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# Taxing the "Rich"

By Veronica Fontes Staff Reporter

According to the Boston Herald's article "Redefining who's Rich," social service advocates are proposing a payroll tax to tax "rich" people. The definition of "rich" is where most differ; is outlandish. President Obama believes those who make more than \$200,000 are rich while the advocates believe those who earn over \$100,000 are rich. The plan for this payroll tax is for the MBTA transit debt of \$60 million and the Big Dig debt of

The payroll tax is a good idea and would help out the greater Boston city but the definition of "rich" is where I disagree. The majority of families and individuals in Boston make an average salary of \$61,900 USD as of November

28, 2012. Here are the statisitics: 3.47% of people in Boston that receive more than \$200K annually and 31.19% of people in Boston that receive more than 95K annually. So to say those who make over \$100,000 are "rich" and tax them for debts they did not create themselves

Why should the lower income families be taxed for something they cannot afford and lead themselves into more unfortunate financial troubles? Many citizens in Boston even gave up riding the MBTA after recent spikes in fares during March. The MBTA fares increased 23 percent, raising the cost of a bus ride by 25 cents and subway and rail fares by 30 cents, which was a shockingly smaller hike than they originally proposed. Bus and train rides which were once \$1.25 became \$1.50-\$2.00. Citizens became

livid and irritable at the amount of debt the MBTA piled on their shoulders and left their daily commuters to deal with. Why should we pay for something we were not the cause of? The state and government should take better care of their state funds and issues themselves. If the proper protocols were followed, we would not have been in this situation in the first place.

An easier solution would be to allow different agencies to share the debt and work together to resolve it. We could even get Massport (an independent public authority which develops, promotes and manages airports and transportation structure in the state) to take responsibility for some of the debt as

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### **The Presidential Search Committee Holds Feedback Sessions**

By Alison Crumb Staff Reporter

The Presidential Search Committee for RCC held its last open forum with a Feedback and Comments session on Wednesday November 28, 2012 at 5:00pm. The public was invited to stop by at any point during the three-hour event held in RCC's former cafeteria.

Three round tables in the former cafeteria were pushed together into a Venn diagram of sorts. The floor was opened for comments and feedback on "What qualities does the next President of RCC need to possess?" Students, faculty, community leaders, and concerned citi-

zens who attended voiced their opinions and were heard. In fact, members of the search committee asked follow-up questions and provided room for discussion as every attendee was afforded the opportunity to share their comments and

The search committee stressed that they would inspect what they expect of a good candidate. Qualities discussed included communications skills, networking skills, funding raising skills, and the ability to assess and address administrative issues. There were a variety of opinions, feedback, and stories shared during

The Board of Trustees has a tremendous an important labor in appointing

the next president of RCC. The process will be thorough and aggressive. Particular guidelines are set by the State Commission of Higher Education and they must be followed. There are many steps in this process and we must not underestimate what this will take. "Most have a simplistic view of the complexity of what it takes." said Christopher Thompson, an adjunct faculty member at RCC.

One thing is clear: the college has facts to disprove many of the false allegations propagated by The Globe. There was a level of outrage over how a perception of the college has been presented as reality. Members of the

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### **Share-Leigh Arneaud-Bernard Wins Major Science Award**

By Ted Thomas Public Relations/Editor

As a young girl growing up in Trinidad, Share-Leigh Arneaud-Bernard was curious about the natural world that surrounded her. Later that initial curiosity would lead to a burning interest in the world of science. As a Biological Science major at Roxbury Community College, Share-Leigh recently won first place in the 2013 Ruth and William Silen, M.D. Awards, which "recognize participants who deliver outstanding oral presentations and who create exceptional scientific posters." Share-Leigh's poster presentation was titled Reclassification of Hodgkin's Lymphoma to Increase Treatment Efficacy. Her research work was guided by Dr. Alfred Gaskin. "He is one of the most student-oriented professors at Roxbury Community College," Share-Leigh said of Dr. Gaskin. "He always says, Think outside of the box." The Ruth and William Silen, M.D.



Awards were part of a larger awards ceremony sponsored by the New England Science Symposium.

Share-Leigh Arneaud-Bernard, Roxbury Community College's nominee for the 3rd Annual 29 Who Shine Event, is a remarkable student and an exceptional

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#### **RCC's Honors Society host** their annual Open House

By Hilaire Dastinot

Staff Reporter

Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society of RCC hosted their annual open house on Tuesday December 4th in the academic building room 3-422. Phi Theta Kappa was founded in 1918. It is the official community college honors society dedicated to promoting academic excellence among students.

Hours before the event kicked off, the fourth floor hall way, like the main entrance of the academic building, was decorated with balloons of all colors--a sign that something obviously exciting was going to happen. By 1:30 pm, the time set for the event, students of different majors, members of the Honors Society, and many RCC officials signed in and occupied their seats in a room decorated with colors seemingly chosen for the Open House this year.



Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society Open House

Among the RCC officials present for the Open House was Dr. Lynda Turner, President of Roxbury Community College; Dr. Nancy Teal, the Dean of Liberal Arts; Elizabeth Clark, the Director of Student Engagement; Yvonne Anthony, faculty and staff advisor for the club; and many other familiar faces like Professors Eric Enteman, and Alfred Gaskin.

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#### **African Meeting House** Highlights Dr. King's Life

By Malcolm Thomas Staff Reporter

This past Thursday, I went to the African Meeting House over on Beacon Hill to see "The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Signs of Freedom" exhibit. The exhibit focuses on photographs of Martin Luther King Jr. and other Civil Rights Movement leaders, such as Rev. Jesse Jackson and Stokley Carmichael. It also includes photographs of nonviolent protest that span the time of the civil rights movement. "If I was alive back then I would have probably ended up in jail or dead," Said 24-year-old Tanesha, a woman who was viewing the exhibit. "There is no way I'm gonna let those people [White

people] hit me and harass me and just let them get away with it."

