

DATELINE: DOWNTOWN

STUDENT RUN SINCE VOLUME ONE

Bomb Threat at UH-Sugarland Forces Evacuation on Halloween

Joseph Williams
Staff Writer

Bomb threats on college campuses have been an increasingly common occurrence. Although FBI statistics shows 90% of bomb threats to be hoaxes, the possibility of dozens or hundreds of students being killed cannot be taken lightly.

In 1990, Congress waded into the matter, passing the Clery Act, which requires campuses to publish all major crimes annually. By 2008, the rash of bomb threats had led Congress to amend the act, adding that students must be



UH - Sugarland Campus (photo courtesy of culturemap.com)

immediately notified of every threat the college receives.

Today, the widespread use of cell phones makes it easy for schools to send out mass alerts. Just last month, Louisiana State University demonstrated the value of an alert system.

They were able to clear 30,000 students out rather quickly. On the other hand, the University of Texas was widely criticized for receiving a bomb threat and deciding not to alert the students in enough time to

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Fight Human Trafficking...With Coffee?



A 2nd Cup Coffee House - The Heights, Houston

Janae Steadham
Editorial Assistant

Fear flows through your veins; gasping for air with what feels like an elephant crushing your trachea.

Heart racing - where are you?

The only recollection you have is wandering off

in search of a bathroom in an unfamiliar place.

A hard blow to your head sends your brain into autopilot.

The van door opens and you're forced out.

Masked face, the only sound is the unemotional voice of your captor.

You heart pounds harder; you can hear the

cries of others - men, women and children.

You are not alone.

Within minutes you are forced into the unimaginable.

Days churn together; days into weeks, weeks into months. Time has no beginning and no end.

This imagery is the reality of all too many; 600,000 men, woman and children are currently held against their will in the horrific underbelly of our society: they are captive, victims of human trafficking.

Our state is not immune to this epidemic. Sadly, Texas is the first on the list for human trafficking; an estimated 25% of all human trafficking victims are located in Texas. A common misconception

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Townson's Proposed White Student Union Sparks Nationwide Controversy

Tianna Thomas
Staff Writer

The proposal of a White Student Union at Townson University has stirred up nationwide debates about reverse discrimination in student organizations and whether or not it is ethical to deny one student group its right due to unsubstantiated speculation, while granting the same rights to another.

Matthew Heimbach, a Townson University student was denied permission to establish a White Student Union by the school's administration. Heimbach says his organization's denial was



Article from the Townson newspaper on the student union (CBS News)

a case of pure discrimination. In an interview with The Huffington Post, Heimbach stated that he feels the white student population at Townson is disenfranchised because other ethnic groups have been allowed to establish a student organization, while the white students are not.

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KONY 2012 CONTROVERSY

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Rape is not fair game in the political arena



Angelica Leicht
Editor

Adding to the miles long list, yet another male politician has been quoted in the news media on the subject of abortion and rape.

And yes, yet again, it was insensitive.

This editorial is not meant to touch on the (very) sticky subject of pro-life versus pro choice; I have no interest in delving into that area. Pandora's box is safe.

What I would like to discuss is what seems to be lost among the politicians discussing abortion and rape - the wording of their statements about a subject as touchy and divisive as rape is powerful and should be chosen well, and it hasn't been.

Republican hopeful John Koster is the most recent politician being thrust into the spotlight for his words on the subject.

He spoke during a fundraiser recently and described his views on abortion, saying that he does not oppose abortion when the life of the mother is in danger, but does when

it comes to rape or incest.

He stated multiple times during that speech that abortion should not be legal, even when it involves "the rape thing", according to the audio provided to the Associate Press.

He is not alone in the whole foot-in-mouth about rape arena, either.

Representative Todd Akin has been quoted as saying that women's bodies "have ways of avoiding pregnancy in cases of 'legitimate rape'".

Indiana GOP candidate Richard Mourdock has been criticized for saying that pregnancy resulting from rape is God's will.

experience or by the way of a friend, or daughter, or mother.

With a subject so painful and personal, women should not be forced to read a politician's viewpoint on rape in every media outlet.

Perhaps it is my role as a woman that causes me to become extremely defensive when I read about a politician speaking of "legitimate rape" or the "rape thing"; it just seems extremely cavalier to describe such a traumatic crime as "legitimate" or illegitimate. Worse is the politician who spoke of pregnancy resulting from

you take a look at statistics, they show that rapes are actually underreported, not falsely reported.

And contrary to that quack-science used to justify the disgusting comments on a woman's body having a super-power defense against pregnancy via rape, it has been proven to be grossly incorrect by... well...legitimate science.

What makes a legitimate rape legitimate, anyway? Who gets to decide those parameters?

Is it the same politicians that decided to talk about the "rape thing" in the first place?

Can one rape be more legitimate than the next? If you know the person, does it negate the fact that they violated you? Are you guilty by association with the rapist?

As a woman, the misogyny that flows freely through these comments scares me. It is degrading to a woman - to ALL women - to demand the validation of a rape.

Especially if the one demanding the proof is a man.

If she says it happened, believe her.

It isn't a rape "thing"; it's a rape.

No rape is a "Gift-from-God". Trust me.

Pro-choice or pro-life, it makes no difference.

Rape is not an issue meant for the political arena, and my ovaries are tired of hearing about it.



There has been talk of easy rape, forcible rape, "Gift-from-God rape".

Lost among all of these terms is the fact that the word RAPE is involved.

Rape is rape.

It is not a political issue; it is a criminal and social issue that most women have a close relationship with, either by their own

rape as "God's will".

No politician, especially a male politician, should be downplaying rape.

Rape is traumatic, violent, and degrading. It is a crime.

There is no "legitimate rape" measurement, and as a woman I would hope that the majority of rapes are not falsely reported. If

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(UH-Sugarland Bomb Threat continued)

evacuate; fortunately the threat was not real.

During this current semester, schools including University of California at Berkeley, Texas A&M, University of Houston at Sugar Land, Hiram College in Ohio, and North Dakota State have all been targeted.

And while no one can stop a bomb threat from happening, the terror they aim to inspire can be avoided by coaching students through the situation. The University of Houston System is one of the many college campuses that have seen fit to provide a checklist of procedures to be used for bomb threats.

The Sugarland campus had to follow through with those

procedures on Wednesday, October 31, 2012 when they received a bomb threat call-in. The campus was safely evacuated within 15 to 20 minutes. After the Sugar Land Police Department and UH Department of Public Safety inspected the satellite campus, they gave the "All Clear" message, allowing classes to resume shortly after 7pm.

The UH-System is not alone in their recent experience. Texas A&M also received a bomb threat on Friday, October 19, 2012. Approximately 50,000 students were alerted electronically and the campus was cleared out promptly.

And while most universities are successful in evacuating

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The Mayan Prophecy: Our Wakeup Call

Alma Garcia
Contributing Writer

The end of times is near!

Needless to say, this isn't the first time that a prediction like this has been made. Remember Y2K, or the octogenarian evangelist who predicted doomsday to be May 21, 2011 (which failed, of course) and then updated it to October 21, 2011?

