

# THE SKIFF



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FALL 2021 ON-CAMPUS HOUSING APPLICATIONS TO OPEN SOON

A STUDENT MEDIA PUBLICATION OF TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

FORT WORTH, TEXAS



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PHOTO BY HEESOO YANG

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## CAMPUS NEWS

# TCU employee dies of COVID-19 complications

By **SHANNON MURPHY**  
LINE EDITOR, TCU360

A dedicated groundsman died on Jan. 28 of complications related to COVID-19.

“Jose” Adalberto Cruz-Hurtado worked at TCU for the past 13 years. His death was announced in an email to the TCU community by Vice-Chancellor and Chief Human Resources Officer Yohna Chambers on Friday.

Cruz-Hurtado is survived by his wife of 38 years, three children and four grandchildren.

Randy Chambers, a grounds supervisor at TCU, remembered Cruz-Hurtado for how caring he was.

“Jose was caring and dedicated to his job, but most of all to his family,” Randy Chambers wrote in an email.

Cruz-Hurtado was born in Mexico City and migrated to the United States in 1985. He arrived at TCU in 2008 and recently spent the last seven years as an equipment operator on campus.

In her email, Yohna Chambers wrote that Cruz-Hurtado “meticulously maintained” the grounds in the Campus Commons and Dee J. Kelly Alumni and Visitors Centers.

Randy Chambers echoed these comments.

Cruz-Hurtado’s wife and two oldest children worked alongside him at the university.

His funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 1, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church,



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADALBERTO-CRUZ FAMILY

“Jose” Adalberto Cruz-Hurtado was 62 years old.

201 Thornhill Dr. Burial took place at Laurel Land Funeral Home following the service.

***“Jose’s qualities were many, but there was nothing he enjoyed more than completing a task or job and looking at his work, confident that it was a job well done.”***

**-RANDY CHAMBERS**  
GROUND SUPERVISOR



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**Distribution:** Newspapers are available free on campus and surrounding locations, limit one per person. Additional copies are \$.50 and are available at the Skiff office.

The Skiff is an official student publication of Texas Christian University, produced by students of TCU and sponsored by the TCU Department of Journalism. It operates under the policies of the Student Media Committee.

The Skiff is published Thursdays during fall and spring semesters except finals week and holidays.

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**The Skiff**  
**Circulation:** 1,000

**Subscriptions:** 817-257-6274  
Rates are \$30 per semester.

**Moudy Building South**  
Newsroom, Room 212  
2805 S. University Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76109

CAMPUS NEWS

# On-campus housing applications for fall 2021 to open soon

By **MARISSA STACY**  
MANAGING EDITOR, TCU360

All students have the option to live on-campus for the 2021-2022 academic year.

The on-campus housing application process for current students will begin no later than Feb. 15.

Craig Allen, director of Housing and Residence Life, said that housing will look pretty similar to how it has looked in the 2020-2021 school year due to no new residence halls being built.

“The only thing that changes is the number of students enrolling,” Allen said. “It feels like housing is changing, but housing isn’t really changing it’s just the number of students who might want

housing is changing.”

While first-year students and sophomores are both required to live on-campus, the option for juniors and seniors to live on-campus remains available as well.

Allen said that about 800 juniors and seniors lived on-campus this year.

Daniel Kemmerer, a junior economics major, lives in the Tom Brown apartments this year. He said he has enjoyed living on-campus and that for him it made the most sense this year, but has different plans for next year.

“Next year I am planning on living off-campus,” Kemmerer said. “Mainly because most of my friends live off-campus and I want



PHOTO BY HEESOO YANG

Juniors and seniors will have the option to live on-campus for the 2021-2022 academic year.

to room with them in a house.”

Students are currently on-campus for the spring 2021 semester. Allen said the plan is to remain open until the end of the semester. He encouraged students to do their part until May so the campus

will not close again as it did in spring 2020.

“We have planned for and have contingencies to stay open,” Allen said. “That is goal one, to keep students on-campus.”

For the first time since 2007, occupancy has dropped below 100%

which Allen contributes to COVID-19. For the spring semester, occupancy is at around 96-97%.

Allen believes that this is because some students chose to stay home to complete their classes. However, he is still happy

with the amount that returned.

The only major change housing has made is adding a guest policy in the residence halls. Only TCU students are currently allowed in the buildings.

