



Student Government Off To A Running Start to the 2010-2011 School Year

Manchester Community College starts every year with a new Student Government Association (SGA). Similar to the U.S. Government set-up there is the president, a vice president, a treasurer, and of course senators. The main focus of SGA is to get more students involved in campus activities and create cohesion among the clubs on campus.

The current Student Senate President Julie Larkin has been working with Kellie Gilbert, the SGA's public relations/ marketing representative to reach a new audience that can engage students more actively in campus activities.

"We want to encourage and support clubs to be more active on campus, by hosting their own activities," said Larkin.

The new SGA officers will go through training sessions that will effectively instruct them how to carry out their day to day duties that fall under their titles ranging from paperwork and record keeping to event advertisements.

The SGA is also trying to get students to come out to events, a challenge on a commuter campus like MCC. Earlier this year, the SGA held a combined Fall Welcome Festival/ Club Day in a new and innovative way to generate more enthusiasm for MCC's clubs.

All MCC students are able to join the SGA, said Ben White, social vice president. General Meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at 3 p.m. The remaining meetings for this semester will



Photo by Rich Carpenter

Alex Herpst, treasurer of the SGA, presents the budget report as SGA President Julie Larkin looks on during the October general meeting.

By Vinny Papa
Live Wire Staff Writer

be Nov. 6 and Dec. 8, both in the Great Path Academy Commons. During general meetings, students can have a say in how their student fees are

spent, vote on club events, share your ideas and opinions and stay informed about programs MCC has to offer. For more information contact Vice President Chelsea Seamon at: ma-sga-vp@mcc.comnet.edu.

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Are You Too Dumb to Vote Nov. 2?



Photos provided by: Google images

By Susan Garvey
Live Wire Staff Writer

Are some people too dumb to vote? Reporter John Stossel came to just that conclusion in a story that aired on Fox news on September 28th. Stossel went to Times Square and asked people if they could identify the man and the women shown in picture one and picture two above. Most could not correctly identify the man as John Boehner (R-Ohio)

the House Minority Leader nor could they identify Nancy Pelosi (D-California), the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

It was not surprising that the same people had no trouble recognizing the photos Stossel showed them of the stars of current TV reality shows, because when he did the same exercise two years ago just before the presidential election, the people he talked to could identify Judge Judy but not Supreme Court Justice Ruth Ginsberg. Although few recognized Joe Biden

two years ago, seventy five percent of the people in interviewed in times square this September recognized him as the vice president of the United States.

If you don't recognize the gentlemen in pictures two and three, rest assured that The Live Wire does not think you are too dumb to vote but just that you might have some homework to do before the November 2nd election. Picture three is of Representative John Larson and he is your rep-

resentative if you live in the twenty seven Connecticut towns that comprise District One including Manchester, Hartford, East Hartford, West Hartford, Bloomfield, Windsor, East Windsor, Windsor Locks, East Granby and Granby. The man in picture four is Joe Courtney and he is the representative from District Two, a district that includes sixty five towns.

Please see **Vote** pg 3

Ballroom Dance Club

The ballroom dance club meets every Thursday 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Lowe Lobby, with practices to follow. It is free for students and no experience or partner are necessary, just a love of dance. For more information contact Alexander Herpst, darteous@yahoo.com.

Poetry Club Meetings

The Poetry Club meets every Monday from 3:30-5 p.m. in AST-T201. Open mics will be held from 6-8 p.m. Oct. 28, Nov. 17, and Dec. 9 in Great Path Academy Commons. For more information contact Jeanine DeRusha at jderusha@mcc.commnet.edu.

Counseling Center Stress Reduction Program

The Counseling Center is holding a program called "Oasis in the Overwhelm" on Wednesday, Nov. 10 at 12:30 p.m. in Great Path Academy Commons. The program will be hosted by Millie Grenough, a clinical instructor at Yale University of Medicine, and all faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend. For more information contact Nylsa Ubarri-Young at (860) 512-3324 or go to the Counseling Center in Lowe 108. You may also contact the Counseling Center at (860) 512-3320.

Sustainability & Environment Club Meetings

The Sustainability & Environment Club meets every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in AST-T201. For more information contact Pauline Lizotte at (860) 512-2721.

Come Get Your Dance On

The MCC Dance Club meets every Monday and Wednesday from 3:30-4:45 p.m. in the SBM Charitable Foundation Auditorium in the lobby of the AST building. For more information about the club, contact Wanda Haynes, (860) 512-2691, Katherine Jones-Ross, (860) 512-3213, or Maura O'Connor, (860) 512-2692.

Spread the Word of Faith

The Catholic Club, also known as the Newman Club, is a student group actively recruiting new members. Our club will plan community service activities, campus lectures, and offer opportunities for faith development. Roman Catholics and those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith are invited to join. For more information, contact club advisor James Gentile at jgentile@mcc.commnet.edu.

Drama at MCC

The MCC Drama Club meets this semester Oct. 26 and Nov. 16 from 2:30-4 p.m. in the SBM Charitable Foundation Auditorium in the lobby of the AST building. For more information about the club contact Kaarina Finegan either by phone, (860) 512-2664, or via email, kfinegan@mcc.commnet.edu.

Put your Speakers on ICE

ICE Radio, MCC's Internet Radio Station Club, meets twice a month from 11 a.m. to 12 noon in LRC A-108 (conference room next to the library). Upcoming meetings are Nov. 3 and 17, and Dec. 1 and 15. Questions/ideas? Email us at iceradio@mcc.commnet.edu; visit us in our NEW studio, Lowe 148, next to the MCC Bookstore; or leave a message in the "ICE Box": (860) 512-3295. Listen LIVE at: www.mcc.commnet.edu/ice.

Get Your Flu Shot

A flu clinic will be held Wednesday, Nov. 3, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Great Path Academy Commons. Accepted insurances include ConnectiCare, Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Medicare, Aetna and Healthnet. Without insurance the cost is \$37, payable by cash or check only. An appointment is not needed. Come in, fill out the forms, get in line and roll up your sleeves. (Yes "speed passes" will be available as they have in the past. The clinic is open to anyone, students, faculty, staff and the community, but not small children. Cookies will be provided for all vaccinated individuals. The vaccine will protect against H1N1, Influenza A and Influenza B.

THE LIVE WIRE**Like what you see?**

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Queer Corner

By Samson Zarek Hampton
PRIDE Club Treasurer

MCC PRIDE is the club on campus that offers support and resources to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and Straight Allies on campus. We organize social activities and educate members and others on campus about GLBTQI issues.

Here's what we've been up to and what's coming up:

On **Sept. 19**, a few members from the MCC Pride Club attended "Out at the Park" at Six Flags New England. The park was closed down as it was a private event and it offered big name entertainment from the queer community. The big hit seemed to be the infamous Drag Queen Jujubee from the Logo Channel's Rupaul Drag U. As America's most well known drag queen Rupaul hosts a TV show on Logo where she takes average Jane's and turns them into sexy, sparkly divas. "Out at the Park" featured a "drag race" where participants were able to dress up in drag and compete in an improv drag competition. Maybe at the MCC Drag Show you can bring out your inner diva? More to come on that.

Oct. 11 is National Coming Out Day. National Coming Out Day is Oct. 11 because the first national March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights took place Oct. 11, 1987. It's a day on which to acknowledge those who are still in the closet and to make it visibly known that there are safe, accepting spaces in which to come out and be supported through the process. The PRIDE club chose to celebrate National Coming Out Day by chalking the campus with inspirational quotes, sayings and even drawings. This was done in hopes of bringing attention to the fact that this is a welcoming campus and that there is support for students who may be struggling with issues concerning sexuality and gender identity. One chalking piece highlighted the idea of it all. It read, "All who enter here are welcome to be whoever you are."

Back by popular demand is MCC's Annual Drag Show! Once the MCC PRIDE club took off this year everyone seemed to be asking the same question: when will the drag show be? Well, here it comes folks. Mark your calendars for Thursday, Nov. 18, from 7 – 9 p.m. in the SBM Charitable Foundation Auditorium in the lobby of the AST. As always, half of the proceeds made from ticket sales will be going to the local non-profit organization True Colors Inc. True Colors is an advocacy group for GBLT youth in Connecticut and holds an annual conference at the University of Connecticut, runs a mentoring program and places GBLTIQQ youth in foster care for the state Department of Children and Families. So come have some amazing fun and support the community at the same time. Word on the street says a Live Wire Staff member may be performing in the Drag Show, so keep your eyes and ears open.

Continued from **Vote** pg 1

He is your representative if you live in Bolton, Coventry, Ellington, Enfield, Mansfield, Stafford, Somers, Tolland or VVerono. Both men are up for re-election on November 2nd. If you didn't recognize any of the above pictures, you might consider enrolling in Professor Messoré's American Government class next semester because he'll make sure you that you do!

