What policy?

Students at Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi ill informed on Active Shooter Policy

by CONNOR TICHOTA
news editor

With Purdue University being the most recent addition to the growing list of school shootings, campus safety is a growing concern across the nation. However, at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, the student body's knowledge of the campus's Active Shooter policy appears to be very scant due to an apparent lack of communication.

Upon interviewing ten students milling about A&M-Corpus Christi's campus, eight of the randomly selected students, all varying in grade range and majors, admitted that they knew nothing about the Active Shooter policy. A few bravely attempted to guess at proper protocol, whilst others merely gave a blank stare and shook their heads frantically. Dina Ruiz, a junior, provided one of the most extensive answers regarding her knowledge of the policy.

“I don't know the exact policy,” said Ruiz. “I have asked a professor before about it when we were discussing crisis situations on campus and how they would handle it. I do know that only select professors are in on what to do in the building, or something like that. I'm sure they have a policy in place, but I don't know what it is.”

Another student, Caitlin Martinez, a freshman, also seemed to provide one of the most knowledgeable answers.

An evening with Cabaret

by TREY SEAL
entertainment reporter

Cabaret is a musical unlike any other. Set in Berlin, Germany at the dawn of the 1930s. The Nazi party is growing stronger as the world grows closet and closer towards the precipice of World War II. A majority of the show takes place in the Kit Kat club, a seedy cabaret where the only thing bolder than the set design is the personalities who run the place.

The show chronicles the story of writer Clifford Bradshaw, a traveling American writer and his girlfriend, club singer Sally Bowles. The beginning of the show is full of cheerful song and dance which paints a picture of a much more peaceful Berlin where freedom of expression is not condemned but encouraged.
ISLAND LIFE

BY AUBREY DANCER

Sometimes I worry that my laziness gets in the way of my procrastination.
Selfies with student athletes

Get to know Islanders student athletes one self-taken portrait at a time

by CHRISTINA BOOHE
sports reporter

Island Waves has set out to present another installment of student athlete selfies this time with basketball player Cole Martinez.

Name/Nickname: Cole Martinez/Cole World
Age/Year: 20/Sophomore
Sport/Position/Number: Basketball/
Shooting Guard/#2
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Major: Kinesiology with a focus in math
Favorite Song: My Moment – 2Chainz
Favorite Movie: Space Jam
Favorite Book: Of Mice And Men – John Steinbeck
Favorite Hobby (aside from the sport you play): Coaching and golfing.

If I’m not on the field/court/track or at class, I’m usually: Watching TV.
If you sit next to me in class and want to talk to me about: Basketball, or just say hi. I’ll talk to anyone who says hi.
Favorite Quote: “Success looks easy to those who didn’t see the work put in.” - Unknown

The person I look up to most is: My AAU coaches back in high school.
My athletic inspiration is: My Dad.
My celebrity crush is: Ariana Grande
My athletic inspiration is: My Dad.
My celebrity crush is: Ariana Grande

right: Men’s basketball player Cole Martinez and sports reporter Christina Boothe show off their pearly whites

Islanders Tennis continues road swing at Louisiana-Lafayette

CORPUS CHRISTI – The Texas A&M - Corpus Christi men’s and women’s tennis teams will return to action Tuesday, Feb. 18 in Lafayette, La. when they face the Ragin’ Cajuns at the Cajun Courts. The Islanders men’s team is on a seven-match winning streak and has tied the best start in school history with an 8-3 record that dates back to 2007. The women’s team (4-2) earned one of their biggest wins ever defeating nationally ranked SMU on the road in Dallas last week.

“This is a team we have tremendous respect for,” Director of Tennis Steve Moore said. “They do an incredibly good job at home as far as fans. It’s a tough environment to play at, but at the same time I love it, because that is what college tennis needs, a loud, spirited crowd. This is what we try so hard to do in Corpus Christi.

