

Bayside Briefs

March/April 2009



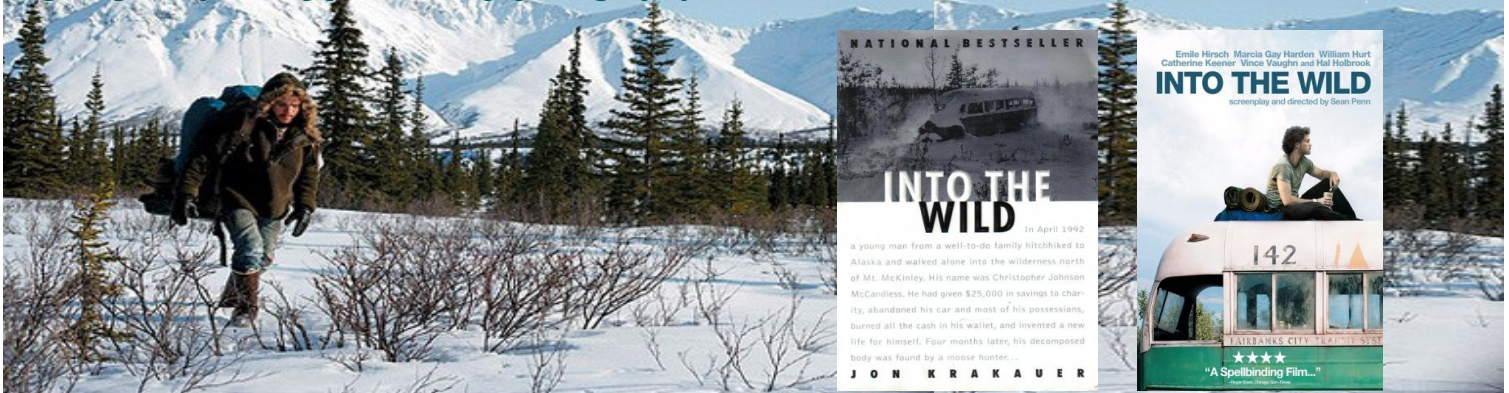
St. Petersburg College
SPC DOWNTOWN CENTER
244 2nd Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
www.spcollege.edu/downtown

Newsletter Volume 91

A Publication of the Student Activities Department

SPC Downtown Book Club

INTO THE WILD



Tim Murray



Greg Delaportas



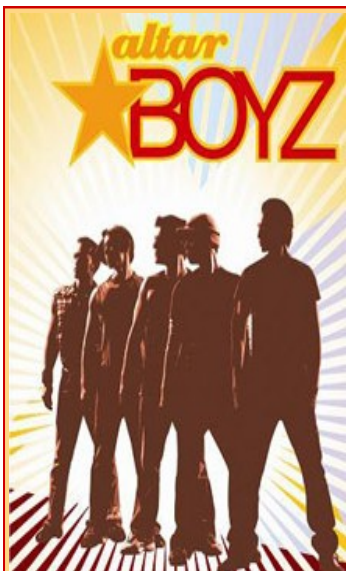
Jack Beary



Sharon Williams

SPC Reads 2009, a collaborative common reading program that encourages creativity and critical thinking, has chosen the widely acclaimed book "Into the Wild" by Jon Krakauer as this year's selection. A special **SPC Downtown Book Club** of faculty, staff and students is being formed. Those who agree to read "Into the Wild" will be given a free book upon joining the book club (pick up beginning March 2 in the Info Commons, DC 255). In return, the book club asks for a commitment to read the book and participation in an interactive round table discussion on **Thursday, March 26, 12:30 p.m.—1:30 p.m.** in the **Community Room, DC 210**. Come prepared for lively dialogue with some of Downtown's favorite faculty: Tim Murray, Jack Beary, Greg Delaportas, and Sharon Williams. Staff joining the conversation include: Rita Hooks, Yvonne Ulmer, Heather Disler and Pamela Hobbs. Light refreshments will be provided!

Downtown will also be presenting a screening of the "Into the Wild" DVD, an award-winning movie directed by Sean Penn. Please look for more information to be forthcoming on viewing times soon.



American Stage in the Park

End of Spring Term Celebration

Friday, April 24

7:00 p.m. Picnic 8:00 p.m. Performance

It's time to grab your blankets and join the Downtown Center for our annual end of spring term celebration at Demens Landing. This year, American Stage presents "Altar Boyz," the hilarious off-Broadway phenomenon about a Christian boy band in crisis. Matthew, Mark, Luke, Juan and Abraham (the unsure, Jewish member) hit the road from their home in Ohio to New York. Full of sharp parody, spectacular dancing, uncontrollable laughs and lighthearted

See *BOYZ* pg. 4

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Executive Officer's Message: Yvonne Ulmer



I encourage you to take advantage of as many of the extracurricular opportunities available to you as possible. On Downtown Center's bulletin boards, in the Student Lounge and in the Information Commons, you will find a variety of information offering volunteer opportunities and free or reduced admissions to exhibits or plays. I have highlighted some of those possibilities for you below. Enjoy your upcoming Spring Break, and good luck on your final exams.



