

Do green: Save green



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# Prospectus News

A student produced publication since 1969

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Vol. 01 No. 27



**Prospectus**

The Prospectus is a student publication, and is published weekly during the Fall and Spring semesters, intermittently in summer. To contact the Parkland Prospectus:  
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Cover illustration: Matt Fredeen

# Chuck Shepherd's News of the Weird

**LEAD STORY**

When Alcoa Inc. prepared to build an aluminum smelting plant in Iceland in 2004, the government forced it to hire an expert to assure that none of the country's legendary "hidden people" lived underneath the property. The elf-like goblins provoke genuine apprehensiveness in many of the country's 300,000 natives (who are all, reputedly, related by blood). An Alcoa spokesman told Vanity Fair writer Michael Lewis (for an April 2009 report) that the inspection (which delayed construction for six months) was costly but necessary: "(W)e couldn't be in the position of acknowledging the existence of hidden people." (Lewis offered several explanations for the country's spectacular financial implosion in 2008, including Icelanders' incomprehensible superiority complex that convinced many lifelong fishermen that they were gifted investment bankers.)

**Cultural Diversity**  
 —Among the lingering sex-based customs in Saudi Arabia is the restriction on women's working outside the home, which forces lingerie shops to be staffed only with males, who must awkwardly make recommendations on women's bra styles and sizes. The campaign for change, led by a Jeddah college lecturer, has enlisted even some clerks, who are just as embarrassed about the confrontation as the customers, according to a February BBC News dispatch.  
 —Only in Japan/Only in Swe-

den: (1) Sega Toys Co. reported in January that, in just three months, it had sold 50,000 units of the Pekoppa, a "plant" consisting of leaves and branches that flutter when "spoken to," the success of which the company attributes to the epic loneliness of many Japanese. (2) Advocates for children complained in April that Sweden's national library, acting on a standing order to archive copies of all domestic publications, has been gathering books and magazines of child pornography from the years 1971-1980, when it was legal, and, as libraries do, lending them out.

—The Natural Resources Defense Council and Greenpeace commenced campaigns in February critical of the peculiar preference of Americans for ultra-soft or quilted toilet paper. In less-picky Europe and Latin America, 40 percent of toilet paper is produced by recycling, but Americans' demand for multi-ply tissue requires virgin wood for 98 percent of the product. The activists claim that U.S. toilet paper imposes more costs on the planet than do gas-guzzling cars.

**Latest Religious Messages**  
 —Buddhist monks continue to add to their 20-structure compound near the Cambodian border using empty beer bottles, according to a February feature in London's Daily Telegraph. Their building program, begun in 1984, already uses 1.5 million bottles, mostly green Heinekens and brown, locally brewed Chang, both of which are praised for letting

in light and permitting easy cleaning.

—A group of an estimated 10,000 believers is attempting to reverse American Christianity's declining birthrate by shunning all contraception, in obedience to Psalm 127, which likens the advantage of big families to having a "quiver" full of "arrows" (and which calls itself the QuiverFull movement). "God opens and closes the womb," explained one advocate, to National Public Radio in March, noting that in her own church in Shelby, Mich., the mothers average 8.5 children. "The womb is such a powerful weapon ... against the enemy," she said. "The more children I have, the more ability I have to impact the world for God."

**Questionable Judgments**  
 —Australian Marcus Einfeld (a lawyer, former federal judge and prominent Jewish community leader) was once decorated as a national "living treasure," but he suffered a total downfall in 2006 by choosing to fight a (Aus.)\$77 speeding ticket. By March 2009, he had been sentenced to two years in prison for perjury and obstructing justice because he had created four detailed schemes to "prove" that he was not driving that day. His original defense (that he had loaned the car to a friend who had since conveniently passed away) was accepted by the judge, but dogged reporting by Sydney's Daily Telegraph revealed that lie, plus subse-

See **Weird** on page 4

## Hey, Where'd You Get That Rutabaga?

By **CHRISSE MCKENNEY**  
*Nutrition Columnist*

So you're trying to go green. You changed your light bulbs and your laundry detergent; you maintain the correct air pressure in your tires; you turn off your computer monitor at night, and you turn off the water while you brush your teeth; you even take reusable shopping bags to the grocery store. But what about the food that you bring home in those bags?

What you eat can have a big impact on the environment. Shipping refrigerated truckloads of produce around the country from farms in California to distribution hubs like Chicago uses up a lot of fuel. Transporting produce from a local farm to a local store is much

Ms. Hannah points out, even if you use a new, disposable plastic bag every time, you are still keeping all of the packaging that you would have purchased with a processed or pre-packaged item out of a landfill.

You can also find locally grown produce every Saturday from May 2 through November 7 at Market at the Square in the Lincoln Square Mall parking lot, or by joining a CSA. CSA stands for "community supported agriculture." Before the growing season, farmers sell shares of their harvest to people in the local community. Once harvest begins, members of the CSA receive a box full of fresh produce every week. What am I going to do with a box full of kohlrabi or turnips you wonder? Ask a farmer. At Market at the Square you will



To learn more about the Common Ground Coop, you can visit their Web site at [www.commonground.coop](http://www.commonground.coop) or you can visit their booth at the health fair hosted by Cardinal Fitness, also in Lincoln Square Mall next Saturday, April 25 from 9am-3pm. Tomahnous Farms still has CSA shares available. You can get more information at [www.tomahnousfarms.org](http://www.tomahnousfarms.org) or by calling 217-586-5632 or emailing [tomahnousfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:tomahnousfarm@yahoo.com). Information about the Market at the Square can be found online.

more efficient. Unfortunately, it doesn't happen enough. Next time you're in a grocery store, take a look at those little stickers on the fruits and vegetables; very few, if any, will read "Grown in Illinois."

If you are in the Common Ground Coop (located in Lincoln Square Mall in Urbana), however, you will have a hard time finding produce that is not grown in Illinois. Sustainability is one of the major goals of the Coop and, according to Jacqueline Hannah, the Coop's general manager, if you want to make environmentally conscious food choices, you need to know where your food comes from. The Coop makes it easy by providing locally grown, organic produce. They also allow you to make greener food purchases by offering many bulk food items. You can even bring your own containers to fill, and, as

find plenty who are happy to answer questions and share recipes. (They eat this stuff, too.) The people who work at the Coop are also happy to share recipe ideas.

Lisa Bralts, Director for Market at the Square and Economic Development Specialist for the City of Urbana, recommends educating yourself before you shop. Go online to see what's in season and find a tasty-looking recipe. Then you're ready to head over to the Market or the Coop and stock up. Ms. Bralts also thinks that an even better way to eat local produce is to grow your own, even if it is just a pot of basil or a single tomato plant.

Supporting local, organic food is not just about keeping chemicals out of the soils and waterways and reducing car-

See **Food** on page 6

## Reduce: For B. Lime every day is Earth Day

By **PATRICK WOOD**  
*Assistant Editor*

There is a "green wave" sweeping across the nation and the Champaign-Urbana community has not been left untouched by this movement. Located at 12 East Washington Street in downtown Cham-

