

The Skyhawk View

SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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FUNdraiser for the Kids



By Joshua Taylor
Local News

Several volunteers from Walnut, Illinois got together to host a benefit to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Hospital on April 8, 2017 at the Green River Country Club in Walnut.

Many of the participants that were involved in the benefit participate in an annual run from Miononk, Illinois to the St. Jude's Children's Hospital in Peoria, Illinois totaling 42 miles. The benefit that was held began with Haley Franks and Kevin Geldean having a discussion on how they could raise money for the charity, and bingo was what they decided was the best option. Franks stated, "Kevin told me that he could be the muscle of the benefit, as long as someone else could be the organizer."

After that conversation, the planning process began and quickly took off. Over several weeks of planning, nine volunteers met together to discuss how the event should take place, and the prizes. All volunteers were able to gain support from

40 different businesses and people to gain donations for the prizes. The donations were given as door prizes, as bingo prizes, and as auction items.

120 tickets were sold at \$20 a ticket which gained you entry into the benefit. Those in attendance played 15 rounds of bingo, purchased tacos from the taco bar, and participated in a live auction, a bake sale, and 50/50 tickets. Due to the high demand of the community, more tickets were made available for sale at the door to help the high demand of the local community for the event. Khloe Koser of Walnut had won the 50/50 prize totaling a little over \$300, and chose to return all of the prize money to St. Jude's.

Some of the prizes include flights in local airplanes and helicopters, dinner date nights, and spa days. Door prizes were also handed out to those in attendance for both adults and children. Gary McMullen and Alex Fisch, both of Walnut, announced the benefit and the auction.

Makanna Sabin, who is

a cancer survivor and participant of St. Jude's and lives in rural Walnut, was in attendance at the event. She was also a guest speaker for the event. Sabin had told the audience her story and battle of cancer, and her experience while battling cancer with St. Jude's. The final game of bingo required the players to make an "M" for Makanna in order to win the final prize. Sabin had also announced the final game of bingo.

At the end of the night a surprise was presented to Haley Franks and those who participated in the event. An anonymous donation had been made to the benefit for St. Jude's for the amount of \$30,000. In total the benefit raised \$37,583 for.

All volunteers will participate in the St. Jude's Run in August to help raise money for the charity. If you were unable to attend this year, donations are still being accepted until July 31, 2017. If you wish to make a donation you may contact Haley Franks at (815) 878-4224, Kevin Geldean at (815)303-8049.

Illinois budget crisis could affect construction plans

by Owen Casson,
Area News Writer

Spring is a big time for construction in Illinois, but the state budget crisis could cause problems when it comes to some of the state's planned construction projects. While the money has already been spent for some of the upcoming projects, the ones further down the road could be in jeopardy.

Each year, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) develops a six-year plan for all of the necessary Illinois

construction projects. According to idot.illinois.gov, the initial plan for 2017-2022 plan included more than \$11 billion in projects. Unfortunately, the state's financial problems could cut into this plan. It will be up to the IDOT to prioritize the planned projects if it determines that it they cannot spend the money it had planned.

The anticipated benefits of the original six-year plan included 2,523 miles of highway maintenance, 501 bridges replaced or

rehabilitated, and safety improvements to railroad crossings throughout the state. The IDOT recognizes how important it will be to complete these tasks, but it also understands the extreme conditions that the state is currently facing in terms of money.

There has not yet been any word on major construction projects being cancelled due to the Illinois budget crisis. However, it is a real possibility that the IDOT may have to cut back within the next few years.

Student-academic advisor relationship

It is the job of the academic advisors at Sauk Valley Community College to help the students with which classes to take, or which schools fit their future dreams, but students have their responsibilities in this relationship, as well. All the weight can't be put on the shoulders of the advisors. The students have to put in as much work as the advisors do.

The academic advisors are supposed to be open to whatever a student needs and always try to help out that student as much as possible. Freshman Pedro Gallardo has had nothing but extreme help and care from his advisor and said, "I love my academic advisor! He's always able to fit me in for an appointment as soon as possible. I really feel like he cares for me. He helps me with picking out which classes

I need to take to eventually transfer to my dream school".