Nothing but commotion.

According to the Mayan calendar, which ends on December 21, 2012, we are but a few weeks away from the end of times.

The Mayans were an advanced civilization that lived in parts of Mexico and Central America, with one of the first credited written alphabets. Their civilization flourished between 200 A.D. and 950 A.D., and then collapsed. During their flourishing period, the civilization boasted of sophisticated waterways and roads.

Their complex work in the areas of math, engineering, and astronomy helped them to develop a sophisticated and complicated cyclical calendar. This calendar marks the beginning of time in 3114BC and ends on December 21, 2012, and with many movies written about the end of the world depicting catastrophic natural disasters, it is no

surprise that people either believe in the end or completely ignore the idea.

Many Mayan scholars and Mayan descendants scattered between the Yucatan Peninsula, Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras believe that no such extinction is being prophesized by their ancestor's sophisticated calendar.

Their first point is that the calendar being used to prophesize the end of times is better known as the "Long Count Calendar" for its cycle that covers a period of 5,125 years. This is the period in which we are living and will soon see the end of. Much to our relief, this end of cycle does not mark the end of

the world as we know it.

The Mayan scholars and Mayan descendants believe that instead of predicting the end of the world, the end of the cycle was intentionally ended during the 2012 winter solstice because of the galactic alignment that will occur.

When the sun crosses the equator twice a year, it moves the equinoctial points backwards for about 50 seconds each year, a phenomenon known as the procession of equinoxes.

One complete revolution takes up to 26,000 years, and the year 2012 just happens to be the point of completion for this

phenomenon, in which the earth will wobble gently and slowly on its axis.

As the earth wobbles on its axis, the sun will align with this "dark rift" in the Milky Way: an event that only happens once every 26,000 years.

The Mayans were astronomical geniuses, so it should be no surprise that they purposely placed the end of a period on the same day that the earth completes one revolution. The Mayans true purpose was not to scare future societies with petty ideas of the end of the physical world, but instead was placed as a wake-up call for humanity.

According to Mayan descendants, this end marks the end of one cycle, one period, one revolution, and marks the beginning of another cycle, another, period, and a new revolution. It is an opening gateway for a transformational process, where humanity could either have a change of heart for the best of the world or for the worst of the world.

The Mayans understood the world they lived in, but even great civilizations fall.

Unlike the Mayans, we have a heads up of the end.

The end is coming, but not the end of the world as we know it. It is the end of the old way of thinking, and the beginning for a better world.



Green Up Your Act, Please!

Jenny Sorto
Staf Writer

Whenever mother-nature surprises us with the likes of Hurricane Sandy, we can't help but worry about global warming and our planet. It's difficult to develop green habits we can truly be proud of, but after witnessing the devastation hurricane Sandy left in her path, you have to ask yourself if recycling your beer cans is enough. The following 'green routines' will help you kick it up a notch.

Downsize your territory: By living, playing, working and studying within a 5 to 10 mile radius you can take advantage of alternative transportation like buses, trains, carpools and bike trails to move around. You'll avoid traffic, reduce your carbon emissions, save money at the pump and on parking, and you'll get into better shape in the process.

The Switch: Anything made of plastic is made from petroleum (oil), and anything made of paper or wood means trees had to be chopped down. Metal and glass are easier to recycle, so instead of bottled water, use canteens, thermoses and glass bottles for your drinks. Switch out 'tupper' containers for aluminum foil and re-purposed plastic grocery bags instead of buying styro-foamed lunches. Replace your usual home air filters with washable

filters for your AC and furnace. Buy used books instead of new. Recycle them or donate them to thrift stores for others to enjoy. Buying recycled/restored furniture also reduces the demand for wood.

Clean up Your Act: Dry cleaners use harsh chemicals to clean garments so use clothes that don't require dry cleaning. If you must visit the cleaners, take as many garments as possible to cut back on plastic bag covers. Return paper hangers for recycling, and try eco-friendly dry-cleaners that use biodegradable agents to clean garments.

Water Usage: Drip irrigation and soaker hoses reduces wasted water. Fit your garden hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle and remember that shorter lawns require less watering. Use a motor-less lawnmower to keep it trim, and buckets and other containers (with lids) to catch rain water for watering. A leave in conditioner requires

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Sandy: The Aftermath

Jenny Sorto
Staff Writer

Last year, New Yorkers were spared Hurricane Irene's wrath, but this time 'super-storm' Sandy shook things up for the big apple. Millions were left without power and the streets were littered with downed power lines, twisted rubble, and people's belongings. Entire houses were lifted off their foundations to land somewhere else, and many people were left only with the clothes they were wearing the day Sandy arrived. New Yorkers will now have to brave the ensuing winter and prepare for the Holiday season amidst cleanup and construction efforts, all while mourning those who lost their lives.

Hardest hit areas were Staten Island, the New Jersey shore and the city of Hoboken. The storm surge produced record flooding that interrupted subway and city bus services. When limited power was restored on Thursday, those headed for work endured endless lines to board buses. By then, 87 people were confirmed dead in the vicinity, and officials are still recovering

bodies from the rubble and flood water.

Those following Sandy on TV saw images reminiscent of a war zone, with piles of debris everywhere and fires breaking out near ruptured gas lines. Strong winds lifted cars and left them resting on top of each other. Washer and dryer machines peppered the sand covered streets and sidewalks. Police departments had to be briefed in the streets and then sent out to break up fights over gas at service stations.

Not new to disaster, New Yorkers showed resilience in the face of devastation. Banks allowed people to charge their cell phones and laptops. Supermarkets gave away food expected to spoil in the blackout. In Maryland, the National Guard took to rescuing stranded survivors. The Coast Guard in Hoboken joined rescue efforts and distributed water and other necessities to survivors. Central Park closed to prevent falling trees or branches from hurting those walking by.

As people come to terms with their circumstances, the looming suggestions that global warming is

the finite cause for super-storms like Sandy, were inevitable. As we tally up the votes, many ask what is really being done to prevent, or at least prepare for situations like New York's'. In New Jersey, officials struggled to help displaced voters by sending ballots to emergency shelters and by shuttling voters to the polls. In West Virginia entire precincts were relocated because power outages forced many poll places to close. Via an executive order on Monday, New York governor Andrew Cuomo allowed residents to cast 'provisional ballots' at all area polling places.

To date, Hurricane Sandy has claimed about 113 lives but officials expect the number to

climb as rescue and cleanup efforts continue. So far, financial costs add up to \$60 billion in property damage and business losses. One thing is certain; there will be plenty of work for clean-up, rescue and reconstruction crews.

It's unlikely that you can avoid finals joining rescue efforts, but you can reach the American Red Cross at 1800-842-2200 to contribute.



Subway flooding at 86th Street, New York City

Texas University Sues Over Mandate to Provide Contraceptives to Students

Tianna Thomas
Staff Writer

Criswell College, a southern Baptist bible school, recently sued the federal government over the constitutionality of a clause in the Affordable Healthcare Act which requires employers to provide birth control to workers. The university claims the mandate forces them to break religious beliefs by providing drugs that are "abortion-inducing".

