

## **PUBLIC SAFETY** FOR SAFETY'S SAKE

The horrific events of September 11, 2002 have heightened concerns regarding safety and security. Perhaps some have become more concerned with travel or the workplace. The Department of Public Safety has been assigned the responsibility to prepare an emergency plan for the campus community that makes your safety and well-being the first and primary goal.

To ensure safety, various initiatives have been implemented on campus. One, a new policy on weapons and dangerous substances prohibits possessing or using any firearm or other dangerous weapon, device, material, or any type of incendiary device on property owned or under control of the University. There are exceptions to the policy which include law enforcement officers and University employees who are authorized to possess and/or use such weapons, devices or substances. Policy 4.7-1 is on the University website.

Another is the emergency siren which was installed in B Lot. This siren is used to advise individuals who are outside in adverse weather conditions. If the siren is heard, seek cover immediately. A second siren will be installed on the north part of campus this spring. The siren is tested the first Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m.

In addition, the University installed building diagrams at the entrance of each facility that identify evacuation routes in case of fire and recommended shelter areas in case of tornado or severe weather. Fire and severe weather drills will be conducted periodically throughout the campus. The campus community will be notified in advance.

Public Safety has also provided a publication titled "Safety Awareness Booklet," which addresses such topics as severe weather, fire safety, crimes in progress, sexual assault, obscene telephone calls and bomb threats. Public Safety encourages you to keep this booklet close at hand in the event that you need to refer to it. If you are in need of copies, please contact Public Safety at ext. 4141.

As mentioned previously, bomb threats are addressed in the safety booklet. Bomb threats usually occur by telephone. The person receiving a bomb threat telephone call should remain calm and attempt to obtain as much information as possible from the caller. A check list is provided in the booklet.

We encourage you to contact Public Safety at any time for any assistance you might need. Public Safety looks forward to working with each of you to keep the campus a safe place to be.

## **THECARD**

There are many advantages to using THECARD.

One impacts your stomach...Do you eat

lunch often at the Doan Center or the Mini-Doan located in the Science Building? You may be interested in the faculty/staff meal plan. This plan provides users with a 6% discount on **t h e i r m e a l** purchases. A \$50 deposit to THECARD is all that is required to establish the plan. Once the plan is set up, you can add to it as often as you wish. If you are interested, please see one of the Doan cashiers or stop by the Dining Services Office, 122 Curtiss Hall.

### **DID YOU KNOW...**

The University's utility costs will exceed \$2 million this fiscal year? Electricity makes up the bigger portion of those costs. As we have increased space, our usage for each existing building has also increased. We can all help reduce this cost by turning off lights, **c o m p u t e r s , c o p i e r s , f a x** machines and other portable appliances at the end of the day, keeping outside windows closed, closing blinds at the end of the day in winter, closing blinds during the day in summer, not using desk lamps, and turning off pc monitors when away from the **c o m p u t e r** for more than 15 minutes.

Also, if your office space is either too warm or too cool, call Campus Facilities at ext. 4080. They may be able to make your work area more comfortable, which could result in **h e a t i n g a n d c o o l i n g** efficiencies.



## CAMPUS FACILITIES UNDER CONSTRUCTION

### EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION SURVEY

Employment and Compensation Services (ECS) recently completed the Employee Satisfaction Survey. Thirty-four percent of University employees responded. ECS is in the process of tabulating and assessing the responses to see where changes should be made. Information will be forthcoming regarding comments and concerns from the survey regarding payroll, benefits and employment.

### ECS WEB PAGE GETS A FACE LIFT

The old Human Resource web page, now the new and improved Employment and Compensation Services web page, can be accessed from the main SVSU web page (click on Faculty/Staff, then select Employment and Compensation Services) or at [www.svsu.edu/ecs](http://www.svsu.edu/ecs).

The goal of this new web site is to allow employees to become more informed about their benefits and to gain quicker access to employment and payroll information. It will also provide greater access to forms. Changes/additions include the following:

- Job Postings
- Forms such as Authorization to begin Recruitment, Direct Deposit
- The University fiscal year payroll schedule
- Updated benefit information and insurance rate charts
- University staff count
- The new Support Staff contract
- Contact names and numbers

This is just a beginning. Over the next few months, ECS plans to add more benefit, payroll and employment information, so keep checking this page for new content information.

### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ADVISORY GROUP

The University is reviewing benefit programs. Continued increase in the cost of health insurance has created the need to give reasoned thought to health care issues, plan design and identification of viable options for the future.

To involve employees in a thorough discussion of benefit programs, an advisory group has been established to investigate and discuss health insurance issues; the group has representation from all University employee groups. Such dialogue will assist in the identification of potential benefit program alternatives or modifications, which potentially provide cost, quality of service and product changes beneficial to employees. The University has engaged a national consulting firm to work with the advisory group to provide information on health care models and industry trends, various approaches to plan design and comparative data on plan offerings, and features of plan offerings by local and comparable employers.

You just have to drive around campus to experience the University's commitment to the development of campus facilities. Here are a few highlights of the various construction projects underway and the project costs:



- Science West (\$3.5 Million) - The project is nearing completion. The Physics Department has returned to the building. The Biology Department will be able to return at the end of winter semester, at which time the building will be fully operational.
- Main Campus Regional Education Center (\$29.2 Million) - The foundations and much of the utilities and site work are done. Installation of structural steel has begun. Targeted completion is August 2003.
- Library Expansion and Renovation (\$10.8 Million) - Work has begun on the interior. The entire library will be closed for two weeks in May after winter semester ends. This will allow structural steel to be placed for the fourth floor addition. Planned completion is August 2003.
- Macomb County Regional Education Center (\$3.5 Million) - The property has been purchased and project bids have been received. The contractor should begin construction soon. November 2002 is the planned completion date.
- Fitness Center (\$2 Million) - The project, an addition to Ryder Center, is in the final stages of design. Construction should start by May with a planned completion date of December 2002.
- Student Center (\$6 Million) - The project design is in progress. It is anticipated that work will start on the building foundations and utilities in May. Planned completion: August 2003.
- Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum Expansion (\$2.4 Million) - Construction has begun and structural steel is currently being installed. Planned completion is scheduled for January 2003, with the Museum setup process beginning at that point.
- Pine Grove Apartments Renovations (\$2 Million) - Renovations to all of the apartment buildings will be underway in May with a planned completion in August 2002.
- Energy Loop Phase II (\$920,000) - This project involves the extension of the Energy Loop from Science East to Ryder Center, with a planned completion date of November 2002.