# TCU fraternity on probation after investigation into car crash

By **BENTON MCDONALD**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR, TCU360

TCU placed a fraternity on probation after a hazing investigation revealed that students involved in a car crash last November had been sent by the chapter to steal property from another school.

Lambda Chi Alpha will be on probation through December 2021, according to the annual memorandum sent to all students by Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Michael Russel.

A description of the violation in the memo said new members of the

chapter were “compelled to steal a rival school’s property.”

Chapter representatives and the national office of Lambda Chi Alpha did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

The inquiry into hazing began after reports of a one-vehicle crash outside of Lubbock, Texas on the morning of Nov. 5. All four people in the vehicle were TCU students, according to the university.

One of the students, Joe Radanovich, was airlifted to University Medical Center in Lubbock after the car flipped four to six

times, according to the Texas Department of Transportation crash report for the accident.

Radanovich suffered punctured lungs and two fractured vertebrae.

READ MORE: Over \$125,000 raised for student injured in wreck

The driver of the vehicle fell asleep at the wheel while going eastbound on U.S. Route 84, according to the investigating officer. The car entered the left lane and then the left median before skidding.

The driver then tried to correct back right and skidded across the right lane before ending up on the right shoulder and

beginning to flip.

One passenger had to receive pelvic surgery. The driver and one other passenger in the truck were not seriously injured.

The chapter will be required to complete an eleven-point action plan during their probation and implement a “consideration of status” process for members, according to the hazing memorandum.

A spokesperson for TCU said that some members of the chapter may have violated the university’s code of conduct and could face additional violations.

The university also



PHOTO COURTESY OF GARRETT ROBINSON

Joe Radanovich in his hospital bed at University Medical Center in Lubbock, Texas.

released a statement to TCU 360 on the incident:

“Hazing is a serious violation of TCU’s core values, and the outcome of these activities can have life-changing results for our students. The

university cares deeply for the students involved; our priority remains a safe and enriching campus experience for all.”

## IN-DEPTH REPORTING

# How the pandemic has affected strategies to fight hunger

By **HAEVEN GIBBONS**

LINE EDITOR, TCU360

Americans have struggled to address hunger for nearly a century.

Now, as COVID-19 runs rampant across the nation, upward of 54 million Americans are projected to face food insecurity. As the battle to end hunger nears its 100-year mark, the issue is further from being solved than ever before.

“Before COVID we saw, since the great recession, a decline in hunger to 10.1%,” said Jeremy Everett, director of the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty. “We were really moving in the right direction as a nation.”

That growth, unfortunately, has been reversed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Hunger’s modern roots

Hunger is a consistent policy issue at all levels of government.

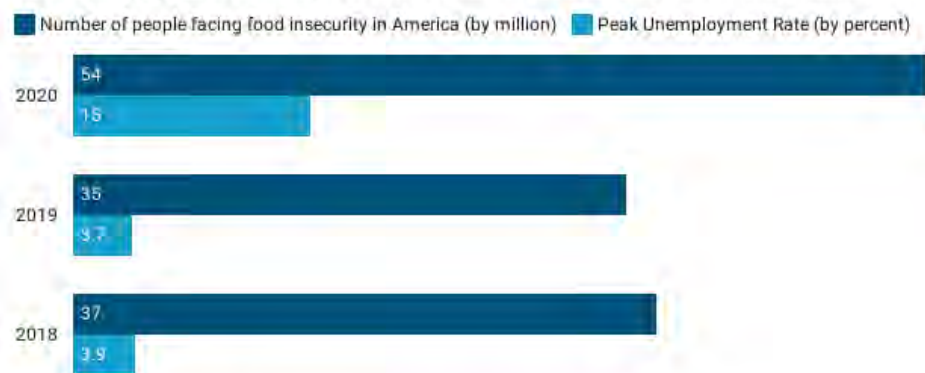
One of the first times that America took up the issue was during the The Great Depression era of the 1930s.

“During the Depression there was so much hunger,” said Joel Berg, the CEO of Hunger Free America. “Before the Depression, there was no government hunger program whatsoever. No minimum wage programs whatsoever, and no school meals whatsoever.”

