

DATELINE DOWNTOWN

"STUDENT RUN SINCE VOLUME ONE"

UHD Gets Shorted In Austin

Enrique Bolivar
Contributing Writer

Every other year the legislators of the great state of Texas meet in Austin to solve pressing governmental issues. Among those topics is funding for public universities.

There are thirty-nine public universities that fall under six different systems. Those systems are the University of Houston System; the University of North Texas System; the University of Texas System; the Texas A&M University System; the Texas State University System, and the Texas Tech University System. Our university falls under the University of Houston System.

There are many variables that legislators take into account when universities ask for funding but the big ones are enrollment and graduation rate. However, the puzzle doesn't seem to fit when comparing funding allocated from other universities in the past years.

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(via Creative Commons)



SGA Getting Trashy on Bayou

Alma Garcia
Assistant Editor

Ed's Bayou Clean Up is a bi-annual event collaboration between SGA and other UHD student organizations, who take the initiative to clean and beautify the campus. It is an eleven-year-old tradition that began with a vision of keeping the campus clean. Last semester, students collected 2,089 pounds of trash. This semester, students collected 1,600 pounds of trash. While they did not beat last semester's record, students felt satisfied with their hard work.

Jesus Mireles, a Chemistry Major, said that Ed's Bayou Clean Up "is a good opportunity to clean up the school's surroundings. It's a service to the community and makes the school look good. It looks unprofessional to see empty alcohol containers around the school. Nothing worth having is easy, so if you want to have the discipline

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A Homeless Life is a Human Life Too



"Two College Guys" - Mark and Gerard (photo by Mark Steven Caffey)

Mark Steven Caffey
Staff Columnist

Early mornings I battle Houston traffic and snake through Downtown to reach my 7 a.m. class. The sun starts to rise as I arrive at the Washington a lot near campus.

During those morning treks, I tend to drive with "blindners" on and not pay attention to my surroundings. Several weeks ago, I decided to look around while driving through Downtown.

Riding down Commerce Street, I saw old buildings - some newly renovated, some in the process of renovation, others in disarray. Along several of the buildings, I noticed large pieces of cardboard and blankets used by the homeless who were trying to sleep.

One Saturday morning after class, I decided to take a walk through Downtown and visit several homeless people. I stumbled upon a Downtown organization that helps the homeless: The Beacon Day Center. They provide meals, showers and laundry services to over 600 people from Friday-Monday.

Once inside The Beacon, I noticed a man near the kitchen area with a textbook

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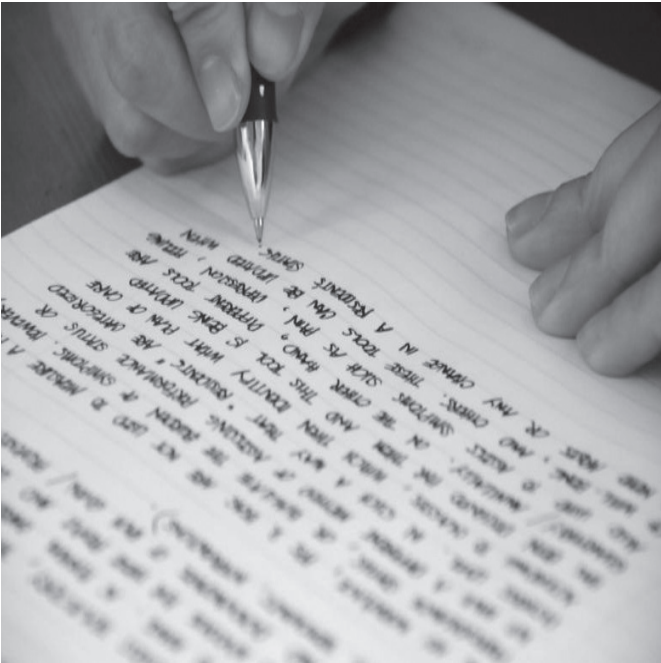
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Grades Should Be Based on Quality of Work, Not Attendance



(via Creative Commons)

By Iowa State Daily
Iowa State Daily, Iowa State U. via UWIRE

It would be hard to state our favorite movie of the 1980s. A leading contender on any list, however, surely is "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." That classic of American comedy lays out the adventures of the eponymous hero, Ferris, and two of his friends as they skip one of their last days of high school. Now, as college students, we can all fondly look back on such days of our own.

The movie even engages in a kind of juxtaposition, setting the hand-holding of high school, with an activist principal who will break into our homes to make sure we're actually on our death beds and not faking, alongside the promises of an adult life filled with liberation and responsibility together. One thing we looked forward to leaving in high school, as surely as Ferris and his pals did, was the low resonance of "Bueller...Bueller...Bueller...?" as our teachers take attendance.

And yet, instances of attendance counting for 5 or 10 percent of a class grade are not unheard of. We would have thought that since the vast, overwhelming majority of college students are adults, such parent-style monitoring of our activities would pass into the sunset of adolescence. If college should be a time of discovery before we head out into the "real world," we should also have to discover responsibility in addition to new cultures,

world views, ideas, languages, and all the other horizon-broadening aspects of university life that get sold to high school juniors and seniors in the postcards and prospectuses sent out by admissions and recruitment offices.

When attendance-based grading occurs, the distinction between high school and college — a distinction that ought to be as visible as it is large — vanishes. Since there ought to be a clear difference between high school and college, that is unfortunate. Both institutions have the goal of preparing their students for adulthood, with one difference that has far-reaching implications.

College students are at least 18 years old, or will be for most of the time it takes to earn their degrees. In the eyes of the law, they are adults. Without their parents' permission (although of course, we cannot say anything about their parents' approval) they can vote, get married, rent apartments, buy cars, have abortions, file for bankruptcy, enlist in the armed forces and do pretty much anything. At the very least, they can take out thousands of dollars in loans — for which they are responsible — to pay tuition, since they are consumers of the product that America's universities sell.

Occasionally, an attendance grade gets rolled in with participation, or in-class quizzes, or a select number of test questions that the professor will draw from material that only appeared in lecture. Given that grading must account for attendance somehow, those options — as opposed to grading based outright on whether your derriere is in your seat — are preferable. Indeed, attendance should affect students' grades. But it should only do so indirectly. If students are to be penalized or rewarded for showing up at class, that penalty or reward should be apparent in the quality of work the student turns in.

Perhaps our final thought should take the shape of a question: Is an attendance component of a grade an opportunity for students to gain points through focused, deliberate work, or is it an opportunity to lose them through carelessness that in the end has no bearing on the quality of the essays, quizzes and tests we turn in?

(Ed's Bayou Clean Up continued from page 1)

required to complete a college degree, you have to sacrifice a few hours of sleep, and Ed's bayou is just one example," he said.

