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Volunteers set up water stations

DMC club picks up service hours while potentially saving lives

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When the president of Del Mar's Social Work Student Association heard about the horrendous journey of undocumented immigrants through South Texas, with many dying from dehydration, she knew the club had to help.

"We got to see a few pictures of migrants that have died trying to come into the U.S. Their bodies bubble and rot from the heat and some people don't find their family members until

only bones are left," said Kayla Bush, president of the association.

The club has been focusing on human rights issues since it is a problem in the social work field. During one of their meetings, an idea was brought up to build water towers in Falfurrias. For some students, it is a service learning assignment for Olivia Lopez's social welfare course.

According to Bush, when Lopez first told the club members about this opportunity, the members were all pretty shocked and excited to have a part in saving people's lives.

"It's really important for club members to get a hands-on opportunity to really see the inequality and discrimination that is ongoing in the U.S.," Bush said.

In late October, four club members built the first three water stations ever along State Highway 77. Each station contains six gallons of water and will be refilled. On the inside of the lids of every water station is written in Spanish, "call 911 to be rescued," even though they will likely be deported. The club members also put their logo and signatures on each of the barrels.

For Erica Muniz, social work major, it was an empowering feeling completing these water stations.

"I was proud. I felt like I had made a difference in someone's life. It was a very rewarding experience, I am blessed to have been a part of this project," Muniz said.

The South Texas Human Rights Center

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Contributed photo/Kayla Bush

Erica Munoz and Joseph Mapue build water stations for traveling immigrants.

A family waiting for answers



Brittany Guy (center) looks on as Carla Pruitt (right) speaks during a protest held by members of the family outside CCPD.

Community comes together to help family mourn loss

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A simple traffic violation resulted in a foot chase, a Taser being used, and, ultimately, 55-year-old Dewboy "Dew" Lister lying on the grass with a bullet wound to his chest.

Dew, the grandfather of a Del Mar College student, died at the hospital two hours later, on Oct. 19.

"There was an altercation there, and then, Dewboy ran — walked quickly, I wouldn't say he was really running — but he made it clear he wasn't going to stick around for this," said Lt. J.C. Hooper with the Corpus Christi Police Department's public information office. "And so he went back to his car and as the physical altercation broke up, the officer

tased him."

However, according to the police department, the Taser had been ineffective. Physical altercations followed, and while it became unclear, a conflict is heard on the officer's body camera between Lister and the officer.

According to Hooper, the officer is heard saying, "Get off me, or you will be shot." A muffled gunshot was barely audible, and Lister died from his wounds later that night after being rushed to the hospital.

The officer has been placed on administrative leave while an investigation is underway, according to the Corpus Christi Police Department. Evidence will be turned over to the district attorney, who is expected to release an official statement within the next week.

"Very few of our officers had ever had to resort to deadly force. It's an extremely rare thing here in Corpus Christi," Hooper said.



Drae Cavaness, 3, grandson of Dewboy Lister Sr., plays a little basketball with Officer Ed Shannon during the peaceful gathering on Oct. 22.

Del Mar student Detrey Cavaness was Lister's grandson and remembers him as a patriarch to his community.

"I'm really not disappointed. ... I was disappointed at the outcome, I was disappointed

that night, maybe," Cavaness about said his grandfather's death. "He lived a great life, and him passing was just another lesson for all of us."

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Good news for science majors

Del Mar, A&M-CC sign deal to ease transfer of classes

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Danial Nasr Azadani was in South Texas for an extended visit with his family when he decided to take some classes.

"I actually looked into TAMU-CC initially but the out-of-state tuition was just too much," Azadani said. "So I met with Dr. Hatherill and toured the lab."

Azadani was more than impressed with Robert Hatherill, assistant professor of biology.

"I signed up for two classes, and they were the best two classes I've ever taken," he said. BIOL 1414 was one of those classes.

Previously, this class, along with BIOL 1415, would only transfer for liberal arts majors, but thanks to an articulation signed on Nov. 1 by DMC and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, these classes will now transfer for everyone.

After a quick lab demonstration, Jack Southard, chairman of the Natural Sciences Department, spoke on the importance of this agreement.

"This represents so much more than an agreement between two schools," he said. "A rising tide lifts all boats." Beth Lewis, executive vice president and chief academic officer, echoed the same sentiment.

"With this agreement, students can continue to be challenged academically and stay here in Corpus Christi," Lewis said. The agreement allows for the two classes to transfer for science majors working toward three separate bachelor's degrees at



Azadani is an award winning bio-technology student.

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East Campus construction continues as planned after Hurricane Harvey

Project scheduled to be completed in February 2019

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With the General Academic and Music Building Phase 2 project well underway, English Professor Veronica Pantoja remembers her time in the old English building before it was demolished this summer.

"I was a student worker in 1989 and I came back in 2009 and that building had a lot of memories to me," she said. Pantoja viewed the English building as her home after

spending most of her time there. Despite all this, she is excited to see the progress of the new building and how the final product will turn out.

Construction of the new building is on its first phase and the process is going smooth despite some unexpected delays.

"There were unforeseen underground conditions with piping for stormwater sanitary sewers, and electrical IT infrastructure," said Michael Armbruster, project manager of Bartlett Cocke & Beecroft.

Issues with the electrical infrastructure were traced back to where the English building used to be,

causing them to reroute part of the infrastructure. Armbruster also said Hurricane Harvey delayed the construction process and the campus also suffered minor tree and fence damage, but the equipment on site fortunately didn't suffer any damage.

Electrical engineering major Aaron Vega sees the bright side of the construction despite the frustration.

