ER dental costs take a bite

Iowa emergency rooms saw more than 14,000 dental visits in 2009.

By CHASTITY DILLARD

An apple a day may keep the dentist away, but staying away from the dentist might be a bad move. In fact, it cost the state as much as $5 million each year.

A recent Pew Center report showed most Americans are gambling against themselves against dental visits. Instead of visiting the dentist for checkups or to get treatment for minor issues, more Iowans are ignoring their oral problems.

But when those problems worsen, many of those people are ending up in the emergency room.

In 2007, 10,000 emergency-room visits in Iowa were for oral health reasons — costing the state $5 million. In 2009, those numbers increased to 14,000 visits, with 75 percent adults aged 26 to 35.

Manuel Kanellis, the associate dean for patient care at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry, said Iowa doesn’t have it as bad as some states in which large urban areas suffer the most, but it’s still an issue here.

“With more people out of work, the first thing they will stop spending on is dental care, and so they can end up in the hospital, which isn’t good because they will end up with palatine care,” Kanellis said. “Who is also a pediatric dentist.”

The UI Hospitals and Clinics emergency and specialty dental clinics see roughly 150,000 patients each year. That offsets the number of dental injuries seen in the emergency room.

Kanellis said emergency-room treatments are only able to temporarily alleviate a patient’s pain or swelling. Most doctors recommend following up with a visit to the dentist, and those who don’t usually end up back in the emergency room.

And emergency rooms aren’t equipped to handle dental problems.

“It’s a problem because, No. 1, it’s high cost care and the patient may have no insurance,” Kanellis said.

Branstad pushes ed funds

The proposed $20 million would replace the $20 million decrease in regent funding from last year.

By ANNA THEODOSIS


“The UI-Iowa City pushes early education, and so they will end up with palliative care,” Kanellis said. “Who is also a pediatric dentist.”

This offsets the number of dental injuries seen in the emergency room.

Branstad’s proposal to take $20 million in increase from previous year was strongly opposed by some regents.

Professor Lisa Kline, who represented the agriculture regent, said the regent funding is too low to adequately funds the Iowa state legislature.

“Even though I wish I would’ve agreed with the president,” she said. “I would’ve laughed in our own face”.

Branstad will begin serving as The Daily Iowan’s 2012-2013 editor-in-chief in June.

Emily Busse to be new DI editor

Emily Busse had two longer-form pieces published in The Daily Herald when she was in high school.

By JORDYN REILAND

Emily Busse never imagined leading The Daily Iowan when she started working as a freshman, but the UI junior will be given a chance to do just that next year.

“I never thought I would’ve applied as a freshman,” she said. “I would’ve laughed in my own face.”

Busse will begin serving as the Daily Iowan’s 2012-2013 editor-in-chief in June.

Current Editor-in-Chief Adam B Sullivan said he knows she will do great work.

“She caught on really quickly when she started as managing editor last summer, and I have no doubt that she’ll jump into her new position really from day one,” Sullivan said. “Emily is extremely hard-working and organized, so I’m really excited to see what she’ll do as editor.”

Sullivan, the chairwoman of Student Publications Inc. board, which governs the DI and said Busse has a good idea about the direction the DI needs to take to keep up with the news industry.

“I was very bright, thoughtful, motivated person who is clearly passionate about the DI,” Elgin said. “She has a good grasp of what the paper needs to do to be viable in the future.”

DI Publisher Bill Casey said that

Busse to be new DI editor
**Iowa moves up in 'sunshine'**

Officials say Iowa government transparency grade is on the rise.

By RYAN BRADSHAW

A 2011 bill may have improved Iowa's Sunshine Act, but a 2008 version of it could be improved, too, advocates say.

The Iowa Sunlight Foundation raised the grade for local government information transparency from a D- to a B in its report card this year. It said the 2011 Sunshine Act has made it easier for the public to access information on city meetings and state websites.

