Breaking ground: Making good on old promises
by Kaylin Speth

Currently living in a box? Not for long. By the fall 2014 semester, a 96 bed student housing complex is expected to be open, located across from campus on Fifth Street.

Start of its construction was commemorated at a groundbreaking ceremony on Nov. 15 when ten golden shovels symbolically lifted the site’s first piles of dirt. After the ceremony, community and faculty members signed the hard hats used to commemorate the occasion, one of which will be displayed in the new building.

Dean Patricia Stuhr hopes the “Marauder Villa” will enable more students to capitalize on the Wood’s affordable tuition and bring diversity to campus. Kelly Young, Bluffstone construction director of student housing operations, says that the new housing will provide students from around the world an opportunity to see what Marshfield has to offer.

Join the business of governing
by Zoe Benjamin

Remember when the refrigerator was horrifyingly filthy? Student Senate took care of that. They also help bring campus clubs and organizations together to promote and organize club events. They also distribute monies for the clubs and organizations on campus. Without the organization of Student Senate, the student body would be in complete chaos.

Some students may think voicing their needs or opinions is unimportant or doesn’t apply to them, but that is not the case. Students should take part in Student Senate meetings because even if students feel uninvolved, attending the meetings means their voice counts.

J.B. Hernandez, Student Senate president says, “It’s important that students let the Student Senate know what needs to change and what should be left alone. Their general involvement is needed so that we can better allocate the budget.”

Hernandez says there are other incentives for students to attend Student Senate meetings, “We are looking into a raffle drawing so when students come to meetings, they drop their name into a box to win prizes.” These prizes could include gift cards for Wal-mart or the YMCA or even an iPad.

United Council empowers students
by Jordan Galeles

Students wanting to get involved, have more say and be a part of active change need look no further. Student-led and staff-supported, United Council (UC) is a nonprofit, non-partisan UW System student union geared toward issues of students’ rights. UC supports students through advocacy, organizing, training and leadership development.

Kate Weber, regional field organizer for UC, says, “UC seeks to identify the injustice and harm incurred within the UW System and work collaboratively in partnership with all impacted communities to restore justice.”

Weber works between six campuses in the Northwest region of WI, including UW-Marshfield/Wood County. She says, “We work on democratically student-led campaigns with students. We also support a variety of student actions through student governments and organizations, as well as individuals who wish to advocate issues such as accessibility, quality and inclusivity on their own behalf.” UC engages in campaigns surrounding these issues, such as Students Against Sexual Assault and the Student Loan Debt Campaign.

Any student can utilize this resource. UC is able to work with students who wish to lobby with their legislators dealing with legislative acts involving students’ rights, such as the Higher Ed, Lower Debt bill. If passed, the bill would restore certain rights to student loan borrowers that are available to other types of loan borrowers and allow students to refinance student loans for lower interest rates similar to a home mortgage.

Professional development and internship opportunities available through involvement in UC include working on any of the campaigns, starting a UC chapter or internship positions for event planning, community organizing, public relations or other positions depending on a students’ skills and interests.

Students who want to get involved or have questions can contact Weber at kate@unitedcouncil.net. Students can register and find FAQs, an upcoming agenda and scholarship templates at www.unitedcouncil.net/events.
Majors and careers: A false measure of one’s success
by Amy Greenwald

“The corporate ladder is awful to climb, but there is probably a motor boat and an in-ground pool at the top of it. Follow your creative impulses and the only way you’ll see that boat or that pool is when you are paid to clean it,” says Complex, a lifestyle magazine, as they outline which majors to avoid. This statement may disappoint many students as they are figuring out what to do with the rest of their lives.

Deciding what major will bring success isn’t easy, especially when the majority of us step into college at 18. It isn’t made any easier when there’s pressure to choose something practical and profitable, but also something that will make us happy, when more often than not, these two factors don’t go together. Then what? As our generation usually does, we turn to the internet.

