

Keep your god  
out of my government  
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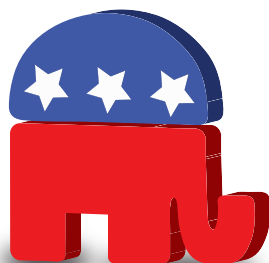
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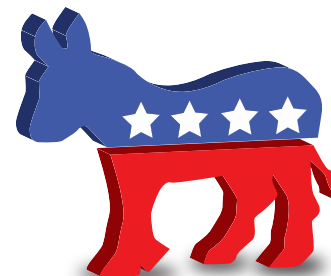
Issue 5

Free



# The Chieftain

Gogebic Community College



## GCC students face rough economic times



**Geneva Cummons**  
*Assistant Editor*  
**Miranda Anderson**  
*Editorial Editor*



unemployed in Minnesota, this total would equal only 8,000 more than the number unemployed in Michigan. Evidently, it's a struggle to find work in Michigan.

Tony Holmes, 24, born in Baltimore who moved to this area, is currently majoring in engineering. He has a job and pays his own way through college. He considers himself of low economic status.

"I'm not struggling" he said. "But could



**GCC student Becca Helppi, right, works in the GCC library.**

**Photo by Miranda Anderson**

be better."

Michele Lehto, 39, of Ironwood, is pursuing a double major in social work and psychology. She is currently unemployed but pays her tuition and makes a stable living through veterans' assistance.

"My family is comfortable," she said. "Thanks to the VA, we can all focus on school and have a stable future."

With the upcoming election, financial issues are on everyone's mind. Students at GCC are facing financial problems of their own. As one student put it, things "could be better."

Ashley Kieber, 18, of Ironwood, is pursuing her generals at GCC. Scholarships are currently paying for her education, but she works two part-time jobs to maintain her lifestyle.

Cory Benjamin, 19, of Ironwood, is pursuing an art major during his first semester. Scholarships are also paying for his first semester and he does not currently have a job. "I'm comfortable, very, very comfortable, like a panda bear," he said.

Becca Helppi, 19, who lives in Bessemer with a roommate, is majoring in natural resources. So far, she has taken out two student loans to help fund her education. She currently works two jobs and can afford bills, but lives "paycheck to paycheck."

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics for August 2012, Michigan had roughly 436,000 unemployed people, which is almost twice as much as the number unemployed in Wisconsin and Minnesota for that same month. In fact, if one were to add the number unemployed in Wisconsin and the number

## Student Senate seeking student participation



**Lucas Scherer**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Picture yourself trying to put together a puzzle with a friend. Now think about how would go if your friend wouldn't listen or acknowledge any of your attempts to help solve the puzzle. Every piece you try to fit into the puzzle is immediately slapped away and there is nothing you can do. I don't know about you, but I would get frustrated very quickly. Apply that same scenario to you as a student and your school.

Being able to communicate your ideas and concerns with Gogebic Community College will get a lot more accomplished rather than sitting in frustration. The GCC Student Senate provides a means

for students to voice their opinion to the administration of GCC. Senate also provides a great way for students to help improve the quality of the college as a whole.

Student Senate also gives the student body a way to have an idea of what the college administration is doing and how they feel on different topics. The Senate does this by attending various school board meetings and collecting information so that students may be better informed. Letting the board know how students feel about GCC is also a crucial part to this communication process.

Getting the students of GCC informed and involved in what goes on at the college is Senate's primary goal. That being said, student involvement in Student Senate is also required for this pretty puzzle to fit all together effectively. So if you're a student that desires to make a difference here on campus, come join us at our next meeting on Monday, Nov. 5, at 2 p.m. in the Lindquist Center Lounge.

## GCC offers rides to voting polls



**Lucas Scherer**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Don't know where to go to vote? Don't have a car? No gas? Well say no more! Student Senate is offering to shuttle students to the polls. There will be two

separate campus vans transporting voters. One will be going to Ironwood/Hurley area, and one going to Bessemer and Wakefield. The busses will both be departing at the same time, but students will have three times that they can catch a ride to cast their votes. The three departure times are 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 6th. We at Student Senate are excited to help students take advantage of their right and opportunity to vote in the presidential election. See you at the polls!



# GCC Updates: Writer meets with college president



Alex Zoller  
Chieftain Staff

G.C.C. President Mr. James Lorensen sat down with us this week and made time available to discuss a few issues that concern our school and community. He was extremely generous with his time and knowledge and the Chieftain wishes to acknowledge this and say thank you. The discussion covered many topics, but these two came to the top as they are very current in timing as well as interest to both Faculty and Students.

The first topic discussed was the upcoming election and its ramifications for our school in both State and Federal funding issues. Though the topic seems grand at first viewing, as well as an opening for partisanship it was neither in this circumstance. With the national political parties' published platforms not varying too much in base, changes are not expected to be very drastic in either direction. State and local funding is, however, a somewhat different story. Mr. Lorensen stated that "We should not worry so much if a candidate has an 'R' or a 'D' after their name. The standard should center more on the sheer importance of education and whether or not it is visualized for what it is, the key to future economic growth and a stabilizer

within our society."

G.C.C. derives a great percentage of its funding from local property tax, (currently at 3 million) but also has one of the lowest pools of resource in our State with the Gogebic County population continuously dropping, and so much State and Federal land within it paying no tax to localities. This makes G.C.C. more reliant upon State of Michigan funding as well as student tuition and the like. Economic growth in our area in the future is a great determinate of what our school will be able to offer as far as programs going forward. Mr. Lorensen, citing efforts like the Porcupine Mountain project, stated that "Gogebic Community College is agile and more diversified than it ever has been in finding its funding... We have never been bashful in our requests from funding sources in order to forward the goals of both our Faculty and Student needs... We continue to seek the greatest results possible from what we are able to attain." When you step up to vote in the elections next week, remember to include education in your choices made. It is not so much a party choice as it is one of personal value. You will be required to look in detail at voting histories and even personal statements to gain a true view, but the investment of time required is a good one for every citizen and for our college as well.