As it can be seen, Gallardo has always had a good experience with his advisor, but not all students can say they have had a good experience.

Jonathan Garcia hasn't always had a good experience with his academic advisor. When Garcia was registering for his classes in the summer, he had complications. Garcia said, "It took me forever to finally get an appointment. Came the day of my appointment, I got a call saying that they had to reschedule. During my appointment, there were a few times when she didn't know exactly what classes were best for me. It was just a hassle".

When asked what some of the students should do in order to make sure both the student and advisor

have a good relationship, Valerie Kern-Lyons, one of the advisors at Sauk, said that nearly two years ago, the school undertook an effort to assign a student a specific advisor. Students don't always have to make an appointment with a specific advisor. Kern also mentioned that there is a student portal where listing some things that the students should keep in mind when coming in for their appointment. Things such as being prepared to discuss goals and educational goals, to be open regarding needs and goals, be open and willing to consider professional recommendations, and so on.

Not every student has had a good experience like Gallardo did. Some students, like Garcia, had to go through the complications with their advisor.

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Doing Happiness at Sauk

by Emily Ditzler
SGA Treasurer

After meeting Matt Glowacki at a regional conference in the Fall semester, I was excited to see him share his “Doing Happiness” presentation at Sauk last month. Matt was born without legs and he shared a motivational message to help people overcome barriers and inspired people to become happier and promote happiness. He encouraged attendees to use humor and inexpensive techniques like blowing bubbles and sharing your best-most-favorite memory or experience -- in Matt’s case, it was eating Ghirardelli’s Sea Salt Caramel Dark Chocolate! He shared some of that chocolate with attendees and it was delicious! This program inspired me to find simple ways to make others happy and empowered me not to limit myself, but to find ways to overcome barriers to achieve my goals.

Last month, Student Government and Student Activities also sponsored the Skyhawks Got Talent show. It was a very successful event and we are hoping to continue displaying Sauk students’ talents throughout the upcoming years by making this an annual event. Top three winners were chosen by the



Matt Glowacki with SVCC students Kelsey Heslop and Rachel Brummel

judges and one by the audience. First place went Jacob Outzen, who gave an original and entertaining juggling performance. Second place went to sisters, Molly and Maddie Jacobs, who performed “Something Beautiful” by Needtobreathe. Third place went to sisters, Arabella and Anah Chamberlain, who performed an original song titled “Backroads” that was written by their father. And, the audience choice went to Megan Wilson, who was accompanied by Mar-

cus Castillo, who performed “Fly” by Meadowlark. We saw a variety of great performances and we would like to thank everyone who came out to support the event as well as those who made the event successful.

I would like to invite everyone to take advantage of the free opportunities offered at Sauk. Please visit the Sauk’s webpage and check out the calendar of events, you might find an event or two for you and your family to enjoy!

Community college students’ struggle for success

By Samantha Rhodes
SVCC News

The path to success as a community college student isn’t always clear. All students struggle to maintain school along with their personal lives, but an even bigger challenge, one that community college students are all too familiar with, is deciding what they want to do in life.

Students experience a number of obstacles that interfere with day-to-day success: having trouble finding quiet spaces where they can study, not understanding material, and even lacking motivation and direction.

Sauk Valley Community College student Mike Schneiderbauer mentions that one of the things that makes it hard for students to be successful is “lack of motivation.” He also says he has noticed students falling short because they rush into school without setting a plan for themselves. His advice for those students is simple: “Don’t go to school if you don’t know what you’re going for.”

SVCC’s Glenn Bodish, new to the school but experienced as a teacher, shares a similar thought: “Know your base and then work on what you don’t know.” Bodish emphasizes the importance of students finding a foundation for their studies and understanding why they are at school before they begin building their education.

However, some students say that community college is a great way to test the waters when it comes to figuring out which direction they want to go in life. Part of the struggle is being told that they are lesser because they attend community college.

“There are people who scoff at community college,” says Sauk student Allie Schick. “The hardest part for me is dealing with the naysayers.”

