Greek organization honors memory of holocaust survivors

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A holocaust day of remembrance was held last week on Thursday, April 16. The event, hosted by Zeta Beta Tau fraternity and the Hillel Young Adult Division, was held in the Graham Center Ballrooms in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

The main purpose of the event was to honor the memory of Jews and other individuals who were victims of the Nazi concentration camps, according to Juan Gilces, a senior international relations major and brother of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity.

“We geared this program to the entire community,” Gilces said.

Among the special guests was Isaac Klein, a holocaust survivor from the Auschwitz concentration camp and a subject in Dr. Mengele’s experiments. Josef Mengele was an officer and physician in Auschwitz. He was infamous for choosing the victims who would be sent to the gas chambers and also for performing non-scientific experiments on the prisoners.

According to Gilces, Klein now volunteers at the Holocaust Memorial Miami Beach, and his presence at the event marked the first time in five years since he’s been to the University.

The event was made possible by a grant from the Zeta Beta Tau Foundation. Offered by the fraternity’s national office, the grant is normally used for programming for Jewish-affiliated events.

As the heritage chairman of Zeta Beta Tau, a position whose duties include understanding the fraternity’s Jewish roots and its founding, Gilces believed the grant would be ideal for the event. Gilces said that he decided to host the event on Thursday, April 16 in order for it to coincide with holocaust remembrance day, which is observed in Israel and other parts of the world.

The idea for the event was sparked about a year ago, according to Gilces.

“The first step was to apply for the grant. Once the Zeta Beta Tau Foundation approved the grant application, Gilces and his team sat down with Hillel in order to coordinate the logistics of the event, such as choosing the speakers who would attend and the general schedule for the event,” Gilces said.

Gilces then met with the event planning office in the Graham Center to choose the venue.

Other guests in attendance to the event were Student Government Association at Modesto A. Maidique Campus President Alexiss Calatayud, and Vice President Tiffany Roman Biffa. Shlomi Dinar, from the Department of Politics and International Relations, and Oren Baruch Stier from the Department of Religious Studies, were also present.

University President Mark B. Rosenberg was also there.

Rosenberg talked about his own experience dealing with memories of the holocaust, as his mother was a survivor of the holocaust.

“The event shows that the university cares about our environment, so that students are able to enjoy it as well as future generations,” Dutton said.

“Climate change and sustainability is a hot topic in today’s world and it’s important to preserve ecosystems,” she said. “I think it's a great event and more events like this should be held on campus to expand awareness on sustainability and the environment,” she said.

“Students who are interested in volunteering for the event on Wednesday, April 22 or interested in volunteering in the Nature Preserve in general are encouraged to visit the Office of University Sustainability, located in MMC, near the north entrance of the Nature Preserve, across from the Rec Center. Volunteer forms are available in the Rec Center. The day will begin with two volunteer events, in which volunteers will plant native plants on the Preserve. The first one is scheduled to take place from 9 a.m. to noon, with the second event scheduled to take place from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The second event will involve butterfly garden restoration work on the Pine Rockland ecosystem.

“The Pine Rockland territory, located primarily in the Everglades, is South Florida’s most floristically diverse plant community and includes several native species,” Dutton said.

“The native and exclusive eco-region to South Florida is currently an endangered ecosystem that the University is helping to sustain. After all the specimens are planted at around 5:30 p.m., the butterfly and caterpillar release will commence.

“We’re doing this because we would be planting native butterfly plants to Florida’s ecosystems and reintroducing plants into their natural habitat, therefore butterflies are able to pollinate the plants later on,” Dutton said.

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“We try to make it fun and different every time,” Dutton said when asked about the volunteer work. Students shared their thoughts.

Samantha Gonzalez, a junior majoring in advertising, thinks that the event will be an interesting one.

“It’s important to preserve ecosystems, no matter how small [they are],” she said. Others also expressed their thoughts.

“I think it’s a great event and more events like this should be held on campus,” said Alexandra Aleman, a junior majoring in health service administration. “I look forward to attend the event.”

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University to celebrate 45th annual Earth Day

FIORELLA CANTERO
Contributing Writer
news@fiusm.com

In commemoration of Earth Day, the Office of University Sustainability will be hosting a butterfly garden planting and butterfly release event at the Nature Preserve located in the Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

Earth Day is an annual internationally celebrated event that takes place on April 22 of every year.

