## RECYCLING

Continued from Page 1 individual dorm environmental chairs, to help students realize the harmful effects of excess waste on the environment if they do not recycle.

Texas A&M produces more than 10,000 tons of recyclable waste per year, but only 700 tons are actually recycled and more than 9,000 tons are taken to the landfill, said Nathan Jones, superintendent for Utilities Operations.

An environmental committee is in place in some residence halls, but not campus-wide. The environmental chair of each hall that has a recycling program is in charge of dorm recycling. The environmental chair calls the Recycling Office for pickups, designates a drop-off area and promotes recycling.

The EIC decided to design a campaign by approaching students on an individual basis. The environmental chairs of each residence hall will go room to room to promote recycling by handing out brochures and providing boxes for active recycling within the hall.

There are several fire hazard and health restrictions on stockpiling goods and they can inhibit the storage of recyclable materials. One such rule allows flammable materials to be stored only in certain places within the halls for limited amounts of time.

Chris Teran, graduate hall director for McInnis Hall and a sociology graduate student, said it is impossible to have a drop-off center at McInnis because it is a balcony hall with no central location for storage.

"If we had some sort of cen-

tral drop-off point on campus, I am sure that recycling within the dorms would be much more successful," Teran said.

The items that are taken to the Recycling Office are crushed into bales and then sold to buyers. Jones said that by selling the recyclable materials at a low rate, A&M does not have to pay a disposal expense, which saves the University a substantial amount of

Hiche said that a key to recycling success on campus is to increase the students' demand for better recycling facilities and services. Simply placing more recycling bins in the residence halls and throughout campus is not the answer,

Hiche said that some residence halls have successfully began their own programs, not knowing that there is one on campus. The Recycling Office

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> — Chris Teran graduate hall director for McInnis Hall

will pick up goods on its week-

Hiche said.

"The problem is that they rarely know that there is a Recycling Center on campus, so the result is very active students picking up all the recyclable, spending their own gas and time, and taking it all to Wal-Mart.'

Hiche went on to say that the program eventually dies out at the end of the year when the initiators of the program leave for the summer and then it usually is not started again in the fall.

Off-campus students can participate in the Brazos Valley Solid Waste Management Agency (BVSWMA), a joint project between Bryan and College Station. Citizens can take their recyclable goods to the joint landfill. There is a used-oil recycling center, a

ly route if notified to do so, white-goods recycling center and a metal recycling project.

BVSWMA also holds two master compost classes a year, holds composting workshops and provides information about recycling to citizens through such programs as Brazos Beautiful, Household Hazardous Waste Collection, and the Plan-Earth Celebration. BVSWMA receives more support from the community in its programs than A&M does from

faculty and students. "It is up to the individual to reduce waste and then recycle whatever you can," said Gail Brady, environmental compliance officer for BVSWMA. "It's up to the community to

make a difference.' Matt Allen, public works intern for College Station, said that College Station has tried to work with the Recycling Office and Physical Plan cate the faculty on n but there are no fim

partnership. All of these factors one simple fact: stud not going to drive to cling Office to take the amount of recyclahl each week and they are

ing to pickup such amount from an indi So, until strong pro on campus are esta within the residence Recycling Office will ue to grapple for answer DALLA why their program is

successful. Students, faculty, sta administration can tak days, had I recyclable materials dire the Recycling Office a officers are College Avenue, or call cycling Information Hot

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is a 97 percent five-year survival rate for breast cancer victims. This statistic is a result of advances in treatment technology and an increase in the number of patients who are di-

There is no proven prevention for breast cancer, but Margaret Griffith, education co-

suggests that both men and women conduct a breast self-examination every month, an annual clinical exam and a mammogram after the age of 40.

Griffith said, depending upon family history of breast cancer, it is best to talk with a health care professional as to whether it is necessary to begin mammograms before that time. Other suggestions to help reduce the chances for developing breast cancer include eating a low-fat diet and limiting alcoholic

intake to less than two beverages a day. "Age is a huge risk factor in the probabil-

ity of developing cancer," Griffith said. The ACS also reports that gender, obesity, environmental pollution, physical inactivity, genetic history and not having children until after the age of 30 are all factors that can increase the risk of breast cancer.

This month, Beutel has information tables setup in various spots to provide information to students, faculty and administration. Gen-

der Issues and Aggie Reach are among several organizations that have had information booths setup on campus

As part of NBCAM, Oct. 20 has been designated National Mammography Day. During October, and especially on the 20, various facilities in the Bryan-College Station area will offer reduced-rate mammograms and clinical exams. Women over the age of 40 are strongly encouraged to have an exam done annually, even if they suspect nothing is wrong.

