

Safety

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"Granted, I'm not trying to do the whole thing, so I guess it's different. Mostly I'd like to prove to myself that I'm able to do it. It will be lovely to be away from everything, in the wilderness, carrying everything I need on my back and fending for myself," she said.

Many students said an early introduction to hiking keeps them exploring trails as adults. Hampson hiked in high school with The American Adventure Service Corps, a youth outdoor program.

He trekked parts of the Appalachian Trail and the Sierra Nevada during breaks from school.

"With UNCA Outdoors, I typically lead kayaking, canoeing and climbing trips," he said. "I have led a few 'Night Hikes' and a backpack trip with our Wilderness Experience Program for incoming freshmen and transfer students."

Mills said hiking in the local mountains attracted her family to western North Carolina.

"My family used to go on hikes all the time. My sister calls the Blue Ridge Mountains 'daddy's mountains' because my dad liked going there so much," Mills said. "I've been on a bunch of trails since I've been in school here."

Hampson said there are many places to explore in the area besides the parkway.

"I would recommend the Art Loeb Trail up to Cold Mountain in Shining Rock Wilderness," Hampson said. "This trail would be good for a long day hike."

Lost hiker

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

posed to be, and it's not; it's five separate trails and they're all going in different directions."

Pfundstein came across an Adirondack shelter, a three-sided refuge, with bunk beds. Settling down for the night, she wrapped herself in jackets and her hammock.

"It was really funny looking; I looked like this huge brightly colored creature because of my hammock," the UNCA graduate said.

She started out again the next morning with a small amount of water and an apple to sustain her.

"Supposedly they started to search for me around eight o'clock that night and stopped around 3 a.m.," Pfundstein said.

Math

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

munity benefit in public math education, said the AIM director.

According to Kaplan, years ago Mission Hospital officials realized a growing need for more trained technicians. They worked with AB Tech to create the necessary college degrees, to generate local jobs for students.

As the first students entered the new classes, around half dropped out because of the math involved, Kaplan said; students entered college ill-equipped in math proficiency.

The hospital then joined with AIM to help improve student math skills.

The goal is to help Asheville high school graduates obtain those two-year AB Tech degrees, then go on to local hospital jobs, which can offer \$60,000 a year starting salaries, Kaplan said.

Last year, AIM received a \$900,000 North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Grant for kindergarten to 12th grade city and county math teacher's professional development.

AIM used the money to sponsor programs like Math Teacher Circles for elementary, middle and high school teachers. The course teaches them how to model problem-solving skills in their classrooms.

The grant also funds a two-day workshop for middle and high school teachers.

The teachers visit local businesses where the owners discuss math's importance in daily tasks.

"I was hiking on my last mile or two, and I saw this search helicopter that kept circling me."

When the Winston-Salem native got to her caution-taped car, a reporter stood waiting.

"The reporter was like, 'Who are you? Are you participating in the search?' And I said, 'No, I'm Lindsey. I think I'm the girl they're searching for.' Their mouths just dropped."

Pfundstein said she knew she was going to get out of the woods.

"My biggest concern was my family; I got emotional when I saw my parents," she said. "I think staying positive and calm allowed me to do it so quickly and not panic."

Politics

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

ternet) can become a great resource, but it can also hurt you if you are doing the things that you are not supposed to be doing because people can find out a lot quicker."

These new tools, combined with an open attitude, helped the Buncombe County Republican Party attract newer and younger members.

"We are reaching out to our young people to get them engaged and keep them engaged. We are seeing a changing of the guards as it relates to those that are in their 60s and 70s and trying to bring more people in that are from 18 to 45," Johnson said. "There is a sea of change that is happening in our nation, and that same change is being advocated here in Buncombe County to get more people engaged and make them feel successful."

The Republican Party always possessed this spirit of inclusion, but it often falls short of its fullest potential, according to Johnson. To address this on the local level, the Buncombe Republicans stress issues over partisan ideology.

"The words of conservative, liberal and moderate have become tainted and no one can't define them," Johnson said. "We're focusing on fiscal responsibility. We recognize the economy is tight and that we have got to be smart about how we utilize the dollars that are given to our legislators or that we as tax payers offer up to our legislators to use for the betterment of our society."

Apart from fiscal responsibility, Johnson wants to make sure the Republican Party looks after the best interests of the people.

"We believe that the government that governs best is the government that is closest to the people. "Over time, I think we have seen our party has not necessarily done its best to be a representative of the people. We have lost connectivity with the common man," Johnson said.

Local author and 2009 Asheville City Council candidate Cecil Bothwell, said he believes local politics gets forced out of the spotlight because much of it is mundane

Correction

In the Feb. 5 issue, *The Blue Banner* printed an incorrect attribute to a quote. "Currently, the university is developing an initiative encouraging faculty to submit grant proposals for the available funding," was said by John Pierce, vice chancellor of finances and operations, not by J. William Miller.



EL CHAPALA

THIRSTY THURSDAY! \$3 MARGARITAS
\$2 DOMESTIC BEERS
\$3.50 32 OZ DOS EQUIS
\$2.50 MEXICAN BEERS

868 Merrimon Ave ~ 828-215-8047



Peace Corps on campus

Find out how Peace Corps can jumpstart your career. Change lives and your own.

Tuesday, Feb. 17

Information Table
UNC - A Career Fair
Highsmith Union - Alumni Hall
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Information Session
Highsmith Union
Room 235
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

For more information, contact:
sbartfield@peacecorps.gov