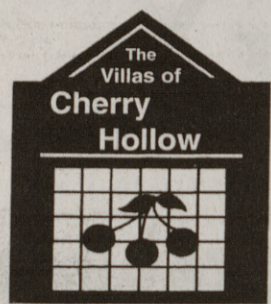


Why bother with parking when you can walk to TAMU?



503 Cherry Street  
(409) 846-2173

Apartments have been furnished with kitchen appliances and central heating/air conditioning. Convenient off-street parking. Large bedrooms, ceiling fans coupled with a courtyard view make a refreshing, economical alternative to campus living.

Amenities include:

- Laundry Room
- Luxury Apartment Living
- Walk to TAMU 3 blocks
- Sparkling pool with waterfall
- Newly Renovated
- Large Floorplans
- Friendly on-site management
- Paid water, sewage, garbage
- As low as \$480

Now Pre-Leasing!

## Brazos County Rape Crisis Center

"Make a difference, be a volunteer"

The BCRCC's 45th Volunteer Training Class will begin soon. Volunteers assist in answering the 24 hour hotline using call forwarding, on evenings/weekends and accompany clients to area emergency rooms.

Take this opportunity to join this compassionate group of committed, concerned and SUPER volunteers.

9 Evening classes: 6:00 - 9:00 pm

May 22, 23, 24, 25,  
30, 31, June 1, 5 & 6

Call 268-7273 for details

## Cinco De Mayo

### Outdoor Fiesta

Saturday, May 6th

3pm - Midnight

- KTSR 92.1FM will be broadcasting Live -

- ★ Live Music
- ★ Miss Cinco de Mayo Bikini Contest (must pre-register)
- ★ Beer & Margaritas
- ★ Grilled burgers, hot dogs, & nachos

Call 693-6684 for more details!

1912 South Texas Ave. (under the water tower)

## Get "REAL WORLD" Experience in Web Development with a National Instruments INTERNSHIP



National Instruments in Austin is looking for students to work under the guidance of their web development team. The project for the interns would be to completely revamp the TAMU Career Center website. Interns would work in Austin.

If you have computer skills in HTML, JavaScript, CGI programming (Perl), with design experience and knowledge of databases, this job would be perfect for you!

These internship positions are for the Summer 2000. A 3.0+ is preferred. Other requirements dependent upon student's major.

If you are interested, please e-mail your resume to [coophelp@cctr.tamu.edu](mailto:coophelp@cctr.tamu.edu)

## 20 AGGIELAND 01

It's as easy as ... \* - 1 - 6

Order your 2001 Aggieldand yearbook now while you register! Simply follow the instructions for miscellaneous fee options, and enter \*16 for the 2001 Texas A&M yearbook.

If you have any questions, call (409) 845-2681

<http://aggieldand-web.tamu.edu>

Page 8

# Children die in hospitals, foster care

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Two boys who stopped breathing as they were restrained in mental hospitals recently are among at least 29 children who perished in the past 2 1/2 years in state-regulated youth institutions and foster homes.

Asphyxiation, suicide, drowning, car accidents and medical problems were some of the causes of death. The children ranged in age from 10 days to 17 years old. Most were teen-agers.

The Associated Press obtained child death statistics for residential treatment centers, foster homes and mental retardation homes from the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services under the Texas Public Information Act.

Twenty-six children died — 10 each in fiscal years 1998 and 1999 and six so far in fiscal 2000, according to the protective agency.

The state's fiscal year ends Aug. 31.

Two youths died during the same 2 1/2-year period in institutions of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. Both were teen-age boys who killed themselves at the Austin State Hospital, said agency spokeswoman Laurie Lentz.

The Texas Department of Health, which licenses psychiatric hospitals, would not disclose any child death information. It cited a new law that the agency contends bans it from releasing details of hospital complaints to the public. State Rep. Patricia Gray, D-Galveston, the lawmaker who authored the bill, said she did not intend for it to keep the public from learning about hospital complaints.

At least one child — 14-year-old Willie Wright — died at a psychiatric hospital in Texas this year. Wright stopped breathing in March as he was held to the floor by workers at Southwest Mental Health Center in San Antonio.

Wright was banging himself into a wall when three mental health workers restrained the 250-pound boy, said hospital president Fred Hines.

"It (physical restraint) is something we hate to use, but we're dealing with the absolutely sickest kids there are in terms of psychiatric problems," Hines said. "We get kids that get totally out of control."

A cause of death for Wright has not yet been determined by the Bexar County Medical Examiner's Office.

