Coming to Point: Moon Cakes, Kung Fu, and Festivities

SOPHIE STICKELMAIER
REPORTER
sstie520@uwsp.edu

The Chinese Culture Club plans on taking their annual Moon Festival in an entirely new direction. The festival will replicate an authentic Chinese night market, where shoppers can trade in U.S. dollars for copper coins to be used at vendors' booths. The Moon Festival is free of charge and will be from 2:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Dreyfus University Center Laird Room Sept. 19.

"Last year, people would come, sit and just watch performances," said Bonnie Liao, a Chinese Culture Club officer. "But this year we wanted to make them feel like they were truly part of the festival."

Yuchen Zhu, the Chinese Culture Club President, added to the list of festival upgrades.

"You will enter, and the first thing you will see will be the glowing lanterns," Zhu said. "The further you walk into the room, the more authentic traditions you will experience."

To enjoy the food, calligraphy vendors, Kung Fu performances and the shuttle play, Zhu encourages students to attend the festival.

According to chinahighlights.com, the Chinese view this holiday as a

Continued on page

INSIDE

NEWS
Campus garden grows knowledge
p. 3

SPORTS
Football ready for success in 2014
p. 6

POINLIFE
Keep an eye out for pink paraphernalia and Super Heroes
p. 8

A & E
Disney Executive Producers maintain Wisconsin family values
p. 11
SGA weekly

Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI

It is a new school year and the perfect time to get involved in Student Government Association! SGA is responsible for allocating 14 million dollars to student organizations, departments on campus, funding the city bus and late night bus, and funding the student lawyer on campus who is available to any University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point student. SGA works closely with Faculty Senate and the administration on campus to help make the university the best it can be.

We are always looking for new students to get involved and become passionate about representing our student body. SGA offers many different types of positions. Students can become senators or become a student interest representative and get involved in one specific issue. Students who are interested in assisting in the distribution of segregated fees should become a Segregated University Fee Allocation Committee member. SGA also offers justice positions, which involves conducting cases and reviewing student organizations' constitutions and bylaws. If any of these positions interest you, stop by the SGA office (O52 DUC, right by SIEO in the basement of the DUC).

SGA serves as the voice of the students. This section of The Pointer is our voice reaching back to the students. We will be informing students of events, upcoming legislation, and other SGA matters that directly affect students. We want to open up the lines of communication for students. Make sure you like UWSP SGA on Facebook and follow us on Instagram and Twitter @UWSP_SGA. Also, be sure to tune into 90FM every other Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. for the SGA Update.

Green Fund Provides Students with Opportunity, Sustainability Ideas

MYKAYLA HILGART
NEWS EDITOR
mhilg14@uwsp.edu

The Green Fund is a monetary resource that supports environmental and sustainable projects on campus for students, organizations, faculty and anyone affiliated with the university.

There are a few other campuses in the UW system that have programs similar to this, but ours is one of the largest,” said Alex Thomas, Student Government Association’s environmental and sustainability affairs director.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point put the fund into effect last year after SGA wrote legislation for it. During its first year alone, nearly $100,000 was spent to finance sustainability efforts and renovations on campus.

One of the major projects funded during the Green Fund’s inaugural year was The Central Wisconsin Environmental Station’s installation of a more efficient water heater. The Encore in the Dreyfus University Center also updated its lighting system, making it 70 percent more efficient, according to Thomas.

In addition, there was a trio of student projects approved to renovate campus gardens maintained by student organizations. All three student projects are currently in progress by the Sustainable Agriculture in Communities Society, Ethnobotany Society and Students for Sustainable Communities.

The Green Fund Steering Committee has already received proposals for this academic year. Thomas said the approval process will begin in October.

“It is important for students to know about the fund and feel free to use it,” Thomas said. “We are always accepting applications.”

If students are interested in learning more about the Green Fund or having a say in how it operates, they are encouraged to attend an informational meeting next Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 6 p.m. in the DUC, room 235.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

Monday, September 8th

Student lost his wallet and was wondering if Protective Services had it. They did not. He is unsure if the wallet was stolen.

Tuesday, September 9th

Caller stated that there were two males walking around the parking lot in front of Baldwin Hall smoking marijuana.

Wednesday, September 10th

Faculty from the physics department called about the equipment in room C106 being messed with.

Thursday, September 11th

Student called to say that, as he was leaving the CCC, he noticed several subjects appearing to be of high school age skateboarding on university property on top of what appeared to be a large electrical box.

Friday, September 12th

Student called to request that an officer assist her with jumping her car.

