

Baylor Lariat

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HOMECOMING EDITION

OCTOBER 23, 2015

FRIDAY

BAYLORLARIAT.COM



THE FOUNTAIN RETURNS
pg. A7

Trey Honeycutt | Lariat Photographer

LEGACY CONTINUED A generous \$8 million gift from Dr. Thomas Rosenbalm, made way for the new renovation to Fountain Mall, the Rosenball Fountain. The fountain was completed and fences were removed Wednesday in preparation for homecoming.

RAIN SCHEDULE:

Bonfire:
CANCELED

Parade:
CANCELED

Extravaganza, Friday Night Flashback and Pep Rally:
Location change to the Waco Convention Center located at 100 Washington Avenue in downtown Waco. Doors will open at 7 p.m. The Pep Rally begins at 9 p.m.

Football Game:
The game will be held at McLane Stadium, and kickoff will be at 11 a.m. and televised on ESPN for viewers at home.

OLD TRADITION

Still coming home

As storm approaches, Baylor alters schedule to 106-year-old tradition

HELENA HUNT
Staff Writer

Since its inception in 1909, Baylor Homecoming has welcomed alumni and guests to a weekend of bonfires, parades, reunions and football. This year, rain will prevent several of these festivities from continuing as planned.

Saturday morning's parade has been canceled, although floats will be put on display at a later date. Tonight's Extravaganza and Pep Rally have been moved to the Waco Convention Center on Washington Avenue, and the bonfire and fireworks show have been canceled.

The football game against Iowa State University at 11 a.m. Saturday will continue as planned.

"We have a number of contingencies in place that we're working through with the program planners. We really start having

substantive conversations about four days out," said Matt Burchett, director of Student Activities. "We pull together all the impacted areas and departments. We talk about what the weather looks like today. We obviously have some experts on campus that are able to help us talk through what's reality and what's not, as far as weather goes."

Despite these changes, Baylor hopes to preserve the spirit of homecoming for its current and former students.

"Our goal is to recreate what the original foundation of Homecoming was to accomplish. The old line was 'Renew former associations and catch that Baylor spirit again,' in the original invitation. Really, when you talk about all the events that we host, the thing that really strikes me is the cluster of friends at the bonfire, or the people introducing a new child or a new spouse, or seeing an old friend

for the first time in a long time," Burchett said.

"Our goal is to recreate what the original foundation of homecoming was to accomplish."

Matt Burchett | Director of Student Activities

Burchett said the wide range of homecoming events is meant to give all visitors a chance to revisit their own niche at the university. Pigskin, Singspiration, the football game, and

the diverse array of other events offer something for guests of all ages and backgrounds.

For every student, both past and present, there are the teas and receptions hosted by the English department, the Honors College, the Department of Journalism, Public Relations and New Media and many others. There is a home in every corner at Baylor for those who ssearch for their niche this homecoming.

In addition to the traditions that have long made Baylor's Homecoming so distinct, there are several additions to the Homecoming festivities this year. On Friday afternoon, the Rosenbalm Fountain on Fifth Street will at last be dedicated.

Another new campus addition is a sculpture by local artist Bryant Stanton to house the Eternal Flame.

"We will be introducing a new

Eternal Flame. It's a sculpture that's been done by local artisan and Baylor grad Bryant Stanton. He has crafted, which will be unveiled at Mass Meeting, a 9-foot-wide by 13-foot-long sculpture that will house the eternal flame during Homecoming," Burchett said.

The idea of a new Eternal Flame, even if it is a bit of a paradox, represents what makes Homecoming so special to so many. It is always new, with new people and new traditions coming each year. But it keeps going, the same as it has been in the past, far into the future.

"I remember coming to homecoming when I was little, and it was always one of my favorite weekends," said Dallas senior McKinley Freeman. "It's a really great way to come together."

Students and visitors can find the homecoming contingency plans on Baylor's Facebook and Twitter pages.

