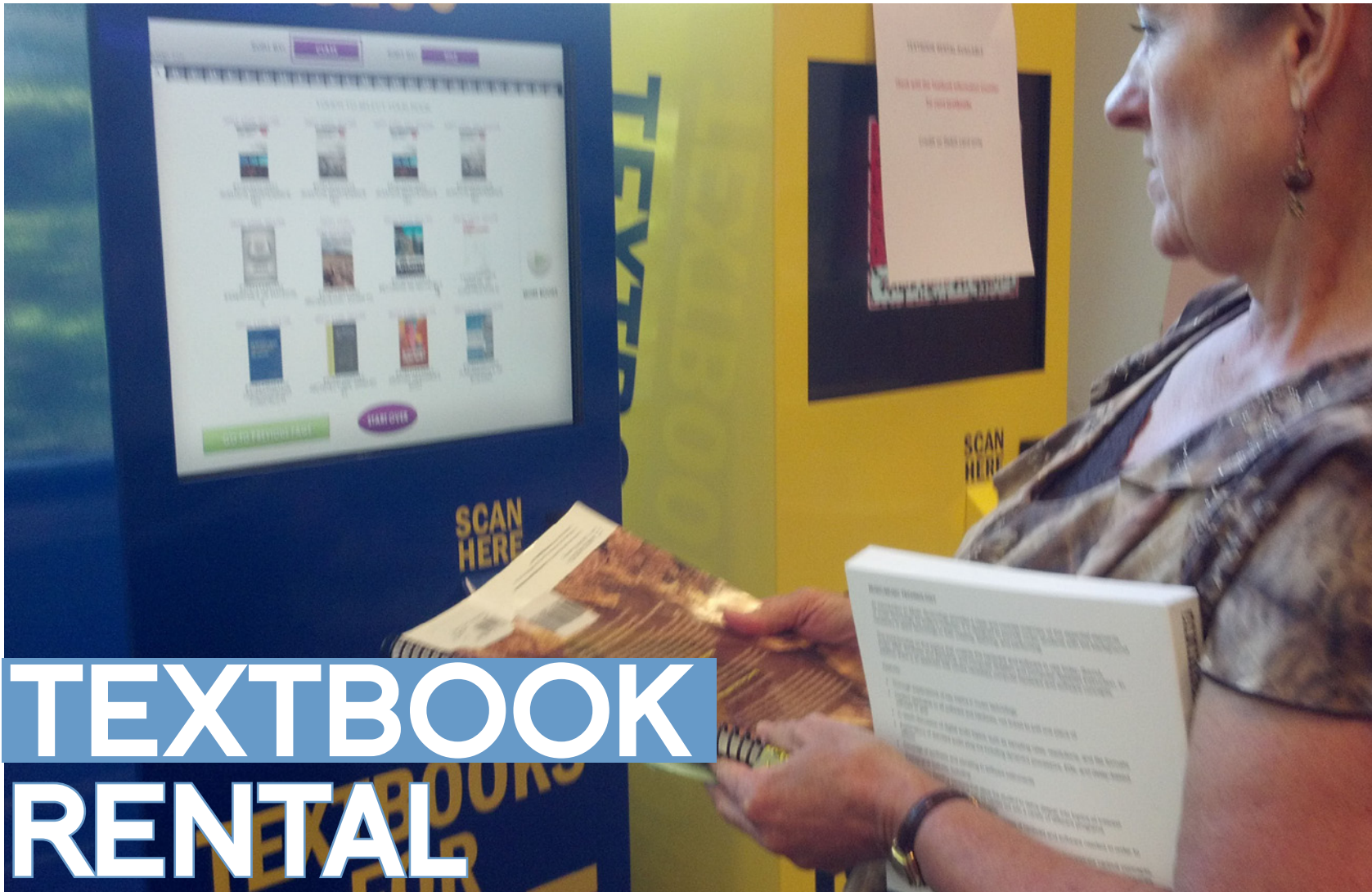


THE GLOBE



WEDNESDAY
JUNE 20, 2012
ISSUE 3 / SUMMER '12

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TEXTBOOK RENTAL

SLCC bookstore offers new options to keep course books affordable

Kachina Choate

Staff Reporter

Students have always had the option to buy either new or used textbooks from Salt Lake Community College bookstores, but starting this summer, there is a third option.