Our second topic went to the School more directly in that it deals with actual presentation. This is campus beautification in general terms. The topic comes up repeatedly in our Chieftain meetings every week, and I personally hear it come up in the hallways on a regular

basis. Mr. Lorensen is very interested in hearing ideas and looks to hear from us on the topic. From individual Professors, to students and even visitors from our community I have heard that, "There should be more displays in the hallways, more art, etc..." or even that we could do more murals like the one below the computer labs in the access hallway done by a student but rarely seen. Mr. Lorensen says, "There are many platforms and venues available on campus to increase visible appeal. From the Lindquist Center, to our hallways, display areas and cases and even outdoor areas are all available for various beautification projects." He continued saying that, "Department heads, Student Senate, even Student Advisors where applicable are avenues to start with idea development and figuring out costs if any opportunity for placements [present themselves]... The ideas need forwarding and development and the ideas for beautification rarely become actually voiced or worked on. This needs more work from those with the ideas." I asked specifically about the Student Senate avenue and volunteering from Students in placement, production, etc. Mr. Lorensen assured me that the Student Senate would be a good way to make the ideas heard and that swift approval could be had for even the largest ideas or projects if viable. So, here it is... YOU as a Student, a Faculty member, or even as an individual community member who visits and would like to do something... YOU need to get these ideas together and make the efforts needed for them to come to life on campus. It remains that simple, so please: if

you feel something would be of value or consideration, place the ideas before someone that can help. But, do not just do it and vacate your responsibility or it will fade away without the energy to fuel its growth. Voice what would be a good display or idea, find those who can help it to fruition, get the background information you need and then go to a Student Senate meeting, or see a Dept. Head at the Faculty level. Making our campus a more attractive place, an even friendlier arena or a more inspired learning institution takes real effort from people who are willing to not only care, but also work for its development. I hope to be hearing from you as does the rest of the G.C.C. at large.



GCC President James Lorensen.

## Chieftain to Sponsor Photo Contest

The Chieftain is sponsoring a photography contest for GCC students this month.

**Each contestant can submit one entry to The Chieftain.** The winner of the contest, which will be judged by a faculty member in the Art Department, will win a \$25 Visa gift card.

The theme for the contest is "Young at Heart." Photographs sent to The Chieftain should follow that theme.

Students must submit their work, in .jpg format, to Chieftain Adviser Ryon

List at [Ryon.List@gogebic.edu](mailto:Ryon.List@gogebic.edu) by Nov. 20. The top entries will be published in The Chieftain's December edition. The winner will be contacted immediately after the entries are judged.

Again, the contest is open only to GCC students.

When emailing their entries, students must include their names, addresses and phone numbers.

Please contact Ryon List with any questions.



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# Online Options Offer Obnoxious Obstacles



**Jennifer Livingston**  
*Chieftain Staff*

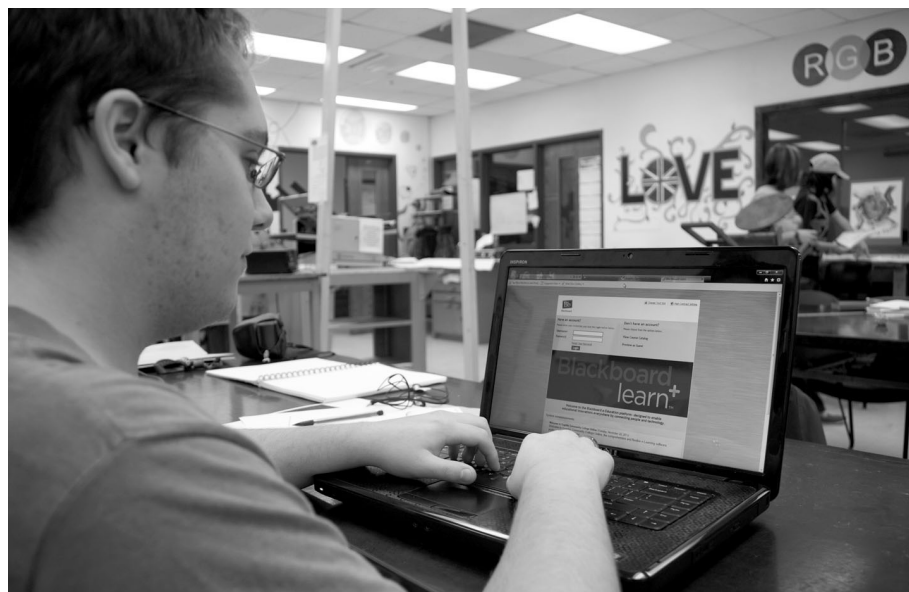
Like it or not, technology is the future and GCC students will have to adapt. Complaints circle the campus as students discuss Blackboard and Online Classes. "I hate online classes," says Alyssa Ahonen. "It's just easier to have an instructor there with you. If I could I would take my class on campus instead. You're basically paying to teach yourself." Another student, Andrea McMahon, said "Online classes should be cheaper. They're bad if you're a procrastinator, but it does make it easier if you have a family or are working." Instructors seem to like the system. "I'd be lost without it. A good communica-

tion tool, all my PowerPoints and assignments are available to my students" says Kim Wanink.

"I have a love hate relationship with Blackboard," Apryl Mateas said. "I love the idea of being able to organize my work and be available to students, but I hate Blackboard as a system. I have used other systems that were more user-friendly in the past. Blackboard's quirks allow students to blame technology instead of their dog."

Ken Trzaska, the Dean of Instruction, said "The reality is, we have to integrate technology into our new curriculum. Online classes actually cost more because of the tech support needed. We are looking at more efficient, user-friendly platforms for students and teachers in the upcoming year."

Addition of more hybrid classes can be expected. They are a mix of on-campus and online instruction that some teachers have already begun to utilize and are a nice introduction to online courses. If experiencing a problem with Black-



**Student Bryce Thayer, logging into GCC's Blackboard Online Learning Site.**

**Photo by Mark Marley**

board, Ken says to alert your instructor first. If the two of you cannot solve the problem, contact the tech group. Barry Nelson, Kathy Muhn, and Keith Beckman will be happy to assist you. In the

event they cannot help you also have Jim Halverson as a last resort.

Do not let your grades suffer if you are feeling lost -- get help, you are paying for it.

## Stuck on 'Stuck on Nothing'



**Joseph Beecher**  
*Chieftain Staff*

This month's offering isn't exactly new, but it's not exactly well known either. Free Energy, a power-pop group based out of Philadelphia, released their debut album, "Stuck on Nothing," in March of 2010. In the album, they aimed to capture the in-your-face sound of pre-grunge rock bands.