“This will be good for our players as it makes them mentally tough and all boons rise for college tennis with fan attendance like we see tomorrow. It is good for our sport and good for college tennis. We train our team consistently on controlling the things we can control, and fans are not one of the things you can control, so I expect a mentally focused effort from our teams.”

The Islanders have a tremendous history of thrilling matches against ULL. Last season, the Islanders women’s team earned one of its toughest wins of the season with a 6-1 victory over the Ragin’ Cajuns at the Thomas J. Henry Tennis Center.

After numerous delays due to the weather, the Islanders picked up the win to stay undefeated on the season. After the Islanders clinched the doubles point, returners Maider Martin, Sandra Burgos, Stefania Nicolau and Celia Rodriguez all claimed singles wins. Prior to that, the Islanders clinched a come-from-behind victory over ULL, 4-1, in Lafayette, La. with the final four singles matches going into a third set.

Freshman Judith Vives leads the Islanders in singles play with a perfect 4-0 record in the No. 6 slot. Fellow freshman Kerry Galhos has also been outstanding in the No. 5 spot with a 4-1 record. Rodriguez leads the returners with a 5-1 record, including a 5-0 record in the No. 4 position. The sophomore clinched the match for the Islanders, 7-5, in the third set to lift the team to a 4-3 victory over SMU last week.

On the men’s side, the Islanders and Ragin’ Cajuns met up twice last season with the Islanders taking both matches at home. In the first meeting, the two teams faced each other in the semifinals of the 47th Annual HEB Tournament of Champions at the Thomas J. Henry Tennis Center.

The Ragin’ Cajuns’ men’s team is 6-2 on the year with wins over Incarnate World, UTPA, Lamar, Jackson State, UT Arlington and Xavier. Both of the losses have come against ranked opponents, No. 12 Texas A&M and No. 6 Baylor.

The men’s team comes into Tuesday’s match with a 3-3 record after wins over Jackson State, Southern and Xavier. The Ragin Cajuns are coming off a 4-2 loss to Arkansas State. Prior to that, the team fell to UTA and Texas State.

“Louisiana-Lafayette men’s and women’s teams are teams we truly respect for how they play. They are coming off a good win over Incarnate World, a 4-2 win over ULL, and a 4-0 win over SMU. We are ready to get back to winning.” Moore added.

For all the latest on Islanders Tennis, like the team on Facebook (IslandersTennis) and follow them on Twitter and Instagram (@IslandersTennis).
The superstitious game: Part 1

Examining the ins and outs of superstitions in the world of sports

by CHRISTINA BOOTHE
sports reporter

In 1919, the Boston Red Sox sold Babe Ruth, one of the most highly admired baseball players of all time, to the New York Yankees. Prior to this sale, Boston had a strong reputation as one of the most successful franchises in the game of baseball, winning both the first World Series and five after that. Little did Boston know, the tables were about to turn.

The New York Yankees were, surprisingly, a previously jaded baseball force. However, after quite possibly the most highly anticipated sale of baseball history, the Yankees acquired the best player in the game at the time, which sent the entire program into ecstasy. They quickly shot above the other franchises in the game of baseball even to this day. The surprising turn of events has become known as “The Curse of Bambino,” in honor of Babe Ruth, sometimes called The Bambino’s sale. Only in 2004 did the curse get lifted when the Red Sox came back from a 0-3 American League Championship Series against the Yankees to win four straight games and go on to the World Series. They proceeded to sweep the Cardinals and win the World Series, thereby defeating the mythical mystery of Babe Ruth’s fury. “The Curse of Bambino” is known as one of the most highly acknowledged superstitions in the game of baseball and has been a defining fuel for the rivalry between the Yankees and Red Sox ever since.

