Fee Changes at Mat-Su College

By Shane O’Quinn

There have been recent talks concerning the current system for fees being calculated within the university system. Originally, fees like the “student activity fee” and the “student government fee” were calculated by percentage rate. However, UAA is switching to a dollar based amount as opposed to percentage. As a result of this, Mat-Su College has been asked to do the same, by switching to a dollar amount for calculating fees instead of percentages.

At this moment in time, the transition is still an ongoing process, and has not yet been approved (February 13, 2019). The MSC student government is discussing these changes during their weekly meetings. Student Government meets every Wednesday from 12-12:50 p.m. upstairs in the library room 214. All students are welcome. If you have any questions, feel free to attend one of the meetings or contact one of the MSC student government staff. Student Government office is located in JKB 114, next to the cafeteria.

Upcoming events:

February 25: Fall 2019 schedule available on UAOnline.
March 1: Math Department annual needs drive for My House Look for collection bins around campus.
March 4: Showing of the film Sylvia (Journey event). 4 PM. Glenn Massay Theater.
March 11-16: Spring Break. No classes.
March 15 and 16: Campus closed.
March 23: Math Department Cram Jam. 10:30 AM. Snodgrass Hall.
March 27: Equinox Film Festival (Journey event). 5 PM. Glenn Massay Theater.
March 29: Spring withdrawal deadline.
April 5: Deadline to apply to be listed in Spring graduation program.
April 10: Pie Day!
April 19: Student Showcase. JKB 124.
April 27: Math Department Cram Jam. 10:30 AM. Snodgrass Hall.

Note: not all Journey events will be listed. Go to page 6 or https://matsu.alaska.edu/journey for more information.

Club meetings:
Alaska Native Cultures Club: Mondays, 11:50-12:50 FSM 201.
MSC Recyclers Community Club: 12-12:50, FSM 204. Contact Jack Rogers II at jkrogerson29@yahoo.com or 232-9039.
Mat-Su Monitor: Wednesdays 3:15-4:15, Thursdays, 12:00 - 12:50. Library room 214.

Get involved with your student government meetings Wednesday 12:00 - 12:50 OLB 214.

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Liquid Blue comes to Alaska: popular touring band Liquid Blue played the Glenn Massay Theater on February 22nd. This concert was paid for by the student activity fee. The concert was preceded by a “Spring Social” with an open mic and free (soft) drinks. See our next issue for full coverage.

Anchorage celebrates Folk Music

By Rickard Chuggs

If you didn’t get a chance to drive in to Anchorage to experience the Folk Week Festival, I was there and can share some of my highlights with you. If you’re not familiar with the Anchorage Folk Festival, it is a community-driven music festival that showcases various types of music within the Folk Music Genre. It is a weekend celebration of music at various smaller venues, with more intimate shows.

Some of this years headliners included Taylor Smith; the Roaming Jasmine, a New Orleans band; and Dan Tyminski, the voice behind George Clooney in O Brother, Where Art Thou?

Some this years highlights included: Clooney in O Brother, Where Art Thou?; the voice behind George Clooney in O Brother, Where Art Thou?; the voice behind George Clooney in O Brother, Where Art Thou?

Liquid Blue live at the Glenn Massay Theater

Mat-Su College Students enjoy Open Mic Night

Lost and Found now housed at the library

Missing your ... Keys? Phone? Jacket? Headphones? Flash drive? Other item? Just ask at the library desk -- your item might have been found!
Rachelle was born and bred in “X-tra Tuf country” where X-tra Tufs aren’t just a basic necessity, they are a fashion staple. Too bad it doesn’t rain here—she moved to the Mat-Su Valley three years ago from Juneau, AK and just recently got married (name change on the way!). Rachelle has two kids who you might see wreaking havoc at some point on campus. She has more knowledge about Disney movies, Power Rangers, and Spider-Man than she knows what to do with; she has a feeling that this is only the beginning. Hobbies include: reading (when she has the time), baking, and spending time with her family.

Jewel is excited to graduate with her BA in English in May 2019, so that she can move on to a degree in History and International Studies (she thinks she can handle a double major, anyway). A future auctioneer and/or English as a Second Language teacher, she’s trying to put off joining the “real world” for as long as possible.

