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## Historic magnolia tree destroyed by Alicia



It seems almost as if she gave her life to protect a friend. Long years they have stood together watching Galveston Island change. The house, Ashton Villa, was built in 1859, and the magnolia tree was planted after a hurricane, the infamous 1900 Storm.

In recent years, Ashton Villa was restored as a house museum. The magnolia reached maturity, her sturdy limbs thick with branch after branch of leaves, glossy green the year around. She was admired by thousands of visitors to Ashton Villa. "What kind of tree is it? How old is it?" they would ask. The blossoms she produced each spring, creamy white and fragrant, somehow reflected more gentle times, when she shaded carriages for ladies in white lawn dresses and for gentlemen who were refined and mannerly.

On the night of Aug. 17, 1983, Galveston Island was brutally battered by Alicia, the hurricane that came from nowhere. Giving Islanders little warning, Alicia, filled with

screaming winds and howling tornados, roared into town like a maddened animal. She crushed, destroyed, terrorized and splintered for several long, dark hours. Sometime during that night, she uprooted the magnolia tree at Ashton Villa.

The huge tree fell at an angle across the lawn, taking no other trees with her. Debris, which otherwise would have slammed into the house, piled against the roots and caught in her branches. She became a barrier between Ashton Villa and the cruel southeast winds.

Many windows, even though tightly shuttered, were tightly cracked. Otherwise, Ashton Villa sustained only minimal damage. The magnolia tree, beyond saving, rested her topmost branches just a few feet from the brick walls of the historic Ashton Villa.

Ashton Villa is open daily for guided tours at 2328 Broadway on Galveston Island and is a project of the Galveston Historical foundation.

## Houston hosts the Aggies

Today and Saturday many fightin' Texas Aggies will pack their cars and head out Highway 6 towards the Astrodome City to attend the annual A&M vs. Rice football game. To some Houston-bound Aggies there may be a problem of what to do before and after the game and what to do in Houston once you get there. To assist you in your plans, the Houston A&M Club, along with Houston's Twelfth have arranged for several Aggie activities.

Friday evening the Cattle Guard, located at 2800 Milam, will be the site for both happy hour and Midnight Yell Practice.

Saturday, get ready for the biggest "tailgate party" Houston has ever seen. From 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. tamales, brewskis and softdrinks will be served at the First Annual Dixie Chicken Pregame Reunion. The reunion will be held on the east side of Rice campus behind the Jake Hess Tennis Courts and next to the basketball gym. To assist the A&M Club in accumulating scholarship funds, a \$5 donation will be requested.

Houston and its former students welcome all y'all to Houston for the game and hope to see you at both these events. **BEAT THE HELL OUT OF RICE!**

## PUZZLES

The object of this puzzle is to form eight six-letter words from the letters given. Each letter is represented by a number, which is the sum of the values of the row (horizontal) and column (vertical) in which

the letter appears. For example: the number 12 represents the letters E, V and L.

Submitted by Chris Corley, a sophomore geophysics major.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	M	N	L	C	O	S	L	E
2	R	E	I	A	C	E	C	T
3	P	W	L	Y	O	M	O	I
4	S	D	H	I	P	U	E	L
5	I	R	G	O	S	M	V	I
6	E	U	A	B	A	E	N	C

**ANSWERS:**

8 4 5 8 6 10 7 8 4 11 9 5  
 E C I U L S Y T E W C  
 6 5 10 7 13 6 3 10 6 9 12 7  
 R E P O R T D I S U S E  
 11 8 6 2 10 7 13 11 9 8 4  
 P I C N I C H O M A G E  
 7 12 10 9 6 3 11 4 8 12 9  
 H V O M H L N I M B L E



## Festival continues

The festival continues...

reaching a climax of color, nostalgia and fun.

Don't miss the Ninth Annual Texas Renaissance Festival. With only three weekends left, the action is

The Texas Renaissance Festival is near Plantersville on FM 1774. The festival runs through Nov. 6.