Continued from **Govt.** pg 1

A subcommittee of the SGA includes the Student Activities Committee, which meets the first Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. Upcoming meetings will be held Nov. 3 and Dec 1, both in Great Path Academy Commons. Gilbert said students can plan events on campus and meet lots of people doing it. Future events include a Battle of the Bands and Spring Fling. For more information contact Kellie Gilbert via email at:

MA-SGA-Exec-Senator-2@mcc.commnet.edu

The Student Senate officers for the 2010-2011 school year are:

Julie Larkin- President
Chelsea Seamon- Vice President
Benjamin White- Social Vice President
Alex Herpst- Treasurer
Elitha Lott- Secretary
Keisha Freckleton- Office Manager (formerly Executive Senator I)
Kelly Gilbert- PR/Marketing Manager (formerly Executive Senator II)

MCC PRIDE CLUB ANNUAL DRAG SHOW

NOV. 18, 2010

7-9pm

SBM Charitable Foundation
AUDITORIUM



Half of all proceeds go to MCC PRIDE Club & Half go to True Colors Inc.

True Colors is a non-profit organization that works with other social service agencies, schools, organizations, and within communities to meet the needs of sexual and gender youth.

For more information visit the Manchester Community College PRIDE Club Page on Facebook.

Meet a Staffer

Cafeteria Chef



Mike Casey

Photo by: Rich Carpenter

How did you get involved in cooking?

I was a baker back in the 80s. Ever since then, I've liked to cook.

Who inspired you to cook?

Chefs from television shows, especially Emeril.

What led you to MCC?

Through a friend at another company.

How long have you been cooking at MCC?

I've been cooking for six years here at MCC.

Do you like to cook on your days off?

No.

Who do you cook for?

I cook for my family.

What's the most memorable event you have cooked for?

Thanksgiving.

What's your favorite meal?

Spaghetti and Meatballs.

What's your favorite restaurant?

Portofino's [in Berlin].

What's your favorite cooking reality series and who is your favorite chef?

"Hell's Kitchen" and Chef [Gordon] Ramsay.

What other jobs have you had?

Harbor Park Restaurant [in Middletown].

Tell us about your band.

The band's name is Neutral Ground. We're in the studio recording right now for our second CD. We have two YouTube videos out.

Who are some of your favorite bands/musicians?

The Eagles, Metallica, and The Who.

Do you have any other hobbies?

I have an antique business.

Is there a quote that inspires you?

I'm inspired by lyrics and writing.

If you could have dinner with three people (living or dead), who would they be?

Elvis, my mom (she passed away), and Chef Ramsay.

Where is your favorite place to go on vacation?

New Hampshire.

If you could live the life of a fictional character, who would it be?

Homer Simpson.

By Alex Obert
Live Wire Webmaster

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FALL
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November 13

English Professor



Photo by: Rich Carpenter

Jeanine DeRusha

Meet a Professor

What is your hometown?

East Longmeadow, Mass.

By Rhonda Ransom
Live Wire Staff Writer**Where did you go to college?**

I attended the University of Massachusetts for undergraduate studies and the University of Washington for graduate school.

Where have you worked previously?

I worked for five years at the University of California, Berkeley, in the Financial Aid Office; after that, I became a part-time faculty member at Holyoke Community College and Manchester Community College.

What is your advice for anyone who is interested in majoring in English at a university?

I think majoring in English is great because writing well is important in any career; however, I'd recommend that students think ahead about what they want to do, specifically: editing? teaching? An English major has to consider how that might translate to a career after graduation. It's wonderful to major in something just because you think it's beautiful...but you have to think about rent, too. Sorry for being a realist.

Why did you choose to teach? Why did you choose to work at Manchester Community College?

Years ago, while in graduate school, I visited a community college classroom in Tacoma, Wash., and fell in love with teaching in this environment. After teaching a few classes during graduate school, I was certain teaching was for me. I love writing (I actually have a [Master of Fine Arts] in creative writing), and so I love teaching writing. That moment when a student realizes he or she writes well or has improved is a beautiful thing. It's an honor to work with students. When I considered moving back to the west coast, I talked to my father about good community colleges in this area – he immediately recommended MCC. I actually was hired to teach at MCC while still living Seattle, Wash.!

How long have you worked at MCC?

I started teaching as a part-time faculty member in 2001.

What are your favorite books?I'll always love *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger; recently, I read *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy and it blew me away. I also really loved *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* by Michael Chabon; I didn't want that book to end – I kept reading it more and more slowly just so I didn't have to finish.**Who is your favorite author?**

I don't really have just one – I love specific books. I like the poet Robert Hass very much; I guess I'd say that I love all of his books, though I wouldn't call him my "favorite" author.

Have you written anything that has been published?

I've had several poems published in literary journals.

What activities are you involved in at MCC?

I've been the advisor to MCC's Poetry Club since 2007. In 2007, I was one of many chaperones on the Habitat for Humanity trip to New Orleans (organized by Professor Lucy Hurston) – it was one of the best experiences of my life. I also am a mentor in the Sister-to-Sister program.

What classes do you frequently teach at MCC?

I usually teach English 066, 101, and/or 200.

What is your favorite movie?I watch a lot of movies – it's my favorite rainy day activity. I like Harold and Maude, *Lost in Translation*, *Annie Hall*, and *Blade Runner*. ...too many favorites to think of!**What type of music do you like?**

I love music – I'm stuck in the past and like music from the 1980s and 90s, such as Prince, Nirvana, Jane's Addiction, Lauryn Hill.

Who is your favorite artist?

Visual artist? Just like with authors, I don't have one favorite – I like specific pieces. I love Georges de La Tour's Mary Magdalene paintings – I don't know why. They are so beautiful and peaceful, but sad. I have a print of John Singer Sargent's painting "Fumée d'Ambre Gris" in my office, which I love.

If there is someone from history you would like to meet, who would it be?

That's too much pressure! Geez, I don't know. On the one hand, there are so many people I'd like to meet; on the other hand, I'd probably feel too shy to actually talk to them. I mean, what could I possibly say to Shakespeare or Martin Luther King? I'm totally dodging this question.

What do you do in you spare time?

I don't have spare time. When I'm not grading student papers, I play with my two-year old son. I go to playgrounds a lot. If I had spare time, I would go to Manhattan, which is one of my favorite places. I'd also probably nap. I really like to nap.

If you were stuck on an island, name a person or a thing you would like to have with you?

Can I bring two people? I'd bring my husband, Matt, and our son, Oliver. I'd also bring notebooks for writing (I assume I'd get a lot of writing done stuck on a deserted island). My son would probably bring lots of stuffed animals.

Ask An Advisor: Wanda Reyes-Dawes

1. What is an Academic Advisor?

At MCC, an Academic Advisor is a professionally trained counselor, faculty or staff member whose primary goal is to guide you through your academic journey.

2. What can I expect from an Academic Advisor?

- To provide you with timely and accurate information regarding degree and certificate programs.
- To inform you of the various support services available to you as a student.
- To facilitate any information that will help you navigate the college environment more successfully.
- To notify you of his/her duty to report to a higher authority if you disclose that you may wish to hurt yourself or others for the safety of the college community.

3. What does an Academic Advisor expect from me?

- To keep your scheduled appointments. If you are not able to keep your appointment with the Academic Advisor, your responsibility is to call or email and let him/her know that you are unable to meet.
- To be prepared with any relevant information to ensure your appointment will be productive, as well as any pertinent questions that will help you make better informed decisions.
- To keep the Academic Advisor abreast of any new developments that may prevent you from being a successful student.



Photo by Rich Carpenter

About the Author:

Wanda Reyes-Dawes is a counselor in the Counseling Center. If you have questions about counseling or how to make the best of your Academic Advising options, email them to the Live Wire to livewire@mcc.commnet.edu and we'll publish them in the next issue.

4. What are Advising Weeks?

Advising Weeks is a month-long academic advising initiative on campus. All Academic Advisors are available to meet during their specified hours, which are posted outside of their respective offices. Advising Weeks takes place during spring (March-April) and fall (October-November) semesters. All students are encouraged to see and meet with their Academic Advisors. This year, Advising Weeks start on Monday, October 25 and conclude on Friday, November 19.

5. How can I best prepare for an advising session?

You should have the following items:

- Your NetID and password
- Any unofficial transcripts from other colleges/universities
- Questions
- Any other relevant information that will help the Academic Advisor to better assist you.



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Local Food and Fun Featured at Taste! Organic Festival

By Susan Garvey
Live Wire Staff Writer

The 10th Annual Taste! Organic Festival was held on Sept. 19, at the Manchester Bicentennial Band Shell behind Manchester Community College. The event was sponsored by CT-Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) and MCC and was attended by more than 1,265 people including 200 kids who attended for free, and 65 student volunteers from MCC and Great Path Academy, as well as another 50 NOFA volunteers and 15 vendors/farmers.

Taste! is an annual event designed to celebrate Connecticut's bounty and is the only local and organic festival in the state. It offers a farmer's market, fresh prepared food, live music, sustainable vendors, artisans and



Photo contributed by Andrew Paterna.

