Ethanol: cleaner air, but at what cost?

By Tanya Douglas

Ethanol, the energy source that President George Bush dubbed the "fuel of the future," has been heralded as the path to a decreased dependence on fossil fuels and a cleaner environment. But the road to salvation may be the road to destruction.

Scientists now believe the byproducts of ethanol may eclipse its benefits. Ethanol is a renewable fuel made from starches such as corn or wheat. According to the Department of Energy, it is created by fermenting the plant's starches into alcohol.

The problem with ethanol is that it takes energy to make energy. According to Earthtrends.org, "The energy required to generate one gallon of corn-based ethanol is equal to about 60-75 percent of the energy produced."

"People don’t realize all the implications of converting energy," said Daniel Childers, an astronomy and geography professor at DCCC. "You're never going to get the same amount of energy you put into it."

Along with losing the energy to make ethanol, the byproducts to generate ethanol are even worse. Diesel-powered equipment harvests, ferments, and distills the corn. And after the corn becomes ethanol energy, it's delivered across the country in diesel-fueled tractor-trailers. In the end, the amount of pollution it takes to make ethanol is about the same it is to fill up a car with regular fuel. But the harm of ethanol starts before it's even grown and harvested.

In the last months of 2007, Brazil, the world's largest ethanol producer, plowed over 750,000 acres in the Amazon rainforest to make way for ethanol fields, reported Earthtrends.org. All of this happened so Brazil could meet its goals of energy independence on ethanol.

"But at the same time, to make Brazil stop producing ethanol would be making them commit economic suicide," Earthtrends.org reported, that since the 1970s, Brazil has become the world's leading ethanol producer, capping out at 4356 million gallons of ethanol in 2006. Because of ethanol, Brazil has saved over $100 billion in foreign exchange while

She referred to real-life stories of a couple with an abusive relationship before she began reading her poem about violence.

"We don’t need to hurt people; we need to love people," Sanchez said.

"Love yourself for one week," Sanchez said. "It will make your urine strong because of the toxins moving out of your body."

Philmore liked Sanchez' poems.

"I thought her poems were pretty good," Philmore said. "I liked the one she wrote for Tupac because it was about struggles and she used a lot of words to captivate the emotion."

While describing the struggles of African Americans, Sanchez said there was a cold cane against black's.

She sang a poem that was written for rapper Tupac Kwesti, declaring it to be not only an African prayer but also a prayer for all people.

"Sanchez has energy for the devotion for the search for truth and passion for her art," Cissiato said.

Grandmothers for Peace is a grassroots-against-war group that protests the government sending their grandchildren overseas.

Sanchez is an active participant and was recently arrested for protesting outside of an armed forces recruiting center in downtown Philadelphia.

"You young people, this is your country," Sanchez said. "You have a right to live without war [and] without the greed that causes war."

Contact Tanya Douglas

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Poetry contest honors winners

By Patrick Viesti

The Edith Garlow Memorial Poetry Contest honors the spirit of poetry by recognizing the poetry of students in high schools, colleges and universities in Delaware and Chester counties.

On March 17, the winners of the poetry contest read their poems at DCCC. This year, the Free Verse Poetry Contest also honored four winners from DCCC.

Mike Tulli's poem "Oscillation" and Stephan Dalton's poem "Why fret?" tied for third place in the poetry contest.

Tulli, a natural science major, explained that he writes from different perspectives and emotions that he has never experienced.

Dalton said poets should "write from their heart and use knowledge gained from life." Dalton is currently majoring in business administration, but wishes to pursue a degree in legal studies.

Second place winner David Slaughter was not present.

First place free verse winner Paul Horner performed his poem entitled "What is me?" to great applause from the audience.

Horner, whose poetry is inspired by the American dream and the works of Martin Luther King Jr., believes that poetry is a performance art. So he stepped away from the podium and spoke without a mike to the audience.

"I was so impressed on the day of the contest [because] everyone performed so well," said English professor Gina Gennari, organizer of the event. "The top winners were extraordinary."

