

City raises money for new library

By SHIKONYA CURETON
THE BATTALION

A library to be built in College Station following a May 1995 \$2.635 million bond approval is seeking additional funding for a March ground breaking.

Clara Mounce, Administrator of Bryan and College Station Libraries, said the current library which rents a facility at 2551 Texas Avenue needs enlargement.

"We need to enlarge our library," she said, "and also want to own our space and not rent it."

The Carnegie Library on Main Street in Bryan also is being restored while the new College Station Library is being built.

Both existing libraries are part of the Brazos County System, as will be the new facility. The three facilities will share patronage, books and an automated system.

Charlie Shear, City Hall communications and information services manager, said the additional money is being raised to supplement the approved bond.

"College Station citizens approved the bond for \$2.635 million," she said, "and a committee is raising an added \$300,000."

The additional money will fund construction of the facility. Three fund raisers have been planned for the Bryan-College Station community.

Major Donors is a program for those donating between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Major Donors participants will have a room in the library named in their honor. Philanthropists donating between \$500 and \$600 can have study desks and tables named in their honor.

Brick Pavers donations range from \$50 to \$500, with the size of the brick used and amount of text placed on it varying with the size of the donation. The donor can put their

name, their company's name or a dedication on the brick.

The final fund raiser, Handprint Tree, will be a wall mural in the children's area of the library. The mural is made of six inch tiles with a tree and story book characters on it. The leaves are the children's handprints, outlined and colored. The handprints cost \$250 for the first child from a family and \$200 for each additional child.

Groups are encouraged to attend the March 2 ground breaking at the library site on FM 2818 across from College Station High School, between Welsh and Rio Grande.

Larry Ringer, chair of the Library Services Task Force and a statistics professor, said the library is currently taking donations.

"Anyone can donate and everyone is welcome to the Ground Breaking," he said. "Anyone interested can call Charlie Shear at City Hall or come by my office in Blocker 447."

College Station police enact OP-STEP program

By GRAHAM HARVEY
THE BATTALION

The College Station Police Department enacted the Occupant Protection Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (OP-STEP), a program which promotes enforcement of safety belt and child restraint violations, on Jan. 18.

Sergeant Gregory R. Lewis of the College Station Police Department said the program encourages stricter enforcement of safety belt and child restraint violations by helping police departments to pay officers overtime.

"This is a program in which federal highway traffic safety funds administered through the Texas Department of Transportation and [those] equally matched by the city, are used to pay officers on an overtime basis for additional enforcement time," Lewis said.

In 1987, the state of Texas passed a safety belt Mandatory Use Law. Since then, safety belt usage in Texas has approached nationwide highs.

"In 1995, according to the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI), the percent of restrained drivers in 18 Texas cities was approximately 78.7 percent," Lewis said.

Child restraint usage has not been so high. In 1984, the state passed a child passenger restraint law, which requires restraints for all children under four.

"According to TTI, the statewide usage rate in 1995 for this age group was 58.5 percent," Lewis said.

The College Station Police Department's goal is to increase the amount of occupant protection citations issued during the last fiscal year by 259 percent by Sep. 30.

Lt. Scott McCollum of the College Station Police Department said this is only a projected percentage.

"In the long run, we strive to attain a certain level of usage rather than citations issued," McCollum said. "We have to enforce it so [it will be] constantly on people's minds... Our overall goal is to keep people safe."

McCollum said because individual police departments have limited resources, they do not have enough manpower to deal with specialized crimes. Therefore, local law enforcement departments compete vigorously for state grants, which allow them to enforce the law more thoroughly in some areas.

Dispute surrounds proposed Northgate area construction

By JOEY SCHLUETER
THE BATTALION

Northgate will have a different face when renovations approved by the College Station City Council are completed, amidst a barrage of complaints from local businesses.

The renovation plan, with a sticker price of about \$500,000, includes improving Northgate's appearance and encouraging more pedestrian traffic through the area. However, some businesses on Northgate disagree with the plan, saying it would hurt business and even cause some to close down.

College Station City Councilman Brad Martin said the focus of the project is to close Patricia Street and build a promenade for pedestrians. All parking behind the Northgate strip also would be eliminated. Future plans might call for development of a convention center in the area.

Martin said he is concerned about the plan.

"My main concern about the Northgate plan is that it calls for the city initializing development which may negatively affect existing businesses," he said. "My goal is to inform the student body as to what the city's plans are for Northgate and to give them a chance to voice their opinion."

The completion of the George Bush Library is expected to attract 200,000 visitors each year.