Like our friends and family, the internet has plenty of ideas on what we should and shouldn’t be doing with our education. Majors and jobs are conveniently put into “Top Ten” lists of the best and most profitable are conveniently put into “Top Ten” lists of the best and most profitable. CNNMoney says some of the best jobs are biomedical engineer, clinical nurse specialist, software developer and petroleum geologist. CNNMoney clearly states that these are qualified as the top ten best because they have, “Big growth, great pay and satisfying work.” I can agree with big growth and great pay, though satisfaction is subjective as it differs from person to person. These careers are similar in that they deal with science and math, two subjects that turn many people off. In contrast, Complex’s list of worthless majors includes psychology, journalism and education. Other common majors listed include history or English. What supposedly makes these worthless is they don’t pay well and they have increasing unemployment rates. These so-called worthless majors are not worthless because they have their place in society. Look at education. What is one major influence in children’s and teenager’s lives? Teachers have an influence on children just as their parents do. Being a foundation for all careers, teachers make every other career possible since a good education usually makes every other career profitable.

Without teachers to teach, we would have no doctors or engineers or any other necessary workers. Teachers have been stereotyped as lazy and paid too much when that is often not the case. They’re the ones shaping the minds of youth, the ones paving the way for the future. If anything, we should worship the ground they walk on. Okay, maybe not quite that far, but quality teachers should at least be given the respect they deserve. Education isn’t the worst of it.

Most people would rather support a teacher than a writer or artist, who are considered crazy dreamers with no sense of reality. These majors should not be treated in this way. Through written works and art one can learn about culture, values and human behavior, three vital ideas in a society.

Sure, we could all learn about anatomy and become surgeons, but why would we need medical care in a society that has no culture, form of language or set of values? We wouldn’t, because we might not care much about living or learning. Additionally, people in school often consider art classes relaxing, a place where they can express their creativity while keeping their sanity. If, after taking these classes a person realizes it is their passion and wants to major in it, why should we discourage them? Because they won’t make as much money as we would like? It’s their life and their future, not ours. Plus, who else is going to bring the joy of art or writing to future generations if not art and writing majors? Nobody.

Here’s another way to think about it. The Week, a current events and entertainment magazine, posted a list of “Eleven incredibly strange college majors” which included Cannabis cultivation, puppetry and Beatles historian. I’m not saying these majors are completely worthless, but it’s safe to say they are less employable than an art, English or education major. If one’s interests lie with a worthless minor and he or she is regarded as if they have the plague, they should remind those around them it could be worse. Maybe they could become a Cannabis cultivator.

Celebrating 50 Whovian years
by Brian Greenwald and Jordann Flewellen

As 50 years of Doctor Who have come and gone, “The Day of the Doctor” promised to both celebrate and look forward to the next years of the series. However, the celebration fell short and lacked an overall connection with a majority of the audience.

This episode deals with the driving force of the revival series: the Doctor destroying his home planet of Gallifrey in order to stop the time war. The darkness this brought had influenced the Doctor’s behavior and the revival seasons. However, after the Tenth, Eleventh and War Doctors meet, this episode revolves around saving Gallifrey and all the people on it. Meanwhile, the Zygons appear for the first time in the new generation of Doctor Who, adding the chaos that makes this meeting possible.

Fans witnessed the return of the most famous companion since the revival, Rose Tyler, and the briefly acknowledged Bad Wolf connection, but other than that, the last 8 years since the series’ revival weren’t even celebrated. Due to the glaring lack of Christopher Eccleston and the de-emphasis of the War Doctor, the episode felt more like a celebration of David Tennant and Matt Smith. Viewers care about Tennant and Smith because they were the most popular in the new generation of Doctor Who, but John Hurt, the War Doctor, is somebody viewers would like? It’s their life and their future, not ours. Plus, who else is going to bring the joy of art or writing to future generations if not art and writing majors? Nobody.

Further, viewers were lead to believe the War Doctor was this brooding, murderous man, but they were shown a kindly old man who seems like he could be a normal Doctor. Every Doctor also appears towards through the use of stock footage, but this failed to celebrate the entire run.
Counselor and adventurer
by Jordan Galeles

Those needing wise guidance, inspiration or a stimulating chat can visit Joe Prillwitz, the new UW-Marshfield/Wood County mental health counselor. Having retired from 25 years in public school counseling, he started counseling here in September through Charis Counseling, LLC, a licensed outpatient mental health clinic based in central Wisconsin.

Though he started out in ministry, Prillwitz decided it wasn’t for him. He says, “Aside from an adventurer at heart, I’m a people helper, it’s who I am. Being a mental health counselor allows me to do what I love, which is see improvement over the course of peoples’ lives.”

Prillwitz notes he’s most experienced in dealing with mental health areas of depression, sexual assault and death and dying. He says he’s most passionate about these areas and adds, “I try to help others go from survivor to ‘thriver.’”

