

Citations pending for two local bars

The Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement (PBLCE) is citing two downtown State College bars for serving visibly intoxicated persons over the Arts Fest weekend.

The names of the bars have not been released because the citations are pending, police said.

A third bar was cited for a loudspeaker violation, police said.

Officers also made inspections at 10 other downtown bar locations but did not cite any of them, police said.

Man, woman charged with felony forgery

A male and female have been charged with felony counts of forgery after they spent thousands of dollars with false credit cards at several local stores on Saturday, the State College Police Department said.

Windfield Gillespie, of East Stroudsburg, Pa., and a female using the alias of Lisa Saunders spent hundreds of dollars at Office Depot, Big Lots, Sears, Radio Shack and Champs Sporting Goods on Saturday, police said.

They were charged with one count each of felony forgery and criminal conspiracy to commit forgery, along with several other misdemeanor counts, police said.

Police said Saunders was found hiding from police in a movie theater bathroom holding the merchandise she bought that day.

Employees at Office Depot called police after Saunders visited the store because some of the clerks believed that she used a fake or stolen credit card, police said.

Police said Gillespie and Saunders may be connected to other cases of fraud in the area.

Heigl, Lautner to shoot films in Pa.

AMBRIDGE — The streets of Ambridge are getting ready to experience a little star power.

Filming is set to begin this week in the Beaver County town on the movie "One for the Money." The movie stars actress Katherine Heigl and is based on the first novel in a series of books by Janet Evanovich.

The movie is set in Trenton, N.J., but will be filmed at six different locations in Ambridge through August.

Heigl isn't the only star in town, though.

Teen heartthrob and "Twilight" star Taylor Lautner is also filming a movie in western Pennsylvania. "Abduction" is a thriller about a young man who discovers the people who raised him are not his real parents. It is being shot in Mt. Lebanon and other Pittsburgh area locations.

Facebook ad leads to kidney transplant

PITTSBURGH — A western Pennsylvania woman who turned to Facebook when she needed a kidney transplant found a donor online and is now recovering from surgery.

Sarah Taylor, 53, was placed on the kidney transplant waiting list last year after she experienced renal failure. She posted a request on Facebook looking for a kidney donor and got hundreds of responses. Among them were one person from New Zealand and Sara Steelman, 64, who lives near Taylor in Indiana, Pa.

Taylor and Steelman are now recovering from a June 15 surgery in which Steelman donated a kidney to Taylor. Doctors at Allegheny General Hospital said Monday that the surgery went well.

Taylor says the two women are now "connected for life."

Motorcyclist killed in accident

UNIONTOWN — Pennsylvania authorities say a 38-year-old motorcyclist was killed when he lost control of his motorcycle, fell into the path of oncoming traffic and was run over.

The Fayette County coroner says Juan Hill, of Clairton, lost control of his motorcycle Sunday in Perry Township as he was taking an exit ramp. Hill fell off into the path of traffic and was run over.

Authorities say Hill was wearing a helmet, but did not have a valid driver's license.

Toxicology tests are pending.

Theft: A Macbook laptop valued at \$1,300 was stolen at about 1:30 p.m. Friday from the Pattee Library Building. The computer was left unattended on a desk on the third floor of the Paterno Library, Penn State Police said. Police continue to investigate.

Correction

A photo caption on page 1 of Friday's Daily Collegian incorrectly identified the names of the two girls pictured. The correct names are Layla Thornton (left) and Julia Lindau.

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Weather: Today: High 81 Tonight: Low 67 Tomorrow: High 87 Extended forecast at campusweatherservice.com Courtesy of Campus Weather Service

Council votes down petition

By Paul Osolnick
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Borough retains area

The State College Borough Council voted down an ordinance Monday night to transfer the shaded area of North Buckhout Street to Penn State.

The State College Borough Council voted against vacating a 300-foot long section of North Buckhout Street at its meeting Monday night.

The petition to vacate the area was made by Penn State on July 2, 2009 and a public hearing was held concerning the vacation on August 17, 2009.

