

MCC Gives Back this Holiday Season



From left to right: Safety Officer Freddie Aguido (MCC), and Thomas Carey, and Randy Gilbert both of the South Windsor Fire Department, collect toys for Community Partners in Action. The toys will be donated to needy children who have one or more parents currently incarcerated within the Connecticut prison system.

Photos by Rich Carpenter

By Live Wire Staff

Students, faculty and staff at Manchester Community College take the “community” portion of its name very seriously. On campus right now collections are being taken up of toys for children whose parents are incarcerated (the Criminal Justice Club), warm socks for needy men, women and children (the Newman Club) and toiletries for soldiers serving overseas (Veterans and ICE Radio). Here are some other examples of how MCC has given back to the community around its campus:



Some of the toys collected at the Dec. 6, Stuff-A-Crusier event.

Le Cercle Français, MCC’s **French Club**, helped a family through the *Adopt-A-Family Program* of Community Health Resources. The club members and advisor chose a family of five and donated clothing, toys, and other items. This is the fourth year the club has participated in this activity. Thanks to the efforts of the club, each family member will have several gifts to enjoy during the holiday season.

One of the requirements in **Psychology 240** is that students do 15 hours of community service to serve their communities and employ the concepts and principles discussed in class.



The lights flash to attract donors during the event.

From this hands-on experience, one student has landed a part time position while others have firmed up the professional direction that they wish to take, such as teaching and nursing. Well over 400 contributed hours of community service have been given in Hartford, Manchester and area towns.

The **Project Management class**, CST 205, is doing several projects this semester. The students propose projects that the class can do during the last 8 weeks of the semester using the project management tools and techniques learned in class. This semester there are three projects running, including running a food drive for the Manchester Area Council of Churches Food Pantry.

The **Spanish Club and Alpha Mu Gamma** (National Honorary Society for Foreign Languages) decided to work together for their fall charity event. They are collecting non-perishable goods for MACC Food Pantry, in Manchester. All non-perishable goods, such as

see **Gives Back** on pg. 2

Resiliency of the Hartford Occupiers Inspires All



Sunset over a tent frame at the Occupy Hartford camp, now dismantled by the Hartford Police.

By Nathan Mair
 Live Wire Staff Writer

The Occupy Hartford location at Farmington Avenue and Broad Street – dubbed “Turning Point Park” – was dismantled Dec. 6 by the Hartford Police Department. But organizers vowed to continue with the movement, even if the physical campsite is no longer up. But before the campsite was dismantled, Manchester Community College student Nathan Mair spent a night there, talking to some of the participants Nov. 25 and 26. Here is his report.

“Get a job you bums!” yells a man driving by in a vehicle as he looks across the street and jeers at the participants of the Occupy Hartford movement protesting near Farmington Avenue and Broad street. When the tough-skinned occupants hear these derogatory statements, they usually ignore them or respond with something slick like “are you going to give me one?”

The Occupy Wall Street movement came to Hartford a couple months ago. For those who are unfamiliar with the Occupy Wall Street movement, it is an ongoing series of demonstra-

tions that started back on Sept. 17, 2011, with protesters camped out on the grounds of Manhattan’s federal district, protesting against major banks, corporations, and Wall Street’s involvement in the economic collapse of the U.S.

Participants are essentially lashing out against the 1 percent of wealthy people in the country. They say 99 percent of American citizens are getting the short end of the stick. Since the movement started in New York it’s made its way to at least 100 cities across the nation and more than 1,500 cities across the globe. It’s been in the headlines of major news media outlets and the movement is gaining momentum, especially since a lot of the demonstrations are erupting into violence, rampant police arrests, and dismantling of the “tent cities” in which the demonstrators lay their heads.

see **Occupy** on pg. 3

Left: A sign expressing support, built by Occupy Hartford protesters during their stay.



Reporter Nathan Mair settles in for the night outside his newly furnished tent at the Occupy Hartford camp.

All photos by Nathan Mair.

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WORD ON CAMPUS (back page)

“In the vein of Occupy Wall Street, what would you choose to occupy?”

Briefs

De-stress with Free Massages

Feeling Stressed? It's that time of year, finals and holiday plans weighing on your shoulders. Be sure to stop by the SGA's De-stressing Station. We have stress balls snacks, coffee, cider, tea, cocoa, and to top it all off, free shoulder massages performed by Toni Coble, a licensed massage therapist. She will be offering 10 minute shoulder massages on Dec. 14, between 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., and Dec. 15 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Be sure to stop by the Office of Student Activities desk, Lowe 154, and sign up for a time slot with Toni. Sponsored by the MCC Student Government Association. For more information contact Bethany K. Stuck, SGA Social Vice President, via email, MA-SGA-VP-Social@mcc.commnet.edu.

Winter Arts Festival Features Art, Food and Music

The annual Winter Arts Festival will be held Friday, Dec. 16, at 6 p.m. in the Hans Weiss Newspace Gallery and the AST Tower lobby. The event features work created by MCC Fine Arts students and vocal and musical performances by MCC music students; student films will also be presented. Refreshments will be served and the event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Susan Classen-Sullivan at sclassen-sullivan@mcc.commnet.edu or 860-512-2693.

Would you like to promote your club in the Live Wire?

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canned goods, pasta, and rice can be brought to the language classroom, LRC B210, anytime there is a class or a student tutor in the room. That's Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from about 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. and on Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Dec. 14 the food will be delivered.

On Nov. 22 **business students** from MCC became "teachers" for the day. Twenty-nine MCC students participated in the Junior Achievement Day at St. James School in Manchester. With grade-appropriate curriculum designed by Junior Achievement, students took center stage to engage students and teach them about the various aspects of business. It was a great opportunity for MCC students to share their enthusiastic knowledge of business with an ambitious group of elementary and middle school students.

These are just a few of the examples of MCC earning the community in its name. For more information about the community service opportunities attend the annual Community Service Fair held each fall or visit Career Services in Lowe 120.



Giving Back One Nail at a Time



During a Day of Service to give back to the community members of the union the Congress of Connecticut Community Colleges teamed with the Manchester Community College Habitat for Humanity Club on Oct. 29. Above, Mary Justine Hockenberry, in the hat, co-president of the MCC Habitat Club, operates a power tool on the South Marshall Street building project in Hartford. Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity strives to build decent, affordable homes. Since 1989, HAHfH has completed 185 homes housing more than 700 individuals in greater Hartford. Located in the Asylum Hill area of Hartford, South Marshall Street will be Hartford Habitat's newest and largest undertaking. For more information about the project visit <http://www.hartfordhabitat.org/SouthMarshall.html>.

Continued from **Occupy** pg. 1

Despite the many things thrown at these occupiers, they still remain very tough and resilient as their convictions are giving them fuel to fight on. This is so true for the Occupiers in Hartford. For example, about 20 people remained in the Farmington Avenue tent city during the October snow-storm.

The residents of Hartford's tent city are also very resourceful in terms of survival skills. Some use a car battery and solar panel to power their lights after sundown. At night, some Occupiers read books about peaceful protest and meet to discuss strategy and logistics.

The Hartford group features people from very a variety of backgrounds. During my night there, I met everyone from young college students like myself, to a couple of Baby Boomers like the counter culture machine shop worker Kirk M., who said he once had the American dream, with his house and car completely paid off. Kirk, who was accompanied by his wife, said he used to work from 4 a.m. to 2 p.m., 55 hours a week, and loved every minute of it. But Kirk, 57, got laid off about two years ago from his machine shop job and is now unemployed.

"It's been a tough year for me, I'll take any job, even a dishwashing job," he said.

Then there is Amanda R., a 23-year-old, part-time college student who made her way from Indian River, Michigan, to visit her grandparents in Manchester. She said she was part of the occupy movement back in her hometown, then left a few weeks ago, stopped in Boston and occupied there, and now she's in Hartford. She said she is focusing on making a difference and leading by example in this revolutionary movement.

After staying the night in tent city with these folks, I came to the conclusion that the occupants of Hartford's "tent city" are the epitome of resiliency as they keep a strong inner spirit of hope for the future. A lot of Americans can learn a

lesson or two from these "bums" because a lot of people in this country can't adjust to a financial collapse in their lives. When things go bad financially, many Americans get really depressed and resort to negative actions like heavy drinking, drug usage, suicide, stealing, homicide, etc.

But down at Occupy Hartford, I saw not one sign of depression on the faces of the participants. Instead, these guys are reading, playing bongo drums, singing, and protesting for what they believe in.

I'm not the only person impressed by this Hartford movement, as the occupiers have a lot of support from people in the community. People stop by all the time to donate various essentials that help them to survive the cold temperatures, including food, hand warmers, blankets, etc. The occupants even had a great Thanksgiving feast, complete with turkey, stuffing, and other traditional dishes. Even though I slept through bone chilling temperatures, one thing for sure is that I did not go to sleep on an empty stomach because tent city had more food than I have in my house.