Upstairs from the exhibit is a 17-20 minute video that explores the history of Black people in Boston and the history of the African American meeting house. "The thing that people are most surprised about after they watch the video is that Frederick Douglass spoke here in Boston. People usually associate him with his time in Maryland and in New Bedford, but never Boston," said one of the national park rangers.

The exhibit was originally supposed to end on the 17th of February, but it will now continue until the end of the month. The African Meeting House is located on 46 Joy Street in Beacon Hill.

# **RCC Interim President** Dr. Linda Edmonds Turner **Finds Time to Engage Students**

By Alison Crumb & Rose Fonta Staff Reporters

This is not my first time in the Administration Building nor is it my first time on the third floor at the office of the president. However, I drag these cement blocks that were once my feet up each step. I stand on the landing before the door marked 3, and there I admit to myself I feel intimidated. My partner interviewed Dr. Linda Edmonds-Turner only days earlier and my intentions are simple: I want to meet our President. I've heard her words, voice, passion and life stories. I want both the words

and actions of our administration: so I turn the door knob of the glass door along the glass plane wall that reads "The Office of the President."

Dr. Turner's staff was straightforward, and engaging. As I am standing and speaking with the woman at the front desk, Dr. Turner walks out of her office. She enters the waiting area to

greet and show her visitor to her office. As she approaches my direction, she acknowledges me making eye contact, greets me and touches my arm briefly. My interaction was brief, but in the midst of a busy schedule, our college president Dr. Linda Edmonds-Turner finds time to engage students.

Dr. Turner graduated as valedictorian of Mary Bethune High School in 1966. She was amongst the first six African-American women to attend Virginia Polytechnic Institute, graduated with honors, and received her bachelor's degree. She went on to earn a Master's Degree at Michigan State University and also holds an MBA and a Ph.D. from Virginia Tech.

Dr. Turner has worked in the corporate world in areas including marketing, new product development, and product launching and has a professional background in higher education as well. She was the vice president and chief marketing officer for Dean College in Franklin. For nine years she was the president of Urban College in Boston, which has a small and largely minority student population.

Dr. Turner says, "The student is the center of all we do." The idea of having open houses or town meetings described by Dr. Turner as "student friendly" brainstorming sessions every

other month highlights and emphasizes her willingness to create effective communication between administration and the student body. Dr. Turner, the Boards of Trustees, students and the Student Government Association (SGA) have already had one meeting. Student Government Association president Kiara Wynn says. "We set it up to have an open meeting with the interim president every other month starting in January. Another thing is that if you have issues, go to the Office of Student Life."

What has already been voiced by the community and student body is clear.



RCC needs to improve in customer service. Dr. Turner responds to this feedback and states that "people, students, community folk, other people that come to the campus feel they're wanted on campus. Making sure it's a positive experience for them. That - to me - is one of the key things I want to focus on. I want to get the students' input on how we best do that."

When asked about what she will change or do differently at RCC, Dr. Turner states the need to "make a change in how we present ourselves as an institution to people in the community and also to the students... [If] we don't get customers right, then we aren't going to grow because people will choose to go elsewhere for better service in order to meet their career needs and goals. If you don't get that part right than you don't reach all the other things you want to do."

Wynn feels that President Turner "is definitely willing to help change the name RCC has developed over the years and is willing to [address] any concern students have."

Roxbury Community College's primary mission is to serve the needs of a diverse greater Roxbury area and the surrounding metropolitan Boston community. When asked about her role here at RCC as Interim President,

Dr. Turner states "It's a wonderful institution! My job is to do as much as I can to make sure we're getting those positive stories as we are holding everything together for that next great President."

"When I took this job it was interim only, to come in and, say, lead the ship while the search is going on. To give the institution a chance to figure out who they wanted and what they wanted."

Dr. Turner knows that it will take a team effort to improve our image, services and brand at RCC. Dr. Turner states, "This College is not just me. I

can't run a college by myself. No matter how hard I work or how great my intentions are. You have to work with a group of folk. A Board of Trustees, you have the faculty and staff; you have students, you have the community. We all have to work on this together."

When asked about where she sees RCC five years from now,

Dr. Turner replies, "In five years I see tremendous growth in the look of the campus. I see growth, I see us going into many other majors. Five years from now I see us with a brand new building.... We're going to be spending money on renovating [the Academic Building] and bringing in a lot more in the health sciences, updating all those labs, a lot of the classrooms in the building and within there, there will be a different type of food service."

"Right now we're in the study phase of what we're going to do. In Massachusetts when a state college does new buildings, you go through DCAM (Division of Capital Assets Management). It has several phases to it. We have got a new 20.7 million bond to make improvements. The first year you study what needs to be done all over campus. That process will be over by June."

"The next year will be design phase and where the architects will design the building and all that goes with that. And the next year we will be shovel ready, meaning starting digging and building. "It's really a three to four year process, so within five years that will be accomplished."

It appears good things are in the future for RCC.

# GATEWAY GAZETTE

A publication of staff and students at **Roxbury Community College** 1234 Columbus Avenue, Roxbury Crossing, Massachusetts 02120



Staff and students are invited to send letters to the editor, news tips, ideas for articles and photos and other information for the Gazette to writingcenter@roxbury.edu. All submissions are subject to editing and run on a space available basis. The opinions expressed in these pages do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.