The Mat-Su Monitor is the student newspaper of Mat-Su College. The Monitor aims to report college news and serve as a forum for student writing. The Monitor seeks submissions of news, editorials, and short fiction from all students, staff, and faculty of Mat-Su College. All students are invited to attend the Monitor’s weekly meetings. Details on participating in or submitting content to the Monitor can be found at https://matsu.alaska.edu/monitor.

The Mat-Su Monitor is funded by the Mat-Su College Student Government Association and our advertisers. For information on advertising in the Monitor contact Micah Muer at mwmuer@alaska.edu or 907-745-9758.

The opinions expressed the Monitor article are solely those of its authors. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy of the college, its students and employees, or the wider University of Alaska system.

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Business owners!

The Mat-Su Monitor is a great place to advertise your business or event. The Monitor has a wide circulation, with thousands of copies inserted in the Frontiersman and distributed throughout the Valley.

We also have low rates:

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Moreover, the Monitor runs relatively few ads, which ensures that your ad will stand out. Finally, advertising in the Monitor demonstrates your support for local students. For more on advertising, call 745-9758.
Congratulations to our Fall 2018 Dean’s List and Chancellor’s List students!

To be named to the Dean’s List or Chancellor’s List, a student must have completed 12 or more credits. Students on the Dean’s List earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher, while students on the Chancellor’s List earned a GPA of 4.0.

**Dean’s List**

- Elisa Leuenberger
- Alexander Litvinchuk
- Tabitha Lorentzen
- John Losier
- Gregory Lytle
- Angela Malafonti
- Emily Manthey
- Rhonda Miller
- Cody Milner
- Vallary Mongar
- Derrick Myree
- Gregory Naatz
- Andrew Natekin
- Katherine Nelson
- Cassidi O’Brien
- Zachary Oshesky
- Rio Morgan Patrimonio Raval
- Ashley Phillips
- Amanda Pugh
- Rhiana Reints
- Noah Richards
- Autumn Richardson
- Andrew Rondeau
- Megan Rossing
- Rebecca Rossing
- Taylor Ryan
- Neale Sheneman
- Manveer Singh
- Kimberly Sliva
- Lydia Smith
- Timothy Smith
- Rebecca Standal
- Kirstie Starr-Watson
- Codi Stephenson
- Tessa Sterner
- Riley Stewman
- Anna Stout
- Erica Sullivan
- Hunter Sullivan
- Rilee Sullivan
- Christina Traeger
- William Tucker
- Serita Unin
- Annie Wang
- Morgan Watson
- Destiny Wells
- Nigel West
- Haley Wik
- Josi Zugg