800 Second Ave. NE, St. Petersburg FL 10am-8pm, Monday-Saturday

Pier Aquarium—First Friday

The Pier Aquarium has graciously offered SPC students **FREE** admission to the aquarium on the **FIRST FRIDAY** of each month. A valid SPC student ID is required for admission.

The Pier Aquarium is an intimate 2000 sq. ft. aquarium and marine education center established in 1988 as a not-for-profit organization in downtown St. Petersburg, Florida.

The aquarium's uniquely trained marine education staff—students from local colleges and universities— translates the scientific information on the oceans, aquatic animals, conservation and up-to-date environmental issues to Tampa Bay area students, teachers, residents and visitors to make learning a more personal, entertaining experience. To learn more, please visit <http://www.pieraquarium.org>.



Come join your classmates, teachers, family and friends for the 5th Annual SPC Relay for Life to raise funds for the American Cancer Society.

Where: SPC Gibbs Track
(across from SPC/Gibbs Campus)
When: Friday, April 13 – Saturday, April 4, 2009
Opening Ceremonies: 6pm
Closing Ceremonies: 8am

Activities: Music (DJ), children's tent, Luminaria Ceremony, Zumba, Yoga, and so much more!

Contact Kellee Woods, Event Chairperson at: Kel_woods@yahoo.com
or Gail Lancaster at: lancaster.gail@spcollege.edu

Learn more by visiting the Relay website: www.relayforlife.org/spcfl

Help! @ Your Library Wed, 9am-1pm Thu, 4pm-8pm Librarian, Heather Disler, DC 255



Library Information with a Focus on Technology:

Digital audio books are the digital versions of print books and can be used on a variety of devices such as PCs, laptops, and supported PDAs. The

SPC collection of digital audio books uses the OverDrive Media Console™ format. To access digital books from your home, work, or other location, you will need to be a registered borrower of SPC with a borrower id.



The library is proud to announce the addition of Overdrive MP3 Audio books to our Downloadable Media Collection! The OverDrive MP3 Audio book offers iPod, iPhone, and iPod Touch support!

To download our MP3 content, please make sure you

have OverDrive Media Console v3.0 (or newer) for Windows or OverDrive Media Console v1.0 (or newer) for Mac installed on your computer.

Library Science Course – Fall 2009

Become a Master Researcher! Take advantage of this library science course being offered in the Fall!

- Learn How to Interpret and Refine Research Topics
- Learn How to Find Books & Articles for a Topic
- Learn How to Navigate the Internet for Research Introduction to Netiquette and MLA Citation

LIS 1102
Electronic Research Strategies
1:10 pm – 3:50 pm, Wednesdays
8/24 – 10/16
Room: DC 460 Computer Lab





Career Watch: Jim Gonyea



A few tips regarding...

Job hunting in tough economic times!

- ✓ **First and foremost, don't give up because it's difficult!** Stay positive and avoid negative people. A strong, positive attitude is key to success.
- ✓ **Understand that the current tough economic times will end!** They always do!
- ✓ **Cut your spending!** Make a budget to see what you actually earn and spend, and then find ways to reduce your expenses. Be willing to sacrifice!
- ✓ **Know your talent!** Know what you can do for an employer. What skills do you have? How can an employer benefit from hiring you?
- ✓ **To find employment opportunities, monitor "help wanted ads" in newspapers and online daily!** But don't let this be your only or main method of finding employment!
- ✓ **To find employment opportunities, enter the "hidden job market!"** Understand that most jobs are never advertised. Therefore, to find them you must directly contact employers who have not posted any "help wanted ads" and inquire about employment. This works!
- ✓ **Use your network!** Contact your friends, relatives, colleagues and acquaintances on a weekly basis and ask them to forward information about job leads.
- ✓ **Prepare your resume in electronic format!** Prepare an edited copy for each job that you want to secure! Don't use one resume for all jobs! Use keywords in each resume that match the duties of the job you wish to land.
- ✓ **Practice interviewing!** Collect a list of typical and tough interview questions and ask a friend to role play an interview. Go online and search for typical questions and answers. Compare your answers to those recommended by the pros.