Now, students can rent their textbooks, either online or through automated kiosks located at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus bookstore.

“Book rentals are something that is growing across the country, and a lot of colleges are going to textbook rental,” said Steve Ferre,

college store director. “It’s just one of the things that students are doing in order to defray the cost of textbooks.”

The new rental option is part of the bookstore’s effort to help students overcome textbook sticker shock.

Students can go online to bookstore.slcc.edu and choose the “rent” option. The bookstore sends the book to the student’s home with the understanding that at the end of the rental time, the student is required to send it back. Alternatively, students can shop for their textbooks in person at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus

Marianne Gines shows how the Taylorsville Redwood bookstore’s new textbook rental kiosks guide students through the checkout process.

bookstore. From there, they can use the new kiosks to facilitate the rental process.

“We are still in the infancy stage trying to get out any kind of process glitches,” Ferre said. “Eventually we do have plans to put them on any other campuses, so if a student is going to Jordan campus and wants to rent a book they certainly can come to Redwood and do that.”

According to textbook manager Marianne Gines, the cost of renting a new book is about 62 percent less than buying it, while buying a used book costs 58 percent less. She also said that textbook rental is less expensive than using ebooks, which is currently only \$10 less than the printed book price.

Gines said that renting textbook

is a good option, but she feels that buying used books is still the best way to save money. If a student resells a used book, the total savings will outperform the rental option.

The big caveat of the used textbook scenario is that it only works if somebody is willing to buy it back. For some textbooks, bookstore buyback is virtually guaranteed. For others, the seller might be forced to use a non-bookstore marketplace to recoup their losses.

Textbook rental eliminates that hassle and guesswork, and demands less of an initial investment. Ferre said that if a student wants to save money upfront, renting is the way to go.

Photo by Kachina Choate

Major choice not a minor issue

Deborah Lindsley

Contributing Writer

For Salt Lake Community College student Kourtney Francom, the squeeze is on.

Francom, like many SLCC students, hasn’t picked a major. As the semesters pass by without a decision, the pressure for her to make a choice becomes stronger.

“I have been in college for three semesters and I am feeling pressure when it comes to selecting a specific area of study to focus on,” Francom said. “I just can’t quite decide. I guess I don’t really know what choices I have.”

Francom is not the only one who struggles to define her major. Many students have a hard time with the ongoing struggle to define their main interest and determine a major that best correlates with that interest.

It’s not just a simple matter of choosing a favorite and going with it. Non-academic obligations and even logistical factors must be

Major/ continued on page A4



UTA proposes an end to the bus free fare zone

Julie Hirschi

Staff Reporter

Utah Transit Authority is proposing to eliminate the bus free fare zone for the downtown area. On June 19 UTA held a Twitter Chat with the public, answering questions and discussing the possible effects it will have on the community.

The free fare zone area covers 600 West to 200 East and from North Temple to 500 South in Salt Lake City. The change would affect students attending the Library Square campus as well as SLCC’s Community Writing Center who depend on the service to get around in the downtown area.

“Part of the problem with it [at the Library Square Campus] is that the price of the subsidized passes have gone up recently,” said Sean Carmack, a SLCC staff member at Library Square Campus. “I don’t know how many of the students come from the downtown area and ride the free fare but I know it would probably be fairly detrimental to a lot of students.”

UTA cites on their blog that many of the bus free fare zones are all within walking distance of TRAX

stations. According to UTA, TRAX will remain free within this zone and expresses that this shouldn’t affect many of its riders as many of them will be able to take TRAX instead.

In order to be able to use the city’s rights of way for TRAX, UTA made a deal with Salt Lake City in 1996 to provide free bus and light rail service in the downtown area for 100 years. UTA now proposes paying the city \$100,000 to stop the free service. They report they are losing about \$200,000 every year in revenue from the service.

UTA said during the Twitter chat that this issue was not solely about revenue alone but it was also a security and safety issue. They responded saying that “20% of the people riding were using the system for purposes other than transit” referring to drug dealing taking place on the buses and that they have had “numerous incidents of criminal behavior.”

On the UTA blog they cite that many of their operators have had to confront passengers that have not paid after leaving the free fare zone and that some of those passengers have “become agitated and aggressive.”

