

Around town

After Hours registration continues

Registration begins today for the second session of the MSC After Hours program. Registration is in 212 Memorial Student Center and will end at 6 p.m.

Diabetes care to be discussed

The Brazos Valley Chapter of the American Diabetes Association will sponsor "A Diabetes Care Update" today at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce at 401 Washington in Bryan. Greg Holeman, a Squibb Nova spokesperson and registered nurse, will answer questions about diabetes care. The front door of the building will be locked, but the side entrance will be open.

Blatchley to discuss Aggies' role

Ron Blatchley, Bryan mayor and director of Student Services at Texas A&M, will be the featured speaker at a seminar sponsored by the Traditions Council. Blatchley will discuss the role of the Aggies in Bryan and College Station. Blatchley will speak Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in 301 Rudder.

Tickets available for variety show

Tickets for the MSC Variety Show are now available at the MSC Box Office. The show will be Parents' Weekend April 13. Ticket prices are \$3 for students and \$3.50 for non-students.

Financial Aid to have table at MSC

The Student Financial Aid Office has an information table in the main lobby of the Memorial Student Center this week. Students desiring information on the availability of financial aid or requiring proper application forms can obtain information at the table. Counselors also will be available.

WICI luncheon to honor women

The Texas A&M's Chapter of Women In Communications, Inc. will host the second annual luncheon observing National Women's History Week March 21 at 12:15 in 225 Memorial Student Center. The keynote speakers will be Dr. Bonnie Ledbetter and Dr. Sara Alpern, both who are assistant professors of history at Texas A&M. Ledbetter will discuss "Texas A&M Women: Past" and Alpern will discuss "Texas A&M Women: Future." Deadline to register is March 19 and the fee \$7 a person. Checks should be made payable to Women In Communications, Inc. and can be sent to WICI, Department of Communications, 230 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University. For more information, contact Sandy Utt, 845-4667.

Ash Wednesday services to be held

The Catholic Student Association will have a special Ash Wednesday Services at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. on the east lawn of St. Mary's Church. Ashes will be distributed at the Mass.

To submit an item for this column, come by The Battalion office in 216 Reed McDonald.

Psychic searching for missing man

United Press International

PALESTINE, Texas — Five Texas psychics are helping search for clues in the month-long disappearance of a 40-year-old businessman, and one of them said he is convinced the man was killed.

Paul Delaney, a member of the Chamber of Commerce and father of four, has not been heard from since early the morning of Feb. 6, when he stopped for coffee en route to his wholesale gift warehouse here.

Employees who arrived several hours later found coffee spilled on the floor of Delaney's office, a chair and ashtray overturned, \$20 missing from a petty cash coffee can in another room, and no trace of Delaney's 1982 luxury car.

Five members of the North Texas Parapsychology Association who were asked to help out by Delaney's sister Marita searched the warehouse during the weekend and found drops of what might be blood. The substance is being analyzed by the Department of Public Safety in Tyler.

Psychic John Catchings of Dallas, who claims to have located the bodies of nine missing people since 1980, said the group also searched a wooded, hilly area near Palestine but found no traces of Delaney.

"I feel that Paul Delaney has met with foul play and is no longer alive," Catchings said. "He was taken to a remote area 20 to 30 miles from Palestine and killed."

Catchings said the five psychics plan to meet again in Dallas this week to compare their impressions of the case.

The official police position is that Delaney could have been killed or abducted or may have left on his own. His family is convinced he was the victim of foul play.

"They say Paul might have suddenly cracked, but I can't believe that," said his wife, Margie.

Manufacturer's decision protested

Burial held for Cabbage Patch Doll

United Press International

CORPUS CHRISTI — About 50 small business owners closed their stores during the noon hour and dressed in their funeral finery Tuesday for the half-humorous, half-serious protest burial of "Baby Rudy," one of the original hand-stitched Cabbage Patch Doll.

Helen Williams, owner of the Second-Hand Rose Antique Store, said she arranged the elaborate funeral — complete with about 30 other Cabbage Kids seated as mourners wearing black armbands and holding lilies — to protest a decision by a manufacturer not to dis-

tribute the dolls through small businesses any more.

