

UHD *dateline:* *OWNTOWN*

student run since volume one

Deferred Action: A Reality Check

Janae Steadham
Assistant Editor

As a Deferred Action candidate that has his eye set on success, Alejandro Madregol is excited about the idea of Deferred Action. A native of Colombia, he moved with his family to the United States at the age of 12. As a UHD student, Alejandro has a lot to gain from Deferred Action, a policy recently put in place to give young illegal immigrants a chance at a more “legal” life in the U.S., albeit on a temporary basis.

When asked his thoughts on Deferred Action, Alejandro stated that he has high hope for the policy. “I think it is a great opportunity for all undocumented student because it will allow them to finish their education here in the U.S.”

The idea of sovereignty for young undocumented immigrants does indeed seem like a great opportunity to many young immigrants. After the DREAM Act failed to pass, Deferred Action gives a renewed hope to the young immigrants that followed their family into the U.S.

For many, the hope of a legal life in the U.S. is enough to counter the potential risks of applying for Deferred Action. This procedure may be the only way to get a work permit and live legally in the U.S. However, it is important to understand the facts before applying.

There has been no clear answer from presidential candidate Mitt Romney as to whether he would continue the procedure. He has stated that he is not supportive of a mass deportation movement, but has remained silent on his intended policy if he takes office. This leaves an expensive process in political limbo; the \$465 application fee makes this a costly gamble.

This policy is not an Executive order. This means there is no right to appeal a denial. While applicants can ask for a review of an initial denial, the supervisory decision will be final.

Applicants can be denied for any reason, even if they meet the



qualifications listed below. With no impartial adjudicator, the decision cannot be reversed.

If granted Deferred Action, it can be terminated at any time for any reason without justification or review.

There is also concern for the Deferred Action application jumpstarting deportation of candidates, qualified or not.

With no checks and balances in place, errors are likely to take place.

Despite the potential pitfalls, there are benefits to the policy. Those granted Deferred Action are granted a two-year period in which they can study and in many cases obtain employment. The two-year term can be renewed as well.

For many, the idea of no longer living in fear of deportation is worth the hassle.

Deferred action is considered on an individual basis, and there are quite a few qualifying factors that have to be met.

At the recent UHD info session on Deferred Action, the room had a resounding theme of “How do I know if I meet the requirements?”

Speaker Jill Davis, a Clinical Supervising Attorney at the University of Houston Law Center’s Immigration Clinic, answered this question along with many others at the information session.

The Deferred Action Policy requirements are as follows:

- Under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012

- Resided in the United States before reaching your 16th birthday

- Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time

- Physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS

- Entered without inspection before June 15, 2012, or your lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012

- Currently enrolled in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a general education development (GED) certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States

- Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety

Those who are eligible will receive deferred action for a two-year period. This policy requires a two-year renewal, and those who receive it could also be eligible for work authorization.

There may be an exception or two to these requirements however most of them are face value.

For example, the requirement that states applicants must “have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time”, it is understood

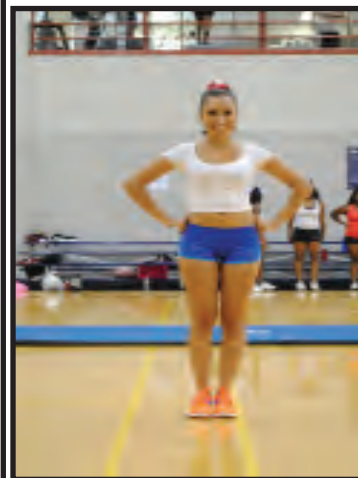
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TRYOUTS



MILO GREENE



@ Dateline Downtown

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INFORMATION

Letter Policy

Dateline: Downtown welcomes letters to the editor from any member of the UH system. Letters should be no more than 250 words, include the author's full name, phone number or email address, and affiliation with the University, including classification and major. Anonymous letters will not be published. Deliver letters to Room S-260, email them to dateline@gator.uhd.edu, or fax them to (713) 221-8119. Letters to the editor may be edited for space. They will be edited for spelling, grammar and malicious or libelous statements. Letters must be the work of the writer and must be signed. All submissions become property of *Dateline:Downtown* and may not be returned.

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A Taste of Torchy's Tacos

Lisa Risoli
Contributing Writer

There is more than slight irony in the placement of Houston's Torchy's Tacos. Located in one of Houston's wealthiest neighborhoods, it is a far cry from the Austin trailer park where the successful predecessor still sits.

With a line that often spills well outside of its doors, Torchy's is certainly not hurting for business, but I set out to answer the ultimate question – has Torchy's lost its luster after becoming Houston's more corporate version?

As the brainchild of Michael Rypka, Torchy's has always been known among the hip Austin crowd as the go-to spot must for taco aficionados. The trailer simply added to the atmosphere of the taco experience – one that Rypka has played into quite masterfully.

With options like making your taco “trashy” on tacos aptly named the “Trailer Park” or the “Dirty Sanchez”, Rypka played into the novelty of a decent taco served in a trailer park while offering one tasty taco to boot.

However, one foot into the (overcrowded) Houston location and it is quite clear that the restaurant has gone from legitimate trailer park taco stand to what can only be described as a concept restaurant, complete with a copy-cat menu that can seem odd in such a sanitized environment.

The urban sleek interior of Houston's Torchy's is a far cry from trailer park food truck. It is somewhat reminiscent of the inside of a Chipotle – complete with counter service and stainless steel abound. There's room for dining – both inside and out – but hunting for a table can resort to stalking during peak dining times.

Parking can be a nightmare too – with a lot that empties onto Shepherd, you have one shot at a

parking spot before being thrown back into traffic, only to circle around again.

“little nookies” in place of a meal. A deep-fried mixture of chocolate chip cookie dough, this confection



The food itself can also seem like a more “Houston” version of this Austin favorite, but is pleasing nonetheless. The green chili queso is creamy, spicy and riddled with ample bits of green chilies, for around five bucks a pop.

The chips are hot, thin, crisp, and just salty enough. They even keep their nice snap after being drowned in Torchy's queso. The chicken fajita tacos (my fav!) were stuffed with grilled white meat and had just the right amount of accoutrement, but buyer beware; the diablo sauce is not for those who are faint of heart.

It has a giant kick that lives up to its name and can take taco amateurs by surprise. The chicken is tender and flavorful with adequate grill to add to the attempt at authentic.

The soft, sweet, full texture of the flour tortilla flanked my fajita and added to the full taco experience. At around four dollars a taco, this was the lunch bargain of the week for me.

If tacos aren't your thing, I highly recommend that you order the

is probably illegal in most states other than Texas.

These range beyond decadent and border on addicting. I suggest you take a nice size bite of the “little nookie” and follow it immediately with one of the cherries in your basket.

You will want to order a dozen for around twelve bucks and share them with your friends. These little gems are the perfect ending to a (pretty) perfect lunch.

For more information on Torchy's, visit www.torchystacos.com

Like food, will write?

Come join the *Dateline* as an Entertainment & Arts writer.

We'll feed you, but no promise about the taste.

editor.dateline@gmail.com

Where (TF) is Milo Greene, and Better Yet...Who Cares?

Elliot Garrett
Staff Writer

Well. Yours truly, Elliott Keith, along with the staff of "The DD" (Dateline Downtown), set out on an excursion last Friday to conquer and deliver to you, our engaged reading public, a story of what we thought to be a humble indie band by the name of Milo Green. Oh, how wrong we were...

