

KAMU Give Five Telethon

By KATHERINE COFFEY
The Battalion Staff

Volunteers in the Bryan-College Station area will be giving time from their schedules instead of money from their pocketbooks next month during the Give Five Telethon.

Local residents are encouraged to pledge five hours a week to volunteer for non-profit organizations in the Brazos Valley, said Penny Zent, a representative from Texas A&M's KAMU-TV.

Zent, KAMU's development director, said Tuesday the telethon is the television station's way of giving something back to the community.

Zent said government restrictions prevent public television stations from raising funds for other organizations, so KAMU decided to raise volunteers, which are equally needed.

"Since we can't help them (the community) raise money, we decided to help them raise volunteers," Zent said.

The volunteer drive will be televised from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16 from KAMU studios and Post Oak Mall in hopes of raising

Local viewers donate hours in telethon

450,000 hours of volunteer time.

The telethon, sponsored by local businesses, will feature demonstrations of volunteer opportunities, live entertainment and updates of how many volunteer hours have been raised.

Rodger Lewis, KAMU's program director, said the telethon is looking for more live entertainment to participate in the telethon.

"We are still in the recruiting stage of finding more great entertainment," he said.

During the telethon, Zent said KAMU's goal is to generate 2,500 volunteer hours, including present volunteers renewing past pledges.

Twenty organizations will be sponsored at the telethon. Anyone interested in volunteering for other non-profit organizations, however, still can register volunteer hours at the drive.

Kelley Durham, marketing director of Post Oak Mall, said many volunteers come from companies, civic groups and churches.

She said banners, billboards and displays at the mall have helped promote the telethon.

"The telethon will not only help them get more volunteers, but it also will benefit the organizations beyond the scope of the telethon because they receive free air time," Lewis said.

KAMU authorities said before and during the telethon, interested people can call 845-KAMU or go by Post Oak Mall to pledge time or ask for pledge forms.

Pledge forms also are available from most employers, A&M departments and members of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce. Volunteers can mail the pledge forms to KAMU or return them to the tables set up in Post Oak Mall.

For more information contact Penny Zent at KAMU-TV, 845-5611 or Kelley Durham at Post Oak Mall, 764-0060.

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EPA calls plan 'inaccurate'

GRAPEVINE (AP) — The Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport board has failed to paint an accurate picture of what its proposed expansion will do to the environment, the Environmental Protection Agency said.

In a letter to the Federal Aviation Administration administrator, the EPA said Monday that there had been "a lack of sufficient environmental analysis" in several areas.

Airport officials must make major changes in their environmental study before they can publish a final document, the EPA's letter said.

City officials in surrounding communities hailed the assessment.

"This is a major step by a federal agency to identify some deficiencies that we've been talking about for a long time," Grapevine City Manager Mark Watson said.

The draft environmental impact statement from the airport downplays the project's environmental effects by omitting key information

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Grapevine city manager

and disregarding cumulative impacts, said the letter from EPA Regional Administrator Robert E. Layton Jr.

Although the EPA repeatedly told the FAA and airport officials the kind of information they must include, the draft environmental statement still had serious gaps, the EPA said.

The EPA said the airport study failed to include adequate information about the extension of existing runways, and the \$1 billion redesign of the west side terminal and auto parking facilities, in addition to at least a dozen other construction projects included in the airport's devel-

opment plan but not addressed in the environmental study.

Officials in Grapevine, Euless and Irving have been fighting the proposed expansion because of the impact they say it will have on the cities. The cities said they would lose \$1.7 million in property taxes because of the expanded runways.

"The EPA pointed out the same deficiencies that we found, and that shows we are on solid ground," Irving Mayor Pro Tem John Medaille said.

The board had sued the three cities, contending that they do not have zoning control over the airport.

Lewis asks judge for delay of ethics trial

AUSTIN (AP) — House Speaker Gib Lewis, indicted on two misdemeanor ethics charges, asked a state district judge Tuesday to delay consideration of his case until after the legislative session, according to his spokesman.

Lewis' attorneys also filed a motion with State District Judge Bob Perkins to move the case to a lower-level court, Glenn Smith said.

"Those kinds of misdemeanor charges are usually handled by a county court," instead of a state district court, Smith said.

He said delaying the case until after the session would allow Lewis to concentrate on state issues before the Legislature. The regular session ends May 27.

A hearing on the motions had not been set, Smith said.

He said the changes would have no effect on the investigation by a Travis County grand jury into Lewis' relationship with lobbyists.

Lewis has said he is innocent of the misdemeanor charges of failing to report a gift from a San Antonio law firm and of failing to disclose his interest in a business for which the law firm allegedly paid some property taxes.

Correction

A story in Tuesday's issue of The Battalion incorrectly reported that English 103 is not used to determine a student's grade point ratio. ENGL 103 does not count toward a student's degree program. It is, however, used to figure a student's GPR. The Battalion regrets the error.

Representative files bankruptcy petition

HOUSTON (AP) — U.S. Rep. Craig Washington, D-Houston, who gave up a lucrative law practice to head to Congress last year, has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization.

Washington filed a petition in Houston bankruptcy court Friday for himself and for his business, Washington Properties.

Washington listed assets worth more than \$555,000 and debts that could be more than \$614,000. His assets included a half-interest in real estate, worth \$377,500, and in business investments through Washing-

ton Properties, worth \$57,500.

Washington, 49, gave up his practice as a criminal defense lawyer with Lampley Evans & Braquet and his senate seat in the Texas Legislature last January to succeed the late Mickey Leland in the U.S. House of Representatives. Leland was killed in a plane crash in Ethiopia in August 1989.

When he took office, Washington said his annual congressional salary of \$89,000 would be out 80 percent less than what he was earning at the time. His congressional salary increased to \$125,100 a year on Jan. 1.

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