Staff member called from Parking Services stating someone called them to report that they ran into a campus sign with their car.

UWS requested to assist in handling a theft that occurred off campus. An officer was dispatched to ask the student about the event.

Saturday, September 13th

A large tub of rugby equipment was found left on the field.

Female called to report an older gentleman who was clearly not a student, just “creepily” walking around the NFAC. He did not say anything inappropriate, but the student felt slightly uneasy.

Staff member in Watson hall called to report a girl in the first floor bathroom having a seizure. She said that 911 was contacted directly by another individual on the scene.

Man called calling stating that he needed to get into contact with his ex girlfriend. He requested we give him her number which was denied.

THE POINTER

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Campus Garden Provides Learning Opportunities, Vegetables for Students

AVERY JEHNKE
CONTRIBUTOR
ajehn738@uwsp.edu

The Campus Garden, located on Franklin Street across from the Stevens Point Fire Department, is now a green oasis. Built by students in 2006 on a sandy lot where a house once sat, the garden is abundant with vegetables and learning resources.

Managed by the Sustainable Agriculture in Communities Society since 2005, the group has helped students interested in growing food, composting and being sustainable get hands-on experience and meet like-minded students.

The organization’s fundraising coordinator, Taylor Christiansen, has been a key player in preparing the garden this fall. Christiansen spent the summer managing and working the garden.

The garden is open seven days per week, and students are encouraged to stop in for vegetables.

“We are going to raise the garden beds. It’ll be easier for us to weed and come in and harvest. It will also be handicap accessible.” Christiansen said.

Megan Hogfeldt, senior land use planning major, has been the president of the society for two years.

“It’s a learning landscape.” Hogfeldt said.

Hogfeldt first became interested in sustainable agriculture after going on a trip to Kenya lead by Dr. Holly Petrillo, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point forestry professor and SACs advisor.

“Aurora!” will be shown every Sunday in September at 2 p.m. by the campus planetarium. The show gave an in-depth look at the origins behind the aurora borealis, also known as the northern lights, which takes place every 27 days. In fact, the aurora borealis was visible Sept. 3.

It began by taking viewers back to when the northern lights were still a mystery. Early cultures like the Inuit, Norse and Finnish all had their own take on what the lights represented. Some viewed the lights as a blessing, while others were frightened of their intensity and ominous nature.

“It is important for people to understand why this unique phenomenon comes about,” said Planetarium Director Randy Olson.

“Aurora happens on Jupiter and Saturn as well, but it took hundreds of years to understand why exactly these strange lights appear in the sky.”

This phenomenon is no longer a mystery. According to the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks, the lights are formed from a collision of electron and proton particles. These particles are fueled by the energy from solar wind coming in contact with a planet’s magnetic field. Energy is then transferred between the magnetic field and solar wind and a beautiful dance ensues.

The planetarium has more interesting shows to come. “Marsquest,” being shown in November, will give viewers a historical and futuristic look at the life of the mysterious Red Planet. “Winter Wonders” will be shown in December, focusing on the events that take place in the sky during the winter solstice. Each program that take place in the sky during the winter solstice. Each program is shared among college students in the community.

“Aurora” will be shown every Sunday in September at 2 p.m. It is the first of seven programs shown throughout the year. Running from now until May, a total of 30 showings will be held.

“Got it me thinking about food and community,” Hogfeldt said. “I also really like to cook; to grow your own food and cook with it is a good relationship.

Petrillo has been instrumental in helping improve the campus garden. She wants it to be a learning space for students to be able to do what they want.

“This fall the garden has a variety of vegetables and flowers planted this spring after being purchased from The Growing Collective, a group of volunteers who help support the Central Rivers Farmshed in downtown Stevens Point.

According to Hogfeldt, most of what is grown in the garden goes back to the community as donations to local food pantries. She explained that the society doesn’t usually sell produce but sometimes sets up a table to sell vegetables in the west lobby of the Trainer Natural Resources building.

Hogfeldt feels the garden helps to change the way people think about agriculture in an urban environment.

“It opens up people from cities to getting their hands dirty and getting involved.” Hogfeldt said.

Perhaps the biggest challenge this year will be finding new and continuing donations for campus garden this fall. Christiansen spent his discovered the stress finances cause people across the country, as 76 percent of stress is caused by financial problems alone.

Gutche said many four UW schools do not have financial literacy programs for students.

“College students do not realize how their financial choices now will affect them in the future,” Gutche said. “This program allows trained students to help other students with any financial questions and problems they might have now so that it is less of an issue in the future.”