Ed's Bayou is also a good opportunity to work with friends. Students gathered in small groups and proceeded to divide themselves into different sections of the bayou surrounding the campus. For safety purposes, students were required to wear gloves so that they do not make contact with trash.

Surprises never get old during Ed's Bayou Cleanup. Students find unimaginable substances ranging from cans to paper to lingerie to lost credit cards. The students even found what they presumed to be alligator bones.

More than a service to the community, Ed's Bayou Cleanup was a social gathering where students cooperated with one another to improve the school's appearance by preserving a clean bayou. Ed's Bayou Cleanup is usually hosted towards the end of the semester.



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More Planning and More Understanding Needed

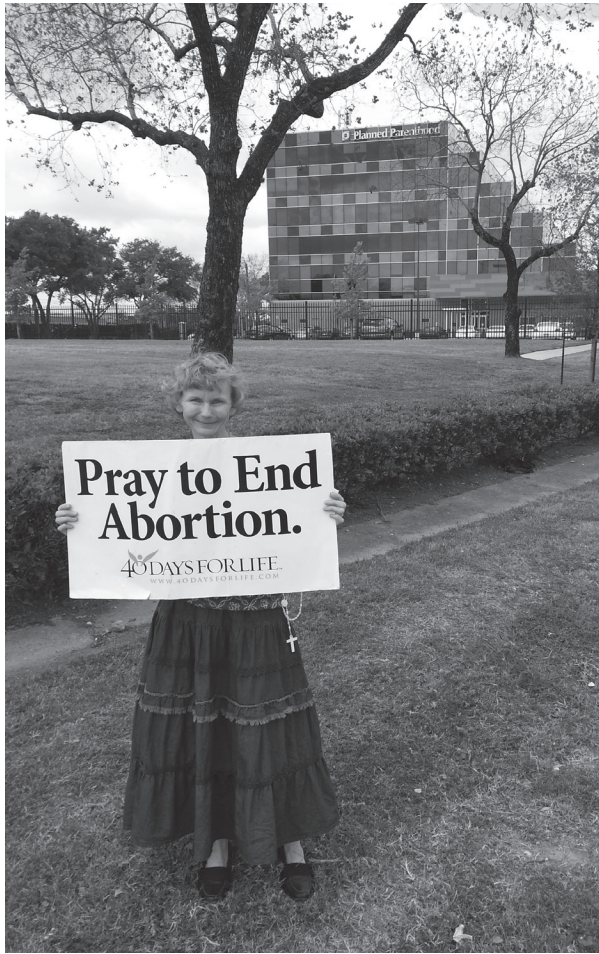
Mark Steven Caffey
Staff Columnist

On my way home from class one Saturday afternoon, I noticed a woman standing with a sign near the Planned Parenthood building. Located across the railroad tracks from UH Central, Nancy was peacefully protesting the abortions taking place in the building close by. "People need to be informed about abortion and other available options", said Nancy.

"We are here in love and support of the women who come here."

Planned Parenthood is a group of health clinics located across the country. They provide "up-to-date, clear, medically accurate information that helps you better understand your sexual health." Planned Parenthood's motto is "Care. No matter what." They stress that "abortion is a safe and legal way to end pregnancy." 1 out of 3 women in the U.S. have an abortion by the time they are 45 years old. Planned Parenthood is the leading abortion provider in the United States, performing over one-third of all the abortions in the country last year.

The number of abortions performed in the United States may be a shock to most Americans. According to the National Abortion Federation (NAF), a professional association of abortion providers in North America, each year, almost half of all pregnancies among American women are unintended. About half of these unplanned pregnancies, 1.3 million each year, are ended by abortion. They estimate that 35% of all women of reproductive age in America today will have had an abortion by the time they reach the



(photo by Mark Steven Caffey)

age of 45.

Again, 1.3 million unplanned babies are aborted each year in America.

According to a 2011 Virginia Tech study, 24% of college women will become pregnant at some point during their college careers, many resulting in an abortion.

The Houston Planned Parenthood facility near UH Central is the largest late-term abortion clinic in this hemisphere. According to pro-lifers, their focus is on maximizing abortions instead of the best interest of the woman. Various studies, including a 2011 Life Dynamics survey called, "Racial Targeting and Population Control," have shown that Planned Parenthood, as well as other independent abortion facilities in America, target both African American and Hispanic communities by making sure their clinics are located in minority-dominated neighborhoods.

The survey cross-examined zip codes of minority neighborhoods and abortion facilities, found that 83% of abortion or abortion-referring clinics are located in minority neighborhoods.

The Guttmacher Institute, an affiliate of Planned Parenthood, reports that 43% of abortions are performed on women 18-24 years old, indicating that college students also prime targets for abortion clinics. A high number of abortion clinics are located in areas near colleges. According to another Life Dynamics study, out of the estimated 780 Planned Parenthood affiliates across America, 78.8% (615) are located within 5 miles of a college or university.

Many women regret having an abortion. Young

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How Democracy Is Dying In America



(via Creative Commons)

Enrique Bolivar
Contributing Writer

On April 17, 2013 democracy died in the United States of America. On that day, the weakest gun legislation in world history failed to pass in the U.S. Senate, and it failed to pass because of a filibuster; a parliamentary tactic whereby one or more Senators continue to speak on a measure in order to prevent it from coming to a vote.

Before the mid-1960s, filibusters were rare. Now it is reported to need a "supermajority" (60 votes) to pass a piece of legislation, while in other western democracies a simple majority (51 votes) is required to pass any legislation. Prior to the vote in the Senate, there were several polls indicating that many

Americans supported background checks. For example, a Quinnipiac University poll demonstrated that 91 percent of Americans supported requiring background checks for all gun buyers. A CBS News poll demonstrated that 90 percent of Americans supported background checks. A Washington Post-ABC News poll also demonstrated that 86 percent of Americans support a law demanding background checks on people purchasing guns at gun shows or online.

The gun legislation had three main proposals:

- (1) background checks;
- (2) mental health;
- (3) gun trafficking.

According to an article in The New Yorker, the background portion of the legislation passed with 54 votes, the mental health passed with 52 votes and gun trafficking passed with 58 votes. But the entire legislation failed to pass because it did not have 60 percent of the senatorial vote. The vote was 54 to 46.

In the end, the voice of the people was disregarded and other interests prevailed. American democracy is finishing last in comparison to other western democracies. Some believe 60 votes should be enough to get something done in this country; and even a simple majority should be enough. The American people should not allow representatives choke democracy. Demand that your voice be heard and that Washington must vote accordingly.

Farewell Address From Your Student Body President and Vice President



Dear Student Body,

From the bottom of my heart I want to say that I am truly

grateful for the Major Opportunity you have given me to serve as your Student Body President. It has been a pleasure to serve my beloved university and a greater pleasure to advocate for your needs.

I wish each and every student, staff and faculty member a productive and successful 2013-2014 academic year. I wish the new 2013-2014 SGA administration all the very best. I know you will continue to work for the needs

of the student body. Surely, your dedication and active support will push the SGA and the university forward.

