Students, companies rave over minimum wage increase

By Colton Seike
@Cuber_Side

As President Obama continues to fight the battle to raise minimum wage nation-wide, the city of San Jose has him on the losing end of the punch and has raised the hourly pay again.

On Jan. 1, San Jose increased the minimum wage from $10 an hour to $10.15 an hour for an estimated 40,000 workers, according to Dr. Scott Myers-Lipton, a sociology professor at San Jose State who helped get the minimum wage initiative on the ballot in 2012.

Philz Coffee in downtown San Jose is one of the businesses that has been impacted and increased their wages.

"We would always walk by and talk about (that)," Lyla said. "They were very interesting." According to Myers-Lipton, unemployment in San Jose is at a five-year low, at below seven percent and is in the midst of the highest job growth in recent years. "Every year we are going to look at (the minimum wage)," Myers-Lipton said. "It is giving minimum-wage workers $4,000 a year more it is stimulating the economy." The sections of the blue wall with portraits on them have been stacked near the spartan bookstore.

Christopher Brenner, associate vice president of facilities, development and operations, said that the blue wall has not been destroyed, plundered or auctioned off. It will be back up and ready to be painted entering phase two of the Student Union project.

Brown said phase two, which will renovate the old Student Union, is scheduled to begin around March. Brown said he estimates that after phase two begins, it will take an additional 14 months before the Student Union project is finished and the painted faces of the blue wall will no longer be on display.

Mohsen, current president of the Dirty Brashes, said the ibid fully intends to continue painting works of art when the blue wall is back in.

Brown said that the blue wall technically belongs to the contractor in charge of the project, which means the wall will leave with the construction workers.

Salinas, a senior pictorial arts major, said he and the other members have no intention of letting the murals go with the construction site.

"I feel more comfortable it if just stayed within the school," Salinas said. Salinas said that he is open to other options, like possibly displaying the works on campus in a gallery setting or auctioning them off in a fundraiser.

"There's been quite a few people who are interested in buying them," Jordan Gonzales, a senior studio art major and member of the Dirty Brashes, said. "The construction people loves them too."

Gonzales said that the workers have made an effort to preserve the murals between phase one and two of the project. Salinas said that the mural project was initially intended to encompass the entire construction site.

"The impact is what we expected," Myers-Lipton said. "It is giving minimum-wage workers $4,000 a year more it is stimulating the economy." As the minimum wage increased in San Jose, some businesses and companies in neighboring cities, like Campbell and Cupertino, are starting to match San Jose's wage, according to Myers-Lipton.

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Junior communications studies major Giuseppe Scarpino, who currently works at the Cypress Hotel in Cupertino, continues to work hard for pay just under $10 an hour and will continue working even if he makes more money.

"We stay consistently busy," Mohsen said. "Giving them better wages, it gives them sense of ownership for their jobs." Mohsen said that they are not afraid of hiring more people in the future, but they are considerable right now with 24 worshipers paid.

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Castaway washes ashore 5,700 miles from Mexico after 13 months adrift in Pacific
By Tim Johnson
McClatchy-Tribune

ME XICO CITY — It was a daylong fishing trip that went seriously bad, setting a shark fisherman adrift on an appar- ent 13-month odyssey from Mexico across the Pacific Ocean. The fisherman washed up last week in the Marshall Is- lands, bedraggled, wildly bearded and dazed, barely able to communicate.

“He said he was on a fishing trip with another guy and somehow the north wind blew them and they got lost,” Gee Bing, acting foreign minister for the Marshall Islands, told Radio Australia.

Early reports of the castaway’s journey said he was Mexi- can. But Mexico’s Foreign Secretariat said in a statement Monday that its ambassador to the Philippines had spoken with the man and determined that he is from El Salvador. He had apparently lived in Mexico for more than a decade.

The fisherman was identified in press reports from Ma- zatlan, the capital of the Marshall Islands, as Jose Salvador Al- varDTO, the capital of the Marshall Islands, as Jose Salvador Al- varengo. Other reports had his surname as Alvarenga and juru, the capital of the Marshall Islands, as Jose Salvador Al-

The castaway told diplomats that he set off with a fellow fisherman from the Pacific coast of the Mexican state of Chiapas 13 months ago for a daylong shark fishing excursion.

“The wind blew off course and the vessel was destroyed. The vessel sank. We were swimming for five days.”

But he was washed off course by a storm and he’s been at sea since Dec. 30, 2012,” Thomas H. Armbruster, the U.S. con- sular officer in the Marshall Islands, told CNN after speaking with the man in his native Spanish. “It did sound like he had a young man on the boat with him, and he was unaware at sea.”

Photos showed medical personnel helping the castaway, who had picked up a woman named Elvira from Elron Atoll, a sparsely populated coral atoll of 22 islands that is the south- westernmost part of the Marshall Islands, along the equatorial belt between Hawaii and Australia. The islands are more than 5,700 miles from Mexico’s Pacific coast.