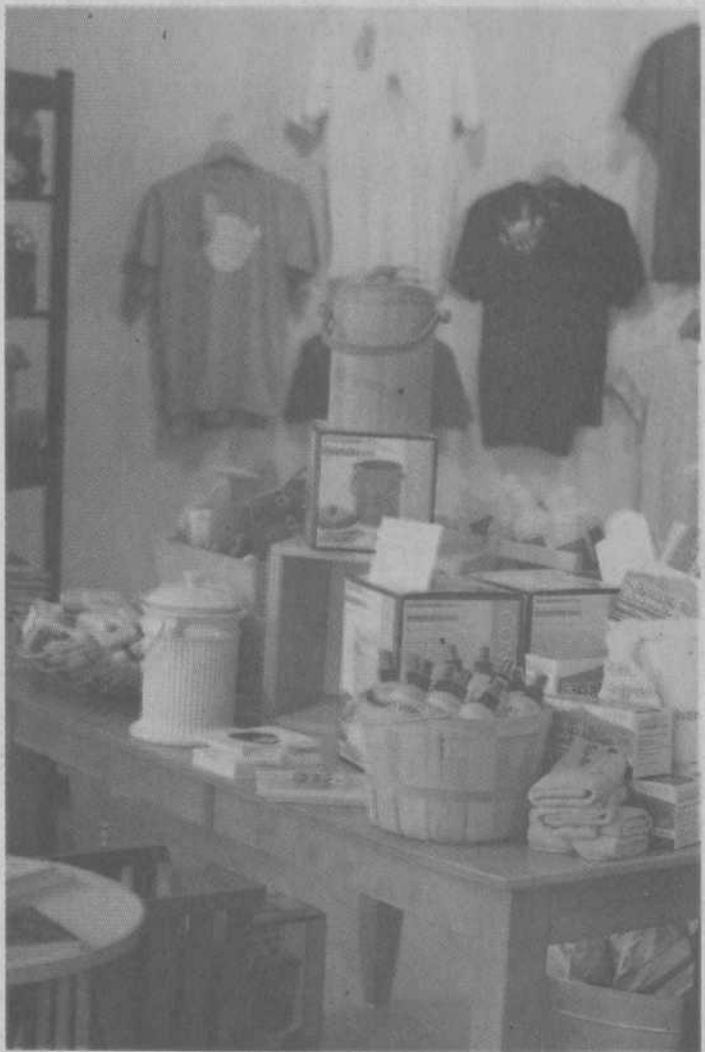
paign, B. Lime is leading the way as the first, and thus far, only completely green store in Champaign County.

Owner Wendi Lindsay, along with her husband, has always been very eco-minded and involved with health and wellness. Because of this, she came to realize that living in what she

called, "a disposable world" was having an impact on her daily spending. Lindsay also realized that there was a number of companies that were doing remarkable things to make people aware of sustainability and how they could go green.

"We knew that there were a lot of companies out there that were doing really cool things: the way they made products, what they're donating to, as far as conservation funds, and the climate change initiative, and you can't find these products unless you go to a big city or online," said Lindsay. "We wanted to give a space to Champaign-Urbana (to do this)

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# Reuse: second-handing it on Web, in town

By SEAN HERMANN  
Staff Writer

Have you ever realized how many tools there are to help you go green? Many of them are right at your fingertips, literally. There are an abundance of Web sites that can help save paper, gas, money, and time, as well as second-hand shops and stores that can help as well.

Why go second-hand? The real question is, "Why not?" Forget the old quote of 'another man's trash is another man's treasure' and get with the 21st century. Second-hand furniture — also known in some circles as 'antiques' — can be surprisingly affordable and nice. Keep in mind that everything you throw away has to go somewhere, so why not swap

for something you like?

Starting with the Web, Craigslist is a great resource for listing ads for just about anything from musical instruments to star trek collectables. You can search for just about anything you can think of locally or in just about any corner of the country, whether someone is selling or bartering that item, though, is unpredictable. If you keep up with the postings each week you might be able to find something of interest and save a few bucks, rather than buy something brand new, and driving all the way to the store to purchase the item and every little bit helps.

Another great feature Craigslist has is bartering. People can offer one good or service for the trade of another good or service, either temporarily or

permanently, depending on the ad. This can come in very handy during rough times, especially when you need carpet, vinyl, or hardwood installed and you could make way with a camper or RV for a few weeks.

You can also list your own ads on Craigslist anonymously and for free, if you are looking to sell anything, or need someone for an odd job, which might save some money and space in the paper's classifieds. So, instead of going out to the big corporations and businesses, just turn to the Web and you'll never know what you might stumble upon. It's a great resource, it can help you be green, and best of all it's free! Just keep an eye out for scammers.

Our next stop on the extensive World Wide Web is Face-

book. How can Facebook help you go green? Easy, it too has an online marketplace to list items wanted or for sale, like Craigslist, but that isn't the only thing. Facebook also has an application for creating groups as well as an application for event making. What this means is that you can post on a forum in a group about how awesome the Jonas Brothers are, and make an event for their new CD release and invite all of your friends all with a few clicks on your mouse, all on Facebook.

Much like Craigslist, it can save time and paper and give all the information you need to figure out when the new Jonas Brothers CD comes out and share it with everyone deemed interested, without using paper, ink, staples, or any other

materials needed to post fliers around town. Facebook too, is also a great online resource that can help you go green, and you don't have to go out of your way to do it.

Unfortunately for these next few ideas you will have to leave your desk for. Second-hand and resale shops such as Plato's Closet, Dandelion, Karen's Closet, Goodwill, The Salvation Army, and Empty Tomb are a great place to find used but suitable items and plenty of clothing for cheap.

With many different stores around the area, there is sure to be a shop around your part of town and there are plenty of items in these stores that you will be sure to find something of good use. What better way to save money and materials than to use "their trash

for your treasure." Make sure to stop by one of these stores and see what you might be able to find. You can even pick up some random items and create a new accessory or art for your living room for cheap.

By now you should have found at least one way to go green, and without much effort. If not then you are either lazy or unwilling. The fact is that there are many resources out there than can help better our community a little bit at a time, and a little bit is better than none. Please be a good patron today and help out the Earth, even if it is just a little bit. Happy Earth day!



Regan Cunningham- Psychology: "It means trying to keep our earth as clean as possible for a healthier environment, for today and generations to come."



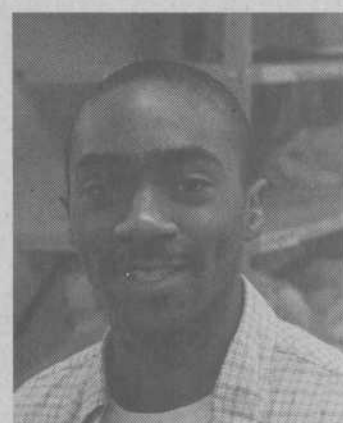
Molly Roberts-Mass Communications & Media: "Our habit of big green lawns is a waste of gas, and adds pesticides to the environment."



Josh Doniak- Art Education: "It's not easy being green."



Jay Brooks- Computer Animation: "Always put your plastic, glass, paper, in the correct bin."



Musa Muhammed- Fine Arts: "If we don't consider a green environment now the world we love will fall apart."



Tara Roys- "Eat real food. Eat Local. Take a candy bar- chocolate from South America, sugar from Mexico, nuts from Africa, artificial chemicals from the United States, and plastic from Saudi Arabia. Your food has traveled thousands of miles and probably individually burned a quarter gallon of gas. The Apple from the tree outside, burned 3 calories when I picked it."

## What does being "Green" mean to you?

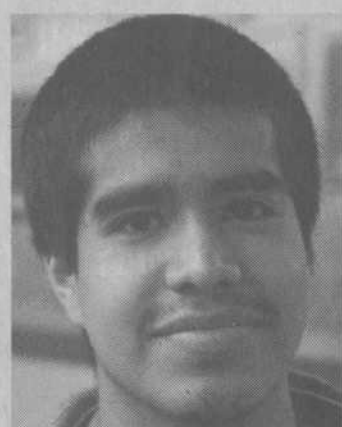
By Anthony Burkert



Alisha Reynolds- Art and Design: "The little things. Shutting off your car to conserve gas, and taking the stairs instead of the elevator, are just a few small but helpful gestures that make a big difference."



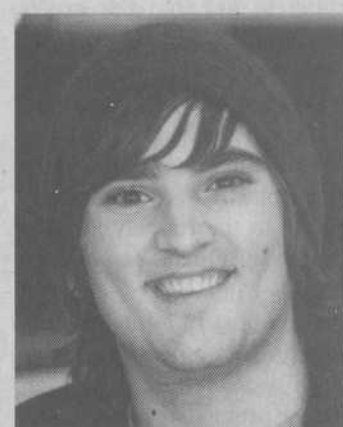
Kenton Visser- Art and Design: "I think the most important way to be green is to make a personal effort not to be wasteful. If we cut down on how much we consume and waste, it will have a very positive impact."



