

Pritchard: Building will meet ADA code

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delayed until after the next school year.

"In essence what we're doing is focusing on the east side," Gift said.

Some students living in Pritchard have already noticed the new handicap able bathrooms in the crossovers, as well as the miniature laundry room on the first floor, with no steps leading in – unlike the main laundry room on the same floor, which contains a brief set of stairs before its entrance.

Most of the issues concerning meeting the ADA requirements revolve around steps. Built into the side of a hill, Pritchard features seemingly sporadic flights of five or six steps.

"Just the sheer topography of Pritchard (makes development a challenge)," Gift said.

To accommodate handicapped students, the plan is to fill in the east lobby, with a ramp leading up to the raised entrance.

The mailroom will be moved from its second floor location to the first floor east side lobby. The space left by the absent mail room will be refitted for housing and residence life offices.

To grant full access of the building, the elevators will be renovated as well.

"On the east side of Pritchard, we are planning to replace the two elevators," Gift said.

Students expressed their excitement for this summer's facelift of the 45 year-old dormitory.

"I feel like this will be good for Pritchard," said freshman business information technology major Remo John, who has applied to remain in Pritchard for his sophomore year. "We need this. It has been far too long that we've been known as 'that' dorm. I feel it's about time we got some recognition."

Tian Wang, freshman marketing major, took a negative stance on only the east half of Pritchard being renovated. "If you're going to renovate, you renovate the whole thing," Wang said.

Pritchard Hall currently houses 1,000 residents.

Abbey Hawkins, an undeclared freshman, expressed her excitement for the renovations.

"I feel they're deserved," Hawkins said.

@WithTheFancyGuy

Words: Students bring chalkboards to Tech



ZACK WAJSGRAS / SPPS

TEDx speaker Candy Chang talks about her chalkboard project on Tuesday night in the GLC auditorium, which shared all of the desires people wish to fulfill before they die.

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Initiated by their interns, they look for a topic that should be discussed, but they can also be requested by a group of people if they wish to have a guided talk.

"We were trained to lead the conversations in a certain way and we always like to start with an object, like a video or a picture, to get everyone on the same page and then slowly ask more specific questions to that object until we finally get to 'the big question,'" said Mary D'Amico, a sophomore finance major and one of the five interns working

for Ask Big Questions at Tech.

One of the objects used in a talk revolving around the question "Who is in your community?" was Chang's chalkboard project, which spurred the group to invite her to campus.

The original "Before I die" chalkboard finally ceased in 2011 after someone bought the abandoned property. She described the project as "one of the greatest experiments of (her) life."

"There's a lot we can learn from the people around us about how to live better lives," Chang said.

Ask Big Questions started

their own version of the project at Tech in which they created a similar board on the GLC lawn and wrote lines saying, "I want my legacy to be..."

After looking at their answers comparatively with other peoples'... they learned something about themselves."

Mary D'Amico
Ask Big Questions intern

D'Amico said the group changed the original words

on the board because they wanted to put a little twist on it. They knew that Chang was coming to Tech and they thought that the new board would relate more to college students.

Students at first seemed apprehensive to write their opinions and thoughts on their legacies on the chalkboards on campus.

"A lot of people thought their answers were stupid," D'Amico said. "But after looking at their answers comparatively with other peoples' responses, they learned something about themselves."

The boards aim to unite

communities and serve as a launching point for conversations among students.

Chang described the boards she created and the new ones at Tech as "a first step to honesty and vulnerability in a community which leads to trust."

"I think its great to have life goals, but I think its even greater to embrace serendipity." Chang said.

@ZackWajsCT

Build: Community engagement main focus

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Out of the 20 students, there was a variety of educational backgrounds, including architecture, finance, engineering, human development and the sciences.

"I think it was essential to have the diversity we had in the class," Clements said. "In part, this is because designers tend to want to just design things and the diversity allowed for a process."

The faculty of Head Start

emphasized that the playground be built with a naturalistic appearance.

"We wanted to not look so commercialized, so in that the (Head Start) students would have a nature focused environment with garden areas with natural materials put to use," said Nina Hollins, facility transportation specialist for Head Start.

The class took a few trips to Floyd throughout the semester in order to meet and collaborate with community members, includ-

ing teachers, parents and neighbors.

"A lot of what we focused on was how to approach the community," Miller said. "A really valuable lesson I learned is that we were not designing for them, we were designing with them."

By the end of the semester, Community Outreach was presented with two final proposals for the playground.

"From this point, we have been taking those two final plans, integrating aspects

from both of them, and are now working within the community to try to get quotes to make the plans a reality," Hollins said.

The plan is to take those conceptual ideas to formulate and build the playground over the summer so that it is available for use by the time school starts in the fall.

The funding will come from Community Action and Head Start renovation funds, as well as contributed community donations. The Honors College

is also working to help raise money for the building costs.

"I think community engagement is essential," Clements said. "A lot of service work is volunteer work that helps the community, but is not necessarily tied to the students' education. This project was specifically designed with some educational goals in mind."

@LeslieMcCrea

crimeblotter

date	time	offense	location	status
Jan. 20 - April 21	12:00 AM - 2:48 PM	Harassment	200 Kent Street	Inactive
April 20	2:26 AM	Underage Possession of Alcohol	320 Drillfield Drive (E. Campbell Hall)	Inactive: Referred to Student Conduct