

# The Skyhawk View

The Student Newspaper of Sauk Valley Community College

November 2016



Selmis' Pumpkin Patch, Rock Falls, is ready for the Fall season. Photo by SVCC student

## Student President Told He Should Run

By Joshua Taylor

With a new year comes a new student body president. This year's student body president is Tyler Tichler. Tyler is 19 years old and

a graduate of Sterling High School. He currently is a sophomore at

Sauk Valley Community College, and he is an engineering major.

When asked why he ran for president, he was quick to respond. Tichler told me, "An academic advisor had

recommended that I run for student

body president, because he felt that I was the right person for the job." Tichler believed that the advisor recommended this honor based off of his outstanding academic accomplishments that he has had throughout his life.

The student body president leads the student government meetings, but he also has roles

outside of the government meetings. He is responsible for introducing performers

that come to entertain students at the community college. Tichler will also be representing Sauk Valley Community College at an upcoming event.

The event is called the Association for Promoting College Activities. Tichler said, "It is an event where there will be several performers and speeches that help promote students to showcase their talents."

So far the year has been running smoothly, and he has not run into any problems. He

stated,

"It has been an enjoyable experience that has set me up for the future.

This experience has expanded my knowledge of the role of government."

He hopes to enrich students' lives by bringing up activities that current and future students wish to have while attending Sauk.

It is his hope that future students will look at the activities that are offered while visiting and want to become a Sauk Success.

## New J-Club Opening to New Members

By Alex Sterenberg

Journalism is a brand new Club here at Sauk Valley Community College. Assistant professor Rachel Brunner and professor Tom Irish are co-leaders of the new the club. Journalism Club has a many goals with the new accomplished journalist and hope to better the community. Sauk also offers a new student newspaper class.

Irish and Brunner hope the club will inspire students to help contribute to the campus community while also inspiring students to become involved with news writing. The goal is that the journalism club will not only help students speak honestly about the things bothering them here at Sauk, but also their thought on what is happening in today's community.

"We are trying to create alternative opportunities for students to be involved in news-writing," Brunner said Valley. "To write and contribute to campus



culture and other issues that are important to them."

The journalism club is made up with a diverse group of students. Ana Salgado helped the group get organized, and Christina Pilling helped with online marketing and the Facebook start up. The Facebook online version is going to be updated often s to share topics with the public more frequently.

The goal is to start up an advice column for incoming freshman where they can submit questions and receive advice, such as the best process for going through admissions.

## Phi Theta Kappa Not A Frat

If you've been at Sauk long enough, you may have seen an email invitation to Phi Theta Kappa in your inbox. Maybe you've seen a Phi Theta Kappa banner or poster around campus. But what is Phi Theta Kappa anyway? Why should you care?

To answer this question with another, where do you see yourself in five or ten years? If achieving your goals involves academic and personal growth, you

have something in common with what Phi Theta Kappa's goals.

Although it sounds like it, Phi Theta Kappa is not a fraternity. Phi Theta Kappa is an international honors society for two-year colleges with more than 82,000 new members each year. The group has 1,100 chapters throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada, Germany, and Japan. In other words, our chapter at Sauk doesn't

exist in its own bubble. Being so widely recognized, many four-year colleges seek out Phi Theta Kappa members.

Because a vital part of Phi Theta Kappa is academic achievement, step one to join is finishing 12 credit hours—about one full-time semester at Sauk—with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5. Admission does require a one-time payment of \$80, which is used to continue

providing benefits to members.

Here's a bigger number that might interest you more. The group nationally has more than \$90 million in scholarship money available. There are also more than \$37 million available in transfer scholarships. Phi Theta Kappa has these funds available to its members via their website. They have a single application that covers all the necessary bases.



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Polo Community High School cheerleaders have been keeping team spirits up this season. Photo by SVCC student.

## Polo Cheers Kicks Into High Gear

Samantah Rhodes

On a Friday night at the football field in Polo, when the crowd is roaring and tensions are high, those in helmets and shoulder pads aren't the only ones breaking a sweat. PCHS Cheer

took the field and made it their own on September 30. With a routine full of flips and stunts, they added their own flair to the Polo Community High School's homecoming game.