But while lying in my tent under freezing climate conditions, I asked myself: how are these guys going to sur-

vive during the coming harsh New England winter?

Occupier Kyle Jones, 31, told me that preparations are being made.

"Hopefully, we can get a building to be able to congregate in and if not we have to try and get some army tents or something," said Jones, adding that they are planning to going out into the community to conduct some fundraisers and use that money to fund tent city, especially during the winter.

The cold is not the only hardship. I witnessed some thugs cutting into a tent and stealing things from an Occupier. But incidents like that are balanced by the generosity of the surrounding community, like the free showers provided by the YMCA. So even though these brave individuals are staying in tents during late fall weather, they are still taking care of their basic essentials, with a little help.

So don't feel sorry for the citizens of tent city because they are being looked out for as well as looking out for each other just like a family.



A sign welcomed newcomers to the Occupy Hartford camp, now dismantled. Photo by Nathan Mair



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VALENTINA OLIVADESE
GRADUATE, BGS '08

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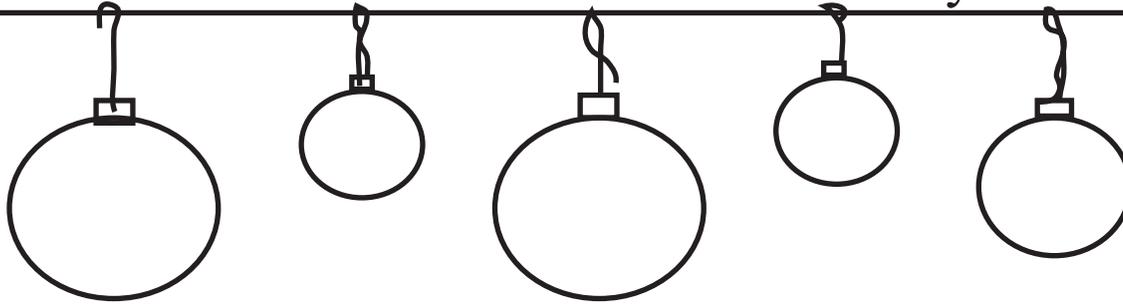


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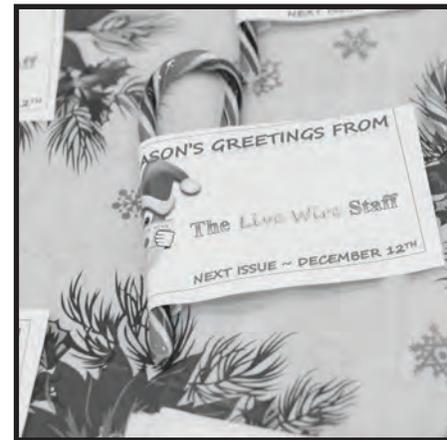
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Student Government Association Holiday Festival

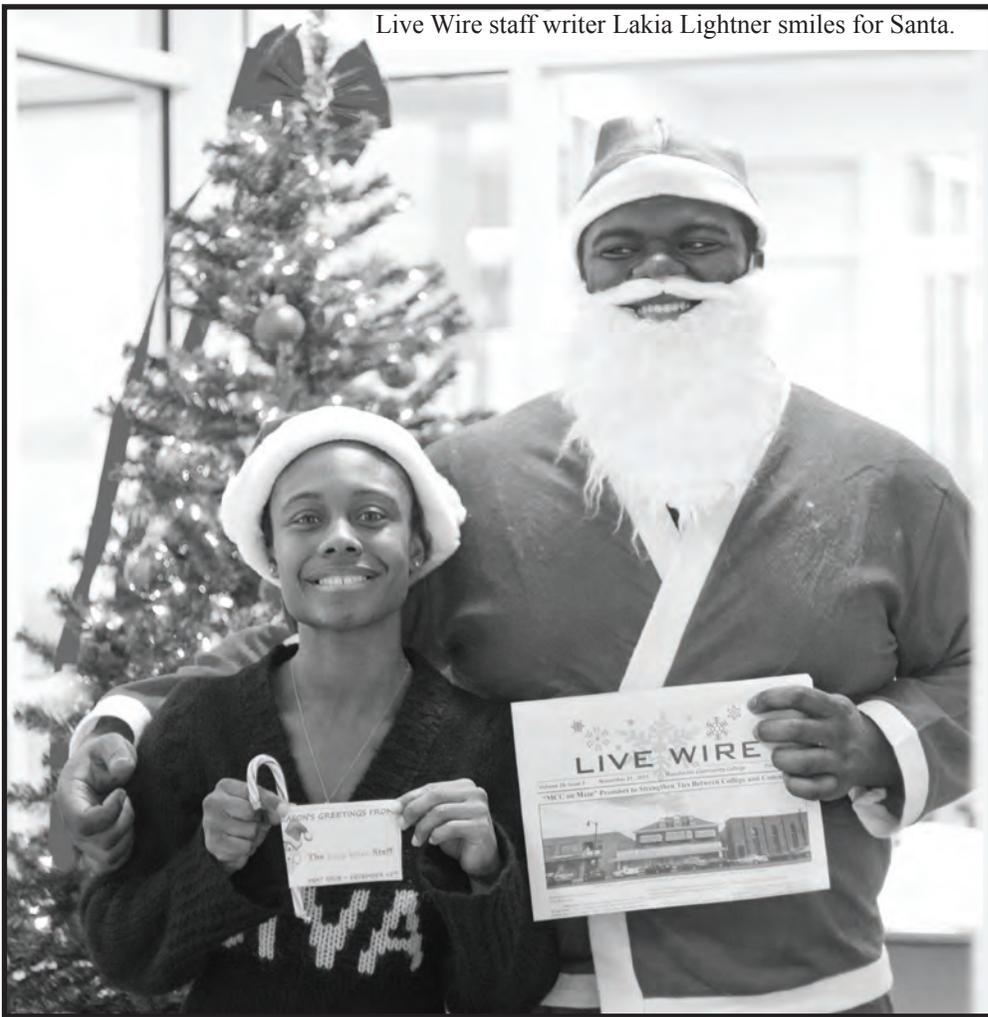


The Student Government Association held its annual Holiday Festival Dec. 5. Several clubs, including ICE Internet Radio, The Muslim Students Association, and the Live Wire had tables at the event. The Live Wire's Jelani Burrell dressed as Santa Claus and informed students about the next issue of the student newspaper.

All photos by Rich Carpenter



Live Wire staff writer Lokia Lightner smiles for Santa.



Live Wire Layout Editor Rich Carpenter gives Santa a hug.



*Happy Holidays
from the Live Wire Staff!*

Meet a Dean: G. Duncan Harris

Dean of Student Affairs

By Jelani Burrell
Live Wire Staff Writer



Meet the President, Deans & Principal, *A Unique One-On-One Experience*

By Andy Laguna
Special to the Live Wire

An annual meet and greet from college administration was more informal and, some think, more successful than in past years.

Manchester Community College held its annual “Meet the President, Deans and Principal” event Nov. 17. Although the event is held each year to give students an opportunity to meet those in charge of the administration of the college, it was decided to change up the format this year, said Dean of Students Duncan Harris.

Before, Harris said, the president and deans introduced themselves in front of an audience of students at SBM Auditorium and called on students who had a comment or question. After a few years of doing it that way, the faculty came to realization: a formal introduction didn’t allow students to get to know the administrators as well as they would have liked. So this year they decided to change it from a formal meeting to an informal meeting.

Two sessions were held, one at noon and the other at 5:30 p.m. Both featured refreshments prepared by students in the college’s Culinary Arts program.

In addition to Harris, the administrators present were college Pres. Gena Glickman; Melanie Haber, Dean of Continuing Education; Joanne Russell, Dean of Academic Affairs; James McDowell, Dean of Administrative Affairs; Pamela Mitchell-Crump, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs; Endia DeCordova, Acting Associate Dean of Institutional Advancement; and Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez, principal of Great Path Academy high school.

The faculty split themselves up and then proceeded to sit at the tables where the students sat.

McDowell talked about plans for future improvements to the campus.

“We need to expand on the parking lots and add a new building,” he said, adding that the school needs state money in order to proceed with these plans. “B Lot is in terrible shape, and with the state money we hope to completely renovate B Lot and add an additional 225 parking spaces. We are shooting to have that finished for summer 2013.”

But other changes rumored to be in the works, like the college expanding to a four-year school, are not true, Harris said.

“It’s not in our goal to become a four-year university,” he said. “We’d much rather be a good two-year college than a mediocre four-year university.”

Where did you graduate from?

I attended Bloomfield high school, before I graduated from the University of Connecticut with my degree in economics. I got my master’s degree in counseling from Central Connecticut State University and my doctorate from Nova Southeastern University.

What fraternity are you a member of?

I am a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Some of our most esteemed members are [civil rights leader] the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., [U.S. Supreme Court Justice] Thurgood Marshall, and [historian] W.E.B. Dubois.

How did you come to MCC?

