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Is there room for you in the Evil House of Cheat?

Nicole Stinger
Nest Editorial Assistant

It's late at night. Frantically skimming a pile of resources from the Web, you glance at the clock and notice there are only eight hours left to create a thesis statement on a Shakespearean novel and write a 10-page term paper worth 40 percent of your grade. What is a procrastinating college student to do?

How about a report on the critical theories for Hamlet's delay in killing his stepfather? Only $71.60 for eight pages, 19 citations, and seven sources. Two pages then seem reasonable for the amount of time left on the clock. And if using eight pages of someone else's work makes you feel too guilty, how about five pages on the preternatural imagery in Macbeth for the low price of $44.75? Where would a student find such helpful reports at three in the morning? On the Web's Evil House of Cheat, of course.

Access to the Internet has given students around the world an easier and more accessible way to cheat their way through classes. Websites such as Evil House of Cheat and School Sucks advertise a variety of reports and links to similar sites. At these sites, a student has the option of obtaining an array of reports. Some of the writings are free. Some have a price. And then there are others that can be custom designed to the student's specifications for a price.

All of the sites have disclaimers on the pages stating that if a person plans to plagiarize someone else's work will receive an "F" for the assignment. The grade will then be used to determine the student's final grade. The handbook goes on to describe that students who receive an "F" because of their academic dishonesty will also be awarded an "FF" on their official transcripts, which is a clear indication of their offense.

In one particular incident, criminology professor Dr. Tom Mieczkowski described how he was able to catch someone using a report from the Internet as their own. He explained the student turned in a report that surpassed the caliber work typical of the student.

"The paper was so perfect that I thought it could be done by one of my colleagues," Mieczkowski explained.

One of the safeguards that Mieczkowski and others in his department use to narrow the incidents of plagiarism is the requirement of citing sources. Students who take the easy way out run the risk of getting caught in the dangerous game of cheating.

Photo by Kaerrie Simons

Students who take the easy way out run the risk of getting caught in the dangerous game of cheating.
Library helps make research easier

Katie Phillips
Next Contributor

New USF students may well find a visit to the campus library daunting. In place of the author and subject card indexes are electronic files of books and periodicals. To read back copies of newspapers requires use of a microfiche machine. And ranks of computers offer access to enough databases to cause mental indigestion.

But help is available for apprehensive students from a team of librarians at the Nelson Poynter Library ( pictured).
The library staff conducts tours of print and electronic resources for groups or individuals. Students learn how to navigate the electronic indexes to locate academic journal articles. They discover how to access new databases and how to narrow searches on the Internet to obtain relevant, scholarly information for their courses.

"We teach them to fish rather than what fish to find," librarian Jackie Jackson said.

Forty-one Pinellas County teachers starting their master's degrees in elementary education recently benefited from an orientation. They gained hands-on experience in accessing electronic databases and finding their way around the Internet.

"The training lab is impressive," Mike McCann said.

Fellow student Bobbie Khoury called the instruction top-notch. "The librarian guided each student; you didn't feel alone," she said.

Khoury believes the changes in information technology are so rapid nowadays that the tour is essential for anyone who has been away from studying even for a year. The skills acquired by the Pinellas teachers have been passed on to their school students.

Khoury described the marine project her elementary students were researching. The children were looking for information on the Internet about elephant seals. One tip Khoury learned from the librarian was to put inverted commas around the phrase "elephant seals."

"If we had keyed in two separate terms, the computer would have given us countless references about 'elephants' and 'seals,' but nothing specifically about 'elephant seals,'" Khoury said. "Knowing the short cuts is definitely useful."

Jackson, circulation librarian, taught the Pinellas teachers their new skills. She says students should never feel their questions are too obvious or stupid to ask. Jackson describes the tours as a "part of the instructor-acquired and faculty" relationship for the benefit of students.

We get good feedback from professors," she said. "They tell us the students do better research after one of these training sessions. They select better topics for research and learn to recognize scholarly journals, they are more focused."

