

Volume 14 Issue 14

April 14, 2006







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Completing the Clampdown
Undershaft's latest

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From Where I Sit
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Dear Barb
Chronicles of Cruiscin Lan
AUSU This Month

and much more...





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We love to hear from you! Send your questions and comments to voice@ausu.org, and please indicate if we may publish your letter.

THE VOICE MAGAZINE

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Bushwoman Bonnie donates to Wigs for Kids for the third time! A three-peat endeavour! Funds this year go to the Canadian Diabetes Association!

On Apr8il 1, 2006, Bonnie (aka "Bushwoman") Nahornick hosted the Canadian Diabetes Association Fundraiser where her head was shaved for charity. Doorprizes were donated by a variety of individuals and businesses, including The Voice. Proceeds from the event will be donated to the Canadian Diabetes Association and her hair will be donated to Wigs for Kids. Bonnie works in the Calgary Learning Center of Athabasca University as a student advisor and this is her third shearing for charity in as many years.

Among the attendees were three current AU students, 2 alumni, an AU tutor a former AU Career Counsellor and the MLA from Calgary Varsity (Harry Chase). Bonnie's events bring together all facets of the AU community like nothing else!

Donations were received by both attendees and others, and it's not too late for you to contribute. While you mull it over, review the pictures of the event on the left to find out what you missed.

Wigs for Kids is a not-for-profit organization providing hair replacement for children affected by hair loss due to chemotherapy, alopecia, burns and other medical conditions.

You can still sponsor Bonnie. Funds are being collected for the Canadian Diabetes Association. It is possible to donate by cheque, cash and/or charge card (Visa, Mastercard or American Express). Income tax receipts will be issued on donations over \$15. For more information, please contact Bonnie (aka "Bushwoman") at 403-860-6569 or email baldster2006@yahoo.ca

Internet has changed how copyright works, Canadian law needs to catch up: prof By Malcolm Johnston The Varsity (University of Toronto)

TORONTO (CUP) -- University of Ottawa law professor and 2006 Hart House Lecturer Michael Geist wants U of T students to get excited about copyright law-and not just so that they know their rights when downloading music, photocopying textbooks, or burning DVDs.

Young people have embraced the internet and are among the new creators-and, importantly, sharers-of information, music, and photos and more. For that reason, they ought to care about copyright, he said. "It's their issue. And it's their issue in so many ways," Geist said Thursday before his lecture entitled "Our Own Creative Land: Cultural Monopoly and the Trouble with Copyright."

"I think that for this generation and for millions today, the internet and new technology provide us with new voices....Those new voices that the internet facilitates are your voices. And it really is U of T students who can turn to blogs, who can turn to a whole range of things to get creative, or to speak out, or to participate, and to do a range of things that previously might have been very difficult to do...Technology allows us to do that, and that's a really good news story."

Geist's message appears to have gotten through to some. Students on the Hart House lecture committee were behind the effort to bring Geist to U of T.

"University students, being a technologically savvy bunch, are finding the way they want to consume culture is not the way traditional content creators want them to," said one student member of the committee. "Michael Geist articulates an alternative vision of how copyright law can be modified to benefit consumers and creators alike."

In front of cameras (the lecture was webcast live and will be broadcast on TVO) and aided by a slideshow, the quick-talking Geist set out to show how the internet is changing the way we distribute and collect information, and to make the case for a new copyright law that accommodates those changes.

He pointed to free information sites such as Wikipedia, Flickr, Youtube, and GarageBand, as examples of sites that are making information more accessible to more people, and bringing the average citizen into the copyright arena. On Wikipedia, for example, anyone can post information for others to read; on Flickr, anyone with a camera can post photos for the world to view and use; on Youtube, anyone can post home videos to the web.

Blogs contribute too, argued Geist. They provide public forums for ordinary citizens to share ideas and experiences in a way that very few could before, he said. Even mainstream newspapers are becoming more "bloggy," with journalist Andrew Coyne's column in the National Post and his blog becoming increasingly difficult to tell apart, Geist said.

This new culture of accessible information through the internet can benefit conventional businesses, too, said Geist. He examined instances in the print, publishing, television, and radio industries where the internet has helped buoy flagging companies.

The problem in Canada is that copyright law has not been changed to account for such changes, but changes are on the horizon. The fear, argued Geist, is that Canada will take an approach to it that ignores the potential of the internet in making for a more open and creative society.

The Canadian public, as bloggers, Wikipedia users, and Youtube video watchers, ought to play a role in determining that future.

"Canada, led by its policy makers and political leaders, faces a choice," said Geist. "We can continue down the path of ever-stronger copyright laws that fail to meet the broader public interest. Alternatively, we can seize our own creative land by embracing copyright policies that look ahead rather than back."

A helping hand from tar sand

By Kelly Robertson The Varsity (University of Toronto)

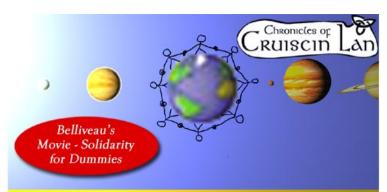
TORONTO (CUP) -- "I wanted to do something good for the environment, but as an engineer, I am also concerned with producing economically viable processes," says chemical engineering Professor Charles Jia, about his goal of utilizing "coke," a waste product of Alberta's tar sands, to mitigate environmental pollution. Though Canada's estimated oil reserves are second only to Saudi Arabia's, much of this black gold is locked up in tar sands, which are made up of sand and a black, tarlike substance called bitumen. "Unfortunately, the bitumen in the tar sand is heavier than crude oilmeaning it has a higher carbon to hydrogen ratio," says Jia. "This is a bad thing. The carbon to hydrogen ratio needs to be lowered in order to get synthetic crude oil."