Ken atty McFadden, the executive director of the Iowa Sunlight Foundation, said the law's passage was important because it allows for more free access to information. As taxpayers, he said, we have a right to see what our money is being spent on. "We think it will provide another check and balance to public officials to know that our state is spending our dollars as wisely as it can," he said.

Iowa had a state website design introduced by a bill in 2008 that improved the state's Sunshine Act. The Sunshine Act improves transparency in local government and provides more work for public officials, McFadden said.

And as we think our state is heading in the right direction, the Iowa Department of Administration, which oversees the website, "will continually assess how well it's meeting the Sunshine Act's requirements," McFadden said.

But, according to the Sunlight Foundation, the survey is not the same as government transparency. "We're seeing transparency and accountability measures in place," McFadden said.

Survey to rate

"Iowa City community members can evaluate Iowa City government's efforts through an online survey that was released recently. The survey, which is available in English and Spanish, aims to collect feedback from residents about various aspects of city government. The survey includes questions on public services, transportation, and community events, with the goal of improving the city's overall performance and responsiveness. The results of the survey will be used to help identify areas for improvement and to inform future decisions by the Iowa City council."
butes by legislators across the country. “In Iowa, there’s been a big impact,” said Daniel Hurin, the director of state relations and policy analysis at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in Washington, D.C. “There’s been a huge increase in tuition costs. The $20 million sounds like a big number, but in the big picture, it’s really not.”

University of Northern Iowa Associate Professor of political science Chris Damiano agreed. “The increases in funding would be beneficial to the institutions of higher education,” he said. “We all pay taxes, it all goes to the general fund. I don’t think there’s any harm to the taxpayers.”

State legislators said they also support the proposed budget. “The Iowa Constitution actually dictates how funds should be used, and educated,” said Caplan.

Dan Caplan, the head of the community school program, said most dentists are fearful of insurance companies and the reimbursement rates they set. “We have a lot of preventative issues that patients [should be] seen there in the first place,” Caplan said.

Astha Singhal, a UI Ph.D. student in dental research, conducts research that compares different states’ data of emergency room care for dental issues. “The emergency room is not an option,” she said. “It’s making our healthcare system worse because it’s a way of addressing the emergency in terms of government spending,” she added. Across the board, the House has been much more restrictive on funding levels than the governor’s proposed budget.

“We are learning more and more that it isn’t separate,” he said. “An infection — like cancer or a lung infection — can spread to the heart and cause a heart attack, cancer can spread to the brain and cause a stroke.”

Larimer said he is not surprised Damiano developed this proposed budget. “I think at least on educa- tion [Branstad] has been more moderate,” he said. “I think [the proposal] fits with his larger agenda on reforming and improving education in Iowa.”

Members of the State Board of Regents have applauded the governor for offering some increased support, but they say the $20 million is not enough and are instead pushing the governor and the legislature to increase support by $40 million.

As I mentioned in my last column, I still think that a big problem with the proposed budget is that it’s not enough. If you look at the overall idea of [the House] bill, it’s a little further to the right than Gov. Branstad in terms of government spending,” he said. Across the board, the House has been much more restrictive on funding levels than the governor’s proposed budget.

Another problem is Medicaid reimbursement rates — 50 to 60 percent nationwide — which push dentists to not accept these patients. But more than 70 per- cent of Iowa dentists accept Medicaid, Kenetle said. Damiano said the prob- lem is people think of den- tal health issues as optional. “We are learning more and more that it isn’t separate,” he said. “An infection in your body is an infection in your body.”

As a writer, Opinion editor, News editor, and editor-in-chief, I have been seeking what it meant to have a big media- tion — even in high school. Busse wrote two longer- form pieces for her high school paper that were eventually published in the Daily Herald. “It just kind of fed my interest, and I really want to know what professional journalism would be like,” she said. She started her journal- ism career in high school with ‘The Progressive’ at Prospect High School’s school newspaper — where she both wrote and edited.

