

THE NAUTILUS

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Good Ags Register to Vote!

By Sean Holmes, '28

With the presidential election coming up on November 5, last minute registration opportunities were offered to Aggies in the Flag Room thanks to the League of Women's Voters of Galveston and their partnership with TAMUG's Democracy on Campus organization and Legislative and Political Action Committee in TAMUG's Student Government Association.

The event was held on October 4 12-2pm in the flagroom and thanks to this event and the volunteers, many students were able to register to vote easily and efficiently.

"Voting is considered a civic duty to many Americans, so the privilege to be able to do so should not be taken for granted." explained Kayden Cornnett '28 when asked about the importance of voting in an interview at the event.

In an interview with campus visitor event worker Jean Garst, they expressed that "A lot of people died so we have the right to vote and elect our leaders,"

With 66% of American students voting in the 2020 presidential election according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, it represents one of America's all time high for student voter turnout.

Some students put into perspective why



Photo by Sean Holmes, '28

voting is more important for students than others may think. Lycan Jennings, '28 said that "Voting is important to me because I would like to dictate the future of what's going on".

So make sure to be on the lookout for the campus polling station brought to you

by Student Government Association and DOCC to vote in this presidential election and have a say in your future for this upcoming presidential election!

From Sand to Spectacle: Galveston's annual Sandcastle Festival

Audrey Theiss, '28

On Galveston Island there are a number of events that go on throughout the year. One that perfectly captures the beach vibes being the Annual Sandcastle Festival on September 21 and 22.

Whether you're a sand castle enthusiast or just looking for a fun way to spend your afternoon, this festival is a great event to mark on your calendar for next year. Ranging from food, live music, and of course intricately designed sand castles, this event has it all.

The competition lasts two days; with a flat fee of \$10 to attend both days not including possible parking fees.

The first day consisted of the building,

judging, and award ceremony for the winning sand castles. The teams competing spend all day constructing their creative and intricate sculptures.

Starting at 10 a.m. the event lasts until 5 p.m. Around 4 p.m., they begin the judging and shortly after announced the winners, so it's over by dinner time!

This year's first place "Golden Bucket" winner in the traditional castle category was an "Architect's Insane Asylum" created by Ziegler Cooper working alongside Paradigm Construction.

There were also a number of other awards. Such as best team signage given to "MAD Garden Par Tea" or best team T-shirt given to "Sticking with Tradition" to name a couple.

The second day is usually dedicated as a "viewing day" where anyone can come by to look at all of the sculptures.

Something worth noting; the festival

isn't the most wheelchair or stroller friendly seeing as its on loose sand, so take that into account if you're considering attending or even competing next year.

Since 1986 this festival has been a local favorite, so it's a great thing to mark on your calendar for 2025 to have some great family fun!



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Rainforest Café ★★★★★☆

By Cooper Lee, '28

On February 3, 1994, the first ever Rainforest Café opened in Minnesota's Mall of America. Since then, a total of 16 restaurants are currently in operation in the United States, with that number jumping up 23 when tallying in foreign locations. Despite the numerous options to choose from however, Youtuber Ted Nivison popularized the Galveston location after visiting every location in the United States and stating that the Galveston location was the best.

Luckily for Texas A&M Galveston Students it resides just 4 short miles away from campus. Simply arriving at the restaurant will cue you in as to why this location is so well regarded online.

Above the iconic sign that welcomes you into the building looms a massive artificial volcano, utterly eclipsing the Landry's Seafood that it resides next to. Sometimes, it even erupts as part of its engagement routine.

Adding to the presentation is its location on the seawall, providing a clear view of the water, adding to the adventurous spirit the restaurant tries to provide.

It continues inside as well. Throughout the gift shop the walls and ceilings are draped in foliage with the occasional animatronic.

Passing under the arc fish tank into the dining area you will be met with even more of the same. Fake shrubbery, animatronics, and statues lined up near fake trees that dot the floor, completely sucking you in.