Felix Cardoso- Human Development and Family Studies: "To be able to show that you care about the environment and all aspects of it."



Timothy Hsia- Business and Hospitality- said that "being green means saving the extinct, conserving energy, recycling, and using electric cars."



Carter Boyce-Digital Media: "I think being green is important, because I am going to be raising my kids it, and I want the earth to be clean when they inherit it."



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# In celebration of Earth Day, change your footprint!

By HEIDI LEUSZLER  
Contributing Writer

What is a footprint?

The first step to living a greener life is to know how you live. It is impossible to use less, recycle more, unless you know how much you use and recycle! To determine this, you can calculate what we call your "ecological footprint". Your footprint is the impact your lifestyle has on the natural capital of the earth. Ideally, you will calculate this by recording every tiny thing you purchase, use, and throw away, every drop of water you use and let go down

the drain, how much you drive in what kind of car.... To truly know your footprint, you must know many details about your lifestyle. Since most of us don't really want to do that, you can quickly calculate your footprint by using online calculators that at least give you the gist of what impact you have where. Once you know your impact, you will know where you can focus your resources to live greener, and where you are already green! All of these sites also have information about the issues, and tips for reducing your footprint, too.

Ecological Footprint

<http://earthday.net/footprint/flash.html>

This quiz asks you numerous questions about your lifestyle, from how large your house is, to how much meat you eat each week. The final calculation is how many earths we would need if all the people on the planet were to live your lifestyle. A perfect quiz for earth day!

Carbon Footprint

<http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>

This quiz calculates your carbon footprint, which is important because carbon emissions are one of the "greenhouse gases" responsible for trapping

heat in the earth's atmosphere in what is called the greenhouse effect. Though we want some warming of the earth through the greenhouse effect to keep the planet from being a giant ice ball, the extensive use of modern energy sources such as coal, oil, and natural gas are increasing the greenhouse effect greatly. Carbon dioxide is one of the most common greenhouse gases, and so you can calculate your personal contribution to climate change through this calculator. You can also purchase carbon offsets that go toward the

planting of trees (or something similar) to neutralize your carbon emissions.

Water Footprint

<http://www.waterfootprint.org/>

Globally, the availability of potable water is becoming a serious issue, and we are beginning to see the issue in the USA. In the next few years, water will likely become one of the most important environmental protection issues, and water conservation will be a key. To see how much water you use (and waste), take this online quiz.

Home Energy Saver  
<http://hes.lbl.gov/>

Energy is already a big issue in the USA. As energy prices increase, our personal desire to use less energy increases. This site gives a fairly in-depth look into your home's energy use, and where you can save energy. Once you look into it, it will be surprising how much energy is used that you never actually use (plugged in cell phone chargers, your TV remote, hundreds of blinking digital clocks). You can really save just by removing these unused energy "vampires"!



Samanthan Hylla/Prospectus

## GREEN

continued from page 2

because we know that the community deserves it."

So in December of 2008, Lindsay announced the grand opening of B. Lime.

Since opening, there have been a large variety of customers that have frequented B. Lime. Everyone from older citizens who have been living a green lifestyle for years, to younger, college-aged students who are interested in what a green store is. According to B. Lime's mission statement they "promise to only carry items from eco-minded companies who demonstrate a commitment to the health and wellness of our planet and its inhabitants". Someone that has never been in a green store may think that this means B. Lime sells only things like notebooks made from recycled paper. In reality, the store has much more to offer.

"A large majority get the green concept, but there are the ones that aren't familiar with it, and they ask what are you doing, what do you have, what is this. What I can tell then is when people buy things, the kind of impact that has on Earth is a negative one for the most part, so you have to really think about what you are buying and try to reduce that negative impact as much as you can," said Lindsay. "We're here to offer those better choices." She admitted that there is no way to be perfect in this day and age, but B. Lime wants to be able to present people an alternative way to shop.

B. Lime offers a multitude of green products, including organic cotton clothing, towels, biodegradable plates, bamboo eating utensils, and non-toxic cleaning supplies. They also sell organic baby clothing, toys, and several BPA-free baby products, as well as pet treats, toys and cleaners. An unlikely green store product, an iPod stereo, is also sold at B. Lime. It is made entirely of sustainable wood and recycled plastic components.

A new item that just came in this month at B. Lime could prove useful to both backpackers and on-the-go college students. It's a weatherproof backpack made from recycled solar panels. In as little as four hours

in the sun, three solar panels on the back of the bag could fully charge an iPod, GPS, digital camera, or cell phone.

One of the most popular items according to B. Lime employee and Parkland student Jack Ross, are the stainless steel water bottles.

"From day one, Earthlust stainless-steel bottles have been our staple," said Ross. "The production of plastic water bottles is raising some eyebrows, from all over the world are exploiting the grim details of plastic use. As more and more people see this problem, the alternatives are popping up."

Ross, who has been employed at B. Lime for a little over a month, said it was hard at first trying to get into the green mindset.

"It was extremely difficult to get used to. The first couple of times I worked at B. Lime, I brought in bottles of vitamin water: plastic bottles that contribute to the roughly 80 million that are made each year," he said.

Working at B. Lime has also helped Ross understand the green way of thinking better than he previously had.

"B. Lime is an excellent ground for education. There are many cool ways that the companies we represent make their products. They all use ethical working wages and environments and they use organic supplies ingredients and materials," he said. "This green push is a phenomenon in the community. As more and more people are educated, they quickly pick up the concept that B. Lime stands by: Reduce, Reuse, Rethink. Every time I work, I'm engaging in a great conversation with a people that are eager to learn."

B. Lime also strives to support the surrounding community. Some of B. Lime's jewelry, lip balms, soaps, bags, and T-shirts are made locally said Lindsay. The City of Champaign actually offers a rebate for customers that purchase rain barrels, something that has boosted sale numbers to over 100. A reoccurring question that she has been asked however, is why doesn't B. Lime sell goods online?

"That's not what we're about. We're about creating a community space where people can

come into," she said. "We've had people come here and see people that they know, and chat and talk about things. We've even had classes on composting, so having it in an actual physical place let's us interact with people directly."

Lindsay's store only deals with companies that don't green wash. Green washing is a term used to describe companies that say they are doing green things, and really aren't. She said that many of the green companies that she buys from are small, allowing her to speak with the owners directly.

B. Lime is even green in a way that most people at first may not realize. The store's walls were painted with eco-friendly, non-toxic paint and the floor and many of the shelves were produced from sustainable or recycled wood. A large portion of the wood in the store actually came from a barn on Lindsay's father's farm. The building that B. Lime is in is also green. Renovated by Michael Markstahler, it has eco-friendly heating and cooling and will eventually have a rooftop garden.

B. Lime is a store that the Champaign-Urbana community may not know much about, but should be very grateful to have.

"There are still a lot of people that don't know about it, but at the same time that's a really good opportunity. Every day someone new finds out about it," said Lindsay. "If we can get the word spread out there that there are alternatives out there to your purchasing decisions."

"We're located on a street that eventually runs right by the mall, so if we can just touch one person that is going out that way towards Wal-Mart or whatever, if we can get one person to stop and say 'What the heck is a green store?' that's great. I've had that happen, and that's an awesome thing because we're starting to maybe reach the mainstream public. That's something we have to do, or this movement isn't going to catch on," she said.

B. Lime is both a fun and fascinating store that offers every-day items in a more efficient and Earth-friendly way. They are online at [blimegreen.com](http://blimegreen.com) and can also be found on facebook and twitter. If you have time, stop by. You may learn something new, or find a new way of thinking.