Dr. Sonia Helton, coordinator for the elementary education program, agrees. She knew it was important that her new students develop research skills as quickly as possible. "Jackie helped motivate my students for the course," Helton said.

Students who want to develop their research skills further can take a three-credit class in information resources and research in either the fall or spring semesters.

Theresa Gray, a student government representative in the TAC (Teacher for All Children) program, raised her concerns at the Sept. 4 student government meeting when Rodrigues suggested an advertising venture open to all clubs. During the announcement phase of the meeting, Rodrigues said that clubs could receive 50 percent of an ad's value when a club member sold an ad for the Crow's Nest. He suggested that student government and other clubs could earn money in addition to the funds already allocated by the budget.

Gray said his proposal was "unethical" because he brought up an advertising issue without going through the proper channels. She said Rodrigues now under­ stood his position and has been cooperative.

Another representative, Carl Heidenreich, said he could see Gray's concern about a conflict of interest. However, he said, "If you stretch it real far, it might come back to make him look better, but I don't think most of us would see it that way."

After the meeting, Rodrigues respond­ ed by saying that because the university is small, individuals frequently have to take on more than one responsibility. He did not believe his proposal was a conflict of interest, he said, because it was made during the announcement portion of the meet­ ing. Rodrigues also said he would not ben­ efit financially from his proposal because he gets paid a flat rate (a university stipend) as ad manager and a commission only on the ads that he sells. Any student who sells an ad would receive commis­sion, he said. "In my opinion, what's in the best interest of the school is what's most important, as long as it benefits everyone."

Simons said she would not agree to Rodrigues' proposal because it didn't make sense financially. She said the ads generally cost from $42 to $120. After the 50 percent contribution to the clubs and the 15 percent commission to the solicitor, the paper could lose money and surrender editorial space.

Simons said another problem would be having club members represent the Crow's Nest without going through the proper channels. She said Rodrigues now under­ stands her position and has been coopera­tive.

Simons said she feels Rodrigues' resign­ ation as ad manager eliminates concern over conflict of interest. "His position as the president of student government is, and should be, more important than his involvement as advertising manager, and he recognized his main priority was to the student body."
Teaching evolution takes creative thinking

Daniel P. Quinn
Next Contributor

I have noticed a phenomenon that has been manifesting itself in the people I come into contact with each and every day. I have family members who seem to be afflicted. And I’ve noticed the affliction in men, women, children and even myself.

I have yet to hear of it being given a clinical name, so I have chosen to dub it, “pauperphobia”—the fear. So much so that I would say it has been the impetus behind many suicides, politicians to make policy decisions based on poverty statistics. Why then do we cringe and beat-around-the-bush about evolution?

At the level that children are taught about the theory, they should have already had significant influence regarding religious theories and, therefore, should be able to make up their own minds. If parents and teachers are doing their job, the student will form a will to learn if it interests him or her that much.

If you do not want your children to learn evolution as a viable theory, and you want separation of church and state, then accept that and invest in a private school education that conforms to your beliefs.

Daniel P. Quinn is a member of the Society for the Advancement of Poynter Library.

Speaking of... Common irrational fears

Several congressmen, legislators, and corporate executives of multi-media and multi-national organizations are at present afflicted with complex cases of “pauperphobia.” The anomaly has infected the entire Western Hemisphere and is on a fast track to saturating the prevailing ethos of the entire global village.

The bottom-line imperitive: “reasoning” has become the most persuasive argument in virtually all political debate.

Amazing as this may seem, most of the problems society faces at the close of the century are caused by an undignified and consigned unchristian philistines.

For example, our danger I have observed lately is a growing trend of class aggression against the underclass. This trend has resulted in the basic civil liberties and rights of economically disadvantaged people being diminished en masse.