If a person is diagnosed with bree ple, we're t cer, the College Station ACS has seven "The bagrams to help patients through the ke"There's no and recovery process.

For more information about breast di risks, setup an appointment at Beute saw the blo clinical exam with a health professional tact the ACS online at www.cancer.org phone at 800-ACS-2345, 24-hours ad information, counseling, support, and to locate nearby clinics.

## **AWARENESS**

agnosed in the early stages of cancer.

ordinator for the A.P. Beutel Health Center

## TOBACCO

Continued from Page 1 money to get a tobacco prevention message out there. Big Tobacco spends about \$400 million a year in Texas to promote themselves, and up until now, we've never spent a

fight this. "With \$10 million, even though that's a drop in the bucket, it's still the first time we've ever taken the initiative to counteract and counter-

significant amount of money to

advertise with the industry," he said. In November of last year, Cooper said he met with United, a coalition of community groups in the Bryan-College Station area, to determine what would work in the area to fight the influence of tobacco and prevent children's use of tobacco.

"A large portion of the campaign within the area is youth-oriented,"

Cooper said.

Of the four study branches, the focus within Brazos County will be on media — including anti-smoking commercials, billboards and radio spots - and cessation, which focuses on getting smokers to quit smoking and work with local doc-

tors to question patient smoking and address specific topics.

In one commercial aimed at adults, a smoker who has been trying to quit places a picture of his daughter inside the plastic wrap in his pack of cigarettes, which reminds him not to

smoke. target To

youth, teenagers from Southeast Texas came together to produce the Duck, a cartoon character who stars in the TDH campaign's "Tobacco is Foul" radio and TV advertisements. Though primarily targeted for the schools and community study, the ads can be seen and heard in Bryan-College Station.

"When [the TDH] decided to create this whole project, they wanted to do a combination of rural and urban areas," Cooper said, stating that Brazos County's television and radio stations made the county a prime target for studying the media effects on the area. "The legislature in general did not want to go statewide, they wanted to instead use an area that was representative of the entire state.

Fifteen percent of Brazos County residents reported they were current cigarette smokers, slightly lower than the 19 percent average in other surveyed areas, said Dr. Angela Meshack and Dr. Alfred McAlister of the University of Texas-Houston School of Public Health

However, UTH surveys showed that the rate of smokeless tobacco use is higher among Brazos County youth than youth in other surveyed areas.

Nearly 60 percent of adult smokers polled in the county, said this summer that they were serious this process or look at some other about wanting to quit within six alternatives in the tobacco issue.

months. The survey reported the main reasons to quit inch family discussions about the da of smoking and feelings of en

rassment over smoking. The survey found that televi and newspaper articles were year-old ma because the information about quitting.

As a result, the American Co Society introduced a new telep counseling service in Texas for comment. ple who want to quit smoking. zos county residents can call ! bors and ide YES-QUIT.

South Texas' major universible said the including Texas A&M, the Universible had a lot of "There". ty of Texas Health Science Center Houston and Prairie View A&M tified told the contributing to the study, Con the noisy, but

For several years, A&M the slain far been funded by TDH to make tershe saw be adolescent smoking cessaling ceiling. gram, said Dr. Bryan Colwell associate professor in the Dep ment of Social and Behavi Health in the A&M School of ACC al and Public Health.

After the passage of a senate that states underage teens at Millio

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associate professor of Social and

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Behavioral Health in the A&M

- Dr. Bryan Colwell

rettes will "What we're hopticketed and to a non-pum mer accomp class, A&M federal inves ing to accomplish gram to according to the chief accuser adolescent awareness of the

serve as awareness Sheila Bellu as well. As part of TDH prog dler quadrup Colwell compare sell her blood.

ported result

class who testified the which are usually higher than contended in results and are sometimes inad lier this mon rate, to biochemical validity to such as saliva tests for nicotine Bellush. tabolizes in youth samples acri TDH's test areas and the com Monday he is groups in other parts of the state Blackthorne u

"Youth cessation is some" different than in adults," Col said. "We're trying to provideth with some basic cessation ski Most youth come in fairly resist to change, they tell us, 'Look,' don't want to quit.' And we und stand that. All we're trying to do provide them with the skills to do in the future."

What TDH and its allies in pilot study hope to uncover is as lution to the problems raised by bacco use and increased tobacco advertising within the state.

Surveyors will go back schools in Houston and Port Arthu to assess the viability of a tobacc prevention program, and all result will be compared for presentation before the state legislature for the further slating of funds from the to bacco settlement.

"What we're hoping to account plish is to basically raise people awareness of the tobacco issue, Colwell said. "We turn our infor mation over to the legislature, [and they can decide whether they wou want to earmark more money

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