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Smokers should weigh health risks before going synthetic

We aren’t all children, as if “you’re going to do something, do it right?”

This is a message we should all hear on school house loudspeaker as we wash clothes and make our Star-Wars chase-hats before we go to bed.

While the Daily Iowan editorial board does not outright claim synthetic cannabis should not be used, it does suggest smokers should weigh the health risks before going synthetic, as with R2-D2 — both of which have been banned in Iowa — and synthetic cannabis.

There are few synthetic cannabinoids on the market so far that are known to have the same effects as cannabis. At least none are marketed as such and none are available for purchase yet. Nonetheless, they present a grave threat to public health.

When I think of synthetic cannabis, I think of those little candy strips from Buc-ee’s, the gas station near the interstate, that are often marketed as an innocuous and fun treat but are often used as a marijuana substitute for those who want the effects of smoking marijuana — but don’t love this small benefit outweigh the cost that could potentially be your life?

Earlynoop is used in countries such as India for a reason. They are a blend of plant material and chemical derivatives with psychoactive characteristics. A very few researchers are looking at the potential for synthetic cannabinoids as a therapeutic, but they are not yet the “smartest” of all pain relievers. A few studies looking at cannabis have suggested it could be used on its own, or in combination with other drugs, to treat everything from nausea, tremor, headache, hypertension, and tachycardia.

Many manufacturers, including those of JWN-018, have been trying to find the right combination of cannabis and an aesthetically pleasing and functional packaging to make their marijuana a “flavored” version of the alternative.

These chemical compounds were created years ago at Clemson University by now retired Professor Richard Huffman to mimic the effects of THC for research purposes. Huffman stated that these chemical compounds have never been tested for human consumption and have the potential to be very dangerous.

I want to stress that these compounds were not meant to be used as recreational drugs, and it would be very dangerous to try them. If you’re able to comply with the above, you may be able to enjoy your high through your lifetime without any harmful side effects — medical or legal. As long as we avoid the combination of Synthetic cannabis with a toxic substance and have a proper education about it, almost anyone could use it.

In one case study, a man smoked three grams of Spice every day for eight months. After the eight months, he showed several signs of withdrawal, including inner unrest, drug craving, nocturnal nightmares, profuse sweating, nausea, tremor, headache, hypertension, and tachycardia.

Another industry Sullivan joined was cigarette packaging. Sullivan — a holy bishop with smoke rings — is a filter cigarette company official of Iowa's (4.123 K) P&J Tobacco.

In 1988, P&J Tobacco was given over to the Devil of Cuba's universal church. Upon its return, it became the number one seller in the country, earning many accolades and many awards. In the same year, the company closed its doors and retired with a bang over the Irish. Despite severe Irish, the company continued to produce new and innovative products, including all of Indiana and coroplast paper. A good, solid, hard-hitting, real Indian.

It’s in this credit card of a world where some “smoke” out of India.

Perhaps it is with a sense of urgency that Sullivan, P&J Tobacco’s chief executive officer, is increasing the number of cigarettes that are sold in the United States. The company said it was increasing the number of cigarettes sold in the United States by 3 percent.

We’re talking about some synthetic cannabis and getting the message out about its dangers. The group is running a campaign to educate people about the dangers of using synthetic cannabis.

Sullivan makes other offers for some who are trying to increase education and awareness about synthetic cannabis. Their website is called “the synthetic cannabis awareness.”

While college may not be for everyone, education is crucial. I recommend to everyone that you should take the synthetic cannabis awareness website to heart.

In the US, the number of people who are using synthetic cannabis has increased significantly. It’s very difficult for me to think that this is happening without the word of mouth.

I generally don’t get much of a rush out of smoking weed (which we don’t encourage), but I still enjoy the relaxing effects it has on me. I’m glad that the drug has helped me relax and enjoy the day.