- List of Recyclable Items:
- Aluminum and Steel cans (be sure to rinse out)
  - Corrugated Cardboard (flatten and remove tape)
  - White Office Paper
  - Mixed Paper (Plastic or wax-coated paper or tissue items are not recyclable)
  - Glass (Remove lids and rinse, Pyrex, window glass, ceramics, and light bulbs are not currently recyclable)
  - Newspaper (Recyclers prefer dry, stacked newspaper)
  - Plastic (rinse, remove caps, and flatten)
  - Motor Oil\*
  - Electronics and Appliances\*
  - Concrete\*
  - Furniture\*
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- \*-Please refer to Champaign Public Works for more information.



Parkland student Laura Reiss stands in front of several pieces of her art work that were displayed in the front window of Jane Adams Bookstore in downtown Champaign for the 2009 Boneyard Art Festival.

Patrick Wood/Prospectus

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# Don't tread on me: it's tea time

By **JESSE WOODRUM**  
Staff Writer

An estimated 400 people showed up to West Side Park April 15 to protest excessive taxation and government spending in a fashion duplicated across the country. The keynote speaker was Randall C. Stufflebeam, a former marine and chairman of the Constitution Party of Illinois. He reflected on the Boston Tea Party and colonial taxation as a major factor in the American Revolution concluding, "We've got it far worse than they ever did."

Stufflebeam's speech was aimed mostly at the U.S. Constitution's 16th and 17th amendments. The former broadly expanded the federal government's power to tax citizens and the latter put the election of senators to a popular vote. Stufflebeam thinks that senators were more fiscally responsible when they had their state legislatures to answer to. He took a moment to address "flat tax" and "fair tax" proponents saying he understands their path but we need "no tax." Instead, Stufflebeam invoked a time when the federal government was subsidized by tariffs.

Brian Henningsen, a local farmer, says he came to express his concern that the government is taking too active a role



Anthony Burkert/Prospectus

in commerce. As a farmer his specific concerns included legislation enforcing potentially costly livestock registration and control and proposed cap and trade measures which would create incentives for no-till farming practices. Henningsen was among several

attendees who expressed disagreement with a tariff policy. One of the event's organizers Kevin Waite of Urbana said they had invited Republican state representative Tim Johnson to speak and, not hearing back from him, planned the event without him. Two days

prior to the event, says Waite, Johnson contacted them about an appearance but they had decided the day should focus on citizens not on politicians—taking their lead from Chicago organizers who reportedly denied a request by GOP Chairman Michael Steel to speak at

the Chicago tea party. Waite said he and other organizers had to rent the park for \$100 and had to buy a \$100,000 insurance policy for the event. Most attendees were middle-aged and several were there with young children but few student-age adults were present.

ent. Art Dehnz, a UIUC business grad student who came with a friend from the same field says he didn't expect many university students to wander that far off campus for the event even if the supported the message.

One protestor was dressed as a colonial revolutionary with a sign that read "after 233 years welcome back." He refused to speak to the Prospectus or be photographed expressing his anger with the media's coverage of the event.

Judy Gray a retired Carle lab worker says she had concerns outside economics. She said she was worried about "front door and backdoor" moves the Obama administration may make to curtail freedoms such as gun ownership. She wanted to take the air out of the stereotype that retired people on fixed incomes support bigger government.

"Don't tread on me" t-shirts were for sale and some took the opportunity to hand out literature to a group they expected to be sympathetic. One woman handed out business card-sized political quizzes to determine if you were a "liberal, conservative, statist or a libertarian."

Javier Hernandez was passing out copies of the university's alternative paper the Orange and Blue Observer, which he says has a staff of about a half dozen.

## WEIRD

continued from page 2

quent elaborate lies to cover each successive explanation. Encouraged by those revelations, the press later uncovered Einfeld's bogus college degrees and awards and an incident of double-billing the government.

—A high school student in Oakton, Va., was suspended for two weeks in March when she inadvertently brought to school her birth-control pill (her prescription for which was approved by her mother). It was only then (with two weeks off to research it) that the girl discovered that, in comparison, county rules required only one week's suspension for bringing heroin to school. Officials told the Washington Post that birth-control pills are particu-

larly objectionable because they countermand the school system's "abstinence-only" sex education classes.

—Bad Decisions: (1) Chrysler Corp. may be on its last legs as a stand-alone company, but that did not stop its representatives from disrupting a funeral proceeding in Cranbury, N.J., in March to subpoena the corpse (which the company said is relevant to a pending lawsuit over mesothelioma). (2) Joseph Milano, owner of Goomba's Pizza in Palm Coast, Fla., was in the federal witness protection program for squealing on Bonanno crime family members in New York but lost his anonymity in January when he was arrested for allegedly pistol-whipping a customer who had dared to criticize his calzone.

For Americans

Recent Human Biting: (1) Sheila Bolar, 49, was arrested after biting a transit driver because she wanted to ride only a "hybrid" bus (New York City, January). (2) Aleyda Uceta, 30, was arrested for biting her son's principal during a parent-principal conference (Providence, R.I., March). (3) Curtis Cross was arrested for allegedly biting off another motorist's ear in a road rage incident (New Castle, Ind., April). (4) Lyndel Toppin, 50, bit down on his fiancée's arm, resulting in nerve damage, because she had arranged the cheese incorrectly on his meatball sandwich (Philadelphia, April). (5) Blaine Milam, 18, and Jessica Carson, 19, were arrested for performing an orrisism on their baby daughter that resulted in 20 bite marks (Rusk County, Texas, December).

### Least Competent People

Our Elected Leaders: (1) During an April Texas House committee hearing (according to a Houston Chronicle report), state Rep. Betty Brown suggested a solution to the voter-registration confusion caused by Chinese-Americans' Anglicizing their names (which yields nonstandard spellings): "Do you think that it would behoove you and your citizens," she asked a Chinese-American activist, "to adopt (names) that we (lawmakers) could deal with more readily here?" (2) During a March Florida Senate debate on whether to exempt "animal husbandry" from the law against bestiality, Sen. Larcenia Bullard asked (seriously, according to a Miami Herald reporter), "People are taking these animals as husbands?"

Recurring Themes

News of the Weird has noted two previous instances of "Weekend at Bernie's"-like attempts by a relative or friend of a newly deceased person to dress up the corpse and bring it to a bank to convince officials that the dead man is merely frail and to request funds from his account. Both of those attempts failed, but in Witbank, South Africa, in March, the Afrikaans-language daily Beeld reported success: A post office supervisor released a government check to two women who had brought in a dead pensioner but only after the women promised that the money would only be used for the man's burial expenses.

A News of the Weird Classic (January 1994)

Homeless couple Darryl Washington and Maria Ramos were injured in 1992 when a

train rammied them as they were having sex on a mattress on the tracks at a New York City subway station. The injuries were not severe, thanks to a quick-acting motorman. Nevertheless, the couple went on to file a lawsuit against the Transit Authority for "carelessness, recklessness and negligence." (The outcome of the lawsuit was not reported, but the couple's lawyer was, at the time, quite aggressive in justifying the filing: "Homeless people are allowed to have sex, too," he said.)

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CHUCK SHEPHERD

# Obama's first 100 days in office haven't been quiet

By **MARGARET TALEV**  
MCT

WASHINGTON—President Barack Obama's first 100 days on the job exploded with activity on many fronts: the \$787 billion economic stimulus, the order to close the Guantanamo Bay prison within a year, a withdrawal plan for Iraq, an expansion of U.S. forces in Afghanistan, and outreach to several

hostile nations. Still, America's economic crisis largely shaped these 100 days. It also empowered Obama, even as it overshadowed some of what he'd hoped to do. "The ability to enlarge executive power is a function of crisis," said Ross K. Baker, a Rutgers University political scientist. He'll help lead a national conference next

month on Obama's first 100 days, a traditional measure for new presidents since Franklin D. Roosevelt's ambitious new administration in 1933. Obama has benefited from "a double lift-off," Baker said, "not only the normal honeymoon but, in addition, the fact that the American people and Congress are looking to him to get them out of a crisis." Whether the new president

will succeed at that, of course, remains to be seen. Despite his talk of bringing spending under control, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projects that Obama's \$3.55 trillion budget will drive the deficit to a record \$1.8 trillion this year and double the national debt over the next decade. Meanwhile, some of Obama's initial steps on the foreign

stage have raised eyebrows. On Afghanistan and Pakistan, even some of his own top officials concede that the administration's strategy has little chance of halting the advance of Islamic extremism in Pakistan or crushing the Taliban and al-Qaida in Afghanistan. It also isn't clear whether Obama's overtures to Iran, Venezuela, Cuba and North Korea, while demonstrating his pref-

erence for cooperation over confrontation, will produce diplomatic breakthroughs or be interpreted as weakness by those countries' leaders. Much of what American presidents accomplish begins in their first 100 days. Just as the Great Depression allowed Roosevelt to quickly lay the groundwork for the New Deal, Obama seized on today's crisis

See **Obama** on page 6

## Obama's to-do list so far

President Barack Obama's ambitious agenda for the first 100 days of his presidency remains a work in progress, but it already includes notable moves on several fronts.

