:

4. Adam Williams '16

3. Ross Lotspeich '19

2. Reagan Micheli '19

1. Jack Clark '19

Opportunity strikes for students to gain hands-on experience with NOAA's Galveston Branch

By Alyssa Garcia, '16

Sea creatures and seascapes long to be explored. TAMUG students might get to be a part of that exploration with a new partnership between The National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Texas A&M University.

Scientists can better understand the environment below the vast ocean's surface via an array of tools and advanced methodology. NOAA accomplishes many feats of the scientific realm with space, land, and sea. One such local branch researches these marine wonders to learn as much as possible and spread awareness

throughout the community and world of what makes the Gulf of Mexico special. The Southeast National Marine Fisheries Science (NMFS) branch pertains to commercial activities of many species. They regulate the commerce, limit bycatch, and monitor overexploited species while aiming to research the ecology and connectivity of their respective habitats.

NOAA takes on few volunteers and paid-technicians to help with data processing, however the opportunities are few and far between. Jennifer Leo is research fishery biologist as well as a Texas A&M

University PhD candidate that jointly works with this NMFS to finish her degree and conduct research in which she shall be the primary author. She works closely with Jennifer Doerr, one of the head research fishery biologists, whom in part to her other research, studies habitat ecology and fishery dynamics of the Queen Conch of Puerto Rico.

The two scientists are currently collaborating with Texas A&M University at Galveston (TAMUG) for a staff advisor so students may be involved with the NOAA facilities. Students could register for research

credit on their transcript and conduct the credit(s) through volunteer work at the Fort Crockett Laboratories processing samples from both Doerr's and Leo's collection trips in Louisiana and Calebra, Puerto Rico. Doerr explained that most of the work will be in the lab analyzing benthic cores of the habitat zonation where the conchs live, as well as some light work with drop samples from other similar research. There will be a chance for some local fieldwork, however the credit will be focused on analyses.

A TAMUG professor or staff will be in corroboration

with Doerr and Leo to provide a supervisor to ensure the credit is properly earned. There may be a short portfolio created by the student researcher describing what he/she learned and the future direction of the study to display the student's investment of knowledge. The plans are to implement the program for the Spring 2017 semester and beyond, given that a TAMUG staff advisor is in place to uphold the collaboration.

It will most likely be accredited through the marine biology department. This is a great opportunity to gain credibility through

marine-related professions as the NOAA facilities are highly regarded and provide a pathway to even more incomparable experiences. NOAA also has the Turtle Barn facilities as well as the Flower Garden Sanctuary Branch on the premises. As a NOAA volunteer in their federal system, the networking is limitless if the passion and drive to succeed is present. An experience to work alongside experts who are also impassioned and are making a difference makes it worth the investment.

"Before the Flood" documentary urges action regarding climate change and details the issues the world is facing

By Sarah Bordelon, '19

Leonardo DiCaprio proves himself a dedicated environmentalist in this National Geographic documentary, "Before the Flood." In this film, the reality of climate change is presented in indisputable ways from physical evidence of ice loss, to global leaders urging people to understand the severity of climate change.

This film stresses that we are a fossil fuel addicted world, producing the majority of our energy from coal, oil, and natural gas. This is not without consequence as tar sands pollute lands, Carbon Dioxide is pumped into the atmosphere causing rising sea levels, catastrophic climate conditions, and melting ice caps. All sea ice in the arctic is projected to melt by 2040, causing the currents to change, breaking down the ocean current conveyor belt. With this

stagnant ocean, there is not transfer of heat, causing Europe to actually get colder.

These rising sea levels by the melting of glaciers as well as thermal expansion is especially seen in Florida. Sunny day flooding is a constant problem in Florida where there will be clear skies but the streets will be flooded through the drains. To fix this problem, the mayor of Miami Beach, Philip Levine explains how pumps have been installed and roads have been raised. These are not quick, inexpensive endeavors as taxes were raised to pay for the construction.

