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**The Battalion**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

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**Parks department to offer public free movies, concerts**

By Suzie Brawley Reporter

The College Station Parks and Recreation Department offers an inexpensive alternative to movie and concert-goers.

Tonight the department will show "Swiss Family Robinson" starting at dusk.

Every weekend during the summer, the department sponsors a movie or concert for the public at Central Park.

Admission is free for all movies and concerts.

"The purpose of the program is to provide enjoyable entertainment for the public's leisure time," said Susan O'Connor, program supervisor for the department.

O'Connor said because the movies are geared toward families that want to get out for an evening, the department tries to provide suitable entertainment for the entire family to enjoy.

Movies are shown every other Friday, she said. The department began showing movies this year in April and will continue the program through August.

O'Connor said the movies usually draw an audience of 75 to 100 people. The animated children's films,

however, draw the biggest crowds, she said.

The movies scheduled for the remainder of the summer include "Blue Lagoon," "Patton" and "Country."

Concerts and movies are scheduled on alternating weekends.

The concerts are held every two weeks on Sunday nights from 8 to 10 p.m.

The fifth concert scheduled this summer will feature the band 4 Hams on Rye, Sunday, July 27.

O'Connor said about 400 people usually attend the concerts.

Kass Prince, assistant to the executive director for the council, said the department receives some funding for the concerts from the Arts Council of Brazos Valley.

"The council provides most of the funding for the concerts, while the parks department provides promotion, publicity and facilities," Prince said.

O'Connor suggested bringing lawn chairs to the park for the movies and concerts.

While concessions are available at the park, the department also encourages people to bring food and drinks. Alcoholic beverages are permitted, O'Connor said.

**Workers strive to keep Alamo standing strong**

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Although the venerated walls of the Alamo show nary a crack, workers are taking steps to ensure that the shrine's walls don't crumble.

The Alamo staff is stripping away St. Augustine grass that hugs the north, south and east walls of the Alamo. Curator Steve Beck said the grass will be replaced with "large beige gravel that will be complimentary to the shrine."

Beck said the work that began this week is merely "preservation maintenance," as the walls are crack-free.

"According to the master plan, the shrine has hardly moved at all," Beck said, explaining that the walls are at least 4 feet thick. In some places, they measure 6 feet.

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas, custodian of the Alamo, decided the grass should be removed so ground water would not be absorbed into the walls that have stood since 1718 when the Alamo was built as a mission to christianize Indians.

The organization wants to prevent a problem such as the one at Mission San Jose, where the walls of the 255-year-old Indian quarters are cracking. Shifting soil, age and moisture seeping into the foundation are causing the walls to split.

Alamo officials consistently monitor two hydrothermograms — instruments that measure humidity. Part of the staff's routine includes measuring the underground water table and rainfall accumulations, Beck told the *San Antonio Light*.

Meanwhile, the removal of the grass will make the grounds look more like they did during the 1836 Battle of the Alamo. During the struggle against Mexican Army Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's troops, the building was surrounded by dirt and rubble.

**White asked to discourage vigilante border patrols**

AUSTIN (AP) — A border senator asked Gov. Mark White on Thursday to tell a paramilitary organization that its assistance is unwanted in controlling illegal aliens and drug smugglers along the Mexico-Texas border.

Sen. Tati Santiesteban, D-El Paso, said he was concerned by recent reports of plans by the organization

Civilian Material Assistance to patrol the border.

"Whatever its motives, this organization's plans have a potential to provoke needless violence," Santiesteban said in a letter to White.

"The patrols may or may not be of a vigilante nature, but they are vigilante in appearance, and could only be harmful to our relationship with Mexico," the letter said.

**Age protects teen from prosecution for crime**

HOUSTON (AP) — A 14-year-old boy who admitted he strangled and sexually assaulted a southeast Houston woman will not be prosecuted for the crime because of his age, authorities said.

Texas law will prevent the boy from spending more than six years in the state's custody, officials said Wednesday.

The boy showed "no remorse whatsoever" during his confession to the killing, homicide Detective Fred Carroll said.

No attempt will be made to certify the boy to stand trial as an adult because state law only allows such certification procedures for juveniles over 14, said Kris Moore, an official with the juvenile division of the Harris County district attorney's office.

The body of Lillian Bell Piper, a 60-year-old day-care operator, was found in her home by neighbors Tuesday evening. Police said the boy, after killing the woman, sat down and ate the victim's ice cream before driving off in her 1977 Cadillac.

The suspect was caught in Piper's car about 15 minutes after he left her home. Her costume jewelry, portable television set and an imitation fur coat were found in her car after it crashed into a utility pole, police said.

The teen will likely end up with the TYC, which can hold him until he is 21, Moore said. The boy would have to be freed and his record wiped clean by his 21st birthday, she said.

**French cave discovery may shed light on cannibalism**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scientists say they have found solid evidence of cannibalism in a prehistoric cave in France, a discovery that fuels a debate over whether the notion of people eating human flesh is largely a myth.

Researchers say neolithic-period human bones found in a cave in southeastern France show the same evidence of butchering as animal bones at the same site.

The 6,000-year-old bones, dated from about 4,000 B.C., found in the Fontbregoua Cave, contain cut marks and breakpoints indicative of food preparation, scientists say in a report to be published Friday in the journal *Science*.

The human bones also were discarded in the same way that those who used the cave got rid of other food refuse found at the site, they continued.

"The analysis of these bones strongly suggests that humans were butchered, processed, and probably eaten in a manner that closely parallels the treatment of wild and domestic animals at Fontbregoua," the researchers concluded.

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