- ✓ **Sharpen or upgrade your general and/or core skills!** There's no better time to enhance your skills. Take courses, do independent research. Enhance your general skills, such as reading, writing, math and, if necessary, develop leading-edge skills, especially computer skills.
- ✓ **Sell your ability to achieve goals, not just your past record of duties!** Demonstrate that you're the best candidate by emphasizing how you have accomplished goals and achieved success in the past, and how you will do it for the new employer.
- ✓ **Learn the art of sales!** It may be uncomfortable a times, but you've got to learn how to shine your own light. Be prepared to tell employers what you're good at and how you can help the employer succeed.
- ✓ **Focus on growth industries!** Check the Occupational Outlook Handbook website (<http://www.bls.gov/oco/home.htm>) to learn which industries are growing and why. Target your job search into those growth areas.
- ✓ **Take freelance and temporary assignments!** Don't be too proud to take any position you can get. Consider it merely as a temporary position until you can find the job you want.
- ✓ **Form a support group!** Find other job seekers and meet together weekly to share ideas and offer support.
- ✓ **Use the services of a recruiter!** Search Google.com to find recruiters in your industry. Contact them and sign up to use their services. Never pay for recruiting assistance - the good recruiters are paid by the employers they serve.

James Gonyea,
SPC Career Development Specialist
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Counselor's Corner: Jerry Cade



I recently came across a quote that I think is too good to ignore. It comes from a personality development theorist named Rollo May. Dr. May observed; "It is an old and ironic habit of human beings to run faster when we have lost our way". That is so well stated and so true. When we're stressed out or late or lost, we tend to become more impulsive. We make decisions without facts and then cause ourselves and others more trouble. We can avoid unnecessary "run faster" behavior by taking the time to plan and by keeping our eyes on the goal. Our student services staff will be happy to help you with those things and more.

Speaking of planning, regular registration for the summer 2009 session begins April 1st. That week is the best time to find classes that fit your plans. If you have any trouble registering on line, feel free to stop in—we'll be happy to help.

Remember, keep your eye on the goal and take it one choice at a time. You can do this!



DC 110A
Cade.jerry@spcollege.edu
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Actively Speaking: Pamela Hobbs



Happy Spring!

In addition to the two spectacular events that are highlighted on the front page of this newsletter, I've listed on this page some of the other great events that are happening at the Downtown Center. Please be sure to read this brief carefully to take advantage of the opportunities that have been made available to students.

Please let me know how you are enjoying student life at the Downtown Center. I am located in DC 472.

Student Activity Coordinator

Hobbs.pamela@spcollege.edu 727.341.4261



BOYZ from pg. 1 fun, this award winning and totally original new musical will have the whole family laughing and singing along.



Reserve your **free** ticket to the event by registering at the front desk.

The college bus will transport students from the SPC parking garage to Demens Landing, 200 1st Avenue S.E. Parking will be available in the SPC Parking Garage the night of the event. A current student ID will be needed to access the parking garage, ride the bus and pick up your tickets for the show. Tickets will be distributed in the Downtown Center lobby starting at 6:15 p.m. The first bus load will leave for Demens Landing at 6:30 p.m. Our picnic under the stars will begin at 7:00 p.m., with the performance starting at 8:00 p.m.

Tickets are limited! Sign up today!

COMMON SENSE:

Welcome to the Information Commons.

COMING SOON:

Improved choices with **color print**, **black and white print** and **crisp and clearer copies**.

Remember these simple tips to help you make the most of the open-use computer lab:

- * Login with your student ID and MySPC password.
- * Bring your own back up devices to save your work.
- * Don't forget to schedule your make-up test — room reservations go fast!

Hours of Availability

Monday - Thursday
7:30am - 9:00pm

Fridays
8:00pm - 4:00pm



As a planet, we've been observing Earth Day on April 22 for 38 years. Earth Day was named such in the hope that it will inspire awareness of and appreciation for our Earth's environment.

U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson founded Earth Day in 1970 as an environmental teach-in, in protest against corporate environmental misconduct.

In celebration of Earth Day, the Pier Aquarium will be providing guest speakers in 2(two) of our Downtown classes. The speakers will discuss research that is being done on land and in the sea to preserve and sustain our environment. All SPC Downtown students are invited to attend.

Introduction to Oceanography:
Earth Science:

Wednesday, April 22. 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., DC 230
Thursday, April 23. 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., DC 224

BUILDING HEALTHY



RELATIONSHIPS

March 24, 2009
1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
DC 224

Seamus Allman, manger of Bay-Care's Student Assistance Program and a Licensed Mental Health Counselor with 38 years of experience, will be facilitating a discussion about "Building Healthy Relationships."

Learn what it means to have a healthy relationship. Find out how to clarify boundaries, expectations,

appreciations, and irritations, and how to communicate them in a healthy way.