This free program will give every student the opportunity to learn how to become financially stable.

“It is a different relationship when a knowledgeable student mentors another student,” said Lynn Ludwig, professor of English. “It allows the two students to create a long-term trusting relationship that will benefit them more in the long run than if they were to be mentored by an adult.”

The program is now accepting student volunteers to be trained as UW financial mentors. The first day of training is Sept. 26. For more information about this program, students can contact Travis Gutche at Travis.L.Gutche@uwsp.edu.
Continued from page 1

It is commonly known as the "day of reunion." To celebrate, the Chinese eat moon cakes and sing, while admiring the full moon.

The moon is viewed as a sign of prosperity, family and peace. The moon is at its fullest and most luminous during the eighth lunar month, according to China Highlights.

"The Chinese really value family reunion and that is the main point of the festival," Liao said. "We want to share this type of cultural experience with other students and show how important it is to come together and celebrate family."

There are multiple legends surrounding the origin of the Moon Festival, but one is considerably more popular than the rest.

"It is said that a beautiful woman, Cheng E, drank an elixir that flew her to the sky, and it is there that she stayed, resting on the moon," Liao said. "The only thing she brought with her was a stray rabbit. That is why the image of a rabbit is often associated with the celebration."

The Moon Festival is the second most important celebration after the Spring Festival to the Chinese. Every year the festival falls on the fifteenth of the eighth lunar month on the traditional Chinese calendar.

This Week's Coffee and Culture Squashes Diversity Myths

CAROLINE CHALK
REPORTER
ccchal45@uwsp.edu

Students filed into the Legacy Room of the Dreyfus University Center on Sept. 9 for free coffee and the chance to listen to Ron Strege, director of diversity and college access, at the first Coffee and Culture event of the semester.

Ron Strege captivated students by informing them of common misconceptions about diversity. Strege discussed the myth of "them" versus "us." He explained that some people do not realize at one point or another, everyone has been considered "them."

Strege asked audience members to name words that describe the people who are classified as "them." The audience came up with a long list. At the end of this activity, he asked if there was at least one word on the list that described audience members.

Hands went up all over the room. Some students enjoyed discussing diversity over coffee in a relaxed environment.

"I enjoyed Strege’s enthusiasm for the subject and how open-minded he is," said Victoria Nellessen, a junior wildlife ecology major. She also enjoyed hearing what Strege had to say concerning the concept of "them."

"I agreed with what he had to say about personal identity and how everyone is ‘them,’" Nellessen said. "‘Them’ is us.”

Throughout Strege’s presentation, the audience interacted with each other. For one activity, everyone was told to talk to at least 10 people in the room and discuss one similarity and difference they had. This activity helped everyone realize it is not hard to find at least one thing in common with a stranger.

Cassie Silvernale, a junior political science and international studies major, attended Strege’s presentation because of her interest in diversity.

"I think Strege did a good job at presenting the issues clearly instead of dancing around them," Silvernale said.

She also said Strege remained organized throughout his presentation when discussing each diversity myth.

Strege is optimistic about the way students and faculty view and treat each other on campus.

"I am a firm believer that racists are the minority on campus," Strege said. "I believe that there is a core group of faculty and students who want to make this a better place."
**Rugby Team Plans to Use Strength in Numbers**

REBECCA VOSTERS
REPORTER
rvost360@uwsp.edu

"I’m excited to make them into the rugby players, and I know they can,” said Sven Casper. "The Black Knights are working on improving upon the recent accomplishments they have been making in their games."

We welcome all kinds and all sizes. We’ll take you, and we’ll make you into a rugger.

— Sven Casper, vice president

"Everything can always been improved on," said Brady Dallman, the senior treasurer and inside center. "We’re working on getting a faster flow in the back line to draw the defense in."

"All of the teams will be tough," Casper said. "We just have to play every team like we’re the underdogs."

"Come out and support us," Dallman said. "We play at home at 3 p.m. on Sept. 20 and 6 p.m. on September 26."

**Intramurals is Something for Everyone**

REBECCA VOSTERS
REPORTER
rvost360@uwsp.edu

The intramural office strives to involve as many students as possible by offering a variety of games and sports.

"We like to make sure there are alternatives available to traditional sports like curling or bocce ball," said Ed Richman coordinator of campus activities and recreation. "We try to offer something for everyone."

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Intramurals provides students with multiple leagues of almost every possible sport from volleyball to ultimate frisbee at both a Division I and Division II level.