The team, currently consisting of only 12 members, practices year-round, but they have more on their plate than just cheering. During the summer, they lend a hand at Polo's annual Town

and Country Days festival, where they run the car wash and kids' tent. During their fall season, aside from cheering at football games, they decorate the entire town for homecoming and volunteer at the annual cancer awareness game. They also cheer for Polo Marco Basketball during their spring season.

Angie Bowlin, the squad's coach, shed some light on the amount of work the team puts into every performance – and every practice.

"By the end of a typical practice, they're exhausted," Bowlin says about this year's team. "I think something a lot of people assume about cheerleading is that it's

just waving your arms and chanting. These kids balance school and work as well, and on top of all that, they're pushing themselves to get every step down perfect." One might think that, for a team so small, it would be difficult to generate buzz from the crowd. However, PCHS Cheer manages to get the crowd off their feet. "I think it's very rewarding," Bowlin says about PCHS Cheer, "not just for me as their coach, but for them as high school students. They love, more than anything, when they can get the whole crowd to cheer with them. That's when I think it all pays off."

## Ping Pong Bounces into Sauk

Claire Fetting

Each day during lunch hour, you'll find students playing table tennis in the cafeteria. The game is popular at Sauk, and the formation of a club seems like a natural next step. Sarah Hanke, a Sauk student, is working to make this happen.

So far, she and the faculty advisor, Michelle Barkley, have found over 60 students interested in participating in a table tennis club. To make the club a reality, they need to obtain enough equipment for those members; the single table Sauk currently owns will not be enough.


Barkley says the club will need six tables, minimum. The club depends on finding this equipment and then a place to store it and hold meetings.

They are also working on ways to make the club more structured than the current games in the cafeteria. Henke is considering events like tournaments in the future.

There will be a meeting scheduled in the next few weeks. During this meeting, officers will be chosen and the club's constitution formed. Once this takes place, the paperwork will go to the student government for official approval.




Although the club's formation depends on the equipment, Barkley says that they hope to start holding regular meetings sometime this semester. Students interested in the club should keep an eye out for upcoming developments.



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# Sterling High School Football Yet to Be Beaten

Nicholas Olds

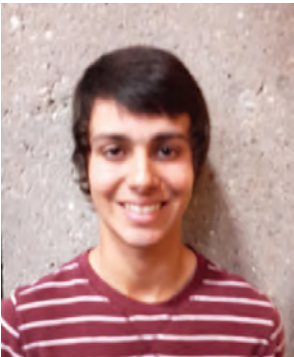
For the sixth time this fall, Sterling High School football's opponent walked off of the field with their heads down, and yet another opposing coach was left scratching his head wondering what went so wrong. That's right, the Golden Warriors are 6-0 and have blown away each competitor featuring a 49-7 win over rival and state ranked Geneseo.

The Warriors success has not gone unnoticed and they have been given the #2 ranking in Illinois Class 5A only behind offensive powerhouse Peoria.

This kind of season was not expected by many, as the team looked young and undersized on paper. The offensive line needed to prove themselves, along with a fresh new quarterback, junior

Trey Morse. But, it didn't take long for the line or Morse to show everyone that they were ready to not only succeed but to do so convincingly.

Thanks to the hard work of the offensive line, the Warrior's running backs—Senior Andrew Spaulding, Junior Latrell Vaughn, and Junior Nyrell Sullivan—have found easy success and had no prob-



lem establishing the running game early in each contest. Morse has also had no problem doing his part, throwing eight TD's already, including three to his older brother, Turner Morse.

"I think he's played well, and controlled the game with the ball in his hands. He runs the offense with poise and confidence and he makes a lot of good reads," said Turner of his younger brother.

However, all ability put aside, there is something different about this years team; they have the sort of "it" factor that cannot be described but can be seen by anyone who watches the team compete. Head coach Jon Schlemmer said that the top reason this team is finding such success

is because of the attitude and mindset of the team.