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GUN SAFETY

Active shooter protocol to keep students safe

ERIC VINING
Contributor

With an increasing number of shootings at colleges and universities across the United States, university administrators and officials across the country are working harder than ever to make sure their students, faculty and staff remain safe on college campuses. Some of the most notable events have occurred in recent weeks at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Ore., and Texas Southern University in Houston.

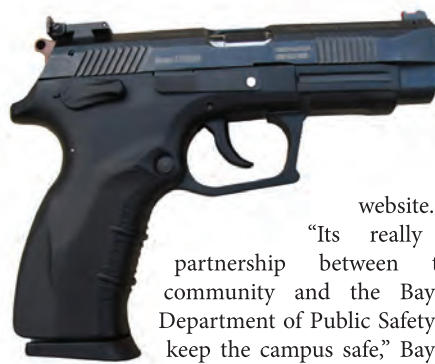
Baylor is no exception, and administrative officials constantly improve plans already in place to take care of such emergency situations.

"We're constantly evaluating, assessing, re-assessing and implementing counter-shooter strategies," said Mark Childers, associate vice president for campus safety and security. "We work very closely with our partners here in Waco, the Waco Police Department, McLennan County Sheriff's Office ... all working collaboratively. We meet and plan and almost train together."

As a department, Baylor PD provides more training to its officers than many officers at similar universities. Baylor's Department of Public Safety provides drill, tabletop, functional and full-scale exercises to prepare its staff for emergency situations on campus, according to Baylor's

Department of Public Safety.

"We're definitely out in front as far as tactical training," Wigtil



said. "We basically do real-life exercising where we use simulation that's as close to real life as you can do."

For security reasons, Wigtil could not give details about specific counter-shooter strategies. However, the department officials could go into some detail about the actual training their officers receive.

"There's some tactical movement that has to happen when we respond [to active shooter

website. "Its really a partnership between the community and the Baylor Department of Public Safety to keep the campus safe," Baylor Police chief Brad Wigtil said. Wigtil also discussed the in-depth training Baylor PD's 34 commissioned peace officers go through as members of Baylor's

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GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

We want to hear it. Send us your thoughts: LariatLetters@baylor.edu

EDITORIAL

There's justice to be served

West Fertilizer Co. should be held responsible for 2013 explosion's deadly damage

Two and a half years ago, Central Texas changed forever. The West Fertilizer Co. building exploded on April 17, 2013, killing 15 people, injuring more than 160 and destroying dozens of buildings in the vicinity.

In the aftermath of the case, seven civil lawsuits were filed for damages in the deaths and injuries of these citizens. The first of these settled out of court on Oct. 11, but two rounds of cases are still pending for 2016.

While civil cases are a tool for families to receive a financial compensation for their loved ones, the state of Texas and federal government missed an opportunity to get justice for these first-responders after irresponsible action by the plant's owners caused unthinkable consequences.

An initial investigation attributed the explosion to the plant's store of ammonium nitrate, which is one of the key ingredients in fertilizer.

Multiple regulatory bodies have gotten involved with the West plant over the years, and most for ammonium.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration had not done a survey of the plant since 1985, but cited the plant for serious violations of storage of anhydrous ammonia at the time.

In addition to OSHA, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration fined the plant nearly \$10,000 combined for failing to responsibly store the ammonia.

"The fire and explosion at West Fertilizer was preventable," chairman of the Chemical Safety Board Rafael Moure-Eraso said at the time. "It should never have occurred. It resulted from the failure of a company to take the necessary steps to avert a preventable fire and explosion and from the inability of federal, state and local regulatory agencies to identify a serious hazard and correct it."

The West Fertilizer Co. was told of the risks and chose to simply pay moderate fines. Through their inaction, the company put hundreds of lives at risk. Fifteen people lost

"Unfortunately, Texas and the federal government have been eerily quiet when it comes to how they plan on preventing another West explosion. This is a time to act."



ASHER

@asherfreeman

their lives, but the explosion also took out an apartment building, West Rest Haven nursing home and West Middle School. All were in the line of fire.

Unfortunately, Texas and the federal government have been eerily quiet when it comes to how they plan

on preventing another West explosion. This is a time to act.