Criswell, along with several other bible colleges in the Dallas area, openly challenged the mandate and its constitutionality. They claim that the law blatantly violates the Religious Freedom Restoration act by forcing the employers to provide the drugs by threatening them with lofty fines, among other penalties. The university's president, Jerry Johnson, states that the law is forcing the hand of the school and forcibly causing it to shed closely held religious beliefs about abortion and birth control.

The Affordable Healthcare Act, which was set to take effect in August of this year, would exempt religious institu-

tions such as churches from the law. However, since the university is not seen as a religious institution, it will be required to comply or face serious legal repercussions. Criswell College was not alone in its fight. 43 different Roman Catholic dioceses and organizations

(Townson continued)

The organization's decision to invite Jared Taylor, a "white nationalist" as described by the Southern Poverty Law Center, caused additional controversy on the campus. Taylor offered his support to the organization, calling the school's decision to deny the club permission to practice "a spectacular double standard". Taylor also stated that the rate of hate crimes perpetrated towards whites by blacks is substantially higher than white hate crimes perpetrated towards blacks. Taylor carried out a full presentation on the university campus, citing several examples of diversity issues.

Matthew Heimbach, a senior,

set out to challenge the law and its constitutionality. Other religious schools were also involved in the legal sparring. They claim that the mandate exemption is worded in a vague way that makes it difficult for an organization to tell whether or not it is exempt. The groups also

has had other run-ins with school administration while trying to set up organizations aimed at the white student body. Heimbach previously served as the school's local chapter of the Youth for Western Civilization. The organization was forced to disband after their faculty adviser, Professor Richard Vatz, stepped down from his position. Heimbach blamed the resignation on external pressure put on the professor by officials. The group was also accused of chalking 'White Pride' in areas of the campus.

Students at Townson have begun to make their disdain for the group vocal. Over a thousand students signed a petition appealing to Dr. Maravene Loeschke, the university's president, to publicly denounce the organization. Many question the

accuse the government of not fairly determining what organizations received exemptions.

Other prominent universities to
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necessity for a White Student Union at Townson, since approximately 68 percent of the university's students are white, while others likened the new organization to its past counterpart, the YWC. The students believe that the group is using the organization as an outlet for publicized hate speech. However, Heimbach refutes the claims, stating that the organization serves only to empower the white student body.

The organization may have a long fight ahead since support from administration remains limited.

UHD Social Work department honors local heroes with Person Of the Year Award

Tianna Thomas
Staff Writer

The UHD Social Work class of 2013 held its 2nd annual Person of the year award on Tuesday, October 30th, honoring the work of Dr. David S. Buck, the founder and president of Healthcare for the Homeless and a current professor at Baylor College of Medicine.

The Person of the Year award honored the work of four prominent and active figures in Houston and their contribution to the improvement of Houston, primarily in areas assisting disenfranchised and underprivileged population.

The first nominee, Laura Boston, is the executive director of Faith and Justice Worker's Center, an organization that advocates for low-wage workers to reduce wage theft by employers. Boston and her organization seek to build the leadership of low-wage workers who may turn to the organization for services and assistance and empowers them to work towards improving conditions for those who are underpaid. The organization



Dr Buck serving the homeless (Google images)

established a board comprised of half community allies and half worker members. The organization is also currently working on establishing protection for low-wage workers by preventing companies that have previously stolen from them from receiving city contracts. "An award is never for one person, it is for a collective effort." Boston said.

The second nominee, Sonny

Flores, is the founder of a movement the sets out to rejuvenate and rebuild Houston's east end and plays a significant part in helping people appreciate and improve their neighborhoods. "There is more to this life than making a buck. My mother and my father always taught me that you were supposed to do this sort of thing and give back to the community. We've been Americans

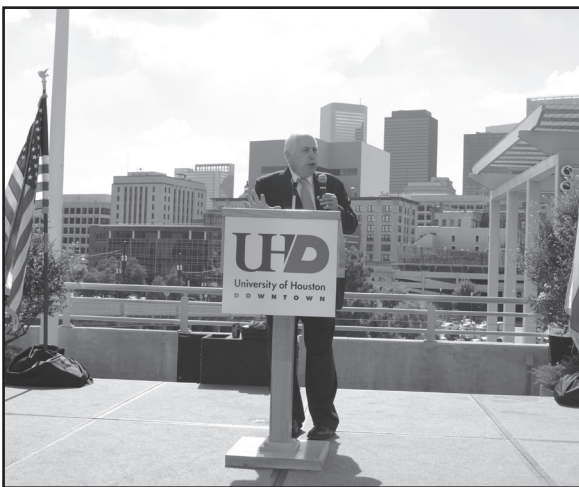
for many years but have never quite been treated like one and this is my way of giving back."

The third nominee, Dr. Ann Robinson, is the Executive Director of the Montrose Counseling Center. Montrose Counseling Center is a non-profit that seeks to change attitudes towards the LGBTQ community in Houston. The organization empowers individuals to enjoy more fulfilling lives. "I am not a social worker by degree, I am one by heart." said Robinson about her exceptional work with LGBT adults.

The Person of The Year awardee, Dr. David Buck, began his work in developing medical and dental clinics with Mother Teresa in 1984. He founded Healthcare for the Homeless-Houston, which works improve the health of Houston's homeless population. The organization serves the homeless

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SGA's Walk to Vote Registers over 1200 Voters



Dr Flores speaking at SGA's Walk to Vote event (Aron Negash)



Mayor Annise Parker rallies for the event (Aron Negash)



Ivan Sanchez, Dr Flores and UHD Cheerleaders (Aron Negash)



Mayor Parker and the event speakers (Aron Negash)

(UH-Sugarland Bomb Threat continued)

students in a timely manner, other universities have not been so successful.

The bomb threat made to the University of Texas back in September, as mentioned earlier, is a prime example. The bomb-threat call-in was received at 8:35 am, UT officials did not send out an alert to students' until 9:50 which was 15 minutes before the proposed time that the bomb would ignite.

With the frequency of these university bomb threats increasing, it leaves many students to question whether the bomb threats are real or simply a hoax. Regardless, precautionary measures should always be taken.

UHD strives to make sure that alerts are sent out in a timely manner and have been successful in doing so; from robberies to car theft, students are always notified through email.

Students at every university should quickly familiarize themselves with their university's bomb threat procedures. When an emergency situation occurs, they will be better equipped to survive if they have been educated on how to respond, hoax or no hoax.

Ain't No Party Like a UHD Party, 'Cause a UHD Party Don't Stop

A Bash for A Cause, UHD's Halloween Party Benefitting the Houston Food Bank

Wendy Williams
Staff Writer

The anticipation of this year's Halloween Bash had been building up all around campus as students discussed their plans for their costumes. So when Thursday, October 25, 2012 had finally arrived, UHD students were ready to sway to the music and show off their costume creations!

As attendees walked in, they entered a room filled with festive and colorful Halloween decorations and music so loud they could feel the rhythm on the soles of their feet.