Unemployment correlated with hunger

## Number of Food Insecure Individuals & the Unemployment Rate in America

This graph shows the relationship between the unemployment rate and food insecure individuals. As the unemployment rate rises, so does the number of food insecure individuals in America.



Number of people facing food insecurity in America is by millions (i.e. 54 million). The unemployment rate is shown by percent (i.e. 15 %)

Chart: Haeven Gibbons • Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, USDA Household Food Insecurity in the United States Report • Created with Datawrapper

in the 1930s as it does today.

The rapidness of unemployment since March has contributed largely to the spike in hunger and poverty across the nation.

“The people who were poor and hungry before, became poorer and hungrier,” said Berg. “And the people who were at the edge of poverty and hunger became poor and hungry.”

The peak unemployment rate in 2019 was 3.7%, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. 35 million Americans were food insecure then, according to the USDA Household Food Insecurity in the United States Report.

The peak unemployment rate in 2020 reached 15%, largely due to COVID-19. It is projected that 54 million Americans will have been food insecure in 2020.

“Food insecurity commonly becomes a problem when people are

laid off and have to make decisions on how they can spend their money—between paying utilities or feeding themselves and their families,” said Tarrant Area Food Bank Director of Marketing and Communications Michael Polydoroff.

## Crisis at the food banks

This rise in hunger levels caused the utilization of food banks to increase exponentially.

The increased demand for their services also came as the COVID-19 pandemic surged across the country.

The need to balance safety with a duty to help feed the hungry led to changes in how food banks operate.

“The food banks had to rethink their entire workflow,” said JC Dwyer, who circulates organizational strategy and conducts civic engagement initiatives at Feeding Texas.

Mainly, they had to

make rapid changes to their traditional touch-based service model. The model involved food being passed through many hands before arriving to people in need, which became unfeasible during the pandemic.

Food banks adapted to the changing circumstances by creating mass mobile distributions where food could be delivered directly to people’s car trunks.

As they adapted to their new workflow, food banks also began to see different types of clientele that hadn’t usually utilized food banks before.

“This year we started seeing a lot more people who, for the first time, had been thrown out of work,” Dwyer said.

## School lunch changes

As food banks changed their protocols, so did school lunch programs. Across the nation, schools locked

their doors. For some students, this meant their main source of food was gone.

Thirty million children depend on free or reduced-price meals from their schools for breakfast and lunch, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Out of those 30 million kids, only an estimated 15% are getting the meals they need since the COVID-19 pandemic forced schools to close.

During a nine-week period between March and May, it was measured that over 1.15 billion meals were not being served due to school closures.

The National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program are federally assisted programs run by the USDA to provide children with low-cost or even free lunches during the school day. The programs were

established in 1946 after President Harry Truman signed the National School Lunch Act. In 1971, the USDA made an amendment to the National School Lunch Program to make the program more effective in feeding hungry students.

Since then, about 95% of students eat lunch every school day. Eating on a consistent basis has shown a positive impact on student performance, behavior and attendance.

Now, the pandemic has derailed the programs, pushing schools and administrators to innovate new ways to keep kids fed.

New programs popped up throughout the spring and summer to get food to students who couldn’t attend school.

The USDA’s Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer program

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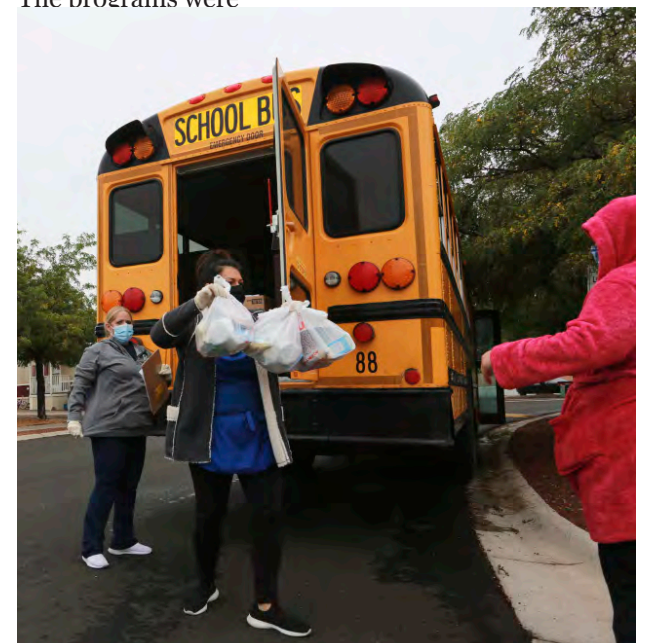


PHOTO COURTESY OF AP

Santa Fe Public School food workers distribute lunches and breakfasts at a bus stop during the coronavirus pandemic.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

transferred the value of meals students were missing and put them on debit cards or directly onto Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program debit cards.

