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A USMH PUBLICATION FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND THE COMMUNITY

>> FALL 2007

USMH Fundraiser Helps Achieve Goal for Scholarship Endowment

A renaissance-inspired fundraiser for USMH's scholarship fund raised more than \$28,000 on Saturday, September 15. About 145 people attended the Elizabethtowne Feaste & Frolic held at Duffy's on Potomac in downtown Hagerstown.

The Community Foundation of Washington County will manage the money raised from the event, and all the proceeds will be placed in the Waltersdorf \ Henson Endowment Challenge.

Gaye McGovern, who served as the chairperson for the fundraiser, said the planning committee decided on a Renaissance theme "because USMH has become the crown jewel of downtown Hagerstown."

University System of Maryland Chancellor Brit Kirwan attended the event and a cocktail reception held at USMH prior to the event. "I'm so proud of the university center in Hagerstown," he said. "I'm also proud it has reached its highest level of enrollment ever."

Dr. David Warner, USMH executive director, explained how the money raised will result in scholarships. "The evening was

a success. We raised the additional funds we needed to achieve our fundraising goal of \$212,500. The Waltersdorf/Henson Endowment Challenge is matching this goal for a total scholarship endowment of \$425,000. The interest from the endowment will provide our students with the scholarship assistance they need."

The evening's events began with a sponsor reception at USMH where guests mingled with Chancellor Kirwan. A USMH commercial, now airing on local television stations, received applause as it was unveiled at the event.

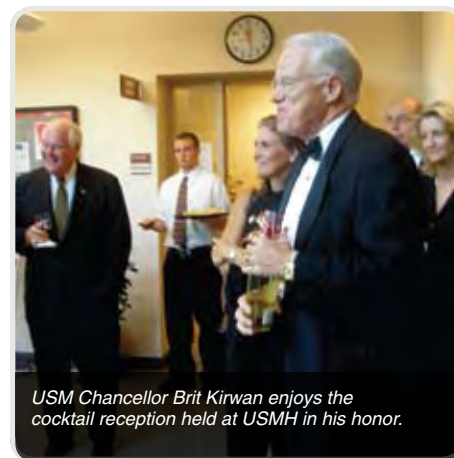
After the cocktail reception at USMH, guests arrived at Duffy's on Potomac for the main event, which featured a reception with period music performed by the North Hagerstown High School string quartet.

The night also included a meal with Renaissance fare followed by Hagerstown Community College's Robinwood Players' performance of Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew."

Throughout the event, members of The Potomac Playmakers, a community theater group, circulated among the crowd dressed in Renaissance attire.



USM Chancellor Brit Kirwan (right) poses with USMH Executive Director David Warner (left) and USMH Associate Director Jo Ellen Barnhart (center)



USM Chancellor Brit Kirwan enjoys the cocktail reception held at USMH in his honor.

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HAGERSTOWN

NOW IS THE TIME TO DISCOVER YOUR OPTIONS

Attend the USMH Open House and Academic Advising Seminar on October 24 from 5 – 8 PM

Mark Your Calendar to Learn More About Our Programs and Meet One-On-One with Advisement Staff



FSU PROFESSOR Offers Wisdom and Real-World Insight to Business Students

Professor. Award recipient. Grandmother. Jewelry designer. Publisher. Entrepreneur. All these words describe Dr. Marty Mattare, a remarkable member of Frostburg State University's (FSU) faculty at the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH). Dr. Mattare teaches business courses in FSU's College of Business.

Already an accomplished professor, Dr. Mattare recently received her Ph.D. in human and organizational systems from Fielding Graduate University. "I received it last year, and taught full-time while completing my doctorate," explained Dr. Mattare. At USMH, she teaches a master's in business administration (MBA) online class, human resources management, and also teaches a face-to-face class, leadership in human behavior. At the main campus in Frostburg, she teaches entrepreneurship.

Teaching is close to Dr. Mattare's heart. She received her undergraduate degree in secondary education from Kansas State University and used to teach English and developmental reading in Junction City, Kansas.

But the majority of her career has been spent as an entrepreneur, and this unique experience is what she draws upon when teaching her students. "I worked in business for 30 years, primarily in the publishing industry," she said.

