

## The Official Newsletter of the Ashdown Community

### Message from the Editor

Hello Readers,

Hooray, summer is here! That means more grilling and more movies (and more time to do research, right)! I saw a trailer for a movie about a grave robber when I went to watch the new Superman movie. The trailer only showed action-packed fight and chase scenes, so I couldn't gather much about the plot. All I learned was that a curse was placed on the thief so he became extremely superstitious and could no longer do his job, and thus he was on the run from both the mob and the police. At the end of the trailer, after all the yelling and the screaming, was the voice of a creepy girl who sang with a haunting echo, "The Man of Steal cannot go near the Crypt tonight."

Just a reminder that if you have any ideas for stuff you'd like to see in the newsletter, send it in! If you attend or organize an Ashdown event you liked, write about it! **Remember, unsolicited article submissions qualify for a \$10 gift card to Amazon!** Also, I've run out of questions to ask the Roman kids, so send any questions my way so I can ask them!

In this issue, we have the twelfth installment of the Puzzler Twins ("Ash and Dawn Go to the Zoo" sounds like a great children's book. Dibs!), the recent Floor 1 Moving Outings (one of the many activities that has been offered to us Floor 1 folks), a plea for an Event Correspondent (please write!), the Kids' Corner (the Force is with them), and more Helpful Information from Kristin at the Front Desk (the last batch!).

Wow, that last paragraph was one long sentence. TL;DR is below. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, complaints, or constructive suggestions, I'd love to hear them, so please e-mail me!

Happy reading!

Sakul Ratanalert

Ashdown Newsletter Officer (ashdown-newsletter@mit.edu)

### In This Issue

- ❖ Ash and Dawn, the Puzzler Twins – #12
- ❖ Kids' Corner (a.k.a. Ask the Roman Kids Stuff)
- ❖ Floor 1 Moving Outings
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- ❖ Event Correspondents Wanted

## Ash and Dawn, the Puzzler Twins – #12

*Ash and Dawn are MIT first-year graduate students, and recently moved into Ashdown. Their stories will be chronicled in the upcoming issues. Each story has a **SECRET CODE WORD**. E-mail the Editor (at [ashdown-newsletter@mit.edu](mailto:ashdown-newsletter@mit.edu), not his personal one) the correct **SECRET CODE WORD** by **July 15, 2013** to enter the **Puzzle Raffle**. **Three** will be **randomly chosen** to win a **\$10 gift card to Amazon**. **FIND THE SECRET CODE WORD AND WIN!!** (The **SECRET CODE WORD** can be found on [Dictionary.com](http://Dictionary.com). No anagramming is necessary unless otherwise stated.)*

Ash and Dawn went to a traveling zoo the other day. To their surprise, there were only 11 different animals on display. Even worse, they weren't even alive! Their heads had been severed and were mounted on boards and hung up on one wall on the inside of a truck. The Puzzler Twins left after 11 minutes (it really didn't take long), quite angry.

"Well, that was certainly anticlimactic," Dawn said dryly.

Ash replied, "Let's write a bad review for them on 'Ashdown Reviews' in the '3am' so that others aren't conned out of their money. What was the name of it again?"

"The ' \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ Zoo.' Talk about false advertising."

"Yeah! The advertisement even said there would be 12. May will be disappointed that the one named after her was omitted. I can't believe we waited for tickets since June 2012 for this."

"I don't even feel bad stealing this postcard."



*What's the **SECRET CODE WORD**? (Puzzle designed by Sakul Ratanaalert)*

*April 2013 Issue Winners: **Aarthy Adityan, Cynthia Sung, and Andy Wright** (out of seven correct solutions) won the lottery for submitting "TARANTULAS" to last month's puzzle (Solution on last page of this publication). Congratulations! Please e-mail the Editor to receive your gift card. And thanks to everyone who submitted!*

# Write for the 3am!

## Get \$10 for Amazon!

### Ashdown Reviews

*This column, Ashdown Reviews, aims to provide 3AM readers a chance to read what other readers have thought about restaurants and other places around Cambridge and Boston. **You can contribute too!** Submit a review of a restaurant or other recommended locale you have been to recently (pictures would be nice, too), and if it is selected you will be rewarded with a **\$10 gift card to Amazon**. Let Ashdown know where they should go when they have (gasp) free time!*

### Citizen's Corner: Submission Guidelines

Do you have a flair for writing?

Do you have an experience you would love to share? A cause you want to speak out for? An event you would like publicized and reported?

The ears of Ashdown are thirsting to hear your story!

The "Citizen's Corner" is a section of "3am" aimed at reflecting the lives and perspectives of Ashdown residents. All Ashdown residents are invited to contribute, and all kinds of material are welcome. In the past, we have received everything from overseas exchange program stories to essays about environmentalism. We are especially keen on the views of international students comparing the way of life (in terms of culture, atmosphere, education system etc.) here to the ones they were used to.