There is very little purpose to having regulatory bodies if they do not have any ability to interfere with wrongdoing that puts innocent people in harm's way. Texas needs to ensure it prioritizes the safety of the public when making decisions

like these.

The Texas Legislature has not been completely lax when it comes to this issue. On June 16, HB 942 became law, which increased regulations on storage of hazardous chemicals. There were a couple of other bills pertaining to the issue that were proposed in the

legislature.

But the fact remains, Texas is still susceptible to a similar incident any time an old fertilizer plant catches on fire. If the death of this many individuals and extreme loss of property is not enough to cause action, it's hard to say anything will.

Lariat Letters

We Don't Need a Reason to Text Back

[In response to "Not interested? Then don't give him your digits", published Oct. 21 and written by a dear friend whom I have known for several years, Thomas Mott.]

I am approaching this piece with an open mind, knowing it may not be well-received by some — particularly men — as Mott's piece was ill-reviewed by women.

In his article, Mott talks about the hurtful impact of a girl giving a guy her number, but never responding when he texts her. Mott continues by offering a solution: Don't give a guy your number if you are uninterested.

I'm not going to counter-argue with the statistics of men being rejected and the violence that occurs as a result. I'm not going to argue men can be forceful and women are fearful. I'm not going to argue anything other than my personal reasons (reasons I don't owe anyone) for not texting back.

Men have asked me for my number at bars, in class, at parties and even in the grocery store. There are differing scenarios that played out when I chose to give a guy my number.

Scenario #1: I was genuinely interested in the guy. Gave him my number. He texted me. I responded. Cue dating.

Scenario #2: I was slightly interested. The kind of interested where I think he's cute and

I'm having a great hair day — so why the heck not. Afterwards I realize I'm happy without the complications of a relationship. Or I lose interest. Two people can be in a relationship for years then one day it's over. Same goes for two people who just met.

Scenario #3: I meet a guy and we have a fun, friendly conversation. I assume we're just friends exchanging numbers and he assumes it's more than that. We start texting and I quickly realize he has no idea he's been friend-zoned. I do my best to explain the misunderstanding and that's that. Friends.

The third scenario is where things get tricky. When trying to explain to a guy that I'm uninterested, it almost always causes more trouble than if I had just cut off all contact. It's the few guys who can't handle the truth that lead girls to avoid being upfront and honest from the start.

Even if I gave a guy a million legitimate reasons or made-up excuses for not responding — rejection is still going to hurt. As someone who has been on both sides, I know it is just as hard to be the one doing the rejecting as it is being rejected.

So, is it OK for a girl to give a guy her number, then never text him back? Yes, it's perfectly OK. Just like it's OK if a guy decides to never text a girl back. It happens.

To my dear friend, Thomas, this may not be the reply you wanted from a girl, but you asked for bluntness. Dating is frustrating. Relationships are awkward at first.

Technology has only made relationships more difficult. If a girl doesn't text you back, oh well, there will be others. Don't lose heart; you'll learn more often than not we never get the answers we want or the closure we need.

Leigha Faulkner
Recent Texas A&M graduate
Political Science and Journalism major

Mott's column misses the mark

In "Not Interested? Then Don't Give Him Your Digits," [published Oct. 21] Thomas Mott told women he would prefer if they were blunt with men. In that spirit, perhaps he will appreciate this analysis: Mr. Mott's opinions are ill-informed and sexist. It seems he has made the unfortunately common mistake of pontificating on why women behave certain ways while failing to consult women.

While women have made great strides in our society, many women (including myself) have found that we cannot tell a man "no" without fear of consequences. If women are too nice, as Mr. Mott claims, it's because we have been taught all our lives that we are expected to be nice, and to be anything else invites pushback. Many women have, at one point or another, attempted to tell a guy no only to have that no disrespected. That disrespect may be subtle, such as a

man telling a woman that she should just give him a chance. It may be more bold, ranging from calling her a "b****" to yelling at her. In extreme circumstances, it may even involve criminal behavior such as stalking or physically harming her (the Tumblr "When Women Refuse" documents instances of this kind of abuse).