The notion of “homeless” is a pointed example that has become so widely accepted and legitimized by the construction of organizations, associations and even physical structures that when I have attempted to enlighten anyone to the reality that the word itself is a misnomer, most respond as though I have made the statement that two plus two is five. I go on fur ther to say that the Earth and all its appearances are the habitats of all living creatures (“our home—everyone’s home”), but to no avail.

To say otherwise, I contend, is to diminish a person’s natural rights, political rights, and divine rights. People may be “shelterless,” but they are not “homeless.” Likewise, the very notion of the words “poverty” and “poor” have received an abundance of negative press and subsequent misunderstanding.

I seem to remember an initiative starting with the presidency of Lyndon Johnson—so-called “the war on poverty.” Even here in St. Petersburg, our mayor, David Fischer, is trying to prove himself as saying that in the area, the money received from the federal government after the 1996 “South St. Petersburg disturbances would be used to attack and assault poverty” (as quoted in The St. Petersburg Times).

What would the response in the public forum be if it were stated that those in “leadership” were advancing an agenda to attack and assault “affluence” or to “declare a war on affluence.”

My point in the words “poverty” and “poor” are dripping with ideology, but have been reduced to such a narrow spectr um as to distort accurate and subsequently relevant social perceptions.

It’s safe to say that most people know very well that the excesses of capitalism and unbridled consumerism are equally, if not more so, the cause of much of the soci etal aberrations that lead to civil unrest and work against the idea of social progress. For example, I remember a few familiar literary allusions which argue this point: “It is not those who have too little who are poor but those who crave more” and “We haven’t the money so we have to think.” Both are from Shakespeare.

I have heard said that “poverty” is the “mother of mankind.” St. Francis of Assisi was said to have taken “poverty” for his mistress.

If there is a very negative side to “poverty,” as is also the case with the idea of “wealth,” it seems to me that in the case where entire communities and even entire countries suffer starvation, epidemics, etc., that this is not “poverty,” but usually “injustice.”

David P. Quinn is a member of the Society for the Advancement of Poynter Library.
an oasis here on campus

Krista Reiner
Next Contributor

Decked out in jeans and well-worn cowboy boots, with a blue bandanna tied around his neck, Jim Martin is dressed and ready for adventure. Next month he and his staff will set off on a four-day, 80-mile canoe trip down the Withlacoochee River with 15 Bright grader students. But Martin is even more excited about the everyday adventure called “Life.”

Martin directs Oasis, a dropout-prevention program for eighth-grade students with high academic potential, but low motivation and self-esteem. Often these students are frustrated with the mainstream school system and the system is frustrated with them, Martin said. The Oasis program, housed on the USF-St. Petersburg campus, provides an alternative to dropping out of the system.

Oasis uses alternative methods, Martin said, because the students need therapeutic intervention and a lot of tenderness.

“Instead of making students create an achievement-oriented environment by planning the school year around a theme. This year it is fresh-water systems. Students incorporate the theme in their studies and put their new knowledge to the test during camping and canoe trips, some of which parents are required to attend.

“It’s amazing to see a parent and child in the same canoe,” Martin said, remarking on the teamwork and communication skills used on such an outing. Even conflicts teach a lesson, Martin said. “We’ve learned that bonding comes out of conflict.”

For many of these teens, the outdoor trips may be their best opportunity to go on a camping adventure. But Martin believes the lessons learned in the wilderness can carry over to other areas of life. For one thing, the students come to see the teachers and staff as “real people,” rather than authority figures “hidden behind their titles,” a problem Martin often finds in regular classrooms.

The teachers and staff also get to know the students as people, not simply problems to be corrected.

Martin shared one of the fundamental beliefs behind the Oasis program: by sharing the common experience of an outdoor adventure, he said, students learn how they respond to situations. No matter what the circumstance, “they learn they can endure,” he said.

During his first years of teaching social studies to sixth graders, Martin said he was idealistic until he realized that “children bring their worlds to school.” And their worlds are not always pleasant. Emotional and physical stress can greatly interfere with learning in a classroom.