Part of the concern of those who

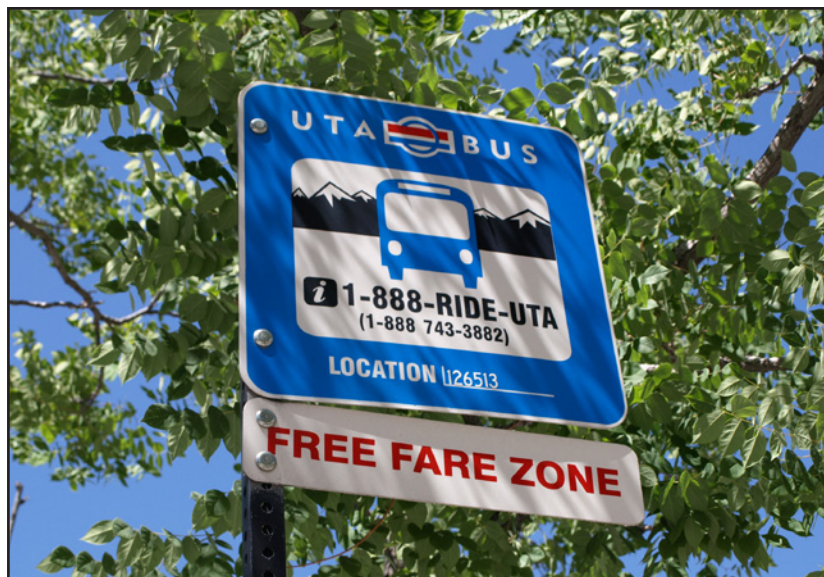


Photo by Julie Hirschi

UTA bus free fare zone downtown to be eliminated pending city approval.

oppose the elimination of the free fare zone is the effects on the lower income and homeless population who take advantage of the free public transportation to get around the downtown area.

“The city library is one of the last few public spaces open to everyone,” said Andrea Malouf, director of the SLCC Community Writing Center at Library Square. “What happens is people who are low income have a hard enough

time getting here because of the meter prices have all changed and the parking down below is really expensive.”

Malouf expressed her concern about how the change would hurt their work with many people throughout the community. She said that it can be hard for people from lower incomes to get to the library without the free fare zones.

UTA/ continued on page A4



STUDENT EVENTS

WED/20

THURS/21

FRI/22

SAT/23

MON/25

TUE/26

Submit student events to calendar.globe@slcc.edu
Visit slcc.edu/campusevents/calendar.asp
for more student events



Each week a different picture from an SLCC campus will be featured. If you know the location and campus of this week’s featured picture, enter to win a prize by emailing your answer to contest.globe@slcc.edu.

Deadline for entries is Tuesday June 26.

Entrants may only win once per semester. Mass Communication staff and SLCC faculty are not eligible to win.

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Due to the high volume of requests for articles we receive, The Globe may not be able to reply to every letter. Due to our limited staff, The Globe may not be able to attend or cover every event or issue submitted. The Globe encourage emails/ notices of events. However, any request of coverage of an event or issue should be made within a time frame of at least one week.

Salt Lake Community College

Step Ahead.

The New York Times

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0515

ACROSS

1 “Kinsman” of Tarzan

4 Impact sound

8 Spicy cuisine

13 A witch might put one on you

14 Just about forever

15 Epoch when mammals arose

16 Klee contemporary

17 Monte Cristo ingredient

19 Sharon of “Cagney & Lacey”

21 Old Saturn model

22 Scholar’s deg.

23 Spelling aid?

26 Church bells’ sound

27 Get in a row

28 Response at the altar

29 Mesa ____ National Park

30 Sharon of “Valley of the Dolls”

31 Club ____

32 Tightened up

33 Pub hub

36 Legally impedes

39 Math subj.

40 Commando weapons

44 Teakettle feature

45 Ga. neighbor

46 Secluded valleys

47 Stretched to the max

48 Where people are always putting things?

50 Those aboard a U.F.O.

51 “ ____ semper tyrannis”

52 Swab the floor again

53 Like 17-, 23-, 33- and 48-Across

57 Aegean island on which Homer is said to be buried

59 N.Y. Yankees’ division

60 Castle obstacle

61 Big D.C. lobby

62 Gymnast Comaneci

63 John’s other half

64 Car that “really drives ‘em wi-i-ild,” in a 1960s song

DOWN

1 Inventor’s cry

2 Vine-covered passageway

3 Heroic deed

4 Oil name

5 “In what way?”