The Taste! Organic Festival was held on the lawn near the Manchester Bicentennial Band Shell.

free workshops and activities. In fact there were 55 booths for attendees to peruse.

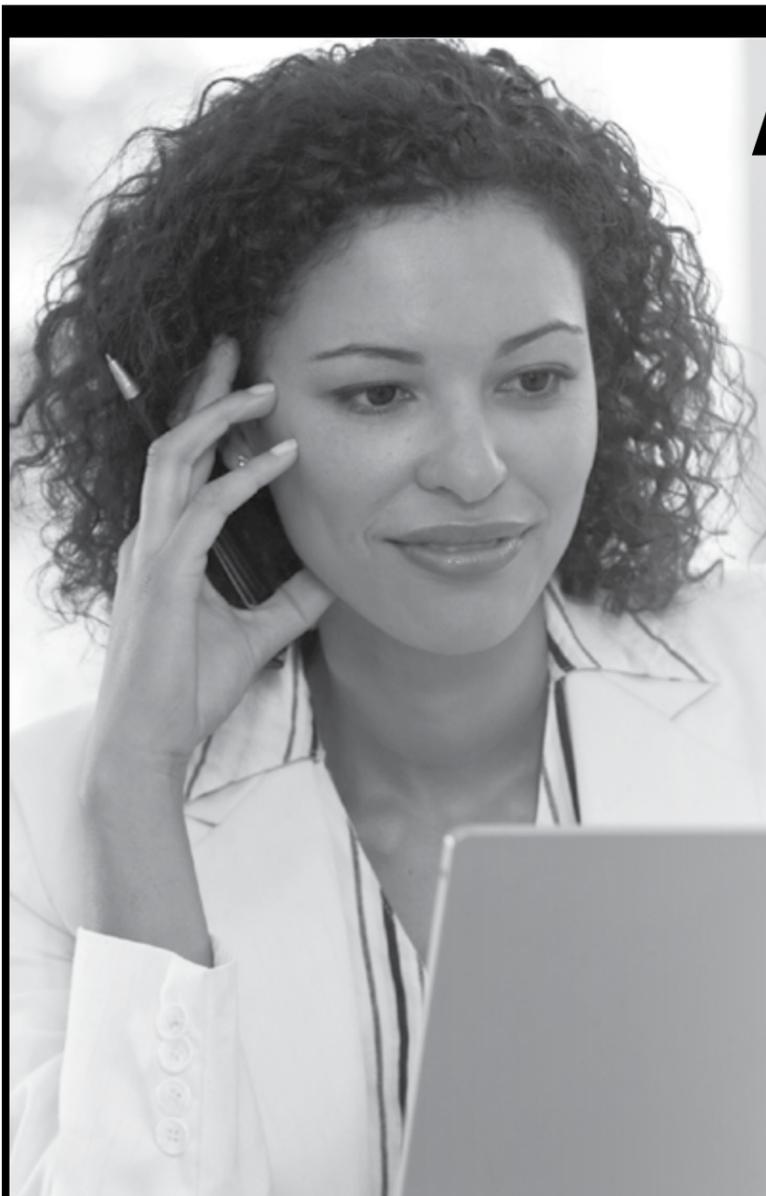
Stephen Torres, who teaches English at MCC, attended with his wife and two year old daughter. "My wife especially enjoyed the craft booths

and displays and my daughter enjoyed the children's activities. She discovered that hula hoops don't automatically stay up," he said.

MCC volunteers made smoothies, helped Chef John Turenne serve fresh-grilled organic sliders, provided security and acted as guides

to the various workshops. Topics of the workshops included "Pickling Unusual Vegetables," "Making Homemade Beer and Wine," "Eating From Your Backyard," and a special session by New Haven's celebrity chef, Bun Lai, the owner of Miya Sushi in New Haven. Lai's restaurant was recently named one of the Top 10 sustainable restaurants in America. His exuberant personality and the fact that he served homemade sake made from sumac berries that he harvested that day growing on MCC's grounds made his workshop a lot of fun for participants. Look for Lai on an episode of Food Network's "Chopped" next season.

Live music was also featured at the event, including The Whiskey Boys, Trainwreck Jerry, MCC's own Deborah Simmons, Dawnie Love and strolling accordionist Adam Matlock.



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WHERE: AST/LRC

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- Central CT State University
- Charter Oak State College
- Clark University
- Eastern CT State University
- Elms College
- Johnson and Wales University
- Kaplan University (online programs)
- Maine College of Art
- Mitchell College
- New England College
- Nichols College
- Post University
- Quinnipiac University
- Sacred Heart University
- Saint Joseph College
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- Southern CT State University

- Southern New Hampshire University
- Springfield College (Undergraduate programs + School of Human Services)
- University of Bridgeport
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-and more

Day of the Fair

1. Be prepared to ask questions
(If you don't know what to ask, stop by the MCC information table for a helpful list of questions)

2. Give us your feedback
(Stop by the MCC information table, fill out a survey, and you could win a raffle prize)

MEET YOUR NEW ASSISTANT EDITORS:



Morgan McKendry

Hello everyone! My name is Morgan McKendry and I am one of the new Assistant Editors who have joined the Live Wire. I am a Multimedia Major and plan to use the various skills I learn through my major to either work with graphic design, photography, design in general, etc.

I honestly do not have a career choice or a specific position that I strive toward mainly because I have a lot of various skill sets with art and writing so Multimedia Studies, which sort of combines all of my interests into one while giving me more skills for the working field, seemed a logical

Please see **Morgan** pg 11



Samson Zarek Hampton

“Be the change you wish to see in the world.”- Ghandi

Hello readers! I’m Samson, and no my hair does not give me strength. My passion for changing the world gives me strength and that’s why I joined the Live Wire staff. I’m now one of the new assistant editors who will be working with Morgan and the rest of the Live Wire’s awesome staff to bring you the kind of newspaper you want to see and read.

I started on campus as a junior at Great Path Academy and graduated in January of 2009. I returned this semester after taking a break, during which worked as a preschool teacher in Rhode Island. I’m now back to school full time, where I’m studying social work,

Please see **Samson** pg 11

Clash of the Internets

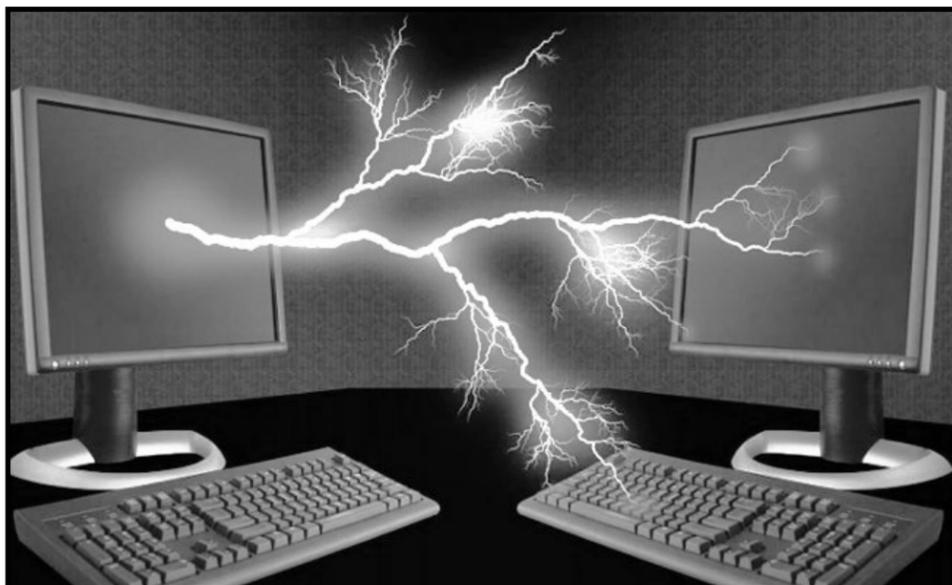


Photo provided by Google Images

By Morgan McKendry
Live Wire Assistant Editor

I’m sure, as members of the 21st century, it is fair to say that we all remember the days of the sequence of piercing sounds associated with a certain long-forgotten process known as dialing up. Back then, the Internet as we know it was dramatically different. It was not the vast, separate realm we recognize it as today; it was just a place; a place that was often rather annoying to use, in all honesty, and a hassle to even connect to. It was also a place of incredibly blocky, if not downright pixelated, images akin to clip art with all kinds of web pages of that same grade of quality.

The Internet of old was appropriate for its time, however, what with those blocky monitors and towers – all some shade of off-white and with their curved glass so different from our beautiful flat ridiculous-inched screens that are the norm today. Yes, the Internet used to be an ugly, rather unuseful, place that I’m sure most only resorted to for school, email, or the “new” emoticon-ridden instant messaging.

