



EDITORIAL CARTOON



FOUR MINUTES AT THE DRIVE-THRU

Abbey Marshall | Staff Writer

Working at a Culver's drive-thru, I've seen a variety of people: anything from a whiny kid demanding custard after an arduous rec basketball game from his mom's minivan to an old woman hauling a tractor with her seemingly out-of-character Ford truck. Despite the wide range of characters, everyone can ultimately be categorized into two groups.

There are those who whiz by in a flurry of impatience, a rude demeanor and permanent frown etched upon their faces, and there are those who have the decency to make eye contact and say, "Thank you". The second type of people is extremely rare.

With today's constant hustle and bustle, politeness is forgotten while curt and impolite behavior runs rampant. When we want something, we want it now—because that's what we're used to. We can refresh a page and receive breaking news, we can Google a question and have an instantaneous answer. In a world of notifications and ringtones, simple face-to-face communication is lost because there simply isn't enough time.

Outside the realm of technology, person-to-person encounters are all I experience at my job. It brightens my day when someone takes the time to glance at my nametag and personalize their "thank you"s, or when someone smiles and compliments me. On the flip side, I become irritated and quickly upset when someone harshly comments on pricing of which I have no control, or rolls their eyes because I took too long to scoop a chocolate cone.

The way I see it, you can either spend the four minutes of drive-thru wait time one of two ways. You can cheerily chat with your passengers, crank up your favorite song, roll down the window to enjoy a nice day, and kindly thank the employee who hands you your meal when it's ready, or you can restless drum your fingers on your steering wheel, glare out your window at someone who is trying to do their job, and snatch your bag when it's ready and drive off in a huff.

Either way, you still wait those four minutes.



BEYOND BILLIONAIRE

Gina Deaton | Online Editor

World-famous Harry Potter author, J.K. Rowling, was kicked off Forbes' list of the richest people in the world because she lost her status in the all-exclusive "billionaire" club—she's a mere millionaire now, and Entertainment Weekly said it was because she "broke a few rules of how to stay rich", the biggest of these being that she donated so much of her money to charity (close to \$160 million). Her hefty donations, combined with British taxes, inspired her plummet from the charts, and she is now a member of Forbes' shameful "Billionaire Drop-offs" list.

Rowling is being stamped as a poor money manager, not because she spent it on expensive items, beauty treatments, or even traveling experiences, but because she donated so much of it—she is estimated to continually donate 16 percent of her income and regularly support around eight charities. The fact that her selfless giving is putting her in a bad light is absurd—it's exactly what she should be doing.

Once a single mom living on welfare and now the first female novelist to become a billionaire,

Rowling said, "You have a moral responsibility when you've been given far more than you need, to do wise things with it and give intelligently." I don't think she could have emphasized it better, and in a modern world of materialism, we need more people like Rowling who do know how to manage their money. She knows it isn't about letting your money sit in the bank so that you can make some prestigious list. She knows it isn't about buying things you really don't need. It's about giving to those in need, and personally I think Rowling's view on money management makes her the richest woman in the world.

Business Insider wrote, "Maybe next year, Rowling," in response to her disappearance from the list. What they don't realize is that, chances are, she doesn't care one bit whether her name appears on that list. She doesn't care because she knows that she doesn't need a billion dollars—no one does. Rowling is a walking example that giving is the best way to feel rich. If more wealthy people on that list were like her, a lot more problems could be solved.

But as for now, it's just Rowling and her magic.