Baseball is a superstitious game. From the rally cap to a certain style of wearing pants, baseball players have been known for their paranaia when it comes to their statistics. Arguably, baseball is the most mentally challenging sport. Not only is it a game that permeates a player’s physical extremities, but it also condescends itself upon the minds of its participants, creating an exhaustion that is unmatched by any other sport. This creates in each player an innate obsession and a “what went wrong?” complex whenever games don’t go according to plans. Often, they blame it on what they believe was a failure to fulfill a superstition, thus turning the providential odds against them. A baseball player will wear the legs of his pants up, showing his knee socks, based on the simplest, most primitive idea that it aids him in the field. An entire team will go without washing their uniforms in hopes of continuing a winning streak. They don’t want to disrupt the nature of their success. They believe that their victories, their accomplishments, are the results of something as minuscule as the difference in gravitational pull when their socks are up versus when they are down. One of my personal, all-time favorite superstitions that I have witnessed is the “rally hat.” In late innings, losing teams will turn their hats inside out and place them sideways on their heads in an attempt to summon a victory. It is rather amusing to watch dozens of boys sitting in their dugout with contoured baseball caps, fighting in unison and playing to the ideas that they grew up believing. But for the Minnesota Twins, it was everything but amused.

The Twins were beating the Boston Red Sox 6-1 in a 1987 game when Boston gave them a surprise run for their money. In the eighth inning, Boston scored seven runs to edge out the score, 8-6. When the Twins came to bat at the bottom of the ninth inning, Al Newman, a second baseman/shorthstop for the Twins, sparked a rally. “Rally Hats!” He shouted at his teammates. “Rally Hats!”

In a desperate attempt to turn the game around, Newman’s fellow Twins teammates followed his lead. They turned their caps inside out and wore them sideways on their head. The Twins caught up with the Red Sox and pushed the game into the tenth inning, and with the help of another streak of Rally Hats, the Twins won the game 10-8 in extra innings. (George Sullivan, 2000).

Superstitions could be exactly that: unbelievable fallacies. However, there is also the reality that there could be something to the idiosyncrasies of dedicated and competitive athletes. Come along for the ride as we perform a diagnosis on collegiate and professional level athletes and dissect the truth behind the superstitious game of baseball.

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NBA veteran Cj Miles to take lyrical talents on road

Islander alumus Adrian Clark manages Cj Miles through a new chapter in his career

Press Release

Summer 2014 may prove to be quite a busy one for Cleveland Cavaliers starting guard Cj Miles. The 2005 2nd round pick (Utah Jazz) will again be an unrestricted free agent and after this season he will have suitors from just about every team in the NBA needing a young, 3 point shooting, swingman with 9 years experience under his belt.

Miles and his All-Star Weekend, via Twitter that he will re-release his summer 2013 rap mixtape titled ‘No Camping’ and he will headline a hip-hop show in the city it all began- Salt Lake City, Utah. 

“I became a lot of things in Salt Lake. I became a man. I became a pretty good pro ball player. I became a businessman and a pretty dope artist. If I can say so myself,” Miles said.

Miles, who goes by the stage name ‘Masfresco’ has always been musically inclined. He learned how to play the piano at age 6; since then he has taught himself how to make beats, write thought provoking lyrics and produce his own music.

Aside from sports, music has always been a passion of mine,” Miles said, “and it’s not just hip-hop. I have an appreciation for all genres: jazz, rhythm & blues, pop, etc."

Masfresco is set to take center stage July 12 at Urban Lounge in downtown Salt Lake City, Utah. Miles show is presented by ‘L.A.S.T.’ (Living Above Society’s Tent) a clothing brand that he and his two close friends, Christopher ‘Bleek’ Grist and Adrian ‘AC’ Clark began last year.

Cj hinted to another possible show after the July 12 debut that could take place in Cleveland.