> Faculty advisor: Judith Kahalas, Coordinator of The Writing Center

#### **Community ESOL Program** Contributes to RCC's Success



By Hilaire Dastinot Staff Reporter

As part of the wide range of services available to students at Roxbury Community College, the Community ESOL (ESL) program contributes a lot to the success of Roxbury Community College. Since the boom in education, students from all over the world flock here in search of a degree from the Commonwealth. As a matter of fact, Community ESOL, as well as College ESOL, is designed to meet the needs of numerous students who desire to acquire skills to adjust to their English language environment.

In her dedication to such needs, Ms. Irina Morgunova, who is responsible for the program, manages to respond to students without a secretary; although when she is absent, her need of one stands out. In a statement, she proudly said, "We are a team dedicated to providing students with the necessary tools to push forward."

Conveniently located on the second floor in the Academic Building (Building 3), the busiest building on campus, the office of the ESOL Outreach Counselor is easy to reach. Upon signing in at the Learning Center's front desk, you'll be directed to Ms. Morgunova who is in charge of leading the ESOL program in the Boston area, assisted by well-rounded teachers dedicated to helping students acquire knowledge to strengthen their educational background.

With the support of the Language Lab, the Writing Center, and the huge Library, Community ESOL students are both prepared to perform in the world of work as well as to further their education through their college level preparation.

Any prospective student who can demonstrate adequate English writing skills is encouraged to apply for college ESOL. Based on a six semester-a-year period, the program goes through six

levels of instruction where the student has the possibility of progressing in a grammar-writing combination and pronunciation/conversation practice. If missing the registration for the regular college semester, a new ESOL student can follow Community ESOL classes to improve their English and catch up the next semester.

Above all, Intermediate Writing classes are designed to deliver adequate preparation for a student to succeed in placement test and excel in college ESOL or higher. Some even make it to English Composition I. They build on skills acquired during their ESOL preparation to assure success in courses in any major. Irina is right to believe that "success in college is based on a good ESOL preparation." In fact, a lack of preparation can lead a student to malfunctioning in English or any college level courses. As a result, they often drop out.

For the well-being of all students, Irina Morgunova is surrounded by a faculty chosen from the cream of the crop. Irene Garnits teaches mainly intermediate writing where her students learn the skills and techniques of college-level writing. Wendy Law teaches level 1 and level 4. Anna Boudarenho for her part teaches grammar. Mark Snyder teaches communication skills, and Daniel Garbers and Dowley Kelly teach grammar/conversation.

In their experience teaching English, each member of this faculty is an asset for the entire RCC community, and students throughout their journey in college will always remember them. Achievement does not just happen. Community ESOL at RCC prepares you to achieve. A lot of successful college students started at the Community ESOL Program.

For more information about the program, contact the Senior Outreach Counselor, Ms. Morgunova, in Room (3) 207. Community ESOL at RCC is worth trying!



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human being. While at RCC, Share-Leigh has at times served as President of the Science Club, President of the Garden Club, Secretary of the Pizza and Politics Club, Student Representative of the Student Government Association, and a member of the Honors Club. She also volunteers in the RCC Writing Center and at a community swimming pool in Roslindale, MA. In spite of having had an extremely active schedule, Share-Leigh will graduate with a 3.98 GPA.

Eager to continue expanding her science experience, Share-Leigh is currently working as a student intern at the Massachusetts Biologics Laboratory in Mattapan, MA. She is proud of her work at the lab, which is confidential in

Share-Leigh's future plans begin with transferring to a four-year college where she plans on earning a Bachelor's degree in Biology. From there she intends to enroll in medical school and graduate with both MD and PhD degrees in Bio-Medical Research. Her future research focus will be to continue the Reclassification of Hodgkin's Lymphoma project she began at RCC. Share-Leigh would like to help people live longer, healthier

Share-Leigh is also a poet, able to merge her love of nature and science into poetry that explores the connection between science and human emotions. In one of her poems, titled The Equation of Life, based on a painting by Reginald Gee, she wrote:

The numbers that are intertwined

Remind me of the fraction of time that we have

To climb up the staircase of love and determination...





## YOUR **Opinion**

**Matter** 



# **Being a Lady Tiger**

By Daniel Villanueva Staff Reporter

It may be in your best interest check out a R.C.C. Women's basketball game. They've played they've left their audiences applauding on many occasion this season and have earned a national ranking, but the continuity off the court deserves a bigger applause.

Coach Mark Leszczyk can recognize talent, but his assessments aren't restricted solely on the foundation of the sport. If ask him about any of his players, the first reference you'll get is "student/ athlete." All too often, athletes, especially at the junior college level, become academically ineligible. Their ineligibility simultaneously hinders their academic future, as well as stuns the team's success. So what does Coach Leszczyk do to counter that? "To maintain eligibility here, we monitor our players' progress as tightly as we can and have mandatory study

halls throughout the week, not just in season, but year round. In my entire time at Roxbury, I have only had one ineligible player, and to me, that's one too many."

I consider the success of Lady Tigers as a "double edge sword." Their ranking was earned from a nucleus of players throughout the Northeast region, but only two players reign from the Boston area. Coach Leszczyk recognizes the same concern. "This year's class seems to be from more of a distance, but it is rare. I would love to have more local players, but getting young people to go to school in their 'backyard' has proven

The Lady Tigers remain competitive year in and year out. Coach Leszczyk specializes in recruiting in the specific athletes who adhere to his curriculum. "They must be dedicated academically and athletically to survive playing for Roxbury."



