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Progress Report 5ish?

For the progress report, we have established a base for the Tours page and attempted to contact the PiBot through said page. Each has presented a unique challenge that has set back expected progression. The Tours' page design has presented problems through the calendar extension and our Tours' database. And connecting with the PiBot's controls has turned into an unexpected networking project.

The Tours page is the landing page for controlling the PiBot during tour times. The page has to make reads from the database to determine when a user can control the robot. We planned on using a calendar widget to accomplish smooth flow of control but getting the widget to read from the database is a little trickier than anticipated. Thus far we have switched focus from establishing appointments through this page and opted to get PiBot working through the web interface.

To achieve this feat, we are working on writing a TCP server to listen for connections attempting to control the robot and plan on writing a client using JavaScript socket. The server application will interact with the PiBot across a network using SSL and the socket will be created using Twisted. "Twisted is an event-driven networking engine written in Python and licensed under the open source MIT License." (http://twistedmatrix.com/trac/)

While the forward progress of the project has come to a halt, in order for our project to come off as a polished product, it is necessary to focus on the these minute aspects rather than hack away with potential repercussions later. The backbone of the project, when the website and robot are removed, is connecting to a piece of hardware and manipulating it through a web interface.