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Community remembers the life of Bob Moog

By Kevin Schaeffer
STAFF WRITER

Robert Arthur Moog, electronic music pioneer and former research professor of music at UNCA, died August 21 at his home in Asheville. Moog, 71, had been diagnosed in April with glioblastoma, a multi-form brain cancer. Moog was most well known for developing the line of electronic musical instruments that share his name.

According to Wayne Kirby, professor of music and chair of the department of music at UNCA, Moog "changed the musical landscape forever. He created a whole new palette of sounds that never existed before and made them available to the average musician, as well as the accomplished composer."

Moog (whose name rhymes with rogue) was born in New York City on May 23, 1934. The son of an electrical engineer and a piano teacher, he built his first theremin at age 14, and began selling do-it-yourself theremin kits from his home in 1954.

In 1957, Moog earned bachelor's degrees in physics from Queens College and electrical engineering from Columbia University. In 1964, he introduced the Moog modular synthesizer to the convention of the Audio Engineering Society, laying the groundwork for a paradigmatic transformation in music.

Until 1968, electronic synthesizers were considered mere novelties by most people outside of the academic world of Vladimir Tassashevsky, Milton Babbitt and the Columbia-Princeton Electronic Music Center.

That year, Walter Carlos released the Grammy-winning album "Switched-on Bach," recorded entirely with Moog synthesizers. The album sold over a million copies and catapulted the Moog synthesizer from academic curiosity to popular music phenomenon. Soon, musical acts from the Beatles to David Bowie to Stevie Wonder were using Moog's instruments.

The Moog sound was a cornerstone of the progressive rock movement, including bands such as Yes, Emerson, Lake, and Palmer, and Pink Floyd, and continues to appear in contemporary music from artists like Beck, Nine Inch Nails and Phish.

Moog introduced the Minimoog Model D in 1971, in response to customer requests for a synthesizer that could be easily transported to concerts and recording sessions. The Minimoog went on to be the best-selling monophonic synthesizer of the 1970s.

"Because they were portable and so affordable, lots of people could experiment and a lot of those people went on to become very influential, well-known musicians," Kirby said.

"As a result, those people were able to disseminate their music and the Moog sound. Every period of music since 'Switched-on Bach' has used his equipment or instruments derived from his technology."

"That's because of Bob Moog," Kirby brought Moog to the UNCA Music department in 1989, where he served as a research professor of music until 1992.

"He had moved down here (to Asheville) in 78 and I hooked back up with him in 83 when I moved here. We've been really, really close friends and done a lot of

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The Grove still tying up loose ends

Students say complex has many issues to resolve

By Rebecca Taylor
STAFF WRITER

The Grove apartments have some unfinished business to take care of before residents are satisfied with their new home.

The Grove is located on Bulldog Drive, across from UNCA. The new complex is an off-campus community designed for student living. The Grove features a two-story clubhouse, high-speed Internet access and on-site maintenance.

"There are problems that should have been dealt with before we moved in, but they weren't," said Laura Deepprose, a junior student.

Two major inconveniences include construction and machinery because students have to dodge the equipment when they drive through the parking lot, according to one resident.

"With all of the construction going on, it just gets aggravating trying to get around all of the machinery," said Ashley Knapp, an undeclared junior. "I almost think they rushed to get everything together so people could start moving in, and it probably would have been a lot nicer if they could have already had everything finished."

Parking is also a concern for students. According to Knapp, there is a shortage of parking and visitor parking is too far away from the apartment buildings.

"There is not a lot of parking," Knapp said. "Visitor parking is all the way on the other end of the parking lot. Nobody is going to



CHRIS BUBENIK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Anna Stokke, senior art student, and Fleming Talton III, freshman art student, above, survey a full dumpster located in the parking lot of The Grove apartments where they reside. Below, two signs seen on Zillicoa Street, which runs in front of The Grove, advertise amenities that are not currently available to residents.

park down there when all of the buildings are on the other end."

Another issue for residents to deal with is the absence of Internet access. Internet availability might not seem like a big deal to some people, but according to one student living at The Grove it is a concern.

"I think that the major problem is the Internet," Deepprose said. "We didn't get access until almost two weeks after we moved in. They didn't even know that it wasn't working. It took a lot of time and frustration."

There have been hold ups involving the Internet, cable, water, and a delay on finishing the clubhouse. The Grove is aware that there have been some prob-

lems since the new residents moved in. In order to compensate for any inconveniences that students have endured, The Grove is taking \$50 off of each resident's rent for September.

"We expected something," Deepprose said. "I knew that if we had not gotten something there would have been a lot of complaints."

According to one resident, the Grove staff are doing a good job dealing with the mishaps.

"I've talked to the general manager a couple of times, and she has been great," said Dusty Hicks, a sophomore history student. "The maintenance people have also been so helpful."

It has been almost a month since



students made The Grove their new home. Even though there are still some kinks to work out, The Grove is a pretty good value according to Hicks.

"A three-bedroom apartment is \$495 a month per student," Hicks said. "Everything in the apartment is included in the rent. You get a microwave, refrigerator, oven, dishwasher, and your own washer

and dryer. Compared to other things that I've checked out, it's a really good deal."