This story begins with a phone call to our office from a certain PR agent out of New York. She was looking for someone to cover an upcoming band at Warehouse Live.

We gladly obliged. Who wouldn't want to go to a sweet concert for free? With the promise of media passes and access for our photographer, we set out, equipment in hand.

We showed up, ready to work, only to be told by the Warehouse Live staff that we were in the wrong place (and ironically at the wrong time). The show had been moved to Fitzgerald's. Womp, womp.

Yes. This happens at times. But, the rep usually updates the press (that they called in the first place) of such significant changes. How can we cover a band that does not exist at the venue we were sent to?

After hauling tail to Fitzgerald's (from my \$10 parking space downtown), we came upon the elusive Eli. Road manager Eli wasn't terribly interested in our phone call about the venue change, which was evident after being hung up on. Twice.

Once at Fitz', we were informed that only one in our party had a pass to the show, and we were allowed no more photographer access than anyone else. This was validated by the lack of media access on that one ticket - it was a paper ticket eerily similar to the dude in front of me.

A few phone calls later, and about 30 minutes of wait time, and another ticket appeared via Fitz' worker. Still no photographer pass.

When we finally tracked down



Elusive Eli, his disinterest in our hoop jumping to find Milo Greene was somewhat reminiscent of what it's like to watch patrons plead with a door guy at a crowded club, yet we were SUPPOSED to be there. To add ego insult to injury, our scheduled interview with the band had been scrapped, and again, we were uninformed.

After being interrogated on WHO we were exactly, we somehow passed muster and one more paper ticket appeared. (These things were scarcer than Wonka tickets at this point!)

When we asked him about the change in venue, we were enlightened to the fact that the venue change had come weeks before. This was on the heels of the phone call from the PR agent placed to our office FOUR days before the concert. And I repeat... womp, womp.

When we were finally allowed into the venue, we stood pressed against the bar (which would in most cases be awesome, but not in this one). We checked out a couple of band shirts and twiddled our thumbs some more. Our place by the bar did little more than occasionally douse us in Lone Star

and PBR (which was being taken out of giant plastic buckets, fyi. Can't be sanitary.)

Realizing that we would only be able to see the top of hipster heads and therefore could not adequately review the band, we made a mad dash for the door before any more awkward Elusive Eli interaction occurred.

Thanks to my awesome editor/ carpool to Fitz' driver, we returned to Warehouse Live to retrieve our cars and whine about how in the world to fill the band review space. As we approached, we noticed a nice crowd gathering; we wandered in.

I bought the first round of drinks. We already reeked of beer anyway, thanks to the Fitz' buckets of unsanitary beer drenching we'd received. As we watched, the music (and the beer) began to calm our frustrations from before.

Before I noticed, we were swaying to the cool vibes of the live sounds being played. And this time, we were pressed against the bar WILLINGLY.

Being the geniuses that we are, my editor and I simultaneously leaned in to the bartender and inquired about the guy on stage.

"Nathan Quick... nice sound huh?"

At this point, I took matters into my own hands. Forget the fancy schmancy PR agent and Elusive Eli. I sauntered toward the stage, unaware of how I was going to nail this interview down, but well aware that I should. He was freaking awesome.

This interview was supposed to happen.

As we talked with Mr. Nathan Quick of the "Nathan Quick Band", we could sense his willingness and eagerness to interview, which was beyond refreshing at that point. Such a talent, yet still humble, I thought.

Pulling from an inspiration led by Crosby, Stills and Nash, (but not Young!), as well as Brian Bingham and Ryan Adams.

Nathan recently moved back from a stint in Nashville, in part to bring his talent

back to what he considers his home front, and he's returned with a mighty arsenal of personality and musicality. (Others could take a note, Milo Greene.)

The Nathan Quick Band plays weekly at Avante Garden and he will be showing off his rad musical skills at the Big Top across from the Continental Club on September 29, 2012.

Check him out on Reverbnation at <http://www.reverbnation.com/nathanquick> and please enjoy.

We did.

Have a tip on a band, artist, or other equally artsy person we should cover? Send your suggestions in! We promise not to laugh. Well, not while you're watching, anyway.
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CAMPUS NEWS

Misleading Gatorcard Fees Lead to Missing Money

Angelica Leicht
Editor-in-Chief

Are you using your Gatorcard to process your financial aid refund? If so, it's time to think again.

Disguised as a simple refund method, your Gatorcard may be costing much more than initially advertised.

According to statistics, more than 70 percent of college students are using Higher One as their refund provider, but few understand how complex this choice is when it comes to their finances.

Higher One is facing a myriad of lawsuits and federal investigations for deceptive fees charged to students, yet UHD is still actively promoting the use of the Gatorcard as an easy refund method for students.

These fees helped Higher One rake in a profit of over 88 million dollars from college students last year alone. They will also help Higher One pay off that \$11 million dollar settlement for the use of deceptive and unfair fee practices.

The \$11 million dollar settlement will

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be paid out to an estimated 60,000 students under the agreement, and Higher One has been ordered to halt their misleading and deceptive marketing campaigns.

Higher One will also be coughing up a \$110,000 penalty, while its card issuer, The Bancorp Bank, is responsible for an additional \$172,000.

These penalties were imposed by federal regulators well before the August 15, 2012 email that hit students' Gatormail accounts from "Gator", which stated that "UHD is proud of its partnership with Higher

One, a third-party company that allows UHD to offer students a variety of no-cost options to receive Financial Aid money."

There is nothing "no-cost" about the about the Higher One card.

Consumer watchdogs have pinpointed at least one of Higher One's fees as a direct violation of the U.S. Department of Education rules, and other fees may violate as well.

U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio is even urging students to avoid using their campus debit cards, and has sent a letter to Higher One urging them to

improve their banking practices.

Higher One's fees, which have been called "deceptive" and "predatory", are aimed at users when they access their financial aid money.

Higher One accounts carry more than a dozen fees, including a 50 cent per swipe charge on any transaction other than credit, despite the card being labeled as debit card across the front.

Think you can avoid these fees by withdrawing your cash? Good luck. The cost for the use of anything but a Higher One ATM will cost you \$2.50 per transaction, and there's only about 600 Higher One ATM's in the nation.

Don't forget about your Higher One account over summer break, either. You'll run the risk of facing an "abandoned account" fee of up to \$10 a month if you aren't using your account regularly.

With financial aid refunds on the way to your Gatorcard, it may be wise to learn as much as possible about the fees associated with this "no-cost" card. It may end up costing you more than you bargained for.

Introducing the "New" Face of the GRE

Angelica Leicht
Editor-in-Chief

There is more than slight irony in the placement of Houston's Torchy's Tacos. Located in one of Houston's wealthiest neighborhoods, it is a far cry from the Austin trailer park where the successful predecessor still sits.

With graduate school application deadlines rapidly approaching, it is important to know the facts on the new GRE.

The GRE has seen many changes over the past year, and much of these changes are to your benefit.

The GRE Program recently announced the new ScoreSelect option, which means that you can now decide which GRE scores from their reportable history to send to the schools you designate.


This gives you the option of sending only the scores which reflect your best – pretty useful if you've taken the GRE multiple times. The old format would reflect the scores from each attempt. You can also take the test once every 30 days, and up to five times within any continuous rolling 12-month period.

GRE Scoring has changed too; it's important to know what your score is in both the new and old format, so you know where you measure up. An estimate of your scores (minus the Analytical Writing portion) are available immediately after you've completed the test, and you'll get your official scores via the ETS system within about two weeks.