This is also difficult to implement as Florida government officials don't believe in climate change. This is not just seen in Florida, but rather around the nation. Approximately 97% of scientists agree that climate change exists, yet there are 131 climate change

deniers in congress and 38 in the senate. Senator James Inhofe is the chair of the senate Environment Committee is a climate change denier and, not surprisingly, is one of the largest recipients of fossil fuel money in the senate. This fossil fuel interest has powered this denialism.

These fossil fuels are especially significant in China as it has recently surpassed the U.S. as the world's biggest polluter. In the last 35 years China has been expanding production at rapid rates as they are seen as the factory of the world and need the fuel to facilitate this growth. With this development, the pollution is being dumped onto all their citizens. Schools get shut down from air pollution and people must wear masks to tolerate the air quality. Even with this energy consumption and reliance of fossil fuels, China

has some of the biggest solar and wind industries in the world. This transition to renewable energy isn't easy for all countries, especially developing countries as it is costly.

India is the third largest emitter of CO2 yet is constantly experiencing blackouts as 300 million people do not have power; this is equivalent to the entire population of the United States. According to the film, the average person in America consumes as much electricity at home as 34 citizens of India. Finding energy to even cook food is difficult as burning cow dung is the only available source of heat. Getting citizens out of poverty and getting access to electricity is the main concern for India. There are abundant coal reserves in India making the energy cheap and affordable yet it contributes to climate change. Even with this

progression to becoming a developed nation, India is investing more in renewables than the U.S.

Leaders of the world sat down with DiCaprio to explain the issues that climate change has left them facing. The president of Kiribati addresses that flooding due to climate change is causing the country to be inhabitable and forced migrations must occur to live in areas with dry land. Indonesian leaders shed light on the palm oil industry rapidly clearing forests and releasing CO2 and destroying habitat.

President Obama even sat down to discuss how the Pentagon has declared climate change as one of national security, not just environmental. These leaders all collaborated at the Paris Climate Change Conference in 2015 to reach the Paris Climate Agreement stating all countries included

will reduce CO2 emissions to keep temperatures from rising above 2°C. While this agreement is a huge step forward, it simply is not enough as it is only taken on faith; there are no regulations or penalties if this agreement is broken.

Leonardo DiCaprio visits melting glaciers, learns from experts on climate change and renewable resources, as well as sits down with major leaders of the world to shed light on this issue. Climate change is indisputable at this point and can't be put off any longer. The world is beginning to evolve into green thinking, and this film proves to educate how far we've come and how much we still must go to create sustainable systems and to stop climate change.

Holiday consumerism: How the most wonderful time of the year is known for gluttony, greed, and good tidings for all

By Alyssa Garcia, '16

Throughout the history of holidays, especially those that take place in the winter, the features to look forward to were family, feasts, and the giving of heartfelt sentiments. Today, the focus has shifted from family gatherings to copious amounts of food and extravagant exchanges.

Every year following Halloween festivities, a shift in the air can be felt around the nation in which propagandists and store displays immediately promote Thanksgiving and Christmas traditions. From sta-

ple fall food items and decorations, to commercials being displayed for trending gift items a movement is spurred. Mass consumption is soon to follow in which all members of society participate in one large consumerism prompt.

Hormone injected turkeys that get larger every year are bought clear off the shelves. Designer winter boots that are made with ill-treated animals are upheld as most coveted. Technologies get upgraded to entice buyers that ultimately contribute to higher energy

consumption and decreased social sensitivity. The contributions of increased spending lead to a change of focus as the holiday season arrives. Pressure put on stores to stay open longer hours and during holidays leads to families spending less time together to keep up with demands of the consumer.

The fact that the actions of society stimulate the economy is an understatement. According to Investment U (IU) consumers are expected to spend 655.87 billion dollars on gifts alone.

This will create a 3.6% increase from 2015. IU calls it a "record year for consumerism."