### Thanks to Malone

By Veronica Fontes Staff Reporter

Professor H. Tia Juana Malone is devoted to being a teacher. "It's exciting, utilizes my mind." She teaches all the time and loves it because it "makes you have to study and that's exciting." To Professor Malone teaching requires you to "study and learn how to best deliver a lesson to a very diverse student audience. As well as accentuate them into being learners." I discovered the art of the English major through several talks with Professor Malone. To be an English major you have to be interested in a broad range of things. You have to read all types of literary works, especially current pieces because your job as an English major will be assessing whatever work anyone creates. An English major has to read wisely, research many different topics and write persuasively.

As I sat down in Professor Malone's office and listened to her speak, I became even more interested in learning. Her words were gentle but full of aspiration as she listed out the important tools an English major would need to succeed. Some, such as understanding different styles of writing by reading and using books such as Elements of Style by William Strunk, can help future journalist, editors and authors gain insight about what it is their craftsmanship can further develop. Knowing libraries and library systems, classification of things, and, most importantly, allowing "NPR

[National Public Radio] to be part of a daily digest" is a great way for English majors or students to keep a steady diet of current, interesting and important

Professor Malone knows "a little everything of everything" by listening to the news and picking up some information about new things every day. Keeping your mind fresh and always open to evolving new concepts or ideas is a great advancement for any English major. The reason for choosing to interview Professor Malone was after enrolling in her African American Literature course, my mind was blown by the amount of things I had thought I knew. I walked into her class as an English major and left it feeling dumbfounded. Her speeches and lessons taught in class challenged me to prove my reason for being an English major and even more so to continue learning more about literature.

After speaking with Professor Malone, this experience reminded me that as an English major you have to adjust your writing, research your work, edit your papers, accept criticism and remind yourself to be a constant learner. No matter how harsh or strict her vernacular is, her goal as a professor is to give people the "incentive to be lifelong learners; don't do the matrix of the class and get involved in a subject," opening up a world of new possibilities to her students.

### **Get Published**

By Veronica Fontes Staff Reporter

Dig out that great piece of writing you worked so hard on and get the attention you deserve! You need to focus on nothing but the course lessons and catching up. However, the paper is summoning your psyche and you can no longer deny it. An obligation to open the pages and build thoughts on paper. After minutes expand to hours and days, you have created a masterpiece. Others may say it is impressive, and you agree. Nevertheless, how can you let even more people view your beautiful work?

The newspaper on the RCC campus always publishes students' work who are involved in the Gazette. However, how can you submit a piece? Who is in charge? Is there an email or office? Is my work guaranteed publishing? How does it all begin? Well, pick up the free student newspaper Roxbury Community College's Gateway Gazette and flip towards the end. The email mentioned (writingcenter@roxbury.edu) is your first step towards getting published. The Gateway Gazette mentions "Staff and students are invited to send letters to the editor, news tips, ideas for articles, photos and other information" Each submission you make is subjected to editing and run on a space available basis. The faculty advisor and editor, Judith Kahalas, welcomes any submissions. So do not sit there and let such a great opportunity slide by. Take advantage of it and be published.

The problem lies not with the Gateway Gazette but with the students. Of course, Roxbury Community College wants to publish their students in their own print media. But how can they do that if no students are submitting their work. Courses such as Journalism I, which I had the opportunity to attend, even had a chance to see their work published in the Gazette, but lost it after several students turned in their work late, unacceptable for any news writer. Unlike some of the students, I was under the impression that every

piece I wrote would be submitted. According to Ms. Kahalas, "Students need to inform their peers in Roxbury Community College about submitting their work to the Gazette." We all need to work together as a community if we want to be published. The issue of Roxbury Community College not having a student editor but instead run by faculty is an issue some students seem to have with the Gazette. Walking through the halls, I asked students about the situation and they replied with answers like "I did not know we had a newspaper." They did not believe their work would be considered and some did not believe their writings were good enough. But why does that stop them?

The majority of answers I received refereed back to the main issue, which happens to be not many students know they can submit work to the Gazette because they never read or saw it. To help students realize their options and opportunities, the Gazette and Roxbury Community College can do more for them. We need to get these students to read the Gazette. Some simple suggestions would be to allow the Gazette to become our social media manager. By allowing their readers and advertisers to establish relationships through connecting with friends to design targeted marketing campaigns that incorporate technology that envelopes how humans interact with website images and information. Along with the use of surveys and polls, the Gazette can incorporate the student body's perceptions, opinions and views on articles or issues we believe students are faced with in life. Part of the Gazette staff can even start hiring student writers to help interview future sources, come up with topics, and offer internships for majors to help develop media skills for their future. The possibilities and doors this decision can lead to for English majors as well as other majors are endless. Any piece of writing will do, just make sure it is something you love and will be happy to distribute around your campus.



## The SGA **President**



By Wesley Jean Baptiste Staff Reporter

The Fall 2012 semester of Roxbury Community College was the dawn of a new President. The Student Government Association now has a new Head of Office. With a robust campaign, Kiara Wynn won the popular vote of the Roxbury Community College students. I had the blessing of interviewing President Wynn for the Gateway Gazette.

During our conversation, President Wynn told me the reason she ran for office. "There was a point where Roxbury Community College felt like a good genuine community. To date, although I like the campus life, we have gotten a bit of a bad reputation." As we sat, Wynn took a minute to reflect on her successful campaign, which to her account was simple. "I just wanted to let the students know that I want to be their voice." She got into details and told me that her strongest campaign tool was her raw ambition. Driven, she would walk up to people and let them know face to face that she was running for President of the Student Government Association. In a world today where connections are immeasurably made through social media networks, President Wynn wanted to reach the student body on a personal level.

