

News

New art school a place to realize dreams

By Lauren Taylor
Pilot editor in chief

Having renovated the building formerly known as "Maw's Place" on College Avenue, Jennifer Farrington is teaching everything from sketching to throwing pottery—a dream she's had for years.

"I've wanted this building since I was 18 years old...[it] was put in my hands," she said.

Farrington, a May 2008 Limestone College graduate and long-time resident of Boiling Springs, wanted to open a school where anybody, regardless of prior experience, would be served. Thus, she created MoonTown Art School & Gallery.

Her approach is different from most art schools, she said. For the first year, she's not having classes catering to one specific art form.

Farrington starts where the students are, listening to their goals and teaching them from there. That way, she believes beginners will be less likely to get overwhelmed.

"If a student says, 'I want to work with clay,' we'll start from there," she said.

"Art is expression, and if you feel like you are encompassed by a particular medium, you don't feel the freedom of doing what it is you want to accomplish."

Even though each person receives individual attention, students will be in group sessions. There are eight spaces for students in each class.

Farrington, 32, said everything fell into place for starting MoonTown.

The building's owners had turned down many people before

Farrington inquired about it. Her husband and father are builders and made repairs to the structure, which was built in the 1940s.

It used to be G.T. McSwain's Grocery and Filling Station, according to Farrington, and former patrons have been dropping by to see what she's done with the place.

She has several students ranging in age from 5 to senior adult. The cost is \$30 for registration and \$50 per month for two-hour-a-week sessions. Private lessons are \$20 per hour.

Farrington's goal is to teach her pupils that they already have what it takes to be artists.

"Anyone can express themselves through art and learn to create. There's no wrong way to paint; there's no wrong way to draw."



Photo by Kaylee Potter

Jennifer Farrington gestures as she works with students at her MoonTown Art School.

Octoberfest fun for area kids, GWU students

By Diana Palka
Pilot staff writer

The temperature's falling and so are the leaves at Gardner-Webb. Fall is in full swing, and with that come the festivities and projects celebrating Halloween.

As usual, Gardner-Webb will host Octoberfest, an annual collaboration of Gardner-Webb students wanting to give back to the Cleveland County community. The event will begin at 6 p.m. on Oct. 30 in the LYCC.

Beth Long, SGA secretary, said, "It's an event for community families to come out and interact with the Gardner-Webb student body."

The idea works both ways, in that Octoberfest is a prime opportunity for students to get involved with the community that offers much support to the university.

Additionally, Octoberfest is a way for students to get involved with all that Gardner-Webb has to offer.

"Clubs and organizations are encouraged to set

up booths and to give out candy. Most booths have a cute little game or activity organized," Long said.

While Octoberfest is a great place for GWU students to have fun and socialize, the ultimate goal is to serve the community.

Long summed it up in saying that Octoberfest is about "providing a safe Halloween alternative for area kids."

This year Octoberfest will include a service learning project called the Enchanted Forest. Dr. Lisarenee English is in charge of this project and has been working diligently towards its success.

"It's actually an activity I participated in at the college I worked at before coming here," said English.

She worked at Indiana's Goshen College prior to accepting a job here at GWU. There, the project was done through the Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center.

English described the Enchanted Forest as a service learning project designed to not only provide

GWU students with a way to serve their immediate community, but to educate children ages 2-12 about our environment and its protection.

At Octoberfest, participating children will have the opportunity to take a hayride down to Broyhill Adventure course where a seven University 111 classes will be facilitating the Enchanted Forest.

Several students dressed in elaborate animal costumes will be scattered around a wooded loop every 75-100 feet.

The students have educated themselves on the life history of their particular animal, and will be acting as the animal would in its natural habitat.

The children will have the opportunity to ask their tour guide, as well as the animal, questions about nature.

The Enchanted Forest at Octoberfest is only a sneak peek of what the entire project seeks to be.

The actual Enchanted Forest event will take place Nov. 7-8 from 7-9 p.m. at the Broad River Greenway.

TA journeyed to GWU via Germany & Greensboro

By Molly Phipps
Pilot staff writer

The Foreign Language Department at Gardner-Webb University employs teaching assistants to help professors with their classes, and to help students achieve oral and written proficiency.