Prillwitz received the 2013 Voices of Courage, Lifetime Achievement award. According to the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, this award is intended to recognize and honor the outstanding work of Wisconsin individuals and organizations that have exceeded the very highest standards in their dedicated efforts to end sexual violence and support survivors. Prillwitz says, “I never sought that recognition, but I consider it a capstone to my career of caring.”

Having personal experience with depression, Prillwitz says, “I’ve experienced depression all my life and didn’t know it until I dug into the subject, recognized the signs and symptoms and conducted a sort of self-diagnosis. I’ve been able to deal with it through a management plan and hope to help others do the same.”

Always open to adventure, Prillwitz has traveled to 25 different countries. He says, “Travel is an addiction. The more one realizes they haven’t seen, the more they want to see.” He’s visited every state except for Alaska, which he hopes to visit soon. Prillwitz notes that he visited most of these states from atop a bicycle. Emphasizing he doesn’t mean to brag, he says he had the opportunity to travel on a ten-speed bike from ocean to ocean across America on four separate occasions.

Aside from cycling, Prillwitz enjoys cross-country skiing, fly fishing and carpentry. He also enjoys gardening, which he picked up at a young age, since he grew up on a farm with all sorts of fruits.

To contact Prillwitz or Jennifer Starkey, another UW-M/WC counseling here in September through Charis Counseling, LLC, a licensed outpatient mental health clinic based in central Wisconsin.

Rumor has it: Bartkowiak leaving
by Jordan Galeles

UW-Marshfield/Wood County Associate English professor Mathew Bartkowiak will be missing from campus starting next semester. Having worked on campus for over six years, Bartkowiak says he is pleased to have been a part of such a great community of accomplished, caring faculty and staff. Intending to take up a more permanent position with Nelson Jameson, Inc., Bartkowiak says he will miss the people most, as well as taking part in Dr. Neumann’s impromptu sledding parties outside the commons.

Of growth through teaching experience, Bartkowiak says, “Coming out of graduate school, one likes to think they know everything. My colleagues and students have taught me so much about perseverance, humility and sitting back and enjoying the moment. I’m glad I’ve been able to continue as a perennial student while being a professor.”

Regarding regrets, Bartkowiak notes he is excited to use his background and training in new contexts and wants to keep digging into food safety, especially as a focus of study. He says, “The past several years, my part-time research for Nelson-Jameson, Inc. has opened up new areas of interest and focus for me. I hope to do my part to ensure a high quality, safe food supply.”

Return of The Game!: An interactive experience not to be missed
submitted by Jeffrey Kleiman

Come experience “The Game!” for the 2014 spring semester. “The Game!” seeks to engage students in a global scale through a computer simulated gaming situation that explores the interconnectedness of war, peace and commerce. This is a pretty hefty order to fill.

Last spring, Marc Corluy, UW-Marshfield/Wood County mathematics professor, and I began development of this approach to help students draw parallels between the classes they take in history, sociology and psychology and unfolding events in the daily news.

The skinny of “The Game!” is as follows: There are nine major power blocs (as seen on a nifty map), where seven separate states compose each power bloc. The relationship between the states and any central control can be as fluid or fixed as the players decide. Indeed, the major power blocs, based on recent historical, cultural and commercial patterns, may be governed in any way that the participating students decide: democracy, dictatorship or anarchy. Participants decide among themselves with whom to make treaties regarding the purchase or sale of certain commodities. They decide whether to pursue policies of war or peace. Players determine whether to honor those commercial contracts and treaties or to abandon them without notice, just like in real life. What unfolds next is that the decisions get fed into a computer program. The results show up on the map. Pieces move. Money and goods change hands. Sometimes wars erupt.

The novelty is that students meet among themselves outside “The Game!” to determine alliances and trading blocs. Players must take the initiative to work out agreements both inside and outside of meeting times before the computer yields the results and then hasten to work with those results once all the players see them. A secret trade agreement or decision for war will not remain hidden for long. Then the power blocs (with their separate states) must decide on the next course of action. It is sort of like Monopoly meets Risk and Diplomacy.