"It is irritating when you have to walk in a big circle," Vega said. "But I do find it good though because the construction is going to make the school bigger."

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Nomaan Khan/Foghorn News

Construction continues at the site of the old English Building.

Wildlife attacking pets raises concerns

Increased sightings of wild coyotes worry residents

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They are sly, cunning and remarkably adaptable. And they may be living a lot closer to you than you think.

Within the past two months, there has been an increased amount of sightings of coyotes and dead pets in area neighborhoods along Corpus Christi's far

southeast side near King's Crossing, and primarily on Padre Island. While coyotes have always had a presence on the island, the area's expanding development is now causing coyotes to come into contact with humans more frequently.

Island residents have been on edge with the increased sightings of the animals on their properties, with many feeling they pose a serious threat to the safety of their children and pets.

"There have always been coyotes on Padre Island, but what we have been seeing lately with these animals is something entirely dif-

ferent," said island resident Richard Vogler, whose pet cat was killed by a coyote in August. "Now we're seeing coyotes going into people's backyards, attacking pets, and stalking small children. They have become more than a nuisance. They are becoming a real danger to the safety of our community."

A vast portion of the coyote's habitat is being taken over for construction purposes, making encounters with the human population even more inevitable. According to wildlife experts, coyotes now appear to be losing their fear of people, and have gradually

come to associate the neighborhoods where they have been roaming as potential food sites.

Despite the plea from area residents to city leaders to deal with the issue, it appears there is little that can be done.

"We are encroaching on their territory. Encounters with the animals are naturally going to occur," said Marvin Tamez, a game warden with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Tamez also said anyone who encounters a coyote on their property can report the situation to the Parks and Wildlife Department.

"We also encourage people not to feed the animals, or leave any food scraps in plain sight. Keep pets indoors where they will be safe. If approached by a coyote that appears aggressive, shout at the animal, wave your arms wildly, and make yourself appear larger. Residents must learn to live side by side with the animals just the same," Tamez said.

If you spot a coyote on your property, contact the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at 361-289-5566, or the Corpus Christi Animal Control office at 361-387-5701.



Del Mar social work students mark the water stations with flags so that undocumented immigrants can see them as they travel.

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already has hundreds of water stations in several counties. Students in the social work field have to complete 20 volunteer hours with the agency.

The SWSA has many projects in November and December, including a rummage sale with the Area Agency on Aging and volunteering with the Salvation Army.

"So far we raised a total of \$700 from our bake sale and at Del Mar's Fall Carnival. The funds will be used for other humanitarian projects in

our agenda," said Maricela Calderon Huerta, secretary for the association.

Students do not have to be majoring in social work to get involved with Social Work Student Association. Students can easily get involved in SWSA by signing up, attending the biweekly meetings and joining the events. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. every other Thursday in Room 123 in the Heritage Hall. The next meeting is Nov. 16.

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Following the incident, Cavaness held a peaceful gathering outside of the police department so he and his family would have a chance to be heard, while also letting the police do their investigation rather than demanding answers.

"Who do I believe? I can't believe someone that can't talk," Cavaness said. "And I don't want to believe someone that can."

Police have responded by trying to maintain a "positive and fruitful" relationship with their community, Hooper said. The department says it hopes that the community will be patient as the investigation follows and the grand jury comes back with the official decision.

Though Lister's family and friends grieve over the loss of one

of their well-known community members, the incident has given the community a chance to grow stronger and closer than before.

"I pray for my family and my friends, I even pray for the police's family or friends, because you don't know what they have to go through," Cavaness said. "I really don't know what CCPD can actually do besides send their condolences and show sympathy."



Del Mar students Francisco Aboytes (from left), Joseph Segovia, Charles Gaines and Detrey Cavaness stand together in a peaceful gathering Oct. 22.

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A&M-CC.

This agreement could be highly beneficial to many students and according to Southard, the majority of science majors at DMC transfer to A&M-CC.

Lewis and Kelly Quintanilla, president of A&M-CC, both said they look forward to more agreements between the two schools.

"It's really all about student success," Quintanilla said.

As for Azadani, he is now taking classes at A&M-CC but feels strongly about the background he received at DMC.

"After just two weeks I was completely amazed," he said. "I was like a kid in a candy shop. I never looked back."

He said he was learning graduate-level techniques, and even

though those courses weren't transferring, "any smart person would have done the same thing."

"You guys really should have done this sooner," he said to an outburst of laughter. "But honestly I can't thank them all enough."

@foghorn_murphy

(Construction from Page 1)

Vega also said it will give better resources to students, more classrooms as well as giving them more programs to major in. Vega also takes advantage of planning ahead while the construction is taking place.

"I plan out my schedule such as how long it will take me, which side is shorter to take in order to walk from building to another building," he said. This includes walking through the Venters Building by cutting through the Music and Fine

Arts Building.

Armbruster said the new building will be finished in February 2019 and workers already begun preparing to place slabs for first building.

"Two slabs on grade will be poured in two to three weeks for the first floor slab, and from there we're going to go up from there," Armbruster said.

Once the construction is done on the buildings, they will add walkways for the new building area as well as some landscaping touch-ups.

According to Robert Duffie, di-

rector of physical facilities at Del Mar College, other projects listed in the 2014 bond include renovations for the Harvin Center and White Library consisting of IT upgrades and re-roofing existing buildings.

"There are also plans to demolish the Heritage Hall in the near future to be used for parking as well as creating a new entry on Louisiana Parkway to prevent bottlenecks with cars," Duffie said.

Visit www.delmar.edu/bond2014 for updates and other details on the project.

Visit FoghornNews.com for construction footage and interviews.

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