I was working at UCONN, and a position opened up here for a Test Administrator.

What do you love about MCC?

I love the diversity. It’s nice to see such a large variety of people who represent different backgrounds on campus. This isn’t just the students, but the faculty and staff as well.

What do you dislike about MCC?

I don’t see enough involvement on campus. I’d like to see increased involvement and more students taking advantage of the activities and opportunities on campus.

What’s your dream car?

A BMW Z4.

What do you like to do in your free time?

Community Service through the fraternity. One of the things I’m working on is mentoring a 6th grade student for the MLK Jr. Oratorical Contest. I also enjoy coaching soccer, travel, and music.

What’s your most memorable college experience?

In 1997, my grad school professor asked me to visit her over a break. She told me that she was very impressed with my writing and creativity on a paper that I submitted to her.

What plans do you have for Student Activities?

I would like to see more clubs. One of the things that Student Activities has been working on is streamlining the bureaucratic process so that barriers to more student involvement are not administrative. We are also trying to increase intramurals programs.



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Abuse is Not a Part of Healthy Relationships

By Adam J. Ribani
Special to the Live Wire

Do you know what makes a healthy relationship? A recent workshop on campus reminded attendees the value of mutual respect, fairness and equality.

The “Healthy Relationships” workshop was held Oct. 26 by the Manchester Community College Women’s Resource Center. Speaker Jennifer Wenderoth began with some startling statistics, including the fact that 60 percent of women between the ages of 15 and 24 reported being involved in relationship abuse.

During the first half of the workshop, Wenderoth ran through the basics of “Relationships 101.” But about halfway through, she told her own personal experience with abuse, detailing how her gun-wielding ex-boyfriend threatened to abuse her cat should she leave him. Needless to say, everyone present was very intrigued by her tale.

Wenderoth said abuse affects both men and women.

“I believe it’s mostly women,” she said, “but there are plenty of cases pertaining to men as well, you just don’t hear about them as often.”

The Internet, said Wenderoth, can hurt those who are struggling to get away from an abuser.

“Domestic violence has adapted and become an even bigger issue now with the updates in technology,” she said. “People need to be educated in prevention and need to realize that it isn’t always the best idea to post certain things.”

For more information about domestic violence and abuse or other resources visit the Women’s Center in Lowe 108.

Home-schooled Students Transition to GPA



By Danielle McCormick
Great Path Academy Student

Several of students at Great Path Academy, come to the school not from another school, but from classrooms in their homes.

Madeleine Haynes and Yvonne Hurtado were both home-schooled before they came to GPA. According to a Sept. 29, 2010, article from MSNBC, more than 1.5 million children, or about 3 percent of the school-age population in the United States, are home-schooled.

Most make a smooth transition into a public school when, and if, that time comes. And that is definitely true of Yvonne and Maddie, both of whom were recently nominated for scholastic awards. They are both outgoing and never afraid to try a new club or to voice their opinions. Maddie is already in college classes and Yvonne is on the right track to begin her college classes by the 2011-2012 school year. Here is what they had to say.

Q. Is a home-school easier than a regular high school?

Yvonne: Yes, because home-schooling is more one-on-one. The work is easier to understand because of the individual attention.

Maddie: NO! My mom was the hardest teacher I've ever had!

Q. Do you get to wake up at any time you want?

Yvonne: Sometimes, obviously not all of the time. My sister and I were usually up by 8 a.m. because the sooner we get started, the sooner we finish and have time for other things.

Maddie: NOPE! We have to be ready at 8!

Q. Would you rather be home-schooled or regular schooled?

Yvonne: I would choose home-schooling only because it's easier to focus; the attention is always on you and there are no distractions. I do like it here at Great Path though. I like the teachers and the students.

Maddie: Regular schooled. I like being able to make friends and be with people better than to be alone.

Q. Are there any life lessons that you learned in regular school that you wouldn't have if you had stayed in a home-school environment?

Yvonne: Yes, since coming to regular school I am not shy anymore. Most people might think that it would be the opposite, that I would become shy in public school, but I was actually quieter at home.

Maddie: I like to interact with people and have the chance to be myself around others.

In our house, we did not need to waste time eating lunch; we just ate while we did our work. Also, remember that we did not have to spend time back and forth on the school bus. Our day may seem shorter, but it actually was a longer day for us.

Maddie: Each period lasted about 80 minutes. We had to be at the "table" at 8 a.m. and we had a one hour long lunch.

Q. Do people in high school treat you differently because you were homeschooled?

Yvonne: No, everyone is really nice to me. They treat me as they would any other student. I think because everyone at GPA comes from somewhere different, I don't really stand out that much.

Maddie: No, the fact that I am so young is why I get treated differently. [Maddie is 13].

Q. What is one thing that people might not know about homeschooled students?

Yvonne: One thing is that we, as students, tend to learn naturally. We don't learn by force. If we are really interested in a subject, our interest is what drives our education. Of course we cover all of the necessary subjects but there is a freedom to go beyond the lessons in whatever direction we want.

Maddie: That you can make friends and you don't just learn from the Internet, you'll learn from textbooks.

Q. What was your schedule for like for your homeschool high school day?

Yvonne:

7:00 a.m.	Normal wake-up time
8:00 a.m.	Eat Breakfast
9:00-10:00 a.m.	Math
10:00-11:00 a.m.	Science
11:00am-12:00 p.m.	Language Arts
12:00-1:40 p.m.	Reading
1:40 p.m.	End of our homeschooled day

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Spain Trip Opportunity Offers Adventure

By Alexander Eitland
Great Path Academy

Members of the Great Path Academy community are being offered the opportunity to see new parts of the world with a trip being planned for the spring by a longtime teacher.

The journey is a 12-day tour of Spain, Portugal, and Morocco. This is the second time such a trip being offered at the high school. Registration is open to everyone and students and staff are both encouraged to sign up. The trip costs about \$2,900. The price may change based on whether or not you chose to do other activities over the course of the trip. The package deal covers multiple hotel expenses and provides breakfast and dinner for the 12 days. The entry fee to museums and castle tours is also included and there will be a full time English and Spanish-speaking tour guide.

Dennis Lucuiano, who teaches Spanish, is organizing the trip. He has traveled to Costa Rica and Spain several times, he said.

"This is an amazing opportunity to see other parts of the world and see how other countries work, as well as an opportunity to make amazing friends," he said.

Student Miguel Figueroa has already signed up.

"My reason for going is to see another section of Spanish culture," he said. "I have been to the Dominican Republic, but that's about it. I also have a desire to become more understanding of other cultures."

Currently 13 students and members of staff are attending the trip. The deadline to sign up is Dec. 24. For more information regarding the trip you can email Dennis Luciano at dluciano@mcc.comnet.edu. Other details can be found on www.eftours.com.

Producer Paula Yoo Gives Advice for Aspiring Writers

By Amanda Whyte
Special to the Live Wire

Becoming a working writer takes time and patience, journalist and television producer Paula Yoo told attendees during her Nov. 29 talk at Manchester Community College. Yoo, a Connecticut native, spoke to an audience of about 80 people in the Great Path Academy Community Commons.

Currently a producer for the science fiction television show "Eureka," on the SciFi network, Yoo has a long list of accomplishments ranging from her earning her bachelor's degree from Yale University in New Haven and a master's from Columbia University, to her work as a reporter with *People* magazine, and newspapers The Seattle Times and The Detroit News. She emphasized the importance of writing as much as you possibly can and getting your work published. Yoo also suggested that students develop a tough skin now because time and time again writers do get rejected.

"What you do between rejection and acceptance will make you a great writer," she said.

What may have grabbed attendee's attention most of all was Yoo's story about working for *People* and how one of her last assignments was to retrace the steps of actors Meg Ryan and Russell Crowe after the press caught wind of their secret love affair. Yoo scoffed at the fact her editor was giddy to hear about the couple being spotted eating sushi and leaving the waitress a big tip.

And she had the MCC crowd in stitches while describing how she was able to track down their hotel and barely made it in the door before the manager yelled at her to "Get out!" Yoo said the entire experience helped her to realize this wasn't the type of journalism she wanted to be involved in, that she wasn't changing the world or helping people.

"I quit," she said, after describing her less than enjoyable sleuthing experience. "I wanted to yell 'I went to Yale!'"

Yoo last worked for "Eureka," on a Christmas episode that was scheduled to air Dec. 6. That was its last episode as the show has been cancelled. Yoo said the scriptwriting television industry is very competitive and then explained how studios



Photo courtesy of nancyisanders.wordpress.com

go from 10,000 submitted scripts to 400 to three shows actually airing and one being renewed for a new season. How well a show does and how long it lasts, Yoo said, are way beyond any one person's control.

"Timing and how relevant the shows are to society are big factors," said Yoo. "Fridays at 8 p.m. are now considered the death slot. No one is home watching TV on a Friday night anymore."