6 “Gimme ____!” (start of an Illinois cheer)

7 Ed’s stack

8 Harry who co-founded Columbia Pictures

9 Server’s wish

10 “Golly!”

11 Expose to light

12 Ribbed

15 Green sci.

18 Storage site

20 Beat by a nose

23 Fermenting locale

24 Nuts, berries, etc., for squirrels

25 Kook

26 Tick-tock maker

29 Part of a chapter: Abbr.

31 ____ Butterworth

32 It may put someone out

34 Likely

35 Norwegian king

36 Grammy-winning Gloria

37 Burger flipper

38 A bit messy, as the hair

41 Closing (in on)

42 Playfully

43 Montreal-to-Boston dir.

45 Nina of 1940s-’50s films

46 Attends

48 Natural talent

49 Haunted house sound

51 Slugger Sammy

54 China’s Chou En-____

55 “Peg ____ Heart”

56 Stall in London

58 ____ Tomé

COMMUNITY

community.globe@slcc.edu

Utah Chalk Art Festival paints the streets

Kim Higley
Staff Reporter

On Friday and Saturday, June 15 and 16, hundreds gathered at the Utah Chalk Art Festival to watch local artists turn the pavement of Rio Grande St into an eclectic collection of stunning artwork.

This year marked the 10th anniversary of the festival, which is a community fundraising event held at the Gateway Mall. The event was organized by the Utah Foster Care Foundation, and the proceeds go to help support local children in foster care and their foster families.

The Utah Chalk Art Festival not only showcases the work of local artists,

ages 12 and up, but also brings out our local masked superheroes. In attendance was James C. Carlson of H.E.R.O.I.C. Inc, a local non-profit organization that sends superheroes, comic book and gaming characters to charity and fundraising events throughout the city.

There were jugglers, performance artists, local musicians, many different booths and food vendors, a dunk tank and a variety of other activities and entertainment available to suit almost any taste.

Winners and photos from this year's festival will appear on chalkartfestival.org.



Photo by Kim Higley

Above:
Koi Pond by 12-year-old Jonha Nielson of SLC Art Academy.
Below:
The team known as Guy and Andrew put the finishing touches on their entry.





Photo by Kim Higley

Above:
Eric Jensen of the Off Broadway Theater shows off the transformer costume he created for the Chalk Art Fest.
Below:
Hundreds of people headed over to the Gateway mall this past weekend, to help celebrate the 10 anniversary of the Utah Chalk Art Festival.



Photo by Kim Higley



SLCC Community Writing Center


A 24-hour Writing Competition
Wasatch Iron Pen

Artists of the written word face off in a 24-hour writing competition. Participants can enter in one of three categories (Fiction, Non-Fiction and Poetry) or can take on the Ultra Iron Pen challenge and write in all three!


Register at slcc.edu/cwc
Click on Wasatch Iron Pen

Register by June 21st, Get prompt at 6 p.m. June 22nd, Submit at 6 p.m. June 23rd

Cost: \$12 per entry, \$30 for Ultra Iron Pen

**Main SLC Library
(210 E 400 S) Suite 8**

SLCC Community Writing Center
210 E. 400 S. (Library Square Plaza)
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
www.slcc.edu/cwc or call 801.957.2192



COMMUNITY

community.globe@slcc.edu

Young people increasingly getting melanoma

Marina Cespedes
Contributing Writer

Lundon Bywater was diagnosed with phase two melanoma (skin cancer) at a young age. Today, she attends Salt Lake Community College with a major in mass communication.

In Bywater’s case, doctors were able to diagnose the cancer before it spread to the lymph nodes. This meant that she wouldn’t need chemotherapy as part of her treatment, raised her chances for a successful rehabilitation and lessened the cancer’s chance for reoccurrence.

“I will graduate this year. My dream is to become a PR or event coordinator,”

said Bywater. “Cancer only made me stronger.”

Bywater is not alone in developing skin cancer at such a young age. In the last few decades, the occurrence of melanoma in young people has increased.

“Melanoma is more prevalent among young males because they tend to spend more time in the sun,” said Dona Branson, Huntsman Cancer Institute director of patient and public education.

Young men are far from the only group at risk. Any significant amount of time in the sun increases the risk of developing melanoma for anyone.