The National Retail Foundation (NRF) states that an expected 640,000 to 690,000 seasonal workers will be hired this holiday season. However, aside from direct retailers, NRF claims Online sales will also increase 7-10% from 2015.

Their Retail Insight Center shows that the winter holidays trump any other holiday of the year, especially the second being the back to school season, al-

most ten-fold with a comparison of \$655.8 to \$75.8 (in billions).

As the spending increases every year there is some good being done by the companies to donate to less fortunate families and to provide meals for the homeless who will not be celebrating the holidays.

Children can get new toys from programs that allow people to give a little to those who would appreciate the gesture even if they are not in the immediate family. There are many small differences one can make to per-

sonally not contribute to the negatives of the industry every year as well.

Thoughtful gifts can be handmade to personalize presents for those who are close to the heart. Try opting for more sustainable meals that fit your tradition while maybe creating a new tradition to minimize the impact made. Most of all, effort needs to be focused on what matters, which is not materialistic wants, but who matters during this most wonderful time of the year.

Letter to the Editor: Conservatives should understand the emotions of liberals following the election

Regarding the election of Donald Trump as President-Elect, it is important to keep in mind that those protesting the event are not simply 'whiners' or paid professionals. The vast majority are principled Americans who disagree with President-Elect Trump's campaign rhetoric.

Protests also erupt-

ed in 2008 with the election of then-Senator Barack Obama. Now let us calmly consider how political roles have reversed and how Conservatives should understand that the emotions they felt in 2008 are now the same as those Liberals now feel in 2016.

Liberals conversely need to understand the de-

fensiveness for the President-Elect that Conservatives feel. We are one country and now we must all work together to try and make this President successful.

Senator Mitch McConnell was heavily criticized - and deservedly so - for saying that the GOPs #1 goal was to ensure that Barack Obama was a one-term Pres-

ident. Liberals should keep this in mind when the same sentiments emerge regarding Donald Trump.

That does not mean to say that Liberals should give up and fall in line. There are certain American principles that President-Elect Trump has offended and which must be opposed. Democrats now find themselves in the

honorable role of the Loyal Opposition, holding true to their own values while remaining loyal Americans.

Should violence erupt from recent protests they should be quickly condemned by Liberals as Conservatives should have condemned the violence at Trump rallies during the Primaries. The Process is more

important than the Outcome and Democrats get another shot in four years at selling their ideas.

To quote Thomas Jefferson's First Inaugural Address (with a slight emendation) "...we are all Republicans, we are all Democrats..."

Adam Haney
Political Science lecturer in the department of Liberal Studies.

Letter to the Editor: Student reaction to white supremacist Richard Spencer to speak at College Station

For many students, faculty, and community members, our experiences in classes and with each other have been opportunities for growth. Whatever our preconceived notions were when we joined this family, we've all had to be willing to reconsider and critically examine our realities. We've learned from each other, and our ability to stretch our minds to try to better understand opposing views has shown great strength of character. I believe everyone in this family disagrees with every other person on at least one thing, but we have learned that the values upon which we agree are strong enough that our differences need not be more than fodder for intelligent and productive discussion.

As students at Texas A&M

University, we have agreed to uphold certain core values. It would take little more than a quick read-through of the Core Values page in the About section of A&M's website to know what we are compelled to do in order to uphold this commitment and show our integrity when a person with abhorrent views is scheduled to speak at our university. In the face of a returning threat that may be just a little too far from living memory for most current students, it might be hard to appreciate the gravity of this situation. If the words of Richard Spencer calling for "peaceful ethnic cleansing" do not make you sick to your stomach, here is something to consider:

"Ethnic cleansing" has been defined as the attempt to get rid of (through de-

portation, displacement or even mass killing) members of an unwanted ethnic group in order to establish an ethnically homogeneous geographic area...The most prominent example of extremist nationalism-fueled ethnic cleansing was, of course, Adolf Hitler's Nazi regime in Germany and its ceaseless campaign against Jews in German-controlled territory from 1933-1945. This movement began with cleansing by deportation and ended in the horrific "final solution"-the destruction of some six million Jews (along with 250,000 Gypsies and the same number of homosexuals) in concentration camps and mass killing centers."