There’s plenty more detail, but this is the essence of the gaming situation. It would be nice to have 20 to 30 folks willing to commit to at least ten or twelve weeks of the semester to play “The Game!” If interested, please contact me via email Jeffrey.Kleiman@uwec.edu. Be seeing you.
**Student Life**

**Peanut butter jelly time**

Instead of handing out homework, staff handed out free peanut butter and jelly sandwiches made to order for UW-Marshallfield/Wood County students on Nov. 5 in honor of National Sandwich Month. Faculty and staff, including Julie Tharp, Ruth Elderbrook, Steve Kaiser, Amanda Hakemian, Doug Oba, Caleb Bush, Kim Valenza, Anna Holbrook, Jeff Verona and Renae Guldan contributed by donating bread, peanut butter, jelly and their time. Students were encouraged to make donations to United Way. Tharp says $36.32 was raised and estimates that around 60 sandwiches were made. (A.G.)

**Benefits of the great outdoors**

People often want to tell others to take a hike. Students and staff of UW-Marshallfield/Wood County did just that on Nov. 19 to celebrate “Take a Hike Day” (officially Nov. 17). Coordinator of student affairs Steve Kaiser led students through the arboretum just west of UW-M/WC. Following the chilly walk, hot cider and pumpkin bars were given out to all participants. (M.S.)

**Holiday cheer: The perfect gift**

The most wonderful time of the year is here: the holiday season. This season is filled with decorations, holiday cheer, and who could forget: the gifts. Selecting gifts can be frustrating. So many people to think about and so many gifts to choose from, but which is the perfect one? As college students, it is understandable that funds are limited and time is short, so finding the right option is difficult.

The first way to jumpstart the gift search is to concentrate on whether the gift is for a girl or a guy. Because every man has to look snazzy at some point. Guys, because every man has to look snazzy at some point. Gift givers can’t go wrong with good smells. Grooming kits and produits for antiquities, soaps and other toiletries for quaintances. Stick to enticing lo -

**Kicking off the holiday season**

Why wait until it gets closer to Christmas to start celebrating? That’s exactly what UW-Marshallfield/Wood County faculty and students thought when they decorated the school’s Christmas trees on Dec. 3. Students could bring in an ornament of their own or test their artistic abilities and make one there. Hot chocolate and holiday cookies were given out as a token of appreciation for all who helped decorate. (M.S.)

**Do a good turn or several daily**

As philosopher Plato said, “Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.” World Kindness Day (Nov. 13) is a day dedicated as a reminder to overlook boundaries, race and religion and simply be kind to everyone people encounter.

To kick start the day, sidewalks leading into the school were decorated with inspirational quotes in colorful chalk. The ESFY task force celebrated by setting up a table in the crossroads with a jar containing slips of paper with kind tasks printed on them that students could complete. (M.S.)

**Students tell all about the holidays**

During November, surveys were handed out to approximately 65 students of English professor Julie Tharp and psychology associate professor Sandy Neumann’s classes. The survey asked five questions about holiday traditions, stories and the appropriate time to start playing holiday music.

Most students felt the appropriate time to start playing holiday music was during Thanksgiving. Though one outlier said the music should start playing in October.

Student traditions varied, but some stood out as unique and cherished in that relationship. Are they more serious or comical? Do they appreciate homemade trinkets or cool, store-bought gadgets? All of these things need to be taken into consideration when choosing a Christmas gift for someone else.

Remember to keep it simple when buying gifts for casual acquaintances. Stick to enticing lotions, soaps and other toiletries for girls. Gift givers can’t go wrong with good smells. Grooming kits or classy ties are appropriate for guys, because every man has to look snazzy at some point.

The key to choosing the perfect gift for someone else is to ask simple questions. Over-thinking gifts makes it complicated and stressful. It’s supposed to be light-hearted and fun, so get out there, have fun and just do it.

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by Zoe Benjamin

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The first way to jumpstart the gift search is to concentrate on whether the gift is for a girl or a boy. This can narrow down the search just a little. Buying a gift card can be easy because it isn’t gender specific. However, the whole point of good gift-giving is to make it personal. Whether it is a family member, friend or significant other, try to think of something that is shared and cherished in that relationship. Are they more serious or comical? Do they appreciate homemade trinkets or cool, store-bought gadgets? All of these things need to be taken into consideration when choosing a Christmas gift for someone else.

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by Jordann Flewellen and Kayleigh Mengel

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Most students felt the appropriate time to start playing holiday music was during Thanksgiving. Though one outlier said the music should start playing in October.