Important Facts about the GRE:

- More than 700,000 GRE tests were taken in 2011.
- Scores are good for five years.
- The GRE revised General Test is used by thousands of institutions worldwide in their admissions decisions

I hope your GRE performance accurately reflects your new, pretentious vocabulary.



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for a variety of programs, including masters, MBA, specialized masters degrees, Ph.D., and fellowships.

• Nearly 1,000 business programs accept GRE scores. In fact, about 85 percent of the U.S. News and World Report's Top 100 accept GRE scores in the admissions process for their MBA programs.

About Taking the GRE revised General Test:

- The GRE revised General Test costs \$175.
- The GRE revised General Test is available at about 700 test centers in more than 160 countries. Most people will take the computer-based test, which is available on a continuous basis throughout the year in most regions of the world.
- The overall testing time for the computer-based GRE revised General Test is about three hours and 45 minutes
- There are six sections, one of which is an unidentified/unscored section
- You can now preview and review capabilities

within a section

- A "mark and review" feature to tag questions, so you can skip them and return later if you have time remaining in the section
- You now have the ability to change/edit answers within a section
- An on-screen calculator is provided for the Quantitative Reasoning section
- You'll see new answer formats, including tasks such as numeric entry and highlighting a sentence in a passage to answer a question

New Scores vs Old Scores:

- Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning scores on the GRE revised General Test are reported on new 130 – 170 score scales, in 1-point increments.
- For GRE test takers who took the GRE General Test prior to August 2011, reports will include Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning scores on the prior 200 – 800 score scales and estimated scores on the new 130 – 170 score scales. This information is included on the score report to help you compare candidates.

For more information on the new GRE, visit ets.org.

Have an interest in writing about how to get ahead in college? Want to cover stories like the one above? If so, send us your info!

The Dateline needs writers like you.

Email us at editor.dateline@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Today

Tyke Hike at Houston Arboretum:
9 am - Houston Arboretum and Nature Center, Children 18 months to 3 years can join

The Kid with a Bike:
7 pm - 14 Pews
Film screening of the Grand Jury Prize winner at this years Cannes Film Festival

Tuesday, October 2

Boys Like Girls in concert with All American Rejects:
6 pm - House of Blues

National Night Out at Market Square Park:
6 pm - Market Square Park

Wednesday, October 3

Muslim Meditation with Ali Civelek:
12 pm - Rothko Chapel

Da Camera's "A Little Day Music":
12 pm - Wrotham Theater Center
Join Da Camera of Houston for a free lunchtime performance of this musical exploration series

Sunshine Kids Fall Fest:
5 pm - Red River Dance Hall and Saloon
Family fun activities from 5 to 9 pm

The Beacon's "Come to the Table: Serving Houston's Homeless, Body, Mind and Soul":
6 pm - The Beacon Day Center

Thursday, October 4

Career Fair - UHD:
7 am - 6 pm

SWS - CAN Fundraiser:
UHD - \$1 pizza

Fresh Arts' Cultured Cocktails:
5 pm - Boheme

Sip and Stroll Evenings at Bayou Bend:
5 pm - Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens

Green Mountain Energy Presents Thursday Concerts at Discovery Green:
6:30 - Discovery Green

33rd Annual Festival Chicano:

7 pm - Miller Outdoor Theatre
Celebrating 33 years of Chicano music in a three day musical party at the Miller Outdoor Theatre

Friday, October 5

Intervention Symposia:
10 am - UHD

Scholars Academy Seminar:
10 am - UHD

OutHouse OpenHouse:
5 pm - Project Row Houses

Saint Arnold Oktoberfest
6 pm - Saint Arnold Brewing Company
Saint Arnold Brewing Co.'s annual Oktoberfest party

Theater: "Girls Only - The Secret Comedy of Women":
8 pm - Main Street Theater
Original comedy that celebrates the honor, truth, humor, and silliness of the female spirit

Houston Symphony presents "Wicked Divas":
8 pm - Jones Hall

Saturday, October 6

Komen Houston Race for the Cure 2012:
7:45 am - Sam Houston Park

Pumpkin Patch at the Houston Arboretum & Nature Center:
10 am - Houston Arboretum and Nature Center

Towers and Trees Downtown Walking Tour with Architecture Center Houston:
10 am - Houston City Hall
Discover magnificent architecture between Hermann Square and Discovery Green, as well as the changing dynamics of downtown

FFP Running Club & Block 7 Running Club: Oktoberfest Pub Crawl benefitting the Todd Krampitz Foundation:
10 am - Sawyer Park

Zine Fest Houston 2012:
3 pm - Super Happy Fun Land

Saint Arnold Oktoberfest:
6 pm - Saint Arnold Brewing Company

Tux and Gown Gala:
6 pm - UHD

Sunday, October 7

Seventh Bicycle Rally and Scavenger Hunt:
8 am - Marmion Park
All-ages casual self-paced ride through a bicycle course in the Heights and surrounding areas

Mahatma Gandhi Library's "1000 Lights of Peace":
6 pm - Miller Outdoor Theatre
Multicultural international dance and music show by children and will conclude with a candle lighting for peace

Monday, October 8

Art opening reception: Annual Fall Faculty Show at HCC Central Art:
11:30 am - HCC Central Art Gallery
Exhibits from 23 of the artists who teach at HCC Central

Theatre Under The Stars Master Class with Jekyll and Hyde composer Frank Wildhorn:
3 pm - Hobby Center for the Performing Arts

Tuesday, October 9

Houston Police Department Recruiting:
9 am - UHD

Greater Houston Restaurant Association "Burgers and Beer Cookout":
5 pm - Brixx

Wednesday, October 10

Houston Police Department Recruiting:
9 am - UHD

Crew Staffing Recruiting Table:
10 am - UHD

Sports & Fitness Healthy Workshop Series:
12 pm - UHD

Art opening reception: Plurality: Paperwork:
12:30 pm - Lone Star College Kingwood
Art exhibit representing unique usage and original forms that are made possible in paper

"Laugh in the Face of Breast Cancer" benefitting the National Breast Cancer

Foundation:
7 pm - Rudyard's British Pub

Thursday, October 11

Houston Fire Department Recruiting:
10 am - UHD

Greek Extravaganza:
5 pm - UHD

Fresh Arts' Cultured Cocktails:
5 pm - Boheme

Gotye in concert:
6:30 pm - Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion

Green Mountain Energy presents Thursday Concerts at Discovery Green:
6:30 pm - Discovery Green

"Helping Hands" fundraiser benefitting Freedom Place:
7 pm - Mo's...A Place for Steaks
A happy hour with a cause, with free appetizers from Mo's

Main Street Theater presents Life is a Dream:
7:30 pm - Main Street Theater

HCC Central Drama presents The Passion of Dracula:
7:30 pm - Theatre One at HCC Central

Friday, October 12

Annual Fallapalooza Music Festival
UHD
SEALS Training:
12 pm - UHD

Houston Symphony presents Hocus Pocus Pops:
6 pm - Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion

2012 Bat Tours along the Buffalo Bayou:
6 pm - Sabine Street Bridge
Board the buffalo Bayou Partnership's pontoon boat and observe the emergence of approximately 250,000 bats from the Waugh Street Bridge

Art Opening Reception: Works by Tony Feher:
6 pm - Blaffer Art Museum
Retrospective look at the 20-year career of acclaimed American Sculptor Tony Feher

Drama:
7:30 pm - Diverseworks
Multimedia play Show Real Drama in conjunction with exhibition Keren Cyter: Video

SPORTS & FITNESS

UHD Men's Basketball Off to a Fantastic Start

Brian Taylor
Staff Writer

This year the UHD Men's Basketball Club players will be defending last year's Lone Star Men's Conference Championship win. Coach Leon Trimmings is determined to keep his team prepared and focused for a back to back championship season.

