

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

OCTOBER

15

2014



## ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

All of the emergency alert stations around OU are out of order. What does this mean in terms of campus safety?  
**PAGE 7**

Basketball player Max Hooper talks about coming to OU and what he hopes to achieve on the men's team.  
**PAGE 15**

A pet cemetery reportedly sits near Meadow Brook Hall. What secrets really lie buried on campus grounds?  
**PAGE 20**

## HALF-PIPE DREAMS

The OU skate club brought its sickest kicks and flips to the concrete jungle for national competition **PAGE 17**

Photo by Jacob Malka/The Oakland Post



You may have seen her on OU's stage, but she's reaching outside now. Anna Marck, junior acting student, stars in "Tribes" at The Baldwin Theatre in Royal Oak. Read more at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com).



### PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**WAIT YOUR TURN** // A line winds through the basement of the Oakland Center as students hope to get a ticket to see Hillary Clinton, who announced earlier this week that she would come to OU on Thursday to show support for politicians Gary Peters and Mark Schauer. These tickets were handed to the first 250 students to arrive at the Center for Student Activities beginning noon Tuesday. *Photo by Kaylee Kean/The Oakland Post*

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### POLL OF THE WEEK

What's really buried in the Meadow Brook pet cemetery?

- A** Pets, ya' dummy.
- B** Nothing. It's just a load of nonexistent horse poop.
- C** The hopes, dreams, and GPAs of OU math students.
- D** ...where is that?

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### LAST WEEK'S POLL

What are your thoughts on skipping classes?

**A) Why waste the money and the education?**

51.6%

**B) When you need a break, you need a break.**

22.6%

**C) The only thing I skip is jump rope.**

9.7%

**D) My GPA is good. A couple of skips won't hurt.**

16.1%

### THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

**October 12, 1996**

Chrysler granted \$1 million to OU to support science and engineering programs. At the time, it was the largest grant Chrysler had ever given to OU.

**October 14, 1991**

A hot water pipe broke between Wilson and North Foundation halls, causing an explosion that resulted in a steaming mud hole and mud being launched into the nearby parking lot. No one was injured.

**October 15, 2007**

Mitt Romney's son, Josh Romney, visited OU to bring awareness to his father's presidential campaign. He spoke about national issues that his father would combat, including terrorists, high taxes and economic competition from Asia.

-Compiled by Andrew Wernette, Life Editor



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#### LIFE ON THE STREETS

Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor Andrew Wernette reviews the musical "The Life," which is being shown in Varner Studio Theatre through this weekend.



14

#### THE FINAL TALLY

The Sporting Blitz summarizes this week's developments in volleyball, men's soccer, Football Club and men's basketball.



19

#### MAKING THE BIG TIME

Alumna Karen Workman talked about what it's like to be an editor at the New York Times.

### BY THE NUMBERS

Coming out edition

1988

the first National Coming Out Day was observed

10,030

American youth who identify with the LGBT community

12 pm

when the Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) meets on Thursdays in the Lake Michigan Room of the Oakland Center

16

the average age of an LGBT member coming out in 2010

9

million LGBT Americans, approximately

# Editorial

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Come out, whoever you are

**H**umans are naturally guarded. We protect ourselves to survive; just ask Darwin.

We're pack animals by nature, interested in blending with the group, in becoming one in a sea of many.

It's scary to stick out, to be different. It's scary to risk isolation.

Saturday, October 11 marked the 26th anniversary of National Coming Out Day, an internationally-recognized event which "celebrates coming out as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) or as an ally," according to the Human Rights Campaign website.

Oakland University celebrated "coming out" throughout the week, featuring the Gender and Sexuality Center and Gay Straight Alliance's annual "Coming Out Monologues" on Thursday and a "coming out" bonfire on Friday. During this week, students were encouraged to share their stories on being LGTBTQIA+, to share their strife, their successes, and most of all, to appreciate one another's differences.