Both students and instructors agree that the workload of community college students is often underestimated. Taylor Walrath, SVCC instructor and alumnus, offers insight on

how difficult it can be for students to remain successful while also dealing with their personal lives. “I think most students here do work. Everybody has to do that balancing act.”

Walrath also asserts that there isn’t just one way to be successful. He says that successful students are typically those that “are present, pay attention, and complete the assignments.”

However, not all successful students excel in the same areas. “I’ll have some students that do really well on tests but don’t do any assignments or vice versa. If I see that the student is putting in effort, I’ll try to help that student as much as I can.”

Walrath points out that there is not one single struggle for students to overcome if they want to be successful. Rather, there are multiple obstacles. “It’s a combination of getting good grades and also figuring out what you want to do,” he explains. “That’s how I would define success at a community college.”

Surviving a summer class

by Owen Casson

Most often, a student will take a summer class to avoid an overloaded schedule during the fall or spring. While studying and taking tests may not be the way most students want to spend their summer, there are ways to make the experience easier.

As someone who has taken a summer course, my first piece of advice would be to take an online course. Most college students will probably roll their eyes at the thought of taking a summer class. Unfortunately, this can sometimes become a necessity for a student. Nobody wants to

drive to school on a hot summer day and sit in a classroom for three hours. Fortunately, Sauk offers many online classes during the summer. Signing up for a class (or classes) early can ensure a student a spot in online class.

For online classes especially, it is important to take good notes. A lack of face-to-face interaction with a professor can make it more challenging to remember things learned in class. This makes good notes even more important than usual. It also pays to remember that too many notes is better than not enough.

It is also crucial to pay attention to due dates. Now, this is not the same old “don’t procrastinate” spiel that every student has heard thousands of times. College students tend to procrastinate no matter what. This advice does not relate to putting an assignment off, but to actually forgetting when the assignment is due. In on-campus classes, professors may remind their students of an upcoming due date every now and then. This is not the case online, so make sure to not forget a due date and let it pass by.



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Ideas

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GAME REVIEW

Mass Effect: Andromeda

by James Hutchison
Arts Writer

Coming after the conclusion of its predecessor, the original Mass Effect trilogy, Mass Effect: Andromeda, sets the stage for one of the more fantastical ideas in all of science fiction; exploration of a galaxy outside the Milky Way. Of all the things expected from such a progression of the famous story-driven series in which your choices have long lasting effects, Andromeda misses the mark. While gameplay mechanics, namely combat, are definitely superior to its predecessor in many ways, it may not be enough for someone who prefers strong story.

Perhaps the most prominent example of this is the finely tuned process of combat. Built on, and similar to, the system of combat in Mass Effect 3, Andromeda takes special interest in tweaking the already well-designed combat mechanics by adding some new changes and abilities while culling other

areas altogether. With the additions of profiles, contextual cover system, (no longer have to activate cover) and the ability to equip any weapon and any skill set a player might desire, combat establishes itself throughout the game as a pleasure to partake in and remains a big part of what makes Andromeda fun to play.

Exploration is another addition the the game world, and it's an achievement that sits by itself on a scale that hasn't been seen in the Mass Effect universe. Truly massive worlds span in all directions ripe for someone to ride their surfaces and see what they offer. That offer is what you'd expect from a game with any open world aspect; side missions and a steady supply of things to shoot at.

Of course, a game so expansive that it covers hundreds of years of the progress of humanity through the stars can't be sustained by something as paltry as mere combat. Obviously,

the story that drives such a long standing franchise has to be at least as good, and while the story provided in Andromeda is good, it's not great.

Many things plague the story as the player travels from world to world but, perhaps, the most egregious problem is how everything seems to magically fall into place after the humans arrive in Andromeda. That's not to say troubles aren't faced and things don't go wrong, because they certainly do, however, almost all of those things feel exactly like quick stepping stones so we can just get to the point. I dare say there's even a strange undertone of humanity itself somehow being a savior to all, and even though there are numerous races involved in making the "Andromeda Initiative" successful, humans are the real heroes.