"I got tired of seeing bad management practices and realized, to make changes, I needed to have a voice and more knowledge. So, I decided to pursue my master's in business administration at FSU," she explained. "While receiving my MBA, I was asked to teach in the FSU program."



FSU Professor Dr. Marty Mattare (right) with a student and Lew Muth, director of FSU services at USMH (center) at a graduation celebration.

Her career has come full circle, from teaching to the business world, to teaching students about the business world. "In a strange way, without planning it, I pulled together my business experience and teaching experience into one," Dr. Mattare noted.

Dr. Mattare's favorite course to teach is entrepreneurship. "Right now this course is only at the FSU campus, but I'm very excited, because we are bringing it here to USMH in the spring as an elective in the business management major," said Dr. Mattare.

Always ready to share her corporate-world experience with her students, Dr. Mattare finds it important to "engage the class." In her FSU entrepreneurship class, Dr. Mattare breaks the class up into teams.

"I ask them to come up with real life challenges, and then we discuss, as a class, how these challenges might be handled," she said.

She advises her students to have a "really good support network and personal advisors, who are able to give good feedback." Dr. Mattare said when starting a career, it is important to "understand yourself and what you're good at and what you're not as good at. It is helpful to have people around you who can help you achieve this understanding."

Nursing Student Able to Fulfill Dream Due to Regents Scholarship

For the second year in a row, Peter Nguyen, a student in Towson University's nursing program at the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH), was awarded the Kelly Regents Scholarship. Nguyen is a graduate of Hagerstown Community College with associate degrees in biology, chemistry and general studies.

Her teaching techniques and experience were acknowledged last spring when Dr. Mattare received the Educator of the Year award from the Washington County Chamber of Commerce. "There was a lovely awards dinner," she said. The award was unique, charming and something she can use, versus sit on a shelf – a beautiful rocking chair engraved with the FSU logo, her name, the name of the award and the date, she said.

In addition to teaching, Dr. Mattare is a member of several committees for FSU including, the Program and Planning Committee, within the Department of Business Management, and the Economic Development and Outreach Committee. She also represents Frostburg in the University System of Maryland's (USM) Business Articulation Committee, which is in practice to make it easier for students to transfer credits from one USM school to another USM school. "It is nice to meet people from other universities," she said regarding working on this committee.

Dr. Mattare said she finds she is always working, but her precious downtime is spent with her grandchildren, twin seven-year-old boys and a three-year-old girl. She also enjoys making jewelry and reading.

"I am almost finished Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen," she said, recommending the work of fiction and then added, "I am always reading textbooks and studies on entrepreneurship."

The Kelly Regents Scholarship is the most prestigious scholarship awarded in the University System of Maryland. The scholarship covers the entire cost of in-state tuition, room, board, books and academic materials.

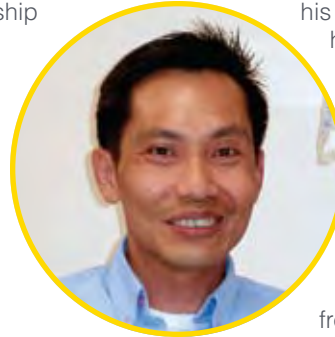
The Kelly Regents Scholarship for USMH is awarded to a Maryland community college transfer student who has completed a minimum of 56 credits with a 3.8 or higher grade point average.

Also, the person has to demonstrate financial need and must pursue a full-time bachelor's degree through USMH. Nguyen met all those qualifications and decided to apply for the scholarship after being accepted into Towson's nursing program at USMH.

With a family to take care of Nguyen said, "this scholarship has helped out big time. Without it I would have to apply for student loans."

Nguyen came to the United States in 1989 as a Vietnamese refugee. After graduating from Albert Einstein High School in Montgomery County, he completed two years in a pre-med program at Montgomery College and transferred to the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) where he continued his studies. After one year, he was forced to drop out and work full-time, so that he could sponsor his parents and five siblings who were immigrating to the States.

He worked full-time to pay for their transportation as well as prove that he could support them for six months once they arrived. He also sponsored his fiancé whom he met while on a trip back to Vietnam. Nguyen married and moved to Hagerstown with his wife in 1997. The couple managed a beauty salon owned by a friend. By the end of 2004, he felt



his life had "no meaning" and he decided to go back to school. His father, a doctor, and his mother, a nurse, held high expectations for their son to pursue a career in the medical field. With his credits earned from Montgomery College and UMBC, he attained three associate degrees from Hagerstown Community College (HCC) in one year.