Now that it is time to take a seat however, the praises begin to fade.

As a culinary experience, the restaurant is aggressively average.

I would compare the quality of the food to



Photos by Audrey Theiss, '28

something similar to Applebee's. It's the type of food that tastes good enough, but eating it feels more like an obligation than something to look forward to.

This hits harder when the check comes back. It is an expensive place to eat, with prices averaging only slightly higher than most for entrees, though desserts and drinks tend to be very expensive for what you receive. Not helped by the fact that for some of these items, the prices are not even advertised on menus.

Similarly, the information that some drinks will come in a souvenir cup that must be purchased will be withheld but implied. Despite all that negativity however, there is still a lot to get out of an evening at Rainforest Café. The atmosphere, half-hourly thunderstorms, and of course the Galveston exclusive river-ride make it worth at least a one-time visit.

The ride in question does have an entry fee but lasts a longer duration than rides you might find a pleasure pier or equivalent places and is surprisingly well executed for a restaurant.

I have ridden this attraction twice with two different groups and both were ear to ear smiles throughout the experience. It is certainly worth the fee of entry.

All in all, Rainforest Café is a tourist destination. Big surprise, right? It is expensive and might not be everyone's cup of tea. However, it is among the most unique dining experiences you can attain on the island. And if you don't mind forking over a bit extra money and can embrace the chaos, there is lots of fun to be had.

4/5 stars; with emphasis on experience over food.

Review of *Speak No Evil*

By Logan Trujillo, '27

★★★★☆

Warning: This review contains spoilers.

A subtle and psychologically terrifying experience with equally thrilling performances in *Speak No Evil*. James McAvoy's unsettling role in this film easily sets the tone for this American remake of the 2022 Danish film of the same name.

Speak No Evil succeeds at keeping its viewers on edge as we follow a modern American family during their visit with an interesting couple with a mute son.

There is a great balance of domestic conflict within the visiting family that leaves moviegoers sympathetic to what they are trying to achieve with this "breath of fresh air" they hope to experience.

This film does a great job of breaking down the optimism of their vacation and building up a truly horrifying conclusion with James McAvoy and Aisling Franciosi's free-spirited yet eerie family constantly challenging actress and actor Mackenzie Davis and Scoot McNairy's characters to stay polite.

Most of this build-up focuses on the obvious contrasts between parenting styles, relationships, and beliefs to consistently draw out an uncomfortable and chilling series of events that slowly moves this film into a heart-racing slasher waiting to happen.

The boy's relationship with the daughter of the victims is a soft and heartwarming part of the film that ultimately leads us into that final act once the past of the killer couple is cleverly revealed by the speechless and abused boy. Here, the movie's title starts to become a much clearer reference to the boy himself.

Once the film transitions from a psychological horror to a slasher I feel it loses a bit of its excitement, especially when it includes a side character as one of the killers and the couple shows a bit more interest in money rather than building the "perfect family".

Besides this, the "slasher" conclusion of the film excellently shows the culmination of each of the characters as a result of this spectacle. They had discovered their mistake of continuously being courteous and now they must fight for their survival in the bloody finale.

Overall, *Speak No Evil* makes great use of its unique characters and puts everyone who watches into an unnerving state until the end. Most of the events feel surprisingly realistic and with natural reactions throughout. If you want a slow and thrilling modern horror film this is great.

Beetlejuice! Beetlejuice!

By Quentin Young-Rittenhouse, '26



The second beetlejuice film is out and I can't help but recommend it.

Let me just start with the rating of 4 out of 5 stars. I enjoyed the good fun this movie had to give, despite its issues it was well worth the watch.

Whether you are a new fan, or a returning Beetlejuice fan, you are sure to enjoy this one. The best members of the original cast return,

now with a new character played by Jenna Ortega. Her character blends right in with who we already know, and it's kinda refreshing to see a sequel not rely only on old characters.