"Our players play with so

much passion and just love playing the game. They come to work everyday and really buy into what we are doing within our program," stated Schlemmer. "We have so much competition amongst our kids that it is making us that much better. They understand how important practice is and are willing to push their teammates."

There is no doubt that this years team is one of the best teams to come through SHS lately, but how far could they really go? Former SHS All-Conference, All-Area, and Quad Cities 1st Team wide receiver Jordan Asbury said, "I think they can go pretty far, the team plays really fast as a whole which will give their opponents some trouble in the playoffs. There's no reason that they can't make it far down the stretch if they keep up this kind of play."

Obviously, this years team—better known on campus as "Team 112"—is talented and prepared to play deep into the fall. Only time will tell how successful this team can be, but it is clear that they will enter the playoffs with a target on their back as well as high expectations on their shoulders.

# Student Government and the APCA Conference

Tyler Tichler  
Student Contributor

Sauk Valley's Student Government Association recently attended the 2016 Midwest Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities conference. Our Student Government Association attends the APCA conference once a year to try to bring in new and returning performers to Sauk.

Not only did the Student Government Association attend the conference, local talent Drew Dawson and Tristan Bushman also attended the conference to participate in the APCA Stars talent tournament. Both students performed extremely well during both the auditions and the show itself. Tristan Bushman won first place and qualified for the National APCA Stars tournament in Orlando, Fla. in March.

Besides the APCA Stars tournament, we attended the conference to watch



different performers showcase their presentations. The showcases ranged from leadership speakers to musical acts to comedians to hypnotists and magicians. The APCA conference is a great way to not only get to know students from other colleges, but also view short performances before deciding if the act is something we would like to hire for Sauk's Student Activities.

Another great reason for us attending this conference is that we can literally save thousands of dollars. The APCA has an opportunity called Co-

operative Buying. This means that all of the colleges that attended the conference grouped together and shared what performances they were interested in hiring. If several schools within a certain radius of each other are interested in the same performance, and if they can settle on a similar schedule, there are major discounts that are applied to hiring that act.

Sauk's Student Government Association is also the Student Activities Board, so being able to get out and meet all of the performers that attended the APCA conference allows us to bring in the best performers that we can. We encourage students to attend future Student Government meetings if they have any input toward what could improve Sauk's environment, whether it be an activity or simply suggestions.



Cafeteria at Sauk Valley Community College often attracts students looking fto play a game of table tennis. Photo by SVCC student

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# Opinion

## Satire: Trump to Use Teacups to Aid in Foreign Policy

James Hutchison

In an unexpected announcement today directly from the multi-billionaire presidential candidate, Donald Trump has declared he has solved the issue of America being viewed as backwards animals trying to adhere to old ideologies and dead principles.

“We gotta come into the 22nd century. We gotta own it. Look at me, I’ve made billions, and you wanna know how? I don’t even know! It just works! THAT’S how the country needs to be run. Do a thing, take a chance, learn from history. What does history tell us? Tea makes everything better.”

It is apparent that the man notorious for what some would call rampant and unbridled offensive remarks has decided America made a mistake by throwing tea in the ocean all

those years ago in defiance of the throne of England.

“See, I figured it out. There had to be something, some mistake, some... thing that really set us on this path we’re on. It’s the tea. Now, we all know the story. A bunch of soldiers threw a ship full of English tea into the ocean. It was supposed to just be a middle finger to the throne, but what was it really? Those men threw away what separates the Brits from the rest of the world, their dignity.”

The conservative candidate for the presidency didn’t stop there with his self-proclaimed brilliant plan to bring America’s reputation up around the world. Instead, Trump says that tea itself won’t lead America to greatness in the minds of the world’s people.

“Now... here’s the thing,

I got people, lots of people. These people tell me things I need to know, and I pay them real good to tell me what I want to hear. What I want to hear is: ‘It can be done!’ WE’RE the big dogs. This is OUR time. But America can’t grow tea. So what do we do? Teacups. Teacup sets. Tea bars and tea stores. They’ll dot the country, and they’ll create the jobs we need. For the first time, American workers will have something they can do with pride, and it will all be because one man, ME, as only I can, saw the flaw of history and fixed it.”