**Chancellor’s List**

- Joel Allen
- Rebekkah Alley
- Tanya Amirault
- Guian Carlo Anselmo
- Gunner Armstrong
- Rebekah Bailey
- Brenna Bellah
- Autumn Boyter
- Thomas Brown
- Joshua Bywaters
- Parker Caldwell
- Misty Caulkins
- Moriah Chambers
- Makai Chapman
- Ecem Collins
- Cody Coonjohn
- Christine Cox
- Melissa Crane
- Amber Curry
- Anna Daniels
- Brian Desmond
- Emily DiPaolo
- Edward Eagerton
- Halley Erickson
- Jennifer Fields
- Ashley Gibbs
- Dawn Gonzalez
- Tessa Gottlob
- Tiffani Gutierrez
- David Harding
- Krisgerry Heckel
- Ben Henderson
- Hayden Hetzel
- Kenneth Hoffman
- Nikki Hunter
- Edward Huseman
- Anastasia Jasper
- Kassidy Kaiser
- Wyatt Kennedy
- Merrily Kincaid
- Christopher Kircher
- Briday Knittle
- Robert Lander
- Samantha Lasselle
- Laura Lemos
- Elisa Leuenberger
- Alexander Litvinchuk
- Tabitha Lorentzen
- John Losier
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- Annie Wang
- Morgan Watson
- Destiny Wells
- Nigel West
- Haley Wik
- Josi Zugg
- Willman Barahona
- Nicholas Beckage
- Steven Bilafer
- Jessica Brevard
- Blake Brezinski
- Grace Britton
- John Brooks
- Taylor Buetner
- Matthew Busby-Smith
- Amy Cahalane
- Guillermo Castillo
- Stephen Chester
- Lindsey Cizek
- Amanda Collins
- Sabrina Coombs
- Daniel Coombs Jr.
- Willie Copeland III
- Nathan Cottee
- Logan Curtiss
- Heather Deadmond
- Joaquin DeLeon
- Mary Delkettie
- McKenna Dinkel
- Rene Eliste
- Caleb Engst
- Isabella Fajardo
- Ema Fiedler
- Levi Folk
- Evnica Fursova
- Kailey Gates
- Kaylee Gifford
- Jonathan Gonzalez
- John Gregory
- David Haines
- Samuel Haney
- Justin Harris
- Jacob Harrison
- Krisgerlene Heckel
- Harrison Helton
- Rose Hendrickson
- Nathaniel Henney
- Andrea Hervey
- Jayden Hodgson
- Wyatt Hoy
- Jerimiah Johnson
- Shoshanna Johnson
- Kadi Judd
- Kamerin Karp
- Star Khan
- Paige Kindhart
- Amanda King
- Karissa Knagin
- John Knutson
- Jewelann Lelle
- Jacqueline Libby
- Janelle Liemann
- Marcus Lupie
- William Lyman
- Lydia Lyons
- Katherine McCall
- Conner McIntire
- John McIntosh II
- Autumn Merrill
- Maverick Merrill
- Cassaundra Moeller
- Abner Montanez Jr.
- Kathryn Mulder
- William Munro
- Ruth Myrvold
- Quinn Nardini
- Danya Nicketa
- Ethan O’Brien
- Micaiah Offord
- Shane O’Quinn
- Danielle Owens
- Avery Parker
- Garrick Pedersen
- Jordan Phothiboupha
- Madisyn Reem
- Raul Reutov
- Won Ro
- Renee Romer
- Emily Rushing
- Jeorge Sawyer
- Tetiana Sazhnieva
- Hannah Schaefler
- Joseph Schaub
- Raymond Scherer
- Kenneth Scheuner
- Aaron Seif
- Olivia Siegel
- Mykel Siegrist
- Savanna Simmerman
- Cobry Smith
- Mekenna Smith
- Heathen Solomon
- Carmen Soto
- Jenelle Spear
- Ethan Stoker
- Engen Sundberg
- Brittany Sutter
- Natasha Talvi
- Joshua Taylor
- Windy Thorn
- Hillary Tschappat-Larson
- Eric Waite
- Natalie Waterhouse
- Keziah Whipple
- Trent White
- Kaylee Wills
- Marcus Lupie
- William Lyman
- Lydia Lyons
- Katherine McCall
- Conner McIntire
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- Windy Thorn
- Hillary Tschappat-Larson
- Eric Waite
- Natalie Waterhouse
- Keziah Whipple
- Trent White
- Kaylee Wills
The Mat-Su Job Center is hosting their annual Employer Expo, also known as a job or career fair, on March 13, from 10 am to 3 pm, at Mat-Su College (MSC). The event is designed to connect local and statewide employers with the talented employment pool of students from Mat-Su College and throughout the valley.

Who should Attend?

There is a misconception that only students who are about to graduate should attend. All students, despite their educational level, can benefit and learn about employment opportunities and internships, and begin networking with employers in their field of interest. Moreover, students can learn about the education and desired skills employers are looking for, to adequately prepare and be successful. Follow the guidelines below and utilize your free resources on campus, including the Library and your Career Development Office.

Create your Résumé

Before the event, create or update your résumé and have your MSC Career Development Advisor proofread and check for errors. Have copies of your résumé available with an electronic version to print additional pages if necessary. Mat-Su College will offer multiple résumé-writing workshops to assist students in preparing for this event throughout the month of February. Contact the Career Development Office at 907-746-9319 to learn available dates and times.

Dress Professionally

Maximize your employment opportunities by attending the Mat-Su Job Center Employer Expo.

It is important to dress professionally for a job fair, as it is with an interview. This is an opportunity to make a first impression, so make sure everything fits properly (nothing tight or revealing), clothing is wrinkle free, and jewelry is limited. Wear comfortable, dressy shoes, as you might be on your feet for several hours.

Prepare your Introduction

Prepare and practice your introduction, which includes your full name, career goals, strengths, and relevant experiences. Approach the recruiter with confidence, a firm handshake, and a smile. If you are typically shy or easily get nervous, schedule an appointment with the MSC Career Development Advisor to practice and get comfortable.

Questions for employers

Be prepared with some thoughtful questions for the employers. Again, this is a learning and networking opportunity. The more time you spend with an employer is more of a chance to leave an impression and any future employment contacts, when you are ready to apply. If you need assistance in preparing some questions, schedule an appointment with your Career Development office.