"It is rewarding for the person giving the [coming out] monologue to feel like

they finally have a voice, and really, to help those who are too scared or hesitant to be themselves," Gay Straight Alliance President Becca Reichenbach said.

In fact, according to a study in *Social Psychology and Personality Science*, "coming out" has many psychological benefits, including "less anger, less depression, and higher self-esteem."

We at the *Oakland Post* appreciate this not only recognition but celebration of our peers and our differences, as well as the empowerment for the brave willing to accept and value themselves for themselves. We applaud those comfortable enough in their own skins to share pieces of themselves with others. We urge all of Oakland University to "come out" by embracing what makes us each unique in our own way.

While the majority of our population identifies as heterosexual, a current societal norm which does not necessarily constitute "coming out," think about something that makes you different, makes you stand out from the person next to you in the Subway line, something that makes you proud to be you, and accept it: come out to you within yourself.

According to Multicultural Studies Professor Kellie Hay, we should embrace and promote our differences rather than disregard or downplay them. "Difference matters because we elide meaningful experience when we imagine that we are all so similar," she said.

"Difference opens us, makes us think, keeps us reaching. It is only when difference is exaggerated or caricatured that we have problems."

It is because of these differences that we, as a country of immigrants, as a mixed society, thrive. Maybe you have a hidden talent in juggling, maybe it's computer science. Maybe you were born with an interestingly-shaped birthmark, or maybe you're proud of your heritage. It's your traits that make you, you, Oakland University. Accept them, embrace them, celebrate them. In the words of author Steven Covey, "strength lies in differences, not in similarities."

*The staff editorial is written by the members of The Oakland Post's editorial board.*

*Questions, comments or suggestions? Email [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com).*

The views expressed in Perspectives do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.



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# Perspectives

## The red elephant – or blue donkey – in the room

Introducing a new column in politics: what nobody ever wants to talk about, until now

Nick Walter  
Contributor

I'm in the middle of a long and stormy relationship.

My significant other is fascinating, witty, clever and nuanced.

Unfortunately, she is also bitter, annoying, unreasonable and often plain stupid.

No, I'm not talking about a girlfriend; I'm talking about politics.

Yes, politics: one of two topics (besides religion) that polite people rarely talk about in public.

During the past two years while at Oakland, I have attempted to talk to a number

of my fellow students about various political topics.

I usually fail.

Here's the reason: we as college students have a very hard time understanding why politics matter to us.

What's the big deal behind Lois Lerner's hidden (lost?) emails?

Who cares whether or not Bill Clinton really did commit perjury way back in 1998?

Wait, who is Lois Lerner?

I want to change that. My goal is to try to make complex political issues simple and relevant to us as college students.

In other words, I want to show why politics matter.

Hard as it is in this extremist

environment, I will try to be as neutral as possible.

Will I still be somewhat biased?

Sure.

We all are.

But, and this is a very important "but," I will not be writing a polemic (polemic: noun a strong written or spoken attack against someone else's opinions, beliefs or practices).

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, I promise, absolutely promise that I will keep it interesting.

If I ever get boring, I'll quit on the spot. So here's how this column will work.

The first half will be a background and breakdown

of the chosen topic: guns, immigration, the midterm elections, etc.

The second half will be my opinion on the issue.

You don't have to read both sections; for that matter, you don't have to read either.

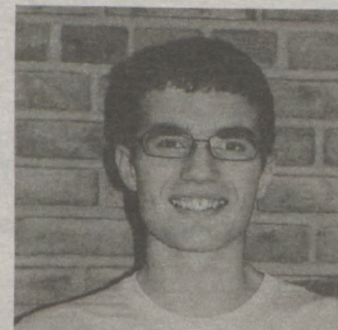
As the writer, of course, I hope you will, but I'm under no delusions: many people are sick of opinion and that's fine with me.

Hopefully, this will be fun. Writing is, contrary to public opinion, fun.