Finally, it seems that SGA has met many key goals set for this academic year. Events such as Ed's Bayou Clean Up, Health Awareness Event, and Walk to Vote are a few of the many accomplished goals.

As always, remain active and don't hesitate to appeal your concerns to your student body representatives. We are, and always will be, here to make the university a better environment for all.

Your Student Body President,
Ivan Sanchez



"Dear Student Body,

I hope my words will adequately express how much of an honor and privilege it has been to have served you as your Vice-President for the Spring Semester of 2013. I wish you all the best of luck and goodwill in all of your endeavors that may come down the road. As this semester comes to a close, it is my profound and utmost sincere wish that all of you have had the opportunity to experience a semester full of memories, fun, knowledge and ultimate growth.

I hope all of you have had the poise and preparation to take your finals

with a sense of Gator pride and confidence that I have seen among you all. The University of Houston-Downtown student body is a force to reckon with and it is that sheer will and determination that has inspired me and the rest of Student Government to do our work daily.

To those graduating with me, may commencement be the first of many steps on your professional journey to your career and further your academic goals. I will miss you all and hope that UHD will continue as a source of Major Opportunity.

Your Student Body Vice President,
Mayra Izaguirre"

(Short End on Funding continued from page 1)

According to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), for the 2012 to 2013 academic year the Texas legislatures at the 82nd Regular Session funded Texas Southern University (TSU) with \$75,363,476. Their enrollment rate during the time they were funded that amount was at 10,026, with a graduation rate at 12 percent.

During the same year, UT-Permian Basin received \$30,408,175. Their student enrollment number during that year was at 3,824, with a graduation rate at 31 percent.

UHD, on the other hand, only received \$33,907,698 with 12,918 students enrolled, and a graduation rate at 14 percent.

To place this into context, TSU received \$41,455,778 more than UHD while their student enrollment and a graduation rate placed are lower than UHD's. UT-Permian Basin received about the same amount of funding as UHD while having 9,094 students less than UHD. According to the General Appropriations Act for the academic year of 2012 to 2013, TSU's funding per students is \$7,516. UT-Permian Basin's funding per student is \$7,951 per student, whereas at UHD's funding per student is \$2,624 per student, resulting in the lowest financial aid per student in

the state.

It is obvious that UHD is getting the shorter end of the stick and there is an unequal distribution of funding. Legislators in Texas have seemed to overlook UHD's enrollment rate and graduation rate in comparison to other universities in Texas.

For the past couple of legislative sessions, one of the UHD's goals has been to build a Science and Technology building from the funding allocated. This 83rd Texas Legislative Session, UHD is once again awaiting the decisions. To write to the Texas Senators and Representatives, visit lrl.state.tx.us/genInfo/ContactLeg.cfm for guidelines.

(Homeless Life is A Human Life Too continued from page 1)

writing a term paper. His name was Gerard and was studying Computer Science at HCC. He happily spoke to me about his life and journey.

Several years ago, Gerard and his wife were in a car accident. He seriously injured his back and became dependent on pain killers. Last year, Gerard lost his job, wife, and apartment. He's been homeless ever since.

"I was married, happy, with no financial worries", says Gerard. "Through the years, drugs slowly slipped into my life and it greatly affected my marriage and ministry."

Determined to turn his life around, Gerard applied for assistance and was awarded a Pell Grant to attend college. He is focused and determined to succeed in school and life.

While walking back to the UHD campus, I met Robert near the bayou. He was anxious to speak with me about his situation. "I came here after Katrina and have no family or friends", says Robert. "I'm an alcoholic and it is hard to keep a decent job. People look at me and see I'm homeless and don't give me a chance anymore. It's easier staying on the streets. You get used to being on the streets and the way

things work."

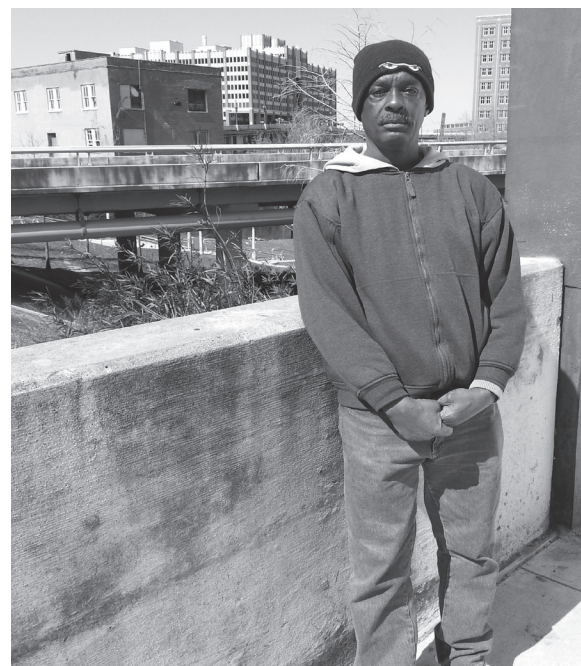
There is another world amongst us; a world where people live in the streets and back alleys of our city. This homeless world is created through addiction, mental illness, job loss, foreclosure, Post-Traumatic Stress and lack of family support. Many homeless people battle depression, addiction and despair. They feel unwanted and unloved. There are those who choose to be homeless and those who have no choice. Although opinions on the homeless may differ, we need to remember that they are here and they need us.

The homeless person one may see and ignore is a human being. That person is someone's father, son or brother, mother, daughter or sister. If someone saw a family member lying outside on a piece of cardboard, I believe they would be appalled and would stop to help.

Imagine if that homeless person was you?

Although a large number of the homeless deal with mental and physical conditions that require the assistance of organizations like 'The Beacon', these people need social interaction, respect and understanding as well. They need caring individuals. A

smile, handshake, or hug can make a difference. Remember, the homeless are among us. We can make a difference in their lives.



Robert (photo by Mark Steven Caffey)

Houston's Biggest Music Festival is Fast Approaching

Nath Pizzolatto
Contributing Writer

Since 2009 the alternative-weekly paper Free Press Houston has hosted Summer Festival has been hosted every year by the staff of Free Press Houston. This year, you can expect the party to go down once again at Eleanor Tinsley Park, 500 Allen Parkway, from June 1 to 2.

This two day outdoor festival, locally known as "SummerFest," features a mix of nationally touring artists and local Houston and Texas musicians. The acts offer myriad music styles including electronic and others to hip-hop, Texas roots, punk and noise.

Among the headliners are reunited electronic pop act The Postal Service; hip-hop duo Macklemore and Ryan Lewis; Brooklyn-based TV on the Radio, a staple



(Via Creative Commons)

of the indie-rock scene for the last decade; Gogol Bordello, the self-described "Gypsy Punk" band famous for their frequent and theatrical touring shows; and Iggy and the Stooges, the legendary punk pioneers

of the 1960s and 1970s fronted by singer Iggy Pop.