Maximize your employment opportunities by attending the Mat-Su Job Center Employer Expo. Also, be sure to take advantage of the free resources provided by your Career Development Office.

The Disney College Program

By Heather Deadmond

The Disney College Program (otherwise referred to as the DCP) is a 4 to 7 month internship working at either Disneyland in Anaheim, California, or Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. If accepted, you are what’s called a “Cast Member” and you may be accepted for a variety of “roles”, such as Attractions (operating the rides and shows), Character Attendant (facilitating character meet-and-greets and keeping characters on schedule), among many others. As a Cast Member with a role, you play a part in “the greatest show” that Disney puts on every day for their guests.

As with all who apply to the DCP, my journey began with a simple application. As with all who apply to the DCP, my journey began when I began the internship at the DCP in January of 2017 for the Fall semester of the same year.

These applications open the semester before you might go, and they last for several months. I applied in January of 2017 for the Fall semester of the same year. The initial application consists of work history and basic information. If the recruitment team sees that your application has promise, you will then be invited to complete a Web Based Interview (or WBI, in DCP lingo). You have three days to complete, and you must be available to complete the Interview. If you pass the WBI, you might receive a phone interview. As with all others, if you are accepted, you will be contacted to begin your journey at the DCP.

See DISNEY page 11
Smoked Copper River Sockeye Salmon Fettuccine Alfredo

By Rachelle LaRue

Ingredients
12 oz fettuccine pasta
2 Cups heavy cream
3 Tablespoons unsalted butter
1 Teaspoon fresh lemon juice
2 cloves of fresh garlic
½ Cup grated Parmesiano-Reggiano cheese *OR grated Parmesan Cheese
6 oz fillet smoked salmon
*OR 6.5 oz jarred smoked Copper River Sockeye Salmon
Salt and Pepper to taste

Directions
Bring a large pot of salted water to boil. Add the fettuccine and cook according to directions.
Meanwhile, in a large, heavy skillet, bring 1 ½ cups of cream and butter to a simmer. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, just until the butter melts (about 3 minutes). Add the minced garlic, salt and pepper.
Add the Parmesiano-Reggiano and stir until the sauce is silky and just thick enough to coat the back of a spoon (about a minute). You can add more cheese if you like it a bit gooey, but remember the salmon is really the star of the dish.
Add the teaspoon of fresh lemon juice to give it a bit of freshness and brighten the dish.
Add the salmon, drained pasta, and remaining ½ cup of cream to the sauce. Gently toss over low heat for about 1 minute, until all the pasta is coated.
Garnish your plated dish with a few reserved pieces of smoked salmon.

FROM THE STUDENTS

Mat-Su Monitor
MARCH 2019

Dragons' Breath
By Miles Gibson

In this first installment of what we hope will be a regular feature, one of our intrepid reporters went around campus to interview random students. He got their take on what was, at the time, a highly relevant question: What is your New Year’s resolution? Check out the Monitor next month for our next question.

Idaho
New Year’s resolutions:
The main resolution I had was to try to focus more on school and let distractions slip into the background. Try not to procrastinate as much as I have in the last three years. Try to stay in contact with friends, friends I haven’t talked to in a while. Keeping connections that will be lost when I graduate high school and move to college.
How’s it going:
So far it’s been going really well! Procrastinating is a tough fight -- it’s a day to day as always.

Brandy
New Year’s resolutions:
None. I feel like people put themselves up to a standard and, when they don’t do it, they feel like they failed.

Brydan
New Year’s resolutions:
Try and get things done with my grandmother’s estate in Talkeetna quicker.
How’s it going:
Going all right -- forty years of hoarding getting cleaned out.

Hayden
New Year’s resolutions:
None. It just didn’t come to mind to do it.

Zoey
New Year’s resolutions:
I made it a point not to make any. I feel like making a resolution is an excuse not to do it the rest of the time. I want to do really well and be really health and do all these great things 100% of the time, not just because it is a new year.