A few years later, Martin went on a month-long Outward Bound wilderness trip. Along with the critical problem solving and teamwork skills required in the Outward Bound group, Martin also faced his fear of being alone, which he admits was difficult at that point in his life.

On the required three-day solo hike, Martin was surround ed by wilderness and on his own. Facing his fear head on, Martin said the experience transformed him into a person who could no longer say, “I can’t.”

“I can,” became the message Martin would share with hundreds of children he taught in Pinellas County and elsewhere. He began creating programs that gave young people the opportunity to experience the adventure of life in the wilderness.

In 1986, Martin’s love of teaching and the personal-development principles of Outward Bound combined to form the Oasis program. Supported by state funds, the school district and individual donations, the Oasis program is now 12 years old and planning for the future.

Admission to the program is highly selective and a major commitment is required of both students and their parents. Besides high marks on standardized testing for academic potential, students must go through a screening interview. Parents must agree to attend monthly support meetings and weekend camping trips.

The future of the Oasis program is bright, Martin said. This year the program has been allocated an additional $100,000 from a state-wide funding source to implement a new project for teaching students once they leave the Oasis program and go to high school.

Martin is also planning on providing co-going, in-home support for the families of students.

While this new addition to the program will provide a network of support for the students after they leave Oasis, Martin and his staff will continue to impart lessons he hopes will remain ingrained in their hearts for life.

The message is clear, as an Oasis T-shirt declares: “Life’s a River. Adjust your Attitude and Paddle.”

For both students who do choose to plagiarize, Anthony Joiner, Assistant Director of Student Affairs, said, "Advice that I would give to a student who was thinking about plagiarizing a paper... don’t do it!" When a student plagiarizes, it pulls into question their integrity and reflects their moral character.

Many teachers try to have a net for scooping up all the dishonest students, but whether or not they actually capture the bugs is an unanswered question. Choosing to plagiarize risks your identity and self-worth in a game that can be unforgiving. In the end, whether or not the truth is discovered, the only person cheated is you.

Cheat continued from page 1

all students to keep a work file of all materials used to produce a report.

The professors may or may not ask for the work file of materials. But if they do, the file should be a clear indication of whether or not a student’s work is his or her own.

As this incident was unraveling, Mieczkowski spoke to the student in his office and asked to see the working file. The student explained there was one, but never returned for class again.

Although a work file is a good idea, Mieczkowski explained the work file theory is not always a panacea for catching a plagiarizer.

“There are no bulletproof ways to always catch someone,” Mieczkowski said. “People get away with crimes sometimes. You try to make it so it isn’t simple.”

Even when professors such as Mieczkowski try to deter plagiarism in classes, some people will still try to take the chance for one reason or another.

Christian Foepel, a business major, said some people think “it isn’t plagiarizing unless you get caught at it. And that is the chance that some students like to take. They want to play the game and bet that they won’t get caught.”

When students use papers off the Internet, maybe they should fear getting caught in their game. At some of the sites, like School Sucks, the manager who controls the page will remind students that professors can and do check the inventory of reports that are listed.

Another reason why students should think seriously about using a report taken from a website is because of the unknown reliability. Where has the information come from and can it be considered good quality?

Kenny Sahr, who manages the School Sucks website, was quoted in the Washington Post as saying, “It’s pathetic. Many of these papers are garbage, actual ly. If I’d spotted them, we’d have a new president by the time I finished.”

Even with all the discouragement in the world, some people will still choose to do what they’ve been advised not to do. What is the reasoning behind taking a risk that could tarnish one’s name for their whole academic career?

Some people believe the students who plagiarize are lazy and procrastinate, hoping to pull their best work at the last minute. Some people say it is the mentality the student has going into a class. The individual thinks and believes these short-cuts are what he or she needs to get through the class. Another opinion is that students bite off more than they can chew. Whatever the reasoning behind this poorly thought-out decision, it is still dishonest.

