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# TRIDENT TIMES

Trident Technical College

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## ANN WELTY RECEIVES PTK AWARD

### TTC Administrator Wins Award of Distinction

By David Spears

TTC Student Activities Director, Ann Welty was presented with Phi Theta Kappa's, Administrator Award of Distinction at the honor society's 2010 international convention in Orlando, in April. Given in appreciation for a strong level of commitment in support



of Phi Theta Kappa activities, this award honors the efforts that

Ann and her staff have made in furtherance of the goals of TTC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, Alpha Epsilon Omicron (AEO). Ann was present with her husband to receive the award in the ballroom of the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society of two-year colleges, whose mission is to recognize

and encourage scholarship among students of two-year colleges.

TTC's, Student Activities Office, under Ann's capable direction lends support to AEO initiatives such as, High School Middle School Workshops, Project Cool Breeze and a host of other projects for Trident's many student organizations.

## PTK CHAPTER WINS HONORS AT CONFERENCE

### TTC's chapter placed in top 25 worldwide

By Terri Sullivan

Alpha Epsilon Omicron (AEO), TTC's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, attended the 92nd International Convention in Orlando, Florida in April. Phi Theta Kappa International's annual conference included inspiring keynote speakers: Dr. Rachel Maddow, Dr. Sanjay Gupta, and Wes Moore. Each spoke on the Honor's Study Topic for 2010-1012: The Democratization of Information: Power, Peril and Promise.

Students and advisers also attended a variety of educational forums ranging from Phi Theta Kappa 101 to Fun with Fundraising.

AEO was recognized as one of thirty chapters to receive an award in the Service Hallmark. This hallmark judges chapters on their completion of various projects of service to their colleges, communities and regions and our chapter was recognized for their achievements.

AEO takes great pride in supporting TTC, the Tri County Area, and the Carolinas Region through projects like High School/Middle School Leadership Conference, The Carolyn Keller Literacy Project, and Keep America Beautiful. It was a proud moment to have those efforts recognized, and in a

field of 1250 chapters worldwide, it was indeed a high honor.

Later in the evening, AEO was again called to the stage to receive an award and recognition, this time, as one of the top 25 Chapters in Phi Theta Kappa International. This means that the combined score of all of their submissions for selection, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service was sufficient to place them in the top 25 chapters in the world.

At the banquet following the chapter and regional awards presentations, awards were presented to outstanding advisors. Our own Christine Solomon, Department Head of

Accounting and Lead Advisor for our chapter, received the Paragon Award for Advisors serving less than five years. She was one of 26 advisors from 1251 chapters to be recognized and it was another proud moment for AEO and for Trident Technical College.

Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society of two-year colleges. If you would like more information about Phi Theta Kappa, please feel free to e-mail advisor Christine. Solomon@tridenttech.edu.

## 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 contact us at 843.574.6347. Our office is located in room 130 F, building 410.

## APPRENTICES COMPETE AT TTC

### Electricians' apprentices reach for the top

By Jennifer D. LocLockhart, 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 Technical College, the Charleston Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) and the Trident Workforce Investment Board, 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.

First-place competition winners in each category were Joe Donahue, first-year apprentice at ElDeCo; Kendall Crosby, second-year apprentice at R.J. Martin; Jeremy Davis, third-year apprentice at Metro Electric; Duane Pierce, fourth-year apprentice at H.R. Allen.

William Kearns, the overall high school winner, Goose Creek High School; Victor Burbage, Ft. Dorchester High School winner; Jeffrey Preseau, Dorchester County Career and Technology Center winner; Don Sick Jr., Trident Technical College

winner, employed at Watson Electrical.

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.

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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.

## DISCOUNT BUS PASSES ON SALE

Ride to class for six months for only \$42. You'll have no parking problems and no high gas prices to concern you. CARTA discount bus passes are on sale now in both the Main Campus and Palmer Campus Book Stores. This pass (along with a validated TTC Student ID card) will enable you to ride the regular CARTA bus (not the Express) between July 1 and December 31, 2010 at no extra charge to you.

## TRIDENT TIMES WELCOMES NEW CO-EDITOR

By Terri Sullivan

### Greetings from the Pacific Northwest!

Greetings and felicitations from the Pacific Northwest!

I'm Terri Sullivan and I've recently been installed as co-editor of the Trident Times. I come to you by way of Eugene, Oregon and am at Trident working on an associate's in Accounting and prerequisites for the College of Charleston that were not prerequisites for Oregon schools.

