

April, 2007

Volume 3, Issue 1

**Special Interest
Articles:**

- *Tornado
Warning
Prompts PIN
Response*
- *Ask Annie
Facility
Improvement
Questionnaire*
- *Congrats &
Kudos!*
- *Recent PIN
Weddings*
- *Pinnacle
Student Todd
Watts Wins
Stephen Jay
Gould Award*
- *Business
Studies
Department
Hosts Study
Abroad Trip*
- *New Faces on
Campus*

**Campus Manager,
Judy Van Cleve**

**Campus Manager
Adm. Asst. III,
Melissa Brown**

**Evening Oper. Coord.,
Rita Banninger**

**Adm. Asst. II,
Jeanette Brownlee**

**Duplication Clerk,
Diana Gatica**

**Custodians,
Lee Vallejo and
Bvnum Thomas**



From the Pinnacle

*Austin Community College
7748 Hwy 290 West*

Reaching New Heights in Education

Tornado Warning Prompts PIN Response

On Friday, March 30, 2007, Pinnacle Campus Manager's Office Administrative Assistant II, **Jeanette Brownlee's**, daughter Catie called her mother to let her know a tornado had been spotted touching ground near Dripping Springs.

Jeanette passed this information on to **Melissa Brown**, Administrative Assistant III, and **Judy Van Cleve**, Campus Manager, who turned on the campus' NOAA Radio.

Judy consulted with the Campus Police Office and then walked throughout the building to let people know that there was inclement weather in the immediate area and advised them to stay alert and be ready to move to an interior hallway or to move to the "shelter-in-place."

While the Campus Manager's Office and Campus Police were making faculty and staff aware of the weather, police dispatch notified PIN Campus Police Sergeant, **Rhonda Blair** that a tornado warning was in effect for the area including the Pinnacle Campus. At that time Officer Blair made an announcement for everyone to move away from windows, go to a place of safety, or go to the first floor TV Studio which is designed as the Pinnacle Campus' "shelter-in-place."

Within minutes everyone in the building had moved away from the windows, to interior hallways, or to the television studio. After twenty minutes the tornado warning was reclassified as a storm watch and everyone returned to their work areas and classrooms.

Although tornadoes can occur any time of the year, they are more apt to develop during spring storms. The Austin Community College Environmental Health and Safety Director, **Rebecca Cole**, and EHS Coordinator, **Robert Rogers**, are currently working with the EHS Task Force Committee to finalize the emergency process for storms and inclement weather. Below are the basic procedures to follow during severe weather.

The purpose of this procedure is to provide Austin Community College Faculty, Staff, and Students information regarding severe weather conditions and the procedures that will be implemented should severe weather conditions arise:

- The Campus Manager's Office in cooperation with the Campus Police Office will notify the PIN Emergency Response team by phone or email when a WATCH has been issued for their campus.
- The team members will turn on and carry team radios until the WATCH or WARNING expires.
- The Campus Administrator in Charge will notify team members by radio when a WARNING has been issued for the campus.
- When a severe weather threat is 10 miles or 30 minutes away from campus, the Campus Administrator in Charge will alert the team members to be prepared to move to the "shelter-in-place."
- Bookstore employees will be notified by the Campus Administrator in Charge to

move into the secured area.

- Classes and offices in the building will then be notified. Every effort should be made to identify, locate, and assist students, faculty, and staff needing assistance, those with limited mobility, visual or hearing impairment, or other needs.
- Faculty will then stay with their students in identified safe areas or exit down appropriate stairway to “shelter-in-place” area.
- A sweep by PIN Emergency Response team on their designated floors will insure everyone has been secured to shelter in place.
- The Campus Administrator in Charge, in conjunction with the Campus Police Office and the ACC Emergency Response team will issue an ALL Clear Signal once the severe weather threat has passed.

“When a severe weather threat is 10 miles or thirty minutes away from the campus, the Campus Administrator in Charge will alert the team members to prepare for “shelter-in-place.”

Ask Annie

Budget time is here and facility improvements are high on the Campus Manager’s list. We need your input regarding those services listed below. Students are responding to a similar request. See the table top surveys on the 9th, 4th and 1st floors.

Tell us your thoughts on the following areas. Send all comments to the Campus Manager at judyvc@austincc.edu.

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Parking | Maintenance | Safety |
| Restrooms | Custodial | Media in Classrooms |
| Elevators | Furniture | Faculty/Staff Lounge |
| Stairwells | Café | Instructional Equip. |
| Patio & Grounds | Vending Machines | Faculty Offices |

Congrats & Kudos!