There is much more to Trump’s plan to revolutionize the reputation of America around the world by using tea, but not everyone who has heard this new plan entirely agrees, and some people don’t seem to

be able to make any sense of it.

Even the prime minister of Britain, although staying quite respectful as she sipped her tea, had this to say: “He’s off his bloody rocker. Tea? Does he know his country’s history?”

Trump only had this to say: “He’s afraid. I get it. But I’m a smart man. Real smart, in fact. Not every day do you find a man like me to suggest something so radical.”

Whatever the outcome of the presidential elections, it

is very clear that this election may be one of the most momentous in living memory.

## Shrinking Military, a Growing Problems

Joshua Taylor

America’s longest conflict is drawing to an end. The challenge that Washington faces in the near future is how and when the final troops should leave Afghanistan. The reason this is a top priority is because, Washington does not need another Iraq on their hands. During my time in Iraq and Afghanistan it was clear that the military had much to learn in order to be able to defend itself.

When U.S. forces left Iraq in 2011 the question the many wondered was, can Iraq defend itself and sustain the test of democracy? Due to a weak military and a corrupt government, Iraq faced, what would be its first major challenge with the rise of ISIS. Since the withdrawal of troops in 2011, the United States has returned to help Iraq and combat ISIS.

Due to the problems that America has faced in Iraq, Washington should learn from its mistakes in Iraq and create a plan that will ensure that troops will not have to return to Afghanistan in the near future. In order to insure that U.S. forces will not have to return to Afghanistan, the first thing that Washington should consider is whether or not the countr is stable enough to leave. By ensuring whether or not the country is stable will help ensure that there is no corruption in the newly developed democratic state. This was one failure that was experienced in Iraq.

The next step is to ensure that the Afghan military is fully capable to defend the country. In order to ensure that Afghanistan does not become a terrorist safe haven, the military must be able to counter any

attacks against a rise of terrorist in the country. Not only does the country have to deal with the rise of a terror group in the country, but they also have to worry about another country invading them due to the belief of a weak government and military.

Once it was announced that all troops would be leaving Iraq, I knew that eventually we would return to the country in order to help their military. I would suggest that in order to ensure that the failures of the exit to leave Iraq do not recur in Afghanistan, that we should work with the Afghan government, to leave a small amount of troop presence to continue to train the Afghan military, and to help deter any form of attack against the people of Afghanistan and the country of Afghanistan.



A woman and her dog sits along the Rock River bank enjoying the warm weather. The Sauk Valley Community College iover looks the river. Photo by student.



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Sauk Concert Brings Sounds of Fall

Keep Education in the Classroom

Alexandrea Sterenberg

Owen Casson

Sauk Valley Community College Music Department recently presented “The Sounds of Fall” Concert under the direction of Denise Deter. In my opinion the concert was outstanding.

The evening began with choir performing “The Last Rose of Summer” by Greg Gilpin. The choir did it without accompaniment, or any musical background. Starting off the concert without accompaniment was a great touch because it let the audience get a feel for the choir’s sound.

They all played their roles to create the best sound possible. The melody, harmony and bass all came together in the song “Autumn Madrigal” by James C. Myers. They made the song feel complete, even when they sang in multiple layers.

The next song, “How I Keep From Singing” by Andy Beck was in the higher octave, which allowed the audience to really hear the choir’s range. All

around the choir sang beautifully and had a traditional well rounded sound.

The band has far less Sauk Members: Katie Ruckman, Lauren Foster, Bailey McClain, Jakob McCormick, Ryan Tillman, but an outstanding 29 members of the community volunteered to help fill the empty chairs.

They began with the “Chesford Portrait” by James which I think was a great way to start off their portion of the concert. The fall mood was brought in by the melody playing softly but swiftly to symbolize the falling leaves. This theme was woven over the course of the piece which gave the created an autumn atmosphere.

The next song “Air for Band” by Jim Curnow was slow and sweet. It really brought out the brass section. The percussion sections joined the brass at the end to give the song a classic ending. The band also played beautifully and only had one minor slip through

the four pieces.