Today, the Internet we know (and love oh so much) is vastly different. It’s a free entity, and either a tool or a different world for those with escapist tendencies. In the end it’s really just the purest form of freedom that we currently have. Where else can someone go “out” and yell obscenities or threads mindlessly at strangers without retribution or even condemnation? How else can an Average Joe from Kentucky communicate with a Beautiful Becky from Seoul with the simple tools of a webcam and microphone?

The Internet isn’t just an incredible tool, what with its instant access to any single topic – and I mean any topic ranging from the mundane day-to-day to downright rocket science – it’s a place to be human. To be anything, really, but that’s beside the point. With the Internet, we can do anything; we can search anything, we can be anybody, we can create anything – it’s a realm of

endless possibility.

In this state of age it’s undeniable, we all have a strong – personal – connection to the Internet, be it for our email, for our social networking, or what have you. But that personal connection could be – no, is going to be – stripped from us.

The Internet that we hold so dear is changing all because of our lovely system of capitalism. Google and Verizon, business behemoths, have been working on a proposal and plan. In a nutshell the plan is as follows: there would be two Internets. One would be akin to the Internet we utilize on a daily basis and another would be an Internet full of “premium” content – a sort of channel four versus HBO arrangement. It is stated on Google and Verizon’s website that “[the] proposal also includes safeguards to ensure that such online services must be distinguishable from traditional broadband Internet access services and are not designed to circumvent the rules.” In sort, an elitist Internet is being developed.

Yet one has to wonder, how exactly will this new Internet mesh, or clash, with the free, public, Internet we know and love? Not only that but, how exactly would this new Internet function - would it consume many websites we use on a daily basis from search engines to social networks? Meaning, would we, as users of the Internet, have to pay for the Google and Verizon brainchild just to keep up with our various accounts? Furthermore, how would one create a website of their own, like artists, designers and others do now? Would creating a website, which, at its core, is something that isn’t all that hard to do, become as difficult as a business proposal?

Beyond these questions, what mainly comes to my mind is how will this paid-access Internet come into existence? Obviously it cannot stem off of the current neutral system, so would there have to be a different system physically built to house the idea? In the end, why not focus all this money and incentive upon improving the system already in place, which, I think, is what the majority of customers desire?

As the old saying goes – “if it’s not broke, don’t fix it.”

If you would like to submit an editorial to the Live Wire, email it to livewire@mcc.comnet.edu or bring it to our office, Lowe 253.

Korea Through U.S. Eyes

By SallyAnn Garvey Lumumbaa
Special to the Live Wire

When I was first asked to write this article about my first two and a half months in South Korea, I had no idea what to say. As assistant editor of *The Live Wire* last year, I had not written a single editorial. It wasn't because I'm not opinionated, (quite the opposite), but more because of that fact that often it is so difficult to sum up opinions.

I've spent the last two and a half months living with a host family in Seoul, the capital of South Korea. My time has been predominantly spent studying at So-gang University and at a traditional Korean girls' school. I got to come to Korea because of a generous government program called the National Security Language Initiative, or NSLI. NSLI sends Americans overseas to learn languages less commonly taught in U.S. high schools and universities like Arabic, Russian, Turkish and Korean.

After arriving in Seoul, I had a hard time grasping just how far away from home I was. Sure, I had a nonstop, 14-hour plane ride from California after which I got to use the few Korean phrases that I knew. As anyone who has visited a foreign country who is not a fluent speaker of the language spoken there has found out, I was learning a lot about Korean language and culture but it seemed like I was not learning it fast enough. But, in typical fashion, I concentrated on daily survival on campus and at my host home and I couldn't quite comprehend how far away from Connecticut I was. My first realization that I was living in a very different part of the world was when a group of NSLI students got to meet U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton when she visited the Korean War Memorial in Seoul. Then, when actress Angelina Jolie stopped by for the "Salt" premiere, I realized that I had been living in just a tiny corner of one of the world's largest cities and that I should definitely get out more,

This is a fascinating time to be in South Korea. Ever since the sinking of the South Korean submarine, the *Cheonan* last year, South Korea has been at the forefront of American foreign policy concerns. I've gotten to talk to Korean college students about American involvement in Korea, Kim Jung Il the president of North Korea and I've gotten a different perspective on South Korea.



*Above: Sally waits for instruction during a taekwondo class.
Bottom Left: Sally visits Namsan Traditional Village, a complex of houses in the heart of Seoul.*



In a lot of ways, Korea is quite Americanized. You can find Krispy Kreme doughnut shops, Burger King, Costco, Lady Gaga CDs (very pricy), issues of *Vogue* or *The Economist* and Pizza Hut where a large cheese pizza will set you back about \$35. There's something fulfilling about sitting in a Biology class conducted in a foreign language as you're taught things you hardly know about in English. I've learned that some things are universal, such as the fact that the girls here want to talk about Harry Potter, *Twilight* and Johnny Depp. And that apparently there is no limit to the amount of karaoke one person can sing. Everyone wants to ask about Pres. Barack Obama, Lady Gaga, Justin Bieber and Disney World.

I miss a lot about Connecticut: my family and friends, classes taught in English and the large selection of cheeses available at the grocery store. But taking a chance and heading to Seoul has taught me a lot, like the importance of charades when trying to communicate and to always wear matching socks since you have to remove your shoes before entering homes and some restaurants. I've also learned that "keh," which means crab and "kaae," which means dog, should never be confused. If nothing else, I've got a lot of stories that will be quite hilarious in a couple of years.

Continued from **Morgan** pg 9

path for me to pursue.

The reason why I joined Live Wire was really for the experience. In my high school (even middle school) years I was always a part of literary magazines. During that time my writing was always for myself, it was always fiction and was only ever relevant to (and for) me. Going through school my writing style changed, I sided with the essayist point of view. With this shift my own writing became irrelevant so by joining Live Wire I wished to not necessarily give my writing legitimacy but for it to be applicable toward current events. What better place than a newspaper for that? Beyond that I joined for the experience. I was never a part of a newspaper and never had anything beyond school and personal deadlines to meet; I wanted to see what it was like.

If any of you (lovely) readers are interested in being a part of this experience it's really quite easy! Live Wire holds meetings every Thursday in AST C204 from 4-5 p.m. Other than that one can contact our advisor, Stephania Davis either through email or at her office, which is located in LRC A211. We are always looking for contributors from artists to photographers to writers – so don't be afraid to give it a shot even if writing isn't your strong point!

Continued from **Samson** pg 9

politics and queer and deaf culture. You might be asking yourself why I, of all people would be interested in journalism? Well, I believe very strongly, that the world is controlled by the media and if we want to change the world, we must change the media. You know what they say: the best way to get something done is to do it yourself. I want to work with the Live Wire team to create a newspaper that pays attention to the things you want to hear about and maybe inspire you get involved.

I'm sure you've seen me, or will be seeing me around campus and I want you to feel comfortable to ask me questions or bring up ideas. I'm very active and I'm always around. So please feel free to stop by the Live Wire office, Lowe 253, or stop me in the hallway. Another good place to find me is at Great Path Academy as I'm working this semester in the main office. Be the change you wish to see in the world and you will make the world a better place. I plan to do that one reader at a time. My hope as an assistant editor is to inform, investigate and inspire.

WORDS OF WISDOM Compiled by Alex Obert

1. "I'd rather be hated for who I am, than loved for who I am not."

- Kurt Cobain
(musician)

2. "Put your energy into supporting what you love, not fighting what you hate."

- Andrew W.K.
(musician)

3. "We cannot change the cards we are dealt, just how we play the hand."

- Randy Pausch
(CMU professor)

4. "When you feel the urge to complain, turn on the news and I'm sure you will find someone in a worse situation than you."

- Titus O'Neil
(WWE wrestler)

5. "It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice."

- John Cassis
(motivational speaker)

