Behind the Scenes

A deeper look at those responsible for maintaining the beautiful image of GWC

by Chazz Robinson

As I walked through George Williams College I noticed the beauty of the campus inside and outside of my dormitory. I noticed some of the things many students take for granted, such as cleans sidewalks, clean lobby areas, and even the good food the kitchen prepares. These small things that college students take for granted are what make the campus beautiful, but many don’t realize the hard work that grounds, maintenance, and housekeeping crews do to keep it this way.

Sam Borghgraef, faculty supervisor of grounds and maintenance, says “the job of grounds, maintenance, and housekeeping is to make sure everyone has a safe environment.” He adds “students are our main focus as staff; we want to provide them with the basic protection they need to be successful. Students play a major role in keeping the campus together.” Between students and staff, campus maintenance works hard to keep campus in shape.

Nick McCamey, student grounds worker, says “I enjoy being a student worker with the grounds because I get a satisfaction seeing the campus looking beautiful and knowing where I work is responsible for the beauty.” Bryar Veley, maintenance employee, adds “I have watched GWC grow over the many years. My grandmother was an employee at this campus, so I have watched this campus transition to a beautiful place. I enjoy being a part of the transition and plan on being here for as long as I can.” This shows that this campus has a rich history and the workers are passionate about making this place a better place for everyone including visitors, students, staff, and faculty.

Still as I walk through campus I see papers, candy wrappers, and food left all around. I see new furniture in the lobby areas in disarray and food thrown in recycling bins. As students we must all realize this is our home away from home, and I hope that we can learn to help staff like Sam, and take care of our home. As students we should reach out our helping hands to those who lend a helping hand to us by picking up our trash, and properly use the new recycling bins we have around on campus. We all have our roles to play in order to keep the GWC society functioning accordingly.

Let us all show more appreciation for those who hold this place together and when you see them respect them and thank them for doing the things that most of us won’t do. In the words of Sam Borghgraef; “this campus is our temporary home, and we all are a piece to the puzzle. We all must work together to make sure this campus remains gorgeous and safe for everyone.”

Dr. Rosenberg’s Class Goes Off Campus

Dr. Rosenberg Creative Writing students went to a luncheon hosted by Young Auditorium this past October

by Kiaya Konwalski

On October 25th, Dr. Rosenberg took her creative writing class to luncheon hosted by Young Auditorium of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. The luncheon hosted Sam Weller, biographer of author Ray Bradbury. The event started with a lunch catered by the members of Young Auditorium at 11 am. At noon Weller spoke for an hour, followed by an hour of questions from the audience.

Dr. Rosenberg had known Bradbury for a number of years before he passed in June of last year. Weller talked of how Bradbury was a lifelong inspiration to him as a writer, and how he was honored to get know his idol so well. He shared stories of times they spend together, from the time of his first interview, to the last time he saw him, just months before Bradbury’s death.

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Unfortunately, it was not won by Dr. Rosenberg or anyone in her creative writing class.

Science-fiction writer has not only left its mark on many of today’s authors, but that Bradbury has undone some of the decline in number of people’s reading over the years. GWC junior, Fenita Pargo described the event as warm and inviting, and “it shows that writers have passion, knowledge, and creativity that some can only dream, about.”

Most of Dr. Rosenberg’s class was unfamiliar with Bradbury as an author. But when asked if she was interested in reading Bradbury now, freshman Abigail Ortiz responded “Heck yes I’m interested in reading more of his [Bradbury’s] works! I’m working on finding his biography first and then more of his personal works. I have also told others about Bradbury and mentioned to them that they should begin to read his pieces.”

Following the conclusion of Weller’s presentation, Young Auditorium held a raffle for a mug that contained the titles of various “banned books.” The mug had Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451 listed on it. Unfortunately, it was not won by Dr. Rosenberg or anyone in her creative writing class.