The P-EBT program kept roughly 2.5 million to 3.5 million kids out of hunger last spring, according to NPR. In Texas, families who were on SNAP before the pandemic did not need to apply for P-EBT.

The deadline to apply for the 2020-2021 school year was extended to allow time for more families to receive the benefit, a sum of \$285 per child in school who was or would be receiving free or reduced-price meals.

Schools also had pick-up sites to allow no-contact meal services to children in the surrounding areas.

In a survey of schools nationwide, it was found that 81% of schools were offering grab-and-go meals through pick-up sites, while 42% were delivering meals directly to student homes and 32% were using school bus routes to ensure students were fed.

For the 2021 school year, the USDA waived previously required paperwork and allowed any student that wanted a meal to receive one. Schools are still compensated by the USDA, which is one of the ways they can afford to continue offering free or reduced-cost meals.

### SNAP & the National School Lunch Program

Before the National School Lunch Program was established, the Supplemental Nutrition

Assistance Program was all families had to rely on to aid their hunger.

When Franklin D. Roosevelt became the president in 1933, he began working on his New Deal to create government programs that would bring relief to the economic and hunger crisis that was the Great Depression.

Roosevelt drafted the first form of SNAP, which is still the government program for hunger today. In 1939, the Food Stamp Program was the first government program that presented the idea of food stamps, creating the framework for how the U.S. would deal with a hunger crisis.

While the programs laid a framework, Berg said that aid is still not easy to get for people who need it.

“There are plenty of working people who make just too much, supposedly, to be able to get SNAP food stamps,” said Berg. “It is far harder for a low-income person to apply for SNAP than it is for many very wealthy people to pay their taxes. When you’re applying for SNAP you have to prove everything.”

Even if someone qualifies for SNAP, the program does not take care of all his or her food needs.

In 2020, the average SNAP benefit per person was \$125 per month, which is about \$1.39 per person per meal, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

### The Social Security Act

Another part of Roosevelt’s New Deal was the Social Security Act. The SSA established a system that provided



PHOTO COURTESY OF AP

In this 2020 file photo, Los Angeles Unified School District students stand in a hallway at Boys & Girls Club of Hollywood in Los Angeles.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AP

In this 2018 file photo, Carl Lewis in his market in Rankin, Pa. About half of Lewis’ customers pay with benefits from the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

benefits such as unemployment insurance and aid for old-aged workers, dependent mothers and children, the blind and the physically handicapped.

“The Social Security Act started by Roosevelt dramatically reduced senior hunger and poverty in America,” said Berg.

By the end of the 1930s, the U.S. was phasing out of the Depression and into World War II.

The war helped lift the county out of the Great Depression and “dramatically” reduced hunger and poverty in America by sparking economic growth.

*This report was compiled using reporting done by students enrolled in JOUR 30204 035/065, fall semester 2020. Working in teams, students explored the issue of hunger in America through the Fault Lines of class, generation, geography, gender, sexual*

