

Tuesday, September 12, 1989

Homes for the homeless

Habitat for Humanity chapter formed to build houses for needy

By Michael Kelley

Of The Battalion Staff

In the era of President Bush's "1,000 points of light," a new student organization, Habitat for Humanity, is working in that same essence by building and renovating houses for the homeless in Bryan-College Station.

The newly formed student chapter of Habitat, which first met Monday night, will serve as a support organization to the Bryan-College Station chapter.

Habitat for Humanity is a Christian grassroots movement based in Americus, Ga. Its 383 U.S. affiliates raise funds and recruit volunteers in local communities to build low-cost housing for the needy.

Heather Hilton, student organizer of the A&M chapter of Habitat, was one of five who served on a steering committee to create the Bryan-College Station chapter in January.

Hilton said she got the idea of promoting Habitat for Humanity in the Brazos Valley from a friend in Austin and through



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
INTERNATIONAL

brochures she received at an Amy Grant concert.

Sam Sharp, a local attorney and president of the board of directors for the Bryan-College Station chapter of Humanity, spoke to approximately 30 students informing them how the organization works to create a positive influence upon the local community.

"You pick a fringe area that you can stabilize and indirectly encourage other people in that neighborhood to paint up, fix up

and recondition their homes," Sharp said. "You build two or three houses in a neighborhood to make it grow."

Under Sharp's leadership, his chapter already has received more than \$11,000 in donations. Fund raising activities will not start until the end of this month.

Sharp attributes the large number of donations to community excitement about the new organization.

Sharp said the first house should be finished by March.

"That first house is going to do two big things," Sharp said. "It's going to give one family a home and it's going to show this community that Habitat really cares about our fellow man."

"Habitat is to the human soul what Blue Bell ice cream is to the human tongue."

David Stricklin, a Baylor University faculty member and president of the Habitat chapter at Baylor, spoke about his chapter's success and how it has built 10 houses in Waco.

"In Waco, a recipient must work a total of 300 hours, which includes work on their house as well as on somebody else's house," Stricklin said. "There is pride built into each house, not just free home ownership. If you nail those boards together, you're not going to tear that place up."

Stricklin said that Habitat is not charity, but capital, since the new home owner must pay \$20,000 with a 20-year mortgage. This adds up to only \$90 per month, and according to Stricklin, this is usually cheaper than "the rat infested, run down slums where the

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KAMU program director says creativity beneficial when writing for radio

By Robert Krenek

Of The Battalion Staff

Kayonne Riley, program director at KAMU-FM radio, presented a program on "Writing for the Radio" at the September meeting of the Brazos Writers Club Monday night.

Riley discussed the differences between writing for radio and for other mediums and offered advice on how to write and submit work for broadcast on the National Public Radio network.

Writing for the radio is different, Riley said, because the medium offers more ways to affect the listener. Television gives the viewer the whole picture, she said, but radio leaves the writer more room to create whatever images are desired.

"There is so much freedom to cre-

ate images and pictures for the listener," she said.

Public radio, Riley said, looks for material that is "different, things that have not been done before. That has always been a strong interest of public radio."

Contributions from individuals on all topics are welcome on public radio, she said. Work can be submitted on a simple tape format, she said, and should be between two and 10 minutes long and aimed at an audience above the age of 25.

She advised anyone with an idea for a radio production to contact KAMU-FM and said the station is available to assist with production.

She followed her talk with a pre-

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Mattox accuses Richards of 'Watergate-style spying'

AUSTIN (AP) — Attorney General Jim Mattox on Monday accused Treasurer Ann Richards' gubernatorial campaign staff of engaging in "Watergate-style spying" on his campaign for the Democratic nomination for governor.

"Ann Richards has lost control of her campaign, and they've panicked," Mattox said. He has not yet announced his candidacy for governor but is a likely opponent to Richards in the 1990 Democratic primary.

Richards' campaign manager, Glenn Smith, called Mattox's statement a "ridiculous claim" based on a request by a volunteer for Richards, who asked Mattox's headquarters for brochures and bumper stickers.

Smith said Frank Castillo, an employee of the attorney general, had

threatened the volunteer, 21-year-old Evaristo "Carlos" Hernandez, with loss of his legal residency status, a lie detector test and prison term.

Hernandez, who was born in Guadalajara, Mexico, has lived in Laredo, and for the past five years, Austin, where he is a first-year student at the community college.

According to Mattox, Hernandez came into his downtown campaign headquarters on three occasions and claimed to be a Mattox supporter.

Hernandez later was seen working at a campaign table for Richards at the Mexican-American Democrats convention, Mattox told a news conference. Hernandez admitted he had been working on Richards' campaign for about six weeks before coming to Mattox's

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Twin City Mission gives away refrigerator in promotion; winner delighted with prize

By Julie Myers

Of The Battalion Staff

What began as another biweekly trip to the Twin City Mission Second Chance Store resulted in a much-needed refrigerator for Alicia Vasquez, the winner in a drawing at the College Station thrift store Friday.

Most people typically are amazed when they unexpectedly win something, but when 68-year-old Vasquez received word she had won a new refrigerator, she was delighted that her home would no longer be without a modern necessity

most people take for granted.

"She was very excited to have won the refrigerator," Vasquez's daughter-in-law, Judy Vasquez, said. "On a fixed income she couldn't afford a new one, so that's why we were in the store that day when we both decided to enter."

Vasquez said that because her mother-in-law's financial position made shopping at the thrift store almost a necessity, they were lucky that the store sold good products that were useful.

"Older people and those on fixed incomes still

need quality things that work," she said.

Because her mother-in-law is unable to drive, Vasquez offers to drive her to the store.

"She never turns me down," she said.

J.C. Thomas, executive director of Twin City Mission Inc., said other promotions were being planned to publicize the mission's four Bryan-College Station area stores.

"Since we haven't had these promotions before the odds of winning weren't bad; we had about 90 entries," Thomas said.

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