Ekatrina
New Year’s resolutions:
Start working out. Do a little cleanse -- like a social media cleanse. And prioritize.
How’s it going:
Surprisingly, pretty well! I’m actually doing pretty good.
Elizabeth Peratrovich
By Rachelle LaRue
Fellow Arctic Dragons, I probably know what you're thinking: "Who is Elizabeth Peratrovich?" "How come I have never heard of her?" "How does she have her own holiday?" Yes, she is a real person and I have met her extended family. Yes, there is a movie about her. And yes, I am here to answer your questions. See PERATROVICH page 9

The Northrim Bank Lecture Series Presents:
Ralph Townsend, Ph.D. "Demographic Challenges in Alaska's Economic Future"

On February 12 the Glenn Massay Theater hosted Dr. Ralph Townsend, who lectured on "Demographic Challenges in Alaska's Economic Future." Townsend is the director of UAA's Institute of Social and Economic Research. Prior to the lecture, Northrim Bank CEO Joe Schierhorn presented Mat-Su College director Talis Colberg with a check for $5,000. This was the fifth consecutive spring lecture sponsored by Northrim Bank. The event was live-streamed on Facebook (a first); recordings can be found on the Mat-Su College Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/MSCDragons/

As always, we understand that sometimes school, and really life overall, can be challenging to navigate. If you ever feel like you are loosing your way, remember that you don't have to go it alone. We want to help! That being said, Mat-Su College students are able to receive up to 5 FREE counseling appointments with an experienced behavioral health counselor. Check out the back cover of your Journey Passport for a number to call to set up an appointment, as well as see other resources available to you. You are never alone in this journey!

Bring your Passport to JKB 133 when you have collected:

3-stamps: A choice of Frisbee, pedometer, or USB charger (while supplies last)
5 stamps: Get a $10 MSC J & J Café gift card
6 stamps: Get a $20 MSC Bookstore Gift Card
7-10 stamps: Enter a drawing to win Journey spirit-wear or a $50 Campus Cache gift card.

Movie "Sylvia"

March 4, 4-6:45pm FSM 204
We will be exploring depression and anxiety. The movie follows the life of Sylvia Plath, a renowned poet, who sinks into depression and suicidal behavior. Discussion on depression and treatment will follow the film. This is part of the women's studies course.

Tai Chi

March 4, 12-12:50pm, Glenn Massay Theater Lobby
Join Jenn Bartolomew for 'meditation in motion'. Tai Chi is a non-competitive martial art known for both its defense techniques and health benefits. The regular practice of Tai Chi can strengthen muscles, improve balance, and reduce stress.

Back country Safety Spring Edition

March 5, 12-2pm, FSM 204/206
Learn to plan, prepare, travel and camp in Alaska's back country with instructors from the Alaska Avalanche Information Center who have dedicate their lives to wilderness exploring and sharing lessons learned!

Tai Chi

March 4, 12-12:50pm, Glenn Massay Theater Lobby
Join Jenn Bartolomew for 'meditation in motion'. Tai Chi is a non-competitive martial art known for both its defense techniques and health benefits. The regular practice of Tai Chi can strengthen muscles, improve balance, and reduce stress.

Anxiety and Depression Panel

March 6, 7-7:30pm, SNOD 119
Depression and anxiety are the most common mental health diagnosis. What are they? How do they impact people's lives? What are recommended forms of treatment? What are ways we can support loved ones who are diagnosed?

Introduction to Yoga

March 8, 12-12:50pm, Glenn Massay Theater Lobby
Join Aliis Vann for introductory yoga sessions to help you become familiar with a few basic yoga poses, plus breathing, relaxation, and concentration techniques. Please wear comfortable clothes, bring a water bottle, and have an open mind to try something new. Your body and mind will thank you! Yoga mats will be provided.

Equinox Film Festival

27 March, 5-10pm, JKB 108
A celebration of films by and about women! Note: There is an admission fee.

Let's Talk: Transforming Unconscious Bias

March 21, 12-12:50pm, JKB 128
Libby Roderick will be here to explore what implicit bias look like and how we can take steps towards a more equitable future for all.

Fridays Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) Certification Course

March 22 and 29, and April 5
Attendance at ALL THREE sessions is required. 8am-1pm, FSM 202/204
The Rape Aggression Defense System is a program of realistic self-defense training and tactical techniques for women. The RAD system is a comprehensive, women-only course that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands-on defense training. Sign-ups are required, and attendance at ALL THREE sessions (12 hours) is required.

Let's Talk: Historical Trauma with Meda DeWitt

March 26, 12-12:50pm, FSM 204
A frank discussion on the effects of colonization on Alaska Native peoples.

CHOCOLATE!