*orientation and race. They focused on Tarrant County, Texas.*



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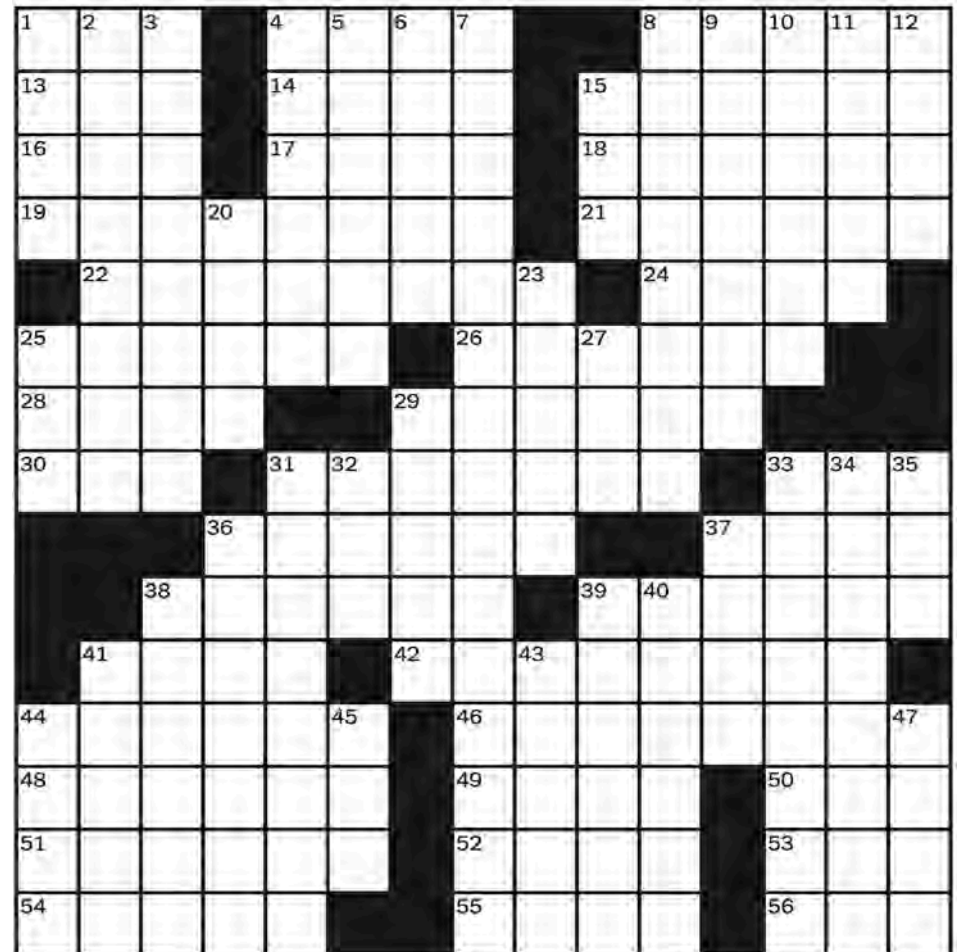
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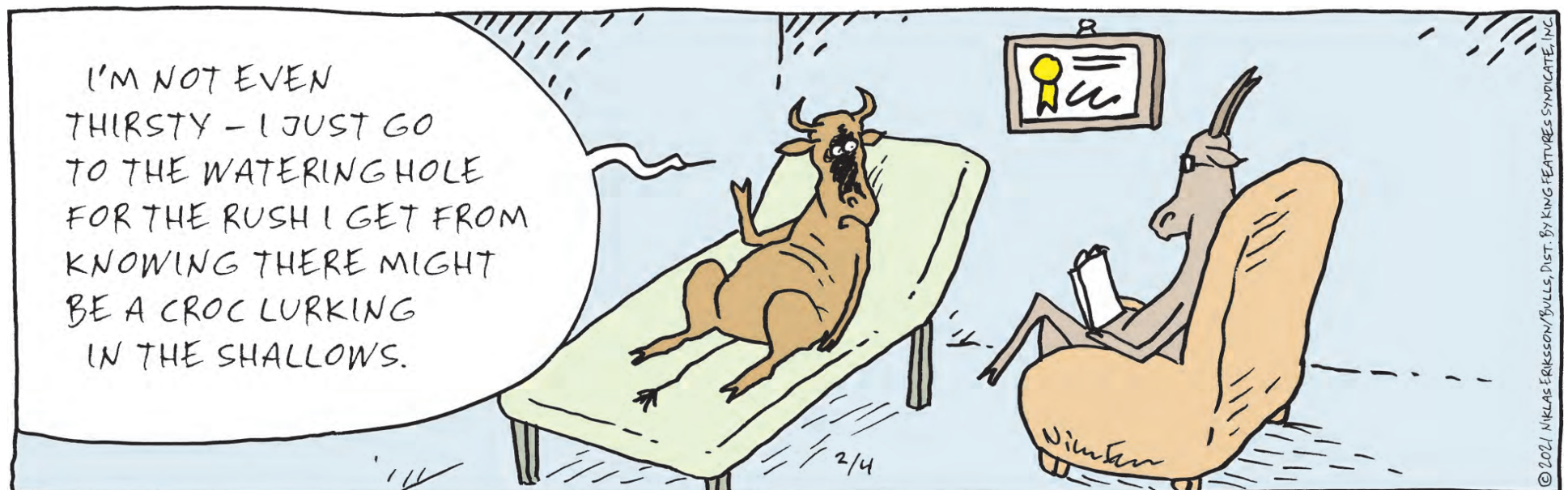
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## The New York Times Edited by Will Shortz