Most women would love to let a guy know she's not interested and have that be the end of it. Contrary to Mr. Mott's opinion, he is not initiating the idea of honesty in dating (as if it never occurred to women that being blunt is an option). However, our personal experiences have taught us being blunt may not go well for us, and we can never be positive what kind of reaction our bluntness will get. So many of us play it as safe as we know how: we give out fake numbers, we text just enough so that the guy believes we "gave him a chance," we try to let him down easy. We don't enjoy doing it, but we're more concerned about our safety than the guy's feelings.

If Mr. Mott wants the status quo to change, he should discuss how to eradicate sexism and male entitlement. It is a waste of his time to lecture women on how to behave in a dating world where men are avoiding hurt feelings and wasted time, while women are avoiding harassment and physical harm.

Shaney Swift
Class of 2012

Meet the Staff

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Contact Us

General Questions:
Lariat@baylor.edu
254-710-1712

Sports and Arts:
LariatArts@baylor.edu
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Advertising inquiries:
Lariat_Ads@baylor.edu
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Richard Hirst | Photo Editor

Homecoming kicks off with the annual Pigskin Revue, the top eight acts of All-University Sing 2015



Richard Hirst | Photo Editor

1. The sisterhood of Pi Beta Phi entertains the audience with an encore performance of "Back in the Habit."

2. Lake Oswego, Ore., senior Meredith Dana was announced as the homecoming queen Thursday evening during Pigskin.

3. Sing's second place winner Kappa Omega Tau performs antics in "The Grand Hotel."

4. Robin Hood and his crew prove "The World Will Know," by the men of Kappa Sigma.

5. At this year's Pigskin, the orchestra needed a little more cowbell.

6. Kappa Kappa Gamma gets crazy on stage in the group's performance, "Weird Science."

7. Alpha Tau Omega's "Who We Are" let the beast get the best of them again.

8. Chi Omega battles for dominance in "All's Fair in Love and War."

9. The women of Delta Delta Delta took the audience back to greener places with their performance, "The Emerald City."

10. Sing's acclaimed first place winner, Phi Kappa Chi, lift the audience's spirit with their number, "Dust Bowl Days."

Newcomb will remain External VP

EMMA KING
Staff Writer

The Baylor Student Senate voted not to impeach External Vice President Steven Newcomb during its weekly meeting Thursday night. If the charges were upheld, Newcomb could have been removed.

The Senate deliberated and voted on a course of action while in executive session, which requires all non-Senate members leave the room, including student body officers. Arguments presented in executive session, the exact tally of the votes and the charges against Newcomb were not released to the public.

"It's a difficult process," Internal Vice President Lindsey Bacque said. "It requires a three-fourths vote to remove the member, and today I can tell you that it wasn't met."

The charges against Newcomb were brought before a smaller group of senators in the Senate Executive Council on Monday. Newcomb

was asked to resign, but according to student government process, any member who does not agree with their disciplinary sanctions may appear before the full Senate to discuss the situation. Newcomb decided to appear before the full Senate.

"Basically, a group of senators called into question my commitment to the office," Newcomb said.

The Student Senate looked into governing documents and created a democratic environment during their executive session, according to a release from Student Government.

"If it weren't for the Senate checking the actions of the seven members of the SEC, Steven Newcomb would no longer be our EVP," said senior senator Chase Hardy, speaking individually and not as a representative of the entire senate.

Hardy said it is important for the Senate to remember that Newcomb ran for his office unopposed. He said the senators that are

complaining about the job Newcomb is or isn't doing could have run against him during elections, but they chose not to.

Hardy also said that impeachment should have been a last resort.

"Impeachment is the maximum penalty provided by the SEC," Hardy said. "They could have done any number of things. As far as I can tell, without warning, in a single action, they kind of clumped all the things they had been building up against him, that they failed to discuss with him, and they just pushed it on him."

The Senate member who filed the initial charge against Newcomb and began this avalanche remains anonymous to the public and the Senate.