### Items accomplished

**Guantanamo** Addressing an important theme of his campaign, ordered the closing of the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (Jan. 22)

**Pushed for and signed a measure** making it easier for women to sue their employers for job discrimination (Jan. 29)

**\$787 billion stimulus plan** is meant to get money flowing to communities all over the country and spur the economy into recovery (Feb. 17)

**Stem cell research** Lifted restrictions on federal funding for research on new stem cell lines (March 9)

### In the pipeline

**Afghanistan** Stepping up the fight against extremist threats in Afghanistan and neighboring Pakistan, moves to add U.S. combat troops and civilian personnel in what looks to some like a "surge" (Feb. 17)

**Financial rescue** of the nation's biggest banks to figure out how much bailout money will be needed to help them survive (Feb. 23)

**Iraq withdrawal** schedule is supposed to have most combat troops out of the country by August 2010 (Feb. 27)

**Cuba** Seeking what he calls "a new beginning" with the island nation, Obama begins easing restrictions by allowing Cuban-Americans to visit relatives back home and to send money there more easily (April 13)

**Climate change** Moving to rein in greenhouse gases by way of government regulation while also pushing Congress to take action on its own (April 17)

**Budget** Promising to cut costs and clean up waste in government, Obama starts by ordering agency directors to trim \$100 million out of the upcoming budget—which has a bottom line exceeding \$3.5 trillion (April 20)

### Only just begun

**Auto industry rescue** U.S. carmakers continue to struggle; Obama's prescription so far is to give them time to "fundamentally restructure" in a way that merits public bailout money

**Education** Promised overhaul of financial aid programs yet to come

**Health care** Original plans for top health appointees delayed, but now major reform plans are taking shape

**Immigration** Obama reiterated his commitment to comprehensive immigration reform during the recent Summit of the Americas, but so far he has not launched his promised overhaul of the "dysfunctional" bureaucracy

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Source: Chicago Tribune reporting  
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

## OBAMA

continued from page 5

to frame an ambitious agenda.

He got both chambers of Congress to pass sweeping \$3.6 trillion budget plans largely on his terms. His \$787 billion stimulus package included tax breaks he wanted and spending on his priorities, including expansions of health care, infrastructure, renewable energy and education. He's also announced a \$275 billion plan to stave off home foreclosures and a \$100 billion bank rescue program.

He forced out the chief executive of General Motors, told the company to consider bankruptcy, and is pushing Chrysler to merge with a more stable automaker.

Gerhard Peters, a co-founder of the American Presidency Project at the University of California, Santa Barbara, said that Obama's sweeping agenda could make him a transformational president, just as Roosevelt made America more reliant on government and as Ronald Reagan made it less so.

"He is transforming American politics right now," Peters said of Obama, "in terms of reshaping the relationship between government and society, government and business, and society and business. There's a perception now that we need government to protect us."

Obama has signed more executive orders, memoranda and proclamations in his first 100 days than any president since Franklin Roosevelt. One notable order lifted former President George W. Bush's restrictions on federal funding for human embryonic stem cell research.

Obama also spent more of those first months outside the country than any of his 43 predecessors, according to the American Presidency Project.

So far, a majority of Americans like what they see.

Obama's average approval rating for his first three months in office was 63 percent in the Gallup Poll.

That's the highest since Jimmy Carter's 69 percent rating after his first 100 days more than three decades ago. However, Carter's presidency is widely considered a failure, which underscores the risk of reading too much into a president's first 100 days.

Obama also opened a new era of relations with Congress, moving quickly to enact legislation that Democrats couldn't get past Bush: expanded children's health insurance coverage (paid for with higher cigarette taxes) and pay equity legislation giving women more grounds for lawsuits. He also delivered a signature expansion of national service programs in the tradition of Democratic presidents John F. Kennedy and Bill Clinton.

Obama signed orders to expand access to information under Freedom of Information and Presidential Records laws. But while making good on his promise to make government more transparent, Obama's White House nonetheless tries to shape the media message by limiting access to much information via selective leaks by unnamed sources.

The president also has begun laying the groundwork for sweeping health care and global warming legislation. He says he'll preserve private health insurance but offer more government-managed insurance so that everyone is covered. Critics think that will guarantee significant tax increases down the road, despite the president's promise to raise taxes on only the wealthiest Americans.

His health care overhaul is far from assured of passage. Neither is his plan to curb greenhouse gases. Both face epic struggles in Congress.

Turning to national security, Obama ordered the closure of

secret CIA prisons overseas and of the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, within a year. He rescinded the Bush administration's authorization of harsh interrogation techniques, and he made public four previously secret Bush-era memos that described those methods in detail.

At the same time, he told CIA officials who followed the Bush guidelines that they won't be prosecuted, and invoked the same state secrets privilege that he'd criticized Bush for abusing to shield other details about spying and anti-terrorism programs. Both moves have frustrated some of his liberal backers.

Obama then waffled on his no-prosecution pledge last week, saying that the decision of whether to prosecute Bush administration officials who authorized the harsh techniques will be up to Attorney General Eric Holder.

The new president has brought a warm new tone to global diplomacy. He sought to recast relations with the Muslim world, including his video overture to Iran for new diplomatic relations. He relaxed Cuba policy, opening what some see as a window toward lifting the almost 50-year-old trade embargo. He was all smiles when shaking hands recently with Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez, a leftist who once denounced Bush at the United Nations as "the devil."

(EDITORS: STORY CAN END HERE)

Obama's campaign promise to open a new era of bipartisanship has fallen short. Only three Senate Republicans and none in the House of Representatives supported his stimulus bill.

His effort to change the culture of revolving-door and special-interest politics also achieved mixed success at best. While putting in place a detailed ethics policy that aims to reduce lobbyists' influence, he made exceptions to his own rules. And several of his Cabinet nominees—from Tom Daschle to Timothy Geithner—were felled or tainted by controversies over their failure to pay taxes.

Obama's also fallen short so

far in his effort to convert his campaign's effective grassroots and Internet operations to a force that can help him govern. Lawmakers report no evidence of political impact from those efforts.

Still, the new president has brought a new-media sensibility to the White House: His YouTube videos of Saturday radio addresses, his first "online town hall" meeting, and his administration's creation of a Web site to track the spending of the economic stimulus have made the White House more accessible.

Each presidency has its own 100-day narrative, but scholars who study presidential records made public years later say they're struck by how much all presidents tend to have in common—and how often perceptions of how a president spends his time doesn't match reality.

Historically, the public component represents only about 6 percent of a president's day, and much of his time goes to behind-the-scenes duties as commander in chief and head

diplomat.

"So much of what they do is dictated by what they must do," said Terry Sullivan, the executive director of the non-partisan White House Transition Project and an associate professor of political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"The first 100 days is about figuring out, 'How are we going to focus on the things we want to focus on?'"

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McClatchy-Tribune  
Information Services.