Todd McDaniels, coordinator of the Northgate project, said those visitors will want to see other parts of College Station, and the new Northgate will give them a nice place to go.

The Northgate area includes land from South College to Wellborn Road and University Drive to the College Station city limits. Businesses offering cleaning, computers, food and music make their home on Northgate. Patrons of the area also will find boot makers and bookstores.

Business owners in Northgate want more parking. To make room for additional parking, the city condemned the building which houses Burger Boy, scheduled to be demolished in May.

The Northgate plan originally called for the an additional 250 parking spaces in the area. The adjustment is now 116 spaces, 10 more than the current number.

Some of the Northgate businesses have been there many years. Don Ganter, owner of the Dixie Chicken, has been at Northgate for 22 years. He said he opposes the Northgate plan and believes the proposed parking solution is insufficient.

"It is 1997," Ganter said. "Almost every student today is sophisticated and has a set of wheels. Students want to park near the place they are going. With this ludicrous plan, they can't do that."

Ann Masters, a sophomore animal science major, said renovation is necessary, but she does not want to see businesses in the area

suffer from it.

"Students go to Northgate because it is a neat place," Masters said. "The Chicken, Shadow Canyon, well, it is a great social atmosphere."

Allison Davis, a junior architecture major, said that except for the lack of consideration for parking, the Northgate plan is a good idea.

"As a driver," Davis said, "I prefer there to be more parking in Northgate."

In addition to the promenade,

"Students go to Northgate because it is a neat place," Masters said. "The Chicken, Shadow Canyon, well, it is a great social atmosphere."

Allison Davis, a junior architecture major, said that except for the lack of consideration for parking, the Northgate plan is a good idea.

"As a driver," Davis said, "I prefer there to be more parking in Northgate."

In addition to the promenade,

"My main concern about the Northgate plan is that it calls for the city initializing development which may negatively affect existing businesses."

Brad Martin
College Station City Councilman

House rejects flag proposal

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — The Republican-dominated House turned on GOP Gov. David Beasley Thursday, spurning his call to remove the Confederate flag from the Statehouse dome.

Republicans, joined by several Democrats, voted to kill the governor's proposal 72-45. The House then voted 85-32 to let citizens decide the flag's fate in a special election in November.

"The good thing is, something's going to happen. This is not status quo," said Republican Rep. Jeff Young, who once supported Beasley's proposal but switched to the voter referendum.

Republicans fought Beasley from the beginning of his campaign to move the flag from the top of the Statehouse to a Confederate monument on Statehouse grounds. Beasley said he thought the House, normally his ally, would come around.

But after a key committee voted down his plan Wednesday and endorsed the referendum, Beasley signaled for the first time that he might accept a public vote. Still, he

worried that a referendum could worsen race relations.

"This ends the first inning of a nine-inning ballgame," Beasley said. "The end of this year's legislative session is a long way off."

The Legislature raised the flag in 1962 to honor the Civil War centennial, and then never took it down. Critics say it is racially divisive and a symbol of slavery; supporters say it honors Civil War dead and is part of the state's heritage.

Beasley has said the flag has been misused and called for moving it to heal racial tensions in South Carolina, the last state where it still flies over the capitol.

The referendum, as approved by the House, would let voters decide whether the flag should stay up or come down and not where it should go if it does come down.

Beasley said Wednesday that he could only support a referendum that included his proposal as an option.

The governor said he would look for support in the Democrat-controlled Senate, which should get the bill next week. Senate Majority Leader John Land said his colleagues will seek to resurrect Beasley's proposal, assuring a reprise of Thursday's daylong debate.

That debate had none of the racial stereotypes that colored Wednesday's House Judiciary Committee hearing, where Republican Rep. John Altman said blacks should stop shooting each other and having illegitimate children before attacking symbols like the flag.

"The good thing is, something's going to happen. This is not status quo."

Jeff Young
Republican Representative

CRAFTMASTERS' MALL
1857 Briarcrest Drive • Bryan
Over 170 Booths of Handcrafted Items

- Ceramics
- Needlecraft
- Stained Glass
- Baby Items
- Floral Arrangements
- Jewelry
- Woodcrafts
- Porcelain Dolls
- Collectibles
- Aggie Items
- Wearable Art

DECORATE YOUR DORM ROOM with our many different Aggie items!

Mon. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. **776-0870**

Stop by and get that perfect gift for any occasion.

CiCi's Pizza
"The Best Pizza Value Anywhere!"