One of the most popular Journey events of the semester was Winona Benson’s “All Things (Dark) Chocolate.” Students packed the Atrium to watch Winona and her food processor prepare a number of raw, chocolate-based snacks. That was great. Even better were the free samples.
HAVE SOME QUESTIONS? TRY ONE OF MAT-SU COLLEGE’S LEARNING SERVICES.

Elizabeth J Fallon Learning Center
OLB 121 — 745-9772
https://matsu.alaska.edu/offices/learning-resource-center/index.cshtm

MSC Learning Resource Center
JKB 107 — 745-9713

GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT MEETINGS EVERY WEDNESDAY 12:00 – 12:50 OLB 214

Microsoft Office, for Free

By Art Corvelay

As a student affiliated with a UAA campus, you have free access to Microsoft’s Office 365 website.

Office 365 offers browser-based versions of some of the popular Office programs: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. These lack a few features found in their desktop counterparts, but make up for that by saving your files to “the cloud” and by allowing multiple users to simultaneously edit the same document.

Better still, Office 365 users have the option to install the full 2016 versions of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Simply sign into Office 365 and click the “Install Now” button.

You can access Office 365 by visiting https://portal.office.com and signing in with your UA username followed by @alaska.edu.

Students who want a free, no-strings-attached office suite that will be available long past their graduation should look at LibreOffice (https://www.libreoffice.org/).
Birth Control & UTI Treatment
Now through your phone!

Planned Parenthood
DIRECT

Download at plannedparenthooddirect.org
Thirst (Rated-R): This 2009 Wook-chun Park vampire movie is about as dark of a romantic movie as you can get. However, if you are sick of the one-dimensional heroines usually associated with horror or romance movies, look no further. This film has everything: forbidden romance, a depressed anti-hero who is constantly torn between his beliefs and the fact that he’s a vampire, and lots of twists and turns. Definitely check this out if you are suffering from vampire fatigue and want something different.

About Time (Rated-R): Don’t you ever wish that there were more romantic time traveling movies (other than Time Traveler’s Wife, because that movie was awful). I highly recommend you watch this movie. A young lawyer finds out that he has the ability to travel through time and uses his gift to fix the life of his dreams. This is a feel-good movie that makes the watcher remember to never take a single day for granted and to cherish the ones you love. As someone who does not really like romantic-comedy

Stardust (Rated-PG-13): Based on a Neil Gaiman novel, this story follows a young man named Tristan and his quest to bring a star to the woman he loves. The only catch is that the star turns out to be Claire Danes and the two are forced to go on a series of misadventures like dodging a witch (played by Michelle Pfieffer) as well as a bloodthirsty pirate named Shakespeare (played by Robert De Niro). This movie is whimsical and adorable, but has some dark spots. It is perfect for movie night.

Valentine’s Day might be over, but that doesn’t mean that the rest of the year has to lack romance. If you are looking for a movie or two to cozy up with your significant other, look no further. Here are a few movie recommendations from a helplessly romantic, perpetually single person.

Peratrovich continued from page 6

“Have you eliminated larceny or murder by passing a law against it? No law will eliminate crimes but at least you, as legislators, can assert to the world that you recognize the evil of the present situation and speak your intent to help us overcome discrimination.”

Elizabeth’s powerful words were recognized and could not have been more effective. The Senate passed the bill 11 to 5 on February 8, 1945.

Growing up in Southeast Alaska, her name, story, and words are well known. My hope is that someday she will be talked about with the same admiration as people do with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. She has the title of a Civil Rights Leader, after all, and I, among others, celebrate her achievement that changed Alaska forever. To commemorate her achievements, in 1988 the Alaska Legislature established February 16th as “The Annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Day,” which is the anniversary of the signing of the Anti-Discrimination Act.
Ask Sophia

Welcome to Ask Sophia, the Mat-Su Monitor's regular advice column. If you have a question you'd like to see answered, e-mail it to http://tinyurl.com/sophiaquestion or submit it in the Ask Sophia box in the cafeteria.

Dear Sophia, I have used the bathroom in here and from time to time someone has stuffed the toilets with paper (making me hurry to find the next bathroom). Is there something that could be done about it? Who should I call?