"D1 is pretty much all about the competition and T-shirt and D2 is more of a rec league, it’s relaxed," said senior intramural student manager Stephanie Mohrmann.

Division I participants play for five weeks before tournament play begins and the champions receive T-shirts. At the Division II level, participants play for six straight weeks and during the sixth week teams are matched up by their records. However, there is no prize for the champions at this level.

"The two separate divisions allow everyone to play at the level they choose," said Mohrmann. "This way there is not one team that destroys everyone or anything." Men’s basketball, co-ed volleyball, soccer, and spring softball are among the most popular sports.

"I play volleyball," said Kelcie Hooyman, a junior ecosystem science major. "My favorite part about intramurals is meeting new people and just getting out of the apartment and taking a break from school work."

Interest in the spring softball league has grown in the past few years as well.

"We had 36 teams sign up so we had a full league," said Mohrmann. "Spring has been tough for weather recently though. The depth of the softball fields made drainage tough and we ended up talking to the teams about hosting a big tournament near the end of the year with 18 of them."

Last year’s harsh winter took a toll on spring sports and fall sports can also take a beating if winter arrives too early.

"Whatever we do in the fall, we have to live with in the spring," said Mohrmann.

This can make decisions difficult, especially when they want to let the leagues play.

"It’s not always up to us," Mohrmann said. "We wait for the call that tells us whether or not we can go and tell our teams from there."

There are a few sports that have not been offered recently due to lack of interest.

"Women’s basketball numbers are unbelievably low," Mohrmann said. "Women’s sports in general have really been down. We’re not sure what the cause of the lull is, but women’s volleyball, for example, we haven’t had a league in a year and a half."

Aside from all the leagues and activities offered, there are also a few one-day tournaments and events hosted by intramurals.

On Oct. 4 there will be golf tournament open to students and non students. Other tournaments included are 3-on-3 basketball tournament, a battleship tournament, a log rolling event, and a Top Dawg event.

"We also have a welcome week event where people can sign up in teams of four and go from station to station on the intramural fields trying out the different sports offered," said Mohrmann.

Intramurals are also offering a new league this block. Backyard games made its debut this year, giving students the opportunity to play five different games throughout the league.

Every week we’re playing a different game,” said Mohrmann. "There will be bocce, ladder golf, koo, spike ball and birdie golf."

Some frequently asked questions are whether or not girls can play men’s basketball and flag football. The answers are mixed.

"I haven’t really looked into any other sports besides volleyball so I’m not sure all of the sports that are available," Hooyman said. "I’ve always wanted to play football though."

Sign-up for backyard games is extended through Sept. 20 for anyone who is still interested in playing.

If a group misses sign-ups for any sport, they can go to the captain’s meeting. If there is space left in the league, the team is interested in playing they will get the team situated to play.

"Free agents can come to the meetings too," Mohrmann said. "There’s always somebody who needs somebody. We can match you up with a team that needs someone."

Free agents can log into IMSports, the website where all intramural signups are conducted, and ask to join a team that is low on players.

Block one play is starting now and signups for block two start Oct. 6 and run through Oct. 22. The block two captain’s meeting is Oct. 23.

"If you missed block one, come out and join us for block two," said Mohrmann.

"If you missed block one, come out and join us for block two," said Mohrmann.
MARTY KAUFFMAN
SPORTS EDITOR
mkauf036@uwsp.edu

After bouncing back in 2013, the Pointers football team looks poised for a good run in 2014.

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team finished 5-5 last season after a tough 2-8 season in 2012. This year, UWSP opened the season with a 42-31 comeback win over Albion Sept. 6.

Head coach Tom Journell is encouraged by the team’s performance last season.

"Every year is a different season," Journell said. "This year started off good beating a good Albion team. Last year we made strides, and with a great recruiting class our program continues to grow."

Journell believes three things will lead the team to success: consistency, stability, and continuity. Journell believes following the same process keeps the team prepared to succeed on game days.

"As long as you execute the process, things hand themselves one at a time and you find yourself winning the game," Journell said. He likes to keep things simple and not change much for the players.

"This is what we do. Not going to change our plays or do tricks," Journell said. "We are going to practice it a thousand times and the investment of time, practice and film study is there’s no surprises on game day."

Staying with the process helped UWSP overcome an early 10-0 deficit at home. Senior Evan Butts said the team was not fazed by the deficit.

"We didn't let it bother us being down early," Butts said. "We put the early plays in our past, moved onto the next with an even better attitude, we believed in ourselves to win and believed in our system."