If your contribution is selected, you will be rewarded with a **\$10 gift card to Amazon**.

#### Guidelines in a nutshell:

- Submissions should be between 100 and 1500 words.
- No politically sensitive, religiously sensitive, or pornographic material.
- Pictures to accompany text are welcome.
- Email Sakul Ratanalert at [ashdown-newsletter@mit.edu](mailto:ashdown-newsletter@mit.edu).



## Floor 1 Movie Outings

Floor 1 of Ashdown has quite a few residents that enjoy going to the movies (what are the chances?), so the Floor 1 Officer Edbert Sie has organized several trips to the movies among other activities for floor-wide events.

Here are some waiting to be sent to “Oblivion” (don’t they look happy?) ...



... while others posed the next day with “Iron Man” before the latest installment. (Standing so close to him, I can see how critics can say that Tony Stark lacks depth.)

## Event Correspondents Wanted

Are you going to an event (for **FREE FOOD** or whatever)? Do you like to earn **AWARDS**? Try being an

# EVENT CORRESPONDENT!

Before an **Ashdown event**, like the one above or the upcoming **July 4<sup>th</sup> BBQ**, e-mail me saying you are interested in being a reporter for the event. Then, after the event (say, a week or two), e-mail me a small report of what happened at the event! **IT’S SO EASY!** And you’ll be rewarded for your efforts (which just involves changing observations to words)!

They don’t all even have to be your words! Feel free to get quotes from other attendees about what they think of the event! Take some pictures if you want to add 1000 words to your submission! (Though at least 100 non-picture words would be nice.)

So, if you were planning to attend an event anyway (or now you feel inspired to), spend a few minutes to write a summary and see it in the next issue of the **3AM!**

## Why did the graduate student read this at 3am?

*Because she is spending all but this hour in lab for the summer! Okay, that probably wasn't very funny, but hopefully the rest of this page is more entertaining:*

**Q:** What happens when you cross a mountain climber with a mosquito?

**A:** Nothing. You can't cross a vector with a scalar!

**Q:** Why did the cells dress look so fancily?

**A:** They were cultured.

## Kids' Corner (aka Ask the Roman Kids Stuff)

**24. Where would you like to vacation if you could go anywhere?**

Max: I would go to Cancun and go to the beach.

Dante: Yeah, Max, good idea. I would go to the beach, and I would go to Disney World, and Disneyland.

Max: Yeah, me too.

Apolo: Me too.

**25. If you could have one, what superpower would you want, and why?**

Max: I would want a Lightsaber. I would want to be a Jedi and know how to use a Lightsaber.

Dante: I do not know.



**Got questions you want to ask Dante, Max, and Apolo? E-mail the Editor!**

## Helpful Info for New Residents, Part 10

*Kristin O'Halloran is one of the faces you see at the Ashdown Front Desk. She has prepared some helpful information for new residents (and returning, just in case you need the reminder). While this will be in parts, you can find the full list of information on the Ashdown Website.*

### Thirsty Ear Pub Events

The Thirsty Ear Pub website for your reference: <http://thirsty-ear.mit.edu>

*(continued on next page...)*

**Thirsty Ear Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 7:30pm-1am, Kitchen open till 11pm  
 You can also order food at the pub (in-person) and take-away.

Monday Night Football, Monday!, 8:30pm  
 Games/TV Night, Tuesday, 7:30pm  
 Trivia Night, Wednesday, 9pm  
 Karaoke, Thursday, 9pm

And that's all! Find the full list of information at <http://ashdown.mit.edu/info.php>

## Solution to Puzzle #11 (April 2013 Edition)

*(See April Edition for the Puzzle Statement, designed by Sakul Ratanalert.)*

After completing the crossword puzzle (solution at right), the blue string of numbers can be used to unscramble the blue-boxed letters (if brute-force anagramming isn't your style). The number corresponding to each blue box is the sum of the across and down clue numbers (i.e. the L is  $7 + 2 = 9$ ). So, **48-40-41-29-17-18-39-9-14-15** becomes "TARANTULAS".  
 SECRET CODE WORD FOUND.

1	I	2	F	3	S			4	T	5	D	6	S
7	A	L	O	8	E			9	H	A	S		
10	N	E	W	T				11	A	W	N		
		12	A	S	H	13	D	14	O	W	N		
					15	Y	O	W					
		16	O	17	R	L	A	N	18	D	19	O	
20	A	V	E					21	E	U	R	22	O
23	P	E	A					24	R	H	E	A	
25	E	R	R					26	S	O	T		

## Contact the Editor

Please direct any comments or queries about "3am" to Sakul Ratanalert at [ashdown-newsletter@mit.edu](mailto:ashdown-newsletter@mit.edu)