“Earth Day is a reminder for everyone to take care of our home. Earth is a reminder for everyone to think about it, although we should be thinking about it everyday of the year. Whether it’s conserving water, the garbage you throw away, to the amount of energy we use,” Dutton said.

“Climate change and sustainability is a hot topic in today’s world and it’s important to preserve ecosystems,” she said. “I think it's a great event and more events like this should be held on campus to expand awareness on sustainability and the environment,” she said.

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US fails to stem flow of illegal firearms to Mexico

The U.S. government has pledged to combat the illegal flow of firearms across the border, but new data reveals that the United States remains by far the largest source of weapons seized in Mexico.

The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives traced 11,861 weapons seized in Mexico in 2014 as originating either with U.S. manufacturers or gun wholesalers and vendors. That amounts to 71.9 percent of all weapons Mexico asked U.S. allies to intercept.

Americans face harrowing escapes from Yemen, says US envoy in Djibouti

American citizens escaping Yemen, including small children and some frail elderly, are arriving exhausted in Djibouti after harrowing journeys from the besieged country, where a U.S.-supported Saudi Arabian bombing campaign is entering its fourth week, the U.S. ambassador to the small Horn of Africa country told McClatchy on Thursday.

Islamic State proves resilient, presses attack in Iraq's Ramadi, Baiji

Iraq deployed elite troops to the besieged provincial capital of Ramadi on Thursday in hopes of stemming an Islamic State offensive but the city and government, which until Thursday had prevented the radicals from gaining a foothold in Iraq's largest oil-processing center.

Calling the flight from Yemen “a tough experience” for many of the evacuees, the U.S. envoy, Tom Kelly, said hundreds of Americans have arrived in Djibouti in recent days aboard foreign ships and aircraft after journeys that for some included hundreds of miles of dangerous land travel from Yemen’s capital, Sanaa, to the ports of Hodeidah and Aden.

He added that the event provided a new take to understanding the history of the holocaust.

“This event was geared to explain the holocaust in a more personal way,” Gilces said, adding that listening to personal stories is very different from reading about the holocaust in a book in class. Students shared their sentiments on the event.
Weed, yes indeed

STEPHANIE PIEDRAHITA
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I am tired of hearing about another friend of mine getting arrested for a stupid bag of marijuana. I am even more exhausted to hear about the ridiculous sentences weed smokers get. I can’t help but feel like I’m in the jail time of convicted rapists and murderers.

It’s time to start talking about marijuana seriously, I want more of the public is familiar with, the second tendencies the public is barely understand but we can see how marijuana, we can see how marijuana is classified as a Schedule 1 drug while its effects were under review. Underneath the United States Controlled Substances Act, marijuana is classified as a Schedule 1 drug along with LSD, ecstasy and heroin. The Drug Enforcement Administration states on their official website that Schedule 1 drugs have no currently accepted medical use and can produce severe psychological or physical dependence and abuse. With 23 of the 50 states having passed bills or propositions that fully legalized medical marijuana, we can see how inaccurate this definition is. The scheduling also prevents further medical research from happening due to it being illegal on the federal level, which has also infringed on the sovereignty of individual states. This is not only creating a rift between supportive medical practitioners and our government but also nullifies deceptions made through illegal processes. If saving lives and creating opportunities for people to surpass their health issues isn’t enough of a reason for you to start supporting the legalization of marijuana, then maybe money. I will not pay you change your mind, but you cannot force me to become the next multi-millonaire because of this industry shiuld you chose to erase in involuntarily (under legal circumstances of course).

Colorado became the first state to allow people to purchase and sell weed for recreational use and we’re seeing the amazing results only one year after the change. Even though projects allocated higher amount, the state has made $53 million in tax revenue and an additional 16 million through the medical sector. A good percentage of that was promised towards renovating and building public schools so this could also positively affect future generations. If you are a proponent of marijuana, then maybe you should partake in criminal activity in the present because there is hope that down the line that it’ll be legal.

There has been no research conducted regarding the long-term effects of marijuana on the human body, but I know someone who smoked marijuana once. Once. Now he lives in an alley. With the passage of the Controlled Substance Act of 1970, marijuana was temporarily classified as a Schedule 1 drug while its effects were under review. According to the IB Times, it was found that marijuana was “less a serious threat to public health than a sensitive social issue.” The research was never finished due to these fears, of course, and for good reason. The unknown is a terrifying black hole in which I am not willing to venture, and no medical advancements were ever questioned the holy bastions of morality. According to WebMD, smoking marijuana can result in three times the tar inhalation of cigarette smoke, and also causes a cancer-causing substances. It can also cause shallow breathing, decreased reaction times, decreases in blood pressure and elevated heart rate. The last two together can irritate preexisting heart conditions and cause heart attacks in some people.