One option for students wondering how they are going to keep their heads above water once they have fallen behind in a class is to ask for an incomplete from the professor. An incomplete can be granted to a student when a small portion of the student’s work is not finished, such as a term paper. The grade of an “I” will appear on the student’s grade report. A time limit will be arranged by the professor, but it cannot exceed two academic semesters.

This is a wise alternative to plagiarizing a paper. But for students who do choose to plagiarize, Anthony Joiner, Assistant Director of Student Affairs, said, “Advice that I would give to a student who was thinking about plagiarizing a paper... don’t do it!” When a student plagiarizes, it pulls into question their integrity and reflects their moral character.

Many teachers try to have a net for scooping up all the dishonest students, but whether or not they actually capture the bugs is an unanswered question. Choosing to plagiarize risks your identity and self-worth in a game that can be unforgiving. In the end, whether or not the truth is discovered, the only person cheated is you.
Labor Day weekend...a time for barbecues, lounging, get-togethers and, to some of us, a time of Dragons. Or, more properly, a time for Dragoncon.

Unlike most Labor Day celebrations, this was one of fasting, sleep-deprivation and non-stop excitement. It was, in other words, one of the best times I have had in recent memory.

For those of you who are not familiar with Dragoncon, it is the largest science fiction convention in the Southeast and is fast growing to be one of the largest in the nation. It is held annually in Atlanta, normally around the Fourth of July. (It was postponed this year for reasons unknown to us.)

Dragoncon features all sorts of panels and celebrities, ranging from science fiction cult TV shows—such as Star Trek and its myriad of spin-offs to lesser-known tracks, comic books, vampire parapherna- lia and more. It is a place where, through the huge assortment of role-playing games that were offered, you are allowed to be anyone or anything. Most importantly, of course, it has a dealer's room where you'll find anything that you want in the realm of the eccentric, you can most likely find it here.

We'll get to that in a moment. First, we'll start with the above and talk to them. I saw what was truly wonderful is that as a Babylon 5 ambassador. There were your Lia and more.

Another important factor for me was the "star sightings." The celebrity guests who had been invited to speak at the convention had heavy interaction with the fans. They came without handlers (or personal assistants) who determine how much fan interaction should be permitted) and without pretense. Not only that, they were everywhere! While waiting at the hotel bar, my roommates and I found ourselves next to James Hong, a giant star of the Highlander panels. While two of us exchanged excited glances at one another, the third, not knowing who he was, thought he was nothing more than a floor man! Interestingly enough, he didn't get any better service than we did and ended up leaving to find refreshment elsewhere.

Another time, as I rode the hotel elevator from my floor to the lobby, I ended up sharing the ride with Jeffery Wellerth and Patricia Tallman, respectively. It was definitely a moment I would let out and all I had to do was wait. In the meantime, I saw more hair colors than I thought existed and more flesh than I expected.

There were, of course, several characters who stood out from the crowd. There is nothing in existence quite like Dragoncon and the creative minds of those people who associate their work is. For those of you who are interested in attending this unique form of fan expression but do not wish to fly, there is a local convention that is coming up. Known as "Neoronomicon," the name, hopefully, being scarier than the actual convention, it is held annually in Tampa so it should not be a far drive for those of us who live near campus. It takes place in October (the same month, of course, as Halloween and hence, I suspect, the name). It is being held this year from Friday, Oct. 9 to Sunday, Oct. 11. The cost is $25 for the entire weekend or $10 per day. For more information, visit www.stonehill.org.
Breast Cancer Awareness for both men and women

October has been designated Breast Cancer Awareness Month, however women should be aware every month of the danger of breast cancer. And not only women, but men need to be aware as well. Yes, breast cancer is very rare in men, it is just as dangerous. Many of us live with the reasoning that "it won't happen to me." We believe that we are too young to fall into the high-risk category, it doesn't run in our family, or we do everything right: eat healthy, exercise, etc. Well, take it from a survivor of breast cancer: She was diagnosed in her late 20s and there was no history of breast cancer in our family. She never suspected that something like that would happen to her.