I'm a non-traditional student (translation: many of you weren't born when I graduated from high school!) I approach life from a social justice perspective and qualify as a representative of three "marginalized groups." I'll let you decide which three.



Phi Theta Kappa is one of my passions, and I am proud to be a transfer member of Alpha Epsilon Omicron here at Trident Tech. I enjoy the academic challenge, but I am really dedicated to service and servant leadership at the college and community level. I look forward to giving back to my new home here in the Low Country.

It's exciting to become a part of a thriving college, and I hope to be able to contribute to the production and circulation of a paper that is informative, relevant, timely, and thought-provoking. Thanks to Ann Welty, David Spears and the folks in Student Activities for this opportunity.

I look forward to serving you and please feel free to contact me any time with news items, suggestions for stories, cartoons, anecdotes, editorial suggestions, etc. I can be reached via e-mail at AXEANDIRIS@aol.com or through the Trident Times office in Building 410. Our telephone number is: 843-574-6347.

# REGGAE TIMES

## Selah Dubb

*Music Review by Alyssa Eismann*

Introducing or reintroducing (as the case may be), the reggae trio Selah Dubb to Charleston, SC. Selah recently played at James Island County Park Reggae Nights on June 12, 2010. I once lived in Wilmington, NC and would see Selah at local bars, like 16 Taps, where they frequently played. I have to admit that I fell in love with them the minute I heard them. Their “Sublime meets Bob Marley” sound never fails to capture the audience. Mark Evangelist (lead vocals, guitar, songwriter, and producer) has said, “The intensity of reggae’s social message just rang true to my heart. The world seems to be burning up in turmoil and reggae seems to bring a sense of healing through music.” Moreover, he isn’t kidding. “Rasta music is a self taught discipline with no doctrine or philosophy. It is about spreading the truth and positive vibes,” added Evangelist.

Selah Dubb isn’t a band to be taken lightly either. Based out of Boone, NC, they also call Wrightsville Beach, NC, home during the busier seasons.



*Illustration by Christopher Burn*

Selah is best described as “a high energy roots reggae band with a mission of ‘spreading unity and positivity’.” If only all music these days could be like Selah Dubb. But their success hasn’t come easily.

Selah has a history of over 15 years that came with many challenges along the way. After their hiatus in the early part of the decade, they have released four CDs over the past few years.

As a teenager, Evangelist played in bands since junior high and with a funk band that caught a lot of attention in high school. Although the band could have made some headway, Evangelist realized that something was missing. He claims that the music “seemed to have chosen me.” “Reggae music just seemed to become part of my life,” Evangelist said. Who wouldn’t want reggae music part of their life? Band members, Heather “Baby Beats” Purdin (keyboard

and support vocals) and Quazi (drums) add essential elements to Selah. “Baby Beats” saw her first Selah Dubb show in Boone, NC and was instantly hooked. A year later, she joined the band even though “Baby Beats” had no piano experience nor had she ever listened to reggae music. She has proved herself, however, as a kick ass girl in a reggae band. Quazi has an eye for detail and a way of playing the drums that always keeps the audience dancing and wanting to come back for more. That’s what makes him such a key part of Selah Dubb.

This dynamic trio has made quite an impression on the Wilmington music scene and all the locals look forward to seeing them around town. Go to [www.myspace.com/selah.dubb](http://www.myspace.com/selah.dubb) to listen to tracks and view upcoming shows in the area. “Bring The Light” is a personal favorite and as Selah Dubb says, “Keep up your light; you’ve got to be free.”

# HITMAN, PLAYS THE BLUES BAND CRUISE

## Piccolo Spoleto Arts Festival features harbor music cruise

*By Elizabeth Lancaster-Shepherd, TTC & Phi Theta Kappa Alumni*

Yes! This was the most exciting event I have been to in years! On Saturday, May 30, we boarded the Carolina Bell and sailed off into the sunset for the, “Hitman, Blues Band Cruise”. Cruising from the Maritime Center my friends from Washington, NC sat eagerly. As the vessel began to fill up, I began to squirm. It was such a great night and the sun was beginning to set with dark clouds appearing on the horizon. Many of you may remember the Hitman, who plays frequently at the Lowcountry Blues Club in Mt. Pleasant.