The process for tar sand purification is called "upgrading." Carbon and hydrogen are removed from bitumen resulting in synthetic crude oil-used for dieseland coke, a material composed of 90 per cent carbon and six to eight per cent sulphur. Until recently, the Alberta government stockpiled coke, and spent enormous amounts of money to maintain those piles.

Then, Jia had an idea. What if the coke could be used as a starting material in a process that produced two useful products, one of which would be an environmental "cleaning agent"? With funding from Alberta's government, his research group has come up with a process, called So-Active, that converts coke into elemental sulphur, which is used for fertilizer, and activated carbon, a highly porous form of carbon that adsorbs pollutants from air and water.

"Activated carbon, or 'eco-carbon,' has a high specific surface area because of its porous internal structure. This high surface area enables it to adsorb lots of pollutants, including sulphur dioxide from flue-gas and mercury from water," Jia explains. Eco-carbon targets two environmental banes of modern human life. Sulphur dioxide is the agent responsible for acid rain, and mercury is the increasingly prevalent toxin found in fish and other marine life.

Jia sees other uses as well. "High-sulphur coal currently cannot be used as an energy source because of its negative environmental impact. But we are running out of low-sulphur coal. The So-Active technology enables Canada to use high-sulphur coal because the coal can be cleaned up." Details of the process' mechanism are unavailable because the patent on the process is still pending, but Jia hopes that it will be commercialized within the next two or three years.



"First ting to know is dat you gots to stick togedder. Dey gots da money an' da power. You gots nutting but each udder."



"Next ting to know is dat you gots to smack dem hard. Not in da face for sure but radder in da place where it 'urt dem da mose— da wallet!"



"Anudder ting trés important is dat you don't squelch da passion of your comrade, even when dey is so stupid you wan' to wring der neck."



"Lass but not leass, work very 'ard to be a good person. No good to win da justice if we end up widda nudder buncha dinks running da sugar shack.'

Completing the Clampdown:

A News Release From Lionel T. Undershaft, III, President of the Canadian Independent Chamber of Commerce and Industry (a Wholly Owned Subsidiary of Crunk Genetics and Pharmaceuticals, Inc.)

As I was telling Bill Gates, George Bush, Osama Bin Laden, Pope Benedict XVI and the reanimated corpse of Senator Joseph McCarthy over lunch at my club the other day, the paranoid and delusional conspiracy theorists out there must be dealt with and soon. It is a truly disturbing development in the history of our great global nation/corporation when ignorant and uppity firebrands, the likes of John Ralston Saul and Michael Moore, have infiltrated the mainstream consciousness, even if only to a minor degree.

Although it is only a matter of a little time until all of the public information sources are safely regulated by the military-industrial complex, we are nevertheless facing a dangerous transitional period in which some of the unwashed and potentially-violent masses appear to be absorbing and reacting to these anti-establishment messages. I need not remind you about the rise in anti-globalization protests and anti-corporate sentiments in certain sectors of the populace. We can't afford to forget the examples of the French and Russian upper classes.

Firstly, "Let them eat Kraft Dinner and watch *The Osbournes*," is a worthy enough slogan, but we need to do more. First of all, we need to increase our stranglehold on the media. Then we need to actively get our people out there into the streets and start clamping down on them in a far more vigorous way. We need to break out the tear and release the hounds on a more or less daily basis. As long as we have complete control over what winds up in the daily news, we can be assured that all will be well.

Secondly, we need to speed-up even more the process of gutting the commie pinko phenomena of universal health care and education that have for so long plagued our great nation of AmeriCanada. Once the filthy rabble are too uneducated and sick to fight back, they'll hardly have the energy to turn on to sing along with their favourite American Idol contestants, never mind squawk about us cutting ever more lucrative natural resources and trade deals with our good friends in Washington and Wall Street.

Finally, we need to ramp-up the rescinding of individual rights. It may shock some of you to know that our police and security forces still cannot detain citizens without due process, even if they are Arabs or gays. As the appalling David Emerson fiasco in Vancouver has demonstrated, it is still permissible for lower class scum to actively criticize their betters. As George Bush Senior once put it, "This aggression will not stand." It is time for us to finalize the process of change that we have all been working so diligently on.

Thank you and good luck.

AUSU THIS MONTH



Health Plan for AUSU Members - Announced

Finally, AUSU members can save on health and dental benefits in Canada!