Yoo encouraged the audience to immerse themselves in writing workshops, conferences or any other opportunity that involves getting their writing published or out into the world. She also suggested students get into clubs or form clubs of their peers dedicated to journalism or other types of writing.

Her greatest advice was to focus on what type of writing you're interested in right now and to get good at it.

"You have to be prepared to jump ship a lot in this industry, there is plenty of time to branch out," she said.

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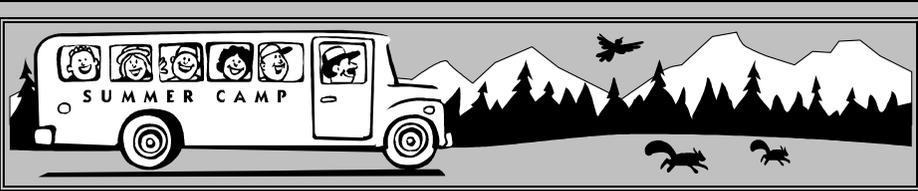
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DECEMBER 11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		The Electric Trains @ the Outer Space (Hamden); 7:30 p.m. / free	Bear Hands / The Appledaughters @ BAR (New Haven); 9 p.m. / Free Ports of Spain / Speakeasy / Damopes @ Stella Blues (New Haven)	Damopes / Big Wig / The Exposure @ Lyric Hall (New Haven); 7 p.m. / \$5	WHY? / Serengeti @ the Wadsworth Atheneum (Hartford); 7 p.m. / \$15 Adam McIlwee of Tigers Jaw / The World is... / The Clippers / Babytown Frolics @ The Basement (Hamden); 6 p.m. / \$5	Hartford Battle of the Bands @ the Webster Underground (Hartford) The Teles (reunion) / Sex Tigers / Keith Zarriello @ the Space (Hamden); 7 p.m. / \$8
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Scare Don't Fear / One Year Later @ Heirloom Arts (Danbury); 7 p.m. / \$10	Hate Your Guts / Deathbed / True Life / Human Slaughter / Submission @ P.B.C. (204 Melba St., Milford); 6 p.m. / \$8		West Meets West (CD Release) / True Apothecary / A Paper Tugboat @ BAR (New Haven); 9 p.m. / Free		Grover Dill (reunion) / Tired and True / Fourth and Goal / Hate Ur Guts / Wolves at Bay @ the Daniel Street (Milford); 8 p.m. / \$10	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		Wu-Tang Clan / GFella @ Toad's (New Haven); 9 p.m. / \$40	Thursday / Mewithoutyou / Screaming Females / Make Do and Mend / Aficionado @ Toads (New Haven); 7PM / \$20 Ellison Jackson / Science Fair / Circle Circle / Robin Hood @ Lyric Hall (New Haven); 7 p.m. / \$5		The Alternate Routes / The Felice Brothers / The Robots @ Daniel Street (Milford); 8 p.m. / \$20	The World is a Beautiful Place / Deer Leap / You Blew It! / Dads / Osier Bed at the Handsome Woman (Willimantic, CT); 4 p.m. / \$5
JANUARY 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Max Creek @ the Arch Street Tavern (Hartford); 9 p.m. / \$10	Manners / Xerxes / Code Orange Kids / Al Borland @ The Mannor (Wallingford); 7 p.m. / \$5 Toad the Wet Sproket @ Toad's (New Haven); 8 p.m. / \$30	Kings and Liars / Sneaky Castro / White Walls / Lady Fingers / Superbad @ the Amity Teen Center (New Haven); 7 p.m. / \$10	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					Anthony Green / The Dear Hunter @ Toad's (New Haven); 9 p.m. / \$17	Reba McEntire @ Mohegan Sun (Uncasville); 8 p.m. / \$45+



Have you ever felt the urge to travel and learn about a different part of the country? Meet new and interesting people? Find a job that complements your studies and offers practical experience in your field? Are you interested in learning about the wide range of exciting summer job opportunities that are available throughout the US and Canada?

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Check Out the MCC Summer Job Board (outside Financial Aid Office).

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Visit the MCC Career Services website: www.mcc.commnet.edu/career

Schedule an appointment with a Career Services Office staff member to learn more about summer employment opportunities.

Attend the **MCC SUMMER JOB FAIR** on **Wednesday, March 7, 2012** from **10 am - 1 pm** in the **SBM Charitable Foundation Building**.

Summer Jobs

For more information, call Julie Greene, Sr. Associate Director, MCC Career Services at (860) 512-3374, or Camille McGadney, MCC Career Services Assistant at (860) 512-3311.



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MCC's 4th Annual Drag Show



Above, Harlette LaFleur performs the opening act at the 4th annual Drag Show in the SBM Charitable Auditorium.

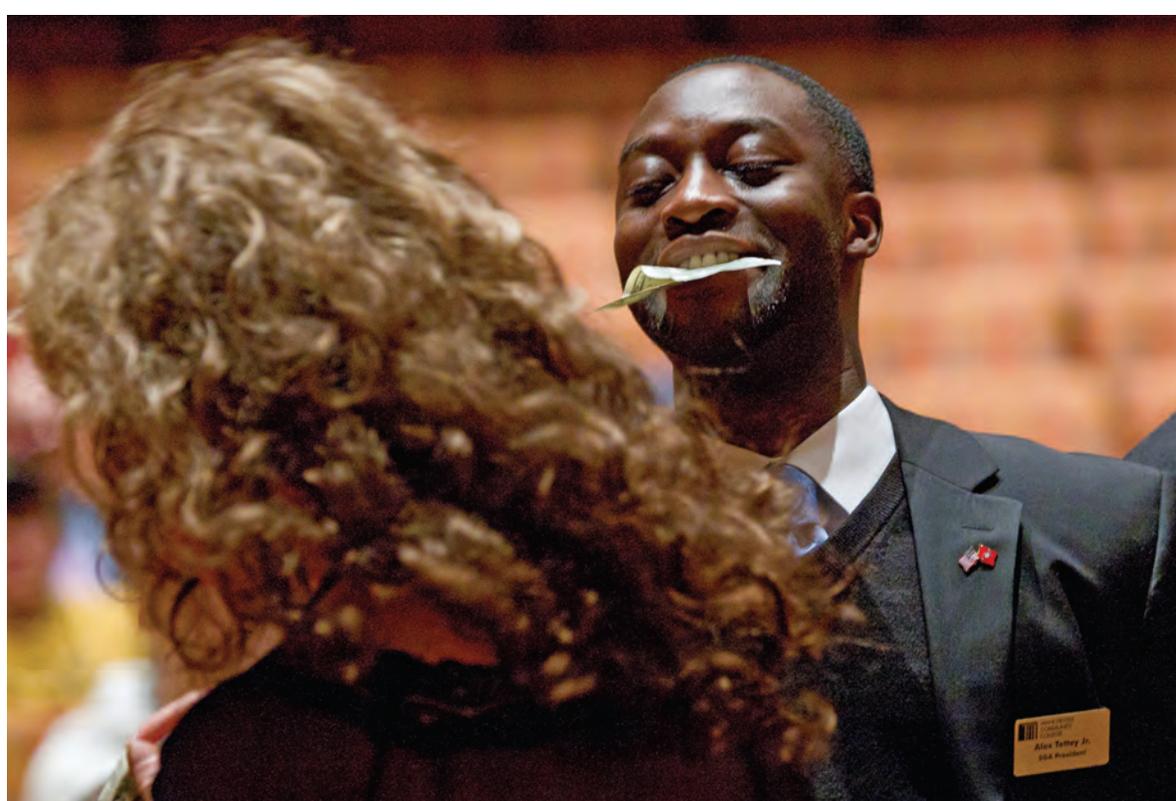
For the fourth year, The Manchester Community College Pride Club hosted a Drag Show. The event was held on Nov. 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the SBM Charitable Foundation Auditorium. The show raised \$340 for the Pride Club and True Colors, an organization that helps ensure the safety and meet the needs of gender and sexual orientation minorities. The MCC Pride Club meets Mondays from 3-4 p.m. in Arts, Science, and Technologies room D229. For more information contact Jason Scappaticci at 860-512-3224 or email at jscappaticci@mcc.commnet.edu.

All photos by Rich Carpenter



Top right, a participant is crowned "Drag Queen" of the show. Right, a performer shows off a fabulous costume.

Below, Alex Tettey Jr, the Student Government Association President, gets in on the action at the Nov. 17 event.