The bash was complete with food, dancing, and two DJs, D.J. Ron-E. D.J. Ron-E, who had the crowd dancing and rockin' to all types of music.

All who attended were welcomed with delicious party foods that included pizza, wings and nachos; courtesy of UHD's Environmental Club.

After enjoying the free food, the dance floor was the perfect place to burn off all of those calories! UHD students, all

decked out in their Halloween costumes, began to dance and vibe to the music. Several party goers were dressed in costumes that ranged from cute and innovative to downright scary; the costumes were spectacular.

Special appearances were made by the unforgettable Freddy Kruger, complete with claws, the headless man with head in hand, a guy in the shower with an actual shower head and curtain, a popular Disney princess, Snow White, and of course everyone's hero, Superman.

There was no costume contest but the lights were turned up and the music stopped long enough to have a drawing for prizes like an iPad 3, a \$50 iTunes gift card, and a gas card.

The bash took place in the Special Events Center and was sponsored by the Campus Activities Board (CAB).

When asked about the reason for such a successful Halloween Bash, President of CAB, Donte Lewis, and the other members of CAB stated

that in the eve of the holiday season what better way to give back to the community than to support the Houston Food Bank. The charge of admission for the Halloween Bash was 2 can good items.

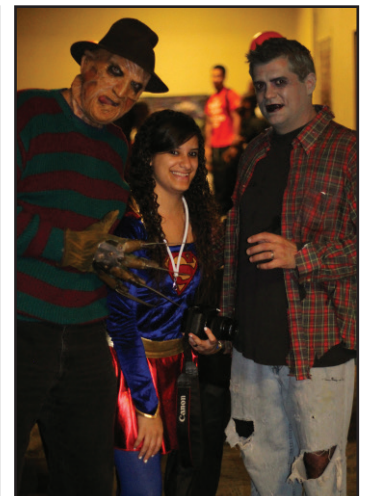
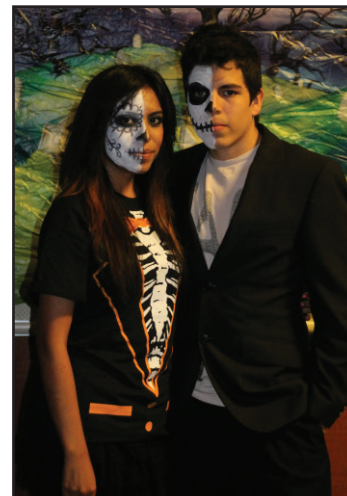
The news of this bash caught the attention of Allied Integrated Marketing. Allied Integrated Marketing is a promotional company and their client, Lionsgate, is releasing a horror film just in time for Halloween entitled, *Silent Hill: Revelation*.

And Allied members did not arrive empty handed, bringing goodie bags that the party attendees could win by playing a *Silent Hill* game of "Find the Heart" where students would put their hand into a closed box and try and 'find the heart'.

Costumes. Free food. Bangin' Music. All the incentives that lead to a successful event for a great cause.



(photos by Elpidia Medina)



The End of the World: Doomsday Prophecies and Ideologies at UHD's Forum

Tianna Thomas
Staff Writer

Zombies and Aliens and nukes, oh my! On Tuesday, October 30th, UHD professors held an open forum discussing the concept of the end of the world, the many end times prophecies, and society and the media's obsession with them.

"The End of the World: Perspectives on Our Obsession With the End Times" was led by Professor Raquel Chiquillo, associate professor of Spanish, Professor Melissa Raymundo, assistant professor of psychology and Dr. Paul Fortunato. The event was co-sponsored by UHD's Cultural Enrichment Center and held in the Cullen Robertson Auditorium.

The trio focused on the many doomsday prophecies and ideologies that have circulated throughout history. The forum also contained an interactive section which allowed audience members to participate in polls surveying their knowledge of and participation in "prepping" for the end times.

Professor Raymundo kicked off the presentation by examining why society is obsessed with the end times which ranged from anxiety to uncertainty of the future. She next delved into the media's place in the doomsday phenomenon.

"In order to take control of fear, people pay attention to the media and use it to make themselves feel better. People are uncertain, and when we are uncertain we tend to look for information to alleviate uncertainty." She said.

Doomsday Preppers is used as an example. The show focuses on average American families and their various methods of preparation for their own interpretation of doomsday. The prophecies range from nuclear annihilation to zombie attacks.

However, Raymundo explains that we use these shows to give a glimmer of hope in the midst of fear and make ourselves feel better. The religious were found to be more likely to welcome the apocalypse and will spend their remaining time attempting to save others, unlike those who seek only to save themselves.

Raymundo says that the media sometimes capitalizes on the fear of the masses. People are found to be more impressionable when anxious or afraid, and the media uses this to their own advantage.

The National Geographic television show

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(Student Contraceptives continued)

challenge the mandate were Houston Baptist University, University of Notre Dame, the Catholic University of America and East Texas Baptist University. The lawsuits have served to bring forward the question of whether or not the exemptions should be more explicitly stated and if Christian-based health

What Makes a Great Professor at UHD Great

The Truth...According to UHD Students

David Slaughter
Staff Writer

On a pretty regular basis, I pass people in the hall who seem to recognize me, but aren't sure from where, or we exchange a silent glance or a smile that communicates a strange familiarity, but most of the time they can't figure out where to place me from.

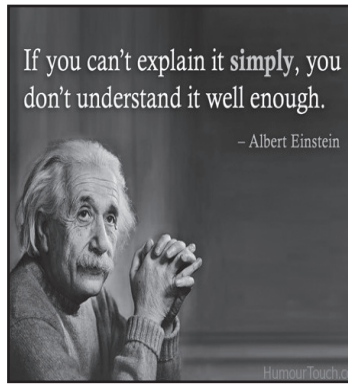
A student might say on occasion, "Are you a professor, what do you teach?" or "where do I know you from" or even, "I know you!"

It's amazing what a 12-foot picture plastered with four others on a wall as you pass Starbucks will do for a guy.

It does not take much to strike up a conversation with me. In fact, most people wonder when this guy might shut up.

Having said that, I do get asked frequently why are you on that wall - why, why, why?

The answer is, UHD's MAJOR OPPORTUNITY.



Usually, the conversation vacillates back to the real reason I love it here.

And my usual response is this... "because the professors here are so very good, because I take great classes that I love and because all doors are wide open here at UHD".

I know what GREAT is, but I wonder do you?

So... "What makes GREAT Professors/Instructors GREAT...according to UHD students?"

In order to find out what you think makes a professor great, I went the old fashioned way...I just asked you! I've kept names to myself to protect the innocent (and the guilty)!

The words came so easily to you. The words used are fitting with a parent, a father, a mother, or a confidant. We saw words like passionate, enthusiastic, approachable, fair, organized and fun.

These buzz words were followed closely by personable, interesting, motivational, encouraging and demanding. Yes, you, a jury of your peers, actually say they want professors and instructors that have high standards and high expectations.

The final string of words used included simplistic, punctual, original, and merciful. Mercy is a good quality according to the UHD student.