She also told me that the hardest part of her campaign was listening to everyone's concerns and registering them as points of improvement for the college. In the midst of our discussion on the concerns of the student body, the President kept things frank and said, "Most of the troubles are with faculty and the students; the students do not like the way they are being treated."

President Wynn and her cabinet members have been in talks with the colleges President, Dr. Linda Turner. about correcting each one of these concerns. In her first semester as President, aside from trying to listen been working relentlessly to fix them. Wynn has been keeping the campus life thriving. In the past semester she's hosted a luncheon where all the proceeds raised went towards sponsoring a family for the holiday season. Also, at that very same luncheon, there was a bake goods banquet where proceeds raised from that went to the U.S. Marine Corps Toys For Tots Foundation.

In light of the issues on campus, the President was able to get some good charity done for the past holiday season in the name of Roxbury Community College. Looking towards the future, President Wynn's goal was to promote school spirit. "The school lacks all aspects of school spirit. We want to give our sports teams lots and lots of love. The best way to achieve that goal is to attend the home games at the Reggie Lewis Track And Field Center." With a winning smile, a dedicated heart, and an ambition fit for a giant, President Wynn has the substance to succeed. What's left, you ask? Your support.

# **Your Newest SGA Rep: Andrice Napoleon**

By Lloyd Bryan Staff Reporter

A change of the guard in the form of Roxbury Community College's Student Government Association has recently taken place. For the uninformed, there is a new vice president and two new representatives here to assist the student body. Their names are Maha Abdelrahim and Darnell McFarlane. Where we congratulate them on their new posts and wish them well this semester, this piece is tailored to inform you about Rep. Andrice Napoleon.

Andrice (often referred to as "Drice") is a lifelong Massachusetts resident and second year student here at RCC. The 21 year-old engineering major with a passion for automobiles was selected to join the SGA after an extensive interviewing process. When asked what he hopes to bring to SGA, Drice stated, "I want to bring a new perspective. It seems like things are just a single routine or just in-the-box-thoughts. The same stuff is done all the time. I feel like I can present something different."

Andrice is no stranger to heavy workloads; he breaks the monotony of his schoolwork and side duties by delving into other passions such as football, basketball, and music, but, he doesn't approach the music as passively



Biggie in their too" he replies. But, all of that takes a backseat to his education. A four year school is the next endeavor for Drice. Where UMass-Amherst, Dartmouth and Framingham State are in the running as institutions ready to accept Drice's talents, he hasn't limited himself to just those places in

as many others may. Drice is a rapper

and serious about his craft. He cites

Joe Budden, Jay-Z and Ma\$e as major

influences to him. "I would throw

particular. "I would have to work harder for Northeastern University or WPI," he says, but, he hasn't given up hope. When you see Drice walking the

halls of RCC, he is as cool, calm and collected as any you will ever encounter. A relatively silent character who isn't without his trademark smile and chuckle, if you have a moment, get to know him. He is here to help and serve you.

The Presidential Search...

committee were eager, confident and prepared to address concerns stemming from a series of articles run by The Globe. "When The Globe was attacking the college, the college was ready to respond with fact." says Paul Alexander, Human Resource Director at RCC.

Attendees spoke with passion and concern for Roxbury Community College. RCC has done a tremendous service to this community and this community has a vested interest in the college. The chair did his best to keep the overall objective and agenda in the forefront, searching for what the committee could take away from stories of the past as well as general and passionate opinions about the college and its needs.

Faculty members provided feedback on what qualities they would like to see in the next president of our college. "This should be their world." says Danielle Tabela, coordinator GED program at RCC. Faculty also expressed a commitment and a sense of advocacy for the college and their respective depart-

Roxbury Community College is ending "the research and development" portion of their presidential search. As the committee wraps up the overall job description and creates a profile of our "Next Great President," a search firm will then be hired to find and assess candidates who may be the right fit for RCC and its needs. The presidential search committee plans to present three viable candidates for president of Roxbury Community College to the board of trustees by March or April in efforts to fill the vacancy by the new fiscal year.

#### Taxing the Rich..

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Some citizens who oppose my viewpoints or even refute them would say that taxing the rich and wealthy is better than taxing the poor and the result would put an end to a huge portion of our \$250 million debt. Although it does seem like an admirable alternative, an even better one is to urge the citizens of Boston to contact the governor and our legislators to work together to find solutions.

#### RCC's Honors Society...

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While setting up, the audience was serviced a YouTube presentation identified by Professor Kimberly Stieglitz as "a community service oriented video" featuring the backgrounds of different members of Honors Society.

Meanwhile, Kevin Smalls, President of the RCC Honors Society committee, addressed a warm welcome to the audience as he thanked Dr. Turner for her presence. Then he introduced the members of the Society.

From a slides presentation, Kevin developed what is called "The Chapters of Phi Theta Kappa" and the "Purpose and Goals" of the society. This put the emphasis on how the society can assist potential members in internship placement and highlighted the various universities and colleges Phi Theta Kappa honorees can attend. This opportunity extends over most of the prestigious universities across the United States.

Following this was another YouTube video on established Phi Theta Kappa of different states like Florida, Alaska, Texas, Alabama, Illinois, and Michigan and various opportunities available to outstanding student members of the society. In addition, Kevin assured that

"the society provides support to motivated students willing to make a difference in other people's lives through leading capacity." He testified that numerous partner organizations are looking for such individuals.

Thirty five million dollars can be spent on educational activities just for being a member of Phi Theta Kappa, according to Kevin. There is "zero risk and tremendous returns," agreed all committee members, inviting RCC students to join the society.