Journell said the team will always have adversities, but with good preparation the team will overcome them.

"The way we focus on adversity is not everything's going to go our way. As long as the process works, most will go our way which is what we as coaches need to prepare our players," Journell said. "It allows you to play loose with supreme confidence."

After their first game, the Pointers had a bye week that gave the team an opportunity to go back and work on fundamentals.

"That’s a great advantage to go back to training camp and not worry about an opponent," Journell said. "A bye week allows us to build on the process of what we do, focusing on ourselves and not an opponent like we do on a game week."

The opponents are not easy and that is what the Pointers like. In non-conference play, the Pointers play three playoff caliber teams before conference play. Every game is important according to Journell, but the team’s goal is to win the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship.

The difficult non-conference schedule helps prepare the Pointers for the tough conference games.

"Playing playoff teams prepare us," Journell said. "Our conference is the SEC of Division III and whoever wins our league is going deep in the playoffs."

UW-Whitewater is the defending national champion who UWSP plays Nov. 8 in Whitewater. Even with the national champions in their conference, UWSP believes they can play against any opponent.

"We feel we can compete with anybody in the nation and feel we’ve demonstrated that," Journell said. Butts says there is never a thought of losing among the team.

"We simply expect to win," Butts said. "We want to be 1-0 on every rep, series, and game. We come out and play every game the same way. I believe no matter what our record is this year and who we play, we will be a confident team."
Casey's Orchard and Stevens Point Co-Op Contribute to Sustainable Farming

For 46 years, Marcia and Casey Janowski have been running the show at Casey's Orchard in Floral. This six-and-a-half acre plot holds over 26 varieties of apples, all of which Casey Janowski, now in his 70's, can tell apart.

"The shape, color, size, it's all different," Casey Janowski said.

"Casey can even tell the apple plants apart in the winter," Marcia said.

"I don't mind the cold. It puts people in the mood to buy apples, it's baking season," Casey said.

In addition to growing apples, Casey's Orchard collaborates on a local and state level. Other local options include squash, pumpkins, cider, zucchini, honey from Amherst and jam from the Eau Claire area.

Their children: help out occasionally, but it is mostly up to the Janowskis to plant, maintain, harvest, and sell everything on the farm. Casey Janowski is no stranger to hard work. He spent a number of years working full-time at a body shop, and later Sentry, while keeping up the orchard.

Casey included his thoughts about the changing economy.

"Back then we used to do wholesale," Casey said. "Now there's Walmart, Copps. It's all corporate run."

Casey is optimistic about sales and, despite the changing economic landscape, they are still having success.

"It's good stuff, so they come back for more," Casey said.

A key facet of the orchard was how it collaborates with other farms. The Stevens Point co-op was no different.

The co-op is a member-owned, community-based, and environmentally friendly place to buy food and products while keeping in mind the entire supply chain. The Stevens Point co-op was founded 42 years ago and is solar powered. They also partner in-store with Earthcrust Bakery, another organically inclined business from the area.

"Our key word is cooperation. We try to work with local farmers," said Jenny Bellmer, the promotions director at the co-op.

"It's important that we are treating farmers decently with wages, and their rights," Bellmer said. "We care about how their employees are treated."

Bellmer started as a cashier and loved the way the co-op operated, so she continued the trend. The co-op now offers a number of interesting promotions, including 'take a bag—leave a bag.' If a shopping bag is forgotten, rather than wasting a plastic one, a complimentary bag can be taken off of the wall. Generally, the bag makes its way back on that person's next shopping trip.

A trip to Casey's Orchard and the co-op only scratches the surface of local farming and sustainability initiatives in the Stevens Point area. The Farmshed Atlas of Central Wisconsin lists over 100 businesses that have taken a pledge that ensures those businesses are family or cooperatively owned, use zero or reduced pesticides, treat animals with care and respect, sell Wisconsin products, and provide safe and fair working conditions.
Students, Community Members Talk ‘Disruption,’ Latest Climate Change Documentary

EMILY SHOWERS
POintLIFE EDITOR
eshow592@uwsp.edu

Fraternities and sororities commonly have negative stigmas, such as partying, being nuisances and not caring about academics. After speaking with some Greeks, they shared their thoughts on the stereotypes.

"We do a lot in the community that goes unnoticed," said Natasha Powell, the president of the Inter-Greek Council.

Isaac Lepinski, the Hypophetes of Tau Kappa Epsilon, said when people on campus think of Greek life they remember the TKE drug raid in March. This reconfirmed the stereotype that people already held from content they saw in the media.

