

Sister city program promotes citizen diplomacy

By JAMES BERNSEN

The Battalion

Students from Mexico have been touring the Texas A&M campus this week and their Russian counterparts arrived Wednesday as part of a sister cities program sponsored by the Association of International Sister Cities, which establishes ties between cities across the world to promote citizen diplomacy.

Ten students ages 15 to 23 and two teachers from General Zuazua, Mexico, about 20 miles northeast of Monterey in the state of Nuevo Leon are visiting Bryan-College Station. Zuazua is a sister city to both Bryan and College Station.

Mike Manson, associate professor of biology and coordinator of the program, said the students study a wide range of topics but

were not chosen for the program on the basis of academics.

A second group of high school and college age students are from Kazan, Bryan and College Station's sister city in Russia, Manson said.

Kazan is about 300 miles east of Moscow, in the semi-autonomous Tartar Republic within Russia, he said.

While in town, the students from Mexico have taken the A&M Traditions Tour, visited the Sam Houston Sanders Corps of Cadets Center and learned about the academic offerings of the University.

Manson said that the reaction to A&M was positive.

"Two of the younger students even said they would like to attend A&M," Manson said.

The sister city relationships were established between 1989 and 1993.

A&M has an agricultural project in Kazan, which led to the establishment of that relationship, and the relationship with Zuazua was suggested to Bryan-College Station by Jose Montemayor, of Jose's Restaurant in Bryan, who is originally from Zuazua.

Toni Cisneros, Bryan director of Parks and Recreation, said the program helps people from diverse cultures learn communication, which he says is getting to know people.

"The beauty is that people can come and see how alike they really are," Cisneros said.

The students from Russia will be staying here for a month, he said.

Cisneros said the relationship may help begin commerce between Bryan-College Station and the foreign cities, especially with the attraction of A&M and its

available technology.

"There's also the understanding of each other's traditions and customs," Cisneros said.

The students are staying with families in the B-CS area.

The visits from Zuazua and Kazan will only overlap for one day, and a Chili Supper is planned to allow the students to meet and learn about each other's culture, Manson said.

"Next year, we're hoping to get a grant from the National Geographic Society," Manson said. "We want to have a three-way relationship in which the Russians come here, for example, then go to Mexico."

Manson said such a program would be the first in the country.

Cisneros said one or two trips are made each year under the program, and the mayors of both cities have also come to B-CS.

Correction

On Tuesday, Aug. 3 The Battalion incorrectly reported that Irene Hoadley resigned from her position as Evan's Library director last year to head A&M's capital campaign, referred to as the "Capture the Spirit" Campaign. Hoadley resigned as director to head the library's fundraising efforts in the "Capturing the Spirit" Campaign. Jim Palincsar of the Texas A&M Development Foundation is campaign director.

Also on Tuesday The Battalion incorrectly reported in the Finance Tips section that because of the Truth in Savings Act, if a customer slips just below the minimum balance required for the month for only a few days, a fee is permitted. But if a customer slips below the minimum for only a few days, they cannot be charged any low balance fees or they will lose all their interest for the month.

The Battalion regrets the errors.

The Battalion CLASSIFIED ADS

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Female roommate wanted, willing to look with, or share your place, Jennifer (713)-376-1451.

Roommate wanted to share 2bd/2ba. apartment. 1/2 of \$485 + bills. Call John 268-0132.

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What's Up

Thursday

Al-Anon: is having a meeting from 12-1pm. For more information call CDPE: The Rainbow Center at 845-0280.

Friday

Muslim Students' Association: is having Friday Prayer and Islamic Lecture at The Mosque from 12:50-1:30pm. For more information call Agus Rahmat at 846-4375.

Saturday

Texas A&M Sports Car Club: is having Autocross starting at 9am at the Texas A&M Riverside Annex. All are welcome. For more information call Chris at 764-7996.

Sunday

Alzheimer's Association/Brazos Valley Family Support Group: is meeting at 3pm at the A&M Presbyterian Church (behind the Dixie Chicken) in the Fashion Lounge. For more information call Jane Donaldson at 776-2277.

What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Items for What's Up should be submitted no later than three days before the desired run date. Application deadlines and notices are not events and will not run in What's Up. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3313.

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\$1.75 PITCHERS AND .50¢ WELL DRINKS

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EXCEPTION TO THE RULE
8-11 p.m. \$1.75 32oz. CHUGGERS
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Around Town

Information is provided by the individual organizations and businesses. The Battalion is not responsible for any changes of any music, exhibits, plays or special events.

Events:

Wolf Pen Creek Amphitheater
1015 Colgate. For more information call 764-3486.

Friday, August 6 — Family Night Out, "Hook" - The Steven Spielberg film starring Robin Williams will be presented by College Station Parks and Recreation Department. Starts at dusk. Free admission. Picnic baskets, mosquito sprays and lawn chairs prohibited, refreshments will be available.

Downtown Sounds of Summer
Carnegie Library Park in downtown Bryan. For more information call 361-3884.

Friday, August 20 - Zydeco Loco. Cajun music. Starts at 5:30 p.m. Free admission. Food and refreshments will be available.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
305 Wellborn. For more information call 764-2913.

Saturday, August 7 — 10 Minutes Late - Local band that used to play in late 70s and early 80s is having a reunion. Starts at 8 p.m. \$5 cover. Proceeds will go to the Fellowship Air Conditioning Fund.

Exhibits:

Brazos Center
3232 Brenner Drive. For more information call Judy Wagner's watercolors - Shown through August.

College Station Conference Center
1300 George Bush. For more information call 764-3299

Jean Westbrook's landscapes and western paintings - Shown through August.

Local Color Gallery
30 University East. For more information call Rebecca Roberts and Mary Stone - Shown through August 6. Collage and assemblage by Roberts, works on paper by Stone.

MSC University Center Galleries
For more information call 845-8501.

Chinese Snuff Bottles - Shown through August 29. 130 ornately carved & decorated snuff bottles from the 17th and 18th centuries.

"Slouching Toward 2000: The Politics of Gender." - Shown through August 31. Women artists dealing with feminine issues.

MSC Visual Arts Gallery
For more information call 845-9252

"Contemporary Czechoslovakian Photography." - Shown through August 6. Czech and Slovak photographers work from mid 1980s before borders were opened.

Music:

Concert in the Park
Su Haswell Park in Bryan. For more information

Wolf Pen Creek Amphitheater
1015 Colgate. For more information call 764-3486.

Saturday, August 21 — Johnny Dee and the Rocket-88's with the Rockafellas. 50s, 60s, & 70s Rock. Starts at 6 p.m. \$8 cover, 12 & under free. Picnic baskets, mosquito sprays and lawn chairs prohibited, refreshments will be provided.

Plays:

Bryan-College Station Waldorf
Lincoln Center, 100 Eleanor in College Station. For more information call

Saturday, August 21 - "The Children's Game." Starts at 10 a.m. African-American stories told by Sunny Nash.

'magination Station

302 N. Bryan in downtown Bryan. For more information call 268-2787.

August 13-15 & 20-21 - Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet." Play starts at 7 p.m.

August 13, 14, 20 & 21, starts at 2 p.m. on August 15.

StageCenter

701 N. Main in downtown Bryan. For more information call 823-4297.

August 19-22 - "The Children's Hour" by Lillian Hellman. Play starts at 8 p.m.

August 19-21, starts at 3 p.m. on August 22.

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