

# The Student Informer



May 2008

## Stark State College Dean of Student Services Receives National Phi Theta Kappa Award

Submitted by Cherie Barth

Stark State College Dean of Student Services, Wally Hoffer, received the prestigious Administrator Award of Distinction at the Phi Theta Kappa International Convention held recently in Philadelphia, PA.

The award recognizes outstanding community college vice presidents, deans, or leaders other than college presidents/CEOs serving a community college in an administrative capacity who have demonstrated during their tenure a strong level of support for the Society. Mr. Hoffer was one of 25 administrators recognized at the convention and the first Stark State administrator to receive this distinction.

Beta Gamma Epsilon was also named a Top 100 Chapter internationally for the third time in four years at the convention in Philadelphia.



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## On-Campus Fitness Center Survey Results

Submitted by Wally Linville

The results are in! Over 1200 Stark State students, faculty and staff completed the Fitness Center Survey. The vast majority of students and faculty were in favor of developing an on-campus fitness center.

The survey revealed that the majority of students and employees do not currently utilize the services of local or community fitness centers. The two primary obstacles to utilization of fitness centers are the expenses of membership and the lack of convenience attending a fitness center. Comments from respondents indicate that a great majority of students and employees would be more likely to use a fitness center if it was located on campus.

The surveys revealed that the majority of respondents indicated that an on-campus fitness center would help with the recruitment and retention of students and employees, would help improve the college experience for students and would help promote student and employee health and wellness.



The Student Affairs Committee will forward the results of the surveys to the appropriate Stark State governance body for further consideration and discussion. The Student Affairs Committee is grateful to the Stark State community for the helpful participation on this survey and the advice that has been provided.

**THE STUDENT INFORMER**

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**SUBMIT ARTICLES TO**  
[studentinformer@starkstate.edu](mailto:studentinformer@starkstate.edu)  
Please include the name of person submitting.

## Beta Gamma Epsilon Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Inducts 138 New Members

Submitted by Cherie Barth

On Sunday, April 20, the Beta Gamma Epsilon chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society inducted 138 new members. To qualify, a student must have a cumulative 3.75 grade point average (GPA) in at least 16 semester hours of degree-related courses.



Phi Theta Kappa has more than 2 million members worldwide and offers its constituents opportunities in scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship. Stark State has inducted over 1,400 students since the chapter's initiation in 1996. For further information on membership, please contact Cherie Barth, Advisor, in Room S303.

Congratulations to all inductees for the 2007-08 academic year!

## Spring Fling T-Shirt Design Winner

Submitted by Cherie Barth

Congratulations to Charles Kilpatrick, Computer Graphic Arts major, winner of the Spring Fling t-shirt design competition! There were eight (8) designs presented and the vote was very close between the top three designs. Charles won a \$100 gift card to the SSCT Bookstore and a free Spring Fling t-shirt. A huge thank you goes out to the students who submitted a design and to all who voted.



## Harvest for Hunger Campaign a HUGE Success

Submitted by Cherie Barth



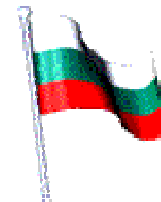
As a part of their Project Graduation initiative of 'Feed a body; feed a mind', the Beta Gamma Epsilon chapter of Phi Theta Kappa would like to thank all who donated items to the 17<sup>th</sup>

Annual Harvest for Hunger food drive that was held on campus during the months of March and April. Our college community collected approximately 200 pounds of food for the Akron/Canton Regional Foodbank which serves the Carroll, Holmes, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas and Wayne counties. For the 163,000 people and 3.5 million meals provided to those in need in our community – Thank You!!

## International Club presented Bulgaria

Submitted By Martin Dimitrov

Between all the snow and sick days we have been through, an interesting meeting took place on March 10 at 12:00 p.m.; the International Club had a meeting in one of the conference rooms at the college. With great help and understanding from the Club advisor, Mr. Larry Fernandez, International and American students, faculty, and staff enjoyed a good time together. I was given the opportunity to present and share the culture, food, customs, traditions, and much more interesting facts about my country, Bulgaria. The members and guests who attended the meeting had the chance to try the traditional Bulgarian Feta Cheese. Everybody walked away with a little present from the Bulgarian culture as a sign of my appreciation.



I would like to give special thanks to Mr. Fernandez, all friends, and instructors who took time and attended the meeting.

## Surplus Computers

Submitted by John Jivens

Need a computer, but you are short on cash? Try getting one at the surplus computer sale. Starting in August look on Stark State's website, [www.starkstate.edu](http://www.starkstate.edu), for the surplus sale. It is a great way to get a good computer cheap.

