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Staple foodstuff

Jeremy Geller, a doctoral candidate in anthropology, continues his excavation work at the site where he uncovered the world's oldest known brewery.

"Beer was not merely a beverage that people drank for fun," says Geller. "It was a staple foodstuff: all strata of ancient Egyptian society consumed it." 

Workers received part of their wages in daily portions of bread and beer. Egyptians also used beer as a medium for medicines. "Bread and beer were symbols of nourishment and well-being. A house without beer was a sad place," says Geller. A common ancient Egyptian refrain called for 'Bread and beer, beef and fowl, alabaster and linen, and all things good.'

In an interview with the Washington Post, Geller described the ancient beer as 'gruel with a kick.' The Egyptians ate the "gruel" and also consumed it. "Beer was not merely a beverage — it was a staple food," Geller explains.

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Toy rabbit comes alive in classic children's tale

A musical version of the children's classic "The Velveteen Rabbit" will be performed at noon and 2 p.m. Saturday, March 10, in Edison Theatre. The 2 p.m. show is sold-out.

The performance is the final event of the 1989/90 Edison Theatre "ovaltine for young people" series, a two-year-old program that introduces children and their families to the joys of live theatre in a relaxed environment.

Margery Williams' 1922 classic is a story of a stuffed animal that comes to life through the love of a child. The play explores ways that children cope with personal loss while learning to love themselves and gain self-esteem.

Donald Finkel to read his poetry

Donald Finkel, poet-in-residence at the University, will give a reading and commentary at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 7, in Graham Chapel.

The reading, part of the Assembly Series, is free and open to the public.

Finkel has published 12 volumes of poetry, among them The Divided бил Beer (1986), The Garbage Wars (1970), A Joyful Noise (1966) and Simons (1964). In 1974, two of his books, Selected Shorter Poems and In the Wake of the Electron, were published by Athenaeum of New York City.

Finkel's most recent book is an English translation of the works of seven contemporary Chinese poets.

Medical school has new assistant vice chancellor for alumni and development

Ruth Carol Dickinson, former director of Major and Special Gifts at the University of Chicago, has been appointed assistant vice chancellor and director of alumni and development programs for the medical school.

The announcement was made by Herbert F. Hitzeman Jr., senior vice chancellor for university relations.

Hitzeman said Dickinson's appointment represents an important addition to the University's medical alumni and development programs.

"We are pleased to have been able to attract a person with such outstanding credentials," he said.

Dickinson directed the successful $150 million Campaign for the Arts and Sciences at the University of Chicago, which surpassed its goal by $151.7 million. During her 10 years there, she also was associated with campaigns for the Law School and the Business School to raise funds for the support of many other academic units.

New strategies for social advocacy is lecture topic of D.C.-based columnist

Ways to increase budgets for state and federal social programs is the subject of a lecture to be given Thursday, March 8, at the University.

Nancy Amidei, a Washington, D.C.-based columnist and visiting professor this semester at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, will deliver the talk at 1:10 p.m. in Brown Hall Lounge. Her lecture, which is free and open to the public, is part of the school's spring 1990 lecture series.

She will examine reasons why social advocacy groups that fight such problems as hunger and homelessness lack the power to increase funding for social programs. She also will discuss ways these advocacy groups can gain the political support needed to shift bigger budgets toward their concerns.

Amidei writes a biweekly column on health and social issues that appears in several newspapers across the country and serves as a Washington, D.C., correspondent for Commonweal magazine. She teaches part-time at the Catholic University School of Social Service and works with state and local groups that are trying to increase social welfare budgets.

Amidei is former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation in the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. She has served as executive director of the Food Research and Action Center, a public interest law firm and advocacy center, and as a U.S. representative to the World Food Council. Author of numerous publications, she has testified before various congressional committees and has been interviewed on such programs as public television's "The MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour."

For more information on the lecture, call 889-6000.

Brewery

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"For example, there is evidence that there was an earlier Predynastic site at the spot where the brewery was later built — that's really tantalizing," he says.

Geller realized the possibility the site had earlier uses when he was digging around the brewery. "I was trying to determine the elevation of the ancient surface on which the brewers stood, relative to the vase. As I dug deeper, I found layers of mud, musical debris," he says.

As Geller's search for signs of pottery manufacturing led him to a brewery, perhaps the brewery will lead him to yet more important discoveries.
THE UNIVERSITY RECORD

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NEWS

Susan Crawford, Ph.D., professor of biomedical communications and director of the Washington University Medical Library and Biomedical Communications Center, was keynoted speaker at the 20th Conference of Australian and New Zealand Health and Medical Libraries held in Auckland. Crawford opened the conference with a paper, "The use of electronic libraries in transition: Challenges in the next decade." At the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science (ASIS) held in Boston, Crawford received the Outstanding Specialty Group Award for her work as editor of Medical Information: An International Journal that is published by ASIS. This was the second consecutive year Crawford received the award.