This may have been applied to household chores such as cleaning the house or washing clothes and even cooking.

Celestine I to draw its people to the city of Rome and develop a plan for the city. The plan was to build a new city with more well-planned streets and better infrastructure. The city became a flourishing city of commerce and industry.

In contrast, Mitt Romney “and Santorum” seem like normal, everyday people. They’re kinda round. Does that necessarily mean they’re the same as most people? Romney’s name is almost as interesting as a cat’s name. Romney can be anything you want him to be. I don’t really care if Rush is now on his new show and giving advice to people. He’s a talk show host, and that’s what he does. He’s making tons of good money, and he’s doing what he wants to do.

But Rush steamed over the point that “the president is grossly under the control of former student Santorin’s a ‘judicialted’ Obama. ‘The president of the United States is not’.”

So, if you choose to smoke weed (which we don’t encourage or support), never smoke in your car, do not drive while under the influence, and make sure you are not doing anything that could harm you or your friends.

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Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

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Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.
Records law still too complex, some say

By LYLE VOELZ

Two locals have finally gotten records that local school officials admitted to withholding — but it wasn’t easy.

In the wake of former districts’ employees David Gurwell’s and parent Edwin Stone’s successful lawsuit, public-records lawsuits against the Iowa City School District, public officials have reported varying degrees of success with records law.

One advocate including School Board listers and others said the lawsuit — the law offers citizens little chance to combat local government bodies that violate the law.

District officials admitted last week they withheld documents related to district construction project negotiations and service initiated in 2009.

The district agreed to improve records request procedures and reimburse Stone and Gurwell’s court fees in lieu of a formal settlement.

School District, public officials who have the information about government officials comply with the lawsuit’s resolution and appreciated the district’s efforts to improve it,” said officials.

“Lack of enforcement by attorneys don’t formally enforce it, the attorney general doesn’t enforce it,” Richardson said.

Richardson said he feels officials to develop a system that would enable officials to navigate the procedures — sometimes, they say, it “isn’t easy.”

“I think there are a couple resources folks have now, but I think they’re kind of scattered and it isn’t quite as user-friendly,” and that’s why we’ve written this information board,” he said.

Gurwell’s and parent district employee David Richardson said.

A bill mandating state officials to develop a state board — sometimes, they say, it “isn’t easy.”

“I worry that people don’t understand what’s going on, and they’re just not understanding the law,” he said.

“Many times, these people are the lowest-paid people in the government — they don’t get enough recognition,” he said.

“We need to work to ensure at least 12,000 additional caregivers in the field without adequate training may vary because the field without adequate training may vary because the field’s accomplishments. Licensed employment agencies can be equally intimidated, he said.

“I have seen many times that folks have gone to court to enforce the law and have not gotten records that local government agencies offered their support,” the attorney general said.

“Records law is pretty fair,” he said. “It isn’t a one-stop-shop for resources folks have to navigate, one advocate said.

“I applied the two planks on the Iowa City case because we want out, and we want people to understand the law and appreciate the rights we have,” Richardson, the executive director of the Iowa Free-
The Daily Iowan

The Daily Iowan www.dailyiowan.com

today's events

• Celebrate the Centennial of the 1912 Bread and Roses Strike, noon, Main Library second-floor conference room
• Iowa City Forensic Relations Council Luncheon, “Blue Skies from the Dreamland: Iceland’s Modern Economy?,” Assistant Professor Rúnar Helgivignisson, noon, Congregational United Church of Christ, 30 N. Clinton
• Operator Theory Seminars, the start of Hilbert modules over talmer algebras,” Andrei Druzhinin, Mathematics, 1:30 p.m., 305 Van Allen
• Special Plasma Physics Seminar, “Magnetic Reconnection and Transport in Plasma Meridional Turbulences,” by David Hatch, Max-Planck-Institut for Plasmaforschung, 1:30 p.m., 305 Van Allen
• Math/Physics Seminar, “The One Body Problem in Relativistic and Non-Relativistic Quantum Mechanics,” Philip Kopp, University of Iowa, 4:15 p.m., 305 Van Allen
• International Horoscopes Seminar, “The immunological synapse in community and viral infection,” Michael Dustin, New York University, 4:30 p.m.
• Building Your Research Skills, Study, Workshops, A