By all accounts, they've succeeded. You could analyze the individual influences exhibited in the album, look at compositional elements, but ultimately the album begins and ends with one thought in mind: rock 'n roll.

Every track is a masterfully crafted ballad, with emphasis on a straight rock beat and heavy, energetic guitar riffs that are neither too frenetic nor too drawn-out.

The entire work is as deliberate as it is infectious, almost as if they're daring you to stomp your feet and clap your



hands the entire way.

The opening self-titled track grabs you with an irresistible energy pervasive throughout most of the album.

The latter half of the album tends to drag a bit, but should keep you tapping your feet all the same.

The real highlight of the album, however, comes in the form of "Bang Pop," the Album's only single, and far and away the best track. If you scrap all the rest, this single rock anthem still has enough feel-good vibes to keep you coming back for weeks.

If you're still not sure, you can find the music video on youtube. Seriously, go look it up. I'll wait.

## Fat Kid Rules the World



**Sheena Trepanier**  
*Editor*

"Troy is a disappointment. He is a disappointment to his father, he is a disappointment to his teachers, and he'd probably be a disappointment to his friends if he had any. Mostly, though, he's a disappointment to himself, a morbidly obese teenager with a big heart but no confidence -- and neither the drive nor the know-how to pull himself out of his emotional rut. He is also the fat kid at the center of "Fat Kid Rules the World," an endearing movie that starts a little slow but brings to light a common issue teenagers face.

Based on the novel by K.L. Going, "Fat Kid" marks the directoral debut of actor Matthew Lillard, he directs the story in a calm confident manner and I look forward to seeing more of his work. Troy is played by Jacob Wysocki and does a remarkably good job of keeping



his character likable and not completely pathetic, you root for him and throughout the movie you find yourself thinking about kids like this you met in high school.

I would recommend this movie for anyone who is a fan of coming of age movies, indie films, or underdog films. You won't be disappointed when you watch this movie...or read the book for that matter.



# Opinions

## Editorial: Campus needs more art

Gogebic Community College has many talented artists, but you wouldn't know it by looking at the walls on campus. Besides the pencil drawings hanging outside of the Academic Building's third floor art room, virtually no art is displayed at GCC. The hallways are instead characterized by white paint and the random corkboard. The space is wasted. Paintings, watercolor designs and

sketches would really brighten up the hallways and make GCC a fun place to roam during the school day. Displaying more art on the walls would also give artistically talented students some recognition.

If GCC wished to show more support for the art program, it would be beneficial to hold an art contest similar to the upcoming writing contest. Creations

– sculptures, paintings, sketches, etc. – would be entered and judged anonymously by three instructors experienced in the art discipline. The winners would have their art displayed on campus (other than the third floor of the Academic Building). Such a contest would bring community recognition to the school and also would allow students to practice their art skills.

GCC needs to support the art program and encourage students to display their creations. Supporting student art would benefit the school by redecorating the empty hallways. It would benefit the students by supporting them in their choice to pursue the arts.

Editorials represent the consensus of the Chieftain staff.

## GCC administration responds to editorial

**Dear Editor:**

In the last edition of *The Chieftain*, page 4 contained an editorial on the Lindquist Student Center and the Student Service Fee. While a number of topics in the article are valid and excellent suggestions, several points made in the paragraph devoted to the Student Services fee need clarification.

The entire \$50 per semester Student Services fee does not go directly to the Lindquist Center fund. It is designated for a variety of student services. The

college provides a number of other programs and services that are partially funded by this Student Services fee. Some of these include student activities and events. Others include Mt. Zion and free lift tickets for all students with six or more credits, the swimming pool, varsity athletic events, the Convocation held each fall, as well as more.

The Lindquist Student Center's annual budget for utilities alone is \$55,000. The number of hours the facility is open has been determined by examining years of user reports. While the college would

love to have the newest and best exercise equipment and have the Snack Bar open many more hours during the day, the operating budget of Gogebic Community College is prioritized, with top priority given to academic programs, classes, and related services.

Also, it should be noted that GCC does not charge for parking. Most colleges charge in excess of \$100 per student per year for parking.

It is the goal of the entire faculty and staff at Gogebic Community College to provide the very best total experience

that we can for students, both in and out of the classroom. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

We encourage students to get involved in groups such as the Student Senate so that your voice can be heard. Also, the college administration has an open door policy. If any GCC student has a suggestion, question, or concern, we encourage you to stop by and talk with us.

**Jeanne Graham, Dean of Students**

## Cigarette etiquette needed from GCC students



**Miranda Anderson**  
*Editorial Editor*

One third of all U.S. college students are smokers. Accordingly, this means that two-thirds are nonsmokers. So, to all of the student smokers, at GCC and beyond, be courteous to your nonsmoking counterparts. We are lucky to attend a school that allows smoking on campus, so please respect that freedom and keep at least a few feet away from the doors and throw your cigarette butts in the ashtrays provided by GCC, not on the ground.

We all walk through the doors into GCC. So, smokers, when you see a student approaching the door you are smoking in front of, please step two feet to the right and let them pass by

without having to walk through a cloud emitted by your cigarette. It is only polite. Secondhand smoke is the third leading preventable cause of early death. It is estimated that only 15% of cigarette smoke is actually inhaled by the smoker; the rest lingers in the air for everyone else to breathe. Respect your fellow students' choice not to smoke. Do not force them to succumb to deadly secondhand smoke from your cigarette.

In addition, there are members of the Chieftain staff that have eye-witnessed their fellow students throw cigarette butts directly onto the ground, while those same students stood inches from an ashtray. Please, don't be so lazy. It is our responsibility as students to keep our campus clean. We should make it a place that we would like to attend school. Who would want to attend a school littered on all sides by cigarette upon cigarette, and polluted by smelly smoke? That is not a place where anyone, smoker or nonsmoker, would want to be for hours each day.



**Example of cigarette litter found throughout the GCC campus**

It is also the responsibility of nonsmokers to bring attention to the smokers' behaviors. When you see a student lighting up directly in front of any outside door while another student approaches to enter that door, politely ask the smoking student to step to the side and let the approaching student

through. Like when we drive a car, it is everyone's duty to be responsible and follow the rules, while helping others follow the rules as well. In this world, we work together to create a healthy, livable environment for all.

So, please, do your part.

# Perspectives

## Review: Mitt Romney's stand on the issues



**Alex Zoller**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Governor Mitt Romney; Republican candidate for President of the United States of America.