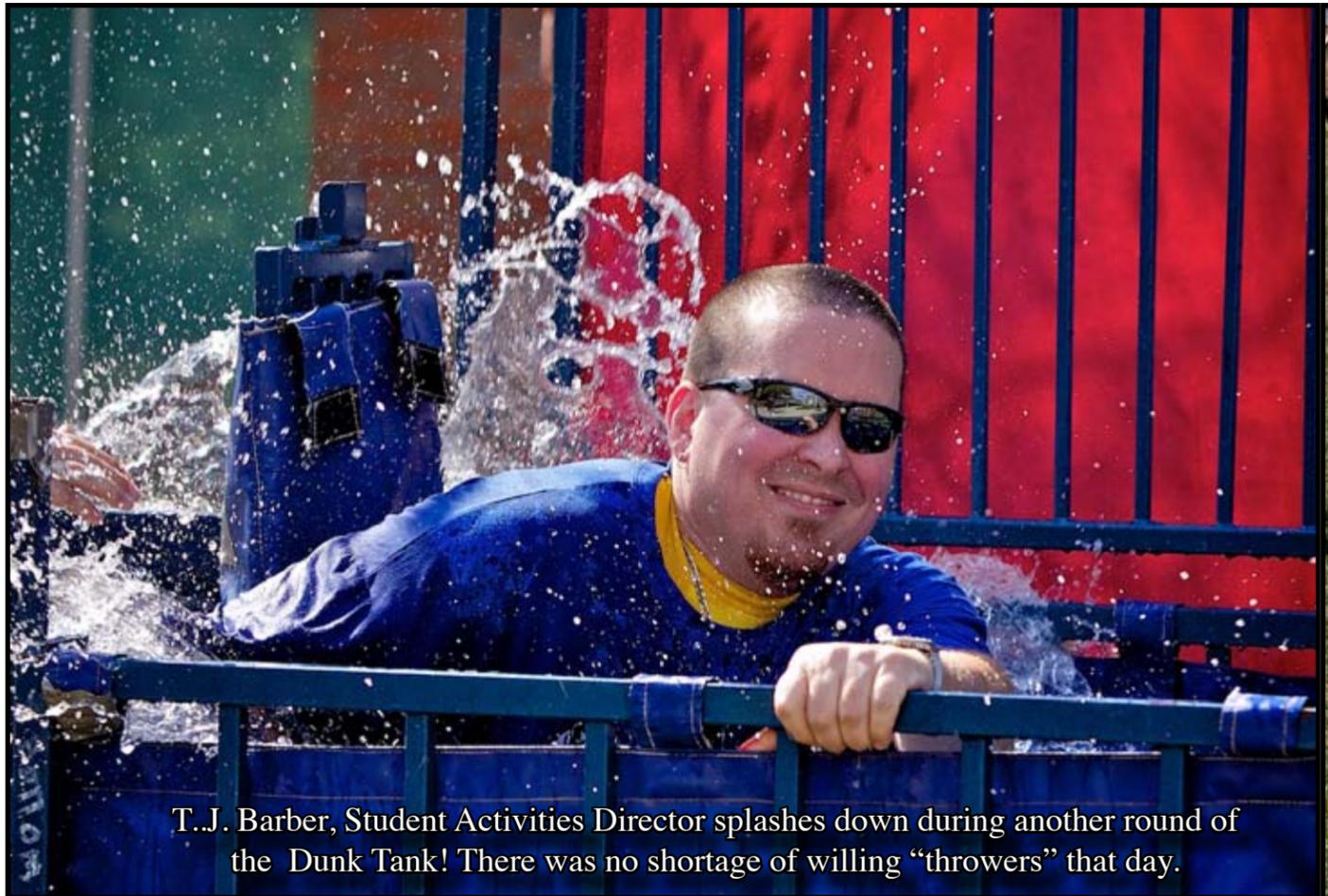




Benjamin White, Social Vice President (SGA) has a blast while “battling the bull”.

There was fun to be had for all! Manchester Community College kicked off its first association, was held on the lawn between Great Path Academy and the Learning Resource Center area. Many of MCC’s 33 clubs also manned tables in an effort to recruit new members. There was a lot of friendly competition. The day was warm and so was the great sense of community that makes MCC a special place.

**W
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T.J. Barber, Student Activities Director splashes down during another round of the Dunk Tank! There was no shortage of willing “throwers” that day.

1st Annual

FALL WELCOME PARTY

WELCOMING STUDENTS OLD AND NEW



Heriberto Gonzalez Jr. pauses, pondering his next move.



Kyle Sarvey of MCC's ICE Radio shows onlookers how its done!

By Rich Carpenter
Layout Editor

annual Fall Welcome Festival on a balmy day, Sept. 22. The event, put on by the Student Government Association building, which overnight became home to giant inflatable slides, a mechanical bull, a dunk tank, and dance was free food, a rousing Zumba class and a fantastic display of talent by the contestants in the break dance a welcoming place.



"E" Sanon fights back a style all his own.



Heriberto Gonzalez Jr. flies through the air during the breakdance competition.

FESTIVAL

Photos by: Rich Carpenter, and Melissa Rawlins

Poetry Corner

The Greatest Journey By Jonathan King



Full throttle straight to the moon

I am hoping that I don't come too soon.

Hey, hey, hey I see the light

in the abyss of the sky.

Hey, hey, hey I see new life

in the moonlight.

I wish I could be away from all the gloom.

Loneliness hits me like a monsoon.

If I could breathe, I would die very soon

but if I can just hold on and not breathe on

can I see my people and the crossroads?

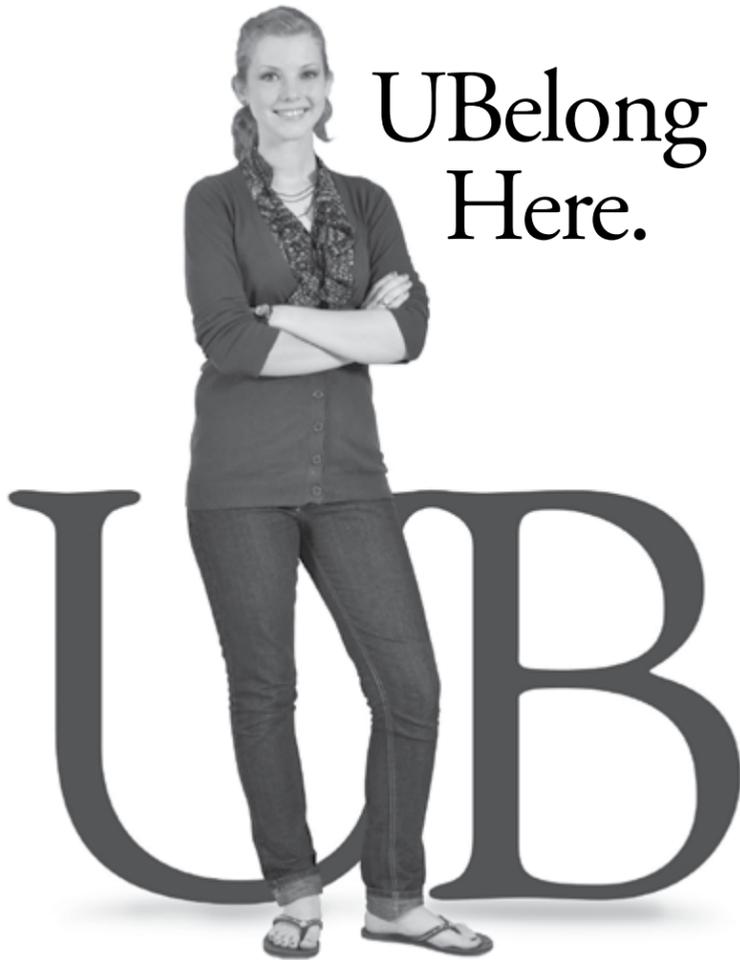
My journey is a hard one with a heavy load

But if I stay focused then I can carry on

to the greatest achievement in a lifetime

because if the star shines...

I shine



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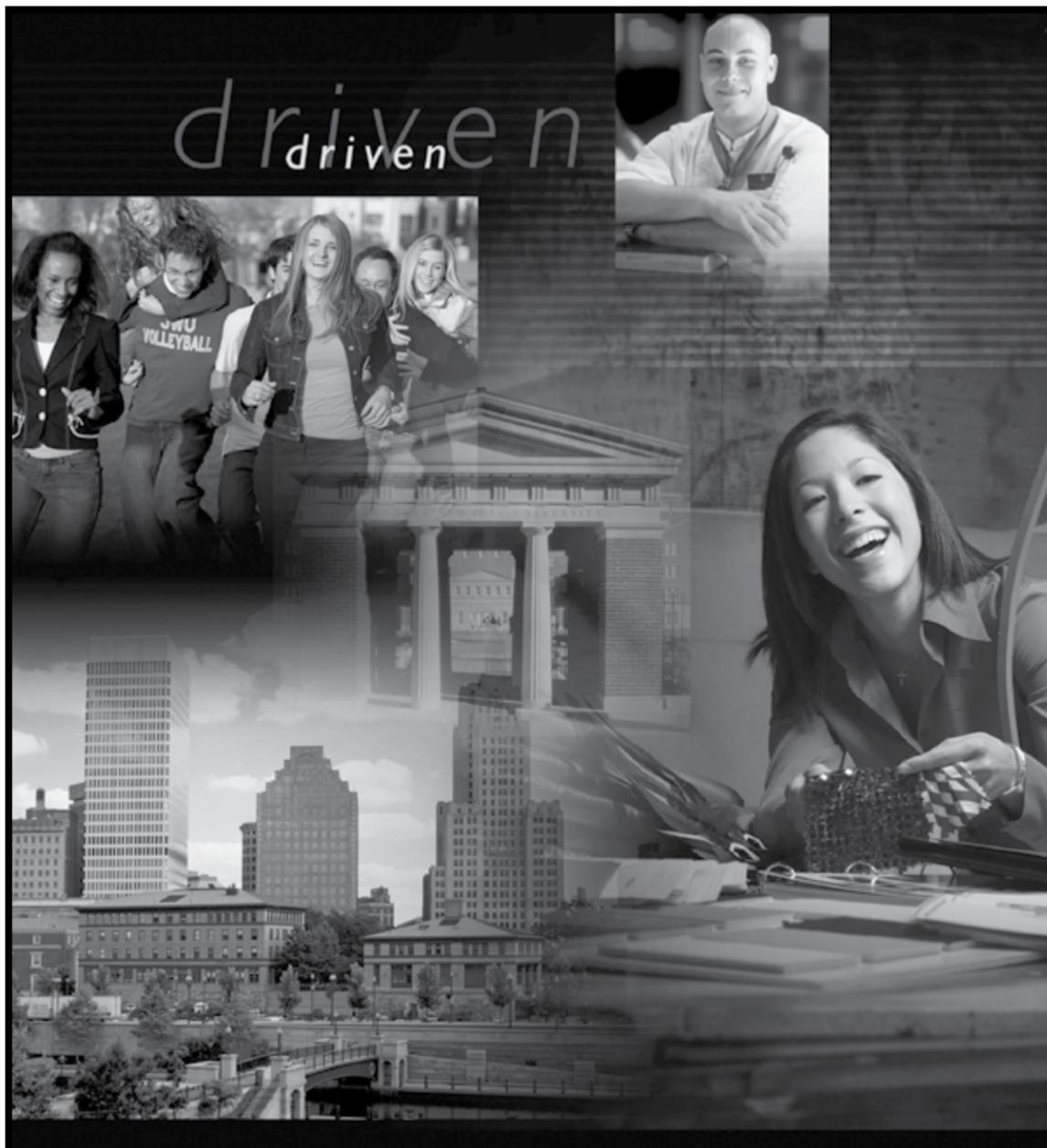