- ACROSS
- 1 N.B.A. stat
- 4 Number of stripes on la bandera mexicana
- 8 Relay, e.g.
- 13 Oscar-winning actor for "Moonlight" and "Green Book"
- 14 Chew (out)
- 15 Actress Clarke of "Game of Thrones"
- 16 Rapper MC \_\_\_\_
- 17 Plant that lacks true roots and leaves
- 18 Be surpassed by
- 19 Broker's request for funds
- 21 Averts, with "off"
- 22 Product with the slogan "Trust the power within"
- 24 James Merritt \_\_\_\_, pioneer in American lithography
- 25 Modest
- 26 Digital currency
- 28 Foot with a short part and a long part
- 29 Places to crash
- 30 Layer
- 31 Goes downhill
- 33 Game that's 100% luck
- 36 \_\_\_\_-vivre (ability to live elegantly)
- 37 Modern know-it-all
- 38 Epic collapse
- 39 Literally, "way of the gods"
- 41 Capital of Italy's Apulia region
- 42 Sums set aside, say
- 44 One of 64 divisions of Louisiana
- 46 Highlighter of tihs clue?
- 48 Certain tailored suit
- 49 Capital of Fiji
- 50 Not-so-great grade
- 51 Put together, as assets
- 52 Send off
- 53 Like Haydn's Symphony No. 12
- 54 Squirming, maybe
- 55 Goes out with
- 56 Something to take or hang
- DOWN
- 1 Chicken \_\_\_\_ (certain entree, informally)
- 2 District attorney's offering, maybe
- 3 Game with sets and runs
- 4 Diner or sleeper
- 5 Adjust, as skates
- 6 Two under
- 7 Local economy makeup ... or a hint to this puzzle's theme
- 8 Faces of the digital age?
- 9 In relation to
- 10 Big roll
- 11 Informal times, in ads
- 12 New Mexico's \_\_\_\_ Ski Valley
- 15 Legal limits?
- 20 Chow
- 23 Quantity equal to about seven glasses of wine
- 25 Minor market move
- 27 Shipload
- 29 :-(
- 31 Winner of a record 26 Oscars
- 32 Ab \_\_\_\_ (from the start)
- 33 Went forward without a plan
- 34 Manhattan's SoHo has a noted one
- 35 Where swimmer Katie Ledecky won four Olympic golds
- 36 "Flash Gordon" and others
- 37 Pine (for)
- 38 Woodchuck of the western U.S.
- 39 A one-hit Wonder he's not
- 40 Violently temperamental sorts
- 41 Titan of industry
- 43 Froth
- 44 Old man
- 45 Shrouded
- 47 Razor-sharp