The band really caught the audience’s attention during their powerful performance of “In Storm and Sunshine” By J.C. Reed. This was a great choice by the conductor because it contrasted the last slow song they played. The Band’s performance of it made it even better. They moved through the up’s and down’s that left the audience speechless.

The choir consists of Sauk Students: Cedri Dubree, Maddie Jacobs, Molly Jacobs, Holley B. McNinch, Susan Melton, and Katie Ruckman. But there are also members of the community: Jessica Dempsey, Sloan Searis and Dalton Wells.

The band consists of far less Sauk Members: Katie Ruckman, Lauren Foster, Bailey McClain, Jakob McCormick, Ryan Tillman, but an outstanding 29 members of the community volunteered to help round out their sound.

Online education has skyrocketed in popularity over the past few years, but in my opinion traditional classes are still the better option. Students who live far away from their campus may have no other option besides taking online classes. But what about those that do have a choice? Some students may find it difficult to decide which route to take. Online and traditional classes both have positives and negatives. But overall, I think taking traditional classes is the best way to go.

One advantage to taking traditional classes is the experience. Every high school or college student has probably heard at some point how awesome college is supposed to be. It is a great opportunity to meet new people, and for many it will be the first

time they are able to live away from their parents. This can give students a great sense of independence. This experience is not the main point of going to college, but it is definitely something to consider.

Another benefit is the ability to talk to professors and students face-to-face. Brian Kearney, a communications student at Rowan University, said: “Being in a classroom and engaging with others helps the learning process, which is something online courses cannot offer.”

Perhaps the most important advantage of traditional classes is they can help students earn a degree they may need. Many careers require a bachelor’s degree or more, which makes for great motivation to take traditional classes. Medicine, nursing, engineering, and law are just a

few of the many fields that will require some sort of a degree.

While certain schools now offer the opportunity to earn these degrees online, in my opinion, a degree earned from taking classes on campus is usually taken more seriously. This can make it much easier to get the job they are looking for later on.

When it comes to deciding between online education and traditional classes, it becomes obvious that both have advantages and disadvantages. It is certainly understandable that more students are becoming interested in online classes. However, the experience of going away for school, the face-to-face education, and the different degrees a student can earn all combine to make traditional classes the better choice.

New Harry Potter Loses Its Magic

Claire Fetting

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, the latest installment in the Harry Potter franchise, adds nothing new to the characters or the world loved by so many readers. Instead of telling a new story for a new generation, it revisits the events of the first books. While revisiting the past could be interesting, the story offers no fresh insights into the old characters, and no reason to love the new ones.

The Cursed Child is set during Harry Potter’s adulthood. The scar has not pained Harry for 22 years, but all is not well. Harry and his son, Albus, are going through a rough time in their relationship. The past, in the form of menacing whispers from Voldemort, is haunting

them; much like the past haunts this play.

Like many other fans, I was excited for the story because I wanted to see what the world looks like now that Voldemort is gone and the main characters’ lives have moved on. But instead of coming up with a new conflict and villain, The Cursed Child relies on the plot of the original series. Between time travel and nostalgia, we learn more about the old, familiar characters than about the brand-new main characters, Albus Potter and Scorpio Malfoy. The play never comes into its own as a new story, because it’s too busy reviewing the events of the first seven books. Albus and the others of his generation just

don’t leap of the page the way Harry and Company did in the first book.

Of course, The Cursed Child is the script of a play by J.K. Rowling, John Tifany, and Jack Thorne, which ran in London this summer. It’s strange to read a stripped-down, dialogue-only version of Harry Potter, and this partly explains the flatness of the characters and setting. The script wasn’t meant to stand alone, so simply reading it leaves one missing important elements.

But, however much a live performance would add, the story remains dull and predictable. I’m not saying don’t read the book. Just don’t expect an exciting new Harry Potter if you do.



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# Student Eats

## The Italian Has Arrived in P-Town

Owen Casson

The Italian is a restaurant that opened about a month ago in Prophetstown, and it is definitely worth checking out. The owner, Joe Alfano, also runs The Italian in Walnut and recently decided to expand to Prophetstown.