Breast cancer can happen to a person at any age and most women who are diagnosed with breast cancer have no family history of it. There have also been tests done to try to prove that strenuous exercise during youth can help prevent breast cancer later in life. Unfortunately, none of these tests displayed any link between the two.

We need to be aware, and we need to be actively screening ourselves. Women age 20-39 should do breast self-exams each month. Women age 40 and over should have a mammogram as well as a clinical exam every year and perform self-exams each month. For men, it is difficult to be diagnosed because it is so rare and many don't even know that they are susceptible. Men should watch for painless lumps or abnormalities. If something is found, go see a doctor. Because of the problem of diagnosing breast cancer, it is a higher death rate among male breast cancer victims than among women.

The good news is that there has been a study in the New England Journal of Medicine that indicates that the drug used for osteoporosis could prevent breast cancer in at least 50 percent of the cases. The drug was found to prevent new blood vessels from being formed inside the bone and other major organs, which is the reason most women die from breast cancer.

If you or a family member has been diagnosed with breast cancer, or any other form of cancer, it can be a very frightening experience. But there are many ways to become more informed so that you can prepare to fight it.

Ask your physician about programs that have been designed to help people deal with this situation. There are also many books that are excellent references. Some of them included in our campus library are: Wake Up, Fighting Back by Roberta Altman, Who Survives Cancer? by Harold Greenwald, Understanding Breast Cancer Risk by Patricia Kelly, Choices in Healing by Michael Lerner, and Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book by Dr. Susan Love.

Use the resources available to you. Be informed so you know what you are up against.

Get the skills you need for a successful future

Other workshops offered cover such various as effective note-taking, test-taking strategies for the GRE, reading retention, and time management. If you are just trying to make it through a class and need extra help, a tutoring referral service was recently established by the center. All it takes is a visit to DAV 112 to complete an application for a tutor. The Tutoring Network will provide the student with a list of tutors qualified in desired subjects along with their phone numbers, fees and e-mail addresses. If a qualified tutor is not readily available, the CCC will contact your professor for potential tutors. For more information, call 553-1129. And if you're interested in becoming a tutor, fill out an application in DAV 112.

Another first this year is the brown bag lunch and learn discussions. If you are a single parent, join us at noon on the first Wednesday of each month for informal discussions about the challenges of raising children while attending college. If women's health interests interest you, join us at noon on the second Tuesday of each month for discussions on topics such as women and breast disease, osteoporosis prevention, easing into menopause, PMS reduction, and breast cancer awareness.

To add some variety to the workshop offerings, a licensed massage therapist has agreed to give workshops twice this semester which will teach the benefits of massage as well as techniques and strategies to alleviate life's stressors.

The CCC is a valuable resource on campus and the staff has come up with some new offerings this year for the benefit of all students. It continues to provide these and other workshops to help students cope with life in the here and now and plan their future for success. However, the first step is you! So sign up today!
Large Studio for Rent
Large studio with new A/C, new appliances and ceiling fan, fresh paint, private full kitchen and bath, shared porch. Clean, comfortable, close to USF, only $395/mo. Includes utilities. $300 deposit. Call 322-7268 or 804-7268.

Make Extra Income
Making extra income has gotten MUCH easier! Give yourself those promotions you deserve. Get paid over and over again for the effort you put forth today. A MUST SEE opportunity— NOT for couch potatoes! Call Karen for date & time. 522-5917 or 553-5392.

Resume Service
Resumes—Fast, affordable, customized resumes by professional editor/writer. Resumes should be a personal marketing tool. I’ll help your background sparkle. Call Ginger Clarke at 727-397-3306.

Advertising Sales
Apply today to sell ads for The Crow’s Nest, your student newspaper. Earn 15 percent commission on ad sales. Do something great for your school and for yourself. Call Kaerrie at 553-3113.