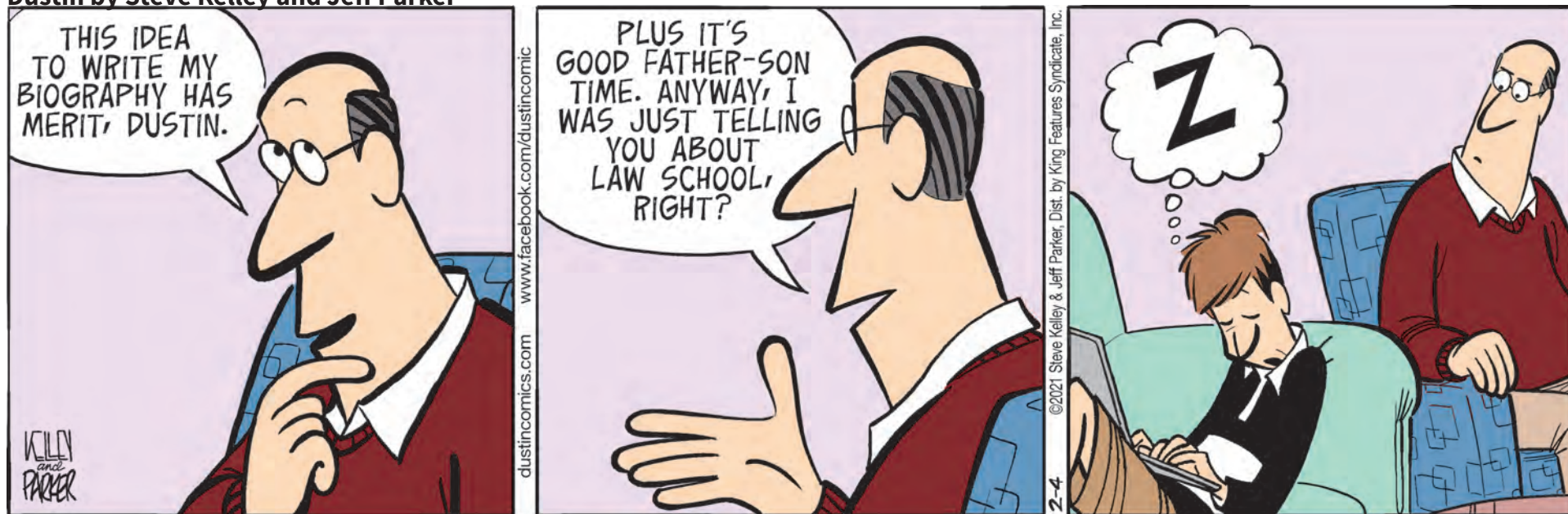


Carpe Diem by Niklas Eriksson



# WELCOME BACK, FROGS!

Dustin by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



## Horoscope

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Today heightens analytical skills. You'll enjoy deeper insight into the motivations and needs of others. There's a deepening awareness of the afterlife and a sense of unity with loved ones who have passed on. Tonight: You'll be reflective on past experiences.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ A loved one blossoms with a new beauty or talent. This brings you joy. You discover how to rise above jealousy or insecurity to bring a more transcendent and supportive quality to love. Tonight: You express your feelings with special eloquence.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Today's a wonderful time to toss out debris, to get organized. Other people need time to discuss ideas and views. Patience and listening bring you rewards. Tonight: Postpone decisions about love. You'll go through a change of heart.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Concentrate with delicate tasks, check to see what commitments others have made for you. Be cautious about devoting precious time and energy to a lost cause, or you could create futile pain for yourself. Tonight: Relax.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Make the most of your inherited traits and early teachings. You will feel a sense of hope and encouragement. Your optimistic, confident use of words will

draw others to you. Tonight: A family discussion over dinner is eye-opening.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ It's a good time for emails, calls and dealings with the media. It's not the time to procrastinate. Protect the reputation you've worked hard to establish. Tonight: Resist the temptation to gossip, as your words will be repeated.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Don't try to force your values on those who aren't receptive today. Comparison shop for the best prices when making purchases. Favors you perform now will be returned later. Tonight: Make kind gestures toward those less fortunate.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Your own mind-set creates much of what is

happening. Notes of humor and lightness are more effective with associates than an overbearing manner. If you sense you're overbearing or expecting too much, pull back. Tonight: Awakening to new values

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Today gives you a flair for strategy and subtle action, and finds you unusually introspective. You're able to cherish your secrets and privacy. Those closest to you will know only what you want to reveal. Tonight: A favorable time to work with affirmations

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Today adds to your charm and is a good time to develop nurturing friendships. You'll be responsive to peer pressure, especially from those in pursuit of all kinds of pleasure. Tonight: Enjoy

yourself, but do keep your goals and priorities in sight.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ You are motivated at work, but diplomacy is a must to assure success. Separate family and personal issues from professional responsibilities. Tonight: Reach out to an elderly family member.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ You'll feel vital and creative today. Your appearance improves, lending strength to your self-esteem. This results in good fortune that affects your personal life as well as your professional status. Tonight: You will meet with deep acceptance.



## COMMUNITY

# Student development dean reflects on her 43 years at TCU

By **CHARLOTTE TOMLINSON**  
LINE EDITOR, TCU 360

TCU's associate dean of student development has seen the university blossom during her 43 years on campus.

Dr. Kay Higgins, who is retiring this month, has seen the addition of state-of-the-art buildings and growth in the student population that now exceeds 10,000. She has filled multiple roles at the university and seen what began as a part-time job in the housing office morph into a successful career.