## FOOD

continued from page 2

bon emissions. The money that you spend to buy produce from a local farmer goes back into the local economy. This allows the farm to create jobs for people within the community who receive higher wages and experience better working conditions than workers on a large industrial farm. Lisa Tomahnous of Tomahnous Farms in Mahomet (which participates in a CSA) thinks that another benefit of small-scale farms like hers is that the farmers are more accountable to their customers. You can drive to Mahomet and see what goes on at her family's farm. It's a bit more complicated to drop in on a large-scale, industrial farm in California. Supporting local farmers also preserves farming as a way of life. Large industrial operations are putting family farms out of business across the country. They just can't compete on that scale, but they can provide plenty of food for their own communi-

ties.

Even if nothing else matters, locally grown food just tastes better, and it's better for you. It tastes better because it is fresh. Fruits and vegetables are at their nutritional peak when they are ripe. If they are harvested early, before they reach that peak, you don't get the full nutritional benefit. Most conventionally grown produce has been selectively bred so that it can be picked well before it ripens, transported long distances, kept in a distribution center and then transported again to the grocery. It tastes like cardboard, and you don't even get your vitamins.

Making sustainable food choices is a huge topic, and I have barely scratched the surface here. Look for future columns about sustainable meat production and the benefits of local vs. organic produce.

## Just do green; it's really not a choice anymore

By CASSANDRA CUNNINGHAM  
Staff Writer

—Walk. Instead of driving down the block, taking the elevator, or going up the escalator, walk, or take the stairs. This decreases the use of gas and energy and gives everyone a little bit more exercise at the same time.

—Shut off the water when shaving, brushing teeth. The World Almanac Book reports that the average person uses 123 gallons of water every day. 10-15 gallons is used shaving if the water is left on, and 1-2 gallons are used while brushing teeth if the water is left on. By shutting the water off, this number can be cut by almost 75%. Almost 30 gallons of water are used when taking a shower. So by cutting shower time down by a couple of minutes, this high number can also be decreased significantly.

—Use energy efficient products. Though they can be expensive, they have a longer life and they cut down power bills and the use of energy. A normal light bulb uses around 90% of energy. By switching to energy efficient light bulbs, energy use decreases and the amount of the power bill decreases right along with it.

—Use homemade beauty products. Instead of using beauty products that can contain chemicals that are harsh on the environment, use homemade beauty products. They are safe and made from natural ingredients. By squeezing half of a lemon and putting 4 TBSP of cornmeal in a bowl and mixing it until it becomes a thick paste, it creates a face scrub that moisturizes and cleans the face. By mixing 1/3 cups of sugar, 1 TBSP of salt, and adding milk until it becomes a thick past, it creates a skin, face and lip scrub that scrapes away dead skin cells leaving skin soft, glowing and healthy.

—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle! Everyone knows the three R's, but not everyone follows them. For example, something as simple as recycling plastic bags can help the environment significantly. Plastic bags are incapable of decomposing because they contain oil, so if they are not recycled, they can cause harm to the environment. But even though this is a proven fact, only 1% of plastic bags are recycled every year. By reducing the number of plastic bag one uses, reusing plastic bags at the grocery store, and recycling them when they can't be used anymore, a huge environmental bully can be beat! This goes with anything. Make it an effort to reduce and reuse. And everyone should recycle!

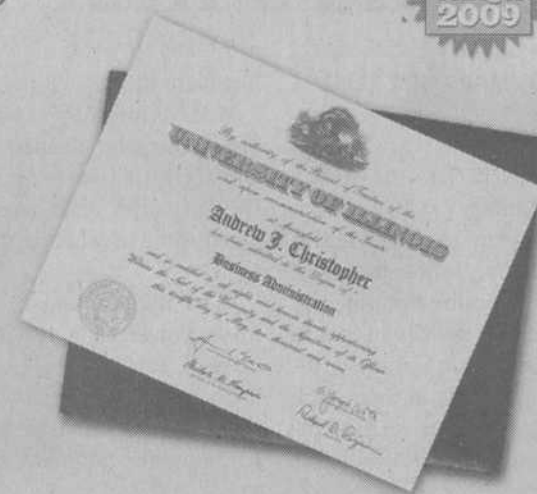
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# Faculty explores local prairie potential

By **JESSE WOODRUM**  
Staff Writer

About a dozen members of Parkland's faculty, staff and a couple guests packed a school van for a short field trip to the environs surrounding Parkland College. The object of study was the landscape and its potential as future native prairie land. Several of the faculty hadn't anticipated the cold drizzle that accompanied them on Monday April 13, but their hosts would not be deterred by Mother Nature who seemed to take no heed of their plans. Chris Berti, Parkland ceramics instructor and environmentalism advocate, invited local ecologist David Monk to show the faculty the local terrain. They traversed a rain-soaked railroad pass over interstate 57 and trudged through muddy fields in dress shoes for a lesson in ecological history. Monk, their guide, advocates for the return of land to the prairie lands which covered Illinois centuries ago before it was cultivated for farm land and development. Monk says the prairie is our "cultural and historical landscape." He has opposed new buildings going up and old ones coming down because "that's your past." Monk works with the local non-profit groups Heartland Pathways and Educational Resources in Environmental Sciences. He also hosts a weekly radio show on WEFT from 11-Noon Sundays. Monk's website calls him a preservationist, environmentalist, naturalist, educator and activist and says he moved to central Illinois from Australia

to attend UIUC. The group discussed how difficult it would be to get the land for Parkland, and how it could be managed beside adjacent farmland. The consensus was that among administration at large, returning land to its native prairie state would not be a priority. Berti says environmentalism is not a political issue but that people make it a political issue because "choices have to be made...choices that deal with funding, deal with values." It should not be political, Berti says, because everyone on Earth is affected by some of its issues. Many of the attendees were part of the Campus Sustainability Project which is aimed at educating students and faculty about environmental concerns and proposing policy ideas to administration and to help instructors who want to blend environmental ideas in with their course curricula. In a chat afterwards the talk turned to the general idea of environmental sustainability and how activists can get their ideas into the culture at large. "You want the theologians in there. It's almost...subliminal. The thought of sustainability is always there," suggested Monk. Posing a philosophical query of whether humanity could live on Earth indefinitely, Berti answered "If we don't do something soon there will be an easy answer to that question and it won't be pretty."



Jesse Woodrum/Prospectus

## Calamities of Nature by Tony Piro



# Recycle

## ■ Bootcamp for greenhorns

By **SEAN HERMANN**  
Staff Writer

Have you always wanted to go 'green' and recycle, but you're still unsure of what you actually can and can't recycle? Don't worry—you're just like most of the population. Here are some tips and tricks to help you figure out what is and isn't recyclable as well as a list of where to take them throughout C-U, if they are.

First, check with your waste removal company to see what their recycling policies are. There are some companies that don't recycle at all, while others offer several options for pick-up. If your company doesn't pick up recycling, you can save recyclables in a bag or box and take them to a stand-alone recycling bin, which are stationed all throughout town.

Second, plastic containers will have resin identification codes printed on them. If it's labeled with a 1 or a 2, they are usually recyclable. Recyclables containing iron and steel are the most commonly recycled metals along with a newly popular aluminum.

Most paper products are recyclable as well. The types of recyclable paper products are newspapers, magazines, corrugated containers, telephone books and mixed residential paper. Office paper can be very resourceful and is used to make books, newspapers or even more paper. Clear, green, brown, and amber glass containers are also recyclable, however any other colored glass is not.

Locally, there are many businesses and not-for-profit organizations that will accept many items that you might not need or want any more. Here is a list of some along with their

addresses so you can take advantage of the great initiative of recycling.

Architectural and building salvage, excluding appliances, hollow core doors, storm windows, screens or modern plumbing fixtures, can be donated (tax deductible) to the Preservation and Conservation Association, a not-for-profit organization with 501 (c) 3 status at 44 E. Washington St., Champaign.

Automobiles can be taken to Mack's Auto Recycling, 1309 E. Kerr Ave., Urbana, and Mack's Twin City Recycling, 2808 N. Lincoln Ave. in Urbana.