This is all besides the sometimes terrible, and downright scary manner in which the faces of nearly all characters are graph-



ically represented (leave the helmets on), the subpar character customization options, occasional CTDs and glitches (sometimes mission breaking), and utterly absurd magical property that allows every new alien race to speak English within seconds with perfect grammar, tone, and inflection.

Mass Effect: Andromeda has its flaws, and many of those flaws are being continually addressed even after the game's release, so it would be incorrect to say it is a terrible game. Whether because the first game in a series must suffer these things for the sake of introduction or poor execution, Andromeda still makes forward progress in many other areas, even if the sacrifice is storytelling.

aDVICE

by Matthew & Molly

Should phones be allowed to be out and visable in Sauk classes?

MATTHEW

Yes. It's your money that you pay and you should be able to do what you want when it comes to having your phone out. Now, with that being said, that doesn't mean that there won't be consequences if you do this. It seems like every teacher has a different rule on technology. Most will allow laptops to be used during class or phones if necessary, but this can also cause a distraction.

If someone is abusing the right to use the phone for class purposes only and it's distracting to other students, then it shouldn't be allowed. But, if the phone is being put to good use then it shouldn't be a problem.

MOLLY

I am probably not the person to ask about cell phones because I'm sure I am one of the last persons on the planet NOT to have one. But, I do have some opinions about whether they belong in the classroom at Sauk Valley Community College.

My short answer is NO! I think cell phones are disruptive and are disrespectful to the professor who is teaching the class. I, also, think texting might become an issue.

Obviously there are times when a cell phone is necessary in the classroom. A student may have a job that requires them to be in contact at all times or a student has a sick child and needs to be in contact with their caregiver.

If that situation occurs, a student should put their phone on vibrate and quietly leave the room if they receive a call.

MOVIE REVIEW

Get Out

By Matthew Handel

Get Out has been noticed nationally as one of the surprisingly good movies this year. With a four and a half million dollar budget, it has almost surpassed 150 million dollars in box-office sales (via Box Office Mojo). Interesting graphics, a well tied together plot, and a new style of a scary movie are some aspects that make it such an intriguing movie.

The cast was done without any big name stars and that is also an impressive part of how successful it's been. Put together by producer Jordan Peele, his first horror movie, does it in his own style.



The music that was selected to go with the film is spot on. It is able to add to the story by changing your mood, keeping you on your toes, and sometimes even making you jump. One example that stuck out to me was in the beginning of the move. The song "Redbone" by Childish Gambino comes on and it's surprising because that song is very popular on the radio and in

hip hop. Adding a song that is currently popular just adds to the movie.

Another aspect that was important to the film was the plot being tied together so well. Any good movie has a plot that was set up in the beginning of the movie and then tied in together towards the end. *Get Out* does exactly that. You will walk away from this film dissecting each part, even making you scratch your head as to why certain things happened.

Unlike any other horror movie it has substance. It's not just gore and suspense the entire time, there is actually some meaning behind the characters' actions.

An aspect that has been talked about a lot is the racial undertone. Some of it is more obvious than other

parts. The main character is African-American and faces the challenge of meeting his white girlfriend's parents. Other racially charged aspects are harder to find and will take a little bit more thinking to even realize what the film was trying to convey.

Overall, *Get Out* is a movie that will have you thinking about everything. If you want to see a movie that is more than gore and non stop suspense then this is the one for you.

College Cats

by Rebecca Cutsinger-Cox

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Adjusting on the diamond



By Matthew Handel
Sports writer

Sauk Valley Community College’s baseball team have started their season and it’s been a time of adjustment. The Skyhawks are trying to find their groove and that may take some time.

Richie Bartnick, a 2016 graduate from Polo High School, is in his first semester at Sauk and his first season with the Skyhawks. Bartnick has been playing mostly third base and shortstop this season, but it’s been an adjusting period for his playing style.

He said that his “Biggest adjustment for me has been playing third. I’ve played [shortstop] my whole life so it feels a little awkward right now throwing all the way across the diamond.”