“I began rapping in Salt Lake and I put

Contact Miles business manager Adrian Clark (AC) for all inquiries via telephone 214-986-2286 or by email at Ac_adianclark@yahoo.com

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SPRING BREAK
on the
Frio River
Concan, TX

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JOSH ABBOTT BAND
TURNPIKE TROUBADOURS
KEVIN FOWLER
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I find that the vast majority of books I read are full of the same story: man meets woman, they fall in love, a critical problem occurs threatening the relationship, then reconciliation. Although I do love reading these in front of a fire or on the beach, it is the ones that are vastly different that really get my interest. One such novel is “Desert Blood: the Juarez Murders” by Alicia Gaspar De Alba. This novel is based on real life events, of which are of a very disturbing nature. Along the Texas and Mexico border where El Paso and Juarez meet, a series of killings have occurred in recent years. Not just killings, but mass murders involving one common factor: they were all women.

“Desert Blood” features El Paso native Ivon Williams St. in downtown, a bar/live music venue that recently unveiled a new addition in the making: “The Kitchen” at House of Rock.

“The Kitchen,” tentatively slated for a grand opening in mid-spring, will feature a limited menu of appetizers, salads, sandwiches, and pizza. There will also be veggie options available as well as happy hour specials.

“Corpus Christi is a very active city and a big one popularly visited bar would not only function as a great addition to the downtown district, adding more variety to the restaurant choices currently available in downtown,” said Stephanie Garcia, Public Relations for HOR.

“As of right now, we are setting hours to be Monday through Thursday from 11 AM to 11 PM and Friday and Saturday 11AM to 12 AM,” said Garcia. “We will start off closed on Sundays.”

Fresh ingredients and great specialties like Caprice salads and Margherita pizza will be highlights, as well as the option to buy pizza by the slice or in a whole pie.

The current building, which used to serve as the county morgue, is under a reconstruction period as the HOR makes room for the new restaurant. The greatest part is that for most events, all ages, or at least 18 and up, are welcome. “It is not bar food or frozen pizza,” said Garcia.

The non-profit that the 5K is benefitting is the Ronald McDonald House. The website of the Ronald McDonald House provides families a safe, supportive home near their hospitalized children. Families can come to relax, have a meal, connect with other families in similar situations, and get a much needed good night’s rest. The Ronald McDonald House provides a restful space where families can watch some TV, check their email or enjoy a snack. “– Color Mr Rad CC Website.”

Registration is still available for $50 for most events, all ages, or at least 18 and up, are welcome.

“The Kitchen,” check out the HOR facebook page.
Computers can be confusing: so many different brands, sizes, and terminology can make deciding on the right digital device for you a downright daunting task. After plenty of research and a buying blunder, I eventually found the right tablet device for me and I’m going to help you decide which one is right for you.

When choosing a tablet, you must consider an interface, otherwise known as an operating system. The operating system is what produces the look and feel of your device. The two most preferred operating systems on the market are Android and iOS. iOS, designed by Apple has a simple, colorful, and easy to use layout. The interface is so simplistic that even a novice user can become a pro within a couple days of use. However, the simple interface does come with the caveat of limited customization. About the only thing you can tune to your preferred taste is the wallpaper. If you don’t like the predominantly white color of the iPad look on iOS is the wallpaper. If you own an iPhone or iPad Touch, you will be instantly familiar with iPad as they run the exact same operating system barring the previously mentioned tablet exclusive apps.

My favorite Android tablet is the Google Nexus 7 (produced by Asus). It is offered in two memory sizes, a 16GB for $229 and a 32 GB for $249. The Nexus 7 is 7 inches diagonally and has a thin profile that rivals the iPad at only (insert dimensions). It has a lightning fast response time that ensures your apps open in a blink of an eye. When buying a Nexus 7, verify that you’re buying the 2013 edition of the tablet. There is a 2012 edition still being sold that pales in comparison both in form and function. If one is in the market for a larger tablet, do not buy the Nexus 10, which is still on the market with antiquated technology.