The UHD Men's Basketball Club started off the season with a scrimmage against a minor league professional team in the Houston Express.

The team won two out of the three 20 minute scrimmage games. The team is off to a 2-0 start on the young season, beating Lee College 55-47 in their first away game of the season, and shortly after, claiming a victory in their game against Lone Star College with a final score of 35-22.

When I spoke with coach Trimmings he stated, "As long as we play our UHD brand of basketball, we should win the championship again." Coach Trimmings promotes playing hard nose defense, because it's about having heart and putting in hard work.



He feels that the team can score with any team they come against but defense requires focus and commitment.

Coach Leon knows it's a little early

to discuss winning the championship but the mentality of the team needs to be that they will be at the championship game to defend their title. Coach Trimmings does not

define anyone as a stand out player stating, "We win as a team."

When asked about the teams' leading scorer Bobby Hooper, Coach Trimmings stated, "The young man has the skills for international basketball if he puts in the time and effort." Bobby Hooper is 6'5 or 6'6, depending on the shoes, but he has the skills of a shooting guard.

The Gators have an advantage over most teams; they have a player who was the former assistant coach of the UHD Men's Basketball Club last year, Houston Posey.

This year Posey is back as a UHD student; to have a coach as a player on the team is like having a coach on the court.

The UHD Men's Basketball Club practices twice a week, every Monday and Wednesday and practices are held at the Jesse H. Jones Gymnasium at UHD. Their games are held every Friday and the team's schedule can be found in the gym or online on the UHD Sports and Fitness page.

UPCOMING SPORTS SCHEDULES:

University of Houston - Downtown's Women's Division Soccer:

10/6	Saturday, 10 am	Bayland Park Field #L-2	UHD vs HCC-NW
10/13	Saturday, 10 am	Houston Amateur Sports Park	HCCS-SW vs UHD

*10/27 - 10/29 HCSC Champion at NIRSA Region IV Tournament
University of Texas at Dallas in Richardson, TX

University of Houston - Downtown's Men's Division Soccer:

10/6	Saturday, 12 pm	Bayland Park Field #L-2	UHD vs HCC-NW
10/13	Saturday, 12 pm	Houston Amateur Sports Park	HCC-SW vs UHD

*10/27 - 10/29 HCSC Champion at NIRSA Region IV Tournament
University of Texas at Dallas in Richardson, TX

University of Houston - Downtown's Men's Division Basketball:

10/5	UHD vs COM at COM	7 pm
10/12	UHD vs HCC - Central at The Forge for Families	8 pm
10/19	LSC Kingwood vs UHD at UHD	7 pm
10/26	UHD vs LSC CyFair at Texas Sports Medicine	7 pm
11/9	HCC - Northwest vs UHD at UHD	8:30 pm

Know the difference between a yellow card
and a red card?

Understand where the foul line is?

We Don't.

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The Dateline needs a Sports writer, so send us
your stuff.

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Big Goals for the UHD Cheer Team in 2012

Brian Taylor
Staff Writer

The auditions were held at the Jesse H. Jones Gym at the University of Houston-Downtown. There was a talented pool of ladies for the Head Coach, Myon Morgan, to choose from.

Coach Morgan has big plans to elevate the UHD cheerleading squad. He has coached all-star cheerleading for the past nine years, and is a head instructor for the National Cheerleading Association for college and high school, and he has also be an instructor for a professional sports team.

When I spoke with the Coach Morgan about his plans, he stated that he would like to have a more collegiate style cheerleading program here at UHD where they compete nationally.

He works with professional choreographers to create unique dance routines that the UHD cheerleading team will incorporate into their own routine for games and competitions. He also desires create a more enthusiastic and crowd engaging environment at the club sports games by incorporating acrobatic dunking at the basketball games.

This crowd pleaser will have



the UHD cheerleaders and our two mascots Chomp and Crunch soaring through the air from a trampoline.

Coach Morgan has big goals for the UHD Cheerleading Team. He believes that those goals can be reached having cheerleaders who are athletes. According to Coach Morgan, the most important abilities to have when trying out for the UHD Cheerleading Team are the ability to jump, tumble, perform

stunts, and understand and memorize cheer terminology.

The belief that cheerleaders are simply attractive décors is a misconception; cheerleading is not for the faint of heart and it can be a dangerous sport.

The candidates that tried out for the UHD Cheerleading Team were asked to perform various exercises, followed by a freestyle dance session to cheer music that was

graded by a panel of four judges. They were also asked to perform at the position they wanted to fulfill.

Special guests were also in attendance to help with the stunts and pyramids however their names cannot be mentioned because of their professional affiliations.

Currently, there is not an established captain, however Coach Morgan is seeking two students to step up and show that

they can handle that responsibility. According to Morgan there are no guaranteed spots on the UHD Cheerleading Team.

Everyone that tries out has an equal chance of making the team, so UHD Cheerleaders from previous semesters do not gain seniority.

Coach Morgan wants all current and future UHD Cheerleading candidates, to know is that feeling that you're not pretty enough, or that you do not have the perfect body shape is not what cheerleading is about. When you have that mind set, you'll always hesitate to try out for something that you love to do.

According to Coach Morgan, the most important characteristics a cheerleader can have are the desire to learn and athletic ability.

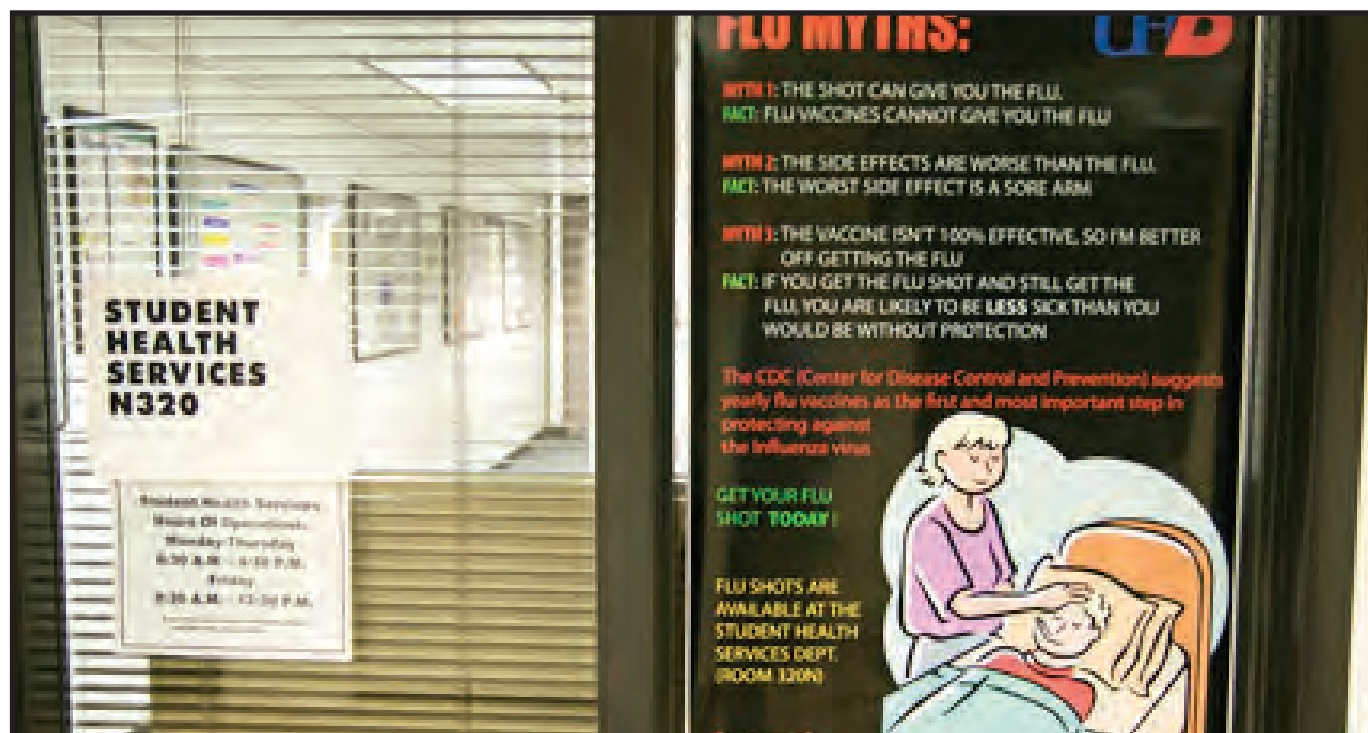
He also noted that all UHD Cheer team members must maintain a 2.0 G.P.A to remain on the team. When I concluded the interview with Coach Morgan by asking him what is one goal that he has for the UHD Cheerleading team, he stated that he would ultimately like to have a team of twenty, fourteen ladies and six guys.