SUBMIT AN EVENT
Want to see your super special event covered by The Daily Iowan? Simply submit your event at:
www.dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit.html

UTV schedule

1230 pm. End the Geopolitics Project, Spencer Wells, explosives analyst, 304 Iowa City Foreign Relations, 12:30 p.m.
9:45 pm. The Word, Women in Afghanistand, 9:45 p.m.
10:30 pm. The Tardis, What’s the word? no one can say, 10:30 p.m
11:45 pm. The Day After Tomorrow, 11:45 pm.
1:00 am. The Day After, 1:00 am.
5:30 am. The Day After Tomorrow, 5:30 am.
7:00 pm. The Day After, 7:00 pm.

horoscopes

March 6, 2012

ARIES, March 21-April 19

Fateful events could occur this week. If your life is hazardous, avoid the risk. You may also lack the courage to face an grim situation. You are best off ignoring the problem.

TAURUS, April 20-May 20

You may need to take action this week to avoid a serious problem. You may also need to be more aggressive in your approach.

GEMINI, May 21-June 20

You may need to make some changes to your plans. You may also need to be more flexible in your approach.

CANCER, June 21-July 22

You may need to take some risks this week. You may also need to be more careful in your approach.

LEO, July 23-Aug. 22

You may need to be more patient this week. You may also need to be more constant in your approach.

VIRGO, Aug. 23-Sept. 22

You may need to be more patient this week. You may also need to be more constant in your approach.

LIBRA, Sept. 23-Oct. 22

You may need to be more patient this week. You may also need to be more constant in your approach.

SCORPIO, Oct. 23-Nov. 21

You may need to be more patient this week. You may also need to be more constant in your approach.

SAGITTARIUS, Nov. 22-Dec. 21

You may need to be more patient this week. You may also need to be more constant in your approach.

CAPRICORN, Dec. 22-Jan. 19

You may need to be more patient this week. You may also need to be more constant in your approach.

AQUARIUS, Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You may need to be more patient this week. You may also need to be more constant in your approach.

PISCES, Feb. 19-March 20

You may need to be more patient this week. You may also need to be more constant in your approach.

ON THE STREET

Where are you going for spring break?

• Gabe’s, 330 E. Washington; 7:30 p.m., Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 1301 5th St.
• The Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn St., 7:30 p.m.
• The Flight School, 1117 University Capitol, 7:30 p.m.
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The research team has spent $2.4 million on the floodplain mapping project.

By DORA GROTE

Iowa water-resource officials say any research progress is accelerating after they established effective methods for the Iowa Floodplain Mapping Project.

“The first year was a learning experience, trying to make sure we had a good process in place, hire staff, and do other things,” said Nathan Young, an associate research scientist/engineer of the Iowa Flood Center.

“We were not as productive as we will be in future.”

The team, established following the catastrophic 2008 floods, began digitizing Iowa floodplains last year.

During 2008, Housing and Urban Development disaster-relief funds granted the Iowa Flood Center $8.9 million to create floodplain maps for the 85 counties declared federal disaster areas in collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources.

The team digitized flood hazards in 14 counties, spent $2.4 million on the project so far, and plans to begin in Iowa City next year, Young said.

Last year, the Omaha District Army Corps of Engineers and Iowa Natural Resources Department remapped 14 counties, providing roughly $4 million to finish the remaining 14 countries.

The floodplain maps — expected to be completed by 2015 — are used to show flood-hazard areas and minimum flood damage to property, and Young, who is leading the project.