After the video was a self-introduction of each member of the RCC Honors Society for the late arrivals. Then finally came the round of questions, one of which was about the funding of the society. The answer drew many attempts, but Professor Stieglitz got ahead and brought up that "The society draws so much interest that a lot of people are generous toward it." Furthermore, she added that "honorees, after working their way up, give back to support future

The Open House ended with the thankful remarks of Maha Abdelrahim, secretary of the committee, who invited anyone with questions to approach the committee members, as she invited the audience for the refreshment while chat-



year old, quick-witted rhyme slaver startled with the burden of ushering in a new crop of talented emcees to bring forth the resurgence of the West Coast **Kendrick** released his major label debut, "good kid, m.A.A.d city" in October under the Aftermath banner. (Yes, the house that famed West Coast producer Dr. Dre built.) The album which plays like a feature film on wax is encompassed with brilliant rhyme patterns, vivid storytelling, deeply melodic instrumentals and equally impressive ad-libs. Many major label hip hop debuts today are reduced to large 808 drum-heavy beats, redundant yet insanely catchy hooks and an overabundance of guest appearances from national radios Top 10 artists (Nicki Minaj, 2Chainz, Drake, etc.).

> little to no filler. He stands on his own. "Good kid, m.A.A.d city" boasts a total of five guest appearances on the album and each fit perfectly into Lamar's film on disc. Never to be outdone by stellar verses by fellow TDE member Jay Rock "Money Trees", gangsta rap vet MC Eiht "m.A.A.d city" and mentor/boss Dr. Dre "Compton" Lamar intricately weaves together tales of stardom, survival and praise to his hometown on these particular records.

However, Lamar allows you to visit

"good kid, m.A.A.d city" the best way

any artist can, by giving it to you with

You should be familiar with the name

Kendrick Lamar today. The twenty four

But, the young Compton, CA upstarts shining moments arrive on his solo offerings. Tracks like "Bitch, Don't Kill My Vibe" and lead single "Swimming Pools (Drank)" leave his listeners and followers clamoring for more. Yet, it's the thought provoking "Sing about Me, I'm Dying of Thirst" a twelve minute epilogue where the emcee raps from the standpoint of a disgruntled relative made prominent on "Keisha's Song (Her Pain)" from his 2010 debut album "Section.80". In it, Lamar delicately, yet ferociously paints the ills of otherwise common heartache experienced in his hometown over a simplistic, guitartinged melody.

The production values of "good kid, m.A.A.d city" play a pivotal role in not only the progression but overall craftiness of the album. With no one production team handling the bulk of the work, the syncopation in conjunction with the interludes have a better flow as a whole. Lamar reaches back into the well with TDE vet Sounwave and hauls in big name producer Just Blaze for closer, "Compton". With a conspicuous absence from mentor Dr. Dre on the boards, Lamar more than makes up for it as "good kid, m.A.A.d city" cleverly depicts a day in the life of a young Kendrick Lamar trying to survive on his wits in the city of Compton.`

#### **POET'S CORNER**

# CATASTROPHE

By Janet Villafane

What once felt like butterflies in my stomach

Now feels like parasites.

Causing a gratifying satisfying pain.

Though I should be ashamed, I blame my fear to tame

The sinful nature that was born before I was ever in existence.

And your persistence, I find magnificent

Though it afflicts catastrophe inside of me And at the same time bewilders me and kills me.

I've bit too far into the apple

To now want to go to the chapel

And serve who deserves

All exaltation without contemplation.

Are my sweetest dreams of you tainted?

Have we painted over a masterpiece?

#### **Revitalizing the College's** Voice after 40 Years

By Judy Kahalas

Editor of The Gateway Gazette

Veronica Fontes, in her article in this issue of The Gazette ("Get Published"), sent a shout-out to all RCC students to contribute to the campus newspaper. Especially at this time in the College's history, Ms. Fontes' call to action is important. We are poised to become the "new" RCC: a predominantly new Board of Trustees is in place, revitalized and committed to upholding the ideals on which this College was founded; a new President will be in place when we regroup in the Fall of 2013; and architects have begun work on designing a new campus, recreating the spaces and places that have become weary from the footprints of time.

As we walk the corridors of RCC and hear the echoes (some good, some not so good) of four decades, let's pledge to do all we can to support the College and become the premier institution for the Commonwealth's community

colleges. We have all the raw ingredients: community engagement; a geographic location near all of Boston's finest medical and educational facilities; and exciting initiatives, collaborations, and grants that have given us leadership status in diverse areas of education.

What does all this have to do with the student newspaper? Students are the driving force of education. We need to hear from you: your creative voice, your grateful voice, your informative voice, and even your angry voice. We can only learn from each other if we speak out, and the spoken word is most powerful.

Finally, there are many ways to become engaged and to engage others: through the submission of photographs, minutes from club meetings, information from SGA leadership, editorials, by securing advertisements to keep our paper going, by writing a monthly column, conducting a survey, etc. Just ask us.

Submit all entries to us electronically: jkahalas@rcc.mass.edu; qjames@rcc. mass.edu

# **Nurse** Hines is a Lifelong Learner

By Florise Luc Staff Reporter

According to Ruth Hines, "Students are the best teachers." Ruth operates as the sole nurse for all students, faculty and employees at R.C.C. and has worked in health services at Roxbury Community College for 27 years. Her initial goal was to become a certified public accountant, but her deep desire to love and care for people altered that goal and led to her to become a nurse. She has been a nurse for over 40 years and worked at "just about every hospital in Boston."

