

A&M students participate in HOSTS

Local kids learn to read

By JENNIFER SMITH

The Battalion

Two Bryan elementary schools are once again inviting Texas A&M students to participate in a national program that teaches students reading, writing and vocabulary.

Help One Student to Succeed (HOSTS) helps children in the third and fourth grades who are behind by at least one reading level. A&M students have been participating in the program since last fall.

Lab coordinator Judy Sweat, who introduced HOSTS at Kemp Elementary School, said she has seen the program evolve from a reading program to a mentor program.

"The volunteers develop a relationship with their students," Sweat said. "They are the ones being looked up to by these children."

There are 80 or 90 Texas A&M students volunteering for the HOSTS program, and Sweat said she hopes to attract more Aggies to the program.

"It's really a neat way for people to volunteer in the public schools," Sweat said. "This is one of the few programs where volunteers are directly involved with the students."

Volunteers can see the results of their work with the children, A&M students said.

When Rebecca Hall, a senior English major, first volunteered for the HOSTS program, the student she worked with rarely smiled.

"But after I got through working with her, she smiled all the time," Sweat said. "I've also been told she has improved and is starting to speak up in the classroom."

Sweat said she has noticed a change in the attitude of students since the program started at Kemp last fall.

"After about two or three weeks, the child gets more confident," Sweat said. "They start to feel better about themselves simply because they can read."

Another volunteer in the program, Don Stephens, a senior economics and political science major, said he and his student have benefited from the experience.

"I've made a lot of little friends," Stephens said. The HOSTS program will be implemented in two more Bryan elementary schools next fall because of its success in the Kemp and Fannin schools.

"Since the beginning of the year, each child has gained one reading level," Sweat said. "These kids are now doing things they've never done before."

The students in the HOSTS program may receive most of their individual attention during the time they spend with their volunteers.

"A lot of the children we work with don't receive individual attention elsewhere," Sweat said. "This gives them two or three hours of complete attention a day."

Anyone interested in volunteering as a HOSTS volunteer can call Judy Sweat at 361-5365.



JOHN BARTRAM/The Battalion

Nine year-old Amy Carter, a third-grade student at Kemp Elementary is assisted with reading by senior economics major Kimberly O'Brien.

Kimberly volunteers twice a week to work with Amy and one other child.

Residence halls provide accessibility for campus recycling effort, R.A. says

By HEATHER HENDERSON

The Battalion

As students settle in for a new semester, a variety of local recycling efforts offer several alternatives to throwing trash in the dumpster.

Residence halls have made aluminum recycling available on a hall by hall basis. This effort is organized by each Hall Council, and the cans are taken to local recycling centers.

"Krueger (Hall) started recycling because a lot of people use cans, and it's an easy way to recycle," said Suzanne Gresham, resident adviser and hall council member of Krueger Hall.

The hall is limited to aluminum recycling because Gresham said newspapers are considered a fire hazard. She suggests students recycle newspapers on their own.

The University offers aluminum can recycling around campus. People with questions can call the University's Recycling Hotline at 845-7777.

Local Kroger stores and Valley Recyclers in Bryan also offer aluminum recycling. Kroger takes plastic bags and paper sacks.

"We didn't start recycling to make money, but to provide a convenient environment to recycle," said Larry Medearis, manager of the College Station Kroger. "The biggest reason to recycle is we're running out of landfill space."

Randall's Food and Drug in College Station also provides customers with plastic and paper bag recycling.

"We didn't start recycling to make money, but to provide a convenient environment to recycle."

- Larry Medearis
Kroger manager

It keeps costs down and saves the environment, which is good for the community," said store director Mack McBride.

The Salvation Army offers a pickup service for furniture and clothing, and the Twin City Missions in Bryan and College Station takes

cardboard boxes, newspapers, clothes, furniture and other usable items.

Twin City has two drop-off points: across from Northgate at 301 College Main in College Station and in Bryan at 1208 San Jacinto Street.

The missions will also pick up donations. To request the pickup service call 846-6536 Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Still, Mission Director Doug Weedon said one should only use the pickup service if assistance is needed to move donations.

"Do not to request (pickup) if it's something like a bag of clothing, because a truck and two men will be sent out," he said.

"It's wasting one resource to save another."

In addition to recycling aluminum and donating old clothes, some students recycle wire clothes hangers at local dry cleaners.

"They're a renewable resource as is," said Bernie Gessner, owner of Aggie Cleaners.

Recycling establishments are listed in the phone book under Recycling Centers or Community Services.

Final items from D.C. reach storage in C.S.

Items await Bush library completion

By GINA HOWARD

The Battalion

The last shipment of documents from Washington, D.C. to be housed in the George Bush Presidential Library arrived in College Station Thursday.

The shipments, which began arriving last Friday, are being kept in temporary storage in the old Chimney Hill Bowling Alley.

"This is only temporary storage, so we can work, arrange and be sure that we can find everything," said David Alsbrook, archivist for the Bush Presidential Library Archives. "It will take four or five years to get it all done and won't be ready for the public until it is housed in the new building."

The archival collection includes presidential and vice presidential documents as well as all records of the White House staff during the Bush Administration. In addition, all foreign and domestic presidential gifts are included.

Alsbrook said they are having to get started with the project four years earlier than was first thought because of Bush's defeat in the November presidential elections.

Alsbrook, along with two other archivists, is part of the National Archives.

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