Armbruster said the Salvadoran fisherman was recover-

“They talked about joint pain,” Armbruster told CNN. “I know he’ll be a shatter. But he looked very good. I’m no medi-

The castaway told Mexico’s ambassador to the Philippines, Julio Camarena Villasenor, that he has “not a single relative in Mex-

In a similar case in 2006, three Mexicans who said they drifted for nine months in the Pacific evoked as much sus-

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Facebook declined to comment.

San Francisco — Imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery for some. But not Fifty Three, which has a trademark on the word “book” in its name.

“Facebook is a very large organization, and with the name of its new mobile news app, called Paper. And Fifty Three has a trademark on the word “book” in its name,” Petschnigg said. And that confusion, he said, could cause damage to Fifty Three, which has built up a lot of value in its Paper brand.

P etschnigg said it came as a shock to him:  The Paper name most accurately conveys the word “book” in its name. It was such a big hit that Apple added a new app called Paper.

The startup is spitting mad that Facebook rolled out an app with the same name. Facebook planned to

But this is likely the way Facebook sees it. The paper name most accurately conveys the word “book” in its name. It was such a big hit that Apple added a new app called Paper.

So P etschnigg said it came as a shock to him: That was an interesting way to wake up in the morning, to find this new app on a new phone and not know what it was.

“Some of our users and partners were confused. They thought, oh God, is Fifty Three going to die?”

Fifty Three’s Paper app was released in March 2012. It was such a big hit that Apple added a new app called Paper.

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Fifty Three’s Paper app was released in March 2012. It was such a big hit that Apple added a new app called Paper.

“Yes, if you go to Fifty Three’s website, it’s Paper by Fifty Three, not just Paper,” Petschnigg said. And that confusion, he said, could cause damage to Fifty Three, which has built up a lot of value in its Paper brand.

“The full extent of the damage is un-

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Golf

Gale was the first coach in NCAA history to lead a program to NCAA championships in three different decades. He led the Spartans to 15 championships in 28 seasons with the Spartans, and was one of four coaches to be inducted into the NCAA Hall of Fame.

“Whenever you have a record for a little while it’s pleasing to you. I’m sure you want to maintain it,” Gale said at the University at Irvine, we need recognition and we get it.”


“If you fell lower than sixth at the NCAA Championships three years ago, you received most power wheelchair when I was in the fifth grade. I didn’t like sports until much later in life. My parents let me become who I wanted to be through adaptive sports.

Around the age of nine, I tried out a truck chair. Since I was young, my arms couldn’t really make the push rims to allow me to position the chair on the track, but from that day on I had freedom.

There’s independence and freedom in sports, but it takes a lot of effort and willingness to participate in wheelchair accessible sport.

As an athlete, I have done wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby, swimming, and downhill skiing. Wheelchair skiing, for example, is the fastest growing sport for power wheelchair users.

Skiing is exhilarating, providing me with the feeling of freedom similar to an able-bodied person.

This past year, on our USA Power Soccer tour, our team went to Paris and brought back another trophy for the USA Power Soccer. The team USA won back-to-back tournaments beginning in 2007. First in Tokyo, Japan and then again in Paris, France in 2011.

I believe in the spirit and the fight of athletes with disabilities. I believe that power soccer provides those with physical limitations with a sense of freedom, achievement, and fulfillment.

I continue to polish my skills and live my life as I always have. I continue to ski downhill. I turn the ski by shifting my body weight from left to right.

I am tethered to my ski instructor and the one of my friends who is also a power soccer player.

I am grateful for the opportunity to play power soccer.

Members of the San Jose Steermark take time to pose for a picture during the introduction ceremonies at the 2010 nationals in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Golf Columnist

Photo courtesy of SJSU Athletics

Disabled athletes can shine in wheelchair accessible sports

By Talia Geliebter
tg@spartandaily.com

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a disabled athlete? Would the sports that you play be more difficult? Would you feel out easily and give up, or continue through the pain?

Fewable-bodied people knew that the disabled are capable of playing sports. Even though I am in a wheelchair, I can run as many marathons I want.

I have been playing power soccer for about a year now. It is a totally new sport. It is a fast-paced, athletic sport. My favorite sport is snow skiing, providing me with the feeling of freedom similar to an able-bodied person.

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Cinequest festival connects with movie lovers

By Ashley Bulaya

Cinequest, an annual independent film festival, will return to downtown San Jose from March 6 through March 16.

Halfdan Hussey, co-founder and executive director of Cinequest and radio, television and film professor at SJSU, spoke at a press launch Jan. 28 and revealed the festival’s highlights and events the audience won’t want to miss.

“The theme this year is ‘connect,'” Hussey said. “We believe in the power of cinema to connect us to worlds beyond ours in very, very special ways.”

According to Hussey, this year will be the festival’s first time presenting the Maverick Award, recognizing journalists for their role in bridging the gap between the audience and films, Hussey said.

Also new to Cinequest is the Media Legacy Award, recognizing journalists for their role in bridging the gap between the audience and films, Hussey said.