Writings on this time period from diverse perspectives - including historical, sociological, and political - share a common response to the

question of how such a thing could have happened: that people did not believe that it would or, once it had begun, that it could really be 'that bad.' If you think it couldn't happen here, and that there is no need to stand united with our school to show that we refuse to even entertain the suggestion of ethnic cleansing in our country, then you share the perspective of every German citizen who had the power and the voice to unite against the ideals of Hitler and the Nazi Party, but remained silent.

An often reiterated sentiment regarding ethnic cleansing is the question: "At Auschwitz, tell me, where was God?" followed by the answer: "Where was man?"

In a candid, respectful, and clear email from A&M President Michael Young

on the subject of a white supremacist speaking at College Station, we were informed of the "Aggies United" event scheduled to take place at the same time as Richard Spencer's talk. From 6-9 P.M. on Tuesday December 6th, A&M has organized an event at Kyle Field.

Both the white supremacist's speaking engagement and the university's planned event to unite in a true demonstration of Aggie values were discussed in an article published by Time magazine on Monday. The stories written after the events will compare attendance at both, and those numbers will be used to determine how our university feels about white supremacy and ethnic cleansing.

We can send an overwhelmingly clear message

that these are not ideas we support or accept in our university and in our nation, or we can reaffirm both that these views are acceptable, and that our generation is fully deserving of the accusations of apathy to which we have become accustomed.

If you think that there will be enough people there without you, there won't. If we all justified inaction in that way, the stadium would be as empty as our commitment to Aggie values, and our claims of being ethical or moral human beings.

*"Through unity, strength."
-Texas A&M Corps of Cadets motto*

Anneka Lamb
Student

Get into the holiday spirit by visiting these inexpensive Texas seasonal attractions

By Reana Palmer, '18

The semester is dwindling down, and soon the stress of studying and finals will be a fleeting memory. With all of this free time on your hands during winter break, why not spend some of it getting into the holiday spirit? Whether you're looking for a cute date idea or opting for a more adventurous night out with friends, Texas has plenty of festive gems that won't hurt your wallet in the process.



rinks in the area. Pack your skates and don't be afraid to embarrass yourself in front of your date!

Santa's Ranch: New Braunfels, TX

San Antonio/New Braunfels area Santa's Ranch claims to be "One of the greatest light displays in all of Texas." This ranch consists of winding roads over a mile long filled with huge light displays and festive music. It's unique in that it's drive-thru style, and cars trail along slowly while admiring the lights while in the comfort of their car. Homemade hot cocoa, kettle corn and other various snacks are also provided, ensuring a trip that is pleasing to all of your senses. It won't be hard to miss, as there is a 50ft. Christmas tree right by the entrance!

Zoo Lights: Houston, TX

From November 18 through January 14, Houston adds a magical touch to the already beautiful natural setting of its zoo. The huge live oak trees are covered in twinkling lights while 15 feet tall colored projections are displayed. Animated animal sculptures are also featured, keeping the majestic animal theme but adding

a holiday twist. Strolling through the zoo is already a fun idea, and with these beautiful displays in the mix it only takes it up a notch. Tickets are only \$17, and the zoo is located in Houston's Museum District.

Trail of Lights: Austin, TX

Many people, Austinites or not, have heard of Zilker

Park. Many events including concerts and art shows are held here year-round. During the month of December there is an added charm. The park pathways are lit with intricate designs according to a holiday related theme, along with a ceremonial lighting of Zilker Tree. The Trail of Lights is a nonprofit corporation

that donates all the proceeds to maintaining this annual Austin tradition alive and thriving. General admission is free December 10-16, and \$3 per ticket for the remainder of the month.