Local performing artists include the Houston fusion duo Deep Cuts, mainstay of the Houston rock scene Buxton, Austin-based "Louisiana Reggae," popular live act Ashes of Babylon, and one of the original big names and pioneers of Houston hip-hop, the Geto Boys.

In addition to music, the festival traditionally features art installations by local artists, food trucks and stands, and spaces for local artists and craftspeople to sell their wares. Those who buy a "Fancy Pants" pass can also have access to an air-conditioned tent and private bars.

More information on the festival and performing artists can be found at fpsf.com

Center for Public Deliberation Hosts Interfaith Dialogue



(photo by Preston Schelhaas)

Preston Schelhaas
Contributing Writer

The Center for Public Deliberation brought two speakers on campus April 17 as part of an ongoing interfaith dialogue series.

Dr. Paul Fortunato, UHD English professor and co-director of the center, presented the two guest speakers.

Ali R. Candir, of the Institute for Interfaith Dialogue (IID), and the Reverend Gena Davis, of Grace Episcopal Church, met to discuss the differences and similarities of Christianity and Islam. Candir is the executive director at the IID, a non-profit organization established in 2002, headquartered in Houston.

In the discussions, Rev. Davis addressed the global question: "Who is your neighbor and what does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself?"

The question addressed what Fortunato said was the reasons behind these panels.

"One of the reasons for these dialogues is to pursue peace in the world. In a multicultural world, as we move ahead, unless people of different faiths communicate with each other better, peace is going to be hard to attain."

He added, "We know that UHD is such a diverse community, with students from all over the world, and of so many different faiths. When we started these dialogues in 2009, the Muslim Student Association was very supportive of the efforts as well."

Wednesday's deliberation focused mostly on the similarities of the two religions and ways that Christians and Muslims can come together.

Candir told his audience that "sometimes [our religion] is misunderstood. People think that we believe in a different god, but it is the same God."

He went on to explain the common beliefs found in both the Quran and the Bible, including the resurrection of Christ, and elaborated on the ways that the history of the two religions has been interconnected through time.

Rev. Davis stated that "Conflict and fear are the two main things that seem to come up and if we really talk and try to help each other understand, as communities, we could help reduce conflict and help reduce fears."

She closed by imploring the audience, no matter what their traditions might be, to go out and look at all the other ones.

UHD Proposes Increase in Tuition and Fees

Alma Garcia
Assistant Editor

Students shared their concerns April 24th in a meeting with the way fees are increasing at UHD. As it is, students are already paying \$2,511 for twelve credit hours. If the proposed budget is approved, students can expect to see a \$30 increase per credit hour. That means that undergraduate students can expect their tuition rates to increase to \$2,631 for twelve credit hours for Fall 2013 and Spring 2014.

With over 12,000 enrolled students, the University of Houston-Downtown prides itself on being one of the most affordable four-year colleges in the state of Texas. Last Wednesday, however, David Bradley, Vice-President of Finance, and Edward Hugetz, Interim Senior Vice-President and Provost, introduced a budget proposal to students that aims at increasing tuition and mandatory fees for FY 2013 to 2014.

Parking rates are also expected to increase. UHD will be moving from a program of charging separately for each summer session to having a single summer rate. A full year rate for disabled persons will apply to faculty, staff, and students. Students who want to buy a permit for one semester will pay the standard semester fees.

"Our highest priority is ensuring student success and for that reason an increase in tuition fees is necessary," stated Bradley. Compared to other four year colleges, UH-D will remain among the most affordable four-year colleges in Texas assuming other colleges decide to increase their fees.



(via Creative Commons)

The expected revenue from increased fees is estimated to be \$3 million, which will go to serve as funds for new student success initiatives. The proposed student success initiatives call for:

- \$281,000 to strengthen student support including financial aid operations, new positions in the Career Services, and new positions in the Student Activities.
- \$324,790 to strengthen UHD's infrastructure including a new IT System Administrator, labor technician, new energy management system technician, and a new building maintenance fund.
- \$379,000 to support student learning including the strengthening of the academic support center, expanding the Scholars Program to include an Honors Program, strengthen disability services, strengthen Testing services, and establishing a teaching and learning center for undergraduate research.

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Houston's Hidden Treasures

Exploring Houston's Treasure Troves with Mark Caffey All Aboard!

Mark Steven Caffey
Staff Columnist

Since the destruction of Hurricane Ike, Galveston has bounced back to provide tourists with a plethora of activities such as The Rainforest Café, Historic Strand, Pleasure Pier and miles of beaches. A less publicized but wonderful spot is Seawolf Park.



(photo by Mark Steven Caffey)

Seawolf Park is located on the end of Pelican Island which is just North of Galveston. Seawolf Park is home to a WWII submarine and destroyer. As a child, I remember visits to the park and the thrill of being on board these actual war-faring vessels.

The WWII submarine USS Cavalla is a memorial to the lost submarine USS Seawolf. She was commissioned February 29, 1944. On June 19, 1944, during her maiden patrol, she sank the 30,000 ton aircraft carrier Shokaku. This carrier was an enemy ship of Pearl Harbor and Battle of Coral

Sea. This destruction of Shokaku earned her the Presidential Unit Citation.

After the war, the Cavalla was decommissioned in 1946. She was brought back to service in 1951 and assigned to the Submarine Squadron 10 to meet the Soviet threat. In 1952, she was converted to the SSK submarine class.

In 1971, the U.S. Navy gave possession of the Cavalla to the Texas Submarine Veter-

ans of WWII and delivered her to Seawolf Park. The Cavalla has been involved in renovation efforts for years. Many volunteers provide the needed resources to bring her back to pristine condition.

Resting next to the USS Cavalla is the USS Stewart. She is one of only two surviving destroyer escorts in the United States. The USS Stewart has officially been cited in the National Register of Historic Places by the Texas Historic Commission.

The USS Stewart is the second ship named for Rear Admiral Charles Stewart, commander of the USS Constitution from 1813 to 1815. The Stewart began as a training ship, developing officers before critical missions. She made 30 North Atlantic crossings in 1944 with occasional enemy submarine and aircraft encounters. The Stewart joined the Pacific theater in 1945

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Don't Judge A Play by its Cover: The Elephant Man

Wendy Williams
Staff Writer

With the use of immaculate costuming, excellent blocking technique and a brilliant cast, the Alley Theatre hit the mark again with its beautifully performed production of Bernard Pomerances' "The Elephant Man."

UHD student Tristien Winfree, a sophomore majoring in Fine Arts, played the role of an orderly in the hospital. He was offered the role during the performance of his first play with the Alley Theater, "A Few Good Men."