Student traditions varied, but some stood out as unique and deserving of mention. Vacationing to warm places, making home-
Discovering Bloodstone
by Jordan Galeles

Helen Johannes, senior lecturer of English at UW-Marshfield/Wood County, recently had her newest novel Bloodstone released on Kindle. This fantasy romance is inspired thematically by the Greek myth of Cupid and Psyche, an ancient Beauty and the Beast story.

Bloodstone focuses on characters Mirianna and the Shadow Man. Mirianna and her father travel into the fearsome Wehrland in search of bloodstones for a jewelry commission. When they are attacked, the only one able to save them is the Shadow Man, a cursed warrior. For some uncanny reason, Mirianna is drawn to the Shadow Man and offers herself in exchange for her father’s safety. Mirianna goes to live with the Shadow Man and gradually realizes that he is truly a man, not a monster.

Johannes says, “Aside from my ongoing interest in gems and gemstones, hearing my father talk about panning for gold in Alaska served as inspiration for my characters being involved in the gem trade.”

Johannes says she has been interested in writing since she first learned to read. She says, “I grew up on Agatha Christie, the Brothers Grimm, Hans Christian Andersen and Tolkien. I read romance, fantasy, young adult, mystery and historical genres.”

On the topic of her writing process, Johannes explains, “I am a ‘panster’ as opposed to a ‘plotter.’ That means I don’t do extensive outlines or character sketches. Instead, I mull an idea until the characters and parts of the plot form. When I think I have enough, I begin writing what I think will be the beginning of the story, and it grows organically from there.”

Johannes emphasizes that to be a writer, one has to be able to put words on the page. She says, “Get that first draft down, but don’t fall in love with it. To be a good writer, a person has to polish those words, hone the skills, take criticism and communicate with an audience. My stories rarely end up where I envisioned; revising and polishing brings out the best in them.”

Art captures changing seasons
by David Carey

The Focal Point Camera Club of Central Wisconsin held an exhibition titled, “Summer into Autumn” in Gallery 450 of the Laird Arts building. The exhibit runs until Dec. 13. Over 30 different photographers displayed work in the exhibit. The Focal Point Camera Club is based in Junction City and includes members of all skill levels from professionals to beginning amateurs.

Most of the photographs are for sale and contact information is available for those who wish to contact the photographers to purchase a photo or a copy of a photo.

Wrestling and poetry go together
by Jordan Galeles

“I’m going to do something really brave today,” said Carrie Shipers, assistant English professor at UW-Marshfield/Wood County, before she began reading some of her poems about professional wrestling. On Nov. 13 in the Hamilton Roddis Memorial Library, students and staff gathered to listen to Shipers read a few brand new poems about professional wrestling.

As an introduction to her reading, Shipers said, “When I started this project, I didn’t know that much about professional wrestling, nor could I say I cared. However, the more I learned, the more I began to care and I’m now a little obsessed with it.” She said she surprised herself when she found she actually cared about the “muscles, sequins and drama.”

Shipers originally became interested in the project when her husband, who regularly watches professional wrestling, requested she look up the tragic story of the Von Erich family. This wrestling family is rumored to be cursed, since five of family patriarch Fritz Von Erich’s six sons preceded him in death, three of them by suicide. She said that her interest formed like a web of interesting wrestling stories.

Admitting she didn’t yet fully understand the wrestling lexicon, Shipers said it’s a combination of the human stories, the pageantry and the thought that goes into the story lines that interests her.

Shipers read her poems “The Jobber,” “The Fabulous Moolah,” “Big Van Vader,” “Advice for a Wrestler’s Wife,” “Jake Roberts,” an untitled poem from Vince McMahon’s point of view and “Love Poem to Ric Flair.”
**Return of the console wars**

by David Carey

The console wars are here again. The PlayStation 4 was released on Nov. 15 and Xbox One was released Nov. 22. Since both systems were announced, the PS4 has been the clear frontrunner. The Xbox One’s release announcement soured many people’s desire for the system because of unnecessary or invasive features. Sony used the rumors and outrage surrounding the Xbox One announcement to help promote the PS4 as the best choice.

For many people, one of the major benefits of the PS4 over the Xbox One is its price. At $399, it’s about $100 cheaper than the Xbox One. Another important factor for many when they buy a console is the game selection. The PS4 will likely have a higher percentage of games developed by first party studios and therefore a higher percentage of system exclusive games.