Festival of Lights at Moody Gardens: Galveston, TX

Galveston may seem like a relatively calm island, how-

ever one of the biggest holiday celebrations in the region takes place here this season. More than one million lights are displayed along with animated aspects as well as nightly live entertainment are all featured at Moody Gardens. Admission is only \$10.95, and that's including entry to one of the only outdoor ice skating

Be frugal this holiday season: reusing materials can save money and help the environment

By Ciara Anderson, '16

The holidays are a special time of the year; a time to eat, be merry, and decorate! Unfortunately for some, decorations are almost as expensive as buying gifts to put under the tree. As a college student, funds aren't always as flexible as one would hope but there are ways to stretch the dollar this holiday season while decorating dorms or small apartments. These hacks are sure to win first place! The best way to start is the basics.

Christmas trees, fake or real can be costly depending on what kind of spruce one

is looking to get, the cheapest artificial tree can even range from \$30.00-\$100.00. The cheapest tree is going to be a homemade tree. The items necessary will be one round tomato cage (depending on height multiples may be bought and they only cost \$2.00 at Lowe's). You will also need a pre-lit artificial garland. These vary in price but do not go over \$19.00 at Big Lots. Home Depot also has bendable garlands that are \$5.00 for 50 square feet. You will also need cotton balls, glue, and cardboard. Using these materials

you can create fake snow to wrap around the bottom of the tree! Now all that's left is the ornaments, paper mache anyone?

Craigslist, Offer Up, and various stores like Wal-Mart are the best ways to find free or very cheap products to decorate for the holidays. Craigslist is the best option; people throw away lumber, metal, and many other items that can be transformed into a decoration of jubilee and happiness! There are blogs dedicated to decorations made only of cardboard boxes, that can be found on Pin-

terest.

Some ideas with cardboard include a hanging wreath made from toilet paper rolls or other household decorations like gingerbread houses. When time is taken to create something, I believe it is more valuable. The product now has sentimental value and turns into an everlasting memory made with do-it-yourself crafts and friends.

Want to go all out? Pick up some free fabric from a dry cleaner or ask around to see if some patch fabric is available to sew a personable

stocking to hang up. This is the best way to show creativity and learn a fun and relaxing craft!

All the items mentioned are recyclable and reusable. The best part is that if one is allergic to fir or bark, there's no need to worry because these crafts are allergen free! The best way to store these decorations is to take them apart then reassemble them the following year.

College is expensive and students tend to have so much fun throughout the year that when it comes to the holidays there is not

much money left. It's important to know that money doesn't grow on trees, but it's more important to know how to be frugal. With a positive and creative mindset, do-it-yourself crafts make just about anything possible.

For the grand total of wallet happiness, with these ideas, no one should spend more than \$25.00 to decorate their dorm or a small apartment. Always be sure to look for free items first before spending anything. Time is money, but with these tips the holidays could be free!

TAMUG Sailing team and Galveston Sea Scout Base host Sailing Singlehanded Nationals off Offatts Bayou

By Jack Clark, '19

This year Texas A&M University at Galveston and the Sea Scout Base teamed up to host the Singlehanded National Championships. Two aspiring sailors from TAMUG represented the entire southern conference as they went head-to-head with universities across the country. Haley Walker, '18, of League City, TX represented TAMUG in the women's competition and Alexander Hanna, '19, of Poquoson, VA represented TAMUG in the men's competition.

The competition was quite stiff as the sailors that participated represent the best 36 college sailors in the country. Universities such as Yale, College of Charleston, and Georgetown, came to Texas to challenge the Fighting Texas A&M University's Varsity Sailing team on the unforgiving Offatts Bayou.

The Nautilus, on location viewing from a schooner spectator sailboat, got

to see these two remarkable sailors represent what Aggie sailing is all about.