Penn State spokeswoman Lisa Powers said the section is an unused part of the street that cuts through property owned by the university.

Powers said the street exists only "on paper" since it is no longer used as a street, and therefore is no longer maintained by the borough.

"This is pretty common," Powers said. "We're just asking for [the borough] to turn it over to us... We'll take care of it."

The property is the former O.W. Houts & Sons retail store which closed in January of 2008 and was purchased by the university later that year, university officials said.

The university purchased the property and — after demolishing the former store — has still not determined what the land will be used for, Powers said.

Borough Manager Tom Fountaine said the section — or "right-of-way" — has not been open to the public since 1948.

Fountaine said that under the law, if a right-of-way is not opened within 21 years, the public loses some of its rights for the passage.

That is when the passage is usually vacated, Fountaine said.

Fountaine said the vacated right-of-way would have been divided evenly between the adjacent property owners, but the property surrounding the right-of-way is

owned entirely by the university.

While State College's borough staff recommended vacating the right-of-way due to a lack of "municipal interest," the planning commission recommended against the move until the university reveals plans for the properties controlled by the university, Fountaine said.

With several members agreeing with the planning commission, the council voted against the ordinance 5-2.

The council addressed another section of the right-of-way to be vacated.

The borough vacated what council members call an "unopened portion of Birch Alley."

The area will be allocated to three

residential property owners surrounding the unused alley.

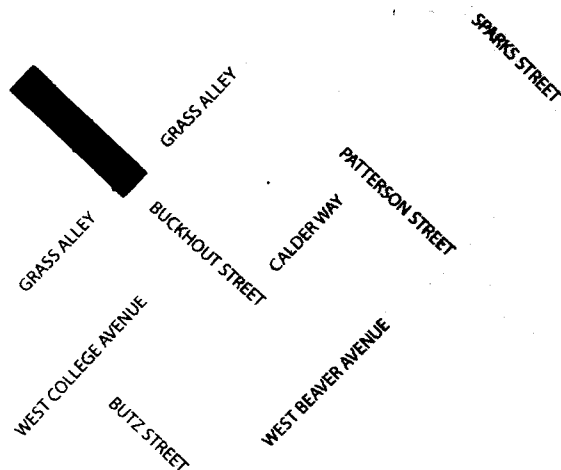
"This is a section of alley that has never been opened or accepted by the borough," Fountaine said. "Since it has never been opened, the council has been asked to vacate the alley."

If the council had not vacated the Birch Alley passage, then the cost of restoring the right-of-way would have fallen on taxpayers.

"If the borough had to start maintaining it again, it would be an expensive and a cost to the public," Fountaine said.

"There's not a real strong public interest in doing that."

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Source: State College Borough Council

Heather Schmelzlen/Collegian

Construction

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lawn's closing will force student activities to take place at other popular locations like the Old Main lawn.

"We have to be very quick to find other sources to do certain things," Ragland (senior-political science) said. "Concerts are always held on the HUB — now it's up to student leaders to work with the administra-

tion to find a feasible means to continue to have these activities. We don't want to take away from the student life aspect because of construction."

Ragland said one event that will be moved to a new location if the construction closes the lawn is "Campus Night Out."

The event took place on the HUB lawn in October 2009.

The new 93,500-square-foot building — which was designed by the architectural company Bohlin

Cywinski Jackson — will include College of Health and Human Development classrooms, research space, offices and a 200-seat lecture hall on the first two floors, Powers said.

The third floor will hold the Prevention Research Center, while the Center for Aging and Center for Human Development and Family Research will occupy the fourth floor, Powers said.

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Council

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All of these ordinances should be in the hands of council by the end of the year, Hess said.

At the meeting, council also voted to retain control over a Buckhout Street alley that connects to Penn State property, by voting not to vacate the alley.

The alley formerly operated as a driveway for the O.W. Houts & Son general store, Borough Manager Tom Fountaine said.

Council member Peter Morris said the vote could be a "little push

to Penn State to let us know their plans sooner."