Contact Patrick Viesti at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

Correction

In our March 2008 issue, there was a mistake in the article titled "PA encourages students to cover their lover." It was reported that approximately 30 to 40 students visit the school nurse per week with questions regarding STD symptoms. The actual number of students asking about STDs is only 2 to 3 per week. A total of 30 to 40 students visit with questions about general health issues.

Also, the article titled "Students demand guns on campus" was written by Tina Griffith. We failed to give her a byline.
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EDITORIAL
Obama is the change we need
By Joe Smith

Though the spring semester has all but wrapped up, primary season remains in full swing. Senator John McCain has already secured the Republican nomination, while Senators Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama continue to vie for a spot on the Democratic ticket.
The Communitarian feels that the coming presidential election should shape up to be one of the most important in our country's history, which is why we are doing something that the paper has never done before.
We are for the first time endoring a candidate for the presidency, and we are putting our full support behind Obama.
Throughout the semester, The Communitarian staff has put in an enormous amount work to produce the best paper possible. The class functions unlike any other. It requires dedication, hard work and determination. We work together closely to report the news as adequately and efficiently as possible. After spending so much time together, we decided to ask our reporters what they thought about their experience on the paper and what advice they would give to future writers.

"Writing for The Communitarian was a rewarding experience. Just seeing your article after many revisions and reworking it into published form is incredible. You have to be able to write well and write often. If you don't have a drive to write and struggle with writing in general, you may want to consider other options."

-Patrick Viesti

"The best part about writing for the paper was to see my work published for everyone to read. It's one thing to see your work on paper, but it's exciting to see it in a newspaper. My advice to future writers is to make sure you write about something you care about. It's easier and it's a lot more fun."

-Jim "The Rox" Rose

"Writing for The Communitarian was a master's degree from Columbia, I am extremely proud of them."

-Tanya Douglas

"I loved working with everyone for a purpose. I loved sitting in the back room with Lisa, Joe and Jim before class and having long conversations about nothing at all. And I loved being able to sit down with another reporter who was having trouble phrasing something and figuring out what the sentence needed to get the point across."

-Lisa Foreman

"It's true that you can spend years writing something and never think it's good enough. Get done your articles early so you can mess around with them as much as you want."

-Lia Andrews

"That I'm abdicating my post as executive editor two things are certain. One, all of you are going to miss my sweet editorials; and two, I'm going to have a lot more free time on my hands. The time that I spent on The Communitarian was well worth it, though. After eight issues worth of all the DCCC news I can handle, I'm proud that we put out some of the best issues that have ever graced the halls of this institution."

If you plan on writing, learn to take criticism. Your first draft is going to suck, and your editors are only trying to improve your writing. Most of all, have fun. I know a lot of people who are stuck in jobs they hate, and they are all miserable and cranky."

-Joe Smith

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"The opinions expressed on the editorial and the op-ed pages do not necessarily reflect those of The Communitarian staff or college. We welcome your comments on any matter relating to Delaware County Community College, and reasonable rebuttals is encouraged. Write to communitarian@mail.dccc.edu. Please write "letter to editor" in the subject box.

Newspaper staff bids farewell

By Joe Smith

Change and hope. Words, critics have argued, that supporters of Obama put too much stock into. They say it is foolish to bank so much on words. But they couldn't be more wrong. By themselves, words are just a string of letters grouped together.
But words can be given meaning. Words can be given strength. When words are bolstered by the faith these daring enough to believe in them, words become something powerful. They become ideas. Ideas can change hearts and minds, or they can change the shape of a nation. If we have the power to believe in the ideas Obama stands for, then we have the power to fashion for ourselves a country that stands for the principles on which it was founded.

Critics will continue to try and shoot holes into Obama's words and ideas. But, as Alan Moore once wrote, "Ideas are bulletproof."