Forging the possible negative medical effects, there could be an increased rate in crimes involving assault and robbery - many banks will not accept money garnered from marijuana trade, so dispensaries have to deal solely in cash. Knowing this, criminals may be more likely to try to steal that money, at any means necessary, leading to higher instances of violent crime. You never know what a degenerate person might do to get their fix. Even more—disconcerting, think of the untaxed money that won’t go toward our public services. This cash not being accepted by the majority of banks nationwide, so these legal drug dealers will just keep it all to themselves instead of letting it go back into their local economy. If marijuana were legal in all of the U.S., cops will have to focus on more violent crimes, putting their lives in danger, when the root of some of society’s problems stem from the plant growing insidiously under our own feet.

If we’re not careful, the next time you see Girl Scouts they may not only be selling Thin Mints.

Pot: The weed of society

M. JANE
Concerned Citizen
opinion@fiusm.com

I am concerned for the very soul of America.

The devil’s lettuce, known most commonly as marijuana or “reefer,” is weaving its way into the hearts and minds of United States citizens. And soon, it might be legal.

We’ve already allowed alcohol to flow through our streets and have seen it lead to deviant behavior and committing crimes under the influence, so why should we allow for these conditions to worsen?

If we’re not careful, the next time you see Girl Scouts they may not only be selling Thin Mints.

Decriminalizing this drug sends a message out to the American people that being constantly in a hazy state of mind is acceptable and I fear to be in a world where people are barely aware of their own surroundings. It’ll also make some people believe that they could partake in criminal activity in the present because there is hope that down the line that it’ll be legal.

There has been no research conducted regarding the long-term effects of marijuana on the human body, but I know someone who smoked marijuana once. Once. Now he lives in an alley. With the passage of the Controlled Substance Act of 1970, marijuana was temporarily classified as a Schedule 1 drug while its effects were under review. According to the IB Times, it was found that marijuana was “less a serious threat to public health than a sensitive social issue.” The research was never finished due to these fears, of course, and for good reason. The unknown is a terrifying black hole in which I am not willing to venture, and no medical advancements were ever questioned the holy bastions of morality. According to WebMD, smoking marijuana can result in three times the tar inhalation of cigarette smoke, and also causes a cancer-causing substances. It can also cause shallow breathing, decreased reaction times, decreases in blood pressure and elevated heart rate. The last two together can irritate preexisting heart conditions and cause heart attacks in some people.

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FRANK AND IRENE: Finals

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With your letter, be sure to include your name, major, year, and copy of your student ID. The Beacon will only run one letter a month from any individual.

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Peter Hook is an English musician best known for his role as the bassist of the influential post-punk band, Joy Division and the internationally-successful new wave group, New Order.

Hook is currently on tour with his side project, Peter Hook and the Light. The tour kicks off on Friday, April 17 at Grand Central in Miami. Hook sat down with FIUSM to discuss current projects and reflect on his storied career.

So, you are starting the tour off in Miami. Have you ever been to South Florida before?

Yes, many times. We started touring around 1980 and I've always had a fantastic time over there. I actually proposed to my wife in Florida.

And I believe that you are also coming down with your son?

Yes, he plays bass. Hopefully, he was inspired by me. He started when he was 14. He's 25 now. So he plays the bass at the shows and I sing. Yeah, we lost our singer so yeah, he's taking over in the bass department.

Why was it important for you to create Peter Hook and the Light?

It's a short question with a really long answer. The reason I started it, when I was in New Order you see, we never celebrated Joy Division at all. When New Order split up in 2006, when I was on the outside looking in, that we had never had celebrated anything that had to do with Joy Division for 30 years. I mean it worked, don't get me wrong. We concentrated on New Order, and made New Order a huge international success, but it was sad, it was just a shame. And it had been 30 years since Ian Curtis's death, who was the lead singer.

And I thought, you know what, I'd felt to commemorate him between that period I had a falling out with the guitarist and the drummer. We are still at daggers drawn. I thought well I'd get offended, The Light, actually we were called The Light, but promoters changed the name to Peter Hook & the Light, which I suppose I should take as a compliment. But, it is one of those things isn't it?