Politics can be fun.

Let's make it that way.

So, then, look for a column next week on...well, I can't give it all away, can I?



Junior criminal justice major Nick Walter hopes to become a civil liberties lawyer, FBI special agent, and eventually the President of the United States.

Questions? Comments? Want to write your own column? Email editor@oaklandpostonline.com

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# Grizzlies on the Prowl



*"What's the last  
horror movie you  
watched?"*



**Leah Bowles, undecided,  
freshman**

*"You're Next. It was okay, very gory and I fell asleep halfway through it."*



**Justin Ballard, information  
technology, freshman**

*"Nightmare on Elm Street back in 2010. It seems that modern horror movies are simply cash grabs."*



**Farah Zwen, pre-med,  
sophomore**

*"Annabelle. It was a really good movie because you couldn't warp your mind on what was happening. It was amazingly scary."*



**Dominic Messina, chemistry,  
sophomore**

*"I saw Annabelle. It was very anticlimactic, and could have been better. Horror movies were better back in the day."*

*— Compiled by Nowshin Chowdhury,  
Photographer*

## POLICE FILES

### Bicycle stolen at Recreation and Athletic Complex

OUPD met with a student Oct. 6, who said his bike was stolen.

The student said he locked his bike behind the Recreation and Athletic Complex Sept. 30 at 6:00 p.m. When he returned the next morning, his bike was missing.

The bike is gray with black handlebars. The student also said the lock for his bike was gone.

The student said the bike was \$600 when he bought it new, though now it would cost \$200.

The student called Oct. 10 and said that his friend had borrowed the bike.

### Arrest warrant in Auburn Hills

Officers were dispatched to Auburn Hills for an arrest warrant Oct. 8 11:00 a.m.

They made contact with the subject. Officers placed handcuffs on the subject and was searched.

While logging the suspect's property, OUPD found a small quantity of marijuana on his belt.

The suspect was issued a citation for marijuana use.

### Arrest warrant in Auburn Hills

Two students went to the police station to file a report Oct. 8 at 1:30 a.m. They said that their backpacks were stolen from Bumpers in the Oakland Center around 12:50 a.m.

They said they left their backpacks to play ping pong and when they returned, they were gone. They said they asked others in the area if they had seen the backpacks. They were told that two males sat by their backpacks then left with them, but they were unable to give any further descriptions.

OUPD gave them identity theft paperwork at the station.

*— Compiled by Josh Soltman,  
Copy Editor*

# GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?

The Oakland Post is looking for satirical scribes, witty writers and comical columnists. Submit your best efforts to [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) and you could get published for the world to see.



Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

**LEFT:** Students who filled out screening sheets received a score, which is supposed to determine susceptibility for alcoholism. **TOP:** A student tries to walk in a straight line, toe-to-heel, while wearing 'drunk-vision' goggles. **BOTTOM:** GHC displayed pamphlets that covered information about topics covered at the event.

# Don't sink from the drink

*Event offers health screenings and advice on positive ways for college students to approach alcohol consumption*

**Kaleigh Jerzykowski**  
Staff Reporter

Through years of surveying Oakland University freshmen, Graham Health Center estimates that freshman will be drinking three to four times per week, upon starting classes on campus.

Dr. David Schwartz, Director of Counseling at Oakland University's Graham Health Center (GHC) said that OU compares favorably to other universities across the country when it comes to freshman drinking expectations and overall substance abuse.

"We don't preach," said Schwartz. "We want people to be healthy and have a healthy relationship with alcohol."

GHC's effective, informative and overall friendly approach to educating students on substance abuse is demonstrated during its "screenings" each

semester.

Most recently, GHC engaged campus in an alcohol screening, taking place Wednesday Oct. 8.

GHC does several screenings throughout the year, including those for depression and eating disorders, said Schwartz.

These screenings have been going on for the last 15 to 20 years, but Schwartz said that with the help of student volunteers, participation numbers have doubled each year.