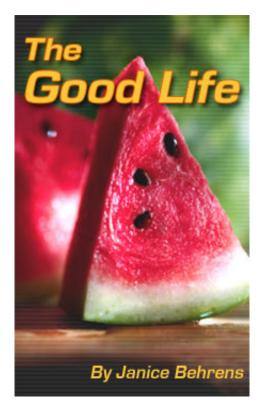
Your council has struck a deal with Student Benefits Administrators, an affiliate of Ingle International and Imagine Financial Ltd., to provide great rates to AUSU members on their commercial insurance products. The program offers a range of a-la-carte insurance services that include coverage for prescriptions, dental work, eye care and more. This program differs from those offered by other universities and students' associations in these key areas:

- the plan is available not only to AUSU members, but to all members of their families;
- the coverage can supplement other health and/or dental coverage you have in place with different providers. For example, if you have 50% dental coverage through another plan, you could "top up" your total coverage to 100% of your dental expenses;
- the coverage is flexible, to meet the needs of mature students and students in different locales;
- the plan will not be administered by your students' council, rather coverage will be set up directly through Ingle International and Imagine Financial Ltd. and Group Medical Services, who will also provide access to 1-800 support and customer service;
- this is an opt-in plan. No one is required to purchase coverage.

AUSU members who sign up for this program within 30 days of enrolment, or by May 31, 2006, are guaranteed coverage. If you opt out now but later decide you want the plan, you and your dependents (if applicable) will be asked medical questions and also have restrictions placed on your coverage should you qualify. Because this is not the limited, mandatory plan offered by many universities our rates may not be quite as low as some school plans, but our coverage options are considerably more extensive. While standard university plans are designed to provide coverage for single people in their late teens or early twenties all living in the same locale and beginning and ending studies at the same time, this plan can accommodate families and persons of all ages who study year round and live across Canada. Actual rates will vary depending on your age and location. Please visit our Health Plan web page at http://www.ausu.org/services/healthinsurance.php for more information and for all relevant contact information.

If you do not find your age group or location listed on the online rate sheets, or if you want additional coverage not listed with any of the plans, please call the insurer's toll-free line (the number is on the page listed above) and ask for more information about services not listed.

*AUSU has arranged for special rates for members. Tuition for AU undergrad courses includes an AUSU membership fee to cover the duration of the course plus six months. AUSU assumes no responsibility for the sale or administration of insurance services.



Doing Nothing: A Part of Life's Balance

It seems basic and perhaps overly obvious to suggest that keeping a sense of balance and moderation is vital to our wellness, both as individuals and as a society. Few people would disagree that it is nice to enjoy the benefits of the wealth that we are fortunate enough to experience. Buying a new dress every once in awhile or going out for a dinner and a movie are nothing to be ashamed of. When we lose our perspective on these things, however, and begin to place material and sensual rewards above and beyond more important things, like dignity, compassion, and integrity, then we become susceptible to greed. On a personal level, this greed leads to some loss of our humanity. On a national/international scale, it leads to far more devastating consequences. Likewise, enjoying a bottle of wine now and then, or betting a few dollars at the racetrack, can be harmless and enjoyable pursuits. However, massive suffering has been caused by abuse of alcohol and addictions such as gambling.

One of the key areas of life in which we sometimes lose this vital sense of balance is the area of work. It goes without saying that working too many hours per week is just as destructive as anything mentioned above. Inevitably, overwork leads to burnout and ever-diminishing returns. Most of us are aware that in order to keep our

batteries recharged, we must take the time to play. Usually we are fine with this, if we are out with friends and family, engaged in activities such as bicycling, or playing golf or tennis. Having learned that recreation is a key component of life, we feel that we are being productive when actively participating in an activity or event.

Too often, though, there is a sense of guilt associated with the idea of doing absolutely nothing for an extended period of time. How many of us would feel entirely comfortable coming to work in the morning and admitting that we spent several hours on the weekend simply staring out of a window at the clouds going by? How many of us ever freely admit to daydreaming, snoozing away the afternoon curled up on the couch, or finding a quiet spot to meditate? This admission seems to fly in the face of our western work/play ethos. Although we have discovered that there is more to life than working, we seldom feel that our time is well spent by being inactive.

The fact is, though, that taking a few minutes or a few hours every now and then in order to remove yourself from the hubbub of existence can be a beneficial thing. It is often when we allow our minds to wander freely that inspiration comes to us. It is during those very moments that the solutions to problems seem to come our way.

Here is an experiment for you to try. The next time you are driving to an appointment, give yourself an extra half an hour or so. Try driving no faster than the speed limit, and patiently wait behind vehicles that are turning left, instead of constantly weaving in and out of traffic. If you arrive at your destination fifteen or twenty minutes ahead of time, simply sit inside your car until it's time to go in. Don't turn on the radio to listen to music or catch the latest news or weather. Simply stay there, and try to free your mind from all thoughts. See if this approach makes you feel more relaxed. If it does, then try and find other little spaces in your day, each and every day, during which you can completely give yourself over to the pleasures of doing nothing. It is nothing to be ashamed of.

AU STUDENTS RUN TO HELP ABUSED WOMEN

S.L.A.P. Update

Here I am ready to write about training – so I spoke with my husband who gets the deer-in-the-headlights expression on his face after about tens minutes. This is when I realize that one person's obsession can be another person's instrument of boredom. Since the intent is not to inflict boredom, I think I should mix it up with some other "firsts" this group is dealing with.

When we began this venture the idea was to raise funds for our shelter and to challenge ourselves with an event that would bring a sense of unity to a group of completely diverse individuals. The physical training schedules are as different as the women involved and reflect the sections that each runner is committed to doing. I will write more on this in later weeks.