Traditional Favorites: *Holiday Recipes We Love!*

By Jelani Burrell & Faith Montaperto
Live Wire Staff Writers

Peanut Butter Dream Bars



Ingredients:
1 cup butter or margarine, melted
2 cups graham cracker crumbs
2 cups confectioners' sugar
1 cup peanut butter
1 1/2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
4 tablespoons peanut butter
8 Oreo Cookies, smashed to bits

Directions:

1. In a medium bowl, mix together the butter or margarine, graham cracker crumbs, confectioners' sugar, and 1 cup peanut butter until well blended.
2. Press evenly into the bottom of an ungreased 9x13 inch pan for the crust.
3. Then add a dry layer of the Oreo Cookie Bits.
4. In a metal bowl over simmering water, or in the microwave, melt the chocolate chips with the remaining peanut butter, stirring occasionally until smooth.
5. Spread over the prepared crust.
6. Refrigerate for at least one hour before cutting into squares.

photos by Faith Montaperto



My Grandma's Latkes (potato pancakes)

Ingredients:
5-7 medium Potatoes
2 eggs
1 Large Yellow or White Onion
2 Carrots (Optional)
Oil
Salt & Pepper to taste
Applesauce
Sour cream

*For Sweet Latkes, try Sweet Potatoes instead, with a 1/2 teaspoon of cloves and a 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon

Directions:

1. Wash and Peel all vegetables.
2. Shred all the vegetables.
3. Squeeze excess water from shredded potatoes.
4. Mix shredded potatoes with eggs, carrots, and onion together until mixture is well coated by egg.
5. Heat a frying pan with oil in it medium heat. (Test the oil to see if it's hot enough, by dropping a small piece of potato into the pan. If it bubbles, then it's hot enough to cook with)

When it's hot enough take a scoop of potato mixture, form a pancake and place in pan. Fry until golden brown on both sides. Serve warm with apple sauce and sour cream.



Arroz Amarillo photo courtesy of www.goya.com

Arroz Amarillo (yellow rice)

6 Cups parboiled rice, lightly washed

10oz Jar Manzanilla Olives (or salad olives), roughly chopped

2 Medium sized onions, chopped

2 Cans crushed tomatoes

1 Can arbanzos or sweet peas

1 Bell pepper

1 Bulb garlic

6 Packs Goya Sazon

3 Cans chicken (or vegetable) broth

Goya Adobo seasoning

Artichoke hearts (optional)

- 1) Sautee onions in olive oil until translucent.
- 2) Add tomatoes, olives, and garlic, bell pepper, and garbanzos in that order with 2 packs of the Sazon.
- 3) Add Adobo to taste.
- 4) Add all of the rice, and mix evenly over low heat.
- 5) Add remaining packs of Sazon, mix evenly
- 6) (Add cut artichoke hearts for additional texture)
- 7) Add chicken broth to cover rice.
- 8) Let rice steam until cooked thoroughly.

Mannish Water (goat meat soup)

Feel free to use lamb meat if you're unfamiliar or uncomfortable using goat.

Chopped up goat head, meat, and tripe

6 Cloves garlic, chopped

1/2 cup scallion, chopped

5 sprigs of thyme,

Pimento seed, salt to taste

Whole green pepper

black pepper,

2 pks. Grace® Brand Cock Soup (Seasoning mix)

3-6 green bananas

1 1/2 lbs. Yam

3 small Irish Potato

Flour for dumplings

2 Chayotes aka Chistophenes

1 Whole Scotch Bonnet Pepper

1) Wash chopped goat head and meat with vinegar and water.

2) Put in a large pot (pressure cooker best) with enough water to cover the meat

3) Add 3 teaspoons salt, 8-10 seeds of pimento and garlic

4) Cook on a medium/high stove until meat is tender.

5) Add more water and also 2 packs cock soup.

6) Peel and cut up all vegetables (except for potatoes and yams) and add to pot.

7) Cut green bananas into 1/2-inch discs (skin can be eaten with banana when cooked)

8) Peel and add Yam and potatoes when bananas are almost cooked.

9) When almost done add black pepper, green pepper, thyme, acouple pimento seeds, scallions, whole Scotch Bonnet Pepper (do not let it burst open) and let simmer.

10) Remove scotch bonnet before serving.

Serve hot.



Goat meat soup photo courtesy of www.jamaicans.com



Jamaican flag courtesy of mapspfttheworld.com

A World on Fire

Joshua P. Shaw

This world is on fire.
A fire bolder than your torn soul,
And further reaching than your precious heart.

People lay strewn about,
The devil hath collected his bounty,
And thanked thee for your time.

It seems life itself has been put on hold,
Like a sad charity rotting in the corner.
People spend their few days in noiseless cocoons,
Desperately awaiting a better time.

A cold wind blows from the North,
Yet it has no effect on our already frozen hearts.
A beggar spends his final night clutching his growling
stomach,
As the philanthropist snatches his last dollar.

The mighty steel towers of a man's iron will,
Cast yet another into the shadow of regret.
A man on the edge of the ledge he calls hope,
Pushed over by his own son.

Poetry Corner

Skin

By Faith Montaperto

He rubbed
his mother's head
softly,
where the
beautiful red curls
had once been,
before the chemo.

Looking back
at her
in the mirror,
he grinned and
reached for the clippers.

Rooftop Hero

By Faith Montaperto

I remember the time,
he climbed up there,
high above the rest of us.

Fearless & determined,
he'd found my prize,
the little yellow ball I'd missed.

Smiling, he tossed it to me.

My big brother;
he always made it look so easy.

Call of The Horizon

By Joshua P. Shaw

I hear the pitter-patter of laced boots
upon the rock,

Though maybe my ears deceive me.

I feel the mesmerizing flash of a
color whirl past me,

Though maybe my eyes do fool me.

These chilled rails lead to nowhere,

Yet so few lend a passing thought.

I watch the despair of faces blink
first into my mind,

Only to disappear forever into the
call of the horizon.

With head in hands I let the
loathsome locomotive hold my gaze.

A child's tear strewn face lends none
to the scene.

Her mother holds her dear to near.

Daddy will be back, sure thing my
dear.

The young girl's hair is flecked with
newly fallen rain,

Her mother did then call forth.

This train took more than a few
verdant men,

It took the entire future with it.



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Grandma Fairy Offers Her Advice

Well, hello children, err, I mean you young adults. Would you like the answers? I think so. Well, let us grab some tea and have a nice chat.

Today we are answering Danielle and Marcus's question about splitting holidays with family. I'm sure this applies to many of you young couples reading this as well. Let me give you a little background on our friends here. Marcus and Danielle have been dating for quite some time, I would say for almost two years now and they always split the holidays between their two families. Half of the day is spent with Marcus's family and the other half is spent with Danielle's family. It's been very stressful for Danielle and she would like some help.

So, I agreed, being the greatest fairy godmother, I mean Grandmother that I just so happen to be. Anyway on with this!

At first glance a simple solution is given: My first suggestion was to combine the two households to create an even bigger and friendly family reunion, but be careful of those weird uncles who end up dancing around crazy, even some aunts or cousins; you know the ones. Alas, the suggestion was rejected. Danielle's family doesn't want to combine the households until Marcus and Danielle are a happily married couple.

It is very understandable. It's one of those old fashioned things some of you kids just don't quite understand. Why, me, and my husband felt and feel the same way! The parents shouldn't be involved with each other unless there is a reason.

So how do they fix this little problem? Hmm. Grandma can solve this! My Dears, each of you sit down and talk to your family about this situation and how it's creating pressure on all of you to be here and then there, and then here, and back. Oh how families can be crazy, I know mine is. But it's a wondrous holiday filled with good tidings. Family makes it all the more special, especially with food around, mainly the turkey, or Tofurkey, mmm how yum. I'm getting hungry just talking about this; I think I'll start my holidays early. I hope this helps you Danielle, and Marcus.

Happy Holidays and lots of love,

Grandma Fairy

The opinions expressed within Grandma Fairy's column are those of the writer and not necessarily of the staff of the Live Wire. If you have a question for Grandma Fairy or a reaction to the above piece, send it to the Live Wire, livewire@mcc.commnet.edu.

Film on Black Genocide Reveals Social Disparities

By Nathan Mair
Live Wire Staff Writer

Question: What do you think is the number one killer of black Americans? Is it gang violence? Heart disease, diabetes, sickle cell, or is it AIDS?

If you believe that it is any of these stereotypical factors, you would be absolutely wrong because the number one killer of blacks in communities across the United State is abortion, according to information presented in the film *Maafa 21: Black Genocide in 21st Century America*, a documentary film produced by Mark Crutcher of Life Dynamics Inc. The film was screened at Manchester Community College Nov. 11 in the SBM Charitable Foundation Auditorium by the MCC chapter of The Newman Club.

The truth is that, since 1973, legal abortion has been the number one killer of black people, which exceeds the number of those killed by AIDS, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and violent crime, combined. Black children are five times more likely to be aborted than white children because, as the film explains, this is part of a hidden agenda that dates back to the 1800's. That's when a man named Francis Galton coined the term eugenics, which is a philosophy that focuses on getting rid of those he felt were mentally and physically inferior, including people of color.

This film was a huge eye opener to me, especially considering the fact that I am black. For example, there is a scene in the film of a recorded conversation which took place on March 30, 1972, between former Pres. Ronald Reagan and members of his senior staff. Throughout the conversation Reagan repeatedly referred to unborn black babies as the "the little black bastards" and told the member of his senior staff "look, the people in what we call our class want to control their populations."