The Pilot plans a series of short profile on the TAs, so that readers can learn who they are, where they came from, and why they're here.

Annika Slade, the German teaching assistant, grew up mostly in America, but was born in Schwabebisch-Gmuend, Germany.

Now 20, she moved to America when she was 4 years old. Most of that time, she has lived in Greensboro.

Because her mother is German, that was her Slade's first language. English came later and wasn't too hard to learn, she said. She and her mother still speak German to each other.



Photo by Jessica Jones

Annika Slade

Slade said she wants to visit Germany in the near future, because she hasn't been back to her native land since she was in middle school.

She is a junior, majoring in communications. Slade said she chose Gardner-Webb because it is a small university and because of the people.

"The friendliness of the people I came in contact with when I visited really drew me in."

This is her second year as a German teaching assistant; the job is part of her work study.

Student finds blog a way to share Gospel

By Natalie Nielson
The Daily Universe
Brigham Young U.

Jenna Bates, a student at Brigham Young University-Idaho, made a blog to keep family and friends updated on her life. She keeps up with it although she never thought that an Apostle of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints would tell everyone to get a blog.

"I feel like it is a great way to write down your feelings and share with others what you want them to see," Bates said. "I think everyone should have a blog. It's a great way to keep up with everyone."

There are more than 112 million blogs online according to blogherald.com, and that number only includes blogs written in English.

Bates talks about the LDS Church in her blog, although she said she doesn't do it directly. She often talks about experiences involving the church and her testimony of the church.

Not many people comment on her blog about the church, but she knows that writing experiences about the church can help spread the Gospel.

"Hopefully people can learn about the church from my blog," Bates said.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints saw the impact that blogs can have and decided to encourage members to blog about their experiences in the church.

Study links alcohol intake with brain shrinkage

By Elaine Hala
The California Aggie
UC-Davis

You might want to consider your brain before knocking back another drink, and not just for fear of a hangover.

According to a study by researchers at the University of California-Davis, Wellesley College and Boston University, the more alcohol people consume, the more their brain volume decreases.

The implications of this preliminary study are far from clear, but any loss in brain tissue may

predispose people to cognitive impairment later in life, said study co-author Charles DeCarli, a professor in the department of neurology at UC-Davis.

Prior studies have suggested that moderate drinking - eight to 14 drinks a week - lowers the risk of cardiovascular disease, dementia and Alzheimer's disease. This led to speculation that small amounts of alcohol may also protect against normal age-related brain shrinkage. However, the new study has shown that all levels of consumption are associated with measurable losses in brain volume.

"This finding is clearly at odds with the long and widely held belief that what is good for your heart is good for your brain," said Beth Ober in an e-mail interview, a professor of human development at UC-Davis who was not involved in the study.

The two-year study included 1,839 healthy adults, aged 33 to 88 years, with an average age of 60. During a health examination, participants reported the number of alcoholic drinks they consumed per week and underwent magnetic resonance imaging of the brain.

"Brain imaging is a biological

marker of brain disease that is more subtle than either the presence or absence of dementia," DeCarli said. "This [study] looks at how the brain changes with age and alcohol use before any symptoms are present."

On average, individuals who drank more than moderate amounts of alcohol had 1.5 percent less total brain volume than lighter drinkers. To a lesser extent, this negative relationship still held with the moderate and low consumption groups of drinkers and still remained significant after controlling for other factors.

Homecoming Events

Today

Reading, Reception and Book Signing 7:30-9:30 p.m. Fireside Lounge, Dover Campus Center. Thomas Lynch, whose work inspired the HBO series "Six Feet Under," will present his work surrounding end-of-life issues.

Friday

Continuing Education Workshop 9 a.m.-noon, Boiling Springs Baptist Church. Thomas Lynch End of Life Workshop & Luncheon, 3 clock hours of CE credit, \$70 per person, visit www.cpe.gardner-webb.edu for registration information.

Homecoming Golf Tournament 11:30 a.m. lunch, 1 p.m. shotgun start at River Bend Golf Club. Alumni and friends are invited to participate in this fundraiser for the GWU Golf Teams. Registration fee of \$75/person or \$300/team. To register contact Coach Tee Burton at (704) 406-3986 or tburton@gardner-webb.edu.