\$2.99 ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BUFFET ALL-DAY 11-9:30

LARGEST VARIETY OF FRESH PIZZA (THIN CRUST AND SICILIAN DEEP DISH), GARLIC CHEESE BREAD, BAKED PASTA, PIZZA ROLLS, SALAD BAR, 4 DIFFERENT DESSERTS, AND ANY SPECIAL PIZZA REQUEST!

1713 S. Texas Ave. 694-6939

SPRING BREAK
S. Padre Is. FROM \$119
Matatlan FROM \$299
With Air

FREE Parties
FREE Meals
FREE Activities
Student Express Inc.
1.800.787.3787

Best Packages
Best Prices
Guaranteed!

MSC FILM SOCIETY

Now Showing:

TOP GUN

Alfred Hitchcock's **VERTIGO**

Friday, Jan. 24
7:00 pm Vertigo
9:30 pm Top Gun

Saturday, Jan. 25
7:00 pm Top Gun
9:30 pm Vertigo

Tickets \$2.50 in advance and \$3.00 the night of the showing. All films shown in Rudder Theatre Complex.

Questions? Call the Aggie Cinema Hotline (847-8478).

Persons with special needs call 845-1515 within 3 days of the showing.

Website: <http://films.tamu.edu>

Place Your Ad In
THE BATTALION
Call 845-0569

Do You Worry Too Much?

Dr. Steven Strawn is seeking volunteers for a 2 month research study of an investigational medication for anxiety. You will be paid \$100 for your study participation.

For more information call:
229-0049

Now You Can Drive To Europe In Less Than 10 Minutes

Welcome To
The Vintage House Trattoria at Messina Hof.

You're sitting in a small, family-owned eatery on a small family-owned Estate. A soft breeze gently caresses the sea of grapevines... swaying in natural harmony.

Authentic European food so good you'll want to go home and paint your ceiling.

The pastel sunlight streams in through tall, stained-glass windows. The green clear lake mirrors the perfect sky. The large white cranes seem to shimmer in the reflected light.

Fresh. Gourmet. Handmade. Homemade. Casual.

You sip a superb glass of wine, made close by. Your spirits soar. Your palate rejoices. You've found palate nirvana and you can drive here in less than ten minutes.

Open for lunch 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Wednesdays - Sundays, no reservations required and open for dinner, 4-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday evenings by reservation.

This is how it should be. This is how it is.
The Vintage House Trattoria at Messina Hof.
(409) 778-9463

Spring Break Fever
we've got it...

Puerto Vallarta \$457
3 night package

Cancun \$507
4 night package

Jamaica \$607
4 night package

you catch it!

Council Travel
2000 Guadalupe, Austin TX
Tel: 512-472-4931
<http://www.ctee.org/>

CINEMARK THEATRES

MOVIES 16 HOLLYWOOD USA
BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION
Hwy 6 Bypass @ Hwy 30 764-7592

MOVIES BELOW ARE FIRST-RUN
\$3.50 MATINEES EVERY DAY BEFORE 6PM

ONE FINE DAY (PG)	11:00 1:25 3:50 6:50 9:20 11:50
MOTHER (PG-13)	11:05 1:50 4:20 7:10 9:40 12:20
JERRY MAGUIRE (R)	12:30 3:30 6:30 9:30 12:25
101 DALMATIANS (G)	11:00 1:30 4:00
THE PREACHER'S WIFE (PG)	7:15 9:55 12:40
GHOSTS OF MISSISSIPPI (PG-13)	12:35 3:35 6:35 9:35 12:25
FIRST STRIKE (PG-13)	12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:35 11:50
THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT (R)	12:50 3:50 7:05 10:05 12:40
EVITA (PG)	12:45 3:45 7:00 9:55 12:45
SCREAM (R)	11:45 2:15 4:45 7:10 9:45 12:15
TURBULENCE (R)	12:15 2:45 5:15 7:45 10:15 12:35
MICHAEL (PG)	11:15 1:45 4:15 6:55 9:20 11:45
FIERCE CREATURES (PG-13)	12:10 2:50 4:50 7:30 9:40 11:50
THE CRUCIBLE (PG-13)	11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00 12:45
IN LOVE AND WAR (PG-13)	11:05 1:35 4:05 7:05 9:50 12:35
BEVERLY HILLS NINJA (PG-13)	11:40 1:50 4:00 6:55 9:15 11:35
EVERYONE SAYS I LOVE (R)	1:45 7:05
RANSOM (R)	11:15 4:15 9:25 12:05

*NO PASSES OR SUPERSAVERS