If this quote from the former president of the United States does not prove a hidden agenda, then I suggest that you watch the movie in its entirety. But prepare to be blown away. It sure as hell blew me away.

The movie is available for viewing on www.youtube.com, or you can purchase the film through the official website, www.maafa21.com, for only \$20. Trust me the educational value that this film has is worth way more than \$20.

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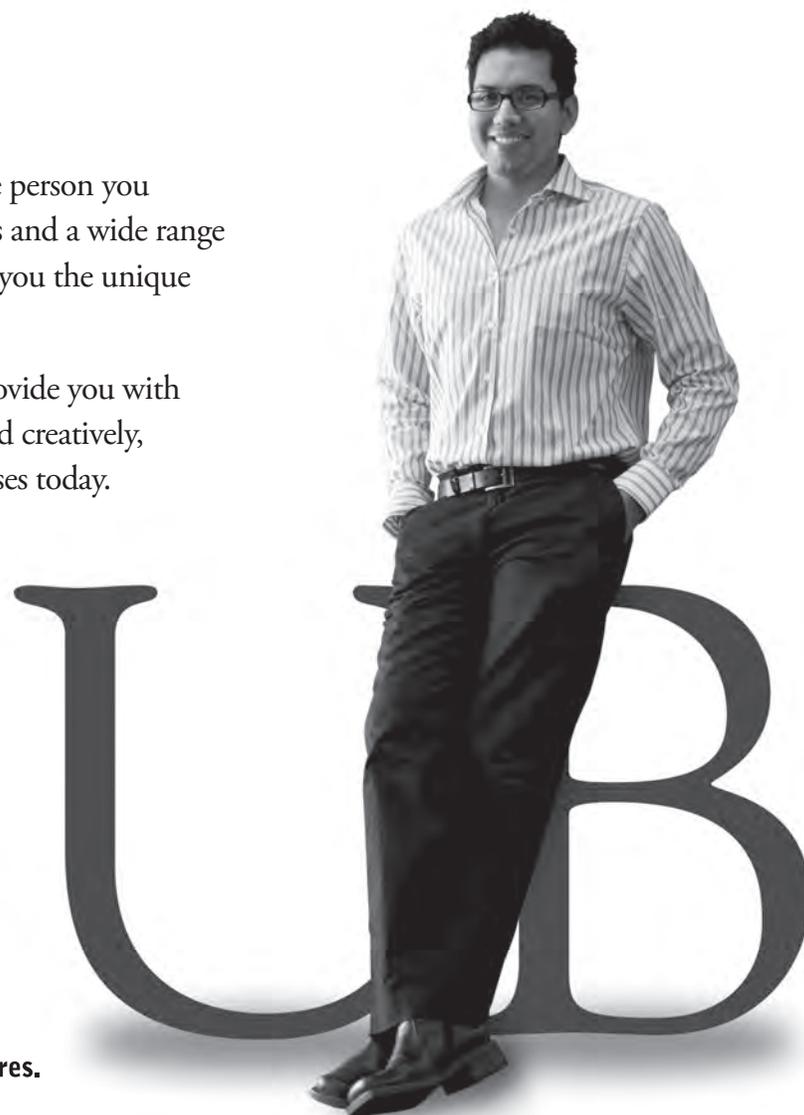
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No Regrets: *Have you considered following your dreams?*



By SallyAnn Garvey-Lumumba
Live Wire Editor

When I was growing up, I remember the most popular question I was asked; “What do you want to be when you grow up?” It’s a question that I always had an answer for even though my dreams changed and evolved.

But, at a certain indefinable point, these aspirations were supposed to shift and become concrete. At the passing of that threshold, choosing astronaut, world-renowned journalist or supermodel wasn’t socially sufficient anymore. I was supposed to go from childhood fantasy to career choice. We all have them, the childhood desires we have since abandoned. But why did we put them aside? Were they really so impossible? Or did we just fall victim to doubt?

So, I’m asking you to consider, for just a moment, your childhood dream. No matter how silly it seems or how impossible it would be to achieve, and if even a tiny part of you still twinges when you imagine circling the globe or posing for Vogue magazine you owe it to yourself to try. According to a study conducted in the United Kingdom by Monster.co.uk, the outcome might be dismal if you don’t.

According to the study, adults in their 40s were found to be most fed up in their chosen careers, with 47 percent wishing they had followed their dreams instead. A total of 42 percent of participants wished they had chased their childhood ambitions instead of pursuing their current career.

The study seemed to show that men are the most dissatisfied, with 44 percent frustrated at their jobs compared to 40 percent of women. Many of these individuals cited financial and familial pressures for choosing their current position.

Now, here’s my disclaimer: I’m not saying you must quit your job or leave school to pursue your love of Civil War battle reenacting. I’m saying find a way to be involved with that simple childhood desire.

Join a space camp or write an op-ed for a local paper. You might love it, you might hate it, but either way you owe it to that 8-year-old part of yourself to give it a try.

We’re living in a world filled with uncertainty, but we can’t hold off on our dreams for a time when our savings account is full or the job market has rebounded. We have to make the most with what we’ve got. As a nation, only 45 percent of Americans say they are happy at their current job, according to a 2010 Conference Board Study.

Sure, some childhood dreams are more difficult to achieve than others, say cat-juggling or becoming a dinosaur. But finding a way to connect what you’re doing for work to your childhood dream is a great way to reconnect with your goals. There’s no reason to crush your dreams to dust. Believe me, there are enough people willing to do that for you if you’d let them.

Perhaps you are already doing what you love without a speck of doubt, and if so, I offer sincere kudos. But I think we can all use a little dose of the whimsy and happiness trying to fulfill a childhood dream could offer.

Sure, childhood dreams were fluid, they changed often, but they offered a snapshot of your aspirations before you cared about the economy, student loans or taxes.

Financial responsibility leads us to settle for jobs we “don’t hate” over searching for jobs we truly love, and who would blame us? It’s not easy, and often closer to impossible, to take risks.

But even in the face of economic odds, I ask you to make pursuing your childhood dream a priority. I realize that it’s optimistic and simplistic to hope everyone who reads this can, or would even want to, pursue a childhood passion, but, I hope that some of you will.

Beating the Holiday Blues

By Faith Montaperto
Live Wire Staff Writer

Even though the holidays are a time for remembering what we are grateful for, they can be very hard for many of us. It’s tough to look at the bright side, when the turkey is burning in the oven, your little brother has opened your gifts, Uncle Ned is getting wasted in the garage, and your parents are fighting. Yes, the holidays can be a trying time, even if you have the best family and friends. But there are a few steps you can take, before things start to go downhill. Here are a few recommendations to help keep the Holiday Blues far, far away:

- 1. REST** Take a nap, get cozy by the fire place. If you really want to enjoy the happenings, you must be rested enough to take part in them.
- 2. EAT, DRINK, & BE MERRY** Eat healthy food and drink plenty of water! Get enough in you, so you aren’t starving and ready to kill somebody for a drumstick. If you are thirsty right now, reading this, you are already dehydrated.
- 3. BE GRATEFUL** Make a gratitude list. Of course, this is something that can be done any time of the year and I highly recommend it, whenever you are down. Grab a piece of paper and a pen. For each letter of the alphabet, you must come up with at least one item you are grateful for, that begins with each letter. Even the Grinch swears by a gratitude list.
- 4. REMEMBER** Light a candle, sing a song, visit a grave, or simply take a moment to remember those you miss who aren’t here this holiday season. Running from

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grief and sadness doesn’t work. So take a little bit of time to sit with those feelings. But then make a plan and decide to do something else. Don’t let your sadness take away from all the beauty this time of year has to offer. Your loved ones wouldn’t want that.

- 5. GIVE** Help someone less fortunate than you. Go serve a meal at your local food kitchen, pick up some extra groceries and leave them for someone you know needs help or drop a \$5 in someone’s kettle. There is much truth in the theory that helping others helps to take our minds off our own troubles. And of course, it just feels good to give.
- 6. CREATE** Start a tradition. I’m Jewish. For Christmas, when I was a little girl, my Mom and I would always order in Chinese food and watch all nine hours of “The Godfather” trilogy. I really miss those days. Even though they aren’t here anymore, that’s not going to stop me from celebrating with my *Italian Family!*
- 7. EXPERIENCE** Slow down. There’s so much to do and so little time to do it. Stop, take a breath, and look around, or you might miss the whole thing!
- 8. LOVE** Hug people. From the time we come into this world, to the time we leave, every living creature wants just one thing: to love and to be loved. Let the people you care about know that you care. And let everyone know that they are important. It’s not enough to just love your family and friends. Reach out to the mail carrier, the librarian, the bus driver or teacher. Let people know that you really see them and you appreciate the difference they make in your life and in the lives of others.