Originally enlisting the help of exclusively psychology undergraduates, Schwartz has extended the offer to sociology majors and more recently, undergraduates of the nursing school, in addition to the Psychology Honors Society and the Active Minds OU club.

In return for assisting GHC with the distribution of alcohol screening forms to students, the volunteers receive hands-on training with licensed

"We don't preach. We want people to be healthy and have a healthy relationship with alcohol,"

David Schwartz  
Director of Counseling at Graham Health Center

psychologists, allowing them to obtain professional training on a personal and individual level.

This year with the help of Schwartz's volunteers, 217 people were screened by taking the nationally utilized 10-question survey called "Audit."

"It's a fun way to approach alcohol screening," said Schwartz, explaining that the survey consists of questions ranging from family history of addictiveness to alcohol, to drunk driving records, to personal struggles with al-

cohol related issues.

"We're getting people to think about their behaviors," Schwartz said.

One alcohol screening takes place each semester: right before midterms in the fall and right before spring break in the winter.

In addition to these screenings, surveys are available online as well, for students who missed their opportunity while on campus.

While increasing student's knowledge of how to live life healthily and engage responsibly in a relationship with alcohol, Schwartz says that one of the main goals of the screening is to get the word out to students about GHC and the services it offers.

"We encourage students to come see us, talk to us, come for one session to have to bounce ideas off of," said Dr. Schwartz. "We have a great staff here, with licensed psychologists, [and] there's something for everybody."

# Campus police phones are singing the blues



Shannon Wilson / The Oakland Post

Due to a need for system updates, several blue light phones on campus will bear these signs until next semester.

**Sean Gardner**  
Staff Intern

**O**ut of Order — the sign that hangs on several blue light phones around the Oakland University campus.

The blue light phones are police-linked phones that anyone on campus can use to call in an emergency. Found in the parking decks, buildings and dorms, there are 83 of these phones on campus.

"The ones that don't work, unfortunately, are the ones that are most visible," said Chief of Police Mark Gordon. The visible ones being the blue light phones found next to sidewalks on campus.

The reason the lights are not working is simple: they are outdated and need to be updated to a new system. However, updating the system can be expensive. Several hundred thousand dollars, in fact, according to Gordon.

Funding was approved in late summer and the campus has been tackling small areas to convert the phone lines to the updated system.

For the blue light phones, more of them will be working between now and Christmas.

Seeing working blue lights reassures students, which is another reason why Gordon said he wants to keep them around.

"Across the country, there is very low use of them," Gordon said. "People like them, it makes them feel safe because they know it's a 911 line should they need it."

However, students feel uneasy with them being off and were upset they were not told about them being out of order.

"[It makes me feel] scared, honestly, not that I think they're ever used. But still," said Takkara Griffin, a sophomore living in the dorms.

Although there are few reported incidents, OUPD said it does not want to take out the blue lights, especially when funding has been approved.

## Safety tips:

### Use the buddy system:

There is safety in numbers, especially after the sun goes down.

### Stay in well-lit areas:

Try to always park under a light and at night, stay on illuminated pathways.

### Be on the alert:

Carry a key in between the knuckles, and consistently survey the area. Avoid talking on the phone, as it lowers awareness of surroundings.

### Keep valuables at home:

Or leave them either covered in a locked vehicle or secured in a personal bag. Don't invite thieves by flashing valuables around.

### To report any unusual activity:

contact the OUPD at 248-370-3333.