Overall, the students seemed to enjoy the event. Both Pargo and Ortiz said they both would be interested in attending another event like this again. Ortiz said the event was a nice break from traditional classes. However, just as Weller held Bradbury responsible for undoing the declining reading trends, Weller’s talk has inspired both Pargo and Ortiz and possibly others to start reading more in their own time.
Fairness or Opportunity
A deeper look into the GWC bus dilemma
by Jensine Bottlmony

Walking through campus you may hear students or even faculty speaking about the transportation that George Williams College has to offer. In the 2012-2013 school year, student life acquired a bus to transport the students of George Williams College. While some have complained that there are only fourteen spots on the bus, looking more carefully at the subject, one realizes that our college is very lucky with this situation.

About one year ago, George Williams College added a new member to the team: Jared Leiﬁeld. He is the Director of Student Community/Engagement. In his new role, Jared assisted in acquiring the bus which enables students to attend the trips that have taken place so far in the school year, such as the student trips to Six Flags and Pearce’s haunted house/hayride. Leiﬁeld explained, “After bringing up issues of transportation and the idea of getting a bus, the administration pushed for it.”

Furthermore Leiﬁeld explained, “with the bus only seating fourteen passengers the driver doesn’t need a special license, just a certiﬁcation.” This decision to have a fourteen-passenger bus allows for instructors to drive on trips as well. The addition of the bus has allowed this semester ﬁrst year students attended class trips to SMILES equine therapy facility, the Islamic Center of Milwaukee and the Deer Park Buddhist Center. Additionally, it provided students in the sailing and rock climbing class transportation for their activities.

While, there has been the ideas of either getting a bigger bus, or even another small bus, in reality the student fee of $50 per student is not enough to cover those charges. Leiﬁeld explained, “Aurora University has two thousand undergraduate students, including those who commute, [and] only forty of the students are able to go on one of the bus trips.”

How Do You Stay Motivated?
by Jakosyi King & Kiaya Kowalski

“Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable conﬁdence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.” Norman Vincent Peale

Everyone has their own way to stay motivated throughout college and others need ways to help them to stay motivated throughout. I interviewed several people and this is how they say they stay focus and motivated.

First year student Lonicia Davis explains, “My friends currently help me stay focus through college because they help me know what I’m not doing [and] what I’m suppose to do. I am motivated by the things that I have been through, I don’t really have a family that motivates me, so I have to stay motivated and make my mother proud because I know she is watching over me.”

Another first year student, Mikeya Harris has a different approach, “My mother helps me stay focus because she tells me what needs to be done. I’m also motivated by going home every weekend because I realize that’s not where I want to be for the rest of my life. So I have to work hard to keep my head up. This is what motivates me. I can be a lot of work, but it’s worth it.”

Another student who wishes to remain anonymous explains “what, keeps me motivated is my crazy roommate. She pushes me to be the best and make sure no day is every the same as the next. So, I stay around yourself around people that want you in your life and you will stay motivated and focus in whatever you do.”

Students should realize that there are many different ways to stay motivated. However, it does not always matter what method keeps a student motivated. It is simply more important that students find a way to stay motivated so that they can maintain a level head throughout the semester.

Walworth County Events
Events occurring around Walworth County
by Jensine Bottlmony

Festival of Lights
When-Events start December 6th, 2013.
A weekend full of holiday celebrations in the beautiful downtown of Lake Geneva.

Winterfest
Where- Lake Geneva

When-January 29th, 2014- February 8th, 2014
Come check out before, during and after the U.S. Snow Sculpting Competition featuring many activities. Events will include: laser tag, skating, s’mores, bonfire, brat eating contest, family movie night, human dog sled races, scavenger hunt, reindeer run and winter fest dance.

Nino the Magician & Hypnotist Show
Where- Grand Geneva Resort and Spa, Lake Geneva, Wi
When- January 4th, 2014 at 7pm
Need some excitement in your life? Come to the show and be entertained by Nino, the Magician and hypnotist!
GWC Christmas Project
A campus project that students and staff can both get in on to spread Christmas cheer to families that are less fortunate  by Gina Jones

Christmas is a holiday that should be enjoyed spending time with family and friends, and it also recognized as a holiday more about giving and receiving. Here at GWC, we not only celebrate Christmas with our families, but we are trying to help less fortunate families can enjoy the holidays as well.