I first tried The Italian a few weeks ago and was impressed. My family ordered a sausage and pepperoni pizza for takeout, and it was excellent. It had delicious sauce and cheese, and the sausage and pepperoni added even more flavor to the pizza.

I then decided that I should actually go to the restaurant and check it out in person. As I expected, the building looked much different inside and out than it had as Dari Delite, the ice cream shop that was previously located there. Although the appearance was different, the restaurant still had the same welcoming, small-town atmosphere.

This time around, I ordered a

burger and fries. The burger was very beefy and filling and was cooked to perfection. Although this meal was great, I did not enjoy it quite as much as the outstanding pizza I had tried a couple weeks earlier. Still, I enjoyed both meals enough that I would be more than willing to try each of them again.

The biggest strength of The Italian is the variety on their menu. Not surprisingly, pasta and pizza are what they are known for. But for anyone who is not a big fan of this kind of food, The Italian still has plenty to offer. Subs, burgers and french fries can also be found on the menu. This type of variety is great and is something that every restaurant should strive for. The service was also exceptional. The cashier was extremely friendly, and my food was prepared in a timely fashion. As I mentioned before, the overall atmosphere of the restaurant is welcoming and inviting. The

friendly service certainly helps with that.

The prices are also very reasonable, which is something that everyone is looking for these days. Anyone buying a meal just for themselves should expect to pay anywhere from \$4 to \$7, while a large pizza costs around \$12.50.

Overall, The Italian is quite an enjoyable restaurant. It has good food, many choices, friendly service and reasonable prices. To me, that is just about all you can ask for from a restaurant. I hope – and expect – that it will stay open longer than the other businesses that have held the same location. I look forward to enjoying some delicious food from The Italian for years to come and definitely recommend it to anyone who has not yet tried it. The Italian is located at 710 Swanson Drive in Prophetstown and 131 S. Main St. in Walnut.

## A Taste of Italy

Molly O’Brien

You can find a taste of Italy in downtown Dixon at the Basil Tree Ristorante. The Basil Tree’s chefs have more than 30 years combined experience in cooking Italian food. Their philosophy is the guests needs are of the utmost importance. They want to make sure the atmosphere is warm and inviting. But, more importantly, Basil Tree Ristorante provides a world-

class meal. In my opinion it is the perfect destination for lunch, a romantic night or for a large group celebration.

I had the pleasure of dining at Basil Tree Ristorante at lunch time. I was in no hurry but you could easily eat your lunch and still be back to work within an hour.

I ordered clam chowder followed by a meatball sandwich. It was delicious! I will

return again! I am celebrating my birthday in a few months.

Basil Tree Ristorante is located at 123 E. First St., Dixon. It is open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday; 4 to 10 p.m. Saturday; 4 to 9 p.m. Sunday. Reservations are not required but are recommended. Call 815-288-7555 for more information.

## Profile: Glenn Bodish, Sauk’s New Art Instructor

Samantha Rhodes

SVCC students, particularly those majoring in art, may have seen a new face in the school’s halls. Glenn Bodish is the Sauk art program’s newest addition, and he brings to the table a fresh, innovative outlook on art.

Bodish was born and raised in Allentown, Pa. He has studied at Luzerne County Community College, Southern Oregon University and the University of Montana, where he earned his master’s in art. He has also worked as a graphic designer, art director and photographer, and he has experience doing commercial work.

Bodish currently lives in Dixon. He is married and has two children who are currently in graduate school. In his free time, Bodish enjoys visiting art museums, listening to and playing music, hiking and relaxing with his family.

At SVCC since August, Bodish teaches classes such as painting, sculpture and art history. When he is not teaching, he focuses his efforts on projects such as development of the art gallery and bringing newer technology to Sauk’s art program.

Bodish also aims to form

ties between SVCC and other art communities, including local organizations, artists in the area and high school art programs. He values the academic importance of the arts and their necessity to students in all fields of study.

“It takes a critical eye and focus to create art,” he says. “I think this relates very well to focusing on studying any subject matter. We require critical thinking skills to solve problems.”

Bodish says he is excited to be teaching at Sauk, and he hopes to inspire his students to become great artists. When offering advice to students, he suggests that they read more, research and study what they are passionate about, and “practice, practice, practice” the skills they wish to refine.