Even though skin cancer has become more common, public awareness

of the warning signs, such as changing moles, has reduced melanoma fatalities.

Research shows there is strong correlation between sunburn and melanoma. “Once you received the damage from the sun there is no reverse and a way to reduce the risk from melanoma,” said Branson. “People in Utah are at greater risk for melanoma because our residents love outdoors.”

For more information about risks for melanoma, contact the Huntsman Cancer Learning Center by toll free phone at (801)888-424-2100, or e-mail patient.education@hci.utah.edu

UTA

continued from A1

This was a big concern among some of the public who participated during the Twitter chat.

UTA posted on their blog about new low-income programs they have instituted in the last year and of providers that they offer discounted fare to. That list of providers can be found at <http://www.letsrideuta.com/2012/06/18/elimination-of-bus-free-fare-zone/>.

Students can purchase an Ed-Pass that provides discounted fares. The change to the downtown service would not take in effect until August of this year after negotiations are worked out through the city.

UTA will hold a public hearing regarding the bus free fare zone on Thursday, June 21 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the UTA FrontLines Headquarters at 669 W. 200 S. in Salt Lake City.

Major

continued from A1

considered as well.

“It is rare to have a student who is actually settled on a major! Most students change often,” wrote sociology instructor Daniel Poole in an e-mail interview. “The exception is students who are in applied or technical track programs such as dental hygiene.”

Students who are enrolled in general education courses can use the knowledge gained from those courses to help narrow down their preferred career list. Once a student has earned a degree, his or her specific career choices could come from avenues of study not necessarily related to applied or technical track programs.

“One important purpose of general ed is to expose students to many different academic fields while helping to teach them what possibilities can be pursued and why,” Poole wrote.

Many students take an

open-minded stance when it comes to class options so as to explore a wide variety of topics. Even as tuition rates rise, students find the obligation to further their education is just that: an obligation.

“There are options available to students to help them as they seek a major,” said Joann Thomas, general education advisor at SLCC. “Everything from websites that enable the student to complete surveys about themselves in order to determine his or her own characteristics to pamphlets and even a career course at our school entitled LE1200, which is a career exploration class.”

For students who struggle with determining a major, their efforts will not be squandered. Formal and informal educations serve as outlets for broadening student minds.

“I’m glad to be in college, and I will decide on a major down the road,” Francom said. “But for now, I will just focus on the general ed classes.”

Sharon A. Taylor, a nurse practitioner who works at SLCC’s Health & Wellness Services provides valuable information about melanoma:

When identifying a mole that could indicate a risk, look for changes in the mole’s (A)ssymetry — (B)order — (C)olor — or (D)iameter, any lesion more than 6mm should be checked by a physician.

These are signs that any lesion or a mole on the skin could be something more than just a lesion.

“The best way to prevent Melanoma is to use sunscreen every time someone goes outside in the sun,” said Taylor. “Also, family members should pay attention to each other as sometimes moles are growing on people’s backs and may be hard to see.”

Health & Wellness Services at the SLCC Taylorsville Redwood Campus offers mole removal for a reasonable fee.

Insight

In-depth News for the SLCC Community

watch it at

vimeo.com/channels/insightnews

Register for COMM 2310 to join the team!

OPINION

opinion.globe@slcc.edu

What’s your horrorscope?

Shad Engkilterra
Staff Reporter

Aries
Mar 21 – Apr 19

Whatever you are putting in the oven or on the stove on Thursday, there will be no defense for it. The heat’ll be too intense for it. Say “Hi” to the firefighters for me.

Taurus
Apr 20 – May 20

Seasons don’t fear the Reaper nor do the wind, the sun or the rain. You can be like they are. After all, the Reaper is just a gum chewing bubble blower who is trying to sell flowers. Remember to use more cow bell and you will be just fine.

Gemini
May 21 – Jun 20

Hope you have your things together looks like we’re in for nasty weather – there’s a bad moon on the rise. So don’t go around tonight, and you should be able to weather the storm.

Cancer
Jun 21 – July 22

Hope you have your things together looks like we’re in for nasty weather – there’s a bad moon on the rise. So don’t go around tonight, and you should be able to weather the storm.