When it comes to juice himself you're gonna be getting more of what's in the original, honestly he feels as if he never changed. Which in this case works excellently because the character is well designed and thought out.

The one issue I found while watching is that of a double edged sword. The movie's plot moves pretty fast, which means the more boring scenes don't linger longer than they are welcome, but fun scene's were a little too

short.

The movie is just that though, a bit of good fun. It has some charm from the original and overall it may take a second for it to grow on you. But if you really give it a shot, you will have a nice fun watch with this movie.

I'd say if you're a fan of campy spooky themed movies like myself, this is a must see for just a bit of that October fun movie watchlist.



Dear Aggie, My boyfriend has brought up wanting to try something in the bedroom I'm uncomfortable with multiple times, even after I expressed my feelings about it. Any advice on

how to handle that? - Anne Onamus

Hoo boy, this is gonna be an interesting one today ain't it? Let's get the obvious out of the way, by the sounds of it you've already said no and set a clear boundary, good for you.

Unfortunately, his insistence seems to imply this may be more important to him than just trying something out once for the sake of trying new things. If this is resonating with you I only have one piece of advice, break it off.

Sexual fulfillment is important in a relationship, I'm not going to pretend it isn't, we all have things we want out of a sexual relationship, but comfort in the relationship as a whole is the most important thing.

We all have our limits and they deserve to

be respected, if he's expressing a strong want for something you aren't comfortable with. You may not be compatible with him in a sexual context.

It's a hard-hitting truth but it takes more than love to make a relationship work. If this is someone you're looking to spend the rest of your life with. You need to have clear communication, wants, needs, boundaries, and a mutual understanding and respect for those things.

You've established a boundary, you don't want to try whatever it is he's asking of you, he needs to consider if this is something he requires out of a partner or if it's something he's willing to go without.

When I say consider, I'm talking about some real deep introspection, we're all adults here, it's time for some emotional maturity and assessing what we want in the long term.

If neither of you is willing to budge on the issue, and from the sounds of it you aren't, then y'all might not be as compatible as y'all thought.

If this is something he feels he needs out of a sexual partner then dragging this out any longer will only lead to frustration and resentment on both sides.

I understand it's hard to break things off when there is so much good to be found in a relationship, but deal breakers are deal breakers. If that is a firm boundary then it will always be a firm boundary and should not be infringed upon.

Neither partner in a relationship should feel like they are settling or giving up something for the sake of not being alone. Compromise is important but depriving yourself of something you genuinely want out of a relationship just so that you won't be single again isn't exactly fair to either of you.

Always do what's best for you!

The Dear Aggie column will answer questions on all matters of interest to students at TAMUG. Submit a query by emailing tamugnautilus@gmail.com. Names will be kept confidential.

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Dr. Tim Ballingall

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Department of Liberal Studies
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THE NAUTILUS STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Melton "Bubba" Nelson, '25

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Jason Osburn, '26

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Madison Ealey, '24

LEAD PHOTOGRAPHER

Sean Chavez, '24

LEAD REPORTER

Stephanie Jimenez, '26

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The mission of the *Nautilus* student newspaper is to accurately and fairly report on news and issues relating to the student body at Texas A&M University at Galveston. The *Nautilus* strives to be inclusive of all sectors of campus life, issues, and events. The *Nautilus* is a forum of discussion among the student body, faculty, staff, and peers, a place to voice opinions, concerns, and relay accurate information to the best of the reporter's and editorials staff's knowledge.

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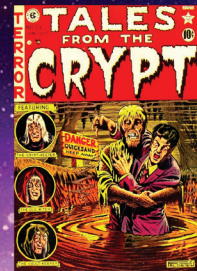
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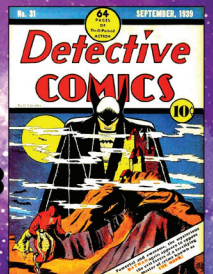
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