What is truly amazing is the organizational structure that has been put in place by a group of volunteers, from scratch. I believe that because of this we will be successful in our goals of bringing forward awareness of domestic violence and raising funds for the shelter. While all of us are committed, community spirited people this is the first time we have conceived/dreamed of an opportunity and implemented a plan to make it reality. That is the true gift that this event has given all of us; the ability to become the difference.

Kim

We are five normal, everyday ladies, all mums and two grandmothers, in training for this year's *Canadian Death Race*, a gruelling endurance race of 125km spanning over 24 hours and covering three mountains in Grande Cache, Alberta.

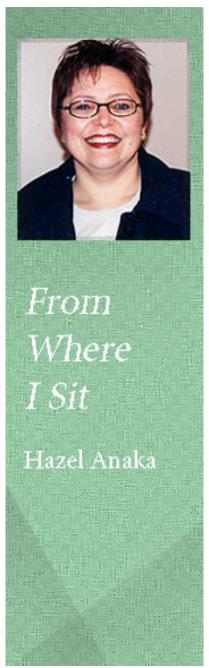
Why would we put ourselves through this? To raise money for Eagle Women's Emergency Shelter in the Foothills of Alberta, raise awareness, and help stamp out domestic violence. We have never tried anything like this but feel very strongly that domestic violence is out of control and needs to be addressed. Now.

It's a frightening fact that almost everyone knows someone who has been a victim of either physical or mental domestic abuse. We believe that increased exposure can help make victims aware that there are numbers they can call for help, and there is no need to suffer any longer. We also feel that domestic abuse and violence is a taboo subject that no one likes to acknowledge and this needs to change. Victims feel

humiliated and ashamed and we need to let them know it is ok to talk to someone and to get help.

We are now in full training for the race, and although before this all any of us had ever run was a bath and a temperature, we are determined to do as much as we can to help stop domestic violence. This is a very hard and gruelling race, but with the help and support from each other we hope to complete it and to raise as much money as possible for the shelter. If our hard work only helps one person get out of a frightening situation and gives them the strength to rebuild their life, then it will all have been worth it. Our team name is SLAP - Stop Letting Abuse Prevail. We have a team website with photos and information on each runner and about the shelter: www.runforsafety.bravehost.com

We hope you will support us in our quest to stop domestic violence. The race takes place on the August long weekend, beginning Saturday the 5th at 8am and ending Sunday the 6th at 8am. Only 19 weeks to go!!! AU student, mother and death-racer, Kim Anderson.



Challenge Yourself

For nearly nine years, I've sat as a Director on my Credit Union board. It's been both a challenge and a commitment. Most importantly, it's been a wonderful learning opportunity. Perhaps the best part of the whole experience was exposure to some of North America's best speakers at the Credit Union provincial conference and annual general meeting. The 2006 speakers were no exception.

Conference delegates are largely male in gender and baby boomer plus in age. Yet, I believe virtually all were alternately mesmerized and horrified by the presentation done by Yvonne Camus. Yvonne was the female member of Canada's rookie team that competed in the Eco-Challenge in Borneo in 2000. The Eco-Challenge is a 12-day, 24-hour non-stop race created by Mark Burnett of Survivor fame. Unlike the reality show pitting individuals against each other for a large prize, the Eco-Challenge actually rewards those four people who are best able to work as a team to complete the race.

Participants faced temperatures of 42 degrees Centigrade, 90% humidity, rats the size of dogs, ants the size of a thumb, bugs the size of a hand, leeches, hundreds of types of snakes, and 12 hours of total darkness each night on the jungle floor. Mountain biking, rowing, rappelling down 600-foot sheer cliffs, going into a cave with millions of bats, swimming, portaging a 500-pound boat were just some of the physical tests required of them. In 2000, only 30 of the 78 teams from 54 countries completed the race. The ones that didn't were defeated by the tiny details, like sand in their shoes that led to blisters and swollen feet. The winners knew that feet would swell and they moved into progressively larger shoes as the race wore on. The winners also had access to boxes of supplies. The rookie Canadians had to cut the toes off their shoes, as they suffered dearly due to a lack of information. Yvonne broke her wrist early in the race and yet, with the help of her team, was able to carry on. In fact, these upstart Canucks were the first-ever rookie team to finish the race. Time required for them to complete the race was 9 days and 22 hours.

Yvonne's message during her speech to Credit Union members was one of teamwork. As a business consultant and speaker, she knows those jungle lessons can translate into lessons for every corporation, every boardroom, and every family. In reality, she didn't say anything we all haven't already

heard a dozen times. But she said it with passion, enthusiasm, credibility and graphic video footage. None of us will soon forget the pictures of leeches, blisters, open wounds and exhaustion.

Key messages for me include the following. Know that enthusiasm is a renewable resource. Evaluate your environment of success and try to repeat it for moments of brilliance. Surround yourself with those who lift you up, not drag you down. Make course corrections early. Plan to be excellent. Accept that things go wrong. Know that pain is inevitable, suffering is optional, and misery is finite. Brilliant, from where I sit.

Editor's note: Regrettably, Mark Burnett has cancelled Eco-Challenge to focus on his more lucrative reality shows, but a number of other adventure races are still taking place each year. One such race is our own Canadian Death Race, which this year will feature a team of five Alberta women and one fellow Athabasca University student. These participants are racing to raise money for a local women's shelter. See information in this week's Voice, and follow the women's story over the coming weeks, as the August race approaches.