He was accepted into HCC's nursing program, and he also applied to Johns Hopkins. When he found out about Towson's program in Hagerstown, he was excited about the prospect of obtaining a bachelor's degree while attending school close to home. After he was accepted, he stopped in the USMH center where he met Jennifer Clement, library media specialist, and Dr. JoEllen Barnhart, associate executive director. The two suggested he apply for the Regents scholarship, which he did immediately.

"MY LIFE WAS IN A LONG-TIME DROUGHT," SAID NGUYEN. "MISS JENNIFER [CLEMENT] AND MISS JOELLEN [BARNHART] WERE THE RAIN AND THE SCHOLARSHIP IS THE FERTILIZER I NEEDED TO GROW AGAIN. THIS SCHOLARSHIP HAS OPENED A NEW DOOR FOR ME."

Nguyen graduates this spring and is pursuing two options. One option would be to join the Naval Nurse Corp. "Last month, I sent all the required documentation," he said. If accepted he would go to Rhode Island for seven weeks of training. The other option is to start Towson's physician assistant program.

USMH

Testing and Career Services Coordinator Ready to Help Students

USMH students are achieving goals everyday. In addition to daily goals, students should look ahead and ask themselves what they want to accomplish after graduation. This is a question for Sue Frock, USMH testing and career services coordinator.

Frock has a myriad of career information available, including handouts, interview and networking tip sheets, job fair postings, and she will soon be offering a career assessment test. Also, with an appointment, students can have their resumes reviewed and discuss their career development strategies.

"I am definitely available to students, and I am very much looking forward to helping students with their career goals," said Frock. "Here at USMH, we want students to have all the necessary tools to enter the workforce."

Another task on her plate is to get the Student Leadership Organization off the ground. "It's about the student community coming together," Frock said. The organization would sponsor events such as a travel club and the book club, which is already under way.

In addition to career services, Frock also runs the testing center, which provides proctored paper, distance, and on-line testing for all of the institutions at USMH. "We are a regional testing facility for the entire University System of Maryland," said Frock.

For more information or to schedule an advisement session, contact Sue Frock at 240-527-2755 or sfrock@hagerstown.usmd.edu.

MARYLAND SENATOR Holds Financial Aid Roundtable with USMH Students

Senator Mikulski (center), students who participated in the discussion, and USMH Associate Director Dr. Jo Ellen Barnhart (left) pose for a photo after the roundtable event



Senator Mikulski (center) discusses her plan to increase financial aid assistance.



On Thursday, September 13, Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.), a senior member of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, held a roundtable discussion with students from the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH) in the campus' library.

The lively roundtable discussion focused on the rising cost of tuition and the challenges students face regarding financial aid. Eight USMH students from Towson University's nursing program and Frostburg State University's education programs participated in the discussion.

Senator Mikulski spent time listening to each student's situation regarding financial aid assistance. All of the students agreed government-issued grants should be increased.

The students voiced concern about not being able to qualify for government assistance due to middle-income salary levels. Many students said they had to leave jobs in order to come to USMH, which cut their family's earnings. But aid forms are filed prior to starting school, so aid is based on income before students leave the workforce to attend school.

USMH students also discussed the challenges non-traditional students face. The panel explained to Senator Mikulski that they must juggle other financial concerns for their children and families, including mortgages and car payments. Student loans on top of other debt is sometimes too much to handle, the students explained.

Senator Mikulski interacted with each student. She listened intently and voiced

understanding of their individual circumstances. She thanked each one for sharing their story and said it sounded like the financial aid system was like Swiss cheese – it was firm and working in some areas, but in other areas there were definite holes that needed to be filled in. The students agreed with this analogy.

Then, Senator Mikulski unveiled a plan to aid students – The College Cost Reduction and Access Act (H.R. 2669). President George W. Bush signed the bill into law shortly after the senator's visit to USMH.