Adopt a Family is an organization that GWC helps with every year for the last five years through Walworth County Health and Family Services. We help at least two families that need it most by getting donations for things the families need, like winter coats and boots.

The event started at the beginning of November and all donations will be needed by December 6th. If students are not able to buy or donate items, they can help wrap the gifts or make the finally delivery of the gifts to the county. The deadline is soon, but students that would like to get involved can contact Julia Rowell, advising secretary.

Julia is very enthusiastic on the outcome for this year, stating “each year so far, it was a success and we always end up with more than enough and this year I anticipate it being more successful, because we have more students that can help.”

Sleep Is Important!
by Silas Chester

Are you staying up late studying and drinking sugary, carbonated energy drinks to stay awake? According to The University Health Center’s (UHC) website, college students get an average of 6-6.9 hours of sleep every day, which is less than the 8 hours of sleep recommended.

You’ve heard the excuse: “but I have so much to do and so little time to do it.” Even though normal college students’ schedules are filled with papers, projects, clubs, work, attempting to have a social life, and more, being sleep deprived can affect all those important things in a college student’s life.

The UHC says that sleep deprivation can impact one’s mood, GPA, health, safety, and more; something that all college students should be worried about. Luckily, there are a few things you can do to keep a healthy sleeping regime:

- Try to keep a regular sleep schedule and time when you go to bed.
- Avoid taking naps. But if you feel as if you need to nap, take only a 20-30 min nap and earlier in the day.
- Create a comfortable sleeping environment such as nice pillows, turning out all lights, listen to soothing music, shower or bathe before going to bed, and a keep your room a comfortable temperature.
- Avoid eating, and exercising 2-3 hours before bed, and drinking caffeine 3-4 hours before.
- Avoid alcohol and nicotine because they can mess up sleeping patterns.

May Term in Italy
Info on how to go to Italy while getting school credit by Dr. Meredith Harvey

Students at GWC and Aurora’s Illinois campus will have the opportunity to study in Italy this summer from May 5-May 24. The course which begins in Rome and concludes in Florence fulfills general education humanities credits.

The three-week course will look at the rise of the arts in Italy and the rest of Europe from the days of the ancient Greeks to the 20th century. The particular focus of the course will be to look at the social, psychological and historical contexts of the rise of the arts in the hotbed of culture in which that rise occurred.

In addition to studying arts through museum tours, city strolls and related readings, students will have the opportunity to create their own works of arts over the course of this time and to work with local artists. These experiential learning opportunities will allow students to gain insights into the more technical evolution of the arts.

Students who wish to join the class may reserve their space by placing a $500 deposit. All students wishing to go must have their entire trip balance of $1650.00 paid by February 7. For those interested in this experience, please contact Dr. Harvey at mharvey@aurora.edu for further information.
Dear Anonymous,

My roommate slams doors and constantly is always loud. When I try to talk with them about it they start screaming and then call me psycho. What should I do?

-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

Do your best to keep conversing with your roommate about conflicts. Maybe coming up with a new system between the both of you would be the best way to calmly fix this conflict if that doesn’t work; maybe you should speak to student life and talk to your R.A. for suggestions about your living condition.

-Ask Jennie

What is the best way to resolve a conflict?

-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

To resolve a conflict with your roommate there are some simple steps you could try to accomplish. The first step is beginning to listen. The next step would be to voice your side of the conflict which then leads to the next step. The next step is to agrees on a course of action or a resolution to the issue. You may never fully agree with your roommate, but at least try to be civil to one another, that’s the only way you’ll get through the year.

-Ask Jennie

Pick up your books, finals are coming fast.

Cancer (June 21- July 22): You need to rely on only your strength. Try not to depend on others; they might make the outcome of a situation very poor.

Leo (July 23- August 22): The month of December is going to be a very hard time for you. Keep your head held high and keep on trucking through you assignments.

Scorpio (October 23- November 21): This is a wonderful month for you, make sure to keep up on assignments, but still enjoy the winter activities. You’re going to figure out some negatives and positives about yourself as you get ready for you second semester of college.

Dear Anonymous,

You could always try ear plugs, they will help you be oblivious to the sounds around you.