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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
OCT		Black Crowes – Palace Theater, Waterbury	Disturbed – Oakdale Theater, Wallingford			Bush – Foxwoods, Mashantucket
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	NOV		The Cult – the Webster Theater, Hartford	Atreyu – the Webster Theater, Hartford	Australian Pink Floyd Show – Oakdale Theater, Wallingford	All that Remains – the Webster Theater, Hartford
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Brad Paisley – Mohegan Sun, Uncasville	La Roux – the Webster Theater, Hartford
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Allman Brothers Band – Foxwoods, Mashantucket	Lewis Black – Katharine Hepburn Arts Center, Old Saybrook			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Bret Michaels – the Ridgefield Playhouse, Ridgefield				
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
	Tim and Eric – the Webster Theater, Hartford		DEC			



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Want to be scared? Check Out These Places for Halloween Howls

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DARK MANOR HAUNTED HOUSE

Located in Norwich. Voted Connecticut's #1 Scariest haunted house, it is the Dark Manors 6th season. It has two floors of some of the scariest special effects you'll ever see. The graveyard and haunted village contains creeps and freaks with chainsaws, enough to make your heart stop beating. Tickets to "The Manor" or "The Graveyard/Haunted Village" are \$12 each. Combination tickets are \$16 per person. Due to its graphic nature, this attraction is for people 13 years of age and up.

TRAIL OF TERROR

Located in Wallingford. Take a terrifying journey through more than 30 interactive scenes where many different and popular characters await you. Be prepared to be scared! This is a very extreme haunted event, staffed entirely by volunteers. Parental advisory is suggested. General admission tickets are \$10. It is open Oct. 22, 23, 24, 29, and 30.



Compiled by Diana Labar

http://www.mcc.commnet.edu/students/activities/CougarPrideDiscountProgram.php

Discount Program

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YOU DON'T GET 500 MILLION FRIENDS WITHOUT MAKING A FEW ENEMIES



By Susan Garvey
Live Wire Staff Writer

Image provided by:
google images

"Have you seen *The Social Network* yet?" The question punctured the charged energy in the computer lab, disturbing the focus of the students who were gathered around brainstorming at the weekly clinic held by the Computer Repair and Share Club, a Manchester Community College club that fixes broken computers and then gives them, via lottery, to needy students on campus. Most admitted that they hadn't gotten around to seeing it yet, but Alex Merenda, an MCC sophomore majoring in Network Administration and a self-proclaimed computer geek who had rushed to see it on opening night, was enthusiastic.

"It was awesome," he said. "I really enjoyed it because in most film, Hollywood portrays computer technology inaccurately and kind of jazzercises what computers do for their cinema audiences. Those who are technologically savvy will see it as a pretty accurate film. For example, they show all the steps you would need to take to hack into a system when they show the Harvard University system being hacked into at the beginning of the movie."

Merenda is referring to the incident that first brought to light the unique Internet Technology skills of Harvard sophomore Mark Zuckerberg, played by actor Jesse Eisenberg, who proceeded to launch what he then called "The Facebook" from his Harvard dorm room in 2004.

You don't have to know a lot about computers to enjoy *The Social Network*, but it does help to have a Facebook account and today doesn't everyone?

The incident Merenda describes occurred on a night when a slightly drunk Zuckerberg, who is angry because his girlfriend has just broken up with him, created a site called Facemesh. It displayed the unauthorized photos of Harvard female undergraduates in pairs for users to click on which of the two photos they liked best. The site got 22,000 hits in two hours, caused the Harvard computer network to crash and earned Zuckerberg academic probation and the ire of most of the female students on campus.

Actor/singer Justin Timberlake, love him or hate him, is perfectly cast as Sean Parker, the posturing West Coast entrepreneur/celebrity who is looking to jumpstart a career that is on the wan. Parker was the founder of Napster, the enterprise that first allowed free music downloads, attracting the wrath of the record companies who sued him and won. Parker surrounds himself with underage kids because anyone older could see right through him. It is Parker that suggests that Zuckerberg drop the "the" in "The Facebook" and take Facebook to the west coast where it could

grow into the million dollar company that it is today.

The director of *The Social Network* is David Fincher, who has won acclaim for such films as *Fight Club* (1999) and, more recently *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* (2010). Fincher does not paint a very flattering portrait of Zuckerberg, who some have called the capitalist role model of Generation X. Fincher's film, though full of comic moments, is dark and not glossy even when the setting switches from Cambridge, Mass., to sunny California. The audience will not really want to change lives or Facebook accounts with Zuckerberg or any of the elite Harvard classmates who end up suing him for stealing their rights to Facebook.

According to ex-girlfriend Erica Albright (played by Rooney Mara), dating Zuckerberg is too exhausting. "It's like dating a Stairmaster," she tells him. "You are going to go through life thinking that girls don't like you because you are a nerd. And I want you to know from the bottom of my heart that that won't be true. It'll be because you're an asshole."

Eduardo Saverin is Zuckerberg's only friend and when Zuckerberg asks him how his girlfriend is doing, Saverin tells him that his girlfriend is psychotic, controlling and

jealous and that he is afraid of her. Zuckerberg responds, "But it's nice you have a girlfriend, right?"

Saverin ends up suing his friend for \$600 million. Zuckerberg proves he doesn't need friends by printing business cards that say "I'm CEO—Bitch."

The movie is based on the book, "The Accidental Billionaires" by Ben Mizrich. A problem with the book and the movie is that many doubt how true the story actually is because Zuckerberg refused to tell his side of the story and those who sued him took settlements which included clauses that don't allow them to talk about the suits.

The same week the movie came out, Zuckerberg pledged to donate \$100 million worth of shares of Facebook to the failing Newark, New Jersey, school system which many see as an attempt to rescue his image from the one portrayed in the movie. Parker donated \$1 million to a California group trying to legalize marijuana in what many see as a publicity stunt.

Skip the book and see the movie and then comment on it on Facebook to everybody in your social network.

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Ask Phoebe



Dear Phoebe,

I am a new student at MCC. How do I make friends when I'm new on campus?

I completely understand what you are going through right now. And why is that? It's because EVERY new college student asks themselves the very same question, which should help you to realize that you are not alone when it comes to wanting to make new friends on campus.

It sure seems tough to leave high school because you were in a comfortable position where you knew just about everyone in your grade and saw your many friends and acquaintances daily. And now, you're on a campus where there are lots and lots of students from many different towns in Connecticut. You hardly know anybody now. But that is a good thing. This is an opportunity to start over with a clean slate. No longer are you held back by the thought of "cliques" and "popularity."

One of the best ways to make friends on campus is to join a club. Within a club, you will find people with an immediate common interest (the type of club you are in with them) and it will give you a chance to introduce yourself to others and get to know them through club meetings and events. There are many different clubs on campus so there is sure to be something to your liking. Go down to the Student Activities office in the Lowe building, behind the bookstore, and someone there can tell you all about the many clubs formed on campus.

Another way to get to know people is in your classes. It's not easy for a lot of people to go up to someone in their class and start a conversation. But there are easy ways to get to know people there. When the professor assigns groups for projects and assignments, get to know the people that you are paired with. Ask each member their name and find out something interesting about them. If the professor says you can pick a partner, find somebody who interests you and ask if they want to be your partner. It's always a good idea to make at least one friend in each class because that way, if you miss a class, they can fill you in on what you missed.