Not only is there an adjustment period for Bartnick, but it can take a little bit for a team to get to know each other. Bartnick said, “Yes for sure! Right now we are still figuring each other out, but we are about to the point where we all know about one another. With high school you know everyone. Coming from a small town it

was easy to gel together.” The Skyhawks are a very young team, only two sophomores on the roster, but Bartnick thinks that won’t be an issue, “We do only have two sophomores, but I think being young is overplayed. We have a lot of great area players on the team. We all get along well. It’s just a matter of time when everything clicks at the same time as a team. Then we’re young and dangerous team.”

When asked what he is most excited about for this season, Bartnick said, “I’m most excited about trying to get Sauk baseball a winning record. With this team it should be no problem. We’re very short on pitching but we have talent.”

Changes at the SVCC Art Gallery

by James Hutchison
Arts Writer

Sauk Valley Community College is home to many different outlets for students looking to express their artistic talent. One of those outlets is the SVCC art gallery maintained by Associate Professor of Art, Glenn Bodish. Bodish, who personally has twenty-five years of experience working with, and tending to, visual art displays of various types, began his work at the art gallery in August of 2016 and is always on the lookout for work that is truly unique for presentation within the gallery.

The SVCC Art Gallery, located on the second floor of the main campus building across from the school cafeteria, is home to a constant display of work by students, faculty, and even outside artists. The most



William Butler
CONFESSIONS OF DIGESTION

to April 13th.

While the art gallery has always been a means of displaying the work of artfully gifted students, Bodish has

agreement can have a place if, for no other reason, than to get people to think.

To that end, Bodish believes a great benefit of the art gallery is simply meeting artists from all different paths in life, both new, heavily experienced, and even those that can also serve to educate others around them. He also has a great desire for people to understand the significance of providing a place for those that need a place for others to see their work and said simply that people need to “get out there and support the arts.”

The art gallery will be displaying faculty and staff work throughout the summer, and Bodish explained more popular artists will be coming during the regular school semester to both display their own work as well as educate.



recent display is a series of painted pieces by William Butler. Butler is the Director of Contemporary Arts at the Contemporary Arts Center in Peoria, IL, and his work, *Confessions of Digestion* is on display to anyone interested in his unique style of visual art from March 15th

expressed a desire to take its usefulness to a higher level and, perhaps, see it become a classroom in its own right in which one might come to learn from the pieces on display. He actively seeks the diverse and different and hopes that, though inspiration might come, even dis-

The logo for POPSOCKETS, featuring the word "POPSOCKETS" in a bold, sans-serif font. The "O"s are stylized with a blue and white circular pattern.

A photograph of a white iPhone with a POPSOCKET attached to its back. The POPSOCKET is a circular, textured device that can be used to grip the phone. The phone is lying on a metal grate.

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Is It Fake or Real? Not just for little kids anymore.

By Molly O’Brien

What is “fake news”? This subject has been a hotly debated topic this year because in the last presidential election of 2016, the term “fake news” took front and center. The term “fake news” flooded social media during the last presidential election and has continued since then. However, there appears to be no firm definition of what it really is.

The president has used the term “fake news” to discredit responsible reporting when he doesn’t like it.

Some very good examples of the term “fake news” were written by Justin Coler who is an admitted “fake news” creator. He wrote a fake story about RFID chips, a tracking device, being mandated through the Obamacare exchange as part of signing up for Obamacare. A person had to be implanted with this tracking device to qualify. That story was read 1.6 million times.