Alumni University Fun and informative classes will be offered on campus, free of charge, to alumni and friends of the university between 3 and 5 p.m.

*Fruits of the Spirit: Posi-

tive Psychology and the Virtuous Life: Dr. James P. Morgan of the School of Psychology and Counseling, will discuss recent research findings, focusing on the influence of gratitude and religious affiliation on developing hope and meaning.

*Artist's Interpretation of the Scriptures: Susan Carlisle Bell, associate professor of art, will help you experience the scriptures through the eyes of artists including Michelangelo, Chagall, Rembrandt and Tanner.

*Myths May Surprise You! Dr. Nancy Bottoms, professor of English, explores myths and stories from Europe and Africa that illuminate our human imperfections and ways to correct them.

*The ABCs of Financial Planning: Alumnus Doug Teague, of Doug Teague Financial Services, will discuss how to manage investments effectively and responsibly.

*Event Planning for Beginners: Alumna Jennie Jones, public relations director for The Gordon Group, will share how to plan, promote and direct events of all sizes and all occasions.

*Wedding Event Planning/Directing: Alumna Beth McDaniel will share her experience as a wedding planner/director to

help you plan a wedding with limited stress and hassles.

President's Reception 5:30-6:30 p.m. Blanton House, 303 W. Marion, Shelby. Alumni and friends of the university are invited for a reception honoring the 2008 Gallery Award recipients.

Athletic Hall of Fame Reception and Banquet Reception 6:30 p.m., Banquet 7 p.m. in Ritch Banquet Hall, Dover Campus Center. We pay tribute to the 2007 GWU Athletic Hall of Fame inductees. \$15/person (adult or child). Pre-registration and tickets required. Contact Alison Kernicky at (704) 406-4340 or akernicky@gardnerwebb.edu.

Distinguished Artist Reception 6-7:45 p.m. O. Max Gardner Recital Hall. Kick-off event for the newly established Fine Arts Alumni Society. Free admission.

Distinguished Artist Concert featuring Samantha Staton, '03 8 p.m., Blanton Auditorium, Hamrick Hall. Fresh off her professional debut with the Cincinnati Symphony, Mrs. Staton is auditioning with opera companies worldwide. Free admission.

Saturday G-W Varsity Club 10-

11 a.m., Team Room, Football Center. For former athletes, coaches, managers, trainers and cheerleaders. Reconnect with others and assist in the promotion of Gardner-Webb athletics. Breakfast will be provided.

Block Party & Class Gatherings by the Decade For all GWU alumni and university friends from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., outside the gates of Spangler Stadium. Inflatables will be available for the kids. Hamburgers, hotdogs, and all the trimmings will be served. Pre-registration required. \$8/adult, \$5/child (12 and under).

Tailgate Picnic Decorate your vehicle, tent and yourself in black and red, and share your school spirit with family and friends. Prizes will be awarded for Most Team Spirit.

Frank Nanney Hall Open House 11 a.m.-noon. Come see the new home of the Noel Program for Students with Disabilities.

Re-commemoration of the Huggins-Curtis Memorial Arch Noon, courtyard area between Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center and Suttle Wellness Center. Class of 2008 has moved the Huggins-Curtis Memorial Arch to a more prominent location. The arch was originally dedicated in 1943 in

honor of J.D. Huggins, the first principal of what was Boiling Springs High School, and the first dean of Gardner-Webb Junior College.

Homecoming Parade 12:30 p.m., Main Street.

Runnin Bulldogs vs. VMI Spangler Stadium 1:30 p.m. kick-off. \$10/adult, \$5/student.

Gallery Awards Banquet 6:30 p.m., Lindsey Court, Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center. The Gallery Awards Banquet honors alumni and friends whose personal lives, professional achievements, community service and loyalty has increased the value of Gardner-Webb for future generations. \$13/adult, \$5/student.

Campus Shop Hours Visit the Campus Shop on the ground floor of the Dover Campus Center between 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The Bulldog Shop in Spangler Stadium will be open from 1 p.m. until after the game. □

2008 Homecoming T-shirt Purchase a 2008 Homecoming T-shirt online at shop.gardner-webb.edu or call (704) 406-4273. \$15/adult, \$12/child.

Notes: If you require special assistance or have special needs for the weekend, call the Office of Alumni Relations at (704) 406-3824.