-Ask Jennie

Dear Anonymous,

My roommate always forgets their keys and always asks me to “save the day”. How do I tell them that it is annoying?

-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

To resolve your issue, you need to have a conversation with your roommate. Then the other person knows what is bother you. Otherwise nothing is going to change. Make that first step and communicate, then go from there.

-Ask Jennie

Dear Anonymous,

My roommate seems so distant from me. I don’t know why though, what should I do about this?

-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

Communication is the key between you and your roommate. Make sure they know that you are there as a friend not just someone you got stuck to live with. Open up to the person and make them feel welcome.

-Ask Jennie

This month is going to be very hard for you, not just finically but in every aspect of your life. Make sure you’re focused on your studies.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18):

Capricorn (December 22- January 19):

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Artist Profiles
by Kiaya Kowalski

Despite GWC being a small campus, the school home to a variety of students. Some of these students are very creative, despite not being enrolled in any classes pertaining to creative arts. Sometimes when students are busy investing themselves in their studies, they fail to realize their creative and talented classmates. Today, the newspaper would like to focus on three of these talented artists on campus: Esther Sharp, Luis Nova, and Jermaine Wimpie.

Esther Sharp is a non-traditional sophomore and is studying Sustainability and Environmental Management. She is very creative, dabbling in a few different areas as a creative outlet, but is most recognized for her painting.

When asked how she had been painting and drawing she replied with “I have been drawing since before I have memories.” Esther started out drawing pictures, “I was always trying to tell stories with what I drew.”

As far as her painting styles goes, Esther tends to paint abstract landscapes, often time places she imagines. She prefers to use palettes knives when painting, and prefer to paint on multiple canvases at once, something her friends refer to as “multi-painting.” She enjoys painting to drawing because “it’s more fluid” and no erasing, pushing her to work with her mistakes.

Despite being a science major, Esther does feel GWC provides her with creative outlets. Often, the teachers encourage students to be creative with their assignments. However, she would love to see someone from GWC start an art club, or for the campus to offer a community for creative arts to bring the Williams Bay creative community together.

Esther also incorporates her painting into her other creative outlet, writing. As stated earlier, she self-published her book, The Watched Fall of Sparrows, in 2012. The book features some of her painting. In fact, Esther’s current creative goals are to finish writing her next book, as well as the paintings she plans to be featured in it.

If you want to know how you can see Esther’s art, you can go onto her website, and her book is available for sale online.

Luis Nova is a freshman at GWC, studying Writing and English, and likes to occupy his time with new experiences. He is also known to some as “guitar guy” on campus.

Luis started playing guitar close to nine years ago. His inspiration to learn guitar came from his friend Christian, because as Luis says “we wanted to be crazy guitarists when we were younger.”

Luis’s pursuit of music is purely for his own personal interest at the moment, but would love to take a music class if any were offered. Luis feels very encouraged by the GWC community, “many people like my playing, and my music teacher Christine Flasch encourages me all the time.” If Luis were to teach any subject about music to someone, it would the mathematical aspect that is incorporated with music arrangement.

Luis also plays other instruments: the bass, piano, harmonica, drums, and also played the violin and cello as a kid. The next on his list to learn is the mandolin. If Luis could meet any musician alive or dead, he would meet his “first guitar idol”, Jimi Hendrix. But if he could play a duet with anybody it would be Chris Thile, calling him a “musical genius” and that he loves Thile’s style of music.

Luis responded to his favorite memory with his guitar was “playing for one of my pups as it was dying from an illness” and his greatest music recognition was playing for his high school’s jazz band. Luis believes that learning to play music is a positive way for one to spend their time. As for Luis, “playing guitar has turned into a part of me, and I probably wouldn’t get much done without it.”

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Jermaine R. Wimpie is another creative freshman. He enjoys many creative outlets such as drawing, dancing, acting out monologues, but is known for on campus for his poetry.

Jermaine likes to write freestyle poetry. His poetry pertains to events that happen in his life and how he feels about things that happen every day. He also gains inspiration for his poetry from the people around him and the choices they make.