We also found out what drives you crazy about some instructors. Some of the top sanity-testing attributes include the following: "seems very unapproachable", "changes his or her mind way too often", "she or he has favorites", "he or she is often inconsistent", "boring-boring and boring" and finally my personal favorite on your list, "seems unable to crack a smile, seems very unhappy".

These conversations, although somewhat negative and often humorous, were from a very small number of students, and I considered it in the end, a form of therapy for both of us.

What was striking in the 200 plus collected surveys, was how many different professors or instructors from such a broad cross section of the university were recognized as impacting students at a high level.

For the time being, only this writer will know who those GREAT teachers are and who the few negative are; they are in a locked secret vault.

Stay tuned for the next issue "How do I as a student take advantage of GREAT at UHD?" where we will hopefully provide some insight on how to find GREAT, helping GREAT guide you and how to open new doors into GREATNESS. Keep reading next issue for more!

Creative Career Choices: A Look at the Unexpected

Jenny Sorto
Staff Writer

Ever asked yourself what you'll do after college? Employment numbers show little signs of stability, so students often worry about the job markets. As a recent UH-D graduate, I advise that you open your mind and be more creative and receptive when mapping out your path. If the thought of sitting in front of a computer all day, frying your eyes and dreaming of being anywhere but there, the following may help you decide what direction to take once you walk off the stage with your diploma.

Tourism: You may loathe relocating, but your adventurous spirit will soon take over. Find places that you've wanted to visit and research your options. Most tourist sights need bilingual guides, so if you know other languages besides Spanish and English, your chances at getting hired will only double. Eco-tourism is a growing trend outside the States, so if you're a wild child or simply enjoy immersing yourself in new cultures, eco-tourism may be right for you.

Take to the Skies: Travelling is easier on young people who can handle the jetlag, the long hours, and the confined spaces. You may never have enough money to visit all the places you've dreamed of, but working for an airline definitely helps. Most airline employees get what the rest of us know as employee discounts or perks. You may have to obtain certifications or dedicate many training hours, but you'll realize that being

able to escape every once in a while was worth it all. Afraid of heights? Consider working for a cruise line.

Language Tutoring: Language tutors are in high demand, not only in the U.S. but abroad as well. Abroad positions tend to pay more, and in most cases, your earnings won't be taxed. Most abroad positions cover your boarding, food and entertainment expenses as well. Tutoring locally allows you to gain valuable experience working with children of all ages, which is important for those pursuing careers in teaching, social work or psychology.

Park Ranger: If you enjoy the great outdoors and all the critters that also do, you'll feel at home working as a park ranger. Depending on what you enjoy the most, look into arboretums, nature trails, wildlife reserves and the like. If you'd rather be surrounded by people instead of just trees and animals, you might consider being a camp counselor.

Party animal? Work as a choreographer, deejay or photographer at weddings, parties and other social events.

Artistic Flair: If you love working with your hands or have a knack for art and design, try your luck restoring and re-selling furniture or clothing, or delve into jewelry making and design.

Caring Heart: If you function well under pressure and patience is your virtue, let friends, family and neighbors know that you're willing to care for their children or their pets for pay.

But If you'd rather make a greater difference

in the world, choose a humanitarian cause and work (or volunteer) in organizations like the Peace Corps, Habitat for Humanity, Greenpeace, Amnesty International, Save the Children and AmeriCorps. You'll see the fruits of your labor on a daily basis.

(Person of the Year continued)

through a Jail In-Reach Program, three primary care clinics, and a street outreach program. Dr. Buck also serves on the National Healthcare for the Homeless Network's Research Coordinating Council, among other organizations. In his acceptance speech, Dr. Buck shared his concern for the current decline of healthcare in the US. "The US has a healthcare system that costs more but gives less than any other healthcare system in the world. How can that be?" He stated. He also shared his own personal experience with social workers and their contribution in his own life and his significant experience with a homeless man.

The contribution of local heroes is essential to the improvement of the Houston Area. The Person of The Year Award helps to provide the necessary recognition to these local heroes and ensure that those who play a significant role in the improvement of society can inspire others to do the same.

LATISM Conference a Missed Opportunity for Most

Alma Garcia
Staff Writer

Have you noticed the shelves located near the entrance of the food court? If you have, then you might have already noticed that it's always cluttered with advertisements from different organizations. If you have not, then you might want to start paying attention to it.

Of course, you might say "but there are advertisements on the bulletin boards". Well yes, but these shelves contain more than school-based organization advertisements.

Sometimes, these shelves contain opportunities for students to attend all-paid conferences.

The most recent missed opportunity was to attend the Latinos in Social Media 2012 National Conference, held in the Hyatt Regency Hotel from October 25-27.

LATISM, an acronym for its long name, is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that is dedicated to advancing the economic status of the Latino community by using social networks such as Twitter and Facebook.

The conference's purpose is to bring all individuals under one roof and create real-life connections - not only with professionals in the media - but with each other in order to foster growth in the Latino community.

The registration fee was \$400

plus fees. With your pass, you obtained access to the weekend-long conference, including the awards gala and the late-night "fiestas".

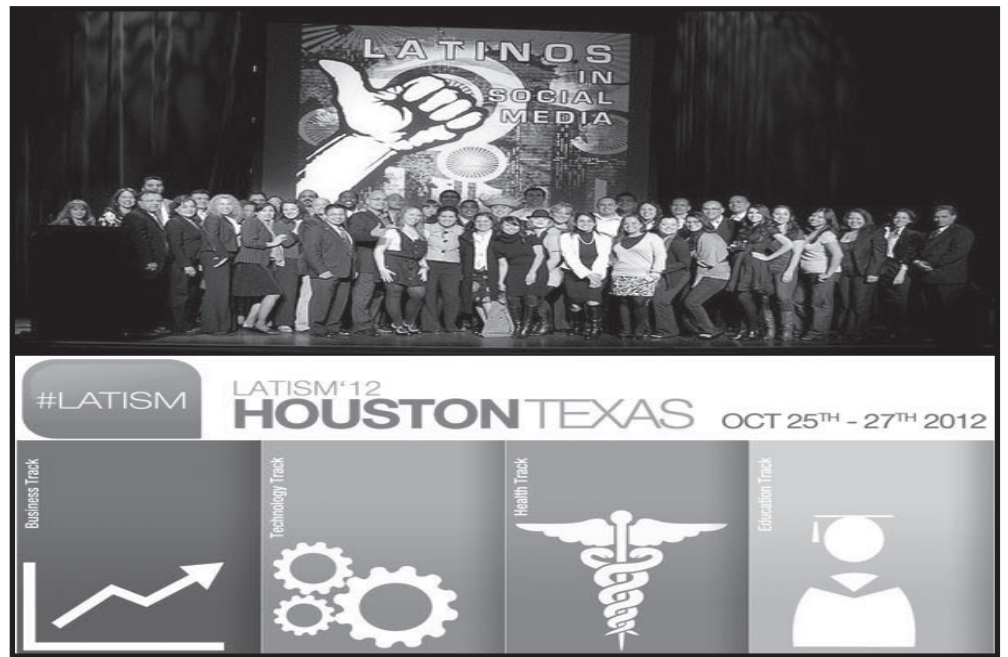
Individuals registering under "Students" obtained a FREE PASS with only one prerequisite; they had to sign-up for a one, three-hour shift, as a volunteer.

