

DISASTER CONTINUED

to recover from the wide array of disasters that could happen in the United States.

"They are going to implement a program that is going to draw together engineering models and social science models and hazard models so that a community could better understand if they have a particular exposure to earthquakes — or if they have exposure to wind hazards or hurricanes or fire hazards — they can better understand what their likely impact would be," Peacock said.

The team at Texas A&M has researchers with 10 years or more of disaster research focused in the Houston-Galveston area.

The focus of A&M researchers will be socially based, focusing on how people handle the stressing factors of a disaster along with urban development,

said Shannon Van Zandt, director for the Center for Housing and Urban Development and researcher in the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center.

"A lot of the engineers out there are interested primarily in commercial buildings and industrial buildings, but me and my team are really interested in houses, because that's where the people are," Van Zandt said. "We need to remember that people are really impacted by the damage to their homes, and we need to ask how long it will take to recover from the effects of that."

One of the goals for the initiative between the researchers is to develop a software system simple and efficient enough for policy-makers to use on a day-to-day basis.

The University of Illinois is using its computing expertise to provide a database called the NIST-COR, where models of social, engineering, hazards and economic impact of disasters are logged, Van Zandt said.

"We have a lot of data on household recovery on Hurricane Ike," Van Zandt said. "We have a lot of data on changes in the floodplain in Houston, related to climate change and sea-level rise. And so we will be contributing that data to the [NIST-COR] and different researchers will be using it to integrate it to their different models for the things that they're doing."

Peacock said researchers are able to plug in data from their localized areas and collectively map out resiliency in communities across the United States.

"What we're hoping is that NIST-COR will itself serve the scientific community and facilitate engineering improvements," Peacock said. "We model the vulnerabilities of a built-in environment so that those improvements can be brought into the NIST-COR and then become an environment in which we can assess the utility of the new information."

HAPPY TOES CONTINUED

my birthday in a way to give back." That year, Dempsey, along with the help of A&M students, collected and donated 21,000 diapers for the Crisis Pregnancy Center in San Antonio.

"That was really successful, and everyone was really excited about it," Dempsey said. "When I turned 22, I was like, 'Oh my gosh, I want to do something again.'"

Last year, she raised \$2,200 to donate to an organization called "Be not Afraid" that specializes in crisis pregnancies.

"Now that I am turning 23, my goal is to raise 2,300 pairs of socks to donate to Haven for Hope, a big homeless shelter here in San Antonio," Dempsey said.

Dempsey said she first came up with the idea after she met with St. Vincent de Paul while volunteering with Chick-fil-A at the Hope for Haven homeless shelter.

Each month, three locations of Chick-fil-A in the San Antonio area go to the shelter to provide meals to the homeless. Jesus Almdendarez, manager of the Chick-fil-A on Bandera Road, said the business, along with two other locations, feed more than 400 people each month through a program set up by St. Vincent de Paul.

Dempsey said she became much more aware of the chronic homeless problem in her community from these monthly visits through the St. Vincent de Paul Society.



PROVIDED

'Happy Toes' participants will wear crazy socks Thursday as part of Dempsey's 23rd birthday charity project.

"It really opened my eyes to a problem we have here," Dempsey said. "I thought, 'What can I do to help?'"

She began to research ways to give to the homeless, in collaboration with Laura Dupree, executive director of the San Antonio St. Vincent de Paul Society.

"I read online that that is something that rarely gets donated, such as socks," Dempsey said. "And when they are donated, most of time they are already previously used until they are no longer good."

Dupree said socks are always an important item for the homeless.

"Sometimes they don't have shoes, or they wear just flip flops and sandals in the winter, and then their feet get cold," Dupree said. "It keeps their feet warm in the winter and dry, and year-round people need socks."

Dupree said misconceptions often surround homelessness.

"I'd say that there is definitely a lack of public knowledge and public awareness," Dupree said. "Thank goodness that there are special people like Alex who are there to help."

In addition to her sock drive, Dempsey is also creating an event that includes both A&M students and members of the San Antonio community — Crazy Sock Day — on Thursday.

"The idea behind that is that hopefully people will take notice, and go, 'Well what's that about?'" Dempsey said. "I think it can be another way to talk about this problem that we have and get people to be talking about it."

Dupree said the work Dempsey was doing helped to raise awareness, all while serving the members of the San Antonio community.

"She's definitely killing two birds with one stone addressing a need that the homeless have," Dupree said. "They do need socks, and they do need to keep their feet warm and dry. And she's definitely raising public awareness through her outreach in social media and streamlined media as well."