The starting line composed of the race committee boat on course right, and buoy (pin/mark) on course left. Sailors sailed upwind to the windward mark, made a round to the downwind leg, reached another mark and repeated until they crossed the downwind mark for a second time.

On the first day of racing Hanna was challenged with timing the starts perfectly, in order to give him the upper hand throughout the race. With the signal of three prolonged blast of the whistle, skippers had three minutes to strategically place their boats on the line. On multiple starts Hanna came in from course left with thirty seconds left to place himself squared up towards the pin side of the start line. With the pin being favored from the direc-



[Photo: Amanda Barbato, Nautilus staff

The TAMUG's sailing team and the Galveston Sea Scout Base hosted the 2016 Sailing Singlehanded Nationals. 36 competitors (18 men and 18 women) from schools around the nation sailed in Offatts Bayou for the Glen S. Foster Trophy and the Janet Lutz Trophy.

tion of the wind, these starts proved successful in putting Hanna in the first row of sailors at the start of the race.

However throughout the day, as the wind shifted, Hanna swooped in close to the race committee boat

on course right to take advantage over the new conditions. The goal was to get off the line right as the final whistle sounded. When the timing was right Hanna would storm out in the front row, giving him a clean set of

air for his sails, as opposed to the broken stream of wind that sailors behind in the pack would get.

On the upwind leg, strategy played superior over boat handling skills since sailors had to identify which side of the course would propel them to the windward mark the fastest. During the day sailors on course right were able to pinch in closer to the wind due to the buildings nearby creating a lift to the mark.

The downwind leg acted as a completely different animal for the competitors. Sailors split up in order to give themselves room for clean air. But as sailors converged on the downwind mark, conditions created a frenzy of sailors trying to gain right away on the inside of the mark, which would lead them straight to the finish line.

Consistently throughout the day Hanna and Walk-

er switched up their tactics as the wind shifted. No two races were ever the same as puffs and lulls of wind shifted dramatically as sailors maneuvered against each other. Every jibe, tack and mark rounding were crucial as they would either cut or add seconds to the speed of the boats.

Boston College ended up sweeping the competition and taking home the Glen S. Foster Trophy and the Janet Lutz Trophy awarded to first place winners in the men's and women's competition respectively. Texas A&M's Hanna finished in 12th place with 128 points out of 18 men's competitors. Walker finished in 18th place with 244 points out of the 18 women's competitors. The sailing powerhouse of TAMUG is sure to be back at Nationals next year, with new winds, new waters, and a new set of drive.

The TAMUG Outdoor Program is hiring for the spring semester!

Several students are needed to help lead trips, clinics, and facilitate rentals at the Atlantic Hall location.

The ideal applicant will have some experience in one or more of the following areas: surfing, backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, rock climbing, outdoor cooking, or other areas of outdoor recreation. You must be willing to learn new computer systems and work desk shifts at the rental counter in addition to leading trips and clinics.

Please turn in a student employment application to Betsy Bremer in the Student Affairs suite in the Seibel Center. Applications can be found Online.

Applications are due by Friday, December 2 at noon.

Contact Betsy Bremer with any questions at bbremer@tamug.edu

TAMUG Lacrosse has teamed up with both Campus PD and Galveston PD in collecting toys for Blue Santa

They are looking for toys for children from the age of 6 months to 16 years. The recipients of these gifts will be children who are not fortunate enough to otherwise get a Christmas gift.

TAMUG Lacrosse is challenging, each student, faculty member, professor, and club to donate at least one toy.

We as Aggies can come together and make many children smile on Christmas morning.

There are two boxes; one is located in the library and the other is outside the cafeteria. Please leave the toys unwrapped.

We would also like to ask for any clubs who donate to fill out a 3x5 card saying "supported by TAMUG ----" and tape it to the side of the donation box. So that when the lacrosse team donates the toys to the Police Department, the police will recognize how the Aggie family comes together to help out those less fortunate!

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