Sue Wright, Adjunct Faculty, English, took first place in Texas for an essay she wrote in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Literature and Drama contest.

The topic was “Women’s Issues” and the title of the essay was “And How Old Will You Be If You Don’t?”

Terry Cotton, Student Financial Aid Asst. II, has taken a new position with ACC as the Veteran’s Affairs Specialist at Riverside Campus beginning April 23, 2007.

Congratulations and we’ll miss you Terry!

* * * * *

New Grandbabies for:

Sharon “Terry” Gormley, Adjunct Faculty, Spanish, and her husband **Ty Gormley**, welcomed a new granddaughter on March 19, 2007.

Terry Thomas, Professor, History, and husband **George Melvin** welcomed granddaughter Isabella Sofia on December 4th. She joins older brother Carlos, who’s 4 1/2.

Recent PIN Weddings



Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Penrose, the former Marlyn Ramsey, (previously the Admin. Asst. for the PIN Social and Behavioral Sciences Dept.) were wed on January 27, 2007.



Mr. & Mrs. John Cruz, the former Michele Cano, IVC Services Specialist, were wed on November 4, 2006.

Pinnacle Student Todd Watts Wins Stephen Jay Gould Award

Late in the Fall 2006 Semester, Austin Community College student **Todd Watts** received the Stephen Jay Gould Memorial Scholarship at a reception in the Faculty Lounge at the Pinnacle Campus.

Many members of the Pinnacle family who know and admire Todd Watts attended the reception to congratulate Todd and wish him well. Todd was selected for this honor because of his outstanding academic record, his campus leadership and good character. He is the sixth recipient of the scholarship.

Professor Gould was a geologist, zoologist, paleontologist and evolutionary biologist at Harvard. You can read more about him at this website: <http://www.stephenjaygould.org/>

The scholarship was founded by ACC Biology professor **Dr. Yvonne Estes**, with honoraria from photos she'd taken of the late Harvard paleontologist, **Stephen Jay Gould**, which were published in Natural History Magazine, Sports Illustrated, and in Gould's baseball book.

Calendar of Events at PIN

- April 17 & 18 Student Government Association Elections, 1st Floor Lobby, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- April 17 Student Life Movie, Rm. 108, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- April 19 IT Training Session, Room 1013.
- April 23 **Final Withdrawal Deadline For Spring 2007 classes.**
- April 26 Student Life Stress Relief Day, Room 108, 11:00 a.m. To 1:30 p.m.
- May 1 Student Life Movie, Room 108, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



from the PINNACLE is a campus publication with Rita Banninger, Evening Operations Coordinator, serving as editor. For Austin Community College information please contact our website at www.austincc.edu

Business Studies Department Hosts Study Abroad Trip

The **Business Studies Department** at the Pinnacle Campus headed by **Charles Quinn** is once again offering a study abroad trip to Monterrey, Mexico this spring. The trip will take place for 10 days between spring and summer semesters, May 18 through 27, 2007.

Don Morris, Adjunct Professor in Public Relations and Marketing will be the faculty representative traveling with the students. Interested students should contact Don Morris at 223-8118, Pinnacle Campus.

Charles shared the following experiences when he was faculty representative for the Travel Abroad Program to Monterrey, Mexico.

"This was a rich cultural experience for the six students as they attend classes taught by teachers at the Universidad Regiomontana. The classes they attended were Spanish, Mexican history and culture, and business and economics.

In addition to attending classes they toured local cultural sites like the Mexican history museum. They also toured several businesses. For instance, the largest grocery and produce distribution center in North America, the Centrales de Abastos, is on the tour as well as Femsa Brewery, owned by a consortium of businesses. Femsa Brewery makes Dos Equis, Sol, Bohemia, Tecate, and Carta Blanca beers."

While there are many reasons to be a part of a study abroad trip; the opportunity to try new foods ranks right up there. Charles was quick to attest, "Some of the best food ever eaten I ate while on the Mexico study abroad trip!"

New Faces on Campus

The CIS/CSC Department would like to welcome **Bill Diamond** who is currently an intern with their department. Bill earned a Network Administration Certificate from ACC and is completing his Associates degree in Network Security this semester.

Student Life has a new Student Life Assistant, **Elise Swaving**. Elise moved here from New Mexico. She earned her bachelor's degree from Eastern New Mexico University with a major in communications with an emphasis in public relations.

The Student Services Office has a new counselor, **Carol Townsend**. She is ACC's first Distance Learning Counselor. Carol previously worked as a Support Center Specialist at both Eastview and Riverside Campuses.