

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

The Island University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Promotes Breast Cancer Awareness Through Paint the Island Pink Expo and Other Events Community invited to Lights of Life Celebration, Dig Pink and Paws for a Cause

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – The Women’s Center for Education and Service at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi will hold its “Paint the Island Pink” expo Thursday, Oct. 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the University Center, Lone Star Ballroom. The event is free and open to the public.

The sixth annual expo, which is part of the University’s Breast Cancer Awareness Month observance, provides information on the importance of regular self-examinations for early detection of breast cancer, which claims more than 40,000 lives each year in the United States. According to the American Cancer Society, approximately two million women in the United States have been treated for breast cancer and 1-in-8 women and 1-in-1,000 men in the country will develop the disease sometime in their life.

Breast cancer survivors and cancer specialists will discuss their experiences and answer questions about breast cancer. Local cancer organizations will display materials showcasing the treatment, care, and support options available for patients in the Coastal Bend. “Paint the Island Pink” Breast Cancer Awareness T-shirts will be available for \$10 with proceeds benefiting Women’s Center programs. For more information, contact Amber Marcil at 361.825.2792.

Other Breast Cancer Awareness events open to the public are:

Tuesday, Oct. 6 –The Women’s Center for Education and Service will hold the “Lights of Life” celebration and candlelight vigil from 7-8 p.m. in Hector P. Garcia Plaza to honor the courage of those who have been diagnosed with breast cancer and remember those who lost their battle. Guest speaker and breast cancer survivor Cinda LeBus will

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share her story. The public will also have the opportunity to speak and share their stories and submit the names of loved ones to a memorial list to be read aloud during the event. For more information, or to submit the name of a loved one, contact Amber Marcil at 361.825.2792.

Thursday, Oct. 8 – Islander Athletics presents the “Dig Pink” carnival from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Moody Sustainers Field House parking lot. “Dig Pink” includes a watermelon-eating contest, cake walk, a dunking booth and a deejay. Following the carnival, the Lady Islanders take on Sam Houston State with both teams wearing pink. The volleyball game begins at 7 p.m. in the Moody Sustainers Field House. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for youth under age 12; and free for students with a SandDollar\$ ID. A portion of the proceeds benefit First Friday, a non-profit program dedicated to underwriting free mammograms for South Texas women. Dr. Liette Ocker’s Promotion of Sport class is organizing the event and is collecting additional donations for First Friday. A check will be presented to First Friday at half-time. For more information, contact Alamar Cavada at 361.825.3361.

Friday, Oct. 9 – Recreational Sports and the Women’s Center will hold its annual “Paws for a Cause” dog walk from 6-7:30 p.m. on the University’s Hike and Bike Trail beginning at the entrance by the Natural Resource Center. The purpose of the program is to raise awareness of breast cancer and local animal adoption opportunities. There will also be contests and prizes for the Pinkest Pooch (the best-dressed pinkest dog: male or female) and the Pinkest Pair (best-dressed, pinkest dog and owner). The entry fee is \$5 per dog. Participants may either walk their own dogs or borrow people-friendly dogs from the Gulf Coast Humane Society, Coastal Bend Small Breed Rescue and the Corpus Christi Care Shelter. All dogs must be vaccinated, have rabies tags, be people and pet-friendly and be on a leash. All proceeds benefit First Friday. For more information, contact Kim Rottet at 361.825.2976.