The Xbox One comes prepackaged with a Kinect motion sensor bar and software, which was available at purchase with the last few models of the Xbox 360 and as an add-on for earlier models. While the PS4 does not come with motion sensing software and hardware, PlayStation Move will be available for later purchase.

The Xbox One will only be able to play most games in 720p, less than that of the PS4’s 1080p resolution. The average HDTV is also 1080p meaning Xbox One games may look slightly more grainy that those of the PS4.

**Legend of Zelda new installment: A link to gamers’ pasts**

by Amy Greenwald and Mitchell Biesen

Legend of Zelda fans, it’s time to gear up for the next installment of this famous series with The Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds. Released on Nov. 22, this game creates another story which takes place within the same world as The Legend of Zelda: A Link to the Past about 200 years after.

A Link to the Past was released in North America in 1991 on the Super Nintendo and, seeing as it’s a favorite among many, it’s no surprise this game has finally received a sequel. A Link Between Worlds is also the first Zelda game to be released on the Nintendo 3DS that is not a remake.

This game comes with its own new antagonist, Yuga. Yuga has the power to paint himself onto the wall and also turn others into paintings. In doing so, he accidentally gives Link, the hero of The Legend of Zelda series, known for his iconic green tunic, this power as well. Yuga’s goal is to revive Ganon, the main villain of the series, by turning the Seven Sages’ descendants as well as Princess Zelda into paintings. In doing so, he sets forth a conflict between Hyrule, the light world where Zelda and Link reside, and Lorule, Hyrule’s dark counterpart.

Link is set forth to stop Yuga and regain the paintings before the conflict between Hyrule and Lorule destroys them both. As with every Zelda game throughout the series, Link uses tools or items to overcome evil. This time, the new item included is a wrist band that gives Link the ability to transform into a painting-like object on the wall as well as utilize any item.

Going from three dimensions in the overworld to two dimensions on the wall allows him to cling to the wall and reach places in the overworld or dungeons he otherwise couldn’t. Furthermore, when the wrist band is used, the view goes from a top-down third person view to Link’s first person view.

The wrist band also gives Link his items and item meter. This is similar to the magic meter in A Link to the Past but includes all items rather than just those that utilize magic.

What makes this special is that players previously had to find bombs or arrows as opposed to rechargeable selection in the item meter featured in A Link Between Worlds. Instead, a player can use song meter from the original by ‘N SYNC, and days” was exceedingly different intrigue the punk community.

Set It Off’s song, “This Christmas (I’ll burn it to the ground)” reminds one of melancholy times or watching Nightmare Before Christmas. Lead singer Cody Carson brings a harsh tone to the song along with the contextual Christmas music.

William Becket’s cover of “Do You Hear What I Hear?” doesn’t do the original any justice. This song adds enough punk to be added to a punk CD, but not enough to be a favorite. Some songs just should not be tampered with, and this is one.

Man Overboard’s song is about selfishness during the holidays, which is always apparent but this song does overplay it, saying, “But don’t forget the kids who got nothing, while you’re drinking down your wine.”

This CD is a must for punk and Christmas tune lovers everywhere.
“This isn’t a fairy tale, though it starts like one. It’s not a tragedy, though it ends like one.” These lines featured in the opening monologue sum up UW-Marshfield/Wood County’s fall play These Shining Lives.

Director and assistant professor of communication and theatre art Damian Ernest went against the grain (since comedies are usually more successful) and succeeded in producing this drama. Based on true historic events, the play follows women who work in a watch-making factory and get cancer from the radium in the watches. Cast and crew, consisting of UW-M/WC students and community members did a wonderful job in bringing the story to life.

(A.G. and B.G)

photos by Amy Greenwald

Tasty treats bring hot competition
by Jordan Galeles

Sweet teeth from miles around were drawn to UW-Marshfield/Wood County’s cupcake competition. Held on Nov. 19 from noon to 1:00 in the lower commons, the enticing competition featured nine tasty entries made by students, staff and community members.

The judges consisted of student senate president J.B. Hernandez, Slice of Heaven catering’s Ruth Elderbrook and United Way’s Executive Director Paula Jero. Entries were judged on three components: display, taste and design. Cupcakes could be bought after the competition, one for $1 or six for $5. The competition raised $161 for United Way. Remaining cupcakes were sold the next day at “Hump Day for United Way.”