Batteries, which are indeed recyclable, aren't part of any city-recycling program, but can be taken to the Interstate All Battery Center at 2504 N. Mattis Ave. in Champaign, including Car batteries, rechargeable, and single use. Lawn mower batteries can be taken to Lowe's on north Prospect Ave.

Cell phones have numerous drop-off locations. Just about any phone company, battery collection site, and hardware store will take them in for recycling. For a full list please visit <http://www.rbcc.org/start.php> and enter your zip code to get started.

Clothing can be donated to Goodwill at 1102 N. Prospect Ave. and The Salvation Army 119 E. University Ave.

Furniture can be taken to Empty Tomb, Inc., which provides for the less fortunate, at 301 N. Fourth St., Champaign.

For a list of everything recyclable in Champaign-Urbana, please visit: [http://www.ci.champaign.il.us/public\\_works/pwrhp.php](http://www.ci.champaign.il.us/public_works/pwrhp.php)

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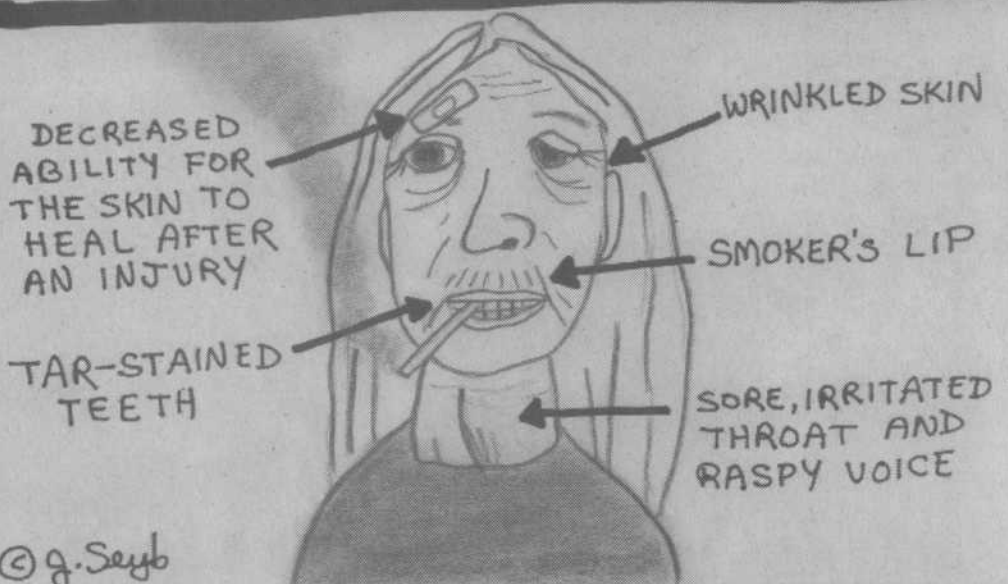
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PARANOID AMERICANS HOARDING GUNS? DON'T BE SILLY!



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## Weather Forecast

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 61. Breezy, with a south southwest wind between 17 and 23 mph, with gusts as high as 31 mph.  
**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. Breezy, with a south southwest wind between 18 and 24 mph, with gusts as high as 31 mph.  
**Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 59. South wind between 15 and 18 mph, with gusts as high as 28 mph.  
**Sunday:** Partly sunny and breezy, with a high near 79.  
**Sunday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 58.  
**Monday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 74.  
**Monday Night:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 55.  
**Tuesday:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 71.  
**Tuesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48.  
**Wednesday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 70.  
**Wednesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47.  
**Thursday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 65.

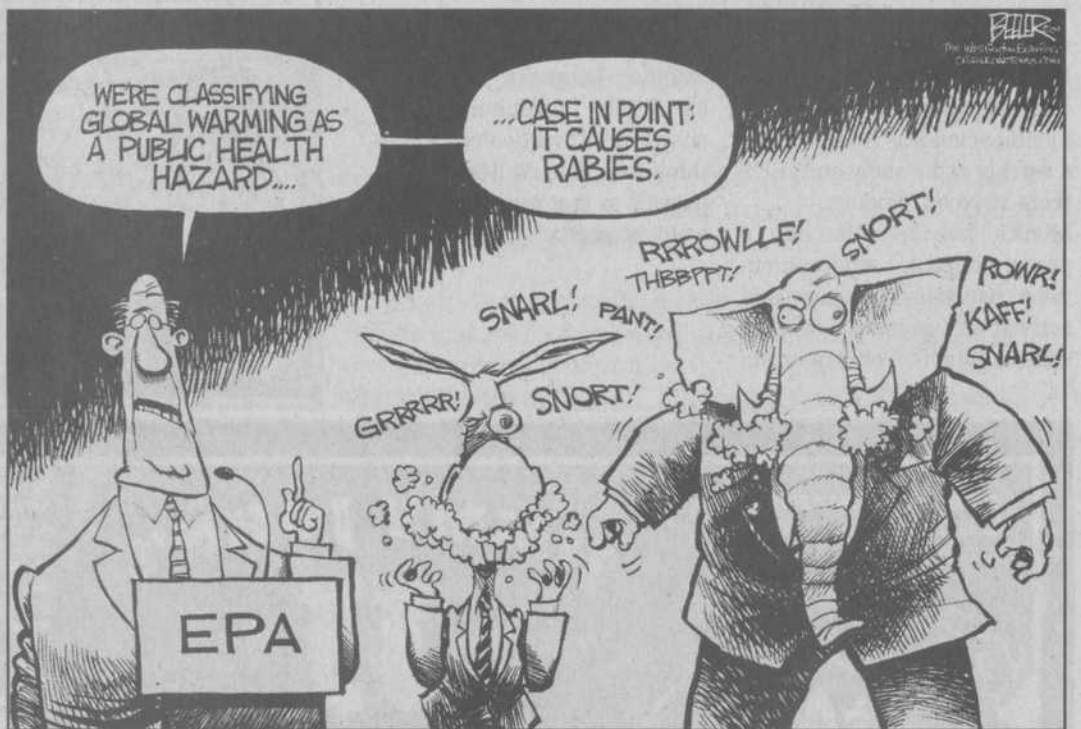
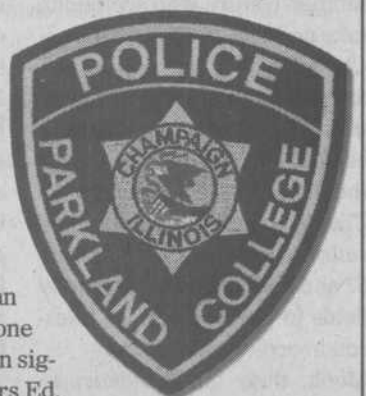
Safety is Everyone's Business

Just so you know, you need to remember to look out and think when riding your bike!

Many do not realize that bicycles are actually considered legal vehicles on the road. This means that bicyclists actually by law have to drive on the street just like cars and obey all the same traffic laws that a car does.

This means if you are on your bicycle and you have come to an intersection with a red light, you have to stop just like everyone else. Also, if you have to make a turn, instead of using your turn signals you must use hand signals like you were taught in Drivers Ed.

Most accidents involving bicycles and cars can usually be attributed to the cyclist. Usually because riders are going against the flow of traffic, failing to stop at stop signs and traffic lights. Bicyclists, just like motorists, have fewer crashes when they stay alert and obey traffic laws. Also, when you're on our campus, remember to lock your bike to an actual bike rack located at the A-, C-, and M-wing entrances. Just remember, wearing a helmet can save your life, but so can obeying the traffic laws.