Photos taken by Staff Photographer: Aron Negasha



HEALTHY LIVING

UHD's Student Health Services to the Rescue



UHD Student Health Services is designed to promote health among the student population at UHD. With over 13,000 students, it is critically important to know about how to schedule appointments at UHD.

One of the first requirements is that students have their UHD 900 number available when stopping by 320-North or calling 713-221-8137 for setting an appointment time.

When requesting an appointment time, remember that appointments are not to be scheduled during scheduled class times. In the appointment request, please be sure to be specific

about the health issue you want addressed. If you are requesting a physical examination for another organization, such as ROTC, please bring the form from the organization with you and check with the organization that Nurse Practitioner can complete the form.

If you have not been to the clinic before, or it has been over a year since your last visit, please arrive 15 minutes before the appointment time to complete updated health information.

When students arrive for their visit, they will need to provide their UHD student identification cards or will need to go to 204-South

Student Activities to obtain an identification printout.

Other forms of identification are not accepted for clinic appointments.

If you do not show for your appointment, you will be charged for a missed appointment. For canceling an appointment, you will need to call prior to 8 A. M. to avoid a fee. Be sure to call 713-221-8137 and leave a voicemail on the telephone system to avoid a missed appointment fee.

During your clinic visit, be sure to shut off mobile phones, and no other people accompanying you may be in the clinic with you with

the exception of a translator.

Please remember that Student Health Services does not provide written excuses for work, class, absences, or missed assignments. Remember too, that there is a clinic visit fee, and laboratory fees are a separate additional fee.

In many cases, particularly if laboratory tests were conducted, a follow up appointment is required.

Lastly, although Student Counseling is housed in 320-North with Student Health Services, Student Counseling has an entirely separate scheduling system that cannot be seen by UHD Student Health Services. Students requesting appointments with Counseling can either call 713-500-3327 or stop by the entrance to 320-North-a telephone is located in the entrance that connects directly to Student Counseling.

For many UHD students, it may be the first time that you are scheduling appointments with a health care provider. Every clinic has processes to follow to schedule appointments and how missed appointments are handled.

The information in this article will help guide you through the process here at UHD Student Health Services.

Robert Hanks, PhD, FNP-C, RNC
Assistant Professor UT Houston
School of Nursing Family Nurse
Practitioner University of Houston

[INSERT YOUR AD HERE]

Advertise your club or event

Special rates for UHD student organizations

Contact Daniel Almanza @ almanzad@uhd.edu or call 713-221-

8192

HEALTHY LIVING

“You’ve got Nice Veins” isn’t a Pick-Up Line

Influenza, better known as “flu”, is a highly contagious viral disease, which is spread by sneezing, cough, or by nasal secretions. Influenza occurs in seasons around the world, and in North America, the season occurs during the Fall through Spring months. Unfortunately, this is the time when people are indoors, making transmission easier.

Influenza has symptoms that mimic other viral upper respiratory infections such as the common cold. Symptoms include fever, chills, muscle aches, sore throat, and cough.

More vague symptoms of fatigue and headache can also be present. Unlike the common cold, influenza can progress to high fever and pneumonia, and possibly hospitalization. Although there are medications that can shorten the duration of the symptoms, such as Tamiflu, the best way to protect yourself and others is to be immunized.

There are two main types

of vaccinations for influenza, inactivated which is injected and attenuated which is sprayed in the nostrils.

All people 6 months and older should be vaccinated, particularly those with weakened immune systems. People with allergies to eggs, latex, or previous allergic reactions to the influenza vaccination should consult with their health care provider before being vaccinated.

A history of certain other disorders, such as Guillain-Barre, should also be mentioned to your health care provider.

Currently the influenza vaccination is an annual vaccination due to variation in the influenza virus.

The best time to be vaccinated is when the vaccine is available, although it will still be beneficial to receive it later on in the season.

Side effects from the vaccination may include pain at the injection site, and mild symptoms of

influenza that resolve in 1 or 2 days.

The UHD Student Health Services has the influenza Vaccination available for \$20 to students and faculty/staff of UHD starting on 19 September and ongoing until supplies are exhausted. The clinic is located in 320N and no appointment is needed for the influenza vaccination-influenza

vaccination injections are given on a walk-in basis during normal clinic business hours.

We do not stock the nasal spray type of vaccination-only the injectable type is stocked. Please anticipate completing the required vaccination paperwork when you arrive at the clinic.

Robert Hanks, PhD, FNP-BC, RNC
Assistant Professor



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SUGGESTED TOPIC:

Articulate with clarity an ethical issue that you have encountered and analyze what it has taught you about ethics and yourself.

The Prize in Ethics Essay Contest is an annual competition designed to challenge college students to analyze the urgent ethical issues confronting them in today's complex world.

Full-time Juniors & Seniors at accredited four-year colleges and universities in the U.S. are invited to enter.

FIRST PRIZE: \$5,000

SECOND PRIZE: \$2,500

THIRD PRIZE: \$1,500

TWO HONORABLE MENTIONS: \$500 EACH

ONLINE ENTRY & GUIDELINES:

www.ethicsprize.org

DEADLINE: ONLINE BY

DEC. 3RD, 2012, 5PM PST

www.eliewieselfoundation.org

COOL FINDS

Moruga Scorpion: The Devil Made Me Do It

Angelica Leicht

Chief-in-Editor

Let me give you a few words of advice.

Never become the person who can't turn down a dare.

While at the Hot Sauce Festival in Stafford, I realized that I have become just that person – an idiot.

I had never been to a hot sauce festival when I agreed to cover it for the paper. To be honest, I didn't know it existed. But I did know where Stafford was, and I'm always down for a challenge, so I accepted.

As a native of south Texas, I've had little interest in Houston's version of the hot sauce. I'm always let down by the watery, bland consistency of the salsas in our Tex-Mex hotspots, and I expected little more than mundane from this festival. Turns out I was wrong.