Residency at The Grove is made up of students, and that makes it easier to meet other people that go to UNCA, according to Knapp.

"I like that it's an easy place to meet students," Knapp said. "You can just walk out of your apartment and find something to do."

Katrina relief in the works

By Allie Haake
STAFF WRITER

Several UNCA student organizations are planning benefits to raise money for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

With maximum sustained winds of 150 mph, Hurricane Katrina brought devastating destruction and loss to Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

"If we can have more people come and give a little bit, that little bit will make a whole," said Underdog Productions (UP) Committee Chair Jay Nadolny.

UP is coordinating an event with the Student Government Association (SGA) for September 21, but the specifics are not yet confirmed, according to Nadolny.

"I want to do a New Orleans-style casino night, but we're still working out the legal issues with the company who is donating the goods," Nadolny said. "Either way, we will definitely have good food and music."

Nadolny said although she is not completely sure of the specifics, she wants 100 percent of the proceeds to go towards helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

"We haven't decided on the charity we're donating to yet," Nadolny said. "I'm sort of leaning towards the Salvation Army, because I know what they're all about."

Students want to help because they realize how difficult it is to recover after a disaster like this, according to Nadolny.

"They genuinely feel bad to see other people go through something like this," Nadolny said. "It could have been our families and loved ones."

SGA President Tarik Glenn wants to work with UP to bring all of the organizations together for one event.

"The Student Government Association is going to help with the labor, calling outside sources and things of that nature," Glenn said. "It will probably make it easier for students to donate because they will know that all of the organizations are working together."

SGA wants to provide the basic, essential items to the victims of Hurricane Katrina, according to Glenn.

"We want to get the people back up on their feet," Glenn said. "Giving someone food or money doesn't mean they will have a home, but it will give them the time and energy to start worrying about other things."

Nadolny said students do not realize how much they can help.

"I understand that students generally don't have money, but if you have fifty cents on your dresser it's more than a lot of people have that were hit by the hurricane," Nadolny said.

Everyone is welcome to attend the event, including residents, commuters and the entire Asheville community.

"When people come to the event, we will just ask for donations," Nadolny said. "We're not demanding a certain amount of money or an entrance fee, just whatever people can afford to give."

Many students feel that they do not have enough money to donate anything at all, according to Nadolny.

"So many people think 'All I can give is a quarter,'" Nadolny said. "Well, if fifty people give a quarter, it can end up being a lot of money."

UNCA Red Cross Representative Amber Chapman said that it is more important than ever for students to give blood.

"We have received several urgent emails from Red Cross headquarters about the importance of giving blood right now," Chapman said. "With the expected outbreak of diseases, along with the injuries of those stranded, there will be a continuous need for blood in the Gulf Coast."

UNCA Red Cross Representative Bridget Robinson said that she expects to see a good turnout at the upcoming blood drive on Sept. 21.

"Normally we don't get responses until the week before the blood drive, but I've already received emails from students who want to volunteer," Robinson said. "I'm hoping that we will have double our staff for the blood drive this year."

Chapman said although the need for blood donations is always there, Hurricane Katrina has created a national blood shortage.

"All of the blood levels (in Buncombe County) are on a critical level, which means that there's less than half a day's blood left of that type," Chapman said.

No flood insurance boom despite 2004 hurricane problems

By Paige Reinhard
STAFF WRITER

Asheville has not seen a noticeable rise in the number of people buying flood insurance despite last year's floods and the damage done by Hurricane Katrina.

"There are a lot of people who were flooded last year that did not have it then and still do not have it, even though they lost quite a bit of money," said David Cameron, senior agent at Highlander Insurance Services here in Asheville.

According to Cameron, even in a floodplain like Asheville, flood insurance is not very popular.

"A lot of people opt not to get it. About the only time you ever see people get it is if they have a loan and someone makes them," said Cameron.

According to Cameron, many people dislike spending money on something they are not sure if they will need.

"There is a certain amount of denial that is natural to a human being," Cameron said. "We tend to bury things, put them in the back of our minds."

Flooding was brought to the forefront of the minds of many Americans this past week with the destruction of New Orleans due to Hurricane Katrina.

"I think this is the worst event we have ever seen in terms of a flood event," Cameron said.

But despite Hurricane Katrina and all of the flooding problems of

last year, insurance companies are not bringing in more money than usual.

And, according to Cameron, even if there were a rush of people hoping to buy flood insurance or up their existing policy, the insurance companies themselves would not profit.

"The National Flood Insurance Program is a federal program and, while insurance companies write flood insurance, there is no actual insurance company that is behind it," Cameron said. "It is actually the government of the U.S. that underwrites it."

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Congress instituted the NFIP in 1986 in order to reduce future flooding damage by utilizing floodplain management and provide people with flood insurance.

The National Flood Insurance Program makes flood insurance available to communities, which agree to adhere to their guidelines concerning developments in floodplains.

The NFIP has also set a time limit for how soon a person can buy flood insurance.

"We get a lot of calls when there is a storm coming. People will want it right then," Cameron said. "I think that is one reason why the flood people, the National Flood Insurance Program, does not allow you to buy in coverage for 30 days."