Dear Barb: I feel like I've been on a diet my whole life. I lose weight then gain back even more. Recently, I've heard about a new way of eating called "intuitive eating." It is suppose to help you lose weight without dieting. Do you have any information on this?

Grace in Newmarket

Hi Grace, I think this is an excellent topic! Millions of people share your struggle. It is very hard on your body to constantly gain and lose weight. Therefore, you are moving in the right direction by trying to find a different way to eat, rather than continuing to diet.

Intuitive eating has been around for approximately ten years. It gained popularity in 2005 when a study by Steven Hawks, a professor at Brigham Young University, was published in the November/December issue of the *American Journal of Health Education*. Hawks lost 50 pounds by eating intuitively, and he has been successful in keeping the weight off.

The whole premise of intuitive eating is to eat only when you are hungry and stop when you are full. To be successful, you must first get reacquainted with the physical signals from your body. Pay attention to the

signals telling you that you are hungry. Try not to ignore them until you are starving, because then you will over eat or eat too quickly. If you eat too quickly, by the time your brain has received the message that you are full you will already have over ate. Also, you must learn to stop eating when you feel content, not stuffed.

The advantage of this way of eating is that you can eat whatever you want, but only when you are hungry. Translated this means if you are watching television, think before you grab that bag of chips. Ask yourself if you are really hungry, or maybe just bored, or eating because the chips are there. If you are physically hungry then eat whatever you want and don't feel guilty. Remember to stop when you are full.

This way of eating could be comparable to the philosophy of living in the present and becoming mindful of what you are doing at any particular point in time. Do not think about what you will be doing tomorrow or what you did yesterday. Enjoy the moment you are in and live it fully. Similarly when you eat, sit quietly away from the television or other distractions and pay attention to the physical feelings you are experiencing. Many people have lost touch with what being physically hungry or physically full truly feels like.

Professor Hawks and a group of researchers conducted a study where they discovered students who were intuitive eaters weighed less and had a reduced risk for many health issues, including high cholesterol, than other students. Intuitive eating seems to be worth investigating.

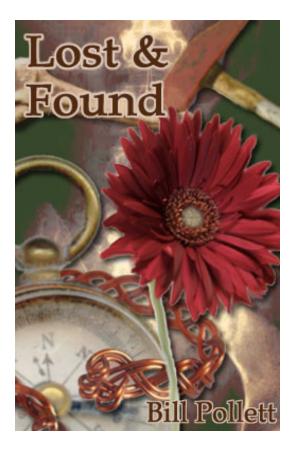
Later this year, the website http://www.intuitiveeating.com will offer more information on intuitive eating. The book entitled, Intuitive Eating: A Revolutionary Program that Works may provide you with insight.

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Tribole, E. and Resch, E. (2003). *Intuitive Eating: A Revolutionary Program that Works.* Revised edition. St. Martin's Griffin.

E-mail your questions to <u>advice.voice@ausu.org</u>. Some submissions may be edited for length or to protect confidentiality: your real name and location will never be printed. This column is for entertainment only. The author is not a professional counsellor and this column is not intended to take the place of professional advice.



A Suitable Position

When young love finally arrived, she was thirty years and fifteen minutes late. Ordinarily, that last fifteen minutes would have cost the candidate the chance of a job. But this time was different. She was wearing a cobalt blue suit. Her hair was tied back and the colour of honey.

She smelled like the flowers in the lobby of the hotel where his mother had moved into after she had left his father. Looking into her eyes as she spoke, he could see the boy he had once been looking back out at him.

Her son, Lucas, had been sick with a cough that morning. She had to ask Cheryl to come over and stay with him. She didn't have enough money for gas, so she had to take a bus downtown for the interview. On good nights, she didn't wake up at three in the morning worrying about the rattle in her Lucas' lungs or how to pay for next month's rent. On good nights, she would sometimes dream that she and Lucas were sitting on top of a far away hill, holding hands, and watching golden elephants walk silently across a wide-open plain. On good nights, she didn't cry. Last night hadn't been one of the good ones. Sitting across the desk from the interviewer, she hoped her crows-feet didn't show.

Thirty-words-a-minute, questionable testimonials, and outdated computer skills. A single mother, so you can count on lots of sick days. And fifteen minutes late, as well. On paper, he would never had hired her. A year ago, he would never have hired her. But a year ago, he had still been able to maintain the comfortable illusion that he cared for Leslie, and she cared for him. He shouldn't hire this woman. And in fact, he wouldn't have, if it hadn't been for all those innocent days gathered together at the back of her eyes, and for the way she crossed her legs.

He was kind of creepy, but the pay was okay. Better than the last place, anyway. Fifteen years in the workforce, and she had been leered at, bullied, lied to, threatened, groped, and fired. The last waitressing job she had, the owner had come up behind her while she was doing the cash after closing. The pompous witch at the personnel agency had said that this would be a suitable position for somebody with her "limited experience." At least in a place like this, there are proper human resources policies. She'll take the job and look around for something better. In the meantime, she thinks, *if he tries anything, I'll blow the whistle*. She's got no time for another horny old married man with bad breath and a golf umbrella. All she wants to do is to get by, and maybe save enough money to find some place where elephants wander by.

He reaches across the desk and shakes her hand to seal the offer. He can feel the warmth of all those lost summers rising to the surface of his skin. In his mind, he can already picture them together in some blue-lit place, high above everything, watching the world passing by.