The volunteering choices ranged from the registration desk, where guests would check in, the "live tweeter", where volunteers would go inside the panels and "tweet" about the speakers, and as an usher to help guests get from one place to another.

Once the shift was completed, you were free to engage in the forums.

This conference covered four areas where the presence of the Latino community has been growing drastically. These areas ranged from business and technology to health and education with each area having a hall mediated by renowned Latino speakers and a panel of important Latino figures.

Among the speakers was Sandra Cisneros, known for her famous book "The House on Mango Street"; Claudia Deschamps, former Univision and Telemundo news anchor; and Mayor Pro-Tem Ed Gonzales. Two other surprise guests were Maria Celeste, from "Al Rojo Vivo," and Johnny Lozada,



LATISM Conference 2012

from "Despierta America".

The conference included various forums, under the areas of business and technology as well as health and education, where students, teachers, and other guests could engage in a Q&A discussion after the panelists had concluded their presentations.

Under the business forums, topics included: "Understand the New Hispanic Consumer", "The New Latino Media: Digital Journalism Con Sabor", "The Latino Entrepreneur Toolbox", "Blogging Strategies for Businesses", and "Bilingual Content Marketing".

Technology forums included: "Social-Media Powered Politics", "Social Media is About Relationships", and "Access to Venture Capital for Hispanic Tech Startups".

Inside the Health forums, the topics included: "Eat Healthy, Live Longer and Better", "Let's Talk Health-Care Reform", "Healthy Latinos Needed: Preventive Medicine and Education".

The education forum topics included: "Latinos in College", "STEM", "Creating a New Education Culture Among Hispanics", "Preserving Latino Culture in Future Generations", "The DREAM Act", and "Supporting Next Generation Hispanic Leaders Through Education".

As a growing organization, LATISM made an impact in Houston. Not only did it bring some of the most respected social media Latino figures together under one roof, but it also introduced the best of the fastest growing minority group in the United States.

From Broke College Student to Broke College Grad



Student debt sucks! (campusprogress.org)

Joseph Williams
Staff Writer

Prepare to be really, really broke when you graduate.

Earning a college degree can potentially provide you with much higher career earnings, a wider array of possible career paths, and far more potential for advancement in whatever company you wind up working for. Volumes of research exist to support these facts, yet a college degree does may not be powerful in this current economy.

Nearly one in five (19%) households in 2010 had outstanding student debt or loans

in deferment, up from 15% in 2007, and more than double the number two decades earlier, says the Pew Research Center in a report released recently.

The number of Americans who defaulted on federal student loans edged up again in the most recent reporting period, reflecting many borrowers' difficulty keeping up with their bills in a weak economy.

The Education Department said Friday that of the students whose loans came due after October

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(continued on page 11)

Housewife Claims She was Raised by Monkeys

Vanessa Ramirez
Staff Writer

We all know the Disney story of Tarzan, but could there be a real case of humans raised by monkeys?

Well, if you believe housewife Marina Chapman's claims, there is.

Marina Chapman is making headlines, claiming to have been raised by Capuchin monkeys in the jungles of Colombia.

She claims that her life among the monkeys began at the age of five after a failed kidnapping left her stranded in a Colombian jungle. She was left without the knowledge of her name or her birthdate; she can now only guess that she is in her late 40's or early 50's.

Marina Chapman claims to have learned a lot from the Capuchin monkeys. She mirrored the monkey actions, eating and drinking what they did. She copied their ways of social activity and communicated the way they did.

After five long years with the monkeys, some hunters came across her. She would have been about ten years old at this point. The hunters decided to trade her with a parrot to a brothel; the hunters now believe that they rescued her.

Marina eventually became a maid for a



Marina Chapman, who claims to have been raised by Capuchin monkeys.
(photo courtesy of Photo News)

Colombian family, which led her to meet the love of her life. While on a trip with the family, she met her husband, John Chapman, and they began grow their family.

Marina's family members do not find it odd that she was raised by monkeys; in fact, they are very supportive of her claims about her past.

Her children claim that they sometimes had to make animal noises to receive their food, but it was always the norm for them.

Not everyone is as supportive of Marina's claims, however. Primate experts are questioning and studying Marina's story because they find it hard to believe that small monkeys like capuchins would be able to raise a human.

However, the curiosity about the validity of her story isn't stopping her from sharing her experience with the world.

Marina will soon have a book ready to hit shelves Britain entitled "The Girl With No Name", which could possibly be the blue print to a documentary.

The book puts an emphasis on kidnapping, her story of being raised by monkeys, and human trafficking; a portion of the money will go to charities in Columbia.

(Trafficking continued)

is that most human trafficking victims are women; however, this has never been the case. Anyone can become a victim.

Most of us are unaware of how easily victims can be lured into this modern-day slavery. The victims of human trafficking have become trapped under a number of scenarios; they have been captured by the promise of a better job, have been sold by someone close to them, or they were kidnapped.

Once victims are lured in, human traffickers use many methods to keep their victims vulnerable. Victims often face starvation, physical abuse, gang rape, threat of violence to the victims and their families, or any number of horrific methods.

That is not the only one way in which victims suffer physically; they also face extraordinarily high health risks in regards to addictions, brain injury, sexually transmitted diseases and internal and external damage to their bodies as a result of the torture they face.

Physical suffrage is only one level of possible permanent damage victims occur; extreme psychological harm can be done as well. They can develop stress disorders, and carry around fear, grief, insecurities, depression,

and many other heavy-weighted feelings.

Often time victims are forced into prostitution and pornography, two of the cruellest forms of commercial sex operations. Sex trafficking operations are not limited in location and take place both publicly and privately.

Even the keenest eye can be blinded to human trafficking. The massage parlors and stress management spas are full of captive victims, and they line the streets of Houston unabashedly. Yet none of us give them a second thought.

Human trafficking is in itself a form of slavery, one that 27 million people worldwide experience. The profit reaped from the enslavement of humans for sex slavery adds up to \$32 billion. With such huge numbers, it is no surprise that human trafficking is now recognized as the second largest criminal act in the world.

These are numbers no one should be comfortable with; every day millions of lives are in the hands of a human trafficker, and often these lives are those of children forced into illicit sex trade.

We must stand in support of changing those numbers and aim to give life back to those from which it has been stolen.

There are hundreds of organizations that aim to end

human trafficking, and many of them stand in opposition to the trafficking that takes place in our own back yard.

In April of this year, a 2nd Cup, a non-profit based out of the Heights in Houston, has aimed at the goal of ending trafficking in an interesting way.

They are selling coffee.

Ethically-sourced, of course.

Erica Raggett, the owner, was educated on the seriousness of human trafficking during a church service in December of 2010, and has been fighting to help those enslaved ever since.

Her mission for the coffee shop is to provide a place where those who care to fight the battle can gather and network.