When considering your vote, thought and responsibility should be paramount in decision-making as to whom you may support in the election that is now less than one week away. At times, citizens vote on pure emotion and like most other choices we make in that haze, they are wrong when weighed over time.

This type of mistake was evidenced four years ago and the error may be duplicated now; a tailspin of historic proportion may ensue. The opportunity to rectify or fix a bad choice presents

### Obama will destroy our way of life

**Brian Dary**  
*Chieftain Staff*

This is THE most important election for the presidency in over 100 years. Do not take this statement lightly. Remember those words that President (elect) Obama said? "We are 5 days away from fundamentally changing America." Oh, how true!

Full disclosure: I am older than the average bear here at GCC. I consider myself a conservative independent. I vote for the person, not the hype. I typically vote Republican, but do split my ticket, usually for a local position. I voted numerous times for Russ Feingold for senator. I voted (regrettably) for the second worse president who was a democrat, Jimmy Carter.

Under the current president, we have lost our super-power status. We still have the largest economy in the world, but we owe more money than we can

**See Obama, page 9**

itself. The United States was, until recent times, representative of individual responsibility, self-reliance and independence, a place where opportunity was something that, even if elusive, was present and attainable.

These attributes are not gone, but shrouded for now. To blame any one individual for it being so is ludicrous as asking any one individual to fix it all. In four short years, however, damage has been done in the simplest terms to our world strength and reputation, as well as our economic status and future. Repair of these may require generations and stopping it is a now-or-never proposal. Vote for self-determination, not for government power and reliance. Vote for Mitt Romney on 6 November and be willing to earn the future.

\*\*\*The Platform points that may concern you as a G.C.C. student;  
Education: "Strengthen and simplify the Financial Aid System. Welcome Private Sector participation instead of pushing it away. Replace burdensome

regulation with innovation and competition."

The Constitution and courts: "Mitt Romney's view of the Constitution is straightforward: its words have meaning. The founding generation adopted a written constitution for a reason. They intended to limit the powers of government according to enduring principles..."

Social issues: In short, Mitt Romney is supportive of the Defense of Marriage Act, is Pro-life and Pro-Family.

Jobs: Mitt Romney is pro-growth and Pro-business. You are or should be as well. If you want a good paying job, it comes from business in the U.S. -- any choice against that growth limits your ability to earn and your ability to further the dreams of yourself and your family. OR you could work for the government and be happy with that choice. Millions of Chinese do it currently without that pesky advancement or better individual future thing getting in the way.

Energy: "Empower states to control

onshore energy development. Open offshore areas for energy development. Pursue a North American Energy Partnership. Ensure accurate assessment of energy resources. Restore transparency and fairness to permitting and regulation. Facilitate private-sector-led development of new energy technologies."

\*\*\*The platform facts and quotes above are directly from the campaign at: <http://www.mittromney.com/issues> See the site for more detail and information. Any writing outside of quotes is that of the author and opinion only.

Really have no idea who you agree with in platform? Try this short quiz to see which 2012 presidential candidate you side with... This may help you more than you think and only takes five minutes or so!

<http://www.isidewith.com/presidential-election-quiz>

Here are my results... <http://www.isidewith.com/results/158396033>

### Obama will move the country forward

**Amanda DeWitt**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Hope. Change. Forward. Obama's campaign is built on the idea of moving on, growing, changing, and flourishing. Over the past four years President Barack Obama has introduced Obamacare, ended the war in Iraq, and unemployment rate is down to 7.8%, the lowest it's been in several years.

Obama inherited a broken economy and an outrageous amount of national deficit in 2008; nobody could solve all of America's problems in four years. Tell me, how worse off are you now than you were four years ago?

Naturally, the United States or any other country, will always have problems. It is unrealistic to think that one person can completely heal an economy so broken in such a short period of time. This is why on November 6th, 2012 I will be casting my ballot for President Barack Obama for a second term.

Obama has a specific plan for our

future. Obama's plan for America is this: making education and training a national priority, building on our manufacturing boom, boosting American-made energy, reducing the deficit by cutting where we can and asking the wealthy to pay a little more, and ending the war in Afghanistan.

He cut taxes for every American worker and provided 18 tax cuts for small business to help them weather the recession. He is now calling on millionaires and billionaires to pay a little bit more so that we can pay down our debt in a balanced way.

Not only is Obama the first sitting president to publicly announce his support for same-sex marriage, but he will continue to support gay and lesbian couples and their right to be treated fairly and equally. Obama repealed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" so gay and lesbian service members no longer have to lie about who they are to serve the country they love.

**See Forward, page 11**



**President Barack Obama**



**Candidate Mitt Romney**



# GCC student offers a fun fall family activity

**Tori Kopacka**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Fall time always brings an excited sort of stressfulness to my family. With one child in school and the other still home full time, I have found myself trying to juggle school, work, and family time well. One thing the children love to do is go on scavenger hunts, and with the beautiful weather we've had combined with the changing of colors on all the trees, we've been able to enjoy many excited adventures around our neighborhood.

After countless leaf posters and harvest wreaths, I wanted to make something different. I sat outside, pen and paper in hand, looking around me, trying to figure out something I could make with my children that would represent Fall well.

I started jotting down the type of things we'd be able to find on our typical hunt and soon came up with an idea. We could make "Fall featurette." I named our scavenger hunt "What Fall means to me" and we set off on our hike.

I had the kids pick up fallen twigs, leaves, pine cones and acorns. My son was lucky enough to find a piece of an old branch that was pretty cool looking. When we got home I cleaned off everything and then we set to work breaking and hot gluing the twigs together. After putting the log cabin together we



This is an example of a fun fall family activity.

picked out their favorite colored leaves and glued them together to form the roof over the cabin. Next the kids sorted through the pine cones until they found the one they wanted to become the miniature trees for the miniature cabin.

We popped the tops off the acorns and glued the involucre to their bottoms. While the kids painted the acorns into tiny pumpkins I began to glue the structure together. Finding an old piece of oak in the backyard, I had the children pick out where I should place everything. All but the wood that became the tree was glued into place. I had to use a screw to keep the branch held in place. It was a fun project that only took about an hour to finish without costing much at all.

