

Wendy's: You Want a Side of Fries with that Inhumanity?

By Allison Pheplace
Staff Writer

When students run out for lunch between classes, there is something The Humane Society would like them to know: Wendy's is one of the last major fast food chains that still exclusively obtain its eggs from battery cage hens.

Fast food companies around the world are taking steps to get behind the animal rights movement. McDonald's, Burger King and Carl's Jr., to name a few, are buying eggs from more and more cage-free farms.

Wendy's attitude about the issue has been, according to the HSUS website, "frosty."

"Most egg-laying hens in the United States are crammed into wire battery cages so small they can't even spread their wings," explained Josh Balk, Outreach Director of the HSUS Factory Farming Campaign. "In most facilities, each hen has only 67 square inches of space—less than the size of a sheet of paper."

The Wendy's website lists this fact in a near-boastful way. It states that their "minimum space requirement of 72 square inches" for egg-laying hens is "more than 20 percent above common industry standard."

The HSUS points out that

the common industry standard is actually 64 to 67 square inches, making Wendy's requirement closer to 7-12.5 percent above industry standard.

"There's simply no excuse for Wendy's to lag behind its competitors on this important animal welfare issue," Balk said.

The HSUS has begun a multi-faceted campaign to persuade Wendy's to keep up, by adopting more humane practices. On the HSUS website are links to petitions, phone numbers and e-mail addresses to contact Wendy's directly. It even offers 50 free informative brochures that can be passed out at Wendy's locations.

"Tens of thousands of people have called and e-mailed Wendy's headquarters," Balk said. "Hundreds of people are distributing our brochures."

An important piece of legislature related to the problem is also in the works.

"Volunteers across California are gathering signatures to place a measure on the November 2008 ballot," Balk added, "that will prevent farm animals from being confined in cages and crates so small, they're unable to turn around or extend their limbs. Readers can volunteer to collect signatures on this critically important initiative at HumanCalifornia.org."

Community Shows Support For Japanese Film Screening

Linda, Linda, Linda, from page one.

The movie portrays the interaction among three Japanese girls and an exchange student from Korea while they experience the typical high school life in Japan today.

The four girls create a band and work hard to perform at a school festival, overcoming conflicts—and some romantic problems—in the process.

"This film includes high attention to Japanese popular culture," Sakaguchi said.

After the show, the consulate's officers provided time for questions from the audience. Many present were eager to find out more about modern Japanese culture and the Japanese high school system.

"The movie was good," said Tom Hird, the chair of the

university's Department of Theatre and Dance. "It was a metaphor for life."

"It is interesting to see something that shows real people everyday," he said.

The Consulate General of Japan promotes Japanese culture and expands international friendship through events such as this screening.

The Jan. 23 presentation was the first such event at the Hayward campus. Previously, the consulate has conducted cultural and academic interchanges at Stanford University and UC Berkeley.

"The movie is enjoyable and interesting. I didn't know about the school festivals and even what the schools look like," said Richard Hammer, one member of the audience. "This is a good chance to publicize the Japanese culture."

Non-Profit Celebrates 20 Years of Bringing Music to Classrooms

By Traci Noffsinger
Metro Editor

Elementary schools around the East Bay are able to enjoy music enrichment programs thanks to a non-profit organization, Music for Minors II.

On Feb. 9, the organization will host "Cheers for 20 Years" to celebrate 20 years of bringing music into classrooms. The event, which will feature a reception, recognition, raffle, toast and cake, will honor the volunteers, supporters and dignitaries involved with the program. There will also be special guests.

"Music for Minors II's

(MFMMI) 20th Year Celebration, commemorating its service to children in the schools since 1988, will feature two award-winning recording artists: Red Grammer and Charlotte Diamond in an adult concert," Carol Zilli, the executive director of MFMMI, said.

"Both artists have been renowned children's recording artists that MFMMI has sponsored in many concerts for the community over the years. This special event showcases the two artists together for the first time in a concert for adults including the many volunteers that have shared music with children."

The original Music for Minors started on the Peninsula in 1976.

Two years later, its spin-off organization, Music for Minors II, was established in the Niles school district in Fremont.

The organization grows by recruiting volunteers, called music docents. Each music docent teaches a music lesson for half an hour one day a week for an entire school year. Many teachers have become docents to teach music in their own classrooms, in order to instill music as a part of a child's normal routine.

Volunteers who apply for training go through a screening process, including an individual interview. Training takes place from mid-September through mid-November each year and involves

a 54 hour program that is offered at two sites, Fremont and Castro Valley.