Bodish also places emphasis on teaching by example. “I am a person who models and shows people,” he says. “As an educator and as a parent, I have learned that modeling is the best way to teach. I model a good work ethic and a discipline-based approach to becoming an artist, and I hope the art students, particularly, will follow that example.”



## Willy’s Tacos Keeps on Trucking

Emily Spangler

In honor of National Taco Day, which was October 4th, I decided to celebrate (a week early) by going to the Willy’s Restaurant Taco Truck that is parked by the mall in Sterling. Many people in town have been talking about how great the Taco Truck is for months, so I decided to try it for myself.

As soon as I walked up to the truck, I looked at the menu, which consisted of the best tacos that Willy has to offer, along with tortas, burritos, chips, and their

special nachos. I decided to try a beef taco, and I was not disappointed! The service was great: the workers were friendly, the food was made quickly, and there were chairs by the truck for you to sit down and eat. Food trucks have been growing popularity for the past few years and have been making good business for themselves; Willy’s Taco Truck is no different.

Taco Trucks have an advantage: they can sell you food from your favorite restaurants without you actu-

ally having to sit and wait in a restaurant. This is convenient if you’re on-the-go or do not want to sit in a restaurant. Willy’s Taco Truck has been a big hit in the area, as it shows up to multiple local venues and has its own Facebook page.

So, if you are looking for a delicious experience that has an authentic feel, and you are planning to stay local, Willy’s Taco Truck should be your next choice.

## Pub-n-Grub Makes Food Fun for All

Owen Casson

The Factory Pub-n-Grub, a bar and grill downtown Sterling, is finding success with their unique yet familiar menu. Yes, they still have a simple burger and fries for all to enjoy, but also include specialty sandwiches in which creativity can easily be seen. The Factory Pub-n-Grub is open Sunday - Thursday 11:00AM - 10:00PM and 11AM-1AM Friday-Saturday. The menu has over 20 sandwich options and each can be made into a meal for only \$1.50 more, which coincides with the underpriced menu. Most of the sandwiches are around \$8, meaning that a meal can be purchased for around \$10, which is fairly reasonable for a filling meal. My personal favorite—and the favorite of many others—is the smoked BBQ pulled

pork with tater tots. For just \$10 you get quality pork with a wonderful smokey barb cue flavor that is as good as if not better than the popular restaurant chain Famous Dave’s.

In addition to the great food, the atmosphere of the restaurant is in my opinion the best of any restaurant in Sterling. There is a perfect mix of a classic bar setting like in the TV show Cheers, and a lively sports bar like Buffalo Wild Wings. The building is large enough that it doesn’t feel crowded or noisy, but small and cozy enough to get that “downtown feel” that you want when you’re eating, well, downtown.

Also, the service cannot be beaten. Every time I have sat down for a meal there I immediately felt welcomed and

comfortable with my server. The sincerity of the staff’s kindness makes any patron feel respected and appreciated. Plus, they don’t try to hard to please you, and you can get the sense that they simply want to treat you with the etiquette that real people want to be treated with. They are just downright friendly.

As you can see I honestly have enjoyed myself overtime I have visited The Factory Pub-n-Grub, and know that I will never have a bad time when I go there. I think that anyone and everyone make their way downtown to 103 West 3rd Street Sterling, IL, and soak in the great atmosphere while filling up on a delicious meal, and maybe even have a drink or two with some friends.

## Keeping Education in the Classroom

By Owen Casson

Online education has skyrocketed in popularity over the past few years, but in my opinion traditional classes are still the better option. Students who live far away from their campus may have no other option besides taking online classes. But what about those that do have a choice? Some students may find it difficult to decide which route to take. Online and traditional classes both have positives and negatives. But overall, I think taking traditional classes is the best way to go.

One advantage to taking traditional classes is the ex-

perience. Every high school or college student has probably heard at some point how awesome college is supposed to be. It is a

great opportunity to meet new people, and for many it will be the first time they are able to live away from their parents. This can give students a great sense of independence. This experience is not the main point of going to college, but it is definitely something to consider.