Nantucket bans all chain stores from its streets Mandy Gardner

INTERNATIONAL NEWS DESK

What's new here and around the world





The upscale island of Nantucket, off the coast of Massachusetts, USA, has recently voted unanimously to restrict businesses with more than 14 stores nation-wide from setting up shop on the island. The legislation comes after Ralph Lauren moved in last year and paid \$6.5 million US for the privilege.

Residents of the island are concerned for their unique heritage and don't want the cobbled streets of their idyllic home to look the same as most other shopping districts across America. Ms. Hudson, a bookshop owner of the area, said, "as the country starts to look like everywhere else, this was about protecting our uniqueness" (Usborne, 2006). Although the ban will stop large retail chains from budding in Nantucket's Main Street, residents cannot rid themselves of the ones already present, such as Ralph Lauren and Lily Pulitzer.

Because of the odd nature of tourism trading, however, it may be that the chains will not be able to adapt to life in Nantucket and choose to leave, as did Crabtree & Evelyn. Since the population of Nantucket Island fluctuates drastically from winter to summer (10,000 to 50,000 people, respectively), a large number of retail stores are closed in the cooler months. While local stores are used to the extreme swing in the number of shoppers, large stores such as the new Ralph Lauren may find it difficult to survive. Nantucket is a somewhat elite vacation spot and a tourist's taste may differ from that of the usual shopper.

The residents' voted ban follows similar bans across the US, namely in tourist centres such as Bristol, Rhode Island, Carmel-by-the-Sea, California, and Ogunquit, Maine. The proclaimed enemy of these protected areas is in fact Wal-Mart, blamed time and time again for the weakened economies of hundreds of towns and cities world-wide. Residents of Nantucket are pleased that the recent ban will stop chain stores with regulated uniforms, décor, menus and stock from turning such a diverse and distinctive area into the usual shopping district.

Thanks to the legislation, inhabitants of the island can feel gratified by the knowledge that what they and tourists spend money on will sustain other residents and their businesses, directly boosting the economy. In the global village of today, that makes Nantucket even more unique.

Reference

Usborne, D. (2006, April 8). Mind the Gap? US resort bans nation's favourite retailers. *The Independent*. Retrieved from http://news.independent.co.uk/world/americas/article356429.ece

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Contributed by Zil-E-Huma Lodhi

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

Value: 1st prize \$200; 2nd prize \$100

Number of Awards: 2

Application Deadline: April 18

Description: Must be enrolled in undergraduate studies at a Canadian university or college, and submit 10-15 page essay on a topic related to religious studies. Essays may be assignments from a religious studies course. Letter from religious studies department required. For further information, please visit the website posted below.

Canadian Society for the Study of Religion (CSSR) / Société canadienne pour l'étude de la religion (SCÉR) Web Site: http://www.ccsr.ca/CSSR/index.htm

RETAIL AS A CAREER 2006 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The 2006 Retail as a Career Scholarship Program is in full swing. Developed in conjunction with leading Canadian retailers, the Retail as a Career Scholarship Program is open to post-secondary students interested in a career in the retail industry. RCC will award twenty \$1,000 scholarships to provide financial assistance to committed and deserving students who are pursuing an education in retail or business related post-secondary program.

20 winners will be selected and will receive their awards at STORE 2006 - Canada's retail conference, taking place June 5 & 6, 2006. All travel and accommodation will be provided, as well as full delegate passes to the conference - a fantastic opportunity for you to meet with executives and see how the industry really works!

Web site: http://www.retaileducation.ca/cms/sitem.cfm/scholarship

CBIE INTERNATIONAL LEARNING GRANTS

Academic Year 2005/06

Application deadline: April 22, 2005

The CBIE International Learning Grants (ILG) promote international education and international relations careers. ILG allow undergraduate students to finance the costs associated with international learning, e.g. travel and living costs.

Interested candidates must complete and forward to CBIE by April 22, 2005, an online application form along with supporting documents as outlined in the Guidelines of the program. (Please read the Guidelines before submitting your application form.)

Application Form

Website: http://www.cbie.ca/download/grants/ILGquidelines_and_application0506-en.pdf

To list events in your area, e-mail voice@ausu.org with the word "events" in the subject line.

british columbia

CHINA TRADE

On now to April 08, 2006 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM - Vancouver, BC Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art

Ticket Prices - Free admission 604-683-8326 - centrea@centrea.org http://www.centrea.org

Group exhibition of installation, photography, painting, ceramics, film and video showcasing the latest developments in contemporary art by renowned international artists from China, Taiwan and Vancouver. "China Trade" is intended to encourage a public discussion of the long history and growing importance of Canada's trade with China. It presents an ideal opportunity to engage the business and trade communities in the adventure of contemporary Asian art and to involve the public in trade issues.