It was remarkably fun. He played with the vengeance of a blues musician in the 60’s and

70’s here in the South, such as Muddy Waters from Mississippi or akin to Koko Taylor from the Chicago area. Such authentic guitar picking had the crowd dancing and singing during the two hour tour of Charleston Harbor, up and down the Ashley River and around to the Cooper River. We sailed under the new



Arthur Ravenel Bridge past the USS Yorktown as the sun set, creating a lustrous vision. The Hitman played a variety of rock and roll, blues, and a medley of requests from the happy audience. I found the music cheerfully enthusiastic, and most of all the people locals and tourists alike, blended under the

celestial skies and music of the Hitman. Hitman Blues Band is based out of Savannah Georgia and journeys to Charleston to play wherever they are asked to perform. They were friendly, funny, and were excellent musicians. Take the time to see this band if you get the opportunity.



## NEW PELL GRANT, STUDENT LOAN LAW ENACTED

President Obama signs student loan reform legislation

By Jehnel Oboza

The sounds of students' sighs reverberated around the nation on March 30. This day marked a historical moment for college students who rely on Pell grants and student loans as President Obama signed the new law (that was attached with the healthcare bill) that eliminates the fees paid to private bank lenders and intermediaries. Instead, the money needed comes directly from the federal government. This results in a lighter weight on students' shoulders who have to repay loans after graduation. The law is purported to save the country \$68 billion over the course of 11 years.

Currently, the Pell Grant--

an educational federal grant targeted toward students who come from low-income families--allocates a maximum amount of \$5,550 to those who are eligible. According to the White House, when the law comes full circle, the maximum grant amount will change to \$5,975 by 2017. It will also provide a whopping 820,000 more grants by 2020. For approximately a decade, the law specifies that the Pell Grant will receive \$36 billion to provide for families who qualify.

The Pell Grant's funding comes from the elimination of the payment to the middleman in student loans. With the new law, students are now no longer required to consult with private

student loan lenders or private banks. When this is eliminated, students will get their loans directly from the government, who will now act as the primary body for student loans. Secondly, by abolishing these intermediaries, it becomes easier for students who have to repay remaining loan balances.

Starting in July 2014, loan payments for students will be capped or limited at 10 percent of a student's income, 5 percent down from the current 15 percent. If there is any debt remaining after 20 years (down five years from the current 25 years), it will be forgiven. Additionally, for those who are in public service, any

remaining debt will be forgiven after 10 years.

There is also promising news for technical colleges throughout the nation. The new law invests approximately \$2 billion over the next four years, providing education and programs for workers who qualify for trade adjustment aid. In South Carolina, the 16 technical colleges will be eligible to receive a minimum of \$10 million throughout the next four years. Because funding has been cut down considerably for technical colleges, the new law will prove to be helpful for the schools.

## EAST MEETS WEST

### Student meets with Georgian Ambassador to the US

By Darrell Brown

On Sunday, June 13, I had the honor of meeting and talking with his Excellency Batu Kutelia. Mr Kutelia is the ambassador to the United States from the country of Georgia. Georgia is located in the northwestern sector of the former Soviet Union bordering the Black Sea. The significance of this to me is that as a student at TTC who has completed the Introduction to International Relations course at the main campus, taught by Dr. Lester Pittman, I was given the opportunity to access a door to the reality of lessons learned in the course. The classroom preparation allowed for an informed and well educated dialogue with Ambassador Kutelia.

The occasion for the meeting was the Divine Liturgy, which was celebrated by Fr. John Parker at the Church of the Holy

Ascension in Mt. Pleasant, SC. The celebration began at 9:30 am and lasted for about two hours with some of the congregants standing for its entirety, one of whom was the Ambassador. Georgia is Russian Orthodox and Holy Ascension a member congregation of the Orthodox Churches of America. Both forms of Orthodoxy do not utilize pews as is done in many Christian houses of worship.



After the veneration of the cross, we all proceeded to the fellowship hall for the blessing of the feast prepared by local women of the church.

Once the pallets of all were appeased, Ambassador Batu gave us a brief history of Georgia. We found out that the country was Christianized by the missionary efforts of St. Nina, the Enlightener of Georgia in the fourth century A. D. It was the second country to adopt Christianity after Armenia. In addition, the Ambassador complemented the church of the Holy Ascension on its diverse membership and spoke of how important it is for all peoples to be able to understand one another.

The afternoon ended with the presentation of gifts to Ambassador Kutelia. They

included two bottles of Firefly Vodka from the Irvine House Vineyard of Wadmalaw Island, SC and a bottle of sweet wine from the same. There will be a group from Mt. Pleasant visiting with the Ambassador at some point in the fall of this year to discuss the socio-political questions we burned inside to ask, but time did not allow. The first question being: when will he be able to come visit our campus and talk with the student body?