"I was very disappointed by this, but as a result, students have believed me to be committed and I look forward to serving this illustrious university for the rest of the year," Newcomb said. "I'm really excited to continue working as EVP and for Baylor."



Lariat File Photo

IMPEACHMENT AVERTED Student Senate brought charges against Steven Newcomb during its meeting Thursday.

Texas serves subpoenas at Planned Parenthood clinics

WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Health investigators served subpoenas requesting hundreds of pages of patient and staff records at Planned Parenthood clinics across Texas on Thursday, as officials move to halt Medicaid funding to the organization that has been repeatedly targeted by the state's top conservatives.

Planned Parenthood said investigators visited clinics in Houston, Dallas and San Antonio, and a health center that does not provide abortions in Brownsville, on the Mexico border. They asked for patient health records and billing documents dating back to 2010, as well as personnel files that included the home addresses of staff members, Planned Parenthood said.

The officials showed up "looking for an excuse to take health care away from thousands of women and men who rely on Planned Parenthood for preventive care — but what they will see is professional, compassionate and quality health care," Yvonne Gutierrez, executive director of the Planned Parenthood Texas Votes political action committee, said in a statement.

At a subsequent news conference in Austin, Ken Lambrecht, CEO of Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, called the request for documents "unprecedented and unnecessary."

A spokesman for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission declined comment. The agency's investigative



Associated Press

PLANNED PARENTHOOD Anti-abortion activists rally at the Texas Capitol in Austin to condemn the use in medical research of tissue samples obtained from aborted fetuses.

arm said it could not "provide comment on any oversight or investigative activities."

The visits came three days after Texas health officials sent a lengthy letter to Planned Parenthood clinics statewide saying

they were being kicked out of the joint state-federal Medicaid program. That will likely set off a legal fight similar to one in neighboring Louisiana, where Planned Parenthood — which doesn't offer abortions in Louisiana — filed a lawsuit to stop the same severing of Medicaid funding there.

Gov. Greg Abbott ordered state health officials to investigate after anti-abortion activists released undercover videos they allege show Planned Parenthood officials talking about the illegal sale of fetal tissue for profit. One of the videos was filmed at a Planned Parenthood in Houston. An investigation also is ongoing in Congress.

Planned Parenthood has denied the claims, saying the videos were deceptively edited. It also notes six states that investigated in the wake of the videos found nothing.

Texas alleged Planned Parenthood had misused Medicaid funding by scheduling abortions so as to best procure fetal tissue for medical research. Planned Parenthood provides abortion at some clinics, but also medical services that include cancer screenings and health exams.

Its Texas facilities saw nearly 13,000 Medicaid patients in 2013 alone, Lambrecht said. This year, Planned Parenthood clinics statewide have received more than \$3 million in Medicaid funding, but 90 percent of that was federal.

The group's Texas affiliates have 30 days to respond to efforts to remove it from the Medicaid program.

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Fountain Mall gains a fountain, finally

STEPHANIE REYES
Reporter

The new Rosenbalm Fountain that was built on the heart of Fountain Mall will be dedicated at 4 p.m. today.

Lori Fogleman, assistant vice president for media communications, said having the new fountain on Fifth Street and Fountain Mall will bring more meaning and unity to the center of campus.

"[Fountain Mall and Fifth Street] is where the Baylor family gathers to celebrate our most cherished traditions such as Homecoming, Christmas on Fifth Street and Diadeloso," Fogleman said. "To have this beautiful fountain brought back to the heart of campus and to have Fifth Street restored and rejuvenated brings us a great sense of pride

and gratitude for Dr. [Thomas] Rosenbalm's vision."

Rosenbalm, Baylor alumnus and physician, created the opportunity for this project with his \$8 million gift in memory of his father and mother.

Fogleman said the fountain will also be a place for many people to gather and celebrate Baylor's various traditions.

"The new aesthetic and infrastructure improvements to Fifth Street and the addition of Rosenbalm Fountain bring new life to a place on campus that is central to many Baylor experiences," Fogleman said.