SPRING THEATRE CLASSES

Feburary 06 to May 01, 2006 - Kelowna, BC Kelowna Actors Studio - Ticket Prices very reasonable Kelowna Actors Studio - 250-862-2867 info@kelownaactorsstudio.com http://www.KelownaActorsStudio.com

SEINENDAN THEATRE COMPANY OF JAPAN

March 10 to August 11 - 8:00 PM - Victoria, BC Metro Studio - Ticket Prices - All seats \$18 (250) 383-2663 - info@intrepidtheatre.com http://www.intrepidtheatre.com

ontario

CANADIAN PACIFIC SCANDAL

On now to April 15, 2006 Toronto, ON - The Cameron House

Ticket Prices: Previews \$15; Tuesdays \$15; Wednesdays \$20 Thursdays \$25; Fridays & Saturdays \$30; Sundays \$20

VideoCabaret presents Canadian Pacific Scandal, the latest instalment in Michael Hollingsworth's award-winning History Plays. This brilliant satire rakes the muck of Canada's most infamous political scandal, while it raises the curtain on some of Canada's best-kept secrets such as John A. Macdonald's bribe taking, Wilfrid Laurier's love-child, and Louis Riel's asylum escapades.

THEATRE IN THE TREES"LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS"

on now to April 29, 2006 6:30 PM - 10:30 PM Guelph, ON - The Arboretum Centre

Ticket Prices - \$53.00 / person inclusive for buffet dinner and performance. Cash Bar available. 519-824-4120 ext. 54110 arbor@uoguelph.ca http://www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum

"Last of the Red Hot Lovers" is an American comedy. It runs every Saturday except Easter Weekend.

SCIENCE SATURDAYS WITH MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

January 22 to May 28, 2006 - Hamilton, ON

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Hamilton Children's Museum Adults - \$1.00 - Children - \$3.00 905-546-4848 - childrensmuseum@hamilton.ca
McMaster University science students provide hands-on science activities for children and families. Venture Physics and Let's Talk Science Team bring along "the phunky physics roller coaster" and other creative science demonstrations and activities. DATES: Saturdays, March 12, 19 & 26; April 16 & 30; May 21 & 28. 6 yrs and up

maritimes

ST. JOHN'S CIRCUS: GROUP PRACTICE

St Johns, NF - Tuesdays - Mun Athetics building - FREE http://nick.wirelesszero.net/cgi-bin/juggling/YaBB.cgi
Everyone's a Star! Juggling, Unicycling, Magic, Clowning, Poi, Diabolo, Fire, and whatever YOUR skill(s) is!
Tues At 7:00 PM - Thurs At 7:00 PM - Sat At 2:00 PM
Sessions usually run about 3 hrs...

123 SENSE

St Johns, NF - Saturdays - 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Eastern Edge Gallery, 72 Harbour Drive free - 709-739-1882 - http://www.easternedge.ca Jean Klimack (Winnipeg); Dave Yonge (B.C); Tania Lewis (NY/Newfoundland)

These three artists present in different mediums (video, drawing and photography) odd senses of the everyday, urban myths and gentrification.

To list events in your area, e-mail voice@ausu.org with "events" in the subject line.



Contributed by Lonita Fraser

CONTINENTAL DEFENCE: POLICIES, THREATS AND ARCHITECTURE

May 4 - 6 2006 - Calgary njmackie@ucalgary.ca

http://www.cmss.ucalgary.ca/conferences/continentaldefence

This conference will follow shortly after the report of the Binational Planning Group on the renegotiation of NORAD, and the emergence of Canada Command as a working organisation. These events foreshadow major changes in Continental Defence and the security relationship between Canada and the United States. They will draw public attention to these topics in a way that has not happened for two generations. This conference will bring together major figures from the Canadian and United States military, alongside leading public and academic commentators. It will address all aspects of Continental Defence, with topics ranging from the future of American-Canadian defence relations to the issue of strategic threat to North America. All Persons planning to attend must register in advance! All fees are quoted in Canadian dollars Includes 3 Lunches (May 4, 5, 6) and one dinner (May 5), all sessions, all coffee breaks, conference package.

Until April 1 - \$294.25 (\$275 + \$19.25 GST)
As of April 1st - \$347.75 (\$325 + \$22.75 GST)
You may register by credit card, cheque or by invoice.

27TH ANNUAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON LEGAL ISSUES OF EDUCATING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

April 30 - May 3, 2006 Orlando, FL, USA

Please visit www.lrpconferences.com or call toll-free 1-800-727-1227 for more information.

ANCIENT SCIENCE & MODERN SECRETS CONFERENCE

May 5 - 7, 2006 - Kempton, Illinois, USA http://www.wexclub.com/pages/events.html

Guest Speakers

David Hatcher Childress: Atlantis, Mu & the Power System of the Gods

William Henry: The Oracle of the Illuminati

Joseph Farrell: The SS Brotherhood of the Bell & the Reich of the Black Sun

Christopher Dunn: Evidence of Ancient Machining Kenn Thomas: Parapolitics and Modern Conspiracy Jerry Smith: The Spear of Destiny in History & Legend Sesh Heri: Nikola Tesla & the Wonder of the Worlds

and more discussion between speakers and other special guests.

Conference Costs

\$120; \$50 for a.m presentations only (includes lunch); \$65 for p.m. presentations only (includes dinner).

\$25 per any session (excluding any meals); Drinks and tipping are extra; The bar is a cash bar.

Accommodations are not included in the conference fee. Call 1-815-253-9000 to book a room at the B&B's (they fill up early). http://www.wexclub.com/pages/events.html. For information on the conference or on accommodations, call WEX at 815-253-9000, or Adventures Unlimited at 815-253-6390 Mon.-Sat., 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.