Coler wrote another fake story about an FBI

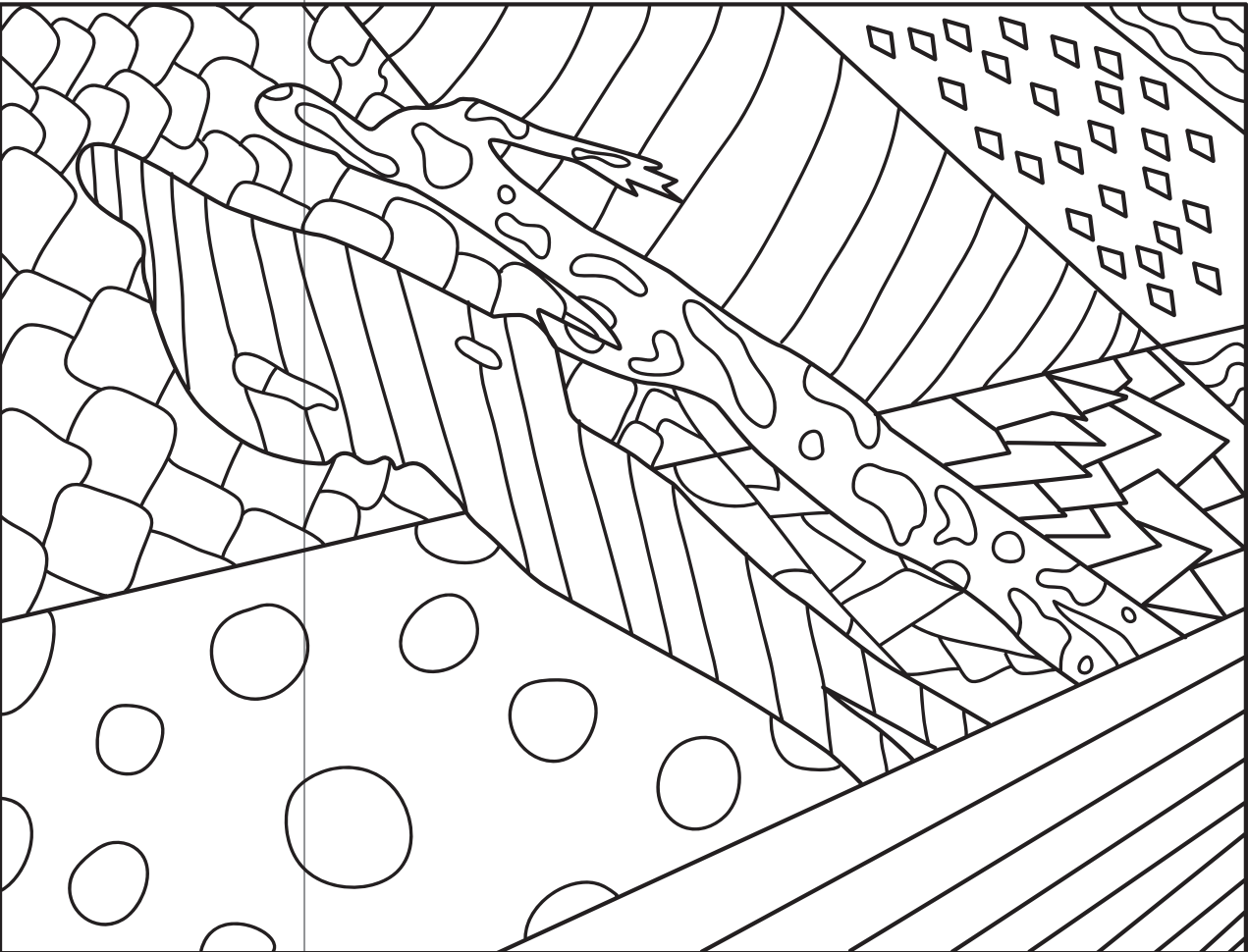
agent investigating Clinton e-mails who was killed in a murder-suicide. And still another was a fake army quarantine of a Texas town infected with Ebola which had 8 million viewers.

Coler further stated that “you know people in general are quick to believe anything that is not anything, but—well, yeah, basically anything that is put in front of ‘em in a format that is news-ish.”

What can students at Sauk Valley Community College do about the issue of “fake news” that has flooded social media and how it has affected their lives? First, and foremost, don’t take what you read on social media as the truth, but instead investigate.

According to Scott Pelley, correspondent for CBS’s 60 Minutes, “Never in human history has more information been available to more people. But it’s also true that never in history has more bad information been available. And once it’s online, it is news forever.”

Coloring is great for unplugging from technology and promotes creation over consumption. It can be done by anyone, not just artists or creative types. Give it a try with Tess’ creation below.



Tess Cleary '18