Dear Friend, Picture this: using your uncanny instincts, you somehow sense that the culprit is near the restroom. You sneek into the bathroom with a pre-made sign that says "out of order," you stick it on one stall, shut the door, lock it, sit on the toilet seat, and pull your feet up. Listening carefully, you wait for others to come in and use the facilities. You hold your breath while they're in there so they don't know there's anyone else in the bathroom. Pay special attention so you don't fall off the toilet while holding your breath; that would be embarrassing.

You hear the person in the other stall start stuffing toilet paper into the toilet. As soon as they emerge from the stall, you burst out, dramatically. "Oh man!" you say. "Someone has stuffed the toilets with paper!"

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Dear Sophia, How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

Dear Friend, Did you have as much fun writing this question as you do saying it? In fact, it's all useless because woodchucks—also known as groundhogs—generally don’t even chuck wood at all. But to delve deep into this hypothetical question, you would need a bit more information. A woodchuck would chuck different amounts of wood depending on many variables, such as the size of the woodchuck, the type of wood, the speed at which the individual woodchuck chucks wood, and the amount of time the woodchuck spends chucking wood.

So I'll leave you with one question: Can you can a canned can into an un-canned can like a canner can can a canned can into an un-canned can?

Get involved with your student newspaper!

Meetings: Wednesdays 3:15-4:15 & Thursdays 12:00-12:50
upstairs in the Library room 214

Travel Destinations

It’s almost time for Spring Break, which means it’s time to think about where to go on vacation... next year... or the next... or whenever it is that you’re no longer a broke college student. But don’t lose sight of the end of the tunnel! Someday you, too, can be a world traveler!

Here is a list of some potential vacation sites, some more well-known than others. I’ve only been to three of them myself—Iceland, the Lofoten Islands, and Tallinn (definitely visit all three)—but I hear the rest are highly recommended as well (example: Pinterest says that Nuremberg is a “fairy tale town,” and Pinterest is, like, the expert when it comes to travel ideas, right?).

Amsterdam
Bora Bora
Cape Verde
Costa Rica
Edinburgh
Iceland
Khao Lak
Kyoto
Lisbon
Lofoten
Maldives
Morocco
Nuremberg
Oaxaca City
Paris
Rio de Janeiro
Santorini
Swiss Alps
Sydney
Tallinn

Readers’ continued from page 10

Last issue’s READER INVOLVEMENT REQUIRED.

Last issue we asked for your most interesting experiences from driving to and from Anchorage and boy, did we get a few jewels!

I made the mistake of asking my friend what his favorite color was and he proceeded to discuss whether or not his favorite color was blue the whole way home. For 40 minutes...

We were stuck in traffic and I saw a group of people—including the dad of a friend of mine—running around on the side of the road dressed as reindeer!

SUDOKU

Fill the grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3 x 3 section contains all of the digits 1 through 9.

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

There was pretty bad traffic due to a car accident and there was an old lady in a tiny car in front of us. Every time traffic moved forward a few feet she would swerve waaay to the right to try to see what was going on 3 miles up the road. We have referred to her fondly as “Nosy Parker” ever since.

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Folk Music continued from page 1

Art Thou? All are excellent performers, but for me it was Alaska’s own Shoot Dangs that stole the show.

Playing at the seasonal restaurant La Porte in Anchorage’s Spenard district, this was not your grandfather’s folk music. Playing to a standing room only crowd, this was a joy to the senses. Taking traditional folk instruments from across cultures, such as standup bass, ukulele, and accordion, they spun songs that are the face of new folk.

It reminded folk is an ever-changing reflection of the times we are living in. No longer are the days of Arlo Guthrie, preaching the days of shared land to soft tones. Those aren’t our times anymore. While wonderful to look back on as a simpler time, they don’t represent the feeling of today. “Death’s Coming and still I’m running” sings ukulele player/ singer Johnny Lungs. The spirit of folk is to express what the average person is dealing with at any given glimpse of history/social barometer.

With everything from global warming to crazy orange Presidents, and everything in between, that line seems to sum up the attitude students are dealing with. Here we all are, with more on our shoulders, but still chugging along. Bob Dylan famously said “Times, they are a changing,” and they sure did.

Disney continued from page 4
to click the link that they send you, but once the WBI is started you will have 40 minutes to do so. This is basically a personality test, to see if you could be a good fit for the company. Many of the questions range from “I do not like working with other people” and “I am never late,” to which you must click choices between “Strongly Disagree” to “Strongly Agree.” Once this section of the interview process has been completed, you will either be rejected or invited to participate in the last part: The Phone Interview.