Not only is the hot sauce festival full of vendors from across the nation, it's full of peppers from across the world. I was familiar with our good ol' garden variety chile piquins and habaneros, but the hot sauce festival opened my eyes to a world of exotic peppers.



Deadly acid-inducing, life altering peppers.

As we rounded the booths, my partners-in-crime set up one dare after another, knowing full well my bravado often outlasts my abilities. I stayed strong. We tried smoky salsas, salsas with too much vinegar, and salsas with medium spice. Nothing shook me – that is, until the Scorpion pepper showed its cards.

If you've never heard of this little gem, it's been promoted to the high rank of the world's hottest pepper. I was still under the impression

(thanks to an outdated episode of Man Vs Food) that the Ghost pepper was the hottest. Shoulda done my homework.

Taking the challenge from my crew – who had also taste tested this gem - (while ignoring the good-natured warning from the vendor) I threw back a corn chip with just the tiniest dab of pure Moruga Scorpion sauce.

Giving it a moment, I felt little more than the kick from the pepper. This was nothin'.

It was about that moment that I

blacked out.

There isn't a more accurate comparison to the effect of that pepper than relating it to Homer Simpson's experience with the Merciless Pepper of Quetzalacatenango.

I vaguely remember yelling for milk while running in circles. Seriously. It was THAT hot. I've never experienced anything like it. The burn can only be described as other-worldly. Pit of Hades, Dante's Inferno hot and a lingering chemical burn to ease the pain once the fire has seceded.

I tried to force myself to taste test more salsa after the Scorpion eased its deadly grasp, but I genuinely couldn't taste a thing.

Here are some of the more outstanding products I DID taste, though. All were awesome, and I suggest you check them out. Just don't be dumb enough to try the Scorpion.

The hallucinations aren't worth it.



Zane & Zacks "Soybanero" Sauce
Definitely worth a taste; also has some major kick to it.
zandzhoneyco.com



Captain Thom's "Dia De Los Muertos"
The name says it all.
captainthoms.com



Volcanic Peppers' "Lava" Scorpion Sauce
Be careful. It almost killed me.
In a good way.
volcanicpeppers.com



Cin Chili's "Cinnamon Apple BBQ Sauce"
Delish!
cinchili.com

COOL FINDS

Buckle up, lovers of all things pastel; fall is going to be a bumpy ride

Angelica Leicht

Chief-in-Editor

Gone are the days of free-spirited pinks and frothy oranges; nails are now being wrapped in lacquer inspired by jewel and earth tones. Eggplants, deep maroons, and rustic browns are replacing the nonchalant sheers that danced in with the summer, and the result is a much more sophisticated look for these later months.

But don't start digging through your old polish just yet. This trend isn't simply about the color – it's about the embellishment as well!

Nail enthusiasts are glamming up this season's darker tones and metallics with a wicked array of top coats that are meant to give some personality to these color palates. Retailers are seeing everything from leather looks to croc-inspired tips making their way onto (and off of) the shelves at a neck-breaking pace.

To add a more personal touch to your manicure, make sure to check out these top nail-topping trends:

Polka Dotted Pinkies

Think retro, but don't limit



yourself to plain old black and white – the pattern is sophisticated enough to take some risks on your color combinations. Be daring!

Doctor-Inspired Talons

Just in time for Halloween,

we're seeing a great new trend of crime scene inspired nails. A little warning though; when I tried these out at home, I realized just how messy it can be to splatter paint your own nails. You've been warned.

Flipped Frenchies

Flip your French manicure with an unusual twist; use a textured coat on the tips or dip the tips in a textured paint to revive this old classic. Use the white coat as a base to really help your trendy tips stand out!

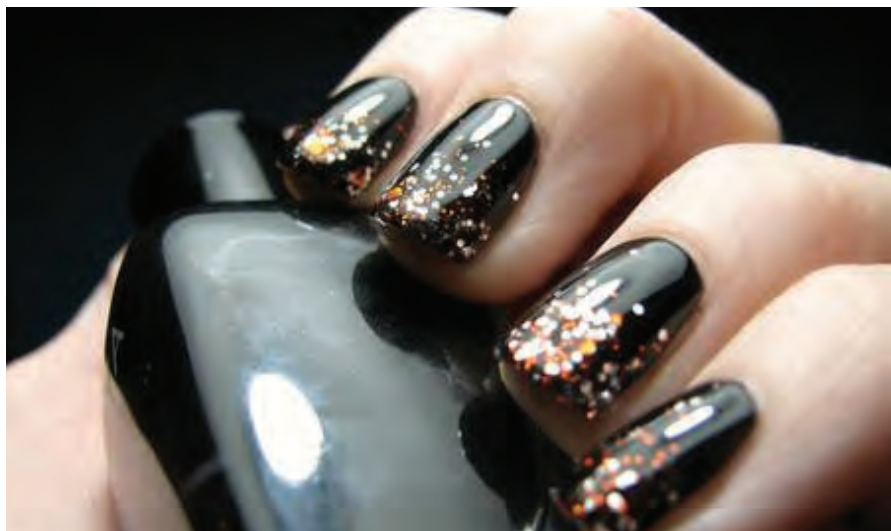
Hologram Hotties

Nails are seeing a psychedelic side of life with hologram nail polish. A couple of coats create nails that are reminiscent of the '80's hologram stickers, but in colors from green to silver!

Glittery Gotham

Glitter is still going strong, but not in the form you might expect. Names like "Sparkly Pavement" label another of our favorite trends: the dark sparkle. Blacks and deep grays coexist with flecks of fiery gold or red to create a shimmering fairy tale polish.

Below are some of our favorites; be sure to check them out!



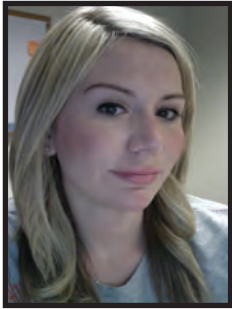
Top deep polishes with Orly's Flash Glam FX Collection
Available at sephora.com and ulta.com



Butter London's newest fall colors
ulta.com

EDITORIALS

MEET THE EDITOR



(I'm trying not to cheat off Janae's column while writing this, so forgive me if it's redundant in comparison to hers.)

Although I have always been a strong writer, it took a while to realize that it was my passion. My "former life" was in social services; I have spent quite a few years working with at-risk youth but have put that aside for the moment to learn more about this field.

I am unsure where my educational pursuit will take me past the Spring. I have already tackled the GRE and I am comparing grad programs, but I like to take my time. The right school will fall into place.

This is my first stint as an editor in any capacity. I am stoked to be in this position, and what a huge job it is! I feel like a little kid stepping just pretending to be the boss some days. I had no idea how much work it takes, but I love this process.

Janae and I have worked hard these past few weeks to bring you a paper that is reminiscent of UHD in its entirety. We are striving to reflect the heart of our school while remaining true to what a paper should be: a source of news and pertinent issues. Hopefully we have done that justice.

I look forward to hearing from all of you on the changes with the paper. Please feel free to throw your opinions my way; it is your paper as much as mine, and I would like for everyone to be involved in the evolution process of the Dateline as it also puts on its big kid shoes and grows along with us.

editor.dateline@gmail.com

Campus Access (for Most)

I would like to preface this by saying that I feel everyone, regardless of any defining factor, should have access to higher education.

In some cases, however, that access should have well defined parameters.

Sex offenders are one of those cases.