Letter to the Editor

As a first hand participant in the beginning of the occupy Hartford (OH) movement, I have been keeping tabs of the news broadcasts and constantly defending this movement's essence. I attended the meetings and participated in the march that clogged up the streets of downtown Hartford with over 600 protesters. I am sympathetic to the cause and plight of the 99 percent of Americans that are not given the same opportunities that were afforded our parents and grandparents. So, I wanted to give my opinion of the article I read in the MCC newspaper.

In "What's the Deal with Occupy Wall Street?" by Jelani Burrell [Oct. 24, 2011, page 8], I came across some inaccuracies and misrepresentations. At the end of the first paragraph, the writer questioned if we know what the Occupy movement is all about, but I would like to ask if he knows. When scanning through the next line, I found an acronym of OWSP, for the Occupy Wall St. Protests, which no less sums up the first four letters of "Occupy Wall St. Protests" but has no bearing on this movement. Albeit a small mistake, but one that shows me, a participant in the movement, that even though the acronym OWS is repeated a million times in each article on the movement, this writer didn't come across it once in the "13 hours" of reading on the subject.

As far as what caused our nation to require a movement that focuses on the financial disparity between classes, the writer was on target. It is a well-known fact that [former Pres. Ronald] Reagan's "trickle-down" economy, where tax breaks are given to the rich so their spending can work its way down through our classes, has not lived up to its dream. Also the positive reinforcement our government gives to shady businesses, by not passing

legislation or prosecuting the misdeeds that happen, have expedited the economic collapse we've seen.

This woke America up; this showed that change was needed. So we elected President Obama, hoping he could bring the change he believed was necessary. The OWS movement is a direct response from the promised change that has happened. So the "thesis for an English class that was due two and a half years ago, but was just turned in," we were still in awe that we elected the first African-American president and were awaiting his orders.

My major concern with this article was the spewing of the default grievances that I have been answering repeatedly for the last three months. "There is no proposed legislative goal, and they are not organized," has been the mantra of more than a few opponents to the OWS movement. Basically, the critics feel that if the protesters cannot come up with legislation, then they are aimless.

However, a "goal" is not particularly necessary. Looking back our nation's history, have any protests been coupled with legislation since the Revolutionary War? The Civil Rights Movement was for the abolishment of certain legislation initially, with the sit-ins and marches, but the legislators rose from the ranks to change our Constitution. In the 1960's, students and others protested the Vietnam War (among other things) in which marches and teach-ins were held, but when students were repressed by the National Guard do you think they thought of legislation? No! They put a flower in the barrel of the guns in symbolic protest of oppression overall.

We elect legislators to speak on our behalf,

and legislation from OWS will come once this fledgling movement takes hold. From the ranks of peeved college graduates and failing middle class families, we will find leaders. They may not be leaders of the movement, but leaders of our country that will really listen to what the American people need.

Lastly, I just wanted to touch on the choice of countries the writer used to represent the "26 sovereign states" in this article, mostly the "People's Republic of China... North Korea... and Russia." If you haven't "been living under a rock lately," then you'll understand these are three countries people think of in fear. The author should have mentioned that Iran also has an Occupied Movement. Though, Iran's slogan is more along the lines of "kill Americans." When writing a piece to promote something to others, don't equate them to things people fear.

All in all, this article did not make me feel that the author knew the subject matter. Instead of reading 13 hours worth of, what seems to have been odd books lying around, he could have benefited by going down to Turning Point Park at the corner of Broad Street and Asylum Avenue in Hartford and reporting on what is actually occurring. I urge all my fellow students to have an informed opinion on this movement because they can clear [the parks], but they cannot stop the discussions that are all ready happening around the dinner tables.

Nathan Cheatham

The Live Wire welcomes and encourages responses to published items. Send them by email to livewire@mcc.commnet.edu or bring them to the Live Wire office, Lowe 154j.

Opinions in Brief:

Lust Feels Good, Love is Better

By Ever Teran
Live Wire Staff Writer

Do you know the difference between love and lust? It can be hard to distinguish between the two.

Some doctors have divided love into three categories: lust, attraction, and attachment. Lust and love often get confused.

In some studies, subjects have been given a scan of their brain while they watch a neutral scene that then becomes an erotic scene. Those studies revealed that, when the images become more graphic, testosterone and endorphins begin to run through the prefrontal cortex, a part of the brain. The longer the scenes are watched the more the prefrontal cortex glows. It feels good.

As this portion of the brain is glowing, the rest becomes numb and inactive. That numb portion is where rational, or conscious thought, is found. That is why many times we act upon our feelings or emotions instead of rational thoughts, because we lose sense of our consciousness and act on those good feelings. If those good feelings get high enough, then love develops. If not, then the feelings remain at that basic, superficial level.

Pleasure is not a bad thing, but the selfishness of just wanting pleasure and using another person as an object of gratification is what makes lust evil. Love is about wanting to make the other person happy and giving it all you've got to make things work even when the situation is complicated. That is why when it is love, we do impossible things for others, sometimes knowing that person won't appreciate what we are doing, but we still do it.

Some of us can see an example of love in our parents. Sometimes they tell us not to do something and we still do it, but our parents always keep insisting we listen to them because they truly love us. Love doesn't want anything in exchange; it just wants our happiness and safety.

It is normal to think you love someone, but don't engage in intimacy just for pleasure. That is using others as an object to please your sexual appetite. Before you go there, ask yourself, is it lust or love?

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HE SAID

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn, Part 1: Is it Any Good?

SHE SAID

By Jelani Burrell & Faith Montaperto
Live Wire Staff Writers

SHE SAID:

Why are vampires so sexy? Well, first of all, the whole immortal thing is pretty incredible. This movie dictates the romantic nuptials of our lead characters Bella Swan and her Vampire Lover, Edward. Almost from the beginning we are thrown into the event of the year, taking place in Forks: Bella and Edward's wedding. There seems to be no Bridezilla here. In fact, Bella is probably the calmest bride I've ever seen, considering she's a virgin and is also marrying into a coven of vampires. That would give anyone some heebie-jeebies.

But Bella approaches her life choice with a calming fierceness, reminiscent of other noteworthy beauties such as actresses Marlene Dietrich or Lillian Gish, of the silent screen era. That is the appeal, I believe for older followers of the Twilight series as well as for younger followers, although I don't believe they know it. There is an old-fashioned feel to Bella and Edward's romance and an unspoken promise of the ages.

Twilight has all the makings of a rich, full life: love, family, friendship, suspense, adventure. These thematic influences touch deeply on the proverbial soul of what makes us human. A major advancement in *Breaking Dawn* is the introduction of baby demon, Renesmee, Bella and Edward's love child. Moments after she is born, Jacob, Bella's werewolf-best friend, imprints on their daughter, leaving us drooling in anticipation of a future romance between the two.

Aside from the movie ending so abruptly, leaving me and the rest of the audience wanting more, I'd say *Breaking Dawn* is a wonderful addition to the *Twilight Saga*.