JD Dethrow, Baylor Construction Services senior project manager said it was a great experience working on the construction of the fountain, which started in mid-April and was substantially completed and open to

the public on Oct. 9.

"The landscape architect and the contractor both came together and worked with us on reducing the scope where we could in order to get the cause down into budget," Dethrow said.

"They started construction on time, which was extremely important because it was a pretty aggressive schedule. We had to be finished in time for homecoming."

Dethrow said since the construction stayed on schedule, workers were even able to go back and add features back to the project, such as additional planting. In addition, the fountain can hold approximately 17,450 gallons of water and has a storage basin that can hold 13,700 gallons. This allows the fountain to have a low water feature and allows

for reuse of the same water over and over again. There is a bowl that is always full, 12 jets around the dome that can shoot up into the bowl and four jets in the bowl, that can shoot up and a center jet that can shoot up even higher.

"You can run all the jets or some of the jets. It's got lighting elements," Dethrow said. "You can run different light shows at night. We're working on different lighting shows for Christmas, Fourth of July and after Baylor wins."

Dethrow said the new fountain and all of Fifth Street has dramatically changed the whole landscape and dynamic in the heart of campus.

"It makes it a much more inviting place for students as they go up and down campus," Dethrow said. "For the students, you got the fountain

area where you can gather and enjoy the features of the fountain. When alumni come back to campus, it's going to be a change for them and for visitors."

Los Angeles, junior Rachel Moore said she enjoys the new fountain.

"I love it. I think it's beautiful," Moore said. "I think it brings a new life to the middle of campus, which is really nice."

Moore also said that she has been watching it be made over the past several months and finally viewing it complete is a sight to see and quite an experience.

"It's really nice to finally see it going," Moore said. "When I saw it being built, I had this feeling I really want to be the first one in the fountain."

FALL FEAST



Associated Press

Jim, a 19-year-old grizzly bear, enjoys a Halloween pumpkin treat at the Brookfield Zoo in Brookfield, Ill. The polar bears, grizzly bears, western lowland gorillas, sloth bears and pygmy hippo seemed to thoroughly enjoy their treats. Some of the pumpkins were decorated with goodies like raisins and peanut butter.

New rules meant to crack down on illegal dumping in Houston

KATHERINE DRIESSEN
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Halfway down the industrial Old Genoa Red Bluff Road in deep southeast Houston, a "no dumping allowed" sign serves only to signal the problem ahead — dozens of ripped tires and rusted rims stacked haphazardly along the perimeter of a landfill fence, some sunken in ditches that collect rainwater.

City officials are hoping to clean up such public hazards with an updated ordinance that tightens rules and boosts staffing to combat companies that illegally dump thousands of scrap tires in vacant lots and along curbs throughout Houston.

The Houston Chronicle reports the City Council unanimously passed the rules Wednesday, adding two full-time tire disposal inspectors, requiring a paper trail for all tires in Houston and imposing annual permit fees on tire transporters, among other regulations.

Officials hope the new rules will chip away at the roughly 12,000 dump sites that the Solid Waste Department cleans up each year, amounting to about 70,000 illegally disposed tires the city pays to have processed at licensed

facilities.

Scrap tires that are not properly disposed can create both an eyesore and a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

It is a problem that particularly plagues Houston's poorest neighborhoods and industrial areas on the outskirts of the city where vacant lots and open fields make for easy dumping, according to Solid Waste Department records.

"We know we have problems with individuals who, for whatever reason, choose to change their tires at home and dump tires," Mayor Annise Parker said. "But we have a big problem with folks who take the money that you pay when you go into a shop and have your tires changed; you have to pay a fee for disposal, they take that money, they hire a company to take those tires to the appropriate recycling facility or depository, and instead they just go and dump them so they don't end up paying fees at the other end, and then we have to pick them up."

Most importantly, Hayes said, all tires must be logged every step of the way, both in storage and when transported. Violators could be charged with a misdemeanor and face fines of up to \$2,000.

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GUNS

from
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situations], and we train on that every month," Wigtil said. "I'm not aware of any departments that do that every month."