When my interview was and what the final decision will be. You’ll be checking your dashboard every day, checking in on the rejection or acceptance of the magical Acceptance email, or the dreaded NLIC (No Longer in Consideration) email. Acceptance or Rejection. Those are the only outcomes.

Fortunately, on April 11th 2017, I was accepted to the Disney College Program! It was the very last day that acceptances/rejections were going out, and I made it to the last acceptance wave. I canceled all of my classes for that following semester, bought some plane tickets, and found some roommates.

Between the day I was accepted and my arrival date (June 4th, 2017), I had 50 days to get ready for a semester in Florida! 50 days sounds like a while, but they went by so fast! And so, I packed up my three suitcases and headed out on one of the best adventures of my life.

I lived in one of the four Disney-sponsored housing complexes near Disney Springs (Disney’s shopping district), and I had 5 rooms to make a complete apartment number of 6 in a suite. We had three bedrooms, with two beds and one bathroom in each bedroom, with a common area in-between. My “role” fell under what’s called Quick Service Food and Beverage, which is basically working any of the restaurants that are not sit-down. My specific role was Outdoor Vending (or ODV) in Magic Kingdom park. A normal day for me involved finding out which “land” of the Magic Kingdom I would be working that day, and making sure I had the correct costume. If you have never been to Magic Kingdom (or Disneyland in California), the basic layout of the main park is that of a “hub and spoke”. There is the grand Cinderella Castle in the center, with 6 “lands” surrounding: Main Street U.S.A., Adventureland, Frontierland, Liberty Square, Fantasyland, and Tomorrowland. Cast Members that work in a specific land cannot cross other theme lands; this is an official Disney rule that goes back to the early days of the company. It preserves the “magic”, or immersion, of each area. Once I knew which costume I had, I was assigned a cart to work at for a few hours. I sold popcorn, drinks, and other snacks, and would rotate to different carts around the same land every few hours.

My normal shift tended to be around 6 to 12 hours, depending on staffing and how long the park was open that day. Then, I would take the Disney-provided bus back to my Disney-sponsored housing, and get up and do it again the next day. I typically anywhere between 35 to 40 hours a week, depending on (again) staffing and park hours. The busiest times were definitely Independence Day and the Christmas season.

It’s easy to speak of the basics of my experience on the DCP, but it’s another thing entirely to unpack all of the fantastic memories that I made there. I have friends now from all around the world, and even more from many places around the United States. I never thought that one person could meet so many people in their life! I still speak to many of these friends, and they have become a part of my everyday life, even after we have gone our separate ways from Disney.

Most days at Disney were full of fun and magic, and though there were some bad days and difficult guests, it was the best time of my life! Many people may not think that cleaning out a popcorn machine covered in vinegar and popcorn oil would be much fun, but if you get to watch the fireworks every night while you’re doing it...it’s pretty magical.

Speaking of magic, one of the best things about my role was being able to create “magical moments” for guests. This basically entailed choosing a very special guest, and making their day all the more magical in whatever way you could. I am a sucker for that moment when a guest’s face lights up with the unexpected joy that you bring to them. After a while, it became second nature to find small ways in which to bring extra joy to people’s lives, and I carry that training with me into my every day.

I’ve been home from Disney for a little over a year now, and I miss the magic every day! It took me this long to begin to write about my experience, because there was just so much that I couldn’t put in to words. I have so many more stories, none of which can fit in this article, but it is safe to say that doing the Disney College Program was one of the best experiences I have ever had. I memorized every word to the parades and shows, met all of my favorite characters every day that I had a day off, and saw and did things I never thought I would ever be able to. The DCP improved me as an employee, as an artist, and as a person. It was definitely worth the wait, and not a day goes by without one of my friends or family hearing me say, “This one time at Disney…”

As I write this, I recently received my acceptance letter for my next College Program in the Fall of 2019. If you’re down in Florida, feel free to come say hello!

If you would like to explore all the DCP has to offer for yourself, you can find the application and all the information at https://jobs.disneyjobs.com/disney-college-program. I also recommend searching the Program on YouTube, as vlogging the application experience is a “thing” in the community, and you’ll find lots of helpful tips and tricks there as well.

If you do choose to apply, I wish you all the pixie dust in the world on your new adventure! It is an experience that you will never forget! “It’s kind of fun to do the impossible.” – Walt Disney

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