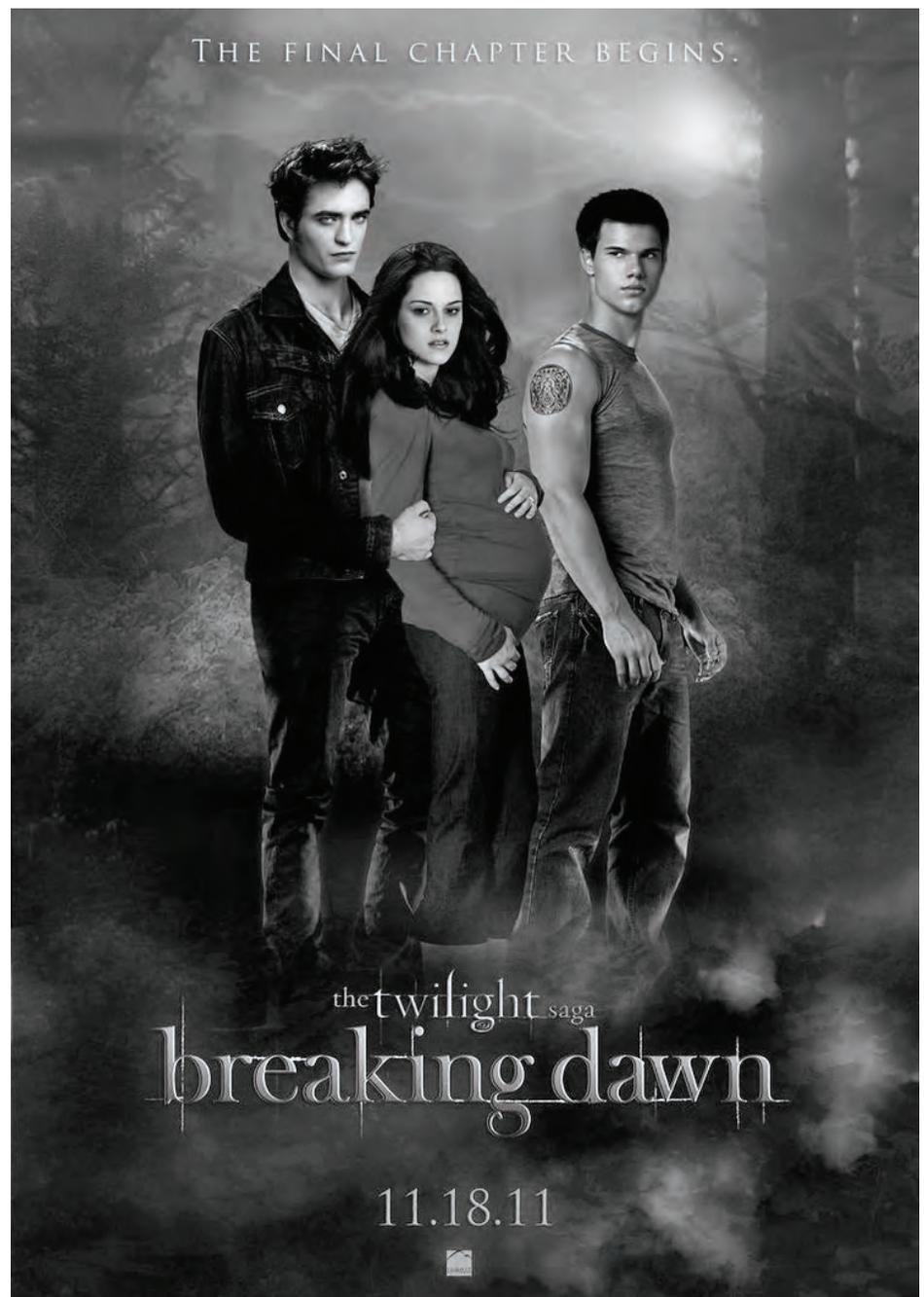


Image Courtesy of: KKSH.org

HE SAID:

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn, Part 1, was absolutely ridiculous. I won't lie, I saw it. I'm ashamed to say that I was deceived by the previews, like many of my fellow unsuspecting moviegoers. They made it look good; they made it look tolerable, with glimpses of fights and drama. And within the first half hour, I realized that I'd regret the \$7 I paid for my children's ticket (Of course I bought a child's ticket, it's a child's movie).

The acting by leads Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart was so horrendous it made a dud like *Gigli* look Oscar-worthy. It may be a cliché that Stewart only uses one facial expression, but it is fact. The girl's face didn't move, even when the scene called for expression. The fact that she's managed to find menial work in a movie outside of the franchise is beyond my comprehension. Pattinson's acting was no better. The only emotion the audience can elicit from his face is constipation. Like his co-star, there were several points where his "acting" was nothing more than an incomplete expression and soft speaking.

I wish we could have seen more of Elizabeth Reaser, a fully capable actress who knows how to convey emotion. I find that Peter Facinelli's performance was marred only by poor makeup; he looked pale and undercooked, like the chicken at Hometown Buffet. Though Michael Sheen is capable of playing well any role handed to him, I feel that his appearance in this film and throughout the series is gratuitous and ambitious. It's almost as if they wanted to pad the series with a few talented actors in smaller roles to legitimize what is clearly banal melodrama laying on top of a subpar script and shaky camerawork. I will say that they did a very good job of capturing certain scenes. Some shots of the Cullen home are enough to make architecture aficionados drool, and the shots of Paraty, in Rio de Janeiro, were stunning.

As the storyline (slowly) progressed, I found myself waiting for the action scenes alluded to in the previews. I couldn't wait for the werewolf brawl. I was let down horribly. At this scene the action looked good, but I was unable to truly see what was going down due to the spasm of the camera crew, which I believed to consist entirely of seizing epileptics.

Oscar and Golden Globe-winning director Bill Condon directed *Breaking Dawn*. The cinematography was done by Guillermo Navarro, who won an Oscar for cinematography for the film *Pan's Labyrinth*. There was obvious talent on this set, it just wasn't in most of the cast.

I conclude that though *Breaking Dawn* may leave a lot to be desired onscreen, it will please its fans and entertain some moviegoers.



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MCC Lady Cougars
Claw their Way to Victory



Above: Amy Bellone, Number 21, shoots a basket during the game against Springfield Technical Community College Nov. 29.



Rachel Francis, Number 22, fights through Springfield Tech's defenses on her way to scoring.



Above: Asia Beatty drives the ball down court unopposed, to successfully score (below).



Lady Cougars Enjoying Stellar Season

Manchester Community College's women's basketball team had an overall record of 5-2, as of Dec. 7, making them Number One in NJCAA Division III Region 21! The top three teams qualify for post season competition. MCC has qualified for championship play for the past several years. The Cougar's next home game is Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 6 p.m. against the Community College of Rhode Island. All home games are held in the gymnasium in Great Path Academy. For more information about the team and its schedule visit www.mcc.commnet.edu/athletics/wbasketball.php.

Photos by Rich Carpenter

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January 12

NBA Christmas Day Opener to Feature Five Full Games

By Dan Dobbyn
Live Wire Assistant Editor

The NBA is back and merrier than ever! Arena doors will open for business again Christmas day after the players and owners agreed to end the lockout, and not a moment too soon to salvage a season.

Five Christmas day games will be played this year, instead of the usual tripleheader, and as usual, Christmas is going to bring out the best the NBA has to offer.

The season will start at the "World's Most Famous" place to lose a home game: Madison Square Garden. The New York Knicks will host the Boston Celtics at 12:30 p.m., when the Knicks will be humbly reminded why they haven't won a championship in 37 years. Also, I'd like to point out that the Knicks are on an 8-game losing streak against the Celtics, including a first-round sweep in the playoffs.

In related news, there are rumors that New Orleans Hornets guard Chris Paul wants a trade to the Knicks. Sigh.

Onto our second game, at 2:30 p.m., which will be a rematch of last year's NBA Championship. The Dallas Mavericks, led by forward Dirk Nowitski, will play host to the Miami Heat and the Big 3: Lebron James, Dwayne Wade and Chris Bosh.

This game aside, I certainly believe that there's no reason why the Heat shouldn't win it all this year. The Heat really came together apart from the Big 3 during last year's playoff run. Players like Mike Miller, Mario Chalmers and Joel Anthony did their jobs well, and although it all came apart in the finals, it should come back together early this year. Plus, that championship ring cannot elude Lebron forever.

The 5 p.m. game will feature the Los Angeles Lakers at the Chicago Bulls. The Lakers have former Cleveland Cavaliers head coach Mike Brown at the helm in the wake of Zen Master Phil Jackson retiring from the position. Brown has handled the aforementioned Lebron James very well while they were in Cleveland, despite the lack of rings. But that was just one guy. It'll be interesting to see if he can handle three superstars - Kobe Bryant, Andrew Bynum and Pao Gasol - and the personalities of Kardashian-husband Lamar Odom and the player formerly known as Ron Artest.



Image courtesy of Floatingthought.co.uk

Brown will have to rely heavily on the professionalism of guard Derek Fisher to help keep things in check until he can get a hold on things. This year should be interesting in Lakertown.

Side note: Ron Artest legally changed his name to Metta World Peace as of Sept. 16; "Metta" is the first name and "World Peace" is his last name. You can now purchase his #15 Laker's shirts and jerseys with "Peace" or "World Peace" on the back. I hope I get one for Christmas, but I digress.

The 8 p.m. game will be in Oklahoma City, as the Thunder host Dwight Howard and the Orlando Magic. I am going to call it right now: Orlando has a first round exit in the playoffs, Stan Van Gundy gets fired as Orlando's head coach, and Dwight leaves on his own accord.

Rounding out the festivities will be the 10:30 p.m. game, featuring Blake Griffin the dunk machine as his L.A. Clippers go to Golden State to play the Warriors. Another bold statement: both of these teams make the Western Conference playoffs.

So there's your Christmas Day opening day lineup for the NBA. A lot of storylines to follow, and only 66 regular season games to cover them. Enjoy the season, NBA fans!



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“In the vein of Occupy Wall Street, what would you choose to occupy?”

WORD
ON CAMPUS



Jenny Garcia

“I would occupy the town offices that are against gay marriage”

Human Services



Anthony Ackon

“[Pres.] Obama has made people pay taxes. We are the ones paying the taxes, but not the ones benefiting from them. I would occupy the government.”

Criminal Justice



Andrew Maulaucci

“I would occupy Washington, D.C., Congress. They don't get the message. They need to wake up and stop fighting with each other so much.”

General Studies



Lezley TwoBears

“Big business is a socialist community. I would occupy banks and other financial institutions. I'd sit there until they had to live the way we live. I'd occupy Congress, until they had to live in the same conditions.”

Retail Entrepreneurial Option



Thien Truong

“I don't like the theory of Rule 72, where banks get double the money that the public gets. I would occupy financial institutions.”

Campus visitor



Pam Hodge

“My beef is that the nation has gotten away from family values. Young people have no self-respect, no sense of self-worth. It bothers me that adults are not setting good examples for kids.”

Continuing Education

photos by Faith Monteperto

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