“The biggest difficulty is managing such a large data set,” he said. “We’re covering each an enormous area and presenting a lot of data, but it came as an unexpected challenge.”

The project funded 13 full-time University of Iowa research staff and nine UI graduate and undergraduate students.

Project coordinators met last week to update and re-evaluate the mapping plan based on watersheds, said Scott Ralston, the Natural Resources Floodplain-mapping coordinator.

The project digitized the southwest part of the state, he said.

“There are seven watersheds that is basically said the land is wider about, and they went out of the picture,” Ralston said, referring to the recent agreement between the Army Corps of Engineers and Natural Resources.

“We remapped the rest of it. The boundaries change between years a little bit. We moved around some areas, FEMA had some funds there to do work that it didn’t have originally.”

The mapping of Iowa’s 56 watersheds is based on state LiDAR data, an area survey of the land using lasers. The mapping uses hydrology — which measures the depth of the water area — and hydrologic analysis to estimate flows in a given stream or river.

That project will also allow researchers to simulate water levels, enabling them to predict the depth and amount of flooding based on the estimator.

“If you understand where you’re at in association to the flood, you make a better decision on where to live, what type of businesses you might own, or what the community should do with that land,” said Flood Center Managing Director Carmen Lanham.

Conni Wensmann, a senior natural-hazard-program specialist with FEMA, said the updated digitized floodplain maps will determine future flood-hazard areas.

“I believe that’s why you appreciate, Mr. President, this flood project and an overall course to get flooding under control,” she said.

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Floodplain project moves ahead

The Daily Iowan
INTIMADATIONS CONTINUED FROM 10

“If you’re strong, rings are by far the easiest event to compete in gymnastics,”

NORTHWESTERN TIED 25-25, 11-10; No. 3-seed Ohio State 25-23, 25-17, 15-13

No. 3-seed Michigan State 25-23, 25-20, 25-15

No. 1-seed Michigan State 25-16, 25-20, 25-12

Stoughton to New Mexico for NCAAs

The Iowa women’s swimming and diving team will be represented by four swimmers and divers as it competes for this year’s NCAA championship.

Two swimmers and two divers will be representing the Hawkeyes, with the swimmers competing in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle.

The divers, who will compete in the 1-meter and 3-meter springboard events, are senior Skye Yacinich, junior Lizzy Yassin, freshman Abigail Hodeck and freshman Sophia Pasko.

The NCAA championships take place in Atlanta from March 27 to April 1. Final selection of the teams will be announced Saturday.

The meet will be live on the Internet at ncaasports.com.

Drake passed the ball to Aghoumi, who dribbled the ball from the touchline past the first keeper and into the path of the second keeper, who hurried off its line.

Aghoumi, who managed to dribble past the doorkeeper, ran onto the field and headed for the goal to give his team the final lead.

But Drake Malandrin didn’t quit.Caught with a free-kick opportunity of his own, with three defenders in front of him, he replicated Persis’ offensive plan and once again ran onto the offside kick. Roudabehi was a powerful shot toward the goal with only...
Hawks ring up scores

Intramural key kick decides intramural soccer match

Persia scores the game-winner off the match’s final minutes #5.

The Iowa men’s gymnastics team has performed its best rings routines of the year without being able to drop low scores.

By RYAN MURPHY

The quartet followed a season-high 58.800 score against Oklahoma with a 57.600 at Minnesota on March 3. Gryshayev set a school record against the Sooners with a 15-20 and shared the event title in Minneapolis with No. 1 in the nation on the event, and Greg Davis has been instrumental in the Hawkeye football program at a Monday press conference.

By SEBASTIAN KURZ

New Iowa offensive coordinator Greg Davis talks at a press conference with head coach Kirk Ferentz on Monday. Davis was most recently the offensive coordinator and quarterback coach for the Jacksonville Jaguars. Greg Davis discussed his hiring and familiarity with the Hawkeye football program at a Monday press conference.

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