		1		5	9		8	6	7			4					
		8		3	5	7	1		6	4	5	2					
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		2			7		6		8				7				
	2		1		3			1		6		5					
9				6				9			4		1				
	7	6	4		3		2	8	2		9		6	4			
3		9	8	6		5			3		5		2	7			
4	8			1				4			9	3		8			
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5	4		6		8			2		6		4			9		
3		7			5	8		9	7	4	1	8			3		5

**ACROSS**

- Aquanaut's workplace
- Arabic for "son of"
- Software prototype
- "1984" author
- Teachers' org.
- Campground arrival, briefly
- Pleasure dome site of verse
- Most energetic
- Cornucopia
- Baba of fiction
- Via
- Hermit
- Poivre partner
- Let go
- Supplement that some claim eases arthritis
- "Bali"
- Italian cheese
- Tender poultry
- Stereotypical pirate leg
- Texas governor before George W. Bush
- Ont. or Que.
- Feedbag morsel
- Former big name on "The View"
- Snob
- Mag. employees
- 1973 Erica Jong novel
- Crooner Julio
- What pupils do in the dark
- Action hero's garb, and what each first word in this puzzle's four longest answers is
- Lunes, por ejemplo
- Squirrel's stash
- Prolific auth.?
- Morsel
- Grand Prix site

**DOWN**

- White
- Pitching stat
- Barley bristle
- Sister of Rachel
- Actor Ray of "Battle Cry"
- Book jacket promo
- Running the country
- Hybrid meat
- Dover diaper
- Boxers' alternatives
- Like 2 or 4, e.g.
- Sample
- Pseudo-sophisticated
- Gp. once headed by Arafat
- Org. at 11 Wall St.
- Daisy Mae's creator
- Not as tight
- Spectrum color
- She, in Lisbon
- Latvian capital
- First words of the "Mr. Ed" theme
- "Camera"
- Bite-sized Hershey products
- From, in German names
- Former transp. regulator
- Cowardly Lion portrayer
- Kung fu chicken
- "You cheated!"
- Lays into
- bitsy
- "Pippin" Tony winner Ben
- Los Angeles
- "Don't mind"
- Kind of wave or pool
- Pay stub abbr.
- Alaska's first gov.
- Brand for Fido
- Pleasant
- Get hold of, with "onto"
- Altar in the sky
- Former Opry network
- Alpine curve

By Mike Peluso 4/22/09

**Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**

M	A	R	T	A	T	T	N	F	A	C	E	S		
A	F	A	R	C	I	A	O	F	O	D	O	R	S	
D	I	N	O	I	N	C	H	R	E	L	E	T		
A	R	O	U	N	D	T	H	E	B	E	N	D		
T	E	N	P	M	S	L	U	G	V	A	T			
E	I	R	E	P	R	O	F	I	L	E				
A	M	P	A	L	E	E	A	R	L	S				
D	O	E	S	N	T	K	N	O	W	S	Q	U	A	T
A	R	R	A	Y	D	U	H	S	H	Y				
M	E	R	C	Y	M	E	T	O	L	D				
S	L	Y	A	O	N	E	P	O	S	S				
C	O	N	C	R	E	T	E	S	T	O	O	P		
S	P	O	O	K	A	R	E	A	I	N	R	E		
T	P	O	M	E	P	I	E	R	M	A	T	E		
P	R	O	S	E	T	E	M	P	E	R	A	S		

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do green



Attention Parkland Students,  
Faculty and Staff:  
**Happy Earth Day**  
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## \$50 Off iPod touches

<b>iPod touch 8GB</b>	<b>iPod touch 16GB</b>
<b>Sale: \$179</b>	<b>Sale: \$249</b>
Normally: \$229	Normally: \$299

\*while supplies last, limited time only

## \$100 Off Select MacBooks

Aluminum MacBook 2.0GHz

**Sale Price:**  
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Normal Education  
Price: \$1249



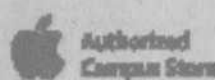
White MacBook 2.0GHz

**Sale: \$849**

Normally: \$949



\*while supplies last

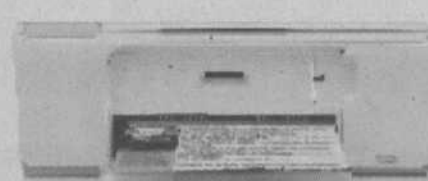


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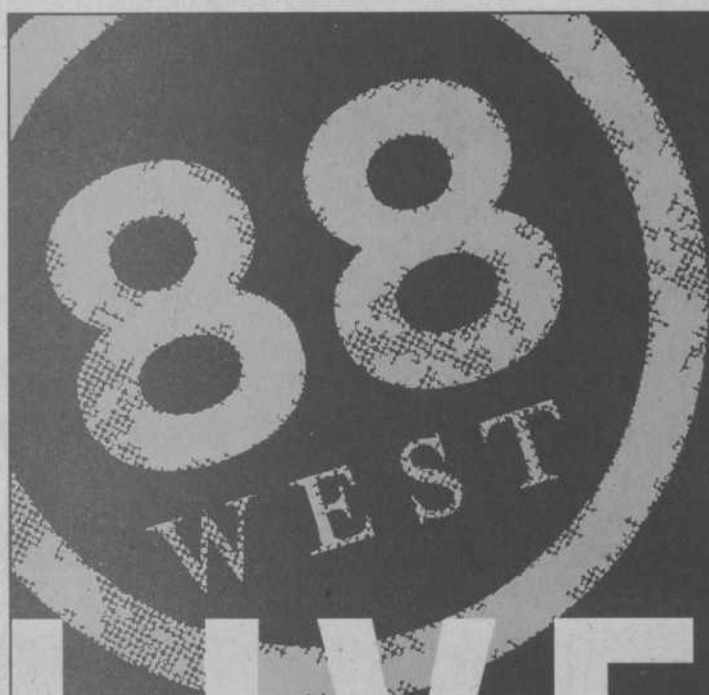
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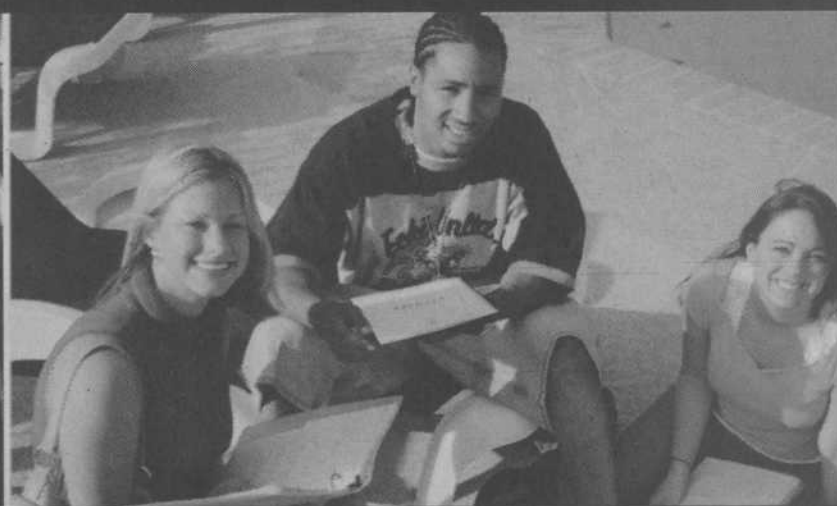
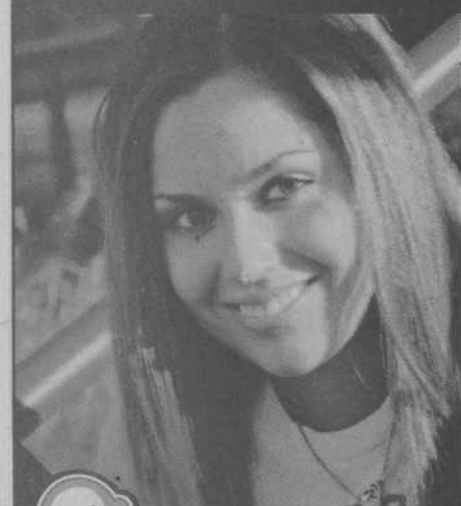


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The  
Future  
Of The  
Earth...



Is In  
Our  
Hands

Every action you take now to reduce, reuse and recycle will lead to tangible benefits in the future. As our landfills start to overflow, our water supply dwindles and the population increases daily, it's time to take responsibility. We must take action and use the recycling programs in our community.

You have a choice—make  
it the right one.

**Earth Day 2009**