For students who are more interested in the film program, here are a few movie descriptions:

“Unusual Lies the Mind!” This psychological thriller is set entirely on an iPhone 5. Matty Cooper, also known as the “Father of the Cellphone,” and the media wonder how much he knew before his life was abruptly taken. Before his life was abruptly taken, who was a passenger on United Flight 93 during 9/11. Before his life was abruptly taken, he himself and directed by Emmy award winner-Scott Gishell, “The Rugby Player” shows the audience how Bingham’s life can inspire anyone who watches it.

“Spectacular Suicide” Trent was set on committing suicide, but failed after multiple attempts. He wanted to make sure he went out with a bang. Along the way, he develops some unintended friendships while still trying to put together a “Spectacular Suicide.” Will his newfound friendships be enough to keep him from ending his life?

“The Rugby Player” By dead-end journaling what you post on the Internet! This movie will convince you that finding friends is not only to have it in the back. The trying to live a “normal” life is a misused enough, but thanks to technology. Amanda realizes your life couldn’t be more at the click of a button.

“Friends to Death” Yeah, you may have 2,000 plus friends, but how many of them are real friends? Michael, a Facebook junkie, finds himself asking this question. In an effort to find out who really cares for him, he takes his own death to see who actually cares for him and dramatically scrubs the posts on his profile. Does Michael know a couple of people are onto his experiment. Now ask yourself, who do you consider your real friends?

Films will be shown inside the California Theatre, Century 12 Cinemas and the San Jose Repertory Theatre.

Students can attend regular screenings at a discounted price of $5 with proof of student ID presented at the box office.

Ashley Bulaya | Spartan Daily staff writer
Disney reimagines the gay debate

LaVeta C. Williams

The portrayal of same-sex relationships and acceptance is an extremely new concept. In last of cases, films or television shows that have shown a realistic and “normalized” view of gay couples were either independent films or movies that were given limited runs that made it difficult to go mainstream.

Though homophobia has become less and less common in our society, it is important to address the fact that it does still exist. Acting on the programmes continue to be open in portraying the ideas of homosexuality and sexual orientation.

These groups live in how “neutral” they are towards the gay community, how few the numbers about gay and our children; the appropriate ages we should be teaching them about homosexuality and the importance of acceptance.

Though homophobia has become less and less common in our society, it is important to address the fact that it does still exist. Acting on the programmes continue to be open in portraying the ideas of homosexuality and sexual orientation.

The team that controls the ball wins the game. The Seattle Seahawks dominated Denver’s offensive line in a dominating 43-8 victory.

Seattle returned the second-half kickoff at mid-field. Manning was set to throw the ball after another touchdown to Manning early in the game and used his size to manipulate the lights and the speed of Seattle’s defensive schemes.

Super Bowl XLVII, often referred to as football’s “Super Bowl,” was an event that everyone from the darkest to the casual football fan left disappointed.

Instead of one game, this week and forth with Denver, it would have been foolish enough for Manning to attack and discern the answer to my previous questions, but the best offense is a good defense and complete football with good defense when it unfolds on the field.

As football fans and spectators sporting their big event, we learned enough to know that the big moment is not because the ball was kicked off for a touchdown and broke the game open.

It was a game that was laced with messages, such as the fact that being in favor of the move, high-flying, pass-first offense that was exposed by Seattle’s defense.

In the Super Bowl, Seattle’s pass rushannounced the Denver Broncos’ newest setting off in a 43-8 rout.

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Construction: Portraits will be relocated

of wall that wraps around to the engineering building, but that the group started slowing down because they weren’t getting enough people to do another set.

As a group, the Dirty Brushes members agreed that each portrait takes about half of a semester to complete.

Salinas said that the club is not strictly open to only art students and members come from a large array of different backgrounds.

“We like everybody,” Salinas said. “They just like to do it (art) because they don’t have time to take an art class, that’s why we have the club so people can just come in, do whatever.”

Gonzales said that he encourages all students with an interest in art to get involved.

Jessica Schlegelmilch is a Spartan Daily staff writer

Money: Inflation causes rise in wages, 40,000 workers affected

to fight for an increased wage at his job.

“I understand that the possibility of change is not going to happen in the near future,” Scarpino said. “But the flexibility of my job is the reason why I still work there.”

Minimum wage at the Cypress Hotel currently stands at $9.50, Scarpino said, and with an increase, it would make the workers much more comfortable in their daily lives.

“It would definitely help to have an increased wage,” Scarpino said. “I would have more money for school, bills and other amenities.”

For now, the minimum wage in San Jose will stay at $10.15 and will continue to increase due to inflation every year, according to Myers-Lipton.

Salvatore Babones, senior lecturer in sociology at University of Sydney and inequality.org writer, said that the minimum wage should be much higher based on inflation dating back to 1968.

Babones stated that if inflation kept increasing, minimum wage would be right around $21.16, if not higher.

For some businesses, the matter of how much money you are being paid should not matter, rather the value of the job they do should be being looked at, according to Mohsen.

“You don’t have to base it on how much someone is making,” Mohsen said. “But you have to look at the value they are bringing to your company.”

Colton Seike is a Spartan Daily staff writer.