Houston also has a number of sanctuaries to provide safe havens for victims of human trafficking. The Houston Rescue and Restore Coalition (HRRCC) is one of those places. The HRRCC was established in 2005 on a voluntary basis. They provide helpful information for those who want to know more about human trafficking, desire to volunteer, or need emergency assistance.

There is something you can do, whether big or small. The purchase of a coffee could save a life from being enslaved.

The size of the act is never the concern; the choice to take action is always enormous.

(End of the World continued)

The famous case of Marian Keech and the seekers and Leon Festinger's infiltration of the group in 1955 was used to describe what happens in the mind of a believer when the prophecy does not come to past.

Marian Keech believed that the world would come to an end on December 21st, 1955. She also believed that on December 20th, a spaceship would descend and rescue believers to safety. She gathered a substantial amount of followers and Festinger successfully entered the cult in order to gauge the reaction when the world ultimately did not end.

From his findings, he discovered cognitive dissonance, a modern psychological term that describes the discomfort felt by holding two conflicting beliefs. Keech and her followers tried to rationalize the outcome in their favor in order to protect their beliefs.

Professor Raquel Chiquilo introduced clips from popular movies to highlight the different types of presumed armageddon scenarios and humanity's response to them.

Despite the fact that doomsday theories may be entertaining, the professors warn against buying into mere theories without substantial information to support it. Professor Raymundo cited the astoundingly high suicidal death toll associated with doomsday prophecies and advised those in doubt to be logical and informed in their approach. "If you are fearful," she said, "information is the key to alleviating some of that fear."

The Tech Files

The Top Phones and One Heck of a Fancy Lightbulb...

Michael Avila
Staff Writer/Tech Guru

Michael Avila
Staff Writer/Tech Guru

Looking for the best phone to buy this season? Well your search may be over! Here are some of the best smart phones available:

Sony Xperia TL

If you want a phone that is easy on your pockets, give the Sony Xperia phone a chance; and it'll give your pockets a break. The phone has a very fast processor and has 4G LTE along with extended battery life and powerful camera. This money saver is available at AT&T stores for \$99.99 on a two yr. contract.

iPhone 5

This is clearly the best iPhone yet. With its improved Google map application, it makes navigation a much easier process. Its new 3D feature allows you to look for destinations via a new perspective. The iPhone 5 has a larger screen and has been redesigned to be the lightest iPhone ever. The futuristic phone is available AT&T stores for \$199.99 on a two yr. contract.

Samsung Galaxy S III

If you want the complete package then the Samsung Galaxy S III is the phone for you. It comes fully loaded with Android 4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich and has 4G LTE. The new Galaxy phone also has a strong 8-megapixel camera and shoots amazing videos. Pick up this phone at any AT&T store for \$199.99 on a two yr. contract.

Motorola Droid Razr Maxx HD

If you want a phone with more battery life, look no further than the Motorola Droid Razr Maxx HD. The phone offers fast performance, has an outstanding screen, great design, and great call quality. It also offers major storage space, 4G data speeds and of course an unbeatable battery life. The Droid Razr is available through Verizon Wireless at \$299.99 on a two yr. contract.

(Green Yourself continued)

less water for your bath, and all-of-the-above cut back on your municipal water use.

Appliances: Bigger appliances use more electricity, so watch less tv and get your dose of news, music and gossip from the radio. Invest in a laptop instead of a desktop computer, or use your cell phone or pad to connect to the web. Buying the latest version of any electronic when the current version works perfectly fine is not only a waste of money, it creates a demand for raw materials that aren't being recycled effectively.

Car Problems: Can't afford that electric car you've been wanting? Buy a used car instead. Buying new, gas-powered cars makes auto-makers hold out on developing environmentally conscious auto technology. When the price of gas-powered cars falls due to low demand, green technology will actually stand a chance. As a starving student, you'll save money all around, and after you move closer to town, you won't be using your car that much anyway.



Michael Avila
Staff Writer/Tech Guru

The Apple store has recently begun selling a new product – the Philips Hue Connected Bulb...or what most people have been referring to it as - the “iBulb”.

The maker, a Dutch firm that goes by the name of Philips, has designed the unique little bulb so that it fits into a normal socket. Meanwhile, a control box for the bulb plugs into a broadband connection to allow the bulb to be controlled via an iPhone or iPad. This allows the user to control the lighting and the color that the bulb can change into through their iDevices, allowing the setter to virtually set the mood – whatever mood – by simply playing with their iPad.

The bulb runs by a wifi control chip located inside the bulb, which is powered by the electricity from the socket. It then connects to the control box, runs through the owner's wifi, and then allows communication with an app available in (of course) the app store.

The bulb has many features such as dimming and color changing.

It can also use GPS to locate where you are and have it set up so that if you leave your house the lights turn off and when you arrive the lights come back on.

It can even serve to trick those nasty burglars into thinking that you're home!

The Philips Hue Connected Bulb comes with four pre-programmed color settings and is available in the Apple store in a starter pack. The pack includes three of the bulbs at a price of \$199.95. The iBulb is also available in a single bulb, which will set you back about \$59.95.

Seems like an awful lot of for light bulbs, but if Apple sells it, chances are people will buy it.

(Broke Grad continued)

2009, 9.1% had defaulted within two years.

That is up from 8.8% in the previous two-year reporting period and almost double the rate of five years earlier.

The unemployment rate has hovered around 8% for the last 3 years, but those types of figures can seem distant and unimportant until we examine how they actually affect us.

A recent Rutgers University study found that out of all the college students who graduated from 2006-2011, only 51% of them have found full-time employment.

That is devastating news for students who have spent 4 years working tirelessly to perform well. Many of these students also have worked or interned while in school, making the burden twice as hard.

According to CNN, the average college student graduates with \$26,600 of debt. Part-time employment can be sufficient to pay the bills, but not to pay off this enormous debt and still live independently as adults.

Even the military is worried about college debt at this point. The growing student loan burden in the military appears to partly reflect a trend in America generally. Two-thirds of U.S. college seniors who graduated in 2011 had student loan debt, with an average of \$26,600 per borrower, according to a study released on Thursday by the California-based Institute for College Access and Success.

You can raise your chances of finding employment after graduation by interning while you're still a student. USA Today reports that not only do people who complete internships in their area of study find jobs more quickly, but they also earn 15% higher incomes than students who never interned.

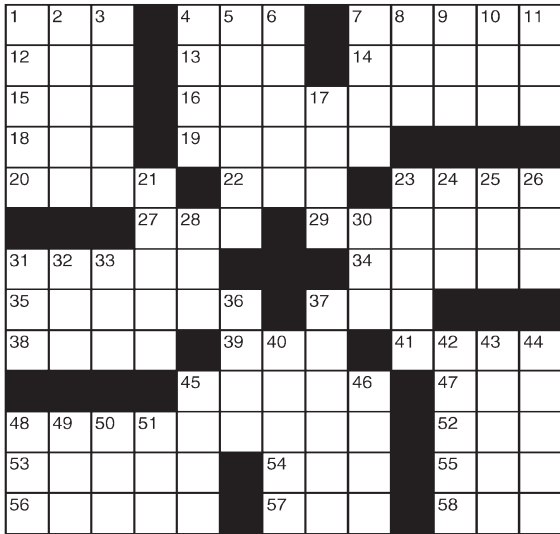
Be careful, though. Most internships are unpaid and you may not gain the experience promised or hoped for.