Cornell Fleischer, Ph.D., professor of history and Peter Heath, Ph.D., and Ahmet Karamustafa, Ph.D., assistant professors in the Department of Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures, earned the 1989 annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, held in Canada. Heath organized and chaired a panel discussion on "The Teaching of Middle Eastern Languages and Literatures in the United States," in which he presented a paper, "Teaching Islamic Literatures in Translation." On the same panel, Fleischer delivered a paper, "Religious Literatures of Islam," and Karamustafa gave a presentation on "Persian and Turkish Literature to Islamic Civilization and Islamic Religious Studies Courses.

Ana Luisa Gil Adail, a doctoral student from Panama, presented a paper on the Mexican writer Rosario Castellanos titled "Balun-Cañan: las palabras de la memoria" at the Mid-America conference on Hispanic literature held in Kansas City. Kansas City students and doctoral students who presented papers at the conference are: Maria Lopez Gonzalez, a senior in the History department who presented a paper titled "La lectura del subtexto o el tiempo que el poeta necesita" and a paper titled "Transmision: A Non-Darwinian Paradigm Shift in Evolutionary Theory and Its Application to Sociology," John Mooney, Ph.D., noted sociologist and professor emeritus at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, co-wrote the paper with Hopp. The paper was described by other participants at the congress as the most important paper during the week.

Douglas Hopp, D.V.M., clinical veterinarian, Division of Comparative Medicine, delivered the second annual endowed session speaker at the 5th World Congress of the Comparative Medicine Caracas, Venezuela. He presented a paper titled "Transmision: A Non-Darwinian Paradigm Shift in Evolutionary Theory and Its Application to Sociology." John Mooney, Ph.D., noted sociologist and professor emeritus at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, wrote the paper with Hopp. The paper was described by other participants at the congress as the most important paper during the week.

Udo Keltmann, Ph.D. The Ruth and John C. Taylor Endowed Chair in the Department of Architecture, presented a lecture titled "The Foundations of Deconstruction: Marxsian Theory and Architecture: The "Total Theory" of the Post-Industrial City" at Tulane University in New Orleans as part of that university's "Year of Architecture." Keltmann was a member of the same panel, at which Hopp delivered his lecture, that was described by other participants at the congress as the most important paper during the week.

Daniel R. Mandelker, J.D., Howard A. Grass Professor of Law, has written an article titled "NEPA Alive and Well: The Supreme Court Takes Two" published in the Columbia Supreme Court Law Review. He was a guest editorial writer for a professional organization. The Washington University Law Review will also help spread the good news, Contributions regarding expansion of the use of electronic mail to scientific and technical literature. Send a brief note with your full name, highest degree earned, current title, activities are gladly accepted and encouraged.

News article submitted by: B. Schulte

The University Record will help spread the good news, Contributions regarding expansion of the use of electronic mail to scientific and technical literature. Send a brief note with your full name, highest degree earned, current title, and department. Please send electronic mail to p72245SS at WUVMC. Please include a phone number, fax number, and mailing address.

Gift bequeathed; dorm named

Chester Myers, a prominent St. Louis industrialist and philanthropist who died in 1977, named Washington University in his will as the recipient of a $1.5 million bequest as a memorial to his parents, Florence and Lillie Myers.

The will held the estate in trust until last year. It requests that Washington University designate a fitting way that the bequest received by it

hereunder shall be considered a memorial for my parents, Florence and Lillie Myers.

The University will follow the conditions of the will by naming a campus residence hall — Dorm I — as "Myers Hall."

"In the next year, $1.5 million will be used to improve accessibility of the campus for the handicapped.

Washington University faculty and staff are now working on the mansion in St. Louis. "You are a signal of the highest quality," received during the past few years for their scholarly activities, research and general expertise.

If there is an ideological connection between the Nancy Cruzan right-to-die case and the Webster v. Reproductive Health Services abortion case, comments Susan Predich Appleton, J.D., professor of law, in Washington Post article. She says the Missouri cases "raise questions about who has the authority, the state or the individual, to make news around the globe. Follow-

NEWSMAKERS

Jack Taylor elected Board member

Jack C. Taylor, chairman of Enterprise Rent-A-Car Co., has been elected a member of the Washington University Board of Trustees. Taylor, a member of the Saint Louis Art Museum's Beaux Arts Council, was a pre-business major at Wash-

Jacksonville, where he spoke on the 75th anniversary of the publication of "A Tale of Two Cities." 660 S. Buckle, St. Louis, Mo. 63110.

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