The scene opens with the physical description of Jo-

seph Merrick and where he is in his life at this metaphorical time. The play is set in 1884 and Joseph, sometimes referred to as "John", is working as an attraction in a sideshow where he is being marketed as a spectacle: "Half man, Half elephant."

Treves enters the scene, a surgeon and teacher at London Hospital, and requests to see Merrick to validate his phenomenal appearance. He then asks if he can be granted the opportunity to study his condition. Ross, the sideshow manager, agrees.

After being banished in London by police, Ross takes the show on the road. His next

stop is in Brussels. While there, Ross is told once again by the authorities that Merrick cannot be shown or allowed to perform. Ross, then makes the decision to eliminate Merrick from the show. He takes the money that he was supposedly saving for Merrick and sends him back to London on a train.

On his way back to London, Merrick causes a stir in the train station and the conductor contacts Treves. Treves chooses to take responsibility for him and becomes his caretaker. Under the guidance of Treves, Mr. Carr Gomm and Bishop How, Merrick develops conversational skills, and becomes friends with people

who have shown fondness for him. Merrick realizes that he has the capacity to love after he meets an actress, Mrs. Kendal.

Winfree played a central part of the production and being familiar with conditions such as Merrick's, it came as second nature to him.

Moreover, he describes this experience as "essential" to his professional career, and "awesome." He explained that there was always something new to learn everyday not only from the actors at

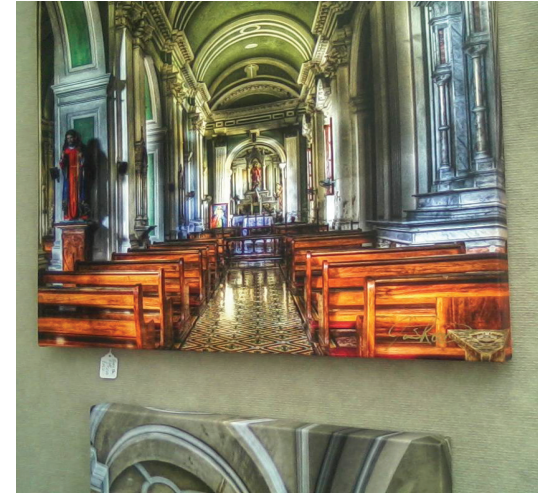


Tristien Winfree (photo by Elpidia Medina)

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HOUSTON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING BRAZILIAN'S CULTURE



(photos by Wendy Williams)

Wendy Williams
Staff Writer

In Texas we do things big. The Houston International Festival was no exception. This year's spotlighted culture was the South American country of Brazil. The festival was immersed with South American flavor in the forms of music, food, art and dress. The festival was a four-day weekend celebration that began the weekend of April 20 to 21, and concluded on the weekend of April 27 to 28. The doors opened at 11:00 a.m. in the downtown Houston areas of Tranquility Park and Sam Houston Park near the Houston Public Library.

With seven different stages, music was everywhere.

In the streets, dancers dressed in traditional Carnival costumes to entertain the masses. Some of this year's headlining stage acts were Bootsy Collins, Los Lobos, Aaron Neville, and Diogo Nogueira. Other acts joined in the celebration like Houston based KoumanKe'le' Dance and Drum Ensemble who performed on the Sister Cities International stage and were presented an award from the Mayor of Houston.

Artwork had a strong presence at this year's festival. Pieces on display captured scenery, cars, and everyday life. Jamie Rood, an artist from Austin, Texas, had a booth filled with beautiful pieces in the Fine Art and Craft Market.

While browsing all the sites at the festival, one was

bound to take in the aromas. Several food vendors came to Houston to give Houstonians a sample of good eating. Crescent City Katfish traveled from New Orleans, Louisiana catering to creole and Cajun tastes and Govinda's from Tucson, Arizona for those vegetarian appetizers. There were also local restaurants in attendance like Mi Pueblito's Columbian cuisine.

The Houston Festival Foundation, a nonprofit organization, uses the proceeds from the festival to benefit their educational program. Additional funding is obtained by corporate sponsorship. Some of the corporate sponsors that had a presence at the festival were Chevron, KHOU11, Green Mountain Energy, HEB and Culture Map.

The Children's Museum of Houston



(Via Creative Commons)

Wendy Williams
Staff Writer

Founded in 1980 and opened in 1984, the Children's Museum of Houston exposes young children to a world of discovery. Located at 1500 Binz Street in the Museum District of Houston, the museum houses 14 exhibits focused on activating and challenging the mind of a child.

Since its opening, the museum has received many accolades based upon its attendance and size. Citysearch.com gave the museum a 5-star rating and Parents Magazine named it 'America's number 1 children's museum.' Since 2009, more than 1 million visitors have walked through the doors

of the museum. The interactive exhibits and 3 story climbing unit called the 'PowerTower' is perhaps what contributes such high ratings from visitors.

The internal layout is amazing and encompasses an onsite Houston Public Library branch, a restaurant "The Fresh Cafe" and a gift shop "Fiddle Sticks." So in between play and learning time kids can eat and grown-ups can shop or visit the library.

Some of the more popular exhibits include FlowWorks, which focuses on hydropower and professions associated with water; the Matter Factory which is a scientific futuristic adventure; and the Tot Spot, an exhibit geared towards babies and toddlers that helps stimulate their learning abilities.

People of all ages are welcome. The museum also hosts a family night, every Thursday from 5 p.m. through 8 p.m. when admission is free for everyone. General admission is \$9.00 for adults and \$8.00 for seniors 65 and older. Free parking is not provided, however there is metered street parking and museum paid parking. The cost to park on the museum lot is \$5.00 for an hour, \$6.00 for two hours, and \$7.00 for three or more hours.

The staff is great and very passionate about what they do. There is no greater role than to watch younger people in their learning experiences.

Tired of Studying for Finals? Take A Nap



(via Creative Commons)

By Betsy Swanback
Oregon Daily Emerald, U. Oregon via UWIRE

Sleep more, improve recollection. A new study from U. Notre Dame reached this conclusion after finding that going to sleep shortly after learning new information is most valuable for recalling the information in the future.

Jessica Payne, a Notre Dame psychologist who specializes in sleep studies, studied 207 subjects who regularly slept at least six hours per night. The study was focused on how much information a subject re-

members after learning it directly before sleeping.

Participants studied either related or unrelated word pairs in the morning or evening, at 9 a.m. or 9 p.m., and would be tested on their ability to remember the word pairings 30 minutes, 12 hours or 24 hours later. Some of the word pairs were semantically related and some pairs were completely unrelated.

This studied declarative memory, which is a person's ability to remember facts and specific knowledge.

"Following a 12-hour retention interval containing a night of sleep or a day of wakefulness, overall recall was superior in subjects who slept," the study stated. These findings were similar at the 24-hour retest. At this point all of the subjects had received a full night's rest, but researchers found that subjects who went to sleep shortly after learning the words remembered better than subjects who did not.

