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trident.times@ttc.mailcruiser.com

# TTC OPENS VETS CENTER

## Veterans only lounge provides support and quiet study area

By David Spears

TTC'S Veterans Center, located in Building 700 Room 201, was officially opened Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, with a dedication ceremony attended by campus administration, student veterans and Earl Copeland, of the South Carolina State Representative. Henry Brown's office.

Gilmore and Bob Greer, staff the center, which is open Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Tammy Van Etta, USAF Ret., veteran's education benefits counselor will be available in the mornings to assist veterans with matching benefits to their needs

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Made possible through a grant, the veterans-only lounge provides computers, Wi-Fi access and study areas in a quiet and comfortable setting. Work-study students and veterans, Norman



photo courtesy of TTC Marketing

# OUTSTANDING STUDENTS HONORED AT TTC

By Jennifer D. Lockhart,  
TTC Marketing Services

Students were honored for their academic achievements and involvement in student organizations at Trident Technical College at the annual Awards Day ceremony held at the college's Main Campus.

Christine Buzzell and Kendall Nowocin received the highest honor, the President's Award/Kurtzman Prize, given to graduating students on the basis of academic achievement, contributions to the college and community service.

The recipient of the South Carolina State Credit Union award was Joe Branton. This award recognizes a returning student who demonstrates a commitment to service, exhibits perseverance toward completing higher educational goals, displays commendable personal attributes, and serves as an exemplary role model to other students.

Merit Award winners were recognized for academic and personal excellence, identifying them as the top student in their respective programs of study.



photo courtesy of TTC Marketing

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## NEW EDITOR INTRO

By: *Kerry Cutler*

I am Kerry Cutler, the new Co-Editor for the Trident Times. I am currently working toward my Associates Degree in Animation as well as a Certificate in Illustration. I have been at Trident since the fall of 2006 so I'm sure some of you have seen me in class. My involvement on campus includes serving as officer for Phi Theta Kappa at both the local and international levels and as a past officer for the Visual Arts Association. I've also served as a delegate on Trident's Harvard Model United Nations Team.

My writing background is lengthy and varied but includes work for the Amelia Bulletin Monitor, a small county newspaper in Virginia where I edited

copy and did ad work. I have also written and edited newsletters for various non-profits related to costume and 19th century history. While employed with a major health insurer, I wrote technical training manuals and articles on Information Technology, internet infrastructure and security.

My greatest writing success has come as a free-verse poet and short story writer. Recently my poem "Snake Eyes", was published in a literary magazine out of Northern California and two poems were published in the 2008 Trident Literary Anthology. I'm also working on a pair of anthologies. One is all poetry, the other is a short collection of short fiction.

My goals as Co-Editor are numerous, but one of them is to

encourage student involvement. Our collective college experience is something we all have in common. What better way to enrich the lives of those around us than to share our stories? I'd like you think of the paper as your vehicle for this. I'd also like the Times to receive recognition at the state and local level. Like my fellow Times staff members, I am committed to making this paper the best that it can be. But we can't do this alone. We need your help. Together I know we can make that happen!

I am honored to serve Trident Technical College, its students, faculty and administrators in this capacity. My hope is that you will find my contributions to our paper engaging and informative. Have a fabulous semester everyone!



## WELCOME NEW CONTRIBUTORS

By *David Spears*

Area native and movie buff, Julian Kyle Johnson provides movie, theater, book and Japanese Manga reviews for the paper.

James Ilardi II, a participant in TTC's Clemente Players productions and contributor to TTC student Literary Anthology, will provide movie reviews and commentary.

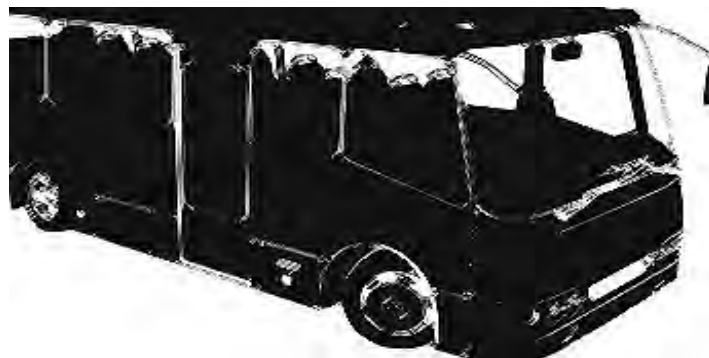
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not the Express bus.*

Along with the bus pass, students must show a validated **TTC ID** card when boarding a bus, and you may ride **FREE** currently through December 31, 2009.



## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Trident Times encourages students, staff, and faculty of TTC to submit items for review and possible inclusion in the paper. Submissions from student organizations about upcoming events and notices of awards and achievements are also sought. Due to deadlines, some time sensitive material may not be published. We also welcome submissions such as illustrations, photos and original art.

For further information, please email **trident.times@ttc.mailcruiser.com** or contact us at 843.574.6347. Our office is located in room 130 F, Building 410.

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**Thank you to all of our volunteers!**

The Trident Times is a student publication and does not necessarily reflect the views of Trident Technical College

## NOT YET SOCRATES...

*The Box*

By James Ilardi II

So when I was younger my mother told me... "Son, you have to think outside of the box. You have to look at a problem and realize you do not have the solution before you are ever to find the answer that is the right one." Thanks mom. Albert Einstein said, "Once we learn our limitations, we can move past them." Fat raspberry, you rock Albert. The holy bible states that God said "Let there be light." The point here is simply, for that to happen all things must have come from the darkness. So take that box, in the darkness, before it all began, and then remind yourself that there stands your only limitation.

When in history class, the instructor went around the room to have everyone introduce themselves and give a short detail of their after college plans. When she got to me I told her, "I'm going to design and build space stations to colonize man into

space." At first, she thought I was playing and then as she grinned and looked puzzled upon me she said, "You're serious?" And with that I was and still am. Do you think that is a crazy notion? Well, when my mother was teaching me to think outside the box, I tried not to let her down. Think about the statement you are going to make to me when you are trying to tell me how crazy the notion is, but before you do... Would you rather I have ambitions to be a criminal?

There in the hallway a friend asked how I did on a test that we shared a class in. When I told him that I failed with a 38, he was quite shocked. I expressed to him that I studied for four days with no avail, as it did no good when I actually took the test. He asked me why I had not used the book. It is available and right there when taking an online test, though you are encouraged not to use it, or even told not to use it when taking a test online. I expressed to my friend that I was

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## ZOMBIE POWDER

*Japanese Manga, story and art by Tite Kubo*

*Review by Julian Kyle Johnson*

If you knew a way to bring back a deceased relative and you knew the road would be long and dangerous, would you still go on this quest? This is a question that Elwood, the protagonist of the series, must face after he encounters the mysterious bounty hunter Gamma Akutabi. Gamma is not your average bounty hunter; he is a master fighter. He was able to master a way of sword fighting in only 4 years that took the average person 32 years to master. He has metal grafted onto his right arm, and can catch bullets with his metal arm. What is also so unusual about him is his choice of weapon. Instead of using guns and knives, he wields a

6-foot chainsaw and does so very effectively.

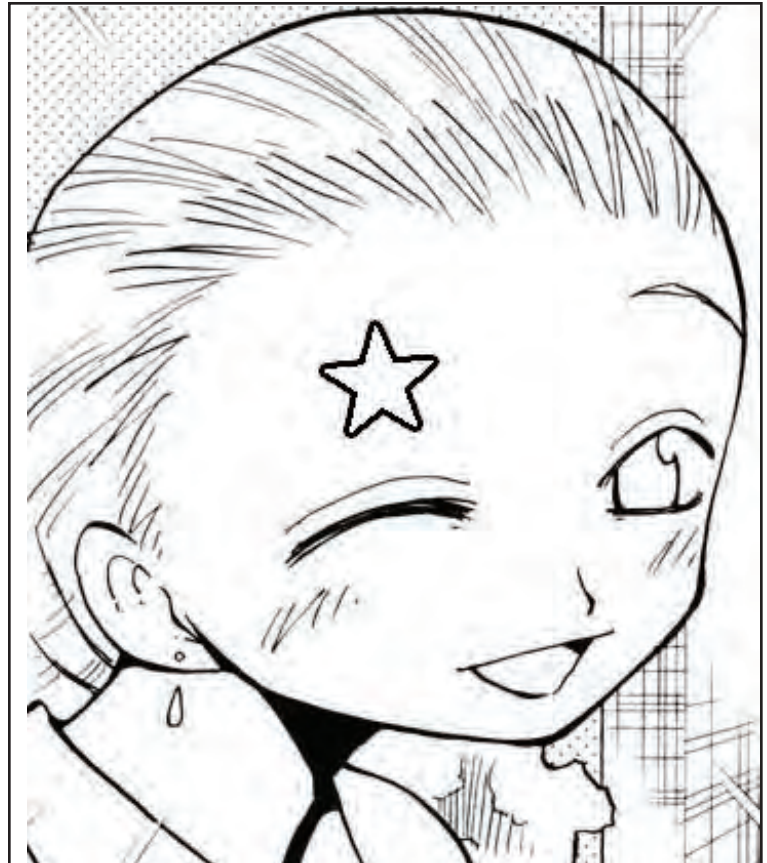
Gamma came to the town where Elwood lives in search of the 12 Rings of the Dead, twelve rings that grant you immortality or can allow you to raise the dead. He hopes to get the rings in order to grant himself eternal life. At a saloon, (the theme of this book is contemporary western) he bumps into Elwood, who is at this time a pickpocket who is about to have his world rocked. He takes Gamma over to his house for dinner where Gamma meets Elwood's gravely ill sister, Sheryl Ann (she has a heart condition which has recently gotten worse). She prepares dinner for them and everyone enjoys a hearty meal. After the meal, Gamma leaves the house for the night. It is at that