The bill, which addresses several of Senator Mikulski's priorities:

- >> Increases Pell grants from \$4,310 to \$5,400 by 2012.
- >> Cuts back the amount of student-loan-related government subsidies to banks, thereby increasing student aid by \$20 billion.
- >> Reduces borrower's interest rates from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent for undergraduate students with subsidized student loans.
- >> Forgives direct student loans for borrowers who have worked 10 years in public service, including teachers, nurses and members of the military, and caps monthly loan payments at 15 percent of a borrower's discretionary income.
- >> Defers loans for active military, including the National Guard, while they serve during a war or military operation.

"It was an honor to have Senator Mikulski unveil her financial aid initiatives with USMH students. Many of our students personally understand the need for greater financial aid assistance from our government. Today, USMH students discussed candidly options to better their lives with a member of government who can make a change," said Dr. David Warner, USMH executive director. "This was an exciting and proud moment for USMH and its students."

Dazzling Artwork

Decorates USMH Library



In October, as the autumn leaves create a natural color display outside, another dazzling display of rich color will be exhibited inside the USMH library. Two local sisters' artwork will illuminate the walls of the USMH library throughout the month.

Suzanne Bell, a Hagerstown native, recently returned to her hometown after living in Salisbury, Maryland for 12 years. The nuances and delicacy of watercolor inspired her to pursue a career in the arts. In 1975, she started watercolor classes at the Washington County Museum of Art. Since that time, she has studied under local artists such as Clyde Roberts and David Zimmerman.

Bell has expanded her artistic scope to include works in oil, acrylic and mixed media. Her work has been exhibited on the Eastern Shore and has earned several awards, including first prize in the Delmarva Regional Exhibition in 2006. She currently serves on the board of Hagerstown's Valley Art Association.

Gretchen Starliper, also from Hagerstown, has always enjoyed sewing, needlework, crafts and drawing. With encouragement from her sister, her interest in painting came later in life. Starliper works with both watercolors and acrylics. She has also learned the unique art of combining watercolor and textiles under the teachings of

artist Pamela Sarah Woods. As a result, all of her artwork is infused with and inspired by her love of color and design.

Visit
www.hagerstown.usmd.edu
 for updates on future library
 art exhibits.

USMH LAUNCHES THREE NEW PROGRAMS

This fall, several new programs have launched at USMH. Now students who attend USMH can earn a bachelor's in early childhood education from Frostburg State University, a bachelor's or master's in social work from Salisbury University, or a master's in nursing from Towson University.

"We are very excited to have these programs at USMH. Education impacts the community, and there is no doubt that with the addition of these programs, we are creating a stronger educational foundation for Hagerstown and the surrounding communities," said Dr. David Warner, USMH executive director.

B.S. and M.S. in Social Work

Seventeen new students started the social work program this fall, and the program

should almost double by next year as new students join the current students, reported Cindy Wingate, Salisbury University's social work program coordinator. "This program is so exciting because now students in the Hagerstown area can achieve a degree in social work without having to travel."

Field placements are a vital component of the program and will be facilitated at local departments of social services and other community agencies.

"We will place our students within a 50-mile radius of USMH," said Wingate. Students pursuing a bachelor's in social work must complete a one-year, 16-hours-per-week field placement and masters-level students complete two one-year field placements, one for 16-hours-per-week and one for 24-hours-per-week.

"The classes in the social work program at USMH are taught in a blended model, which means the students have face-to-face, fully interactive, live video and online instruction from Salisbury University's professional, full time, tenure-track faculty.



Cindy Wingate, Salisbury University's Social Work program coordinator.

The blended model reduces in-class seat time by about one third," said Wingate.

Wingate stressed the accessibility of faculty and staff to students. "Both the master's and bachelor's programs will always have a master's-level facilitator in the classroom," she said and added, "I serve as an advisor for students in the program."

As a licensed clinical social worker, Wingate spent the past 10 years at the University of Maryland's School of Social Work and, prior to that, worked for Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Social Work. Before working in higher

education, Wingate worked for several local departments of social services and was an assistant director for child welfare services. *For more information on Salisbury's Social work Program at USMH, contact Cindy Wingate at 240-527-2737 or clwingate@salisbury.edu*

B.S. in Early Childhood Education

"For the fall, we are pleased to announce that approximately 15 new students have started the program, which allows students to complete the last two years of an early childhood/elementary bachelor's degree at USMH," said Dr. Kim Rotruck, associate chair, FSU department of educational professions.