The Texas Department of Health completed its inves-

The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services continues to investigate Steele's death, agency spokeswoman Marla Sheely.

Another Laurel Ridge Hospital patient, Rochelle Clayborne, died after she was restrained in a scuffle with staff members in August. A state later found the hospital violated some standards regarding restraint use.

An internal memorandum obtained from the protective services agency cites five other child deaths in Texas dating to 1990 in state-regulated facilities in which the use of restraint played a role.

One was a 14-year-old boy in foster care at a private wait who died last November of asphyxiation. Of the 29 children who died statewide during the 1 1/2-year period, 15 lived in foster homes while in residential treatment centers, psychiatric hospital mental retardation group homes.

There are approximately 11,000 children in foster care in Texas, including residential treatment centers, according to Sheely. Richard Wexler, executive director of the National Coalition for Child Protection Reform in Alexandria, Va., contends there are high rates of neglect and accidents in foster care, including in residential treatment centers, because nationally the system is overloaded.

"The dirty little secret of foster care is often that it's not safe," Wexler said, adding that chronic abuse and neglect is a problem that can't be measured.

Children who live in foster homes, group homes, residential treatment centers often have emotional or behavioral problems, Sheely said. Some have severe medical problems.

"It's a real different kind of population. The difficult kids," Sheely said, but added that any

**"The dirty little secret of foster care is often it is not safe."**

— Richard Wexler

Executive director of the National Coalition for Child Protection Reform

tigation and did not find any state violations, Hines said.

Police did not file charges in connection with Wright's death or with the February death of 9-year-old Randy Steele of Nevada, who stopped breathing after he was restrained by workers at Laurel Ridge Hospital's residential treatment center in San Antonio.

As two workers held Steele to the floor, he vomited and stopped breathing, police said. He died the next day at a general hospital.

The Bexar County Medical Examiner's Office ruled Steele had an unusually enlarged heart for his age and size and that he died of "excited delirium" during a struggle.

## Satellite pictures of Area 51 put on Web

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The truth is out there — on the Web. Photos of Area 51, the super-secret Air Force test site in Nevada that has long tantalized UFO and conspiracy buffs and fans of "The X-Files," are being posted on the Internet.

"This is the first glimpse into the most secret training and testing facility for the Air Force," said John Hoffman, president of Aerial Images Inc. of Raleigh.

The company planned to post the images in collaboration with Microsoft, Kodak, Digital Equipment Corp., Autometric Inc. and the Russian agency Sovinformputnik.

The partners launched a Russian satellite from Kazakhstan in 1998 to map Earth's surface and Area 51. An open-skies agreement signed in 1992 by 24 nations, including the United States and Russia, made the effort possible.

The Air Force only recently acknowledged that Groom Dry Lake Air Force Base even exists. The 8,000-square-mile base is 75 miles northwest of Las Vegas, in the arid, rugged Nellis Range.

Beginning with the U-2 spy plane in the 1950s, the base has been the testing ground for a host of top-secret aircraft, including the SR-71 Blackbird and, more recently, the F-117A stealth fighter and B-2 stealth bomber.

The base's airspace is restricted; aircraft are not allowed to fly over it. But satellite overflights are allowed as part of an agreement to verify arms-control compliance.

Among UFO aficionados, it has long been known simply as Area 51, the base's designation on old Nevada test site maps. They believe that unidentified flying objects from other worlds are hidden at the base, where their parts are copied for U.S. prototypes.

The images, with resolution good enough to distinguish a car from a truck, are better than earlier telephoto shots from the nearby mountains. The only other known image purportedly was shot by a satellite in the 1960s. It is much fuzzier.

"There are runways, there are buildings, there are buses, there are test sites, but there aren't any little green men or super-secret aircraft to be seen," Hoffman said of the new photos.

Several government agencies are aware of the images and haven't responded, said Hoffman, 52, a Vietnam veteran who recently retired from the National Guard after 23 years. "I've had no feedback from anybody that indicates anybody gives a hoot," he said.

An Air Force spokesperson would not comment Monday on any security concerns about the images.

"We acknowledge having an operating site there, and the work is classified," spokeswoman Gloria Cales said. The work involves "operations critical to the U.S. military and the country's security."

Aerial Images, at [www.terraserver.com](http://www.terraserver.com), planned to offer a link to the Area 51 pages. Viewing the images is free; downloading them costs \$8.95 and up. Kodak will print photographs for \$20 to \$30.