Contact Joe Smith
at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

The Communitarian

The Communitarian is produced by both current and former students of Fundamentals of Journalism II in collaboration with Campus Life. Students who would like to write for the campus newspaper and have already completed Fundamentals of Journalism I should register for Fundamentals of Journalism II (ENG 131). Students who have completed both classes are welcome back to join the senior staff. For more information, see Bonnie McMeans in Room 4311, call 610-359-5271, or send an e-mail to bmcmean@dccc.edu at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu.

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poetry, fiction or newspaper articles, if they master this fundamental concept, they will be writers in every sense of the word.

So, go out into the world and tell great stories – and don't forget to put the attribution after the first sentence!

Bonnie McMeans

Communitarian

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Jealousy Curve hits the local music scene

By Tina Griffith

The house lights dimmed in the Fillmore on South Street and blazing red lights on stage take their place. The whole venue glows.

Four men step out on stage and the previously loud voices of the audience fade into a faint whisper. The lead singer lifts the microphone out of its stand and a drumbeat breaks the silence.

The floor shakes with every note, and the energy is contagious.

For the next half hour, members of local band Jealousy Curve entertain the crowd from the small stage. After the applause stops, lead singer Mike Leavy packs up back stage and comes out of the red-curtained door. He makes his way around hugging friends, family and fans.

"It’s so glad you could make it," Leavy says. He gets his photo taken with three young fans, then autographs an arm and a ticket. He never stops smiling as he sits at the bar to watch the next band on stage.

Guitarist Steve LaFashia is behind the wooden vending station selling T-shirts. T-shirts range from about $10 to $15.

"Do you have a MySpace?" he asks. "Look for Jealousy Curve. I’m Steve. Keep it up to date." "We opened with an unreleased song called ‘I Need to Hear I’m Right’," LaFashia said. "His Dad is a great jazz drummer. Michael and I started playing music in high school, as did Dave."

"We played for a short time as a duo and then knew we wanted to put a full band together," he explained. "We knew Shane from his previous band and when our former bass player Mike left the band we hooked up with Dave, whose [previous] band played with us several times."

Local businesses invited to learn about training grants

Your business could qualify for a state grant for employee training through the Workforce Economic Development Network of Pennsylvania (WEDnet PA).

Delaware County Community College, an official WEDnet PA partner, is an approved trainer and administrator of the state grants and is authorized to apply for the funding on behalf of eligible companies. The College is hosting informational breakfast meetings in Delaware and Chester Counties for interested individuals to assess their qualifications for the grants.

The first information session is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14 at the College’s Main Campus in Marple Township, room 2256, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. The Main Campus is located off Route 252 between Media and Newtown Square.

A second session is set for Monday, May 19, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., at the Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC) in the Eagleview Corporate Center, 737 Constitution Drive in Exton. Attendees will learn about eligibility requirements, how to apply for the state grant and the types of training available in basic skills and information technology.

For more information, contact Michelle Wallace, WEDnet coordinator, at michellf@cciu.org. Reservations are required by May 1. Please call 484-237-5191 to reserve your place today.

Walk-in registration for summer 1 session

Walk-in registration for the Summer 1 Session at Delaware County Community College for credit courses offered at all locations will be held with on-the-spot advising on Wednesday, May 21 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the Main Campus in Marple Township, the Southeast Center in Sharon Hill, and the Chester County Campus in Downingtown.

Placement testing for new students is ongoing on the Main Campus and the Southeast Center but students should arrive no later than 6 p.m. Placement testing at the Chester County Campus will be 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. (students should arrive at least 15 minutes prior to testing times). Placement testing for students taking ESL courses will be given at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Main Campus only. This is the last time to take placement tests and register for ESL classes for the summer.

Individuals who attend other colleges should bring a copy of their transcript to assist with advising, even if you had an official transcript sent to Delaware County Community College.

Payment is expected at the time of registration and payment plans are available. Students can also make payment through the College website.

The College features two regular sessions of summer courses as well as distance learning options. The Summer 1 term runs from May 27 through July 2. The Summer II session runs from July 7 through August 14.
“Arcadia accepted all of my credits.”