"Our study confirms that sleeping directly after learning something new is beneficial for memory," Payne told Science Daily. "What's novel about this study is that we tried to shine light on sleep's influence on both types of declarative memory by studying semantically unrelated and related word pairs."

Jude Kehoe, a nurse at U. Oregon's Health Center, stressed the importance of sleep for students. She discouraged irregular sleep patterns for studying because the body does not learn as efficiently with irregular sleep. The body can also only make up two hours of sleep, she said.

"Our brain does all of this filing when you are asleep and the REM sleep helps students learn better," Kehoe said. "If students would study during the day and then sleep eight hours, they would remember the information much better. When you don't have sleep, it causes a stress reaction to go off in your body, with negative cascading effects."

Payne encouraged studying directly before sleeping for the greatest recall in the morning.

"Since we found that sleeping soon after learning benefited both types of memory, this means that it would be a good thing to rehearse any information you need to remember just prior to going to bed," Payne told Science Daily. "In some sense, you may be 'telling' the sleeping brain what to consolidate."

Celebrate The End of Finals

Via Uwire

During the school year, students drain themselves pouring over books, studying for tests and trying to be successful, but as finals come to a close, they find ways to celebrate their hard work.

Julia Cabe, a communication disorders major, knows exactly what she is going to do to celebrate the end of the school year. She and her roommate will head over to the Cannon Center for a no-limits pig out. The only rules are to eat and not judge.

"At the end of every semester for finals my roommate and I go to the Cannon Center, and we eat as much as we want or whatever we want," Cabe said. "We support each other in it and (are) not allowed to judge. It's almost like a competition ... we celebrate by eating food and a lot of it."

While Cabe is eating her heart out, business major Trevor Perkins will be preparing to go to a midnight movie with his roommates.

"I guess it's a tradition," he said. "It's usually just an idea that happens to happen every finals week."

Tyler Smith, a genetics and biotechnology major, also likes hanging out with his friends after finals, but instead of watching a movie he goes shooting and uses his old notes from the semester as targets.

"I'll usually bring milk jugs and bottles to shoot," Smith said. "But you can also bring (notes), like stacks of them together and you just grab a target or draw one

on and shoot holes in the paper ... it's like confetti almost, depending on what you shoot it with ... then my old roommates and mission buddies will go get all-you-can-eat sushi until you need to roll us out on stretchers."

Sometimes shooting down school notes is not enough. Some students prefer to have a bonfire that is fueled by old school assignments. Jessica Richards, a BYU student from Florida, said in a Facebook post that she has had this type of bonfire several times.

"I have done that on a number of semesters," Richards said. "Get roommates and such together, and throw anything they're willing to burn: assignments, textbooks they can't sell back, etc ... (It's) an assignment bonfire. Throw all of your notes and papers on the flames."



(via Creative Commons)

(Elephant Man continued from page 6)

the Alley Theater, but from himself as well.

"There is a difference once you step outside of the doors of the university and see how other professionals work," he said.

The story, as a whole, delivers an age-old message to not judge a book by its

cover. Today's society is driven on looks and appearances so it is important not to reject or turn someone away because they are different. Those who really knew Merrick found that he was intelligent, passionate, and caring. Through the social interactions Merrick thrived and the feeling was mutual.

"The play hopes to make the audience reevaluate the definition of what it means to be ugly," said Winfree.

Hot Picks for Music Summer Festivals to Experience



(Via Creative Commons)

Alma Garcia
Assistant Editor

Finals are soon to be over. If all things go well, we will pass. Worst case scenario, well, we'll let you deal with that. For now, let's focus on what will go down after finals with these anticipated festivals.

Texas Thunder 2013

Nothing defines the Lone Star state better than ice cold beer, country music playing in the background, and lending a hand to those who most need it. Recently announced, the Thunder Festival organizers have teamed up with fellow Texas music artists to donate 100% of net proceeds to West Texas schools and first responders. So get your camping gear ready for the country festival of the year. Where: Gardendale, TX; When: May 17-19, 2013; Tickets: \$65 for the three day festival; 1-855-362-0535 or texas thunderfest.com.

Neon Desert Music Festival 2013

Taste the glory of dancing in a rule-free environment. Live life like you never lived it before by dancing all day and into the night with a Silent Disco. With 20+ bands, 4 stages, and Silent Disco this is the place to be if you want to have fun. Did I mention that it is a family-friendly environment? Get ready to shake it! When: May 25, 2013; Where: El Paso, TX; Tickets: \$55-\$150; neondesertmusicfestival.com.

River City Rockfest 2013

This one day, multi stage rock festival promises to do everything but rock you to sleep. Featured appearances include Bullet for my Valentine, Skillet, and Asking Alexandria. Don't miss the opportunity to go wild with one of the best rock bands in history: Guns N' Roses. Ready for over 12 hours of non-stop music? When: May 26, 2013; Where: AT&T Center, San Antonio, TX; Tickets: \$59.50-\$99.50; rivercityrockfest.com

Chaos in Tejas 2013

For those heavy rock lovers, Chaos in Tejas promises to burst your ears with chaotic tunes. The lineup includes bands from all over the world including Australia, Canada, Japan, and New Zealand. Lineup: The Marked Men, Andy Stott, The Batts, Benediction, etc. When: May 30-June 2, 2013; Where: Austin, TX; Tickets: \$150 for a four day pass; chaosintexas.com

Free Press Summer Fest 2013 -

One of the most long awaited festivals, the Free Press Summer Fest is a melting pot of genres where classic and new artists meet under one stage. Under the blazing sun, Houston promises to heat things up and take everyone's spirits into flaming ecstasy. Expected artists include: 2 Chainz, Geto Boys, Macklemore and Ryan Lewis, Passion Pit. When: June 1-2, 2013; Where: Houston, TX; Tickets: \$134.50 for the two day festival; fpsf.com

(More Planning continued from page 5)

women may choose abortion because they do not believe they have the support they need to continue their pregnancy. Clinics such as Planned Parenthood are there to financially benefit from this mindset and to continue promoting abortion.

There are options to abortion such as adoption, non-profit support groups and counseling.

Numerous local organizations promote alternatives to abortion. The Houston Coalition for Life is a pro-life organization rooted with their motto "Ending abortion in Houston, peacefully and prayerfully." The organization provides counseling and services for mothers-to-be. They also have a mobile crisis pregnancy center (bus) which provides free pregnancy tests and free ultrasounds. The bus is parked at the Planned Parenthood building near UH Central.

Over the years, there have been many unplanned births. Those individuals make up a large portion of the American population today. I imagine the birth of many pro-choice advocates were unplanned; how ironic.