### News in Brief

#### Microsoft to give money, software to tribal colleges

SHIPROCK, N.M. (AP) — Microsoft Corp. says it's donating more than \$2.7 million in software and cash to help bridge the "digital divide" and economic disparity between American Indian tribes and wealthier segments of society.

Bill Gates' Seattle-based computer software giant announced Sunday it will give a total of \$2.5 million worth of software and \$200,000 cash to be divided among eight tribal colleges. Each school will get a cash share of \$25,000, Microsoft spokesperson Jenny Moede said. The schools include Dine College in Shiprock, where President Clinton plans a visit Monday.

"With a high level of poverty and geographical isolation, American Indians are the ethnic group most likely to be caught on the wrong side of the digital divide," said Jose C. de Baca, executive director of the American Indian Science and Technology Education Consortium.

#### Clinton announces plan for phones on reservations

PALO ALTO, Calif. (AP) — To speed computer access and improve telecommunications for American Indians, President Clinton announced a plan Monday to provide basic telephone service

for \$1 a month on reservations, the White House said Sunday.

High tech companies will support Clinton's effort to spread the benefits of computers and the Internet, announcing pledges of money, training and equipment. Commitments will include \$25 million from Qualcomm, \$20 million from Novell and \$10 million from Hewlett-Packard.

Gateway will offer technology literacy training for 75,000 teens nationwide — including all teens in East Palo Alto. The Family Foundation will provide 50,000 Gateway computer technology centers helping privileged children and teens. Online will offer 100,000 accounts.

#### State trooper is hospitalized after traffic-stop attack

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Three assailants attacked a state trooper during a weekend traffic stop. Authorities are still seeking the suspects.

Sharleigh Shaw, a Texas Department of Public Safety trooper, was hospitalized after receiving severe injuries to her face. Shaw had tried to arrest a drunken driving suspect in LaSalle County, about 100 miles southwest of San Antonio. The driver was seen weaving along the roadway.

But while the trooper completed a sobriety test on the driver, he tried to handcuff him, she was attacked by two passengers who beat her and took her services.

### Don't Forget Us For

#### Lunch & Late Night

<b>Pizza by the Slice Value Meals</b>	
Cheese & Drink \$2.25	Specialty & Drink \$2.75
1 Topping & Drink \$2.50	Add a Slice \$1.25

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. M-F at Northgate Location Only

1 Large 1 Topping  
**\$6.99**  
10 p.m. - Close

College Station 764-7272    Bryan 268-7272  
TAMU/Northgate 846-3600  
Open till 2 a.m. on Thursday  
3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday

#### LASER HAIR REMOVAL

**\$50 Off Any First Treatment**  
Must be scheduled by 04-30-00  
Dr. Michael Jones M.D.  
Supervising Physician  
Payment Plans Available

#### LASER SOLUTIONS

Free Consultation  
**696-2393**  
2551 Suite E. Texas Avenue South  
Near Lacks • College Station

#### CARS, TRUCKS & SPORT UTILITIES HASSLE FREE

from  
**VARSITY FORD**  
[www.varsityfordcstr.com](http://www.varsityfordcstr.com)

check out our specials on F150 Explorers, and Rangers  
(Questions? - e-mail us at [newcar@varsityfordcstr.com](mailto:newcar@varsityfordcstr.com))

If You Have Something To Remember:  
Classifieds Can Do It  
Call 845-0569  
**THE BATTALION**

### Hope Pregnancy Centers OF BRAZOS VALLEY

#### FREE PREGNANCY TESTS

- ◆ Pregnancy, Adoption & Abortion Education
- ◆ Practical Assistance
- ◆ Post Abortion Peer Counseling
- ◆ Adoption, Medical & Community Service Referrals
- ◆ All Services Free & Confidential
- ◆ Mon, Tues & Thurs 9-8 • Wed & Fri 9-5 • Sat 8-12

**846-1097**      3620 E. 29TH ST • BRYAN  
[www.rtis.com/hope](http://www.rtis.com/hope)

### Lessons That Will Last A Lifetime.

#### OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL

Put that college degree to use by enrolling into the Air Force Officer Training School. Upon successful completion of the Officer Training School, you will become a commissioned Air Force officer with earned respect and benefits like — great starting pay, medical and dental care, management and travel opportunities. For more on how to qualify and get your career soaring with the Air Force Officer Training School, call 1-800-423-USAFA, or visit our website [www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com)

**AIM HIGH AIR FORCE**  
[www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com)