Lepinski addressed what representations of Greek Life media outlets present.

"It’s a very skewed perception of Greek life," Lepinski said. "One of our members managed to get 1,300 Service hours last year because he looks at philanthropy like it’s a full-time job.

Joshua Philon, the president of Sigma Tau Gamma, said it is fair that people have these negative perceptions of Greek life because of what they are fed through media. However, Philon added that people need to keep an open mind about other’s differences or they will not get far in life.

"It’s rough because we’re looked at as a cult," Philon said. "What I would like to challenge my fraternity and others to do is to go out and show them what you really do."

STG volunteers at the Boys and Girls Club Teen Center every Friday to create role models adolescents can look up to. They also aid in the Special Olympics that are held in Stevens Point every summer.

The Greeks on campus raise the bar to demonstrate what they truly stand for.

Lepinski said after the drug raid, he developed good relationships with the Dean of Students Shawn Wilson and the Greek Life Coordinator Liz Gillmore to improve his fraternity.

"The university forced us to raise our standards which I’m okay with because it makes us better as individuals if we can get through this," Lepinski said.

Despite what is presented in the media, many people are not able to witness the inner workings of the relationships among the brothers or sisters in a fraternity or sorority. Powell said individuals involved in Greek life develop strong bonds with one another.

"I’ve been through a lot of hard times in college that most people didn’t go through until they’re older," Powell said. "Just having that connection and being able to talk about it helps so much."

Philon explained that the words STG adheres to are manhood, brotherhood and community. He said when he joined STG the first aspect he noticed was the whole fraternity was willing to help him out with anything he needed.

At one point, Philon had to have surgery on his tailbone. His appointment was at 2 a.m. A brother in his fraternity was instantly willing to drive him to and from the operation.

Philon said that within STG the brothers come from a variety of backgrounds and have their disagreements, but they still care and look out for each other.

"Regardless of if you clash with another, you’re getting respect at the end of the day," Philon said.

The campus Greeks are a misunderstood group on campus. Though they have to work against a negative stereotype, they continue to stand and act as a family for the good they do for the community and for each other.
Conquering My Fear of Worms

EMILY SHOWERS
POINT LIFE EDITOR
eshows592@uwsp.edu

Everyone has their little quirks. Mine was that I became extremely uncomfortable around worms or the mention of them, especially maggots. Even writing the word makes me cringe a bit. I have always wanted to be like Williams’ characters I grew up watching. I always wanted to be the person he seemed to be in real life. I want to be that friend who tries to make you smile, even at my own expense, to be the spouse and parent who would go through anything imaginable for their family, and to even one day be a professor who could inspire students to do things they never thought they were capable of. I have always wanted to be someone who, like Williams, made people happy.

But how could I become that person when Williams, a role model of mine, took his life? When someone who brought so much happiness to the world was never able to find enough of his own? I thought about that for a long time after his death. I thought about the pain he must have felt in his final hours and the depression and addiction he battled for years.

I got around to watching some of Williams’ movies again, and about halfway through “Hook,” I finally realized that by dwelling on his painful end, I was taking something from his life, something that was his own burden to carry. His pain had nothing to do with me or with anyone else. I do not think he would want his suffering to be shared.

Williams chose to share laughter, love and inspiration. Those are the things that should define him. In “Hook” he needed a happy thought in order to fly. A happy thought is what he is to me, to a whole generation of “90’s kids,” and hopefully what he will be for future generations.

Williams and any other beloved person who has committed suicide should not be summed up by the pain they felt before their death, but by great things they chose to share during their life. Let them be what they so often struggled to have and give those who are still with us, what they so rightly deserve.

Happy thoughts.
Students Suggest Cheap, Fun Date Ideas

MINA WELTON
REPORTER
awelton60@uwsp.edu

Dating is a fun part of many college students’ social lives, and the university is the place to meet potential partners. However, dating can be costly, so coming up with cheap, fun date ideas is crucial for students.

Freshman Paige Roy suggests a walk through Schmeeckle Reserve and having a picnic by the lake. “This does not cost anything, and you can just enjoy being with the other person,” Roy said. “It’s different from a typical date, and it’s not what people usually choose to do, so it can spice up your relationship.”

People will get to know one of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point’s top attractions while trying to maintain a level of privacy. Freshman Thor Becker suggests cooking dinner together. “You can get to know the person better without the awkwardness or expense of going to a fancy restaurant,” Becker said. “You can choose where and what you want to cook and have a lot of fun doing it.”