## A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE MANGA

By Julian Kyle Johnson

Japanese Manga is Japanese serialized comics. They are serialized monthly in telephone-book sized magazines and are later printed in "tanoboken" format that is the traditional mass-

market sized paperbacks found in American bookstores. Japanese Manga, if successful enough, is often translated into animated TV series and TV movies.



time that the gang that Elwood pickpockets for storms the house and interrogates poor Elwood as to where Gamma went. It turns out that Gamma has a very large bounty on his head. It is then that tragedy strikes and Gamma must come and rescue Elwood from a gang of thieves. After Elwood follows Gamma to a music store and another incident like the previous one happens, Gamma tells him that following him is dangerous as he has many enemies. However, if Elwood is willing to risk it, he can stay with Gamma and watch him use the zombie powder to resurrect a

deceased relative. He offers him a choice; stay behind and play it safe, or resurrect his dead relative and risk the dangers to get the 12 rings. Does Elwood decide to follow Gamma in the quest or does he stay behind?

I recommend this graphic novel to all who enjoy the Japanese Manga tradition or general fans of Tite Kubo (also the author of the Bleach series). If you have never read anything in the genre, broaden your horizons, and start with this novel: you won't regret it.

## AWARDS DAY

*Continued from page 1*

Each program of study may nominate only one student as a Merit Award winner.

The Outstanding Student Organization award went to the Hospitality and Culinary Student Association. The Student American Dental Hygienists' Association was first runner-up, and the Society of Broadcasters was second runner-up. The Award of Distinction, given to organizations that have won the Outstanding Student Organization award for more than three years, was presented to

Phi Theta Kappa and the Society of Student Leaders.

Outstanding advisors were honored for their contributions to student organizations. Vikki Gottsman of West Ashley, advisor to the Student American Dental Hygienists' Association, and Cary Krieger of Mt. Pleasant, advisor to the Society of Student Leaders, received the Distinguished Student Organization Advisor award. This award is reserved for advisors who have been named Outstanding Student Organization Advisor for three or more years. Deborah White of Summerville, advisor to the Society of Medical Assistants; David Vagasky of James Island, advisor

to the Hospitality and Culinary Student Association; and Christine Solomon of Summerville, advisor to Phi Theta Kappa honor society, received the Outstanding Student Organization Advisor award.

Each organization also recognized one student as the Outstanding Member of a Student Organization for individual contributions.

By joining one of the approximately 40 student organizations at TTC, students have opportunities to network with students who have similar interests, gain additional practice in their fields of study, interact with future colleagues, and offer time and energy to community service.