If you’re in the market for a larger tablet, My recommendation would be to purchase any one of Samsung’s high quality Galaxy Tablets that range in size from 7 to 12.2 inches. For someone in need of a larger tablet with complete computer capability, I would recommend either a Microsoft Surface Pro 2 (ships with a stylus) at a minimum of $899 (shop around online, prices always fluctuate) or the Lenovo Ideapad Yoga 2 Pro (stylus sold separately) at $949 or more (depending on memory capacity).

As I said before, computers can be confusing but they don’t have to be. The way that I learned which tablet was right for me was through persistent Google searching. Read reviews and don’t compromise on features for the sake of convenience. A computer is like a spouse, you better pick one that you love because its most likely going to be around for a long while.

**Android Apps:**
- Kingsoft- office-word processor that lets you export files in PDF. (Free)
- Battery Agent- Battery monitor (Free)
- Avast-Mobile security-periodically scans the device for malicious software. (Free)
- Google Drive- remote storage for power points, documents, and small files that is accessible to nearly any Internet connected device. (Free)

**Apple:**
- Pages- A word processor designed by Apple. (Free on new devices)
- Google Drive (free)
- Keynote- a power point editor designed by Apple. (free on new devices)
- Numbers- A spreadsheet editor. ($9.99)

**Source:**
Aubrey Dancer, Layout Editor

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**Image:**
Island Waves

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**Date:**
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**Entertainment**

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by ANDREW LIGUEZ
entertainment reporter

Here in Corpus Christi it’s not that hard to find art or something that pokes the interest of imagination. Here, it is easy to be army and find different exhibits around the town. One of the more known exhibit holders is K Space Contemporary, a non-profit organization that promotes and shows contemporary art.

"A forum for creative exchange and experimentation, we aspire to educate and build awareness for innovative art in South Texas. K Space Contemporary is located in downtown Corpus Christi, Texas. K Space Contemporary is the oldest alternative art space in the Coastal Bend region. A primary goal of the organization is to exhibit emerging and mid-career artists," according to the K Space website.

I recently met up with the Executive Director Michelle Smythe to get the details about K Space and how it started.

“We started in the studio upstairs of the current building, there are studios that occupy both floors of the building. It started as an artist co-op in 1995 and then the third floor of the building,” said Smythe.

“It’s a little harder, but the challenges are more exciting! The biggest difference for me between high school and college is that my schedule is under the same roof and always saw each other every day.”

“Getting used to doing things on her own is also another challenge Kemp has encountered while in college. "The biggest difference for me between high school and college is that my schedule is under the same roof and always saw each other every day.”

"I can’t remember a time when we were apart for an expansive amount of time. Yeah, we’d go out and do our own things with our own friends and stuff, but we always lived apart for an extensive amount of time," Kemp said.

"There’s never a dull moment, and I’m always finding new ways to keep myself busy," Kemp said. "Although I was kind of iffy about joining a sorority at first, I can easily say it was one of the best decisions I have made so far here at the University.”

Kemp attributes her success so far to managing her time and studying, and encourages others to do the same as well.

"I balance everything out by knowing when I should study and focus on school work, and having fun," Kemp said. "Despite what you think, you do or if you even come to class, but I’ve quickly learned how untrue that is,” she said.

"In college professors won’t care about what you do or if you even come to class, but I’ve quickly learned how untrue that is,” she said.

"I have been surprised by how nice and helpful all of my professors have been. In high school I would hear from my teachers is how college professors won’t care about what you do or if you even come to class, but I’ve quickly learned how untrue that is,” she said.

Kemp is currently majoring in Biology, and hopes to enroll in Texas A&M University’s Veterinary school in College Station after graduation.

"I chose the pre-veterinary route because I’ve been around animals my whole life. I hope to either have my own practice or work at a zoo one day," Kemp said. "At this moment K Space is featuring the works of John Webb with a current exhibit, titled "Fables of the Reconstruction." In this exhibition, Webb displays sculptures that highlight three series of works executed in recent years.