Currently, MFMMI serves schools in Fremont, Newark and Castro Valley. With community support they hope to grow and serve more communities throughout the area.

"All are welcome to join in the celebration that benefits the nonprofit as it continues to expand and reach many more children in need in local and nearby school districts," said Zilli.

For more information, contact MFMMI by phone, (510) 733-1189, e-mail, sharon.filippi@sbcglobal.net, or visit musicforminors2.org.

Many Students Shift Majors While Choosing Careers

By Ssu-Chieh Wang
Staff Writer

Choosing a correct major and career requires hard work, according to Laureen Balducci, the director, instructor and counselor at Career Life Planning of Foothill College.

"To pick the right careers and majors, people have to assess themselves and their values, explore and research majors and careers, make a decision and take action."

"The job market in California is very good currently and bringing new positions and jobs to the area have been promising," said Balducci.

As of Dec. 2007, the unemployment rate in California

was five percent, according to the California Employment Development Department.

Students consider the major they choose to give them access to specific careers. Some students know clearly about their majors and career ambitions, but most choose a major with uncertainty. As a result, they often shift their major later in college.

"The percentage of people changing majors is about 65-75 percent," said Balducci.

The majority of students change their majors several times while attending colleges or universities, Balducci said. It is not necessary to worry about deciding a major in a hurry. The same is for choosing a career—people often change them as well.

"Before getting famous, Michael Dell once washed dishes in a Chinese restaurant and Brad Pitt delivered refrigerators," said Balducci.

Because of changing career interests, some people shift the careers more than once during their lives.

"I am not sure about actual jobs. However, people tend to change careers about three to four times in a lifetime," said Balducci. "This is very different from the past where people tended to stay in a job throughout their working life span."

Students need to take time discovering themselves, she said. They can obtain help from many resources for choosing both the majors and the careers.

"Students can research majors and careers in college counseling centers, on-line, through newspapers and books," said Balducci. "They can also get information about a major through informational interviews, taking a career life planning class, engaging in volunteer or community service work, doing an internship, cooperative work experience and general employment."

"Career Counseling is also available to students through the counseling office," she said.

Medical careers, home health aides, international business, teachers and early childhood educators are the fastest growing careers for 2004 to 2014, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Two Ways to Achieve Those New Year's Goals

By Casey Scheld
Staff Writer

The time-honored tradition of New Year's resolutions will always be with us and, even though 2008 is already well under way, Cal State East Bay students have at least two ways to set and achieve goals for the year.

People are always striving to expand their horizons and broaden their goals. No matter what their interests may be, Student Life and Leadership has something for everybody. With over 81 clubs chartered as of the end of last quarter, there is something out there for every type of person.

"Students want to do things!" said Mary Fortune.

Fortune, the director of the Student Life and Leadership

Department on campus, has been making a conscious effort to get students to try new things and increase involvement in campus life activities at Cal State East Bay.

"We've been more engaged and aggressive," she said. "We've spent some time marketing through e-mail blasts, face-to-face interaction and more," she added.

Fortune said the clubs and organizations on campus will only continue to grow. She said plans for a brand new club space in the university building will help these plans go underway.

"Clubs and organizations are part of the lifeblood of the university," she said.

Another integral part of the college experience would be studying, or the lack thereof.

Rather than putting off a crucial assignment for another day, check out the Student Center for Academic Achievement. Whether it involves attending a workshop, working with a tutor to grasp a concept or just getting a little help on that tricky math problem, the center is there to help.

Administrative assistant Ditas Santiago has been providing math, writing and statistics tutoring services to students for years now. She said the center just opened yesterday, but it is expecting a huge boom in student turnout.

"The first week is always slower than the other weeks, but there is always an increase as we go on in the quarter," she said.

Director Leann Christianson acknowledges the increase in

student participation. To bring even more students into the fold, she is helping to lead and promote a number of workshops on campus.

"We're aware that there's a need on both campuses for academic support and skill building workshops," she said.

Christianson said that in addition to the annual workshops planned for the students, there are a number of new ones in store, including one entitled "How to Succeed in Your Online Courses," scheduled for today from 4-5:30 p.m. in LI2064.

"We're expecting an equally busy winter quarter," she said.

With all of these options readily available on campus, "maybe next year" is no longer a valid excuse.



NCAA Div II

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Division II Athletics Open Forums

CSUEB Students – hear and discuss the exciting advantages of moving our athletics program up to Division II.



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12 noon

Student Club/Org Center, New UU





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Student Town Hall Meeting/Open Forum

12 noon

Student Club/Org Center, New UU

For more information please call (510) 885-3657
Please send comments to studentlife@csueastbay.edu.