There are registered sex offenders taking classes at UHD, and for the most part it seems to be

lunch down on the third floor, and they ran like banshees outside by the tables. Despite having chaperones, these kids were often allowed at least a little bit of freedom. Not the smartest thing on a college campus when they're used to the sanitized grounds of their elementary schools.

Summers aren't the only time there are kids on campus. There are plenty of field trips to our school, and I've seen multiple

not limit the number of on campus hours by only allowing them to take online and hybrid classes?

Our university is also not as forthcoming about this fact as some larger universities are. A&M splashes the profiles of the sex offenders on campus across their campus security webpage. Many schools have followed suit. UT Tyler has resorted to checking the background of their dorm residents to keep the safety of their students at a top priority. There is a system of community colleges that simply doesn't allow the sex offenders to take classes to limit the risk of incidences.

I've also found that of the 78 sex offenders in this zip code, 28 are classified as transient. It's no secret that UHD is surrounded by transient individuals, they congregate in the park and on street corners and abandoned buildings all around the university. We're in the middle of downtown. It's expected. However, it needs to be advertised for the safety of everyone on campus.

UHD follows the law that calls for universities to identify sex offenders on campus with their link to the DPS website, but that's the only mention I could find on the subject. I know that there's a fine line between privacy and public humiliation, but you give away the right to anonymity when you offend in that manner.

More needs to be done to protect the campus from risks like this. To remain silent on the subject is to turn a blind eye to the potential crisis. UHD simply needs to acknowledge that it occurs, and put some rules in place to allow offenders an education while protecting both the students and the kids on campus.



a harmless situation. These guys have a right to better themselves, and to imply that they are somehow threatening to their college classmates is absurd. As far as I know, and as far as statistics show, registered sex offenders are not targeting their peers on college campuses. College students are safe, despite the legal history of their classmates.

Where there IS a problem, however, is when registered sex offenders are able to attend summer classes alongside the middle school children enrolled in enrichment classes. It screams red flag, and without specific guidelines for registered sex offenders on college campuses, our university is flirting with danger.

All summer long, there were kids running the halls. I ran into them on the elevator, in the stairwells, and in the commons. They ate

parents with childcare ruts who have had to bring their kids up to be watched by a classmate. We offer family friendly events, and there are minors taking classes here.

Megan's Law was created for a reason. Sex offenders reoffend, and they aren't allowed around children because children are vulnerable. They aren't as street smart as college kids, and they don't always understand stranger danger. Putting them in a situation where they would expect to be safe – a school campus of any kind – allows them to have their guard down. With sex offenders on campus, these kids shouldn't have their guards down.

I am not suggesting that we simply ban registered sex offenders from our campus, but it makes sense to set parameters to limit these types of interaction. Why

MEET THE
ASSISTANT EDITOR



I am a senior in my last semester majoring in Professional Writing. I am a passionate writer and I hope to one day run and operate my own Professional Writing business.

I believe that what makes a great writer is someone who can express what they feel, take risks, but know the rules.

As the Assistant Editor of the *Dateline: Downtown* I desire to change the direction of the newspaper by engaging and interacting with readers through articles that compliment the diversity of the UHD student body.

Angelica and I share the same vision in regard to the direction of the newspaper which is why we make a great team, and we are confident in our ability to generate a consistent reader base.

As you take a look through the paper, and read some of the articles and view the photos from the entire *Dateline: Downtown* Staff, you will notice that many characteristics of the newspaper have changed.

So brace yourself for a newspaper filled with band, plays, and festival reviews, topics that are informative, controversial, humorous, and columns that will engage you as the reader by asking for your opinion and feedback.

I am excited about this semester's newspaper and look forward to hearing back from you, our readers!

Deferred Action Fails to Consider All Sides



University of Houston-Downtown has become a deeply diverse campus with students of all backgrounds and lifestyles. And it is that diversity that has made the UHD campus unique; embracing and accepting everyone for who they are.

Over the years UHD students have created clubs, fraternities, and sororities that allow them to embrace their cultures and invite others to learn about them as well.

We are a campus that sees each other's differences, and yet yearn to get to know one another. And although we embrace and accept each other, there are those who will not do the same.

There are those who will look into the eyes of someone who is different and determine their future for them; those that will say you were not born in America, so you are not American; you do not belong here.

As I sat in on the Deferred Action Information Session, I was flustered upon realizing the amount of students that currently attend UHD that risk being deported at any moment. I was educated on the specifics of the Deferred Action Policy, the risk a student takes if they apply, and the risk they take if they do not.

I was taken-back by the heavy amount of information that the government is asking for from those who apply. And what is worse is that an undocumented immigrant could do everything right when applying for deferred action, and have one unaccounted time period and the government denies them; they can deny them on any grounds.

One statement made by Jill Davis that stuck with me was that this policy only provides temporary stay for undocumented immigrants; it does not give them legal states. So, they go through all of this work of filling out applications, paying fees, and providing documents for each requirement, for a two year pass?

What I do not think the government takes into account is the fact that many undocumented immigrants were brought to the U.S. as babies and children. How can they send a person by force back to a country they know nothing about and do not know how to survive in?

Sitting in on Deferred Action Information session had my heart pounding and palms sweating as I mentally put myself in the shoes of an undocumented immigrant. And I could feel the fear, worry, and disappointment they must feel.

However, what I do know to be true is that we are in a society

where we have to fight for what we want and fight for what we believe. It is my hope that although undocumented students may feel discouraged or overwhelmed, that they fight for what they want and apply for the deferred action because if you do not fight for yourself, who will?

As Jill Davis concluded her information session, I couldn't help but feel a sense of sadness

come over me as I thought about the thousands of student immigrants living in America.

There are those who will argue that immigrants should not be here, that they are the reason we have poor health insurance, and our debt continues to rise. And to those I say, if you're going to point a finger at any one situation, and make them the reason for America's economical stance, then point the finger at those who were born and raised in the United States as well because no one classification of people is to blame, especially an innocent one. We all are.

assistanteditor.dateline@gmail.com

Check It Out!

Coca Cola Presents: Coke Zero Premium Event



Coca Cola has been a long standing brand that has provided everyone with refreshing beverages and a logo that we instantly connect with the goodness of their drinks. One of the drinks that have gotten the taste bud attention

of many individuals is Coke Zero. Over the years Coke Zero has become popular among young adults and adults because you can hardly taste the difference and some people actually prefer it over regular Coke. Perhaps

it is the idea of a soda having zero calories and zero sugar that draws in the committed drinkers. Regardless of the reason, don't miss the Coke Zero Premium Event!

On Thursday, September 27, 2012, promoters of the Coke Zero brand held a "Taste the Coke" event here at UH where they were passing out cans of Coke Zero and giving students a chance to win free prizes.

Students who did not get to participate in that event can yet have a chance to win prizes by taking a picture of them having a great time with friends and family, and their refreshing can of Coke Zero, and posting the picture on the Coke

Zero Facebook page, or hash tagging the picture on Twitter or Instagram. But the fun doesn't stop there!

Recently, U of H was selected for a DJ event, the Coke Zero Premium Event, that all students at UH main campus and satellite campuses will be invited to attend. The event will take place Thursday, October 4, 2012 at UH-Main Campus from 6 to 10 p.m. in Butler Plaza.

Once students enter the venue, they will be given wireless headsets and directed to a dance tent. The wireless headsets will allow them to hear music being played by three local DJs. If they do not like the music being played, they can simply switch over to another



Deferred Action Continued

that students may go on vacation. However, Davis advises that if students go on vacation they provide adequate documentation that shows proof of a vacation versus an extended stay.