Making dinner is a great way for students to expand their cooking skills, especially for newly independent students who may still be learning how to prepare meals on their own. Kitchens and cooking equipment are available for use in all residence halls. Whether a date is on campus, students have the opportunity to make their own meals together.

Students are resourceful when it comes to saving money, so coming up with a cheap but original date idea is not a difficult feat. Getting to know one another without the pressure of spending too much money helps relationships grow and be exciting at the university.

Students’ Support Needed to Back Issue on Pesticide Use

GRACE EBERT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
gbert174@uwsp.edu

A commitment to sustainability is evident at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Sustainability is mentioned in our mission statement and is a trait for which we have been recognized as a top “environmental school” by organizations as varied as The Princeton Review and College Prowler.

These initiatives and achievements provide the foundation for UWSP to achieve greater sustainability. To maintain a well-manicured campus, UWSP permits pesticide use on landscaped areas. Aesthetics are important, especially in an age of declining enrollments and greater competition for new students. It is also important to understand that use of pesticides diminishes the claim of a sustainable university.

The issue runs deeper than aesthetics, however. Pesticide use is also linked directly with cancer development and affects developing people under age 25 most intensely. In addition to the obvious population of students, there are two daycare facilities on campus, as well as pregnant women and women who will

According to Chris Brindley, building and grounds superintendent, UWSP uses only three herbicides — Roundup, Trimec, and Snapshot — for weed control around campus. None of these products have been proven to cause cancer, although the potential effects of Trimec and Snapshot are still relatively unknown.

Although UWSP has cut pesticide use considerably, it is crucial to assess pesticide use as a whole. Despite evident issues with pesticide use, a solution to the problem is far off. Conflicting needs don’t help; the desire for an aesthetically pleasing landscape outweighs the desire for an aesthetically pleasing landscape.

As for aesthetics, areas could be properly labeled to explain why specific plants were there. These areas could also be used for educational purposes and studied in multiple classes.

The value of these otherwise unutilized, solely visual places would be considerably improved. The elimination of pesticide use completely will be a greater task. According to Brindley, pesticides help avoid life-threatening situations on campus. Because of allergies, wasp nests must be removed, and the most efficient method uses insecticides.

Such needed changes, however, will only become a reality if backed with student support, especially from those directly involved in environmental organizations. Collaborating and taking the issue to SGA seems to be the most promising course of action.

Many faculty and staff members have been fighting for this change, but without student support, the problem of pesticide use will continue to endanger those on campus and to challenge claims of UWSP being a sustainable university.
AR TS & ENTERTAINMENT

‘Liv and Maddie’ Executive Producers Talk Celebrating Wisconsin, Season 2 Premiere

JULIA FLAHERTY
A&E EDITOR
jflahO17@uwsp.edu

September 18, 2014

“A&E EDITOR
JULIA FLAHERTY
jflahO17@uwsp.edu

September 18, 2014

‘Liv and Maddie,’ popular tween series set in Stevens Point, premieres its second season on The Disney Channel Sept. 21 with a celebration of Wisconsin.

“The season premiere is a special tribute to Wisconsin,” Hart said.

“Liv and Maddie” focuses on two twin sisters, Liv, a Hollywood star and Maddie, a hometown basketball player. Actress Dove Cameron plays both sisters and received the 2014 Teen Choice Award for Choice TV: Breakout Star Female for her role.

“Making 1 girl into 2 girls is a complicated thing, but Andy has designed a system so those are the easy things for us to do,” Hart said.

“We have 2 very talented actors that make this magic happen.”

“They’re the blonde-tourage,” Fickman said.

Hart, who is friends with some Stevens Point residents on Facebook, said his news feed might have played a role in determining Maddie’s development.

“I noticed on Facebook, one of the girls I went to high school with now lives in Stevens Point,” Hart said. “Her daughter was an athlete and struggling while enjoying their cancer support group and fall in love.

“During the Season 2 premiere Sunday, Liv faces the possibility of either breaking a promise to her sister or to her “Space Werewolves”

producers.

The three executive producers go over the top with the Wisconsin grand marshal, a sausage toss and cheese roll.

In addition to the festival, Hart said the show’s weatherman sums up a good Midwest attitude which is less cynical and more optimistic.

“He’s one of our favorite characters,” Beck said. “He’s one of the most positive people on the face of the planet and just loves Stevens Point.”

Stevens Point is not the only Wisconsin-based town show producers love.

“The Badgers have a lot of swag; that’s a big deal for us,” Fickman said.