Childers said the DPS also puts its officers through a series of tactical firearms trainings so that they can sharpen their skills further, which can help officers better respond to active shooter situations if they occur. Officers perform these exercises annually, according to Childers.

When an emergency situation occurs on Baylor's campus, the university's communication officers utilize a wide variety of tools to keep the community up to date.

"We have a multitude of communications vehicles," said Lori Fogleman, assistant vice president for media communications. "We use internal and external loudspeakers, as well as text and email...it's important to have redundancy in any kind of communication."

In an emergency, this plan ensures that all students are informed of the evolving situation.

Baylor officials also discussed training opportunities for university faculty, staff and even student organizations that want to be better prepared for emergency situations.

"[Crime prevention specialist] Kandy Knowles for several years now has done active shooter training," Wigtil said. "We've targeted some very important groups, like Campus Living & Learning staff...because in our residence halls it's very, very important for us to have mechanisms in place to keep our residents safe."

Knowles, who is a commissioned peace officer at Baylor PD, has also provided training seminars for maintenance and ground keeping staff as well as on-campus Aramark employees as well as emergency building coordinators.

"Her training...is pretty extensive," said Leigh Ann Moffett, director of emergency management at Baylor. "If there's a group who's interested in getting that training, there's a simple request online."

According to Baylor's law enforcement officials, the most important thing students and faculty can do to prevent emergency situations is to be aware of one's surroundings at all times.

"I think we all are guilty at times of being so focused on whatever's weighing on us or looking at our devices," Moffett said. "We're just not aware of the environment we're in and we're not taking into account what that means for our individual safety. "Faculty, staff, students...all have an individual responsibility to be aware of what's going on and to have a plan."

Wigtil also encouraged students to report suspicious behavior when they see it.

"Research shows that active shooters were engaged in some type of behavior that was disconcerting to people around them," Wigtil said. "It's critical that everybody in the community...have the moral courage...to go ahead and call and get the person who is in crisis the help they need."

For additional information on how to stay safe on campus, or to report suspicious activity, members of the Baylor community are encouraged to visit www.baylor.edu/emergency or contact Baylor PD at (254) 710-2222.

Woman faces up to 99 years for 1977 Texas slaying

ASSOCIATED PRESS

EL PASO — A 76-year-old former school teacher in West Texas faces up to 99 years in prison after being convicted of killing her Green Beret husband in 1977.

The sentencing phase for Lisbeth Garrett was underway Thursday, a day after a jury in El Paso found her guilty of murder in the death of Fort Bliss Army Maj. Chester Garrett.

His body was found in an abandoned vehicle in the desert near El Paso. He suffered several blows to

the head and multiple stab wounds.

Trial testimony focused on a blood stain found in the home where prosecutors say Chester Garrett was killed. Prosecutors also argued that Lisbeth Garrett stood to benefit financially from her estranged husband's death, the El Paso Times reported.

Roger Garrett, the son of Lisbeth Garrett from another relationship, was convicted of murder in 2013 in the major's death and sentenced to 40 years in prison.

Authorities had reopened the cold case when Roger Garrett's

stepbrother, Patrick Garrett, provided new information.

Patrick Garrett testified against his mother during her trial, telling jurors that at the time of his father's death he and his stepbrother used acid to clean a "giant red Kool-Aid stain" in their garage, the newspaper reported. Authorities have said that he previously told them that Robert Garrett confessed in 1990 to the killing.

Defense lawyer Richard Esper said it was "absurd" to believe Lisbeth Garrett would kill her husband.

"There is no evidence that this

5-foot woman beat her husband with a bat or stabbed him," Esper said during closing arguments.

Court records show Roger Garrett told his stepbrother that on Jan. 3, 1977, he struck Chester Garrett with a bat on the back of the head and that their mother stabbed him several times. Then they took the body from the kitchen to the garage, where they loaded it inside the victim's 1972 Volkswagen, and drove to a dump.

Investigators say Chester Garrett, who had served several tours in Vietnam, was stabbed more than 10 times but died of a skull fracture.

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