"Organic Spaces" is a series in which new and dynamic environments are invented and which produce associative shapes that can be referenced to organisms and natural structures. "Pickle Project" is a compilation of humorous works in which ‘quartered ellipse shapes’ are three dimensionally transformed as is suggested by their given titles. "Bodies of Work" is a series in which elements of the human figure are combined with mechanical machinery components to produce associations to beauty, work, and a "body of knowledge" that as humans share in the fabric of our collective memory. His works will be featured from Feb. 7 to March 7. K Space Contemporary is free to the public and is open 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Wed through Sat.

A former volleyball player and cheerleader for her high school, the Biology major fills her time in between classes and studying by participating in intramurals and by staying busy with her sorority Alpha Gamma Delta.

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A SINGLE'S GUIDE

As the play moves forward, the tone changes from one of all around cheeriness to a tone of fear and tension among the characters. This tension is due to the rising power of the Nazi party, which is taking a toll on the various characters lives.

Upon walking into the theatre (for a tech rehearsal), I felt as if I had fallen down a rabbit hole and arrived in another dimension. With elaborate set designs, catchy music, and a fantastic cast; Cabaret succeeds in bringing its audience into its world.

The show accomplishes this through the use of a large, round stage in the center of the room that is only feet away from the audience. Performers walk onstage and acknowledge the audience patrons and the rest of the cast.

In order to get a better understanding of Cabaret, I interviewed its director, Island University Professor, Allison Frost.

“I’ve called it the onion play, there are so many layers to it that you can’t embrace the entire show at one time” Frost said when asked about how she would describe the show.

“You take it and build it one layer at a time, by the time you add the makeup, the lighting, it becomes this thing of its own and we won’t really know how all of that comes together” she has the final layer, which is the audience.

“Regardless of where you are in the world and becomes an artist of trade. I recently met up with one of these students, Heather Beltz, to learn about her life as a student musician.

Heather Beltz

by ANDREW LIGUEZ

entertainment reporter

Here at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, students are given the chance to pick whatever they want to do in college. Some students go into science to become scientist or doctor, while others become math geeks to get ahead in the business world. Others delve into the arts, these students become immersed in another world and become artist of their trade. I recently met up with one of these students, Heather Beltz, to learn about her life as a student musician.

Can you start off by stating your classification and name? “My name is Heather Beltz and I am a fifth year senior.”

What’s your major? “I am going for my degree.”

What do you want to do in the future? “I’ve called it the onion play, there are so many layers to it that you can’t embrace the entire show at one time” Frost said when asked about how she would describe the show.

“You take it and build it one layer at a time, by the time you add the makeup, the lighting, it becomes this thing of its own and we won’t really know how all of that comes together” she has the final layer, which is the audience.

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Can you start off by stating your classification and name? “My name is Heather Beltz and I am a fifth year senior.”

What’s your major? “I am going for my degree.”

What do you want to do in the future? “Whatever it is you can connect with it and love to practice whenever I get the chance.”

Sometimes depending on what you take on with all the different ensembles that you are in and how much time you are willing to put into your practice so that can be the best performer you can be. It doesn’t allow you to work that much and if you do work it’s going to be late in the night. We don’t really know the meaning of sleep, but we enjoy it, it’s what we do. And we are willing to do whatever we can be the best performer we can. It’s different is what I would say.”

What instrument do you play? “I play flute and piccolo.”

How long have you been playing your instrument? “I am ataging year 12. I started playing in the sixth grade so it should be around the age of 11.”

What do you like about it? “Since I love music so much and I have a bit biased in the sense that I choose to take all my core classes during the summer. I did this so that during the long summers I could focus on music. Basically every day we go to our music classes, wherever they be ensemble or educational classes. But I love to practice whenever I get the chance.”

What do you want to do in the future? “My particular path with music ecology, has me studying the music and different cultures. I would actually be doing field work and going to different places like Africa, Ireland and even Peru. I would be studying how music works in their culture, I would also like to teach at a college level. There I would teach the students about the music in a really universal and this is why.