Jermaine started writing poetry in high school. He picked it up as “an escape route from the craziness that happens every day.” He believes that poetry helps people say things that they have a hard time explaining or understanding. He even believes that poetry helps people understand themselves better, “poetry helps you understand what it is that makes you the way you are as a person.”

Though he could have joined the creative writing class on campus, Jermaine believes classes corrupt his “judgment free” philosophy on writing as a creative outlet. He mainly just shares his poetry with the people around him, and they tend to enjoy it. His ultimate goal is to write a book of poetry titled The Story of the Man and the Byrd. The book would be a collaborative piece with one of his friends, Kyilah S. Byrdsong.

Poetry is Jermaine’s way of defining himself, “poetry helps me think about life up on a deeper level,” and allows him to see the world differently than other people. Jermaine’s personal philosophy on poetry being a means to better understanding is helpful for anyone trying to navigate through life.

To see some of Jermaine’s poetry, continue to the next page to see the GWC Gazette “Poetry Corner”

As it is evident, GWC has a variety of artist walking around campus. All of those who were interviewed are considered to be very open about their creative outlets. However, not all creative people are as open as these three. Hopefully after reading about these three individuals, more students will feel compelled to see what other artists and talents are hiding on campus.
This is Insanity
by Amber Linder
I am trapped within my mind
Held there
By my raging thoughts
Trying to break free
It’s like being submerged
Underwater
I’m holding my breath
As I try to claw my way
To the surface
My mind refuses escape
Always pulling me
Back under
Those traitorous waves
I understand the necessity
Of breaking away
From my subconscious
And returning to the
World in which my body resides
But the watery surface
Between fantasy
And reality
Imprisons me
It acts as a WALL
As far
And as wide
As the eye can see
Preventing me from swimming around it
So I stay
And I play
And I laugh
And I cry
And I whisper
And I scream
And in the end
Though I know I shouldn’t
I allow myself
To slip away
And slowly fall back
Into my own world

Notebook with Benefits
by Kiaya Kowalski
You’re too pretty
for British Literature.
You were meant for more
than my scribbles
of words I don’t know.
You’re more like that strange gentleman,
offering me your coat
when I’m without
an umbrella
in the rain.
Providing me with shelter
from storm clouds and the wet, you tell me
You do know things Kiaya,
you do.
Lead me to a loft with blankets
and a fireplace,
with something warm to drink,
and soft jazz
I never knew I liked.
Yes, this place
but more than that
it’s you
where I find comfort.
I never knew I needed.
Forgiveness left the door
Before you spoke them two meaningless words
How can you claim someone you never seem to search for?
A person who you made no contact to
Never seeing that fact that I really do like you
The tears in my eyes are too far for you to view
Will you be my woman?
A question you once ask
I laughed because it was cute
I laugh because I couldn’t believe it was coming from you
I laugh because I finally though I found that someone new
I laugh because you ask knowing that I was a mother of two
I said yes
Because, it label me as “single no more”
The time we shared was enough
Just laying down inside your arms
I said yes because you was sweet to me
I said yes because you was the one who set me free
I said yes
Not knowing what the outcome could be

Sometime it feels as if you never see the things that you do
Sometimes I wonder if you still care for me like you use to
Sometimes I wonder if you truly ever see the way I feel

I wanted to know that I was being love
I wanted to know that I was the one person you’re always thinking of
I wanted to know that you care for me
I wanted to hear your voice one more time this week
I wanted to hear you ask about my day

I wanted you to understand my pain
I wanted you to care enough to remember my full name
I wanted to know that you knew the basic things about me
I wanted to know over all things that you truly do love me

Look at this boy,
Enjoying his novel
In between the trees
Lounged and out stretched
With no cares in the world.
Though his ax makes him look tough
One can tell he has a gentle heart
His hat resting on top of his head like a tiara
would rest over his queen’s head
And his coat draped over him.
Keeping him warm while I’m not there.
Look at him enjoying that sweet novel.
I wonder what he’s doing here?
Could he be waiting for someone?
Could he be waiting for me?
The novel he reads,
That lies in his hands
Is the story of our love.