Those who watch the series will notice Badger products in the twin’s bedroom.

“One of the things about Disney is we kind of can’t be as specific with college names,” Hart said. “Our audience is younger, so I think that, for a little while, we’re going to keep them 16 for a couple of Christmases.”

“Our girls love Stevens Point,” Fickman said.

“They want to stay there,” Beck said.

To celebrate the launch of “Liv and Maddie” in 2013, executive producers were able to bring some Stevens Point-made love to their California set.

“I was able to get, for the writers, Point beer, so it was a rare thing to not just celebrate the kick-off a show set in Stevens Point, but to have delicious Point beer to do that,” Fickman said.

“My family is from Stevens Point, so one of the great joys that you ever get in Hollywood is when you get to do something that’s personal.”

Executive producers hope that the series kicks off to another successful start. They hope to keep Wisconsin families interested.

“We love all of the Wisconsin love that comes from the show,” Hart said.

“When the channel started talking about where to set the location, it was ‘let’s do something, different,’ here’s a place that currently wasn’t represented on television or on Disney Channel. When Wisconsin was mentioned we all jumped on it.

Of course, I had to jump on Stevens Point, WI,” Fickman said.

THE FAULT IN OUR STARS

‘The Fault in Our Stars’ Impress Students in Print and Film

ANNA WELTON
REPORTER
awelton@uwsp.edu

Since premiering as a major motion picture in June 2014, John Green’s novel, ‘The Fault in Our Stars,’ has become a topic of controversy for readers and viewers. The story begins when teens Gus and Hazel meet at a cancer support group and fall in love. Together, they share their triumphs and struggles while enjoying their “little infinity” while they still can.

Readers from around the world have fallen in love with Green’s young adult fiction novel and have shown massive support for the film. “The Fault in Our Stars” has not yet been released on DVD. On Sept. 10 and 12, Centertainment productions showed the film at the DePuy University Center.

“It was free with a student ID which was amazing,” said freshman Yessenia Santamaria. “To my surprise, I saw quite a number of guys there. The girl next to me was sobbing by the end.”

While Santamaria has only watched the film, but SPTV News Producer Emily Margeson is familiar with both the print and film versions.

“There weren’t really that many differences between the book and the film,” said Margeson. “They left out small things but they didn’t change how you would perceive the movie.”

While some readers have been critical of the film adaptation of “The Fault in Our Stars,” Margeson viewed the differences between film and novel in a different way.

“Reading a book is a different experience than watching a film,” said Margeson. “It can be hard for some people to read a book and watch a movie, but I’ve learned that you have to take them for what they are.”

Margeson was impressed by the actors. Ansel Elgort plays Gus, opposite Shailene Woodley as Hazel. Margeson was inspired by their ability to deliver strong emotions during intense scenes.

“What really stood out to me in the film was where Hazel reads Gus the eulogy she wrote for him,” Margeson said. “It was a beautiful, touching moment. When reading it, it wasn’t as sad and moving as it was when I was watching it on screen.”

While worldwide reviews of the translation of “The Fault in Our Stars” from print to film are mixed, it seems the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point students have developed their own consensus of what makes a powerful story, despite the medium. Whether a fan of the print or film version, “The Fault in Our Stars” is likely on its way to being considered one of the defining romances of this generation.
The Scarabocchio Art Museum in downtown Stevens Point is featuring the unique artwork of University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point graduate Nathan Brandner this month.

Brandner, an art major, graduated from the UWSP in 2012. Art was something Brandner had been passionate about throughout his young adult life, making the decision to pursue art as a career simple.

"I would like to get across a classical feel through my artwork," Brandner said. "I want to paint using the old world style."

Brandner’s artwork showcases two mediums, charcoal and oil. His charcoal drawings portray humans, some clothed and others naked.

“They are figurative pieces,” Brandner said. “They demonstrate the ability to represent the natural world.”

Upon graduating from UWSP, Brandner got in touch with the museum’s curator, Brian Borchardt.

"Brandner expressed interest in the old world style,” Borchardt said.

Brandner’s unique artistic style.

With open arms. We welcome students with open arms.

"I mainly use oil when it comes to painting as well," Acuna said.

"I think anyone interested in painting should try out every medium at least once,” Acuna said.

Acuna appreciates Brandner’s painting technique and style.

Brandner’s artwork featuring his signature style will be displayed until the end of the month at 800 Main St. in downtown Stevens Point. This makes the opportunity for student engagement easier and the chance for Brandner to have his artwork shown more exciting.