## HARVARD

*By Beth Hicks,  
TTC Marketing Services*

Eight students from Trident Technical College participated in this year's Harvard National Model United Nations in Boston. More than 3,000 delegates from the United States and 37 countries attended to discuss issues at the forefront of international relations. The TTC team spent four days debating, collaborating, brainstorming and developing resolutions in this simulation. The TTC students represented Singapore. To become a team member for Trident Technical College, students wrote an essay, presented a brief topical speech and participated in weekly meetings that required extracurricular academic readings.



photo courtesy of TTC Marketing



photo courtesy of TTC Marketing

## ELECTRICAL APPRENTICES COMPETE FOR PRIZE MONEY AT TTC

*By Jennifer D. Lockhart,  
TTC Marketing*

Electrical construction apprentices displayed their skills in installing electrical components and circuitry at an Electricians Fair held on Trident Technical College's Main Campus. Co-sponsored by Trident Tech-

nical College, the Charleston Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) and the Carolinas Association of General Contractors (CAGC), the competition allowed first, second, third and fourth-year electrical construction apprentices and high school students to compete on the skills they have gained through a

combination of practical experience and classroom instruction.

Competition winners were Louis Cherol of Summerville, Fort Dorchester High School; Chris Gandy of North Charleston (first year); Don Sick Jr. of Summerville (second year, Trident Tech-

nical College); James Williams of West Ashley (second year, Garrett Technical Academy); John Cameron of West Ashley (third year); and Jamal Wright of Johns Island, (fourth year).

A registered apprenticeship program is a paid, in-house training program that combines classroom instruction and on-the-job training. Working according to standards set by the company and approved by the U.S. Department of Labor, an apprentice earns a nationally recognized certification as a Journeyworker upon completion of the program. More than 1,000 occupations qualify for apprenticeship training.



photo courtesy of TTC Marketing

## TTC RECEIVES GRANT TO SERVE VETERANS ON CAMPUS

By Jennifer D. Lockhart,  
TTC Marketing

Trident Technical College (TTC) received a Success for Vets grant from the American Council on Education (ACE) and the Wal-Mart Foundation to implement Project Veterans' Educational Transition Services (VETS). This funding enables TTC to provide a continuum of services to veterans from pre-college through graduation, including a veteran-specific orientation program, faculty and staff development and training and the creation of a veterans task force. This grant also supports a part-time employee to handle information requests and guide veterans to the appropriate educational benefits.

"We value veterans on our campus and look forward to continuing to improve our services to military veterans," said Dr. Elise Davis-McFarland, vice president of Student Services at TTC. "TTC has many programs and

benefits available for veterans. As one of only 20 colleges and universities nationwide to receive this grant, we will be able to provide more focused assistance. We are especially glad that the grant has enabled us to hire an employee to help veterans in the community understand and take advantage of the most suitable educational benefits for each person's situation."

One of the newest benefits to veterans, the Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33), provides the most comprehensive educational benefit package since the World War II-era. It is available for persons who served on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001, and is available for individuals in educational programs at a degree-granting college or university. Eligible individuals can receive, with some restrictions, tuition, a housing allowance and a yearly stipend for books and supplies. Benefits are transferable to immediate family members.



photo courtesy of David Spears



photo courtesy of David Spears

## NOT YET SOCRATES...

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made up of old people that fund the place, I am here to get an education. So to all of you who just skim the pages, pass out after having one too many whatever, text each other in class, play footsy under the table, giggle and laugh, talk amongst yourselves, or just in general have no respect for the teacher or other students that pay money to come and learn something... go ahead, by all means. Not only will I have your job, but also I won't feel sorry for you when the guy next to you in class who busted his butt to make it through despite your petty distractions and only got a D will be my next in line.

You can have ambitions in life that may seem unreal to others, but the plan to make it happen has to be real. You can have all the fun you want to with the education you are paying for, but how long after college will you be paying for it if you don't learn something now? Find your limits in life, reach for the boundaries of your box, and then realize you can live outside of them. I walk with seven spinal injuries everyday, you have the same human soul inside of you that gives me that strength; use it. Finally, to say, when my mother told me to think outside of the box, I simply have.



photo courtesy of David Spears

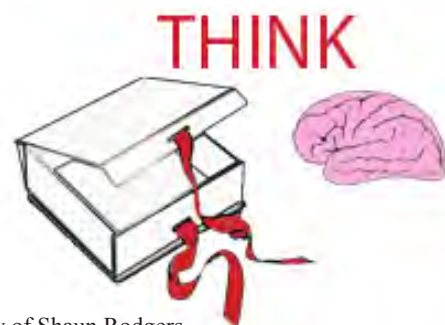


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