PAEDIATRIC UPDATE 2006

May 1 - 6, 2006 - Toronto http://www.cme.utoronto.ca This 6 day paediatric conference provides current evidence based clinical information in a variety of learning formats, including a full APLS course, workshops and lectures on neonatal transport, sedation, emergency medicine, dermatology and much more. Intermediate to Advanced level of Continuing Medical Education - MainCert, MainPro and AMA credits.

GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY

May 3, 2006 - Blacksburg, VA, USA http://www.conted.vt.edu/introge/

Gastrointestinal Endoscopy - Beginning Level - is scheduled for May 3-5, 2006 on the Virginia Tech Campus. This intensive endoscopy course will consist of 12 hours of classroom instruction and 12 hours of hands-on laboratory instruction. It is intended for Veterinarians that either have no endoscopic experience or limited (20 cases) endoscopic experience. Didactic instruction will be supplemented with case material demonstrating where endoscopy is useful in diagnosing GI cases. The registration fee of \$2,850 includes lodging May 2 through May 4, lectures and clinical laboratory, handouts, reception and dinner on Wednesday and Thursday evening in addition to a CEU Certificate.

DEVELOPING & OPERATING UPSCALE HOSPITAL FACILITIES AND PATIENT SERVICES

May 4 - 5, 2006 - Palo Alto, CA, USA http://www.acius.net

Network with executives in the healthcare industry that are looking to develop a more "luxurious hotel" like setting. Featuring an on-site tour of Stanford University Medical Center. Hear live case studies presented by Celebration Health, Johns Hopkins, NY Presbyterian, UCSF, University of Cleveland and many more......

PRACTICAL ADVANCES IN DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

May 21 - 26, 2006 - Yosemite National Park, CA, USA http://www.cme.ucsf.edu

The goal of this five-day course is to provide the practicing diagnostic radiologist with a practical and up-to-date review of recent advances in diagnostic imaging. This will include presentations on the current imaging techniques for the evaluation of diseases of the central nervous system, chest, abdomen, musculoskeletal system as well as current approaches to breast imaging.

CANCER, CULTURE & LITERACY: SOLUTIONS ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, 5TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

May 18 - 20, 2006 - Clearwater Beach, FL, USA

http://www.moffitt.usf.edu/about_moffitt/calendar/events/200605.asp

Our conference focuses on conceptual and methodological issues in community-based participatory research (CBPR) for creating solutions for impacting health disparities related to cancer, culture and literacy. The overall goal of this conference is to improve the care across the continuum of cancer control by providing and enhancing research strategies and skills of participants to better introduce culture and literacy components into the development of effective cancer communications and research. Participants and presenters will exchange and disseminate information relevant to communications in cancer control, and they will be challenged to rethink, refine and enhance their approaches in research. Participants will experience: presentations by keynote speakers, general discussions, poster presentations, break-out sessions, breakfast roundtable discussions and pre-conference skill-building workshops.

U.S. EPA SCIENCE FORUM 2006

May 16 - 18, 2006 - Washington, D.C. USA Your Health, Your Environment, Your Future

This year's Forum highlights advances in risk assessment science, investigates the relationship between the environment and public health, and examines the complementary roles of Federal public health agencies. epa.gov/scienceforum. There is no registration fee to attend the EPA Science Forum. Once you register online, you will receive a confirmation email with additional logistical information within one business day. For More Information please contact:

DEPLOYABLE MEDICINE CONFERENCE

May 15 - 17, 2006 - Washington D.C USA http://www.marcusevans.com

Key Issues to be Addressed:

- Analyzing current and future developments in deployable medicine
- Effective conduct of forward surgical units and hospital wings
- Leveraging technology to assist in casualty treatment

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION OF INTRAMURAL RESEARCH

May 11 - 12, 2006 Bethesda, Maryland, USA

http://intramural.nimh.nih.gov/ResearchFestival/

In addition to the scientific agenda, students will be given opportunities to meet with current post-doctoral Fellows and NIMH Scientists to discuss the science being conducted throughout the Division of Intramural Research Programs in an informal environment.

DISEASE MANAGEMENT COLLOQUIUM

May 10 - 12, 2006 - Philadephia PA USA http://www.dmconferences.com

The Disease Management Colloquium presents case studies of disease management efforts in a variety of settings. The Colloquium explores the role of disease management as it affects Medicare, Medicaid, the commercially insured, and the under- and uninsured; the role of evidence-based medicine; the use of incentives for physician and consumers; new tools and techniques; innovations by health plans and disease management companies; and key legislative and policy issues affecting the future of disease management.

The Colloquium seeks to better educate government agencies, the health care industry (including health plans and providers), employers, and the general public about the important role disease management programs play in improving health care quality and outcomes for persons subject to chronic conditions.

THE 5TH ANNUAL HAWAII INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL SCIENCES

May 31 - June 3, 2006 - Honolulu, Hawaii, USA http://www.hicsocial.org

The main goal of the 2006 Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences is to provide an opportunity for academicians and professionals from various social sciences related fields from all over the world to come together and learn from each other. An additional goal of the conference is to provide a place for academicians and professionals with cross-disciplinary interests related to social sciences to meet and interact with members inside and outside their own particular disciplines.

Know of a conference that is not on this list? Contact <u>voice@ausu.org</u> with the details and we'll list it in Conference Connections.



Classifieds are free for AU students! Contact voice@ausu.org for more information.

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