To date, Penn State has not released details of its plans for the property to which the alley connects.

Council member Tom Daubert said if the alley was vacated, Penn State would be able to turn the alley into a street that would connect to West Campus Drive.

At the meeting, council also voted 5-2 to sign a resolution in support of the Uniting American Families Act, a bill that would change a current U.S. immigration law.

The current immigration law allows a partner in an opposite-sex

marriage to sponsor their spouse from another country, giving them long term residency in the United States.

Same-sex civil unions and partnerships do not receive those benefits.

The new bill would provide equal rights for same-sex couples and opposite-sex couples, council member Peter Morris said.

State College will be the first town in Pennsylvania and the 23rd town in the U.S. to sign the resolution — along with the entire state of California.

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Bars

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are hoping the change will decrease dangerous drinking, they said it is mostly intended to give the university more time to prepare for the fall semester.

"The logistics are actually a bigger part of it," university spokesman Geoff Rushton said. "It just makes more sense."

The switch in graduation dates would give the Office of Physical Plant (OPP) a chance to begin on construction projects earlier, and it would also open up the university's facilities for conferences and summer camps a week earlier, Rushton said.

He said some students don't have housing for Senior Week, which forces them to move out, go home and then come back to campus a week later for graduation.

Holding graduation right after finals could save those students time and money, Rushton said.

Steve Leibfreid (senior-psychology) said he can see the university's point of view on the issue of moving the graduation date.

"There are a lot who enjoy the week, but there are some people who have to stick around when they don't want to," he said. "People either love it or hate it."

Either way, Rushton said students who want to enjoy another week on campus after graduation have every right to do so.

State College Mayor Elizabeth Goreham said moving up the graduation date would also give the borough more time to complete all of its summer construction projects.

"Those few extra days would be greatly appreciated by the contractors that do road jobs for us," she said.

The borough always has to rush to get construction done before the hustle and bustle of the fall semester, Goreham said.

But she said a new graduation date shouldn't hamper students from enjoying an extra week in State College.

"Maybe [seniors] should create a new tradition," Goreham said.

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Bikes

From Page 1.

be more easily traced back to their owners when found, Harris said.

"Otherwise, they wouldn't know who owned it," Harris said.

Bike registration is required in the Centre County area, she added.

Donja Lang, an employee of the Bicycle Shop, 441 W. College Ave.,

mentioned another possible benefit of the registration program: Penn State could get a tally of how many bikes are on campus.

And that, she said, could possibly help the university identify some necessary infrastructure improvements.

"They can get an idea for what they need... bike paths, bike racks, anything like that," she said.

Despite the tagging transporta-

tion services has been doing in the past weeks, some students' wheels remain unregistered.

Tom Heemer (senior-history) had registered his bike, but allowed it to expire.

"I did it online, it took me two minutes," said Heemer. "It was really easy, but the fact that I've never seen a bike ticketed or confiscated in any way was enough to deter me from getting it registered again."

Trees

From Page 1.

and that seems to have had an inhibiting effect on elm yellows," Williams said.

The alumni association has partnered with may area businesses to help spread the word.

Spectra Wood, 2651 Carolean Industrial Dr., Old Main Frame Shop & Gallery, 136 E. College Ave., and Lewis Lumber Products of Picture Rock, Pa., are all helping with the production of the collection.

"This is one of the best legacies they could have come up with," said Marie Librizzi, a partner of Old Main Frame Shop & Gallery. "It's a way for us to remember the elms for generations."

Buyers will have a lot to choose from. Products offered include desks, console tables, glass display cabinets, mirrors, diploma frames and photo frames.

Though trees are getting cut down, the university has assured the campus will remain green with trees.

The university plans to replace

infected trees with species more resistant to disease that will also retain the height and spread of the elms.

Students of the Class of 1986 created a campaign to raise funds to replace trees lost to Dutch elm disease.

The Class of 1996 set forth an endowment for supporting general elm maintenance.

Penn State spokesman Geoff Rushton said the university is attempting to contact the leadership of these classes to determine the "appropriate next steps."