Ohlone tackles hunger issue on campus

**NEWS BITE**

**Symposium on stigma**

The STEP Up program will host a symposium titled "Stepping Up Coverage: A Symposium on Exploring the Role Of Media to Reduce Stigma Round Mental Health Issues" Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ohlone Fremont campus, Bldg. 7, 1st Floor. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

The event is being sponsored in partnership with ASL Club, the Deaf Studies Association, Women and Gender Empowerment Club, Communication Department, Forensics Team & Speech Club, and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

Students can get information and register at the following address: http://step-upohlone.org

**Sigma Chi Eta induction**

The 2013 Sigma Chi Eta Induction and Pinning Ceremony will be held on Friday at the Pond on the Fremont Campus.

Ohlone College Board of Trustees member U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Garrett S. Yee will be the keynote speaker for this year's ceremony. Student Activities Coordinator Renee Gonzales, who has been heading TOP this semester, has been working with Sergio Gil-Billoups, an intern at Ohlone's Office of Student Life.

"I grew up poor from the other side of the spectrum. I know what it is like from the other side of the spectrum," said Trigg. "For Gonzales it was different personal mission.

"Renee had a desire to do something about hunger," said Trigg.

Gil-Billoups shared his story with Gonzales and together they came up with the idea to create a program that would combat hunger on campus and benefit students.

"Renee was inspired by my story so we decided to do something about it. We started making calls to develop the program," said Gil-Billoups.

In the first week of the food drive, a six-foot shelf is filled with an array of canned foods, dry products and other non-perishable consumables.

"If we keep going at this rate, I think we could fill two to three shelves," said Gil-Billoups.

Trigg said that she wanted to make clear that she does not want students to feel judged when using TOP.

"With low income students, there is a stigma that students are unworthy or not smart. I don't want these prejudices to be carried with this program. Also, TOP is not for students to get free food if they simply want it," said Trigg.

A student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) determines food pantry eligibility. EFC is a model that measures a family's financial stability and is calculated by a government-applied formula. For example, if a student's EFC is close to zero, we would look at that first because this proves how much a student may need help," said Gil-Billoups.

If students or faculty want to do more than donate food, TOP would appreciate use volunteers to help transport food and organize shelves, said Gil-Billoups.

**Professor unveils his new Deaf culture book**

TARA INGRAHAM

Staff writer

The latest edition to ASL Professor Thomas K. Holcomb's list of books is "Introduction to American Deaf Culture," for which he held a book signing April 25. The signing also acted as a fundraiser for the ASL Club with the books being sold at a 20 percent discount.

"Introduction to American Deaf Culture" is an analysis of what Deaf life is like through the perspective of the Deaf community.

It covers everything from how they define their own culture and race to how language, literature, the arts and rules of social interaction are integrated into their culture. He also writes about what life is like in the Deaf community, how they have dealt with Deafness being labeled as a disability and what they plan for the future of the Deaf community.

Holcomb's inspiration behind writing this book was his dissatisfaction with how Deaf people have been portrayed in the written media. He said that the main focus being shown is the medical perspective, which emphasizes the limitations of being Deaf.

He said that the authors of these publications on the Deaf are biased, failing to incorporate the perspective of the Deaf people themselves.

"The Deaf do not want pity," he said. "They want to see themselves as a thriving culture and the textbooks students are reading in college should show this."

Holcomb has co-written ten other books including, "Deaf Culture: Our Way," "Reading Between the Signs: Intercultural Communication For Sign Language Interpreters" and "Introduction to American Deaf Culture."

He has also written and produced two workbook DVD sets called "See What I Mean: Differences Between Deaf and Hard of Hearing Cultures" and "A Sign of Respect: Strategies For Effective Deaf/Hearing Interactions."

He said that he has fulfilled the purpose behind writing "Introduction to American Deaf Culture" and is satisfied with the outcome so far.

He has taught Deaf Culture at Ohlone for 21 years and is currently working on articles for professional journals.

His books are available at the Ohlone bookstore, as well as Amazon, Oxford University Press, Barnes & Noble and other stores.

Holcomb said "Introductions to American Deaf Culture" is also available through the ASL Club at a discount. For that, contact Sandra Klopping at sklopping@ohlone.edu.

**Silent film with music**

"Jerry Nagano on Organ & Buster Keaton's College" will be held on Friday, May 3, 2013 at 8:30 p.m. at Jackson Theatre, Smith Center at Ohlone College.

Jerry Nagano is one of the Bay Area's premier organists when accompanying the enduringly hilarious classic silent films. He will play Buster Keaton's "College" (1927), a comedy-drama about college students and their misadventures, with a classic love story and plenty of amazing stunts, performed by the great comic silent actor with the trademark deadpan expression.