Crow’s Nest Writers
If you have talent, we have an outlet. Write features, news pieces or commentary for the student newspaper. Work on assignment or on your own. Call Kaerrie at 553-3113.

Classifieds

We’d kill to get your stories. Please write for us or you’ll be next. 533-3113

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HOURS
Monday - Wednesday
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Thursday
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.
Friday - Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 a.m.
Sunday
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

4017 34th Street South
St. Petersburg, Fl 33711
(727) 864-4300
Campus and Community Events

October 7
"Race, Racism and Ethics," a lecture presented by Navita James, director of African studies and an associate professor of communication at USF, will take place noon at the Ethics Center. James will discuss why attempts at discussing race constitute ethical choices for individuals and policymakers, and ways to talk effectively about race and racism in public discourse. Free and open to the public, but reservations are required. Call 553-3172 to RSVP.

October 8
The USF Bayboro/DEP/USGS Blood Drive will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the USF-St. Pete campus in a mobile unit on Circle Drive by DEP (the building immediately to the east of Coquina Hall). All donors will receive a free T-shirt and cholesterol screening.

October 9
Campus Women's Collective presents "Desert and a Movie" featuring the film Boys on the Side with Whoopie Goldberg, Mary-Louise Parker and Drew Barrymore in a cross-country journey of love and friendship that develops between three considerably different women. 6 p.m. in CAC 133.

October 13
"Women, Heart Disease and Stroke," a lecture presented at noon in the Harborside Conference Room in Bayboro Hall. A representative from the American Heart Association will discuss the risk factors and warning signs of strokes and heart disease for women and the steps they can take to prevent such illnesses. Free and open to the public. Call 553-3114 for more information.

October 21
Point-counterpoint discussion on "Christian Science, Children and Medicine." Speakers are Janna C. Merrick, a professor of government and international affairs at USF whose research focuses on healthcare policy for pregnant women and young children; and Peggy DesAutels, director of the medical ethics program at USF's Ethics Center. Noon in Davis Hall 130. Free, but reservations are required. Call 553-3172 to RSVP.

Lecture, "The Changing History of Old Age in America." Speaker is Thomas R. Cole, author of The Journey of Life: The Cultural History of Life in America and director of the University of Texas' Institute for Medical Humanities. Cole will discuss the evolution of images about the U.S. elderly and the attitudes toward them. Free and open to the public, 6:30 p.m. in Davis Hall 130.

October 23
"Aging and Community," presented by speakers Dorothy and David Counts, anthropologists and authors of Over the Next Hill: An Ethnography of RVing Seniors in North America. The Counts will discuss how senior citizens organize their lives in different types of communities. Free and open to the public, 1:30 p.m. in Davis Hall 130.

October 25
It's time for the second annual 25th Hour Bayboro Brunch. President Betty Castor, Campus Dean Bill Heller, and Chairwoman Fay Baynard, Class of 1988, invite you to join them for this special event. Noon that day will be the reception and program begin. It all takes place in the USF Campus Activities Center. The cost is $35 per person and checks should be made payable to USF Foundation. Seating is limited and reservations must be received by Oct. 12. Call 553-1561 for more information.

Fiction Contest
It's time for the 1998 Bayboro Fiction Contest. The contest is sponsored each year by the Society for the Advancement of Poynter Library and is open to all registered USF students. Only previously unpublished short stories of up to 2,000 words may be submitted. Submissions exceeding this word count will not be considered. The deadline to enter is Oct. 13. Double-spaced entries should be submitted with page numbers, title and word count at the top of each page. No name should appear on the manuscript. Include a cover sheet listing name, address, phone number, social security number, campus, major, word count, and title of the work. Submissions are considered anonymously. Winners will be announced before the end of the term. Send manuscripts to: Bayboro Fiction Contest, c/o Theodora Aggeles, 2318 14th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33713. Good luck to all those who choose to compete this year!