Photo by Tori Kopacka

Here's a list of supplies handy for a project like this (Most of which can be found right outside): Hot glue gun, screws (if you need to bolt anything down), Pine Cones, Twigs/sticks, Acorns, Leaves (variety of shape, size and colors seem to work the best) and a plank of wood or something solid for the foundation of the project.

If you want to spend a little bit of money you could stop by many local stores and pick up fall or Halloween decorations. There are so many more things that can be added, just follow your feet and see what you can find just by looking down.

The Chieftain is Gogebic Community College's student newspaper and is published several times through the academic year. The newspaper aims to uphold the traditions of The Chieftain providing the GCC community with news and perspectives from students at the college.

The Chieftain provides coverage primarily of campus events but also includes events from the Gogebic Range in its coverage. The Chieftain strives to be more than just a place for campus news. It is a place for debate on a variety of issues. The Chieftain is the voice of students at GCC.

Anyone interested in submitting an article or letter for publication should contact Advisor Ryon List at **Ryon.List@gogebic.edu** or **(906) 307-1283**

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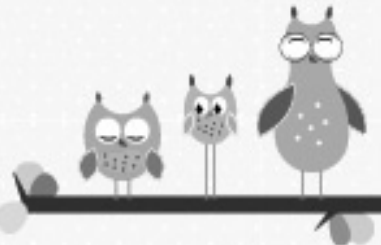
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Stephanie Zoller

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# CREATIVE

## Six Feet of Peace

By Matthew Blodgett

The emptiness inside,  
it controls me, it leads me.  
Barren like a desert, cold as ice  
darkness creeps in, though the dead of night  
wrapping me in its embrace.  
The world stops for an instance,  
just long enough to realize the truth;  
death has come to take me,  
take me to where I belong,  
where the emptiness is found.  
Where there is no hope,  
I can't escape it; it never leaves me.  
Always and forever it follows;  
the only peace I will have from the loneliness  
is at six feet.

## Downfall

By Reba Kinley Happala

Hiding from what I know is right.  
These words stings me.  
Like a bee  
Your hand becomes violations  
Slamming my every word down  
Twirling out of control.  
Losing what beauty I have left.  
My eye reeks of death  
Fading from black to white  
My soul is nowhere to be found  
Hope I don't lose my way  
In this maze I call life  
My hands tremble  
As I come stumbling on by.  
Hoping one day the sun will shine on my heart.  
To lose the grip of hell off my heart.  
Lost to this sinful world .  
Hoping life will come back to me.  
Only wishing seems to be my downfall  
Will I ever be me again?

## Space

### What You Hear, When You Least Expect It

By Bethanne Cadeau

The most majestic sound  
I have ever heard in such a long time.  
So moving yet still,  
So emotional yet peaceful,  
Just fills me with joy and relaxation  
Times like these are what I need to be away  
From reality for just that one moment, and this  
Lovely music fulfills the job.

It feels like my body is swaying into the wind,  
Moving freely yet in a fast pace.  
I feel like running through a field  
Of flowers. Smiling from ear to ear.  
Smelling every scent in the aromatic air.

At the end of this sound I feel more  
Intact in with my inner-self and gone  
To my happy place, gone way from  
All this college stress for just those  
Few minutes.



By Kaite Anderson

## Bad night

By Bethanne Cadeau

PING, PONG, BING, BANG  
The sounds I hear, the sounds I hate.  
I can't concentrate.  
I try blaring music,  
Turn the TV on full blast  
And nothing. Everyone  
Is just being loud and rude.  
They think they're all cool, but  
Really they need to get a life.

They say it's wasted Wednesday,  
Or thirsty Thursday.  
But really it's an excuse to drink.  
You want to drink, do it on the weekends.  
It's now 2ish in the morning.  
It's quieting down,  
Sleep is totally calling for me,  
I lay in bed, trying to get  
Comfortable and relax.  
But now I'm restless.  
UGH

## Children

By Miranda Anderson

I used to think,  
for me,  
they were inevitable;  
not a simple choice,  
but an honor.  
Now, however,  
I worry about carrying them  
into the perils of this world –  
The drugs,  
the dimes,  
the depression.  
What a terrible life  
for a child to bear.  
And I hope my childhood  
is never relived.  
So, I am torn.



## The Force no longer with George Lucas

**Brian Trepanier**  
*Chieftain Staff*

For me growing up, Star Wars was one of the coolest things in the world. The original trilogy was worth watching daily and the story was the most amazing thing this side of the wango-tango line.

Then Mister George “d-bag” Lucas decided he needed to profit more and re-released the movies as digitally remastered with bonus scenes. This was irritating because you should never mess with perfection, even good-old Lucas used to think so.

Lucas fought against making changes to films back in the late 1980s and was quoted as saying, “People who alter or destroy works of art and our cultural heritage for profit or as an exercise of power are barbarians, and if the laws of the United States continue to condone this behavior, history will surely classify us as a barbaric society.”

Sounds kind of hypocritical to me, as Lucas changed so much in less than 20 years to go on and modified large portions of his films for money. This is exactly what he claimed to be against. Most of the changes are just extra scenes with computer graphics adding extra aliens or spaceships. Some of the scenes are more tragic, like when he added Hayden Christiansen (Anakin Skywalker in the prequel films) to the iconic scene of Darth Vader, Obi-Wan Kenobi, and Master Yoda at the end of Return of the Jedi. Christiansen’s poor acting made the prequel films suffer, and then to put him in the original trilogy just takes something out of it.

This spreads outside of just my love of Star Wars. It shows how corporate America is only out to make money. Why would Lucas, who is worth hundreds of millions of dollars, need to make more? Why can’t he just sit back and let the work speak for itself. Money. The Force is no longer with him.

## GCC skis, operates the Porkies!



**Alex Zoller**  
*Chieftain Staff*

In an interview recently, Gogebic Community College President James Lorensen offered some insight and information on the college’s new effort running the Porcupines Mountains ski hill and its related entities. With the Michigan State Department of Natural Resources, a new one year agreement will allow for more than simply running and grooming a ski hill. Our new opportunities at GCC include all around maintenances and grooming, and the running of all restaurant/snack shop and the gift shop and ski shop locations as well. Educationally, financially, and at a community level, Lorensen called it a “Win-win for the school, the local community and for our State as

well.”

The opportunity presented this summer when the school was approached by the MDNR. As one of only three community colleges with a Ski Area Management program, (and a premiere one at that) the approach was logical.