Students finish the first two years of courses at a community college and/or qualified college or university before admission to the program. "Frostburg State University education faculty and staff are collaborating with local community colleges to ensure a smooth transition," said Dr. Rotruck.

Field placements are an integral part of the program. In the fall of junior year, students observe pre-kindergarten through fifth grade classes. Then in the spring, juniors are placed for three weeks in a pre-kindergarten through fifth grade classroom. In the fall of their senior year, students spend six weeks in a pre-kindergarten through fifth grade classroom and the spring semester of senior year is spent entirely in a pre-kindergarten through fifth grade classroom.

For more information or to set up an appointment, please contact Frostburg State University's education office located in the USM Hagerstown building at 240-527-2741.

M.S. in Nursing

A grant enabled a new master of science in nursing program to start at USMH this

fall. "Five students are registered for all-day classes, which are held on Tuesdays," said Judy Breitenbach, Towson's nursing program director.

The Towson community-based master's program consists of 36 credits. Students take 21 credits of core courses, and choose a concentration for the remaining 15 credits. Concentrations include Nursing Education, Clinician to Administrator Transition, and Community-based Nursing Practice Clinician. The core group of courses culminates in capstone course experiences in community-based nursing. In these courses, students plan an implement a community-based project for diverse populations that need nursing care. For example, students may be expert maternal-child or intensive care nurses (or any other nursing specialty). These nurses implement projects utilizing their expertise to enhance nursing care for that population. Therefore, many different clinical settings are utilized in the program.

The classes are hybrid courses, meaning 50 percent of the classes are held in the classroom and 50 percent are held online. Interactive Video Networking (IVN) technology is utilized, so students at Towson and USMH will see and hear the instructor and their classmates.

Currently, three Towson faculty members are teaching courses. In the future, additional faculty will teach the full-time program. The current faculty consists of three distinguished members of the nursing field. Marilyn Halstead, Ph.D., RN, AOCNS, associate professor and graduate program director, received her doctorate degree at the University of Maryland at Baltimore in 1998 and completed a dissertation on the spiritual experience of women cancer patients. Her research interests are in spirituality and coping with cancer, and her clinical interests are in oncology, medical-surgical nursing, parish nursing and spiritual care.



Sharon Eifried, Ph.D., RN, professor emerita, also received her doctorate degree in 1998 from the University of Maryland at Baltimore. She specializes in nursing education, hermeneutic phenomenology and suffering. Dr. Eifried completed her dissertation on learning to care for patients who are suffering. Her clinical interests are in adult health, medical surgical nursing and oncology, and her research interests are in suffering, caring and nursing education.

Catherine Crowley, EdD, RN, will serve as an adjunct faculty for the nursing program. She received her EdD from George Washington University in 2002, where she completed a dissertation on sensemaking in a voluntary nonprofit association. Her research interests are adult and organizational learning, and her clinical interests are in management.

For more information on Towson's nursing program at USMH, contact Susan Morren at 240-527-2757 or smorren@towson.edu.

As these three new programs get underway this fall Dr. David Warner, USMH executive director said, "We look forward to working with the students and faculty of these programs. Each and every individual participating contributes to our center's success."

Student FAQs

Do I need to check-in with security when I go to class?

No, you do not need to check-in with security to attend your class or if you need to go to the library. But, if you have an appointment with a faculty member or counselor, you will need to sign-in.

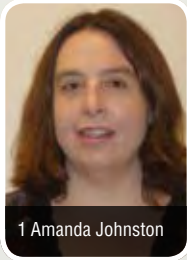
Is someone available to walk me to my car?

Yes. The security guard on duty will gladly escort students and faculty to their cars. Please don't hesitate to ask. Security is always available to make students and faculty feel comfortable and safe.

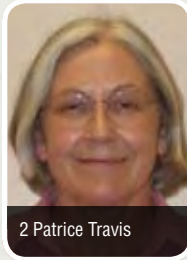
What other security measures are in place?