We formed five years ago. Nearly to the date. and to celebrate thirty years of Ian Curtis's life. This year we are celebrating 35 years of Ian Curtis's life. I must admit, playing the Joy Division stuff has certainly given me a new lease of life.

Was there a decision in specifically choosing the word “light” for the group?

Well, there was. I was in another group called Freebase. Which was me and the bass player of The Stone Roses, Mani. And me and the bass player of the Smiths, Andy Rourke and Alex James of Blur. And we were all in a band together but it didn’t work because we were too many chiefs and not enough indians.

I sat down one day and I thought, I said to my wife, I said I've seen the light really. The best thing to do is to be in charge and she said that's a good band name "The Light". And I thought “oh there you go”. It was lucky and it was that thing of “I've seen the light”, and it's about forging your own way isn’t it. Doing things to make yourself happy.

See fiusm.com for the full story.
Piercings have been made part of countless worldwide cultures for centuries. Ears, nose, lips, tongue, and the belly button are some of the many areas you can place a piece of jewelry to linger on.

“Nose rings are most popular. I think there’s a big focus right now on the look of a septum especially the look of a septum ring without necessarily getting your septum pierced,” said Aja Butler, owner of ABA Jewels, who has seen a rise in her nose jewelry sales. “I feel like it’s part of the whole cyber-internet art thing.”

A-list celebrities and fashion moguls like Rihanna, Kendall Jenner and Zoë Kravitz have brought back a high interest in the nose piercing culture, more specifically the “septum piercing.”

According to Google Dictionary, a septum is a partition separating two chambers, such as that between the nostrils or the chambers of the heart.

Therefore, the piercing of one’s septum describes the placing of jewelry in an area of skin that lies between a person’s two nostrils.

Getting one’s septum pierced – and in fact – getting any type of piercing requires a process of thinking about the consequences.

For many, wearing facial jewelry that is meant to be kept on every day presents difficulties in their jobs because of dress codes, or at home because of parental beliefs and traditions.

So, many fashionistas and jewelry designers are opting for creating temporary jewelry that doesn’t require piercing the skin.

According to Butler, “I was very good at jewelry design. I’m very hands-on and I wanted to do something at home so I started doing jewelry.” She said, “I make this stuff because it comes naturally to me.”

She started ABA Jewels by making finger rings out of wire in custom shapes and sizes. Soon after, she opened a store on Etsy.com, a site which allows artists and creatives to make an account and display their pieces for sale.

She now sells rings, ankle cuffs, bracelets, temporary nose rings, septum rings and chokers in materials that vary between brass, stainless steel, gold fill and sterling silver.

“Thanks to jewelry designers’ temporary creations, carrying around a piece of jewelry on one’s septum gives us the tenderness of wearing a boho-chic style piece, without having to cope with an actual piercing.”

Butler specialized in making jewelry after having studied accessory design at the Miami Art Institute.

Aja Butler, owner of ABA Jewels, shows off nose jewelry and says nose jewelry has become an incremental part of her business.

Cata Bardoti /the Beacon

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The Beacon – 6

SPORTS

Monday, April 20, 2015

**SPORTS**

**BOXING**

University Boxing club takes Intercollegiate Association national tournament

JACOB SPIWAK
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April 10-12 was a historic weekend for the FIU boxing club, as their very own Valentin Auzanneau won the USIBA nationals in Los Angeles. It was a historic weekend for the FIU boxing club, as their very own Valentin Auzanneau won three medals in as many days to take home national titles. The event in Los Angeles was the first ever United States Intercollegiate Boxing Association national tournament.

Auzanneau, who is 18 years old, is a junior at FIU. He started boxing at the age of 18 just a few years ago, and credits his father (who has also coached the FIU boxing club) for how far he has come as a boxer. He was my motivation," Auzanneau said. "He's the one that mentally prepared me for everything, because many times I was very reluctant about going to the gym and sparring but he was there for me."

After the fight was over and Valentin was crowned champion, he and his father shared a great moment that Valentin described as "speechless."

The boxing club had three boxers competing during the USIBA Nationals, which took place at the University of Michigan. Coincidentally enough, Auzanneau actually took on another FIU student Julian Martinez in the championship bout.

"Before the fight I was kind of feeling bad about it," Auzanneau said, "but once I got in the ring and looked at his face, that wasn't my friend anymore. I had to do what I had to do, and once you're in the position your perception of the sport and friendship really changes. It's either him or me." When asked if they're on good terms now, Valentin had a very surprising answer.