Students may wonder how they can possibly show proof for each requirement listed above. Davis states that providing documentation (Deferred Action continued) is the best way to do so. She strongly advises that students do not classify anything as valid proof before visiting the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services website.

Students should be aware, however, that each case is different, and that the more documents students provide the less risk they pose, and the stronger their case will be.

For more information on deferred action, students can visit uhd.edu/deferredaction



illeg. Email u i edi I il.com

STUDENT SUCCESS



UHD wants all students to be successful in every subject. Often times, students are not aware of all that UHD offers for student success. Here is a list of all the tutor and help centers available to all students registered at UHD

- Accounting Lab
- Foreign Language Lab
- Center for Math and Statistics Support
- Writing & Reading Center
- Ask a Librarian

The Accounting Lab is located in the Shea Street building in room B316. It is staffed by accounting faculty and accounting major tutors.

During the fall and spring semesters, the accounting lab will

be open from 8am to 7pm Monday through Thursday.

The Foreign Language Lab provides the necessary technology and space for students who are currently registered in French and Spanish classes.

All beginner Spanish courses meet at the lab at least once a week as a requirement for the class. By doing so they are able to practice the language using interactive online activities.

The Foreign Language Lab also provides tutoring for French and writing-intensive Spanish classes. In addition, two on-site tutors are available 20 hours per week, Monday through Thursday. Students who registered for SPAN

1401, 1402, 2301, and 2302 can also use the facilities to write Spanish papers and other homework.

The UHD Freshman Mathematics Laboratory offers registered UHD students a walk-in tutoring service. The lab is staffed with mathematics faculty and student peer tutors. Tutoring is available for mathematics courses numbered through 1XXX; this includes Developmental Courses and classes such as MATH 1301 College Algebra and Math 1306 Applied Calculus. The Math Lab can be located in Room 925 North.

The Writing & Reading Center offers an online real-time tutor service that simply requires you to fill out the online scheduling form 24 hours in advance. Currently, the Writing & Reading Center (WRC) is having its 4th Annual Writer and Reading Center Student Art Contest.

Students can submit their artwork to the Writing & Reading Center N925 from now until the deadline, December 7.

There will be first, second, and third place prizes for gift certificates to the Barnes and Noble book store and of course bragging rights for the rest of your life. The WRC asks that students not submit sculptures for the sake of them being damaged if knocked

over.

The UHD W.I. Dikes Library located on the 5th floor allows students to "Ask a Librarian" via computer. Their online website provides students with free access to thousands of journals, eBooks, and catalogs.

If students wish to ask a brief question they can do that through the Live Chat feature located on the library's website.

In addition to the Live Chat feature, students can also email and text questions, and they will be answered promptly. The W.I. Dikes Library will also assist students who need help with research projects through their Research Consultation Service.

Do not let the stresses of being a college student overwhelm you, take advantage of all of the free student success resources that UHD has to offer.

For more information on all tutoring services and labs, and all library resources, go to www.uhd.edu/academic/student_success/ and www.uhd.edu/library.

FREE FOOD
PERFORMANCES
UHD CHEERLEADERS
UHD ROTC

UHD
 UH-Downtown

NOVEMBER 1st
FROM
1:00PM TO 2:00PM
2:00PM WE WALK TO VOTE @ 1001 PRESTON ST.

SGA
 Student Government Association

GUEST SPEAKERS
MAYOR ANNISE PARKER
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER ED GONZALEZ

WALK TO VOTE

EMPLOYMENT

Great Jobs for a Gator!



Become a Houston Firefighter
Serving the Houston Community with Courage,
Commitment, and Compassion

Benefits of a Career with HFD:

- Work 9 days a month (24 hour shifts)
- College Tuition and Educational Incentive Pay
- DROP-Deferred Retirement Option Plan
- Deferred Compensation
- Pension

Online registration for the Civil Service exam will take place November – February at hfdcareers.org, and candidates will be recruited by their ranking on this exam.

After recruitment, the applicant follows these processing steps:

- Applicant Orientation

- Fingerprints
- Physical Ability Test
- Questionnaire and Interview
- Polygraph Examination
- Background Investigation
- Conditional Job Offer
- Medical Exam
- Drug Test

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Certified Firefighter/EMT FASTTRACK

- Minimum age of 19
 - Must not reach his/her 36th birthday before receiving oath of office
 - Texas Commission on Fire Protection Certification (FIRE) – Basic or Higher
 - Texas Department of State Health Services (EMT) Basic or Higher
 - Completed 15 accredited transferable college hours with a grade of “C” or higher or college clock hours with a Course Completion Certificate
 - Driving Record: 2 or less moving violations in the last 36 months
- *Cadet training is approximately 2.5 months

Firefighter Trainee

- Minimum age of 19
- Must not reach his/her 36th birthday before receiving oath of office
- Complete 60 accredited transferable college hours with a grade of “C” or higher OR 2 year full time military service with an honorable discharge
- Driving Record: 2 or less moving violations in

the last 36 months

*Cadet training is approximately 9 months

Pay Scales within HFD:

Firefighter Trainee \$28,023.58 annually

Probationary Firefighter \$38,993.00 annually

1st year: \$42,252.00 annually

2nd year: \$44,449.00 annually

*Pay increases by rank/year

Specialty Premium Pay:

Bilingual Pay \$1,800.00 annually

EMT \$2,600.00 annually

Paramedic Restricted
\$3,000.00 annually

Paramedic Unrestricted
\$7,200 annually



HPD is hiring!

HPD is now accepting online applications at www.hpdcareer.com for a February 2013 academy class. Be sure to follow the specific application procedures listed in order to properly submit your application packet to Recruiting personnel. Your application is not complete and no action will be taken until all the required forms

and documents are reviewed and approved.

Fully completed application packets with the required documents will be accepted at the Department's Recruiting Center located at 1219 Milam, Houston, TX 77002 by appointment only beginning October 2, 2012. Hours of operation are Tuesday and Thursday 8 am-4 pm and Wednesday 8 am-6 pm each week. You can request an appointment by emailing HPDRecruitingapplication@cityofhouston.net. Appointments will be filled in the order they are received.

If you have any additional questions, please contact HPD Recruiting at (713) 308-1300 or (800) 252-0473.

PHASE ONE - Apply online at NeoGov and then submit required documents in person at the HPD Recruiting office located at 1219 Milam, Houston, TX 77002.

PHASE TWO - Schedule an Appointment

PHASE THREE - Reading Comprehension Test and Interview

PHASE FOUR - Physical Agility Test

PHASE FIVE - Polygraph Exam and Final Interview

PHASE SIX - Background Investigation, Psychological and Medical Examination

PHASE SEVEN - Final Review and Chief of Police Ap-

proval

OPPORTUNITIES

Normally, after an initial two-year period as a patrol officer, an officer will be eligible to apply for transfer to another work assignment pending a selection process for a posted vacancy. Police Officer career paths/job assignments include some of the following, but are subject to change depending on the needs of the department.

Helicopters	K-9
Dive Team	Vice
Auto Theft	SWAT
Bike Patrol	Robbery
Bomb Squad	Juvenile
Mounted Patrol	Homicide
Missing Persons	Narcotics
Major Offenders	Human Resources
Truck Enforcement	Vehicular Crimes

The Senior Police Officer rank is attained after an officer completes 12 full years on the department.

BENEFITS

The Houston Police Department offers a competitive salary as well as education and retirement benefits to its officers.