As the tiny black pine casket containing "Baby Rudy," Mrs. Williams' last Cabbage Kid, was lowered into a three-foot grave beneath a funeral canopy in front of her store, a record player produced the soulful strains of Willie Nelson's "Georgia on My Mind," which she said was the doll's favorite song.

The song was selected because Xavier Roberts of Cleveland, Ga., whose Babyland General Hospital originated the dolls, has informed small business owners by letter that they

cannot replenish their inventories of the dolls, Mrs. Williams said.

Small store owners hung cabbage wreaths on their closed doors during the funeral and sent hundreds of dollars worth of flower wreaths for Baby Rudy's funeral.

"I have always carried the original 'Little Person.' Four years ago I was at a Dallas show and saw the original Little People. I invested my last \$1,000 I had in these babies and have loved them ever since.

"They later became famous as Cabbage Kids and it was the small dealers, just as I am, who

made him (Roberts) known in the first place. Now that he's 'made it' so to speak, Little people don't need the little people any more. I understand J.C. Penney will be carrying his original Little People. How can a small business compete? There is just no way we could compete with a conglomerate like J.C. Penney that's world wide," Mrs. Williams said.

Mrs. Williams said she tried to telephone Roberts in Georgia to invite him to the funeral but he was reported to be in London this week.

"His child is lying a corpse and will be buried Tuesday. I want him to come to the funeral," Mrs. Williams said she told company officials in Georgia.

Since Roberts didn't make the funeral, Mrs. Williams said she was sending him the right arm "from my best mannequin" with a note saying:

"I'd give my right arm to have more babies by you. Only the Rose knows. I only had one baby left. He died of a broken heart. I wish you could have been here. He was laid out real pretty."

Children who met Autry want him to stay alive

United Press International

HOUSTON — Three children who recently befriended convicted killer James David "Cowboy" Autry have asked Gov. Mark White to spare him from an execution March 14, records showed Tuesday.

The children's letters were enclosed in a request mailed to White Feb. 29 from attorney Stanley Schneider of Houston. Schneider asked White to exercise his constitutional authority as governor and grant Autry a 30-day reprieve from his March 14 execution date.

Autry, 29, was sentenced to death for the April 1980 robbery-slaying of Port Arthur convenience store clerk Shirley Drouet, a mother of five. A last-minute stay from the U.S. Supreme Court saved him from execution Oct. 4.

"Currently, proceedings have been initiated to request a commutation of his death sentence ... Enclosed you will find copies of letters to you that have been submitted by three young children that know Mr. Autry and hope that he lives to see March 15, 1984," Schneider wrote the governor.

The letters were signed Marty Ardean, Cynthia Lee and Shelly. None of the three contained return addresses. The girls' letters did not give their last names.

Schneider confirmed the three were children of a Dallas-area woman whom Autry has been writing and visiting in recent months, but he refused to identify the woman or further identify the children.

"I would be very hurt if you go through with the execution of James D. Autry. My sister and I have grown to know him and love him very much," read the letter from Marty.

"If you think your children would be hurt to watch it on TV, just think how we will feel to lose him. We are praying every night that you will stop this and give J.D. a chance to come home to us someday. This will be a gettable thing to grow up with and a horrible memory," the letter said.

In another letter, Shelley told White she had visited with Autry recently and that she hoped to visit him again in the future.

Becky Sepulveda, a spokeswoman for the governor's office, said White was out of town and had not seen the request.

Charles Walker, the general counsel for the pardons and paroles board said the board had

not yet acted on that request.

The board had given Schneider until Tuesday to provide more written documents to support his request. Schneider gave the board a number of legal documents, letter and a transcript of a television interview in which Autry said he wanted to live, Walker said.

The board has not set a meeting to vote on Autry's request.

Schneider claims Autry was abused as a child and that his actions as an adult were tainted by his childhood experiences.

A jury in Port Arthur ordered Autry to die by injection for shooting convenience store clerk Shirley Drouet between the eyes during a robbery. Joe Broussard, a priest inside the store during the robbery also was shot to death. A Greek sailor, Tommy Svarnas, was left brain damaged by a gunshot wound in the face.

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