Ruth is a Boston native who holds a master's degree from Howard University. Although she holds a master's degree, she exclaimed she continues learning daily thanks to the students at RCC. She proclaimed the students keep her current and that "every day is different, I like the variety." Students represent R.C.C. from all cultures and all walks of life.

The Health Center at Roxbury Community College offers all types of interesting things. One can obtain things from bandages for a minor cut, to the flu shot, HIV/STD testing, free condoms and pregnancy tests to name a few. As we're in the midst of the flu season, Nurse Hines could not emphasize enough to wash your hands because it's the most important thing to do to avoid it.

When Ruth Hines is not busy caring for everyone's health, she likes to listen to "old school music." Her face lit up with joy when speaking on behalf of artists such as The Whisper's and Pattie La Belle. She's looking forward to attending a concert in the near future featuring some of her favorite old

I find Ruth Hines' favorite quote "It's good to treat others the way you'd like to be treated, not the way they treat you" fitting for a nurse. Day in and day out she is responsible for attending to people's needs in order to tend them back to health. Whether you have a cough and need a throat lozenge or you just have a general health question, visit Nurse Hine's, located in building 4 room number 313.



**ALBUM REVIEW** 

# m.A.A.d city"-Album Review

By Lloyd C. Bryan, Jr. Staff Reporter

### From the State University of Haiti to Roxbury Community College: The Journey of a Student

By Hilaire Dastinot

Staff Reporter

In their expectation of a better future through a solid educational background, the dream of a Haitian student goes beyond the boundaries of the University of Haiti up to the borders of the worldwide higher education institutions. The logic of the world being a global village, with the welcoming United States, eases the transition, and Roxbury Community College, in its diversity, hosts a pool of these geniuses amidst their journey to becoming well-rounded professionals.

Upon completion of fourteen years of primary and secondary school (U.S. elementary/middle school and high school), typical in the Haitian educational system, a student is ready for the next level. There comes the challenge of a lifetime: admission to the state university where the number of competitors always outnumbers that to be admitted to an entity of the University.

In such instances, the level of knowledge acquired in secondary school comes into play, and the most committed ones make it to either the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Law and Economics, Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine: the School of Business. Politics and International Studies; or the School of Medicine and Health Sciences to name a few.

As in college or university anywhere, passing a class is subject to a great deal of effort. Students in Haiti strive to

keep up until graduation. "Either to get credential for the tight job market competition of Haiti or be ready to adjust intellectual environment abroad, the Haitian student's goal is understood to be success bound," acknowledged a business major back in Haiti, now an RCC Financial Aid official.

Transitioning from home's educational habits, with different professors' teaching style and peer students sharing the same cultural traits and habits and often same learning style, to the patchwork of culture and diversity that is Roxbury Community College is quite a switch for some but a continuation for

Lunie Joseph, a nursing major at Roxbury Community College, thinks that her experience of a soft transition should be the same for any other peer who is used to the challenge of "solving a math problem or doing a science project." The exception, she said is that 'laboratory equipment are not so handy." Lunie switched from computer science back in Haiti to the medical field

On his side, Ernst Horace, an RCC biotech major says, "The hardest obstacle for a student from Haiti to overcome is the language barrier." Moreover, he thinks that "math is numbers mixed with common sense; you just need to understand the professor explaining."

The RCC Library administrative assistant Marie Magloire, who majored in business back in Haiti believes "any student with strong credentials should be able to adjust to the environment." Her thoughts are that "the level of education in Haiti matches with what is being current in college here." She believes that "even the English language is no longer such a barrier, with everyone travelling back and forth between the United States and Haiti. Coupled with the grammar skills learned through the foreign language curriculum of education, students manage to express themselves, and 'that's for their best."

At the College Registrar's Office, André Charles has had a different experience. He left the country at a very young age, many decades ago, but still recalls how things used to be compared to the contemporary era. Though he'd had a U.S education, he remains connected with what he calls "intellectual life in back home." "Knowledge is universal," he stated, and " anyone who's acquired a certain level education shouldn't malfunction anywhere."

In their curiosity to what is contained in the curriculum of other countries' higher education, or for any other reasons, a Haitian student is bound to explore and learn more. The Haitian minority at Roxbury Community College has proven to be proud of what they are providing in terms of service to the RCC community, or acquiring in terms of additional knowledge to complete their credentials.

# **Slavery Western:** Django Unchained

By **Imani Hill** Staff Reporter

Some movies push the envelope and shock the audience out of their comfort zone. But Mr. Quentin Tarantino's latest film Django Unchained ripped the envelope and burned it. This film is far different from regular Western films of its time. This film has slavery, lynch mobs, and several droppings of the Nword. The film is more of a Spaghetti western involving revenge and mass bloodshed, and it is set in a time were the law was just a word.

The plot to this modern work is about a former doctor turned bounty hunter named Dr. King Schultz (played by Christopher Waltz, best known for his villainous role as Col. Hans Landa from Inglorious Bastards ), who decides to buy a slave. Instead of being a slave owner, he decides to train a slave named Django (played by Jamie Fox) into a deputy bounty hunter, in order to track down a very charming yet sinister slave owner by the name Calvin Candie ( played by Leonardo DiCaprio).

But not only is this about getting the slave owner. To Django, it's also a chance to save his beloved wife named Broomhilda (played by Kerri Washington) a slave who could speak German

and is own by Candie. Django will do anything to save her and make her a free woman. With the help of Schultz, they will come across tough and dangerous challenges waiting for them.

The film doesn't glamorize slavery as what some skeptics may say. Instead, it makes a very ugly picture of history's dark days. The action in this film is quick and violent. The feeling of the film is portrayed as a danger of the past.