“The state approached us initially for this service, and the administration here at GCC felt it was a way to return service to our community as a whole,” Lorensen said. “Through these economic times, we saw an opportunity to not only help our neighbors and assist in stabilizing an area tourism destination, but we also had a secondary level of opportunity here. We are able to potentially provide real world style labs for not only the SAM program, but also for others like our Business, Computers and Graphics Arts programs as well in the different aspects of the operation in its entirety.”

Though only a one-year commitment at inception, the parties involved

**See Porkies, page 11**

## News Analysis: GCC requires parking etiquette

**Brian Dary**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Lines are an important part of our lives. When we were in Kindergarten we colored in our drawings and coloring books. We are told, “Now children, stay between the lines. The lines are our friends.” We are taught to stand in line, and await our turn. This gave us organization and courtesy. For the rest of our lives we stand in lines for that reason. We wait in lines for countless reasons. The list includes movies, concerts, theaters, voting, to be seated in crowded restaurants, to register for school, and of course, the all-important waiting at the DMV.

When we learn to drive our cars, again we are taught to stay between the lines, what the different types of lines mean for passing or no passing. They distinguish different types of lanes, turn lanes, stop-sign lines, edge-of road lines, for driving safety, information, courtesy and so on. The lines are usually easy to spot and follow for most of us “normal” drivers. We can see the lines and heed what they mean, for our own safety, information, and courtesy.

Unfortunately, there is a small percentage of the driving public that, although they may look like perfectly good drivers, suffers from a debilitating disease called CRID. Now this disease takes on several forms, short term, intermediate, and long term or permanent/terminal. It affects the central nervous system, and depending on the form of CRID, mainly blurs or changes vision perception. These poor souls seem to be able to follow all the road signs, traffic lights, and almost all types of lines. Their difficulty comes with not being able to ascertain parking lot lines. Their affected vision blurs out the yellow or white lines painted in parking lots, because the CRID signals their brains into ignoring any regard for organization and/or courtesy.

I am a Psych Major and am currently doing a research project for one of my classes led by MS. Trish Cullen. As the GCC Resident Psych Guru, she has assured me that this is a worthy research project, as no one has yet been able to figure out the causes and/or symptoms leading up to this problem.

So far, my research has uncovered a significant percentage of these disease-ridden subjects. I have discovered, right here at GCC, that on any given weekday, approximately 21 CRID’s are attending classes. This is of course an average, as there are more on Mondays and Wednesdays, and fewer on Thursdays and Fridays. My research has been going on for about 18 months. I have discovered that it is nearly nonexistent during the Summer Session, but recurs to an unusual extent in the Fall and Spring Sessions. During the snow months, it peaks. This may be due to the lines being partly covered. My research also shows a direct correlation between the lines being partly covered, and those suffering with CRID. It will cause them to take up to three or more parking spaces.

There is no known cure for this dreaded disease. Only the symptoms may be reduced through total immersion therapy, where they are coerced into parking in the correct manner or are left with a note explaining why they are so inconsiderate and blind. These are, as far as I can tell, the only proven methods of alleviating their symptoms.

I am looking for affected members of CRID, to participate in my research study. If you know you are a member with CRID and would like to participate in the study, or know of anyone with the afore-mentioned symptoms, please notify me. I will be willing to cover reasonable treatment costs. I hope that with your help, we can finally eradicate this horrid affliction. CRID may be cured somehow, someday!

In the meantime, I hope this information was valuable to you, whether you suffer from Cranial Rectum Inversion Disease, or know of someone who is. We hope to help people with CRID quickly at GCC, before it escalates to too many cases of Terminal CRID.

But seriously folks, have some common courtesy and park where and how you should be. That means between those friendly lines, in designated parking areas. If you can’t see the lines clearly, you ought to know by now how much space is required for one vehicle’s parking space. Not a semi. Not a tank. If you do see some bonehead disregarding his or her parking etiquette, for heaven’s sake, say something!



# Fiction: The Tide of War

By Matthew Blodgett

1939, Germany invaded Poland and World War II had begun. I was in the thirteenth infantry. I was shipped overseas; I didn't know where I was going, but I knew one thing, we were at war. I had spent the last six months down in the hell hole training camp Fort Mayer training for this moment, and here I am sitting on the boat waiting for the blood bath to start. The commander yelled his commands, "When this boat hits the shore, you run to those mounds and you don't stop for anyone; get your guns ready and blast those damned Germans out of those hideouts. Many men will be killed, but we will emerge victorious!" Cheering erupted from the boats but it was half hearted; maybe it was because we were all scared of dying or maybe it was not wanting to leave loved ones alone, or never seeing our children again, but we still cheered.

The boats hit the shore and it was a blood bath because people were dying everywhere. But I ran and kept running and didn't stop for anyone. People were dropping like flies, the beach was stained red, bodies lay everywhere, and the screams of the dying could be heard as they cried out in pain. I hit the sand mound; looking back,

I saw half of the men from my boat, their corpses lie on the red stained beach.

The commander yelled, "Men! Get your asses in gear and get those mortars up and firing; we need to take out those machine gunners and fast!" I grabbed a mortar tube, set the charge, and fired. I hit a hideout and the Germans went flying. We kept pressing the enemy and they were pressing back. We managed to take a small portion of the beach and

set up camp.

Nightfall came, tents were set up, and the distant sound of gun fire could be heard.

A campfire was made and we ate the little amount of food that was not destroyed by the water. I found out a little about some of the men in my infantry. John had two kids and a wife and Garry had a wife who was expecting. The evening went on but no one slept; the sound of gunfire echoed through the night.

Morning started with a mortar shell hitting the ground, sand flying everywhere; we all scrambled to get our guns. The Germans were firing and we needed to take them out. John grabbed a mortar and ran to the mounds.

I yelled for him to stop, but it was too late, a machine gunner on the hill saw him first. His body hit the sand. I ran to help but the machine gunner fired at me when I moved to get him. With rage, I took up a gun from the body of a man next to me, took aim, and killed the two Germans in the hideout.

We took the hideout, killed the nearby Germans, and after that, we set off smoke. The rest of the troops saw the smoke and came towards us. Within the hour, the beach was cleared and the allied nation's army was ready to fight. We struck at dawn, the enemy was still sleeping in their tents, and we killed every last German.