Another benefit is the ability to talk to professors and students face-to-face. Brian Kearney, a communications student at Rowan University, said: “Being in a classroom and engaging with others helps the learning process,

which is something online courses cannot offer.”

Perhaps the most important advantage of traditional classes is they can help students earn a degree they may need. Many careers require a bachelor’s degree or more, which makes for great motivation to take traditional classes. Medicine, nursing, engineering, and law are just a few of the many fields that will require some sort of a degree.

While certain schools now offer the opportunity to earn these degrees online, in my opinion, a degree earned from taking classes on campus is usually taken more seriously. This can make it much easier to get the job they are looking for later on.

When it comes to deciding between online education and traditional classes, it becomes obvious that both have advantages and disadvantages. It is certainly understandable that more students are becoming interested in online classes. However, the experience of going away for school, the face-to-face education, and the different degrees a student can earn all combine to make traditional classes the better choice.



## Chautauqua History in tthe Sauk Valley

Jane Carlson

A Chautauqua was an adult educational program featuring lecturers, musicians, and entertainers. originated in Chautauqua, New York. Minister John H. Vincent of Camptown, New Jersey, devised a two weeks' course of study by mail on the Holy Land. He then came up with the idea of a summer school, a term then unknown. A friend, Lewis Miller, suggested having the summer schoo loutside at a defunct camp site at Lake Chau-tauqua, New York. The first summer school, now called the "Sunday-School Teacher's Assembly," was held in the summer of 1874. In subsequent years, Vincent broadened the study course to include men of many religions, as well as senators and statesmen. Tens of thou-

sands of people came from all over the country. Within two years, a Chautauqua had started in Ohio. By 1900, thirty one states had their own Chautauqua. Illinois was one of those states. Dixon, Illinois had its own Chautauqua. Fourteen years after the Chautauqua originated in New York, the first local Chautauqua was held at Governor Charter's Hazelwood estate. Lloyd's Park, thirty four acres on Dixon's northeast side, was purchased by local churches. Musical acts, preachers, and other speakers traveled the circuit. Thousands of people came to attend the Chau-tauqua in Dixon. There were cottages and tents for rent on the ground to accommo-date visitors, as well as the Bluebird hotel, which had an

attached restaurant. The Dix-on trolley system had an end point at the Assembly Park, which made it easy to reach the attraction. As movies became popular in the 1920s, the Dixon Chautauqua began to lose ground until the operation became bankrupt. Mabel Shaw purchased the land and had lots subdivided. Her friends, who, like her, were wealthy, built nice homes on the riverfront lots. The east side of Fellows Street, where the curb and sidewalk ends, is what was Assembly Park. The Northwest Territory Museum in Dixon has a diorama on exhibit of the mostly round building that was called Chautauqua Hall.



A photo showing the way life was back in the 1800s.



mentioned before, many four-year schools look for the words "Phi Theta Kappa," and schools such as NIU, ISU, Augustana, DePaul, and Bradley also have renewable grants available for members.

On top of that, none of these benefits even require participation. However, participation is greatly encouraged and comes with its own benefits. Phi Theta Kappa's four international hallmarks—what we're really all about—are schol-

arship, leadership, service, and fellowship. By attending meetings and club activities, you earn "points" that bring you to "hallmark status," meaning travel and leadership opportunities as well as possible letters of recommendation from our advisors. However, participating does more than just get you points.

This semester our chapter at Sauk is pairing with Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce to host a fundraiser to help families in

need this Christmas. In addition, we're doing a collaborative honors project looking for solutions to Earth's dying bee population. Projects like these are a big part of being a member of Phi Theta Kappa. Working as a team helps build character and experience for future jobs.

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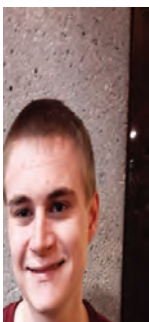
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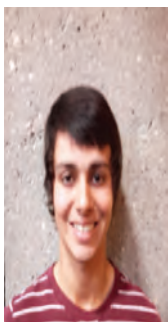
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