**To request an escort through the 'Safewalk' program:** contact the OUPD at 248-370-3331.

Tips compiled by Morgan Dean, Copy Editor



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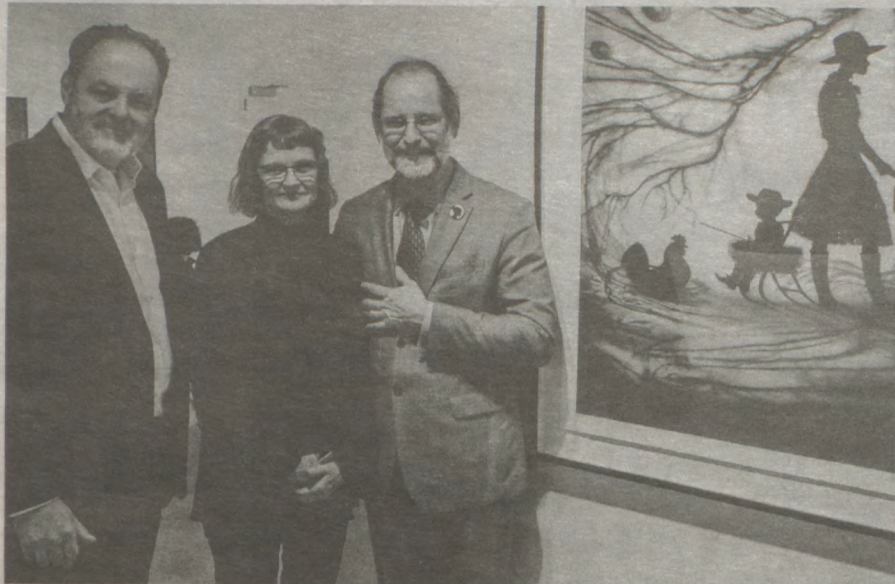
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## New art exhibit features work inspired by dreams



Jasmine French / The Oakland Post

Susan Kae Grant, artist, professor and Head of Photography and Book of Arts at Texas Women's University, has a piece titled "Night Journey" on display in OU's art exhibit in Wilson Hall.

### Artist's piece on display at OU influenced by the science of REM sleep

Jasmine French  
Staff Reporter

Students and staff can now experience dreamlike artwork through the new exhibit, "Shadows of the Invisible," on Oct. 11, located on the main floor in room 208 of Wilson Hall. The gallery is free for the public and will feature this exhibit through Nov. 23.

One artist in particular made a significant presence at the showcase.

Artist, professor and Head of Photography and Book of Arts at Texas Women's University, Susan Kae Grant, spoke during the Artist's Talk lecture event and expressed how happy she was to be back in the Midwest. Grant is also a former professor at Wayne State University.

Grant obtained her Master of Fine Arts in photography and book arts in 1979 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Associate professor of Art and Art History, Claude Baillargeon, curated the exhibit. "I had seen an exhibit of her work and thought, wow this is extraordinary," Baillargeon said.

According to Baillargeon, Grant's work was well in line with creating images of the invisible.

Grant's piece, "Night Journey," is a part of the new exhibit. "I wanted to create a

space about dreaming," Grant said. "As a child, I'd wake up in the morning and always tell my mother I went somewhere. I would recite my dreams".

Grant began photographing props and models in her Dallas, Texas studio for the project in 1999. "The goal was to take 100 images," Grant said.

"Night Journey" was inspired by research conducted at Southwestern Medical Center Sleep Laboratory. "I searched for scientists," Grant said. "I've always had a real strong connection and curiosity to science." Grant collaborated on the project with sleep scientist, Dr. John Herman.

"I was tape recorded in the laboratory and awoken from REM sleep," Grant said. When awakened, she was asked to describe the images of her dreams. REM means rapid eye movement.

According to Grant, the notion of an artist creating work is to find people who could support projects, by providing information rather than money.

Dick Goody, professor in painting and director of OU's art gallery, attended the event.

"It's not just about capturing images through a lens," Goody said. "Capturing the effects of light is not just about taking selfies. It's very layered."

According to Goody, OU's art gallery is equivalent to a museum. "We have a mission statement emphasizing excellence and the enrichment of education and enjoyment of the arts," he said.

For more information visit [www.ouartgallery.org](http://www.ouartgallery.org).

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