Now, making friends is not just about the strategy, it's about the mindset as well. Some people may look too intimidating to approach, but when it comes down to it, realize that we're all human. We all make mistakes and have insecurities, regardless of how we present ourselves on the outside. If you go up to someone and they give you a negative response, realize that it might not even be because of you. Maybe they're in a bad mood because they just failed a midterm or maybe they're just really shy and freeze up when people approach them.

But there are a lot of people who will gladly take the time to talk with you if you approach them because we are attending this college not only to get an education, but also because we want to make friends here.

Something else about making friends here: it's not about how many friends you have, but it's about how genuine your friends are. Remember, quality, not quantity. It's much better to have a few really good friends, than a bunch of acquaintances. I want you to come out of this realizing that it's easy to make friends if you put yourself out there and be yourself. Remember that I'm in your corner, rooting for you and cheering you on. You can and will succeed!

Something Delicious Just Around the Corner: Edi's Pizza

By Susan Garvey
Live Wire Staff Writer

Edi's Pizza opened three months ago in the Shoprite Plaza just around the corner from Manchester Community College, but it is still a well kept secret. Expect long lines now that the word is getting out because when The Live Wire staff sampled Edi's pizza the consensus was "greasy but delicious."

Owner Edi Zumbuli has been a chef for fifteen years and his specialty is seafood.

"Edi's is much more than a takeout pizza place," he said. "It's a comfortable place to relax with friends while sampling some of our unique offerings. I like to create new dishes especially seafood dishes."

Edi's menu includes the expected variety of salads and grinders, but also treats such as shrimp pasta, calamari marinated pasta, and cioppini, which is a dish that features scallops, shrimp, calamari and clams in a seasoned tomato sauce.

There are different lunch specials every day and while Edi's Pizza does not deliver they encourage diners to call lunch orders in ahead of time to avoid any wait whether they choose to dine in or to pick up their order to go.

The Specialty of the Day menu lists the soup of the day and the entrée, which, on the day The Live Wire visited, was hot eggplant salad. That turned out to be a spicy, breaded eggplant well-seasoned atop a bed of lettuce and a side of garlic bread that staffers found unique.

Edi's serves beer and wine and desserts, including a tasty baklava. MCC clubs and groups in search of refreshments should be advised that Edi's has a special catering menu.

Students who have just a little time between classes and are sick of "the usual" won't be disappointed if they give Edi's

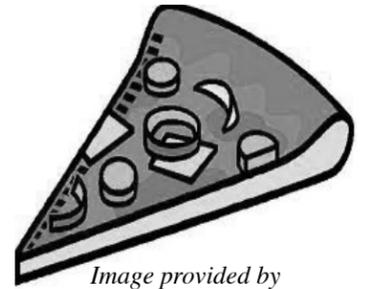


Image provided by
Google Images

Pizza a try. Our only criticism - there is not much in the way of vegetarian/vegan options. But check out the paper next month, when The Live Wire visits the promising little Indian place that is right next door to Edi's Pizza in the Shoprite Plaza.

Who knew there were all these alternatives literally right around the corner?

Edi's Pizza is located in the Shoprite Plaza, 234 Spencer Street, in Manchester and is open seven days a week from 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. For more information, visit:

www.edispizzeria.webs.com
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From Quilts to Giant Heads, Art is Celebrated at MCC

By Kimberly Stokes Beal
Live Wire Staff Writer

Manchester Community College's Hans Weiss Newspace Gallery will be host to several exciting exhibits and events in the coming months. On Oct. 28, at 6:30 p.m., the gallery will host the opening of a solo show, "Quilts," featuring the work of acclaimed fiber artist Ed Johnetta Miller. Susan Classen-Sullivan, director of the gallery, said that the school is very fortunate to work with this artist. "I hope to introduce students and the community to the idea of viewing these materials as both fine art and a traditional part of domestic life and in blurring the distinction between the two," she said. Miller will be speaking at the opening, event, which is free and open to the public, and will be followed by refreshments. The show will run from Oct. 28 - Dec. 2. For more on the artist, visit her website, www.edjohnetta.com.

The next show will be the annual extravaganza known as the Winter Arts Festival, opening at 6 p.m. on Dec. 17. The show is the culmination of the semester's work by students in the fine arts, music and filmmaking departments. Visual artists will have work displayed throughout the corridors of the Arts, Science and Technology building, student films will be shown and vocalists and instrumental musicians will perform. In the past, the event has averaged at least 300 attendees, said Classen-Sullivan, and is a great way to support the arts at MCC. This event is free, open to the public and refreshments will be served. After opening night, some of



the art will remain on display in the gallery from Dec. 17 - Jan. 19, 2011.

Looking ahead to 2011, the bi-annual Faculty Art Show will open on Feb. 3 at 6 p.m., and the paintings and prints of artist Adolf Dehn will be featured in an exhibit in March.

Classen-Sullivan emphasized that art is celebrated not just in the Gallery, but throughout the MCC campus. For example, she said, visitors to Great Path Academy may have noticed the newly acquired works by artist Jun Keneko – two giant painted heads. The acquisitions were made as part of the 1% for the Arts program, which provides 1 percent of state

building project budgets for the purchase of art. The selection of the two sculptures was made by a committee which included members from MCC and the Connecticut Commission on the Arts.

For more information and upcoming shows in the gallery or pieces of art throughout the campus, visit <http://www.mcc.commnet.edu/students/life/newspace.php>.



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MCC Soccer Teams Pursue Health, Championships

By Paul Offria
MCC Sports Information

Crutches, tape and ice.

Injuries are driving many of the Manchester Community College soccer storylines this fall; yet both the men's and women's teams have made adjustments and are surviving quite well.

The men's team lost promising freshman Mark Grant (Tokyo, Japan) for the season 20 minutes into the Cougars first game to a broken collar bone and returning sophomore Kyle Hovey (Morris) missed seven games with a concussion. The team has endured several nagging injuries to key players including midfielder Dan Mizura (Plainville), yet were 8-2 overall with a 7-2 record in Region 21 Division III play after beating Holyoke Community College 3-1 on Oct. 7.

"The games are close because of the injuries," MCC men's coach Jim Insinga said. "We lost three starters that contribute a tremendous amount. That said, we have shown some real attacking and finishing abilities and we are trying to build off that."

Freshman Eric Trazinski (East Granby) scored three consecutive game winners, including a huge 1-0 OT victory over Bunker Hill Community College on Sept. 18 and Giuseppe Panajia (Glastonbury) scored three goals in the first 10 minutes of a 6-0 rout of Bristol Community College on Oct. 2.

Sophomore Tony Ettorre (Plainville) inherited the goalkeeper duties from NJCAA All-American Hami Kara, who is now the starting goalkeeper at Division I University of Pittsburgh. Ettorre is leading all Region 21 goalkeepers with a 0.74 goals against average with three shutouts.

"He been everything we thought he would be," Insinga said of Ettorre. "He made a mistake or two early on, but the goals that have been scored since would have been scored on anyone. He has been doing fine job." Ettorre has allowed just six



Photo by Rich Carpenter

Michelle Kerr pulls out all the stops, preventing Massasoit from scoring.

goals over the first nine games of the season.

Insinga is in his 11th year at MCC and has compiled a 123-63-9 record with six Region 21 titles and two trips to the NJCAA National Championship tournament.

The women's team suffered through an unusual rash of ankle sprains over the first month of the season, and has played without captain Miranda Hodge, who was out for two weeks with a knee injury.

"We have had our full team available for a total of just one game, and I don't think we even got through that game without a player having to come off the field with an injury," first year head coach Jeremy Wilson said. "That has been the story of the season so far, but we are starting to turn the corner."

Wilson points to a 2-0 win over Dean College on the road as a turning point for his team. The Cougars ended September with a 3-4-1 overall record.

"That was really the first game we were consistently good in terms of being able to accomplish certain things we set out to accomplish for the entire 90 minute game as opposed to doing it for 10 minute patches or spells," Wilson added.

"We were very consistent, almost relentless in our approach."

Wilson has been fortunate to have Jenna Allison (East Hartford) and Michelle Magora (Enfield) anchoring the midfield while Kristen Lackman (Willington) and Kristin Pearson (Coventry) have been outstanding in the backfield.

"The identity of the team is coming around, the camaraderie is good," Wilson said. "The freshmen have stepped up in terms of being able to contribute. The sophomores are realizing their own mortality, if you will. They set out to accomplish a few things and hopefully they can make it happen."

Both teams are healing as the season moves into the second half. The women's tournament will be held at 2pm. on Saturday Oct 23 in the region 21 semi-final at Holyoke CC. A win would put them in the championship game at 11am Sunday Oct 24. The men will be looking for their third consecutive Region 21 championship in Somerville, Mass., the following weekend. Hopefully they can leave the crutches behind.



Photo by Rich Carpenter

Albert Shakhnazarov goes airborne while taking control of the ball.

The NFL So far: Watch Out for Everyone!