Although abortion is legal, it doesn't have to be the choice. I am the father of an aborted child and I think about it often. It has created a lasting effect on me. The pregnancy was not due to rape and the mother's life was not at risk. It was an unplanned pregnancy. I regret our decision to this day. We were drawn into the idea: "It's simple and quick. Everyone does it. No big deal." Well, it was a big deal. We should have explored other options. How can we as humans dare to choose between life and death for our unborn child; especially when the pregnancy is caused by our own carelessness?

Abortion is not a natural act. I believe our lives and the preservation of life is part of the human condition. We are here to protect life, not destroy it.

(UHD to Increase Tuition continued from page 5)

- \$460,000 to support online instruction and web presence including a new UHD webmaster, UHD web site redesign, and adding three new positions.
- \$765,000 to be set aside for scholarships to give to students based on need
- \$872,000 to increase full-time faculty and reducing the number on adjuncts.
- \$750,000 for marketing UHD remains pending.

The proposal is currently being reviewed under the UH System administration and, if approved, will be submitted in the beginning of May to the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents is set to meet in the middle of May and there, they will make the decision to accept, modify, or reject the proposal.

(Houston's Hidden Treasures continued from page 6)

to conduct training exercises out of Pearl Harbor.

The USS Stewart was decommissioned near the end of 1945 and donated to Seawolf Park in 1972. Participants of the Save Our Ship Program have been restoring and maintaining her. The group meets often to work on the ship and share information with her guests. Many U.S. Navy veterans are dedicated to

keeping the memory of Stewart alive.

For a memorable summer excursion, be sure to visit to Seawolf Park. A small parking and entry fee will provide all day access to both ships. The experience will instill a well-deserved appreciation of those sailors who served our great country.

Summer Internship Programs to Look Into



(via Creative Commons)

Enrique Bolivar
Contributing Writer

THE MAYOR'S INTERNSHIP SUMMER LECTURE PROGRAM

PROGRAM: The Mayor's Internship Summer Lecture Program offers both undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to learn about and contribute to the diverse functions of the nation's fourth largest municipality. In addition to experiencing the daily challenges and rewards of public service, the interns also participate in a series of Brown Bag Seminars featuring City officials presenting overviews of what it takes to run local government. They discuss the work of specific departments and provide insight into issues that confront the City of Houston today. In order to be an intern for the City of Houston, undergraduate interns must be currently enrolled in a college or university. Graduate interns must be currently enrolled, or accepted into a graduate program.

WEBSITE: houstontx.gov/volunteer/internships.html

INTERNSHIPS-SUMMER 2013 - HOUSTON ASTROS BASEBALL CLUB

PROGRAM: The Houston Astros Internship Scholarship Program has been established to increase opportunities for undergraduate students of limited financial means to be able to complete full time internships with the club. This is a full time, unpaid internship which requires interns to work 32 to 40 hours a week. In addition, it is mandatory that the candidate receive college credit for their participation in the internship program. Specific duties and responsibilities will vary based upon the department.

WEBSITE: baseballjobs.teamworkonline.com/teamwork

HACU NATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PROGRAM: This internship program is for students looking for an internship in a federal agency or corporation. The spring 2014 session begins January 10 to April 10, and application opens this summer on June 14.

WEBSITE: hacu.net/hacu/HNIP.asp

AMEGY BANK'S SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PROGRAM: Amegy Bank's Summer Internship Program is designed to provide college students with an opportunity to gain knowledge, experience, and exposure in the banking industry. The internship experience includes several networking events, professional development and training sessions, deal reviews and social events. The Summer Internship Program is located in Houston, Texas at Amegy's corporate office in the Galleria area. The Internship is a paid position.

WEBSITE: internmatch.com/internships/zions-bancorporation/summer-intern

SUMMER INTERNSHIP - HUMAN RESOURCES

PROGRAM: Human Resources Department is currently seeking a Summer Intern to assist the team. This is a position for candidates either currently enrolled as a student at an accredited college or is a recent college graduate interested in pursuing a career in Human Resources.

WEBSITE: internmatch.com/internships/crane-worldwide/summer-internship

FASHION EDITORIAL INTERN

PROGRAM: oBaz is currently looking for a bright, motivated intern with a strong passion and interest in fashion, trends and social media. There is opportunity to gain experience in the high paced fashion world, and will teach you how to communicate trends and spread them on social media. This internship will provide a challenging but rewarding work experience with a fashion start-up and offers lots of opportunity for growth. This is an unpaid internship but there is potential for compensation on a performance basis. This is a remote working opportunity and can be done part time.

WEBSITE: us.fashionjobs.com/job/Fashion-editorial-intern

NEWS RADIO INTERN

PROGRAM: A three to six month college level internship with primary responsibilities including, but not limited to: assisting anchors, editors and technical producers with projects, assisting with new stories from news websites, social media sites and newscasts.

WEBSITE: hch.tbe.taleo.net/

ACCOUNTING INTERN

PROGRAM: The Accounting Intern will report directly to the Director of Accounting and play a key role in the annual audit of KIPP Houston Public Schools. The intern will gain valuable experience in all aspects of the KIPP Accounting group. He or she will work in accounts payable for two weeks, Accounts Receivable for two weeks, Fixed Assets for two weeks and help directly with the audit for two weeks. The intern will also work directly with KIPP schools and build relationships with each school by aiding in helping the schools succeed. This position is funded by Shell and is part of the 2013 Shell Nonprofit Internship Program. This is a paid internship of approximately \$2,500 over eight weeks starting June 3.

WEBSITE: kippcareers.force.com/JobDetail

CONTACT: jobs@kipphouston.org

CRIME LAB INTERN-HOUSTON

PROGRAM: Ideal candidates will be pursuing a degree in Biology, Chemistry or Forensic Science and have a GPA of 3.5 or above. Strong candidate will have experience in either analytical chemistry or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and short tandem repeats (STR).

WEBSITE: agency.governmentjobs.com

The Tech Files



(via Creative Commons)

By Jin Bateman

The Daily Universe, Brigham Young U. via UWIRE

With the ability to virtually "friend" anyone in the world on the social networking site, Facebook has produced some challenges for married couples. The New York Times and The Washington Times, writing articles titled, "A double standard," and, "Facing temptations on Facebook," provide just a couple examples of the possible dangers Facebook has introduced.

Cherly Wetzstein, journalist for the Washington Times, said, "Befriending old flames can snuff a marriage, but logging off is extreme."

Wetzstein's article focuses on a New Jersey pastor's comment to his congregation, urging married couples to stop using Facebook, which Reverend Cedric Miller described as "too many people's portal to infidelity."

Although there have been reports of ruined marriages due to social networks, it is obvious that with 66 percent of adults using social networking sites, deleting accounts may be an extreme solution. That leads to the possibility of combining Facebook accounts.

Despite any dangers that may arise from having separate Facebook accounts, Ashley and Douglas Kelly, a married couple attending BYU, do not see

the need to combine their accounts.