"No we're not," Auzanneau explained. "I actually sent him a text message the day after the fight out of respect and he hasn't responded. So I guess it is what it is." Despite all of that, Auzanneau said he has no regrets. He and Martinez were both there with the same goal, and at the end of the day Valentin was the one who walked away a national champion.

Looking forward for the FIU boxing club now that the 2015 USIBA tournament has come to a close, their president Kittiya Harris explained what they have in store for the future. "Right now the club is taking a short break but once we get back we're going to try to focus on expanding the club. We're also going to have summer sessions for self defense and a boot camp for people trying to get in better shape."

Harris also mentioned that the club is planning on holding a regional exhibition tournament with Nova Southeastern University in the fall, as well as preparing for next year’s USIBA national tournament, which is set to take place in Los Angeles.

**SWIMMING**

Swimming and Diving Team take home three awards during annual athletics banquet

PETER HOLLAND
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This past Sunday, FIU Athletics held its annual awards banquet at the Graham Center Ballroom. The highlight of the evening was the Swimming and Diving team, who won three major awards. Senior Swimmer Johanna Gustafsdottir led the way by being named the FIU’s Athletic Female Athlete of the Year. The team also received the CHAMPS/Life Skills Challenge Cup and the Michael Felsberg Spirit Award.

After a successful season, the Swimming and Diving team were winners again at the annual athletics awards banquet. Senior Swimmer Johanna Gustafsdottir led the way by being named the FIU’s Athletic Female Athlete of the Year. The team also received the CHAMPS/Life Skills Challenge Cup and the Michael Felsberg Spirit Award.

The Male Athlete of the Year award was named after a former FIU’s track star that died while serving as a Marine Second Lieutenant. Felsberg won the Spirit Award three times for supporting all sports team. The award was named in his honor.

The Male Athlete of the Year award was given to senior Dennis Mavin, the starting guard for the men’s basketball team. Mavin was the tenth player to categories: academic achievement, athletic achievement, personal development, community service, school spirit and SACL participation.

The Michael Felsberg Spirit award was named after a former FIU’s track star that died while serving as a Marine Second Lieutenant. Felsberg won the Spirit Award three times for supporting all sports team. The award was named in his honor.

The Male Athlete of the Year award was given to senior Dennis Mavin, the starting guard for the men’s basketball team. Mavin was the tenth player to score 900 points or more in FIU history.
New Head Coach Chinn: ‘The Slate Is Clean’

DAVID DRUCKER
Staff Writer
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New women’s basketball head coach Marlin Chinn is getting accustomed to life in Miami and is excited to lead the Panthers to a fresh start in 2015-2016.

According to Chinn, Florida International University first reached out to him while he was still at the University of Maryland, but it wasn’t serving under Maryland Head Coach Brenda Frese and guiding the Terrapins to the Big Ten tournament.

A vacancy opened up at FIU when long-time FIU Head Coach Cindy Russo retired on June 22 for health reasons. Chinn was interested.

“One of we got started in the tournament, there really no time to focus on [the job]. There was an interest, but I didn’t seriously consider it until the week we were going to consider it until the week we were going to the Final Four,” Chinn said.

“Although the coach is manning Russo’s old desk, it’s not the first time that he’s had a chance to admire his predecessor’s work.

When I first met them, I told them that the slate is clean; I’m not preconceiving anything about what they can and can’t do. No one has any starting positions locked down.”

“My very first game at a collegiate coach was at FIU. Back at Mt. Saint Mary’s, we had a tournament here, and we played FIU on the second day. She was doing some really, really good things,” Chinn said.

Once Chinn arrived, he had a chance to meet the women who would be playing for him and was not disappointed.

“Great group of girls. Absolutely love them. They have a ton of energy and personality. I’m looking forward to working with them the summer starts.”

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Panthers finish second at Mountain View Collegiate

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The golf team had its mark this past weekend despite finishing in second place overall at the Mountain View Collegiate. The tournament took place in Tucson, Arizona and was hosted by the University of Missouri. The Panthers were one of twenty schools competing in the tournament. The team was led by Junior Meghan MacLaren, who shot seven under par, who gave her third tournament victory. MacLaren shot a three-round total of 209 to reach seven under; her best mark of the season. Her previous best came at the Pat Bradley Invitational last November. This was the fourth time this season that MacLaren finished under par.

Freshman sensation Katerina Kravova finished in the top ten with a total of 214, two-under par for the weekend. This was a career high for this freshman out of the Czech Republic. Her previous best was 221 at the Johnnie Imes Invitational.