The Germans were on the run and retreating. The war waged for only two days, but it all ended the same: no one won, no one came home. When we left, a small part of us stayed behind. The last thing I remembered seeing on that beach when we left was the blood soaked sand being washed away by the tide.

## Obama continued from page 5

produce, over \$17 trillion dollars, mostly to our enemies. It grew a measly 1.5% last quarter. This amount will increase dramatically under the "income redistribution" planned by Mr. Obama. He is a social justice believer, who thinks that everyone should get a fair shot at wealth with help from the government.

I, too, think that everyone should get a fair shot at wealth, but without government handouts or taking someone else's money. I think wealth is earned, not handed out. Again, full disclosure: I am part of that 47% that gets money from the government. I spent 25 years in the Marine

Corps, earning a retirement income. I retired with some serious health issues, and therefore draw a Veteran's Administration disability income. In that 47%, I am lumped in with Social Security recipients, welfare recipients and those on unemployment. The peoples in these groups have been referred to as victims and or

dependants on the government. Although I believe that there are too many people on "permanent" welfare", I see the majority of these as having earned those incomes, through sacrifice.

I get that many minorities now vote Democrat because they think life will be better under their watch. They get "free stuff", and many are rewarded for poor lifestyle choices. This feeling of being rewarded for nothing is gaining ground throughout society, particularly among younger people. We have gone from being a nation of new ideas and self-sufficiency to being Euro-like, in that some believe that everyone should share their wealth. They do this through income redistribution of their enormous taxes. I remember when "tax-even day" was in March, than in April. Soon, because of the socialist programming under President Obama, it will be July or August. That means that you do not really see a dime of your hard-earned money, due to government expenses, until that time. Is that paying your fair share?

Under this president, the national wealth of the country has gone down.

More people are on food stamps than ever before. Unemployment is still above 8%. Our foreign policy has our embassies under attack, with the assassination of four embassy personnel (including the ambassador). People at the poverty rate now are over 15%. Our immigration laws are scoffed at, to the point that ICE has sued the government over safety issues. By Presidential Proclamation, immigration laws are to be ignored. A Justice Department that picks and chooses which election laws to enforce by race and oversaw the illegal transfer of thousands of guns to

the Mexican Cartels, getting an Agent murdered. Along our southern border, thousands of people have been caught in the crossfire of drug violence, with decapitated bodies left as messages, while we turn a blind eye. Welfare requirements to look for work have been "modified" to allow such things as a massage or therapy to count towards legitimately looking for a job. Although largely

unpopular, we now have the MOST expensive change to social programs ever, in Obamacare, which robs Social Security to pay for itself.

Yes, our country has been fundamentally changed over the time this president has been in office. With a stroke of his pen, Mr. Obama has repeatedly violated his oath of office to protect and defend the Constitution, in order to pander to his left-wing and socialist agenda. As a Marine, I took almost the same oath of office to protect and defend the Constitution. I also took an oath called the Code of Conduct, which in part says, "I am an American fighting Marine and am prepared to give up my life in defending our way of life." I didn't say defend part of the Constitution. I knew it meant ALL of that great document. Across from Mr. Obradivich's office is a picture someone put up in the political/art display. It's a picture of President Obama holding a copy of the Constitution pointing to it as it burns. That sums up the way I feel our country is headed, if he is reelected to continue to destroy our way of life.

**I, too, think that everyone should get a fair shot at wealth, but without government handouts or taking someone else's money. I think wealth is earned, not handed out.**

YOUR  VOTE IS YOUR VOICE

BE HEARD



NOVEMBER 6, 2012



## Musing about Halloween



**Melanie Howard**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Halloween is one of my absolute favorite times of year. The strange weather, the unpredictable wind, coming from one direction and then another, sometimes warm and then frigid conjures up thoughts of spirits playing in the air. The trees are laid bare of their leaves, and seem to hold their breath as they brace themselves for the impending winter. People litter their yards with cobwebs, ghosts, and tombstones all in an attempt to scare the living daylight out of people.

Then the big day comes. A good many of us go out and make fools out of ourselves by dressing up in crazy costumes. I am included in this group of people. I normally do not do anything out of the ordinary, and am generally pretty quiet. However, Halloween is one day of the year when I break this rule, and appear



Enjoying the halloween season with a joker costume.

as a completely different person. By putting on a wacky costume I can be completely loud and obnoxious without even having to open my mouth. I get such a kick out of the weird looks, and the things people say when they discover who I am. I absolutely love it. For those of you who are too embarrassed to go out in costume, you have no idea what you are missing out on.

## Keep your god out of my government

**Brandon Ingham**  
*Chieftain Staff*

Separation of church and state is a term meaning the distance between organized religion and the nation state. In America, this began with the free exercise clause and the establishment clause of the first amendment; these clauses state that congress shall make no law respecting or prohibiting the free exercise of religion.

This is a topic with a large amount of friction in modern America; it has spawned countless Supreme Court decisions and political debates. This part of the constitution is too often disregarded. The states of New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Iowa are all currently fighting to ban the teaching of evolution theory and instate the exclusive teaching of Christian creationism theory. The Supreme Court in 1968 in the Epperson vs. Arkansas case ruled that banning the teaching of evolution theory is unconstitutional and that a state cannot alter any

course of study to promote a particular religious view.

Another issue of separation of church and state in public schools is the pledge of allegiance. Still even today Texas, Tennessee, Massachusetts, and Maryland all require by law for children of all religious views to recite the pledge. In my opinion, this is also a violation of first amendment rights.

Overall the bill of rights states that government organizations cannot promote any one religion and this includes public schools.

Legally religious beliefs hold no merit and should not be the basis of civil laws in our country. This is a democracy not a theocracy and our laws should not favor any one creed of people or religious beliefs.

I do not believe people should be lawfully required to disregard their religious views; however, legally forcing religious views on others that is a violation of the first amendment and in my opinion, oppression of my belief in the system of non-religion.

## Third floor to showcase Ironwood history in bottles

**Rod Smith**  
*Special to The Chieftain*

Starting in November, the display case on the third floor of the Academic Building will showcase bottles dating from the 1880s to Prohibition. I found most of these bottles in the Montreal River during 2011 to 2012. You will see how the manufacture of bottles changed during that thirty-year span.

It all began in 2009 when I was walking

along the river and discovered a soda bottle on the river bottom. The river was low from a lack of rain and many bottles could be seen scattered all along the river.