"That would be a reason if you don't trust each other," said Ashley Kelly, a BYU junior. Her husband, Douglas Kelly, a BYU senior, also feels that combining accounts is not necessary. "Once we started dating, Facebook disappeared," he said.

The Kellys have separate accounts, do not share passwords and agree that they will likely never combine accounts.

Another married couple also did not combine accounts; however, they do share passwords.

"I feel like it's almost more of a hassle to share an account," said Annie Call, a BYU junior.

Her husband, Joseph Call, a BYU sophomore, feels the same way.

"We both know each other's passwords although we don't get onto each other's [accounts]," said Joseph Call.

Annie and Joseph both agree that it would be more convenient to have separate accounts because when someone wants to talk to one of them it would be difficult to tell who is online with a shared account.

"For example, it would be hard to plan a surprise party," said Joseph.

Facebook may not be a concern in the lives of these married couples; the question of whether or not to combine was a simple one for them. Since Facebook does not have the option to merge two accounts, it becomes more complicated for those who choose to do so. However, for them, it might be an important way of keeping their relationship close.

(Internships continued from page 10)

SUMMER 2013 MARKETING INTERN

PROGRAM: The BBVA Compass Stadium Marketing, PR & Booking department is seeking intern candidates. This position offers the selected individuals the opportunity to experience communications and operations aspects of a professional sports and entertainment organization. Candidates will gain valuable experience in the fast-paced world of sports and entertainment through the execution of a variety of public and private events. Qualified applicants should be pursuing a bachelor's or master's degree in marketing, communications, public relations or sport management. Previous experience with a professional sports team, agency or event marketing is a plus. The ability to work nights/weekends, game days and holidays is imperative. Candidates will receive college credit and must provide proof of school enrollment and internship credit in order to participate in the internship program. Candidates must also have a willingness to learn across all areas of stadium operations. All interns must be eligible to receive college-credit for their hours. This is a non-paid internship.

WEBSITE: aegworldwide.apply2jobs.com

BACK STAGEOL INTERNSHIP

PROGRAM: BackstageOL.com is growing and they are offering internships in journalism and promotions. Duties and responsibility for the journalism internship include researching and publishing a minimum of four articles per week on the latest entertainment news in music, television, movies, pop culture and more. Journalism interns must also have the ability to conduct interviews over the phone with high profile celebrities, promote articles via social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Google+, etc.), and work in cooperation with editors and journalists. Duties and responsibilities for the promotions internship includes implementing grassroots marketing campaigns through social media and live events, hosting contest promotions at various remote events around the city of Houston, distributing promotional material at live events, and develop and grow social media databases.

WEBSITE: backstageol.com/promo/join-the-backstageol-team/

CONTACT: jon@BackstageOL.com

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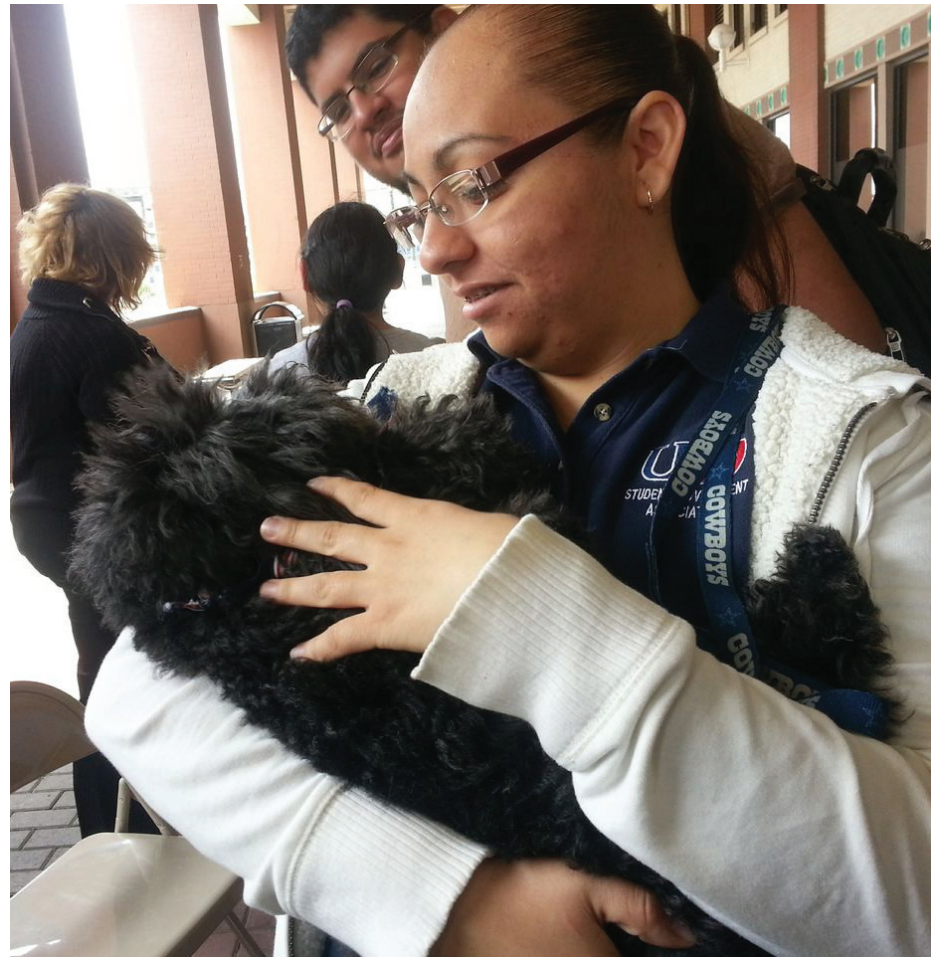
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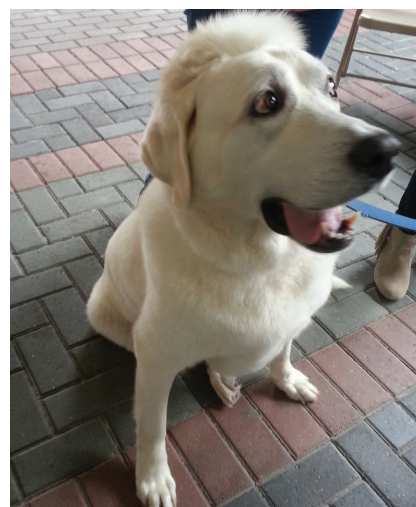
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Pet a Pet Day Faithful

Students were treated to some stress relief just in time for finals when Faithful Paws brought their certified trained therapy canines to UHD at the portico area on April 25. Students were able to hold and pet the amazing dogs, take pictures and share the joy that petting a pet brings as well as interact with the volunteer group which is known for their work in the community. The certified and trained animal therapy group has worked at other universities such as Rice, St. Thomas, UH as well as hospitals such as Methodist and nursing homes. The event was brought to the students as a courtesy of Student Government Association.



photos by Dateline Staff

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