Leo
July 23 – Aug 22

If you hear him howling around your kitchen door, you better not let him in. Even with blue eyes and blue jeans, he will lay your soul to waste. Make sure to be courteous while keeping the door closed.

Virgo
Aug 23 – Sep 22

It is the hit of the land, but by midweek, you’ll be troubled by just one thing. Put your records on, get involved in a mash up and let your hair down, and there will be no reason to picket.

Libra
Sep 23 – Oct 22

There’s some rumors going round, don’t pay any attention to them, and you will see how high you fly.

Scorpio
Oct 23 – Nov 21

What you need is Love Potion #9. Unfortunately, Madame Rue is on vacation in New Orleans, so you might have to do something more distasteful than drink something that smells like turpentine and looks like India ink. I am told that love is worth the price, so hold your nose and close your eyes, it might sting a bit.

Sagittarius
Nov 22 – Dec 21

There is a party scheduled for the weekend and you sure like to have a ball. However, learn from Bill Clinton and run from anything in a blue dress.

Capricorn
Dec 22 – Jan 19

If you go for a walk at night, you’ll see a sight that will almost stop your heart. Just keep walking and the next day will be a thriller

Aquarius
Jan 20 – Feb 18

Tuesday you should summon up the posse and done rush a movie – then stay out all night. Whatever you do, don’t fall asleep. You wouldn’t want to miss anything.

Pisces
Feb 19 – Mar 20

In the morning, you’ll be laughing happy, and in the evening, you’ll be in the soup, which is fine because you will eat it up. Yum!

Horrorscope is a parody meant for entertainment only. “The Globe” denies any resemblance to anything living or dead. If the dead are after you, refer to the CDC Zombie survival guide.



SLCC’s Student Produced Entertainment Show

visit bit.ly/whatsbruin and let the fun begin!

Register for COMM 2200 to join the team!



Let food be your medicine

Tesia Nadhirrah
Staff Reporter

The information in this account comes from personal experience and study. It is not intended to be a substitute for advice from a medical professional.

When I was little, I used to constantly get nosebleeds during the summer. It was very rare that a day went without one.

I tried many different remedies to alleviate the problem. I heard a suggestion to try cayenne pepper capsules for a month to stop the nosebleeds. I was skeptical but desperate enough that I give it a try. Since that time, summer nosebleeds have become a rarity for me.

While studying to become a raw food chef, I was introduced to the fact that many fruits and vegetables have a long tradition of being used as medicine. There is a scientific reason why cayenne capsules helped alleviate my nosebleeds.

Cayenne is native to tropical regions and its active ingredient is capsaicin. Clinical research has shown that capsaicin is an effective pain reliever, digestive aid and has cardiovascular benefits. Natives in tropical regions have used it to help regulate and lower their body temperatures to deal with the tropical heat.

Cayenne comes in varying heat values. The lower heat

values are commonly used in food preparation. It's a smart herb, which means it thins or thickens blood as needed and helps to stop bleeding.

I have always enjoyed cayenne as a spice in my food. After learning about and experiencing the benefits of cayenne I became an even bigger fan of the herb.

A few of my other favorite spices and foods include turmeric, kelp, kale and grapes.

Turmeric is another commonly used spice. It has a long history as an anti-inflammatory in Chinese and Indian medicine.

Curry gets its color comes from curcumin, the yellow pigment, of turmeric. Curcumin has been the subject of numerous clinical studies and has shown significant anti-inflammatory properties.

Besides being known for its anti-inflammatory properties, traditional folk medicine advocates the use of turmeric for its anticancer properties. Studies have shown it to reduce the size of tumors.

Turmeric has also traditionally been used to help with arthritis, asthma, bruising and as a post trauma remedy.

Kelp is the most well known sea vegetable or seaweed and contains protein, vitamin B2, vitamin C and is a natural source

of iodine. Traditionally, seaweed has been used to treat an assortment of problems from lymph node enlargement to breast cancer.

Studies have shown that iodine is necessary for thyroid regulation. Kelp is high in iodine and studies have shown that it helps stabilize thyroid hormone production.

Kale belongs to the cabbage family. Traditionally, people have used kale to assist with dental problems, constipation and gout. It has also been used to relieve lung congestion. This green is very high in calcium.

Grapes are not only sweet but also alkaline and loaded with antioxidants. Research has shown that grapes assist in regulating blood sugar and digestive disorders.