“Music is my life and for anyone that love music but it not their passion, it’s a great way to just let go of the day and connect whatever aconte with me, whether it be country, rap or punk. Whatever it is you can connect with it and build individualism and being able to express yourself”

by KATHERINE RAMIREZ

features editor

Life of a Student Musician

W ill somebody have a midterms ofopic proportions because I cleaned their cage. Rigby did not like the way I redecorated his cage. Specifically, the fact that his litter box was turned around and pushed to the very back of his cage. He then proceeded to push and pull his box until it was to his liking.

When rabbits are upset, they’ll hump around, run, thump their feet and will occasionally make a little piggy/honking sound if they’re especially worked.

Pilot is a big fan of the honking noise and thumping. Jojo and Rigby like to do their own thing and will often times ignore Pilot. Whenever Pilot wants them to pay him attention however, he’ll start thumping on the floor of his cage in an attempt to get them to face him.

Unfortunately for Pilot, that thumping doesn’t seem to work on anyone. Sure, Jojo and Rigby may turn and face Pilot for a moment, but they won’t actually go up to him. They will also turn back to whatever it is they were doing, and continue to ignore Pilot immediately after.

On a happier note, the bunnies received a new toy last week. Since Pilot has a habit of digging the bedding out of his litter box, and since Rigby likes to scratch at carpet, I decided to buy the bunnies a sandbox. No, it’s a big ‘ol sandbox with lid that’s in the shape of a turtle. It even comes with a cover for the sandbox, which coincidentally, is molded in the shape of turtle shell.

So my living room is now completely covered in bunny-related items. On the bright side, the bunnies seem to enjoy it so far. I hid little chewing toys and apple-flavored wood sticks in the sand so they have fun digging them up.
Electronic Cigarettes result in change to tobacco policy

by CONNIE TICHOTA
news editor

A recent increase in the use of electronic cigarettes among students inside and outside of pavilions has resulted in Texas A&M-University Corpus Christi re-examining its current tobacco policy. The Environmental, Health and Safety Department at A&M-Corpus Christi has submitted a revision of the policy to the A&M System Board of Regents for approval, hoping to implicate the changes this semester.

According to Ray Coons, director of the Environmental, Health and Safety Department, the revised tobacco policy was proposed to the A&M Board of Regents in Nov. of 2013 when a noticeable increase of e-cigarettes, also commonly known as vaporizers, were being utilized in classrooms.

"We are not so much concerned about the chemical side of things," explains Coons. "There is still second-hand smoke associated with them, but I think we are more concerned about the chemical side of things." The chemical side is that e-cigarettes commonly known as vaporizers, were being used inside of buildings. "There has been a trend to go smokeless," said Coons, "The University of Texas campus is completely smokeless, and CVS pharmacy has recently decided not to sell tobacco products. One of the things that we [Environmental, Health and Safety Department] encourage tobacco users to do is find products that allow them to work towards quitting."

According to the Food and Drug Administration, an e-cigarette is a battery-powered product that transmits chemicals, including the addictive nicotine found in cigarettes, into vapor. E-cigarettes are not regulated by FDA standards, nor have they been studied in full. Therefore, the FDA cannot safely say how many harmful chemicals are being inhaled during use, or if there is any other risks or benefits associated with their use.

The FDA is currently working towards creating regulations for the e-cigarette, much as A&M-Corpus Christi is working to amend it in the current tobacco policy.

"It is [your] right to use those products," said Coons, "We just ask that they are used in a manner that respects all others on campus." For more information regarding health and safety policies on campus, please visit the Environmental, Health and Safety Department page at tamuc.edu. For more information regarding e-cigarettes, please visit fda.gov.

No Smoking within 25 Feet of this Entrance
They get a hold of students via text message,” said Martinez. “They also have flashing red lights in all of the lab rooms, in case of an emergency... As far as who is supposed to lead the students to safety, I don’t know.”