Her dedication and love for students and faculty alike will be treasured, even as her time on campus comes to a close.

"I get consistently good feedback from our parents saying that they love working with Dr. Higgins because she 'gets' college-age students," said Chancellor Victor Boschini. "To say I am sad she is leaving would be an understatement. She is retiring knowing, without a doubt, that she made a tangible difference in the lives of literally thousands of TCU students, past and present."

## Career

Higgins arrived on campus in 1977 planning to earn a master's degree in religious studies from the Brite Divinity School.

A part-time job working in housing took her in a different direction. Within a year she was working as a full-time area

coordinator, coordinating with hall directors and RAs – a role she held for 16 years.

Higgins said she loved working hands-on and supporting all students and faculty. She was constantly seeking out ways to better the experiences for not only the students but for her team members and coworkers alike.

"There are many former hall directors who will tell you that Kay's mentorship was vital in helping them be successful," said Dr. Don Mills, a distinguished professor of educational leadership.

Mills, who has been at TCU since 1972, is a former director of housing, associate dean of students and longtime work colleague of Higgins.

"Many of those who prospered under Kay's guidance have themselves gone on to successful careers in student affairs," said Mills.

While Higgins enjoyed her time in housing, she was always "looking for other playgrounds to play in."

The position of director of new student orientation was one that Higgins had seen filled multiple times over the years and one she felt ready to take on.

"So, I finished out my housing role and became the director of new student orientations, which I did for 16 years," Higgins said. "When Don became vice chancellor of student affairs in 1994, my role was moved to

Student Development Services."

When Higgins joined SDS, it directed five organizations – now there are nearly 300.

While working in SDS, Higgins also became the first director of what is now the Gender Resource Office to support and encourage women to grow during their time on campus.

Higgins has always had a strong passion for women's success, especially on the college campus. She utilized her leadership position to ensure the success and stability of this campus's resources.

Her passion came in part from looking at national data that showed women frequently belittle all of their accomplishments and hard work due to lack of confidence.

"When looking at resumes and applications for women students, they showed the women were performing at the top of all their classes and making significant contributions," said Higgins. "But the women were rating themselves in the low 30th percentile for feeling they were competent at doing these things, and that always bothered me."

In order to combat these statistics, Higgins held lectures and workshops helping students understand "that who you perceive you are and who you perform to be are not in agreement, you just have to step up."

## TCU's growth



PHOTO COURTESY OF TCU SDS

Higgins (third from left, bottom row) is a beloved member of TCU SDS

Higgins was born and raised in Georgia and attended Mercer University, a small school in Macon, Georgia.

Coming from a campus with roughly 500 total students in each class, Higgins said that when she first arrived in Fort Worth she "thought this place was bigger than New York City."

While to Higgins the school was notable and prominent, to the city of Fort Worth it was just another cluster of buildings. Higgins said it best, saying at the time TCU was the "untapped Texas secret."

Back then, Higgins would get calls from parents who lived less than 15 minutes from campus, but had no idea where the campus was.

This integration of the campus and the city was not something that came easy but rather

something the people had to work hard to bring about.

"Now, TCU is such a dynamic party of the economy, of the city and the culture and in infusion of people from around the world," said Higgins.

With the building of that community relationship, cultural and geographic diversity became another priority for TCU, Higgins said.

"The intention to diversify was very, very specific and calculated," Higgins said. "Because ultimately, the more diverse an institution is, the better education every student will receive, as long as students are open to learning from others."

Higgins's dedication and work, which was largely behind the scenes, never went unnoticed.

"At TCU we pride ourselves on being a

connected campus. Kay took that responsibility seriously: helping students who were struggling, identifying new ways to support students, mentoring staff and being 100% pro-student. Kay is what it means to be a true 'Horned Frog,'" Mills said.

Even though her career at TCU is ending, Higgins has no plans of slowing down.

"I always find myself wanting to get into more philanthropy work, but because there are only so many hours in the day, I find myself saying 'no' a lot," said Higgins. "So after I nap for two months, I am going to work trying to make what contribution I can to Fort Worth and to TCU!"

As Mills said, even though Higgins didn't attend TCU, she is just as much a Horned Frog as any student on campus.