The antioxidant resveratrol is a key component in grapes. Studies have shown resveratrol to reduce plaque build up in arteries. Some people have used grapes therapeutically to strengthen immunity, bones and sinews and to treat cancer.

There are so many different fruits and vegetables available that the information I've presented here is barely the tip of the iceberg. Most nutritionists agree that one of the best things you can do is eat a wide variety of fruits and vegetables to get the many vitamins, minerals and

nutrients that they offer. Many of the common foods that people eat have a long folklore of healing.

"Let food be your medicine and your medicine be your food," was said by Hippocrates, the father of modern medicine.

After my experience and research, I strongly agree.



Kale Chips

Ingredients:

- One bunch of kale
- 2 Tbs. Cold pressed olive oil
- 1/2 tsp. Natural sea salt
- 1/2 tsp. Turmeric
- 1/4 tsp. Cayenne

Wash kale and carefully remove the thick stems with a knife. Cut into about two inch pieces.

In a small bowl, mix olive oil, salt, turmeric and cayenne. With a pastry brush, brush the oil mixture onto both sides of kale leaves. Place in a dehydrator at 110 degrees until crispy. Check after two hours. Continue drying until crispy like a chip.

Variation:

After coating the kale in the oil mixture, place on baking sheet and bake at 275 degrees until crispy (about 20 minutes), turning halfway through.



Courtesy of Summer Bear

Green kale, turmeric and cayenne have wonderful medicinal properties.

Dear Dick,

I understand that you need to balance the budget. Spending has gotten way out of control, and we need to rein it in if we expect the United States to continue on as a country. What I do not understand is the logic behind your balance budget schemes.

Trickle-down economics was a failure when Reagan was in office, and it will continue to be a failure. Even with the Bush tax cuts in place, jobs have not been created. Instead, employers have learned to get by with fewer employees making less money and doing more to keep their jobs. Profits have soared, especially in the fossil fuel industry, and it is the citizens of this country that industry is benefiting from.

The logic seems even more ridiculous. Maybe if jobs were being created by the "job creators," there would be enough taxes on the poor to cover the subsidies to the oil and agriculture industries and bailout funds that saved banks and automakers. As it stands, cutting taxes on the people who can most afford to pay them and expecting those who make less to pick up the slack is a notoriously bad idea for the nation and the people living here.

The United States can be a great nation again if it returns to its roots of the people by the people and for the people. Instead, government continues to kowtow to special interests and big business risking the health, livelihood and happiness of every person who lives at middle class or lower. The wealth divide has grown and continues to do so. It is greed that makes this happen, and you, Dick, the man elected to protect the people, decide that protecting corporations is a better idea.

It is my hope that you will wake up before it is too late and this great country of ours is plunged into the darkness of anarchy or worse the corporate control of George Orwell's "Animal Farm" and "1984." Unfortunately, my hope is very small because it sounds like you think you are doing the right thing.

Nixon has nothing on you and your abilities to obfuscate and prevaricate. It is time though for you to speak the truth and do something to help the people – the human beings – of the United States. Let the corporations flounder – that is part of capitalism – but help the people – that is compassion.

Sincerely

Shad Engkilterra

University
MEDIA SALES GROUP
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

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© Puzzles by Pappocom

su do ku

Answers can be found on the website at www.sudoku.com

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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www.popculturecomics.com © Doug Bratton 2008

Cityveers stories

ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT

arts.globe@slcc.edu

Is ‘Rock of Ages’ the soundtrack of summer?

Stephen Romney
Staff Reporter

As a musical film novice, my expectations for this film were fairly low. However, this movie managed to greatly exceed those expectations. It took a “jukebox musical” formula and did something decent with it.

I didn’t know about the existence of the original “Rock of Ages” Broadway musical until the movie was announced. I don’t know how faithful it is to the musical so the opinions of this review apply to the film itself.

The film has three primary story arcs that occur simultaneously. The first is the story of Sherrie Christian, played by Julianne Hough, a small town girl who moves to Hollywood to seek fame and fortune.

The second story follows the manipulative wife of the mayor of Los Angeles, played by Catherine Zeta-Jones. The mayor, played by Bryan Cranston, seeks to clean up the city by closing down a prominent rock n’ roll club.

The third major arc follows the famous rock god Stacee Jaxx, who is essentially going through a midlife crisis while starting a solo career.