Safety is very important, and at USMH we take great care to make sure our students, faculty and staff are safe at all times. The security guard at the entrance is responsible for checking student IDs and making sure other guests sign in and out at the entrance. Security knows who is in the

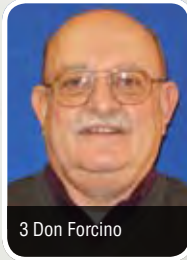
USMH Expands Staff



1 Amanda Johnston



2 Patrice Travis



3 Don Forcino



4 Gayla Moon-Burgess



5 Kathy Olivier



6 Sue Frock



7 Jan Dickinson

Just like the infamous battery advertisement, USMH keeps going and going or should we say growing and growing with the addition of new programs (see article on page 5) and new staff.

1 Public relations specialist, **Amanda Johnston**, joined USMH in August and will be working with Erin Harman, USMH director of marketing and public relations. "As a graduate of the journalism school at College Park, I am excited about being part of USMH, and I am very much looking forward to marketing USMH to the community via publications and the new Web site."

Prior to joining USMH, Amanda was a communications director for the National Burglar & Fire Alarm Association and a freelance writer for various publications.

2 **Patrice Travis** joined the USMH Library staff as a part-time library assistant in August. She will continue her six-year career with Maryland's Health Department as an environmental sanitarian during the day, and serve as a USMH library assistant on evenings and weekends.

Patrice received her B.S. in medical technology from Michigan State University where she worked at the campus' main library as a student. She is pleased to return to the library field. "I have always

enjoyed interacting with college students, and I welcome the opportunity to do so again," she said.

3 USMH also has a new librarian substitute, **Don Forcino**, who joined USMH in January. Prior to his retirement, Don served for eight years as the legislative representative for the United Steel Workers of America. "I had retired and I didn't want to just dry up and fade away, so I applied for the job at USMH. I like what I am doing and I certainly enjoy working with the students."

Staff Celebrate One-Year Anniversary with USMH

In addition to the recent new hires, several USMH staff members have marked their one-year milestone with USMH.

4 **Gayla Moon-Burgess**, IT support associate, provides technical support to staff and students. "This past year, I have really enjoyed working with the students and staff. It is a welcoming environment." Before joining USMH, Gayla lived in Topeka, Kansas, and was employed for seven years as an automation support specialist with the Federal Court and Probation System.

5 **Kathy Olivier**, USMH assessment specialist, researches, analyzes and creates data reports for USMH programs. In her position, she tracks program enrollment history and projections, and analyzes industry trends. Kathy holds a B.S. in

business administration with a concentration in marketing and a M.Ed. with an interdisciplinary in instructional technology from Frostburg State University. Prior to joining USMH, Kathy served as an adjunct computer technology teacher at Frederick Community College.

6 **Sue Frock**, USMH testing center and career services coordinator, provides career assistance to USMH students including, interview tips, job postings, and resume guidance. She also runs the testing center where students can take proctored paper, distance, and on-line testing. In addition to running the testing and career center, Sue also serves as an adjunct faculty member for Frostburg State University and University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She received her master's in business administration in 1996 from Frostburg, and her undergraduate business degree from University of Maryland University College. Sue has been self-employed in the executive recruiting, consulting, sales and marketing fields.

7 **Jan Dickinson**, executive administrative assistant for Dr. David Warner and Dr. JoEllen Barnhart, provides support in outreach efforts to bring new programs to USMH. She also schedules appointments, makes travel arrangements, handles visitors, and serves as a liaison for program coordinators. Previously, Jan served as a paralegal for 22 years. She has an associate degree from Hagerstown Business College.

building at all times. Security also makes routine rounds of the building to check that the building is secure. The security guard makes sure computer labs and IVN rooms are locked when not in use. Security cameras are in place throughout our facility and are monitored regularly. In addition to USMH security, the Hagerstown Police Department has a substation in our building.

Where do I park, and do I need a parking pass?

There is metered parking, \$.25/hour with a two-hour limit, on the street in the USMH area. The City of Hagerstown parking deck, \$1.00/hour - \$6.00/day, is a block and a half from the Courthouse, in the middle of the first block of North Potomac Street. After 7 p.m. all vehicles exit the

deck free of charge regardless of how long they have been parked in the deck. You do not need a parking pass, but parking passes are available for \$20 per semester and can be purchased in the front office.



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