The fourth bottle I picked up was a Hutchinson bottle from the early 1890s. From then on, I was hooked. Many on display have local advertising on them from soda bottles and beer bottles, to whiskey bottles.

How did they get there in the first place? My guess is the oldest bottles came from loggers riding hundreds of

logs down the river to the sawmill in the late 1880s. Once they finished consuming the product, they merely tossed the bottle in the river. Others came from people living on the river, which provided fish and drinking water. The rest came from folks who came down to fish and took some beverages with them and tossed them when they were done.

Other items recovered from the river include a clay smoking pipe from the early 1900s, coffee pots, kerosene lamps, crocks, saucers, and one item that tells a story of a possible murder.

It is a 32-caliber American Bulldog revolver. The pistol was missing the cylinder and the trigger guard, and the hammer was cocked. The gun was found in a foot of water on the Michigan side of the river next to the railroad junction. If anyone watched "The Godfather II," you see Vito Corleone breaking up a pistol after killing the Black Hand. It has been for me, a history buff, especially with the Ironwood area, a transcendental trip back in time. I hope you enjoy looking at them as much as I did searching for them.



**GCC's 1st Annual Zombie Run.** Left are runners avoiding zombies.

**Right: Mark Wendt** patiently waits for his next victim.

Photos by Mark Marley





Porkies, Continued from page 8

have left open the possible extension of the program and its growth. Monetarily there is no visible down side for the College, Lorensen said. Budgets for groomers, utilities and the like are state responsibility, with receipts at the ski hill, restaurant, shops, etc. managing other balances. Any profit has a sharing clause involved, so support this effort by your school, state and your fellow students out at Porcupine Mountains Ski Hill this winter.

Our SAM students have begun preparations already this autumn by building a rope tow line. The Porcupine Mountains Winter Ski Area plans to open Dec. 15, with its twelve runs and more than 600 foot vertical drop it is not only fun but also challenging for every level of skier and snowboarder. Get out there and use it GCC. Show support for your school and community while having a great time in the Great White North.



Shot of the beautiful porcupine mountains and Lake of the Clouds.

Voter suppression in America

Brandon Ingham  
Chieftain Staff

Voting rights are in danger in our nation as states pass voter suppression laws under the guise of preventing voter fraud and defending election integrity. These voter suppression laws take many forms, and collectively lead to significant troubles for eligible voters trying to exercise their constitutional right to vote.

During the 2011 legislative sessions, states across the country passed measures to make it harder for Americans – particularly African-Americans, the elderly, students and people with disabilities – to exercise their fundamental right to cast a ballot. Over thirty states considered laws that would require voters to display government issued photo identification in order to vote. Studies suggest that up to 11 percent of American citizens lack such ID, and would be required to navigate the enormous amount of bureaucratic red tape to obtain it or forego the right to vote entirely. Three other states passed laws requir-

ing documentary proof of citizenship to vote even though it's estimated that seven percent of legal American citizens do not have such documents. Seven states shortened the time frame of early voting when in the 2008 election over 30% of votes were cast early. These laws prevent many legal citizens from exercising their right to vote. The lawmakers involved in these practices claim to be protecting the election from voter fraud, yet cannot provide any more than baseless allegations to support there being an issue with voter fraud in the country at all. The ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) stated "Despite the Department of Justice's 2002 "Ballot Access and Voting Integrity Initiative" promising to vigorously prosecute allegations of voter fraud, the federal government obtained only 26 convictions or guilty pleas for fraud between 2002 and 2005."(ACLU.org). In closing, these laws are obviously an attempt to prevent particular individuals from being able to vote in order to impact the outcome of the election. These are practices most often seen committed by the right side and are in violation of our constitutional rights.

Bethanee Cadeau gets her zombie on, thanks to GCC's cosmetology department.



Forward continued from page 5

When dealing with politicians, there is no sure way to know that what they are saying will happen any time soon if at all. When it comes to the government, nothing is instantaneous and progress takes time. We need to move forward; it is 2012 and times have changed. Marriage should no longer be defined by a man and a woman, but by love. A woman should have the right to decide

what's best for her body, without the interference of government. People who have no trouble coming up with money to own several sports cars should have no problem paying a little extra so people who can't afford to eat every day don't starve. The world has changed. Let's move forward, too. We can do that with Obama.

GCC offers free computer repair to students and community members



Sheena Trepanier  
Editor

In recent years GCC has offered computer repair free of charge to students and community members through students in Mr. Halvorson's classes, but you didn't even know that. However, this year the program is different and more easily accessible for everyone. Thanks to the implementation of an official computer repair class, the computer repair lab now has regular hours and is staffed by students during those hours. Open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Thursday and 8:00 am to 1:00 pm on Fridays, the repair services are offered free of charge to students, staff, and community members. You can bring your computer in for diagnosis and repair during business hours and receive a phone call when your computer is ready for pick up.



GCC computer lab student repairing a customers PC.

Photo by Mark Marley

Students especially need to know about this free computer repair option, with the costs of living on the rise and students struggling more to make it through school, paying for a costly repair is out of the question.



# THE TOP 10 REASONS TO ABSTAIN FROM SEX UNTIL MARRIAGE

**1** You'll be free to be physically intimate with your spouse without being haunted by past sexual relationships.

**2** Once you have a sexual relationship with another, it cannot be undone. You are permanently changed. Oxytocin is released in the brain during intimate relations. Oxytocin acts as "super glue," bonding us to the person we've been intimate with. When you break up and get a new partner, your ability to bond with a new partner is damaged. It's like leaving pieces of yourself with everyone you've been with.

**3** Avoid sexually transmitted diseases, some of which are a death sentence and others that will be with you for a lifetime. There are 141 different STI's.

**4** Prevent the emotional pain of feeling used; discarded or rejected by someone you have given the most intimate part of yourself.

**5** Avoid unintended pregnancies and the problems that they cause. If you become pregnant, your options are to parent the child, place the child for adoption or abort the baby. Each situation has difficult consequences.

**6** Time to focus on your school work, sports, talents and grow as an individual.

**7** No contraceptives polluting your body.

**8** Escape divorce—couples who have sex before marriage, especially those living together, have a much higher rate of divorce.

**9** Remain true to your religious and moral beliefs. Abstaining proves a commitment to God and your future spouse.

**10** Know you're giving your spouse the total gift of yourself, something never given to another. Real love desires the best for another.

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