The grand prize winner was Sara Riedel from 2½ Cups, a bakery coming soon to Marshfield. Riedel’s entry featured maple bacon, s’mores and caramel apple cupcakes on a clever display. Best display was awarded to Brittany Lueth, interim assistant dean of student affairs at UW-M/WC, whose twinkling winter wonderland themed display featured chocolate cupcakes with cream cheese frosting. Best taste was awarded to Bailey Slark, sophomore at UW-M/WC, whose beautiful display featured two types of cupcakes: almond cake with raspberry filling and chocolate cake with chocolate frosting. Best design was awarded to Barb Winslow, community member, whose Packer-themed football field display featured cupcakes with cookie dough filling and peanut butter icing.

Other participants included Amanda Wetterau, Spencer High School student; Mary Beth Knoeck, adult enrollment coordinator of student affairs; Mary Gilbertson, community member; Jennifer Dixon, UW-M/WC student and Deanna Rotar, community member.

photos by Amy Greenwald and Jordan Galeles

Making the difference this season
by Kayleigh Mengel

Helping people is what Intervarsity Christian Fellowship is all about. For about five years, they have been doing food drives at UW-Marshfield/Wood County. In the past they have collected more than a car full of canned goods which are donated to Mary’s Place and St. Vincent De Paul.

Held in November, this year’s drive yielded a shoebox full of donations. Intervarsity Christian Fellowship members Rebekah Wood and Jamie Gilbertson agreed that they like the food drives because they’re heart-warming and they like to help people who are in need.

In October, the group went trick-or-treating for non-perishable food items and was able to fill senior lecturer of mathematics Janet Cain’s car full of food. Some members even dressed up and were given candy. Wood says the people receiving the donations were happy because they were in need of the food items.

Intervarsity Christian Fellowship holds other events throughout the year including the Christmas banquet in December that includes Christmas carols, food and a speaker. Wood says everyone is invited to their events even if they aren’t a part of Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. Students should look for posters and emails for future events if they would like to attend.

photos by Amy Greenwald
Ask Gershwald: Advice for the unwary
by Brian Greenwald and Sam Gershman

Brian Greenwald and Sam Gershman are both UW-Marshfield/Wood County students. They are offering to solve the world’s problems through this advice column, despite the fact that neither of them have any experience or qualifications, and openly admit they have no real answers.

What is a good-paying job I can get without a college degree?
B: That depends on just what you’re willing to do and your definition of “good.” And “pay.”
S: Politician. If your skill set isn’t up to par with schooling that’s okay, public office is your destiny! You don’t have to read, show your work, present evidence of learning, make progress, or argue intellectually.

I can’t find an important email. Where did it go?
B: The Twilight Zone, because you’re just a plaything in this cosmic game of whatever’s within the Twilight Zone.
S: Chances are you don’t have any important emails because people with important emails to send know better than to send them to people who lose important emails.

My girlfriend’s pregnant, what should I do?
B: Find out if it’s yours and then get back to us.
S: As Brian already said, it’s good to check if it’s YOUR girlfriend.

How do you cartwheel?
B: You buy a cart and you remove a wheel. You have a cartwheel. Close enough.
S: You don’t. Some dreams aren’t meant to come to fruition.

What’s the difference between a marauder and a pirate?
B: A marauder goes marauding, a pirate downloads stuff from the internet illegally. Raping and pillaging is so out of style.
S: Marauder is a poor career choice for central WI. And it requires a degree in Nautical Sciences.

How do you solve a Rubik’s cube?
B: You buy a cube. You start a fire. You toy with the cube for a few minutes, and then throw it from whence it came. Into the fire. Because it’s hellspawn.
S: Like its very close cousin, the Orb of Confusion, the key to defeating a Rubik’s cube is to not even look at it.

What’s the best way to spend my last day alive?
B: It depends, what are you dying from? Is it just you? Is it the apocalypse? Are you 100% sure you will die? You wouldn’t want to get yourself arrested and then find out that you’re going to live.
S: Play Monopoly. It will feel like an eternity.

What is the best way to break up with someone?
B: It depends on how crazy they are and how they’ll end up taking it. The phone might not be classy, but it might be for your own protection depending on who you’re breaking up with.
S: Write an elaborate one man show detailing past fights and everything that’s wrong with the relationship. Or an interpretive dance, you know, for closure.