## BLAST Golf Outing

Submitted by Carol Kirkpatrick

Saturday, April 19, BLAST held its sixth annual Golf outing. It was an absolutely perfect day. We held the outing at Mayfair Country Club this year. The country club was very accommodating and helpful at making our event a success. We are very thankful for all our generous sponsors, donors, and golfers. With out all of you, BLAST would not be able to offer our Outstanding BLAST Member Scholarships, nor would we be able to do many of the educational activities we do. I want to thank the members, friends, and staff for doing such a fantastic job and making this event such a wonderful success.

Again, Thank You to all our sponsors and donors:

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## Writing Center Summer Hours

Submitted by Leah Schell

Enjoy a no pressure, one-on-one environment while working with one of our experienced writing assistants. Walk in to G200A or make an appointment. Thirty minute tutoring sessions as well as individual and group tutoring are available.

To make an appointment call 330-494-6170 Ext. 4600 or email [writingcenter@starkstate.edu](mailto:writingcenter@starkstate.edu).

June 2-August 10

Mondays—10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Tuesdays—10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Wednesdays—10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Thursdays—10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Fridays & Saturdays—Closed

Want to know what is going on around town? Sign up and receive a weekly email highlighting events here in Stark County. Go to [www.StarkCountyEvents.com](http://www.StarkCountyEvents.com) and sign up today

## One Voice Summit

Submitted by Carol Kirkpatrick

This March, Becky Kuzmik and I were given the chance to go to Columbus and speak with our area Representatives and Senators. Each year the OACC (Ohio Association of Community Colleges) schedules a day giving Ohio two year institutions the opportunity to discuss with local government officials their concerns for students. This event allows not only the administration to voice concerns but the students concerns as well. Governor Strickland has worked hard for Ohio's students since he has taken office. He has put a freeze on tuition to encourage Ohioans' to pursue a secondary education as well; he has fulfilled his promise of having educational institutions within 30 miles of every home throughout the state. While many of Ohio's two year colleges have stayed at a status quo or even seen a decline in enrollment, Stark State continues to flourish. We discussed with the leaders how important it was to continue backing these programs and look for other ways to help students allocate the funds necessary to attain their college degrees.



Becky Kuzmik, Carol Kirkpatrick, & Rep. Steven Dyer

## Banner Self Service and *mystarkstate* debut beginning April 28

Submitted By Jack Kurtz

To provide better service and enhanced capabilities to Stark State students, the College debuted the Banner Self Service system on Monday April 28, the start of summer/fall registration periods.

The College is migrating its systems to the Banner Unified Digital Campus. **Banner is a premier student and business system used at more colleges and universities than any other.**

When fully implemented, the new system will provide single sign-on and one-stop access through the *mystarkstate* portal to all the information and resources that you need at the College. This includes a full suite of Web-based Self Service capabilities including:

- Review your enrollment information
- Search for and register for classes
- Add and drop classes
- Check on reason and status of holds
- Check your financial aid status and award amount
- Pay tuition on-line with credit card or check
- Change your personal information
- Request a transcript
- Track status of documents that you submit
- Advisor information and email your instructor

This system will replace the functionality that is currently in Student Web Access. However, you will continue to use Student Web Access to get your spring 2008 grades and to look at your degree audit.

You can access Banner Self Service system using the *mystarkstate* button at the top on the main Stark State Web site ([www.starkstate.edu](http://www.starkstate.edu)) or by typing <http://www.starkstate.edu/mystarkstate> in your browser address bar. In the near future this same link will take you to the *mystarkstate* portal. The login to the Banner Self Service system is the Student ID that is printed on your ID card and your initial PIN is your two-digit birth month, two-digit birthday and two digit birth year (mmddy). For example if you were born on May 15, 1960 your initial PIN would be 051560. The first time you login you will be required to change your PIN and you will be prompted to answer some questions in order to retrieve your PIN if you forget it.

When the *mystarkstate* portal is released you can access the Banner Self Service system and other College systems through the portal using your normal College login. Look for further announcements about *mystarkstate*. You will continue to use your normal College ID and password to login to other College systems.

If you have questions, please refer to the online help or contact the Stark State College Help Desk at 1-800-797-8275, Ext. 4357.

We are very excited about this new computer system that will enable Stark State College faculty and staff to better serve you – **our students.**

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## Assistant Editor Position Available

Submitted by Carol Kirkpatrick

I would like to start by wishing our Student Informer Editor, Terri Williamson, best of luck and congratulations. She has done an excellent job and will be greatly missed. I am however, very excited to fill her shoes as I move up into the Editor's position. This will leave a void that needs to be filled; the assistant editor position. If you are interested in applying for the position, please contact The Student Informer Advisor Sean Rutherford at 330-494-6170 Ext. 4299.