With four weeks in the books, I am once again reminded that there's a reason these teams play the games scheduled and don't just talk about them the day before. What I have seen these first five weeks in the NFL has completely amazed me through the sheer improbability of what has occurred. The upsets that have played out thus far could be the groundwork of playoff scenarios that would have looked outrageous a month ago.

With the current standings of every division as they are, it would be exponentially easier to tell you who not to watch for. The answer to that is simple: The Carolina Panthers, the Buffalo Bills, and the always downtrodden Cleveland Browns.

There are three other teams that have a .400 winning percentage or worse so far: the Dallas Cowboys, the Detroit Lions, and the winless San Francisco 49ers. But considering the state of their divisions, and the talent those teams have acquired recently, don't count any of them out.

For the 29 teams in the NFL who definitely still have something going on, keep your hopes up and play hard, because it's practically dead even. In fact, in the AFC South, it's literally dead even. All four teams in that division stand at 3-2. The Houston Texans have first place due to tiebreakers, but after only five weeks, even I'd say tiebreakers are irrelevant.

Nothing looks quite as dubious this year, however, than the current situation in the NFC and AFC West, or as I call them, the "Left Coast divisions."

The Kansas City Chiefs were the last undefeated team left standing, but are now 3-1. During their losing effort against the Indianapolis Colts, CBS, who broadcasted this game, threw out a great statistic: the last time the NFL did not have a 4-0 team was 1970, a good figure to represent how evenly matched the NFL is this season.

It should be a great divisional race in the AFC West between the Chiefs and the San Diego Chargers, who are famous for starting weak and finishing strong. Chargers quarterback

Philip Rivers is currently 18-0 all-time in December games, so look for that trend to continue.

To keep the Missouri theme going, the St. Louis Rams are currently 2-3 with rookie QB Sam Bradford at the helm. Their first two losses were by four points and two points, so the Rams are keeping these games manageable. With one more win than they had last year, however, it's looking like the \$50 million guaranteed to Bradford, the rookie wonder, will be put to good use.

Also, look for San Francisco to pop up and make a run in the NFC West, even with their 0-5 record. They're still the most talented team in that division, and if you look at what the Tennessee Titans did last year, going 8-8 for the season after starting 0-6, it doesn't look impossible.

In the NFC and AFC North, we have the Chicago Bears taking charge, for once. Even without Jay Cutler, they beat the Carolina Panthers soundly last week. However, even with Jay Cutler, they still have no concept of how to pass the ball. Since the Pro Bowl was created in 1951, the Bears have never had a wide receiver who's been voted in. (Devin Hester was voted into the Pro Bowl twice as a kick returner, not a wide receiver.)

The Green Bay Packers are probably the most busted up team in football (other than the Denver Broncos). Running back Ryan Grant and star linebacker Nick Barnett are out for the season with a right ankle and wrist injury, respectively. Tight end Jermichael Finley is out for at least three weeks because of a hamstring surgery, and of course, MVP candidate quarterback Aaron Rodgers, suffered a concussion in week 5 and could also miss time. However, they're still probably the most complete team in their division, so look for them to challenge the Bears, and the Minnesota Vikings for that matter, throughout the season.

The NFC East is in almost complete disarray, or so it always seems to be when the Cowboys do terribly.

As I hinted at earlier, there are three divisions with a 3-way or 4-way tie: the AFC South, the AFC West, and the NFC East. In the case of the NFC East, the one team not in first place is the Dallas Cowboys, looking up with a 1-3 record, partially due to a celebration that will end all celebrations during a game Oct. 10. When Cowboys tight end Jason Witten scored the game-tying touchdown, the ensuing antics between him and offensive lineman Mark Columbo caused a 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty that resulted in a huge return off the kickoff for the Tennessee Titans, giving them a great chance of scoring the go-ahead

touchdown, which they did.

Of course the last thing I want to do is what every major sports journalist in America does: pay attention to the Cowboys. They act like the Cowboys are the New York Yankees.

The Cowboys aren't as important as they think, and I merely mentioned their loss to mock them. Petty? Yes, but so is talking about their losses as something more important than the wins of their rivals. Some of these writers react to a Cowboys' loss like a 12-year-old discovering there's no Santa Claus. So, as far as the NFC East is concerned, watch everybody else and ignore the Cowboys. You're NFL viewing experience will improve because of it.

We finish today with the AFC East, where the New York Jets have been winning everything since they lost week 1 against the Baltimore Ravens. Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez said there's nothing wrong going 15-1 after that loss, and as far as some are concerned, there's not much stopping them. It's hard for me to swallow as a New England Patriots fan, but conventional wisdom says the Jets are the favorites to win the division. They have too much talent, and everyone on their

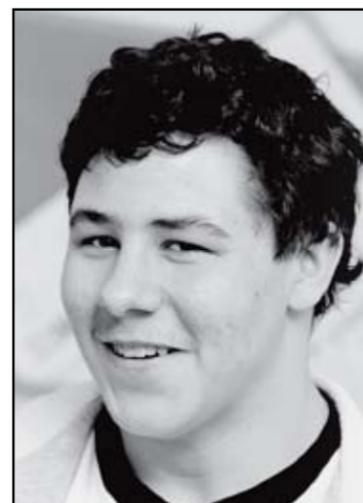


Photo by Rich Carpenter, Staff Photographer

By Dan Dobbyn
Live Wire Sports Writer

roster is clicking, notably running back Ladaian Tomlinson. The Patriots are taking a hit by trading wide receiver Randy Moss, and although the Miami Dolphins are much better than people think, the Jets are loaded.

Frankly, that's all I got at this point of the NFL season. Look forward to the next article where there will be playoff predictions, including wild cards for both conferences. I leave you with a preview: The Saints don't make it in. A twist? I think so...

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SUNDAY

OCTOBER 24TH

11AM-3PM

Passing of the Baseball Champ Torch



By Zachariah Hand
Live Wire Staff Writer

In the cities of Arlington, Texas, and Tampa, Florida, fans of the Rangers and Rays are preparing to watch their favorite teams play baseball in October. This will be the first time in the history of Major League Baseball that both the Rangers and Rays have made the playoffs in the same year.

While the Rays and Rangers are each getting ready to contend for the World Series title, perennial playoff teams such as the Boston Red Sox and Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim will be staying at home this October, watching as other teams enjoy the thrill of fall baseball.

In 2009, neither the Rays nor the Rangers made it to the playoffs, and only three years prior to 2010, both the Rays and Rangers finished last in the American League East and American League West, respectively. This year, both teams won their divisions; the Rangers for the first time in eleven years, and the Rays for only the second time in their young history. How exactly did this turnabout, which knocked the Red Sox and Angels out of the playoff picture, making way for the Rangers and Rays, happen?

The key was perseverance. The Tampa Bay Rays (called the Devil Rays at the time) played their first season in Major League Baseball in 1998. That year, and each one up until 2008 (with the exception of 2004), they finished last in the American League East Division, with the worst record in baseball several times as well as losing 100 or more games in multiple seasons.

The year 2008 marked a turning point in Tampa Bay's brief, yet difficult history.

That year the Devil Rays dropped the first part from their name, as well as changed their uniform style and team colors, and it was as if a curse had been lifted. The Rays were suddenly the best team in baseball, finishing with the best record and defeating the Red Sox to go on to the World Series, where they would eventually lose to the eventual champion Philadelphia Phillies.

At the beginning of the 2010 season, the AL East was predicted to be the strongest division in baseball, being home to three teams that were each expected to compete for Major League Baseball's best record: the Red Sox, the New York Yankees, and the Rays. However, one of these teams, the Red Sox, was derailed because of several injuries to key players, leaving the battle for the AL East title open to the Rays and the team known to many as the Evil Empire. As predicted, these two teams battled all year for the best record in baseball, up until the final day of the season, when the Rays captured the AL East crown.

In the American League West, since the Rangers won the 1999 season, they have finished with more wins than losses only three times; in 2004, 2009, and 2010. In the 11 years since that season, they have finished at the bottom of their division five times. However, the 2009 season saw the Rangers show some promise, as they were finally able to put together a decent pitching staff to compliment

their powerful offense. That year, however, the Angels were simply the better team, and won the AL West division over the Rangers.

Coming into the 2010 season, the Seattle Mariners were picked by many to win the AL West, and even expected by some to compete for the World Series title. The Mariners, however, fell well short of expectations, leaving the battle for the AL West to the Angels, Rangers, and Oakland Athletics. The Angels, usually one of baseball's best teams, had a difficult year, due to the departure of many star players, and the Athletics simply were not cut out for a run at the playoffs. This left the door open for the Texas Rangers to win their division for the first time in the 21st century.

The 2010 Major League Baseball playoffs have the chance to be something special to baseball, a symbol of a new era of the game in which formerly futile teams have finally figured out how to put together a winning season, and become dominant within the league. This installment of the playoffs could symbolize the passing of the torch from once perennial Championship caliber teams, such as the Yankees, to new Championship caliber teams, who could one day become the baseball dynasties of the future.

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