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THE TEXAS A&M STUDENT MEDIA BOARD INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR Editor AGGIELAND 2016

Qualifications for editor-in-chief of the *Aggieland* yearbook are:

REQUIRED

- Be a Texas A&M student in good standing with the University and enrolled in at least six credit hours (4 if a graduate student) during the term of office (unless fewer credits are required to graduate);
- Have at least a 2.25 cumulative grade point ratio (3.25 if a graduate student) and at least a 2.25 grade point ratio (3.25 if a graduate student) in the semester immediately prior to the appointment, the semester of appointment and semester during the term of office. In order for this provision to be met, at least six hours (4 if a graduate student) must have been taken for that semester;

PREFERRED

- Have completed JOUR 301 or COMM 307 (Mass Communication, Law, and Society);
- Have demonstrated ability in writing, editing and graphic design through university coursework or equivalent experience;
- Have at least one year experience in a responsible position on the *Aggieland* or comparable college yearbook.

Application forms should be picked up and returned to Sandi Jones, Student Media business coordinator, in Suite L406 of the MSC. Deadline for submitting application: 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

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HELP WANTED

12 Aggies needed to teach English language classes in Chengdu, China next Fall. Chinese language skills not needed. Interns or Graduates. Training provided in College Station, email Annette at acedusa.com

Athletic men for calendars, books, etc. \$100-\$200/hr, up to \$1000/day. No experience. aggieresponse@gmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Sell your used furniture for cash! Students, are you leaving this Semester? Quality Used Furniture will buy your furniture. Must be in good condition. Free estimates & moving. 979-693-8669, 2039 Harvey Mitchell Pkwy. Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm.

REAL ESTATE

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ANSWERS to todays puzzles

MADAM SALE ETAS
 ALIBI CRUX RACE
 SPECS ACRE JAMEX
 SHEEP RIDE SPIE
 SLY MAE TREATS
 COUGAR SWISS
 ACHES ECHO PAL
 FLY THE POINT HOME
 FLY YIELD RITLED
 RED FREED RADING
 STREEP NOV ODS
 WOOLGATHERER
 INTO THREE LOBS
 NEW GODS PLATE
 BERS HUES REACT

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HELP WANTED

Weekend merchandisers. Budweiser has immediate openings for part-time positions. Great pay from \$150-\$200! Pre-employment drug screen. Apply at Jack Hilliard Dist., 1000 Independence, Bryan, TX.

You want to make a difference in Aggieland while getting paid to do it. SSC Grounds Management has student employment opportunities on campus for those interested in water conservation, composting, fine horticulture, arboriculture, floriculture, construction or athletic turf. Applications accepted at 600 Agronomy Rd. (Facility Services bldg.) Suite 120, College Station, TX 77843-1371.

Child Care FT & PT shifts available. Some nights & Saturdays required. Apply in person at 3609 E. 29th St., Bryan.

HELP WANTED

Cleaning commercial buildings at night, M-F. Call 979-823-5031 for interview.

Help wanted to setup startup internal ministry, call 888-563-7713.

HELP WANTED

Little Guys Movers now hiring FT/PT employees. Must be at least 21 w/valid D.L. Apply in person at 3209 Earl Rudder Freeway. 979-693-6683.

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HELP WANTED

Now hiring all positions for Carney's Pub and Lakeside Icehouse, apply Wednesday or Thursday from 1-4pm, or email info@lakebryan.com

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Dear sir or..."
- 6 Store event
- 10 When planes are due in:
- 14 Suspect's story
- 15 Pivotal point
- 16 Marathon, for instance
- 17 Eyeglasses, informally
- 18 Farmland measure
- 19 Visa card alternative
- 20 Baked meat-and-potatoes dish
- 23 Crafty
- 26 Fannie (mortgage agency)
- 27 Doggie rewards
- 28 Mountain lion
- 30 With 2 Down, the Matterhorn, for one
- 32 Pinnacles
- 33 Canyon in a canyon
- 34 Buddy
- 37 Make something very clear
- 41 Go fast, as time
- 42 Thrill bark
- 43 Made angry
- 44 Turned loose
- 46 Becoming hard to see
- 47 Film star Meryl
- 50 Veterans Day mo.
- 51 Poem of tribute
- 52 Daydreamer
- 56 A big fan of
- 57 "With this ring I wed"

DOWN

- 1 Spouses of pas
- 2 See 30 Across
- 3 Cube at a casino
- 4 Basic teachings
- 5 Hedgepodge
- 6 "Scenic" suffix for land
- 7 Curve of a foot
- 8 Entice
- 9 Vigorous effort
- 10 Clears a whiteboard
- 22 From the neighborhood
- 25 "It's delicious"
- 29 Obtain
- 30 Take to task
- 31 Prepare, as dessert cream
- 33 Fencing sword
- 34 Jonas Salk's conquest
- 35 Make a change to
- 36 Narrow shelf
- 38 Pirate-costume part
- 39 Person on a voyage
- 40 Kept secret
- 44 Serious criminals
- 45 Rule: Abbr.
- 46 On behalf of
- 47 Pigs and hogs
- 48 Copier powder
- 49 Spinning machine part
- 50 Requirements
- 53 Ten C-notes
- 54 Roll-call response
- 55 Performer's portrayal
- 59 Shout like a lamb
- 60 And so on, for short
- 61 Fully prepared