If you're considering taking an unpaid internship, ask some questions in the interview to see if they can tell you specifically what kinds of projects you will be working on. Ask yourself what you want to learn in the internship, and what new skills you want to have when your internship is complete. Weigh the pros and cons to see if the potential benefits outweigh the costs.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 One of the guys
- 4 Resort
- 7 Removes, as a hat
- 12 Remiss
- 13 Jungfrau, for one
- 14 Wear away
- 15 Recede
- 16 Site of the Caymans
- 18 Blood group letters
- 19 Prepared to propose
- 20 New Zealander
- 22 Curvy character
- 23 Equipment
- 27 Old hand
- 29 To-do list
- 31 Thespian
- 34 Firebug's crime
- 35 Half a legendary comedy team
- 37 Doctrine
- 38 Nervous
- 39 Charged bit
- 41 Tart
- 45 More than enough
- 47 Sch. org.
- 48 Source of a pseudo-chocolate
- 52 "Monty



- Python" opener
- Roam
- Disencumber
- Trawler need
- Saunter
- Billboards
- Mound stat
- DOWN
- 1 Dismal
- 2 Synagogue
- 3 U-shaped part of a yoke
- 4 Bag
- 5 Pluto, once
- 6 - -ski
- 7 Credit user's problem
- 8 Sphere
- 9 Adversary
- 10 Rx watchdog
- 11 Sun Yat- —
- 17 "Casablanca" heroine
- 21 Floating soap brand
- 23 Bacteria
- 24 Type measures
- 25 Commotion
- 26 Skedaddled
- 28 Before
- 30 Petrol
- 31 Milwaukee product
- 32 Scoundrel
- 33 Yank
- 36 Branch
- 37 Embedded
- 40 "Tosca" or "Turandot"
- 42 Put one's two cents in
- 43 Say
- 44 Selassie worshiper
- 45 Competent
- 46 Tackles' teammates
- 48 Bookkeeper (Abbr.)
- 49 Upper 36-Down
- 50 Plagiarize
- 51 Hooter

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Movie Review



Gerson Sifuentes
Staff Writer

Most of us have all heard of it from one source or another. A poster in a hallway, online, or from a friend, KONY 2012 has been making waves lately as a viral movement. Created by Invisible Children; a non-profit organization from California, it all started with an upload to YouTube. As a short documentary, its purpose was to bring Joseph Kony, a warlord in Uganda, Africa, to justice for his crimes.

Since its inception, KONY 2012 has gone from a viral hit to a storm of speculation and ultimately to a public disgrace. Targeted to mainly teenagers and young adults, it has sparked a new way of political activism and social communication.

There are questions as to the longevity of it, however; will it spur a long-term change or will it be a short-term firestorm?

In March of this year the video became one of the most viewed videos in the history of YouTube. The video followed the story of Jason Russell, a movie producer who started Invisible Children in 2004, and profiles their commitment to bringing the LRA (Lord's Resistance Army) and leader Joseph Kony's actions to light. It encouraged the viewer to take action in their communities to help IC's cause.

Following the release of the video, many young students did take action. IC invited every supporter to join them on April 20 for an event called "Cover The Night", which included a day of community service and a night of taping posters around their respective cities.

For a moment it seemed IC's plan was working. Within weeks of the video release the initial positive reaction seemed to take a turn for the worse. IC was criticized for a manipulating the truth. Critics became harsh in voicing their opinion and soon the initial supporters began to lose interest.

The toll was felt heavily by creator Jason Russell, leading to his well publicized public rant that made headlines around the nation.

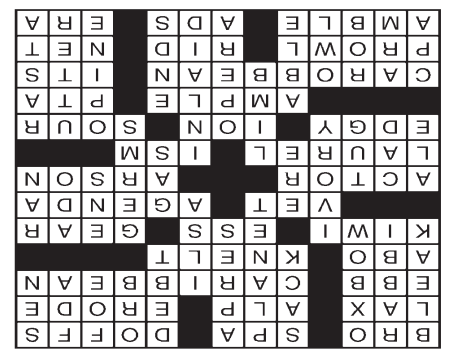
IC, however, held its ground and turned to a new tactic; turning inspiration into action.

In late October, IC released a new video "MOVE", a personal and revealing film that explained everything following the release of KONY 2012. Invisible Children then invited the entire nation to march with them in DC on November, 17 for MOVE:DC.

They believe that this time around they can have greater impact on the government.

KONY 2012 has had it's critics, its low moments and its high moments but holds strong to their goal of revealing the truth of an unknown war that was kept secret for long enough.

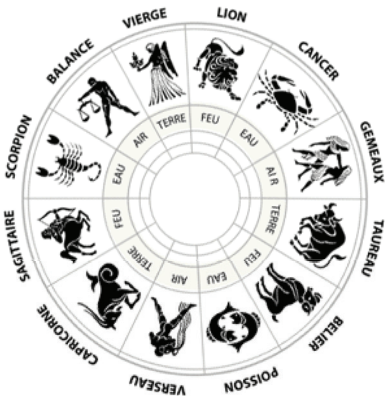
Only time will tell if KONY 2012 will be lost on our generation, or if it will achieve its goal of change.



Solution time: 27 mins.

Answers
King Crossword

Horoscopes



helpful, not hurtful.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your attempt at mediating disputes might meet some opposition at first. But once you're shown to be fair and impartial, resistance soon gives way to cooperation.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Go ahead. Reward yourself for helping settle a disturbing workplace situation. On another note: A personal relationship might be moving to a higher level.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A sudden change of heart by a colleague might create some momentary uncertainty. But stay with your original decision and, if necessary, defend it.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Rely on a combination of your sharp instincts along with some really intense information-gathering to help you make a possibly life-changing decision.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Instead of worrying if that new person in your life will stay or leave, spend all that energy on strengthening your relationship so it becomes walk-out resistant.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A sudden financial dry spell could reduce your cash flow almost to a trickle. But by conserving more and spending less, you'll get through the crunch in good shape.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your ability to keep secrets makes you the perfect confidante for friends, family and co-workers.

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your work requires increased effort during the next few days. But it all will pay off down the line. Things ease up in time for weekend fun with family and/or friends.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your genuine concern for others could prompt you to promise more than you can deliver. It's best to modify your plans now, before you wind up over-committed later.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A situation that seems simple at first glance needs a more thorough assessment before you give it your OK. Dig deeper for information that might be hidden from view.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Careful! Right now, things might not be quite what they appear. Even the intuitive Crab could misread the signs. Get some solid facts before you act on your suspicions.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your energy levels are high, allowing you to complete those unfinished tasks before you take on a new project. A social invitation could come from an unlikely source.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You might think you're helping, but unless you're asked for a critique, don't give it. If you are asked, watch what you say. Your words should be

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