“I’m a Video Communications Major at Arcadia and this semester I have a great internship at Unisys Corporation. Italy Preview was my first trip abroad—“I got to know other students, visited Rome and Florence, and earned two credits.” Aaron Clark ‘08.

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continued from page 1

boosting rural incomes and creating jobs for many in citizens’ towns.” “It’s sad, but Brazil needs to be able to compete with other countries; they need some kind of edge,” Ducey said. “It comes down to the decision of meeting the demand and staying afloat or starving.” So, with economics at stake, between 2000 and 2005, about 15 million hectares of forest disappeared in the world, with the largest losses occurring in the developing countries, according to Earthtrends.org. “And that’s just the tip of the iceberg,” Duey said. “It comes down to competing with other countries; they need some kind of edge.”

Spend some alone time together. Watch an old movie that you have always wanted. Single? There are some advantages of everything before your luck runs out. Single? Lucky dog! Attached? Seems like you are happy and content. Make sure that you are happy and content. Make sure that you are happy and content. Make sure that you are happy and content. Make sure that you are happy and content. Make sure that you are happy and content.

Get your MANscope here!

By Jim Rose

Aries (March 21-April 19). Lucky fortunes await you this month. Your girlfriend will no longer get mad when you don’t want to cuddle. Guy nights will be a lot more frequent, with a lot less nagging from you know who. You finally hear those long awaited words, “No honey, I’ll pay for dinner.” When you come home, the sports channel is already on and a beer is cracked open for you. Take advantage of everything before your luck runs out. Single? Lucky dog! Attached? Seems like your luck is new information, but suddenly there’s this big scare and people start frenzies and destroying things because they think it will help them find answers. Yes, it’s true that the world’s temperatures are changing, but it’s not true that Rio 2004 is the only cause. Right now, we need to focus on what we know will help the earth drive less, keep trees alive, stop wasting water.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Use this month to make sure that you keep what’s yours. You may not know this, but your best friend has a thing for your girl and is getting ready to pounce at the perfect time. Take some time to keep your happy and faithful and keep your friends in check. Single? Don’t look to fall for one woman. Play the field and see what your friends express the way you are. Single? Tell that you live there by having things that you can’t find that vacation that you have been saving up for. Keep your body fresh in case something comes up. Keep your body fresh in case something comes up. Keep your body fresh in case something comes up.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Be sure to take some time off this month because of the hard work that you have done lately. Keep your body fresh in case something comes up. Keep your body fresh in case something comes up. Keep your body fresh in case something comes up. Keep your body fresh in case something comes up. Keep your body fresh in case something comes up. Keep your body fresh in case something comes up.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22). Stop buying your girlfriend all of the things that she wants and spend some cash on the things that you desire. The number one thing is to make sure that you are happy and content. Make sure that when someone comes into your place, he can tell that you live there by having things that express the way you are. Single? Throw a party at your place because you never know who may walk through that door. Attached? There is nothing like sharing a nice home cooked meal together, especially when you’re not the one slaving over the stove to make it.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You might be a little short on cash this month. Why not play the lottery and see if you can win all that money back that you spent on your girlfriend. Money makes people happy, so why not give it a shot. The lucky number to play this month is 1-3-8-7. Single? Hit the singles bar and see if you can get any bites. Attached? Have a weekend for you to do your thing and her to do her thing.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your tire went flat while you’re in the middle of nowhere. Use this experience to learn not to dwell on the bad things, but to look at them as valuable learning experiences. Things that look like they are taking a turn for the bad actually may turn for the better. The tow truck company comes and it is a pretty lady. Tip her by asking her out to dinner. Attached? A night in a hotel room may be the adventure that you two have been waiting for.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20). This month to show off your best qualities at the work place. Your boss is looking to promote someone in the company so make sure that you stand out in meetings and speak up. Also be sure to dress for success. Single? Take some friends out from work and make sure to talk to the girl that sits a couple cubbies away from you. Attached? Spend some of the promotion money on some playoff tickets to your favorite football team. How can she say no to that?

Contact Jim Rose at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
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Monica Moran ’06, B.S. Information Systems, Albright College

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