The story has more depth to it than I expected for a musical. This is not a film for children. For a PG-13 film it gets pretty risqué in both the content it tackles and some of the choreography. It doesn’t get very dark, as it takes on a more light-hearted approach in general but it doesn’t hold back with the themes it explores.

The cast gives good performances. All of the

stars bring their A-game to the screen. The most memorable parts in the film are the ones played by older actors such as Tom Cruise, Alec Baldwin, Catherine Zeta-Jones, and Paul Giamatti. Even Russell Brand does a great job in this film by providing some good comic relief.

As for the singing caliber, the actors also do a really good job. I was surprised by how well Alec Baldwin and Paul Giamatti sang in this film, though the latter only had a couple song lines. The principal singers do an incredible job of bringing energy to the film.

The songs are a range of classic 80’s rock from bands such as Journey, REO Speedwagon and Twisted Sister to name a few. While other jukebox musicals are a tad random with how they match their songs to the scene, this films does it’s



Courtesy of New Line Cinema

Tom Cruise gives a high energy performance as Stacee Jaxx

best to match each song to the scene. Some matches work really well, while others aren’t as strong but are still pretty good.

Overall, I found this

to be an enjoyable film. The music is good, the performances are top notch and it leaves you with a good feeling that sticks with you as you leave the theater.

While some of the song choices could have been better, this is still a good movie worth seeing. On my personal scale, I give “Rock of Ages” a 4/5.

Merry movie melodies



Stephen Romney
Staff Reporter

Music is one of the major staples of culture. Even in the days of the cavemen, music was central to many rituals and customs. When film was becoming popular you could be certain that it would come with musical accompaniment. This week we take a look at the evolution of the movie musical.

During the silent film era, various short films were accompanied by recordings of songs with full bands and singers. Actors portrayed characters as they would in a silent film but without dialogue. It wasn’t until 1927 with the release of “The Jazz Singer” that synchronized dialogue became an option, as well as allowing musical films to closely resemble their Broadway

counterparts.

“The Jazz Singer” didn’t have synchronized dialogue through the entire film, but had it spread throughout different scenes. Despite that, the technology not only allowed film to evolve but also put several silent film stars out of work which was satirized in “Singing in the Rain”.

Many musicals would follow during the late 20’s and early 30’s, launching the career of Shirley Temple and prolonging the career Al Jolson, who starred in “The Jazz Singer”. Even comedians such as the Marx Brothers included musical numbers in their films.

In the 60’s and 70’s, with the dissolution of the studio system, musicals were no longer the cash cow they once were as the genre was becoming more

specialized. The biggest factor in its decline, despite the success of films such as “Mary Poppins” and “West Side Story”, was the popularity of rock’n’roll. This set the stage for musicals such as “Grease” and “Jesus Christ Superstar” in the 70’s.

The biggest change in the genre during this time was how musical numbers were presented. While the typical musical has music performed in a soundtrack layered over the film, musical numbers in the 70’s were diegetic, which means that the music came from within the world of the movie. Numbers like that can be found in films such as “Saturday Night Fever”.

The genre picked up in the 80’s and 90’s for two reasons. The first was the healthy success of stage musicals on Broadway and London’s West End which led to the adaptations of musicals such as “Annie”, “Xanadu” and “Little Shop of Horrors”. The second reason was the string of animated musicals, a majority of them being produced by Disney. The success of “The Little Mermaid” would kick off what many people refer to as “The Disney

Renaissance”.

In the 2000’s, the musical was once again on the decline but got an unconventional jump-start thanks in part to the popularity of Bollywood films which feature musical numbers regardless of the genre. Inspiration from the Bollywood style led to the creation of “Moulin Rouge!” which is credited for reviving the genre.

The musical film saw its share of unexpected success with films such as “High School Musical” and “Dr. Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog”. There were also more adaptations of stage musicals, all with varying success.

We are now seeing a slow but steady resurgence of the genre as more of the popular musicals are getting the film treatment, most notably the upcoming adaptation of “Les Misérables”.

While they are not being produced as regularly as they were in the past, they are being produced with a greater degree of quality. As more popular musicals make the journey to the silver screen, we can most certainly expect to find higher quality films in the future.

LIFE AS A FRESHMAN

by C.A.Trahan



MY THREE PANELS by C.A. Trahan

