

UNDERAGE PAGE

'Prom-ptly' send your photos

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Send all photos with full names of everyone in the picture to:

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Questions about college?

Spring Showcase features info for parents, students on Texas universities

BY SABRYNA SULAK
TEMPLE HIGH SCHOOL

It's safe to say that the most critical moments in a student's high school career deal with the progress they are making towards college. For students, selecting the

perfect school and gaining admittance to it sometimes seems like an impossible task. For parents, finding the money to fund a college education often seems overwhelming. Fortunately, an event is coming up that should relieve the worries of

many students and parents alike.

On Tuesday, the annual Spring Post-secondary Planning Showcase will be held at Temple High School from 6 to 8 p.m. While the event is being hosted by THS, all sophomores and

juniors from Belton, Salado, Rogers, Troy, and Holy Trinity are invited.

"It will be extremely helpful to know exactly how much I will have to pay at the colleges I want to go to," said Stephanie Ewing, a junior at Temple High School. "Right now I'm not sure where I'm going to go because I don't have enough information."

Since a majority of students go to in-state schools, the showcase will focus on Texas

universities. Baylor, Southwestern University, Temple College, Texas A&M, Texas State, Texas Tech, Texas State Technical College, the University of Texas, the military service academies and the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor are the highlights of this year's showcase.

Representatives from Temple College will be in attendance to offer information about dual credit and the

Bioscience Institute and David Schwartz will assist students with financial aid planning.

"Thankfully, I've already been accepted into one of my top choices and have secured a good deal financial aid," said Tyler Gibson, a senior at THS. "The information I received from my counselors was very helpful, and I think it's definitely a good idea for sophomores and juniors to attend this event."

Drawn to me

Using talents and interests to spark up my life

BY SUSAN FIELDS
HOME-SCHOOL GRADUATE

I have always loved drawing things as far back as I can remember.

I loved drawing birds mostly, as I was fascinated with them so much back then (and I still am).

Over the past year I've become really serious with my drawings and have been deeply inspired by unusual and spooky things I see and then created in a style all my own.

I enjoy drawing tremendously because when I sit down to do it, I am instantly transported into my own little fantasy world where my imagination is unleashed and I can zone out

of anything that's bothering me. Some of my best drawings are those that I've done while I've been down or upset about something.

I am working on setting up two storefronts for selling my art, which will be titled "Inky Dreams."

Besides drawing, I am obsessed with music and playing guitar and piano. I have taught myself guitar and play both acoustic and electric. Playing guitar and piano is another great outlet for stress for me and an awesome tool for developing your creative abilities.

I love animals and keep many aquariums as a hobby. I have raised and sold a few species of fish. I've volunteered for three years on a Web site called allexperts.com where people from all over the world can send in their questions about their fish. A pet care Web site had found my work and asked me to contribute articles to their fish care section of the site.

Everything that I do, I like because it makes me feel different from your average person. I am all for breaking out of the stereotype and I try to always do my best at life.



Illustrations by Susan Fields



Texting while driving sends the wrong message

Quick notes could be a deadly distraction in the driver's seat

BY MADELINE KEYSER
TEMPLE HIGH SCHOOL

I recently received an e-mail with the subject line of "Driving while IN-TEXT-icated."

The e-mail showed pictures of a little boy who was involved in a car accident, had very serious surgery, and very nearly died because a teenager was texting and didn't notice she was driving 70 miles an

hour and rear-ended the car with the little boy in it.

She, of course, walked away unscathed.

While the e-mail information could not be verified, it certainly was enough to make someone pause and think. Right now, text messaging and driving is legal in most places, but should it be?

According to textually.org, a Web

site devoted to cell phones and texting, only seven states have banned texting while driving, but Texas has only banned "novice" drivers from cell phone usage while driving.

Texting drivers have caused car accidents killing five people, or created a four-car chain reaction accident. A train driver in Los Angeles, who, according to USA Today, was blamed for "the worst train accident

in 15 years," was actually texting and driving the commuter train at the same time. The crash injured 138 people and killed 25, including the train engineer.

I'm an avid texter myself and know how hard it is to put away the phone when it's time for homework or to talk to my parents, but when it puts someone else's life at stake, is your conversation really more important?

Your pic published

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We accept stories, photos, graphics and ideas from any area teenager.



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