The Panthers were one of only two teams to finish under par during the tournament. The Ohio State Buckeyes, who finished in first place, shot 8-under for the tournament.

Despite finishing in second place, the Panthers shot a season high 861 in a three-round score, finishing in the right track. “Since I couldn’t leave behind a winning legacy, I wrote a letter to President Rosenberg and explained everything that happened this season. I caught his attention and wants to meet with us sometime during the summer,” Arriera said. The main goal will be to develop the rugby culture and try to make FIU a force for both men and women.
BBC Celebrates Pride Week with color

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Edwin Serrano, a graduate assistant for the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services at the Biscayne Bay Campus, said April is the month to express who one truly is.

As part of FIU Pride Month 2015, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Ally Initiatives program will celebrate this freedom Monday, April 20.

“I want people to know it’s April and it’s pride month—we are expressing who we truly are,” said Serrano. “We want [students] to feel important and valued for who they are,” he said.

With barbeque, photo booths and games, students are encouraged to come and learn about the LGBTQA community.

Serrano said graduate assistants at MPAS have worked hard and diligently to coordinate the pride week events to keep students informed about LGBTQA issues.

At the BBC, FIU Pride Month kicked-off Thursday, April 9 with the LGBTQA Initiatives 3D Series. Through a screening of the award-winning film, “Beyond Gay: The Politics of Pride,” students understood the relevance of gay pride in different countries.

On Thursday, April 16, students were invited to peacefully protest against LGBTQA bullying and harassment at the BBC’s Day of Silence. During eight hours students remained in silence, representing the community’s fear of revealing their sexual identity.

“I know some [students] feel trapped and hide who they are,” said Joanne Pike, a freshman undecided major. “I feel like at the end of the day, we are all humans no matter what,” Pike said.

The LGBTQA Initiatives strives to reduce homophobia through education, advocacy, support and awareness.

Serrano said students should embrace their individuality and diversity. They should celebrate who they are and be comfortable doing it.

Serrano also said that Monday’s event will have a large assortment of rainbow-colored balloons to represent student diversity. The LGBTQA community also identifies itself with the different colors.

 “[We] will see again the excitement and all the colors, the rainbow balloons, a lot of pride and connections with students. It’s a great time!”, Serrano said.

Students like John Blackwell, a freshman biology major, agree that the University has done well to expose LGBTQA issues.

“I think the LGBT community should be represented in all forms and types like everything [and] anyone else,” said Blackwell.

The final event will take place at the BBC Panther Square from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Students prepare for final exams at Release Week

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To help shake off stress for final exams, the Biscayne Bay Campus Life is hosting Release Week, a week-long series of events.

Kaytien Franco, a student assistant at BBC Campus Life, said that as a former student, stress for exam preparations can be harmful.

“I know the stress that finals can put on the body and it isn’t positive energy going into your tests,” Franco said.

According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, college students suffer from anxiety disorders; 75 percent experience their first episode of anxiety by the age of 22.

“I can study all night and all day, but I’ll still be nervous about any test that I’m taking,” said Oscar Payá, a junior advertising major. “The pressure of finals week drains us...we need a break,” Payá said.

Release Week will open with Monday’s Release/Pride Week Celebration where students will celebrate diversity and LGBTQA pride. Students can enjoy a barbeque, photo booths and games at Panther Square from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday will be a “Treat Yo Self” and the aromatherapy day where students are offered natural oils as a way to relax the body. The Treat Yo Self event will take place at Panther Square from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the aromatherapy at the Wolfe University Center room 155.

For Wednesday, students will be provided with free “snacks, on snacks, on snacks” throughout the BBC from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“The snacks will be healthy treats to give students the energy that they’ll need to continue with their studies,” Franco said.

On Thursday, there will be a coffee break outside of the Academic One building from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Finally, Friday will consist of a silent auction hosted by the MPAS to fundraise money for University transfer and international students. Students are welcomed to come and will be held at the WUC Ballrooms from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Cristina Bengochea, a senior advertising major, said she doesn’t feel pressure from finals week, instead she embraces the preparations. She said it is important to remain focused and upbeat.

“I tend to not get nervous before finals week. I like to study weeks ahead to the tests, so when it’s time for finals, I’m already prepared,” Bengochea said.

“I drink a lot of coffee, exercise and I eat a light meal the day of the test. This helps my mind and body become more relaxed,” Bengochea said.

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