Unfortunately, neither of these answers accurately illustrates the Active Shooter listed by the University. According to the Quick Reference Guide for Emergencies, provided on the University’s website, the procedure to follow in the event of an active shooter begins with calling the University Police Department. Whilst reporting, students need to identify three location, the appearance of the shooter, the weapon, and any victims or bystanders in the area.

After contacting UPD, students should barricade themselves in a classroom, with chairs, desks, etc., turn off the lights and remain away from windows and doors until instructed otherwise by law enforcement. The text of the Active Shooter policy does not specify how students around campus will be notified of the presence of a shooter. According to Detective Ramon Carsares of the UPD, the University’s Notification System will alert students via text, classroom telephones, and sirens when a dangerous situation occurs.

“This is the first time I’m hearing about it [the policy],” said Teodoso Gonzalez, freshman student. “I would like to know more about it.” This disconnect of information exemplifies the possibility of a muddling, or lack of, communication between the administration and the student body regarding policies. According to Carsares, the UPD provides several presentations throughout the year training faculty, staff and student employees what to do in the event of any emergency. Yet, no presentation has been made available to student body as a whole.

The message is getting out there,” said Carsares, “I believe he [Chief Gutierrez] is working on something. It is online...we try to get this out as much as possible.”

The students interviewed, though representing a very small portion of the Island University as a whole, are representative of a possibly larger problem resonating. Even with the presentations the student body is not as informed as it should be in the case of such an emergency.

What has caused this disconnect is unclear, but what is clear is that students needed to be informed of campus policies: especially those pertaining to their own safety.

The shooting at Purdue University, according to the Chicago Tribune, occurred on Jan. 21. Cody Cousins, a 23 year-old engineering student, shot and killed Andrew Boldt, a 21 year-old student and teaching assistant. Cousins’ motive and relationship to the victim is unknown at this time.

For more information regarding A&M-Corpus Christi emergency policies please view the Quick Reference Guide found online at tamucc.edu.

The Best Live Music South of Gruene Hall

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Dear Island University,

This week in Island Waves we were hoping to capture a bit of the Homecoming magic. Capturing what it means to students and the nominees was an important aspect this week. Remember the days of getting excited and dressing up for the game in anticipation of watching the nominees (often close friends) walk the field in their outfits.

College can be a big scary place but give it time and the familiarity of greeting friends in the hall, cheering at games and dreading exams all comes back.

Island Waves remains on the hunt for amazing writers, or students willing to be comfortable with the uncomfortable which is about 60 percent of the job. Talking to someone not normally in the regular circle of friends and all the while sweating bullets is half the challenge, or fun really.

I can only hope there are questions the student body has on a regular basis and with that said, urge each and every Islander to ask these questions.

There are injustices happening all around. There are humorous, heart-breaking and heroic stories to be told which a small staff can never fully cover. Write with comments, concerns or time-wasting “cool” stories- Island Waves won’t mind.

I for one am tired of being 24 and treated like I’m 16 and just given the keys to the family car. They say don’t do this, it is impossible to do that, read this, fill this out and all the while expect a smile and polite demeanor. Whose rules are these? Please do not confuse my frustration with disrespect. As president to a club, coordinator to the greatest place on campus, editor-in-chief and a future scientist of America I am all about respect, in fact it is the only way things get done. What I’m asking for is mutual respect.

I have paid enough tuition to buy new Mac laptops for a sizeable classroom. Given the University enough publicity to have a box at Whataburger Field reserved. Held my tongue so long it bled the coppery flavor of dissatisfaction. And while Corpus will always be my home, and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi my alma mater I fear the longer the disrespect continues the greater my need to distance myself from this place grows.

They say, “youth is wasted on the young” but perhaps what they should say is that youth is wasted on those who allow the old to hinder growth.

Sincerely,
Alexis De Leon
Editor-in-Chief
Island Waves