There is some humor in the film, but the humor is very dark. To some, the humor of the film is funny with a strong nerve, but to some who are easily offended the point of the joke is nowhere to be found. One example of dark humor in the movie is when a group of men, led by Don Johnson and Joshua Hill, who are about to kill the two heroes, are arguing about the holes in the mask and how they can't see out of it.

The mask that they were arguing about is what the people of today consider to represent the KKK. The joke is how the ignorance of hate is just the stupidly of racism to uneducated people. The film could be considered being one of Tarantino's finest works. The cinematography of the film is truly outstanding, from showing the true landscape of nature, to the realistic view of the old centenary of a rustic city of Mississippi. It shows the realism and the harshness of the everyday view of the turning century.

The film is by far a true work of art. With a Spaghetti western feel, history's dark cruel past of slavery, and a hero's strong will of revenge against those who have done him wrong, it adds the suspense & thrill that drive the film home. The film is a wild ride, until the final climax of the film, the ending of the film is very much worth the wait. This film is not to be missed, & it doesn't disap-

# The Ongoing Gun Debate

By Kalph Lamarque

Staff Reporter

In light all of this fierce gun control debate, intensified by the Newtown tragedy, there has been a fundamental misunderstanding of second amendment and collective constitutional strive towards "a more perfect union." An article written by Adam Winkler of The Daily Beast has spotlighted a recent trend in individuals like Tea-Partiers' extension of the second amendment from traditional interpretation of selfdefense and hunting to a mean of safeguarding against an imminent government takeover and a secret agenda to confiscate everyone's guns.

These beliefs, as the article pointed out, have been used as justification against any gun control laws, against background checks for buying bigger guns, and to amass even larger magazines. Gun advocacy groups like the National Rifle Association have advocated for the widespread arming of civilians to serve as vigilantes to stop seldom encounters with psychopaths, gangbangers, and murderers. In this spirited debate filled with emotions, hardcore beliefs, and self- interest groups, it is time to get rational and have a facts driven multidimensional approach!

To amass assault weapons, to amass magazines upwards of a hundred bullets preemptively in case of government takeover is a complete misunderstanding of that great document known as the U.S. Constitution. The authors of the constitution brilliantly incorporated a system of checks and balances that would make such things impossible. If a president decides to become a tyrant, fifty governors will have a say about that. If one governor has come to the decision that he should become the president of his own state, the federal government and forty nine other states will happily make him supreme president of his own jail cell.



Image source: www.ryot.org

ready to take action and bring down a psychopath, mass murderer, or a gangbanger if they were to try anything, if this is what America has come to, guns should be the least of our worries. The recent tragedy involving the shooting and murder of Florida teen Trayvon Martin at the hand of civilian vigilante George Zimmerman should be looked upon as a harbinger of the perils of arming untrained civilians to carry out

With the nonsensical theories of government takeovers and dreams of a world filled with citizen vigilantes put aside, a serious gun debate can be started. In Australia, in 1996, there was a mass shooting that left close to thirty five individuals dead. The prime minister at the time, Jon Howard, and Australia's legislative body, in response to the massacre restricted the sale of assault weapons and took 700,000 guns off the street through a gun buyback program.

Since then gun related violence has dropped by as much as seventy-four

Concerning the individual, or a civil-percent. In Japan, as documented in an ian who is constantly armed, alert, and article in The Atlantic, in order to buy a gun one must past a background check, have recurring training on gun use and psychological assessment every three years. Japan has maintained the second lowest rate of gun violence in the world. These countries have demonstrated the ability of effective gun policy. As pointed out by a Washington Post article, the United States has the highest rate of gun violence among industrialized countries.

America can and has to do better. We can certainly learn from those countries and we should be enforcing background checks already in place, have gun buyback program in urban areas, restrict excessive buying of assault weapons and ammunitions, train responsible gun-owners on safe and proper gun use, and have shared accountability between gun manufacturers, gun stores, and gun owners through proper gun registration and tracking system. All of these can certainly help in the fight against gun violence and their perpetrators.

#### A Journey through the 2013 Boston Blizzard

By Florise Luc Staff Reporter

The evening of Thursday, February 7 and the morning of Friday, February 8 saw Boston residents scurried in and out of local stores to stock up on food for the blizzard. According to the Metro Boston newspaper the weather service put out a warning that stated travel may become "impossible."

The storm did just what was predicted. It dropped about 27 inches of snow in the Suffolk county and left people completely immobilized. The severity of the punishment if you were caught driving was up to a year imprisonment or a hefty fine. Luckily, everyone took

Flights from Logan airport and all MBTA service was suspended all evening Friday until Sunday afternoon. It left many people in the dark when it took people's power down. Even days after the storm, Bostonians are left to clean up what's left.

Small companies are hurting due to the snows inconvenience too. A lot have remained closed because some sidewalks have not been cleaned.

The storm was later named "Nemo" as an oxymoron. There was no problem finding Nemo, but it was more of journeying through Nemo. It was mostly children who got to enjoy the blizzard with being granted two days off of school because of it. Adults on the other hand had to shovel walkways or dig their cars out.

When nine-year-old Kingsley Prave was asked what he thought about the snow, he replied, "It's good because we had a lot of free time off of school and we were locked in." Older people like college freshman Charnel Luc said, "It got in the way of a lot of my plans and made a mess everywhere."

Luckily Boston got through Nemo with ease; it's just the aftermath city dwellers are left to face.



The Gateway Gazette is the official publication of the student body of Roxbury Community College. Submissions from the college community are welcome. All submissions are subject to editing. Opinions stated within the paper are not necessarily endorsed by the newspaper staff.

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